# Opportunities for τ Physics



- Overview of Tau's at low energy
- Tau Threshold Measurements
  - Tau Mass
  - Massive Neutrino in  $\tau \rightarrow \mu \nu \nu$
  - Exotic Decays:  $\tau \rightarrow eX$
  - Radiative Leptonic Decays
  - Tau Atoms
- High Statistics Measurements
  - Precision Branching Fractions
  - Hadronic structure
  - Rho Line Shape
  - CP Violation
  - Lorentz Structure
  - Neutrino Mass

### Spectroscopy Is Everything









Small Sample near Threshold Larger sample with Charm background

Compare: CLEO2+3 = 15 M  $\tau\tau$ , Belle, Babar > 100 M+  $\tau\tau$ 

#### **Event Kinematics**

- $\tau$ 's are always produced in pairs and always have >0 v's
- τ's are slow decay products are less smeared than B Factory
- Two Body  $\tau \rightarrow [X]\nu$  momentum of [X] is sharp for narrow [X]
- $\tau \rightarrow \pi / \rho v$  are convenient tags in addition to  $\tau \rightarrow e / \mu v v$  tags
- Bhabha/µµ bgd not a problem
- No ISR/FSR at threshold
- BUT: τ decay not jet-like





# т Backgrounds



- Bhabha/ $\mu\mu(\gamma)$  not a problem
- Below charm: uds background
  - Use missing E,P cuts
  - Use 1 prong tags
  - Use sample below τ threshold to get MC right
- Charm:
  - D semileptonic, K<sup>0</sup> decay bgd
  - Use missing E,P cuts
  - Use 1 prong tags
  - Use tagged charm sample to get charm MC right
  - Use (uds) sample to get (uds) MC right
- τ Feed across: need to get MC right

# Tau Threshold Measurements



- Tau Mass
- Massive Neutrino in  $\tau \rightarrow \pi v$
- Exotic Decays:  $\tau \rightarrow eX$
- Radiative Leptonic Decays
- Tau Atoms



#### Tau Mass



This is a fundamental number in the Standard Model Important in precision work - eg BR( $\tau \rightarrow I\nu\nu$ ) vs  $\tau_{\tau}$ 

#### Current best tau mass is from BES:

 $m_{\tau} = 1776.96^{+0.18+0.25}_{-0.21-0.17} MeV$ 

Obtained by scanning near rapidly varying threshold 5 pb<sup>-1</sup>, 2 months, narrow  $\sigma$ (Ebeam)

# CLEO-c/BESIII can get sample > x50 greater in same time

Most of BES error was from Energy Scale from  $\psi$ ,  $\psi$ ', not spread  $\sigma$ (Ebeam) is 2x as large in default config compare to BESII can be made comparable at lower lumi

Look for anomalous production effects too

#### BESIII, CLEO-c could get $\sigma \approx 0.1$ MeV

No one else can do this this well 7



Current bias: neutrinos have eV scale masses

But we have NOT looked everywhere...



This is best near threshold at BESIII and CLEO-c



0970401-003 Unique Opportunity to 2500 BR = 1% τ→ενν look for exotic bosons, dL = 0.25/fb2000 eg familon 1200 S1500 Luacks 1000 <sup>800</sup> 600 Electron signature is smeared 1000 out at higher energies - Michel 500 Parameter measurements could miss this 200 400 0 600 800 1000 **Electron Energy (MeV)** 

PDG: BR( $\tau \rightarrow eX$ ) < 0.2% (ARGUS)



**Radiative Leptonic Decays** 

 $\tau \rightarrow I \nu \nu \gamma$  is "easy" – measured to 10%

No ISR/FSR at threshold Less boost at threshold: Greater lepton γ separation Access to back to back lepton γ

.25 /fb at threshold should allow a 1% measurement of BR and access to "hard" kinematic regime





#### Tau Atoms



M. Perl Tau92 Proceedings

- $\tau^+\tau^-$  should form  ${}^3S_1$  bound states in  $e^+e^-$  collisions
  - Bohr radius 0.0003 Angstrom  $\approx a_0(H)/1000$  !
  - Binding energy =  $-23.7 \text{ keV/n}^2$
- Tau atom decay via:
  - $\tau$  weak decay  $\Gamma \approx 10^{-3}$  eV
  - $\tau\tau$  annihilation S states: ee ,  $\mu\mu$ , hadrons (10<sup>-3</sup> eV), 3 $\gamma$  (10<sup>-5</sup> eV) 2 $\gamma$  is not from <sup>3</sup>s<sub>1</sub> states
- Peak production cross section huge = 1 millibarn
- Very narrow width = 0.006 eV
- $\Delta E \text{ beam 1 MeV} \Rightarrow \sigma_{\text{effective}}(ee \rightarrow \tau\tau \text{ atom}) = 0.1 \text{ nb}$
- If  $L=10^{33}$  cm<sup>-2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>, 1 tau atom every 2 minutes

## Tau Atoms 2



- Binding Energy on the order of keV no hope of seeing EM transition γ between levels
- Best hope is to look for annihilation signal into μμ vs ee:
  - Signal sits on top of large µ pair and larger Bhabha background
  - Run at threshold and compare N(µµ)/N(ee) to off threshold running
  - L=0.25 fb-1 suffices to see µµ signal
  - Investigate 3γ annihilation might get lucky
- Only CLEO-c and BESIII can hope to see tau
- Is there any real physics here? Could be...

# High Stats Measurements



- Neutrinoless decays
- Precision Branching Fractions
- Lorentz Structure
- Hadronic structure
- Rho mass
- CP Violation
- Neutrino Mass



# Neutrinoless Decays



- Current limits on neutrinoless decays are at the  $BR < 10^{-6} 10^{-5}$  level
- In some models  $\tau \rightarrow \mu \gamma$  is more sensitive to new physics that  $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$  due to  $\tau$  mass
- It is likely B factory limits will not decrease fast
- Two body neutrinoless decays should be trivial at CLEO-c and BESIII
- Sensitive to  $e/\mu/\pi/K$  discrimination near 1 GeV
- CLEO-c limits conceivable at 10<sup>-6</sup>
- BESIII limits conceivable at 10<sup>-7</sup>

# Precision Branching Fractions

1



- BR( $\tau \rightarrow l\nu\nu$ ) has applications to lepton universality and R<sub> $\tau$ </sub> measurements  $R_{\tau} = \frac{\Gamma - \Gamma(\tau \rightarrow e\nu\nu) - \Gamma(\tau \rightarrow \mu\nu\nu)}{\Gamma}$
- Absolute BR( $\tau \rightarrow I\nu\nu$ ,  $h\nu$ ) currently known to  $\sigma \approx 1\%$ , mostly lumi,  $\tau$  cross section systematics limited
- With 10<sup>7</sup> tau pairs, BESIII could match this in a global 2 track + missing energy fit

• Use threshold  $\tau \rightarrow Ivv$ , hv to verify trigger knowledge

mode	evv	μνν	Πν	ρν	Kν	K*ν
BR %	18	17	11	25	.7	.5
$\sigma$ /BR %	.3	.4	Ι	.6	4	7

#### Precision BR 2

The 1 vs 1 sample has great promise for **relative** Branching Ratios

- Look for 1 vs 1, with both tracks E< 0.65 Ebeam
- Even with NO e or  $\mu$  id, the almost monochromatic  $\pi/K$  will stick out
- Use electron id to suppress (uds) backgrounds
- $\pi^0$  reconstruction should easily show a  $\rho$
- 5/fb at  $\psi$ '' => errors much less than 1% for hv,  $h\pi^0 v$  relative to lvv
- With some K/π id + kinematic constraints, this should leverage into better known πν,ρν,Κν, K\*ν







#### The Lorentz Structure is studied via the Michel Parameters $\rho$ , $\eta$ , $\xi$ , $\delta$ in $\tau \rightarrow e/\mu v v$

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dxdcos\theta} \propto x^2 \left[ h_0 + \rho h_\rho + \eta \frac{m_l}{m_\tau} + P_\tau \xi \cos\theta (h_\xi + \delta h_\delta) \right] \qquad \eta \text{ multiple}$$

where  $h_{\eta} = h_{\eta}(x)$ , and  $x = E_{I}/E_{max}$ 

ies s ratio

	SM value	µ→evv	τ→Iνν
ρ	3/4	±.0026	±.01
η	0	±.013	±.097(μ)
ξ	I	±.008	±.04
δ	3/4	±.004	±.02



- CLEO2 dominates Michel Parameter measurements:
  - Used  $\tau \rightarrow \rho \nu \nu s \tau \rightarrow l \nu \nu \rho$  decay as a spin analyzer
  - Dominant errors are stat => B factories will do much better
- τ pair spin correlations are different at lower energy => chance for an interesting confrontation
- ISR/FSR dilutes spin correlations interesting possibilities for threshold running

#### Lorentz Structure 3

η is of particular interest at CLEO-c and BES: effect is largest for slowest μ's

Look for 1 vs (monochromatic)  $\boldsymbol{\pi}$ 

CLEO-c sensitive to  $\eta \approx 0.05$ (currently  $\sigma_{\eta} \approx 0.1$ )

BESIII will be even more sensitive





#### Hadronic structure



- For exclusive channels, BESIII/CLEO-c offer a large sample with statistics comparable to LEP/CLEO but smaller than BaBar/Belle
- Kinematic separation with monochromaticity for narrow resonances could be an important factor
- However good  $\pi/K$  separation is key to sorting out wider resonance/interference structure
- PID also key to using the τ as a QCD laboratory for inclusive hadronic studies

- QCD coupling  $\alpha_s$  derived from  $\tau$  is more precise (and consistent) with that from the Z -  $\tau \rightarrow [X]_{s=1} \nu$  key to getting strange quark mass



M. Davier hep-ex/0312064

#### Rho Mass

- The  $\rho$  is where  $e^+e^-$  confronts the  $\tau$  see  $\mu$  g-2 value
- Both the BR and line shape are problematic
   M. Davier hep-ex/0312065
- LEP: high purity, not so good at high  $\pi\pi^0$  mass
- CLEO: very good at high  $\pi\pi^0$  mass
- BESIII/CLEO-c: chance for low background and very good line shape
- 10<sup>7</sup> τ will easily surpass LEP/CLEO sample sizes and bring important input to g-2







- Triple product  $(P_{beam}, P_{l_1}, P_{l_2})$  in  $\tau \rightarrow l_1 vv vs$  $\tau \rightarrow l_2 vv$  probes CP in  $\tau$  **production** – B Factories will do this very well
- CP in τ decay best probed by spin correlations in hadronic decays
  - High energy: longitudinal correlations
  - Low energy: transverse spin correlations
- CP searches at CLEO-c/BESIII probe different mechanisms than at B Factories

#### Neutrino Mass

- Neu mass limits come from Energy vs Mass fits to τ→5πν, 4πν
- Current limit ≈18 MeV
- Technique requires understanding MeV Scale systematics:
  - 2D correlated detector resolution (E vs M error)
  - Mass scale
  - underlying hadronic physics ("Spectral Function")
- ISR/FSR washes out usefulness of 1/2 of events





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## Neutrino Mass 2



- The 2D technique does not appear to be nicely behaved as a statistical estimator

   it is more a probe of lucky events near the kinematically allowed edges – these are sensitive to detector modeling
- At low energies, the allowed region sharpens from a triangle to a line ⇒ loose the supposed gain of the 2d method - this might be a good thing.
- At threshold No ISR/FSR to wash out weight of events – effective factor of 2 gain in lumi
- B Factory error ellipses are same scale as 18 MeV and 0 MeV contour differences – diminishing returns?



Allowed regions for 0, 100 MeV nu



Very rough comparison of samples between CLEO98 (30 MeV limit) and 0.25/fb at CLEO-c tau threshold

mode	BR	CLEO 98	<cleo-c></cleo-c>			
3π2π <sup>0</sup>	0.5%	200 events	100 events			
5π	.1%	250 events	50 events			
ККπ	.2%	Not used	65 events			
The above assumes e/mu/pi/rho tags at CLEO-c + no charm background + perfect PID						

High energy colliders cut very hard to get pure samples Even a small threshold run can give a data sample comparable to current world's largest samples

Again - an important opportunity for unique work at CLEO-c and especially BESIII





- At BESIII/CLEO-c, expect smaller error ellipses – more discrimination near endpoint
- Running at 3.67 GeV (above τ threshold, below charm), with ≈10/fb could possibly give U.L. in the MeV region
- This likely represents the limit of this technique





- BESIII/CLEO-c will play an important role in τ physics – no matter what BaBar/Belle do
- There are unique opportunities near threshold using the lack of ISR/FSR, and unique τ decay kinematics
- CLEO-c is not guaranteed to do any tau only running – BESIII should not miss this opportunity.

# Recipe for BESIII Tau Success



- 1. Get a sufficient sample below tau threshold to get (uds) MC right
- 2. A 50 /pb scan near threshold to get the tau mass – a larger sample will allow a detailed inspection of the turn-on curve
- 3. 0.25 /fb at tau threshold for the threshold measurements, plus 0.25/fb 3 MeV below to get normalization for tau atom search
- 4. Several /fb at 3.67 GeV to for high stats measurements – use to make sure you know what you are doing above charm
- 5. > 10 /fb at 3.67 GeV for neutrino mass
- 6. All the data you can get above charm threshold
- 7. Goto step 1