



African School of Fundamental
Physics and Applications

Flavour Physics

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Outline of the lecture

- What is flavour physics and why it is interesting
- CP Violation and baryogenesis
- Some historical remarks
- The CKM Matrix
- A brief mention of rare b decays and the LHCb flavour anomalies

Some overlap with Mario Campanelli's slides

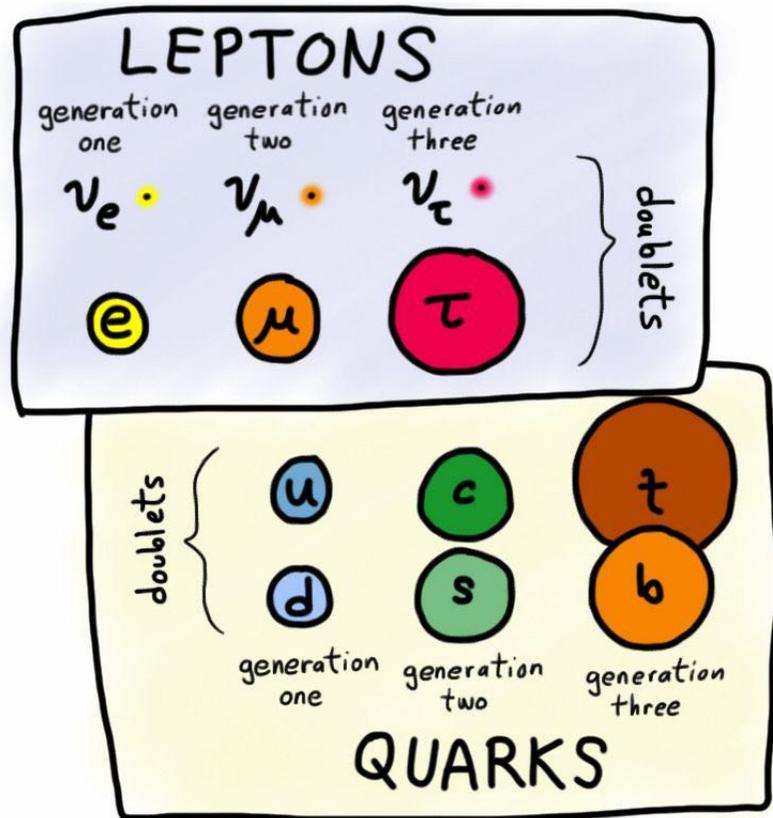
A very vast subject..

- Flavour physics includes
 - neutrinos
 - charged leptons
 - kaon physics
 - charm & beauty physics
 - some aspects of top physics
- My focus here will be on some limited aspects of kaon, charm and beauty physics

What is flavour?

Flavour physics refers to the study of the interactions that distinguish between the fermion generations

Who ordered that?



- ... asked I.Rabi after the discovery of the μ with a mass of $207 m_e$
- $m_t/m_u \sim \mathcal{O}(10^5)$!
- ν masses many orders of magnitude lighter than any other matter field!

The Higgs mechanism does not solve the problem of why each particle has a different mass (it does not allow us to predict/compute particle masses)

Many mysteries...

- ..even if the SM is, at the current level of experimental precision and at the energies reached so far, the most successful and best tested theory of nature at a fundamental level.

What determines the observed pattern of masses and mixing angles of quarks and leptons?

- In the SM, the only interaction distinguishing the three flavours is the Yukawa interaction (interaction of the matter fields with the Higgs boson). The complex phases present in the Yukawa couplings are also the only source of CP violation.

Are there other sources of flavour (and CP) symmetry breaking, beside the SM Yukawa couplings?

Why flavour is interesting

- To be able to answer these questions is likely to shed light on physics beyond the SM...
- Flavour physics might provide the first indications of new physics at energy scales that are beyond the reach of direct searches
- CP (Charge-Parity) violation is connected to the matter-antimatter asymmetry of the Universe

Where did the anti-matter go?



Where did the anti-matter go?

- What led to the disappearance of antimatter assuming an initial symmetric state (or that inflation washed out any possible prior asymmetry)?
 - There are anti-protons in cosmic rays, consistent with secondaries due to the interactions of cosmic-ray protons in the Interstellar Medium
 - We can produce and study anti-matter in accelerators
 - But apparently no anti-matter around us
 - This looks really strange, given that the properties of matter and antimatter are very similar.
 - **Where did it go? Why is the universe 100% matter-antimatter asymmetric ?**

Primordial Baryon Asymmetry

- We can define the [Baryon Asymmetry of the Universe \(BAU\)](#) as

$$\Delta(t) = \frac{N_B - N_{\bar{B}}}{N_B + N_{\bar{B}}} \quad \text{We already know that } \Delta(10^{10} \text{ years}) = 1$$

- Another interesting point: $t_0 \sim 10^{-6} s$ (or $T \sim 1 \text{ GeV} \sim m_p$) when the universe had cooled enough to allow the first protons and neutrons to form

- From thermodynamics: $n_B \sim n_{\bar{B}} \sim n_\gamma \rightarrow \Delta(t_0) = \frac{N_B - N_{\bar{B}}}{N_\gamma}$

- This ratio is in fact almost time-independent, so $\Delta(t_0)$ can be estimated by the [baryon to photon ratio today](#): $\eta = \frac{N_B}{N_\gamma}$

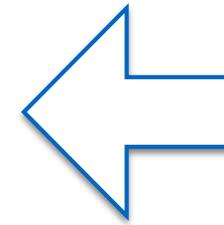
Primordial Baryon Asymmetry

- From observations:

- $N_\gamma \simeq 410$ photons/cm³ (at T= 2.73⁰K)

- $N_B \simeq 0.25$ nucleons/m³

$$\eta = \frac{N_B}{N_\gamma} \simeq 6 \times 10^{-10}$$



Small baryon-to-photon ratio in Universe today

- Big Bang theory tells us that the baryon asymmetry of the early universe was a very small number , i.e., today's huge matter-antimatter asymmetry was a tiny number in the past

$$\Delta(t_0) = \frac{N_B - N_{\bar{B}}}{N_B + N_{\bar{B}}} \sim 10^{-10}$$

Beginning of Universe

10,000,000,000

matter

10,000,000,000

anti-matter

$\sim 10^{-6}$ seconds later

10,000,000,001

10,000,000,000

matter

anti-matter

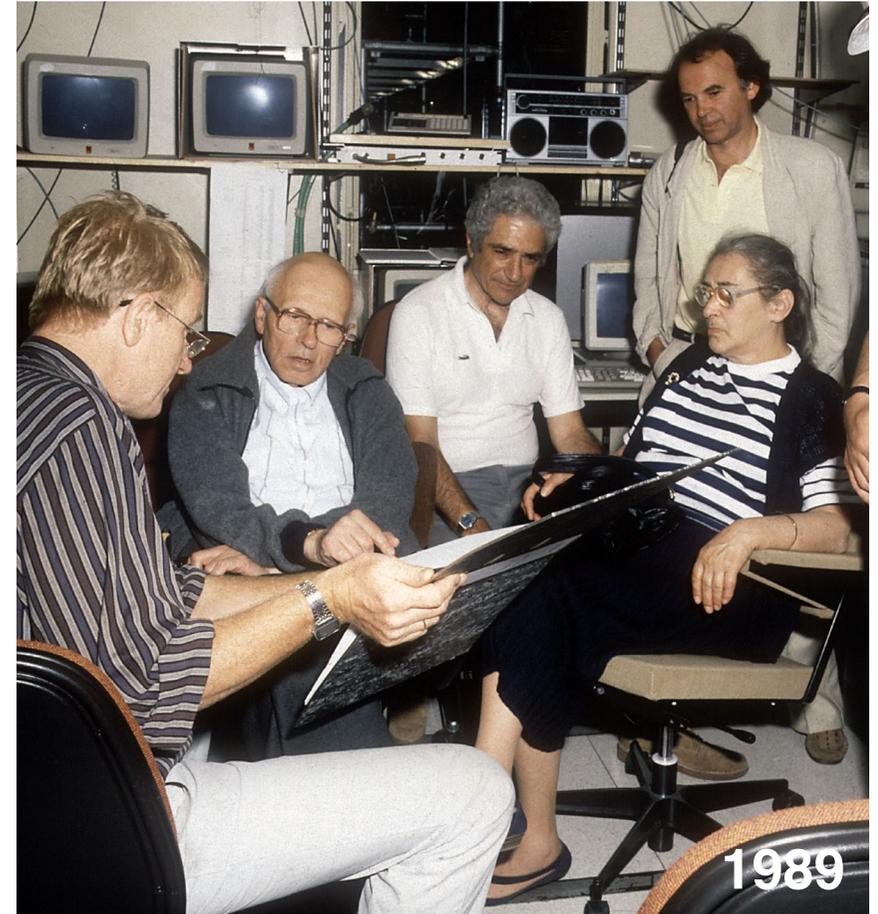
Universe now



- Antimatter and matter particles annihilated massively in the early universe, but a tiny fraction of matter was left over: every 10 billion particles, a handful was not annihilated away
- We are very lucky!

Baryogenesis and Sakharov conditions

- A process called **baryogenesis** was hypothesized to generate this asymmetry dynamically from a matter-antimatter symmetric initial state
- In 1967 A.D. Sakharov enumerated three necessary conditions for baryogenesis (incidentally, his work went unnoticed for 11 years!)



Sakharov conditions

1. Baryon number violation

- Otherwise there's no way to produce an excess of baryons

2. C and CP violation

- If C and CP are exact symmetries, the total rate for any process which produces an excess of baryons is equal to the rate of the complementary process which produces an excess of antibaryons

3. Thermodynamic non equilibrium

- Otherwise any asymmetry would be washed away by simple thermodynamics

Can the SM explain baryogenesis?

- In principle SM carries all the ingredients to satisfy the Sakharov conditions
- Relevant measure is Jarlskog determinant J (I will come back to it!), an invariant that identifies CP violation in the SM and that depends on every physical quark mixing angle $J \sim \Pi(\delta m_q^2 / M_W^2) \Pi(\text{angles})$
- CP violation in the SM is proportional to J (a dimensionless quantity is constructed by dividing by the relevant temperature at which the BAU freezes out) $\sim \mathbf{10^{-20}}$
- **Many orders of magnitude below the observation!**

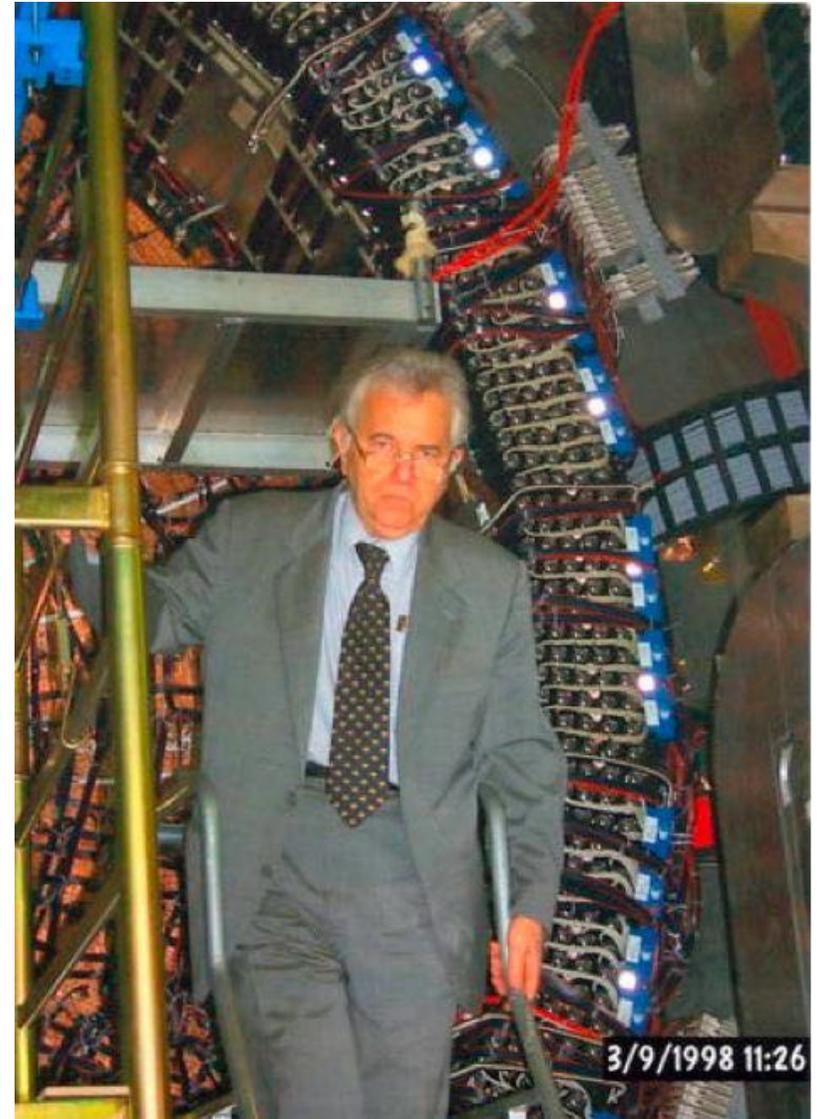
We need more CP violation!

- CP violation beyond the SM must exist!
- Where might we find it?
 - **quark sector** , as deviations from CKM predictions
 - **lepton sector**, e.g. as CP violation in neutrino oscillations
 - **other new physics**: almost all TEV-scale NP contains new sources of CP violation and precision measurements of flavour observables are generically sensitive to additions to the Standard Model

Some historical remarks

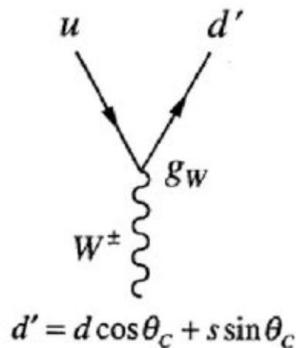
Cabibbo Theory

- First building block of what we now call “Flavour physics” was laid down by Nicola Cabibbo in 1963 well before many of the SM ingredients were clear
- The Cabibbo theory of semileptonic decays provided the first step towards a unified description of hadronic and leptonic weak interactions



The puzzling decays of strange particles

- $\Delta S = 1$ semileptonic weak decays (e.g. $K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu$) are suppressed relative to those with $\Delta S = 0$ (e.g. $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu$)
- Cabibbo hypothesised that the weak interaction couples the up quark to an orthogonal combination of the down and strange quarks, determined by the “Cabibbo angle”



$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ d' \end{pmatrix}_L = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \cos \theta_C + s \sin \theta_C \end{pmatrix}_L$$

To determine θ , let us compare the rates for $K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu$ and $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu$; we find

$$\frac{\Gamma(K^+ \rightarrow \mu \nu)}{\Gamma(\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu \nu)} = \tan^2 \theta \frac{M_K (1 - M_\mu^2/M_K^2)^2 / M_\pi (1 - M_\mu^2/M_\pi^2)^2}{M_\pi (1 - M_\mu^2/M_\pi^2)^2} \quad (3)$$

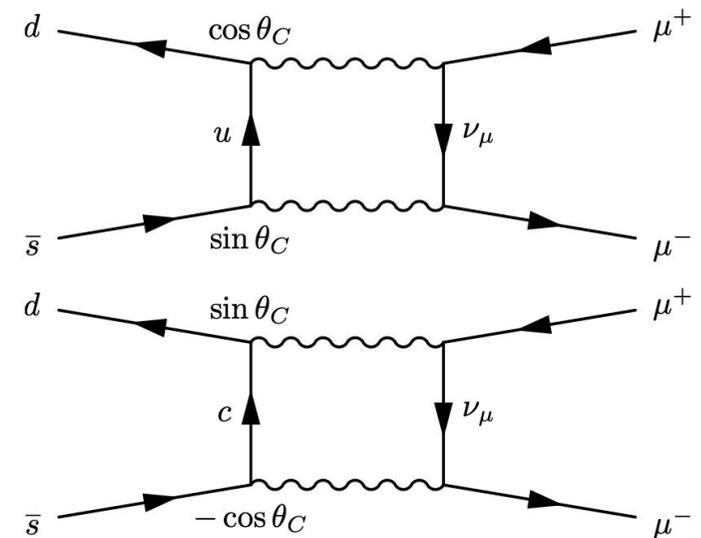
From the experimental data, we then get^{5,6}

$$\theta = 0.257. \quad (4)$$

- The Cabibbo angle θ_C is the mixing angle expressing the weakly interacting down-quark d' in terms of fields with definite mass d, s
- Remarkable agreement of the theory with experiments, already at the time he wrote the article

GIM mechanism and charm

- However, Cabibbo's theory could not explain the suppression of strangeness-changing neutral current processes, e.g. $\frac{\Gamma(K_L \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)}{\Gamma(K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \bar{\nu}_\mu)} \sim 10^{-8}$
- In 1970, Glashow, Iliopoulos and Maiani brought in a new, fourth, charge 2/3 quark: "charm" (small detail... not yet discovered!)
- This adds an additional decay amplitude almost identical to original one, but with opposite sign \Rightarrow (Almost) fully destructive interference
(Cancellation not perfect because u, c masses not quite the same, result proportional to $m_c^2 - m_u^2$)



- At the price of adding a second doublet, the unwanted $\Delta S = 1$ neutral currents were cancelled:

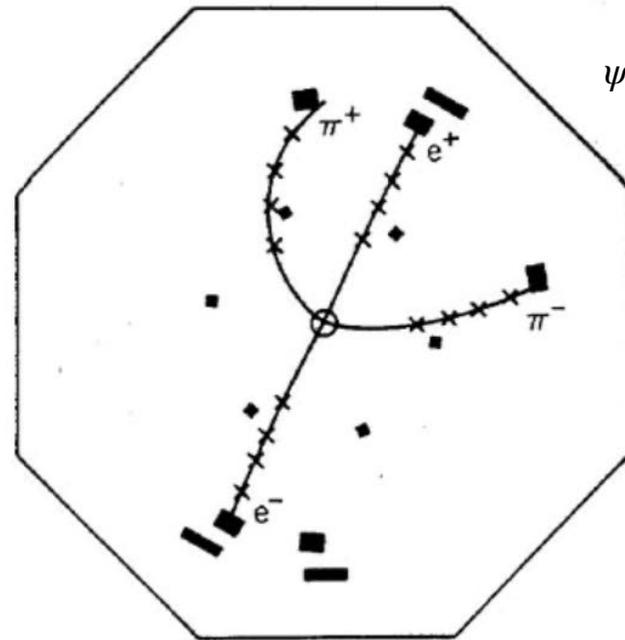
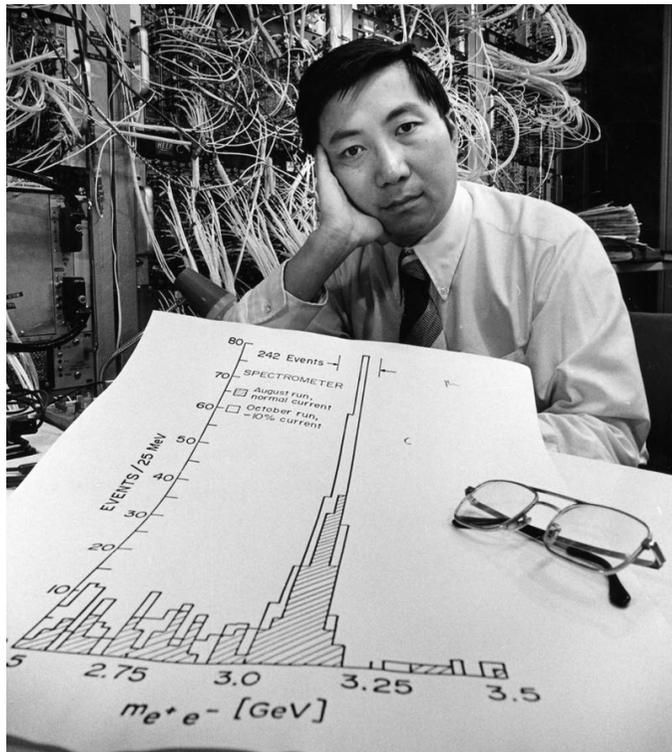
$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{weak} & \text{mass} \\ & \text{eigenstates} & \text{eigenstates} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \begin{pmatrix} d' \\ s' \end{pmatrix} & = & \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_C & \sin \theta_C \\ -\sin \theta_C & \cos \theta_C \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ e \end{pmatrix}_L, \begin{pmatrix} \nu_\mu \\ \mu \end{pmatrix}_L \\ \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d' \end{pmatrix}_L, \begin{pmatrix} c \\ s' \end{pmatrix}_L$$

Remarkable symmetry between leptons and quarks!

Tremendous triumph of theory

- .. when on November 10, 1974 two groups, one at Brookhaven using a p beam on a fixed target and the other in e^+e^- at SLAC simultaneously announced the discovery of the J/Ψ resonance ($c\bar{c}$) with mass of 3.1 GeV



$$\psi' \rightarrow J/\psi (\rightarrow e^+e^-) \pi^+\pi^-$$

Ting&Richter, Nobel prize 1976

- The ADONE e^+e^- machine in Frascati was also pushed beyond its nominal limit of energy (2×1.5 GeV) and saw an overwhelming signal !

GIM-50

50 Years with the GIM Mechanism



Kobayashi and Maskawa

- With four quarks, matrix $V = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix}$, generally complex, can always be brought to a real form, thereby excluding CP violation from the weak interactions
- Three years later, in '73, Kobayashi and Maskawa showed that a complex phase does remain if the matrix is three by three (indicated as V_{CKM} , after Cabibbo, Kobayashi and Maskawa)
- **It is possible to incorporate the observed CP violation in a theory with six quark flavours** (remarkable conjecture when not even the second family was completed! b quark discovered in '77 by Lederman and t in '94)
- CP violation discovered in the **neutral kaon system** by Cronin and Fitch in 1964 (Nobel prize in 1980)

The neutral kaon system

- Neutral kaons $|K^0\rangle = |d\bar{s}\rangle$ and $|\bar{K}^0\rangle = |s\bar{d}\rangle$, generated in strong interactions and distinguished by their production mode, e.g., $\pi^- + p \rightarrow \Lambda + K^0$ or $p + \bar{p} \rightarrow K^+ + \bar{K}^0 + \pi^-$ (flavour eigenstates with definite quark content)
- They mix via the weak interactions \rightarrow physical states (with definite mass and lifetime) are superpositions of K^0, \bar{K}^0
- Weak interactions thought to be invariant under CP:

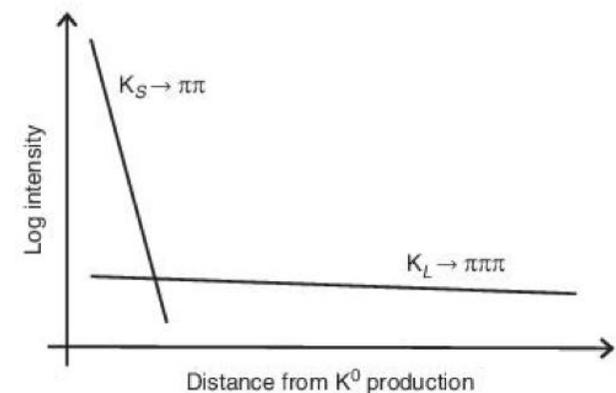
$$\text{CP eigenstates: } \begin{cases} |K_1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|K^0\rangle - |\bar{K}^0\rangle), & CP|K_1\rangle = +|K_1\rangle \\ |K_2\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|K^0\rangle + |\bar{K}^0\rangle), & CP|K_2\rangle = -|K_2\rangle \end{cases}$$

distinguished by their mode of decay, with CP-even $K_1 \rightarrow \pi\pi$ and CP-odd $K_2 \rightarrow \pi\pi\pi$

- Large difference in lifetimes:

$$m_K - 2m_\pi \sim 220 \text{ MeV} \gg m_K - 3m_\pi \sim 80 \text{ MeV}$$

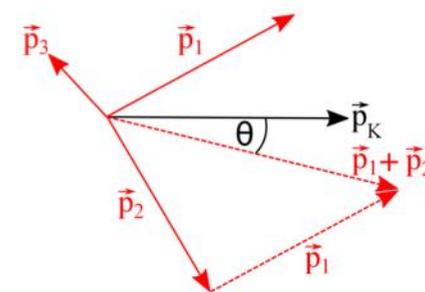
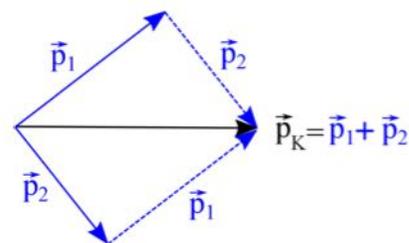
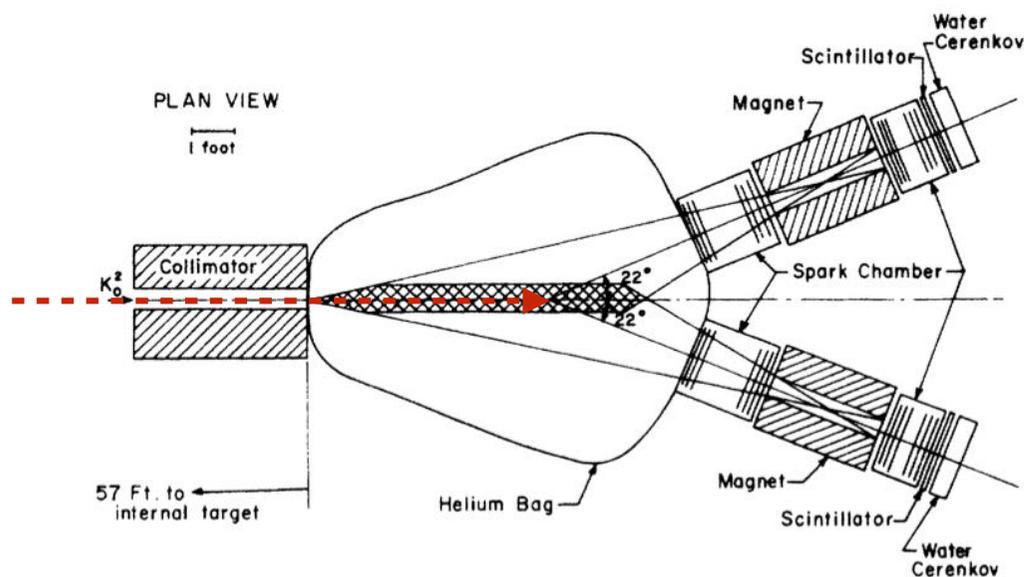
$$\Rightarrow \tau_1 \ll \tau_2$$





The Cronin & Fitch experiment

- Investigating some anomaly reported in the “regeneration” phenomenon with 2 magnetic spectrometers $\sim 20\text{m}$ away from K^0 production point ($\sim 300 K_1$ lifetimes), where only K_2 are left



- For “wrong” CP two-body decay $K_2 \rightarrow \pi\pi$, angle θ between vector sum of two momenta and beam direction should be $= 0$ and $\neq 0$ for three-body decays

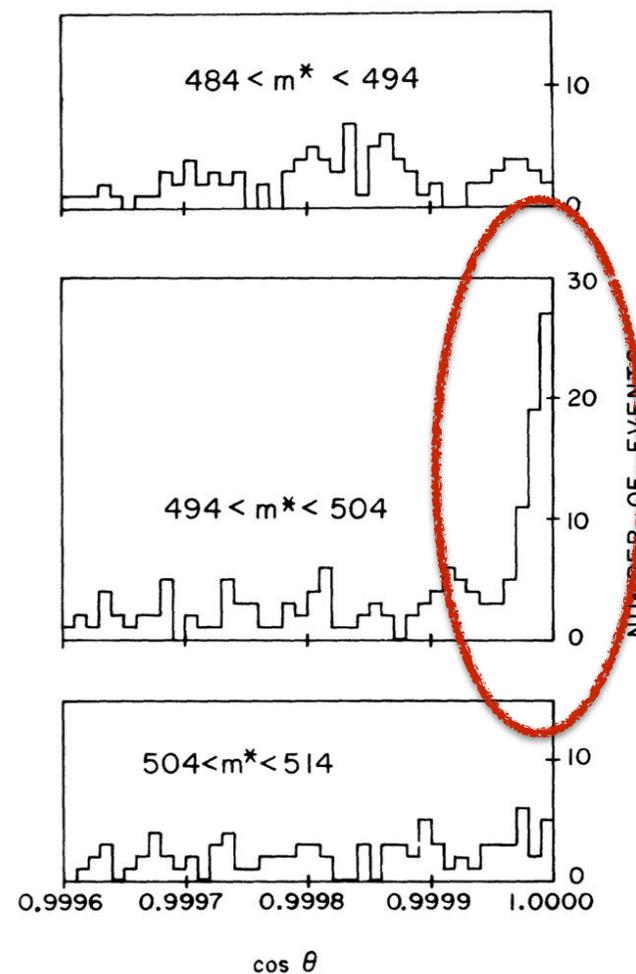


The Cronin & Fitch experiment

- A clear peak of ~ 45 events in forward direction ($\cos \theta > 0.9999$) at $m^* \sim m_K$
 - Background from 3-body decays ($\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0, \pi^\pm\mu^\mp\nu_\mu, \pi^\pm e^\mp\nu_e$)
- These 45 events correspond to $K_L \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ decays with $\text{BF} \sim 2 \cdot 10^{-3}$
- Observation of $K_L \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ implies that K_L is not a pure CP-eigenstate
- The actual physical states are given by

$$|K_L\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+|\epsilon|^2}} (|K_2\rangle + \epsilon|K_1\rangle) \sim |K_2\rangle$$

$$|K_S\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+|\epsilon|^2}} (|K_1\rangle + \epsilon|K_2\rangle) \sim |K_1\rangle$$



A more modern notation (as a reference)

- $|K_s^0\rangle = p|K^0\rangle + q|\bar{K}^0\rangle$
- $|K_L^0\rangle = p|K^0\rangle - q|\bar{K}^0\rangle$ with
- $p = (1 + \epsilon)/\sqrt{2 + |\epsilon|^2}$
- $q = (1 - \epsilon)/\sqrt{2 + |\epsilon|^2}$ and
- $q/p = (1 - \epsilon)/(1 + \epsilon)$

Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa

- Generalization to 6 quarks by Kobayashi and Maskawa (1973, 10 years after Cabibbo's theory)
- CP violation introduced in a natural way if there are at least three families of quarks



Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa

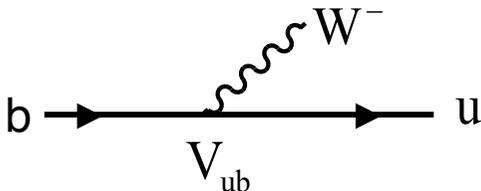
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- 2008 Nobel prize to K&M

CKM matrix

- V_{CKM} describes the rotation between flavour (d', s', b') and mass (d, s, b) eigenstates

$$\text{Flavour eigenstates} \begin{pmatrix} d' \\ s' \\ b' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix} \text{Mass eigenstates}$$


The diagram shows a horizontal line representing a quark transition. On the left, an arrow points right towards a vertex labeled 'b'. From this vertex, a wavy line representing a W^- boson extends to the right. At the second vertex, another arrow points right towards a vertex labeled 'u'. Below the wavy line, the label V_{ub} is written, indicating the CKM matrix element for this transition.

- V_{ij} proportional to transition amplitude from quark i to quark $j \rightarrow$

V_{CKM} quark mixing matrix

- V_{CKM} induces flavour-changing transitions inside and between generations in the charged sector at tree level (W^\pm interaction). (By contrast, there are no flavour-changing transitions in the neutral sector at tree level. **No FCNC**)

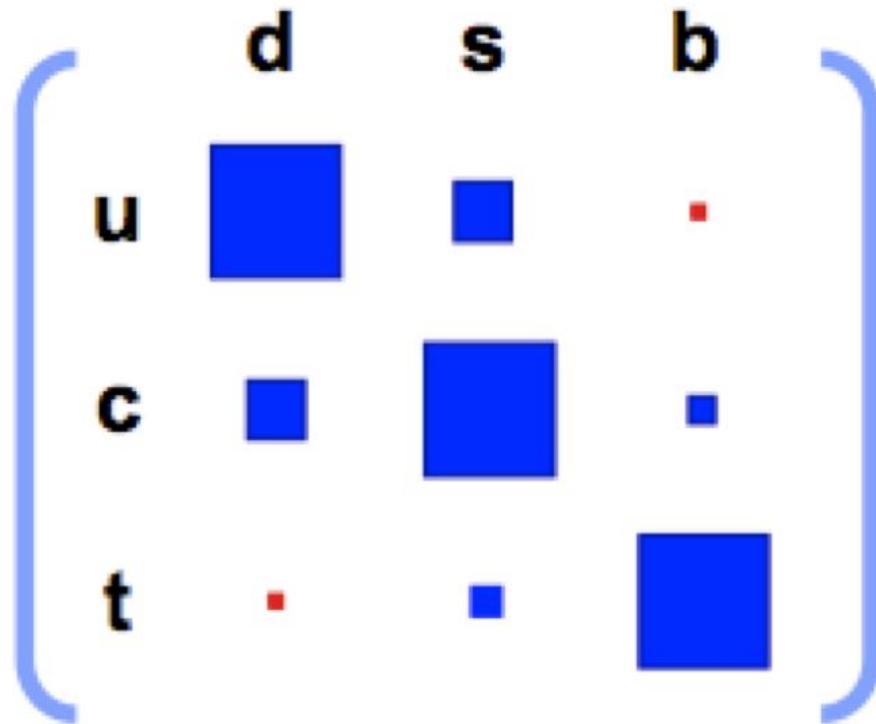
How many independent parameters are needed to determine V_{CKM} ?

- $N \times N$ complex matrix (with $N = 3$)
- N^2 complex entries with N^2 unitarity constraints ($V^\dagger V = 1$) $\rightarrow N^2$ real parameters
- $2N - 1$ phases not physically meaningful \rightarrow
 V_{CKM} depends on $N^2 - 2N + 1 = (N - 1)^2$ real physical parameters
- An orthogonal matrix has $N(N - 1)/2$ independent parameters (mixing angles, e.g., for $N = 3$, 3 Euler angles)
- V_{CKM} has $N(N - 1)/2$ mixing angles and
 $(N - 1)^2 - N(N - 1)/2 = (N - 1)(N - 2)/2$ phases
- For $N = 2$, one mixing angle θ_c and no phases
- For $N = 3$, three angles $\theta_{12}, \theta_{13}, \theta_{23}$ and one complex phase δ

Important consequences

- If we want to see large CP-violating effects coming from the CKM matrix, we must look for processes which involve, even in leading approximation, quarks from all three generations.
- **Large CP violating asymmetries are expected in b decays!**
- CP violation in K decays is small, regardless of the value of the complex phase, because the dominant diagrams involve only quarks from the first two families

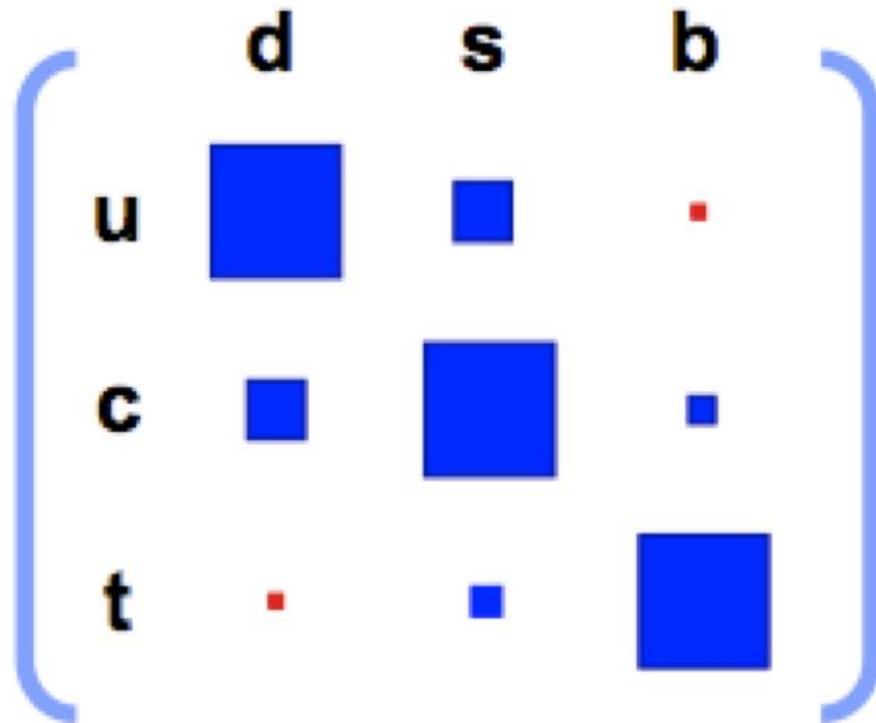
Hierarchy in quark mixing



- Each quark has a preference to transform into a quark of its own generation.
- Very suggestive pattern
- No known reasons
- Completely different in neutrino sector

$$V_{CKM} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{2} & \lambda & A\lambda^3(\rho - i\eta) \\ -\lambda & 1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{2} & A\lambda^2 \\ A\lambda^3(1 - \rho - i\eta) & -A\lambda^2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \mathcal{O}(\lambda^4)$$

Hierarchy in quark mixing



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$$V_{CKM} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} 0.97370 \pm 0.00014 & 0.2245 \pm 0.0008 & 0.00382 \pm 0.00024 \\ 0.221 \pm 0.004 & 0.987 \pm 0.011 & 0.0410 \pm 0.0014 \\ 0.0080 \pm 0.0003 & 0.0388 \pm 0.0011 & 1.013 \pm 0.030 \end{pmatrix}$$

Unitarity conditions

- Unitarity of CKM matrix implies relations of the form

$$\sum_i V_{ij} V_{ik}^* = \delta_{j,k}, \text{ with } j \neq k$$

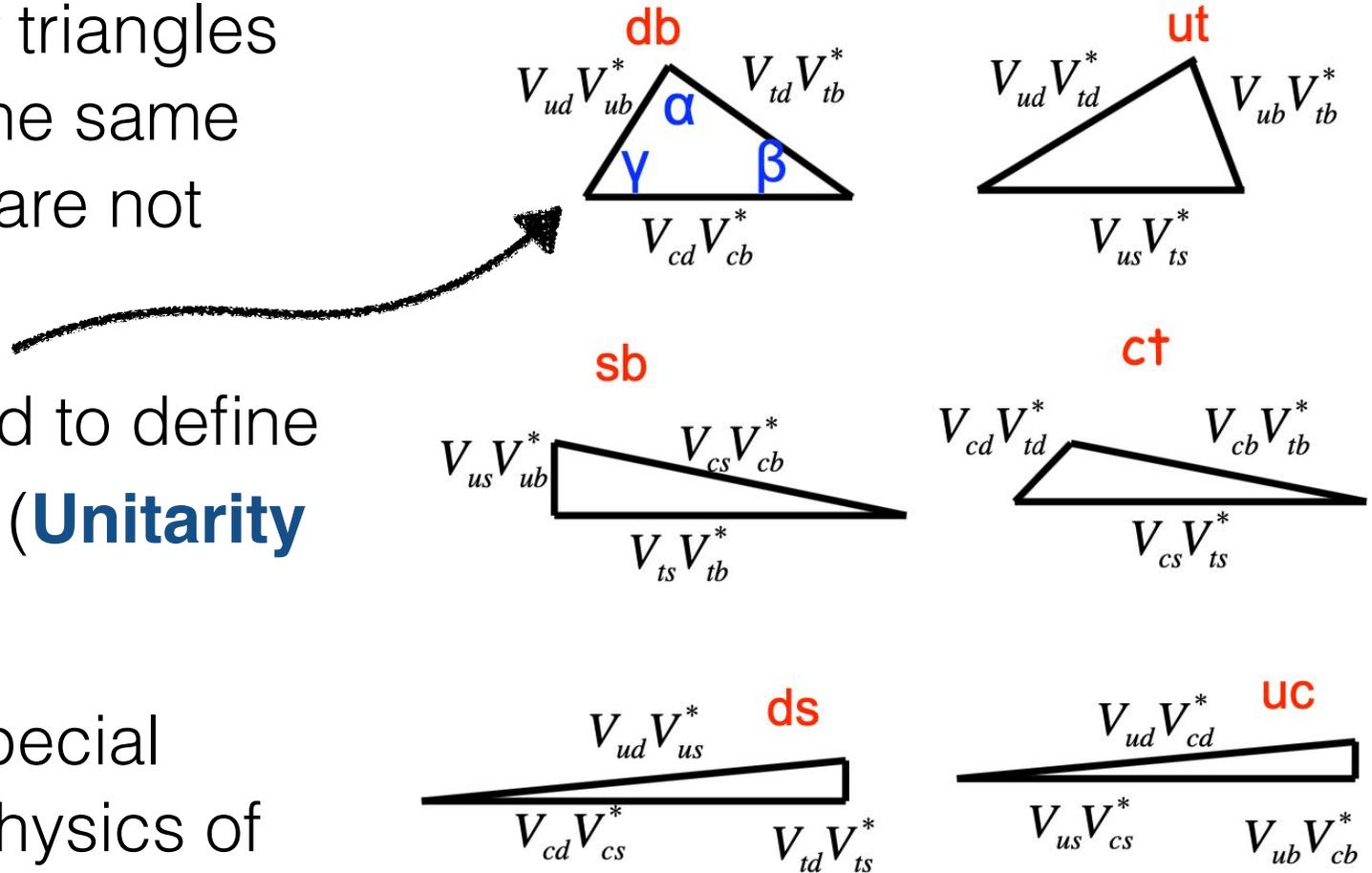
- Each of these 6 unitarity constraints can be seen as the sum of 3 complex numbers closing a triangle in the complex plane
- All triangles have the same area a , half of the Jarlskog invariant (independent of parametrization):

$$J = 2a = c_{12}c_{23}c_{13}^2 s_{12}s_{23}s_{13} \sin \delta \simeq \lambda^6 A^2 \eta \simeq 10^{-5}$$

- J is a measure of CPV in the SM (we introduced J in the context of baryogenesis); J equal to zero if any one of the mixing angles or phase is zero

Unitarity conditions

- Only db and ut triangles have sides of the same order (λ^3), i.e. are not squashed
- db triangle used to define angles α, β, γ (**Unitarity Triangle**)
- ut triangle of special relevance for physics of B_s mesons



Unitarity Triangle (UT)

$$V_{ud}V_{ub}^* + V_{cd}V_{cb}^* + V_{td}V_{tb}^* = 0$$

$$\mathcal{O}(\lambda^3) \quad \mathcal{O}(\lambda^3) \quad \mathcal{O}(\lambda^3)$$

$$\frac{V_{ud}V_{ub}^*}{V_{cd}V_{cb}^*} + 1 + \frac{V_{td}V_{tb}^*}{V_{cd}V_{cb}^*} = 0$$

$$\gamma = \arg\left(-\frac{V_{ud}V_{ub}^*}{V_{cd}V_{cb}^*}\right)$$

$$R_u \equiv \left| \frac{V_{ud}V_{ub}^*}{V_{cd}V_{cb}^*} \right|$$

$(\bar{\rho}, \bar{\eta})$

$$\alpha = \phi_2$$

$$\alpha = \arg\left(-\frac{V_{td}V_{tb}^*}{V_{ud}V_{ub}^*}\right)$$

$$R_t \equiv \left| \frac{V_{td}V_{tb}^*}{V_{cd}V_{cb}^*} \right|$$

$$\beta = \arg\left(-\frac{V_{cd}V_{cb}^*}{V_{td}V_{tb}^*}\right)$$

$$\gamma = \phi_3$$

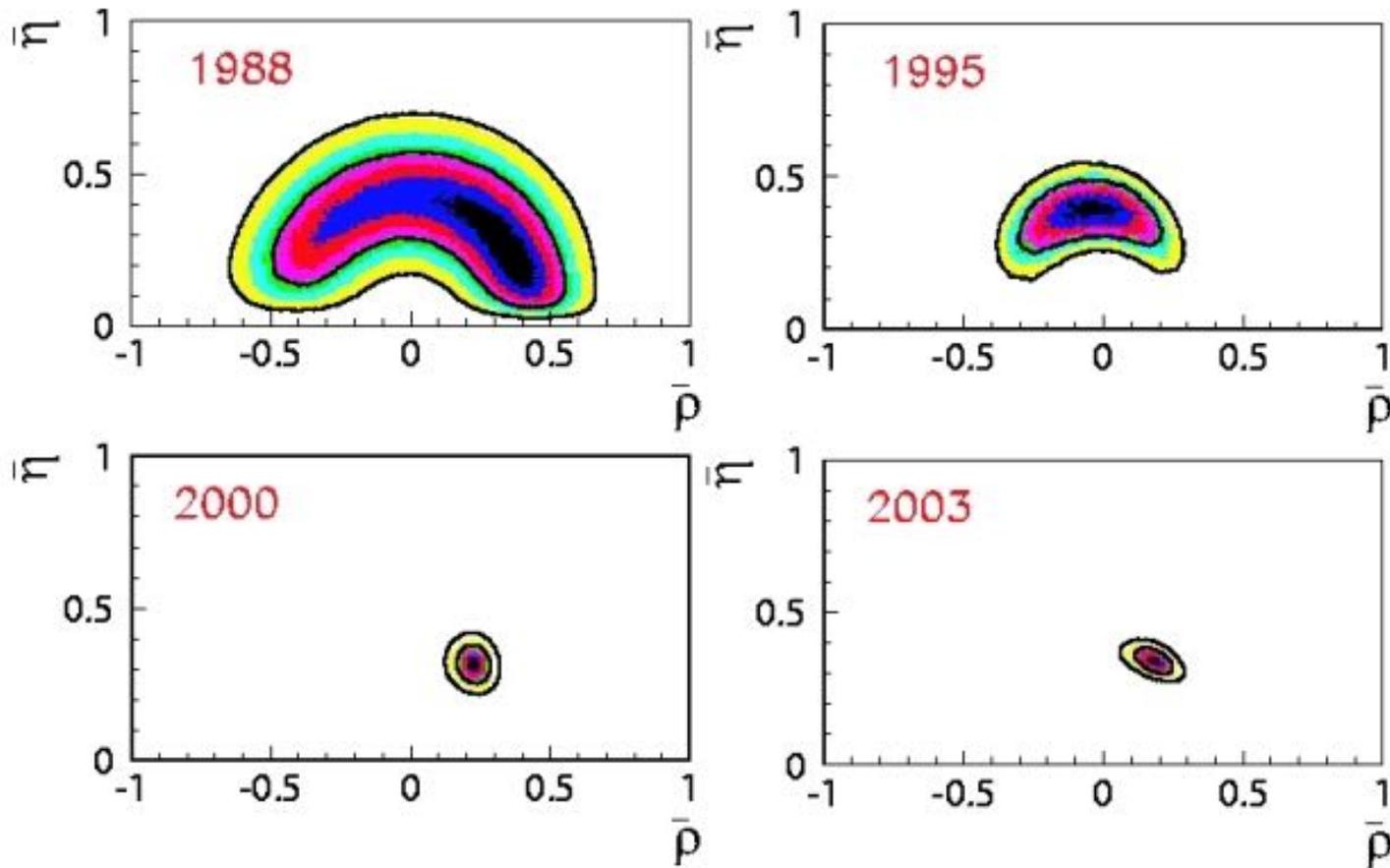
$$\beta = \phi_1$$

$(0,0)$

$(1,0)$

- The triangle has vertices at $(0,0)$, $(1,0)$, $(\bar{\rho}, \bar{\eta})$ with $\bar{\rho} \equiv \rho(1 - \lambda^2/2)$, $\bar{\eta} \equiv \eta(1 - \lambda^2/2)$
- CP violation in the quark sector ($\bar{\eta} \neq 0$) is translated into a non flat UT
- Huge improvement in the knowledge of the CKM elements in the last decades!

15 years of $(\bar{\rho}, \bar{\eta})$ predictions



PDG2019

$$\bar{\rho} = 0.122^{+0.018}_{-0.017}$$

$$\bar{\eta} = 0.355^{+0.012}_{-0.011}$$

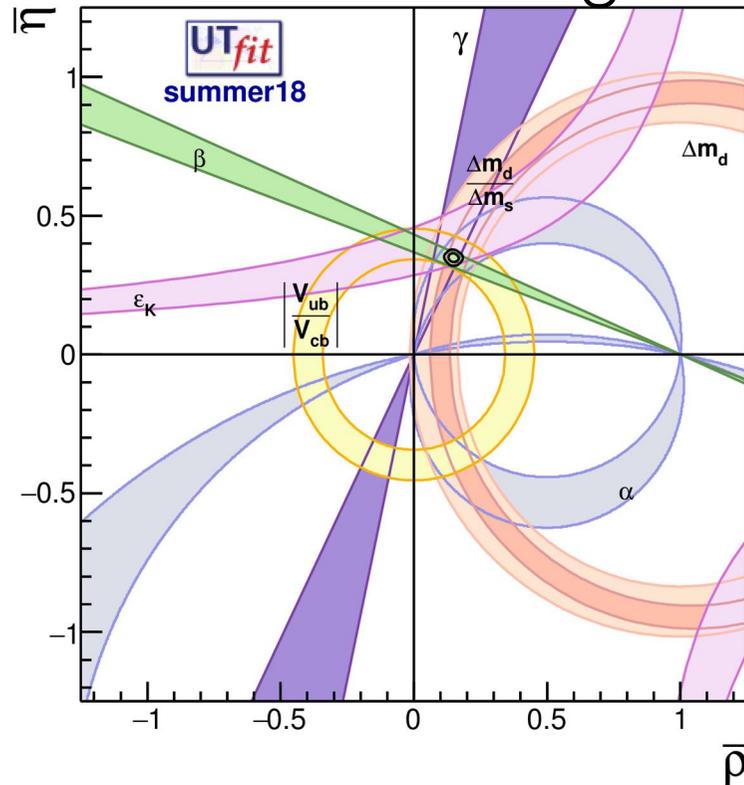
$$\lambda = 0.22453 \pm 0.00044$$

$$A = 0.836 \pm 0.015$$

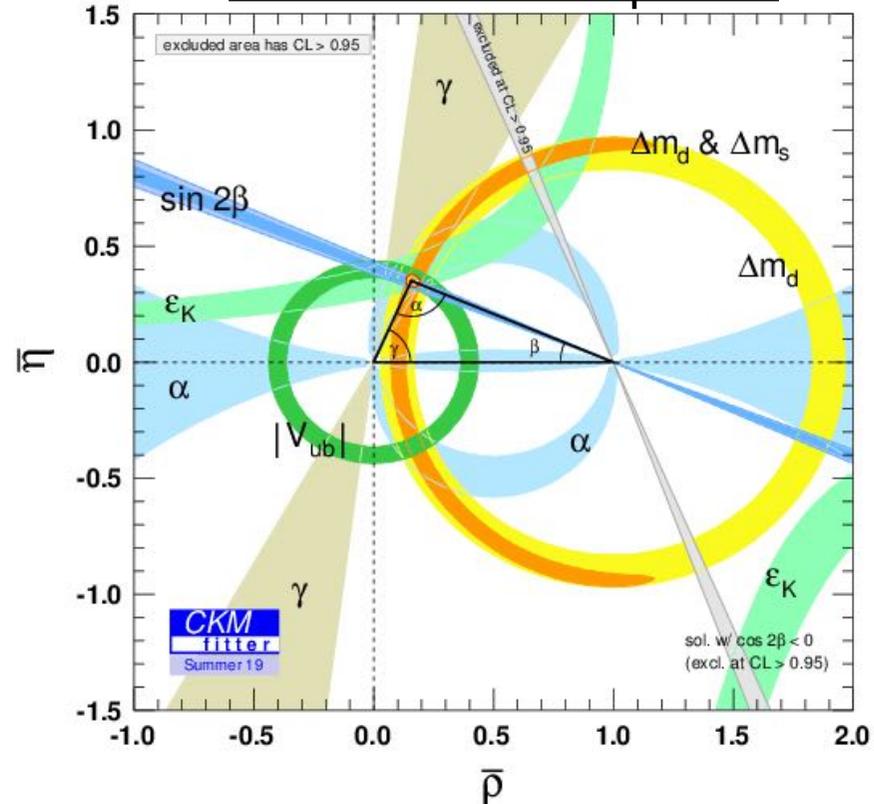
- Black curves give contours at 68% and 95% probability (from <http://www.utfit.org>)

Consistency of CKM fits

www.utfit.org



ckmfitter.in2p3.fr



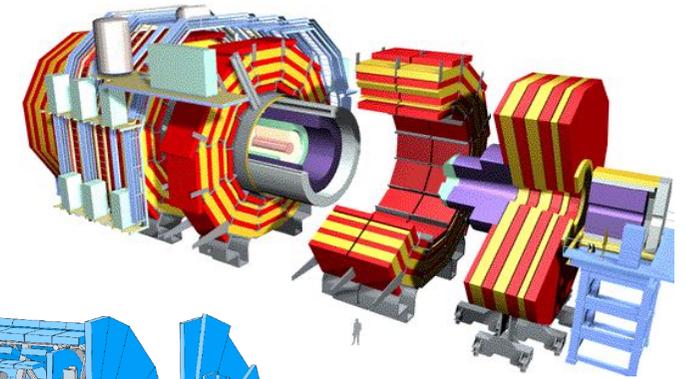
- Impressive effort from community and tremendous success of CKM paradigm!
- Constraints from many different quark transitions. Extensive measurements on K , D and B mesons performed at different experiments. These constraints depend also on theory input.
- At the current level of precision, all measurements are consistent and intersect in the apex of the UT
- **New Physics effects (if there) are small!** ⁴¹

A large experimental effort...

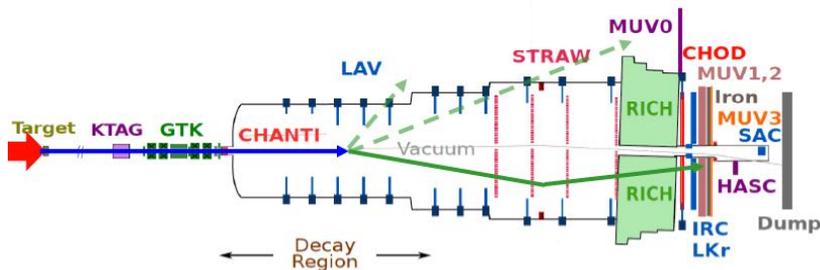
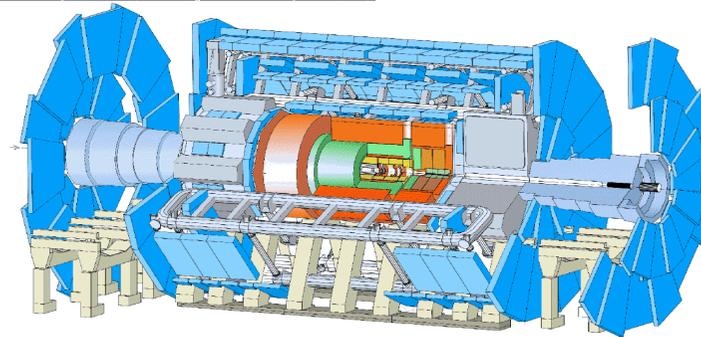
- Constraints coming from K mesons from. e.g., NA48 at CERN, KLOE at LNF, KTeV at FNAL
- Measurements of CKM parameters from D and B mesons pioneered by ARGUS at DESY, CLEO, and CLEO-c at CESR, Cornell, followed by the so-called B-factory experiments BaBar at SLAC and Belle at KEK
- Significant contributions from CDF and D0 at FNAL, especially on B_s^0 mesons
- All the above experiments have been terminated while Belle has been upgraded (Belle II)
- LHCb at the LHC is now dominating physics with b and c hadrons while the general purpose detectors ATLAS and CMS contribute in selected areas and Belle II is ramping up
- BESIII in China provides many results on c hadrons, NA62 at CERN and KOTO at J-Parc measure very rare Kaon decays

The main actors today

ATLAS and CMS @ LHC are “General Purpose Detectors”, but can measure a few flavour observables, mainly with muons in final state

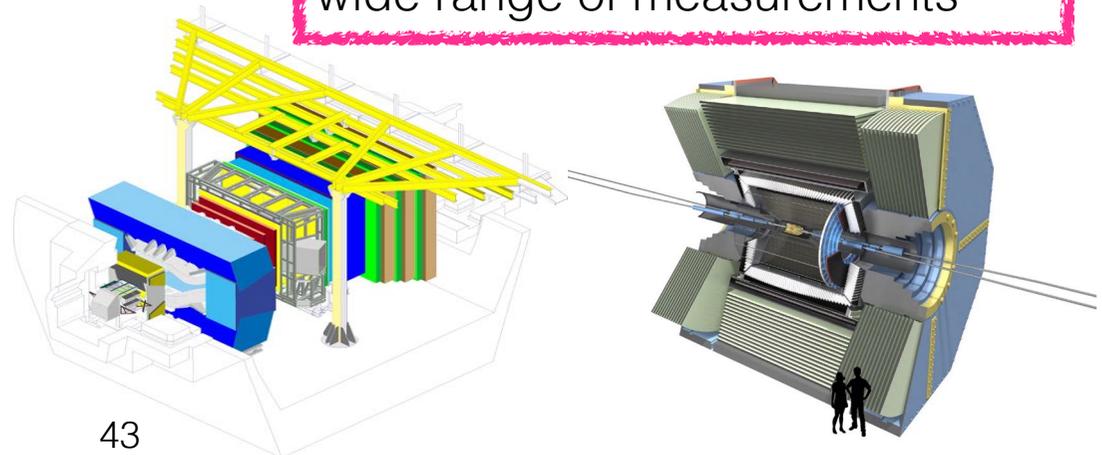


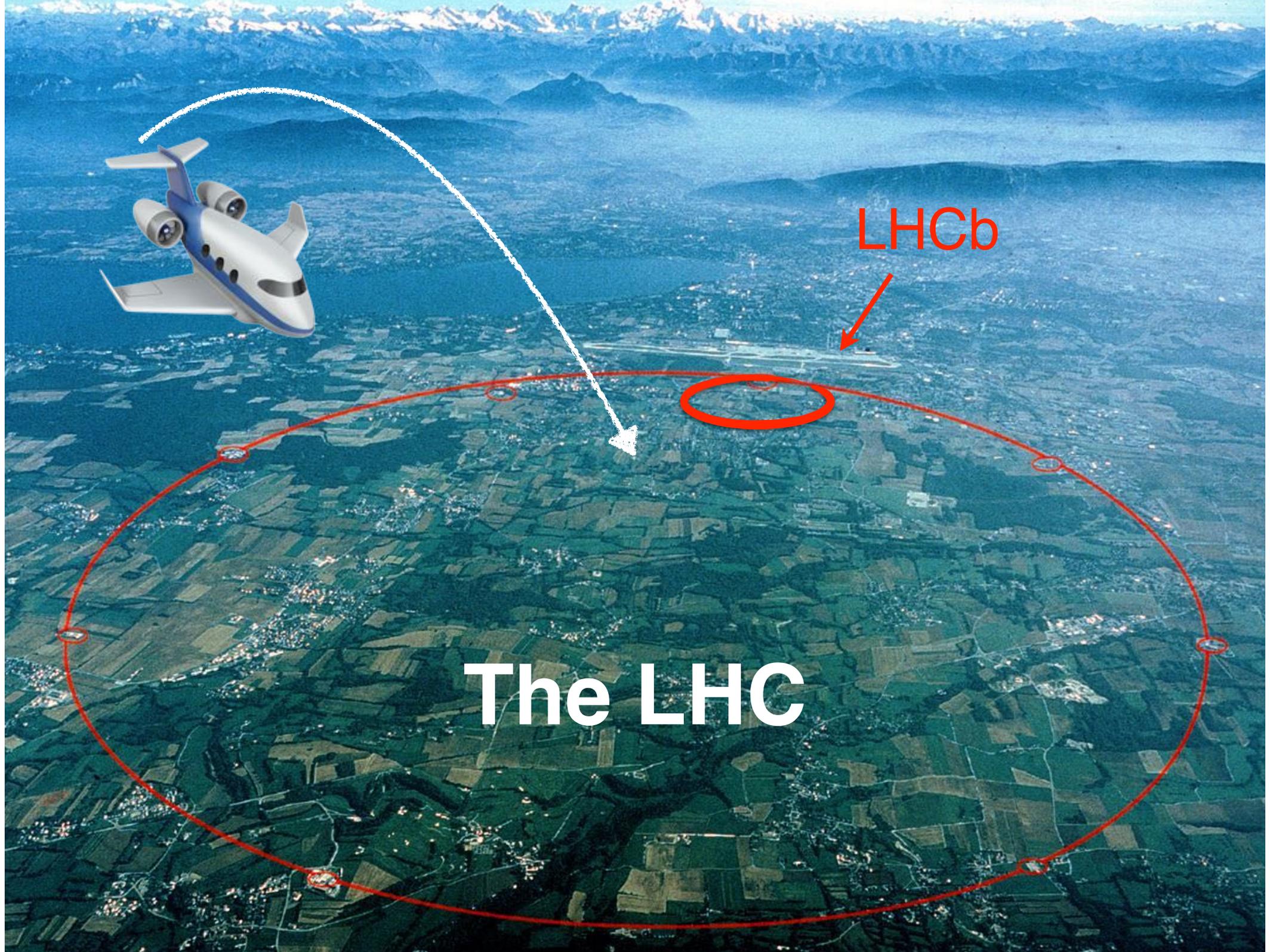
NA62 @ CERN is an experiment to measure the very rare decay $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ (BF $\sim 10^{-10}$)



LHCb @ LHC and Belle II @ KEK are dedicated detectors for flavour physics performing a wide range of measurements

..plus BESIII, KOTO, Mu2e, MEG II, ..





LHCb

The LHC

The LHCb collaboration

- ~1000 authors from 109 institutes in 19 countries
- ~570 publications, some with very high impact
- Main focus on heavy quark flavour...but plenty of other physics in the forward direction



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CKM & CPV

EW and QCD

Rare decays

Spectroscopy

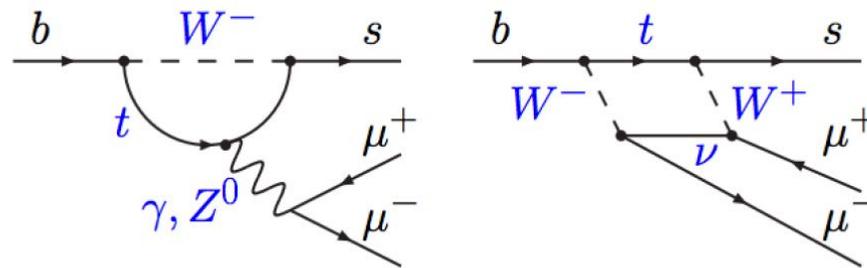
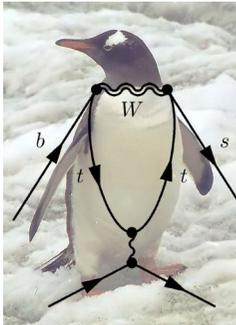
Semileptonic decays

Ions and fixed target

Exotica searches

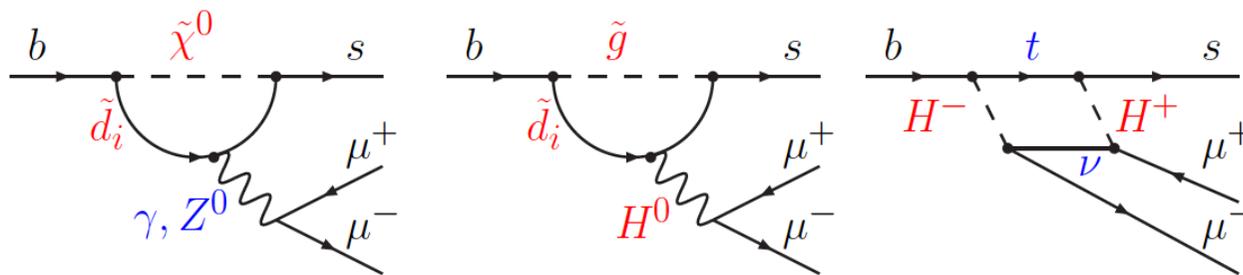
Rare decays, in a nutshell

- In the SM, processes involving flavour changes between two up-type quarks (u,c,t) or between two down-type quarks (d,s,b) are forbidden at tree level and can only occur at loop level (penguin and box) → **Rare FCNCs**

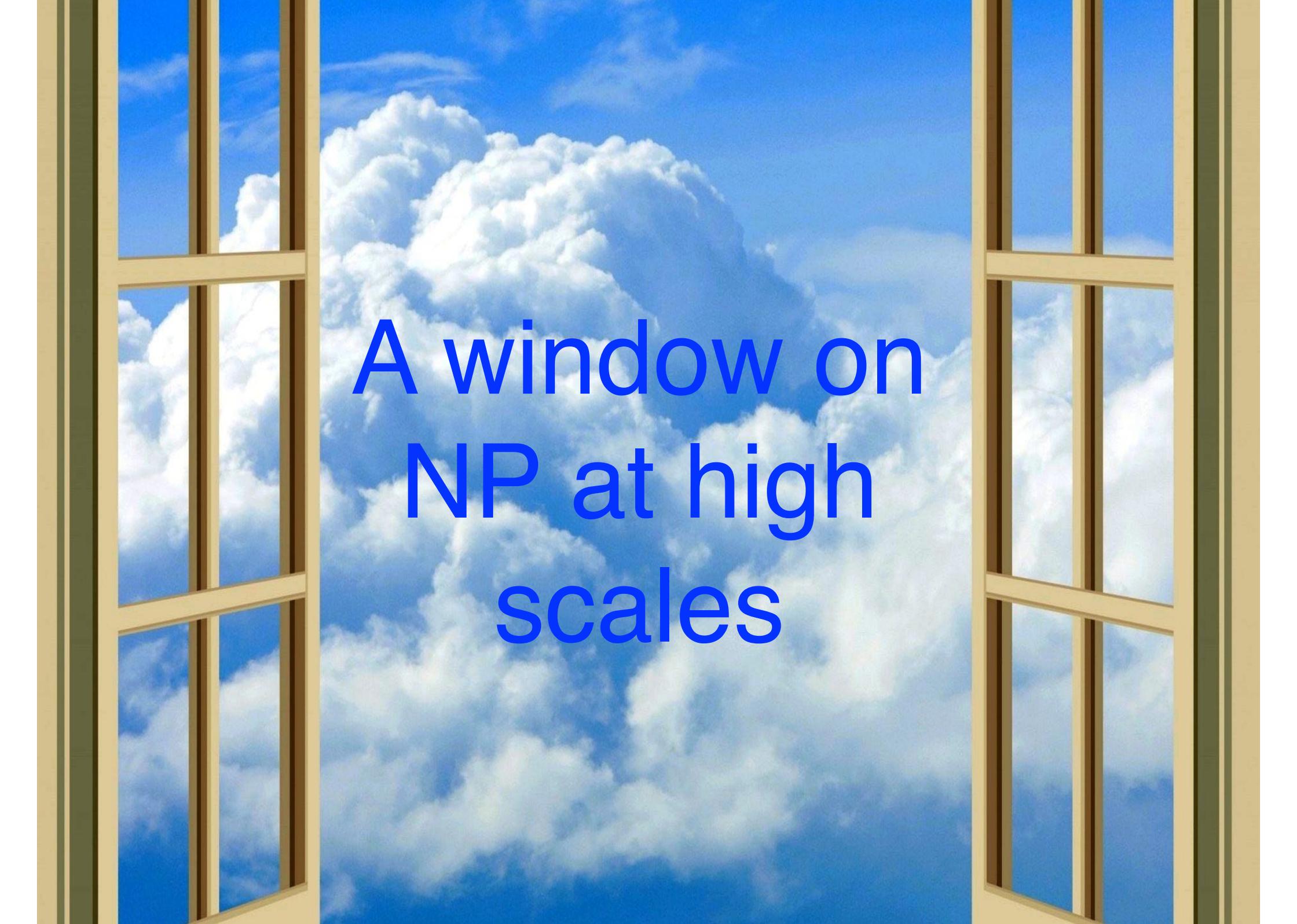


$b \rightarrow s \ell^+ \ell^-$
transitions
(BF 10^{-6} to 10^{-10})

- A new particle, too heavy to be produced at the LHC, can give sizeable effects when exchanged in a loop

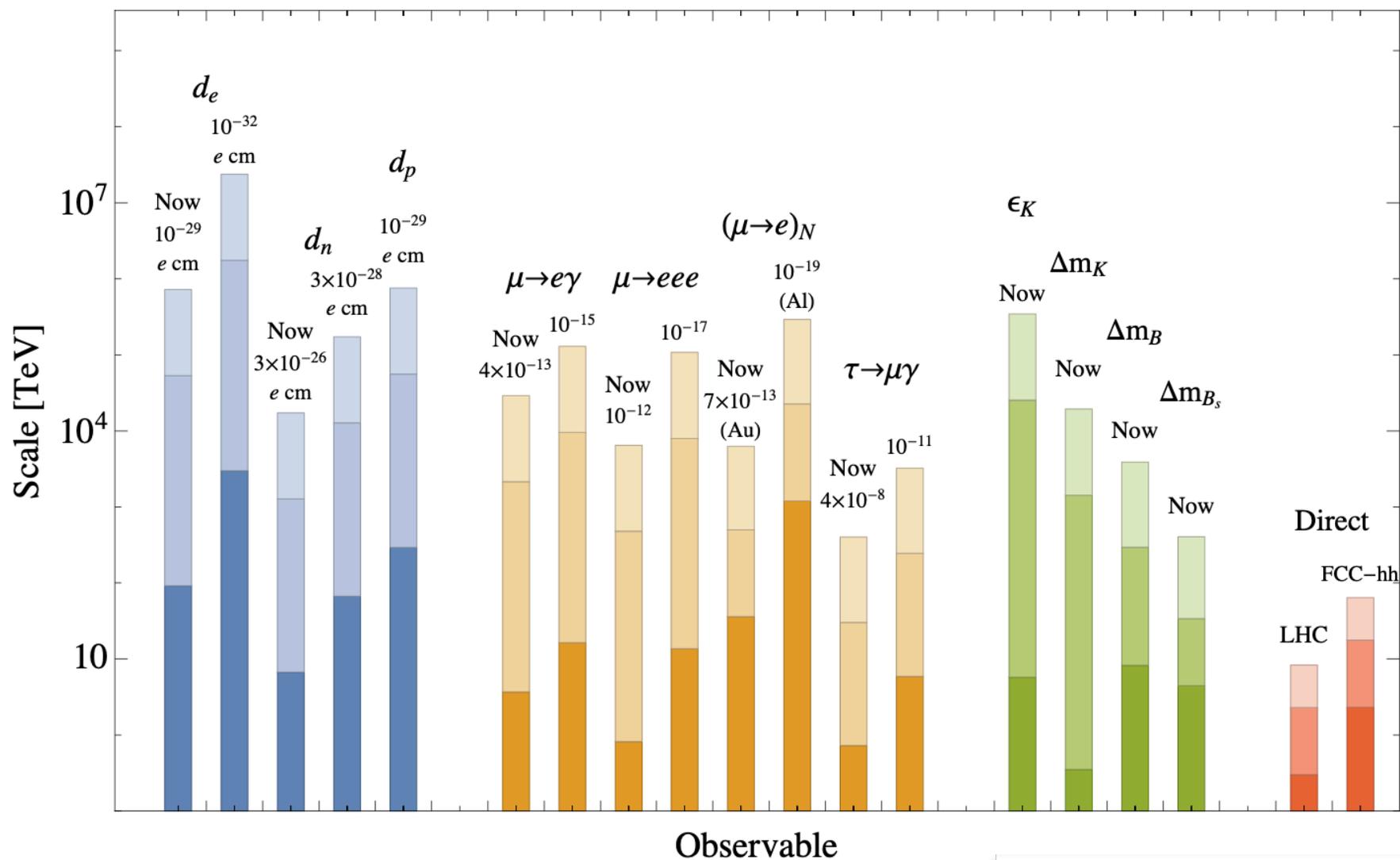


- Strategy: use well-predicted observables to look for deviations
- Indirect approach to New Physics searches, complementary to that of ATLAS/CMS

A window with a view of a blue sky and white clouds. The window frame is light-colored and has multiple panes. The sky is a vibrant blue, and the clouds are large, white, and fluffy. The text is centered in the middle of the window view.

A window on
NP at high
scales

Energy reach of various indirect precision tests of physics beyond the SM compared to direct searches



Matt Reece, DOE Basic Research Needs Study on HEP Detector R&D

Tests of Lepton Flavour Universality

Lepton Flavour Universality

- The property that the three charged leptons (e, μ, τ) couple in a universal way to the SM gauge bosons
- In the SM the only flavour non-universal terms are the three lepton masses:
 - $m_\tau, m_\mu, m_e \leftrightarrow 3477 / 207 / 1$ (boring!)
- Turn this “boring” property into a powerful tool to discover New Physics
- The SM quantum numbers of the three families could be an “accidental” low-energy property: the different families may well have a very different behaviour at high energies, as signalled by their different mass
- If NP couples in a non-universal way to the three lepton families, then we can discover it by comparing classes of rare decays involving different lepton pairs (e.g. e/μ or μ/τ)
- Test LFU in $b \rightarrow s\ell^+\ell^-$ transitions, i.e. flavour-changing neutral currents with amplitudes involving loop diagrams

The family of R ratios

- Comparing the rates of $B \rightarrow H e^+ e^-$ and $B \rightarrow H \mu^+ \mu^-$ allows precise testing of lepton flavour universality

$$R_H [q_{\min}^2, q_{\max}^2] = \frac{\int_{q_{\min}^2}^{q_{\max}^2} dq^2 \frac{d\Gamma(B \rightarrow H \mu^+ \mu^-)}{dq^2}}{\int_{q_{\min}^2}^{q_{\max}^2} dq^2 \frac{d\Gamma(B \rightarrow H e^+ e^-)}{dq^2}}, \quad q^2 = m^2(\ell\ell)$$

$$H = K, K^*, \phi, \dots$$

- These ratios are clean probes of NP :
 - Sensitive to possible new interactions that couple in a non-universal way to electrons and muons
 - Small theoretical uncertainties because hadronic uncertainties cancel : $R_H = 1$ in SM, neglecting lepton masses, with QED corrections at $\sim\%$ level

Very challenging measurements

- Lepton identification is anything but universal!
- Electrons emit a large amount of bremsstrahlung, degrading momentum and mass resolution

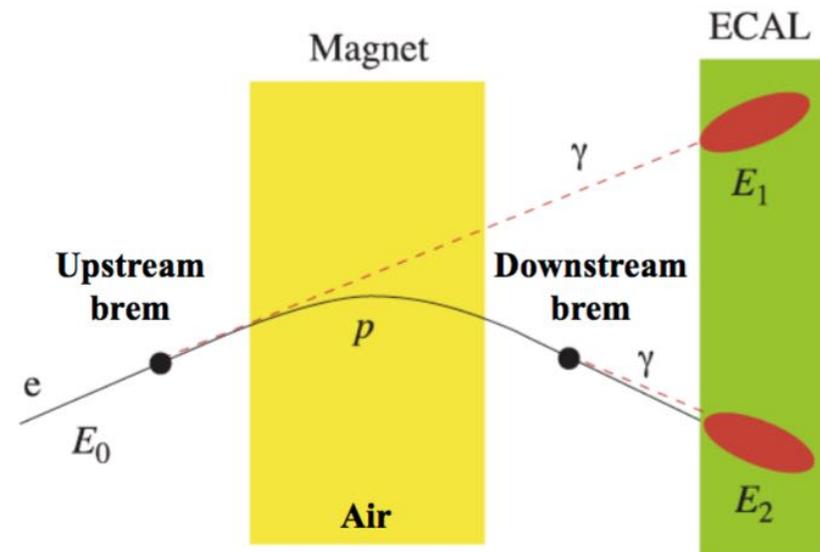
- Two situations

- Downstream of the magnet
Photon energy in the same calorimeter cell as the electron and momentum correctly measured

- Upstream of the magnet
Photon energy in different calorimeter cells than electron and momentum evaluated after bremsstrahlung

→ bremsstrahlung recovery can partially fix this

JHEP 08 (2017) 055



Measure as a double ratio

- To mitigate muon and electron differences due to bremsstrahlung and trigger, measurement performed as a double ratio with “resonant” control modes $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi H$, which are not expected to be affected by NP:

$$R_H = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow H\mu^+\mu^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow HJ/\psi(\rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-))} \bigg/ \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow He^+e^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow HJ/\psi(\rightarrow e^+e^-))}$$

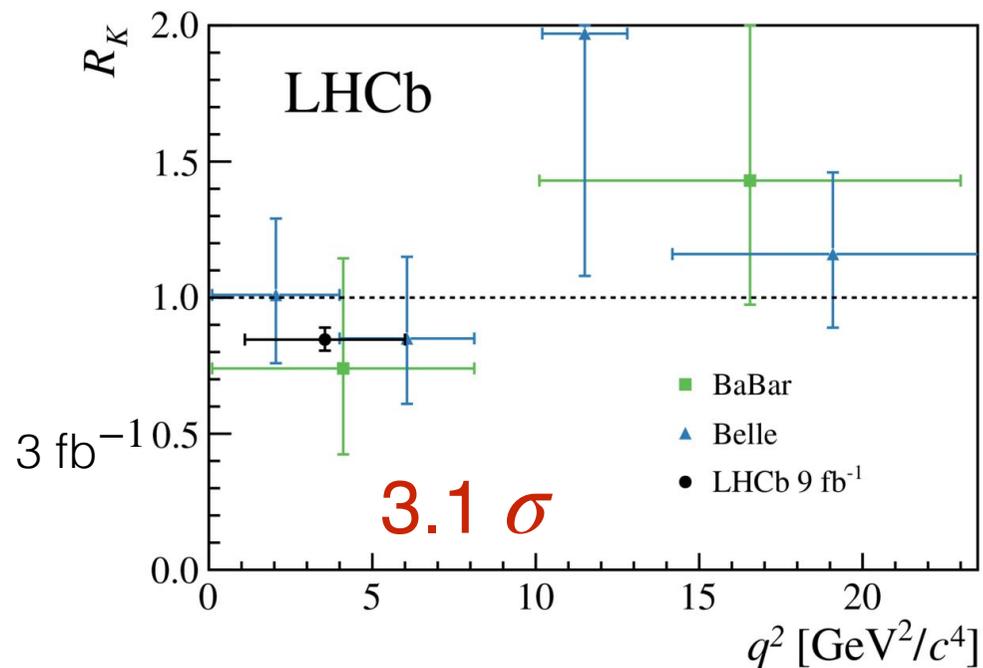
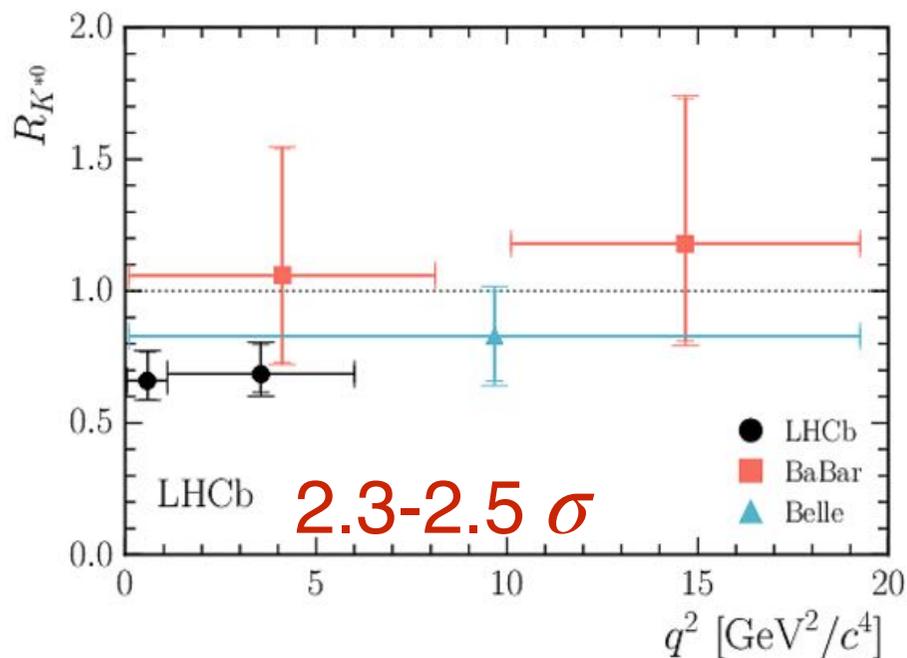
→ Relevant experimental quantities: yields & (trigger, reconstruction and selection) efficiencies for the four decay modes

$$\rightarrow r_{J/\psi} = \frac{B(B \rightarrow HJ/\psi(\mu^+\mu^-))}{B(B \rightarrow HJ/\psi(e^+e^-))} \text{ known to be compatible with unity within 0.4\%}$$

- Similarities between the experimental efficiencies of the non resonant and resonant modes ensure a substantial reduction of systematic uncertainties in the double ratio
- Analyses performed blind

Violation of lepton-flavour universality?

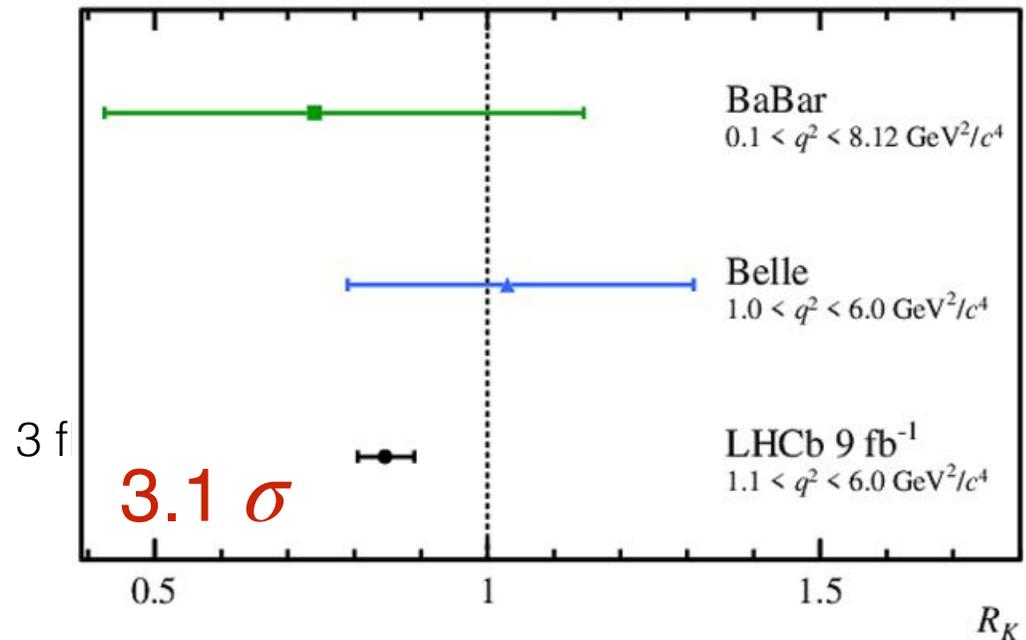
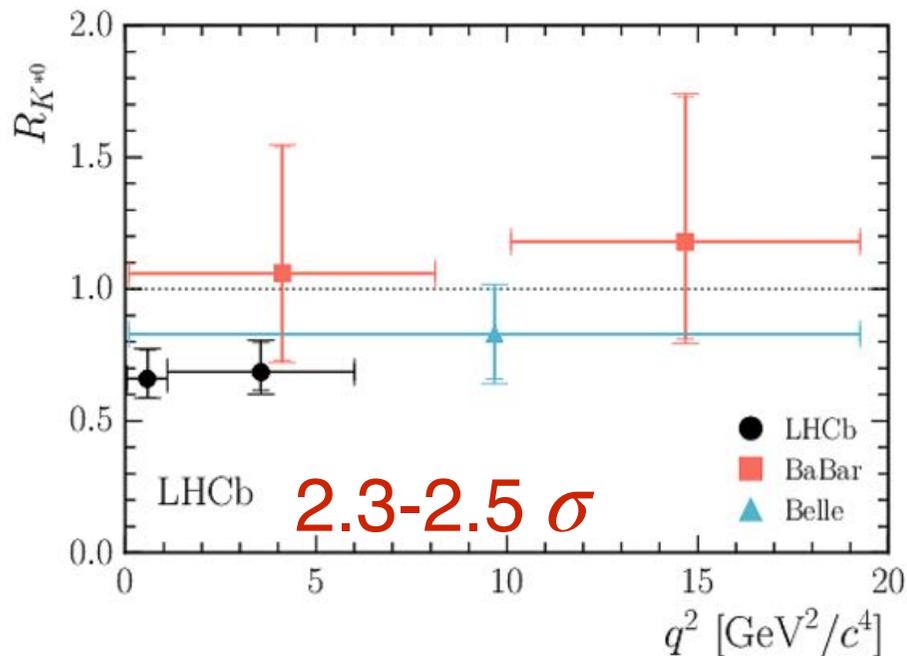
$$R_{K^{(*)}} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K^{(*)}\mu^+\mu^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K^{(*)}e^+e^-)}$$



- Any significant deviation from unity is a smoking gun for NP
- Aligns well with tensions seen in other $b \rightarrow s\mu^+\mu^-$ observables (differential BFs, angular observables)
- Many NP models proposed (eg. leptoquarks)

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Take home message

- Flavour physics is very rich and is connected to many fundamental questions
 - What determines the observed pattern of masses and mixing angles of quarks and leptons?
 - Explaining the observed imbalance between matter and antimatter in the Universe requires CP violation. CP violation beyond the SM must exist! Keep on looking for deviations to the CKM theory
- A lesson from history is that new physics can show up at precision frontier before energy frontier
 - GIM mechanism before discovery of charm
 - CP violation and CKM before discovery of beauty and top
- A data-driven approach, in which we test precise SM predictions looking for discrepancies, is particularly relevant in the absence of direct collider production of new particles.
- Precise measurements of flavour observables provide a powerful way to probe for NP effects beyond the SM, complementing direct searches for NP

Supplementary
material

One of the milestones of flavour programme

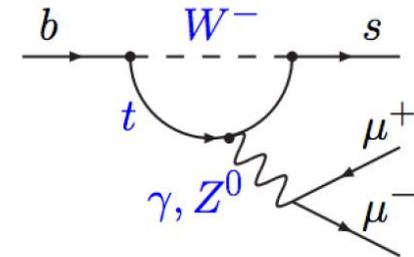
$$B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$

- Very suppressed in the SM

- Theoretically “clean” → precisely predicted:

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (3.65 \pm 0.23) \times 10^{-9} \quad (\sim 6\%)$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (1.06 \pm 0.09) \times 10^{-10}$$



Bobeth et al.
PRL 112 (2014) 101801

- Sensitive to NP

- A large class of NP theories, such as SUSY, predict significantly higher values for the $B_{(s)}$ decay probability

- Very clean experimental signature

- Studied by all high-energy hadron collider experiments

$$B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$

- First observation of $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ by LHCb!

PRL 118 (2017) 191801

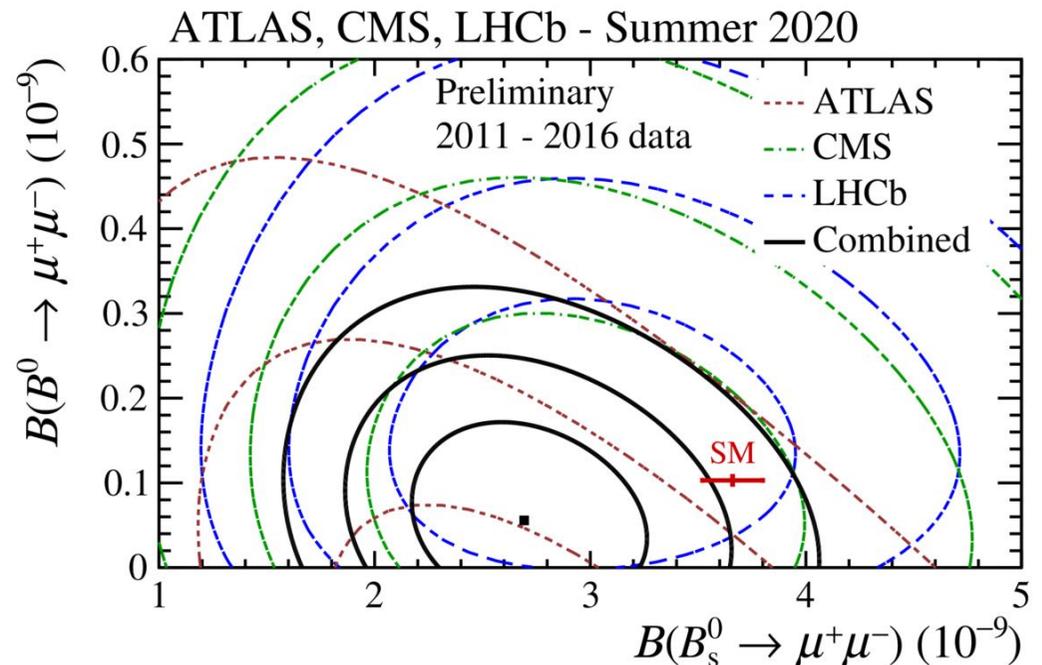
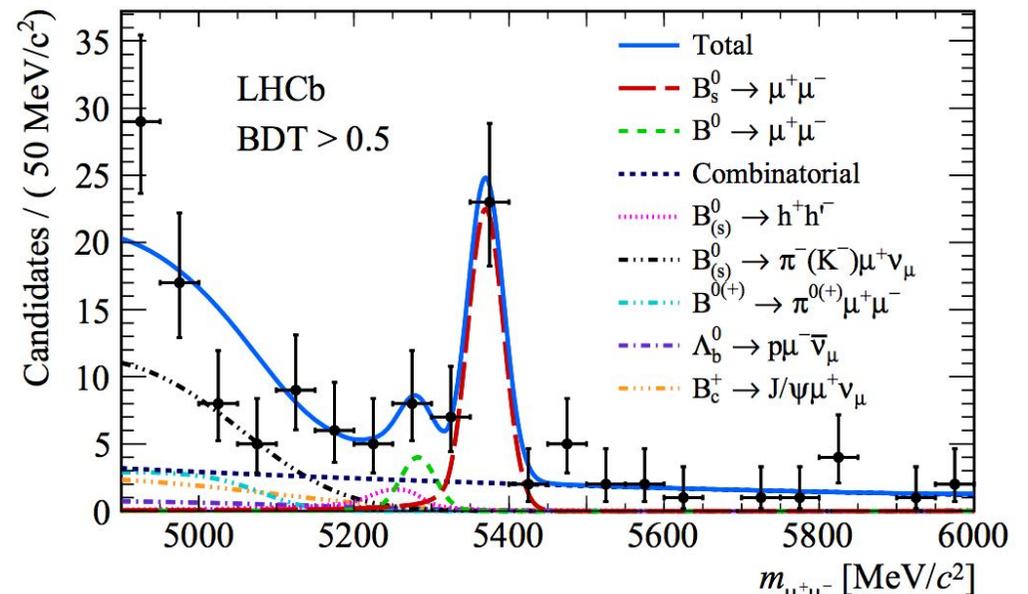
- ATLAS, CMS, LHCb

$$B(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (2.69^{+0.37}_{-0.35}) \times 10^{-9}$$

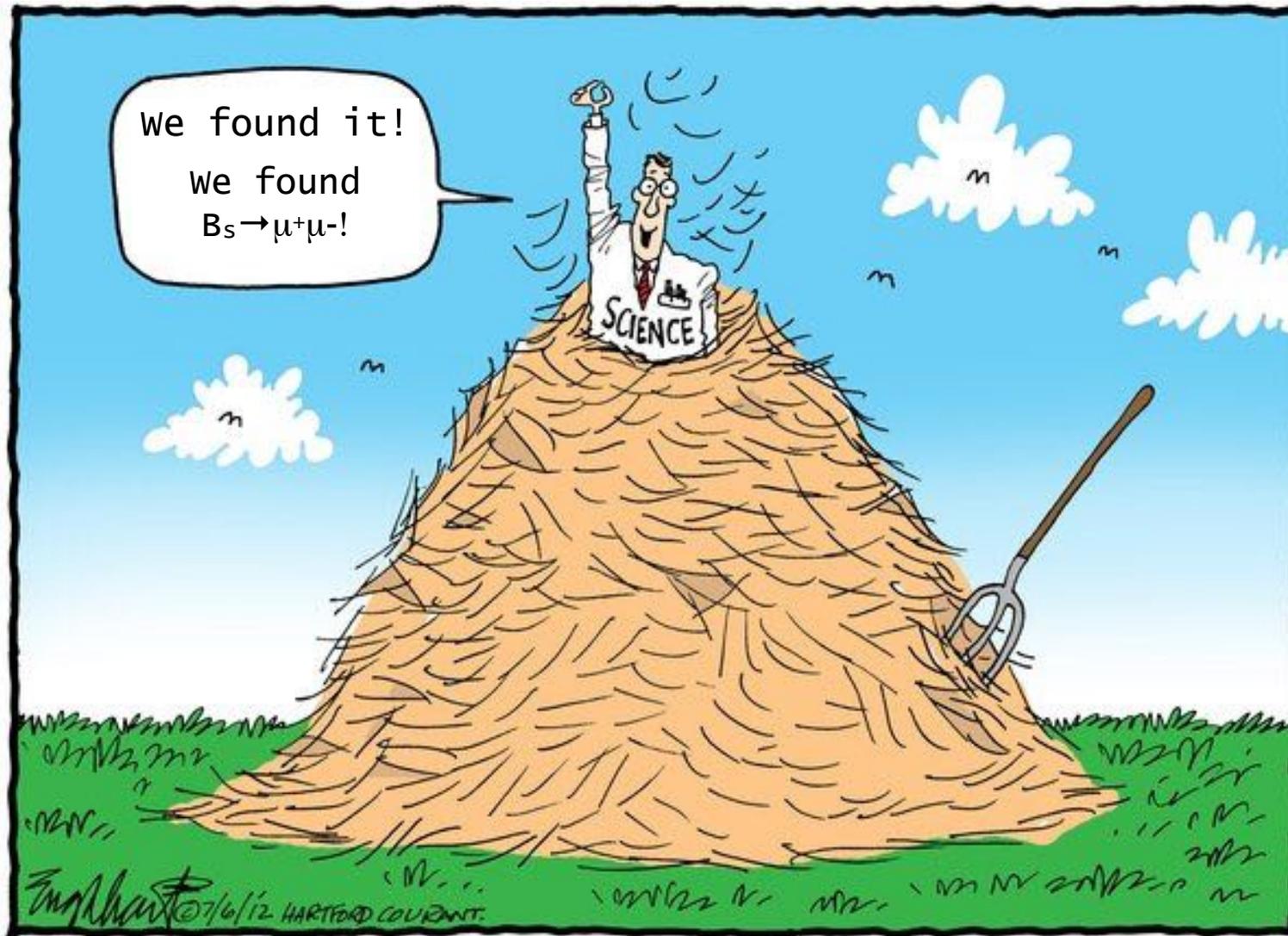
$$B(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) < 1.9 \times 10^{-10} @ 95\% \text{ CL}$$

LHCb-CONF-2020-002
CMS PAS BPH-20-003
ATLAS-CONF-2020-049

$B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ compatibility
with SM of at 2.4σ level



Finding a needle in a haystack!

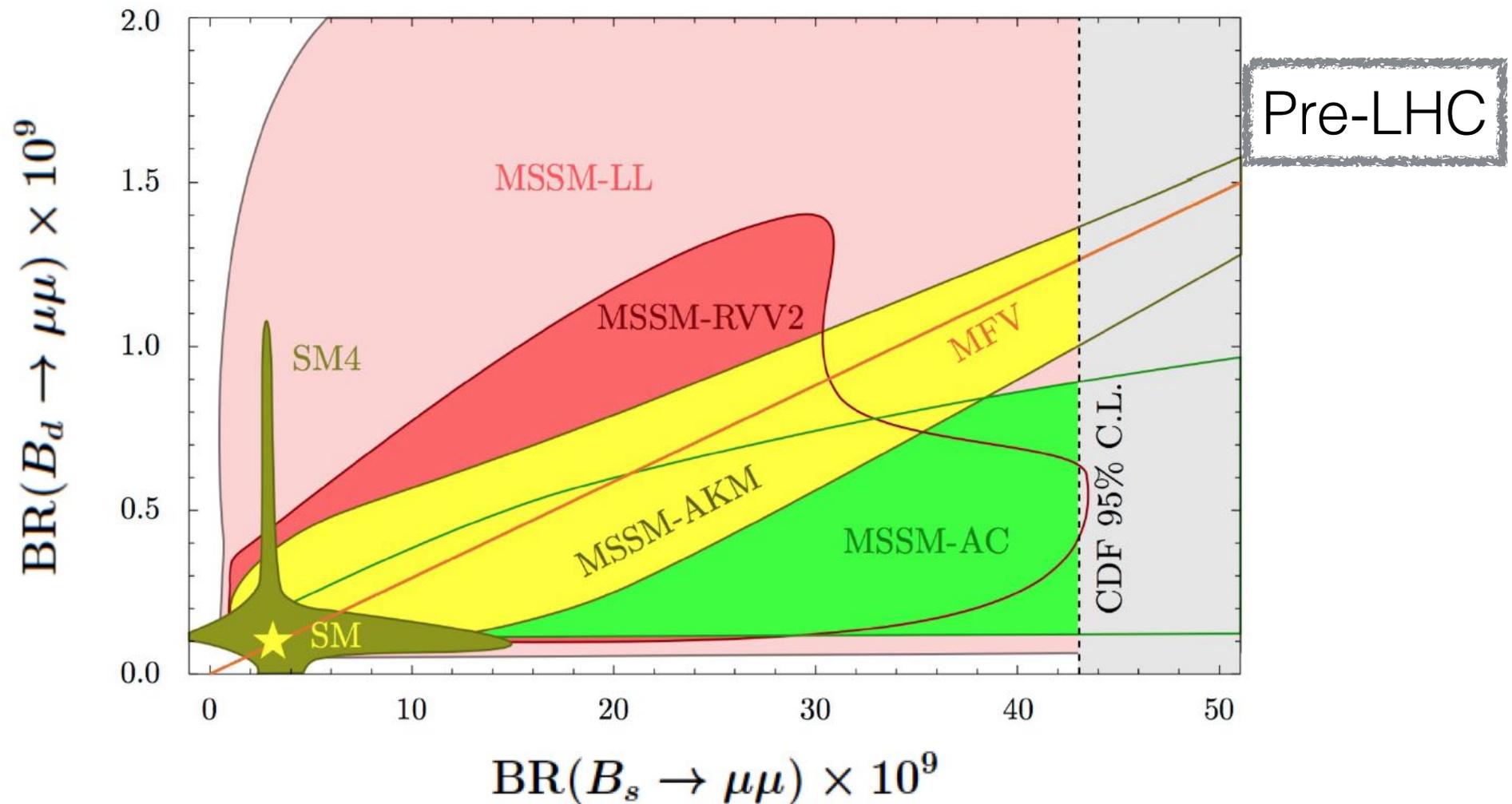


Very important constraints to many New Physics models

The SM stands its ground

- Sizeable effects expected in many MSSM models (cancellation of helicity suppression)

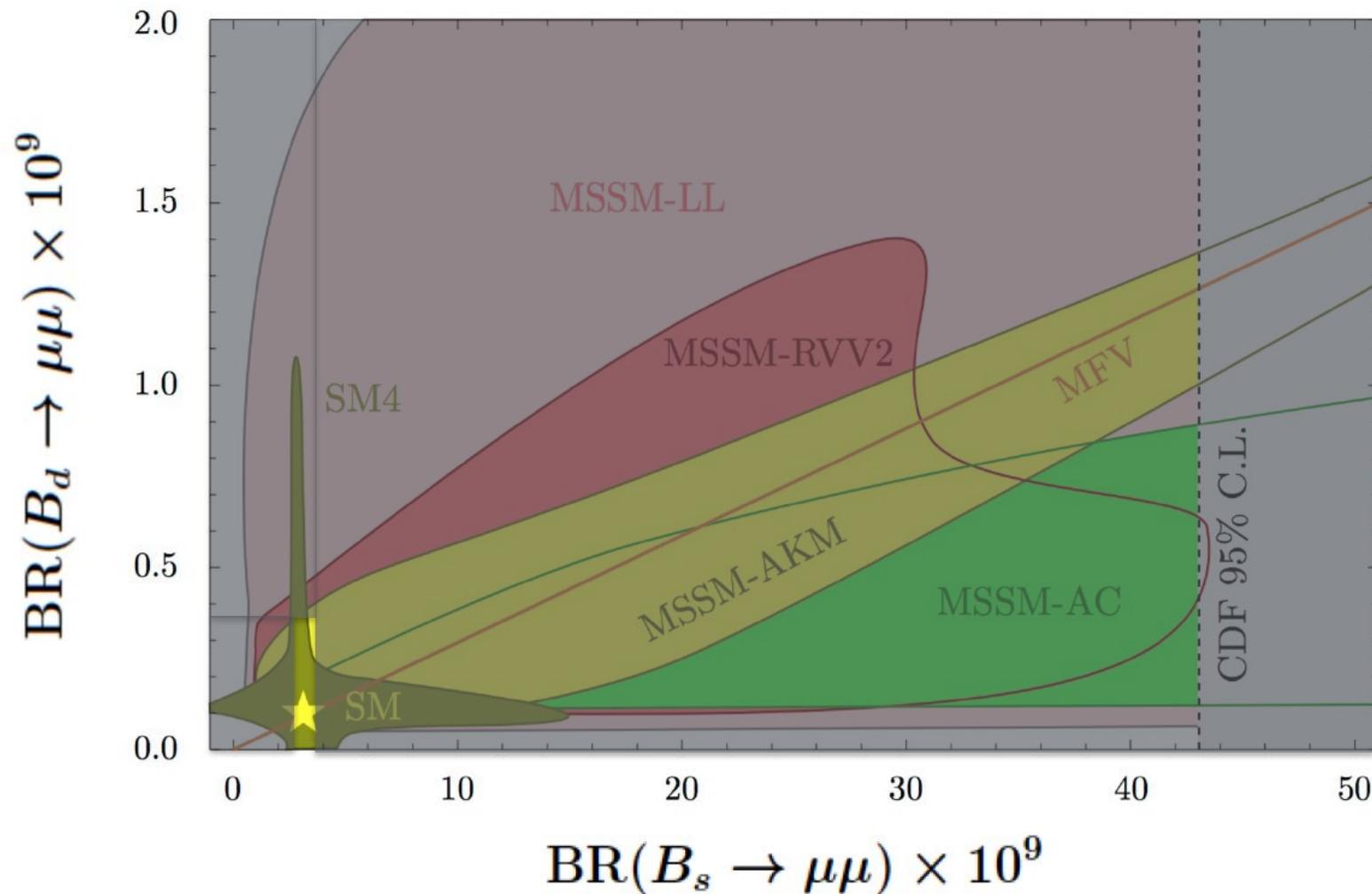
Straub, arXiv:1107.0266



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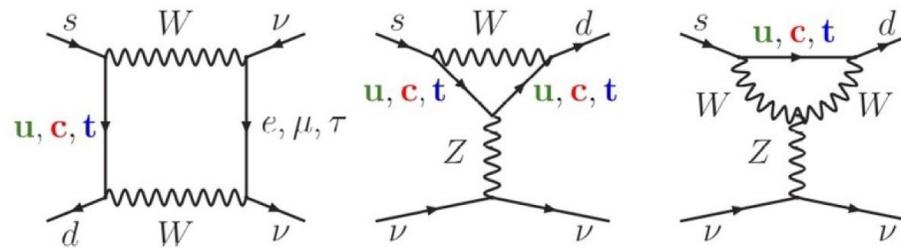
Straub, arXiv:1107.0266



Now

Evidence for the decay $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ from the NA62 experiment at CERN

- Another very rare decay that proceeds through electroweak box and penguin diagrams in the SM and could be sensitive to new physics



Rare FCNCs

- Precisely predicted in SM:

Buras et al, JHEP11 (2015) 033

$$BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (8.4 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-11}$$

- Preliminary result shown at ICHEP2020 [R.Marchevski]:

- Observed 20 events with an expected background of 7

$$BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (11.0_{-3.5}^{+4.0}(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.3(\text{syst.})) \times 10^{-11}$$

- 3.5σ significance, compatible with SM within 1σ