

# ICHEP 2020 | PRAGUE

40<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS

**VIRTUAL  
CONFERENCE**

**28 JULY - 6 AUGUST 2020**

PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC



## Lepton Flavour Violation at LHCb

Steffen Weber, on behalf of the LHCb collaboration



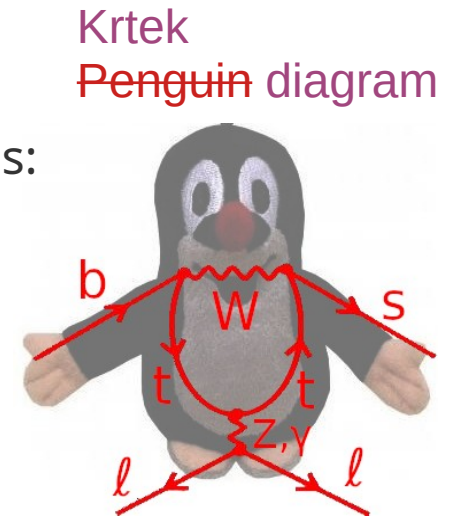
# Overview

- Motivation
- $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^\pm e^\mp$       Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 241802
- $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \tau^\pm \mu^\mp$       Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 211801
- $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^- \tau^+$  (using  $B_{s2}^{*0}$ )      JHEP 06 (2020) 129

# Motivation

- Recent tensions with SM discovered by LHCb in  $b \rightarrow s \ell \ell$  transitions:

- Ratios of branching ratios suggesting Lepton Flavour Universality Violations (LFUV) [Phys. Rev. Lett. 122 \(2019\) 191801](#)
- Angular distributions [Phys. Rev. Lett. 125 \(2020\) 011802](#)



- Extensions of SM to explain LFUV naturally lead to sizable Lepton Flavour Violations [Phys. Rev. Lett. 114 \(2015\) 091801](#)
  - Leptoquarks [JHEP 06 \(2015\) 072](#)
  - Heavy gauge boson  $Z'$  [Phys. Rev. D 92 \(2015\) 5, 054013](#)
  - ...

- While for the Standard Model, LFV processes are  $\sim O(10^{-54})$

→ Observation of LFV clear sign of Beyond Standard Model (BSM) physics

# Selected LHCb results

# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^\pm e^\mp$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 241802

Model expectations:  $O(10^{-10}) - O(10^{-8})$

- Leptoquarks JHEP 06 (2015) 072, JHEP 12 (2016) 027
- Extended gauge bosons Phys. Rev. D92 (2015) 054013
- Neutrino CP violation Phys. Lett. B750 (2015) 367

Best experimental limits so far

$$\begin{aligned} B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^+ e^- &: 13 \times 10^{-8} \\ B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^- e^+ &: 9.1 \times 10^{-8} \end{aligned} \quad \text{@ 90\% C.L. by BaBar} \quad \text{PRD73 (2006) 092001}$$

Analysis Strategy (Run1 data :  $3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  @ 7, 8 TeV)

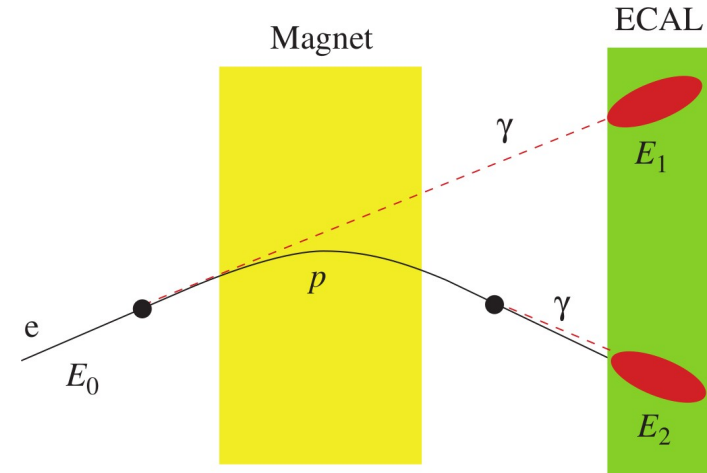
- Trigger on high  $p_T$  muon
- 3 charged tracks from common secondary vertex, incompatible with any PV, well identified as K,  $\mu$ , e (using RICH, calorimeters, muon stations)
- Normalization/ control channel:  $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ J/\psi (\rightarrow \mu\mu)$  /  $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ J/\psi (\rightarrow ee)$

# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^\pm e^\mp$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 241802

- Electron Identification

- Electromagnetic calorimeters
- Bremsstrahlung deteriorates resolution
- Energy loss from bremsstrahlung partially recovered
- Different fit functions for signal peak depending on whether photon recovered or not

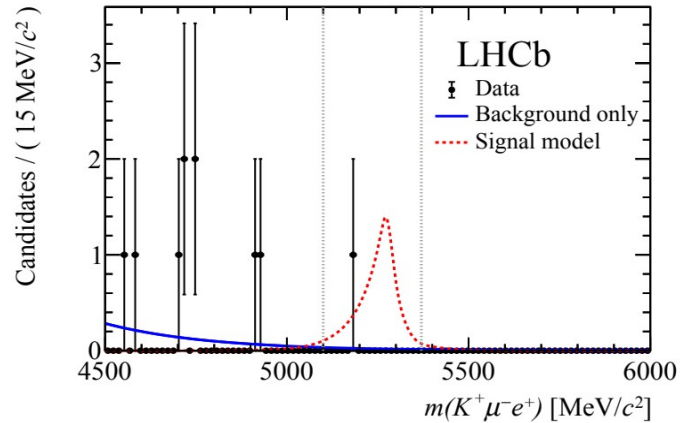


- Main backgrounds:

- Partially reconstructed  $B^+$  decays, e.g.  $B^+ \rightarrow \bar{D}^0 (\rightarrow K \ell \nu X) \ell' \nu' X'$   
→ impose mass constraint  $m(K^+ \ell^-) > 1885 \text{ MeV}$
- Charmonium with one lepton misidentified as K → mass vetoes
- 2 BDTs against combinatorial and partially reconstructed background

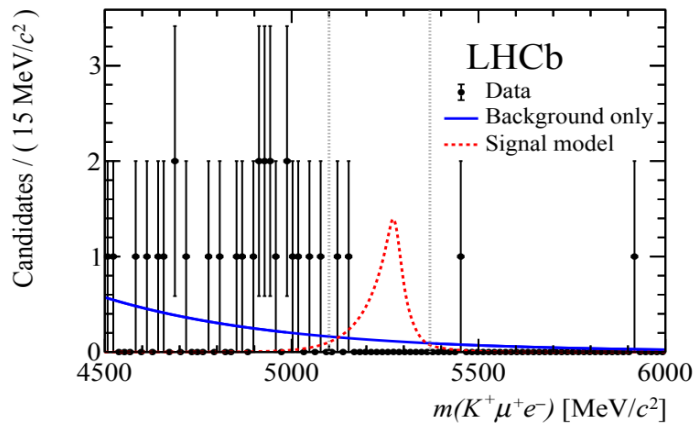
# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^\pm e^\mp$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 241802



- No enhancement in invariant mass region of signal observed
- Upper limits calculated with CLs method

J. Phys. G28 (2002) 2693



	90% C. L.	95% C. L.
$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^- e^+)/10^{-9}$	7.0	9.5
$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^+ e^-)/10^{-9}$	6.4	8.8

← world's best limit

← world's best limit

$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \tau^\pm \mu^\mp$$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 211801

Model expectations:  $O(10^{-9}) - O(10^{-5})$

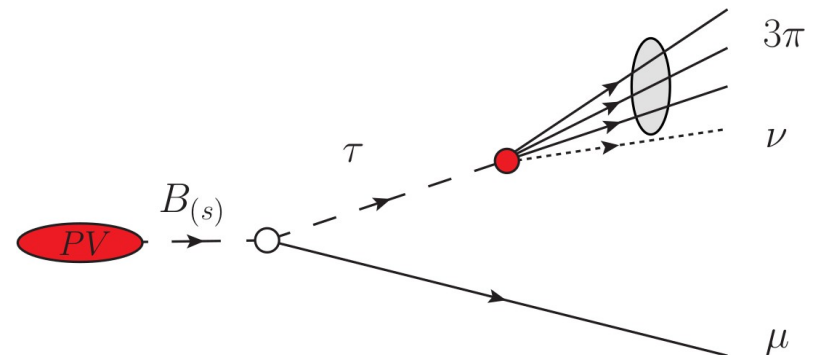
- Heavy neutral gauge boson      Eur. Phys. J. C 76 (2016) 134, PRD 92 (2015) 054013
- Leptoquarks      JHEP 6 (2015) 72, JHEP 11 (2016) 035, Mod. Phys.Lett. A 33 (2018) 1850019
- Three-site Pati-Salam      JHEP 2018 (2018) 148, JHEP 1907 (2019) 168

Best experimental limits so far

- $B^0 \rightarrow \tau^\pm \mu^\mp$ :  $2.2 \times 10^{-5}$  @ 90% C.L. by BaBar      PRD 77 (2008) 091104
- $B_s^0 \rightarrow \tau^\pm \mu^\mp$ : no experimental limits yet

Analysis strategy (Run1 data :  $3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  @ 7, 8 TeV)

- Trigger on high  $p_T$  muon
- Reconstruct  $\tau$  from  $3\pi\nu$  decay
- Normalization channel:  $B^0 \rightarrow D^-(K^+\pi^-\pi^+)\pi^+$

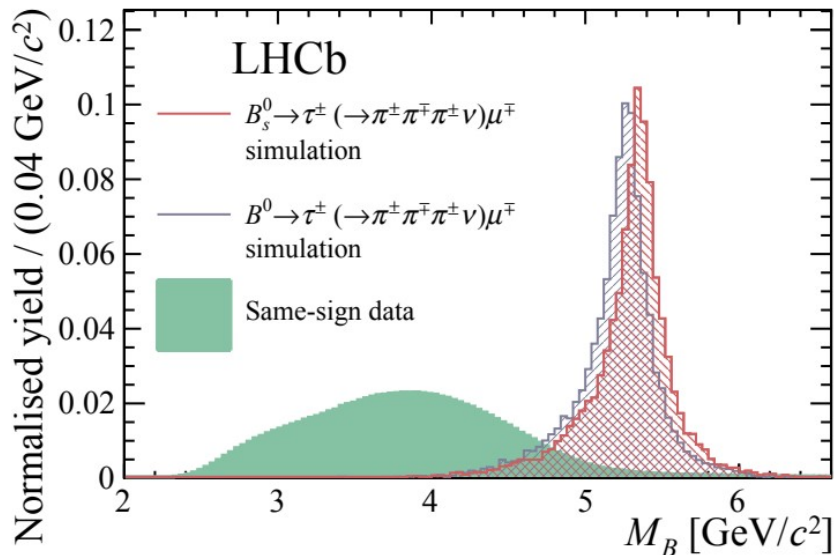
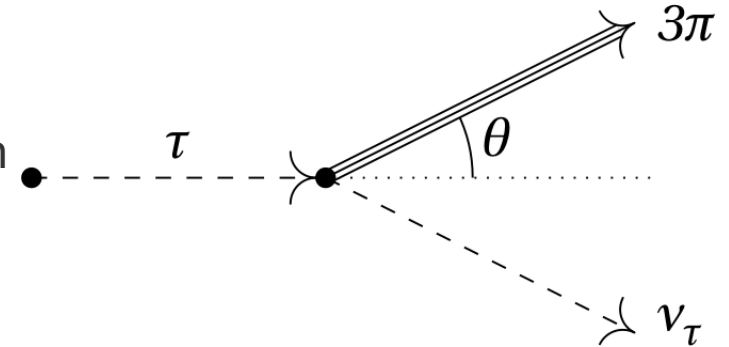




# $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \tau^\pm \mu^\mp$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 211801

- Can reconstruct  $\tau$  momentum with 2-fold ambiguity via known flight direction,  $\tau$  mass assumption, massless neutrino assumption
- $\tau$  decay mainly via  $a_1$  and  $\rho$  resonances  
→ helps to reduce background

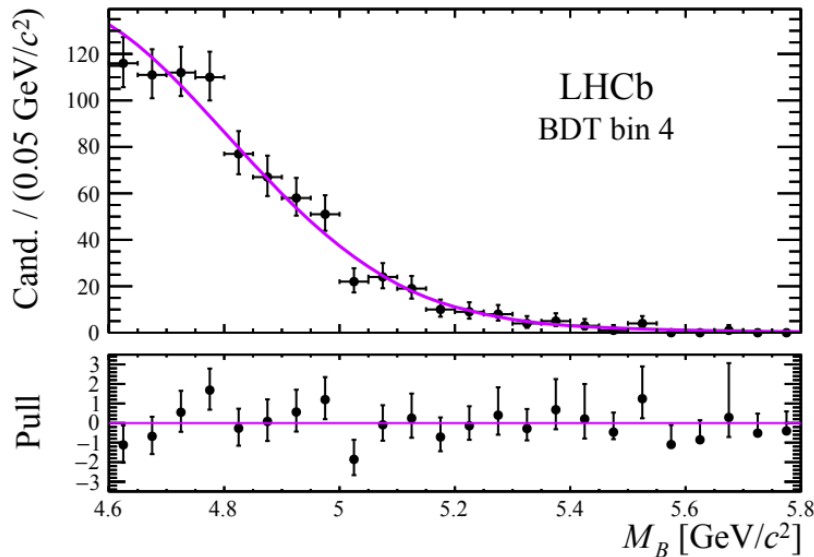


- Same-sign  $\tau\mu$  pairs as model for combinatorial background
- Backgrounds from partially reconstructed B decays: distinguish with  $\tau$  decay time, isolation variables, or suppress with mass vetoes
- $B^0$  and  $B_s^0$  peaks overlap → perform search under  $B^0$ - or  $B_s^0$ - only hypotheses

$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \tau^\pm \mu^\mp$$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 211801

highest BDT bin



- Search performed in bins of final BDT output with increasing signal sensitivity
- No signal observed

Mode	90% CL	95% CL
$B_s^0 \rightarrow \tau^\pm \mu^\mp$	$3.4 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.2 \times 10^{-5}$
$B^0 \rightarrow \tau^\pm \mu^\mp$	$1.2 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.4 \times 10^{-5}$

← world's first limit

← world's best limit

# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^- \tau^+$ (using $B_{s2}^{*0}$ )

JHEP 06 (2020) 129

Model expectations:  $O(10^{-9}) - O(10^{-5})$

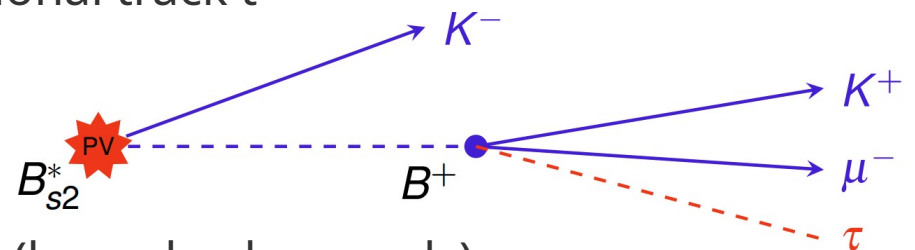
- Leptoquarks Eur. Phys. J. C76 (2016) 67, PRD95 (2017) 035022,  
PRD96 (2017) 115011, JHEP 11 (2018) 081
- Three-site Pati-Salam Phys. Lett. B779 (2018) 317, JHEP 10 (2018) 148

Best experimental limits so far

- $2.8 \times 10^{-5}$  @ 90% C.L. by BaBar Phys. Rev. D86 (2012) 012004

Analysis strategy (Run1 and Run2 data :  $9 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  @ 7, 8 and 13 TeV)

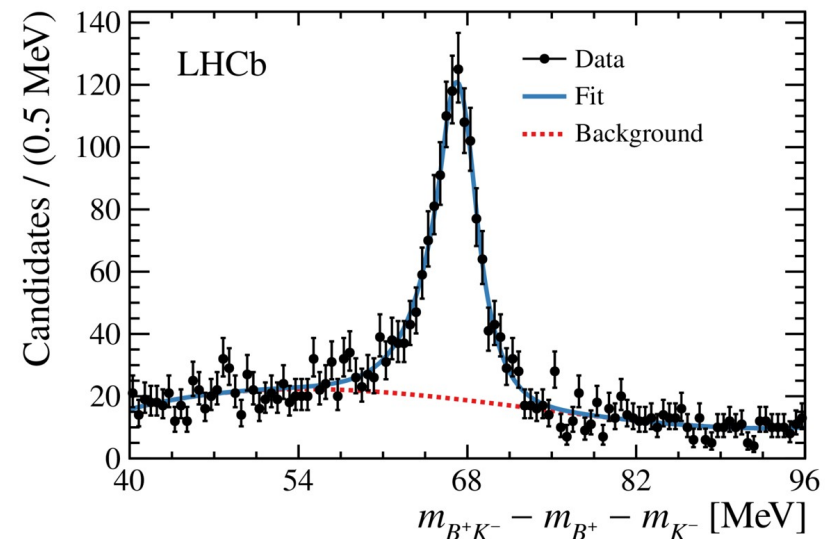
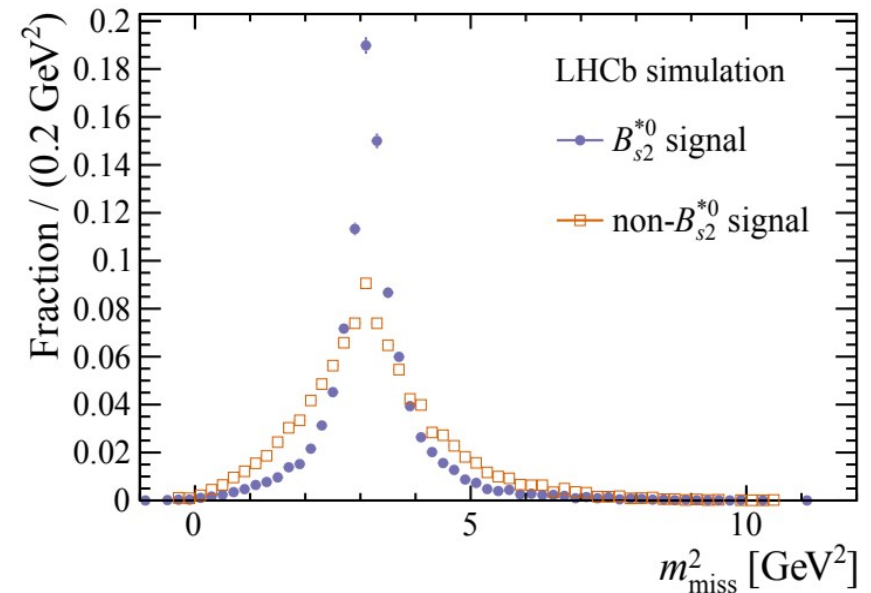
- Use  $B_{s2}^{*0} \rightarrow B^+ K^-$  decay: about 1% of  $B^+$  production
- $K^+ \mu^-$  pair from secondary vertex plus additional track  $\tau^+$
- Calculate missing mass squared in decay  
→ expect peak at  $\tau$  mass
- $K^+ \mu^- \tau^+$  experimentally preferred over  $K^+ \mu^+ \tau^-$  (lower backgrounds)



# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^- \tau^+$ (using $B_{s2}^{*0}$ )

JHEP 06 (2020) 129

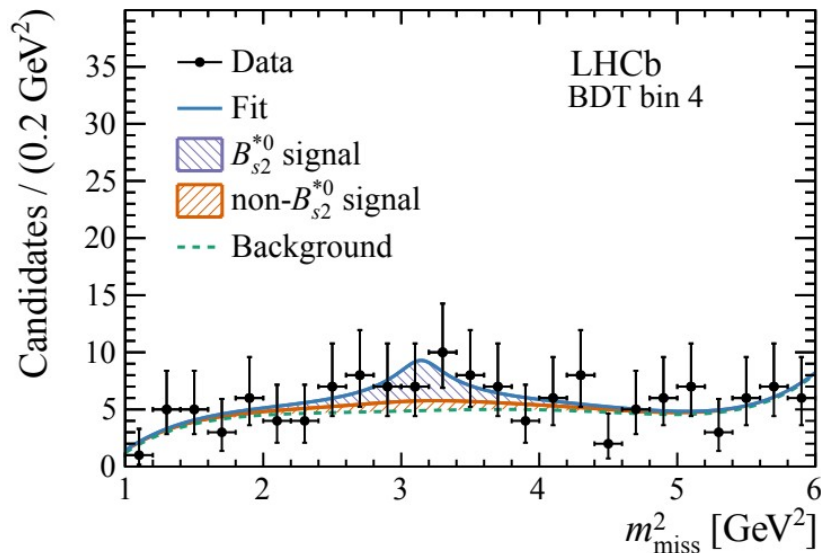
- Expect peak at  $\tau$  mass also for B not from  $B_{s2}^{*0}$  decay, but wider distribution
- Normalization channel:  $B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi(\rightarrow \mu\mu)K^+$
- Extract fraction of  $B^+$  from  $B_{s2}^{*0}$  from  $B^+K^-$  invariant mass distribution
- Control sample: Same-sign  $B^+K^+ \rightarrow$  to optimize signal selection, motivate background shape
- Backgrounds (different partially reconstructed b hadrons) suppressed with BDT
- Remaining backgrounds produce smooth  $m_{\text{miss}}^2$  distributions



# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^- \tau^+$ (using $B_{s2}^{*0}$ )

JHEP 06 (2020) 129

highest BDT bin



- Search performed in bins of final BDT output with increasing signal sensitivity
- No signal observed
- Limits also expressed for signal model with modified decay kinematics

$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^- \tau^+) < 3.9 \times 10^{-5} \text{ at } 90\% \text{ CL,}$$
$$< 4.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ at } 95\% \text{ CL.}$$

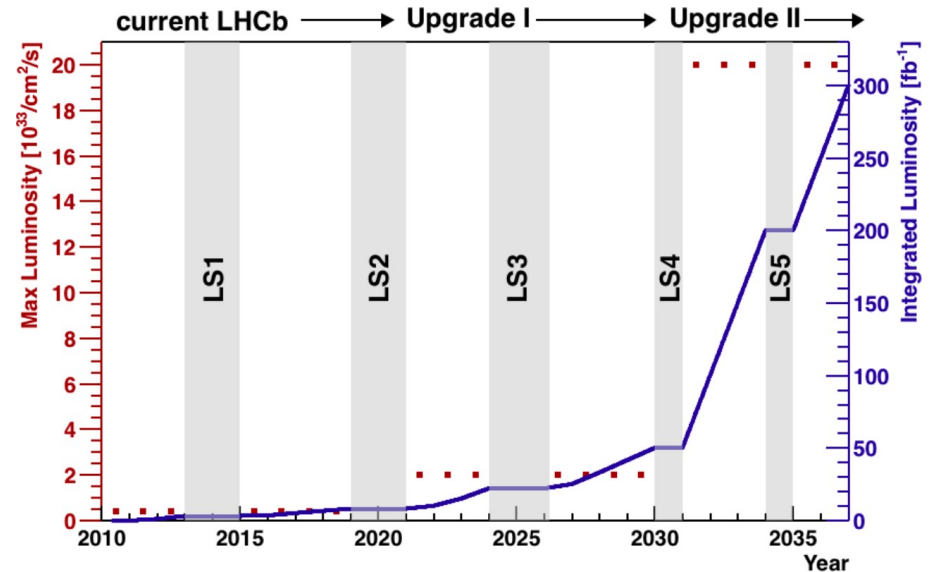
# Conclusion

- Observation of LFV will be unambiguous sign of BSM physics
- Lowering experimental upper limits crucial to constrain phase space of theoretical models
- LHCb has rich LFV search program, often producing world's best upper limits, or close to
- Especially strong in channels including  $e$ 's and  $\mu$ 's (UL  $\sim 10^{-9}$ )

# Outlook

- Acquire  $\sim 23 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  in Run3 (50  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  before Upgrade II)
- Software trigger

LHCB-PUB-2018-009



- LVF in baryons
  - Complementary information (e.g. different dynamics due to half-integer spin)
  - Baryons are abundantly produced at LHC
  - E.g.  $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda_0 e^\pm \mu^\mp$ : LHCb analysis ongoing

*Thank you for your attention!*

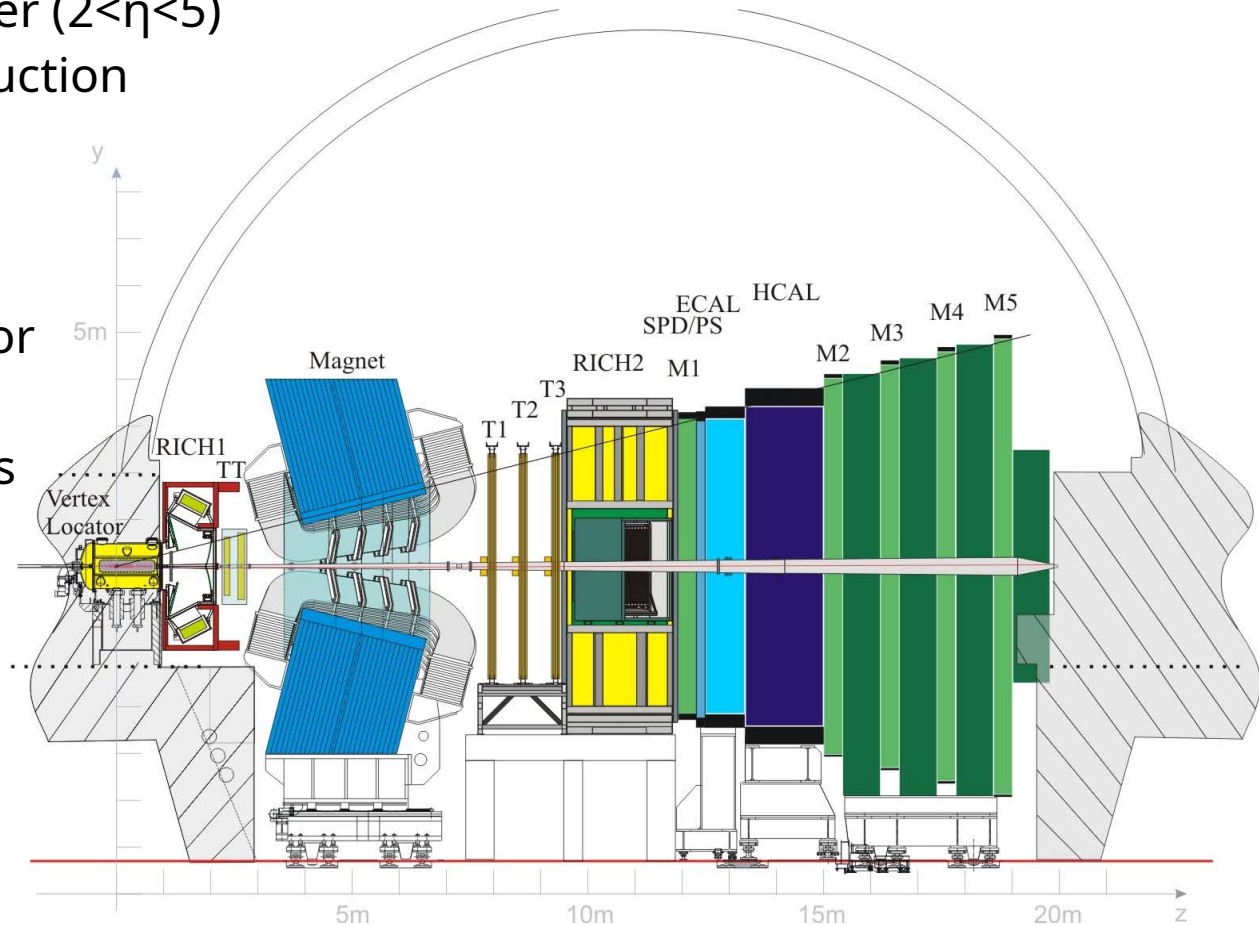




BACKUP

# The LHCb detector

- Single arm forward spectrometer ( $2 < \eta < 5$ )
- Specialized on c and b reconstruction
- High precision tracking:
  - silicon strip vertex detector
  - large area silicon strip detector
  - 4 Tm dipole magnet
  - silicon strip + straw drift tubes downstream magnet
- PID
  - RICH, electromagnetic and hadronic calorimeters, muon stations



JINST 3 (2008) S08005

Int. J. Mod. Phys. A30 (2015) 1530022