

Belle II

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The Belle II experiment at KEK in Japan is a substantial upgrade of the Belle detector and has recently started operation at the upgraded SuperKEKB energy-asymmetric e^+e^- collider, with the first collisions in April 2018. The design luminosity is $8 \times 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ and the Belle II experiment aims to record 50 ab^{-1} of data, a factor of 50 more than the Belle experiment. This large data set will enable the collaboration to probe New Physics scales that are well beyond the reach of direct production at the LHC by performing complementary searches for deviations from the Standard Model through indirect effects. This talk will review some of the challenges of detector and machine upgrade, present some first results obtained from the 2018 collision data analysis and prospects for the next phase of data taking that will start in March 2019.