

**CEPC味物理-新物理和相关探测技术研讨会**  
**2023年8月16日-18日，复旦大学**

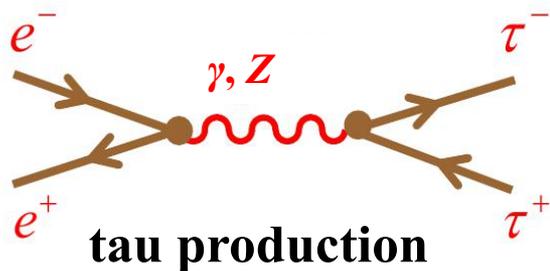
**Some theoretical aspects of hadronic  $\tau$  decays**



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# Overview



Z exchange dominates at CEPC.

Number of taus produced at  $e^+e^-$  colliders:

ALEPH:  $\sim 3 \times 10^5$

BaBar /Belle:  $\sim 1 \times 10^9$

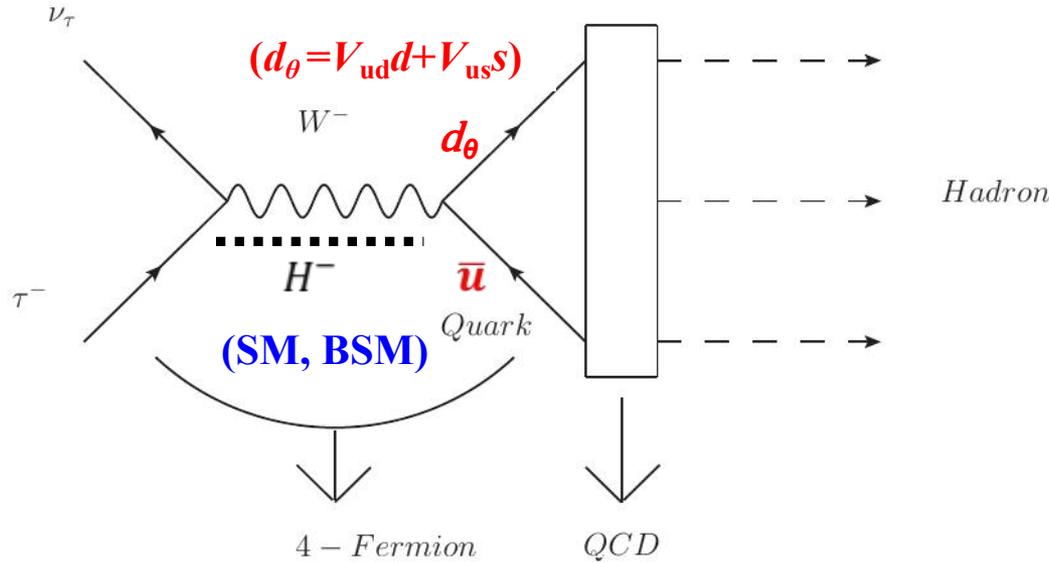
Belle-II:  $\sim 5 \times 10^{10}$

CEPC (Tera-Z factory):  $\sim 3 \times 10^{10}$

Tau provides broad interests for particle physics:

- ✓ Precision tests for electroweak sector:  $V_{CKM}$ , lepton universality, g-2, ... ..
- ✓ Strong interactions:  $\alpha_s$ , hadron resonances, chiral symmetry, ... ..
- ✓ Possible discoveries for new physics: cLFV, CPV, ... ..

# Sketch for hadronic tau decays (similar for leptonic decays by dropping QCD part)



## Theoretical tools: SM EFT + Chiral EFT

- SM EFT → LEFT

[Cirigliano et al, '10] ... ..

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{G_\mu V_{uD}}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ (1 + \epsilon_L^{D\ell}) \bar{\ell} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_\ell \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) D + \epsilon_R^{D\ell} \bar{\ell} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_\ell \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma_5) D \right. \\ \left. + \bar{\ell} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_\ell \cdot \bar{u} \left[ \epsilon_S^{D\ell} - \epsilon_P^{D\ell} \gamma_5 \right] D + \frac{1}{4} \hat{\epsilon}_T^{D\ell} \bar{\ell} \sigma_{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_\ell \cdot \bar{u} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) D \right] + \text{h.c.},$$

$\epsilon_X$  parameterize various new physics at high energy scale

- Chiral EFT

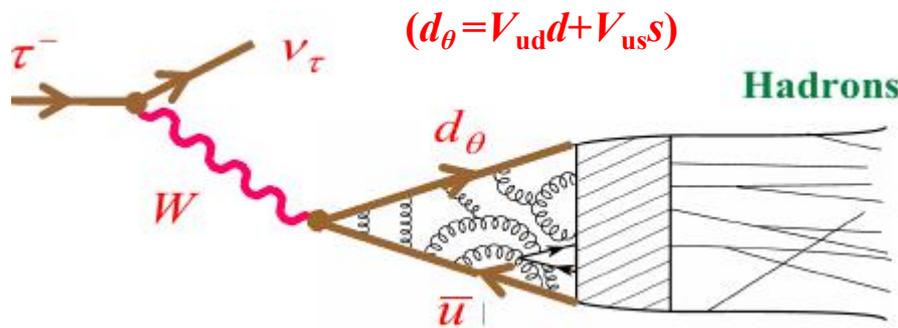
[Gasser, Leutwyler, '83 '84]

$\mathcal{O}(p^4)$ :

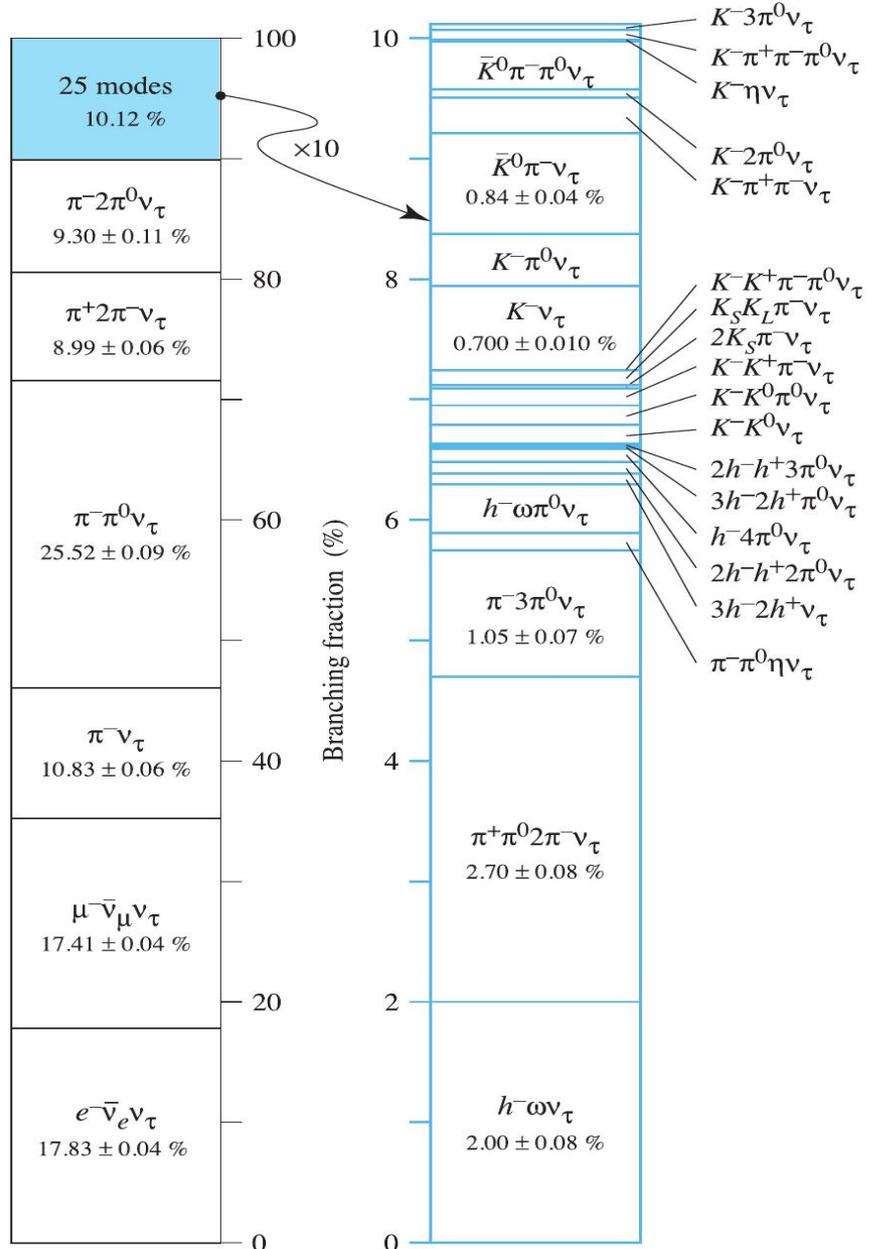
$$\mathcal{L}_2 = \frac{F^2}{4} \langle u_\mu u^\mu + \chi_+ \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{L}_4^{XPT} = L_1 \langle u_\mu u^\mu \rangle^2 + L_2 \langle u_\mu u^\nu \rangle \langle u^\mu u_\nu \rangle + L_3 \langle u_\mu u^\mu u_\nu u^\nu \rangle + L_4 \langle u_\mu u^\mu \rangle \langle \chi_+ \rangle \\ + L_5 \langle u_\mu u^\mu \chi_+ \rangle + L_6 \langle \chi_+ \rangle^2 + L_7 \langle \chi_- \rangle^2 + \frac{L_8}{2} \langle \chi_+^2 + \chi_-^2 \rangle + \dots$$

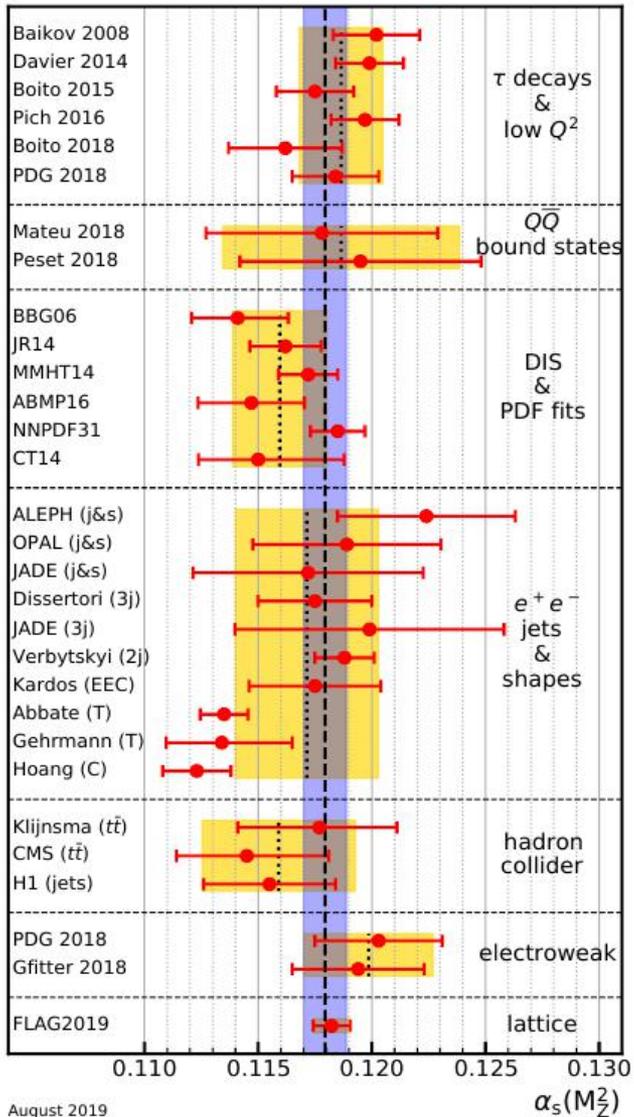
# Hadronic decays: a unique feature for tau lepton



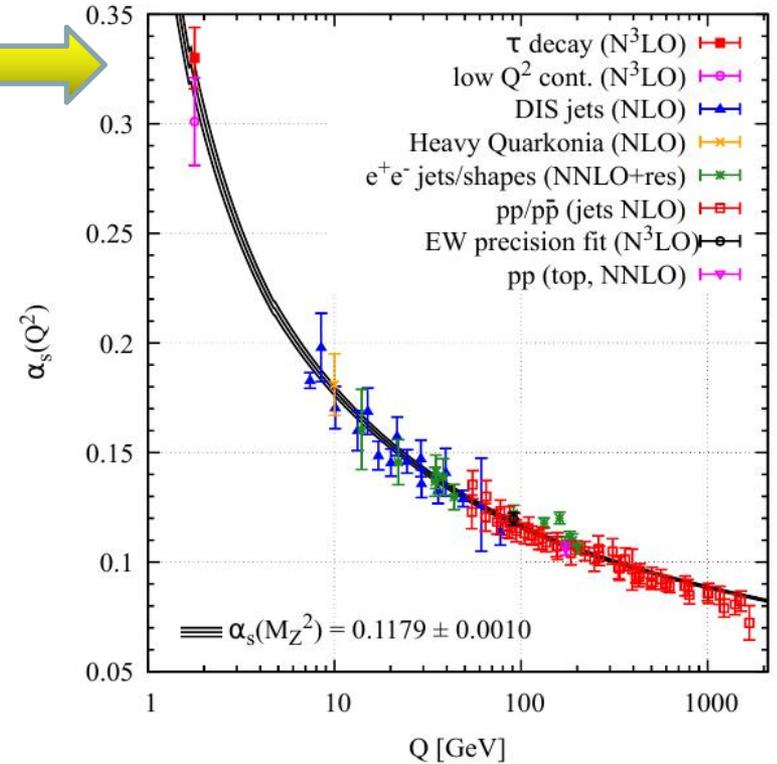
Valuable laboratory to study:  
 fundamental parameters &  
 rich hadron phenomenologies



# Strong coupling of QCD: $\alpha_s$

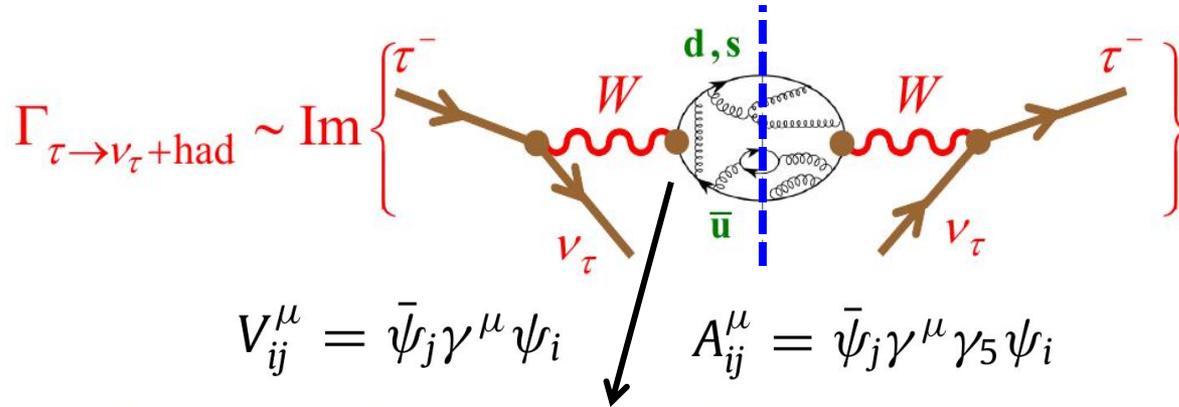


PDG



**Hadronic tau decay: an invaluable source to test the QCD prediction of  $\alpha_s(Q^2)$  below 2 GeV.**

$$R_\tau = \frac{\Gamma(\tau \rightarrow \nu_\tau + \text{hadrons})}{\Gamma(\tau \rightarrow \nu_\tau e \bar{\nu}_e)}$$



$$\Pi_{ij,J}^{\mu\nu}(q) \equiv i \int d^4x e^{iqx} \langle 0 | T [J_{ij}^\mu(x) J_{ij}^\nu(0)^\dagger] | 0 \rangle = (-g^{\mu\nu} q^2 + q^\mu q^\nu) \Pi_{ij,J}^{(1)}(q^2) + q^\mu q^\nu \Pi_{ij,J}^{(0)}(q^2)$$

$$\Pi^{(J)}(s) \equiv |V_{ud}|^2 [\Pi_{ud,V}^{(J)}(s) + \Pi_{ud,A}^{(J)}(s)] + |V_{us}|^2 [\Pi_{us,V}^{(J)}(s) + \Pi_{us,A}^{(J)}(s)]$$

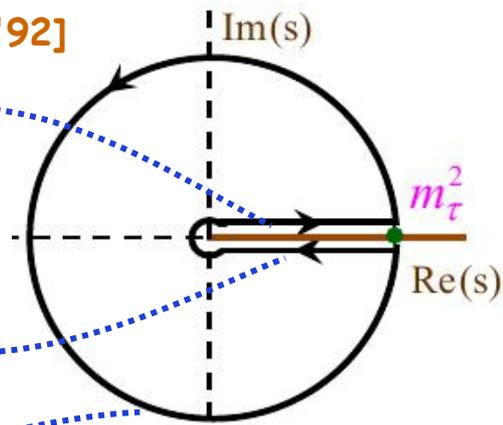
$$R_\tau = R_{\tau,V} + R_{\tau,A} + R_{\tau,S}$$

$$R_\tau = 12\pi \int_0^{m_\tau^2} \frac{ds}{m_\tau^2} \left(1 - \frac{s}{m_\tau^2}\right)^2 \left[ \left(1 + 2 \frac{s}{m_\tau^2}\right) \text{Im}\Pi^{(1)}(s) + \text{Im}\Pi^{(0)}(s) \right]$$

**Exp observables**

# $\alpha_s(m_\tau)$ from spectral functions

[Bratten et al., '92]



$$R_\tau = \frac{\Gamma(\tau \rightarrow \nu_\tau \text{ hadrons})}{\Gamma(\tau \rightarrow \nu_\tau e \nu_e)} = \int_0^{m_\tau^2} \frac{ds}{m_\tau^2} \omega_J(s) \text{Im} \Pi^J(s)$$

$$R_\tau = \oint_{|s|=m_\tau^2} \frac{ds}{m_\tau^2} \omega_J(s) \Pi^J(s)$$

Along  $|s|=m_\tau^2$ ,

$$\Pi^J(s) \stackrel{\text{OPE}}{=} \sum_D \frac{C_D^J(s, \alpha_s(\mu), \mu) \langle O_D(\mu) \rangle}{(-s)^{D/2}}$$

$$R_\tau = N_C S_{\text{EW}} (1 + \delta_P + \delta_{\text{NP}}) = R_{\tau,V} + R_{\tau,A} + R_{\tau,S}$$

$$S_{\text{EW}} = 1.0201 (3)$$

Marciano-Sirlin, Braaten-Li, Erler

$$\delta_{\text{NP}} = -0.0064 \pm 0.0013$$

Fitted from data (Davier et al)

$$\delta_P = a_\tau + 5.20 a_\tau^2 + 26 a_\tau^3 + 127 a_\tau^4 + \dots \approx 20\%$$

Baikov-Chetyrkin-Kühn

$$a_\tau \equiv \alpha_s(m_\tau) / \pi$$

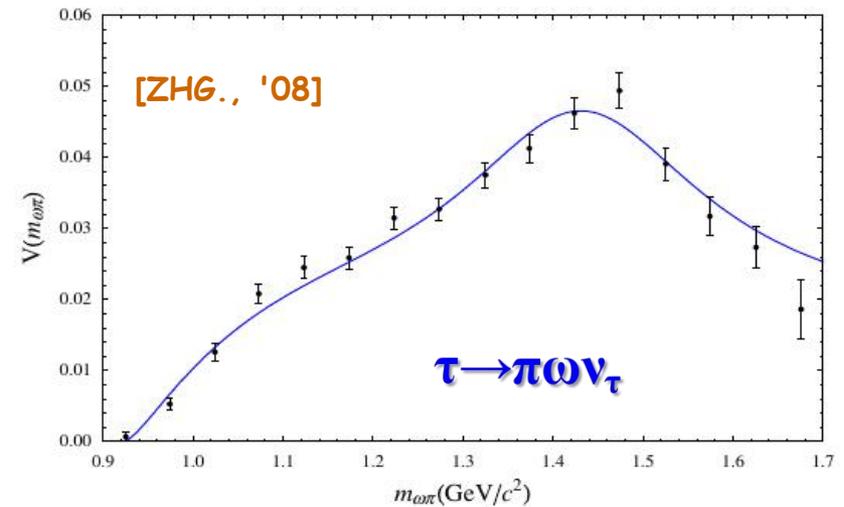
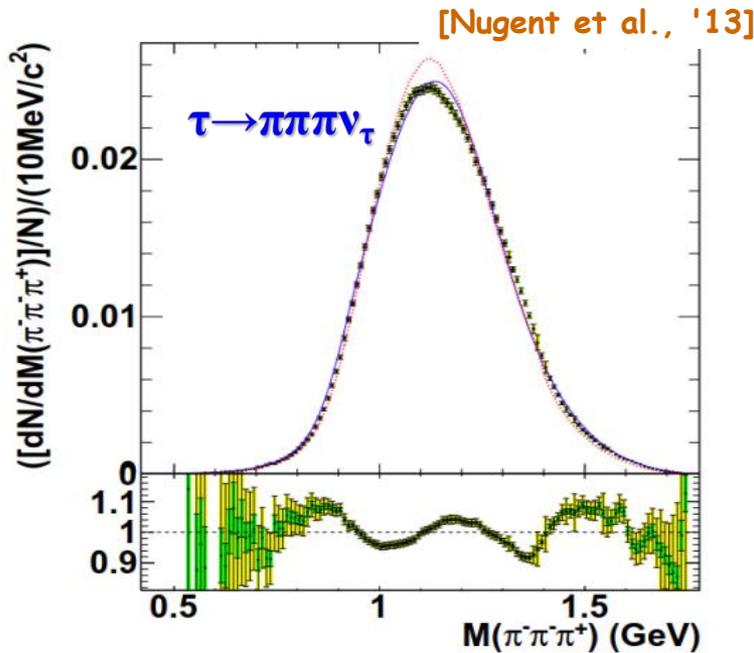
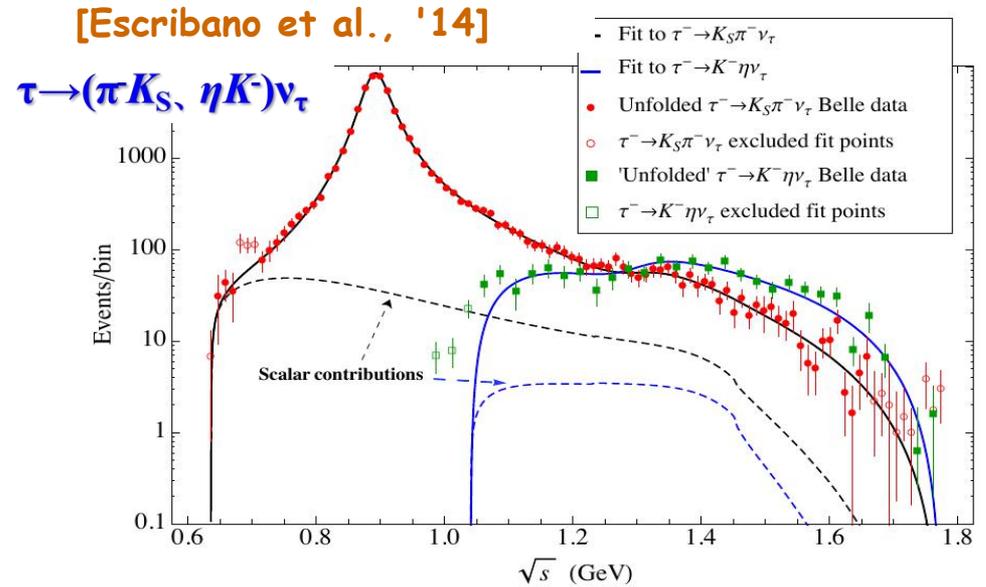
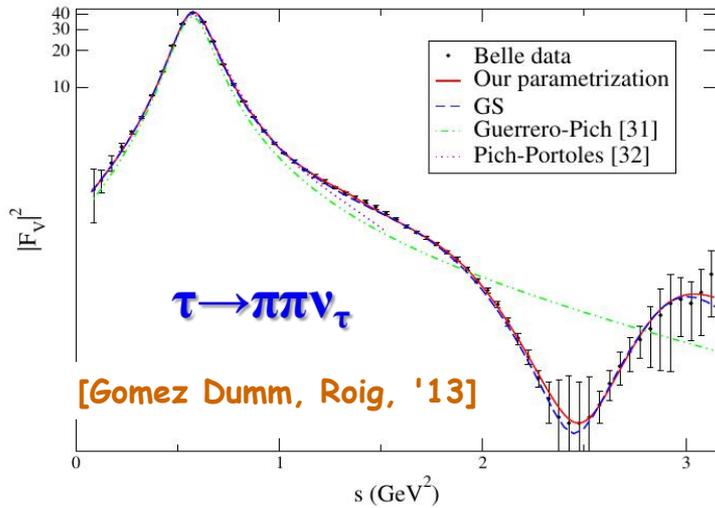
Precision limited by FOPT vs CIPT discrepancy:

**Duality violation issue:**

**Boito et al., Pich et al., .....**

$$\alpha_s(m_\tau^2) = 0.319 \pm 0.014 \quad \hat{\alpha}_s(m_\tau^2) = 0.341 \pm 0.013$$

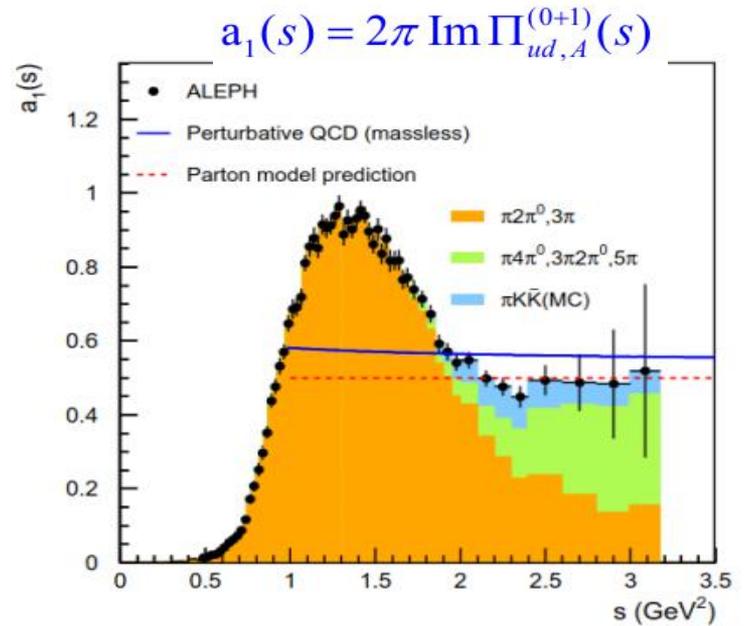
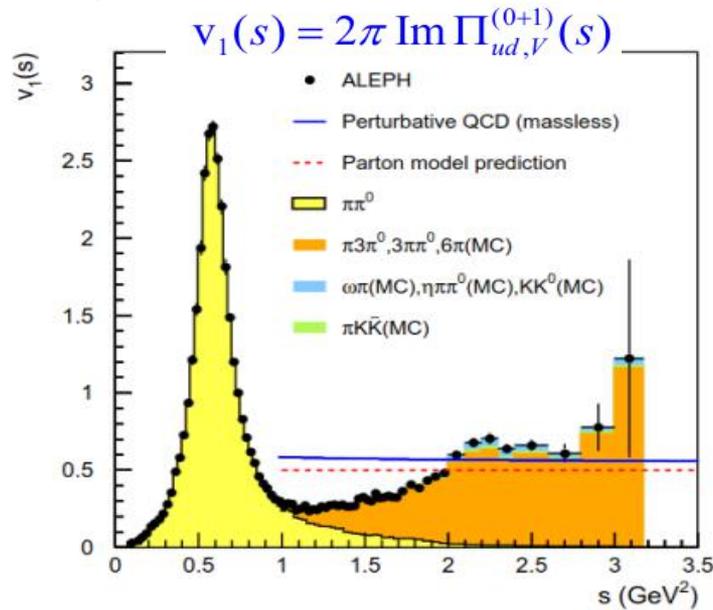
# Invariant-mass spectra for exclusive decays



**Hadron properties, Form factors,  
 Chiral dynamics, ... ..**

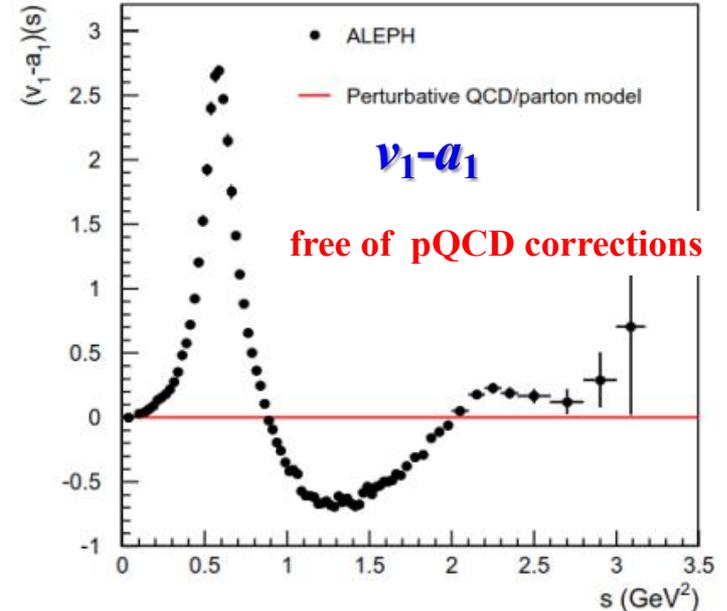
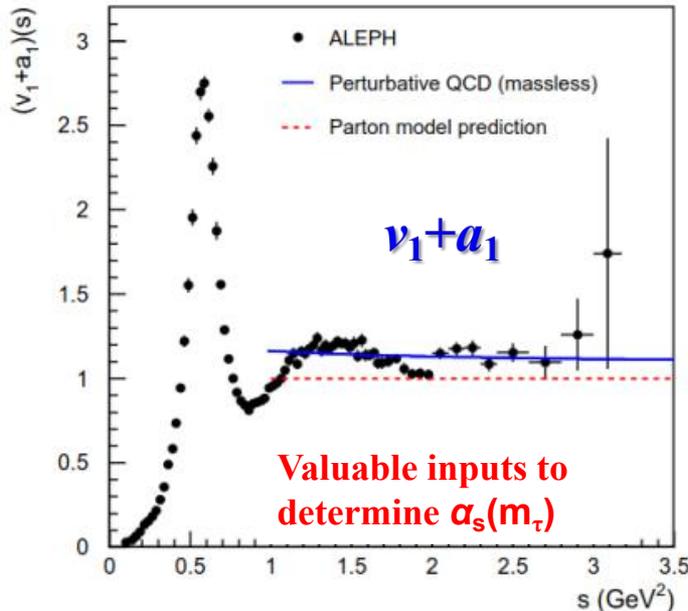
# Inclusive decays: spectral functions

[Davier et al., '13]



Most available data are from LEP.

Better data sets will be definitely welcome.



# $V_{us}$ from tau decays

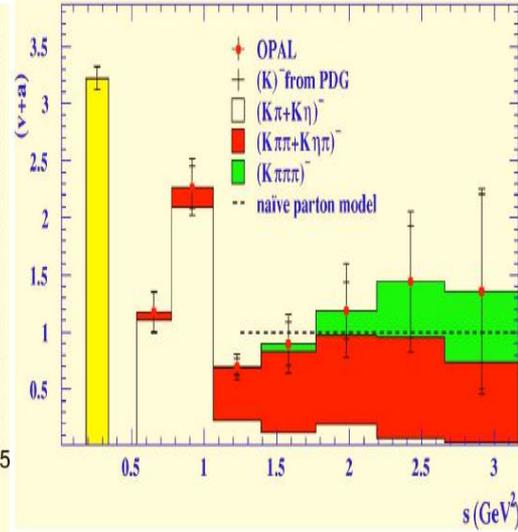
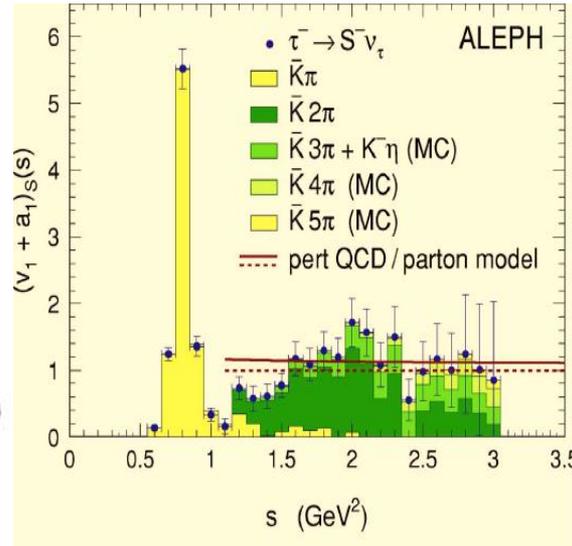
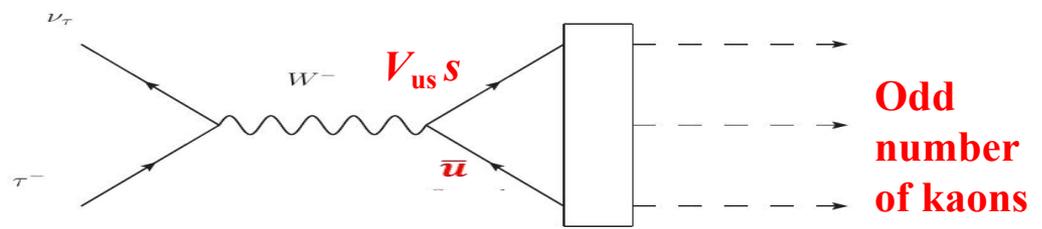
Inclusive case

Gámiz-Jamin-Pich-Prades-Schwab

$$|V_{us}| = \left( \frac{R_{\tau,S}}{\frac{R_{\tau,V+A}}{|V_{ud}|^2} - \delta R_{\tau,th}} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\delta R_{\tau,th} \approx 24 \frac{m_S^2(m_\tau^2)}{m_\tau^2} \Delta(\alpha_S)$$

$$\delta R_{\tau,th} \equiv \underbrace{0.1544(37)}_{J=0} + \underbrace{0.084(33)}_{m_S(2 \text{ GeV}) = 93.0(8.5) \text{ MeV}} = 0.238(33)$$



[Davier et al., '08]

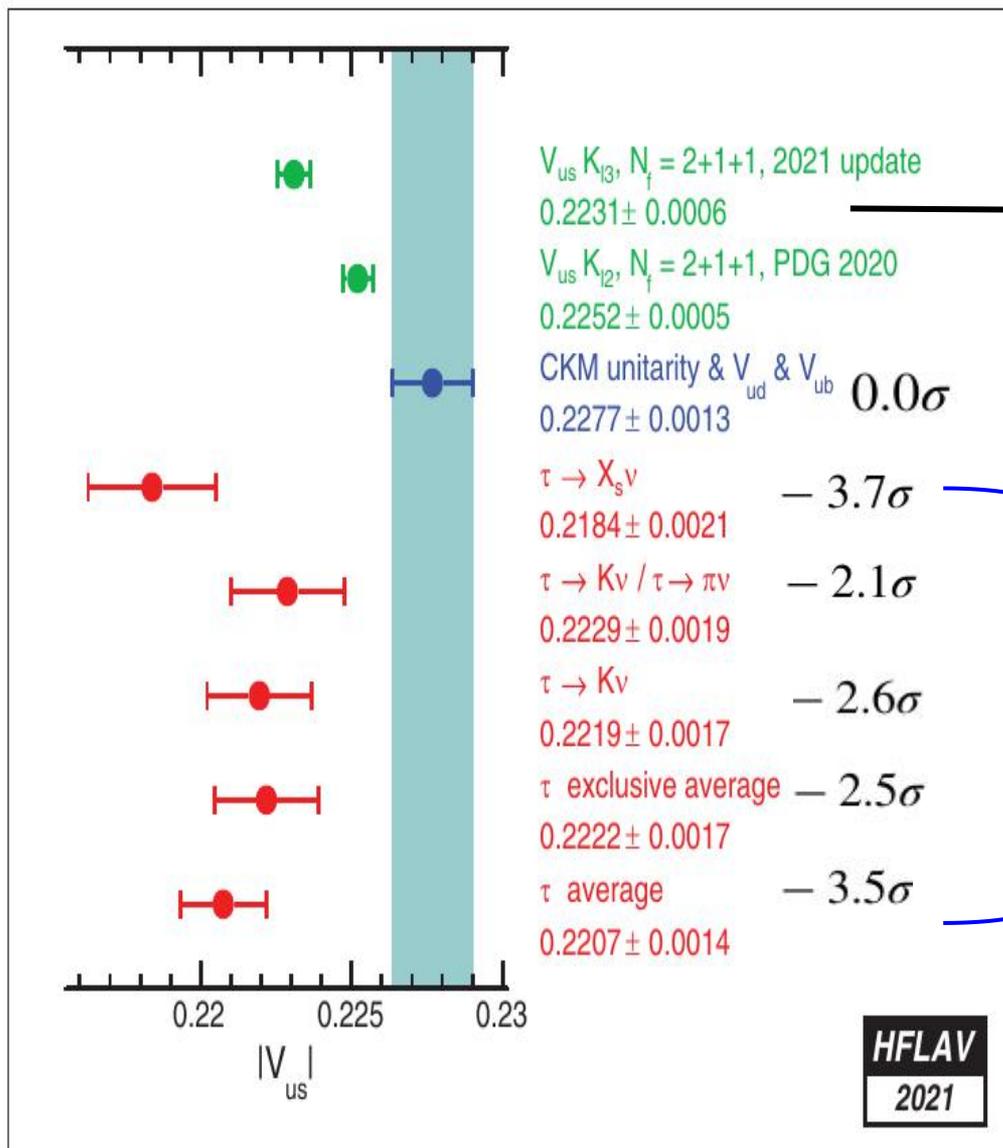
Exclusive case

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K^- \nu_\tau)}{\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \nu_\tau)} = \frac{f_{K^\pm}^2 |V_{us}|^2 (m_\tau^2 - m_K^2)^2}{f_{\pi^\pm}^2 |V_{ud}|^2 (m_\tau^2 - m_\pi^2)^2} (1 + \delta R_{\tau K/\tau \pi})$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K^- \nu_\tau) = \frac{G_F^2}{16\pi\hbar} f_{K^\pm}^2 |V_{us}|^2 \tau_\tau m_\tau^3 \left(1 - \frac{m_K^2}{m_\tau^2}\right)^2 S_{EW} (1 + \delta R_{\tau K})$$

[Arroyo-Urena et al., '21 '22]

# “Tension” of $V_{us}$ from various determinations



Precision limited by lattice inputs :  $f_+^{K\pi(0)}$

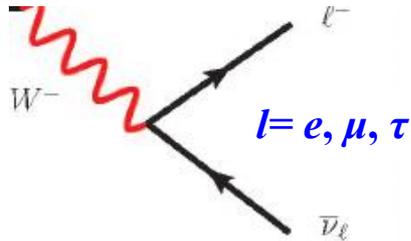
$$\left[ \sqrt{1 - |V_{ud}|^2 - |V_{ub}|^2} (\text{CKM unitarity}) \right]$$

Precision limited mainly by BF uncertainties

HFLAV  
2021

# Beyond SM tests in tau physics

## ➤ Lepton Universality (LU) test



LU assumption:  $g_l$  equal for all the three leptons

LU test via  
leptonic decays

[HFLAV, 2021]

$$\frac{g_\tau}{g_e} = \sqrt{B(\tau^- \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_\tau(\gamma)) \frac{\tau_\mu m_\mu^5 F_{\text{corr}}(m_\mu, m_e)}{\tau_\tau m_\tau^5 F_{\text{corr}}(m_\tau, m_\mu)}} \quad (m_\tau^5 \text{ appears here !})$$

$$\frac{g_\tau}{g_\mu} = \sqrt{B(\tau^- \rightarrow e^- \bar{\nu}_e \nu_\tau(\gamma)) \frac{\tau_\mu m_\mu^5 F_{\text{corr}}(m_\mu, m_e)}{\tau_\tau m_\tau^5 F_{\text{corr}}(m_\tau, m_e)}}$$

$$\left(\frac{g_\tau}{g_\mu}\right)_\tau = 1.0009 \pm 0.0014,$$

$$\left(\frac{g_\tau}{g_e}\right)_\tau = 1.0027 \pm 0.0014,$$

LU test via  
hadronic decays

[HFLAV, '21] [Arroyo-Urena, et al., '21'22]

$$\left(\frac{g_\tau}{g_\mu}\right)_h^2 = \frac{\mathcal{B}(\tau \rightarrow h \nu_\tau)}{\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow \mu \bar{\nu}_\mu)} \frac{2m_h m_\mu^2 \tau_h}{(1 + \delta R_{\tau/h}) m_\tau^3 \tau_\tau} \left(\frac{1 - m_\mu^2/m_h^2}{1 - m_h^2/m_\tau^2}\right)^2 \quad h = \pi, K$$

$$\left(\frac{g_\tau}{g_\mu}\right)_\pi = 0.9959 \pm 0.0038$$

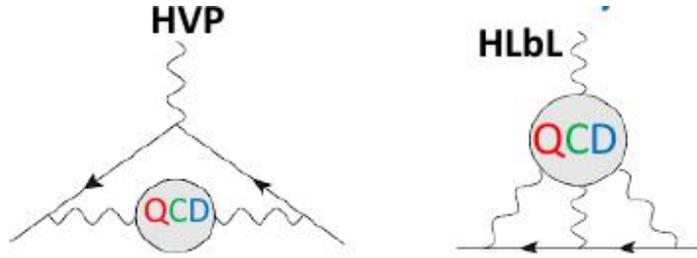
$$\left(\frac{g_\tau}{g_\mu}\right)_K = 0.9855 \pm 0.0075$$

$\tau \rightarrow K \nu_\tau$  BF uncertainty dominated

# ➤ Relevance to precise determination of $a_\mu$

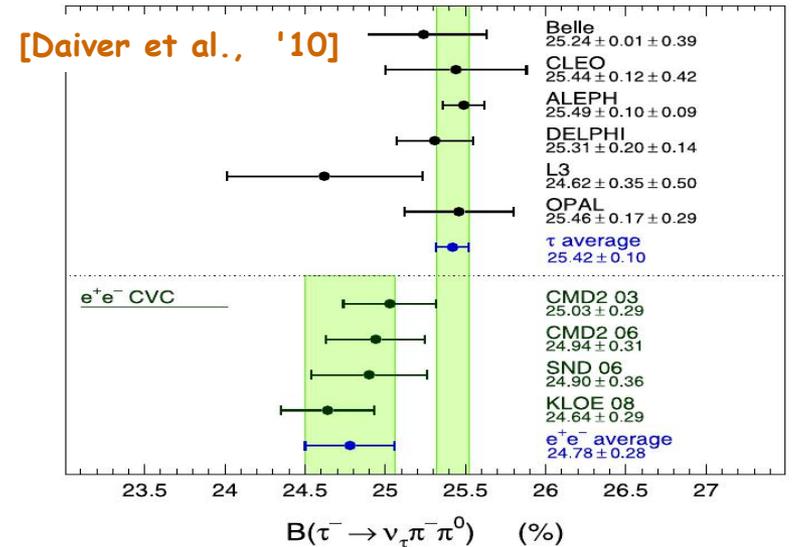
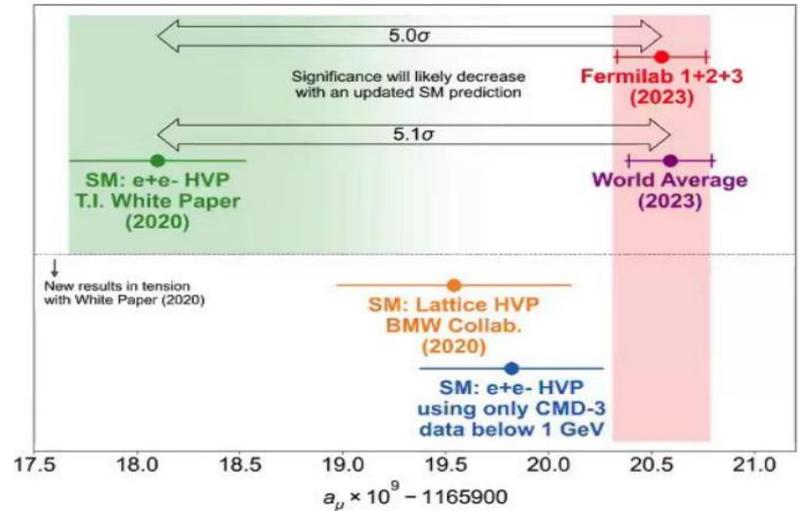
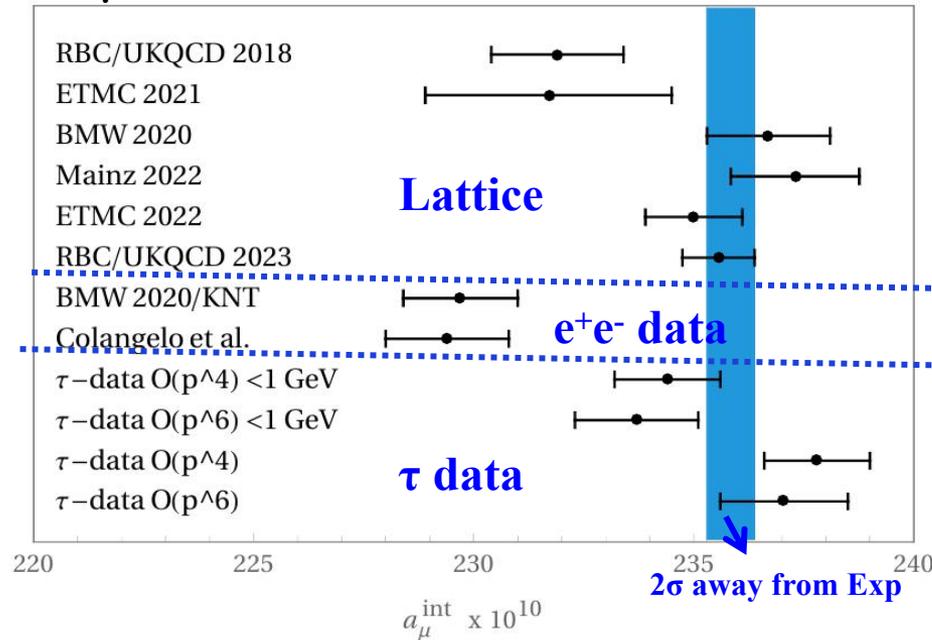
[Muon  $g-2$ , '23]

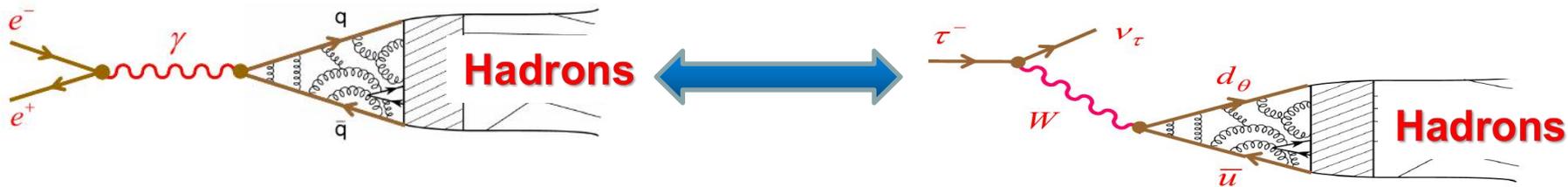
SM uncertainty dominated by



Dominated by  $\pi\pi$  ( $> \sim 75\%$ )

$a_\mu^{\text{HVP,LO}}$  [Masjuan et al., '23]





❖ Key problem in the matching: isospin breaking (IB) effects

IB corrections to  $a_\mu$

[Cirigliano et al., JHEP'02]

$$\Delta a_\mu^{\text{vacpol}} = \frac{1}{4\pi^3} \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{t_{\text{max}}} dt K(t) \left[ \frac{K_\sigma(t)}{K_\Gamma(t)} \frac{d\Gamma_{\pi\pi[\gamma]}}{dt} \right] \times \left( \frac{R_{\text{IB}}(t)}{S_{\text{EW}}} - 1 \right)$$

$$R_{\text{IB}}(t) = \frac{1}{G_{\text{EM}}(t)} \frac{\beta_{\pi^+\pi^-}^3}{\beta_{\pi^+\pi^0}^3} \left| \frac{F_V(t)}{f_+(t)} \right|^2$$

EM corrections

Kinematics

IB effects in Form Factors

$G_{\text{EM}}(t) \sim$  virtual photon + real photon

Photon loops  
in  $\tau \rightarrow \pi\pi\nu_\tau$

Radiative decays:  
 $\tau \rightarrow \pi\pi\gamma\nu_\tau$

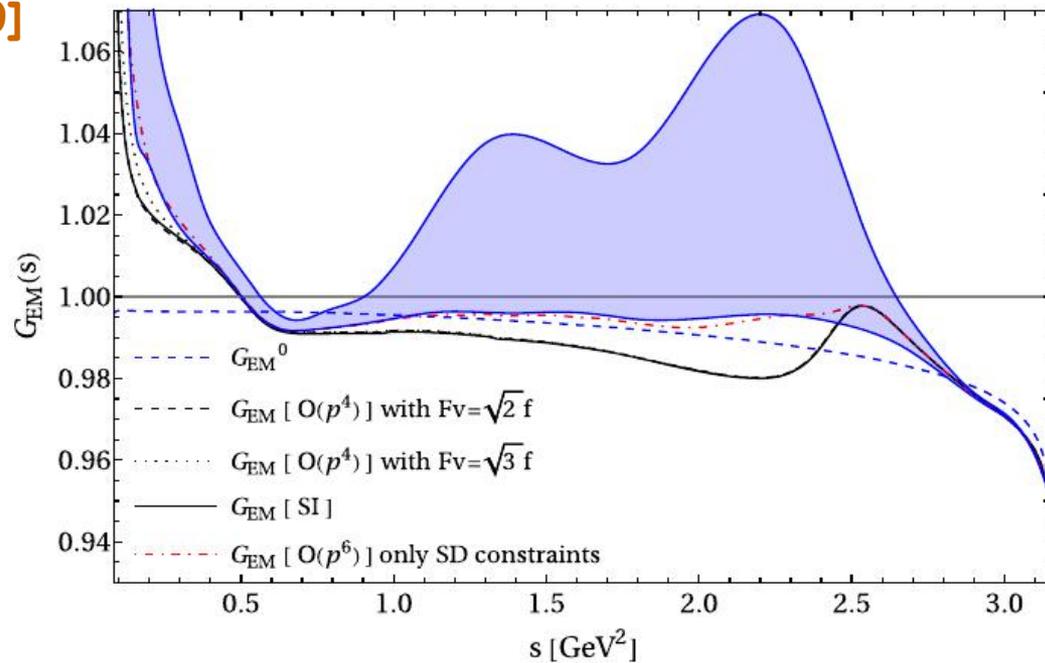


TABLE IV. Contributions to  $\Delta a_\mu^{\text{HVP,LO}}$  in units of  $10^{-11}$  using the dispersive representation of the form factor. From the two evaluations labeled  $\mathcal{O}(p^4)$ , the left (right) one corresponds to  $F_V = \sqrt{2}F$  ( $F_V = \sqrt{3}F$ ).

$[s_1, s_2]$	$\Delta a_{\mu, G_{\text{EM}}^{(0)}}^{\text{HVP,LO}}$	$\Delta a_{\mu, \text{SI}}^{\text{HVP,LO}}$	$\Delta a_{\mu, [\mathcal{O}(p^4)]}^{\text{HVP,LO}}$	$\Delta a_{\mu, [\mathcal{O}(p^4)]}^{\text{HVP,LO}}$	$\Delta a_{\mu, [\text{SD}]}^{\text{HVP,LO}}$	$\Delta a_{\mu, [\mathcal{O}(p^6)]}^{\text{HVP,LO}}$
$[4m_\pi^2, 1 \text{ GeV}^2]$	+17.8	-11.0	-11.3	-17.0	-32.4	$-74.8 \pm 44.0$
$[4m_\pi^2, 2 \text{ GeV}^2]$	+18.3	-10.1	-10.3	-16.0	-31.9	$-75.9 \pm 45.5$
$[4m_\pi^2, 3 \text{ GeV}^2]$	+18.4	-10.0	-10.2	-15.9	-31.9	$-75.9 \pm 45.6$
$[4m_\pi^2, m_\tau^2]$	+18.4	-10.0	-10.2	-15.9	-31.9	$-75.9 \pm 45.6$

Referenced value using the tau data to calculate  $a_\mu$

$$\Delta a_\mu = a_\mu^{\text{exp}} - a_\mu^{\text{th}} = (12.5 \pm 6.0) \times 10^{-10}$$

## ➤ CP violation in tau decays

$$A_{CP} = \frac{\Gamma(\tau^- \rightarrow \nu_\tau H) - \Gamma(\tau^+ \rightarrow \nu_\tau \bar{H})}{\Gamma(\tau^- \rightarrow \nu_\tau H) + \Gamma(\tau^+ \rightarrow \nu_\tau \bar{H})}$$

Intensive discussions on tau  $\rightarrow$  Ks pi nu

$$A_Q = \frac{\Gamma(\tau^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ K_S^0 \bar{\nu}_\tau) - \Gamma(\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- K_S^0 \nu_\tau)}{\Gamma(\tau^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ K_S^0 \bar{\nu}_\tau) + \Gamma(\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- K_S^0 \nu_\tau)}$$

$$\approx (0.36 \pm 0.01)\%$$

SM prediction

[Bigi et al., PLB'05]

[Grossman et al., JHEP'12]

[Cirigliano et al., PRL'18]

[Rendo et al., PRD'19]

$$(-0.36 \pm 0.23_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.11_{\text{syst}})\%$$

BaBar

[Lees et al., PRD'12]

[Chen et al., PRD'19 JHEP'20]

# Other types of CPV observables: T-odd triple-product asymmetry

A typical T-odd kinematical variable:

$$\xi \equiv \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} a^\mu b^\nu c^\rho d^\sigma \frac{\text{rest frame}}{\text{of particle } a} \vec{b} \cdot (\vec{c} \times \vec{d}) m_a / s_a$$

*a, b, c, d: either momentum or spin*

T transformation  $(t \rightarrow -t, \vec{p} \rightarrow -\vec{p}, \dots)$ :  $\bar{\xi} \rightarrow -\xi$

❖ When spin is involved, measurement of polarization is needed.

[Nelson, et al., PRD'94] [Tsai, PRD'95] [Datta, PRD'07] ...

❖ When focusing on the situation with four momenta, *i.e.*

$$\xi = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} p_1^\mu p_2^\nu p_3^\rho p_4^\sigma \frac{\text{rest frame}}{\text{of particle 1}} \vec{p}_2 \cdot (\vec{p}_3 \times \vec{p}_4) m_1$$

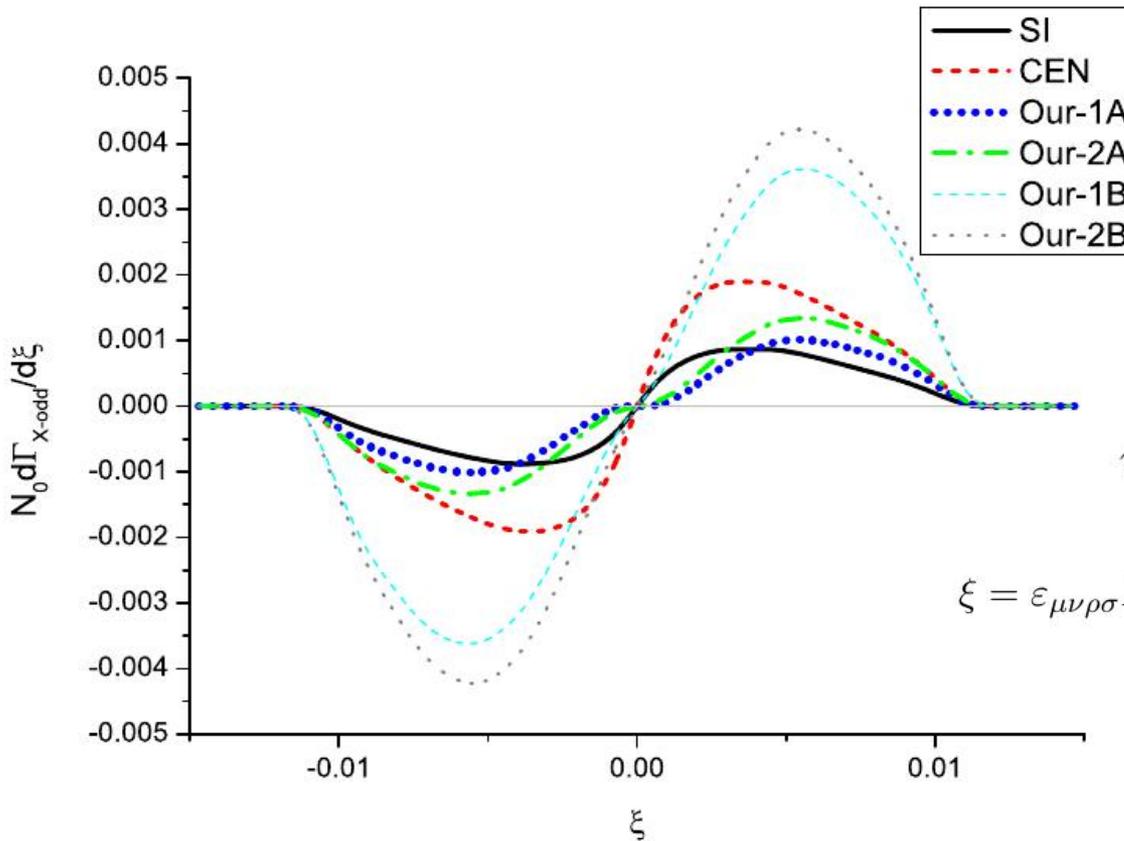
In this case, there should be at least four particles in the final state!

➤ **Pro: Strong phase is not necessary for a CPV phenomenon using TPA.**

**Con: TPA could also be caused by the final-state interactions!**

# Predictions of the T-odd asymmetry distribution in $\tau \rightarrow \pi\pi\gamma\nu_\tau$

[Chen, Duan, ZHG, JHEP'22]



$$\tau^-(P) \rightarrow \pi^-(p_1)\pi^0(p_2)\nu_\tau(q)\gamma(k)$$

$$\xi = \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} P^\mu k^\nu p_1^\rho p_2^\sigma / m_\tau^4 \frac{\text{rest frame}}{\text{of } \tau} \vec{k} \cdot (\vec{p}_1 \times \vec{p}_2) / m_\tau^3$$

## Variant predictions for the branching ratios ( $\times 10^{-4}$ ):

$E_\gamma^{\text{cut}}$	SI	CEN	Our-1A	Our-2A	Our-1B	Our-2B
100MeV	7.9	8.3	8.7/9.6/8.6/9.4	9.5/10/9.2/9.7	13/9.6/12/9.4	14/10/13/9.7
300MeV	1.5	1.8	2.4/3.0/2.3/2.8	2.9/3.3/2.6/3.0	5.6/3.0/5.2/2.8	6.3/3.3/5.5/3.0
500MeV	0.26	0.40	0.73/1.0/0.68/0.90	0.93/1.1/0.81/0.91	2.6/1.0/2.4/0.90	2.9/1.1/2.4/0.91

It has the good chance to be measured in STCF.

# Prospects of revealing the genuine CPV signals

- CPV signals can be probed by taking the differences of  $A_\xi$  in  $\tau \rightarrow \pi\pi^0\gamma\nu_\tau$  and  $\tau^+ \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^0\gamma\nu_\tau$

$$A_\xi = \frac{\Gamma_+ - \Gamma_-}{\Gamma_+ + \Gamma_-} \quad \overline{A}_{\bar{\xi}} = \frac{\overline{\Gamma}_+ - \overline{\Gamma}_-}{\overline{\Gamma}_+ + \overline{\Gamma}_-}$$

$$\overline{\Gamma}_+ = \frac{(2\pi)^4}{2m_\tau} \int_{\bar{\xi}>0} d\Phi (\overline{M}_0 + \bar{\xi}\overline{M}_1), \quad \overline{\Gamma}_- = \frac{(2\pi)^4}{2m_\tau} \int_{\bar{\xi}<0} d\Phi (\overline{M}_0 + \bar{\xi}\overline{M}_1)$$

$$\mathcal{M} = e G_F V_{ud}^* \epsilon^{*\mu}(k) \left\{ (1 + \mathbf{g}_V) F_\nu \bar{u}(q) \gamma^\nu (1 - \gamma_5) (m_\tau + \not{P} - \not{k}) \gamma_\mu u(P) \right. \\ \left. + [(1 + \mathbf{g}_V) V_{\mu\nu} - (1 - \mathbf{g}_A) A_{\mu\nu}] \bar{u}(q) \gamma^\nu (1 - \gamma_5) u(P) \right\}$$

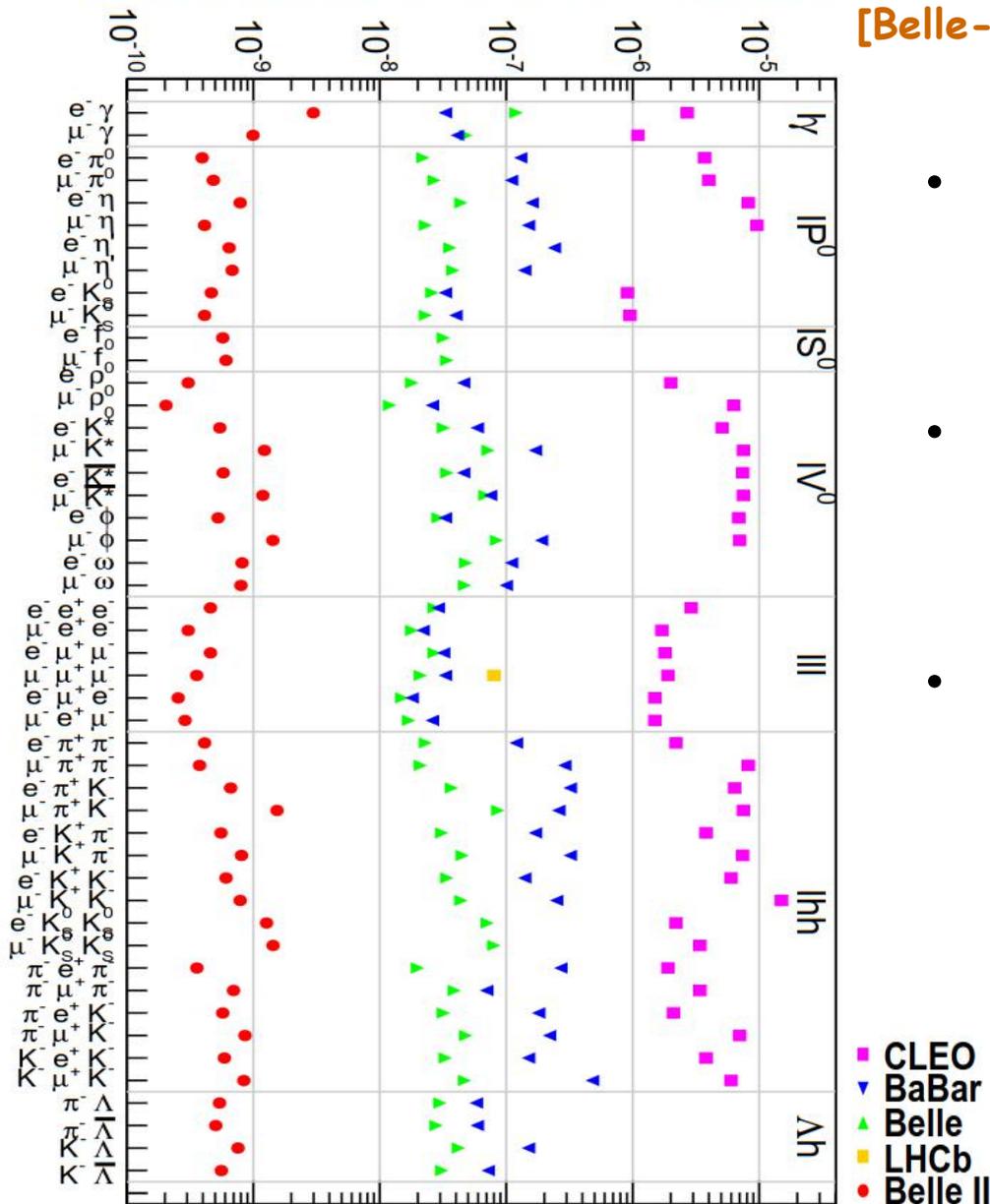
$$A_\xi = A_\xi - \overline{A}_{\bar{\xi}} \supset \text{Im}(\mathbf{g}_V^* \mathbf{g}_A) \text{Re}[F_V(t/u)^* A_i], \quad \text{Im}(\mathbf{g}_V^* \mathbf{g}_A) \text{Re}(V_j^* A_i)$$

- Generally speaking, sizable hadronic contributions are also expected to enhance the CPV signals in  $\tau \rightarrow \pi\pi\gamma\nu_\tau$ .
- TPA in other types of  $\tau$  decays could be also possible.

# ➤ Charged lepton flavor violation in tau decays

90% C.L. upper limits for LFV  $\tau$  decays

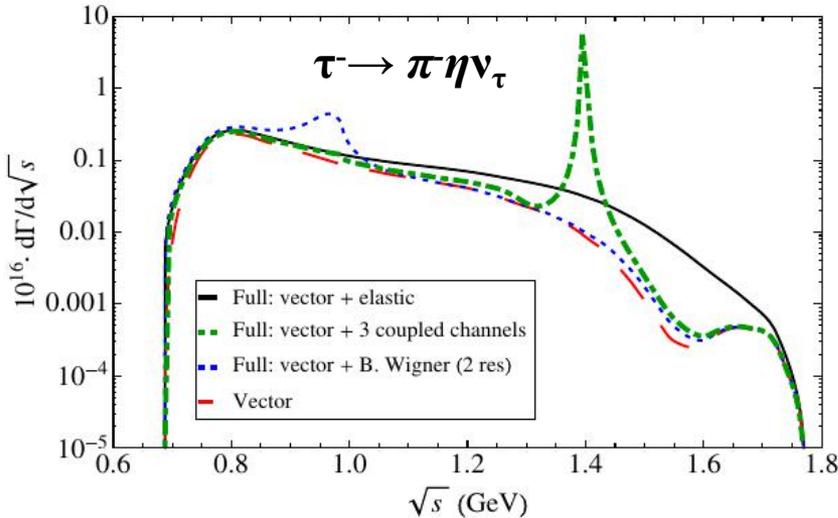
[Belle-II, '22]



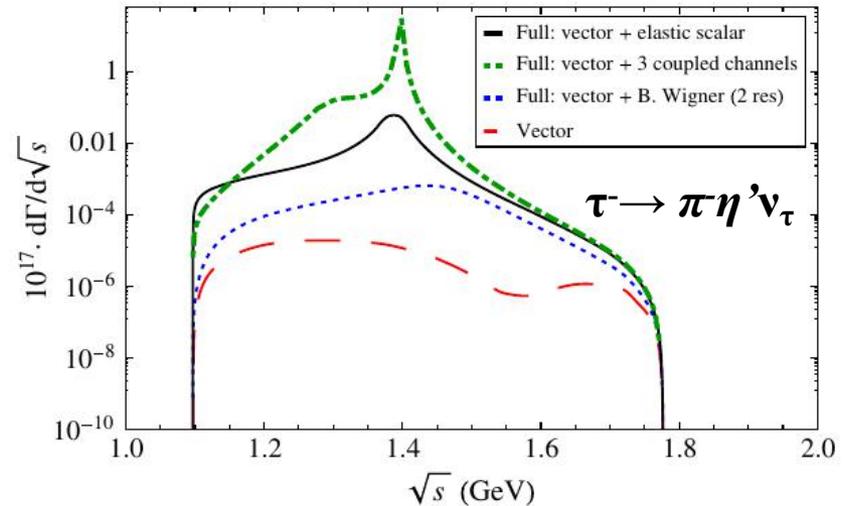
- Not only statistic but also systematic uncertainties are important in  $\tau \rightarrow l \gamma$
- Clean background makes  $\tau \rightarrow l l' l''$  one of the best channels to search for LFV signals.
- $\tau \rightarrow l + \text{hadrons}$  provides a different laboratory to probe different LFV origins, comparing with the pure leptonic processes.

## ➤ Proposals to search for second-class currents in tau decays

- First class of hadron currents :  $J^{PG} = 0^{++}, 0^{--}, 1^{+-}, 1^{-+}$
- Second class of hadron currents :  $J^{PG} = 0^{+-}, 0^{-+}, 1^{++}, 1^{--}$ , which are usually suppressed at the level of  $10^{-6} \sim 10^{-5}$  and are not observed yet in EXP.



**BR:  $(0.3 \sim 2.0) \times 10^{-5}$**



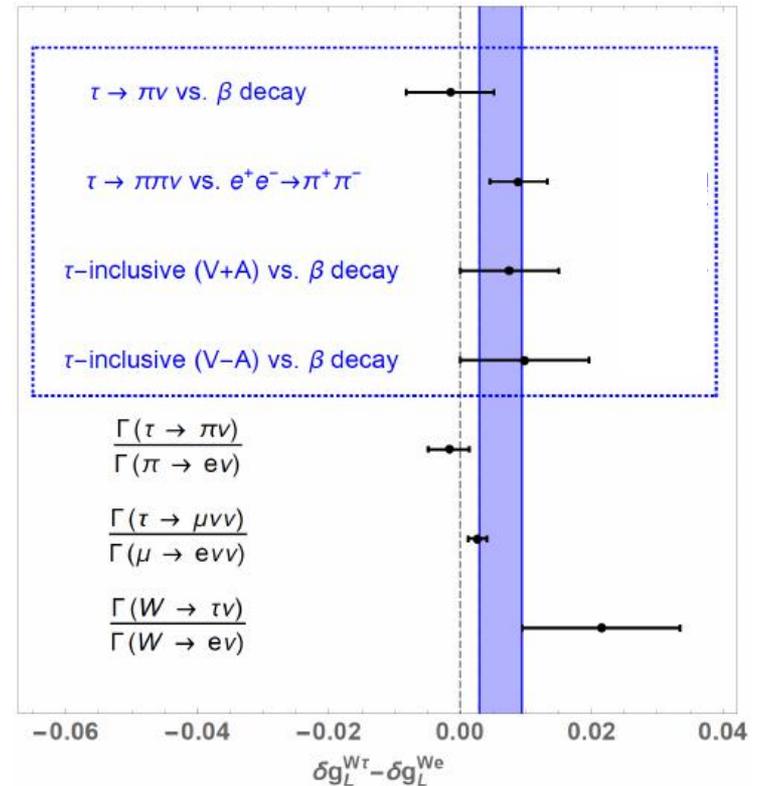
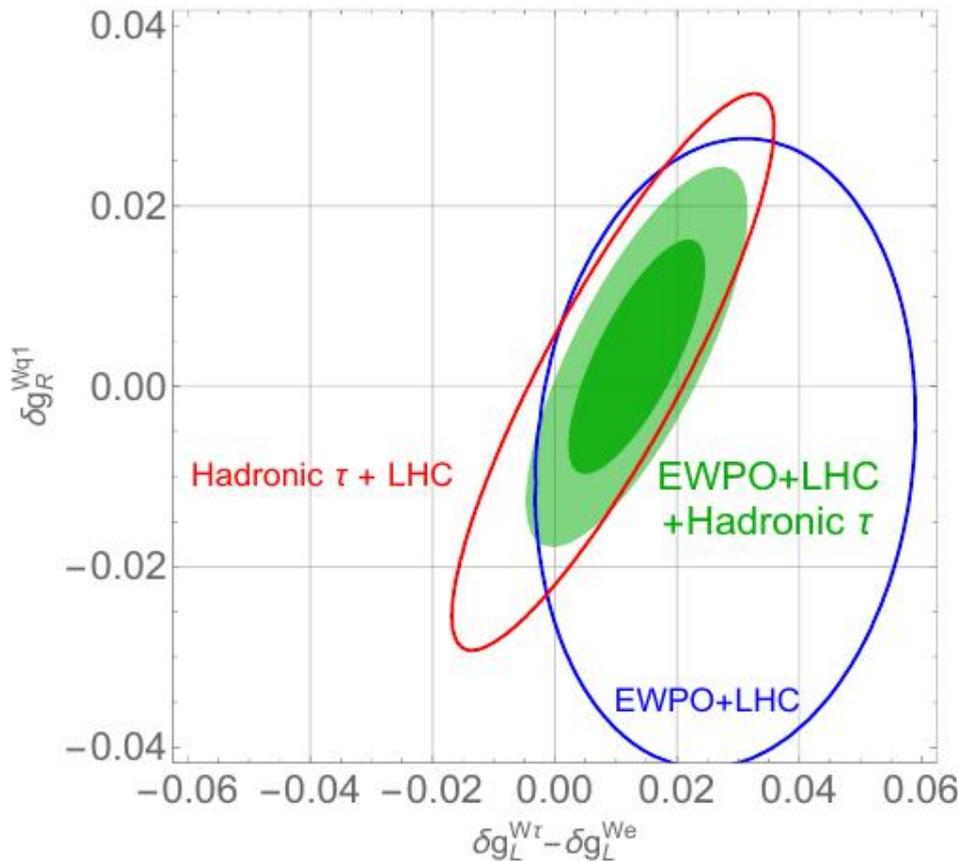
**BR:  $10^{-9} \sim 10^{-6}$**

[Escribano et al., PRD'16]

➤ **Powerful tool to constrain new physics: combination of hadronic tau data + LHC data**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{G_\mu V_{uD}}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \left(1 + \epsilon_L^{D\ell}\right) \bar{\ell} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_\ell \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) D + \epsilon_R^{D\ell} \bar{\ell} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_\ell \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma_5) D \right. \\ \left. + \bar{\ell} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_\ell \cdot \bar{u} \left[ \epsilon_S^{D\ell} - \epsilon_P^{D\ell} \gamma_5 \right] D + \frac{1}{4} \hat{\epsilon}_T^{D\ell} \bar{\ell} \sigma_{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_\ell \cdot \bar{u} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) D \right] + \text{h.c.},$$

[Cirigliano et al., PRL'18]



# Summary

**Tau offers a laboratory for a broad range of interesting topics:**

- **Precision tests of SM: CKM,  $\alpha_s$ ,  $m_\tau$ , lepton universality, ... ..**
- **Hadron interactions: light-flavor resonances, chiral symmetry, form factors, second-class currents, ... ..**
- **BSM tests:**
  - CPV (rate asym., triple-product asym.)**
  - LFV (lepton/radiative decays, hadron decays)**
  - ... ..**

**Thanks for your patience!**