



Anomalies and Precision in the Belle II Era - Workshop

6-8 September 2021

Europe/Vienna timezone

Dark Sector searches at Belle II

Laura Zani*

On behalf of the Belle II collaboration

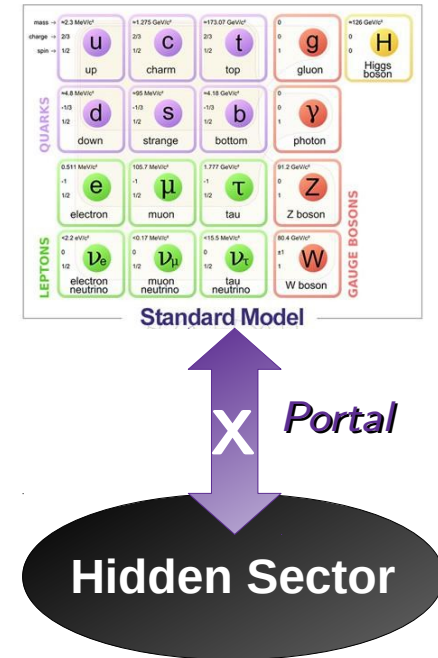


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Light dark sectors

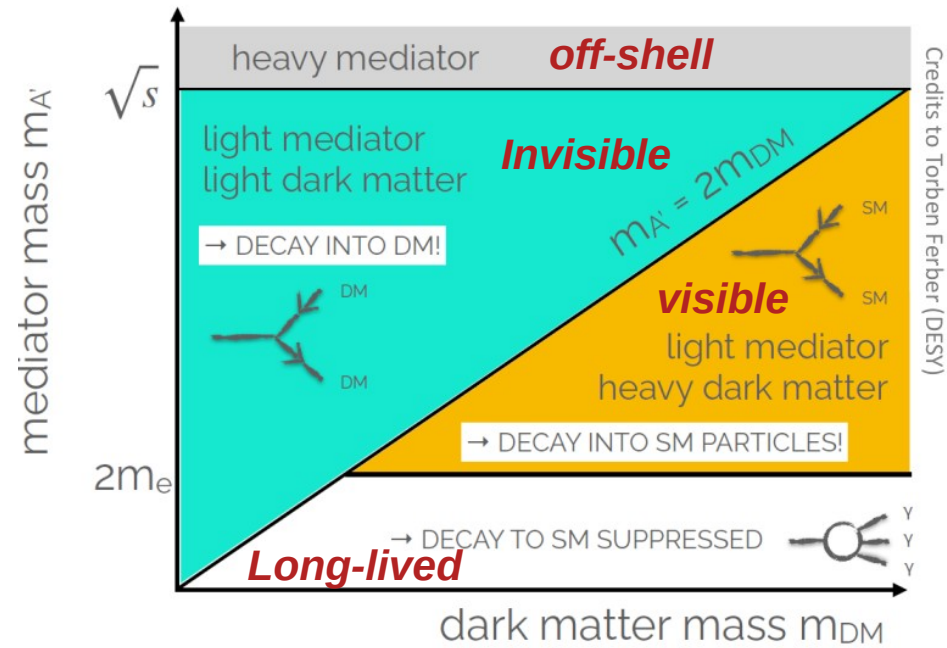
- Possible sub-GeV scale Dark Matter (DM) scenario: *light dark sector* weakly coupled to SM through a light **mediator X**
 - Vector portal → Dark Photons (A'), Z' bosons
 - Pseudo-scalar portal → Axion Like Particles (ALPs)
 - Scalar portal → Dark Higgsstrahlung/Scalars
 - Neutrino portal → Sterile Neutrinos



Light dark sectors

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→ *The masses of the mediator/DM candidates produce different topologies leading to different kinds of **DM searches***



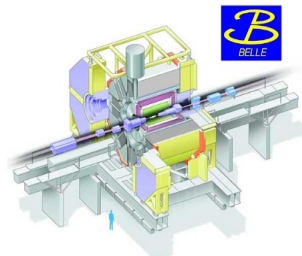
Experiments at B-factories

- **Clean environment and hermetic detectors** → efficient reconstruction of **neutrals** (π^0, η), recoiling system and *missing energy* final states

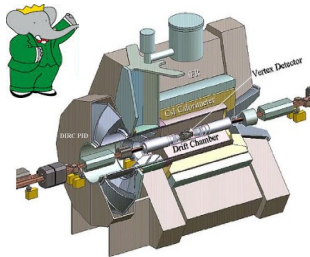
$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \Upsilon(4S) [10.58 \text{ GeV}] \rightarrow B\bar{B}$$

B & τ factory ($\sigma_{bb} \sim \sigma_{\tau\tau} \sim 1 \text{ nb}$) +
light dark sectors

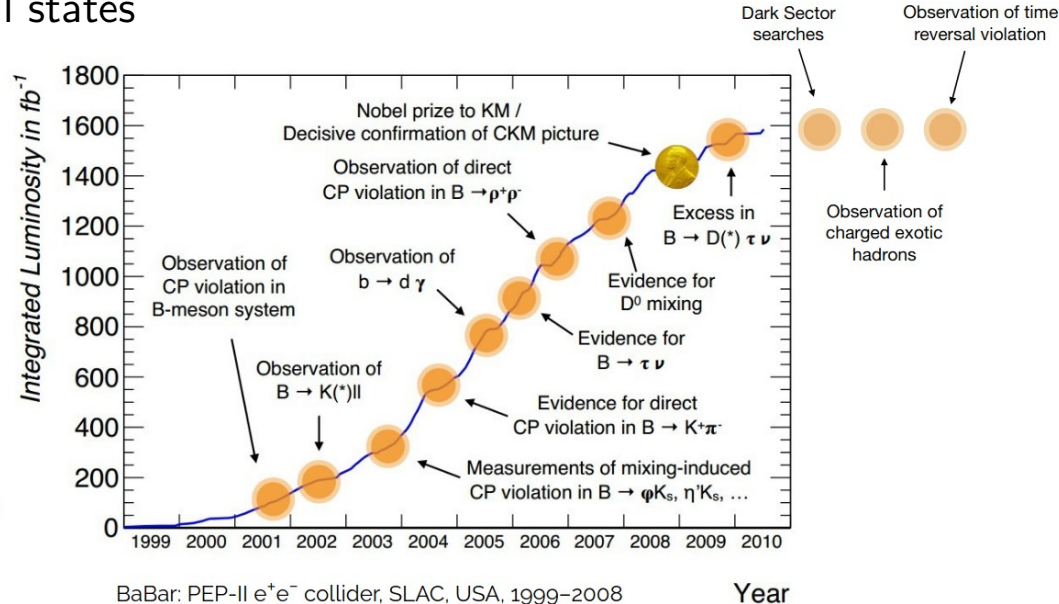
First generation of B-factories



at the KEKB collider
(KEK, Japan)



at the PEP II collider
(SLAC, California)



BaBar: PEP-II e^+e^- collider, SLAC, USA, 1999–2008
Belle: KEKB e^+e^- collider, KEK, Tsukuba, Japan, 1999–2010

Dark sectors at Belle II

First collisions on 2018 April 26th



- B-factories can access the GeV range naturally favored by light dark sectors
 - **Special low multiplicity triggers:** single photon trigger, single muon trigger, 3D track reconstruction at hardware trigger using Neural Network

➡ *More in previous talks (Tau Physics at Belle II)*

- collected **0.5 fb⁻¹** during the **pilot run April-July 2018** → **published two searches on this data set**

- $Z' \rightarrow \text{invisible}$ (Michel's talk)

- $ALPs \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$

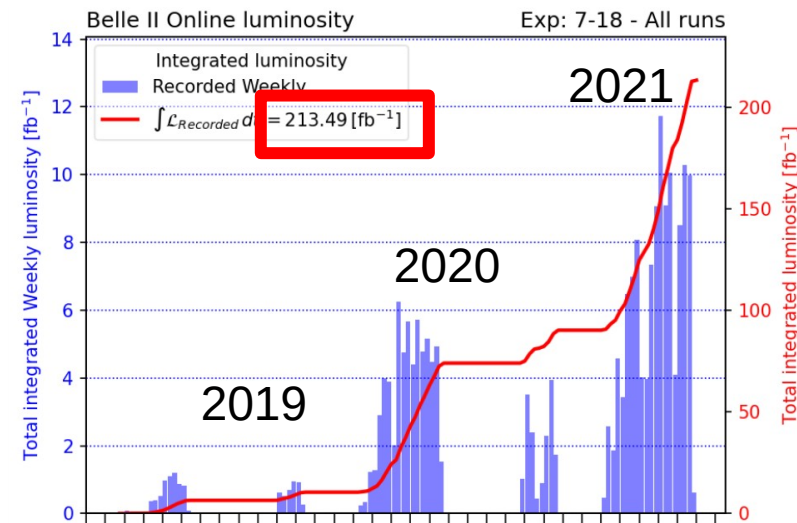
- Since March 2019 collected $> 213 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ and hit the $3.1 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ instantaneous luminosity → *many analyses in the pipeline*

- $B \rightarrow Ka$

- *Visible Z' : Muonic dark force $Z' \rightarrow \mu\mu$, $Z' \rightarrow \tau\tau$*

- *Single photon*

Highlights from this talk

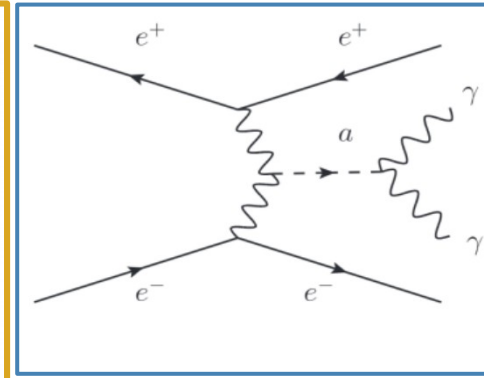
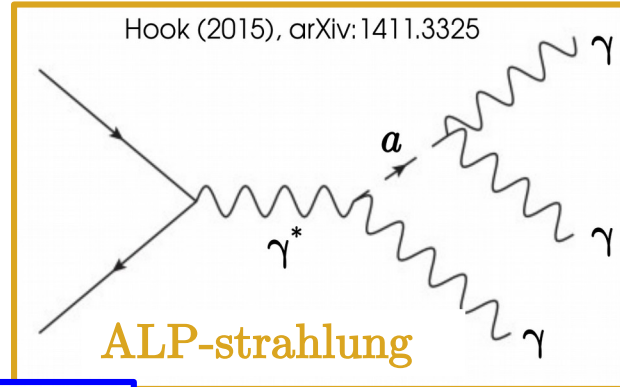


Axion Like Particles (ALPs)

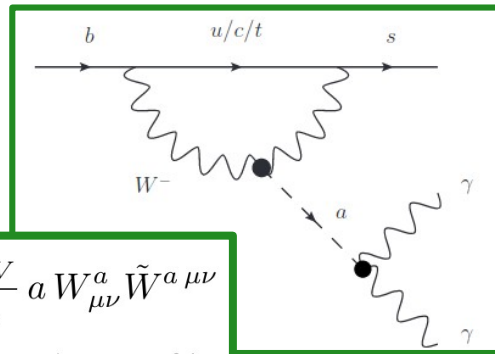
- Axion Like Particles are pseudo-scalars coupling mainly to bosons, with non-renormalizable coupling constants $[g_{aV}] \sim 1/M$
- Explored photon coupling $g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ in *ALP-strahlung* processes → **second Belle II physics paper**

(*photon fusion*: sensitivity under study)

- Exploit *Flavor Changing Neutral Current* (FCNC) and rare meson decays to investigate g_{aW} coupling **ongoing studies for $B \rightarrow Ka$**

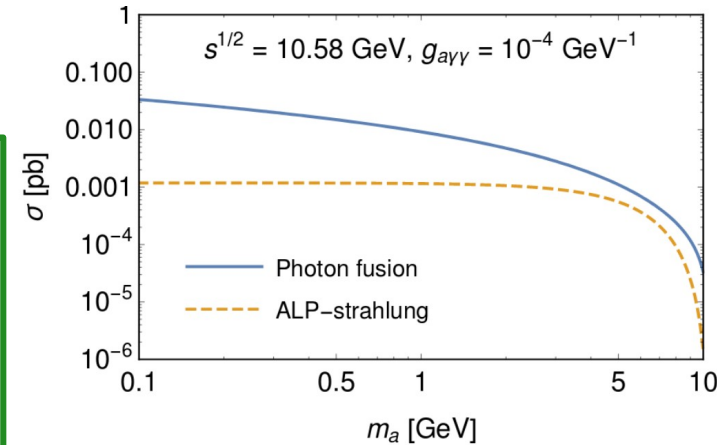


$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}}{4} a F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$$



$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{g_{aW}}{4} a W_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{W}^{a\mu\nu}$$

$$BF(a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) = 100\%$$



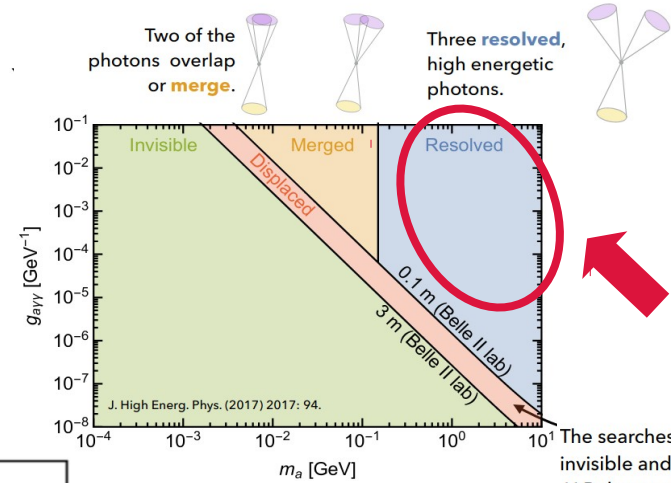
ALPs: $a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ at Belle II

PRL 125 (2020) 161806

- Select fully neutral events consisting of 3 isolated photons with a total invariant mass consistent with center of mass energy \rightarrow optimize to maximize ALP sensitivity
- Signal yield extracted with binned extended max likelihood fits in sliding ranges (half mass resolutions step) to:

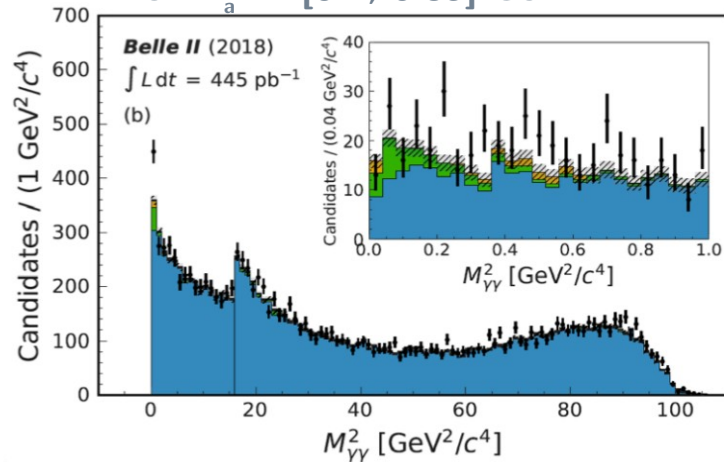


ALP decays outside of the detector or decays into **invisible** particles: Single photon final state.

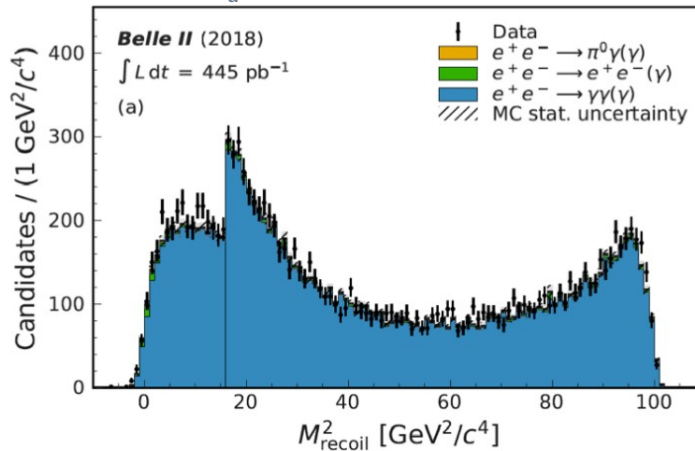


The searches for invisible and visible ALP decays veto this region.

Diphoton invariant mass for m_a in [0.2, 6.85] GeV



Recoil invariant mass for m_a in [6.85, 9.7] GeV



no excess found (highest local significance of 2.8σ)

Data set: **445 pb⁻¹**
from 2018 pilot run

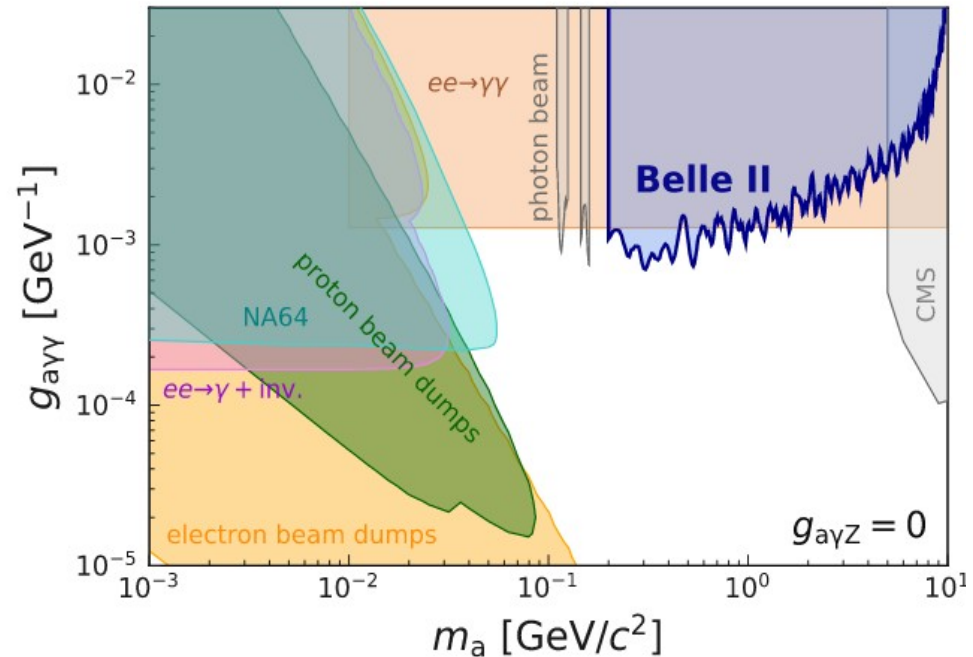
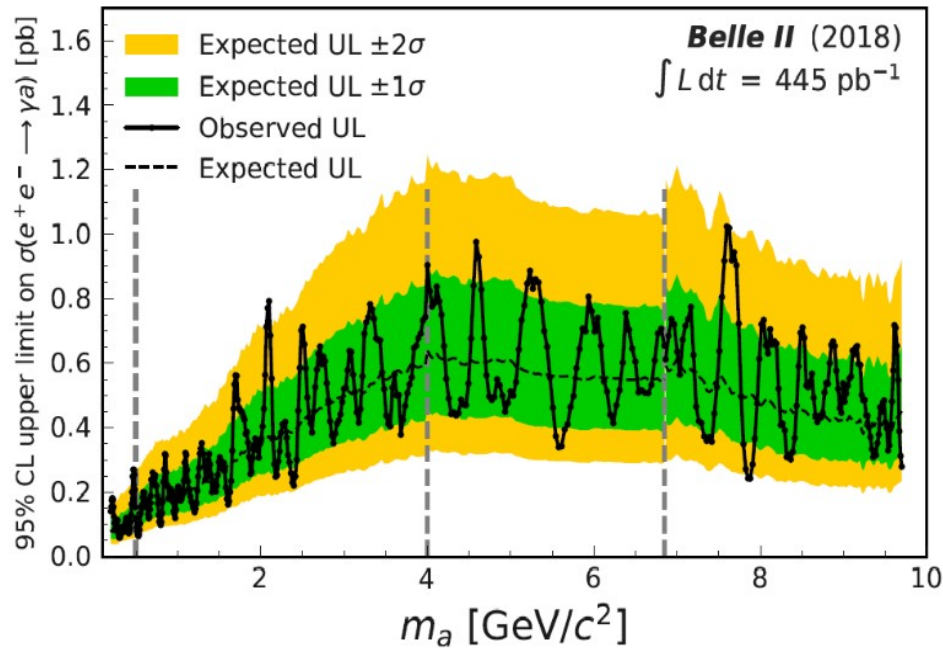
ALPs: $a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ results

PRL 125 (2020) 161806

- Set 95% CL upper limits on the signal cross section and translated in $g_{a\gamma\gamma}$ limits

$$\sigma_a = \frac{g_{a\gamma\gamma}^2 \alpha_{\text{QED}}}{24} \left(1 - \frac{m_a^2}{s}\right)^3$$

→ With only 1/100 000th of final target data set



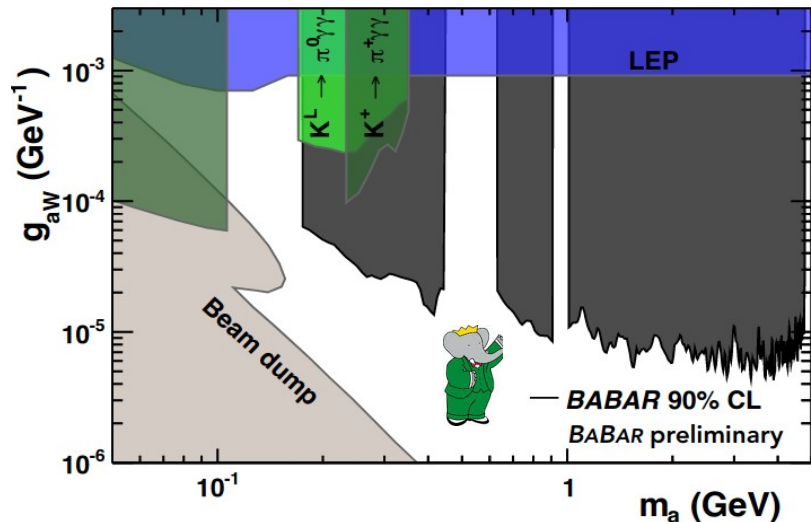
ALPs in meson decays

*E. Izaguirre, T. Lin, B. Shuve, PRL 118 (2017)

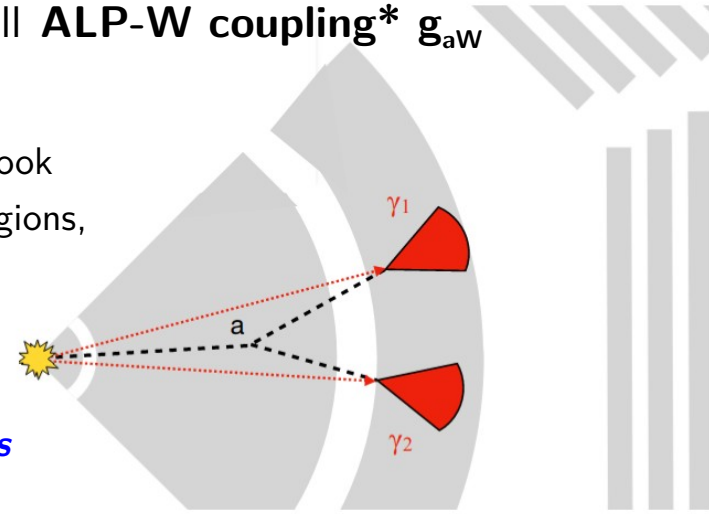
$b \rightarrow s \gamma \gamma$ is extremely rare in the SM and uniquely sensitive to very small **ALP-W coupling*** g_{aW}

- For $m_a \ll m_W$ naturally *long-lived* ALPs mainly decay into photons
- Preliminary results for the searched process $B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm a$, $a \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ from BaBar: look at narrow peaks in the **diphoton invariant mass** vetoing peaking background regions, both *prompt* and *displaced* vertex signatures.

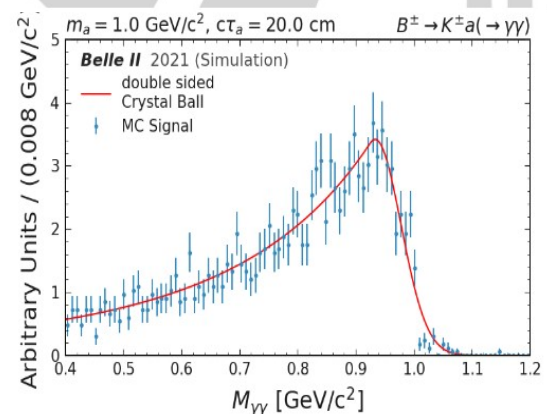
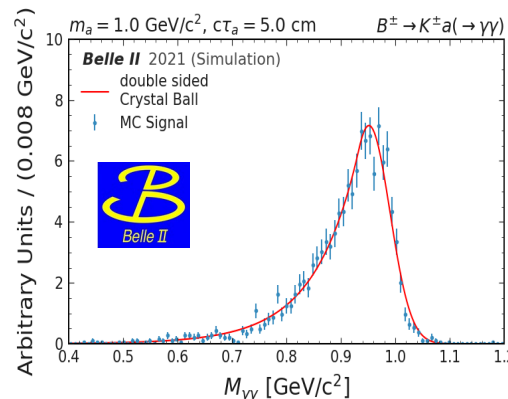
From B.Shuve's talk at ICHEP2020



** Limits from kaons decays are extracted from existing measurements presented in: Phys.Rev.Lett. 118 (2017) 11, 111802



Belle II ongoing studies



Muonic dark forces: L_μ - L_τ model

→ New gauge boson Z' coupling only to the **2nd and 3rd** generation of leptons (L_μ - L_τ) may explain:

- DM puzzle
- $(g-2)_\mu$ anomaly
- Anomalies observed in rare B decays, $B \rightarrow K^* \mu \mu$, $R_{K^{(*)}}$

• Search for the process:

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^- Z', \quad Z' \rightarrow l, \nu, X$$

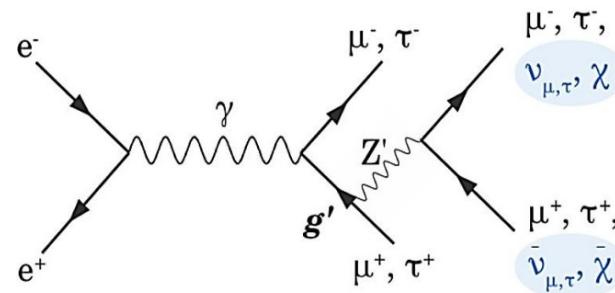
• Existing limits on the Z' coupling (g'):

- searches for **visible decays** $Z' \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ (BaBar **PRD 94, 011102 (2016)**, CMS **arXiv:1808.03684**) and neutrino-nucleus scattering processes (*neutrino trident production*, CCFR experiment at Fermilab)
- search for **$Z' \rightarrow$ invisible**: Belle II first physics result, **PRL 124 (2020) 141801** → *see Michel's talk*

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_l \theta g' \bar{l} \gamma^\mu Z'_\mu l$$

B. Shuve and I. Yavin (2014) Phys. Rev. D 89, 113004.

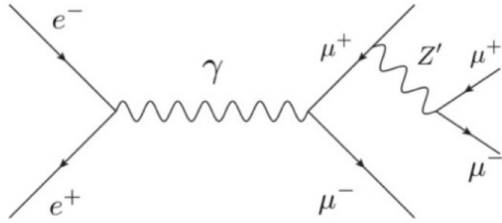
Altmannshofer et al JHEP 1612 (2016) 106.



$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^- + \text{missing energy}$$

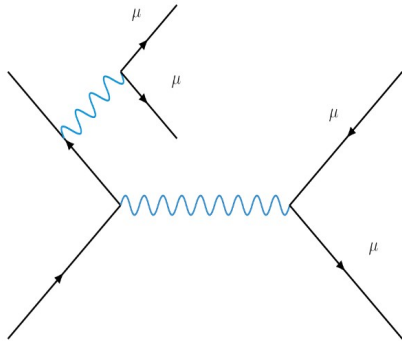
$$Z' \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$

Signal

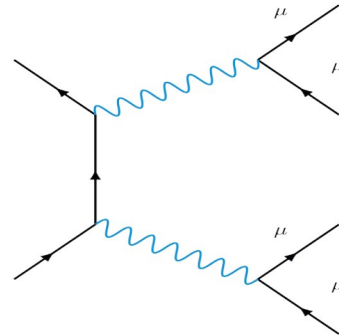


Search for a di-muon invariant mass peak in $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$ events in the final data set 514 fb^{-1}

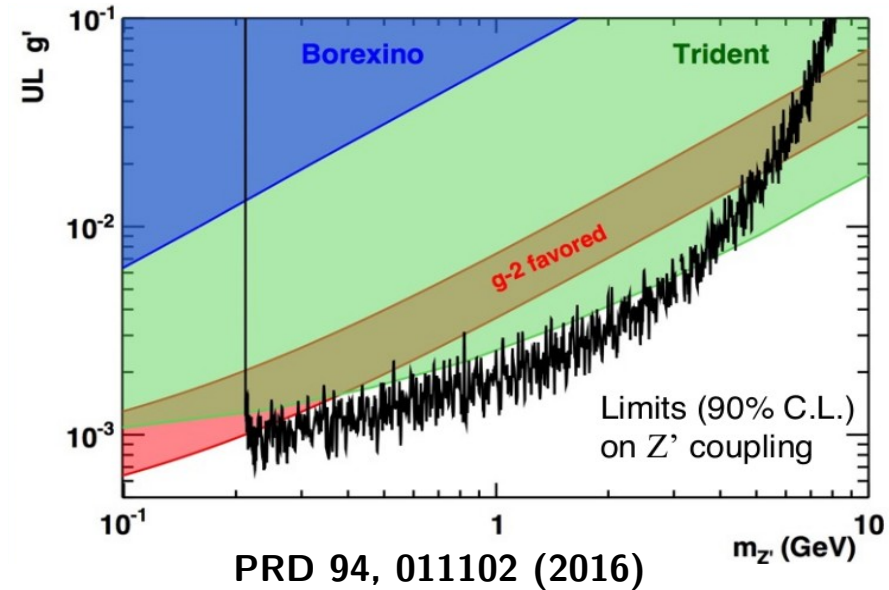
ISR



Double photon conversion



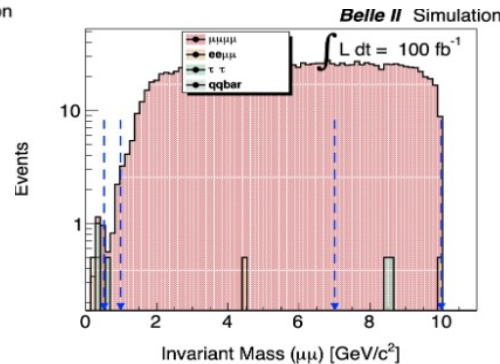
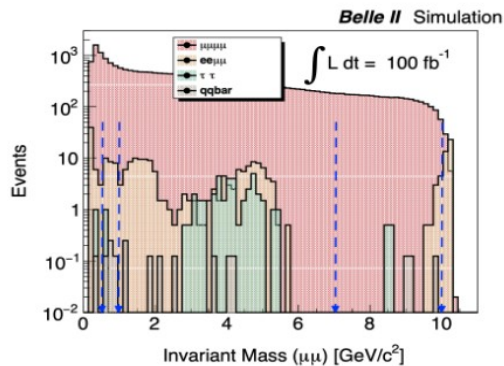
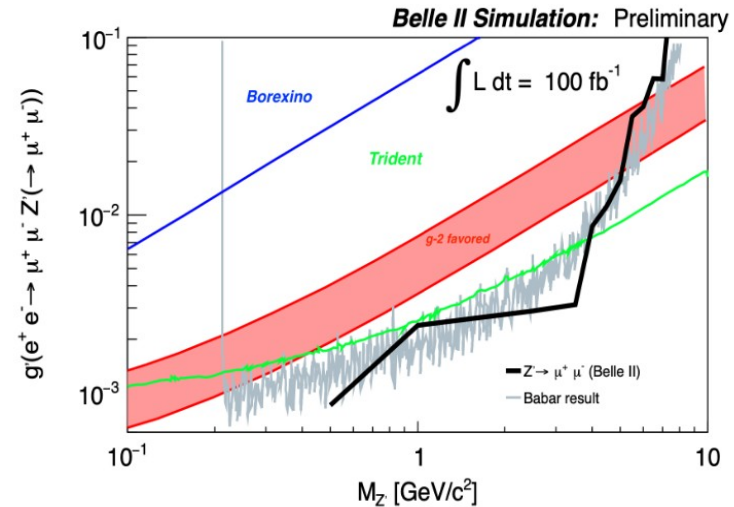
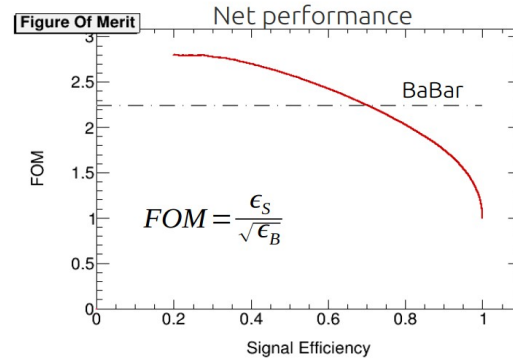
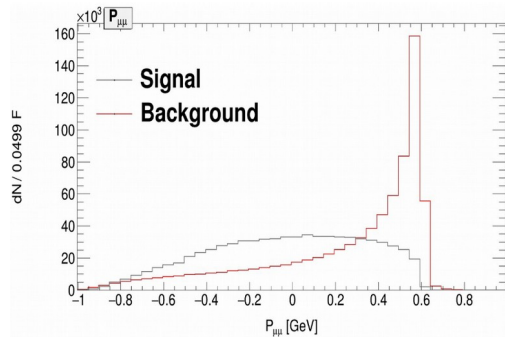
Main backgrounds from SM QED processes:
 $\mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$, ISR, double photon conversion, combinatorial



Competitive with early data set ($\sim 100 \text{ fb}^{-1}$) **due to aggressive background suppression!**

$Z' \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$: background rejection

- Neural Network (*MLP, MultiLayer Perceptron*) exploiting dimuon momentum ($P_{\mu\mu}$) and other 14 discriminating variables in 4 different mass ranges to reject background



→ Background suppressed by 2 orders of magnitude over the whole sensitive range

- Sensitivity computation ongoing: preliminary results from fitting technique (90% CL upper limits), no systematic effects included

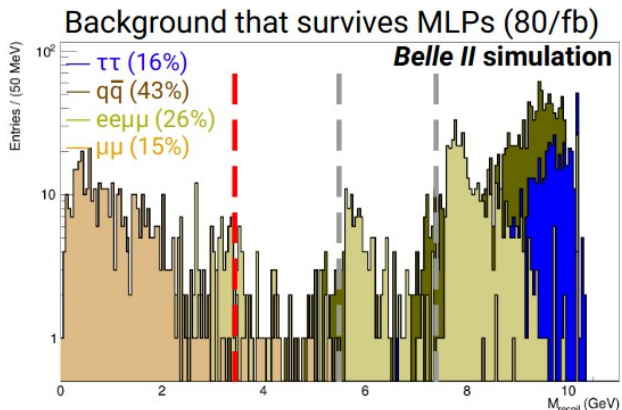
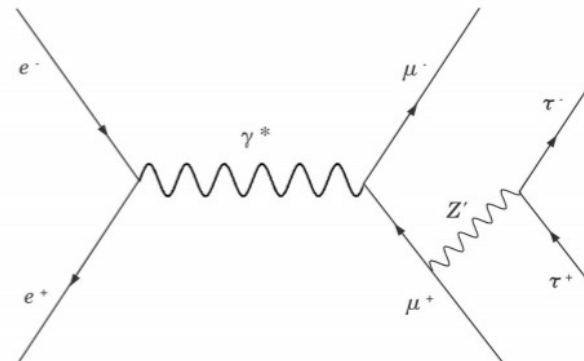
$Z' \rightarrow \tau\tau$

- Also ongoing studies on:

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-Z', Z' \rightarrow \tau\tau$$

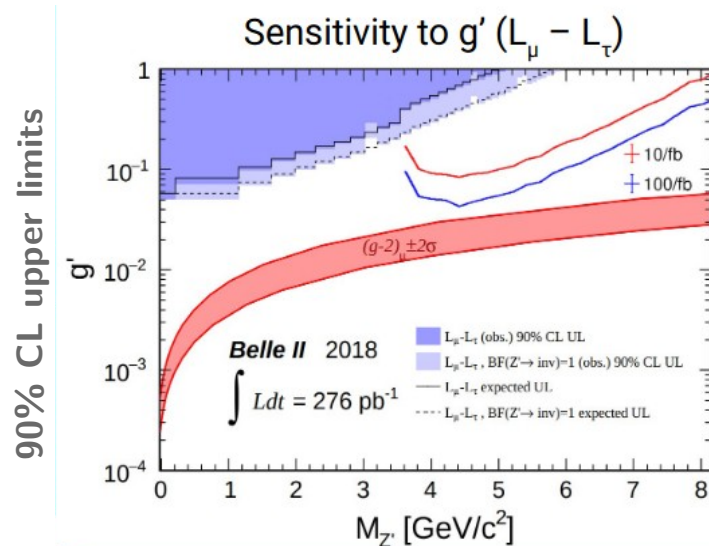
First time search!

- Almost model independent analysis
- Selection optimized for the final state $\mu\mu\tau\tau$ ($\tau \rightarrow l/h$, 1-prong decays)
- **Compute upper limits on the product $\sigma \cdot B(X \rightarrow \tau\tau)$ \rightarrow could be re-interpreted by any models**



Challenging due to high background and neutrinos

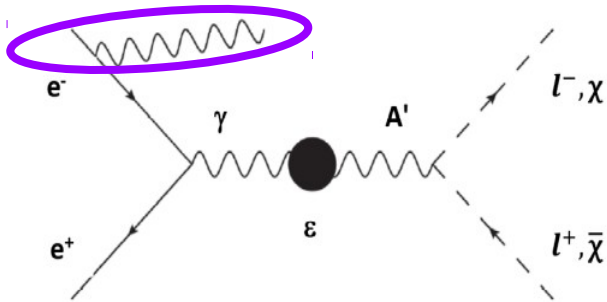
\rightarrow profit of B-factory clean environment and MVA techniques



Dark photons

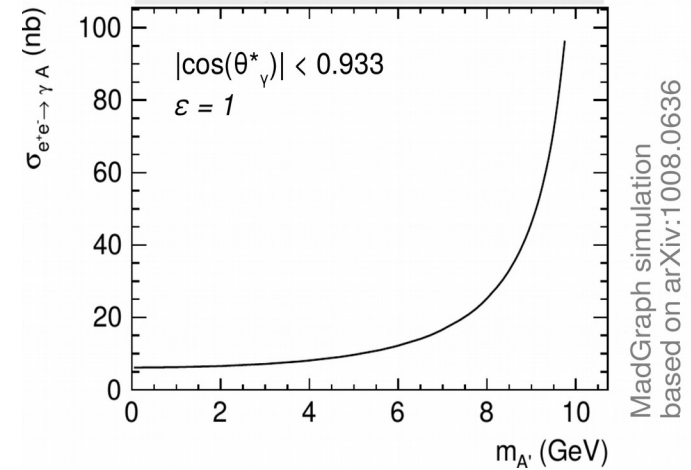
- A possible U(1) extension of the SM includes a new massive vector gauge boson A' coupling to the SM photon through the **kinetic mixing** with strength $\epsilon \rightarrow$ the **dark photon**

- At e^+e^- colliders investigate the ISR production $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma A'$.



$$\mathcal{L} \supset \epsilon A'_\mu J_{SM}^\mu$$

Batell et al. (2009),
arXiv:0903.0363

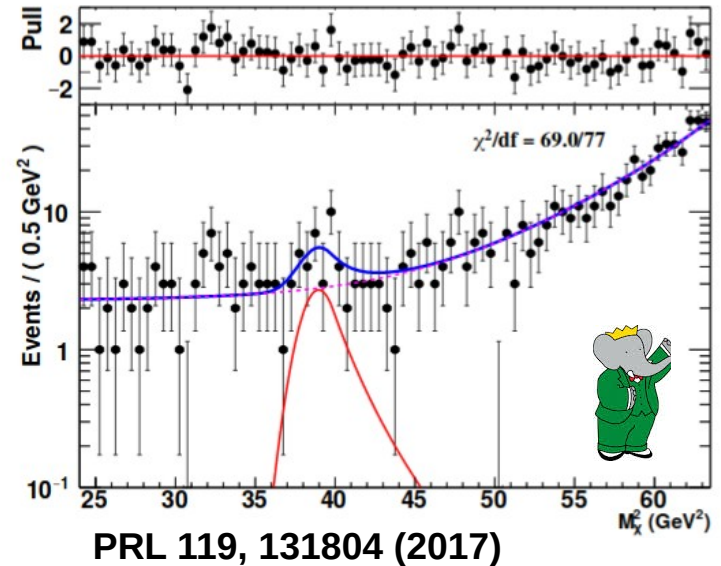
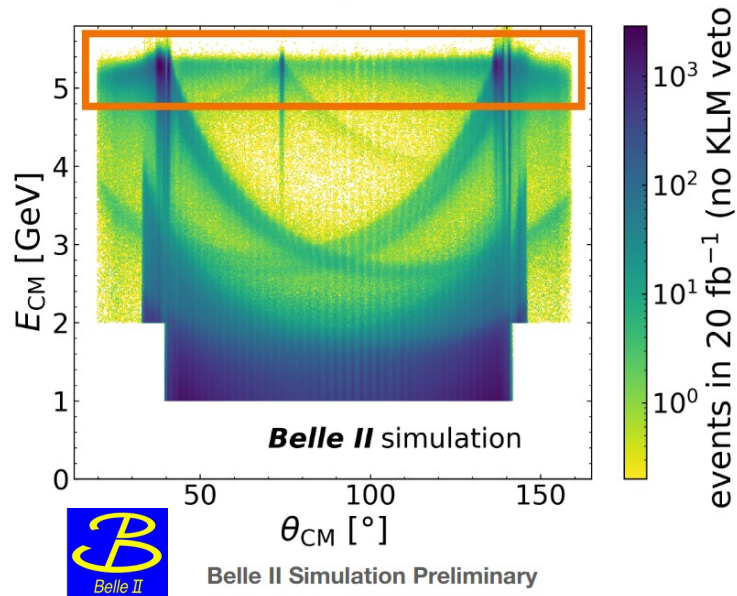


- $m_{A'} > 2m_\chi \rightarrow A'$ decays 100% invisibly into DM particle (*single photon search*)
- $m_{A'} < 2m_\chi \rightarrow A'$ decays visibly to SM particle (leptons)

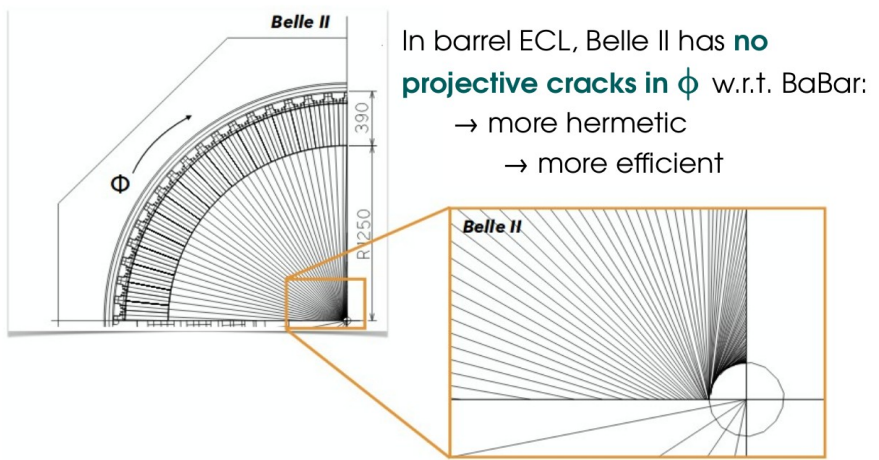
Dark photon to invisible

- Select events with **nothing** but a single high energetic *ISR photon*.
Look for a bump in the reconstructed photon energy $E_\gamma = (s - m_{A'}^2)/2\sqrt{s}$
- **Background:** QED processes $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\gamma(\gamma)$ (*low mass region*) and radiative Bhabha $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^- \gamma(\gamma)$ (*high mass region*) + cosemics

→ only one photon in the detector requires a dedicated **single photon trigger**
→ at Belle was not available, at BaBar was available only on $\sim 10\%$ data (53 fb^{-1})

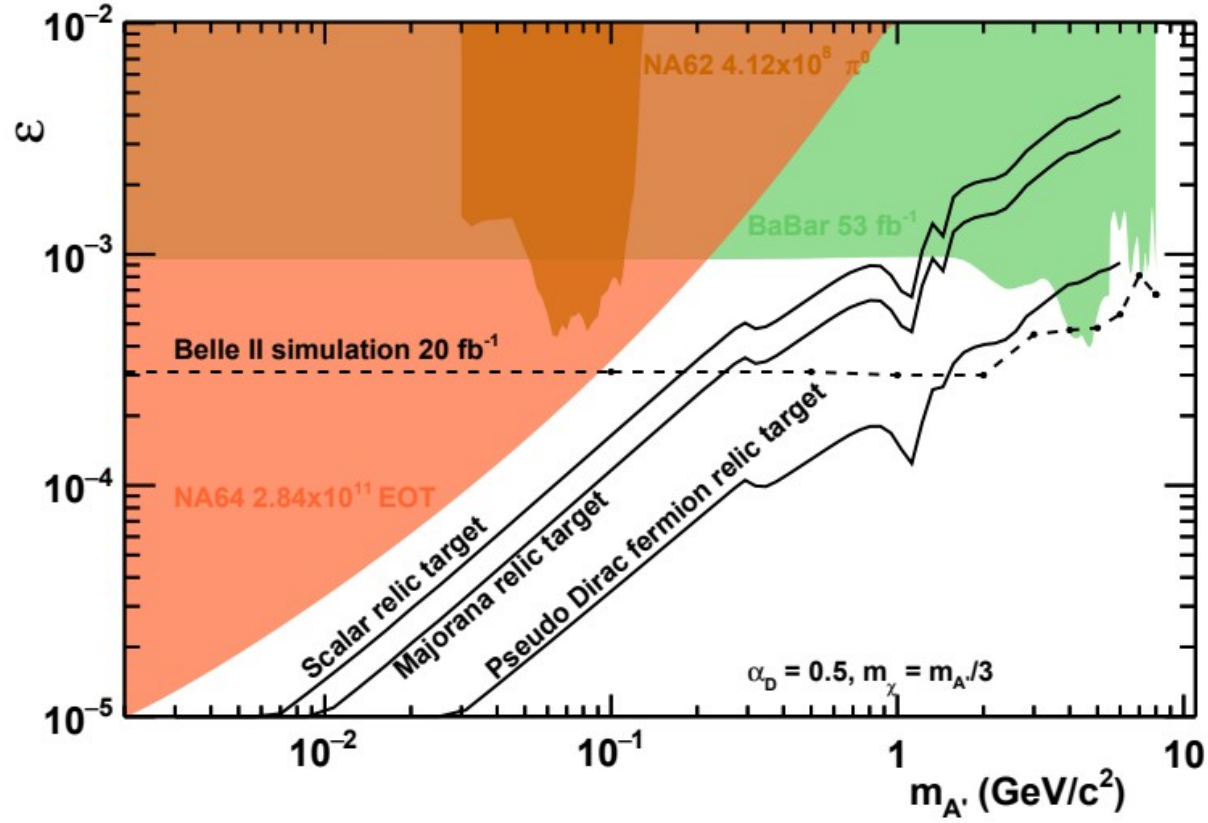


Invisible dark photon sensitivity at Belle II



- No calorimeter cracks pointing to the interaction region and possibility to compensate for photon detection gap with KLM veto
- Better hermeticity (smaller boost $\beta\gamma=0.28$, larger acceptance)
- Improved hardware trigger lines

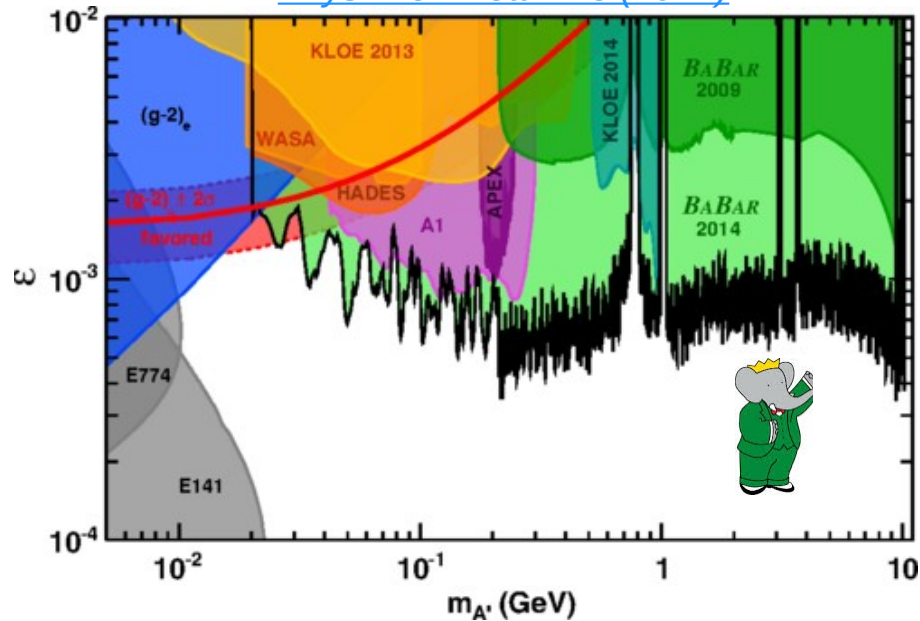
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2104.10280.pdf>



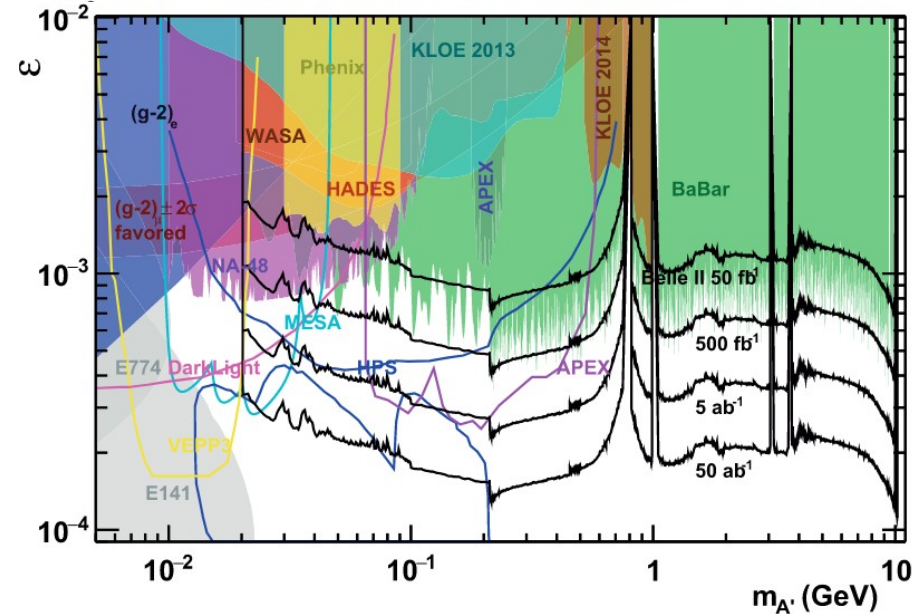
Visible Dark Photon

- Existing results by BaBar, currently the best limits in all the GeV range:
 - bump search in the reconstructed di-lepton spectrum from the full data set (514 fb⁻¹)
- Belle II will lead the sensitivity with the final data set of 50 ab⁻¹

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 113 \(2014\)](#)



Belle II projections from [PTEP 2019 12 \(2019\)](#)



Conclusions

Very active and wide-ranging program of searches for dark sectors at Belle II: interesting to probe not only the DM puzzle, but also many anomalies in flavor.



Belle II proved already its capability to produce **world leading results** even on a minimal data set (1/100 000th of the final target one)

$Z' \rightarrow \text{inv}$ PRL 124 (2020) 141801

$a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ PRL 125 (2020) 161806

- Ongoing studies show we'll be competitive in almost all of the light dark sector searches areas:
 - ***Displaced vertex signatures, missing energy final state searches (in Michel's talk), visible SM decays of light mediator***
- Increased luminosity, upgraded detector and better analysis strategies will improve existing limits and provide soon new results.

...more to come: magnetic monopoles, dark shower, visible A' , ALPs to hadron, etc.



The Belle II Physics Book, PTEP 2019 12 (2019)

LUMINOSITY
IS
COMING

Thanks for your attention.

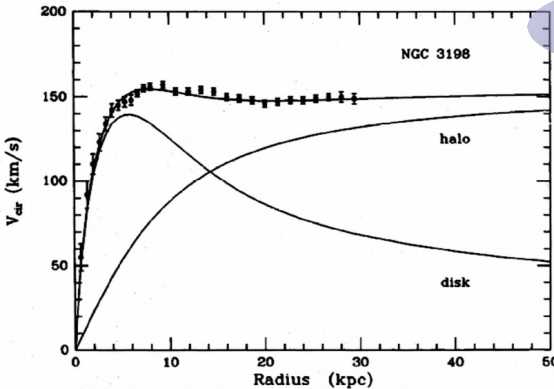


Backup

Dark matter puzzle

- **Dark Matter (DM)** is one of the most compelling reason for New Physics (NP) searches

DISTRIBUTION OF DARK MATTER IN NGC 3198

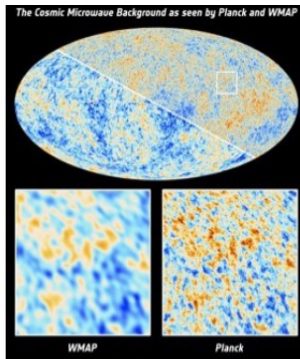


It exists...

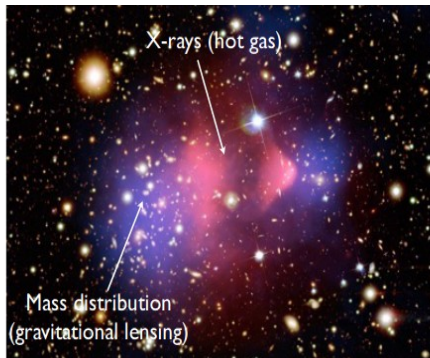
Flat rotational curves

$$v(r) = \sqrt{M(r)/r}$$

CMB fluctuations

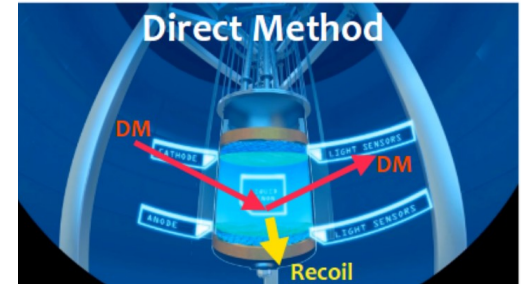


Gravitational lensing

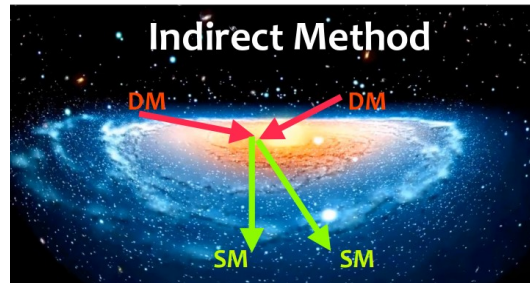


...how to search for it?

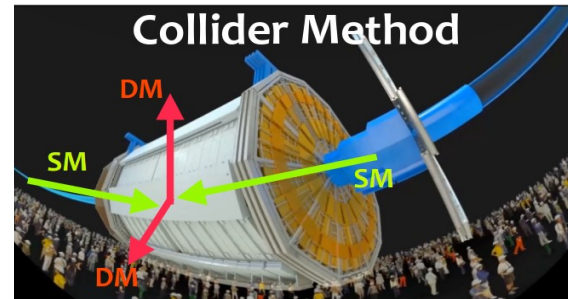
- 1) Detect the energy of *nuclear(electron) recoil*



- 2) Detect the *flux of visible particles* produced by *DM annihilation* and decay



- 3) DM weakly couples to SM particles and it can be produced in *SM-particles annihilation* at *accelerators*

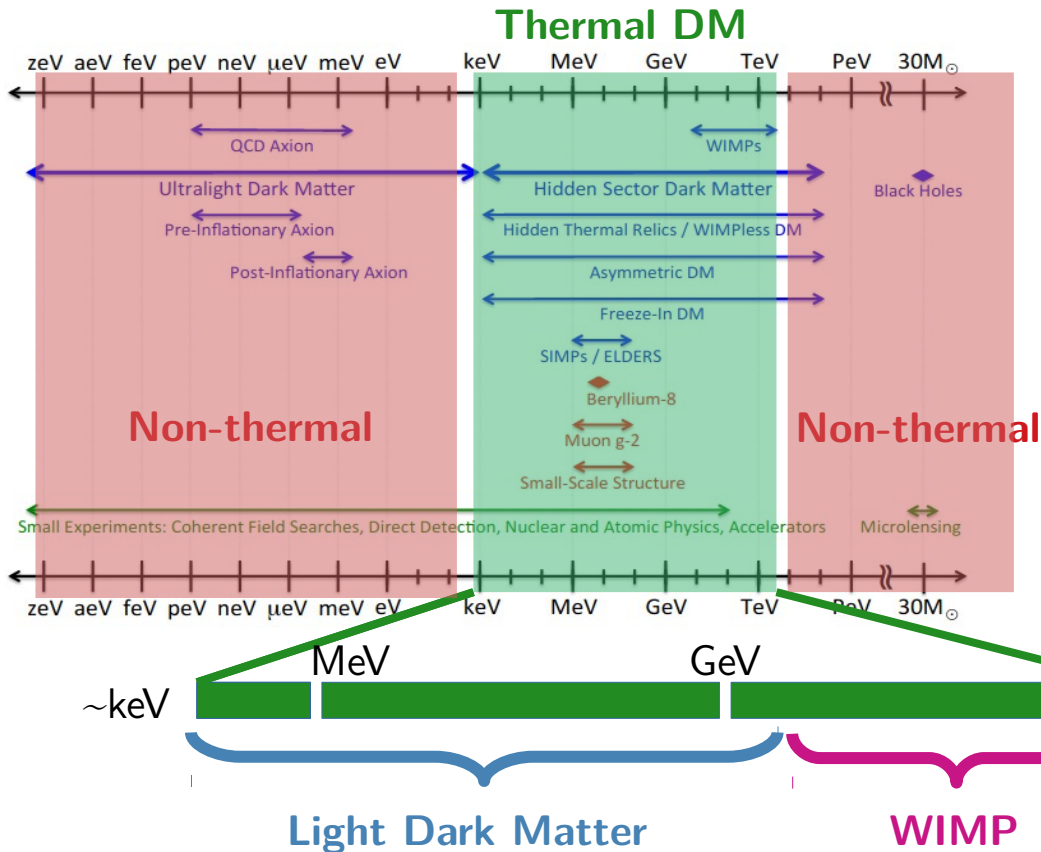


Dark matter candidates

• DM is an unsolved puzzle → Unknown origin and nature!

→ Modified Newtonian Gravity...
→ Non-particle candidates: MACHOs

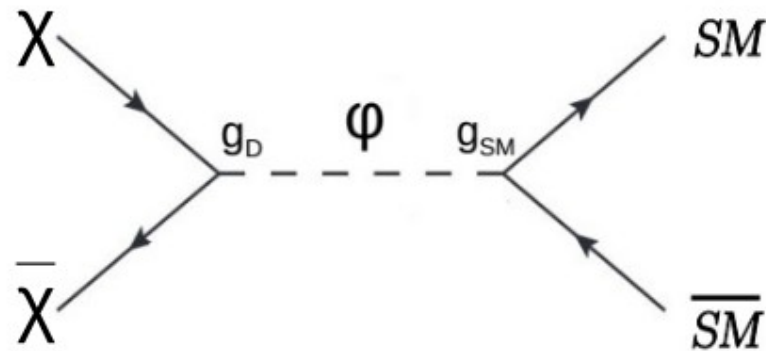
→ Particle candidates



- **Neutrinos** ✗ hot, relativistic candidates
 - **QCD Axions** ✗ constrained by stellar cooling processes and supernovae dynamics, disfavoring thermal production
 - **Sterile Neutrinos** ✓ observed DM abundance ✓ neutrino masses
 - **Weakly Interacting Massive Particles (WIMPs)** ✓ match supersymmetric candidates (neutralino, *WIMP miracle*)
- ✗ null results from direct searches

Light dark matter scenarios

- No evidences for WIMP favor light DM hypotheses
- Possibility of *light dark sectors* motivates the search for a **DM mediator (φ)**:



Measured from cosmological observations

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle_{\text{relic}} \sim \frac{g_D g_{SM} m_\chi^2}{m_\phi^4} < 1$$

Experimentally constrained by current searches

$$m_\phi^4 \leq \frac{m_\chi^2}{\langle \sigma v \rangle} \text{ since } g < O(1)$$

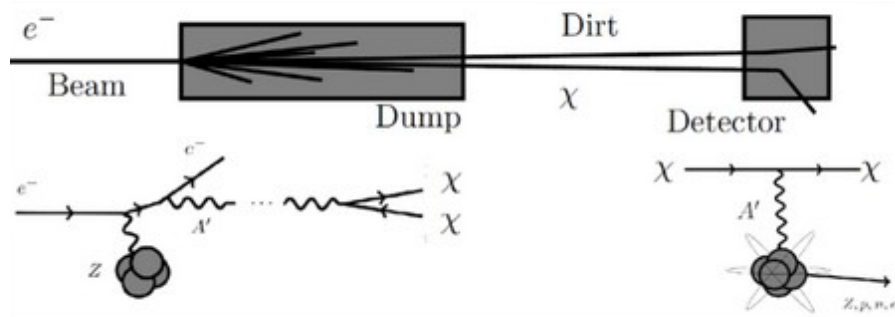
May be too small to be consistent with the mass of any known SM mediator

→ NEW PORTALS

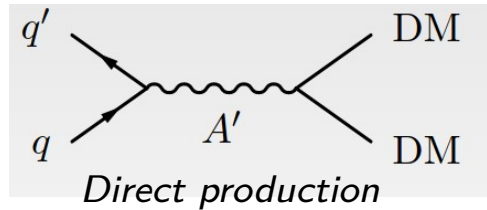
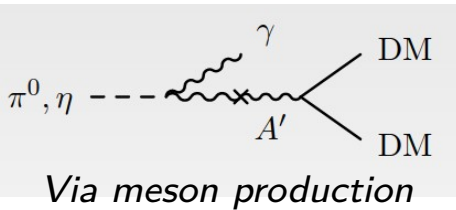
Dark matter production at accelerators

- Fixed-target experiment

- Electron beam dump

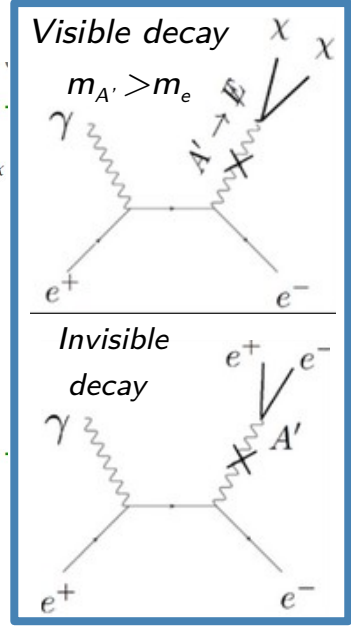
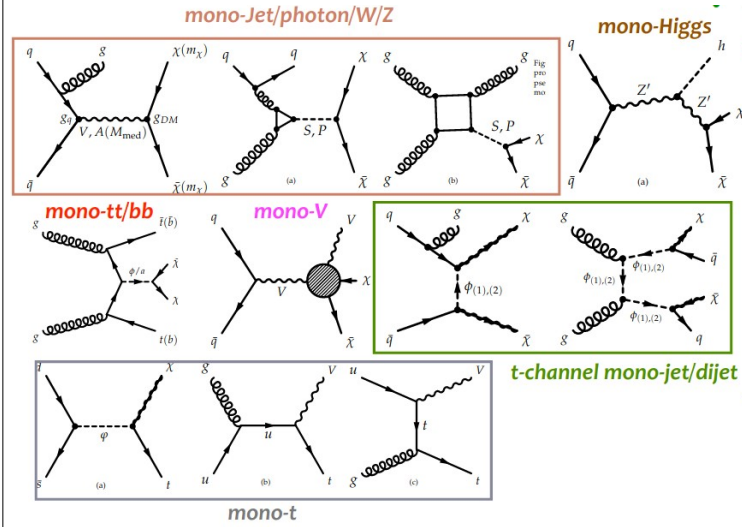
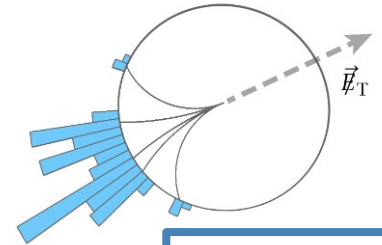


- Proton beam dump (DM at neutrino facilities)



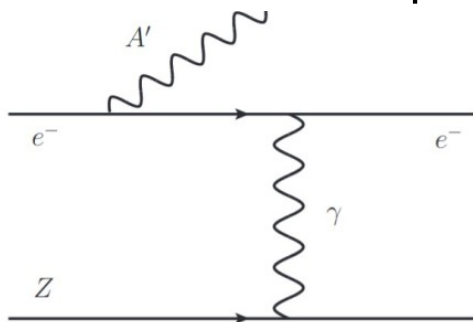
- Colliders

Mono-X searches: detect a well-reconstructed SM object (ISR photon, jets..) + missing energy



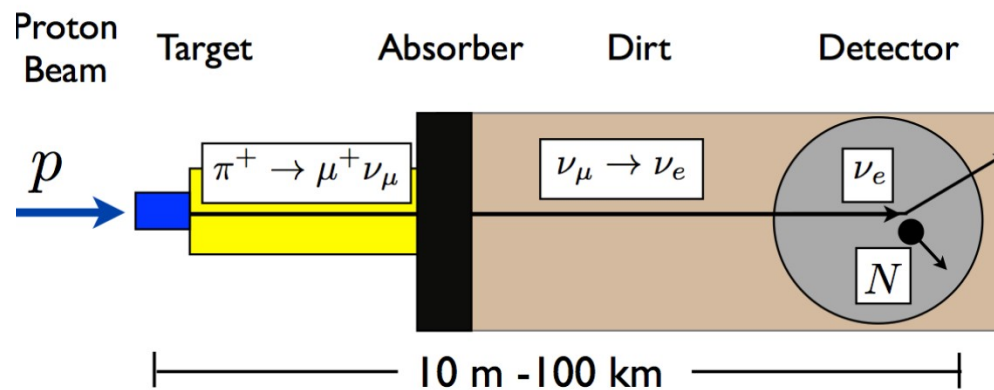
Dark matter searches at fixed-target

- Electron beam dump



- Suitable to investigate *vector* portals for mediator masses $2m_e < m_{A'} < \text{GeV}$
- Larger luminosity
- Scattering cross section enhanced by nuclear charge coherence
- Compact special-purpose detectors (dual-arms spectrometer @JLAB, MAMI, forward vertexing spectrometer @HPS)

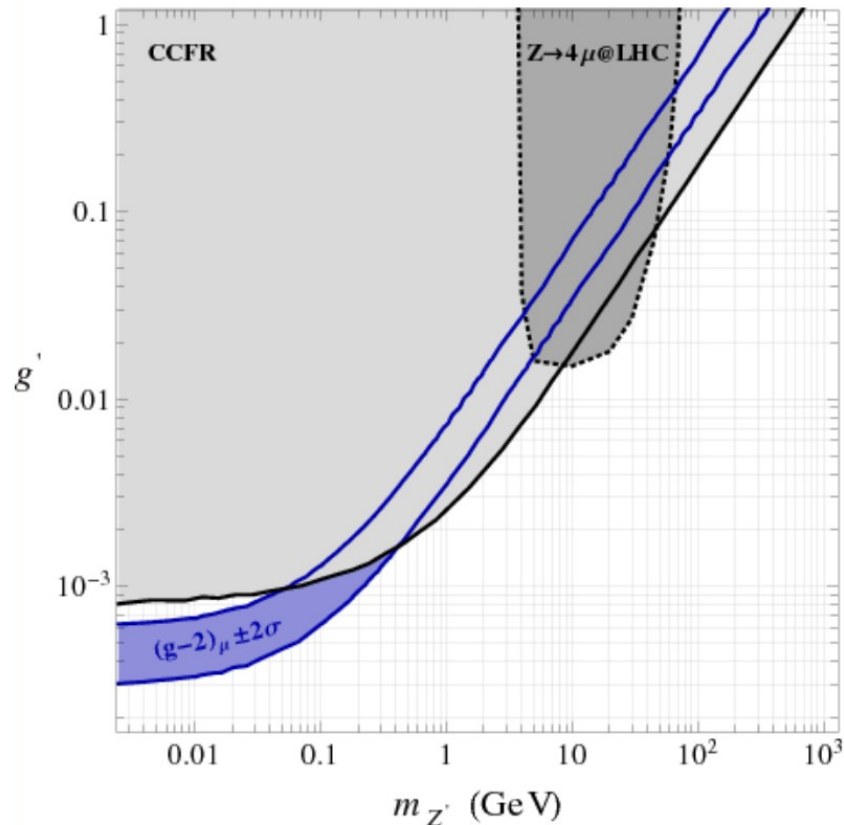
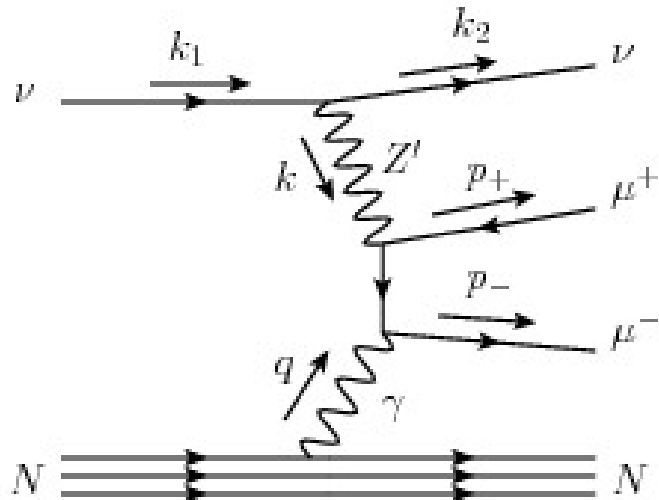
- Proton beam dump: exploiting neutrino facilities



- Exploit existing neutrino facilities
- Look for neutral pion conversions to photons that may kinetically mix with the dark photon
- Signal signature: dilepton resonances, long-lived particle, missing energy

Neutrino trident production

- Neutrino trident production with a Z' boson



Cross section in e^+e^- collision at 10.58 GeV

Physics process	Cross section [nb]	Selection Criteria	Reference
$\Upsilon(4S)$	1.110 ± 0.008	-	[2]
$u\bar{u}(\gamma)$	1.61	-	KKMC
$d\bar{d}(\gamma)$	0.40	-	KKMC
$s\bar{s}(\gamma)$	0.38	-	KKMC
$c\bar{c}(\gamma)$	1.30	-	KKMC
$e^+e^-(\gamma)$	300 ± 3 (MC stat.)	$10^\circ < \theta_e^* < 170^\circ$, $E_e^* > 0.15$ GeV	BABAYAGA.NLO
$e^+e^-(\gamma)$	74.4	$p_e > 0.5$ GeV/c and e in ECL	-
$\gamma\gamma(\gamma)$	4.99 ± 0.05 (MC stat.)	$10^\circ < \theta_\gamma^* < 170^\circ$, $E_\gamma^* > 0.15$ GeV	BABAYAGA.NLO
$\gamma\gamma(\gamma)$	3.30	$E_\gamma > 0.5$ GeV in ECL	-
$\mu^+\mu^-(\gamma)$	1.148	-	KKMC
$\mu^+\mu^-(\gamma)$	0.831	$p_\mu > 0.5$ GeV/c in CDC	-
$\mu^+\mu^-\gamma(\gamma)$	0.242	$p_\mu > 0.5$ GeV in CDC, $\geq 1 \gamma (E_\gamma > 0.5$ GeV) in ECL	-
$\tau^+\tau^-(\gamma)$	0.919	-	KKMC
$\nu\bar{\nu}(\gamma)$	0.25×10^{-3}	-	KKMC
$e^+e^-e^+e^-$	39.7 ± 0.1 (MC stat.)	$W_{\ell\ell} > 0.5$ GeV/c ²	AAFH
$e^+e^-\mu^+\mu^-$	18.9 ± 0.1 (MC stat.)	$W_{\ell\ell} > 0.5$ GeV/c ²	AAFH

The Belle II Physics

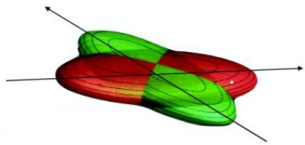
Book [arXiv:1808.10567]

- Low multiplicity event cross sections rapidly diverge compared to hadronic ones
- Selections applied at MC generator level to reduce the effective cross section (acceptance, particle momentum selections)
- W_{\parallel} is the minimum invariant secondary fermion pair mass

SuperKEKB accelerator

- World highest luminosity, applying the large crossing angle (83 mrad) *nano-beam scheme* [arXiv:0709.0451].

KEKB



SuperKEKB



I (A): $\sim 1.6/1.2$

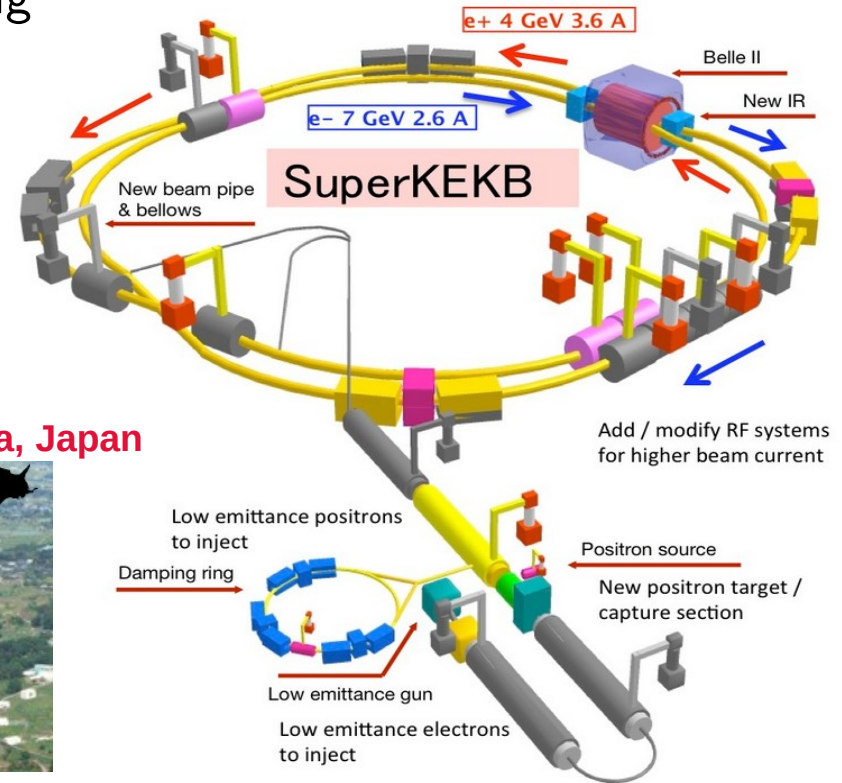
$\times 1.5$

I (A): $\sim 3.6/2.6$

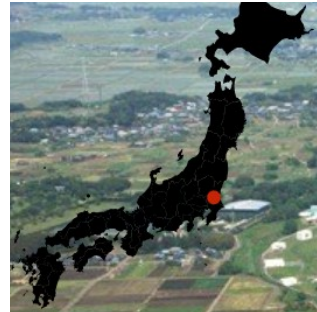
β_y^* (mm): $\sim 5.9/5.9$

$\times 1/20$

β_y^* (mm): $\sim 0.27/0.3$



KEK
Tsukuba, Japan



$$L = \frac{\gamma_{\pm}}{2er_e} \left(1 + \frac{\sigma_y^*}{\sigma_x^*} \right) \frac{I_{\pm} \xi_{y\pm}}{\beta_{y\pm}^*} \left(\frac{R_L}{R_{\xi}} \right)$$

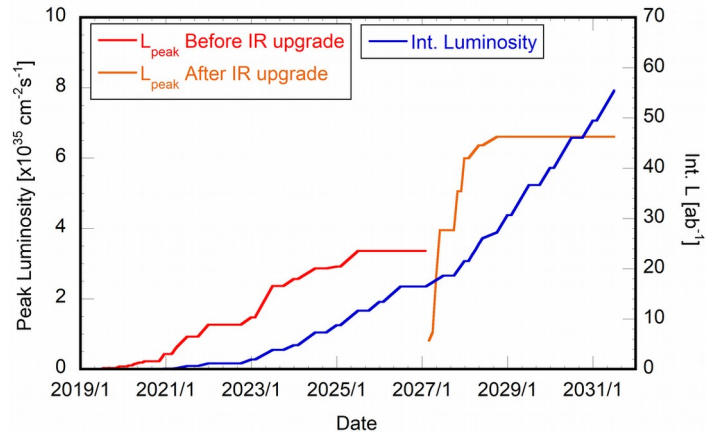
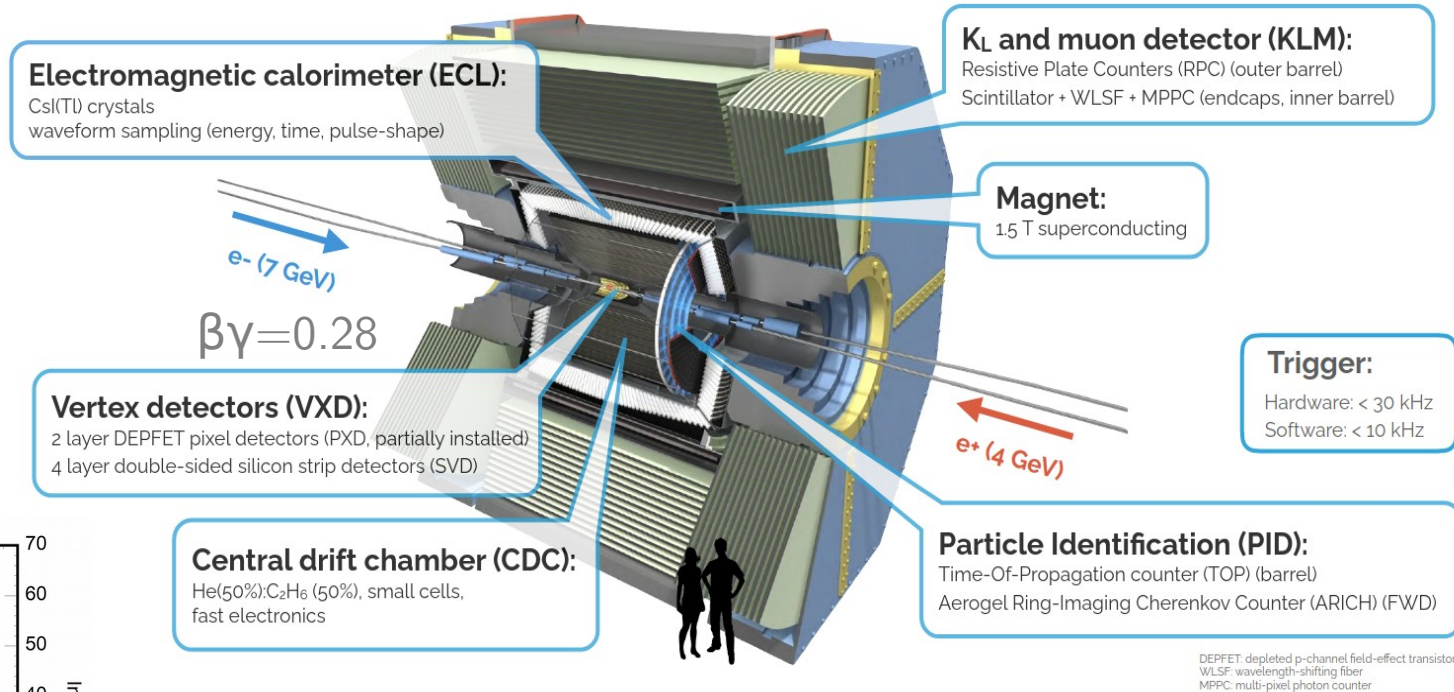
Lorentz factor γ_{\pm}
 beam current I_{\pm}
 beam-beam parameter $\xi_{y\pm}$
 vertical beta-function at the IP $\beta_{y\pm}^*$
 beam aspect ratio at the IP $\frac{\sigma_y^*}{\sigma_x^*}$
 geometrical reduction factors $\left(\frac{R_L}{R_{\xi}} \right)$

30x KEKB peak luminosity: $\mathcal{L} = 6 \cdot 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

Belle II at SuperKEKB

- Updated detector:

- provide comparable/better efficiencies and resolutions in a higher background
- Improved dedicated triggers for low multiplicity and missing energy final states → *see more in previous session talks*

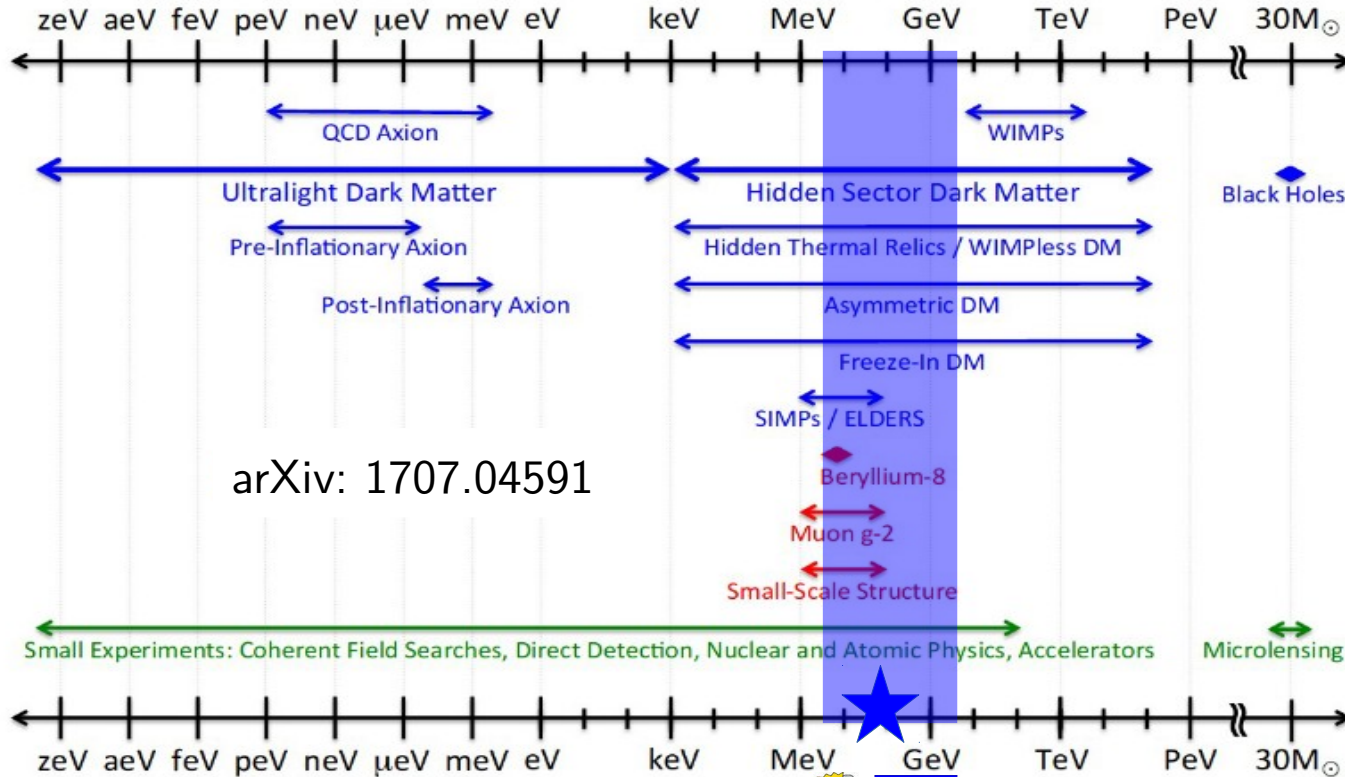


GOAL: 50 ab^{-1}

The Belle II Physics Book, PTEP 2019 12 (2019)

Overview of dark sector searches

Dark Sector Candidates, Anomalies, and Search Techniques



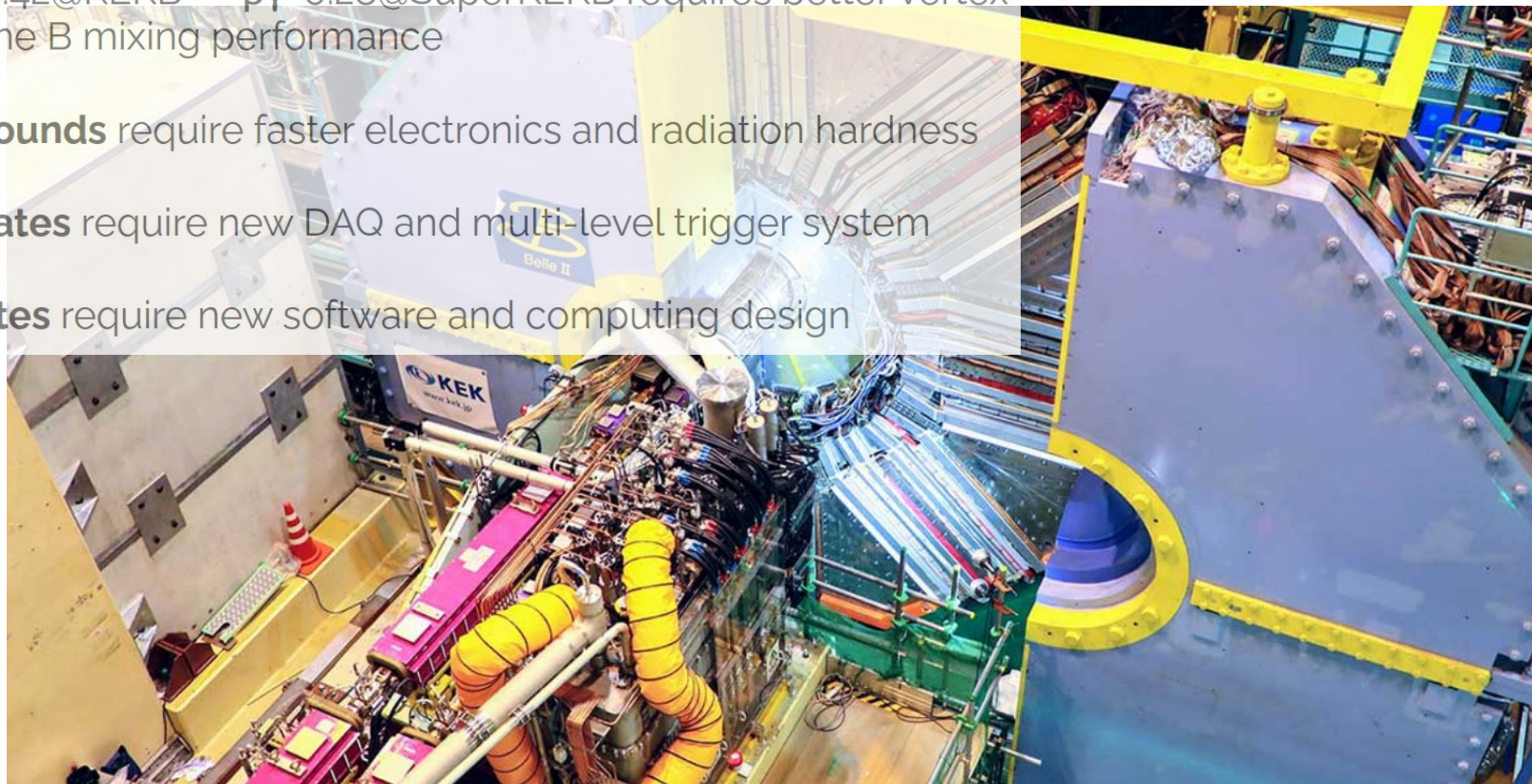
arXiv: 1707.04591

★ B-factories can access the mass range naturally favored by *light dark sectors*



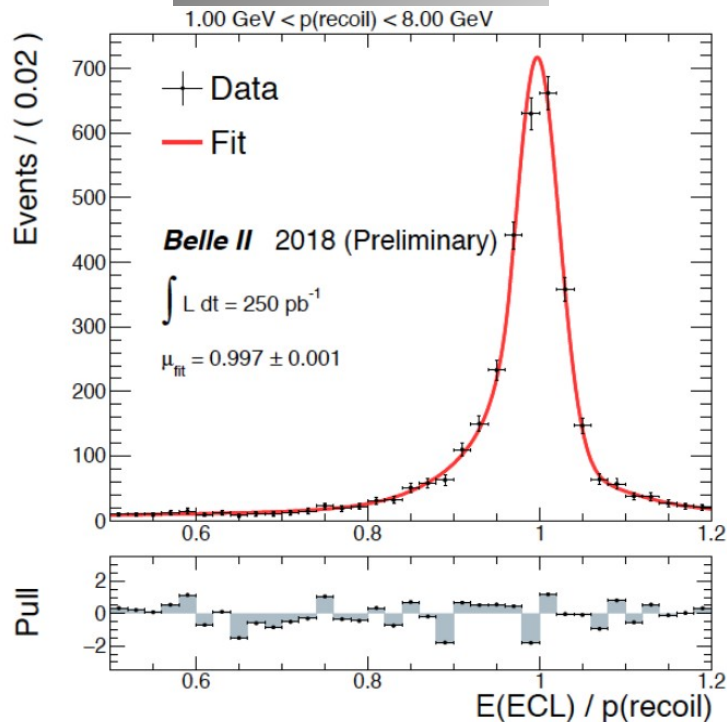
Belle II Challenges

- **Reduced boost** $\beta\gamma=0.42@KEKB \rightarrow \beta\gamma=0.28@SuperKEKB$ requires better vertex resolution for the same B mixing performance
- Much **higher backgrounds** require faster electronics and radiation hardness
- Much **higher event rates** require new DAQ and multi-level trigger system
- Much **higher data rates** require new software and computing design

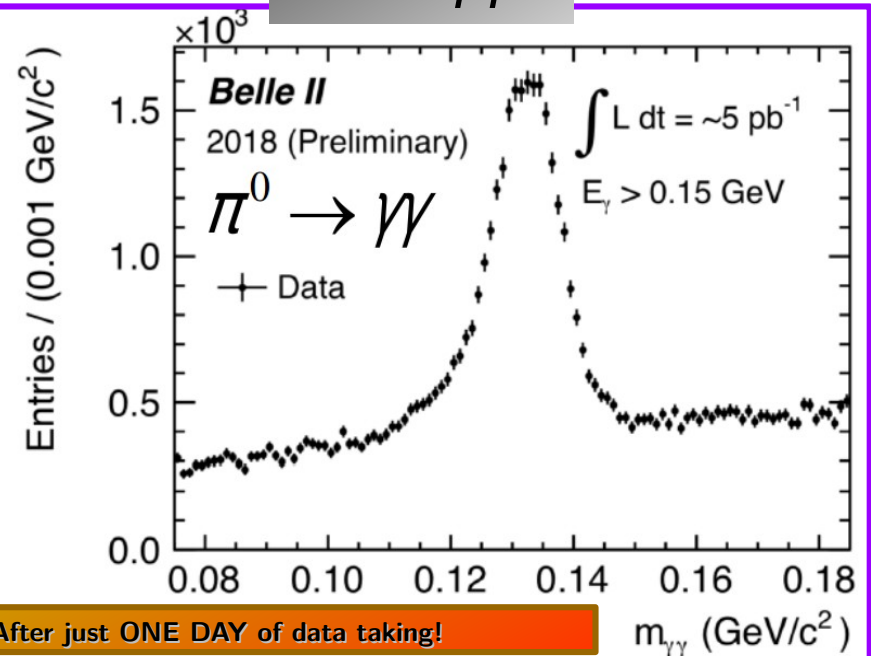


Belle II Performances in Phase 2: photon reconstruction

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu\mu\gamma$$



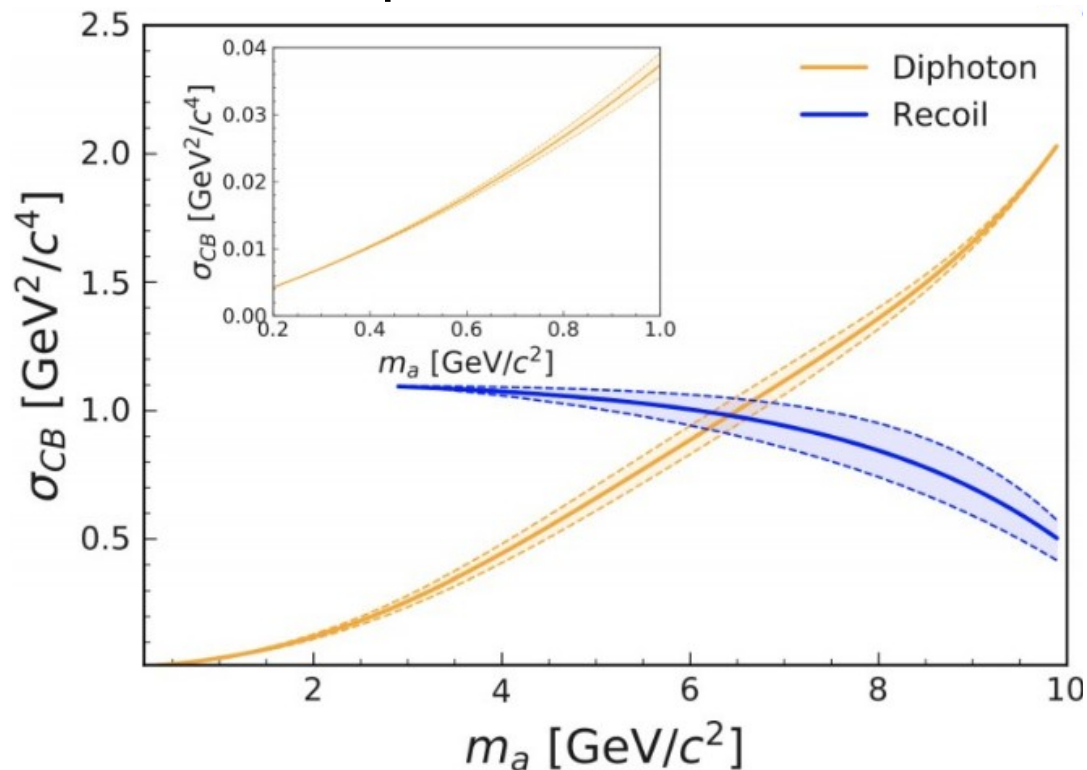
$$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$



$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma X, e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma \text{ALPS} \rightarrow \gamma(\gamma\gamma)$$

ALPs at Belle II: resolutions

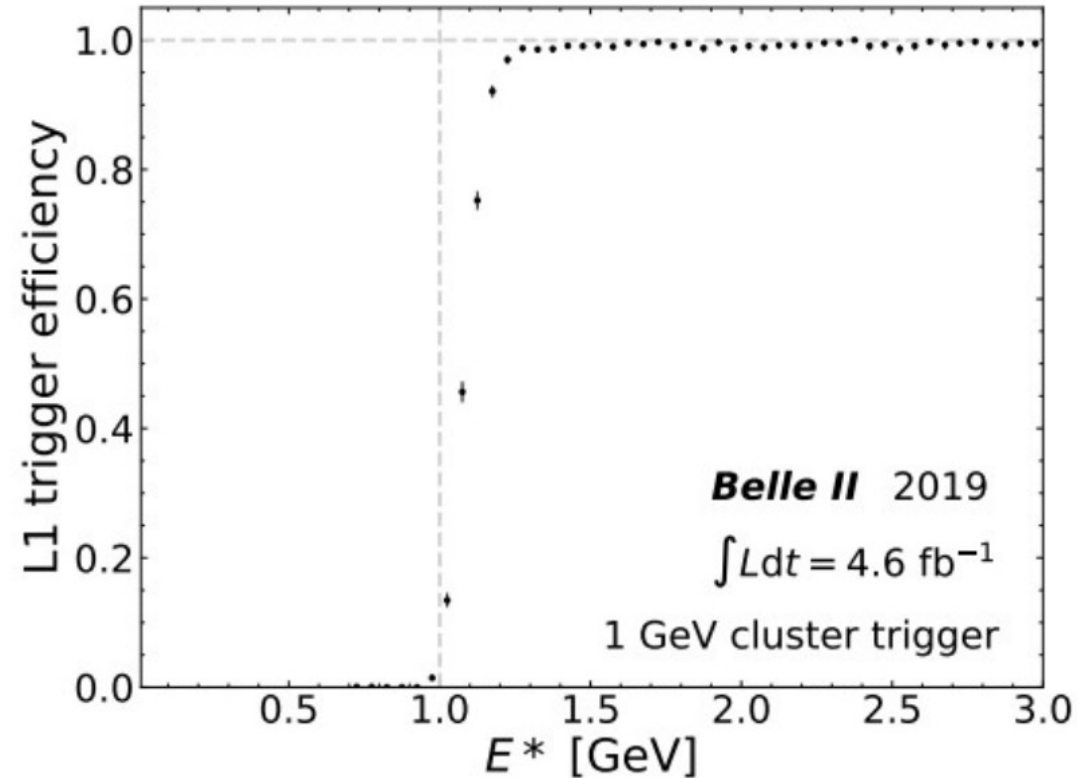
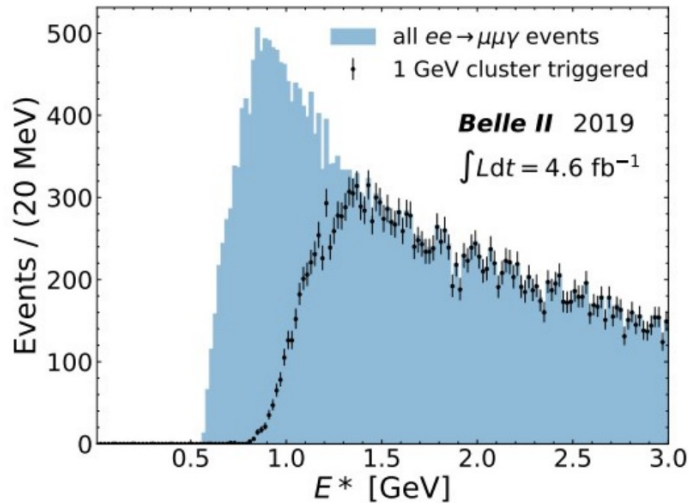
- Signal resolutions for di-photon and recoil masses



Dark photon to invisible: single photon trigger

Belle II Phase 3 (Design)

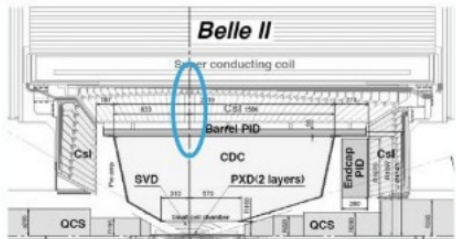
Trigger logic	L1 rate at full luminosity
$E > 1$ GeV (veto clusters above 300 MeV)	4 kHz (barrel) 7 kHz (endcaps)
$E > 2$ GeV Bhabha & $\gamma\gamma$ vetoes	5 kHz (barrel)



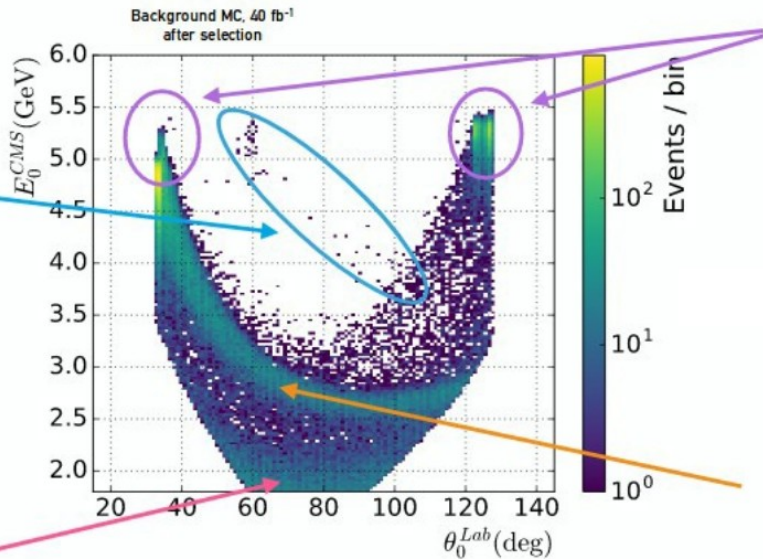
Dark photon to invisible: backgrounds

Discriminant variables:

E_{CMS} vs. polar angle of "single photon"

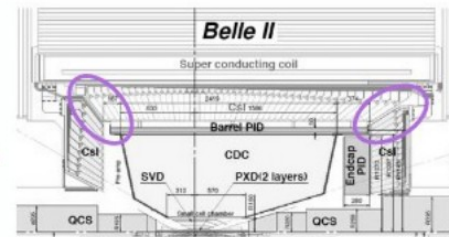


$ee \rightarrow 2\gamma$ and 3γ
 1 γ in ECL 90° gap
 1 γ out of ECL acceptance

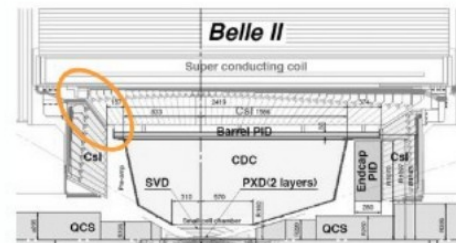


$ee \rightarrow eey$
 both electrons
 out of tracking acceptance

Signal signature:
 peak in E_{CMS} (horizontal band)



$ee \rightarrow 2\gamma$
 1 γ in ECL BWD or FWD gap



$ee \rightarrow 3\gamma$
 1 γ in ECL BWD gap
 1 γ out of ECL acceptance

Dark photon to invisible: discriminant variables

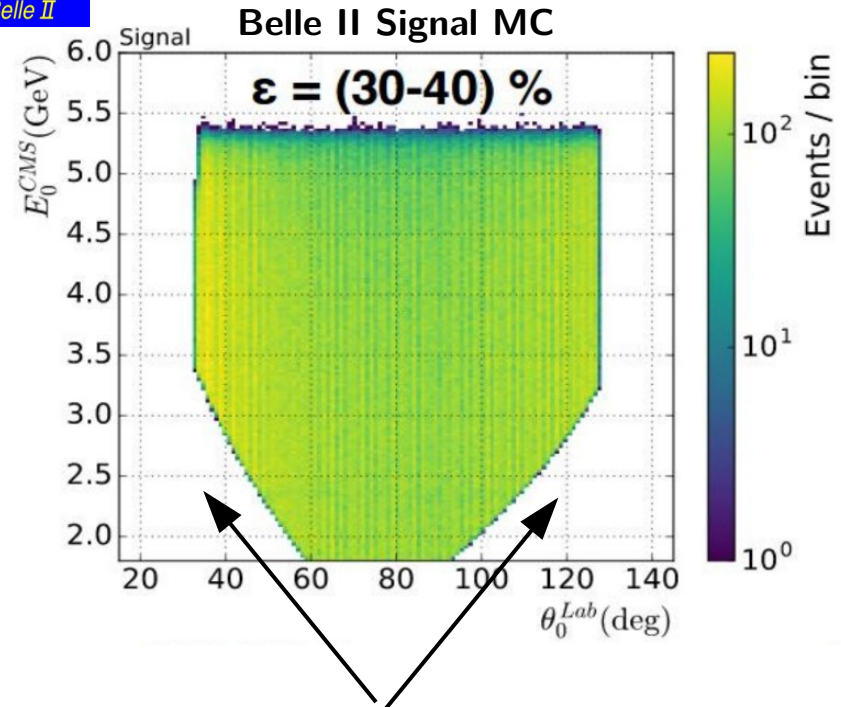


Optimize the analysis separately in the Low Mass region, $M_x^2 < 36 \text{ GeV}^2$, and High Mass region, $24 < M_x^2 < 69 \text{ GeV}^2$.

- *BDT discriminant* trained on 12 variables (signal cluster shape, cluster properties, additional energy deposited in the calorimeter, etc)
- Optimize analysis in model independent approach
- Interpret results for dark photon decay ($\epsilon, M_{A'}$)



Discriminant variables: $E_\gamma^*, \theta_\gamma$



Effect of selection on $E^*(\theta)$ for background rejection