



# Current Status of $\varepsilon_K$ in lattice QCD

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We present recent progress in  $\varepsilon_K$  (the indirect CP violation parameter in the neutral kaon system) determined directly from the standard model (SM) with lattice QCD inputs such as  $\hat{B}_K$ ,  $|V_{cb}|$ ,  $|V_{us}|$ ,  $\xi_0$ ,  $\xi_2$ ,  $\xi_{LD}$ ,  $f_K$ , and  $m_c$ . We find that the standard model with exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  and other lattice QCD inputs describes only 65% of the experimental value of  $|\varepsilon_K|$  and does not explain its remaining 35%, which leads to a strong tension in  $|\varepsilon_K|$  at the 5.1 $\sigma$  level between the SM theory and experiment. We also find that this tension disappears when we use the inclusive value of  $|V_{cb}|$  obtained using the heavy quark expansion based on the QCD sum rule approach, although this inclusive tension is small ( $\approx 1.4\sigma$ ) but keeps increasing as time goes on.

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## 1. Introduction

CP violation provides a natural window to search for new physics [1, 2]. In particular, the indirect CP violation in the neutral kaon system is highly sensitive to new physics, since the experimental results are very precise [3], and lattice QCD makes it possible to achieve a high precision on calculating physical observables in kaon physics. Here, we focus on the indirect CP violation.

Definition of the indirect CP violation parameter  $\varepsilon_K$  in neutral kaon system is

$$\varepsilon_K \equiv \frac{\mathcal{A}(K_L \to \pi \pi (I=0))}{\mathcal{A}(K_S \to \pi \pi (I=0))},\tag{1}$$

where  $K_L$  and  $K_S$  are the neutral kaon states in nature, and I = 0 is the isospin of the final two-pion state. In experiment [3],

$$\varepsilon_K = (2.228 \pm 0.011) \times 10^{-3} \times e^{i\phi_{\varepsilon}},$$
  
 $\phi_{\varepsilon} = 43.52 \pm 0.05^{\circ}.$  (2)

Here, we present recent progress in determining  $|\varepsilon_K|$  with lattice QCD inputs, which is an update from our previous reports [4–11]. In order to calculate  $\varepsilon_K$  directly from the SM, we need to know 18 input parameters [7, 8]. Among them, input parameters coming from lattice QCD include  $\hat{B}_K$ , exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$ ,  $|V_{us}|$ ,  $\xi_0$ ,  $\xi_2$ ,  $\xi_{LD}$ ,  $f_K$ , and  $m_c$ .

Here, we follow the color convention of our previous papers [4, 5] in Tables. We use the red color for the new input data which is used to evaluate  $\varepsilon_K$ . We use the blue color for the new input data which is not used for some obvious reason.

## **2.** Master Formula for $\varepsilon_K$

In the standard model (SM), the indirect CP violation parameter  $\varepsilon_K$  in the neutral kaon system can be re-expressed in terms of the well-known SM parameters as follows,

$$\varepsilon_{K} = e^{i\theta} \sqrt{2} \sin\theta \left( C_{\varepsilon} X_{\text{SD}} \hat{B}_{K} + \frac{\xi_{0}}{\sqrt{2}} + \xi_{\text{LD}} \right) + O(\omega\varepsilon') + O(\xi_{0}\Gamma_{2}/\Gamma_{1}) .$$
(3)

This is the master formula, and its derivation is well explained in Ref. [8]. Here, we use the same notation and convention as in Ref. [7, 8].

#### **2.1** Short Distance Contribution to $\varepsilon_K$

In the master formula of Eq. (3), the dominant leading-order effect ( $\approx +107\%$ ) comes from the short distance (SD) contribution proportional to  $\hat{B}_K$ . Here,  $C_{\varepsilon}$  is a dimensionless parameter defined as:

$$C_{\varepsilon} \equiv \frac{G_F^2 F_K^2 m_{K^0} M_W^2}{6\sqrt{2}\pi^2 \Delta M_K} \cong 3.63 \times 10^4 \,, \tag{4}$$

Here,  $X_{SD}$  represents the short distance effect from the Inami-Lim functions [12]:

$$X_{\rm SD} \equiv \operatorname{Im} \lambda_t \left[ \operatorname{Re} \lambda_c \eta_{cc} S_0(x_c) - \operatorname{Re} \lambda_t \eta_{tt} S_0(x_t) - (\operatorname{Re} \lambda_c - \operatorname{Re} \lambda_t) \eta_{ct} S_0(x_c, x_t) \right]$$
(5)

$$\simeq 6.24 \times 10^{-8}$$
, (6)

where  $\lambda_i = V_{is}^* V_{id}$  is a product of the CKM matrix elements with i = u, c, t, and  $\eta_{ij}$  with i, j = c, trepresent the QCD corrections of higher order in  $\alpha_s$  [13]. There exists a potential issue with poor convergence of perturbation theory for  $\eta_{cc}$  at the charm scale, which is discussed properly in Ref. [8]. Here,  $S_0$ 's are Inami-Lim functions [12] defined as

$$S_{0}(x_{i}) = x_{i} \left[ \frac{1}{4} + \frac{9}{4(1-x_{i})} - \frac{3}{2(1-x_{i})^{2}} - \frac{3x_{i}^{2}\ln x_{i}}{2(1-x_{i})^{3}} \right],$$
  

$$S_{0}(x_{i}, x_{j}) = \left\{ \frac{x_{i}x_{j}}{x_{i} - x_{j}} \left[ \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{2(1-x_{i})} - \frac{3}{4(1-x_{i})^{2}} \right] \ln x_{i} + (i \leftrightarrow j) \right\} - \frac{3x_{i}x_{j}}{4(1-x_{i})(1-x_{j})},$$
(7)

where  $i = c, t, x_i = m_i^2/M_W^2$ , and  $m_i = m_i(m_i)$  is the scale invariant  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  quark mass. In  $X_{\text{SD}}$  of Eq. (5), the  $S_0(x_t)$  term from the top-top contribution in the box diagrams describes about +72.4% of  $X_{\text{SD}}$ , the  $S_0(x_c, x_t)$  term from the top-charm contribution takes over about +45.4% of  $X_{\text{SD}}$ , and the  $S_0(x_c)$  term from the charm-charm contribution depicts about -17.8% of  $X_{\text{SD}}$ .

Here, the kaon bag parameter  $\hat{B}_K$  is defined as

$$\hat{B}_{K} \equiv B_{K}(\mu)b(\mu) \simeq 0.76,$$
(8)
$$(\bar{x}_{0}) = 0.55,$$
(9)

$$B_{K}(\mu) \equiv \frac{\langle K^{0} | O_{LL}^{\Delta 5-2}(\mu) | K^{0} \rangle}{\frac{8}{3} \langle \bar{K}^{0} | \bar{s} \gamma_{\mu} \gamma_{5} d | 0 \rangle \langle 0 | \bar{s} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma_{5} d | K^{0} \rangle} = \frac{\langle \bar{K}^{0} | O_{LL}^{\Delta 5=2}(\mu) | K^{0} \rangle}{\langle 0 | \bar{s} \gamma^{\mu} \gamma_{5} d | K^{0} \rangle},$$
(9)

$$\frac{\frac{8}{3}F_K^2 m_{K^0}^2}{O_{LL}^{\Delta S=2}(\mu) \equiv [\bar{s}\gamma_{\mu}(1-\gamma_5)d][\bar{s}\gamma^{\mu}(1-\gamma_5)d],$$
(10)

 $O_{LL} (\mu) \equiv [s\gamma_{\mu}(1 - \gamma_{5})a][s\gamma'(1 - \gamma_{5})a],$ (10)

where  $b(\mu)$  is the renormalization group (RG) running factor to make  $\hat{B}_K$  invariant with respect to the renormalization scale and scheme:

$$b(\mu) = [\alpha_s^{(3)}(\mu)]^{-2/9} K_+(\mu) .$$
(11)

Here, details on  $K_+(\mu)$  are given in Ref. [8].

#### **2.2** Long Distance Contribution to $\varepsilon_K$

There are two kinds of long distance (LD) contributions on  $\varepsilon_K$ : one is the absorptive LD effect from  $\xi_0$  and the other is the dispersive LD effect from  $\xi_{LD}$ . The absorptive LD effects are defined

as

$$\tan \xi_0 \equiv \frac{\mathrm{Im}\,A_0}{\mathrm{Re}\,A_0}\,,\tag{12}$$

$$\tan \xi_2 \equiv \frac{\mathrm{Im}\,A_2}{\mathrm{Re}\,A_2}\,.\tag{13}$$

They are related with each other through  $\varepsilon'$ :

$$\varepsilon' \equiv e^{i(\delta_2 - \delta_0)} \frac{i\omega}{\sqrt{2}} \Big( \tan \xi_2 - \tan \xi_0 \Big)$$
  
=  $e^{i(\delta_2 - \delta_0)} \frac{i\omega}{\sqrt{2}} (\xi_2 - \xi_0) + O(\xi_i^3).$  (14)

The overall contribution of the  $\xi_0$  term to  $\varepsilon_K$  is about -7%.

The dispersive LD effect is defined as

$$\xi_{\rm LD} = \frac{m'_{\rm LD}}{\sqrt{2}\Delta M_K}\,,\tag{15}$$

where

$$m_{\rm LD}' = -\mathrm{Im}\left[\mathcal{P}\sum_{C} \frac{\langle \overline{K}^{0} | H_{\rm w} | C \rangle \langle C | H_{\rm w} | K^{0} \rangle}{m_{K^{0}} - E_{C}}\right].$$
(16)

if the CPT invariance is well respected. The overall contribution of the  $\xi_{LD}$  to  $\varepsilon_K$  is about  $\pm 2\%$ .

## 3. Input parameters

#### 3.1 Input parameters: Wolfenstein parameters

The CKMfitter [14] and UTfit [15] collaborations provide the Wolfenstein parameters [16]  $(\lambda, \bar{\rho}, \bar{\eta})$  obtained by the global unitarity triangle (UT) fit. The 2022 results are summarized in Table 1 (a). As explained in Refs. [7, 8], the Wolfenstein parameters extracted by the global UT fit have unwanted correlation with  $\varepsilon_K$ , since  $\varepsilon_K$  is used as an input to determine them. Hence, it is essential to avoid this unwanted correlation. One way to avoid it is that we may take another set of the Wolfenstein parameters determined from the angle-only-fit (AOF) suggested in Ref. [17]. In the AOF, they do not use  $\varepsilon_K$ ,  $\hat{B}_K$ , and  $|V_{cb}|$  as inputs to obtain the UT apex ( $\bar{\rho}, \bar{\eta}$ ). Then,  $|V_{us}|$  is used to determine  $\lambda$ , which comes from the  $K_{\ell 2}$  and  $K_{\ell 3}$  decays combined with lattice QCD results for form factors and decay constants as explained in Ref. [18]. The Wolfenstein parameter A is obtained directly from  $|V_{cb}|$ , which will be discussed later in Section 3.2.

In Table 1 (a), we present the most updated Wolfenstein parameters available in the market. As explained in Ref. [7, 11], we use the results of angle-only-fit (AOF) in Table 1 (a) to evaluate  $\varepsilon_K$ .

#### **3.2 Input parameters:** $|V_{cb}|$

In Table 2 (a) and (b), we present recently updated results for exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  and inclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  respectively. In Table 2 (a), we summarize results for exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  obtained by various groups: HFLAV, BELLE, BABAR, FNAL/MILC, LHCb, and FLAG. Results from LHCb comes

WP	,	CKMfitte	er	UTfit		AOF		Input	Value	Ref.
λ		0.22475(25)	[14]	0.22500(100)	[15]	0.2249(5)	[18]	$\eta_{cc}$	1.72(27)	[8]
$\bar{\rho}$		0.1577(96)	[14]	0.148(13)	[15]	0.156(17)	[19]	$\eta_{tt}$	0.5765(65)	[20]
$\bar{\eta}$		0.3493(95)	[14]	0.348(10)	[15]	0.334(12)	[19]	$\eta_{ct}$	0.496(47)	[21]

(a) Wolfenstein parameters

**(b**) η<sub>ij</sub>

**Table 1:** (a) Wolfenstein parameters and (b) QCD corrections:  $\eta_{ij}$  with i, j = c, t.

channel	value	method	ref	source			
ex-comb	39.25(56)	CLN	[24] p115e223	HFLAV-2021			
$B \to D^* \ell \bar{\nu}$	39.0(2)(6)(6)	CLN	[25] erratum p4	BELLE-2021			
$B \to D^* \ell \bar{\nu}$	38.9(3)(7)(6)	BGL	[25] erratum p4	BELLE 2021			
$B \to D^* \ell \bar{\nu}$	38.40(84)	CLN	[26] p5t2	BABAR-2019			
$B \to D^* \ell \bar{\nu}$	38.36(90)	BGL	[26] p5t1	BABAR-2019			
$B \to D^* \ell \bar{\nu}$	38.40(78)	BGL	[22] p27e76	FNAL/MILC-2022			
$B_s \to D_s^* \ell \bar{\nu}$	41.4(6)(9)(12)	CLN	[27] p15	LHCb-2020			
$B_s \to D_s^* \ell \bar{\nu}$	42.3(8)(9)(12)	BGL	[27] p15	LHCb-2020			
ex-comb	39.48(68)	comb	[18] p145	FLAG-2021			
(a) Exclusive $ V_{cb} $ in units of $10^{-3}$ .							
channel	value		ref	source			

channel	value	ref	source
kinetic scheme	42.16(51)	[28] p1	Gambino-2021
kinetic scheme	42.00(64)	[18, 29] p145	FLAG-2021
1S scheme	41.98(45)	[24] p110e208	HFLAV-2021

(**b**) Inclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  in units of  $10^{-3}$ .

**Table 2:** Results for (a) exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  and (b) inclusive  $|V_{cb}|$ . The p115e223 is an abbreviation for Eq. (223) in page 115. The p5t2 is an abbreviation for Table 2 in page 5.

from analysis on  $B_s \rightarrow D_s^* \ell \bar{\nu}$  decays which are not available in the *B*-factories. Since results for  $B_s$  decay channels have poor statistics, we drop out them here without loss of fairness. The rest of results for exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  have comparable size of errors and are consistent with one another within  $1.0\sigma$ . In addition, we find that the results are consistent between the CLN and BGL analysis, after the clamorous debates [7, 22].

In Table 2 (b), we present recent results for inclusive  $|V_{cb}|$ . The Gambino group has reported updated results for inclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  in 2021. There are a number of attempts to calculate inclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  in lattice QCD, but they belong to a category of exploratory study rather than that of precision measurement yet [23].

#### **3.3 Input parameter** $\xi_0$

The absorptive part of long distance effects on  $\varepsilon_K$  is parametrized into  $\xi_0$ .

$$\xi_0 = \frac{\operatorname{Im} A_0}{\operatorname{Re} A_0}, \qquad \xi_2 = \frac{\operatorname{Im} A_2}{\operatorname{Re} A_2}, \qquad \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{\varepsilon'}{\varepsilon}\right) = \frac{\omega}{\sqrt{2}|\varepsilon_K|}(\xi_2 - \xi_0). \tag{17}$$

There are two independent methods to determine  $\xi_0$  in lattice QCD: the indirect and direct methods. The indirect method is to determine  $\xi_0$  using Eq. (17) with lattice QCD results for  $\xi_2$  combined with experimental results for  $\varepsilon'/\varepsilon$ ,  $\varepsilon_K$ , and  $\omega$ . The direct method is to determine  $\xi_0$  directly using the lattice QCD results for Im  $A_0$ , combined with experimental results for Re  $A_0$ .

In Table 3 (a), we summarize experimental results for Re  $A_0$  and Re  $A_2$ . In Table 3 (b), we summarize lattice results for Im  $A_0$  and Im  $A_2$  calculated by RBC-UKQCD. In Table 3 (c), we summarize results for  $\xi_0$  which is obtained using results in Table 3 (a) and (b).

 parameter	method	value	Ref.	source
 $\operatorname{Re} A_0$	exp	$3.3201(18) \times 10^{-7} \text{ GeV}$	[30, 31]	NA
$\operatorname{Re} A_2$	exp	$1.4787(31) \times 10^{-8} \text{ GeV}$	[30]	NA
ω	exp	0.04454(12)	[30]	NA
 $ \varepsilon_K $	exp	$2.228(11) \times 10^{-3}$	[32]	PDG-2021
 $\operatorname{Re}\left(arepsilon'/arepsilon ight)$	exp	$1.66(23) \times 10^{-3}$	[32]	PDG-2021
	( <b>a</b> ) E	xperimental results for $\omega$ , Re $A_0$ and R	e <i>A</i> <sub>2</sub> .	
 parameter	method	value (GeV)	Ref.	source
 $\operatorname{Im} A_0$	lattice	$-6.98(62)(144) \times 10^{-11}$	[33] p4t1	RBC-UK-2020
$\operatorname{Im} A_2$	lattice	$-8.34(103) \times 10^{-13}$	[33] p31e9	0 RBC-UK-2020

Here, we use results of the indirect method for  $\xi_0$  to evaluate  $\varepsilon_K$ , since its systematic and statistical errors are much smaller than those of the direct method.

(**b**) Results for  $\text{Im } A_0$ , and  $\text{Im } A_2$  in lattice QCD.

parameter	method	value	ref	source
ξ0	indirect	$-1.738(177) \times 10^{-4}$	[33]	SWME
$\xi_0$	direct	$-2.102(472) \times 10^{-4}$	[33]	SWME

(c) Results for  $\xi_0$  obtained using the direct and indirect methods in lattice QCD.

**Table 3:** Results for  $\xi_0$ . Here, we use the same notation as in Table 2.

## **3.4** Input parameters: $\hat{B}_K$ , $\xi_{\text{LD}}$ , and others

In FLAG 2021 [18], they report lattice QCD results for  $\hat{B}_K$  with  $N_f = 2$ ,  $N_f = 2 + 1$ , and  $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$ . Here, we use the results for  $\hat{B}_K$  with  $N_f = 2 + 1$ , which is obtained by taking an average over the four data points from BMW 11, Laiho 11, RBC-UKQCD 14, and SWME 15 in Table 4 (a).

Collaboration	Ref.	Â <sub>K</sub>	Input	Value	Ref.
SWMF 15	[34]	0.735(5)(36)	$G_F$	$1.1663787(6) \times 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-2}$	PDG-22 [38]
DDC/UVCCD 14	[27]	0.7400(24)(150)	$M_W$	80.356(6) GeV	SM-22 [38]
RBC/UKQCD 14	[35]	0.7499(24)(150)	θ	43.52(5)°	PDG-22 [38]
Laiho 11	[36]	0.7628(38)(205)	$m_{K^0}$	497.611(13) MeV	PDG-22 [38]
BMW 11	[37]	0.7727(81)(84)	$\Delta M_K$	$3.484(6) \times 10^{-12} \text{ MeV}$	PDG-22 [38]
FLAG 2021	[18]	0.7625(97)	$F_K$	155.7(3) MeV	FLAG-21 [18]

(a)  $\hat{B}_K$ 

(b) Other parameters

**Table 4:** (a) Results for  $\hat{B}_K$  and (b) other input parameters.

The dispersive long distance (LD) effect is defined as

$$\xi_{\rm LD} = \frac{m_{\rm LD}'}{\sqrt{2}\Delta M_K}, \qquad m_{\rm LD}' = -\mathrm{Im} \left[ \mathcal{P} \sum_C \frac{\langle \overline{K}^0 | H_{\rm w} | C \rangle \langle C | H_{\rm w} | K^0 \rangle}{m_{K^0} - E_C} \right]$$
(18)

As explained in Refs. [7], there are two independent methods to estimate  $\xi_{LD}$ : one is the BGI estimate [39], and the other is the RBC-UKQCD estimate [40, 41]. The BGI method is to estimate the size of  $\xi_{LD}$  using chiral perturbation theory as follows,

$$\xi_{\rm LD} = -0.4(3) \times \frac{\xi_0}{\sqrt{2}} \tag{19}$$

The RBC-UKQCD method is to estimate the size of  $\xi_{LD}$  as follows,

$$\xi_{\rm LD} = (0 \pm 1.6)\%. \tag{20}$$

Here, we use both methods to estimate the size of  $\xi_{LD}$ .

In Table 1 (b), we present higher order QCD corrections:  $\eta_{ij}$  with i, j = t, c. A new approach using u - t unitarity instead of c - t unitarity appeared in Ref. [42], which is supposed to have a better convergence with respect to the charm quark mass. But we have not incorporated this into our analysis yet, which we will do in near future.

In Table 4 (b), we present other input parameters needed to evaluate  $\varepsilon_K$ .

#### 3.5 Input parameters: quark masses

In Table 5, we present the charm quark mass  $m_c(m_c)$  and top quark mass  $m_t(m_t)$ . From FLAG 2021 [18], we take the results for  $m_c(m_c)$  with  $N_f = 2 + 1$ , since there is some inconsistency among the lattice results of various groups with  $N_f = 2 + 1 + 1$ . For the top quark mass, we use the PDG 2022 results for the pole mass  $M_t$  to obtain  $m_t(m_t)$ .

In Table 6 (a), we plot top pole mass  $M_t$  as a function of time. Here we find that the average value drifts downward a little bit and the error shrinks fast as time goes on, thanks to accumulation of high statistics in the LHC experiments. The data for 2020 is dropped out intentionally to reflect on the absence of Lattice 2020 due to COVID-19.

Callaboration	λ7		Dof	Collab	oration	$M_t$	$m_t(m_t)$	Ref.
Collaboration	<i>N</i> f	$m_c(m_c)$	Kel.	PDG 2	2019	172.9(4)	163.08(38)(17)	[43]
FLAG 2021	2 + 1	1.275(5)	[18]	PDG 2	2021	172.76(30)	162.96(28)(17)	[32]
FLAG 2021	2 + 1 + 1	1.278(13)	[18]	PDG 2	2022	172.69(30)	162.90(28)(17)	[38]

(**a**)  $m_c(m_c)$  [GeV]

**(b)**  $m_t(m_t)$  [GeV]

error (%)

49.7

20.7

13.3 8.7

2.1

2.1

1.7

÷

memo

AOF

AOF

FLAG

÷

Exclusive

 $c - t \operatorname{Box}$ 

 $c - c \operatorname{Box}$ 

**RBC-UKQCD** 

source

 $|V_{cb}|$ 

 $\eta_{ct}$ 

 $\bar{\eta}$ 

 $\eta_{cc}$ 

 $\xi_{\rm LD}$ 

 $\hat{B}_K$ 

÷

 $\bar{\rho}$ 

 Table 5: Results for (a) charm quark mass and (b) top quark mass.



(a) History of  $M_t$  (top quark pole mass).

**(b)** Error budget for  $|\varepsilon_K|^{\text{SM}}$ 

**Table 6:** (a)  $M_t$  history (b) error budget.



**Table 7:** (a)  $M_W$  history (b) table of  $M_W$ .

#### 3.6 Input parameters: W boson mass

In Fig. 7 (a), we plot  $M_W$  (W boson mass) as a function of time. The corresponding results for  $M_W$  are summarized in Table 7 (b). In Fig. 7 (a), the light-green band represents the standard model (SM) prediction, the red circles represents the PDG results, and the brown cross represents the CDF-2022 result. The upside is that the CDF-2022 result is the most precise and latest experimental

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**Figure 1:**  $|\varepsilon_K|$  with (a) exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  (left) and (b) inclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  (right) in units of  $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$ .

result for  $M_W$ . The downside, however, is that it has a 6.9 $\sigma$  tension from that of SM-2022 (the standard model prediction). Here, we use the SM-2022 result for  $M_W$  to evaluate  $\varepsilon_K$ .

# 4. Results for $\varepsilon_K$

In Fig. 1, we show results for  $|\varepsilon_K|$  evaluated directly from the standard model (SM) with lattice QCD inputs given in the previous sections. In Fig. 1 (a), the blue curve represents the theoretical evaluation of  $|\varepsilon_K|$  obtained using the FLAG-2021 results for  $\hat{B}_K$ , AOF for Wolfenstein parameters, the [FNAL/MILC 2022, BGL] results for exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$ , results for  $\xi_0$  with the indirect method, and the RBC-UKQCD estimate for  $\xi_{LD}$ . The red curve in Fig. 1 represents the experimental results for  $|\varepsilon_K|$ . In Fig. 1 (b), the blue curve represents the same as in Fig. 1 (a) except for using the 1S scheme results for the inclusive  $|V_{cb}|$ .

Our results for  $|\varepsilon_K|^{\text{SM}}$  and  $\Delta \varepsilon_K$  are summarized in Table 8. Here, the superscript <sup>SM</sup> represents the theoretical expectation value of  $|\varepsilon_K|$  obtained directly from the SM. The superscript <sup>Exp</sup> represents the experimental value of  $|\varepsilon_K| = 2.228(11) \times 10^{-3}$ . Results in Table 8 (a) are obtained using the RBC-UKQCD estimate for  $\xi_{\text{LD}}$ , and those in Table 8 (b) are obtained using the BGI estimate for  $\xi_{\text{LD}}$ . In Table 8 (a), we find that the theoretical expectation values of  $|\varepsilon_K|^{\text{SM}}$  with lattice QCD inputs (with exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$ ) has  $5.12\sigma \sim 3.93\sigma$  tension with the experimental value of  $|\varepsilon_K|^{\text{Exp}}$ , while there is no tension with inclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  (obtained using heavy quark expansion and QCD sum rules). We also find that the tension with inclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  is small but keeps increasing with respect to time.

In Fig. 2 (a), we show the time evolution of  $\Delta \varepsilon_K$  starting from 2012 till 2022. In 2012,  $\Delta \varepsilon_K$  was 2.5 $\sigma$ , but now it is 5.05 $\sigma$  with exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  (FNAL/MILC-2022, BGL).<sup>1</sup> In Fig. 2 (b), we show the time evolution of the average  $\Delta \varepsilon_K$  and the error  $\sigma_{\Delta \varepsilon_K}$  during the period of 2012–2022.

At present, we find that the largest error ( $\approx 50\%$ ) in  $|\varepsilon_K|^{\text{SM}}$  comes from  $|V_{cb}|^2$  Hence, it is essential to reduce the errors in  $|V_{cb}|$  as much as possible. To achieve this goal, there is an on-going

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Here, we use the results for exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  from FNAL/MILC-2022, since it contains the most comprehensive analysis on the  $\bar{B} \rightarrow D^* \ell \bar{\nu}$  decays on both zero recoil and non-zero recoil data points, while it covers both BELL and BABAR experimental results.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Refer to Table 6 (b) for more details.



**Figure 2:** Time history of (a)  $\Delta \varepsilon_K / \sigma$ , and (b)  $\Delta \varepsilon_K$  and  $\sigma_{\Delta \varepsilon_K}$ .

project to extract exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  using the Oktay-Kronfeld (OK) action for the heavy quarks to calculate the form factors for  $\bar{B} \rightarrow D^{(*)} \ell \bar{\nu}$  decays [45–51].

A large portion of interesting results for  $|\varepsilon_K|^{\text{SM}}$  and  $\Delta \varepsilon_K$  could not be presented in Table 8 and in Fig. 2 due to lack of space: for example, results for  $|\varepsilon_K|^{\text{SM}}$  obtained using exclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  (FLAG 2021), results for  $|\varepsilon_K|^{\text{SM}}$  obtained using  $\xi_0$  determined by the direct method, and so on. We plan to report them collectively in Ref. [52].

$ V_{cb} $	method	reference	$ \varepsilon_K ^{\mathrm{SM}}$	$\Delta \varepsilon_K$
exclusive	BGL	BELLE 2021	$1.518 \pm 0.180$	$3.93\sigma$
exclusive	CLN	<b>BELLE 2021</b>	$1.532 \pm 0.171$	$4.07\sigma$
exclusive	BGL	BABAR 2019	$1.441 \pm 0.166$	$4.72\sigma$
exclusive	CLN	BABAR 2019	$1.446 \pm 0.161$	$4.86\sigma$
exclusive	BGL	FNAL/MILC 2022	$1.446 \pm 0.154$	$5.05\sigma$
exclusive	CLN	HFLAV 2021	$1.566 \pm 0.142$	$4.63\sigma$
inclusive	kinetic	Gambino 2021	$2.041 \pm 0.168$	$1.12\sigma$
inclusive	1 <b>S</b>	HFLAV 2021	$2.008 \pm 0.160$	$1.37\sigma$
	(a	a) RBC-UKQCD estimate for	or <i>ξ</i> LD	
$ V_{cb} $	method	reference	$ \varepsilon_K ^{ m SM}$	$\Delta \varepsilon_K$
exclusive	BGL	FNAL/MILC 2022	$1.494 \pm 0.157$	$4.66\sigma$
exclusive	CLN	HFLAV 2021	$1.614 \pm 0.145$	$4.22\sigma$

#### (**b**) BGI estimate for $\xi_{LD}$

**Table 8:**  $|\varepsilon_K|$  in units of  $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$ , and  $\Delta \varepsilon_K = |\varepsilon_K|^{\text{Exp}} - |\varepsilon_K|^{\text{SM}}$ .

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