

Exclusive rare decays of Λ_b baryon

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Outline

- Introduction
- Heavy-to-light baryonic form factors
- Phenomenologies of rare Λ_b baryon decays
- Summary

References:

Y. -M. Wang, Y. Li and C. -D. Lü, Eur. Phys. J. C **59** (2009) 861.

A. Khodjamirian, C. Klein, T. Mannel and Y. -M. Wang, JHEP **1109** (2011) 106.

T. Mannel and Y. -M. Wang, JHEP **1112** (2011) 067.

T. Feldmann and M. W. Y. Yip, Phys. Rev. D **85** (2012) 014035.

...

I. Motivation and introduction

- Weak decays of heavy-baryons are of high interest:
determination of CKM matrix elements $|V_{ub}|$ and $|V_{cb}|$,
allow the study of spin correlations (polarization asymmetries...),
a multitude of new-physics sensitive observables (A_{FB} , A_{CP} ...).
- Theoretical challenges of computing the $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \ell^+ \ell^-$ amplitudes:
 - a) 10 independent $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda$ form factors, nonperturbative dynamics,
 - b) Nonfactorizable contributions due to e.m. corrections:
non-local matrix element, light-cone OPE, factorization, ...
 - c) More involved hadronic DAs of Λ and Λ_b baryons:
24 + 3 independent Λ DAs, non-asymptotic corrections,
renormalization of Λ_b DAs, determinations of normalization constants,...

II. Heavy-to-light baryonic form factors

- (Non-lattice) theoretical approaches to compute heavy-to-light form factors:
 - a) QCD sum rules on the light-cone [Braun, Khodjamirian, Ball, ...]:
light-cone expansion for the correlator with “on-shell” light hadron,
hadronic dispersion relation, parton-hadron duality, Borel transformation.
 - b) QCD factorization (BBNS approach)[Beneke et al, ...]:
soft form factors, spectator interactions, annihilation contribution,
end-point singularity, power corrections,...
 - c) Soft-collinear effective theory (SCET)[Bauer et al, Beneke et al, ...]:
field decomposition, integrating out the small collinear-field components,
light-front multipole expansion (ultrasoft fields), gauge invariant Lagrangian, ...
 - d) SCET sum rules on the light-cone [De Fazio, Feldmann, Hurth,...]:
adopting the correlation function with “on-shell” heavy hadron,
matching QCD current onto SCET current,
factorization of the hard-collinear and soft scales.
 - e) k_T factorization theorem [Keum, Li, Sanda, Lü, Ukai, Yang, ...]:
hard-scattering picture, transverse momentum in the end-point region,
soft gluon emission and Sudakov form factor, k_T dependent hadronic WFs, ...

Parameterizations of $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda$ matrix elements

- Definitions of transition form factors in QCD [Isgur, Wise, ...]:

$$\langle \Lambda(P') | \bar{s} \gamma_\mu b | \Lambda_b(P) \rangle = \bar{\Lambda}(P') \left\{ f_1(q^2) \gamma_\mu + i \frac{f_2(q^2)}{m_{\Lambda_b}} \sigma_{\mu\nu} q^\nu + \frac{f_3(q^2)}{m_{\Lambda_b}} q_\mu \right\} \Lambda_b(P),$$

$$\langle \Lambda(P') | \bar{s} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 b | \Lambda_b(P) \rangle = \bar{\Lambda}(P') \left\{ g_1(q^2) \gamma_\mu + i \frac{g_2(q^2)}{m_{\Lambda_b}} \sigma_{\mu\nu} q^\nu + \frac{g_3(q^2)}{m_{\Lambda_b}} q_\mu \right\} \gamma_5 \Lambda_b(P),$$

$$\langle \Lambda(P') | \bar{s} i \sigma_{\mu\nu} q^\mu b | \Lambda_b(P) \rangle = \bar{\Lambda}(P') \left\{ \frac{q^2}{m_{\Lambda_b}} f_1^T(q^2) \gamma_\mu + i f_2^T(q^2) \sigma_{\mu\nu} q^\nu + f_3^T(q^2) q_\mu \right\} \Lambda_b(P),$$

$$\langle \Lambda(P') | \bar{s} i \sigma_{\mu\nu} \gamma_5 q^\mu b | \Lambda_b(P) \rangle = \bar{\Lambda}(P') \left\{ \frac{q^2}{m_{\Lambda_b}} g_1^T(q^2) \gamma_\mu + i g_2^T(q^2) \sigma_{\mu\nu} q^\nu + g_3^T(q^2) q_\mu \right\} \gamma_5 \Lambda_b(P).$$

- Helicity-based form factor parameterizations [Boyd/Savage 97, ...]:

$$f_\sigma(q^2) \equiv \mathcal{N}_\nu \epsilon^*(q, \sigma) \langle \Lambda(P') | \bar{s} \gamma_\mu b | \Lambda_b(P) \rangle,$$

$$g_\sigma(q^2) \equiv \dots, f_\sigma^T(q^2) \equiv \dots, g_\sigma^T(q^2) \equiv \dots$$

- Symmetry-based form factor parametrization [Feldmann/Yip 11]:

$$\langle \Lambda(P') | \bar{s} \Gamma b | \Lambda_b(P) \rangle = \xi_{ij}^{(\pm)} \bar{\Lambda}(P') \left(\Gamma_i \frac{\not{h}_\pm \not{h}_\mp}{4} \right) \Gamma (\tilde{\Gamma}_j) \Lambda_b(P).$$

HQET/SCET limit of $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda$ form factors

- In the heavy quark limit, the spin of Λ_b is equal to the spin of b quark .

$$\langle \Lambda(P') | \bar{s} \Gamma b | \Lambda_b(P) \rangle = \bar{\Lambda}(P') (F_1 + F_2 \not{v}) \Gamma \Lambda_b(P) .$$

This relation holds in the whole kinematical region! [Mannel, Y.M., 11, Feldmann/Yip 11]

- Collinear equation of motion:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle \Lambda(P') | \bar{s} \not{v} b | \Lambda_b(P) \rangle = \bar{\Lambda}(P') (F_1 + F_2 \not{v}) \not{v} \Lambda_b(P) , \\ &\Rightarrow F_2 = 0 . \end{aligned}$$

- In the HQET and SCET limit:

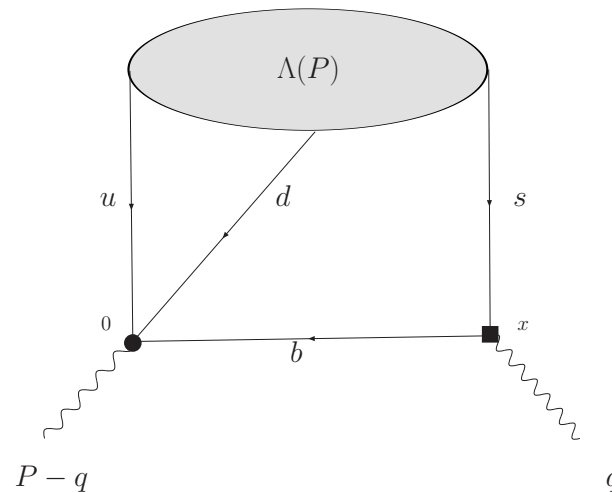
$$\langle \Lambda(P') | \bar{s} \Gamma b | \Lambda_b(P) \rangle = F_1 (v \cdot P') \bar{\Lambda}(P') \Gamma \Lambda_b(v) .$$

Only one universal form factor [$s(\uparrow\downarrow) = \Lambda(\uparrow\downarrow)$]!

Assuming Feynman mechanism dominance!

LCSR for $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda$ form factors

- Correlation function [Y.M./Li/Lü, 09]:



Long story about the baryonic current [Ioffe 1981, Chung et al 1982, ...].

- Hadronic dispersion relation:

$$T_\mu(P, q) = \frac{\langle 0 | j_{\Lambda_b} | \Lambda_b(P - q) \rangle \langle \Lambda_b(P - q) | j_\mu | \Lambda(P) \rangle}{m_{\Lambda_b}^2 - (P - q)^2} + \sum_i \int_{s_0^h}^{\infty} ds \frac{\rho_i^{\text{had}}(s, q^2)}{s - (P - q)^2} \Gamma_\mu^i,$$

Approximation of “structureless” exchanged particles!
One resonance \oplus continuum model!

LCSR for $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda$ form factors

- Light-cone OPE for the correlation function:

$$\begin{aligned} T_\mu(P, q) &= \sum_{ij} T_j(x_k, (P - q)^2, q^2, \mu) \otimes \psi_\Lambda^j(x_k, \mu) \Gamma_\mu^i, \\ &\equiv \sum_i \Pi_i((P - q)^2, q^2) \Gamma_\mu^i, \end{aligned}$$

x_k —momentum fractions, T_j —hard kernels, ψ_Λ^j —DAs of Λ baryon.

- Duality approximation:

$$\int_{s_0^h}^{\infty} ds \frac{\rho_i^{had}(s, q^2)}{s - (P - q)^2} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{s_0}^{\infty} ds \frac{\text{Im}_s \Pi_i(s, q^2)}{s - (P - q)^2}.$$

- Borelized sum rules for form factors:

$$\mathcal{F}_i(q^2) = \frac{1}{\lambda_{\Lambda_b}} \int_{m_b^2}^{s_0} ds e^{-(s - m_{\Lambda_b}^2)/M^2} \sum_j a_{ij}(m_{\Lambda_b}, m_\Lambda) \text{Im}_s \Pi_j(s, q^2).$$

$\mathcal{F}_i(q^2)$ denotes a general $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda$ form factor!

Numerics for $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda$ form factors

- $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda$ Form factors at $q^2 = 0$ [Y.M./Li/Lü 09]:

$$f_1(0) = 0.15^{+0.02}_{-0.02}, \quad f_2(0) = 0.07^{+0.01}_{-0.02}.$$

Tree-level QCD LCSR:

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(0) &= g_1(0) = f_2^T(0) = g_2^T(0), \\ f_2(0) &= g_2(0) = f_1^T(0) = g_1^T(0). \end{aligned}$$

Consistent with the HQET relations!

- Theoretical uncertainties:
Normalization constants of Λ_b and Λ baryons,
Systematic uncertainties from the continuum model,
Non-asymptotic corrections to Λ DAs.
Higher-order corrections.

III. Phenomenologies of rare Λ_b baryon decays

- Radiative $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda\gamma$ decay
- Rare semileptonic $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda\ell^+\ell^-$ decay
- Radiative $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda(1520)\gamma$ decay
- Semileptonic $\Lambda_b \rightarrow p\ell\nu$ decays

Radiative $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \gamma$ decay in LO

- A general dipole transition operator:

$$\tilde{O}_{7\gamma} = -\frac{e}{32\pi^2} m_b \bar{s} \sigma_{\mu\nu} (g_V - g_A \gamma_5) b F^{\mu\nu}.$$

- Polarized decay width of $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \gamma$:

$$\Gamma(\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma) = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_0 [1 + \alpha \hat{n} \cdot \mathbf{s}] = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_0 [1 + \alpha' \hat{n} \cdot \hat{\xi}].$$

Γ_0 is the total decay width of $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \gamma$.

$\hat{\xi}(\mathbf{s})$ is the three-spin vector of Λ baryon in its rest frame (Λ_b rest frame).

\hat{n} is a unit vector along the direction of Λ -baryon momentum.

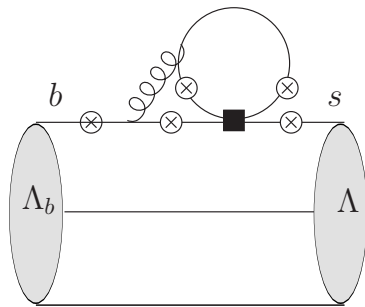
- Polarization asymmetry [Mannel/Y.M. 11, ...]:

$$\alpha = \frac{2x_\Lambda}{1 + x_\Lambda^2} \alpha' = \frac{2x_\Lambda}{1 + x_\Lambda^2} \frac{2g_V g_A}{g_V^2 + g_A^2} + O\left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{m_b}\right) + O(\alpha_s).$$

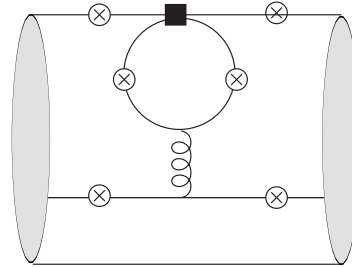
Only determined by the short-distance coefficients in the LO approximation!

Nonlocal effects in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \gamma$ decay

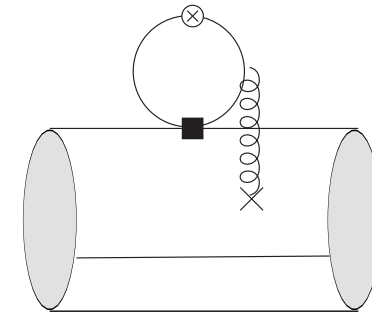
- Four-quark operator correction [Beneke/Feldmann 01, Khodjamirian et al 10, ...]:



(a)

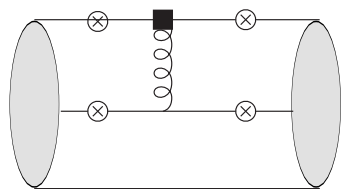


(b)

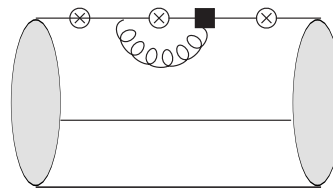


(c)

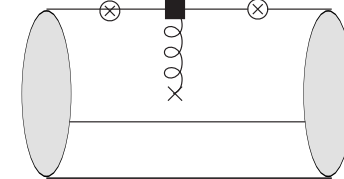
- Glounic penguin correction:



(d)



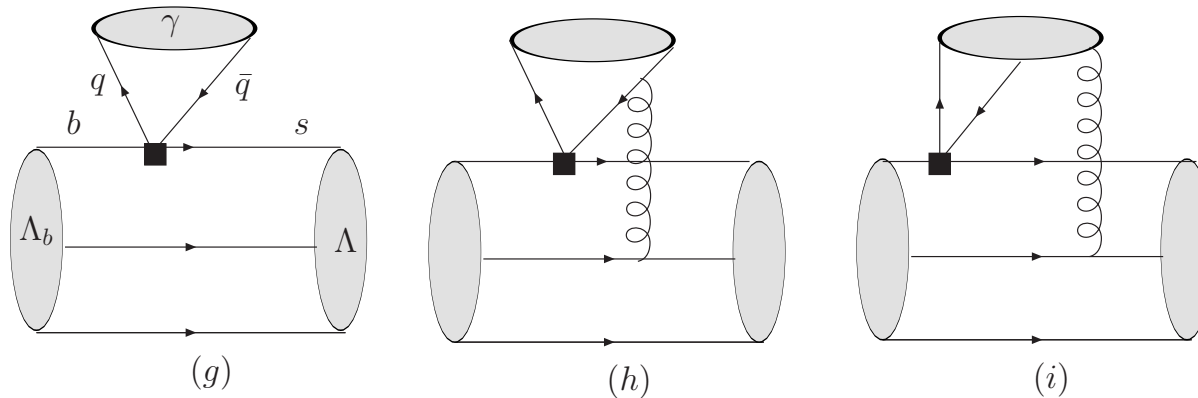
(e)



(f)

Nonlocal effects in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \gamma$ decay

- Long-distance photon contribution [Braun, Ball, Khodjamirian, ...]:



- Photon distribution amplitudes [Ball/Braun/Kivel, 2003]:
Defined as the VEV of the non-local quark-gluon operator with light-cone separation

$$\langle 0 | \bar{q}(z) \sigma_{\alpha\beta} [z, -z]_F q(-z) | 0 \rangle_F = e_q \chi \langle \bar{q}q \rangle \int_0^1 du F_{\alpha\beta}((1-2u)z) \phi_\gamma(u),$$

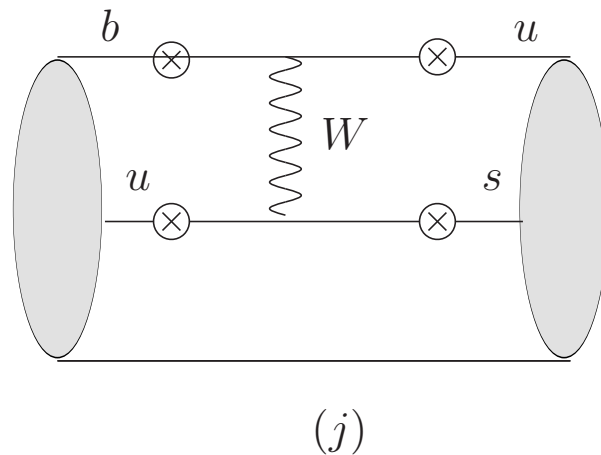
χ —susceptibility of the quark condensate, and

$$F_{\mu\nu}(x) = i [\epsilon_\mu(\lambda) q_\nu - \epsilon_\nu(\lambda) q_\mu] e^{-iq \cdot x},$$

$$\phi_\gamma(u, \mu) = 6u(1-u) \left[1 + \sum_n a_{2n}(\mu) C_{2n}^{3/2}(2u-1) \right].$$

Nonlocal effects in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \gamma$ decay

- Internal W -boson exchange diagrams(annihilation topology)
[Mannel/Recksiegel, 97]:



- Collinear factorization breaks down potentially!
- Better understanding of Λ_b DAs in HQET!
- Small correction estimated in the soft-overlap approach with diquark model!

Rare semileptonic $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \ell^+ \ell^-$ decay in LO

- Double differential decay rate (L, T, A_{FB}):

$$\frac{d^2\Gamma(\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \ell^+ \ell^-)}{dq^2 d\cos\theta} = \frac{3}{8} \left[(1 + \cos^2\theta) H_T(q^2) + 2\cos\theta H_A(q^2) + 2(1 - \cos^2\theta) H_L(q^2) \right].$$

- In the factorization and large-energy limit [Feldmann/Yip 11.]:

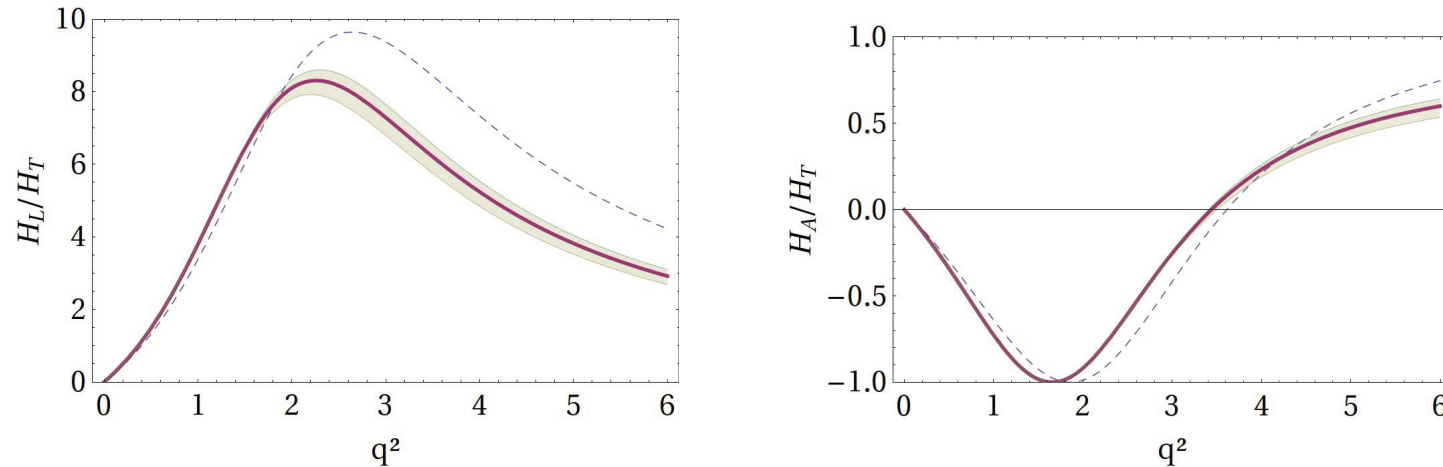
$$\begin{aligned} H_T(q^2) &\propto q^2 |F_1(P' \cdot v)|^2 \left\{ \left| C_9^{\text{eff}}(q^2) + \frac{2m_b m_{\Lambda_b} C_7^{\text{eff}}}{q^2} \right|^2 + |C_{10}|^2 \right\}, \\ H_A(q^2) &\propto q^2 |F_1(P' \cdot v)|^2 \text{Re} \left[\left(C_9^{\text{eff}}(q^2) + \frac{2m_b m_{\Lambda_b} C_7^{\text{eff}}}{q^2} \right)^* C_{10} \right], \\ H_L(q^2) &\propto m_{\Lambda_b}^2 |F_1(P' \cdot v)|^2 \left\{ \left| C_9^{\text{eff}}(q^2) + \frac{2m_b}{m_{\Lambda_b}} C_7^{\text{eff}} \right|^2 + |C_{10}|^2 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Ratios independent on the hadronic dynamics in the first approximation!

Λ_b is the simplest bottom hadron in HQET!

Rare semileptonic $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \ell^+ \ell^-$ decay in LO

- Ratios of observables H_L/H_T and H_A/H_T [Feldmann/Yip 11]:



dashed line: symmetry limit,
solid line/grey error band: radiative corrections to FF ratios

- Zero-point of A_{FB} [Mannel, Y.M., 11, Feldmann/Yip 11]:

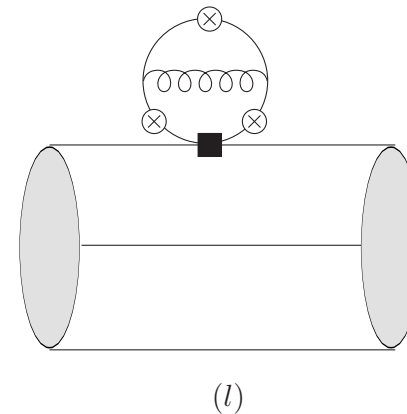
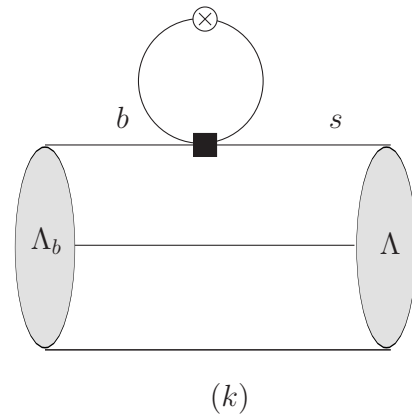
$$[2m_b m_{\Lambda_b} \text{Re}(C_{7\gamma}^{eff}) + q^2 \text{Re}(C_9^{eff})] + O\left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{m_b}\right) + O(\alpha_s) = 0.$$

The same as inclusive $b \rightarrow s \ell^+ \ell^-$ and $B \rightarrow K^* \ell^+ \ell^-$ decays!

$$q_0^2 \in [3.4, 3.8] \text{ GeV}^2.$$

Nonlocal effects in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \ell^+ \ell^-$ decay

- More diagrams compared with $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \gamma$ decay :



- Breakdown of (light-cone)-OPE in the time-like region!
Propagation of quark-loop in the hadronic medium instead of the vacuum!
- Developing models based on the hadronic dispersion relation!

Radiative $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda(1520)\gamma$ decay

- What is a $\Lambda(1520)$ state?

$\Lambda(1520) D_{03}$

$$I(J^P) = 0(\frac{3}{2}^-)$$

$$\text{Mass } m = 1519.5 \pm 1.0 \text{ MeV } [m]$$

$$\text{Full width } \Gamma = 15.6 \pm 1.0 \text{ MeV } [m]$$

$$p_{\text{beam}} = 0.39 \text{ GeV}/c \quad 4\pi\lambda^2 = 82.8 \text{ mb}$$

| $\Lambda(1520)$ DECAY MODES | Fraction (Γ_i/Γ) | p (MeV/c) |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| $N\bar{K}$ | $45 \pm 1\%$ | 243 |
| $\Sigma\pi$ | $42 \pm 1\%$ | 268 |
| $\Lambda\pi\pi$ | $10 \pm 1\%$ | 259 |
| $\Sigma\pi\pi$ | $0.9 \pm 0.1\%$ | 169 |
| $\Lambda\gamma$ | $0.85 \pm 0.15\%$ | 350 |

- Why study $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda(1520)\gamma$ decay?

Easier from experimental side due to two “tracks” in the final states!

A serious challenge for theorists to make precise predictions!

Preliminary to Spin-3/2 particle:

- Description of a spin-3/2 particle (Rarita-Schwinger vector spinor):

$$\Psi_{\mu}(p, \lambda) = \sum_{\alpha\beta} \langle 1, \frac{1}{2}, \alpha\beta | \frac{3}{2} \lambda \rangle \epsilon_{\mu}(p, \alpha) u(p, \beta).$$

8 of 16 components correspond to the physical spin-3/2 particle.

- Dirac equation of motion:

$$(\not{p} - m)\Psi_{\mu}(p, \lambda) = 0,$$

and two constraints:

$$p^{\mu}\Psi_{\mu}(p, \lambda) = 0, \quad \gamma^{\mu}\Psi_{\mu}(p, \lambda) = 0.$$

The unwanted spin-1/2 components are removed.

- The polarization sum of Rarita-Schwinger spin vectors:

$$\Psi_{\mu}(p)\bar{\Psi}_{\nu}(p) = -(\not{p} + m) \left[g_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{3}\gamma_{\mu}\gamma_{\nu} - \frac{2}{3m^2}p_{\mu}p_{\nu} + \frac{\gamma_{\nu}p_{\mu} - \gamma_{\mu}p_{\nu}}{3m} \right].$$

Form factors of $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda(1520)$ decay

- In the heavy quark limit [Hiller et al, 07],

$$\langle \Lambda^*(P') | \bar{s} \Gamma b | \Lambda_b(P) \rangle = \bar{\Psi}_\mu(P') q^\mu (G_1 + G_2 \not{v}) \Gamma \Lambda_b(P).$$

This relation holds in the whole kinematical region!

- In the HQET and SCET limit:

$$\langle \Lambda^*(P') | \bar{s} \Gamma b | \Lambda_b(P) \rangle = G_1 (P' \cdot v) \bar{\Psi}_\mu(P') q^\mu \Gamma \Lambda_b(P).$$

This relation is the same as $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda$ transitions!

- Physical interpretation [Brodsky/Lepage, 81]:

The total hadron helicity is conserved for a hard QCD process in the leading power approximation!

Radiative $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda(1520) + \gamma$ decay in LO

- Helicity amplitudes in the heavy-quark limit [Hiller et al, 07]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{A}_{+1/2} &\propto \tilde{C}_{7\gamma}^{eff} \frac{g_V + g_A}{2} G_1(P' \cdot v), \\ \mathcal{A}_{-1/2} &\propto \tilde{C}_{7\gamma}^{eff} \frac{g_V - g_A}{2} G_1(P' \cdot v), \\ \mathcal{A}_{+3/2} &\sim \mathcal{A}_{-3/2} \sim O(\Lambda_{QCD}/m_{\Lambda_b}).\end{aligned}$$

The subscript denotes the helicity of $\Lambda(1520)$ baryon.
Consistent with the helicity selection rule!

- Ratios of the helicity amplitudes in the heavy-quark limit:

$$\begin{aligned}R_1 &\equiv \frac{|\mathcal{A}_{+1/2}|^2}{|\mathcal{A}_{-1/2}|^2} = \frac{|\mathcal{A}_{+3/2}|^2}{|\mathcal{A}_{-3/2}|^2} = \frac{|g_V + g_A|^2}{|g_V - g_A|^2}, \\ R_2 &\equiv \frac{|\mathcal{A}_{\pm 3/2}|^2}{|\mathcal{A}_{\pm 1/2}|^2} \sim O(\Lambda_{QCD}^2/m_{\Lambda_b}^2).\end{aligned}$$

R_1 sensitive to the helicity structure of the effective Hamiltonian.

R_2 as a benchmark for SCET. Constructing phenomenological observables!

Observables in radiative $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda(1520) + \gamma$ decay

- The proton asymmetry parameter [Legger/Schietinger 06, Hiller et al 07.]:

$$\frac{d\Gamma(\Lambda_b \rightarrow (\Lambda^* \rightarrow p K)\gamma)}{d\cos\theta_p} \propto 1 - \alpha_{p,3/2} \cos^2\theta_p, \quad \alpha_{p,3/2} = \frac{R_2 - 1}{R_2 + \frac{1}{3}}.$$

θ_p : \angle (the proton momentum in the Λ^* rest frame, the Λ^* momentum in the Λ_b rest frame).

- The photon asymmetry parameter [Legger/Schietinger, 06, Hiller et al 07.]:

$$\frac{d\Gamma(\Lambda_b \rightarrow (\Lambda^* \rightarrow p K)\gamma)}{d\cos\theta_\gamma} \propto 1 - \alpha_{\gamma,3/2} P_{\Lambda_b} \cos\theta_\gamma, \quad \alpha_{\gamma,3/2} = \frac{1 - R_2}{1 + R_2} \cdot \frac{2g_V g_A}{g_V^2 + g_A^2}.$$

P_{Λ_b} — Λ_b polarization(= b -quark polarization in the HQET limit),

θ_γ : \angle (the photon momentum in the Λ_b rest frame, the spin of Λ_b baryon)

- Defining a new observable only dependent on the Wilson coefficients

$$\alpha_\gamma \equiv \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{\gamma,3/2} \left(1 - \frac{3}{\alpha_{p,3/2}} \right) = -\frac{2g_V g_A}{g_V^2 + g_A^2}.$$

Actually photon polarization asymmetry [Legger/Schietinger 06.]!

Semileptonic $\Lambda_b \rightarrow p \ell \nu$ decays

- $\Lambda_b \rightarrow p$ transition form factors [Khodjamirian/Klein/Mannel/Y.M., 11]:

| form factors | $\eta_{\Lambda_b}^{(\mathcal{A})}$ | $\eta_{\Lambda_b}^{(\mathcal{P})}$ |
|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| $f_1(0)$ | $0.14^{+0.03}_{-0.03}$ | $0.12^{+0.03}_{-0.04}$ |
| $f_2(0)$ | $-0.054^{+0.016}_{-0.013}$ | $-0.047^{+0.015}_{-0.013}$ |

- Partially integrated width (FFs from QCD LCSR without extrapolation):

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\zeta(0, q_{max}^2) &= \frac{1}{|V_{ub}|^2} \int_0^{q_{max}^2} dq^2 \frac{d\Gamma}{dq^2}(\Lambda_b \rightarrow p \ell \nu_l), \\ &= 5.5^{+2.5}_{-2.0} \text{ ps}^{-1} (5.6^{+3.2}_{-2.9} \text{ ps}^{-1}). \end{aligned}$$

from the axial-vector (pseudoscalar) Λ_b -interpolating current.

IV. Summary

- Rare decays of b -baryons are indeed very interesting phenomenologically:

Polarization asymmetry α of $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \gamma$,

Ratios of helicity amplitudes (H_L/H_T and H_A/H_T) and A_{FB} in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda + \ell^+ \ell^-$,

The proton and photon asymmetry parameters ($\alpha_{p,3/2}$, $\alpha_{\gamma,3/2}$) in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda(1520) + \gamma$,

Differential decay width of $\Lambda_b \rightarrow p \ell \nu_\ell$ (determination of $|V_{ub}|$).

- Further improvements:

Improved estimates of heavy-to-light baryonic form factors,

Better understanding of baryon distribution amplitudes,

Higher-order and higher-power corrections,

Calculations of non-local matrix elements,

Better understanding of factorization and duality.