



Charmless b -hadron decays at LHCb

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On behalf of the LHCb collaboration

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Motivations

Detector and analysis strategies

Recent measurements of CP violation in charmless:

- Two-body b -meson decays

$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- \quad (h = K, \pi)$$

JHEP 03 (2021) 075

$$B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^0$$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 (2021) 091802

- Three-body b -meson decays

$$B^\pm \rightarrow h^\pm h^+ h^- \quad (h = K, \pi)$$

Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 112010

Phys. Rev. D 90 (2014) 112004

Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 231802

Phys. Rev. Lett. 124 (2020) 031801

Phys. Rev. D 101 (2020) 012006

- Three- and four-body b -baryon decays

$$\Xi_b^- \rightarrow p K^- K^-$$

arXiv:2104.15074

$$\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow p \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^-$$

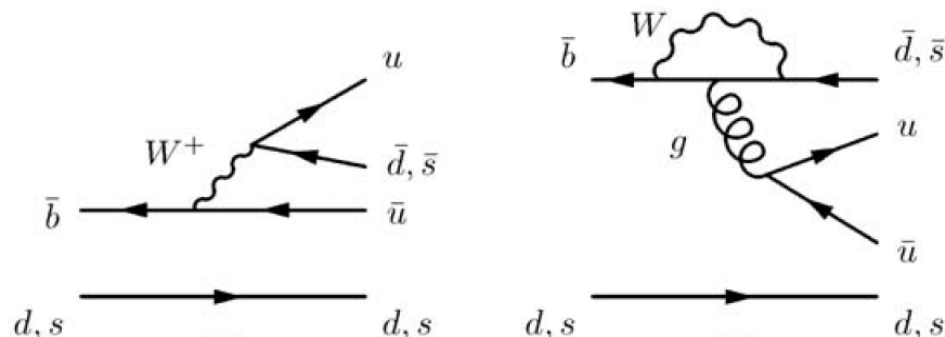
Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 051101

Charmless b -hadron decays

- Charmless hadronic decays are suppressed in the Standard Model (SM).
- They proceed through $b \rightarrow u$ tree and $b \rightarrow s, d$ loop (penguin) transitions.
- Tree and penguin amplitudes are of similar size and have a relative weak phase, their interference can lead to CP violation in decay.
- New Physics particles could contribute to penguin loop and additional sources of CP violation.

Two-body b -meson decays:

- Large CP violation observed.
- CP violation in mixing (time-dependent) and decay.
- “ $K\pi$ puzzle”.

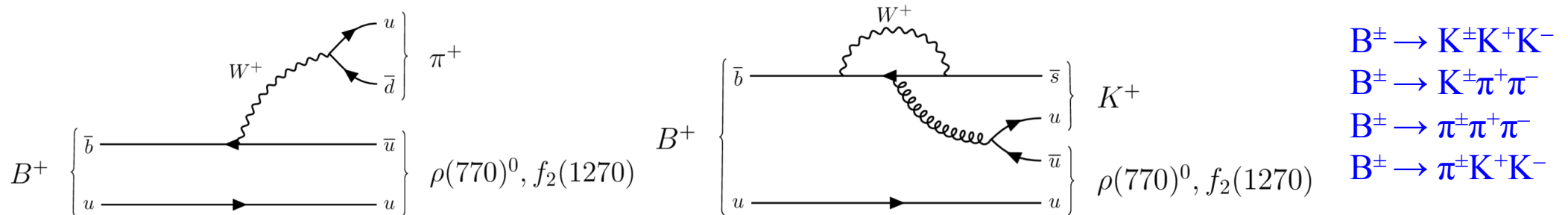


$$\begin{aligned}
 B_{(s)}^0 &\rightarrow K^+ K^- \\
 B_{(s)}^0 &\rightarrow K^+ \pi^- \\
 B_{(s)}^0 &\rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \\
 B^\pm &\rightarrow K^\pm \pi^0
 \end{aligned}$$

Charmless b -hadron decays

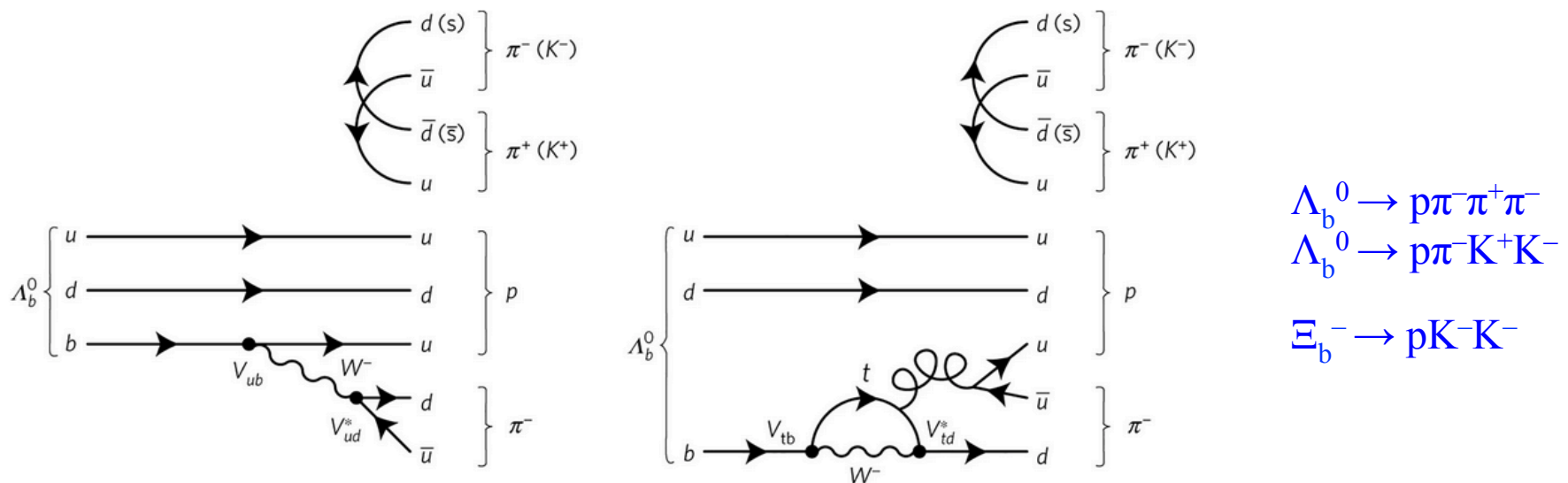
Three-body b -meson decays:

- Rich spectrum of resonant final states and large local CP asymmetries.

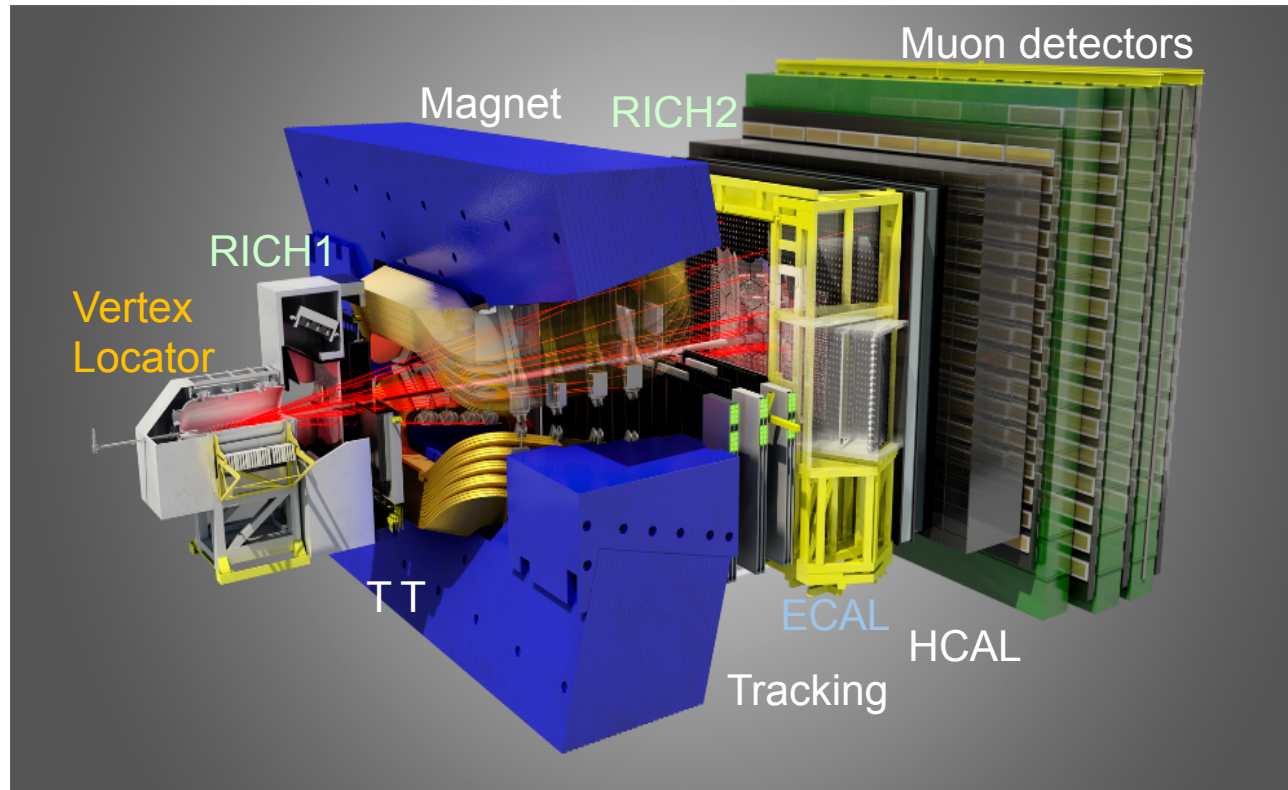


Three- and four-body b -baryon decays:

- No observation of CP violation yet, but have similar diagrams to b -mesons.



Detector and analysis strategies



Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 30
1530022 (2015)

- Selection of **displaced secondary vertices** of charged hadrons in the **VELO**.
- Multivariate classifiers to reject combinatorial background.
- **Particle identification** of charged hadrons K^\pm , π^\pm , p using **RICH** detector information.
- Photon and neutral pion reconstruction in the **ECAL**.
- **Flavour tagging** for neutral b -hadrons: based on particle charges, same-side and opposite-side.
- **Amplitude analyses** of multibody decays to explore the underlying dynamics.

Observation of CP violation in $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow h^+h^-$

arXiv:2012.05319
JHEP 03 (2021) 075

1.9 fb⁻¹ Run II data

CP violation in $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^-$

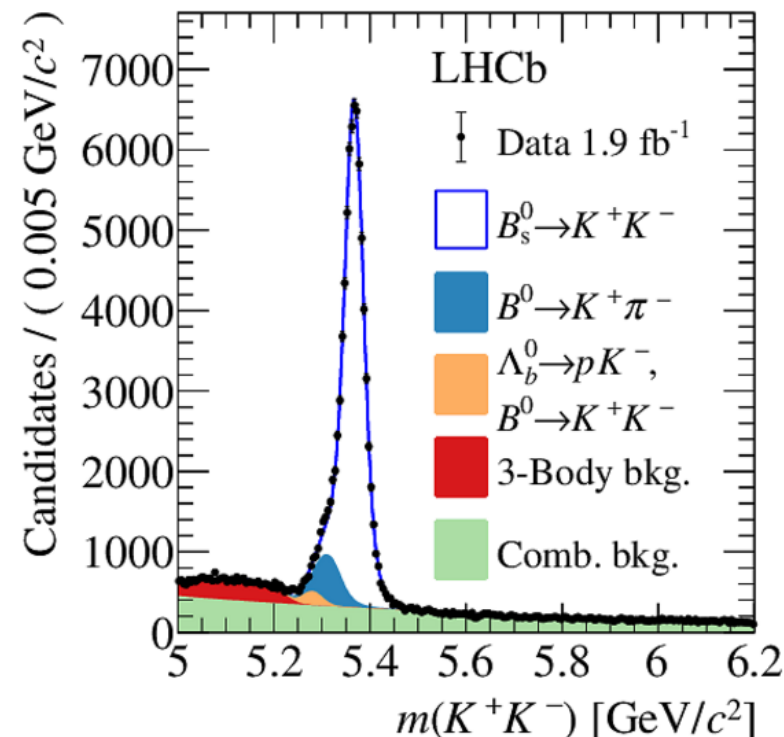
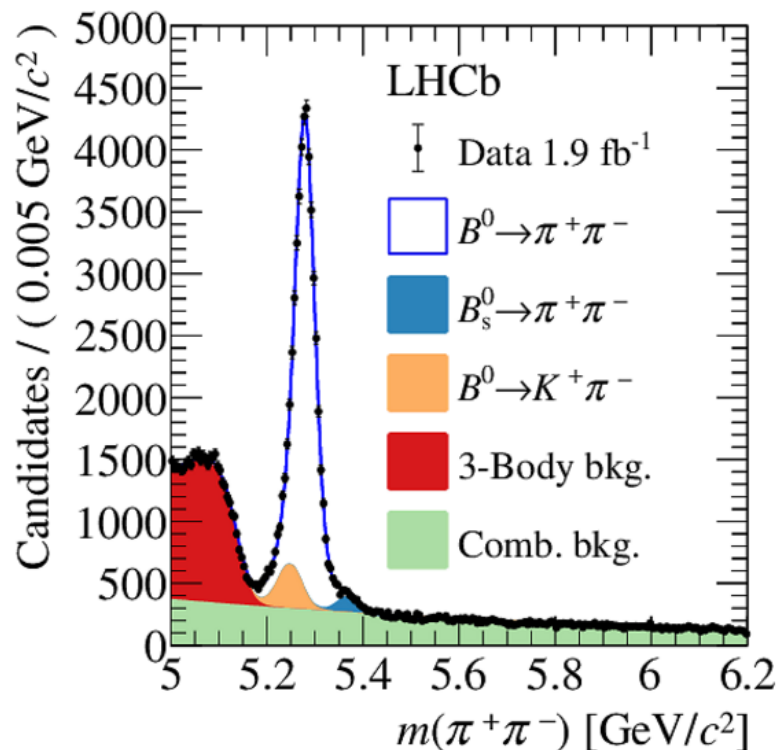
arXiv:2012.05319
JHEP 03 (2021) 075

- Updated measurement with partial Run 2 dataset and combination of results.
- Simultaneous fit to invariant mass, decay-time, flavour tagging decision and mistag probability for the three different final states: $K^\pm \pi^\mp$, $\pi^+ \pi^-$ and $K^+ K^-$.

- Probing **direct** and **mixing-induced** CP violation:
$$A_f(t) = \frac{C_f \cos(\Delta m_s t) - S_f \sin(\Delta m_s t)}{\cosh(\Delta \Gamma t/2) + A_f^{\Delta \Gamma} \sinh(\Delta \Gamma t/2)}$$

- Time-dependent CP asymmetry measurement in $B^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^-$ decays.

45620
signal events

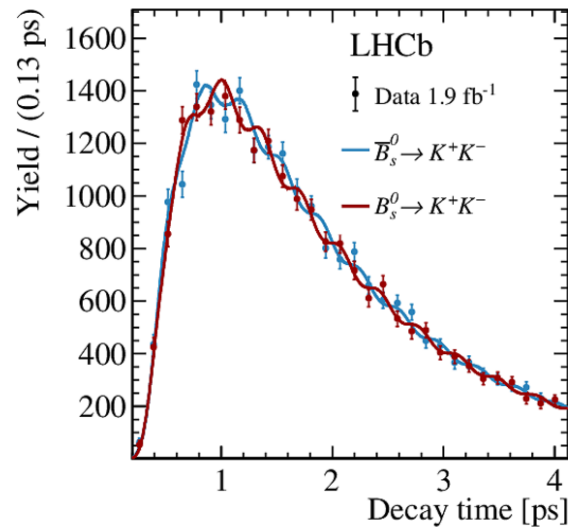
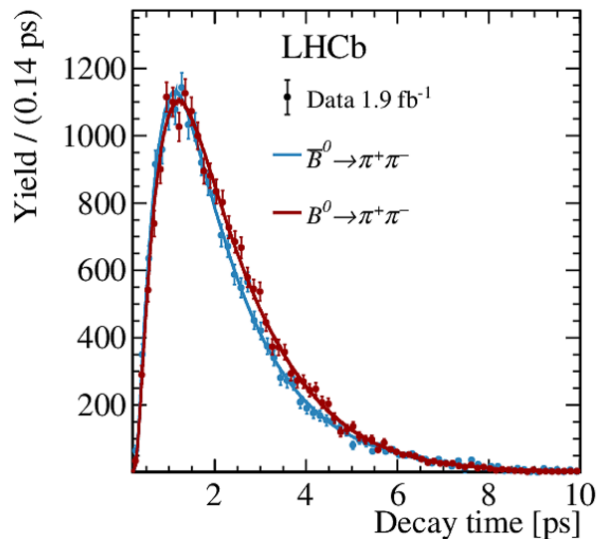


70310
signal events

Observation of CP violation in $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^-$

arXiv:2012.05319
JHEP 03 (2021) 075

- Time-dependent CP asymmetry measurement in $B^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^-$ decays.



Fit results:

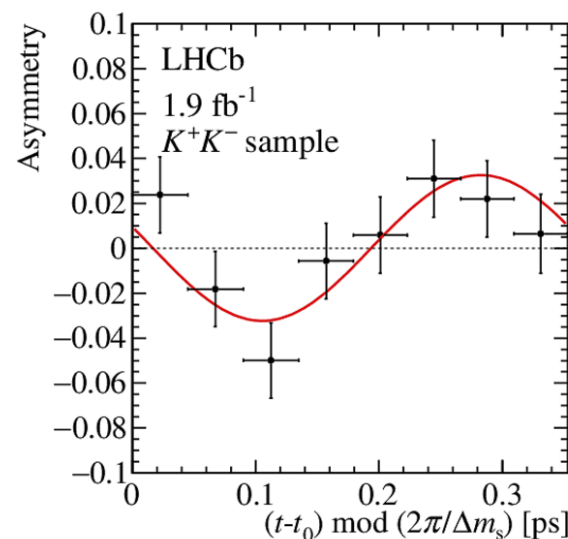
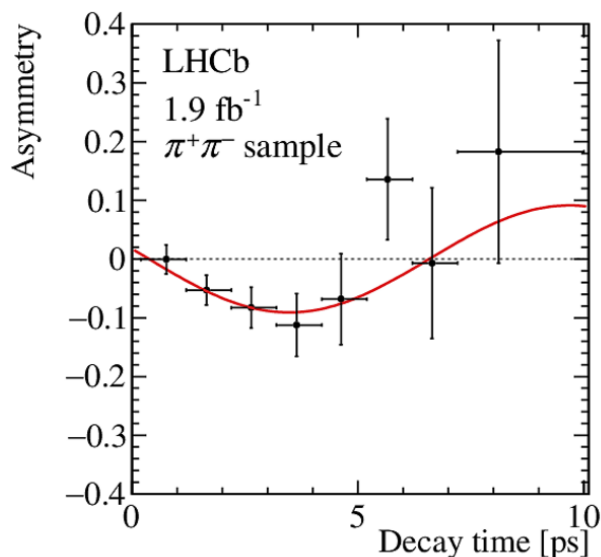
$$C_{\pi\pi} = -0.311 \pm 0.045 \pm 0.015,$$

$$S_{\pi\pi} = -0.706 \pm 0.042 \pm 0.013,$$

$$C_{KK} = 0.164 \pm 0.034 \pm 0.014,$$

$$S_{KK} = 0.123 \pm 0.034 \pm 0.015,$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{KK}^{\Delta\Gamma} = -0.83 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.09,$$



Most precise results from a single experiment.

First observation of time-dependent CP violation in B_s^0 decays with 6.5σ .

Observation of CP violation in $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-$

arXiv:2012.05319
JHEP 03 (2021) 075

- Time-integrated CP asymmetry measurement in $B^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$ decays.

$$A_{CP} = \frac{|\overline{A}_f|^2 - |A_f|^2}{|\overline{A}_f|^2 + |A_f|^2}$$

- Results confirm CP violation observations:

$$A_{CP}^{B^0} = -0.0824 \pm 0.0033 \pm 0.0033,$$

$$A_{CP}^{B_s^0} = 0.236 \pm 0.013 \pm 0.011.$$

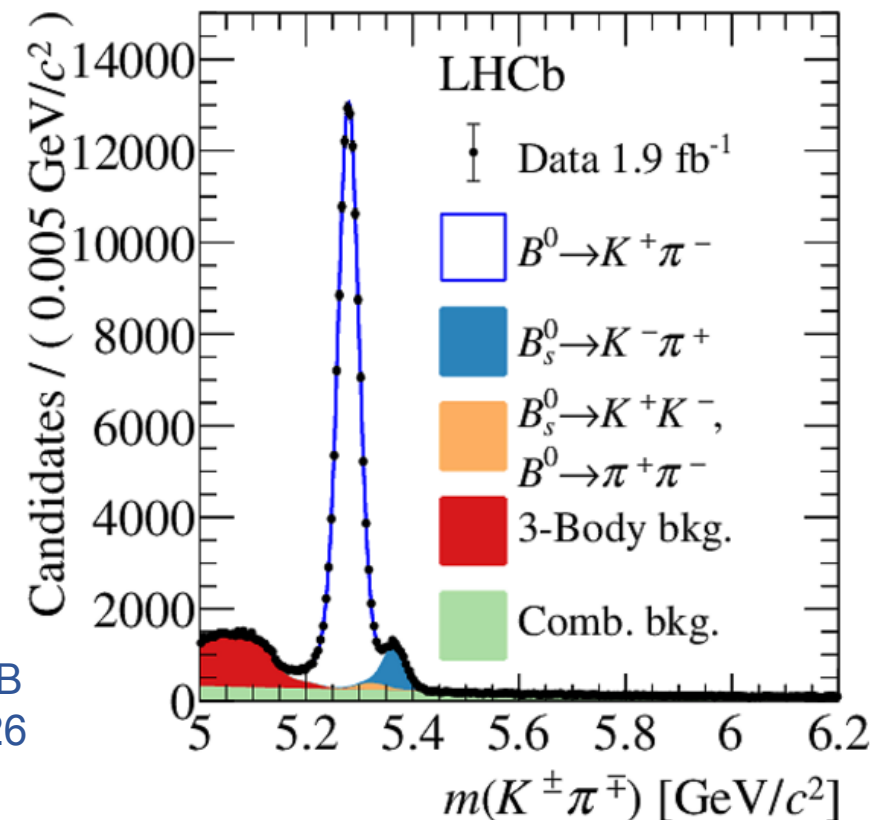
- A proposed test of the SM using the relation:

$$\Delta \equiv \frac{A_{CP}^{B^0}}{A_{CP}^{B_s^0}} + \frac{\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) \Gamma_s}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-) \Gamma_d} = 0$$

H.J.Lipkin, PLB
621 (2005) 126

- Agrees with 0 within 2σ :

$$\Delta = -0.085 \pm 0.025 \pm 0.035$$



140340 signal events

CP violation in $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^0$

arXiv:2012.12789
Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 (2021) 091802

5.4 fb⁻¹ Run II data

The $K\pi$ puzzle

- The family of 4 two-body B decays to a kaon and a pion can probe new physics.
- Studied extensively at B-factories, Tevatron and LHCb.

$$\begin{aligned} B^0 &\rightarrow K^+\pi^- \\ B^\pm &\rightarrow K^\pm\pi^0 \\ B^0 &\rightarrow K^0\pi^0 \\ B^\pm &\rightarrow K^0\pi^\pm \end{aligned}$$

- Isospin symmetry in the SM imposes relations on amplitudes and asymmetries:
 - Asymmetries should be equal for $B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-$ and $B^+ \rightarrow K^+\pi^0$, however
 - Measurements so far are nonzero at 5.5σ .

$$A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-) = -0.84 \pm 0.004, \quad A_{CP}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+\pi^0) = 0.040 \pm 0.021$$

HFLAV 2018

- A more accurate sum rule is proposed:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{CP}(K^+\pi^-) + A_{CP}(K^0\pi^+) &\frac{\mathcal{B}(K^0\pi^+) \tau_0}{\mathcal{B}(K^+\pi^-) \tau_+} \\ &= A_{CP}(K^+\pi^0) \frac{2\mathcal{B}(K^+\pi^0) \tau_0}{\mathcal{B}(K^+\pi^-) \tau_+} + A_{CP}(K^0\pi^0) \frac{2\mathcal{B}(K^0\pi^0)}{\mathcal{B}(K^+\pi^-)} \end{aligned}$$

M. Gronau, PLB 627
(2005) 82

- It predicts $A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow K^0\pi^0) = -0.150 \pm 0.032$, but measurement is compatible with zero.

CP violation in $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^0$

arXiv:2012.12789

Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 (2021) 091802

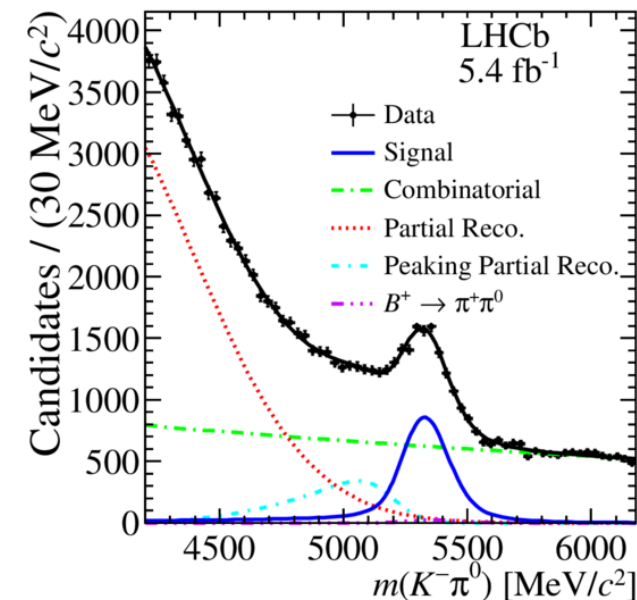
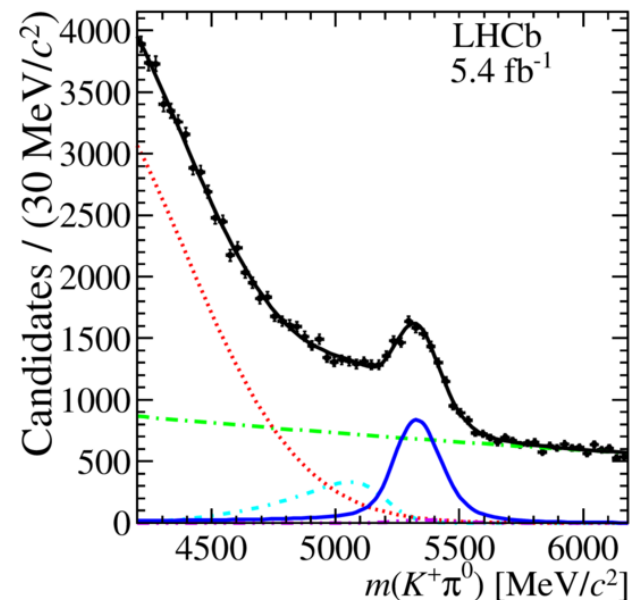
- First analysis of a one-track decay at a hadron collider.

- Measurement of the direct CP asymmetry: $A_{CP}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^0) = 0.025 \pm 0.015 \pm 0.006 \pm 0.003$

Together with the result

$$A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-) = -0.084 \pm 0.004$$

the updated difference is more than 8σ away from zero:



16680 signal events

$$\Delta A_{CP}(K\pi) = A_{CP}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^0) - A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-) = 0.115 \pm 0.014$$

The $K\pi$ puzzle is confirmed and substantially enhanced!

Branching Fractions and CP violation in $B^+ \rightarrow h^+ h^- h^+$

Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 112010
Phys. Rev. D 90 (2014) 112004
Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 231802
Phys. Rev. Lett. 124 (2020) 031801
Phys. Rev. D 101 (2020) 012006

3 fb⁻¹ Run I data

Branching fractions of $B^+ \rightarrow h^+ h^- h^+$

arXiv:2010.11802

Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 112010

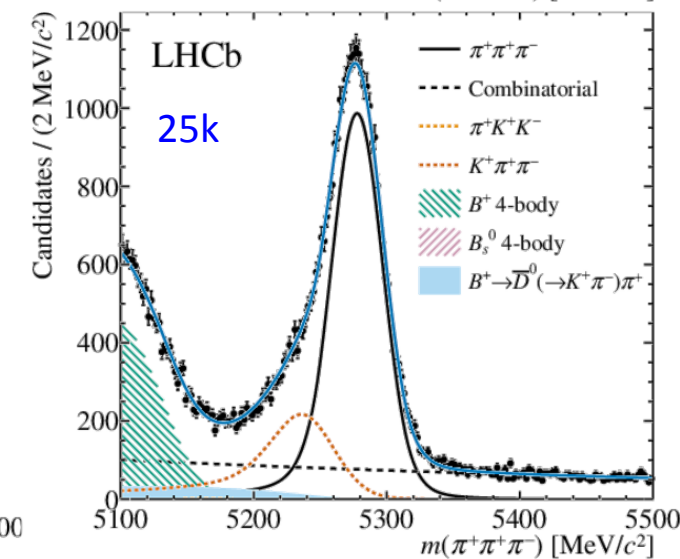
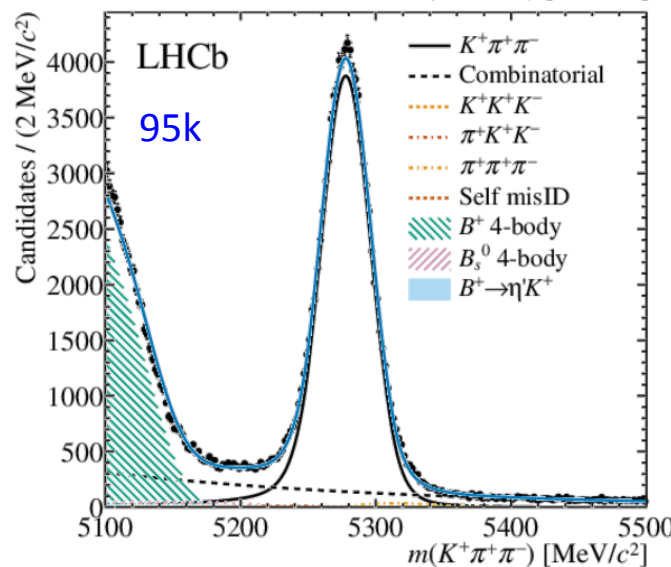
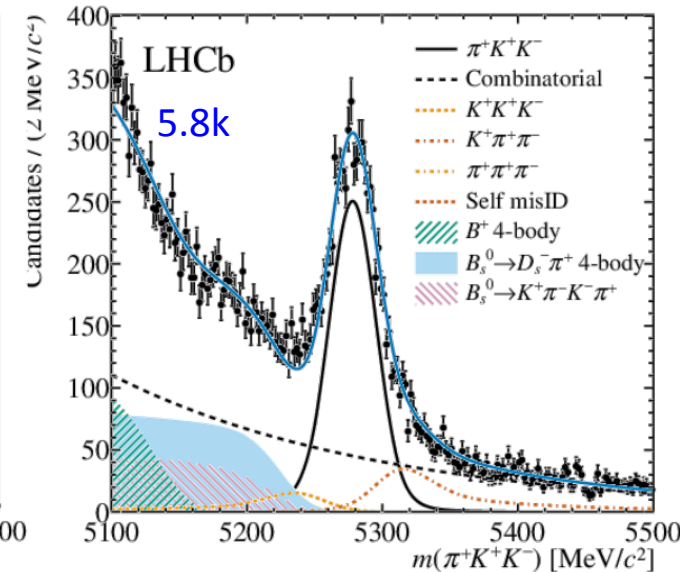
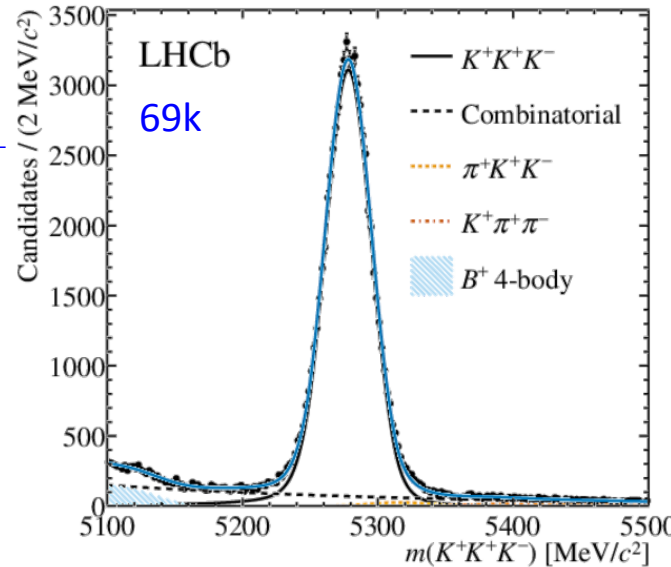
- Three-body B decays are of interest for CP violation and Dalitz plot analyses.
- Measurement of the branching fractions with Run I data.
- $B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^+ \pi^-$, $B^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^+ \pi^-$, $B^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm K^+ K^-$ relative to $B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm K^+ K^-$ decays.

$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ K^+ K^-) / \mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ K^+ K^-) = 0.151 \pm 0.004 (\text{stat}) \pm 0.008 (\text{syst}),$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^+ \pi^-) / \mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ K^+ K^-) = 1.703 \pm 0.011 (\text{stat}) \pm 0.022 (\text{syst}),$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-) / \mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ K^+ K^-) = 0.488 \pm 0.005 (\text{stat}) \pm 0.009 (\text{syst}).$$

Significant improvement in the precision.

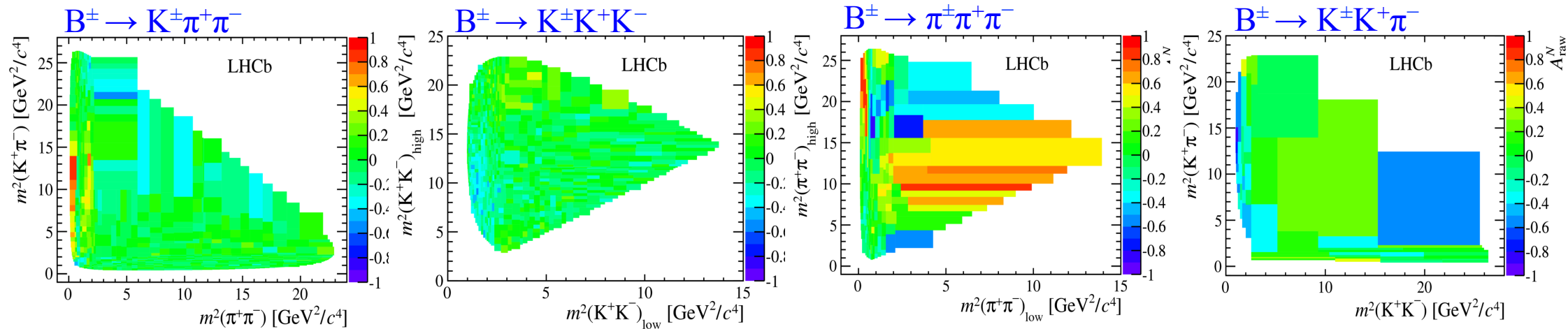


CP violation in $B^+ \rightarrow h^+ h^- h^+$

arXiv:1408.5373

Phys. Rev. D 90 (2014) 112004

- Three-body B decays can proceed through a number of intermediate two-body resonances.
- Model-independent analysis of Run I data.
- Large integrated CP asymmetries and a rich pattern of local CP asymmetries.
- Motivation for further amplitude analyses to study the underlying dynamics.



$A_{CP}(B^{\pm} \rightarrow K^{\pm}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}) = +0.025 \pm 0.004 \pm 0.004 \pm 0.007$	2.8σ
$A_{CP}(B^{\pm} \rightarrow K^{\pm}K^{+}K^{-}) = -0.036 \pm 0.004 \pm 0.002 \pm 0.007$	4.3σ
$A_{CP}(B^{\pm} \rightarrow \pi^{\pm}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}) = +0.058 \pm 0.008 \pm 0.009 \pm 0.007$	4.2σ
$A_{CP}(B^{\pm} \rightarrow \pi^{\pm}K^{+}K^{-}) = -0.123 \pm 0.017 \pm 0.012 \pm 0.007$	5.6σ

Integrated asymmetries

CP violation in $B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ K^+ K^-$

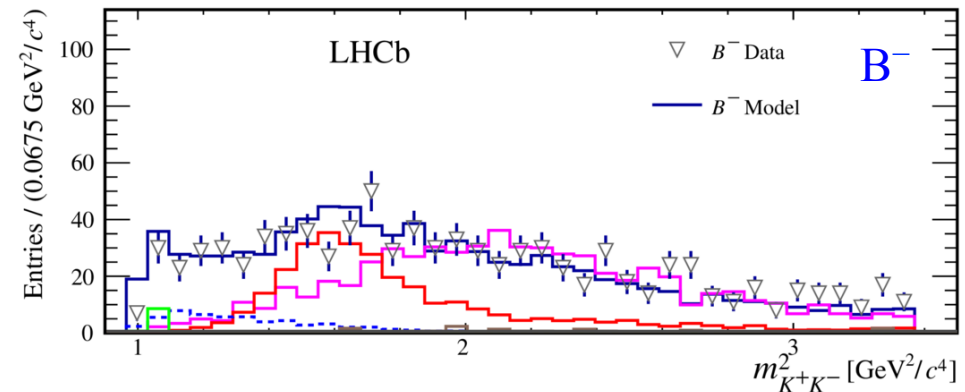
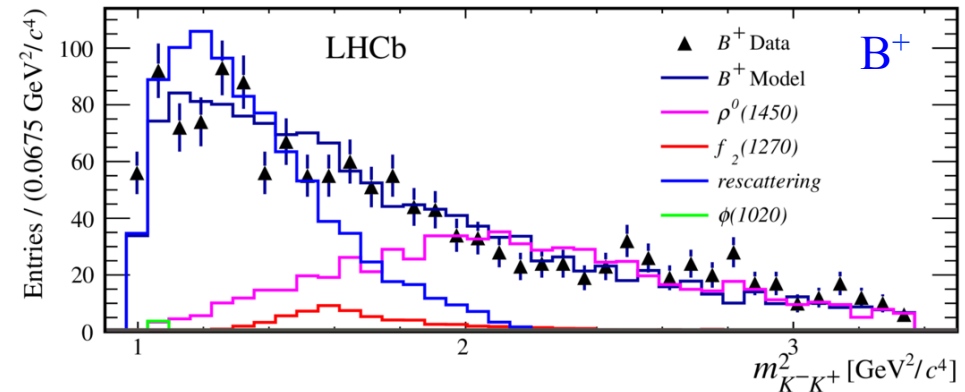
arXiv:1905.09244

Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 231802

- First amplitude analysis of $B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ K^+ K^-$ decays
- Isobar model.
- Dedicated amplitudes for rescattering and single pole form-factor.

Phys. Rev. D 71 (2005) 074016

$[1 + m^2(\pi^\pm K^\mp)/\Lambda^2]^{-1}$ Phys. Rev. D 92 (2015) 054010



Dominant contributions in red.

$KK \leftrightarrow \pi\pi$ rescattering:
largest ever CP asymmetry for a
single amplitude $\sim -66\%$.

$K^+ \pi^-$

$K^+ K^-$

Contribution	Fit Fraction(%)	$A_{CP}(\%)$
$K^*(892)^0$	$7.5 \pm 0.6 \pm 0.5$	$+12.3 \pm 8.7 \pm 4.5$
$K_0^*(1430)^0$	$4.5 \pm 0.7 \pm 1.2$	$+10.4 \pm 14.9 \pm 8.8$
Single pole	$32.3 \pm 1.5 \pm 4.1$	$-10.7 \pm 5.3 \pm 3.5$
$\rho(1450)^0$	$30.7 \pm 1.2 \pm 0.9$	$-10.9 \pm 4.4 \pm 2.4$
$f_2(1270)$	$7.5 \pm 0.8 \pm 0.7$	$+26.7 \pm 10.2 \pm 4.8$
Rescattering	$16.4 \pm 0.8 \pm 1.0$	$-66.4 \pm 3.8 \pm 1.9$
$\phi(1020)$	$0.3 \pm 0.1 \pm 0.1$	$+9.8 \pm 43.6 \pm 26.6$

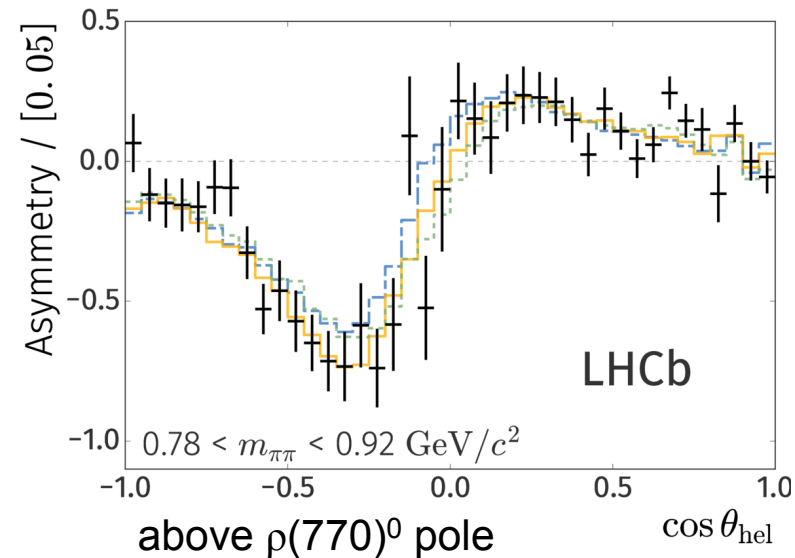
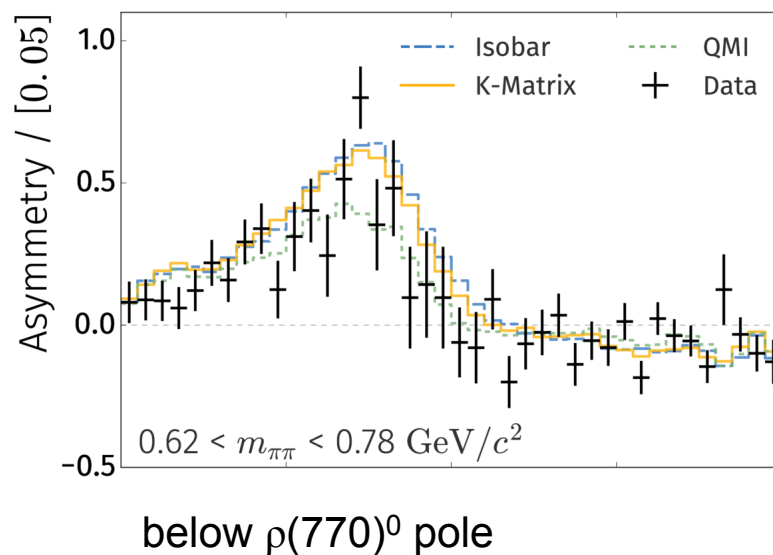
CP violation in $B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 124 (2020) 031801
Phys. Rev. D 101 (2020) 012006

- Observation of several sources of CP violation in $B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$ decays amplitude analysis.
- Three different S-wave models: isobar (sum of a σ -pole and $KK \leftrightarrow \pi\pi$ rescattering term); K-matrix (parameters from scattering data) and QM formalism (in bins of $\pi\pi$ mass).
- Large CP asymmetries associated with scalar S-wave and tensor $f_2(1270)$.

$$A_{CP}(S\text{-wave}) = +0.144 \pm 0.018 \pm 0.021, \quad A_{CP}(f_2(1270)) = +0.468 \pm 0.061 \pm 0.047$$

- Interference between P-wave $\rho(770)^0$ and S-wave with change of sign: CPV with $>25\sigma$.
- First observation of CP violation in the interference between two quasi-two-body decays.



Search for CP violation in $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow pK^-K^-$

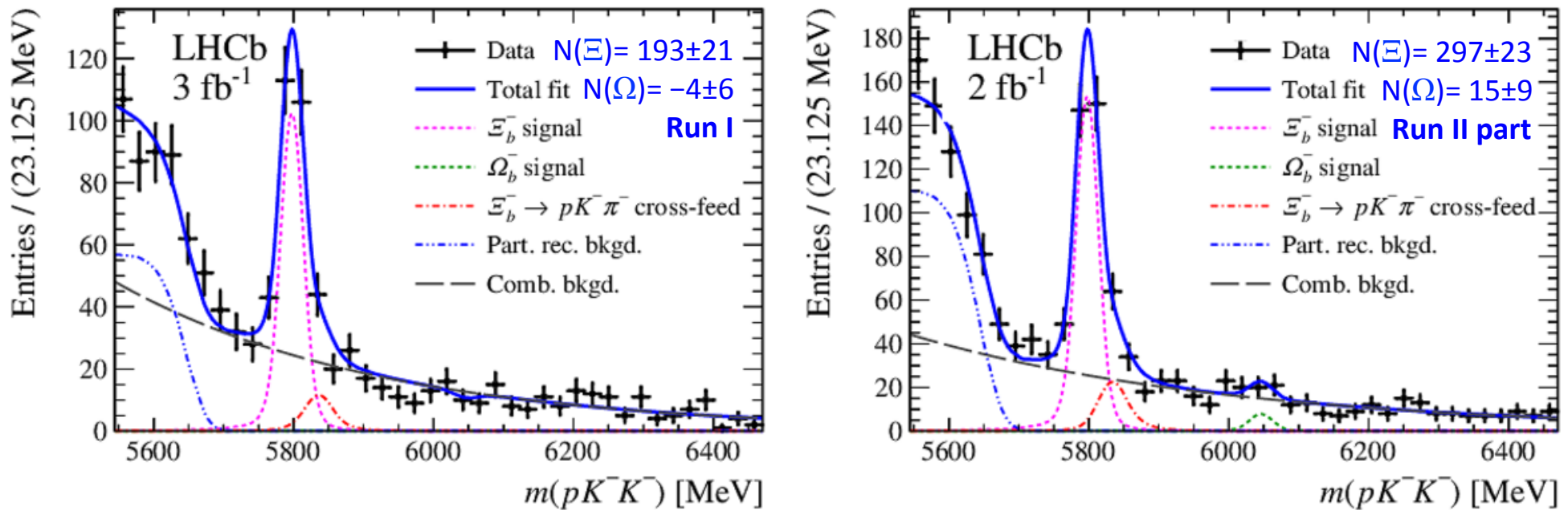
arXiv:2104.15074
Submitted to Phys. Rev. D

5 fb⁻¹ Run I and Run II data

Search for CPV in $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow pK^-K^-$ decays

arXiv:2104.15074

- CP violation should also be present in b -baryon decays, special interest in 3-body.
- Run I and partial Run 2 datasets analysed separately.



- Also search for the previously unobserved $\Omega_b^- \rightarrow pK^-K^-$ decay.
- Upper limit on the ratio of fragmentation and branching fractions:

$$\mathcal{R} \equiv \frac{f_{\Omega_b^-}}{f_{\Xi_b^-}} \times \frac{\mathcal{B}(\Omega_b^- \rightarrow pK^-K^-)}{\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow pK^-K^-)} < 62 \text{ (71)} \times 10^{-3}$$

Search for CPV in $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow pK^-K^-$ decays

arXiv:2104.15074

- First amplitude analysis of any b -baryon allowing for CP violation effects.
- Studied many possible pK^- resonances, found 6 contributions.
- Measured fit fractions, interference fit fractions and CP-violating asymmetry:

Component	$A^{CP} (10^{-2})$
$\Sigma(1385)$	$-27 \pm 34 \text{ (stat)} \pm 73 \text{ (syst)}$
$\Lambda(1405)$	$-1 \pm 24 \text{ (stat)} \pm 32 \text{ (syst)}$
$\Lambda(1520)$	$-5 \pm 9 \text{ (stat)} \pm 8 \text{ (syst)}$
$\Lambda(1670)$	$3 \pm 14 \text{ (stat)} \pm 10 \text{ (syst)}$
$\Sigma(1775)$	$-47 \pm 26 \text{ (stat)} \pm 14 \text{ (syst)}$
$\Sigma(1915)$	$11 \pm 26 \text{ (stat)} \pm 22 \text{ (syst)}$

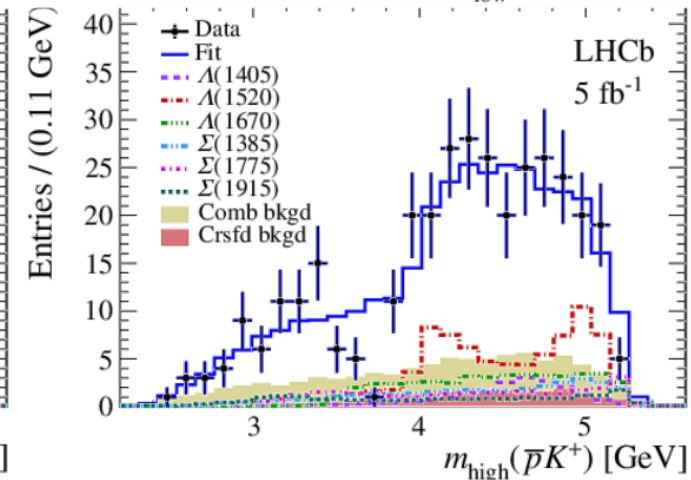
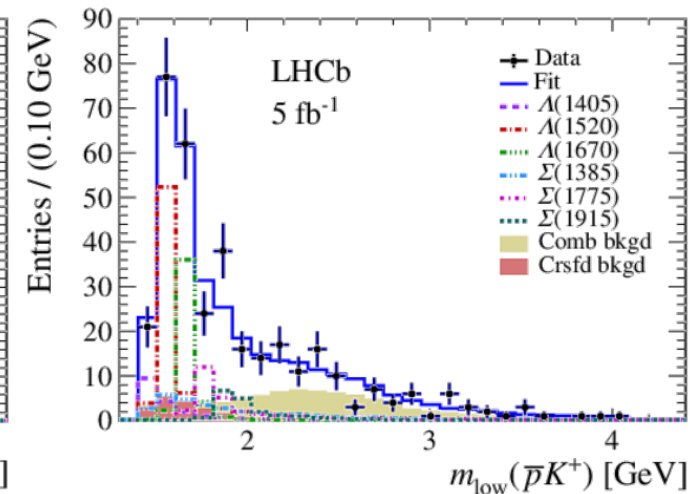
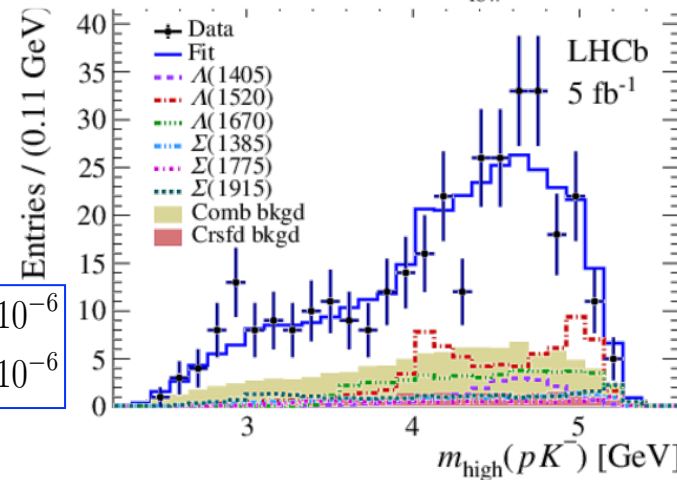
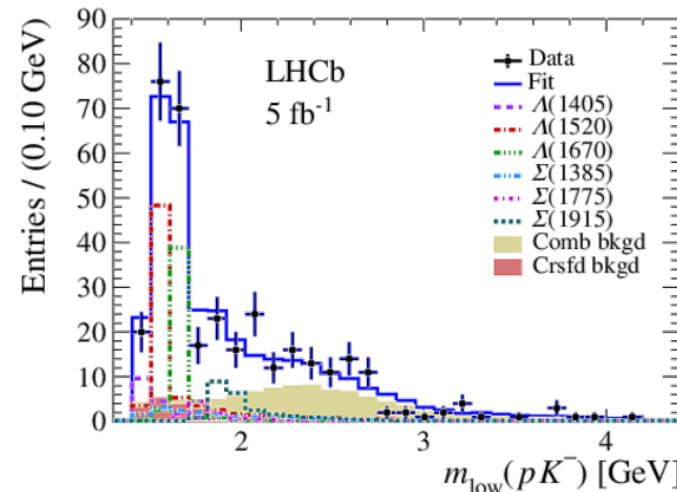
- No significant CP asymmetry.
- Measurement of branching fractions of intermediate resonances.

$$\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow RK^-) = \mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow pK^-K^-) \times \mathcal{F}_i.$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Lambda(1520)K^-) = (0.76 \pm 0.09 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.30) \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\Xi_b^- \rightarrow \Lambda(1670)K^-) = (0.45 \pm 0.07 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.18) \times 10^{-6}$$

significance $> 5\sigma$



Search for CP violation and observation of P violation in $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow p\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$

arXiv:1912.10741
Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 051101

6.6 fb⁻¹ Run I and Run II data

Search for CP violation in $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow p\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$

arXiv:1912.10741

Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 051101

- Previously, evidence of CP violation (3.3σ) in $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow p\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$ from Run I, and first evidence in any baryon decay. Nat. Phys. 13, 391 (2017)
- Larger current data sample, optimised selection.
- Search for CP and P violation using two methods:
 - 1) Triple Product Asymmetries.
 - 2) Unbinned energy test method.
- Sensitive to global (1) and local (1,2) asymmetries.

Scalar triple products

$$C_{\hat{T}} \equiv \vec{p}_p \cdot (\vec{p}_{\pi_{\text{fast}}^-} \times \vec{p}_{\pi^+})$$

$$\overline{C}_{\hat{T}} \equiv \vec{p}_{\overline{p}} \cdot (\vec{p}_{\pi_{\text{fast}}^+} \times \vec{p}_{\pi^-})$$

T-odd asymmetries

$$A_{\hat{T}} = \frac{N_{\Lambda_b^0}(C_{\hat{T}} > 0) - N_{\Lambda_b^0}(C_{\hat{T}} < 0)}{N_{\Lambda_b^0}(C_{\hat{T}} > 0) + N_{\Lambda_b^0}(C_{\hat{T}} < 0)}$$

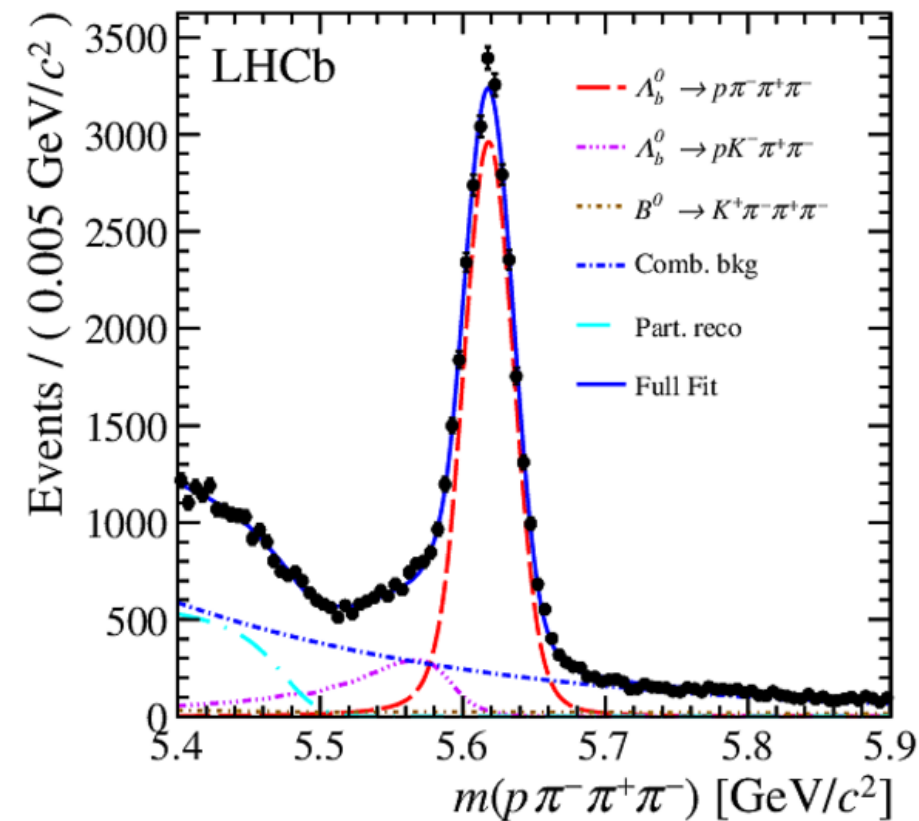
$$\overline{A}_{\hat{T}} = \frac{N_{\overline{\Lambda}_b^0}(-\overline{C}_{\hat{T}} > 0) - N_{\overline{\Lambda}_b^0}(-\overline{C}_{\hat{T}} < 0)}{N_{\overline{\Lambda}_b^0}(-\overline{C}_{\hat{T}} > 0) + N_{\overline{\Lambda}_b^0}(-\overline{C}_{\hat{T}} < 0)}$$

CP-violating asymmetry

$$a_{CP}^{\hat{T}-odd} = \frac{1}{2}(A_{\hat{T}} - \overline{A}_{\hat{T}})$$

P-violating asymmetry

$$a_P^{\hat{T}-odd} = \frac{1}{2}(A_{\hat{T}} + \overline{A}_{\hat{T}})$$



$N(\Lambda) = 27600$ signal events

Observation of P violation in $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow p\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$

arXiv:1912.10741

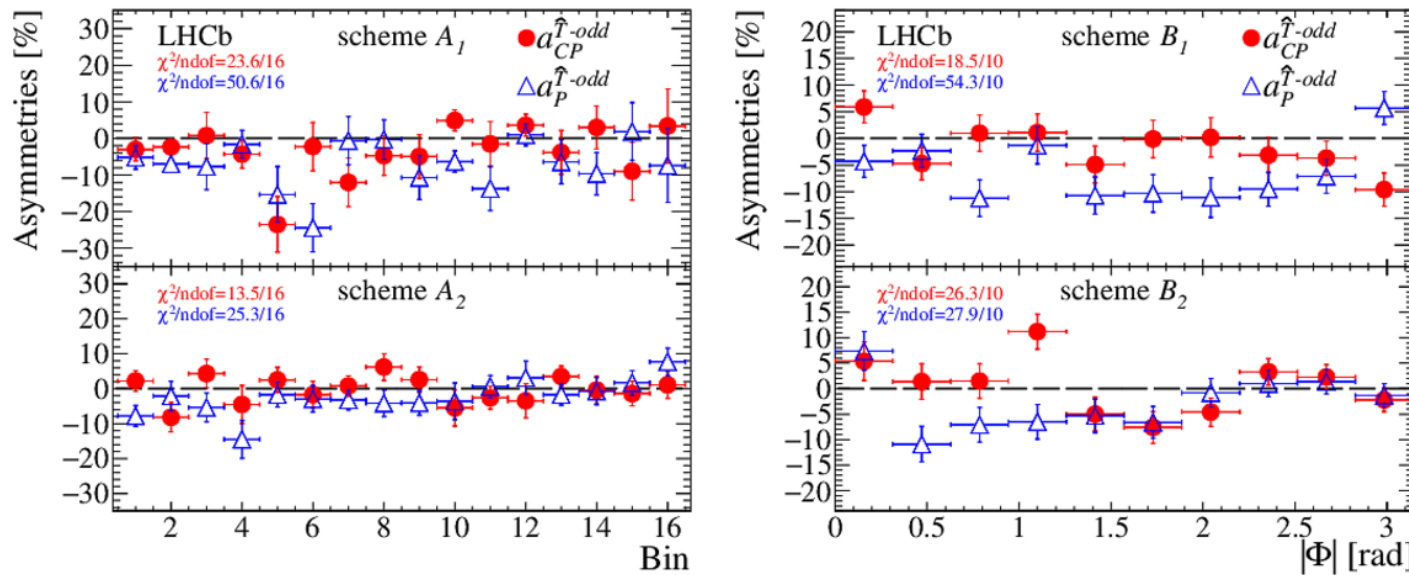
Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 051101

- Triple product asymmetries integrated in phase space:
- Observation of Parity violation at 5.5σ .
- CP conserved at 2.9σ .

$$a_P^{\hat{T}\text{-odd}} = (-4.0 \pm 0.7 \pm 0.2)\%$$

$$a_{CP}^{\hat{T}\text{-odd}} = (-0.7 \pm 0.7 \pm 0.2)\%$$

- Local asymmetries in two binning schemes of phase space:



Indication of local large P-violation contribution from $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow p a_1(1260)^-$ decay at 5.5σ .

- The energy test method also confirms local P violation (5.3σ) and CP conservation (3.0σ).

Conclusions

- Charmless b -meson and b -baryon decays provide a fertile environment for studies of CP violation, hadronic effects and searches for new physics.
- LHCb continues to produce fantastic measurements of these decay channels:
 - First observation of time-dependent CP violation in B_s^0 decays.
 - Enhancement of the $K\pi$ puzzle.
 - Large asymmetries in three-body B^+ decays.
 - New searches in the b -baryon sector.
- More analyses of Run II data are underway.
- The upgraded LHCb detector will bring more new exciting results soon.