

# Feasibility of $R(\mathbf{X})$ at Belle II

Searching for lepton universality violation in inclusive semileptonic  $B$  decays

**Peter Lewis** | University of Bonn  
KEK-FF | 10 Feb 2023

This talk contains public material from **PhD/Masters theses**

These results are **unpublished** and **unapproved** and should *not* be considered official collaboration results

Only plots with the “Belle II” label are Belle II plots!

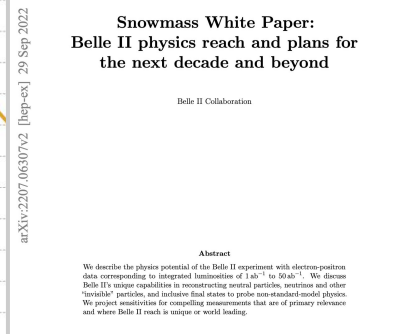
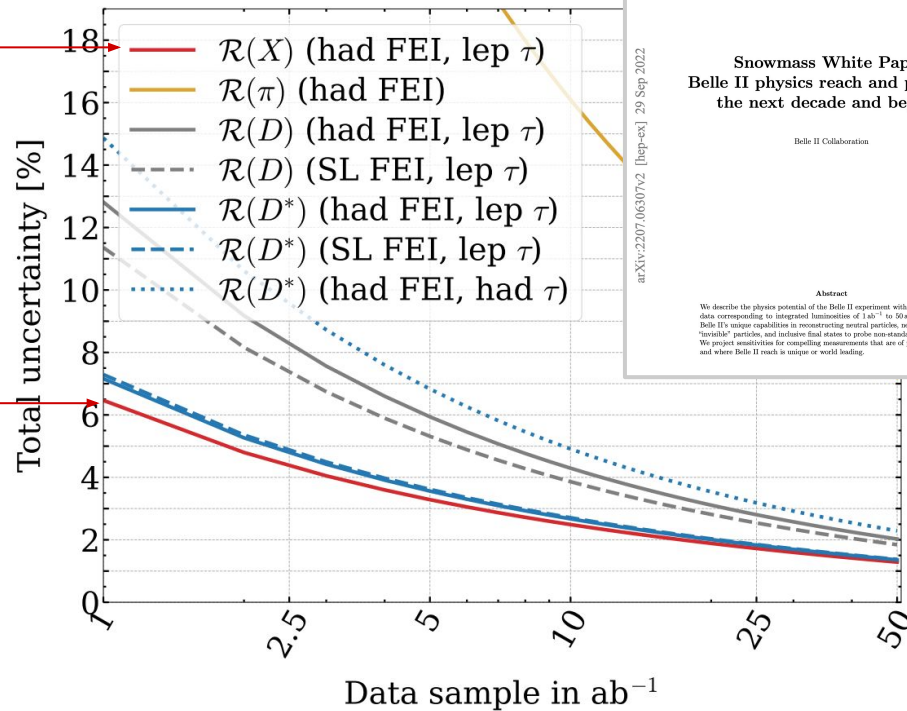
## An intriguing claim...

The **strongest** test of  $\tau/\ell$  universality will come from the *inclusive* measurement:

$$\mathcal{R}(X) = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow X\tau\nu)}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow X\ell\nu)}$$

This has **never\*** been measured. Why? What makes us think that we can?

\*(there are two near-exceptions)



Fully inclusive  $B$  decays:

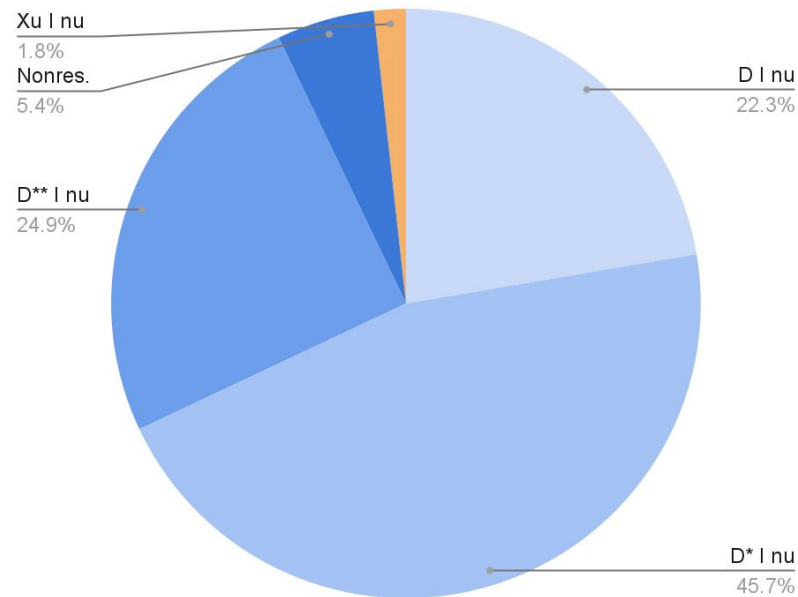
- $\sim 2/3$  overlap with  $D$  and  $D^*$
- $\sim 1/3$  contribution from  $D^{**}$  and nonresonant  $X_c$

Fully inclusive  $D$  decays:

- $\sim 1/4$  overlap with typical list of exclusive  $D$  modes
- The rest: *ugly stuff!*  $\nu$ ,  $K_L^0$ ,  $N\pi^0$ ...

$R(X)$  is critical **cross-check** of  $R(D^{(*)})$  and a partially **complementary** test of LU

Breakdown of  $B \rightarrow X \ell \nu$  branching fractions  
(assume  $B \rightarrow X \tau \nu$  is similar)



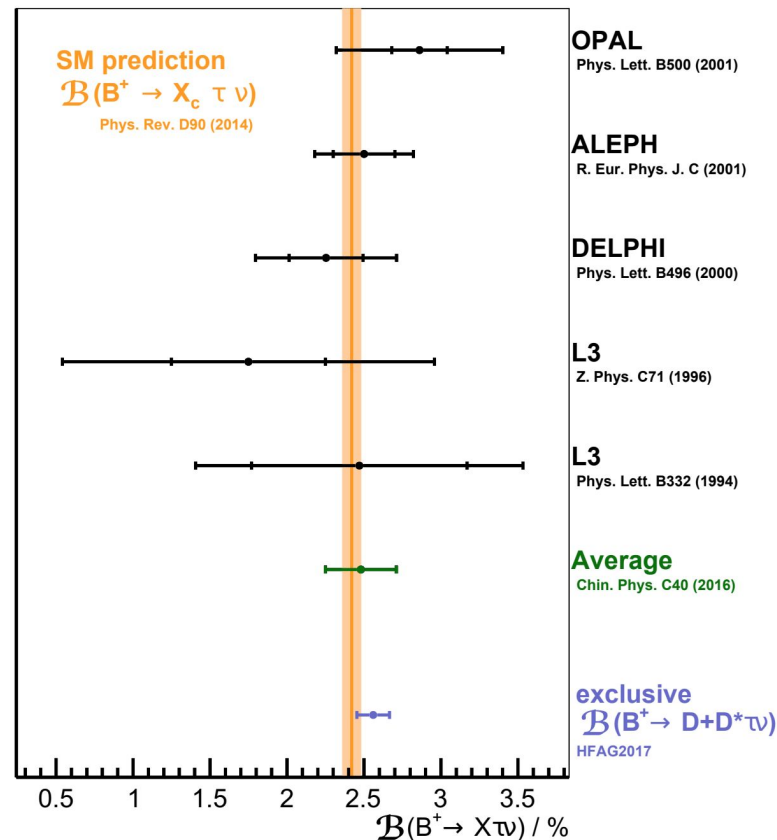
Multiple LEP experiments measured

$$\mathcal{R}(X) = \frac{\mathcal{B}(b' \rightarrow X\tau\nu)}{\mathcal{B}(b' \rightarrow X\ell\nu)}$$

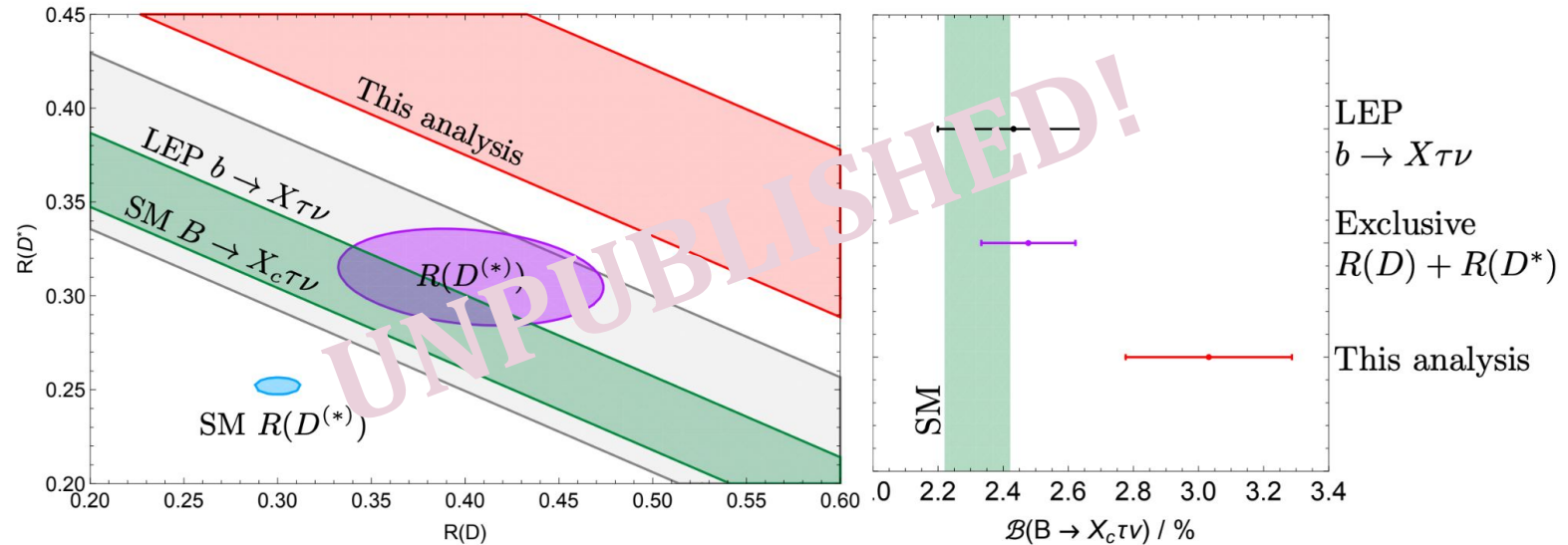
From which  $R(X)$  can be *inferred*

A **puzzle**: their measurements of  $\mathcal{B}(b \rightarrow X\tau\nu)$  are completely **saturated** by current  $D/D^*$  BFs

An update is urgently needed



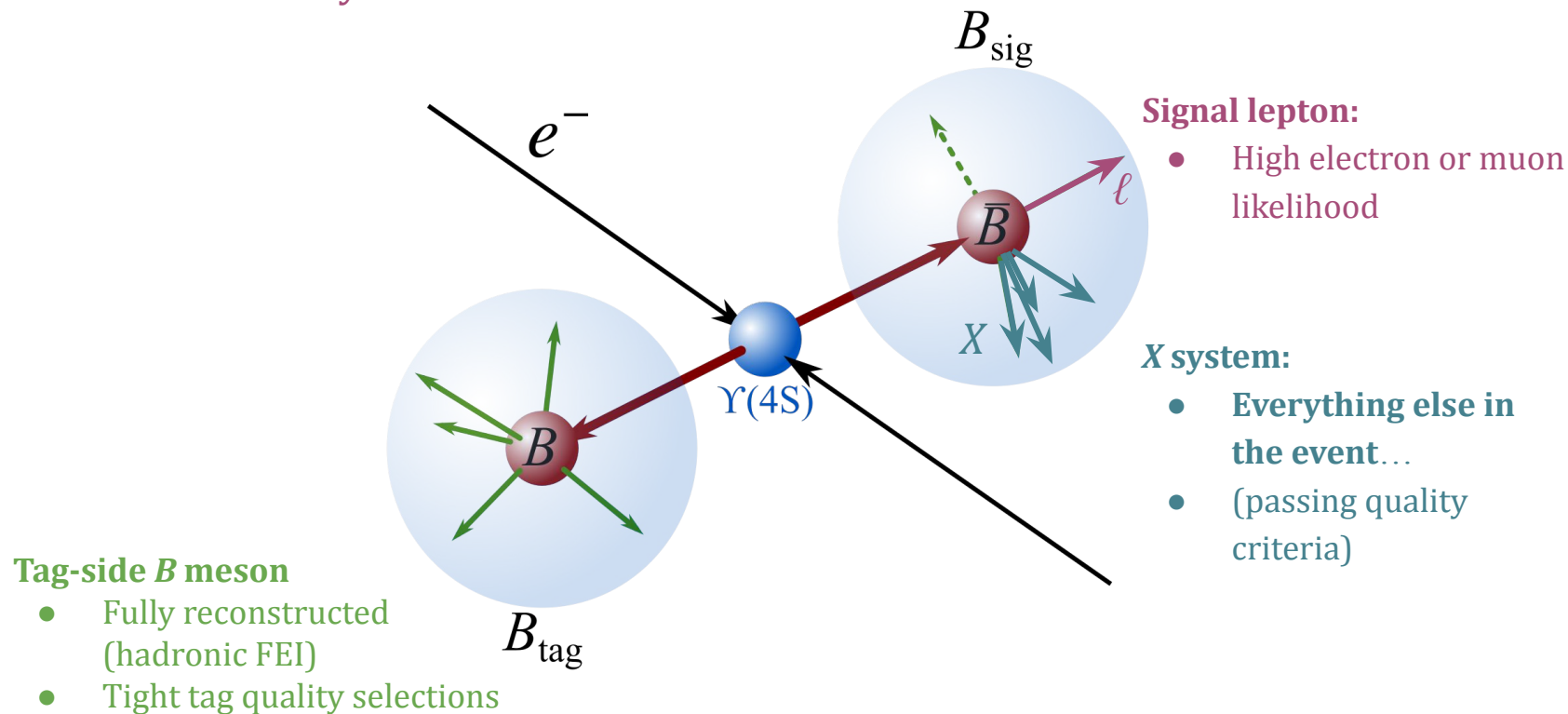
A recent, intriguing analysis at Belle...



...was **not published**. *Why?*

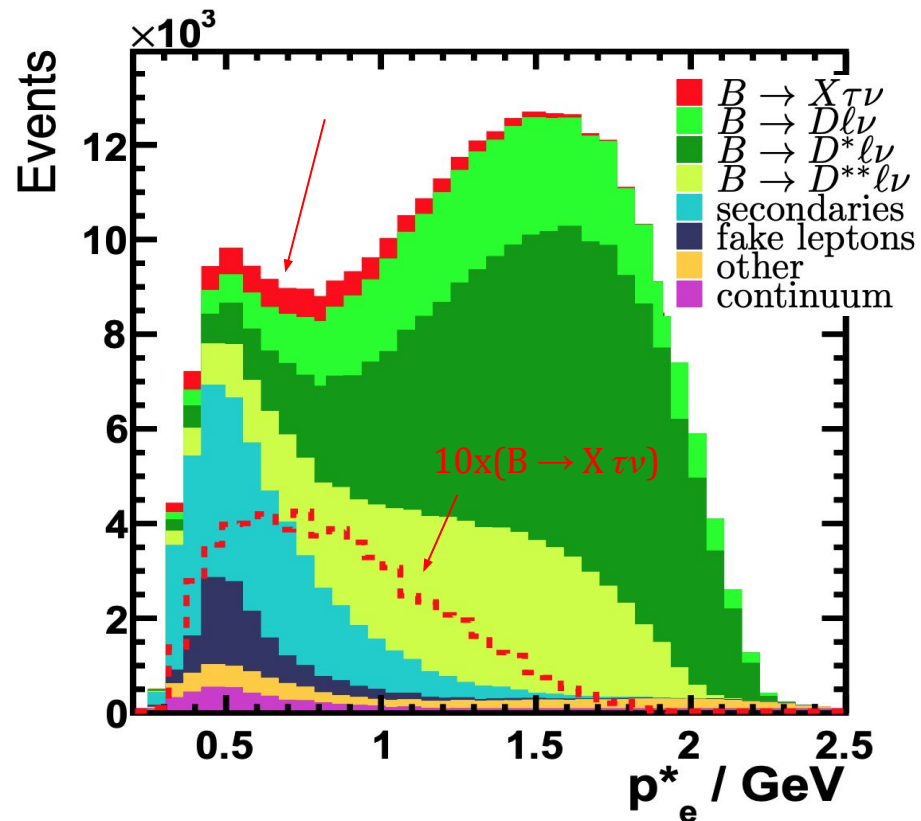
[Jan Hasenbusch PhD thesis](#)  
[U. Bonn, 2017](#)

Here's how this analysis works...



How can we identify  $X\tau\nu$ ?

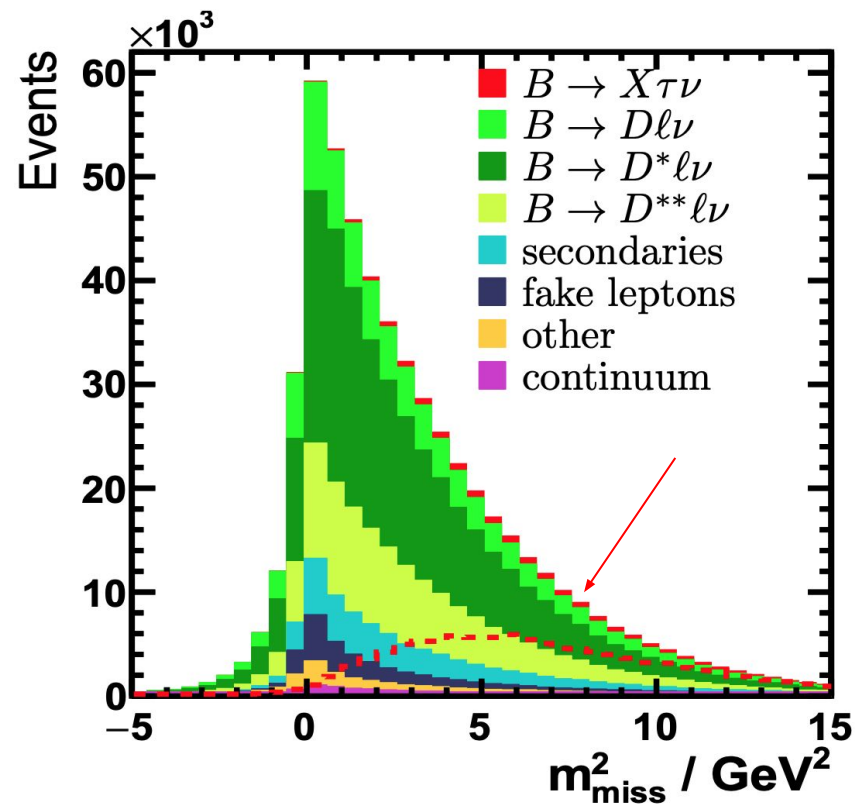
- $p_l$ : lepton momentum distribution  
(insufficient by itself)





How can we identify  $X\tau\nu$ ?

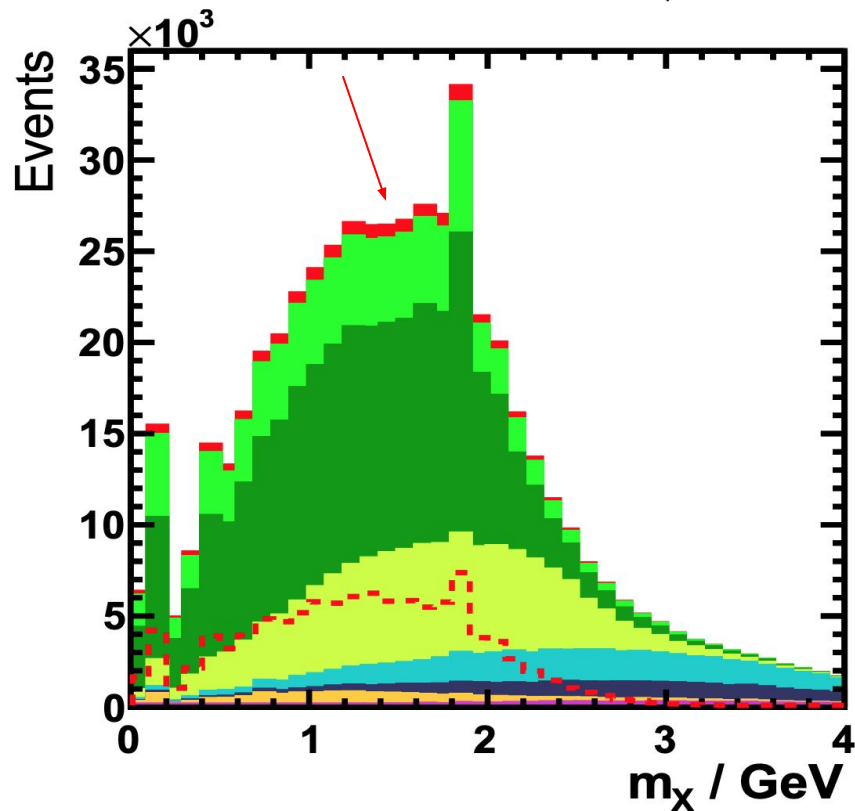
- $p_l$ : lepton momentum distribution
- $m_{\text{miss}}^2$ : missing mass (adds information but is also insufficient)



How can we identify  $X\tau\nu$ ?

- $p_l$ : lepton momentum distribution
- $m_{\text{miss}}^2$ : missing mass
- $M_X$ : invariant mass of “X” (adds some orthogonal information)

So, just use a 3D fit?



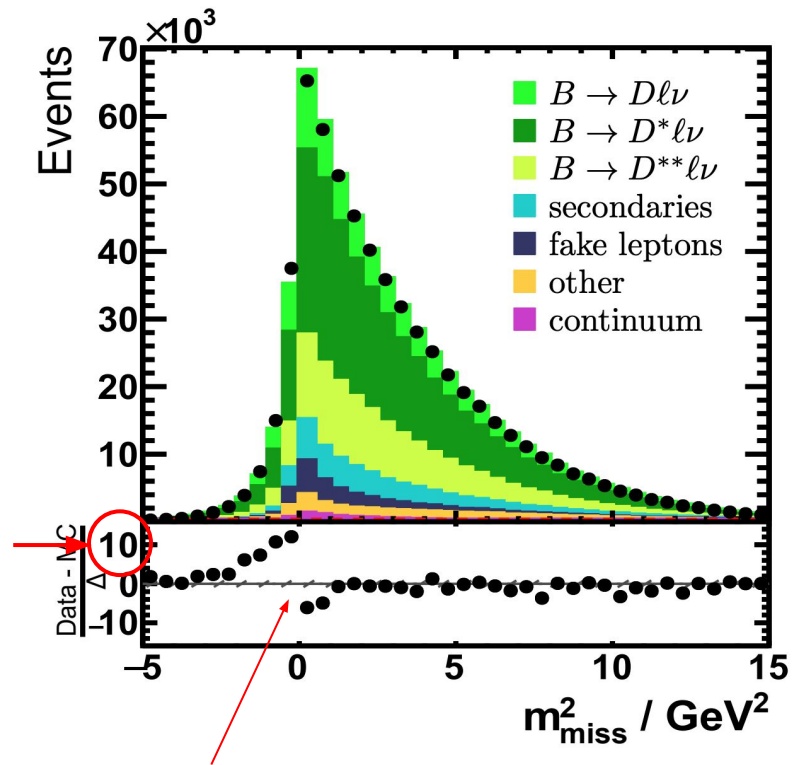
It's not that simple... inclusive *modeling is hard*

What modeling do we depend on?

- All  $B \rightarrow X \ell \nu$  decays
- (all other  $B$  decays)
- All  $X$  decays
- All continuum processes
- All detector effects (acceptance, efficiency, backgrounds, etc...)

What could be the culprit?

Data/MC agreement in sideband



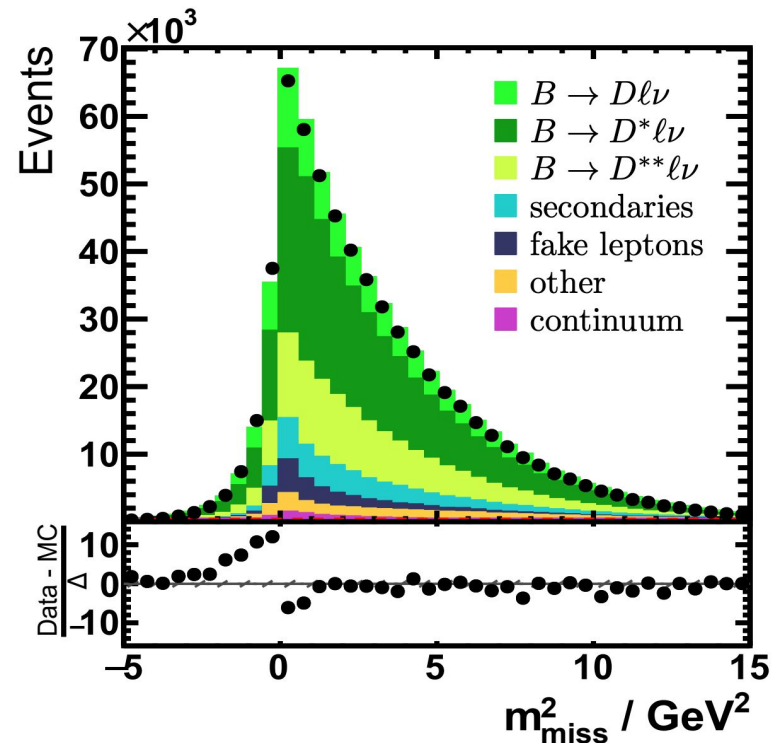
**Conclusions** The discrepancy between data and MC at  $m_{\text{miss}}^2 < 0 \text{ GeV}$  has a complex origin.

Extensive work to understand mismodeling

Important insights:

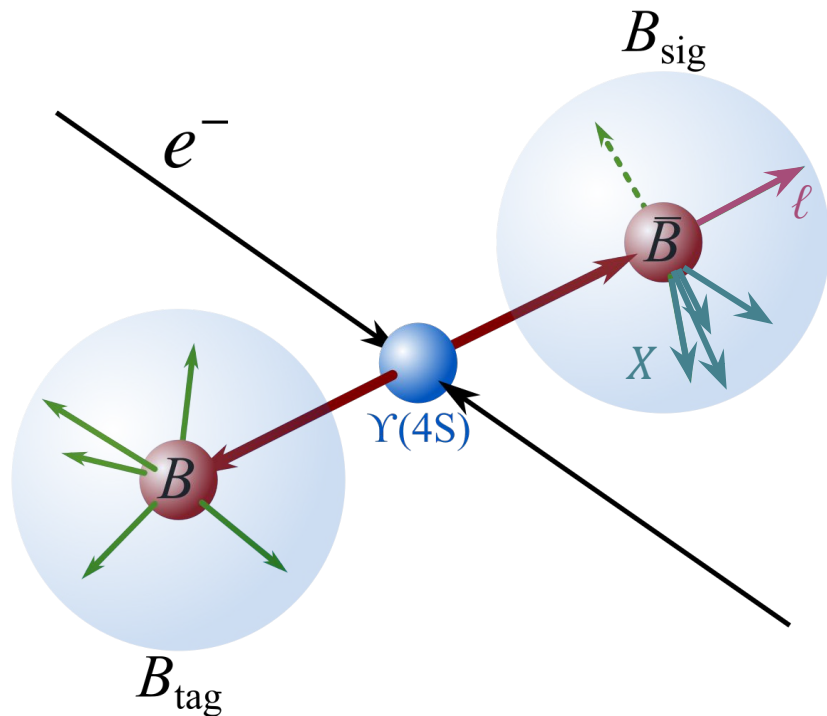
- Detector effects are far too small
- Beam backgrounds are far too small
- The culprit appears to be somewhere in the *physics simulation*

Ultimately *not approved* because solution couldn't be found...



Belle II approach:

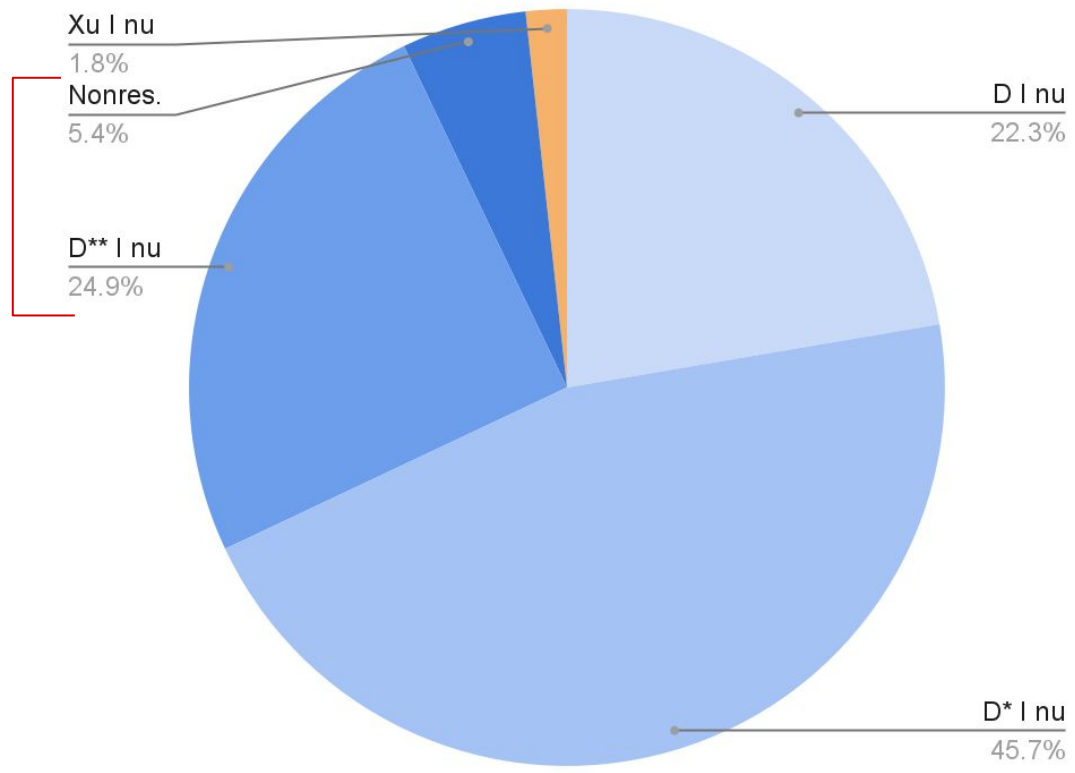
1. First learn **everything we can** about  $X$ 
  - a. What's **in** there?
  - b. What determines the **shape**?
  - c. What's **modeled** well/poorly?
2. Only then do we attempt extraction



Let's talk about  $X$ ...

# X: what's in there?

Poorly measured,  
poorly described



Well-known  
exclusive modes

Almost all of this includes **exactly one  $D$  decay...**

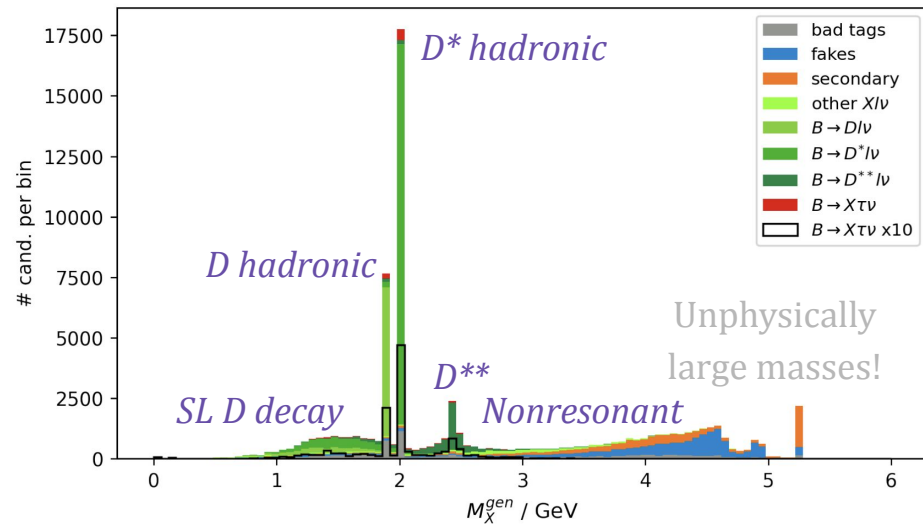
$D \rightarrow ?$  (overlapping contributions):

		$D^0$	$D^{+/-}$
Neutrinos	$e^+$ anything	[4] $(6.49 \pm 0.11)\%$	$(16.07 \pm 0.30)\%$
	$\mu^+$ anything	$(6.8 \pm 0.6)\%$	$(17.6 \pm 3.2)\%$
	$K^-$ anything	$(54.7 \pm 2.8)\%$	$(25.7 \pm 1.4)\%$
$1/2 K_L^0$	$\bar{K}^0$ anything + $K^0$ anything	$(47 \pm 4)\%$	$(61 \pm 5)\%$
	$K^+$ anything	$(3.4 \pm 0.4)\%$	$(5.9 \pm 0.8)\%$

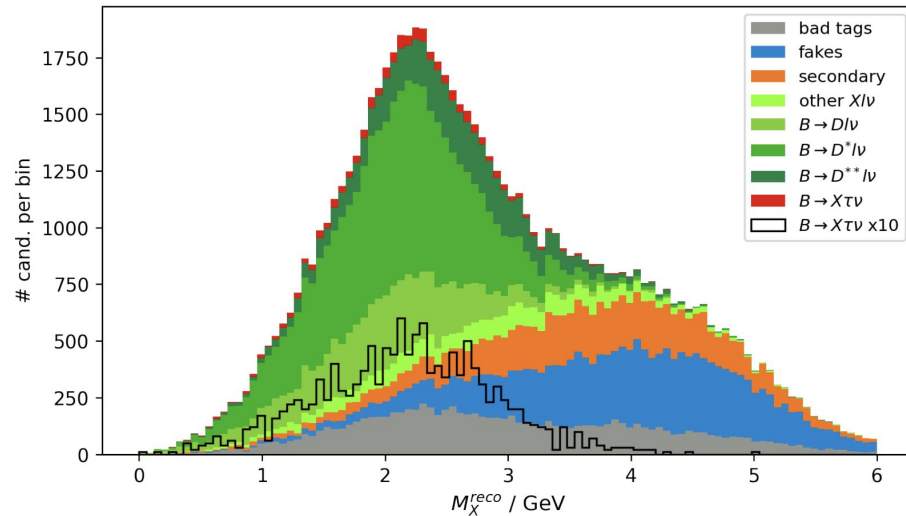
A large fraction of the time the  $D$  **cannot** be fully reconstructed.

# X: what determines the shape?

Dennis Benterbusch Master's thesis. U. Bonn. 2020



What  $M_X$  (invariant mass) *would* look like if we made no **reconstruction errors in the X** (except *neutrinos*)

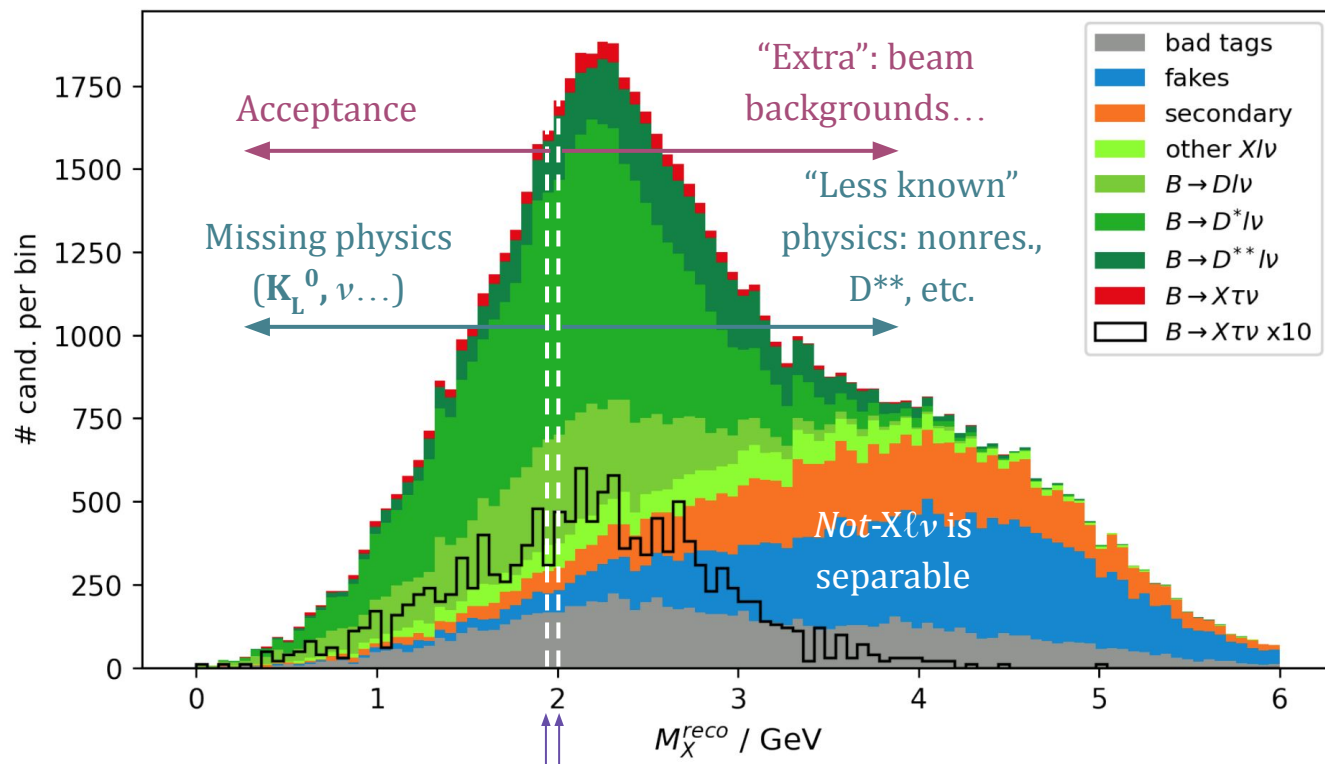


What it *really* looks like (in MC)...  
... how does this shape arise?

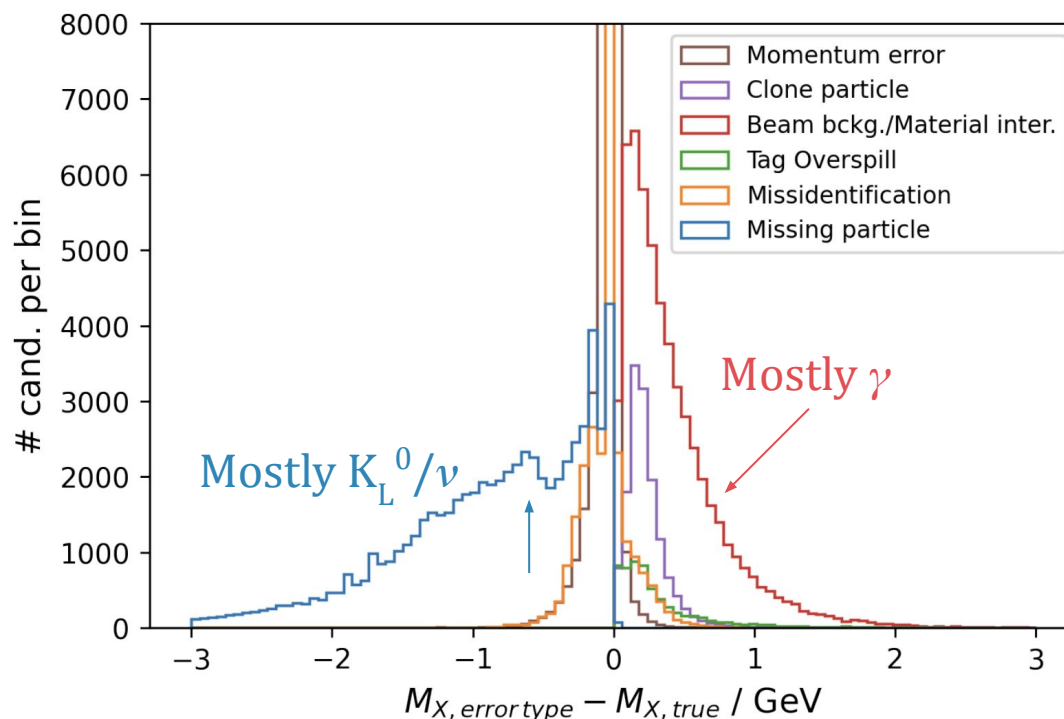


# X: what determines the shape?

$M_X$  shape describes the **underlying physics**... smeared out by (*relatively well-modeled*) **detector effects**



Minimum  $X_c$  mass ( $m_D, m_{D^*}$ );  
~2/3 of events

Contributions to  $M_X$  misreconstruction by **error type**

*Note: one event can have several of these errors at once*

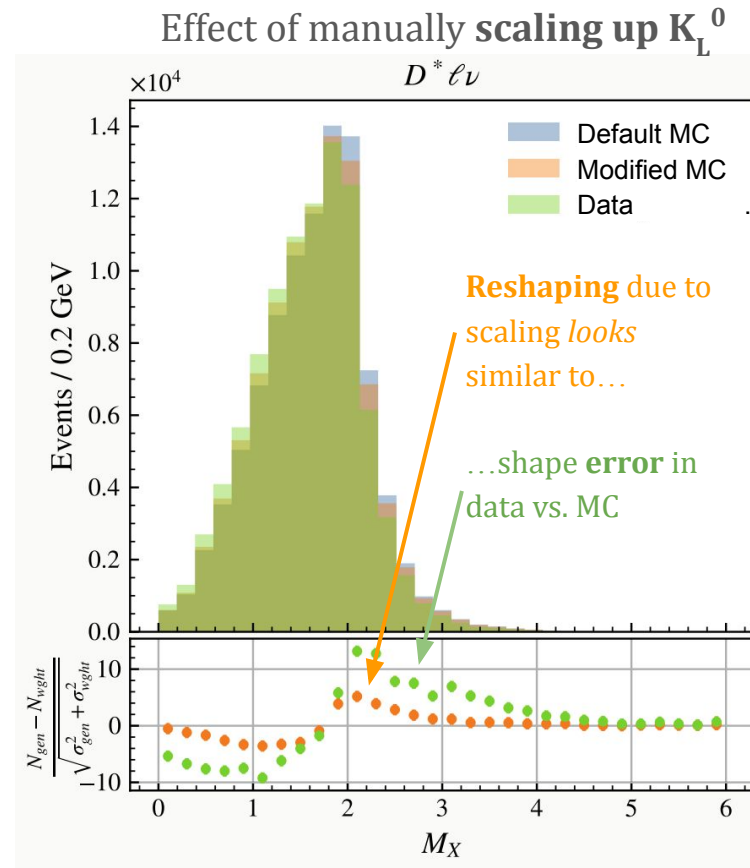
Dennis Benterbusch Master's thesis, U. Bonn, 2020

Mostly *missing* and *extra*, which are **largely irreducible**

The  $M_X$  shape is sensitive to the types of modeling that are hardest to do right:

- Inclusive  $K_L^0$  BF
- $D^{**}$  and nonres. BF
- Modeling of high-multiplicity  $D$  decays

*Implication:*  $M_X$  gives us a handle on all of the physics modeling that impacts  $m_{\text{miss}}^2 + \dots$



Henrik Junkerkalefeld

## Why not just fix the modeling instead?

Conclusions from extensive work by current team:

- **Branching fractions** are a big piece of the puzzle (particularly  $D \rightarrow K_L^0 X$ ) but *cannot solve it entirely*
- The **phase-space modeling** using in  $\sim 40\%$  of  $D$  decays is significant/unfixable
- The PDG inclusive and exclusive BF's cannot be reconciled

Decay	PDG		MC	
	$D^0$ BF / %	$D^+$ BF / %	$D^0$ BF / %	$D^+$ BF / %
$K^-$	$54.7 \pm 2.8$	$25.7 \pm 1.4$	56.1	<b>30.5</b>
$K^0 / \bar{K}^0$	$47 \pm 4$	$61 \pm 5$	<b>40.0</b>	57.5
$K^+$	$3.4 \pm 0.4$	$5.9 \pm 0.8$	3.7	7.0
$K^{*,-}$	$15 \pm 9$	$6 \pm 5$	12.7	4.6
$\bar{K}^{*,0}$	$9 \pm 4$	$23 \pm 5$	9.1	19.3
$K^{*,0}$	$2.8 \pm 1.3$	$< 6.6$		

Henrik Junkerkalefeld

Fixing this at generator level is not feasible; instead, use  $M_x$  to **reweight** our MC...

Why is  $M_X$  so nice for this?

It controls the **part** of the reconstruction that we know the least about ...

Very reliable

Henrik Junkerkalefeld

$$M_X^2 = \left( \frac{E_X}{p_X} \right)^2$$

$$q^2 = \left[ \left( \frac{E_{\text{CMS}}/2}{-p_{B\text{tag}}} \right) - \left( \frac{E_X}{p_X} \right) \right]^2$$

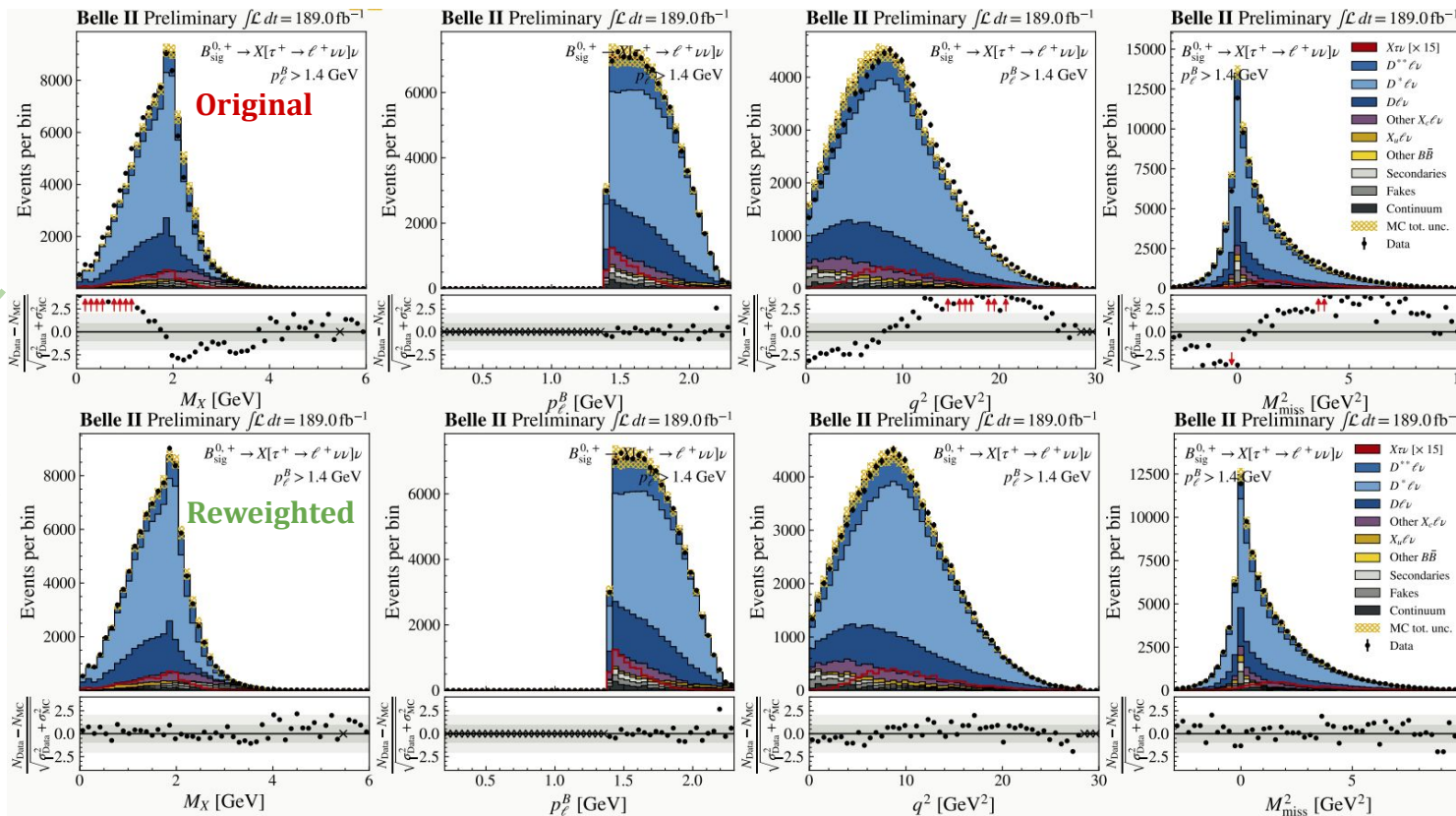
$$m_{\text{miss}}^2 = \left[ \left( \frac{E_{\text{CMS}}}{p_{\text{CMS}}} \right) - \left( \frac{E_{\text{CMS}}/2}{-p_{B\text{tag}}} \right) - \left( \frac{E_\ell}{p_\ell} \right) - \left( \frac{E_X}{p_X} \right) \right]^2$$

Does it work?

Event weights from data/MC ratio in  $M_X$  (high- $p_1$  sideband)

Applied to all events

Mismodeling is **magically** “healed” in *all other variables!*



Henrik Junkerkalefeld

## A path forward

- $M_X$  reweighting **unlocks  $R(X)$**  at Belle II...
- ...but a huge amount remains to be learned about inclusive modeling of the  $D$  decays

Look for  $R(X)$  in La Thuile!