

$$\tau^- \longrightarrow \eta \pi^- \nu_\tau$$

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Work in progress with S. González-Solís and R. Escribano

Rencontres de Moriond
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⇒ Strong suppression in the SM: Possibility to look for NP

Experimentally, $BR \leq 9.9 \times 10^{-5}$ BaBar'11

Hadronic matrix element and decay width

We fix our conventions from [Gasser, Leutwyler '85](#)

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$$\langle \pi^- P^0 | \bar{d} \gamma^\mu u | 0 \rangle = c_{\pi^- P^0}^V \left[(p_P - p_\pi)^\mu f_+^{\pi^- P}(s) - q^\mu f_-^{\pi^- P}(s) \right]$$

with $q^\mu = (p_P + p_\pi)^\mu$, $s = q^2$, and $c_{\pi^- \pi^0}^V = -\sqrt{2} = -c_{\pi^- \eta^{(\prime)}}^V$.

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$$f_0^{\pi^- P}(s)$$

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with

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$$f_-^{\pi^- P}(s) = -\frac{\Delta_{\pi^- P}}{s} \left[\frac{c_{\pi^- P}^S \Delta_{K^0 K^+}}{c_{\pi^- P}^V \Delta_{\pi^- P}} f_0^{\pi^- P}(s) + f_+^{\pi^- P}(s) \right]$$

$$f_+^{\pi^- P}(0) = -\frac{c_{\pi^- P}^S \Delta_{K^0 K^+}}{c_{\pi^- P}^V \Delta_{\pi^- P}} f_0^{\pi^- P}(0)$$

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$$\frac{d\Gamma(\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- P^0 \nu_\tau)}{d\sqrt{s}} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{ud}|^2 |f_+^{\pi^- P}(0)|^2 (M_\tau^2 - s)^2 \lambda^{1/2}(s, m_\pi^2, m_P^2)}{384\pi^3 M_\tau^3 \sqrt{s}} (c_{\pi^- P}^V)^2$$

$$\left\{ 3M_\tau^2 \frac{\Delta_{\pi^- P}^2}{s^2} \frac{\Delta_{K^0 K^+}^2}{\Delta_{K^0 K^+}^2} \left| \tilde{f}_0^{\pi^- P}(s) \right|^2 + \frac{M_\tau^2 + 2s}{s} \frac{\lambda(s, m_\pi^2, m_P^2)}{s} \left| \tilde{f}_+^{\pi^- P}(s) \right|^2 \right\},$$

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Suppression
for η, η' $O(1)$

Hadronic form factors: $f_+(s)$

Mixing between the P^0 states parametrized in terms of $\epsilon^{\eta\pi}$, $\epsilon^{\eta'\pi}$, $\theta_{\eta\eta'}$

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(to order ϵ)

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$f_+^{\pi\pi}(0)=1$ by CVC

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$$\epsilon^{\eta\pi}=0.017(2), \quad \epsilon^{\eta'\pi}=0.004(1), \quad \theta_{\eta\eta'} \sim \theta_P(\sim -13.3^\circ)$$

Feldmann, Kroll '02, '05

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$$\sim 1.7 \cdot 10^{-2}$$

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$O(\epsilon)$

$< O(\epsilon^2)$: from cancellation

Suppression of the $\pi\eta$ mode

Strong suppression of the $\pi\eta'$ mode

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Chiral Perturbation Theory (1 loop) matched to Resonance Chiral Theory (+ high-E constraints)

Gasser, Leutwyler '85

$$F_V^\pi(s) = \frac{M_\rho^2}{M_\rho^2 - s} - \frac{s}{96\pi^2 F^2} \left[A_\pi(s) + \frac{1}{2} A_K(s) \right]$$

Ecker et. al. '89

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Analiticity + Unitarity \implies Omnès solution

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Resummation of the loop functions

$$F_V^{\pi(0)}(s) = \frac{M_\rho^2}{M_\rho^2 \left[1 + \frac{s}{96\pi^2 F^2} (A_\pi(s) + \frac{1}{2} A_K(s)) \right] - s}$$

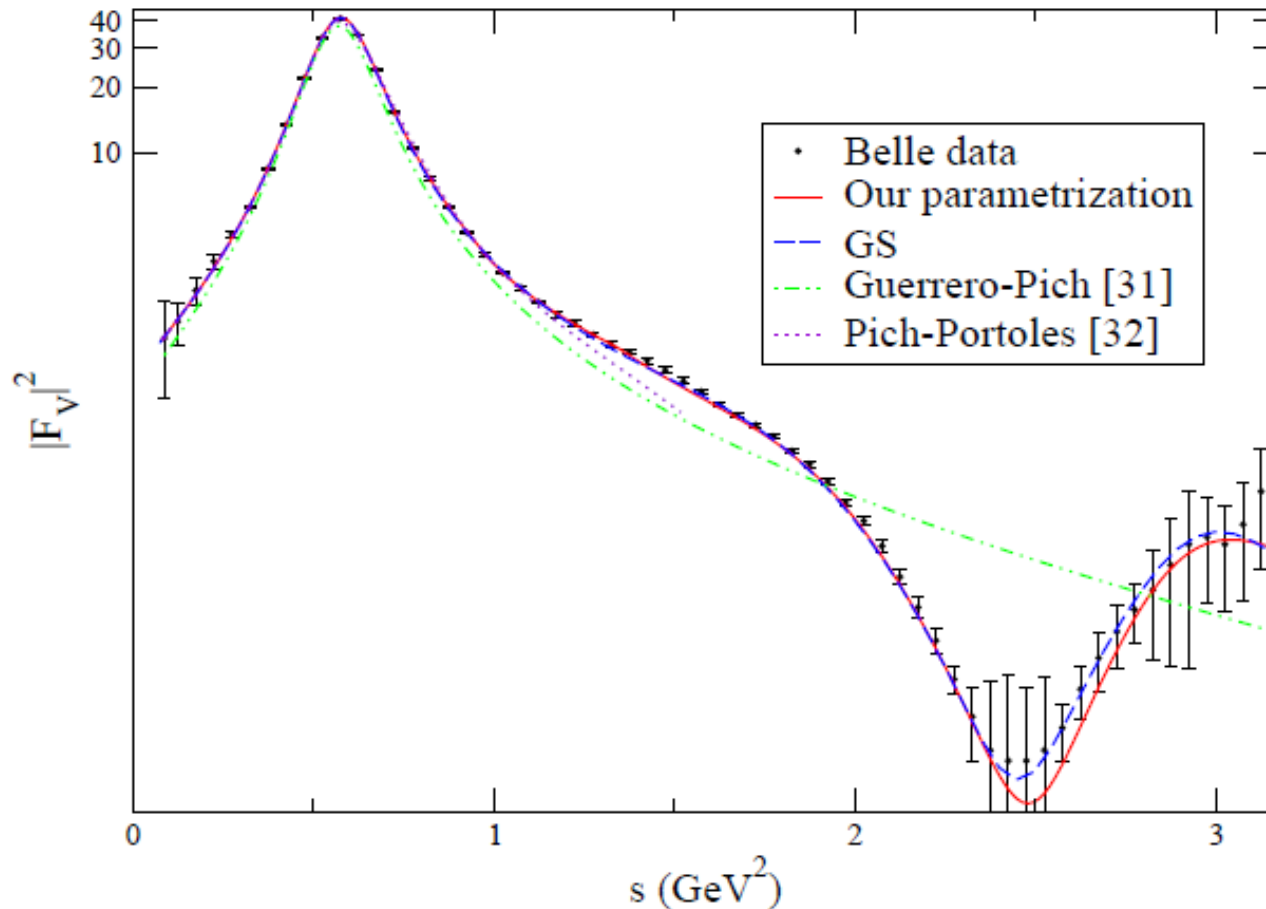
$$\tan \delta_1^1(s) = \frac{\Im m F_V^{\pi(0)}(s)}{\Re e F_V^{\pi(0)}(s)}$$

Boito et. al. '08

$$F_V^\pi(s) = \exp \left[\alpha_1 s + \frac{\alpha_2}{2} s^2 + \frac{s^3}{\pi} \int_{s_{\text{thr}}}^{\infty} ds' \frac{\delta_1^1(s')}{(s')^3 (s' - s - i\epsilon)} \right]$$

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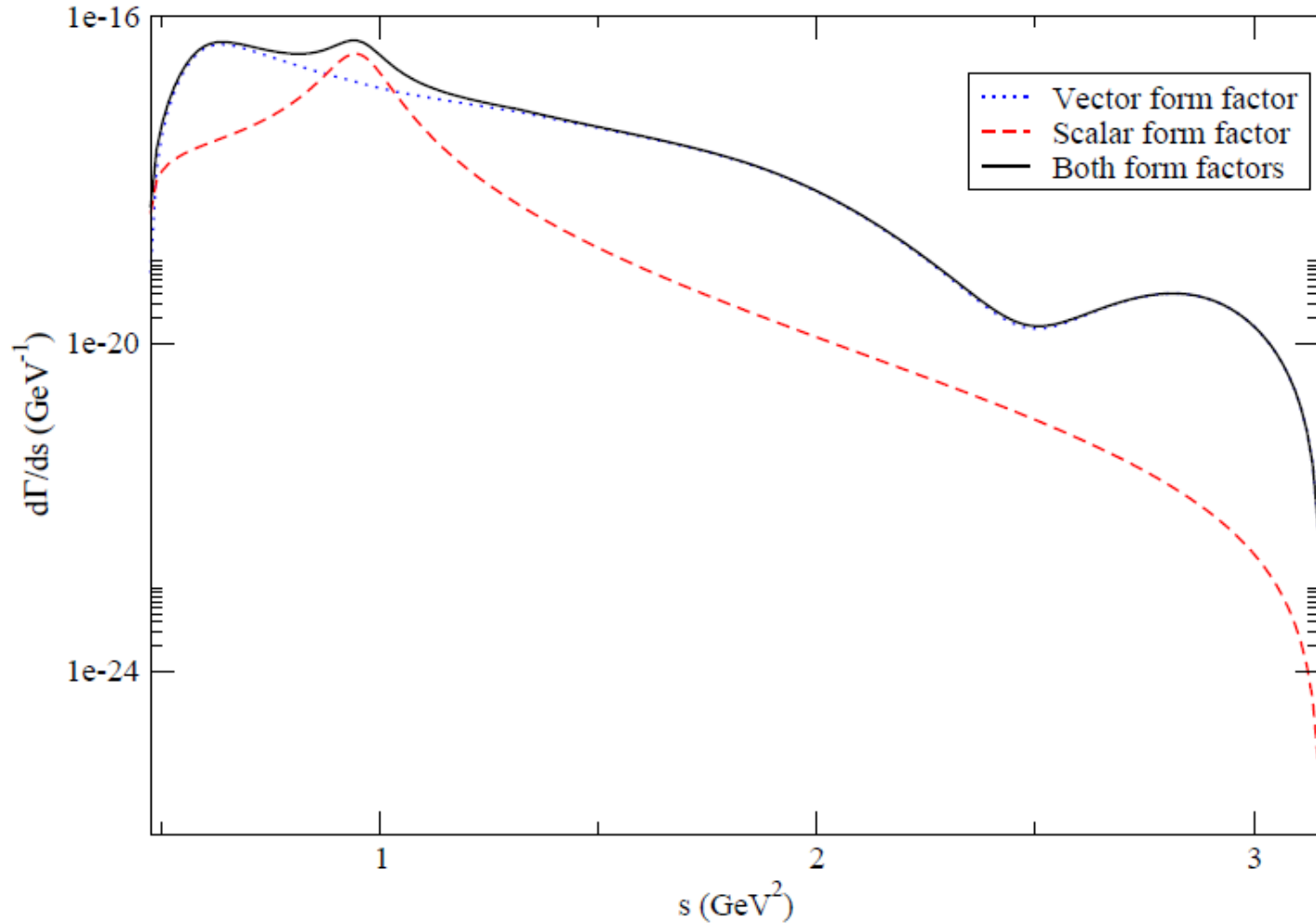
Scalar resonance [$a_0(980)$] width:

$$1/(M_S^2 - s) \longrightarrow 1/(M_S^2 - s - iM_S\Gamma_S(s))$$

$$\Gamma_{a_0}(s) = \Gamma_{a_0} \left(\frac{s}{M_{a_0}^2} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{\lambda^{1/2} \left(1, \frac{m_\eta^2}{s}, \frac{m_\pi^2}{s} \right)}{\lambda^{1/2} \left(1, \frac{m_\eta^2}{M_{a_0}^2}, \frac{m_\pi^2}{M_{a_0}^2} \right)} \theta [s - (m_\eta + m_\pi)^2]$$

Predictions

$$\tau^- \longrightarrow \eta \pi^- \nu_\tau$$




Predictions

$$\text{BR}(\tau^- \longrightarrow \eta \pi^- \nu_\tau) \cdot 10^5$$

	Vector	Scalar	Both
Tisserant & Truong '87	0.25	1.60	1.85
Pich '87	0.12	1.38	1.50
Neufeld & Rupertsberger '95	0.15	1.06	1.21
Nussinov & Soffer '08	0.36	1.00	1.36
Paver & Riazuddin '10	[0.2,0.6]	[0.2,2.3]	[0.4,2.9]
Volkov & Kostunin '12	0.44	0.04	0.48
Descotes-Genon, Kou & Moussallam (preliminary, TAU'12)	0.11	$0.37^{+0.30}_{-0.25}$	$0.48^{+0.30}_{-0.25}$
Our prediction (preliminary)	0.8 ± 0.2	$0.3 \pm ?$	$0.8 \pm ?$

Predictions

$$\text{BR}(\tau^- \longrightarrow \eta \pi^- \nu_\tau) \cdot 10^5$$

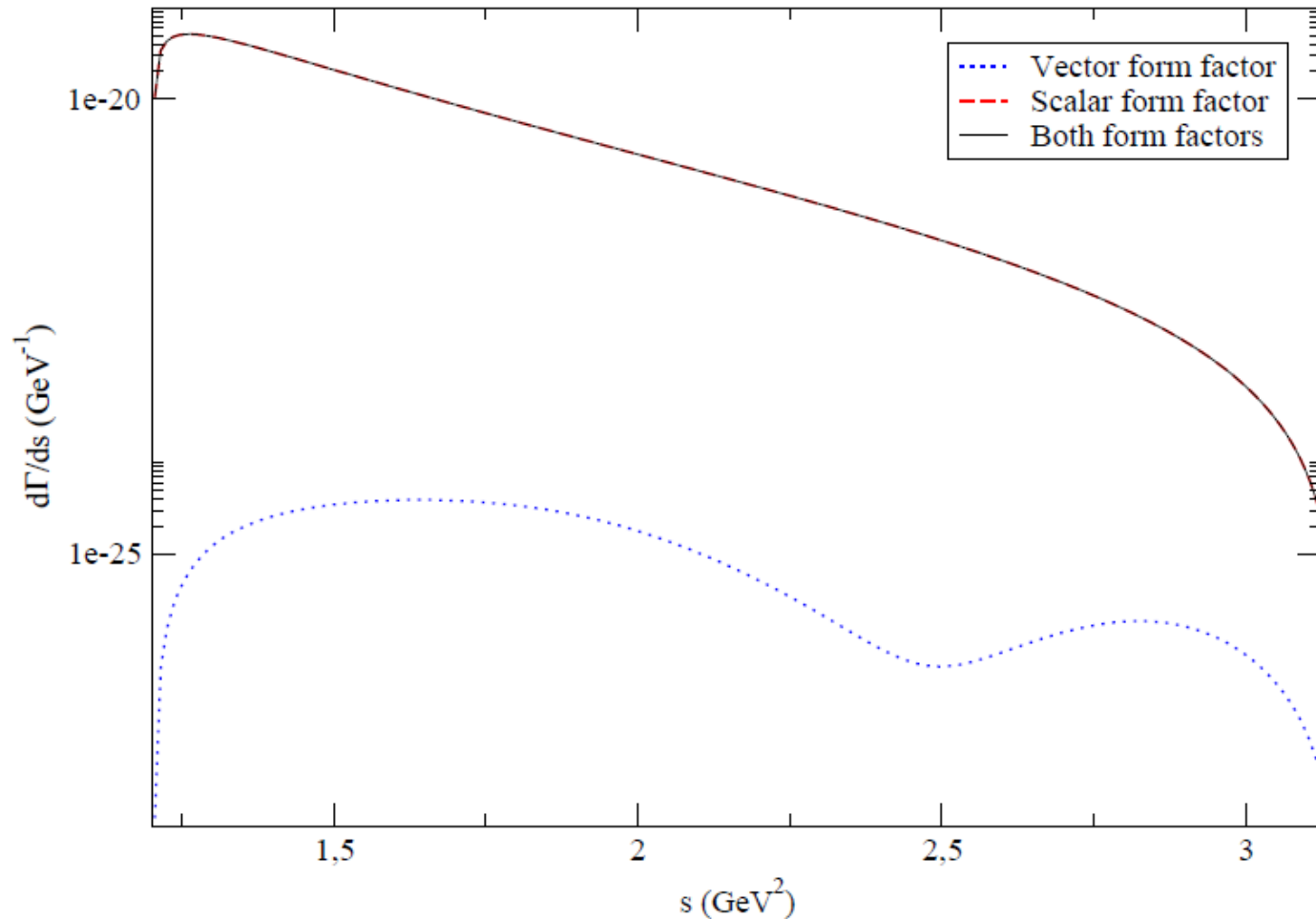
	Vector	Scalar	Both	
Tisserant & Truong '87	0.25	1.60	1.85	
Pich '87	0.12	1.38	1.50	
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Predictions

$$\text{BR}(\tau^- \longrightarrow \eta' \pi^- \nu_\tau)$$

	Vector	Scalar	Both
Nussinov & Soffer '09	$<10^{-7}$	$[0.2, 1.3] \cdot 10^{-6}$	$[0.2, 1.4] \cdot 10^{-6}$
Paver & Riazuddin '11	$[10^{-9}, 3 \cdot 10^{-8}]$	$[6 \cdot 10^{-8}, 2 \cdot 10^{-7}]$	$[6 \cdot 10^{-8}, 2 \cdot 10^{-7}]$
Volkov & Kostunin '12	$1.1 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$2.6 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$3.7 \cdot 10^{-8}$
Our prediction (preliminary)	~ 0 $O(\varepsilon^4)$	$\sim 10^{-8}$	$\sim 10^{-8}$

Conclusions

- In the **isospin symmetry** limit the decays $\tau^- \rightarrow \eta \pi^- \nu_\tau$ and $\tau^- \rightarrow \eta' \pi^- \nu_\tau$ are **forbidden** (G-parity). This yields a **strong suppression** of their branching fractions.

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\Rightarrow Strong suppression in the SM: Possibility to look for NP

Experimentally, $\text{BR} \leq 9.9 \times 10^{-5}$ BaBar'11