

# BSM & Flavour: life *after* the B anomalies?

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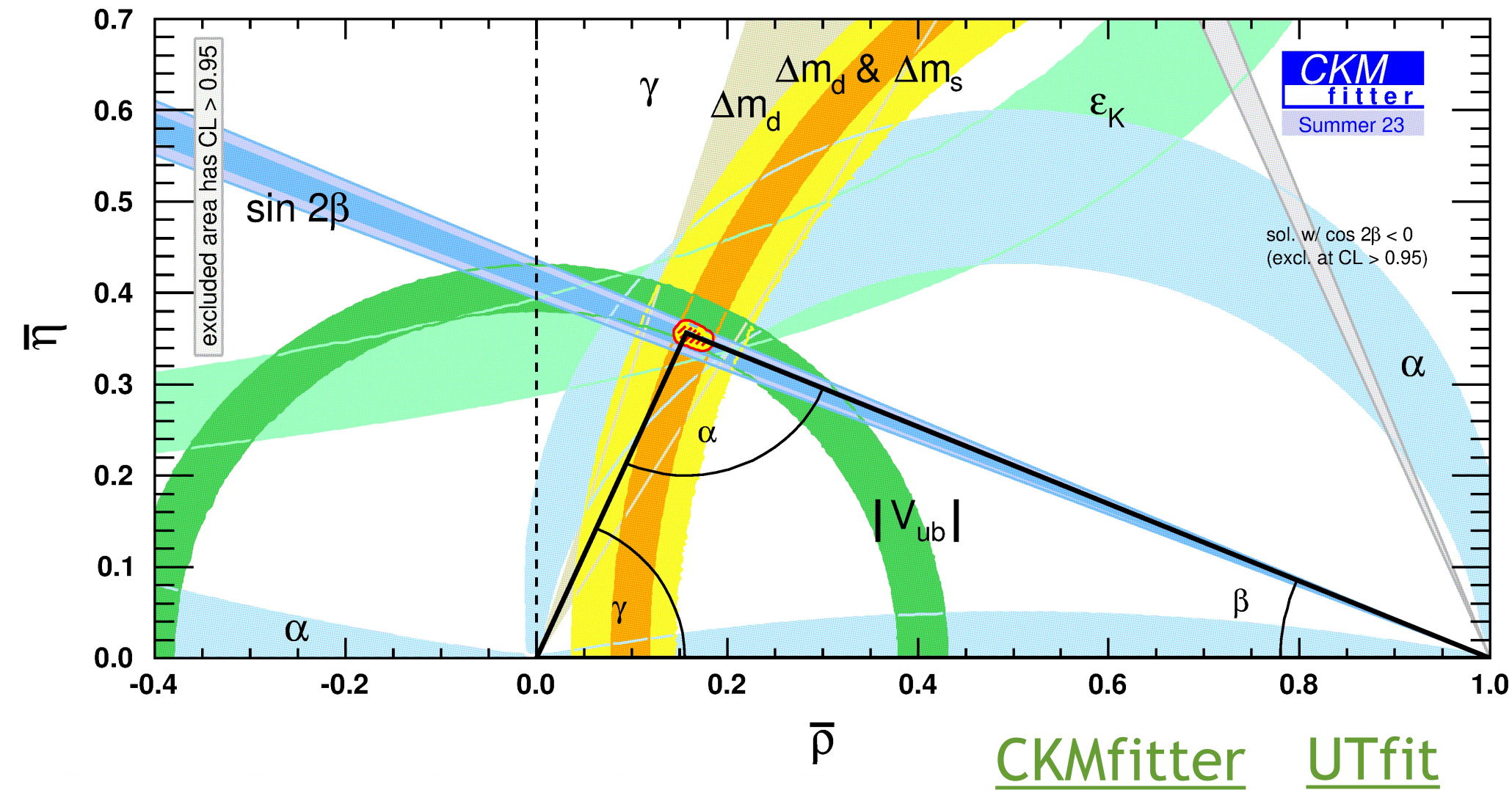


July 5th 2024

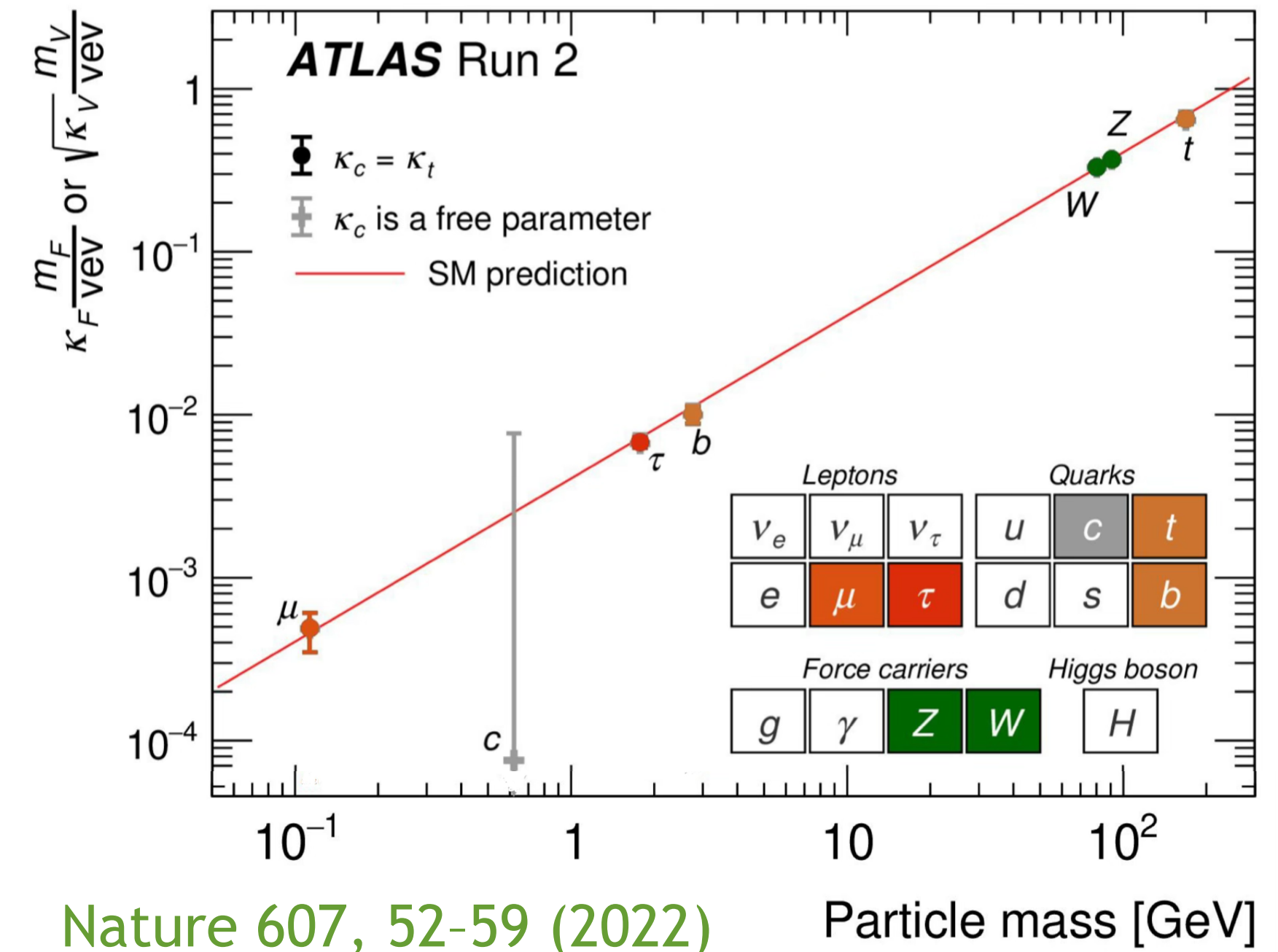
**INVISIBLES24**

# Flavor physics is a very mature field

## Unitary triangle



## Yukawa couplings



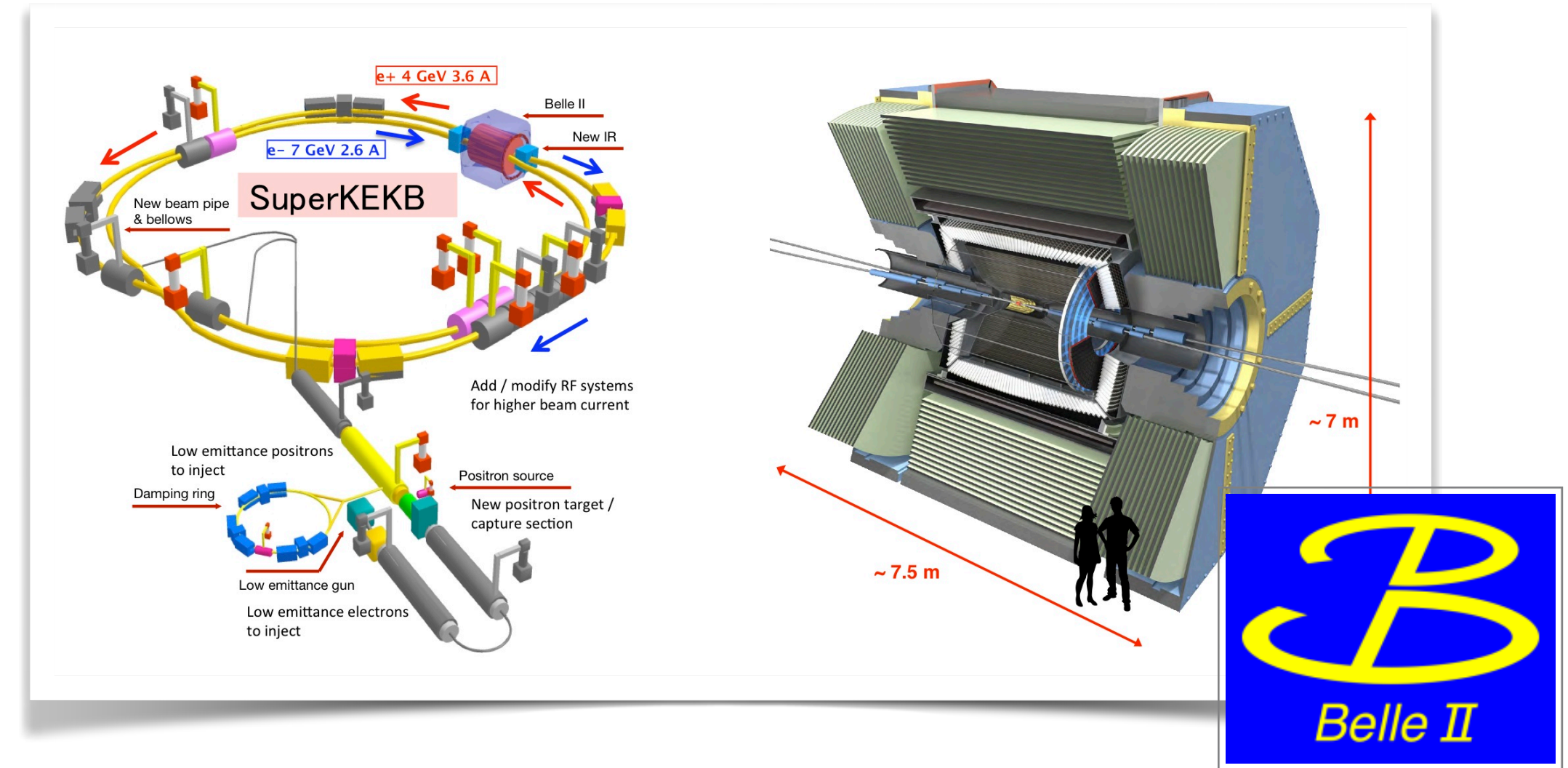
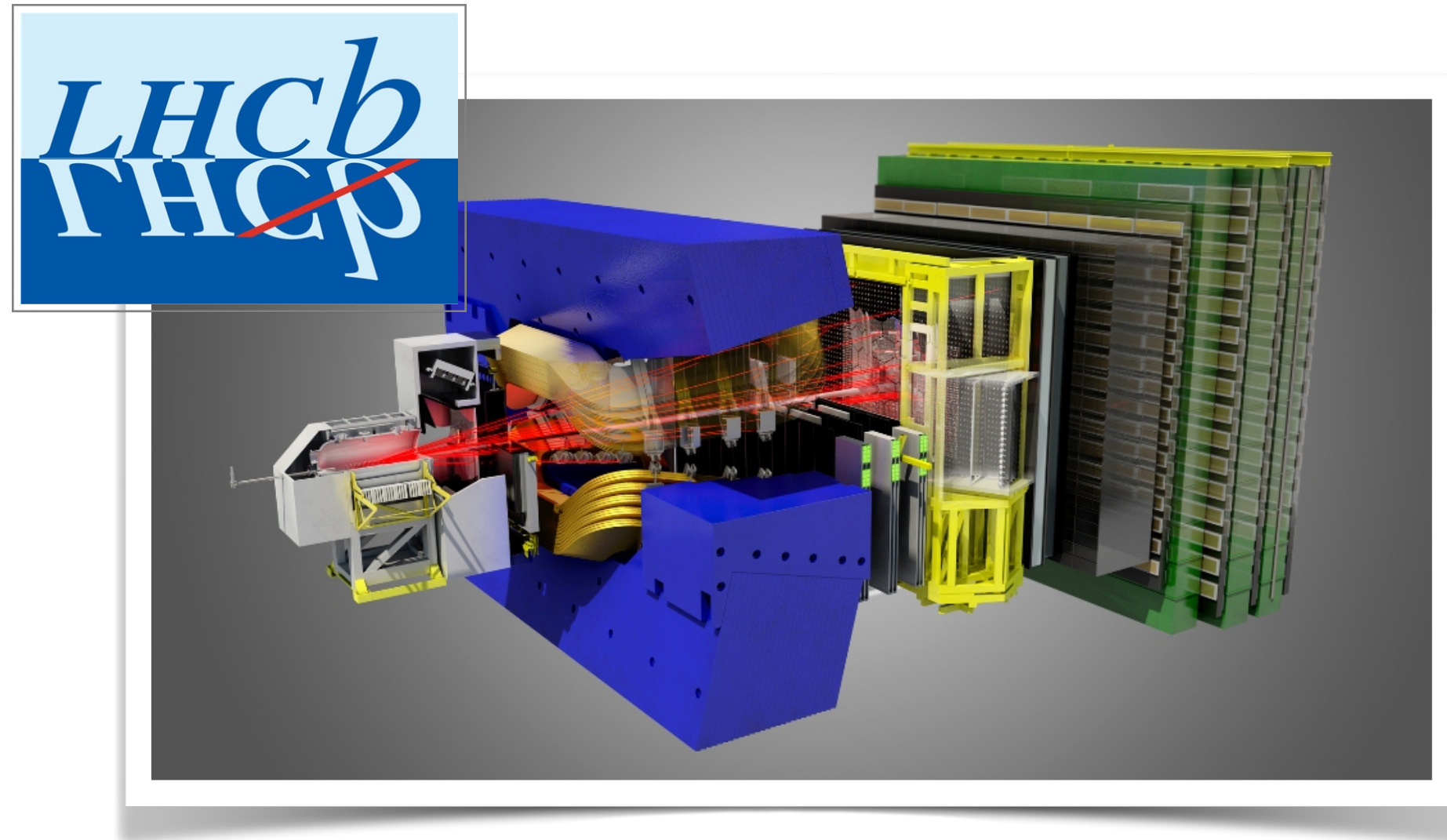
Flavor physics *well understood* within the SM

- Flavor mixing well parametrized by Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM): 3 angles, 1 *CPV* phase
- Fermion masses parametrized by Yukawa couplings: 9 masses

We do not understand the hierarchy of masses/mixing angles  $\Rightarrow$  **Flavor puzzle**

# Golden era: experiments

- "Multi-purpose" *B*-meson factories

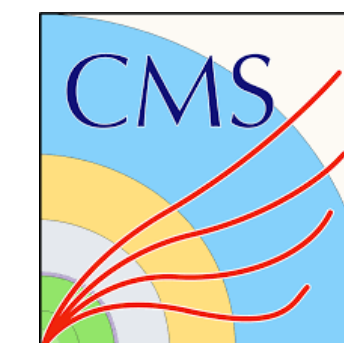


- Many more flavor experiments at different scales

Kaons and muons

Taus, hyperons, charm

TeV scale



# Golden era: hadron physics

- Our Lagrangians are written in terms of quarks and our observables in terms of hadrons!

Interactions:  $\mathcal{L}(u, d, s, c, b, e, \nu, G, F)$       Asymptotic states:  $|\pi^\pm, \pi^0, K^\pm, D^\pm, B^\pm, p, n, \Lambda, \dots\rangle$

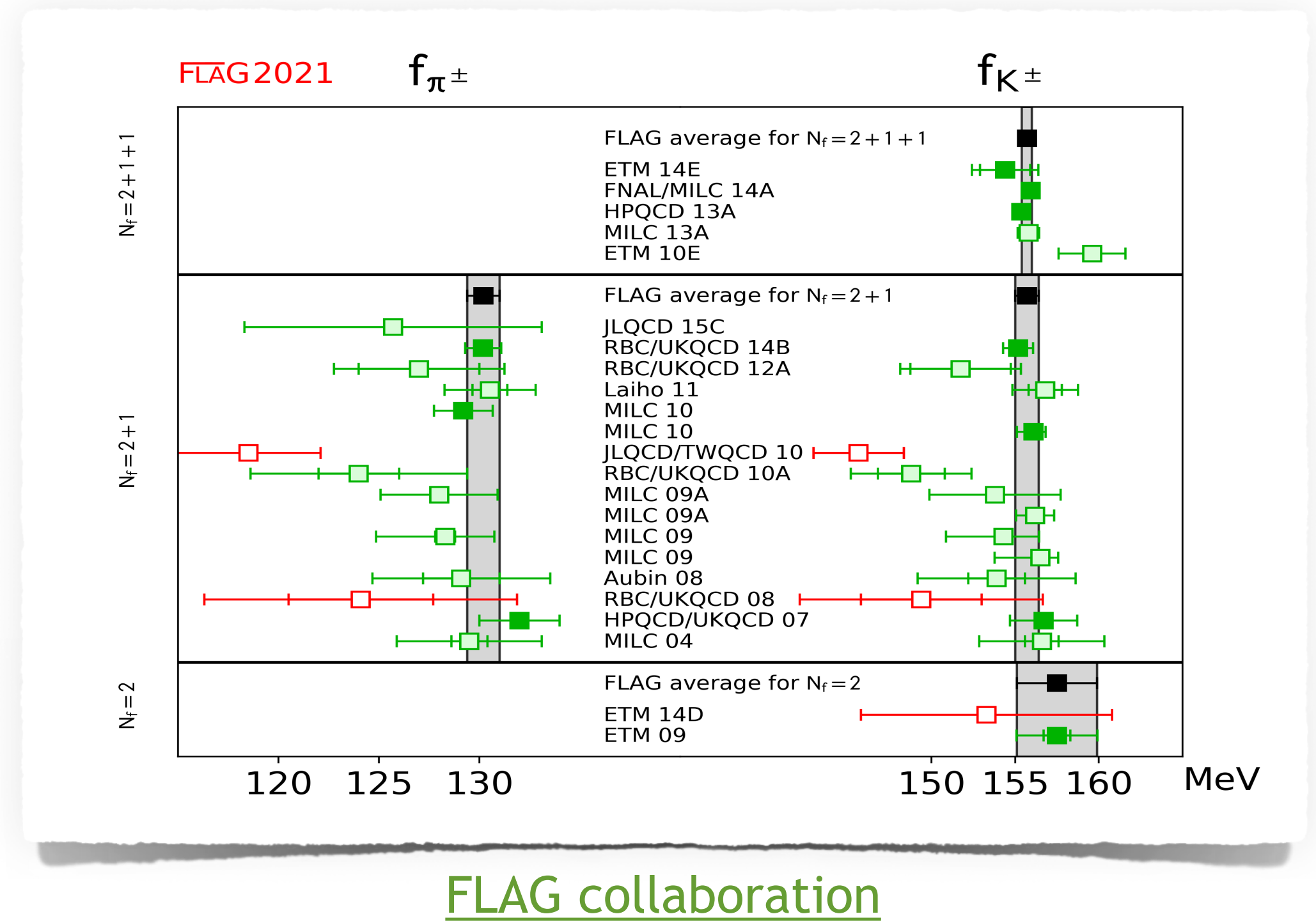
- **Hadronic matrix elements:** Nonperturbative-QCD information of the transition

- Many computational tools  $\Rightarrow$  **Only few from first principles (QCD)**

- **Lattice QCD:** First principles but expensive and limited
- **EFTs:** First principles vs proliferation of parameters
- **Analytic** (QCD sum rules, quark models, etc)

Big progress in LQCD and EFTs approach over the past 2 decades

- Systematic quality control! **FLAG 2021**  
Flavour Lattice Averaging Group

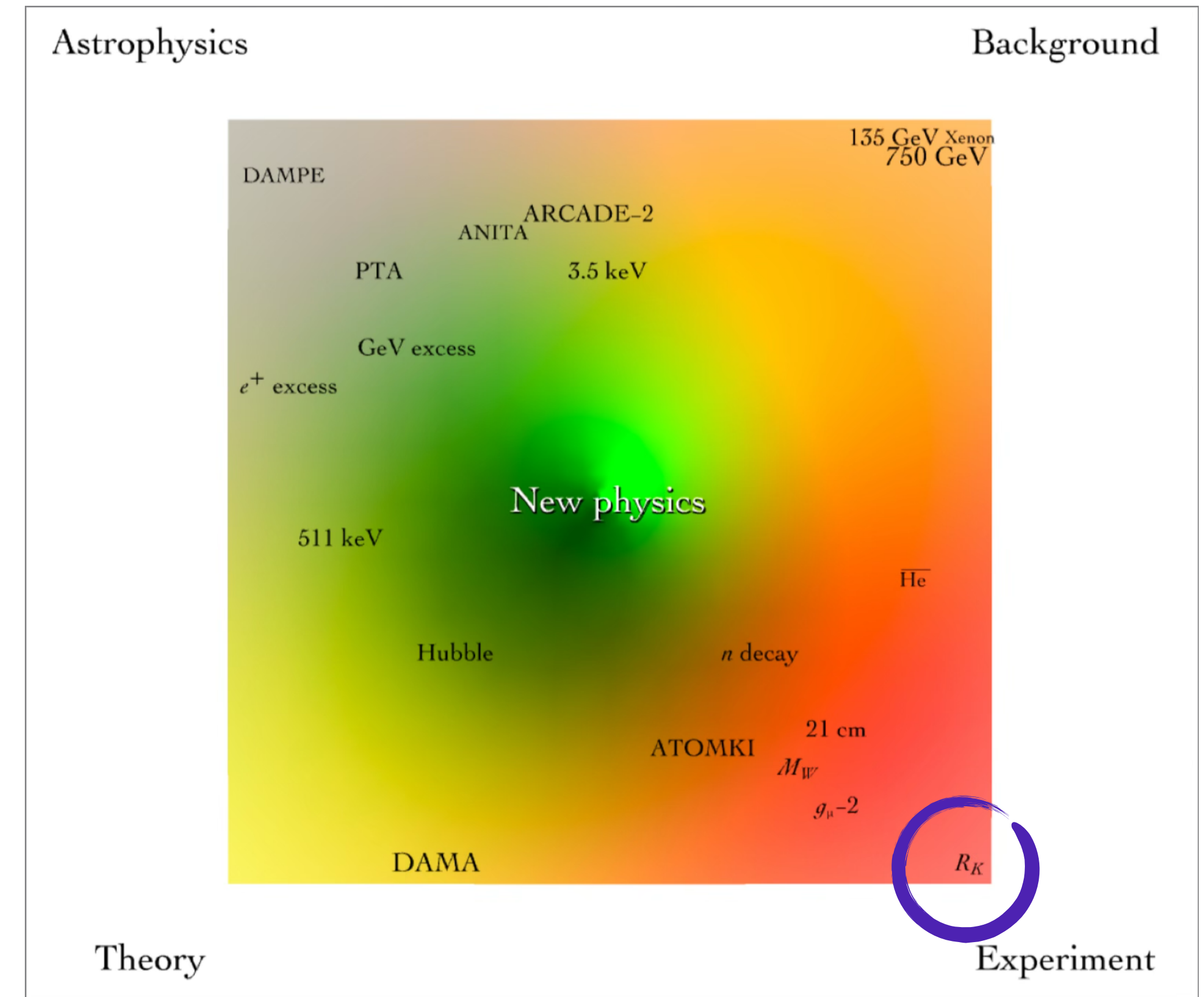
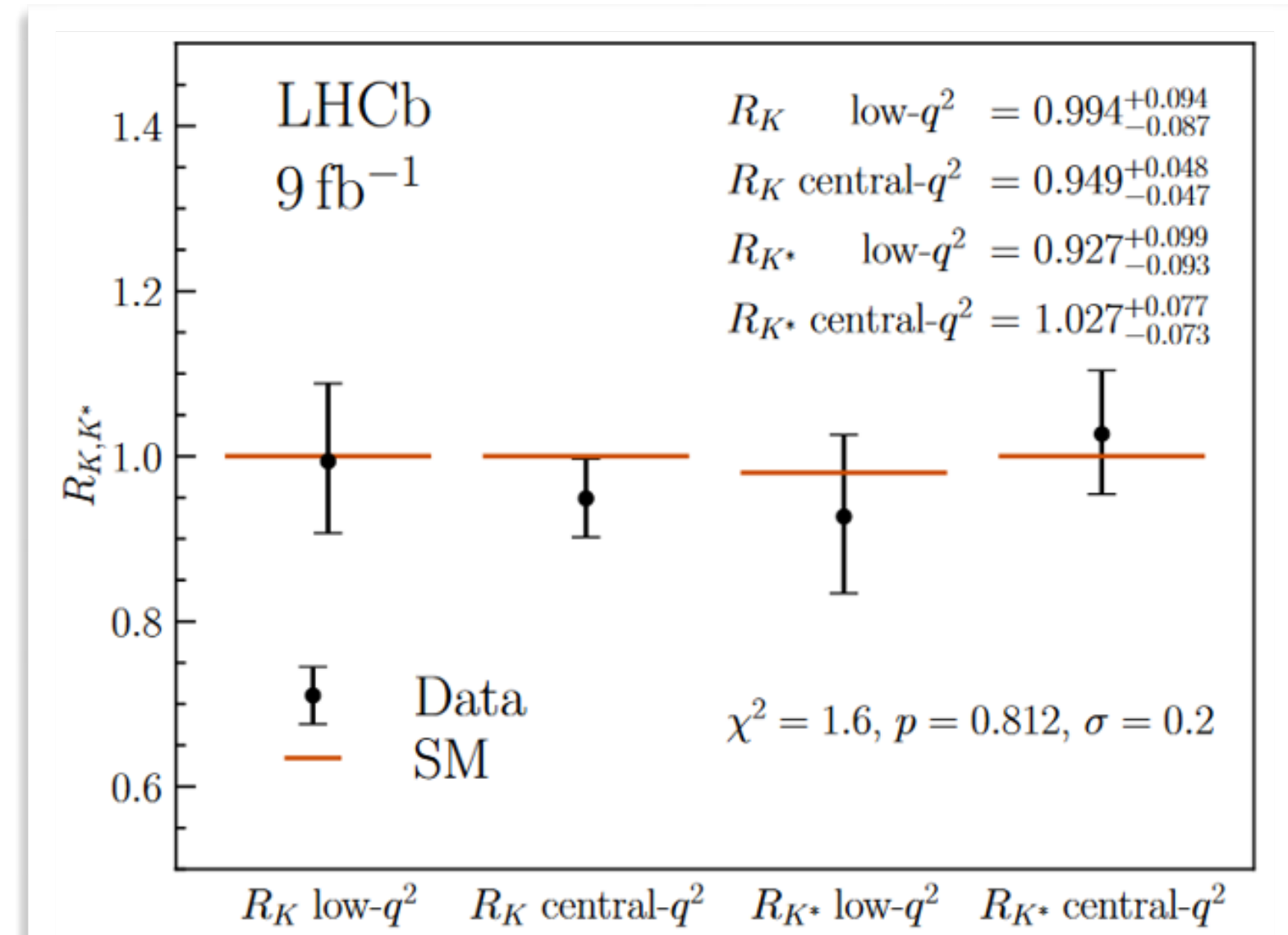


FLAG collaboration

# The flavor anomalies

- Rise and fall of the " $R_K$  anomaly"

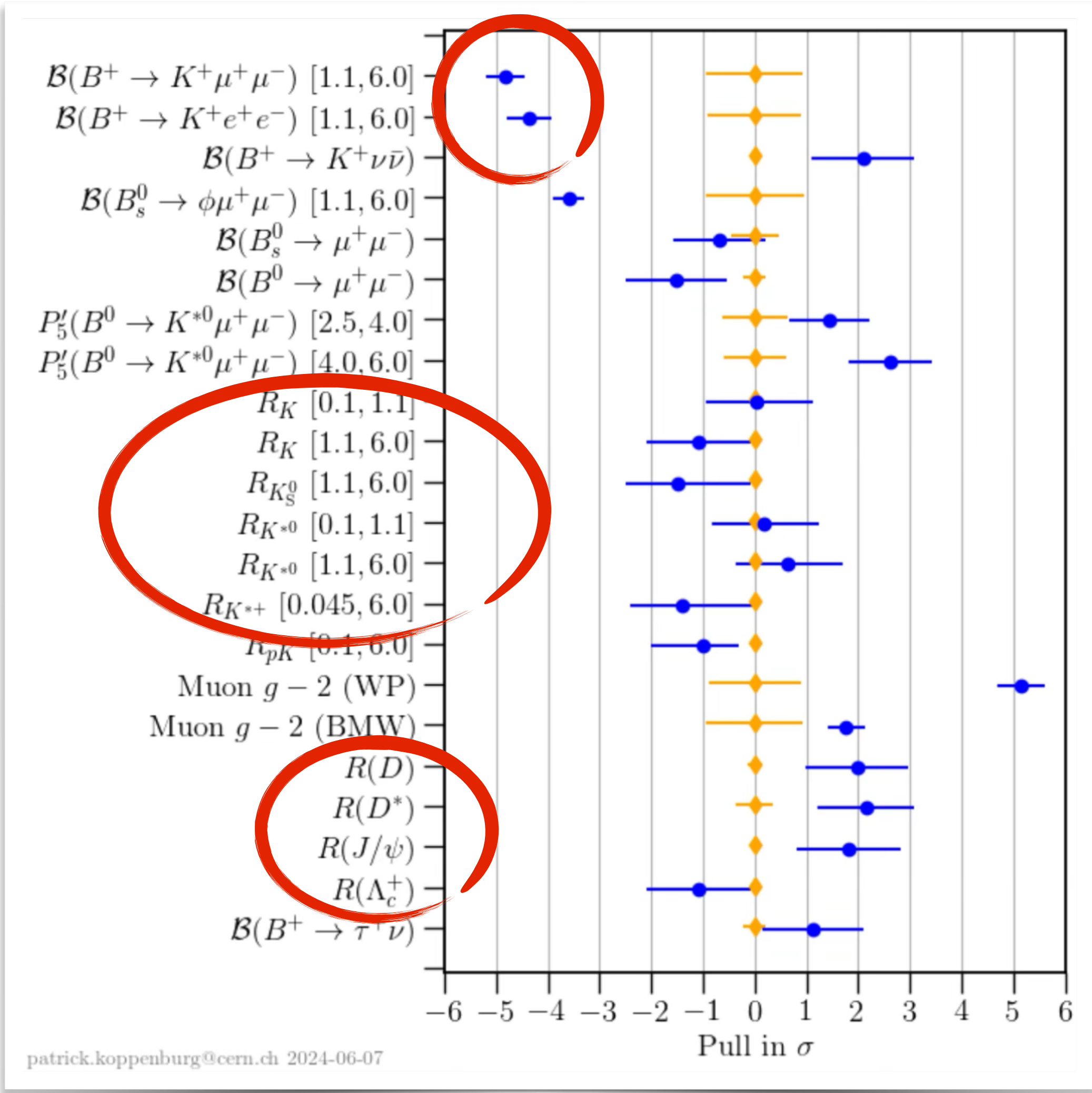
Long-standing (since 2014) LHCb anomalies refuted by LHCb in Dec 2022



[Cirelli, Strumia & Zupan, arXiv:2406.017056](https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.017056)

# The flavor anomalies

Anomalies still discussed off scene

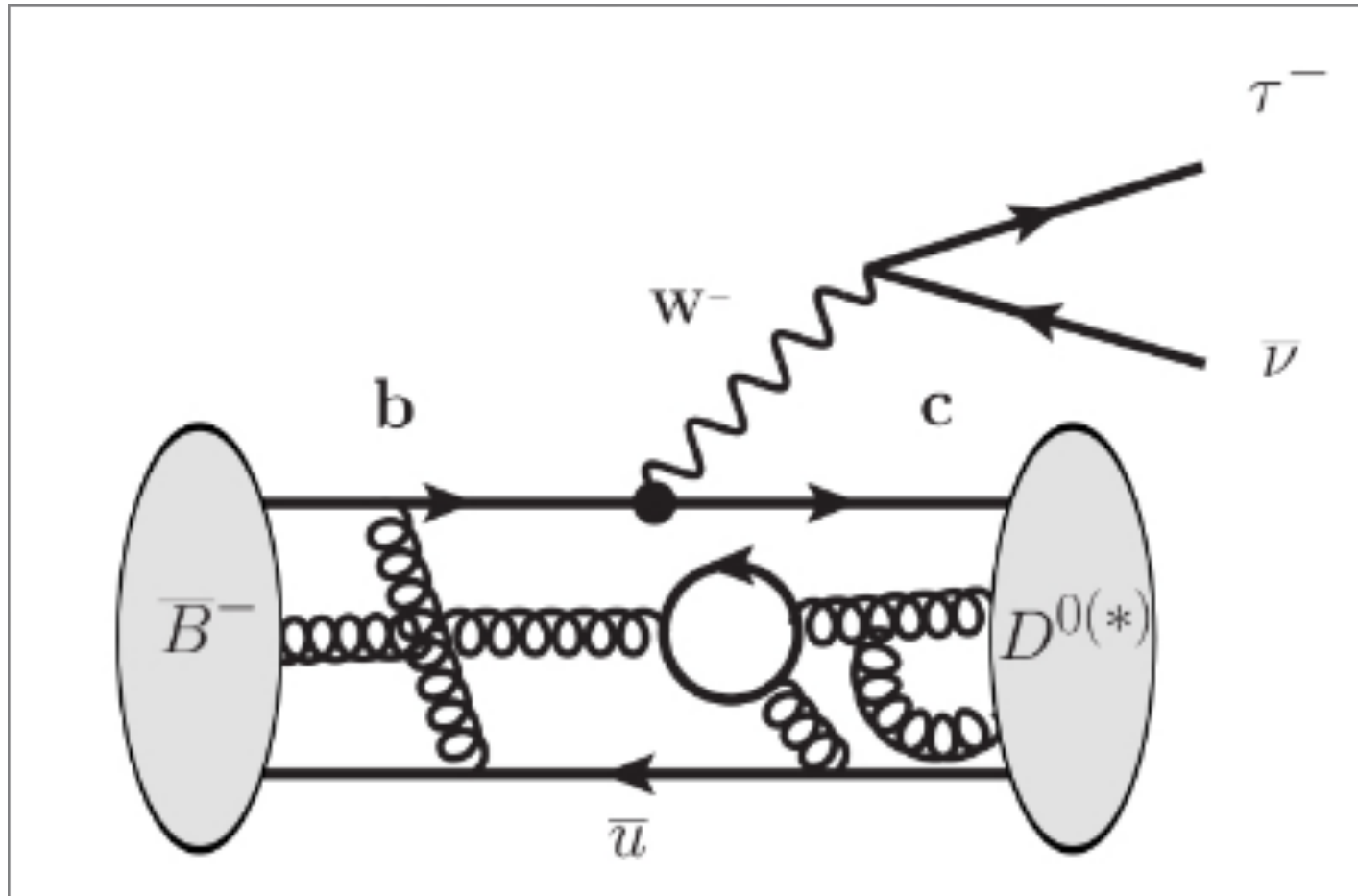


- Some tensions at the **5σ level**
- $R_K$  measurements **consistent with BSM**
- Many of the anomalies **predate original  $R_K$**  anomaly (i.e.  $P'_5$  anomaly from 2013)
- What happened to the other  **$R_D$  anomalies?**



# The $R_D$ anomalies

# Charged-current decays of B mesons into tau leptons



- **Semi-tauonic charged-current decay**
  - Governed by the weak amplitude  $G_F V_{cb}$
  - Two main **hadronic** channels studied

$$B \rightarrow D \text{ with } J^P(D) = 0^-$$

$$B \rightarrow D^* \text{ with } J^P(D^*) = 1^+$$

- **Hadronic form factors**

- Heavy-quark EFT with data light leptons and/or LQCD
- Define **Lepton Universality** ratio to cancel uncertainties

$$R_{D^{(*)}} = \frac{\text{Br}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \tau \nu)}{\text{Br}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \ell \nu)}$$



## HFLAV SM predictions

$$R_D = 0.298 \pm 0.004$$

$$R_{D^*} = 0.254 \pm 0.005$$

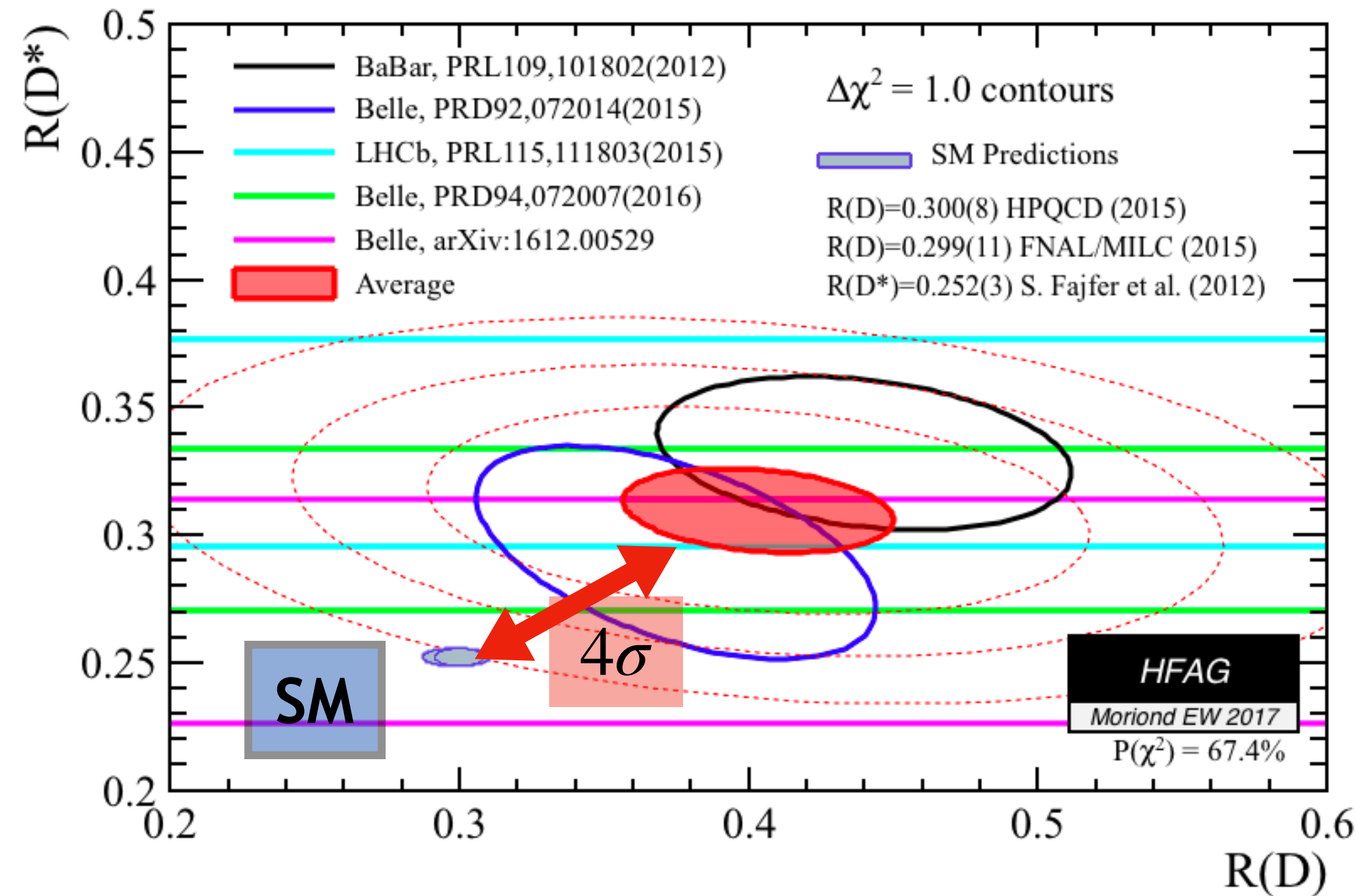
[HFLAV collaboration](#)

Theoretical errors well controlled at the **3 - 6% level**

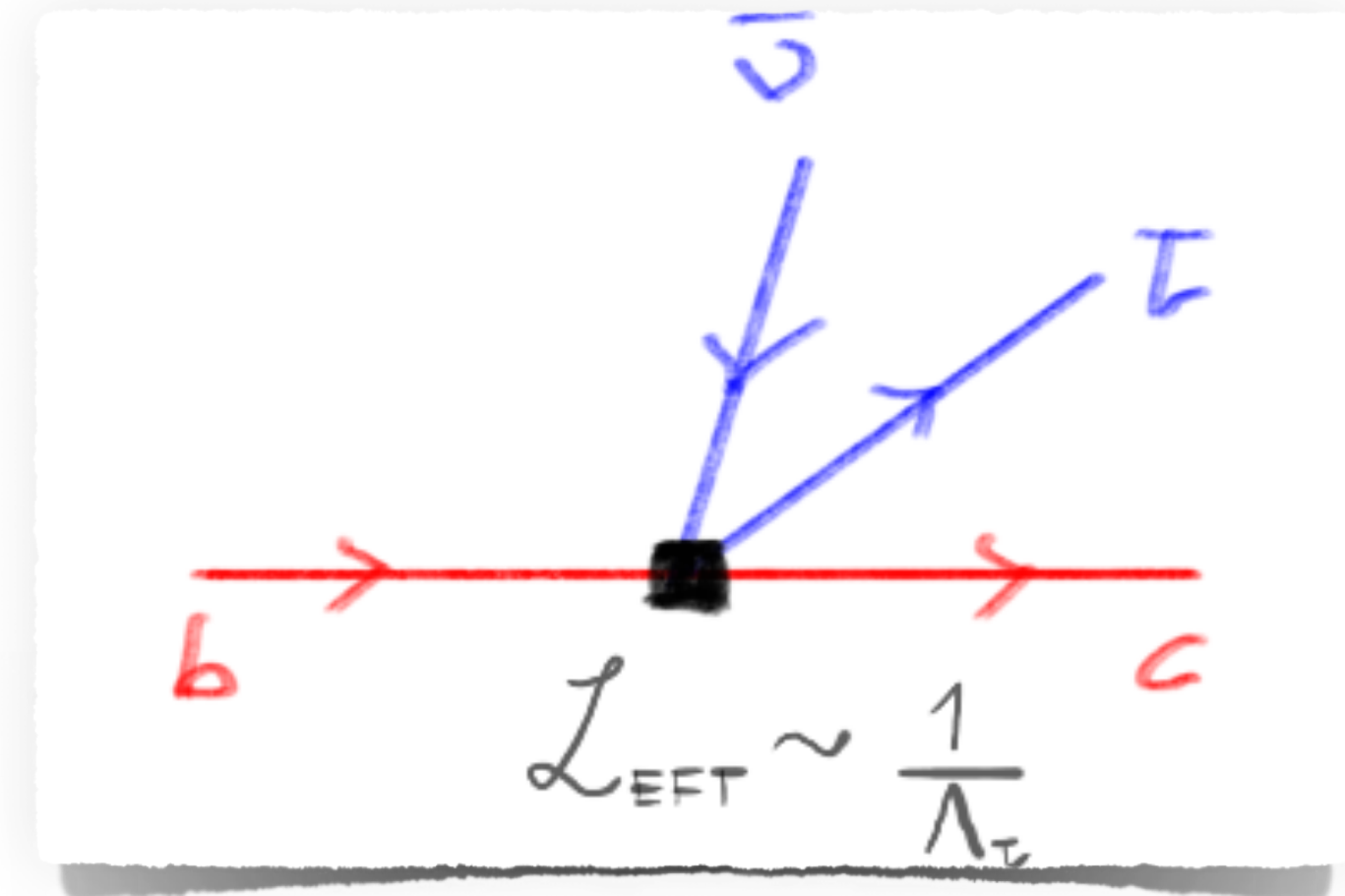


# Charged-current decays of B mesons into tau leptons

- In **2017**



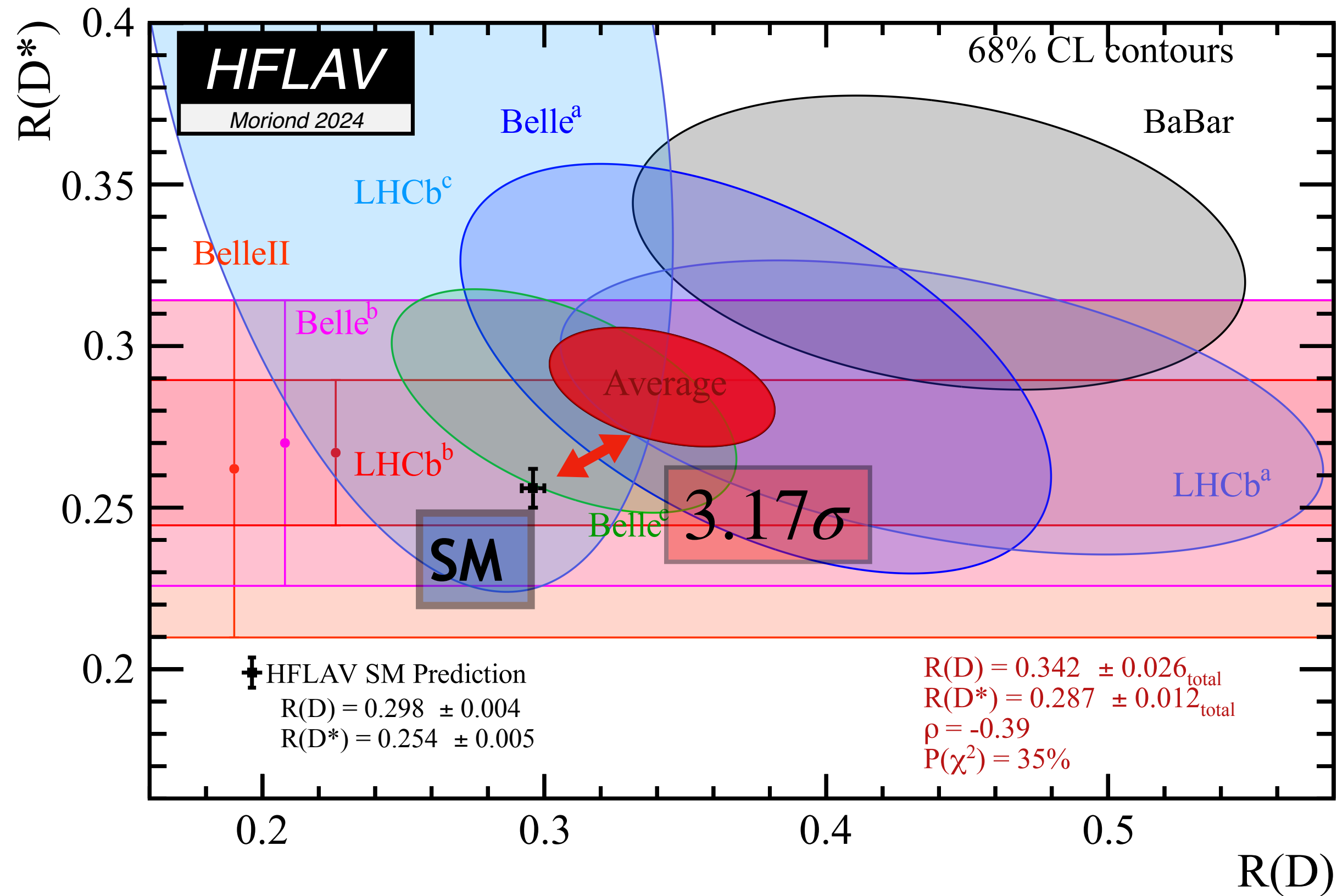
- General **excess** w.r.t. SM at  $4\sigma$
- Different experiments: BaBar, Belle, LHCb



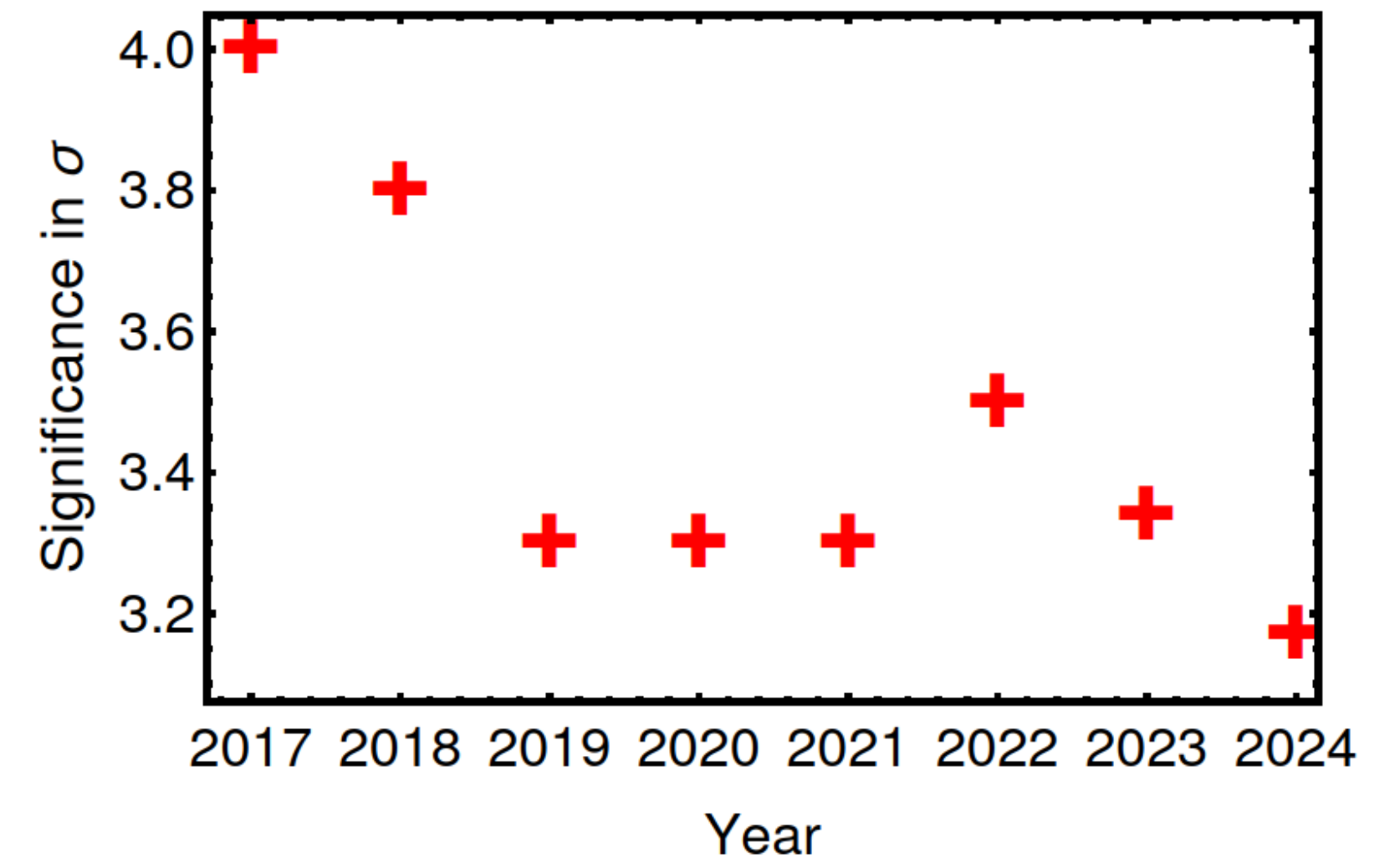
**BSM interpretation: ~10% increase amplitude  $\Rightarrow$  New physics at  $\Lambda_\tau \sim 3 \text{ TeV}$  (LHC energies!)**

# Charged-current decays of B mesons into tau leptons

- 7 years later in **2024**



- New measurements with 1st by **Belle II**
- Gradually descending to SM: Excess **3.17 $\sigma$**



- **BaBar outlier?**  $\Rightarrow$  Down to  $\sim 2\sigma$

Picture not getting any clearer  $\Rightarrow$  More data needed!

# The BSM interpretation of the data in the EFT

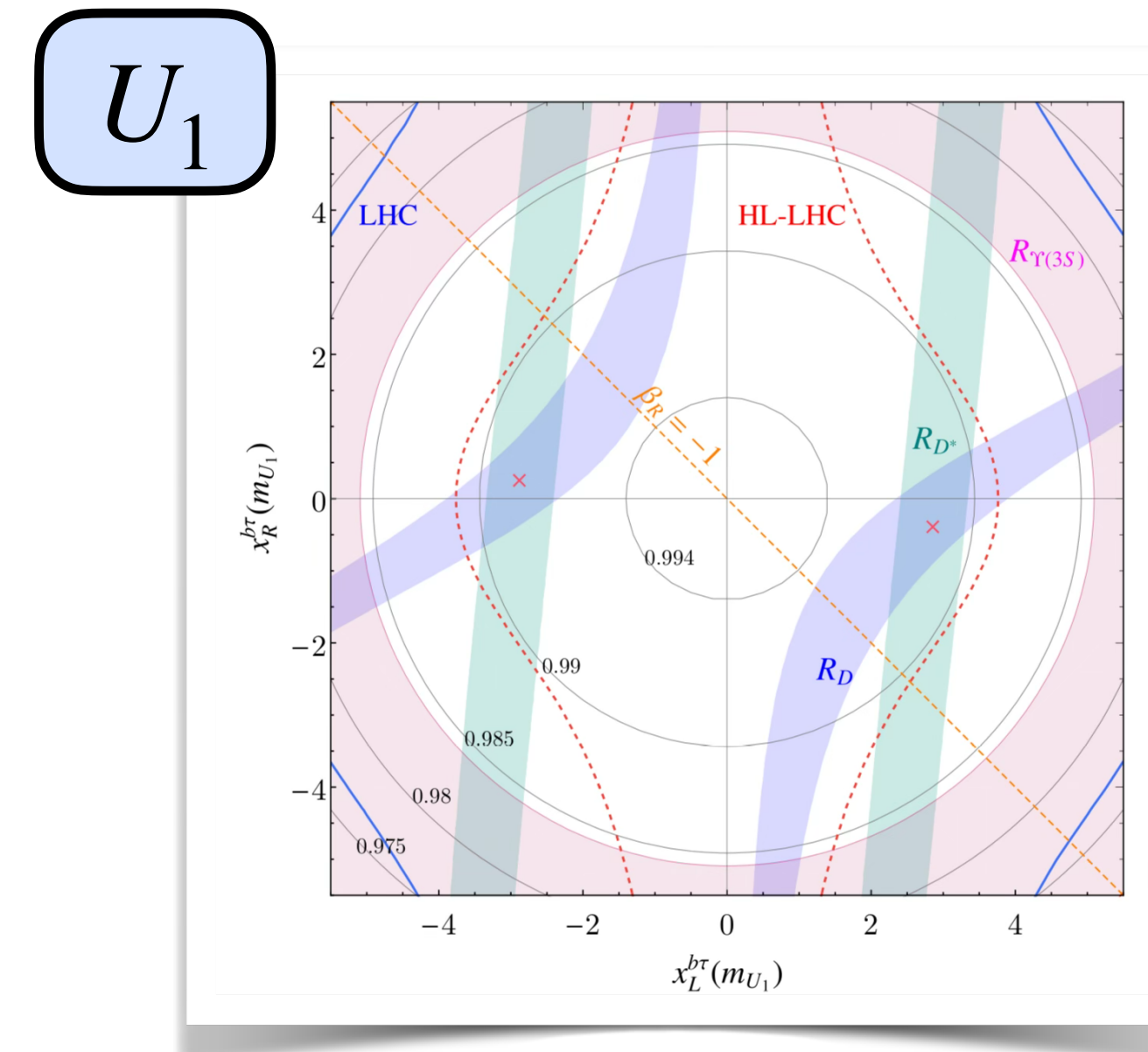
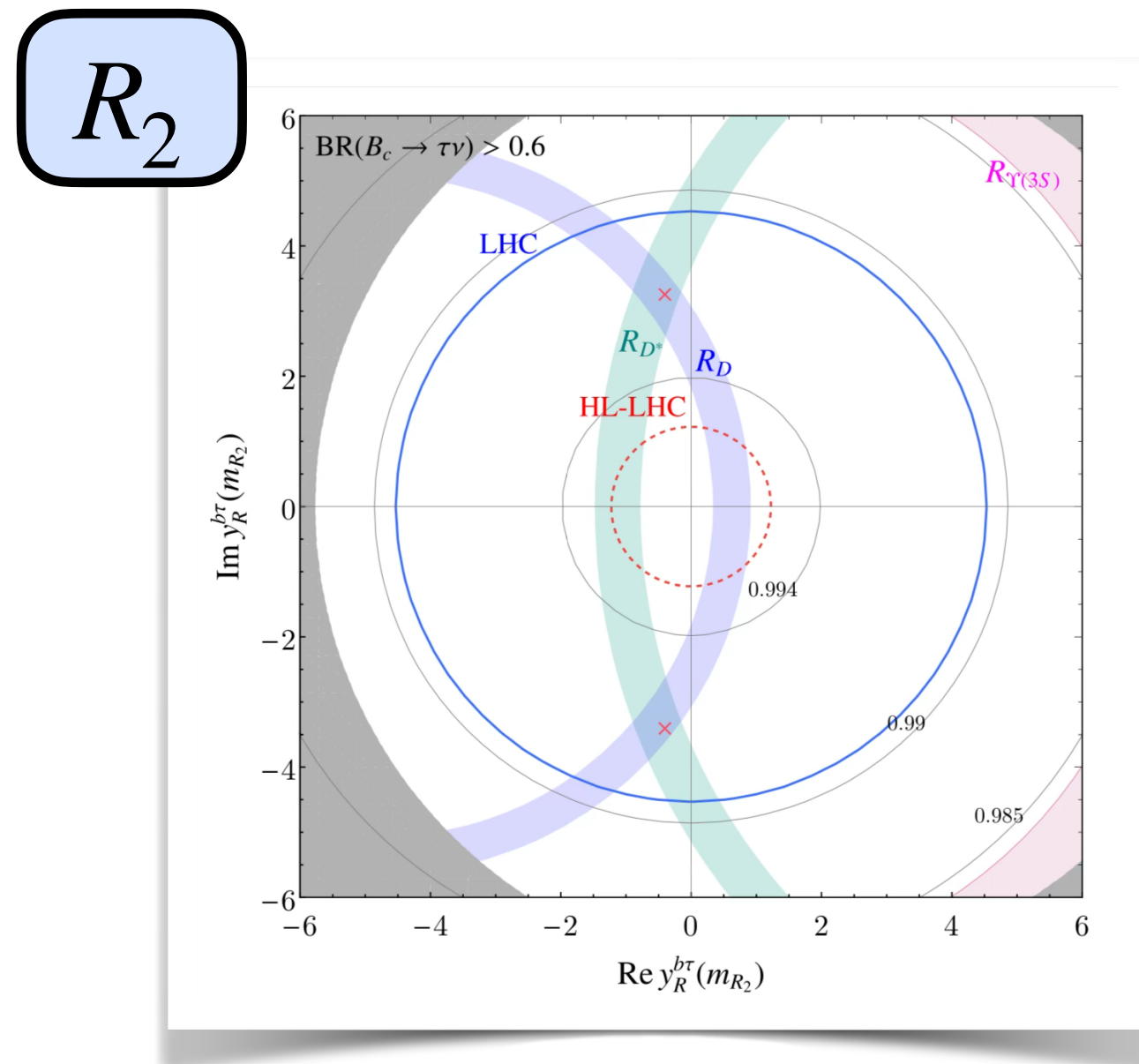


- **Bottom-up:** Different simplified models can describe the data

	Spin	Charge	Operators	$R_D$	$R_{D^*}$	LHC	Flavor
$H^\pm$	0	$(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, 1/2)$	$O_{SL}$	✓	✓	$b\tau\nu$	$B_c \rightarrow \tau\nu, F_L^{D^*}, P_\tau^{D^*}, M_W$
$S_1$	0	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1}, 1/3)$	$O_{VL}, O_{SL}, O_T$	✓	✓	$\tau\tau$	$\Delta M_s, P_\tau^D, B \rightarrow K^{(*)}\nu\nu$
$R_2^{(2/3)}$	0	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2}, 7/6)$	$O_{SL}, O_T, (O_{VR})$	✓	✓	$b\tau\nu, \tau\tau$	$R_{\Upsilon(nS)}, P_\tau^{D^*}, M_W$
$U_1$	1	$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1}, 2/3)$	$O_{VL}, O_{SR}$	✓	✓	$b\tau\nu, \tau\tau$	$R_{K^{(*)}}, R_{\Upsilon(nS)}, B_s \rightarrow \tau\tau$
$V_2^{(1/3)}$	1	$(\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{2}, 5/6)$	$O_{SR}$	✓	$2\sigma$	$\tau\tau$	$B_s \rightarrow \tau\tau, B_u \rightarrow \tau\nu, M_W$

- Leptoquarks are the queens of the flavor anomalies

[Iguero et al., arXiv: 2405.06062](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.06062)

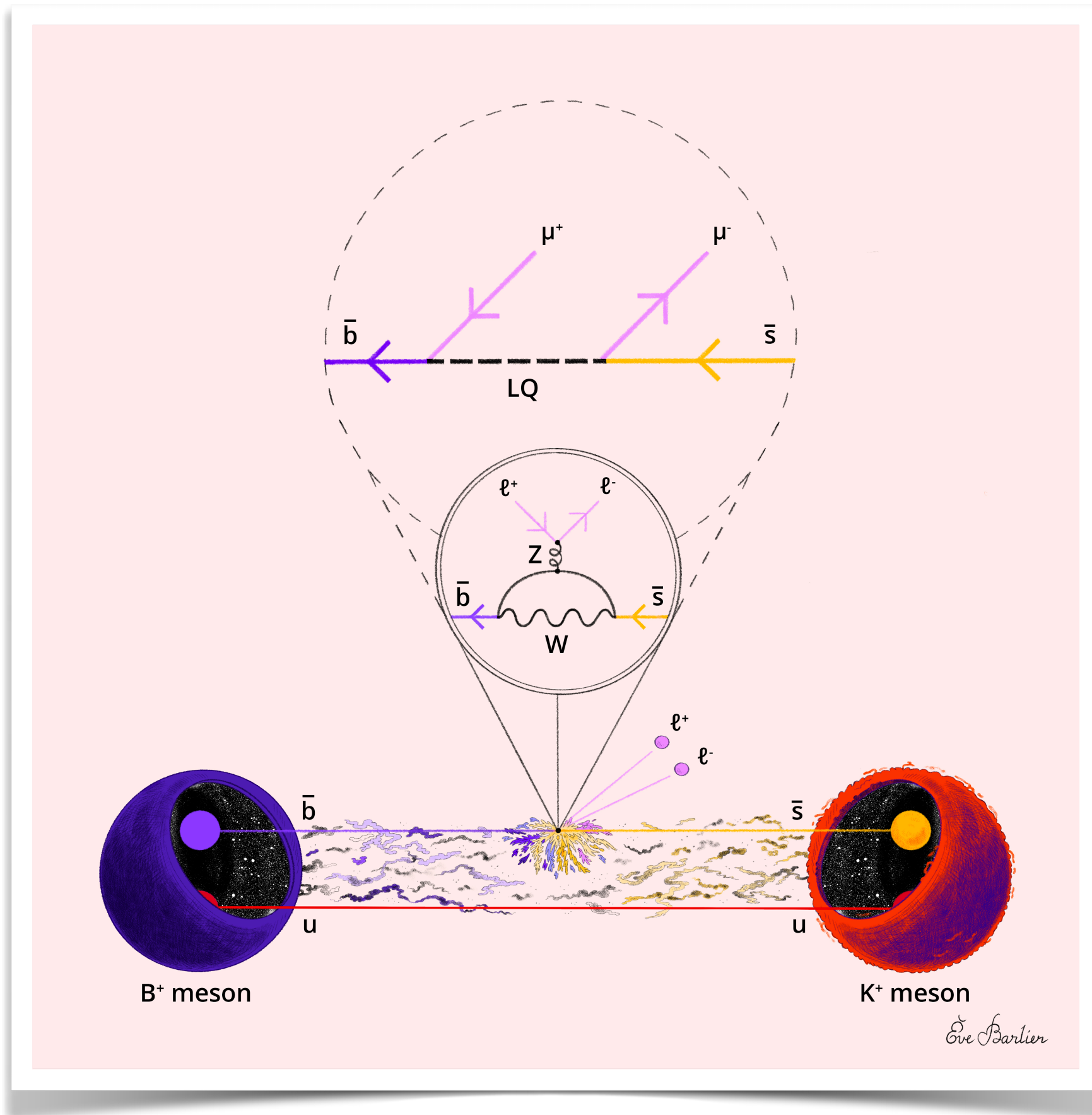


# The $b \rightarrow s\ell\ell$ anomalies

# FCNC decays of B mesons into kaons and leptons

- Semi-leptonic rare decays

- Governed by the weak/loop/CKM suppressed amplitude  $G_F V_{tb} V_{ts}^* \frac{\alpha}{4\pi}$



## The $b \rightarrow sll$ transition in the SM

★ **Semileptonic operators:**  $\mathcal{O}_9 (L + V), \mathcal{O}_{10} (L + A)$

$$\frac{\alpha}{4\pi} C_{9(10)} \bar{s}_L \gamma^\mu b_L \bar{\ell} \gamma_\mu (\gamma_5) \ell$$

★ **Electromagnetic penguin:**  $\mathcal{O}_7$

$$\frac{e}{4\pi^2} m_b C_7 \bar{s}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} b_R F^{\mu\nu}$$

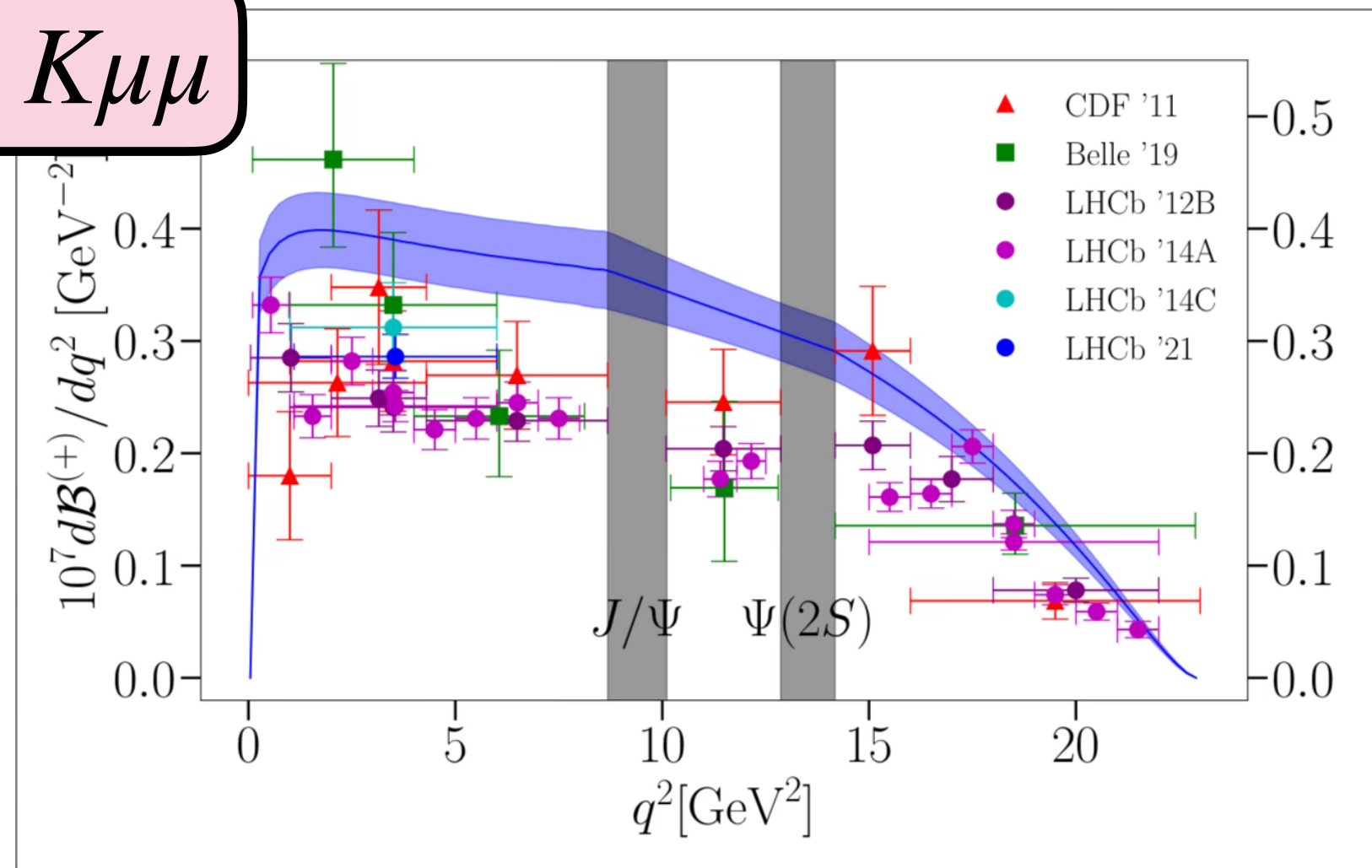
★ **CC @ 1 loop**

$$C_2 \bar{c}_L \gamma^\mu b_L \bar{s}_L \gamma_\mu c_L$$

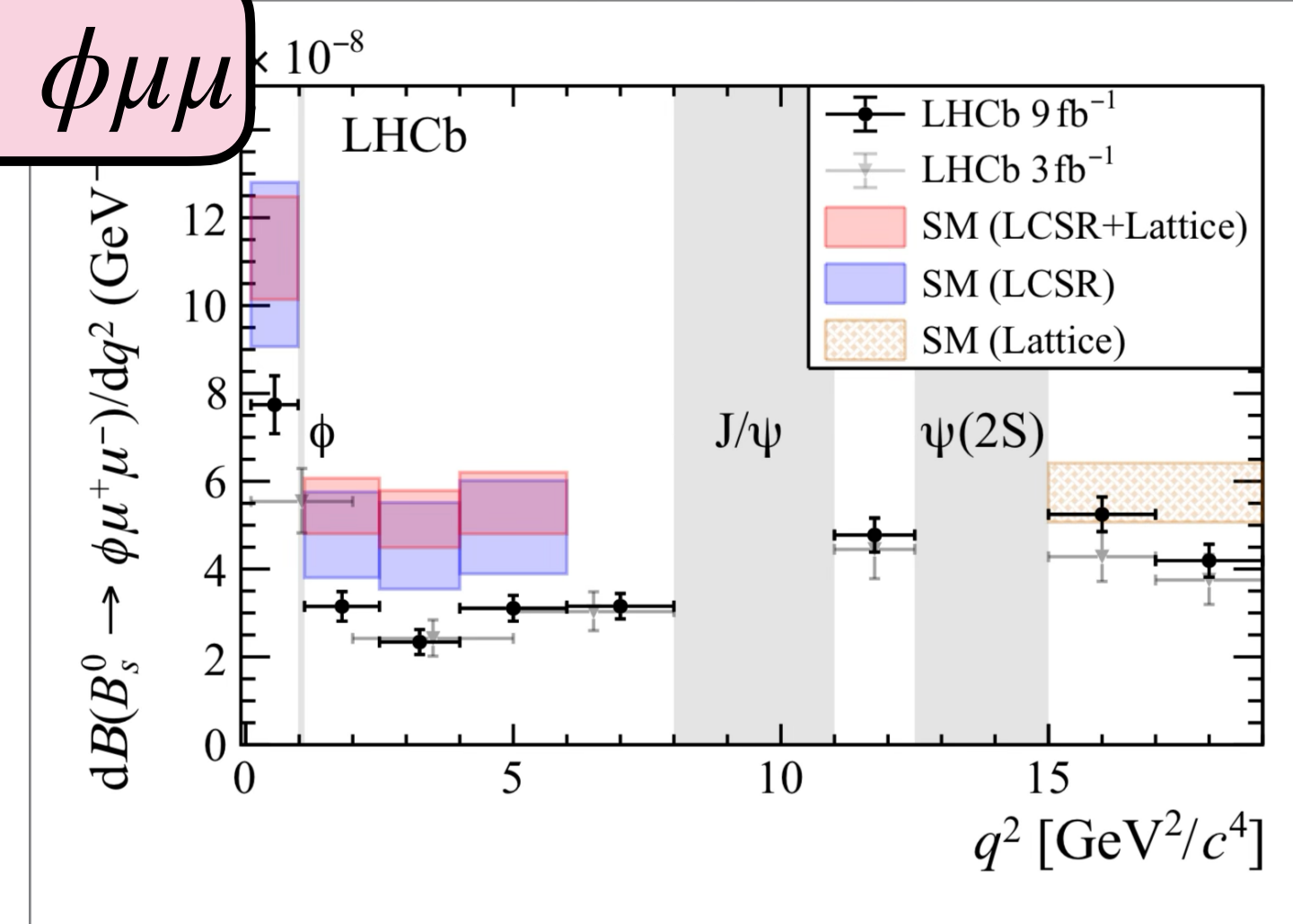
Processes studied to search for BSM at  $\Lambda \sim 10$ 's of TeV

# The $b \rightarrow s \ell \ell$ anomalies: the branching fractions

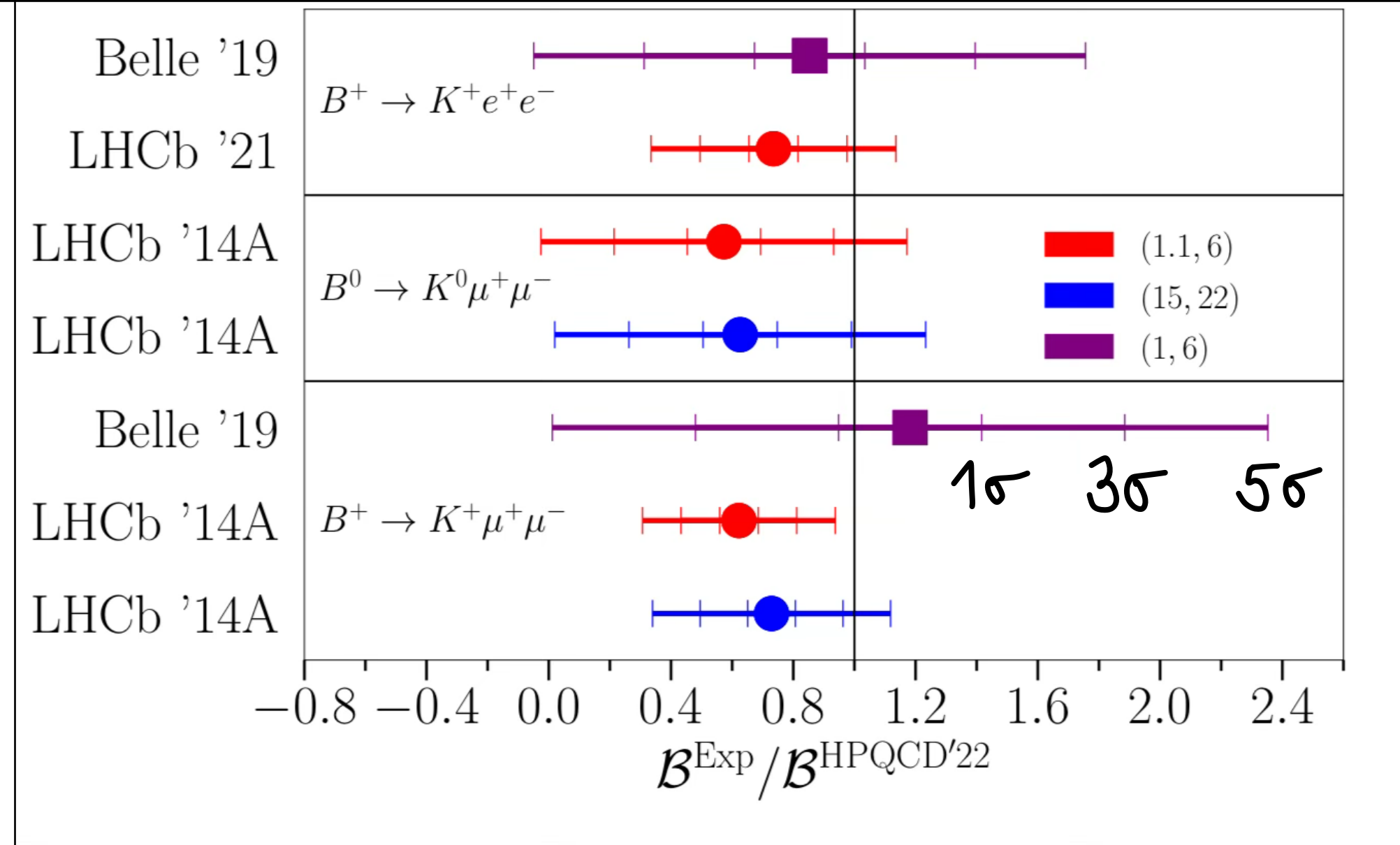
$B \rightarrow K \mu \mu$



$B_s \rightarrow \phi \mu \mu$

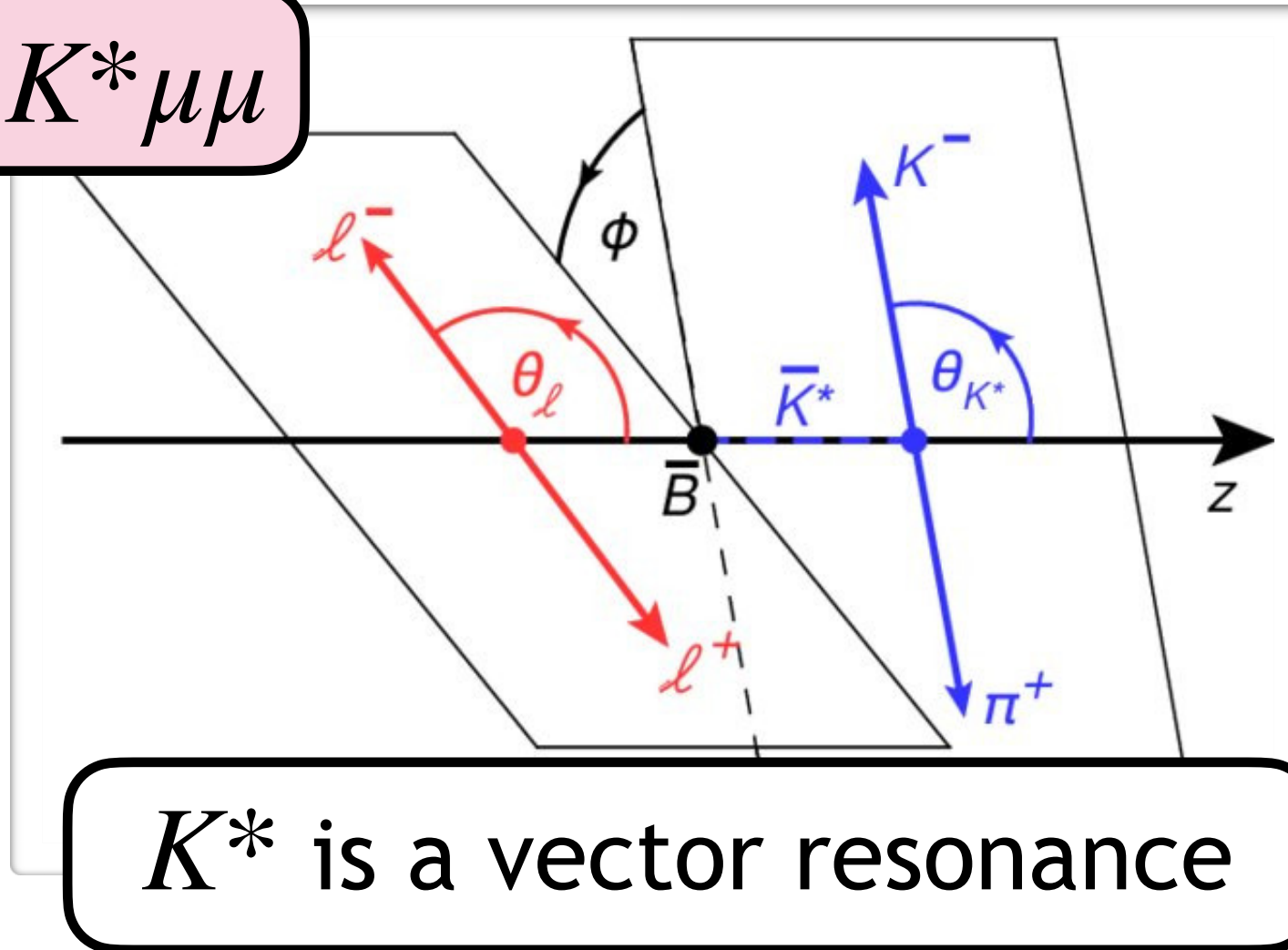


Data significantly below SM by  $3\sigma - 4\sigma$  individually



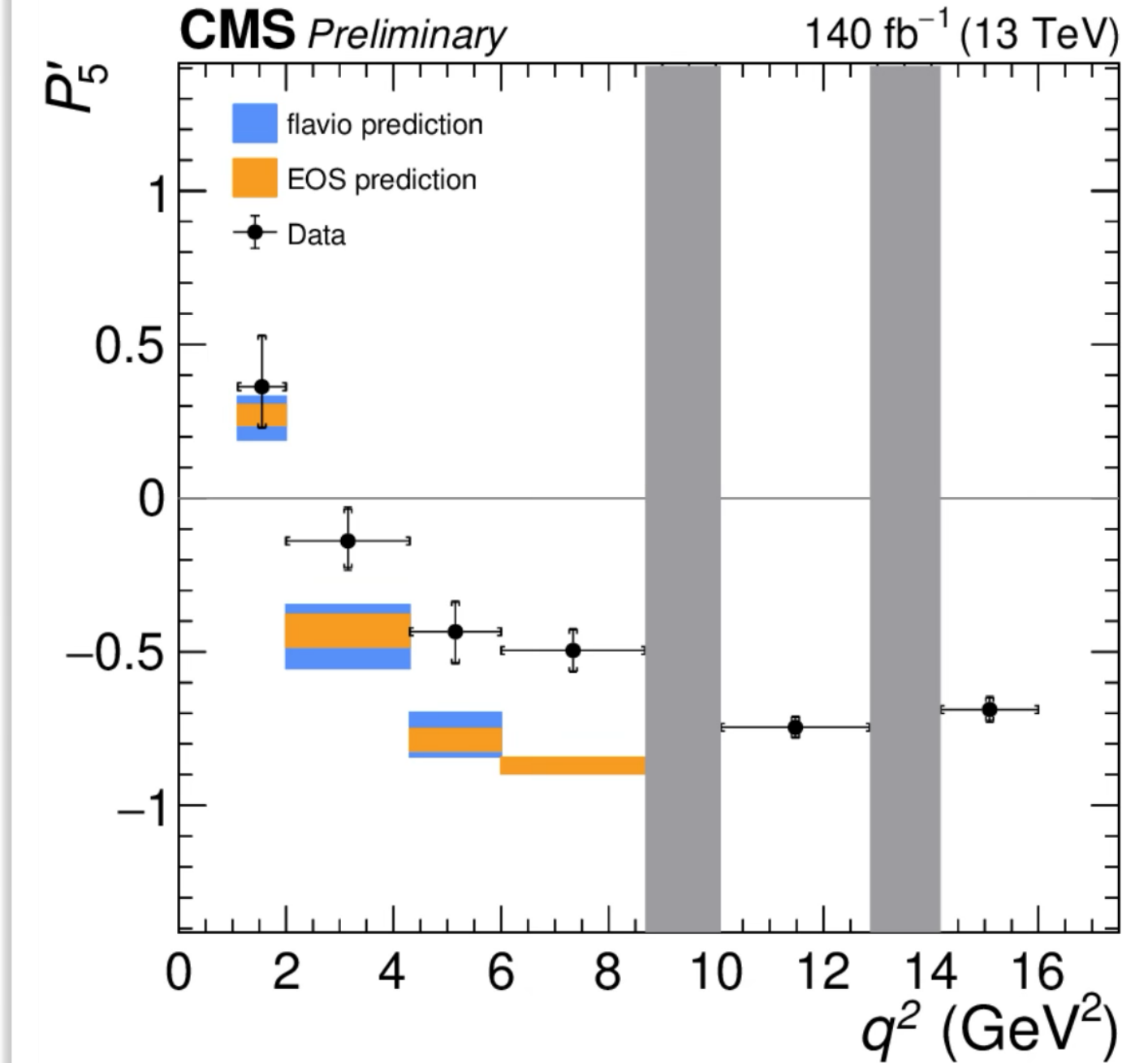
# The $b \rightarrow s\ell\ell$ anomalies: the angular analysis

$B \rightarrow K^*\mu\mu$



- **4-body decay:** Very rich phenomenology
  - 11 angular observables  $I_i(q^2)$  which are  $q^2$ -dependent
  - One,  $I_5(q^2)$ , is related to an observable called  $P'_5$

$P'_5$  anomaly



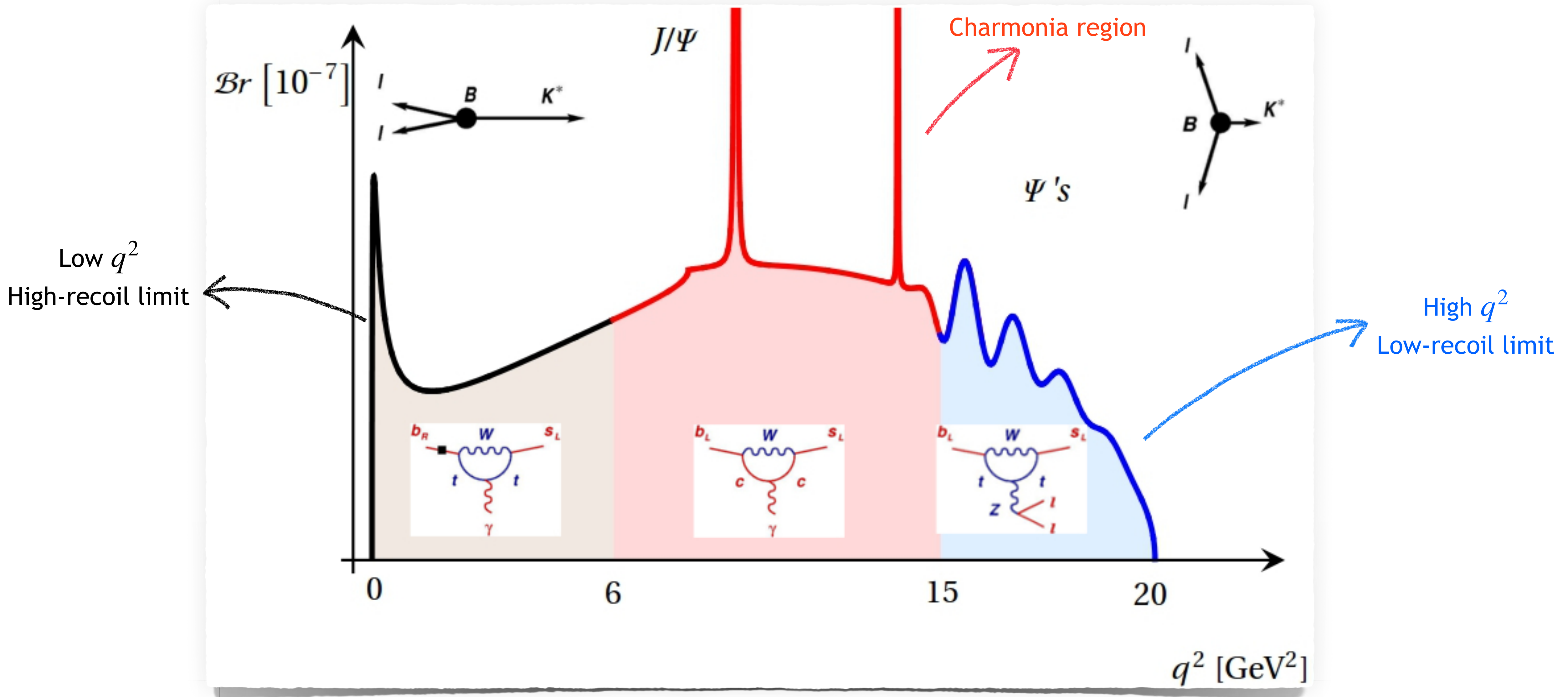
New data confirms LHCb

BSM hypothesis

$$C_9^{\text{BSM}} \simeq -1$$

Explains all  $b \rightarrow s\ell\ell$  anomalies

# Kinematic regions in the $B \rightarrow K^* \ell \ell$ decay



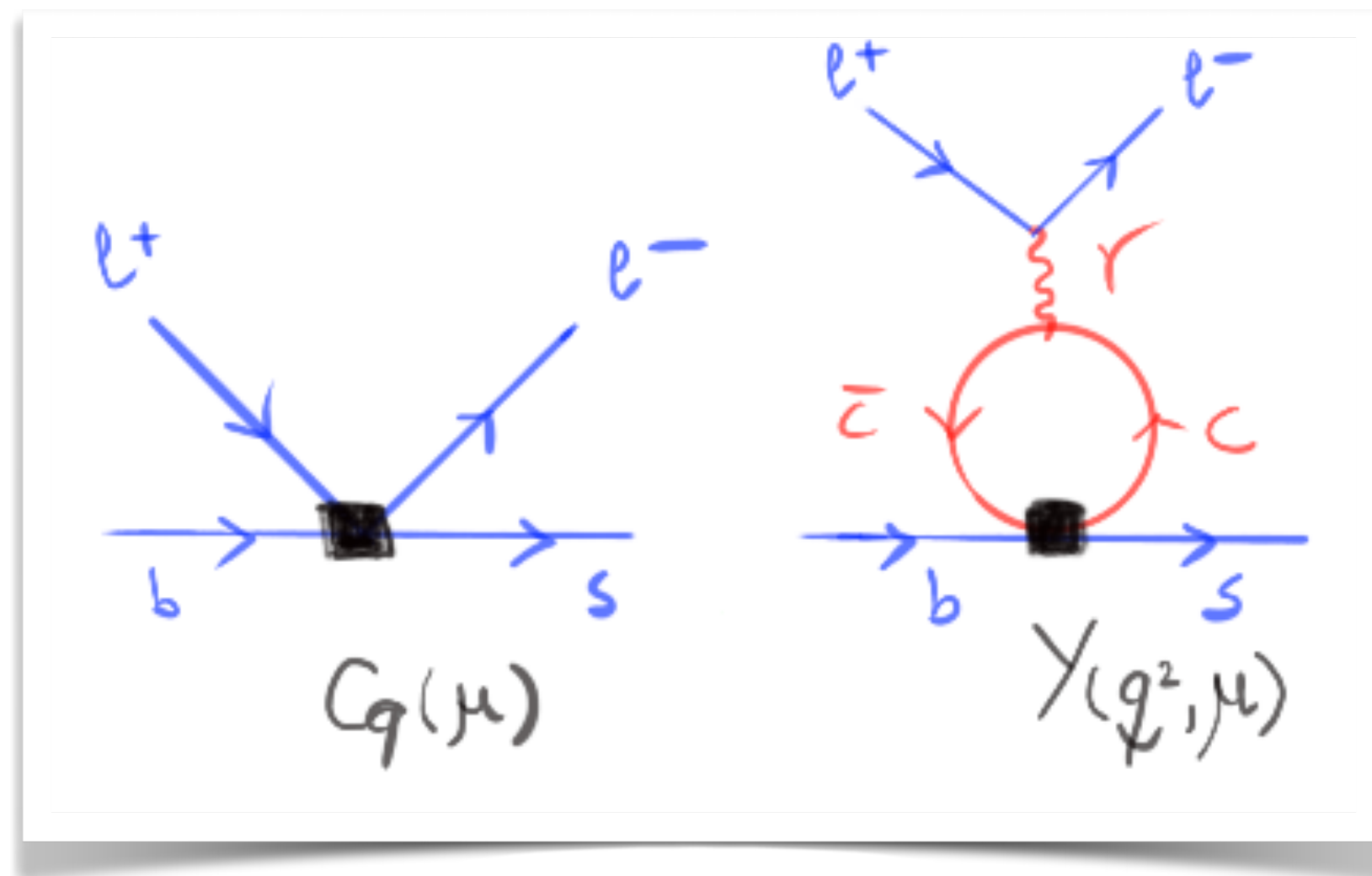


# Anatomy of the vectorial $B \rightarrow K^{(*)} \ell \ell$ amplitude

- Helicity amplitudes

$$H_V(\lambda) = -iN \left\{ \overbrace{\left[ C_9 \tilde{V}_{L\lambda} + \frac{m_B^2}{q^2} h_\lambda \right]}^{C_9^{\text{eff}}} - \frac{\hat{m}_b m_B}{q^2} C_7 \tilde{T}_{L\lambda} \right\}$$

- **7 (local) form factors** (independent) and **3 non-local form factors**
- **Vector amplitude!**  $\Rightarrow$  Sensitive to the charm contributions!

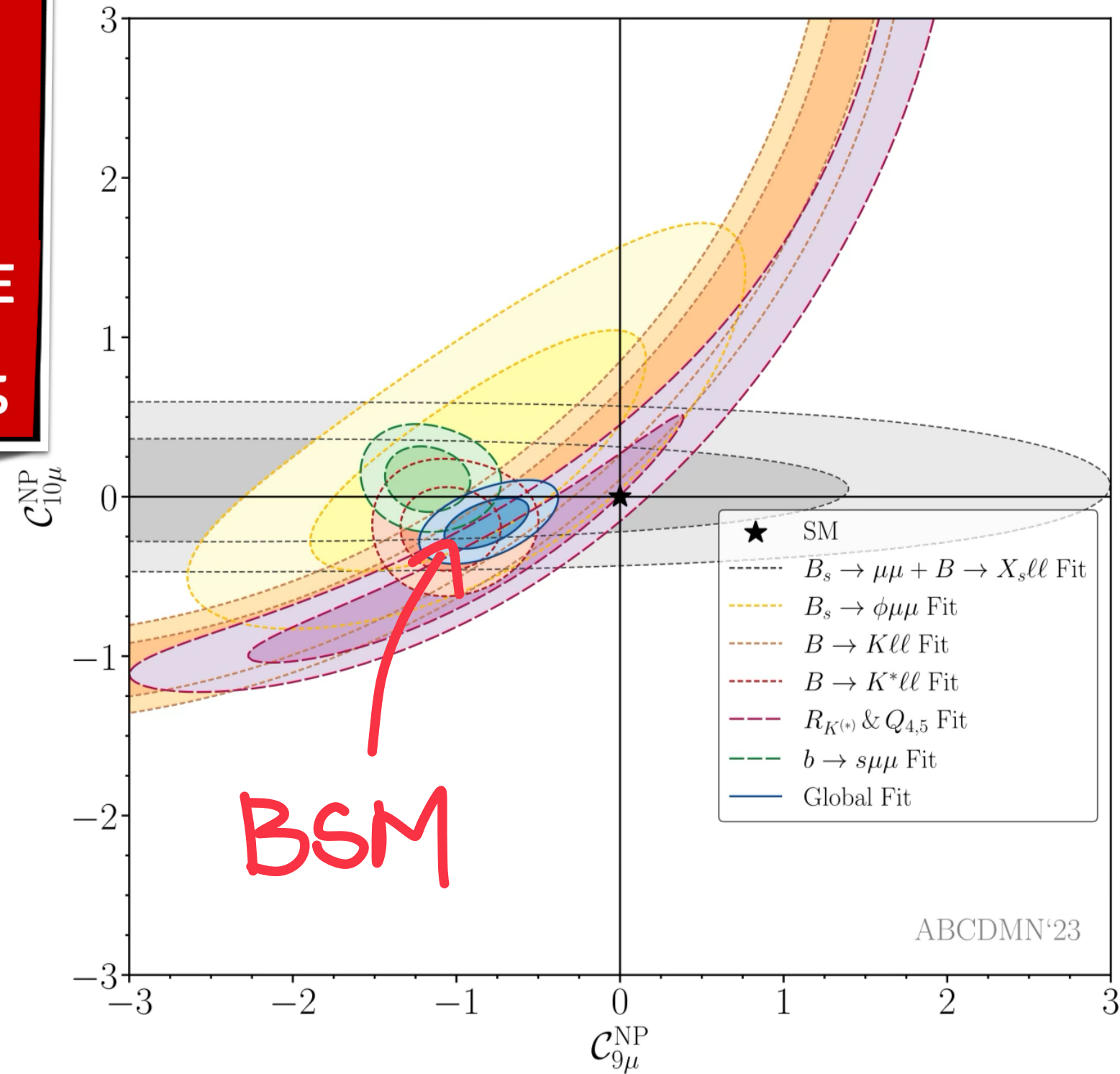


- At leading order  $C_9^{\text{eff}} = C_9(\mu) + Y(q^2, \mu)$ 
  - In fact  $C_9^{\text{eff}}$  is observable  $\Rightarrow$  **Scale independent**
  - One cannot disentangle  $C_9$  from  $C_9^{\text{eff}}$  without  $h_\lambda$

# The $b \rightarrow s\ell\ell$ anomalies: two approaches to life

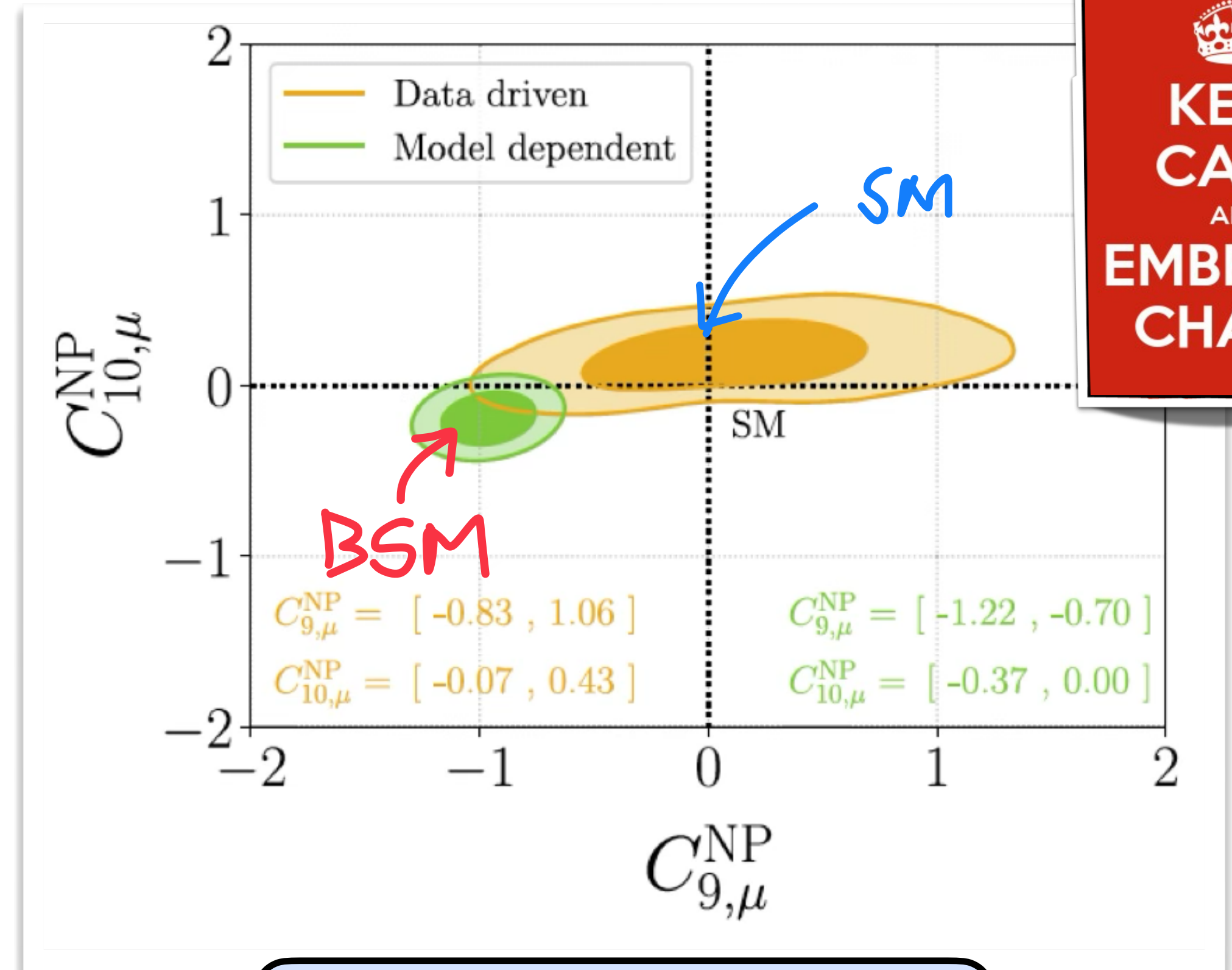
- Interpretation of data depends on prior beliefs about "charm"

Algueró et al., EPJ.C(2023)83:648



Tension with SM at  $> 6\sigma$

Ciuchini et al., PRD107 (2023) 5, 055036



Consistent within  $1\sigma$

Key of  $R_K$  excitement: Charm cancels in the ratio!!!



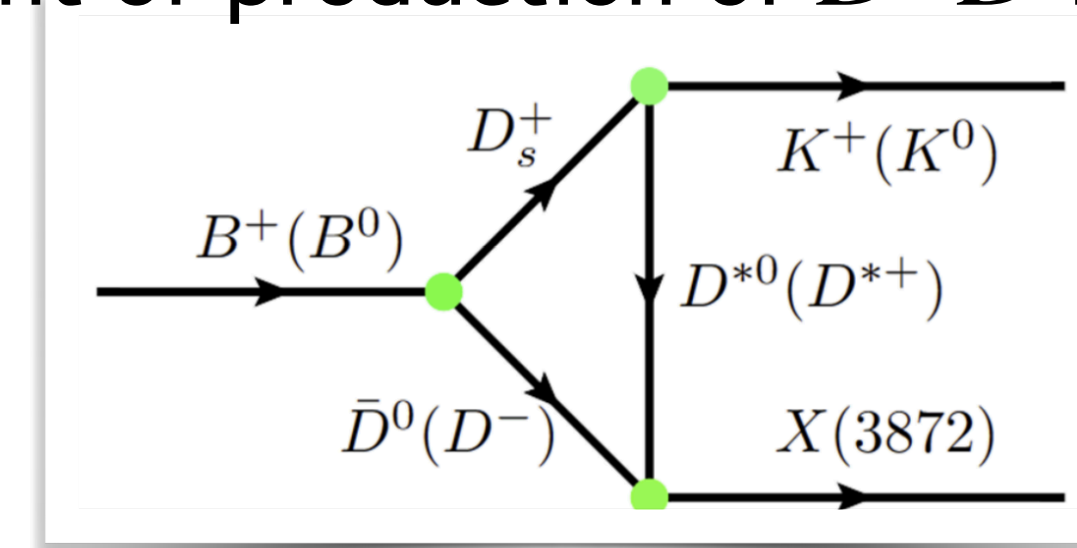
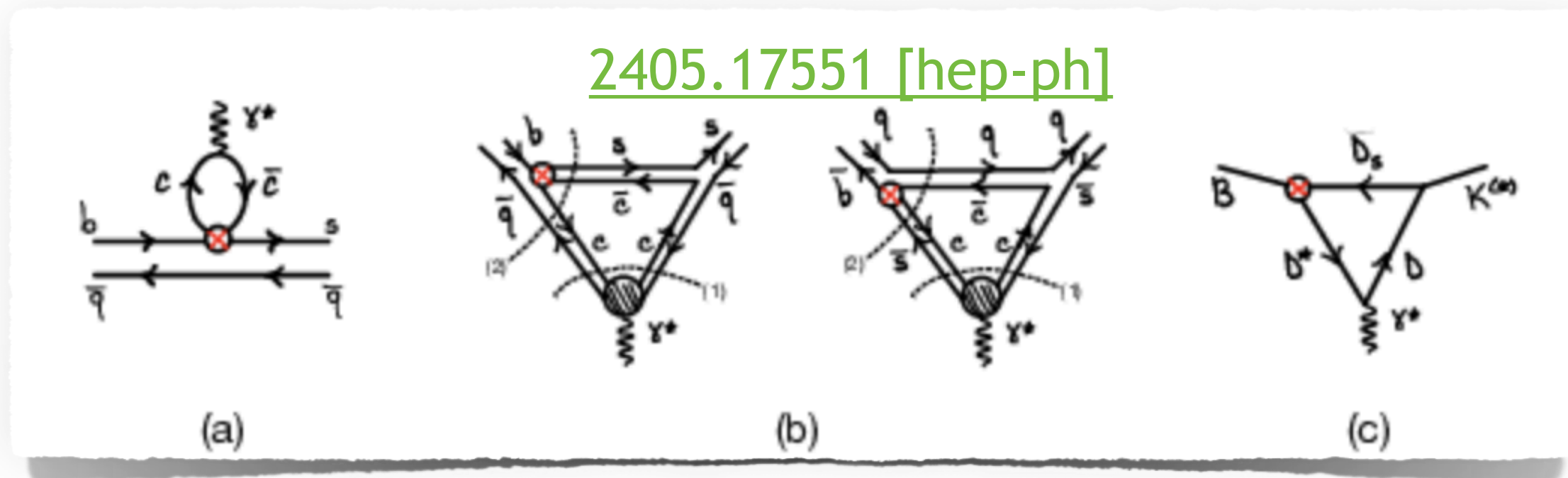
# Taming the charm

- Calculate this effect at unphysical low- $q^2$  in QCD and sum rules: Superseed (?) standard SCET/QCDF

[JHEP 09 \(2010\) 089](#) [JHEP 02 \(2021\) 088](#) [J.Virto's talk at Zurich 204](#)

- Estimate additional hadronic contributions

- Reminiscent of production of  $D^*\bar{D}$  molecules



[2304.05269 \[hep-ph\]](#)

- **Data driven:** Amplitude analyses of data including model
- **High  $q^2$ :** Typically plagued by broad charmonia in  $B \rightarrow K^{(*)}\ell\ell \Rightarrow$  **Theoretically hopeless (!)**

$$B_s^* \rightarrow \ell\ell$$

[Grinstein & JMC, PRL116,141801](#)

[Khodjamirian et al. JHEP 11 \(2015\) 142](#)

$$B_s \rightarrow \gamma\ell\ell$$

- Charm in the perturbative regime
- **Very challenging:**  $BR \simeq 10^{-11}$
- **Upgraded HL-LHCb:**  $BR \lesssim 1.2 \times 10^{-9}$

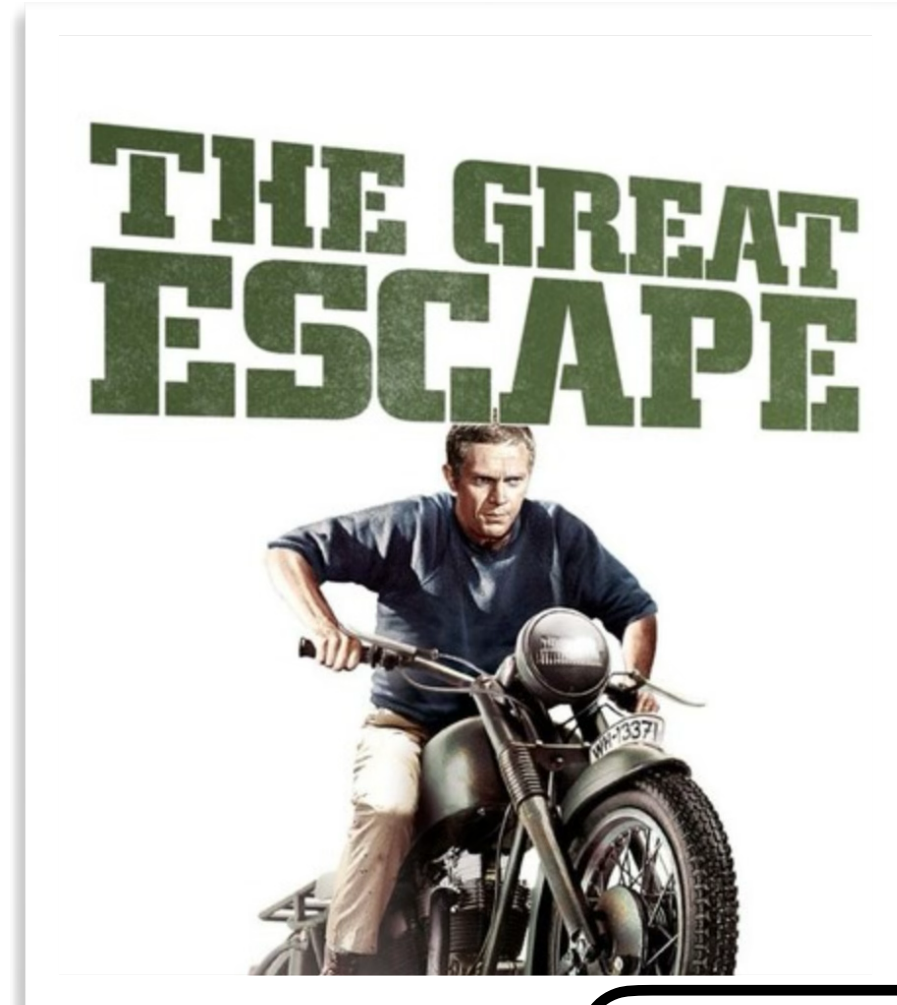
[Abudinen et al., EPJ.C 82 \(2022\) 5, 459](#)

- Accessible at LHCb - challenging at high  $q^2$  !
- Not completely out from charmonia region

[D. Guadagnoli's talk at ALPS2023](#)

[Guadagnoli et al., JHEP 10 \(2023\) 102](#)

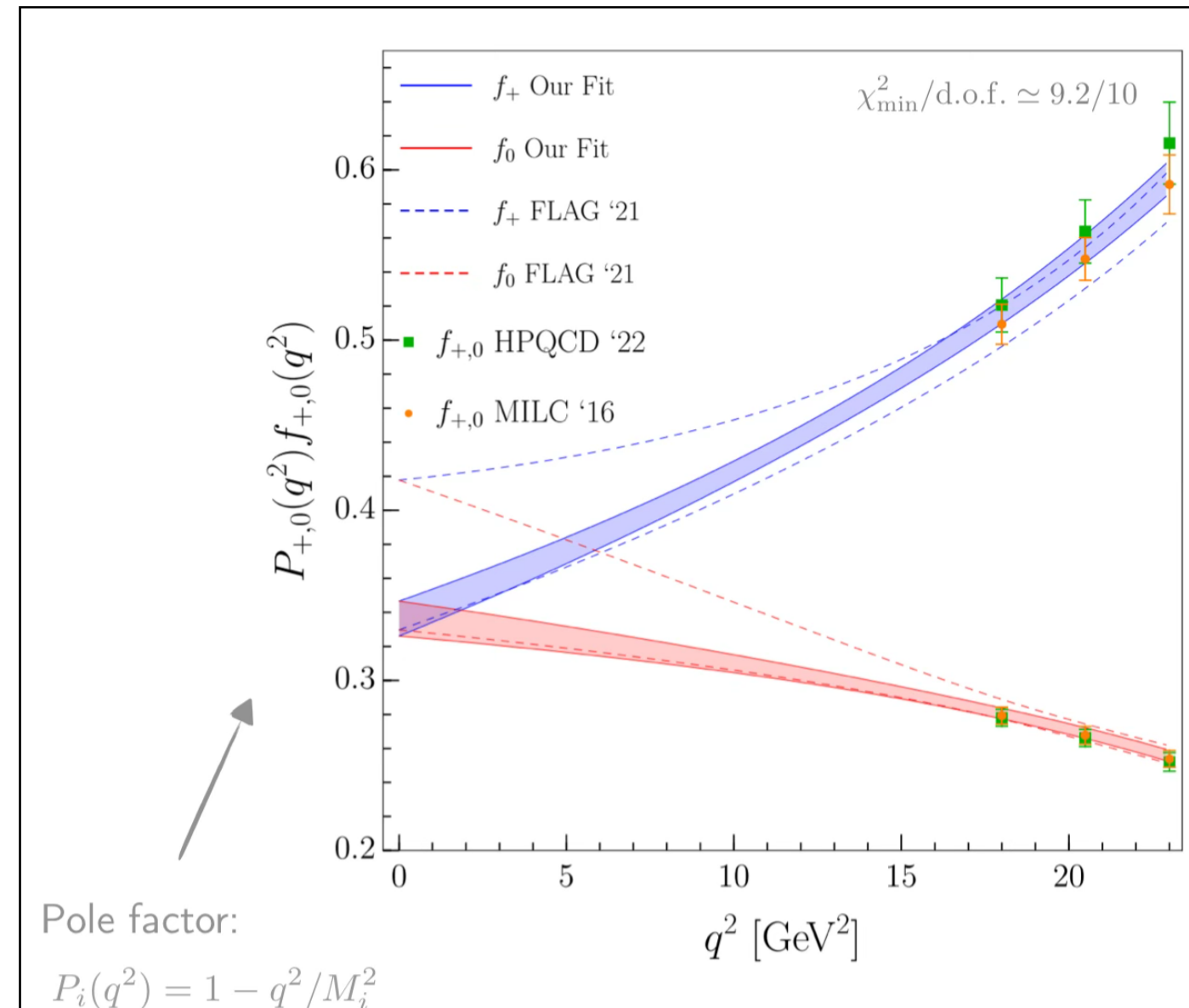
# The $B \rightarrow K^{(*)} \nu \bar{\nu}$ decay



Theory

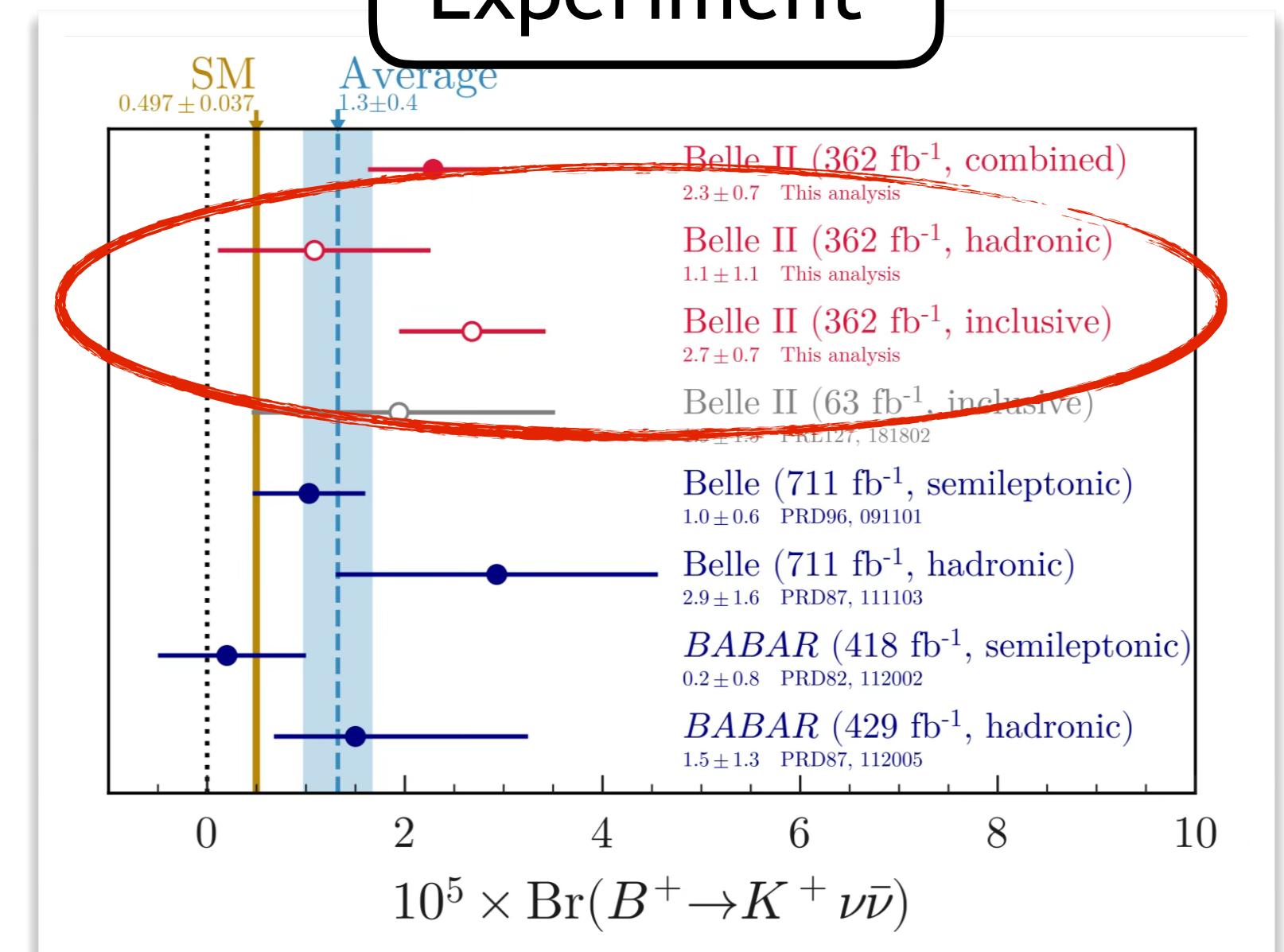
- Couple to neutrinos  $\Rightarrow$  **Escape from the charm!**
- Potentially (not necessarily) linked to the  $b \rightarrow s \ell \ell$  anomalies
- Only accessible in  $B$  factories (Belle, Belle II and BaBar)
- Under theoretical control (LQCD)

[Becirevic et al., EPJC83,3,252](#)



Form factors  $B \rightarrow K$  from LQCD

Experiment

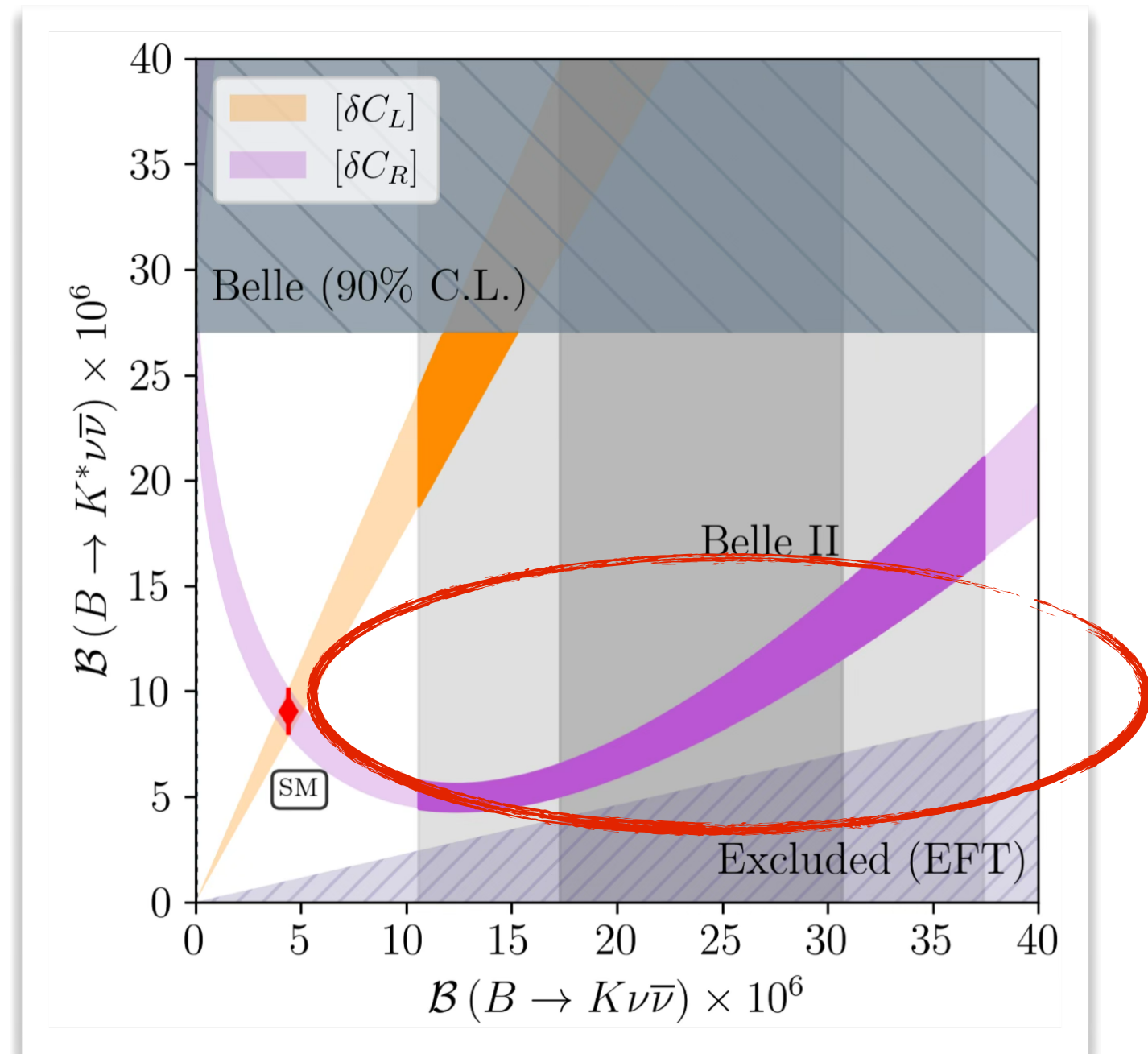


Belle excess in  $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$  at  $2.6\sigma$

[Belle 2, PRD109\(2024\)11,112006](#)

# Explaining $B \rightarrow K^{(*)} \nu \bar{\nu}$ decay

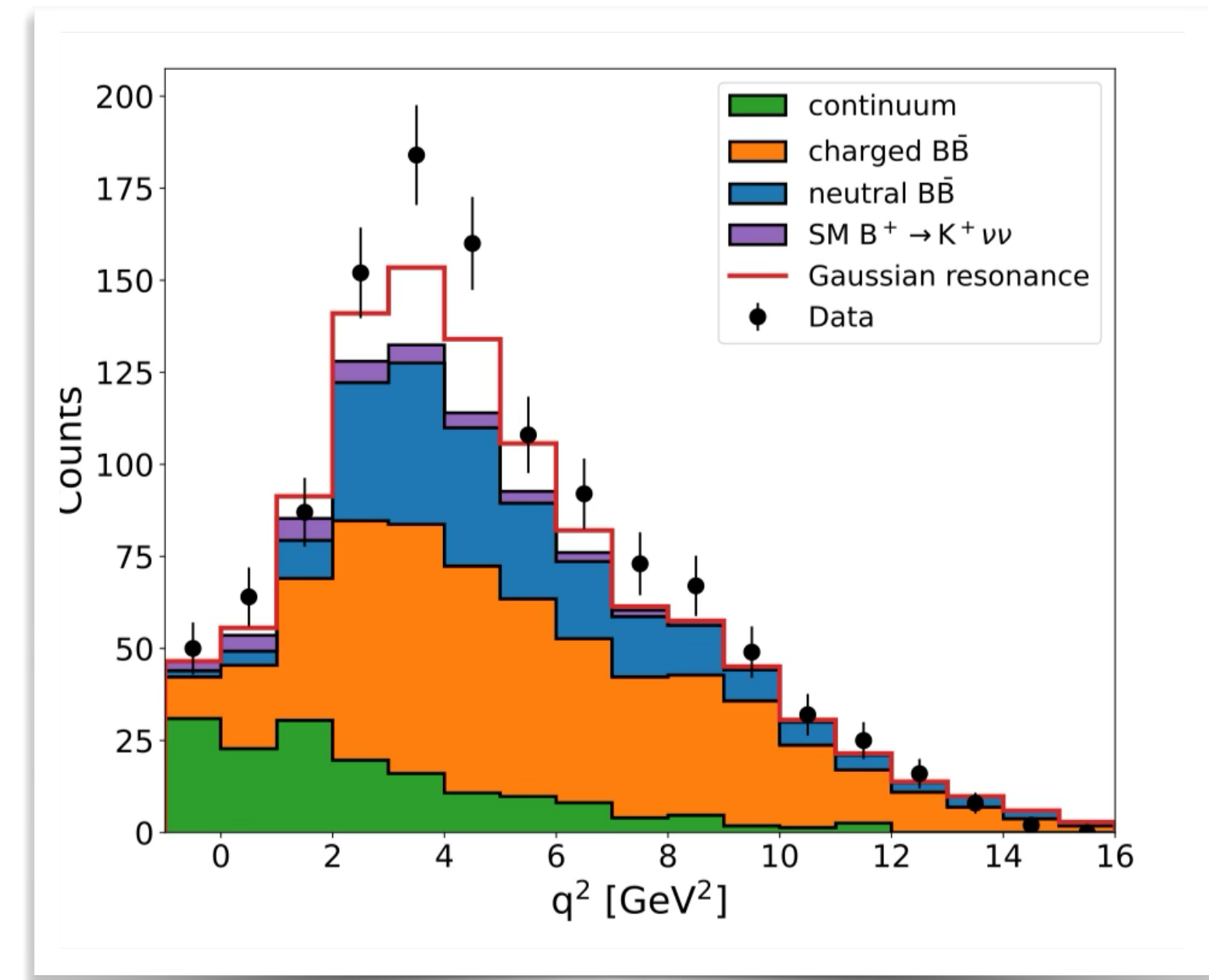
- Heavy BSM



[Allwicher et al., PLB848 \(2024\)138411](#)

- Potential interconnection with  $b \rightarrow s \ell \ell$
- Not with this result  $\Rightarrow$  **RH currents!**
- Need LFV  $\Rightarrow$  **Coupling to taus**

- Light BSM



[Altmanshofer et al., PRD109\(2024\) 7, 075008](#)

- Excess concentrated in  $q^2 \simeq 4 \text{ GeV}^2$
- Two-body  $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ X^0$
- Connections to light dark flavored sectors!

Very interesting measurements for the future

# Conclusions

- The  $R_D$  anomalies

- **Difficult measurements:** experimental situation **highly unclear**
- Interest on **consistency tests** with **new observables** etc in the SM and BSM
- Unclear motivation for BSM interpretations? ...

- The  $b \rightarrow s\ell\ell$  anomalies

- **Difficult theory:** understanding of the "charm" **highly unclear**
- Interest on **hadronic physics** and interplay with weak interactions
- New observables or decay channels ...

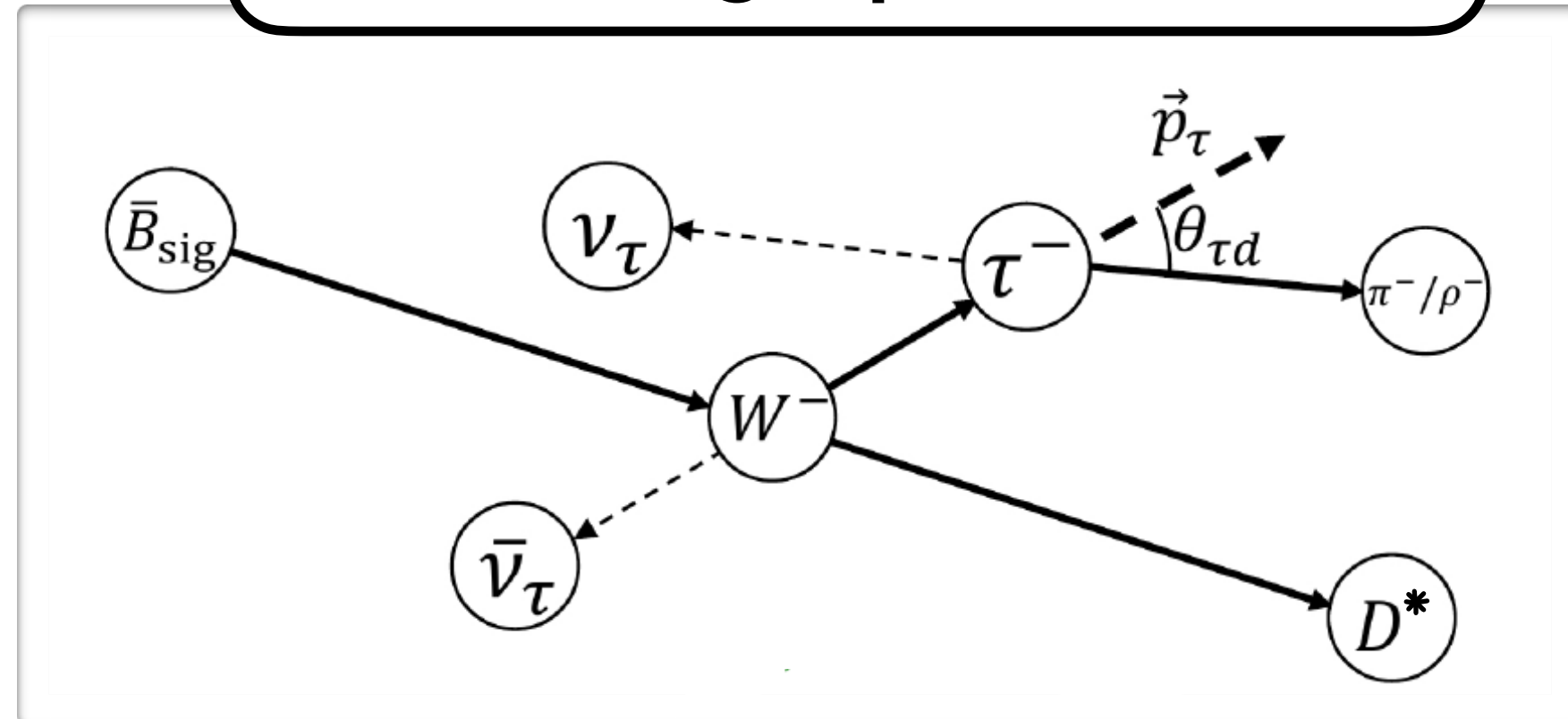
**Keep an eye on Belle II and its neutrino modes!**

**Thank You**

# Angular observables

- Semi-tauonic decays are very complex to measure

## Measuring $\tau$ polarization



- Lifetime of  $\tau \sim 10^{-13} \text{ s}$
- Reconstruct  $\tau$  decay products with missing neutrinos
  - Leptonic mode  $\tau \rightarrow \ell \nu_\tau \bar{\nu}_\ell$
  - Hadronic modes  $\tau \rightarrow \pi \nu_\tau$ ,  $\tau \rightarrow \rho \nu_\tau$ ,  $\tau \rightarrow 3\pi \nu_\tau$

## Angular observables and $\tau$ properties!

[Asadi, Hallin, JMC, Shih, Westhoff, PRD102\(2020\)9,095028](#)

- Polarization of the  $\tau$

$$P_\tau^{D^*}(\text{Belle}) = -0.38 \pm 0.51 \pm 0.18$$

vs.

$$P_\tau^{D^*}(\text{SM}) = +0.497 \pm 0.007$$

Consistent within  $1.6\sigma$

- Polarization of the  $D^*$

$$F_L(\text{LHCb}) = 0.43 \pm 0.06 \pm 0.03$$

vs.

$$F_L(\text{SM}) = 0.464 \pm 0.03$$

Consistent within  $1\sigma$



# Other decay channels

- Fundamental  $b \rightarrow c\tau\nu$  transition triggers decays of other beautiful hadrons

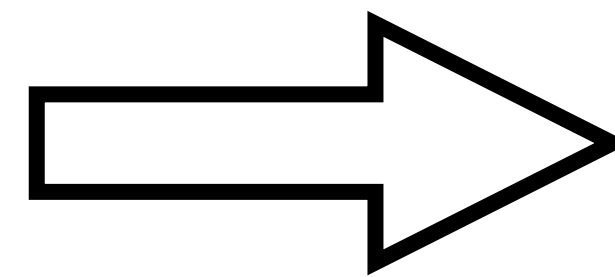
$$\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda_c \tau \nu$$

Valid in any BSM scenario!

- Channels connected by model independent "sum rules"  $\Rightarrow$  Tests consistency of measurements!

$$\frac{R_{\Lambda_c}}{R_{\Lambda_c^{\text{SM}}}} = 0.28 \frac{R_D}{R_D^{\text{SM}}} + 0.72 \frac{R_{D^*}}{R_{D^*}^{\text{SM}}}$$

[Blanke et al., PRD99\(2019\) 7, 075006](#)



$$R_{\Lambda_c}(\text{SR}) = 0.376 \pm 0.013$$

vs.

$$R_{\Lambda_c}(\text{LHCb}) = 0.242 \pm 0.076$$

**1.7 $\sigma$  failure consistency test**

$$B_c \rightarrow J/\psi \tau \nu$$

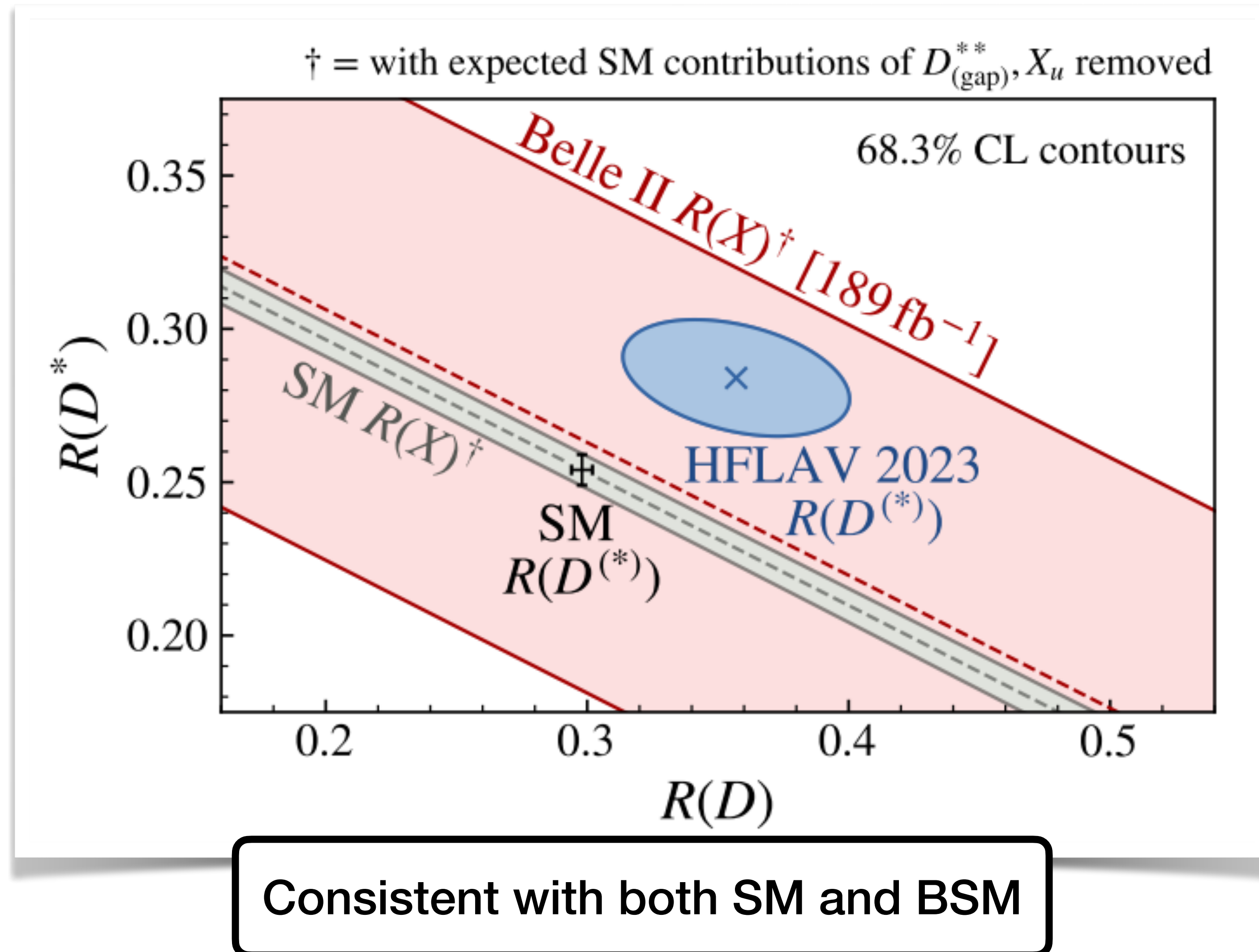
- New (preliminary) measurement by **CMS** not completely consistent with **LHCb's**

$$B \rightarrow X_c \tau \nu$$

- Novel **inclusive** measurement by **Belle II** consistent with both SM and BSM

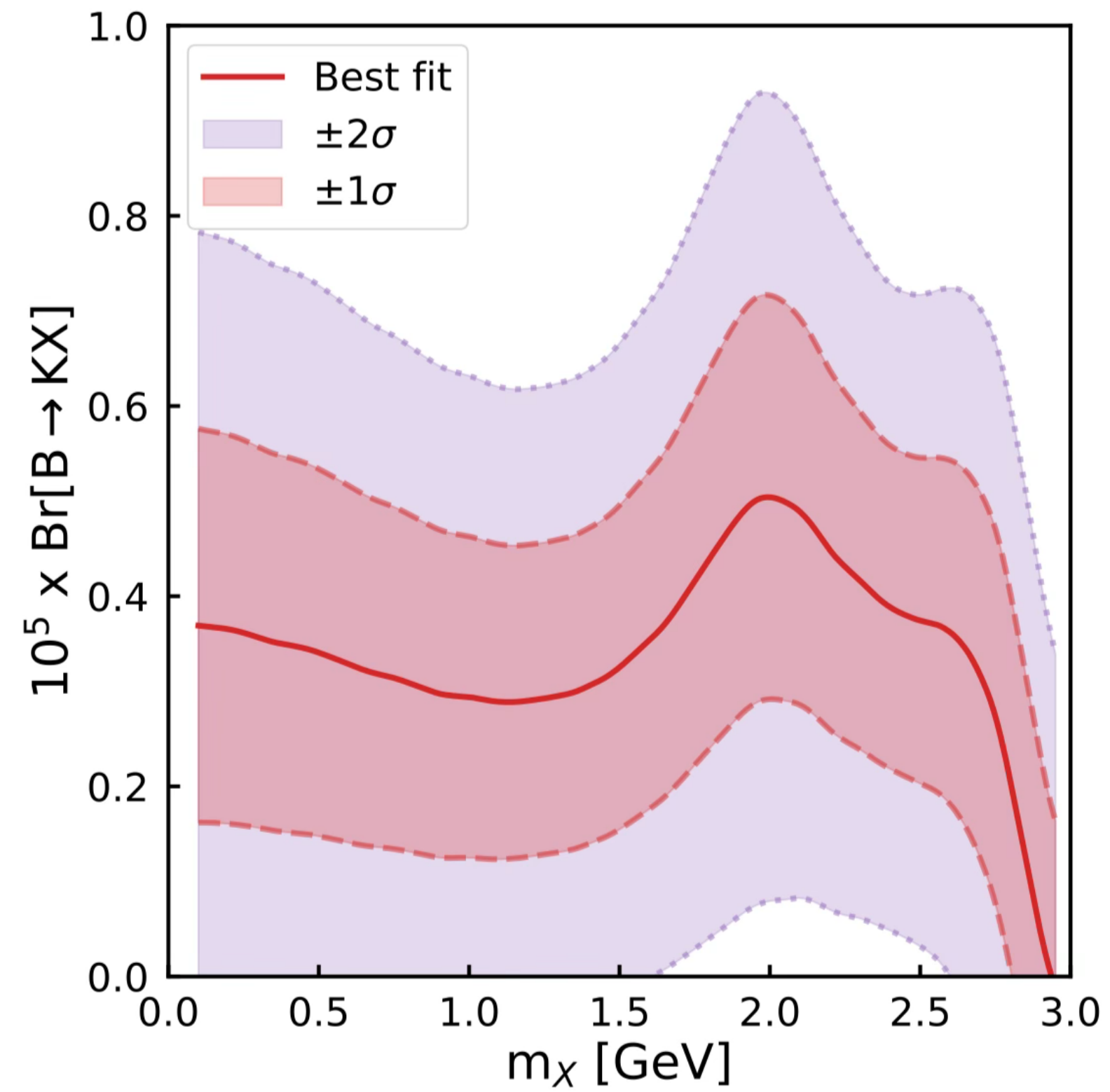
# Inclusive B

- Fundamental  $b \rightarrow c\tau\nu$  transition triggers decays of other beautiful hadrons
  - Inclusive  $B \rightarrow X_c\tau\nu$

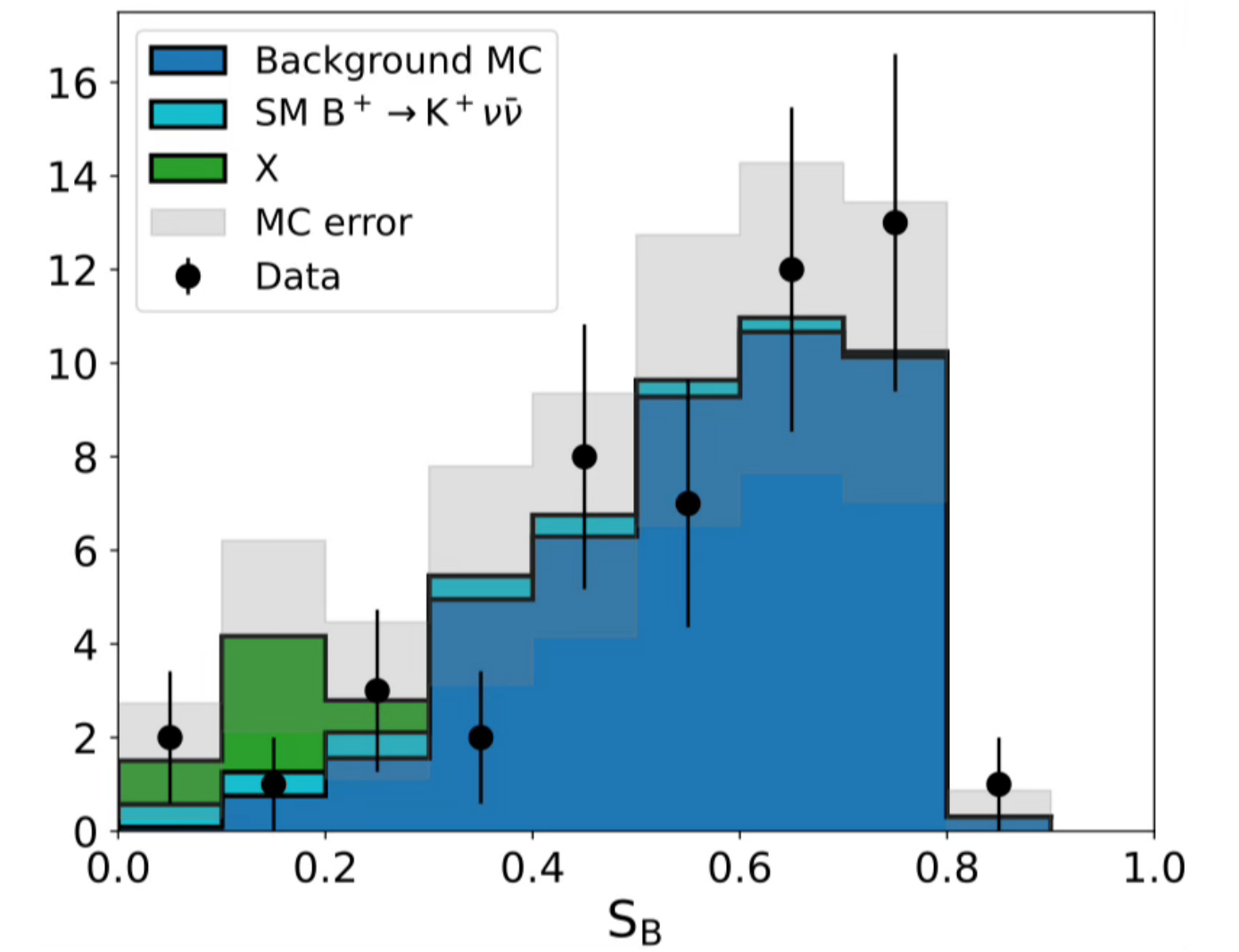
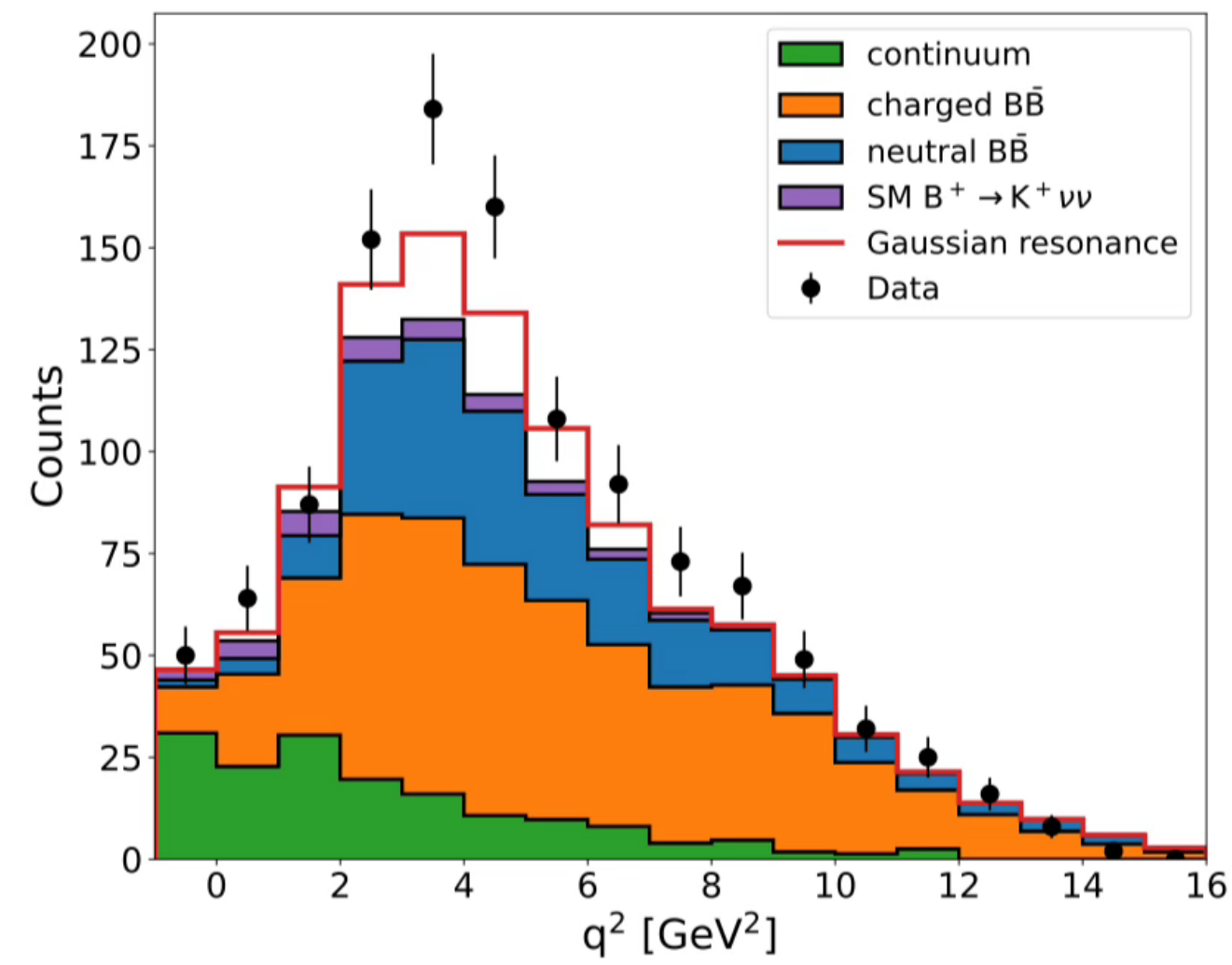


$$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ X^0$$

- Significance as a function of mass

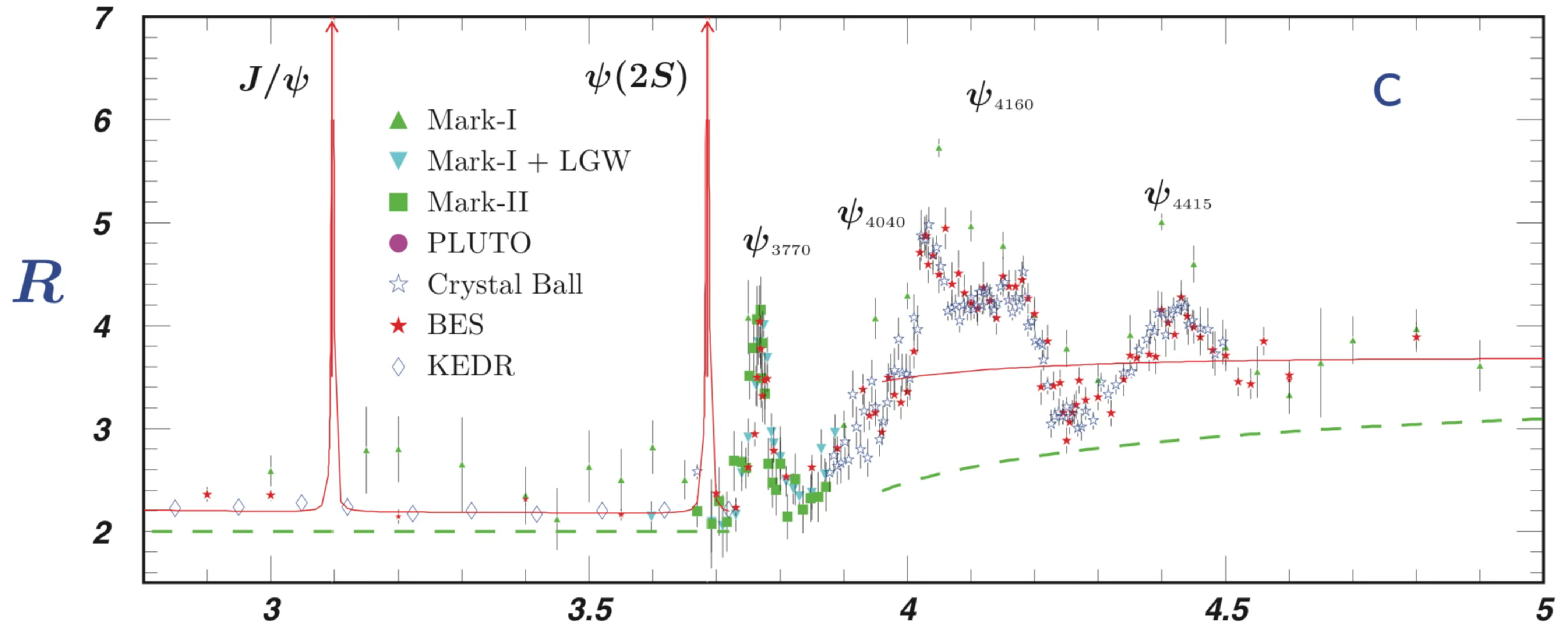


- Belle II vs BaBar

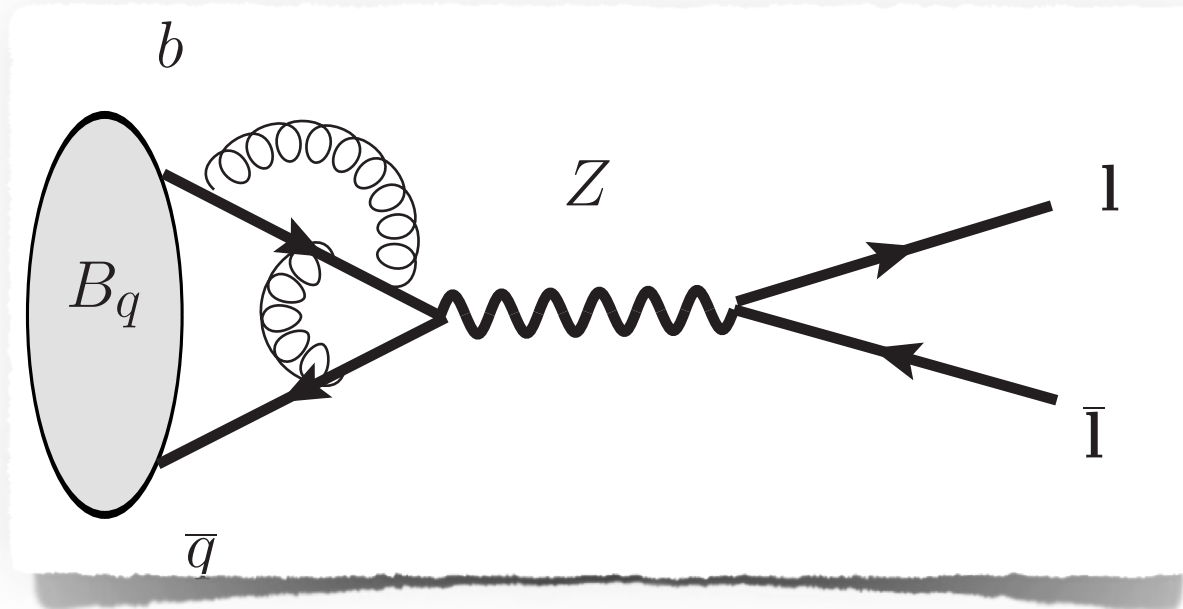


# The R-factor

$$R = \frac{\sigma^{(0)}(e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons})}{\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)},$$



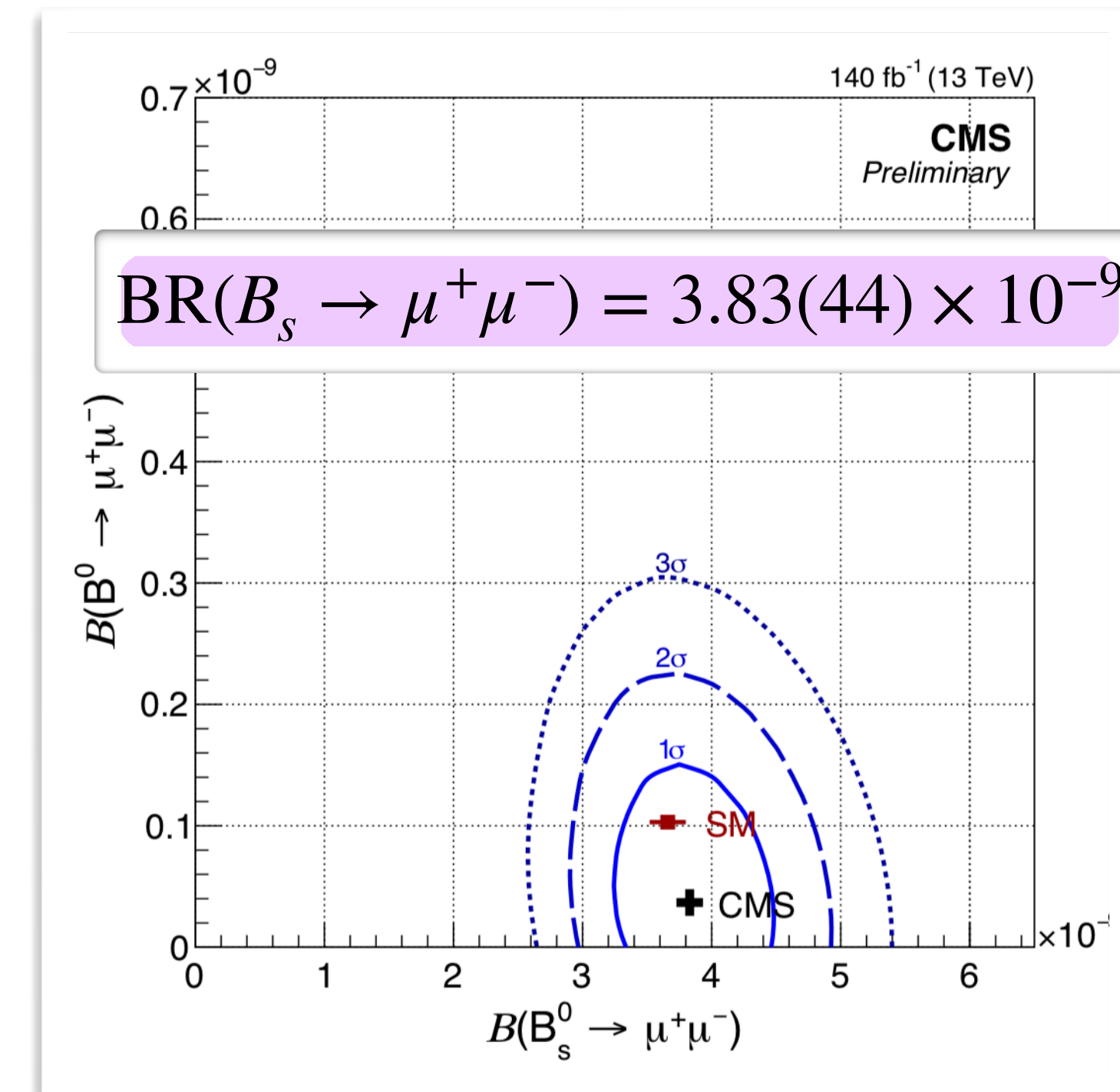
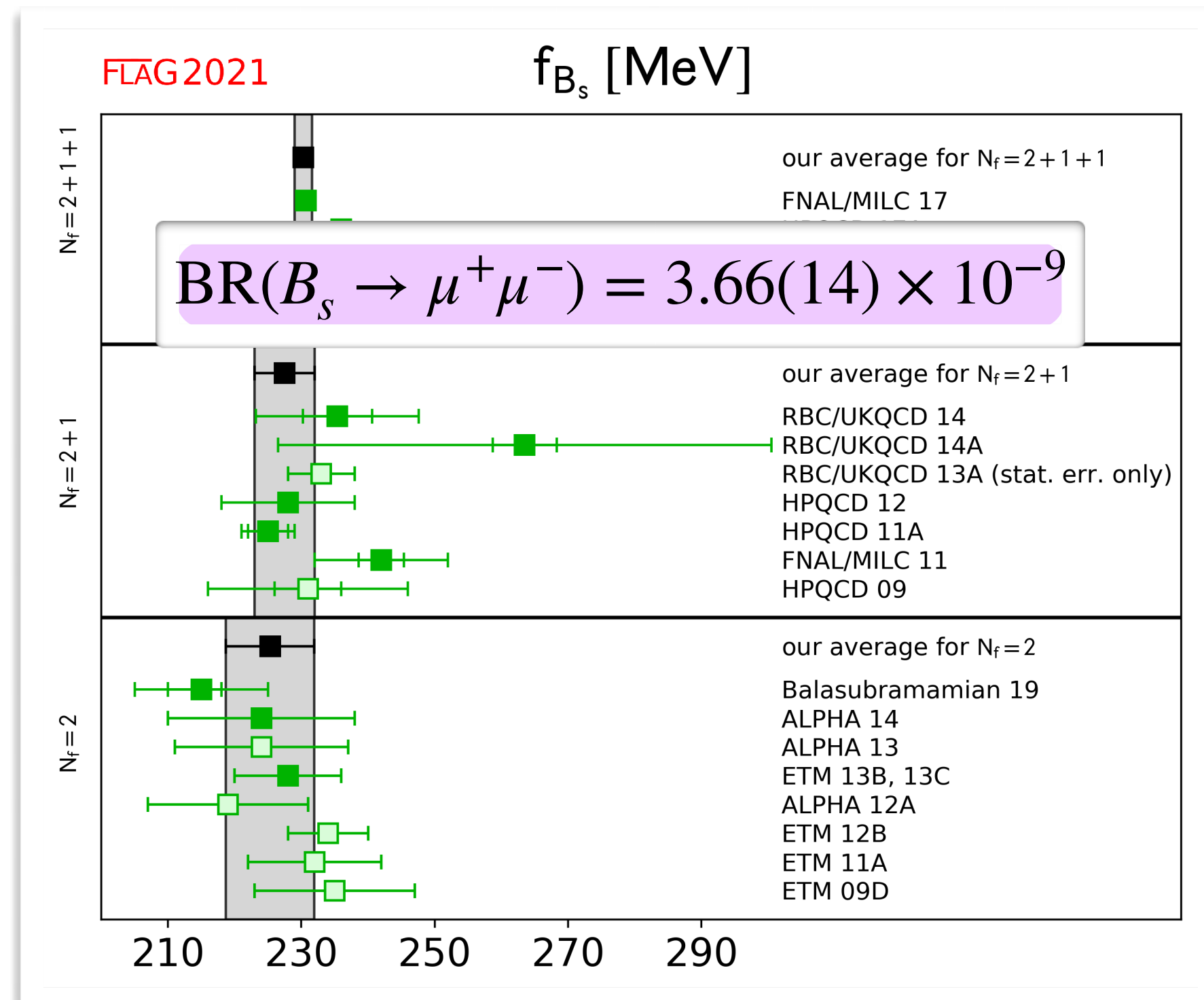
# The pure leptonic $B_s \rightarrow \mu\mu$ decay



$$\text{BR}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) = \frac{G_F^2 \alpha^2}{64\pi^3} \tau_{B_s} m_{B_s}^3 f_{B_s}^2 |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*|^2 \times \left\{ \underbrace{|C_S - C'_S|^2 + |C_S + C'_S - 2 \frac{m_\mu}{m_{B_s}} (C_{10} - \overbrace{C'_{10}}^{\text{RHC}})|^2}_{\text{SM}} \right\}$$

○ Can be predicted accurately with LQCD inputs

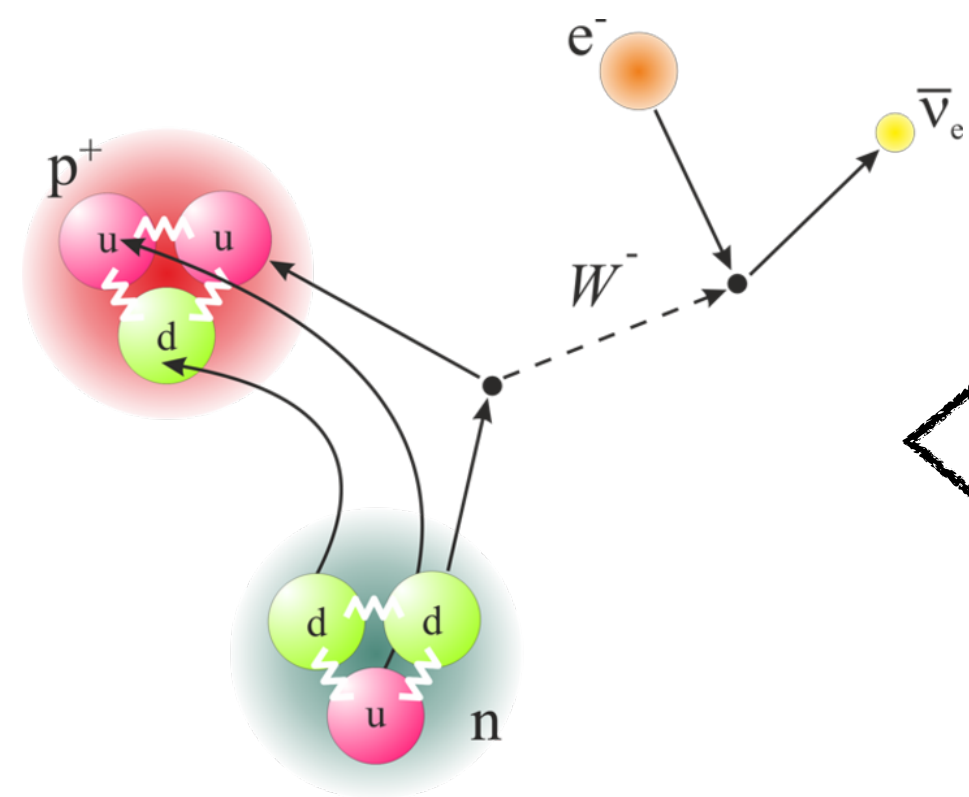
○ Measurement by CMS consistent with SM



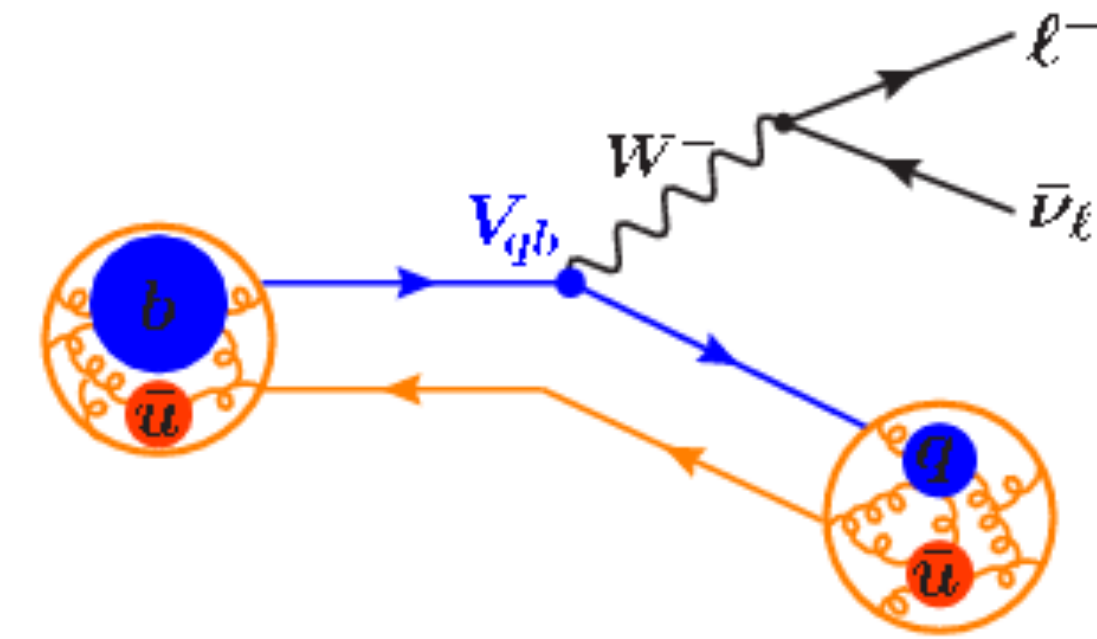
# Flavor physics in the quark sector

Only weak interactions *violate* flavor

- Classic: Nuclear (neutron)  $\beta$  decay



- Contemporary: *B* meson decay

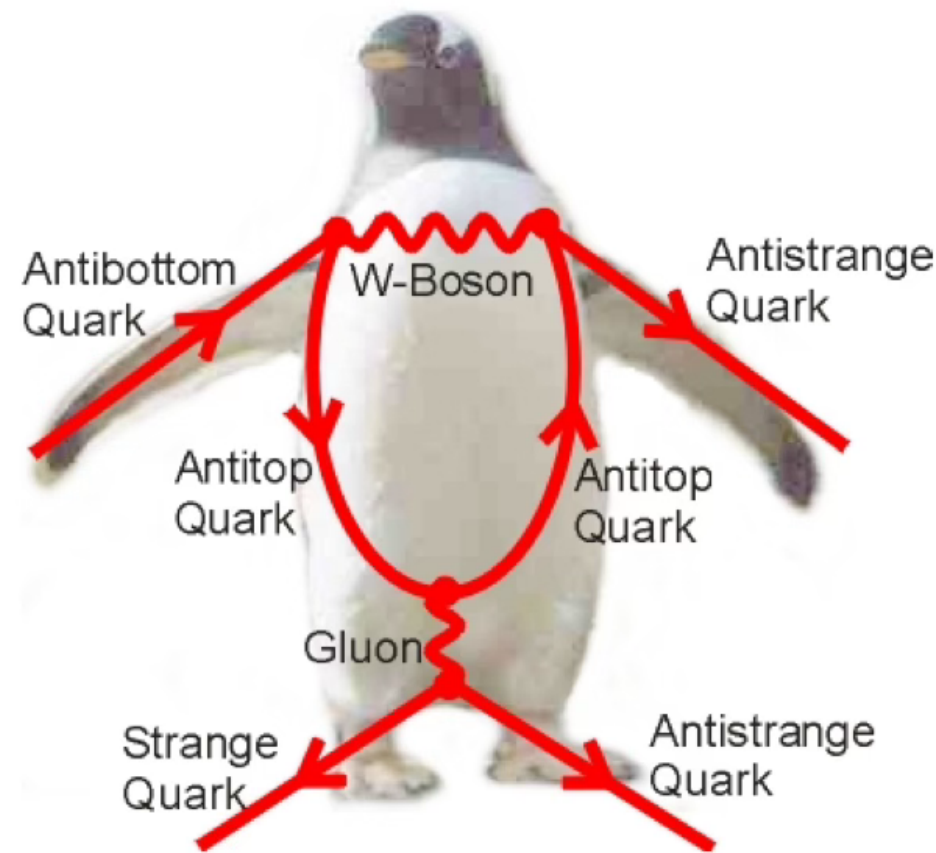


- Nuclear  $\beta$  decay: Discovery of **weak interactions** and the **neutrinos**
- Rare kaon decays: Discovery of **charm quark**
- Kaon decays: Discovery of **CP violation** → Discovery of **3 generations**

**Flavor Physics spearheaded the discovery of the SM  
when the SM was the New Physics!**

# Flavor physics is a sensitive probe of new physics

## Penguin diagram



- Flavor-changing neutral currents (FCNC)
  - In the SM, FCNCs occur only at 1-loop level!
  - In addition, they receive a flavor suppression

## GIM mechanism

$$\text{Amplitude} \approx \underbrace{G_F}_{\text{Weak}} \underbrace{\frac{y_t^2}{8\pi}}_{\text{Loop}} \underbrace{\frac{V_{tb} V_{ts}^*}{}}_{\text{Flavor}}$$

- FCNCs are very sensitive to BSM

- Searching for FCNCs in experiment could herald the discovery of New Physics!
- Null searches are typically expressed as lower-bounds on mass scales of the putative BSM

