

# Introduction to flavour experiments

In memoriam of Sheldon Stone (Feb. 14, 1946 – Oct. 6, 2021)



<https://cerncourier.com/a/sheldon-stone-1946-2021/>

**ICTS 2022 Bengaluru (India), April 2022**

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# Outline

- Lesson 1: Introduction to flavour physics
- Lesson 2: The CKM matrix
- Lesson 3: Rare decays of heavy hadrons
- Lesson 4: Mixing and CP violation

# Rare decays of B mesons

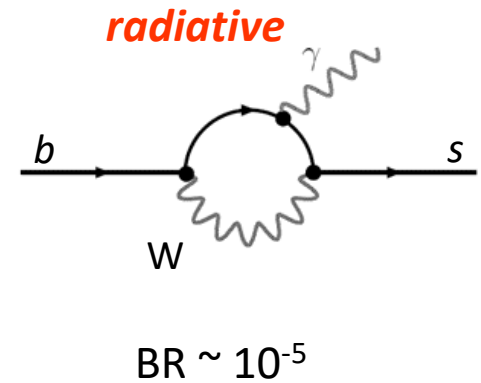
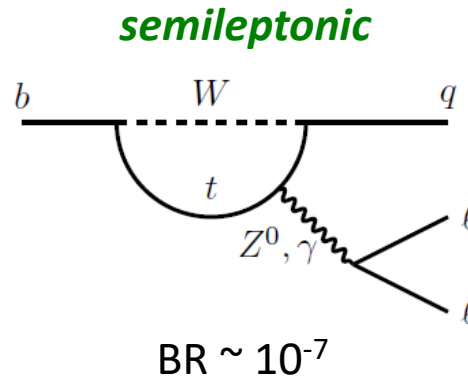
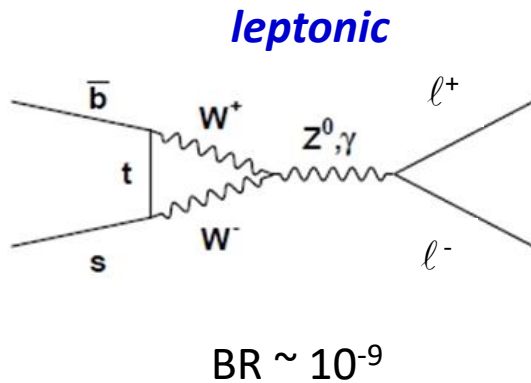
What is a rare decay?



Four-leaf clover:  $1/10000$ , symbol of good luck

# Rare decays of B mesons

- $b \rightarrow s, d$  quark transitions are **Flavor Changing Neutral Currents (FCNCs)**,  
→ in the SM they only can occur through loops (*penguin and box diagrams*),  
excellent probe for physics beyond the SM



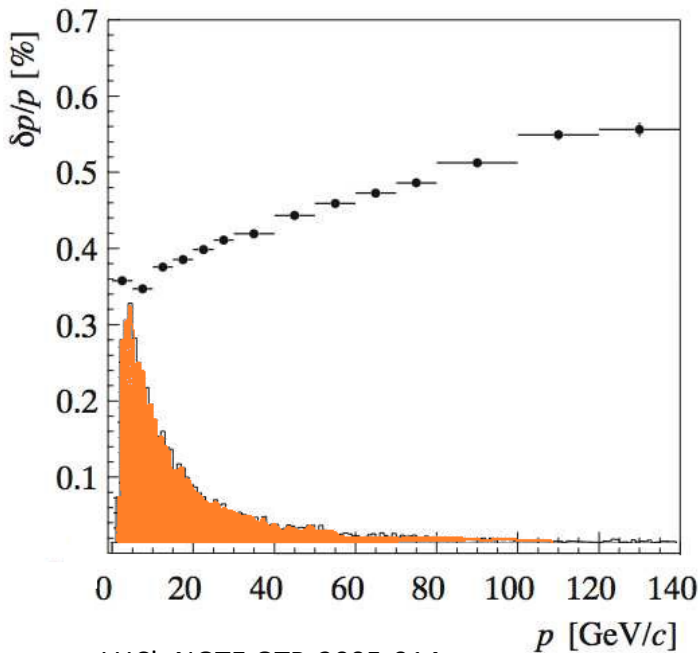
**Experimentally** → leptons/photons with high transverse momenta

**Theoretically** → observables can be calculated in terms of Wilson coefficients

# Rare decays of B mesons

What do we need?

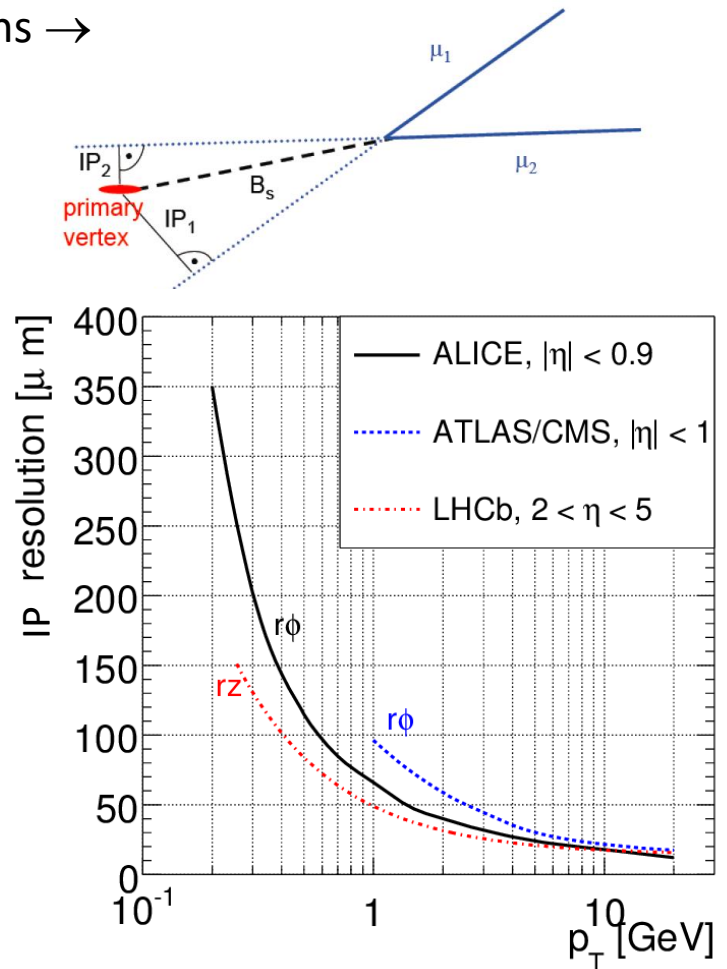
- A lot of data! → High luminosity and large b cross section (LHC experiments, BELLE II)
- High momentum and impact parameter resolutions →
  - high mass resolution
  - good signal and background separation



LHCb NOTE OTR-2005-014

$\sigma_p/p$

LHCb = 0.4-0.6 %  
 ATLAS = 5-6 %  
 CMS = 1-3 %  
 BELLE II = 0.3 -2%

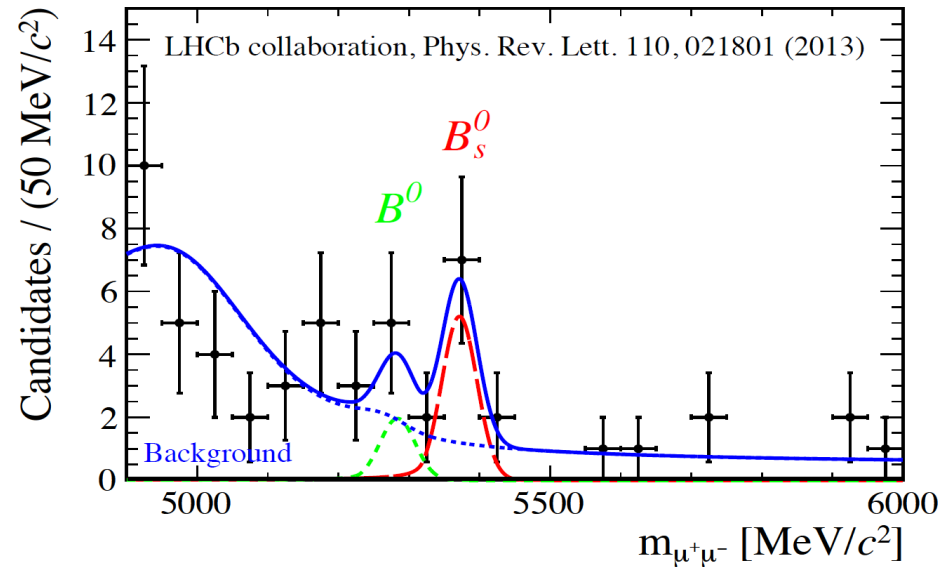
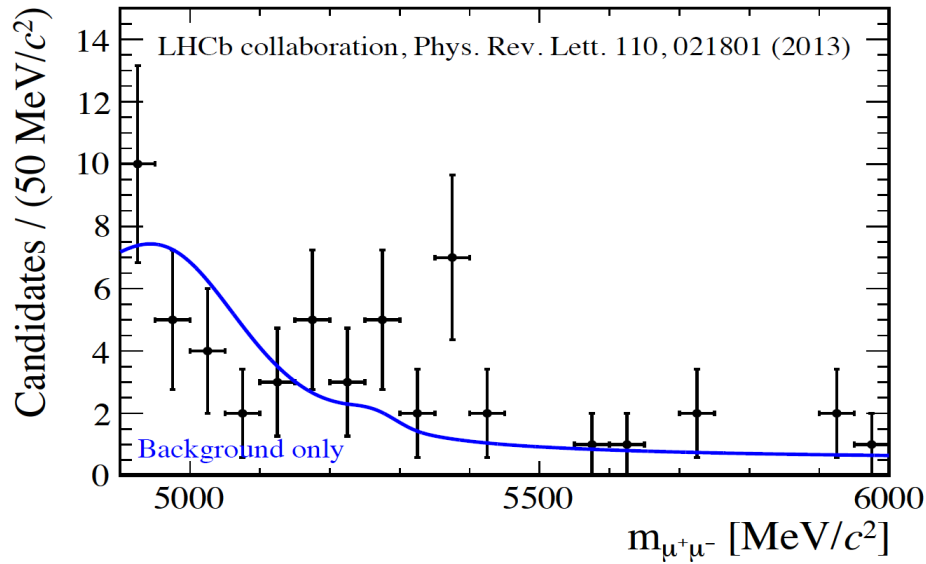


# Rare decays of B mesons

Reconstructed mass resolution

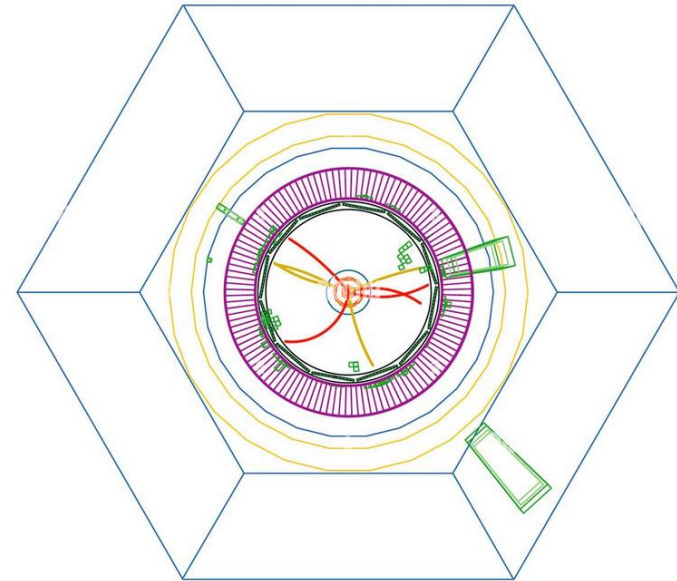
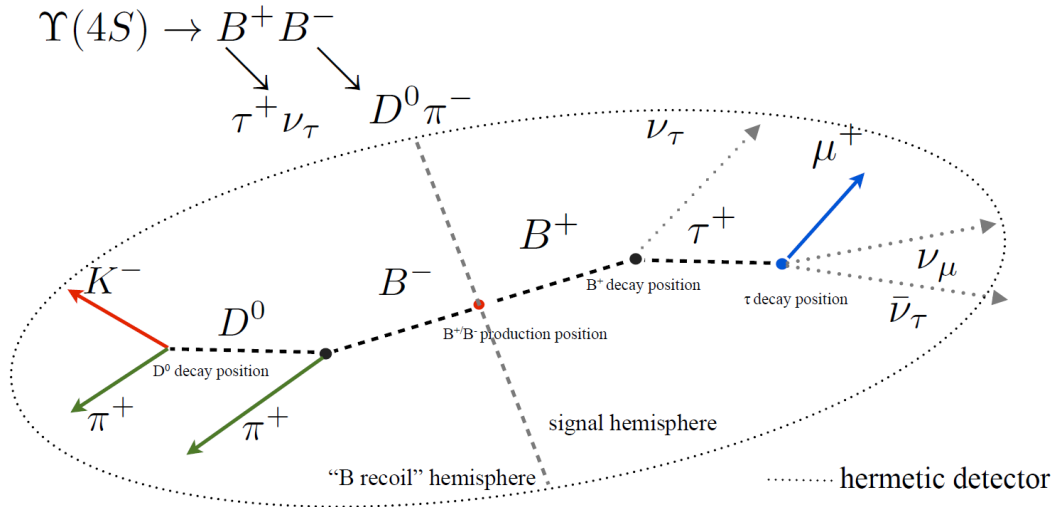
$$\sigma_M (J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$$

LHCb = 13 MeV  
ATLAS = 71 MeV  
CMS = 40 MeV  
BELLE II = 4 MeV



# Rare decays of B mesons

How do we measure branching fractions?



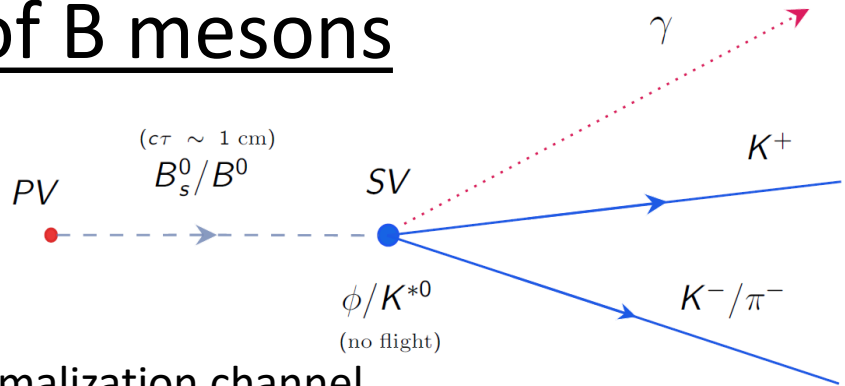
- Absolute branching fractions:

→ we need to know precisely how many events are produced and reconstructed  
 [Reconstruction efficiencies are taken from simulation and validated with data]

$$N_{B \rightarrow \tau \nu} = 2 \times N_{BB^-} \times BR(B \rightarrow \tau \nu) \times BR(\tau \rightarrow \mu \nu \nu) \times \mathcal{E}_{rec}$$

↳ known from the B recoil hemisphere ( $\sim \mathcal{L} \times \sigma_{e^+e^- \rightarrow Y(4S)}$ )

# Rare decays of B mesons



- Relative branching fractions:

→ we need a well known and abundant normalization channel

[Ratios of efficiencies are taken from simulation and validated with data]

$$\frac{N_{B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \gamma}}{N_{B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma}} = \frac{f_s}{f_d} \times \frac{\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \gamma)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma)} \times \frac{\mathcal{B}(\phi \rightarrow KK)}{\mathcal{B}(K^* \rightarrow K\pi)} \times \frac{\epsilon_{sel}^{B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \gamma}}{\epsilon_{sel}^{B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma}}$$

$f_s$  gives the probability of hadronization of a b quark into a  $B_s$  meson

$f_d$  gives the probability of hadronization of a b quark into  $B_d$  meson

If we use the same data sample,  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\sigma_{pp \rightarrow b \text{ quark}}$  cancel in the ratio

Efficiencies usually have different contributions, and some of them cancel in the ratio → less systematic uncertainties

$$\epsilon_{sel} = \epsilon_{acc} \times \epsilon_{trigger} \times \epsilon_{reco} \times \epsilon_{offline} \times \epsilon_{\gamma PID} \times \epsilon_{trPID}$$

Detector  
geometry

event  
selection

event  
reconstruction

Background  
subtraction

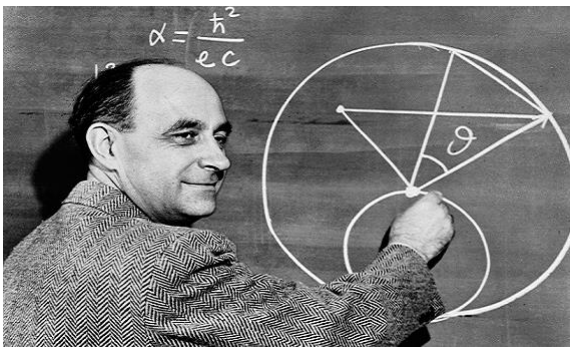
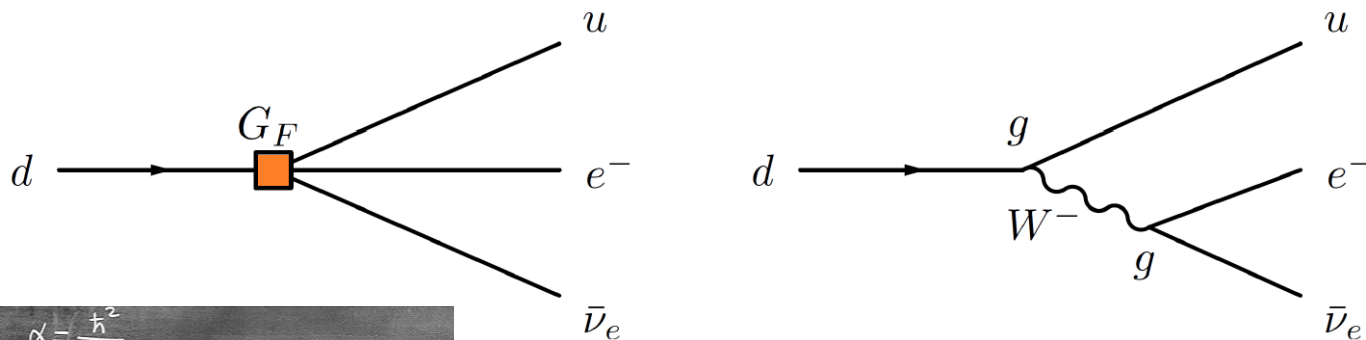


# Rare decays of B mesons

How do we compute expected values?

Remind the Fermi's theory of the  $\beta$  decay:

We can consider the 4-point fermion vector current, coupled under Fermi's Coupling Constant  $G_F$ .



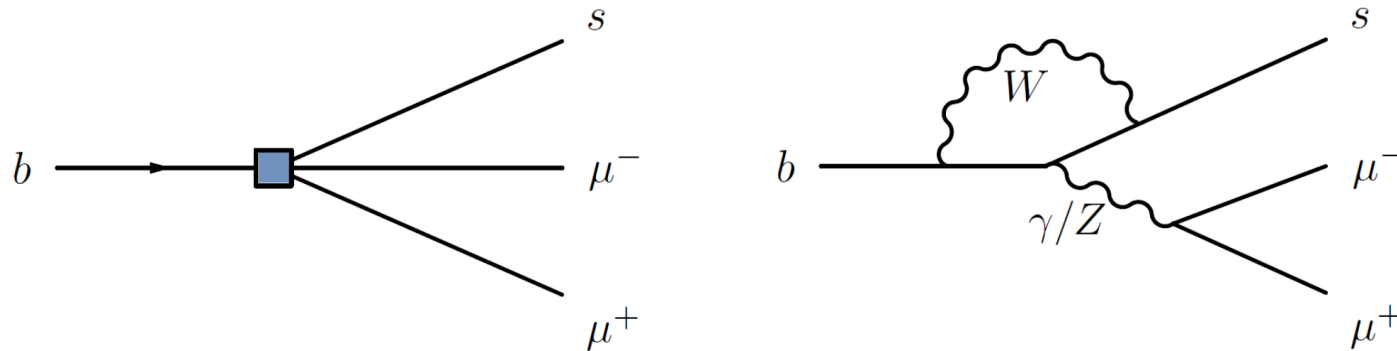
$$\frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{g^2}{8M_W^2}$$

One can consider any description depending on the energy scale we are working on

# Rare decays of B mesons

How do we compute expected values?

Same idea for FCNC processes:



→ OPE: a series of **effective vertices** multiplied by effective coupling constants  $C_i$ .

$$A(M \rightarrow F) = \langle F | \mathcal{H}_{eff} | M \rangle = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_i V_{CKM}^i C_i(\mu) \langle F | O_i(\mu) | M \rangle$$

CKM couplings
Wilson Coefficients  
( $\mu = \text{scale}$ )
Hadronic Matrix Elements

# Rare decays of B mesons

→ OPE: a series of **effective vertices** multiplied by effective coupling constants  $C_i$ .



Electroweak scale  $\sim 1/M_W$

New Physics scale  $\sim 1/M_{NP}$

$$C_i = C_i^{SM} + C_i^{NP}$$

$$C'_i = C'^{SM}_i + C'^{NP}_i$$

Primed  $C'_i \rightarrow$  right handed currents:  
suppressed in SM

$$\text{Ex: } \Gamma(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \sim \frac{G_F^2 \alpha^2}{64\pi^3} m_{B_s}^2 f_{B_s}^2 |V_{tb} V_{ts}|^2 |2m_\mu C_{10}|^2$$

Hadronic uncertainties in decay constants or form factors

# Rare decays of B mesons

→ OPE: a series of **effective vertices** multiplied by effective coupling constants  $C_i$ .

Some examples of dependences in B decays:

Decay	$C_7^{(l)}$	$C_9^{(l)}$	$C_{10}^{(l)}$
$B \rightarrow X_s \gamma$	X		
$B \rightarrow K^* \gamma$	X		
$B \rightarrow X_s \mu^+ \mu^-$	X	X	X
$B \rightarrow K \mu^+ \mu^-$	X	X	X
$B \rightarrow K^* \mu^+ \mu^-$	X	X	X
$B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$			X

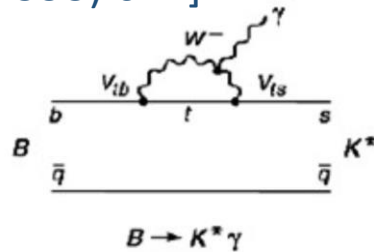
# Rare decays of B mesons $B \rightarrow K^* \gamma$

2230595-004

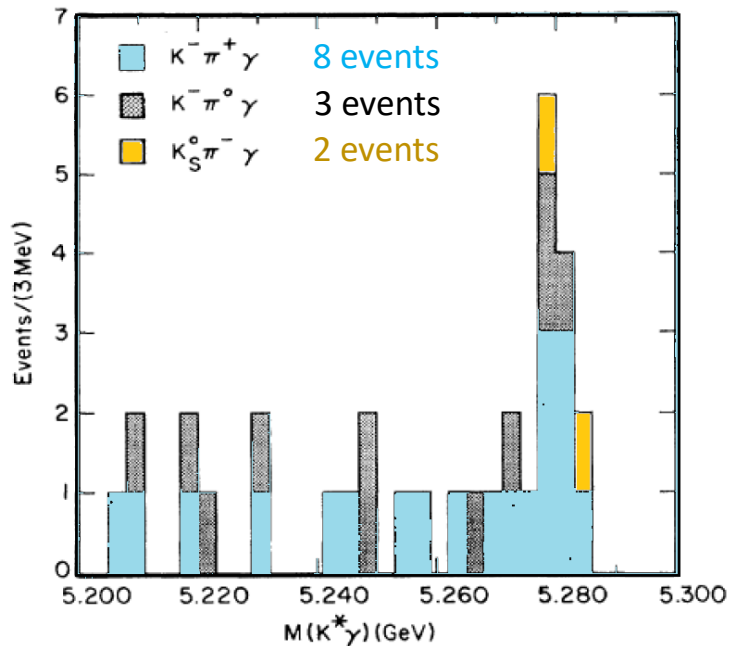
Event: 16528

First measurement of the radiative decay  
 $B \rightarrow K^* \gamma$  at CLEO II at the Y(4S)

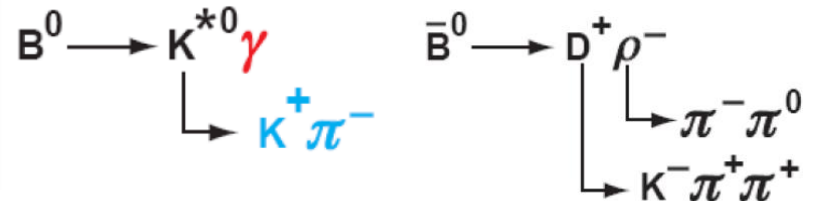
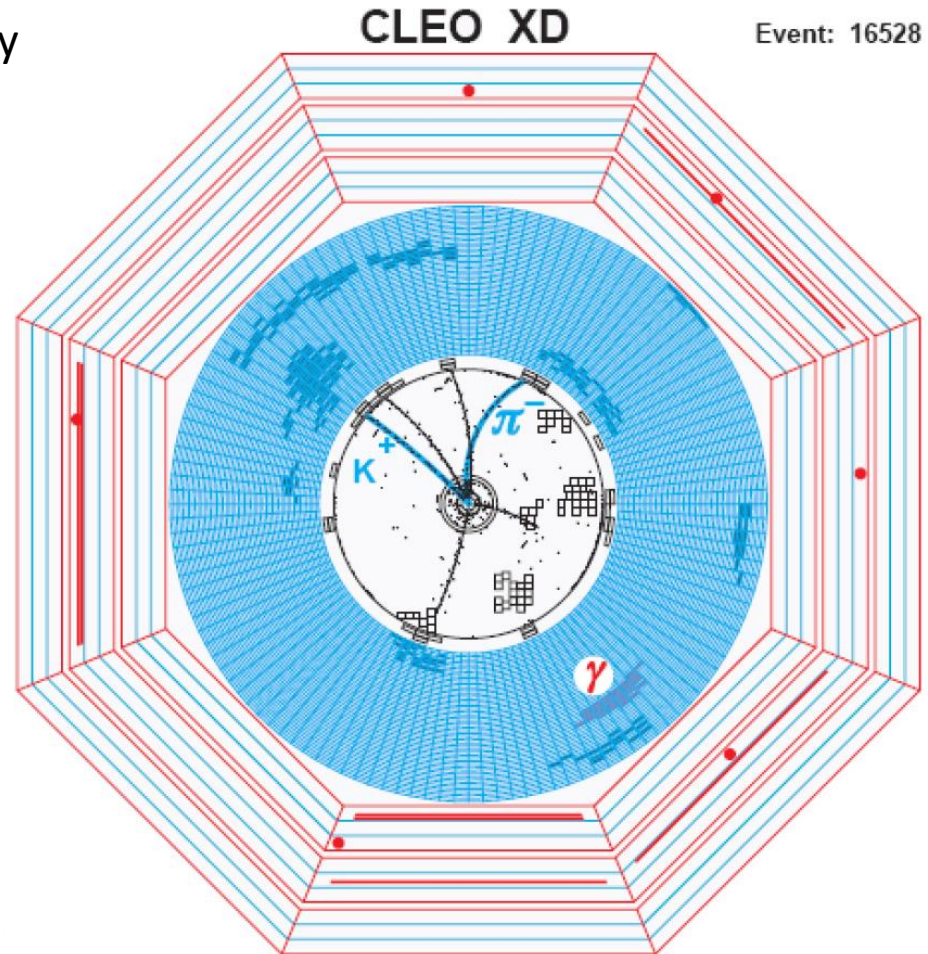
[*Phys.Rev.Lett.* 71 (1993) 674]



1.5M  $B\bar{B}$  events



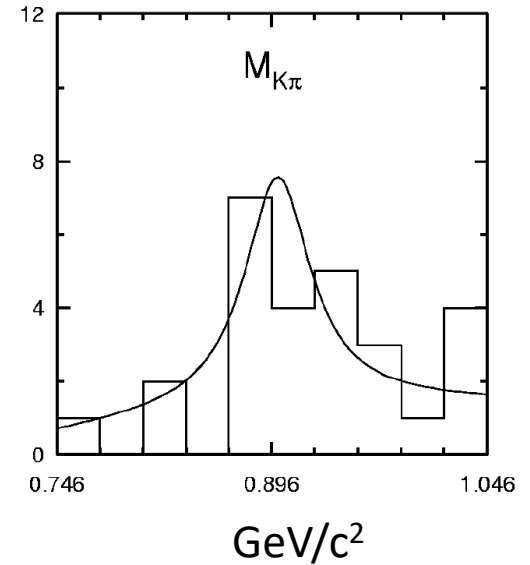
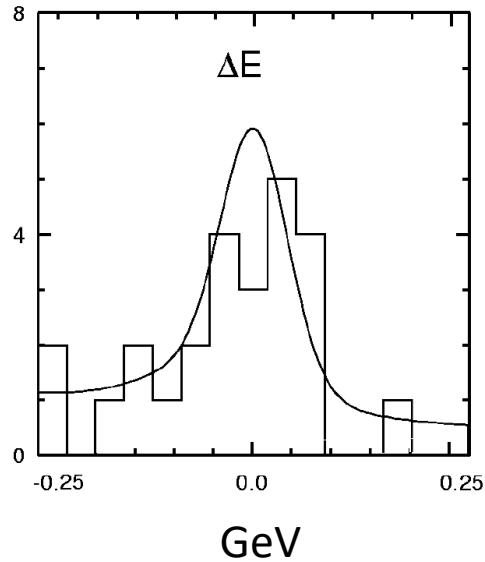
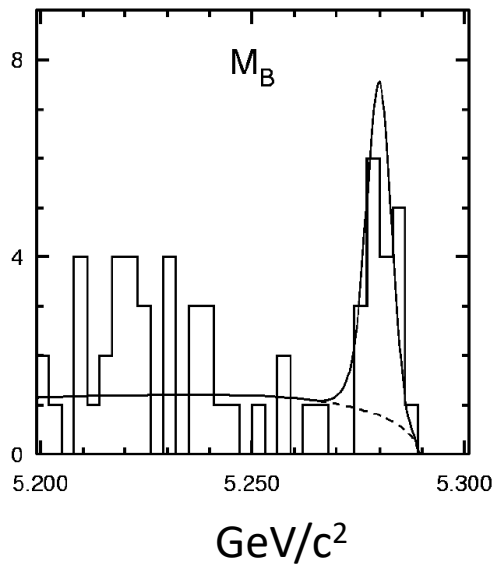
$$\text{BR}(B \rightarrow K^* \gamma) = (4.5 \pm 1.5 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-5}$$

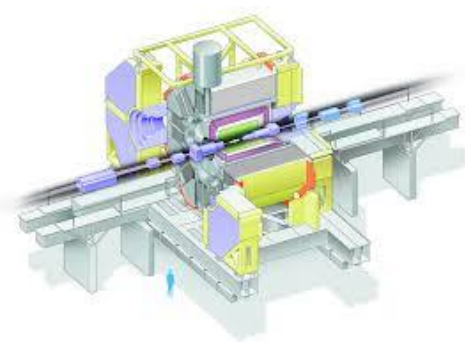


# Rare decays of B mesons $B \rightarrow K^* \gamma$

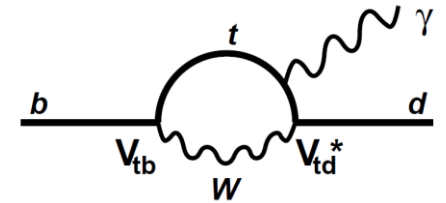
$$\Delta E = (E_{K^*} + E_\gamma) - E_{beam} \approx 0$$

$$M_B = \sqrt{E_{beam}^2 - (\vec{p}_{K^*} + \vec{p}_\gamma)^2}$$



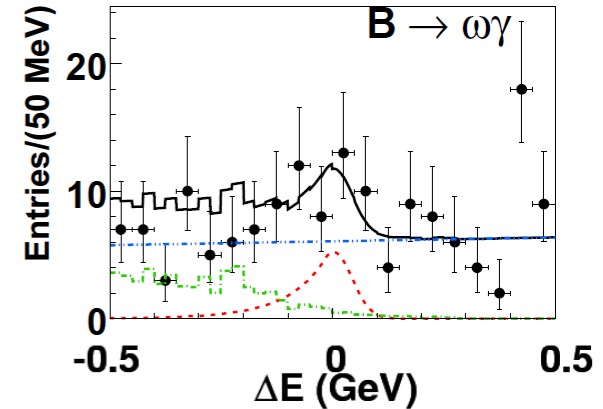
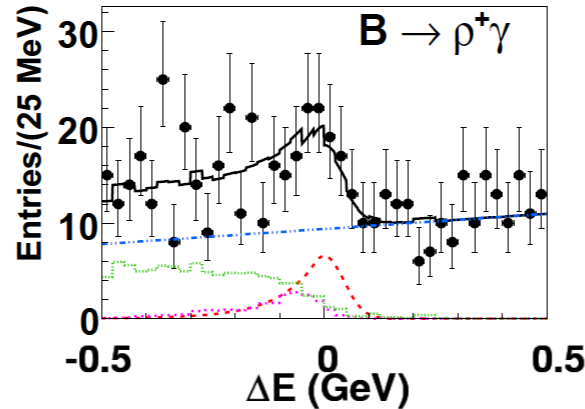
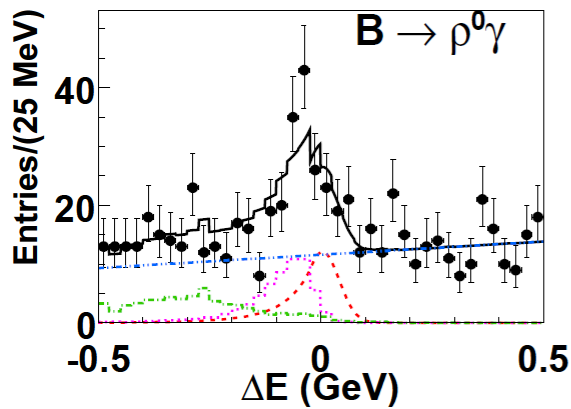


# Rare decays of B mesons $B \rightarrow \rho\gamma$



Even more suppressed:  $b \rightarrow d\gamma$  at Belle (with 657 million B mesons!)

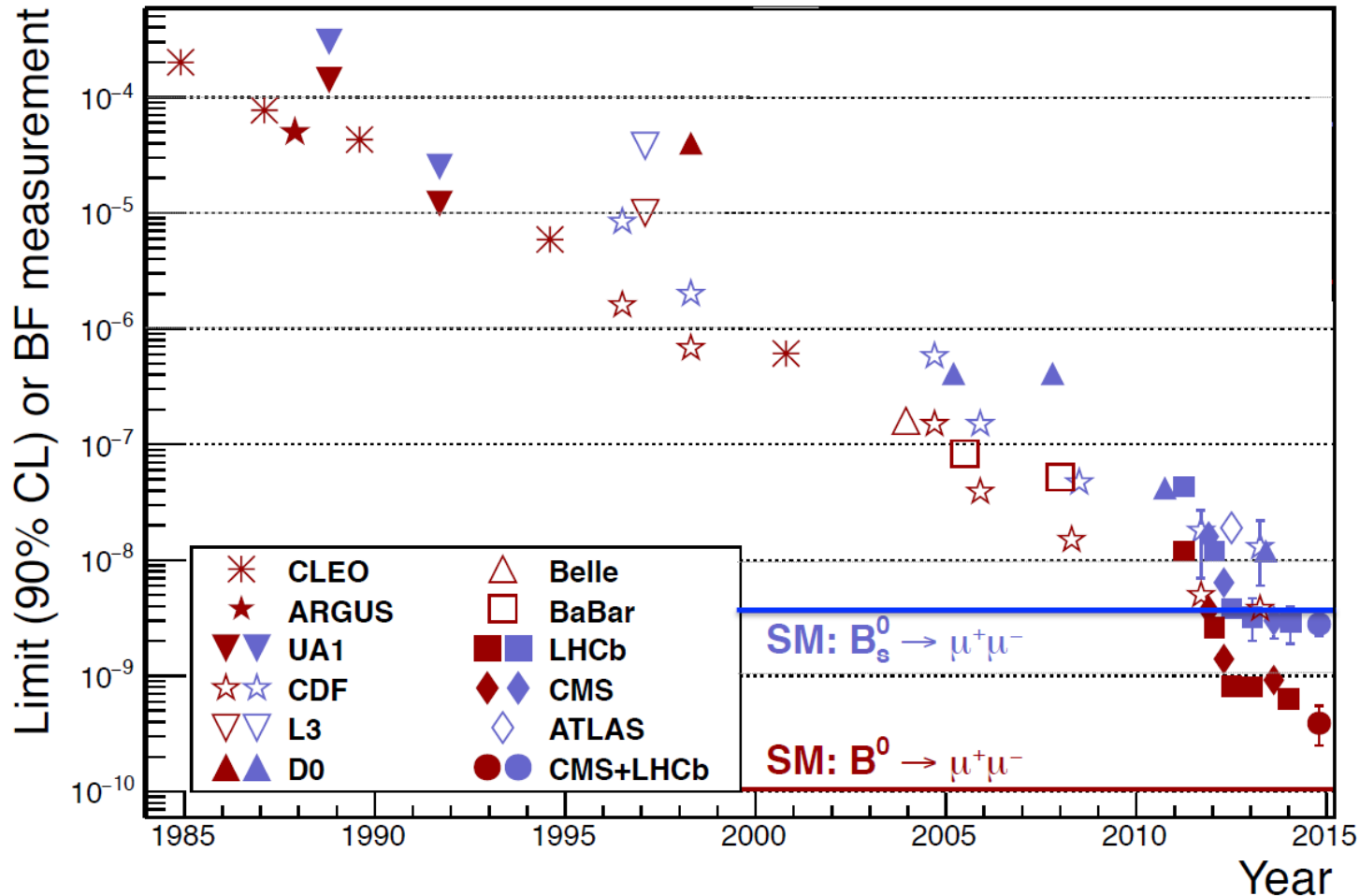
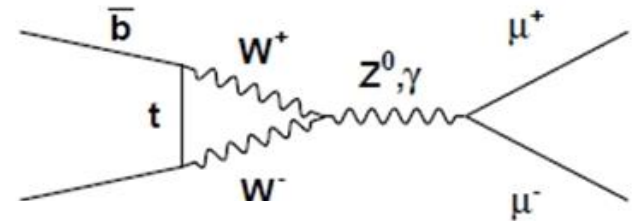
[arXiv:0804.4770 [hep-ex]]



Mode	Yield	Significance	Efficiency (%)	$\mathcal{B}$ ( $10^{-7}$ )
$B^+ \rightarrow \rho^+ \gamma$	$45.8^{+15.2}_{-14.5}^{+2.6}_{-3.9}$	3.3	$8.03 \pm 0.59$	$8.7^{+2.9}_{-2.7}^{+0.9}_{-1.1}$
$B^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 \gamma$	$75.7^{+16.8}_{-16.0}^{+5.1}_{-6.1}$	5.0	$14.81 \pm 0.95$	$7.8^{+1.7}_{-1.6}^{+0.9}_{-1.0}$
$B^0 \rightarrow \omega \gamma$	$17.5^{+8.2}_{-7.4}^{+1.1}_{-1.0}$	2.6	$6.58 \pm 0.76$	$4.0^{+1.9}_{-1.7} \pm 1.3$

# Rare decays of B mesons: $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

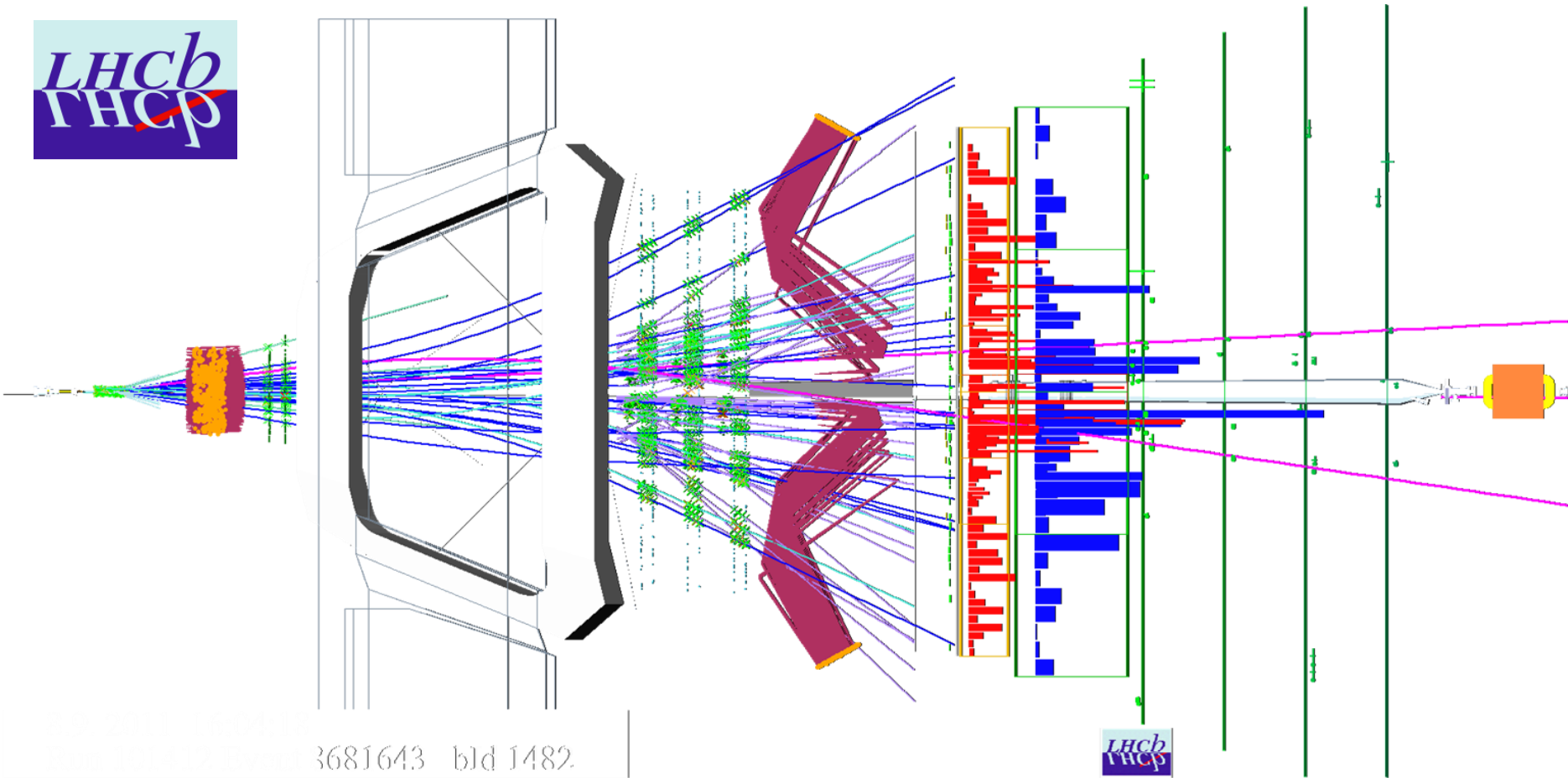
- Very rare decay: FCNC and helicity suppressed  
 $BR_{SM} = 3.66(14) \times 10^{-9}$
- Searched for over the last 30 years,  
 observed by LHCb and CMS [Nature 522 (2015) 68]





# Rare decays of B mesons: $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

$B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$  event

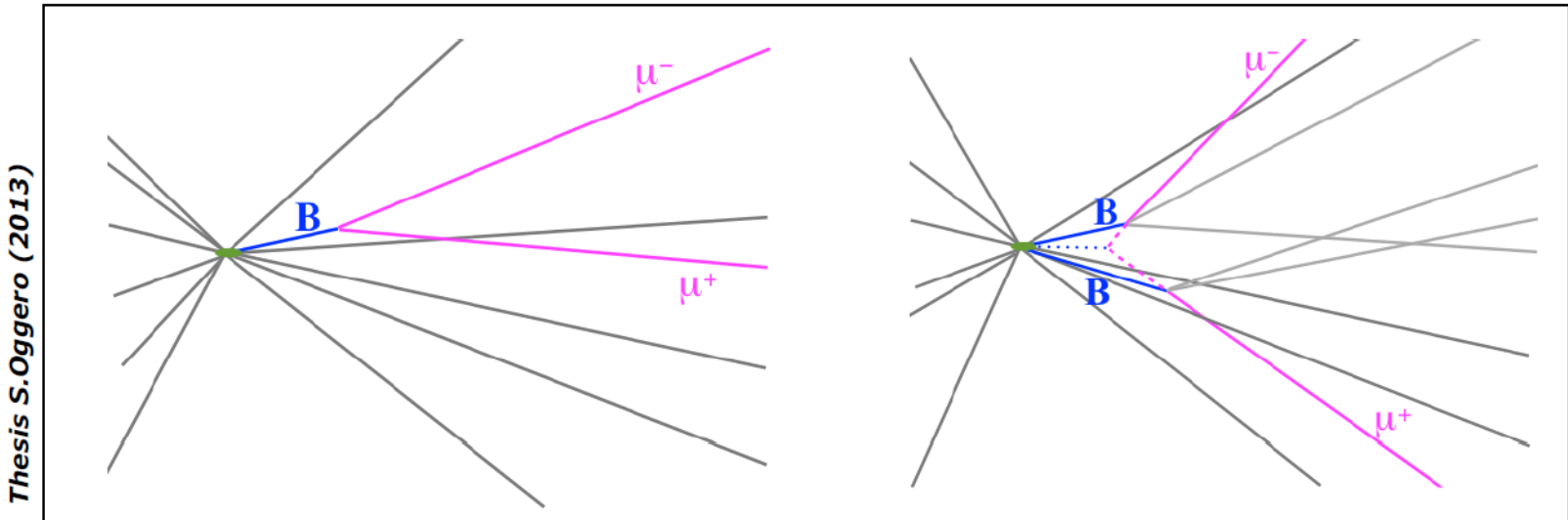


# Rare decays of B mesons: $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

A lot of events with two muons, very difficult to distinguish them:

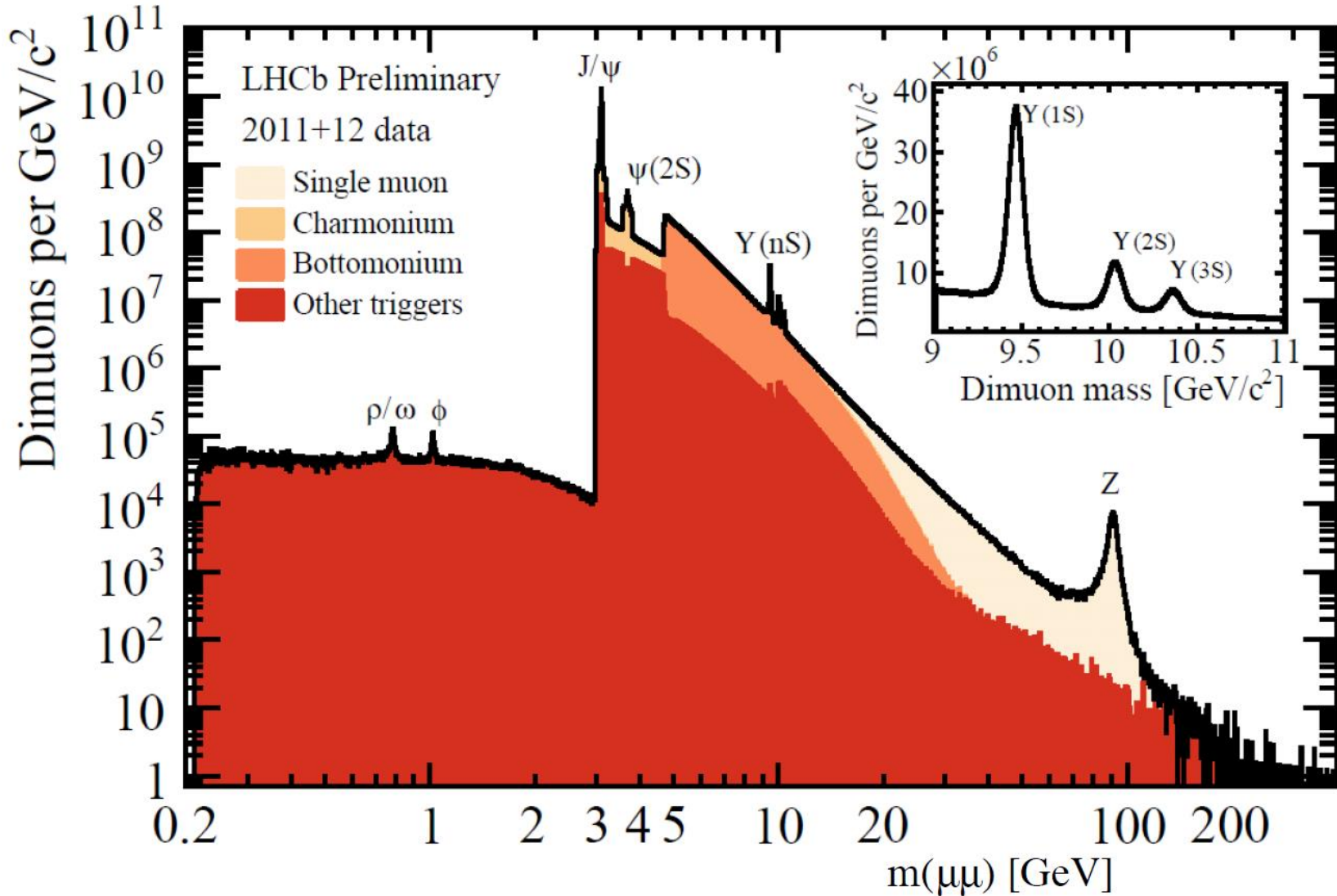
- Background:  $BR(B \rightarrow X\mu^+) = 10^{-1}$
- Signal:  $BR(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) < 10^{-8}$

$10^{12}$  B events produced,  $BR \sim 10^{-9}$ ,  $Eff \sim 5\%$   $\rightarrow$  expected  $\sim 50$  events



# Rare decays of B mesons: $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

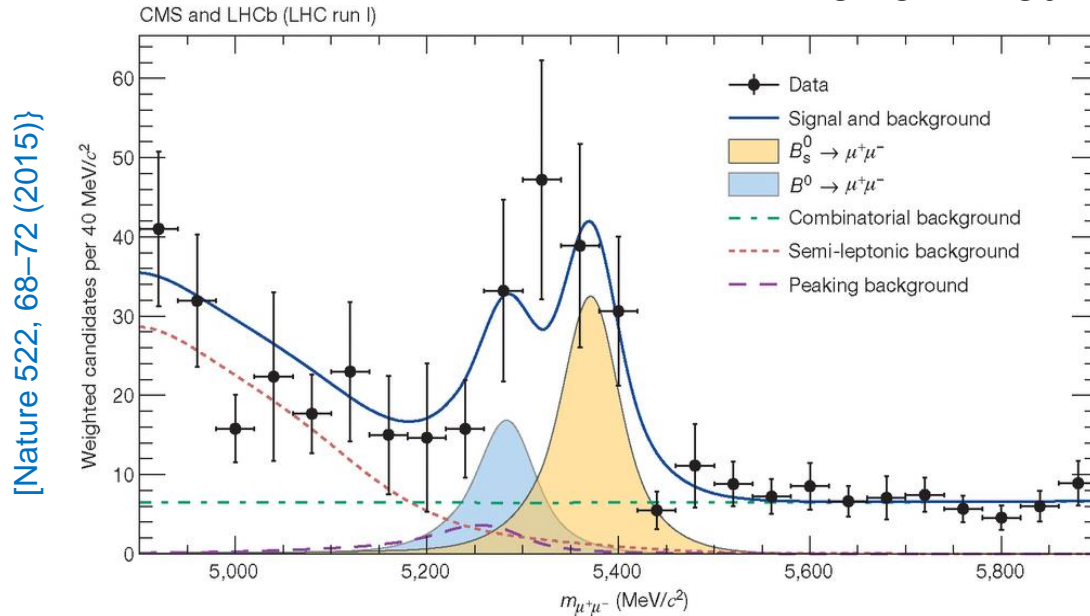
And many resonances...



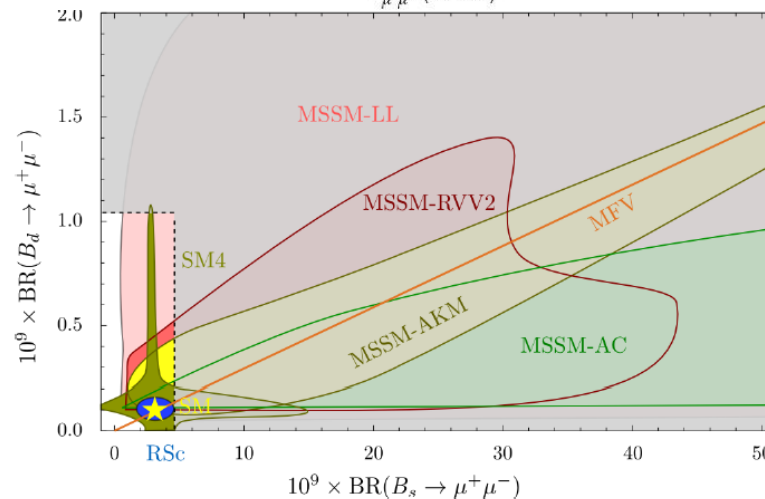
# Rare decays of B mesons: $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

→ First evidence by LHCb and CMS in 2012!

CMS + LHCb

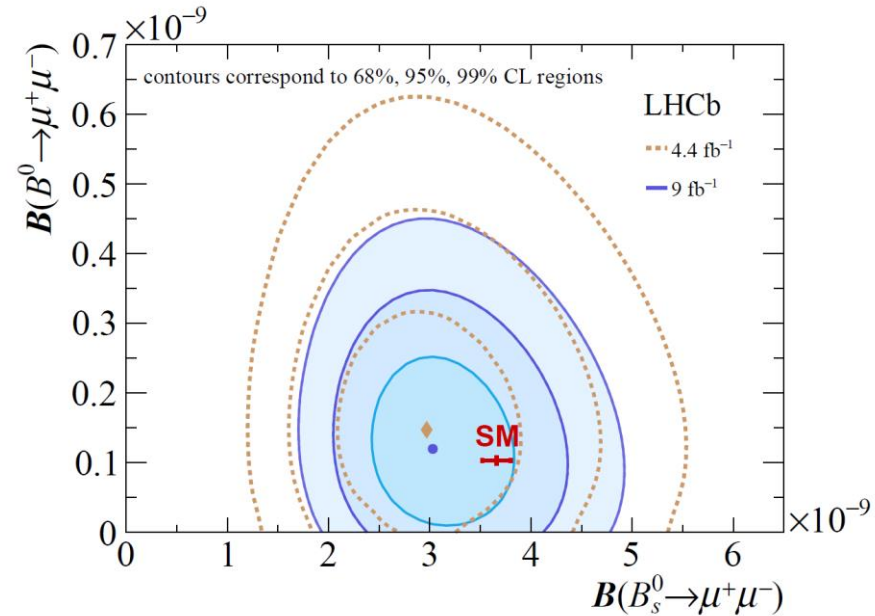
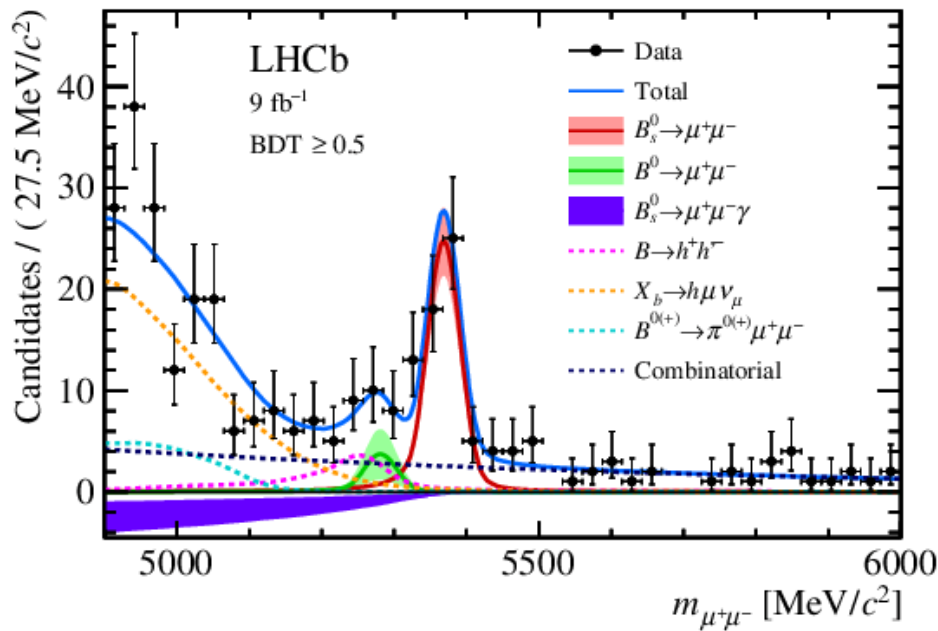
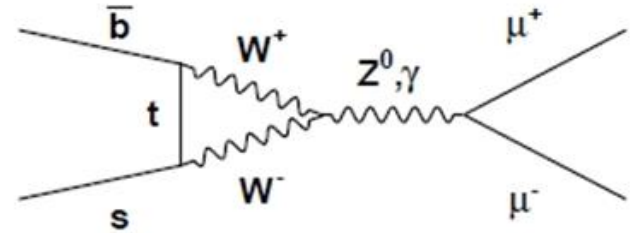


→ New Physics constraints:



# Rare decays of B mesons: $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

- New results by LHCb (Run1+Run2 =  $9\text{fb}^{-1}$ ):  
[\[arXiv:2108.09283 and 2108.09284v2 \[hep-ex\]\]](#)



$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (3.09^{+0.46+0.15}_{-0.43-0.11}) \times 10^{-9}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) < 2.6 \times 10^{-10}$$

# Rare decays of B mesons: $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

- Also measured by ATLAS and CMS (2011-2016 data), combined result\*:

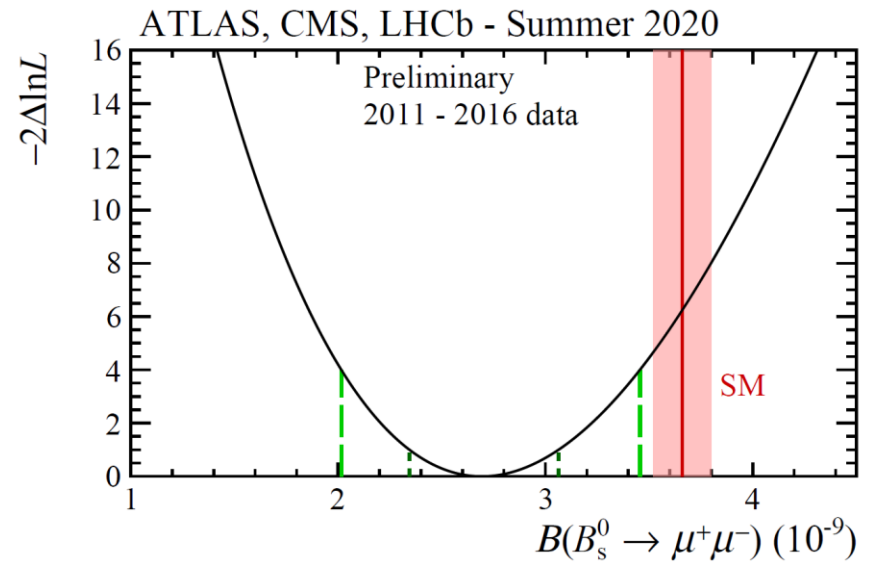
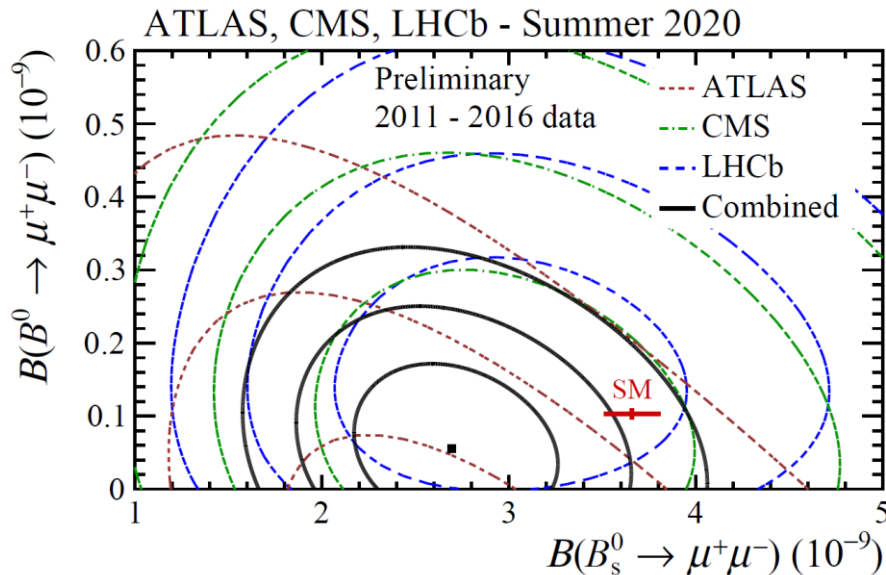
[CMS PAS BPH-20-003]

ATLAS [JHEP04(2019)098]

CMS [JHEP04(2020)188]

LHCb [PRL118(2017)191801]

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (2.69^{+0.37}_{-0.35}) \times 10^{-9}$$

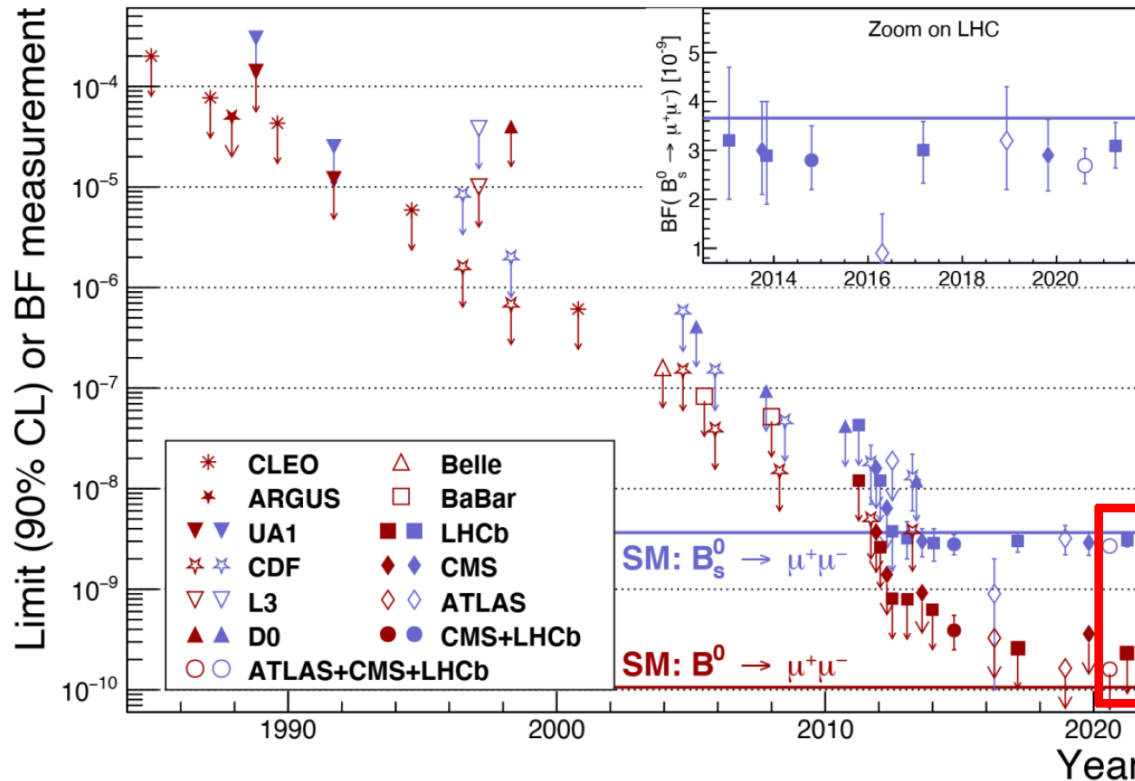


**Below, but compatible with the SM at  $2.1\sigma$**

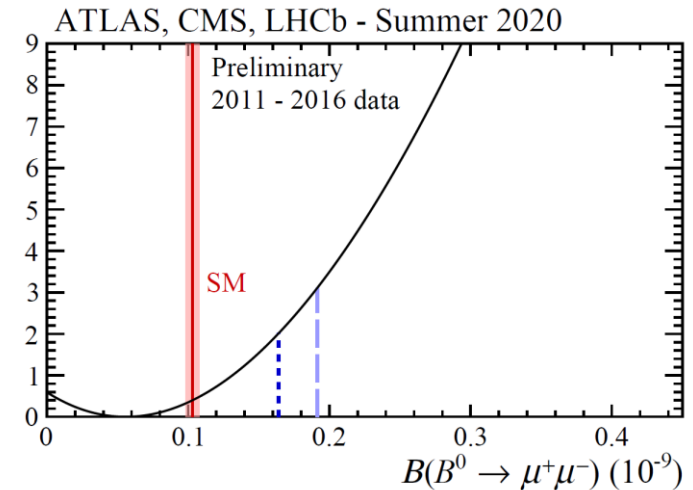
\* Result from LHCb with partial statistics

# Rare decays of B mesons: $B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

- Even more rare! ( $BR_{SM} \sim 10^{-10}$ ), still not observed:



[CMS PAS BPH-20-003]



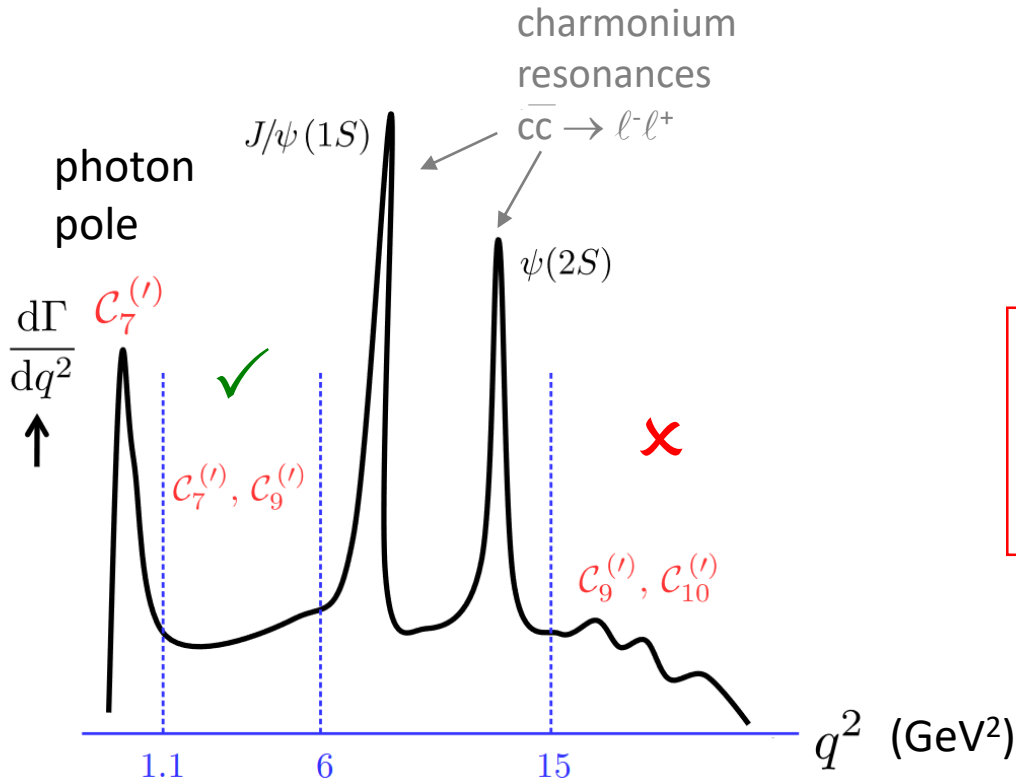
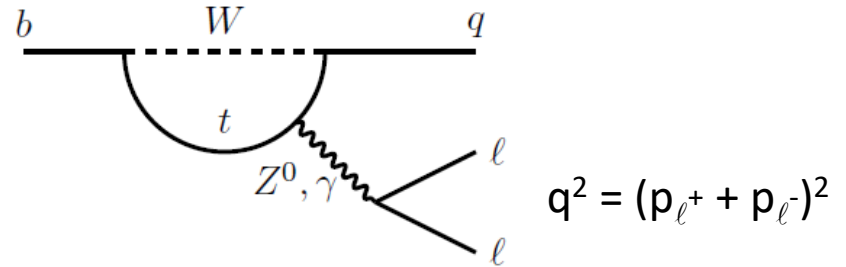
ATLAS [JHEP04(2019)098]  
 CMS [JHEP04(2020)188]  
 LHCb [PRL118(2017)191801]

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) < 1.9 \times 10^{-10} \text{ at } 95\% \text{ CL}^*$$

\* Result from LHCb with partial statistics

# Rare decays of B mesons: $B \rightarrow h \mu^+ \mu^-$

- Differential decay width:  $d\Gamma/dq^2$
- Each  $q^2$  region probes different processes



SM values ( $\mu=m_b$ ):

- $C_7 \sim -0.33$
- $C_9 \sim 4.27$
- $C_{10} \sim -4.17$

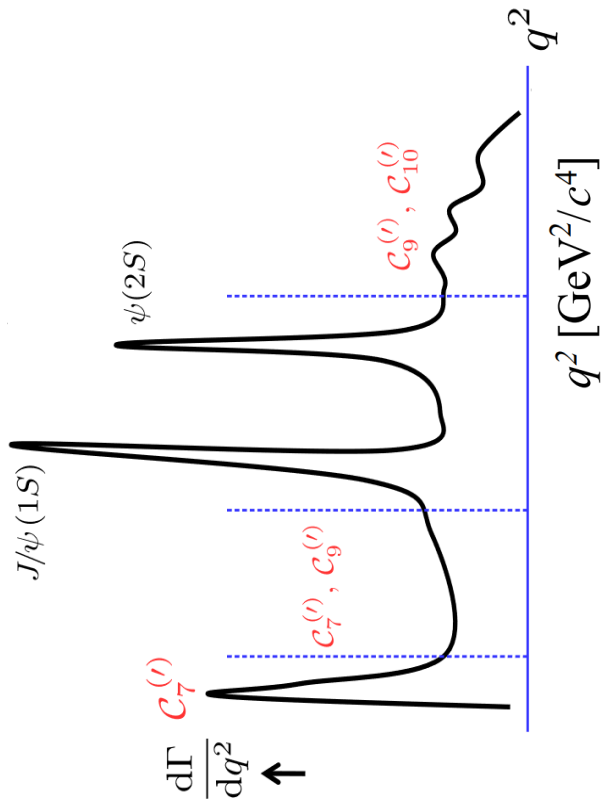
(Everything else small or negligible)

$$C_i = C_i^{\text{SM}} + C_i^{\text{NP}}$$

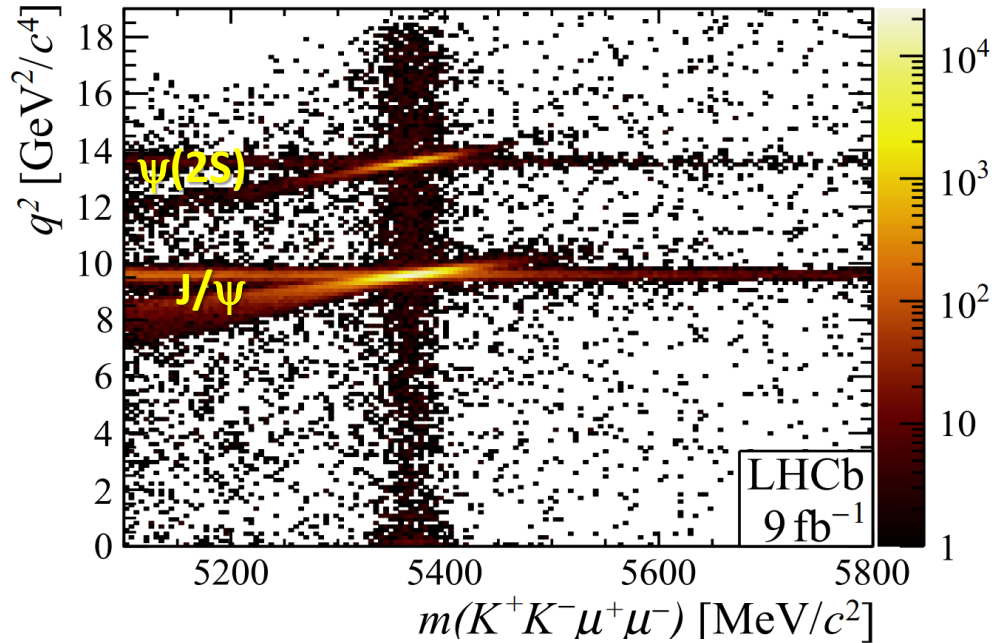
(Primed  $C'_i \rightarrow$  right handed currents: suppressed in SM)



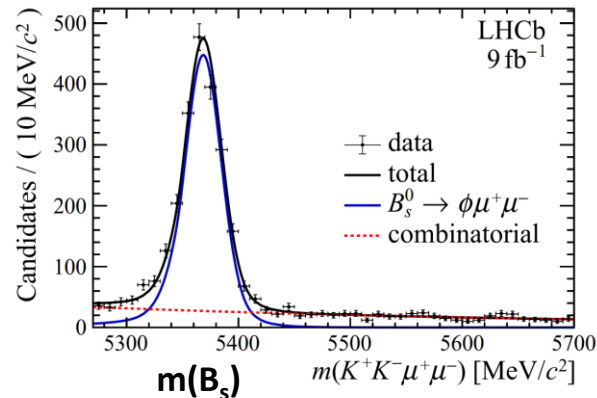
# Rare decays of B mesons: $B \rightarrow h \mu^+ \mu^-$



$B_s$  mass versus  $q^2$  for  $B_s \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-$

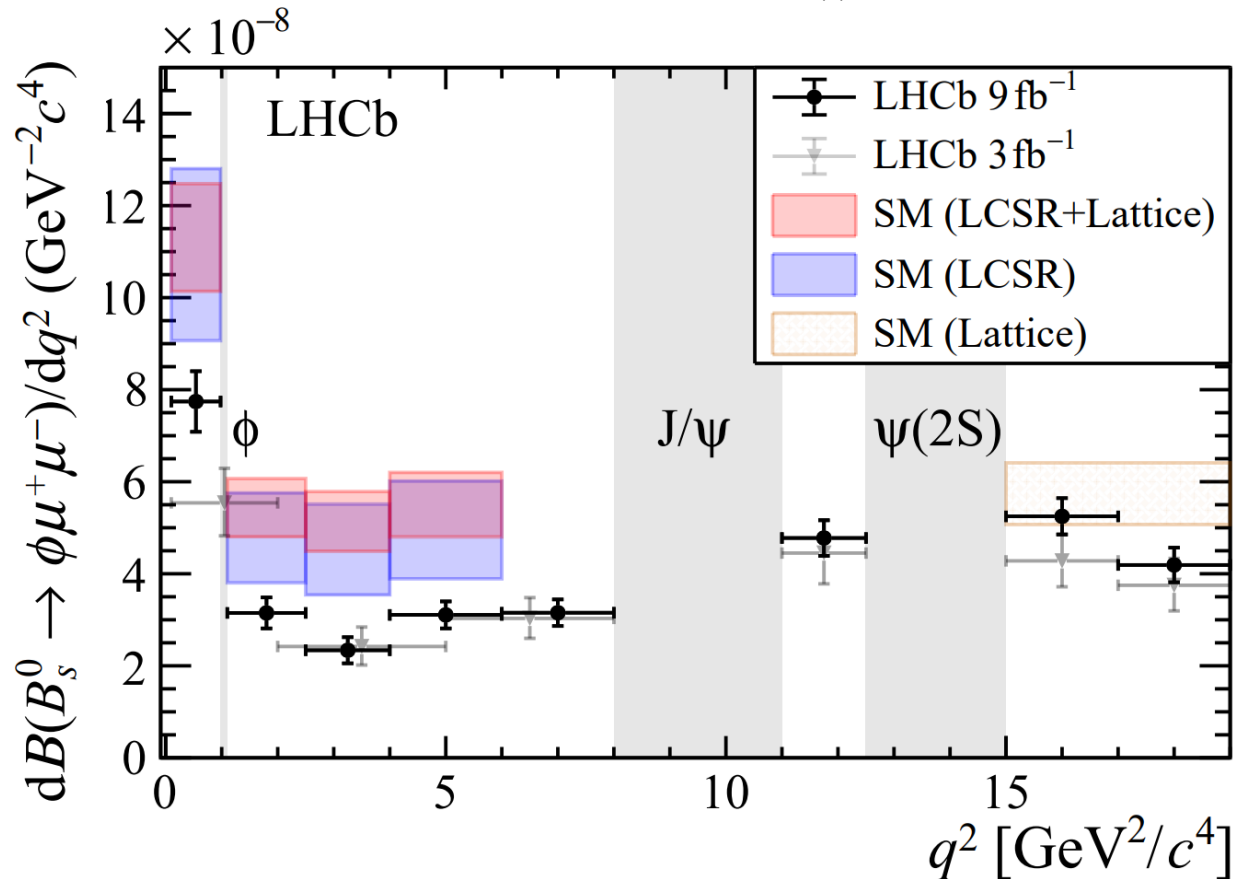


$B_s \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-$   
[arXiv:2105.14007]



# Rare decays of B mesons: $B \rightarrow h \mu^+ \mu^-$

- Differential decay width as function of  $q^2 = m_{\mu\mu}^2$



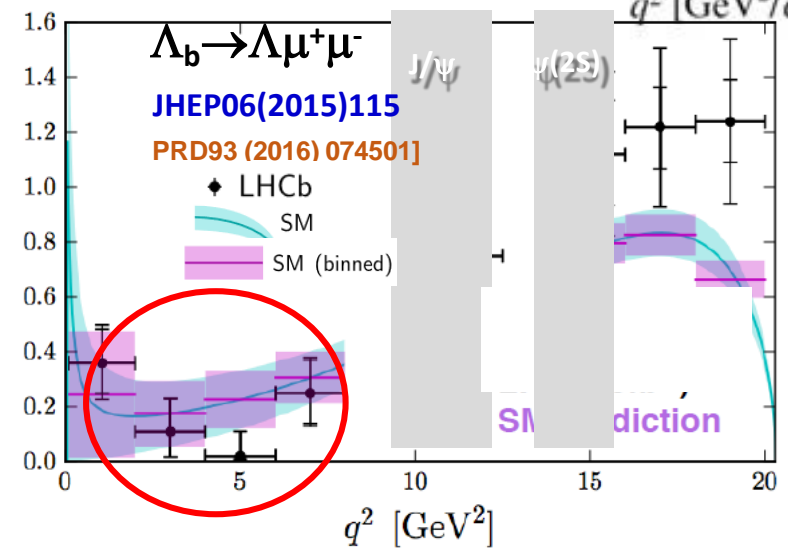
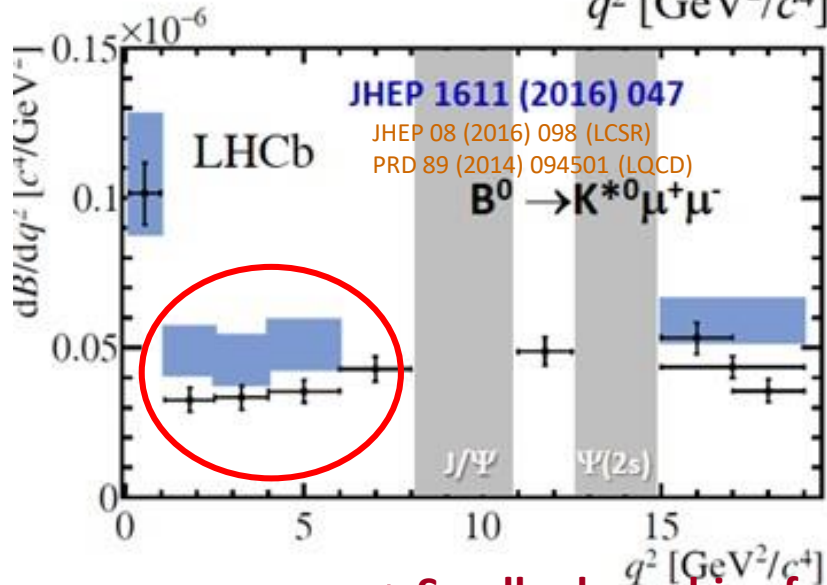
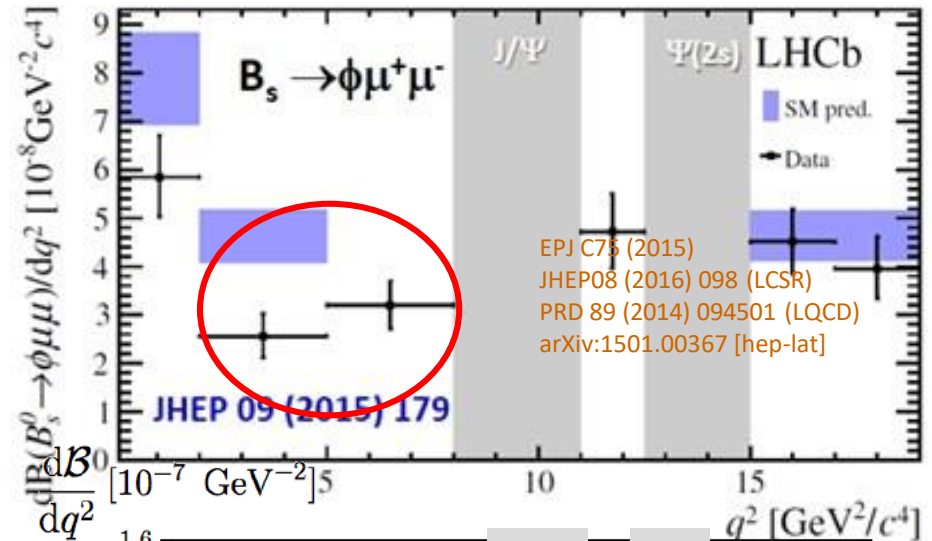
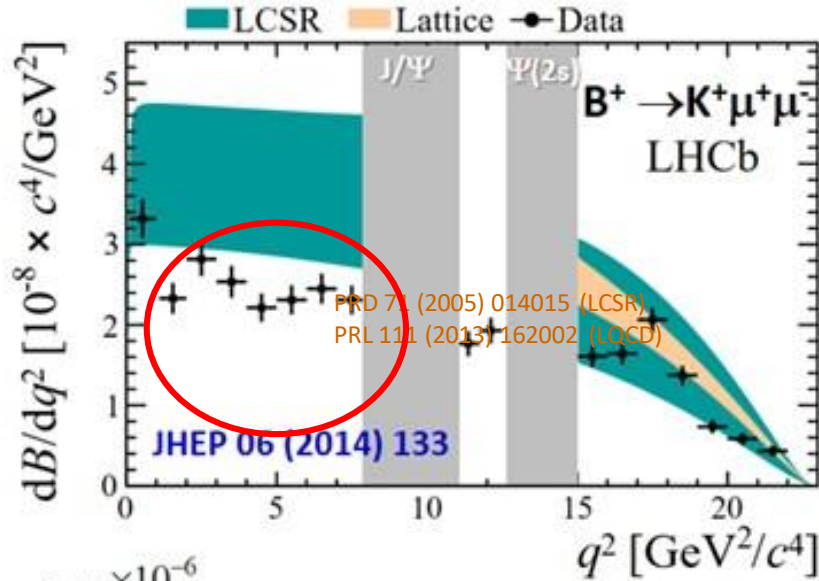
[arXiv:2105.14007]

In the  $q^2$  region 1.1-6  $\text{GeV}^2 \rightarrow$

**3.6 $\sigma$  away from SM predictions**

# Rare decays of B mesons: $B \rightarrow h \mu^+ \mu^-$

Results in other channels:

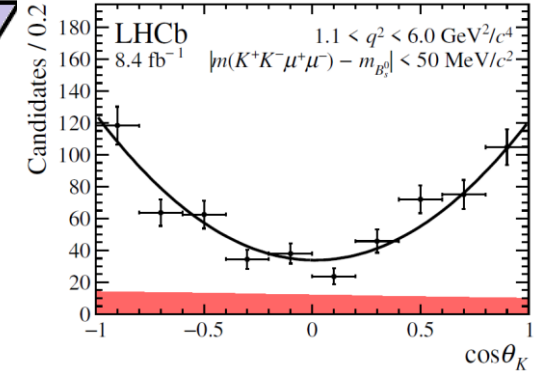
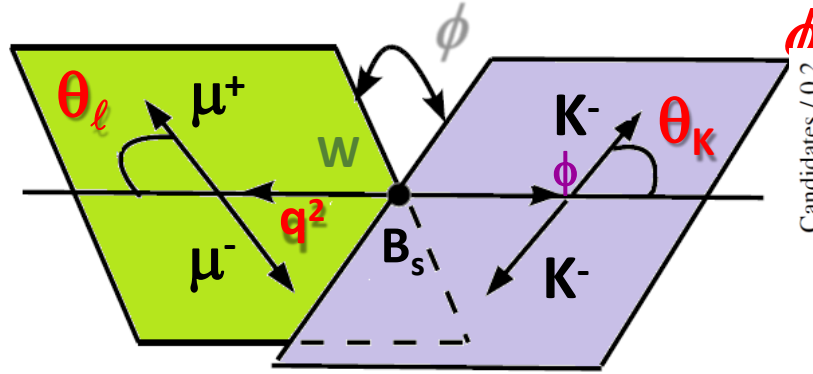
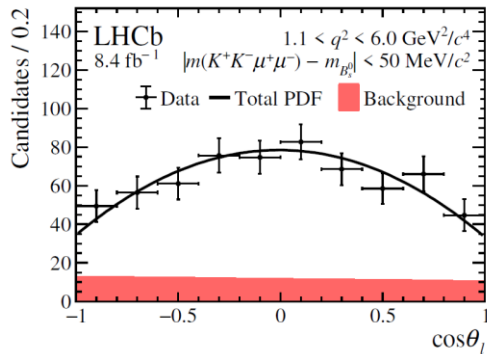


→ Smaller branching fractions than the SM predictions

# Rare decays of B mesons: $B \rightarrow h \mu^+ \mu^-$

- Angular distribution in  $B_s \rightarrow \phi \ell^- \ell^+$ : it depends on  $q^2$  and three angles

[arXiv:2107.13428]

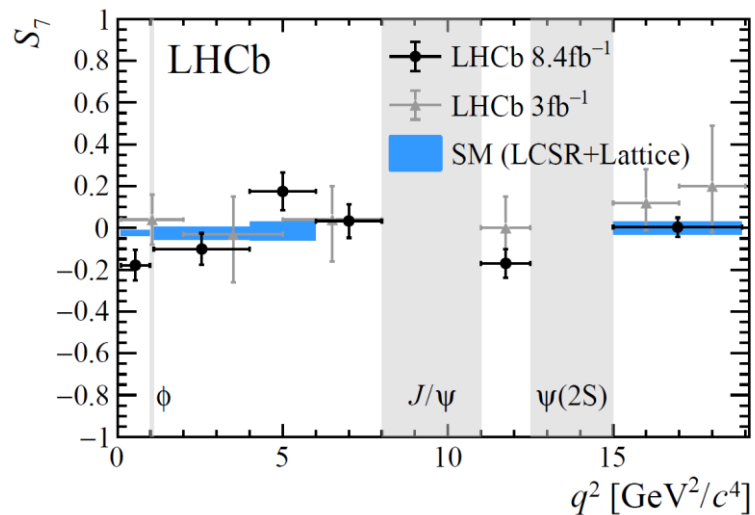
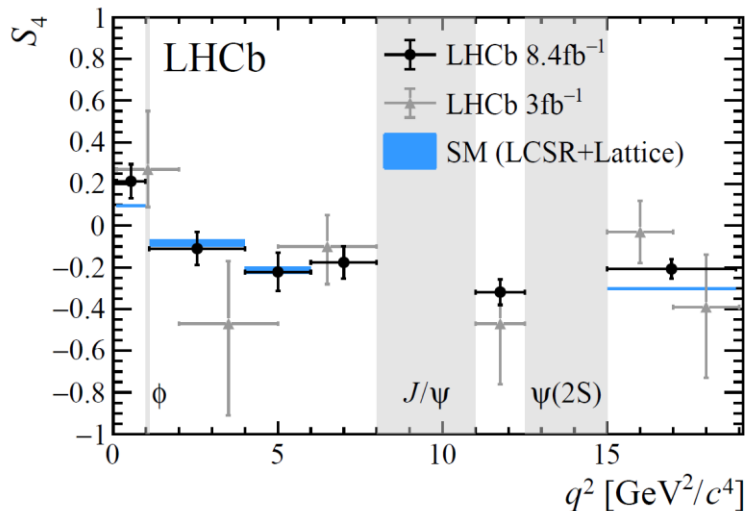
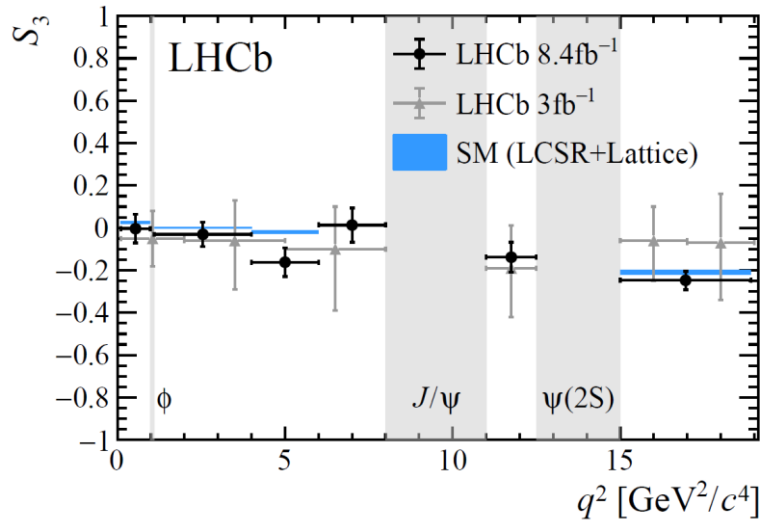
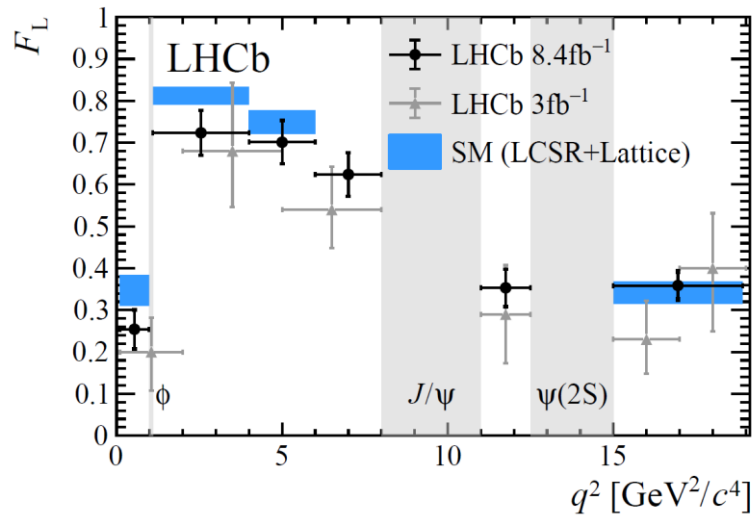


$$\frac{1}{d(\Gamma + \bar{\Gamma})/dq^2} \frac{d^3(\Gamma + \bar{\Gamma})}{d \cos \theta_l d \cos \theta_K d \phi} = \frac{9}{32\pi} \left[ \frac{3}{4}(1 - F_L) \sin^2 \theta_K (1 + \frac{1}{3} \cos 2\theta_l) \right. \\ \left. + F_L \cos^2 \theta_K (1 - \cos 2\theta_l) + S_3 \sin^2 \theta_K \sin^2 \theta_l \cos 2\phi \right. \\ \left. + S_4 \sin 2\theta_K \sin 2\theta_l \cos \phi + A_5 \sin 2\theta_K \sin \theta_l \cos \phi \right. \\ \left. + \frac{4}{3} A_{FB}^{CP} \sin^2 \theta_K \cos \theta_l + S_7 \sin 2\theta_K \sin \theta_l \sin \phi \right. \\ \left. + A_8 \sin 2\theta_K \sin 2\theta_l \sin \phi + A_9 \sin^2 \theta_K \sin^2 \theta_l \sin 2\phi \right]$$

→ Function of observables related to CP-averages and asymmetries:

$F_L, A_{FB}, S_i, A_i$

# Rare decays of B mesons: $B \rightarrow h \mu^+ \mu^-$



→ In general good agreement with SM, deviations less than  $2\sigma$

# Rare decays of B mesons: $B \rightarrow h \mu^+ \mu^-$

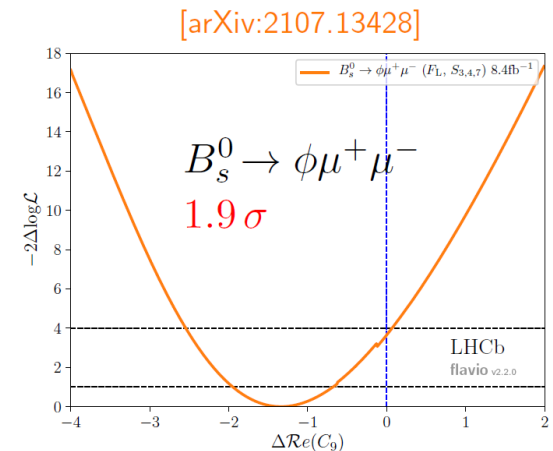
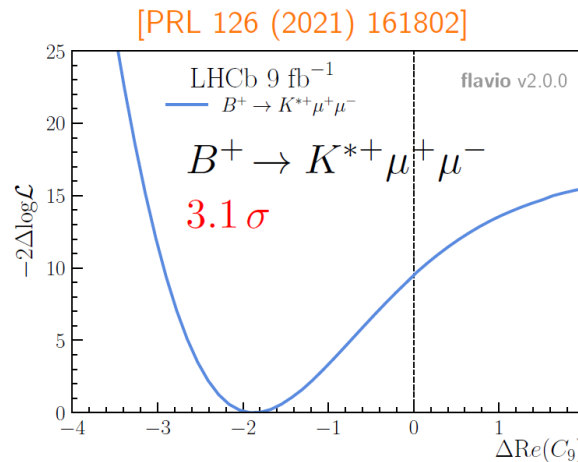
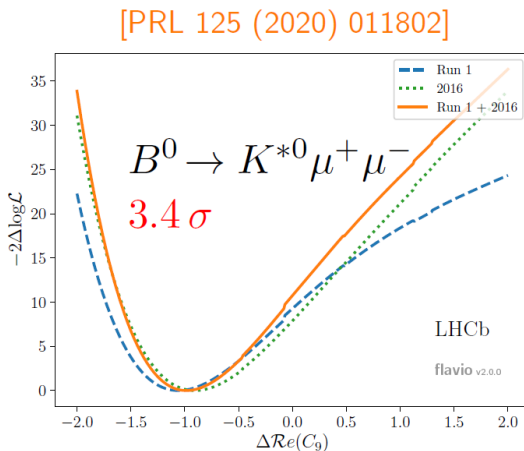
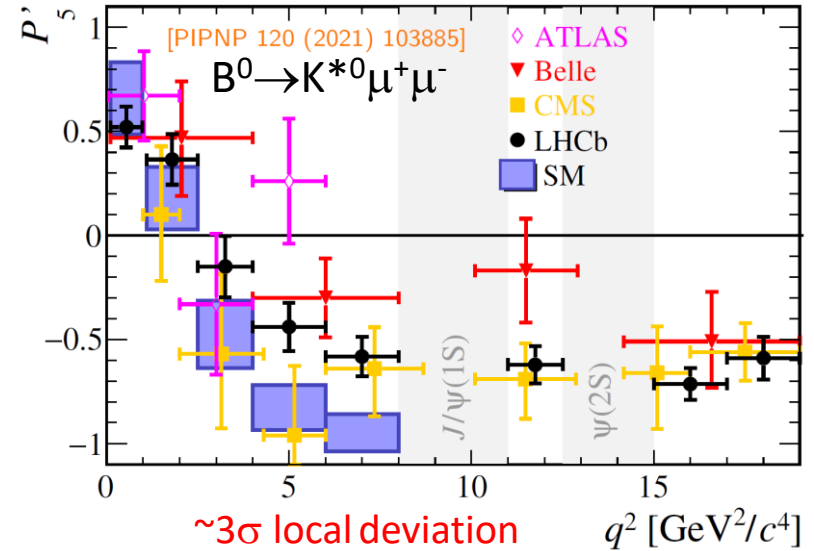
[JHEP 10 ('18) 047]  
 [PRL 118 ('17) 111801]  
 [PLB 781 ('18) 517]

- “Optimized observables”, with form factor cancellations  
 [JHEP 05 (2013) 137]

$$P'_{i=4,5,6,8} = \frac{S_{j=4,5,7,8}}{\sqrt{F_L(1 - F_L)}}$$

Two new analyses by LHCb with full data:

- ▶ Angular analysis of  $B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} \mu^+ \mu^-$   
 [PRL 126 (2021) 161802]
- ▶ Angular analysis of  $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \mu^+ \mu^-$   
 [PRL 125 (2020) 011802]



→ Negative shift of  $\text{Re}(C_9)$  preferred over SM hypothesis at level of  $2\text{-}3\sigma$

# Rare decays of B mesons: $R_K$

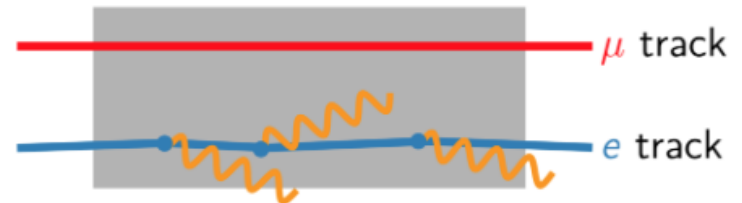
- In the SM all leptons are expected to behave in the same way

## Test of lepton universality:

$$R_K = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^+ \mu^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ e^+ e^-)} = 1.000 + \mathcal{O}(m_\mu^2/m_b^2)$$

- Precise theory prediction due to **cancellation of hadronic form factor uncertainties**

- Challenge: bremsstrahlung by electrons



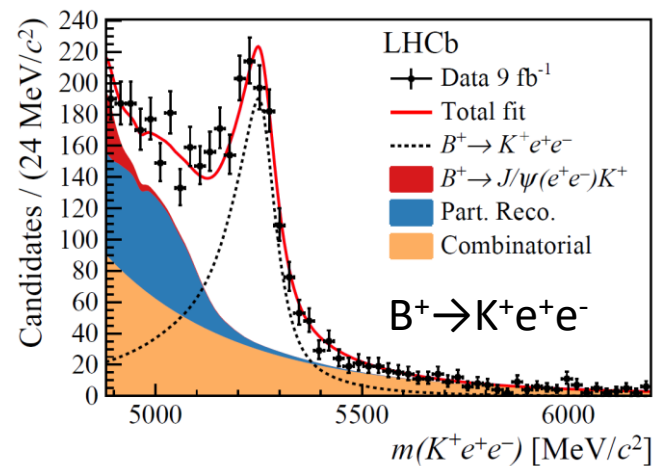
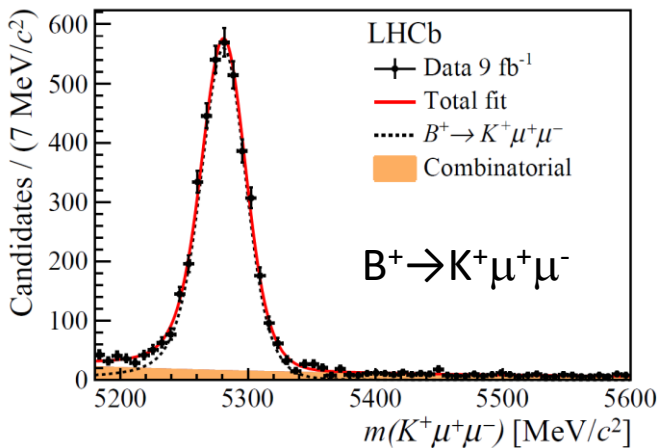
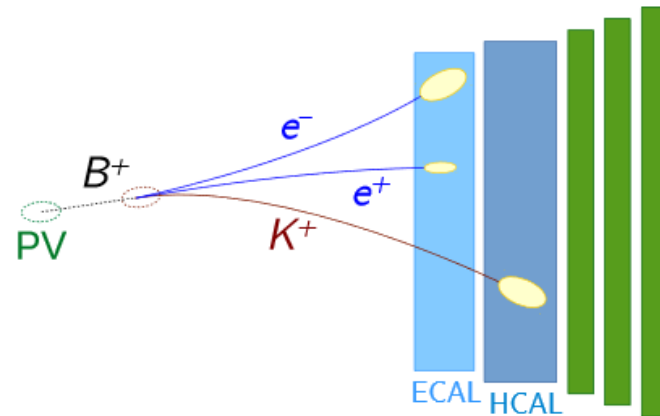
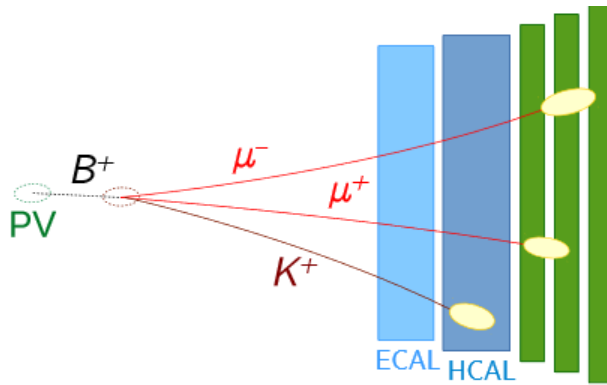
- Experimentally, we perform a double ratio to cancel systematic uncertainties

$$R_K = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^+ \mu^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-))} \bigg/ \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ e^+ e^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ J/\psi(e^+ e^-))}$$

# Rare decays of B mesons: $R_K$

Reconstructed B mass for  $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \ell^+ \ell^-$  (muons vs electrons)

[arXiv:2103.11769]

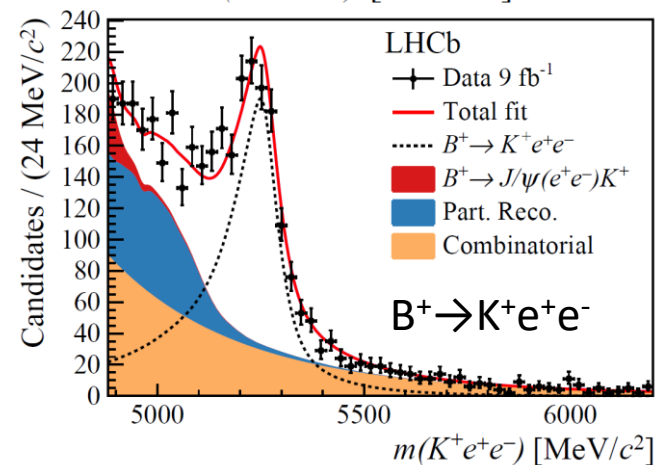
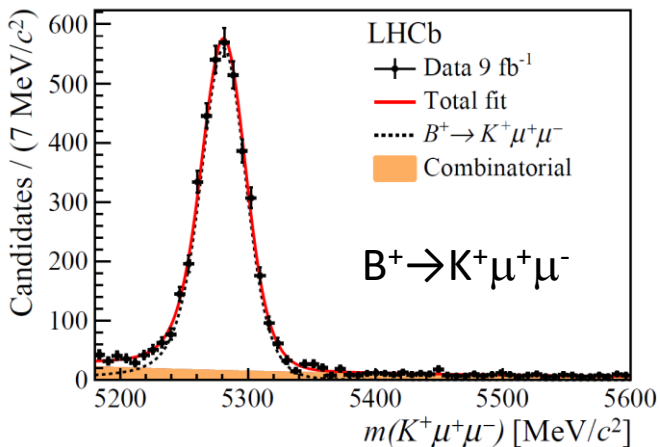
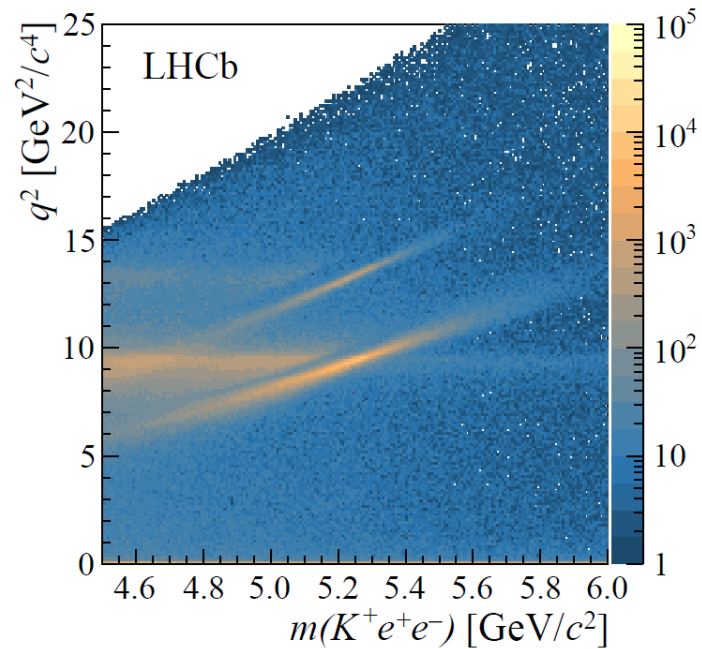
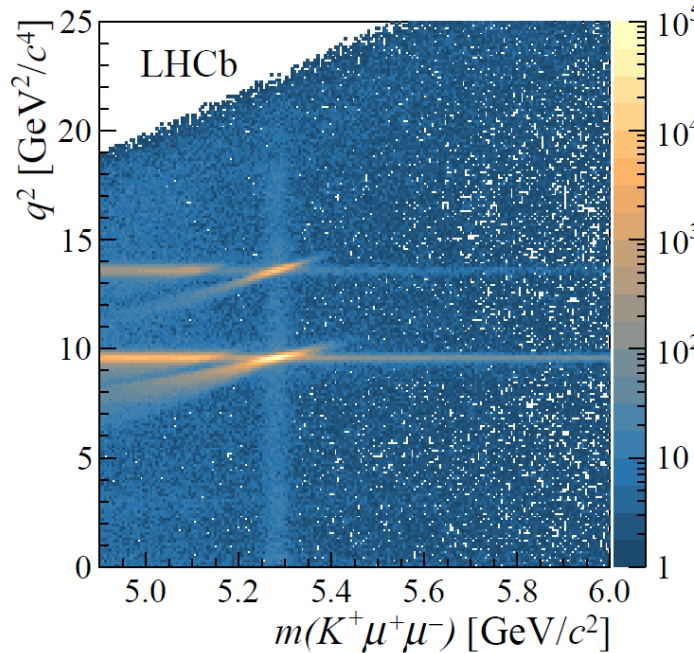




# Rare decays of B mesons: $R_K$

Reconstructed B mesons for  $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \ell^+ \ell^-$  (muons vs electrons)

[arXiv:2103.11769]



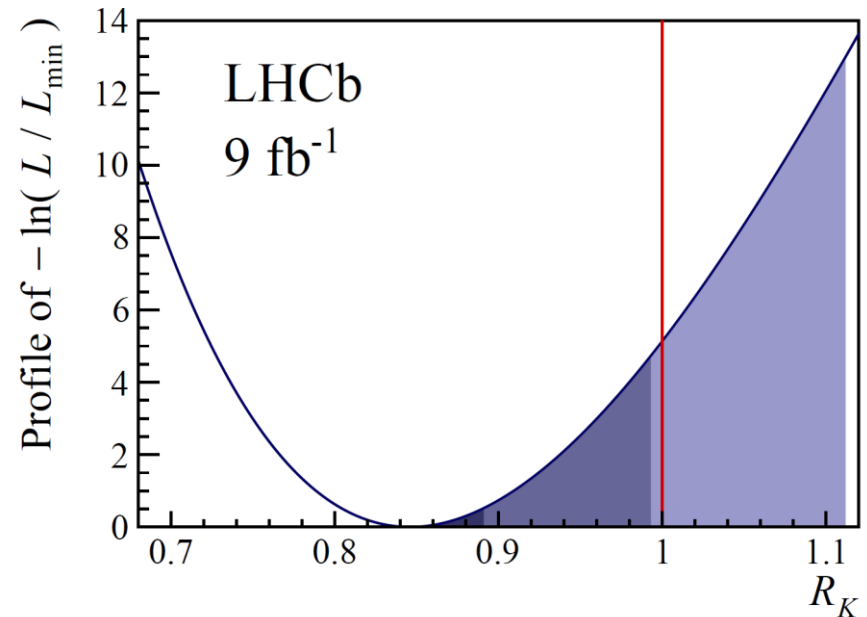
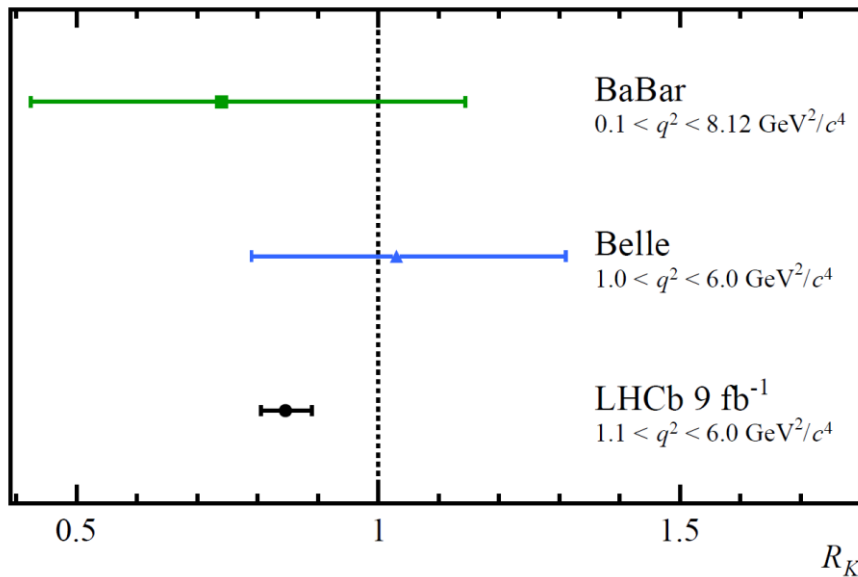
# Rare decays of B mesons: $R_K$

Results with full LHCb data:

[arXiv:2103.11769]

$$R_K = 0.846^{+0.044}_{-0.041}$$

( $1 \text{ GeV}^2 < q^2 < 6 \text{ GeV}^2$ )

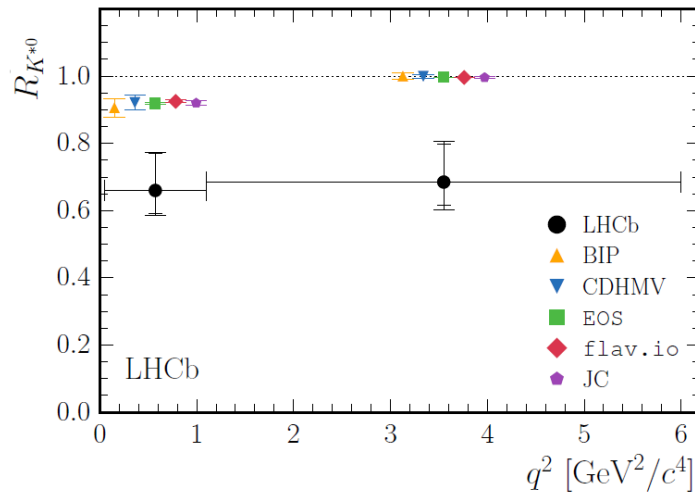


→ Deviation from SM at  $3.1\sigma \Rightarrow$  evidence of LFU violation

# Rare decays of B mesons: $R_K$

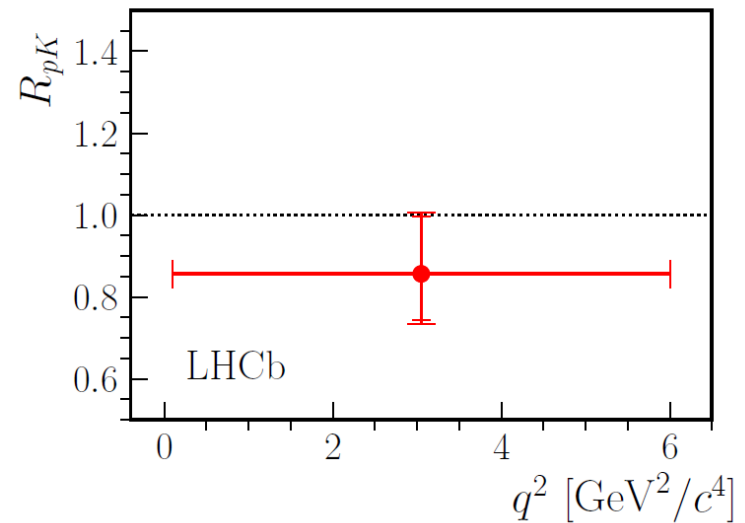
- Previous results in other channels:

→ LHCb measurement in the  $B \rightarrow K^* \mu^+ \mu^-$  channel,  $R_{K^*}$ , with  $3\text{fb}^{-1}$



[JHEP 08 (2017) 055]

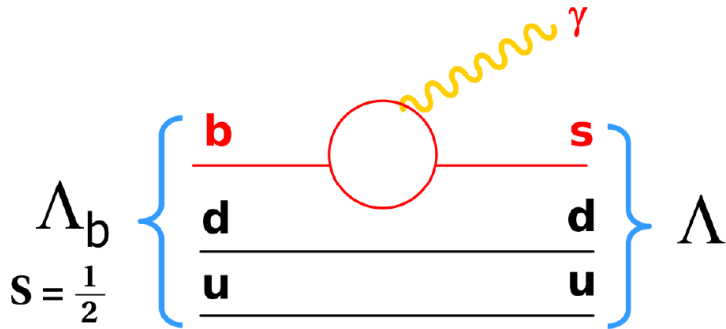
→ LHCb measurement in the  $\Lambda_b \rightarrow p K \mu^+ \mu^-$  channel,  $R_{pK}$ , with  $5\text{fb}^{-1}$



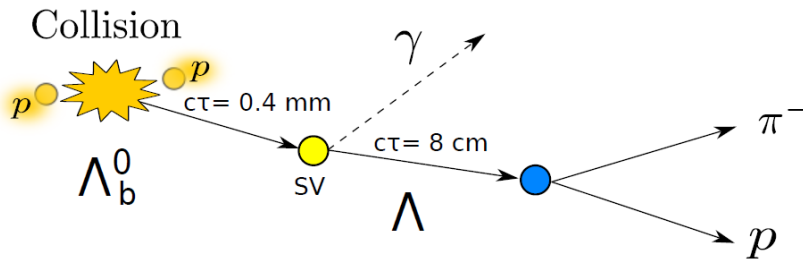
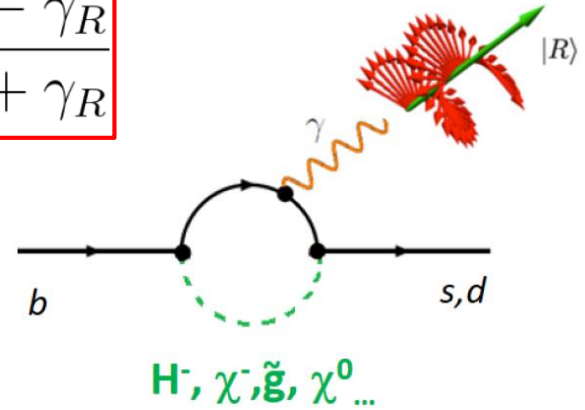
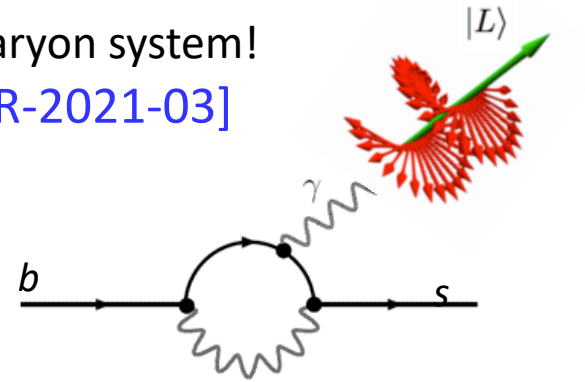
[JHEP 05 (2020) 040]

# Rare decays of B mesons: $b \rightarrow s\gamma$

- First measurement of the **photon polarization** in a b-baryon system!  
(Expected to be left handed in the SM) [LHCb-PAPER-2021-03]

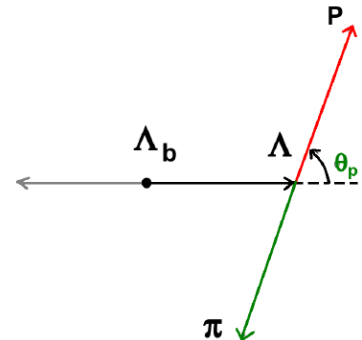


$$\alpha_\gamma = \frac{\gamma_L - \gamma_R}{\gamma_L + \gamma_R}$$



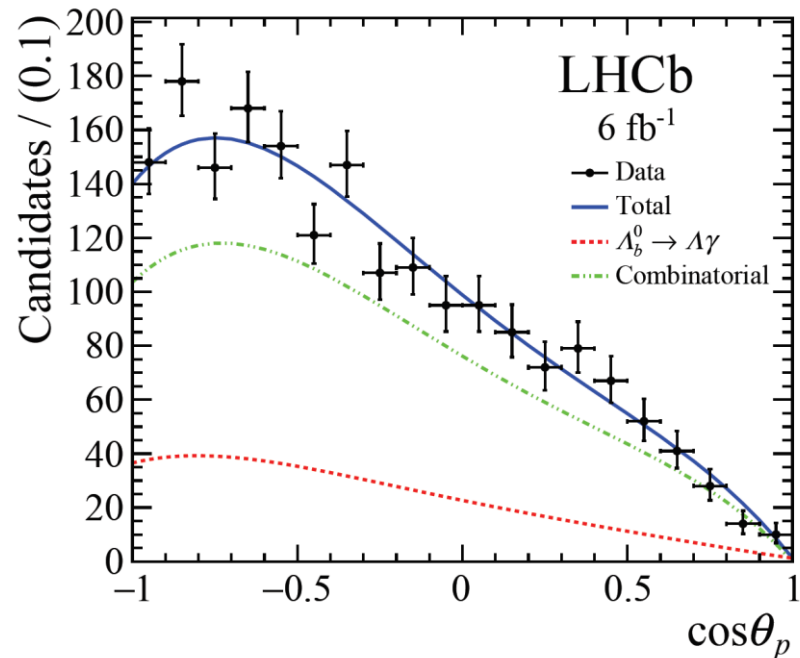
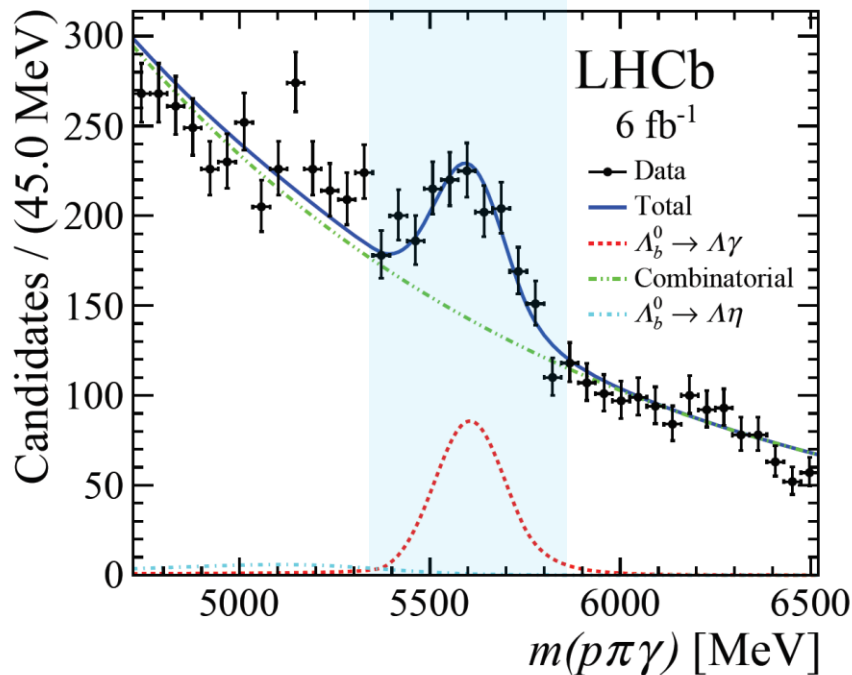
Angular distribution:

$$\Gamma_{\Lambda_b} = \frac{1}{4} \left( 1 - \alpha_\gamma \alpha_\Lambda \cos \theta_p \right)$$



# Rare decays of B mesons: $b \rightarrow s\gamma$

- First measurement of the **photon polarization** in a b-baryon system!  
(Expected to be left handed in the SM) [[LHCb-PAPER-2021-03](#)]

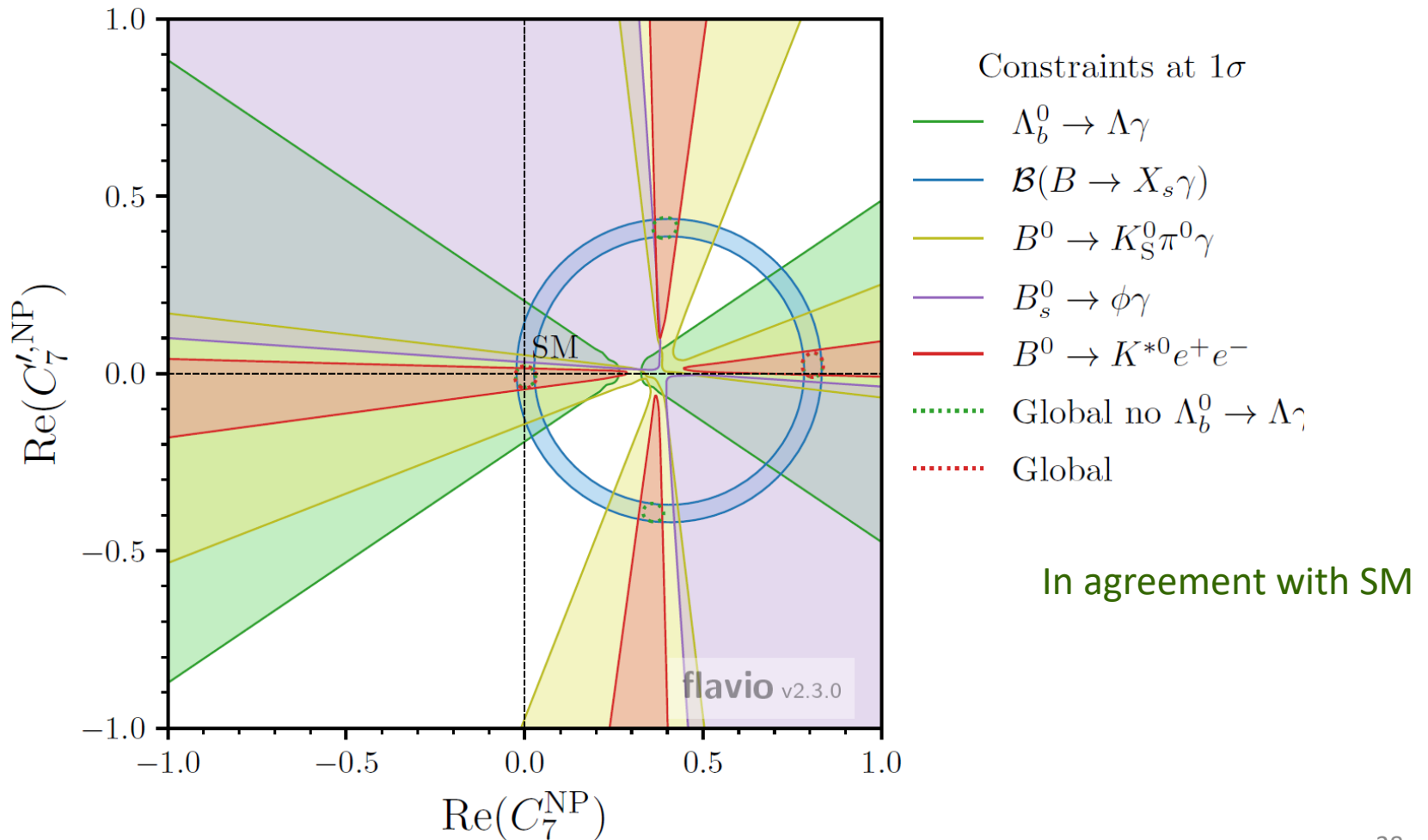


$$\alpha_\gamma = 0.82^{+0.17}_{-0.26} \text{ (stat.) }^{+0.04}_{-0.13} \text{ (syst.)}$$

In agreement with SM

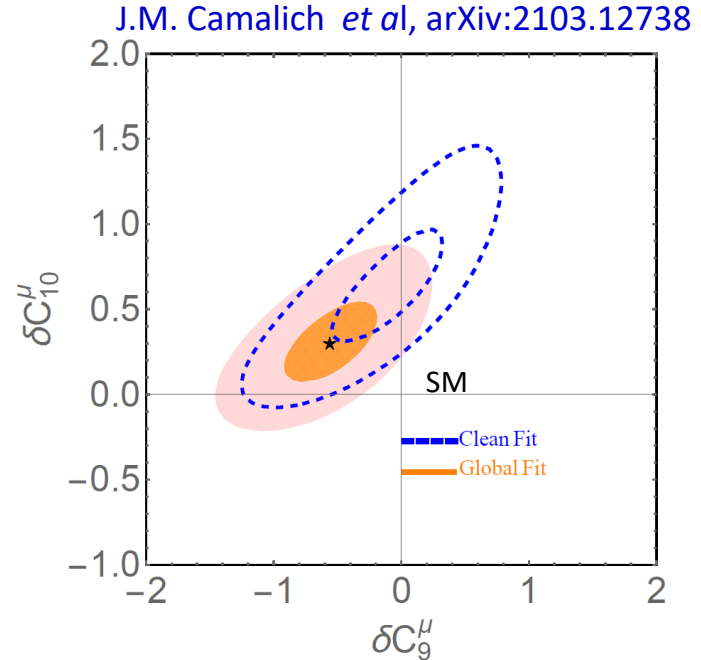
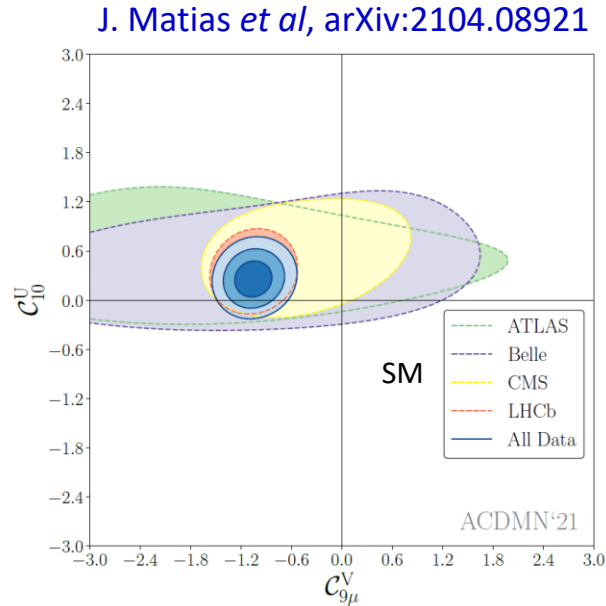
# Rare decays of B mesons: $b \rightarrow sy$

- Constraints from radiative ( $C7^{(\prime)}$ ):



# Rare decays of B mesons

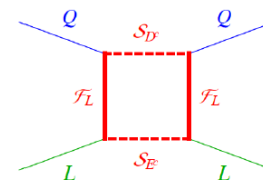
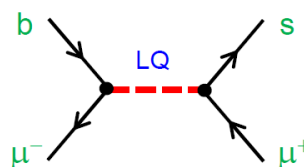
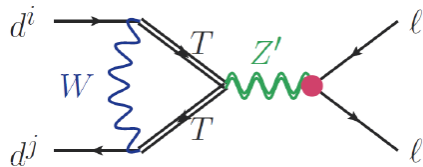
Global fits (more than 100 observables)



New Physics hypothesis preferred over SM by more than  $4 - 5\sigma$

Main effect on the  $C_{9\mu}$  coefficient:  $4.27^{\text{SM}} - 1.1^{\text{NP}}$

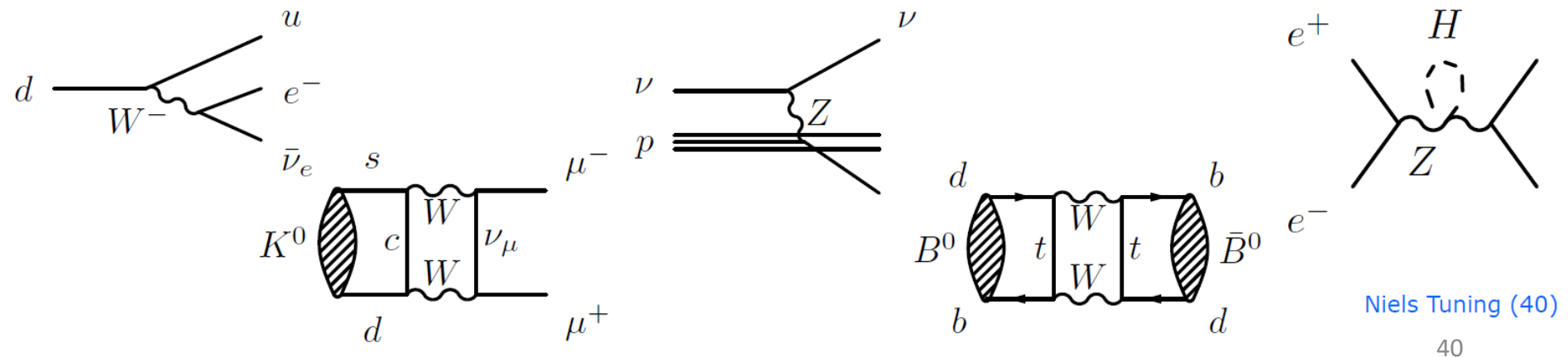
Triggered models with  $Z'$ , leptoquarks (LQ), new fermions and scalars....



# Rare decays of B mesons

Just a reminder ...

Particle	Indirect			Direct		
$\nu$	$\beta$ decay		1932	Reactor $\nu$ -CC	Cowan, Reines	1956
W	$\beta$ decay		1932	$W \rightarrow e\nu$	UA1, UA2	1983
c	$K^0 \rightarrow \mu\mu$	GIM	1970	$J/\psi$	Richter, Ting	1974
b	CPV $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$	CKM, 3 <sup>rd</sup> gen	1964/72	$\Upsilon$	Ledermann	1977
Z	$\nu$ -NC	Gargamelle	1973	$Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$	UA1	1983
t	B mixing	ARGUS	1987	$t \rightarrow Wb$	D0, CDF	1995
H	$e^+e^-$	EW fit, LEP	2000	$H \rightarrow 4\mu/\gamma\gamma$	CMS, ATLAS	2012
?	<b>What's next ?</b>					?



Niels Tuning (40)