



Semileptonic form factors of the open-charm mesons in $N_f = 4$ holographic QCD

Hiwa A. Ahmed

Collaborators: Mei Huang, Yidian Chen

Based on: [Phys. Rev. D 109 \(2024\) 2, 026008](#)

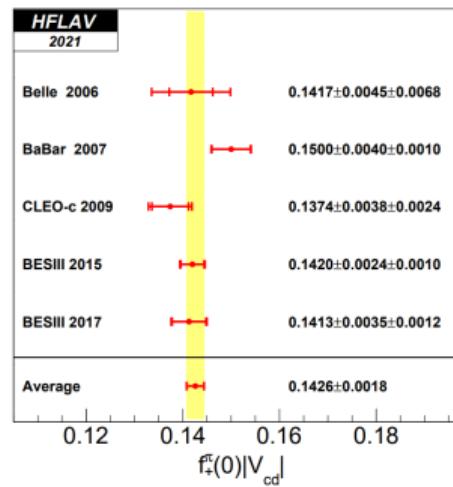
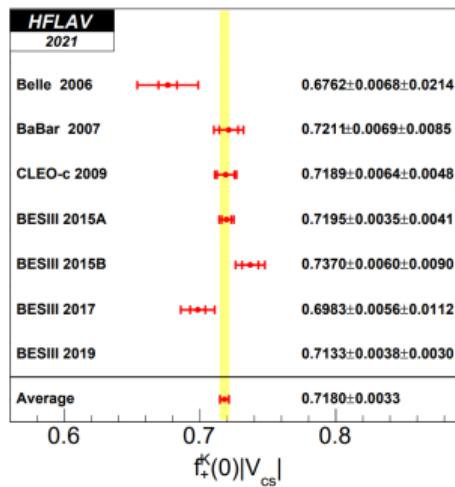
2025年04月21日

Table of Contents

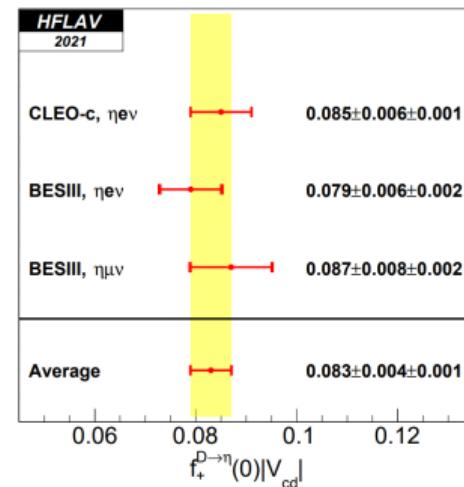
- 1 Introduction
- 2 AdS/CFT Correspondence
- 3 Soft Wall Model
- 4 Meson spectra
- 5 Semileptonic form factors
- 6 Summary

Introduction

- Semileptonic decays involve the transition of a heavy meson (such as B or D) to a lighter meson via the exchange of a W boson.
- Understanding the form factors governing these transitions is essential for precision measurements of CKM matrix elements and testing the Standard Model.
- In particular, semileptonic $D_{(s)}$ meson decays offer a valuable avenue for directly determining the CKM matrix elements $|V_{cd}|$ and $|V_{cs}|$.

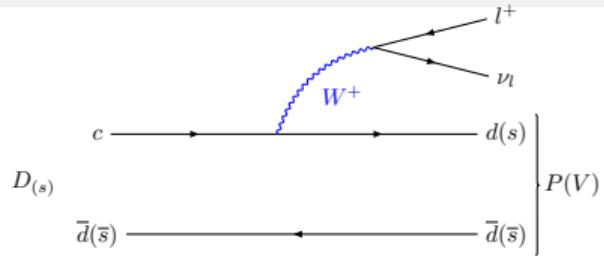


(HFLAV Collaboration, PhysRevD.107.052008)



Introduction

- The Feynman diagram of the semileptonic decay process of $D_{(s)}$ to a pseudoscalar or a vector meson:



- The matrix elements within the SM is defined by [\(M. A. Ivanov et al., Front. Phys.\(2019\)\)](#)

$$\mathcal{M}(D_{(s)} \rightarrow (P, V) l^+ \nu_l) = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{cq}^* \langle (P, V) | \bar{q} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) c | D_{(s)} \rangle \bar{\nu}_l \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) l$$

- The transition form factors are defined by [\(M. Wirbel et al., Z. Phys. C\(1985\)\)](#)

$$\begin{aligned} \langle P(p_2) | V^\mu | D_{(s)}(p_1) \rangle &= F_+(q^2) \left[P^\mu - \frac{M_1^2 - M_2^2}{q^2} q^\mu \right] + F_0(q^2) \frac{M_1^2 - M_2^2}{q^2} q^\mu \\ \langle V(p_2, \epsilon_2) | V^\mu - A^\mu | D_{(s)}(p_1) \rangle &= -(M_1 + M_2) \epsilon_2^{*\mu} A_1(q^2) + \frac{\epsilon_2^* \cdot q}{M_1 + M_2} P^\mu A_2(q^2) \\ &+ 2M_2 \frac{\epsilon_2^* \cdot q}{q^2} q^\mu [A_3(q^2) - A_0(q^2)] + \frac{2i\varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \epsilon_2^{*\nu} p_1^\rho p_2^\sigma}{M_1 + M_2} V(q^2) \end{aligned}$$

AdS/CFT Correspondence

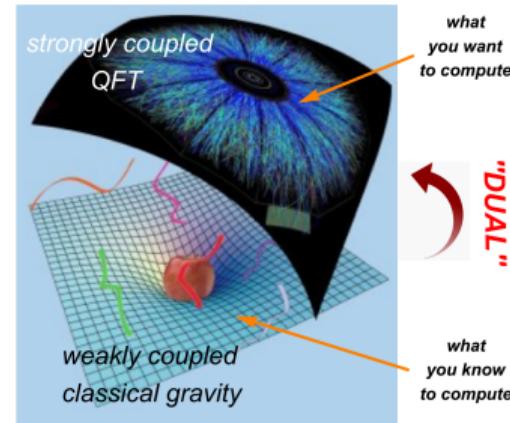
- AdS/CFT Correspondence ([Adv.Theor.Math.Phys.2,231 \(1998\)](#))

Type IIB string theory on $AdS_5 \times S^5$ in
low-energy approximation \iff

$\mathcal{N} = 4$ Super Yang-Mills theory on AdS
boundary in the limit $\lambda = g_{YM}^2 N_c \gg 1$

- GKP-Witten relation ([hep-th/9802109](#),
[hepth/9802150](#)):
The partition function of a gauge theory with
scale invariance (conformal invariance) is
equivalent to the partition function of string
theory on the AdS_5 spacetime.

$$Z_{CFT} = Z_{AdS_5}$$

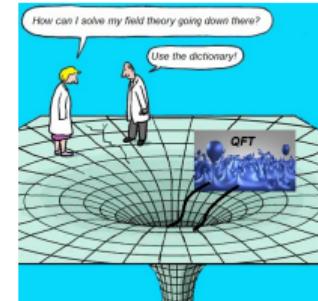


[1908.02667v2 \[hep-th\]](#)

AdS/CFT dictionary

- The parameters on the field theory side, i.e., g_{YM} and N_c , are mapped to the parameters g_s and l_s on the string theory side by

$$g_{YM}^2 = 2\pi g_s \quad \text{and} \quad 2\lambda = 2g_{YM}^2 N_c = L^4/l_s$$

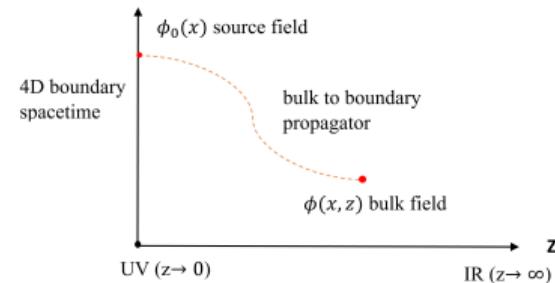


- Operator/Field correspondence:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{4D boundary operator } \mathcal{O}(x) & \iff & \text{5D bulk field with mass: } \Delta(\Delta - d) = m^2 L^2 \\ \text{local, gauge invariant, scaling dim. } \Delta & & \phi(x, z \rightarrow 0) \rightarrow z^{4-\Delta} \phi_0(x) + z^\Delta \langle \mathcal{O}(x) \rangle \end{array}$$

$$\left\langle e^{i \int d^4x \phi_0(x) \mathcal{O}(x)} \right\rangle_{CFT} = e^{i S_{5D}[\phi(x, z)]} \Big|_{\phi(x, z \rightarrow 0) \rightarrow \phi_0(x)}$$

$$\langle 0 | \mathcal{T} \mathcal{O}(x_1) \dots \mathcal{O}(x_n) | 0 \rangle = \frac{(-i)^n \delta^n e^{i S_{AdS}}}{\delta \phi^0(x_1) \dots \delta \phi^0(x_n)} \Big|_{\phi^0=0}$$



$N_f = 4$ Soft Wall Model

- AdS metric : $ds^2 = g_{MN}dx^M dx^N = \frac{L}{z^2} (\eta_{\mu\nu}dx^\mu dx^\nu + dz^2), 0 < z < \infty$
- Conformal invariance broken by a background dilaton field in the bulk: $\phi(z) = \mu^2 z^2$

- Operators/fields correspondence:

4D : $\mathcal{O}(x)$	5D : $\phi(x, z)$	p	Δ	$(M_5)^2$
$\bar{q}_L \gamma^\mu t^a q_L$	$A_{L\mu}^a$	1	3	0
$\bar{q}_R \gamma^\mu t^a q_R$	$A_{R\mu}^a$	1	3	0
$\bar{q}_R^\alpha q_L^\beta$	$(2/z) X^{\alpha\beta}$	0	3	-3

- The 5D action ([Y. Chen and M. Huang, prd\(2022\)](#)):

$$S_M = - \int d^5x \sqrt{-g} e^{-\phi} \text{Tr} \left\{ \left(D^M X \right)^\dagger (D_M X) + M_5^2 |X|^2 - \kappa |X|^4 + \frac{1}{4g_5^2} \left(L^{MN} L_{MN} + R^{MN} R_{MN} \right) \right\}$$

$$M_5^2 = (\Delta - p)(\Delta + p - 4), X = e^{i\pi} X_0 e^{i\pi}, X_0 = \frac{1}{2} \text{diag} [v_u(z), v_d(z), v_s(z), v_c(z)].$$

- VEV at the UV and IR regions

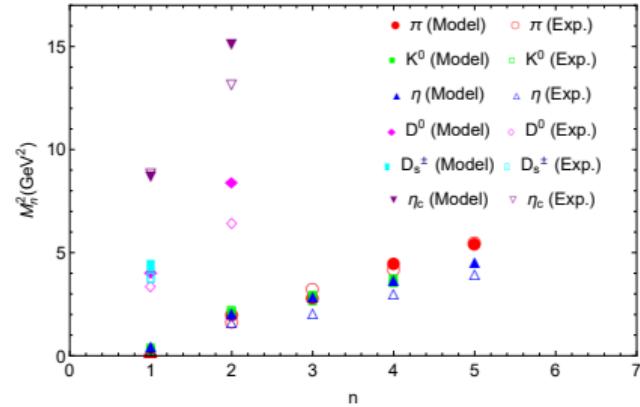
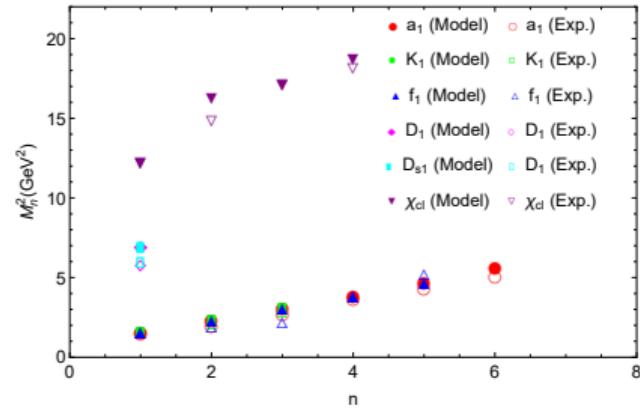
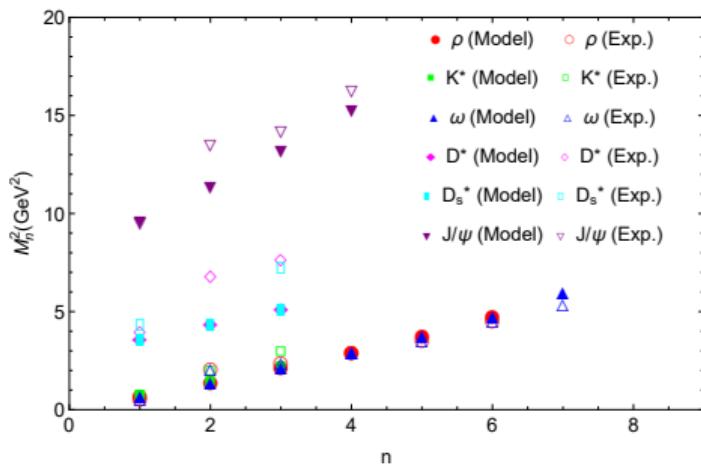
$$v(z \rightarrow 0) = m_q z + \sigma z^3 + \mathcal{O}(z^5),$$

$$\Delta m^2 \equiv (m_{A_n}^2 - m_{V_n}^2)_{n \rightarrow \infty} = g_5^2 \frac{L^2 v^2(z)}{z^2} (z \rightarrow \infty) \longrightarrow v(z \rightarrow \infty) \sim z.$$

Meson spectra

$\mu = 0.43$	$\kappa = 30$
$m_u = 0.0032$	$\sigma_u = (0.2962)^3$
$m_s = 0.1423$	$\sigma_s = (0.2598)^3$
$m_c = 1.5971$	$\sigma_c = (0.302)^3$

The values of the free parameters with the unit of GeV.



Three-point functions

- To obtain the transition form factors from the holographic model, we need to expand the action up to the third order in the fields.

$$S^{(3)} = - \int d^5x \left\{ \eta^{MN} \frac{e^{-\phi(z)}}{z^3} (2(A_M^a - \partial_M \pi^a) V_N^b \pi^c g^{abc} + V_M^a (\partial_N (\pi^b \pi^c) - 2A_M^b \pi^c) h^{abc} \right.$$
$$\left. - V_M^a V_N^b \pi^c k^{abc}) + \frac{e^{-\phi(z)}}{2g_5^2 z} \eta^{MP} \eta^{NQ} (V_{MN}^a V_P^b V_Q^c + V_{MN}^a A_P^b A_Q^c + A_{MN}^a V_P^b A_Q^c + A_{MN}^a A_P^b V_Q^c) f^{bca} \right\}$$
$$g^{abc} = iTr (\{t^a, x_0\}[t^b, \{t^c, x_0\}]),$$
$$h^{abc} = iTr ([t^a, x_0]\{t^b, \{t^c, x_0\}\}),$$
$$k^{abc} = -2Tr ([t^a, x_0][t^b, \{t^c, x_0\}]).$$

$$V_{\mu\perp}^a(q, z) = V_{\mu\perp}^{0a}(q) \mathcal{V}^a(q^2, z),$$

$$A_{\mu\perp}^a(q, z) = A_{\mu\perp}^{0a}(q) \mathcal{A}^a(q^2, z),$$

$$\phi^a(q, z) = \phi^a(q^2, z) \frac{iq^\alpha}{q^2} A_{\parallel\alpha}^{0a}(q),$$

$$\pi^a(q, z) = \pi^a(q^2, z) \frac{iq^\alpha}{q^2} A_{\parallel\alpha}^{0a}(q),$$

$$\langle 0 | \mathcal{T} J_{A\parallel}^{\mu a}(x) J_{V\perp}^{\nu b}(0) J_{A\parallel}^{\alpha c}(w) | 0 \rangle = \frac{i\delta S_{V\pi\pi}}{i^3 \delta A_{\parallel\mu}^{0a}(x) \delta V_{\perp\nu}^{0b}(y) \delta A_{\parallel\alpha}^{0c}(w)}$$

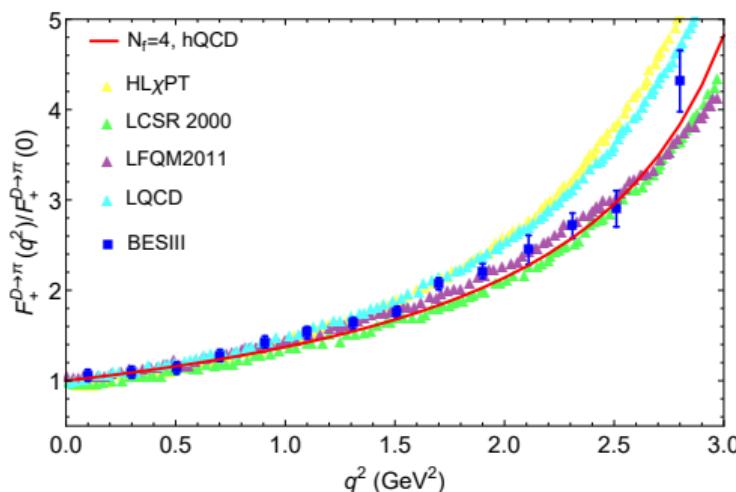
$$\langle 0 | \mathcal{T} J_{V\perp}^{\mu a}(x) J_{V\perp}^{\nu b}(0) J_{A\parallel}^{\alpha c}(w) | 0 \rangle = \frac{i\delta S_{VV\pi}}{i^3 \delta V_{\perp\mu}^{0a}(x) \delta V_{\perp\nu}^{0b}(y) \delta A_{\parallel\alpha}^{0c}(w)}$$

$$\langle 0 | \mathcal{T} J_{V\perp}^{\mu a}(x) J_{A\perp}^{\nu b}(0) J_{A\parallel}^{\alpha c}(w) | 0 \rangle = \frac{i\delta S_{VA\pi}}{i^3 \delta V_{\perp\mu}^{0a}(x) \delta A_{\perp\nu}^{0b}(y) \delta A_{\parallel\alpha}^{0c}(w)}$$

$$D \rightarrow \pi l^+ \nu_l$$

$$F_+(q^2) = \int dz \frac{e^{-\phi(z)}}{z} \left(f^{abc} \partial_z \phi^a \mathcal{V}^b(q^2, z) \partial_z \phi^c - \frac{2g_5^2}{z^2} (\pi^a - \phi^a) \mathcal{V}^b(q^2, z) (\pi^c - \phi^c) (g^{abc} - h^{bac}) \right)$$

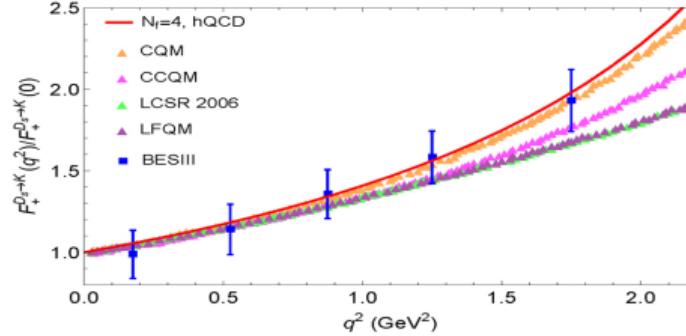
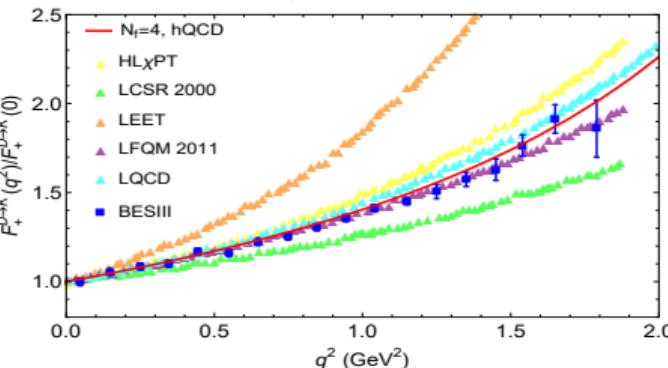
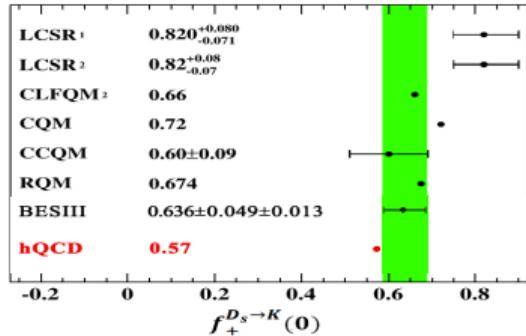
FFs	hQCD	LCSR2000	HL χ PT	LFQM2011	LQCD	Exp.
$f_+^{D \rightarrow \pi}(0)$	0.58	0.65	0.61	0.66	0.64	0.6372 ± 0.008



- HL χ PT: S. Fajfer and J. F. Kamenik, prd(2005)
- LCSR: A. Khodjamirian et al., prd(2000)
- LFQM: R. C. Verma, J. Phys. G (2012)
- LQCD: C. Aubin et al, prl(2005)
- BESIII: M. Ablikim et al., prd(2015)

$$D_{(s)} \rightarrow Kl^+\nu_l$$

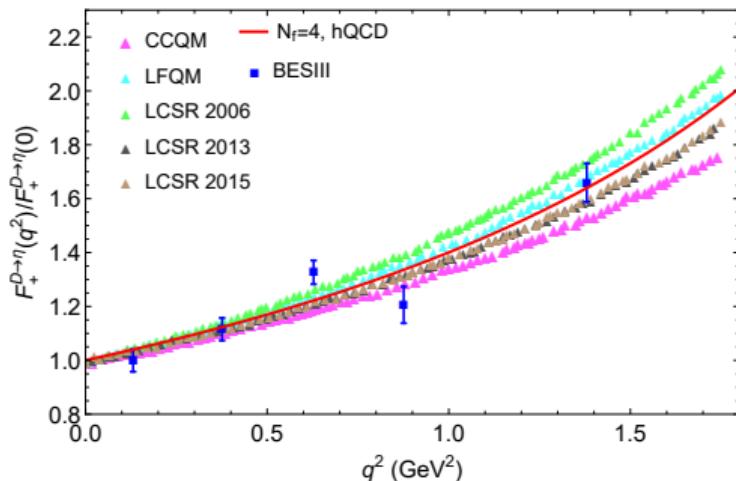
$$F_+(q^2) = \int dz \frac{e^{-\phi(z)}}{z} \left(f^{abc} \partial_z \phi^a \mathcal{V}^b(q^2, z) \partial_z \phi^c - \frac{2g_5^2}{z^2} (\pi^a - \phi^a) \mathcal{V}^b(q^2, z) (\pi^c - \phi^c) (g^{abc} - h^{bac}) \right)$$



HL χ PT: S. Fajfer and J. F. Kamenik, prd(2005) ; LCSR: A. Khodjamirian et al., prd(2000) ; LEET: J. Charles et al., prd(1999) ; LFQM: R. C. Verma, J. Phys. G (2012) ; LQCD: C. Aubin et al, prl(2005) ; BESIII: M. Ablikim et al., prd(2015) ; CQM: D. Melikhov and B. Stech, prd(2000) ; CCQM: N. R. Son et al., prd(2018) ; LCSR: Y. L. Wu, et al., IJMPA(2006) ; BESIII: M. Ablikim et al., prl(2019)

$$F_+(q^2) = \int dz \frac{e^{-\phi(z)}}{z} \left(f^{abc} \partial_z \phi^a \mathcal{V}^b(q^2, z) \partial_z \phi^c - \frac{2g_5^2}{z^2} (\pi^a - \phi^a) \mathcal{V}^b(q^2, z) (\pi^c - \phi^c) (g^{abc} - h^{bac}) \right)$$

FFs	hQCD	LCSR2006	LCSR2013	LCSR2015	LFQM	CCQM	Exp.
$f_+^{D \rightarrow \eta}(0)$	0.31	0.556	0.552	0.429	0.71	0.67	0.39



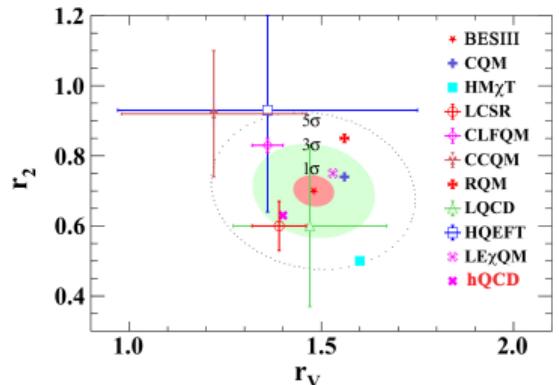
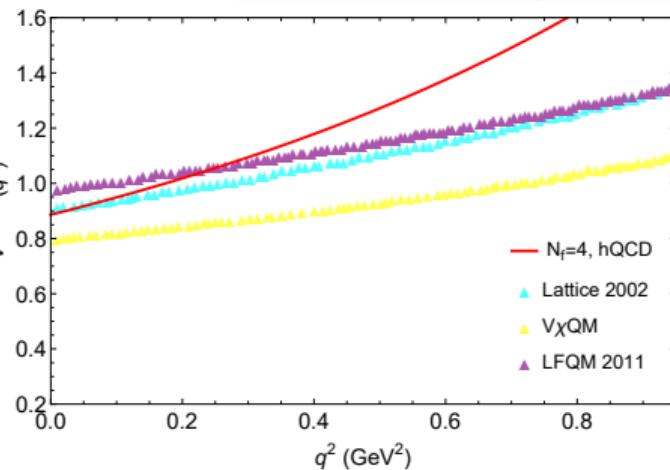
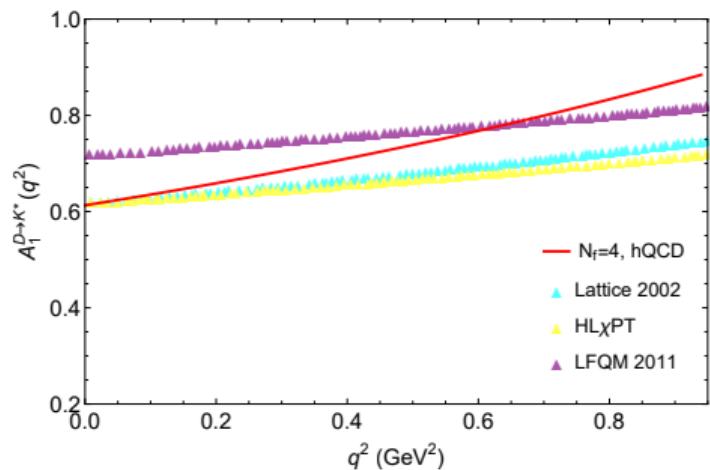
- CCQM: N. R. Son et al., prd(2018)
- LFQM: R. C. Verma, J. Phys. G (2012)
- LCSR2006: Y. L. Wu, et al., IJMPA(2006)
- LCSR2013: N. Offen et al., prd(2013)
- LCSR2015: G. Duplancic and B. Melic, JHEP(2015)
- BESIII: M. Ablikim et al., prl(2020)

$D \rightarrow K^*$

$$V(q^2) = \frac{(M_1 + M_2)g_5^2}{2} \int dz \frac{e^{-\phi(z)}}{z^3} k^{abc} V^a(z) \mathcal{V}^b(q^2, z) \pi^c(z)$$

$$A_1(q^2) = \int dz \frac{e^{-\phi(z)}}{z} \left(\frac{M_1^2 + M_2^2 - q^2}{2(M_1 + M_2)} \right) f^{bac} \mathcal{A}^a(q^2, z) V^b(z) \phi^c(z)$$

$$- \int dz \frac{e^{-\phi(z)}}{z^3} \frac{2g_5^2}{(M_1 + M_2)} \mathcal{A}^a(q^2, z) V^b(z) \pi^c(z) (g^{abc} - h^{bac})$$



Summary

- We investigate the semileptonic form factors of $D_{(s)}$ mesons from a modified soft-wall 4-flavor holographic model.
- The model successfully reproduces the masses of the vector mesons, ρ , K^* , ω , D^* , D_s^* , and J/ψ , axial vector mesons, a_1 , K_1 , f_1 , D_1 , D_{s1} , and χ_{c1} , and pseudoscalar mesons, π , K , η , D , D_s , and η_c .
- The result of the form factor for $D^+ \rightarrow \pi l^+ \nu_l$, $f_+(q^2)$ shows excellent agreement with the experimental data, and it is comparable with lattice QCD and other theoretical approaches.
- The normalized form factor $f_+(q^2)$ of the $D_{(s)}$ -to-kaon is well consistent with the experimental and lattice data.
- Similarly the normalized $f_+(q^2)$ for the $D \rightarrow \eta$ is compatible with data.
- Finally, we predicted the vector form factors $V(q^2)$ and $A_1(q^2)$ for the decays $D \rightarrow K^*$.

谢谢大家!

Thanks for your attention!