

# Hadron physics at Belle II



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET

**Bianca Scavino** (she/her)

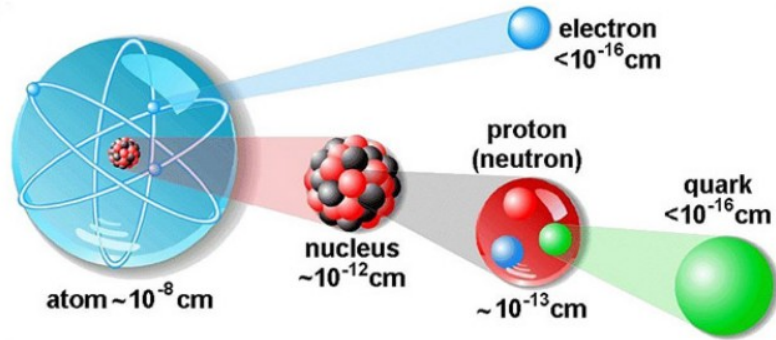
Uppsala Universitet

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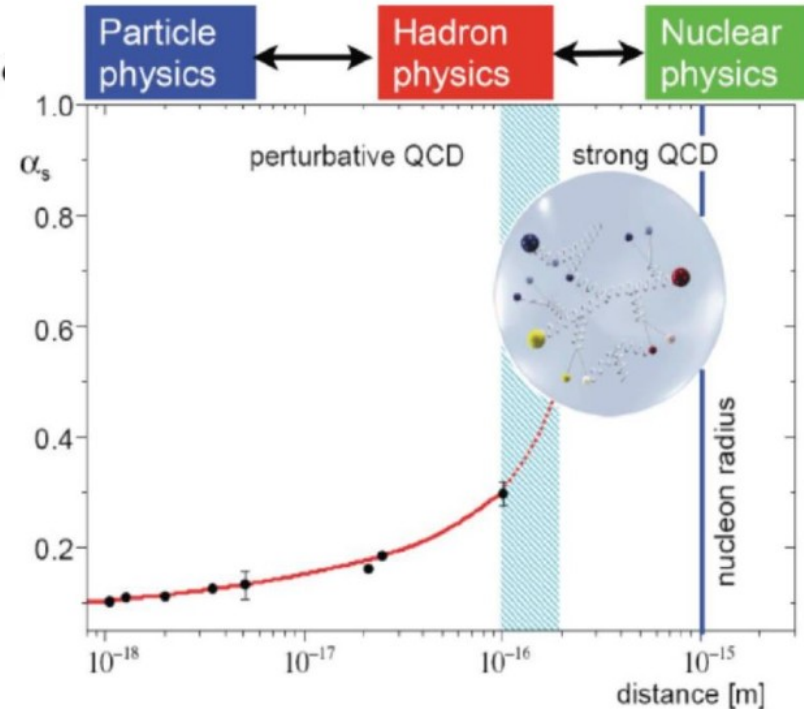
15<sup>th</sup> Nordic Meeting on Nuclear Physics

Gotland, Visby, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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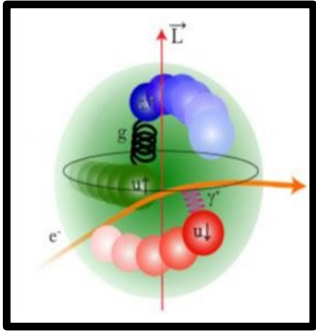


- Physics of the hadrons: composite, color neutral systems of quarks
- Explores the first level of complexity of strongly interacting particles

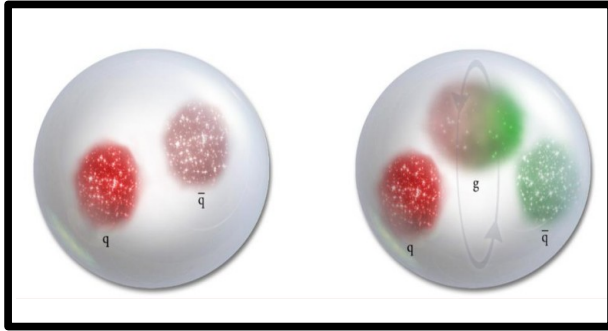


## Hadron Physics

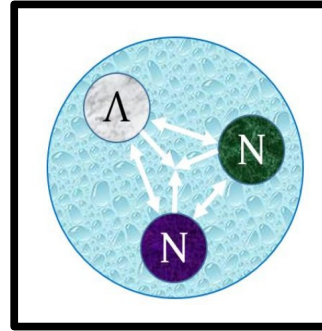
Structure



Spectroscopy



Interactions



Precision & rare processes

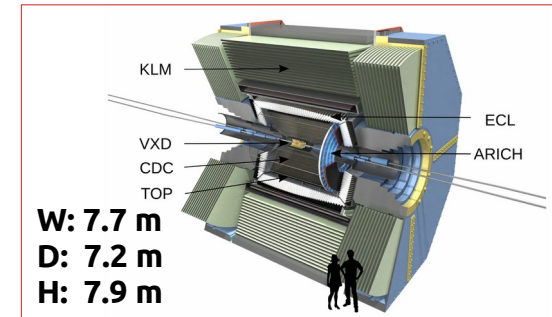


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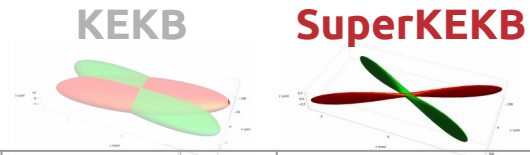


**Belle II:** particle physics experiment designed to study the properties of B mesons and other particles (B-Factory)

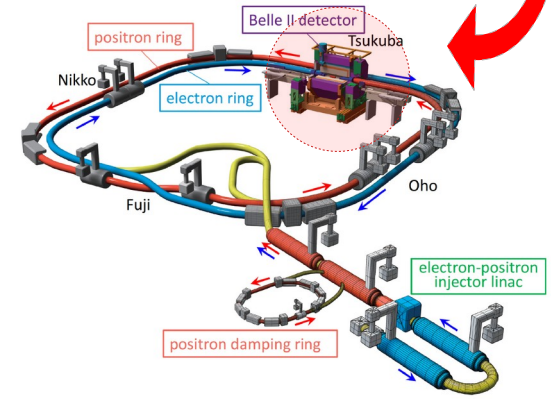
**SuperKEKB:** accelerator complex in which the Belle II experiment operates, located at KEK (High Energy Accelerator Research Organization) in Tsukuba, Japan



Sketch of the Interaction region



$\int L dt$	$1 \text{ ab}^{-1}$	$794 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ { $50 \text{ ab}^{-1}$ }
$L_{\text{peak}} [\text{cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}]$	$2.1 \times 10^{34}$	$5.24 \times 10^{34} \text{ (WR)}$ { $60 \times 10^{34}$ }

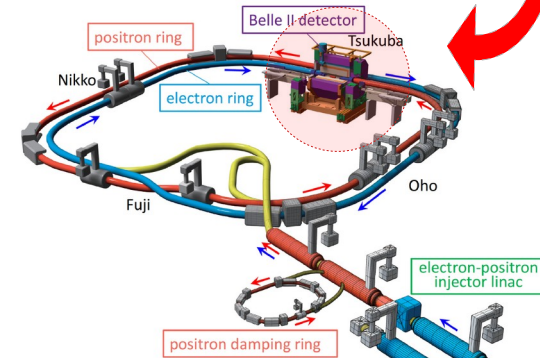
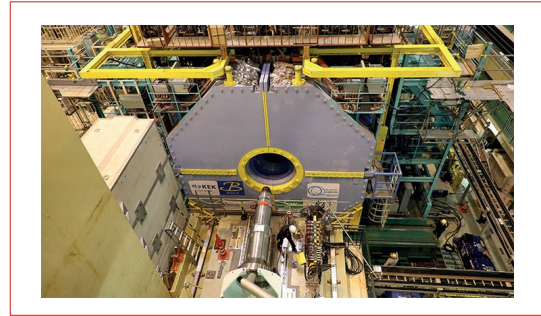


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# Hadron physics at Belle II

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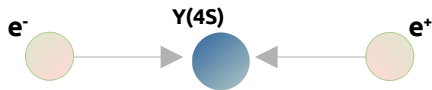
**B-Factory:** particle collider experiment designed to produce and detect a large number of B mesons so that their properties and behavior can be measured with small statistical and systematic uncertainties

$e^- e^+$  collisions  $\rightarrow$  direct production of  $J^{PC}=1^-$  states



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 $\sqrt{s} = 10.58 \text{ GeV} (= m_{Y(4S)})$



$Y(4S)$ :  $b\bar{b}$  meson,  $J^{PC} = 1^-$

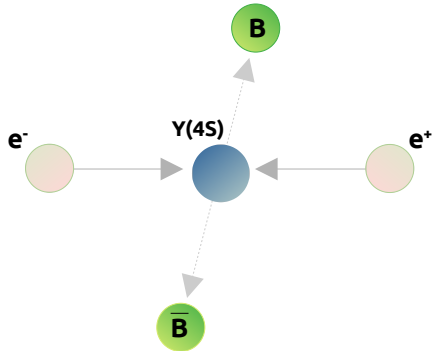
$\Gamma$ : 20.5 MeV

$m_{Y(4S)}$ : 10.58 GeV

$\rightarrow$  right above the  $B\bar{B}$  production threshold (10.56 GeV)

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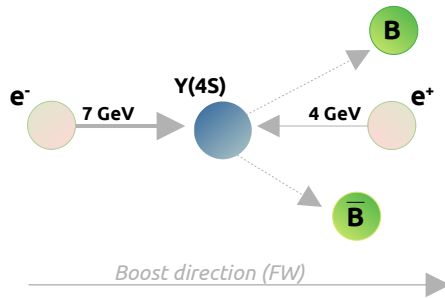
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 $\text{BR}(Y(4S) \rightarrow B\bar{B}) > 96\%$



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Asymmetric collisions  $\rightarrow$  boosted collision products

# Intermezzo: Belle II physics potential

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Belle II operates mainly at  $\sqrt{s} = 10.58$  GeV:

$$- \sigma(e^+ e^- \rightarrow b\bar{b}) \sim 1.1 \text{ nb} \quad [L_{\text{peak}} = 2.7 \cdot 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \rightarrow 30 \text{ } B\bar{B} / \text{s}]$$

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-  $\sigma(e^+ e^- \rightarrow \tau\tau) \sim 0.9$  nb

-  $\sigma(e^+ e^- \rightarrow c\bar{c}) \sim 1.3$  nb

→ *B* &  $\tau$  & *c* factory

-  $\sigma(e^+ e^- \rightarrow e^+ e^-) \sim 125/294$  nb (strongly depends on the acceptance angle)

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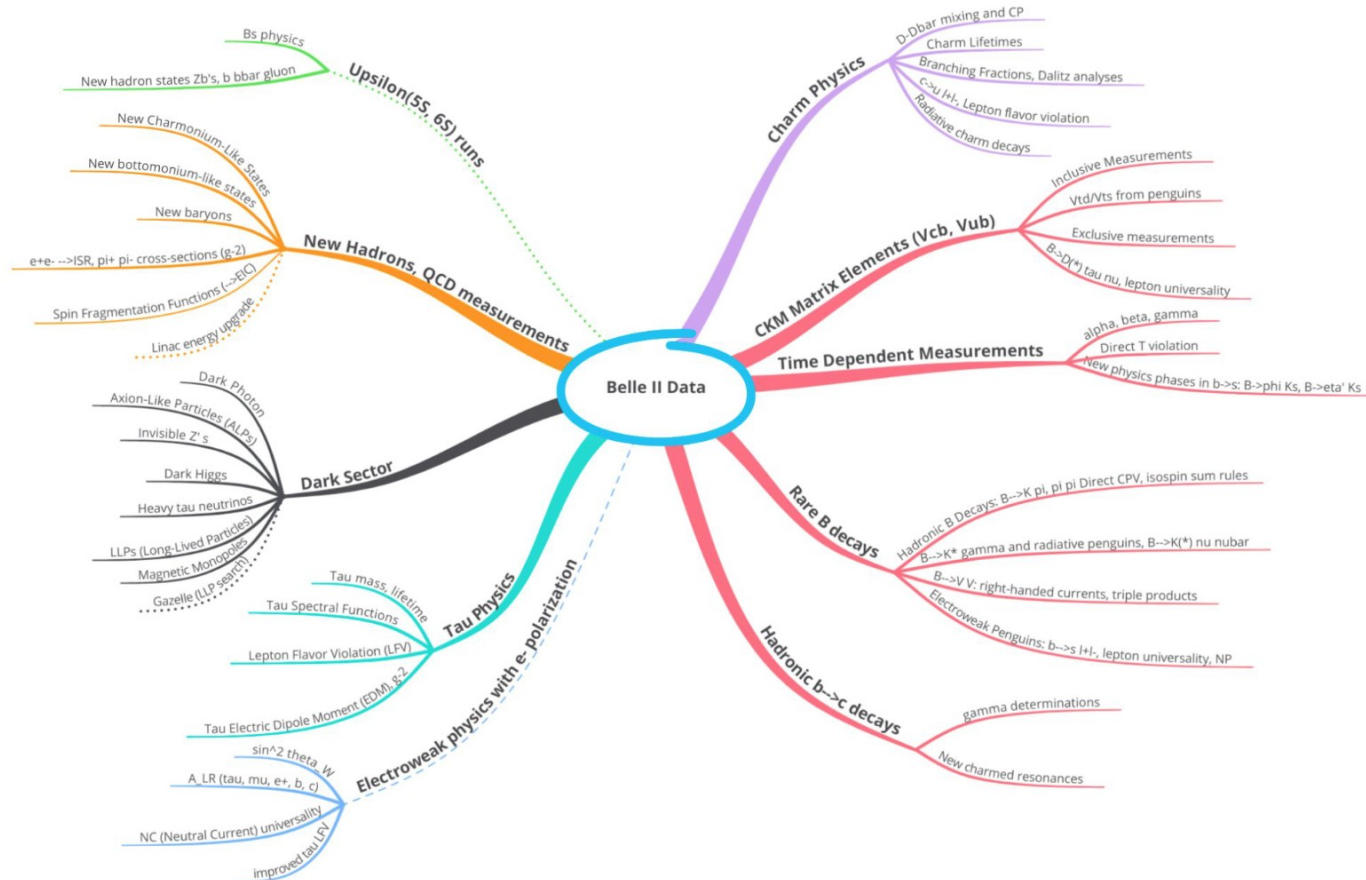
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It is possible to change the  $\sqrt{s}$ :

In 2019 unique energy scan sample collected at  $\sim 10.75$  GeV

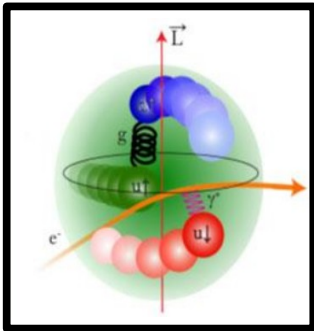
# Intermezzo: Belle II physics program

[See: BIITIP, [Snowmass Whitepaper](#)]

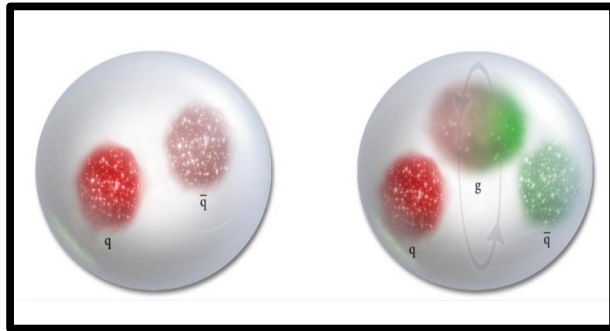


## Hadron Physics

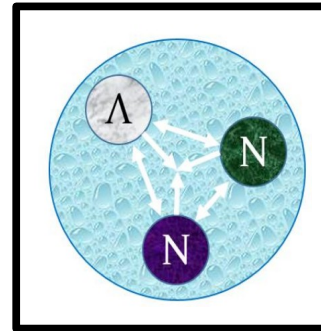
Structure



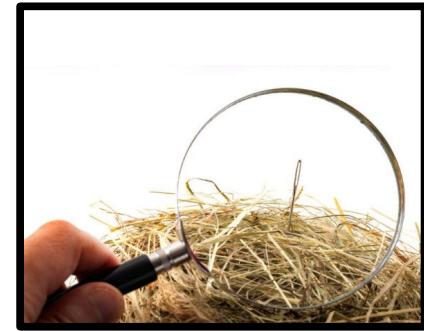
Spectroscopy



Interactions

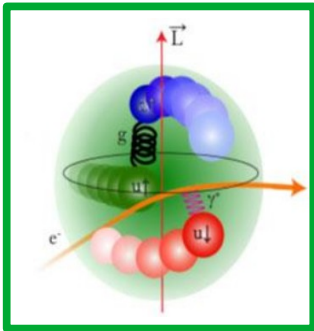


Precision & rare processes

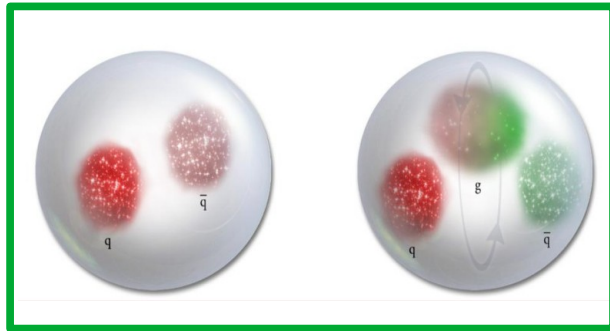


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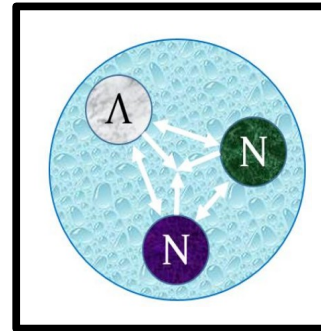
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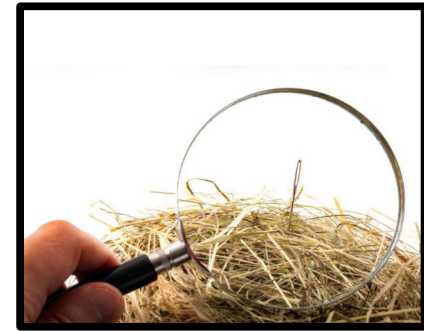
Spectroscopy



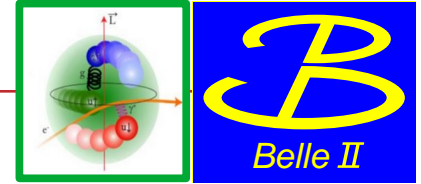
Interactions



Precision & rare processes



# 1. Hadron formation



**Hadronization:** how particular hadrons are formed from scattered quarks and gluons (partons)

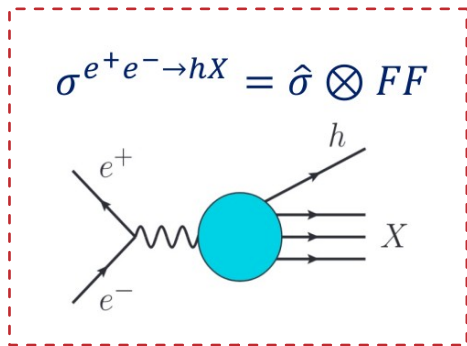
- Fragmentation functions: probability distribution of a parton fragmenting into a specific hadron
- Transverse momentum dependent (TMD): spin-momentum correlations

Leading Quark TMDFFs

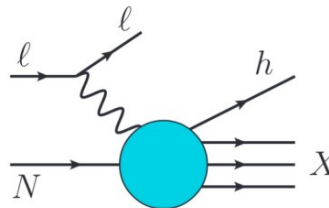
○ → Hadron Spin    ⊙ → Quark Spin

		Quark Polarization		
		Un-Polarized (U)	Longitudinally Polarized (L)	Transversely Polarized (T)
Unpolarized (or Spin 0) Hadrons		$D_1 = \odot$ Unpolarized		$H_1^\perp = \uparrow - \downarrow$ Collins
	L		$G_1 = \odot \rightarrow -\odot$ Helicity	$H_{1L}^\perp = \odot \rightarrow -\odot$
Polarized Hadrons	T	$D_{1T}^\perp = \odot - \odot$ Polarizing FF	$G_{1T}^\perp = \odot - \odot$	$H_1 = \uparrow - \downarrow$ Transversity $H_{1T}^\perp = \odot \rightarrow -\odot$

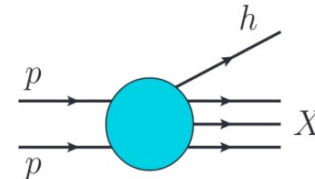
Image from arXiv:2304.03302v1



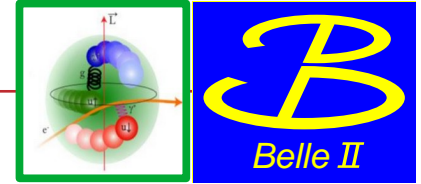
$\sigma^{lN \rightarrow lhX} = PDF \otimes \hat{\sigma} \otimes FF$



$\sigma^{pp \rightarrow hX} = PDF \otimes PDF \otimes \hat{\sigma} \otimes FF$

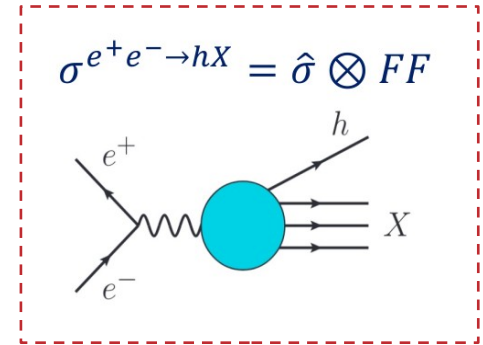


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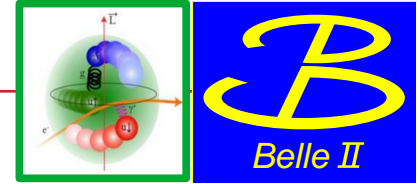


Belle II can offer high precision, comprehensive measurements important for understanding hadronization dynamic

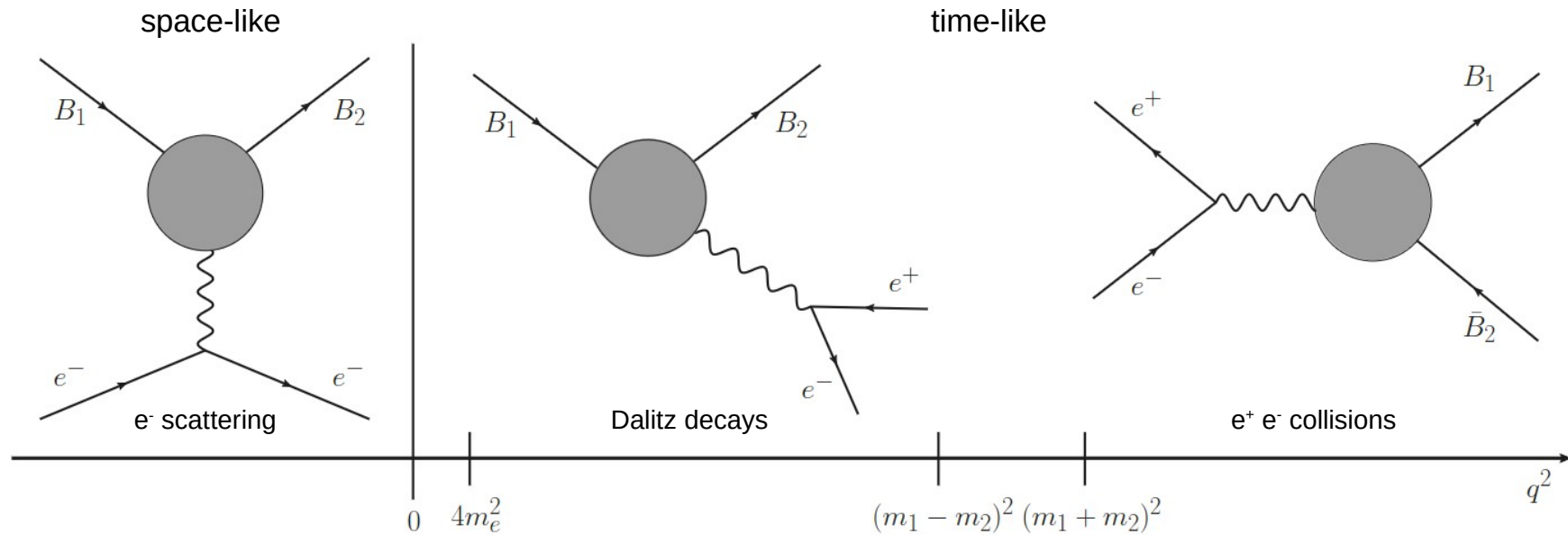
- Clean environment for detailed studies of hadronic final states
- Multi-dimensional analyses of fragmentation functions correlations, heavy flavor, hadronization effects in jets
- Essential for understanding transverse momentum of partons in measurements of PDFs and spin structure of nucleons (e.g. EIC)
- Many analysis ongoing  
→ Di-hadron fragmentation functions, Lambda polarization, TMD jet functions, ..



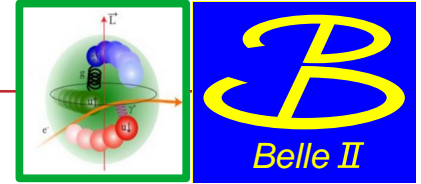
# 2. Hadron structure



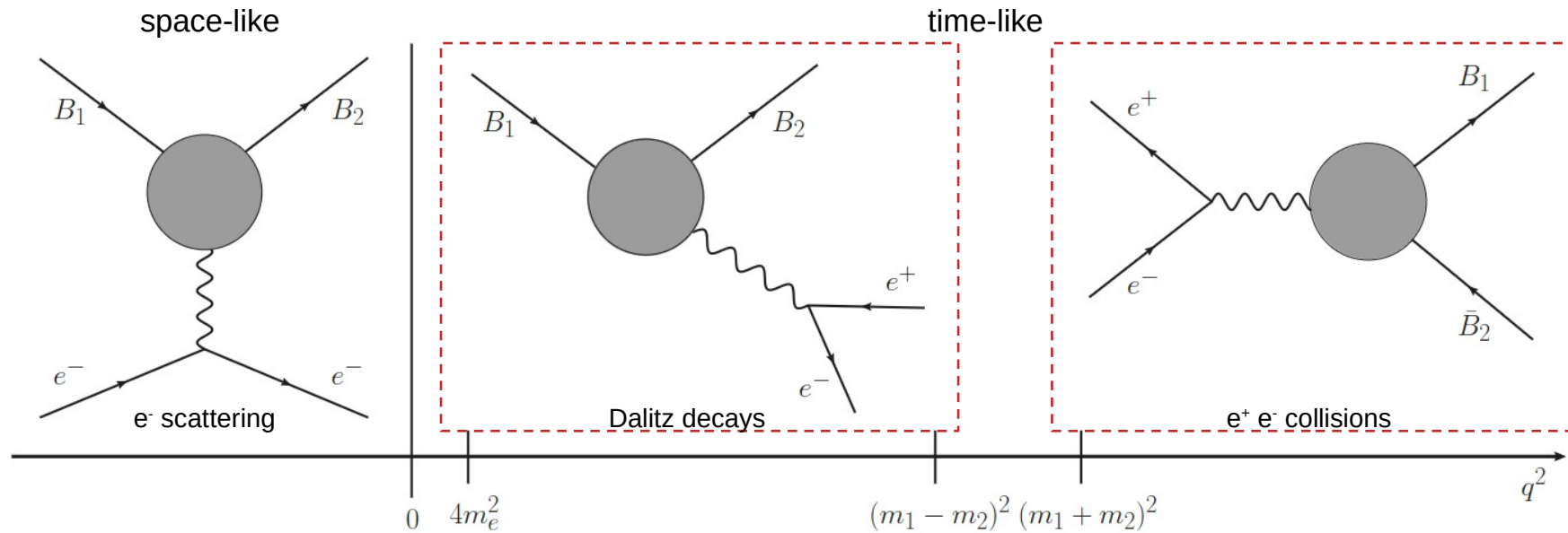
**Electromagnetic Form Factors (EMFFs):** momentum-dependent functions that map the spatial distribution of electric charge and magnetization, deviating from point-like behavior



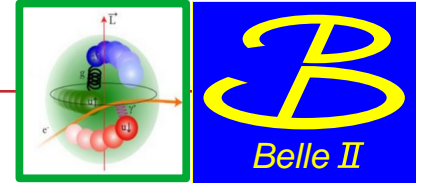
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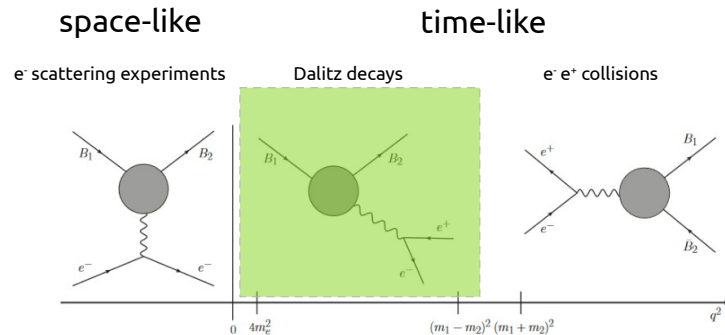
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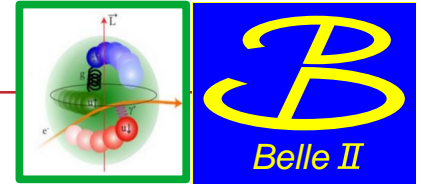
Hyperons transition form factor using **Dalitz decays**

$\Sigma^0 \rightarrow \Lambda e^+ e^-$  : predicted BR: 0.5 %

- $q^2 < 77 \text{ MeV}$
- Extrapolate TFF to  $\Upsilon$  point  $\rightarrow$  magnetic moment
- Increase predictive power of dispersion theory



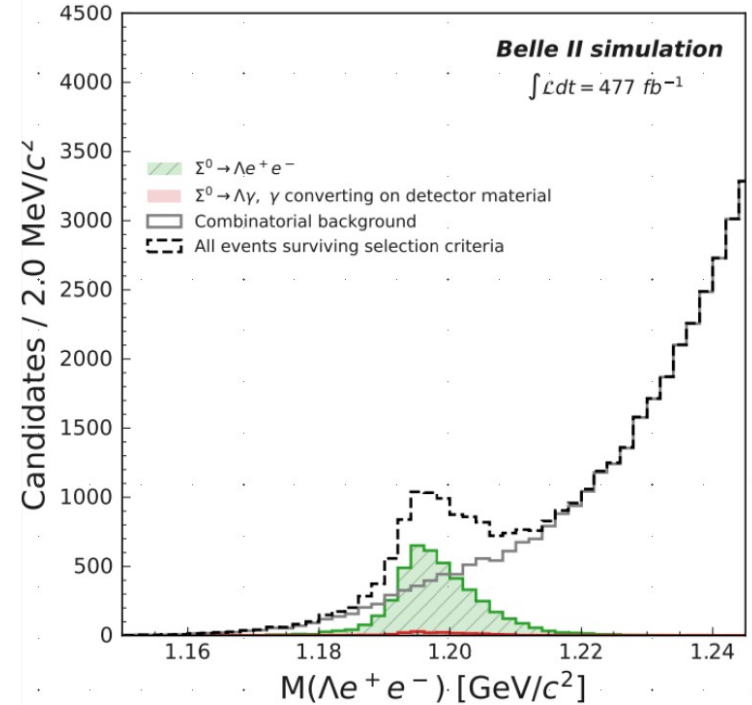
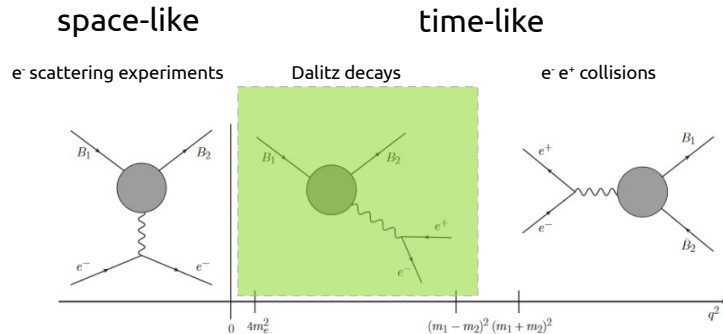
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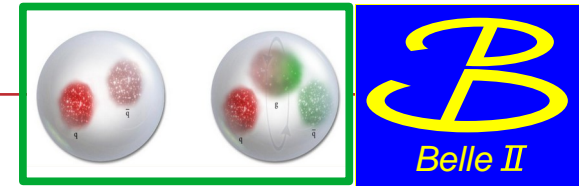
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# 3. Hadron spectroscopy

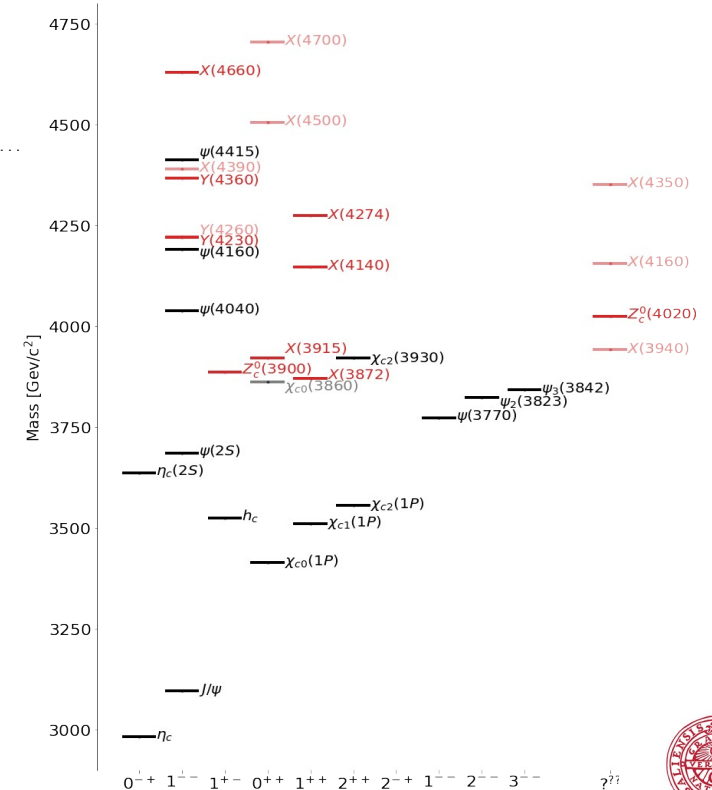


$q\bar{q}$  and  $qqq$  are not the only color singlets, we are now sure that there is much more

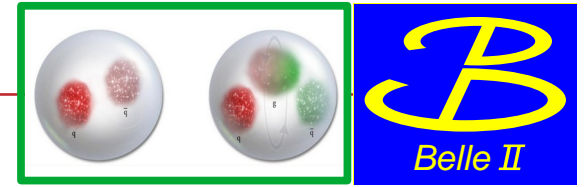
Full, neutral charmonium-like spectrum

- In 15 years we discovered:
  - ~30 exotics in charmonia
  - 3 exotics in bottomonium
  - 5 pentaquarks

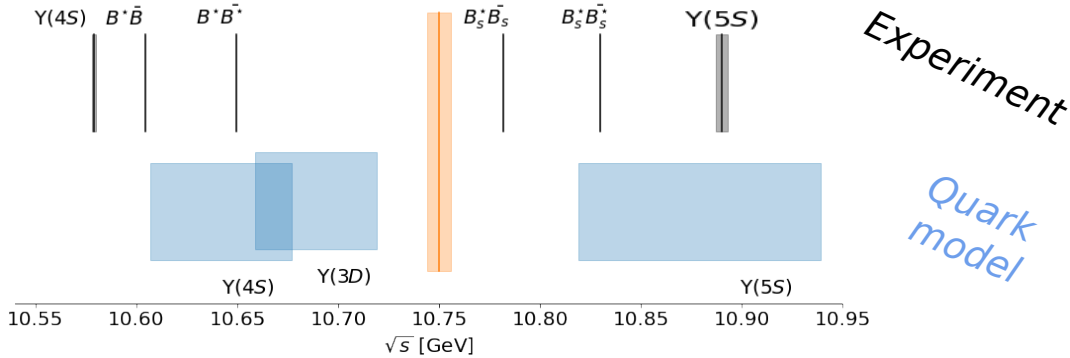
→ The question is not if they exist, but what they are



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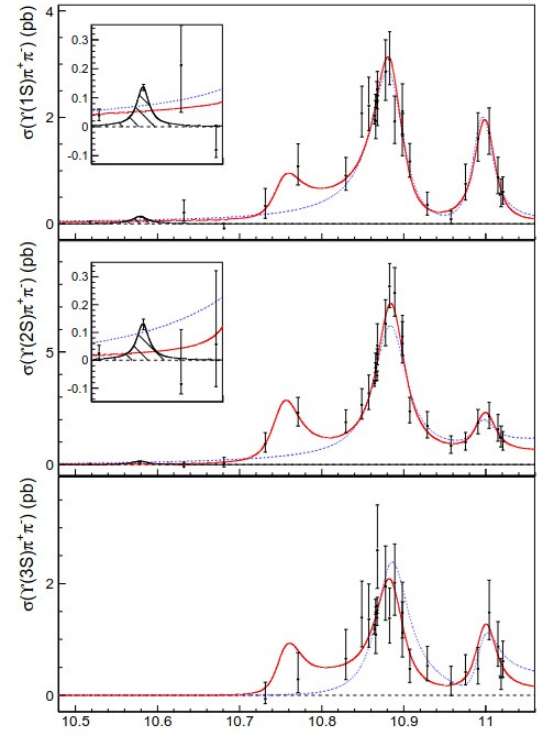
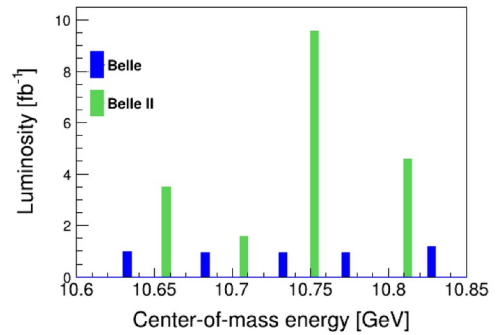
Unexpected vector state around 10.750 GeV (Belle)



Experiment

Quark model

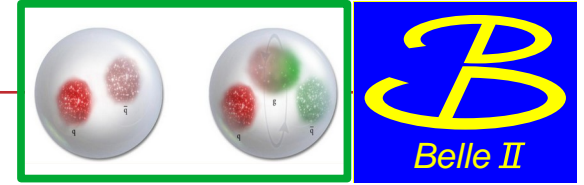
- Dedicated Belle II data taking
  - 4 energy points
  - 19 fb<sup>-1</sup> in total



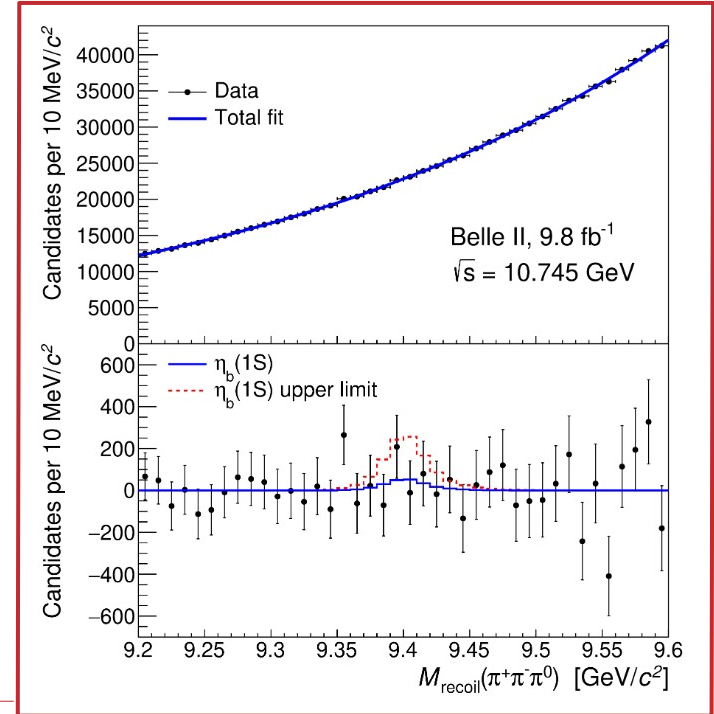
[JHEP 10 (2019) 220]



# 3. Hadron spectroscopy



- Di-pion transitions  $e^+ e^- \rightarrow Y(nS) \pi^+ \pi^-$  [JHEP 07 (2024) 116]  
→ No  $f_0$  contribution in the di-pion mass
- 3- $\pi$  transitions  $e^+ e^- \rightarrow X_{bJ}(1P) \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0$  [Preliminary]  
→ Large w VS non-w differences
- $e^+ e^- \rightarrow Y(nS) \eta$  [ArXiv 2509.01917]  
→ Hint of another resonant state?
- $e^+ e^- \rightarrow B(*)B(*)$  [JHEP 10 114 (2024)]  
→ Indication of a  $B^*B^*$  bound state  
see [Salnikov, Nucl. Phys. A 1041 (2024) 122764]
- $e^+ e^- \rightarrow \omega \eta_b(1S)$  [PRD 109, 072013 (2024)]  
→ **favoured in tetraquark models, not observed**



# Summary

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- Lots of measurement opportunities, with several current ongoing analyses underway

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
attention!**

