# **Tau Decays at the B-Factories**



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(on behalf of the BABAR and Belle collaborations)





# Today's Tau factories are **BABAR** and Belle

- asymmetric colliders on Y(4S) peak ( $\sqrt{s} = 10.58 \text{ GeV}$ )  $\sigma(\tau^+\tau^-) \approx 0.9 \text{ nb} \approx \sigma(B\overline{B}) \approx 1.1 \text{ nb}$
- similar detectors, but for PID: BABAR  $\Rightarrow$  Cherenkov detector, Belle  $\Rightarrow$  threshold Cherenkov & TOF



#### TAU DECAYS AT THE B-FACTORIES



#### Lots of tau pairs have been collected at B-factories



End May 2008:	$\int Ldt \approx 831  \mathrm{fb}^{-1}$	~764M tau pairs	End May 2008:	$\int Ldt \approx 531  \mathrm{fb}^{-1}$	~488M tau pairs
		(analyses typically u	se smaller samples	)	



# B-factories (recent) tau physics results can be grouped as follows

#### Searches for LFV

- clean and unambiguous NP probes
- tau LFV searches complementary to  $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$

#### (semi-)hadronic decays

- QCD and resonances studies
  - $\tau \to \pi \pi^0 \nu$  BF and spectrum for  $a_{\mu}^{\pi\pi}$
- 2nd class current searches
- rare decays, small BF

#### $V_{us}$ from $\tau \rightarrow s$ inclusive

small QCD theory error

#### Lepton universality and precision meas.

- tau lifetime
- tau mass



Lepton flavour violation in tau decays





# LFV results from the B-Factories





### Properties of events with a LFV violating tau decay (in CM system)





- $\Delta M = M_{\rm reco} M_{\tau} \approx 0 \quad \Delta E = E_{\rm reco} E_{\rm beam} \approx 0$
- smeared by resolution and radiative effects
- expected background from data side-bands
- count events in signal box, or max LH fit





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# $\tau \rightarrow \ell \ell \ell \ell \text{ LFV search}$





#### PRL 99 251803 (2007)

- selection and SB optimized for best exp. UL
- ♦ signal efficiency 5.5–12.4%
- background estimated with 2D  $\Delta M$ - $\Delta E$  fit
- expected bkg: 0.3–1.3 events
- data candidates: 0–2 events
- Cousin & Highland
- **BF** <  $[3.7-8.0] \cdot 10^{-8} (90\% \text{ CL})$
- PRL 99 251803 (2007)

(arXiv:0708.3650 [hep-ex])

Mode	Eff. [%]	$N_{ m bgd}$	$\mathrm{UL}_{90}^{\mathrm{exp}}$	$N_{\rm obs}$	$\mathrm{UL}_{90}^{\mathrm{obs}}$
$e^{-}e^{+}e^{-}$	$8.9\pm0.2$	$1.33\pm0.25$	4.9	1	4.3
$\mu^-e^+e^-$	$8.3\pm0.6$	$0.89\pm0.27$	5.0	2	8.0
$\mu^+ e^- e^-$	$12.4\pm0.8$	$0.30\pm0.55$	2.7	2	5.8
$e^+\mu^-\mu^-$	$8.8\pm0.8$	$0.54\pm0.21$	4.6	1	5.6
$e^-\mu^+\mu^-$	$6.2\pm0.5$	$0.81\pm0.31$	6.6	0	3.7
$\mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$	$5.5\pm0.7$	$0.33\pm0.19$	6.7	0	5.3













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### **B-Factories LFV searches summary**

	Belle		BABAR	
	UL90	Lumi	UL90	Lumi
	(10 <sup>-8</sup> )	(fb <sup>-1</sup> )	(10 <sup>-8</sup> )	(fb <sup>-1</sup> )
$\mu\gamma$	4.5*	535	6.8	232
eγ	12*	535	11	232
$\mu\eta$	6.5	401	15	339
$\mu\eta'$	13	401	13	339
eη	9.2	401	16	339
$e\eta'$	16	401	24	339
$\mu\pi^0$	12	401	15	339
$e\pi^0$	8	401	13	339
$\ell\ell\ell$	2–4	535	4–8	376
<i>ℓhh</i> ′	21–155	158	7–48	221
$\mu V^0$	10–15	543	11	384
$eV^0$	8–19	543	10	384

	Belle		BABAR	
	UL90	Lumi	UL90	Lumi
	(10 <sup>-8</sup> )	(fb <sup>-1</sup> )	(10 <sup>-8</sup> )	(fb <sup>-1</sup> )
μK <sub>S</sub>	0.49	281		
eK <sub>S</sub>	0.56	281		
μf <sub>0</sub>	3.3*	671		
ef <sub>0</sub>	3.4*	671		
$\Lambda \pi, \overline{\Lambda} \pi$	7.2–14	154	5.8-5.9*	237
$\Lambda K, \overline{\Lambda} K$			7.2–15*	237
$\sigma_{\ell au}/\sigma_{\mu\mu}$			400-890	211

(\* preliminary)  $V^0 = \omega$  for BABAR,  $V^0 = \rho, \phi, K^{(\overline{v}0)}, \omega$  for Belle

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**Progress on**  $\tau \rightarrow \mu \gamma$  **since pre-B-factory era** 



SUSY SO(10) + seesaw – Masiero et al., NJP 6 (2004) 202



# **Progress on LFV from B-Factories results**





# Tau precision measurements and checks on the Standard Model





# Lepton Universality Tests

- Standard Model (SM) predicts that leptons have same weak charged current couplings
- B-Factories can measure **several relatively less known ingredients** for LU tests below

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Gamma_{\tau \to e}}{\Gamma_{\mu \to e}} &\propto \left(\frac{g_{\tau}}{g_{\mu}}\right)^{2} = \frac{\tau_{\mu}}{\tau_{\tau}} \mathsf{BF}(\tau^{-} \to e^{-}\overline{\nu_{e}}\nu_{\tau}) \left(\frac{m_{\mu}}{m_{\tau}}\right)^{5} \frac{f(m_{e}^{2}/m_{\mu}^{2})r_{EW}^{\mu}}{f(m_{e}^{2}/m_{\tau}^{2})r_{EW}^{\tau}} \\ \frac{\Gamma_{\tau \to \mu}}{\Gamma_{\mu \to e}} &\propto \left(\frac{g_{\tau}}{g_{e}}\right)^{2} = \frac{\tau_{\mu}}{\tau_{\tau}} \mathsf{BF}(\tau^{-} \to \mu^{-}\overline{\nu_{\mu}}\nu_{\tau}) \left(\frac{m_{\mu}}{m_{\tau}}\right)^{5} \frac{f(m_{e}^{2}/m_{\mu}^{2})r_{EW}^{\mu}}{f(m_{\mu}^{2}/m_{\tau}^{2})r_{EW}^{\tau}} \\ \frac{\Gamma_{\tau \to e}}{\Gamma_{\tau \to \mu}} &\propto \left(\frac{g_{e}}{g_{\mu}}\right)^{2} = \frac{\mathsf{BF}(\tau^{-} \to e^{-}\overline{\nu_{\mu}}\nu_{\tau})}{\mathsf{BF}(\tau^{-} \to \mu^{-}\overline{\nu_{\mu}}\nu_{\tau})} \frac{f(m_{\mu}^{2}/m_{\tau}^{2})}{f(m_{e}^{2}/m_{\tau}^{2})} \\ f(x) = 1 - 8x + 8x^{3} - x^{4} - 12x \ln x \quad \text{(approximating all } m_{\nu} = 0) \\ r_{EW}^{\ell} = 0.9960 \quad \text{(EW radiative corrections, Marciano-Sirlin)} \end{aligned}$$



**Precision measurements and Lepton universality** 



Iimited progress on lepton universality

no improvement on leptonic branching fractions (hard job matching ALEPH systematics)



#### *V<sub>us</sub>* measuremements



kaon measurements limited by theory uncertainties (see e.g. arXiv:0802.3009 [hep-ex])

• for  $K_{I3}$  decays  $\Delta[f_+(0)] = 0.50\%$ 

• for  $K_{l2}$  decays  $\Delta(F_K/F_\pi) = 0.59\%$ 

theory uncertainty on  $V_{us}$  from tau estimated to be 0.23%

(arXiv:0709.0282v1 [hep-ph])





inclusive  $BF(\tau \rightarrow s)$   $\rightarrow$  potentially most precise/ clean  $V_{us}$  measurement if spectral functions are also measured  $\rightarrow$  simultaneous fit of  $V_{us}$  and  $m_s$ otherwise, one can use  $m_s$  from lattice QCD (now  $\Delta m_s \approx 10 \text{ MeV}$ )  $\mathbf{R}_{\tau} = \frac{\Gamma\left[\tau^{-} \to v_{\tau} \text{hadrons}(\gamma)\right]}{\Gamma\left[\tau^{-} \to e v_{\tau} \overline{v}_{e}(\gamma)\right]} \qquad |V_{us}|^{2} = \frac{R_{\tau,\text{strange}}}{\left(R_{\tau,\text{non-strange}}/|V_{ud}|^{2}\right) - \delta R_{\tau,\text{theory}}}$ •  $R_{\tau,\text{non-strange}} / |V_{ud}|^2 = 3.661 \pm 0.012$  (experiment) •  $\delta R_{\tau,\text{theory}} = 0.216 \pm 0.016$  (*SU*(3) breaking, arXiv:0709.0282v1 [hep-ph])  $\blacktriangleright \Delta |V_{us}|^2 \approx \frac{\Delta \delta R_{\tau,\text{theory}}}{\left(R_{\tau,\text{non-strange}}/|V_{ud}|^2\right)} \approx 2 \cdot 0.23\%$ to fit for  $m_s$  simultaneously, must use also moments of the hadronic inv. mass distribution

$$\blacktriangleright R_{\tau}^{kl} = \int_0^{m_{\tau}^2} ds \left(1 - \frac{s}{m_{\tau}^2}\right)^k \left(\frac{s}{m_{\tau}^2}\right)^l \frac{dR_{\tau}}{ds}$$



# Inclusive BF( $\tau \rightarrow s$ ) before B-Factories



Mode	$\mathcal{B}(10^{-3})$
<i>K</i> <sup>-</sup>	$6.81 \pm 0.23$
$K^{-}\pi^{0}$	$4.54 \pm 0.30$
$ar{K}^0\pi^-$	$8.78 \pm 0.38$
$K^-\pi^0\pi^0$	$0.58 \pm 0.24$
$ar{K}^0\pi^-\pi^0$	$3.60 \pm 0.40$
$K^-\pi^+\pi^-$	$3.30 \pm 0.28$
$K^-\eta$	$0.27 \pm 0.06$
$(\bar{K}3\pi)^{-}$ (estimated)	$0.74 \pm 0.30$
$K_1(1270)^- \rightarrow K^- \omega$	$0.67 \pm 0.21$
$(\bar{K}4\pi)^-$ (estimated) and $K^{*-}\eta$	$0.40\pm0.12$
Sum	$29.69 \pm 0.86$

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# $V_{us}$ and $m_s$ determination before B-Factories



V<sub>us</sub> precision: 1.53%





 $\epsilon = (2.2267 \pm 0.008)\%$ 

- $\mathsf{BF}(\tau \to K \pi^0 \nu) = (0.416 \pm 0.003 \pm 0.018) \,\%$

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# V<sub>us</sub> update using **BABAR** and Belle results



- S.Banerjee, arXiv:0707.3058v4 [hep-ex]
- Vus precision: 1.38%





#### Tau V<sub>us</sub> status and prospects

- $V_{us}(\tau) = 0.2171 \pm 0.0030$  universality improved  $V_{us}$  from  $\tau \to s$  inclusive
  - ▶ uses  $V_{ud} = 97377(27)$  from PDG2006, however negligible change using updated  $V_{ud}$
- ♦ V<sub>us</sub>(unitarity) = 0.2258 ± 0.0011 using V<sub>ud</sub> = 0.97418(26) [Hardy-Towner, nucl-th 0710.3181]
  - ▶ moved by 1.5 $\sigma$  w.r.t. PDG 2006 → 2007 (isospin breaking Coulomb corrections)
  - V<sub>ud</sub> from neutron decays differs by up to 4.5σ [0.97092(68) 0.9786(19)] (also, recent measurement of neutron lifetime is 6.5σ away from PDG2006 value)
- $V_{us} = 0.2246 \pm 0.0012$  from  $K_{\ell 3}$  P.Massarotti HQL08 (FlaviaNet)
- $V_{us} = 0.2261 \pm 0.0014$  from  $K_{\mu 2}$  P.Massarotti HQL08 (FlaviaNet) (my elaboration using above  $V_{ud}$ )

 $|V_{us}(\tau) - V_{us}(\text{unitarity})| = 2.7\sigma$ 

• experimentally, it is useful to improve on  $V_{us}$  from  $\tau \to s$  inclusive and also from  $\frac{\mathsf{BF}(\tau \to K_v)}{\mathsf{BF}(\tau \to \pi_v)}$ 

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### Tau decays modes with $\eta$ meson





arXiv:0708.0733v1[hep-ex])



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## Tau decays modes with $\eta$ meson





arXiv:0708.0733v1[hep-ex])

# Comparison with predictions



- $\mathcal{C}(\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \eta v_{\tau})$  consistent with prediction based on CVC and experimentally measured  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\eta$  cross section
  - Good agreement between data and MC (TAUOLA)
- Central value of  $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K^-\eta \nu_{\tau})$ and  $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K^-\pi^0\eta \nu_{\tau})$  slightly different from chiral theory prediction (Phys. Rev. D 55 (1997) 1436)
  - ➢ More tuning of MC needed
  - Further studies of final state dynamics and resonance formation in progress







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- ♦ 5.4M candidates fitted
- largest systematic:  $\pi^0$  efficiency
- $BF(\tau \rightarrow \pi \pi^0 \nu) = (25.12 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.38) \%$

- improved spectrum (larger stat. than LEP)
- a<sup>ππ</sup><sub>μ</sub> close to previous existing tau estimates see H.Hayashii@FPCP08 for details



# Conclusions

