

Physics Week Summary: Theory

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2025 Belle II Physics Week
KEK, October 6 - 10, 2025

Theory at the 2025 Belle II Physics Week

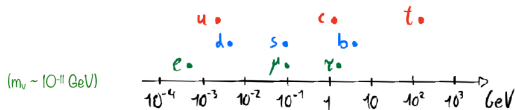


- Wolfgang Altmannshofer: EWP B decays with missing energy in the SM
- David Marzocca: New Physics in EWP B decays with missing E
- Claudia Cornella: Interplays with $B \rightarrow K\tau\tau$, $B \rightarrow \tau\tau$, and $K \rightarrow \pi\nu\bar{\nu}$
- Chris Bouchard: LQCD results for rare B-decays with missing energy
- Danny van Dyk: Unitarity Bounds for Hadronic Form Factors
- Hector Gisbert: Charm decays with missing energy (NP and SM)
- Hector Gisbert: Introduction to $c \rightarrow u\nu\bar{\nu}$ decays
- Hector Gisbert: Introduction to $b \rightarrow d\nu\bar{\nu}$ decays
- Olcyr Sumensari: $B \rightarrow K^{(*)}\nu\bar{\nu}$ in SM and observables beyond rate
- Jack Jenkins: $B \rightarrow X_s\nu\bar{\nu}$ in SM
- Martin Novoa-Brunet: Probing CP Violation in $b \rightarrow s\nu\bar{\nu}$ decays
- Michael Schmidt: BSM for $B \rightarrow K\nu\bar{\nu}$ & related anomalies
- Patrick Bolton: Impact of new particles on missing energy B decays

13 presentations by theorists

Motivation: Flavor is Puzzling

- hierarchical fermion masses

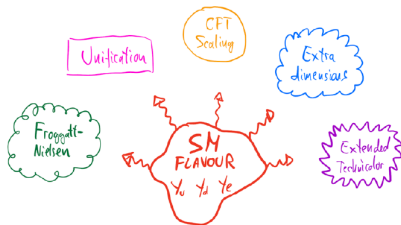


- hierarchical quark mixing matrix

$$V_{\text{CKM}} \sim$$

This puzzle in general **doesn't point to a specific New Physics scale for its solutions.**

They could be anywhere from **near the TeV** till up to **GUT/Planck**.



Necessarily Flavourful New Physics:

- **non universal**
- **flavour changing**

[David Marzocca]

Heavy and Light New Physics

- new physics could be heavy

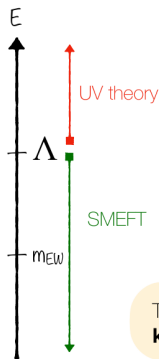
$$m_{\text{NP}} \gg m_B$$

- new physics only shows up as virtual particles
- can capture the effect of all possible new physics models using EFTs

Heavy and Light New Physics

- new physics could be heavy
 $m_{\text{NP}} \gg m_B$
- new physics only shows up as virtual particles
- can capture the effect of all possible new physics models using EFTs
- new physics could be light
 $m_{\text{NP}} < m_B$
- new physics particles are produced on-shell in the B decays
- axions, sterile neutrinos, dark photons, ... (could have entire dark sectors containing many light particles)

Heavy New Physics and SMEFT



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}}^{(d=6)} = \sum_i \frac{C_i^{(r)}}{\Lambda^2} \mathcal{O}_i^{(6)}[\phi_{\text{SM}}]$$

in general violate all the accidental symmetries and properties of the SM

We can expect large effects in rare or forbidden processes!

Precision tests of forbidden or suppressed processes in the SM are **powerful probes of physics Beyond the Standard Model.**

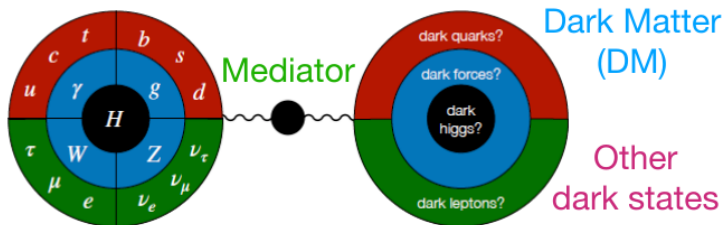
>> Flavour Physics ! <<

The **SMEFT** is a consistent **framework to systematically parametrise our knowledge of fundamental interactions** between the known particles.

Every little improvement in any direction in the (big) EFT parameter space means that we learn something more of how particles behave at microscopic scales.

[David Marzocca]

Light New Physics and Dark Sectors



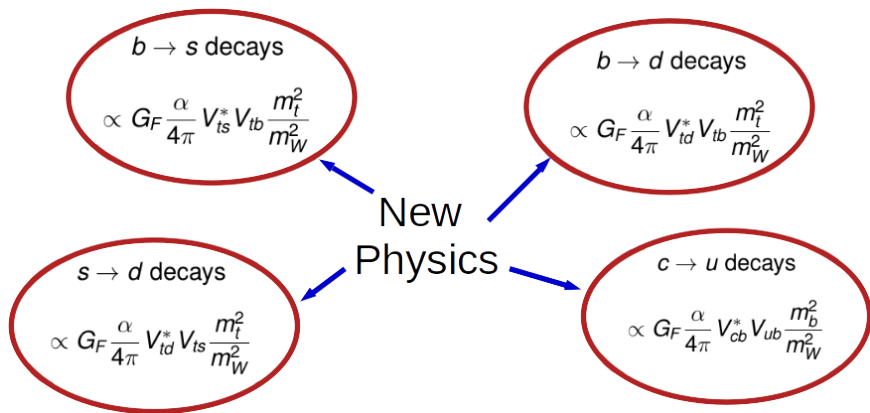
The Standard Model (SM)

The dark sector

Particles neutral under the SM gauge symmetries

- Dark matter could consist of light fermions
- Dark photons could be a mediator between dark matter and the SM
- light axions motivated by the strong CP problem and can show up in flavour models ("axiflavons")
- ...

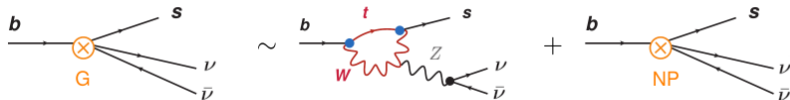
Complementarity of Rare Decays



Are there BSM sources of flavor violation?
What structure do they have?
What is their origin?

Searching for New Physics with Rare Decays

Example: heavy new physics in rare $b \rightarrow s\nu\bar{\nu}$ decays



$$G \sim \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \frac{g^4}{m_W^2} \frac{m_t^2}{m_W^2} V_{tb} V_{ts}^* + \frac{C_{NP}}{\Lambda_{NP}^2}$$

measure
precisely

calculate precisely
the SM contribution

get information on
NP coupling and scale

Mismatch between experiment and SM prediction
indicates new physics and provides a scale!

The Issue with V_{cb}

UTfit

V_{cb} and V_{ub}

average of arXiv:2105.08674,
2204.05925, 2310.03680

$$|V_{cb}| (excl) = (40.12 \pm 0.55) 10^{-3}$$

$$|V_{cb}| (incl) = (41.97 \pm 0.48) 10^{-3}$$

from arXiv:2310.20324

update of arXiv:2202.10285

$$|V_{ub}| (excl) = (3.63 \pm 0.26) 10^{-3}$$

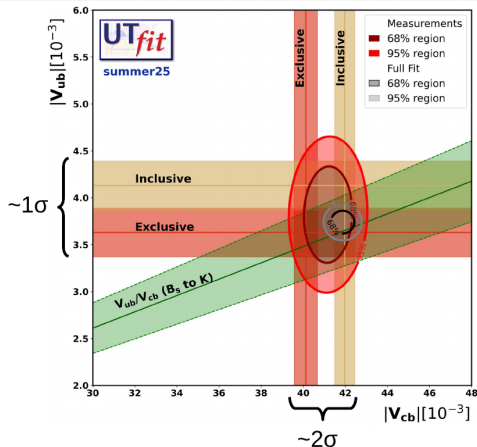
$$|V_{ub}| (incl) = (4.13 \pm 0.26) 10^{-3}$$

PDG 2025

from arXiv:2310.03680

$$|V_{ub} / V_{cb}| = (8.7 \pm 0.9) 10^{-2}$$

Global Fits



Marcella Bona

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[Marcella Bona]

The SM Wilson Coefficient for $b \rightarrow s\nu\bar{\nu}$

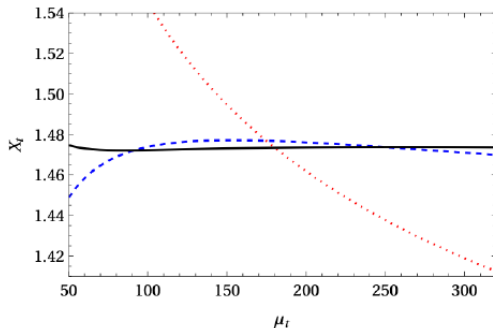
- In the SM there is a single Wilson coefficient relevant for the $b \rightarrow s\nu\bar{\nu}$ decays

$$C_L = -\frac{1}{s_W^2} X_t$$

- known at NLO in QCD and NLO in EW interactions; NNLO QCD corrections will be available very soon.

$b \rightarrow s\nu\bar{\nu}$ (V-A)

Preliminary, from E. Stamou's talk at Kaon25



[Jack Jenkins]

inclusive:

$$B \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}$$

- at leading order the decay rate is given by the quark level decay rate.
- corrections are calculated using heavy quark expansion

Inclusive vs Exclusive

inclusive:

$$B \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}$$

- at leading order the decay rate is given by the quark level decay rate.
- corrections are calculated using heavy quark expansion

exclusive:

$$B \rightarrow K^{(*)} \nu \bar{\nu}$$

$$B_s \rightarrow \phi \nu \bar{\nu}$$

$$\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \nu \bar{\nu}$$

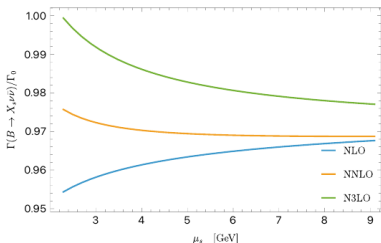
...

- hadronic physics is captured by local transition form factors.

The Inclusive Decay $B \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}$

We take $m_s/m_b \sim 0$, then the structure of the QCD corrections is equivalent to $B \rightarrow X_u \ell \nu$

$$\Gamma(\bar{B} \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}) = N_\nu \frac{G_F^2 m_b^5}{192 \pi^3} |V_{ts} V_{tb}|^2 |C_\nu|^2 \left\{ 1 + C_F \sum_{n=1} X_n \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \right)^n - \frac{\mu_\pi^2}{2m_b^2} - \frac{3\mu_G^2}{2m_b^2} + \frac{3\rho_{LS}^3}{2m_b^3} + \frac{77\rho_D^3}{6m_b^3} + \frac{\tau_0}{m_b^3} \right\}$$



pQCD: Kinetic scheme optimized for $b \rightarrow c$ decays, some indication of a divergent series for $b \rightarrow u(s)$ at the percent level

Matrix elements: $\langle .. \rangle = \langle \bar{B} | ... | \bar{B} \rangle / (2M_B)$

$$\mu_\pi^2 = - \langle \bar{b}_v (iD)^2 b_v \rangle ,$$

$$\mu_G^2 = \frac{1}{2} \langle \bar{b}_v (-i\sigma^{\mu\nu}) [iD_\mu, iD_\nu] b_v \rangle ,$$

$$\rho_{LS}^3 = \frac{1}{2} \langle \bar{b}_v (-i\sigma^{\mu\nu}) \{ iD_\mu, [iv \cdot D, iD_\nu] \} b_v \rangle ,$$

$$\rho_D^3 = \frac{1}{2} \langle \bar{b}_v [iD_\mu, [iv \cdot D, iD^\mu] \bar{b}_v \rangle$$

Stability of HQE

$$\frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma_0} \simeq 1 - 0.0360 \alpha_s + (0.0216 - 0.00020 n_c) \alpha_s^2 + 0.0237 \alpha_s^3 - 0.0097_{\mu_i, \rho_i}$$

[Jack Jenkins]

The Inclusive Decay $B \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}$

Using $|V_{cb}|_{\text{inc}} = 41.97(48) \times 10^{-3}$ and including correlation with m_b (-0.428)

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Br}(B^+ \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}) &= 3.342(40)_{\mu_0}(40)_{\mu_b}(35)_{\mu_k}(27)_{\text{par}}(\textcolor{red}{68})_{\text{HQE}}(\textcolor{red}{58})_{\text{CKM}} \times 10^{-5} \\ &= 3.342(112) \times 10^{-5} \quad (3.4\%) \quad \hookrightarrow (\textcolor{red}{76})_{\text{CKM}} \text{ without accounting for correlations with HQE}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Br}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}) = 3.609(121) \times 10^{-5}$$

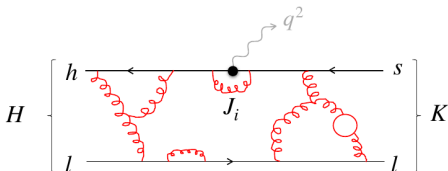
$$\text{Br}(\bar{B} \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu})_{\text{inc } V_{cb}} = (3.48 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-5} \quad (3.4\%)$$

Using $|V_{cb}|_{\text{excl}} = 39.46(53) \times 10^{-3}$ (uncorrelated with m_b^5)

$$\text{Br}(\bar{B} \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu})_{\text{excl } V_{cb}} = (3.07 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-5} \quad (4.0\%)$$

[Jack Jenkins]

Calculating form factors: hadronic matrix elements



$$\langle K | J_i | H \rangle$$

hadronic
matrix
elements
have:

- momentum transfer dependence, $0 \leq q^2 \leq q_{\max}^2 = (M_H - M_K)^2$
- effects from short distance weak interactions: $M_W \sim \mathcal{O}(100 \text{ GeV})$
- long distance QCD interactions: $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} \sim 0.5 \text{ GeV}$

[Chris Bouchart]

Boyd-Grinstein-Lebed Parametrization

11/14

- ▶ absorb χ , weight factor ω , and kernel $1/(t - Q^2)$ into “outer function” ϕ

$$1 \geq \frac{1}{\chi(0)} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} \frac{d\vartheta}{2\pi} z J_{z \rightarrow t}(z) \left[\frac{d^n}{d(Q^2)^n} \frac{\omega(t) |F(t(z))|^2}{t - Q^2} \right]_{z=e^{i\vartheta}, Q^2=0} \equiv \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} \frac{d\vartheta}{2\pi} |\phi(z) F(t(z))|^2 \Big|_{z=e^{i\vartheta}}$$

- ▶ use an orthonormal basis of analytic functions on the unit circle

$$\int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} \frac{d\vartheta}{2\pi} z^k z^{*,l} = \delta_{mn} \quad \text{for } k, l \geq 0$$

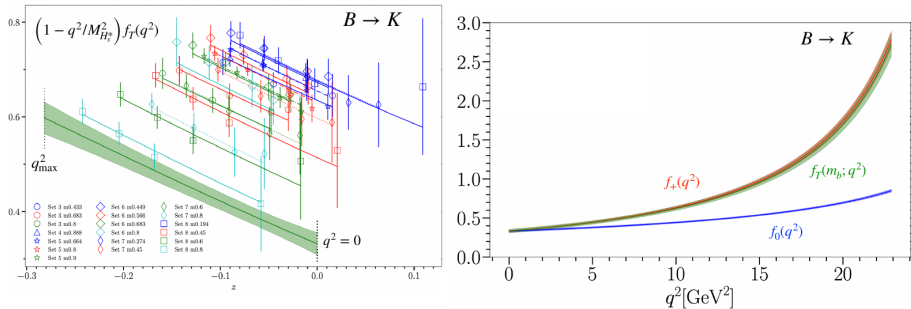
- ▶ expand $\phi(z)F(t(z))$ into a series around $z = 0$

$$F(t) = \frac{1}{\phi(z(t))} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k [z(t)]^k \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |a_k|^2 \leq 1$$

- ▶ each expansion coefficient is absolutely bounded to the interval $[-1, +1]$

[Danny van Dyk]

Lattice Calculations of Form Factors



- improved precision, especially at low q^2 , where it is needed
- errors statistics dominated, so improvement straightforward

[Chris Bouchart]

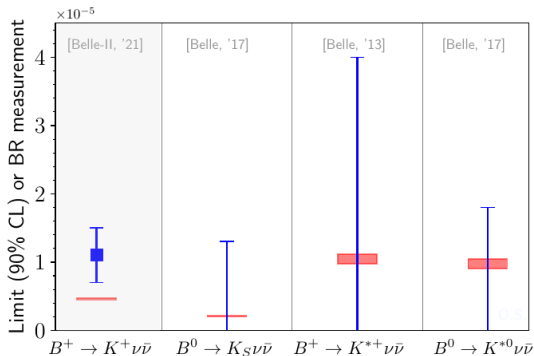
SM Predictions for the Branching Ratios

Decay	Branching ratio
$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$	$(4.44 \pm 0.14 \pm 0.27) \times 10^{-6}$
$B^0 \rightarrow K_S \nu \bar{\nu}$	$(2.05 \pm 0.07 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-6}$
$B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} \nu \bar{\nu}$	$(9.79 \pm 1.30 \pm 0.60) \times 10^{-6}$
$B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \nu \bar{\nu}$	$(9.05 \pm 1.25 \pm 0.55) \times 10^{-6}$

FF CKM

Using $V_{cb} [B \rightarrow D \ell \bar{\nu}]$ for illustration — the central value changes by -7% or $+10\%$ if we use $B \rightarrow D^ \ell \bar{\nu}$ or $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$, respectively.

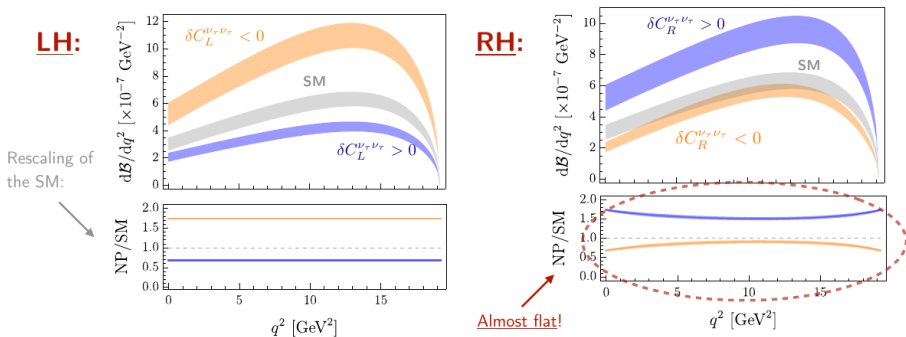
[Becirevic, Piazza, **OS**. 2301.06990]



[Olcy Sumensary]

Predictions for Differential Rates

- The q^2 -shapes of $B \rightarrow K^* \nu \nu$ can be mildly modified by the EFT (with LH neutrinos):



$\Rightarrow$ The differential q^2 -distribution is mostly sensitive to the $B \rightarrow K^*$ form-factors.

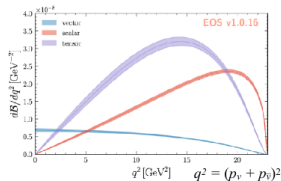
NB. They could be modified by operators with light NP — *cf. back-up*.

[Olcyr Sumensary]

Scalar and Tensor Operators

Reinterpretation framework of $B \rightarrow K^+ \nu \nu$, **generalising the EFT beyond the d=6 SMEFT**:

Gartner et al. 2402.08417, Belle-II 2507.12393



$$\mathcal{L}^{\text{WET}} = -\frac{4G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} V_{ts}^* V_{tb} \sum_i C_i(\mu_b) \mathcal{O}_i + \text{h.c.}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{VL} = (\bar{\nu}_L \gamma_\mu \nu_L) (\bar{s}_L \gamma^\mu b_L)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{VR} = (\bar{\nu}_L \gamma_\mu \nu_L) (\bar{s}_R \gamma^\mu b_R)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{SL} = (\bar{\nu}_L^c \nu_L) (\bar{s}_R b_L)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{SR} = (\bar{\nu}_L^c \nu_L) (\bar{s}_L b_R)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{TL} = (\bar{\nu}_L^c \sigma_{\mu\nu} \nu_L) (\bar{s}_R \sigma^{\mu\nu} b_L)$$

d=6: $\mathcal{O}_{lq^{(1,3)}}$, $\mathcal{O}_{ld}$

$\Delta L = 2$

Lepton number-violating operators
Generated at d=7 in SMEFT

Fridell et al. 2306.08709

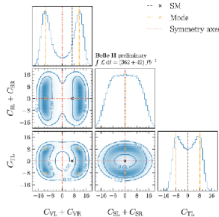
$$\frac{C^{(7)}}{\Lambda^3} (\bar{d}_L L_L) (\bar{Q}_L^c L_L) H$$

If at d=6 the EFT scale required was $\Lambda^{(6)} \sim 7 \text{ TeV}$,
at d=7 it becomes $\Lambda^{(7)} \sim 2 \text{ TeV}$.

Bounds from $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay $\sim 100 \text{ TeV}$ (for down quarks). 2306.08709

Why should flavour-conserving couplings be more suppressed than violating ones?

[David Marzocca]

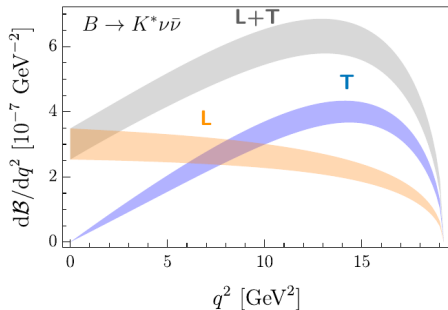


Longitudinal Polarization Fraction in $B \rightarrow K^* \nu \bar{\nu}$

$$F_L \equiv \frac{\frac{d\Gamma_L}{dq^2}}{\frac{d\Gamma}{dq^2}}$$

$$\frac{d\Gamma_L}{dq^2} \propto |C_L - C_R|^2 A_{12}(q^2)^2$$

$$\frac{d\Gamma_T}{dq^2} \propto |C_L - C_R|^2 A_1(q^2)^2 + \# |C_L + C_R|^2 V(q^2)^2$$



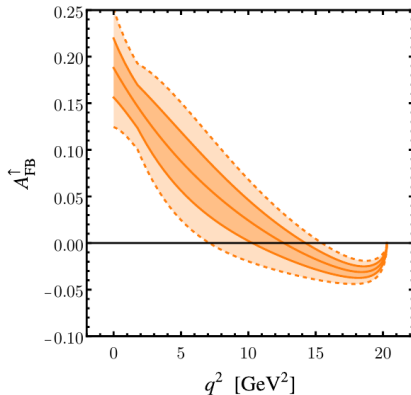
Contributions from **LH operators** ($\delta C_L \neq 0$) **cancel out** in F_L .

This observable is **sensitive to right-handed currents** ($\delta C_R \neq 0$)!

[Olcyr Sumensary]

Forward Backward Asymmetry in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \nu \bar{\nu}$

- All observables in the meson decays depend on two combinations of Wilson coefficients
 $|C_L + C_R|$ and $|C_L - C_R|$
- $A_{\text{FB}}^\uparrow$ in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \nu \bar{\nu}$ depends on an independent combination
 $|C_L|^2 - |C_R|^2$
→ complementary information
- To measure this, need polarized Λ_b from Z decays at FCC-ee ...



WA, Gadam, Toner 2501.10652

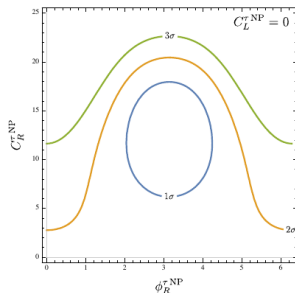
$$\frac{d\text{BR}(\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \nu \bar{\nu})}{dE_\Lambda d \cos \theta_\Lambda} = \frac{d\text{BR}(\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \nu \bar{\nu})}{dE_\Lambda} \left(\frac{1}{2} + A_{\text{FB}}^\uparrow \cos \theta_\Lambda \right)$$

(θ_Λ is the angle between the Λ_b spin and the Λ momentum)

What about CP phases?

Limits of Current observables

- Br and FL cannot fully disentangle RHC from relative CL/CR phase
- Only partial control over the relative phase
- Thanks to the maximal value for eta relative phase is partially constrained



Direct CP-Asymmetries

Due to lack of strong phases $\mathcal{A}_{CP}^{\text{dir}} = 0$
(Neutrinos couple to Z, only short distance)

What about $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \nu \bar{\nu}$?

Polarized $Br(\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \nu \bar{\nu})$ @ FCCee help disentangle

$$A_{FB} \propto P_{\Lambda_b} |\mathcal{C}_R|^2 - |\mathcal{C}_L|^2$$

Breaks the degeneracy of Meson decays (ε_ν , η_ν)

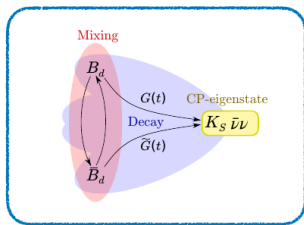
(See Wolfgang Altmannshofer Talk)

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[Martin Novoa-Brunet]

CP Violation in $b \rightarrow s\nu\bar{\nu}$

Indirect



Complex NP

$$s_0 \simeq -2 \sin(\phi^{\text{mix}} - \phi^{\text{decay}}) G_0$$

Interference between weak (CP-odd) phase and mixing phases

CP-Average

Time-evolution of CP-average

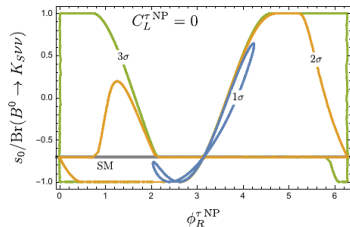
Encodes the same information as si Re vs Im part

$$G_i(t) + \tilde{G}_i(t) = e^{-\Gamma t} \left[(G_i + \tilde{G}_i) \cosh\left(\frac{\Delta\Gamma t}{2}\right) - h_i \sinh\left(\frac{\Delta\Gamma t}{2}\right) \right]$$

$$G_i(t) - \tilde{G}_i(t) = e^{-\Gamma t} \left[(G_i - \tilde{G}_i) \cos(\Delta m t) - s_i \sin(\Delta m t) \right]$$

Direct CP-Asymmetry

Indirect CP-Asymmetry

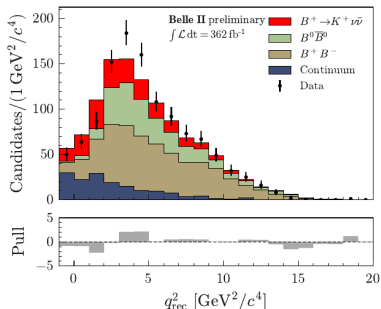
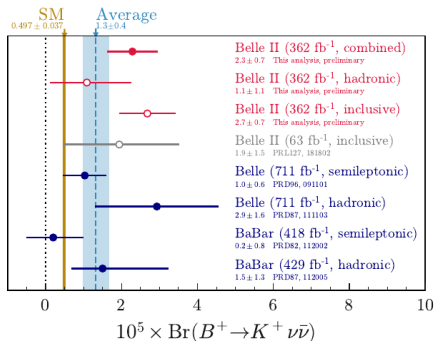


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[Martin Novoa-Brunet]

Evidence for $B \rightarrow K\nu\bar{\nu}$

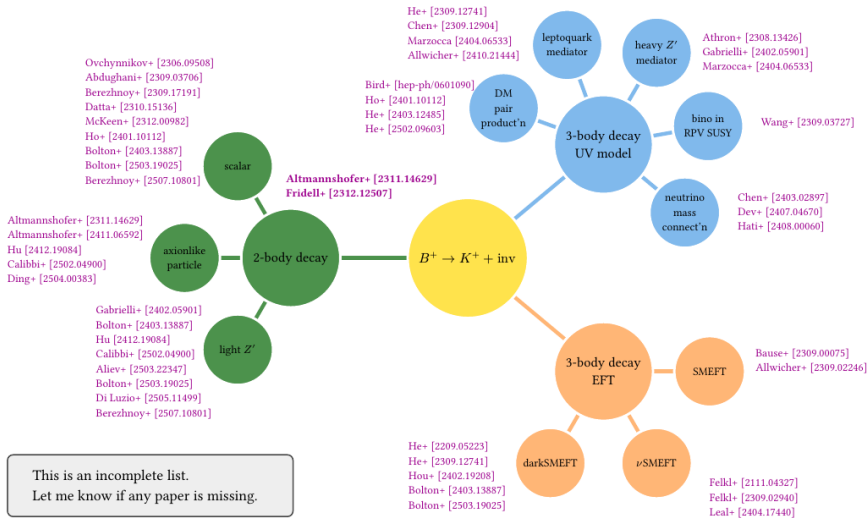
Belle II 2311.14647



- Evidence for $B \rightarrow K\nu\bar{\nu}$ at 3.5σ above background and 2.7σ above the SM prediction.
- Excess of events is particularly pronounced around $q^2 \simeq 4 \text{ GeV}^2$.

Theorists Having Fun

Proposed new physics explanations



[Michael Schmidt]

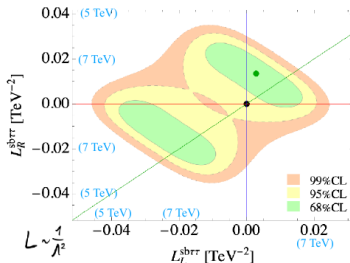
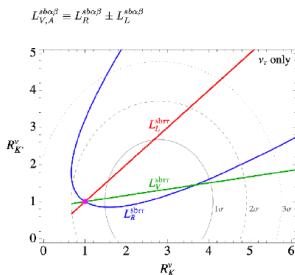
Heavy New Physics Interpretation

Assuming **only NP in tau**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} \supset L_{L,R} \left(\bar{d}_{i,L,R} \gamma_\mu d_{j,L,R} \right) \left(\bar{\nu}_\tau \gamma^\mu \nu_\tau \right)$$

DM, M. Nardecchia, A. Stanzione, C. Toni [2404.06533]

The limits from $R(K)$ and $B_s \rightarrow \mu\mu$ disfavour interpretations with electron or muon neutrinos



$\Lambda_{\text{bsvv}} \sim 7 \text{ TeV}$

Future Belle II results (in particular from the K^* mode) will help to clarify the preferred chiral structure.

[David Marzocca]

$$B \rightarrow K \nu \bar{\nu}, K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}, \text{ and } R_{D^{(*)}}$$

Is a picture emerging from data?

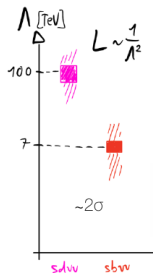
Neutral-current

Charged-current

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} \supset \bar{L}_{L,R} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{d}_{iL,R} \gamma_\mu d_{jL,R} \end{pmatrix} (\bar{\nu}_\tau \gamma^\mu \nu_\tau) \xleftrightarrow[\text{SU}(2)_L]{(\bar{Q}_L \gamma_\mu Q_L)(L_L \gamma^\mu L_L)} \mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} \supset \bar{L}_{L,R}^c \begin{pmatrix} \bar{d}_{iL,R} \gamma_\mu u_{jL} \end{pmatrix} (\bar{\nu}_\tau \gamma^\mu \tau_z)$$

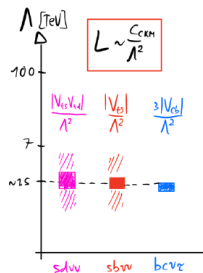
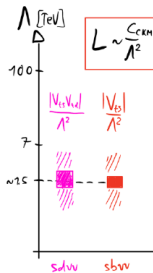
The precise correlation is model-dependent

$$R(D^{(*)})_{b \rightarrow s \ell \ell} \rightarrow L_{bc\nu\ell}^{cc} \sim \frac{1}{(4\text{TeV})^2}$$



Assuming a CKM-like structure

$$c_{ij} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_1 & \lambda^0 & \lambda^1 \\ \lambda^0 & \varepsilon_2 & \lambda^1 \\ \lambda^0 & \lambda^1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



($\varepsilon \sim 3 V_{cb}$)

$$L_{bc\nu\ell}^{cc} \sim \frac{3|V_{cb}|}{(4.9\text{TeV})^2}$$

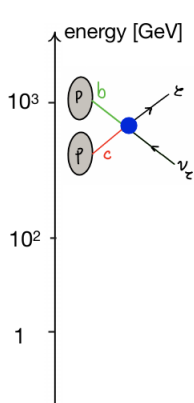
All the deviations are compatible with a U(2)-like flavour structure.

See Altmannhofer et al. [2410.21444]

The physics scales become compatible!

[David Marzocca]

Complementarity with Collider Searches



LHC searches [CMS & ATLAS] [See talks by T.Vazquez & M. Martinez]

- largest effects in 3rd-family processes:

- lepton sector: $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t}, pp \rightarrow b\bar{b} \dots$
- quark sector: $pp \rightarrow \tau\tau, pp \rightarrow \tau\nu$
- also LFU, e.g. comparing $pp \rightarrow \tau\tau$ to $pp \rightarrow \mu\mu$

- energy enhancement in **tails** helps overcome pdf suppression of heavy flavours in the proton

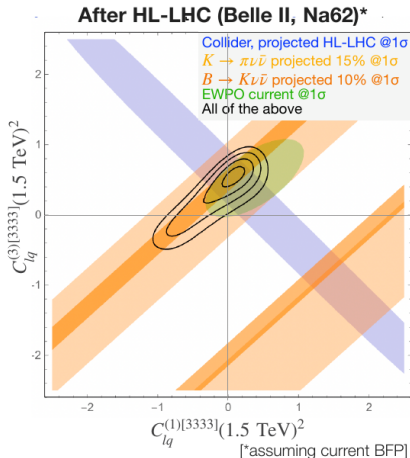
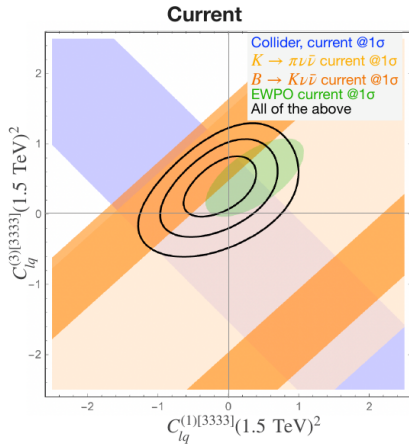
Status and prospects

- **currently**, LHC probes scales $\sim 1 \text{ TeV}$
- **HL-LHC**: improvement in WCs bounds range **from 20% to 4 x** for semileptonic operators (factor 2x in the scale)

[Claudia Cornella]

Complementarity with Electroweak Precision

Combining $\nu\bar{\nu}$ data with EW precision and collider:



Setup: analysis with $C_{\ell q}^{(3)[3333]}$, $C_{\ell q}^{(1)[3333]}$, ϵ_F

[Plots from Allwicher, CC, Isidori, Stefaneke, 2311.00020 updated with more recent data]

[Claudia Cornella]



Favoured Scenarios

Viable scenarios (better fit w.r.t to the **re-scaled SM**):

Two-body:

$$B \rightarrow K\phi \text{ or } B \rightarrow KV \text{ with } m_{\phi/V} = (2.1 \pm 0.1) \text{ GeV}$$

Three-body:

$$B \rightarrow K\psi\bar{\psi} \text{ for vector couplings with } m_{\psi} = 0.60^{+0.11}_{-0.14} \text{ GeV}$$

$$B \rightarrow K\phi\bar{\phi} \text{ for vector couplings with } m_{\phi} = 0.38^{+0.13}_{-0.15} \text{ GeV}$$

$$\text{scalar couplings with } m_{\phi} = 0.52^{+0.11}_{-0.14} \text{ GeV}$$

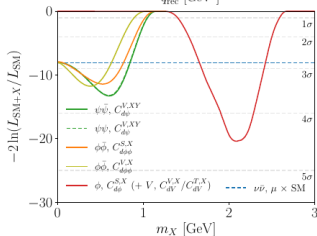
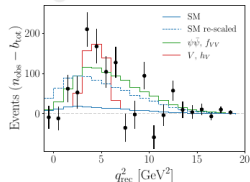
Non-viable scenarios (worse fit w.r.t to the **re-scaled SM**:

- $B \rightarrow K\psi\bar{\psi}$ for scalar and tensor couplings
- $B \rightarrow KVV/\Psi\bar{\Psi}$ for all couplings

$\Rightarrow$ Kinetics cannot accommodate excess at $q_{\text{rec}}^2 \sim 4 \text{ GeV}^2$

Patrick Bolton, Jožef Stefan Institute (IJS), 08.10.25

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[Patrick Bolton]

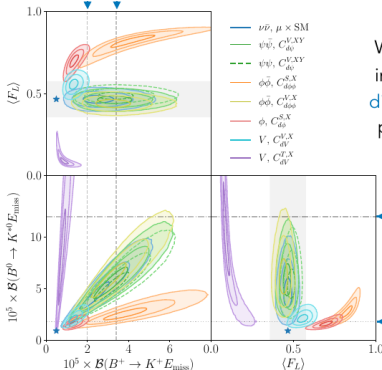
Implications for Future Measurements



Jožef Stefan Institute

Belle II @ 68% CL (assuming SM) [Adachi et al. 2023]

Combined fit to
Belle II, BABAR and
ALEPH data



With $\mathcal{O}(10\%)$ sensitivities to
integrated BRs and F_L clear
distinction of some scenarios
possible (mostly two-body)

BaBar @ 90% CL [Lees et al. 2013]

Belle @ 90% CL [Grygier, 2017]

Patrick Bolton, Jožef Stefan Institute (IJS), 08.10.25

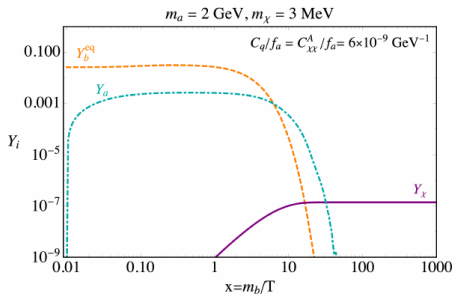
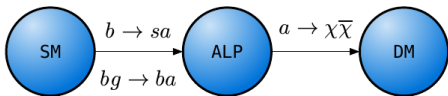
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[PDB, Fajfer, Kamenik, Novoa-Brunet 2025]

[Patrick Bolton]

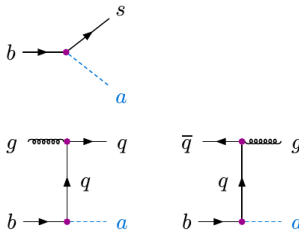
Dark Matter and Axion Mediator

DM freeze-in production - ALP mediator



Calibbi, Li, Mukherjee, MS [2502.04900] 2-body decay

ALP production Aghaie+ [2404.12199]



- ALP reaches thermal equilibrium through decay and scattering processes
- χ DM frozen in through ALP decays

[Michael Schmidt]

Dark Matter and Z' Mediator

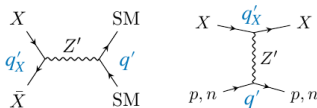


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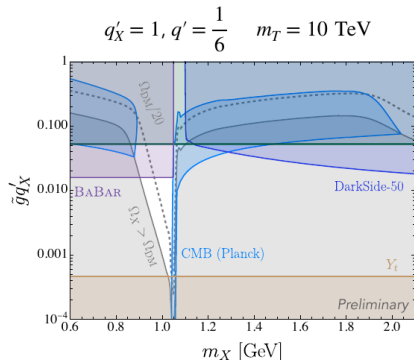
GeV Scale DM

For the allowed window, is correct DM relic abundance (Ω_X) possible? Yes!

Resonant enhancement of $\langle\sigma v\rangle$ for $2m_X \sim M_{Z'}$



Mass range $0.9 \text{ GeV} \lesssim m_X \lesssim 1 \text{ GeV}$ gives correct Ω_X and evades bounds from **direct** (DarkSide-50) and **indirect** (CMB) detection



Patrick Bolton, Jožef Stefan Institute (IJS), 08.10.25

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[PDB, Kamenik, Novoa-Brunet, 2025]

[Patrick Bolton]

Don't Forget $c \rightarrow u\nu\bar{\nu}$!

$$\mathcal{B}(c \rightarrow u\nu\bar{\nu}) \sim 10^{-19} \approx 0$$

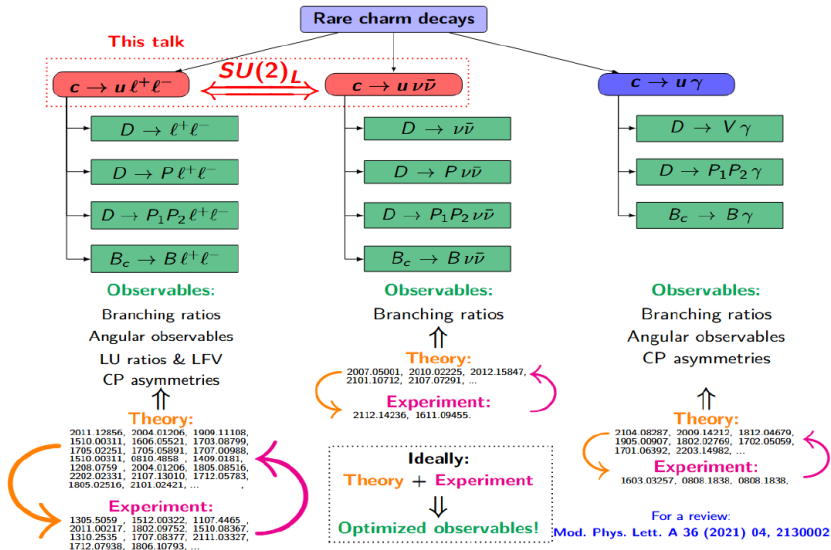
This is almost zero!

Thanks to the GIM mechanism!

**Experimentally, this means that any
signal is NP!**

[Hector Gisbert]

Many Opportunities with Rare Charm Decays



[Hector Gisbert]

One of my first papers as a graduate student, 16 years ago:

New strategies for New Physics search in $B \rightarrow K^* \nu \bar{\nu}$, $B \rightarrow K \nu \bar{\nu}$ and $B \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}$ decays

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It is happening!

I look very much forward to more $b \rightarrow s \nu \bar{\nu}$ results from Belle II!

Thank You!