

# Complementary Probes of Lepton Flavor at a Muon Collider

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# Why Charged Lepton Flavor (CLF) at a Collider?

- Fermion masses and mixing structure is one of the outstanding problems of the Standard Model

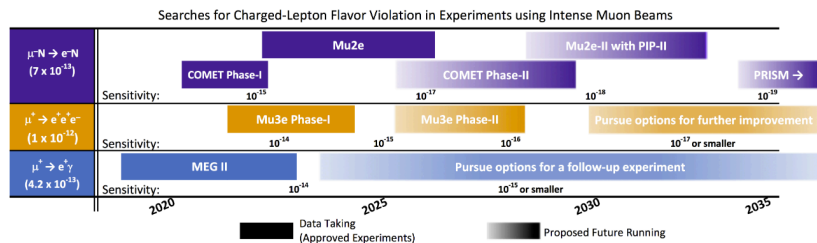
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- Near the scale where the flavor pattern is established, charged lepton flavor violating (CLFV) processes may happen with much larger rate
- Low-energy probes of flavor-violating processes are powerful, but cannot elucidate the underlying mechanism of flavor violation

# Precision Measurements are Advancing Steadily



[1812.06540 for 2020 Update of the European Strategy for Particle Physics]

1 order of magnitude in sensitivity  
 = 1/4 order of magnitude in mass scale of new physics

# Why Muon Colliders Specifically?

A muon collider combines the advantage of an  $e^+e^-$  and a  $pp$  collider:

- $e^+e^-$ : all of the beam energy  $\sqrt{s}$  is available for collision. Clean environment without debris from dissociated protons.
- $pp$ : loss of energy by synchrotron radiation is small

Even a 10 TeV muon collider will be a significant upgrade in energy reach from the LHC, with a clean environment enabling precision measurements

# Outline

Combination of high energy reach and clean environment means a muon collider can

- Probe flavor-violating four-fermion interactions at a high scale (this talk:  $\tau\mathcal{Z}\mu$  and  $\mu\mathcal{Z}e$  operators)
- Elucidate the mechanism of CLFV through direct production (this talk: in the context of MSSM)

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# Four-fermion operator: Standard Model background and cuts

LFV signal process:  $\mu^+ \mu^- \rightarrow \mu \tau$

SM backgrounds:

- $\mu^+ \mu^- \rightarrow \mu \nu_\mu \tau \nu_\tau$
- $\mu^+ \mu^- \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$  with one  $\tau \rightarrow \mu \nu_\mu \nu_\tau$

Simple cuts on energy and missing momentum:

- $E_\mu > 0.9 \frac{\sqrt{s}}{2}$
- most energetic muon separated from the rest of the visible particles by  $> 170^\circ$

Accounting for ISR, keeps  $\sim 90\%$  of signal while rejecting  $\sim 99\%$  of background

# Competitive Bounds on Effective Operators

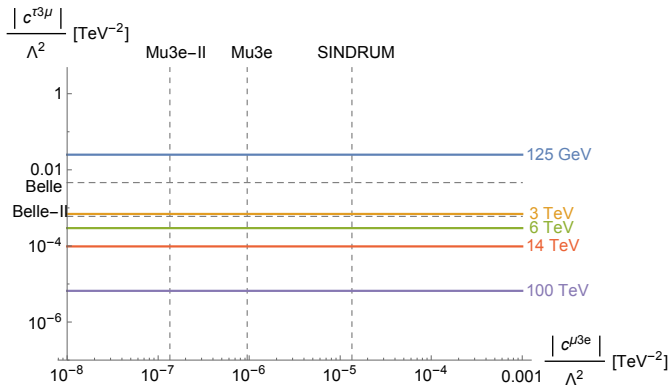
Collider constraint on  $\frac{c^{\tau 3\mu}}{\Lambda^2} \tau \mu \mu \mu$  from search for  $\mu^+ \mu^- \rightarrow \mu \tau$

# Competitive Bounds on Effective Operators

Collider constraint on  $\frac{c^{\tau 3\mu}}{\Lambda^2} \tau \mu \mu \mu$  from search for  $\mu^+ \mu^- \rightarrow \mu \tau$   
assuming 1  $\text{ab}^{-1}$  of data

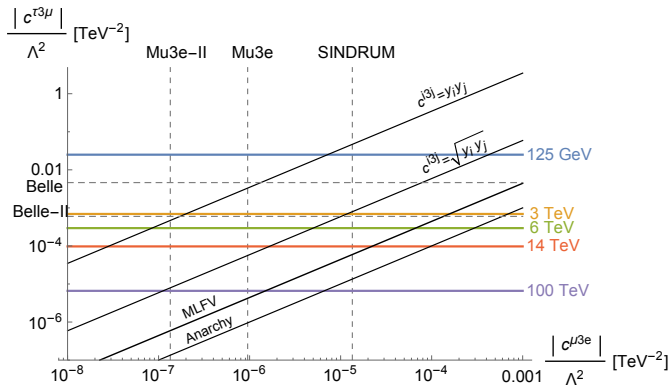


# Competitive Bounds on Effective Operators



Precision constraint on  $\frac{c^{\mu 3e}}{\Lambda^2} \mu e e e$  from search for  $\mu \rightarrow 3e$

# Competitive Bounds on Effective Operators



Given a flavor ansatz, can relate the two constraints.

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# Simplified MSSM: selectron and smuon and bino

Assume all scalar superpartners are decoupled except right-handed selectron and smuon. Mixing matrix is  $2 \times 2$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\tilde{l},RR}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_{RR,11} & \tilde{m}_{E,12}^2 \\ \tilde{m}_{E,12}^2 & \Delta_{RR,22} \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

with a single mixing angle:

$$\frac{1}{2} \sin(2\theta_R) = \frac{\tilde{m}_{E,12}^2}{m_{\tilde{e}_1}^2 - m_{\tilde{e}_2}^2} \quad (2)$$

Also assume a pure Bino LSP.

Collider searches for  $\mu^+ \mu^- \rightarrow \tilde{e}_{1,2}^+ \tilde{e}_{1,2}^- \rightarrow \mu e \tilde{B} \tilde{B}$

# MSSM: Standard Model background and cuts

- Signal process:  $\mu^+ \mu^- \rightarrow \tilde{e}_{1,2}^+ \tilde{e}_{1,2}^- \rightarrow \mu e \tilde{B} \tilde{B}$
- Irreducible background:  $WW$  production
- Assume that all the relevant particle masses are known from flavor-conserving channels. Background can be efficiently rejected by checking if they correctly reconstruct the kinematics.
- $\sim 98\%$  of signal events and  $\sim 1/500$  of background events reconstruct

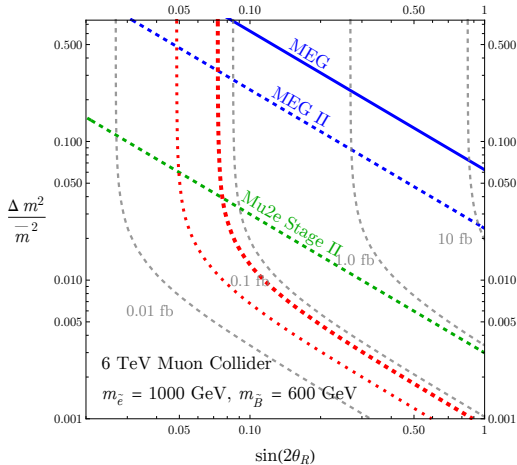


# Scenario I: nearly degenerate sleptons

$$\Delta m^2 = m_{\tilde{e}_1}^2 - m_{\tilde{e}_2}^2$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \sin(2\theta_R) = \frac{\tilde{m}_{E,12}^2}{m_{\tilde{e}_1}^2 - m_{\tilde{e}_2}^2}$$

red curves:  
reach at 1 and 5  $\text{ab}^{-1}$

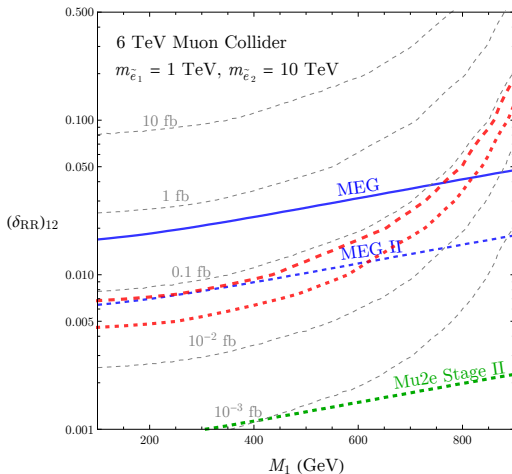


Assumes particle masses already measured using  
flavor-conserving channels

# Scenario 2: a single light slepton

$$(\delta_{RR})_{12} \equiv \frac{\tilde{m}_{E,12}^2}{\sqrt{\Delta_{RR,11}\Delta_{RR,22}}}$$

red curves:  
reach at 1 and 5  $\text{ab}^{-1}$



Assumes light particle masses already measured using  
flavor-conserving channels

# Conclusions and Outlook

- A high-energy muon collider is a unique probe of lepton flavor violation (LFV) that is complementary to current and future low-energy searches
- It can directly measure the same LFV processes that are searched for in muon and tau decays
  - sensitivities to other LFV channels should be studied
  - what models motivate the flavor ansatz?
- It can also elucidate the underlying mechanism of LFV through direct production
  - need more systematic handling of backgrounds and production modes
  - need to go beyond the very simplified SUSY scenarios

# Backup slides

# Current bounds from low energy probes

$$l_i \rightarrow l_j + \gamma$$

$$l_i \rightarrow l_j l_k l_l$$

$$l_i \xrightarrow{\text{Nucleus}} l_j$$

$$h^\dagger l_i \bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu} \bar{e}_j B_{\mu\nu}$$

$$(\bar{l}_i \Gamma_1 l_j) (\bar{l}_k \Gamma_2 l_l)$$

$$(\bar{l}_i \Gamma_1 l_j) (\bar{q} \Gamma_2 q)$$

$$h^\dagger l_i \sigma^i \bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu} \bar{e}_j W_{\mu\nu}^i$$

The operators scale as  $\sim \frac{1}{\Lambda^2}$  ( $\sim \frac{v}{\Lambda^2}$ ) when generated by new physics as mass scale  $\Lambda$ .

# Current bounds from low energy probes

MEG

$$\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) < 4.2 \times 10^{-13}$$

SINDRUM

$$\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow 3e) < 1.0 \times 10^{-12}$$

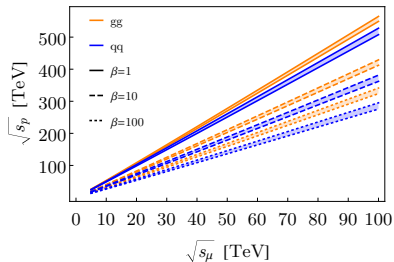
$$\mathcal{O}_{\mu e\gamma} \sim \left(\frac{\lambda}{16\pi^2}\right)^k \frac{ev}{\Lambda^2}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mu 3e} \sim \left(\frac{\lambda}{16\pi^2}\right)^k \frac{1}{\Lambda^2}$$

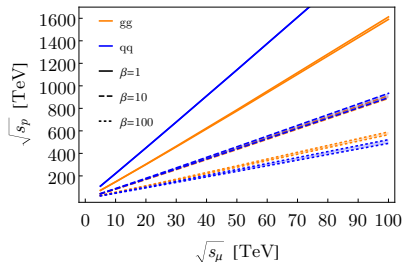
$$\Lambda > \begin{cases} 3.8 \times 10^4 \text{ TeV} & \text{(0 loop)} \\ 2000 \text{ TeV} & \text{(1 loop)} \\ 100 \text{ TeV} & \text{(2 loop)} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} 273 \text{ TeV} & \text{(0 loop)} \\ 14.1 \text{ TeV} & \text{(1 loop)} \\ 0.73 \text{ TeV} & \text{(2 loop)} \end{cases}$$

# Energy reach of muon vs proton colliders



$2 \rightarrow 1$  scattering



$2 \rightarrow 2$  scattering

# Conservative projected luminosities

$\sqrt{s}$ [TeV]	1	3	6	10	14	30	50	100
$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^{\text{con}}$ [ $\text{ab}^{-1}$ ]	0.2	1	4	10	10	10	10	10

Table: Energy and luminosity benchmarks considered in this work.



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# MSSM: Standard Model background and cuts

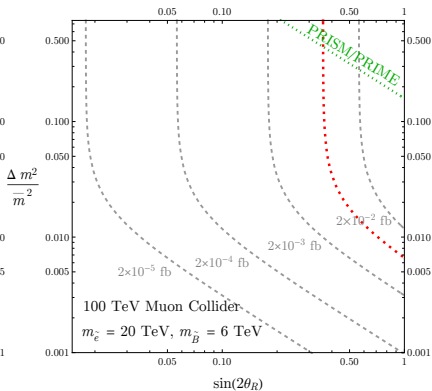
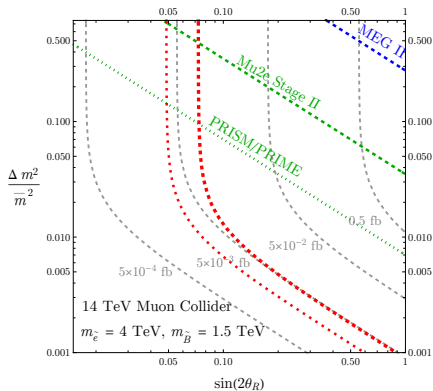
signal process:  $\mu^+ \mu^- \rightarrow \tilde{e}_{1,2}^+ \tilde{e}_{1,2}^- \rightarrow \mu e \tilde{B} \tilde{B}$

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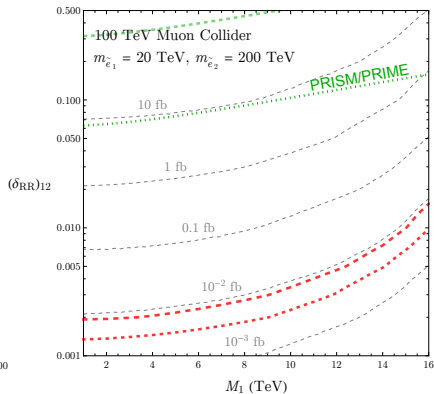
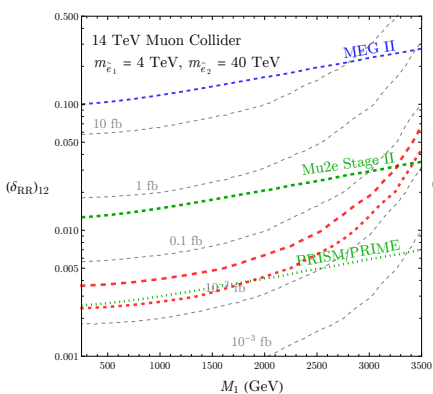
In simulation:  $\sim 98\%$  of signal events and  $\sim 1/500$  of background events reconstruct

# Nearly degenerate sleptons, higher energy



red curves: reach at 1 and 5  $\text{ab}^{-1}$

# Single slepton, higher energy



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