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# Search for light vector boson using $J/\Psi$ at **BESIII** and **Belle II**

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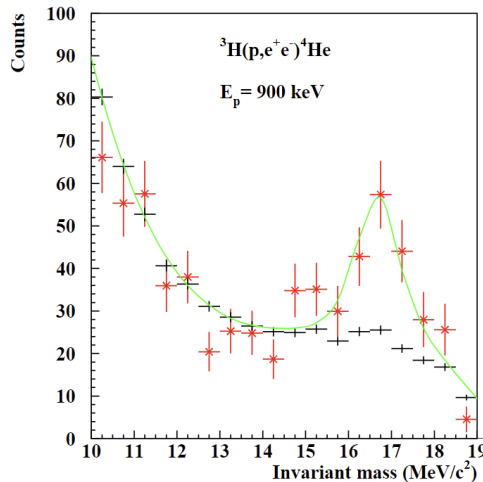
Collaborated with Yongsoo Jho, Youngjoon Kwon,  
Seong Chan Park, Seokhee Park, and Po-Yan Tseng

arXiv:2012.04190 [hep-ph]



# Introduction

- The Standard Model (SM) is a successful theory describing the physics at particle level and their interactions.
- There have been discussions of extending the SM by gauging the lepton number, e.g.  $L_\mu - L_\tau$  or  $L_e - L_\tau$ , mainly intending to explain the muon anomalous magnetic moments  $(g - 2)_\mu$ .
- This gives rise to a **leptophilic light vector boson X**.
- The X boson may couple to the SM quark sector via interactions with heavy vector-like fermions mixing with SM quark.



- Recent result of  ${}^8\text{Be}^*$  anomaly from Atomki experiment prefers a 17 MeV vector boson that couples to the electrons, u- and d- quarks.
- High luminosity lepton colliders, such as **BESIII** and **Belle II**, provide less QCD background than hadron colliders, making them ideal environments to search for sub-GeV particles with feeble couplings to SM particles.

FIG. 3. Invariant mass distribution derived for the 20.49 MeV transition in  ${}^4\text{He}$ .

# Introduction

- In this work, we focus on the light vector boson search in association with  $J/\Psi$  at **BESIII** and **Belle II**
- At **BESIII**, if the vector boson is lighter than about 110 MeV, it can be produced through  $J/\Psi \rightarrow \eta_c + X$  followed by the  $X \rightarrow e^+e^-$  or  $X \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$  decays.
- At **Belle II**, the process  $e^+e^- \rightarrow l^+l^- J/\Psi \rightarrow l^+l^- \eta_c X \rightarrow l^+l^- \eta_c e^+e^-$ , in which  $J/\Psi$  and  $\eta_c$  are inferred by the recoil masses of  $l^+l^-$  and  $l^+l^-e^+e^-$ , respectively

$J/\Psi$  decay channel

- The alternative channel at **Belle II** is  $e^+e^- \rightarrow X + J/\Psi$ , which is only relevant to the X boson-electron coupling.
- Due to higher center-of-mass (CM) energy and  $J/\Psi$  mass, the boosted X could travel several millimeters before it decays into  $e^+e^-$ , thereby resulting in effective suppression of background.

$J/\Psi$  associated channel

# Model

- The vectorlike interactions of the X boson with the SM fermions,  $f$ , are introduced by the effective Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -eX_\mu \sum_f \varepsilon_f \bar{f} \gamma^\mu f$$

- If the new boson X is responsible for the recent Atomki anomaly via the process  ${}^8\text{Be} + X \rightarrow {}^8\text{Be} + e^+e^-$ , its mass should be  $m_X \simeq 17$  MeV and couples to the first generation quarks with the coupling strengths:

$$|\varepsilon_u + \varepsilon_d| \simeq 3.7 \times 10^{-3},$$

- For the couplings to first generation quarks, the strong constraint from NA48/2 for  $\pi^0 \rightarrow X\gamma$  requires protophobic condition

$$|2\varepsilon_u + \varepsilon_d| < 8 \times 10^{-4}$$

- Taking both relations into account, we finally get the preferred value for up-type and down-type quark couplings:

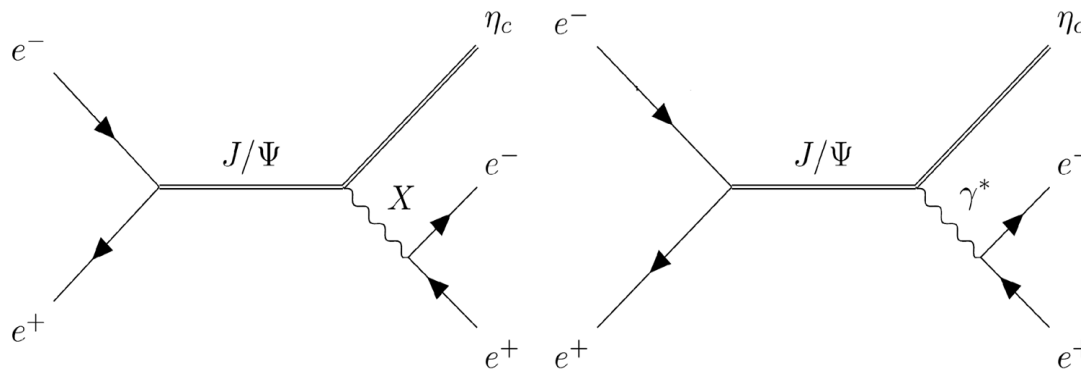
$$\varepsilon_u \simeq \pm 3.7 \times 10^{-3}, \quad \varepsilon_d \simeq \mp 7.4 \times 10^{-3},$$

- The coupling to the leptons, especially to electron, are stringently constrained by the beam dump experiment SLAC E141, the anomalous magnetic moment of the electron ( $g - 2$ )

$$4.2 \times 10^{-4} \lesssim |\varepsilon_e| \lesssim 1.4 \times 10^{-3}$$

# Model $J/\Psi$ decay channel

- Here, we assume the  $X$  boson has universal coupling to each quark generation, so that if  $2m_e \lesssim m_X \lesssim m_{J/\Psi} - m_{\eta_c} \simeq 113 \text{ MeV}$ , the decay process  $J/\Psi \rightarrow \eta_c + X \rightarrow \eta_c + e^+e^-$  is kinematic allowed and can be used to search for the 17 MeV or other light vector bosons.
- Lepton colliders such as **BESIII** and **Belle II** can copiously produce  $J/\Psi$  and therefore are sensitive to the  $J/\Psi$  rare decay channels.
- The dominating background comes from the off-shell photon contribution,  $J/\Psi \rightarrow \eta_c + \gamma^* \rightarrow \eta_c + e^+e^-$



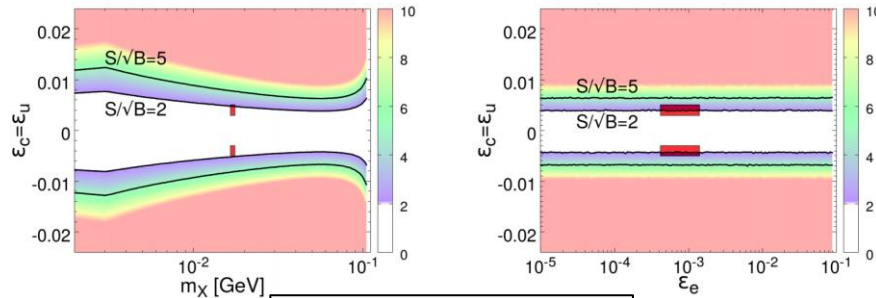
# Model $J/\Psi$ decay channel **BESIII**

- For general light vector boson searches through  $J/\Psi \rightarrow \eta_c e^+ e^-$ , the variation of the expected significance over  $(m_X, \varepsilon_c, \varepsilon_e)$
- The red boxes indicate the preferred regions for  ${}^8\text{Be}^*$  anomaly.

$|\varepsilon_c| \gtrsim 5 \times 10^{-3}$  at  $m_X \simeq 17$  MeV

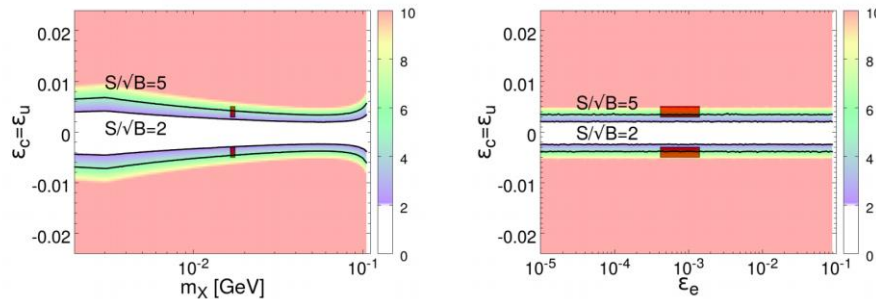
$N_{J/\Phi} = 10^{10}$  (upper panels)

$|\varepsilon_c| \gtrsim 3 \times 10^{-3}$  at  $m_X \simeq 60$  MeV



$|\varepsilon_c| \gtrsim 3 \times 10^{-3}$  at  $m_X \simeq 17$  MeV

$N_{J/\Phi} = 10^{11}$  (bottom panels)

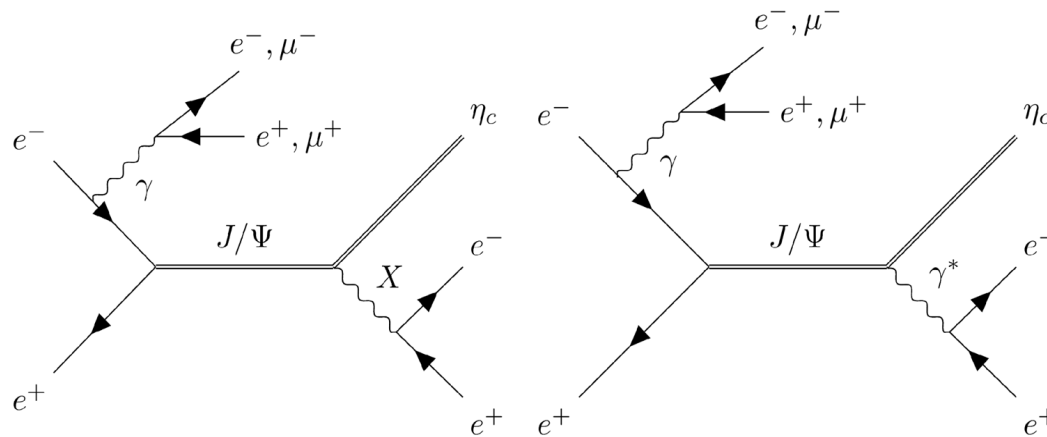
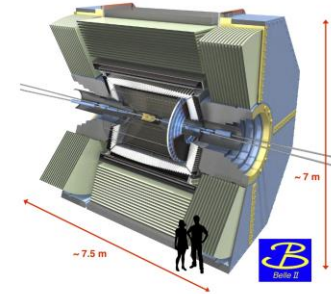
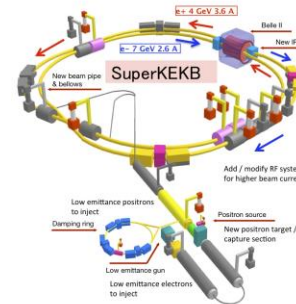
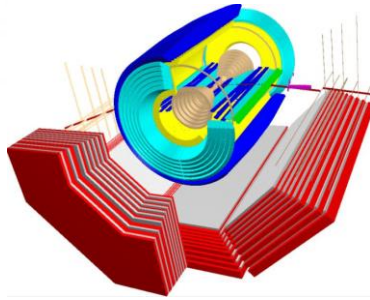


- The alternative way to reconstruct  $\eta_c$  from  $J/\Psi \rightarrow \eta_c e^+ e^-$  at BESIII is using the recoil of  $e^+ e^-$ .
- With an improvement of low-energy electron identification in the future, the **BESIII** with  $N_{J/\Psi} = 10^{11}$  can reach the sensitivity of  $|\varepsilon_c| \simeq 10^{-3}$ .

# Model J/Ψ decay channel Belle II

## Cross section estimation

BES III



For vector meson  $J/\Psi$ , the partial width is given by the formula

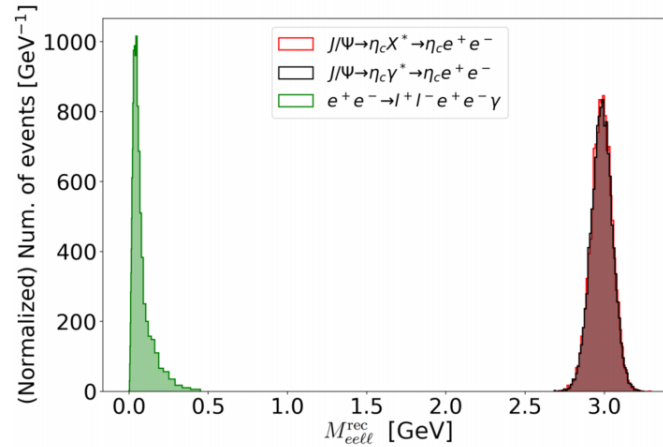
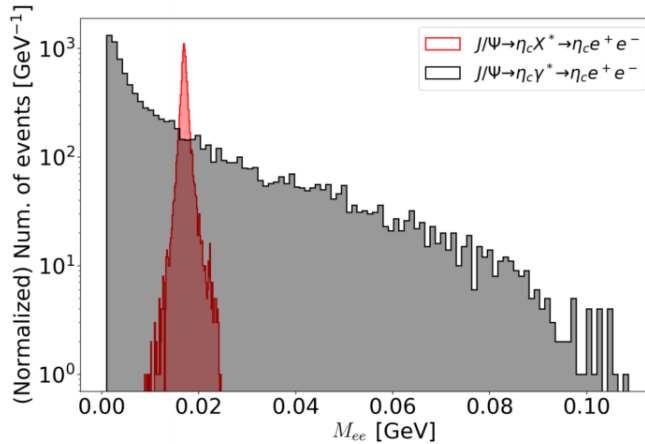
$$\Gamma_{J/\Psi \rightarrow e^+e^-} = \frac{g_{J/\Psi ee}^2}{12\pi} m_{J/\Psi} \left( 1 + \frac{2m_e^2}{m_{J/\Psi}^2} \right) \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_e^2}{m_{J/\Psi}^2}}$$

$$\Gamma_{J/\Psi \rightarrow e^+e^-} = 5.53 \text{ keV} \implies g_{J/\Psi ee} = 8.2048 \times 10^{-3}$$

With the design integrated luminosity  $L = 50 \text{ ab}^{-1}$ , we estimate  $N_{J/\Psi} = 1.75 \times 10^7$  events for  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^* + J/\Psi \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^- J/\Psi$  at **Belle II**.

$$S = L \times \sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^- J/\Psi) \times \text{Br}(J/\Psi \rightarrow \eta_c X^* \rightarrow \eta_c e^+e^-) \simeq 28.2 \left( \frac{\varepsilon_c}{10^{-2}} \right)^2$$

$$B = L \times \sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^- J/\Psi) \times \text{Br}(J/\Psi \rightarrow \eta_c \gamma^* \rightarrow \eta_c e^+e^-) \simeq 1772$$



MG5\_AMC@NLO  
+  
FEYNRULES

- The  $e^+e^-$  invariant mass (left) and  $e^+e^-\ell^+\ell^-$  recoil mass (right) distributions for the parton level Monte-Carlo simulation data with the smearing effect.
- We give the Gaussian smearing effect with the momentum resolution

$$\sigma_{p_{\ell^\pm}}/p_{\ell^\pm} = 0.005$$

on the parton level data for our event analysis.



# Model $J/\Psi$ decay channel Belle II

## [Baseline Cuts]

- To simulate the effects of the Belle II detector, we apply the following baseline cuts:  $|\eta_{l^\pm}^*| \leq 1.60$  in the CM frame,  $|E_{\mu^\pm}| \geq 0.6$  GeV, and  $|E_{e^\pm}| \geq 0.06$  GeV in the lab frame.

TABLE III. Signal and background events of  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-e^+e^-\eta_c$  after cuts at Belle II.

Cuts	B	S
Processes	$\eta_c\gamma^* \rightarrow \eta_c ee$	$\eta_c X \rightarrow \eta_c ee$
Baseline Cuts	100000	100000
$ M_{e\ell\ell}^{\text{rec}} - m_{\eta_c}  \leq 200$ MeV	7170	6290
$ M_{ee} - m_X  \leq 2$ MeV	7071	6219
	<b>377</b>	<b>5880</b>

(Normalized) Num. of events [GeV<sup>-1</sup>]  
 $m_{e^+e^-}$  [GeV]

(Normalized) Num. of events [GeV<sup>-1</sup>]  
 $m_{\eta_c}^{\text{rec}}$  [GeV]

## • Sensitivity

TABLE IV. Sensitivities on  $\varepsilon_c$  of 17 MeV  $X$  boson from  $\ell^+\ell^-J/\Psi \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-e^+e^-\eta_c$  search at Belle II with luminosities 50,100,200  $\text{ab}^{-1}$ . Here we require  $S/\sqrt{B} = 2$ .

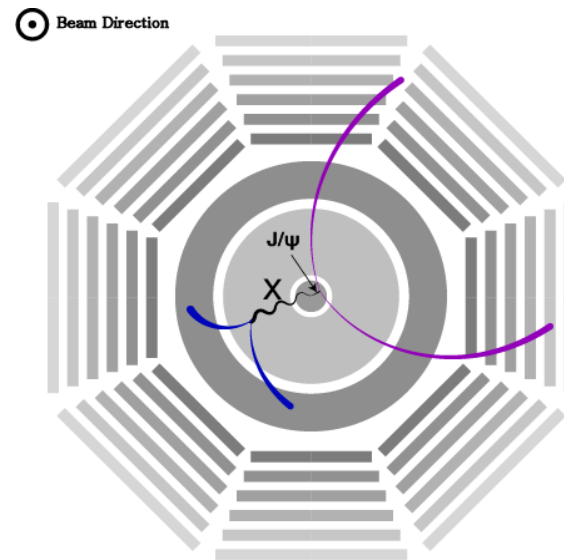
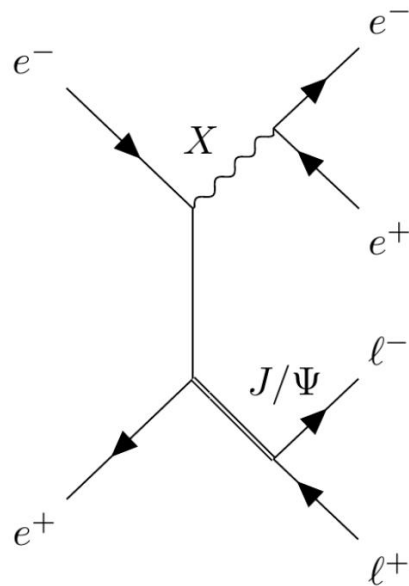
Luminosity	50 $\text{ab}^{-1}$	100 $\text{ab}^{-1}$	200 $\text{ab}^{-1}$
$ \varepsilon_c $	$\gtrsim 1.76 \times 10^{-2}$	$\gtrsim 1.48 \times 10^{-2}$	$\gtrsim 1.24 \times 10^{-2}$

# Model

$J/\Psi$  associated channel Belle II

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow X + J/\Psi \rightarrow e^+e^- + J/\Psi$$

- The X boson can be boosted from the process  $e^+e^- \rightarrow X + J/\Psi$  and travels several millimeters before decaying into  $e^+e^-$  in the Belle II detector.



- If the displaced vertex is between  $2 \text{ mm} \leq d_{xy} \leq 8 \text{ mm}^*$ , which is inside the beam pipe, and outside the interaction region, it provides excellent vertex reconstruction and almost free from SM backgrounds.

\* M. Duerr, T. Ferber, C. Hearty, F. Kahlhoefer, K. Schmidt-Hoberg and P. Tunney, JHEP 304 2002, 039 (2020)

# Model

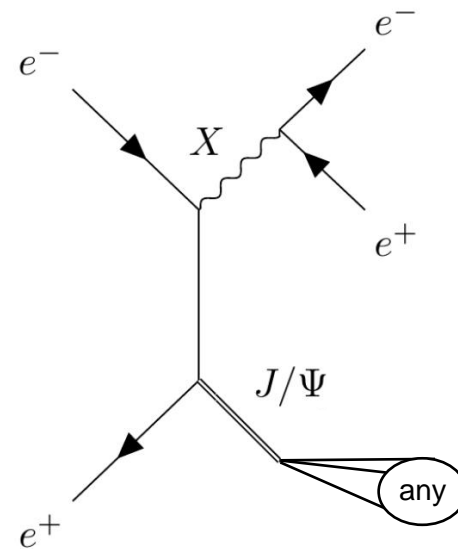
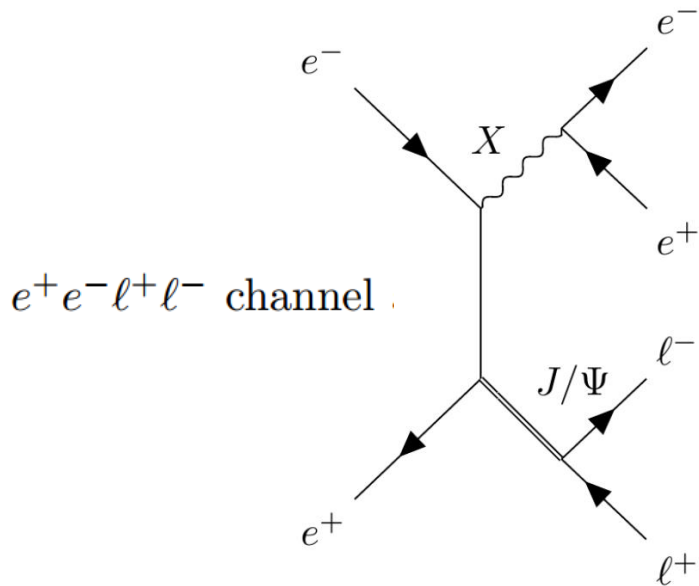
$J/\Psi$  associated channel **Belle II**

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow X + J/\Psi \rightarrow e^+e^- + J/\Psi$$

[Baseline Cuts]

- To simulate the effects of the **Belle II** detector, we apply the following baseline cuts:  $|\eta_{l^\pm}^*| \leq 1.60$  in the CM frame,  $|E_{\mu^\pm}| \geq 0.6$  GeV, and  $|E_{e^\pm}| \geq 0.06$  GeV in the lab frame.

- With the baseline cuts and  $2 \text{ mm} \leq d_{xy} \leq 8 \text{ mm}$ , we estimate the signal sensitivity by considering two cases:
  - explicitly reconstructing  $J/\Psi \rightarrow l^+l^-$  ( $e^+e^-l^+l^-$  channel)
  - using the recoil mass of  $X \rightarrow e^+e^-$  to infer  $J/\Psi$  ( $e^+e^-$  channel)



$$\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow X + J/\Psi) = 2.77 \times 10^{-2} \times \left( \frac{\epsilon_e}{10^{-3}} \right)^2 \text{ fb}$$

# Model $J/\Psi$ associated channel Belle II

- The displaced  $e^+e^-$  vertex searches can probe the 17 MeV X boson in the region

$$2.5 \times 10^{-4} \leq \varepsilon_e \leq 8.0 \times 10^{-4}$$

with significance larger than **2** by assuming near-zero background, and it covers the  $\varepsilon_e$  region preferred by Atomki.

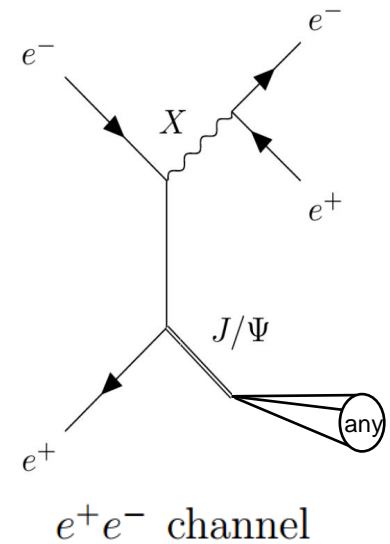


TABLE VI. The same as Table V, but using the  $e^+e^-$  channel.

$\varepsilon_e/10^{-4}$	8.0	7.0	5.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
Baseline Cuts(%)	17.6	17.6	17.6	17.6	17.6	17.6	17.6
$2\text{mm} < d_{xy} < 8\text{mm}(\%)$	1.6	5.3	12.3	12.9	7.4	2.3	0.5
$N_S$	14.6	35.7	42.7	28.7	9.23	1.28	0.07
$\mathbb{S}_{B=0.1}$	$> 5\sigma$					$2.2\sigma$	$0.4\sigma$
$\mathbb{S}_{B=1}$	$> 5\sigma$					$1.6\sigma$	$0.9\sigma$

- While we expect less than one signal event with the currently available Belle data sample of  $1 \text{ ab}^{-1}$ , we can start exploring the Atomki preferred region within a few years once Belle II accumulates data sample of  $10 \text{ ab}^{-1}$  or more.

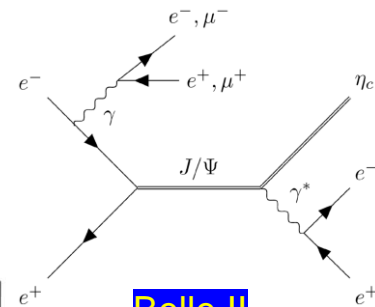
# Model

$J/\Psi$  decay channel

$J/\Psi$  associated channel

- Two cases for the SM background are considered:  $B = 0.1$  and  $B = 1$ , where  $B$  is the number of background events expected.

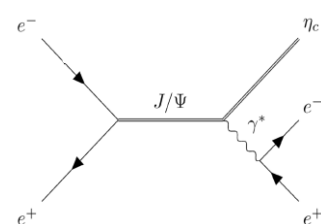
$e^+e^-$  channel



Belle II

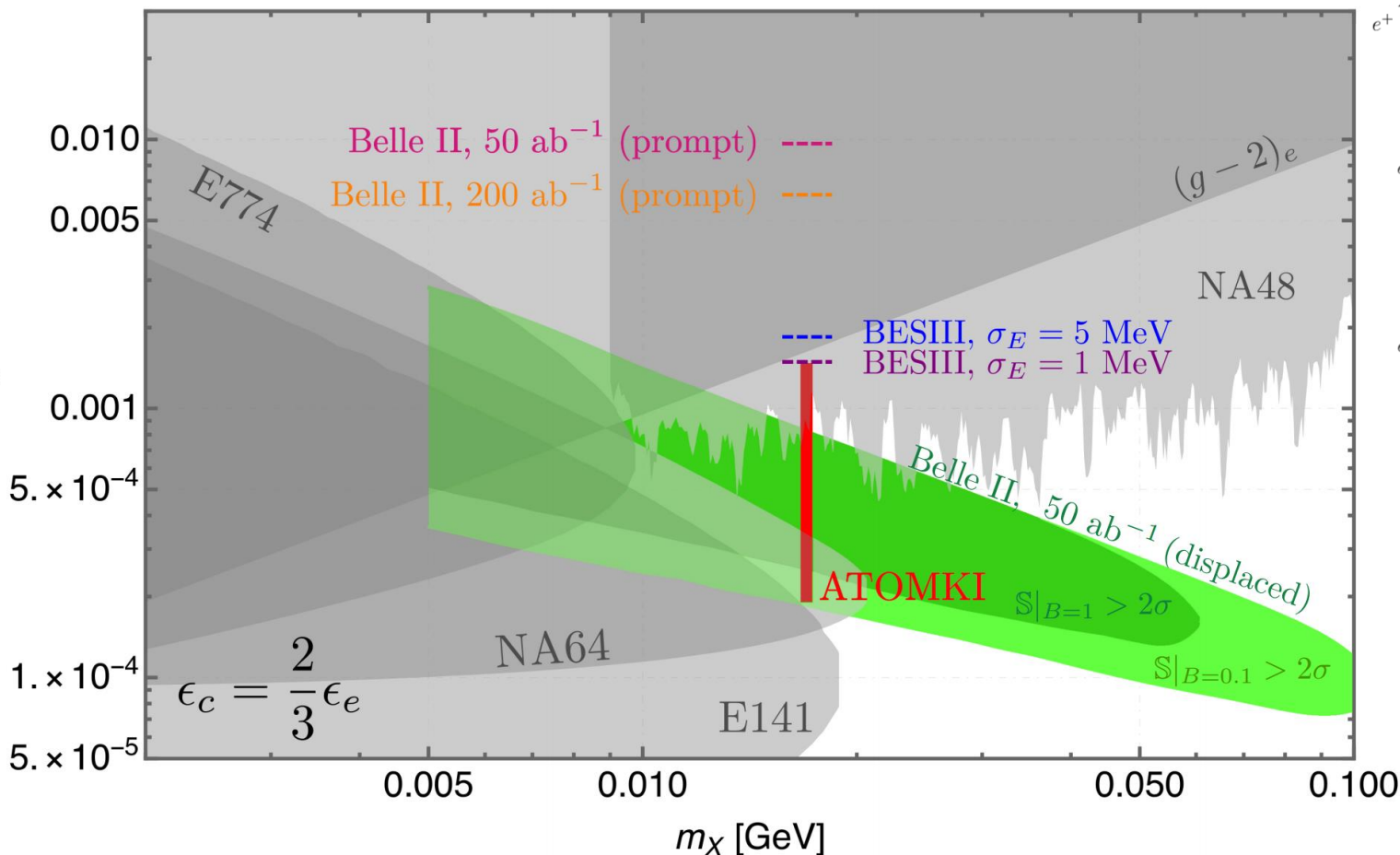
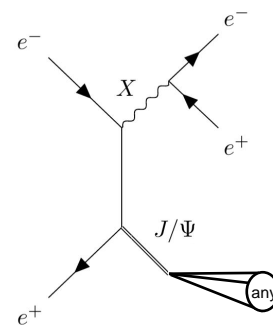
$J/\Psi$  decay channel

BESIII



Belle II

$J/\Psi$  associated channel



where  $S_{B=1}$  ( $S_{B=0.1}$ ) is the expected significance with the background level of 1 (0.1) event.

- This study can probe the parameter region of  $5 \text{ MeV} \leq m_X \leq 100 \text{ MeV}$  and  $1.0 \times 10^{-4} \leq \epsilon_e \leq 3 \times 10^{-3}$ , which have not been constrained by any existing experiments.

# Summary

- We propose several studies using  $J/\Psi$  at lepton colliders such as **Belle II** and **BESIII**, to search for light vector boson around the mass range suggested by the  ${}^8\text{Be}^*$  anomaly of the ATOMKI experiment.
- At **BESIII**, the  $J/\Psi \rightarrow \eta_c X \rightarrow \eta_c e^+ e^-$  channel with the currently available sample of  $N_{J/\Psi} = 10^{10}$  and effective  $\eta_c$  reconstruction efficiency of 1.23%, we can exclude the region  $|\varepsilon_c| \gtrsim 5 \times 10^{-3}$  for  $m_X = 17$  MeV.
- On the other hand at **Belle II** with higher CM energy, we propose to study the process  $e^+ e^- \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- J/\Psi$  followed by  $J/\Psi \rightarrow \eta_c X \rightarrow \eta_c e^+ e^-$  and this channel can yield the sensitivity of  $|\varepsilon_c| \gtrsim 1.8 \times 10^{-2}$  at  $m_X = 17$  MeV.
- Alternatively, we can study the process  $e^+ e^- \rightarrow X + J/\Psi \rightarrow e^+ e^- \ell^+ \ell^-$  at **Belle II** and the X boson is boosted and produce displaced vertex of  $X \rightarrow e^+ e^-$  which is longer than several millimeters.
- Selecting the  $2 \text{ mm} \leq d_{xy} \leq 8 \text{ mm}$  window and requiring  $> 2\sigma$  significance, it gives the sensitivity  $2.0 \times 10^{-4} \leq |\varepsilon_e| \leq 8.0 \times 10^{-4}$  at  $m_X = 17$  MeV for  $50 \text{ ab}^{-1}$  luminosity and covers most of the favored signal region from the claimed  ${}^8\text{Be}^*$  anomaly.
- Extending the range of the X boson mass, this method can cover the unprecedented parameter space of  $9 \text{ MeV} \leq m_X \leq 100 \text{ MeV}$  and  $1.0 \times 10^{-4} \leq |\varepsilon_e| \leq 10^{-3}$ .

**Thank you for your attention**