

The Basic Steps to a Physics Analysis (Using $B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \tau^+ \tau^-$ as an example)



Chris Ketter
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Belle II KLM Group



- 1) Obtain signal Monte Carlo
- 2) Study the physical process (What's unique about the decay mode?)
- 3) Optimize signal selection (tune cuts on pID, kinematics, etc.)
- 4) Reject background (additional cuts, MVA techniques)
- 5) Make a measurement (cut & count / functional fit / template fit)
- 6) Validation (measure a control mode)
- 7) Evaluate systematics
- 8) Unblind
- 9) Publish!

Colors

- Completed and/or in progress
- Outstanding

Signal Monte Carlo

☕ A blind analysis means completing whole analysis on Monte Carlo (MC) data before looking at real data

☕ For Belle analyses, need to generate $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \tau^+ \tau^-$ MC (for Belle II, one should consult data production group):

- ☪ Want separate MC data sets for all τ channels under consideration, e.g. $\tau \rightarrow e\nu\bar{\nu}$, $\tau \rightarrow \mu\nu\bar{\nu}$, $\tau \rightarrow \pi\nu$
- ☪ Generate MC decay tables (.gen files) with evtgen (using mcproduzh pkg.)

- Example decay.dec file shown for

$$B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm [\tau^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\tau] [\tau^- \rightarrow e^- \nu_\tau \bar{\nu}_e]$$

- ☪ Simulate detector response (.mdst files) with Geant 3 (Belle II uses Geant 4)

```
# Define Aliases
Alias MyB+ B+
Alias MyB- B-
Alias MyTau+ tau+
Alias MyTau- tau-

yesPhotos # Turn on PHOTOS for all decays

#### BF #### ##### Daughters ##### # Generator #
Decay Upsilon(4S)
0.500000000 B+ MyB- VSS;
0.500000000 MyB+ B- VSS;
Enddecay

# Signal-side decay
Decay MyB-
1.000000000 K- MyTau+ MyTau- BTOSLLBALL;
Enddecay
CDecay MyB+

Decay MyTau-
1.000000000 e- anti-nu_e nu_tau TAULNUNU;
Enddecay
CDecay MyTau+

End
```

Def: tag B meson = the other B meson that is not your signal B meson. (variations incl, hadronic, semileptonic, inclusive)

Physical Process

☕ Final state has 2-4 neutrinos, so missing mass is a hallmark of this decay mode

☕ The signal kaon is not missing any mass, and it's momentum is anti-correlated with the momentum of the $\tau^+\tau^-$ system which cannot be reconstructed

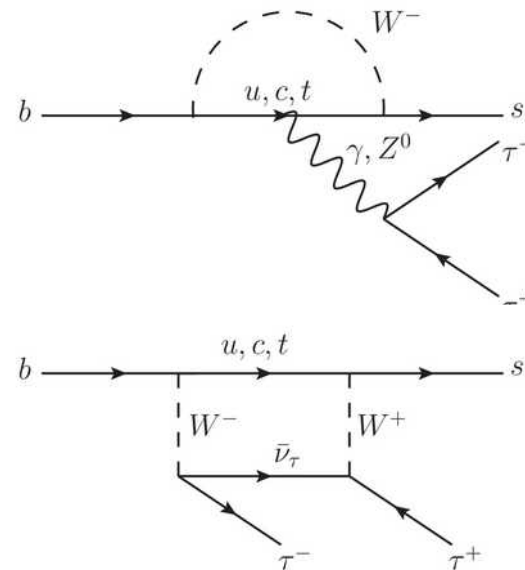
☕ Theoretical branching fraction very small

- ☪ Could be inflated with different NP scenarios
- ☪ Decided to use inclusive tagging method to maximize statistics (at the expense of resolution)

☕ Would like to fit 2D distribution of missing mass² vs. transverse momentum of the kaon

- ☪ Therefore, we don't want to cut on these (or variables highly correlated with these), nor do we want to use them in any MVA training

☕ Also, we know $B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm [J/\Psi \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-]$ has same final state as some of the 1-prong τ modes, so we can use this as a control mode to validate our procedure



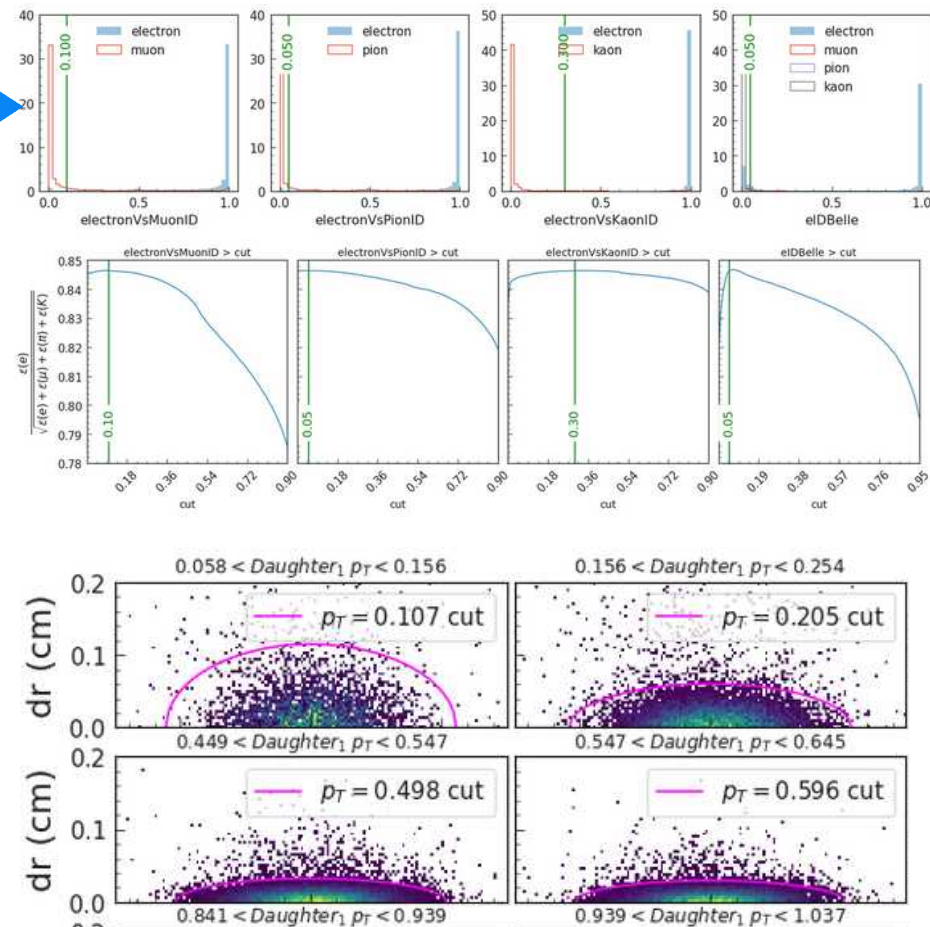
$$\begin{aligned}
 N_{theory} &= N_{B^+B^-} \cdot Br(B \rightarrow K \tau \tau) \cdot Br(\tau \rightarrow e \nu \bar{\nu}) \cdot Br(\tau \rightarrow e \bar{\nu}) \\
 &= 384735950 \cdot (1.61 \cdot 10^{-7}) \cdot 0.1779 \cdot 0.1779 \cdot 2 \\
 &\approx 4
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 N_{Br=3.0 \cdot 10^{-4}} &= 384735950 \cdot (3 \cdot 10^{-4}) \cdot 0.1779 \cdot 0.1779 \cdot 2 \\
 &\approx 7304
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 N_{reco-expected} &= N_{Br=3.0e-4} \cdot \epsilon_{reco} \\
 &= 7304 \cdot 0.0769 \\
 &\approx 562
 \end{aligned}$$

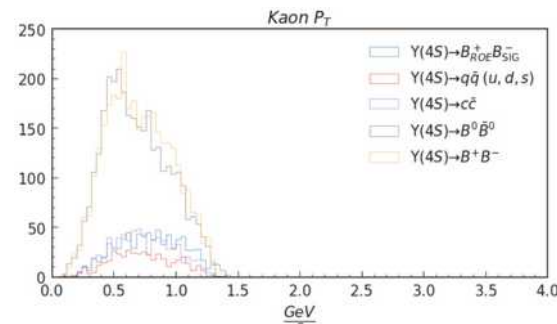
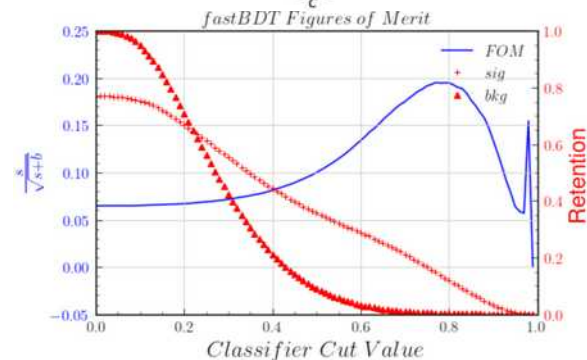
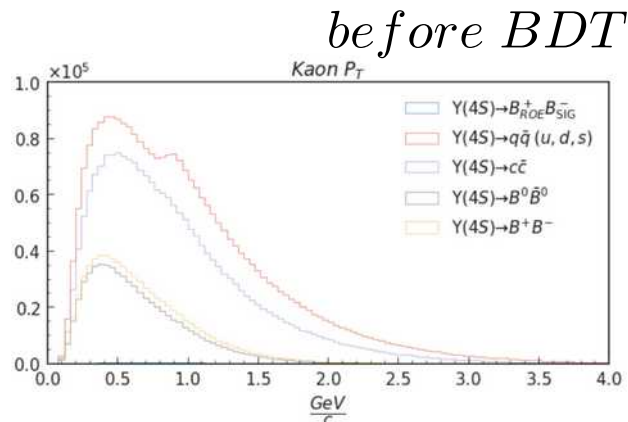
Signal Selection

- Study signal MC --- look at distributions of things like p_T , pID, and impact parameters of final state particles and establish cuts
- Use these cuts to build final-state particle lists (`ma.fillParticleList`)
- Skimming --- discard events that don't pass skimming criteria (`ma.applyEventCuts`)
 - Event shape should be consistent with an $Y(4S)$ decay (`ma.buildEventShape`)
 - In the case of inclusive tagging, the tag side should be free of leptons (`countInList`)
 - I require that the whole event has the exact number of electrons and or muons for each of my decay channels
- Reconstruct Decay --- use every combinatorial way (candidates) to build the specified decay chain for each event (`ma.reconstructDecay`)
 - Can reduce number of incorrect candidates here by imposing additional cuts (e.g. `Mbc`, `deltaE`)
- Use the rest of the tracks and clusters to build my inclusive tag B meson (`ma.buildRestOfEvent`)
- Make additional cuts on the quality of the tag B meson (`ma.applyCuts`)
 - Can help eliminate some of the incorrect candidates
- Perform vertex fits for both the signal B and tag B mesons (`vtx.treeFit`, `vtx.TagV`)
- From all the candidates in the event, choose one (`ma.rankByHighest`)
 - I choose the candidate with the highest p-value combination of the signal and tag side fitted p-values



Background Rejection

- ☕ Were studying $e^+e^- \rightarrow Y(4S)$, but we can also have $e^+e^- \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ ($q = u, d, c, s$), $\ell^+\ell^-$, $\gamma\gamma$
- ☕ Further, we must consider $\Upsilon(4S) \rightarrow B\bar{B} \rightarrow X$
- ☕ We run our steering script on both signal and various background MC types
- ☕ First, we tune our loose cuts to reject as much background as possible
- ☕ To further improve background rejection, we can use machine learning techniques (I'm using `fastBDT`)
 - ☪ Signal and BG nTuples are used to train a boosted-decision tree
 - ☪ I use one BDT to reject continuum $e^+e^- \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ ($q = u, d, c, s$) and another BDT for all other charged/neutral B meson decays
 - ☪ Finally, the cut value for each BDT output classifier is chosen using a figure of merit, e.g. $S/\sqrt{S+B}$



Fitting Unknown Distributions

Often times, we may not have a probability distribution function which accurately describes our data

In this case we can fit to a template

With pyhf (Histogram Factory for python) we can construct a model of any binned data and fit the model to independent data

It's a maximum likelihood estimator based on pdf's that assume underlying Poisson statistics

The fit (maximum likelihood estimate) finds the values of signal strength, μ , and background bin contents, θ , which maximize $L(\mu, \theta)$

Significance is measured by assuming a null hypothesis and looking for an excess (significance = $\sqrt{q_0}$)

If significance is $< 5\sigma$ (typical discovery threshold), an upper limit can be measured by scanning over different signal strengths and finding the point where the $\text{cdf}(q_\mu|\mu) = \text{chosen exclusion threshold}$

$$L(\mu, \theta) = \prod_{j=1}^N \frac{(\mu s_j + b_j)^{n_j}}{n_j!} e^{-(\mu s_j + b_j)} \prod_{k=1}^M \frac{u_k^{m_k}}{m_k!} e^{-u_k} .$$

$$\lambda(\mu) = \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\theta})}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})}$$

$$q_0 = \begin{cases} -2 \ln \lambda(0) & \hat{\mu} \geq 0, \\ 0 & \hat{\mu} < 0, \end{cases}$$

$$q_\mu = \begin{cases} -2 \ln \lambda(\mu) & \hat{\mu} \leq \mu \\ 0 & \hat{\mu} > \mu \end{cases}$$

$$p_\mu = \int_{q_{\mu, \text{obs}}}^{\infty} f(q_\mu | \mu) dq_\mu$$

☕ Right: my 1st attempt at a template for signal and background of kaon p_T vs. missing m^2

☕ To build the pyhf model, the bin counts of the 2D histograms (signal and background) are simply flattened into a 1D array and normalized by the expected yield

☕ Bins without signal automatically become side bands and help constrain the background amplitudes in the signal region

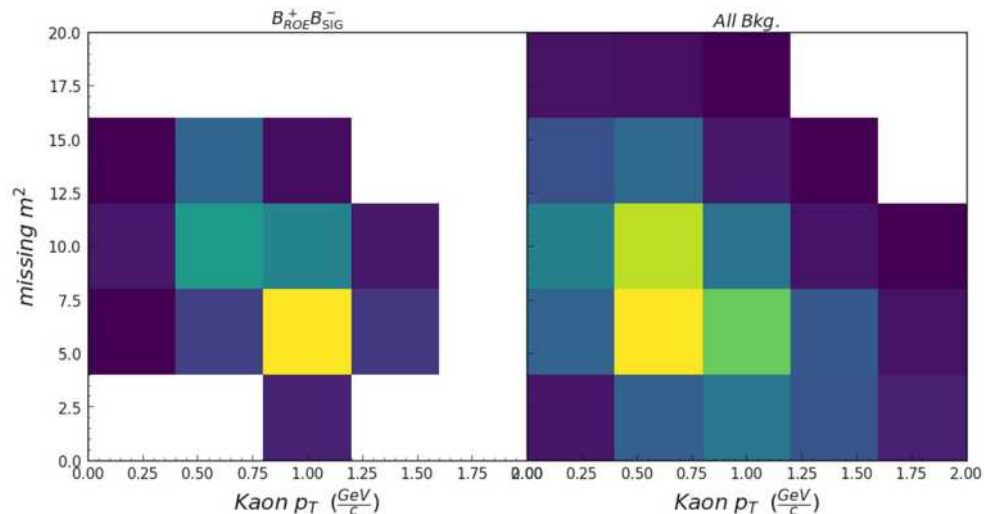
☕ One can combine multiple decay channels into one simultaneous fit --- this one is just one tau channel

☕ In this 1st attempt fitting MC data, with an assumed branching fraction 3×10^{-4} , significance was $< 5\sigma$

☕ A scan for the required signal strength reach a 10% exclusion level already gives an upper limit of 1.8×10^{-3} at 90% C.L.

Signal

Background



Remaining Steps (Future Work for Me)

☕ Validate analysis on a control mode

- Ideally something well studied
- Can unblind control mode for validation

☕ Study systematics

- What are the effects of systematics [pre-selection cuts, signal & background modeling, BDT, ...] on my measurement [significance, upper limit]?

☕ Unblind

- Run my reconstruction on real Belle data
- Partial unblinding?
 - First check side bands where no signal is expected?

☕ Publish!

Summary

- ☕ I've tried to lay out the basic steps to performing a HEP analysis
 - ☕ Steps may vary for different types of analyses
- ☕ With limited time for this talk, I've omitted a description of machine-learning techniques
 - ☕ For more information on this, I recommend Simon Wehle's presentation at the 2019 BNL Workshop <https://indico.bnl.gov/event/5655/>
- ☕ I've also omitted a discussion on inclusive ROE tagging as this will be covered in an upcoming talk by Boyang Zhang
- ☕ I have tried to introduce you to the popular fitting package (`pyhf` / `histogram factory`) used in HEP analyses so you may have an idea of how to perform a template fit, calculate significance, and determine upper limits

References

- ☕ The outline of this talk was heavily influenced by Michael DeNuccio's talk, *Search for Axion-Like Particles produced in $e^+ e^-$ collisions at Belle II*, shown at the 2020 B2SW
- ☕ Heinrich et al., (2021). pyhf: pure-Python implementation of HistFactory statistical models. *Journal of Open Source Software*, 6(58), 2823, <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.02823>
- ☕ Glen Cowan, Kyle Cranmer, Eilam Gross, Ofer Vitells, *Asymptotic formulae for likelihood-based tests of new physics*, arXiv:1007.1727