

# STERILE NEUTRINOS FOR FLAVOR ANOMALIES

NUTHEORIES: BEYOND THE  $3 \times 3$  PARADIGM  
PITTSBURGH, NOV 6, 2018

**BIBHUSHAN SHAKYA**



**BASED ON:**

**HEP-PH 1807.04753 WITH DEAN ROBINSON, JURE ZUPAN**

**HEP-PH 1804.04642 WITH ADMIR GRELJO, DEAN ROBINSON, JURE ZUPAN**

NEUTRINOS



NEW PHYSICS

NEUTRINOS



NEW PHYSICS

- THEORETICAL MOTIVATION
- EXPERIMENTAL OPPORTUNITIES
- ANOMALIES IN OBSERVATIONS

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anomalies in neutrino  
oscillation experiments  
(reactor/disappearance)

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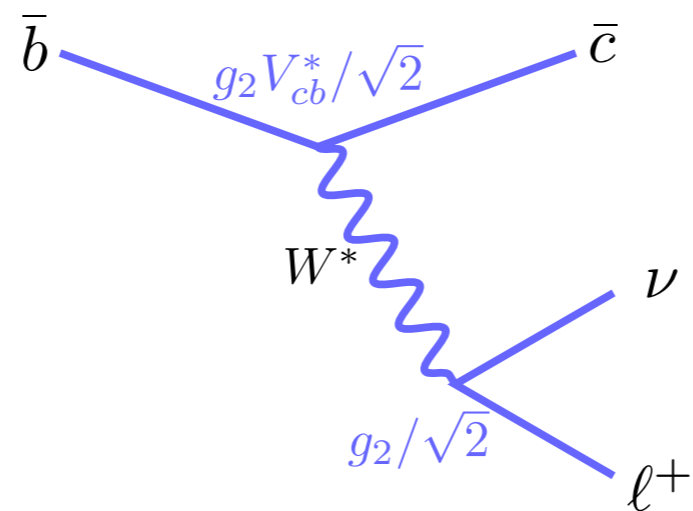
flavor anomalies  
(this talk)

# $R(D^{(*)})$

$$R(D^{(*)}) \equiv \frac{\Gamma[B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \tau \nu_\tau]}{\Gamma[B \rightarrow D^{(*)} l \nu]}, \quad l = \mu, e.$$

$[D^{(*)} = \bar{c}q$  is a scalar (vector) meson]

Semileptonic  $b \rightarrow c l \nu$  processes are theoretically clean tests of lepton flavor universality



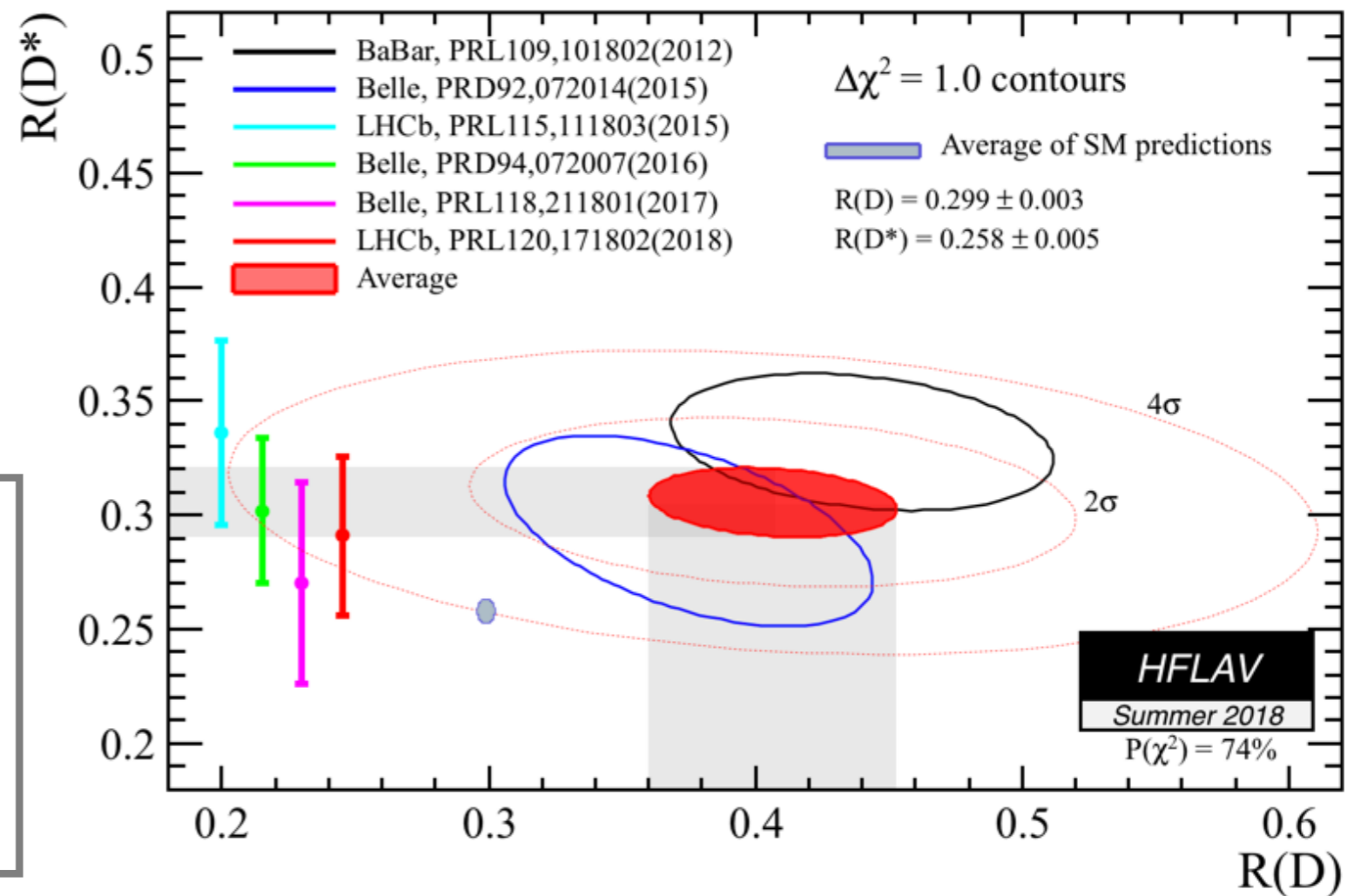
- Dominantly tree-level  $W$  exchange in the SM
- Lepton universal  $l = e, \mu, \tau$ , up to mass effects: PS & hadronic FFs

from D. Robinson

# R(D<sup>(\*)</sup>) ANOMALY

For the past 5 years, persistent, significant signals of **lepton flavor universality violation**

Experimental measurements disagree at almost  $4\sigma$  level with SM predictions!



from D. Robinson

# **R(D<sup>(\*)</sup>) ANOMALY**

requires **new physics**

**that couples  $b c \tau \nu$  at a level comparable to SM**

**several constraints:**

- enhanced  $B_c \rightarrow \tau \nu$  decay rate
- additional interactions due to SU(2) nature of  $\nu$

(in particular, very strong constraints from  $pp \rightarrow \tau \tau$  from colliders )

[Faroughy, Greljo, Kamenik, 1609.07138]



# $R(D^{(*)})$ ANOMALY

## THIS TALK

consider the possibility that the  $R(D^{(*)})$  signal arises due to **NP coupling to right-handed (sterile) neutrinos  $N_R$**  instead of the SM neutrinos

# R(D<sup>(\*)</sup>) ANOMALY

## THIS TALK

consider the possibility that the R(D<sup>(\*)</sup>) signal arises due to  
**NP coupling to right-handed (sterile) neutrinos  $N_R$**   
instead of the SM neutrinos

will consider right handed neutrinos to be separate Majorana particles  
(easier to avoid constraints, richer phenomenology)

[ aside: there are other flavor anomalies (R(K<sup>(\*)</sup>),  
which do not directly involve neutrinos ]

**FLAVOR CONSTRAINTS**

**NP FOR  $R(D^{(*)})$  WITH NR**

**COLLIDER  
SIGNALS**

**NEUTRINO  
PHENOMENOLOGY**

# THE PLAN

- NEW PHYSICS FITS TO  $R(D^{(*)})$ 
  - can do this with specific models or a general EFT language
  - take the EFT approach and talk about all possible operators  
(will come back to a specific UV complete model later)
  - flavor constraints/considerations
- STERILE NEUTRINO PHENOMENOLOGY
  - contributions to neutrino masses
  - sterile neutrino cosmology
  - direct search prospects
- COLLIDER PROBES OF HEAVY MEDIATORS

# $N_R$ OPERATORS FOR $R(D^{(*)})$

Dim-6 operators involving  $N_R$

$$Q_{SR} = \epsilon_{ab} (\bar{Q}_L^a d_R) (\bar{L}_L^b N_R),$$

$$Q_{SL} = (\bar{u}_R Q_L^a) (\bar{L}_L^a N_R),$$

$$Q_T = \epsilon_{ab} (\bar{Q}_L^a \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_R) (\bar{L}_L^b \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_R),$$

$$Q_{VR} = (\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R) (\bar{\ell}_R \gamma_\mu N_R)$$

After electroweak symmetry breaking

$$\mathcal{O}_{SR} = (\bar{c}_L b_R) (\bar{\tau}_L N_R),$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{SL} = (\bar{c}_R b_L) (\bar{\tau}_L N_R),$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{VR} = (\bar{c}_R \gamma^\mu b_R) (\bar{\tau}_R \gamma_\mu N_R),$$

$$\mathcal{O}_T = (\bar{c}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} b_R) (\bar{\tau}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_R)$$

parametrize as

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} \sum_i c_i \mathcal{O}_i. \quad \Lambda_{\text{eff}} = (2\sqrt{2}G_F V_{cb})^{-1/2} \simeq 0.87 \left[ \frac{40 \times 10^{-3}}{V_{cb}} \right]^{1/2} \text{TeV}$$

# $N_R$ OPERATORS FOR $R(D^{(*)})$

Dim-6 operators involving  $N_R$   
 we will assume that these operators are

$$Q_{SR} = \epsilon_{ab} (\bar{Q}_L^a d_R) (\bar{L}_L^b N_R), \quad Q_{SL} = (\bar{u}_R Q_L^a) (\bar{L}_L^a N_R),$$

$$Q_T = \epsilon_{ab} (\bar{Q}_L^a \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_R) (\bar{L}_L^b \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_R), \quad Q_{VR} = (\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R) (\bar{\ell}_R \gamma_\mu N_R)$$

completely aligned with the b, c,  $\tau$  mass eigenstates, and no other corresponding

After electroweak symmetry breaking  
 couplings with other generations exist

[ built-in assumption for us, but can be accomplished in

$$O_{SR} = (\bar{c}_L b_R) (\bar{\tau}_L N_R), \quad O_{SL} = (\bar{c}_R b_L) (\bar{\tau}_L N_R),$$

$$O_{VR} = (\bar{c}_R \gamma^\mu b_R) (\bar{\tau}_R \gamma_\mu N_R), \quad O_T = (\bar{c}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} b_R) (\bar{\tau}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_R)$$

flavor-locked models

(S. Knapen and D. J. Robinson, 1507.00009)]

parametrize as

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} \sum_i \mathcal{O}_i$$

have to be careful about running effects when  $\Lambda_{\text{eff}} \sim [40 \times 10^{-3}]^{1/2} \text{TeV}$

comparing physics at different scales

# UV COMPLETIONS

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{SR}} = (\bar{c}_L b_R) (\bar{\tau}_L N_R),$$

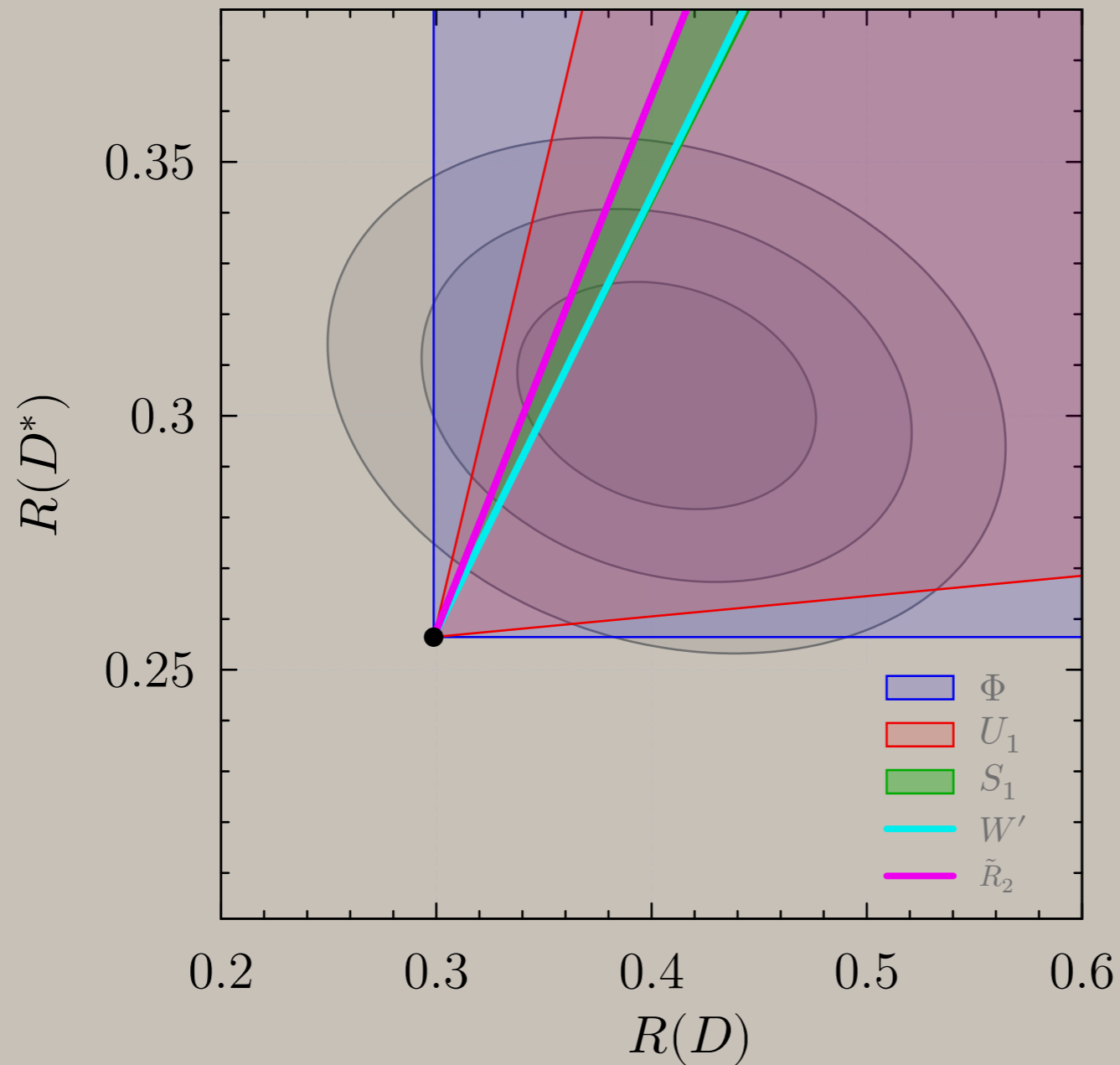
$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{SL}} = (\bar{c}_R b_L) (\bar{\tau}_L N_R),$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{VR}} = (\bar{c}_R \gamma^\mu b_R) (\bar{\tau}_R \gamma_\mu N_R),$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{T}} = (\bar{c}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} b_R) (\bar{\tau}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_R)$$

	mediator	irrep	$\delta\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}$	WCs
vector	$W'_\mu$	$(1, 1)_1$	$g' (c_q \bar{u}_R W'_\mu d_R + c_N \bar{\ell}_R W'_\mu N_R)$	$c_{\text{VR}}$
scalar	$\Phi$	$(1, 2)_{1/2}$	$y_u \bar{u}_R Q_L \epsilon \Phi + y_d \bar{d}_R Q_L \Phi^\dagger + y_N \bar{N}_R L_L \epsilon \Phi$	$c_{\text{SL}}, c_{\text{SR}}$
leptoquarks	$U_1^\mu$	$(3, 1)_{2/3}$	$(\alpha_{LQ} \bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu Q_L + \alpha_{ld} \bar{\ell}_R \gamma_\mu d_R) U_1^{\mu\dagger} + \alpha_{uN} (\bar{u}_R \gamma_\mu N_R) U_1^\mu$	$c_{\text{SL}}, c_{\text{VR}}$
	$\tilde{R}_2$	$(3, 2)_{1/6}$	$\alpha_{Ld} (\bar{L}_L d_R) \epsilon \tilde{R}_2^\dagger + \alpha_{QN} (\bar{Q}_L N_R) \tilde{R}_2$	$c_{\text{SR}} = 4c_{\text{T}}$
	$S_1$	$(\bar{3}, 1)_{1/3}$	$z_u (\bar{U}_R^c \ell_R) S_1 + z_d (\bar{d}_R^c N_R) S_1 + z_Q (\bar{Q}_L^c \epsilon L_L) S_1$	$c_{\text{VR}}, c_{\text{SR}} = -4c_{\text{T}}$

# $R(D^{(*)})$ CONTRIBUTIONS

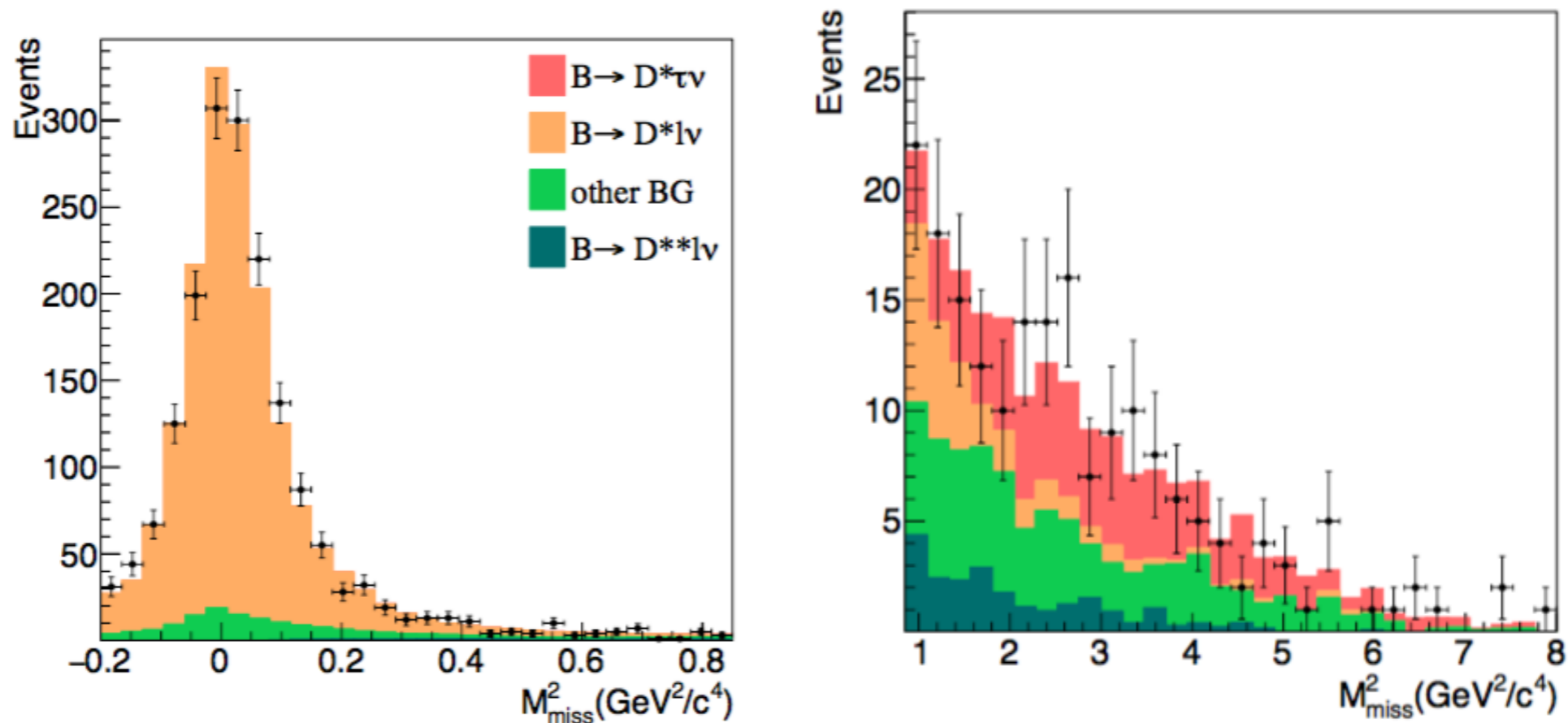


NP contributions add INCOHERENTLY to the SM effect.

Can only increase  $R(D^{(*)})$ , as the measurements demand!



# HOW HEAVY CAN $N_R$ BE?



1507.03233 [Belle]

- Migration in  $m_{\text{miss}}^2$  can be large
- Existing analyses can probably tolerate  $m_{N_R} \lesssim \mathcal{O}(100) \text{ MeV}$

from D. Robinson

# MAIN CONSTRAINT

from D. Robinson

Introducing  $b \rightarrow c\tau N_R$  operator  $\implies$  contribution to  $B_c \rightarrow \tau N_R$  decays

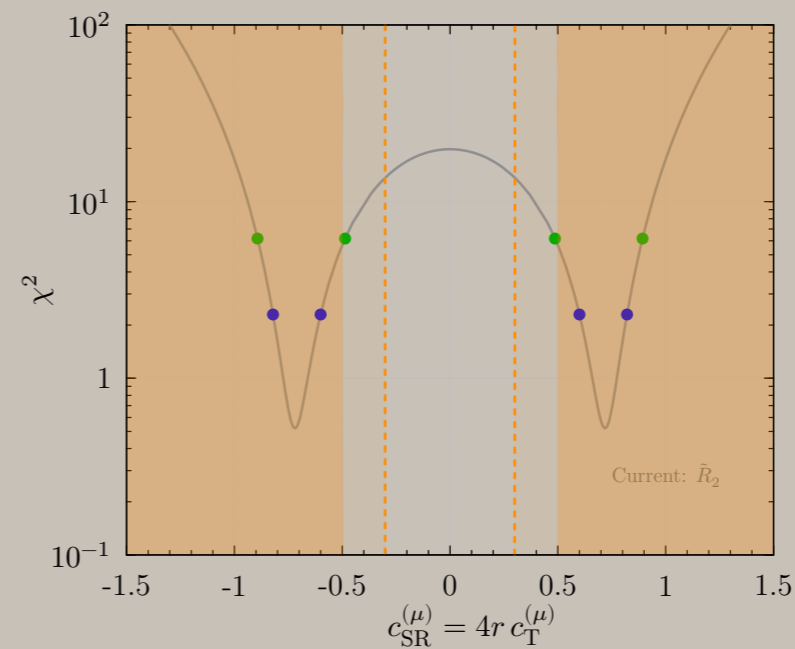
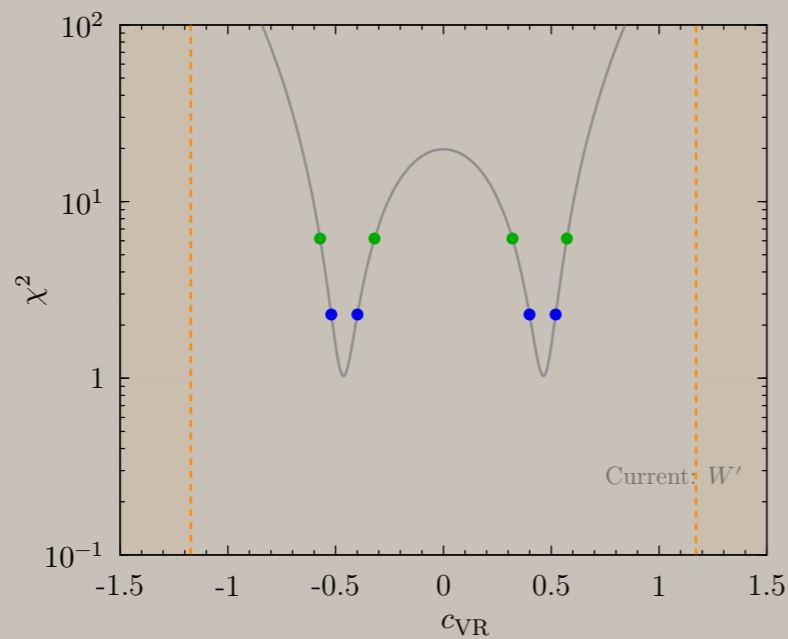
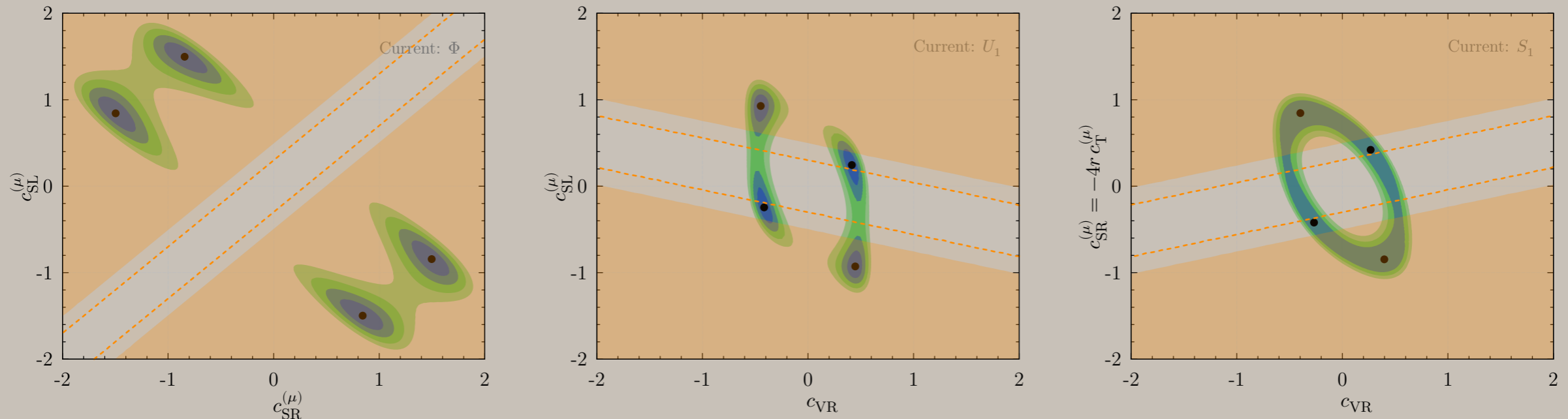
$$\text{Br}[B_c \rightarrow \tau\nu_{\text{SM}}] = \text{Br}_{\text{SM}} \left[ 1 + \left| c_{\text{VR}} + \frac{m_{B_c}^2}{m_\tau(\bar{m}_b + \bar{m}_c)} [c_{\text{SL}}(\mu) - c_{\text{SR}}(\mu)] \right|^2 \right]$$

- A huge enhancement for scalar operators  $\sim m_{B_c}/m_\tau$
- $B_c \rightarrow \tau\nu$  is not measured, but the  $B_c$  lifetime time and exclusive BRs to hadrons *are*

We will impose  $\text{Br}(B_c \rightarrow \tau\nu) < 10\%$  (reasonable) or  $< 5\%$  (aggressive)

# FITS AND CONSTRAINTS

(assuming all couplings real)



Orange:  
excluded region  
from requiring  
 $\text{Br}(B_C \rightarrow \tau\nu) < 10\%$   
(dotted: 5%)

. NP corrections and form factor fits based on

Z. Ligeti, M. Papucci, and D. J. Robinson, JHEP 01, 083 (2017), 1610.02045

. F. U. Bernlochner, Z. Ligeti, M. Papucci, and D. J. Robinson, Phys. Rev. D95, 115008 (2017), 1703.05330

# BEST FIT VALUES

(assuming all couplings real)

Model	WCs	Real	
		Best fit	
$W'$	$c_{VR}$	$\pm 0.46$	
$\tilde{R}_2$	$c_{SR}^{(\mu)} = 4r c_T^{(\mu)}$	$\pm 0.72$	
$\Phi$	$\{c_{SR}^{(\mu)}, c_{SL}^{(\mu)}\}$	$\{\pm 1.50, \mp 0.84\}$	
		$\{\pm 0.84, \mp 1.50\}$	
$U_1$	$\{c_{VR}, c_{SL}^{(\mu)}\}$	$\{\pm 0.45, \mp 0.93\}$	
		$\{\pm 0.42, \pm 0.24\}$	
$S_1$	$\{c_{VR}, c_{SR}^{(\mu)} = -4r c_T^{(\mu)}\}$	$\{\pm 0.40, \mp 0.85\}$	
		$\{\pm 0.27, \pm 0.42\}$	

on the verge of exclusion

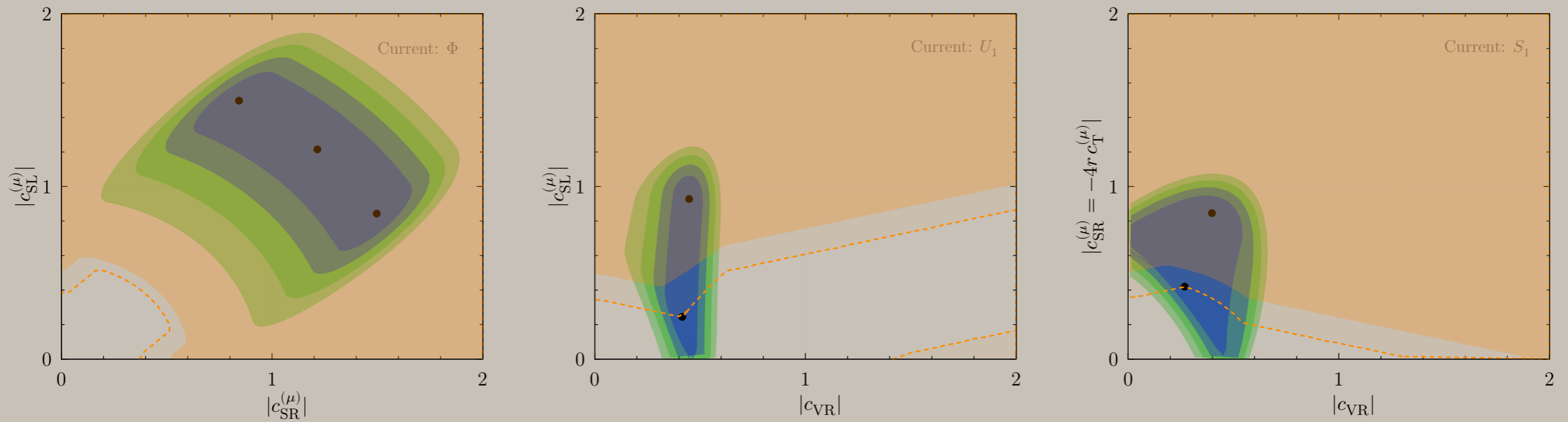
excluded by  
 $\text{Br}(B_c \rightarrow \tau \nu)$

Take away message: best fit couplings are  $\sim 1$

New physics interactions must be comparable in strength to SM weak interactions!

# FITS AND CONSTRAINTS

(with complex parameters)



Orange: excluded region from requiring  $\text{Br}(\text{B}_c \rightarrow \tau\nu) < 10\%$  (dotted: 5%)

More parameter space for leptoquarks, scalar remains excluded

# BEST FIT VALUES

(with complex parameters)

Model	WCs	Real	Phase-optimized
		Best fit	Best fit
$W'$	$c_{VR}$	$\pm 0.46$	–
$\tilde{R}_2$	$c_{SR}^{(\mu)} = 4r c_T^{(\mu)}$	$\pm 0.72$	–
$\Phi$	$\{c_{SR}^{(\mu)}, c_{SL}^{(\mu)}\}$	$\{\pm 1.50, \mp 0.84\}$	$\{1.50, -0.84\}$ $\{1.21, \pm 1.21 e^{\pm i 0.17\pi}\}$
$U_1$	$\{c_{VR}, c_{SL}^{(\mu)}\}$	$\{\pm 0.45, \mp 0.93\}$ $\{\pm 0.42, \pm 0.24\}$	$\{0.45, -0.93\}$ $\{0.42, 0.24\}$
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new best fit,  
but remains  
excluded

New best fit point for scalar mediator, still excluded.

For other mediators, best fit points do not change.

# BEST FIT VALUES

(with complex parameters)

Model	WCs	Real	Phase-optimized
		Best fit	Best fit
$W'$	$c_{VR}$	$\pm 0.46$	–
$\tilde{R}_2$	$c_{SR}^{(\mu)} = 4r c_T^{(\mu)}$	$\pm 0.72$	–
$\tilde{S}_1$	$\{c_{SR}^{(\mu)}, c_{SL}^{(\mu)}\}$	$\{\pm 1.50, \mp 0.84\}$ $\{\pm 0.84, \mp 1.50\}$	$\{1.50, -0.84\}$ $\{0.84, -1.50\}$
$U_1$	$\{c_{VR}, c_{SL}^{(\mu)}\}$	$\{\pm 0.45, \mp 0.93\}$ $\{\pm 0.42, \pm 0.24\}$	$\{0.45, -0.93\}$ $\{0.42, 0.24\}$
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**IGNORE FROM HEREON**

new best fit, but remains excluded

New best fit point for scalar mediator, still excluded.

For other mediators, best fit points do not change.

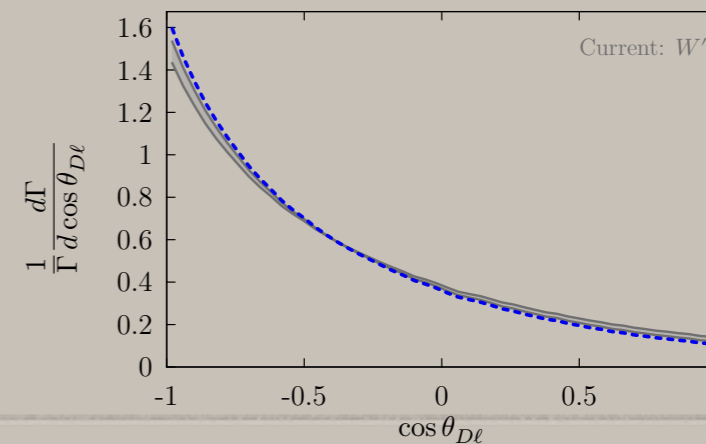
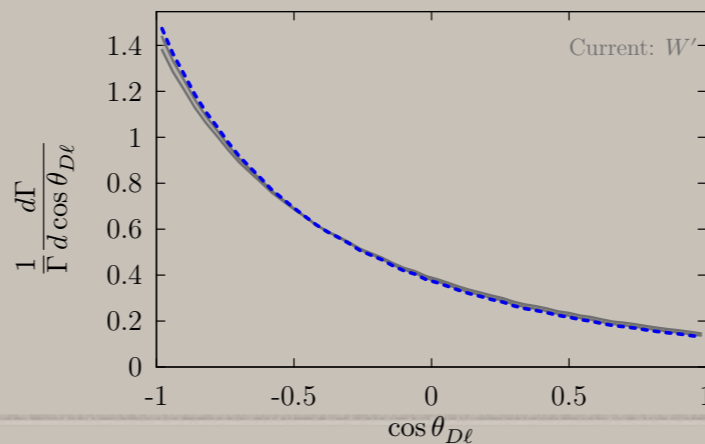
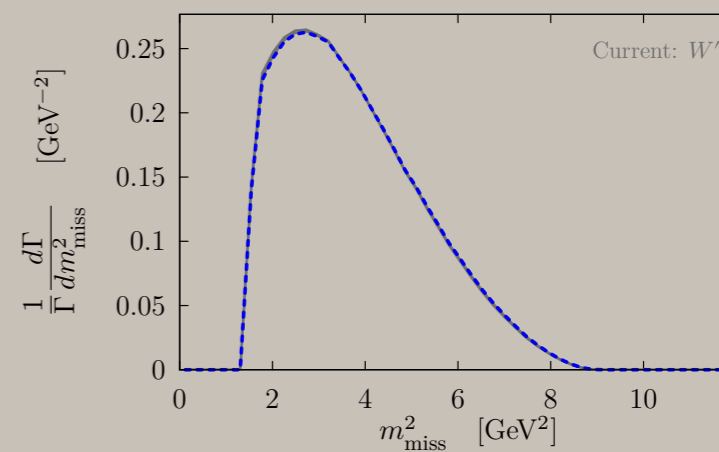
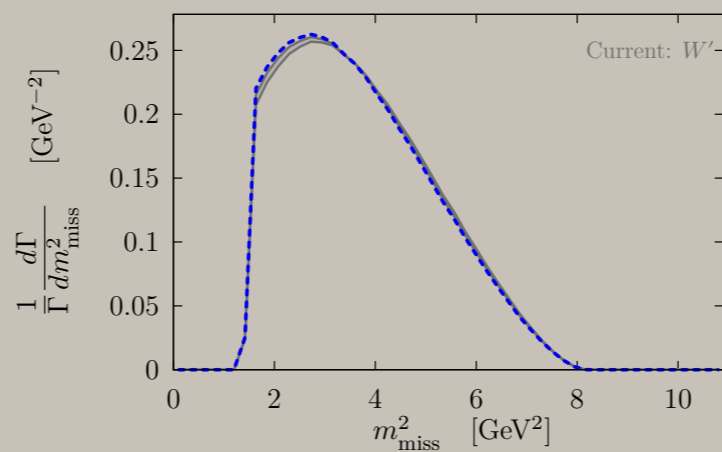
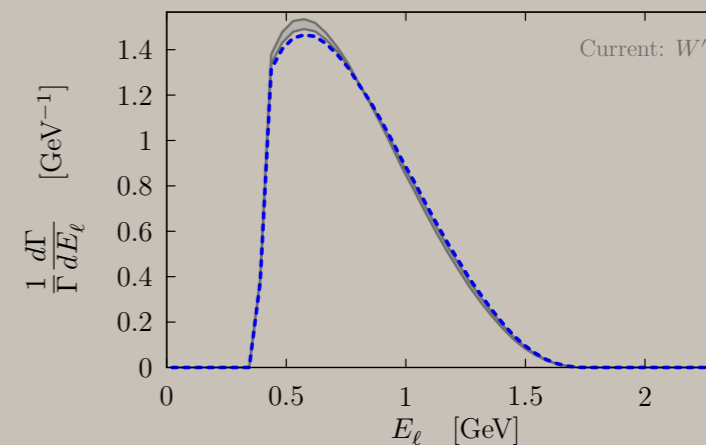
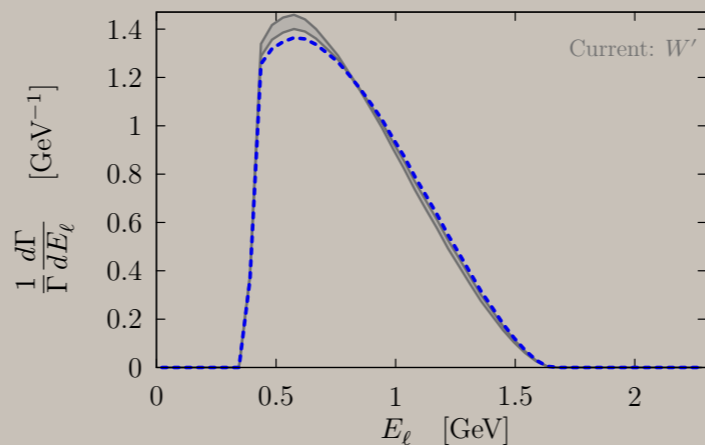
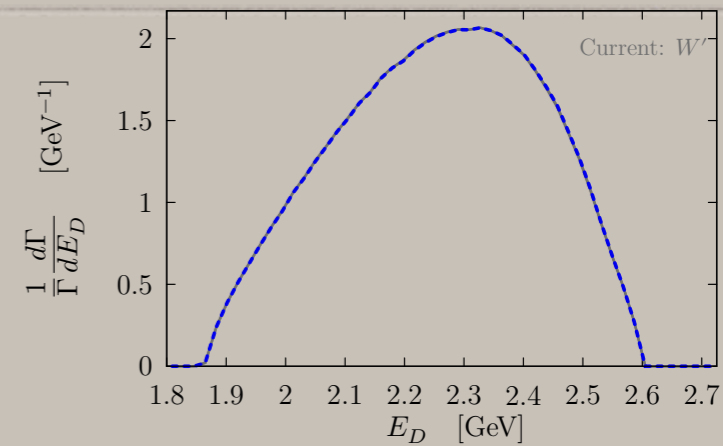
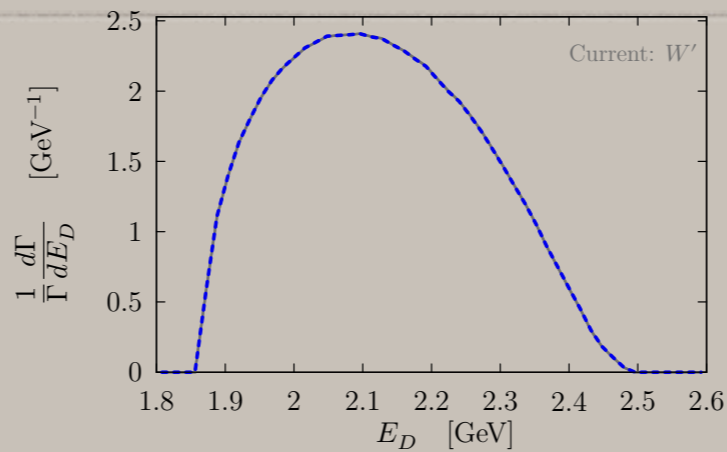
effects on kinematic  
distributions

(here:  $W'$  mediator,  
massless NR)

blue: SM only.

grey: 95% CL region

left:  $D^*$ ; right:  $D$

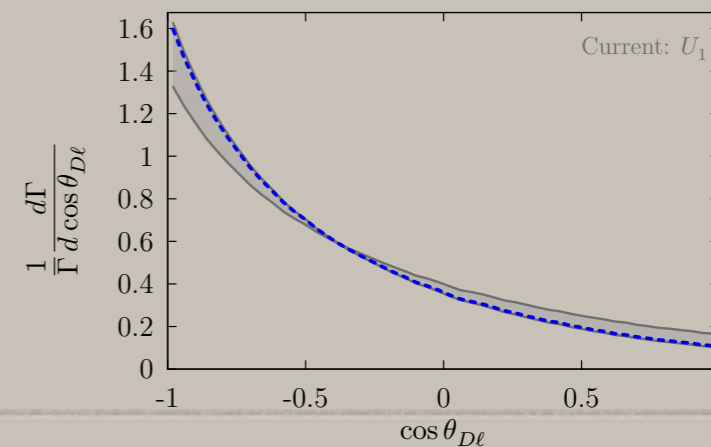
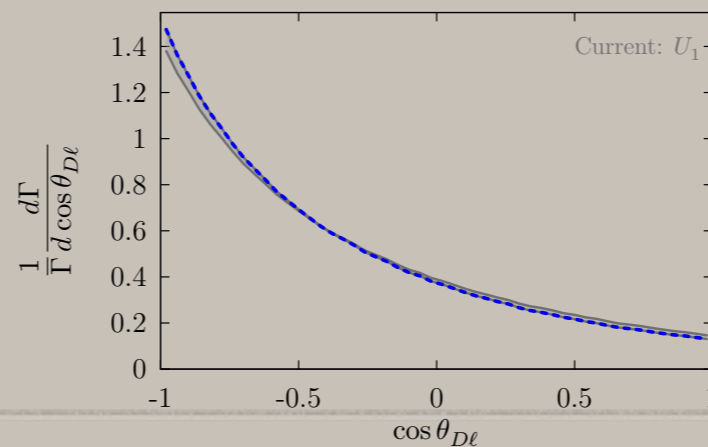
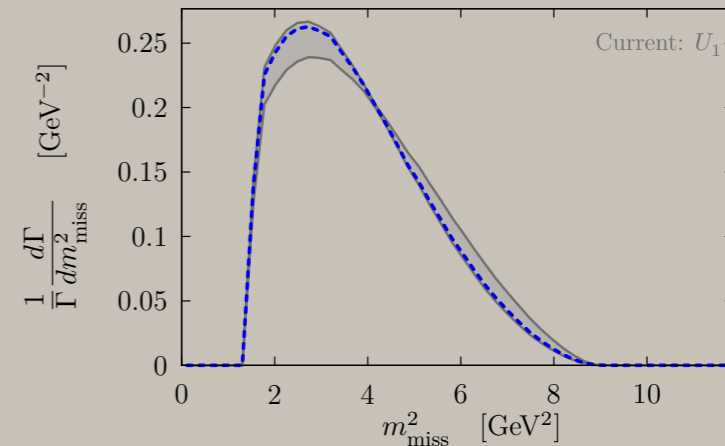
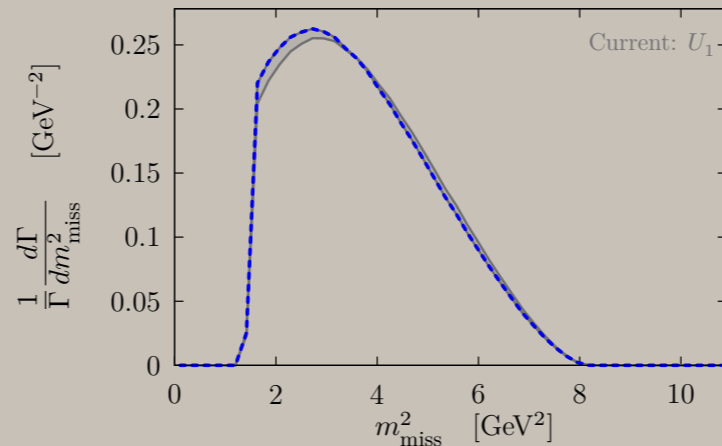
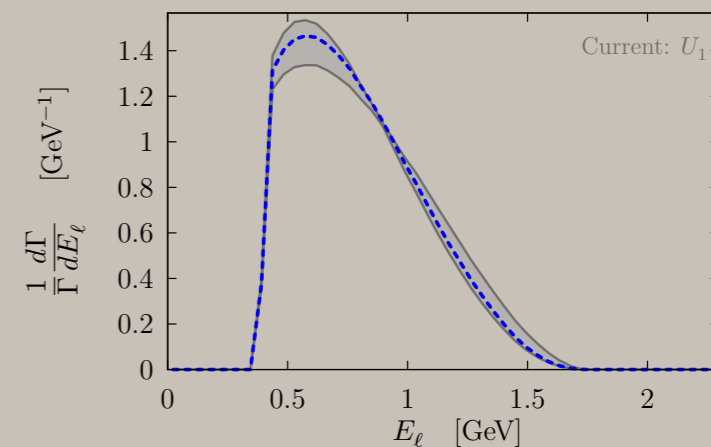
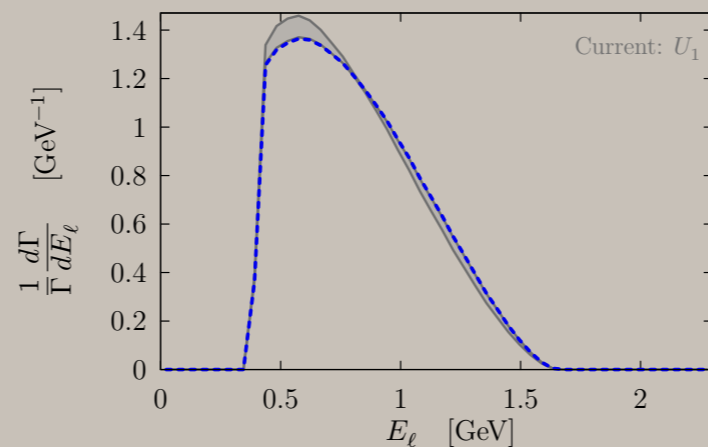
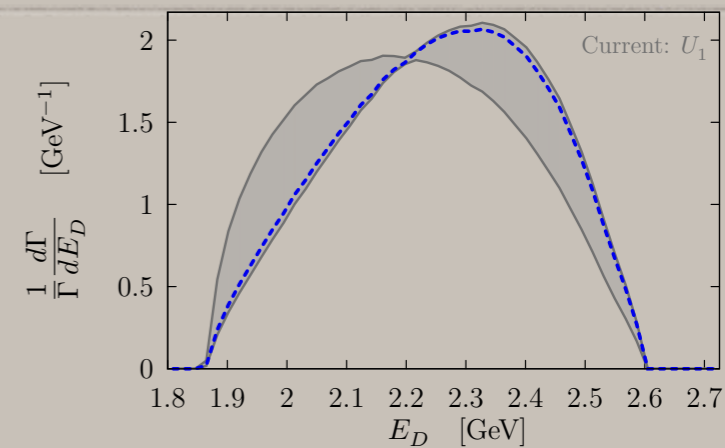
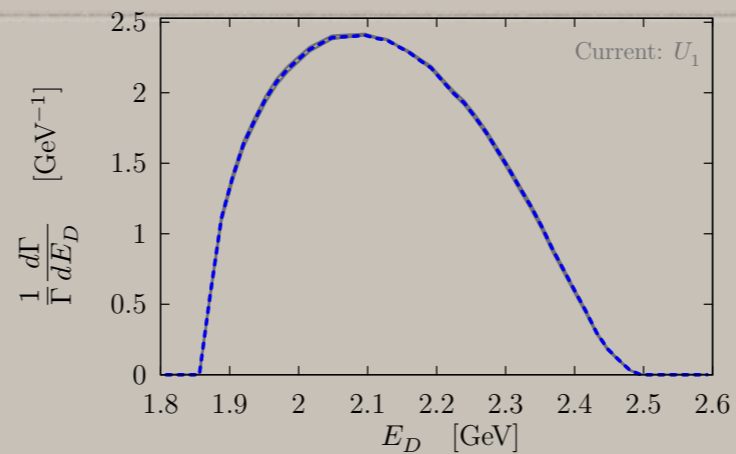




effects on kinematic  
distributions

(here:  $U_1$  mediator,  
massless  $N_R$ )

blue: SM only.  
grey: 95% CL region



# ADDITIONAL FLAVOR CONSTRAINTS

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{SR}} = (\bar{c}_L b_R) (\bar{\tau}_L N_R)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{T}} = (\bar{c}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} b_R) (\bar{\tau}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_R)$$

SU(2)

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{SR}}^s = (\bar{s}_L b_R) (\bar{\nu}_\tau N_R)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\text{T}}^s = (\bar{s}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} b_R) (\bar{\nu}_\tau \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_R)$$

generating  $b \rightarrow s\nu\nu$

- $c_{\text{SR},\text{T}}^s \simeq c_{\text{SR},\text{T}}$

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{B \rightarrow K\nu\bar{\nu}}}{d\hat{q}^2} \bigg/ \frac{d\Gamma_{B \rightarrow K\nu\bar{\nu}}}{d\hat{q}^2} \bigg|_{\text{SM}} \simeq 1 + 5 \times 10^4 \hat{q}^2 \left[ \frac{3}{8} (c_{\text{SR}}^s)^2 \frac{f_0^2}{f_+^2} + (1 - \hat{q}^2) (c_{\text{T}}^s)^2 \frac{f_T^2}{f_+^2} \right]$$

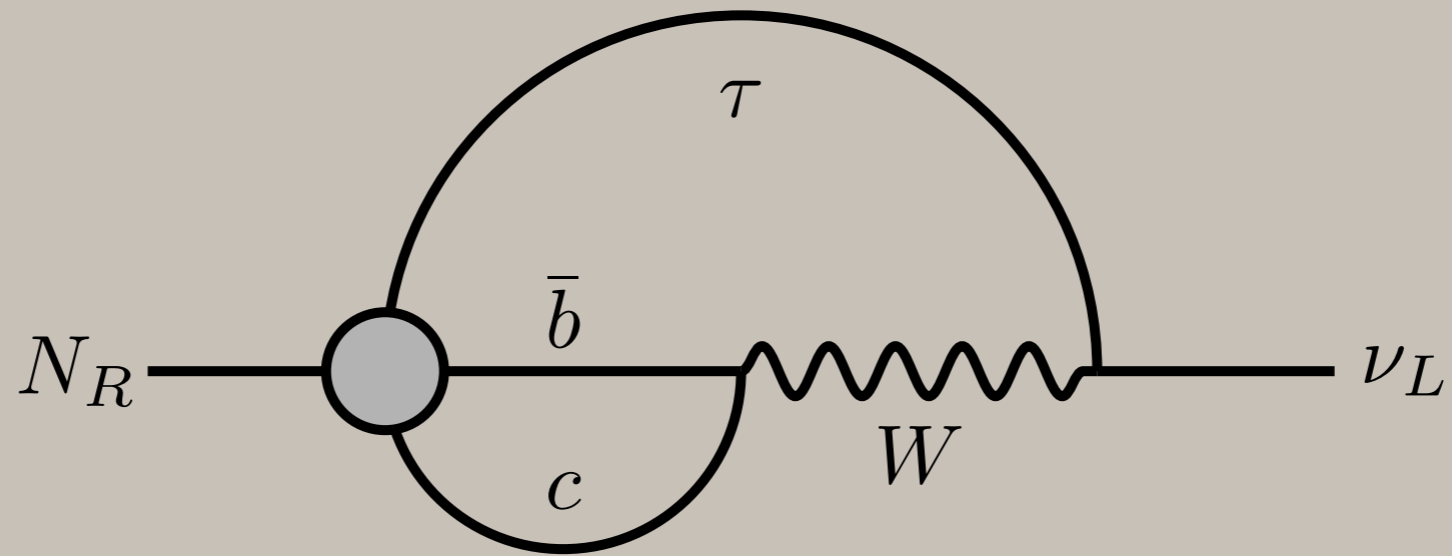
- Current bound  $\text{Br}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu\bar{\nu}) < 1.6 \times 10^{-5}$  vs SM prediction,  $\text{Br}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu\bar{\nu})|_{\text{SM}} \simeq 4 \times 10^{-6}$ :  $c_{\text{SR},\text{T}}$  highly constrained [Or a tuning is required]
- Requires  $\alpha_{Ld}\alpha_{QN} \ll 1$  for  $\tilde{R}_2$ , and  $z_d z_Q \ll 1$  for  $S_1$ .

from D. Robinson

# **STERILE NEUTRINO PHENOMENOLOGY**

# NEUTRINO MASSES

(Dirac) neutrino mass contribution at two loops



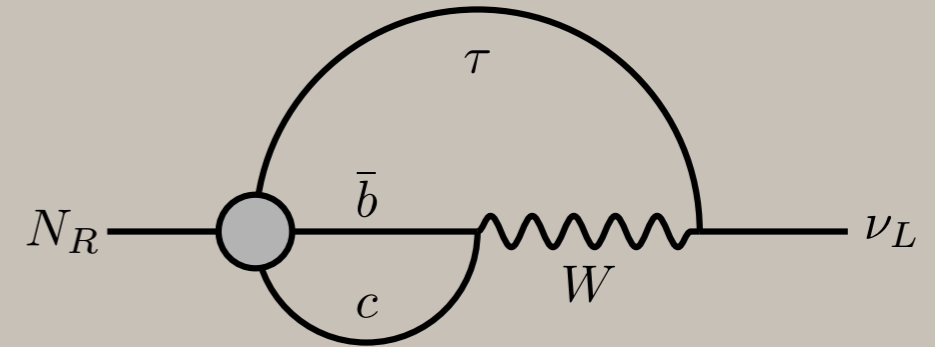
[ Note 1: NO free parameters once R(D<sup>(\*)</sup>) contribution is fixed.

Note 2: only gives a mass contribution with tau neutrino]

# NEUTRINO MASSES

NDA estimate

(ignore O(1) prefactors, loop integral factors)



$$W' : \quad m_D \sim \frac{c_{VR}}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} \frac{g_2^2}{2} \frac{V_{cb}}{(16\pi^2)^2} m_b m_c m_\tau \sim c_{VR} 10^{-3} \text{ eV},$$

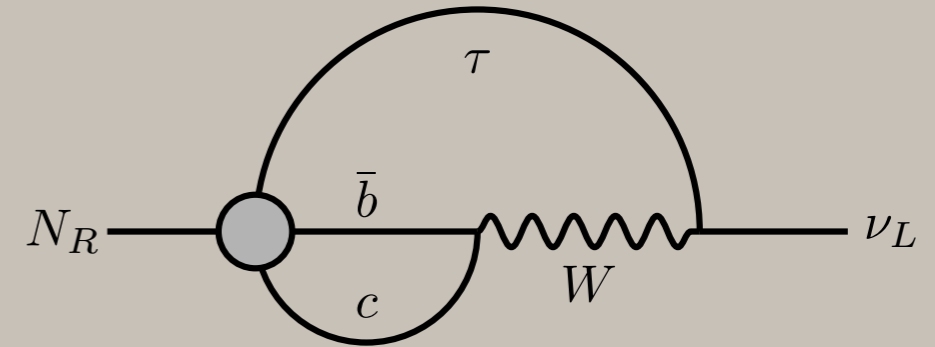
$$\tilde{R}_2 : \quad m_D \sim c_{SR} m_b \frac{g_2^2}{2} \frac{V_{cb}}{(16\pi^2)^2} \sim c_{SR} 10^2 \text{ eV},$$

$$U_1 : \quad m_D \sim \left[ c_{SL} m_c + \frac{c_{VR}}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} m_b m_c m_\tau \right] \frac{g_2^2}{2} \frac{V_{cb}}{(16\pi^2)^2} \sim (c_{SL} 10^2 + c_{VR} 10^{-3}) \text{ eV}$$

$$S_1 : \quad m_D \sim \left[ c_{SR} m_b + \frac{c_{VR}}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} m_b m_c m_\tau \right] \frac{g_2^2}{2} \frac{V_{cb}}{(16\pi^2)^2} \sim (c_{SR} 10^2 + c_{VR} 10^{-3}) \text{ eV}$$

**most important factor: number of mass insertions in the loops**

# NEUTRINO MASSES



$$W' : \quad m_D \sim \frac{c_{VR}}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} \frac{g_2^2}{2} \frac{V_{cb}}{(16\pi^2)^2} m_b m_c m_\tau \sim c_{VR} 10^{-3} \text{ eV}, \quad \text{OK}$$

$$\tilde{R}_2 : \quad m_D \sim c_{SR} m_b \frac{g_2^2}{2} \frac{V_{cb}}{(16\pi^2)^2} \sim c_{SR} 10^2 \text{ eV}, \quad \text{OK with } N_R \text{ mass} > 100 \text{ keV}$$

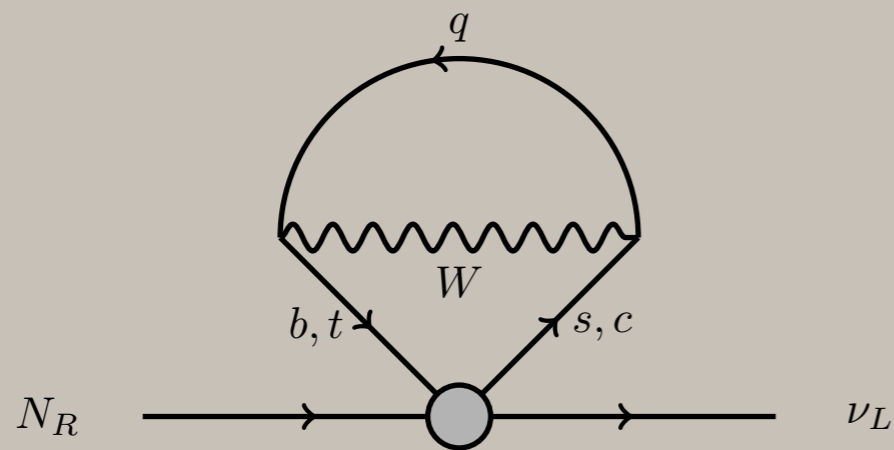
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$$S_1 : \quad m_D \sim \left[ c_{SR} m_b + \frac{c_{VR}}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} m_b m_c m_\tau \right] \frac{g_2^2}{2} \frac{V_{cb}}{(16\pi^2)^2} \sim (c_{SR} 10^2 + c_{VR} 10^{-3}) \text{ eV}$$

**OK with  $N_R$  mass  $> 100$  keV  
or small  $c_{SL}, c_{SR}$**

# OTHER MASS CONTRIBUTIONS

from SU(2) counterparts

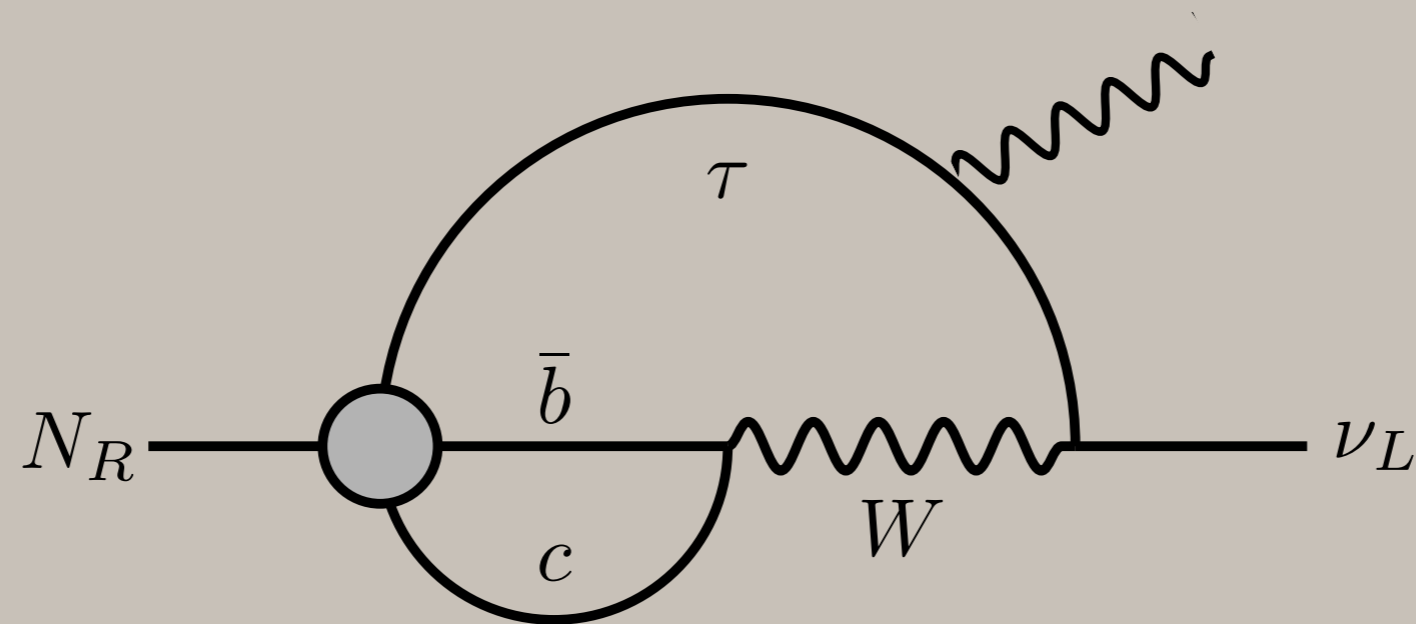


(same size as previous from NDA,  
GIM suppressed)

adding other operators might result in (unacceptably) large contributions to neutrino masses. e.g. operators that lead to diagrams with mass insertion on a top quark line, or one loop diagrams for neutrino masses. Need to be careful while adding operators!

# STERILE NEUTRINO DECAY

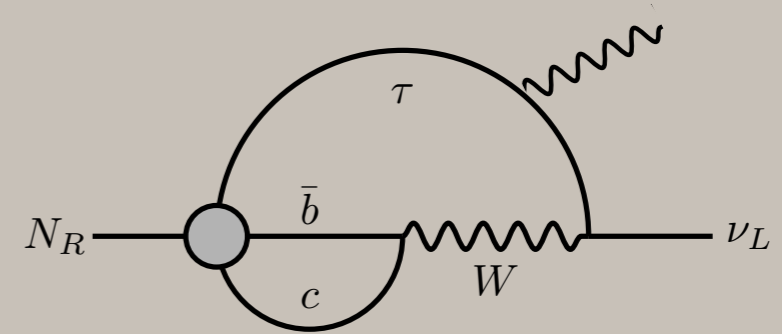
the above loop diagrams also give rise to the decay  $N_R \rightarrow \nu \gamma$





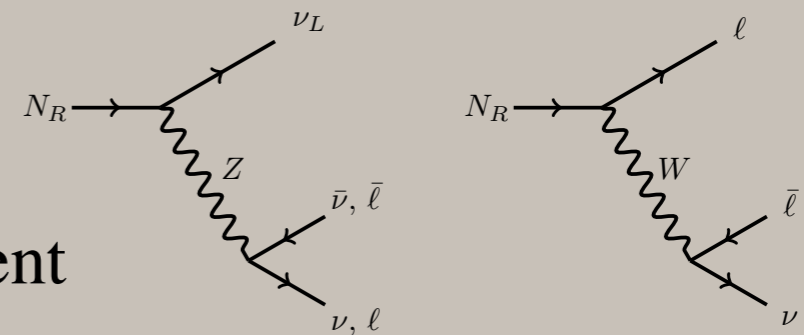
# STERILE NEUTRINO DECAY

NDA estimate of decay width and lifetime



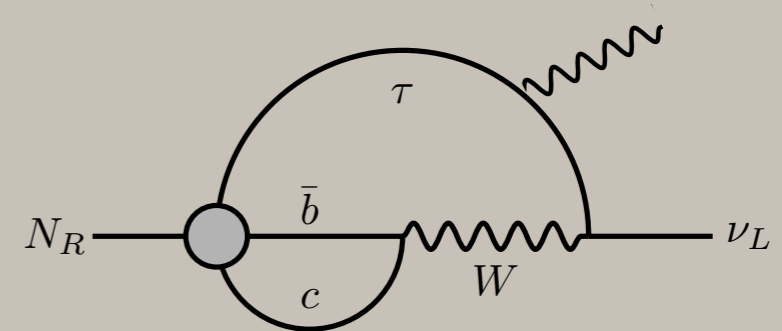
Model	$\Gamma_{N_R \rightarrow \nu \gamma}$	lifetime (s)
$W'$	$\frac{c_{VR}^2}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^4} \frac{\alpha}{32 \pi^8} V_{cb}^2 G_F^2 m_\tau^2 m_b^2 m_c^2 m_{N_R}^3$	$c_{VR}^{-2} 10^{24} (m_{N_R}/\text{keV})^{-3}$
$\tilde{R}_2$	$c_{SR}^2 \frac{\alpha}{32 \pi^8} V_{cb}^2 G_F^2 m_b^2 m_{N_R}^3$	$c_{SR}^{-2} 10^{13} (m_{N_R}/\text{keV})^{-3}$
$U_1$	$c_{SL}^2 \frac{\alpha}{32 \pi^8} V_{cb}^2 G_F^2 m_c^2 m_{N_R}^3$	$c_{SL}^{-2} 10^{14} (m_{N_R}/\text{keV})^{-3}$
$S_1$	$c_{SR}^2 \frac{\alpha}{32 \pi^8} V_{cb}^2 G_F^2 m_b^2 m_{N_R}^3$	$c_{SR}^{-2} 10^{13} (m_{N_R}/\text{keV})^{-3}$

Tends to dominate over standard channels such as  
as long as mixing remains below seesaw requirement



# STERILE NEUTRINO DECAY

NDA estimate of decay width and lifetime



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Lifetimes over a large range possible:  $< 1\text{s}$  (for heavy  $N_R$ ) to  $\sim 10^{30}\text{s}$  (light  $N_R$ )

Cosmologically interesting?

# STERILE NEUTRINO COSMOLOGY

produced in the early Universe via the same four-Fermi  
interaction that gives  $R(D^{(*)})$

kept in equilibrium while the involved SM fermions are in  
the thermal bath (ie down to GeV scale temperatures)

# DARK MATTER?

## RELIC ABUNDANCE:

- relativistic freezeout: relic density not Boltzmann suppressed
- overcloses the Universe for masses  $> \text{keV}$
- need to dilute relic density: e.g. entropy dilution from additional (heavier) sterile neutrinos ( $\sim \text{GeV}$ ) that decay late (before BBN)  
can do this

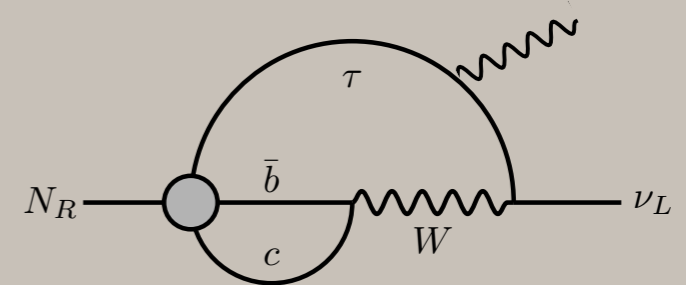
# DARK MATTER?

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## LIFETIME:

- In  $W'$ ,  $U1$ ,  $S1$  mediator models, can get lifetime  
$$c_{\text{VR}}^{-2} 10^{24} (m_{N_R}/\text{keV})^{-3}$$
- gamma ray constraint on DM lifetime:  $\mathcal{O}(10^{26-28})s$  in the keV-MeV window



# DARK MATTER?

## RELIC ABUNDANCE:

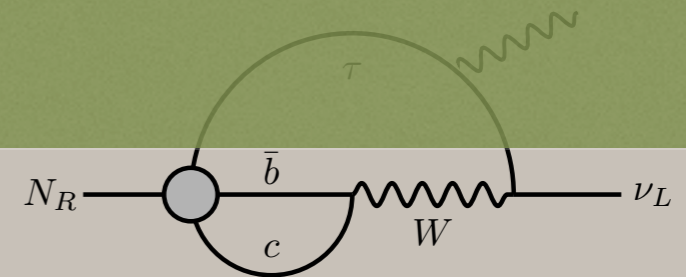
- relativistic freezeout: relic density not Boltzmann suppressed
- overcloses the Universe for masses  $> \text{keV}$
- cannot simultaneously satisfy gamma ray and warm DM (heavier) sterile neutrino constraints if all of DM
- can be a small fraction of DM, with detectable gamma ray signals in the future

## LIFETIME:

- In  $W'$ ,  $U1$ ,  $S1$  mediator models, can get lifetime

$$c_{\text{VR}}^{-2} 10^{24} (m_{N_R}/\text{keV})^{-3}$$

- gamma ray constraint on DM lifetime:  $\mathcal{O}(10^{26-28})s$  in the keV-MeV window



# DARK RADIATION

If light ( $\sim \text{eV}$ ),  $N_R$  is relativistic at BBN/CMB decoupling,  
and can contribute

$$\Delta N_{\text{eff}} \approx \mathcal{O}(0.1).$$

- detectable e.g. with CMB-S4

# DISPLACED DECAYS AT DIRECT SEARCHES

The other end of lifetime possibility:  $c_{\text{SL}}^{-2} 10^{14} (m_{N_R}/\text{keV})^{-3}$

For masses close to 100 MeV, lifetime  $< 1\text{s}$ . Decay before BBN.

No cosmological signatures.

Can look for displaced decays from direct production:  
challenging final state ( $N_R \rightarrow \nu\gamma$ ), but might still be possible?



# ADDITIONAL STERILE NEUTRINOS

The underlying theory could contain additional light  $\nu_R$   
(multiple generations, entropy dilution, low scale seesaw...),  
with new physics couplings similar to  $N_R$

do not contribute to  $R(D^{(*)})$  due to reduced couplings / too  
heavy to be produced

but could be produced via other processes at colliders /  
neutrino experiments

similar displaced decay signals

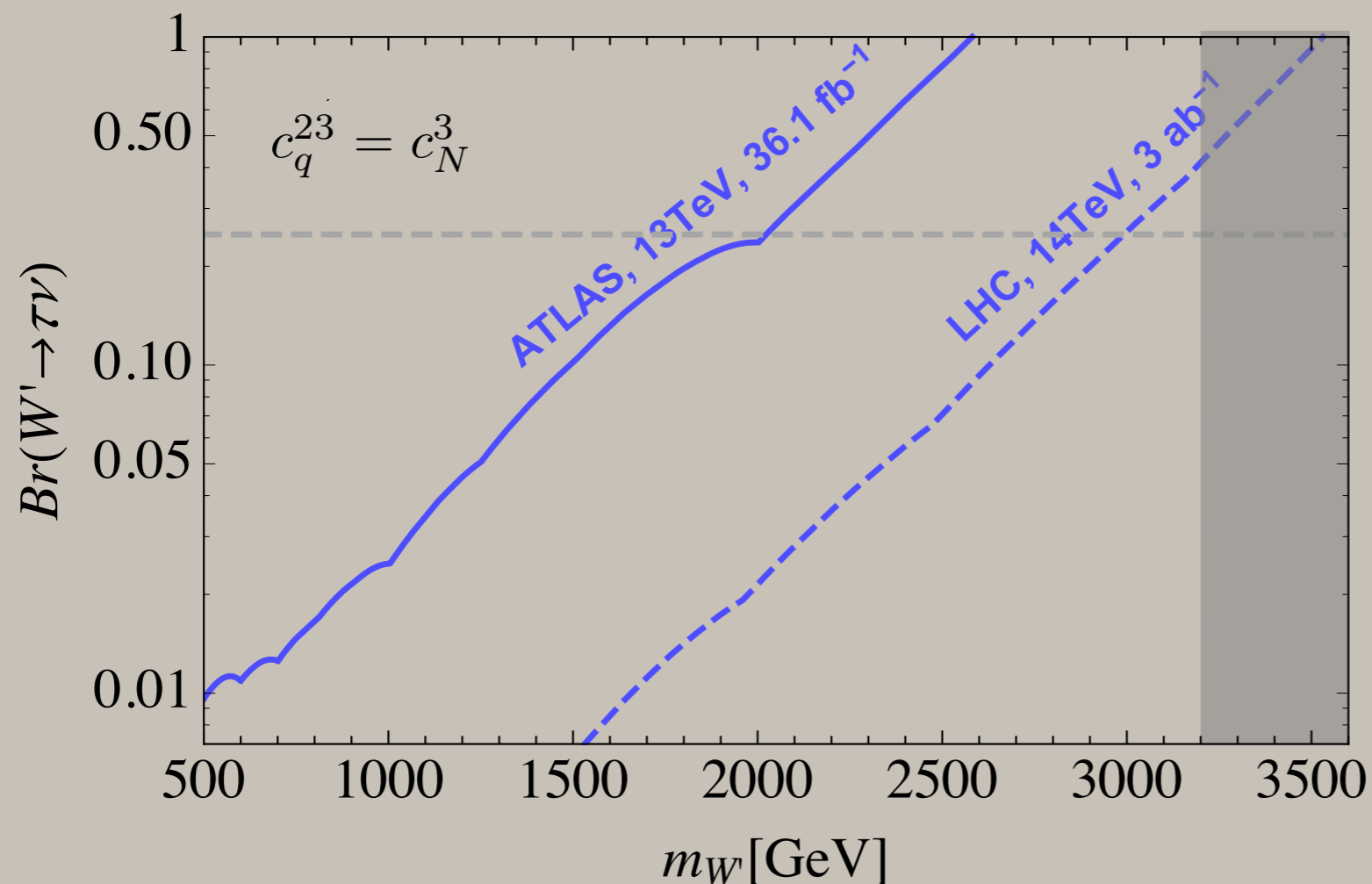
if sufficiently heavy (GeV scale or above), could even have  
tree level decay channels from NP couplings: instantaneous  
decays to exotic final states!

# **COLLIDER CONSTRAINTS ON HEAVY MEDIATORS**

# charged vector boson $W'_\mu$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{g_V}{\sqrt{2}} c_q^{ij} \bar{u}_R^i W'^j d_R^j + \frac{g_V}{\sqrt{2}} c_N^i \bar{\ell}_R^i W' N_R + \text{h.c.} \quad \frac{c_{VR}}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} = -\frac{g_V^2 c_q^{23} c_N^3}{2m_{W'}^2}$$

$$m_{W'} \simeq 540 |c_q^{23} c_N^3|^{1/2} \left[ \frac{g_V}{0.6} \right] \left[ \frac{40 \times 10^{-3}}{V_{cb}} \right]^{1/2} \text{ GeV}$$



From searches for

$W' \rightarrow \tau \nu$

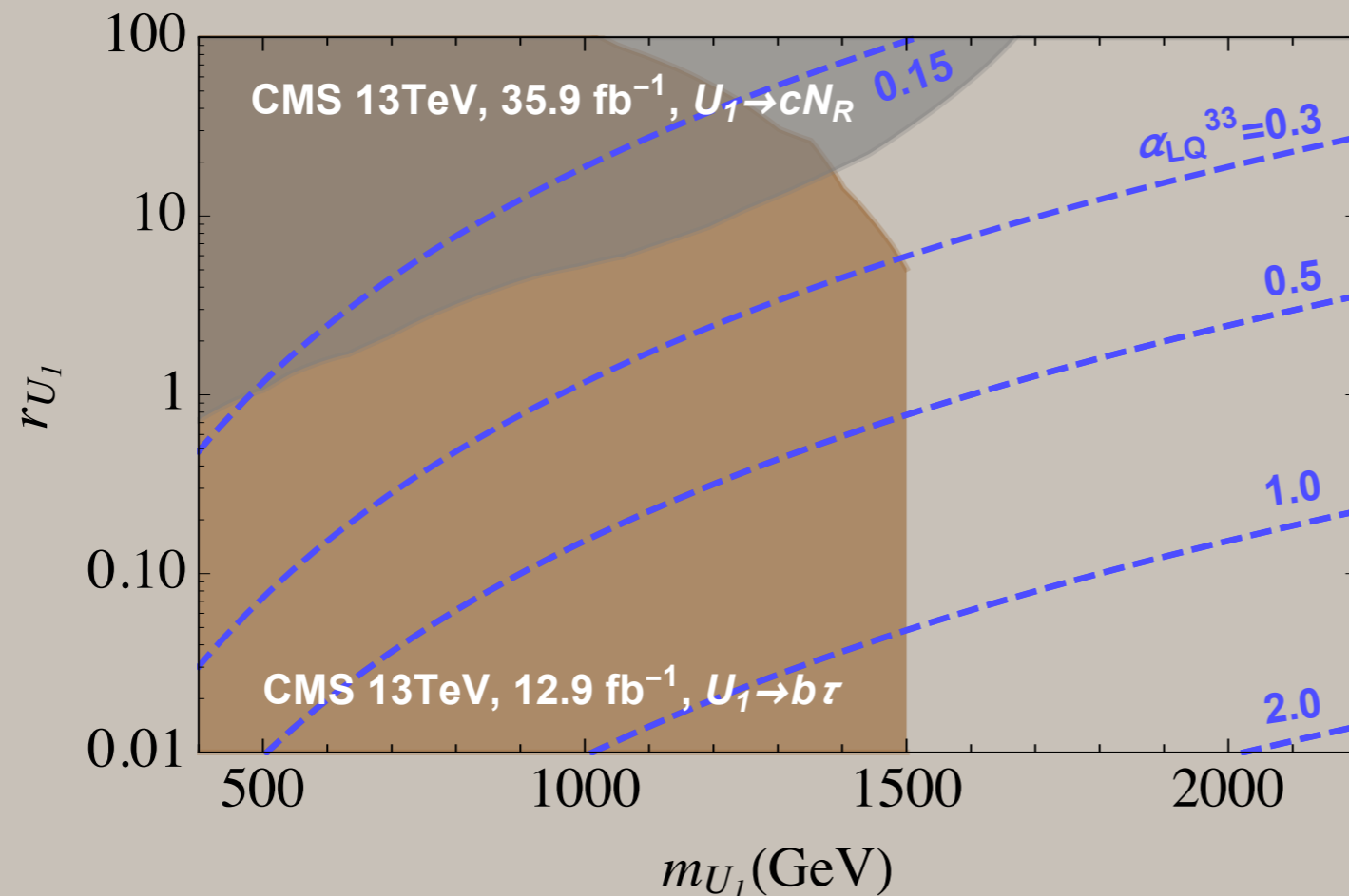
Reach from dijet  
search is weaker

# Vector leptoquark $U_1^\mu$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \alpha_{LQ}^{ij} (\bar{L}_L^i \gamma_\mu Q_L^j) U_1^{\mu\dagger} + \alpha_{ld}^{ij} (\bar{\ell}_R^i \gamma_\mu d_R^j) U_1^{\mu\dagger} + \alpha_{uN}^i (\bar{u}_R^i \gamma_\mu N_R) U_1^\mu$$

$$\frac{c_{\text{SL}}^{(\mu)}}{\rho_{\text{SL}} \Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} = 2 \frac{\alpha_{LQ}^{33} \alpha_{uN}^2}{m_{U_1}^2}, \quad \frac{c_{\text{VR}}}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} = -\frac{\alpha_{ld}^{33} \alpha_{uN}^2}{m_{U_1}^2}$$

Best fit:  $m_{U_1} \simeq 3.2 |\alpha_{LQ}^{33} \alpha_{uN}^2|^{1/2} \left[ \frac{40 \times 10^{-3}}{V_{cb}} \right]^{1/2} \text{TeV}$   $\alpha_{ld}^{33} \simeq -5.8 \alpha_{LQ}^{33}$



$$r_{U_1} = \left( \frac{\alpha_{uN}^2}{\alpha_{LQ}^{33}} \right)^2$$

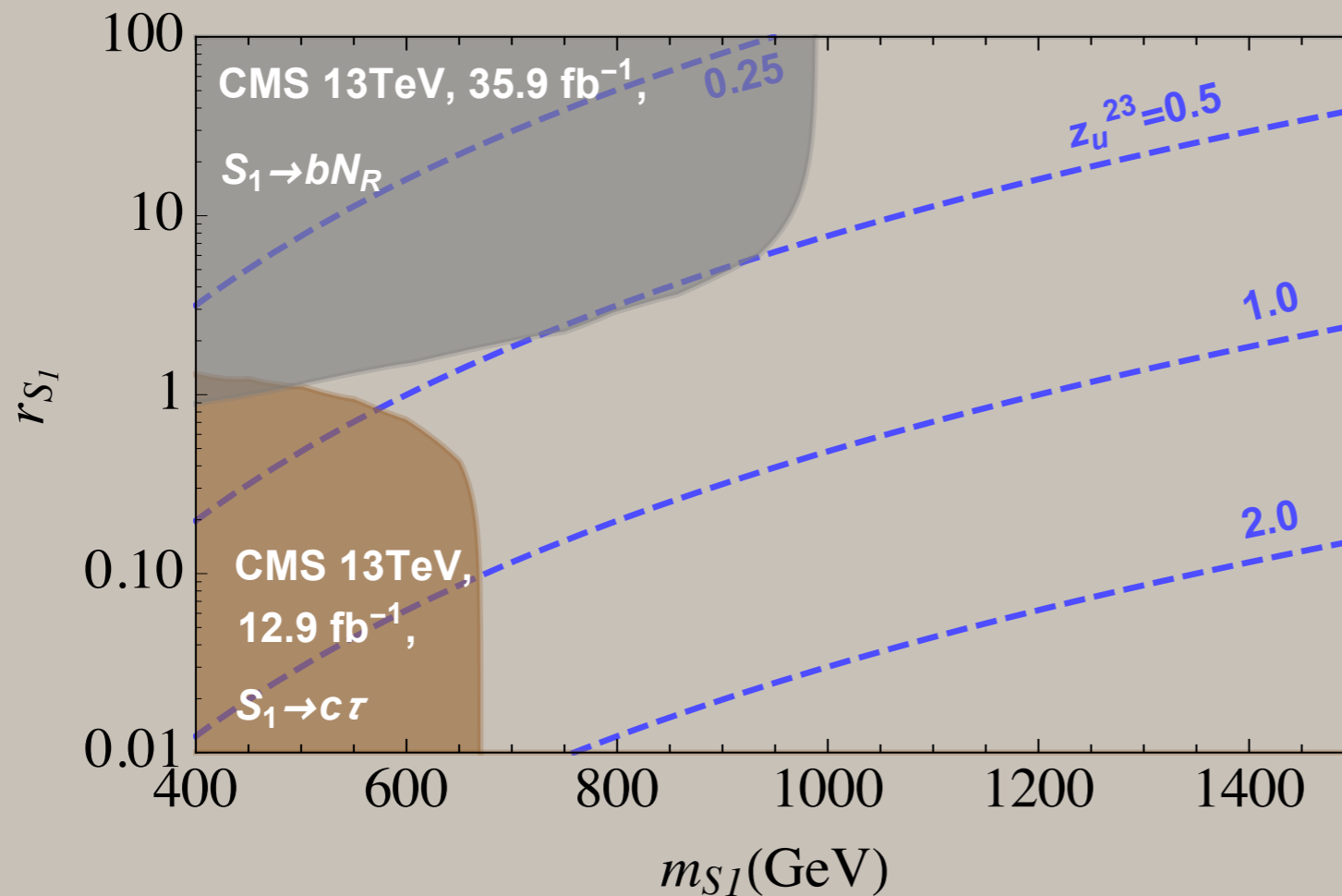
# Scalar leptoquark $S_1$

$$z_u(\bar{U}_R^c \ell_R)S_1 + z_d(\bar{d}_R^c N_R)S_1 + z_Q(\bar{Q}_L^c \epsilon L_L)S_1$$

$$\frac{c_{VR}}{\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} = -\frac{z_u^{23*} z_d^3}{2m_{S_1}^2}, \quad \frac{c_{SR}^{(\mu)}}{\rho_{SR}\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} = -4\frac{c_T^{(\mu)}}{\rho_T\Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} = -\frac{z_Q^{23*} z_d^3}{2m_{S_1}^2}$$

Best fit:  $m_{S_1} \simeq 1.2 |z_u^{23} z_d^3|^{1/2} \left[ \frac{40 \times 10^{-3}}{V_{cb}} \right]^{1/2} \text{TeV}$

$$z_u^{23} \simeq 1.1 z_Q^{23}$$



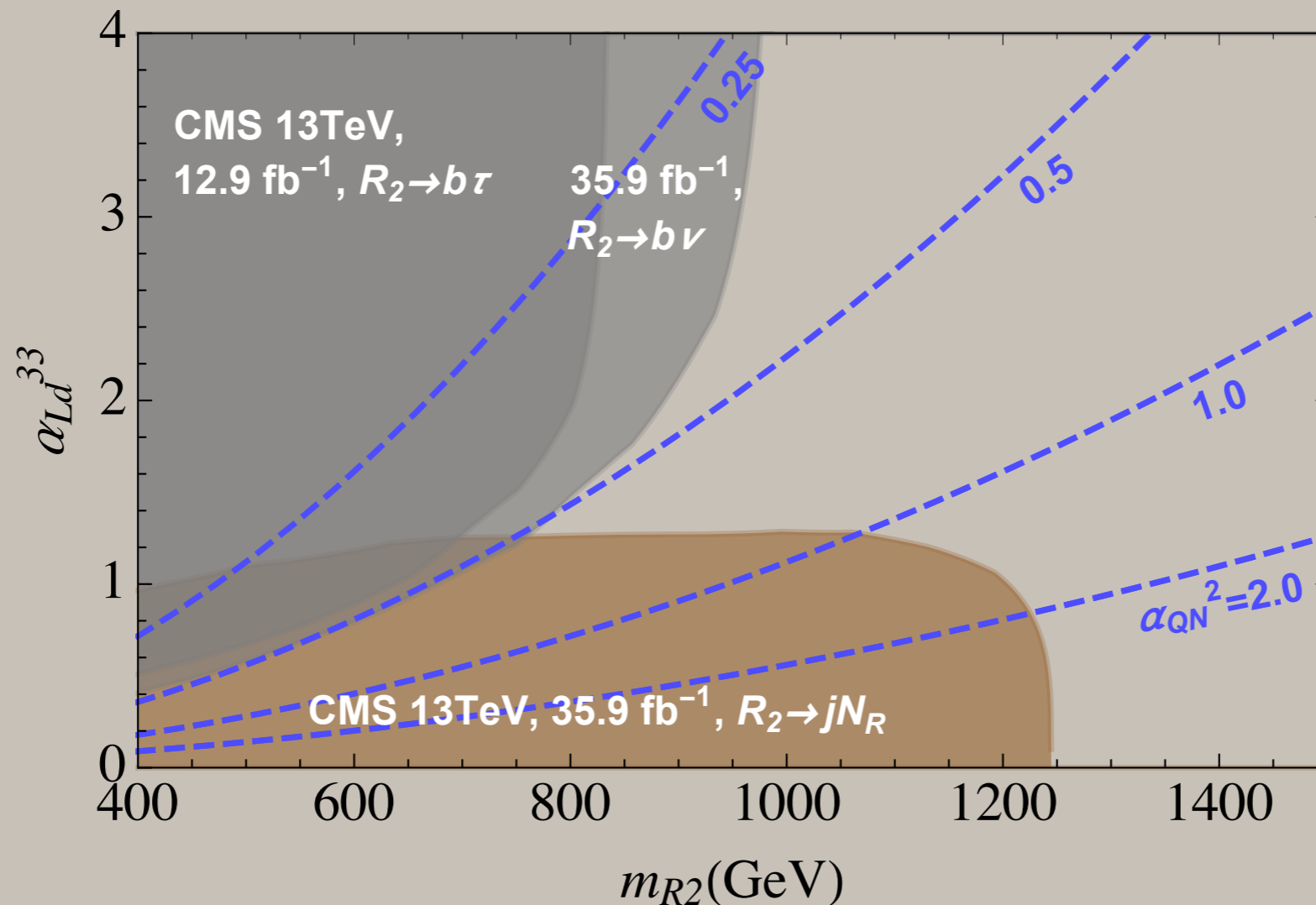
$$r_{S_1} = \left( \frac{z_d^3}{z_u^{23}} \right)^2$$

# Scalar leptoquark $\tilde{R}_2$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \alpha_{Ld} (\bar{L}_L d_R) \epsilon \tilde{R}_2^\dagger + \alpha_{QN} (\bar{Q}_L N_R) \tilde{R}_2 + \text{h.c}$$

$$\frac{c_{\text{SR}}^{(\mu)}}{\rho_{\text{SR}} \Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} = 4 \frac{c_{\text{T}}^{(\mu)}}{\rho_{\text{T}} \Lambda_{\text{eff}}^2} = \frac{\alpha_{Ld}^{33} \alpha_{QN}^2}{2m_{\tilde{R}_2}^2}$$

$$m_{\tilde{R}_2} \simeq 0.95 |\alpha_{Ld}^{33} \alpha_{QN}^2|^{1/2} \left[ \frac{40 \times 10^{-3}}{V_{cb}} \right]^{1/2} \text{TeV}$$



# FROM EFT TO COMPLETE MODELS

the details can be important:

additional particles / constraints / opportunities

case study: a UV complete model for the  $W'$  mediator

Asadi, Buckley, Shih 1804.04135; Greljo, Robinson, Shakya, Zupan 1804.04642

# THE $W'$ (3221) MODEL

gauge group  $\mathcal{G} = SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_V \times U(1)'$        $SU(2)_V \times U(1)' \rightarrow U(1)_Y$

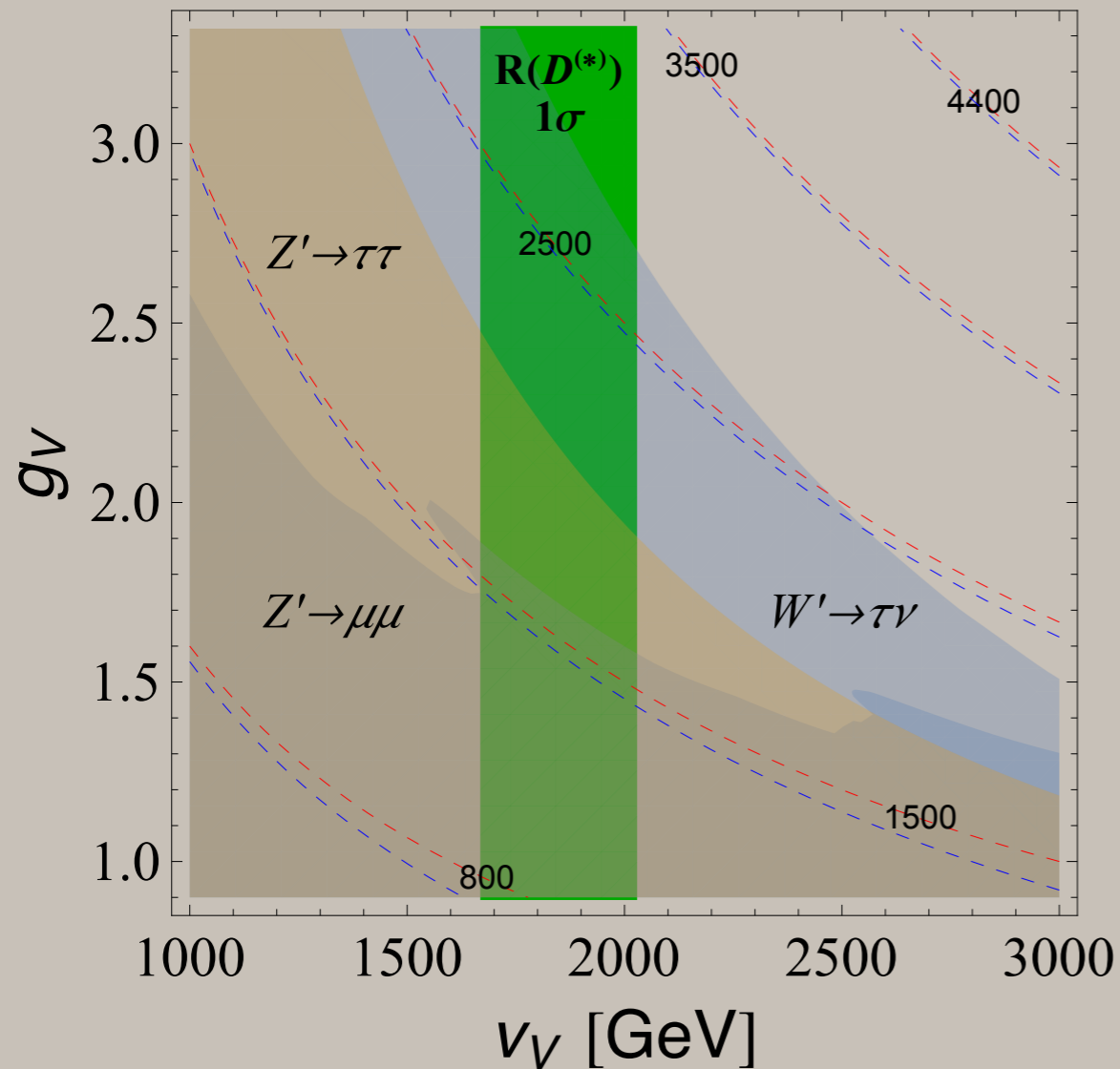
Field	$SU(3)_c$	$SU(2)_L$	$SU(2)_V$	$U(1)'$
SM-like chiral fermions				
$q_L^i$	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	1/6
$\ell_L^i$	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	-1/2
$u_R^i$	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	2/3
$d_R^i$	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	-1/3
$e_R^i$	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	-1
$\nu_R^i$	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	0
Extra vector-like fermions				
$Q_{L,R}^i$	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	1/6
$L_{L,R}^i$	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	-1/2
Scalars				
$H$	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	1/2
$H_V$	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	1/2

$W'$  talks to SM fermions only  
via mixing with vector-like  
fermions. Can appropriately  
engineer this mixing so that  
 $W'$  talks significantly only to  
(right-handed)  $b, c, \tau$

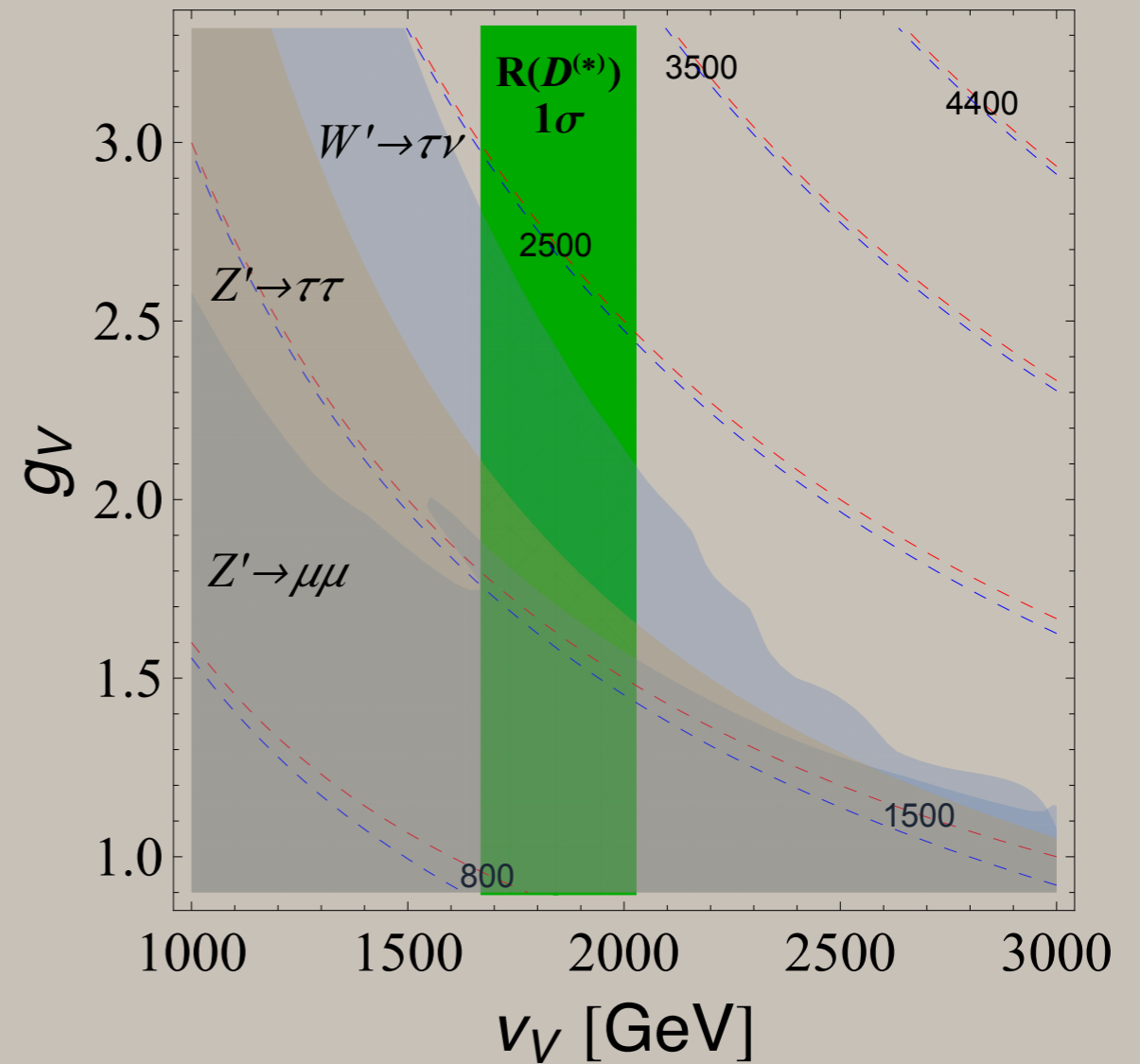


# GAUGE BOSON ( $W', Z'$ ) CONSTRAINTS

LHC exclusions: FL-23, 1 VL family



LHC exclusions: FL-23, 2 VL families



dashed blue (red): contours of  $Z'$  ( $W'$ ) masses

additional content can reduce relevant branching ratios, alleviate collider constraints

# THE NEUTRINO SECTOR

basis  $(\nu'_L, \nu'^c_R, N'_L, N'^c_R)$

$$\mathcal{M}_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{y_\nu v_{EW}}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{y_\nu v_{EW}}{\sqrt{2}} & \mu & \frac{\lambda_\nu v_V}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\lambda_\nu v_V}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & M_L \\ 0 & 0 & M_L & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$N_R^c = \cos \theta_N \nu'^c_R - \sin \theta_N N'^c_R;$$

$$\tan \theta_N = (\lambda_\nu v_V) / (\sqrt{2} M_L)$$

**responsible for anomaly**

$$M_{N_R} \approx \mu (M_L / M_{N'})^2 \quad (\mu \ll M_L, \lambda_\nu v_V)$$

vectorlike states give pseudo-Dirac state of mass  $M_{N'} \equiv M_L \sqrt{1 + \tan^2 \theta_N}$  split by  $O(\mu)$

The Yukawa couplings  $y_\nu$  can be appropriately chosen such that  $y_\nu v_{EW} \ll \mu$  and the SM neutrinos get the right masses via a low scale type-I seesaw

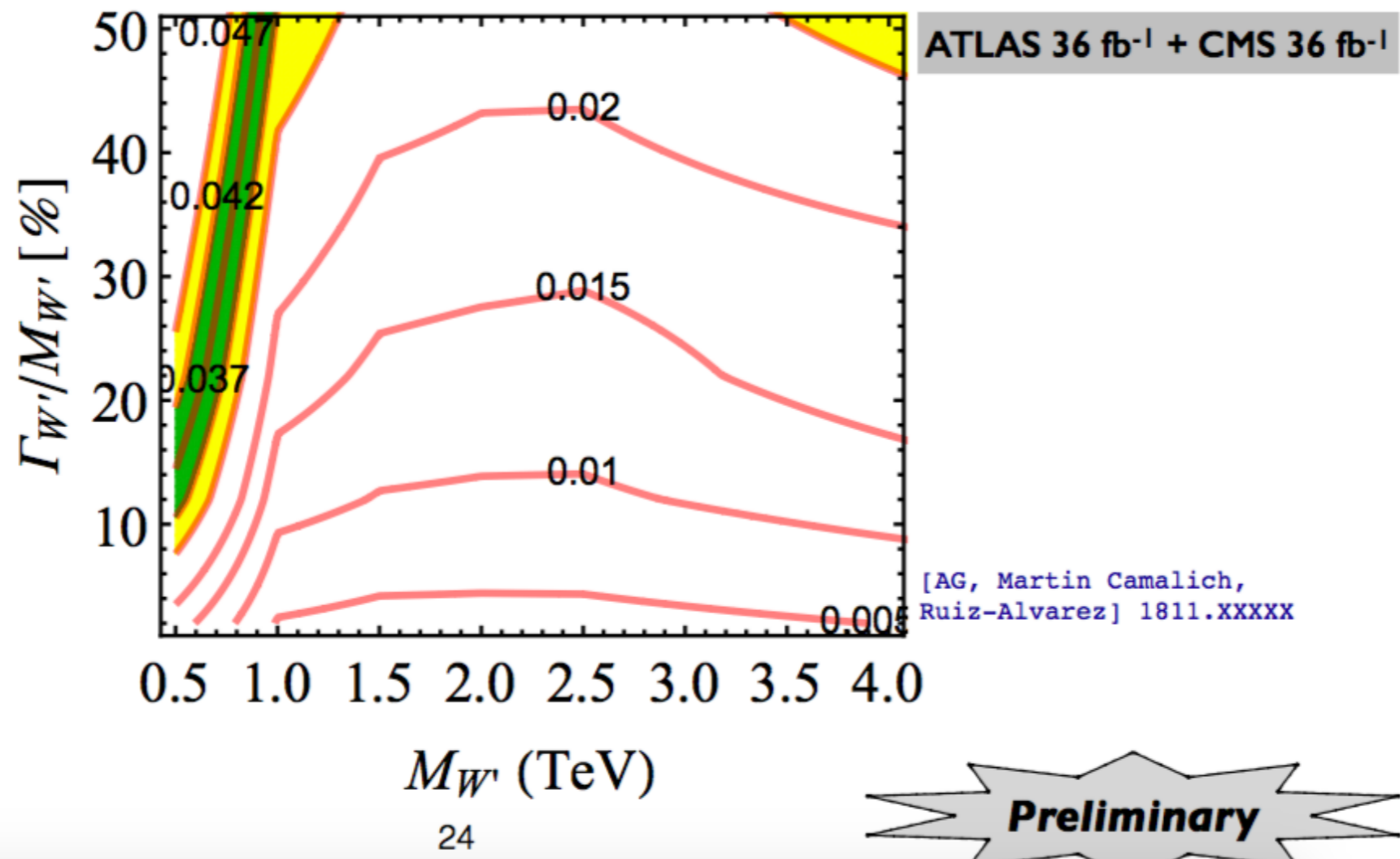
# MEDIATORS RECAP

	mediator	irrep	$\delta\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}$	WCs	
vector	$W'_\mu$	$(1, 1)_1$	$g'(c_q \bar{u}_R W'_\mu d_R + c_N \bar{\ell}_R W'_\mu N_R)$	$c_{\text{VR}}$	
scalar	$\Phi$	$(1, 2)_{1/2}$	$y_u \bar{u}_R Q_L \epsilon \Phi + y_d \bar{d}_R Q_L \Phi^\dagger + y_N \bar{N}_R L_L \epsilon \Phi$	$c_{\text{SL}}, c_{\text{SR}}$	excluded by $\text{Br}(\text{B}_c \rightarrow \tau \nu)$
leptoquarks	$U_1^\mu$	$(3, 1)_{2/3}$	$(\alpha_{LQ} \bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu Q_L + \alpha_{\ell d} \bar{\ell}_R \gamma_\mu d_R) U_1^{\mu\dagger} + \alpha_{uN} (\bar{u}_R \gamma_\mu N_R) U_1^\mu$	$c_{\text{SL}}, c_{\text{VR}}$	
	$\tilde{R}_2$	$(3, 2)_{1/6}$	$\alpha_{Ld} (\bar{L}_L d_R) \epsilon \tilde{R}_2^\dagger + \alpha_{QN} (\bar{Q}_L N_R) \tilde{R}_2$	$c_{\text{SR}} = 4c_{\text{T}}$	borderline consistent w/ $\text{Br}(\text{B}_c \rightarrow \tau \nu)$
	$S_1$	$(\bar{3}, 1)_{1/3}$	$z_u (\bar{U}_R^c \ell_R) S_1 + z_d (\bar{d}_R^c N_R) S_1 + z_Q (\bar{Q}_L^c \epsilon L_L) S_1$	$c_{\text{VR}}, c_{\text{SR}} = -4c_{\text{T}}$	$\text{b} \rightarrow \text{svv}$ requires $c_{\text{SR}}$ to be small

Latest collider results are already turning the crank...

## LHC bounds $pp \rightarrow \tau\nu$

Including recent  $W' \rightarrow \tau\nu$  CMS search, model can only survive if  $W'$  is broad



Prepared by Admir Greljo

# SUMMARY

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**persistent anomalies** in measurements of  $R(D^{(*)})$  at **several experiments** could arise from couplings to **sterile neutrinos**. **many UV completions** possible

measurable deviations in kinematic distributions of events possible

predicts heavier mediator particles - LHC can look for them!

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## **exotic sterile neutrino phenomenology:**

relic sterile neutrinos can give **measurable dark radiation** or **small fraction of dark matter** that can possibly give **gamma ray signals**.

short lifetimes / additional sterile neutrinos: **displaced decays** at direct searches

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