



$B \rightarrow K^{(*)} \nu \bar{\nu}$ decays: status and future prospects

Niharika Rout
on behalf of Belle and Belle II collaborations

Flavor Frontier 2026, Tokyo, Japan – 3rd September, 2026



Physics in SM (exclusive)

Occurs through flavor-changing neutral current:

- **Rare:** $b \rightarrow s \nu \bar{\nu}$ transition suppressed by the GIM mechanism
- **Precise SM predictions:** small hadronic uncertainties, dominated by form factors

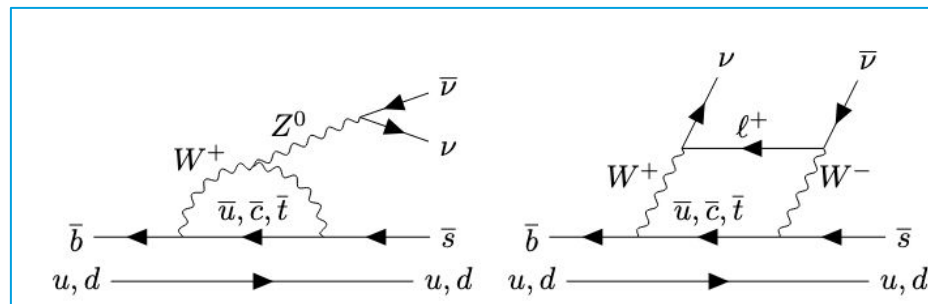
@SM predictions: [EPJC 83 \(2023\) 252](#)

Decay	SM short-distance prediction, 10^{-6}
$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$	$4.32 \pm 0.16 \pm 0.26$
$B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$	$2.00 \pm 0.07 \pm 0.12$
$B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} \nu \bar{\nu}$	$9.35 \pm 0.94 \pm 0.56$
$B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \nu \bar{\nu}$	$8.65 \pm 0.87 \pm 0.57$

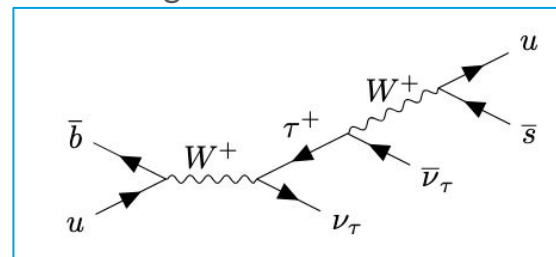
FF

CKM+higher order corrections

Short-distance contribution



Long-distance contribution



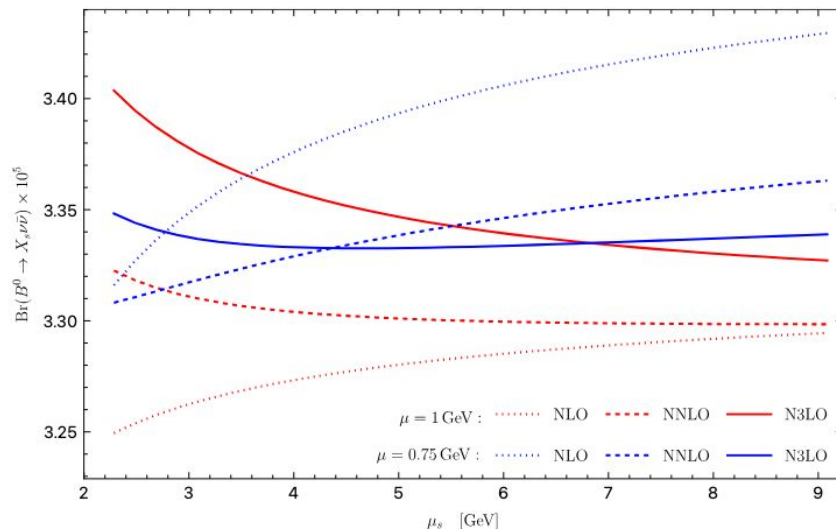
Physics in SM (inclusive)

Inclusive $B \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}$ prediction using Heavy-Quark Expansion [\[Fael et al., arXiv:2512.19138\]](#)

- Needed N3LO to be stable vs renormalization scale variation
- Results:

$$\text{Br}(B^0 \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}) = (3.351 \pm 0.102) \times 10^{-5}$$

$$\text{Br}(B^+ \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}) = (3.618 \pm 0.110) \times 10^{-5}$$

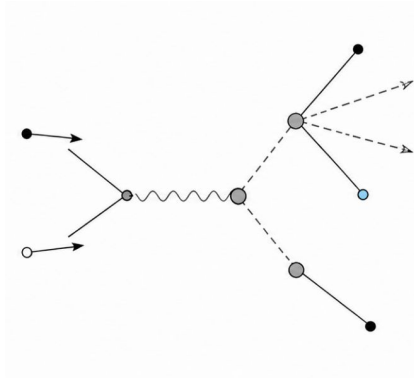


Uncertainty breakdown:

$$\text{Br}(B^0 \rightarrow X_s \nu \bar{\nu}) \times 10^5 = 3.351 \pm 0.058_{\text{V}_{cb}} \pm 0.029_{\text{param}} \pm 0.043_{\text{HQE}} \pm 0.065_{\text{scale}}$$

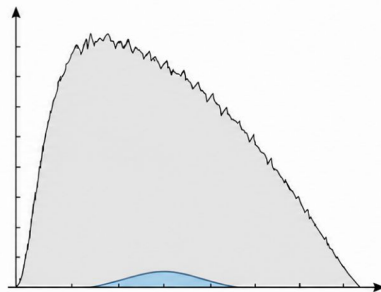
- Main uncertainty should be $|V_{cb}|$ taken into account exclusive/inclusive discrepancy
- Still very precise, 10% uncertainty in total including difference between exclusive and inclusive $|V_{cb}|$

Challenges



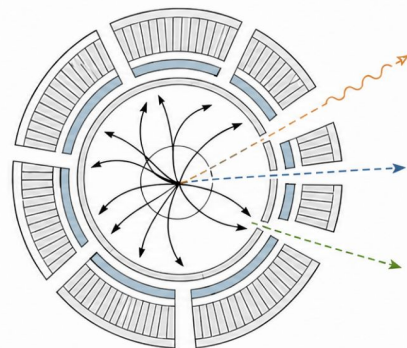
Two undetected neutrinos

Only $K^{(*)}$ is reconstructed, leaving the signal kinematics unconstrained



No narrow signal peak

$O(10^{-5} - 10^{-6})$ signals sit beneath abundant B-decay and continuum backgrounds



Fake missing energy

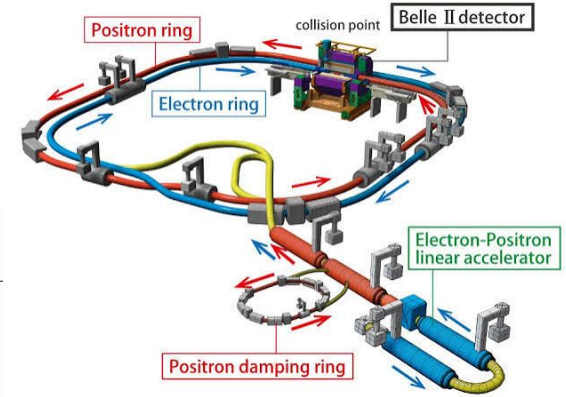
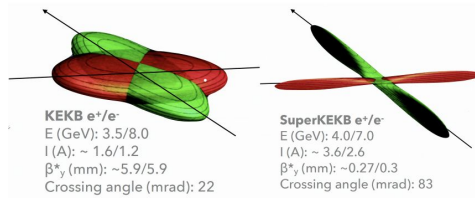
Undetected K_L^0 , neutrons, photons and acceptance losses can imitate $\nu\bar{\nu}$

Sensitivity depends on reconstruction efficiency, background control and detector hermiticity

Belle II @SuperKEKB

Luminosity frontier e^+e^- collider operating at or near $\Upsilon(4S)$

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \Upsilon(4S) \sim 1.1 \text{ nb}$$
$$\Upsilon(4S) \rightarrow B\bar{B} > 96 \%$$



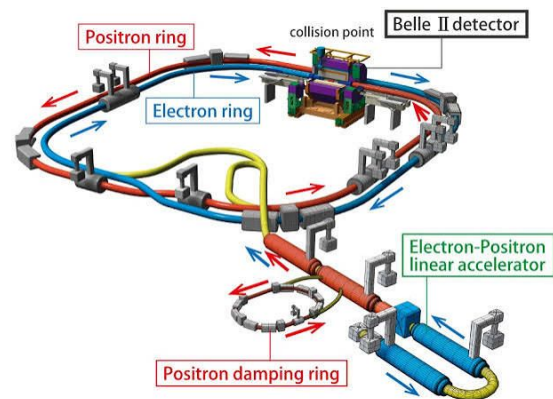
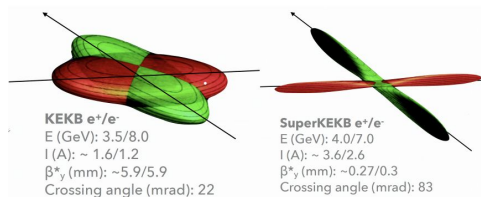
- Belle (1999–2010) collected 1040 fb^{-1}
- Belle II at SuperKEKB (2019–present)
 - Major detector and accelerator upgrade from Belle and KEKB—pioneering nano-beam collisions
 - SuperKEKB holds the world-record luminosity of $5.319 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

Belle II @SuperKEKB

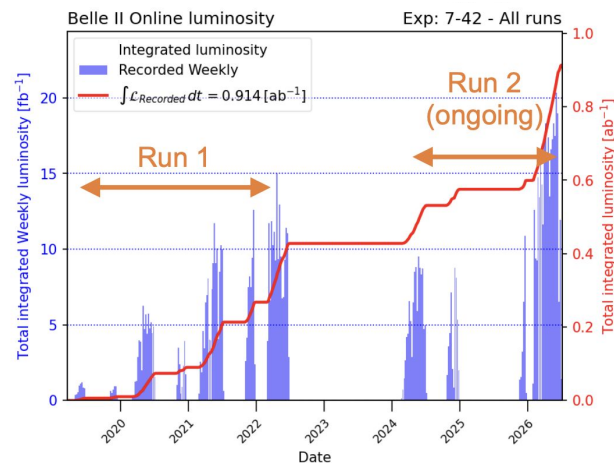
Luminosity frontier e^+e^- collider operating at or near $\Upsilon(4S)$

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \Upsilon(4S) \sim 1.1 \text{ nb}$$

$$\Upsilon(4S) \rightarrow B\bar{B} > 96 \%$$



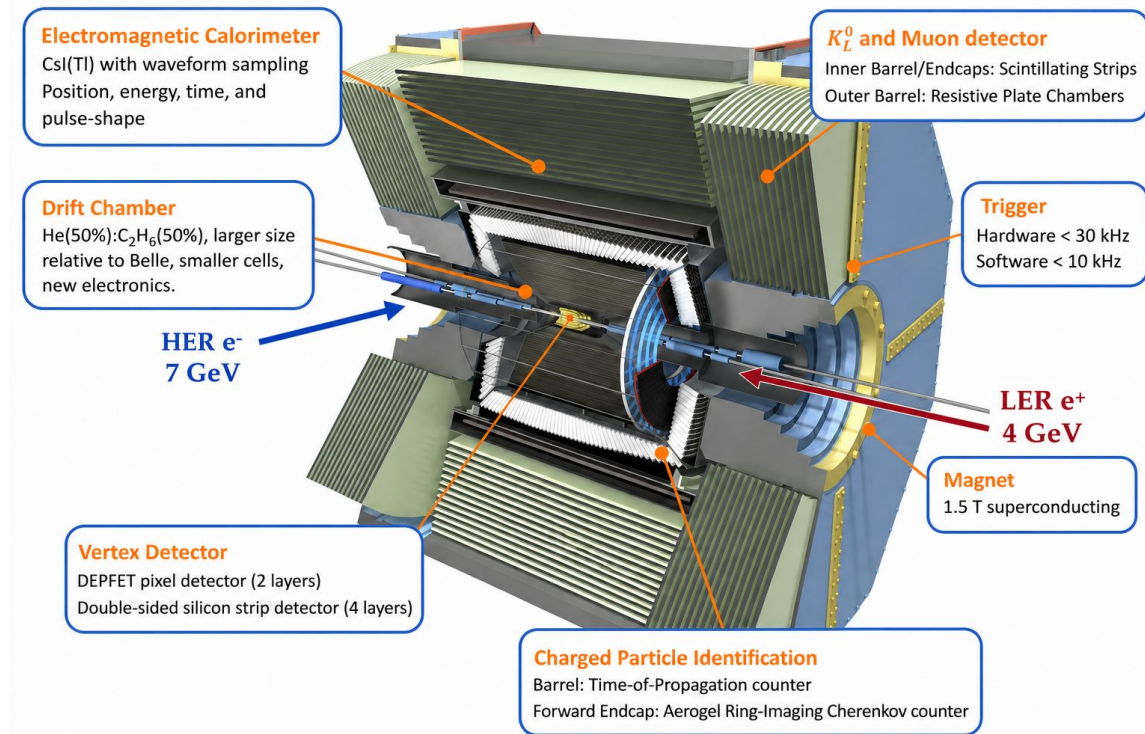
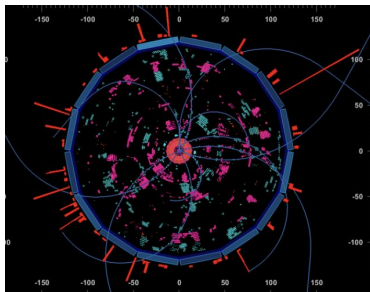
- Belle (1999–2010) collected 1040 fb^{-1}
- Belle II at SuperKEKB (2019–present)
 - Run 1 integrated luminosity: 424 fb^{-1}
 - Run 2 integrated luminosity: 490 fb^{-1}
(Higher lumi but larger background)
 - World's largest $\Upsilon(4S)$ sample



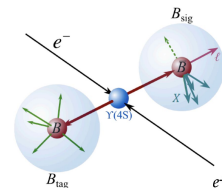
The Belle II detector

Precise determination of missing energy/momentum:

- Minimal collision pile-up
- Well-known initial collision energy and momentum
- Hermetic detectors with high detection efficiency for charged and neutral particles

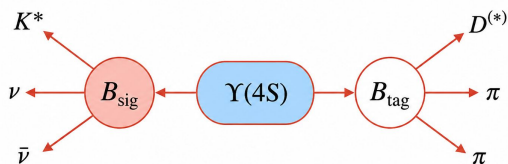


B meson tagging @Belle II



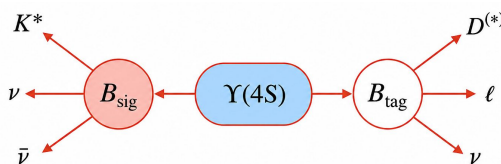
Hadronic B-tagging

Fully reconstruct B_{tag} in hadronic modes
Strongest kinematic constraints
High purity, lowest efficiency



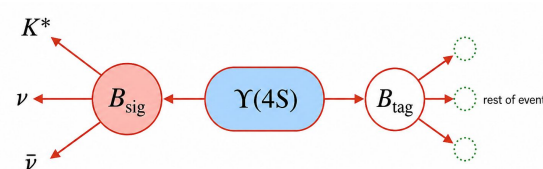
Semileptonic B-tagging

Reconstruct $B_{\text{tag}} \rightarrow D^{(*)} \ell \bar{\nu}$
One additional neutrino on the tag side
Intermediate purity and efficiency



Inclusive B-tagging

Reconstruct the signal-side $K^{(*)}$ only
Use the rest of the event as the tag side
Highest efficiency, weakest constraints



PURITY + KINEMATIC CONSTRAINT

HIGHEST

INTERMEDIATE

INTERMEDIATE

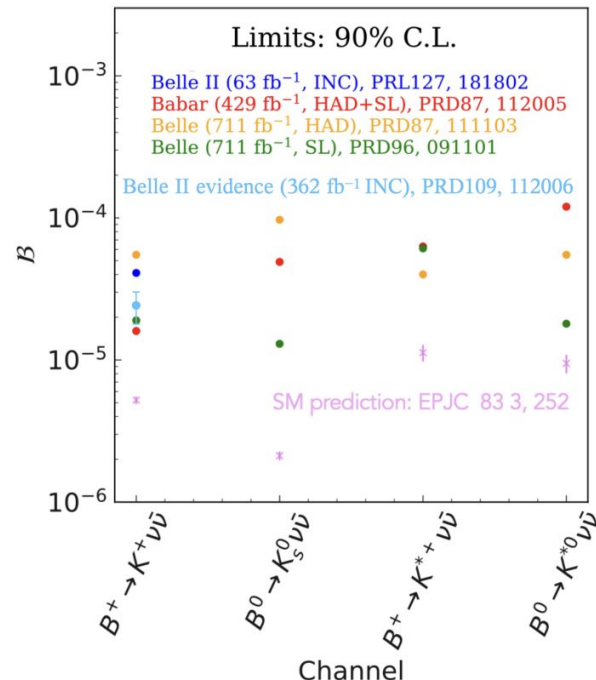
EFFICIENCY

HIGHEST

Complementary samples provide different balances of efficiency and background rejection

Experimental status

- $\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = [2.3 \pm 0.5 \text{ (stat)} {}^{+0.5}_{-0.4} \text{ (syst)}] \times 10^{-5}$
[PRD 109, 112006 \(2024\)](#), [Inclusive tag, 362 fb⁻¹]
- $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^0_S \nu \bar{\nu}) < 1.3 \times 10^{-5}$
[PRD 96, 091101 \(2017\)](#) [SL tag, 711 fb⁻¹]
- $\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} \nu \bar{\nu}) < 4.0 \times 10^{-5}$
[PRD 87, 111103 \(2013\)](#) [Hadronic tag, 711 fb⁻¹]
- $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \nu \bar{\nu}) < 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$
[PRD 96, 091101 \(2017\)](#) [SL tag, 711 fb⁻¹]



*Only latest results/stringent limits are shown

$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: overview

- Tagging: explored (almost) statistically independent two methods (inclusive vs hadronic)
- **Inclusive tagged is the main analysis**, cross-check with hadronic tagged analysis
- Basic selection to identify a prompt K^+
- Two-stage BDT: event skimming followed by background rejection using signal-kaon, event-shape, and rest-of-event (ROE) information
- Signal extraction from a **binned maximum likelihood fit in bins of $q^2 \times \eta(\text{BDT}_2)$**

q_{rec}^2 : squared invariant mass of the system recoiling against signal kaon

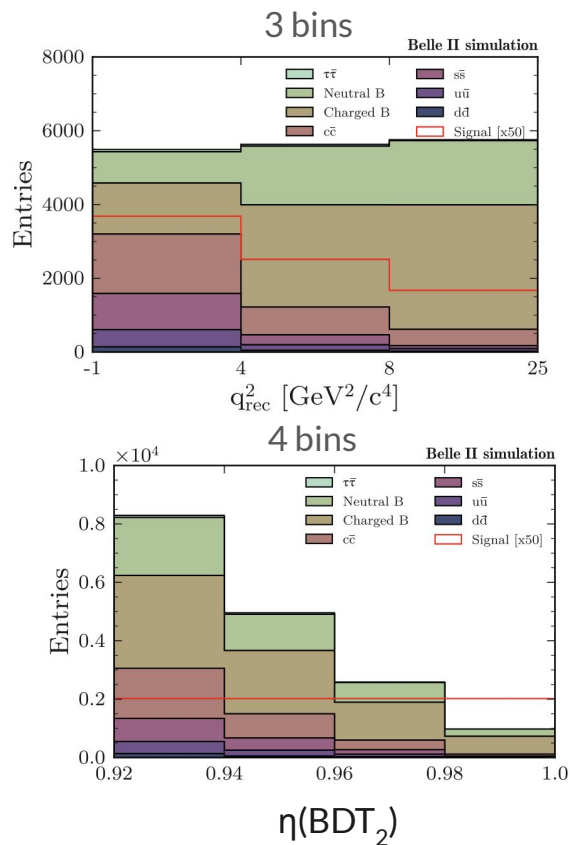
$\eta(\text{BDT}_2)$: fraction of events passing a given BDT_2 requirement—equivalent to the BDT selection efficiency at that value

PRD 109. 112006 (2024)

365 fb⁻¹



Incl. tag



$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: efficiency validation

PRD 109, 112006 (2024)

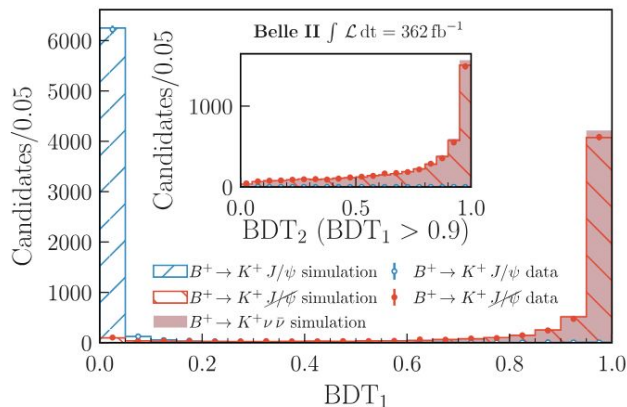
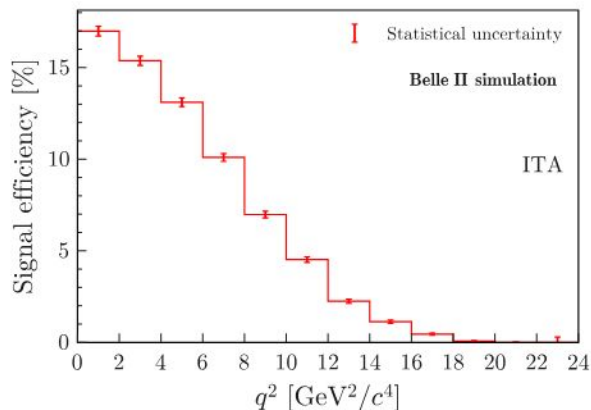
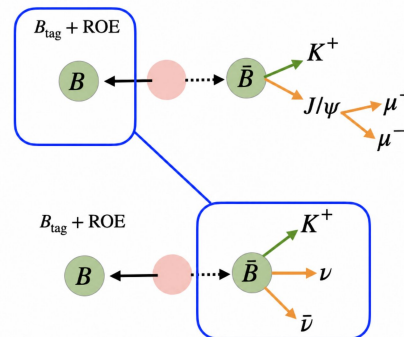
365 fb⁻¹



Incl. tag

Efficiency validated using the embedding method:

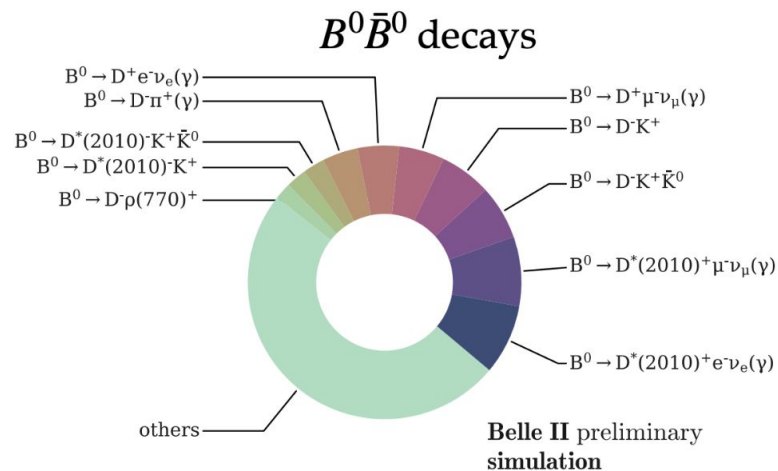
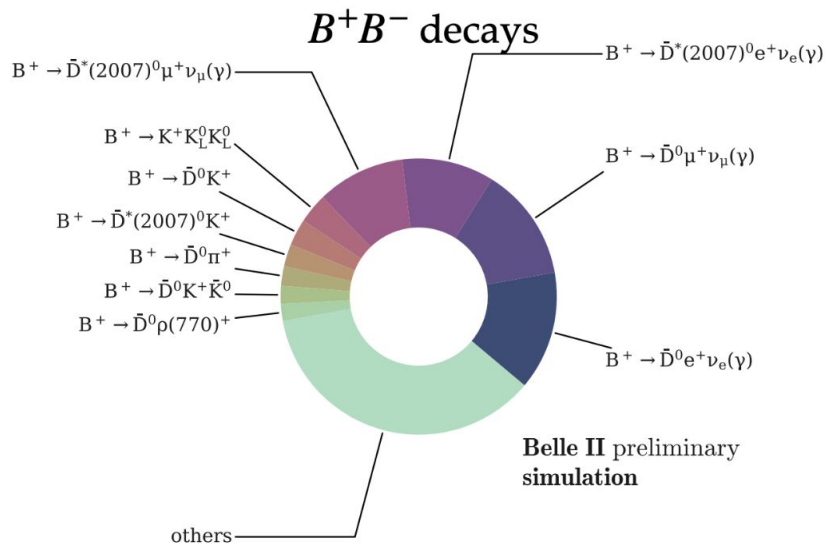
- Obtain “clean” ROE from pure $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ J/\psi$, with $J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$
- Combine with simulated-signal $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ in simulation and data
- Validate signal selection efficiency and BDT2 distribution on data
- Data/MC efficiency ratio: 1.00 ± 0.03



Good data-simulation agreement

$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: backgrounds

- Continuum ($\bar{q}q$): 40%
- B-meson decays: 60%
 - 47% from semileptonic decays with $D \rightarrow KX$
 - 52% from hadronic decays involving D and K



$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: continuum background

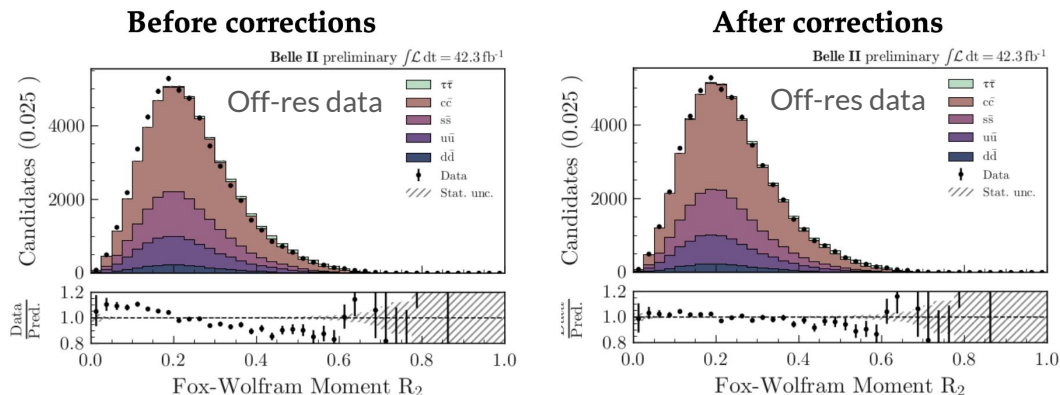
PRD 109, 112006 (2024)

365 fb⁻¹



Incl. tag

- Use Off-resonance data (collected 60 MeV below the Y(4S) resonance) to validate continuum simulation
- Discrepancies in:
 - Normalization (data 40% larger) : can be improved in future with better fragmentation modeling of Pythia
 - Shape: event weights derived following [J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 368 012028](#)



Corrections improve data-MC agreement

$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: BBbar background

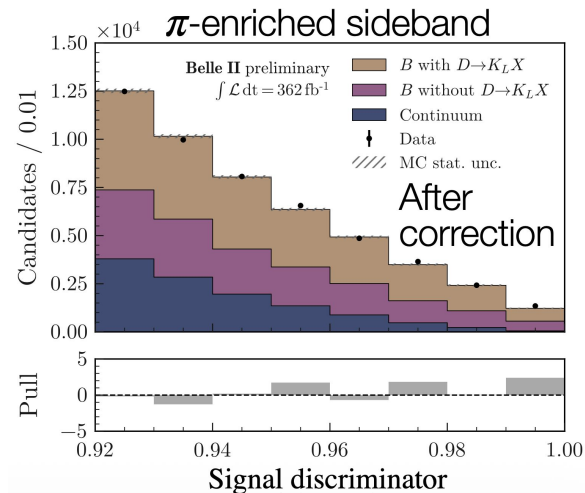
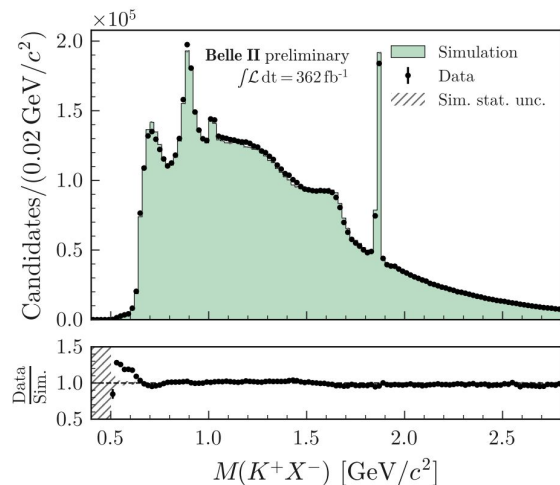
PRD 109, 112006 (2024)

365 fb⁻¹



Incl. tag

- Semileptonic B decays with K coming from D are validated by looking at the invariant mass of signal K and ROE charged particle
- Pion and lepton enriched sideband samples to validate modeling of $B \rightarrow X_c (\rightarrow K_L + X)$ decays: data favors 1.3x scaling-up: [can be improved via better KL veto, modeling and more control sample](#)



$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: backgrounds (cont...)

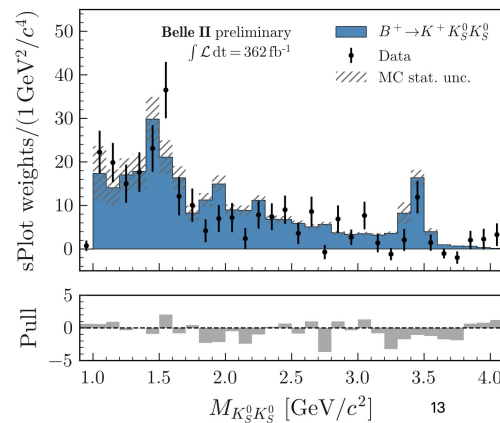
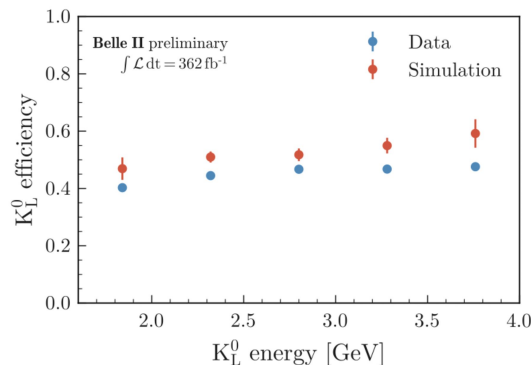
PRD 109, 112006 (2024)

365 fb⁻¹



Incl. tag

- Undetected K_L 's are a critical background
 - Use simple-kinematic, low-background $e+e \rightarrow \gamma \varphi (\rightarrow K_L K_S)$ process to validate modeling of K_L detection efficiency
 - 17% inefficiency in data wrt simulation
 - Note: KLM info is not used here, can be used for better modeling
- $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ K^0 K^0$ can mimic the signal and is poorly constrained
 - Use BaBar [[PRD 85 \(2012\), 112010](#)] $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ K_S K_S$ to model $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ K_L K_L$
 - Model $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ K_L K_S$ by using inputs from $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ K_S K_S$ and $B^0 \rightarrow K_S K^+ K^-$ decays
 - Our models reproduce the data
- Similar treatment for $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ n n \text{bar}$ decays



$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: closure test

PRD 109, 112006 (2024)

365 fb⁻¹



Incl. tag

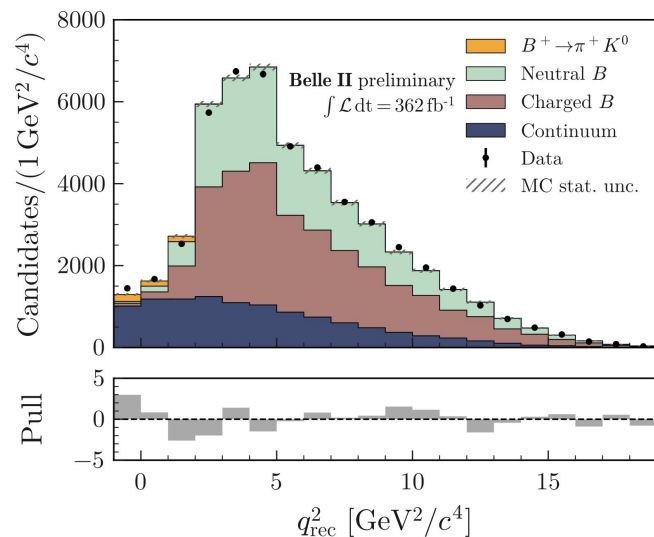
Measure known decay mode to validate the inclusive tagging method

- Minimally adapt $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ to measure $\text{BF}(B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ K^0)$
- $B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ K^0$ has similar branching fraction to SM $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$

$$\text{BF}(B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ K^0) = (2.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-5}$$

consistent with PDG [$(2.38 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-5}$]

Successful closure test



$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: signal extraction fit

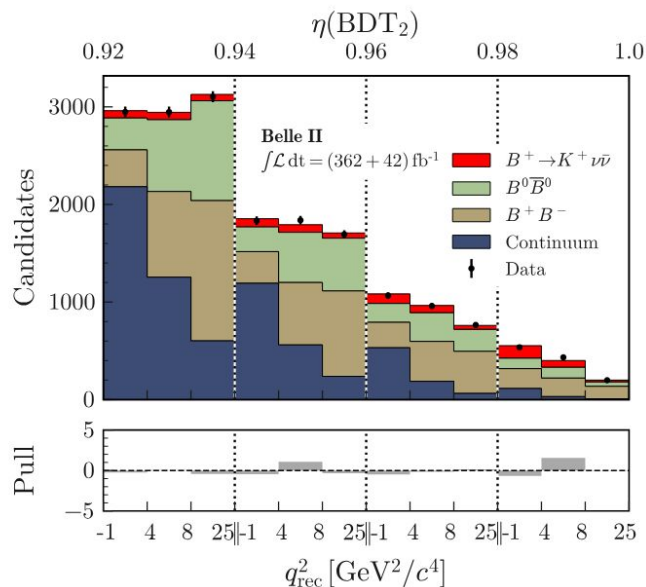
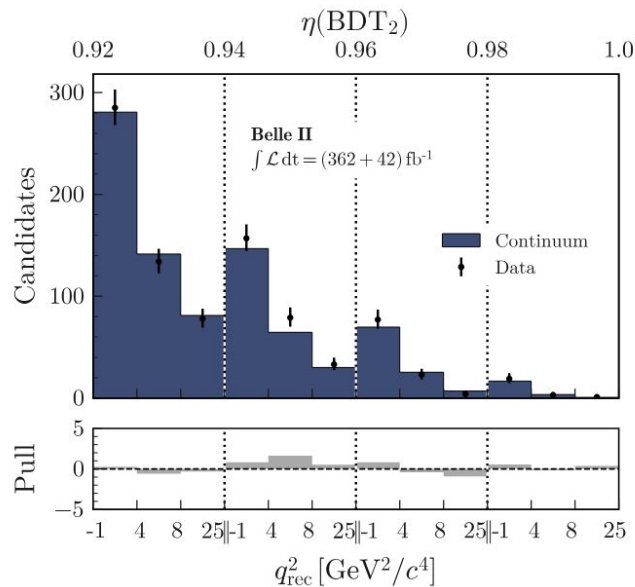
PRD 109, 112006 (2024)

365 fb⁻¹



Incl. tag

- Post-fit distributions for **signal** and background
- Fit performed in both on-resonance and off-resonance data



$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: systematics

PRD 109. 112006 (2024)

365 fb⁻¹



Incl. tag

Source	Correction	Uncertainty type, parameters	Uncertainty size	Impact on σ_μ	Improve through
Normalization of $B\bar{B}$ background		Global, 2	50%	0.90	→ uncertainty on leading B only
Normalization of continuum background		Global, 5	50%	0.10	
Leading B -decay branching fractions		Shape, 6	$O(1\%)$	0.22	→ update to recent precise measurements
Branching fraction for $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ K_L^0 K_L^0$	q^2 dependent $O(100\%)$	Shape, 1	20%	0.49	→ KL veto/ improve modeling
p-wave component for $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ K_S^0 K_L^0$	q^2 dependent $O(100\%)$	Shape, 1	30%	0.02	
Branching fraction for $B \rightarrow D^{**}$		Shape, 1	50%	0.42	→ update BF and uncertainty to recent precise measurements
Branching fraction for $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ n \bar{n}$	q^2 dependent $O(100\%)$	Shape, 1	100%	0.20	
Branching fraction for $D \rightarrow K_L^0 X$	+30%	Shape, 1	10%	0.14	
Continuum-background modeling, BDT _c	Multivariate $O(10\%)$	Shape, 1	100% of correction	0.01	
Integrated luminosity		Global, 1	1%	<0.01	
Number of $B\bar{B}$		Global, 1	1.5%	0.02	
Off-resonance sample normalization		Global, 1	5%	0.05	
Track-finding efficiency		Shape, 1	0.3%	0.20	
Signal-kaon PID	p, θ dependent $O(10-100\%)$	Shape, 7	$O(1\%)$	0.07	
Photon energy		Shape, 1	0.5%	0.08	
Hadronic energy	-10%	Shape, 1	10%	0.37	
K_L^0 efficiency in ECL	-17%	Shape, 1	8.5%	0.22	
Signal SM form-factors	q^2 dependent $O(1\%)$	Shape, 3	$O(1\%)$	0.02	
Global signal efficiency		Global, 1	3%	0.03	
Simulated-sample size		Shape, 156	$O(1\%)$	0.52	

$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: results

PRD 109, 112006 (2024)

365 fb⁻¹



Incl. tag

Inclusive tag:

$$\mathcal{B} = (2.7 \pm 0.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-5}$$

Excess significance: 3.5 σ

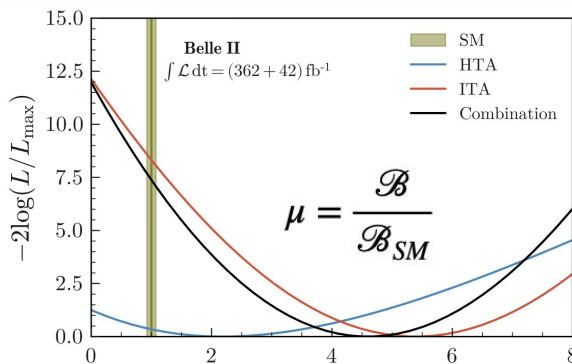
SM deviation: 2.9 σ

Hadronic tag:

$$\mathcal{B} = (1.1^{+0.9}_{-0.8} \quad {}^{+0.8}_{-0.5}) \times 10^{-5}$$

Excess significance: 1.1 σ

SM deviation: 0.6 σ



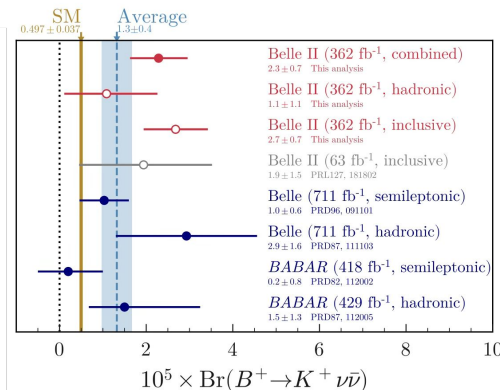
Combination: common events excluded from the inclusive sample

$$\text{Combined } \mathcal{B} = (2.3 \pm 0.5^{+0.5}_{-0.4}) \times 10^{-5}$$

Significance of the excess: 3.5 σ

Deviation from the SM: 2.7 σ

First evidence for $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$

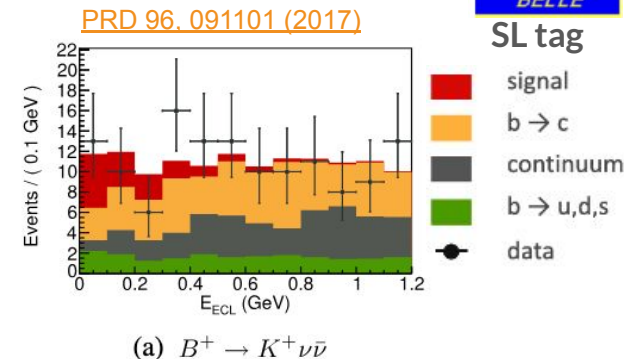


$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: comparison with SL tag analysis

711 fb⁻¹



- Companion B reconstructed through semileptonic $B_{\text{tag}} \rightarrow D^{(*)} \ell \nu$ decays
- Full Belle dataset used—approximately twice the size of the Belle II inclusive-tag sample
- No significant signal observed; 90% CL upper limit:
 $\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) < 1.9 \times 10^{-5}$
- Systematic uncertainty comparable to Belle II, but arising from different sources
- Statistical uncertainty is nearly twice as large as in the Belle II analysis



	$K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$
K_L^0 veto	0.2
Fixed fractions	0.4
Continuum scaling	2.0
Tag efficiency correction	0.5
Shape uncertainty	2.6
Fit bias	0.2
Total	3.4

What about other decays?

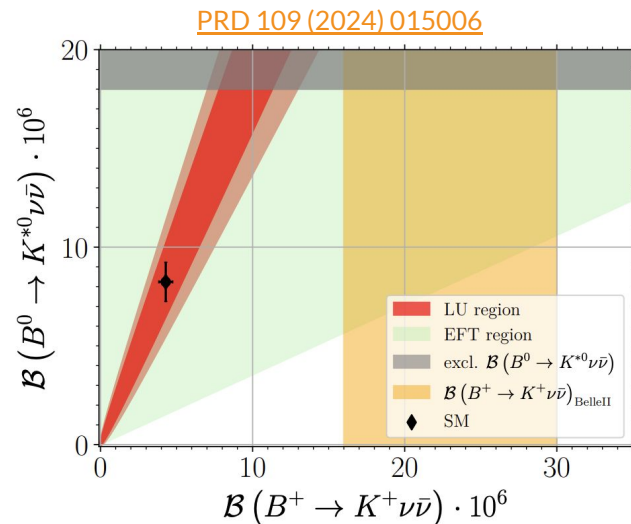
The lepton-flavor-universal interpretation of the Belle II $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ result is already constrained by the Belle $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \nu \bar{\nu}$ limit

- $B \rightarrow K \nu \bar{\nu}$ and $B \rightarrow K^* \nu \bar{\nu}$ probe different combinations of left- and right-handed interactions
- $B \rightarrow K \nu \bar{\nu}$ probes their sum, while $B \rightarrow K^* \nu \bar{\nu}$ mainly probes their difference
- Combining both probes the interaction structure and lepton-flavor universality

– New invisible-particle scenarios compatible with the $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ + E_{\text{miss}}$ excess predict markedly different $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} + E_{\text{miss}})$ and q^2 distributions

[[Phys. Rev. D 112, 035010 \(2025\)](#)]

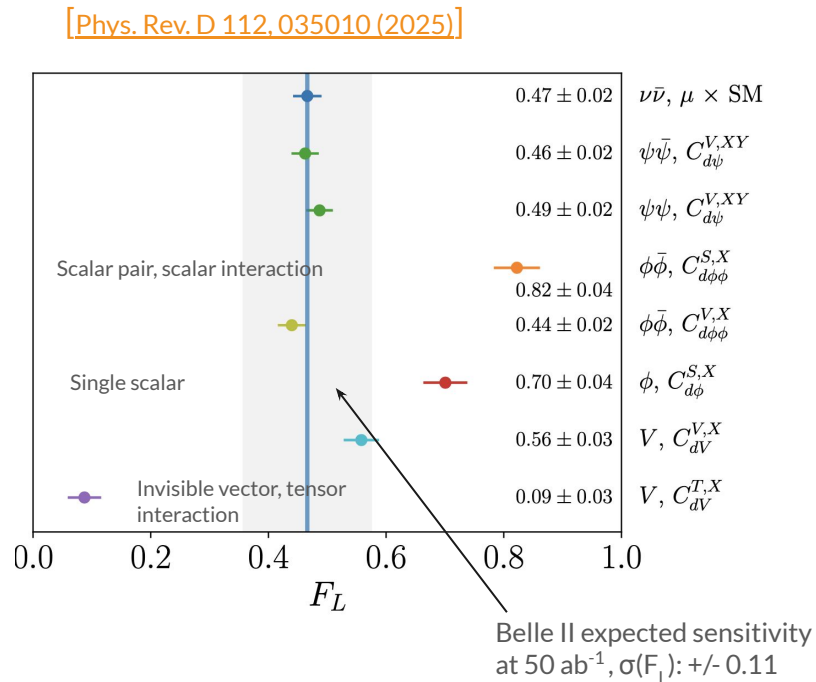
– $B \rightarrow K^{(*)} \nu \bar{\nu}$ provides an independent cross-check of $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ with different backgrounds and reconstruction systematics



K* polarization (F_L)

- F_L is the fraction of $B \rightarrow K^* \nu \bar{\nu}$ decays in which the K^* is longitudinally polarized, Γ_L/Γ
- It is a ratio: several normalization and parametric uncertainties cancel
- SM prediction is very precise: $F_L = 0.47 \pm 0.03$
- Extracted from the K^* helicity-angle distribution
- Particularly sensitive to right-handed currents and the Lorentz structure of new interactions
- Complementary to $\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K^* \nu \bar{\nu})$

Branching fraction measures the new physics rate; F_L probes the chirality and structure



Predictions for $\langle F_L \rangle$ vary widely among scenarios compatible with the $B \rightarrow K^+ + E_{\text{miss}}$ excess, making K^* polarization a powerful probe of the invisible interaction

Physics beyond SM

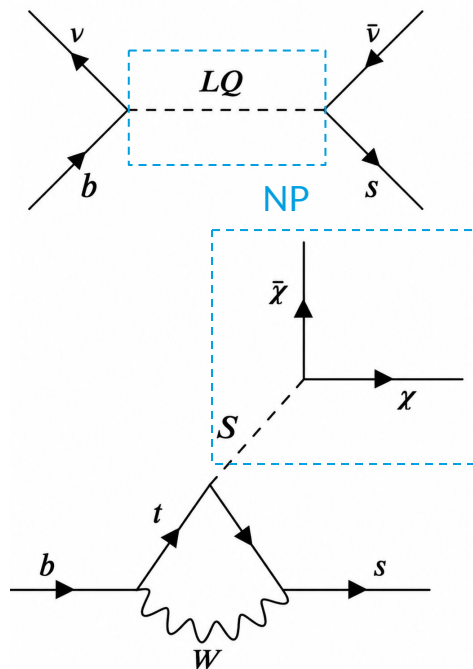
[PRD 109 (2024) 075004]

New particles can modify $B \rightarrow K^{(*)} + \text{missing energy}$ through:

- **New short-distance interactions:**
Leptoquarks or Z' -like mediators modify the $b \rightarrow s \nu \bar{\nu}$ amplitude
- **New light invisible final states:**
A new mediator S can decay into dark-sector particles $\chi \bar{\chi}$, producing $B \rightarrow K^{(*)} \chi \bar{\chi}$ that mimics $\nu \bar{\nu}$ but produces a different missing-mass spectrum

Other interpretations for K^+ excess [[arXiv:2402.05901](#), [JHEP 06 \(2024\) 172](#), [arXiv:2309.12741](#)]:

- Dark photons
- Light dark matter
- ALPs
- Sterile neutrinos
- Higgs portals



Rates, q^2 distributions, and K^* polarization distinguish these scenarios
Plenty of opportunities to probe the SM and explore NP

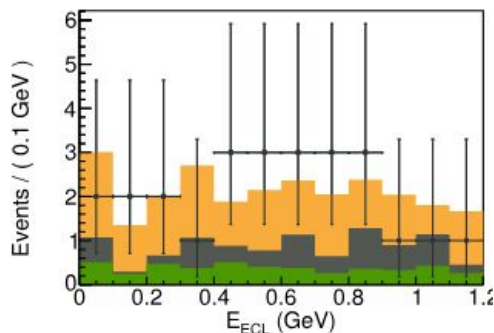
$B \rightarrow K^{(*)} \nu \bar{\nu}$: experimental status

PRD 96, 091101 (2017)

711 fb⁻¹

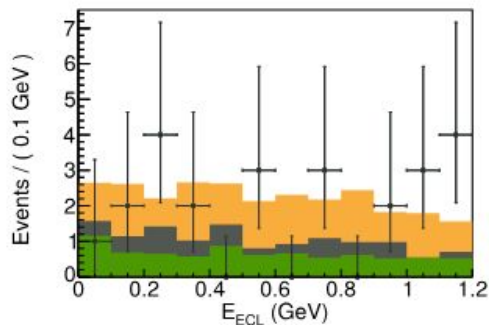


- Tag the companion B, $B_{\text{tag}} \rightarrow D^{(*)} \ell \nu$ semileptonic decays
- Reconstruct the signal side $K_S^0, K^{(*)}$; require no additional tracks or π^0 candidates
- Suppress continuum and generic-BBbar events suppressed via neural networks; $E_{\text{miss}} > 2.5$ GeV
- Extract signal via binned likelihood fit to the residual calorimeter energy (E_{ECL}) distribution



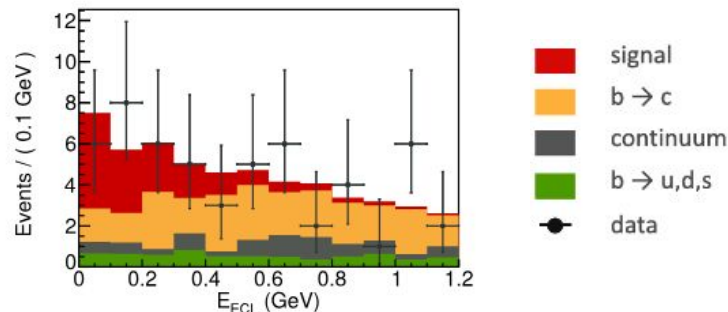
(b) $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$

90% UL: $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \nu \bar{\nu}) < 1.3 \times 10^{-5}$



(d) $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \nu \bar{\nu}$

$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \nu \bar{\nu}) < 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$



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

$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} \nu \bar{\nu}) < 6.1 \times 10^{-5}$

upward fluctuation weakens the observed limit

Expected Belle II precision

Belle II snowmass white paper: [arxiv:2207.06307](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.06307)

The “improved” scenario assumes a 50% increase in signal efficiency for the same background level:

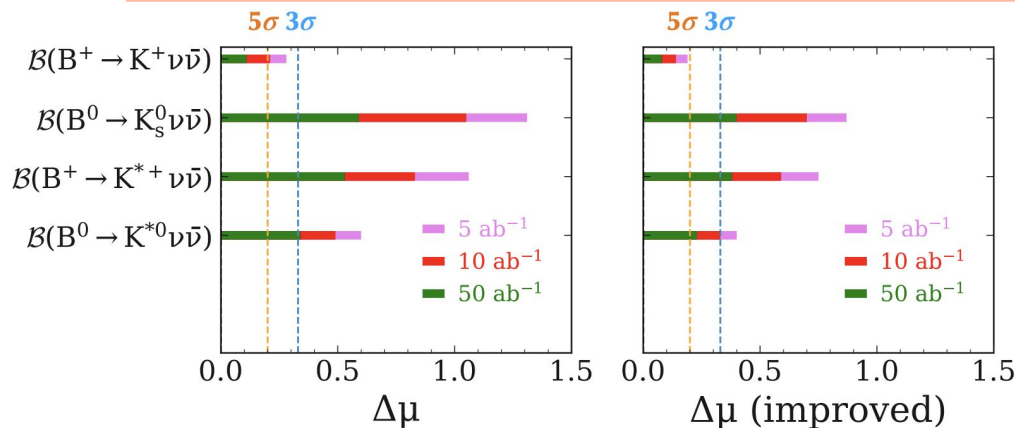
- Better background suppression
- More tagging approaches
- Improved systematic uncertainties

Belle dataset offers additional sensitivity but requires careful treatment of legacy simulation and data-MC corrections

Ongoing efforts to confirm K+ results:

- Analyze a larger dataset
- Study additional $B \rightarrow K^{(*)}\nu\bar{\nu}$ channels
- Use complementary tagging approaches (SL tag)

Belle II snowmass paper: baseline and improved scenarios



$\Delta\mu$ = uncertainty on signal strength assuming SM

Beyond K and K*: higher kaon resonances

- The $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ excess motivates testing the $b \rightarrow s \nu \bar{\nu}$ transition in several independent hadronic final states
- Measurements of K and K*(892) alone cannot determine whether an enhancement is common across $b \rightarrow s \nu \bar{\nu}$ decays or specific to one hadronic state
- Above $M_{X_s} \approx 1$ GeV, the strange hadronic spectrum includes:
 - Axial-vector states: $K_1(1270)$, $K_1(1400)$
 - Vector, scalar and tensor K^{**} resonances
 - Nonresonant, higher-multiplicity X_s final states
- These states provide complementary spin-parity information and populate different regions of the hadronic-mass and q^2 spectra

Understanding the resonance structure above 1 GeV is essential for connecting exclusive K and K* measurements to the inclusive $b \rightarrow s \nu \bar{\nu}$ picture

Summary

- $B \rightarrow K^{(*)}\nu\bar{\nu}$ decays are theoretically clean probes of the FCNC transition $b \rightarrow s\nu\bar{\nu}$ and potential invisible new physics
- Belle II reported the first evidence for $B^+ \rightarrow K^+\nu\bar{\nu}$:
 $\mathcal{B} = [2.3 \pm 0.5 \text{ (stat)}^{+0.5}_{-0.4} \text{ (syst)}] \times 10^{-5}$
 - 3.5σ signal significance
 - 2.7σ above the SM prediction
- Belle II continues to make strong progress in Run 2. Despite the higher beam-induced background, detector and data quality remain suitable for $B \rightarrow K\nu\bar{\nu}$ analyses
- Independent measurements of $B^0 \rightarrow K^0\nu\bar{\nu}$ and $B \rightarrow K^*\nu\bar{\nu}$ are essential to confirm the excess and test its universality
- Larger datasets, complementary tagging methods and improved background suppression will significantly increase sensitivity

With Run 2 data and an expanding set of channels, Belle II is entering a precision era for $B \rightarrow K^{(*)}\nu\bar{\nu}$ measurements



Backup

$B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \nu \bar{\nu}$: experimental status

PRD 96, 091101 (2017)

711 fb⁻¹

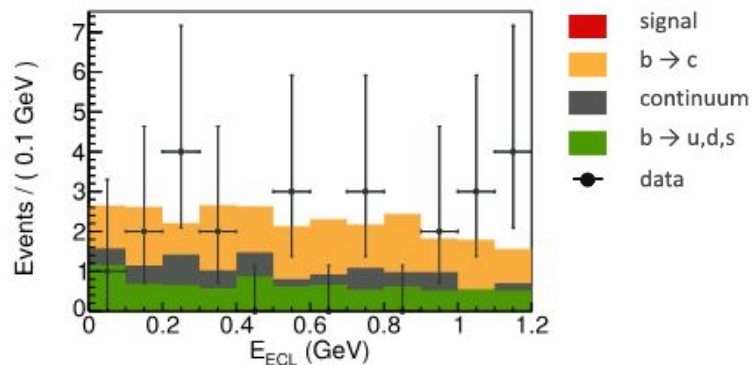


SL tag

Similar analysis strategy as of $B^0 \rightarrow K^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$

- Tag the companion B
 $B_{\text{tag}} \rightarrow D^{(*)} \ell \nu$ across 108 semileptonic decay channels
- Reconstruct the signal side
 $K^{*0} \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-$; invariant mass retained as a classifier input
- Suppress background
Continuum and generic-BBbar events suppressed via neural networks; veto extra tracks and π^0
- Extract the signal
Extended binned likelihood fit to the residual calorimeter energy (E_{ECL}) distribution

No significant excess, $N_{\text{sig}} = -2.0 \pm 3.6 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 1.8 \text{ (syst.)}$



(d) $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \nu \bar{\nu}$

The fitted signal component is consistent with zero

90% CL upper limit, $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \nu \bar{\nu}) < 1.8 \times 10^{-5}$, most stringent limit on this decay so far

$B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} \nu \bar{\nu}$: experimental status

PRD 87, 111103 (2013)

711 fb⁻¹

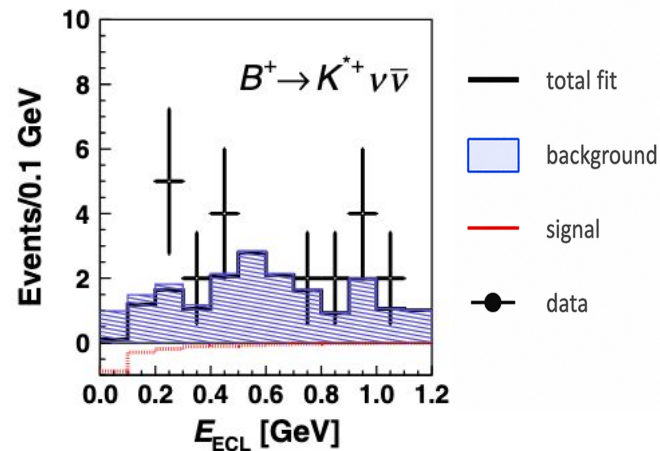


Had. tag

Analysis strategy

- Fully reconstruct the tag-side B
Neural-network with full reconstruction in 1104 exclusive hadronic modes
- Reconstruct the signal side
 $K^{*+} \rightarrow K^+ \pi^0$ or $K^+ \pi^+$; $|m(K\pi) - m(K^*)| < 75$ MeV
- Suppress background
Neural-network to suppress continuum; $1.6 < p(K^*) < 2.5$ GeV/c; veto extra particles
- Extract the signal
Extended binned likelihood fit to the residual calorimeter energy (E_{ECL}) distribution in the range 0–1.2 GeV

No significant excess, $N_{\text{sig}} = -1.7 (+1.7/-1.1)$ (stat.) ± 1.5 (syst.)



Best-fit signal yield is below zero;
no evidence for signal

90% CL upper limit, $\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} \nu \bar{\nu}) < 4.0 \times 10^{-5}$, most stringent limit so far

$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$: reinterpretation

PRD 112 (2025) 092016

365 fb⁻¹



Test alternative models for the evidence by reweighting the signal kinematic distribution (squared dineutrino mass) relative to the SM [\[EPJC 84 \(2024\) 693\]](#)

Consider the Weak Effective Theory with Wilson coefficients for dimension-six operators: $C_{V[L,R]}$ (vector), $C_{S[L,R]}$ (scalar) C_{TL} (tensor); L/R = left-/right-handed chirality

In SM: $C_{VL} = 6.6 \pm 0.1$; rest $C_i = 0$ [\[PRD 107 \(2023\) 014511\]](#)

The Bayesian posterior prefers **larger vector and nonzero tensor contributions relative to the SM: measurement of $B(B^0 \rightarrow K^* \nu \bar{\nu})$ is crucial**

Publicly available analysis tools and likelihood enable model reinterpretation [\[HEPData\]](#)

