# COmpact Detector for EXotics at LHCb: CODEX-b

## Jake Pfaller

University of Cincinnati On behalf of the CODEX-b collaboration

# C O D E X – b



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- Conventional LHC searches focus on a small range of  $c\tau$
- SM backgrounds make LLP searches at current LHC detectors very difficult
- A transverse detector would have access to higher  $c\tau$  and higher  $\sqrt{s}$  than forward detectors



arXiv:1903.04497



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arXiv:1911.00481

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# CODEX-b

CODEX-b: COmpact Detector for EXotics at LHCb

- Transverse long-lived particle detector.
- Located at LHC interaction point 8, next to the LHCb detector.
- 10m cube of resistive plate chambers (RPCs).
- Near zero-background experiment, achievable with a combination of active and passive shielding.



arXiv:1911.00481

- Composed of 500 RPC triplet modules
- Arranged into a 10 meter cube with 4 internal faces
- Potential BSM particle would pass through the shielding unimpeded
- Would decay into charged SM tracks
- Vertex would be reconstructed within the detector volume



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## Sensitivity

CODEX-b offers a competitive sensitivity to a number of BSM models at a relatively low cost  $\mathcal{O}(\$10 \text{ M})$ :

- Abelian hidden sector
- Dark Higgs
- Axion-like particles
- Heavy neutral leptons
- R-parity violating supersymmetry
- Relaxation models
- Neutral naturalness
- Inelastic dark matter
- Dark matter coscattering
- Dark matter from sterile coannihilation
- Asymmetric dark matter
- Baryogenesis

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- Hidden valleys
- And many more!



Lower limit on the branching ratio of Higgs decay to two dark photons, where the dark photons decay to leptons.

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### COmpact Detector for EXotics at LHCb: CODEX-b

- LHCb to start using underground servers for run 4
- Original detector design can't fully be used
- Simulations show partial installations still yield similar reconstruction efficiencies
- Details on new design still need to be ironed out



arXiv:2203.07316



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- LLP signal should be a displaced vertex
- Neutrons and  $K_L^0$  produced at the interaction point can mimic the signal
- Secondary interactions in the shielding layers can produce neutrons and  $K_s^0$ , mimicking signal
- Active veto embedded in the shield to remove most primary-produced backgrounds
- CODEX-β demonstrator to validate background estimates



## Backgrounds

	Particle yields			
BG species	Net $(E_{\rm kin}^{\rm neutral} > 0.4 {\rm GeV})$	Shield veto rejection	Shield veto rejection	Net yield
		(total)	$(\pm/0 \text{ correlation})$	
γ	$0.54 \pm 0.12$	$(8.06 \pm 0.60) \times 10^4$	$(2.62 \pm 1.03) \times 10^3$	-
n	$58.10 \pm 4.63$	$(4.59 \pm 0.15) \times 10^5$	$(3.44 \pm 0.51) \times 10^4$	-
$n~(>0.8{\rm GeV})$	$2.78\pm0.25$	$(1.03 \pm 0.06) \times 10^5$	$(7.45 \pm 1.92) \times 10^3$	$\lesssim 1$
$\bar{n}$ (no cut)	$(3.24 \pm 0.72) \times 10^{-3}$	$34.40 \pm 25.80$	$(7.12\pm2.19)\times10^{-2}$	$\ll 1$
$K_L^0$	$0.49\pm0.05$	$(1.94 \pm 0.74) \times 10^3$	$54.40 \pm 19.20$	$\lesssim 0.1$
$K_S^0$	$(6.33 \pm 1.39) \times 10^{-3}$	$93.90 \pm 45.80$	$0.74 \pm 0.19$	≪ 1
$\nu + \bar{\nu}$	$(5.69\pm 0.00)\times 10^{13}$	$(7.35 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{6}$	$(7.31 \pm 0.11) \times 10^6$	-
$p^{\pm}$	$(2.07 \pm 0.26) \times 10^2$	$(9.24 \pm 0.36) \times 10^5$	$(9.24 \pm 0.36) \times 10^5$	-
$e^{\pm}$	$(4.53 \pm 0.02) \times 10^3$	$(4.38 \pm 0.02) \times 10^{7}$	$(4.38 \pm 0.02) \times 10^{7}$	-
$\pi^+$	$34.70 \pm 2.27$	$(2.96 \pm 0.20) \times 10^5$	$(2.96 \pm 0.20) \times 10^5$	-
$\pi^-$	$31.40 \pm 2.12$	$(2.68 \pm 0.19) \times 10^5$	$(2.68 \pm 0.19) \times 10^5$	-
$K^+$	$0.83 \pm 0.30$	$(3.08 \pm 1.24) \times 10^3$	$(3.08 \pm 1.24) \times 10^3$	-
$K^-$	$0.23 \pm 0.12$	$(1.12 \pm 0.63) \times 10^3$	$(1.12\pm 0.63)\times 10^{3}$	-
$\mu^+$	$(1.04\pm 0.00)\times 10^{6}$	$(1.04\pm 0.00)\times 10^{10}$	$(1.04\pm 0.00)\times 10^{10}$	-
$\mu^-$	$(8.07\pm 0.01)\times 10^{5}$	$(8.07 \pm 0.01) \times 10^9$	$(8.07\pm 0.01)\times 10^{9}$	-

arXiv:1911.00481

Background simulation done using Pythia + Geant4 for  $(20 + 5)\lambda$  shielding, active veto after  $20\lambda$  shield.  $\mathcal{L} = 300 \,\text{fb}^{-1}$ .

Time-limited LHCb R&D project (approved!), with opportunity for non-LHCb members to collaborate.

- Scaled-down version of CODEX-b
- 2 meter cube, 14 RPC triplet modules
- Goals include:
  - Validate background estimates
  - Integrate with LHCb DAQ
  - Test the suitability of RPCs
  - Validate the mechanical support structure of the modules and detector



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- BIS7 model for the HL-LHC upgrade of the ATLAS muon spectrometer
- 1mm gas gap
- Electronics include a custom SiGe discriminator, sensitive to signals O(fC)
- Timing resolution  $\mathcal{O}(100 \text{ ps})$
- Spacial resolution  $\mathcal{O}(1 \text{ mm})$



arXiv:1806.04113



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- Initial commissioning tests done with cosmic muons
- No need for commissioning in a high-radiation environment
- Test for:
  - Noise rates
  - False triggers
  - False muons
  - Hit correlations
  - Efficiency



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- Module frame and detector superstructure machined at the University of Cincinnati (US), shipped to CERN
- Frame is based on the BIS7 frame design, modified for our structural and rigidity needs
- Uses aluminum shims and skins to provide uniform pressure across the surface of the RPCs
- Interior components position the RPCs within the frame
- 3 frames currrently at CERN, remaining frames being produced



Image: A math a math



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- Modules can be brought underground via personnel elevator
- Rather tricky path to get from the elevator to the server room
- Specialized cart has been designed to transport our modules
- Partial installation targeted for October technical stop
- Full installation to take place in the coming YETS (December 2024 - March 2025)
- Data will be taken for the remainder of run 3



COmpact Detector for EXotics at LHCb: CODEX-b

- LHC needs a zero-background transverse LLP detector
- CODEX-b offers a competetive sensitivity to a number of minimal models at a relatively low cost
- Relative easy of construction and installation compared to other proposed LLP detectors
- CODEX- $\beta$  is the demonstrator detector for run 3
- Will validate background estimates and integration with LHCb
- Construction is full-steam ahead!



# Collaboration



Technical Design Report recently uploaded to the arXiv:2406.12880, submitted to JINST. Constitution and physics paper coming soon!

Image: A math a math

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## We are welcoming new collaborators, come join us!





## Thank you!

# Backup

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## Heavy Neutral Leptons

