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NP scenarios in $b \rightarrow c(u) l \nu$ decays

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The BaBar measurements of the ratios $calR(D^{(*)}) = \frac{calB(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \tau \bar{\nu}_\tau)}{calB(B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \mu \bar{\nu}_\mu)}$ deviate from the standard model expectation, while new results on the purely leptonic $B \rightarrow \tau \bar{\nu}_\tau$ mode show a better consistency with the standard model, within the uncertainties. In a new physics scenario, one possibility to accommodate these two experimental facts consists in considering an additional tensor operator in the effective weak hamiltonian. We study the effects of such an operator in a set of observables, in semileptonic $B \rightarrow D^{(*)}$ modes as well as in semileptonic B and B_s decays to excited positive parity charmed mesons.

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