

Imaginary yet observable τ EDM

Probing CP violation in τ sector

Chia-Wei Liu

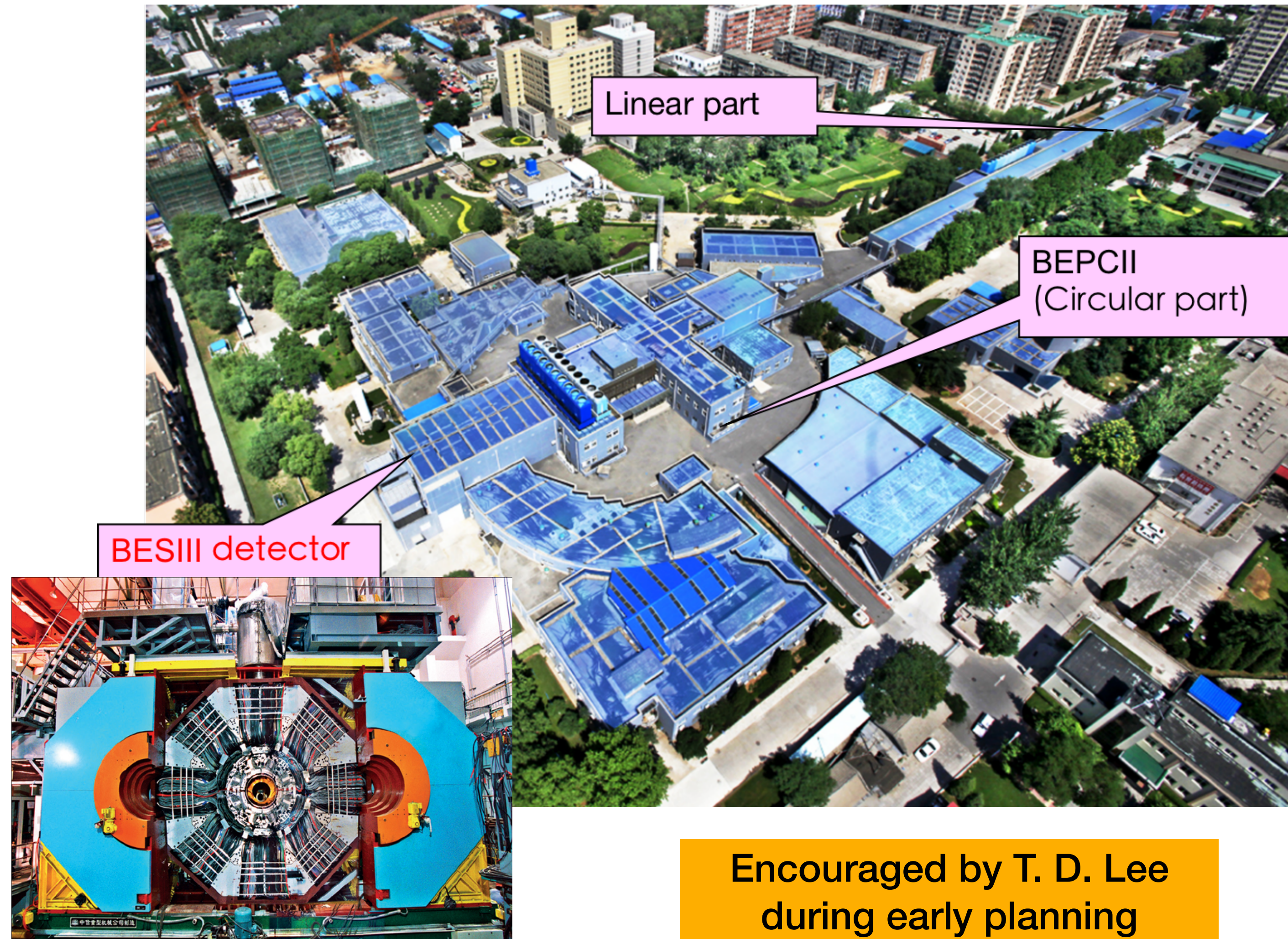
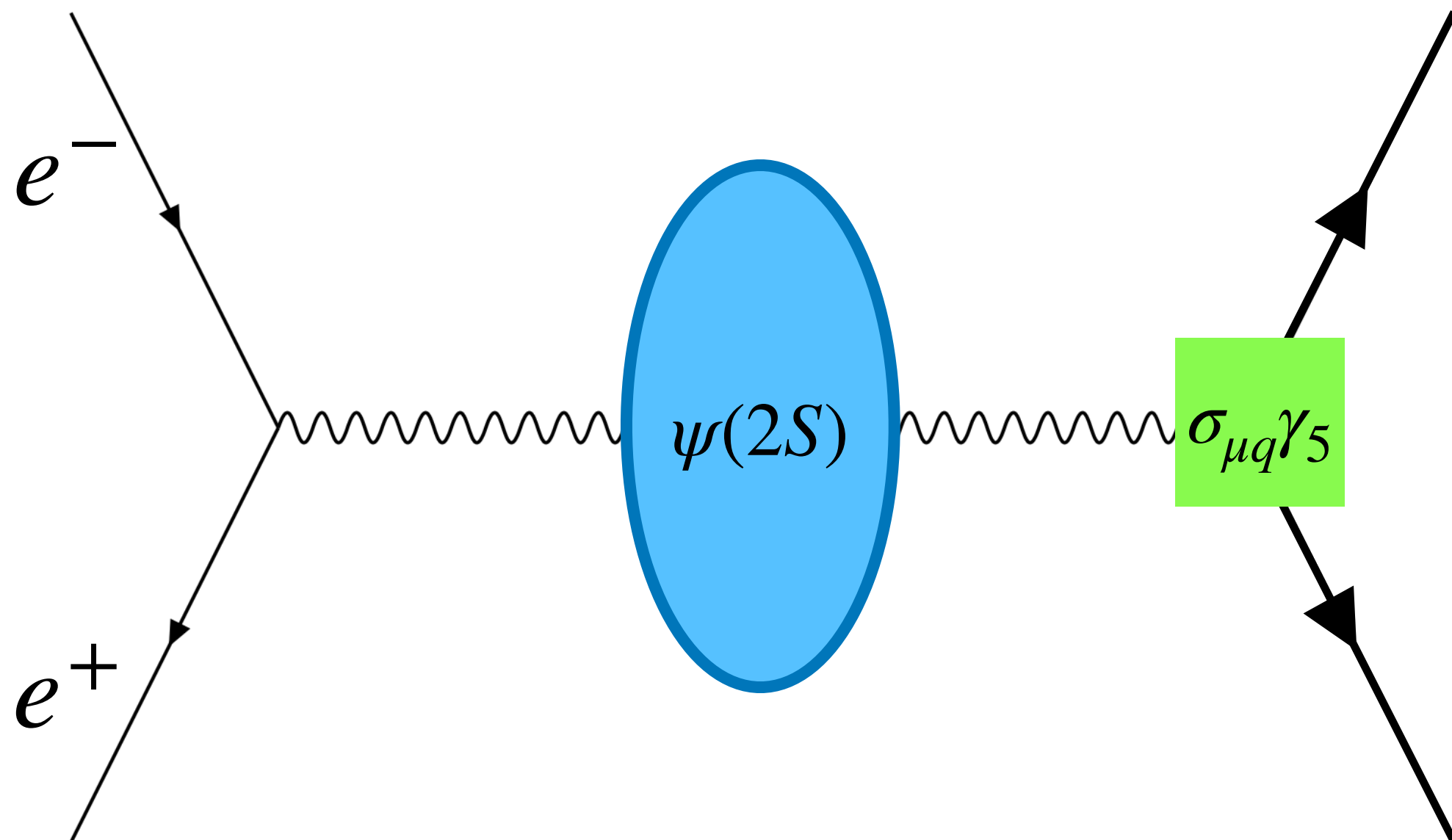
HIAS, UCAS

JHEP 04 (2025) 001, with X. G. He,
J. P. Ma, C. Yang, Z. Y. Zou

Nov 27, FTCF2025

● Overview

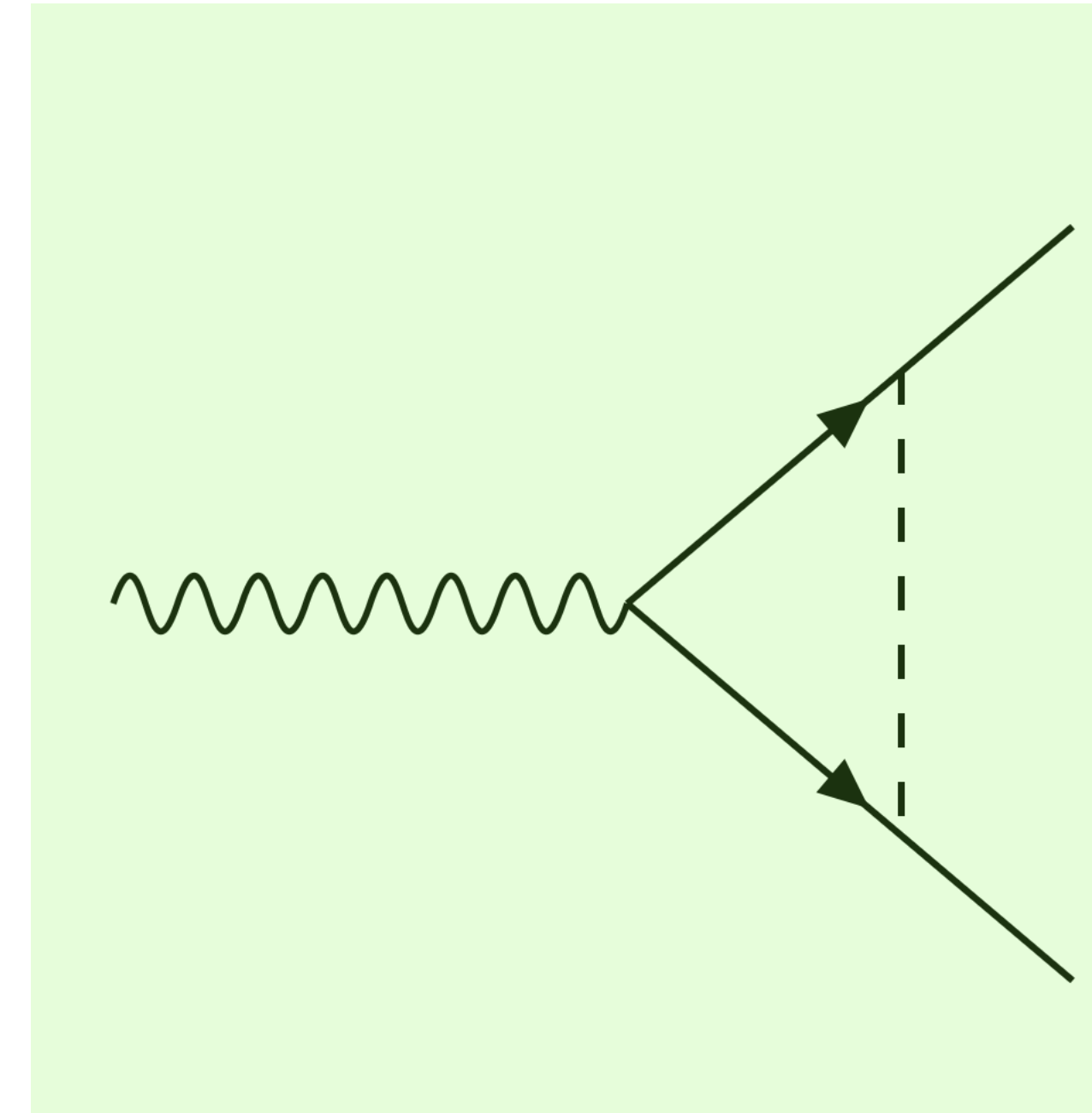
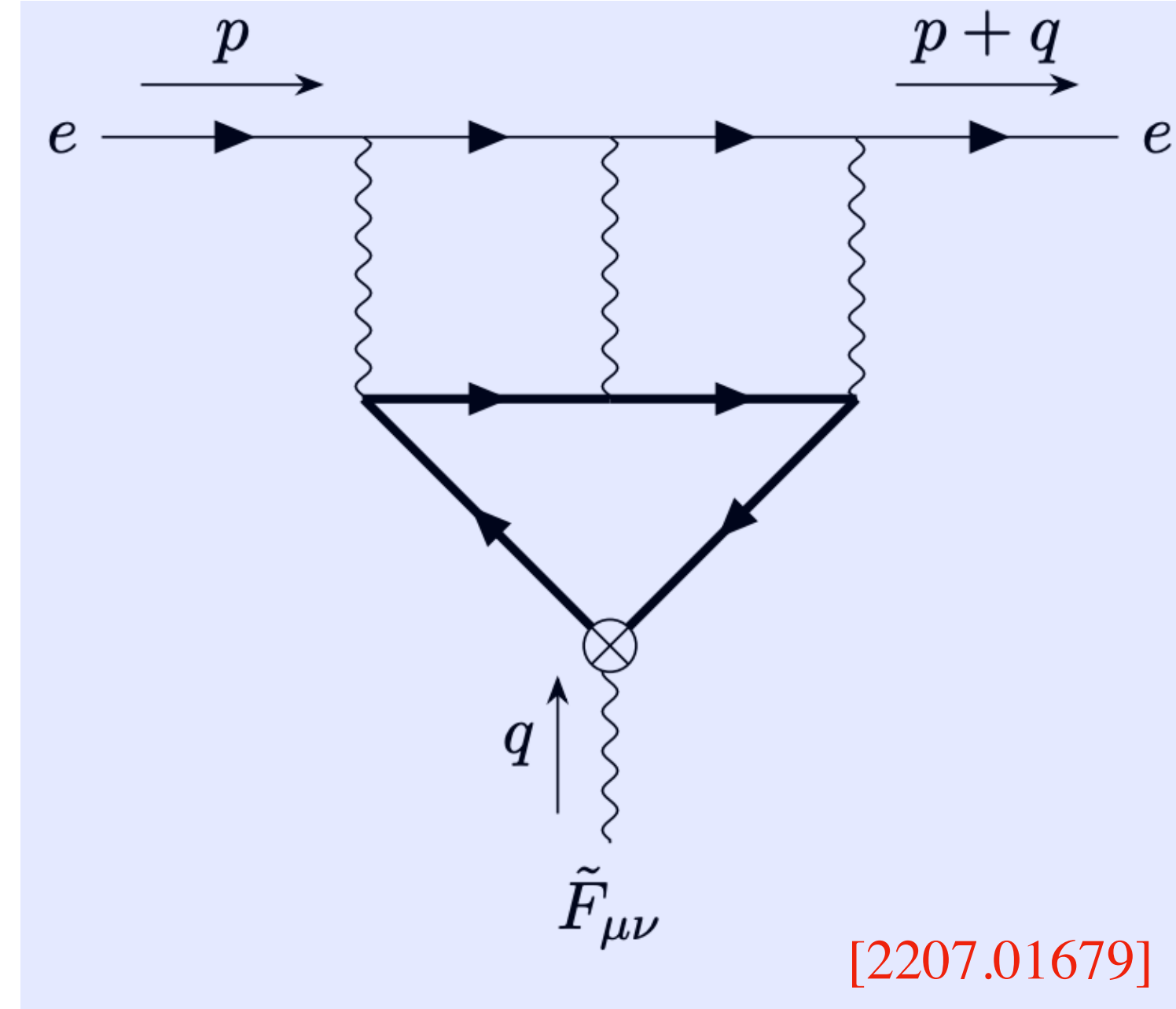
- Produced $2.7 \times 10^9 \psi(2s)$, around 10^7 events of $\psi(2s) \rightarrow \tau^- \tau^+$.
- Luminosity will be shifted forward by **two orders** in **STCF**.



Encouraged by T. D. Lee during early planning

● Overview

- τ and hyperons have **short lifetimes**.
- Traditional EDM measurement techniques are **not feasible**.
- May **induce** electron EDM.
- Can be probed directly at **colliders**.
- Experimental constraints on hyperon EDMs are currently in poor precisions.



Particle	Method	Upper limit	Particle	Method	Upper limit
e^-	Ion trap	$4.1 \times 10^{-30} \text{ e}\cdot\text{cm}$	neutron	Hg*	$1.4 \times 10^{-26} \text{ e}\cdot\text{cm}$
μ^-	(g-2) storage ring	$1.5 \times 10^{-19} \text{ e}\cdot\text{cm}$	proton	Hg*	$1.7 \times 10^{-25} \text{ e}\cdot\text{cm}$
τ^-	From eEDM	$4.1 \times 10^{-19} \text{ e}\cdot\text{cm}$	Λ	From nEDM	$2 \times 10^{-22} \text{ e}\cdot\text{cm}$
τ^-	e^+e^- colliders	$1.9 \times 10^{-17} \text{ e}\cdot\text{cm}$	Λ	e^+e^- colliders	$5.5 \times 10^{-19} \text{ e}\cdot\text{cm}$



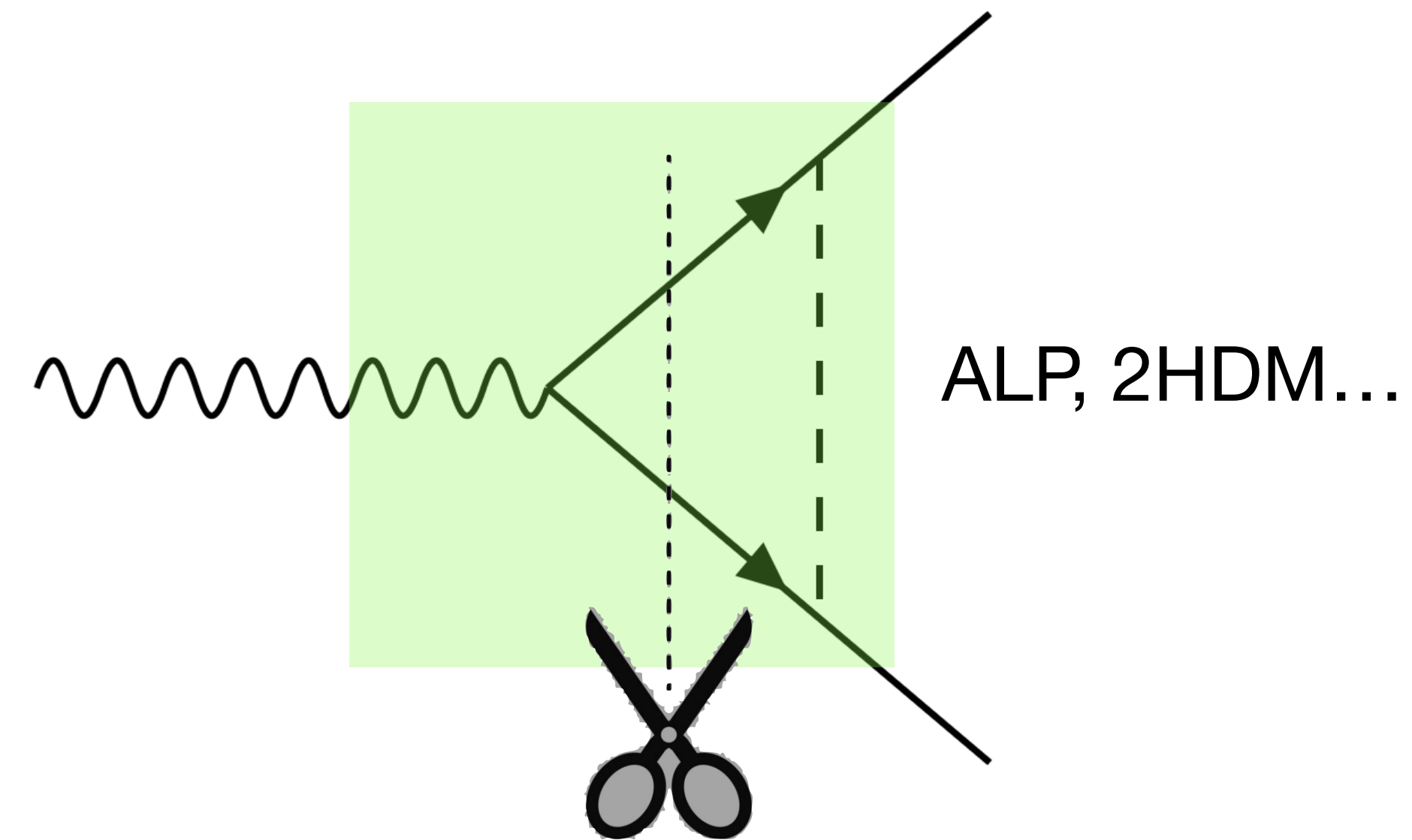
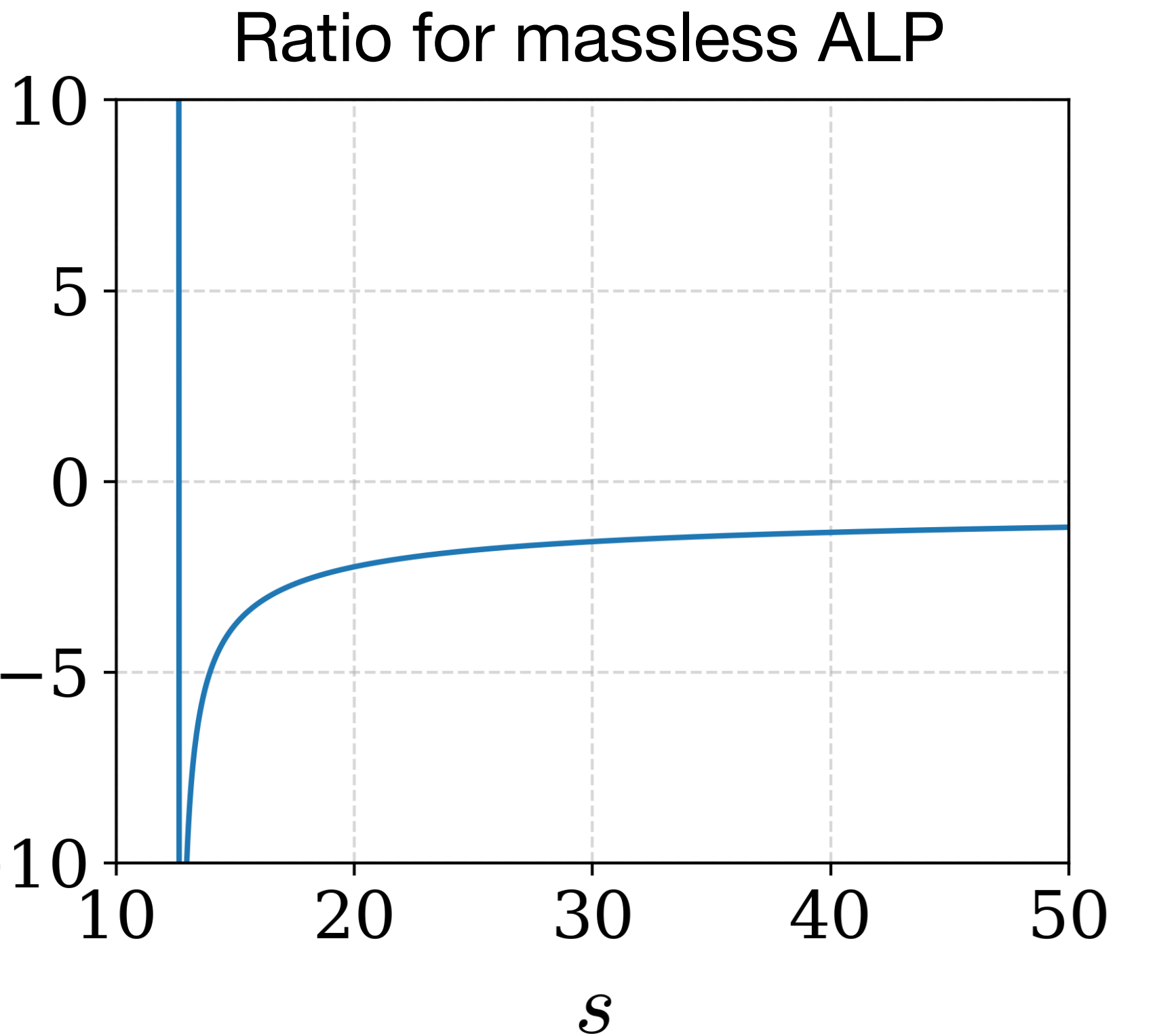
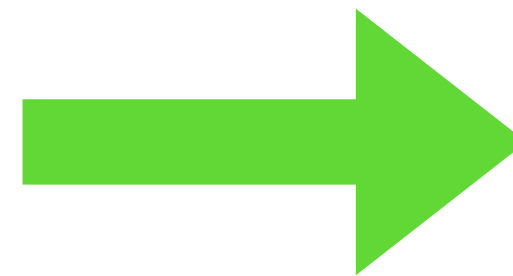
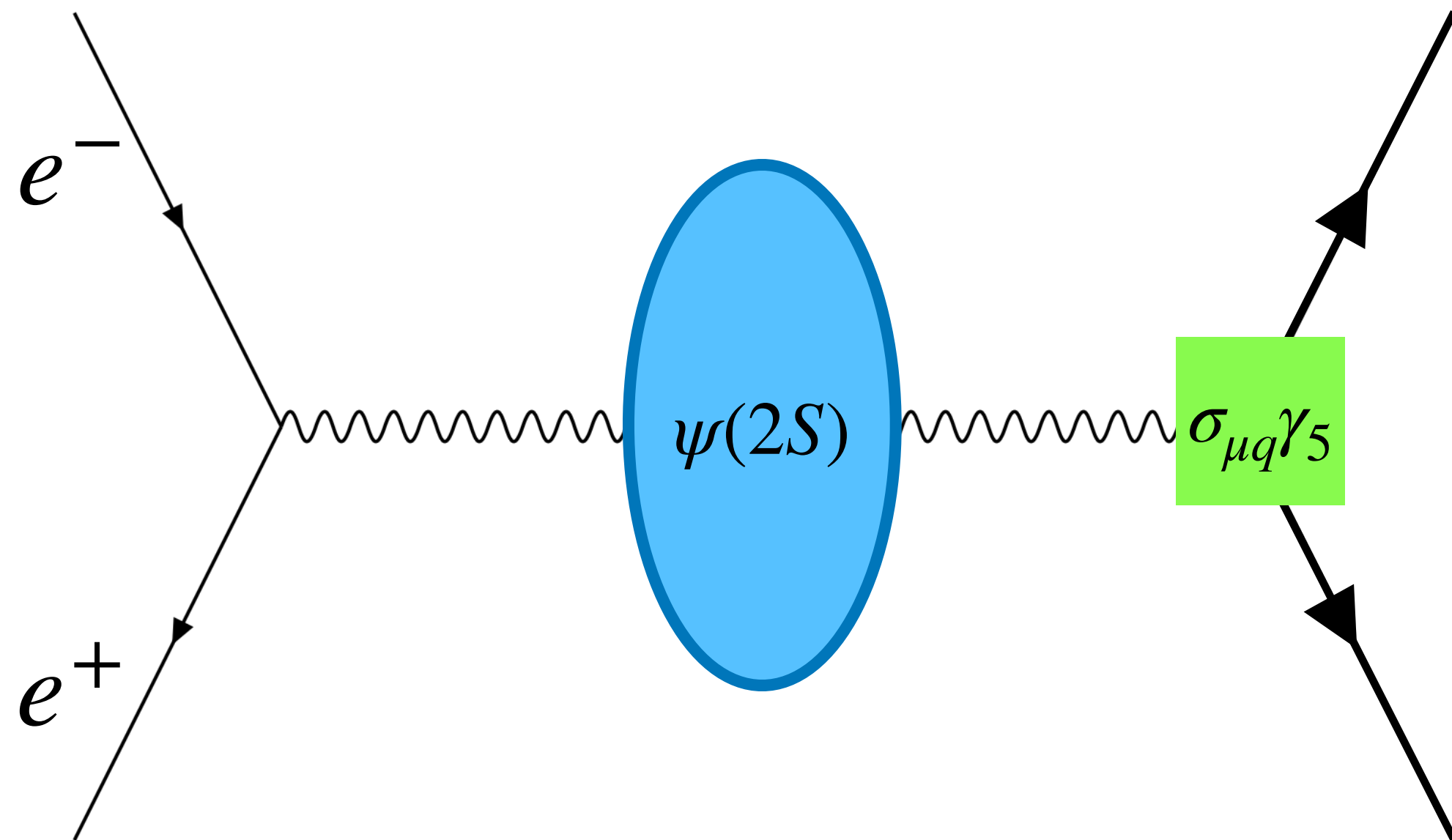
State-of-the-art upper limits of $|d_f|$ at 90% confidence level

• Timelike EDM

- EDM is **timelike** here, unlike the usual case.

$$\mathcal{A}^\mu = \bar{u} \left(\gamma^\mu F_V + \frac{i}{2m} \sigma^{\mu q} H_\sigma + \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 F_A + \sigma^{\mu q} \gamma^5 H_T \right) v$$

- Intermediate particles are on shell :
→ EDM develops a **imaginary** part.
- It is more sensitive to some of the NP model.



• Timelike EDM

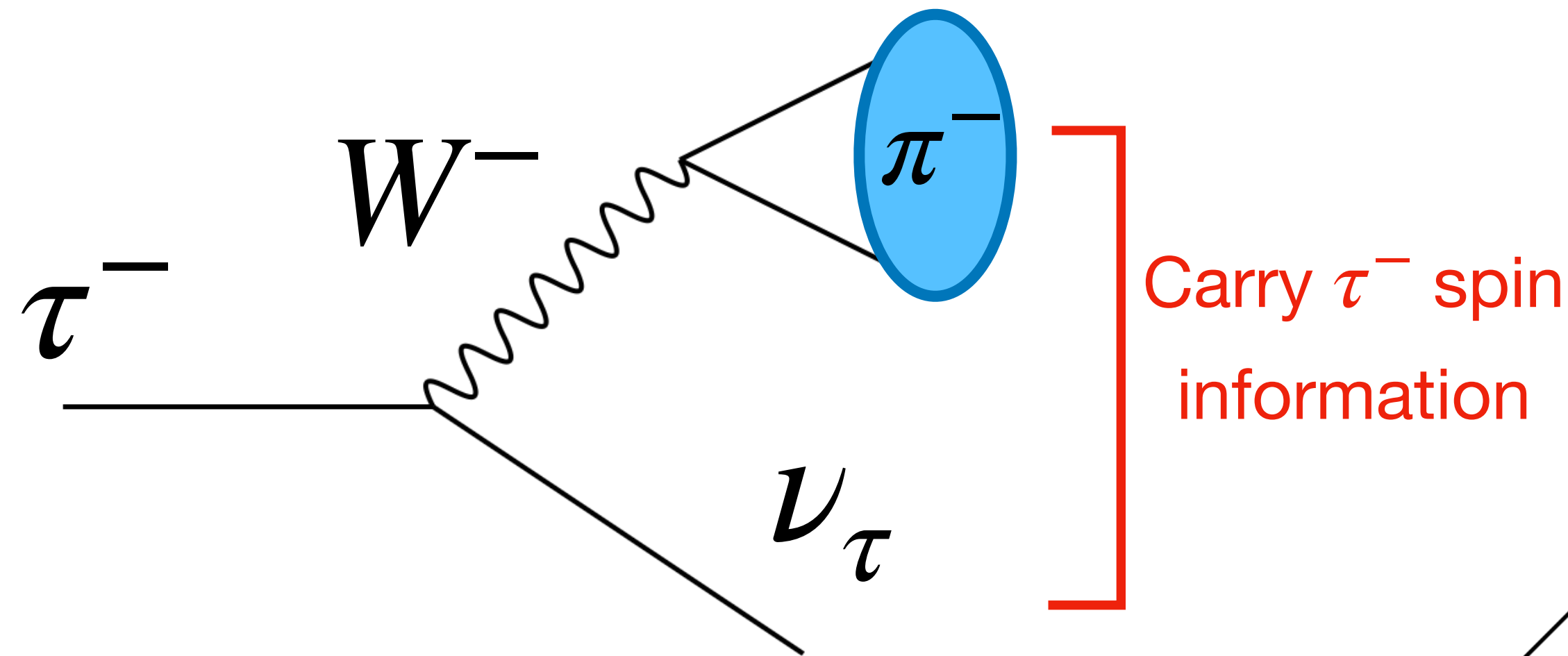
- To extract the timelike EDM, we square the amplitude:

Polarization
fraction

$$\frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial \vec{\Omega}} = \sum_{\epsilon} P_{\epsilon} \left| \epsilon_{\mu} \bar{u} \left(\gamma^{\mu} F_V + \frac{i}{2m} \sigma^{\mu q} H_{\sigma} + \gamma^{\mu} \gamma^5 F_A + \sigma^{\mu q} \gamma^5 H_T \right) v \right|^2$$

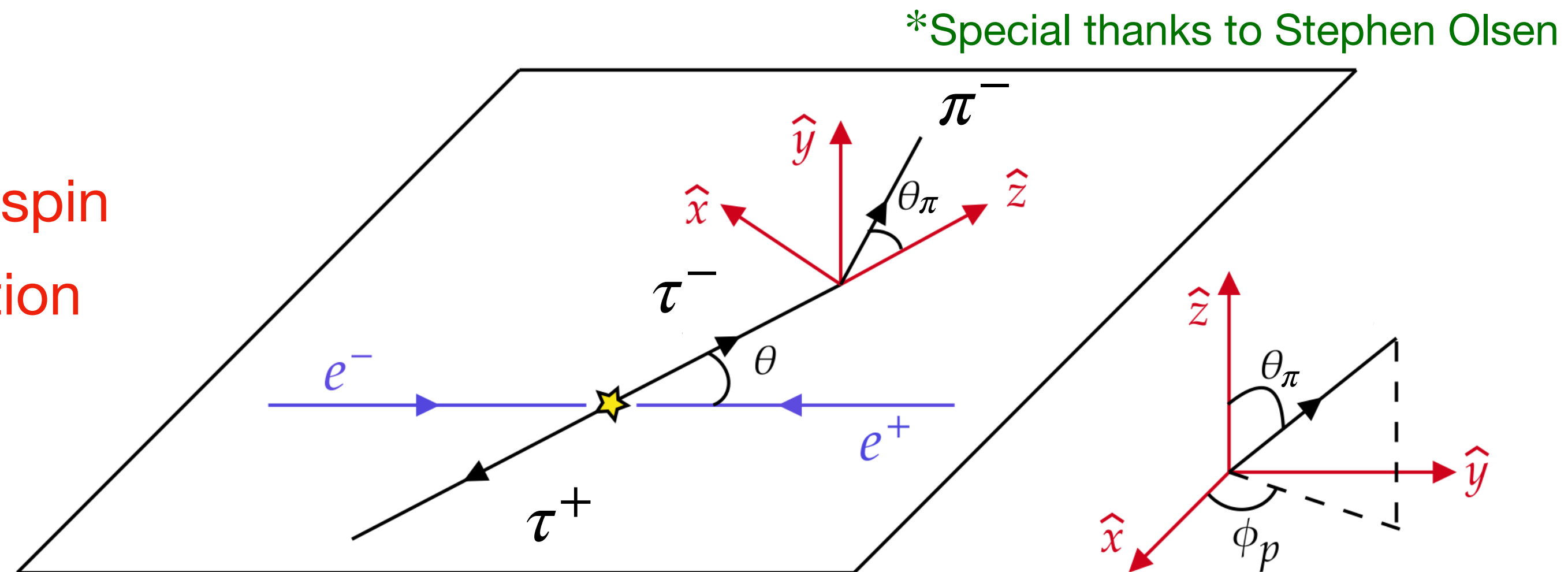
$$\propto 1 + \vec{B}_{+} \cdot (\vec{s}_{-} + \vec{s}_{+}) + \vec{B}_{-} \cdot (\vec{s}_{-} - \vec{s}_{+}) - \vec{s}_{+} \cdot \vec{C} \cdot \vec{s}_{-} \quad \vec{s}_{\pm} = \text{spin of } \tau^{\pm}$$

\vec{B}, \vec{C} are CP even, while $\vec{s}_{+} \xleftrightarrow{CP} \vec{s}_{-}$. CPV is gauged by the asymmetry of \vec{s}_{\pm} .



In the SM, ν_{τ} must be left-handed

$$\rightarrow \langle \vec{p}_{\pi^{-}} \rangle = \langle \vec{s}_{\nu_{\tau}} \rangle = \langle \vec{s}_{-} \rangle \text{ and } \langle \vec{p}_{\pi^{+}} \rangle = - \langle \vec{s}_{\bar{\nu}_{\tau}} \rangle = - \langle \vec{s}_{+} \rangle.$$



● Timelike EDM

- Net results of the EDM formula:

$$\text{Im}(d_\tau) = -\frac{3}{4} \frac{e(s + 2m_\tau^2)}{m_\tau \sqrt{s} \sqrt{s - 4m_\tau^2}} \left(\langle \hat{p}_{\pi^-} \cdot \hat{k} \rangle + \langle \hat{p}_{\pi^+} \cdot \hat{k} \rangle \right)$$

Polarization fraction of τ^-

Polarization fraction of τ^+

No need for simultaneous detection of $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \nu_\tau$ and $\tau^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \bar{\nu}_\tau$.

$$\text{Re}(d_\tau) = e \frac{9}{4} \frac{s + 2m_\tau^2}{m_\tau \sqrt{s^2 - 4sm_\tau^2}} \langle (\hat{p}_{\pi^-} \times \hat{p}_{\pi^+}) \cdot \hat{k} \rangle$$

Need for simultaneous detection of $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \nu_\tau$ and $\tau^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \bar{\nu}_\tau$.
Statistics is suppressed by $\sqrt{\mathcal{BF}}$.

\sqrt{s}	$m_{\psi(2S)}$	4.2 GeV	4.9 GeV	5.6 GeV	6.3 GeV	7 GeV
δ_{Im}	1.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
$\delta_{\text{Re}}(130\mu\text{m})$	83	9.4	5.0	4.0	3.6	3.5

Expected Precisions @ **STCF** in units of $10^{-18} e\text{cm}$

Resolution of detectors

● Timelike EDM

- The momenta **cannot** be fully reconstructed.

$$\text{Im}(d_\tau) = -\frac{3}{4} \frac{e(s + 2m_\tau^2)}{m_\tau \sqrt{s} \sqrt{s - 4m_\tau^2}} \left(\langle \hat{p}_{\pi^-} \cdot \hat{k} \rangle + \langle \hat{p}_{\pi^+} \cdot \hat{k} \rangle \right)$$

- Fortunately, we can use $(k^\mu - p_{\pi^-}^\mu)^2 = m_\nu^2$ to reconstruct $\hat{p}_{\pi^-} \cdot \hat{k}$.

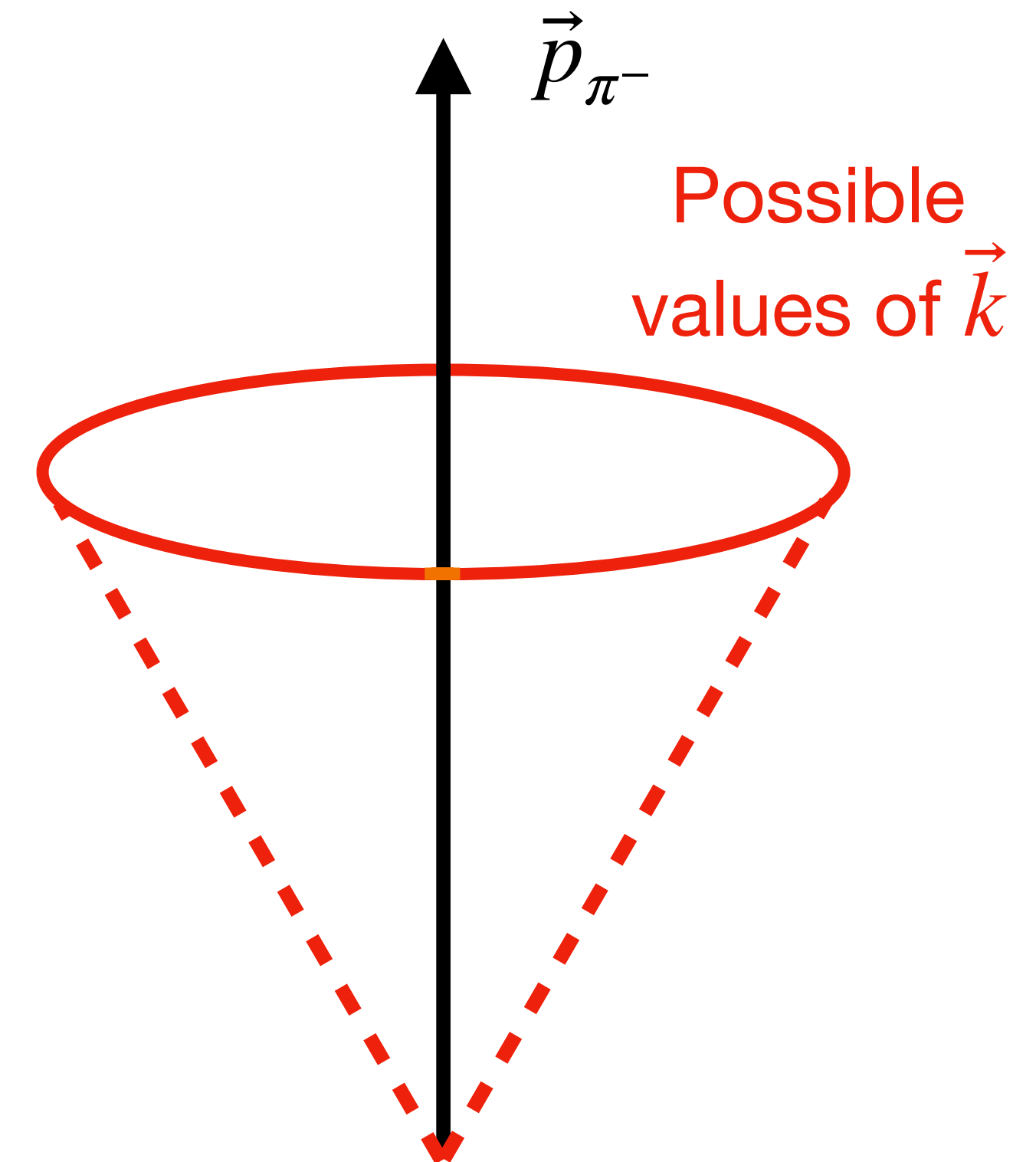
$$\hat{p}_{\pi^\pm} \cdot \hat{k} = \pm \frac{4E_{\pi^\pm} m_\tau^2 - m_h^2 \sqrt{s} - m_\tau^2 \sqrt{s}}{(m_\tau^2 - m_h^2) \sqrt{s - 4m_\tau^2}}$$

- With E_π , we can determine $\hat{p}_{\pi^\pm} \cdot \hat{k}$ and \hat{k} up to a circle.

\sqrt{s}	$m_{\psi(2S)}$	4.2 GeV	4.9 GeV	5.6 GeV	6.3 GeV	7 GeV
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Table. Precision at **STCF** in units of $10^{-18} e\text{cm}$, an order better than current data.

Undetermined



● Timelike EDM

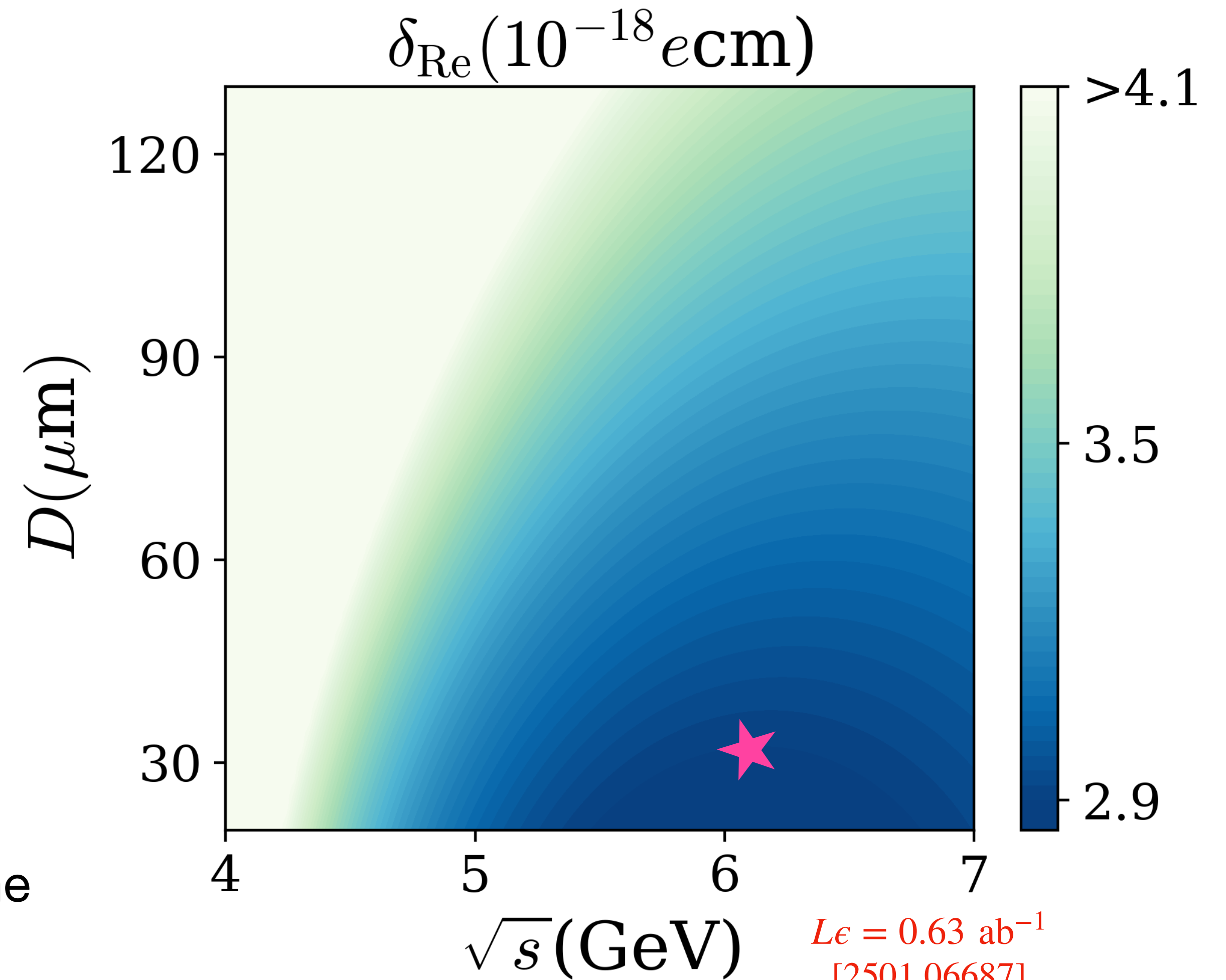
$$\sigma_{xy} = 130 \mu\text{m} \longrightarrow 30 \mu\text{m}$$

- We propose to add **silicon pixel detectors** at **STCF** and filter the fast decay events.

\sqrt{s}	$m_{\psi(2S)}$	5.6 GeV	6.3 GeV
δ_{Im}	1.8	0.7	0.7
$\delta_{\text{Re}}(180)$	235	4.9	4.2
$\delta_{\text{Re}}(130)$	83	4.0	3.6
$\delta_{\text{Re}}(80)$	29	3.3	3.1
$\delta_{\text{Re}}(30)$	11	2.9	2.8

Table. Precision of d_τ with $D = 180, 130\dots$

- As the central energy \sqrt{s} goes up
 $D_0 \uparrow$ but scattering width $\sigma \downarrow$.
- ★ sweet spot @ $\sqrt{s} = 6.3$ GeV, pushing the upper bound to 10^{-18} ecm .

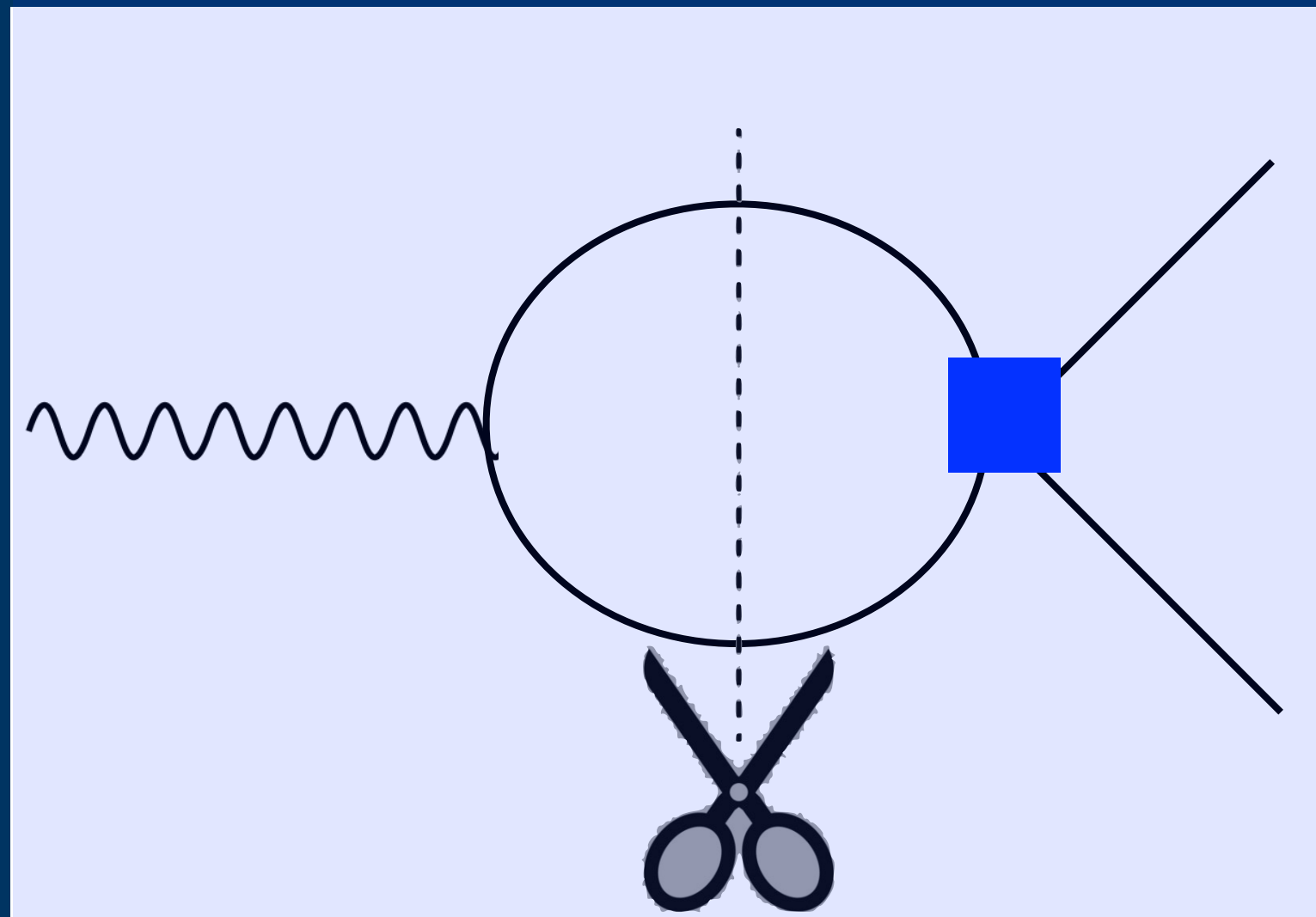


See also [2511.03786]

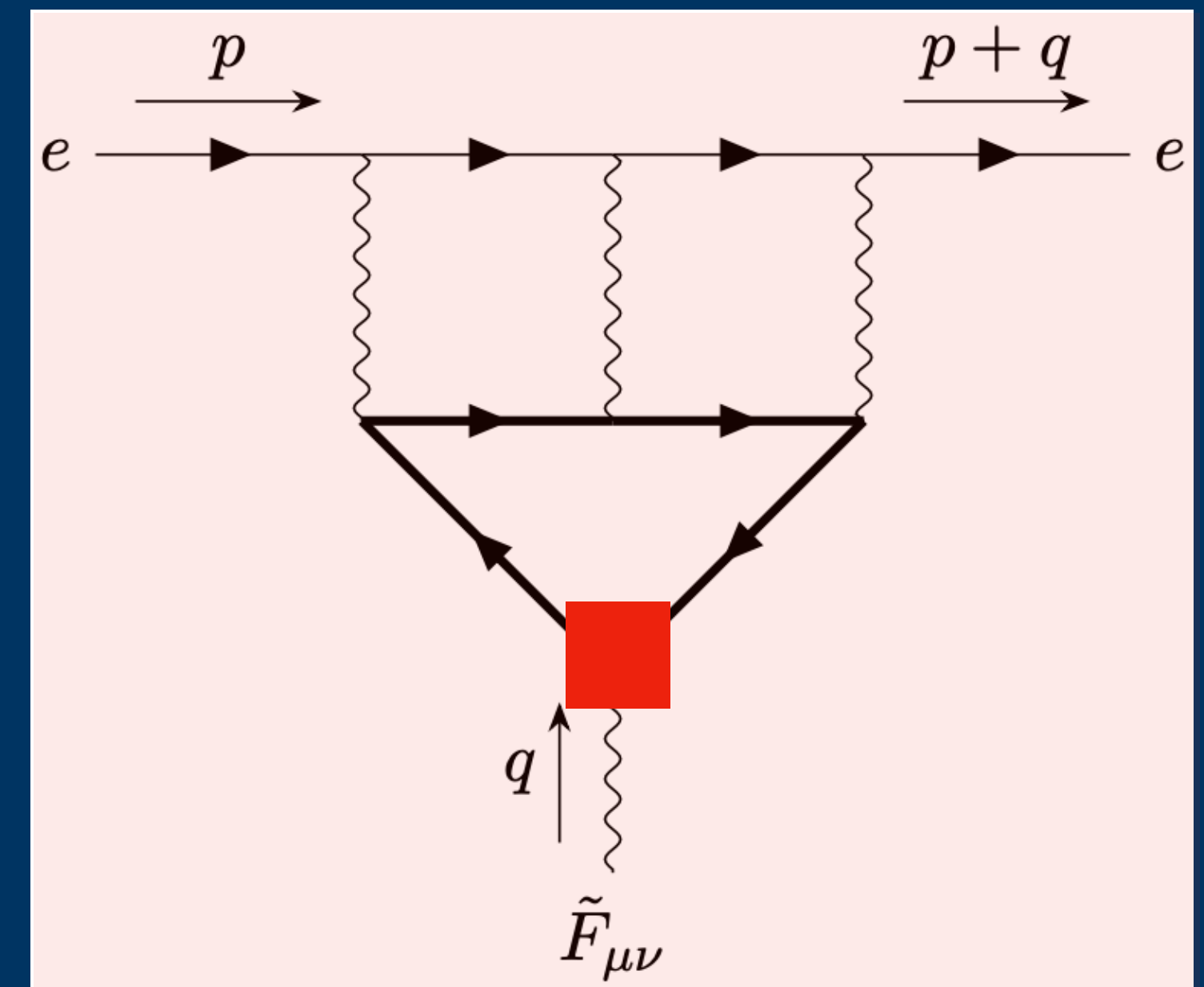
What NP we are looking at?

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{i}{\Lambda^2} C_{SP}^{\tau\tau} (\bar{\tau} \gamma_5 \tau) (\bar{\tau} \tau) - d_\tau^0 \frac{i}{2} F^{\mu\nu} \bar{\tau} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \gamma_5 \tau$$

Colliders are sensitive to ...



Tightly constrained by ...



● τ EDM - NP

For NP without new fermions : $d_\tau^0 \propto m_\tau / \Lambda^2 \sim C_{SP}^{\tau\tau} / \Lambda^2$, (m_τ for chiral flip)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{i}{\Lambda^2} C_{SP}^{\tau\tau} (\bar{\tau} \gamma_5 \tau) (\bar{\tau} \tau) - d_\tau^0 \frac{i}{2} F^{\mu\nu} \bar{\tau} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \gamma_5 \tau ,$$

At $q^2 = 0$, we have that :

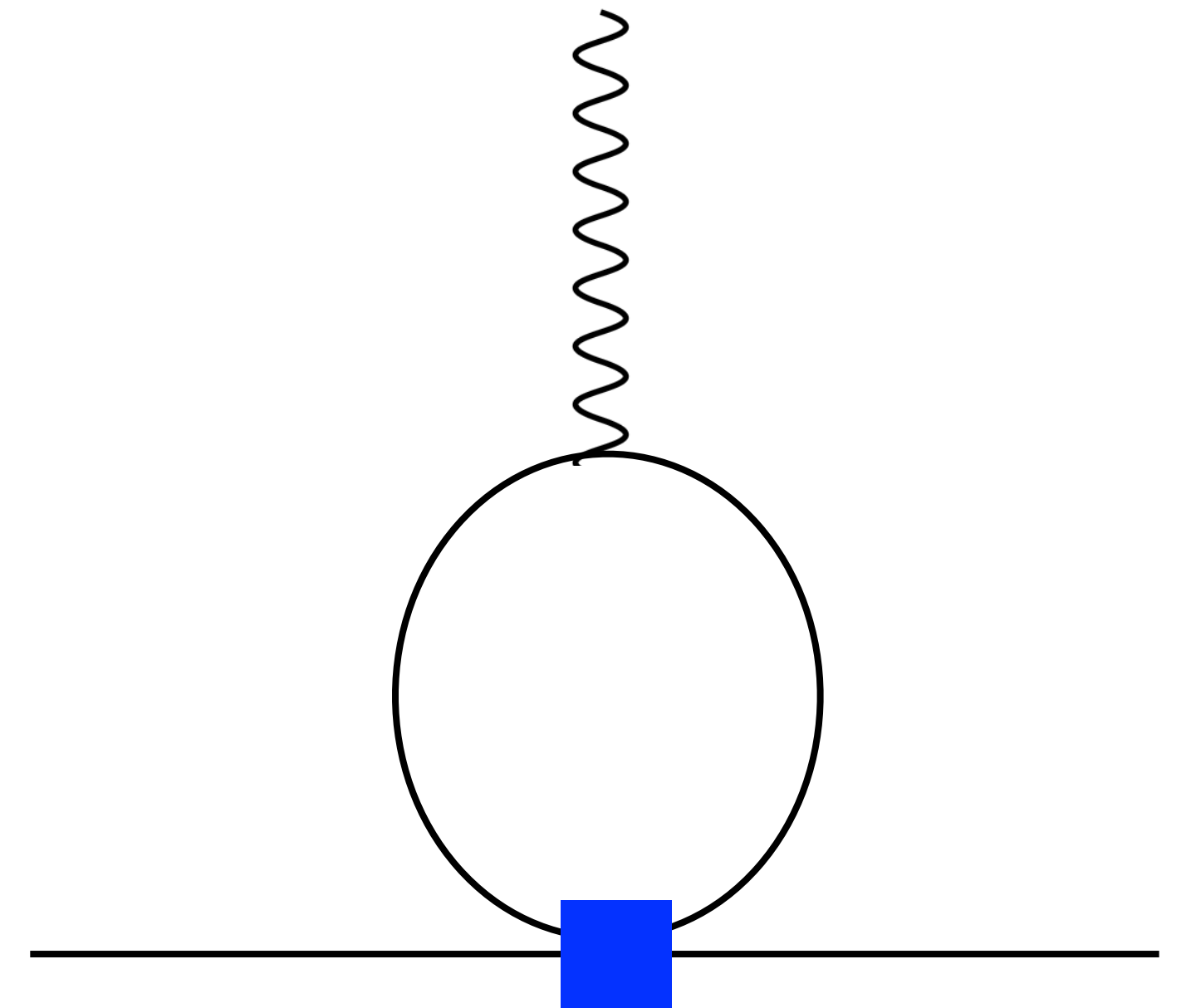
$$d_\tau = d_\tau^0(\mu) - \frac{m_\tau}{\Lambda^2} \frac{e}{4\pi^2} C_{SP}^{\tau\tau}(\mu) \ln \frac{m_\tau}{\mu} ,$$

No direct constraint on $C_{SP}^{\tau\tau}(m_\tau)$ but from the running :

$$d_\tau^0(\mu) = d_\tau^0(\Lambda) + \frac{m_\tau}{\Lambda^2} \frac{e}{4\pi^2} C_{SP}^{\tau\tau}(\Lambda) \ln \frac{\Lambda}{\mu} , \quad C_{SP}^{\tau\tau}(\mu) = C_{SP}^{\tau\tau}(\Lambda) .$$

≈ 7 for TEV NP \longleftarrow

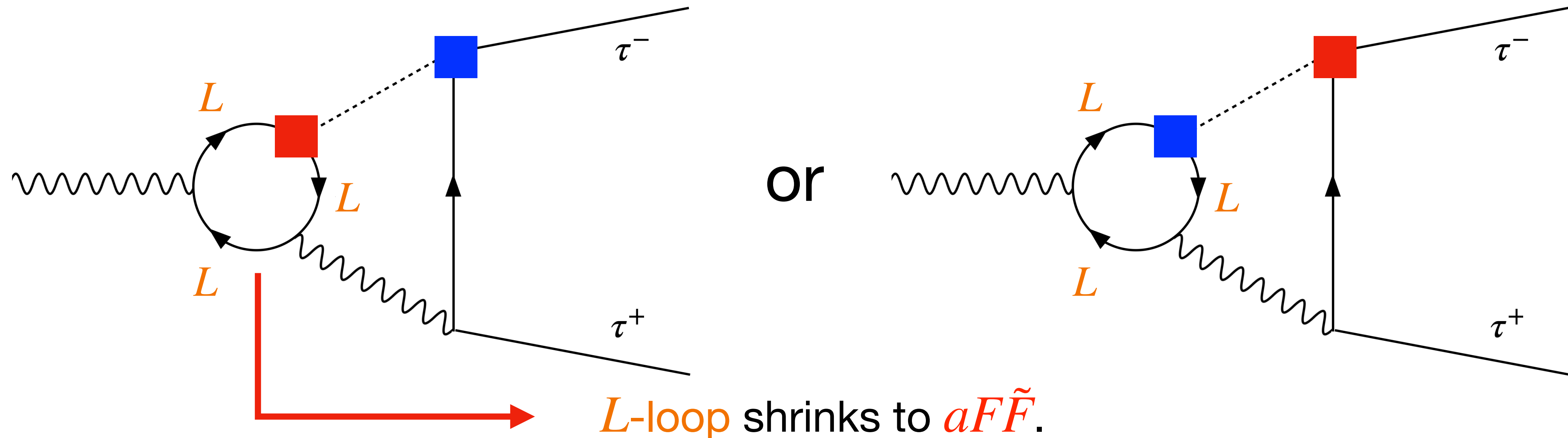
Conclusion: Needs **fine-tuning** or **NP** at **low energies** to evade the eEDM constraint !!



• τ EDM - ALP

Scenario 1: $\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = \tilde{g}_\tau a \bar{\tau} \tau + \frac{g}{4} a F \tilde{F}$, or $\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = g_\tau a \bar{\tau} i \gamma_5 \tau + \frac{\tilde{g}}{4} a F^2$

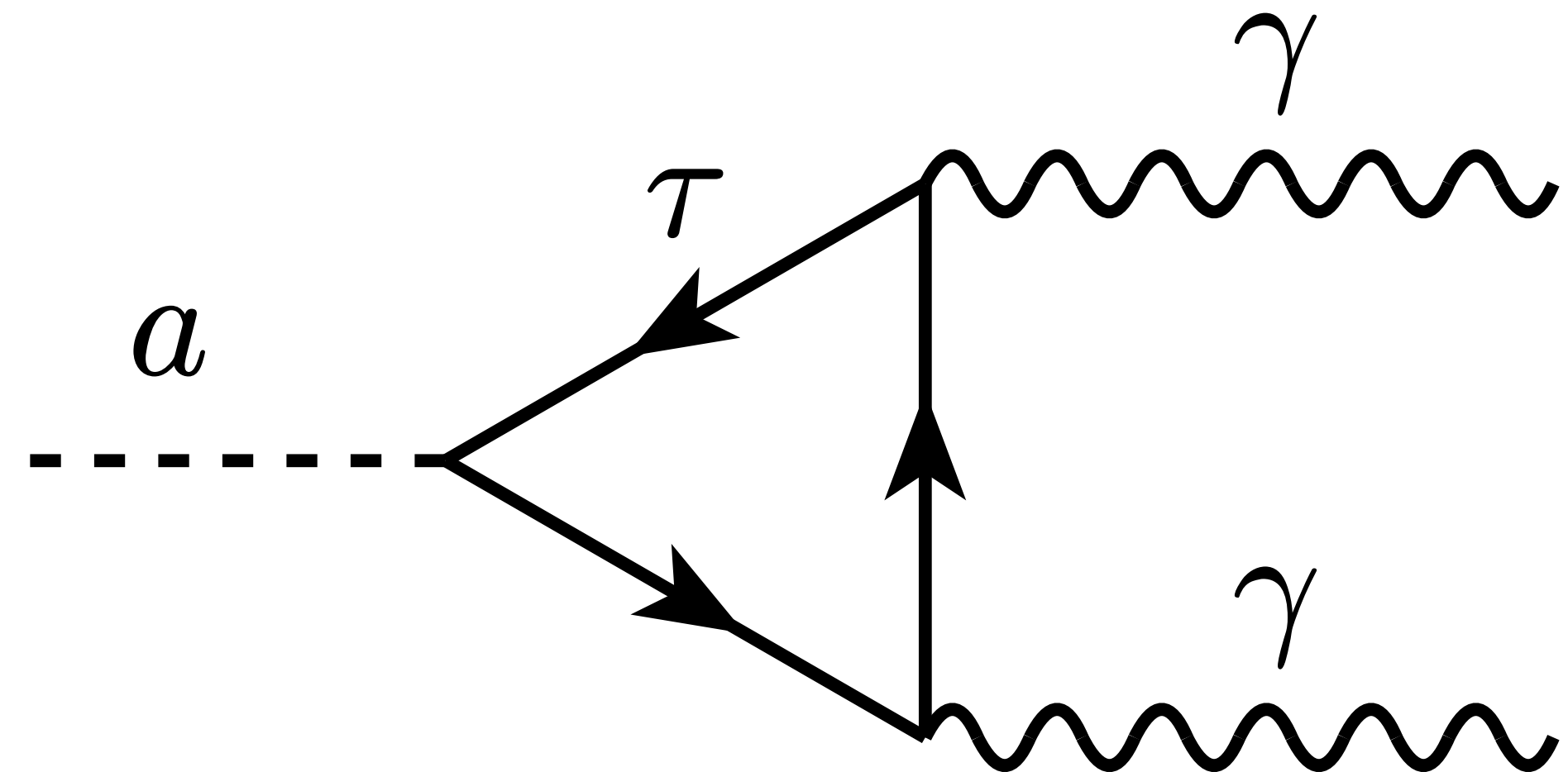
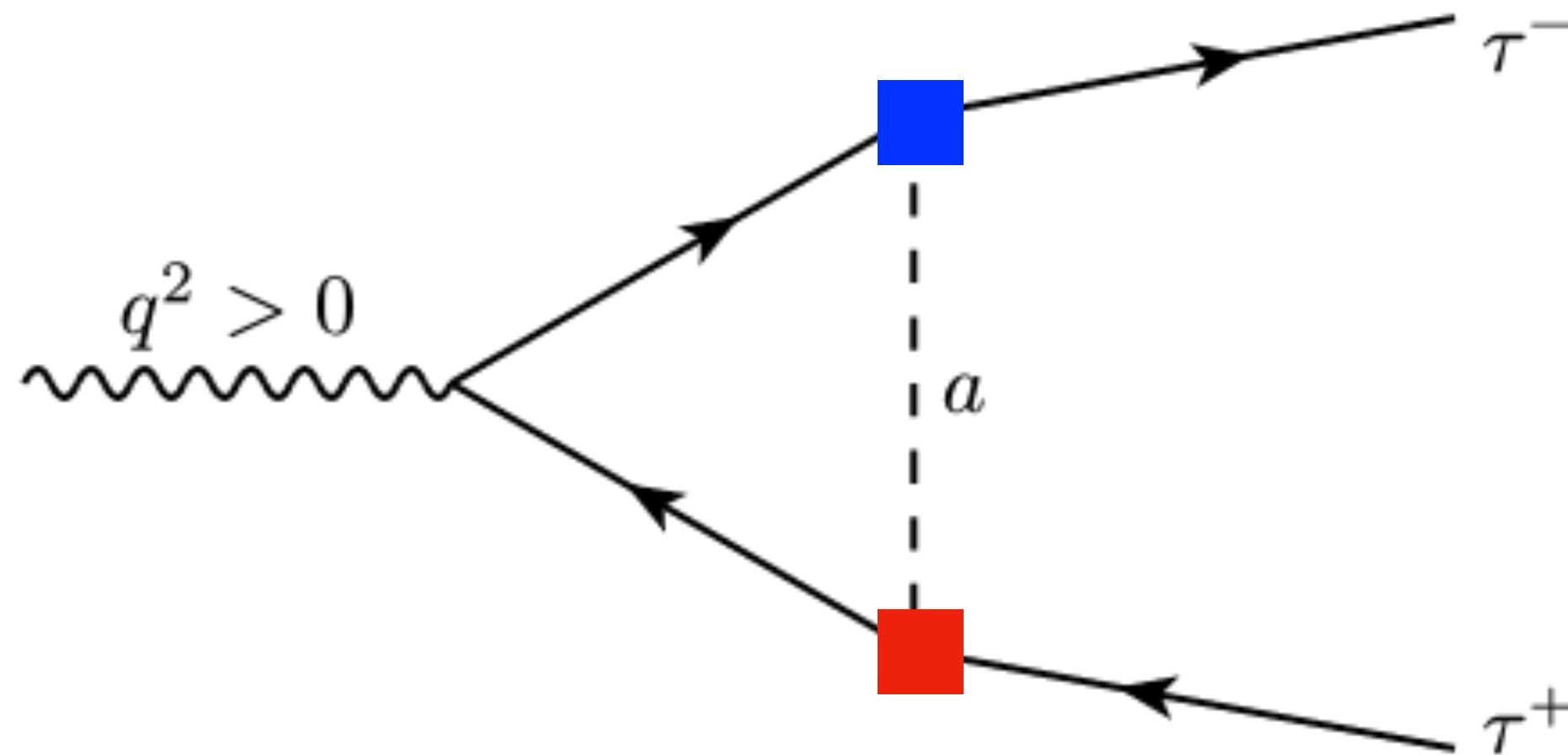
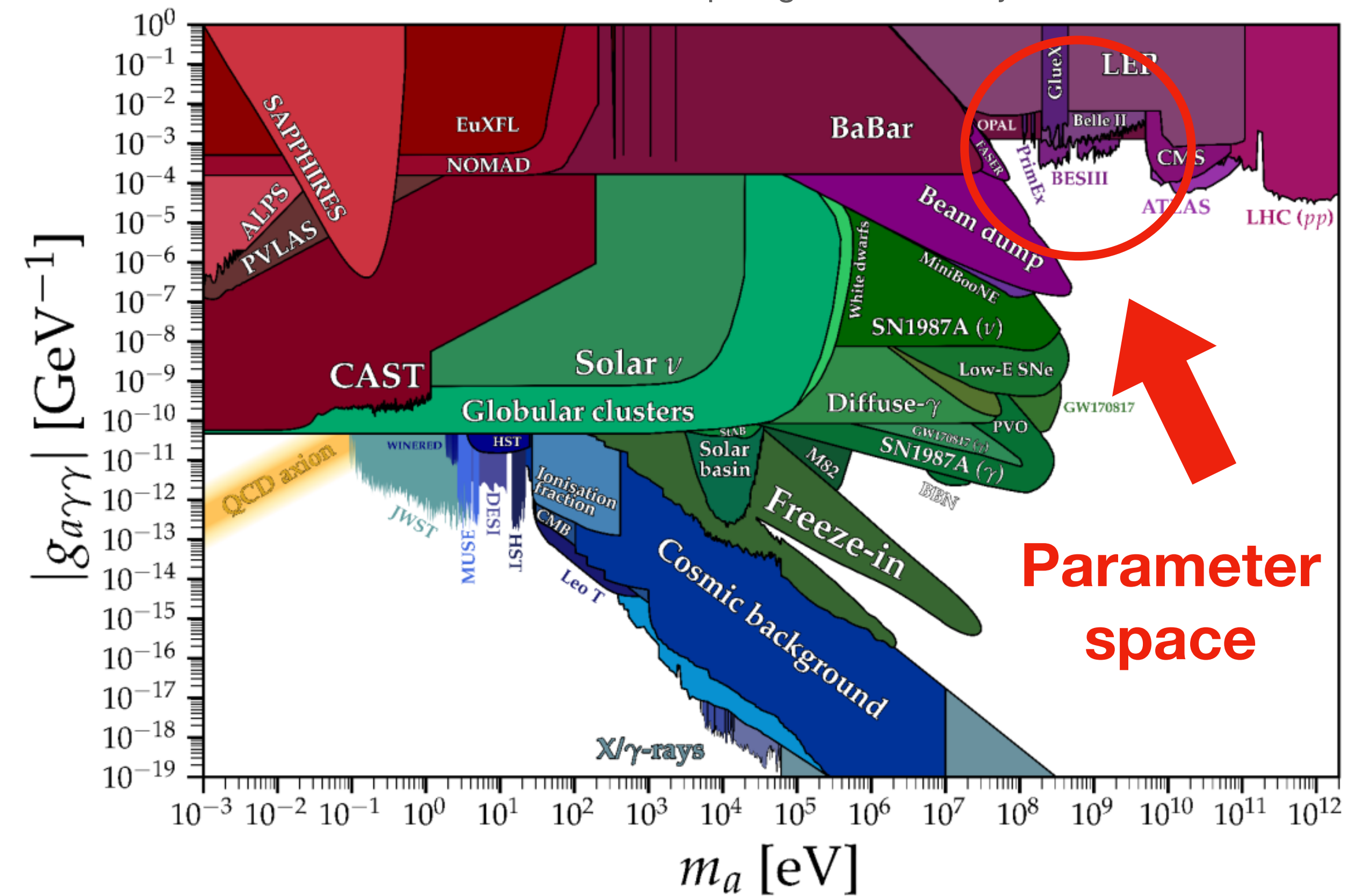
- ALP couples to new heavy fermion L and τ with **opposite parities**.
- The Bar-Zee diagram receives **no** chiral enhancement, $m_\tau \sim m_a \sim \sqrt{q^2}$.
- $d_\tau \sim 10^{-21} \text{ ecm}$, two orders smaller than precision at



• τ EDM - ALP

Scenario 2: $\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = a\bar{\tau}(\tilde{g}_{\tau} + ig_{\tau}\gamma_5)\tau$

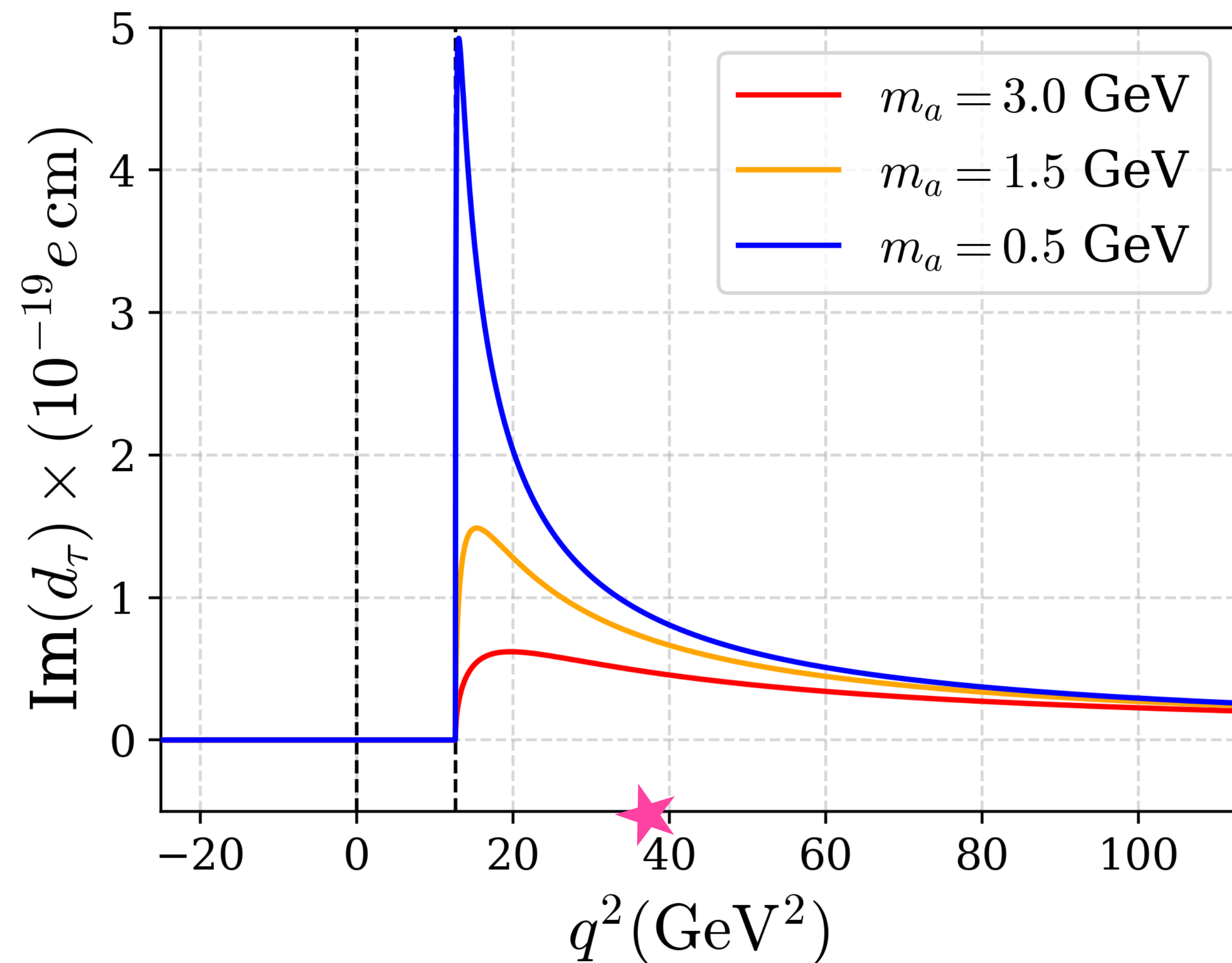
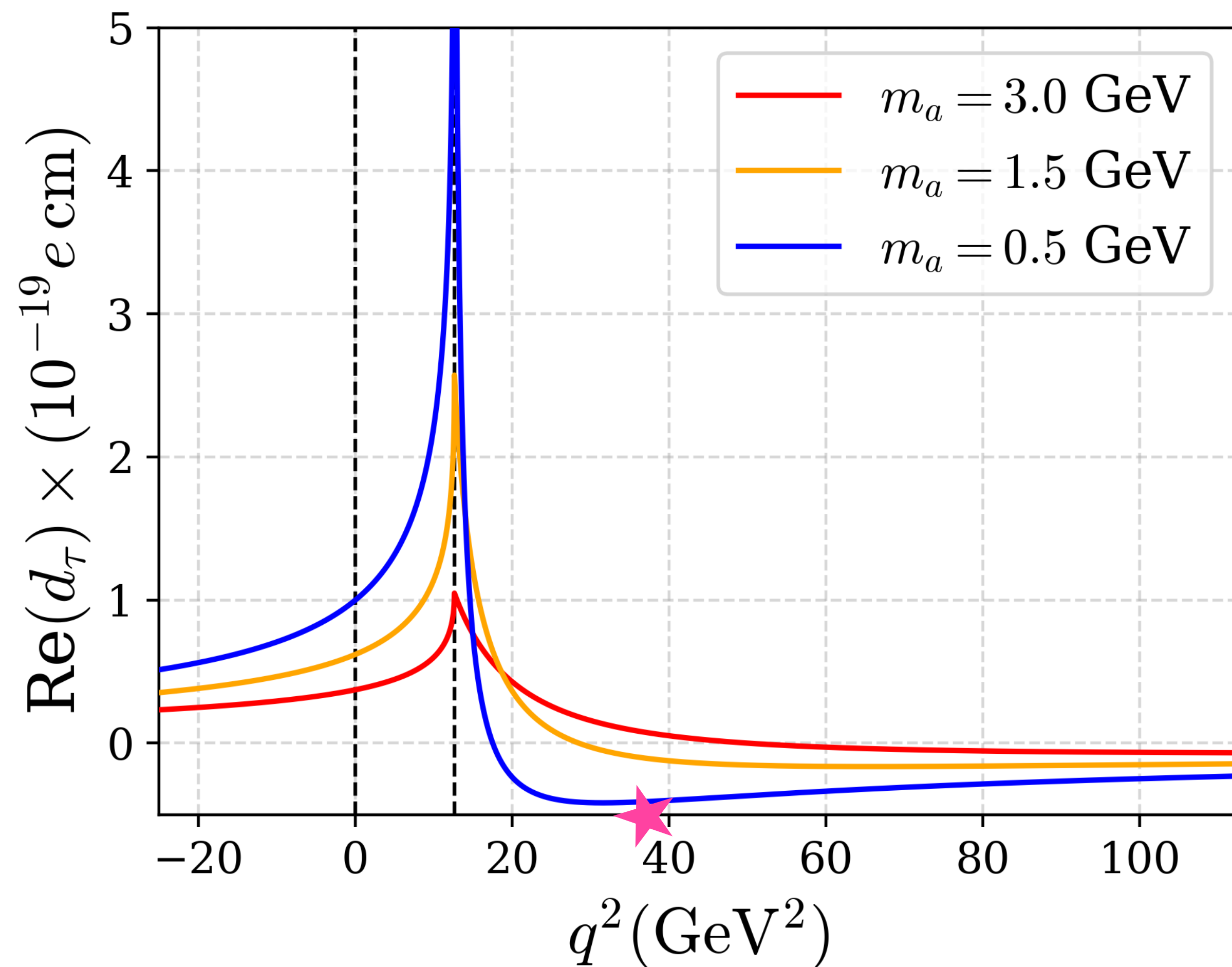
- ALP couples to τ with both *parities*.
- The tightest constraint : $\gamma^* \rightarrow a\gamma$.



● τ EDM - ALP

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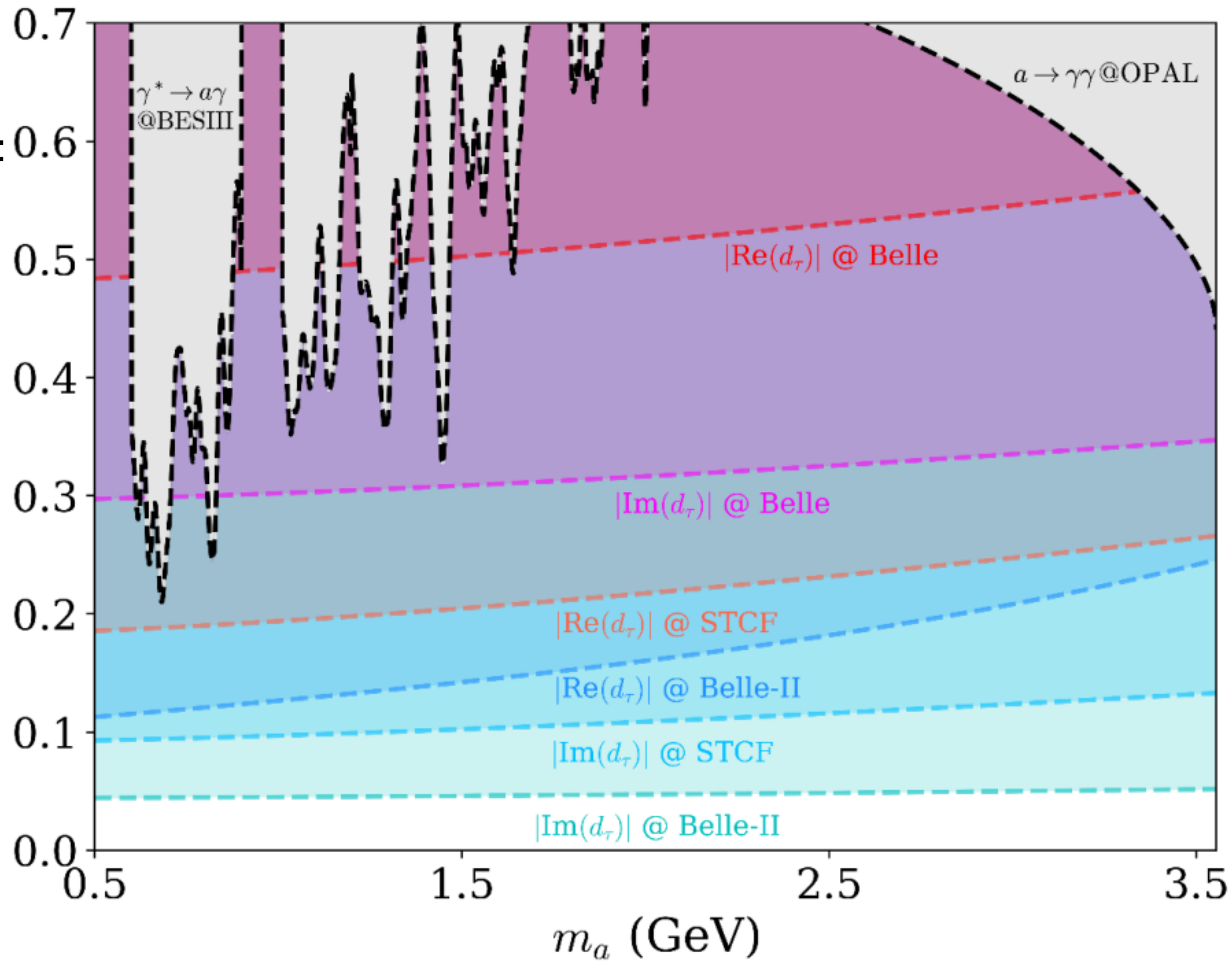
★ sweet spot of **STCF**



● τ EDM - ALP

Scenario 2:

$\sqrt{g_{\tau\tau}}$



Conclusions

Timelike EDM opens a new window to probe NP
at future τ colliders



$\text{Im}(d_f)$ is sensitive to light NP and can be served as
a complementary test of the conventional EDM.

● Timelike EDM

- The momenta **cannot** be fully reconstructed.

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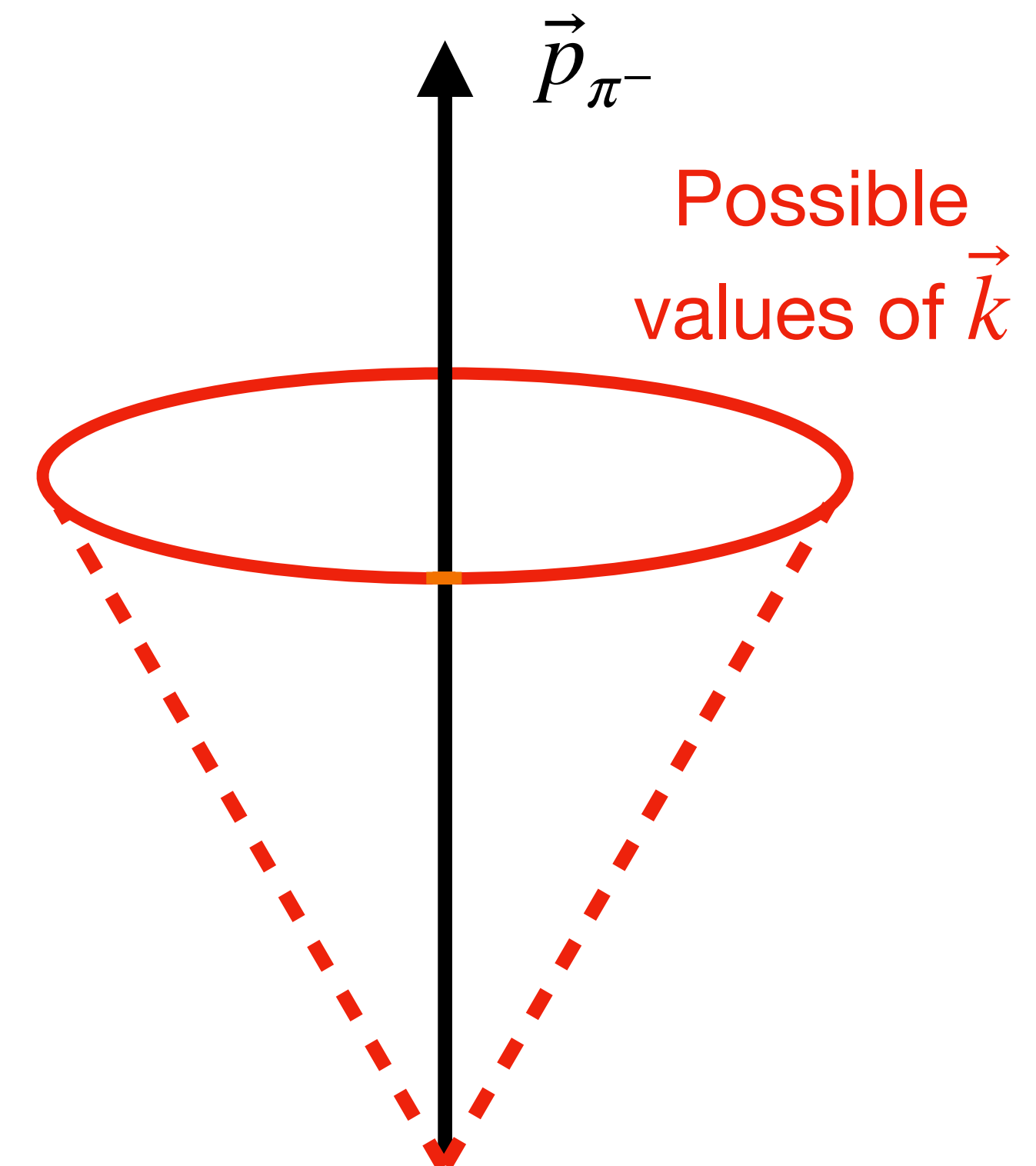
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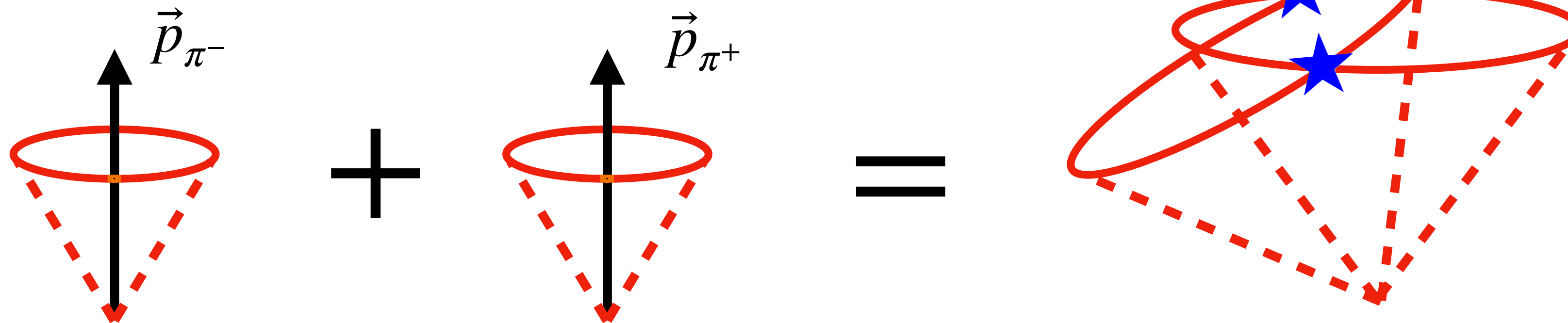
Undetermined



• τ EDM

- Probing $\text{Re}(d_\tau)$ requires full construction of \hat{k} .

$$\hat{p}_{\pi^\pm} \cdot \hat{k} = \pm \frac{4E_{\pi^\pm}m_\tau^2 - m_h^2\sqrt{s} - m_\tau^2\sqrt{s}}{(m_\tau^2 - m_h^2)\sqrt{s - 4m_\tau^2}}$$



- Combining constraints from both $\hat{p}_{\pi^+} \cdot \hat{k}$ and $\hat{p}_{\pi^-} \cdot \hat{k}$, we constrain \hat{k} up to two points ★. Geometrical pictures are shown above.

$$\hat{k} = u\hat{p}_{\pi^+} + v\hat{p}_{\pi^-} \pm w (\hat{p}_{\pi^+} \times \hat{p}_{\pi^-})$$

- The u , v , w are known but \pm represents the ambiguity of ★.

• τ EDM

- At Belle, the **ambiguity** is treated as a random number.

$$\hat{k} = u\hat{p}_{\pi^+} + v\hat{p}_{\pi^+} \pm w (\hat{p}_{\pi^+} \times \hat{p}_{\pi^-}) \quad \rightarrow \quad \hat{k}_r = u\hat{p}_{\pi^+} + v\hat{p}_{\pi^+} + r w (\hat{p}_{\pi^+} \times \hat{p}_{\pi^-})$$

- The r is taken to be either $+1$ or -1 *randomly*.

$$\text{Re}(d_\tau) = e \frac{9}{4} \frac{s + 2m_\tau^2}{m_\tau \sqrt{s^2 - 4sm_\tau^2}} \left\langle (\hat{p}_{\pi^-} \times \hat{p}_{\pi^+}) \cdot \hat{k} \right\rangle \neq 0,$$

but $\left\langle (\hat{p}_{\pi^-} \times \hat{p}_{\pi^+}) \cdot \hat{k} \right\rangle \neq \left\langle (\hat{p}_{\pi^-} \times \hat{p}_{\pi^+}) \cdot \hat{k}_r \right\rangle \propto \langle r \rangle = 0$ 🥲

- $\text{Re}(d_\tau) = (-6.2 \pm 6.3) \times 10^{-18} e \text{ cm}$ @Belle may be improved.

[2108.11543]

- Brief conclusion: measuring the full \vec{k} is necessary for measuring $\text{Re}(d_\tau)$.