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# Michel Parameters and $\tau$ Neutrino Helicity from Decay Correlations in $Z \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$

The ALEPH Collaboration\*

## Abstract

The Michel parameters and the average  $\tau$ -neutrino helicity are measured using correlations between the decays of the  $\tau^+$  and  $\tau^-$  produced on the Z resonance and observed in the ALEPH detector at LEP. The Michel parameters,  $\rho_\ell$ ,  $\eta_\ell$ ,  $\xi_\ell$ ,  $(\xi)_{\ell}$ , are determined from  $\tau \rightarrow \ell \bar{\nu}_\ell \nu_\tau$  with  $\ell = (e, \mu)$ , and the average  $\tau$  neutrino helicity,  $\langle h(\nu_\tau) \rangle$ , from  $\tau \rightarrow h \nu$  with  $h = (\pi, \rho, a_1)$ . The results obtained with  $e$ - $\mu$  universality are:  $\rho_\ell = 0.751 \pm 0.039 \pm 0.022$ ,  $\eta_\ell = -0.04 \pm 0.15 \pm 0.11$ ,  $\xi_\ell = 1.18 \pm 0.15 \pm 0.06$ ,  $(\xi)_{\ell} = 0.88 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.07$ , and the average  $\tau$  neutrino helicity  $\langle h(\nu_\tau) \rangle = -1.006 \pm 0.032 \pm 0.019$ . No significant deviation from the Standard Model V-A prediction is observed.

(to be submitted to Physics Letters B)

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# 1 Introduction

The Standard Model of the electroweak interaction is extremely successful in explaining the wealth of precision measurements provided by the LEP experiments on the neutral current. Similarly, the most precise data on the Lorentz structure of the charged current, obtained through the study of  $\mu$  decay [1, 2], is in excellent agreement with the Standard Model V-A expectation. Nevertheless, a global analysis of the  $\mu$  decay parameters, the Michel parameters  $\rho, \eta, \xi, \delta$  [3, 4], leaves room for non-Standard Model contributions to  $\mu$  decay [5]. Not only is the larger mass of the  $\tau$ -lepton strong motivation to search for deviations from V-A in its decay but the  $\tau$  also offers the possibility to investigate lepton universality and, to determine the  $\tau$ -neutrino helicity from its hadronic decays. Thus, the  $\tau$  lepton is a unique probe in the study of the charged current interaction.

This paper describes an extension to leptonic  $\tau$  decays of the correlation measurement, using the ALEPH detector at LEP, presented in [6]. The abundant production of  $\tau$ -pairs on the Z resonance through the neutral current and the nearly perfect anti-correlation of the helicities of the  $\tau^+$  and  $\tau^-$  allow the detailed investigation of the  $\tau$  decay. From the analysis of the correlated spectra in the observables used in the polarisation analysis [7], production and decay parameters are simultaneously extracted. Assuming V and A type couplings in the neutral current, the only parameter to describe the production after integration over the production angle is the mean  $\tau$  polarisation,  $p_\tau$ . The decay parameters are the Michel parameters  $\rho_\ell, \eta_\ell, \xi_\ell, (\mathcal{K})_\ell$  for leptons and the  $\tau$  neutrino helicity  $h(\nu_\tau) = \xi_h$  for hadrons.

## 2 Method

The leptonic decays  $\tau^- \rightarrow \ell^- \bar{\nu}_\ell \nu_\tau$  can be described by the most general, four-fermion contact interaction. As the charged weak current is seen to be dominated by couplings to left-handed fermions the matrix element is written in the helicity projection form [8, 9]

$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{4G_\ell}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{\substack{\gamma=S,V,T \\ i,j=L,R}} g_{ij}^\gamma \langle \bar{\ell}_i | \Gamma^\gamma | (\nu_\ell)_m \rangle \langle (\bar{\nu}_\tau)_n | \Gamma_\gamma | \tau_j \rangle \quad (1)$$

where  $G_\ell$  is a constant equivalent to the Fermi constant in  $\mu^- \rightarrow e^- \bar{\nu}_e \nu_\mu$ . This matrix element contains ten complex coupling constants,  $g_{ij}^\gamma$  where the type of interaction –  $\Gamma^S = 1$  for scalar,  $\Gamma^V = \gamma^\mu$  for vector,  $\Gamma^T = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sigma^{\mu\nu}$  for tensor – is labelled by  $\gamma$  and the chiral projections of the leptons – left, right – by  $i$  and  $j$ . The neutrino helicities  $n, m$  are uniquely determined for given  $\gamma$  and  $i, j$ . In the Standard Model V-A interaction the only non-zero coupling constant is  $g_{LL}^V = 1$ . The amplitude (1) leads to the decay distribution [8]

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{dz} &= F_\ell(z) - p_\tau \cdot G_\ell(z) \\ &= f_c(z) + \rho_\ell \cdot f_\rho(z) + \eta_\ell \cdot f_\eta(z) - p_\tau \cdot \left( \xi_\ell \cdot g_\xi(z) + (\mathcal{K})_\ell \cdot g_{\mathcal{K}}(z) \right) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where the Michel parameters  $\rho_\ell, \eta_\ell, (\mathcal{K})_\ell, \xi_\ell$  are bilinear combinations of the  $g_{ij}^\gamma$ 's [8],  $p_\tau$  is the  $\tau$  polarisation and  $z = \frac{E_\ell}{E_\tau}$  the normalised laboratory lepton energy. Excluding radiative corrections and non-multiplicative mass terms, the functions  $f$  and  $g$  are simple polynomials as illustrated for  $\tau \rightarrow \mu \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_\tau$  in Figure 1. Standard Model predictions for  $\rho_\ell, \eta_\ell, (\mathcal{K})_\ell, \xi_\ell$  are respectively  $\frac{3}{4}, 0, \frac{3}{4}, 1$  – independent of the final state lepton.

The parameters  $\rho_\ell, \xi_\ell$  and  $(\mathcal{K})_\ell$  can be used to place limits on several of the complex coupling constants  $g_{ij}^\gamma$ . An interesting combination is

$$P_R^\tau = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{3} \xi_\ell - \frac{16}{9} (\mathcal{K})_\ell \right) = \frac{1}{4} |g_{RR}^S|^2 + \frac{1}{4} |g_{LR}^S|^2 + |g_{RR}^V|^2 + |g_{LR}^V|^2 + 3 |g_{LR}^T|^2 \quad (3)$$

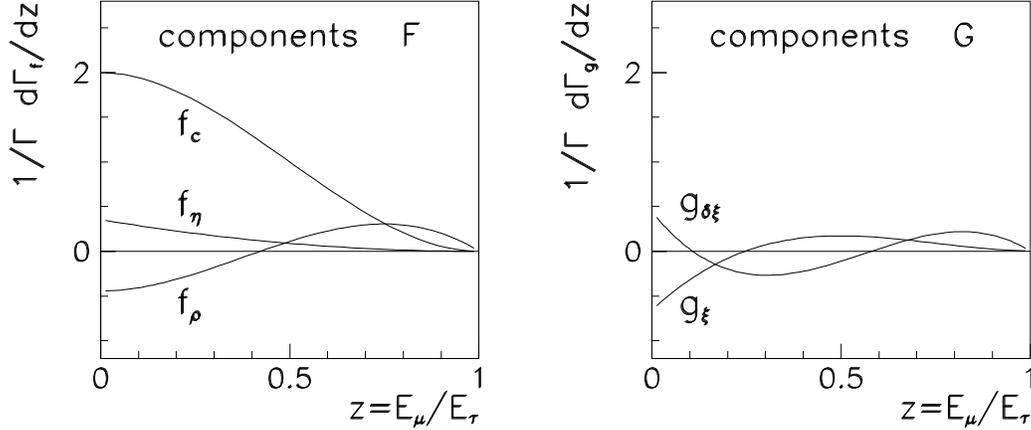


Figure 1: Spectral components of the  $F$  and  $G$  functions without radiative corrections and non-multiplicative mass terms for  $\tau \rightarrow \mu \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_\tau$ .

which measures the total contribution of right-handed  $\tau$ -couplings to the decay [9].

In the search for small deviations from a dominant V-A interaction, the quadratic dependence of  $\rho_\ell$ ,  $\xi_\ell$  and  $(\delta\xi)_\ell$  on the non-standard couplings is a drawback. The  $\eta_\ell$  parameter receives a linear contribution from the interference of the expectedly dominant Standard Model coupling,  $g_{LL}^V$ , with a Higgs-like coupling,  $g_{RR}^S$  [9].

For  $p_\tau = 0$ , i.e. when  $\tau$  pairs are produced in the decay of a virtual photon, the energy distribution of the lepton in the laboratory only allows the measurement of the two parameters  $\rho_\ell$  and  $\eta_\ell$ . The function  $f_\eta$  contains a multiplicative factor proportional to  $\frac{m_\nu}{m_\tau}$  so that the electron decay channel has no sensitivity to  $\eta_e$ . In addition, the highest sensitivity to  $\eta_\mu$  is in the low  $z$  region which has the lowest detection efficiency.

For  $p_\tau \neq 0$  the energy distribution is also sensitive to  $\xi_\ell$  and  $(\delta\xi)_\ell$  but it is impossible to separately determine all five parameters including  $p_\tau$ . Even with  $p_\tau$  known, it is not possible to deduce  $\rho_\ell$ ,  $\eta_\ell$ ,  $\xi_\ell$  and  $(\delta\xi)_\ell$  from the energy distribution alone.

For V and A type couplings in the production amplitude, the helicities of the  $\tau^+$  and  $\tau^-$  are opposite. From an analysis of the correlated decay spectra all the parameters can be extracted up to a sign ambiguity [9, 10] which can be resolved using input from other experiments.

For the hadronic modes the decay distribution can also be written in the generic form (2) [6, 9, 10]:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{d\Gamma}{dz} &= F_h(z) - p_\tau \cdot G_h(z) \\ &= f(z) - p_\tau \cdot \xi_h \cdot g(z), \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where  $f$  and  $g$  are purely kinematic functions. For the decay  $\tau \rightarrow \pi \nu_\tau$  the polarisation sensitive variable is  $z = \frac{E_\pi}{E_\tau}$ , for the decays  $\tau \rightarrow a_1 \nu_\tau$  and  $\tau \rightarrow \rho \nu_\tau$ ,  $z$  is identical to the  $\omega$  variable introduced in [7, 11], and for all other decays  $z = \frac{E}{E_\tau}$ , with  $E$  the energy of the decay product(s). For the simple case  $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \nu_\tau$  it is straightforward to show that  $\xi_h = \xi_\pi$  corresponds to the  $\tau$  neutrino helicity,  $h(\nu_\tau)$ .

The correlated spectra for modes  $i, j$  can now be written as

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma} \frac{d^2\Gamma}{dz_i dz_j} = F_i(z_i)F_j(z_j) + G_i(z_i)G_j(z_j) - p_\tau \cdot [G_i(z_i)F_j(z_j) + G_j(z_j)F_i(z_i)] \quad (5)$$

where the dependence on the parameters  $\rho_\ell, \eta_\ell, \xi_\ell, (\delta\xi)_\ell$  for the leptons and on  $\xi_h$  for the hadrons is implied. The sign of  $p_\tau$  is determined by the polarisation asymmetry measurement [7] and the SLD measurement of  $A_{LR}$  [12]. Alternatively, the sign of  $\xi_{a_1}$  is known from the parity violation measurement at ARGUS [13]. Thus, all sign ambiguities are resolved.

### 3 Data Analysis

The analysis uses  $40.3 \text{ pb}^{-1}$  of data, about  $5 \times 10^4$  produced  $\tau^+\tau^-$  pairs, recorded with the ALEPH detector in the years 1990 to 1992. A detailed description of the detector can be found in [14]. The event preselection, the charged particle identification based on a neural network, and the decay mode classification are detailed in [7]. Modes which are not explicitly reconstructed as  $e, \mu, \pi, \rho, a_1 \rightarrow 3\pi^\pm$  are classified as  $X$ . Kaons are not distinguished from pions. The  $X$  candidate must have one or three tracks. The sum of track and photon energies is used as an estimator of its energy.

Only  $\tau$  pair candidate events in which at least one of the  $\tau$  decays is classified as  $e, \mu, \pi, \rho, a_1$  are retained. The  $z$  variables are computed for each of the two candidate decays in the event according to the prescription outlined in the previous section. The events are divided into exclusive groups consisting of all candidate lepton-lepton, lepton-hadron, hadron-hadron, lepton- $X$ , and hadron- $X$ . The  $ee$  group is excluded to avoid Bhabha events. No charge separation is made.

The event preselection accepts all low multiplicity events. Bhabha,  $\mu$ -pair and two-photon events are, unlike [7], removed through cuts on the single particle energy in the same side hemisphere and on the event total energy. These cuts define clean borders in the kinematic distributions which are easily included in the fitting procedure.

The background fractions and efficiencies are extracted from Monte Carlo generated events. A background event is defined as a  $\tau^+\tau^-$ -event in which one or both  $\tau$  hemispheres are wrongly classified, or as a non- $\tau$  event which is falsely identified as a  $\tau$  event. The number of reconstructed events, the average acceptance, and the average expected background fraction are summarised in Table 1. The background is dominated by misidentified  $\tau$  decays.

Each year of data gives a set of nineteen two-dimensional arrays with  $15 \times 15$  equally sized bins. Due to the energy scans in 1990-91 and slight year to year variations in efficiency and background the data sets are treated independently.

### 4 Parameter Extraction

The two-dimensional spectra of the expected number of events,  $E$ , are fit to the observed distributions  $N$  using the method described in [6]. The negative logarithm of the likelihood function

$$\mathcal{L} = \prod_{i,j,ab} \frac{e^{-E(\mathcal{P};i,j,ab)} E(\mathcal{P};i,j,ab)^{N(i,j,ab)}}{N(i,j,ab)!}$$

is minimised with respect to the parameter set  $\mathcal{P} = \{p_\tau, \rho_\ell, \eta_\ell, (\delta\xi)_\ell, \xi_\ell, \xi_h\}$ . The indices  $i, j$  run over all the bins in the fit range except for the symmetric groups, for which the spectra are folded across the diagonal, so that  $i \geq j$ .  $N(i, j, ab)$  is the number of observed events in the kinematic bin  $(i, j)$  for group  $ab$ .

The expected spectra are the sum of the predicted signal events,  $S$ , and the  $\tau$  and non- $\tau$  background,  $B$ :

$$E(\mathcal{P};i,j,ab) = S(\mathcal{P};i,j,ab) + B(i,j,ab).$$

Table 1: Number of reconstructed events, the average efficiency  $\langle \varepsilon \rangle$ , and the expected background from  $\tau$  and non- $\tau$  sources for each event group (\* 1992 data only).

group	events reconstructed	$\langle \varepsilon \rangle$ [%]	estimated background [%]	
			$\tau$	non- $\tau$
$e\mu$	2407	$70.4 \pm 0.3$	$3.2 \pm 0.2$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$
$e\pi$	1208	$45.6 \pm 0.5$	$8.7 \pm 0.4$	$0.7 \pm 0.1$
$e\rho$	1894	$37.7 \pm 0.4$	$9.2 \pm 0.4$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$
$ea_1$	775	$41.5 \pm 0.6$	$10.1 \pm 0.5$	$0.5 \pm 0.1$
$eX$	3179	$52.6 \pm 0.3$	$2.1 \pm 0.1$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$
$\mu\mu$	1298	$63.5 \pm 0.4$	$3.1 \pm 0.2$	$2.0 \pm 0.3$
$\mu\pi$	1387	$55.5 \pm 0.4$	$7.9 \pm 0.3$	$0.5 \pm 0.1$
$\mu\rho$	2249	$45.7 \pm 0.4$	$7.9 \pm 0.3$	$0.4 \pm 0.1$
$\mu a_1$	918	$50.3 \pm 0.6$	$9.4 \pm 0.5$	$0.1 \pm 0.1$
$\mu X$	4482	$64.0 \pm 0.3$	$1.6 \pm 0.1$	$0.1 \pm 0.3$
$\pi\pi$	399	$45.5 \pm 0.8$	$12.2 \pm 0.8$	$1.1 \pm 0.4$
$\pi\rho$	1269	$39.4 \pm 0.5$	$12.4 \pm 0.4$	$1.5 \pm 0.2$
$\pi a_1$	527	$42.2 \pm 0.7$	$14.9 \pm 0.8$	$0.2 \pm 0.1$
$\pi X$	2769	$58.9 \pm 0.3$	$7.1 \pm 0.2$	$0.8 \pm 0.3$
$\rho\rho$	987	$29.9 \pm 0.5$	$12.4 \pm 0.5$	$2.4 \pm 0.4$
$\rho a_1$	852	$32.8 \pm 0.5$	$13.6 \pm 0.6$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$
$\rho X$	4368	$42.2 \pm 0.3$	$7.3 \pm 0.2$	$0.1 \pm 0.1$
$(a_1 a_1)^*$	119	$36.0 \pm 1.5$	$15.4 \pm 1.6$	$0.1 \pm 0.2$
$(a_1 X)^*$	1142	$47.7 \pm 0.5$	$8.7 \pm 0.4$	$0.1 \pm 0.1$

Small changes in the background distributions due to the difference between the Monte Carlo Standard Model polarisation and the fitted value are included in the systematic uncertainties (see below).

On including QED radiative corrections the theoretical spectra from (2) and (4) are transformed to  $\hat{T}$ . Following the suggestions in [15] the transformation proceeds in two steps:

- the functions  $F$  and  $G$ , obtained by an analytic method for  $e, \mu, \pi$  and by simulation for the others, are modified to include final state radiation.
- the spectra are convoluted with a radiator function which describes the  $\tau$  energy loss due to initial state radiation.

To obtain the signal distribution, the spectra  $\hat{T}$  are subsequently folded with resolution and efficiency matrices,  $\mathcal{R}$  and  $\varepsilon$ , determined from simulation. The matrix  $\mathcal{R}$  describes the transition from the calculated spectrum to the measured one and accounts for detector resolution and bremsstrahlung in the detector material. The signal distributions are

$$S(\mathcal{P}; i, j, ab) = \varepsilon(i, j, ab) \sum_{i', j'} \hat{T}(\mathcal{P}; i', j', ab) \mathcal{R}(i, i', j, j', ab)$$

For the groups with  $X$  candidates the signal distributions contain additional terms which describe the feedthrough from unidentified  $e, \mu, \pi, \rho, a_1$ . The absolute contribution of these feedthrough channels to the signal distribution is about 53%: 1%  $e$ , 3%  $\mu$ , 7%  $\pi$ , 32%  $\rho$ , and 10%  $a_1 \rightarrow 3\pi^\pm$ , with slight variations between data sets. The relative composition is defined by

Table 2: Fit results with and without the universality assumption.

with universality		without universality	
$p_\tau$	$-0.132 \pm 0.015$	$p_\tau$	$-0.132 \pm 0.015$
$\rho_\ell$	$0.751 \pm 0.039$	$\rho_e$	$0.793 \pm 0.050$
$(\mathcal{X})_\ell$	$0.88 \pm 0.11$	$\rho_\mu$	$0.693 \pm 0.057$
$\xi_\ell$	$1.18 \pm 0.15$	$(\mathcal{X})_e$	$1.11 \pm 0.17$
$\eta_\ell$	$-0.04 \pm 0.15$	$(\mathcal{X})_\mu$	$0.71 \pm 0.14$
$\xi_h$	$-1.006 \pm 0.032$	$\xi_e$	$1.03 \pm 0.23$
		$\xi_\mu$	$1.23 \pm 0.22$
		$\eta_\mu$	$-0.24 \pm 0.23$
		$\xi_\pi$	$-0.987 \pm 0.057$
		$\xi_\rho$	$-1.045 \pm 0.058$
		$\xi_{a_1}$	$-0.939 \pm 0.116$

the ratio of branching ratios,  $f_b = \frac{B_b}{B_X}$ , and the inefficiency matrices,  $\bar{\varepsilon}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 S(\mathcal{P}; i, j, aX) &= \varepsilon(i, j, aX) \sum_{i', j'} \hat{T}(\mathcal{P}; i', j', aX) \mathcal{R}(i, i', j, j', aX) \\
 &+ \sum_{b, i', j'} f_b \hat{T}_x(\mathcal{P}; i', j', ab) \mathcal{R}_x(i, i', j, j', ab) \bar{\varepsilon}(i, j, ab)
 \end{aligned}$$

The subscript  $x$  indicates that the polarisation sensitive variable for the unidentified modes  $b = \rho, a_1$  is  $\frac{E}{E_\tau}$  instead of  $\omega$ .

The expected distribution of events in a group is normalised to the number of observed events in this group

$$\sum_{i, j} E(\mathcal{P}; i, j, ab) = N(ab).$$

The results of the fit are given in Table 2. The values in the left column are obtained with the assumption of  $e$ - $\mu$  universality in the charged current. The corresponding values without universality are given in the right column. Both fits have a  $\chi^2/Dof = 0.993$ . The correlation coefficients for the fit with universality are reproduced in Table 3. Excluding the groups with  $X$  results in similar values for the parameters but 10-20% larger statistical errors.

On comparing values or errors in Table 2 it is important to recall that  $\eta_\ell$  is entirely determined from the  $\mu$  spectrum because of the  $\frac{m_\mu}{m_\tau}$  suppression and, that  $\eta_\ell$  and  $\rho_\ell$  are highly correlated. Thus, the different errors on  $\eta_\ell$  and  $\eta_\mu$  in Table 2 are purely due to the different correlations between  $\rho_\mu$ - $\eta_\mu$  and  $\rho_\ell$ - $\eta_\ell$ . The latter correlations are smaller because of the additional and independent information on  $\rho_\ell$  from the  $e$ -spectrum. Similarly, the difference between  $\rho_\mu$  and  $\rho_e$  is an artifact of the large negative value for  $\eta_\mu$ . Setting  $\eta_\mu = 0$  shifts  $\rho_\mu$  up by 0.05 to 0.744.

Table 3: Correlation coefficients for fit with universality.

	$\rho_\ell$	$(\mathcal{X})_\ell$	$\eta_\ell$	$\xi_\ell$	$\xi_h$
$p_\tau$	-0.43	-0.08	0.01	0.00	0.39
$\rho_\ell$	1	0.03	0.42	0.05	0.56
$(\mathcal{X})_\ell$		1	0.16	0.03	0.33
$\eta_\ell$			1	0.36	0.67
$\xi_\ell$				1	0.05

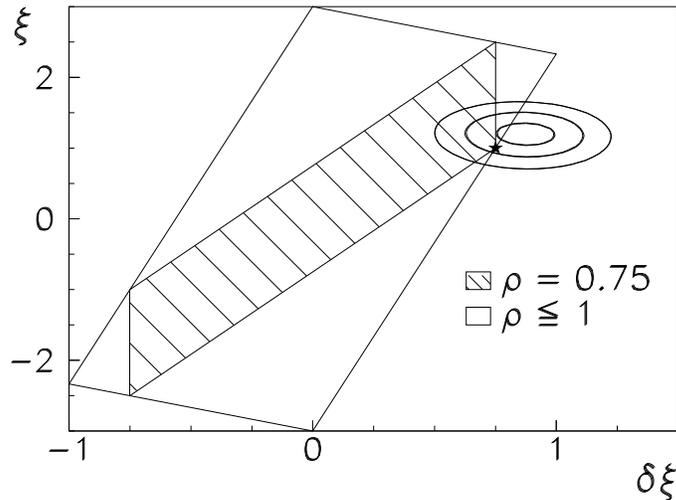


Figure 2: Contour levels in  $1\sigma$  steps of  $\ln \mathcal{L}$ , corresponding to 39%, 63%, and 78% probability, in the  $(\xi)_\ell - \xi_\ell$  plane. The open trapezoid encloses the physically allowed region. The hatched area delimits the allowed region for  $\rho = 0.75$ , and the V-A expectation is marked by  $\star$ .

Figure 2 shows the  $1-3\sigma$  contour levels of  $\ln \mathcal{L}$  in the  $(\xi)_\ell - \xi_\ell$  plane. Thus, it is expected that the measurements of  $(\xi)_\ell$  and  $\xi_\ell$  will limit the allowed ranges of the coupling constants,  $g_{ij}^\gamma$ .

The distributions for the final state particles, obtained from projections of the corresponding two-dimensional spectra, in Figure 3 compare the observed and the best-fit spectra in the polarisation sensitive variable.

## 5 Systematic Uncertainties

The major sources of systematic errors are uncertainties in acceptance, resolution, and background rates. These errors, their origins and their effect on the uncorrelated spectra and the polarisation are detailed in [7] and their influence on the measurements have been investigated. In addition, consideration is given to errors which may only become apparent in the correlation analysis or are intrinsic to the method.

The effect of an incorrect modelling of the background levels is determined by rescaling the whole background and/or the separate contributions from  $\tau$  and non- $\tau$  sources by  $\pm 20\%$ . The influence of the shape of the  $\tau$  background is studied by varying the  $\xi_h$  value and the overall polarisation of the background by  $\pm 1\sigma$  of the fitted values. No change with respect to  $\xi_h$  is observed.

Detailed studies show that the simulation correctly models the energy response of the detector [7]. Nevertheless, a slight energy dependent difference between the efficiencies obtained from Monte Carlo and data cannot be excluded. To reflect this uncertainty the efficiencies are modified by polynomial functions obtained from the ratio of data to simulated efficiencies.

The uncertainty in the theoretical model describing  $\tau \rightarrow a_1 \nu_\tau$  and its influence on  $\xi_{a_1}$  is computed in the same fashion as the uncertainty on the polarisation from the  $a_1$  channel [7]. The extent to which the crossover ratios influence the fit is investigated by varying the branching fractions within  $1\sigma$  subject to the constraint that they sum to unity.

Finally, the acceptance and resolution matrices contain intrinsic uncertainties due to the finite Monte Carlo set used in their determination. The resulting statistical fluctuations in these

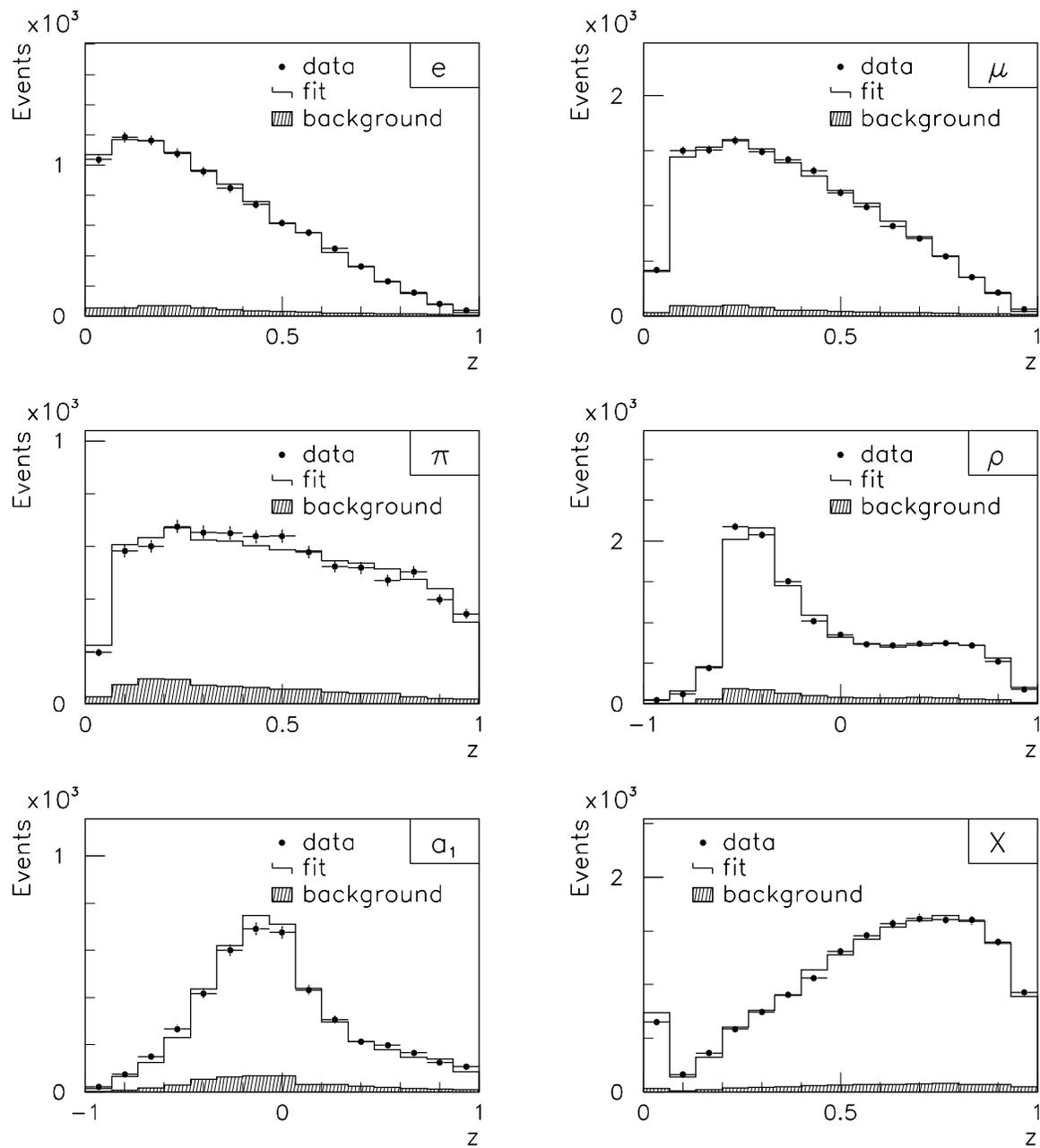


Figure 3: Particle spectra in the polarisation sensitive variable for the various final states.

matrices are not directly incorporated into the fitting procedure and are thus included as an additional systematic uncertainty.

A summary of the systematic uncertainties in the parameters are given in Table 4 and Table 5.

Table 4: Systematic uncertainties for parameters with universality assumption.

	$p_\tau$	$\rho_\ell$	$\eta_\ell$	$(\delta\xi)_\ell$	$\xi_\ell$	$\xi_h$
background	0.006	0.012	0.09	0.01	0.02	0.007
efficiency	0.007	0.012	0.05	0.06	0.03	0.012
crossover	0.003	0.003	0.02	0.01	-	0.005
theory $a_1$	0.002	0.001	-	-	-	0.003
MC statistics	0.005	0.013	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.011

Table 5: Systematic uncertainties for parameters without universality assumption.

	$\rho_e$	$\rho_\mu$	$\eta_\mu$	$(\delta\xi)_e$	$(\delta\xi)_\mu$	$\xi_e$	$\xi_\mu$	$\xi_\pi$	$\xi_\rho$	$\xi_{a_1}$
background	0.014	0.018	0.10	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.006	0.011	0.005
efficiency	0.010	0.011	0.12	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.04	0.019	0.021	0.019
crossover	0.004	0.005	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.003	0.011	0.005
theory $a_1$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.002	0.002	0.050
MC statistics	0.017	0.019	0.08	0.06	0.05	0.08	0.07	0.019	0.019	0.039

## 6 Results and Conclusions

Within the framework of V and A type couplings in the production of  $\tau$  pairs at the Z resonance the Michel parameters in the decays  $\tau \rightarrow \ell \bar{\nu}_\ell \nu_\tau$  have been measured. The results from this analysis

$$\begin{aligned}
\rho_\ell &= 0.751 \pm 0.039 \pm 0.022 \\
\eta_\ell &= -0.04 \pm 0.15 \pm 0.11 \\
\xi_\ell &= 1.18 \pm 0.15 \pm 0.06 \\
(\delta\xi)_\ell &= 0.88 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.07 \\
\langle h(\nu_\tau) \rangle = \xi_h &= -1.006 \pm 0.032 \pm 0.019
\end{aligned}$$

are to be compared with the Standard Model values of  $\frac{3}{4}, 0, 1, \frac{3}{4}, -1$ , respectively. In addition, the  $\tau$  polarisation has been determined as  $p_\tau = -0.132 \pm 0.015 \pm 0.011$ . This value is in very good agreement with the preliminary value of  $-0.134 \pm 0.12 \pm 0.008$  obtained with the same statistics by the standard  $\tau$  polarisation analysis at ALEPH with the V-A assumption in the charged current [16]. Neither of these values contains corrections for  $\gamma Z$  interference or electroweak radiative effects.

Taking into account all correlations and including the systematic uncertainties, one can determine an upper bound on the contribution of right-handed  $\tau$ -couplings to the decay. In the Bayesian approach for obtaining one-sided limits [17], this leads to  $P_R^\tau \leq 0.24$  at 90% confidence level.

If the charged current interaction does not obey the universality condition, then the following measurements hold:

$$\begin{aligned}
\rho_e &= 0.793 \pm 0.050 \pm 0.025 & \rho_\mu &= 0.693 \pm 0.057 \pm 0.028 \\
(\delta\xi)_e &= 1.11 \pm 0.17 \pm 0.07 & \eta_\mu &= -0.24 \pm 0.23 \pm 0.18 \\
\xi_e &= 1.03 \pm 0.23 \pm 0.09 & (\delta\xi)_\mu &= 0.71 \pm 0.14 \pm 0.06 \\
\xi_\pi &= -0.987 \pm 0.057 \pm 0.027 & \xi_\mu &= 1.23 \pm 0.22 \pm 0.10 \\
\xi_{a_1} &= -0.937 \pm 0.116 \pm 0.064. & \xi_\rho &= -1.045 \pm 0.058 \pm 0.032
\end{aligned}$$

The  $\xi_h$  measurements presented here supersede those previously obtained with lower statistics [6].

For the first time the Michel parameter  $(\delta\xi)_\ell$  has been measured in  $\tau$  decays. The measurements of the other parameters,  $\rho_\ell, \eta_\ell, \xi_\ell, \xi_b$  are in good agreement with other experiments [13, 17, 18] or inferred values [19]. None of these measurements shows disagreement with Standard Model expectation at the current level of precision.

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