

# B Physics at Belle II: Status and Prospects

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on behalf of the Belle II collaboration

The Flavour Path to New Physics  
University of Zurich  
05/06/2024



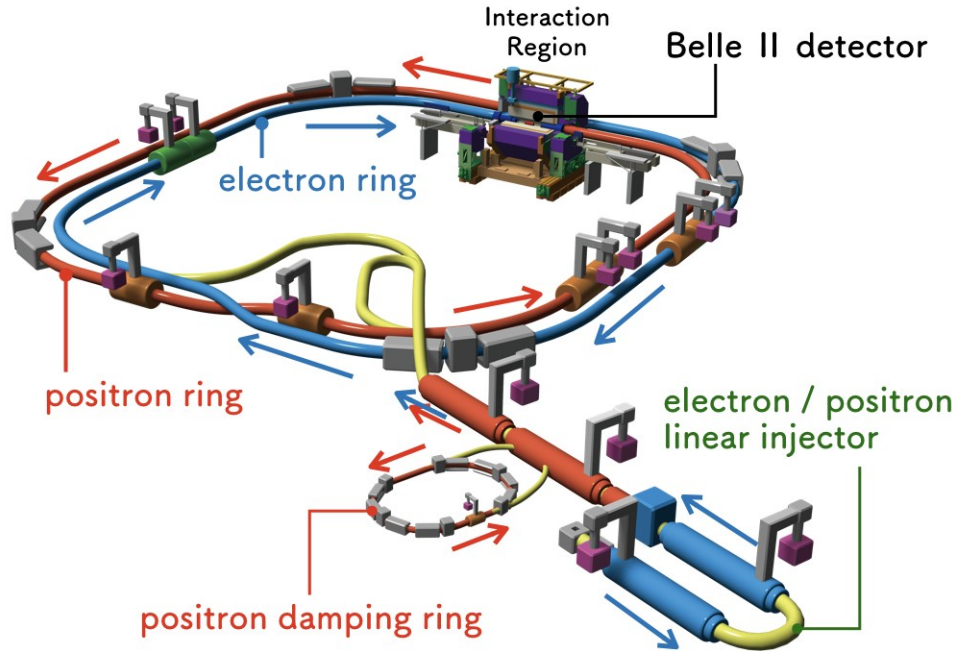
# Outline

- Beautiful B factories
- B physics highlights
  - CP violation
  - Tests of lepton-flavour universality
  - Evidence for  $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$
- Prospects

# B Mesons

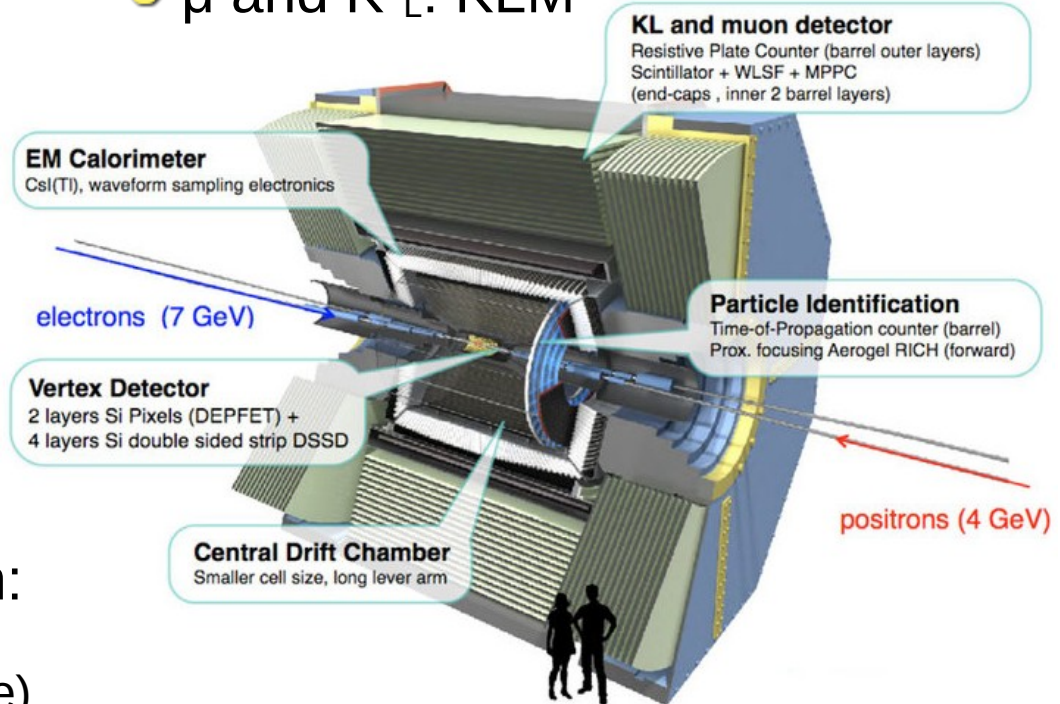
- Light enough to be produced abundantly
- Heavy enough to have many decays
- Myriad of final states and interactions to probe from
- Well known Standard Model predictions
- One of the main missions of B factories is to perform searches for physics beyond SM in rare B decays
- Rare B decay: branching fractions  $< 5 \times 10^{-5}$
- Flavour changing neutral currents (FCNC) decays of B mesons
  - Forbidden at tree level, allowed at loop level
  - Standard Model (SM) contribution is small, sensitive to beyond SM
  - BSM particles can contribute in the loop (eg. charged Higgs) or mediate the process at the tree level (eg leptoquarks).

# B Factories



- $\beta\gamma \sim 0.284$
- $\text{BR}(Y(4S) \rightarrow B\bar{B}) > 96\%$
- coherent B-meson pair production:
  - one B to determine flavour (tag side)
  - other B for CP measurement (CP side)

- Vertexing: PXD+SVD
- Tracking: CDC
- K and  $\pi$ : RICH + TOP
- $\gamma$  and e: ECL
- $\mu$  and  $K^0_L$ : KLM



# Super KEKB and Belle II

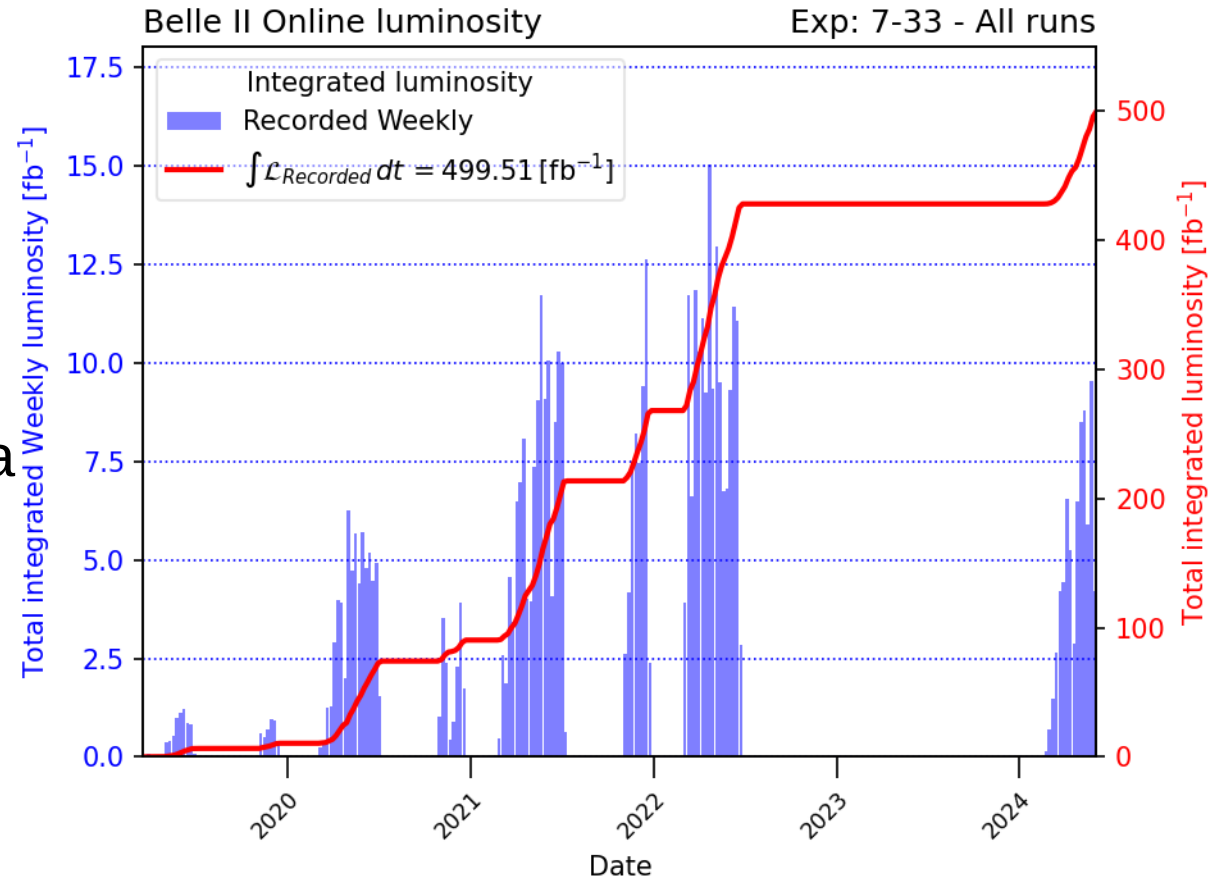
SuperKEKB + Belle II@KEK, Tsukuba

- nanobeam scheme to increase instantaneous luminosity by factor 30
  - to collect multi-ab<sup>-1</sup> sample
  - world record  $4.7 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- Shutdown from summer 2022 until Feb 2024
  - for accelerator upgrades to mitigate background and increase luminosity
- Detector upgrades too
  - two-layer pixel detector installed
- Path to  $2 \times 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ 
  - but new final focus to go beyond
  - proposed upgrade from 2028+

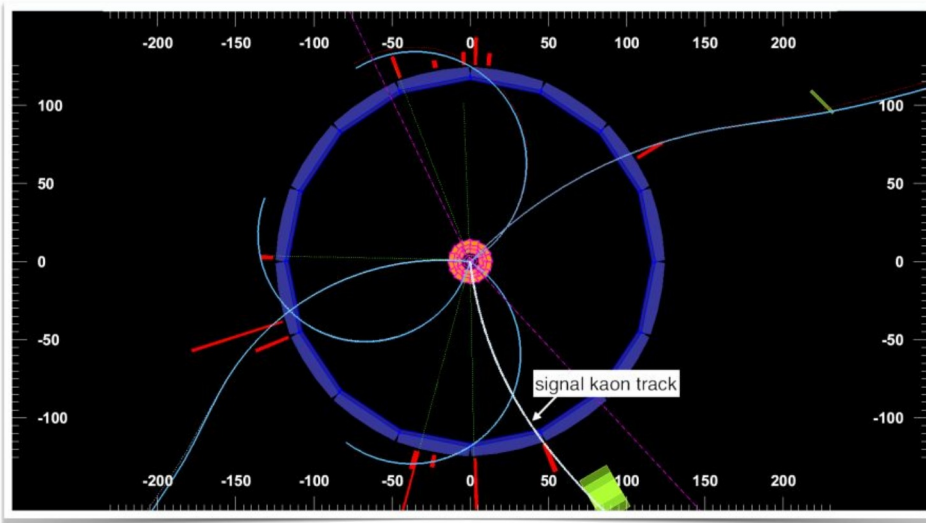
# KEK status and luminosity

Belle II collected:

- xxx fb<sup>-1</sup> at Y(4S)
  - equivalent to BaBar and ~1/2 of Belle
  - current results: 362 fb<sup>-1</sup>
- 42 fb<sup>-1</sup> of off-resonance data [60 MeV below Y(4S)]
  - compared to ~90 fb<sup>-1</sup> from Belle



# Events at the B Factories:



$$B^+B^- (51.4 \pm 0.6)\%, \quad B^0\bar{B}^0 (48.6 \pm 0.6)\%$$

$$\sigma(e^+e^-) \rightarrow \Upsilon(4S) = 1.1 \text{ nb}$$

$$\sigma(e^+e^-) \rightarrow c\bar{c}(g) = 1.6 \text{ nb}$$

$$\sigma(e^+e^-) \rightarrow u\bar{u}(\gamma) = 1.3 \text{ nb}$$

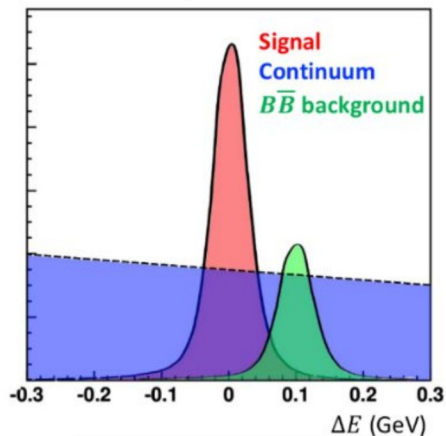
- Clean environment with on average  $\sim 10$ -15 tracks, 3-4  $\pi^0$
- Known initial state kinematics

- Principal background from light quark (continuum)
- Near 100% efficiency for B decays



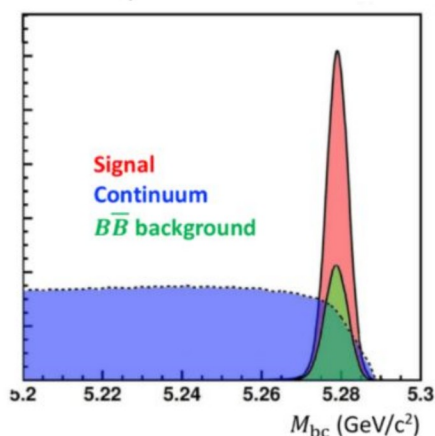
# Events Kinematics:

$$\Delta E = E_B^* - \sqrt{s}/2$$

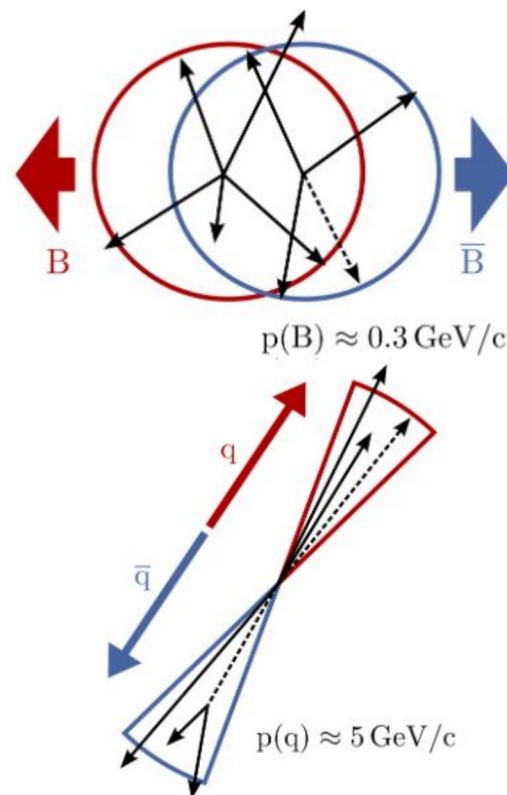


Expected  $\Delta E \simeq 0$

$$M_{bc} = \sqrt{(\sqrt{s}/2)^2 - |\vec{p}_B^*|^2}$$



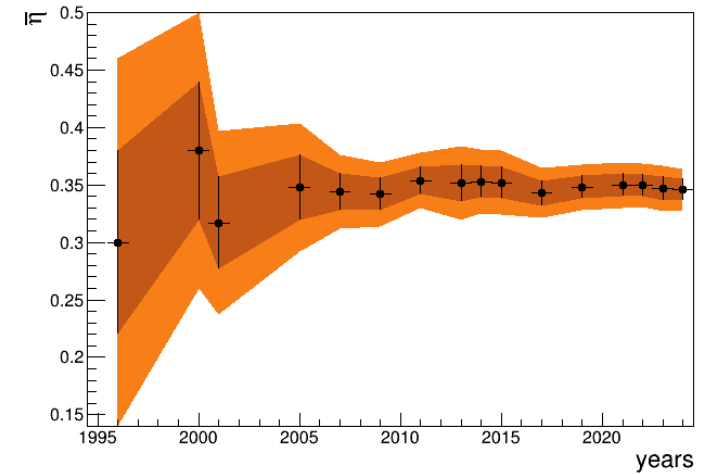
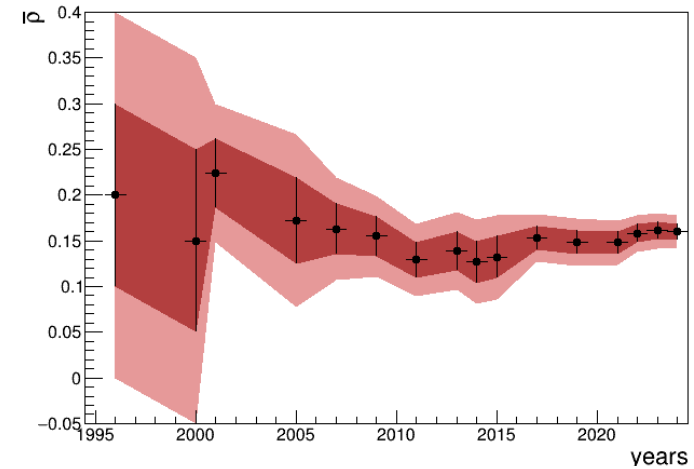
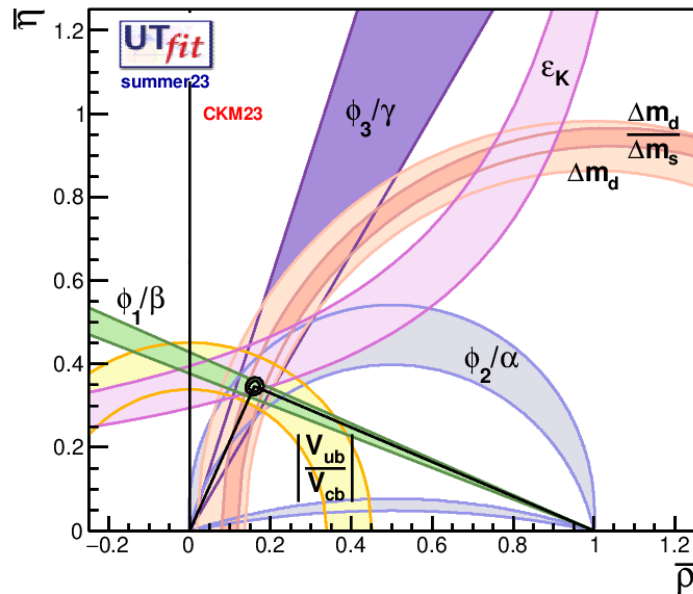
Expected  $M_{bc} \simeq m_B$



- B-factory-specific variables to exploit information on initial kinematics
- Different event shape to separate B events from continuum background

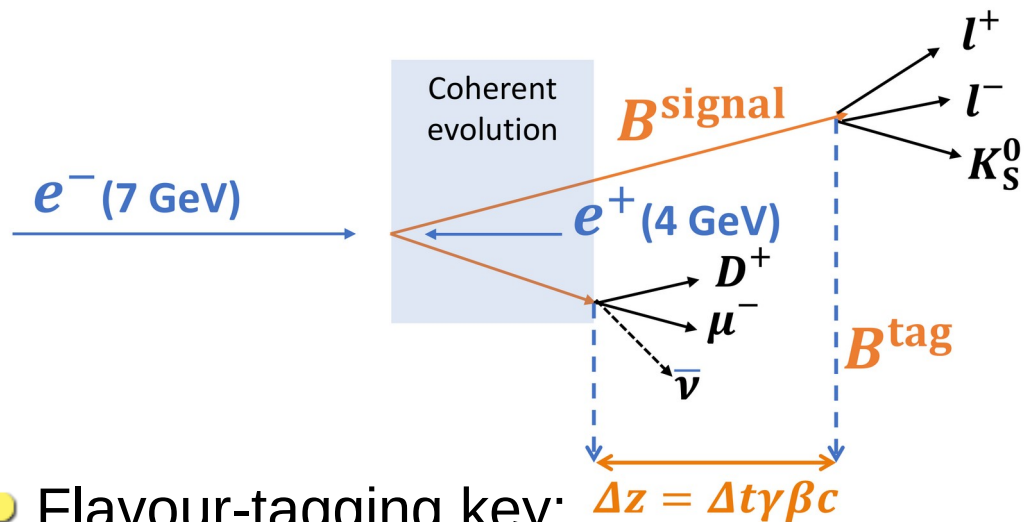


# CKM and CP violation

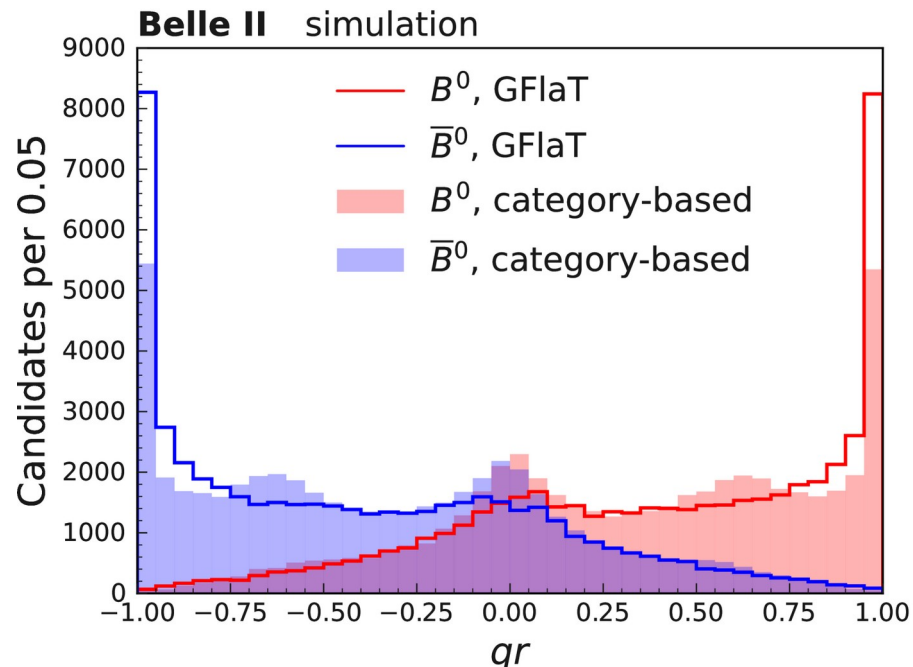


# Flavour Tagging improvement:

arXiv:2402.17260 [hep-ex]



- Flavour-tagging key:
  - leptons, kaons, high momentum tracks etc
- Parameters:
  - $\varepsilon$  is the tagging efficiency
  - $w$  is the probability to wrongly determine flavour



Graph-neural-network approach has improved tagging by 18%  
 $\varepsilon(1 - 2\omega) = 37.4 \%$

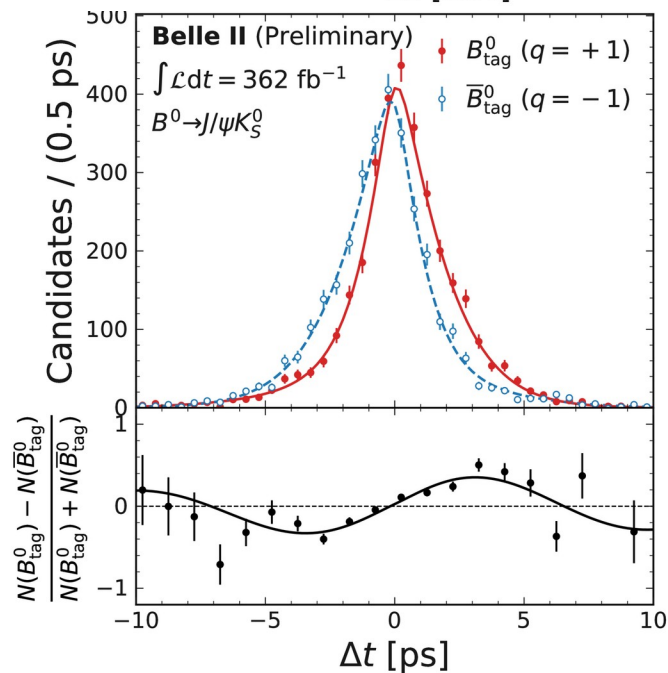
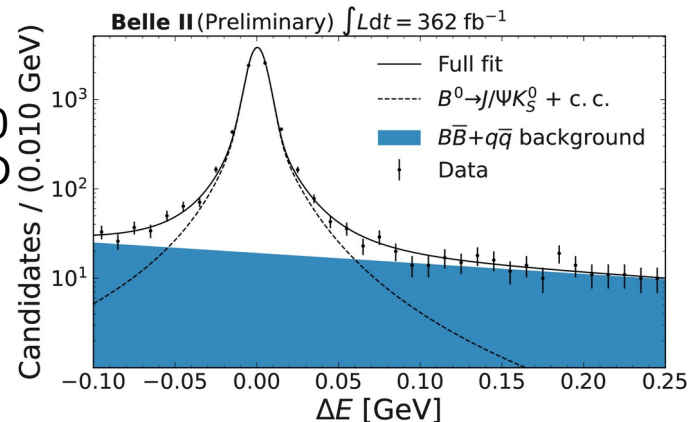
# $\sin(2\phi_1/\beta)$ from $B \rightarrow J/\psi K_S$

- Exploited this new tagging to update the golden channel
- Fit  $\Delta E$  distribution to subtract background
- Fit background-subtracted  $\Delta t$  distribution
- to extract CPV parameters

- $S = 0.724 \pm 0.035 \pm 0.014$
- $C = -0.035 \pm 0.026 \pm 0.013$

- To be compared to WA:
  - $S = 0.695 \pm 0.019$
  - $C = 0.000 \pm 0.020$
- Statistical uncertainties 8% smaller than with category-based Flavour Tagger

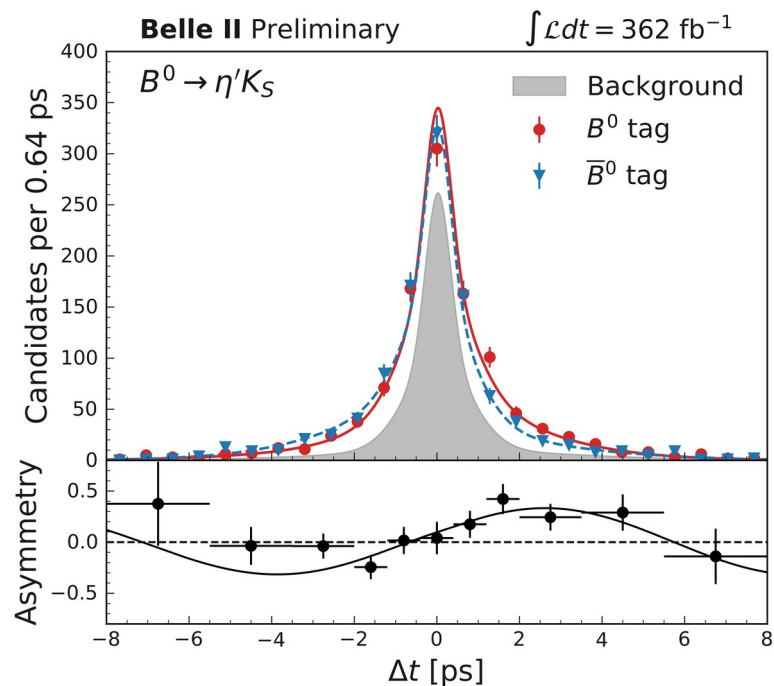
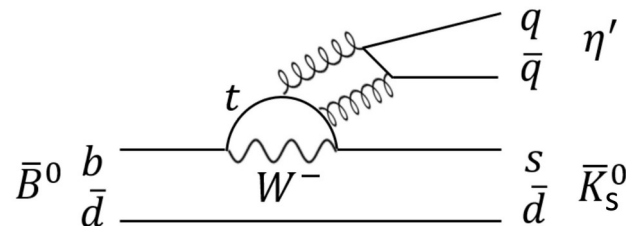
arXiv:2402.17260  
Accepted by PRD



# Time-dependent CP violation: $B^0 \rightarrow \eta K_S$

arXiv:2402.03713 [hep-ex]

- Decay may also have a BSM phase as it is a gluonic penguin
  - alter the value of  $\phi_1$  from the  $b \rightarrow \bar{c}cs$  transitions such as  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K_S^0$
- Reconstructing  $\eta' \rightarrow \eta(\gamma\gamma)\pi^+\pi^-$  and  $\eta' \rightarrow \rho(\pi^+\pi^-)\gamma$ 
  - we select  $829 \pm 35$  events in  $362 \text{ fb}^{-1}$
  - 3D fit to  $\Delta E$ ,  $M_{bc}$  and continuum suppression output
- $\sin 2\phi'_1 = 0.67 \pm 0.10 \pm 0.04$
- Consistent with current HFLAV average and that from  $b \rightarrow \bar{c}cs$  result



# Towards $\phi_2/\alpha$ : $B^0 \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0$

- Update on BR and  $A_{CP}$  using full Run-1 statistics:
- Improved selections, new flavour tagger (GflaT), reduction of systematics

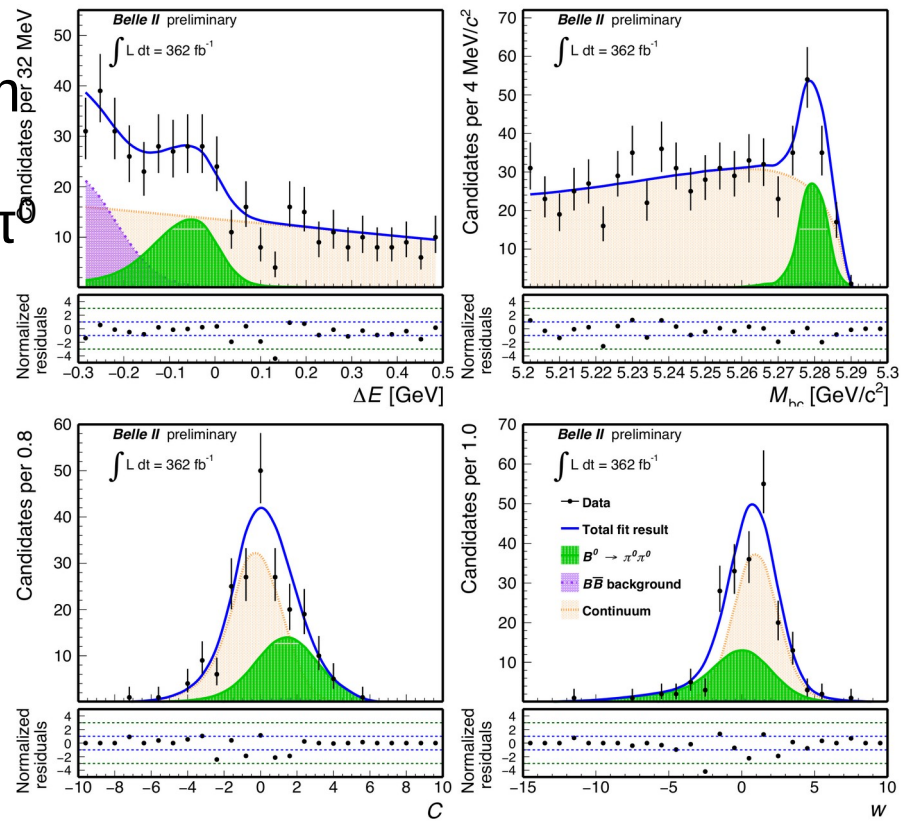
126±20 signal events

- Background dominated by continuum
- then  $B\bar{B}$ :
  - $B^+ \rightarrow \rho^+(\rightarrow \pi^+\pi^0)\pi^0$ ,  $B^0 \rightarrow K^0_S(\rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0)\pi^0$
- 4D fit including  $M_{bc}$ ,  $\Delta E$ , cont. suppression (C), and w (wrong tag probability - unbinned)

Results:

- $B = (1.26 \pm 0.20 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-6}$
- $A_{CP} = 0.06 \pm 0.30 \pm 0.06$

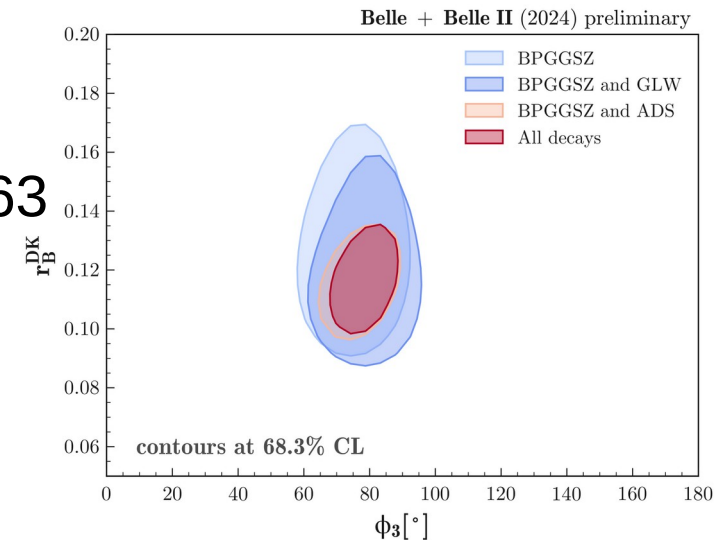
World-best B determination.  
ACP on par with world best



# $\phi_3/\gamma$ : Belle/Belle II combined results

- Several methods used
  - GLW  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^0_{CP} K^\pm$ : arXiv:2308.05048 [hep-ex]
    - Use CP eigenstates of D meson
  - ADS: PRL 78 (1997) 3257
    - Enhancement of CP violation by using doubly Cabibbo suppressed decays.
  - BPGGSZ  $D^0 \rightarrow K_S h^+ h^-$ : JHEP 2022(2022), 63
    - Different amplitude and strong phase in different region of Dalitz plot.
  - GLS  $D^0 \rightarrow K_S K \pi$ : JHEP 09(2023)146
- Likelihood with 60 input observables
  - including 15 auxiliary inputs (D-decay)
  - 16 free parameters
  - $r_B(\delta_B)$  with little high fluctuation

$$\phi_3 = (78.6 \pm 7.3)^\circ$$



LHCb:  $\phi_3 = (63.8 \pm 3.6)^\circ$  (LHCb-CONF-2022-003)  
 Few  $ab^{-1}$  needed for similar statistical result

# First measurement of $B \rightarrow K^*(892)\gamma$

- Flavour changing neutral current decays sensitive to new physics
- First observed FCNC decay [PRL 71 (1993) 674]
- CP ( $A_{CP}$ ) and isospin ( $\Delta_{+0}$ ) asymmetries are theoretically clean thanks to form factor cancellations
- Asymmetries are ideal for BSM searches
  - PRD 88 (2013) 094004, PRL 106 (2011) 141801
- Belle measurement found evidence of isospin asymmetry at  $3.1\sigma$ 
  - PRL 119 (2017) 191802

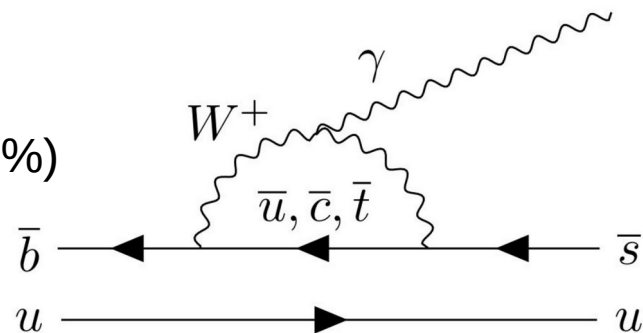
$$A_{CP} = \frac{\Gamma(\bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{K}^*\gamma) - \Gamma(B \rightarrow K^*\gamma)}{\Gamma(\bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{K}^*\gamma) + \Gamma(B \rightarrow K^*\gamma)}$$

SM prediction is small ( $\sim 1\%$ )

$$\Delta A_{CP} = A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma) - A_{CP}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma)$$

$$\Delta_{+0} = \frac{\Gamma(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma) - \Gamma(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma)}{\Gamma(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma) + \Gamma(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma)}$$

SM prediction:  $4.9 \pm 2.6\%$   
[PRD 88 (2013) 094004]





# First measurement of $B \rightarrow K^*(892)\gamma$

- Analysis based on Run-1 data (362 fb<sup>-1</sup>)
- Reconstruct  $K^* \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-, K_S^0 \pi^0, K^+ \pi^0, K_S^0 \pi^-$
- Combine  $K^*$  with a prompt photon to get B candidate

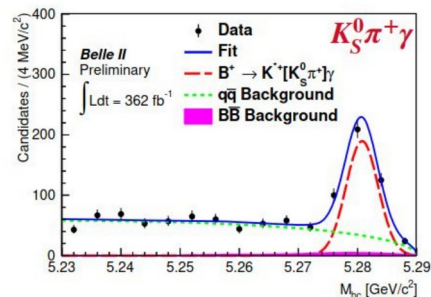
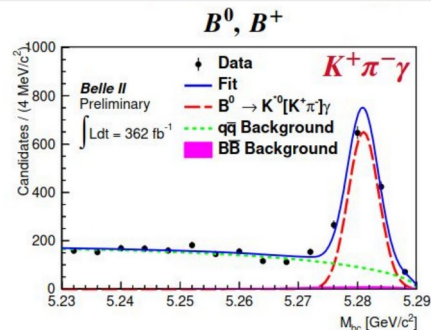
## Fit strategy

- Perform 2D fit to  $\Delta E$  and  $M_{bc}$  to extract signal yield

## Results:

- Consistent with world average and SM
- Asymmetries are statistically limited
- Similar sensitivity to Belle result despite half the data
  - Thanks to improved  $K_S^0$  efficiency, continuum suppression, and addition of  $\Delta E$  to fit model)

Uncertainty:  
stat. + sys. +  $f_{+/-}/f_{00}$  (for  $\Delta_{0+}$ )



$$\mathcal{B}[B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma] = (4.16 \pm 0.10 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-5},$$

$$\mathcal{B}[B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma] = (4.04 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.13) \times 10^{-5},$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{CP}[B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma] = (-3.2 \pm 2.4 \pm 0.4)\%,$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{CP}[B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma] = (-1.0 \pm 3.0 \pm 0.6)\%,$$

$$\Delta\mathcal{A}_{CP} = (2.2 \pm 3.8 \pm 0.7)\%,$$

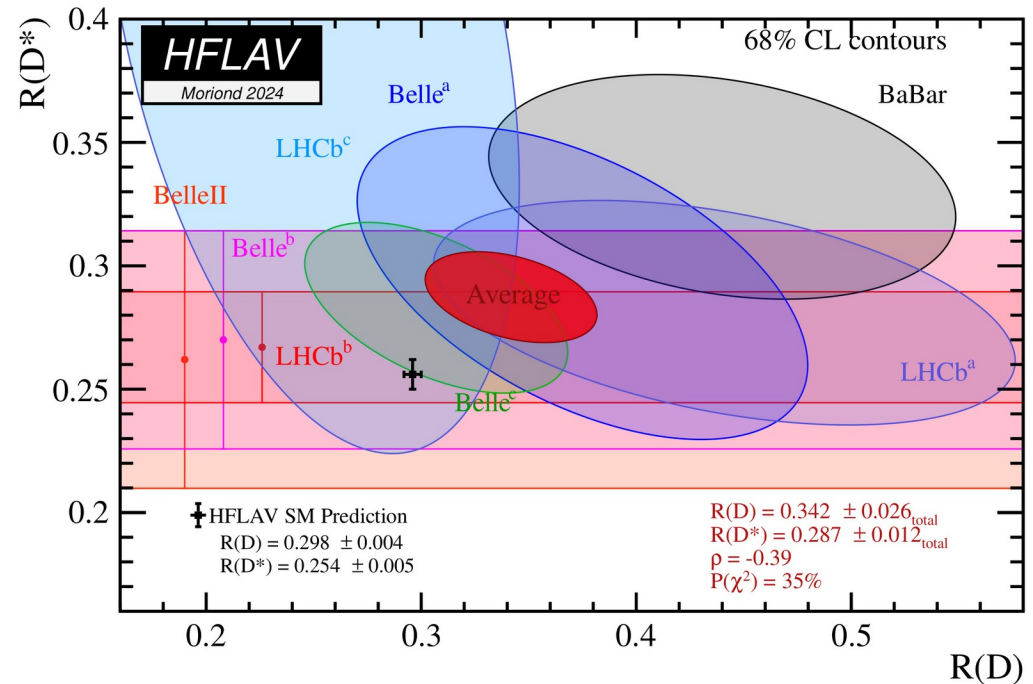
$$\Delta_{0+} = (5.1 \pm 2.0 \pm 1.0 \pm 1.1)\%$$

# CKM matrix element $V_{cb}$ and $V_{ub}$ :

- Long standing tension between inclusive and exclusive measurements:

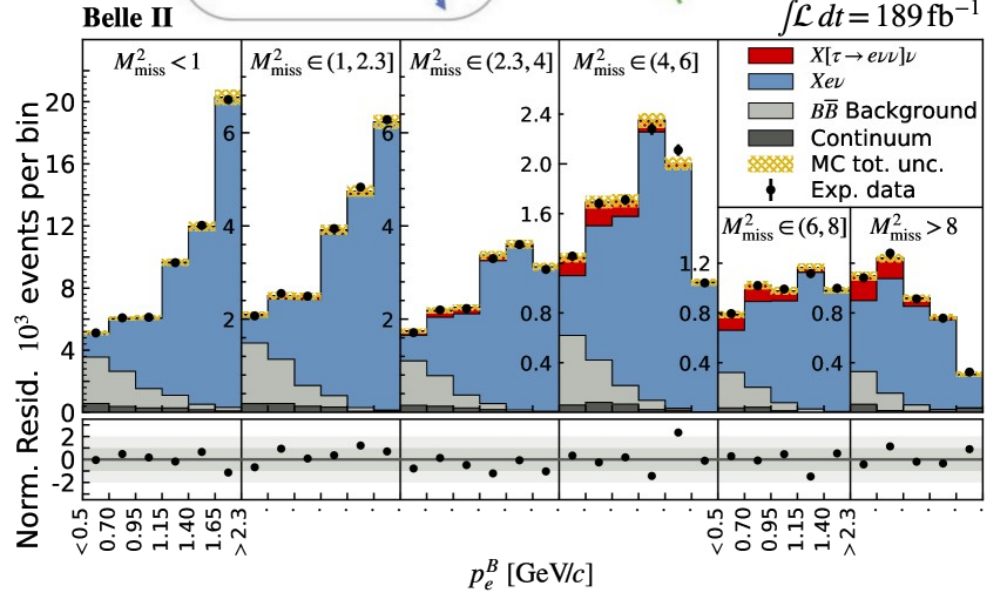
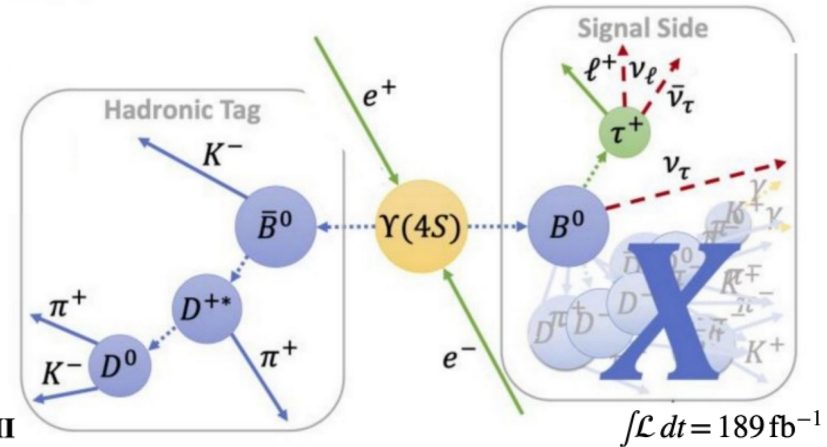


# Lepton flavour/universality violation and rare decays



# Measurement of R(X)

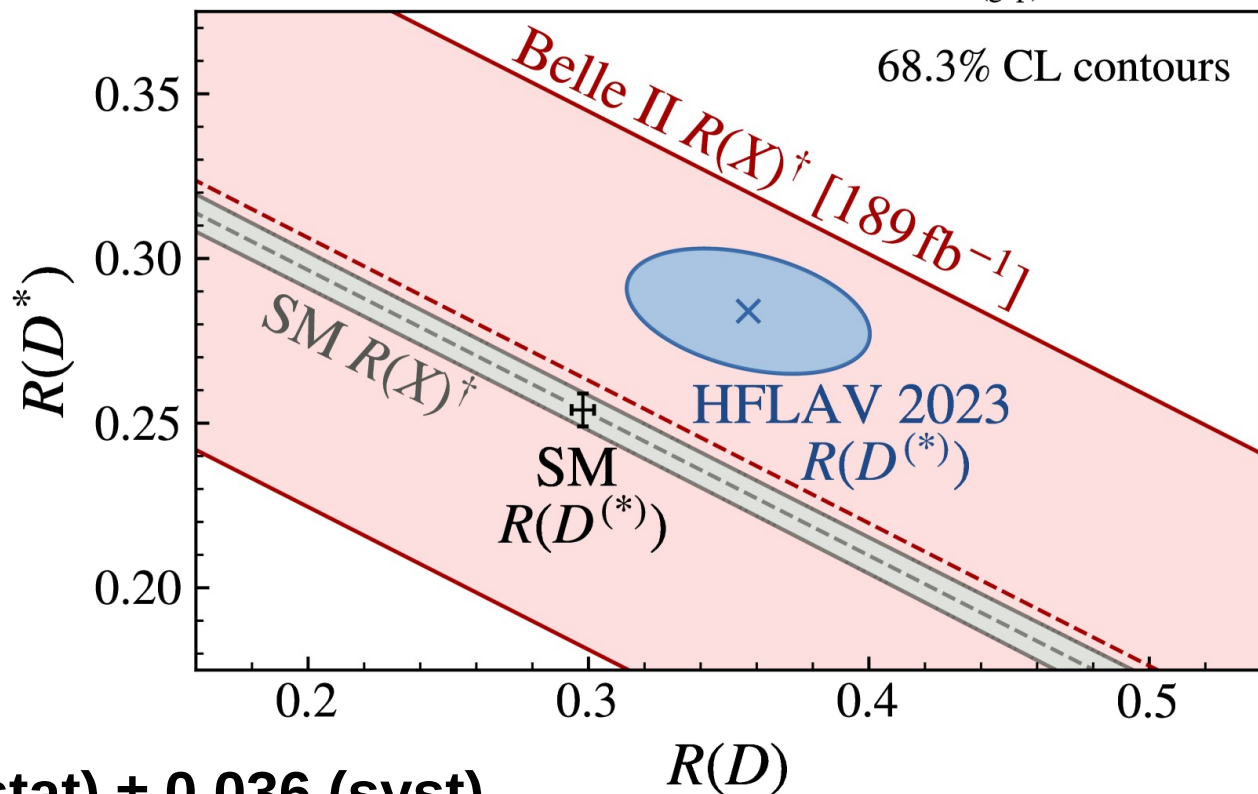
- Inclusive ratio  $R(X) = \text{BR}(B \rightarrow X\tau\nu)/\text{BR}(B \rightarrow X\ell\nu)$ 
  - A complementary alternative to  $R(D^*)$
- Hadronic-tagging method with 189 fb<sup>-1</sup>
  - Hadronic tag pioneered by BaBar PRL 92 071802
  - MVA version at Belle II Comput. Softw. Big Sci. 3 (2019) 1, 6
- Use missing-mass squared and lepton momentum to isolate signal above  $B \rightarrow X\ell\nu$  background
- Background templates calibrated to control samples and sidebands



# Measurement of $R(X)$

- Systematics dominated by control sample reweighting procedures
- First at B factories
- Agrees with SM prediction and the WA  $R(D^{(*)})$  values

† = with expected SM contributions of  $D_{(\text{gap})}^{**}, X_u$  removed

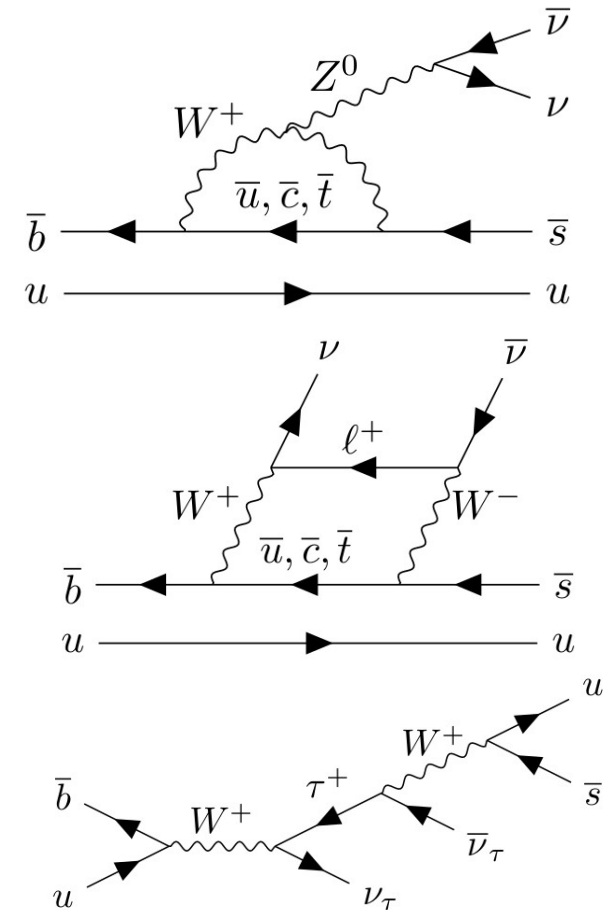


$$R(X) = 0.228 \pm 0.016 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.036 \text{ (syst)}$$

# Probing $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$

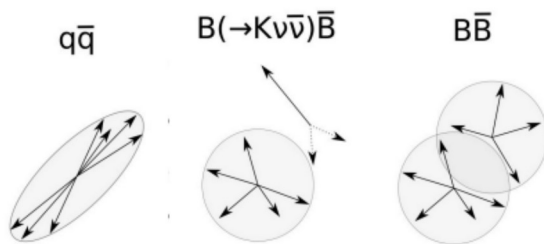
- Well known in SM but very sensitive to BSM enhancements – 3rd gen
  - $B(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (5.6 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-6}$  [arXiv:2207.13371]
- Challenging experimentally
  - Low branching fraction with large background
  - No peak – two neutrinos leads to no good kinematic constraint
- Advantages at Belle II:
  - Constraints from initial state kinematics;
  - Lower average multiplicity at the Y(4S) compared to hadronic collisions.
- NP scenarios:
  - Light: axions, dark scalars, axion-like particles
  - Heavy:  $Z'$ , leptoquarks

arXiv:2311.14647 [hep-ex]  
Accepted PRD

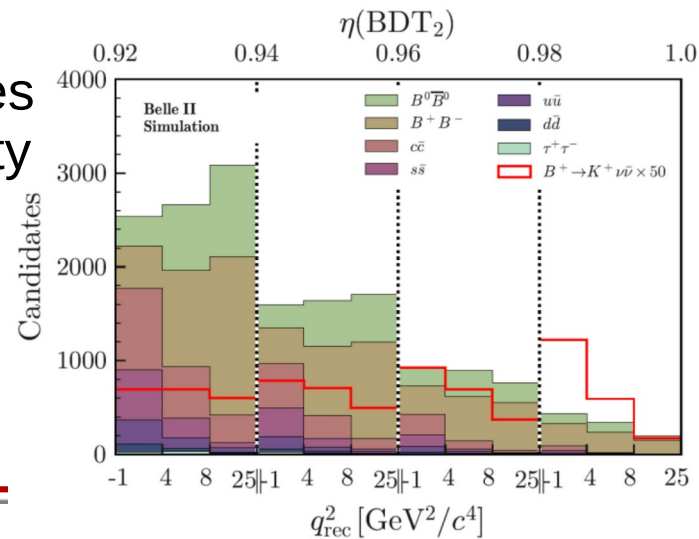
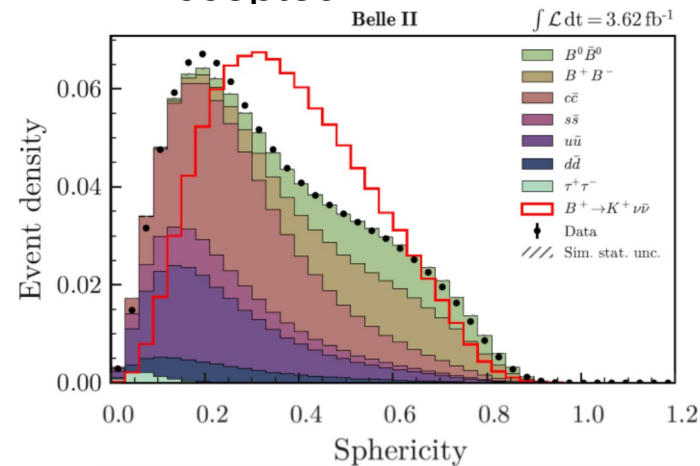


# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ analysis strategy

- Two methods: an inclusive tag and conventional hadronic tag
  - many common features except tag
- Inclusive event variables to suppress background
  - preselect events where missing momentum and signal kaon well reconstructed
  - First boosted decision tree (BDT1): 12 variables
  - Second BDT2: 35 variables – 3 times sensitivity
  - BDT2 fit extraction variable in bins of mass-squared–  $q^2$
- Many systematic studies with data-driven corrections and checks with control samples



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Accepted PRD

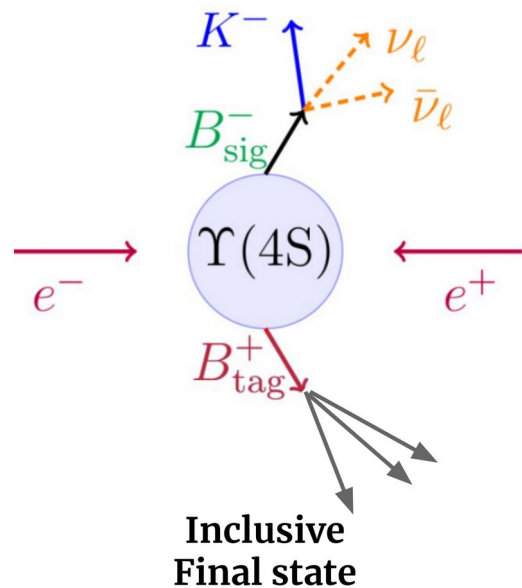




# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ reconstruction

arXiv:2311.14647 [hep-ex]  
Accepted PRD

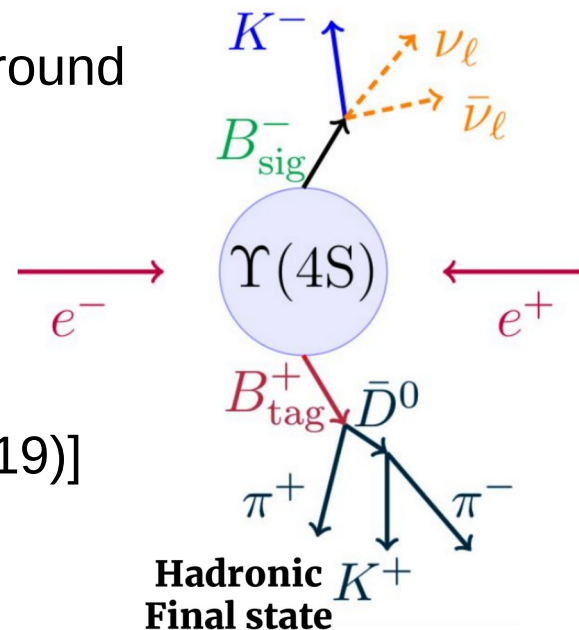
Two methods: an inclusive tag and conventional hadronic tag



ITA: signal efficiency = 8%  
purity = 0.9%

- Inclusive tag analysis (ITA)
  - Select first signal kaon that minimizes  $q_{rec}^2$  (computed as  $K^+$  recoil)
  - Nested BDT to suppress background
  - Fit  $q_{rec}^2$  and BDT output

- Hadronic tag analysis (HTA)
  - Select first tag B decaying hadronically [Comput Softw Big Sci 3, 6 (2019)]
  - Single BDT to suppress background
  - Fit BDT output

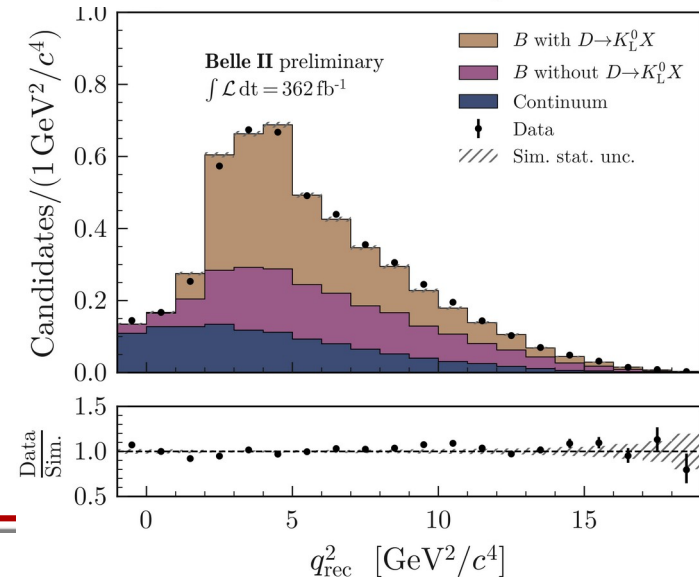
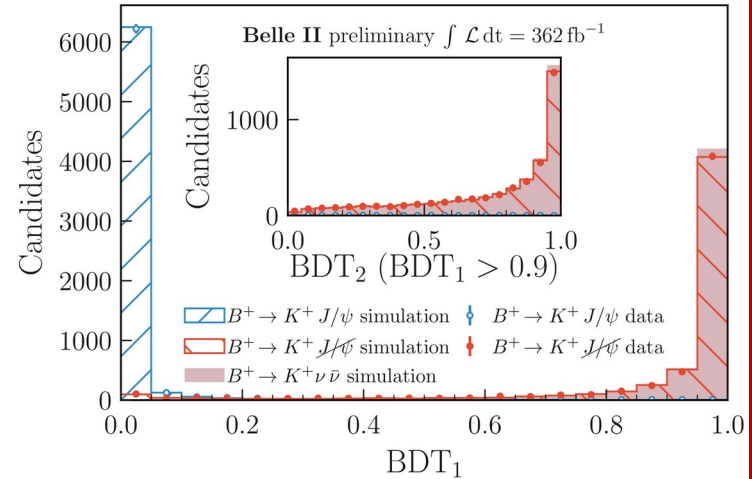


HTA: signal efficiency = 0.4%  
purity = 3.5%

# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ validation

- Signal efficiency checked with signal-embedded  $B \rightarrow K J/\psi (\rightarrow \mu\mu)$ 
  - Remove  $J/\psi$  and correct the kaon kinematics to match that of signal
- Continuum validated with off-resonance
- $B \rightarrow X_c (\rightarrow K^0_L)$  validated from pion-enriched sideband
- Signal like  $B \rightarrow K^+ K^0_L K^0_L$  checked with  $B \rightarrow K^+ K^0_s K^0_s$  [PRD 85 112010]
- Similar treatment for  $B \rightarrow K^+ K^0_s K^0_s$  and  $B \rightarrow K^+ nn$
- Closure test:  $BR(K^0 \pi^+) = (2.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-5}$  compatible with the WA:  $(2.38 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-5}$

arXiv:2311.14647 [hep-ex] Accepted PRD



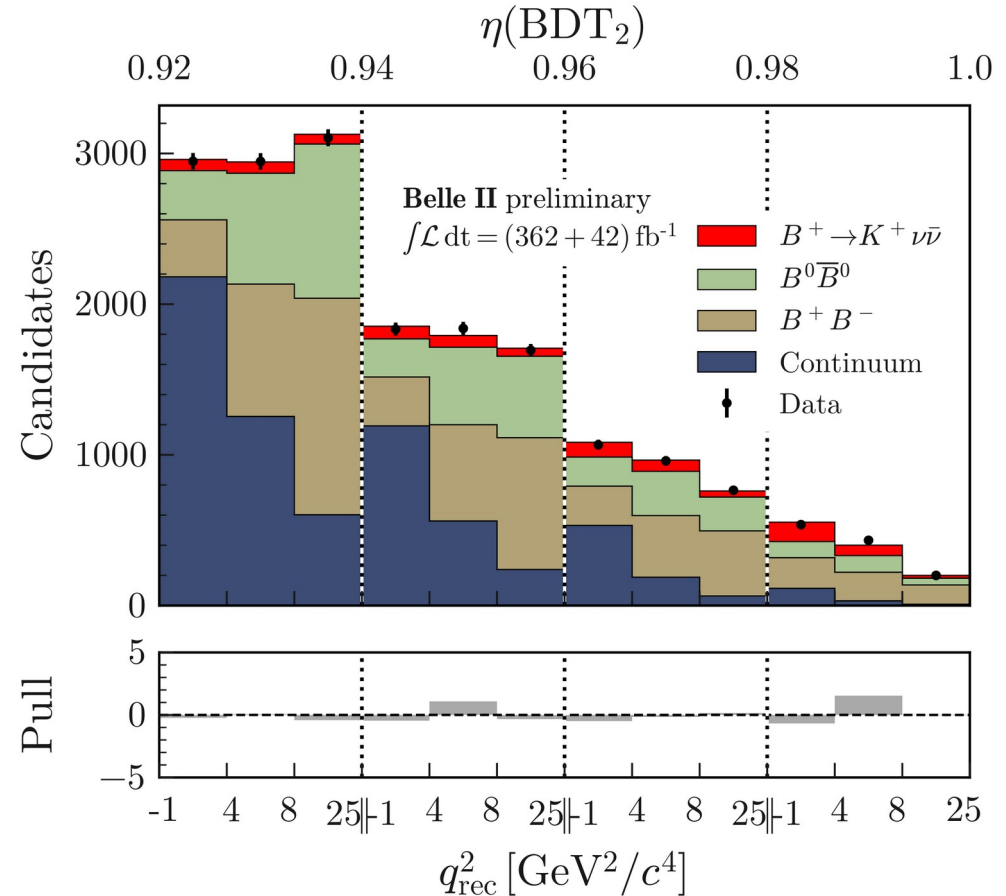
# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ results

## ● ITA:

- $\mu = 5.4 \pm 1.0$  (stat)  $\pm 1.1$  (syst)
- corresponds to  

$$\text{BR}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (2.7 \pm 0.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-5}$$
- $3.5\sigma$  compatibility wrt bkg only
- $2.9\sigma$  compatibility wrt the SM

arXiv:2311.14647 [hep-ex] Accepted PRD



# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ results

## ITA:

- $\mu = 5.4 \pm 1.0$  (stat)  $\pm 1.1$  (syst)

- corresponds to

$$\text{BR}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (2.7 \pm 0.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-5}$$

- 3.5 $\sigma$  compatibility wrt bkg only

- 2.9 $\sigma$  compatibility wrt the SM

## HTA:

- $\mu = 2.2^{+1.8}_{-1.7}$  (stat)  $^{+1.6}_{-1.1}$  (syst)

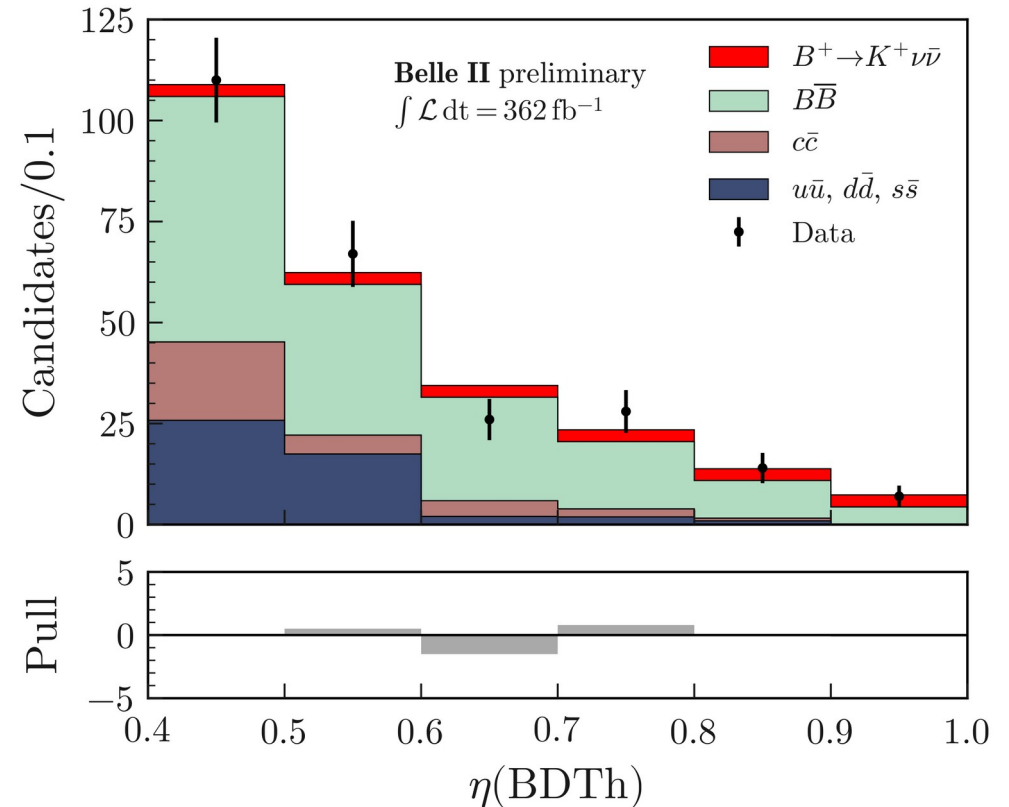
- corresponds to

$$\text{BR}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (1.1^{+0.9}_{-0.8} \quad ^{+0.8}_{-0.5}) \times 10^{-5}$$

- 1.1 $\sigma$  compatibility wrt bkg only

- 0.6 $\sigma$  compatibility wrt the SM

arXiv:2311.14647 [hep-ex] Accepted PRD



# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ results

arXiv:2311.14647 [hep-ex] Accepted PRD

- ITA:

$$\text{BR}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (2.7 \pm 0.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-5}$$

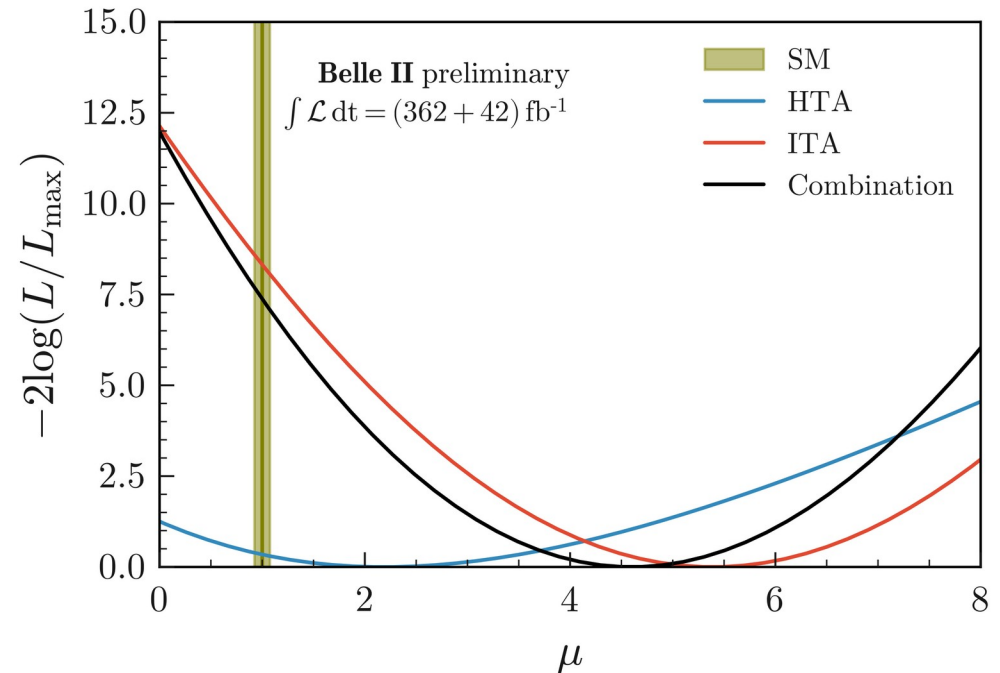
- HTA:

$$\text{BR}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (1.1^{+0.9}_{-0.8} \quad ^{+0.8}_{-0.5}) \times 10^{-5}$$

- Combination:

$$\text{BR}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (2.7 \pm 0.5 \quad ^{+0.5}_{-0.4}) \times 10^{-5}$$

- 3.5 $\sigma$  compatibility wrt bkg only
- 2.7 $\sigma$  compatibility wrt the SM
- Combination improves the ITA-only precision by 10%



# Goals with current data to a few inverse $\text{ab}^{-1}$

- Semileptonic decay:
  - $V_{cb}$ : can we make progress on the inclusive vs. exclusive tension  $\rightarrow$  KEK report in preparation
  - $R(D)$ - $R(D^*)$
- Electroweak penguin
  - Missing energy modes like  $B \rightarrow K\tau\tau$  and  $K\nu\nu$
- CP violation
  - $\alpha$  and the gluonic penguins
- tau
  - LFV and precision
- Charm
  - final states with neutrals, e.g.,  $D \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0$
- Quarkonium
  - $Y(10753)$  scan and isospin partners (ISR and B decay)
- Dark sector and low multiplicity
  - dark photon and  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$

Snowmass submission is the most up to date prospects document

# Conclusions

- $e^+e^-$  has an important role to play in the future of flavour
- Belle II is catching up to first generation sample size, producing competitive and exciting results
  - 37 papers and 10 preliminary results with a paper in preparation [to be updated]
  - More before the summer with the Run-1 data
- A lot more to come once we enter the “ $10^{35}$  era” of Run 2 which is just starting



*Any questions?*





back-up slides