

International CEPC Workshop 2025

Flavour physics at future e^+e^- colliders

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南開大學
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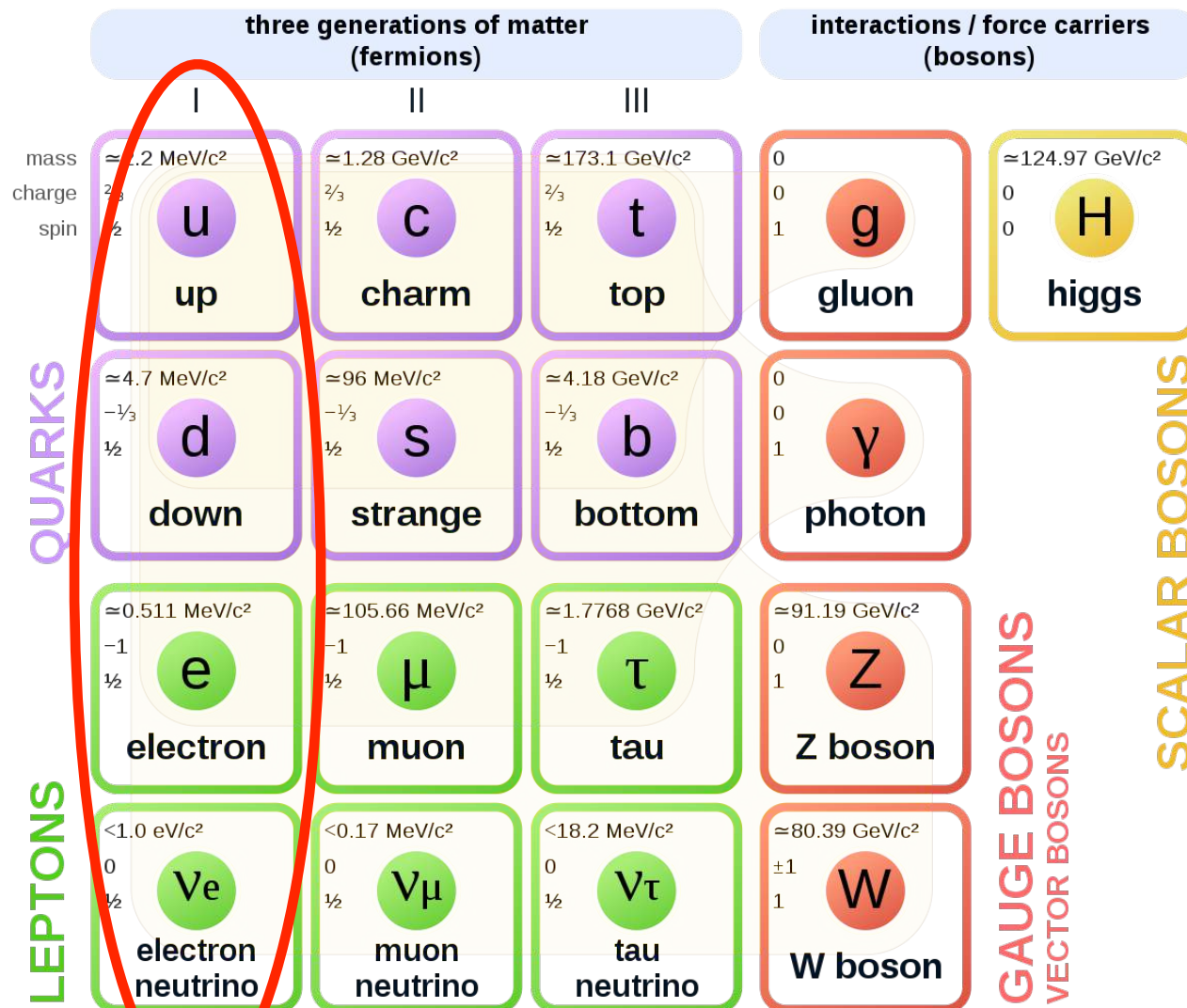
Guangzhou, November 6th 2025

Why flavour?

The flavour puzzle

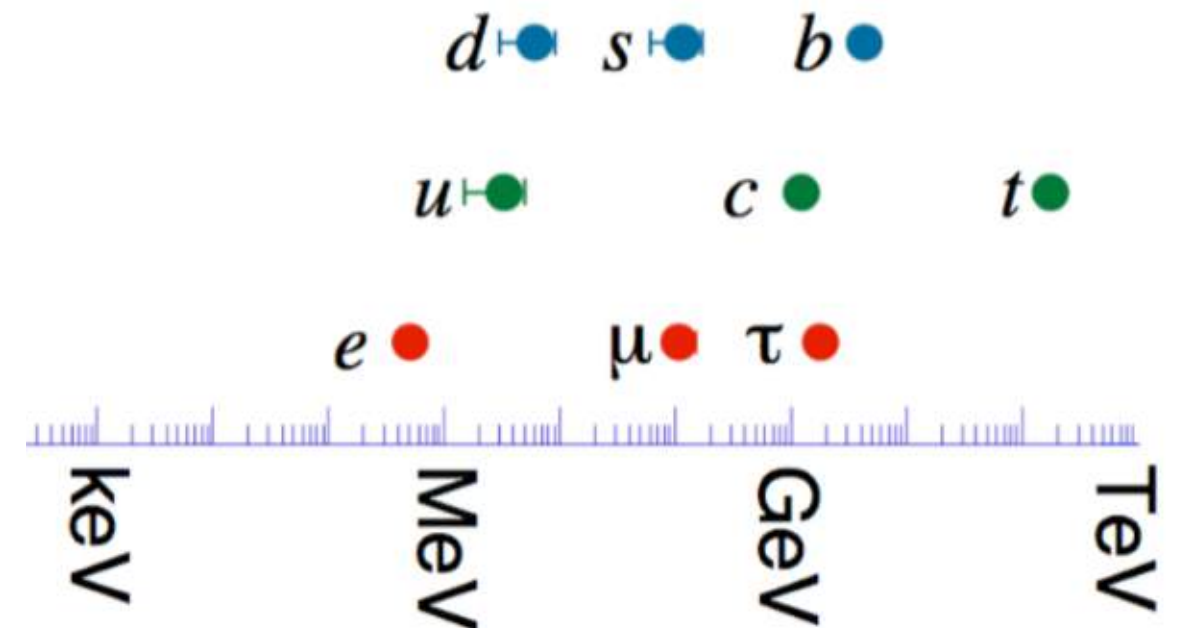
see e.g. J. Zupan's review [arXiv:1903.05062](https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.05062)

Standard Model of Elementary Particles



3 fermion generations (or families)

You are here (why?)



Hierarchical fermion masses

(why?)

Flavor in the SM

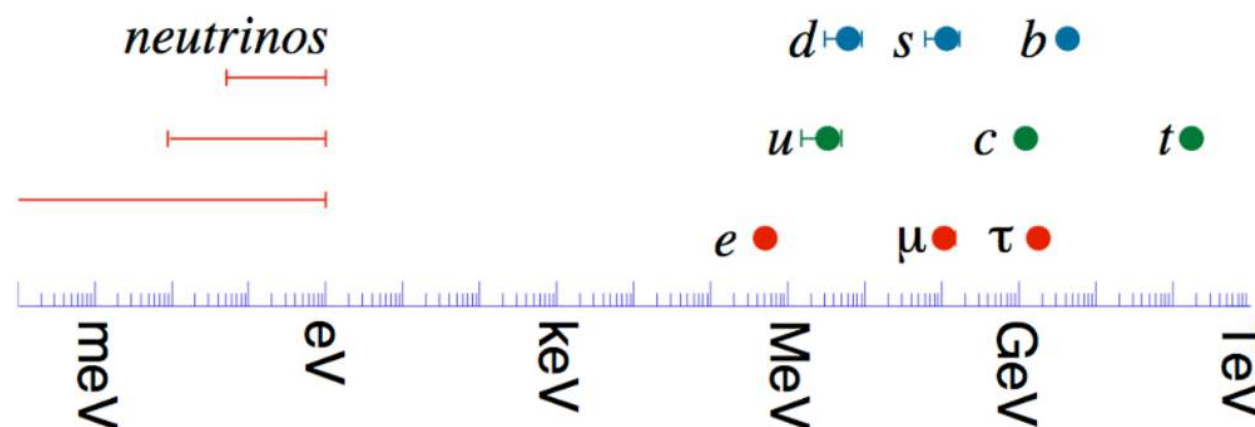
courtesy of O. Sumensari

- The SM **flavor sector** is **loose**: (even w/o considering neutrinos)

⇒ 13 free parameters (masses and quark mixing) — fixed by data.

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}} = -Y_d^{ij} \bar{Q}_i d_{Rj} H - Y_u^{ij} \bar{Q}_i u_{Rj} \tilde{H} - Y_\ell^{ij} \bar{L}_i e_{Rj} H + \text{h.c.}$$

⇒ These (many) parameters exhibit a **hierarchical structure** which we do not understand.



$$V_{\text{CKM}} = \begin{pmatrix} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix} \neq V_{\text{PMNS}} = \begin{pmatrix} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix}$$

How to **explain** the **observed patterns** in terms of **less** and **more fundamental parameters**?

Why flavour?

Why is Flavour Physics important?

SM flavour puzzle

- Why three families?
- Why the hierarchies?

We need to find the scale of New Physics!

- LHC found a SM-like Higgs
- No sign of new phenomena

Do we really need New Physics?

- Hierarchy Problem (?)
- Dark Matter/Dark Energy
- Inflation
- Neutrino masses
- Baryon asymmetry
- Origin of flavour hierarchies

...

Why flavour?

Do we really need New Physics?

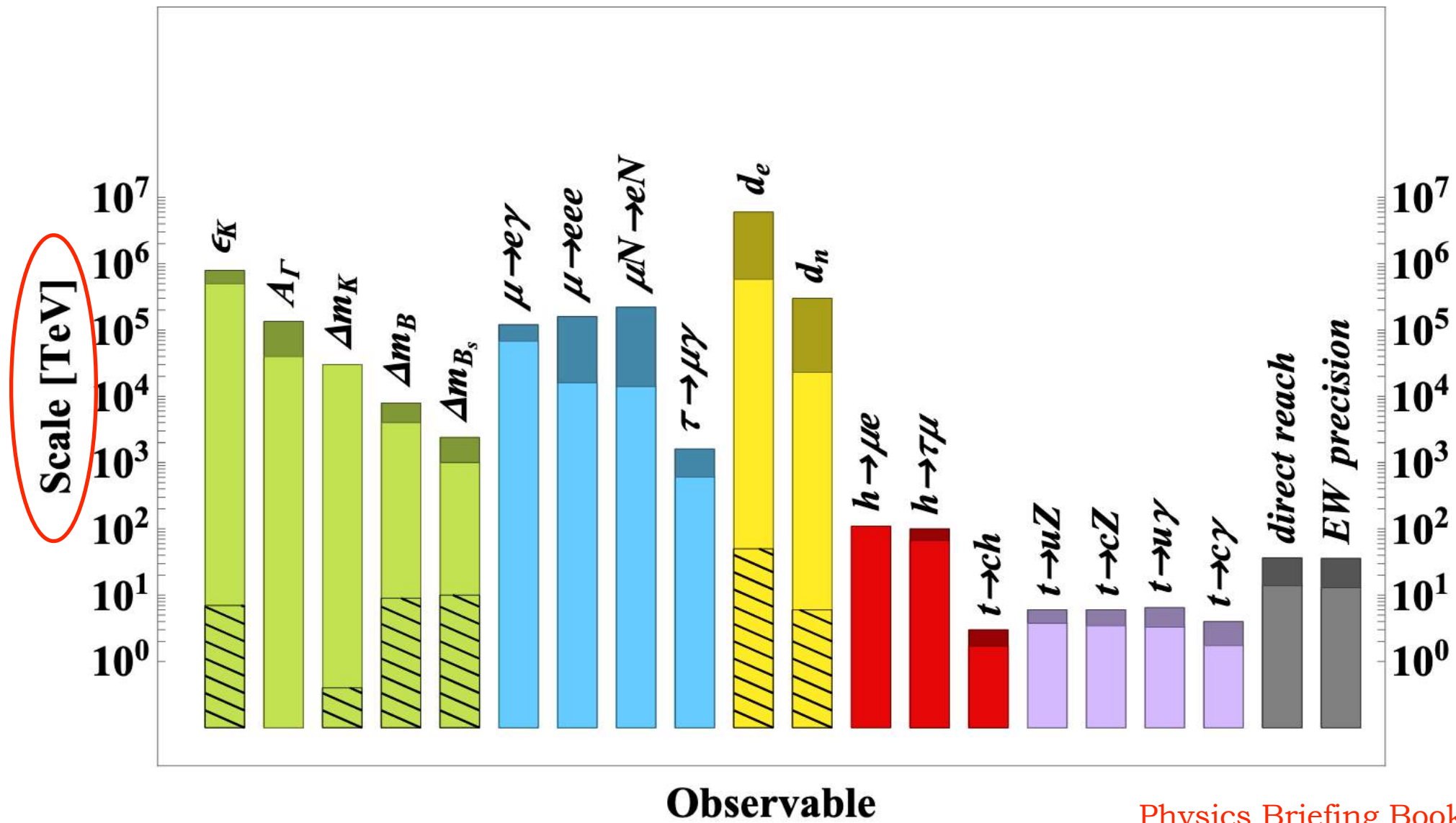
- Hierarchy Problem (?) \rightarrow *TeV-scale New Physics?*
- Dark Matter/Dark Energy
- Inflation
- Neutrino masses \rightarrow *see-saw?*
- Baryon asymmetry \rightarrow *new sources of CPV? leptogenesis?*
- Origin of flavour hierarchies \rightarrow *symmetries of flavour?*

...

Testable through hadronic/leptonic flavour/CP violation?

Probing very high energies

Sensitivity to new physics scale



Physics Briefing Book ESPPU 2020

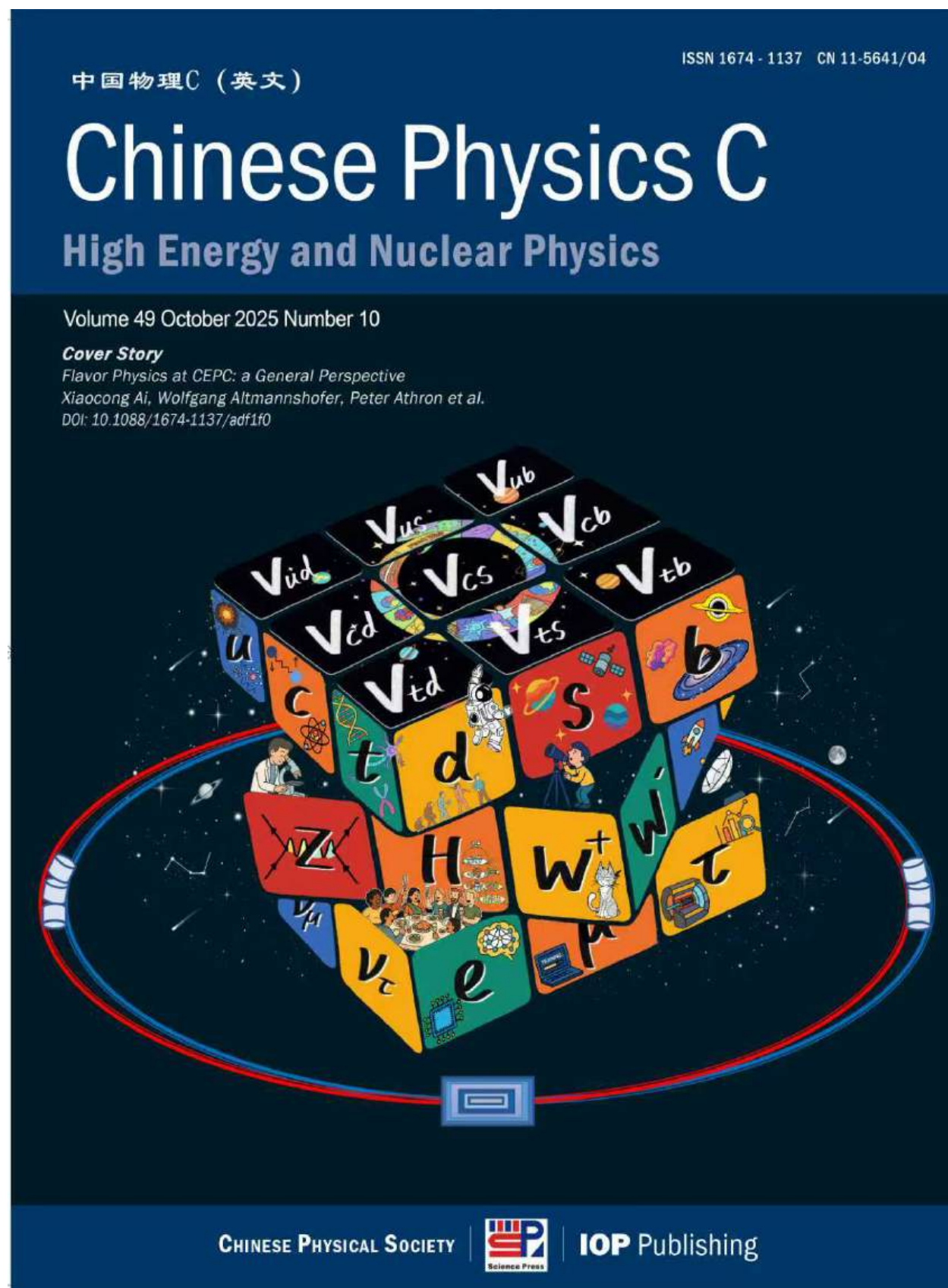
$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \sum_a C_a^{(5)} Q_a^{(5)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_a C_a^{(6)} Q_a^{(6)} + \dots$$

Tera Z as a flavour factory

*Warning: here we focus on the CEPC,
but everything applies to the FCC-ee too!*

CEPC flavour white paper

*Recent cover story
(and editors suggestion)
on CPC*



*Thanks to Wang Yuexin
for the cover design!*

Flavor Physics at the CEPC: a General Perspective

Xiaocong Ai¹, Wolfgang Altmannshofer², Peter Athron³, Xiaozhi Bai⁴, Lorenzo Calibbi^{5*}, Lu Cao^{6,7}, Yuzhi Che^{8,9}, Chunhui Chen¹⁰, Ji-Yuan Chen³¹, Long Chen¹¹, Mingshui Chen^{8,9,77}, Shanzhen Chen^{8,9,77†}, Xuan Chen¹¹, Shan Cheng¹², Cheng-Wei Chiang¹³, Andreas Crivellin^{14,15}, Hanhua Cui^{8,9}, Olivier Deschamps¹⁶, Sébastien Descotes-Genon¹⁷, Xiaokang Du¹⁸, Shuangshi Fang^{8,9}, Yu Gao^{8,9}, Yuanning Gao⁴⁶, Li-Sheng Geng¹⁹, Pablo Goldenzweig²⁰, Jiayin Gu^{21,22,23}, Feng-Kun Guo^{24,9,25†}, Yuchen Guo^{26,27}, Zhi-Hui Guo^{28†}, Tao Han²⁹, Hong-Jian He^{30,31}, Jibo He⁹, Miao He^{8,9}, Xiaogang He^{30,31,65}, Yanping Huang^{8,9}, Gino Isidori¹⁵, Quan Ji^{8,9}, Jianfeng Jiang^{8,9}, Xu-Hui Jiang^{8,32,33}, Jernej F. Kamenik^{34,35}, Tsz Hong Kwok^{33†}, Gang Li^{8,9}, Geng Li³⁶, Haibo Li^{8,9}, Haitao Li¹¹, Hengne Li³⁷, Honglei Li³⁸, Liang Li^{31,65,66}, Lingfeng Li^{39,33*}, Qiang Li⁴⁰, Qiang Li⁴⁶, Shu Li^{30,31}, Xiaomei Li⁴¹, Xin-Qiang Li^{42†}, Yiming Li^{8,9}, Yubo Li⁴³, Yuji Li⁶, Zhao Li^{8,9}, Hao Liang^{8,9}, Zhijun Liang^{8,9}, Libo Liao⁴⁴, Zoltan Ligeti⁴⁵, Jia Liu⁴⁶, Jianbei Liu^{75,76}, Tao Liu^{33*}, Yi Liu¹, Yong Liu^{8,9}, Zhen Liu⁴⁷, Xinchou Lou^{8,77,78}, Peng-Cheng Lu¹¹, Alberto Lusiani⁴⁸, Hong-Hao Ma⁴⁹, Kai Ma⁵⁰, Farvah Mahmoudi^{79,80,81}, Yajun Mao⁴⁶, Yaxian Mao⁴², David Marzocca⁵¹, Juan-Juan Niu⁴⁹, Soeren Prell¹⁰, Huirong Qi^{8,9}, Sen Qian^{8,9}, Zhuoni Qian⁵², Qin Qin^{53†}, Ariel Rock³³, Jonathan L. Rosner^{54,55}, Manqi Ruan^{8,9,77*}, Dingyu Shao⁶, Chengping Shen^{56,23}, Xiaoyan Shen^{8,9}, Haoyu Shi^{8,9}, Liaoshan Shi^{57†}, Zong-Guo Si¹¹, Cristian Sierra³, Huayang Song²⁴, Shufang Su⁵⁸, Wei Su⁴⁴, Zhijia Sun^{8,9,62}, Michele Tammaro⁵⁹, Dayong Wang⁴⁶, En Wang¹, Fei Wang¹, Hengyu Wang^{8,9}, Jian Wang¹¹, Jianchun Wang^{8,9,77}, Kun Wang⁷⁴, Lian-Tao Wang⁵⁴, Wei Wang^{31,60}, Xiaolong Wang⁵⁶, Xiaoping Wang¹⁹, Yadi Wang⁶¹, Yifang Wang^{8,9,77}, Yuexin Wang^{8,62†}, Xing-Gang Wu⁶³, Yongcheng Wu³, Rui-Qing Xiao^{30,31,64}, Ke-Pan Xie¹⁹, Yuehong Xie⁴², Zijun Xu^{8,9}, Haijun Yang^{30,31,65,66}, Hongtao Yang⁴, Lin Yang³⁰, Shuo Yang^{26,27}, Zhongbao Yin⁴², Fusheng Yu⁶⁷, Changzheng Yuan^{8,9}, Xing-Bo Yuan⁴², Xuhao Yuan^{8,9}, Chongxing Yue^{26,27}, Xi-Jie Zhan⁶⁸, Hong-Hao Zhang⁸², Kaili Zhang^{8,62}, Liming Zhang⁶⁹, Xiaoming Zhang⁴², Yang Zhang¹, Yanxi Zhang⁴⁶, Ying Zhang⁸³, Yongchao Zhang⁷⁰, Yu Zhang⁷¹, Zhen-Hua Zhang⁷², Zhong Zhang^{57,70}, Mingrui Zhao⁴¹, Qiang Zhao^{8,9}, Xu-Chang Zheng⁶³, Yangheng Zheng⁹, Chen Zhou⁴⁶, Daicui Zhou⁴², Pengxuan Zhu²⁴, Yongfeng Zhu⁴⁶, Xuai Zhuang^{8,9}, Xunwu Zuo^{20†}, Jure Zupan⁷³

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You can find it here:

[arXiv:2412.19743 \[hep-ex\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2412.19743)
[Chinese Phys. C 49 103003](#)

~150 authors/endorsers

~80 institutions

~70 pages (+biblio)

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Contents

1	Introduction	2
2	Description of CEPC Facility	6
2.1	Key Collider Features for Flavor Physics	6
2.2	Key Detector Features for Flavor Physics	7
2.3	Simulation Method	15
3	FCCC Semileptonic and Leptonic b-Hadron Decays	16
3.1	Leptonic Modes	18
3.2	Semileptonic Modes	19
4	FCNC b-Hadron Decays	22
4.1	Di-lepton Modes	23
4.2	Neutrino Modes	26
4.3	Radiative Modes	28
4.4	Tests of SM Global Symmetries	28
5	CP Violation in b-Hadron Decays	30
6	Charm and Strange Physics	35
7	τ Physics	38
7.1	LFV in τ Decays	38
7.2	LFU of τ Decays	40
7.3	Opportunities with Hadronic τ Decays	42
8	Flavor Physics in Z Boson Decays	44
8.1	LFV and LFU	44
8.2	Factorization Theorem and Hadron Inner Structure	47
9	Flavor Physics beyond Z Pole	48
9.1	Flavor Physics and W Boson Decays	49
9.2	Flavor-Violating Higgs Boson Decays	51
9.3	FCNC Top Quark Physics	53
10	Spectroscopy and Exotics	55
11	Light BSM States from Heavy Flavors	59
11.1	Lepton Sector	60
11.2	Quark Sector	61
12	Detector Performance Requirements	62

CEPC flavour white paper

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6	FCNC c -Hadron Decays	35
7	FCNC u -Hadron Decays	38
7.1	FCNC u -Hadron Decays	38
7.2	FCNC u -Hadron Decays	40
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Nominal operation scheme (50 MW) as in the [CEPC Accelerator TDR](#):

Operation mode	Z factory	WW threshold	Higgs factory	$t\bar{t}$
\sqrt{s} (GeV)	91.2	160	240	360
Run time (year)	2	1	10	5
Instantaneous luminosity ($10^{34}\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$, per IP)	191.7	26.7	8.3	0.83
Integrated luminosity (ab^{-1} , 2 IPs)	100	6.9	21.6	1
Event yields	4.1×10^{12}	2.1×10^8	4.3×10^6	0.6×10^6

The Z-peak run is expected to deliver a few $\times 10^{12}$ visible Z decays

Tera Z as a Flavour Factory

$$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow b\bar{b}) \approx 15\%, \text{ BR}(Z \rightarrow c\bar{c}) \approx 12\%, \text{ BR}(Z \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-) \approx 3\%$$



Plenty of flavour physics opportunities from $Z \rightarrow b\bar{b}$, $Z \rightarrow c\bar{c}$, $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$

Particle	BESIII	Belle II (50 ab ⁻¹ on $\Upsilon(4S)$)	LHCb (300 fb ⁻¹)	CEPC (4×Tera-Z)
B^0, \bar{B}^0	-	5.4×10^{10}	3×10^{13}	4.8×10^{11}
B^\pm	-	5.7×10^{10}	3×10^{13}	4.8×10^{11}
B_s^0, \bar{B}_s^0	-	6.0×10^8 (5 ab ⁻¹ on $\Upsilon(5S)$)	1×10^{13}	1.2×10^{11}
B_c^\pm	-	-	1×10^{11}	7.2×10^8
$\Lambda_b^0, \bar{\Lambda}_b^0$	-	-	2×10^{13}	1×10^{11}
D^0, \bar{D}^0	1.2×10^8	4.8×10^{10}	1.4×10^{15}	8.3×10^{11}
D^\pm	1.2×10^8	4.8×10^{10}	6×10^{14}	4.9×10^{11}
D_s^\pm	1×10^7	1.6×10^{10}	2×10^{14}	1.8×10^{11}
Λ_c^\pm	0.3×10^7	1.6×10^{10}	2×10^{14}	6.2×10^{10}
$\tau^+\tau^-$	3.6×10^8	4.5×10^{10}		1.2×10^{11}

Tera Z as a Flavour Factory

Advantages of a high-energy e^+e^- collider as flavour factory:

Luminosity

$\mathcal{L}=100/\text{ab}$, $\mathcal{O}(10^{12})$ Z decays $\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}(10^{11})$ bb , cc , and $\tau\tau$ pairs

Energy

besides producing states inaccessible, *e.g.*, at Belle II
 $M_Z \gg 2m_b, 2m_\tau, 2m_c \Rightarrow$ surplus energy, boosted decay products
(better tracking and tagging, lower vertex uncertainty etc.)

Cleanliness

as for any leptonic machine, full knowledge of the initial state
(*e.g.* Z mass constraint on invariant masses more powerful)
 \Rightarrow it enables searches involving neutral/invisible particles

What flavour physics can we study at a Tera Z?

flavour-violating
Z decays

forbidden processes
[lepton flavour (universality)
violation, lepton/baryon
number violation...]

precise measurements
[CKM UT angles, CPV...]

rare decays
[(semi-)leptonic B decays...]

charm physics

exotic hadrons
spectroscopy

tau physics

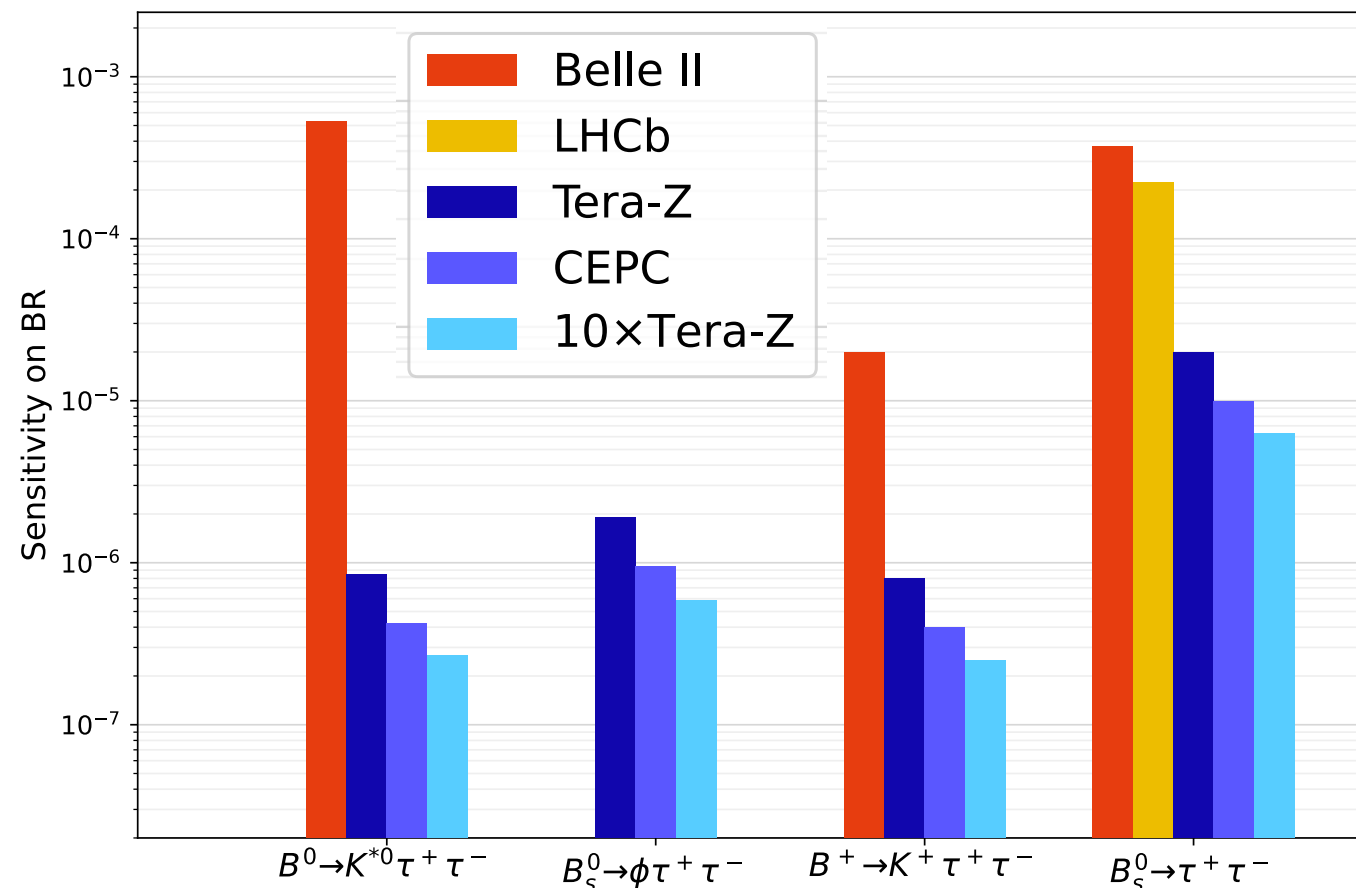
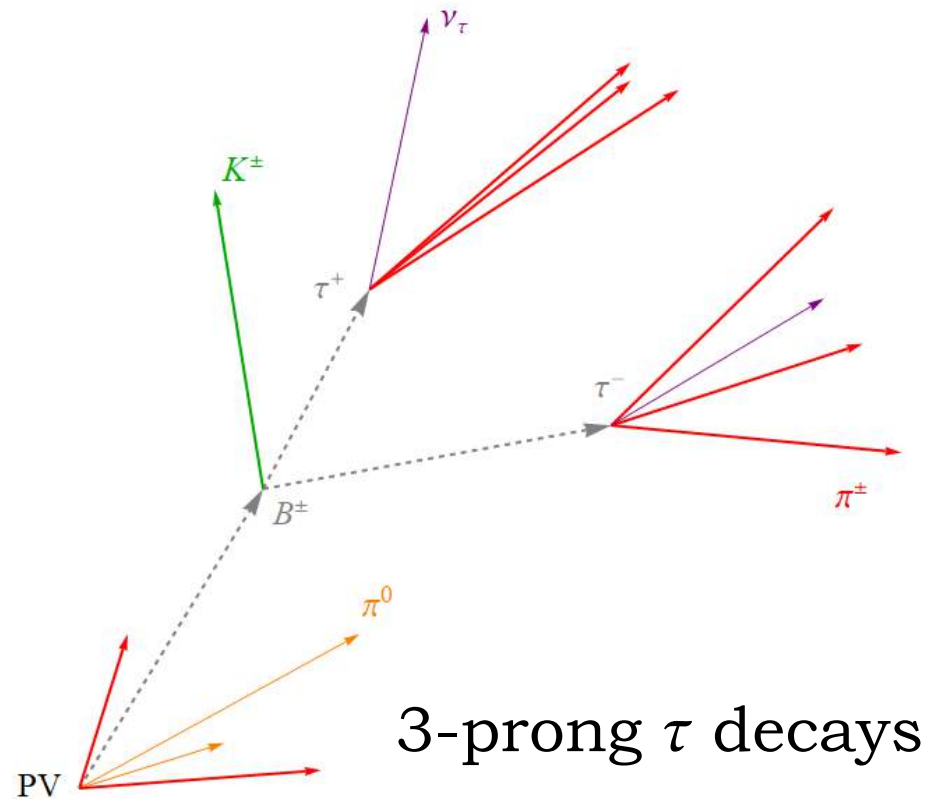
... in one word (almost) *everything*

$$b \rightarrow s\tau\tau$$

$$\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \tau\tau)_{\text{SM}} = (7.7 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-7} \quad (\text{Bobeth et al. 1311.0903})$$

$$\text{BR}(B \rightarrow K\tau\tau)_{\text{SM}} = (1.2 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-7} \quad (\text{Du et al. 1510.02349})$$

- Unobserved, weakly constrained ($\sim 10^{-4}$ - 10^{-3} by Belle, Belle II can provide an O(10) increased sensitivity)
- They can have huge new-physics enhancement (especially in theories preferably coupling to third generation fermions)
- CEPC prospect:



updated from [Li Lingfeng and Liu Tao '20](#)

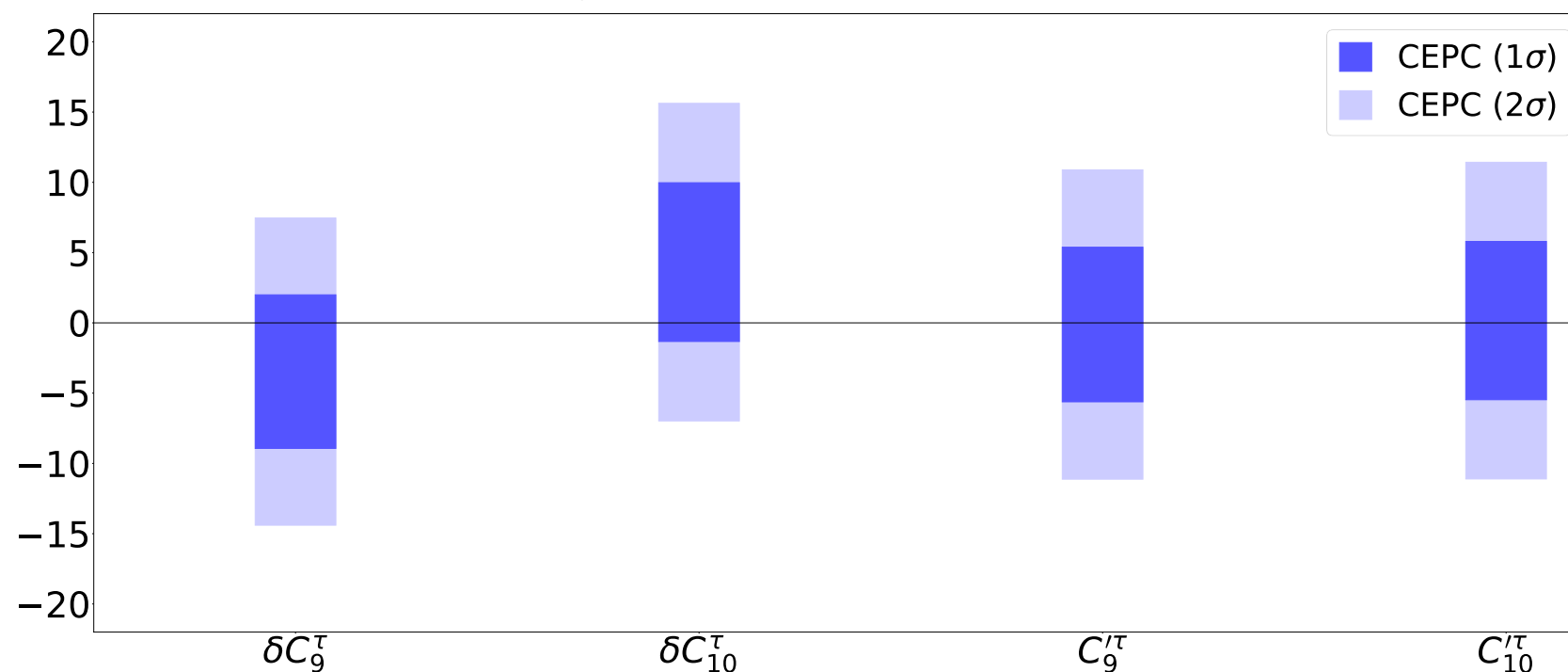
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$$\text{BR}(B \rightarrow K\tau\tau)_{\text{SM}} = (1.2 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-7} \quad (\text{Du et al. 1510.02349})$$

CEPC bounds on new physics contributions:

$$\mathcal{H}_{b \rightarrow s}^{\text{eff}} = -\frac{4G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{tb} V_{ts}^* \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \sum_j (C_j O_j + C'_j O'_j) + (C_L O_L + C_R O_R) + \text{h.c.},$$



→ sensitivity to new physics scales up to ~ 10 TeV

PV

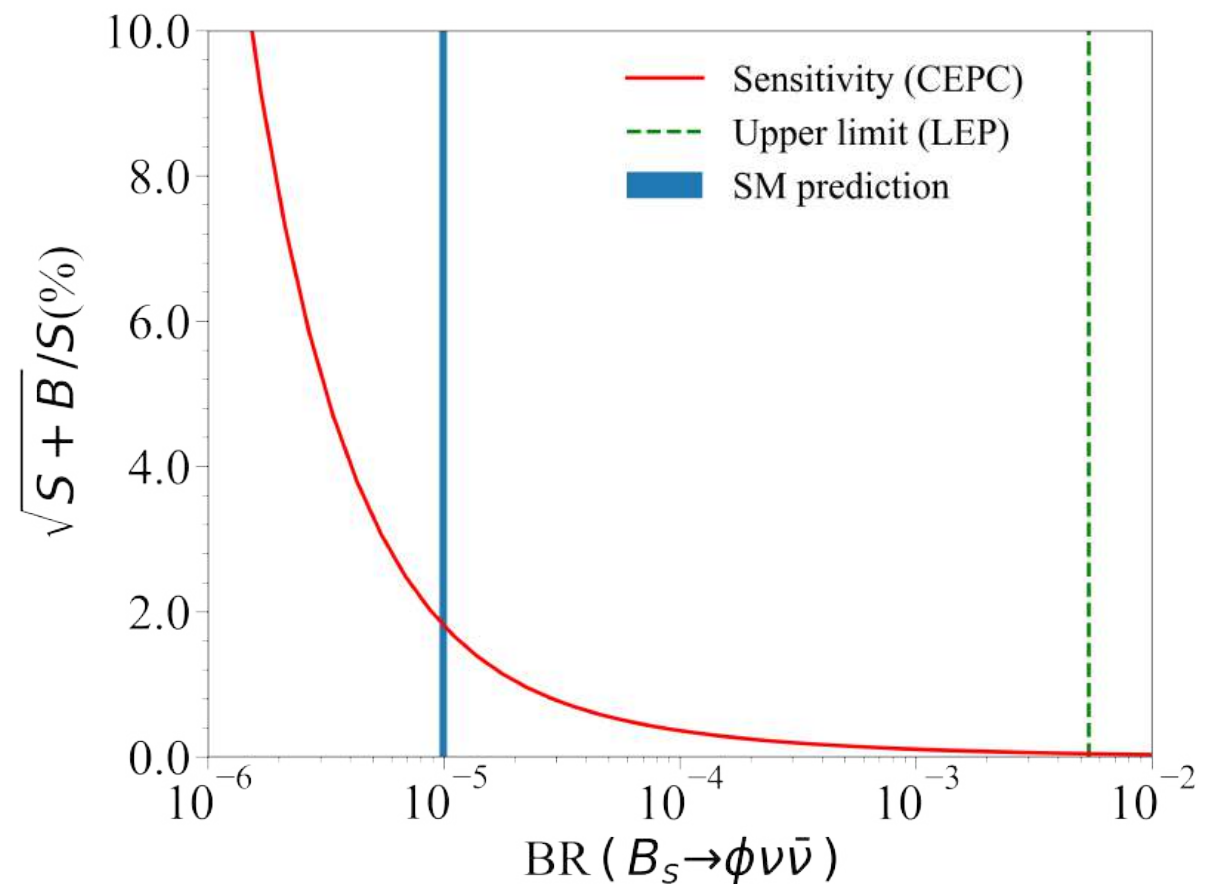
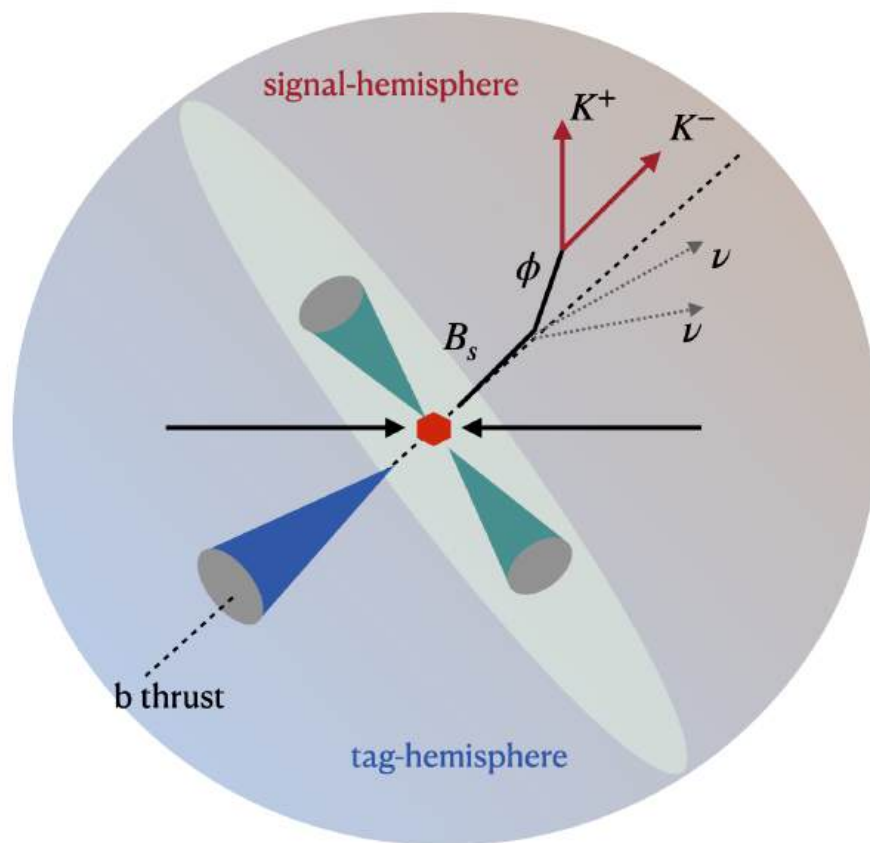
$B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \tau^+ \tau^-$ $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \tau^+ \tau^-$ $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \tau^+ \tau^-$ $B_s^0 \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$

updated from [Li Lingfeng and Liu Tao '20](#)

$$b \rightarrow s\nu\nu$$

	Current Limit	Detector	SM Prediction
$\text{BR}(B^0 \rightarrow K^0 \nu \bar{\nu})$	$< 2.6 \times 10^{-5}$ [3]	BELLE	$(3.69 \pm 0.44) \times 10^{-6}$ [1]
$\text{BR}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \nu \bar{\nu})$	$< 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$ [3]	BELLE	$(9.19 \pm 0.99) \times 10^{-6}$ [1]
$\text{BR}(B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \nu \bar{\nu})$	$(2.7 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-5}$	Belle II '23	$(3.98 \pm 0.47) \times 10^{-6}$ [1]
$\text{BR}(B^\pm \rightarrow K^{*\pm} \nu \bar{\nu})$	$< 4.0 \times 10^{-5}$ [5]	BELLE	$(9.83 \pm 1.06) \times 10^{-6}$ [1]
$\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \phi \nu \bar{\nu})$	$< 5.4 \times 10^{-3}$ [6]	DELPHI	$(9.93 \pm 0.72) \times 10^{-6}$

- Also these modes can be greatly enhanced by new physics e.g. [LC Crivellin Ota '15](#)
- A Tera Z can measure $B_s \rightarrow \phi \nu \nu$ with a percent level precision: [Li et al. '22](#)

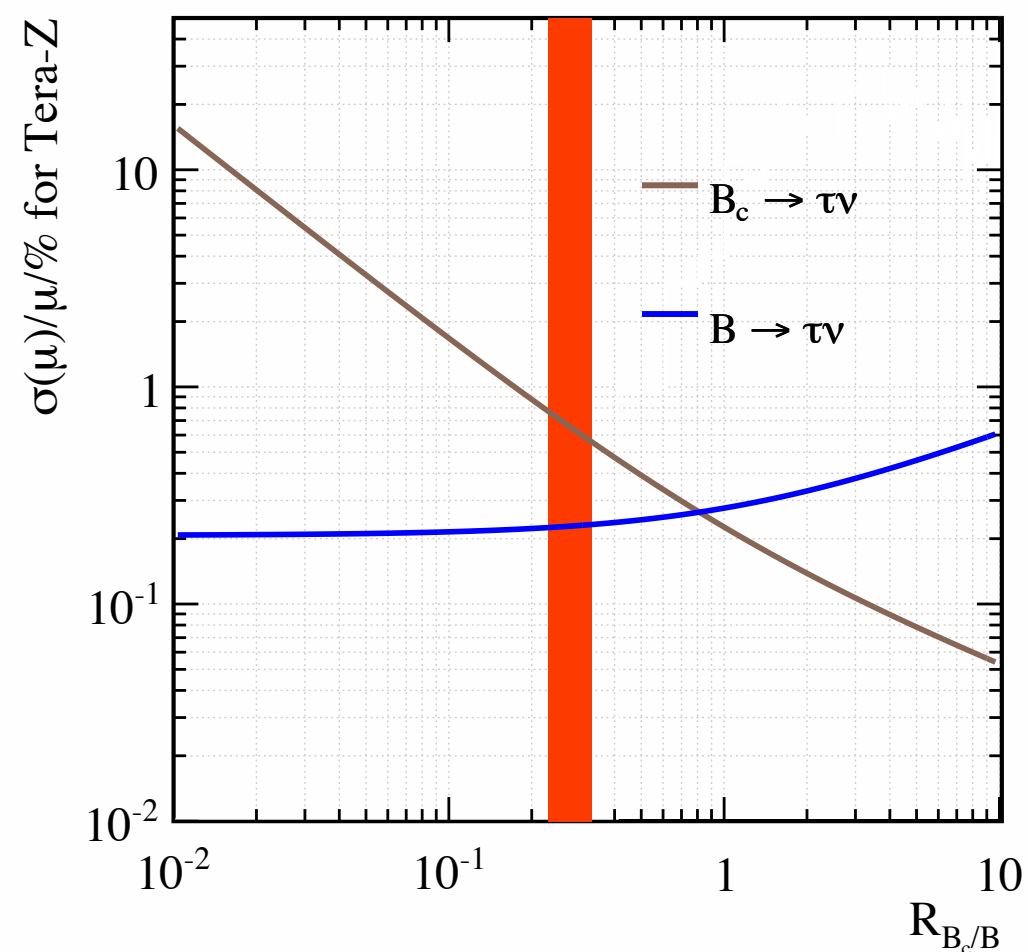
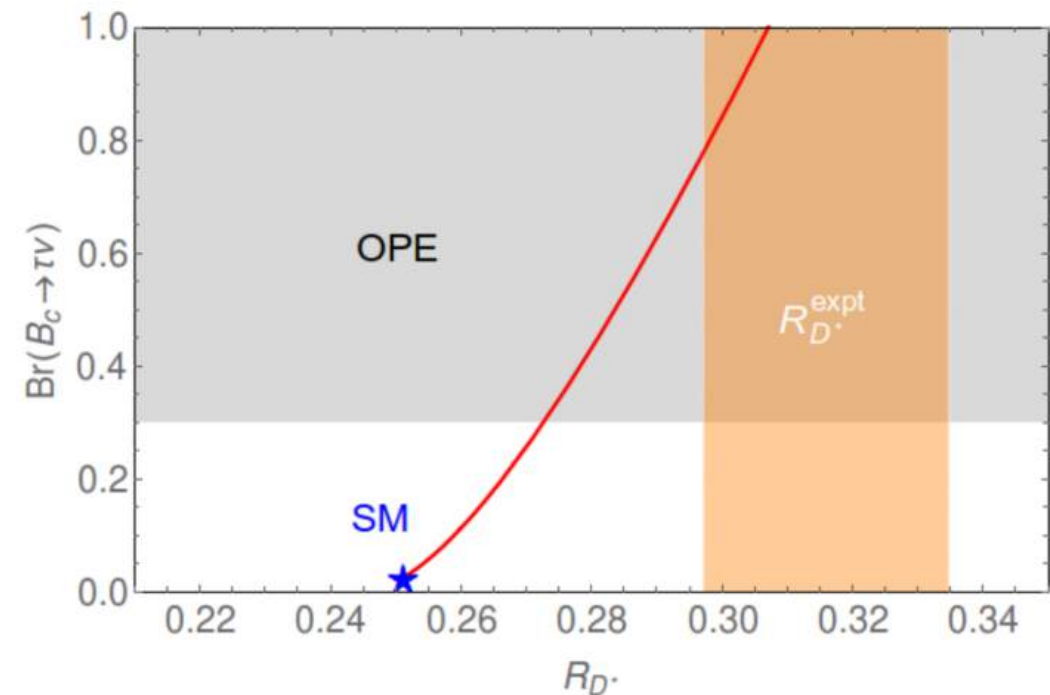


- Similar precision is expected for the other $b \rightarrow s\nu\nu$ modes [Ahmis et al. \(FCC-ee\) '23](#)

$$B_c \rightarrow \tau \nu$$

- Key observable to test possible LFU anomalies in charged-current B decays
[Alonso et al. '16](#)
- SM prediction for the BR $\sim 2\%$, beyond the reach of LHCb
- Tera Z could measure it with percent accuracy (hence providing a percent level measurement of V_{cb})
[Zheng et al. '20](#)

Paradigmatic example:
too heavy for Belle II,
too “elusive” for LHCb!

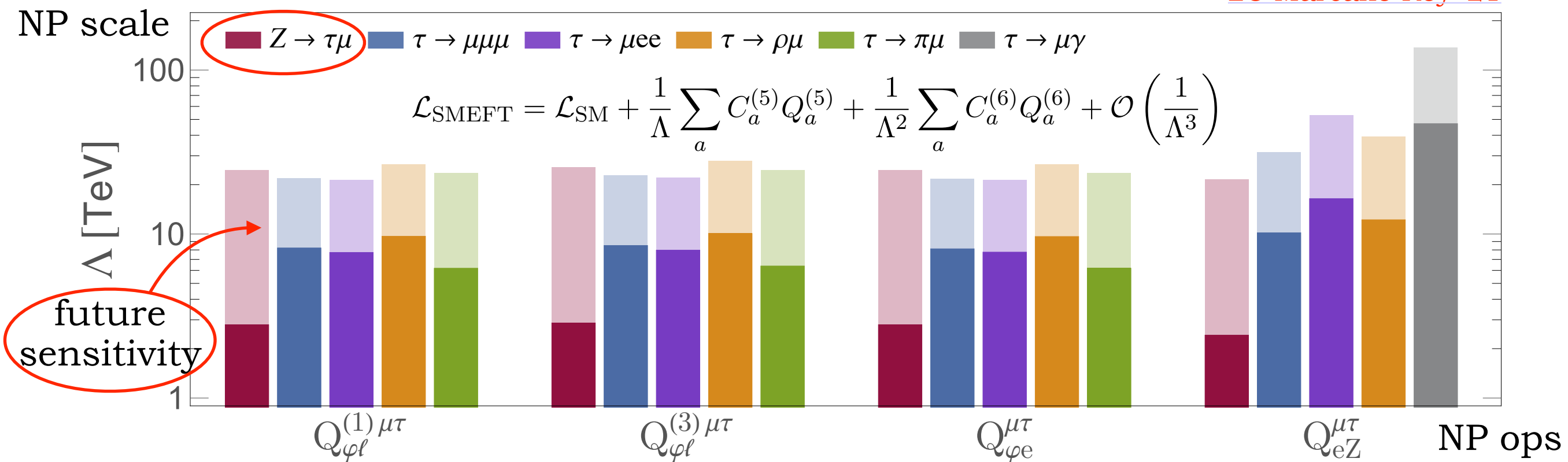


Lepton Flavour Violation in Z decays

Measurement	Current	HL-LHC	FCC	CEPC prelim.	M. Dam '18
$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \tau\mu)$	$< 6.5 \times 10^{-6}$	1.4×10^{-6}	10^{-9}	10^{-9}	
$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \tau e)$	$< 5.0 \times 10^{-6}$	1.1×10^{-6}	10^{-9}		
$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \mu e)$	$< 2.62 \times 10^{-7}$	5.7×10^{-8}	$10^{-8} - 10^{-10}$	10^{-9}	

- LHC searches limited by backgrounds (in particular $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$):
max ~ 10 improvement can be expected at HL-LHC (3000/fb)
- A Tera Z can test LFV new physics searching for $Z \rightarrow \tau\ell$ at the level of what Belle II (50/ab) will do through LFV tau decays (or better)

LC Marcano Roy '21



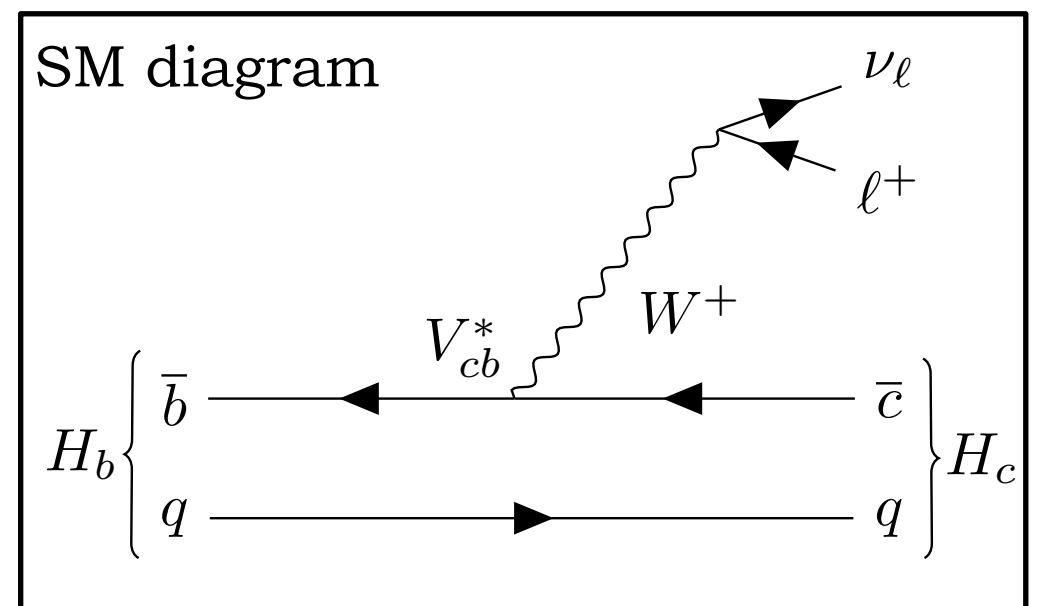
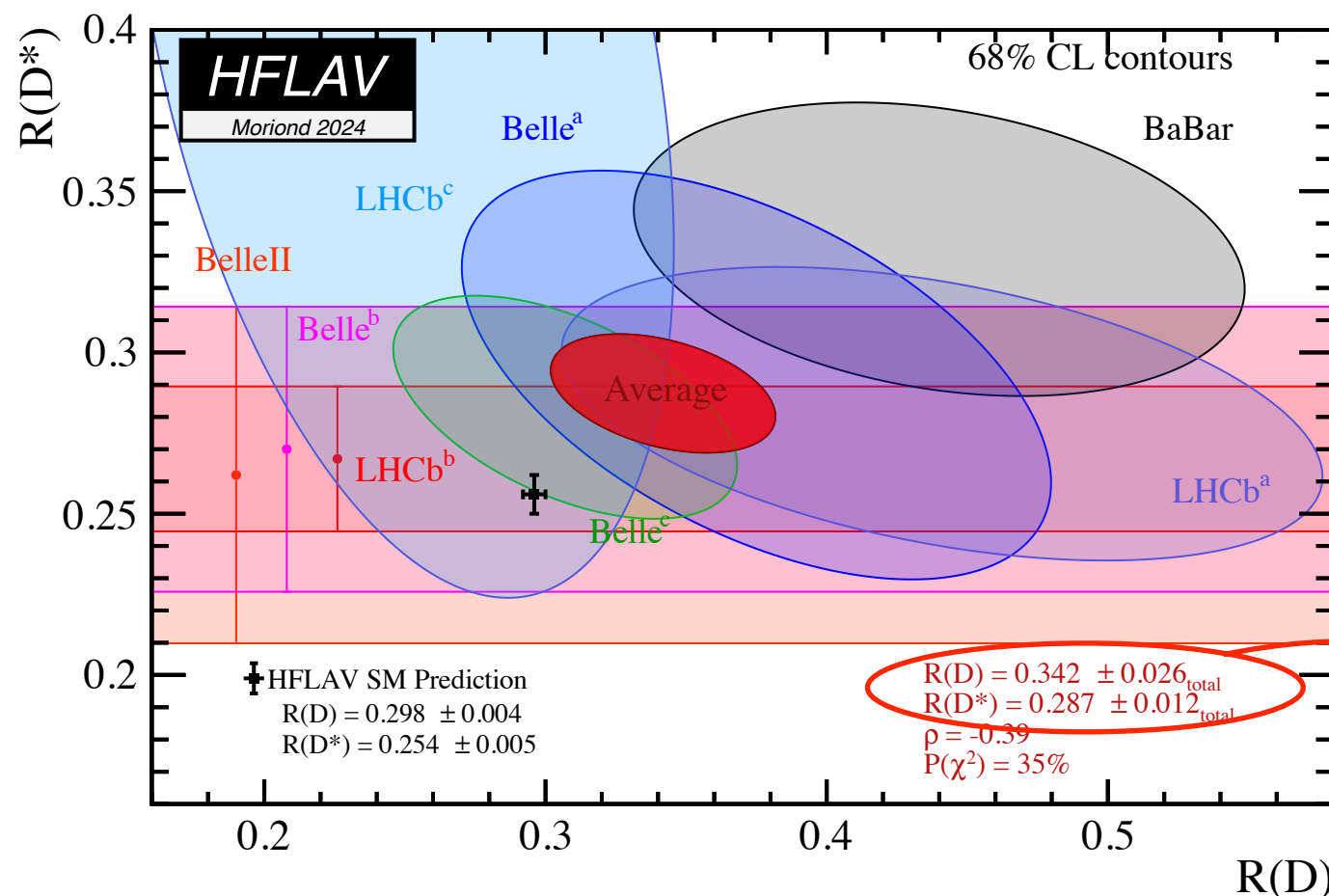
LFU tests in B decays

Gauge interactions are flavour blind: the SM predicts
Lepton Flavour Universality (LFU) EW interactions

→ any deviation from LFU would be a clear indication of NP

Example: LFU tests in semileptonic (charged-current) B decays

$$R_{D^{(*)}} \equiv \frac{\text{BR}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \tau \nu)}{\text{BR}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \ell \nu)}, \ell = e, \mu$$



Current precision: ~5-10%
World average still somewhat in tension with the SM prediction

LFU tests in B decays

Gauge interactions are flavour blind: the SM predicts
Lepton Flavour Universality (LFU) EW interactions

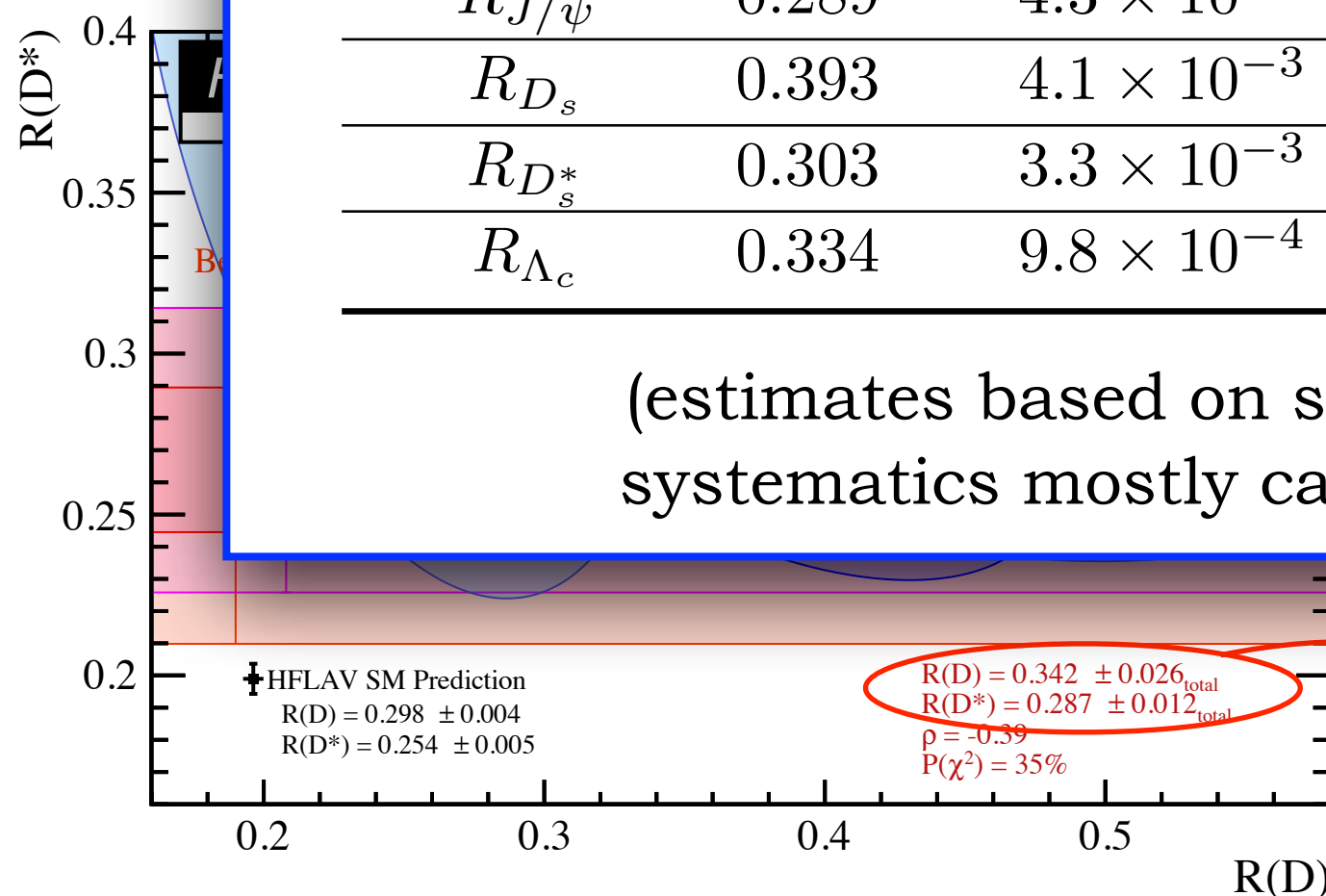
→ any deviation from LFU would be a clear indication of NP

Ex

CEPC could achieve a precision below 1% on
the LFU tests in $b \rightarrow c\tau\nu$ decays:

R_{H_c}	SM Value	Tera-Z	4×Tera-Z	10×Tera-Z
$R_{J/\psi}$	0.289	4.3×10^{-2}	2.1×10^{-2}	1.4×10^{-2}
R_{D_s}	0.393	4.1×10^{-3}	2.1×10^{-3}	1.3×10^{-3}
$R_{D_s^*}$	0.303	3.3×10^{-3}	1.6×10^{-3}	1.0×10^{-3}
R_{Λ_c}	0.334	9.8×10^{-4}	4.9×10^{-4}	3.1×10^{-4}

(estimates based on statistics only, but
systematics mostly cancel in the ratios)



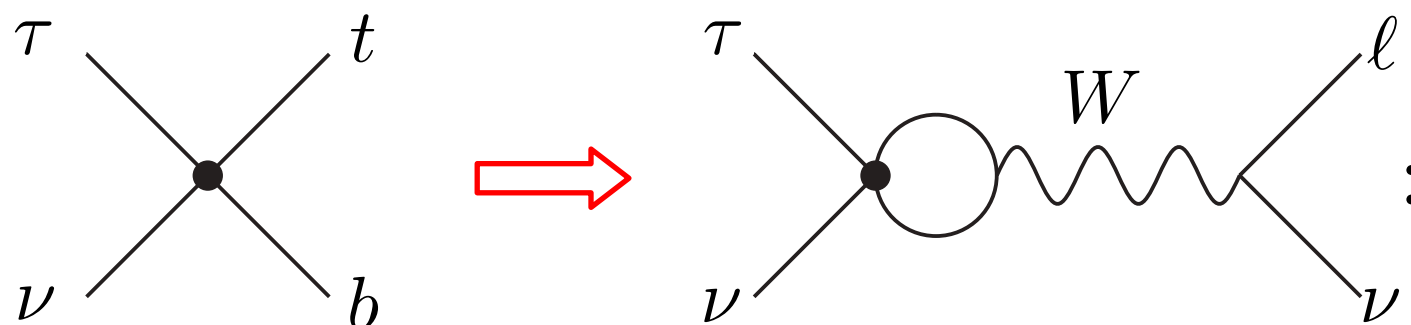
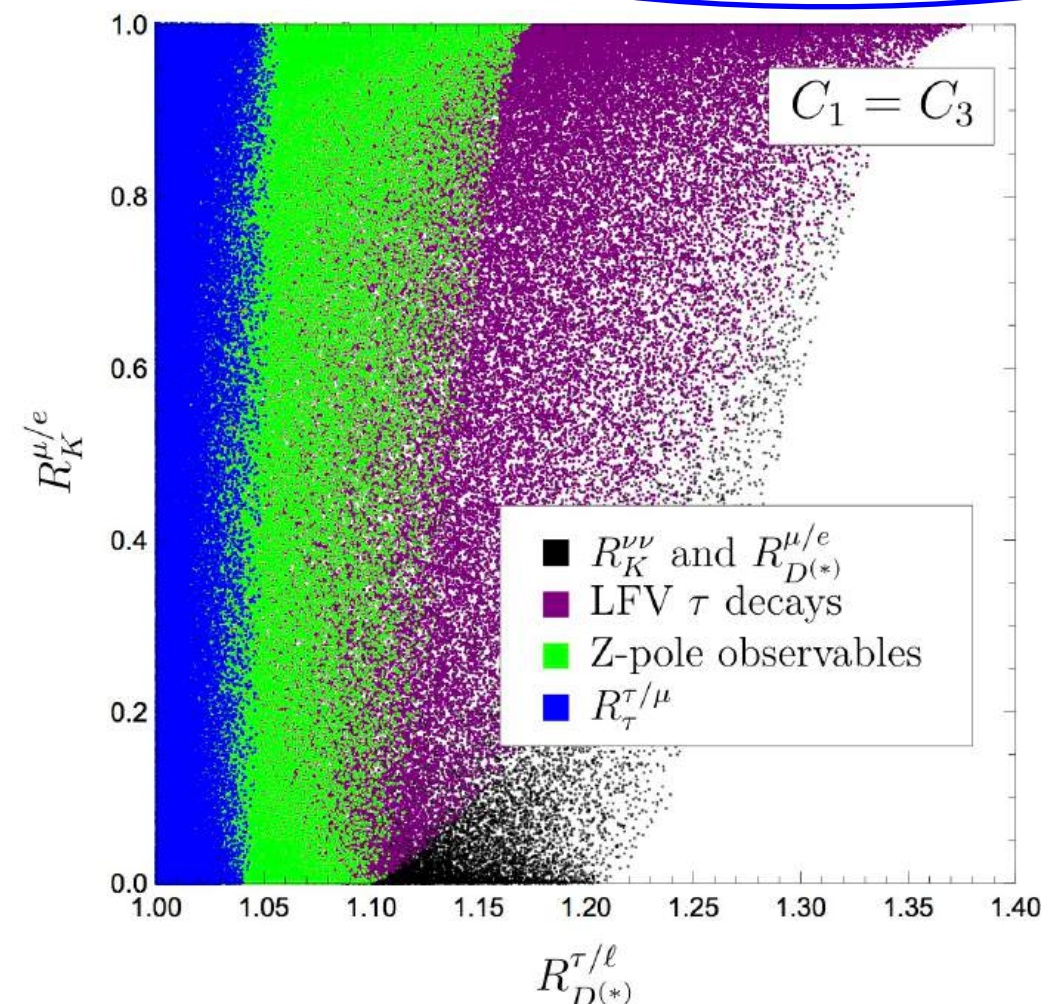
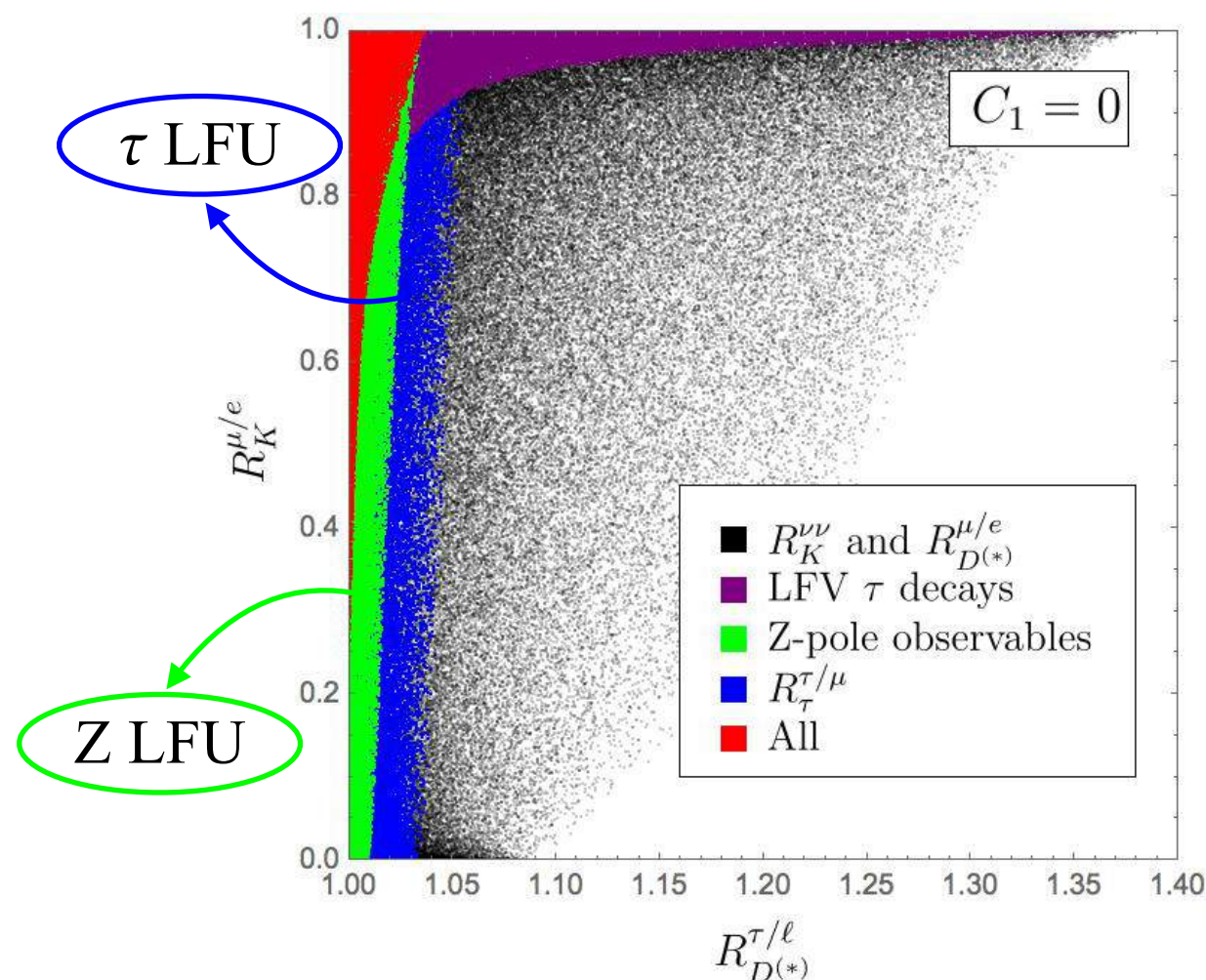
Current precision: ~5-10%
World average still somewhat in
tension with the SM prediction

Constraints on B LFU from tau LFU

New physics inducing operators involving mainly 3rd family fermions

Ops with only 3rd family:

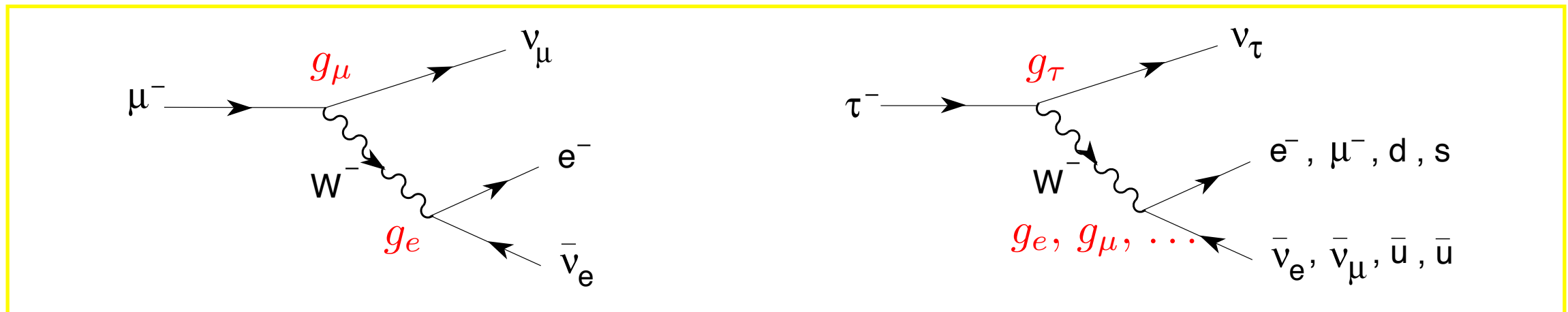
$$Q_{\ell q}^{(1)} = (\bar{L}_3 \gamma^\mu L_3)(\bar{Q}_3 \gamma_\mu Q_3), \quad Q_{\ell q}^{(3)} = (\bar{L}_3 \gamma^\mu \tau_I L_3)(\bar{Q}_3 \gamma_\mu \tau^I Q_3)$$



$$\frac{\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \ell \nu \bar{\nu})}{\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e \nu \bar{\nu})} \quad \tau \text{ LFU}$$

Feruglio Paradisi Pattori '16, '17

LFU tests in tau decays



$$\left(\frac{g_\mu}{g_e}\right)^2 = \frac{\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \mu \nu \bar{\nu})}{\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow e \nu \bar{\nu})} \frac{f(m_e^2/m_\tau^2)}{f(m_\mu^2/m_\tau^2)} \frac{R_W^{\tau e}}{R_W^{\tau \mu}},$$

phase-space factors

$$\left(\frac{g_\tau}{g_\ell}\right)^2 = \frac{\tau_\mu}{\tau_\tau} \left(\frac{m_\mu}{m_\tau}\right)^5 \frac{\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \ell \nu \bar{\nu})}{\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e \nu \bar{\nu})} \frac{f(m_e^2/m_\mu^2)}{f(m_\ell^2/m_\tau^2)} \frac{R_W^{\mu e} R_\gamma^\mu}{R_W^{\tau \ell} R_\gamma^\tau}, \quad (\ell = e, \mu)$$

radiative corrections

Currently LFU tested with per mil level precision:

$$\frac{g_\mu}{g_e} = 1.0002 \pm 0.0011, \quad \frac{g_\tau}{g_e} = 1.0018 \pm 0.0014, \quad \frac{g_\tau}{g_\mu} = 1.0016 \pm 0.0014$$

HFLAV, A. Lusiani ICHEP24

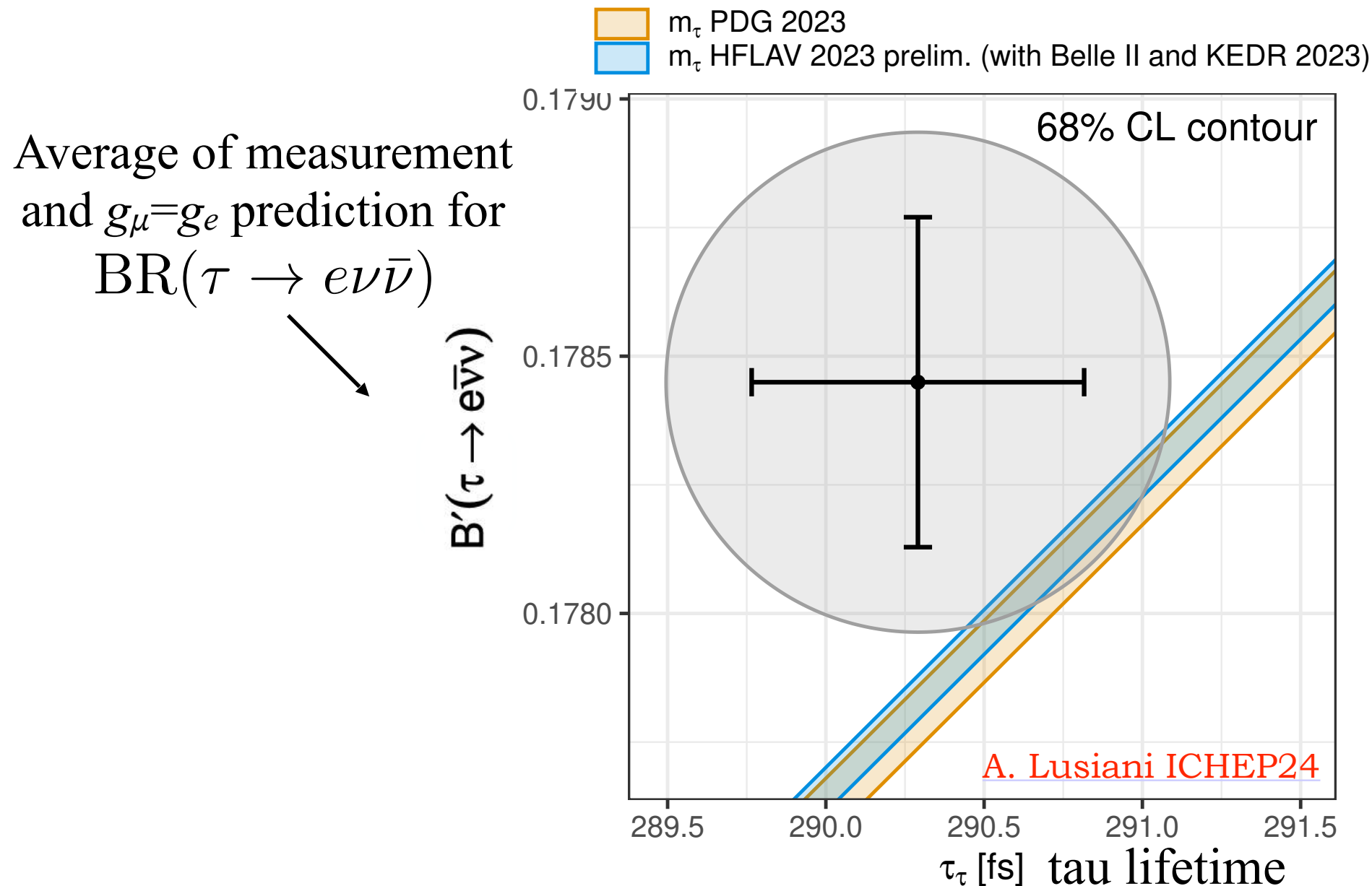
[error budget: 1.1‰ from BRs, 0.9‰ from τ_τ , 0.2‰ from m_τ]

LEP & Belle II

Belle

BESIII & Belle II

LFU tests in tau decays



Test of new physics! Example, 3rd generation lepton-Higgs operator:

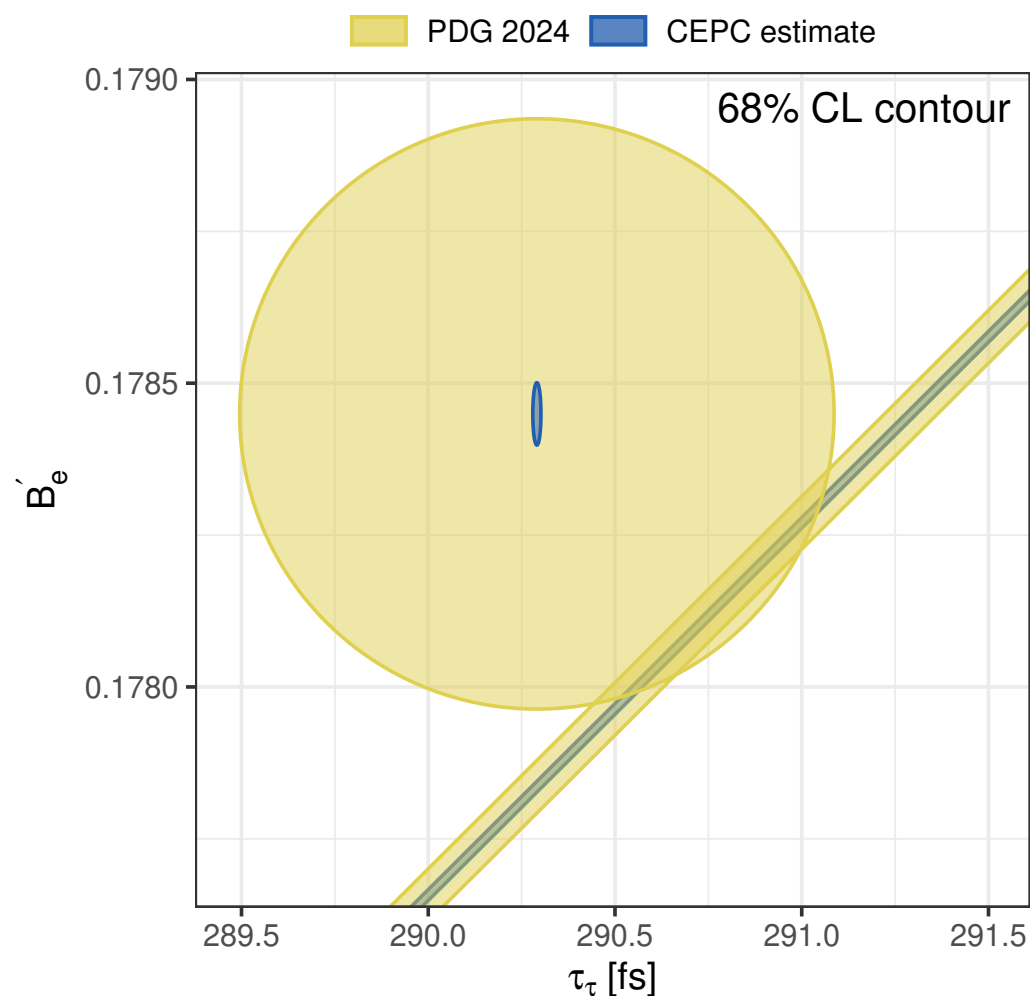
$$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} i(\Phi^\dagger \tau^I \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \Phi)(\bar{L}_3 \tau^I \gamma^\mu L_3) \Rightarrow g_e = g_\mu = g, \quad g_\tau = g \left(1 + \frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} \right)$$

Current LFU limits set a bound on the NP scale of $\Lambda > 8 \text{ TeV}$

LFU tests in tau decays

Preliminary studies show that a 10-fold improvement of the systematics is possible:

Measurement	Current	Belle II	FCC	CEPC prelim.
Lifetime [sec]	$(2903 \pm 5) \times 10^{-16}$		$\pm 6 \times 10^{-18}$	$\pm 7 \times 10^{-18}$
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow e \nu \bar{\nu})$	$(17.82 \pm 0.04)\%$		$\pm 0.003\%$	$\pm 0.003\%$
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \mu \nu \bar{\nu})$	$(17.39 \pm 0.04)\%$		$\pm 0.003\%$	$\pm 0.003\%$
m_τ [MeV]	1776.93 ± 0.09		± 0.0016 (stat.) ± 0.018 (syst.)	

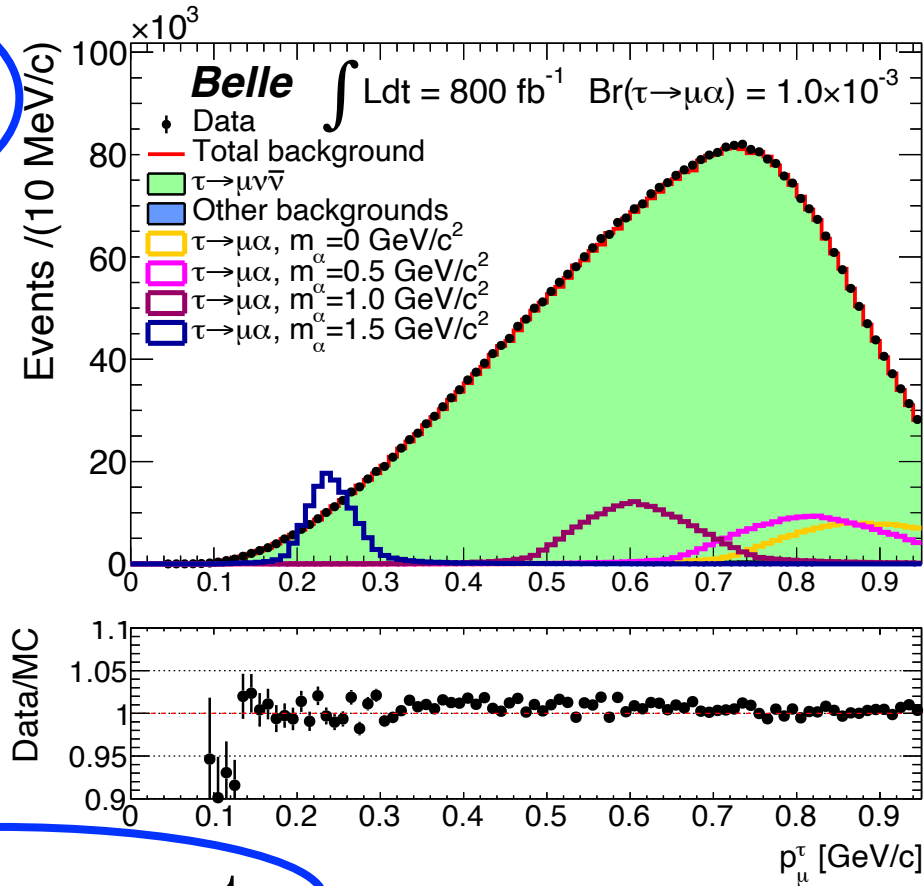


Tera-Z factories could test tau LFU at the 0.1‰ level

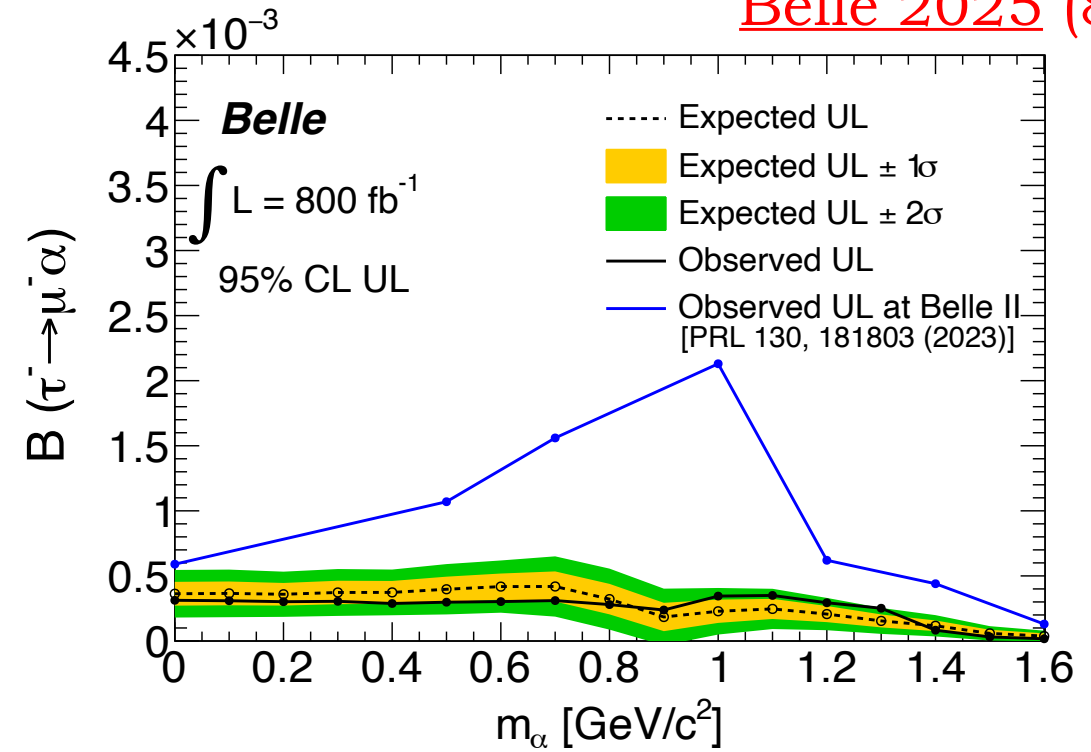
This translates to a sensitivity to LFU new-physics operators up to scales ~ 20 TeV

Light invisible NP boson in LFV tau decays, $\tau \rightarrow \ell X$

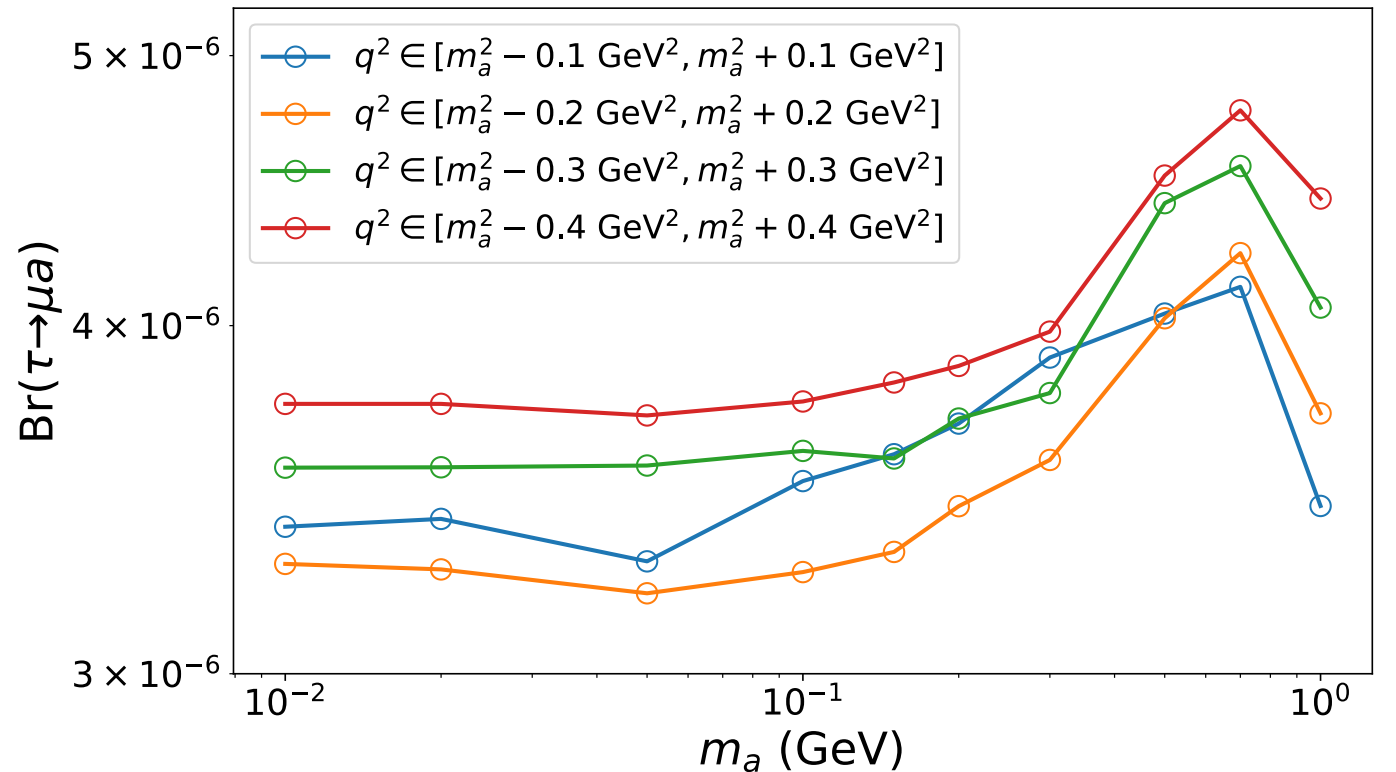
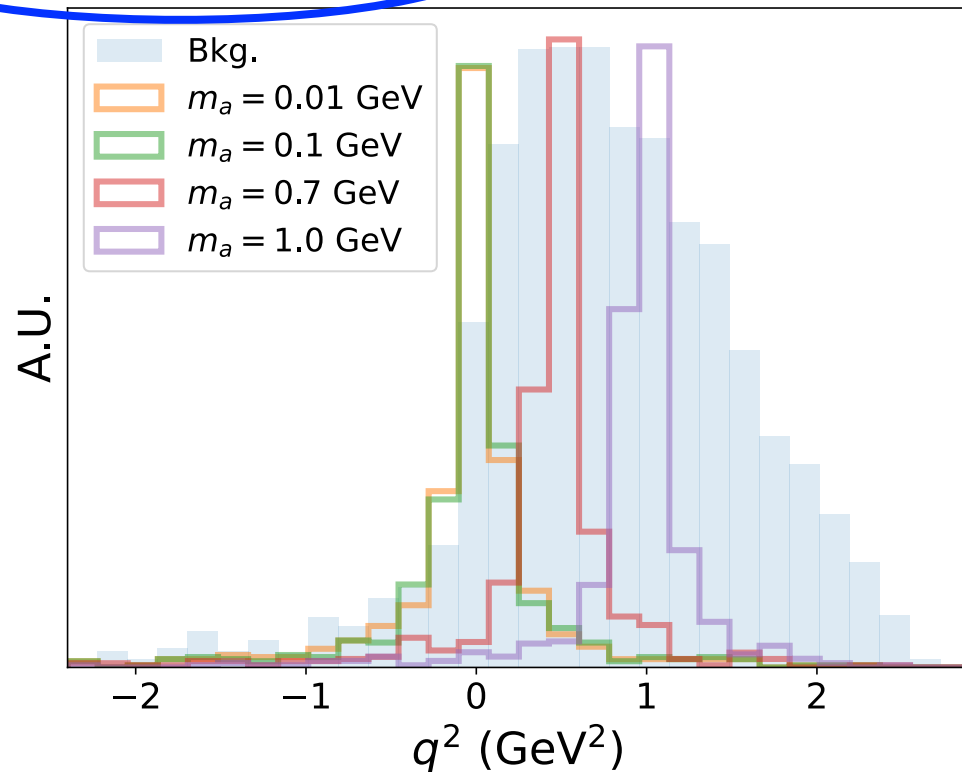
Current best



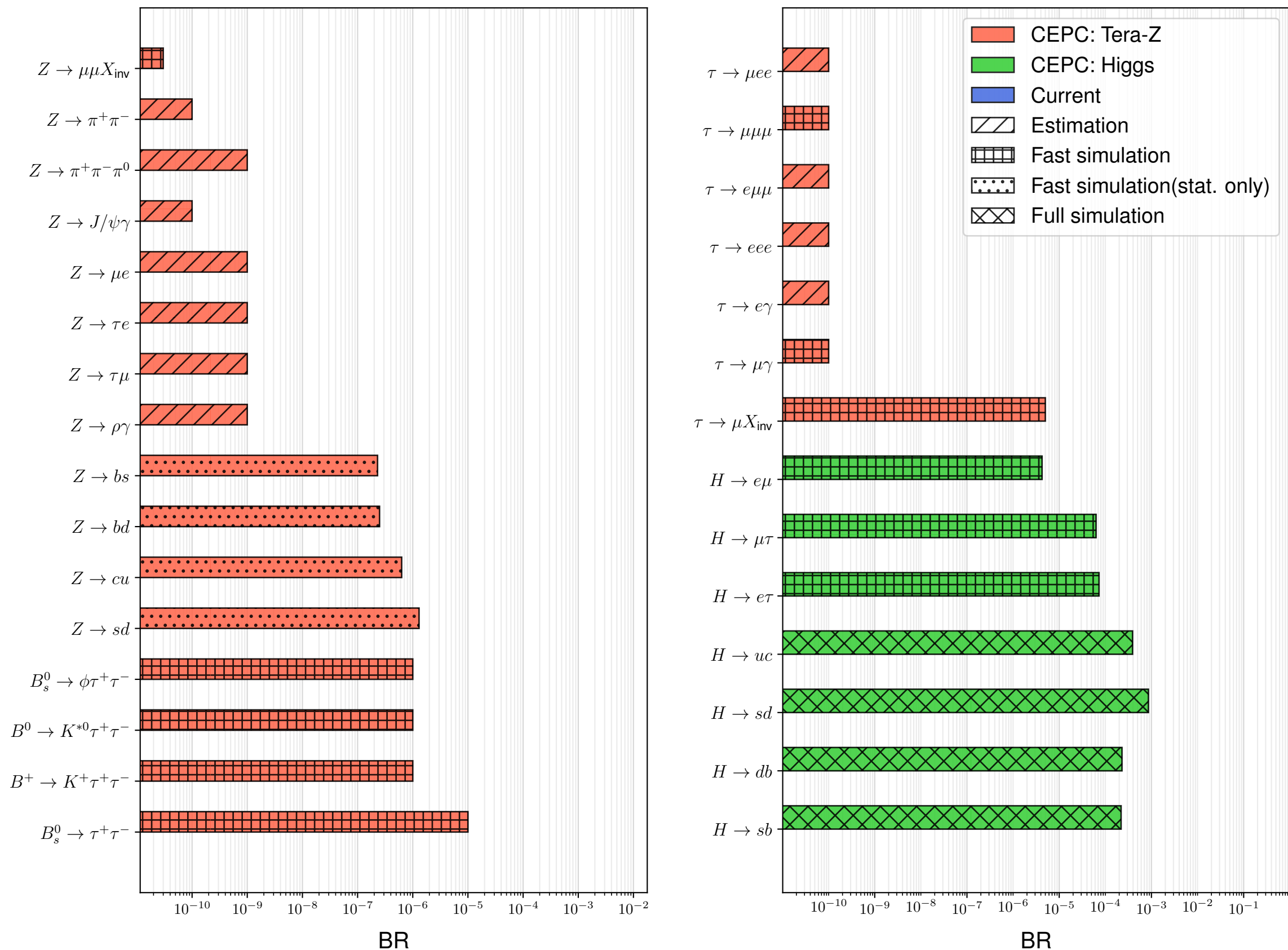
Belle 2025 (800 fb⁻¹)



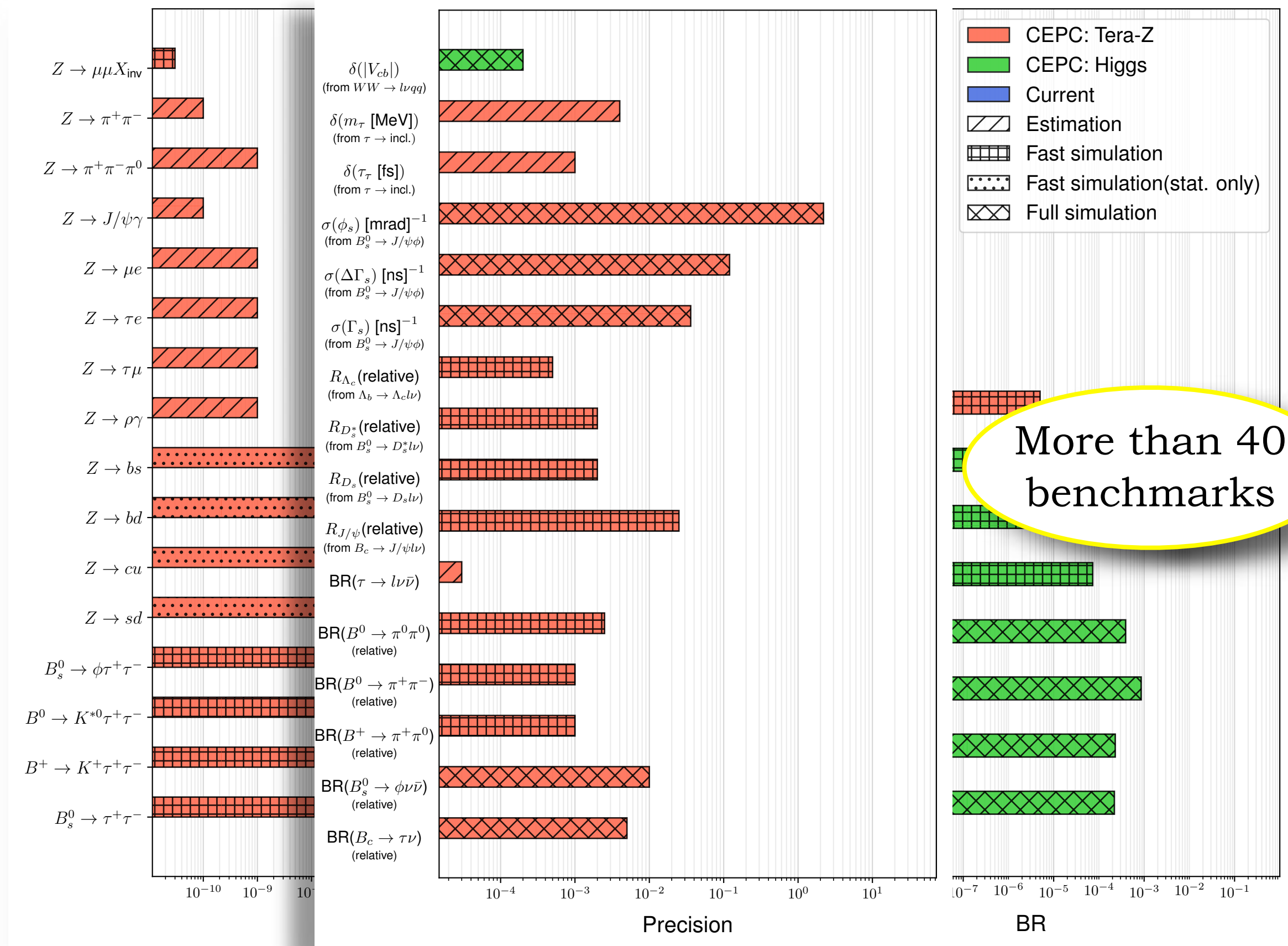
CEPC prospect



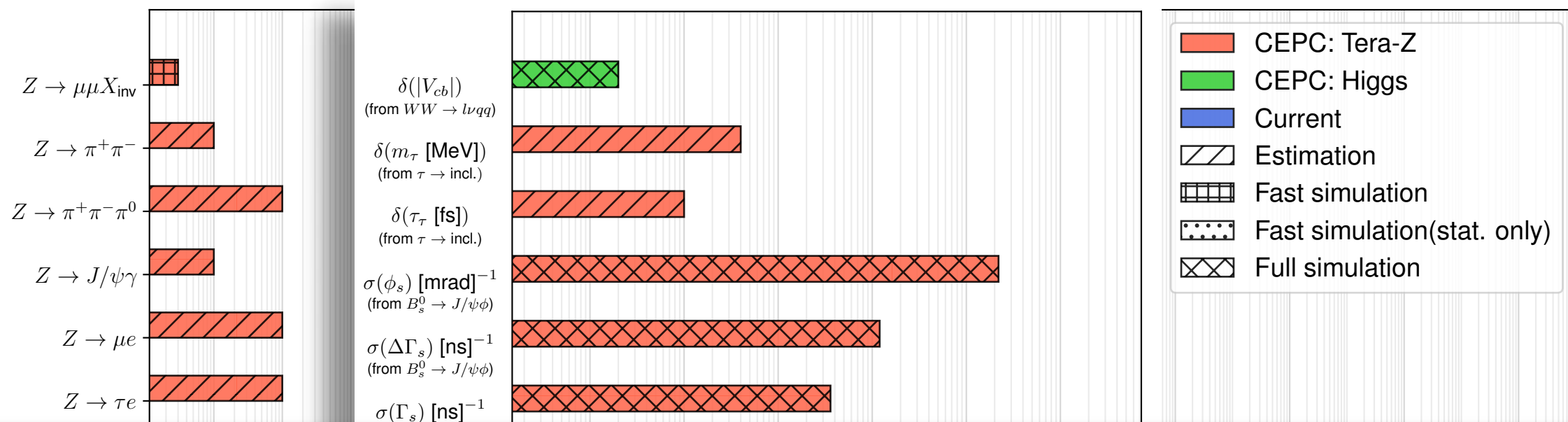
Summary: benchmark searches and measurements



Summary: benchmark searches and measurements



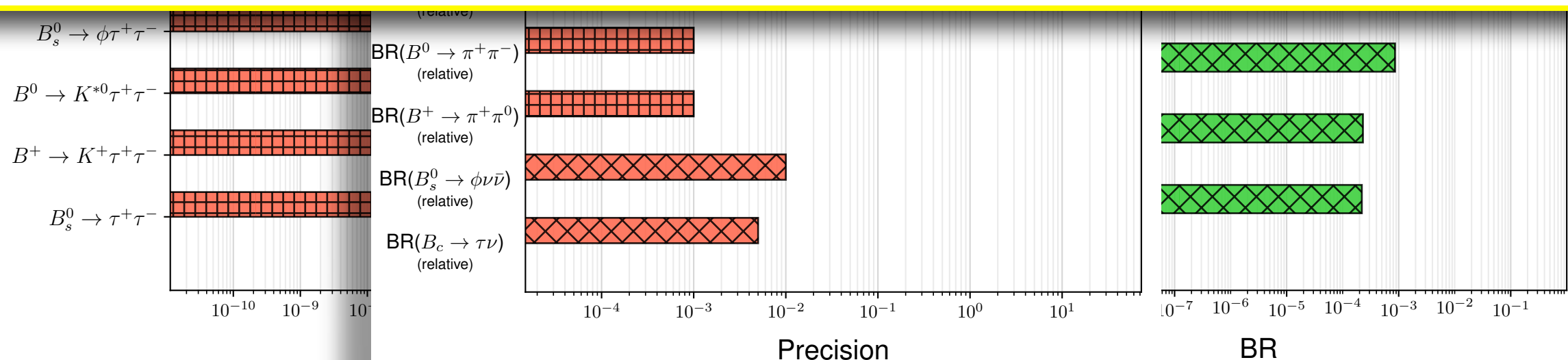
Summary: benchmark searches and measurements



In the white paper there is much more than what I could mention:

- opportunities beyond Z pole (top/Higgs FCNCs, CKM entries measurements from W decays etc.)
- detector performance requirements for such an ambitious program

...



Final remarks

Plenty of mystery (hence of opportunities to learn something)
in the flavour sector of the Standard Model

Through flavour observables, one can probe some of the
highest energy scales accessible in laboratory experiments

The Z-pole run of the CEPC would offer plenty of flavour
physics opportunities, summarised in our [white paper](#)

$O(10^{12})$ Z decays would enable us to study many processes with a
much higher precision than (or inaccessible to) other experiments

Examples of unique opportunities at Tera Z: rare B decays,
Z LFV decays, tests of LFU in tau decays or B_c decays etc.

Outlook

It is not over: there is much more to study!

The “wish list” is long, here some examples:

- CKM: summarize the prospects for CKM measurements (especially the new methodology of determine it directly from W and top decay)
- CPV: explore conventional CPV observation channels (including baryons like Λ_b), and discuss new methods
- Possible to probe matter origin? Any sensitivity to *e.g.* leptogenesis (heavy sterile neutrinos?) and relevant physics processes (EWPT, QCD phase transition, etc.)
- Interplay between Flavour & QCD: (i) hadronization, (ii) form factors, (iii) QCD effects & B-anomalies ...
- Dedicated studies on charm (D , Λ_c) and strange hadrons
- Light new physics particles (X) in hadrons decays? $D \rightarrow \pi X$, $B \rightarrow K X$ etc.

...

Everyone is welcome to join these efforts and share their insight!

谢谢大家!

有问题吗?



Additional slides

Z LFV prospects

A study in the context of the FCC-ee (5×10^{12} Zs):

- $Z \rightarrow \mu e$:

M. Dam @ Tau '18 & 1811.09408

In contrast to the LHC, no background from $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$:

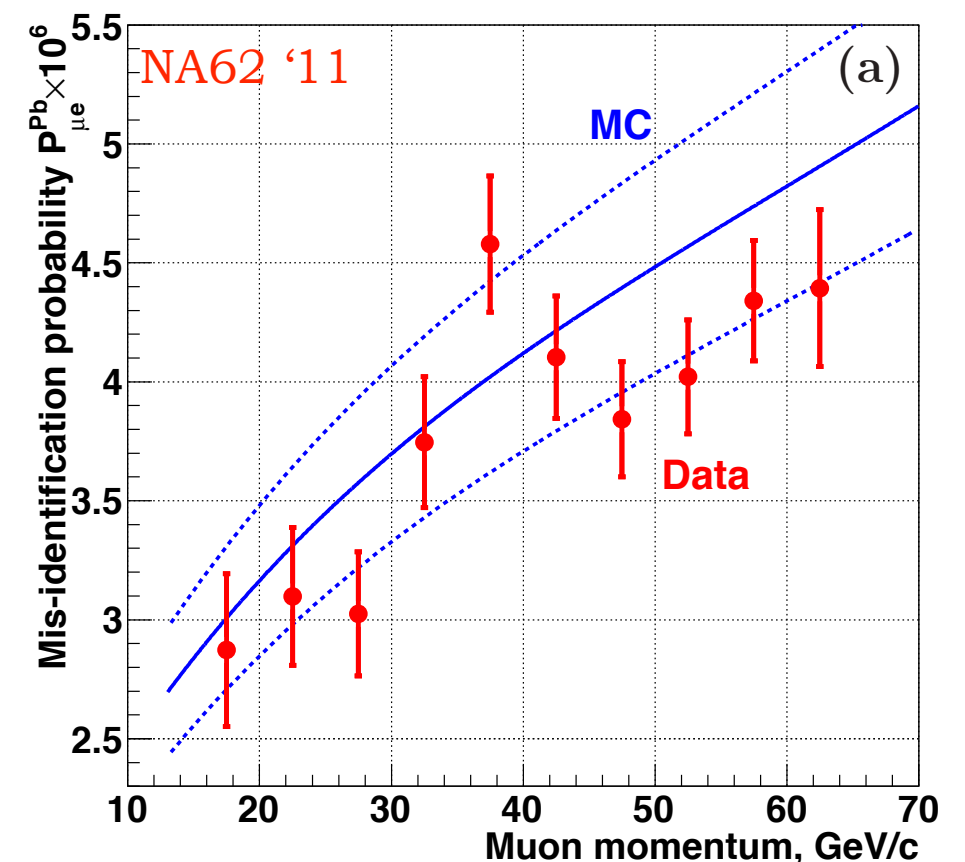
Z mass constraint much more effective (collision energy is known)

→ background rate $< 10^{-11}$ (with a 0.1% momentum resolution at ~ 45 GeV)

Main issue: muons can release enough brems. energy in the ECAL to be mis-id as electrons. Mis-id probability measured by NA62 for a LKr ECAL: 4×10^{-6} (for $p_\mu \sim 45$ GeV)

→ Bg. from $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ + mis-id μ
(3×10^{-7} of all Z decays)

Sensitivity limited to: $\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \mu e) \sim 10^{-8}$
(Improved e/ μ separation? Down to 10^{-10})



Z LFV prospects

A study in the context of the FCC-ee (5×10^{12} Zs):

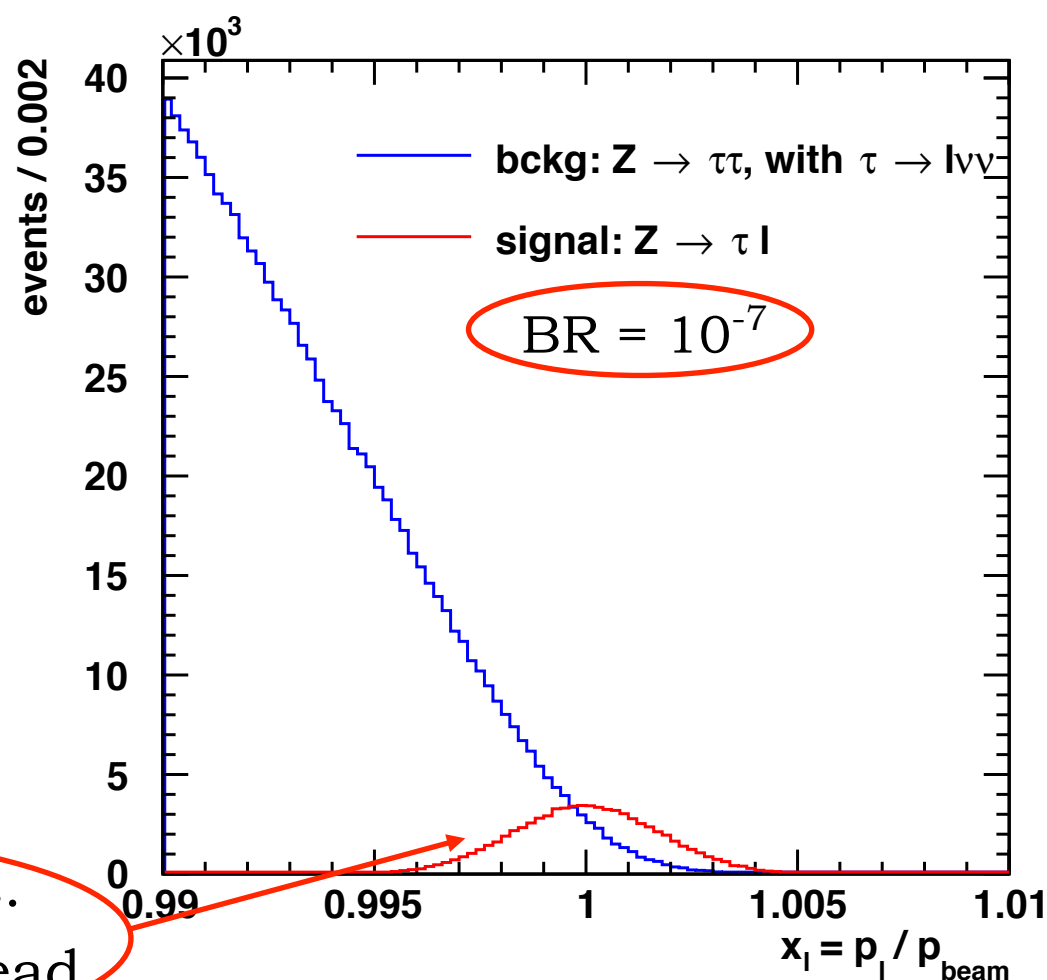
- $Z \rightarrow \ell \tau$:

M. Dam @ Tau '18 & 1811.09408

To avoid mis-id, select one hadronic τ (≥ 3 prong, or reconstructed excl. mode)

Main background from $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ (with one leptonic τ decay)

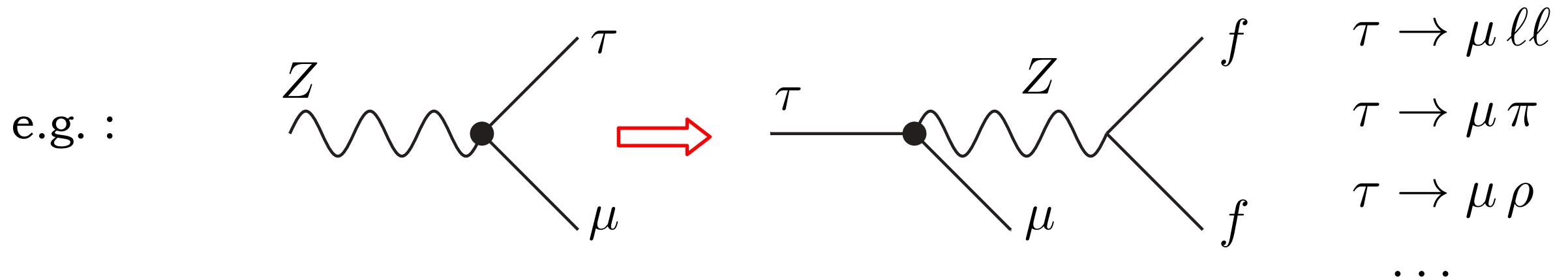
Simulated signal & background:



Sensitivity:
 $\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \ell\tau) \sim 10^{-9}$

$\sim 10^{-3}$ momentum res.
& $\sim 10^{-3}$ collision E spread

- CEPC can improve on present LHC (future HL-LHC) bounds up to 4 (3) orders of magnitude, at least for the $Z \rightarrow \tau \ell$ modes
- The question is: can CEPC searches find new physics with these modes?
- It depends on the indirect constraints from other processes
- In particular low-energy LFV processes are unavoidably induced



Previous model-independent studies:

Nussinov Peccei Zhang '00; Delepine Vissani '01; Gutsche et al. '11; Crivellin Najjari Rosiek '13; ...

LFV in the SM effective field theory

If NP scale $\Lambda \gg m_W$: $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \sum_a C_a^{(5)} Q_a^{(5)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_a C_a^{(6)} Q_a^{(6)} + \dots$

Dimension-6 effective operators that can induce CLFV

4-leptons operators		Dipole operators	
$Q_{\ell\ell}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu L_L)(\bar{L}_L \gamma^\mu L_L)$	Q_{eW}	$(\bar{L}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} e_R) \tau_I \Phi W_{\mu\nu}^I$
Q_{ee}	$(\bar{e}_R \gamma_\mu e_R)(\bar{e}_R \gamma^\mu e_R)$	Q_{eB}	$(\bar{L}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} e_R) \Phi B_{\mu\nu}$
$Q_{\ell e}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu L_L)(\bar{e}_R \gamma^\mu e_R)$		
2-lepton 2-quark operators			
$Q_{\ell q}^{(1)}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu L_L)(\bar{Q}_L \gamma^\mu Q_L)$	$Q_{\ell u}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu L_L)(\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu u_R)$
$Q_{\ell q}^{(3)}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu \tau_I L_L)(\bar{Q}_L \gamma^\mu \tau_I Q_L)$	$Q_{e u}$	$(\bar{e}_R \gamma_\mu e_R)(\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu u_R)$
Q_{eq}	$(\bar{e}_R \gamma^\mu e_R)(\bar{Q}_L \gamma_\mu Q_L)$	$Q_{\ell edq}$	$(\bar{L}_L^a e_R)(\bar{d}_R Q_L^a)$
$Q_{\ell d}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu L_L)(\bar{d}_R \gamma^\mu d_R)$	$Q_{\ell equ}^{(1)}$	$(\bar{L}_L^a e_R) \epsilon_{ab} (\bar{Q}_L^b u_R)$
Q_{ed}	$(\bar{e}_R \gamma_\mu e_R)(\bar{d}_R \gamma^\mu d_R)$	$Q_{\ell equ}^{(3)}$	$(\bar{L}_L^a \sigma_{\mu\nu} e_R) \epsilon_{ab} (\bar{Q}_L^b \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_R)$
Lepton-Higgs operators			
$Q_{\Phi\ell}^{(1)}$	$(\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \Phi)(\bar{L}_L \gamma^\mu L_L)$	$Q_{\Phi\ell}^{(3)}$	$(\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I \Phi)(\bar{L}_L \tau_I \gamma^\mu L_L)$
$Q_{\Phi e}$	$(\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \Phi)(\bar{e}_R \gamma^\mu e_R)$	$Q_{e\Phi 3}$	$(\bar{L}_L e_R \Phi)(\Phi^\dagger \Phi)$

Grzadkowski et al. '10; Crivellin Najjari Rosiek '13

The couplings of Z to leptons are protected by the SM gauge symmetry
 \rightarrow LFV effects must be proportional to the EW breaking:

$$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \ell\ell') \sim \text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \ell\ell) \times C_{\text{NP}}^2 \left(\frac{v}{\Lambda_{\text{NP}}} \right)^4$$

In the SM EFT, only 5 operators contribute at the tree level:

$$Q_{\Phi\ell}^{(1)} = (\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \Phi) (\bar{\ell}_L \gamma^\mu \ell'_L), \quad Q_{\Phi\ell}^{(3)} = (\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I \Phi) (\bar{\ell}_L \tau_I \gamma^\mu \ell'_L), \quad Q_{\Phi e} = (\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \Phi) (\bar{\ell}_R \gamma^\mu \ell'_R)$$

$$Q_{eW} = (\bar{\ell}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} \ell'_R) \tau_I \Phi W_{\mu\nu}^I, \quad Q_{eB} = (\bar{\ell}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} \ell'_R) \Phi B_{\mu\nu}$$

$$\text{Br} \left[Z^0 \rightarrow \ell_f^\pm \ell_i^\mp \right] = \frac{m_Z}{24\pi\Gamma_Z} \left[\frac{m_Z^2}{2} \left(|C_{fi}^{ZR}|^2 + |C_{fi}^{ZL}|^2 \right) + |\Gamma_{fi}^{ZL}|^2 + |\Gamma_{fi}^{ZR}|^2 \right]$$

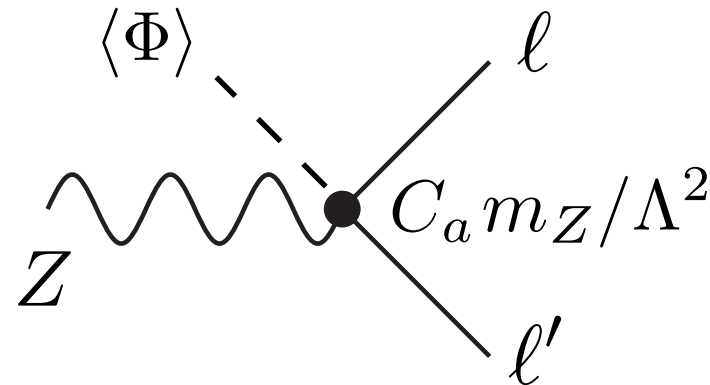
$$\Gamma_{fi}^{ZL} = \frac{e}{2s_W c_W} \left(\frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} \left(C_{\varphi l}^{(1)fi} + C_{\varphi l}^{(3)fi} \right) + (1 - 2s_W^2) \delta_{fi} \right) \quad \Gamma_{fi}^{ZR} = \frac{e}{2s_W c_W} \left(\frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} C_{\varphi e}^{fi} - 2s_W^2 \delta_{fi} \right)$$

$$C_{fi}^{ZR} = C_{if}^{ZL*} = -\frac{v}{\sqrt{2}\Lambda^2} = \left(s_W C_{eB}^{fi} + c_W C_{eW}^{fi} \right)$$

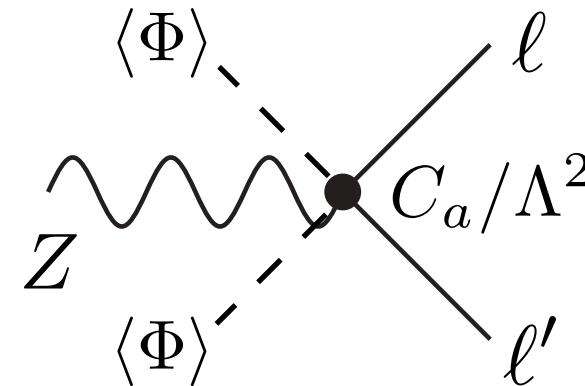
Crivellin Najjari Rosiek 1312.0634

T

Dipole operators:



Higgs-lepton operators:



$$Q_{\Phi\ell}^{(1)} = (\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \Phi) (\bar{\ell}_L \gamma^\mu \ell'_L), \quad Q_{\Phi\ell}^{(3)} = (\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I \Phi) (\bar{\ell}_L \tau_I \gamma^\mu \ell'_L), \quad Q_{\Phi e} = (\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \Phi) (\bar{\ell}_R \gamma^\mu \ell'_R)$$

$$Q_{eW} = (\bar{\ell}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} \ell'_R) \tau_I \Phi W_{\mu\nu}^I, \quad Q_{eB} = (\bar{\ell}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} \ell'_R) \Phi B_{\mu\nu}$$

If a single operator dominates, $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell'$ constrain NP scales up to

$$C_a = 1 : \quad \Lambda \gtrsim 5 \text{ TeV} \quad (Z \rightarrow \mu e), \quad \Lambda \gtrsim 3 \text{ TeV} \quad (Z \rightarrow \tau \ell)$$

$$\Gamma_{fi}^{ZL} = \frac{e}{2s_W c_W} \left(\frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} (C_{\varphi l}^{(1)fi} + C_{\varphi l}^{(3)fi}) + (1 - 2s_W^2) \delta_{fi} \right) \quad \Gamma_{fi}^{ZR} = \frac{e}{2s_W c_W} \left(\frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2} C_{\varphi e}^{fi} - 2s_W^2 \delta_{fi} \right)$$

$$C_{fi}^{ZR} = C_{if}^{ZL*} = -\frac{v}{\sqrt{2}\Lambda^2} = (s_W C_{eB}^{fi} + c_W C_{eW}^{fi})$$

Crivellin Najjari Rosiek 1312.0634

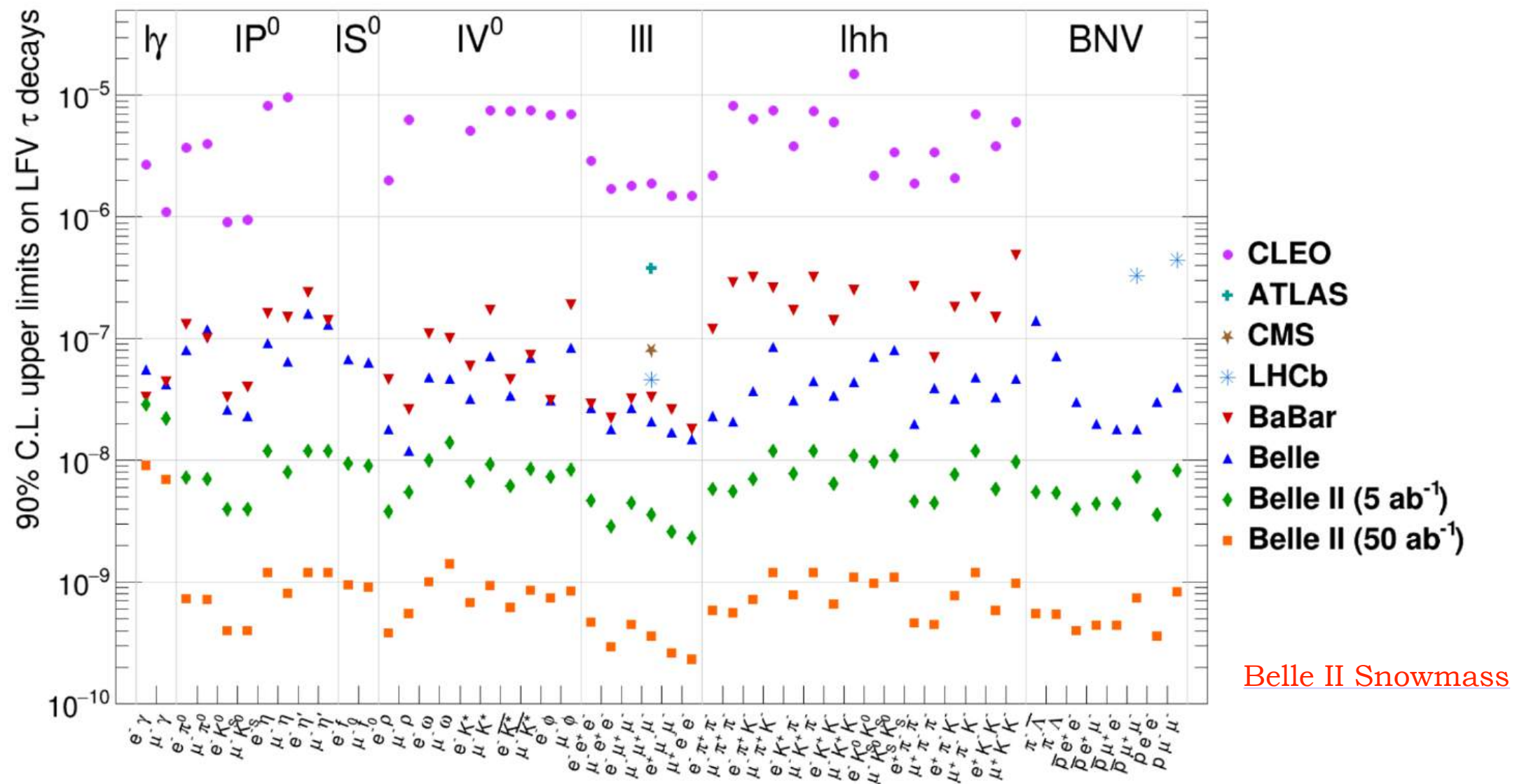
Model-independent indirect limits on Z LFV decays

Observable	Operator	Indirect Limit on LFVZD	Strongest constraint
lepton-Higgs ops $\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \mu e)$ dipole ops	$(Q_{\varphi\ell}^{(1)} + Q_{\varphi\ell}^{(3)})^{e\mu}$	3.7×10^{-13}	$\mu \rightarrow e, \text{Au}$
	$Q_{\varphi e}^{e\mu}$	9.4×10^{-15}	$\mu \rightarrow e, \text{Au}$
	$Q_{eB}^{e\mu}$	1.4×10^{-23}	$\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$
	$Q_{eW}^{e\mu}$	1.6×10^{-22}	$\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$
$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \tau e)$	$(Q_{\varphi\ell}^{(1)} + Q_{\varphi\ell}^{(3)})^{e\tau}$	6.3×10^{-8}	$\tau \rightarrow \rho e$
	$Q_{\varphi e}^{e\tau}$	6.3×10^{-8}	$\tau \rightarrow \rho e$
	$Q_{eB}^{e\tau}$	1.2×10^{-15}	$\tau \rightarrow e\gamma$
	$Q_{eW}^{e\tau}$	1.3×10^{-14}	$\tau \rightarrow e\gamma$
$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \tau \mu)$	$(Q_{\varphi\ell}^{(1)} + Q_{\varphi\ell}^{(3)})^{\mu\tau}$	4.3×10^{-8}	$\tau \rightarrow \rho \mu$
	$Q_{\varphi e}^{\mu\tau}$	4.3×10^{-8}	$\tau \rightarrow \rho \mu$
	$Q_{eB}^{\mu\tau}$	1.5×10^{-15}	$\tau \rightarrow \mu\gamma$
	$Q_{eW}^{\mu\tau}$	1.7×10^{-14}	$\tau \rightarrow \mu\gamma$

LC Marcano Roy '21

Present/future limits on LFV tau decays

LFV tau decays:



Measurement	Current	Belle II	FCC	CEPC prelim.
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \mu\mu\mu)$	$< 2.1 \times 10^{-8}$	3.6×10^{-10}	1.4×10^{-11}	10^{-10}
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \mu\gamma)$	$< 4.4 \times 10^{-8}$	6.9×10^{-9}	1.2×10^{-9}	10^{-10}

LFU tests in Z decays

Universality presently tested at the per-mil level

LEP exps/SLD combination:

[hep-ex:0509008](#)

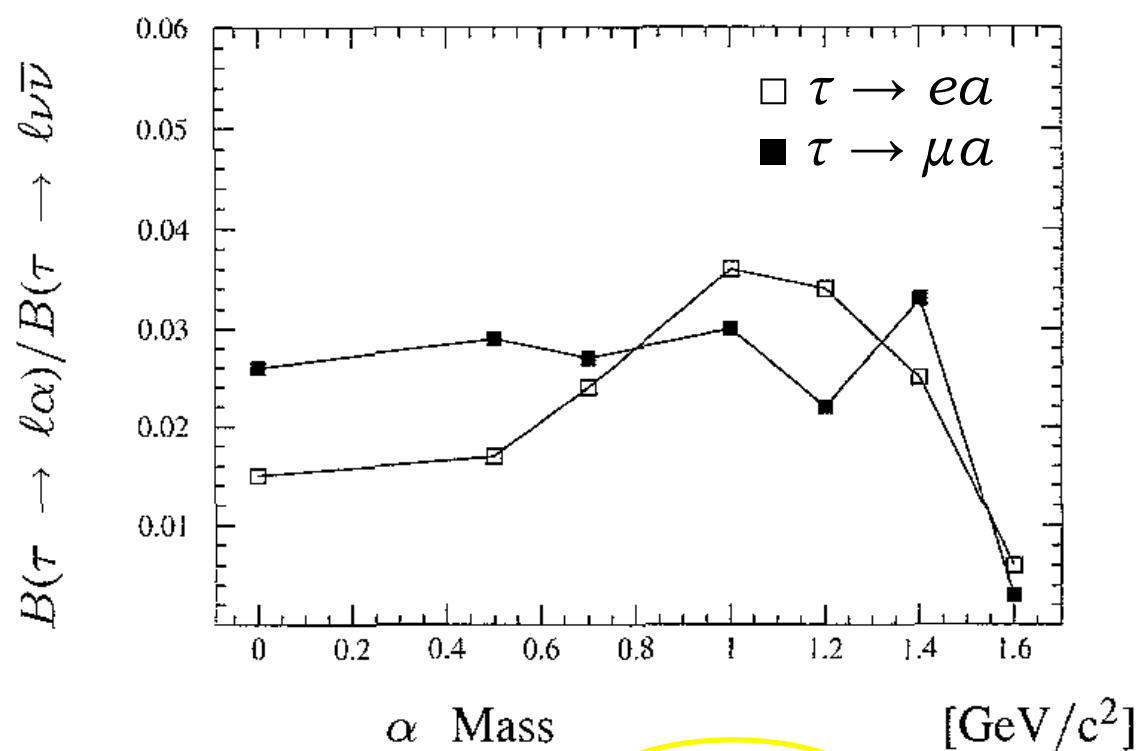
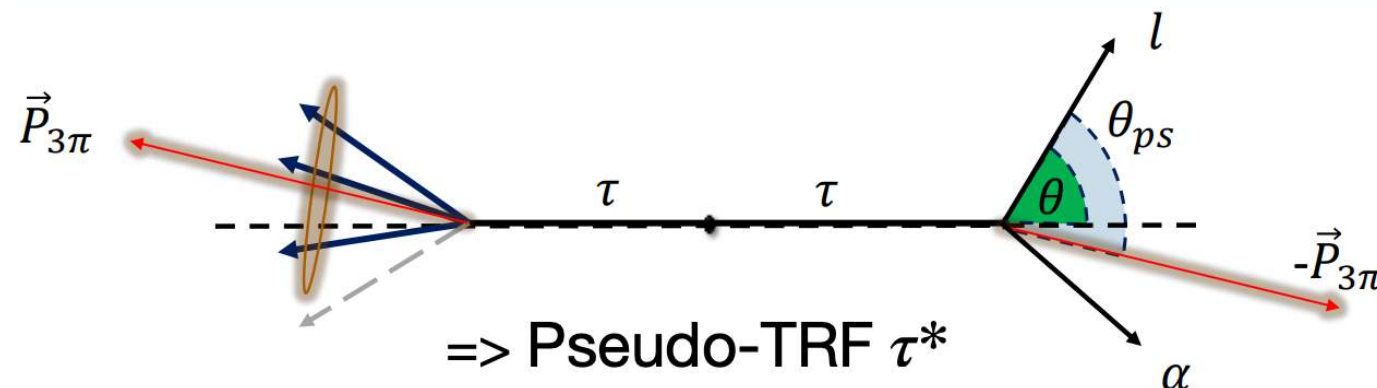
$$\frac{\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)}{\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow e^+ e^-)} = 1.0009 \pm 0.0028, \quad \frac{\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-)}{\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow e^+ e^-)} = 1.0019 \pm 0.0032$$

(1.7×10^7 Z decays at LEP + 6×10^5 Z decays with polarised beams at SLC)

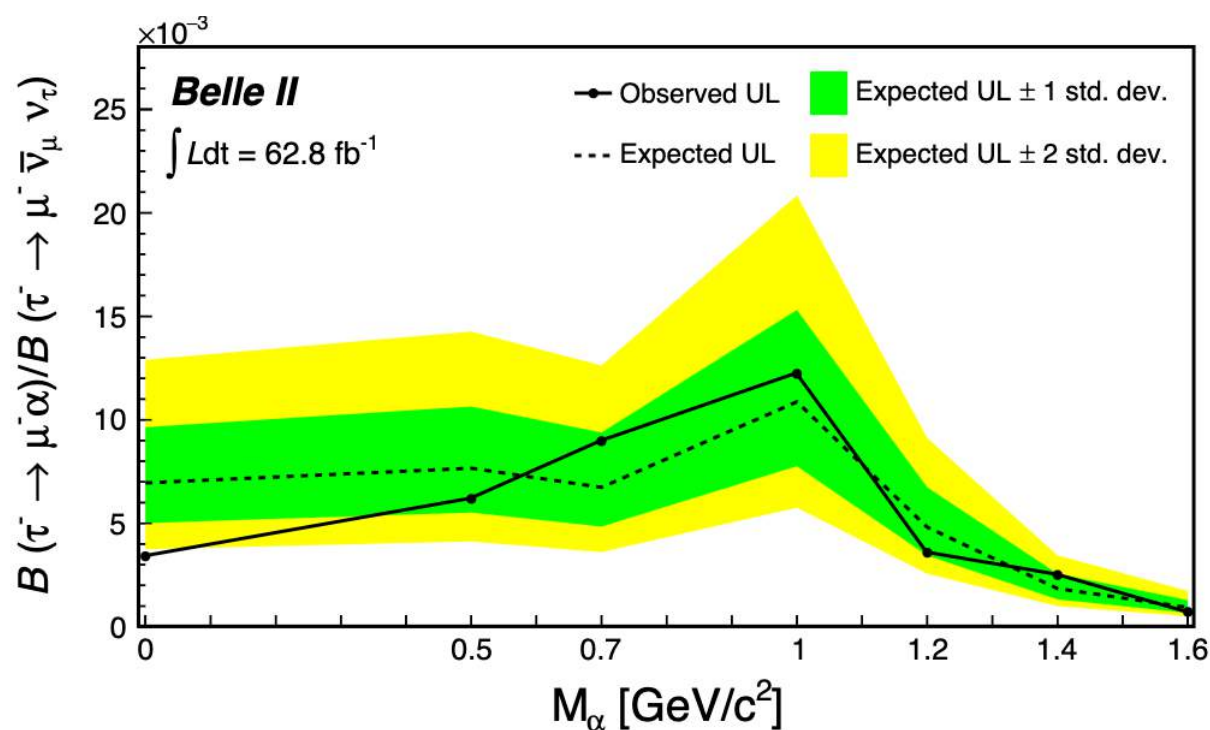
- Very important test in view of the LFU anomalies in B decays
- At LEP statistical and systematic uncertainties of the same order
- With 10^{12} Z , CEPC has no problem of statistics
- Can systematics be controlled e.g. at the 10^{-4} level?
- This would test new physics coupling preferably to tau up to scales of the order of 10-20 TeV

Present limits on $\tau \rightarrow e a$, $\tau \rightarrow \mu a$ (invisible a)

A challenging search:
tau momentum / rest frame
cannot be exactly reconstructed
BG: ordinary $\tau \rightarrow \ell \nu \bar{\nu}$



ARGUS 1995 (472 pb⁻¹)



Belle II 2023 (62.8 fb⁻¹)

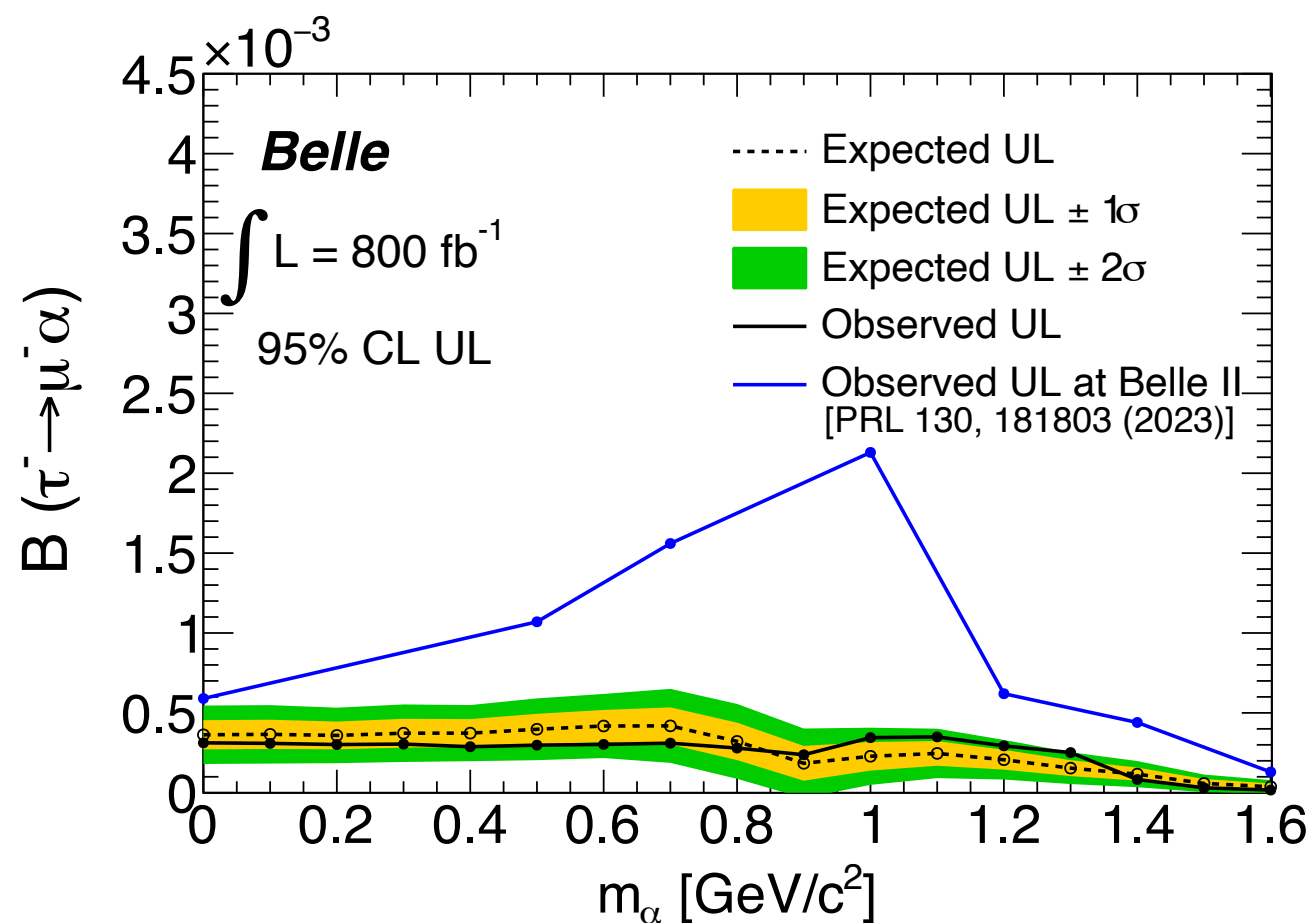
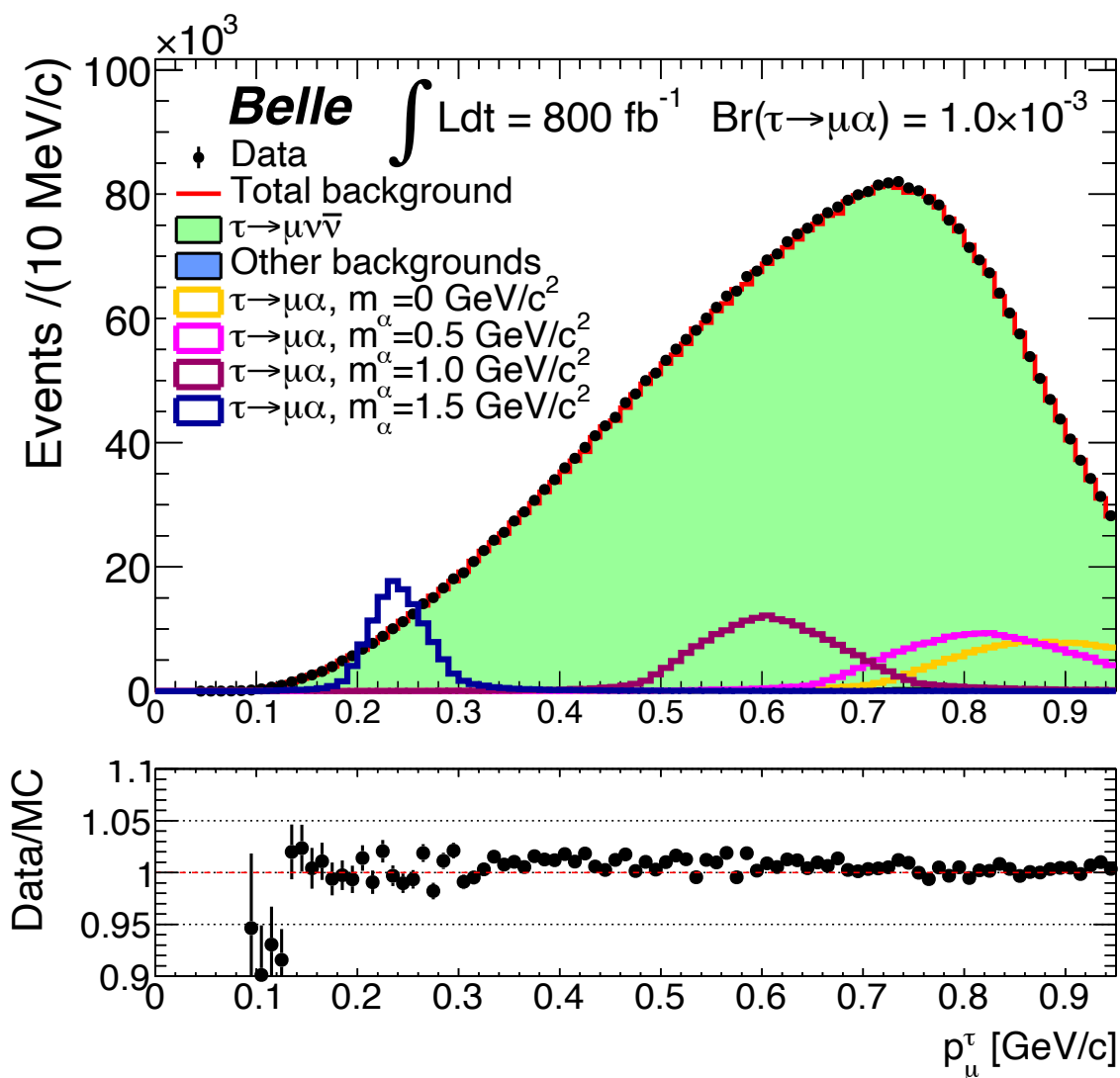
up to O(10) improvement!

$$m_a \approx 0 : \quad \begin{aligned} \text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \mu a) &< 4.7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ (90\% CL)} \Rightarrow f_a / C_{\mu\tau}^{V,A} > 5.1 \times 10^6 \text{ GeV} \\ \text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow e a) &< 7.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ (90\% CL)} \Rightarrow f_a / C_{e\tau}^{V,A} > 4.0 \times 10^6 \text{ GeV} \end{aligned}$$

Present limits on $\tau \rightarrow e a$, $\tau \rightarrow \mu a$ (invisible a)

A challenging search:

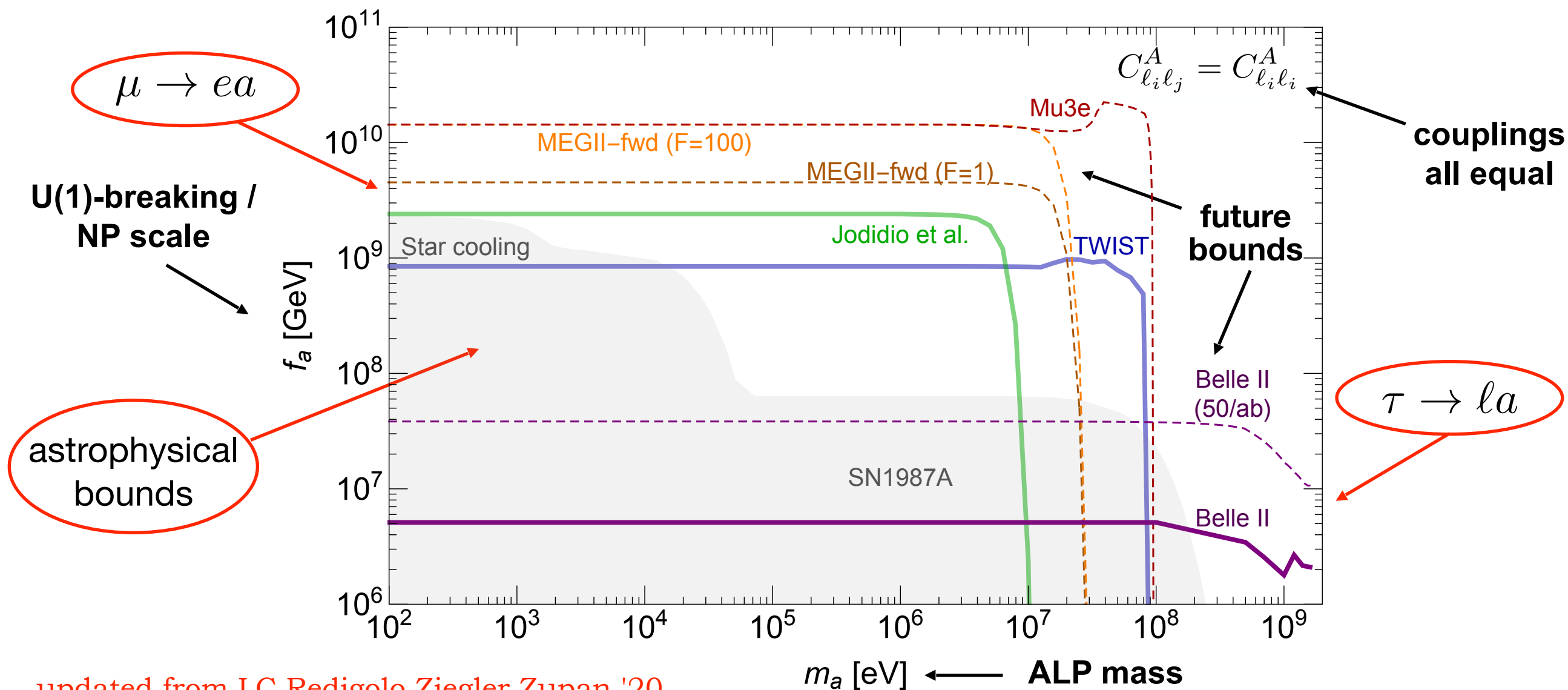
- **NEW! Belle 2025** (800 fb^{-1})



$$m_a \approx 0 : \text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow e a) < 7.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ (90\% CL)} \Rightarrow f_a / C_{e\tau}^{V,A} > 4.0 \times 10^6 \text{ GeV}$$

Summary of searches for light *invisible* LFV ALPs

$$\mathcal{L}_{all} = \frac{\partial^\mu a}{2f_a} (C_{ij}^V \bar{\ell}_i \gamma_\mu \ell_j + C_{ij}^A \bar{\ell}_i \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 \ell_j) \Rightarrow \Gamma(\ell_i \rightarrow \ell_j a) = \frac{1}{64\pi} \frac{m_{\ell_i}^3}{f_a^2} (|C_{\ell_i \ell_j}^V|^2 + |C_{\ell_i \ell_j}^A|^2) \left(1 - \frac{m_a^2}{m_{\ell_i}^2}\right)^2$$



updated from [LC Redigolo Ziegler Zupan '20](#)

- Decays mediated by dimension-5 operators: much larger NP scales can be reached than with $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$, $\mu \rightarrow eee$ etc. (from dim-6 operators)
- Mu/tau/astro interplay: if $m_a > m_\mu$ constraints mainly come from τ decays