

Cusp effects in meson decays

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Outline

Introduction

- Chiral perturbation theory, the pion mass, and $\pi\pi$ scattering

Non-relativistic effective theory for $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ decays

- Cusp phenomenology and heuristic explanation
- NREFT vs. ChPT
- Lagrangians, power counting, matching and all that

Radiative corrections

More of the same? K_L, η, η'

Conclusions

in collaboration with M. Bisseger, G. Colangelo, A. Fuhrer,
J. Gasser, A. Rusetsky, S.P. Schneider

Quark mass expansion of the pion mass (1)

Chiral perturbation theory (ChPT): Weinberg 1966; Gasser, Leutwyler 1984

- chiral symmetry strongly constrains properties and interactions of would-be Goldstone bosons, the pions
- systematic expansion of low-energy observables in terms of (small) quark masses and (small) momenta

Quark mass expansion of the pion mass (1)

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Gell-Mann–Oakes–Renner relation for the pion mass M :

$$M^2 = B(m_u + m_d) \quad B = -\frac{\langle 0|\bar{u}u|0\rangle}{F^2}$$

- $B \neq 0$ is sufficient (but not necessary) condition for chiral symmetry breaking
- B is an order parameter of chiral symmetry breaking

Quark mass expansion of the pion mass (2)

- at next-to-leading order ($\mathcal{O}(p^4)$, one-loop):

$$M_\pi^2 = M^2 - \frac{M^4}{32\pi^2 F^2} \bar{l}_3 + \mathcal{O}(M^6)$$

- correction to Gell-Mann–Oakes–Renner relation:

$$M_\pi^2 = B(m_u + m_d) + A(m_u + m_d)^2 + \mathcal{O}(m_q^3)$$

- how do we know that the leading term dominates?
what if \bar{l}_3 is anomalously large?
 \Rightarrow "generalised ChPT", different power counting

Knecht, Moussallam, Stern, Fuchs 1995

- where can we learn something about \bar{l}_3 ?

$\pi\pi$ scattering at next-to-leading order

- $I = 0$ $\pi\pi$ scattering length at $\mathcal{O}(p^4)$:

$$a_0^0 = \frac{7M_\pi^2}{32\pi F_\pi^2} \left\{ 1 + \epsilon + \mathcal{O}(M_\pi^4) \right\}$$

$$\epsilon = \frac{5M_\pi^2}{84\pi^2 F_\pi^2} \left(\bar{\ell}_1 + 2\bar{\ell}_2 - \frac{3}{8}\bar{\ell}_3 + \frac{21}{10}\bar{\ell}_4 + \frac{21}{8} \right)$$

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- therefore: all we need to do is to measure $a_0^0 \Rightarrow$ extract $\bar{\ell}_3$
know how much of M_π^2 is due to linear term in quark masses!
- ... but how do you actually measure $\pi\pi$ scattering lengths?

Experiments vs. theory on $\pi\pi$ scattering

Experiments:

- reactions on nucleons, e.g. $\pi N \rightarrow \pi\pi N$
- $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ \nu_e$ (K_{e4}) BNL-865, NA48/2, KLOE
- ponium (= $\pi^+ \pi^-$ atom) lifetime DIRAC
- cusp in $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \pi^+$ NA48/2

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Theory prediction:

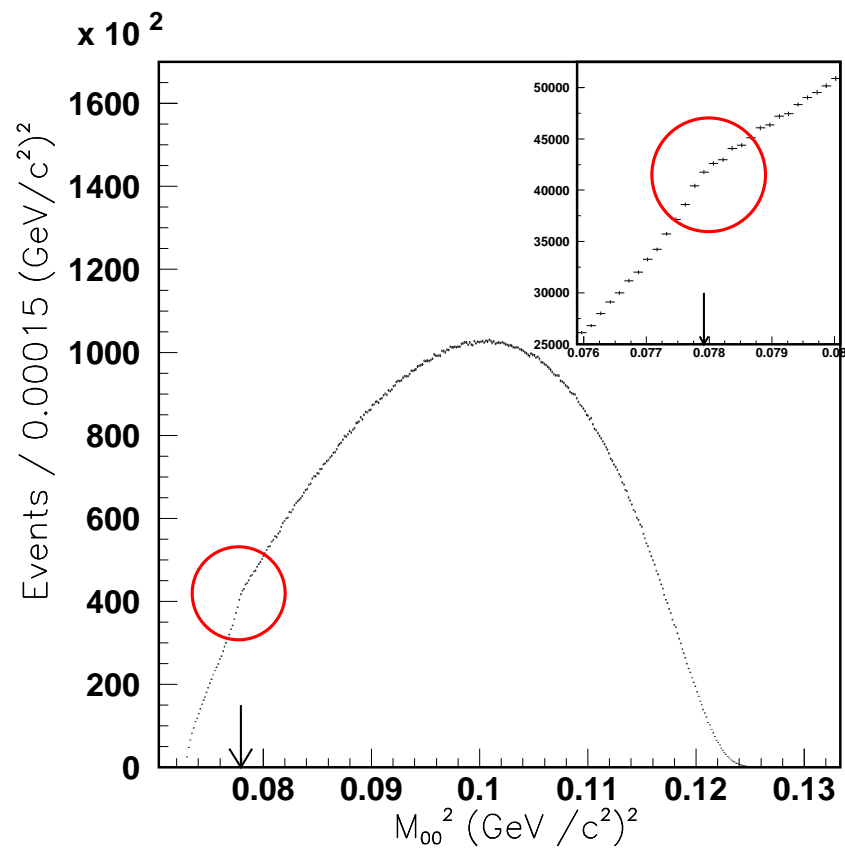
- 2-loop ChPT + Roy equations (dispersion theory):

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= 0.220 \pm 0.005 \\ a_2 &= -0.0444 \pm 0.0010 \\ a_0 - a_2 &= 0.265 \pm 0.004 \end{aligned}$$

(for QCD in the isospin limit) $\Rightarrow \simeq 1.5\%$ theoretical precision

Colangelo, Gasser, Leutwyler, PLB 488 (2000) 261, NPB 603 (2001) 125

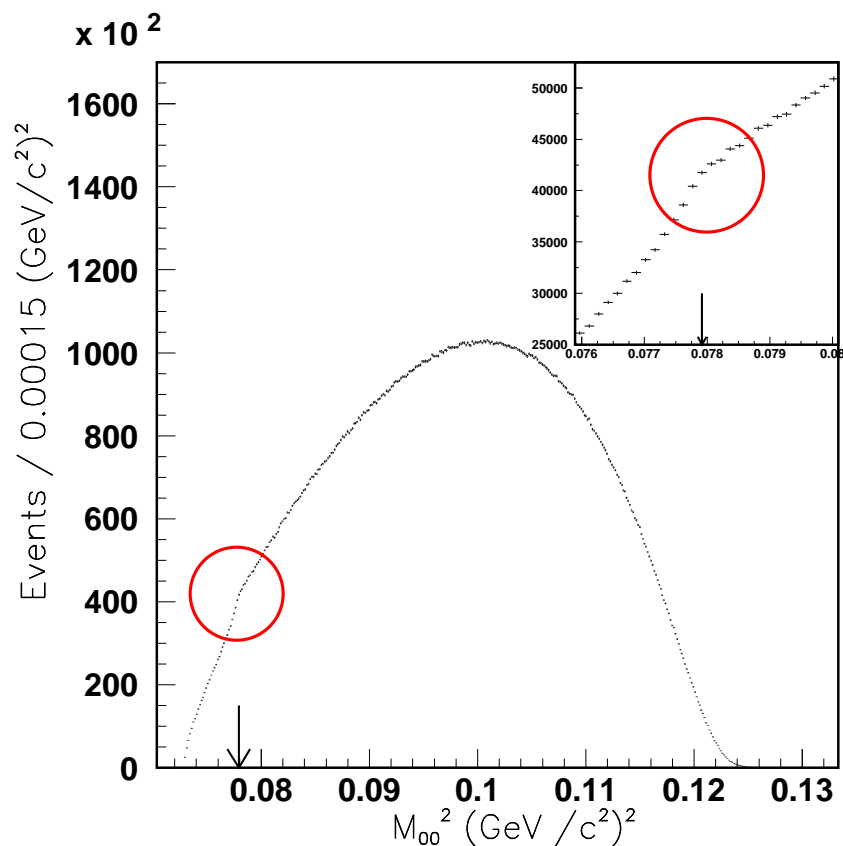
The cusp effect in $K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^0 \pi^0$



- cusp at $M_{\pi^0 \pi^0} = 2M_{\pi^+}$

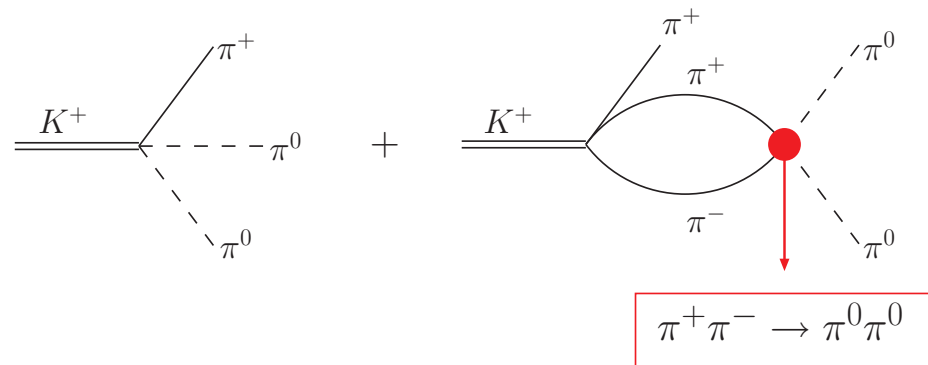
Batley et al., PLB 633 (2006) 173

The cusp effect in $K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^0 \pi^0$



- **cusp** at $M_{\pi^0 \pi^0} = 2M_{\pi^+}$

Batley et al., PLB 633 (2006) 173



$$s \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \pi^+ \\ \text{loop} \\ \pi^- \end{array} \rightarrow \dots + \frac{i}{16\pi} v_{\pm}(s)$$

$$v_{\pm}(s) = \begin{cases} i \sqrt{\frac{4M_{\pi^+}^2}{s} - 1}, & s < 4M_{\pi^+}^2 \\ \sqrt{1 - \frac{4M_{\pi^+}^2}{s}}, & s > 4M_{\pi^+}^2 \end{cases}$$

- interference tree + 1-loop below $\pi^+ \pi^-$ threshold
- square-root behaviour = **cusp**
Cabibbo, PRL 93 (2004) 121801

Non-relativistic EFT vs. ChPT

- consider partial waves in $\pi\pi$ scattering:

$$\text{Re } T = a + b q^2 + c q^4 + \dots$$

scattering length a , effective range b etc.

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- **ChPT**: a , b , c expanded in powers of M_π^2 ,

$$a = \frac{7M_\pi^2}{32\pi F_\pi^2} + \mathcal{O}(M_\pi^4)$$

Weinberg 1966

contributions from tree, 1-loop, 2-loop ...

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- **NREFT**:
 - $a \Leftrightarrow$ tree
 - $b \Leftrightarrow$ tree + 2-loop
 - $c \Leftrightarrow$ tree + 2-loop + 4-loop

a, b, c parameters of the theory

\Rightarrow parametrise T **directly** in terms of scattering lengths

\Rightarrow do not predict these, extract as parameters from data

Non-relativistic EFT (1): basics

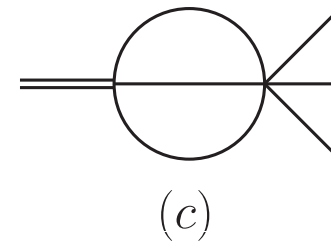
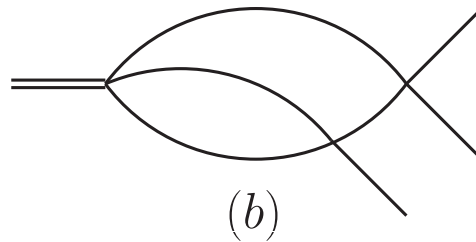
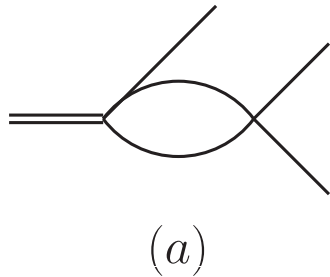
$$\begin{aligned} \text{momenta} & : |\mathbf{p}|/M_\pi = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \\ \text{kinetic energy} & : T = \omega(\mathbf{p}) - M_\pi = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2) \\ \text{in } K \rightarrow 3\pi & : M_K - \sum_i M_i = \sum_i T_i = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } \omega(\mathbf{p}) = \sqrt{M_\pi^2 + \mathbf{p}^2}$$

- non-relativistic region = whole decay region (and slightly beyond)
- $\pi\pi$ scattering length **small** \Rightarrow rescattering **perturbative**
- **two-fold** expansion in ϵ and $\pi\pi$ scattering length a
- at given order a, ϵ , only finite number of graphs contribute
 \Rightarrow **power counting**

Non-relativistic EFT (2): power counting

- organise tree level polynomials in even powers of momenta
 $\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^0), \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2), \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^4), \dots$
- loops:



propagator:
$$\frac{1}{\omega(\mathbf{p}) - p^0} = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-2})$$

loop integration:
$$d^4p = dp^0 d^3\mathbf{p} = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^5)$$

- each loop with two-body rescattering $(\epsilon^{-2})^2 \epsilon^5 = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$ suppressed
 $(a) = \mathcal{O}(a^1 \epsilon^1)$
 $(b) = \mathcal{O}(a^2 \epsilon^2) \Rightarrow$ correlated expansion in a and ϵ
- loop with three-body rescattering $(\epsilon^{-2})^3 (\epsilon^5)^2 = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^4)$ suppressed
 $(c) = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^4)$

Non-relativistic EFT (3): Lagrangian

- propagator:
$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{M_\pi^2 - p^2}}_{\text{relativistic}} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2\omega(\mathbf{p})} \frac{1}{\omega(\mathbf{p}) - p^0}}_{\text{"non-relativistic"}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2\omega(\mathbf{p})} \frac{1}{\omega(\mathbf{p}) + p^0}}_{\text{antiparticles}}$$

generated by Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{kin}} = \Phi^\dagger (2W)(i\partial_t - W)\Phi, \quad W = \sqrt{M_\pi^2 - \Delta}$$

Note: non-local \mathcal{L}_{kin} generates all relativistic corrections; manifestly Lorentz-invariant / frame-independent

- correctly reproduces singularity structure at small momenta $|\mathbf{p}| \ll M_\pi$, subsumes far-away singularities in effective couplings
- interaction terms:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi\pi} = C_x (\pi_-^\dagger \pi_+^\dagger (\pi_0)^2 + h.c.) + (\text{derivative terms})$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{K3\pi} = \frac{G_0}{2} (K_+^\dagger \pi_+ (\pi_0)^2 + h.c.) + \frac{H_0}{2} (K_+^\dagger \pi_- (\pi_+)^2 + h.c.) + \dots$$

- Lagrangian-based QFT, analyticity + unitarity obeyed

Matching

- **match** the $\pi\pi$ coupling constants to the effective range expansion of the $\pi\pi$ scattering amplitude:

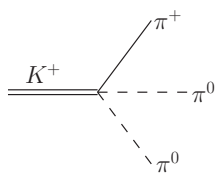
$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{Re}T_x &= 2C_x + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2) \\ 2C_x &= -\frac{32\pi}{3}(a_0 - a_2) \left\{ 1 + \underbrace{\frac{M_{\pi^+}^2 - M_{\pi^0}^2}{3M_\pi^2}}_{\text{ChPT } \mathcal{O}(e^2)} + \dots \right\} \\ &= -\frac{32\pi}{3} \left\{ a_0 - a_2 + \underbrace{(0.61 \pm 0.16) \times 10^{-2}}_{\text{ChPT } \mathcal{O}(e^2 p^2)} \right\}\end{aligned}$$

Knecht, Urech 1997; Gasser et al. 2001

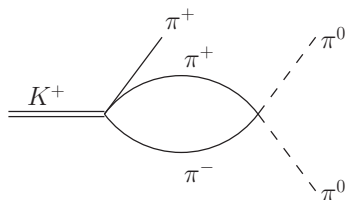
isospin-breaking corrections in matching calculated in ChPT

- **parametrise** polynomial $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \pi^+$ in terms of G_0, G_1, \dots
 $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$ in terms of H_0, H_1, \dots
- **fit** all parameters ($G_0, \dots, H_0, \dots, C_x, \dots$) to decays $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \pi^+$ and $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$ simultaneously

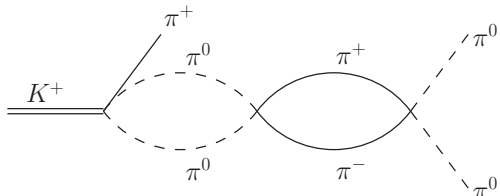
Representation of $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ amplitude up to two loops



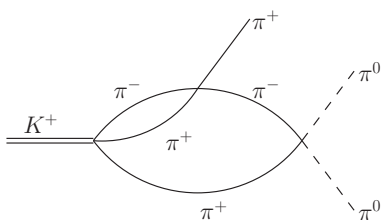
$$\mathcal{M}^{\text{tree}} = G_0 + G_1(p_3^0 - M_\pi) + \dots$$



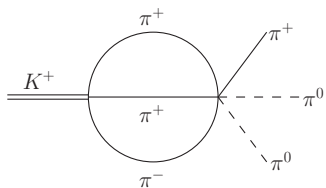
$$\mathcal{M}^{1\text{-loop}} = B_1 J_{+-}(s_3) + B_2 J_{00}(s_3) + [B_3 J_{+0}(s_1) + (s_1 \leftrightarrow s_2)]$$



$$\mathcal{M}^{2\text{-loop}} = 2G_0 C_x^2 \underbrace{J_{+-}(s_3) J_{00}(s_3)}_{\text{double loops}} + \dots$$



$$+ 4H_0 C_x C_{+-} \underbrace{F_+(\dots; s_3)}_{\text{overlapping loops}}$$



$$+ \mathcal{O}(i\epsilon^4) \quad [\not\propto \text{scatt. lengths}]$$

- complete to $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^4, a\epsilon^5, a^2\epsilon^4)$; valid to **all orders in quark masses**

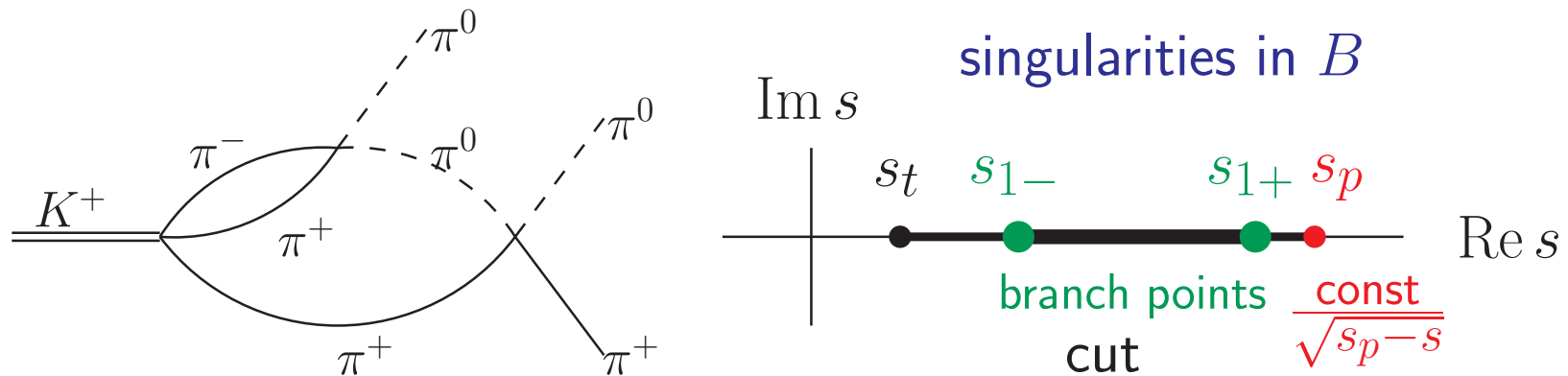
Colangelo, Gasser, BK, Rusetsky, PLB 638 (2006) 187

$K \rightarrow 3\pi$, analytic properties

- 2-loop function F_+ can be expressed in terms of logarithms; close to threshold:

$$F_+(M_{\pi^+}, M_{\pi^+}, M_{\pi^+}, M_{\pi^+}; s) = \frac{v_{+-}(s)}{256\pi^2} \sqrt{\frac{M_K^2 - 9M_\pi^2}{M_K^2 - M_\pi^2}} = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)$$

- away from threshold, singularity structure is complicated approximation $\mathcal{M} = A + Bv_{+-}$ (A, B analytic) does not hold:

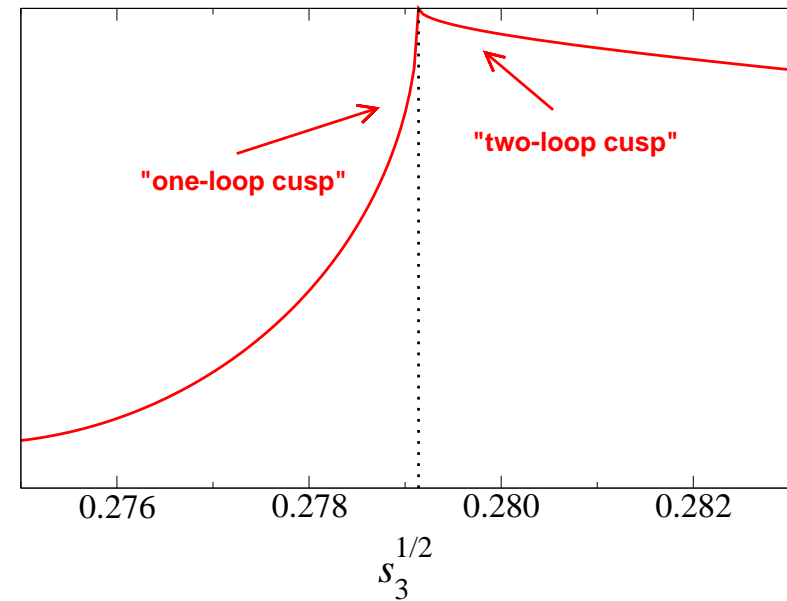
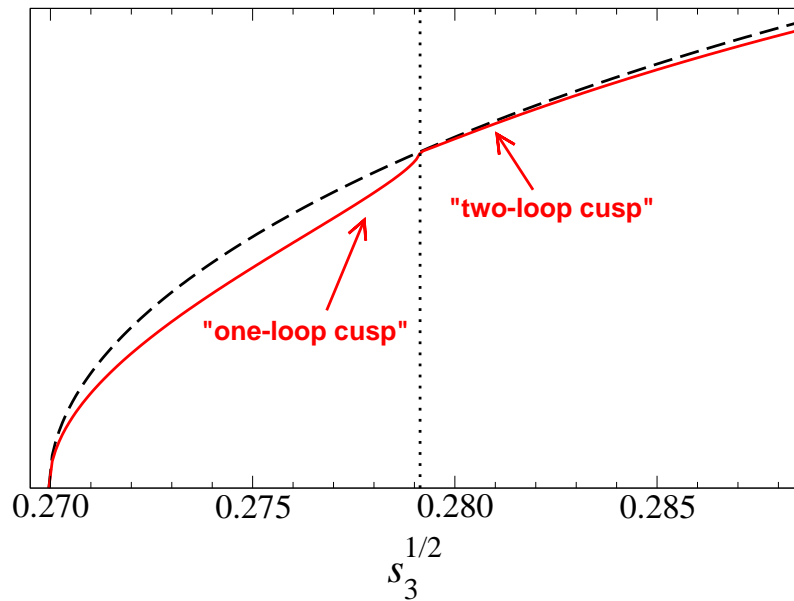


$$\sqrt{s_t} = 275 \text{ MeV}, \quad \sqrt{s_{1-}} = 308 \text{ MeV}, \quad \sqrt{s_{1+}} = 356 \text{ MeV}, \quad \sqrt{s_p} = 359 \text{ MeV}$$

- checked against singularity structure of relativistic loop diagram

Result: cusp(s) at two loops

- cusp at one-loop: $\propto i a v_{+-}(s) \Rightarrow$ cusp "below" threshold
- cusp at two-loop: $\propto a^2 v_{+-}(s) \Rightarrow$ cusp "above" threshold



- in principle also sensitive to a_2 via two-loop effects

$$a_0 - a_2 = 0.2815 \pm 0.0045(\text{stat}) \pm \dots$$

$$a_2 = -0.0693 \pm 0.0136(\text{stat}) \pm \dots$$

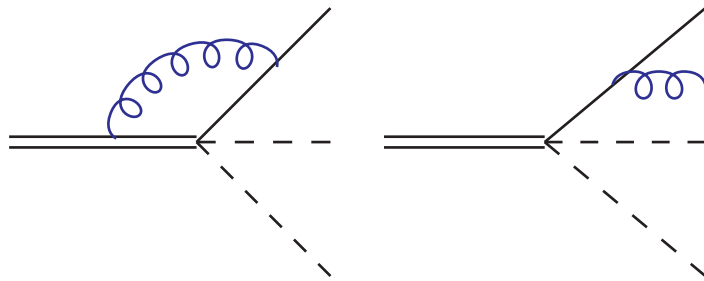
Giudici for NA48/2, Chiral Dynamics (2009)

$\Rightarrow a_0 - a_2$ uncomfortably large (by $\approx 3.5\sigma$) – why??

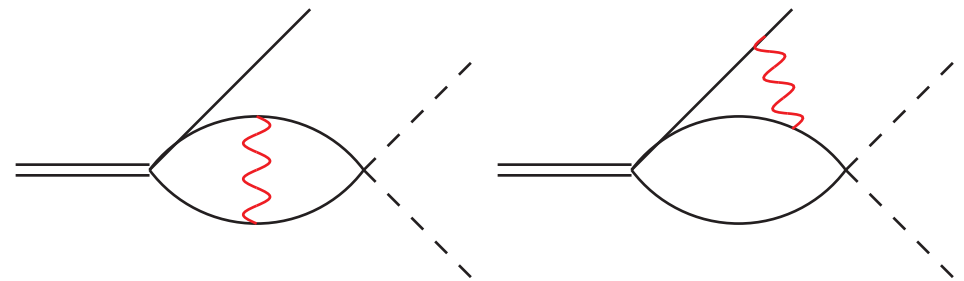
Radiative corrections

Bissegger, Fuhrer, Gasser, BK, Rusetsky, NPB 806 (2009) 178

"external" (universal):



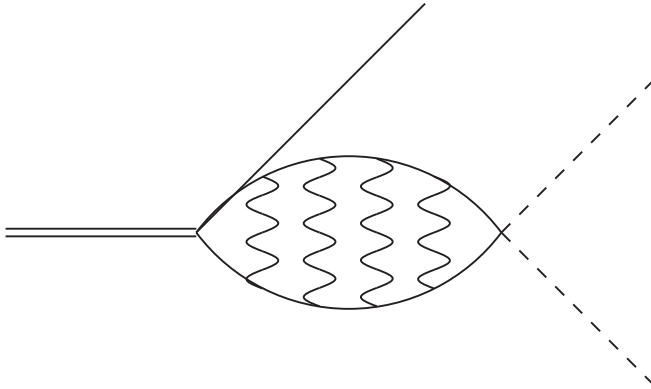
"internal":



- "external"/universal corrections well-known all except Coulomb pole **small and smooth**
- "internal" corrections with non-trivial effects on threshold behaviour

Non-perturbative effects: ponium

- charged pions may get bound: **ponium**



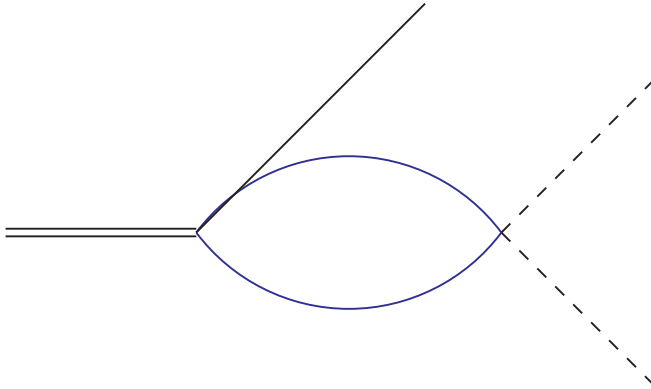
ionisation energy: ~ 1.86 keV

ground state width: ~ 0.2 eV

- changes analytical structure at threshold $\Rightarrow \frac{\alpha}{v_{\pm}}$ not small

Non-perturbative effects: pionium

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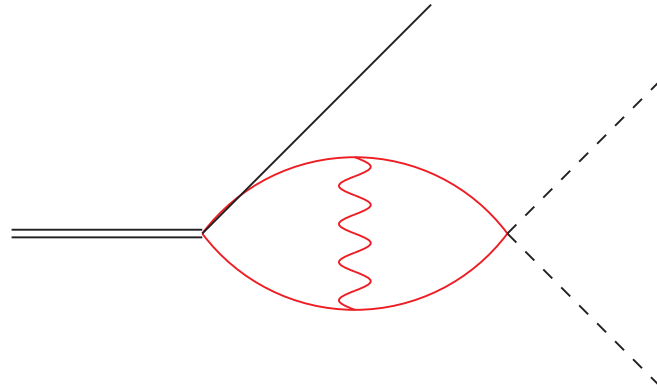


$$G(s) = \frac{i}{16\pi} v_{\pm}$$

$$v_{\pm}(s) = \begin{cases} i \sqrt{\frac{4M_{\pi^+}^2}{s} - 1}, & s < 4M_{\pi^+}^2, \\ \sqrt{1 - \frac{4M_{\pi^+}^2}{s}}, & s > 4M_{\pi^+}^2, \end{cases}$$

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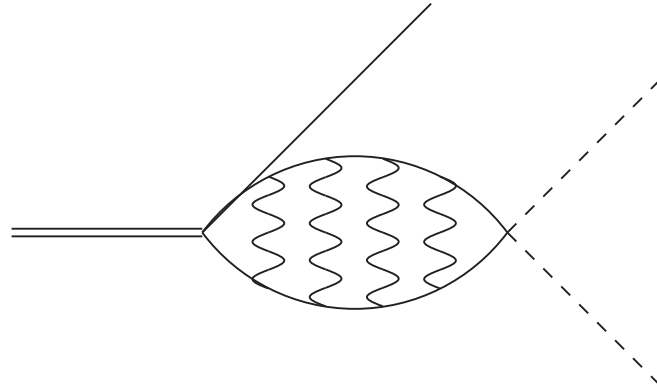
- charged pions may get bound: **pionium**



$$G(s) = \frac{i}{16\pi} v_{\pm} - \frac{\alpha}{32\pi} \left[\log(-v_{\pm}^2) + C \right]$$
$$v_{\pm}(s) = \begin{cases} i \sqrt{\frac{4M_{\pi^+}^2}{s} - 1}, & s < 4M_{\pi^+}^2, \\ \sqrt{1 - \frac{4M_{\pi^+}^2}{s}}, & s > 4M_{\pi^+}^2, \end{cases}$$

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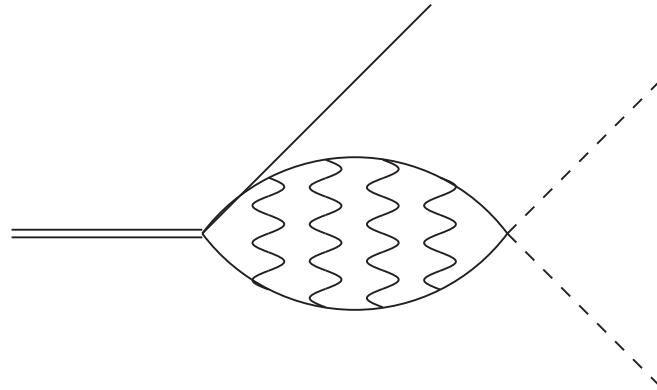


$$G(s) = \frac{i}{16\pi} v_{\pm} - \frac{\alpha}{32\pi} \left[\log(-v_{\pm}^2) + 2\psi\left(1 - \frac{i\alpha}{2v_{\pm}}\right) - 2\psi(1) + C \right]$$

$$v_{\pm}(s) = \begin{cases} i \sqrt{\frac{4M_{\pi^+}^2}{s} - 1}, & s < 4M_{\pi^+}^2, \\ \sqrt{1 - \frac{4M_{\pi^+}^2}{s}}, & s > 4M_{\pi^+}^2, \end{cases}$$

Non-perturbative effects: pionium

- charged pions may get bound: **pionium**



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- one-photon exchange: $\log(-v_{\pm}^2)$ divergence at threshold: effect on scattering length surprisingly (?) **sizeable**:

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 - a_2 &= 0.2571 \pm 0.0048(\text{stat}) \pm 0.0025(\text{syst}) \pm 0.0014(\text{ext}) \\ a_2 &= -0.024 \pm 0.013(\text{stat}) \pm 0.009(\text{syst}) \pm 0.002(\text{ext}) \end{aligned}$$

Giudici for NA48/2, Chiral Dynamics (2009)

⇒ radiative corrections shift $a_0 - a_2$ by $\approx 10\%$!

Combined information on $\pi\pi$ scattering lengths

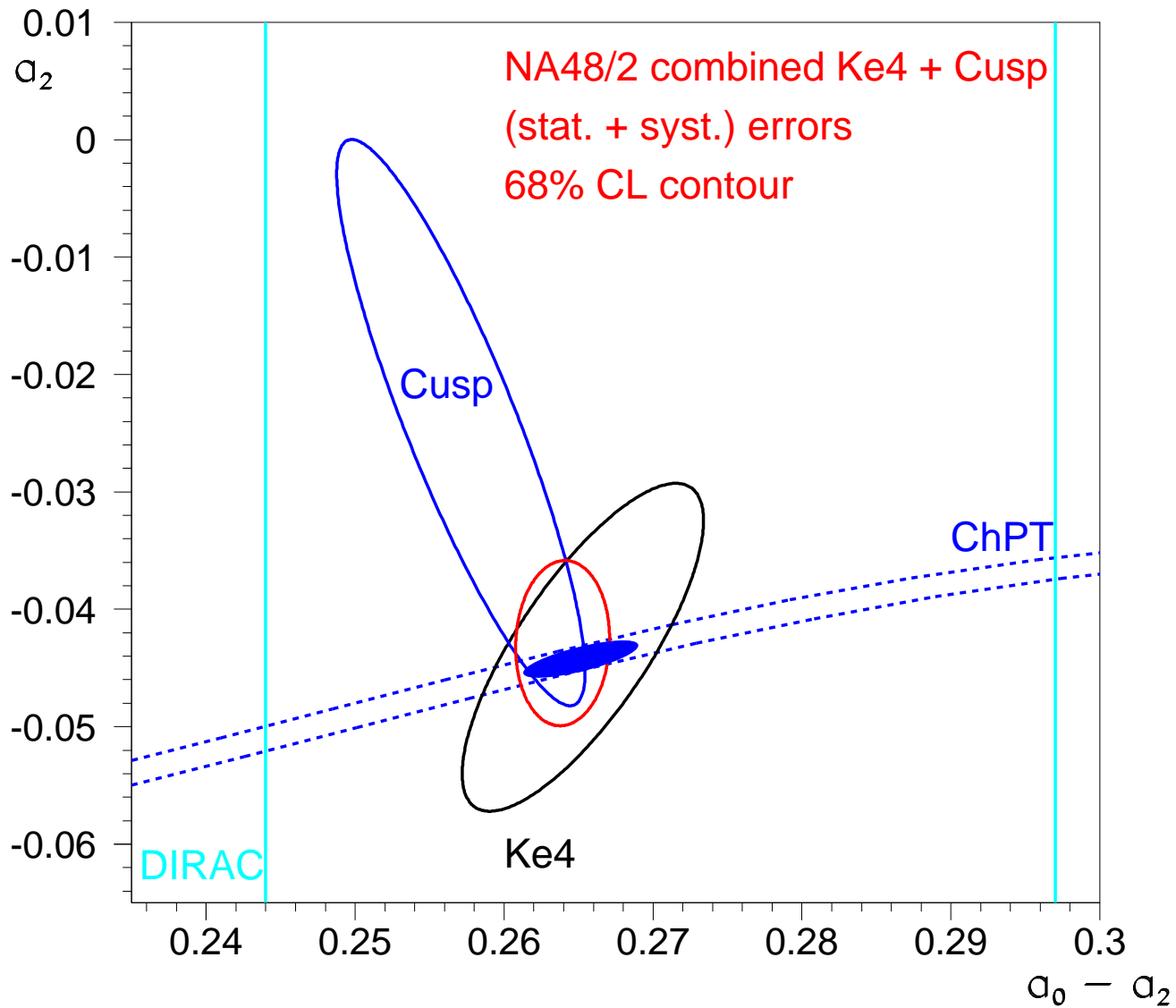
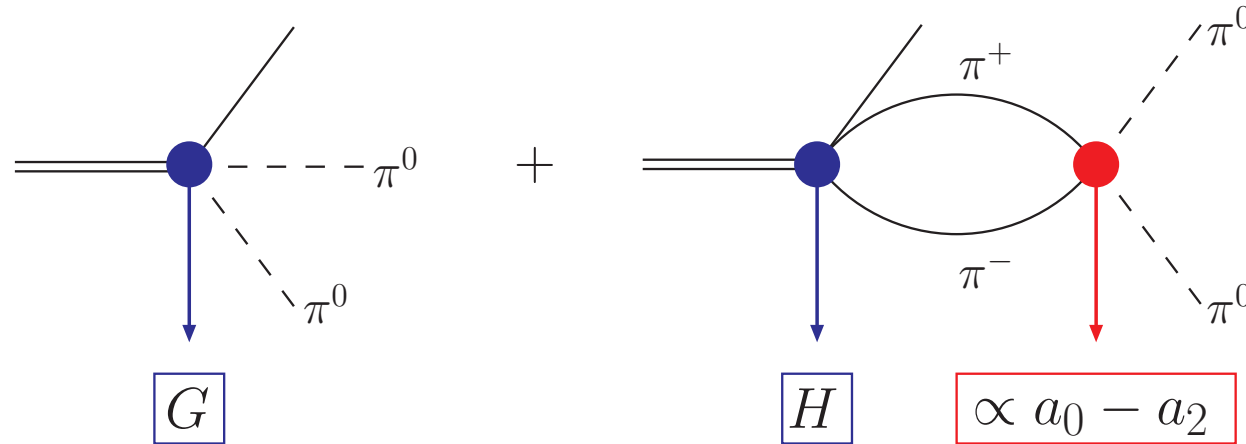


figure courtesy of B. Bloch-Devaux

More of the same? $K_L, \eta \rightarrow 3\pi, \eta' \rightarrow \eta\pi\pi$

- similar cusps in $K_L \rightarrow 3\pi^0, \eta \rightarrow 3\pi^0, \eta' \rightarrow \eta\pi^0\pi^0 \dots$ however:



- \Rightarrow cusp strength $\propto H/G \times (a_0 - a_2)$
- \Rightarrow sensitivity on $a_0 - a_2$ depends strongly on relative strength "charged" to "neutral" amplitudes

- H/G is strongly different for different channels:

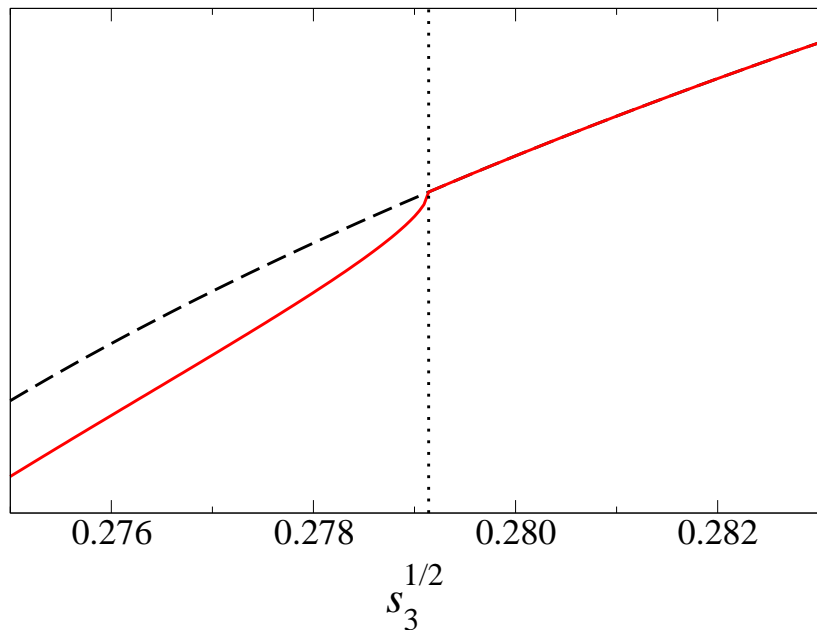
$$\frac{H}{G}(K^+ \rightarrow 3\pi) \approx 2 \qquad \frac{H}{G}(K_L \rightarrow 3\pi) \approx \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\frac{H}{G}(\eta \rightarrow 3\pi) \approx \frac{1}{3} \qquad \frac{H}{G}(\eta' \rightarrow \eta 2\pi) \approx \sqrt{2}$$

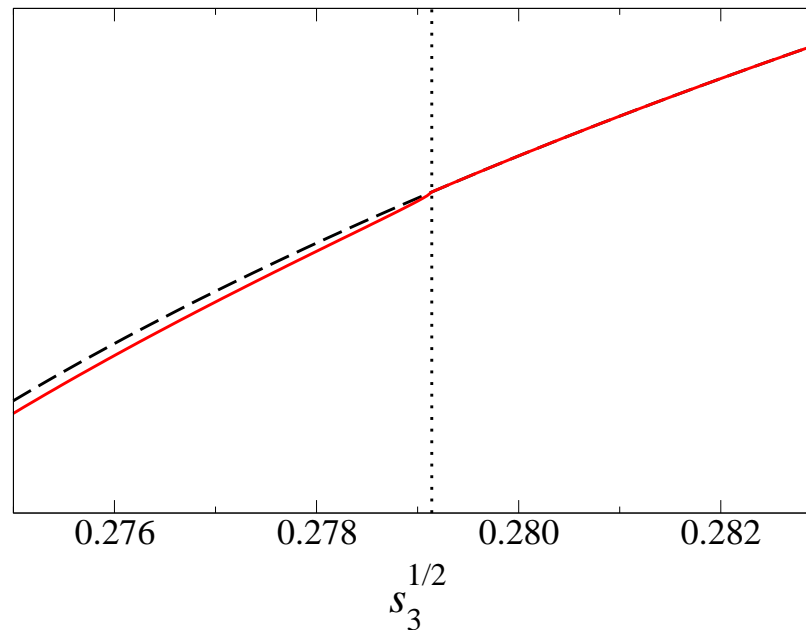
More of the same? $K_L, \eta \rightarrow 3\pi, \eta' \rightarrow \eta\pi\pi$

- sketches for one-loop cusps:

$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0\pi^+$ ($H/G \approx 2$):



$K_L \rightarrow 3\pi^0$ ($H/G \approx 1/3$):



- precision determinations of $a_0 - a_2$ much harder from K_L or η
theoretical formalism exists

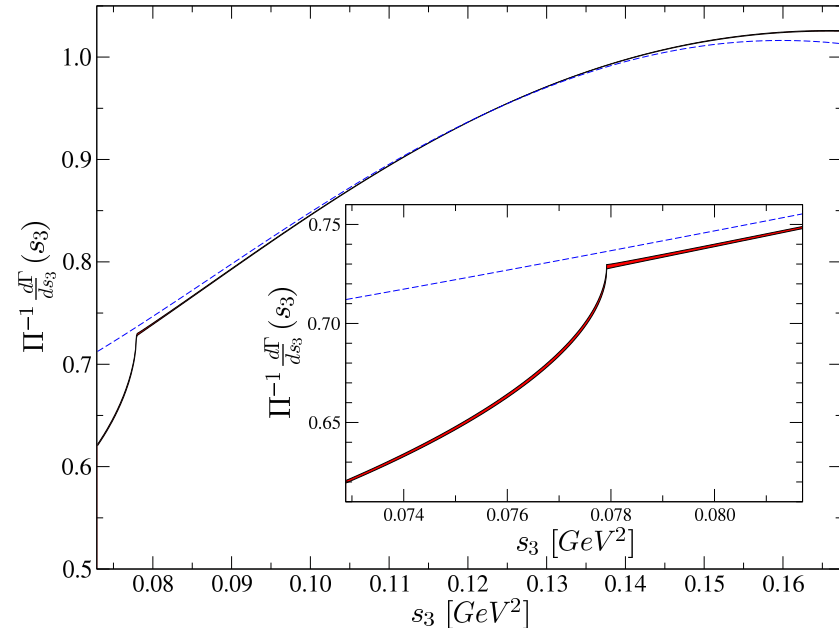
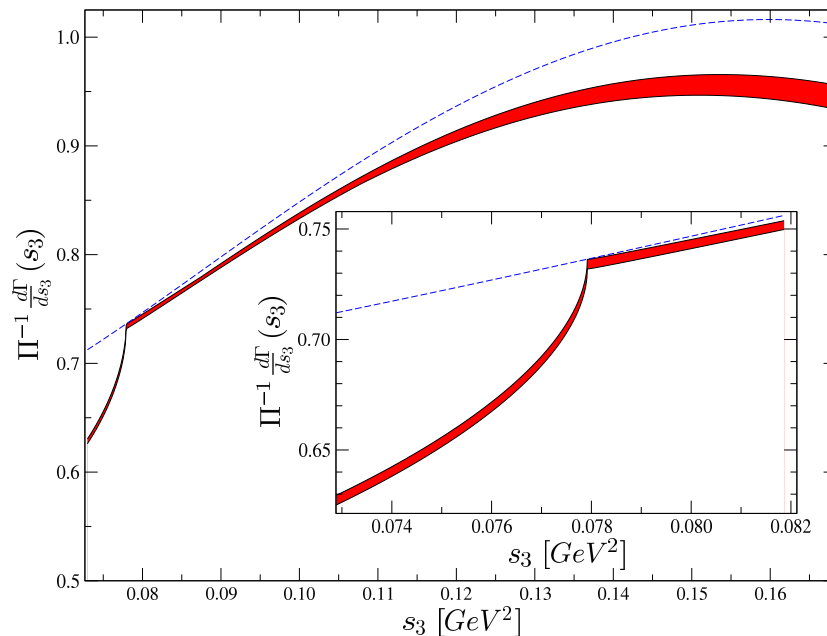
Bissegger et al., PLB 659 (2008) 576, NPB 806 (2009) 178

Gullström, Kupść, Rusetsky, PRC 79 (2009) 028201

Prediction of the cusp in $\eta' \rightarrow \eta\pi^0\pi^0$

BK, Schneider, EPJC 62 (2009) 511

- new ingredient: $\pi\eta$ scattering in the final state
not known experimentally, very badly constrained from ChPT
- uncertainty can be absorbed in redefinition of polynomial terms:



- integrated event deficit $\approx 8\%$ below the $\pi^+\pi^-$ threshold

\Rightarrow ELSA, MAMI-C, WASA@COSY, KLOE@DAΦNE, BES-III

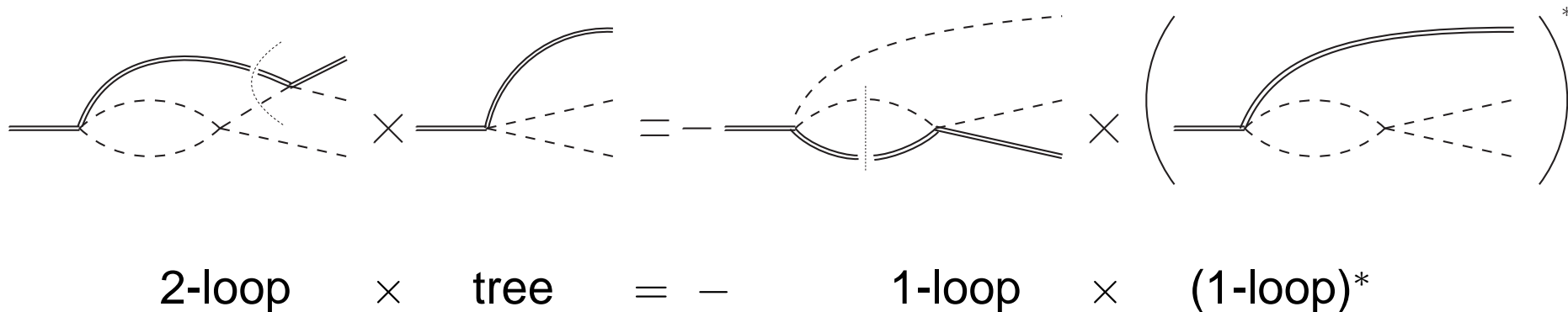
Can one extract the $\pi\eta$ scattering length?

- only possibility to distinguish $\pi\eta$ rescattering from polynomial:

$$\text{threshold effects at } s_1 = (M_\pi + M_\eta)^2$$

\Rightarrow border of phase space, cannot go **below** the cusp

- square-root behaviour above threshold **no**:
 \Rightarrow interference



- cusps at $\pi\eta$ threshold **cancel exactly**
 non-trivial 2-loop graph essential ingredient for this cancellation

Conclusions

- **NREFT** provides systematic effective field theory framework for an analysis of cusp phenomena and $\pi\pi$ scattering lengths in $K \rightarrow 3\pi$ decays
- combined expansion in non-relativistic parameter ϵ and scattering lengths a currently performed up to $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^4)$, $\mathcal{O}(a\epsilon^5)$, $\mathcal{O}(a^2\epsilon^4)$
- **radiative corrections**: additional expansion parameter $e^2 = 4\pi\alpha$ **modification of analytic structure** plus non-perturbative effects (**pionium**) in the threshold region
- theoretical accuracy to match experimental one
- similar cusps in $\eta \rightarrow 3\pi^0$, $\eta' \rightarrow \eta\pi^0\pi^0$

Spares

Different approaches to cusp analysis

- **Aim:** theoretical framework to **extract** $\pi\pi$ scattering lengths from experimental data (*not* to **predict** them!)

- Cabibbo, Isidori, JHEP 0503 (2005) 021:

analyticity + unitarity + expansion in $\pi\pi$ scattering lengths

⇒ not fully dynamical scheme (photons?)

⇒ ansatz $\mathcal{M} = A + B v_{+-}(s)$

A, B analytic, only valid in close vicinity to cusp

- Gámiz, Prades, Scimemi, EPJ C50 (2007) 405:

Chiral perturbation theory beyond one loop

- Colangelo, Gasser, B.K., Rusetsky, PLB 638 (2006) 187:

Non-relativistic effective field theory (NREFT)

On the accuracy of the extraction of $a_0 - a_2$

Embarrassing:

$$a_0 - a_2 = 0.264 \pm 0.006(\text{stat}) \pm 0.004(\text{syst}) \pm 0.013(\text{theo})$$

Batley et al., PLB 633 (2006) 173

Sources of theoretical uncertainty:

- electromagnetic corrections → okay
- isospin breaking in matching → okay (uncertainty $\lesssim 1\%$)
- three loops, $\mathcal{O}(a^3\epsilon^3)$???

An accurate assessment of the theoretical uncertainty in the extraction of $a_0 - a_2$ can only be worked out along with the data analysis.

Three loops $\mathcal{O}(a^3 \epsilon^3)$

Threshold theorem in the absence of photons:

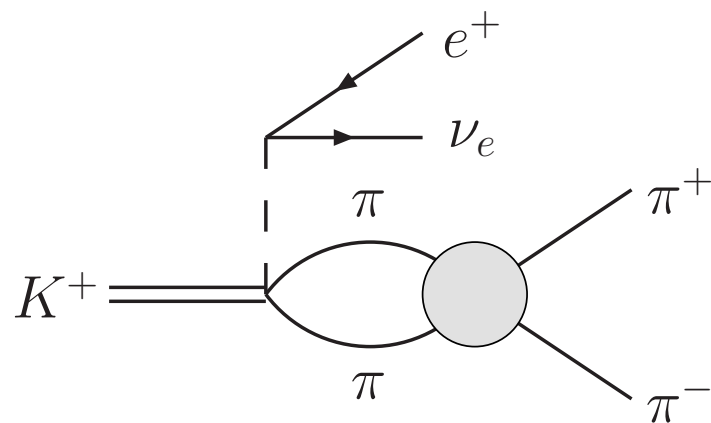
$$\text{coeff}[v_{+-}] \propto T(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-)|_{\text{thr}} \times T(\pi^+ \pi^- \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0)|_{\text{thr}}$$

- in other words: knowing $T(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-)$ at $\mathcal{O}(a^n)$ yields leading cusp strength in $T(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \pi^+)$ at $\mathcal{O}(a^{n+1})$
- $T(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-)$ at two loops \Rightarrow estimate three-loop effect:

$$T(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-)|_{\text{thr}} \propto -1.0 (\text{tree}) - 0.13 i (\text{1-loop}) + 0.014 (\text{2-loop})$$

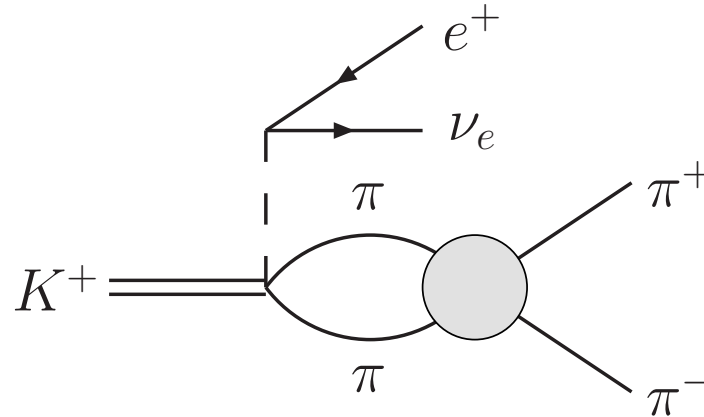
- expect $\mathcal{O}(a^3)$ to modify leading (one-loop) cusp by about 1.5%

K_{e4} decays and $\pi\pi$ scattering



Why can one measure $\pi\pi$ scattering in such a process?

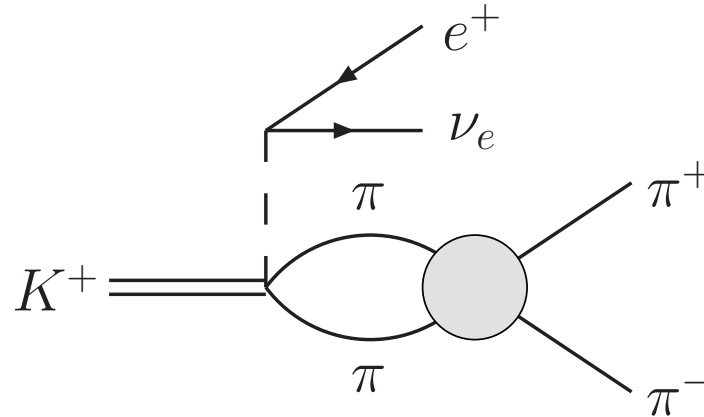
K_{e4} decays and $\pi\pi$ scattering



Why can one measure $\pi\pi$ scattering in such a process?

- Answer:
 - ▷ decay K_{e4} described by **form factors**
 - ▷ (partial waves of) form factors have **phases of $\pi\pi$ interaction** (Watson's final state theorem)
 - ▷ measure interference between partial waves $\delta_0^0 - \delta_1^1$

K_{e4} decays and $\pi\pi$ scattering



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 - ▷ (partial waves of) form factors have **phases of $\pi\pi$ interaction** (Watson's final state theorem)
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- Problem:
 - ▷ enormous precision of the data
 - ▷ what about Watson's theorem and isospin breaking?

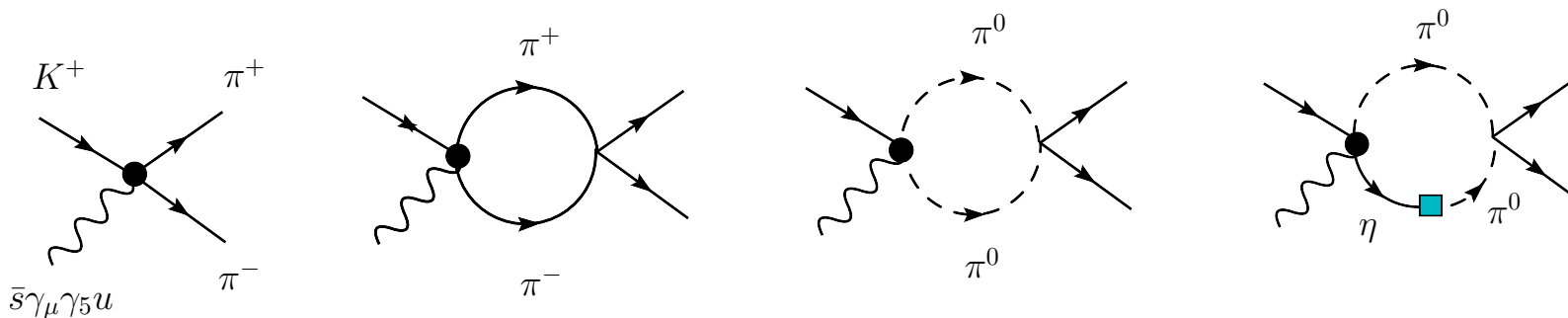
NA48/2

Isospin breaking in K_{e4}

Colangelo, Gasser, Rusetsky, EPJC 59 (2009) 777

- two isospin-breaking effects:

$e \neq 0 \Rightarrow M_{\pi^+}^2 \neq M_{\pi^0}^2$ and $m_u - m_d$ (e.g. in $\pi^0\eta$ mixing)

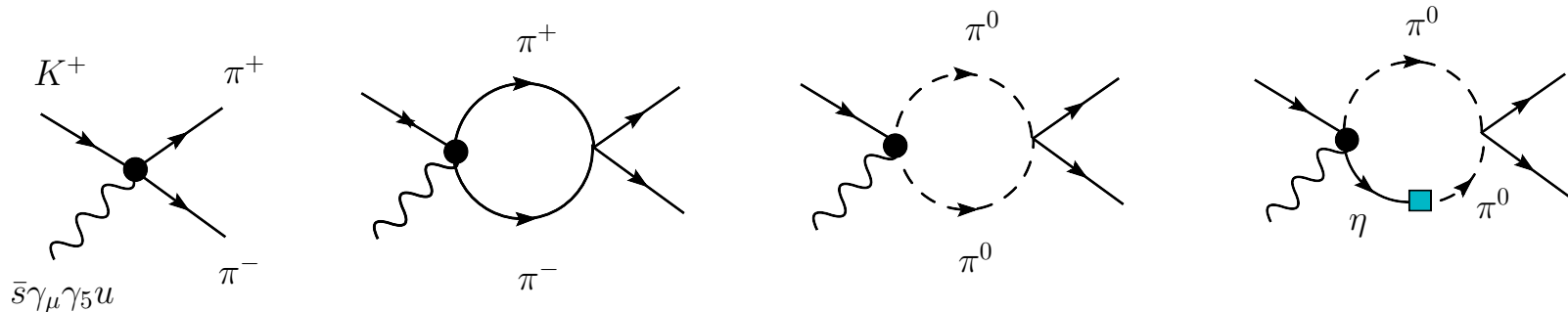


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Colangelo, Gasser, Rusetsky, EPJC 59 (2009) 777

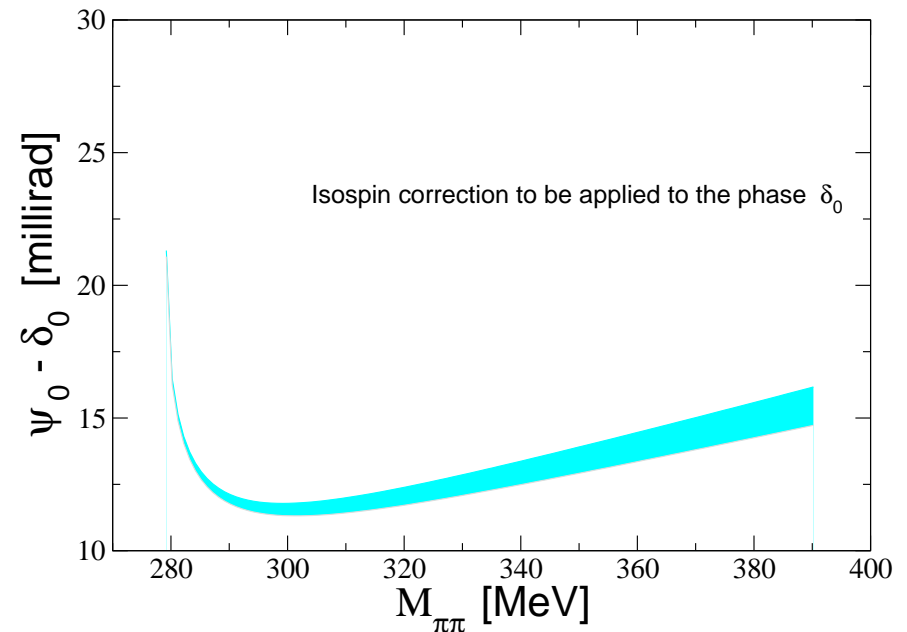
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- generates isospin- breaking correction phase
- effect on the scattering length $a_0 \approx 10\%$!
- result: **Bloch-Devauux, KAON 09**

$$a_0 = 0.2209 \pm 0.0049(\text{stat}) \\ \pm 0.0018(\text{syst}) \pm 0.0064(\text{th})$$



Pionium lifetime

- $\pi^+\pi^-$ system, bound by electromagnetism
calculate energy levels as in quantum mechanics for the hydrogen atom!
- energy levels perturbed by strong interactions:
ground state not stable, **decays**: $A_{\pi^+\pi^-} \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0, \gamma\gamma, \dots$
- (improved) Deser formula for the width: **Deser 1954, Gasser et al. 2001**

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma &= \frac{2}{9}\alpha^3 p |\mathcal{A}(\pi^+\pi^- \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0)_{\text{thr}}|^2 (1 + \epsilon) \\ &= \frac{2}{9}\alpha^3 p |a_0 - a_2|^2 (1 + \delta) \\ \delta &= 0.058 \pm 0.012\end{aligned}$$

- taking scattering length information from theory, predict lifetime:

$$\tau = (2.9 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-15} \text{ s}$$

- turn argument around: measure τ , extract $a_0 - a_2$ **DIRAC 2005**