

Rare radiative baryon decays at LHCb

Luis Miguel Garcia Martin
on behalf of the LHCb Collaboration

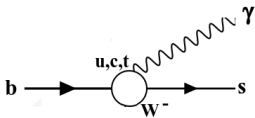
11th workshop on
Implications of LHCb measurements and future prospects

October 21st, 2021



Introduction: Theoretical motivation

The $b \rightarrow s\gamma$ process is forbidden at tree level in the Standard Model (SM). Indirect searches grant access to larger energy scales than direct ones. At LO in SM only O_7 and O_7' contribute

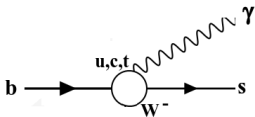


$$\mathcal{H}_{eff} = -4 \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{ts}^* V_{tb} \left(\underbrace{C_7 O_7}_{\text{left}} + \underbrace{C_7' O_7'}_{\text{right}} \right)$$



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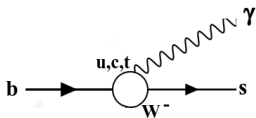
Wilson coefficient can be constrained through measurement of:

- Branching ratio: $\mathcal{B}_{\text{rad}} \propto |C_7|^2 + |C_7'|^2$
- Photon polarization: $\alpha_\gamma^{LO} = \frac{1 - |C_7'|^2}{1 + |C_7'|^2}$
- CP asymmetry: $A_{CP} \propto \text{Im} \frac{C_7 C_7'}{|C_7|^2 + |C_7'|^2}$



Introduction: Theoretical motivation

Photons in such transitions are mainly **left-handed in the SM** since the W boson couples to left-handed quarks [PRL79(1997)185].



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↗ ~0
↘ ~0

Wilson coefficient can be constrained through measurement of:

- Branching ratio: $\mathcal{B}_{\text{rad}} \propto |C_7|^2 + \cancel{|C_7'|^2} \sim 0 \propto |C_7|^2$
- Photon polarization: $\alpha_\gamma^{LO} = \frac{1 - \cancel{|C_7'|^2} \sim 0}{1 + \cancel{|C_7'|^2} \sim 0} \sim 1$
- CP asymmetry: $A_{CP} \propto \text{Im} \frac{\cancel{C_7 C_7'} \sim 0}{|C_7|^2 + |C_7'|^2} \sim 0$



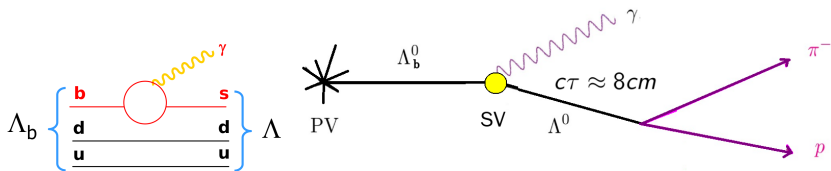
Baryon decays

Radiative b-baryon decays:

- Non-zero spin grants access to more observables [JPG24(1998)979, EPJC79(2019)634]
- Two spectator quarks \implies different form factors
- Photon polarization has never been measured!!
- *b*-baryons only at accessible *pp* colliders (LHC)

Caveats:

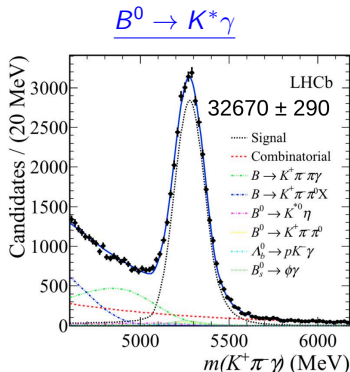
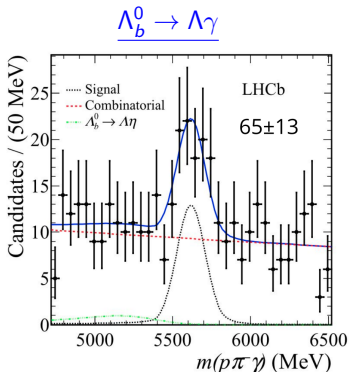
- Challenging reconstruction at LHCb
 - No photon direction and long-lived particle \implies No secondary vertex.
- Uncertainty on *b*-baryon fragmentation fractions higher than for *b*-mesons
 - $\sigma\left(\frac{f_s}{f_u+f_d}\right) \sim 0.006$ $\sigma\left(\frac{f_{\Lambda_b}}{f_u+f_d}\right) \sim 0.018$ $\sigma\left(\frac{f_{\Xi_b}}{f_{\Lambda_b}}\right) \sim 0.027$
[PRD104(2021)032005, PRD99(2019)052006]



Photon polarization in $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma$

$\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma$ decay channel recently observed (1.6 fb^{-1}) [PRL123(2019)031801]:

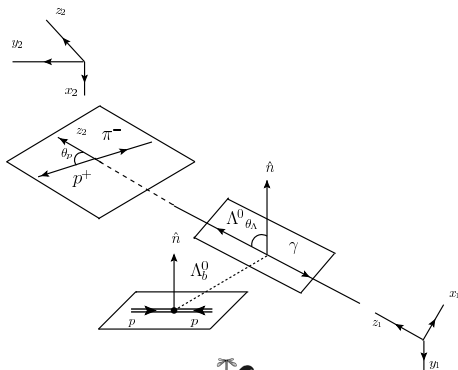
- $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma) = (7.1 \pm 1.5 \pm 0.6 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-6}$
- Opens the possibility for direct measurement of photon polarization (α_γ) in b -baryon decays



Photon polarization in $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma$ [LHCb-PAPER-2021-03]

- First angular analysis of radiative b-baryon decays
- Using 6fb^{-1} collected by LHCb
- Angular distribution and sensitivity studies computed [EPJC79(2019)634]

$$\Gamma_{\Lambda_b}(\theta_\gamma, \theta_p) = 1 - \alpha_\Lambda P_{\Lambda_b} \cos \theta_p \cos \theta_\gamma - \alpha_\gamma (\alpha_\Lambda \cos \theta_p - P_{\Lambda_b} \cos \theta_\gamma)$$



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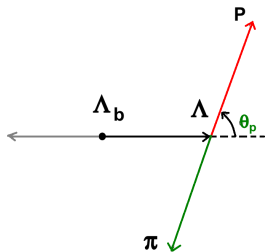
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Integrating in helicity angles:

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

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



The decay parameters are:

- $P_{\Lambda_b}(13 \text{ TeV}) \in [-0.052, 0.091]$ [LHCb: JHEP06(2020)110]
- $\alpha_\Lambda = 0.754 \pm 0.004$ [BESIII: NP15(2019)631-634]



Photon polarization in $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma$ [LHCb-PAPER-2021-03]

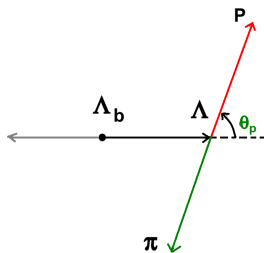
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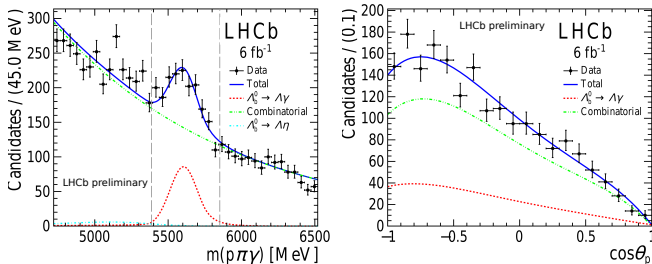
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Photon polarization in $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma$ [LHCb-PAPER-2021-03]

Using events in the signal region: $N_{\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma} = 440 \pm 40$

- Angular fit to $\cos \theta_p$ in the signal region
- Angular acceptance for signal mode from simulation
 - Controlled using $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda J/\psi$
- Angular background from mass side-bands



$$\alpha_\gamma = 0.82 \pm 0.23 \pm 0.13$$

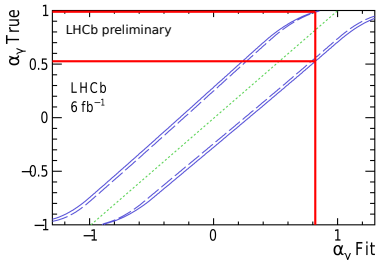
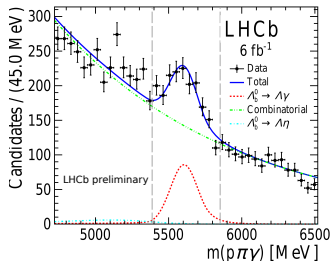
Compatible with the SM prediction ($\alpha_\gamma = 1$)



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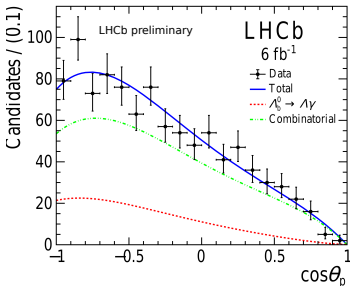
$$\alpha_\gamma = 0.82^{+0.17}_{-0.26} \quad ^{+0.04}_{-0.13}$$

Compatible with the SM prediction ($\alpha_\gamma = 1$)

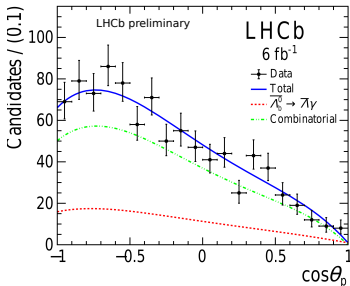
Photon polarization in $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma$ [LHCb-PAPER-2021-03]

CP test on $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma$ and $\bar{\Lambda}_b^0 \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda} \gamma$

$\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma$



$\bar{\Lambda}_b^0 \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda} \gamma$



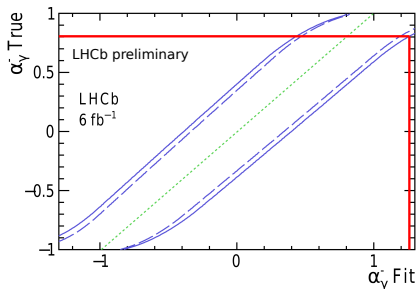
- $\alpha_\gamma^{\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma} = 1.26 \pm 0.42 \pm 0.20$
- $\alpha_\gamma^{\bar{\Lambda}_b^0 \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda} \gamma} = -0.55 \pm 0.32 \pm 0.16$



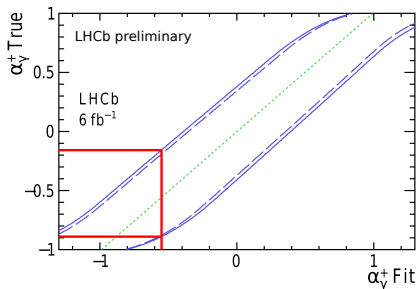
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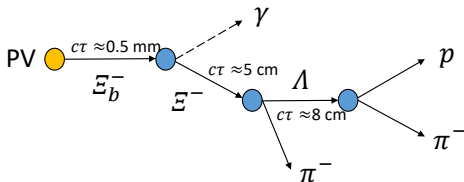
- $\alpha_\gamma^{\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma} > 0.56(0.44)$ at 90% (95%) CL
- $\alpha_\gamma^{\bar{\Lambda}_b^0 \rightarrow \bar{\Lambda} \gamma} = -0.56^{+0.36}_{-0.33} \quad ^{+0.16}_{-0.09}$



Search for the $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma$ decay [arXiv:2108.07678]

First search of the $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma$ decay

- No previous limit:
 - $\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma)_{\text{theo}} = (3.03 \pm 0.10) \times 10^{-4}$ [PRD83('11)054007]
 - $\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma)_{\text{theo}} = (1.23 \pm 0.64) \times 10^{-5}$ [arXiv:2008.06624]
- Analysis uses 5.4 fb^{-1} LHCb data
- Normalization channel: $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- J/\psi$

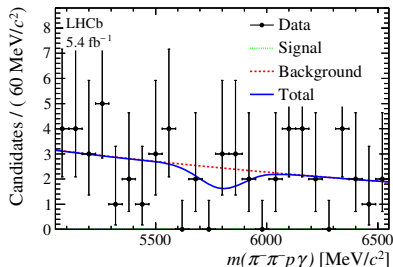


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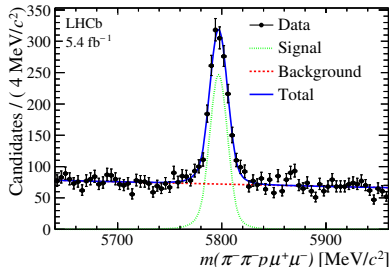
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- Normalization channel: $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- J/\psi$
- No $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma$ is found

$$\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma$$

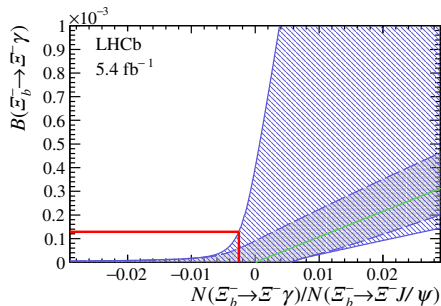


$$\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- J/\psi$$



Search for the $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma$ decay [arXiv:2108.07678]

First limit of $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma$ using Feldman Cousin method:



Source	Uncertainty (%)
Mass fit model (signal)	9.1
Mass fit model (background)	7.8
Efficiency ratio	4.6
Hardware trigger	10.0
Simulation/Data agreement	6.0
$\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- J/\psi)$	45.6
Sum in quadrature	48.7

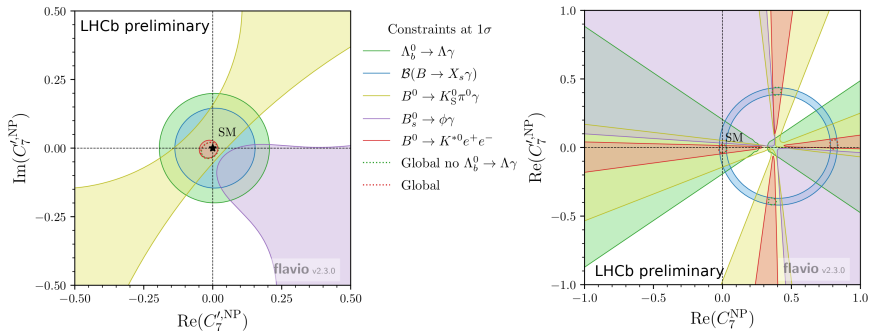
$$\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma) < 1.3(0.6) \times 10^{-4} \text{ at 95\% (90\%) CL}$$

- $\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- J/\psi)$ is the main source of uncertainty
- Providing also the limit: $\frac{\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma)}{\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- J/\psi)} < 0.12 (0.08) \text{ at 95\% (90\%) CL}$



NP Constraints

Constraints to C_7' from radiative decays [LHCb-PAPER-2021-03]



- Results presented are statistically dominated
- Only using α_γ average
 - Allow to discard two regions in the C_7 vs C_7' plane
 - Using $\alpha_\gamma^{\text{CP}}$ could provide further constraints
 - Need phenomenology input



Conclusions

- The radiative transition $b \rightarrow s(d)\gamma$ is sensitive to New Physics
 - They are extensively studied at LHCb
 - Different decay modes and observables
 - Strongest constrains to C_7 and C_7'

- LHCb is undergoing a major upgrade
- Expect more precise results from the upcoming LHCb Run 3

Stay Tuned
FOR something
AWESOME

Thanks for your attention



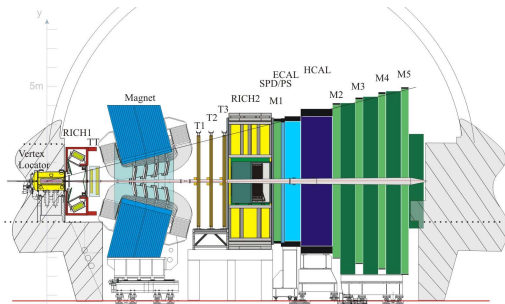
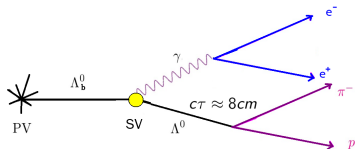
Converted photons

Most of radiative analyses use calorimetric photons

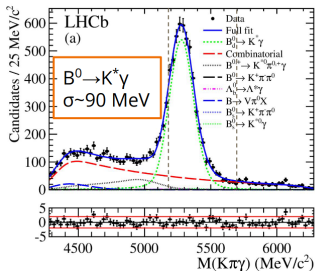
- Converted to a e^+e^- pair after the magnet or unconverted

It is also possible to use converted photons ($\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$):

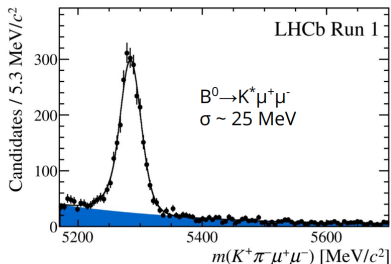
- e^+e^- track can be reconstructed \implies B mass resolution 3 times better
 - Allow to access $|V_{td}/V_{ts}|$ suppressed modes like $B_s \rightarrow K^*\gamma$
- Grant access to SV in decays involving long-lived particles
- Its rate is 20 times lower than for calo photons
- More analyses with converted photons will become feasible with more data



Experimental challenges



[Nucl.Phys.B867(2013)1]



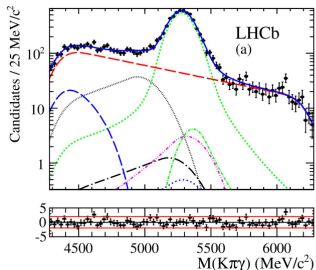
[PRL125(2020)011802]

Challenges for analysis involving neutrals (γ and π^0):

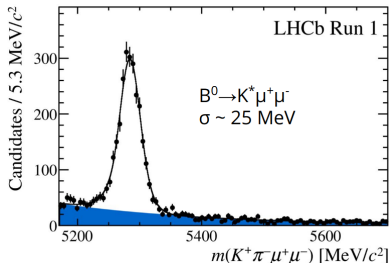
- Photon direction not reconstructed:
 - Mass resolution dominated by photon momentum
 - Large background ($\sim 10 \gamma$ /events, merge $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$)
- Rare decays \implies low signal yield ($\mathcal{B} \sim O(10^{-5})$)



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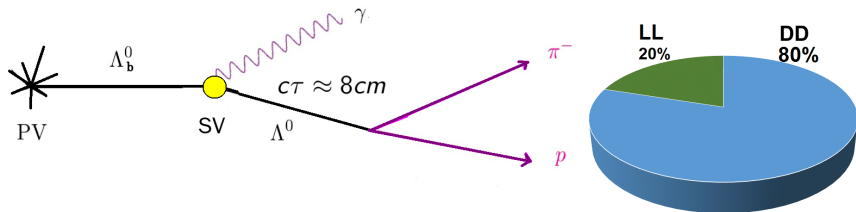
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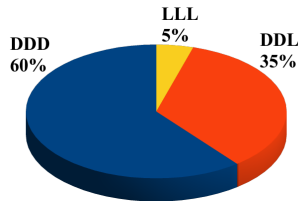
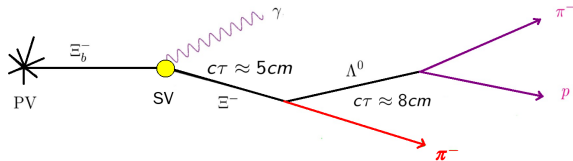


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- Decays involving long-lived particles (K_S, Λ, Ξ^-)
 - Decay after the VELO
 - Worse IP/vertex position resolution
 - Trigger only selects Long tracks
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Why $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- J/\psi$ as normalization channel

$$\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- J/\psi) = (4.9 \pm 2.2) \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda J/\psi) = (3.29 \pm 1.11) \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow pK^- J/\psi) = (3.2 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\frac{f_{\Xi_b}}{f_{\Lambda_b}} = (8.2 \pm 2.6) \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma) \propto \mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- J/\psi) \implies \sigma = 45\%$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma) \propto \frac{1}{f_{\Xi_b}/f_{\Lambda_b}} \mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda J/\psi) \implies \sigma = 46\%$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma) \propto \frac{1}{f_{\Xi_b}/f_{\Lambda_b}} \mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow pK^- J/\psi) \implies \sigma = 37\%$$

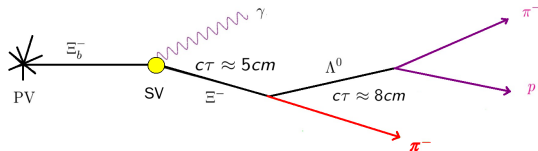
Considering measurement with 20% uncertainty (as $f_{\Lambda_b} \mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda J/\psi)$)

- When $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda J/\psi)$ is measured by LHCb $\sigma = 37\%$
- When $\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- J/\psi)$ is measured by LHCb $\sigma = 20\%$

Angular distribution: $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma$

The $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Xi^- \gamma$ decay is also sensitive to photon polarization through angular distribution [arXiv:1902.04870]:

- Two long-lived particle involved
- Extra decay
- Additional helicity angle



$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{\Xi_b^-}(\theta_{\Xi}, \theta_{\Lambda}, \theta_p) &\propto 1 + \alpha_{\Lambda} \alpha_{\Xi} \cos \theta_p - \alpha_{\gamma} \alpha_{\Xi} \cos \theta_{\Lambda} - \alpha_{\gamma} \alpha_{\Lambda} \cos \theta_{\Lambda} \cos \theta_p \\ &\quad - P_{\Xi_b^-} \alpha_{\Xi} \cos \theta_{\Xi} \cos \theta_{\Lambda} + P_{\Xi_b^-} \alpha_{\gamma} \alpha_{\Xi} \alpha_{\Lambda} \cos \theta_{\Xi} \cos \theta_p \\ &\quad - P_{\Xi_b^-} \alpha_{\Lambda} \cos \theta_{\Xi} \cos \theta_{\Lambda} \cos \theta_p + P_{\Xi_b^-} \alpha_{\gamma} \cos \theta_{\Xi} \end{aligned}$$

The values of the decay parameters are:

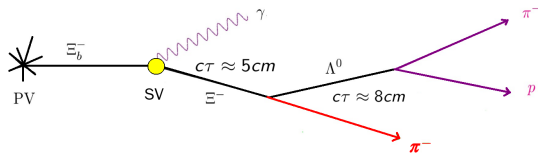
- $\alpha_{\Xi} = -0.39 \pm 0.012$ [PDG 2019]
- $\alpha_{\Lambda} = 0.750 \pm 0.010$ [PDG 2019]



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$$\Gamma_{\Xi_b}(\theta_\Lambda, \theta_p) = \frac{1}{4} \left(1 - \alpha_\gamma \alpha_\Xi \cos \theta_\Lambda + \alpha_\Lambda \cos \theta_p (\alpha_\Xi - \alpha_\gamma \cos \theta_\Lambda) \right)$$

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- $\alpha_\Lambda = 0.750 \pm 0.010$ [PDG 2019]

How to access **the photon polarization** in b -hadron decays?

- **Time dependent analyses, using B - \bar{B} interference of mixing and decay:**

- Final common state for neutral B and \bar{B} : $B_{(s)} \rightarrow V\gamma$, $V \rightarrow KK, \pi\pi$
- B_s more profitable ($\Delta\Gamma_s \gg \Delta\Gamma_d$)
- @ LHCb: V to charged tracks, better no π^0 's, no K_s 's (Ex: ~~$B_d \rightarrow K^{*0}(K_s\pi^0)\gamma$~~)
- $B_s \rightarrow \phi\gamma$, $B_d \rightarrow \rho\gamma$, $B_d \rightarrow \omega\gamma$
- Observables: time dependent decay widths, CP asymmetries
- Need the use of flavour tagging, which reduces a lot the statistics ($\varepsilon_{\text{eff}} \sim 5\%$)

- **Angular analyses:**

- $B_{(s)}$ to three-body + γ decays ($B^+ \rightarrow K^+\pi^+\pi^+\gamma$)
- Decays of b -baryons ($\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda\gamma \dots$)
- Decays with an electron pair in the final state $\gamma \rightarrow e^-e^+$
 - with γ real: radiative decays with converted photons ($B_{(s)} \rightarrow V\gamma(\rightarrow e^-e^+)$)
 - or virtual: $B \rightarrow K^*e^+e^-$ analyzed in the low q^2 region



$B \rightarrow K^* ee$ at very low q^2

New analysis with 9 fb^{-1} LHCb data [JHEP12(2020)081]:

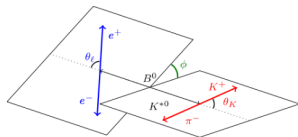
- Decay is dominated by $b \rightarrow s\gamma$ pole at very low q^2 (0.0008 - 0.257 GeV^2)

- Relevant angles: $\theta_\ell, \theta_K, \tilde{\phi}$
- Angular observables: $F_L, A_T^{\text{Re}}, A_T^{(2)}, A_T^{\text{Im}}$
- Sensitive to the polarization of the virtual photon

$$A_{R(L)} \equiv A_{R(L)} e^{i\phi_{R(L)}}, \quad \tan \chi \equiv |C'_7/C_7|$$

$$A_T^{(2)} \simeq \sin(2\chi) \cos(\phi_L - \phi_R),$$

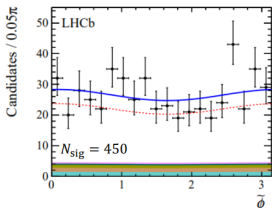
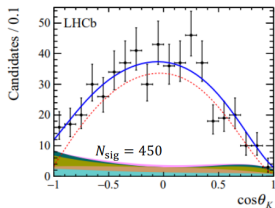
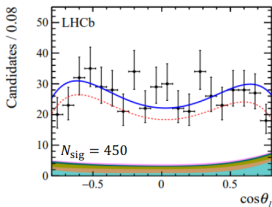
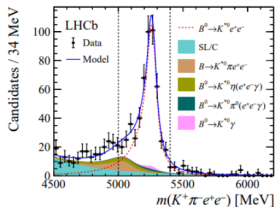
$$A_T^{\text{Im}} \simeq \sin(2\chi) \sin(\phi_L - \phi_R),$$



$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{d(\Gamma + \bar{\Gamma})/dq^2} \frac{d^4(\bar{\Gamma} + \bar{\Gamma})}{dq^2 d\cos\theta_\ell d\cos\theta_K d\tilde{\phi}} = \\ & = \frac{9}{16\pi} \left[\frac{3}{4} (1 - F_L) \sin^2\theta_K + F_L \cos^2\theta_K \right. \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{4} (1 - F_L) \sin^2\theta_K \cos 2\theta_\ell - F_L \cos^2\theta_K \cos 2\theta_\ell \\ & \quad + (1 - F_L) A_T^{\text{Re}} \sin^2\theta_K \cos\theta_\ell \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{2} (1 - F_L) A_T^{(2)} \sin^2\theta_K \sin^2\theta_\ell \cos 2\tilde{\phi} \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} (1 - F_L) A_T^{\text{Im}} \sin^2\theta_K \sin^2\theta_\ell \sin 2\tilde{\phi} \right] \end{aligned}$$



$B \rightarrow K^* e e$ at very low q^2



$$F_L = 0.044 \pm 0.026 \pm 0.014,$$

$$A_T^{\text{Re}} = -0.06 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.02,$$

$$A_T^{(2)} = +0.11 \pm 0.10 \pm 0.02,$$

$$A_T^{\text{Im}} = +0.02 \pm 0.10 \pm 0.01,$$

Uncertainty statistically dominated.

$A_T^{(2)}$ and A_T^{Im} results dominate the sensitivity to Re & Im of $C_7^{(\prime)}$

