

# Flavor Anomalies and ATLAS B Physics

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Flavour Anomalies Workshop, 20 Oct 2021



**TEXAS**

The University of Texas at Austin



**ATLAS**  
EXPERIMENT

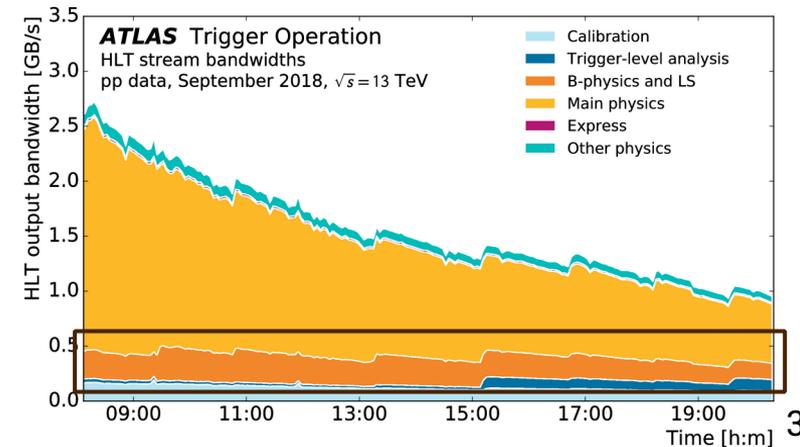
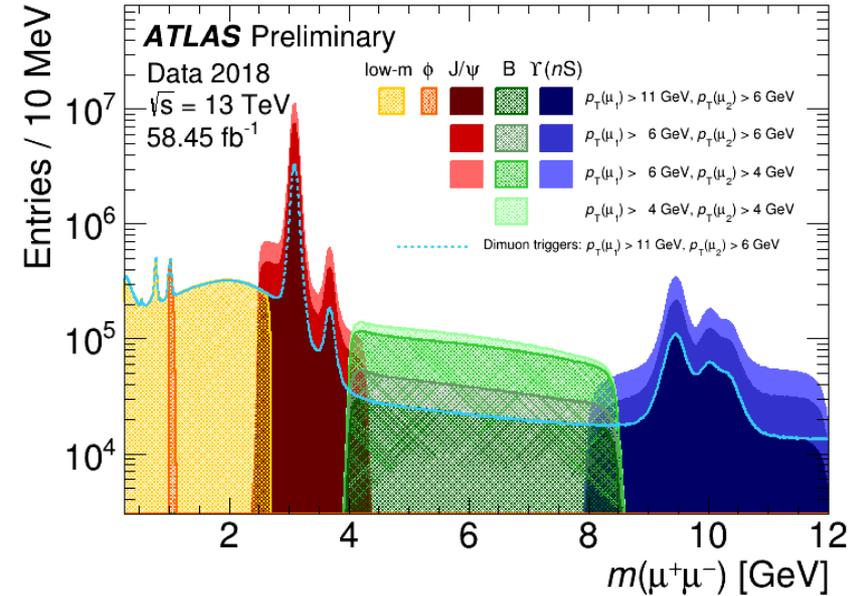
# Introduction

- Possible deviations from the SM in B decays have captured the interest of the HEP community
  - Anomalies appear to be related to  $b \rightarrow s\mu\mu$  and  $b \rightarrow c\tau\nu$  transitions
- As the final states can be fully reconstructed, ATLAS has paid more attention to the  $b s\mu\mu$  vertex
  - $B \rightarrow K^*\mu\mu$  angular distributions
  - $B_s, B \rightarrow \mu\mu$
- ATLAS is adding capabilities to make future measurements
  - $R(K^*), R(K), \dots$

# B Physics Trigger Strategies: Muons

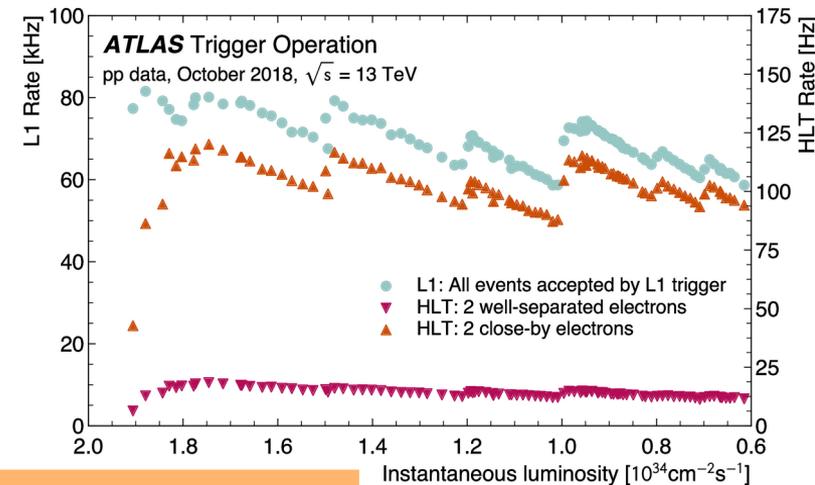
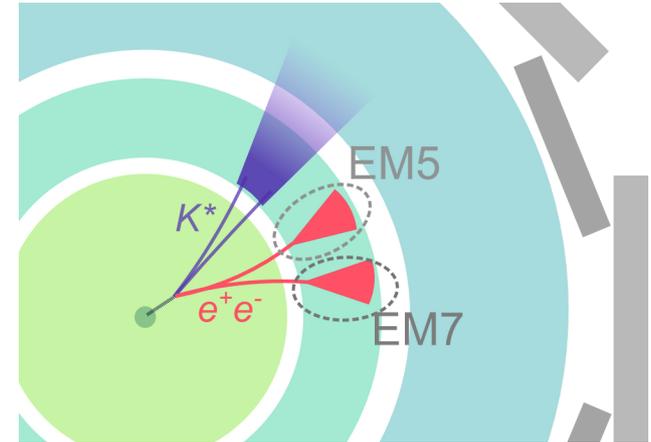
Events must be triggered!

- Typically the limitation is the hardware Level 1 trigger maximum accept rate ( $\sim 100$  kHz)
- Standard strategy: multiple low- $p_T$  muons or a high- $p_T$  muon
  - in B decays this often means relying on  $J/\psi$  or other dimuon modes
  - muon  $p_T$  thresholds of 4 GeV or higher
  - mass cuts can be applied to increase signal for a given trigger rate (crude cuts with L1 topological trigger system, precision at high level software trigger)
  - Run 1 data with lower thresholds + prescales is valuable
- Set of enabled triggers & prescales evolves during LHC fills as luminosity changes



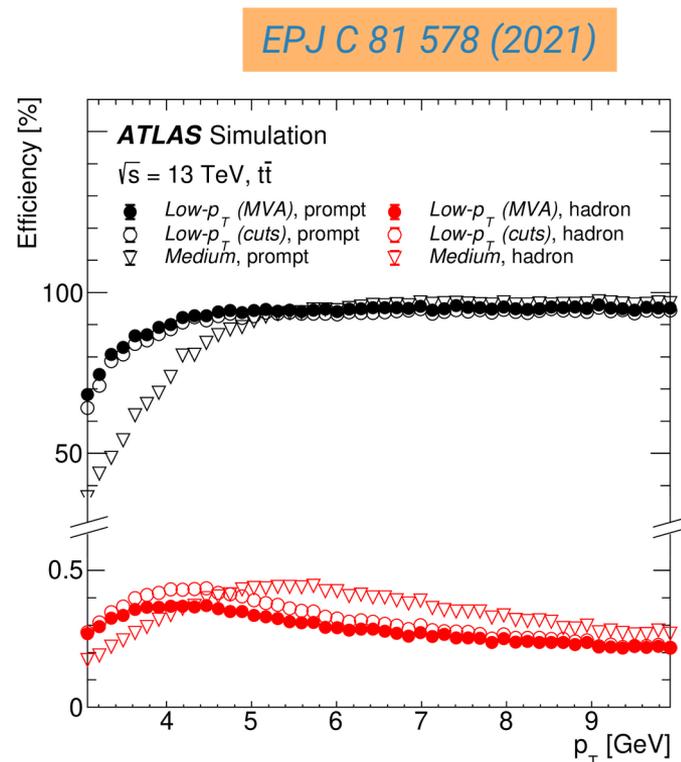
# B Physics Trigger Strategies: Electrons

- Target  $B \rightarrow K^{(*)}ee$
- L1 triggers: new topological triggers which look for a pair of soft electrons with low mass, or a soft “jet” near an electron (the jet assumed to combine two electrons)
  - to reduce rates also require additional muons from other B hadrons in event
- Software HLT dielectron low-mass triggers:
  - some seeded by the L1 topological triggers
  - also triggers that look at **all** events accepted by the L1 – very powerful
- Deployed mid-2018, ran for  $\sim 40 \text{ fb}^{-1}$



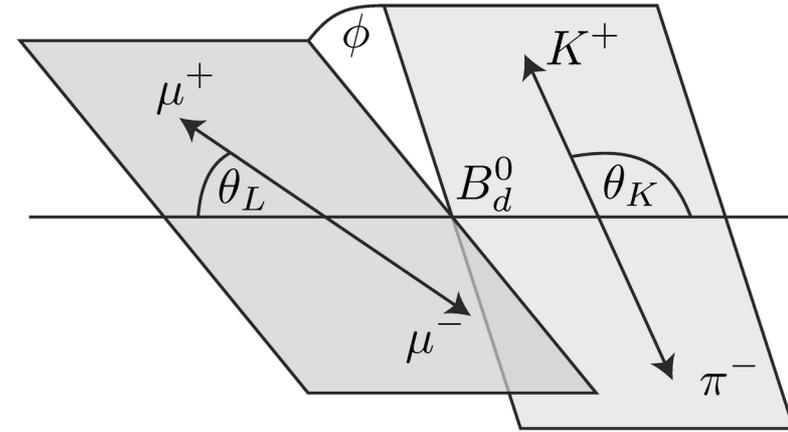
# Analysis Strategies

- Other than muons/electrons, particle identification capabilities are extremely limited
  - intermediate narrow resonances in decay chains (e.g.  $J/\psi$ ,  $\phi$ ) are very helpful to resolve hypothesis ambiguities
- Strongly prefer all-charged final states
  - $K^0_S$  and photons are possible but have complications
- Sensitive to low- $p_T$  lepton identification and tracking in “unusual” ways for ATLAS – additional work often needed to improve sensitivity & control systematics
  - muon identification under control down to  $p_T \sim 3$  GeV
- Increasing use of machine learning to improve signal classification



# $B^0 \rightarrow K^* \mu \mu$ Angular Distributions

- New physics in  $b \rightarrow s \mu \mu$  can alter the angular distributions of the decay products in  $B^0 \rightarrow K^* \mu \mu \rightarrow K^+ \pi^- \mu \mu$
- Particular interest in “ $P'_5$ ” coefficient which shows a potential deviation from SM in previous results
  - look in different bins of  $q^2(\mu\mu)$ , avoiding  $J/\psi$ ,  $\psi(2S)$ ,  $\phi$  resonances
- Well-suited to ATLAS’s capabilities
- Result from Run 1,  $20 \text{ fb}^{-1}$



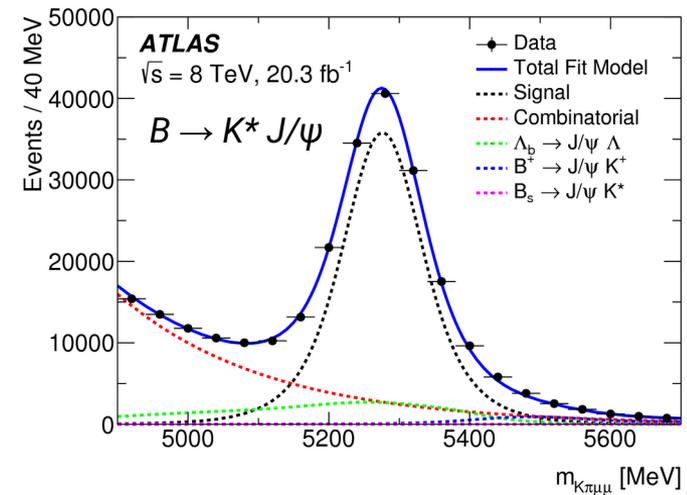
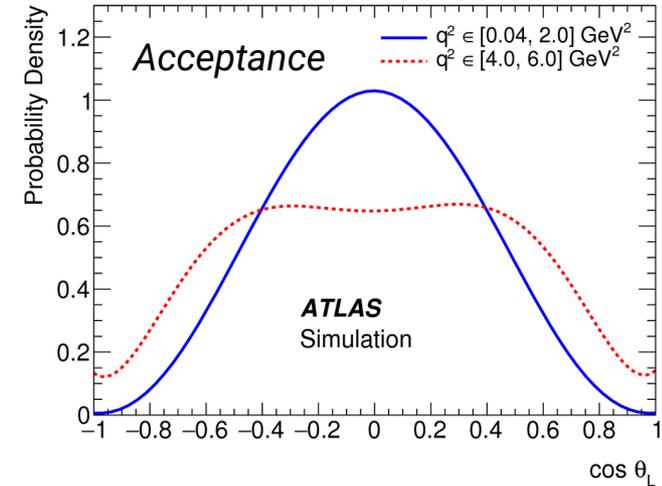
$$\frac{9}{32\pi} \left[ \frac{3(1-F_L)}{4} \sin^2 \theta_K + F_L \cos^2 \theta_K + \frac{1-F_L}{4} \sin^2 \theta_K \cos 2\theta_L \right. \\ \left. - F_L \cos^2 \theta_K \cos 2\theta_L + S_3 \sin^2 \theta_K \sin^2 \theta_L \cos 2\phi \right. \\ \left. + S_4 \sin 2\theta_K \sin 2\theta_L \cos \phi + S_5 \sin 2\theta_K \sin \theta_L \cos \phi \right. \\ \left. + S_6 \sin^2 \theta_K \cos \theta_L + S_7 \sin 2\theta_K \sin \theta_L \sin \phi \right. \\ \left. + S_8 \sin 2\theta_K \sin 2\theta_L \sin \phi + S_9 \sin^2 \theta_K \sin^2 \theta_L \sin 2\phi \right]$$

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

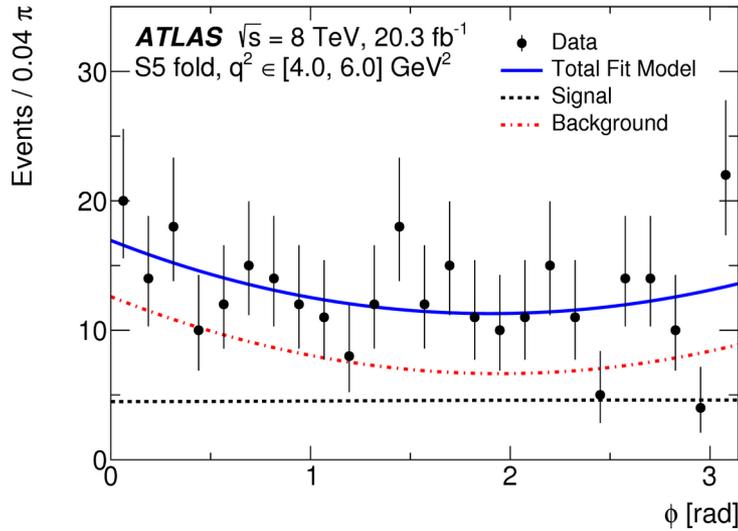
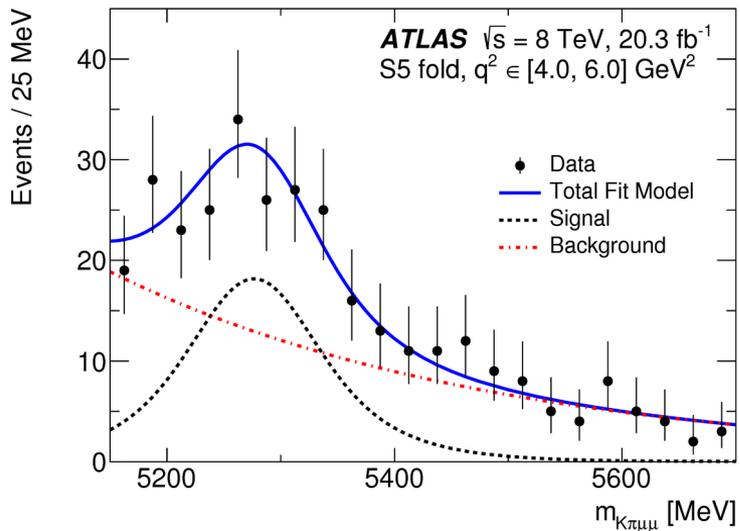
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# $B^0 \rightarrow K^* \mu \mu$ Angular Distributions

- Acceptance functions for the angular variables determined from MC
- Signal mass resolution calibrated from  $B \rightarrow K^* J/\psi$  and  $K^* \psi(2S)$  samples
- Simultaneous fit to B candidate mass and angular distributions
  - background angular distributions described by polynomials, determined in fits
  - folding in angular variables permits fitting only a subset of coefficients (e.g. cancel variations  $\propto \sin \varphi$ )

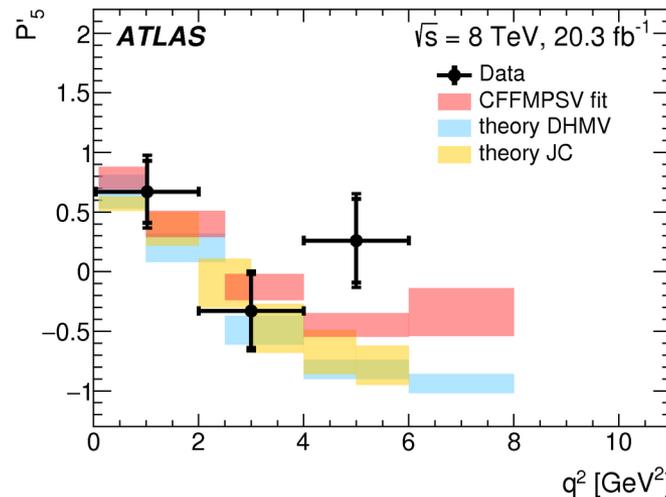


# $B^0 \rightarrow K^* \mu \mu$ Angular Distributions



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- “Most interesting bin” is  $P'_5$ ,  $q^2 \in [4 \text{ GeV}, 6 \text{ GeV}]$
- Can see e.g. lack of expected  $\cos \phi$  modulation in signal fit:  $P'_5 \approx 0$  in our fit for this bin
  - of course, simultaneous fit to  $\theta_K$  and  $\theta_L$  as well
  - not a significant difference from predictions but deviation in the same direction as other results
- Results available for other coefficients



# $B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu\mu$

- Use 2015+2016 data,  $26.3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  after prescales
- Rare decays sensitive to  $bs\mu\mu$  and  $bd\mu\mu$  couplings (incl.  $O_{10}$ )
- ATLAS dimuon mass resolution not good enough to separate  $B_s$  and  $B$  peaks
  - fit simultaneously, but expect strong correlation of branching fractions
- Normalize number of observed decays to the number of  $B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi K^+$ :

$$\mathcal{B}(B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) =$$

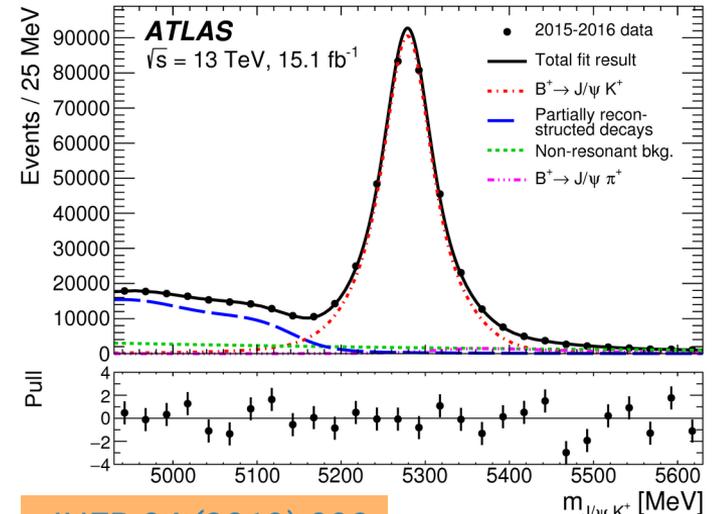
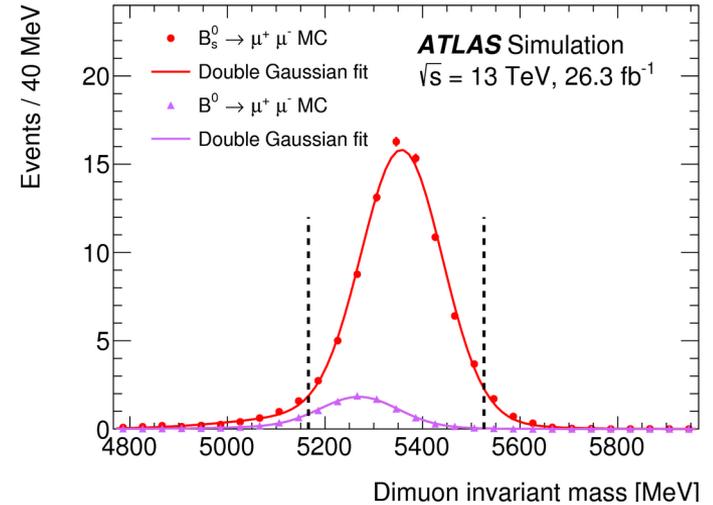
Reference branching fraction

Ratio of B meson species production

$$\frac{N_{d(s)}}{\varepsilon_{\mu^+ \mu^-}} \times \left[ \mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi K^+) \times \mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \right] \frac{\varepsilon_{J/\psi K^+}}{N_{J/\psi K^+}} \times \frac{f_u}{f_{d(s)}}$$

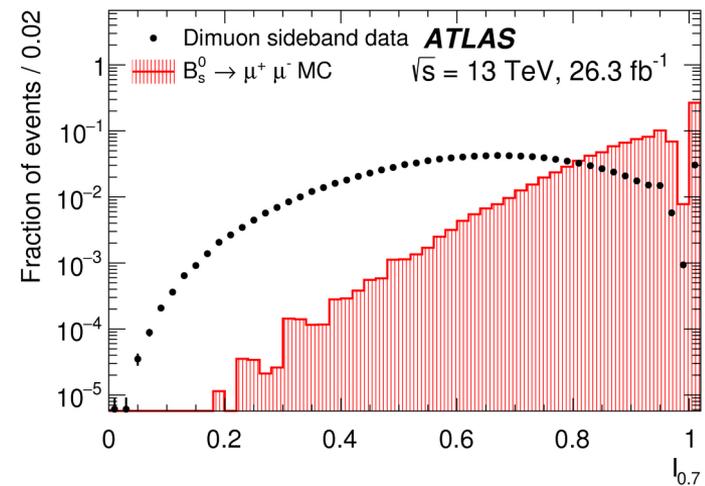
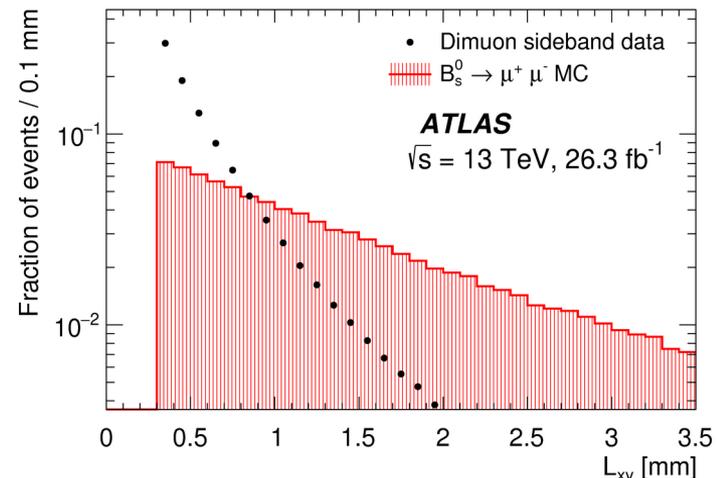
Efficiency-corrected  $B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu\mu$  yield

Efficiency-corrected  $B \rightarrow J/\psi K$  yield



# $B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu\mu$ Background

- Backgrounds:
  - Major background under peak: “continuum” (muons from different b hadrons)
  - Major background with shape: b hadrons  $\rightarrow \mu\mu X$  or  $\mu h X$  where hadron h is misidentified as a muon
  - Peaking background of  $B \rightarrow hh'$  with both hadrons being identified as muons
- Boosted Decision Tree used to suppress continuum backgrounds using
  - B kinematics/vertex position
  - muon kinematics
  - information on additional tracks from primary vertex
- BDT performance validated with muons in  $B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi K^+$  and  $B_s \rightarrow J/\psi \phi$



# $B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu\mu$ Results

- Combine Run 1 and early 13 TeV data
  - results compatible
  - sensitive to lower BRs for  $B \rightarrow \mu\mu$  vs  $B_s \rightarrow \mu\mu$  because  $f_d \gg f_s$
  - anticorrelation of B and  $B_s$  BR

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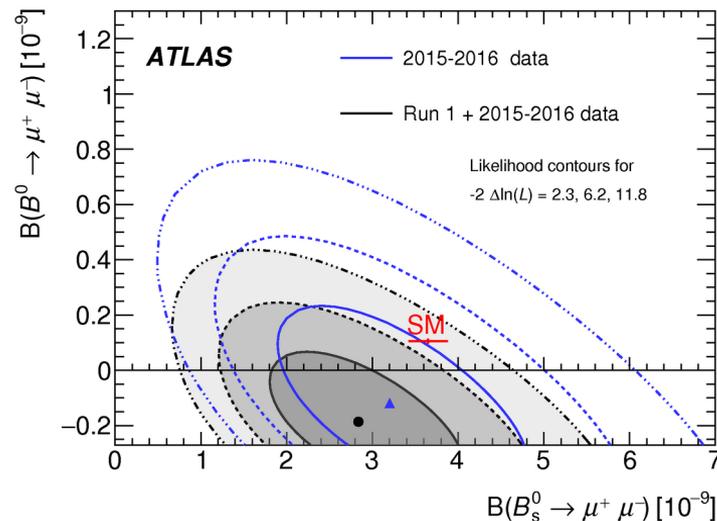
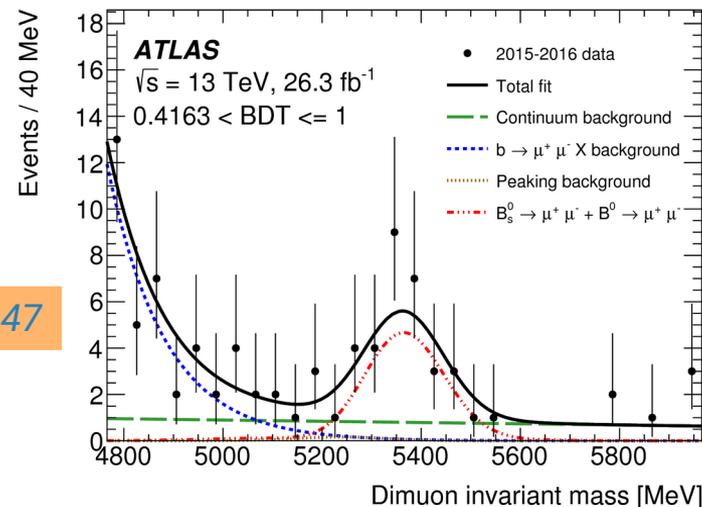
Combined  
Run 1 + 2015/6

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (2.8 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-9},$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (-1.9 \pm 1.6) \times 10^{-10}.$$

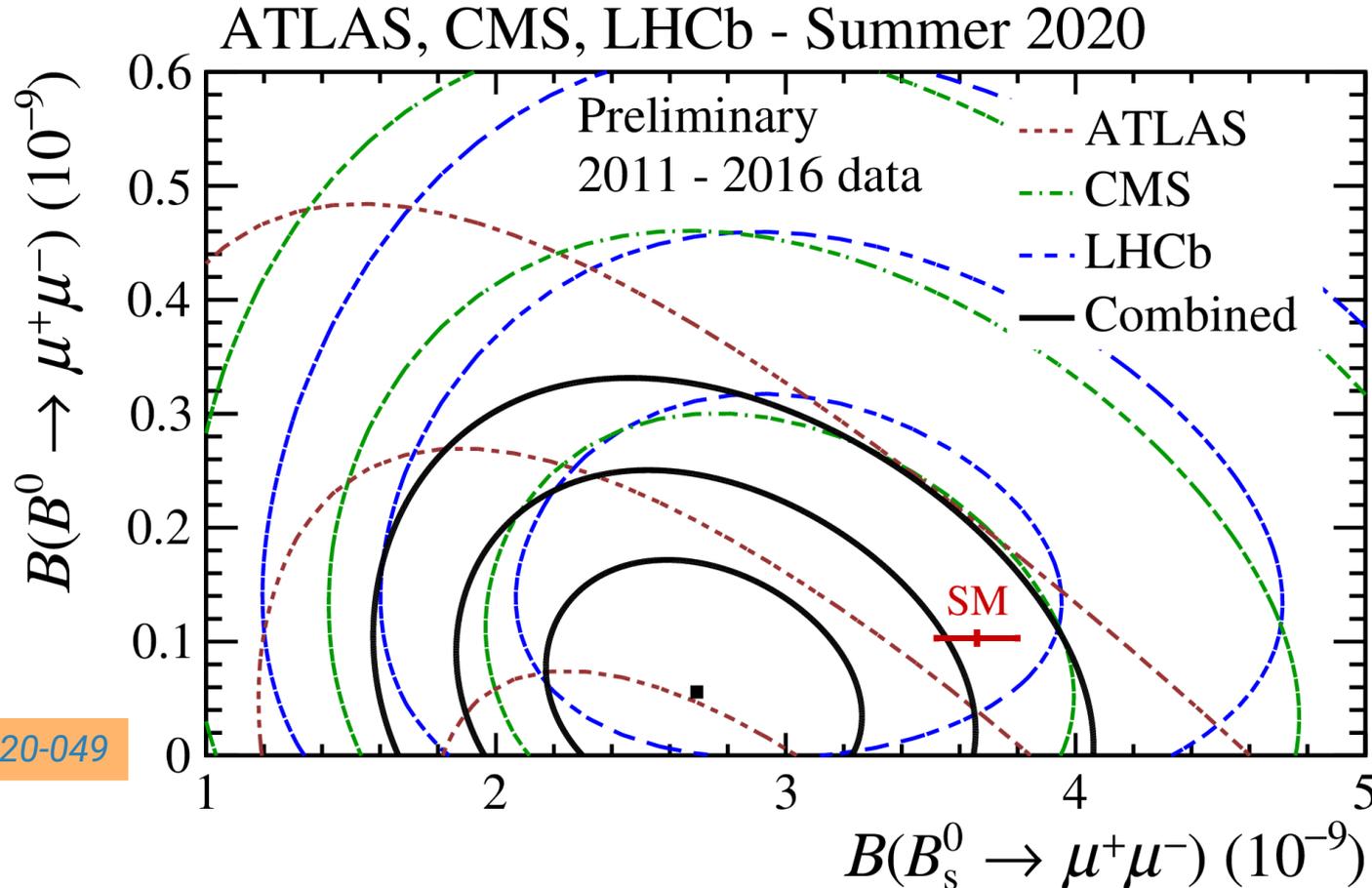
2015/6 result uncertainties

| Source   | $B_s^0$ [%] | $B^0$ [%] |
|--|-------------|-----------|
| $f_s/f_d$  | 5.1         | -         |
| $B^+$ yield  | 4.8         | 4.8       |
| $R_\epsilon$   | 4.1         | 4.1       |
| $\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi K^+) \times \mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)$ | 2.9         | 2.9       |
| Fit systematic uncertainties   | 8.7         | 65        |
| Stat. uncertainty (from likelihood est.)   | 27          | 150       |



# $B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu\mu$ Combination

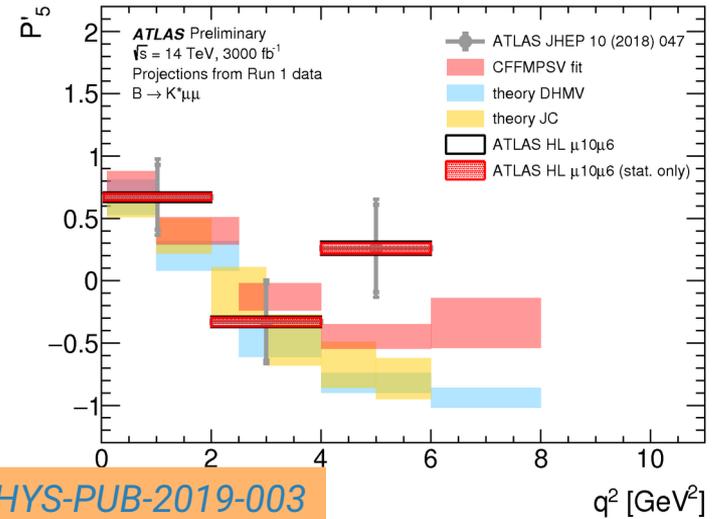
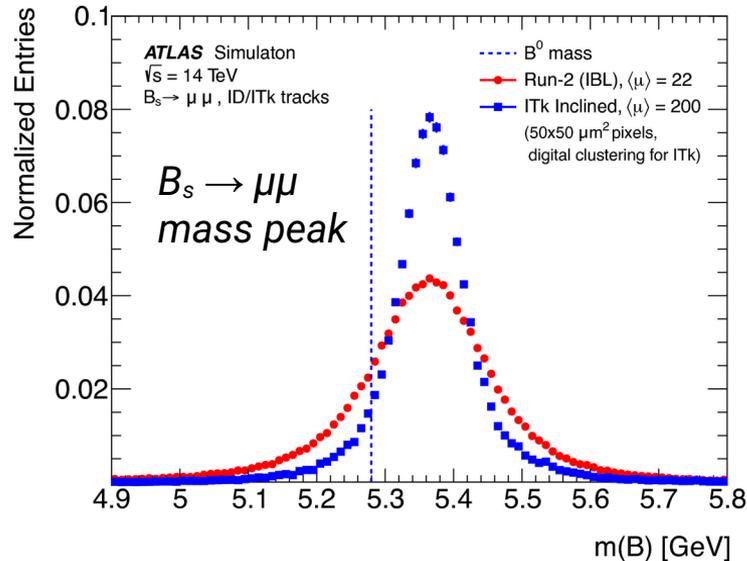
ATLAS results are an important component of the global LHC combination



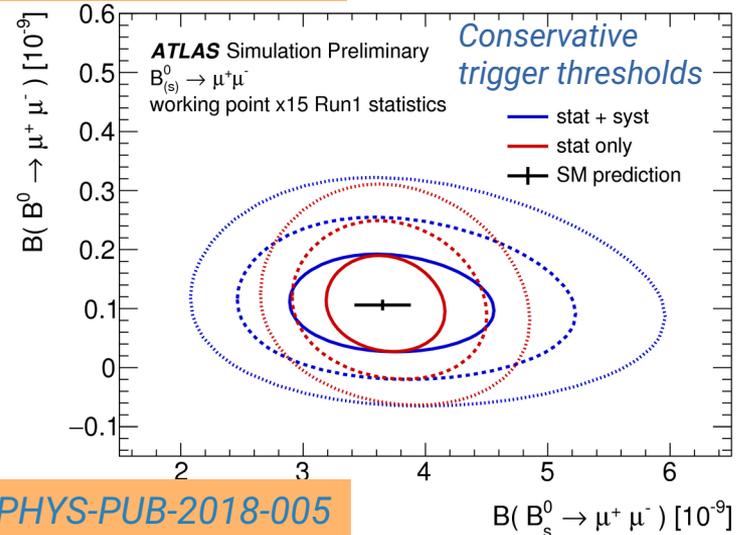
ATLAS-CONF-2020-049

# Projections

- Main impacts of HL-LHC:
  - larger dataset,  $\sim 20\times$  Run 2
  - new inner tracker (ITk) with less material and better mass resolution
  - higher pileup  $\rightarrow$  most likely higher trigger thresholds



ATL-PHYS-PUB-2019-003



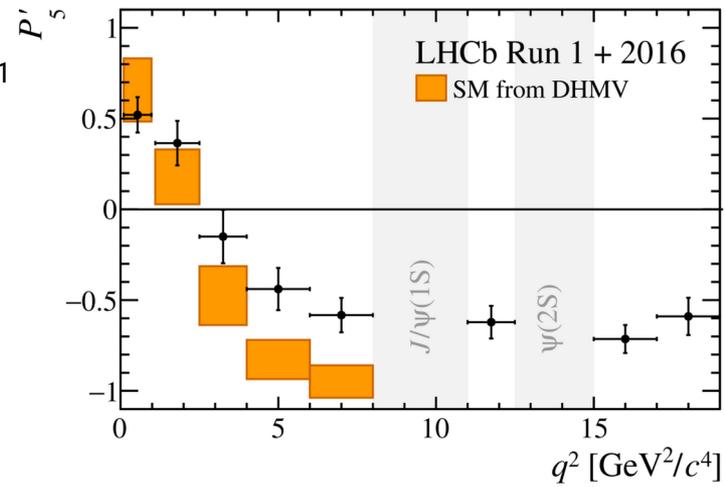
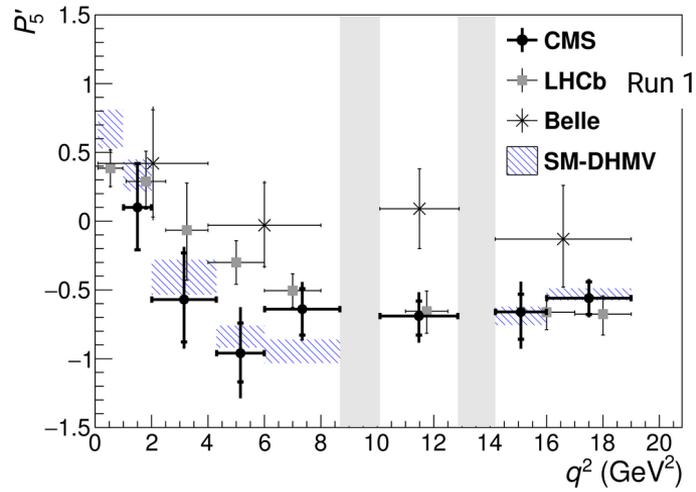
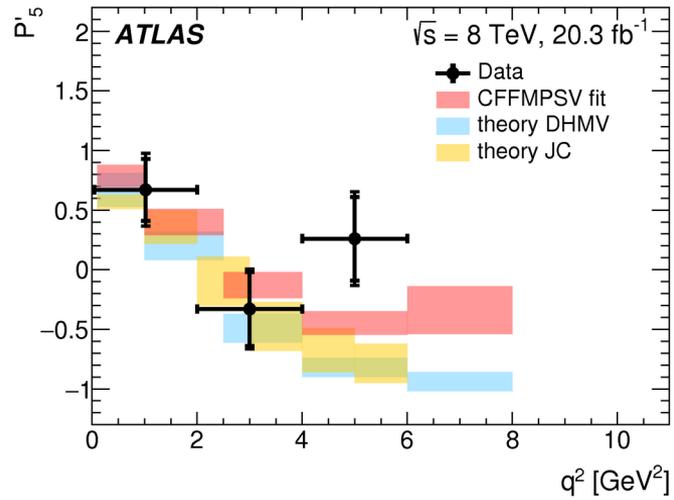
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# Summary & Prospects

- ATLAS has results on  $b \rightarrow s\mu\mu$  transitions
- Much more data now available from full Run 2 for  $B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu\mu$  and  $B^0 \rightarrow K^*\mu\mu$  angular distributions
  - statistical uncertainties are dominant in published results
- Collected data in 2018 for initial  $B^0 \rightarrow K^*ee$  studies
  - necessary triggers are prepared and planned for Run 3
- ATLAS has potential to investigate other channels that work with our trigger/analysis constraints + expects to maintain capacity into the HL-LHC era

Extra

# $K^{*0} \mu\mu P'_5$



# $B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu\mu$ : all BDT bins

