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# Scalar Mesons in Semileptonic D(s) Decays at BESIII

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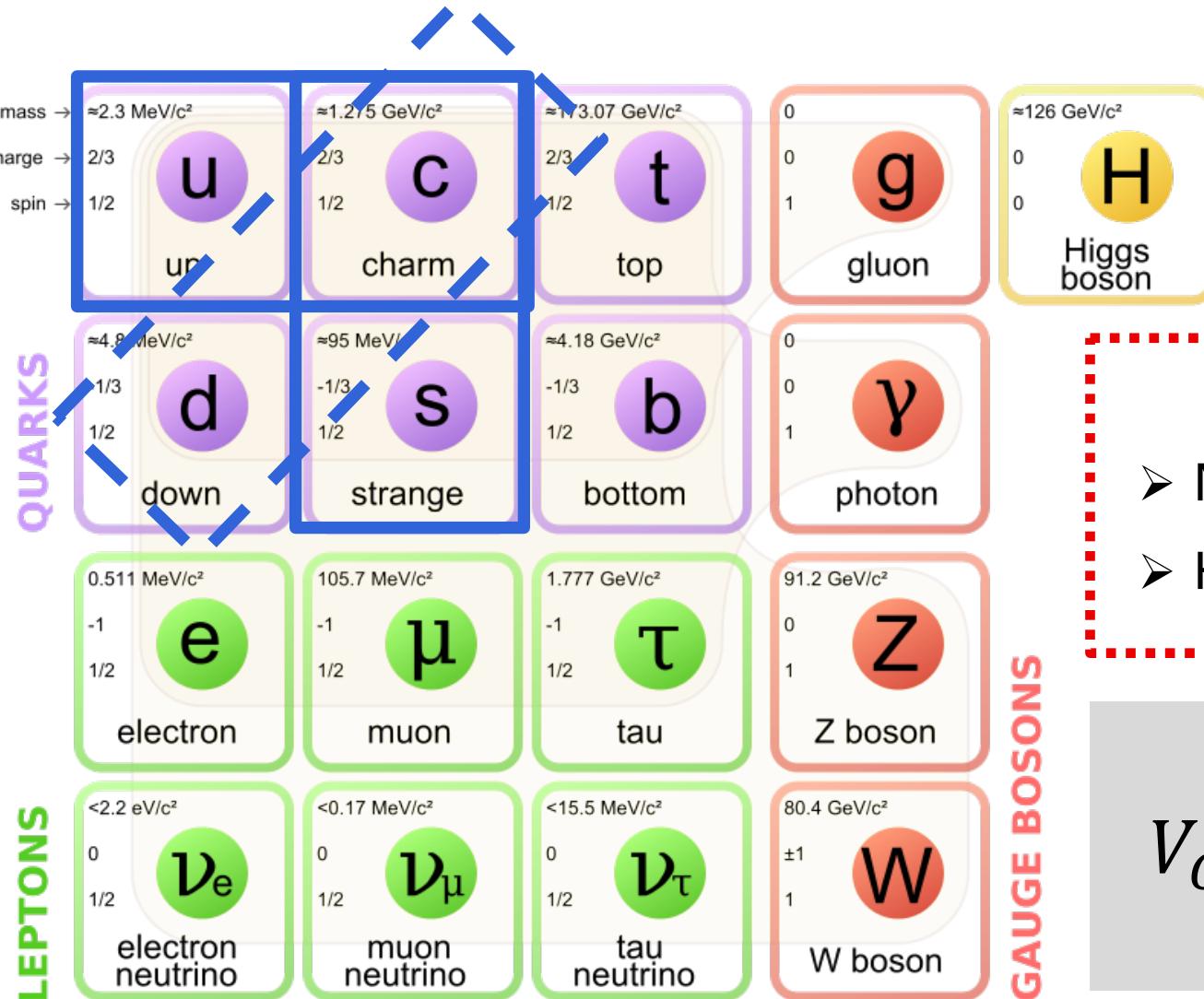
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# Physics motivation



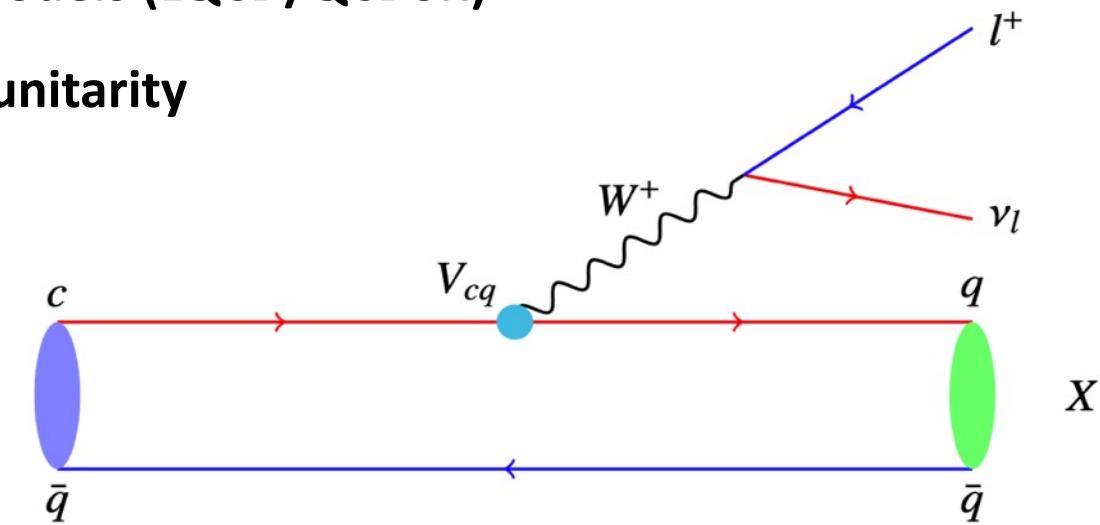
## Charm physics

- Nonperturbative region -> QCD
- High precision frontier -> SM test

$$V_{CKM} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Physics motivation

- Hadronic **Form factor(FF)** -> Test different QCD models (LQCD/QCDSR)
- CKM matrix elements  $V_{cd(s)}$  -> Test CKM matrix unitarity
- $\mathcal{B}(D_{(s)} \rightarrow X\mu^+\nu_\mu)/\mathcal{B}(D_{(s)} \rightarrow Xe^+\nu_e)$   
-> **Lepton flavor universality (LFU) test.**
- Branching fraction and FF measurement  
-> **Good laboratory for light scalar mesons study**



$$A(D \rightarrow X\ell\nu) = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{cq}^* \nu \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \ell < X | \bar{q} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) c | D_{(s)} >$$

$$\boxed{\Gamma(D_{(s)} \rightarrow P(S)\ell^+\nu_\ell) \propto |V_{cd(s)}|^2 |f_+(q^2)|^2 dq^2}$$

$$\Gamma(D_{(s)} \rightarrow V\ell^+\nu_\ell) \propto |V_{cd(s)}|^2 \mathfrak{T}(A_1(q^2), A_2(q^2), V(q^2)) dq^2$$

## Light scalar mesons $f_0(500)$ , $f_0(980)$ and $a_0(980)$

- Play a important role in the dynamics of the spontaneous breaking of QCD chiral symmetry and in the origin of pseudoscalar meson masses.
- Help to understand the confinement of quarks.
- Their nontrivial quark structure has remained controversial for many years!
- Interpretations:  $q\bar{q}$  mixture; tetraquark; molecule, etc.
- Semi-leptonic D decay is an ideal probe for their nature.

# Physics motivation

Jose R. Pelaez, *Physics Reports* 658 (2016) 1,  
**“From controversy to precision on the sigma meson:  
a review on the status of the non-ordinary  $f_0(500)$  resonance”**

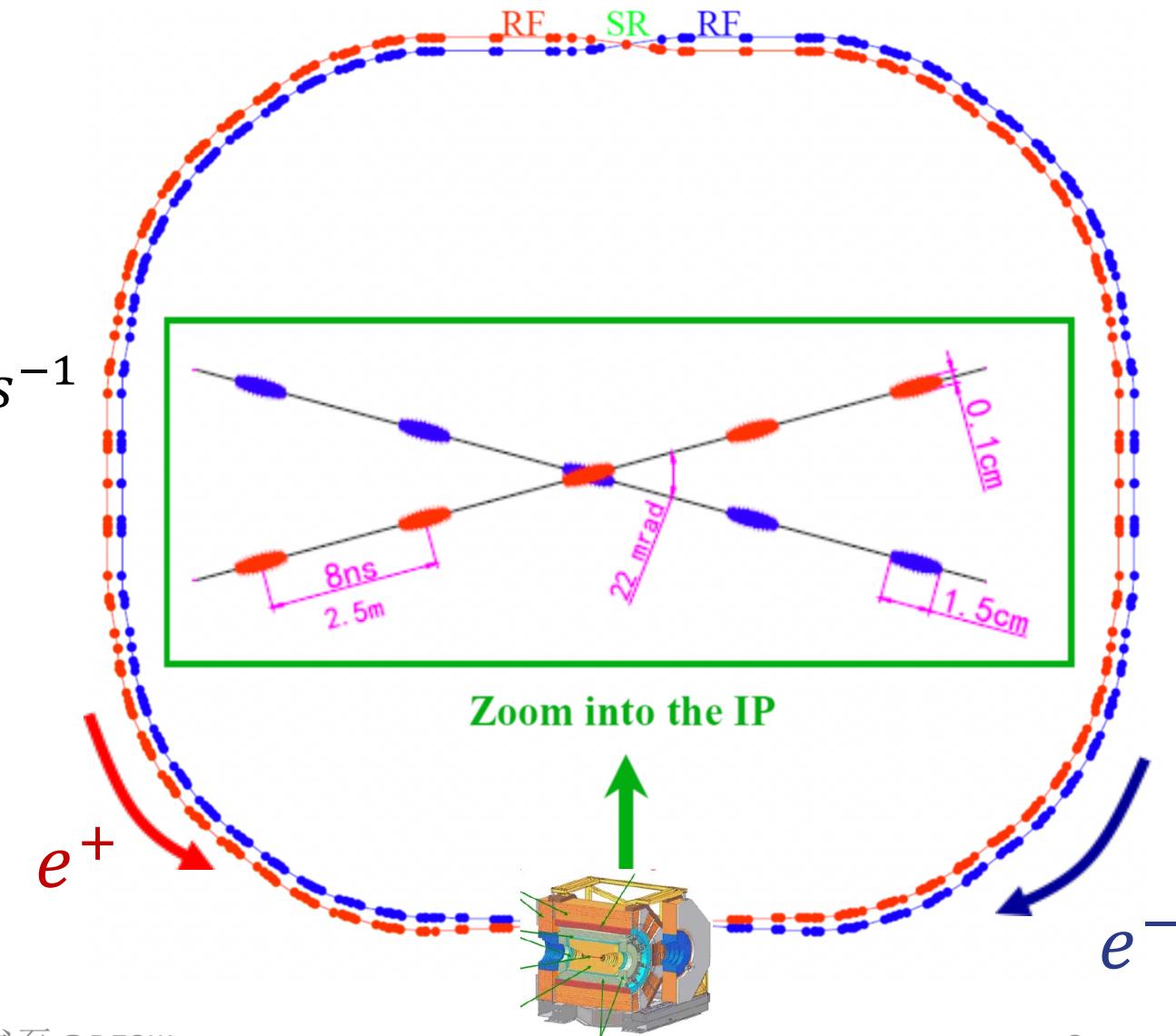
For researchers outside the field, it may be surprising that despite having established Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD) as the fundamental theory of the Strong Interaction 40 years ago, the spectrum of lowest mass states, and particularly that of scalar mesons, may be still under debate. Actually, light scalar mesons have been a puzzle in our understanding of the Strong Interaction for almost six decades. This may be even more amazing given the fact that they play a very relevant role within nuclear and hadron physics, as in the nucleon-nucleon attraction and in the spontaneous breaking of chiral symmetry, both of them fundamental features of the Strong Interaction. The relatively poor theoretical understanding of hadrons at low energies causes little surprise since it is textbook knowledge that QCD becomes non-perturbative at low energies and does not allow for precise calculations of the light hadron spectrum. However, young and not so young people outside the field are often unaware of the fact that even basic empirical properties such as the existence of many of the lightest mesons and resonances are still actively discussed, even if they were suggested much before QCD was proposed. Moreover, it is often the case that

# BESIII experiment

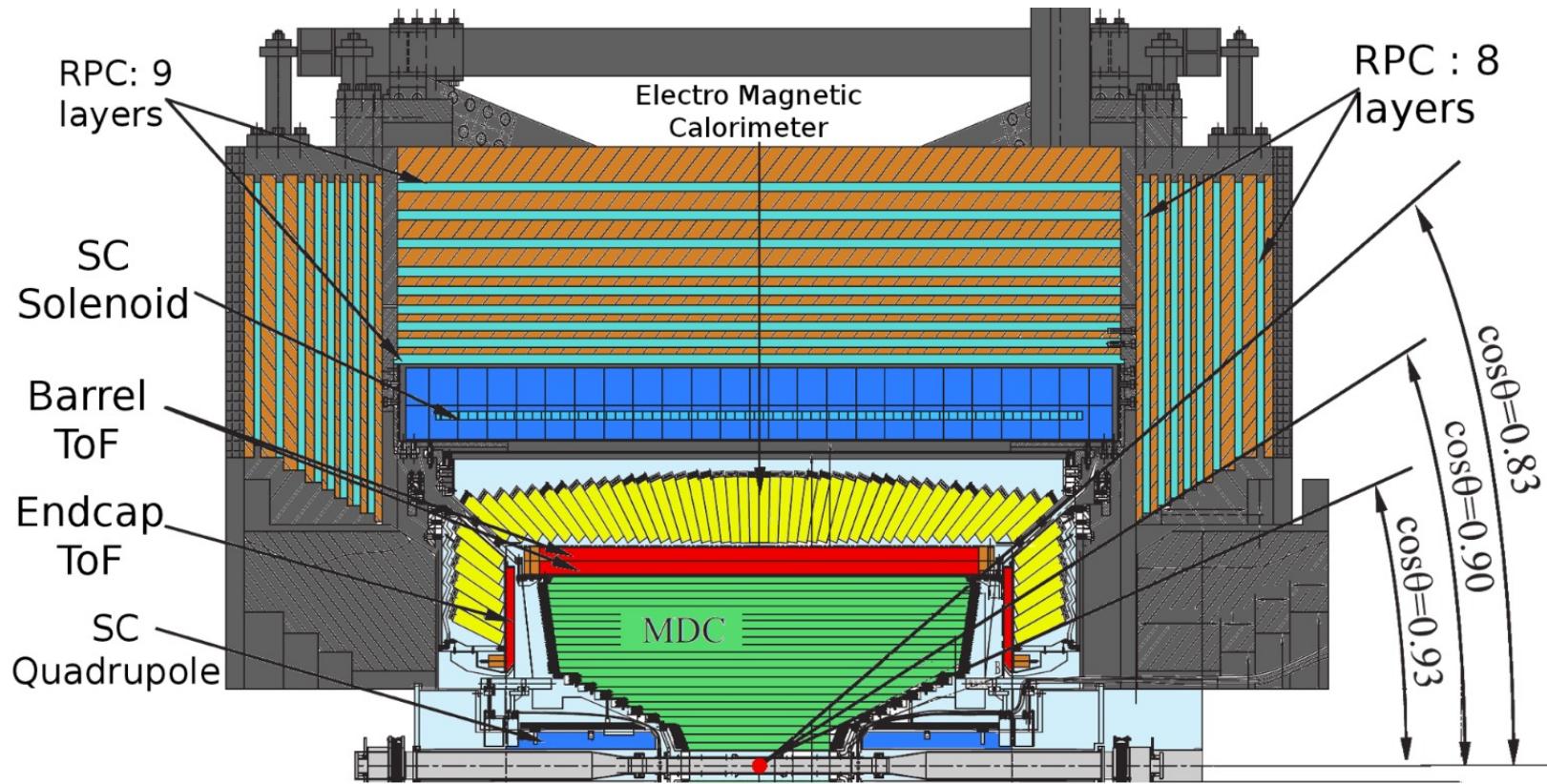


# BEPCII collider

- Two ring symmetric  $e^+e^-$  collider
- Circumference: 240 m
- Design luminosity:  $1 \times 10^{33} cm^{-2}s^{-1}$
- Achieved time: 5 April, 2016
- $E_{cm}$ : 2 – 5 GeV
- Beam crossing angle: 22 mrad



# BESIII detector



## MDC

$$\frac{\delta p}{p} < 0.5\% \text{ @1 GeV}$$

$$\frac{\delta(dE/dx)}{dE/dx} < 6\%$$

## TOF

$$\delta t \text{ 80 ps Barrel}$$

$$\delta t \text{ 110 ps Endcap}$$

## EMC

$$\frac{\delta E}{E} < 2.5\% \text{ @1 GeV}$$

$$\delta z = 0.6/\sqrt{E}$$

## MUC

$$\delta(xy) < 2 \text{ cm}$$



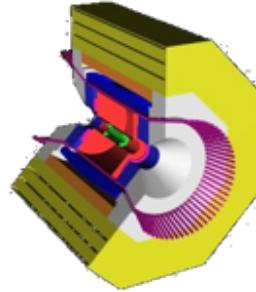
# BESIII Collaboration

Political Map of the World, November 2011



# Data sample

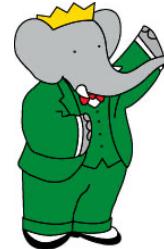
CLEO-c



BESIII



- Symmetric  $e^+e^-$  collider
- $E_{cm}$ : 2 – 5 GeV
- Charm collected through pair-production near threshold



**BABAR**  
TM and © Nelvana, All Rights Reserved



Belle, Belle-II

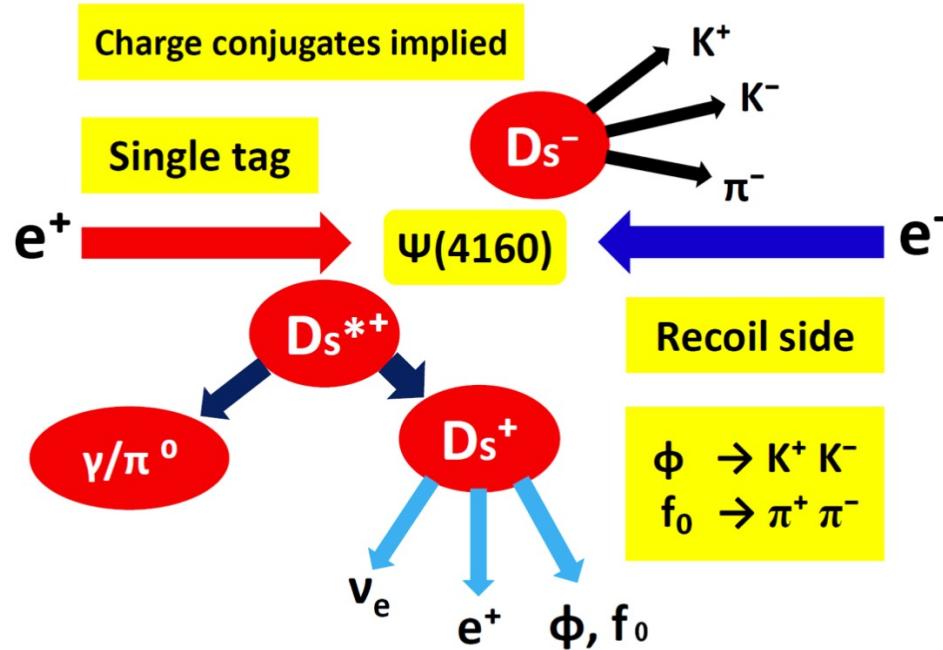
- Asymmetric  $e^+e^-$  collider
- $E_{cm}$ : 10.8 GeV
- Charm collected through  $b\bar{b}$  decays and  $c\bar{c}$

# Data sample

Experiment	Data size	Energy region	Time
BESIII	$D^{+(0)}$ : $7.9 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	3.773 GeV	2010/2011/2021
	$D_s^+$ : $7.33 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	4.123-4.223GeV	2013-2017
CLEO-c	$D^{+(0)}$ : $0.82 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	3.770 GeV	Till 2008
	$D_s^+$ : $0.6 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	4.170 GeV	
BABAR	$468 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	Near $\Upsilon(4S)$	Till 2008
Belle	$976 \text{ fb}^{-1}$	Near $\Upsilon(4S)$	Till 2010

# Analysis method: Double Tag

Take  $D_s$  decay as an example (complicated case)



$$\mathcal{B}_\gamma(D_s^* \rightarrow \gamma D_s)$$

$$N_{tag} = 2N_{D_s^+ D_s^-} \mathcal{B}_{tag} \epsilon_{tag}$$

$$N_{sig} = 2N_{D_s^+ D_s^-} \mathcal{B}_{tag} \mathcal{B}_{sig} \mathcal{B}_\gamma \epsilon_{sig}$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{sig} = \frac{N_{sig}}{\mathcal{B}_\gamma N_{tag} \epsilon_{sig} / \epsilon_{tag}}$$

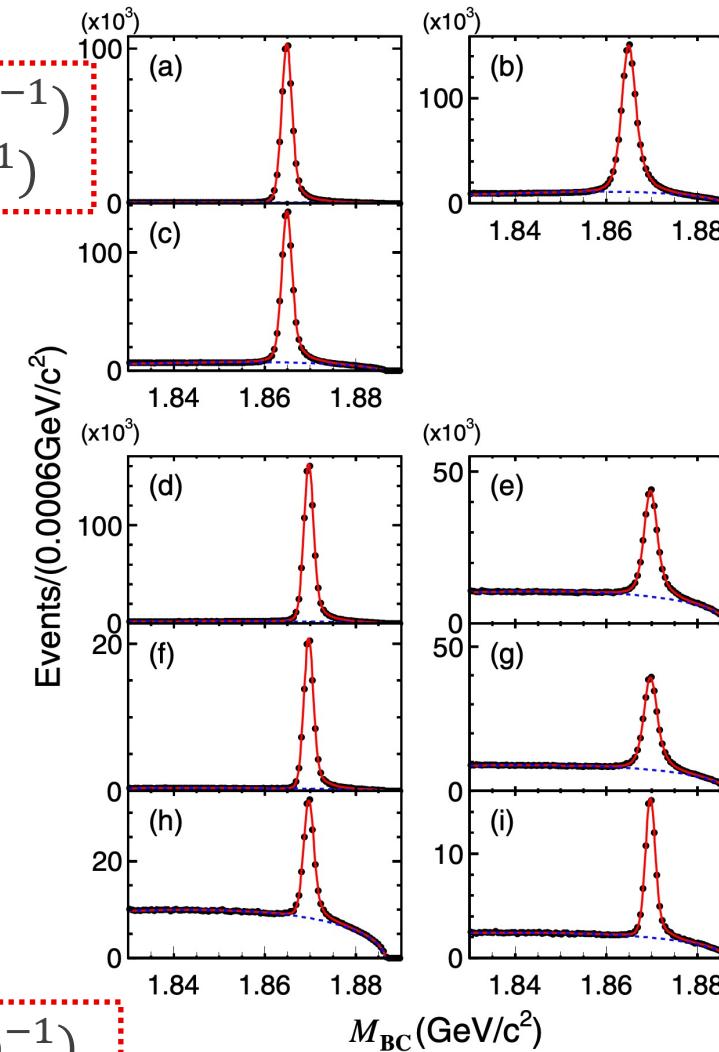
$$\mathcal{B}_{sig} = \frac{N_{sig}}{\mathcal{B}_\gamma \sum_\alpha N_{tag}^\alpha \epsilon_{sig}^\alpha / \epsilon_{tag}^\alpha}$$

$$U_{miss} = E_{miss} - |\vec{p}_{miss}|$$

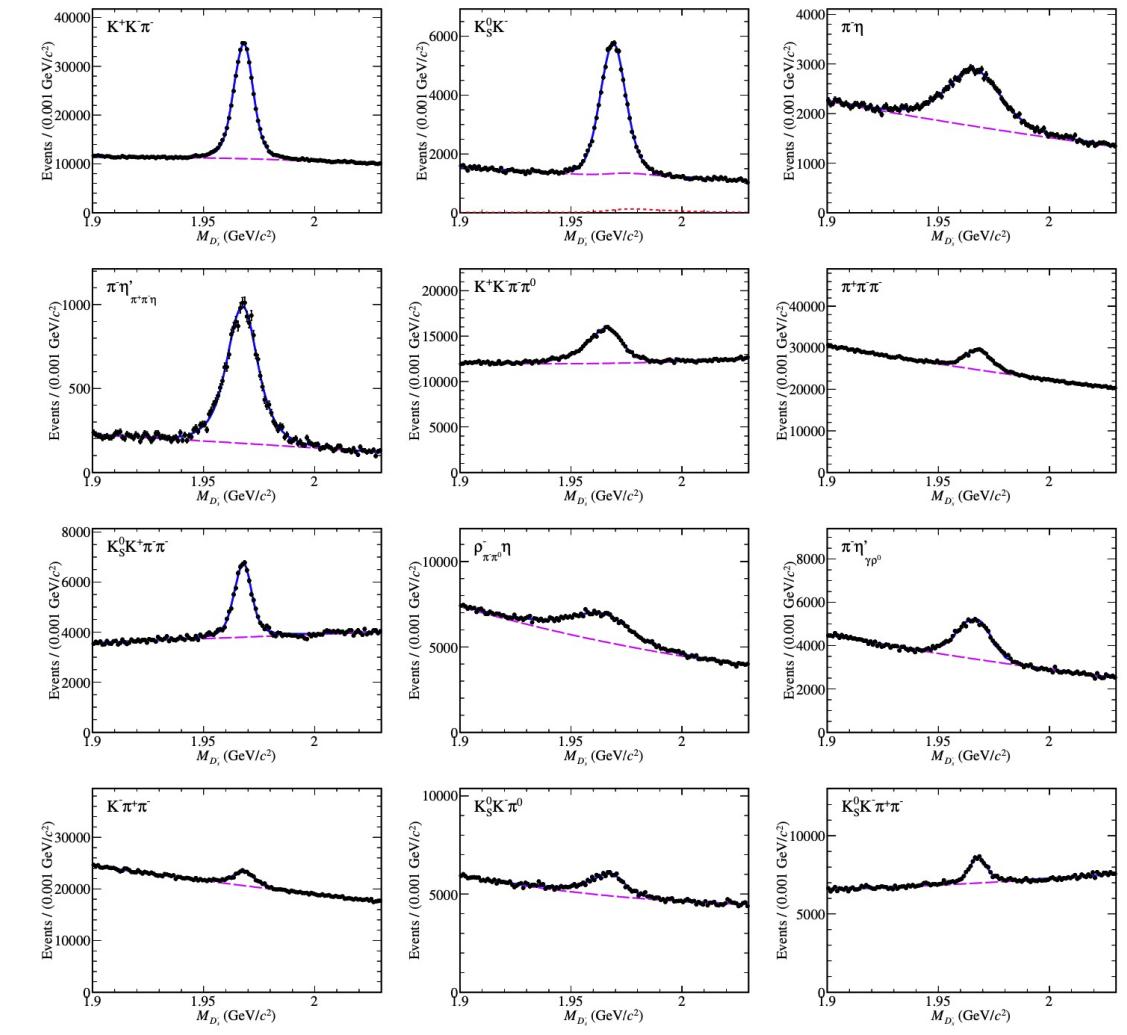
$$M_{miss}^2 = E_{miss}^2 - |\vec{p}_{miss}|^2$$

# Analysis method: Single Tag sample

$D^0: \sim 2.76 \text{ M} (2.93 \text{ fb}^{-1})$   
 $D^0: \sim 6.31 \text{ M} (7.9 \text{ fb}^{-1})$



$D^+: \sim 1.57 \text{ M} (2.93 \text{ fb}^{-1})$   
 $D^+: \sim 4.15 \text{ M} (7.9 \text{ fb}^{-1})$



$D_S: 0.77 \text{ M}$

# The differential decay rate of $D_{(s)} \rightarrow S \ell^+ \nu_\ell$

$$\Gamma(D_{(s)} \rightarrow S \ell^+ \nu_\ell)/dq^2 \propto |V_{cd(s)}|^2 |f_+(q^2)|^2$$

S:  $a_0(980)$ ,  $f_0(500)$ ,  $f_0(980)$

- Use least  $\chi^2$  method to fit the measured partial decay width in different  $q^2$  bin
- Taking the correlations among  $q^2$  bins into account
- FF in different form (The width needs to be considered ?)

– Single pole form

$$f_+(q^2) = \frac{f_+(0)}{1 - q^2/M_{pole}^2}$$

– Modified pole model

$$f_+(q^2) = \frac{f_+(0)}{\left(1 - \frac{q^2}{M_{pole}^2}\right)\left(1 - \alpha \frac{q^2}{M_{pole}^2}\right)}$$

– ISGW2 model

$$f_+(q^2) = f_+(q_{max}^2) \left(1 + \frac{r^2}{12}(q_{max}^2 - q^2)\right)^{-2}$$

– Series expansion model

$$f_+(t) = \frac{1}{P(t)\Phi(t, t_0)} a_0(t_0) \left(1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} r_k(t_0) [z(t, t_0)]^k\right)$$

# The differential decay rate of $D_{(s)} \rightarrow S \ell \nu_\ell$

➤ Point-like differential decay rate:

$$\frac{d\Gamma(D_{(s)} \rightarrow S \ell^+ \nu_\ell)}{dq^2} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{cs}|^2}{24\pi^3} p_{f_0}^3 |f_+(q^2)|^2$$

➤ Double differential decay rate:

(N.N.Achasov *et al.*, PRD102,016022(2020); W. Wang, PLB759,501(2016) )

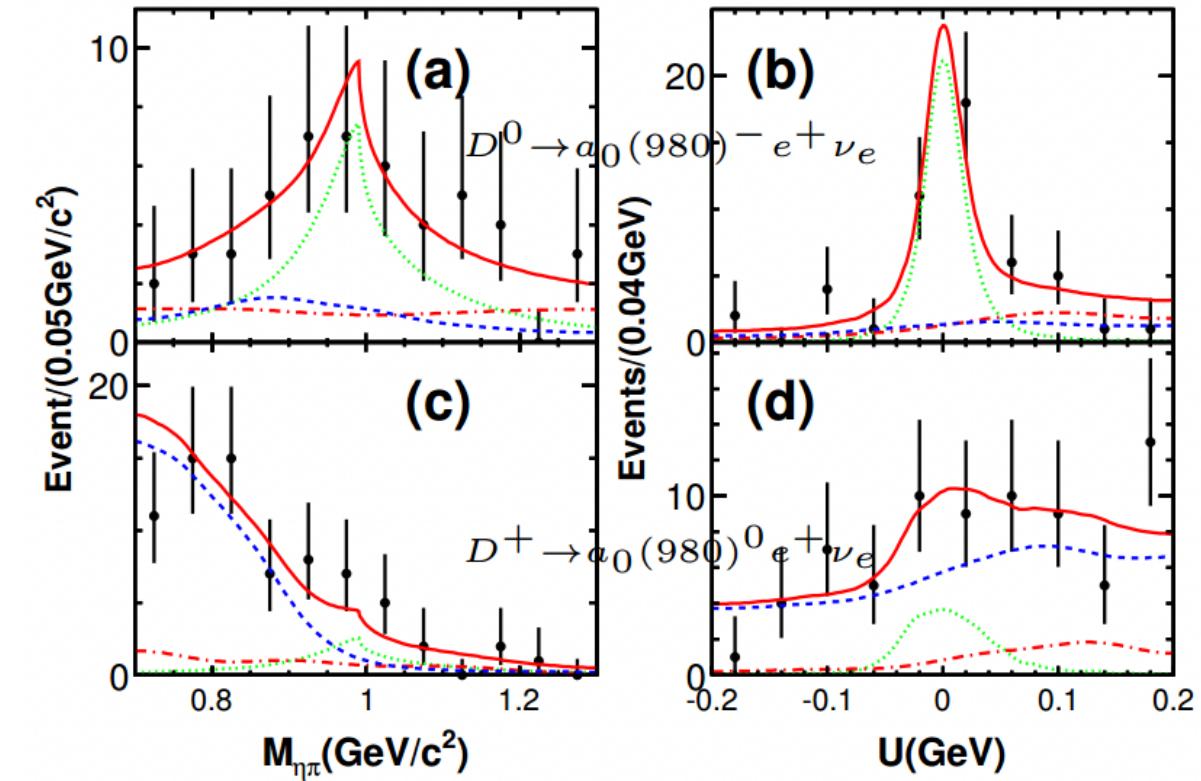
$$\frac{d^2\Gamma(D_{(s)} \rightarrow S \ell^+ \nu_\ell)}{ds dq^2} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{cq}|^2}{192\pi^4 m_{D_{(s)}}^3} \lambda^{\frac{3}{2}}(m_{D_{(s)}}^2, s, q^2) |f_+(q^2)|^2 P(s)$$

$$P(s) = \begin{cases} \frac{g_1 \rho_{\pi\pi/\pi\eta}}{|m_0^2 - s - i(g_1 \rho_{\pi\pi/\pi\eta} + g_1 \rho_{KK})|^2}, & \text{Flatte: } f_0(980)/a_0(980) \\ \frac{m_{f_0} \Gamma(s)}{(s - m_{f_0}^2)^2 + m_{f_0}^2 \Gamma^2(s)}, & \text{RBW: } f_0(500) \\ \frac{m_r \Gamma_{tot}(s)}{(m_r^2 - s - g_1^2 \frac{s - s_A}{m_r^2 - s_A} z(s))^2 + m_r^2 \Gamma_{tot}^2(s)}, & \text{Bugg: } f_0(500) \end{cases}$$

# First observation of $D^0 \rightarrow a_0(980)^- e^+ \nu_e$

*Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 081802 (2018)*

- 2.93  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  data @ 3.773 GeV
- $N_{sig}^{D^0} = 25.7^{+6.4}_{-5.7}$
- $N_{sig}^{D^+} = 10.2^{+5.0}_{-4.1}$
- BFs help to understand the nature of the  $a_0(980)$



Decay	BF ( $\times 10^{-4}$ )	Significance
$D^0 \rightarrow a_0(980)^- e^+ \nu_e, a_0(980)^- \rightarrow \eta\pi^-$	$1.33^{+0.33}_{-0.29} \pm 0.09$	$6.4\sigma$
$D^+ \rightarrow a_0(980)^0 e^+ \nu_e, a_0(980)^0 \rightarrow \eta\pi^0$	$1.66^{+0.81}_{-0.66} \pm 0.11$ $< 3.0$ (90% C.L.)	$2.9\sigma$

# Search for the decay $D_s^+ \rightarrow a_0(980) e^+ \nu_e$

*Phys. Rev. D. 103, 092004 (2021)*

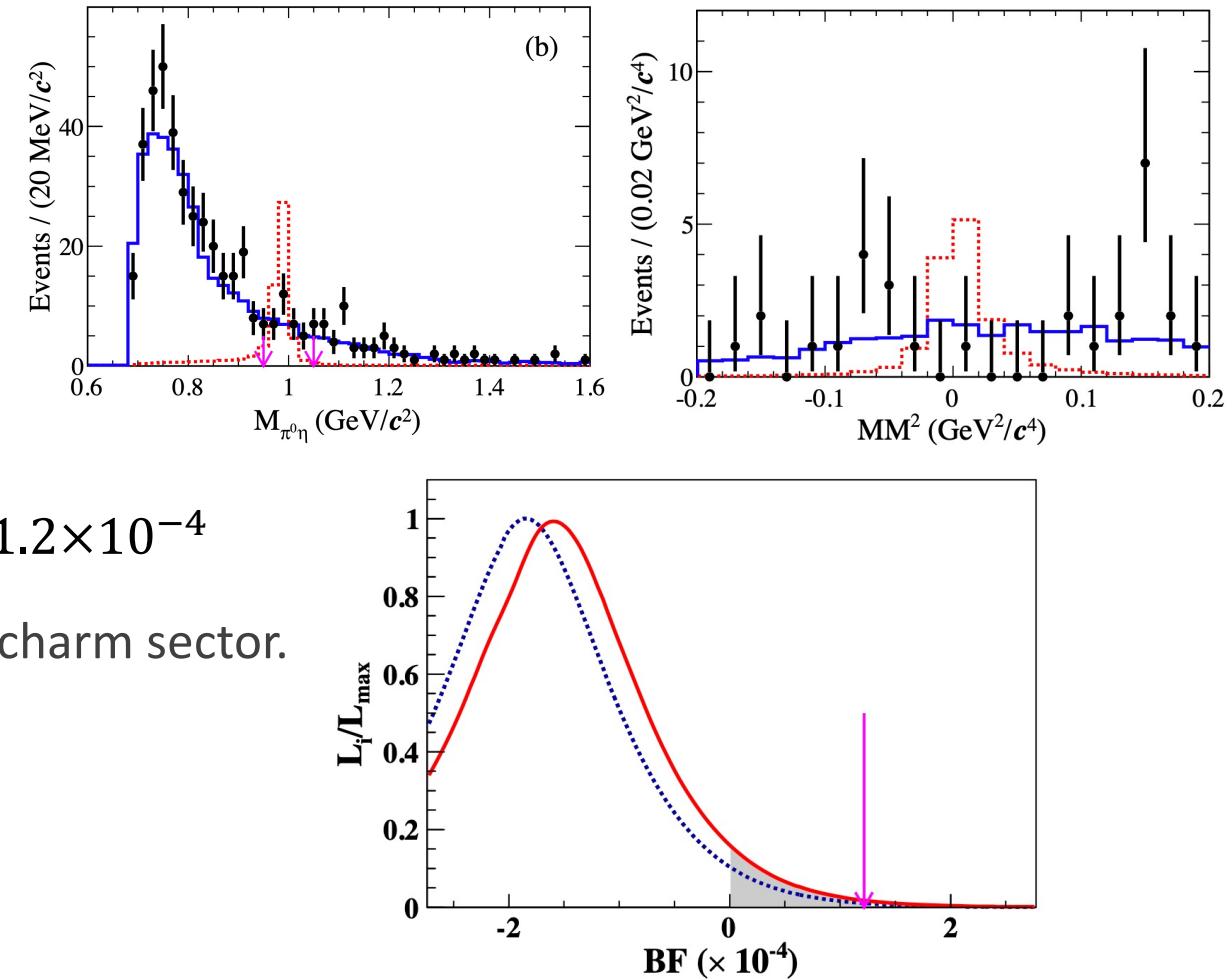
- 6.33  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  data @ 4.178-4.226 GeV
- No significant signal is observed.

An upper limit is determined at 90%CL:

$$\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow a_0(980)e^+\nu_e, f_0(980) \rightarrow \pi^0\eta) < 1.2 \times 10^{-4}$$

- First study of  $a_0(980) - f_0(980)$  mixing in the charm sector.

No obvious isospin violation is observed.



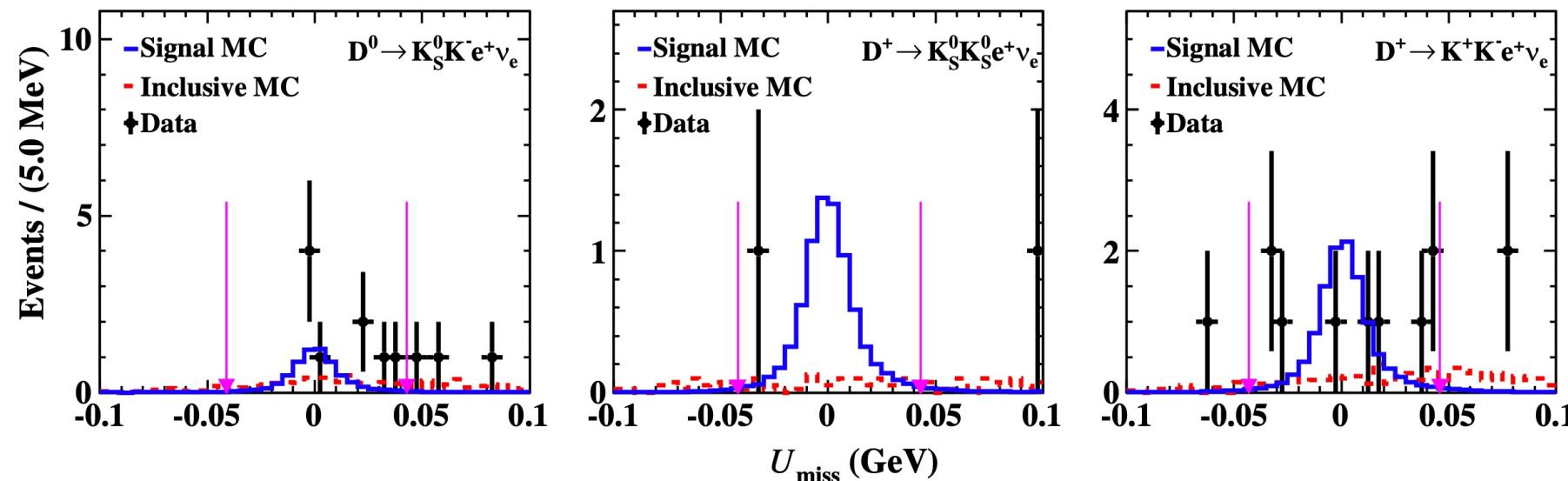
# Search for the decay $D \rightarrow K\bar{K}e^+\nu_e$

*Phys. Rev. D. 109, 072003 (2024)*

- 7.9  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  data @ 3.773 GeV [2010,2011,2021]
- No significant signal is observed, upper limits are determined at 90%CL assuming  $a_0(980)$  contribution:

$$\mathcal{B}(D^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 K^- e^+ \nu_e) < 2.13 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(D^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 K_S^0 e^+ \nu_e) < 1.54 \times 10^{-5}, \mathcal{B}(D^+ \rightarrow K^+ K^- e^+ \nu_e) < 2.10 \times 10^{-5}$$

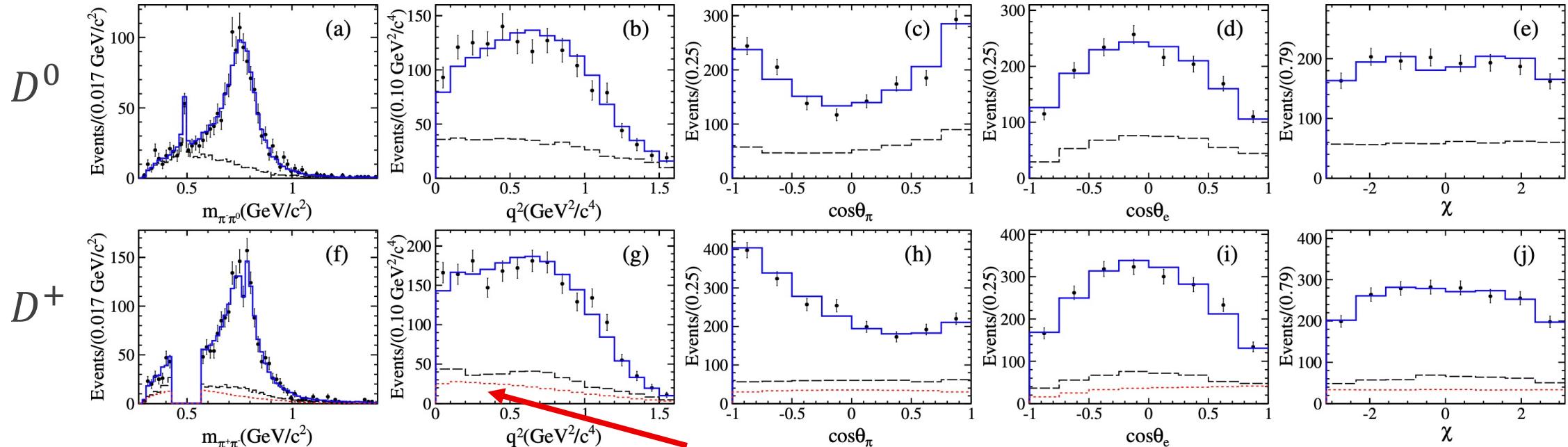


# First observation of $D^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)e^+\nu_e$

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 122, 062001 (2019)

$$N_{sig}^{D^0} = 1498 \text{ (Bkg: } \sim 33.3\%)$$

$$N_{sig}^{D^+} = 2017 \text{ (Bkg: } \sim 23.8\%)$$



➤ 2.93 fb<sup>-1</sup> data @ 3.773 GeV  $f_{f_0(500)} = (25.7 \pm 1.6 \pm 1.1)\%$

➤  $R = \frac{\mathcal{B}(D^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)e^+\nu_e) + \mathcal{B}(D^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)e^+\nu_e)}{\mathcal{B}(D^+ \rightarrow a_0(980)e^+\nu_e)} > 2.7 @ 90\% CL$

➤ Favor tetraquark (R=3, PRD82, 034016(2010)) for  $f_0$  and  $a_0$

Signal mode	This analysis ( $\times 10^{-3}$ )
$D^0 \rightarrow \pi^-\pi^0 e^+\nu_e$	$1.445 \pm 0.058 \pm 0.039$
$D^0 \rightarrow \rho^- e^+\nu_e$	$1.445 \pm 0.058 \pm 0.039$
$D^+ \rightarrow \pi^-\pi^+ e^+\nu_e$	$2.449 \pm 0.074 \pm 0.073$
$D^+ \rightarrow \rho^0 e^+\nu_e$	$1.860 \pm 0.070 \pm 0.061$
$D^+ \rightarrow \omega e^+\nu_e$	$2.05 \pm 0.66 \pm 0.30$
$D^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)e^+\nu_e, f_0(500) \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$	$0.630 \pm 0.043 \pm 0.032$
$D^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)e^+\nu_e, f_0(980) \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$	$<0.028$

# Study of the decay $D^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)\ell^+\nu_\ell$

*[arXiv: 2401.13225 (Submitted to PRL)]*

- 2.93  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  data @ 3.773 GeV
- First observation of  $D^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)(\pi^+\pi^-)\mu^+\nu_\mu$

Signal mode	$N_{\text{obs}}$	$\mathcal{S} (\sigma)$	$\epsilon_{\text{sig}} (\%)$	$\mathcal{B}_{\text{sig}} (\times 10^{-3})$
$f_0(500)\mu^+\nu_\mu$	$209 \pm 38$	5.9	$18.93 \pm 0.13$	$0.72 \pm 0.13$
$\rho^0\mu^+\nu_\mu$	$496 \pm 38$	$> 10$	$19.86 \pm 0.13$	$1.64 \pm 0.13$
$f_0(500)e^+\nu_e$	$412 \pm 43$	$> 10$	$44.76 \pm 0.25$	$0.60 \pm 0.06$
$\rho^0e^+\nu_e$	$1237 \pm 47$	$> 10$	$44.12 \pm 0.25$	$1.84 \pm 0.07$

- First FF measurement of  $D^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)(\pi^+\pi^-)\ell^+\nu_\ell$

(Based Z series expansion for FF and Bugg form for  $f_0(500)$ )

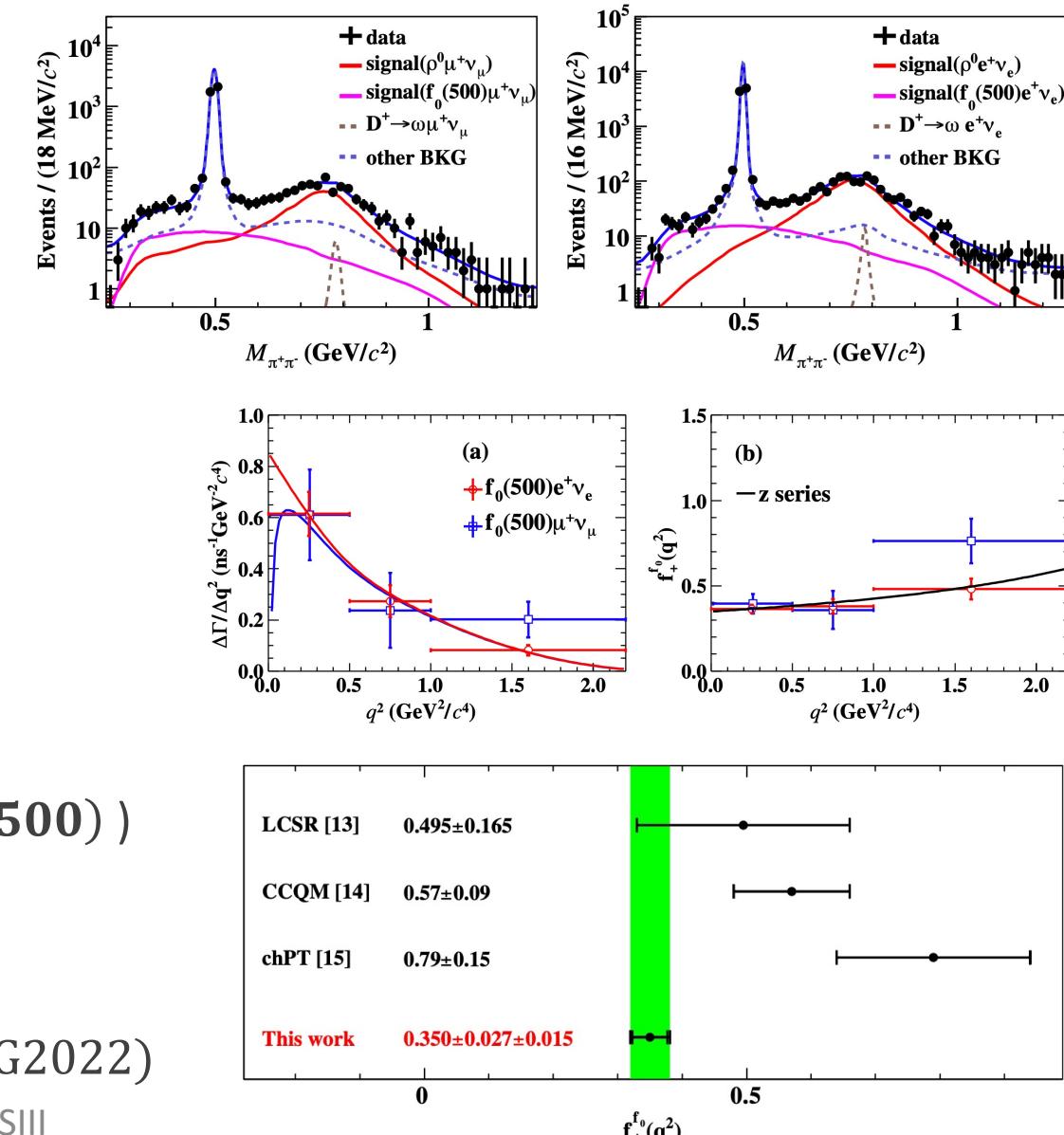
$$\rightarrow f_+^{f_0}(0)|V_{cd}| = 0.0787 \pm 0.0060 \pm 0.0033$$

$$\rightarrow f_+^{f_0}(0) = 0.350 \pm 0.027 \pm 0.015$$

ps:  $|V_{cd}| = 0.22438 \pm 0.00044$  from SM global fit (PDG2022)

2024/4/07

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# Study of the decays $D_s^+ \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0e^+\nu_e$ and $D_s^+ \rightarrow K_S^0K_S^0e^+\nu_e$

*Phys. Rev. D. 105, L031101 (2022)*

- 6.32  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  data @ 4.178-4.226 GeV
- $N_{sig}^{f_0(980)} = 54.8 \pm 10.1$  ( $7.8\sigma$  significance)

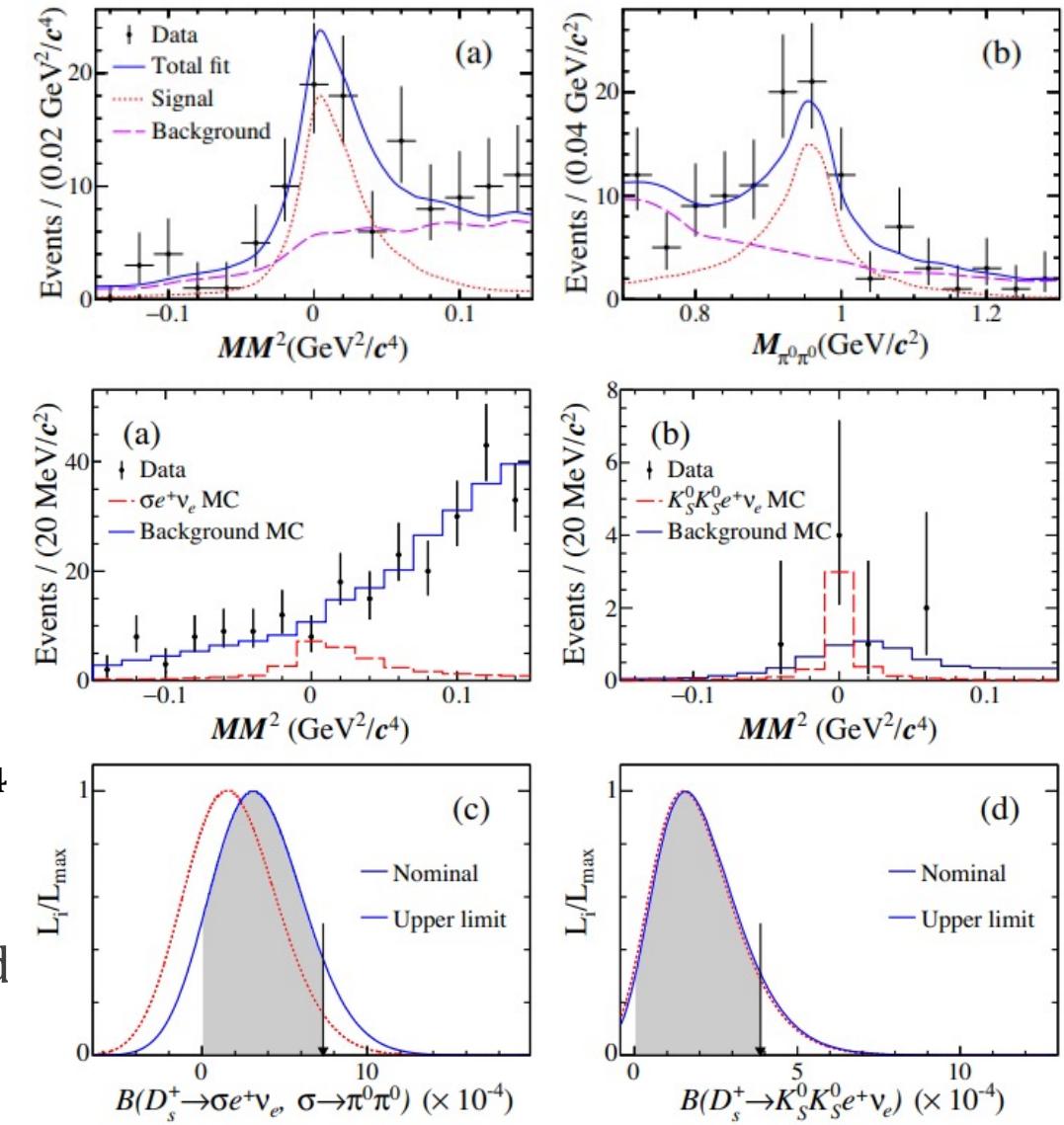
➤ First BFs Measurement:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)e^+\nu_e, f_0(980) \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0) \\ = (7.9 \pm 1.4 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-4} \end{aligned}$$

➤ No significant signal:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)e^+\nu_e, f_0(500) \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0) < 7.3 \times 10^{-4} \\ \mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow K_S^0K_S^0e^+\nu_e) < 3.8 \times 10^{-4} \end{aligned}$$

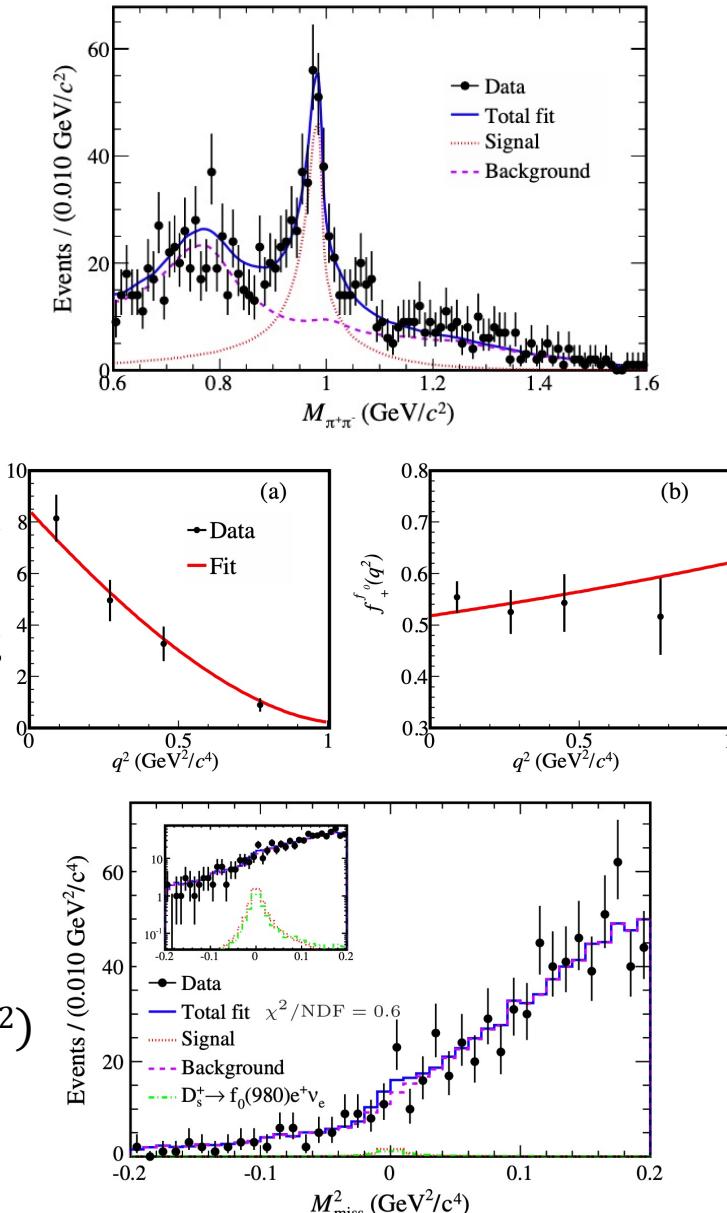
➤ BFs help to understand the nature of the  $f_0(500)$  and  $f_0(980)$ , and test different theoretical calculations.



*Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 141901 (2024)*

- 7.33 fb<sup>-1</sup> data @ 4.128-4.226 GeV →  $N_{sig} = 439 \pm 33$
- $\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)e^+\nu_e, f_0(980) \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-) = (1.72 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.10) \times 10^{-3}$
- **s̄s is dominant** based on  $|f_0(980)\rangle = \sin\phi \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(u\bar{u} + d\bar{d}) \right\rangle + \cos\phi |s\bar{s}\rangle$   
 $\phi = (19.7 \pm 12.8)^\circ$
- First form factor measurement with simple pole form:  
 →  $f_+^{f_0}(0)|V_{cs}| = 0.504 \pm 0.017 \pm 0.035$   
 →  $f_+^{f_0}(0) = 0.518 \pm 0.018 \pm 0.036$  (  $|V_{cs}| = 0.97349 \pm 0.00016$  PDG2022 )

	This work	CLFD [6]	DR [6]	QCDSR [7]	QCDSR [8]	LCSR [9]	LFQM [11]	CCQM [12]
$f_+^{f_0}(0)$	$0.518 \pm 0.018_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.036_{\text{syst}}$	0.45	0.46	$0.50 \pm 0.13$	$0.48 \pm 0.23$	$0.30 \pm 0.03$	$0.24 \pm 0.05$	$0.36 \pm 0.02$
Difference ( $\sigma$ )	...	1.7	1.4	0.1	0.2	4.3	4.3	2.8
$\phi$ in theory	...	$(32 \pm 4.8)^\circ$	$(41.3 \pm 5.5)^\circ$	35°	$(8^{+21}_{-8})^\circ$	...	$(56 \pm 7)^\circ$	31°



- First search of  $D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)e^+\nu_e, f_0(500) \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$  ( $M_{\pi^+\pi^-} < 0.45$  GeV/c<sup>2</sup>)
- $\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)e^+\nu_e, f_0(500) \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-) < 3.3 \times 10^{-4}$

# $D_s^+ \rightarrow V(S)e^+\nu_e : D_s^+ \rightarrow K^+K^-\mu^+\nu_\mu$

JHEP12(2023)072

- 7.33  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  data @ 4.128-4.226 GeV
- $N_{sig} = 1725 \pm 68$  for BF measurement
- $\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow \phi\mu^+\nu_\mu) = (2.25 \pm 0.09 \pm 0.07) \times 10^{-2}$

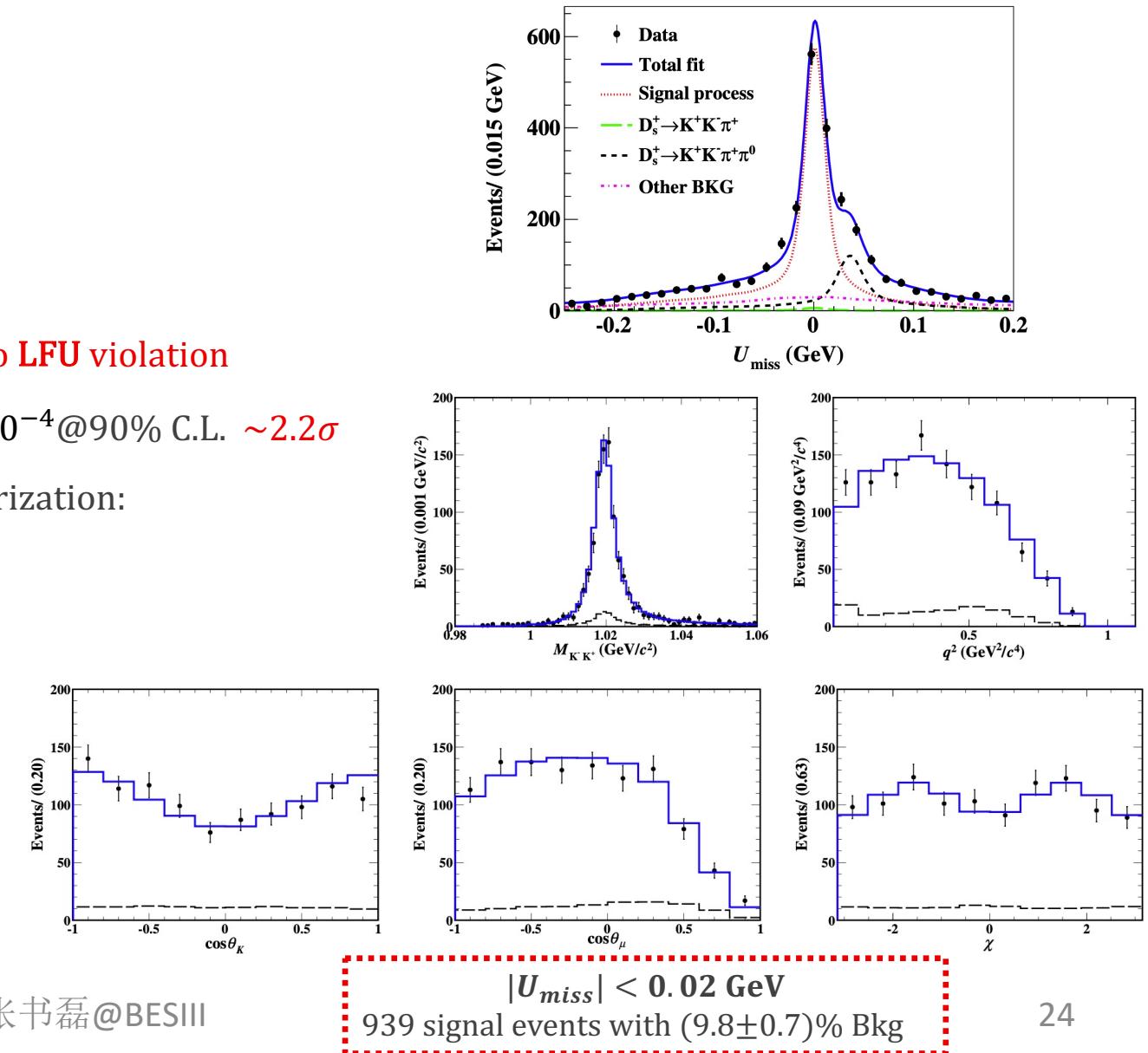
$$\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow \phi\mu^+\nu_\mu)/\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow \phi e^+\nu_e) = 0.94 \pm 0.08 \rightarrow \text{No LFU violation}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)\mu^+\nu_\mu) \cdot \mathcal{B}(f_0(980) \rightarrow K^+K^-) < 5.45 \times 10^{-4} \text{ @ 90% C.L. } \sim 2.2\sigma$$

- First FF measurement based on single pole parameterization:
  - PWA is performed ->  $\phi$  dominate
  - $\mu$  mass is considered in the formula

**Table 5.** Measured FF ratios and comparison with previous measurements.

Experiments	$r_V$	$r_2$
PDG [42]	$1.80 \pm 0.08$	$0.84 \pm 0.11$
This analysis	$1.58 \pm 0.17 \pm 0.02$	$0.71 \pm 0.14 \pm 0.02$
BABAR [25]	$1.807 \pm 0.046 \pm 0.065$	$0.816 \pm 0.036 \pm 0.030$
FOCUS [58]	$1.549 \pm 0.250 \pm 0.148$	$0.713 \pm 0.202 \pm 0.284$
Theory	$r_V$	$r_2$
CCQM [5]	$1.34 \pm 0.27$	$0.99 \pm 0.20$
CQM [6]	1.72	0.73
LFQM [7]	1.42	0.86
LQCD [3]	$1.72 \pm 0.21$	$0.74 \pm 0.12$
HM $\chi$ T [8]	1.80	0.52



# Light scalar mesons via semi-leptonic D decays at BESIII

Channel	Publication	Status
$D^0 \rightarrow a_0(980)^-(\eta\pi^-)e^+\nu_e$	<a href="#">PRL 121, 081802(2018)</a>	Update in process (Draft review)
$D^+ \rightarrow a_0(980)^0(\eta\pi^0)e^+\nu_e$	<a href="#">PRL 121, 081802(2018)</a>	Update in process (Group review)
$D \rightarrow a_0(980)(\eta\pi)\mu^+\nu_\mu$	<a href="#">No</a>	In process (Group review)
$D \rightarrow a_0(980)(K\bar{K})e^+\nu_e$	<a href="#">PRD 109, 072003(2024)</a>	Published
$D^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)(\pi^+\pi^-)e^+\nu_e$	<a href="#">PRL 122, 062001(2019)</a>	Update in process (Group review)
$D^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)(\pi^+\pi^-)\mu^+\nu_\mu$	<a href="#">arXiv: 2401.13225</a>	Submitted to PRL
$D^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)(\pi^+\pi^-)e^+\nu_e$	<a href="#">PRL 122, 062001(2019)</a>	Update in process (Group review)
$D_s^+ \rightarrow a_0(980)^0(\eta\pi^0)e^+\nu_e$	<a href="#">PRD 103, 092004(2021)</a>	Published
$D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)(\pi^0\pi^0)e^+\nu_e$	<a href="#">PRD 105, L031101(2022)</a>	Published
$D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(500)(\pi^0\pi^0)e^+\nu_e$	<a href="#">PRD 105, L031101(2022)</a>	Published
$D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)(\pi^+\pi^-)e^+\nu_e$	<a href="#">PRL 132, 141901(2024)</a>	Published
$D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)(\pi^+\pi^-)\mu^+\nu_\mu$	<a href="#">No</a>	In process (Memo review)
$D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)(K^+K^-)e^+\nu_e$	<a href="#">No</a>	In process (Draft review)
$D_s^+ \rightarrow f_0(980)(K^+K^-)\mu^+\nu_\mu$	<a href="#">JHEP12(2023)072</a>	Published

# Summary and prospect

## Summary:

- BESIII has the largest data samples at  $D\bar{D}/D_s D_s^*$  threshold.
- Light scalar mesons are studied systematically via semi-leptonic D decay.
- BFs and FF measurements help to understand the nature of light scalar mesons.

## Prospect:

- BESIII has **20 fb<sup>-1</sup>** @3.773 GeV in total now.
- More results are on the way!

*Thank you!*