Isospin-symmetry breaking correction to nuclear beta decay

Latsamy Xayavong ¹, <u>Nadezda A. Smirnova</u>²

 1 - Department of Physics, Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea
 2 - Laboratoire de Physique des Deux Infinis de Bordeaux (LP2IB, CNRS/IN2P3 – University of Bordeaux, France

Workshop on **Vud from pion, nucleon and nuclear beta decay** GANIL, Caen, France, 5-6 November 2024







Isospin-symmetry breaking correction to nuclear beta decay

- Shell-Model Formalism for isospin-symmetry breaking correction δ_{c}
- Upgrades and results from the Shell Model + WS wave functions L. Xayavong, N. Smirnova, Phys. Rev. C97, 024324 (2018)
- New results from the Shell Model + Hartree-Fock wave functions L. Xayavong, N. Smirnova, Phys. Rev. C105, 044308 (2022)
- Higher-order terms in δ_c

L. Xayavong, N. Smirnova, Phys. Rev. C109, 014317 (2024)

• Conclusions and perspectives

Fundamental interactions studies

Fermions in the Standard Model



Testing grounds:

- at colliders: search for direct production
- at low energies in nuclear beta decay: in precision experiments

Nuclear Matrix elements are needed !

Cabibbo - Kobayashi - Maskawa (CKM) quark-mixing matrix

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

N. Cabibbo (1963); M. Kobayasi, T. Maskawa (1973).

What does the Standard Model prescribe?

- V_{ik} to be extracted from experiment
- Standard Model: *V* is unitary

$$\sum_{k} |V_{ik}|^2 = \sum_{k} |V_{ki}|^2 = 1$$

 \Rightarrow constraints on new physics beyond the Standard Model

|V_{ud}| from pion, nucleon and nuclear beta decay

Superallowed nuclear 0+ -> 0+ beta decay (nuclear structure effects)

Mirror transitions (F/GT ratio, nuclear structure effects)

Neutron decay (Lifetime)

Pion decay (Branching ratio)

Superallowed $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ beta decay

15 best known T = 1 emitters ($ft^{0^+ \rightarrow 0^+}$ -value known with a precision $\leq 0.4\%$):

¹⁰C, ¹⁴O, ²²Mg, ²⁶*m*Al, ²⁶Si, ³⁴Cl, ³⁴Ar, ³⁸*m*K, ³⁸Ca, ⁴²Sc, ⁴⁶V, ⁵⁰Mn, ⁵⁴Co, ⁶²Ga, ⁷⁴Rb

J.C. Hardy, I.S. Towner, PRC102, 045501 (2020)



Superallowed $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ beta decay

Absolute Ft value

$$Ft^{0^+ \to 0^+} \equiv ft^{0^+ \to 0^+} (1 + \delta'_R)(1 + \delta_{NS} - \delta_C) = \frac{K}{|M_F^0|^2 G_V^2 (1 + \Delta_R)}$$

J.C. Hardy, I.S. Towner, PRC102, 045501 (2020)



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Radiative corrections

$$egin{aligned} \Delta_R^V &= (2.454 \pm 0.019)\% \ \delta_R' &\sim (1.50 \pm \sim 0.12)\% \ |\delta_{NS}| &\lesssim 0.4\% \end{aligned}$$

Nuclear-structure correction

$$|M_F|^2 = |M_F^0|^2 (1 - \delta_C)$$
$$|M_F^0|^2 = T(T + 1) - T_{zi}T_{zf}$$
$$\delta_C \approx 0.1 - 2.0\%$$

Talks by L. Hayen and M. Drissi

Isospin-symmetry breaking correction



Shell model (full configuration-interaction approach)

Resolution of the nuclear many-body problem by Hamiltonian matrix diagonalization



Avantages of the theoretical approach:

- Conservation of symmetries of the full Hamiltonian (rotational, translation invariance, parity, particle number, etc)
- Precise information on low-energy states and transitions
- Excellent description with appropriate interactions and in a suitable model space

Challenges :

Basis dimensions !

Fermi matrix element within the shell model

Fermi β -decay matrix element

$$egin{aligned} H|\Psi
angle &= E|\Psi
angle &\Rightarrow & egin{aligned} |\Psi_i
angle &= \sum c_{ki}|\Phi_k
angle \ |\Psi_f
angle &= \sum c_{kf}|\Phi_k
angle \end{aligned}$$

$$M_{F} = \langle \Psi_{f} | T_{+} | \Psi_{i} \rangle = \sum_{\alpha} \langle \Psi_{f} | a_{\alpha_{n}}^{\dagger} a_{\alpha_{p}} | \Psi_{i} \rangle \langle \alpha_{n} | t_{+} | \alpha_{p} \rangle$$

$$\langle \Psi_f | a^{\dagger}_{\alpha_n} a_{\alpha_p} | \Psi_i \rangle \equiv \rho_{\alpha} \quad (\neq \rho^T_{\alpha})$$

Miller, Schwenk PRC (2009,2010): Radial excitations !

$$\langle \alpha_n | t_+ | \alpha_p \rangle = \int_0^\infty R_{\alpha_n}(r) R_{\alpha_p}(r) r^2 dr \equiv \Omega_\alpha \quad (\neq 1)$$

 $\alpha = (n_\alpha, l_\alpha, j_\alpha, m_\alpha)$

- Large-scale calculations
- Global parameterization of INC forces
- Revisit WS procedure
- Implicate HF wave functions

I.S. Towner, J.C. Hardy; (1973 – 2020) W.E. Ormand, B.A. Brown (1985 – 1995)

Fermi matrix element within the shell model

Isospin-symmetry limit

$$M_F^0 = \sum_{\alpha} \rho_{\alpha}^T \Omega_{\alpha}^T = \pm \sqrt{T(T+1) - T_{zi}T_{zf}}, \qquad \Omega_{\alpha}^T = 1$$

Realistic model (Coulomb and charge-symmetry breaking effective nuclear forces)

$$M_F = \sum_{\alpha} \rho_{\alpha} \Omega_{\alpha}$$

In first order perturbation theory:

$$M_F|^2 \approx |M_F^0|^2 \Big[1 - \underbrace{\frac{2}{M_F^0} \sum_{\alpha} \left(\rho_{\alpha}^T - \rho_{\alpha} \right)}_{\delta_{C1}} - \underbrace{\frac{2}{M_F^0} \sum_{\alpha} \rho_{\alpha}^T \left(1 - \Omega_{\alpha} \right)}_{\delta_{C2}} \Big],$$

$$\delta_{C} \approx \delta_{C1} + \delta_{C2}$$

- δ_{C1} is the *isospin-mixing* part
- δ_{C2} is the *radial-overlap* part

Shell-model calculations

¹⁰C, ¹⁴O, ¹⁸Ne, ²²Mg, ^{26m}Al, ²⁶Si, ³⁴Cl, ³⁴Ar, ^{38m}K, ³⁸Ca, ⁴²Sc, ⁴²Ti, ⁴⁶V, ⁵⁰Mn, ⁵⁴Co, ⁶²Ga, ⁶⁶As

Model spaces and effective interactions (+ charge-dependence)

- p-shell: CKPOT (Cohen-Kurath, 1965)
- (*p*_{1/2}*sd*_{5/2})-shell: ZBM's (*Zuker et al, 1969*), REWIL (*Reehal, Wildenthal, 1973*)
- sd-shell: USD (Wildenthal, 1984), USDA/USDB (Brown, Richter, 2006)
- (*sd*_{3/2}*f*_{7/2}*p*_{3/2})-shell: ZBM2 (*Nowacki et al, 2014*)
- pf-shell: KB3G (Poves et al, 2004), GXPF1A (Honma et al, 2004)
- pf_{5/2}g_{9/2}: JUN45 (Honma et al, 2009), MRG (Nowacki et al, 1996)

NuShellX@MSU shell-model code (B.A. Brown, W.D.M. Rae, Nucl. Data Sheets 120, (2014).

Shell-model evaluation of δ_{C1}



Shell-model evaluation of δ_{C2} beyond the closure approximation

$$\delta_{C2} = \frac{2}{M_F^0} \sum_{\alpha} \langle \Psi_f | a_{\alpha_n}^{\dagger} a_{\alpha_p} | \Psi_i \rangle^T (1 - \Omega_{\alpha})$$

Experimental information on Relevant spectroscopic Factors is highly desirable !

$$\delta_{C2} = \frac{2}{M_F^0} \sum_{\alpha, \pi} \langle \Psi_f | a_{\alpha_n}^{\dagger} | \pi \rangle^T \langle \pi | a_{\alpha_p} | \Psi_j \rangle^T (1 - \Omega_{\alpha}^{\pi})$$



Spectroscopic amplitudes (from the shell-model):

$$\langle \Psi_f | a_{\alpha_n}^{\dagger} | \pi \rangle = rac{\langle \Psi_f | | a_{\alpha_n}^{\dagger} | | \pi \rangle}{\sqrt{2J_f + 1}}$$

Radial-overlap integrals (from a realistic single-particle potential)

$$\Omega^{\pi}_{\alpha} = \int_0^{\infty} R^{\pi}_{\alpha_n}(r) R^{\pi}_{\alpha_p}(r) r^2 dr$$

Shell-model + Woods-Saxon evaluation of δ_{C2}

L. Xayavong, PhD thesis, U. Bordeaux (2016)

L. Xayavong, N. Smirnova, Phys. Rev. C97, 024324 (2018)

Parameterization

$$V_{WS}(r) = -\frac{V_0}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{r-R}{a}\right)} - V_{ls}(r)\vec{l}\cdot\vec{\sigma} + V_C(r)$$

- A. Bohr, B.R. Mottelson modified (BM_m) from Nuclear Structure, Vol. I.
- N. Schwierz, I. Wiedenhöver, A. Volya (SWV) from *nucl-th:0709.3525*

Under stringent experimental constraints:

 (V₀, r₀) are adjusted simultaneously to reproduce experimental nucleon separation energies and charge radii

$$\psi(r) \to \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2m|\epsilon|}r}{\hbar}\right)$$

- A new approach to nuclear charge radii beyond the closure approximation: $\langle r^2 \rangle_{ch} = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{\pi \alpha} \langle \alpha | r^2 | \alpha \rangle^{\pi} | \langle \Psi_i | | a^{\dagger}_{\alpha} | | \pi \rangle |^2$
- Thorough propagation of uncertainties.

WS Adjustment



Shell-model + Woods-Saxon evaluation of δ_{C2} and δ_{C}



N. Smirnova, L. Xayavong, Proc. NTSE2018.

Shell Model + Hartree-Fock radial wave functions for δ_{C2}

Skyrme force calculations

SkM* parameterization J. Bartel et al, NPA386 (1982).

Optimization

 Energy-dependent local equivalent potential C.B.Dover, N. Van Giai, NPA190 (1972):

$$V^{LE}(r,\epsilon_{\alpha}) = V^{0}(r,\epsilon_{\alpha}) + V^{so}(r)\langle \vec{l}\cdot\vec{s}\rangle + V_{C}(r) \quad \text{for} \quad R_{\alpha}(r) = N\sqrt{\frac{m^{*}(r)}{m}} R_{\alpha}^{LE}(r).$$

- Adjustment of the central term V⁰(r, ε_α) by a scaling factor to match the experimental proton and neutron separation energies
- Effects from CIB and CSB terms, spurious isospin mixing, Slater approximation for Coulomb term, two-body center-of-mass correction, finite nucleon size, etc. are investigated.

W.E. Ormand, B.A. Brown, NPA440 (1985); PRL62 (1989); PRC52 (1995) L. Xayavong, N. Smirnova, PRC105 (2022).

Shell Model + Hartree-Fock radial wave functions for δ_{C2}

L. XAYAVONG AND N. A. SMIRNOVA

PHYSICAL REVIEW C 105, 044308 (2022)



Post HF effects to be considered!

Consistency tests

Test of the CVC hypothesis for δ_{c} (as was proposed by J.C. Hardy, I. S. Towner, PRC82, 065501 (2010)):

$$\mathcal{F}t = (1 + \delta_R)(1 + \delta_{NS} - \delta_C)ft = \frac{K}{M_0^2 G_F^2 |V_{ud}|^2 (1 + \Delta_R)}$$

¹⁰C, ¹⁴O, ²²Mg, ^{26m}Al, ²⁶Si, ³⁴Cl, ³⁴Ar, ^{38m}K, ³⁸Ca, ⁴²Sc, ⁴⁶V, ⁵⁰Mn, ⁵⁴Co, ⁶²Ga, (⁷⁴Rb) Δ_R , δ_R , δ_{NS} Radiative corrections are kept the same



Consistency tests

Test of the mirror ratio for triplets

$$\frac{ft^a}{ft^b} = 1 + \left(\delta_R^a - \delta_R^b\right) + \left(\delta_{NS}^a - \delta_{NS}^b\right) + \left(\delta_C^a - \delta_C^b\right)$$

^{26m}Al, ²⁶Si, ³⁴Cl, ³⁴Ar, ^{38m}K, ³⁸Ca, ⁴²Sc, ⁴²Ti, ⁴⁶V, ⁴⁶Cr, ⁵⁰Mn, ⁵⁰Fe, ⁵⁴Co, ⁵⁴Ni



Test of the separation ansatz of the isospin-symmetry breaking correction



N. Smirnova, L. Xayavong, Proc. NTSE2018.

Higher-order terms of the isospin-symmetry breaking correction

Exact evaluation of δ_C :

$$\begin{split} M_F &= M_F^0 \Big[1 - \frac{1}{M_F^0} \sum_{\alpha} \left(\rho_{\alpha}^T - \rho_{\alpha} \right) - \frac{1}{M_F^0} \sum_{\alpha} \rho_{\alpha}^T \left(1 - \Omega_{\alpha} \right) + \frac{1}{M_F^0} \sum_{\alpha} \left(\rho_{\alpha}^T - \rho_{\alpha} \right) \left(1 - \Omega_{\alpha} \right) \Big], \\ &|M_F|^2 = |M_F^0|^2 (1 - \delta_C), \quad \delta_C = \sum_{i=1}^6 \delta_{Ci} \end{split}$$

Explicit expressions for the six terms:

$$\delta_{C1} = \frac{2}{M_F^0} \sum_{\alpha} \left(\rho_{\alpha}^T - \rho_{\alpha} \right)$$

$$\delta_{C2} = \frac{2}{M_F^0} \sum_{\alpha} \rho_{\alpha}^T \left(1 - \Omega_{\alpha} \right)$$
LO

These terms have similar structure when expressed beyond the closure approximation!

$\delta_{C3} = \frac{2}{M_{\odot}^{0}} \sum_{\alpha} \left(\rho_{\alpha}^{T} - \rho_{\alpha} \right) \left(1 - \Omega_{\alpha} \right)$	NLO	
$\delta_{C4} = -\left(\delta_{C1} + \delta_{C2}\right)^2 / 4$	NLO	

$$\delta_{C5} = -\left(\delta_{C1} + \delta_{C2}\right) \delta_{C3}/2 \qquad \qquad \mathsf{N}^2 \mathsf{LO}$$

N³LO

$$\delta_{C6} = -\delta_{C3}^2/4$$

Higher-order terms of the isospin-symmetry breaking correction

• Higher-order contribution (superallowed $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ Fermi transition)



L. Xayavong, N. Smirnova, Phys. Rev. C109, 014317 (2024)

Nuclear-structure correction to Fermi β decay

Results :

- Large-scale calculations with global WS parametrization lead to the results similar to those of Towner and Hardy (2015, 2020)
- New calculations with the Skyrme HF wave functions + numerous effects checked. Conclusion: importance of CSB/CIB terms, of elimination of spurious isospin mixing and post-HF effects
- Bigher-order terms in the correction are identified and assessed

Perspectives :

- The issue of the exact Fermi operator to be investigated via ab-initio methods (L. Xayavong et al, in progress)
- High-dimensions and heavier nuclei (near A=80)
- Improved charge-dependent interactions
- Mirror decays (T=1/2)

BACK-UP SLIDES





WS and HF Non-adjusted !

WS and HF Adjusted !



Nuclei along N=Z line: isospin-symmetry breaking

IMME b and c coefficients of lowest and excited multiplets

Fine structure (staggering) of b and c coefficients

$$M_{T_z} = a + bT_z + cT_z^2$$

Importance :

 Prediction of masses and excited levels in proton-rich nuclei, e.g. if *Tz*>0 :

$$M_{-T_z} = M_{T_z}^{exp} + 2b^{th}T_z$$

Particular case of triplets :

 $M_{-1} = 2M_0^{exp} - M_1^{exp} + 2c^{th}$

Important for nuclear astrophysics applications!

Theory

