



Rare B Decays  
Standard Model @ LHC 2012,  
Copenhagen, Denmark

Michelle Nicol, on behalf of the LHCb collaboration

# (Some!) Rare B decay results from LHCb

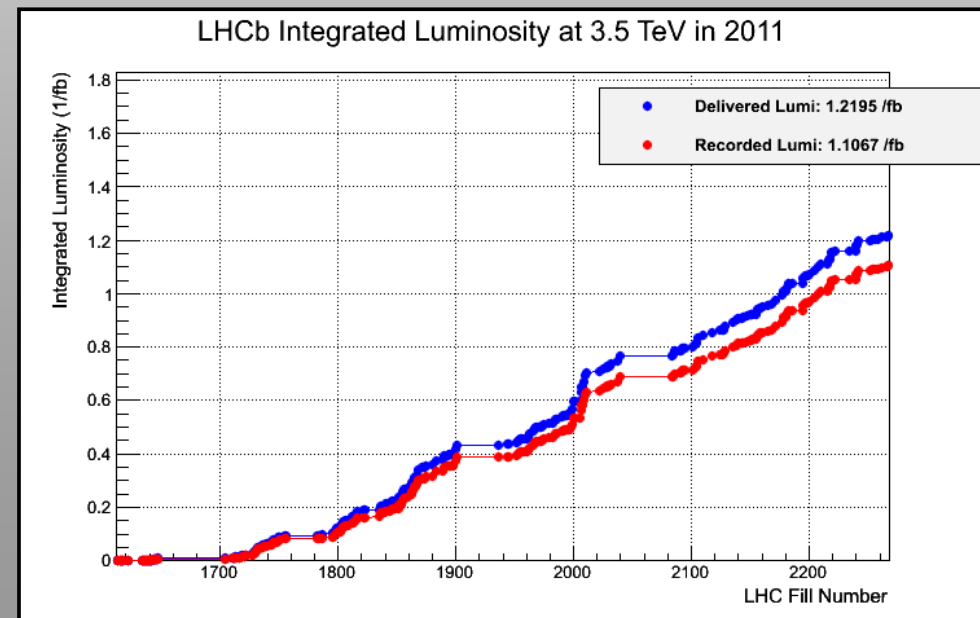
Results presented here probe Flavour Changing Neutral Currents (FCNC)

- Forbidden at tree level in the SM
- Sensitive to new physics, as new particles could manifest in the loop, and cause deviations from standard model predictions. Can change branching fractions, angular distributions, CP violation.
- Indirect searches complimentary to direct searches at the GPDs.

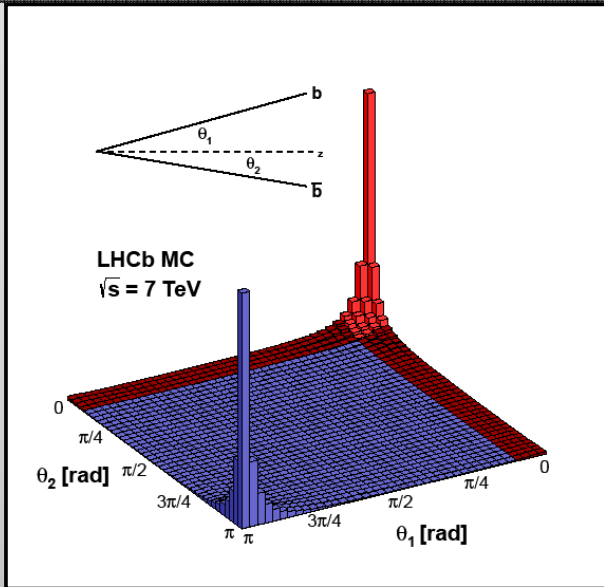


With  $1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of LHCb data, collected in 2011:

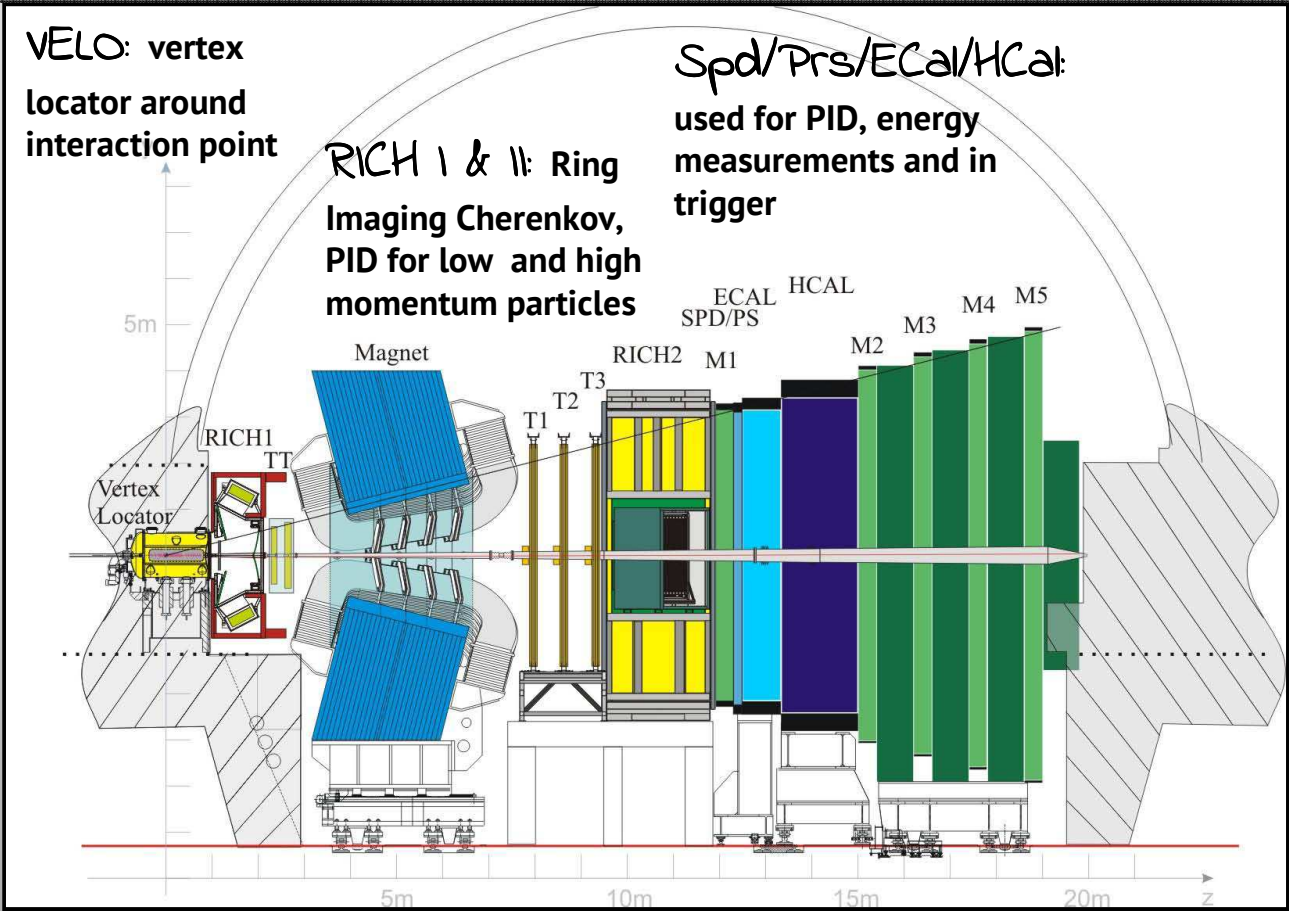
- $B_{d,s} \rightarrow \mu \mu$
- $B_{d,s} \rightarrow \mu \mu \mu \mu$
- $B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu \mu$
- $B^0 \rightarrow K^* \gamma : A_{CP}$
- $B^0 \rightarrow K^* \mu \mu$



# The LHCb detector



Optimised for B physics:  
 $2 \times 10^{11}$  B hadrons in LHCb acceptance in 2011  
 Excellent PID, efficient trigger, precision vertexing and tracking



- other LHCb talks this conference
- Jet measurements in LHCb and their relevance for pdfs: Marcin Kucharczyk
- Electroweak results at LHCb: Katharina Mueller
- Phi\_s measurements: Conor Fitzpatrick
- Gamma from B → DK: Sneha Malde
- CPV in B → hh: Luigi Li Gioi
- Charm results: Chris Thomas

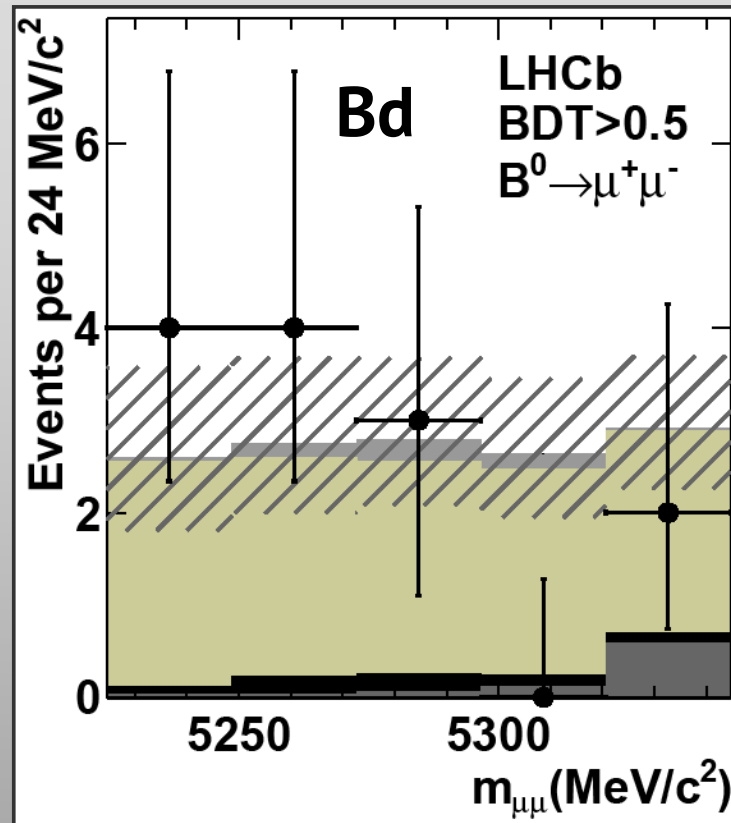
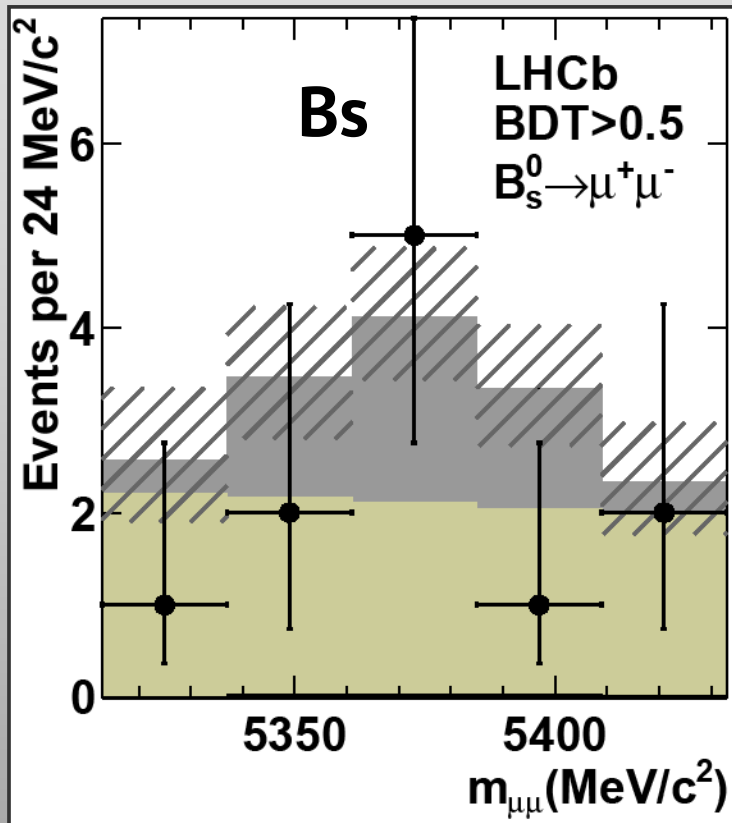
$$B_{d,s} \rightarrow \mu \mu$$

Branching ratios in SM predicted to be:

$$BR(B_s \rightarrow \mu \mu) = (3.2 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-9}, BR(B_d \rightarrow \mu \mu) = (0.1 \pm 0.01) \times 10^{-9} \quad \text{A. J. Buras [1,2]}$$

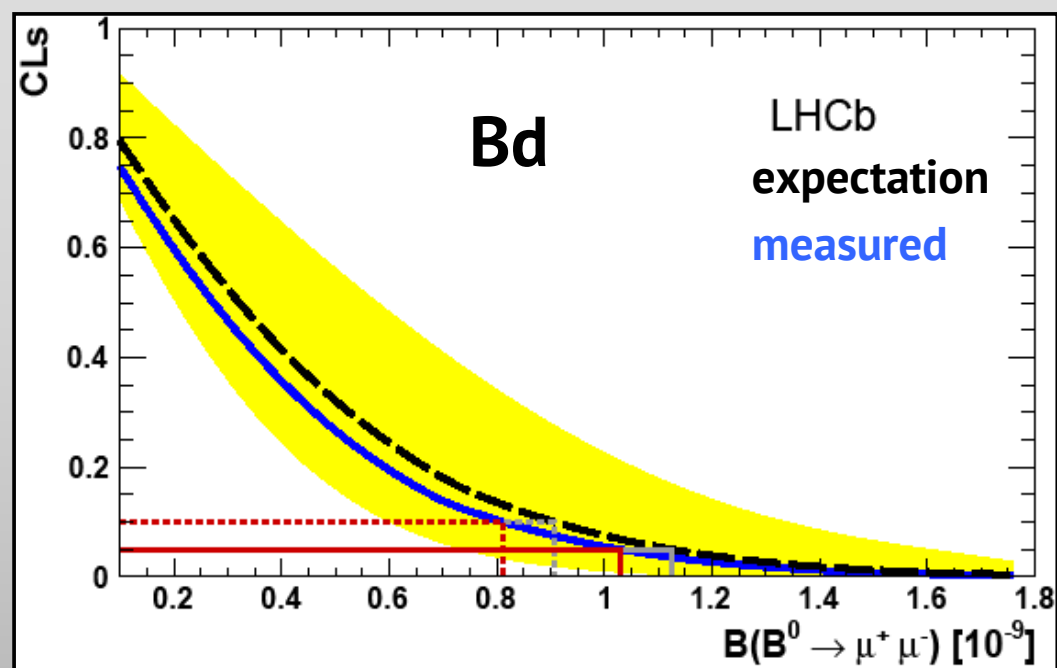
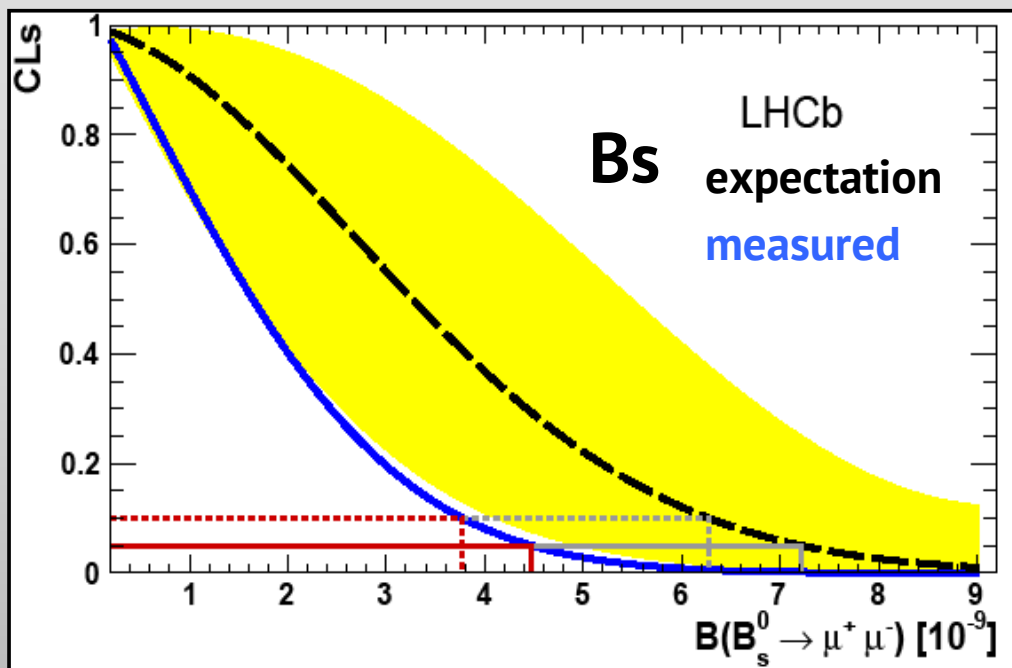
Can be significantly enhanced by scalar and pseudo-scalar operators (MSSM,  $BR(B_s \rightarrow \mu \mu) \sim \tan^6 \beta$ .)

- At LHCb:
- Background reduced using a Boosted Decision Tree (Multivariate discriminant trained on MC using kinematical and geometrical variables (eg Vertex Chi2, impact parameters, direction between B momentum and direction, PT.)
  - BDT response and mass PDFs are calibrated from data using  $B \rightarrow hh$  and  $\text{dimuon}$  resonances.
  - Use three normalization modes. Allows for evaluation of different systematics, and the weighted average is used as final result.
  - Divide the data into 8 bins of BDT output and 9 mass bins (optimised with MC toys)
  - For each bin, compute the expected signal and background and count the candidates observed.
  - Compatibility of observed distribution with given BR computed using CLs method [3]



More sensitive BDT bins  
 signal  
 combinatorics  
 cross-feed  
 B → hh

Events observed with  $1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  at LHCb consistent with expected background and SM signal



Measure  $BR(B_s \rightarrow \mu \mu) < 4.5 \times 10^{-9}$  and  $BR(B_d \rightarrow \mu \mu) < 1.03 \times 10^{-9}$  at 95% C.L.

cf  $BR(B_s \rightarrow \mu \mu) < 7.7 \times 10^{-9}$  [CMS-BPH-11-020]  $5 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

$BR(B_s \rightarrow \mu \mu) < 22 \times 10^{-9}$  [ATLAS-CONF-2012-010]  $2.4 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

By performing a simultaneous maximum likelihood fit to the mass distributions in the 8 BDT bins, estimate branching fraction to be  $BR(B_s \rightarrow \mu \mu) = (0.8^{+1.8}_{-1.3}) \times 10^{-9}$

Increasingly constrains SUSY parameter space

$$B_{d,s} \rightarrow \mu \mu \mu \mu$$



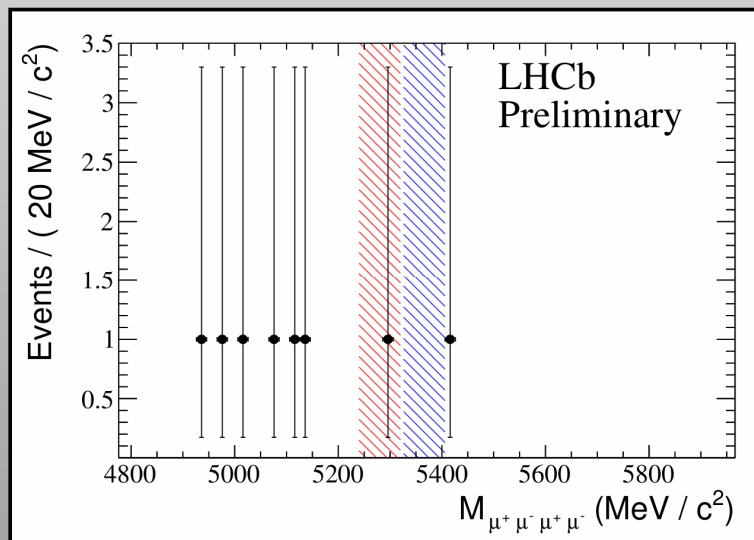
Strongly suppressed in SM.

Largest contribution from  $B_s \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$ , estimated  $BR = (2.3 \pm 0.9) \times 10^{-8}$  [4]

Non-resonant decay predicted to be  $< 10^{-10}$  D. Melikhov and N. Nikitin [5]

Can be significantly enhanced by new particles decaying into dimuon pairs. S. Demidov and D. Gorbunov [6]

$B \rightarrow \mu \mu \mu \mu$  (Both  $J/\psi$  and  $\Phi$  resonance vetoed)



**Bd signal window**

**Bs signal window**

The observed events are consistent with the expected background yield.

First limits on branching fractions:  $BR(B_s \rightarrow \mu \mu \mu \mu) < 1.3 \times 10^{-8}$   
 $BR(B_d \rightarrow \mu \mu \mu \mu) < 5.4 \times 10^{-9}$  } at 95% C.L.

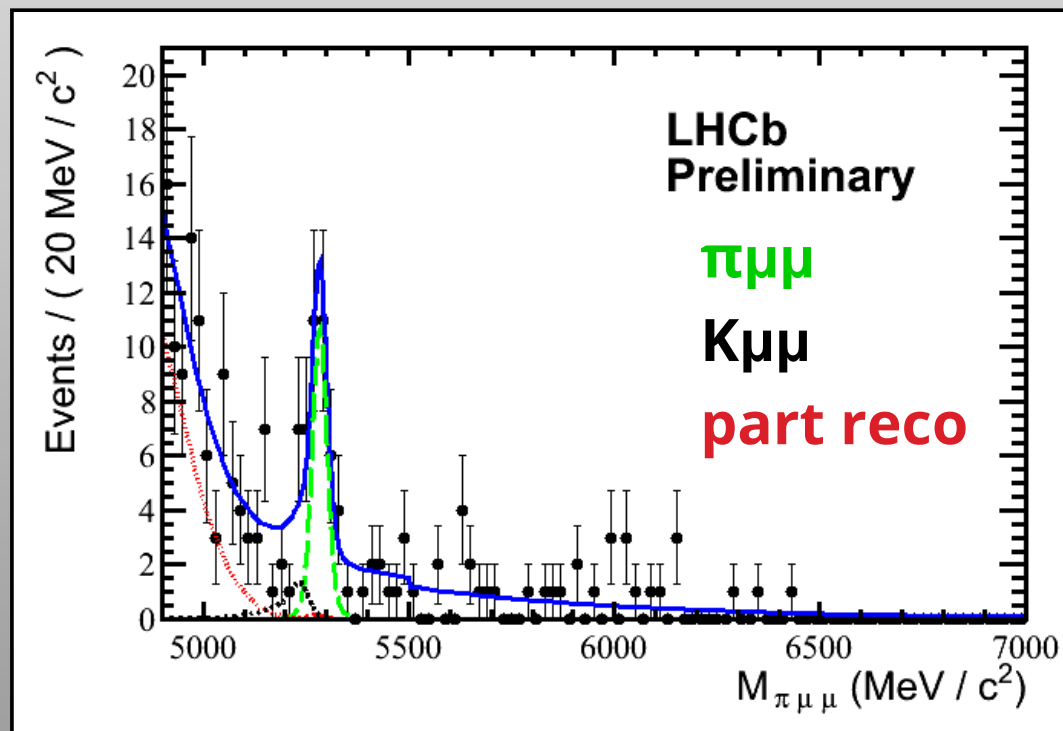
$$B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu \mu$$

No  $b \rightarrow d l^+ l^-$  transition has previously been observed.

In SM, it is suppressed by a factor  $|V_{td}/V_{ts}|^2$  relative to  $b \rightarrow s l^+ l^-$

Can envisage new physics models where this suppression doesn't apply.

In SM,  $BR(B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu \mu) = (1.96 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-8}$  S. Hai-Zhen, L/ Lin-xia and L. Gong-Ru [7]



Observe  $25^{+6.7}_{-6.4}$  events with  $5.2\sigma$  significance.

$$BR(B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu \mu) = (2.4 \pm 0.6 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-8}$$

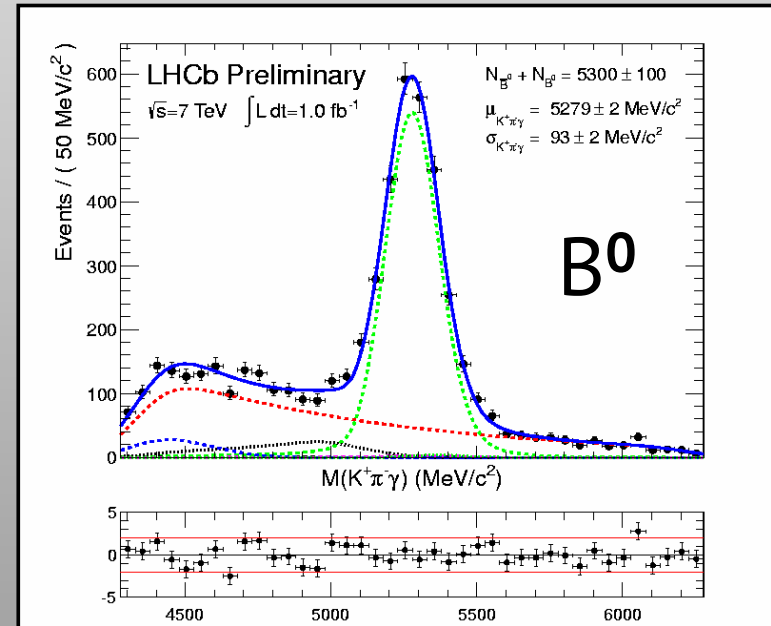
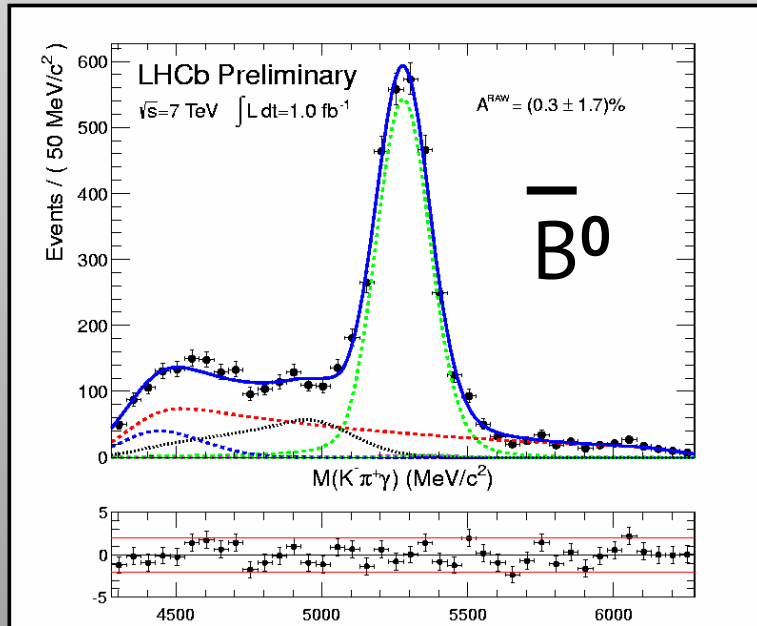
The rarest B decay ever observed.

$$B^0 \rightarrow K^* \gamma$$

The theoretical uncertainty on the SM prediction of direct CP asymmetry is smaller than that on the branching ratio prediction

$$A_{CP}^{SM}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma) = -0.0061 \pm 0.0043 \quad \text{Y. Y. Keum, M. Matsumori and A. I. Sanda [8]}$$

Extract raw asymmetry from unbinned simultaneous fit to the mass distributions of  $B^0$  and  $\bar{B}^0$  candidates.



$$A_{Raw}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma) = A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma) - A_{Det}(K\pi) - \kappa A_{Prod}(B^0) \quad (\kappa \text{ is dilution factor due to } B \text{ oscillation})$$

$$A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \gamma) = -0.008 \pm 0.017 \pm 0.009 \quad (\text{LHCb preliminary})$$

cf. previous best measurement from BaBar:  $A_{CP} = -0.016 \pm 0.022 \pm 0.007$  [9]

$$B_d \rightarrow K^* \mu \mu:$$

# $B_d \rightarrow K^* \mu \mu$ : Angular analysis

LHCb-CONF-2012-008

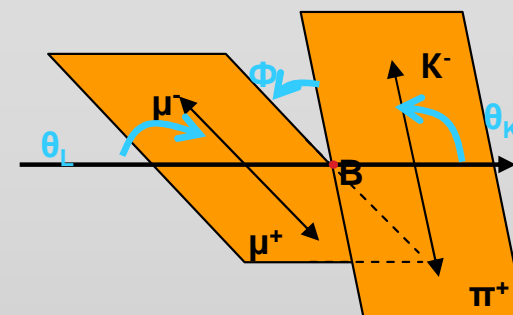
Fully described by three angles,  $\theta_L$ ,  $\theta_K$ ,  $\Phi$  and  $q^2 = \text{Mass}^2(\mu \mu)$ .

Performing angular analysis with  $1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of 2011 data measure the following parameters: [10]

- $A_{FB}$  Forward backward asymmetry of dimuon system
- $F_L$  Fraction of longitudinal polarisation of the  $K^*$
- $S_3$  Transverse asymmetry
- $A_{im}$  T-odd CP asymmetry

And also differential branching ratio.

Gives access to  $C_7^{(*)}$ ,  $C_9^{(*)}$ ,  $C_{10}^{(*)}$



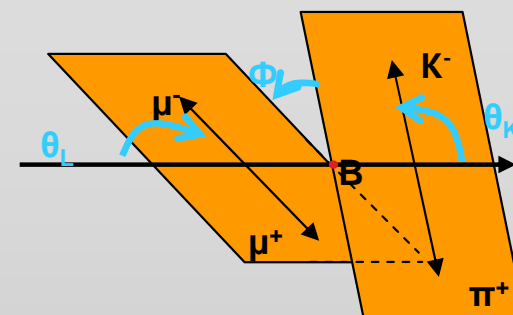
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LHCb-CONF-2012-008

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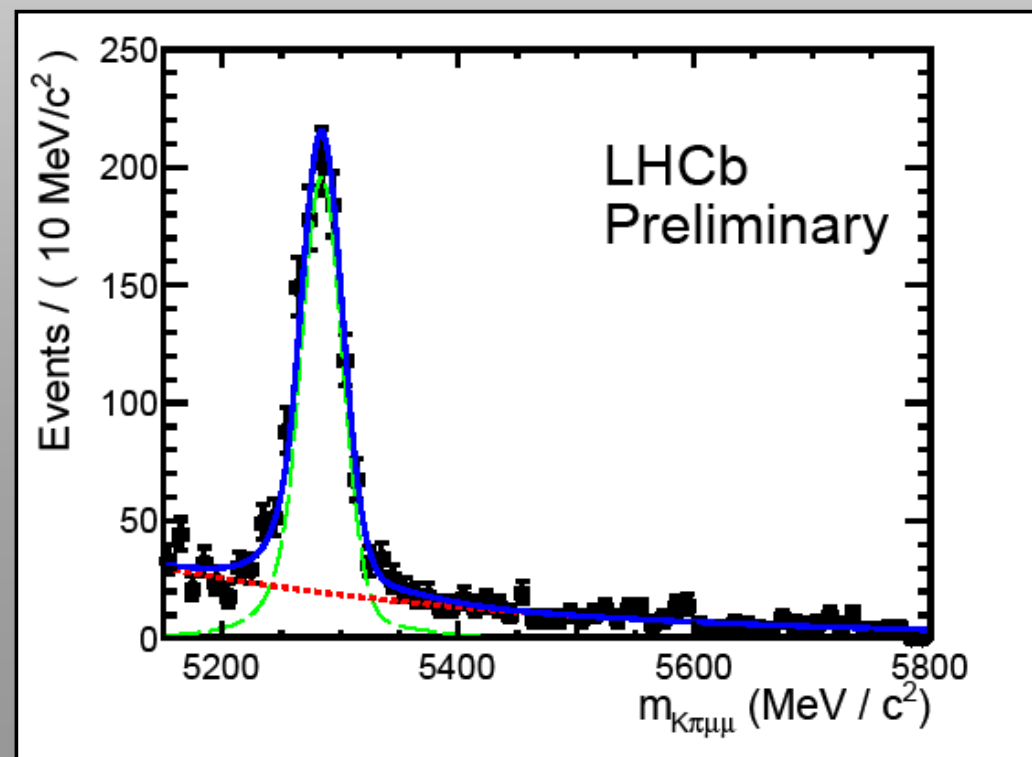
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At LHCb, use BDT to reduce combinatorial background, and PID for peaking backgrounds.

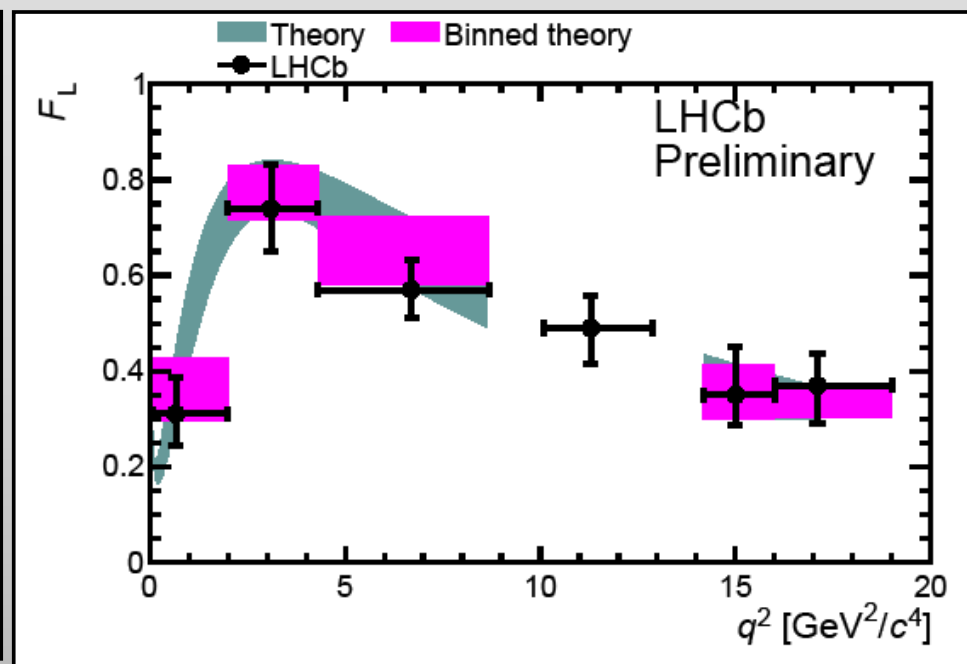
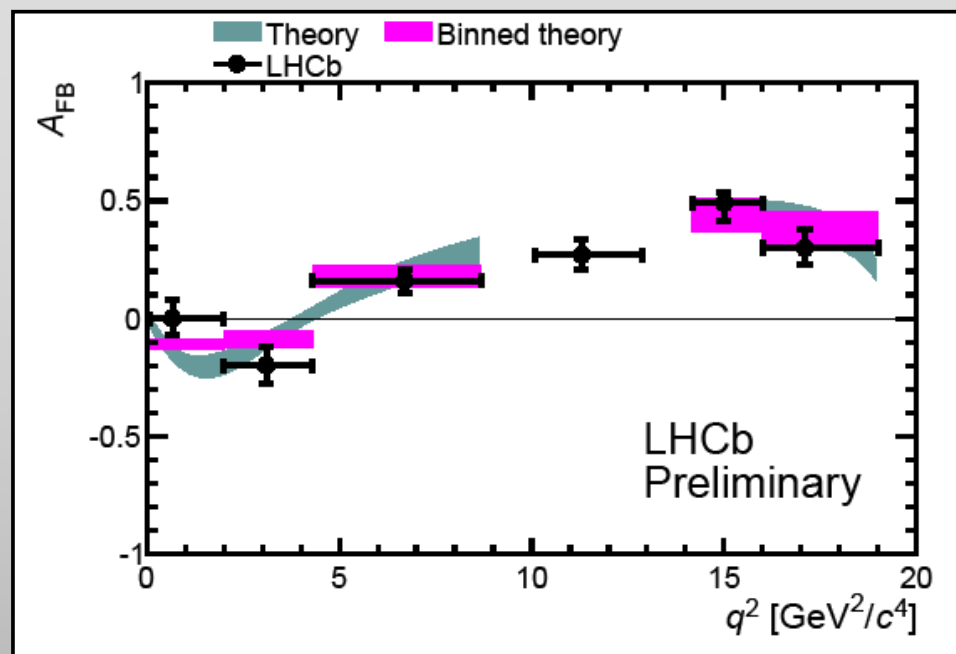
Analysis sensitive to angular acceptance. Care taken to avoid bias: No PT used in BDT

Observe 900 candidates (BaBar+Belle+CDF ~600 events)

Angular acceptance from detector corrected using simulation.







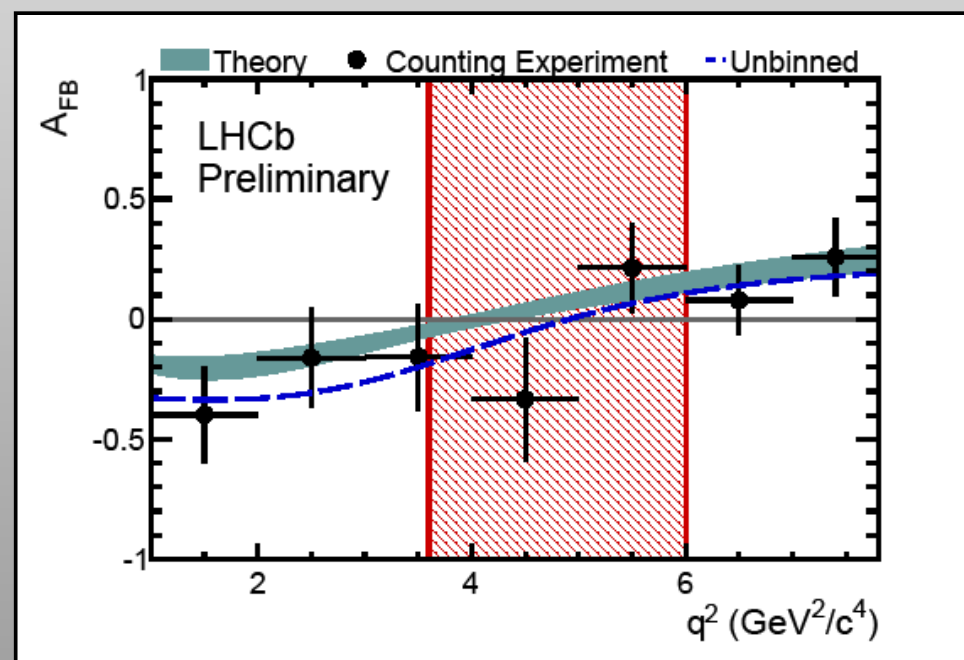
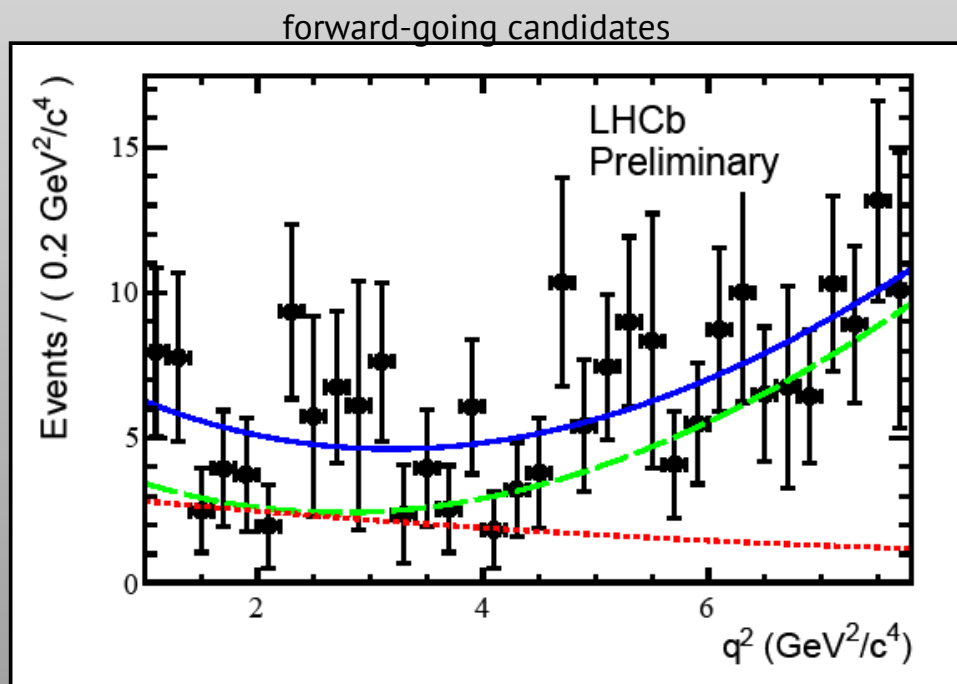
- $A_{Im}$  and  $S3$  shown in backup
- Points include both statistical and systematic uncertainties
- Systematic uncertainties typically small compared to statistical
- Theory predictions found in [11]

**Most precise measurements of these quantities to date and fully consistent with SM predictions**

In SM,  $A_{FB}(q^2)$  changes sign at well defined  $q_0^2$ , free from form-factor uncertainties.

This is estimated by extracting the  $q^2$  distribution for the forward- and backward-going candidates separately, using unbinned fits to  $m_{B_0}$  and  $q^2$ .

The red hatched area is 68% confidence level on observed zero crossing point.



- world's first measurement:  $q_0^2 = 4.9^{+1.1}_{-1.3} \text{ GeV}^2$  (LHCb preliminary)
- SM predictions range from 4.0-4.3 GeV [12-14]

# Summary

## World's most precise measurements:

- $B_{d,s} \rightarrow \mu \mu$

Best limits to date

**Also measured (see charm talk by Chris Thomas)  $D \rightarrow \mu \mu$  limits**

**Coming soon:  $K_s \rightarrow \mu \mu$**

- $B_d \rightarrow \mu \mu \mu \mu$

First limits

- $B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu \mu$

First branching fraction measurement

- $B^0 \rightarrow K^* \gamma$

direct CP asymmetry

**Coming soon: updated result with  $1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of  $BR(B^0 \rightarrow K^* \gamma) / BR(B_s \rightarrow \Phi \gamma)$**

- $B^0 \rightarrow K^* \mu \mu$

angular variables

zero crossing point

branching fraction

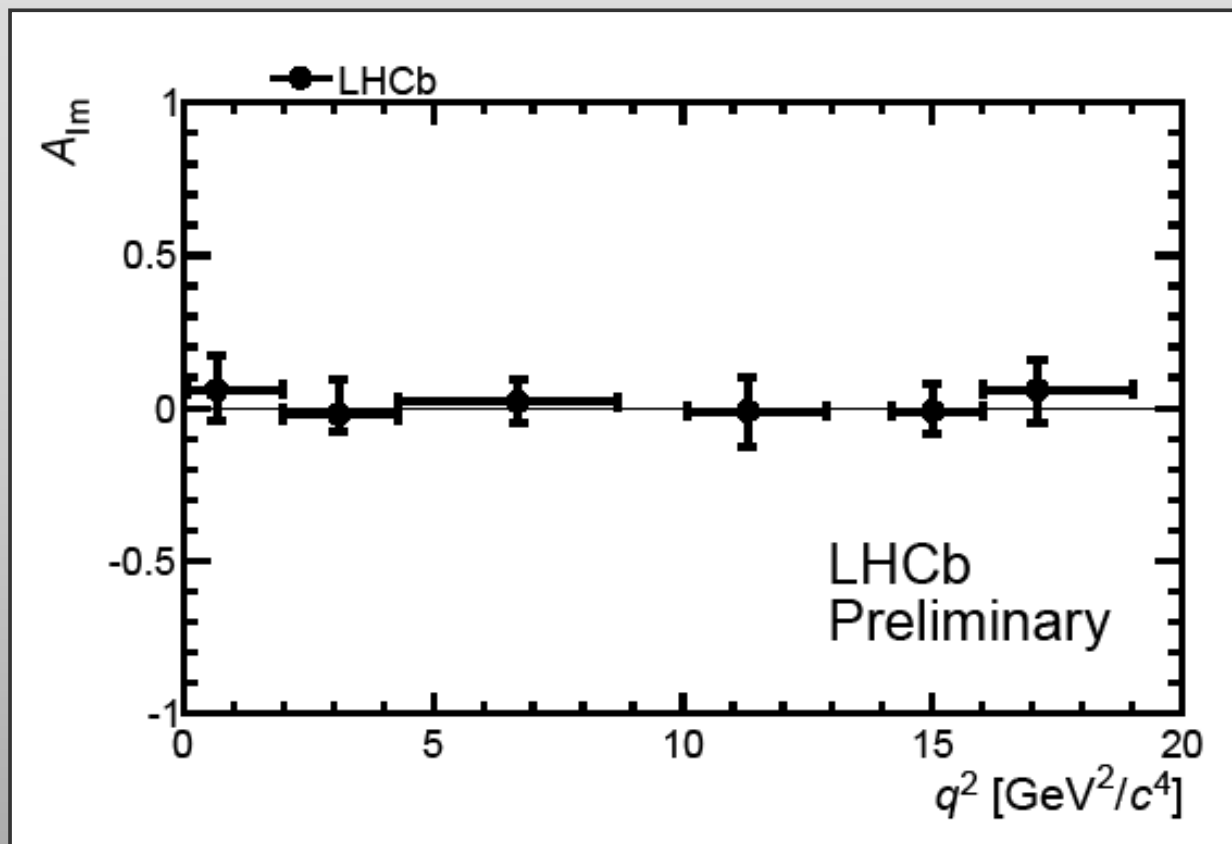
**Also measured  $B_s^0 \rightarrow \Phi \mu \mu$  branching fraction**

**Coming soon: Isospin asymmetry,  $B^0 \rightarrow K^* e e$ ,  $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu \mu$ ,  $B^0 \rightarrow K_s \mu \mu$ ,  $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda^* \mu \mu \dots$**

# References

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Backup



$A_{Im} \sim O(10^{-3})$  in SM

