

Unveiling New Physics with Tau Leptons: Innovative Approaches at Belle II

Eduard De La Cruz Burelo Department of Physics CINVESTAV





• The Intensity Frontier: Search for rare new phenomena using mediumenergy high-luminosity machines





The SuperKEKB Accelerator

Linac

Mt. Tsukuba

SuperKEKB ring (HER+LER)

Belle II detector

Tsukuba Tokyo

KEK - Tsukuba

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SuperKEKB, the first new collider in particle physics since the LHC in 2008 (electron-positron (e^+e^-) rather than proton-proton (pp)). Operates on the Upsilon(4S) resonance with 7 GeV(e^-) on 4 GeV(e^+) beams.



From KEKB to SuperKEKB



Luminosity





- Design integrated luminosity 50 ab⁻¹
- Regular data-taking since April 2019
- At present, we are taking data
- Current integrated luminosity 498 fb⁻¹



What is Belle II?

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MUKEK

Belle II is an international collaboration



- Belle II detectors is based in Japan in the SuperKEKB collider
- Belle II now has grown to 1000+ researchers from 26 countries
- Around 330 are students
- Mexico joined Belle II in July 2013
- First collisions in 2018.

Belle II Detector

Taken over from Belle

EM Calorimeter CsI(TI), waveform sampling electronics

electrons (7 GeV)

New for

Belle II

Beryllium beam pipe 2cm diameter

Vertex Detector 2 layers Si Pixels (DEPFET) + 4 layers Si double sided strip DSSD

> **Central Drift Chamber** Smaller cell size, long lever arm

Super conducting solenoid

1.5 T B-field

KL and muon detector Resistive Plate Counter (barrel outer layers) Scintillator + WLSF + MPPC (end-caps , inner 2 barrel layers)

> Particle Identification Time-of-Propagation counter (barrel) TOP Prox. focusing Aerogel RICH (forward) ARICH Central Drift Chamber

> > **Trigger** Hardware < 30kHz Software < 10kHz

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Belle II TDR arXiv:1011.0352

positrons (4 GeV)

ARICH

Only 1st layer of PXD fully installed

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Final focus system QCS

magnets very close to the IP

Set of super conducting

- Not *just* a B-factory!
 - τ , c, and b pairs have similar cross sections at $\sqrt{s} = 10.58$ GeV

 $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \Upsilon(4S)) = 1.11 \text{ nb}$ $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow c\overline{c}) = 1.3 \text{ nb}$ $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-) = 0.92 \text{ nb}$

- Wide physics program
 - precision measurements of time-dependent CPV and CKM parameters
 - searches for lepton flavor universality/number violations
 - dark-sector searches
 - and many more



Belle II Physics mind map





Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 2019, 123C01 arXiv:1808.10567

τ -Physics at Belle II

- Why τ **physics**?
 - Large production cs: σ (e⁺e⁻ $\rightarrow \tau^{+}\tau^{-}$) = 0.9 nb (τ -factory)
 - The τ is the only lepton massive enough to decay into hadrons:
 - Leptonic decays: BR ~ 35%
 - Hadronic decays: BR ~ 65%

τ physics program

Rich program of precision SM measurements and new physics searches @ Belle II

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Several physics analyses @ Belle II:

- Precision SM measurements / Indirect
 Direct NP searches (forbidden / NP searches (deviations from the SM)
 - Mass
 - Lifetime
 - Lepton universality in $\tau \rightarrow lvv$ decays
 - τ EDM and MDM
 - $\tau \rightarrow eeevv$
 - CP violation $\tau \rightarrow K_{s}\pi v$

strongly suppressed decays)

 $1\pi^{\pm}1\pi^{0}\nu$

 $3\pi^{\pm}1\pi^{0}\nu$

 $3\pi^{\pm}\nu$ 14%

 $1\pi^{\pm}2\pi^{0}\nu$

hadronic mode

• $\tau \rightarrow \alpha$ $\tau \rightarrow \phi$

• $\tau \rightarrow | \gamma$

 $\tau \rightarrow \mu \mu \mu$ $\tau \rightarrow |\pi^0$

 $\tau \rightarrow lhh$

DOI: 10.1093/ptep/ptz106 KEK Prenrint 2018-2 RELLE2-PAPER-2018-001 FERMILAB-PUB-18-398-T JLAB-THY-18-2780 INT-PUB-18-047

UWThPh 2018-20

The Belle II Physics Book

others

τ

decay

39%

leptonic

mode

 $1\pi^{\pm}\nu$

I. I. Bigi^{148,1}, F. Bishara^{150,16,1}, M. Blanke^{49,51,1} mbilla^{114,¶}, V. M. Braun^{50,¶}, J. Brod^{112,135,¶} M. Cinch S. Hashimoto 30.26.1 S. Hiroso 80.1 I. Hisano 68.1, W. S. Hou^{92.1}, T. Huber^{122.1}, T. Hurth 63.1, S. J

Dark sector searches Belle and Belle II

Vector portal Dark Photons, Z^\prime bosons

- e⁺e⁻ → μ⁺μ⁻Z', Z' → invisible (Invisible: neutrino, dark matter)(Belle II : PRL 130.231801)
- $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\tau^+\tau^-$ (Belle II : arXiv 2306.12294)
- $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$ (Belle II : arXiv 2403.02841)

Pseudo-scalar portal Axion Like Particles (ALPs)

- $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma a, a \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ (Belle II : PRL 125.161806)
- $\tau \rightarrow l\alpha, \alpha$ invisible(Belle II : PRL 130.181803)

Scalar portal Dark Higgs / Scalars

- $e^+e^- \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-l^+l^-$ (Belle : PRD 109.032002)
- $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ + invisible h'(Belle II : PRL 130.071804)

Neutrino portal Sterile neutrinos

• $\tau \rightarrow \pi N (\rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \nu_\tau)$ (Belle : arXiv 2402.02580)

τ lepton mass



Mass of the τ lepton is a fundamental SM parameter

• Use kinematic edge of M_{\min} distribution in $\tau \rightarrow 3\pi v$ decays

Pseudomass endpoint method:

 $M_{\min} = \sqrt{M_{3\pi}^2 + 2(\sqrt{s}/2 - E_{3\pi}^*)(E_{3\pi}^* - p_{3\pi}^*)} \le m_{\tau}$

• Assumes neutrino is collinear with 3π direction, and utilizes beam energy constraint





- $\tau^+\tau^-$ pairs are produced at Belle II in e⁺e⁻ $\rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ with relatively high boost
 - "Jetty" topology, with the decay daughters from the two taus cleanly separated into two "hemispheres"
 - "Tag and probe" to cleanly and inclusively
 select τ signal candidate sample

τ lepton mass



Critical to control beam energy and track momentum scale calibrations

- Beam energy calibrated using B meson hadronic decays
- Momentum scale sensitive to magnetic field imperfections, detector material etc. Extract scale factors for K and π using $D^{*+} \rightarrow D^0 (\rightarrow K^-\pi^+) \pi^+$ from data



τ lepton mass



Mass determined from unbinned maximum likelihood fit to an empirical endpoint function:

 $m_{ au} = 1777.09 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.11 \ \mathrm{MeV}/c^2$

Source	(MeV/c^2)
Knowledge of the colliding beams:	
Beam-energy correction	0.07
Boost vector	< 0.01
Reconstruction of charged particles:	
Charged-particle momentum correction	0.06
Detector misalignment	0.03
Fit model:	
Estimator bias	0.03
Choice of the fit function	0.02
Mass dependence of the bias	< 0.01
Imperfections of the simulation:	
Detector material density	0.03
Modeling of ISR, FSR and τ decay	0.02
Neutral particle reconstruction efficiency	≤ 0.01
Momentum resolution	< 0.01
Tracking efficiency correction	< 0.01
Trigger efficiency	< 0.01
Background processes	< 0.01
Total	0.11

Most precise experimental determination to date!

Phys.Rev.D 108 (2023) 3,5032006 2024 arXiv:2305.19116 [hep-ex]



Search for LFV $\tau \rightarrow l + \alpha$ (*invisible*)

- LFV process not present in the SM but appears in several NP models.
- Search for a two-body decay spectrum:
 - $\odot\,$ Signal is a monochromatic peak in the tau rest frame
 - The tau rest frame not accessible due to the missing neutrino.
- Approximate tau rest frame by:
 - $\circ E_{\tau} \approx \frac{E_{cm}}{2}$
 - $\circ\,$ Direction of the τ given by the opposite to the 3π direction.
 - \odot This is called the tau pseudo-rest frame.
- Search over irreducible background of $\tau \rightarrow l \nu \nu$





The effect of the pseudo-rest frame



The effect of the pseudo-rest frame



3-body decay case ($\tau \rightarrow l \bar{\nu}_l \nu_{\tau}$)

Search for LFV $\tau \rightarrow l + \alpha(invisible)$





Could we do better? Let us try to use all kinematic information

- Particles h are visible particles
- Particles N are invisible particles
- Particle X is the mother particle

$$q^{\mu} = p_a^{\mu} + p_b^{\mu} + p_1^{\mu} + p_2^{\mu}, \quad \mu = 0, 1, 2, 3,$$

 $p_1^2 = m_1^2,$
 $p_2^2 = m_2^2,$
 $(p_a + p_1)^2 = (p_b + p_2)^2 = m_X^2,$



Kinematics endpoints

- A, B, C, and D coefficients depends on observed information.
- μ_i are the normalized masses to the cms energy \sqrt{s}



$$\begin{aligned} A_1(\mu_X^2 - \mu_1^2)^2 + A_2(\mu_X^2 - \mu_2^2)^2 \\ + A_3(\mu_X^2 - \mu_1^2)(\mu_X^2 - \mu_2^2) \\ + B_1(\mu_X^2 - \mu_1^2) + B_2(\mu_X^2 - \mu_2^2) \\ + C_1\mu_1^2 + D_1 \le 0, \end{aligned}$$

$\tau \rightarrow e + \alpha$



 Blue is signal with α mass equal to 1 GeV

• Red is 3-body decays

 $A_0(\mu_{\alpha}^2)^2 + B_0\mu_{\alpha}^2 + C_0 \le 0,$

 $M_{\min}^2 \le m_{\alpha}^2 \le M_{\max}^2,$

where

$$M_{\min}^2 = (\sqrt{s})^2 \left(\frac{-B_0 - \sqrt{B_0^2 - 4A_0 C_0}}{2A_0} \right),$$
$$M_{\max}^2 = (\sqrt{s})^2 \left(\frac{-B_0 + \sqrt{B_0^2 - 4A_0 C_0}}{2A_0} \right).$$

7/12/2024

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PHYSICAL REVIEW D 102, 115001 (2020)



FIG. 4. 95% C.L. upper limits on the relative branching ratio $Br(\tau \to e\alpha)/Br(\tau \to e\bar{\nu}_e\nu_{\tau})$ for an integrated luminosity of 50 ab⁻¹ for tau pairs in 3 × 1 prong decays.



FIG. 5. 95% C.L. upper limits on the relative branching fraction $Br(\tau \rightarrow e\alpha)/Br(\tau \rightarrow e\bar{\nu}_e\nu_{\tau})$ as a function of the integrated luminosity for tau pairs in 3 × 1 prong decays. Black circle (squared) points are for ARGUS (2D) method. The upper limit are for $m_{\alpha} = 0$.

Remarks:

- For the search of a new boson in LFV $\tau \rightarrow l+\alpha$, we can improve for zero mass of the new boson up to 15 times better upper limit, which in a simple scaling is like requiring 225 more data.
- The method can be applied to 1x1 topology as well.
- Not presented here, but this can be applied to measure the tau mass, providing more events in the endpoint than the pseudo-mass endpoint.