



Recent results of semileptonic B decays at Belle II

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Luminosity frontier: SuperKEKB

- Asymmetric e^+e^- collider
 - $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma(4S) \rightarrow B\bar{B}$
 - ▶ very clean and well-known initial state

Beam current: KEKB x ~ 1.5

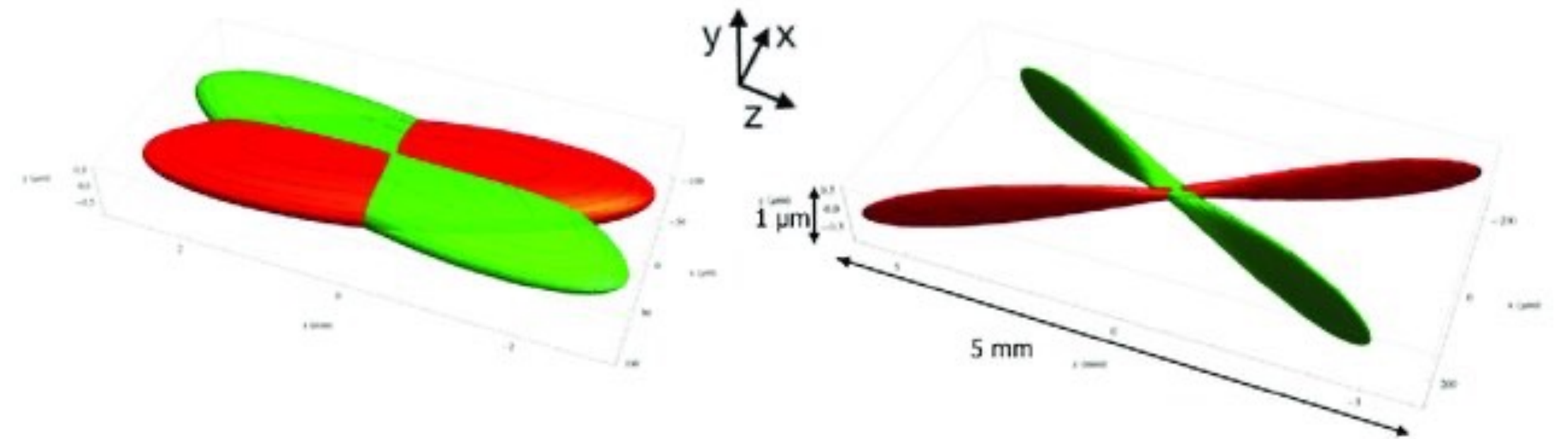
$$L = \frac{\gamma_{\pm}}{2er_e} \left(1 + \frac{\sigma_y^*}{\sigma_x^*}\right) \frac{I_{\pm} \xi_{\pm y}}{\beta_y^*} \left(\frac{R_L}{R_y}\right)$$

Beam squeeze: KEKB / ~ 20

Nano beam scheme

Belle

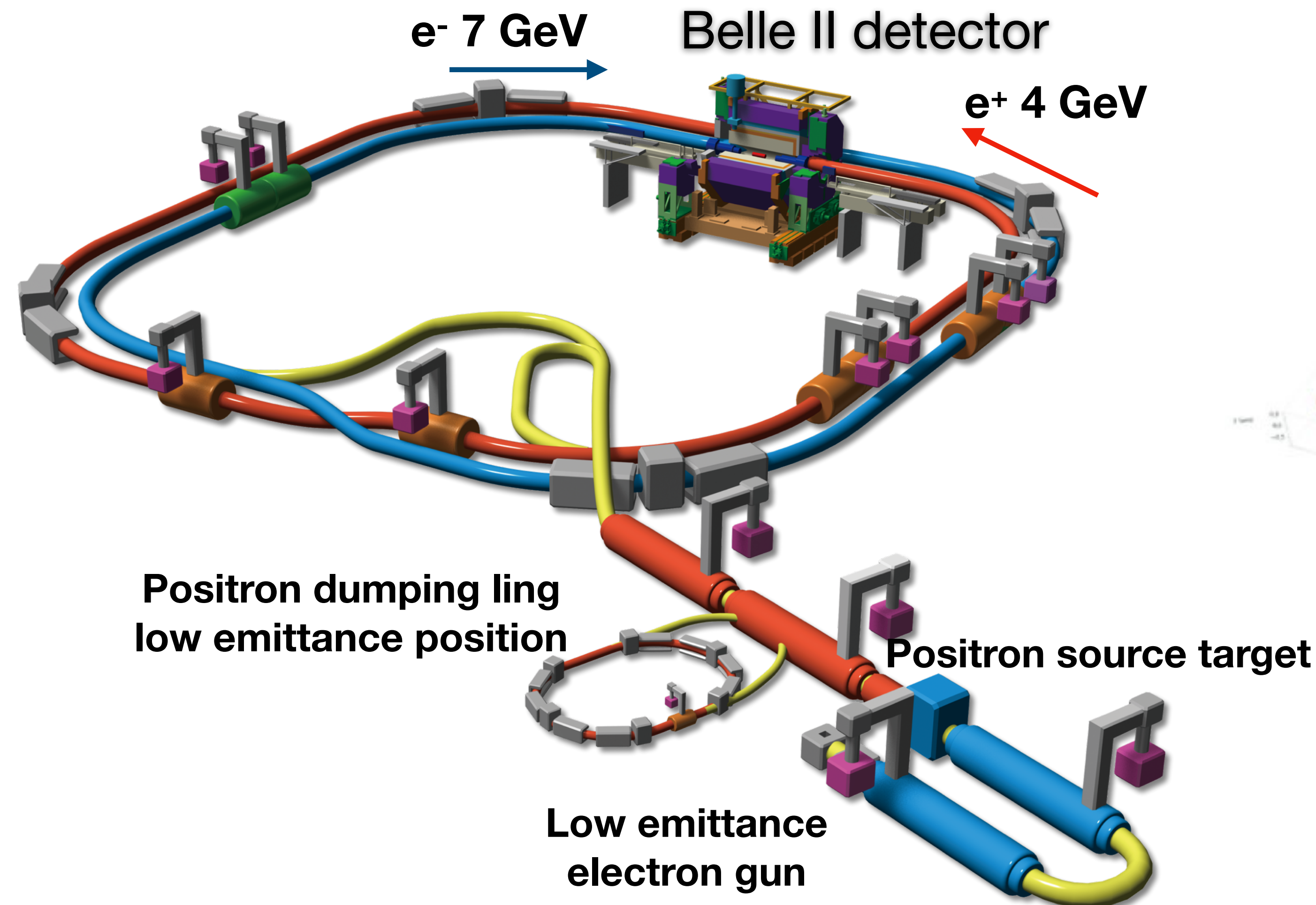
Belle II



Achieved : $5.1 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ (Record)

- Data at $\gamma(4S)$:

- $\sim 520 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ (Belle II) \leftrightarrow 711 fb^{-1} (Belle)₂



The Belle II detector

Vertex detector (VXD)

Inner 2 layers: pixel detector (PXD)
Outer 4 layers: strip sensor (SVD)

e^- (7GeV)

Central Drift Chamber (CDC)

He (50%), C₂H₆ (50%), small cells, long lever arm

ElectroMagnetic Calorimeter (ECL)

CsI(Tl) + waveform sampling

Particle Identification

Barrel: Time-Of-Propagation counters (TOP)
Forward: Aerogel RICH (ARICH)

e^+ (4GeV)

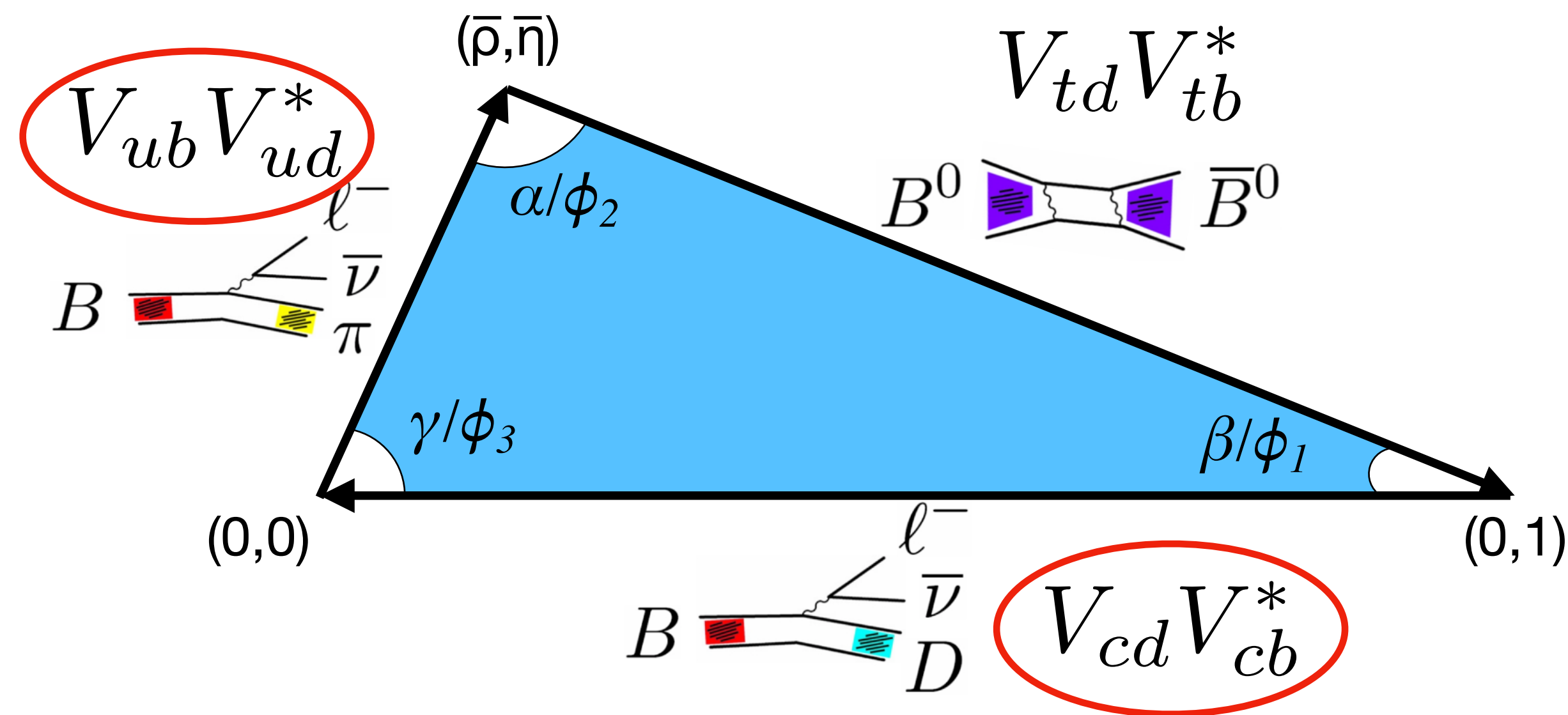
K_L/μ detector (KLM)

Outer barrel: Resistive Plate Counter (RPC)
Endcap/inner barrel: Scintillator

• Features:

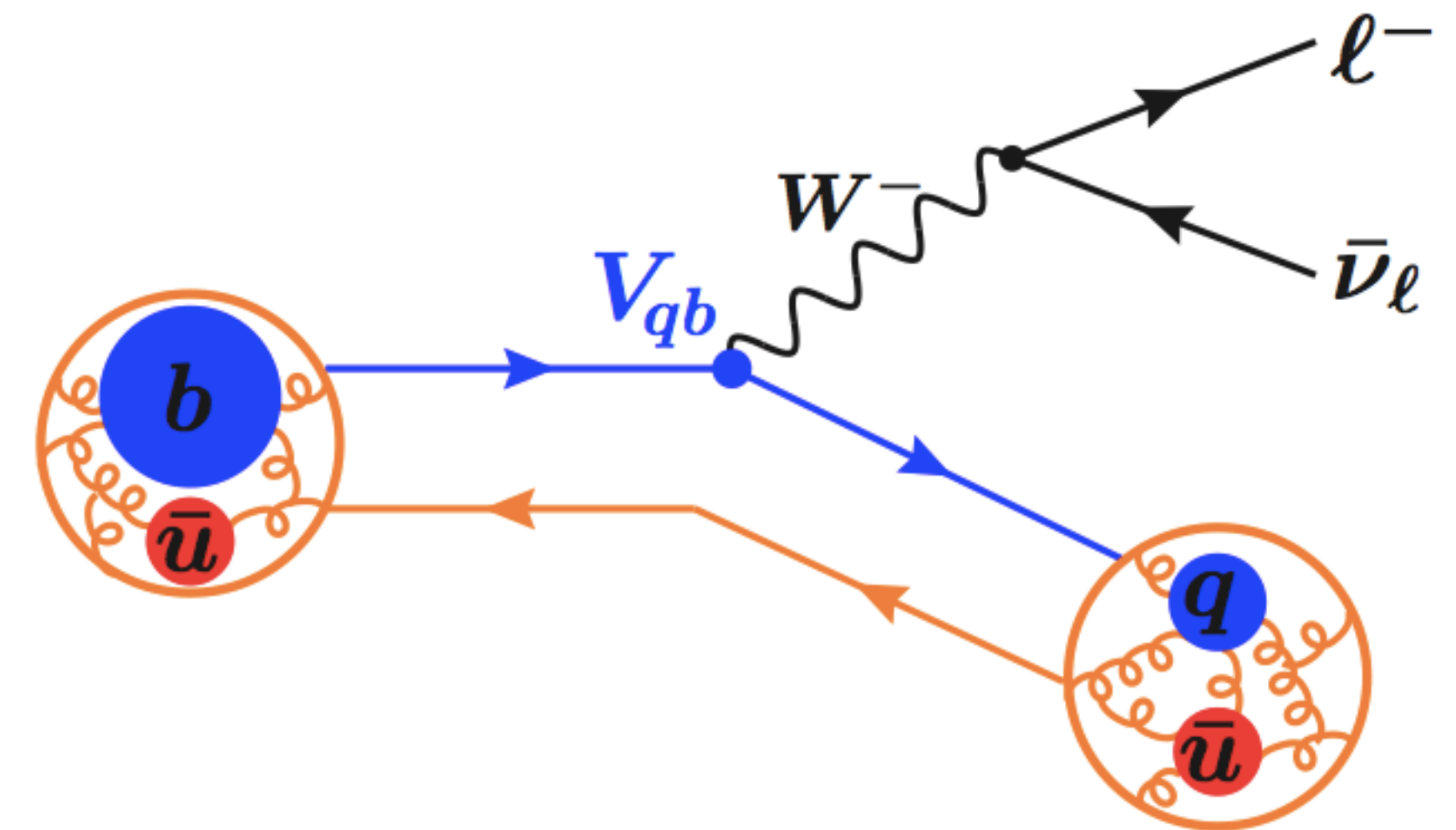
- Near-hermetic detector
- Vertexing and tracking: σ vertex $\sim 15\mu\text{m}$, CDC spatial res. $100\mu\text{m}$ $\sigma(P_T)/P_T \sim 0.4\%$
- Good at measuring neutrals, π^0 , γ , $K_L\dots$ $\sigma(E)/E \sim 2\text{-}4\%$

$|V_{cb}|, |V_{ub}|$ measurement through semi-leptonic B decays



Status of $|V_{cb}|$ and $|V_{ub}|$

Side	Observable		Dominant uncertainties
$ V_{cb} $	$Br(b \rightarrow cl\nu)$	$Br(B \rightarrow D^{(*)}l\nu)$	Exclusive: Lattice QCD
		$Br(B \rightarrow X_c l\nu)$	
$ V_{ub} $	$Br(b \rightarrow ul\nu)$	$Br(B \rightarrow \pi/\rho l\nu)$	Inclusive: experiment vs. phenomenology
		$Br(B \rightarrow X_u l\nu)$	



- $|V_{ub}|$ and $|V_{cb}|$ determinations based on inclusive and exclusive measurements differ by $\sim 3\sigma$
- Experimental focus is on understanding this discrepancy, as it limits the power of precision flavor physics

Exclusive:

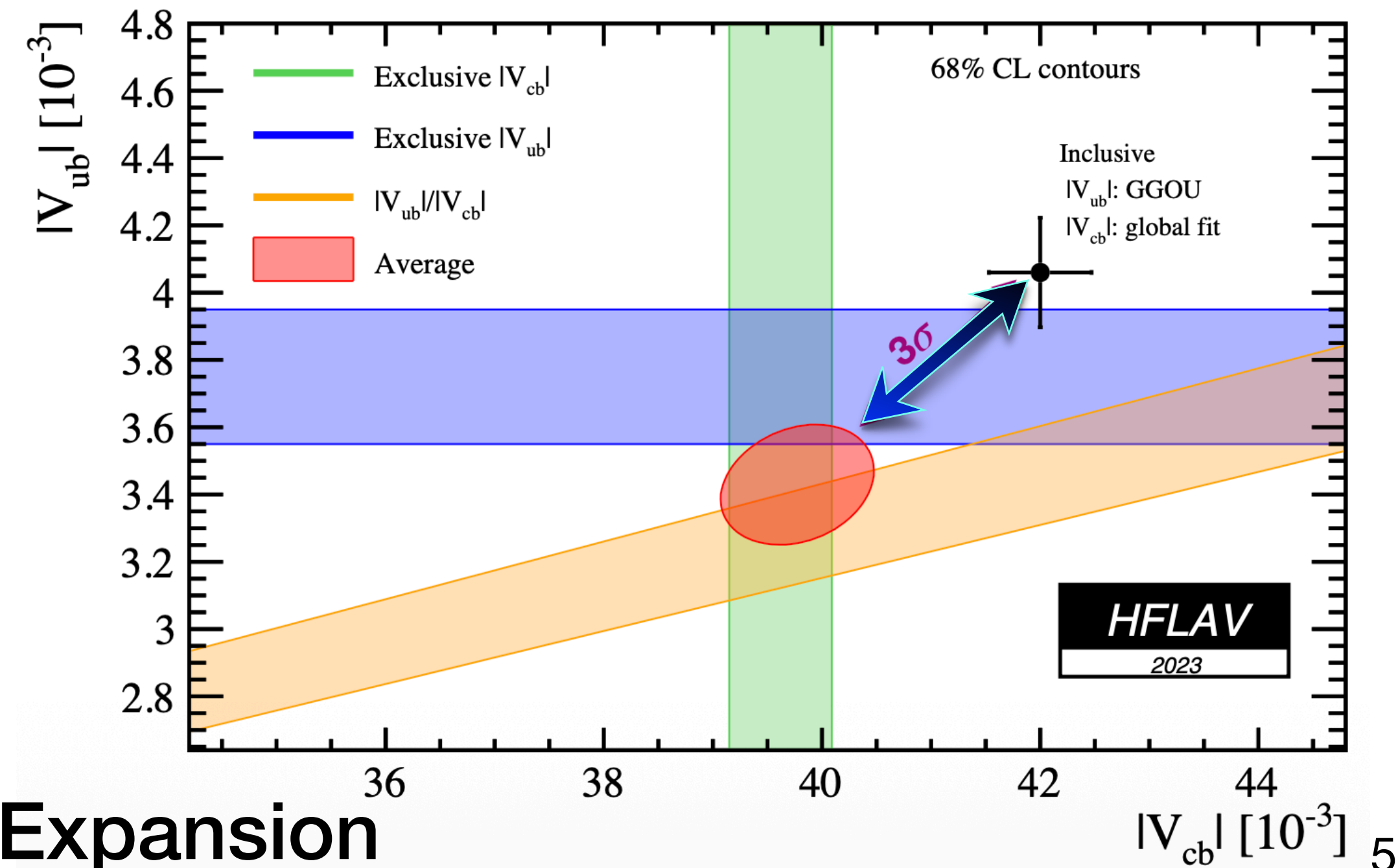
$$\frac{d\mathcal{B}}{dq^2}(B \rightarrow \pi l \nu) \propto |V_{ub}|^2 f_+^2(q^2)$$

Inclusive:

$$\mathcal{B} = |V_{qb}|^2 \left[\Gamma(b \rightarrow q l \bar{\nu}_l) + 1/m_{c,b} + \alpha_s + \dots \right]$$

Form Factors

Heavy Quark Expansion

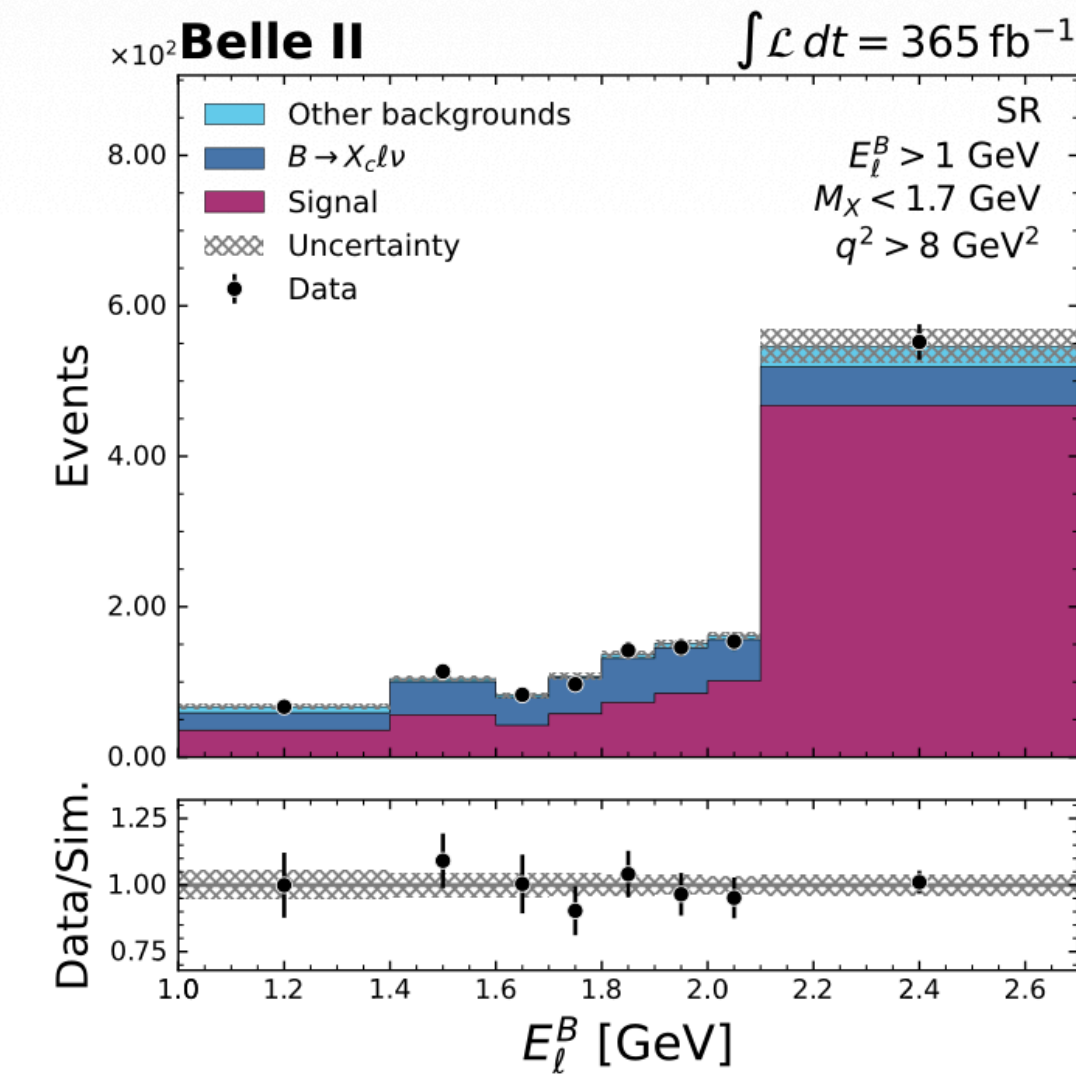
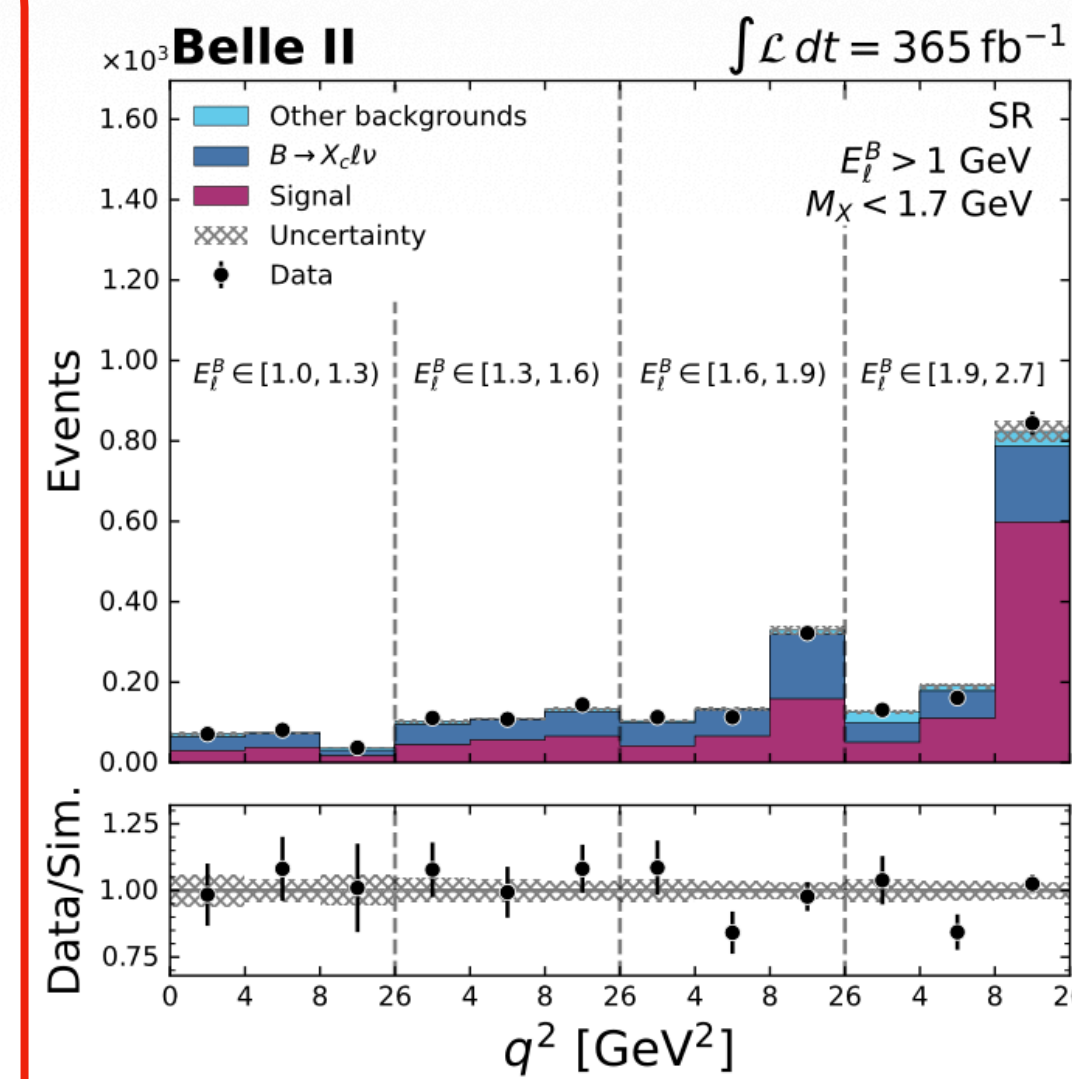
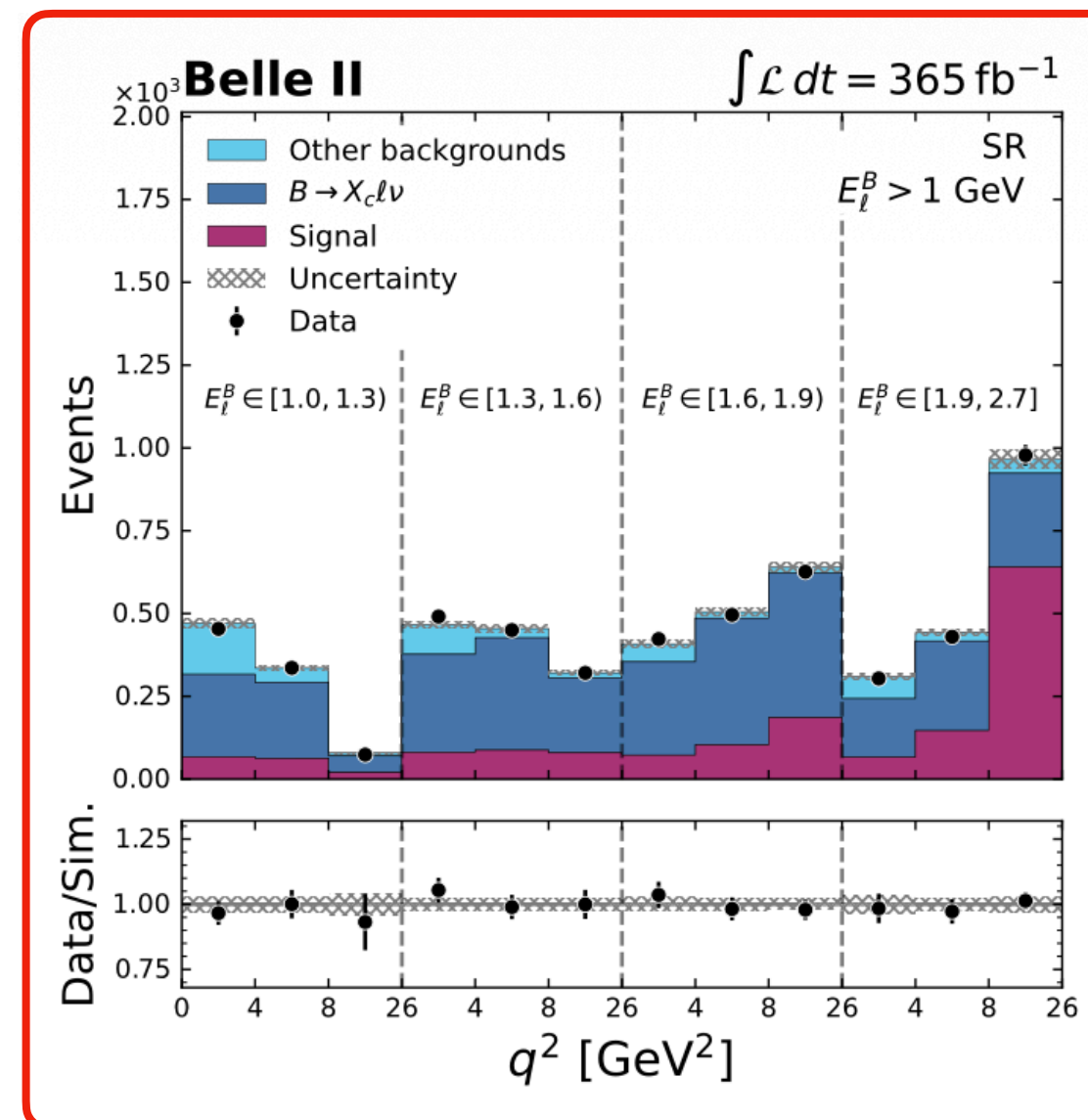
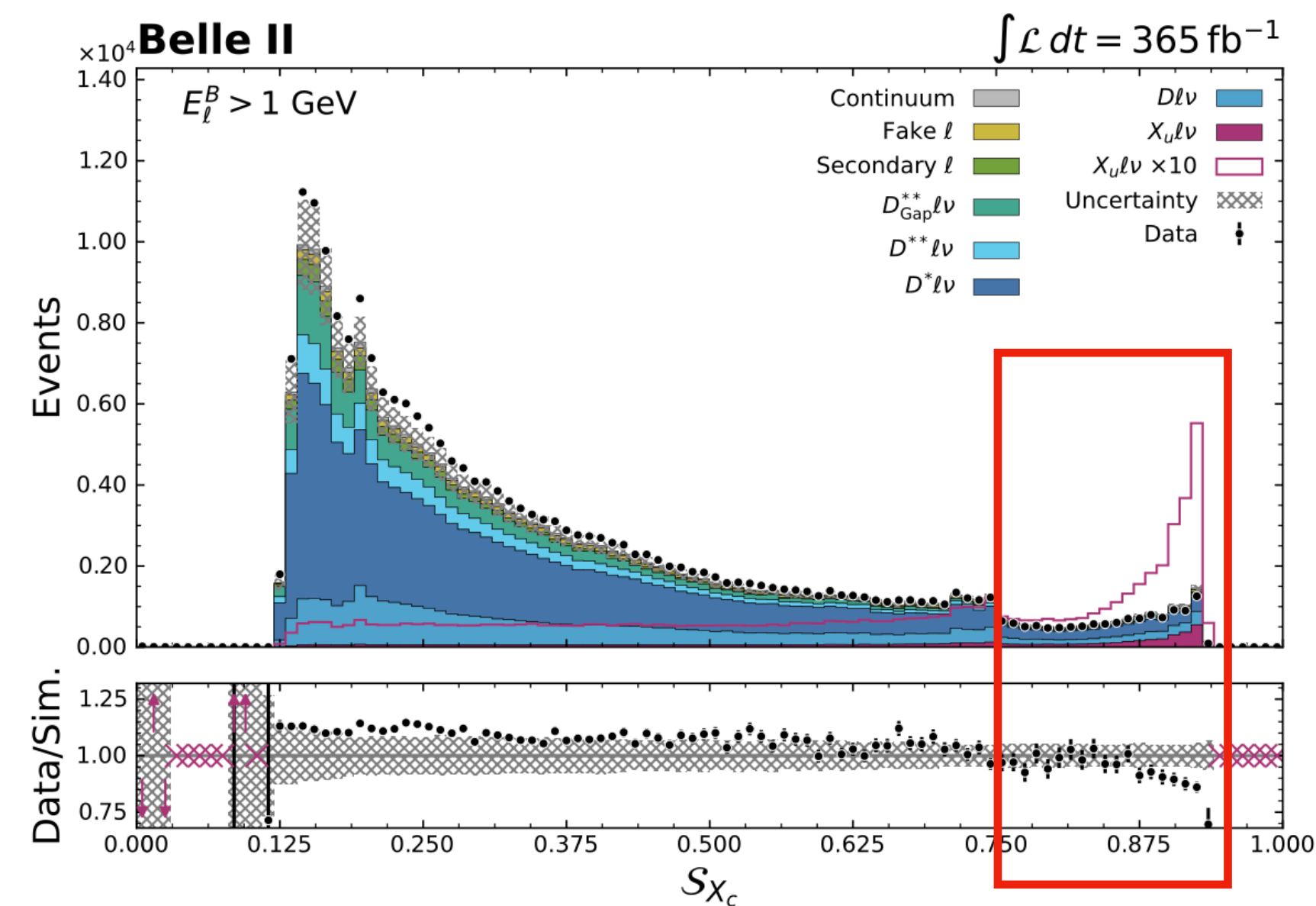


Measurement of $|V_{ub}|$ with $B \rightarrow X_u \ell \nu$

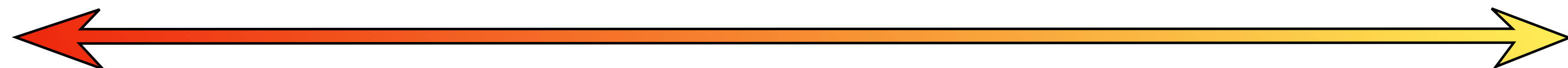
- **Reconstruction:** Combined signal lepton on the **signal side** with fully reconstructed hadronic B on **tag side**
- **Large backgrounds** from dominant decays $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \nu$
- Efficiently suppressed with MLP using different event shape variables
- Normalization and shape mismodelling **corrected** using control regions in data

[PRD 113 032004 \(2026\)](#)

Nominal fit result



Acceptance / purity



$|V_{ub}|$ status from Belle II

- Determine from the measured **partial** $|V_{ub}|$ **branching fractions** in the 3 different phase space regions:

$$|V_{ub}| = \sqrt{\frac{\Delta\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow X_u \ell \nu)}{\tau_B \Delta\tilde{\Gamma}(B \rightarrow X_u \ell \nu)}}$$

- Nominal result: $E_l > 1$ GeV with GGOU,
- covering 87% of phase space

$$|V_{ub}| = 4.01 \pm 0.11(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.16(\text{syst.})_{-0.08}^{+0.07}(\text{theo})$$

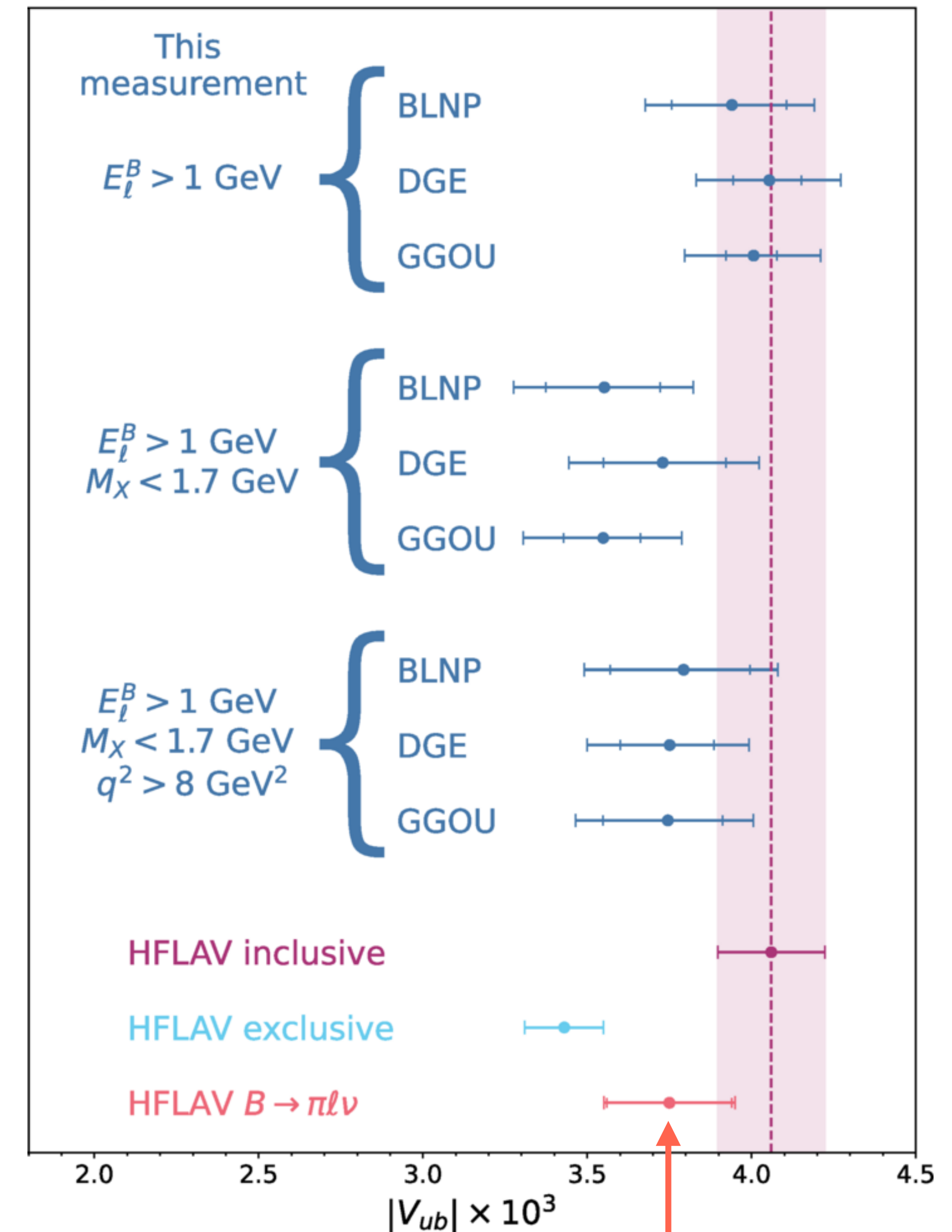
- Dominant systematics

$B \rightarrow X_u \ell \nu$ modelling: (m_b, a) where $a = f(m_b, \mu_\pi^2)$ in Kagan-Neubert scheme

$B \rightarrow X_c \ell \nu$ composition differences between SR and CR

X_u fragmentation modelling

Belle II



Exclusive Average for $B \rightarrow \pi \ell \nu$:

$$|V_{ub}| = (3.75 \pm 0.06_{\text{exp}} \pm 0.19_{\text{theo}}) \times 10^{-3}$$

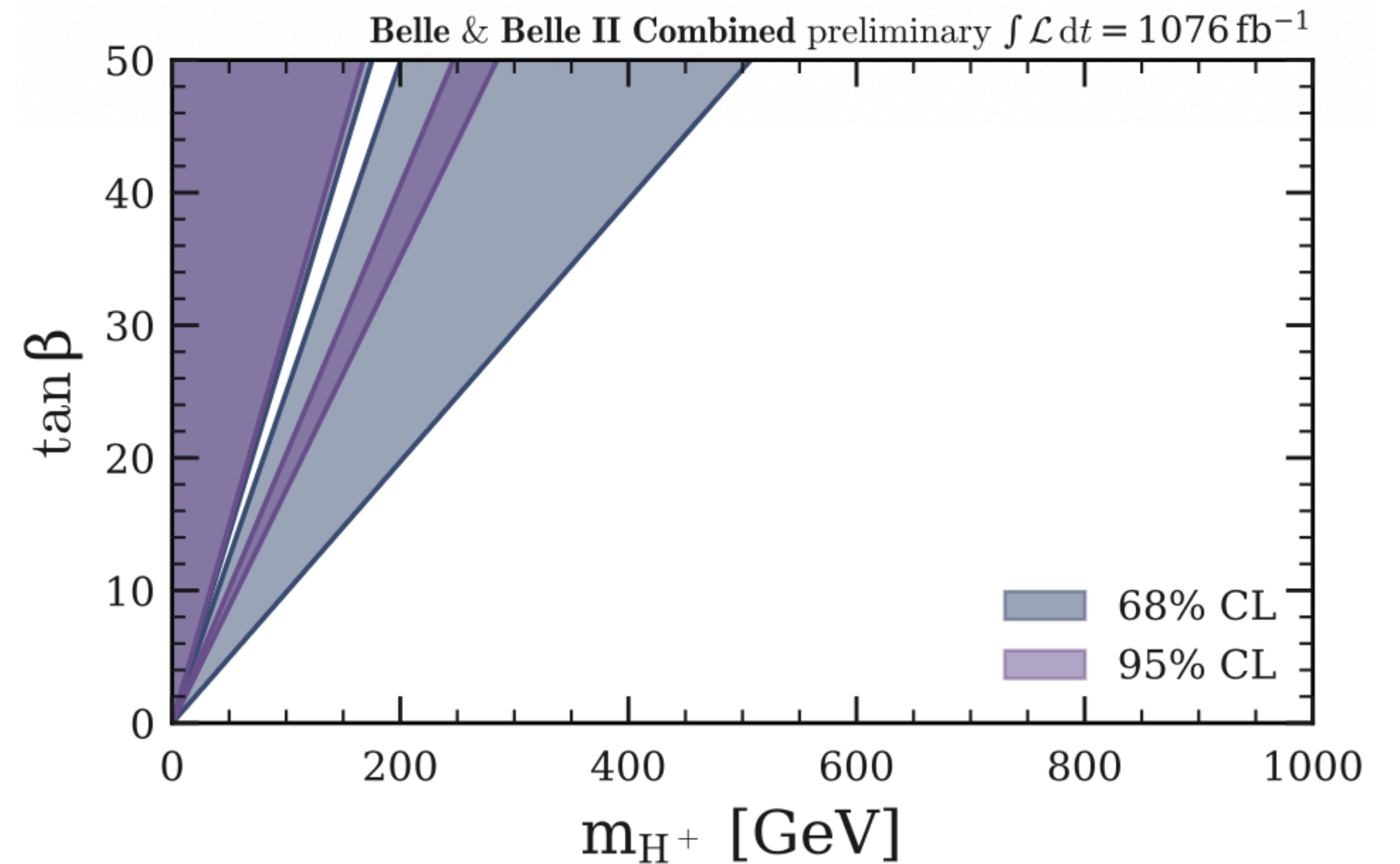
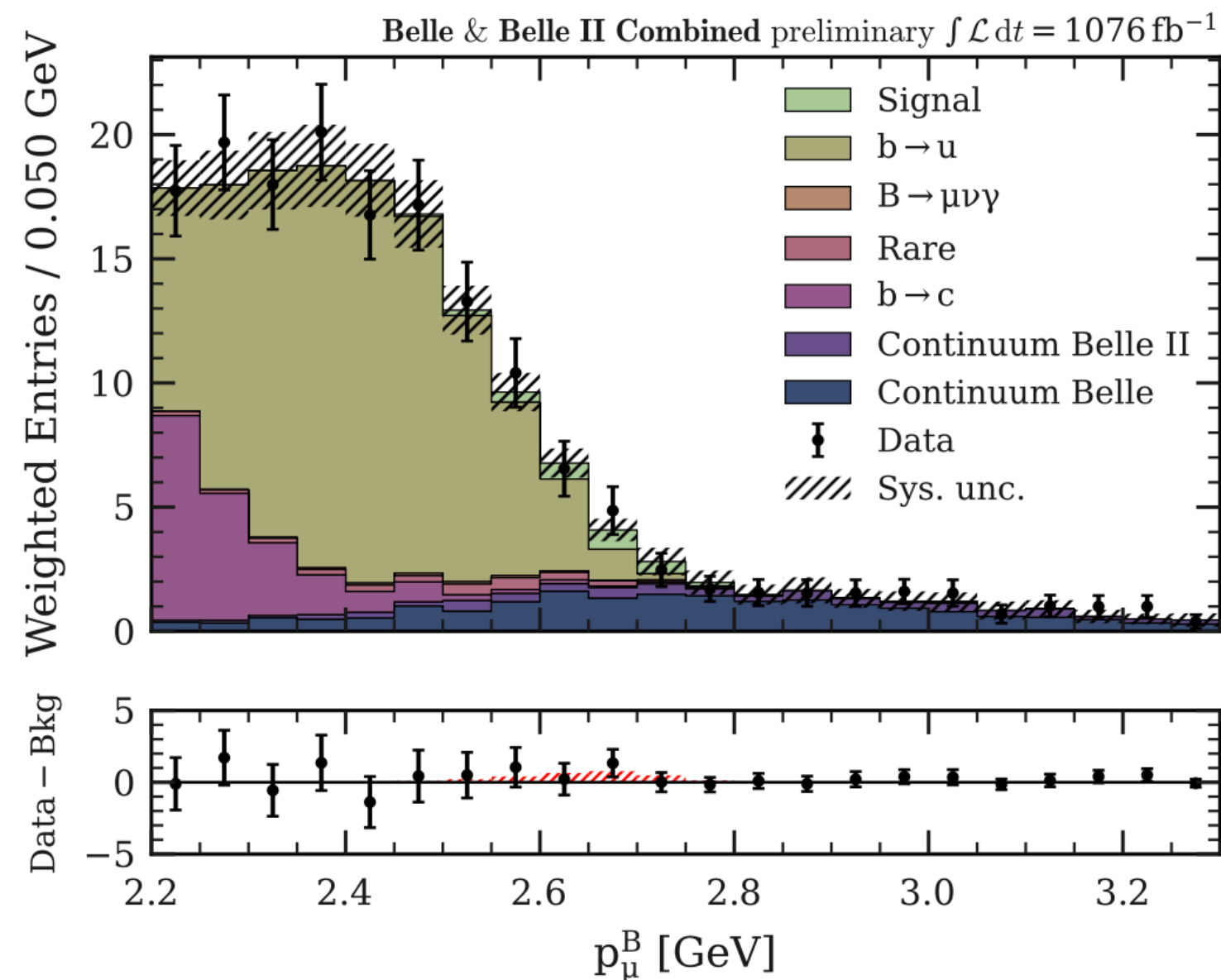
$Br(B \rightarrow \mu \nu)$ result with inclusive tag

- Belle&Belle II $Br(B \rightarrow \mu \nu)$ measurement w/ inclusive tagging @ 1076 fb⁻¹ [arXiv:2602.09800](https://arxiv.org/abs/2602.09800)

- Theoretical clean
- Rare decay
- Sensitive to new physics, e.g. charged Higgs

$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu) = \mathcal{B}_{SM} \times \left(1 - \frac{m_B^2 \tan^2 \beta}{m_{H^+}^2}\right)^2$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu) = \frac{G_F^2 m_B m_\mu^2}{8\pi} \left(1 - \frac{m_\mu^2}{m_B^2}\right)^2 f_B^2 |V_{ub}|^2 \tau_{B^+}$$



2.4 σ over background-only hypothesis
Most precise measurement to date

$$Br(B \rightarrow \mu \nu) = (4.4 \pm 1.9 \text{ (stat)} \pm 1.0 \text{ (syst)}) \times 10^{-7}$$

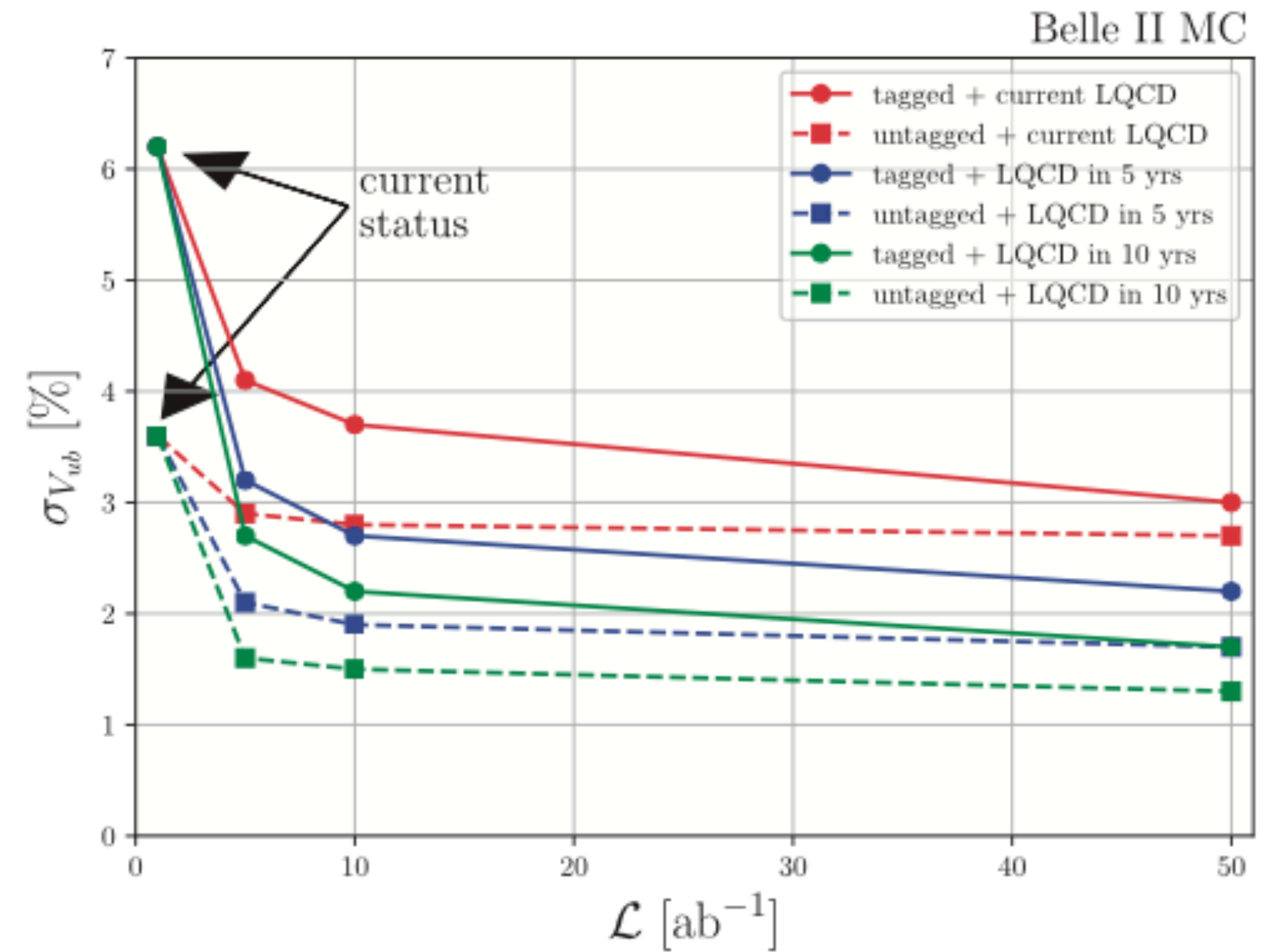
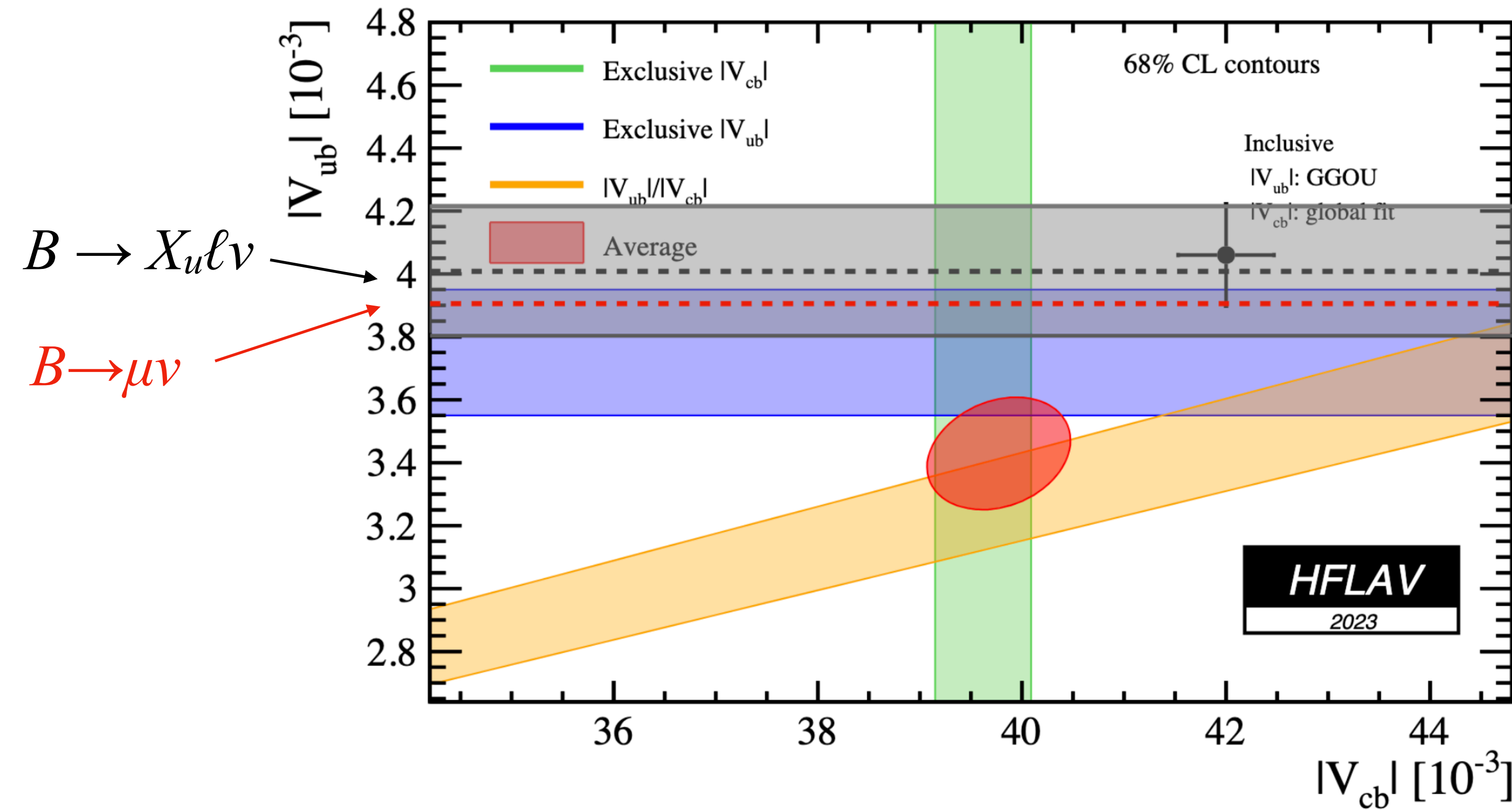
Determination of exclusive $|V_{ub}|$

$$|V_{ub}| = 3.92_{-0.96}^{+0.77} \text{ (stat.) }_{-0.49}^{+0.44} \text{ (syst.) } \pm 0.03 \text{ (theo)}$$

Compatible with both inclusive and exclusive determinations 8

Inclusive $|V_{ub}|$ measurements

The Belle II Physics Book, PTEP 2019, 123C01



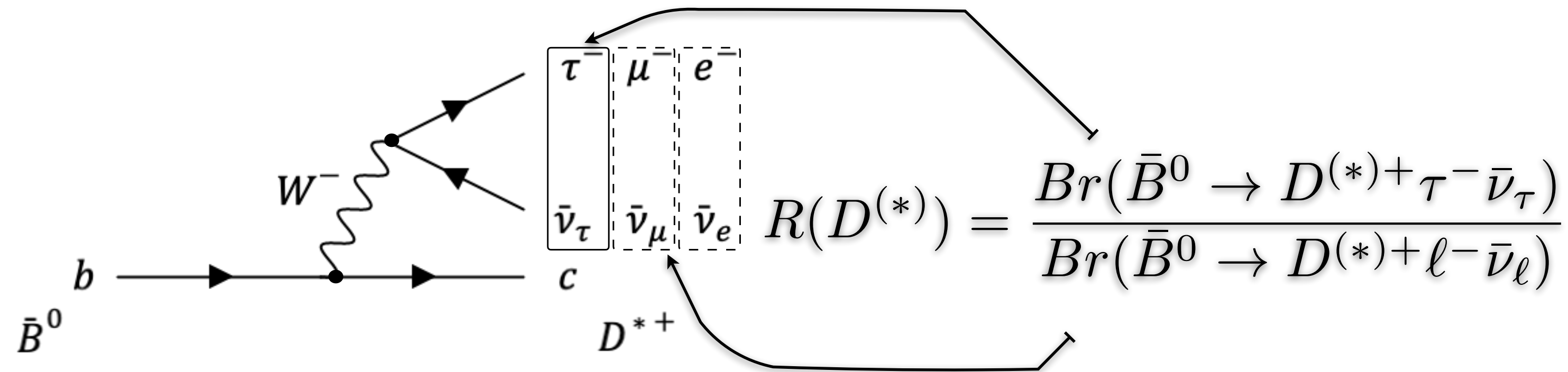
$$B \rightarrow X_u \ell \nu: \quad |V_{ub}| = (4.01 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.16_{-0.08}^{+0.07}) \times 10^{-3}$$

$$B \rightarrow \mu \nu: \quad |V_{ub}| = (3.90_{-0.96}^{+0.77} (\text{stat.})_{-0.49}^{+0.43} (\text{sys.}) \pm 0.03 (\text{theo.})) \times 10^{-3}$$

Test of Lepton Flavor Universality

LFU test with semileptonic B decays

- Ratios of $b \rightarrow q \tau \nu / q \mu \nu / q e \nu$ branch fractions cancel out the uncertainties on $|\mathbf{V}_{cb}|$, most uncertainties of **form factors** and the **experimental systematics**

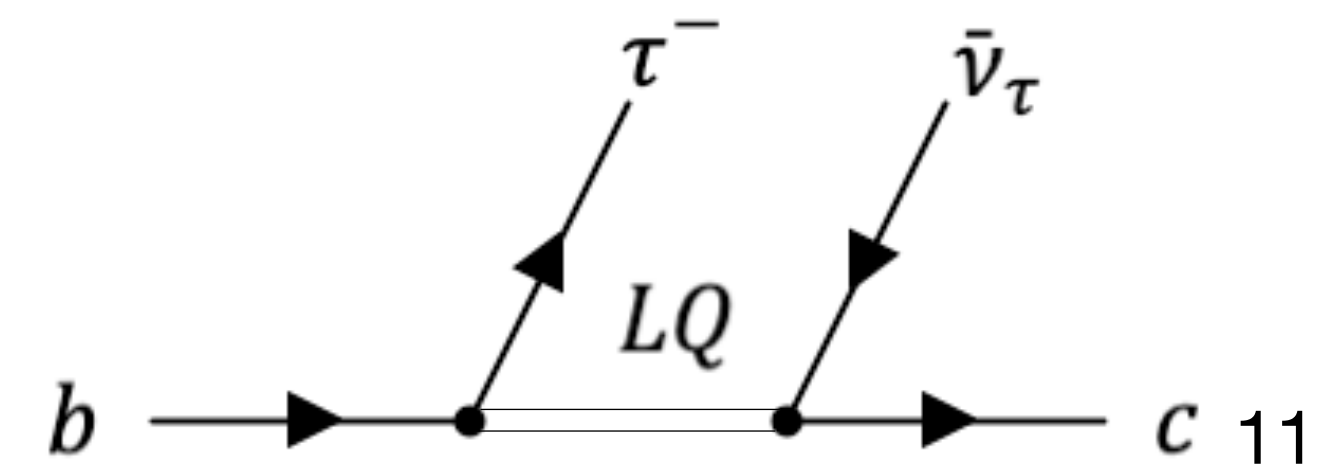


- LFU is broken in Yukawa interaction
 - Charged lepton mass changes **kinematics** and modifies **form factors in the hadronization**

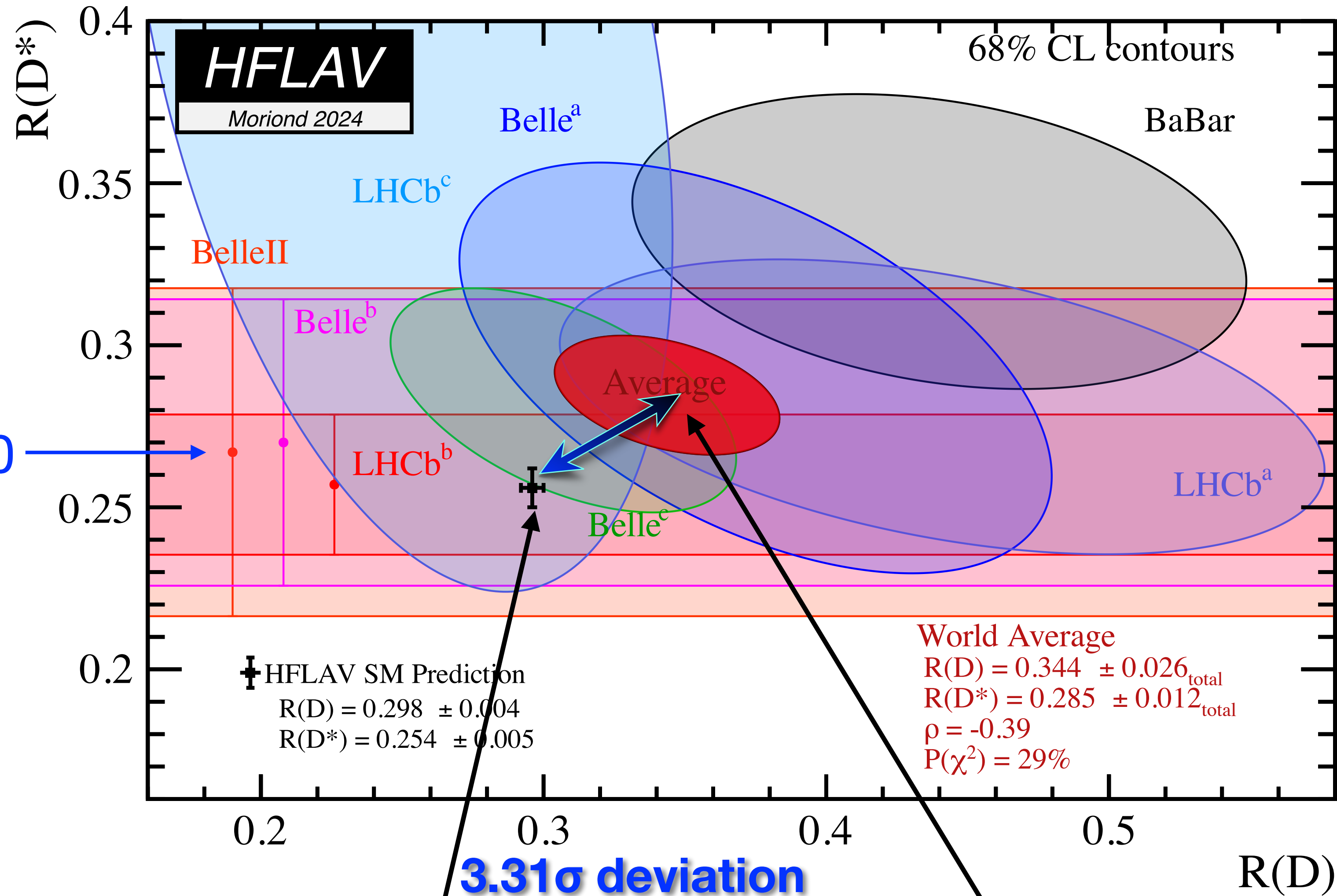
- Long-distance** QED corrections depend on lepton velocity (τ vs. ℓ (e, μ))

- $B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \tau \nu$ sensitive to New Physics (NP) because the massive 3rd generation **b quark** and **τ lepton** are involved

- Sensitivities to high energy scale; ~ 10 TeV [[Belle II phys. book](#)]



“B anomaly” in semileptonic decays



Standard Model prediction

Experimental average results

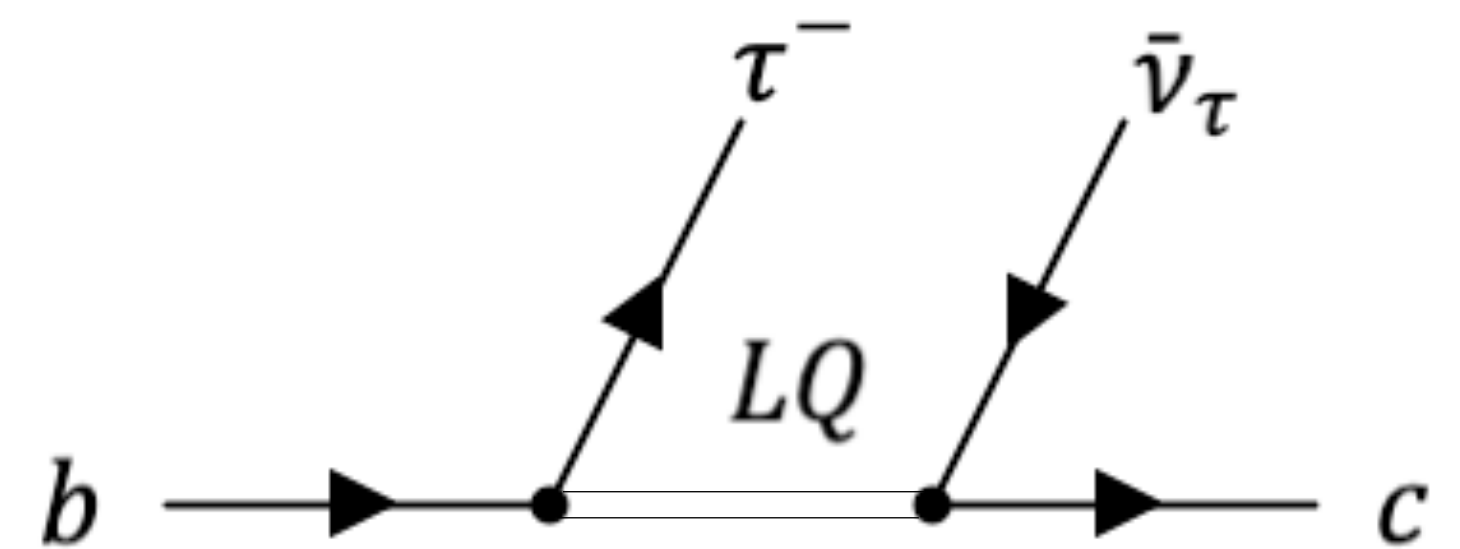
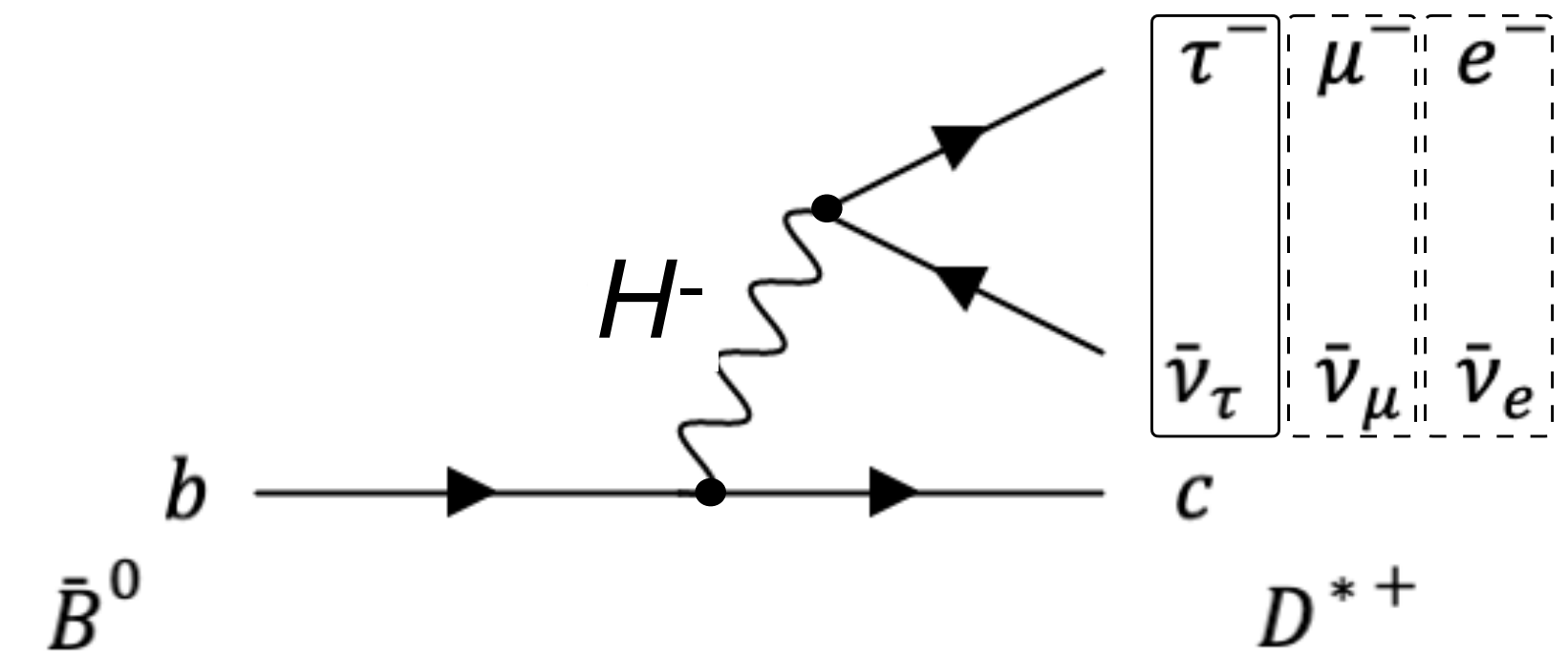
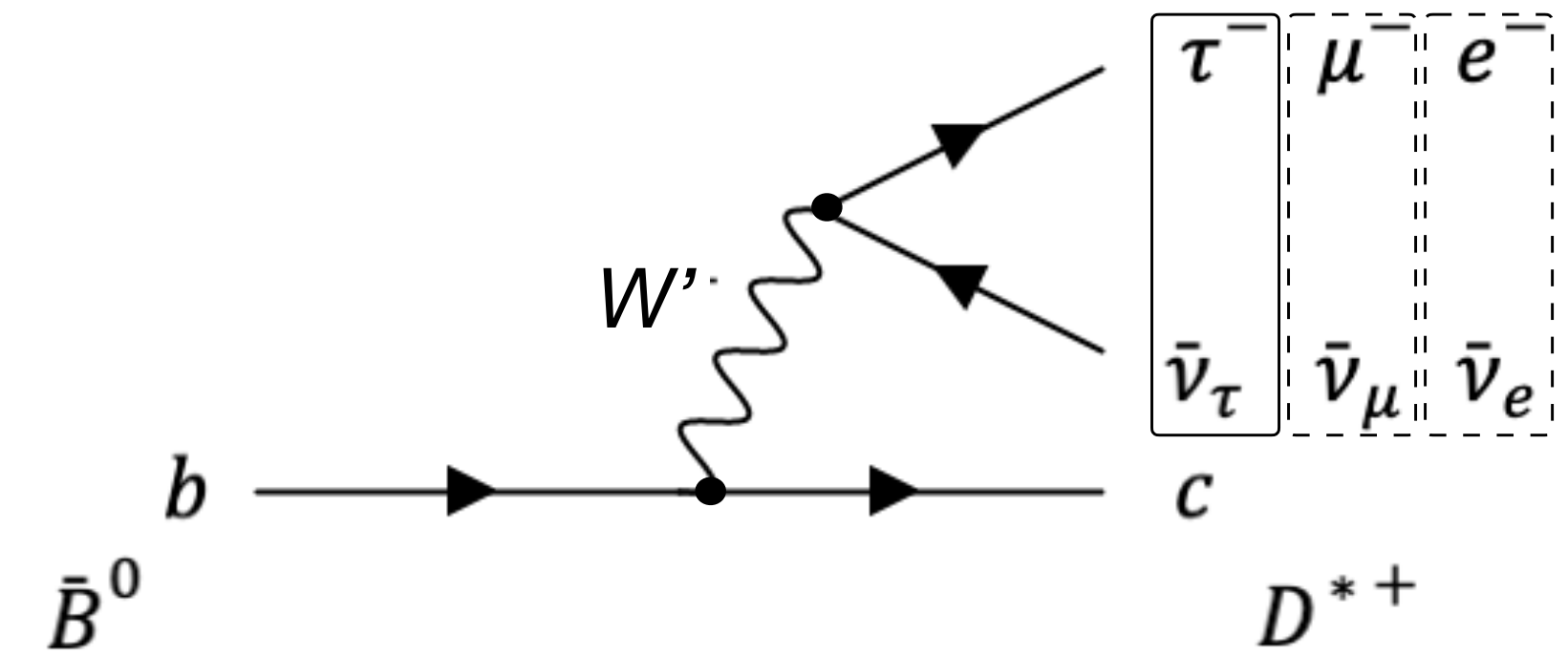
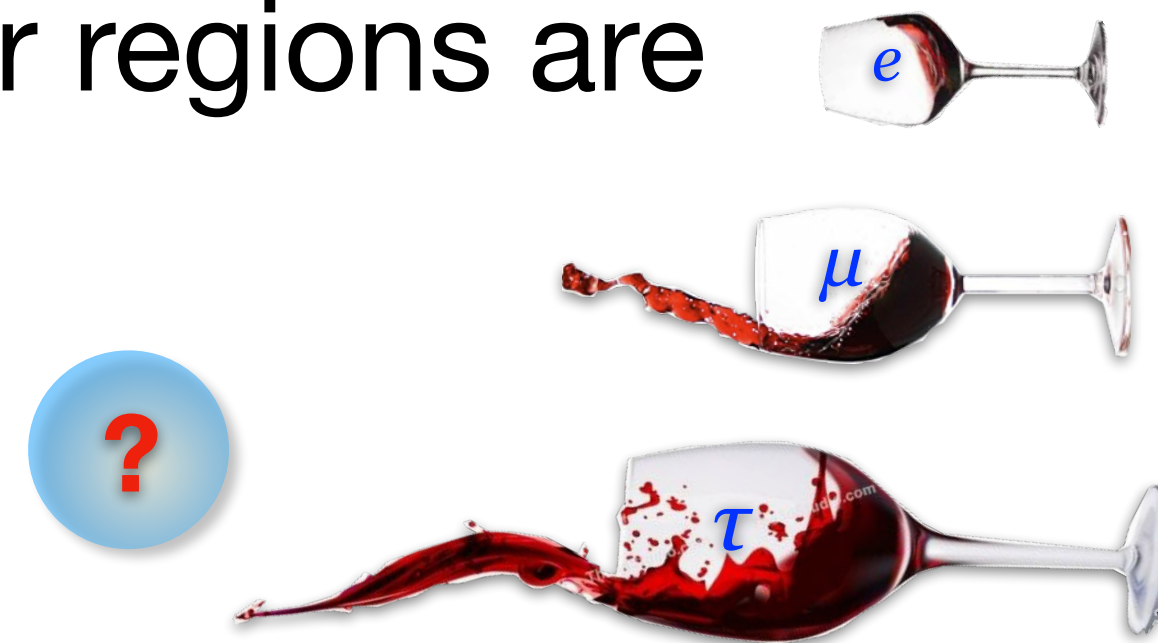
New physics scenarios for the $R(D^{(*)})$ anomaly

In general, there are three typical candidate scenarios to explain the anomaly observed in $R(D^{(*)})$

- Heavy vector bosons
 - Constrained from $W' \rightarrow \tau\nu$ and $Z' \rightarrow \tau\tau$ search
- Charged Higgs
 - Constrained from $B_c \rightarrow \tau\nu$ and $H^\pm \rightarrow \tau\nu$, still allowed
 - Previously, it was rejected by $B_c \rightarrow \tau\nu$ measurement, however, recovered by recalculating the B_c lifetime.

[PRD 105 095011\(2022\)](#)

- Leptoquark
 - $gg \rightarrow LQ LQ^*$, still broad parameter regions are allowed



$R_{\tau/\ell}(D^{(*)})$ with hadronic tag

- Belle II **UPDATED** result for $R(D^{(*)})$ @ 365 fb⁻¹

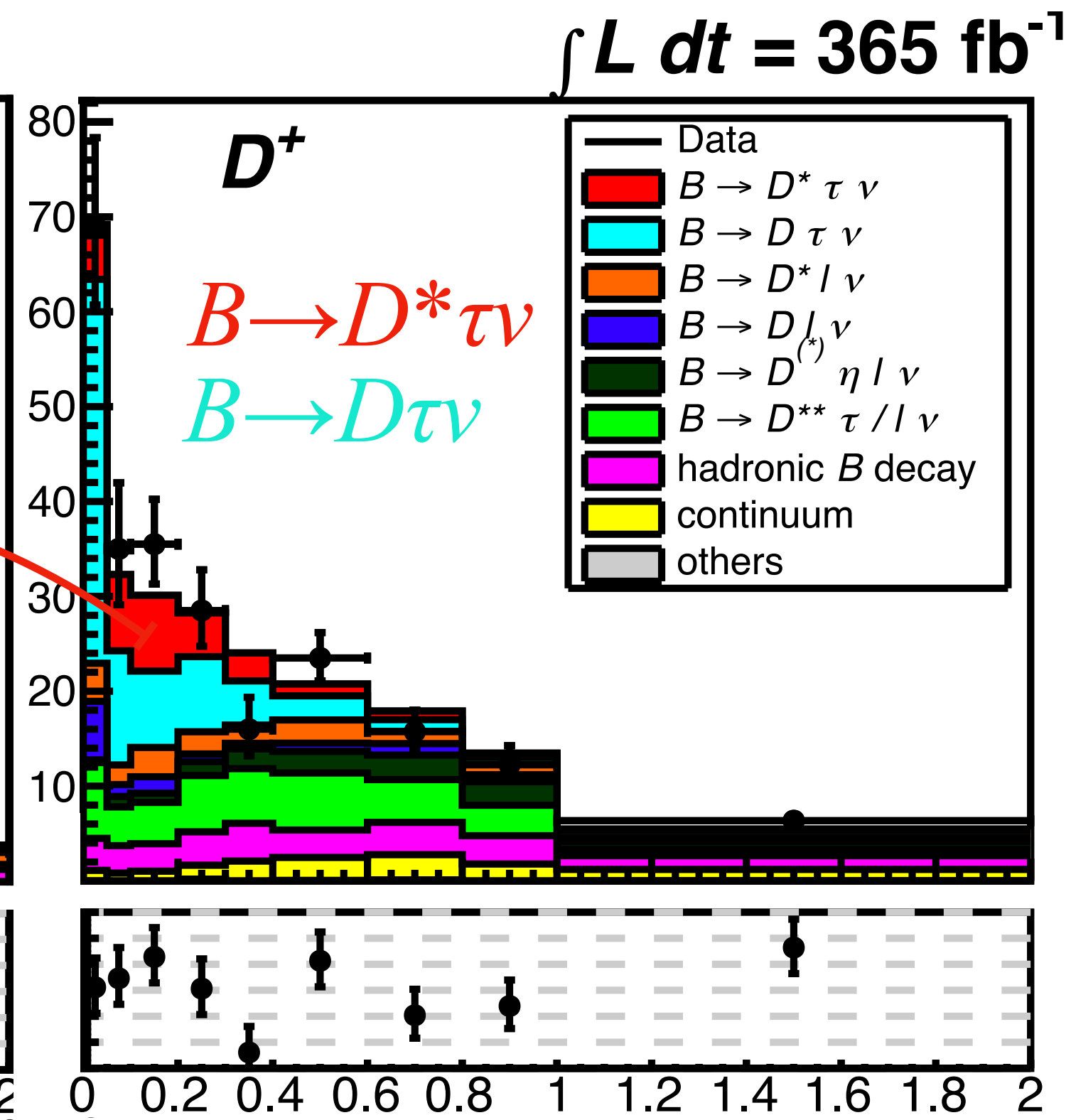
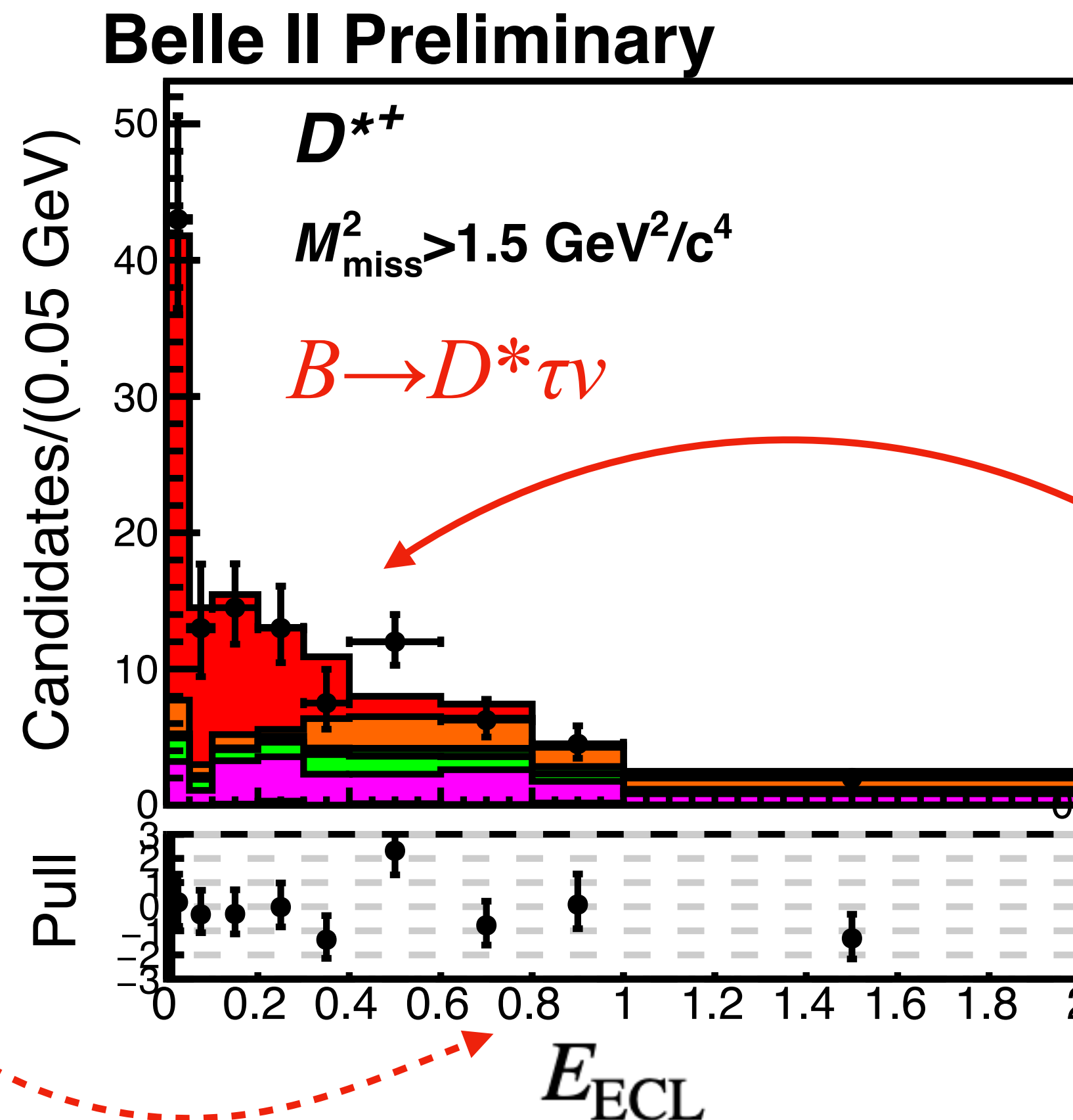
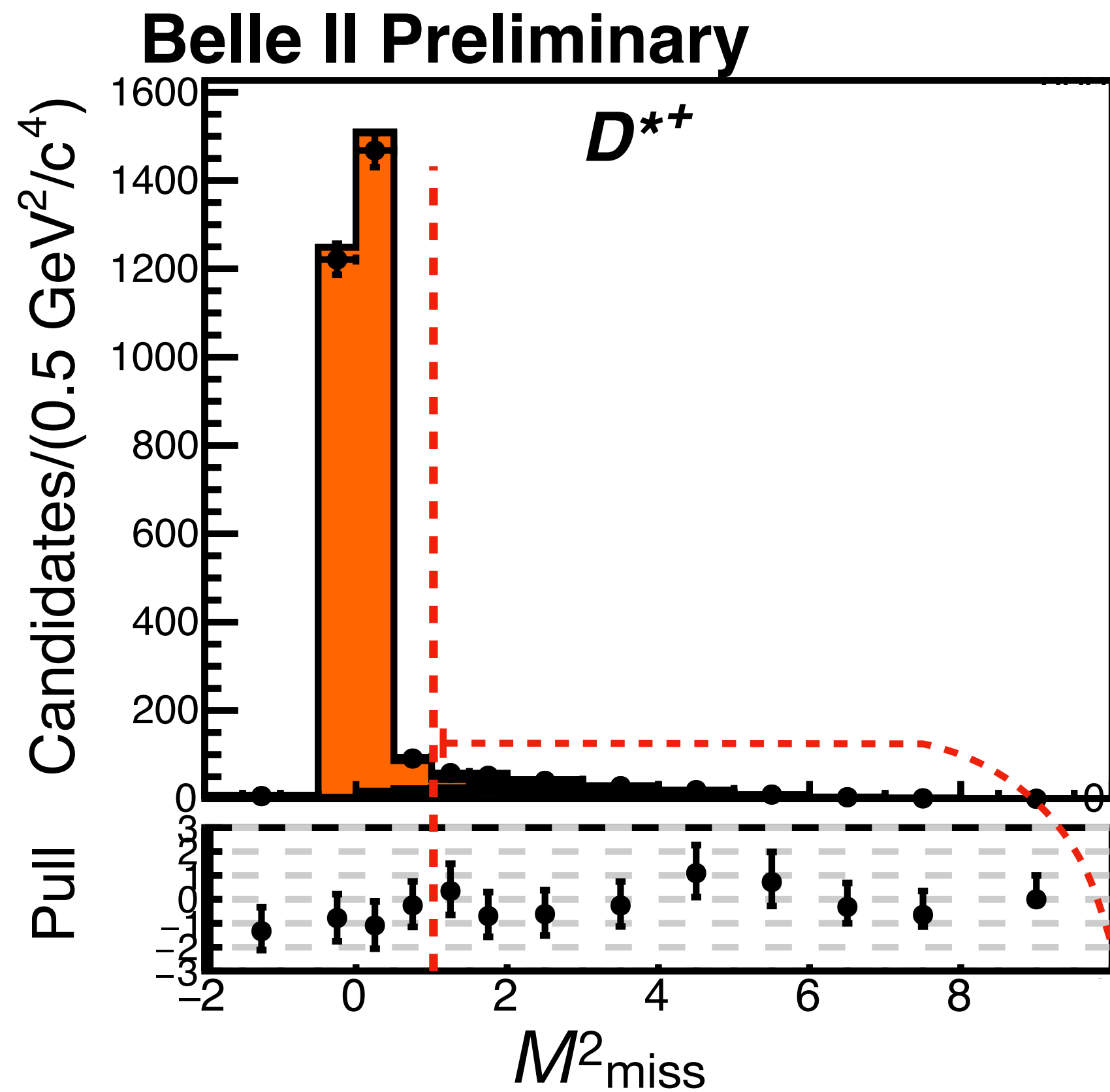
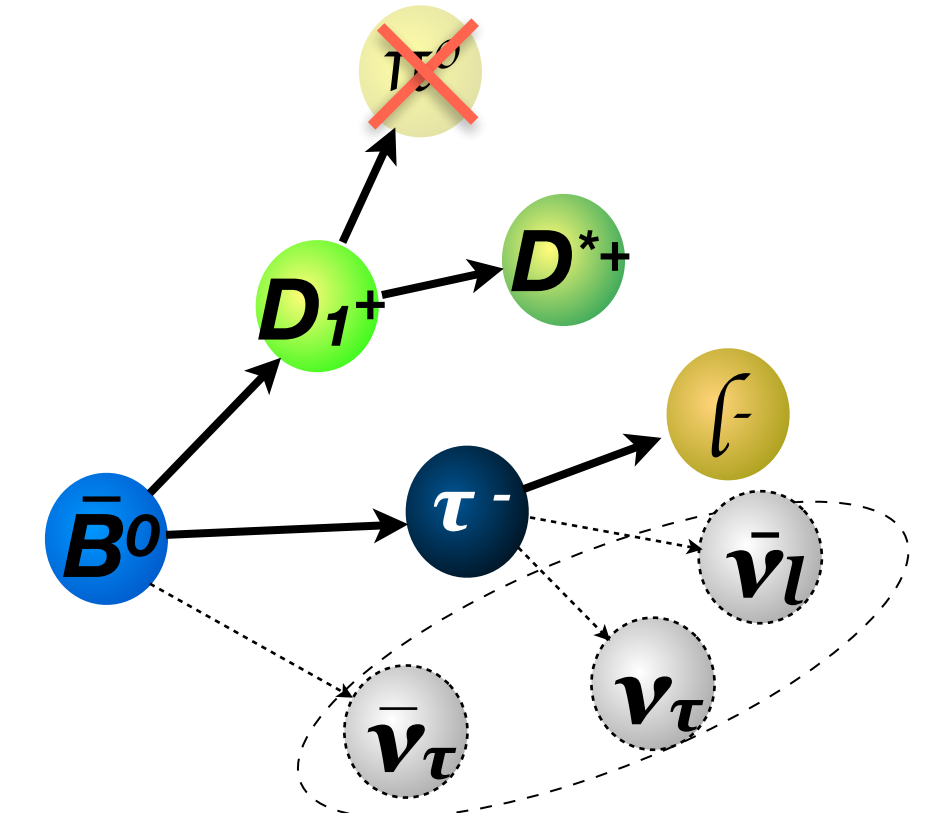
- Hadronic tag with FEI

- Leptonic τ decays

- $B \rightarrow D^{*+}, D^{*0}(\pi^0), D^{*0}(\gamma), D^+, D^0, \tau/\ell \nu$

$$E_{\text{ECL}} = \sum_i E_i^\gamma$$

$$M_{\text{miss}}^2 = (\rho_{\text{beam}} - \rho_{\text{Btag}} - \rho_{D^{(*)}} - \rho_l)^2$$



Results of $R_{\tau/\ell}(D^{(*)})$ w/ had. tag *Preliminary*

- Main systematics

- The finite size of the simulated samples

- Branch fraction of $B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \eta l \nu$

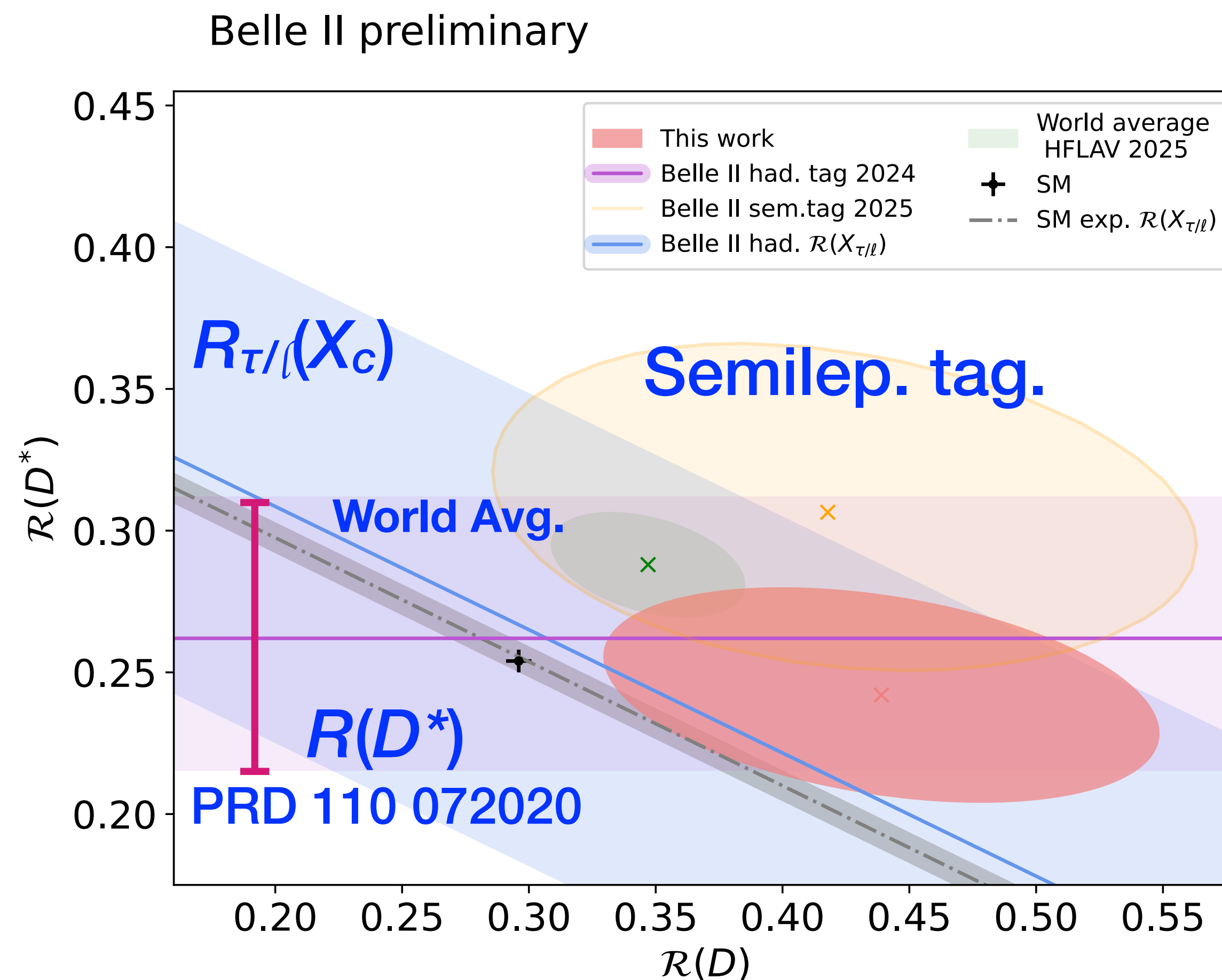
- Belle II $R(D^{(*)})$ result with had. tag

$$R_{\tau/\ell}(D) = 0.439 \pm 0.055 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.045 \text{ (syst)}$$

$$R_{\tau/\ell}(D^{*}) = 0.242 \pm 0.019 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.016 \text{ (syst)}$$

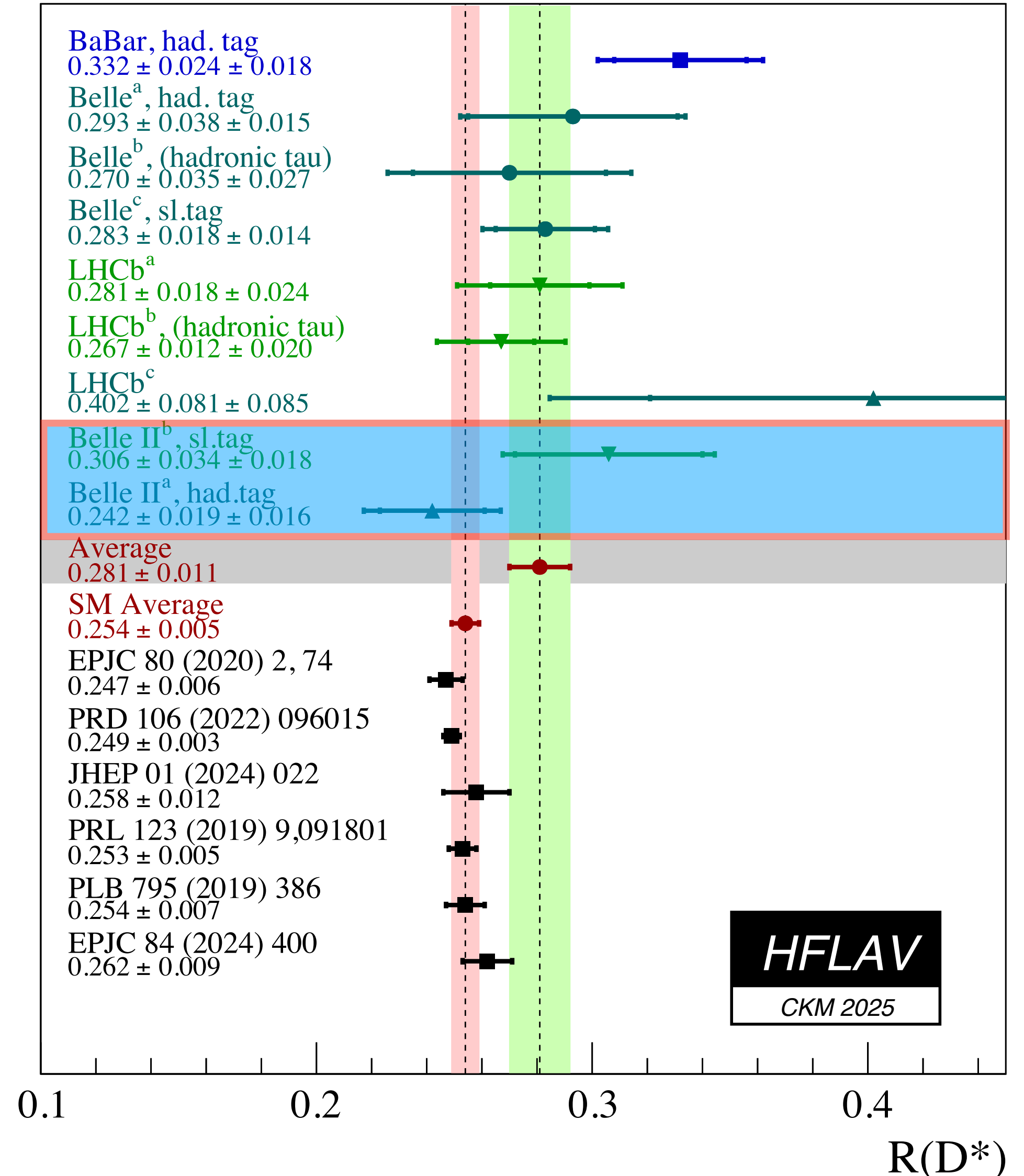
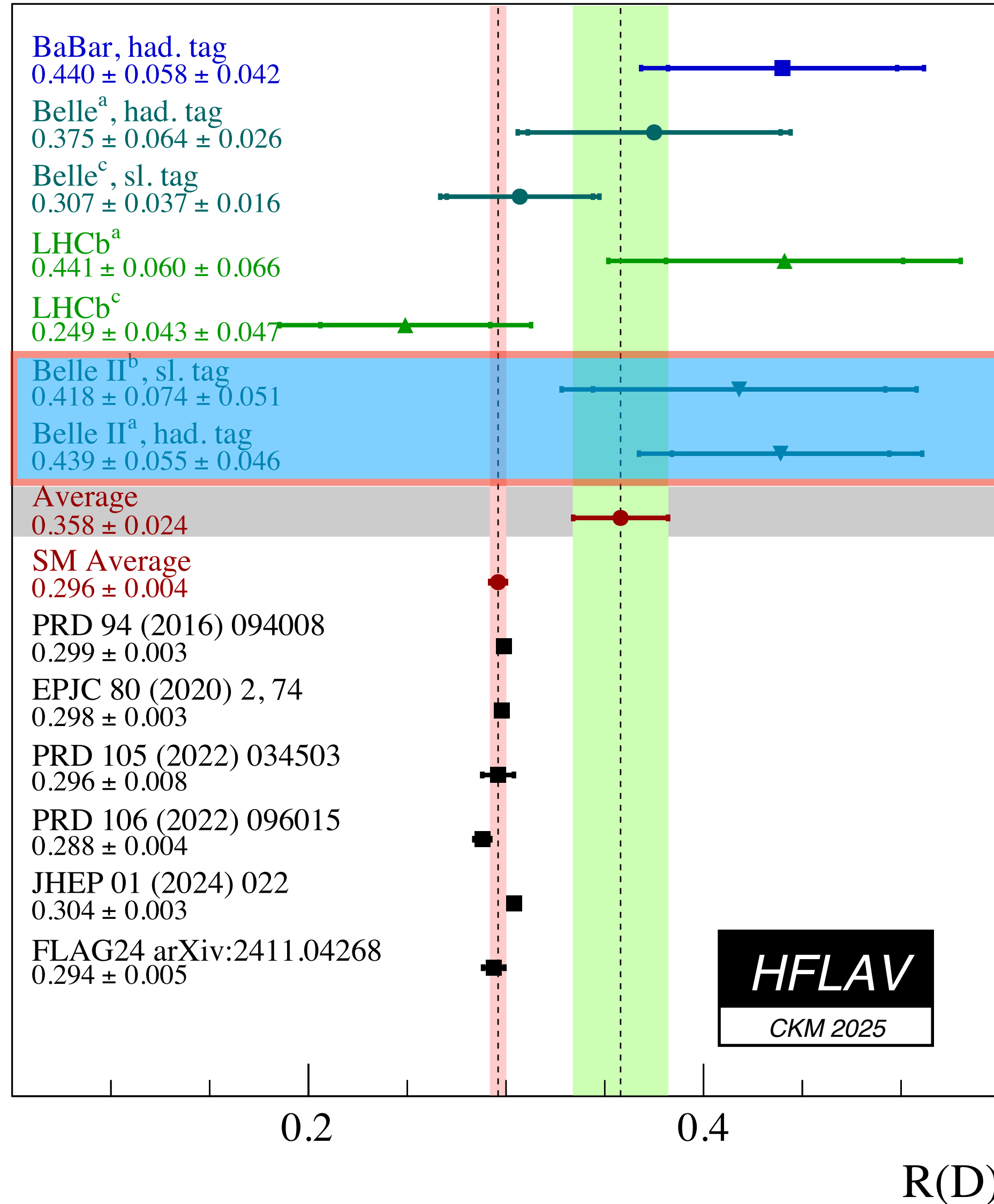
Source	Uncertainty	
	$R(D^{*})$	$R(D)$
Statistical uncertainty	$\pm 8.3\%$	$\pm 16.3\%$
Simulation sample size	$\pm 4.8\%$	$\pm 8.4\%$
$B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \eta l \nu$ branch fraction	$\pm 2.8\%$	$\pm 3.6\%$
$B \rightarrow D^{*} l \nu$ branch fraction	$\pm 0.3\%$	$\pm 1.3\%$
...

Similarly sensitivity as Belle 15' result @ 711 fb^{-1} with only 365 fb^{-1}

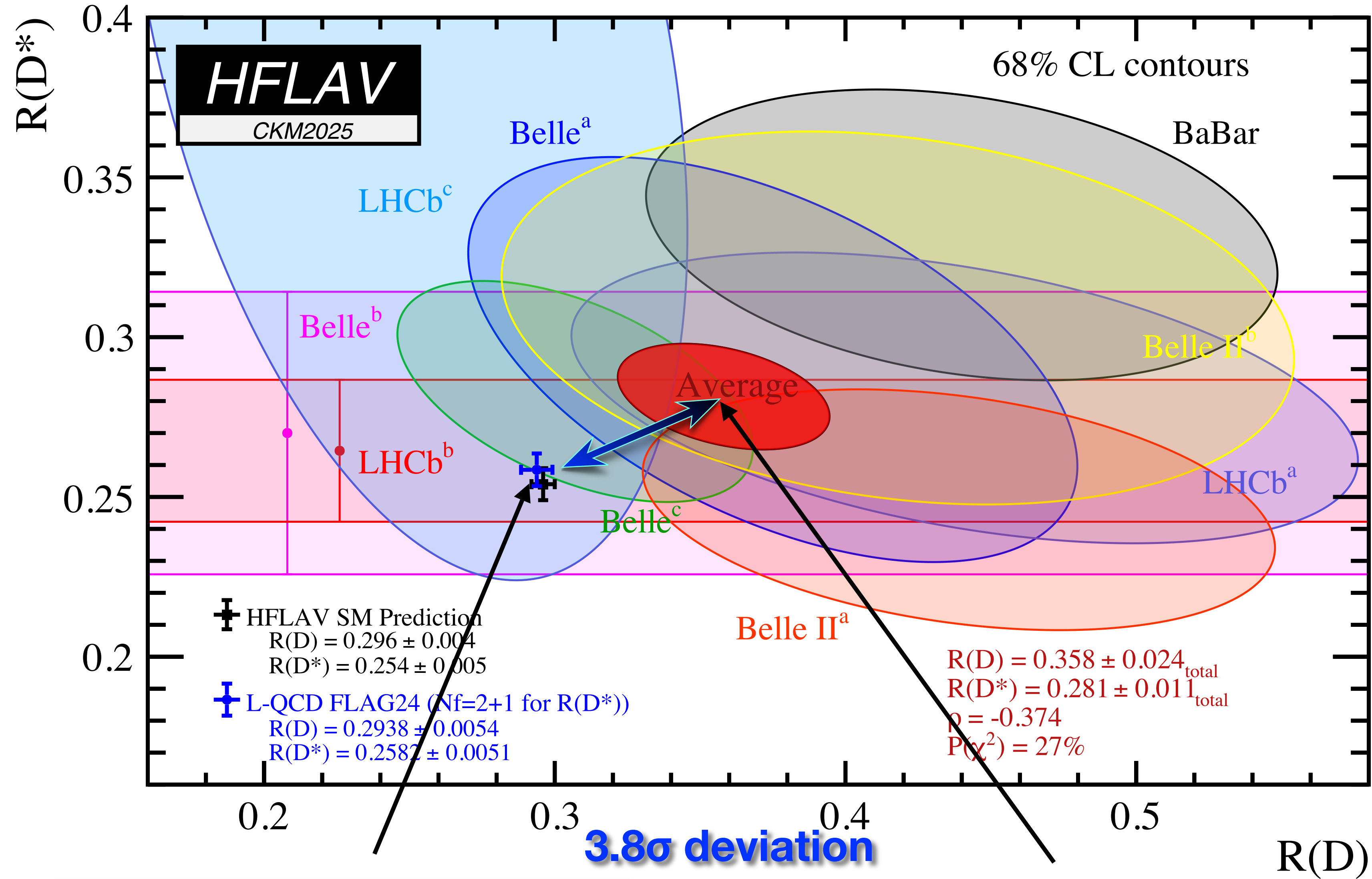


“*B* anomaly” in semileptonic decays

- Similarly sensitivity as Belle 15’ result @ 711 fb⁻¹ with only 365 fb⁻¹



“B anomaly” in semileptonic decays 2025

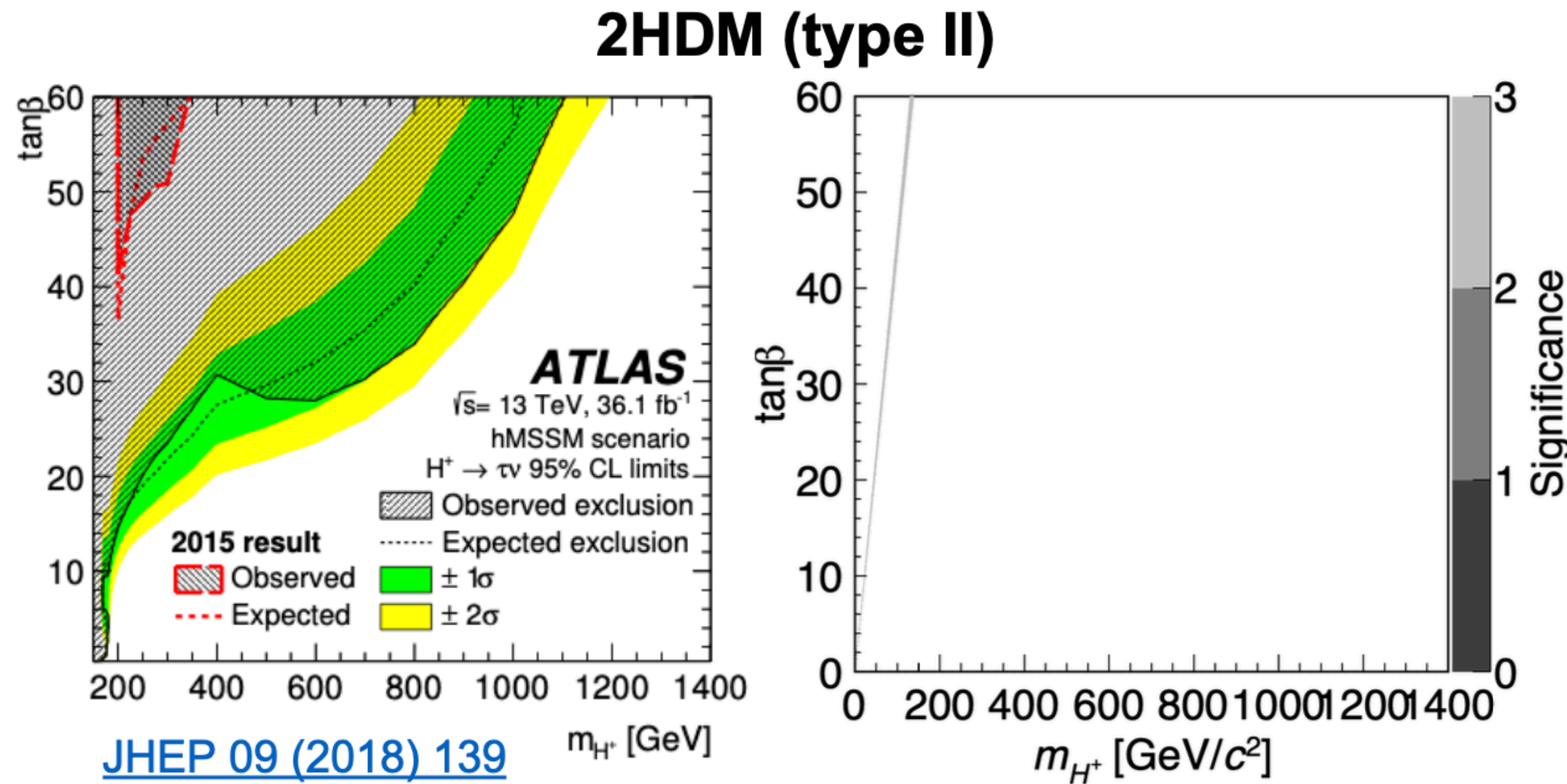
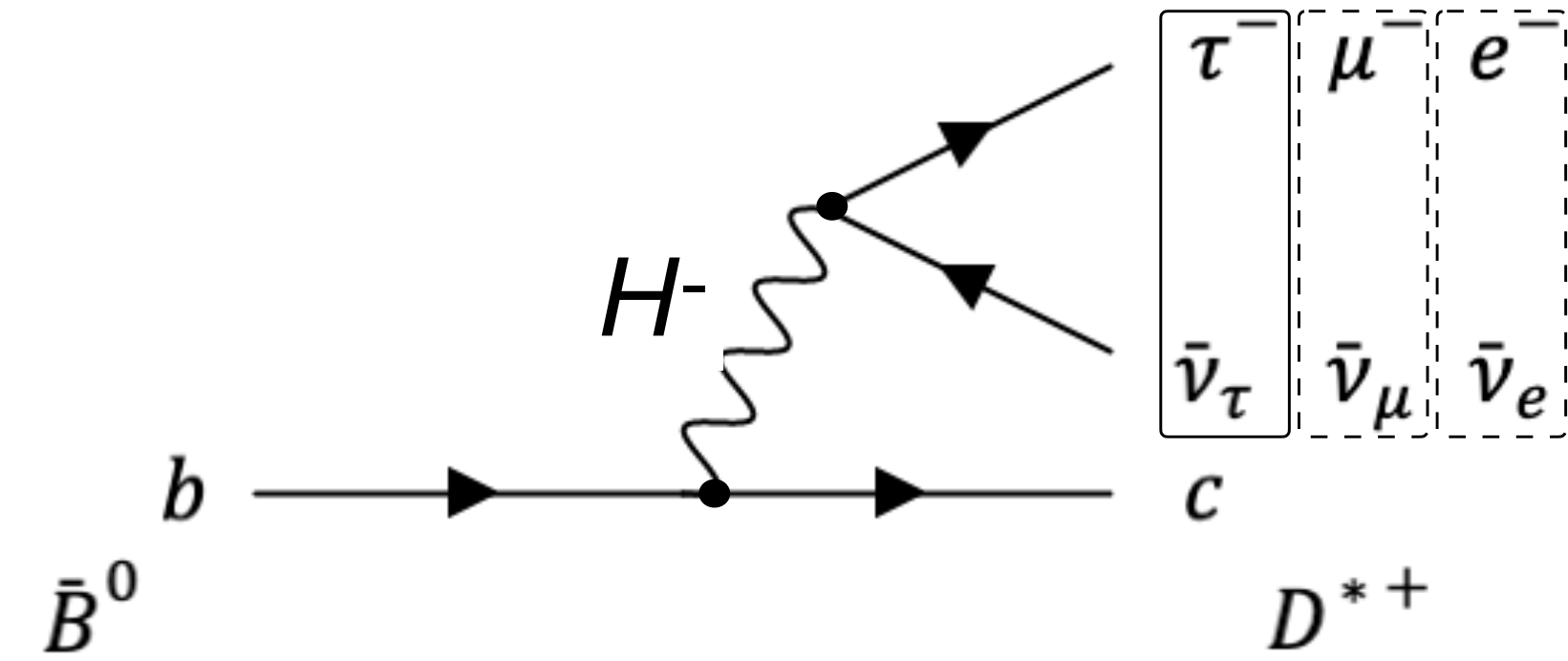


Standard Model prediction

Experimental average results

Constraint on charged Higgs scenario

Model	Coefficients
2HDM (type-II) Phys. Rev. D 87, 034028	$\begin{cases} C_{SL} = -m_b m_\tau (\mu_b) \frac{\tan^2 \beta}{m_{H^+}^2} \\ C_{SR} = -m_c (\mu_b) m_\tau (\mu_b) \frac{1}{m_{H^+}^2} \end{cases}$
General 2HDM	C_{SL}



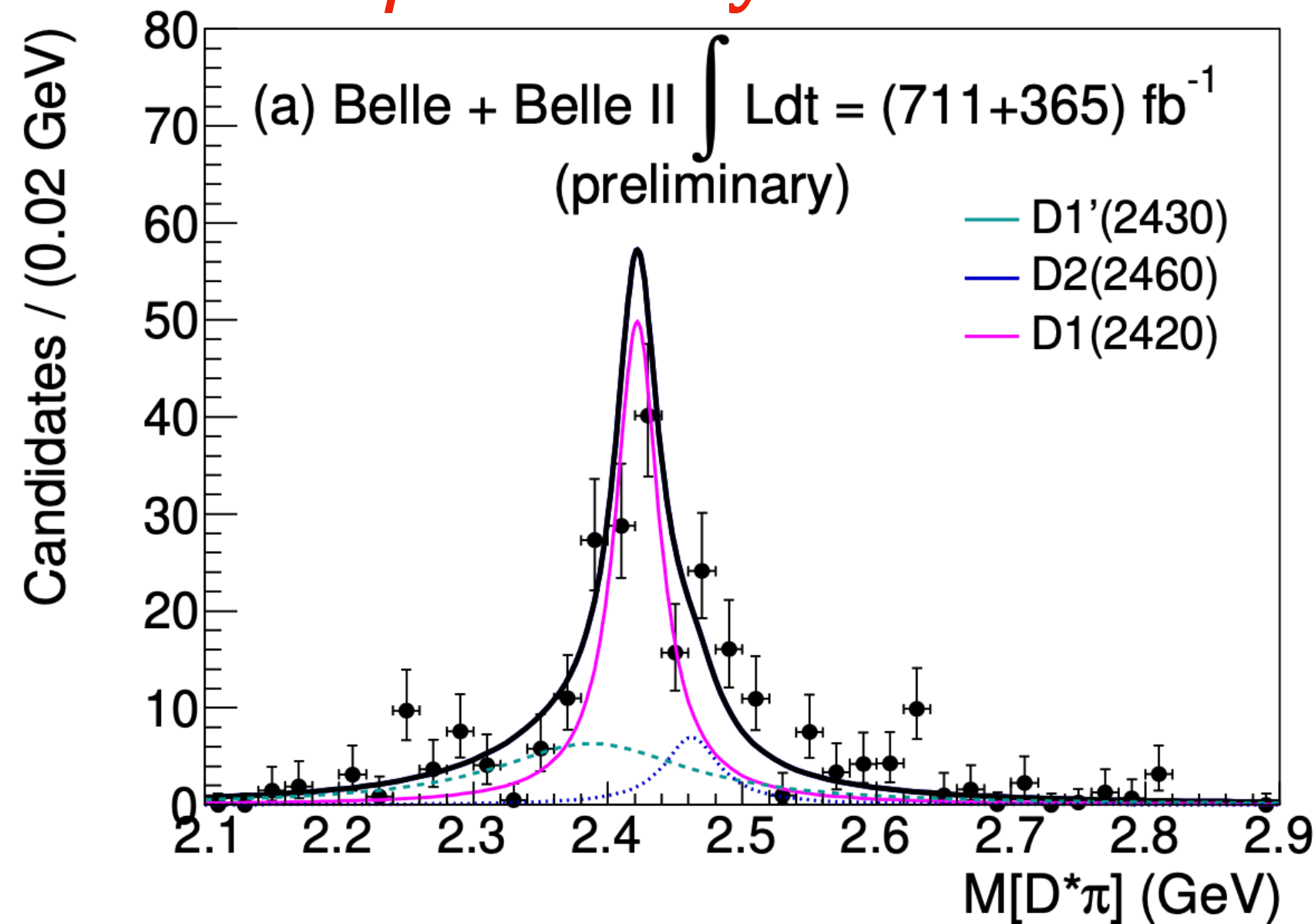
- Charged Higgs in 2HDM (type II) is disfavored
- General 2HDM still survives

Measurement of $B \rightarrow D^{(*)}\eta\pi$ at Belle and Belle II

- Deficit of in sum of BFs with $b \rightarrow c\ell\nu$ transition vs inclusive measurement $B \rightarrow X_c\ell\nu$
- Proposal: unmeasured $B \rightarrow D^{(*)}\eta\ell\nu$ modes are responsible for gap
- Perform **3 body** reconstruction (i.e. no assumptions on resonances) in Belle and Belle II data with:

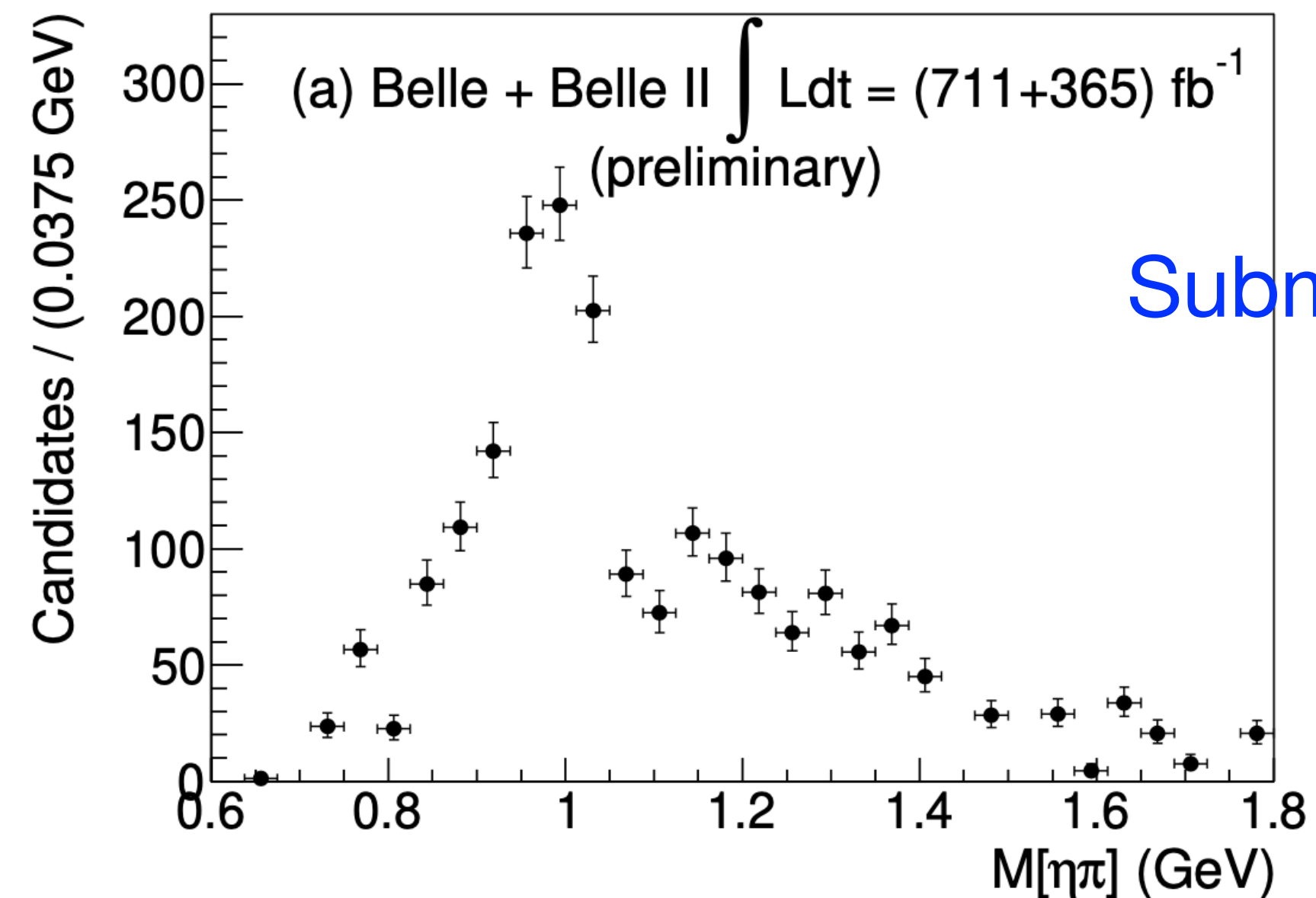
$$\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)}\eta\ell\nu_\ell) \approx \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)}\ell\nu_\ell)}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)}\pi)} \times \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)}\eta\pi)$$

$B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-}\eta\pi$ mainly from $B \rightarrow D^{*0}\eta$



$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-}\eta\pi^+) = (2.78 \pm 0.24 \pm 0.19) \times 10^{-4}$$

$B^+ \rightarrow D^0\eta\pi$ mainly from $B^+ \rightarrow D^0 a_0^+$



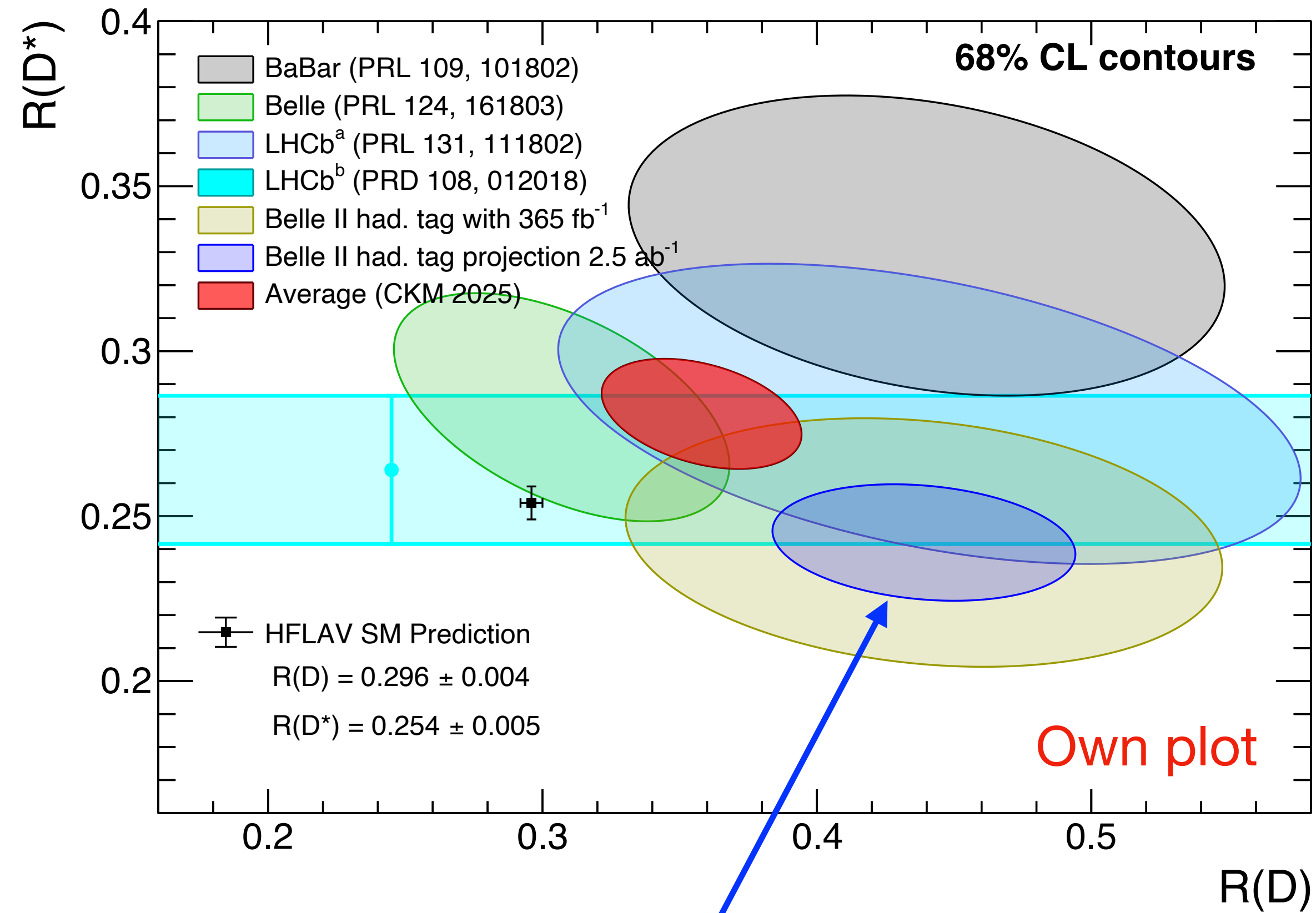
$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow \bar{D}^0\eta\pi^+) = (5.70 \pm 0.26 \pm 0.44) \times 10^{-4}$$

Unlikely $B \rightarrow D^{(*)}\eta\ell\nu$ modes are responsible for gap

Submitted to JHEP

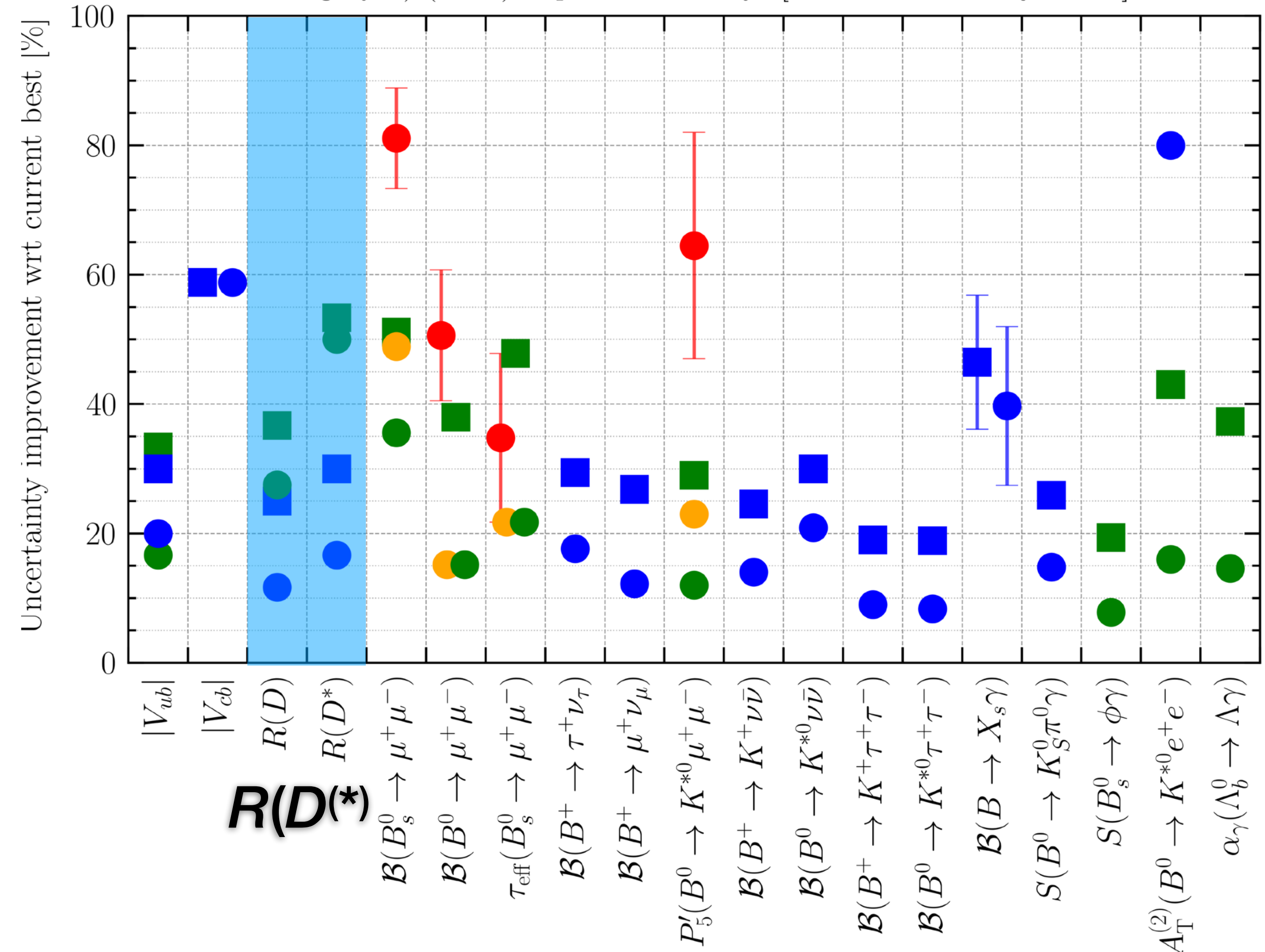
Expected sensitivity of LFU test at Belle II

Own plot generated based on HFLAV and Belle II projections



2.5 ab⁻¹ w/ had. tag

Category ii) (Semi) Leptonic B decays [ESPPU 2026 Projections]



Summary and prospects

- Belle II proceed two measurement of inclusive $|V_{ub}|$

$$B \rightarrow X_u \ell \nu: \quad |V_{ub}| = (4.01 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.16_{-0.08}^{+0.07}) \times 10^{-3}$$

$$B \rightarrow \mu \nu: \quad |V_{ub}| = (3.90_{-0.96}^{+0.77} \text{ (stat.) } +_{-0.49}^{+0.43} \text{ (sys.) } \pm 0.03 \text{ (theo.)}) \times 10^{-3}$$

- $R(D^{(*)})$ shows 3.8σ deviation between experimental average value and standard model prediction

- Hint of Lepton Flavor Universality Violation

- Belle II performed new tests of LFU

- 365 fb^{-1} data

- Hadronic tag

$$R_{\tau/\ell}(D) = 0.439 \pm 0.055 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.045 \text{ (syst)}$$

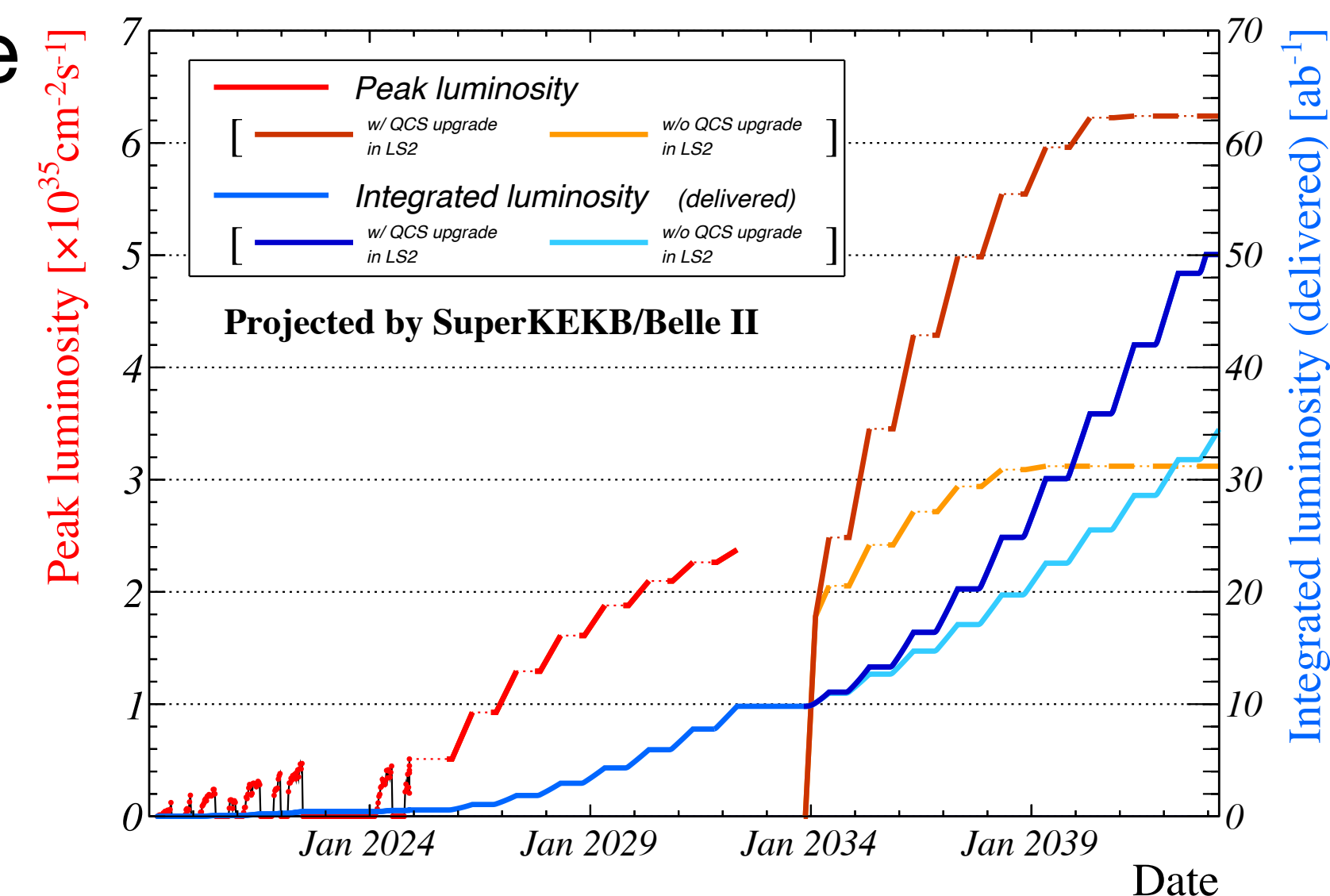
$$R_{\tau/\ell}(D^*) = 0.242 \pm 0.019 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.016 \text{ (syst)}$$

- $R(D^*)$ vs. $P_{\tau}(D^*)$ result with hadronic tag @ 365 fb^{-1} coming soon, stay tuned !!!

- Measurement of $B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \eta \pi$ at Belle and Belle II

- Unlikely $B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \eta \ell \nu$ modes are responsible for gap

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \eta \pi^+) = (2.78 \pm 0.24 \pm 0.19) \times 10^{-4} \quad \mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow \bar{D}^0 \eta \pi^+) = (5.70 \pm 0.26 \pm 0.44) \times 10^{-4}$$



Backup

Semi-leptonic B decays

