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# Dark Sector Searches at Belle II

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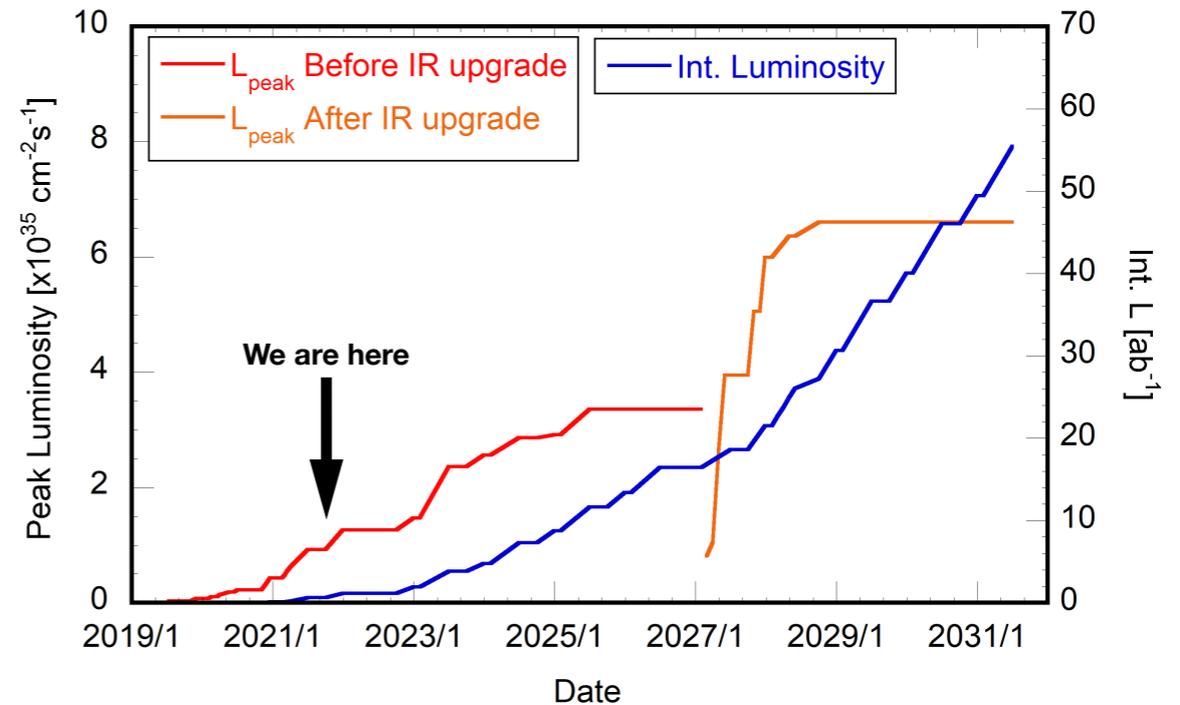
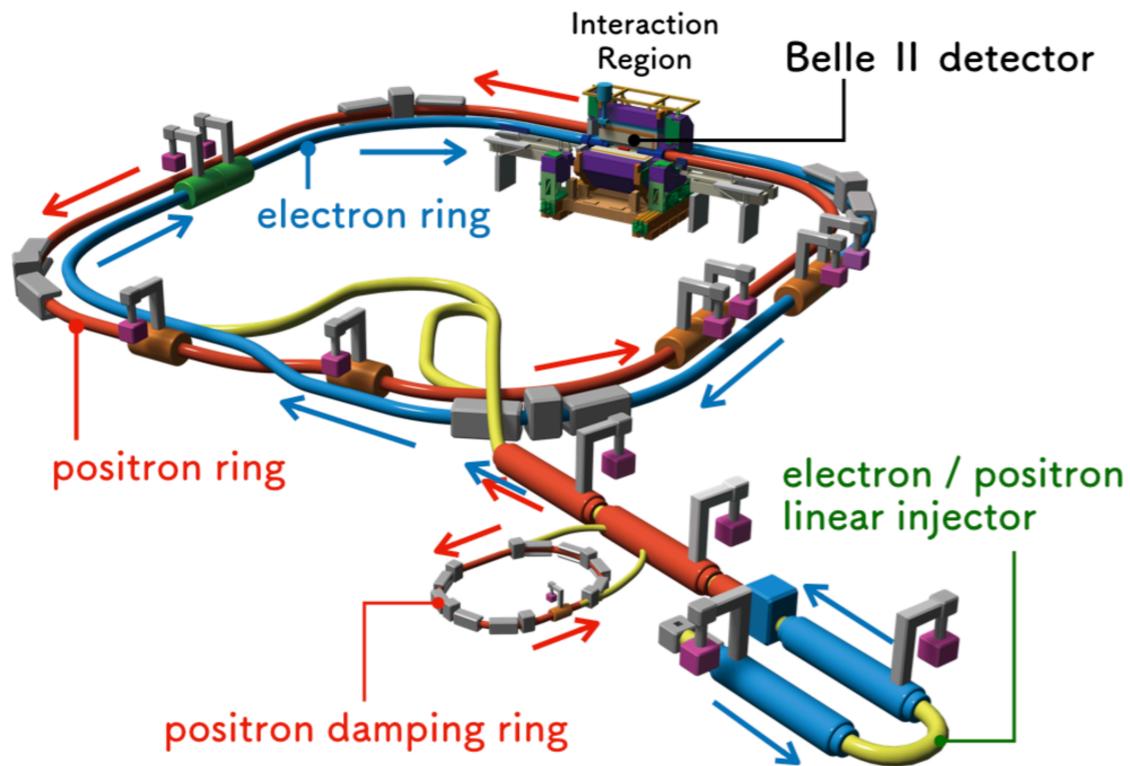
MOCa 2021: Materia Oscura en Colombia

10/06/2021

# Belle II and SuperKEKB



# SuperKEKB

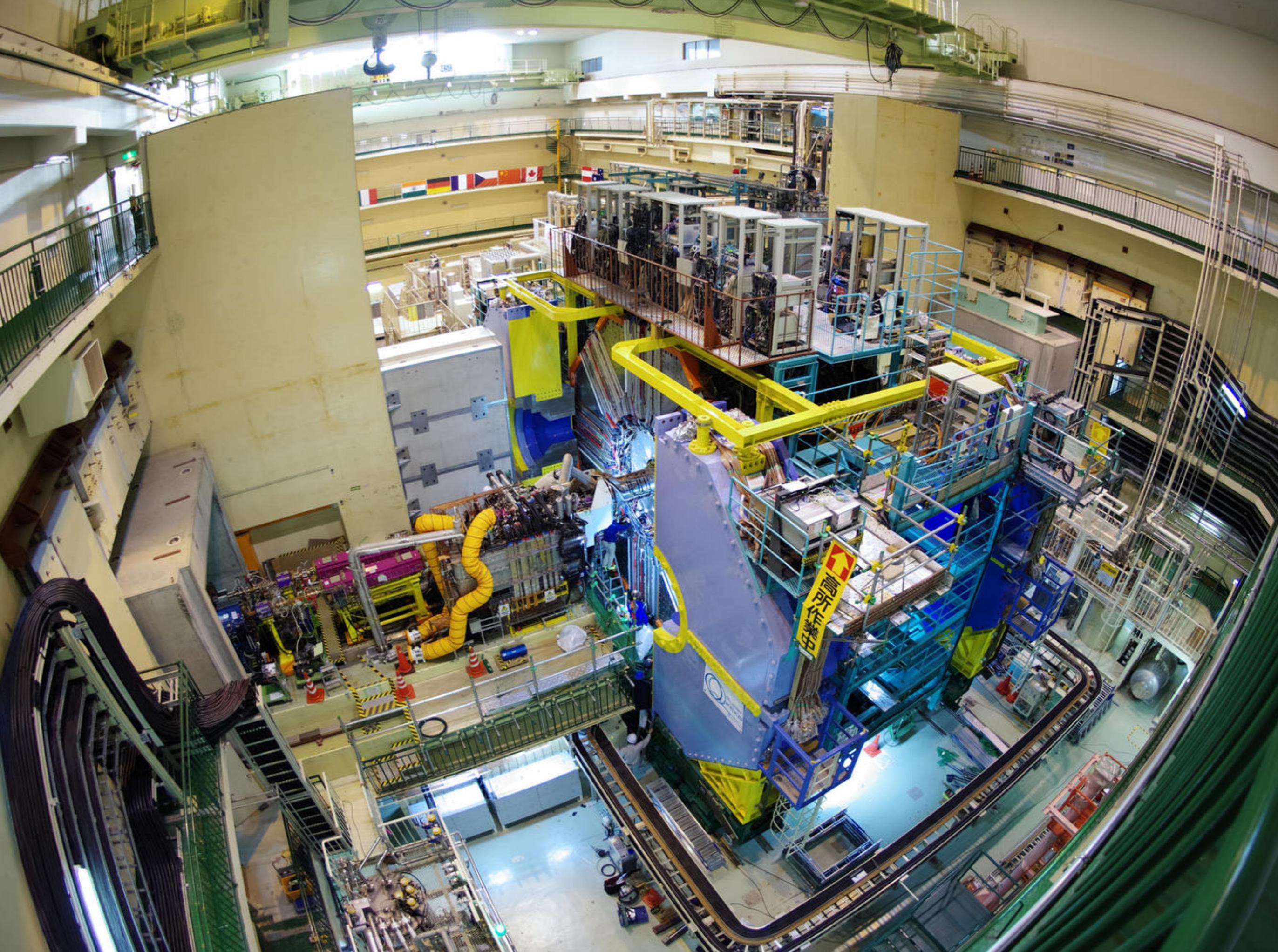


**→ 30 times higher luminosity**

**1.5x higher beam currents  
20x smaller beam spot**

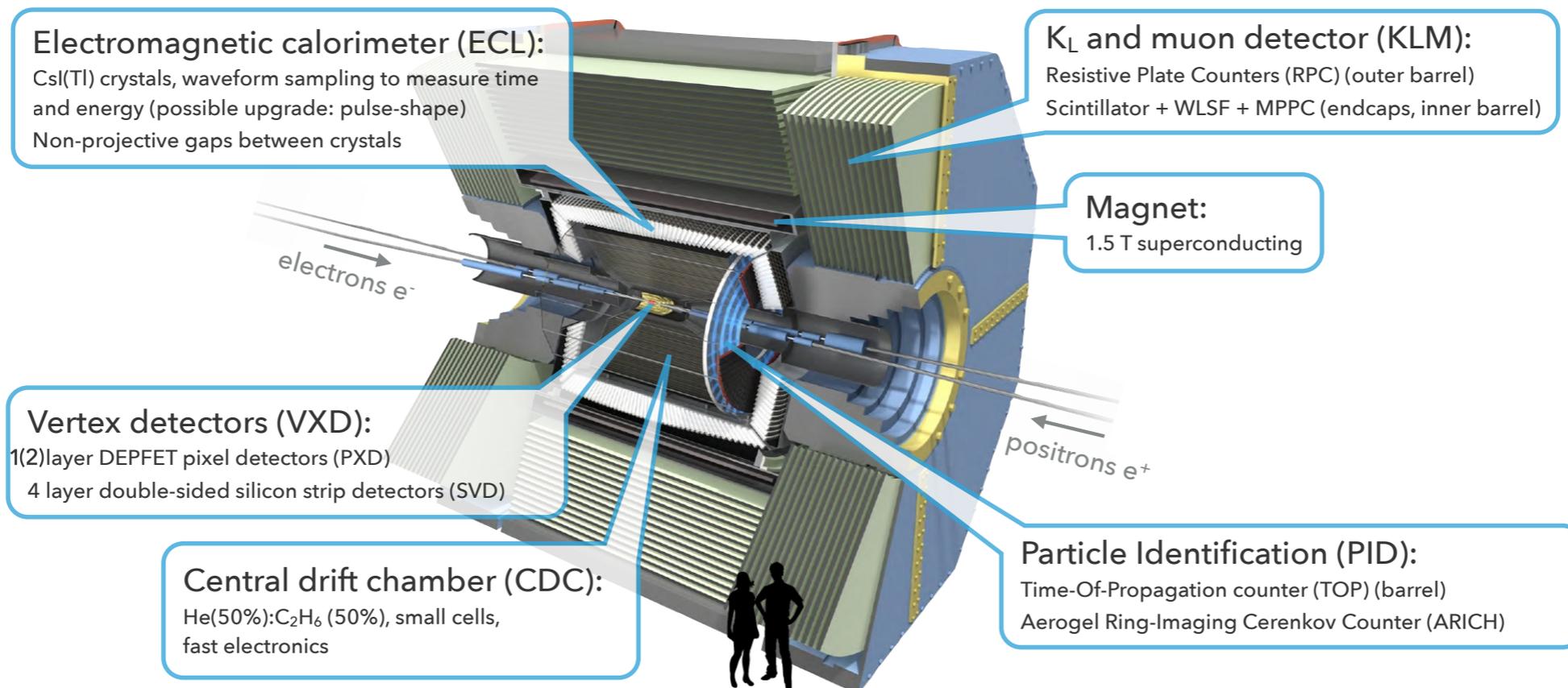
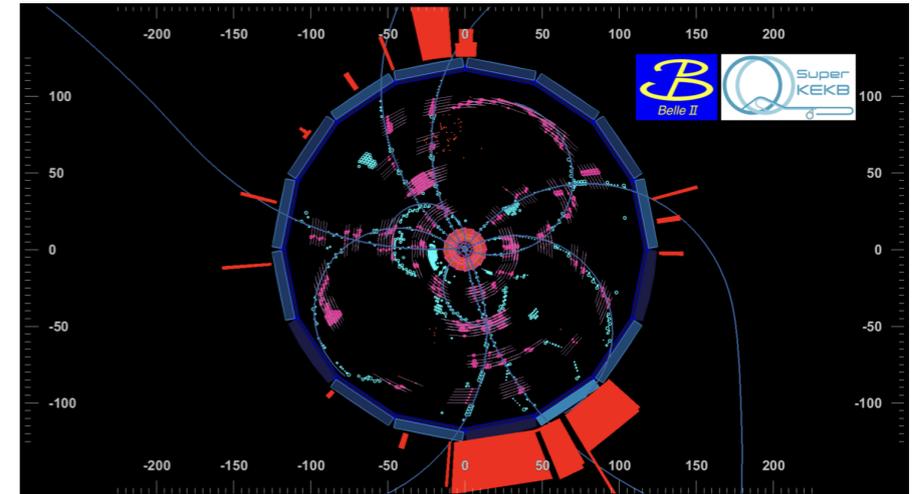
- super  $B$ -factory, located in Tsukuba, Japan
- asymmetric  $e^+e^-$  collider ( $e^-$  at 7 GeV,  $e^+$  at 4 GeV,  $\langle\beta\gamma\rangle\approx 0.284$ )
- commissioning run from Feb to Jul 2018
- regular operations started in Mar 2019
- operated around 10.58 GeV ( $=m_{\Upsilon(4S)}$ )
- design luminosity  $6 \times 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$





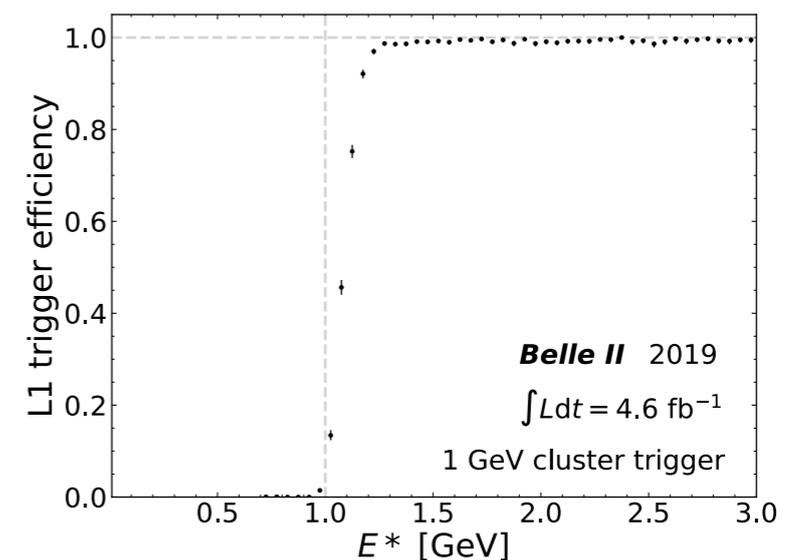
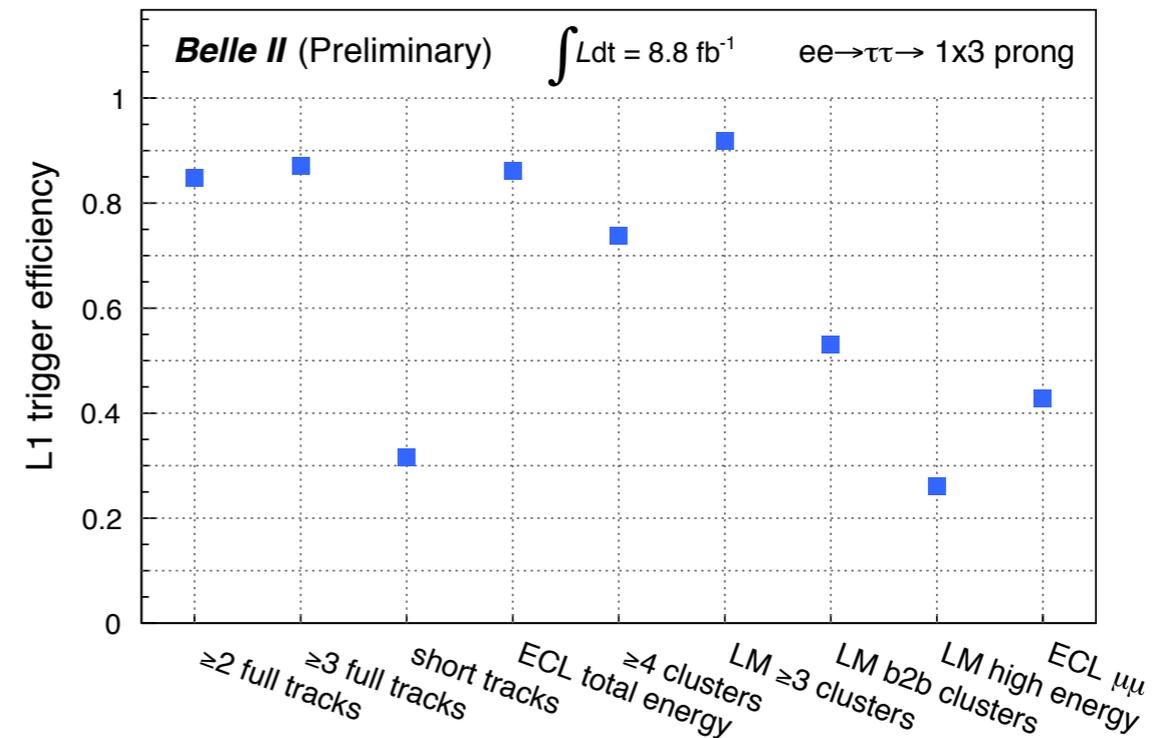
# Belle II

- 1102 members and 123 institutes
- $0.5 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  collected during commissioning run in 2018
- $180 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  collected up to now
- plan to collect 50 times more data than Belle
- rich physics program:  $B$  and  $D$  physics, quarkonium,  $\tau$ , low mass dark sector, ...



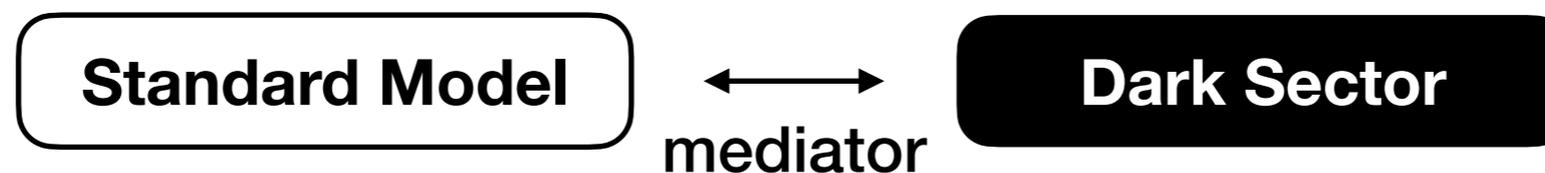
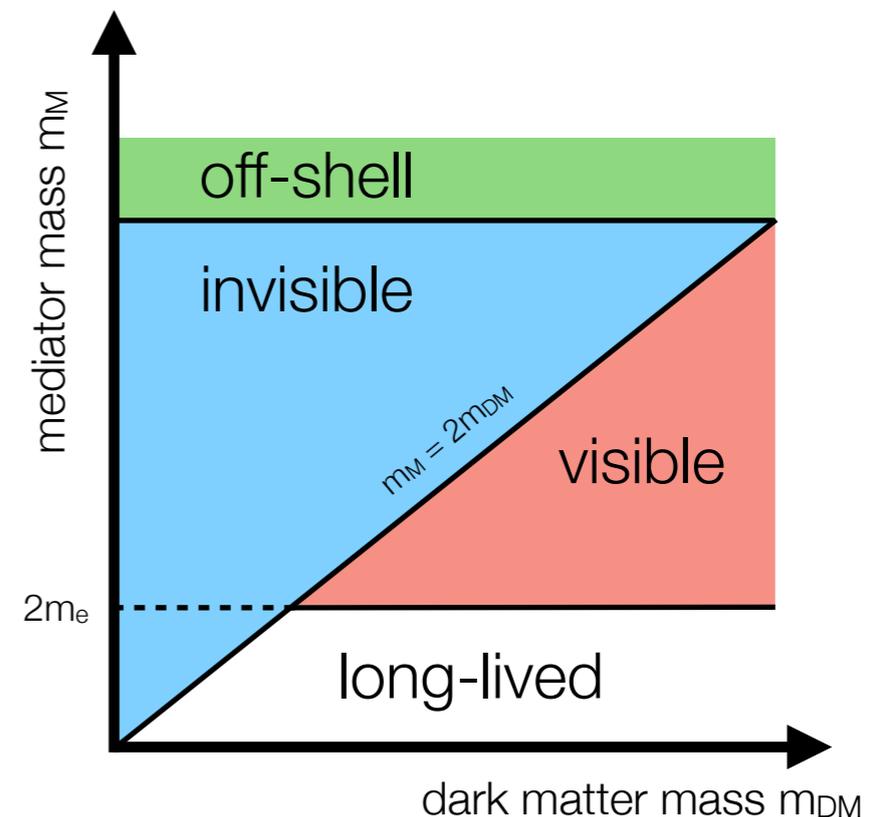
# Belle II L1 Trigger

- Belle II trigger system consists of two levels
  - low level trigger implemented in hardware (L1)
  - software-based high level trigger (HLT)
- identify and select events over beam backgrounds (Touschek effect, beam-gas scattering)
- L1 trigger
  - maximum average trigger rate of 30kHz
  - 4 sub-detector triggers: CDC, ECL, TOP, KLM
  - trigger menu designed for different physics targets
- dedicated dark sector/low-multiplicity trigger lines
  - single photon trigger
  - single track trigger
  - 3D tracks are reconstructed with a neural network approach
  - combination of full/short/neuro tracks
  - ECL clusters with various energy levels and angular separation



# Dark Sector Searches

- probe light dark sectors with low-mass mediators  $O(\text{GeV})$
- possible portals between SM and DM include
  - vector portal (dark photon  $A'$ , dark  $Z'$ )
  - pseudo-scalar portal (axion-like particle)
  - scalar portal
  - neutrino portal
- searches at Belle II profit from
  - hermetic detector
  - clean collision environment
  - excellent PID
  - dedicated low-multiplicity triggers (single photon/track trigger)



Featured in Physics Editors' Suggestion **Open Access**

## Search for an Invisibly Decaying $Z'$ Boson at Belle II in $e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-(e^\pm\mu^\mp)$ Plus Missing Energy Final States

I. Adachi *et al.* (Belle II Collaboration)  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **124**, 141801 – Published

Physics See synopsis: [Closing in on the  \$Z'\$](#)

Article References Citing Article

### ABSTRACT

Theories beyond the standard model predict the existence of new particles. Using data collected by the Belle II detector at the SuperKEKB collider, we present the first searches for the invisible decay of a new boson  $Z'$  in  $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^\pm\mu^\mp$  plus missing energy final states. We set 95% confidence level upper limits on the cross section  $\sigma_{\text{vis}}(e^+e^- \rightarrow e^\pm\mu^\mp + \text{invisible})$  for the  $L_\mu - L_\tau$  theory, into upper limits on the mass  $M_{Z'} \leq 6 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ .

**Open Access**

## Search for Axionlike Particles Produced in $e^+e^-$ Collisions at Belle II

F. Abudinén *et al.* (Belle II Collaboration)  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **125**, 161806 – Published 14 October 2020

Article References No Citing Articles Supplemental Material PDF HTML Export Citation

### ABSTRACT

We present a search for the direct production of a light pseudoscalar  $a$  decaying into two photons with the Belle II detector at the SuperKEKB collider. We search for the process  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma a, a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  in the mass range  $0.2 < m_a < 9.7 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  using data corresponding to an integrated luminosity of  $(445 \pm 3) \text{ pb}^{-1}$ . Light pseudoscalars interacting predominantly with standard model gauge bosons (so-called axionlike particles or ALPs) are frequently postulated in extensions of the standard model. We find no evidence for ALPs and set 95% confidence level upper limits on the coupling strength  $g_{a\gamma\gamma}$  of ALPs to photons at the level of  $10^{-3} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$ . The limits are the most restrictive to date for  $0.2 < m_a < 1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ .



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→ first physics papers!



# Invisible Z'



# Invisible $Z'$

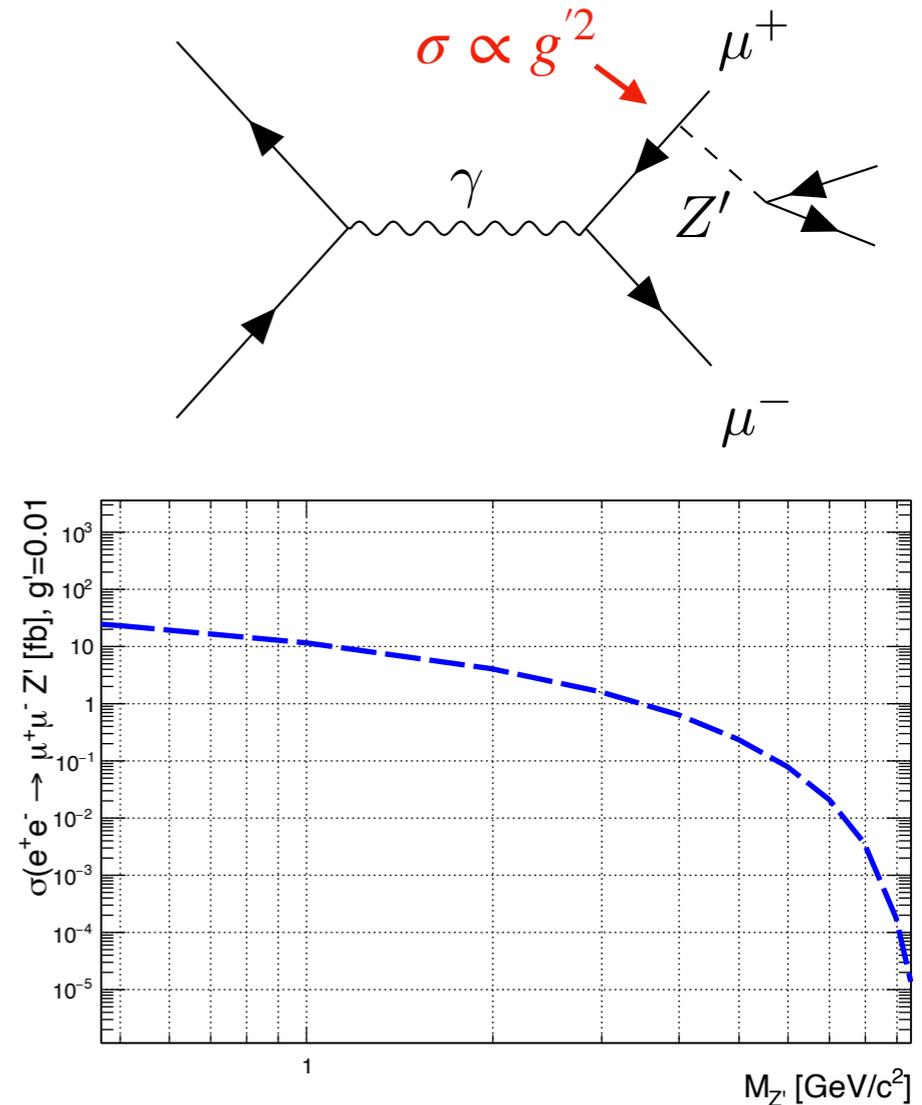
- extend SM by adding a  $U(1)'$  group
- new massive gauge boson  $Z'$  couples only to leptons of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> generation
- $Z'$  coupled to  $L_\mu - L_\tau$  via  $g'$
- focus on invisible  $Z'$  decay produced with a pair of muons
- invisible decay channel explored for the first time

**JHEP 1612 (2016) 106**  
**PRD 89, 113004 (2014)**

$$\begin{aligned}
 M_{Z'} < 2M_\mu &\implies BF[Z' \rightarrow \text{invisible}] = 1, \\
 2M_\mu < M_{Z'} < 2M_\tau &\implies BF[Z' \rightarrow \text{invisible}] \simeq 1/2, \\
 M_{Z'} > 2M_\tau &\implies BF[Z' \rightarrow \text{invisible}] \simeq 1/3.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{if } M_{Z'} > 2M_\chi \\
 &BF(Z' \rightarrow \chi\bar{\chi}) = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

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

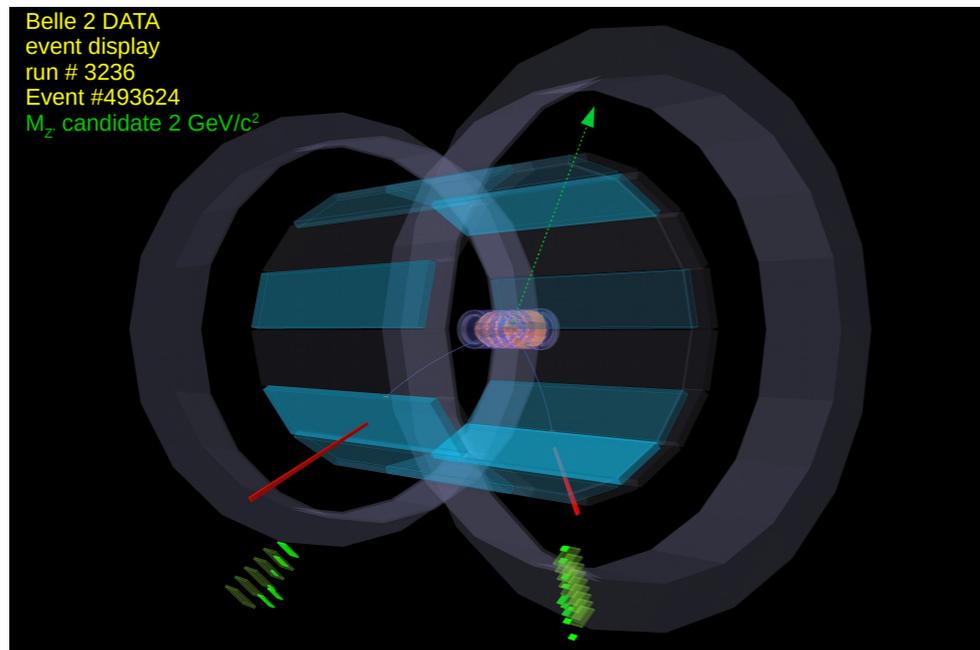
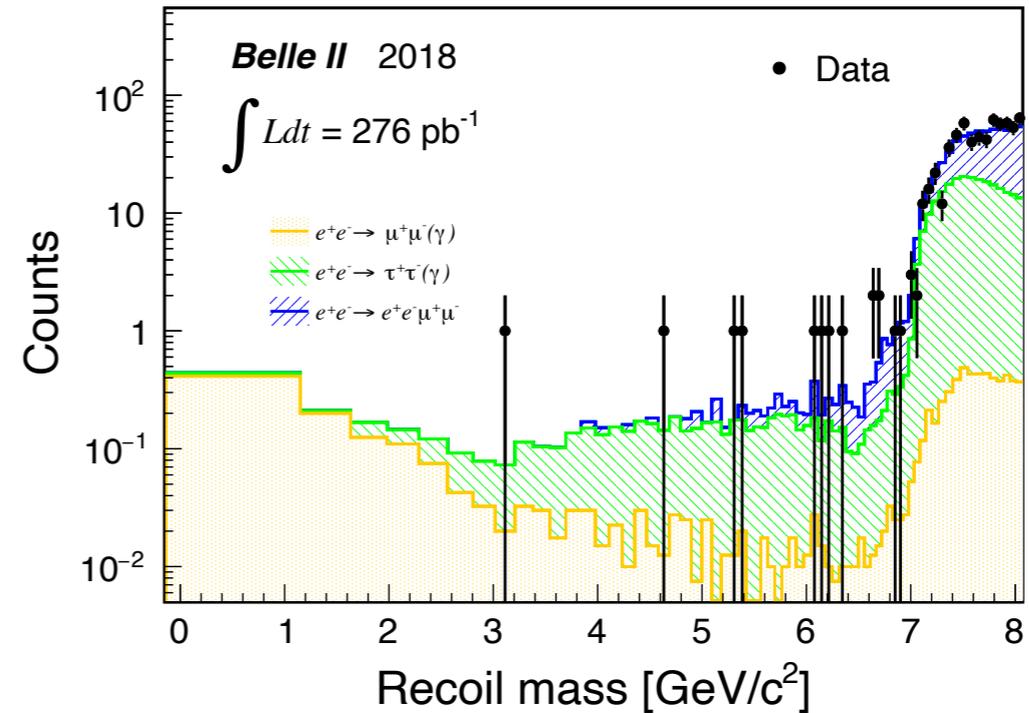


- ★ may serve as mediator between SM and DS
- ★ may explain  $(g-2)_\mu$
- ★ may address anomalies in  $b \rightarrow s\mu^+\mu^-$

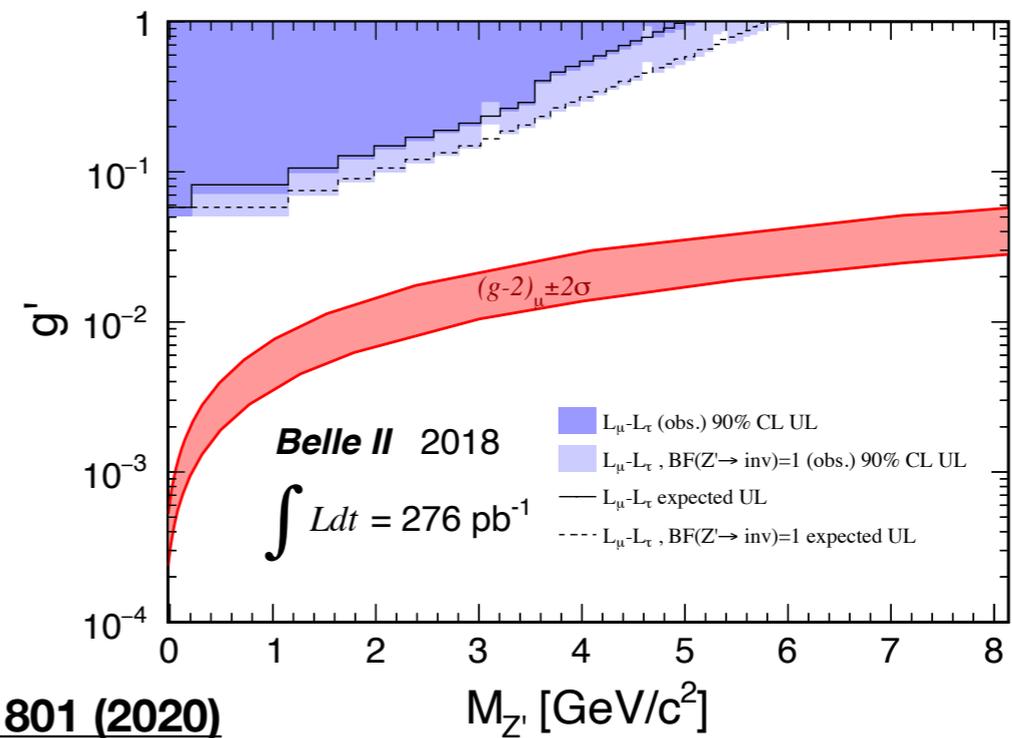


# Invisible $Z'$

- reconstruct recoiling mass against  $\mu\mu$ -pair, require nothing else to be in rest of event
- look for a peak in recoil mass distribution
- main bkg arise from QED processes:
  - $\mu^+\mu^-(\gamma)$
  - $\tau^+\tau^-(\gamma), \tau \rightarrow \mu\nu$
  - $\mu^+\mu^-e^+e^-$

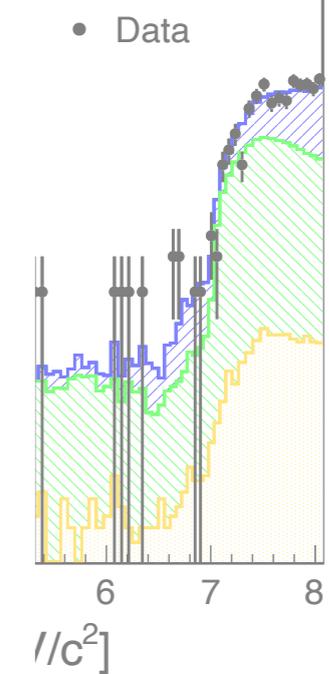
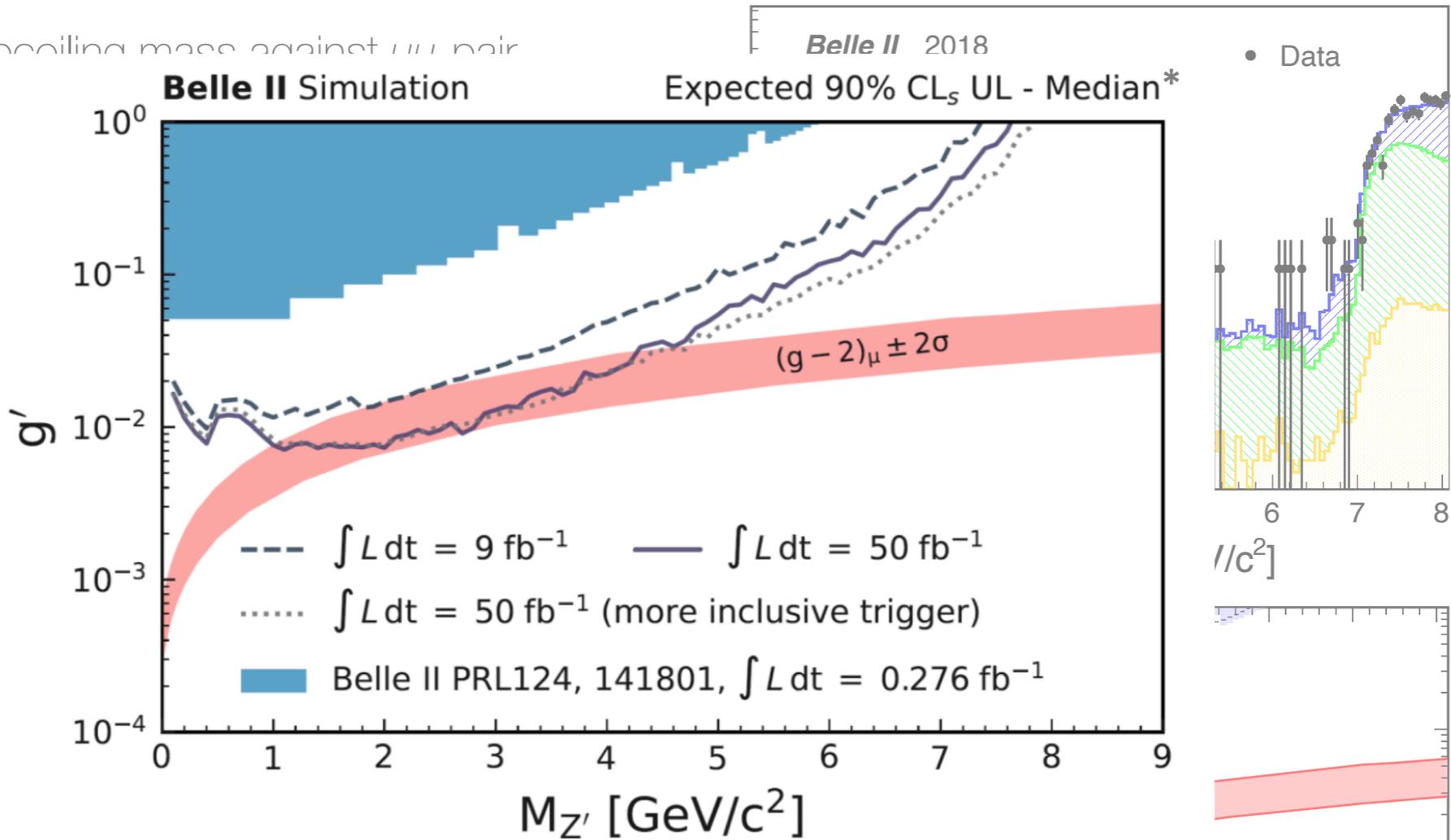


PRL 124, 141801 (2020)

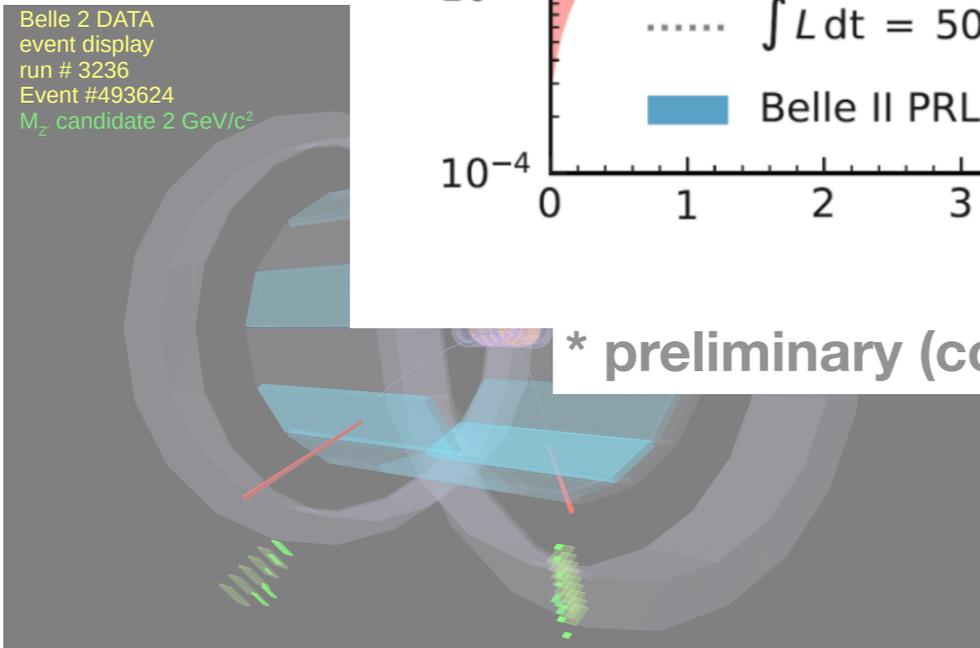


# Invisible $Z'$

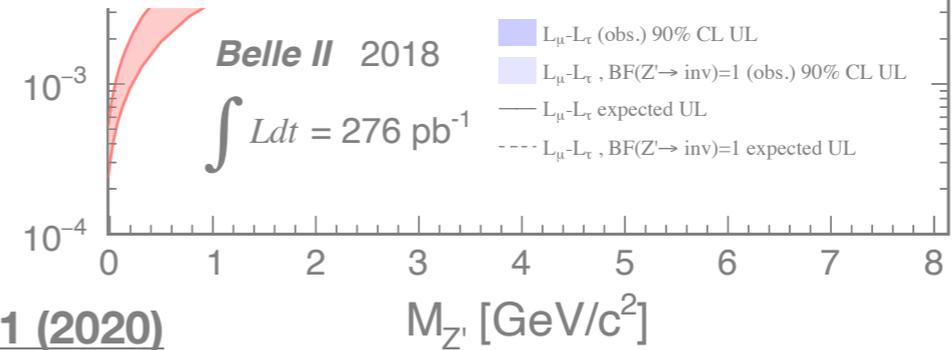
- reconstruct recoiling mass against  $\mu\mu$  pair  
require nothin
- look for a peak
- main bkg's arise from
  - $\mu^+\mu^-(\gamma)$
  - $\tau^+\tau^-(\gamma), \tau^-\tau^-(\gamma)$
  - $\mu^+\mu^-e^+e^-$



Belle 2 DATA  
event display  
run # 3236  
Event #493624  
 $M_{Z'}$  candidate 2  $\text{GeV}/c^2$



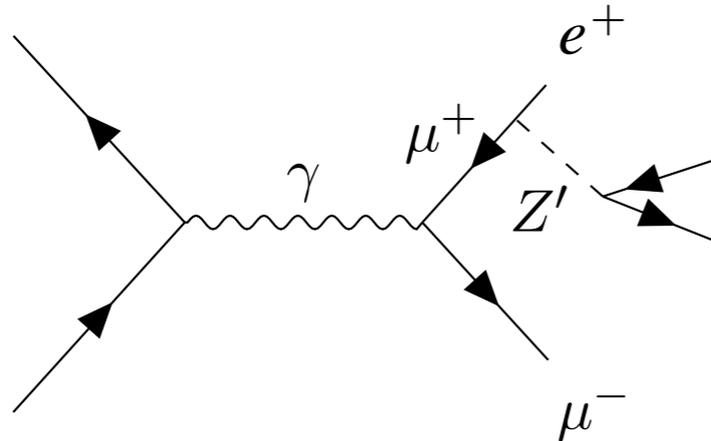
\* preliminary (conservative) systematics



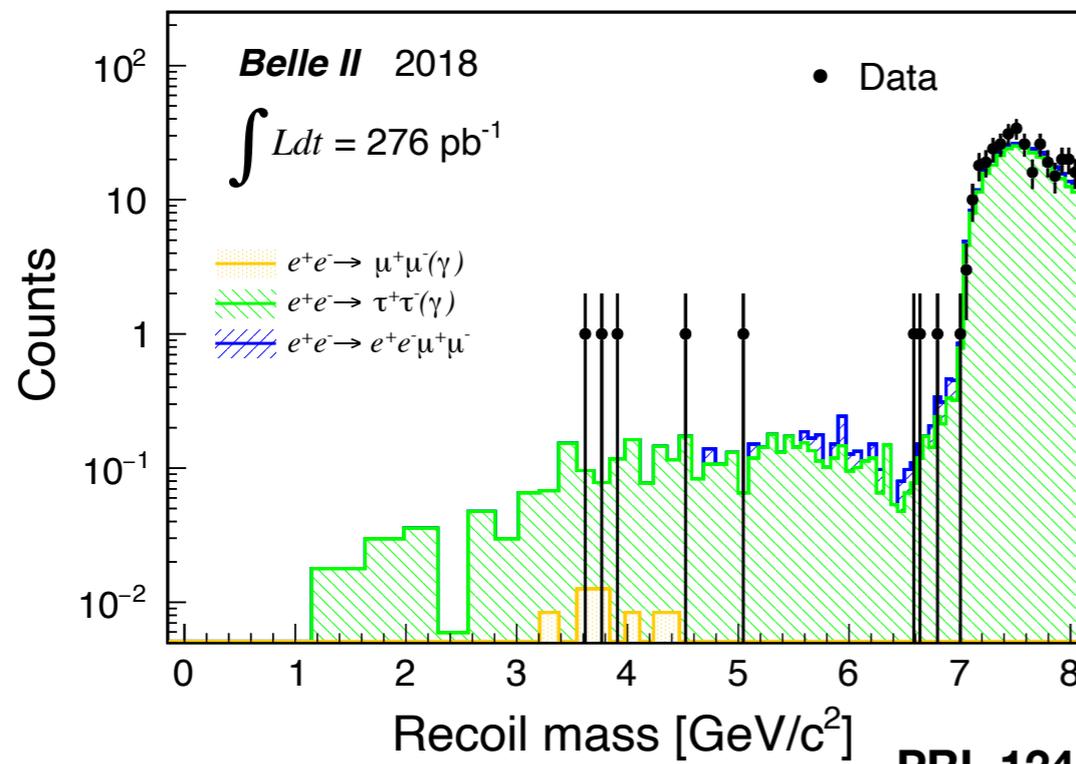
PRL 124, 141801 (2020)



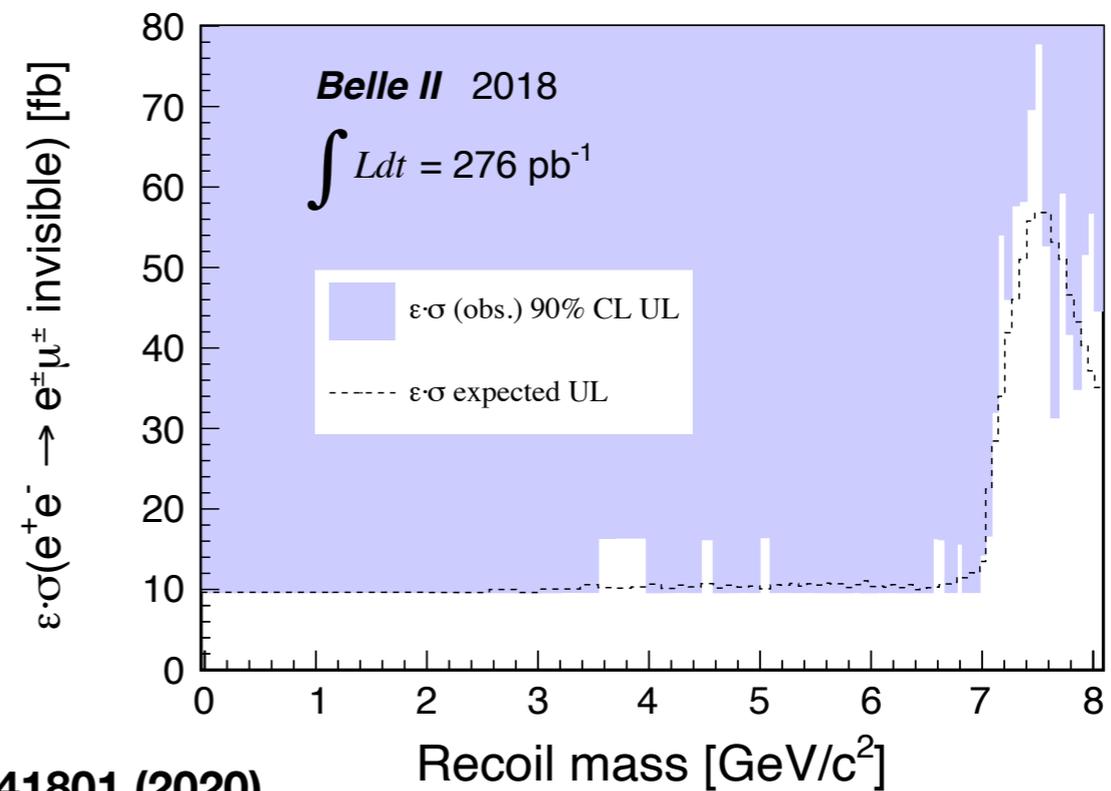
# Invisible $Z'$ - LFV



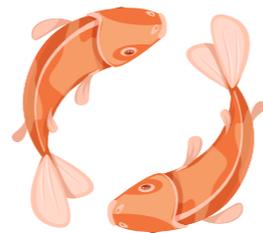
- look for LFV  $Z'$  that couples to  $e\mu$
- model-independent search with same selection criteria
- included in same publication



PRL 124, 141801 (2020)

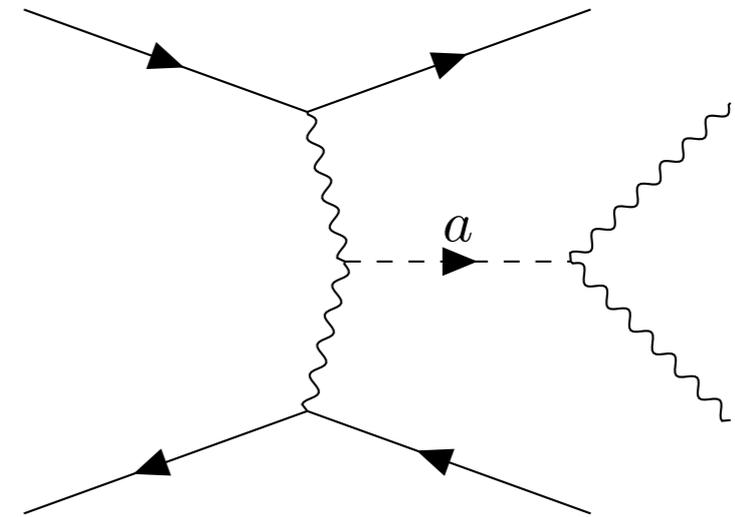


# ALPs



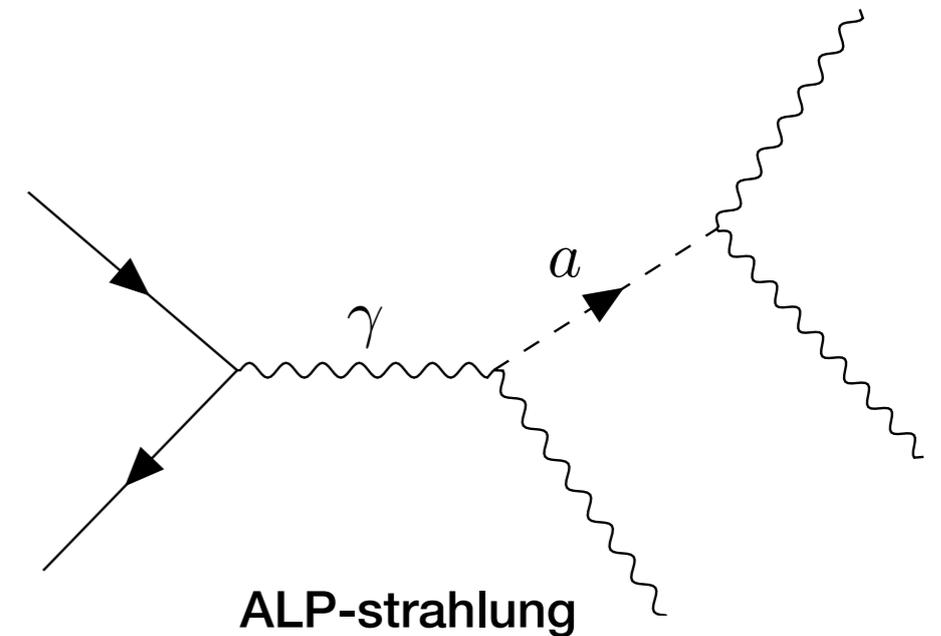
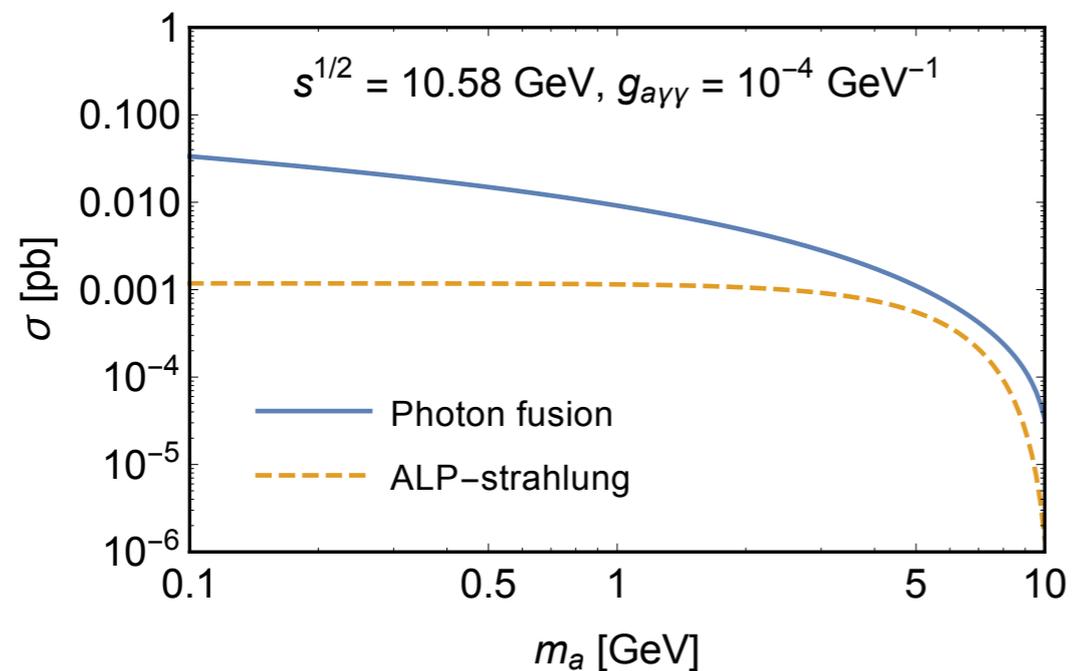
# ALPs

- axion-like particles are pseudoscalar particles that couple to bosons and appear in different extensions to the SM
- coupling and mass of ALPs are taken to be independent
- simplest approach at Belle II is via two photon coupling
  - photon-fusion, high QED background
  - ALP-strahlung, most promising channel



Photon fusion

**JHEP 1712 (2017) 094**

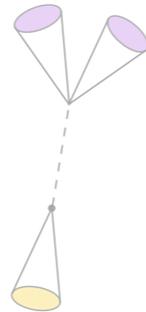


ALP-strahlung

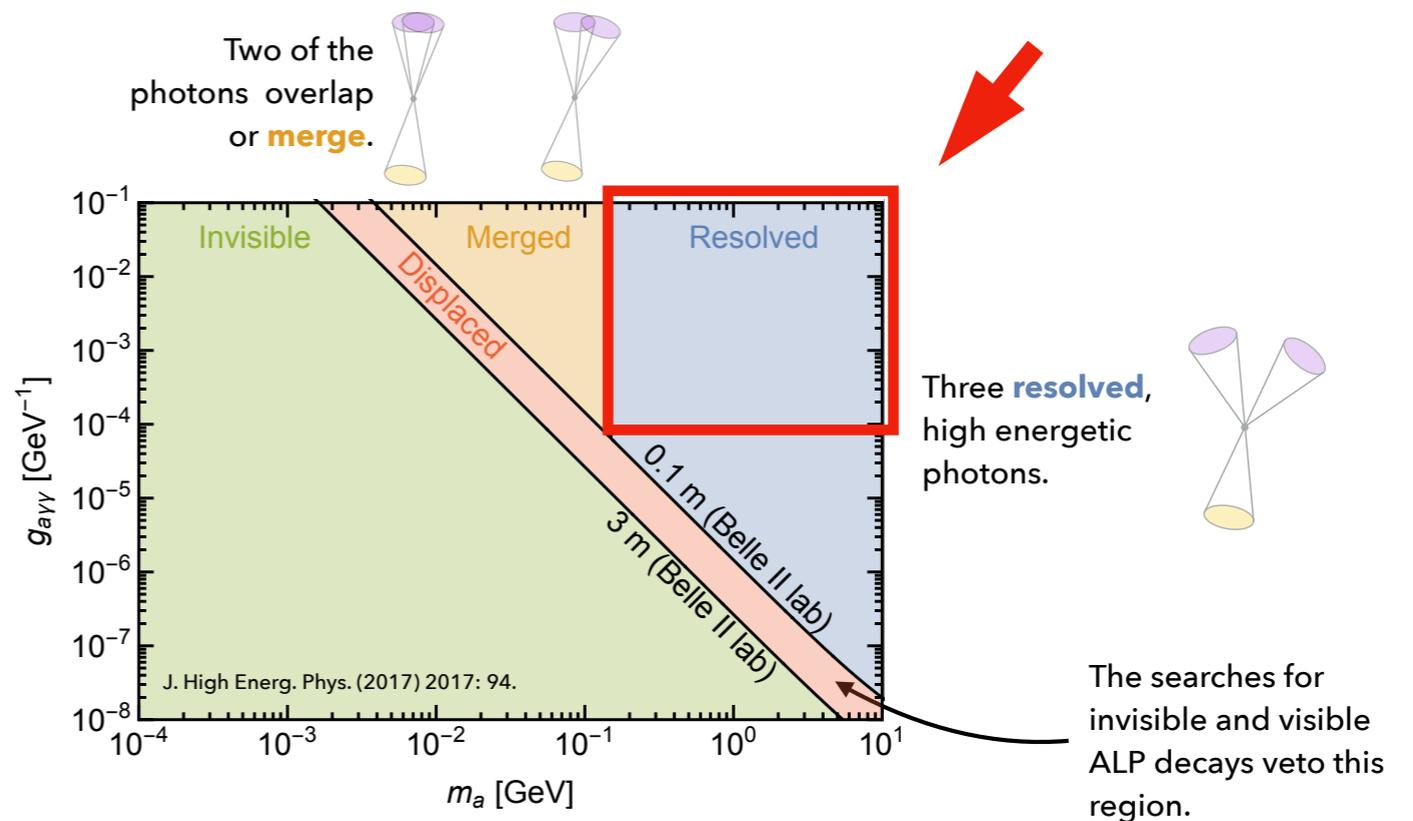


# ALPs

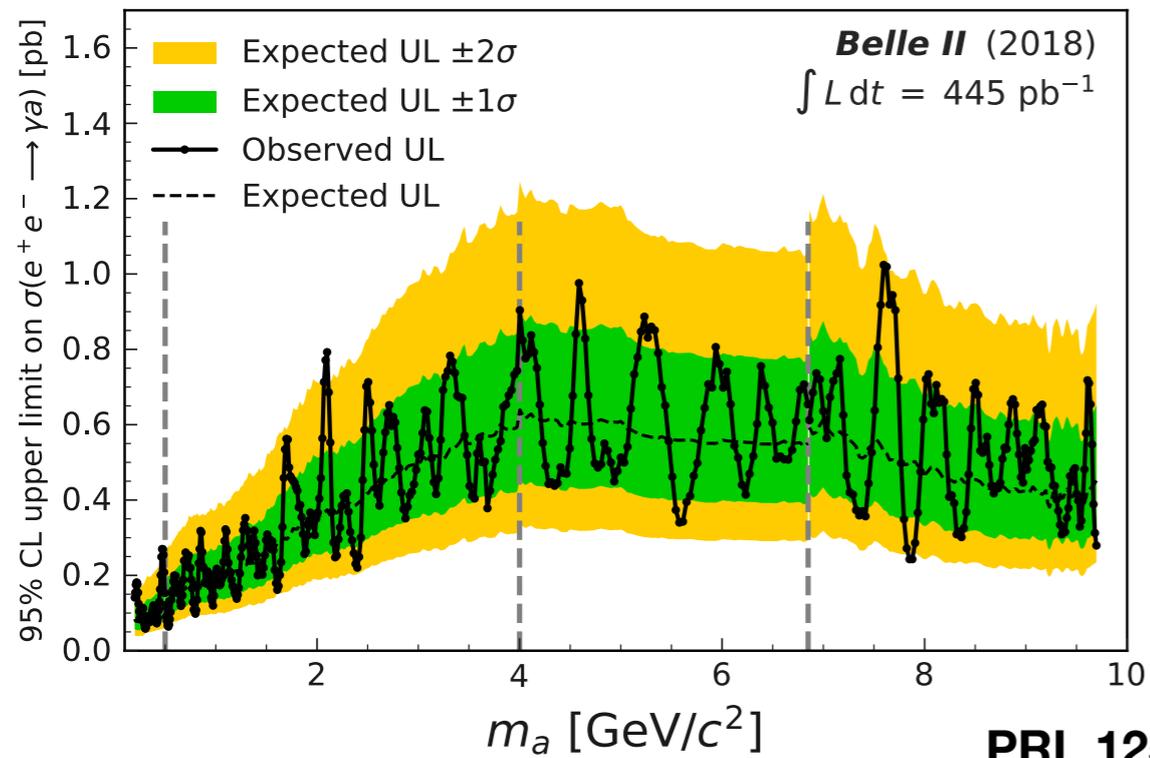
- different topologies according to ALP mass and coupling
- search for 3 photons with energies summing up to beam energy and no tracks in event
- look for peak in di-photon and recoil mass
- bkg:
  - $\mathcal{W}(\gamma)$
  - $e^+e^-(\gamma)$
  - $P\gamma, P=\pi^0/\eta/\eta', P\rightarrow\gamma\gamma$



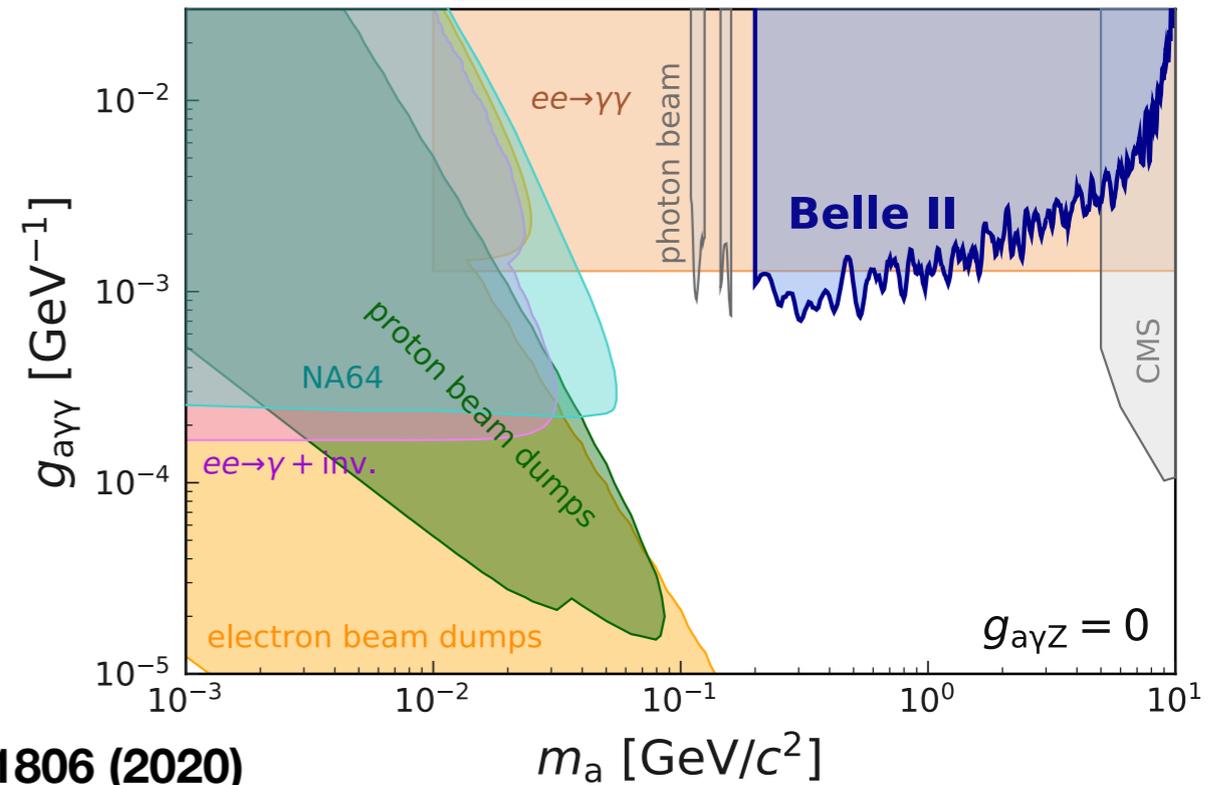
ALP decays outside of the detector or decays into **invisible** particles: Single photon final state.



# ALPs



**PRL 125, 161806 (2020)**



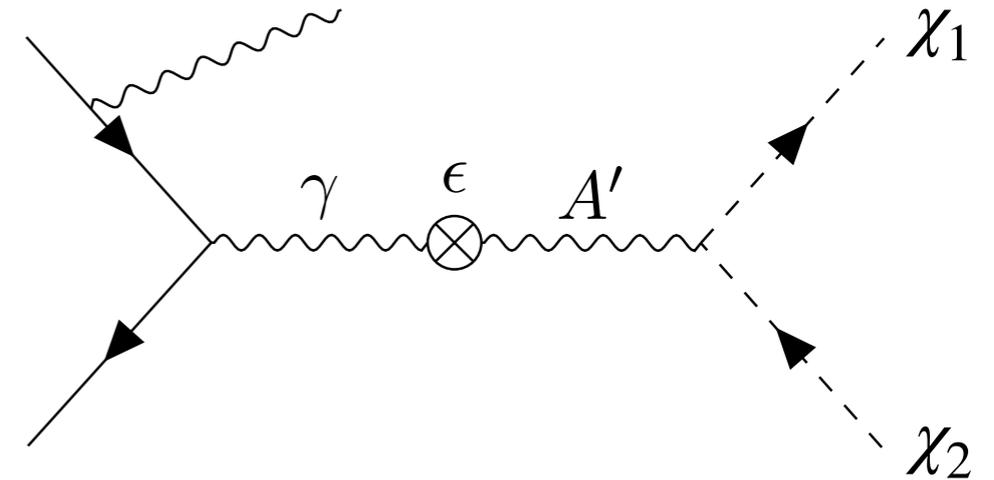
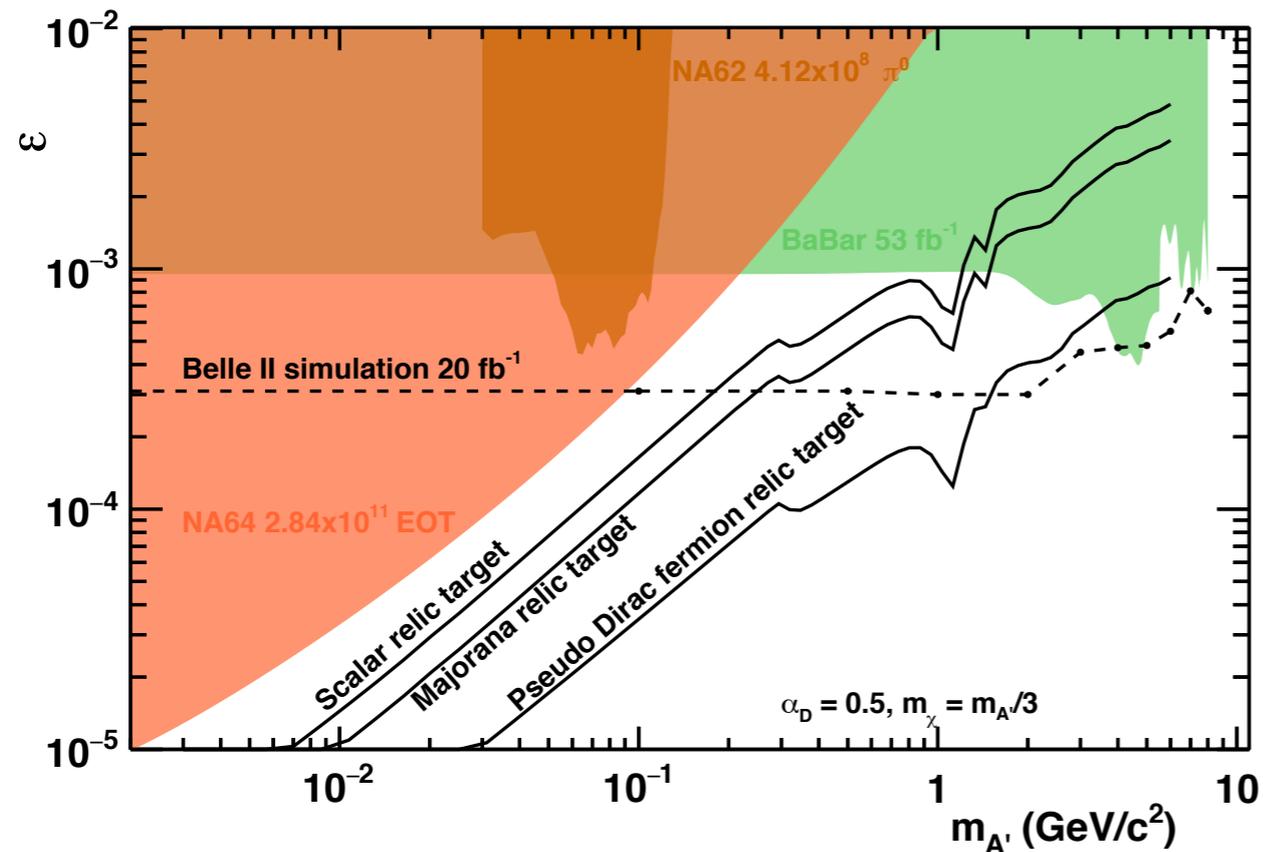
- performed search in mass range from 0.2 to 9.7  $\text{GeV}/c^2$
- no excess was found
- upper limits on cross section translated to coupling constant
- to be repeated with more data



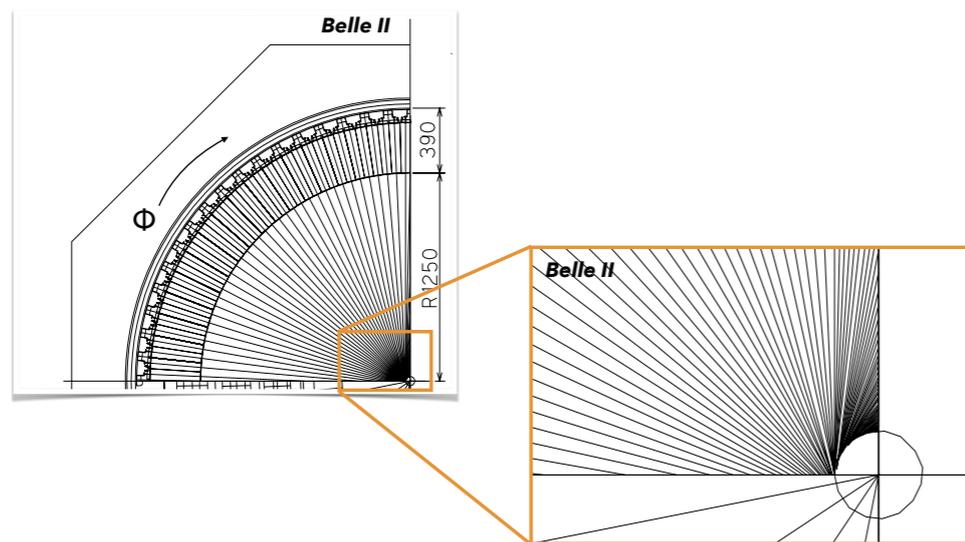
# Dark Photon



# Dark Photon

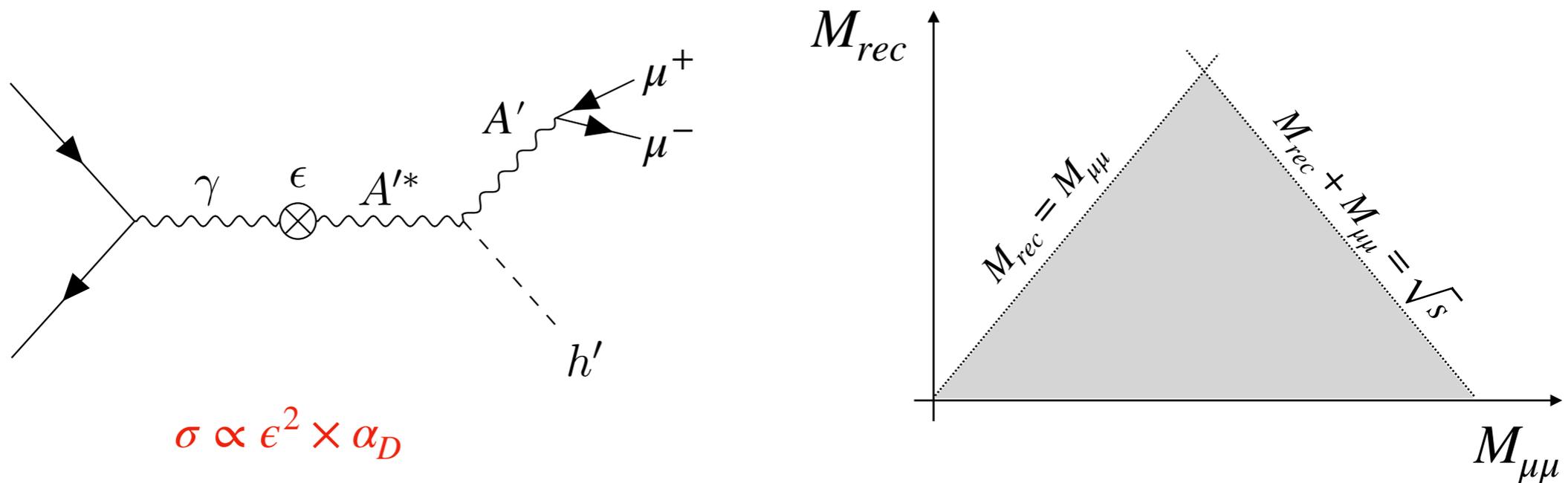


- explore invisible decay first,  $A' \rightarrow \chi_1 \chi_2$
- require one ISR photon and nothing else in the event
- needs a single photon trigger (not available in Belle, 10% of data in BaBar)
- bkg's include  $\gamma\gamma(\gamma)$ ,  $e+e-\gamma(\gamma)$  and cosmics
- advantages over BaBar
  - no projective cracks in ECL
  - more hermetic calorimeter
  - KLM veto



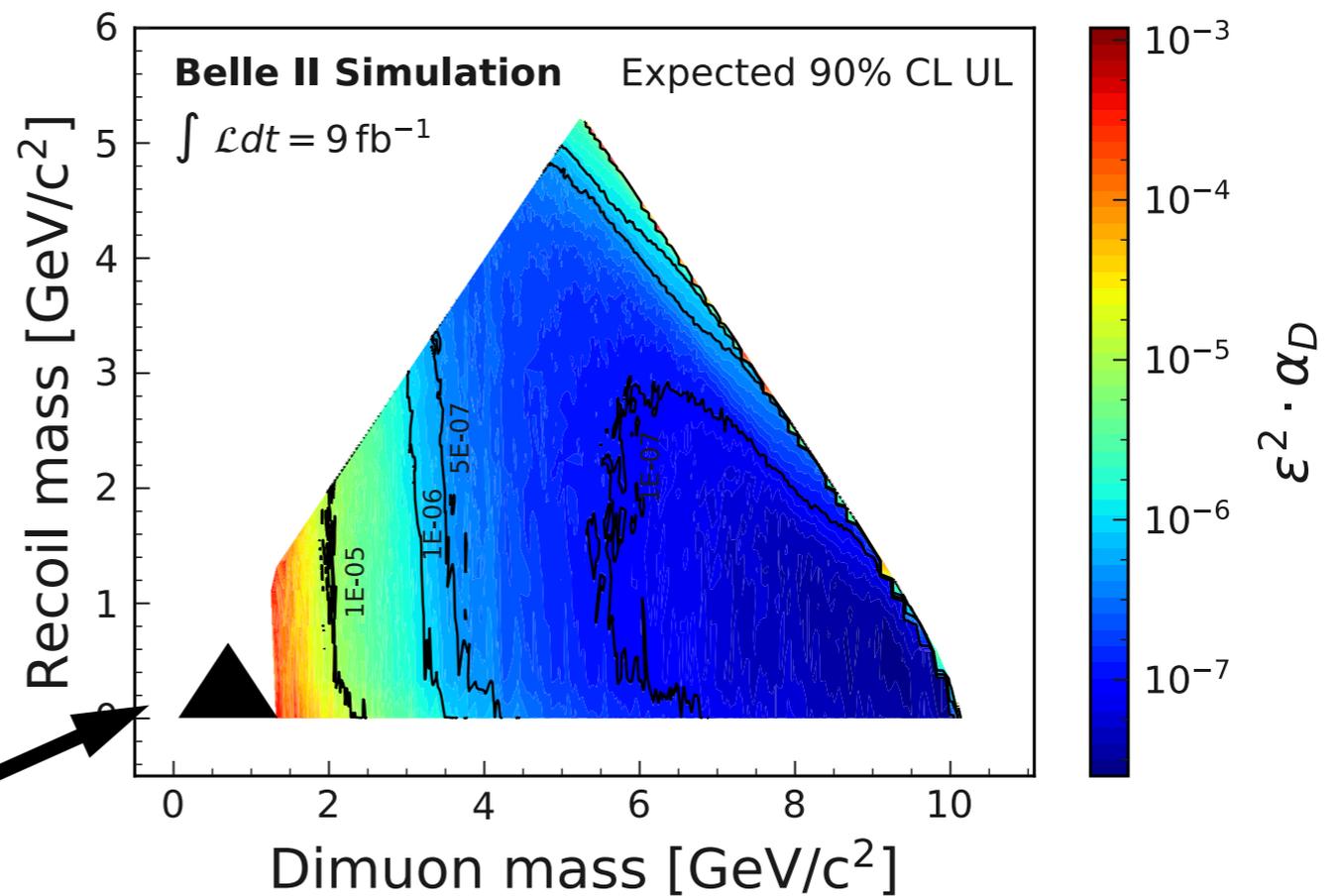
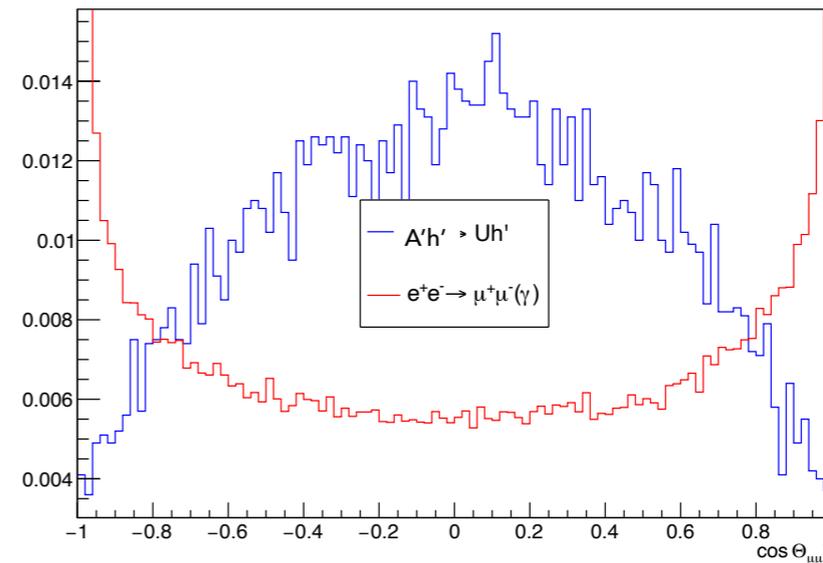
# What about a Dark Higgs?

- introduce in analogy to SM a spontaneous symmetry breaking mechanism of  $U(1)$  with new particle, dark Higgs  $h'$
- $e^+e^- \rightarrow A'h'$  (Higgsstrahlung)
  - focus on  $m_{h'} < m_{A'}$ ,
  - $h'$  has large lifetime to escape detection,  $A'$  decays into SM particles
  - 2 charged particle final state plus missing energy
  - find a peak in two dimensional distribution of recoiling mass vs dimuon mass
  - previously only investigated by KLOE



# What about a Dark Higgs?

- main SM background contributions arise from
  - $\mu^+\mu^-(\gamma)$
  - $\tau^+\tau^-(\gamma)$
  - $e^+e^-\mu^+\mu^-$
- background suppression based on kinematic features
- improvements w.r.t KLOE result
  - probing unconstrained regions in 2D mass plane
  - probing non trivial regions of  $\varepsilon^2\alpha_D$
- ongoing analysis, recently started unblinding
- expect results soon



**KLOE result**

**Phys.Lett.B 747 (2015) 365-372**



# Conclusion

- broad and active program of DS physics at Belle II
- available phase-space is probed with many different models
- further analysis include Inelastic Dark Matter,  $Z'$  to visible, DM searches in B decays...
- first results published
- much more to come



# Backup



# Additional searches

- Search for inelastic Dark Matter
  - long-lived particle detector signature and unconstrained parameter space
  - displaced pair of electrons, muons or hadrons
- Search for long-lived scalar in rare  $B$  meson decays
  - $B \rightarrow KS, S \rightarrow \mu\mu, \pi\pi, KK$
  - generic scalar that mixes with the Higgs sector
  - small mixing leads to large lifetime and small production cross section

