

# Searching beyond the Standard Model of Particle Physics with the LHCb experiment

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UCAS, 23 November 2023

# A very brief introduction to the Standard Model (1)

- Relativistic quantum mechanics (Dirac, Weyl)

$$(i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m)\psi = 0$$

The diagram shows the Dirac equation  $(i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m)\psi = 0$  with four colored arrows pointing to its parts:

- A purple arrow points from the text "gamma matrices" to the  $\gamma^\mu$  term.
- A green arrow points from the text "relativistic differential operator" to the  $\partial_\mu$  term.
- A blue arrow points from the text "mass of corresponding particle" to the  $m$  term.
- A red arrow points from the text "wavefunction as a 4-component spinor (spin-up, spin-down, particle, antiparticle)" to the  $\psi$  term.

“It seems to be one of the fundamental features of nature that fundamental physical laws are described in terms of a mathematical theory of great beauty and power.”

# A very brief introduction to the Standard Model (2)

- Quantum field theory (Feynman, Schwinger, Tomonaga) with non-Abelian gauge fields (Yang, Mills)

$$\Psi \mapsto \Psi' = e^{i\frac{g}{2}\omega_j(x)\tau_j} \Psi$$

gauge transformation under which theory should be invariant

coupling constant

generators of relevant group  
e.g. Pauli matrices for SU(2)

multiplet of (almost) identical spinors

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covariant derivative

$$D^\mu \equiv \partial^\mu + i\frac{g}{2}W_j^\mu(x)\tau_j$$

coupling constant

generators of relevant group e.g. Pauli matrices for SU(2)

gauge boson fields

multiplet of (almost) identical spinors

The diagram illustrates the gauge transformation of a spinor field  $\Psi$  and the definition of the covariant derivative  $D^\mu$ . The transformation equation  $\Psi \mapsto \Psi' = e^{i\frac{g}{2}\omega_j(x)\tau_j} \Psi$  shows a spinor  $\Psi$  (labeled as a multiplet of (almost) identical spinors) being transformed by a phase factor. This phase factor consists of a coupling constant  $g$ , a gauge boson field  $\omega_j(x)$ , and a generator  $\tau_j$  (e.g., Pauli matrices for SU(2)). The covariant derivative equation  $D^\mu \equiv \partial^\mu + i\frac{g}{2}W_j^\mu(x)\tau_j$  shows the partial derivative  $\partial^\mu$  (labeled as covariant derivative) being modified by a similar phase factor involving the coupling constant  $g$ , the gauge boson field  $W_j^\mu(x)$ , and the generator  $\tau_j$ .

# A very brief introduction to the Standard Model (3)

- The Standard Model gauge group (Gell-Mann, Zweig, Weinberg, Glashow, Salam)

$$SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$$

three copies (“colours”) of each fermion that interacts with the QCD gauge group

two copies (“weak isospin”) of each fermion that interacts with the SU(2) gauge group

weak hypercharge governs strength of (Abelian) U(1) interaction

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$SU(2)_L$  acts only on left-handed chiral component! (Parity violation: Lee, Yang, Wu)  
Mass terms couple left- and right-handed components → only massless particles!

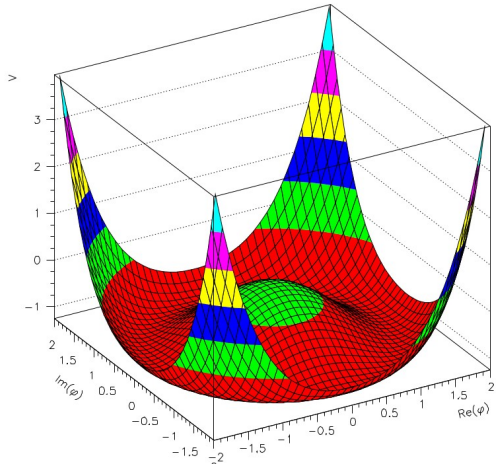
# A very brief introduction to the Standard Model (4)

- Electroweak symmetry breaking (Weinberg, Glashow, Salam, Higgs, Brout, Englert, etc.)

$$V(\phi) = \mu^2 \phi^\dagger \phi + \lambda (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2$$

Higgs field

(actually a complex scalar doublet)

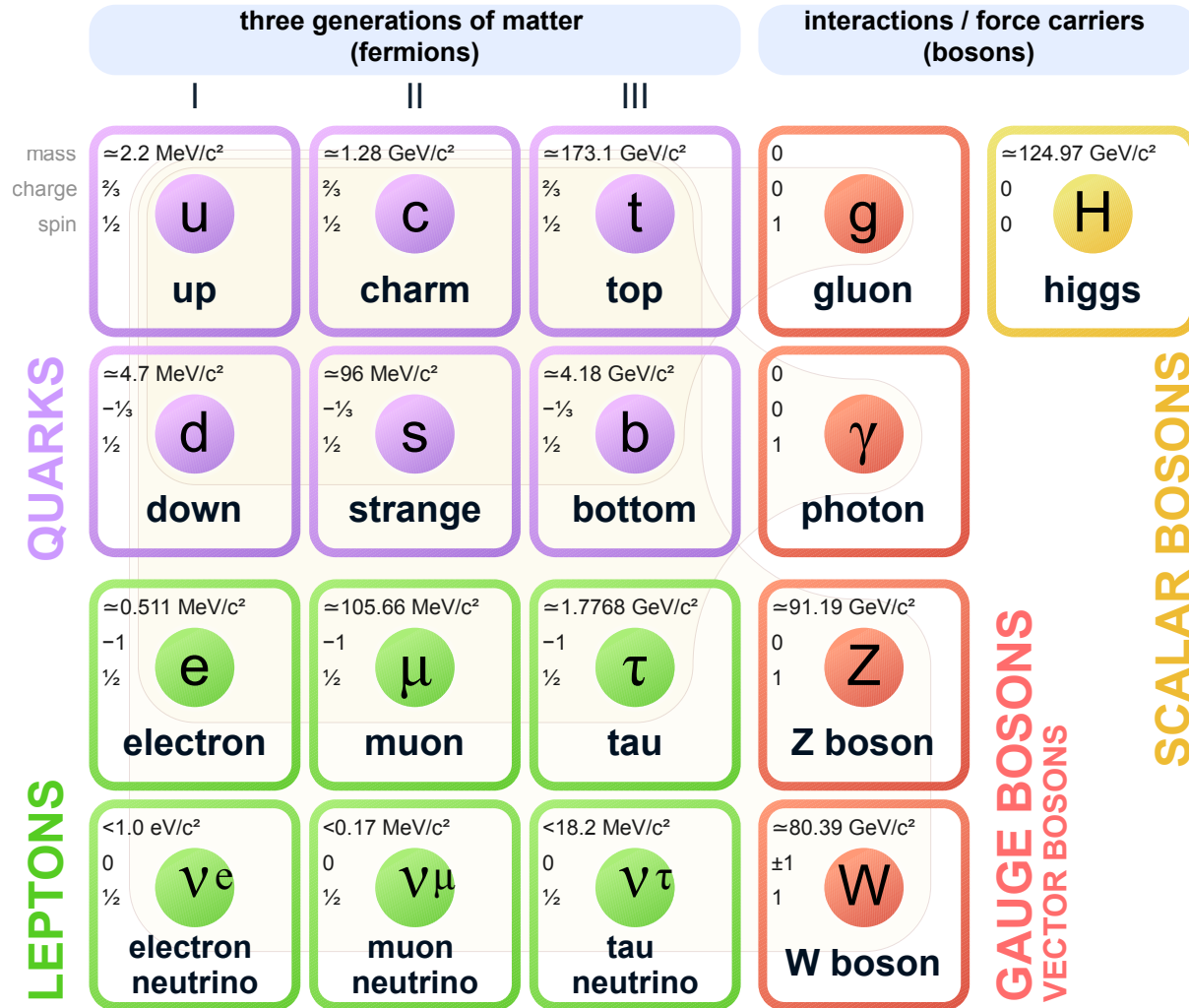


At low energies the  $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$  electroweak symmetry is broken

→ Explains gauge boson masses and differences in charged current and neutral current weak interaction strengths

→ Fermion masses arise through “Yukawa” interactions with Higgs field

# Standard Model of Elementary Particles





# Standard Model of Elementary Particles

		three generations of matter (fermions)			interactions / force carriers (bosons)	
		I	II	III		
mass		$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0	$\approx 124.97 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
	charge	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	0	0
spin		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0
		<b>u</b> up	<b>c</b> charm	<b>t</b> top	<b>g</b> gluon	<b>H</b> higgs
mass		$\approx 4.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 96 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 4.18 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0	
	charge	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	0	
spin		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	
		<b>d</b> down	<b>s</b> strange	<b>b</b> bottom	<b><math>\gamma</math></b> photon	
mass		$\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.7768 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 91.19 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	
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		<b>e</b> electron	<b><math>\mu</math></b> muon	<b><math>\tau</math></b> tau	<b>Z</b> Z boson	
mass		$< 1.0 \text{ eV}/c^2$	$< 0.17 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$< 18.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 80.39 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	
	charge	0	0	0	$\pm 1$	
spin		$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	
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QUARKS

LEPTONS

GAUGE BOSONS  
VECTOR BOSONS

SCALAR BOSONS

First generation fermions make up all the visible matter in the Universe

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Why do we need these?

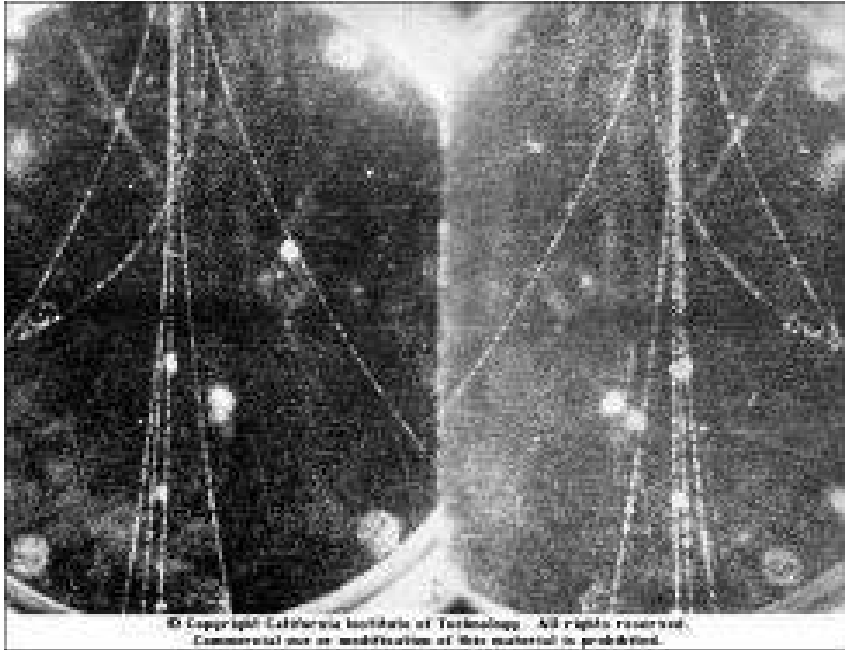
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Origin of mass!

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Muons were discovered in 1936 from studies of cosmic radiation



Radius of curvature of charged particle in  
magnetic field  $\propto$  charge/mass

Who ordered that?



Isidor I Rabi

# Flavour physics



WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia

## Flavour (particle physics)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

In [particle physics](#), **flavour** or **flavor** is a [quantum number](#) of [elementary particles](#). In [quantum chromodynamics](#), flavour is a global symmetry. In the [electroweak theory](#), on the other hand, this symmetry is broken, and flavour-changing processes exist, such as quark decay or [neutrino oscillations](#).

“The term flavor was first used in particle physics in the context of the quark model of hadrons. It was coined in 1971 by Murray Gell-Mann and his student at the time, Harald Fritzsch, at a Baskin-Robbins ice-cream store in Pasadena. Just as ice cream has both color and flavor so do quarks.”



RMP 81 (2009) 1887

### Flavour in [particle physics](#)

#### Flavour quantum numbers:

- Baryon number:  $B$
- Lepton number:  $L$
- Strangeness:  $S$
- Charm:  $C$
- Bottomness:  $B'$
- Topness:  $T$
- Isospin:  $I$  or  $I_3$
- Weak isospin:  $T$  or  $T_3$
- Electric charge:  $Q$
- X-charge:  $X$

#### Combinations:

- Hypercharge:  $Y$ 
  - $Y = (B + S + C + B' + T)$
  - $Y = 2(Q - I_3)$
- Weak hypercharge:  $Y_W$ 
  - $Y_W = 2(Q - T_3)$
  - $X + 2Y_W = 5(B - L)$

#### Flavour mixing

- CKM matrix
- PMNS matrix
- Flavour complementarity

# Mysteries of flavour physics

- Why so many fermions?
- What explains
  - the mixing patterns?
  - **the matter-antimatter asymmetries (CP violation)?**
- Are there connections between quarks and leptons?

Fermions ("matter")	Bosons ("forces")
$  \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Quarks} \\ uu\bar{u} \quad cc\bar{c} \quad tt\bar{t} \\ dd\bar{d} \quad ss\bar{s} \quad bb\bar{b} \\ \\ \text{Leptons} \\ e \quad \mu \quad \tau \\ \nu_e \quad \nu_\mu \quad \nu_\tau \end{array} \right\} \times \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{MATTER} \\ \text{ANTIMATTER} \end{array} \right\}  $	$  \begin{array}{l} gg\bar{g}gg\bar{g} \\ \gamma \\ W^+ \\ W^- \\ Z \\ \\ H \end{array}  $

# Quark (and lepton) mixing

- Quarks acquire mass after electroweak symmetry breaking
  - Separate 3x3 mass matrices for “up-type” and “down-type” quarks (weak isospin  $+1/2$  or  $-1/2$ )
- Eigenstates of these matrices different for weak interactions and Yukawa interactions
  - Require diagonalisation matrix to convert between bases
- Diagonalisation different for “up-type” and “down-type” quarks
  - Relative misalignment: CKM matrix (Cabibbo, Kobayashi, Maskawa)



# CP violation

- Concluding words of Dirac's 1933 Nobel lecture

“If we accept the view of **complete symmetry between positive and negative electric charge** so far as concerns the fundamental laws of Nature, we must regard it rather as an accident that the Earth (and presumably the whole solar system), contains a **preponderance of negative electrons and positive protons**. It is quite possible that for some of the stars it is the other way about, these stars being built up mainly of positrons and negative protons. In fact, there may be half the stars of each kind. **The two kinds of stars would both show exactly the same spectra**, and there would be no way of distinguishing them by present astronomical methods.”

- In fact there are no “anti-stars” because there is **not complete symmetry between matter and antimatter** → CP violation

# The CKM matrix

$$V_{CKM} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix}$$

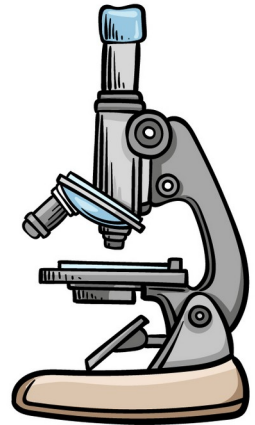
- A 3x3 unitary matrix
  - Encodes relative misalignment of mass and flavour bases that arises in the Standard Model following electroweak symmetry breaking (Higgs mechanism)
- Described by 4 real parameters – **allows CP violation** (KM: Prog.Theor.Phys. 49 (1973) 652)
- **Highly predictive**
  - Describes phenomena at energies from nuclear  $\beta$  decay to top quark decays



Particularly interesting to study the b quark ...  
which means studies of b hadrons (important role of QCD)

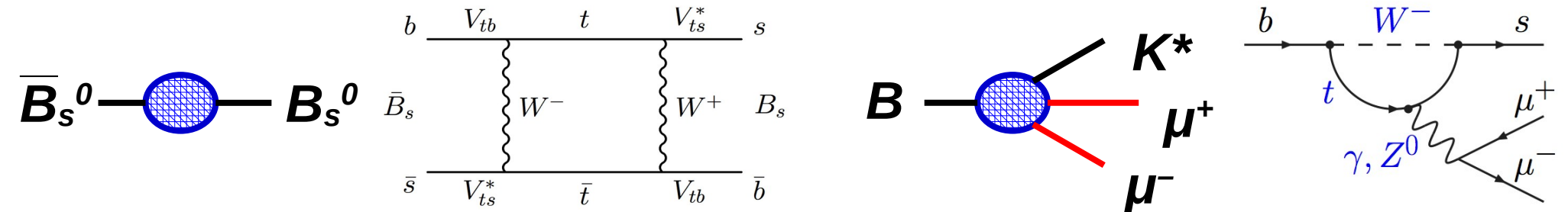
# The flavour ~~micro~~zepto scope

- Flavour physics provides a wide range of Standard Model tests
  - Genuine potential for discovery of physics beyond
- **SM structure is distinctive, and need not be replicated BSM**
  - Absence of tree-level flavour-changing neutral currents
  - V-A structure of the charged current
  - Universality of couplings to different leptons
- Quark mixing (CKM matrix) described by only 4 parameters
  - **Highly overconstrained** → allows powerful consistency tests
- Sensitivity limited by precision
  - For theoretically clean channels, this means data sample size



# Seeing and inferring

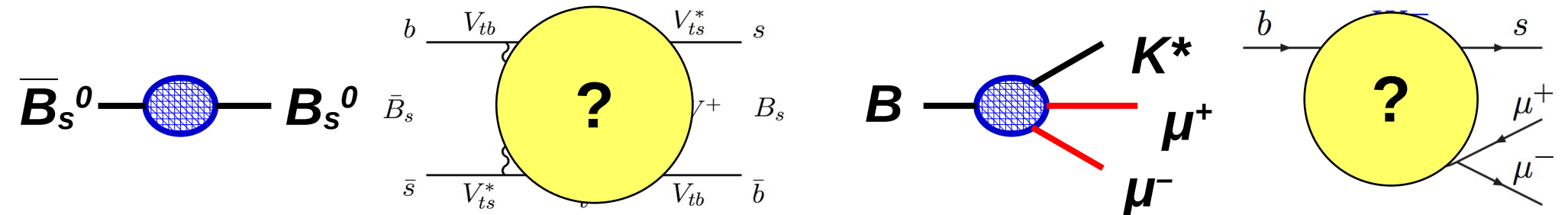
- Weak decays of b hadrons involve virtual mediators
- We only “see” the final state particles
  - but can “infer” information about the mediators
  - **advantage: not limited by energy of collisions**
  - loop processes particularly interesting due to SM structure
- Formally, use effective field theory



# Seeing and inferring

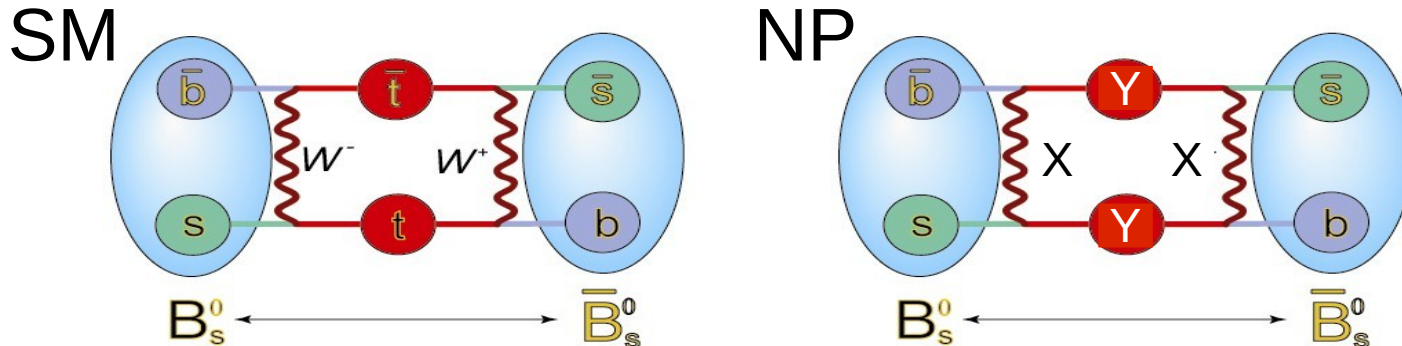
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**?** could be at O(10 TeV)

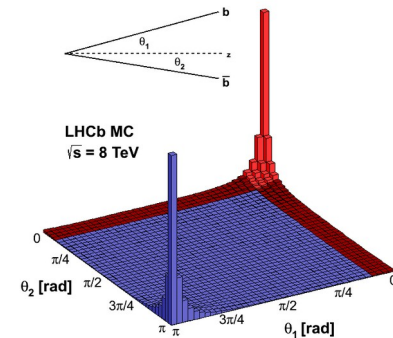
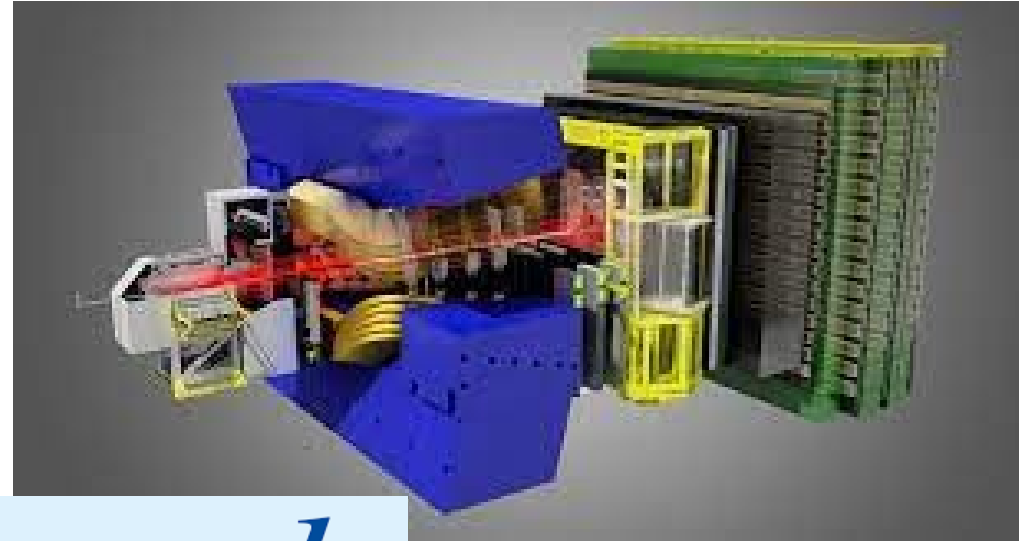
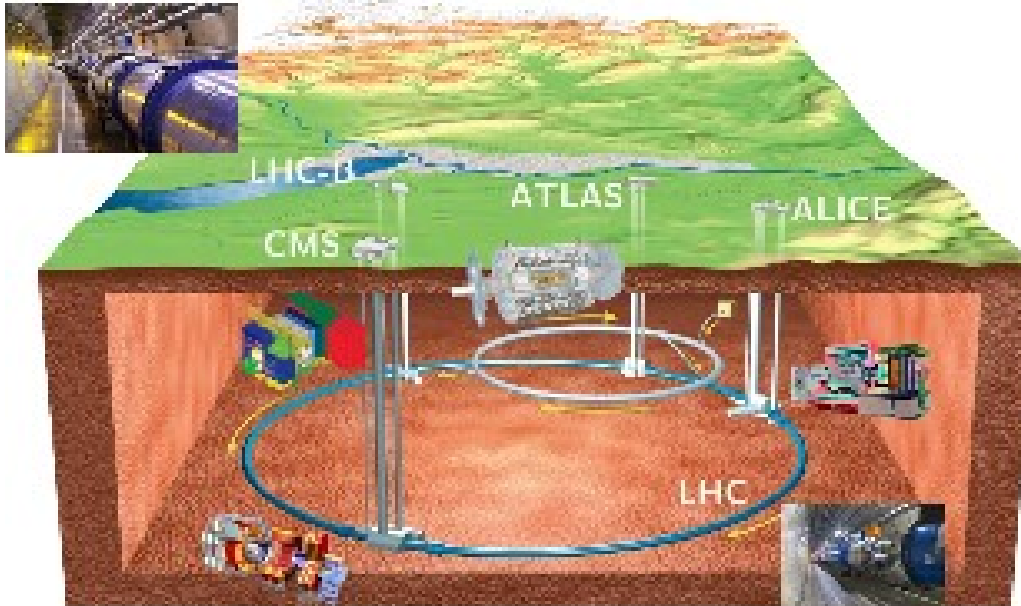


# Loop diagrams for discovery

- Contributions from virtual particles in loops allow to probe far beyond the energy frontier
- History shows this approach to be a powerful discovery tool
- Interplay with high- $p_T$  experiments:
  - NP discovered: probe the couplings
  - NP not discovered: explore high energy parameter space



# LHCb experiment at CERN

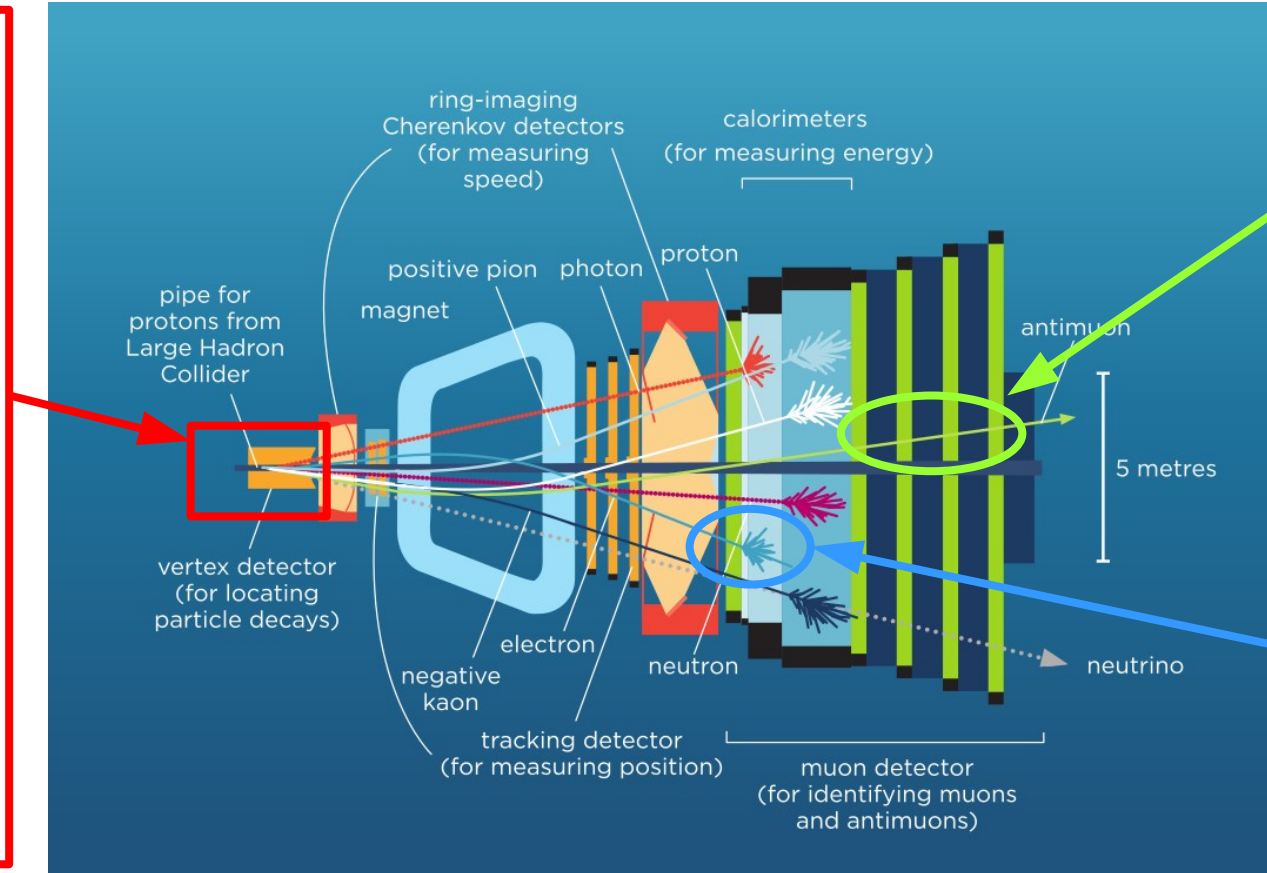


# LHCb experiment at CERN

Proton proton collisions occur inside vertex detector

B particles produced in forward direction

These decay rapidly to particles that traverse the detector

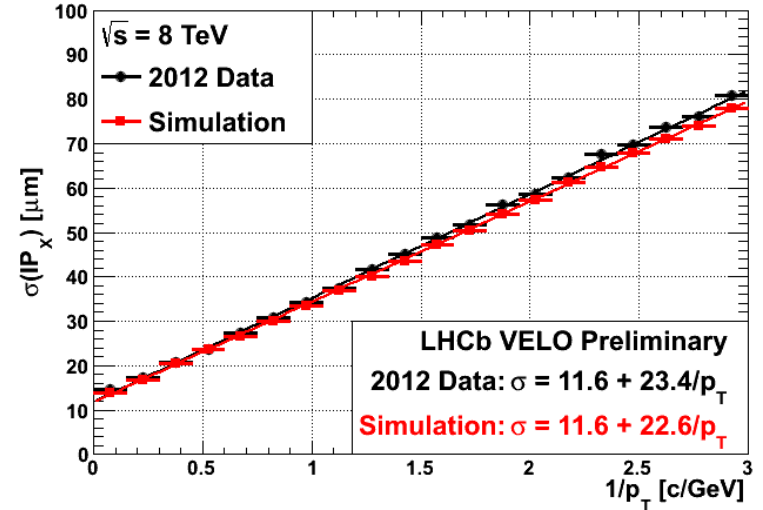


Muons penetrate detector & reach muon counters

Electrons deposit all their energy in calorimeter

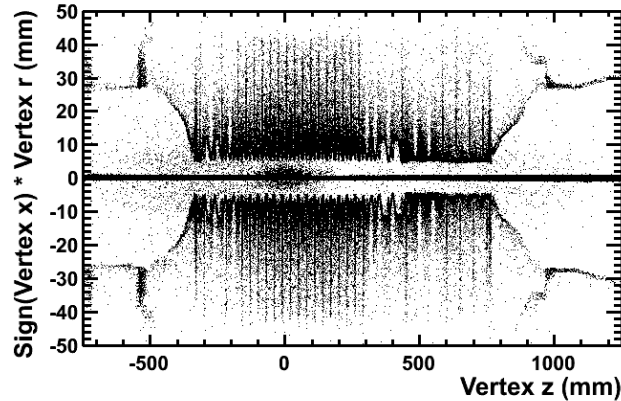


# VELO

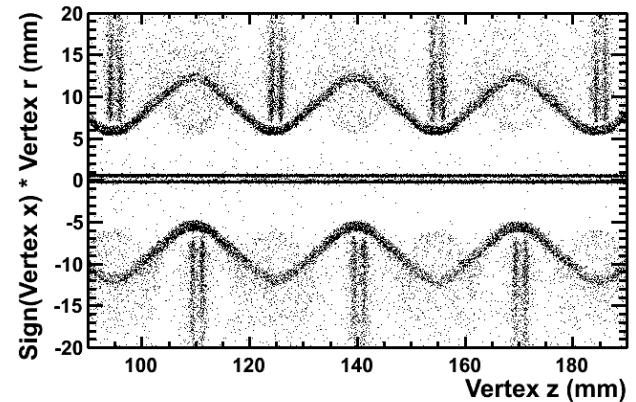


Material imaged used beam gas collisions

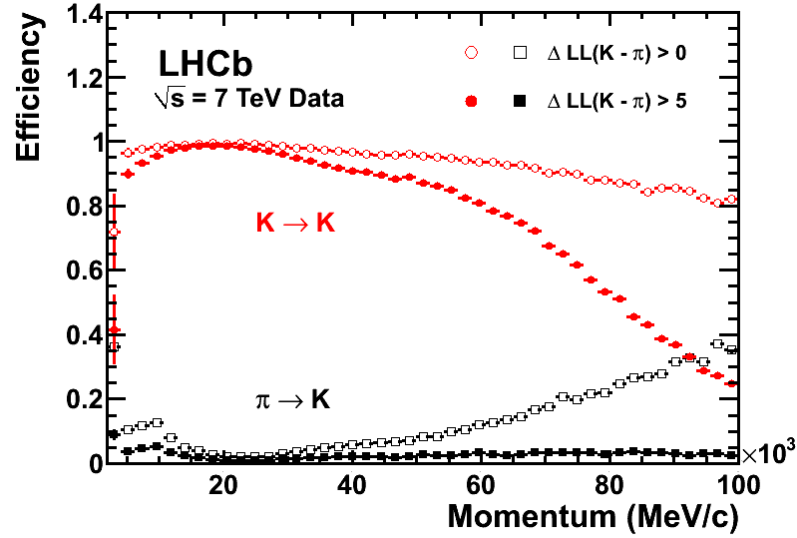
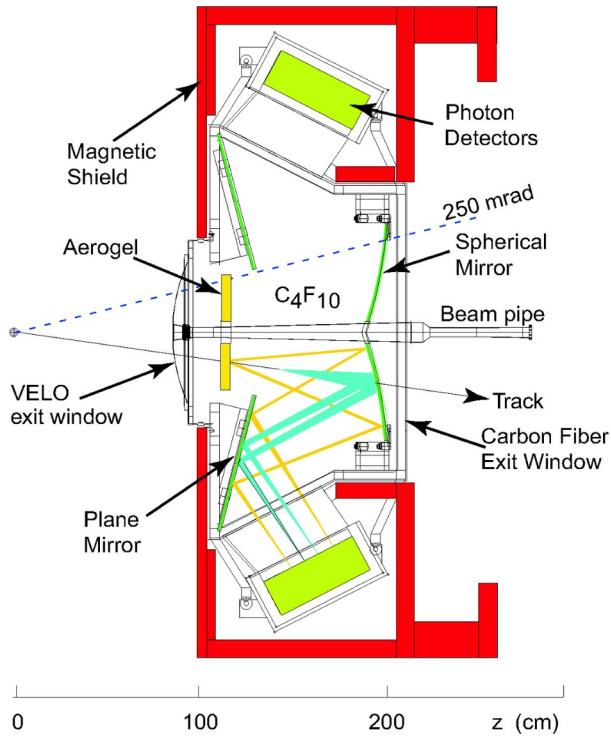
LHCb VELO Preliminary



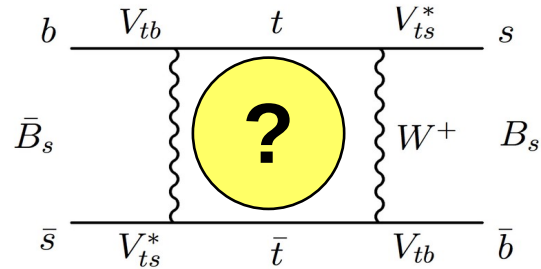
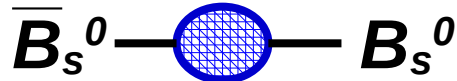
LHCb VELO Preliminary



# RICH



# Quantum oscillations



To measure rate of this process in which a  $\bar{B}_s^0$  meson “oscillates” into  $B_s^0$  (or vice versa) need to

- Measure flavour ( $B_{(s)}^0$  or  $\bar{B}_{(s)}^0$ ) at production
  - “flavour tagging” from properties of other particles produced at same time
- Measure flavour at decay
  - use flavour-specific decay like  $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- \pi^+$
- Measure time between production and decay
  - $\Delta z = \beta \gamma c \Delta t$

$\beta \gamma$  are Lorentz boost factors

# $B_s^0$ mixing rate

Nature Phys. 18 (2022) 1

Clear difference between cases where flavour is **same** or **different** between production and decay

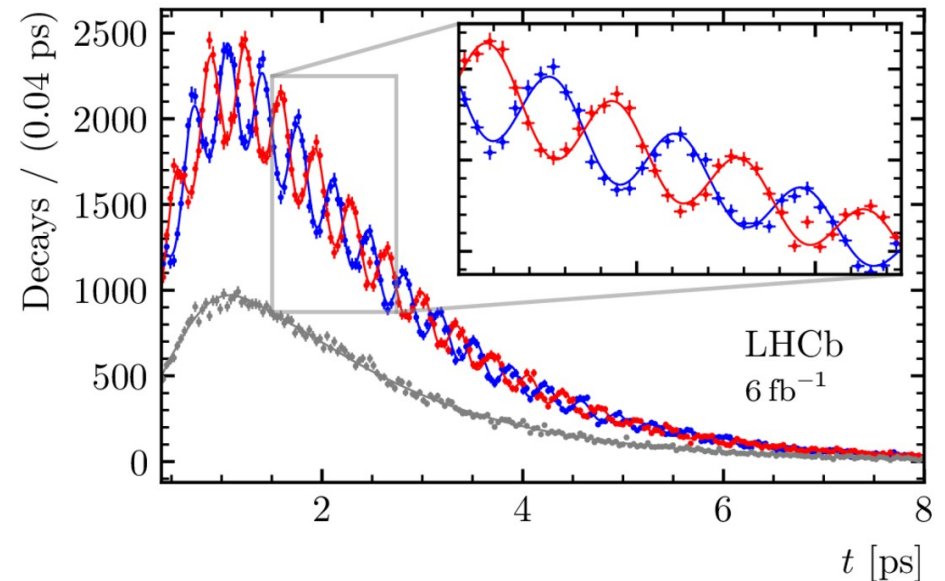
$B_s^0$  oscillates much faster than it decays!

- **experimental challenge to resolve oscillations overcome**

Period of oscillation related to mass difference ( $\Delta m_s$ )

Measurement consistent with Standard Model prediction

—  $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- \pi^+$  —  $\bar{B}_s^0 \rightarrow B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- \pi^+$  — Untagged



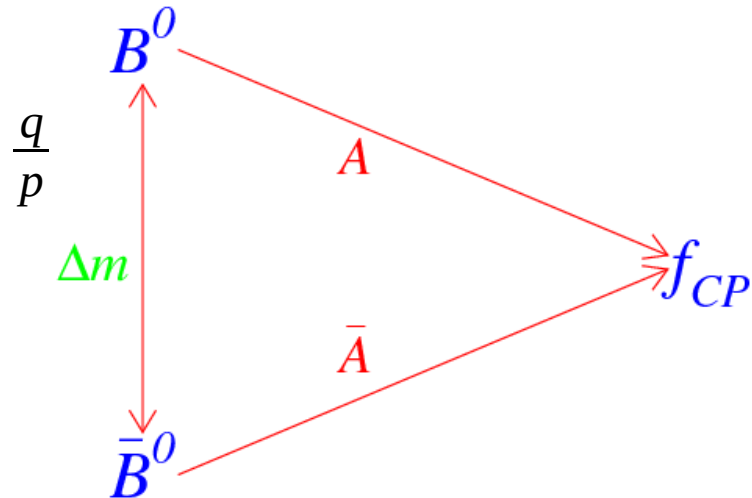
$$\Delta m_s = 17.7683 \pm 0.0051 \pm 0.0032 \text{ ps}^{-1}$$

# Quantum oscillations, with CP violation

- For a B meson known to be 1)  $B^0$  or 2)  $\bar{B}^0$  at time  $t=0$ , then at later time  $t$ :

$$\Gamma (B_{phys}^0 \rightarrow f_{CP}(t)) \propto e^{-\Gamma t} (1 - (S \sin(\Delta m t) - C \cos(\Delta m t)))$$

$$\Gamma (\bar{B}_{phys}^0 \rightarrow f_{CP}(t)) \propto e^{-\Gamma t} (1 + (S \sin(\Delta m t) - C \cos(\Delta m t)))$$



$$S = \frac{2\Im(\lambda_{CP})}{1 + |\lambda_{CP}^2|} \quad C = \frac{1 - |\lambda_{CP}^2|}{1 + |\lambda_{CP}^2|} \quad \lambda_{CP} = \frac{q}{p} \frac{\bar{A}}{A}$$

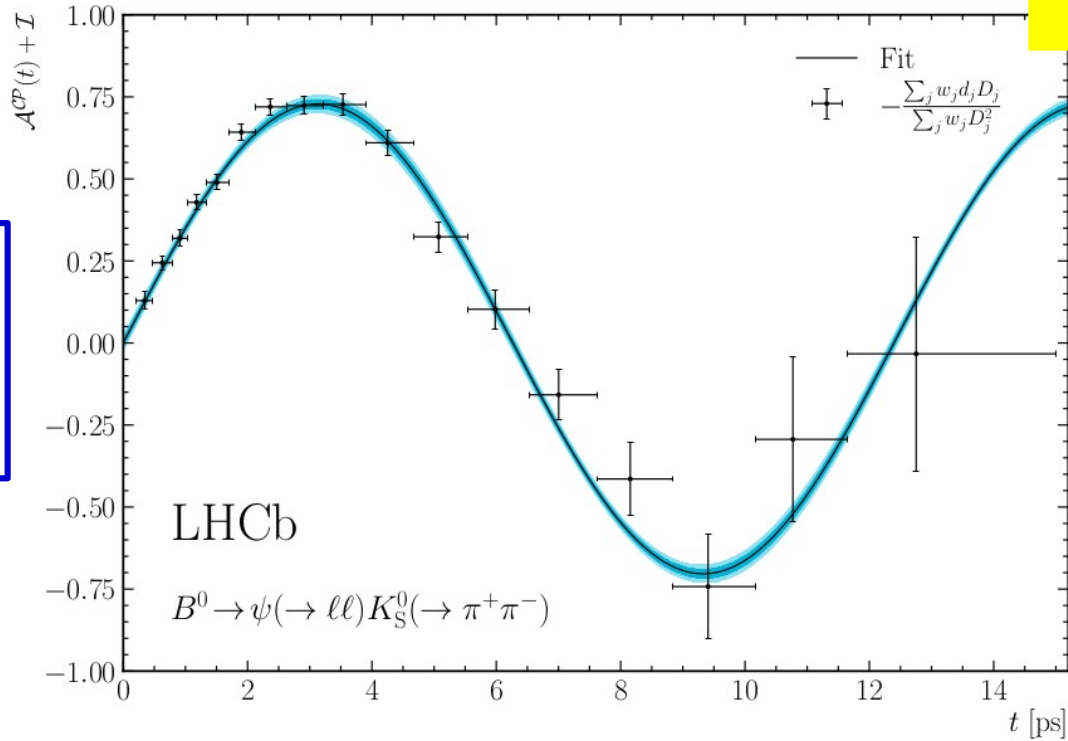
For  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K_S$ ,  $S = \sin(2\beta)$ ,  $C=0$

$$\beta = \arg \left[ -\frac{V_{cd} V_{cb}^*}{V_{td} V_{tb}^*} \right]$$

# $\sin(2\beta)$ from $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K_S$

LHCb-PAPER-2023-013  
arXiv:2309.09728

$\tau(B^0) = 1.52 \text{ ps}$   
Range of plot covers ten  $B^0$  lifetimes!



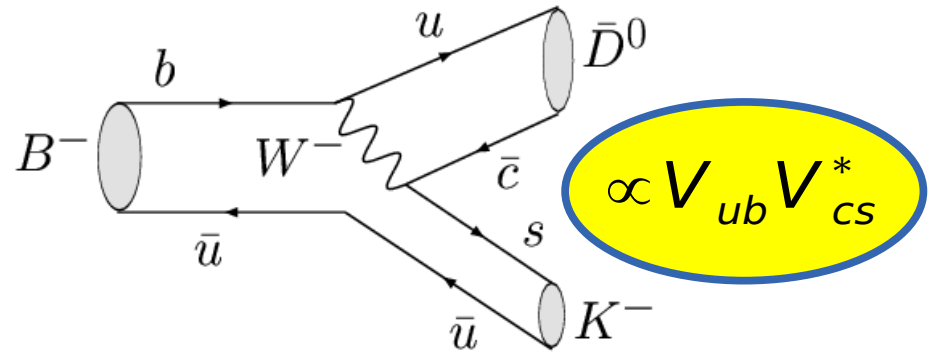
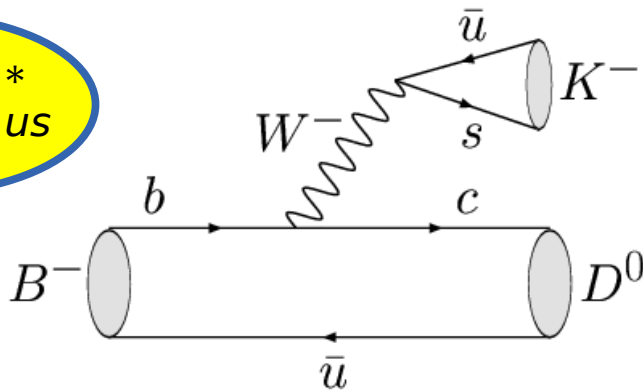
$\sin(2\beta) = 0.717 \pm 0.013 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.008 \text{ (syst)}$

$$\gamma = \arg \left[ -\frac{V_{ud} V_{ub}^*}{V_{cd} V_{cb}^*} \right]$$

# $\gamma$ from $B \rightarrow DK$

- $\gamma$  plays a unique role in flavour physics  
the only CP violating parameter that can be measured through tree decays
- A benchmark Standard Model reference point  
doubly important after New Physics is observed

$$\propto V_{cb} V_{us}^*$$



$$\propto V_{ub} V_{cs}^*$$

require a final state common to both  $D^0$  and  $\bar{D}^0$

$$\gamma = \arg \left[ -\frac{V_{ud} V_{ub}^*}{V_{cd} V_{cb}^*} \right]$$

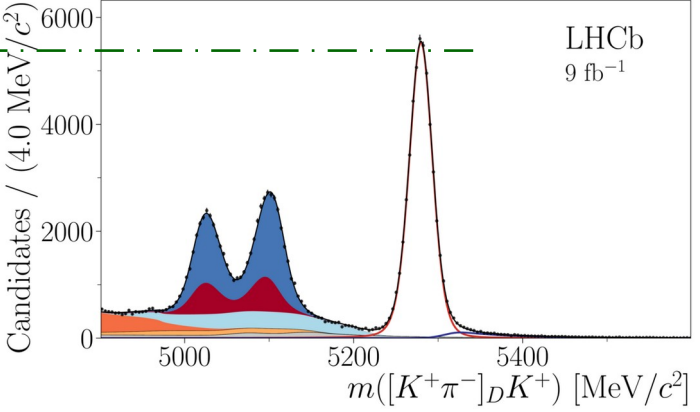
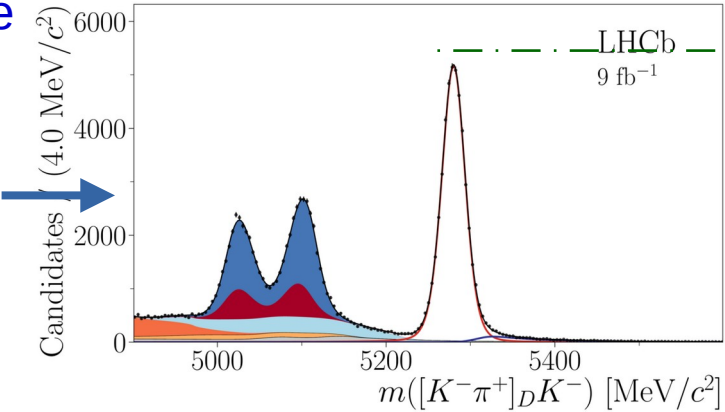
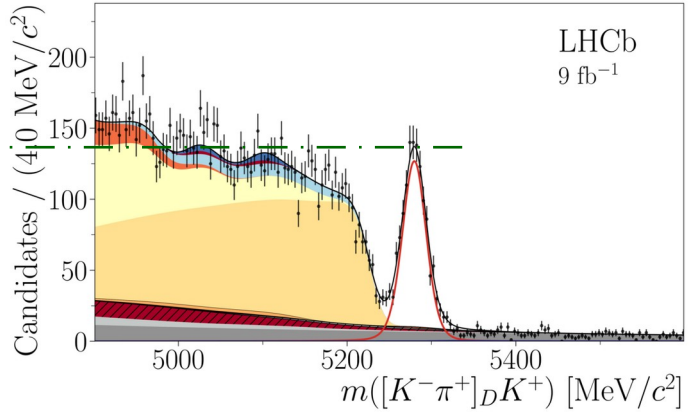
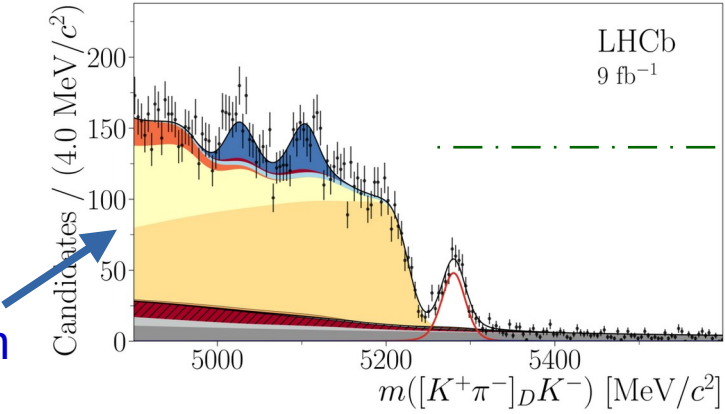
# $\gamma$ from $B^{+/-} \rightarrow DK^{+/-}$

JHEP 04 (2021) 081

Neutral D meson  
different admixture of  
 $D^0$  and  $\bar{D}^0$  depending  
on final state

Suppressed mode:  
enhanced CP violation  
as two amplitudes of  
comparable magnitude

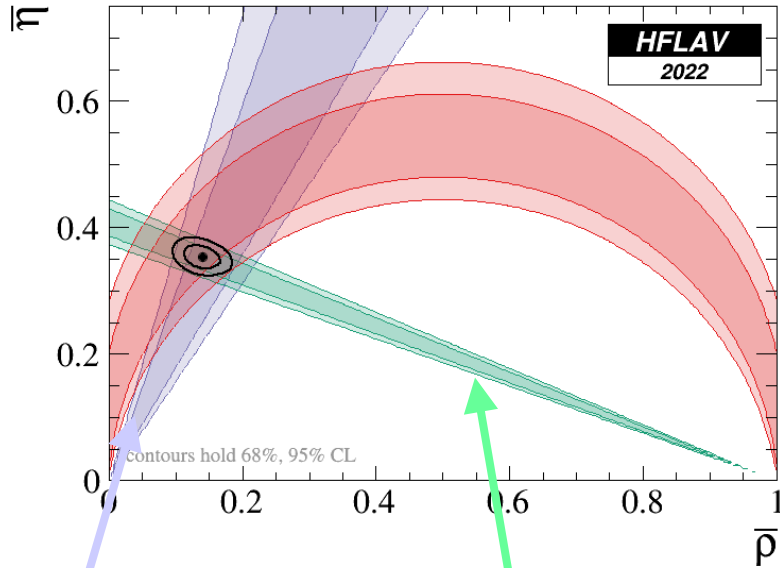
Favoured mode:  
little CP violation  
(but important to  
control systematics)





# The CKM description of CP violation

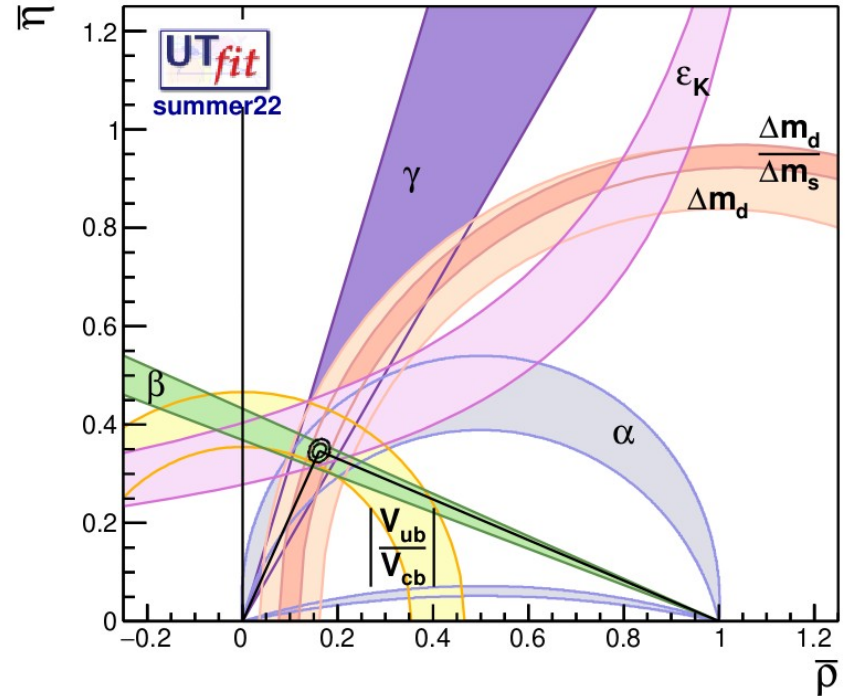
arXiv:2206.07501



Decay-time dependent asymmetry in  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^0$

Partial rate asymmetries in  $B^{+/-} \rightarrow DK^{+/-}$

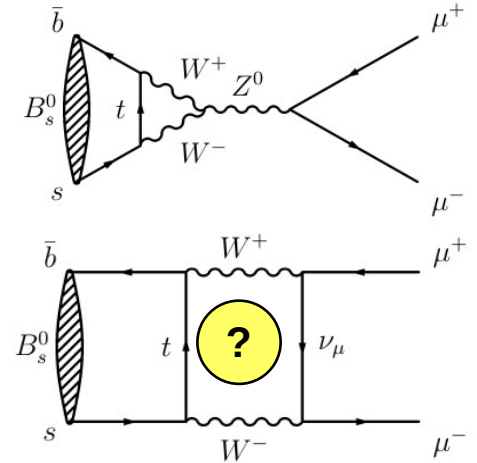
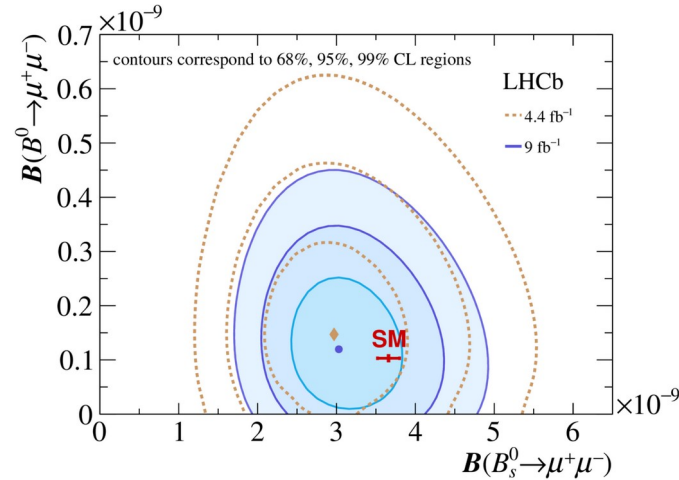
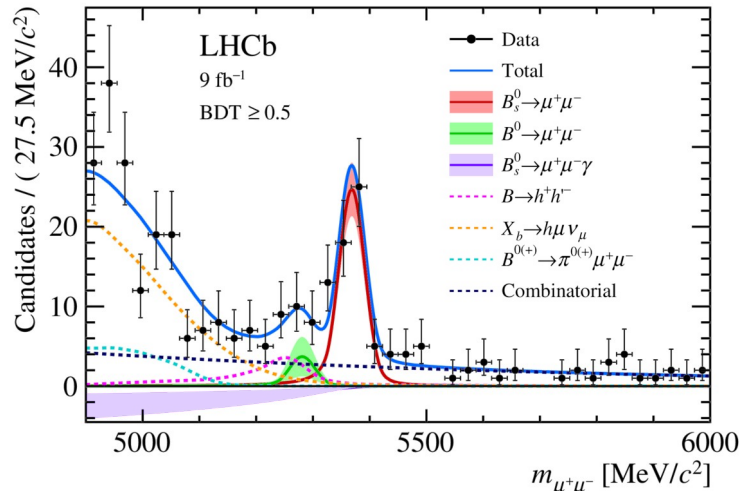
arXiv:2212.03894



All constraints from different measurements overlap!

# Testing the SM with highly suppressed $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$

PRL 128 (2022) 041801



$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (3.09^{+0.46+0.15}_{-0.43-0.11}) \times 10^{-9}$$

c.f. SM:  $\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (3.66 \pm 0.14) \times 10^{-9}$

See also CMS PL B842 (2023) 137955  
and ATLAS JHEP 04 (2019) 098

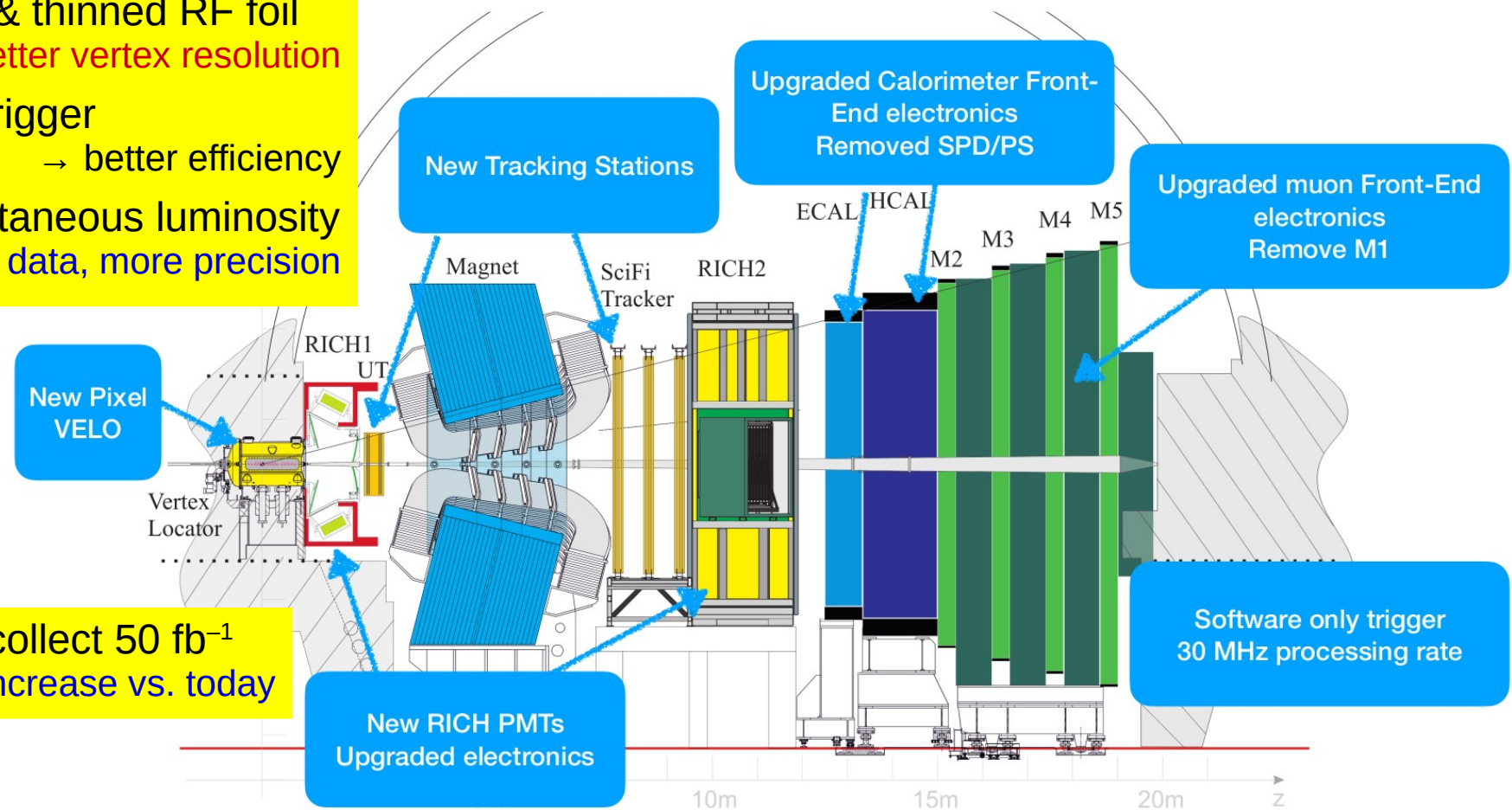
# LHCb Upgrade I

VELO pixels & thinned RF foil  
→ better vertex resolution

All software trigger  
→ better efficiency

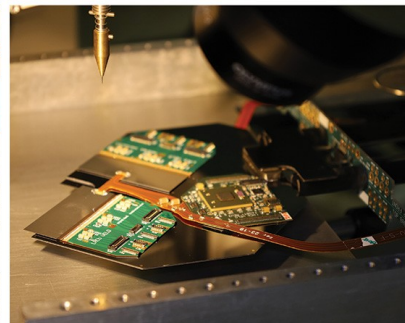
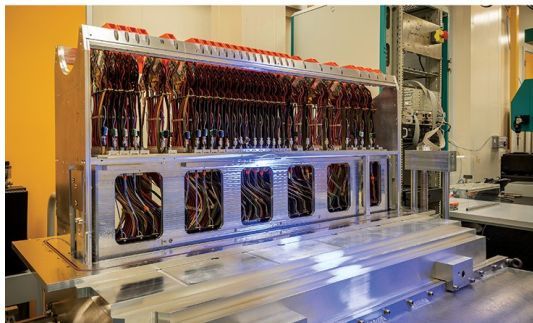
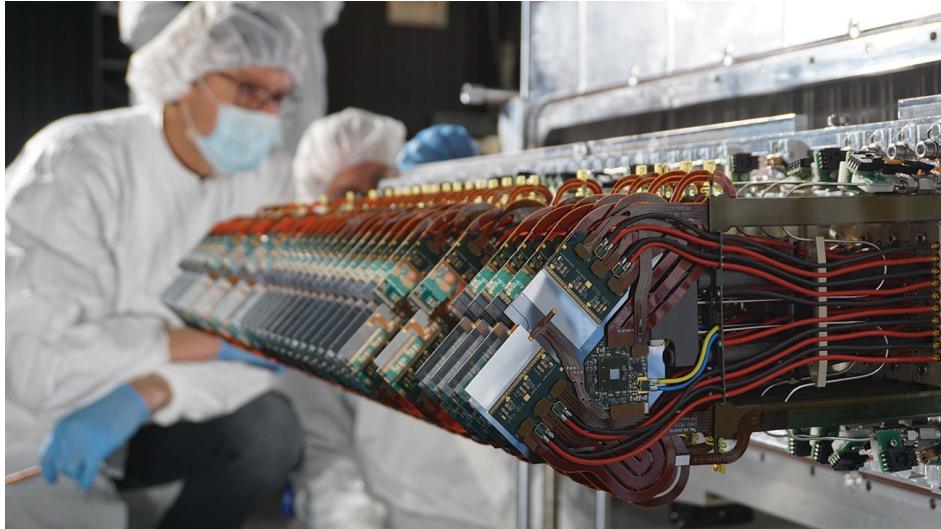
Higher instantaneous luminosity  
→ more data, more precision

Designed to collect  $50 \text{ fb}^{-1}$   
→  $\times 10$  data increase vs. today

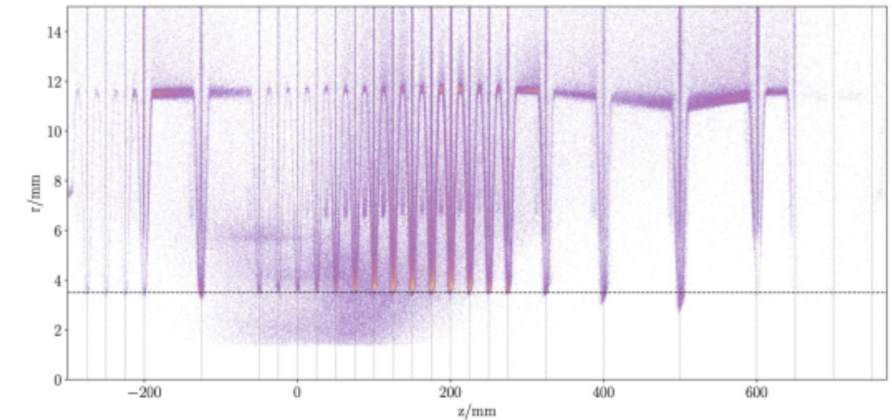
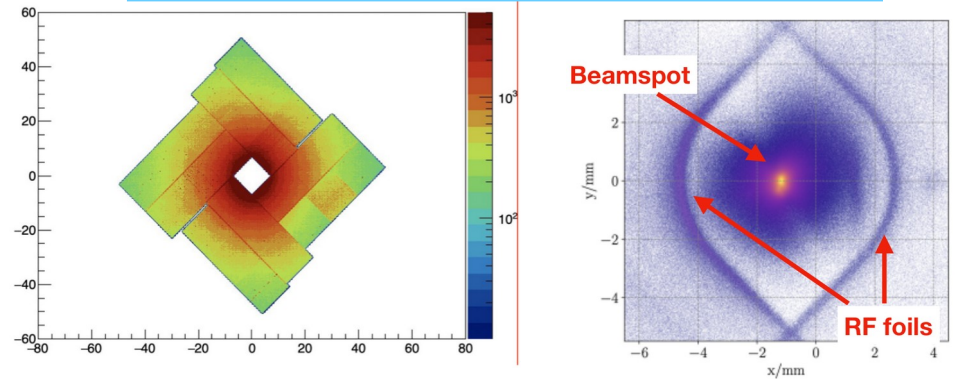


# Pixel VELO

Identification of displaced vertices crucial to identify B decays at hadron colliders



Commissioning ongoing!



# Data processing at 30 MHz

Traditional HEP trigger model:

- select interesting events with loose criteria for later offline analysis

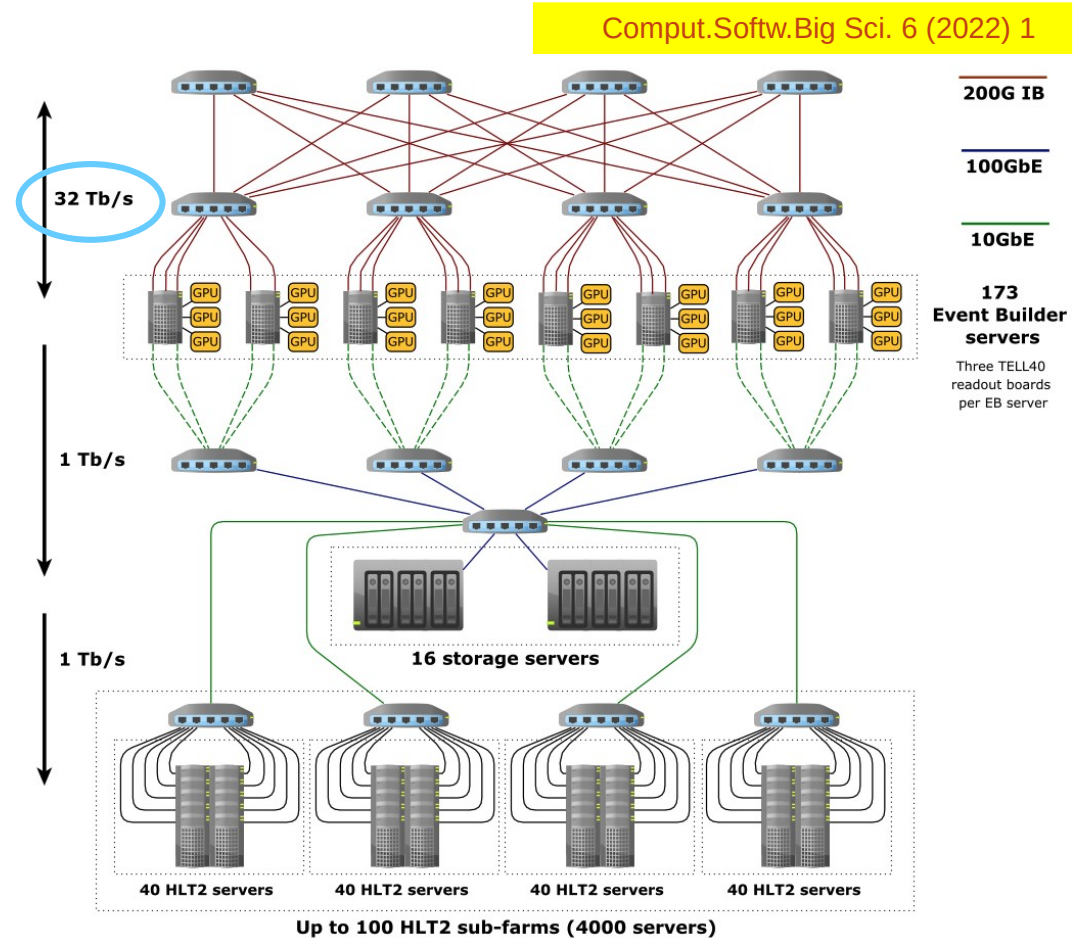
At high luminosity, every pp bunch-crossing contains a potentially interesting event

Need a new paradigm

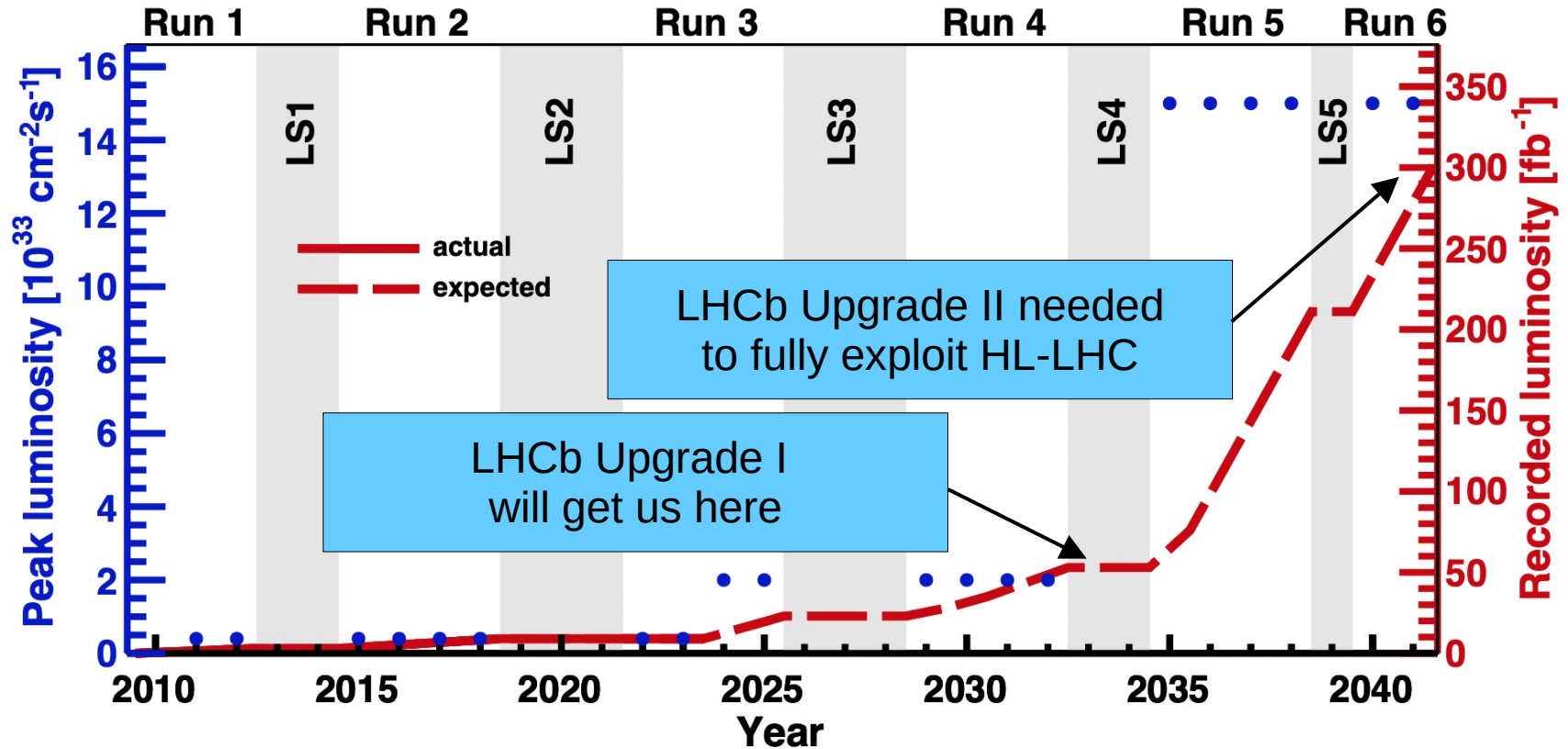
- full software trigger
- first level trigger (HLT1) implemented in GPUs
- offline quality reconstruction: calibration and alignment performed before HLT2
- select relevant information in each event to store for offline analysis

n.b:

data rate from LHCb detector (32 Tb/s)  
global internet traffic 2022 (997 Tb/s)

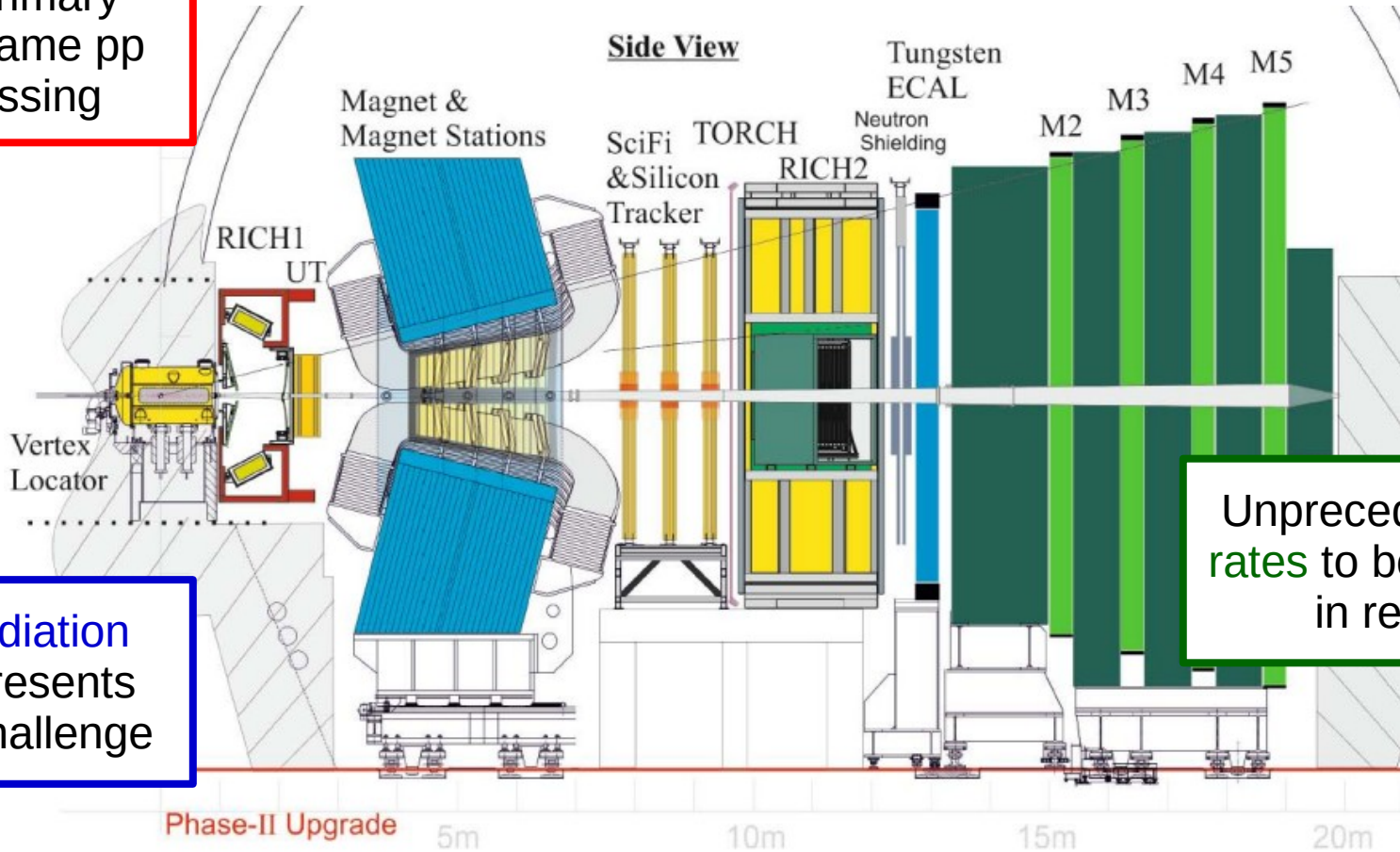


# Why stop there?



# LHCb Upgrade II

Crucial to use **precision timing** information to separate primary vertices in same pp bunch crossing



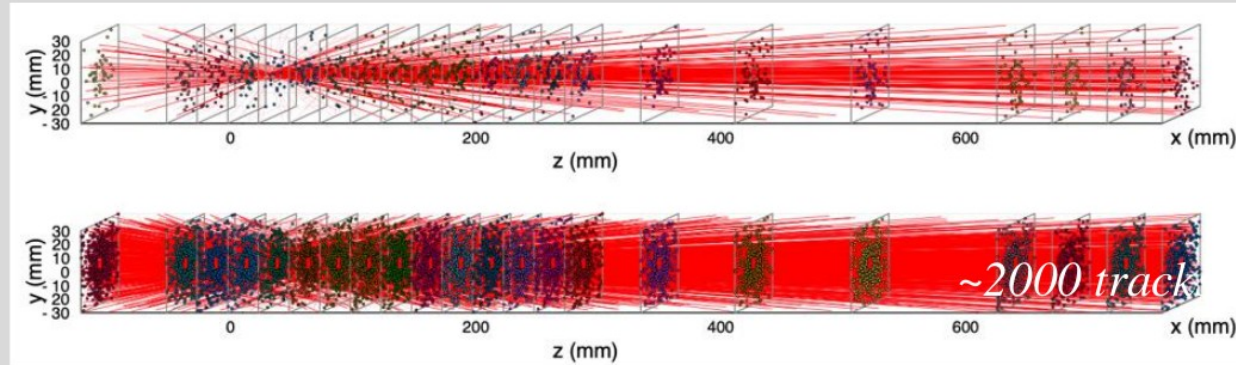
Need for **radiation hardness** presents significant challenge

Unprecedented **data rates** to be processed in real time

# The need for timing

Run 3: pile-up ~5

Upgrade II: pile-up ~40



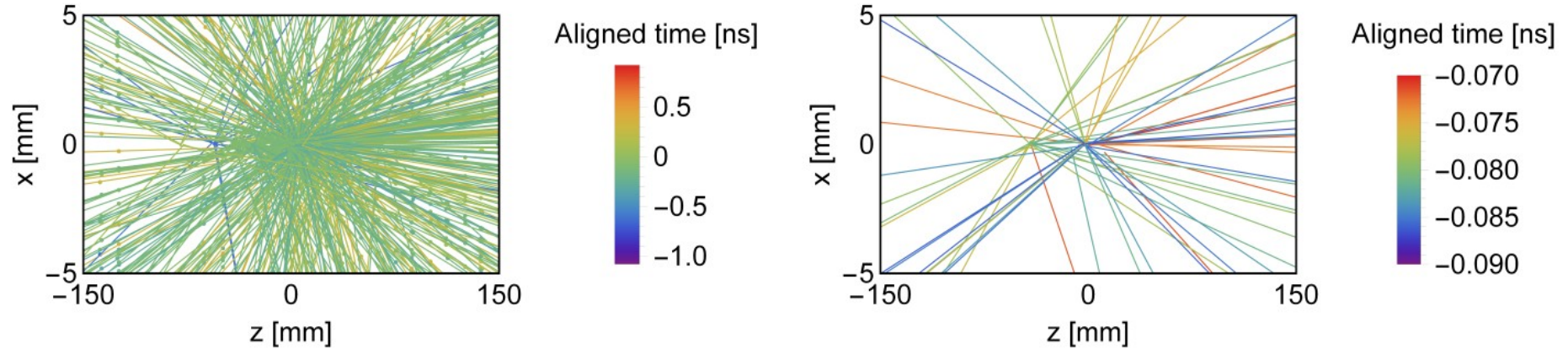
In VELO

~6 cm

- High LHC luminosity achieved by increasing number of pp interactions per bunch crossing
- Large detector occupancies → many possible fake combinations
- But LHC bunches are long (~50 mm); collisions in each bunch crossing occur over ~0.2 ns
- Detection with ~20 ps resolution per track gives new handle to associate hits correctly



# The need for timing

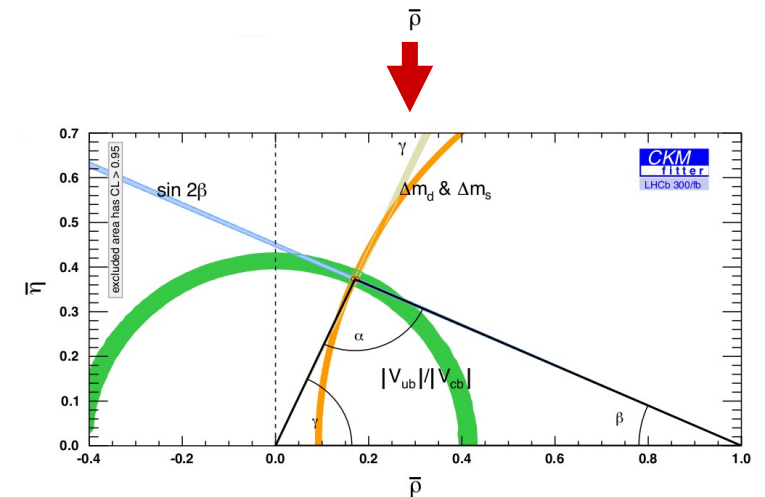
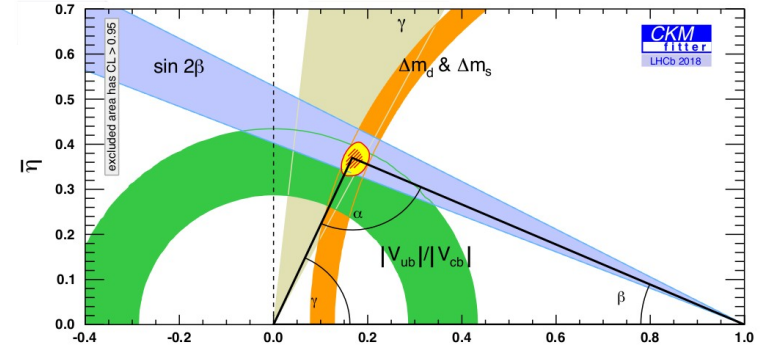


- High LHC luminosity achieved by increasing number of pp interactions per bunch crossing
- Large detector occupancies → many possible fake combinations
- But LHC bunches are long (~50 mm); collisions in each bunch crossing occur over ~0.2 ns
- Detection with ~20 ps resolution per track gives new handle to associate hits correctly

# LHCb Upgrade II physics impact

LHCb-TDR-023

Observable	Current LHCb (up to 9 fb <sup>-1</sup> )	Upgrade I (23 fb <sup>-1</sup> )	Upgrade I (50 fb <sup>-1</sup> )	Upgrade II (300 fb <sup>-1</sup> )
<b>CKM tests</b>				
$\gamma$ ( $B \rightarrow DK$ , etc.)	4° [9, 10]	1.5°	1°	0.35°
$\phi_s$ ( $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi\phi$ )	32 mrad [8]	14 mrad	10 mrad	4 mrad
$ V_{ub} / V_{cb} $ ( $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow p\mu^-\bar{\nu}_\mu$ , etc.)	6% [29, 30]	3%	2%	1%
$a_{sl}^d$ ( $B^0 \rightarrow D^-\mu^+\nu_\mu$ )	$36 \times 10^{-4}$ [34]	$8 \times 10^{-4}$	$5 \times 10^{-4}$	$2 \times 10^{-4}$
$a_{sl}^s$ ( $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^-\mu^+\nu_\mu$ )	$33 \times 10^{-4}$ [35]	$10 \times 10^{-4}$	$7 \times 10^{-4}$	$3 \times 10^{-4}$
<b>Charm</b>				
$\Delta A_{CP}$ ( $D^0 \rightarrow K^+K^-, \pi^+\pi^-$ )	$29 \times 10^{-5}$ [5]	$13 \times 10^{-5}$	$8 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.3 \times 10^{-5}$
$A_\Gamma$ ( $D^0 \rightarrow K^+K^-, \pi^+\pi^-$ )	$11 \times 10^{-5}$ [38]	$5 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.2 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-5}$
$\Delta x$ ( $D^0 \rightarrow K_s^0\pi^+\pi^-$ )	$18 \times 10^{-5}$ [37]	$6.3 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.1 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.6 \times 10^{-5}$
<b>Rare Decays</b>				
$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)/\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$	69% [40, 41]	41%	27%	11%
$S_{\mu\mu}$ ( $B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ )	—	—	—	0.2
$A_T^{(2)}$ ( $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}e^+e^-$ )	0.10 [52]	0.060	0.043	0.016
$A_T^{\text{Im}}$ ( $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}e^+e^-$ )	0.10 [52]	0.060	0.043	0.016
$\mathcal{A}_{\phi\gamma}^{\Delta\Gamma}$ ( $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\gamma$ )	+0.41 -0.44 [51]	0.124	0.083	0.033
$S_{\phi\gamma}$ ( $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\gamma$ )	0.32 [51]	0.093	0.062	0.025
$\alpha_\gamma(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda\gamma)$	+0.17 -0.29 [53]	0.148	0.097	0.038
<b>Lepton Universality Tests</b>				
$R_K$ ( $B^+ \rightarrow K^+\ell^+\ell^-$ )	0.044 [12]	0.025	0.017	0.007
$R_{K^*}$ ( $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\ell^+\ell^-$ )	0.12 [61]	0.034	0.022	0.009
$R(D^*)$ ( $B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-}\ell^+\nu_\ell$ )	0.026 [62, 64]	0.007	0.005	0.002



# Summary

- Flavour physics provides a powerful zeptoscope to probe the smallest scales
  - complementary to Higgs physics and high energy probes
- LHCb experiment has achieved incredible successes, exploiting huge  $b\bar{b}$  production rate in LHC collisions
  - some tensions with SM predictions to be understood
- Exciting prospects for 2020s with LHCb Upgrade I
- Developing technology for LHCb Upgrade II to operate throughout 2030s
  - unique potential to test the Standard Model with many discovery opportunities
  - I hope some of you will come and join us in this adventure