



Advancing the semileptonic precision frontier at Belle II

Philipp Horak

Color meets Flavor Symposium

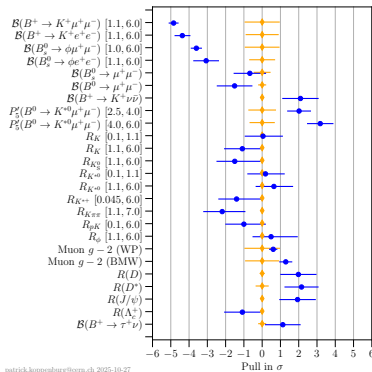
Siegen, July 15, 2026



University
of Victoria

phorak@uvic.ca

What is flavor physics telling us?



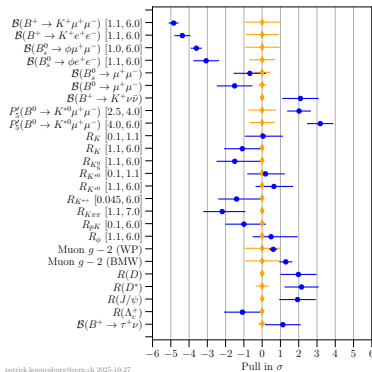
P. Koppenburg

The Standard Model is incomplete

- The SM can't explain dark matter, matter-antimatter asymmetry, ...
- Several flavor measurements show persistent $\sim 3\sigma$ tensions

How can we determine if these tensions are genuine signs of **New Physics**?

What is flavor physics telling us?



P. Koppenburg

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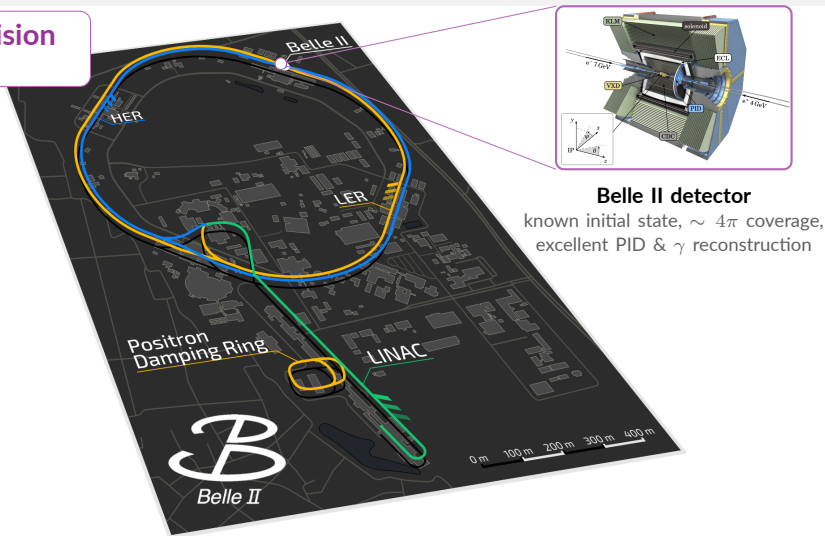
How can we determine if these tensions are genuine signs of **New Physics**?

More precision
Theory  Experiment

More precision with the Belle II experiment

How to improve precision
from B factories?

SuperKEKB
World-Record $\mathcal{L} = 5.1 \times 10^{34}$,
 900 fb^{-1} collected



More precision with the Belle II experiment

How to improve precision
from B factories?

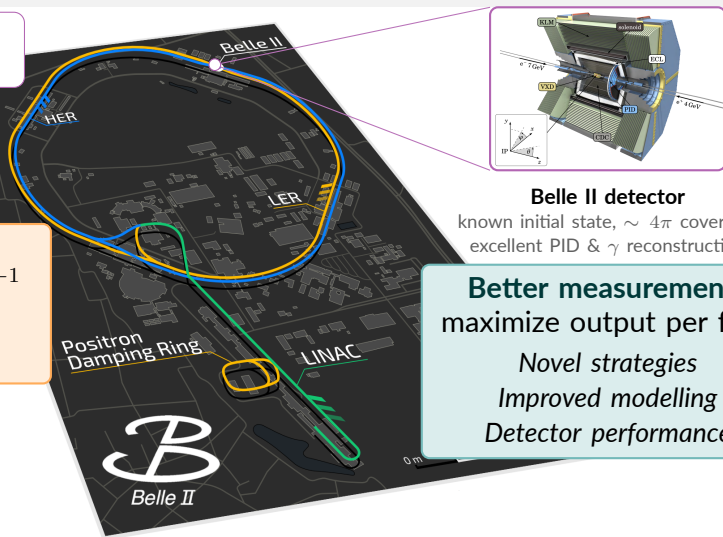
SuperKEKB

World-Record $\mathcal{L} = 5.1 \times 10^{34}$,
 900 fb^{-1} collected

More data

maximize delivered fb^{-1}

State-of-the-art AI for
Machine Operations



Belle II detector

known initial state, $\sim 4\pi$ coverage,
excellent PID & γ reconstruction

Better measurements

maximize output per fb^{-1}

Novel strategies

Improved modelling

Detector performance

The semileptonic B decay landscape

Two extremes – and the semileptonic middle ground

Belle II flavor program:

CP violation & Mixing · Rare / FCNC ($b \rightarrow s \ell \ell$, $B \rightarrow K^{(*)} \nu \bar{\nu}$) · Spectroscopy & exotics · Dark sector · τ mass/lifetime, couplings · Charm · Semileptonic $B \rightarrow X \ell \nu$

B decays:

Leptonic

$$B^+ \rightarrow \tau^+ \nu, \mu^+ \nu \quad (\text{purely leptonic})$$

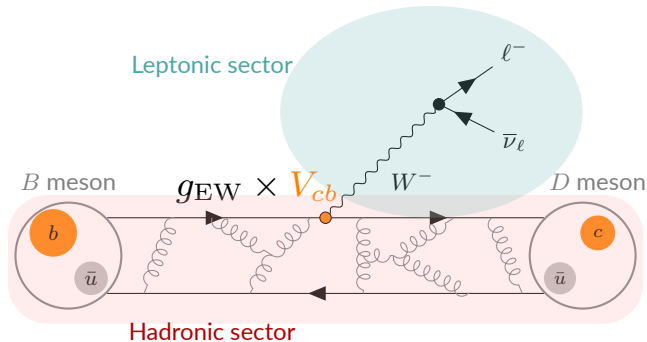
- ✓ Clean theory: one number, the decay constant f_B
- ✗ Missing ν reconstruction
- ✗ Helicity-suppressed ($\propto m_\ell^2$) $\Rightarrow$ tiny $\mathcal{B}$
 $\mathcal{O}(10^{-4} - 10^{-7})$,
clean theory, hard experiment

Hadronic

$$B \rightarrow K \pi, DK, \pi \pi \quad (\text{purely hadronic})$$

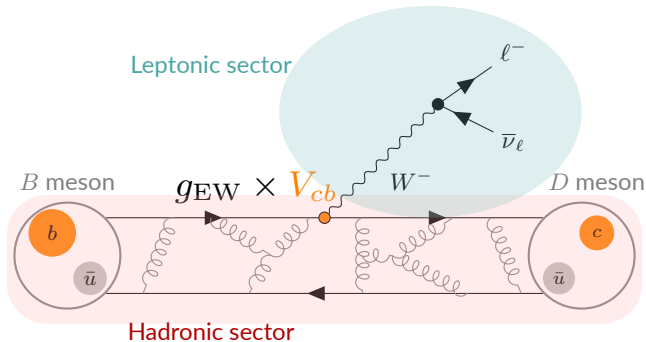
- ✓ Large rates
- ✓ Easy to reconstruct
- ✗ Non-factorizable QCD
rich experiment, hard theory

The semileptonic $b \rightarrow c$ decay



- Tree-level CKM-favored process
 - High branching ratios: $\sim \frac{1}{4}$ of all B meson decays
- Amplitude **factorizes**: leptonic and hadronic currents

The semileptonic $b \rightarrow c$ decay

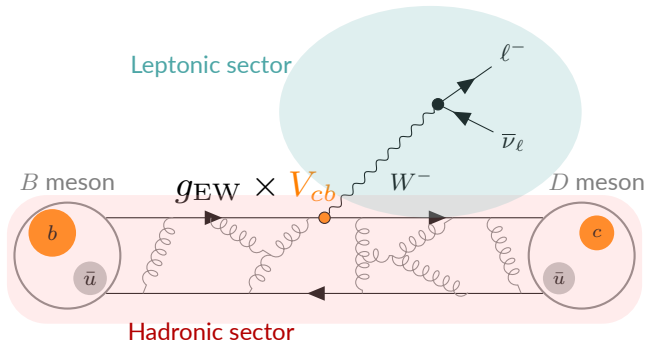


- Tree-level CKM-favored process
 - High branching ratios: $\sim \frac{1}{4}$ of all B meson decays
- Amplitude **factorizes**: leptonic and hadronic currents

$$b \rightarrow u \ell \bar{\nu}$$

- Same factorization
- $(|V_{ub}|/|V_{cb}|)^2 \simeq 1/100$

The semileptonic $b \rightarrow c$ decay

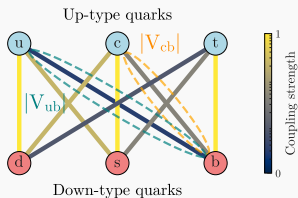


Clean observables / parameters

$$R(D^{(*)}), V_{cb}, V_{ub}, A_{FB}, P_\tau(D^*), F_{L,\tau}(D^{(*)})$$

Two puzzles or three puzzles?

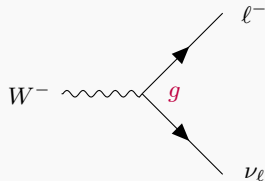
Quark mixing



- How large are the $b \leftrightarrow u$ and $b \leftrightarrow c$ couplings?

V_{cb}, V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

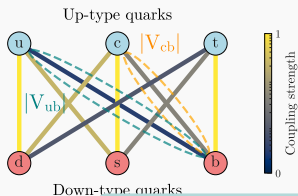


- Are the lepton flavor couplings universal?

$R(D), R(D^*)$ anomaly

Two puzzles or three puzzles?

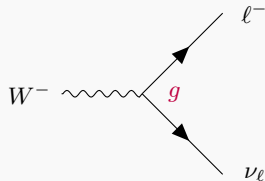
Quark mixing



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V_{cb}, V_{ub} puzzle

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flavor couplings

$R(D), R(D^*)$ anomaly

$B \rightarrow X_c l \nu$ hadronic system

Is there a third puzzle connecting the two?

D^{**} modelling, $\mathcal{B}_{SL}$ gap

Better measurements:
Maximize output per fb^{-1}

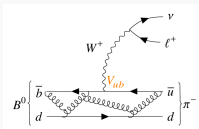
Two methods to measure $|V_{cb}|$, $|V_{ub}|$

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

$b \rightarrow c$ modelling

Exclusive

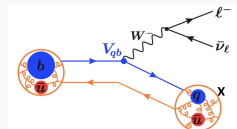


Reconstruct specific final states

Method: Parameterize the $b \rightarrow u/c$ transition with *form factors*, normalize using **Lattice QCD** inputs

$$\mathcal{B} \propto |V_{cb}|^2 f^2(q^2)$$

Inclusive



Sum over all hadronic states

Method: Summing over all final states treats b as quasi-free; Expand decay rate in $1/m_b$ and α_s using **HQE**

$$\Gamma \propto |V_{cb}|^2 [1 + \mathcal{O}(1/m_b) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)]$$

Experimental status and Belle II impact

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

$b \rightarrow c$ modelling

Exclusive $|V_{cb}|$

$$\bar{B} \rightarrow D\ell\bar{\nu}_\ell$$

$$\bar{B} \rightarrow D^*\ell\bar{\nu}_\ell$$

Exclusive $|V_{ub}|$

$$\bar{B} \rightarrow \pi\ell\bar{\nu}_\ell$$

$$\Lambda_b \rightarrow p\mu\bar{\nu}_\mu$$

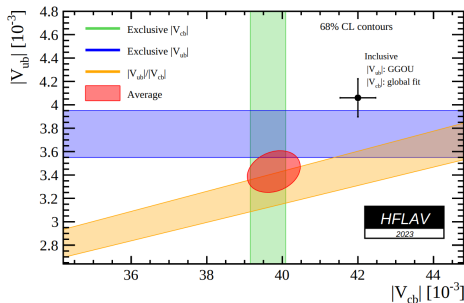
Inclusive $|V_{cb}|$

$$\bar{B} \rightarrow X_c\ell\bar{\nu}_\ell$$

Inclusive $|V_{ub}|$

$$\bar{B} \rightarrow X_u\ell\bar{\nu}_\ell$$

$|V_{cb}|$ excl. — PRD 112 032010
 $|V_{cb}|$ excl. — PRD 108 092013
 $|V_{cb}|$ incl. — PRD 107 072002
 $|V_{cb}|$ incl. — JHEP 10 068
 $|V_{ub}|$ excl. — PRD 111 112009
 $|V_{ub}|$ excl. — PRD 112 072002
 $|V_{ub}|$ incl. — PRD 113 032004



Long-standing $\sim 3\sigma$ tension

Experimental status and Belle II impact

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$b \rightarrow c$ modelling

$|V_{cb}|$ from $B \rightarrow D\ell\nu$

PRD 112 (2025), 032010

C. Schwanda, PH

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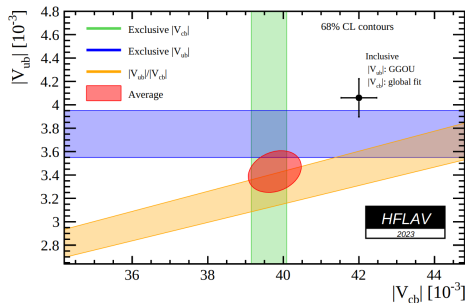
Inclusive $|V_{ub}|$

$$\bar{B} \rightarrow X_u\ell\bar{\nu}_\ell$$

New hybrid model of $b \rightarrow u$ decays

arXiv:2603.25785, submitted to JHEP

B. Kowalewski, T. Martinov, PH



Long-standing $\sim 3\sigma$ tension

- $|V_{cb}|$ excl. — PRD 112 032010
- $|V_{cb}|$ excl. — PRD 108 092013
- $|V_{cb}|$ incl. — PRD 107 072002
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- $|V_{ub}|$ incl. — PRD 113 032004

$|V_{cb}|$ from $B \rightarrow D\ell\nu$

PRD 112, 112009

V_{cb}, V_{ub} puzzle

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Excl. V_{cb}

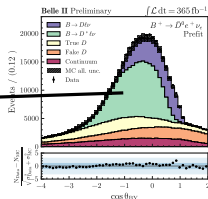
Excl. V_{ub}

Incl. V_{cb}

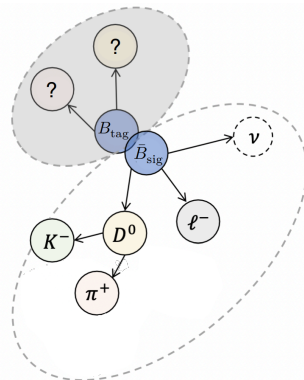
Incl. V_{ub}

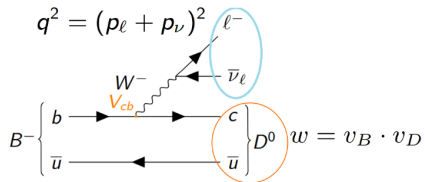
- $B \rightarrow D\ell\nu$ final state with inclusive tag method
 - Higher efficiencies enable fiducial cuts on clean candidates
 - No tag side calibration

Challenge:
Control over
background modelling



365 fb^{-1}





Novel reconstruction of q^2/w combining
Rest-of-Event and $\Upsilon(4S)$ kinematics

$|V_{cb}|$ from $B \rightarrow D\ell\nu$

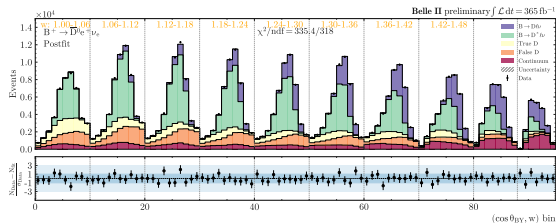
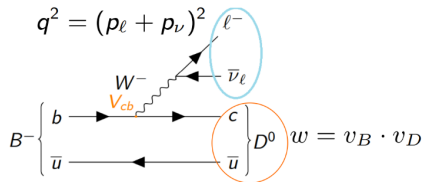
PRD 112, 112009

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

$b \rightarrow c$ modelling

Simultaneous fit in all w regions



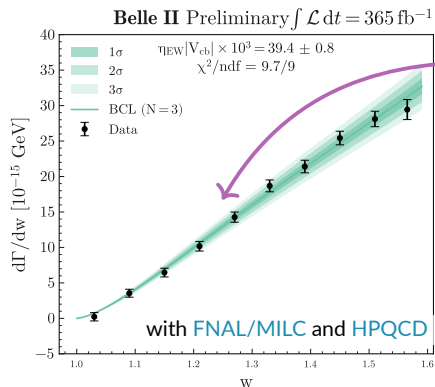
$|V_{cb}|$ from $B \rightarrow D\ell\nu$

PRD 112, 112009

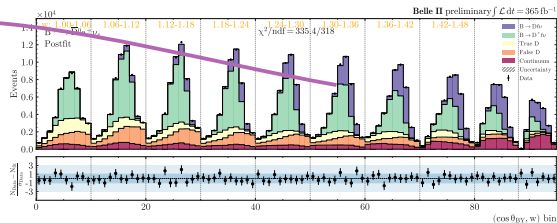
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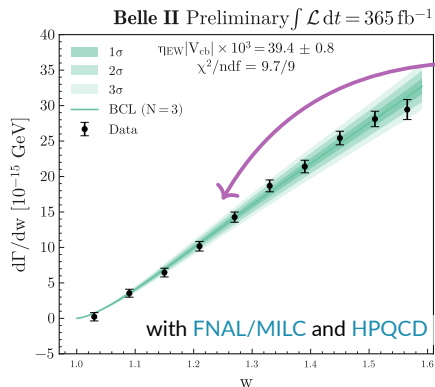
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PRD 112, 112009

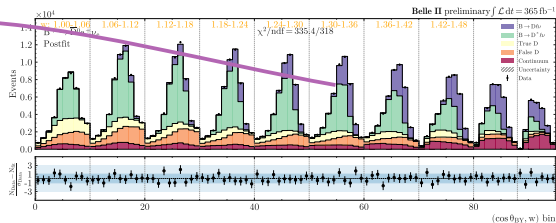
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$$|V_{cb, \text{BCL}}| = (39.2 \pm 0.4_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.6_{\text{sys.}} \pm 0.5_{\text{th.}}) \times 10^{-3}$$

World's most precise fully exclusive $|V_{cb}|$!

2% total uncertainty with 365 fb^{-1} vs 2.8% with 711 fb^{-1} at Belle

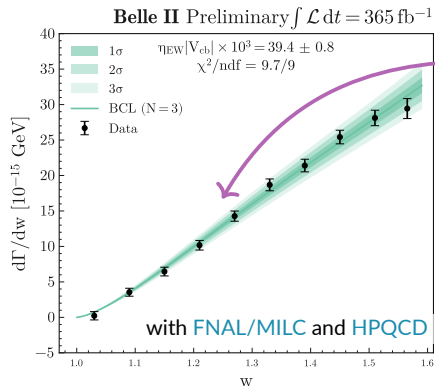
$|V_{cb}|$ from $B \rightarrow D\ell\nu$

PRD 112, 112009

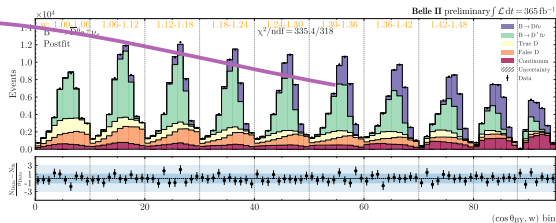
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#1: Improved precision through better strategies

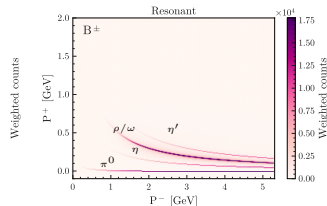
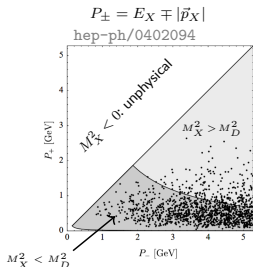
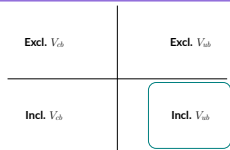
Inclusive $|V_{ub}|$: the hybrid model

2603.25785, submitted to JHEP

V_{cb}, V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

$b \rightarrow c$ modelling



The challenge

Inclusive $B \rightarrow X_u \ell \nu$ must describe *all* hadronic final states:

Non-resonant (high M_X): HQE, different models on the market

Resonant (low M_X): $\pi, \rho, \omega, \eta, \eta'$ — measured separately

Models that allow event generation:

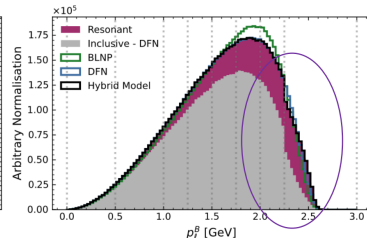
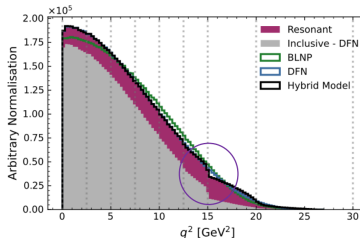
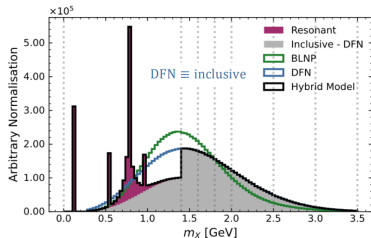
DFN [De Fazio, Neubert '99]

BLNP [Bosch, Lange, Neubert, Paz '04/'05]

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

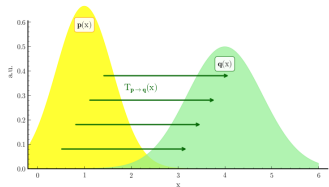
$b \rightarrow c$ modelling



1. Large M_X discontinuity at 1.4 GeV bin boundary
2. More subtle discontinuities in q^2 and E_ℓ^B
3. Spectral moments of inclusive model not conserved (HQE predictions)
4. Negative weights spoil the hybrid for some theory models

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

 $b \rightarrow c$ modelling*Fundamentally binned vs fundamentally unbinned*

Earth Mover's Distance

$$\text{EMD} = \min_T \sum_{i,j} T_{ij} C_{ij}$$

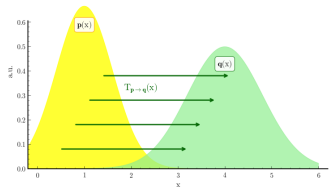
$$C_{ij} = \sqrt{(\Delta P_-)^2 + (\Delta P_+)^2}$$

Reassign inclusive events kinematically closest to the resonant decays

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

$b \rightarrow c$ modelling

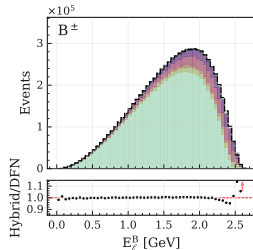
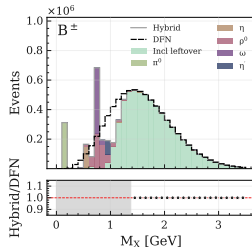


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Reassign inclusive events kinematically closest to the resonant decays



Constructing hybrid through optimal transport solves multiple problems:

- No discontinuities
- No negative weights
- Flexible vs. inputs
- Conserves HQE properties of the incl.

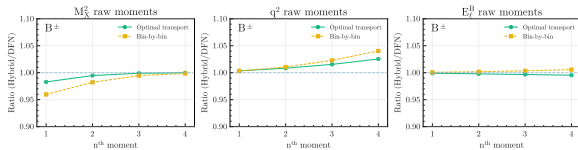
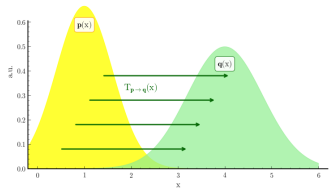
Optimal transport: a new solution

2603.25785, submitted to JHEP

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

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Earth Mover's Distance

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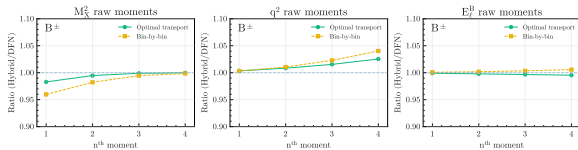
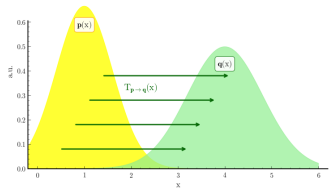
Reassign inclusive events kinematically closest to the resonant decays

$\langle M_X^2 \rangle$ error: 7.0% $\rightarrow$ 0.7% $\langle E_\ell^B \rangle$: 2.2% $\rightarrow$ 0.2%
Mean over all moments: 4.1% $\rightarrow$ 1.0%

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

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Earth Mover's Distance

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#2: More precision through better modelling

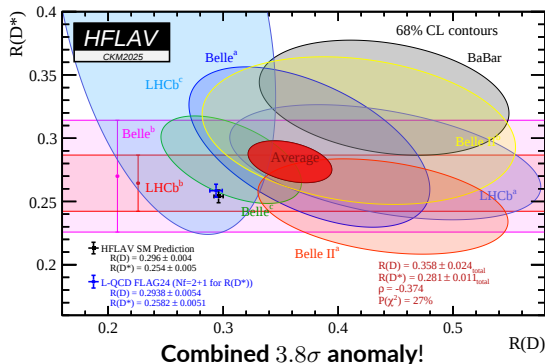
Belle II contributions to LFU, $R(D^{(*)})$

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

$b \rightarrow c$ modelling

$$R(D^{(*)}) = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \tau \nu_\tau)}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \ell \nu_\ell)}$$



Belle II: τ/ℓ universality

$R(D^*)$, $R(D)$ had. tag $\sim 10\%$, 16% to be subm.
 $R(D^+)$, $R(D^{*+})$ SL tag $\sim 13\%$, 22% PRD 112 (2025)
 $R(X_{\tau/\ell})$ had. tag $\sim 17\%$ PRL 132 (2024)

Belle II: e/μ universality

$R_{e/\mu}(B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu)$ $\sim 2\%$ PRD 108 (2023)
 $R_{e/\mu}(B \rightarrow D \ell \nu)$ ★ $\sim 2\%$ PRD 112, 112009
 $R(X_{e/\mu})$ $\sim 2\%$ PRL 131 (2023)

 $R_\mu(\tau \rightarrow \ell \nu \nu)$ ★ $\sim 0.4\%$ JHEP 08 205
 ...

★ P. Feichtinger, Z. Gruberová, M. Villanueva, G. Inguglia, A. Martini, P. Rados,

G. Raeuber, A. Rostomyan, PH

Philipp Horak: Semileptonic decays at Belle II



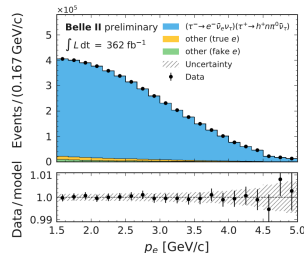
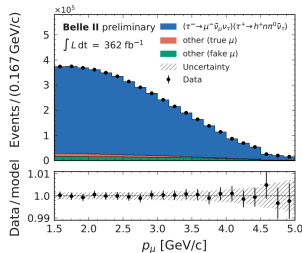
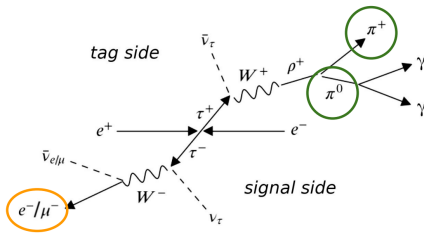
Light-lepton universality in τ decays

JHEP 2024 (08) 205

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

$b \rightarrow c$ modelling



$$R_\mu = \frac{\mathcal{B}(\tau \rightarrow \mu \nu \nu)}{\mathcal{B}(\tau \rightarrow e \nu \nu)} \stackrel{\text{SM}}{=} 0.9726$$

Tag: $\tau \rightarrow \pi^\pm (\pi^0) \nu$ low bkg, high eff.
Binned ML fit in p_ℓ (362 fb^{-1} , pyhf)

$$R_\mu = 0.9675 \pm 0.0007_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.0036_{\text{syst}}$$

$$g_\mu/g_e|_\tau = 0.9974 \pm 0.0019 \quad (\text{world best})$$

Leading sys: charged lepton ID 0.32%, total syst. 0.37%

P. Feichtinger, Z. Gruberová, M. Villanueva, G. Inguglia, A. Martini, P. Rados, G. Raeuber, A. Rostomyan, PH

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

 $b \rightarrow c$ modelling

BDT replaces likelihood PID

+ better triggers

$\hookrightarrow$ 1-prong tag ($\tau \rightarrow \pi^\pm (\pi^0) \nu$) viable

$\hookrightarrow > 2\times$ **stat. gain** vs BaBar

with **less data** (362 vs 467 fb^{-1})

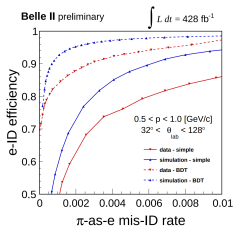
Efficiency:

$\varepsilon_e = 99.7\%$, $\varepsilon_\mu = 93.9\%$

Fake rates:

$\pi \rightarrow e$: 0.9%, $\pi \rightarrow \mu$: 3.1%

Kinematic restriction: $\theta_\ell \in (0.82, 2.13)$, $p_\ell \in (1.5, 5.0)$ GeV



- R_μ lepton ID systematic 0.32%
 - Comparable to BaBar with more complex algorithm

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

 $b \rightarrow c$ modelling

BDT replaces likelihood PID

+ better triggers

$\hookrightarrow$ 1-prong tag ($\tau \rightarrow \pi^\pm (\pi^0) \nu$) viable

$\hookrightarrow > 2\times$ **stat. gain** vs BaBar

with **less data** (362 vs 467 fb^{-1})

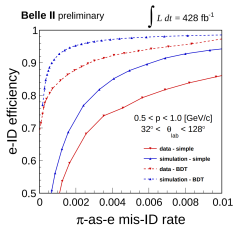
Efficiency:

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Kinematic restriction: $\theta_\ell \in (0.82, 2.13)$, $p_\ell \in (1.5, 5.0) \text{ GeV}$



- R_μ lepton ID systematic 0.32%
 - Comparable to BaBar with more complex algorithm

#3: *More precision with better detector performance*

How well do we understand $b \rightarrow c \ell \nu$?

see [\[R. van Tonder\]](#)

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

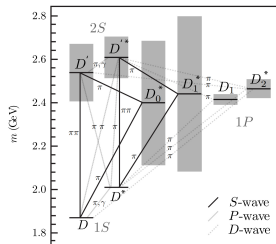
Lepton flavor universality

$b \rightarrow c$ modelling

$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow X_c^0 \ell^+ \nu_\ell) \approx 10.79 \%$$

$D^0 \ell^+ \nu_\ell$ 2.31 %	$D^{*0} \ell^+ \nu_\ell$ 5.05 %	$D^{**0} \ell^+ \nu_\ell + \text{Other}$ 2.38 %	Gap $\sim 1.05 \%$
---------------------------------	------------------------------------	--	-----------------------

Updating with recent
HFLAV gives 1.8%!



D^{**} and gap limit measurements

How well do we understand $b \rightarrow c \ell \nu$?

see [\[R. van Tonder\]](#)

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

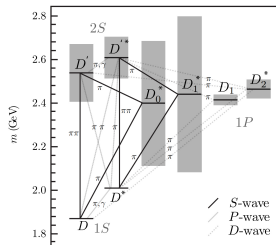
Lepton flavor universality

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Updating with recent
HFLAV gives 1.8%!



D^{**} and gap limit measurements

Decay	$\mathcal{B}(B^+)$	$\mathcal{B}(B^0)$
$B \rightarrow D \ell^+ \nu_\ell$	$(2.4 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-2}$	$(2.2 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-2}$
$B \rightarrow D^* \ell^+ \nu_\ell$	$(5.5 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-2}$	$(5.1 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-2}$
$B \rightarrow D_1 \ell^+ \nu_\ell$	$(6.6 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-3}$	$(6.2 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-3}$
$B \rightarrow D_2^* \ell^+ \nu_\ell$	$(2.9 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-3}$	$(2.7 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-3}$
$B \rightarrow D_0^* \ell^+ \nu_\ell$	$(4.2 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{-3}$	$(3.9 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-3}$
$B \rightarrow D_1' \ell^+ \nu_\ell$	$(4.2 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-3}$	$(3.9 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{-3}$
$B \rightarrow D \pi \pi \ell^+ \nu_\ell$	$(0.6 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-3}$	$(0.6 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-3}$
$B \rightarrow D^* \pi \pi \ell^+ \nu_\ell$	$(2.2 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-3}$	$(2.0 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-3}$
?		
$B \rightarrow X_c \ell \nu_\ell$	$(10.8 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-2}$	$(10.1 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-2}$

Well measured

Room for improvement

Some hints from
BaBar & Belle

How well do we understand $b \rightarrow c \ell \nu$?

see [\[R. van Tonder\]](#)

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

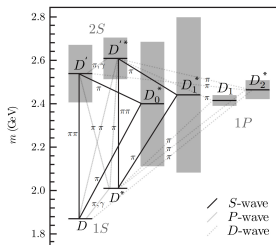
Lepton flavor universality

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$B \rightarrow D^* \eta \ell^+ \nu_\ell$	$(4.0 \pm 4.0) \times 10^{-3}$	$(4.0 \pm 4.0) \times 10^{-3}$
$B \rightarrow X_c \ell \nu_\ell$	$(10.8 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-2}$	$(10.1 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-2}$

Well measured

Room for improvement

Some hints from
BaBar & Belle

"Best guess"

Disentangling the gap

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

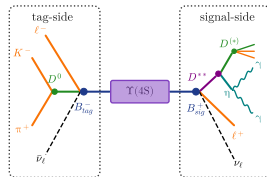
Lepton flavor universality

$b \rightarrow c$ modelling

Search for $B \rightarrow D\eta\ell\nu$ at Belle II

- Never measured – will set first experimental limits
- Candidate to (partially) explain $\mathcal{B}_{\text{incl}} - \sum \mathcal{B}_{\text{excl}}$ deficit
- Belle II: excellent $\eta \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ reconstruction
- If gap-sized: $< 10\%$ precision; else UL at $\mathcal{O}(10^{-4})$

In preparation with B. Kowalewski, P. Prasad (Victoria)



Disentangling the gap

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

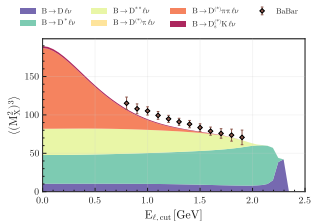
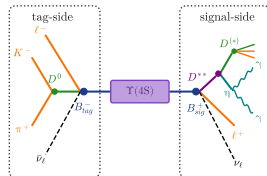
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- If gap-sized: $< 10\%$ precision; else UL at $\mathcal{O}(10^{-4})$

In preparation with B. Kowalewski, P. Prasad (Victoria)



Gap from moments: missing-contribution analysis

- Moments of incl. distributions measured: $\langle M_X^n \rangle$, $\langle E_\ell^n \rangle$, ...
- Subtract contributions of well-measured excl. modes
- Invert residual moments $\rightarrow$ glimpse of the gap shape
- gap model-independent indirect analysis

In preparation with D. van Dyk (Durham), M. Prim (Bonn)

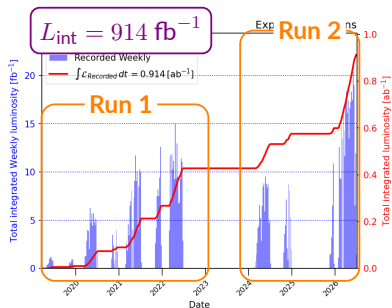
More data

Maximize delivered fb^{-1}

Data taking hurdles

- ✓ Strong Belle II physics program in per-fb^{-1} performance
- ⚠ Data accumulation has not kept up with projections
 - **Major problem:** Occurrences of Sudden Beam Loss (SBL)

SBL = Significant current lost without precursor

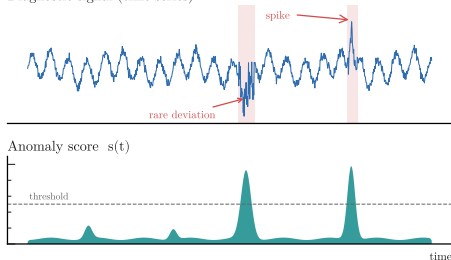


⇒ **Countermeasures required to unlock the full Belle II physics potential**

Anomaly detection for beam diagnostics

Time-series anomaly detection

Diagnostic signal (time series)

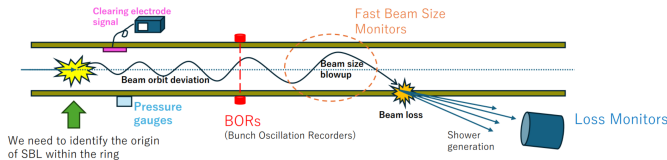


Anomaly score $s(t)$ that spikes at rare behavior

- Many methods on the market
 - Kalman filter
 - (Deep-)LSTM
 - Auto-encoder / transformers

SuperKEKB beam diagnostics

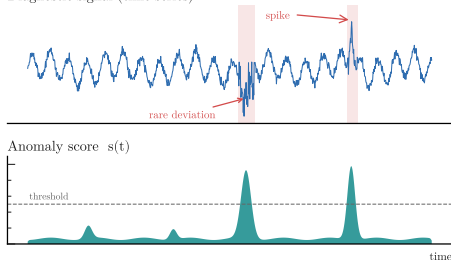
Sensors for SBL mechanism investigation



Anomaly detection for beam diagnostics

Time-series anomaly detection

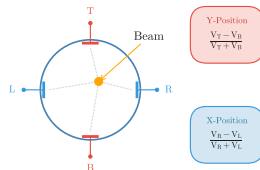
Diagnostic signal (time series)



Anomaly score $s(t)$ that spikes at rare behavior

- Many methods on the market
 - Kalman filter
 - (Deep-)LSTM
 - Auto-encoder / transformers

SuperKEKB beam diagnostics



Mode: *Bunch-by-bunch & Turn-by-turn*

Bunches: ~ 2300 circulating

Turn duration: $\approx 10 \mu s$

≈ 200 million hits/s

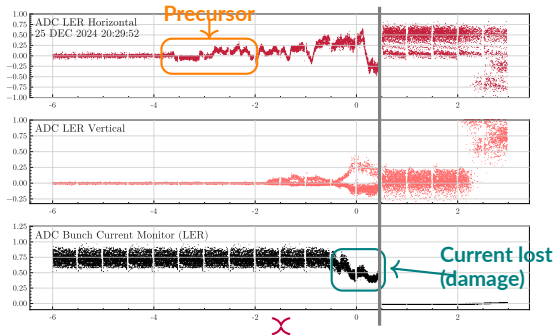
Sampling rate of BOR system

Detecting SBL precursors: the challenge

to be submitted

Precursor in BOR data!

Abort



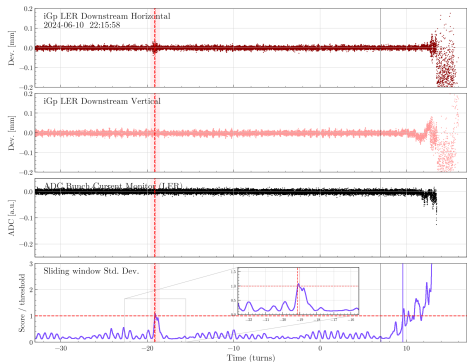
1 Turn = $10 \mu\text{s}$

Goal: algorithmic detection of anomalous behavior

- + As early as possible, to mitigate damage to accelerator
- Avoid false alarms, to maximize operation time

Learning what “normal” looks like

to be submitted

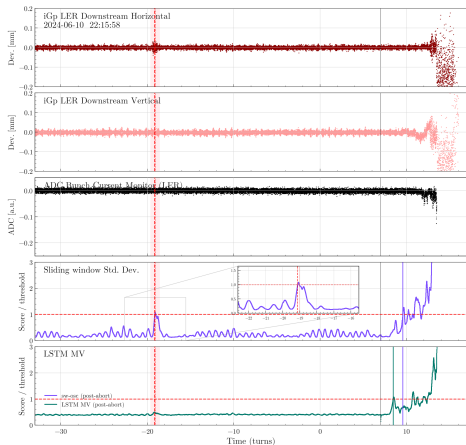


Simple score

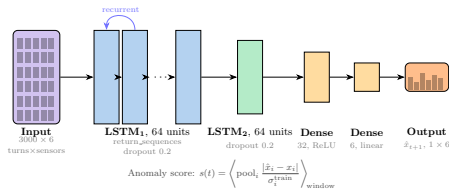
Method	sliding window std. dev.
Detects precursors	✓
False alarms	✗ (baseline osc.)

Learning what “normal” looks like

to be submitted



	Simple score	DeepLSTM
Method	sliding window std. dev.	semi-supervised LSTM
Detects precursors	✓	✓
False alarms	~ 10%	→ 0



H. Haigh, G. Inguglia, C. Krause (all Vienna), PH

25/29

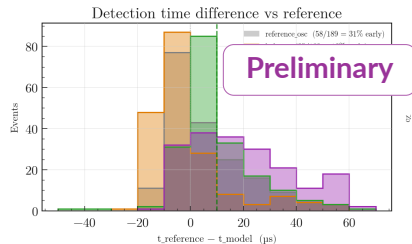
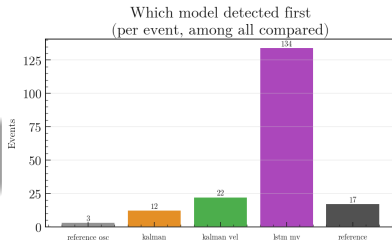
February 18, 2026

Philipp Horak: Semileptonic decays at Belle II

Early warnings and the path to deployment

to be submitted

80% of 2024c SBL events:
 ≥ 1 turn ($\approx 10 \mu\text{s}$) advance warning
over conventional loss monitors



Next: real-time FPGA deployment

Working with hardware experts to implement the algorithm on FPGA for online abort-trigger integration



- Convert model to firmware via **hls4ml**
- Latency budget $\lesssim 1 \mu\text{s}$ to preserve predictive lead time

with H. Nakayama (KEK), T. Blake (Victoria), K. Yoshihara (Hawaii)

H. Haigh, G. Inguglia, C. Krause (all Vienna), PH

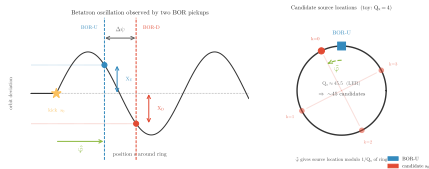
Locating the SBL source: phase analysis

in preparation

After an SBL, we can tell if it is compatible with
any given position on the ring

Cross-check with pressure burst, collimator positions, etc.

Already in use in 2026ab run-period



Method: BOR phase reconstruction

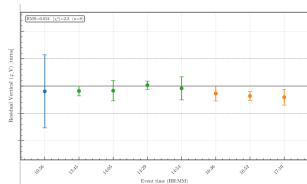
Two pickups at betatron phase separation $\Delta\psi$:

$$X_U = A \sin \varphi, \quad X_D = A \sin(\varphi + \Delta\psi)$$

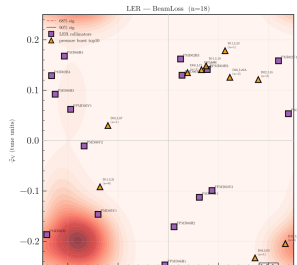
Extract source-phase ϕ_i per-bunch ϕ_i

Assumes single dominant kick source per event

Knocker validation



Preliminary: Comparing extracted ϕ with collimator positions



Anomaly detection across the accelerator

in preparation

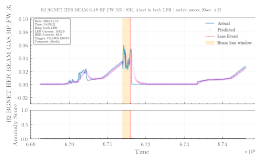
DeepLSTM model but on big data

- Extend from BOR to all SuperKEKB process variables:

- currents, pressures, voltages, loss monitors, ...

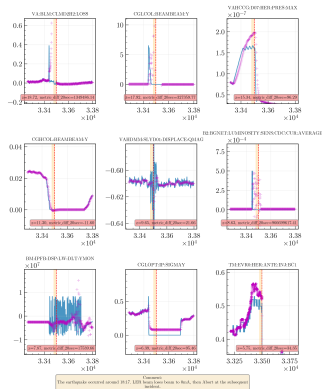
→ rank most anomalous PVs by how anomalous they are before abort

Example: rising beam-gas pressure before SBL



Top-9 anomalous PVs before an SBL

Date: 2024_12_12 | Time: 9:18:20 | Ring: both_LER
LER: 0.0 | HER: 220.0
Trigger: High THR VXD diamond



Summary

$|V_{cb}|, |V_{ub}|$

exclusive vs. inclusive tension

Lepton flavor universality

new physics or mismodelling?

$b \rightarrow c$ modelling

what fills the gap?

Better measurements

■ CKM elements

- $|V_{cb}|$ from $B \rightarrow D\ell\nu$, inclusive-tag recoil
- $|V_{ub}|$ – optimal-transport hybrid model

■ Lepton universality

- τ -LFU: R_μ via BDT-based lepton ID
- $R(D^{(*)})$ at Belle II

■ $b \rightarrow c$ gap

- $B \rightarrow D\eta\ell\nu$ gap-mode search
- Gap shape from moment inversion

More data

- ✓ ML-based SBL detection – earlier beam aborts
- ✓ BOR phase analysis – locate SBL source
 - ▶ FPGA deployment via hls4ml
 - ▶ Full-machine anomaly monitoring (PV database)

Thank you!

Back-up

$|V_{cb}|$ & $|V_{ub}|$ in the Belle II era

V_{cb} , V_{ub} puzzle

Lepton flavor universality

$b \rightarrow c$ modelling

$|V_{cb}|$ **Exclusive**

$$B \rightarrow D \ell \nu$$

Phys. Rev. D 112 (2025), 032010

C. Schwanda, PH

$$B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \ell^+ \nu$$

PRD 108 (2023), 092013

C. Lyu, F. U. Bernlochner, C. Schwanda, D. Dorner, L. Cao

$|V_{cb}|$ **Inclusive**

$$B \rightarrow X_c \ell \nu \text{ } q^2 \text{ moments}$$

PRD 107 (2023) 072002 JHEP 10 (2022) 068

M. Welsch, F. U. Bernlochner

$|V_{ub}|$ **Exclusive**

$$B^0 \rightarrow \pi^- \ell^+ \nu_\ell, B^+ \rightarrow \rho^0 \ell^+ \nu_\ell$$

PRD 111 (2025) 112009

S. Granderath, J. Dingfelder, P. M. Lewis, F. U. Bernlochner

$$B \rightarrow \tau \nu, B \rightarrow \mu \nu$$

PRD 112 (2025) 072002, PRD 113 (2026) 112012

$|V_{ub}|$ **Inclusive**

$$B \rightarrow X_u \ell \nu$$

PRD 113 (2026), 032004

T. Martinov, M. Hohmann, L. Cao, K. Tackmann, F. U. Bernlochner,
M. Graf-Schreiber, M. Khan, M. Angelsmark, P. Urquijo

$|V_{cb}|$ and $|V_{ub}|$ in the Belle II era

■ Exclusive $|V_{cb}|$ [PRD 112, 112009] (also [PRD 108, 092013])

— $|V_{cb}| = (39.2 \pm 0.4_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.6_{\text{sys.}} \pm 0.5_{\text{th.}}) \times 10^{-3}$

365 fb⁻¹

World-best (fully) exclusive V_{cb}



■ Inclusive $|V_{cb}|$ [PRD 107, 072002; JHEP 10 (2022) 068]

— $|V_{cb}| = (41.7 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-3}$ (Belle + Belle II)

62 fb⁻¹

Novel inclusive V_{cb} determination



■ Exclusive $|V_{ub}|$ [PRD 111, 112009]

— $|V_{ub}| = (3.93 \pm 0.09_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.07_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.19_{\text{theo.}}) \times 10^{-3}$

365 fb⁻¹

World-best exclusive V_{ub}



■ Inclusive $|V_{ub}|$ [PRD 113, 032004]

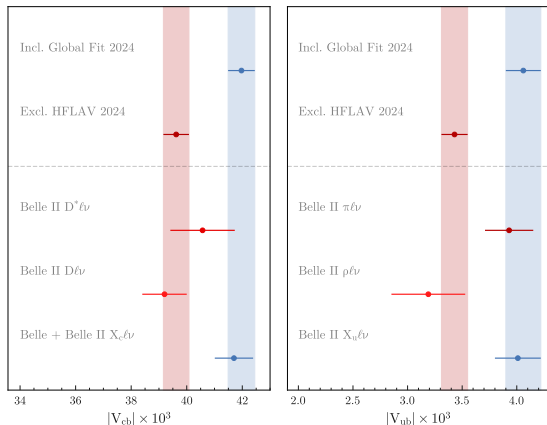
— $|V_{ub}| = (4.01 \pm 0.19_{\text{exp.}} \pm 0.08_{\text{theo.}}) \times 10^{-3}$

365 fb⁻¹

World-best[†] inclusive V_{ub}



[[†] Depending on model / region, compare BABAR PRD 95 072001]



New era of precision with Belle II