

Recent results on tau lepton from *BABAR*



SCUOLA
NORMALE
SUPERIORE

Alberto Lusiani

Scuola Normale Superiore and INFN, sezione di Pisa



on behalf of the *BABAR* Collaboration

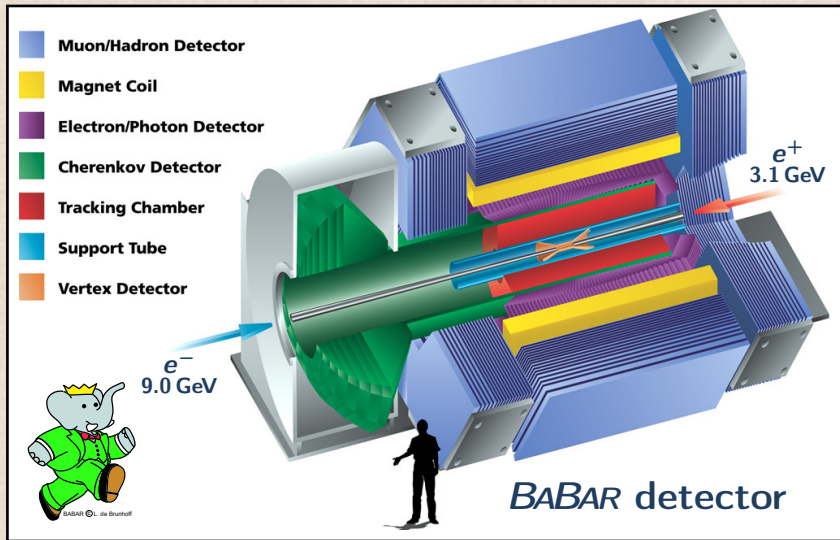


PHIPS19
BINP, Novosibirsk

Outline

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow K^-(0, 1, 2, 3)\pi^0\nu_\tau$, $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^-(3, 4)\pi^0\nu_\tau$, *BABAR* preliminary, ICHEP 2018
- ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow K^-K_S^0\nu_\tau$, Phys. Rev. D 98 (2018) no.3, 032010
- ▶ Implications for $|V_{us}|$ from $\tau^- \rightarrow X_s^-\nu_\tau$

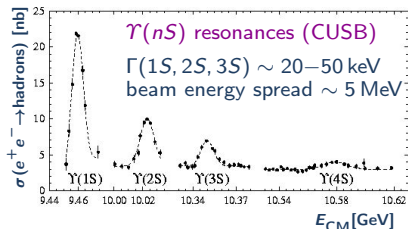
BABAR detector at PEP-II, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory



main focus: study of CP violation in B mesons

BABAR: CM energy, collected luminosity

center-of-mass energies

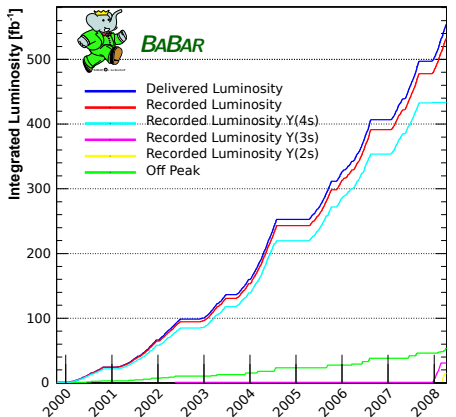
 \mathcal{L} vs. \sqrt{s}

| energy | \mathcal{L} (fb^{-1}) |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| $\Upsilon(4S)$ | 430 |
| $\Upsilon(3S)$ | 30.2 |
| $\Upsilon(2S)$ | 14.5 |
| off-peak | 54 |

pairs production

| flavour | events |
|----------------|-------------------|
| $B\bar{B}$ | 470×10^6 |
| $c\bar{c}$ | 690×10^6 |
| $\tau^+\tau^-$ | 485×10^6 |

integrated luminosity over time



data-taking ended in April 2008

$$\tau^- \rightarrow K^-(0, 1, 2, 3)\pi^0\nu_\tau, \quad \tau^- \rightarrow \pi^-(3, 4)\pi^0\nu_\tau$$

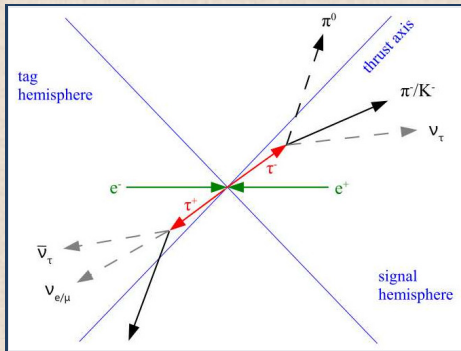
Motivation

 $|V_{us}|$ from $\tau \rightarrow X_s \nu_\tau$

$$|V_{us}|_{\tau s} = \sqrt{R_s / \left(\frac{R_{VA}}{|V_{ud}|^2} - \delta R_{\text{theory}} \right)} \quad \text{where} \quad R_s = \frac{\mathcal{B}(\tau \rightarrow X_{s=1} \nu)}{\mathcal{B}(\tau \rightarrow e \bar{\nu}_e \nu_\tau)} \quad R_{VA} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(\tau \rightarrow X_{s=0} \nu)}{\mathcal{B}(\tau \rightarrow e \bar{\nu}_e \nu_\tau)}$$

E.Gamiz *et al.*, JHEP 01 (2003) 060, E.Gamiz *et al.*, PRL 94 (2005) 011803significant part of experimental uncertainty from $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K^-(0-3)\pi^0 \nu_\tau)$ $|V_{us}|$ from $\tau \rightarrow X_s \nu_\tau$ uncertainty budget

Analysis method



- ▶ divide event in two hemispheres along thrust axis
- ▶ 1 identified e or μ in one hemisphere
- ▶ 1 oppositely charged π or K in other one
- ▶ no additional track
- ▶ from 0 to 4 $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- ▶ no additional photon
- ▶ suppress two-photon processes

$$\frac{p_T}{E_{\text{miss}}} = \frac{(\vec{p}_1^{\text{CM}} + \vec{p}_2^{\text{CM}})_T}{\sqrt{s} - p_1^{\text{CM}} - p_2^{\text{CM}}} > 0.2$$
- ▶ suppress di-leptons requiring missing mass on event and on signal hemisphere

signal samples

- ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow K^-(n\pi^0)\nu_\tau$, $n = 0, 1, 2, 3$
- ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^-(n\pi^0)\nu_\tau$, $n = 3, 4$

control samples

- ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^-(n\pi^0)\nu_\tau$, $n = 1, 2, 3$
- ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_\tau$

Selected events (full BABAR sample, 473.9 fb^{-1})

| Selected mode | data | bkg from MC | ϵ from MC [%] |
|---|---------|-------------|------------------------|
| $\tau^- \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_\tau$ | 1075810 | 62364.0 | 0.74 |
| $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \nu_\tau$ | 1473594 | 340960.0 | 1.278 |
| $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ | 6742483 | 368918.5 | 3.28 |
| $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- 2\pi^0 \nu_\tau$ | 1268108 | 75058.7 | 1.55 |
| $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- 3\pi^0 \nu_\tau$ | 58598 | 9698.1 | 0.49 |
| $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- 4\pi^0 \nu_\tau$ | 1706 | 729.5 | 0.12 |
| $\tau^- \rightarrow K^- \nu_\tau$ | 80715 | 18669.3 | 0.99 |
| $\tau^- \rightarrow K^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ | 146948 | 51983.2 | 2.16 |
| $\tau^- \rightarrow K^- 2\pi^0 \nu_\tau$ | 17930 | 11128.8 | 1.34 |
| $\tau^- \rightarrow K^- 3\pi^0 \nu_\tau$ | 1863 | 1467.7 | 0.13 |

π^0 efficiency correction, f. of momentum

- ▶ compare control channels

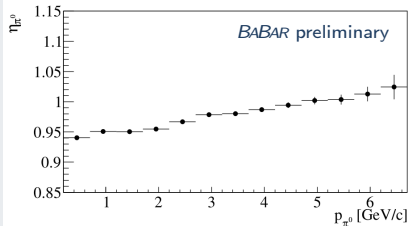
$$\tau^- \rightarrow t^- \nu_\tau \text{ with } \tau^- \rightarrow t^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$$

(track t : no PID except e^\pm -veto)

- ▶ correction factor (in p_{π^0} bins):

$$\eta = \frac{N(\tau^- \rightarrow t^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau)^{\text{data}}}{N(\tau^- \rightarrow t^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau)^{\text{MC}}} \frac{N(\tau^- \rightarrow t^- \nu_\tau)^{\text{MC}}}{N(\tau^- \rightarrow t^- \nu_\tau)^{\text{data}}}$$

- ▶ η weight for each reconstructed π^0 in MC
- ▶ validated on $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- 2\pi^0 \nu_\tau$ control sample

 π^0 efficiency correction vs. p_{π^0} 

PID efficiency corrections, f. of momentum

- ▶ correct standard *BABAR* PID simulated efficiencies using data control samples for identifying π^\pm as π^\pm , K^\pm as K^\pm , and for mis-identifying π^\pm as K^\pm
- ▶ use control samples with 3-1-topology $\tau^+ \tau^-$ events:
 - ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^- \nu_\tau$
 - ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- K^+ K^- \nu_\tau$
- ▶ identify 2 of the three tracks \Rightarrow third track is \sim pure identified sample

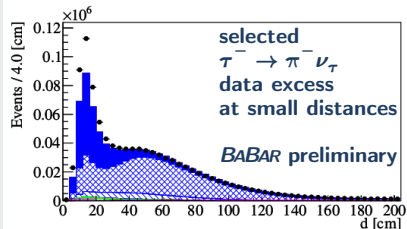
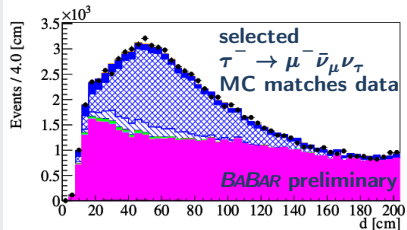
Split-off correction

- ▶ *Split-offs*: neutrons in hadronic showers in the EMC can travel and cause a secondary shower which is then identified as photon
- ▶ not well modeled in MC
 - ▶ MC matches data for muon tracks
 - ▶ data excess near pion tracks
- ▶ obtain correction factor to weight MC events with hadron track to reproduce extra photon veto efficiency on data using $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \nu_\tau$ control sample:

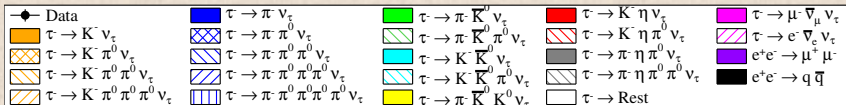
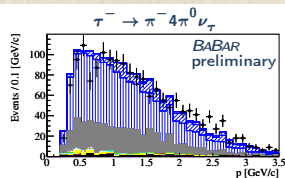
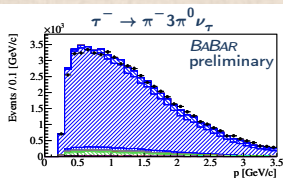
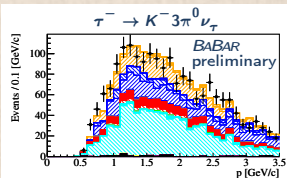
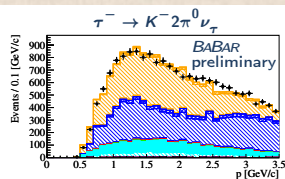
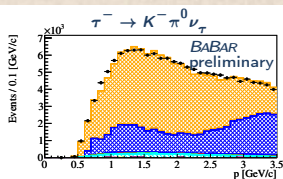
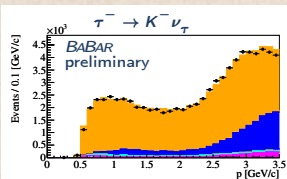
$$\eta = \frac{N^{\text{data}}(d < 40 \text{ cm}) - N^{\text{MC}}(d < 40 \text{ cm})}{N^{\text{data}}}$$

$$w = 1 - \eta = 0.972 \pm 0.014$$

EMC neutral clusters vs. distance of closest track



Yields vs. signal track momentum for data and simulation



▶ simulated events have all correction weights

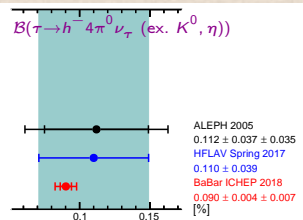
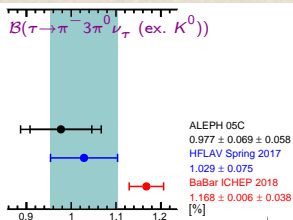
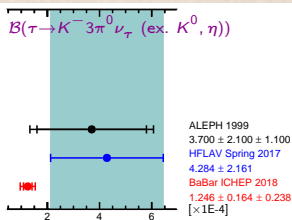
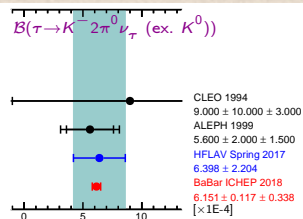
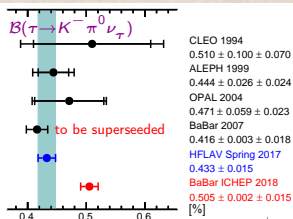
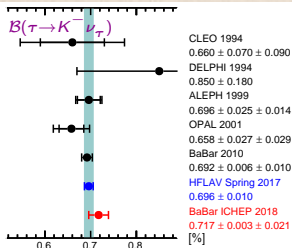
Determine signal subtracting backgrounds and cross-feeds

- 1) subtract backgrounds other than from other signal channels using simulation
 - 2) simultaneously determine signal and cross-feeds for the 6 signal channels
- ▶ *migration matrix* M_{ij} , estimated with MC simulation
 - ▶ M_{ij} : probability of reconstructing true produced signal i as candidate signal channel j
 - ▶ obtain produced signal inverting M_{ij} : $N_i^{\text{prod}} = (M^{-1})_{ij} (N_j^{\text{sel}} - N_j^{\text{sel MC bkg}})$
 - ▶ N_i^{prod} : true produced signal events
 - ▶ N_j^{sel} : number of selected data events
 - ▶ $N_j^{\text{sel MC bkg}}$: MC-estimated number of background events for channel j
 - ▶ branching fractions are calculated as: $\mathcal{B} = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{N^{\text{prod}}}{\mathcal{L}\sigma}}$
 - ▶ signal event defined as **event with one or two signal decays** (unconventional)

Results and systematic uncertainties BABAR preliminary

| τ^- - Decay mode | $K^-\nu_\tau$ ($\times 10^{-3}$) | $K^-\pi^0\nu_\tau$ ($\times 10^{-3}$) | $K^-2\pi^0\nu_\tau$ ($\times 10^{-4}$) | $K^-3\pi^0\nu_\tau$ ($\times 10^{-4}$) | $\pi^-3\pi^0\nu_\tau$ ($\times 10^{-2}$) | $\pi^-4\pi^0\nu_\tau$ ($\times 10^{-4}$) |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|
| Branching fraction | 7.174 | 5.054 | 6.151 | 1.246 | 1.168 | 9.020 |
| Stat. uncertainty | 0.033 | 0.021 | 0.117 | 0.164 | 0.006 | 0.400 |
| Syst. uncertainty | 0.213 | 0.148 | 0.338 | 0.238 | 0.038 | 0.652 |
| Total uncertainty | 0.216 | 0.149 | 0.357 | 0.289 | 0.038 | 0.765 |
| Stat. uncertainty [%] | 0.46 | 0.41 | 1.91 | 13.13 | 0.52 | 4.44 |
| Syst. uncertainty [%] | 2.97 | 2.93 | 5.49 | 19.13 | 3.23 | 7.23 |
| Total uncertainty [%] | 3.00 | 2.95 | 5.81 | 23.20 | 3.27 | 8.48 |
| ϵ_{signal} [%] | 0.27 | 0.27 | 0.87 | 3.99 | 0.27 | 1.50 |
| ϵ_{bkg} [%] | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.87 | 6.32 | 0.11 | 1.67 |
| Background \mathcal{B} 's [%] | 0.18 | 0.30 | 1.44 | 11.52 | 0.21 | 3.49 |
| BABAR PID [%] | 0.15 | 0.11 | 0.18 | 0.71 | 0.08 | 0.20 |
| Custom PID [%] | 1.83 | 1.55 | 1.78 | 2.56 | 0.20 | 0.26 |
| Muon mis-id [%] | 1.48 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| n. of $\tau^+\tau^-$ pairs ($\mathcal{L} \cdot \sigma$) [%] | 0.79 | 0.93 | 1.40 | 2.62 | 0.71 | 0.98 |
| Track efficiency [%] | 0.43 | 0.50 | 0.76 | 1.42 | 0.38 | 0.53 |
| Split-off correction [%] | 1.52 | 1.84 | 2.77 | 5.18 | 1.40 | 1.94 |
| π^0 correction [%] | 0.03 | 1.20 | 3.63 | 10.56 | 2.76 | 5.36 |
| $\pi 5\pi^0 \rightarrow \pi 4\pi^0$ migr. [%] | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 1.08 |
| $K 4\pi^0 \rightarrow K 3\pi^0$ migr. [%] | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.13 | 4.78 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

► additional systematics from signal and backgrounds MC production models being studied

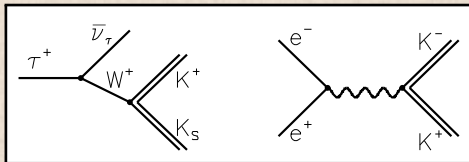
Results *BABAR* preliminary

- ▶ *BABAR* 2007 $B(\tau \rightarrow K^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau)$ measurement will be superseded (less refined than this study)
- ▶ presented by T. Lueck at ICHEP 2018

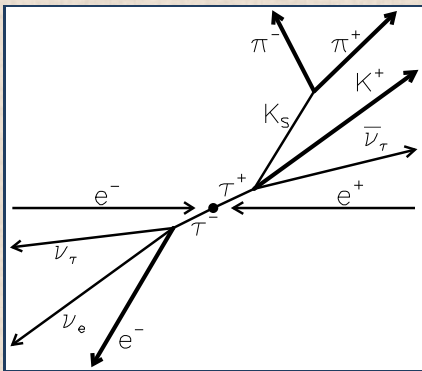
Branching fraction and spectral function of $\tau^- \rightarrow K^- K_S^0 \nu_\tau$
(work by V. P. Druzhinin and S. I. Serednyakov)

Motivation

- ▶ measure spectral function $V(q) = \frac{m_\tau^8}{12\pi q(m_\tau^2 - q^2)(m_\tau^2 + 2q^2)|V_{ud}|^2} \frac{\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K^- K_S \nu_\tau)}{\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow e^- \nu_\tau \bar{\nu}_e)} \frac{1}{N} \frac{dN}{dq}$
- ▶ determine isovector part of $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow K\bar{K})$, $\frac{d\sigma^{I=1}(e^+e^- \rightarrow K\bar{K})}{dq} = \frac{4\pi^2\alpha^2}{q^2} V(q)$
- ▶ combine with BABAR and SND results on $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow K^+K^-)$, $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow K_S K_L)$
- ▶ obtain moduli of the isovector and isoscalar form factors and the relative phase between them can in a model-independent way (possibly use also for hadronic contribution to muon $g-2$)
- ▶ recent BR measurement by Belle, S.Ryu *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D 89, 072009 (2014)
- ▶ CLEO measured the spectral function, T.E.Coan *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D 53, 6037 (1996)



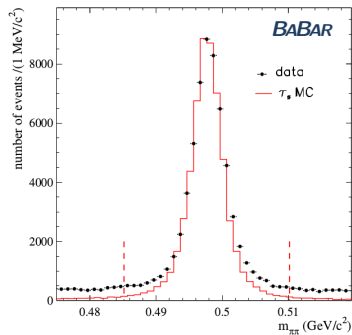
Event selection



- ▶ tag side: $\tau^- \rightarrow \ell^- \bar{\nu}_\ell \nu_\tau$
 - ▶ require identified muon or electron
- ▶ signal side: $\tau^+ \rightarrow K^+ K_S^0 \bar{\nu}_\tau$
 - ▶ require identified kaon
 - ▶ require $\pi^+ \pi^-$ compatible with K_S^0 ,
Lab K_S^0 decay length must be 1–70 cm
- ▶ suppress $e^+ e^- \rightarrow e^+ e^-$ and $e^+ e^- \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$
- ▶ suppress $e^+ e^- \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ and $e^+ e^- \rightarrow B\bar{B}$
- ▶ invariant mass $m(KK_S^0) < 2.2 \text{ GeV}$
- ▶ sum of photon energies $< 2 \text{ GeV}$
(bkg. with π^0 subtracted later)
- ▶ selection efficiency $\approx 13\%$

Subtraction of combinatorial $K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ background

- ▶ use data sidebands of K_S^0 peak, subtract background bin-by-bin in $m(K^- K_S^0) \Rightarrow$ independent of signal and bkg simulation (assume non- K_S^0 background linear in $m_{K_S^0}$)
- ▶ background fraction in selected candidates:
 - ▶ $\approx 10\%$ for $m_{K^- K_S}$ around $1.3 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
 - ▶ up to 50% for $m_{K^- K_S} > 1.6 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

 K_S^0 candidates mass

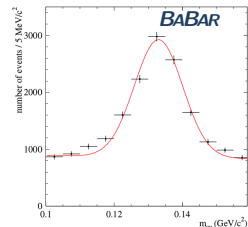
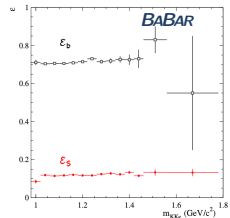
Subtraction of background with $>0\pi^0$

Main remaining background contributions

- ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow K^- K_S \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ (79%);
- ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- K_S \nu_\tau$ (10%);
- ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- K_S \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ (3%)
- ▶ mis-id e/μ (7%), mainly from $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- (\pi^0) \nu_\tau$

Background subtraction, bin-by-bin

- ▶ bin-by-bin candidates with 0 or $>0 \pi^0$:
 - ▶ $>0 \pi^0$: $N_{>0\pi^0} = \epsilon_s N_s + \epsilon_b N_b$
 - ▶ $0 \pi^0$: $N_{0\pi^0} = (1 - \epsilon_s)N_s + (1 - \epsilon_b)N_b$
- ▶ ϵ_s : eff. to reconstruct (fake) $>0 \pi^0$ for signal events
- ▶ ϵ_b : eff. to reconstruct >0 for bkg's with π^0
- ▶ ϵ_s and ϵ_b from MC, with average data calibration
- ▶ solve for number of signal events N_s
- ▶ \sim independent of signal/bkg MC simulation
- ▶ other bkg. without π^0 subtracted using MC

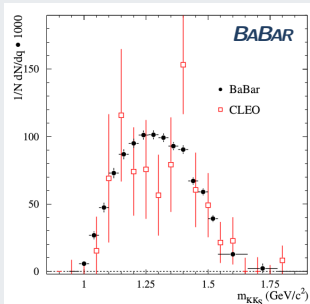
 π^0 candidates masssimulated π^0 efficiencies

Systematic uncertainties on the branching fraction

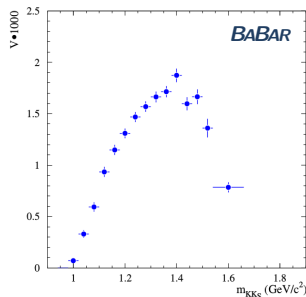
| Sources | uncertainty (%) |
|---|-----------------|
| Luminosity | 0.5 |
| Tracking efficiency | 1.0 |
| PID | 0.5 |
| non- K_S background subtraction | 0.4 |
| $\tau^+\tau^-$ background without π^0 | 0.3 |
| $\tau^+\tau^-$ background with π^0 | 2.3 |
| $q\bar{q}$ background | 0.5 |
| total | 2.7 |

Results [Phys. Rev. D 98 (2018) no.3, 032010]

- ▶ $N_{\text{sig}} = 223741 \pm 3461$ (stat.err. only, bkg-subtracted, eff-corrected), $\mathcal{L} = (468.0 \pm 2.5) \text{ fb}^{-1}$
- ▶ $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K^- K_S \nu_\tau) = \frac{N_{\text{sig}}}{2\mathcal{L}\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow \ell^- \bar{\nu}_\ell \nu_\tau)\sigma_{\tau\tau}} = (0.739 \pm 0.011 \pm 0.020) \times 10^{-3}$
- ▶ [Belle 2014: $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K^- K_S^0 \nu_\tau) = (0.740 \pm 0.007 \pm 0.027) \times 10^{-3}$]

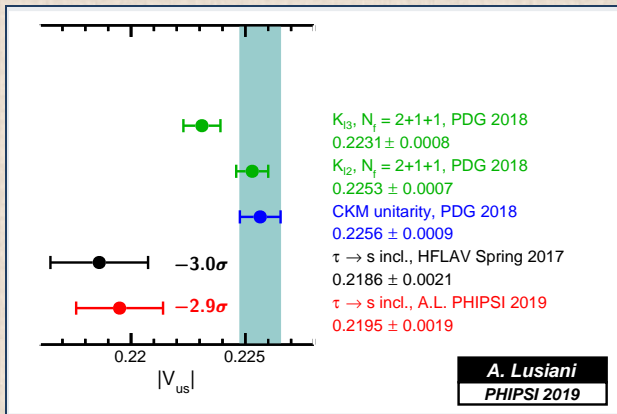
Normalized $K^- K_S^0$ mass spectrum

Spectral function



- ▶ plots report only statistical errors, paper reports table including systematic errors

Impact on $|V_{US}|$ from $\tau^- \rightarrow X_S^- \nu_\tau$

$|V_{us}|$ from $\tau^- \rightarrow X_s^- \nu_\tau$, elaboration for PHIPSI 2019

► improved precision, small reduction of discrepancy vs. $|V_{us}|$ from CKM unitarity

Impact on $|V_{us}|$ from $\tau \rightarrow X_s \nu_\tau$ Updated $|V_{us}|$ from $\tau \rightarrow X_s \nu_\tau$ uncertainty budget

| | | |
|---|--------|--|
| $\pi^- \bar{K}^0 2\pi^0 \nu_\tau$ (ex. K^0) | 0.3933 | |
| $K^- 2\pi^0 \nu_\tau$ (ex. K^0) | 0.0464 | |
| $K^- 3\pi^0 \nu_\tau$ (ex. K^0, η) | 0.0449 | |
| $\bar{K}^0 h^- h^- h^+ \nu_\tau$ | 0.3452 | |
| $K^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ | 0.1575 | |
| $K^- \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ (ex. K^0, ω, η) | 0.2438 | |
| $\pi^- \bar{K}^0 \nu_\tau$ | 0.2373 | |
| $\pi^- \bar{K}^0 \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ | 0.2201 | |
| $K^- \nu_\tau$ | 0.1453 | |
| $K^- \omega \nu_\tau$ | 0.1573 | |
| $K^- \nu_\tau$ | 0.1453 | |
| $K^- \pi^- \pi^+ \nu_\tau$ (ex. K^0, ω) | 0.1148 | |
| $\pi^- \bar{K}^0 \eta \nu_\tau$ | 0.0254 | |
| $K^- \pi^0 \eta \nu_\tau$ | 0.0198 | |
| $K^- \eta \nu_\tau$ | 0.0137 | |
| $K^- \phi \nu_\tau$ ($\phi \rightarrow K^+ K^-$) | 0.0136 | |
| $K^- \phi \nu_\tau$ ($\phi \rightarrow K_S^0 K_L^0$) | 0.0094 | |
| $K^- 2\pi^- 2\pi^+ \nu_\tau$ (ex. K^0) | 0.0021 | |
| $K^- 2\pi^- 2\pi^+ \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ (ex. K^0) | 0.0010 | |
| $\tau \rightarrow$ non-strange | 0.0855 | |
| $\mathcal{B}_e^{\text{univ}}$ | 0.0044 | |
| theory | 0.4863 | |

- ▶ significant improvements on several modes reported by BABAR at ICHEP 2018
- ▶ several modes still need improvements

Summary

- ▶ *BABAR* measured
 - ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow K^-(0, 1, 2, 3)\pi^0\nu_\tau$, $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^-(3, 4)\pi^0\nu_\tau$, *BABAR* preliminary, ICHEP 2018
best results except for $\tau^- \rightarrow K^-\nu$
 - ▶ $\tau^- \rightarrow K^-K_S^0\nu_\tau$, Phys. Rev. D 98 (2018) no.3, 032010
comparable precision of recent Belle measurement,
S. Ryu et al. (Belle Collaboration), Phys. Rev. D 89, 072009 (2014)
much more precise spectral function than before (CLEO)
- ▶ $|V_{us}|$ from $\tau^- \rightarrow X_s^- \nu_\tau$
 - ▶ precision improved
 - ▶ small reduction on $\sim 3\sigma$ discrepancy w.r.t. CKM unitarity $|V_{us}|$ determination

Backup Slides

Numerical results for the spectral function of $\tau \rightarrow K^- K_S \nu_\tau$

| $m_{K^- K_S} \text{ (GeV}/c^2)$ | $N_s/N_{tot} \times 10^3$ | $V \times 10^3$ |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 0.98 – 1.02 | 5.6 ± 1.4 | $0.071 \pm 0.018 \pm 0.006$ |
| 1.02 – 1.06 | 26.0 ± 2.7 | $0.331 \pm 0.034 \pm 0.026$ |
| 1.06 – 1.10 | 46.0 ± 3.2 | $0.593 \pm 0.042 \pm 0.042$ |
| 1.10 – 1.14 | 70.8 ± 3.5 | $0.934 \pm 0.046 \pm 0.056$ |
| 1.14 – 1.18 | 84.4 ± 3.4 | $1.148 \pm 0.047 \pm 0.057$ |
| 1.18 – 1.22 | 92.3 ± 3.3 | $1.309 \pm 0.046 \pm 0.052$ |
| 1.22 – 1.26 | 98.2 ± 3.2 | $1.468 \pm 0.048 \pm 0.044$ |
| 1.26 – 1.30 | 98.4 ± 3.2 | $1.569 \pm 0.050 \pm 0.042$ |
| 1.30 – 1.34 | 96.3 ± 3.0 | $1.663 \pm 0.052 \pm 0.042$ |
| 1.34 – 1.38 | 90.2 ± 2.9 | $1.715 \pm 0.052 \pm 0.039$ |
| 1.38 – 1.42 | 87.8 ± 3.1 | $1.873 \pm 0.066 \pm 0.039$ |
| 1.42 – 1.46 | 65.1 ± 2.6 | $1.597 \pm 0.064 \pm 0.032$ |
| 1.46 – 1.50 | 57.3 ± 2.5 | $1.666 \pm 0.073 \pm 0.032$ |
| 1.50 – 1.54 | 38.1 ± 2.5 | $1.361 \pm 0.090 \pm 0.023$ |
| 1.54 – 1.66 | 36.9 ± 2.4 | $0.785 \pm 0.049 \pm 0.013$ |
| 1.66 – 1.78 | 6.6 ± 10.2 | $0.986 \pm 1.520 \pm 0.014$ |

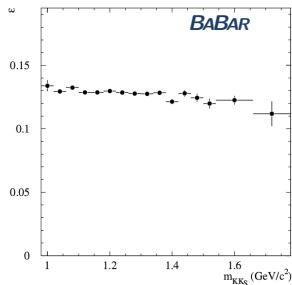
► uncertainties are statistical and systematic

Event selection for $\tau^- \rightarrow K^- K_S^0 \nu_\tau$

Selection requirements

- ▶ 4 tracks from IP (total charge zero)
- ▶ Particle IDentification (PID) for lepton (e^\pm or μ^\pm) and kaon (opposite charge)
- ▶ quality cuts on track momentum and angle: good PID; and reject $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^-e^+$ and $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^-\mu^+$
- ▶ remaining tracks: $K_S \rightarrow \pi^-\pi^+$ with $m_{\pi\pi}$ within 25 MeV of $m(K_S)$
- ▶ flight length of $K_S > 1\text{cm}$
- ▶ $\sum E_{\text{neutral}} < 2\text{GeV}$
- ▶ Thrust > 0.875 (charged tracks)
- ▶ angle $KK_S - \text{lepton} > 110^\circ$

Selection efficiency vs. m_{KK_S}



- ▶ average selection efficiency $\approx 13\%$

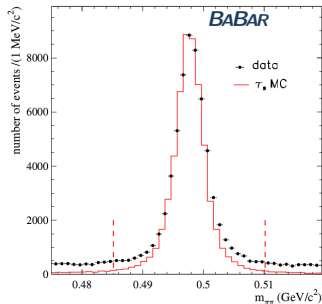
Subtraction of non- K_S background

- ▶ subtract non- K_S background by using sidebands and assuming a flat distribution
- ▶ reconstructed events composed of background and true K_S : $N = N_{K_S} + N_b$
- ▶ number of events in the side-band:

$$N_{sb} = \alpha N_b + \beta N_{K_S}$$
- ▶ solve for the number of true K_S :

$$N_{K_S} = \frac{\alpha N - N_{sb}}{\alpha - \beta}$$
- ▶ subtract bin by bin in m_{KK_S}
- ▶ fraction of non- K_S bkg:
 - $\approx 10\%$ for $m_{KK_S} < 1.3\text{GeV}$
 - increases to up to 50% for $m_{KK_S} > 1.6\text{GeV}$

K_S candidates mass



Event Selection for $\tau^- \rightarrow h^- n \pi^0 \nu_\tau$

- ▶ two oppositely charged tracks from IP: PID ℓ^\pm (tag), K^\pm or π^\pm (sig.)
- ▶ reconstruct up to 4 $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- ▶ reject events with additional photons
- ▶ several track and photon quality cuts: ensure good PID; reject bkg
- ▶ $0.88 < \text{thrust of event } T < 0.99$
- ▶ angle between lepton and signal hadron > 2.95 rad
- ▶ cuts on missing mass of event and signal τ -decay to reject bkg. ($e^+e^- \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$)
- ▶ reject two-photon events: $\frac{p_T}{E_{\text{miss}}} = \frac{(\vec{p}_1^{\text{CM}} + \vec{p}_2^{\text{CM}})_T}{\sqrt{s} - p_1^{\text{CM}} - p_2^{\text{CM}}} > 0.2$

$|V_{us}|$ error budget before and after the BABAR 2018 results

