
Radiative baryon decays

GDR-InF annual workshop
5-7 Nov 2018 Arles

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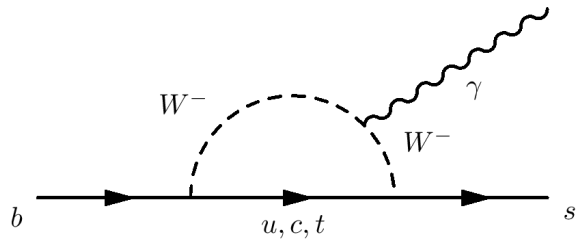
Outline

- Introduction:
 - Radiative b-decays
 - LHCb
 - Radiative b-decays at LHCb
 - Baryon b-decays

- Radiative b-baryon decays at LHCb
 - $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \gamma$
 - $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^* \gamma$

Radiative b-decays

$b \rightarrow s(d)\gamma$ are **Flavour-Changing-Neutral-Currents** (FCNC) \rightarrow crucial tests of the Standard Model (SM)

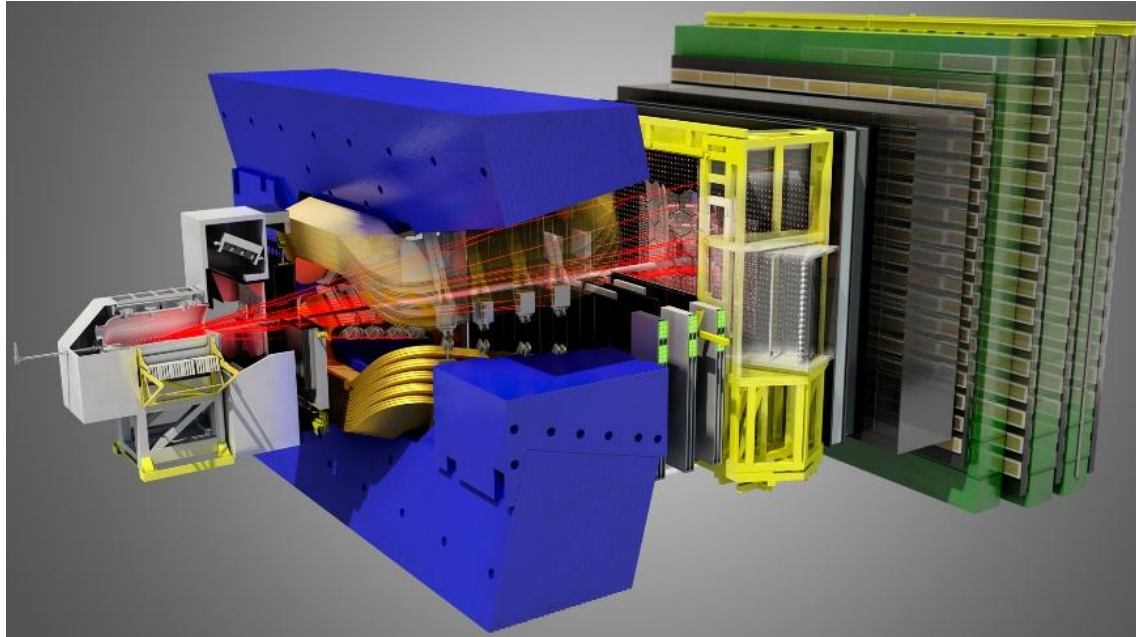


$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} = -4 \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{ts}^* V_{tb} (C_7 Q_7 + C_7' Q_7')$$

- generated by Q_7 at leading order (LO) in the SM, Q_7' suppressed by m_q/m_b
- C_7 strongly constrained by BR and direct CP measurements
- **room for New Physics (NP) in C_7'** [[Paul and Straub](#)] \rightarrow photon polarisation

The LHCb detector

[INST 3 (2008) S08005]

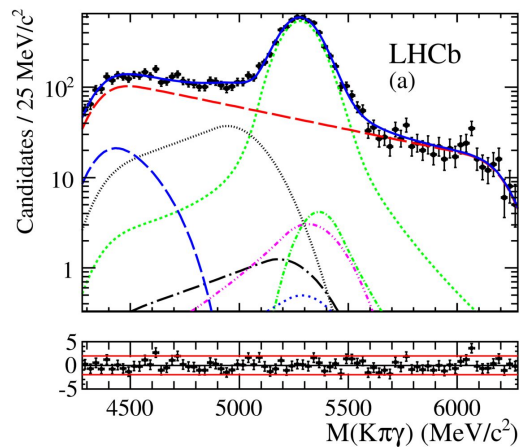


- Track momentum resolution: $\Delta p/p = 0.5 - 1 \%$
- Impact parameter resolution: $\Delta IP = (15 + 29/pT) \mu\text{m}$
- ECAL resolution: $1\% + 10\%/\sqrt{E[\text{GeV}]}$

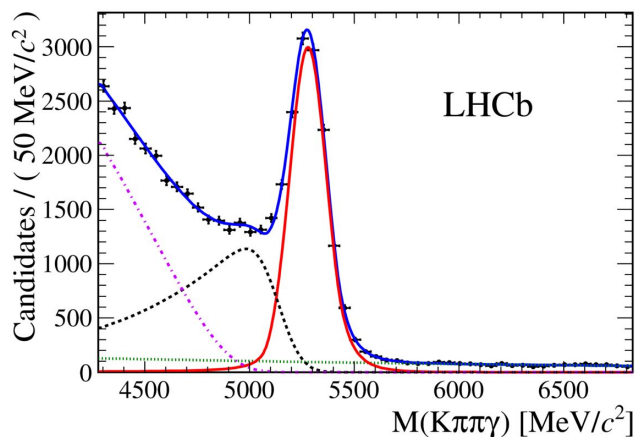
Radiative b-decays at LHCb

Main challenges:

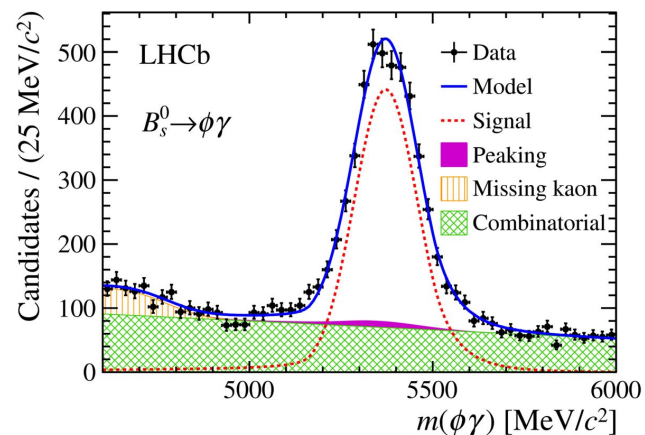
- mass resolution: ~ 100 MeV (~ 22 MeV for $B \rightarrow hh$)
- partial and mis-id backgrounds (bkg): π^0/γ separation



[[Nucl. Phys. B867 \(2013\)](#)]



[[Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 161801 \(2014\)](#)]



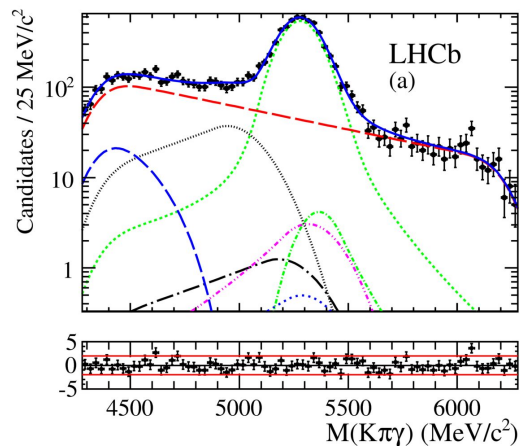
[[Phys. Rev. Lett. 118, 021801 \(2017\)](#)] 5

Radiative b-decays at LHCb

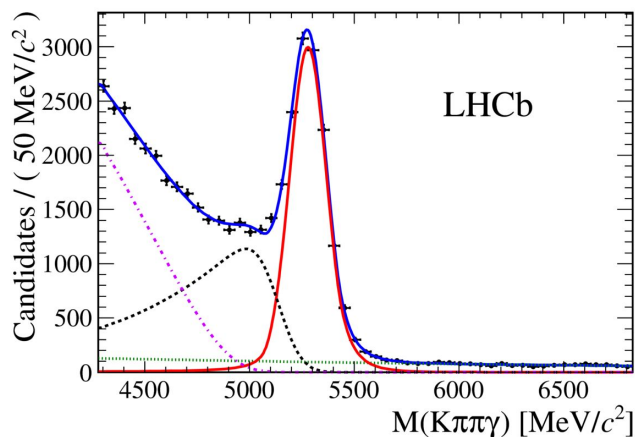
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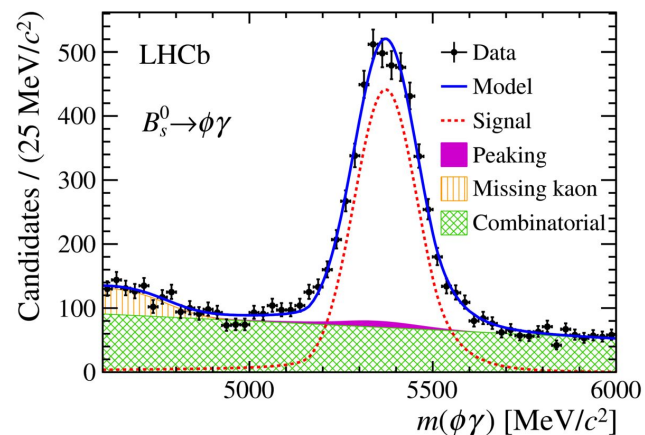
Calorimeter reconstruction is crucial, working on this for the LHCb upgrade



[[Nucl. Phys. B867 \(2013\)](#)]



[[Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 161801 \(2014\)](#)]



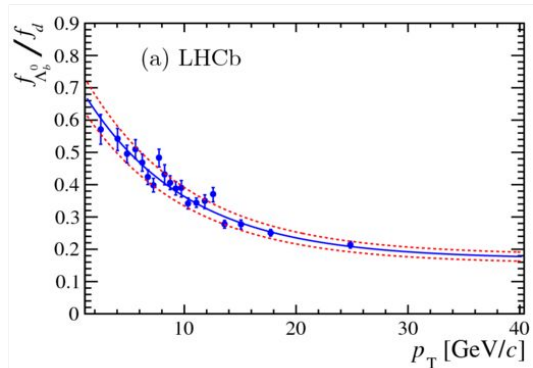
[[Phys. Rev. Lett. 118, 021801 \(2017\)](#)]

b-baryon decays

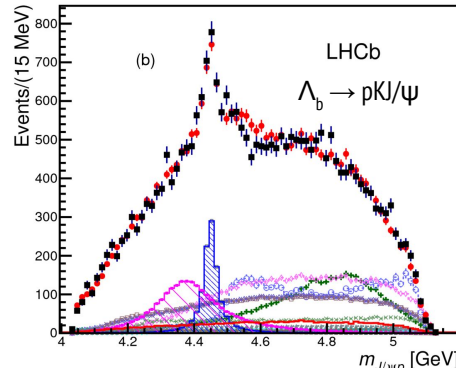
Offer **complementary observables** to probe the SM:

- two spectator quarks \rightarrow different Form Factors
- half-integer spin \rightarrow richer angular distributions

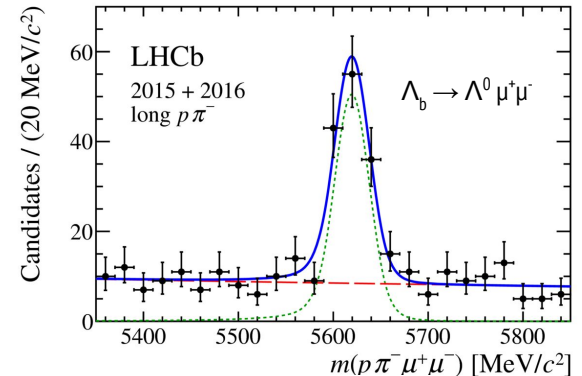
Largely unexplored so far, LHCb can exploit **large production at LHC**:



[[JHEP 08 \(2014\) 143](#)]



[[Phys. Rev. Lett. 115, 072001](#)]



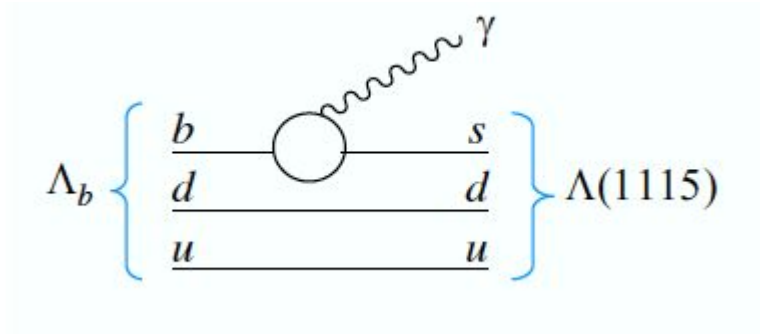
[[JHEP 09 \(2018\) 146](#)]

Radiative b-baryon decays at LHCb

$$\Lambda_b \longrightarrow \Lambda^0 \gamma$$

$$\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \gamma$$

$\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \gamma$ is a $b \rightarrow s \gamma$ FCNC:



$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} = -4 \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{ts}^* V_{tb} (C_7 Q_7 + C_7' Q_7')$$

SM predicts: $\text{BR} \sim (0.06-1) \cdot 10^{-5}$ [[Wang et al.](#), [Mannel et al.](#), [Gan et al.](#), [Faustov et al.](#)]

- **Not observed** so far
- Best limit from CDF: $\text{BR} < 1.9 \cdot 10^{-3}$ [[PhysRevD.66.112002](#)]

Photon polarisation in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \gamma$

[Legger and Schietinger]

Most interesting observable is the
photon polarisation:

$$\alpha_\gamma = \frac{P(\gamma_L) - P(\gamma_R)}{P(\gamma_L) + P(\gamma_R)}$$

at LO in the SM:

$$\alpha_\gamma^{LO} = \frac{1 - |r|^2}{1 + |r|^2} \quad r = \frac{C'_7}{C_7} \sim \frac{m_s}{m_b}$$

Accessible in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \gamma$ through
angular analysis:

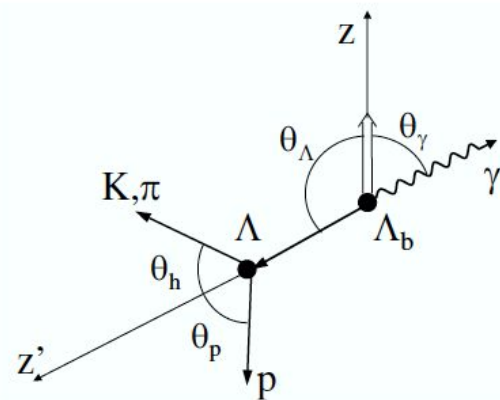
$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d \cos \theta_\gamma} \propto 1 - \alpha_\gamma P_{\Lambda_b} \cos \theta_\gamma$$

$$P_{\Lambda_b} = (0.06 \pm 0.07)$$

[Phys. Lett. B 724 (2013) 27]

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d \cos \theta_p} \propto 1 - \alpha_\gamma \alpha_{p,1/2} \cos \theta_p$$

$$\alpha_{p,1/2} = (0.642 \pm 0.013) \text{ [PDG]}$$

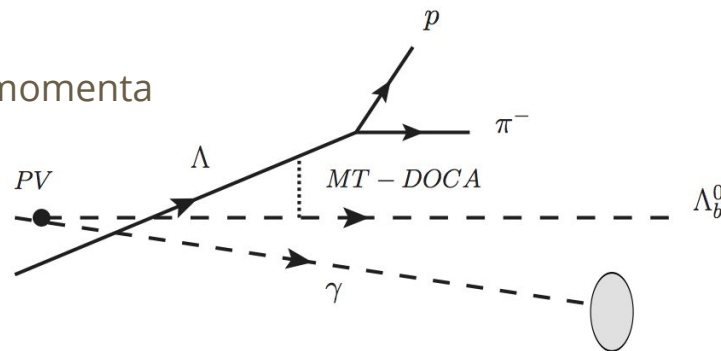


$\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \gamma$ at LHCb

[LHCb-ANA-2018-033]

Blinded search using 2016 data (no trigger in Run 1)

- Very challenging **reconstruction** due to decay topology ($\Lambda^0 \rightarrow p\pi$ weakly):
 - ~80% decay outside the LHCb vertex detector
 - cannot reconstruct Λ_b decay vertex \rightarrow sum of momenta
 - large combinatorial bkg expected
 - exploit MT-DOCA [LHCb-CONF-2015-001]
 - dedicated trigger and offline selections
- Key analysis step: **BDT selection**
 - ~750 signal with $\sim 150 \times 10^3$ bkg events expected after pre-selection
 - exploit [xgboost](#) algorithm with optimised variables

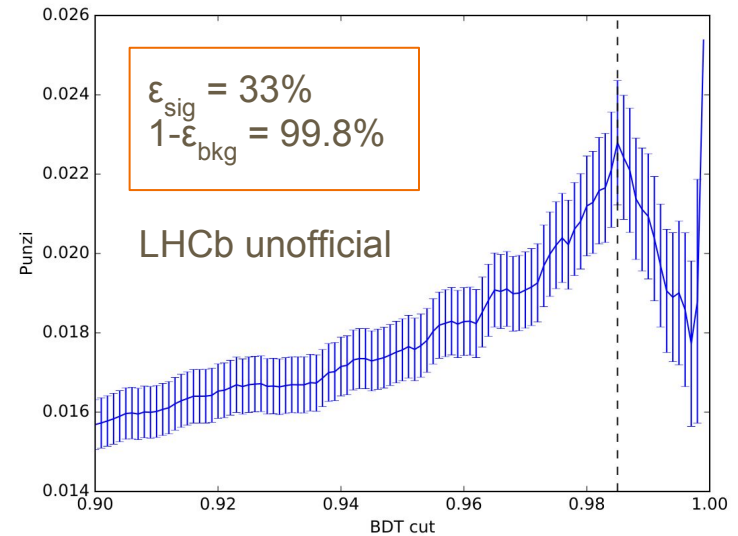
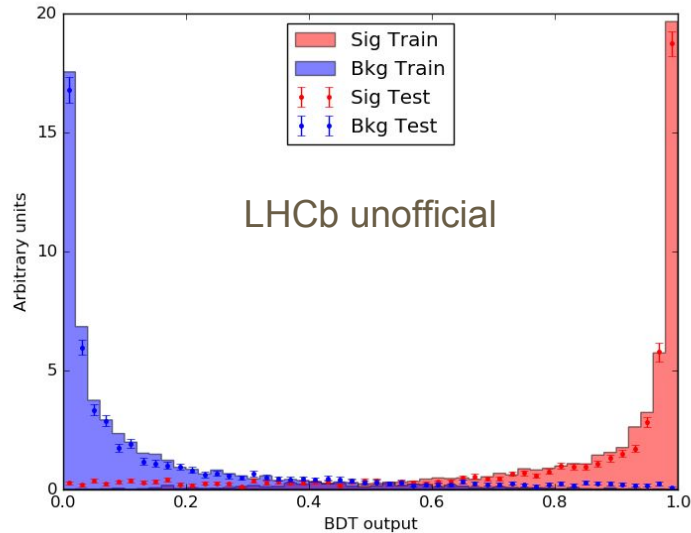


BDT selection

High signal to bkg separation is crucial

- 2-fold technique to avoid overtraining
- Punzi figure of merit ($\sigma=5$) for cut optimisation

$$FoM = \frac{\epsilon_S}{\sqrt{\sigma + N_B}}$$



Extraction of the BR

Exploit well known $B^0 \rightarrow K^* \gamma$ as normalisation:

$$\frac{N(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma)}{N(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma)} = \frac{f_{\Lambda_b^0}}{f_{B^0}} \cdot \frac{\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma)} \cdot \frac{\mathcal{B}(\Lambda \rightarrow p \pi^-)}{\mathcal{B}(K^{*0} \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-)} \cdot \frac{\epsilon_{sel}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma)}{\epsilon_{sel}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma)}$$

- extract BR directly from the fit using:

$$N(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma) = \boxed{\frac{f_{\Lambda_b^0}}{f_{B^0}} \times \alpha} \times \mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma) \times N(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma)$$

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$$\alpha = \boxed{\frac{1}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma)}} \times \boxed{\frac{\mathcal{B}(\Lambda \rightarrow p \pi^-)}{\mathcal{B}(K^{*0} \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-)}} \times \boxed{\frac{\epsilon_{sel}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma)}{\epsilon_{sel}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma)}}$$

Invariant mass fit to $B_d \rightarrow K^* \gamma$

- Main bkg well known from previous analyses:

Signal	$B^0 \rightarrow K^* \eta$
Combinatorial	$B_s \rightarrow \Phi \gamma$
Missing pion	$\Lambda_b \rightarrow p K \gamma$
$K \pi \pi^0 X$	$B^0 \rightarrow K \pi \pi^0$

- Partial bkg yields are free in the fit, peaking bkg ones are fixed

Blinded mass fit to $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \gamma$

- Bkg model fits side-bands well:

Combinatorial

$\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \eta$

- Full fit model for stability checks:
 - signal from MC and BR hypothesis
 - extrapolate combinatorial yield
 - partial yield constrained from MC

Fit stability and performance

Assess **probability of an observation** or evidence from toys (H_0 is BR = 0):

$$\sigma_i^2 = -2 \cdot \log \frac{\mathcal{L}_i(H_1)}{\mathcal{L}_i(H_0)}$$

Fit stability checked for BR > 3×10^{-6} : no bias on BR extraction

Systematics

[LHCb-ANA-2018-033]

LHCb unofficial

Source	Value (%)
$f_{A_b^0}/f_{B^0}$	12.8
MC/Data	X
\mathcal{B}	3.0
Fit model	X
Irreducible $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma$ backgrounds	0.47
Efficiency ratio	1.7
Total	X

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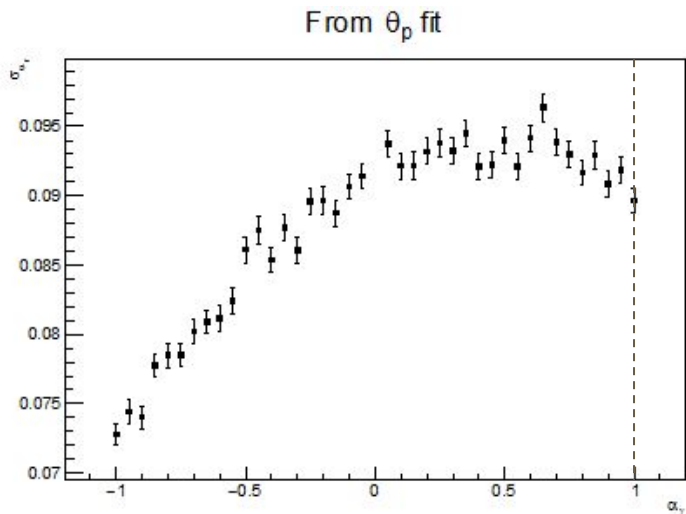
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Analysis under collaboration review,
results expected soon, stay tuned!

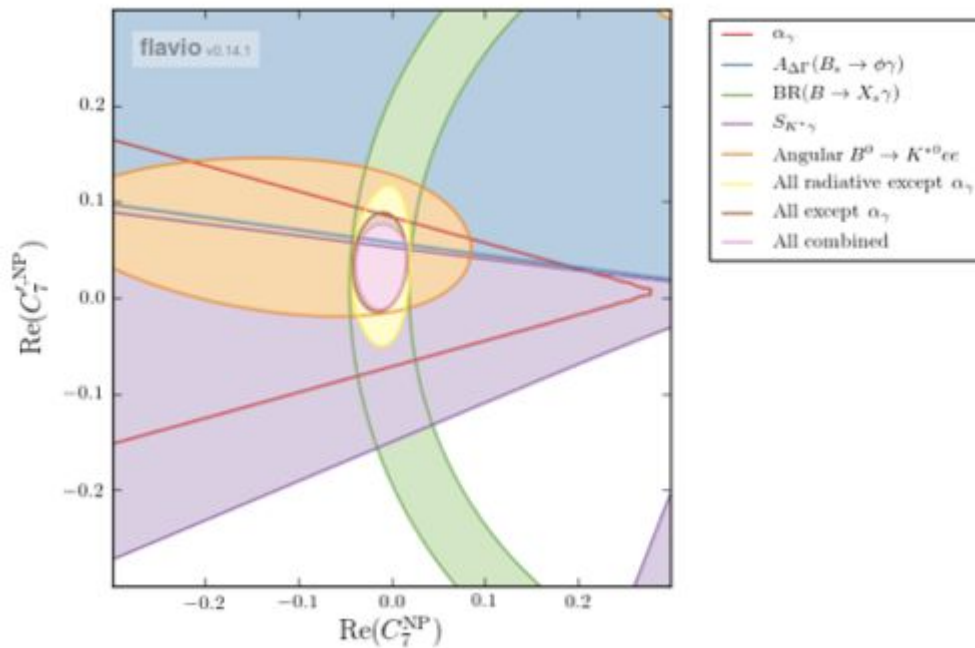
Next step: angular analysis of $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \gamma$

Toys with 1k signal (no bkg), including resolution and acceptance effects:



$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d \cos \theta_p} \propto 1 - \alpha_\gamma \alpha_{p,1/2} \cos \theta_p$$

Constraint on C_7 using [Flavio](#) [D. Straub]:

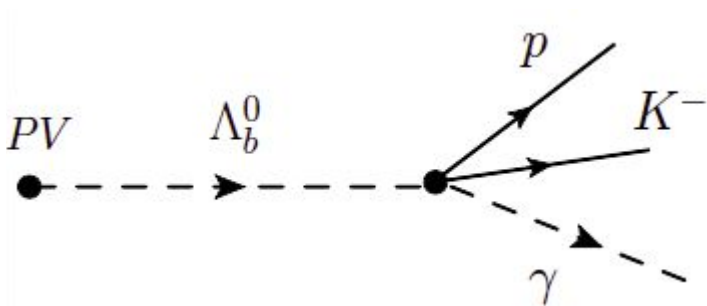
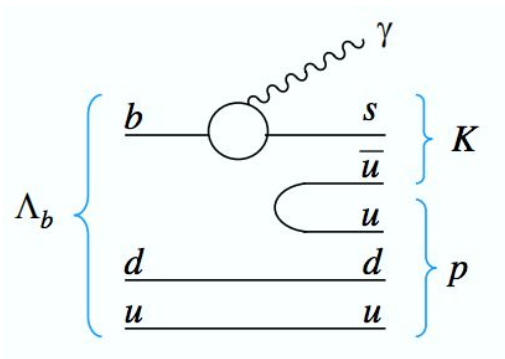


Radiative b-baryon decays at LHCb

$$\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\gamma$$

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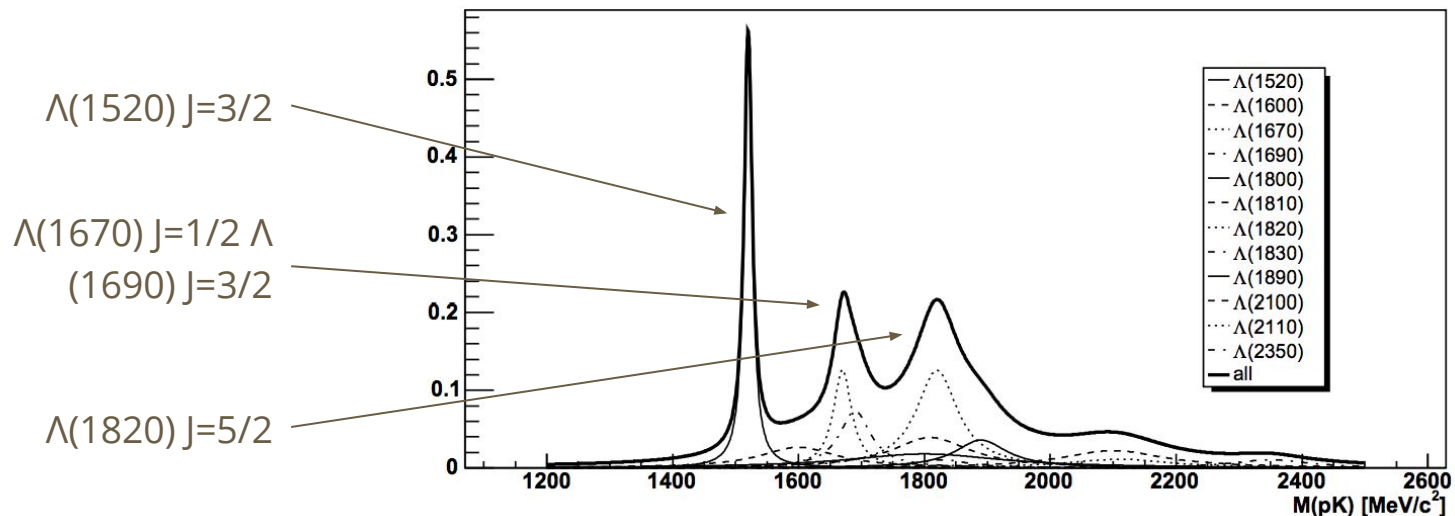
Same $b \rightarrow s\gamma$ transition with contributions from heavier Λ^* resonances



- **experimentally more accessible:** $\Lambda^* \rightarrow pK$ strongly
 - prompt decay inside vertex detector
 - Λ_b vtx can be reconstructed

Λ^* resonance contributions

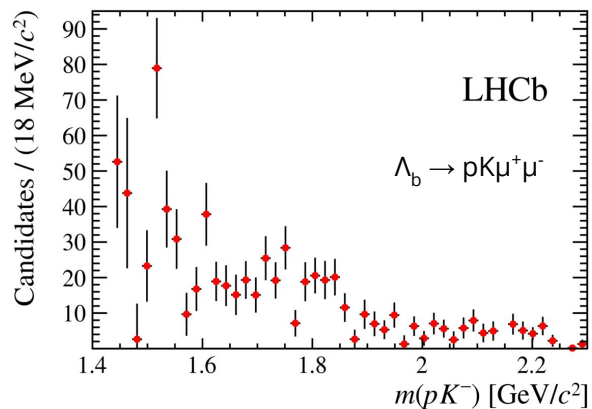
- simplified model by [Legger and Schietinger](#):



Input for LFU in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\ell\ell$

LHCb working on $R(pK)$ as complement to $R(K^{(*)})$, see [talk by Vitalii](#)

- theory can predict $R(\Lambda(X))$ for a given $\Lambda(X)$, see [talk by Martin](#)
- understanding of pK spectrum needed to interpret $R(pK)$ result
- differences between e^+e^- and $\mu^+\mu^-$ final states? Amplitude analysis of $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\gamma$ as 1st step



$\Lambda_b \rightarrow pKe^+e^-?$
 $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\gamma?$

[[JHEP 06 \(2017\) 108](#)]

Photon polarisation in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\gamma$

- $J = 1/2 \rightarrow$ angular distributions as for Λ^0

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta_\gamma} \propto 1 - \alpha_\gamma P_{\Lambda_b} \cos\theta_\gamma$$

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta_p} \propto 1 - \alpha_\gamma \alpha_{p,1/2} \cos\theta_p$$

in this case:

- $\alpha_{p,1/2} = 0$ (strong decay)
- $P_{\Lambda_b} = (0.06 \pm 0.07)$ at LHC
[[Phys. Lett. B 724 \(2013\) 27](#)]

- $J = 3/2$

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta_\gamma} \propto 1 - \alpha_{\gamma,3/2} P_{\Lambda_b} \cos\theta_\gamma$$

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta_p} \propto 1 - \alpha_{p,3/2} \cos^2\theta_p$$

with:

$$\alpha_\gamma = \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{\gamma,3/2} \left(1 - \frac{3}{\alpha_{p,3/2}} \right)$$

sensitivity to α_γ suppressed by initial Λ_b polarisation

*for $J > 3/2$, more helicity amplitudes than observables

Summary

- Radiative b decays provide crucial tests of the SM
- Radiative b-baryon decays offer complementary observables
 - largely unexplored but accessible at LHCb!

- $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \gamma$ can constrain C'_7/C_7 through photon polarisation
 - search with 2016 data under review, results expected very soon!

- $\Lambda_b \rightarrow p K \gamma$ allows to study Λ^* contributions to pK spectrum
 - expand our knowledge of QCD
 - input for LFU tests with baryons

BACK-UP

BDT selection: input variables

Variables
$\pi^\pm p_T$
$p p_T + \pi^\pm p_T + \gamma p_T$
$p \text{ IP } \chi^2$
$\pi^\pm \text{ IP}$
Tracks DOCA
γp_T
Λp_T
$\Lambda \text{ IP}$
$\Lambda \text{ IP } \chi^2$
$\Lambda \text{ FD}$
$\Lambda_b^0 p_T$
$\Lambda_b^0 \text{ MTDOCA}$
$\Lambda \text{ Cone}(1.0) \mathcal{A}_p$
$\Lambda \text{ Cone}(1.0) \mathcal{A}_{p_T}$
$\gamma \text{ Cone}(1.0) \mathcal{A}_{p_T}$

$$\mathcal{A}(p_T) = \frac{p_{T\Lambda} - p_{T\text{cone}}}{p_{T\Lambda} + p_{T\text{cone}}}$$

Ratio of hadronisation fractions

Use LHCb measurement [[LHCb-PAPER-2014-004](#)]:

$$f_{\Lambda_b^0}/f_{B^0}(p_T) = a + \exp(b + cp_T)$$

$$a = +0.151 \pm 0.016 \begin{matrix} +0.024 \\ -0.025 \end{matrix}$$

$$b = -0.573 \pm 0.040 \begin{matrix} +0.101 \\ -0.097 \end{matrix}$$

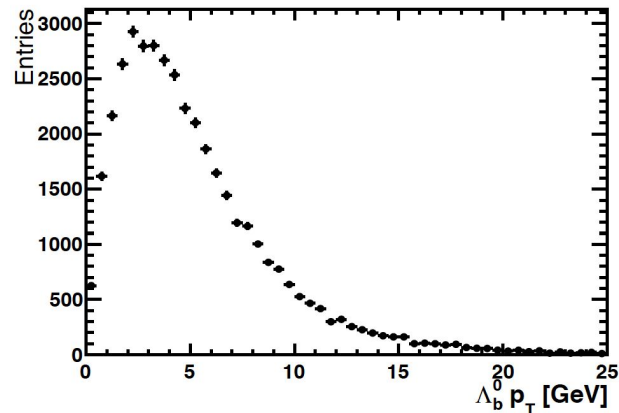
$$c = -0.095 \pm 0.007 \pm 0.014 \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

- average over generator level p_T distribution

$$f_{\Lambda_b^0}/f_{B^0}(p_T - aV) = 0.493 \pm 0.055$$

Assumes f_{Λ_b}/f_{B^0} holds at 13 TeV:

- measure also $f_{\Lambda_b}/f_{B^0} \times \text{BR}$



$\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\gamma$ model by Legger and Schietinger

$\Lambda(X)$	$L_{I,2J}$	Γ (MeV)	$\mathcal{B}_{N\bar{K}}$ (%)	$\mathcal{B}_{\Lambda(X)\gamma}$ (10^{-5})	\mathcal{B}_{tot} (10^{-5})
$\Lambda(1520)$	D_{03}	15.6	45	5.84	1.31
$\Lambda(1600)$	P_{01}	150	22	5.69	0.65
$\Lambda(1670)$	S_{01}	35	25	5.56	0.69
$\Lambda(1690)$	D_{03}	60	25	5.52	0.69
$\Lambda(1800)$	S_{01}	300	32	5.30	0.84
$\Lambda(1810)$	P_{01}	150	35	5.28	0.92
$\Lambda(1820)$	F_{05}	80	60	5.26	1.57
$\Lambda(1830)$	D_{05}	95	6	5.24	0.15
$\Lambda(1890)$	P_{03}	100	22	5.12	0.56
$\Lambda(2100)$	G_{07}	200	30	4.67	0.70
$\Lambda(2110)$	F_{05}	200	15	4.65	0.34
$\Lambda(2350)$	H_{09}	150	12	4.12	0.28

Photon polarisation in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\gamma$

- $J = 3/2$:

$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 \frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta_\gamma} &\propto 1 - \alpha_{\gamma, \frac{3}{2}} P_{\Lambda_b} \cos\theta_\gamma \\
 \frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta_p} &\propto 1 - \alpha_{p, \frac{3}{2}} \cos^2\theta_p
 \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned}
 \alpha_{\gamma, \frac{3}{2}} &= \frac{\overbrace{|C_{\frac{3}{2}, 1}|^2 + |C_{-\frac{1}{2}, -1}|^2}^{\lambda_\Lambda - \lambda_\gamma = 1/2} - \overbrace{|C_{-\frac{3}{2}, -1}|^2 - |C_{\frac{1}{2}, 1}|^2}^{\lambda_\Lambda - \lambda_\gamma = -1/2}}{|C_{\frac{3}{2}, 1}|^2 + |C_{-\frac{1}{2}, -1}|^2 + |C_{-\frac{3}{2}, -1}|^2 + |C_{\frac{1}{2}, 1}|^2} = \frac{1 - \eta}{1 + \eta} \alpha_\gamma \\
 \alpha_{p, \frac{3}{2}} &= \frac{\overbrace{|C_{\frac{3}{2}, 1}|^2 + |C_{-\frac{3}{2}, -1}|^2}^{|\lambda_\Lambda| = 3/2} - \overbrace{|C_{\frac{1}{2}, 1}|^2 - |C_{-\frac{1}{2}, -1}|^2}^{|\lambda_\Lambda| = 1/2}}{|C_{\frac{3}{2}, 1}|^2 + |C_{-\frac{3}{2}, -1}|^2 + \frac{1}{3}(|C_{-\frac{1}{2}, -1}|^2 + |C_{\frac{1}{2}, 1}|^2)} = \frac{\eta - 1}{\eta + \frac{1}{3}}
 \end{aligned} \right\} \alpha_\gamma = \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{\gamma, \frac{3}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{3}{\alpha_{p, \frac{3}{2}}} \right)$$

$$\eta = \frac{|C_{\frac{3}{2}, 1}|^2}{|C_{\frac{1}{2}, 1}|^2} = \frac{|C_{-\frac{3}{2}, -1}|^2}{|C_{-\frac{1}{2}, -1}|^2}$$