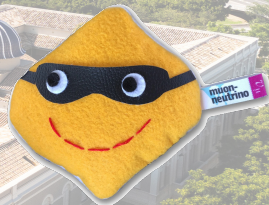


Introduction to $b \rightarrow d\nu\bar{\nu}$ decays

Hector Gisbert

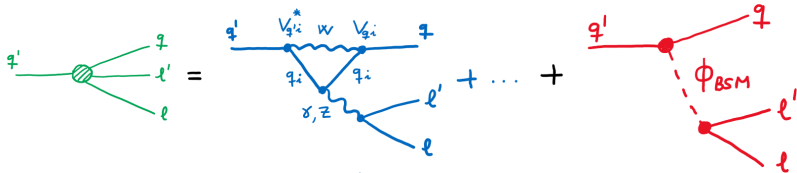
U. Europea de Valencia



Belle II Physics week, October 6–10, 2025, KEK (Japan)

Rare decays probing BSM physics

- FCNCs are loop- and CKM-suppressed in the SM.



- BSM contributions could be comparable in size to the SM.

Bonus when leptons are attached (rare decays).

- SM lepton couplings are flavour universal; **LU** can be tested.
- If $\ell \neq \ell'$ (zero in the SM), **LFC** can be tested as well.

An excellent place to search for BSM physics!

EFT approach to rare B decays

- ① **Symmetries to build all O_i up to desired dimension ($D = 6$):**

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} \supset \frac{4 G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{tq}^* V_{tb} \frac{\alpha_e}{4\pi} \sum_i c_i^{(\prime)} O_i^{(\prime)}, \quad c_i = C_i^{\text{SM}(\prime)} + C_i^{(\prime)},$$

$$O_7^{(\prime)} = \frac{e}{16\pi^2} m_b (\bar{q}_{L(R)} \sigma_{\mu\nu} b_{R(L)}) F^{\mu\nu},$$

$$O_8^{(\prime)} = \frac{g_s}{16\pi^2} m_b (\bar{q}_{L(R)} \sigma_{\mu\nu} T^a b_{R(L)}) G_a^{\mu\nu},$$

$$O_{9(10)}^{(\prime)} = (\bar{q}_{L(R)} \gamma_\mu b_{L(R)}) (\bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu (\gamma_5) \ell), \dots$$

- ② **Compute $C_i(\mu_{\text{EW}})$ and RGEs to go down $\mu_{\text{low}} \approx m_b$.**

$$C_7^{\text{SM}}(m_b) \approx -0.3, \quad C_8^{\text{SM}}(m_b) \approx -0.15, \quad C_9^{\text{SM}}(m_b) \approx 4.1, \quad C_{10}^{\text{SM}}(m_b) \approx -4.2.$$

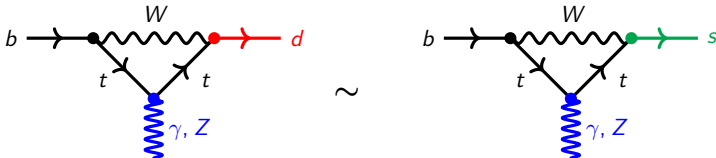
- ③ **$\langle O_i(\mu_{\text{low}}) \rangle$ from non-perturbative techniques (Lattice, LCSR, ...)**

- ④ **Include resonances.**

Different phenomenology compared with rare charm decays!

Comparisons are odious, but they're necessary here

- Differences between $b \rightarrow d \ell \ell$ & $b \rightarrow s \ell \ell$ in the SM:



- (1) CKM matrix elements: V_{td} vs V_{ts} , (2) Light quark masses: m_d vs m_s

$$C_i^{(b \rightarrow d)} \approx C_i^{(b \rightarrow s)}, \text{ (CKMs factorized in } \mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}})$$

$$C_i'^{(b \rightarrow d)} \approx \left(\frac{m_d}{m_s} \right) C_i'^{(b \rightarrow s)}, \text{ (} O_i' \text{ chiral suppression)}$$

- A violation would signal additional BSM sources of quark flavor violation (beyond (1) and (2)); an agreement would indicate similar effects (maybe NP?).

$b \rightarrow s e e, \mu\mu$ transitions

- Over the past decade, tensions with SM predictions have appeared in $b \rightarrow s \ell\ell$:
 - ① **Branching ratios:** several measurements tend to lie below SM expectations.
 - ② **Angular observables:** a persistent tension (notably P'_5 at low q^2) in global fits.
 - ③ **LU ratios:** latest LHCb updates of R_K and R_{K^*} are *consistent with the SM*.
- Items 1–2 can be explained coherently by NP in a single operator:

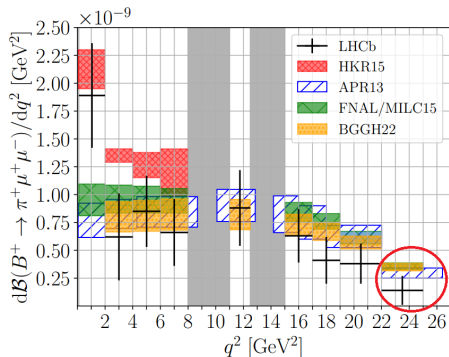
$$C_9^{(bs\mu)} \cdot O_9^{(bs\mu)} \approx (-1) \cdot (\bar{s}_L \gamma_\mu b_L) (\bar{\mu} \gamma^\mu \mu)$$

- 3 suggests discrepancies with the SM in $b \rightarrow s e^+ e^-$, specifically reduced BRs and distorted angular distributions.

Similar patterns in $B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$

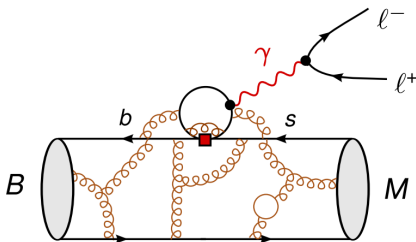
2209.04457

k	$[q_{\min}^2, q_{\max}^2]$ [GeV ²]	$\mathcal{B}_k^{(B\pi)}$	
		SM [10 ⁻⁹ GeV ⁻²]	experiment [10 ⁻⁹ GeV ⁻²]
1	[2, 4]	$0.80 \pm 0.12 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.04$ FFs CKMs scale	$0.62^{+0.39}_{-0.33} \pm 0.02$ stat. syst.
2	[4, 6]	$0.81 \pm 0.12 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.05$	$0.85^{+0.32}_{-0.27} \pm 0.02$
3	[6, 8]	$0.82 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.07$	$0.66^{+0.30}_{-0.25} \pm 0.02$
4	[11, 12.5]	$0.82 \pm 0.09 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.09$	$0.88^{+0.34}_{-0.29} \pm 0.03$
5	[15, 17]	$0.73 \pm 0.06 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.06$	$0.63^{+0.24}_{-0.19} \pm 0.02$
6	[17, 19]	$0.67 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.05$	$0.41^{+0.21}_{-0.17} \pm 0.01$
7	[19, 22]	$0.57 \pm 0.03 \pm 0.03 \pm 0.04$	$0.38^{+0.18}_{-0.15} \pm 0.01$
8	[22, 25]	$0.35 \pm 0.02 \pm 0.02 \pm 0.02$	$0.14^{+0.13}_{-0.09} \pm 0.01$
9	[15, 22]	$0.64 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.05$	$0.47^{+0.12}_{-0.10} \pm 0.01$
10	$[4m_{\mu}^2, (m_{B^+} - m_{\pi^+})^2]$	$17.9 \pm 1.9 \pm 1.1 \pm 1.5^{\dagger}$ GeV ²	$18.3 \pm 2.4 \pm 0.5$ GeV ²



- Very good agreement (below 1 σ) except for high- q^2 bins with 1.6 σ .

A lot of discussion on hadronic effects make not possible a consensus about these tensions....



Cleaner place: $b \rightarrow s \nu \bar{\nu}$ transitions

- **Why interesting?** Clean FCNCs: short-distance Z -penguin and W -box only; no photon pole or charmonium tails. Hadronic input $\Rightarrow$ form factors.
- **Status:** Belle II finds first evidence

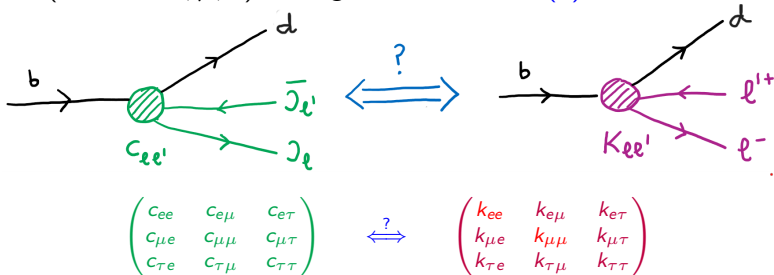
$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (2.3_{-0.4}^{+0.5}(\text{stat})_{-0.3}^{+0.4}(\text{syst})) \times 10^{-5},$$

about $\sim 3\sigma$ above SM.

- **While this points to NP, further scrutiny is required before firm conclusions can be drawn.**

Complementary LU tests are needed!

ℓ and ν_ℓ (with $\ell = e, \mu, \tau$) belong to the same $\text{SU}(2)_L$ doublet in the SM.



Neutrino flavour not tagged!

LU, cLFC, or general:

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(b \rightarrow d \nu \bar{\nu})}{\mathcal{B}(b \rightarrow d \nu \bar{\nu})_{\text{SM}}} \sim 1 + \frac{1}{3} \sum_{\ell, \ell'} c_{\ell \ell'}.$$

Charged leptons are tagged!

LU:

$$R_H \sim \frac{\mathcal{B}(b \rightarrow d \mu^+ \mu^-)}{\mathcal{B}(b \rightarrow d e^+ e^-)} \sim 1 + (k_{\mu\mu} - k_{ee}).$$

cLFC or general:

$$\mathcal{B}(b \rightarrow d \ell'^+ \ell^-) \sim k_{\ell \ell'}.$$

Low-energy $|\Delta b| = |\Delta d| = 1$ EFT description

$$b \rightarrow d \nu_{\ell} \bar{\nu}_{\ell'}$$



$$b \rightarrow d \ell^{-} \ell'^{+}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}}^{\nu_{\ell} \bar{\nu}_{\ell'}} = -\frac{4 G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \sum_k C_k^{D\ell\ell'} Q_k^{D\ell\ell'}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}}^{\ell^{-} \ell'^{+}} = -\frac{4 G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \sum_k \mathcal{K}_k^{D\ell\ell'} O_k^{D\ell\ell'}$$

Only two operators (no RH neutrinos in the SM).

Additional operators are not connected.

$$Q_{L(R)}^{D\ell\ell'} = (\bar{s}_{L(R)} \gamma_{\mu} b_{L(R)}) (\bar{\nu}_{\ell' L} \gamma^{\mu} \nu_{\ell L})$$

$$O_{L(R)}^{D\ell\ell'} = (\bar{s}_{L(R)} \gamma_{\mu} b_{L(R)}) (\bar{\ell}'_L \gamma^{\mu} \ell_L), \dots$$

Dineutrino BR is obtained via an **incoherent neutrino flavor sum**:

$$\mathcal{B}(b \rightarrow d \nu \bar{\nu}) = \sum_{\ell, \ell'} \mathcal{B}(b \rightarrow d \nu_{\ell} \bar{\nu}_{\ell'}) \sim \sum_{\ell, \ell'} \left| C_L^{D\ell\ell'} \pm C_R^{D\ell\ell'} \right|^2$$

C^P and $\mathcal{K}^P$ are in the mass basis. $P = D$ ($P = U$) $\rightarrow$ down-quark sector (up-quark sector).

Correlate neutrinos and charged leptons with $SU(2)_L$

① $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$ -invariant effective theory:¹

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}}^{\text{LO}} \supset \frac{C_{\ell q}^{(1)}}{v^2} \bar{Q} \gamma_\mu Q \bar{L} \gamma^\mu L + \frac{C_{\ell q}^{(3)}}{v^2} \bar{Q} \gamma_\mu \tau^a Q \bar{L} \gamma^\mu \tau^a L \\ + \frac{C_{\ell u}}{v^2} \bar{U} \gamma_\mu U \bar{L} \gamma^\mu L + \frac{C_{\ell d}}{v^2} \bar{D} \gamma_\mu D \bar{L} \gamma^\mu L$$

② Writing in $SU(2)_L$ -components: ($C \rightarrow$ dineutrinos and $K \rightarrow$ dileptons in the gauge basis)

$$C_L^D = K_L^U = \frac{2\pi}{\alpha} \left(C_{\ell q}^{(1)} - C_{\ell q}^{(3)} \right), \quad C_R^D = K_R^D = \frac{2\pi}{\alpha} C_{\ell d}.$$

③ $C_R^D = K_R^D$ holds in our EFT! But, $C_L^D = K_L^U$!

④ In terms of mass eigenstates, $Q_\alpha = (u_{L\alpha}, V_{\alpha\beta} d_{L\beta})$, $L_i = (\nu_{Li}, W_{ki}^* \ell_{Lk})$

$$C_L^D = W^\dagger K_L^U W + \mathcal{O}(\lambda), \quad C_R^D = W^\dagger K_R^D W,$$

¹1008.4884

Connection via “trace identities” in the mass basis

Same story as in $c \rightarrow \mu \nu \bar{\nu}$ transitions (difference with charm is that SM contribution is relevant).

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(b \rightarrow d \nu \bar{\nu}) &\sim \sum_{\ell, \ell'} \left| c_L^{D \ell \ell'} \pm c_R^{D \ell \ell'} \right|^2 = \text{Tr}[(c_L^D \pm c_R^D)(c_L^D \pm c_R^D)^\dagger] \\ &= \text{Tr}[W^\dagger (\kappa_L^U \pm \kappa_R^D) W W^\dagger (\kappa_L^U \pm \kappa_R^D)^\dagger W] = \sum_{\ell, \ell'} \left| \kappa_L^{U \ell \ell'} \pm \kappa_R^{D \ell \ell'} \right|^2 + \mathcal{O}(\lambda). \end{aligned}$$

★ Independent of the PMNS matrix and subleading $\mathcal{O}(\lambda)$ corrections!

★ Predictions for dineutrino rates from lepton-specific structures $\kappa_{L,R}^{\ell \ell'}$ can be probed with charged-lepton measurements!

Dineutrino branching ratios $B \rightarrow F \nu \bar{\nu}$

$$\mathcal{B}_{BF} = A_{+}^{BF} x^{+} + A_{-}^{BF} x^{-}, \quad x^{\pm} = \sum_{\ell, \ell'} \left| c_L^{D \ell \ell'} \pm c_R^{D \ell \ell'} \right|^2$$

→ Long-distance dynamics $A_{\pm}^{BF}$: LCSR (low q^2) + lattice (high q^2).

→ Short-distance dynamics $x^{\pm}$: Wilson coefficients (SM + BSM).

→ Excellent complementarity $\mathcal{B}_{BF}$:

$B \rightarrow F$	A_{+}^{BF} [10^{-8}]	A_{-}^{BF} [10^{-8}]
$B^0 \rightarrow \pi^0$	154 ± 16	0
$B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+$	332 ± 34	0
$B^0 \rightarrow \rho^0$	59 ± 12	573 ± 233
$B^+ \rightarrow \rho^+$	126 ± 26	1236 ± 502

• $A_{-}^{BP} = 0$ in $B \rightarrow P \nu \bar{\nu}$.

• $A_{-}^{BV} > A_{+}^{BV}$ in $B \rightarrow V \nu \bar{\nu}$.

SM predictions, current exp. limits, and future sensitivities

$B \rightarrow F$	$\mathcal{B}_{\text{SM}} [10^{-8}]$	Derived EFT limits $[10^{-6}]$	Exp. limit (90% C.L.) $[10^{-6}]$
$B^0 \rightarrow \pi^0$	5.4 ± 0.6	6	9
$B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+$	12 ± 1	14	14
$B^0 \rightarrow \rho^0$	22 ± 8	14	40
$B^+ \rightarrow \rho^+$	48 ± 18	30	30

$\overleftrightarrow{\text{LUV?}}$

$\overleftrightarrow{\text{EFT violation}}$

Any violation implies NP beyond the EFT assumptions.

Belle II: For 50 ab^{-1} , $N(b\bar{b}) \approx 10^{11}$; naively, this implies an order-of-magnitude improvement on the current experimental limits.

LU bound in $b \rightarrow d \nu \bar{\nu}$ decays

① $SU(2)_L$ link:

$$\boxed{b_R \rightarrow d_R \ell^- \ell'^+} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{b \rightarrow d \nu \bar{\nu}} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{t_L \rightarrow u_L \ell^- \ell'^+}$$

$$\mathcal{K}_{R, NP}^{D\ell\ell'} \quad \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow F \nu \bar{\nu}) \quad \mathcal{K}_{L, NP}^{U\ell\ell'}$$

② LU limit ($\mathcal{K}_{A, NP}^{P\ell\ell'} = \mathcal{K}_{A, NP}^{P\mu\mu} \delta_{\ell\ell'}$):

$$\boxed{b_R \rightarrow d_R \mu^- \mu^+} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{b \rightarrow d \nu \bar{\nu}} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{t_L \rightarrow u_L \mu^- \mu^+}$$

$$\text{Global fits} \quad \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow F \nu \bar{\nu})_{LU} \quad \text{Weak bounds}$$

③ Complementarity among $B \rightarrow F \nu \bar{\nu}$ modes:

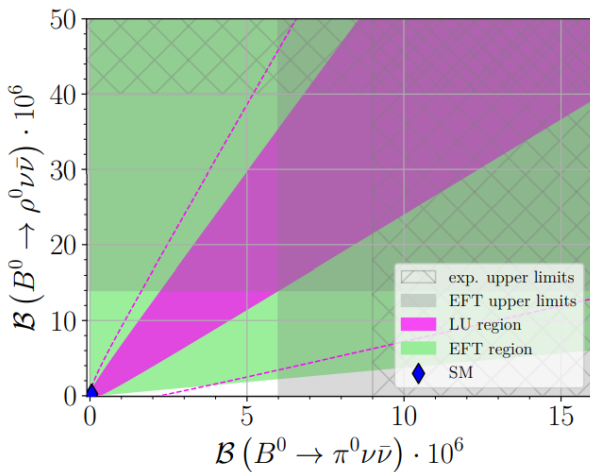
$$\boxed{B \rightarrow \rho \nu \bar{\nu}} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{b_R \rightarrow d_R \mu^- \mu^+} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{B \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow \rho \nu \bar{\nu})_{LU} \quad \text{Global fits} \quad \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu})_{LU}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow \rho \nu \bar{\nu})_{LU} = \frac{A_+^{B\rho}}{A_+^{B\pi}} \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu})_{LU} + 3 A_-^{B\rho} \left(\sqrt{\frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu})_{LU}}{3 A_+^{B\pi}}} \mp 2 |\mathcal{K}_{R, NP}^{D\mu\mu}| \right)^2$$

Testing LU with $b \rightarrow d \nu \bar{\nu}$ decays

Inputs: FFs [2109.01675](#), [2209.04457](#) + global fit to $b \rightarrow d \mu^+ \mu^-$ data: $\mathcal{K}_{R, \text{NP}}^{D\mu\mu}$.



$\ell^+ \ell'^-$ couplings bounded by $\nu \bar{\nu}$ modes

① **Derived EFT limits:** $x^+ \lesssim 4.2$, $x^- \lesssim 2.4$

② **$SU(2)_L$ -link:** $x^\pm = \sum_{i,j} |\mathcal{C}_{L,SM}^{D_{13}ij} + \mathcal{K}_L^{tuij} \pm \mathcal{K}_R^{bdij}|^2$, $\mathcal{K}_k^{tuij} \equiv \mathcal{K}_{k,NP}^{U_{13}ij}$, $\mathcal{K}_k^{bdij} \equiv \mathcal{K}_{k,NP}^{D_{13}ij}$,

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i,j} |\mathcal{X}_{SM} \delta_{ij} + \kappa_L^{tuij} + (-) \kappa_R^{bsij}|^2 \lesssim 5.8 (3.3) \cdot 10^4, \quad \kappa \equiv \mathcal{K} \cdot (V_{tb} V_{td}^*)^{-1}$$

Data	$ \kappa_A^{q_1 q_2 \ell \ell'} $	ee	$\mu\mu$	$\tau\tau$	$e\mu$	$e\tau$	$\mu\tau$
Rare B decays to	$ \kappa_R^{bd\ell\ell'} $	210	210	210 ✓	210	210	210
Dineutrinos	$ \kappa_L^{tcd\ell\ell'} $	$[-197, 223]$	$[-197, 223]$	$[-197, 223]$	210	210	210
	$ \kappa_R^{bd\ell\ell'} $	35	35	35	32	32	32
	$ \kappa_L^{tcd\ell\ell'} $	$[-22, 47]$	$[-22, 47]$	$[-22, 47]$	32	32	32
Rare B decays to	$\kappa_R^{bd\ell\ell'}$	~ 10	$[-4, 4]$	~ 2500	~ 20	~ 280	~ 200
Charged dileptons	$\kappa_L^{bd\ell\ell'}$	~ 10	$[-8, 2]$	~ 2500	~ 20	~ 280	~ 200
	$\kappa_R^{bs\ell\ell'}$	$\mathcal{O}(1)$	$[0.2, 0.8]$	~ 800	~ 2	~ 50	~ 60
	$\kappa_L^{bs\ell\ell'}$	$\mathcal{O}(1)$	$[-1.6, -1.1]$	~ 800	~ 2	~ 50	~ 60
Drell-Yan	$ \kappa_{L,R}^{bd\ell\ell'} $	583	314	1122	260	800	866
	$ \kappa_{L,R}^{tcd\ell\ell'} $	331	178	637	142	486	529
$t + \ell$	$\kappa_L^{ttt\ell'}$	$[-196, 243]$	$[-196, 243]$	—	—	—	—

Limits on $e\tau$, $\tau\tau$ from dineutrino data
result in factors 1.3 and 12 stronger than charged lepton data!

Improved limits on $b \rightarrow d \tau^+ \tau^-$ decays

Using bounds on $\kappa_A^{bs\tau\tau}$ from dineutrino data, etc, we find the following upper limits:

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-) \lesssim 6.0 \cdot 10^{-4},$$

well above its SM prediction $\sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-8})$, and a factor 3.5 stronger than its current exp. upper limit (95% C.L., LHCb):

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-)_{\text{exp}} < 2.1 \times 10^{-3}.$$

Belle II with 5 ab^{-1} (50 ab^{-1}) is expected to place following (projected) upper limits on the branching ratios [1808.10567](#)

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-)_{\text{proj}} < 3(1) \cdot 10^{-4}.$$

Any signal between $6.0 \cdot 10^{-4}$ would hint to NP with violation of the assumptions taken.

Similar conclusions for $b \rightarrow s\nu\bar{\nu}$ transitions

$$\boxed{b_R \rightarrow s_R \ell^- \ell'^+} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{b \rightarrow s \nu_\ell \bar{\nu}_{\ell'}} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{t_L \rightarrow c_L \ell^- \ell'^+}$$

Dineutrino modes provide excellent complementarity

$$\begin{array}{l} \boxed{c_R \rightarrow u_R \ell^- \ell'^+} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{c \rightarrow u \nu_\ell \bar{\nu}_{\ell'}} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{s_L \rightarrow d_L \ell^- \ell'^+} \\ \boxed{b_R \rightarrow d_R \ell^- \ell'^+} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{b \rightarrow d \nu_\ell \bar{\nu}_{\ell'}} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{t_L \rightarrow u_L \ell^- \ell'^+} \\ \boxed{b_R \rightarrow s_R \ell^- \ell'^+} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{b \rightarrow s \nu_\ell \bar{\nu}_{\ell'}} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{t_L \rightarrow c_L \ell^- \ell'^+} \\ \boxed{s_R \rightarrow d_R \ell^- \ell'^+} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{s \rightarrow d \nu_\ell \bar{\nu}_{\ell'}} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{c_L \rightarrow u_L \ell^- \ell'^+} \end{array}$$

Conclusions

- Dineutrino modes are powerful probes for discovering BSM physics.
- Within SMEFT, $SU(2)_L$ invariance relates the operators for dineutrinos $q^\alpha q^\beta \nu \bar{\nu}$ and charged dileptons $q^\alpha q^\beta \ell^+ \ell^-$.
- Similar mechanism with applications across charm, beauty, and kaon phenomenology.
- This connection provides complementary tests of LFV and leads to improved limits on the τ couplings.
- Predictions are well suited for present and future e^+e^- facilities like *Belle II*.

Thank you for your attention!