

Tau Experimental Challenges Mogens Dam Niels Bohr Institute ECFA e+e- Collider Miniworkshop: Two-fermion physics March 21, 2024

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SPS

LHC

photo: J. Wenninger

FCC-ee

FCC-ee Conditions and Statistics

- **a. τ Polarisation Measurement**
- **b. τ-lepton Properties and Lepton Universality**

References:

- FCC CDR Volume 1
- MD, *Tau-lepton Physics at the FCC-ee circular e+ e− Collider,* SciPost Phys.Proc. 1 (2019) 041, DOI: [10.21468/SciPostPhysProc.1.041](https://doi.org/10.21468/SciPostPhysProc.1.041)
- MD, *The τ challenges at FCC-ee*, *Eur. Phys. J. Plus* **136,** 963 (2021) DOI: [10.1140/epjp/s13360-021-01894-y](https://doi.org/10.1140/epjp/s13360-021-01894-y)

Will also be reporting from recent presentations by A. Lusiani:

- *[Tau Physics at FCC](https://indico.cern.ch/event/1066234/contributions/4710427/attachments/2387021/4081448/alusiani-fcc-feb22.pdf)*, 6th FCC Physics Workshop, Liverpool, Jan 2022
- *[Tau Lifetime measurements at FCC-ee,](https://indico.cern.ch/event/1176398/contributions/5207209/attachments/2582283/4605749/alusiani-fcc-krakow-jan23.pdf)* 6th FCC Physics Workshop, Krakow, Jan 2023
- *[Detector Requirements](https://indico.cern.ch/event/1202105/contributions/5396845/attachments/2661200/4626683/alusiani-fcc-london-jun23.pdf) from Tau Physics*, FCC Week, London, Jun 2023

Ιτ Polarisation Measurement

 \Rightarrow assuming universality: $\sin^2\!\theta_W^{\mathsf{eff}}$ = 0.23130 ± 0.0004 8

Experimental Aspects

Use τ decays as spin analysers (V-A)

- Two helicity states result in different kinematic distributions that are fitted to observed distribution of appropriate variables
- Divide (typically) into six decay modes

Important aspects

- Selection of $e^+e^- \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ events
	- Backgrounds from qq, ee, μμ, γγ
- Interchannel separation
	- Most importantly, internally between **h+nπ0** states => **Photon** and **π⁰** reconstruction
- Reconstruction of kinematic variables
- Selection efficiency and backgrounds as function of kin. variables

Important example (highest sensitivity) : τ \rightarrow ρ \rightarrow π π \sim ν

• Here polarisation is extracted from two angles

eνν | | ^τι μνν

 0.25

 0.5

1000

ents/0.05

 ≥ 4000

200

ρν

ALEPH

 (d)

 0.5

ALEPH

 (b)

hν

 0.5

ALEPH

0.75

 0.25

0.25

2000

1009

ց
> 200(

100

ALEPH

 (a)

Results and Precisions – case Aleph

Eur.Phys.J.C20:401-430,2001

The single most important systematics (on the most precise channels) is due to photon and π ^o identification

γ and $π⁰$ reconstruction in τ decays – case Aleph

⇒ **Key:** Overall detector design; good ECAL pattern recognition essential

Full simulation study of a LAr Calorimeter

On average, EM showers are very smooth

Example: photon/π0 separation in a LAr Calorimeter

Hadronic migration matrix – aleph and LAr Study

τ-lepton properties and Lepton Universality

- Mass
- **Lifetime**
- Leptonic branching fractions

Universality of Fermi constant

Andreas Crivellin and John Ellis.

Here, a new-physics effect at a relative sub-per-mille level compared to the SM would suffice to explain the anomaly. This could be achieved by a heavy new lepton or a massive gauge boson affecting the determination of the Fermi constant that parametrises the strength of the weak interactions. As the Fermi constant can also be determined from the global electroweak fit, for which Z decays are crucial inputs, FCC-ee would again be the perfect machine to investigate this anomaly, as it could improve the precision by a large factor (see "High precision" figure). Indeed, the Fermi constant may be determined directly to one part in 10⁵ from the enormous sample ($>10^{11}$) of Z decays to tau leptons.

Fermi constant is measured in μ decays and defined by

$$
G_{\rm F}^{(e)}G_{\rm F}^{(\mu)}=\frac{192\pi^3}{m_\mu^5\,\tau_\mu}
$$

Assuming (e,μ) universality, the Fermi constant then is

$$
G_{\rm F} \equiv G_{\rm F}^{(e)} = G_{\rm F}^{(\mu)} = \sqrt{\frac{192\pi^3}{m_\mu^5\,\tau_\mu}}
$$

Experimentally known to 0.5 ppm (μ lifetime)

Similarly can define Fermi constant measured in τ decays

$$
G_{\mathrm{F}}^{(e)}G_{\mathrm{F}}^{(\tau)}=\frac{192\pi^{3}\mathcal{B}(\tau\rightarrow\text{e}\nu\nu)}{m_{\tau}^{5}\,\tau_{\tau}}
$$

FCC-ee: Will see $5x10^{11}$ τ decays Statistical uncertainties at the 10 ppmlevel How well can we control systematics?

On the τ lifetime measurement, see [link](https://indico.cern.ch/event/1176398/contributions/5207209/attachments/2582283/4605749/alusiani-fcc-krakow-jan23.pdf)

Tau Mass

-
-
- - ^q About factor 10 from world's best
	- ם Main result from endpoint of distribution of pseudo-mass in τ $\to 3\pi^\pm$ (n π^0)ν $_\tau$
	- ^q Dominant systema3cs
		- ^v Momentum scale: 0.9 MeV
		- ECAL scale: 0.25 MeV (including also π^0 modes in analysis)
		- ^v Dynamics of τ decay: 0.10 MeV
- \triangle Same method from Belle new World's best

□ Systematics

- Knowledge of beam energy.: 0.07 MeV
- * Reconstruction of charged particles : 0.06 MeV
- ^v Fit model: 0.04 MeV
- \cdot Imperfections of simulation: 0.04 MeV

 m_{τ} = 1776.61 ± 0.08 (stat.) ± 0.11 (syst.) MeV

Pseudo-mass:

$$
M_{min} = \sqrt{M_{3\pi}^2 + 2(E_{beam} - E_{3\pi})(E_{3\pi} - P_{3\pi})}
$$

 \bullet World average: **m_τ** = 1776.86 ± 0.12 MeV

• Until recently, best in world: BES3 (threshold scan) $m_{\tau} = 1776.96 ^{+0.18}$ _{-0.21} (stat.)^{+0.25}_{-0.17} (syst.) MeV \bullet Best at LEP: OPAL $m_r = 1775.1 \pm 1.6$ (stat.) ± 1.0 (syst.) MeV

Tau mass prospects at FCC-ee

- Belle II statistical uncertainty is 45 ppm with 190 fb^{-1} , 175 M tau pairs
- FCC-ee statistical uncertainty with 8.10^{12} Z, 2.7 $\cdot 10^{11}$ tau pairs would be 1.1 ppm
	- neglecting surely better FCC-ee efficiency
- Belle II dominant systematics expected very reduced at FCC-ee
	- beam energy $(1$ ppm at FCC-ee)
	- rack momentum scale (2 ppm calibration maybe possible at FCC-ee with $m_{J/\psi}$)
- lacktriangleright alignment systematics can be expected to scale with statistics
- Imiting systematics from empirical fit function, 0.05 MeV or 28 ppm
- may expect to reduce this limiting systematic uncertainty to 1/2 of 14 ppm at FCC-ee
- \triangleright guestimate FCC-ee tau mass precision at 14 ppm

detector requirements

baseline performance is adequate, no gain expected from improvements

Tau Lifetime

↓ Current world average: τ_τ = 290.3 ± 0.5 fs (1700 ppm)

 \bullet Best in world (Belle): τ_{τ} = 290.17 \pm 0.53 $_{\text{stat}} \pm$ 0.22 $_{\text{syst}}$ fs

 \Box Large statistics: 711 fb⁻¹ @ Y(4s): 6.3M τ⁺τ⁻ events

^q Use 3 vs. 3 prong events (1.1M events)

^v Reconstruct 2 secondary vertices + primary vertex

^q Measure flight distance ⇒ proper time

^q Dominant systematics: Vertex detector alignment to ∼ **0.25 μm**

^v Vertex detector positioned outside 15 mm beam pipe

 \bullet Best at LEP (DELPHI): $\tau_{\tau} = 290.0 \pm 1.4$ stat ± 1.0 syst fs

^q Low statistics: ∼ 250,000 τ+τ- events

^q Three methods:

^v Decay length (1v3 + 3v3), impact parameter difference (1v1), miss distance (1v1)

^q Lowest systematics from decay length method (1v3)

^q Dominant systematics: Vertex detector alignment to **7.5 μm** -

• Alignment with data (qq events): statistics limited

^q Vertex detector: 7.5 μm point resolution at 63, 90, and 109 mm

Tau Lifetime at FCC-ee(Z) uncertainty budget

(typical length = 10 mm, knowledge \approx 20 nm !!)

 τ_{τ} precision [ppm]

- 9.6 statistical
- length scale of vertex detector 2.0
- 9.0 $\sigma(m_\tau)$
- 12.0 average tau pair production radiative energy loss
- 3.5 systematics optimistically expected to scale with statistics
	- detector alignment
	- background
	- fit model

18.3 total

detector requirements to limit effects below 1/2 of statistical uncertainty

- impact parameter resolution for tau decay tracks $\leq 70/2 \cdot \sqrt{3} = 61 \,\mu\text{m}$. factor 10 too pessimistic
- In taking into account that each single event measurement uses three tracks
- uncertainty on average length scale of vertex detector elements $\leq 9.6/2 = 4.8$ ppm ∼ 50 nm

other detector requirements

- \triangleright 75 x precision improvement for simulation of radiation in tau pair production
	- not detector but worth noting
	- \triangleright 30 x assumed to be more realistic in the uncertainty bugget

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Tau Leptonic Branching Fractions

◆ World average

^q **B(τ→eνν) = 17.82 ± 0.05 %** ; **B(τ→μνν) = 17.39 ± 0.05 %**

 \bullet Dominated by Aleph @ LEP

^q **B(τ→eνν): 4400 ppm = [4000 (stat.)** ⊕ **2000 (syst.)] ppm** ; **B(τ→μνν): 4400 ppm = [4000 (stat.)** ⊕ **1800 (syst.)] ppm**

 \bullet Three uncertainty contributions dominant in the Aleph measurement, all limited by stats, size of test samples, ...

- \bullet Prospects at FCC-ee
	- ^q Enormous statistics ⇒ **5 ppm**

^q **Systematic uncertainty is hard to guestimate at this point**.

- ^v Depends intimately on the detailed performance of the detector(s)
	- At the end of the day, between LEP experiments, δ_{syst} varied by factor ~3

With the large statistics, much will be learned. Suggest a factor 10 improvement wrt Aleph: ∼190 ppm

⇒ **Key:** Overall detector design, including tracking, calorimetry, PID, muon system ⊕ redundancy

Canonical tau lepton universality plot extrapolation to FCC-ee

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Summary

- ^u From 5 x 1012 Z decays, FCC-ee will produce **1.7 x 1011 τ+τ- pairs**
- Factor ~3 higher statistics than Belle2 projection; plus higher boost ($y = 26$) ^q Boost is advantageous for many studies
- \bullet Potential for very precise sin²θ_w determination via **τ polarisation** measurement ^q ECAL performance crucial
- Improved Lepton universality test by about two orders of magnitude.

^q Expressed via tau decay based Fermi constant

$$
\frac{\delta G_{\rm F}^{(\tau)}}{G_{\rm F}^{(\tau)}} = \left[5 \cdot \frac{\delta m_{\tau}}{m_{\tau}} \oplus \frac{\delta \pi_{\tau}}{\pi_{\tau}} \oplus \frac{\delta \mathcal{B}(\tau \to e \nu \nu)}{\mathcal{B}(\tau \to e \nu \nu)} \right]
$$
\n
$$
= \left[(5 \cdot 14) \oplus 19 \oplus 190 \right] \text{ ppm} \approx 200 \text{ ppm} \qquad \text{today, 2800 ppm}
$$
\n
$$
\Box \text{Still a long way to go to 10 ppm ...}
$$
\n
$$
\Box
$$

^q Overall improvement by factor 14 w.r.t. current precision !!

Summary, detector requirements

τ physics sets very strong detector requirements; good benchmark for detector design

◆ Vertexing

^q Lifetime measurement to 10 ppmcorresponds to 22 nm flight distance !

◆ Tracking

^q Two-track separation: collimated topoligies, 3-, 5-, 7-, 9- … prong decays

^q Extremely good control of momentum and mass scale

^v τ mass measurement

^q Low material budget: Minimize secondary tracks from hadronic interaction in material

◆ Calorimetry

^q Clean γ and π0 reconstruction from ∼0.2 to 45 GeV is key

^q Collimated topologies: Important to be able to separate γs from close-lying hadronic showers

◆ Muon system:

^q High efficiency, low background muon ID

^u **PID**

 \Box Necessary for separation of π/K modes (0 – 45 GeV momentum range)

 \Box e/π separation at low momenta (where calorimetric separation is most difficult)

^q Even provides e/μ separation

^q **Redundancy**: Provides valuable handle to create test samples for study of calorimetry etc.

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spares

LFV Z decays

$Z \rightarrow er$ and $Z \rightarrow \mu\tau$

 $\sigma(p_{\tau})/p_{\tau} = 2.7 \times 10^{-2}$

Limit set at $|\mathbf{Br}(\mathbf{Z}\to\mu\tau)| < 12 \times 10^{-6}$

^q Best at LEP

^q World's best until recently:

^v ATLAS now at **9.5 × 10-6**

Assumed momentum resolution at $p_T = 45.6$ GeV including contribution (0.9 \times 10⁻³) from beam-energy spread:

 $\mathbf{x}_{\mathsf{l}} = \mathbf{p}_{\mathsf{l}} / \mathbf{p}_{\mathsf{beam}}$

 $\sigma(p_T)/p_T = 1.8 \times 10^{-3}$

Findings:

Q Sensitivity scales ∼ linear in momentum resolution

 \Box Irreducible background (from $\tau \to \mu \nu \nu$) ⇒ sensitivity $\propto 1/\sqrt{2}$

 \Box Similar sensitivity for Z \rightarrow eτ

 \Box Sensitivity for signals down to

BRs of ∼**10-9**

 \triangle Current limit:

- \Box **7.5 x 10⁻⁷ LHC/ATLAS** (20 fb⁻¹; no candidates) **□ 1.7 x 10⁻⁶ LEP/OPAL** (4.0 x 10⁶ Z decays: no candidates)
- \bullet In e⁺e⁻, clean experimental signature:
	- ^q Beam energy electron vs. beam energy muon
- \bullet Main experimental challenge:

□ **Catastrophic bremsstrahlung energy loss** of muon in electromagnetic calorimeter

- Muon would deposit (nearly) full energy in ECAL: Misidentification $\mu \rightarrow e$
- ^v NA62: Probability of muon to deposit more than 95% of energy in ECAL: **4 x 10-6**
- * Possible to reduce by
	- ECAL longitudinal segmentation: Require energy > mip in first few radiation lengths
	- § Aggressive veto on HCAL energy deposit and muon chamber hits
- If dE/dx mesaurement available, (some) independent e/ μ separation at 45.6 GeV
	- Could give handle to determine misidentification probability $P(\mu \rightarrow e)$

 \bullet FCC-ee:

^q MisidenUficaUon from catastrophic energy loss corresponds to limit of about **Br(Z** ➝**eμ)** ≃ **10-8** ^q Possibly do "(10) beber than that **Br(Z** ➝**eμ)** ∼ **10-9** (probably even **10-10** with IDEA dE/dx)

 $10^{-10} - 10^{-8}$ sensitivity depending on detector design and performance

Z.Phys. C67

OPAL DATA 91-94

μ

 $(p-p_{beam})/\sigma_{p}$

^u **Current limits:**

 \Box **Br(τ⁻** \rightarrow **e-** γ) < 3.3 x 10⁻⁸ **BaBar, 10.6 GeV; 4.8 x** 10^8 **e⁺e⁻** \rightarrow **τ⁺τ : 1.6 expected bckg** \Box **Br(τ⁻** → μ ⁻γ) < 4.4 x 10⁻⁸ **3.6 expected bckg**

• Main background: Radiative events (IRS+FSR), e⁺e⁻ → τ⁺τ⁻γ

T → μγ decay faked by combination of y from ISR/FSR and μ from τ → μνν

+ At FCC-ee, with 1.7 x 10¹¹ τ⁺τ⁻ events, what can be expected?

^q Boost 8-9 times higher than at B-factories

- ^q Detector resolutions rather different, probably especially ECAL
- **Δ** Parametrised study of signal and the main background, e⁺e⁻ → τ⁺τη, performed
	- ^v Presented at tau2018
- ^q From study (assuming 25% signal & background efficiency), projected BR sensitivity

2 x 10-9

^q With the recently suggested crystal ECAL, possible a factor of about 6-10 better

 \triangle Current limits:

 \Box All 6 combs. of e[±], μ^{\pm} : Br \lesssim 2 x 10⁻⁸ Belle@10.6 GeV; 7.2 x 10⁸ e⁺e⁻ → τ⁺τ⁻: no candidates \Box μ⁻μ⁺μ⁻: $Br < 4.6 \times 10^{-8}$ LHCb 2.0 fb⁻¹ : background candidates

 \triangle FCC-ee prospects

^q Expect this search to have *very low* background, even with FCC-ee like statistics ^q Should be able to have sensitivity down to BRs of ≲ **10-10**

• Many more decay modes to search for when time comes. Need PID for most

