Proposal: *conservative merging* of model-independent HVP combination results

**Basic requirements for the *merging* procedure:**

- **Conservative** (see tensions between experimental data and differences between combinations based on same datasets)

- *Accounting for correlations between different channels* (understood meaning of systematic uncertainties and identified 15 common ones, DHMZ since arXiv:1010.4180)

  Yields *unavoidable increase of total uncertainty* $693.9 \pm 1.0 \pm 3.4 \pm 1.6 \pm 0.1_{\psi} \pm 0.7_{QCD}$

**Proposed *merging* procedure:**

- **Central value**: simple average of the *DHMZ* and *KNT* sums of channels

  (the *DHMZ* and *KNT* central values are, *by chance*, very similar)

- **Experimental uncertainties**: in each channel/mass range use $\max(\text{DHMZ, KNT})$ and see by how much to increase the corresponding DHMZ uncertainty (sq. difference); enhance the DHMZ *sum of channels* (*with correlations*) by these amounts (sq. sum)

- **Use** $|\text{DHMZ}(\text{ch.})-\text{KNT}(\text{ch.})|/2$ as extra systematic in each channel; independent between channels (sign of algebraic difference fluctuates for various channels)

  o) $\pi\pi$ BABAR/KLOE systematic: $\max(\text{DHMZ B./K. syst., } |\text{DHMZ}(\pi\pi)-\text{KNT}(\pi\pi)|/2)$

  (stay conservative, but avoid double-counting the effect of this B./K. tension)

  o) $\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$: do not include this systematic (difference understood: 1\textsuperscript{st}/2\textsuperscript{nd} order interp.)