From Beauty to Charm, From ATLAS to LHCb

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Heavy Flavour Physics

- What is flavour physics?
 - Studies transitions between different quark types (flavours) via weak interactions.
 - Sensitive to quantum loop effects → indirect probe of physics beyond the Standard Model (BSM).
- What is heavy flavour (HF) physics?
 - Physics of hadrons containing bottom (b) or charm (c) quarks.
 - Includes beauty-physics (*B*-physics) and charm-physics.
 - Focus on rare decays, CP violation (CPV), mixing, and lepton-flavour universality.
- Experiments:
 - **ATLAS**/CMS: Mainly high- p_{T} physics, but also HF programme large datasets.
 - **LHCb**: Dedicated heavy-flavour experiment; forward geometry, high resolution.
 - Belle II, BES III: e^+e^- environment; complementary reach.



Why Does HF Physics Matter?

- First of all most of it is beauty :-)!
- Precision tests of the Standard Model (SM):
 - Measuring the Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) quark mixing matrix.
 - B-hadron lifetimes can test our understanding of the weak interaction.
- Exploring CPV: matter-antimatter asymmetry.
- Hadron spectroscopy and exotics states.
- Heavy flavour production measurements.
- Probing New Physics (NP):
 - Indirect sensitivity to heavy new particles (e.g., through loop processes).
 - It complements direct searches!



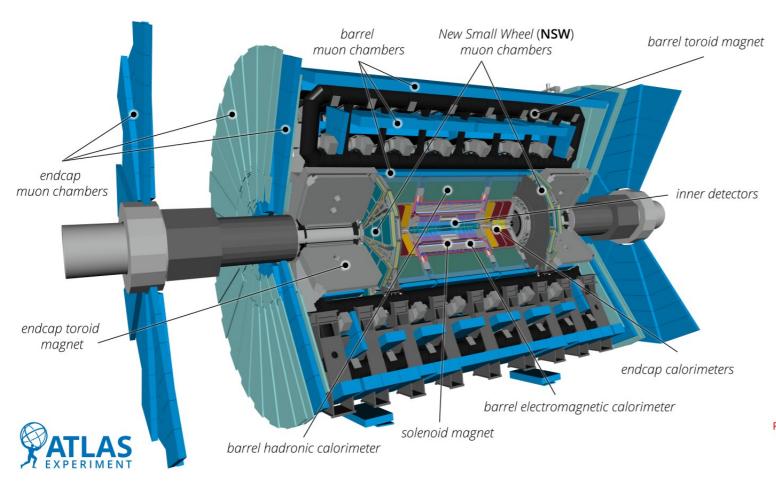


CERN, LHC... and the Key Points of Interest

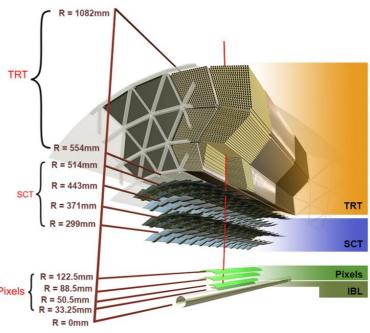




The ATLAS Experiment



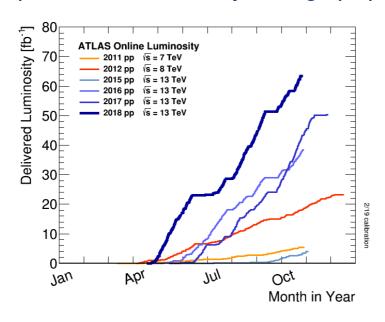
- l = 44 m, d = 25 m, m = 7000 t.
- **IBL** for Run2, **NSW** for Run3.
- ID, MS, (EMCal).

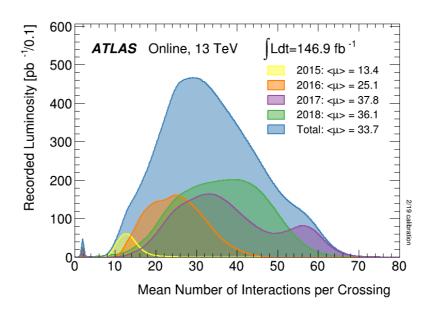




No "B" in ATLAS?

• General purpose detector, mainly for high- p_{T} physics...



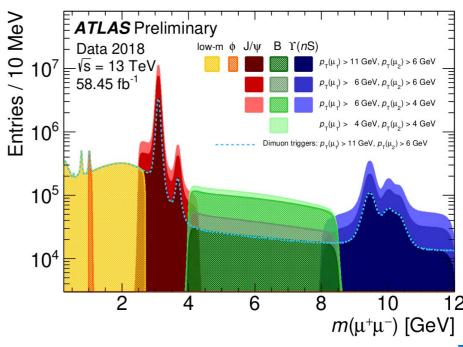


- Hard to live there, but it has some pros: ATLAS covers central $b\overline{b}$ production region, b-jet tracks are well separated, it can work at full LHC luminosity \rightarrow high statistics.
- See ATLAS B-physics public results!

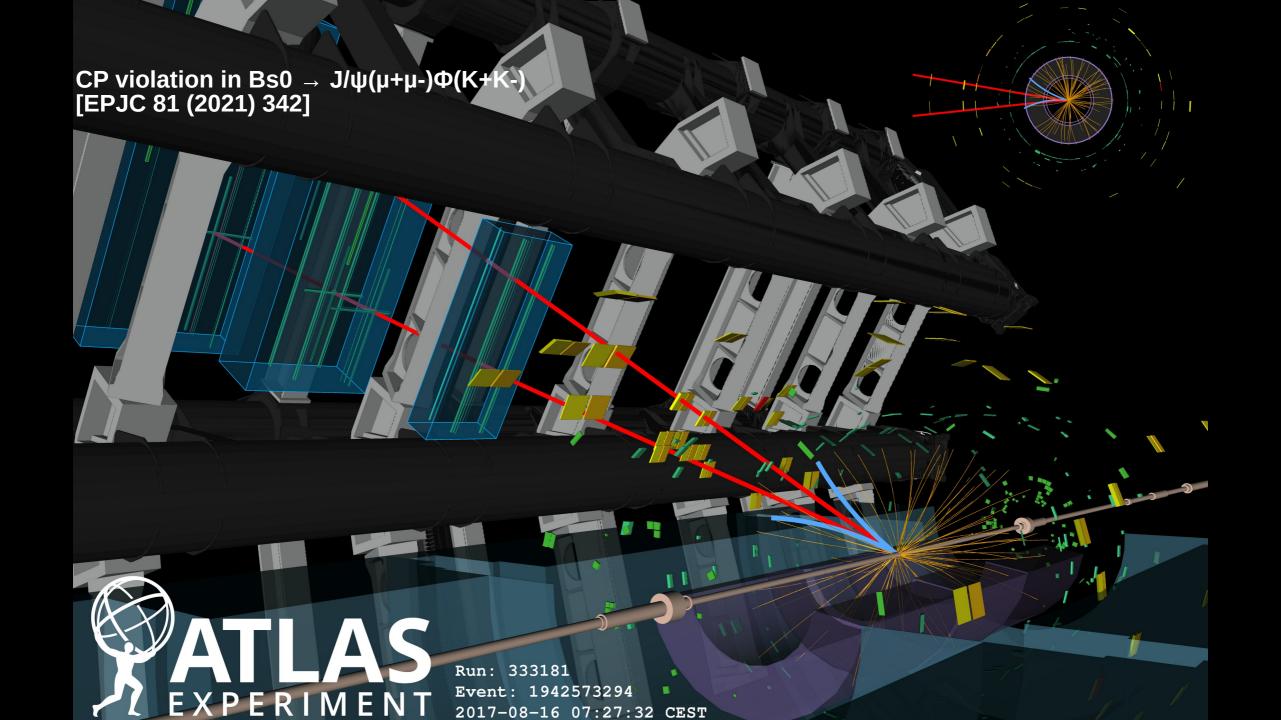


ATLAS B-physics Triggers and Data

- Run 2: 139 fb⁻¹ of pp collisions at 13 TeV collected in 2015-2018 (Run 1: 25 fb⁻¹ at 7 and 8 TeV).
- Producing 2.5M $b\bar{b}$ pairs/second, B_s , B_c , Λ_b , etc. available.
- Focus mostly on final states with muons, fully reconstructable.
- Typical B-physics trigger:
 - Low-p_T di-muons at low invariant mass, using information from ID and MS.
 - Further topological (analysis-like) selections.
 - Rate up to \sim 200 Hz.
- In mid-2018, a low- p_T di-electron high-level trigger (HLT) implemented.

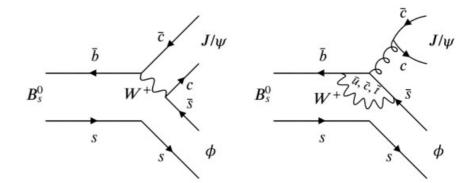




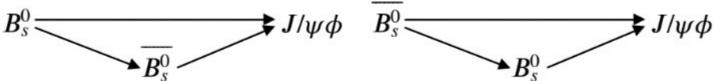


CPV in $B_s{}^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$: Introduction

- Decay $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$ is expected to be very sensitive to NP contributions to CPV.
- Neutral B_s^0 meson can oscillate into its antiparticle (and vice versa).



- The oscillation frequency is characterised by the mass difference Δm_s of the heavy (B_H) and light (B_L) mass eigenstates.
- In the absence of CPV, the B_H state would correspond to the CP-odd state and the B_L to the CP-even state.
- CPV in **interference of mixing and decay**: the common final state is reached via two different decay chains:





CPV in $B_s{}^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$: Motivation

- *CP*-violating phase is defined as the **weak phase difference** between the $B_s^0 \overline{B}_s^0$ mixing amplitude and the $b \to c\overline{c}s$ decay amplitude.
- In the SM it can be related to the CKM matrix

$$\phi_s \simeq -2\beta_s = -2\arg\left(-\frac{V_{ts}V_{tb}^*}{V_{cs}V_{cb}^*}\right)$$

- Predicted with high precision: **-0.0376**^{+0.0006}_{-0.0005} **rad**.
- Any sizeable deviation from this value would be a sign of BSM physics.
- $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$: pseudoscalar to vector-vector final state \rightarrow admixture of *CP*-odd and *CP*-even states \rightarrow distinguishable through **time-dependent angular** analysis.

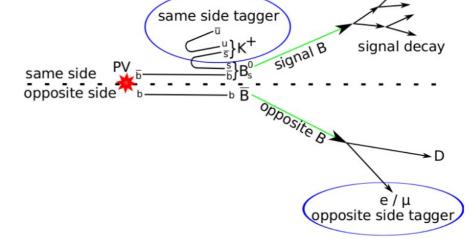


CPV in $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$: Fit in 5D

- Unbinned maximum likelihood (UML) fit to extract parameters of interest.
- Observables:
 - Mass, lifetime, 3 angles (between final state particles).
 - Conditional observables per-candidate:
 - Resolution: mass and lifetime (in 6 p_T bins)
 - B-meson p_T .
 - $B_{\rm s}^{0}$ flavour tagging probability.
- Physics parameters:
 - CPV phase Φ_s , decay widths: $\Delta\Gamma_s$, Γ_s .
 - Decay amplitudes: $|A_0(0)|^2$, $|A_{\parallel}(0)|^2$, δ_{\parallel} , δ_{\perp} .
 - S-wave: $|A_S(0)|^2$, δ_S .
 - Δm_s fixed to PDG.

In
$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \{ w_i \cdot \ln(f_s \cdot \mathcal{F}_s(m_i, t_i, \sigma_m, \sigma_t, \Omega_i, P(B|Q), \rho_{T_i}) + f_s \cdot f_{B_d^0} \cdot \mathcal{F}_{B_d^0}(m_i, t_i, \sigma_m, \sigma_t, \Omega_i, P(B|Q), \rho_{T_i}) + f_s \cdot f_{\Lambda_b} \cdot \mathcal{F}_{\Lambda_b}(m_i, t_i, \sigma_m, \sigma_t, \Omega_i, P(B|Q), \rho_{T_i}) + (1 - f_s \cdot (1 + f_{B_d^0} + f_{\Lambda_b})) \cdot \mathcal{F}_{bkg}(m_i, t_i, \sigma_m, \sigma_t, \Omega_i, P(B|Q), \rho_{T_i})) \}$$

Dins)





CPV in $B_s{}^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$: How to Get the PDFs*

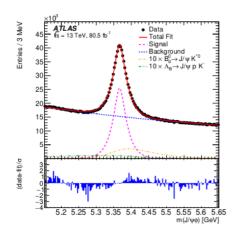
*where PDF = Probability Density Function.

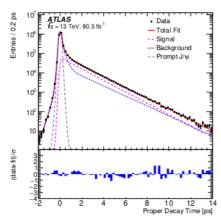
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^4 \Gamma}{\mathrm{d}t \, \mathrm{d}\Omega} = \sum_{k=1}^{10} \mathcal{O}^{(k)}(t) g^{(k)}(\theta_T, \psi_T, \phi_T)$$

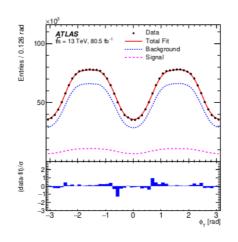
k	$O^{(k)}(t)$	$g^{(k)}(heta_T,\psi_T,\phi_T)$
1	$\frac{1}{2} A_0(0) ^2\left[(1+\cos\phi_s)e^{-\Gamma_{\rm L}^{(s)}t}+(1-\cos\phi_s)e^{-\Gamma_{\rm H}^{(s)}t}\pm 2e^{-\Gamma_s t}\sin(\Delta m_s t)\sin\phi_s\right]$	$2\cos^2\psi_T(1-\sin^2\theta_T\cos^2\phi_T)$
2	$\frac{1}{2} A_{\parallel}(0) ^{2}\left[\left(1+\cos\phi_{s}\right)e^{-\Gamma_{L}^{(s)}t}+\left(1-\cos\phi_{s}\right)e^{-\Gamma_{H}^{(s)}t}\pm2e^{-\Gamma_{s}t}\sin(\Delta m_{s}t)\sin\phi_{s}\right]$	$\sin^2 \psi_T (1 - \sin^2 \theta_T \sin^2 \phi_T)$
3	$\frac{1}{2} A_{\perp}(0) ^{2}\left[(1-\cos\phi_{s})e^{-\Gamma_{\rm L}^{(s)}t}+(1+\cos\phi_{s})e^{-\Gamma_{\rm H}^{(s)}t}\mp2e^{-\Gamma_{s}t}\sin(\Delta m_{s}t)\sin\phi_{s}\right]$	$\sin^2 \psi_T \sin^2 \theta_T$
4	$\frac{1}{2} A_0(0) A_{ }^{L}(0) \cos\delta_{ }$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\sin 2\psi_T\sin^2\theta_T\sin 2\phi_T$
	$\left[(1 + \cos \phi_s) e^{-\Gamma_{\rm L}^{(s)} t} + (1 - \cos \phi_s) e^{-\Gamma_{\rm H}^{(s)} t} \pm 2 e^{-\Gamma_s t} \sin(\Delta m_s t) \sin \phi_s \right]$,-
5	$ A_{\parallel}(0) A_{\perp}(0) \frac{1}{2}(e^{-\Gamma_{\rm L}^{(s)}t}-e^{-\Gamma_{\rm H}^{(s)}t})\cos(\delta_{\perp}-\delta_{\parallel})\sin\phi_{s}$	$-\sin^2\psi_T\sin2\theta_T\sin\phi_T$
	$\pm e^{-\Gamma_s t} (\sin(\delta_{\perp} - \delta_{\parallel}) \cos(\Delta m_s t) - \cos(\delta_{\perp} - \delta_{\parallel}) \cos\phi_s \sin(\Delta m_s t))]$	
6	$ A_0(0) A_{\perp}(0) [\frac{1}{2}(e^{-\Gamma_{\rm L}^{(s)}t}-e^{-\Gamma_{\rm H}^{(s)}t})\cos\delta_{\perp}\sin\phi_s$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\sin 2\psi_T\sin 2\theta_T\cos\phi_T$
	$\pm e^{-\Gamma_s t} (\sin \delta_{\perp} \cos(\Delta m_s t) - \cos \delta_{\perp} \cos \phi_s \sin(\Delta m_s t))]$	12
7	$\frac{1}{2} A_S(0) ^2\left[(1-\cos\phi_s)e^{-\Gamma_L^{(s)}t}+(1+\cos\phi_s)e^{-\Gamma_H^{(s)}t}\mp 2e^{-\Gamma_s t}\sin(\Delta m_s t)\sin\phi_s\right]$	$\frac{2}{3}\left(1-\sin^2\theta_T\cos^2\phi_T\right)$
8	$ A_S(0) A_{\parallel}(0) [\frac{1}{2}(e^{-\Gamma_L^{(s)}t}-e^{-\Gamma_H^{(s)}t})\sin(\delta_{\parallel}-\delta_S)\sin\phi_S$	$\frac{1}{3}\sqrt{6}\sin\psi_T\sin^2\theta_T\sin2\phi_T$
	$\pm e^{-\Gamma_s t} (\cos(\delta_{\parallel} - \delta_S) \cos(\Delta m_s t) - \sin(\delta_{\parallel} - \delta_S) \cos \phi_s \sin(\Delta m_s t))]$	
9	$\frac{1}{2} A_S(0) A_{\perp}(0) \sin(\delta_{\perp}-\delta_S)$	$\frac{1}{3}\sqrt{6}\sin\psi_T\sin2\theta_T\cos\phi_T$
	$\left[(1 - \cos \phi_s) e^{-\Gamma_{\rm L}^{(s)} t} + (1 + \cos \phi_s) e^{-\Gamma_{\rm H}^{(s)} t} \mp 2 e^{-\Gamma_s t} \sin(\Delta m_s t) \sin \phi_s \right]$	
10	$ A_0(0) A_S(0) [\frac{1}{2}(e^{-\Gamma_{\rm L}^{(s)}t}-e^{-\Gamma_{\rm L}^{(s)}t})\sin\delta_S\sin\phi_S$	$\frac{4}{3}\sqrt{3}\cos\psi_T\left(1-\sin^2\theta_T\cos^2\phi_T\right)$
	$\pm e^{-\Gamma_s t} (\cos \delta_S \cos(\Delta m_s t) + \sin \delta_S \cos \phi_s \sin(\Delta m_s t))]$	

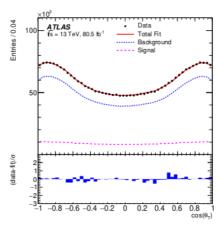


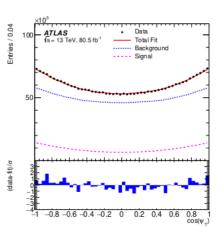
CPV in $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$: Results





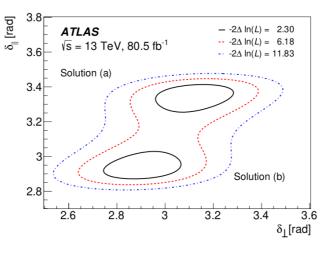


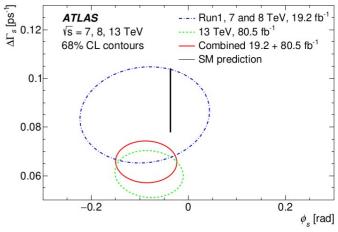




$$\phi_s = -0.087 \pm 0.036 \;\; ext{(stat.)} \pm 0.021 \;\; ext{(syst.)} \; ext{rad} \;\; ext{g} \ \Delta \Gamma_s = \;\; 0.0657 \pm 0.0043 \;\; ext{(stat.)} \pm 0.0037 \;\; ext{(syst.)} \; ext{ps}^{-1} \;\; ext{$ec s$} \ \Gamma_s = \;\; 0.6703 \pm 0.0014 \;\; ext{(stat.)} \pm 0.0018 \;\; ext{(syst.)} \; ext{ps}^{-1}$$

- Dominant systematics on Φ_s from tagging.
- Consistent with CMS, LHCb, and with the SM prediction.
- Still to add ~60 fb⁻¹ from 2018.

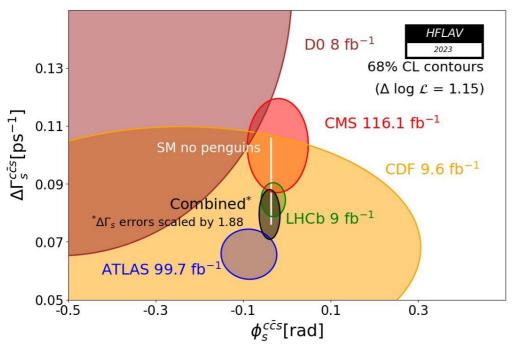


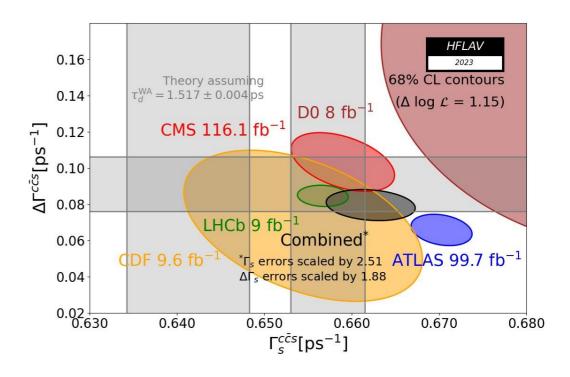




CPV in $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$: Comparison 1

- From HFLAV: -0.040 ± 0.016 rad.
- From SM: $-0.0376^{+0.0006}_{-0.0005}$ rad.

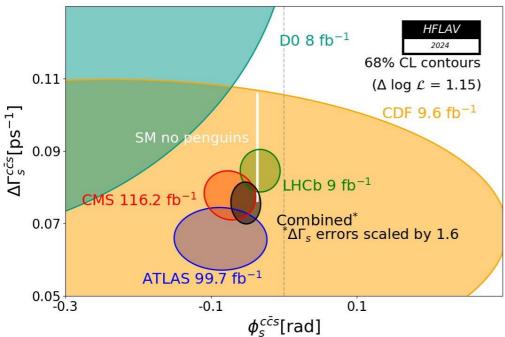


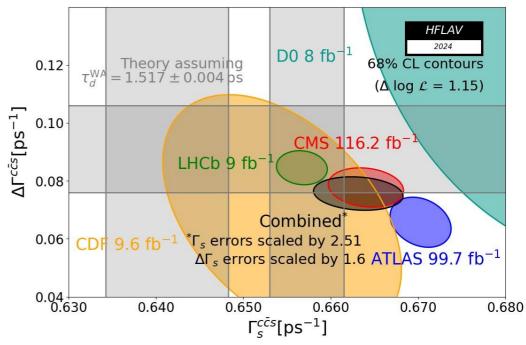




CPV in $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$: Comparison 2

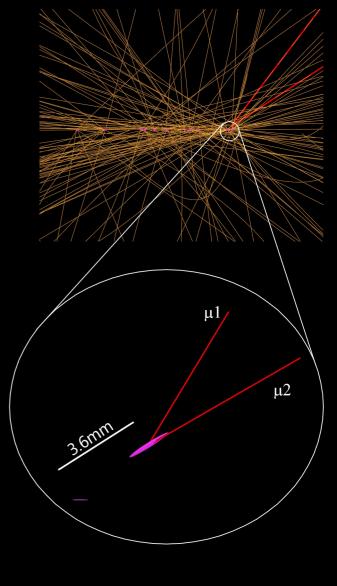
- From HFLAV: -0.052 ± 0.013 rad.
 - Including new CMS-BPH-23-004 (Submitted to PRL), 26 Dec 2024.
- From SM: $-0.0376^{+0.0006}_{-0.0005}$ rad.







Rare decays: $B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu^{+}\mu^{-}$ [JHEP04(2019)098 and JHEP09(2023)199]



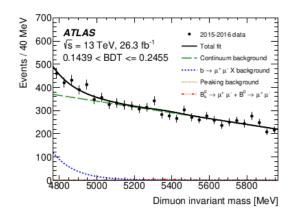


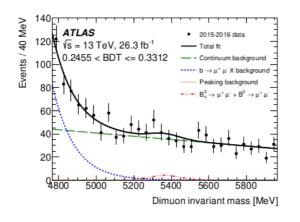
$\mathcal{B}(B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$: Motivation

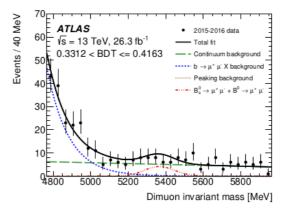
- Flavour-changing neutral-current processes highly suppressed in the SM, B_(s) → μ⁺μ⁻ also helicity suppressed → B ~ 10⁻⁹.
- 36.2 fb⁻¹ dataset of 2015-2016 pp data taking, but effectively 26.3 fb⁻¹ for $B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$.
- $\mathcal{B}(B_{(s)} \to \mu^+ \mu^-)$ measurement relative to $\mathcal{B}(B^{\pm} \to J/\psi K^{\pm})$.
- $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$ as a control channel.
- BDT based background suppression, trained on sidebands data.
- Yields $N_{d,s}$ and $N_{J/\psi K\pm}$ obtained from UML fits to the mass spectra.

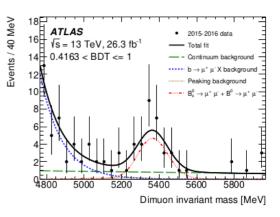


$\mathcal{B}(B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu^{+}\mu^{-})$: Results



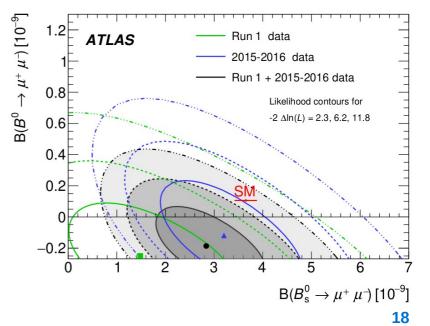






- Signal region divided into 4 BDT bins with constant signal efficiency.
- Simultaneous UML fit to di-muon mass distributions in the 4 BDT bins to extract $B_{(s)} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ yields.
- Unconstrained yields: $N_s = 80 \pm 22$ and $N_d = -12 \pm 20$.
- SM expectation: $N_s = 91$ and $N_d = 10$.
- Run1 + Run2 (2015+2016) combined measurement compatible with SM at 2.4σ. Statistic uncertainties dominate.





$B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ lifetime: Motivation

- *3* and **lifetime** measurements are **independent** tests of possible NP contributions.
- Not only is the decay rare...
- ... but in the SM only the **CP-odd** (heavy) state decays to $\mu^+\mu^-$.
- NP could introduce *CP*-even amplitudes with significant effects on effective lifetime:

```
\tau(B_{\rm H}) = 1.622 \pm 0.008 \text{ ps},

\tau(B_{\rm L}) = 1.429 \pm 0.006 \text{ ps},

\Delta \tau = 0.193 \text{ ps}.
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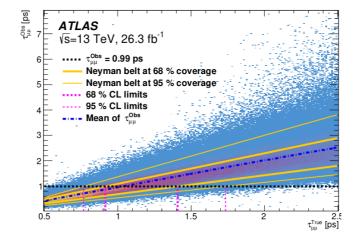


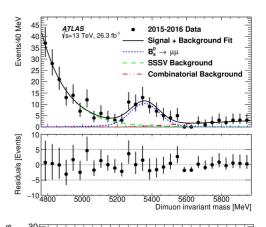
$B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ lifetime: Results

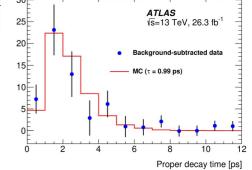
- Limited statistics → selection simplified to one BDT bin and BDT re-optimised.
- UML fit to $m(\mu^+\mu^-)$. Signal yield 58 ± 13 events.
- Extraction of the signal proper decay time distribution with sPlot.
- χ^2 fit of that distribution with MC templates for $\tau_{\mu\mu}$.
- Dominant systematics: signal MC modelling.
- Stat. unc. evaluated with Neyman construction using toyMC fits.
- Measured value consistent with the SM and other experiments:

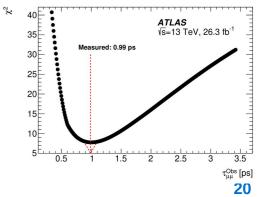
$$au_{\mu\mu} = 0.99^{+0.42}_{-0.07}(ext{stat.}) \pm 0.17(ext{syst.}) \, ext{ps}$$

Full Run2 dataset analysis underway.













$B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^{*0}$ lifetime: Motivation

- SM and BSM theories are capable to precisely calculate **ratios** τ_d/τ_s (or Γ_d/Γ_s) \rightarrow experiment needs to measure two lifetimes...
- ... and ATLAS has already published Γ_s measurement in the topologically similar $B_s{}^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Phi$ (CPV measurement)!
- The most precise *B*-lifetime measurement:
 - Using full Run2 dataset ATLAS achieves 3 times better statistical precision than PDG.

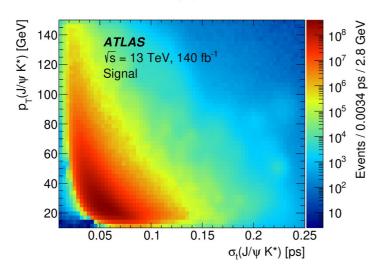
Model	Γ_d/Γ_s
HQE	1.003 ± 0.006
Lattice QCD	1.00 ± 0.02

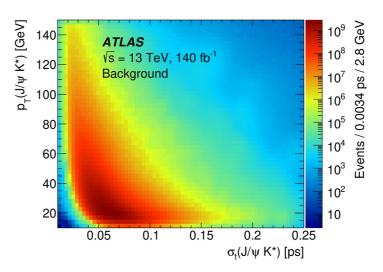


$B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^{*0}$ lifetime: The fit

- A bit tricky: no PID on ATLAS, but we need to assign $K^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$ mass hypothesis.
- 2D unbinned maximum likelihood fit (mass, lifetime).
 - Conditional observables: lifetime resolution and *B*-meson p_T (**2D map** instead of 6 p_T bins).

$$\ln L = \sum_{i=1}^{N} w(t_i) \ln \left[f_{\text{sig}} \mathcal{M}_{\text{sig}}(m_i) \mathcal{T}_{\text{sig}}(t_i, \sigma_{t_i}, p_{\text{T}_i}) + (1 - f_{\text{sig}}) \mathcal{M}_{\text{bkg}}(m_i) \mathcal{T}_{\text{bkg}}(t_i, \sigma_{t_i}, p_{\text{T}_i}) \right]$$

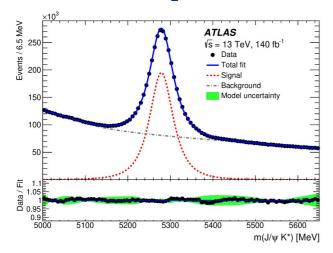


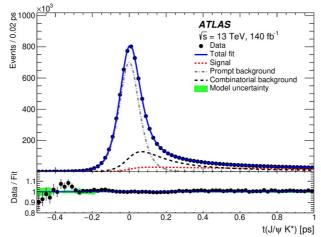


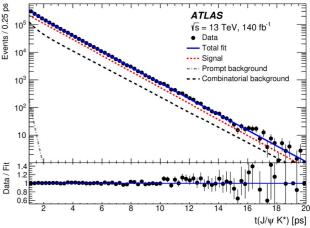
More than 10.5M B-meson candidates enter the fit!



$B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^{*0}$ lifetime: Results







$$\tau_{R^0} = 1.5053 \pm 0.0012$$
 (stat.) ± 0.0035 (syst.) ps

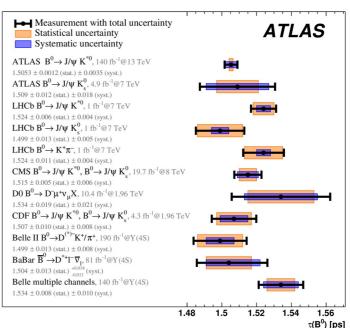
Then using external sources (HFLAV):

$$\Gamma_d = 0.6639 \pm 0.0005 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.0016 \text{ (syst.)} \pm 0.0038 \text{ (ext.)} \text{ ps}^{-1}$$

And using ATLAS CPV paper:

$$\frac{\Gamma_d}{\Gamma_s}$$
 = 0.9905 ± 0.0022 (stat.) ± 0.0036 (syst.) ± 0.0057 (ext.)



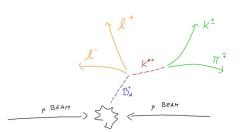


Measurement of...



R(K*) Measurement

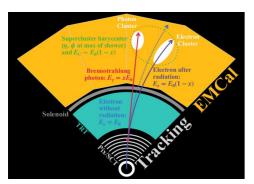


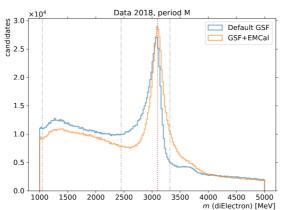


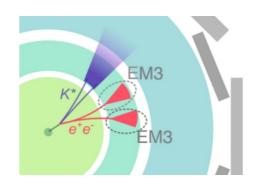
Measuring double-ratio to reduce systematic uncertainties

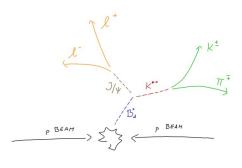
$$R(K^*) = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B_d^0 \to K^* \mu \mu)}{\mathcal{B}(B_d^0 \to K^* J/\psi(\to \mu \mu))} \cdot \frac{\mathcal{B}(B_d^0 \to K^* J/\psi(\to ee))}{\mathcal{B}(B_d^0 \to K^* ee)} \bigg|_{q^2}$$

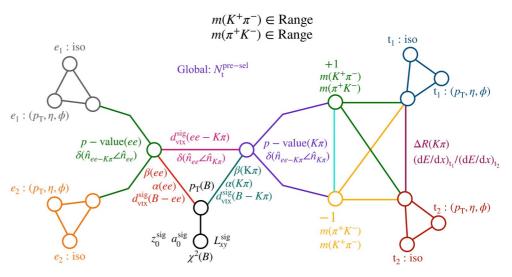
- Finally a playground for new ideas!
 - "Un-seeded" low-p_T di-electron HLT.
 - Improved electron track reconstruction (GSF+EMCal).
 - Machine Learning (GNN).









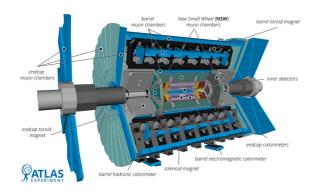




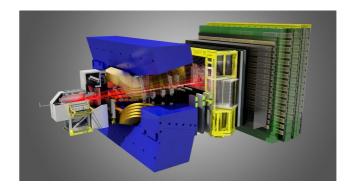


Why LHCb?

The story begins with a simple question...



- General-purpose, cylindrical geometry
- $|\eta| < 2.5$
- Broad physics: Higgs, top, SUSY...
- HW+SW trigger, high- p_T optimised
- No PID (well, it can tell muons and electrons)
- Maybe too conservative?



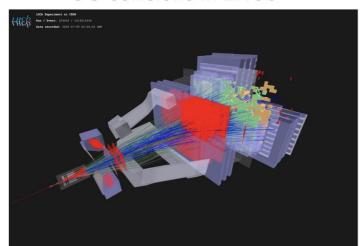
- Forward spectrometer, single-arm
- $2 < |\eta| < 5$
- B mixing, CPV, rare decays, B/D decays...
- All-SW trigger, HF optimised
- PID using RICH
- Open to new ideas a lot of potential!



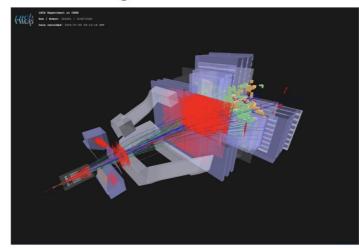
A Small Step Aside: SMOG2

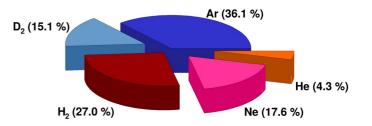
- LHCb is a simultaneous pp and fixed-target experiment!
- System for Measuring Overlap with Gas.
- Used both in pp runs and special runs.

OO collisions in LHCb



Fixed target collisions in SMOG



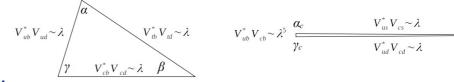


	Center of Mass Energy	Integrated Recorded Luminosity (/nb)
pO (collisions)	9.62 TeV	30.55
OO (collisions)	5.36 TeV	5.50
NeNe (collisions)	5.36 TeV	0.56
OH₂ (fixed target)	70.9 GeV	0.9
NeNe (fixed target)	70.9 GeV	0.023



Why Charm?

- Largely **unexplored**: most experimental focus has been on beauty hadrons.
- **Challenging**: shorter lifetimes and higher backgrounds, but they open a new window for discovery.
- CPV is expected to be much smaller:
 - tiny CPV related to preferred charm processes,



$$V_{ub}^* V_{cb}^{\sim} \lambda^5 \stackrel{\boldsymbol{\alpha}_c}{=} V_{us}^* V_{cs}^{\sim} \lambda \qquad \qquad \boldsymbol{\beta}_c$$

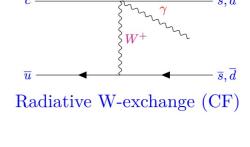
- larger asymmetries for suppressed (rare) decays.
- Though *charm* and *beauty* decays *can look similar*, their underlying quark transitions and loop dynamics differ, probing distinct couplings of possible new particles.
- Charm and beauty are complementary; both are needed for a full picture.
- With Run3 statistics and upgraded detectors, **precision charm** measurements have become feasible.

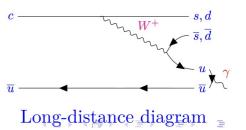


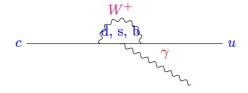
Radiative Charm Decays

• Very limited experimental data so far – only one notable measurement from Belle (e^+e^- collider).

- No results from hadron colliders yet!
- Search for signs of NP: measuring *CP*-asymmetry (A_{CP}) and y polarisation in $D^0 \rightarrow Vy$.
- Dominated by long-distance (~10⁻⁴).
- Sensitive to FCNC transition $c \rightarrow uy$ (short-distance contribution, ~10⁻⁸).
- Could get sizeable CPV in $D^0 \rightarrow \phi y$ and $D^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 y$.
 - _ Up to $A_{CP} \simeq 10^{-3}$ for the SM.
 - Could be enhanced by NP contributions.
- Sorry, no plots to show... but they would be m(Vy), $\cos \theta$ and $\Delta m = m(D^{*+}) m(D^{0})$.
 - With more background types than in ATLAS HF analyses ;-)
- Internal: LHCb Run2 factor of 2 improvement over Belle measurements.





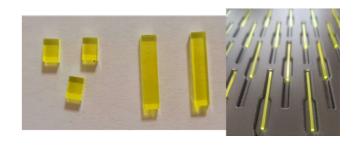




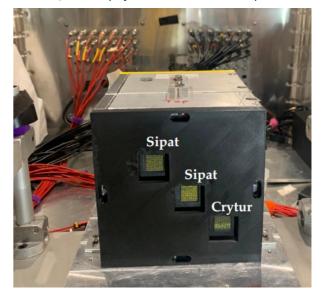


Building a Czech LHCb Programme

- Technical Associate Institute since 2023:
 - Martin Nikl (dept. of Optical Materials) scintillator development.
 - Super-accelerated GAGG development and testing.
 - Actual reason for "radiative".
 - Collaboration with the Czech company CRYTUR.
 - 5 cm and 10 cm samples! LHCb interested (ECal Upgrade II)!
- Associate Institute^(*) since July 2025!
 - Group expected to grow in the next couple of years:
 - Already advertised undergraduate and PhD LHCb-related thesis projects.
 - Looking for a post-doc(s) (MSCA, MSCA-COFUND).
 - Interesting ideas for "what and <u>how</u>" to measure pitching first to the grant committee;-)



Test-beam @ CERN (Crystal Clear Collaboration) in 10/2024.





Summary

- HF results ~compatible with the SM more precision needed (Run3 and HL-LHC).
- Even though ATLAS is a general-purpose detector, it has competitive results in this field...
 - But the future there is not clear :-
- LHCb is the leading experiment in the field (so where else?)
 - New opportunities!



Thank you

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Name of the project: MSCA Fellowships CZ FZU III Registration number: CZ.02.01.01/00/22_010/0008598





