

# Anomalous $b \rightarrow c\tau\nu$ data: form factors, leptoquarks, and charged Higgs bosons

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# Flavour anomalies



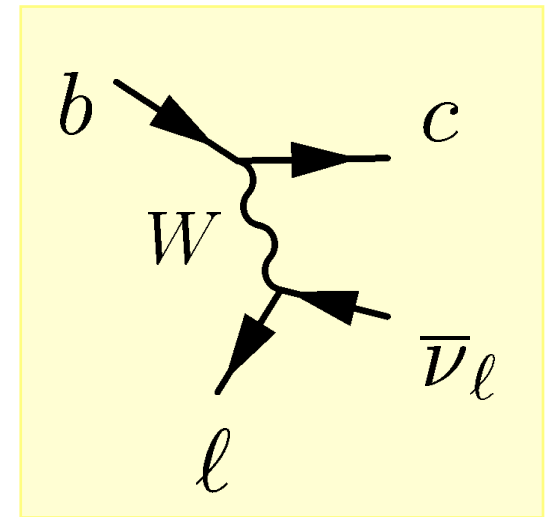
In recent years several **discrepancies** between measurements (of branching ratios and/or angular decay distributions) and **SM** predictions have emerged, denoted as *flavour anomalies*.

This talk:

■  $b \rightarrow c\tau\nu$  : Enhancement of the ratios of branching ratios

$$R_D \equiv \frac{B(B \rightarrow D\tau\bar{\nu})}{B(B \rightarrow D\ell\bar{\nu})} \quad \text{and} \quad R_{D^*} \equiv \frac{B(B \rightarrow D^*\tau\bar{\nu})}{B(B \rightarrow D^*\ell\bar{\nu})}$$

with  $\ell = e, \mu$ .

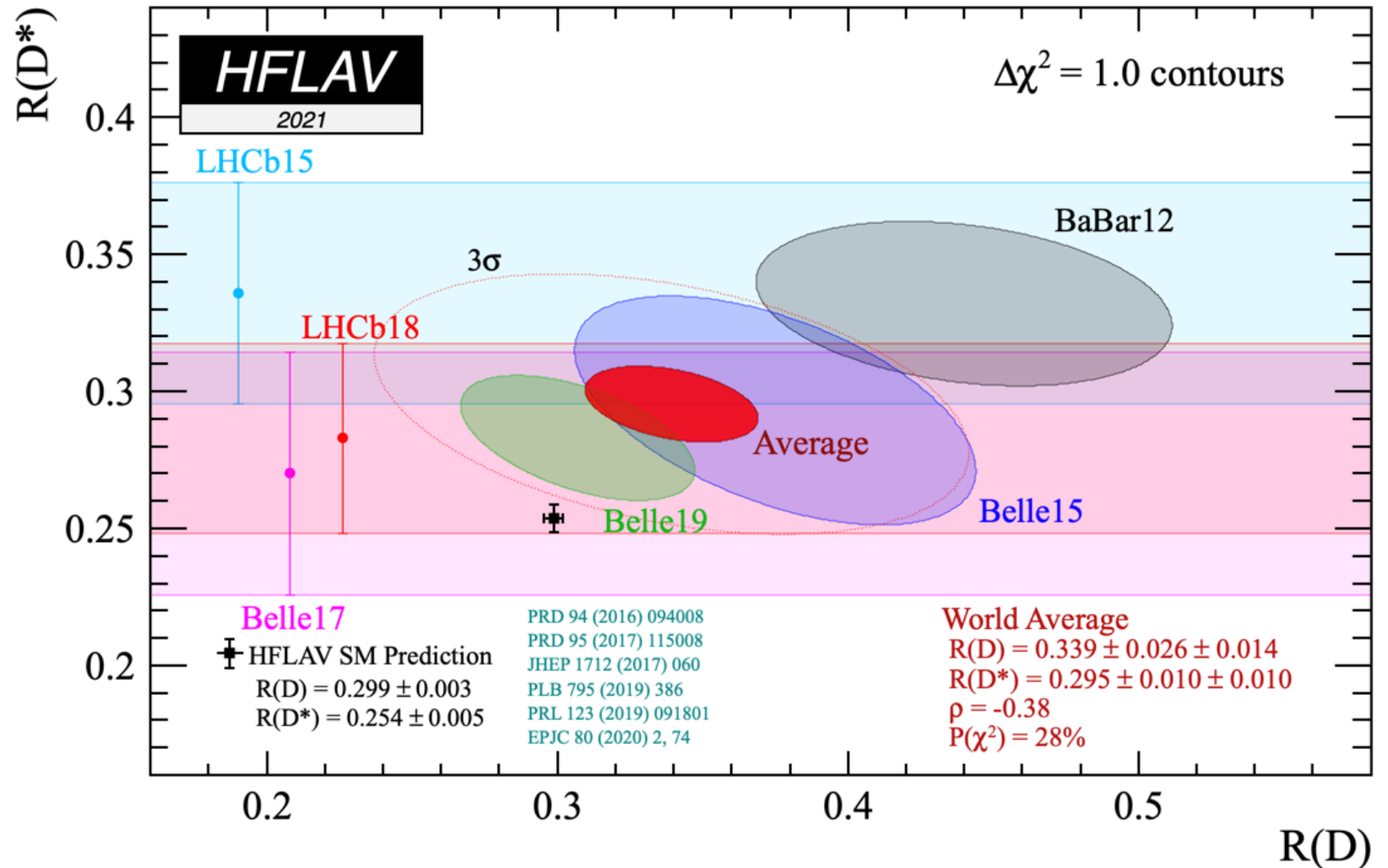


BaBar, Belle, LHCb

# $R_D$ and $R_{D^*}$ in 2021



- central values of  $R_D$  and  $R_{D^*}$  above SM predictions in all measurements
- some tension in  $R_D$  between BaBar12 and Belle19.
- average  $3.3\sigma$  off from SM



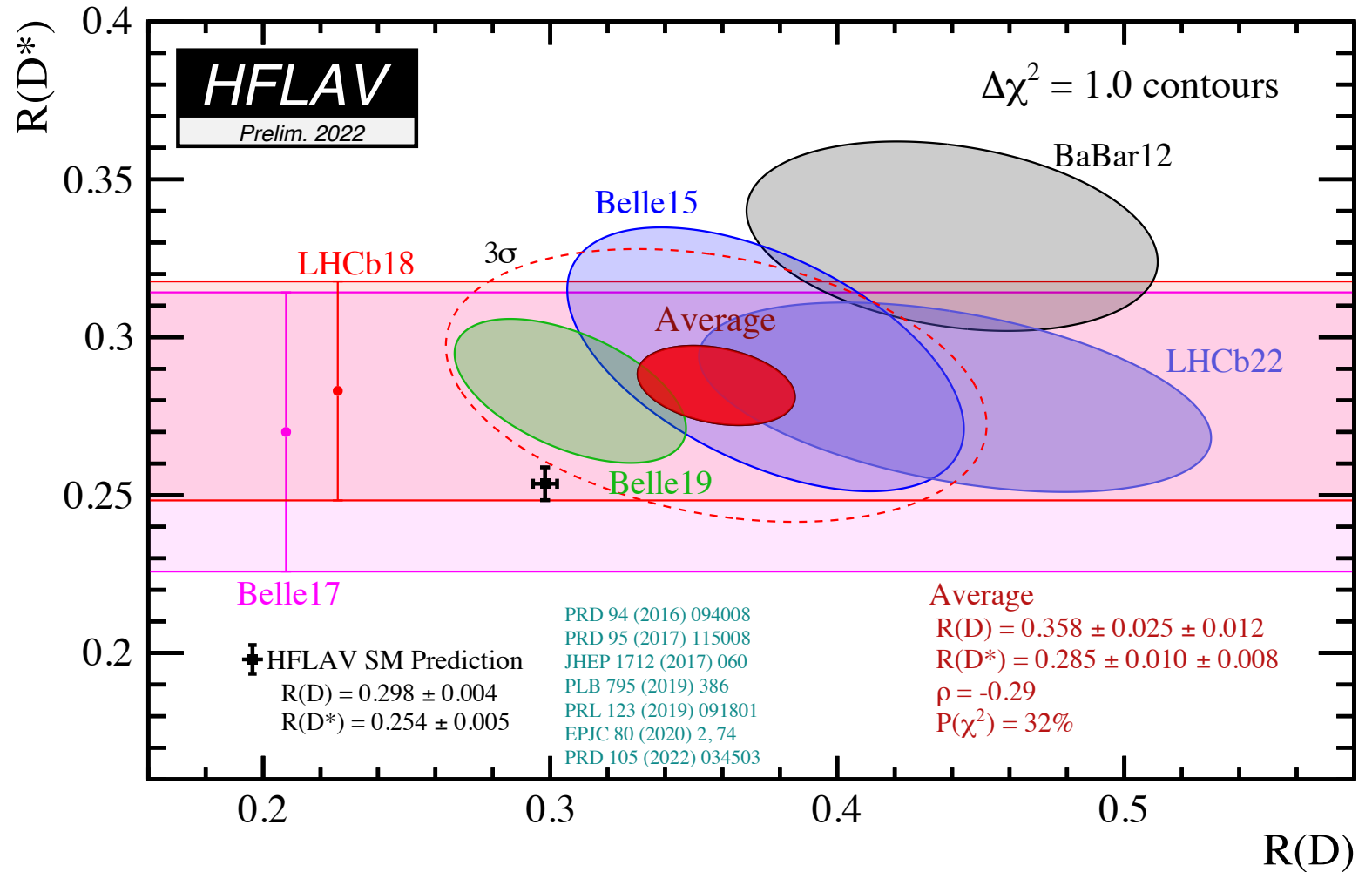
# New LHCb measurement in 2022



- good overall agreement between experiments
- Note:  $\Delta\chi^2 = 1$  ellipses correspond to  $p = 39\%$  (while the horizontal strips correspond to  $p = 68\%$ )

- $R_D$  larger,  $R_{D^*}$  smaller

- average  $3.2\sigma$  off from SM prediction

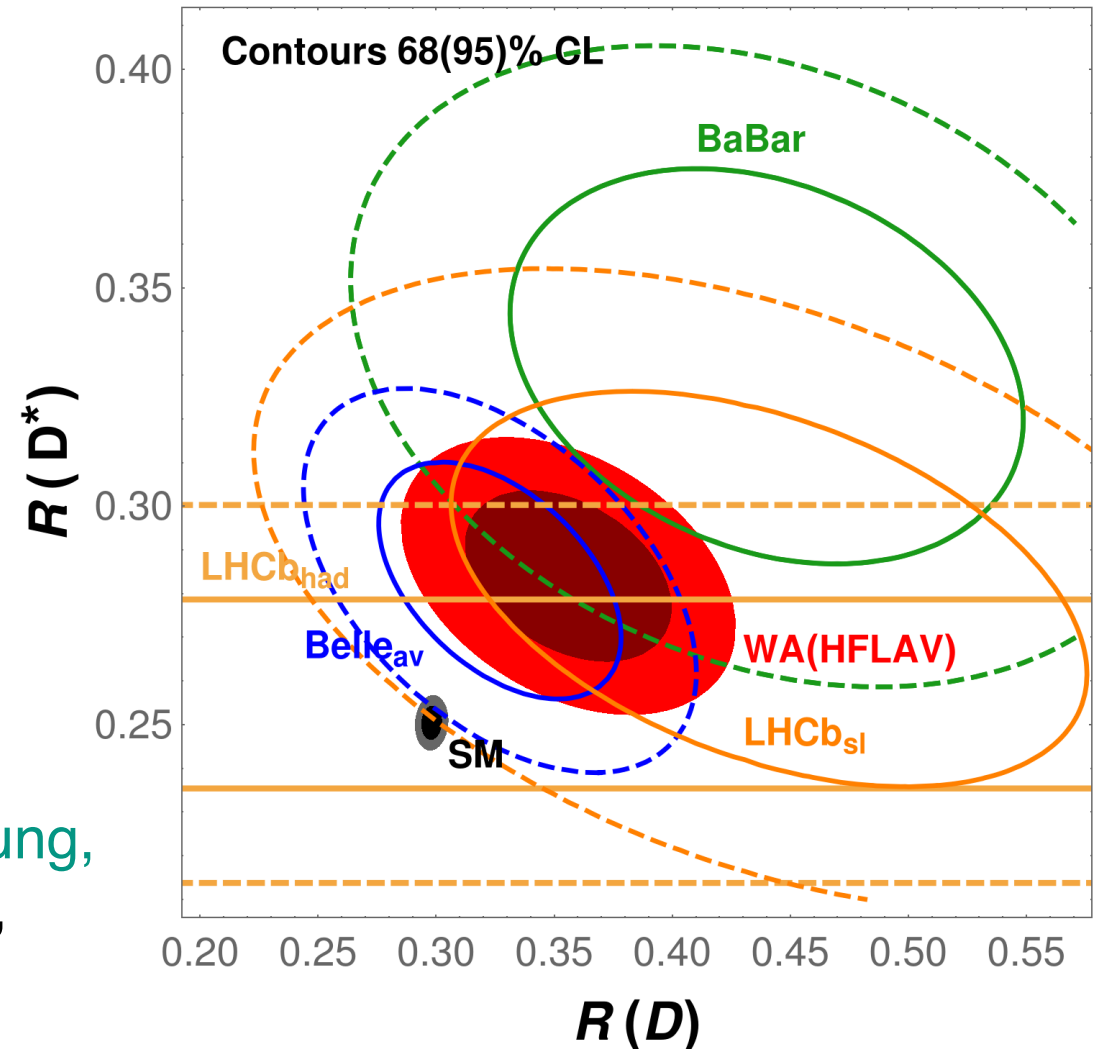


# $R(D) - R(D^*)$ plot with 68%(95%) CL



- The 95% CL regions of all measurements overlap.
- Robust anomaly:
  - three experiments, different methods (semileptonic vs. hadronic tag)
  - SM prediction not contested

Plot from [Judd Harrison, Martin Jung](#), *Beyond the Flavour Anomalies IV*, Barcelona 2023



# Plan of this talk:



## ■ Part I:

New physics in  $b \rightarrow c\tau\nu$

## ■ Part II:

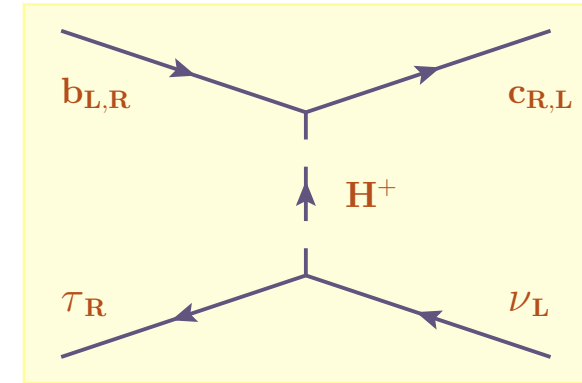
Form factors and new physics in  $b \rightarrow c\ell\nu$  with  $\ell = e, \mu$

# New physics explanation

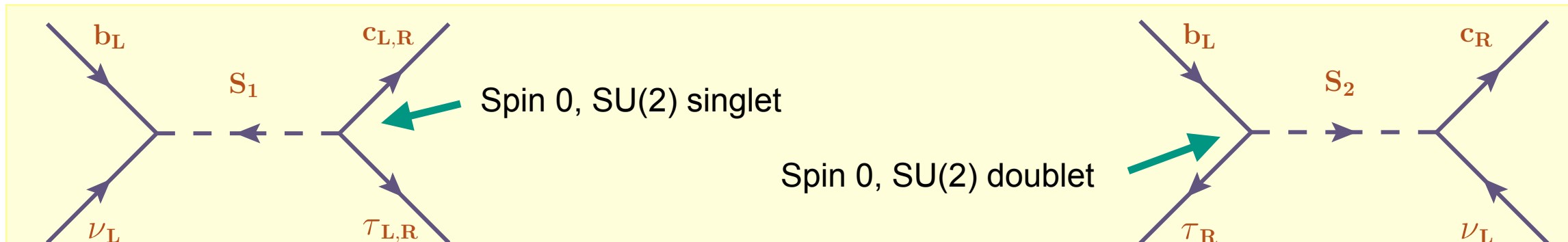


- Charged Higgs boson:  
was known to be sensitive to effects of a hypothetical **charged Higgs boson** since 1992.

Grzadkowski, Hou, Phys. Lett. B **283** (1992) 427



- Leptoquarks:
  - bosons with quark-lepton coupling
  - can also explain  $(g - 2)_\mu$  and  $b \rightarrow s \mu^+ \mu^-$  anomalies



- appear in **SU(4)** gauge theories, where lepton number is the fourth colour

# Effective operators



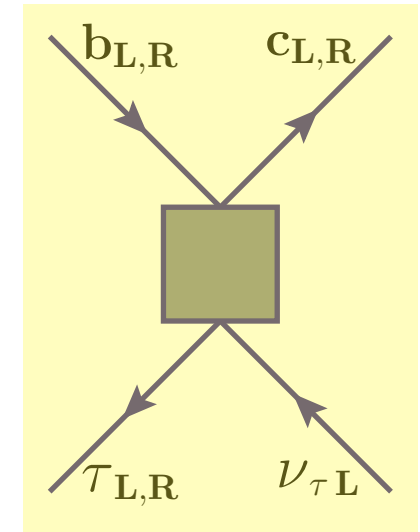
**Nice:** We can describe **all types** of new physics in terms of effective four-quark operators:

$$O_V^L = \bar{c}_L \gamma^\mu b_L \bar{\tau}_L \gamma_\mu \nu_{\tau L},$$

$$O_S^R = \bar{c}_L b_R \bar{\tau}_R \nu_{\tau L},$$

$$O_S^L = \bar{c}_R b_L \bar{\tau}_R \nu_{\tau L},$$

$$O_T = \bar{c}_R \sigma^{\mu\nu} b_L \bar{\tau}_R \sigma_{\mu\nu} \nu_{\tau L}.$$



Fit the corresponding coefficients  $C_V^L, C_S^{R,L}, C_T$  to data.

Blanke, Crivellin, de Boer, UN, Nisandzic, Kitahara, *Phys.Rev.D* 100(2019) 3, 035035

Iguro, Kitahara, Watanabe, arXiv:2210:10751



$F_L^{D^*}$ 

Other input to global fit:

fraction of longitudinally polarised  $D^*$  in  $B \rightarrow D^* \tau \bar{\nu}$ :

$$F_L^{D^*} = 0.60 \pm 0.08_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.04_{\text{sys}}$$

Belle 2019

$$F_L^{D^*} = 0.464 \pm 0.003$$

SM prediction

This  $1.4\sigma$  discrepancy has some effect on the global fit to the NP coefficients.

# New-physics explanations



coefficients

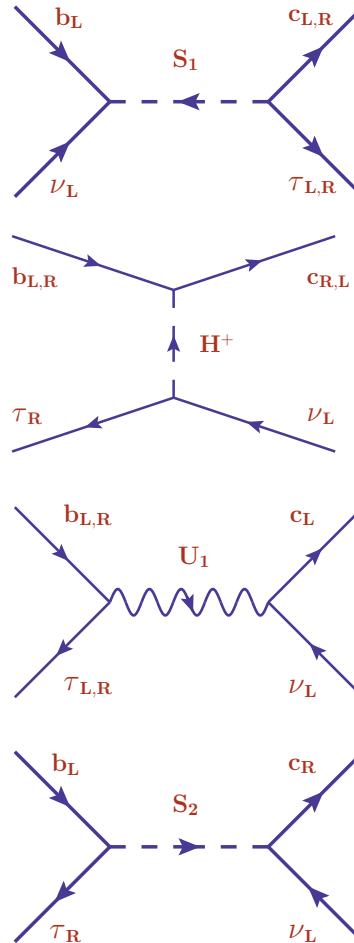
real  $C_V^L, C_S^L = -4C_T$

real  $C_S^R, C_S^L$

real  $C_V^L, C_S^R$

$\text{Re}[C_S^L = 4C_T], \text{Im}[C_S^L = 4C_T]$

motivated by



All scenarios fit the  $B \rightarrow D^{(*)} \tau \bar{\nu}$  data, with different predictions for  $F_L(D^*)$  which is the fraction of decays with longitudinal  $D^*$  polarisation and  $B(B_c^+ \rightarrow \tau^+ \nu)$

- **H<sup>+</sup>:** larger  $F_L(D^*)$  in better agreement with data.
- **S1:** smaller (SM-like)  $F_L(D^*)$ .
- **S2:** similar to H<sup>+</sup>, but small  $F_L(D^*)$ , testable at **ATLAS** and **CMS**.

# Charged-Higgs revival



- Before 2019:  $R(D^*)$  called for sizable  $\bar{c}\gamma_5 b\bar{\tau}_R\nu_{\tau L}$  coupling, i.e. sizable  $C_R - C_L$ . But this was in tension with the bound  $B(B_c^+ \rightarrow \tau^+\nu) \leq 0.3$ .

R. Alonso, B. Grinstein, J. Martin Camalich, Rev. Lett. 118, 081802 (2017)

“lose”

- In our 2018/2019 papers we found the fit to compromise between this tension and  $F_L(D^*) > F_L(D^*)_{\text{SM}}$ , which the  $H^+$  scenario can explain, while the leptoquark scenarios cannot. Blanke et al., *Phys.Rev.D* 100(2019) 3, 035035  
Fedele et al., *Phys. Rev. D* 107 (2023) 5, 055005

“tie”

- The 2022 data shift the anomaly a bit from  $R(D^*)$  to  $R(D)$ , so that the  $B_c^+ \rightarrow \tau^+\nu$  is less relevant.

“win”

# Charged-Higgs revival



Charged Higgs exchange feeds the coefficients  $C_S^{L,R}$  of  $O_S^L = \bar{c}_R b_L \bar{\tau}_R \nu_{\tau L}$  and  $O_S^R = \bar{c}_L b_R \bar{\tau}_R \nu_{\tau L}$ .

big



$$R(D) = R_{\text{SM}}(D) \left[ 1 + 1.54 \text{Re}(C_S^L + C_S^R) \right]$$

$$R(D^*) = R_{\text{SM}}(D^*) \left[ 1 + 0.13 \text{Re}(C_S^R - C_S^L) \right]$$

small



2022 LHCb result with larger  $R(D)$  and smaller  $R(D^*)$  corroborates the charged-Higgs interpretation

# Charged-Higgs solution



- Girish Kumar, *Phys.Rev.D* 107 (2023) 7, 075016:

Choose ad-hoc Yukawa sector

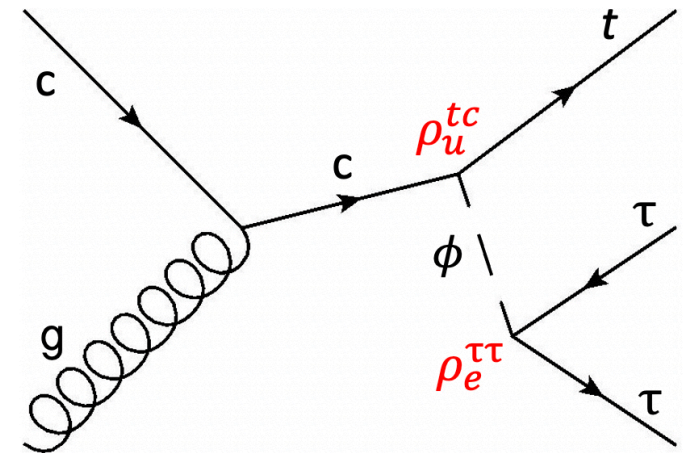
$$L_{H^+} = \rho_{tc} (V_{tb} \bar{c}_R b_L + V_{ts} \bar{c}_R s_L) H^+ + \text{h.c.}$$

and flavour-diagonal couplings to leptons to simultaneously explain  $b \rightarrow c\tau\nu$  and  $b \rightarrow s\ell\bar{\ell}$  anomalies and modify the  **$W$  mass** prediction.

- Critical test:

Search for  $cg \rightarrow t\tau^+\tau^-$  at LHC.

Syuhei Iguro, *Phys.Rev.D* 107 (2023) 9, 095004.



# $\tau$ polarisation asymmetry



Future:

$$P_{\tau}(D^*) = \frac{\Gamma(B \rightarrow D^* \tau^{\lambda=+1/2} \nu) - \Gamma(B \rightarrow D^* \tau^{\lambda=-1/2} \nu)}{\Gamma(B \rightarrow D^* \tau \nu)}$$

Belle 2017:

$$P_{\tau}(D^*) = -0.38 \pm 0.51^{+0.21}_{-0.16}$$

Standard Model:  $P_{\tau}(D^*) = -0.50 \pm 0.01$

Different NP explanations have different imprints on  $P_{\tau}(D^*)$ .

Blanke, Crivellin, de Boer, UN, Nisandzic, Kitahara, *Phys.Rev.D* 100(2019) 3, 035035

Iguro, Kitahara, Watanabe, arXiv:2210:10751

## Sum rule for $b \rightarrow c\tau\bar{\nu}$



$R(D^*)$  and  $R(D)$  are correlated with

$$R(\Lambda_c) = \frac{B(\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda_c \tau \bar{\nu})}{B(\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda_c \ell \bar{\nu})}, \quad \text{where } \Lambda_b \sim bud, \quad \Lambda_c \sim cud$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{R}(\Lambda_c)}{\mathcal{R}_{\text{SM}}(\Lambda_c)} = 0.262 \frac{\mathcal{R}(D)}{\mathcal{R}_{\text{SM}}(D)} + 0.738 \frac{\mathcal{R}(D^*)}{\mathcal{R}_{\text{SM}}(D^*)} + x.$$

with  $|x| < 0.05$  in **any** scenario of new physics.

Blanke, Crivellin, de Boer, UN, Nisandzic, Kitahara, *Phys.Rev.D* 100(2019) 3, 035035

# What is behind the sum rule?



- In the heavy-quark limit  $m_b \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$B(B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu) = 3B(B \rightarrow D \ell \nu)$$

and

$$B(\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda_c \ell \nu) = B(B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu) + B(B \rightarrow D \ell \nu) = 1$$

- Thus  $R(\Lambda_c) = \frac{1}{4}(3 - \epsilon) R(D^*) + \frac{1}{4}(1 + \epsilon) R(D)$  holds for all choices of

$\epsilon$ .  $\Rightarrow$  Optimise coefficients in

$$\frac{\mathcal{R}(\Lambda_c)}{\mathcal{R}_{\text{SM}}(\Lambda_c)} = 0.262 \frac{\mathcal{R}(D)}{\mathcal{R}_{\text{SM}}(D)} + 0.738 \frac{\mathcal{R}(D^*)}{\mathcal{R}_{\text{SM}}(D^*)} + x.$$

to minimise  $x$  for all values of coefficients  $C_V^L, C_S^{R,L}, C_T$  complying with data.



## Sum rule for $b \rightarrow c\tau\bar{\nu}$



$$\frac{\mathcal{R}(\Lambda_c)}{\mathcal{R}_{\text{SM}}(\Lambda_c)} = 0.262 \frac{\mathcal{R}(D)}{\mathcal{R}_{\text{SM}}(D)} + 0.738 \frac{\mathcal{R}(D^*)}{\mathcal{R}_{\text{SM}}(D^*)} + x.$$

Our **2019** prediction (confirmed in **2022** with new data on  $R(D^{(*)})$ ):

$$R(\Lambda_c) = R_{\text{SM}}(\Lambda_c) (1.15 \pm 0.04) = 0.38 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.01$$

Tension with **2022** measurement by **LHCb**:

$$R(\Lambda_c) = 0.242 \pm 0.026 \pm 0.040 \pm 0.059$$

LHCb, *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 128 (2022) 19, 191803

→ with future data either  $R(D^{(*)})$  will come down or  $R(\Lambda_c)$  will go up.

# Sum rule for $b \rightarrow c\tau\bar{\nu}$



Consider scenarios with only one particle contributing to  $b \rightarrow c\tau\bar{\nu}$ :

scenario	$\mathcal{R}(D)$	$\mathcal{R}(D^*)$	$\mathcal{R}(\Lambda_c)$
exp.	0.36(3)	0.29(1)	0.24(7)
SU(2) singlet leptoquark $S_1$	0.36(3)	0.29(1)	0.38(3)
SU(2) doublet leptoquark $S_2$	0.36(3)	0.28(1)	0.40(4)
SU(2) triplet leptoquark $S_3$	0.33(2)	0.29(1)	0.38(2)
charged Higgs boson $H^\pm$	0.36(3)	0.28(1)	0.36(2)



fit results

Fedele, Blanke, Crivellin, Iguro, Kitahara, UN, Watanabe,  
Phys. Rev. D107 (2023) 5, 055005



## Part II: Form factors and new physics in $b \rightarrow c\ell\nu$ with $\ell = e, \mu$

# Form factors



What I told you in Part I:

- Robust anomaly:
  - three experiments, different methods (semileptonic vs. hadronic tag)
  - SM prediction not contested



not quite true...

## $B \rightarrow D^*$ form factors



For the Standard-Model prediction need

$$\langle D^*(p, \epsilon) | \bar{c}_L \gamma^\mu b_L | \bar{B}(p_B) \rangle,$$

which is expressed in terms of  $(p + p_B)^\mu$ ,  $q^\mu \equiv p_B^\mu - p^\mu$ ,  $\epsilon^\mu$ , and  $\epsilon_{\nu\rho\sigma}^\mu \epsilon^\nu p^\rho q^\sigma$ .

The coefficients involve four form factors, calculated with **lattice QCD** near  $q^2 = q_{\max}^2$  and with **QCD sum rules** near  $q^2 = 0$ .

$z$  expansion:

express form factors in powers of  $z \equiv \frac{\sqrt{t_+ - t} - \sqrt{t_+ - t_-}}{\sqrt{t_+ - t} + \sqrt{t_+ - t_-}}$

with  $t \equiv q^2$ ,  $t_\pm \equiv (m_B \pm m_D)^2$ .

# $B \rightarrow D^*$ form factors



Compare

**BGL** (Boyd, Grinstein, Lebed 1995):

global fit by Gambino, Jung, Schacht in 2019 to all available calculations and data in  $B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu$  with light leptons  $\ell = e, \mu$ . *Phys. Lett. B* 795 (2019) 386

**HQET** (using expansions in  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}/m_{c,b}$ ):

global fit by Iguro, Kitahara and Watanabe in 2022 to all available calculations and data (including  $q^2$  shapes) in  $B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu$  with light leptons  $\ell = e, \mu$ . [arXiv:2210.10751](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.10751)

**Fermilab/MILC (2021):**

first lattice calculation employing  $q^2 \neq q_{\text{max}}^2$ .

*Eur. Phys. J. C* 82 (2022) 1141, *Eur.Phys.J.C* 83, 21 (2023).

# $B \rightarrow D^*$ form factors



DM (Dispersive Matrix approach, Rome lattice group):

uses Fermilab/MILC data and Rome calculation of susceptibility  $\chi$ ,

employs analyticity and unitarity constraints to derive two-sided bounds on form factors.

G. Martinelli, S. Simula, and L. Vittorio, Phys. Rev. D 104 (2021) 094512,  
Eur. Phys. J. C 82 (2022) 1083, JHEP 08 (2022) 022.

G. Martinelli, M. Naviglio, S. Simula, and L. Vittorio, Phys. Rev. D 106 (2022) 093002.

With DM method find  $R(D^*)$  compatible with Standard Model prediction and furthermore  $|V_{cb}|$  from  $B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu$  consistent with  $|V_{cb}|$  from inclusive  $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \nu$  decays.

# $B \rightarrow D^*$ form factors vs new physics



Next slides: confront all four form factor predictions with new data on the fraction  $F_L^{D^*,\text{light}}$  of longitudinally polarized  $D^*$  in  $B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu$  and the forward-backward asymmetries  $A_{\text{FB}}^e$  and  $A_{\text{FB}}^\mu$

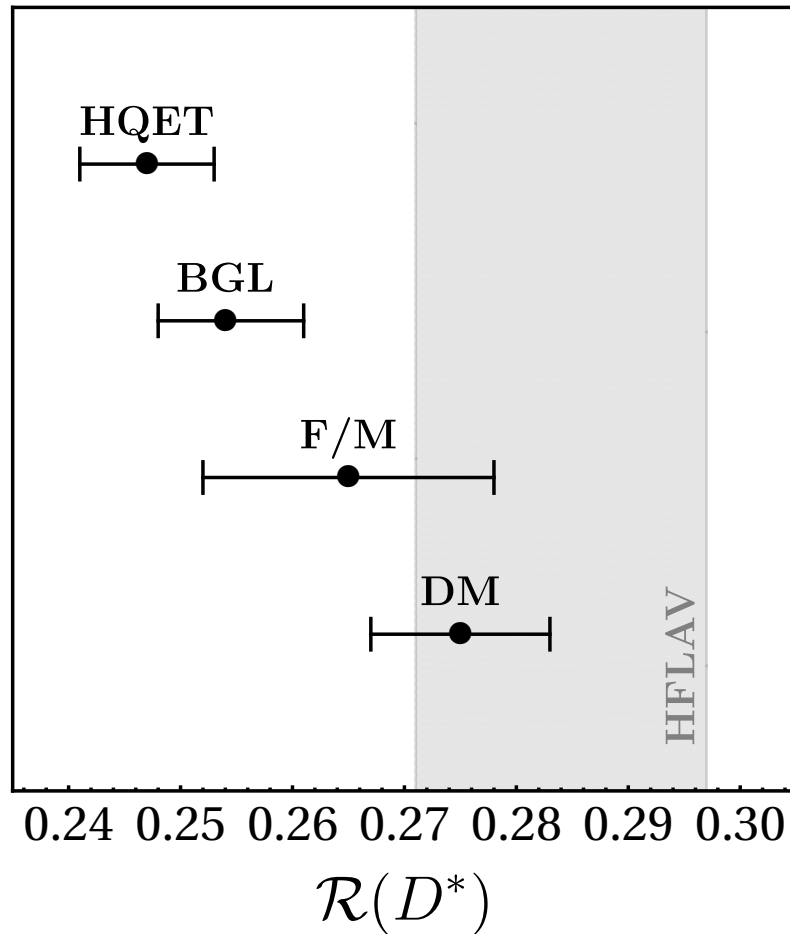
Belle, 2301.07529; Belle II, talk by Chaoyi Lyu at ALPS, March 2023

Discriminating  $B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu$  form factors via polarization observables and asymmetries

Fedele, Blanke, Crivellin, Iguro, UN, Simula, Vittorio, arXiv:2305.15457.



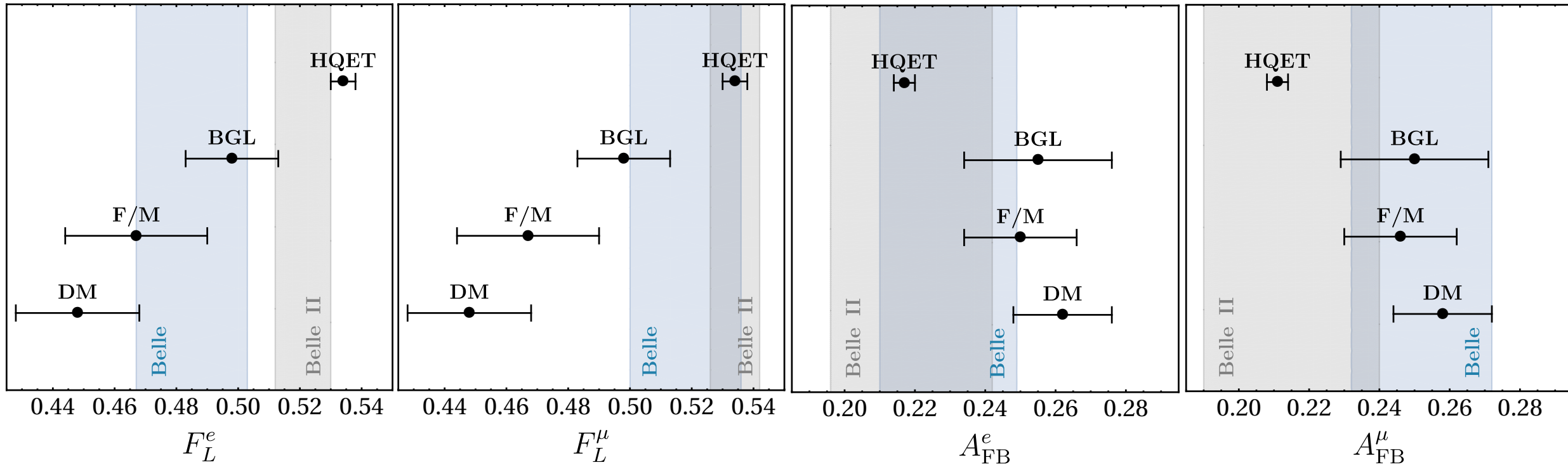
# $B \rightarrow D^*$ form factors vs new physics



} compatible with Standard Model

with DM method one finds the same  $R(D)$  as with other methods, [arXiv:2205.13952](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.13952)

# Predictions for $F_L^{D^*,\text{light}}$ and $A_{\text{FB}}^{e,\mu}$



SM predictions with  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{HQET or BGL} \\ \text{F/M or DM} \end{array} \right\}$  describe  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu \\ R(D^*) \end{array} \right\}$  data.

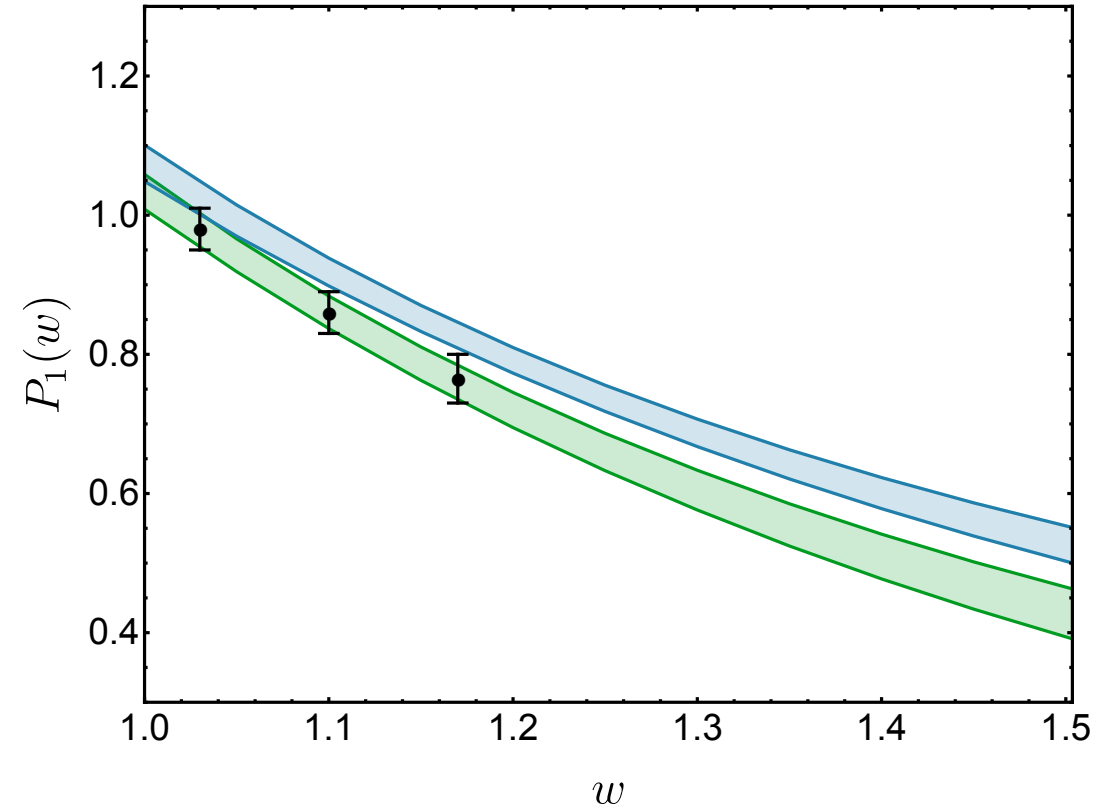
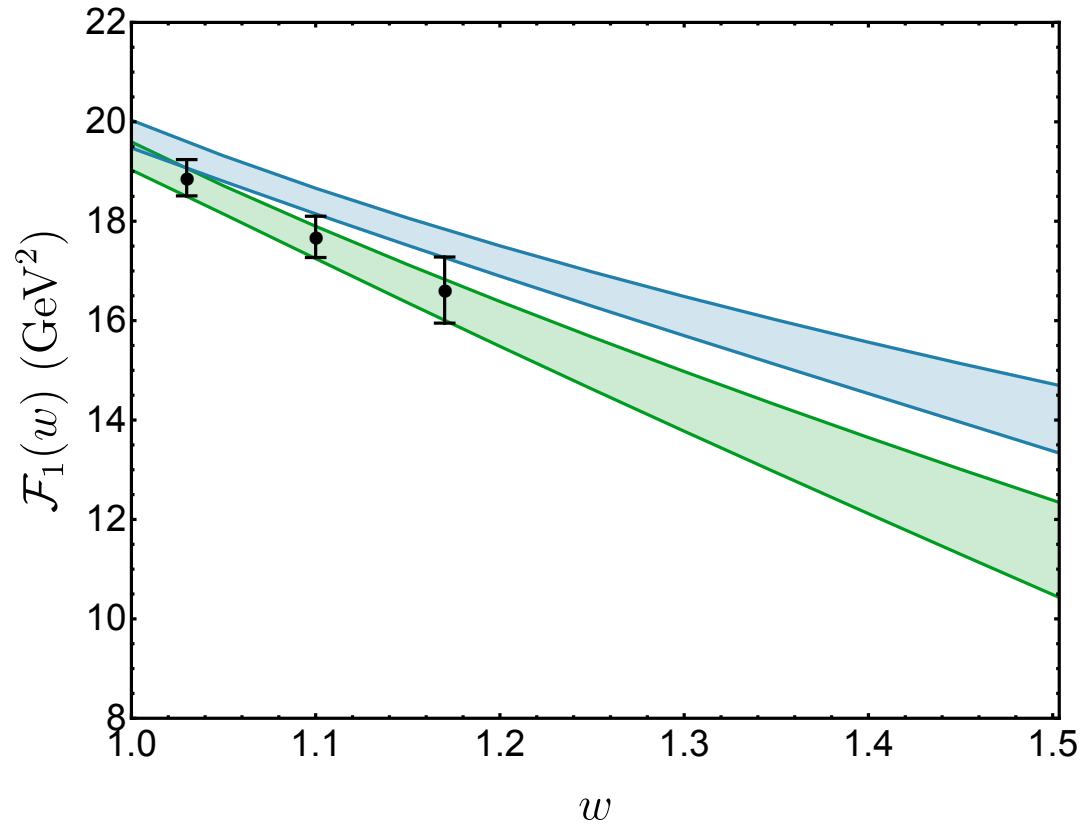
# Form factors or new physics?



Next logical steps:

- perform a **global fit** to form factors including  $F_L^{D^*,\text{light}}$  and  $A_{\text{FB}}^{e,\mu}$ , using the predicted form factors as priors,
- investigate whether there could be **new physics** in the  $B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu$  decays with light leptons  $\ell = e, \mu$ .

# Global fit



Green: prior  
Blue: posterior  
Black: F/M error bars

$$w \equiv \frac{m_B^2 + m_{D^*}^2 - q^2}{2m_B m_{D^*}}$$

## DM form factors

### DM fit result:

- compromise between  $F_L^{D^*,\text{light}}$  and  $R(D^*)$ , thus tension with measured  $R(D^*)$  as with other form factor predictions,
- post-fit  $|V_{cb}| = 0.0412 \pm 0.0012$  from  $B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu$  branching fraction in good agreement with  $|V_{cb}|_{\text{incl}}$ , pre-fit  $|V_{cb}| = 0.0431 \pm 0.0012$  is larger.  
(State-of-the-art determinations of  $|V_{cb}|$  use more input beyond the branching fraction.)

## DM form factors: new physics

New physics with **scalar**, **tensor**, or **right-handed vector** currents has no relevant impact on the  $B \rightarrow D^* \ell \nu$  observables.

New physics decreasing the SM **left-handed vector current** coupling by **5%** describes the data best, with  $R(D^*)$  in perfect agreement with experiment. Only the **DM** form factors permit a solution to the  $R(D^*)$  puzzle with new physics in the couplings to **light** leptons, while **BGL**, **HQET**, and **F/M** cannot.

**But:** new physics in **left-handed vector current** has zero effect on  $F_L^{D^*, \text{light}}$ , so the tension with **DM** stays.

→  $F_L^{D^*, \text{light}}$  is insensitive to any kind of new physics and is an excellent tool to check form factor calculations!

# Summary



- BaBar, Belle, and LHCb data consistently point to values of  $R_D$  and  $R_{D^*}$  above their SM predictions, with a combined significance of  $3.2\sigma$ .
- The new LHCb measurement of  $R_{\Lambda_c}$  points to  $\sim 2\sigma$  inconsistent measurements of at least one of  $R_D$ ,  $R_{D^*}$ , or  $R_{\Lambda_c}$ , irrespective of the presence of BSM physics, because these quantities fulfill a **sum rule**.
  - Redundancy of B physics helps to **disentangle BSM physics** from **mistakes**.
- Global fits of  $R_D$ ,  $R_{D^*}$ , and  $F_L^{D^*}$  give good results for the charged-Higgs and leptoquark interpretations, both with discovery prospects at **CMS** and **ATLAS**.
- The  $1.4\sigma$  excess in  $F_L^{D^*}$  is best described by charged-Higgs hypothesis.
- New measurements of  $F_L^{D^*,\text{light}}$  disfavor form factor calculations using the dispersive-matrix approach with Fermilab/MILC data.
- $F_L^{D^*,\text{light}}$  is insensitive to new physics and checks form factors.



# Backup



# Backup: form factor definitions



$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle D^*(p, \epsilon) | \bar{c} \gamma^\mu P_L b | \bar{B}(p_B) \rangle = & \quad (8) \\
 & - \frac{V(q^2)}{m_B + m_{D^*}} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma}^\mu \epsilon^{*\alpha} p^\beta q^\gamma + i A_0(q^2) \frac{m_{D^*}}{q^2} (\epsilon^* \cdot q) q^\mu \\
 & - \frac{i A_1(q^2)}{2(m_B - m_{D^*})} \left[ (m_B^2 - m_{D^*}^2) \epsilon^{*\mu} - (\epsilon^* \cdot q) (p + p_B)^\mu \right] \\
 & - i A_3(q^2) \frac{m_{D^*}}{q^2} (\epsilon^* \cdot q) \left[ \frac{q^2}{m_B^2 - m_{D^*}^2} (p + p_B)^\mu - q^\mu \right],
 \end{aligned}$$

with

$$2 m_{D^*} A_3(q^2) = (m_B + m_{D^*}) A_1(q^2) - (m_B - m_{D^*}) A_2(q^2),$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 V(q^2) &= \frac{m_B + m_{D^*}}{2} g(w), \\
 A_1(q^2) &= \frac{f(w)}{m_B + m_{D^*}}, \\
 A_2(q^2) &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_B + m_{D^*}}{(w^2 - 1) m_B m_{D^*}} \left[ \left( w - \frac{m_{D^*}}{m_B} \right) f(w) - \frac{\mathcal{F}_1(w)}{m_B} \right] \\
 A_0(q^2) &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_B + m_{D^*}}{\sqrt{m_B m_{D^*}}} P_1(w),
 \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

$$\text{Recall: } w \equiv \frac{m_B^2 + m_{D^*}^2 - q^2}{2 m_B m_{D^*}}$$

# Backup: $F_L^{D^*, \text{light}}$ and $A_{\text{FB}}^{e, \mu}$

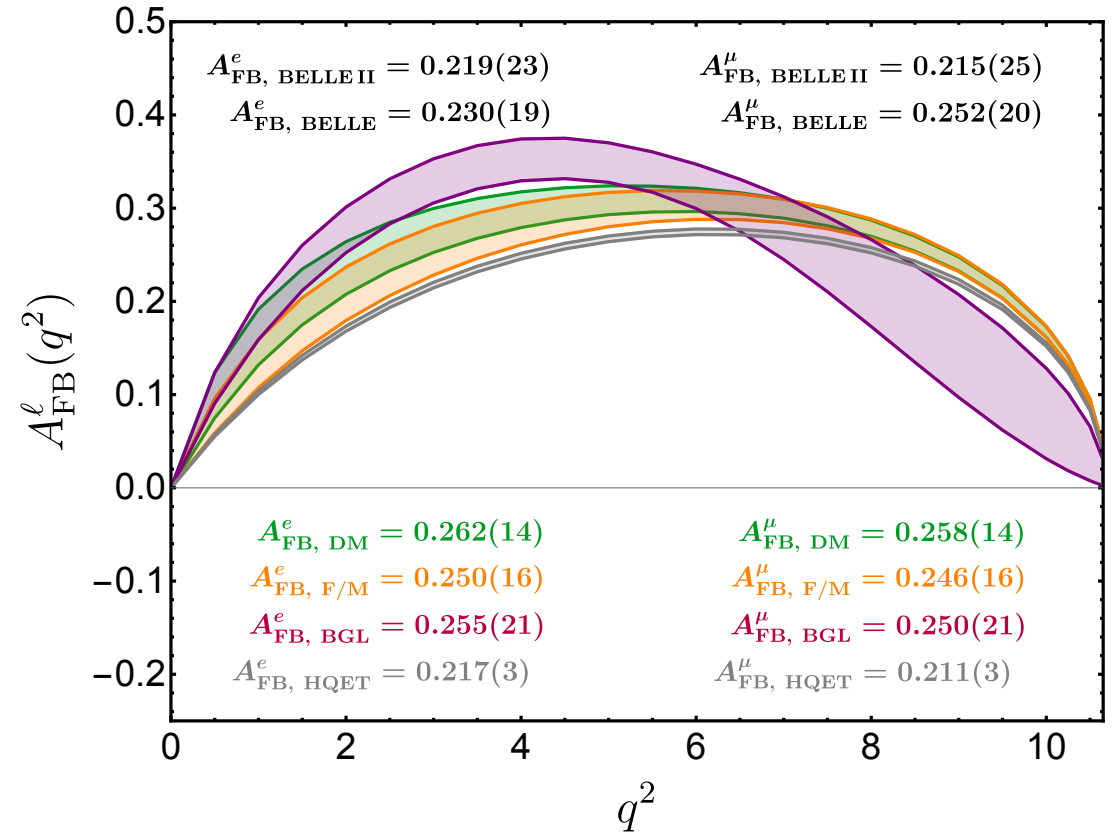
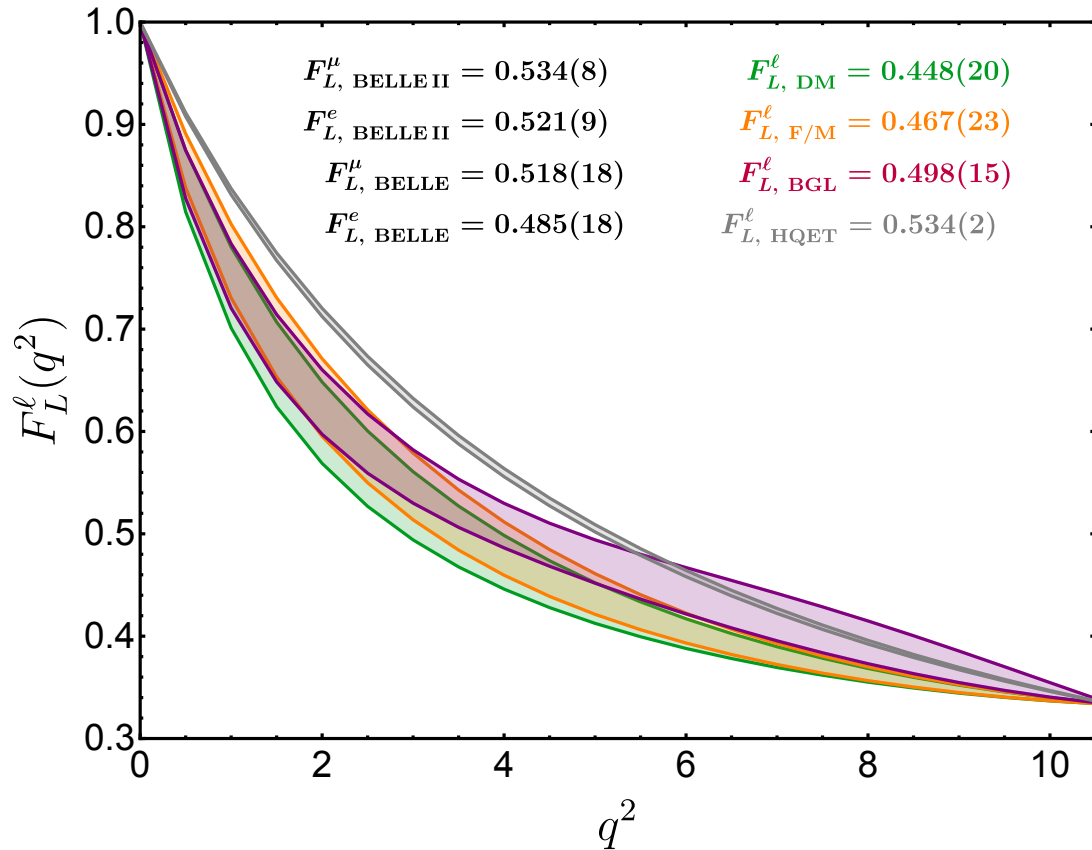


FIG. 2. Predicted  $1\sigma$  range for  $F_L^\ell$  (left panel) and  $A_{\text{FB}}^\ell$  (right panel) as a function of  $q^2$  for the four different FF sets.