

Light decay constants and kaon semileptonic decays

Steven Gottlieb
Indiana University

(Fermilab Lattice & MILC Collaborations)

USQCD All Hands Meeting
April 20–21, 2023

Outline



- ◆ Motivation
- ◆ Current Status
- ◆ Proposed Calculations

Motivation

◆ First row unitarity of CKM matrix

- Determinations of $|V_{ud}|$ and $|V_{us}|$ exhibit a tension with the unitarity relation.
- $|V_{ud}|$ can be determined from nuclear β -decay; however, recently theoretical work has changed that value.
- We would like to increase the precision of $|V_{ud}|$ and $|V_{us}|$ as determined from meson leptonic and semileptonic decays to avoid reliance on nuclear β -decay.

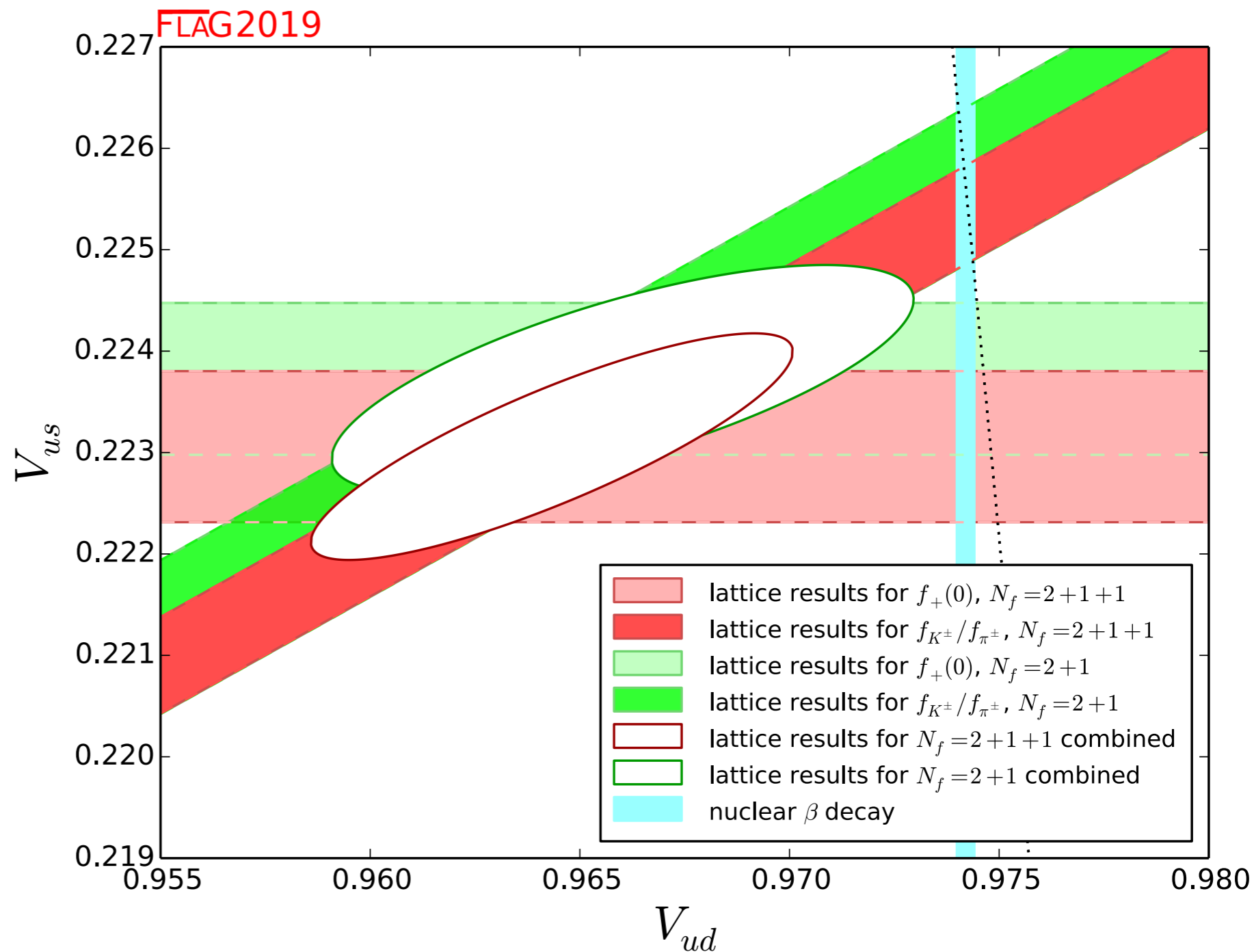
◆ Low energy constants of chiral perturbation theory

- Increased precision relies on ensembles with lighter than physical strange quark mass ensembles.
- SU(3) chiral perturbation theory does not converge very quickly at the physical strange quark mass.

◆ Improve determination of quark masses

First Row Unitarity (FLAG)

- FLAG2019 results for 2+1 and 2+1+1 flavors
- Dotted line is unitarity
- 2+1 flavors has larger error
- Tension with unitarity has grown for both 2+1 and 2+1+1 since FLAG2016
- Horizontal red band:
 $|V_{us}| = 0.2231(7)$



First Row Unitarity (FNAL/MILC)

- From our $K_{\ell 3}$ study
[PRD99, 114509
(2019);arXiv:1809.02827]

$$|V_{us}| = 0.22333(44)_{f_+(0)}(42)_{\text{exp}}$$

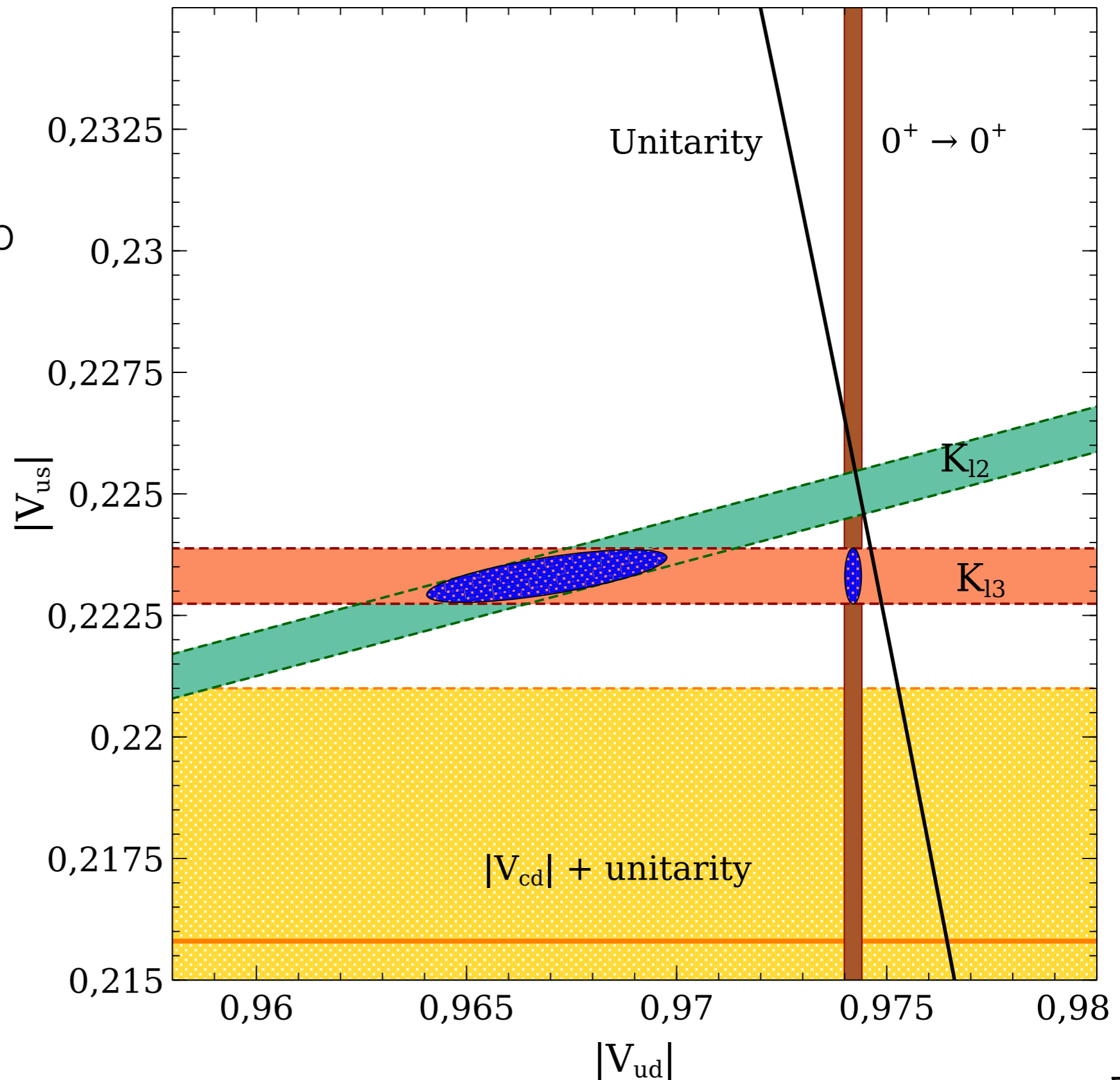
- or

$$0.22333(61)$$

- Using Hardy & Towner
0.97420(21)

- Seng et al. find
0.97370(14); moving
vertical line to left and
 $K_{\ell 3}$ result further from
unitarity.

- $K_{\ell 2}$ result and β -decay
close to unitary, ...



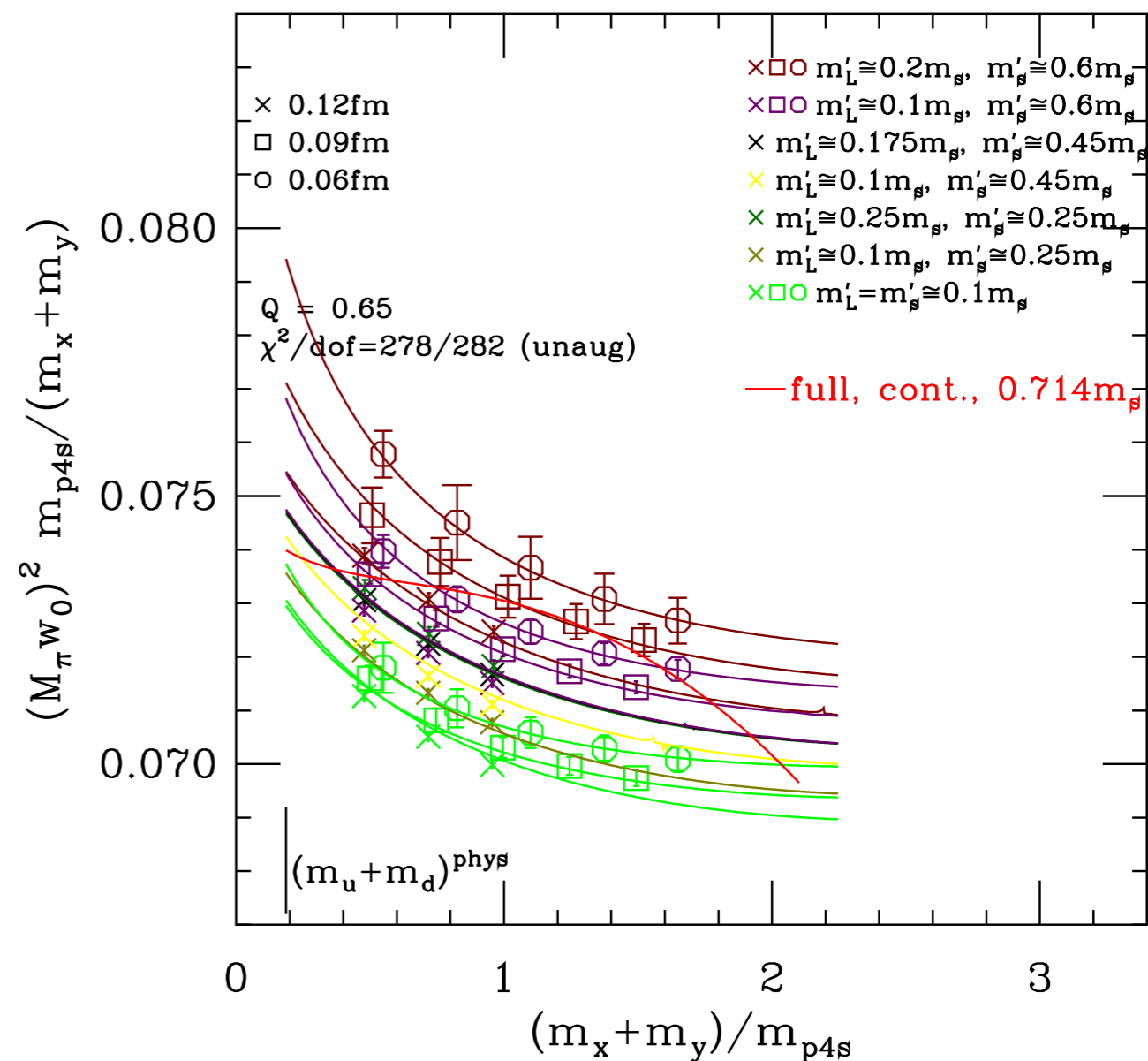
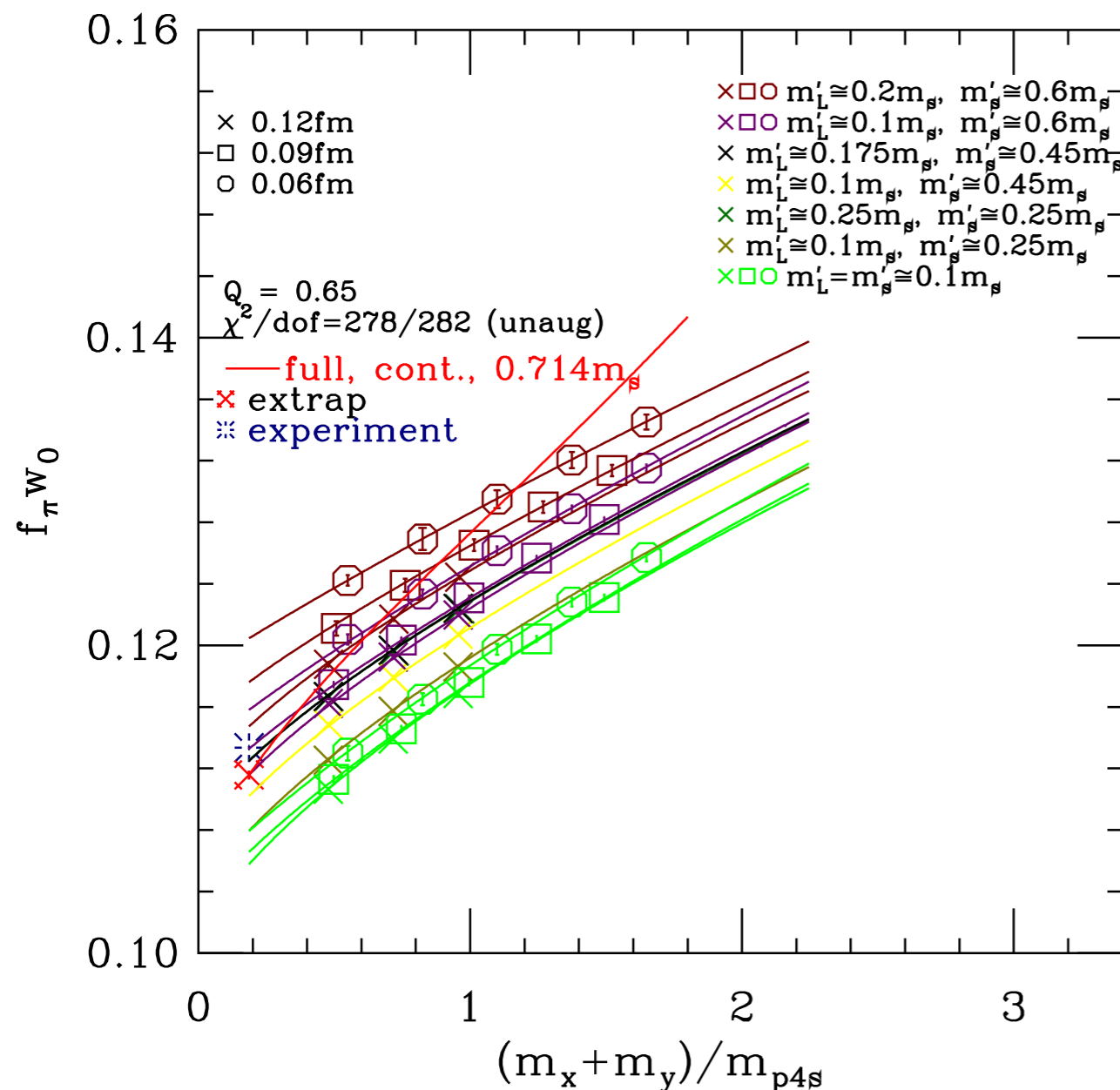
First Row Unitarity Summary

- ◆ Using nuclear β -decay and our $K_{\ell 3}$ results, there is about a 3σ tension with unitarity.
 - However, there have been several recent changes in nuclear β -decay results, and the error is larger than previously thought.
- ◆ Using just leptonic and semileptonic meson decays the tension is about 2.4σ .
 - Need f_K/f_π and $f_+^{K\pi}(q^2 = 0)$ [see previous slide for reference]
 - We would like to increase the precision in this approach.
 - We have been working on this for several years by adding ensembles with strange quark mass lighter than its physical value.
 - Key issue is improving our control of chiral perturbation theory.

Chiral Perturbation Theory (χ PT)

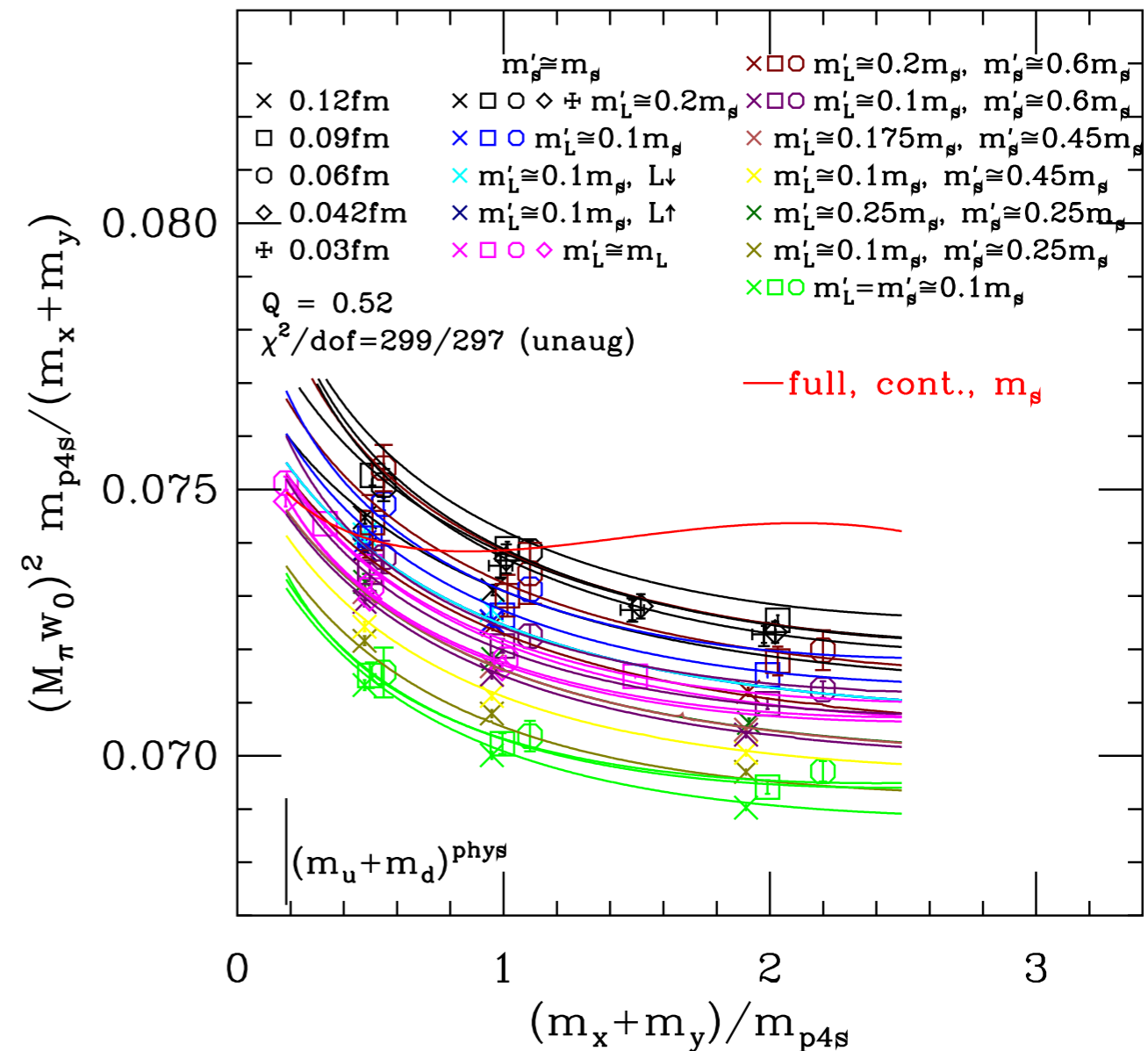
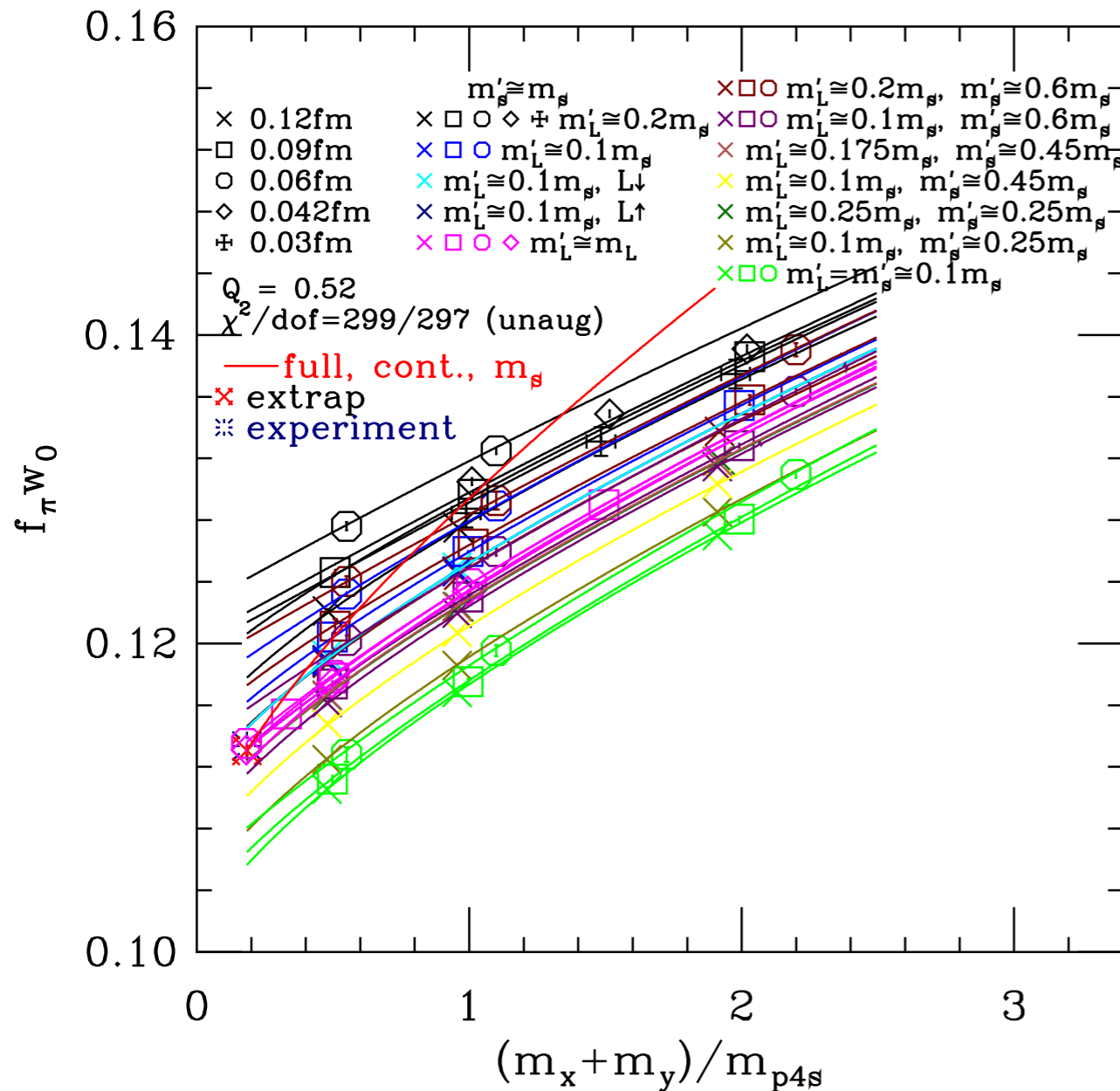
- ◆ SU(3) χ PT does not converge very well at the strange quark mass
 - generate “light-strange ensembles” and do a systematic analysis of pseudoscalar masses and decay constants using all NNLO terms in χ PT.
 - all chiral logs and LECs are included at that order
 - do controlled fits with ensembles up to strange quark mass, but with LECs constrained by the systematic fits
 - add analytic terms of order N³LO or N⁴LO
 - Need good constraints from the NNLO fits:
 - Previous analysis only had light-strange ensembles with $a=0.12$ fm.
 - We’ve added new ensembles with $a=0.09, 0.06$ fm.
 - These are essential to constrain LECs in continuum limit.
 - These constraints improve the semileptonic K decay analysis.

Light m_s Ensembles Fit



- NNLO (systematic) fit to 0.12, 0.09, 0.06 fm ensembles. Only $m_x = m_y$ points shown. Only $m_x + m_y \leq 0.714m_s$ data in fit. 330 data points; 48 parameters. Red line is continuum fit, but with reduced strange quark mass.

Adding Physical- m_s Ensembles



- Data with $m_x + m_y \lesssim 1.05m_s$ included in fit. 434 data points; 137 parameters.
- Not included: physical mass 0.12 fm; lightest valence mass for 0.09 fm physical mass ensemble. Can't get good fits when including them.

Proposed Calculations

- ◆ Possible that we are underestimating autocorrelations or discretization effects are too big in the data we do not include.
- ◆ We have better tuned physical mass ensembles at 0.12 and 0.09 fm.
 - former was generated for $g-2$ study and has 10,000 configs.
 - latter was generated by CalLat (1,000 configs.)
- ◆ We would like to use these ensembles to analyze decay constants and K semileptonic decay.
 - will only use 1,000 of the 0.12 fm configs.
 - for semileptonic decay will only analyze 500 of 0.09 fm configs with USQCD resources
 - will seek additional time elsewhere to complete ensemble
- ◆ Simultaneous fits to leptonic and semileptonic data should further reduce errors and enhance CKM unitarity test.