

Dark sector and new ideas for LLP searches at LHCb

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DE COMPOSTELA



X. Cid Vidal (IGFAE) on behalf of the LHCb collaboration Anomalies and precision in Belle II era 8th of September 2021

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Introduction

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Dark sectors/LLPs → Stealth!

- Electroweak naturalness (hierarchy) problem solved by New Physics (NP) at the TeV scale.
- Other fundamental questions (dark matter, CP asymmetry, neutrino masses, flavor, etc) can also be solved if the NP scale, Λ_{NP} is around the TeV scale.
- No New Physics at the LHC yet! (modulo flavour anomalies...)
 - 1) *collider-phobic* (axions, dark photons, sub-GeV dark matter, sterile neutrinos, ...): "we'll need <another kind of experiment>" (e.g: FASER, MATHUSLA, ADMX, DUNE)
 - 2) Λ_{NP} higher than expected: \checkmark "let's build a new collider!" [BSM-doer, energy] "let's compute more loops!" [QCD-doer, precision]
 - 3) $\Lambda_{\text{NP}} \sim 0.1-1$ TeV, but it operates in <u>stealth mode</u>: heavy mediators, tiny couplings, compressed spectra, sequestered sectors, large backgrounds, ...)

Ideal territory for LHCb to explore!

J. Zurita

*Very long-lived, tiny couplings and/or ultra light new particles





- ideal playground to hunt for new heavy degrees of freedom.
- reconstruction...

Can LHCb probe New Physics (besides flavor)?

Stealth @ LHCb

J. Zurita

• LHCb is usually considered *only good for flavour physics*. ATLAS&CMS have more luminosity and larger geometrical acceptance (central), so that's the

• But LHCb has several other advantages compared to ATLAS&CMS!!! e.g: trigger on soft objects, accurate vertex reconstruction, hadronic ID, precise mass resolution ($\Delta m \sim 0.5\%$ for m ≤ 10 GeV), charged track





How does Stealth fit at LHCb?





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Experimental considerations

LHCb vs ATLAS/CMS

- limited acceptance for several searches
- good vertexing, PID, p resolution...
- In practice that means we can look into **complementary** phase space regions



Obvious disadvantage: LHCb collects less data than ATLAS/CMS (factor ~10) and has a

But softer triggers (for instance, can trigger detached di-muons with $p_T \sim 1$ GeV/c), also

 $\Delta p/p = 0.5$ % at low momentum to 1% at 200 GeV/c **impact parameter** resolution: (15 +29/p_T[GeV]) µm

LHCb detector papers:

JINST3(2008)S08005

Int J Mod Phys A30(2015)1530022

















Review of LHCb results

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Several searches for LLPs based on single theoretical benchmark: MSSM with R-parity violation



- Associated final states analyzed with different LHCb datasets
- resonant, W decays

Searches for LLPs

Interpretations provided in different production models, e.g., Higgs portal, non-





Search using LHCb Run 2 dataset:

- Main background, from QCD bb production
- LLP masses down to 7 GeV
- Correcting mass wrt flight direction!
- Simultaneous fit to corrected mass and lifetime
- No excess, but stringent limits in different production modes
- For instance, excellent limits for an Exotic Higgs decay

→ eµv

Eur. Phys. J. C81 (2021) 261















- Search using LHCb Run 2 dataset:
 - Again, main background QCD bb. Also, material interactions
 - ➡ LLP mass in [10,90] GeV, lifetime [5,200] ps
 - ➡ Fit to LLP mass for different LLP lifetimes
 - No excess, but excellent limits, with different production interpretations
 - Result updates Run 1 result (Eur. Phys. J. C77 (2017) 224)

$LLP \rightarrow \mu + di - jet$

LHCb-PAPER-2021-028 (NEW)













- - Tested the region: $m_{\pi} = [25-50]$ GeV, $\tau = [2-500]$ ps
 - Interpretation as Higgs exotic decay allows comparisons!





$H \rightarrow LLP \rightarrow jet jet$

Eur. Phys. J. C77 (2017) 812

Correlated with previous searches (slightly different benchmark), but in this case single displaced vertex with two (b) jets. No excess found with Run 1 dataset

Compatible search to Eur. Phys. J. C (2016) 76664 (both LLPs in the same event)

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- Heavy neutral leptons could be found in W decays!
 - Search using LHCb Run 1 dataset: use same and opposite charge muons.
 - Background dominated by SM $W \rightarrow \mu v$ accompanied by other stuff
 - Example of results Upper limits on mixing with muon neutrino $|V_{\mu\nu}|^2$
 - Not yet competitive with ATLAS [JHEP 10 265], CMS [JHEP 01 122] and DELPHI [Z. Phys. C74 57] searches

HNL in $W^{\pm} \rightarrow \mu^{+}\mu^{\pm} + jet$

Eur. Phys. J. C81, (2021) 248



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- Most spectacular example of vector portal, to connect dark sector with SM: dark photon
 - massive dark sector photon A' couples to SM photon via kinetic mixing
 - signature: resonance in (prompt or displaced) di-lepton spectrum
 - world wide effort for their detection: LHC, B-factories, fixed target experiments....
 - At LHCb, two proposals:
 - di-muon direct search [Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 251803 (2016)]
 - look for A' \rightarrow e⁺e⁻ in D^{*}0 \rightarrow D⁰ A' decays -[Phys. Rev. D 92, 115017 (2015)]

Dark photons







- Inclusive search for Dark Photons (A') in $\mu\mu$ with **LHCb** Run II dataset
 - A' can be very light, produced as y*
 - Large fraction in forward region, very soft p_T. Online reconstruction of candidates, no pre-scale down to threshold 2m_µ

Analysis flow (similar for prompt/displaced):

- → Self-normalize to $\gamma^* \rightarrow \mu \mu$
- Prompt backgrounds from same sign μ , fits to $IP\chi^2$, isolation cut applied only above 1 GeV/c^{2}
- Displaced background: $K_s \rightarrow nn$, b-hadron decays + material interactions (vetos for all)

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Searches for dark photons at LHCb (I)



PRL 120 (2018) no.6, 061801











Prompt results



PRL 124, 131802 (2020)

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Searches for dark photons at LHCb (II)

PRL 124 (2020) 041801

Displaced results



- 90% C.L. median expected limit
- 68% confidence interval for expected limit
- 95% confidence interval for expected limit
- LHCb (90% C.L.) [arXiv:1910.06926]
- Electroweak fit constraints (95% C.L.) [JHEP 02 (2015) 157]

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Searches for dark photons at LHCb (II)



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PRL 124 (2020) 041801

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Non-minimal searches

 \bullet Our $\mu\mu$ dataset can be sensitive to many more models, including dark-photon and similar topologies

Perform a model independent search, provide a few example interpretations

+ no isolation requirement + non-zero width considered



Prompt + b-jet



+ non-zero width considered









Interpretations

Example of model-interpretations (upper limits at 90% CL). Model dependent in backup! JHEP 10 (2020) 156

X-Higgs mixing angle for the 2HDM scenario: world best upper limits! Note in this scenario, excess seen by CMS [JHEP 11 (2018) 161)] excluded with 20 times lower σ Theoretical model from: PRD 93, 055047 (2016)

HV scenario: upper limits on γ - Z_{HV} kinetic mixing. Results depend on hidden hadron multiplicity (here $< N_{HV} > \sim 10)$

Theoretical model from: PRD 97 (2018) 095033



 $\sin(\theta_H)$

0.1







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New ideas (non-LHCb papers) Long-lived particles





Portals into New Physics

- How to couple light degrees of freedom to the SM while being consistent with all possible constraints (e.g: LEP, Tevatron, EDMs, LHC, flavor...)?
- Idea: add new particle weakly coupled to the SM via a <u>portal</u> term.

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \mathcal{L}_{portal} + \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{NP}}$$

Encodes interation
Field Lagrangian
Scalar S: $\mathcal{L}_S \supset \mu SH^{\dagger}H + \lambda S^2 H^{\dagger}H$

Vector A': $\mathcal{L}_{A'_{\mu}} \supset \epsilon F'_{\mu
u} B_{\mu
u}$

Fermion N: $\mathcal{L}_N \supset y_{ai}(L_a H) N^i$

Pseudoscalar a: $\mathcal{L}_a \supset a\left(\frac{F_{\mu\nu}\widetilde{F}^{\mu\nu}}{4f_{\gamma}} + \frac{G_{\mu\nu}\widetilde{G}^{\mu\nu}}{4f_q}\right) + \frac{\partial^{\mu}a}{f_f}\overline{f_i}\gamma^{\mu}\gamma^5 f^i \quad \text{ALPs}$

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Exclusive Displaced Hadronic Signatures (I)

XCV et al, JHEP 01 (2020)

action of SM fields and new particles <u>Phenomenology</u>

Exotic Higgs decays

Dark photon /Z'

HNL (ν masses)

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Portals into New Physics

with all possible constraints (e.g: LEP, Tevatron, EDMs, LHC, flavor...)? Decay: coup $\mathcal{L} \supset -\lambda_{SSh}hS^2 - \sin\theta \frac{m_f}{v}Sar{f}f$ es int Sc h Fermion IN. $\mathcal{L}_N \supset g_{ai}(\mathcal{L}_a \mathcal{I} \mathcal{I}) \mathcal{I}$

 $Pseudoscalar a: \mathcal{L}_a \supset a\left(\frac{F_{\mu\nu}\widetilde{F}^{\mu\nu}}{4f_{\gamma}} + \frac{G_{\mu\nu}\widetilde{G}^{\mu\nu}}{4f_q}\right) + \frac{\partial^{\mu}}{f_{f_q}}$

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Exclusive Displaced Hadronic Signatures (I)

XCV et al, JHEP 01 (2020)

• How to couple light degrees of freedom to the SM while being consistent



$$rac{\partial^{\mu}a}{f_{f}}ar{f}_{i}\gamma^{\mu}\gamma^{5}f^{i} \quad ext{ALPs}$$

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LHCb prospects for model independent limits on BR(H \rightarrow SS), assuming $BR(S \rightarrow KK) = 100\%$



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Exclusive Displaced Hadronic Signatures (II)

XCV et al, JHEP 01 (2020)

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- $(\mu^+\mu^-)$ bound state exists in the SM. Studying properties would be a very clean test to QED!
 - Also, potential to BSM physics (e.g., modifications to the TM decay rate)
- \bullet Expected properties of an ${}^{3}S_{1}$ (ortho-TM) state
 - Mass $\sim 210 \text{ MeV/c}^2$, ct $\sim 0.5 \text{ mm}$ (5 times a t lepton, for instance), way larger boost. Decays to e+e-!
 - Fragile state: Material interactions would produce µµ separation
 - Predominantly produced in $\eta \rightarrow (\mu \mu)\gamma$ decays. BR~10⁻⁹
 - But huge η production cross section at the LHC. Decay too soft in p_T for ATLAS/CMS
- Signature: LLP decaying to e+e- not having traversed any detector layer or material (challenging). At LHCb, similar to a dark photon!

True Muonium (I)

XCV et al, Phys. Rev. D 100, 053003







- Potential reconstruction strategies at LHCb: inclusive (ignore γ) or exclusive (reconstruct γ and get η mass)
 - Assume *ee* mass resolution at 210 MeV/c² close to current ($\sigma \sim 20$ MeV/c²)

 $5\sigma_{\text{stat}}$ discovery potential: Discovery possible with inclusive search at the end of Run 3!



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True Muonium (II)

XCV et al, Phys. Rev. D 100, 053003

Assess prospects for LHCb upgrade(s). Different assumptions for reconstruction efficiencies.

Inclusive search, background dominated by QCD



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Other proposals (non-LHCb papers) ALPs





 Axion-like particles (or ALPs) are Pseudo Nambu Goldstone Bosons, associated to spontaneously broken approximate symmetries.

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} (\partial_{\mu} a)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m_a^2 a^2 + \sum_{i,\mu,\nu} \frac{a}{f} c_i \frac{\alpha_i}{4\pi} F_{i,\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{i,\mu\nu} - \frac{g^* f}{\sqrt{2}} \psi \tilde{\psi}$$

- \rightarrow Their mass, \mathbf{m}_{a} , can be arbitrarily below the NP scale
- Their coupling to the SM goes as 1/f, while the $m_{NP}(=g^*f)$ goes with $f \rightarrow exploring$ the intensity frontier implies exploring the energy frontier!
- In the SM sector, ALPs couple to gluons (LHC production) or photons (LHC decay). Decay to gluons possible but way harder experimentally

Axion-like particles through photons (I)

XCV et al, JHEP 2019 (113)





- Light ALPs impossible for ATLAS and CMS
 - Photons too soft. Different at LHCb :-)
- ◆ Exploratory pheno study: use 80 pb⁻¹ of public LHCb data. This is ~1% of what we have on tape!
 - \rightarrow Existing trigger for $B_s \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$, for a while (analysis is relatively similar and could be done in parallel)
 - Trigger mass range extended in 2018 to cover all the gap. Before 2018, just sensitive to m_a~B

SciPost Phys. 7, 062 (2019)

Experimental analysis ongoing, potential to include photon conversions (should improve sensitivity, but not by a lot)

Axion-like particles through photons (II)

XCV et al, JHEP 2019 (113)







Alternatives to discover an ALP

- There is a bit of a blind spot in searches for (neutral colorless) BSM GeV).
 - to trigger... How about LHCb?
 - Use set of 12 models with a composite Higgs as a benchmark. Very predictive models, only free parameter is mass of the (prompt) ALP.
 - D mesons)
 - and backgrounds

D. Buarque et al, arXiv:2106.12615

well-motivated resonances in the mass regime O(5-10 GeV) - O(100

Backgrounds at the LHC for such light resonance searches are huge. Difficult

Focus on μμ, γγ (again) and two new proposals: ττ and exclusive cc (two

For the first two, recast LHCb results or prospects shown in previous slides. For the others, perform simplified study based on simulation of LHCb signal









Results promising: interesting alternatives in leptophobic or nonuniversal lepton coupling scenarios



* rest of models avaliable in paper

Alternatives to discover an ALP

D. Buarque et al, arXiv:2106.12615







Other proposals (non-LHCb papers) DM related







- Long lived Φ meets two of Sakharov conditions
- This can be achieved even with the CPV of the SM
- relaxed baryon number violation only in visible sector. **Proton becomes stable**!

Key aspect: DM charged under baryon number. Total baryon of the Universe is conserved,







- Prospects at LHCb recently assessed
 - Search for exclusive B or Λ_b decays, with MET in the final state
 - Develop selection and estimate background with fast simulation
 - Potential to exclude most of interesting phase space: overlap with Belle/BaBar



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A. Brea et al, arXiv:2106.12870

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Conclusions

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- LHCb can be the *new* detector to directly discover BSM physics (à la SHIP or MATHUSLA)
 - It has the **big** advantage that it is already built!
- Plethora of searches performed in this area.
 - For instance, results in µµ searches: dark photon and model independent. Show LHCb potential for dark sector/Stealth physics
- Plenty of very well motivated ideas already there: would probably need an order of magnitude more people to do all the searches proposed!
- New detector ready from Run 3, trigger-less readout, more luminosity taken: stay tuned!

Conclusions





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LHCb can be the new detector to directly discover BSM physics (à la SHIP or MA arxiv:2105.12668

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Conclusions

Unleashing the full power of LHCb to probe Stealth New Physics

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Backup

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The parameter space

lifetime

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We're

here

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LHCb upgrade(s) (I)

- We have ~9 fb⁻¹ of data on tape
- Run guaranteed till 2030, currently upgrading the detector
- Submitted LoI for LHCb Upgrade II, to run beyond 2030
- Schedule being modulo COVID crisis!

Expression of Interest for a Phase-II LHCb Upgrade, **CERN-LHCC-2017-003**

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LHCb upgrade(s) (II)



At upgrade, almost trigger-less readout

- Just software triggers, full event reconstruction at 30 MHz
- Very convenient to trigger in nonstandard signatures!
- We shall be able to reconstruct even lowest momentum particles, e.g., very efficient on low mass muons for dark photon reconstruction
- HLT1 level will be pure GPU-based!
 (Allen project)

arxiv:1912.09161







- excess in $H \rightarrow \mu T$
 - Extended to large mass range (45-195 GeV/c²)
- T reconstructed in both leptonic and hadronic decay channels: 4 channels considered
 - μT_{μ} , μT_{e} , μT_{h3} , μT_{h1}
 - Different selections depending on the mass of the H searched for (e.g. different p_T cuts). Isolation applied on leptons
- ◆ Main backgrounds are $Z \rightarrow II$, QCD and V+jet. First estimated from theory, second from same-sign data

Search for LFV decays of Higgs-like bosons (I)

Eur. Phys. J. C78 (2018) 1008

Search performed with Run 1 LHCb dataset, motivated by previously existing







Search for LFV decays of Higgs-like bosons (II)

Results

- Fit data to obtain N_{sig} and determine efficiencies from simulation, corrected with data
- Main systematics, efficiency determination and PDFs
- No signal found, so upper limits set with the CL_S method. For each mass, use selection providing better expected upper limit
- Combine different channels into single measurement
- For the SM Higgs,

BR(H→⊤µ) < 26%

0.25% and 1.85% for CMS and ATLAS

Eur. Phys. J. C78 (2018) 1008



Worse than ATLAS/CMS for high masses, but first search in low masses! Could be extended to even lower masses







- **Signature**: single displaced vertex with two (b) jets
- Model: Hidden valley V-pions from SM Higgs decay
- Use Run 1 dataset, trigger on displaced vertex.

Selection:

- Find two associated jets, quality requirement on jets, di-jet pointing
- Material veto + selection optimised as a function of R_{xy}
- Main remaining background: QCD
- Signal from di-jet mass fit in 6 bins of Rxy



$H \rightarrow LLP \rightarrow jet jet (I)$









$H \rightarrow LLP \rightarrow jet jet (II)$

- Run I search presented above
 - Scale to the upgrade(s) luminosities, conservative assumptions
 - Reconstruction of displaced vertices and their associated tracks is crucial, also keep under control the dominant background contributions and pile-up effects.
 - Material interactions kept under control by the use of a very detailed veto map. Removal of VELO RF foil would further enhance the sensitivity!

$H \rightarrow LLP$ projected exclusions



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LHCB-CONF-2018-006

Hopefully we'll cover the low mass region too: Jet substructure! Nothing more quantitative for the moment





Prompt non-minimal

Low mass upper limits at 90% CL on $\sigma(X \rightarrow \mu\mu)$ •



Inclusive



Beauty associated

JHEP 10 (2020) 156

<u>Namer Giu viuar - Dark Sector and new Iueas for LLP Searches at LNCD</u>







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Displaced non-minimal

JHEP 10 (2020) 156

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m(X) [GeV]





Summary of decay modes:

 ψ produced on-shell: ϕ (note small cap) and ξ DM candidates



BRs can be **very** large

G. Elor et al, Phys. Rev. D 99, 035031 (2019)

	Operator	Initial State	Final state	$\Delta M ~({ m MeV})$
	$\psi b u s$	B_d	$\psi + \Lambda (usd)$	4163.95
		B_s	$\psi + \Xi^{0} \left(uss ight)$	4025.03
		B^+	$\psi + \Sigma^+ \left(uus ight)$	4089.95
		Λ_b	$ar{\psi}+K^0$	5121.9
	ψbud	B_d	$\psi + n(udd)$	4340.07
		B_s	$\psi + \Lambda \left(u d s ight)$	4251.21
		B^+	$\psi + p\left(duu ight)$	4341.05
		Λ_b	$ar{\psi}+\pi^{0}$	5484.5
	$\psi b c s$	B_d	$\psi + \Xi_{c}^{0} \left(csd ight)$	2807.76
		B_s	$\psi + \Omega_{c} \left(css ight)$	2671.69
		B^+	$\psi + \Xi_{c}^{+} \left(csu ight)$	2810.36
		Λ_b	$\bar{\psi} + D^- + K^+$	3256.2
	ψbcd	B_d	$\psi + \Lambda_c + \pi^- (cdd)$	2853.60
		B_s	$\psi + \Xi_{c}^{0}\left(cds ight)$	2895.02
		B^+	$\psi + \Lambda_{c} \left(dcu ight)$	2992.86
		Λ_b	$ar{\psi}+\overline{D}^0$	3754.7

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- Summary of decay modes:
- ψ produced on-shell: ϕ (note small cap) and ξ DM candidates





BRs can be **very** large

G. Elor et al, Phys. Rev. D 99, 035031 (2019)

	Operator	Initial State	Final state	$\Delta M ~({ m MeV})$					
so by measuring ϕ_s or leptonic asymmetries), can work even if these									
o the SM values									
(S) ⊕⊥ –3	$\psi b c s$	$egin{array}{c} B_d \ B_s \ B^+ \ \Lambda_b \end{array}$	$egin{aligned} \psi+\Xi_c^0\left(csd ight)\ \psi+\Omega_c\left(css ight)\ \psi+\Xi_c^+\left(csu ight)\ ar\psi+\Xi_c^+\left(csu ight)\ ar\psi+D^-+K^+ \end{aligned}$	2807.76 2671.69 2810.36 3256.2					
	ψbcd	$egin{array}{c} B_d \ B_s \ B^+ \ \Lambda_b \end{array}$	$egin{aligned} \psi + \Lambda_c + \pi^- (cdd) \ \psi + \Xi_c^0 (cds) \ \psi + \Lambda_c (dcu) \ ar{\psi} + \overline{D}^0 \end{aligned}$	$2853.60 \\ 2895.02 \\ 2992.86 \\ 3754.7$					

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- Most promising modes at LHCb?
- Possible to study B decays, but competence from B factories there!
- Also possible to reconstruct Λ_b decay vertex. Additional kinematic constraint from Σ_b decay!
- The whole decay chain has already **been** observed at LHCb
- Yet another alternative; B^*_{s2} decays



G. Elor et al, Phys. Rev. D 99, 035031 (2019)



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K+



