

Study of $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 K^{*0}$ decays at the LHCb experiment

IOP Joint APP and HEPP Annual Conference 2025

Jordy Butter, Matt Kenzie, Davide Lancierini, **Francesca Swystun**

09/04/25



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

The $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 K^{*0}$ analysis motivation

B -meson to two spin-1 vectors

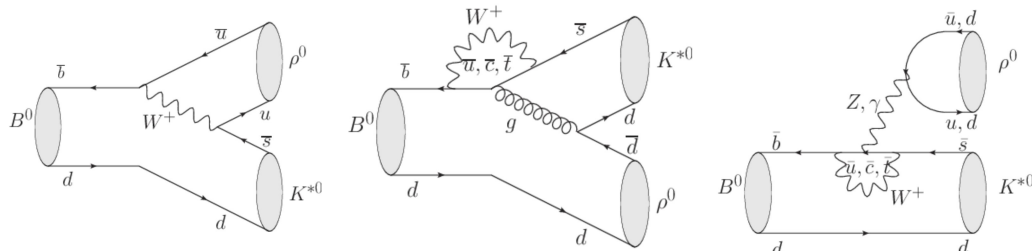
- Decay amplitude is described by a basis of three amplitudes $f_{L,\parallel,\perp} = \frac{|A_{0,\parallel,\perp}|^2}{|A_0|^2 + |A_{\parallel}|^2 + |A_{\perp}|^2}$

Expectation of predominant longitudinal polarisation (QCdf) violated in measurements of penguin $B \rightarrow VV$ decays

- LHCb Run 1 analysis: $f_L^{\rho^0 K^{*0}} = 0.164 \pm 0.015(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.022(\text{syst.})$

$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 K^{*0}$ is self-tagging, charge of the kaon tags flavour of the B -meson at decay

- Doubly-Cabbibo suppressed tree, also via gluonic, and electroweak penguins
- Penguin-tree interference causes CP -violation in the decay



Run 1 analysis: [LHCb-PAPER-2018-042](https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.042)

Analysis aims

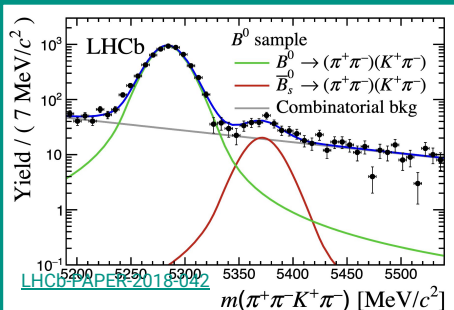
Full Run 1 & Run 2 analysis using
LHCb data

Branching fraction measurements

Best measurement on $B^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 K^{*0}$ branching fraction: $3.9 \pm 1.3 \times 10^{-6}$ (PDG)

First observation of $B_s^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 \bar{K}^{*0}$

Run 1 LHCb analysis focussed purely on the angular analysis - **no previous LHCb measurement** on the branching fractions



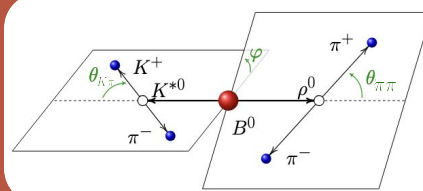
Amplitude Analysis

Perform **5-dimensional amplitude analysis** of

$$B^0 \rightarrow (\pi^+ \pi^-)(K^+ \pi^-)$$

Measure **CP averages** and **asymmetries** of the **magnitudes and phase differences** for contributing amplitudes

An update on the LHCb Run 1 analysis result



Analysis software developments

- Analysis supported by **python package** designed for **full selection of events & efficiencies computation**
- Full analysis pipeline is **mode-independent** across Charmless $B \rightarrow VV$ decays
 - **CI-tested** across multiple decay modes

The screenshot displays the GitHub repository for 'b2vv'. The repository name is 'b2vv' with a 'B' logo. Project information includes: 1,304 Commits, 40 Branches, 0 Tags, and 5.3 GiB Project Storage. The CI pipeline is visible, consisting of three stages: 'check', 'build', and 'test'. The 'check' stage contains 'check-formatting'. The 'build' stage contains 'check-docs', 'check-eos-access', and 'setup-env'. The 'test' stage contains 'all-kstkstb', 'all-phikstb', and 'all-rhokstb'. All jobs in the pipeline are shown as successful with green checkmarks.

Analysis software developments

- Analysis supported by **python package** designed for **full selection of events & efficiencies computation**
- Full analysis pipeline is **mode-independent** across Charmless $B \rightarrow VV$ decays
 - **CI-tested** across multiple decay modes

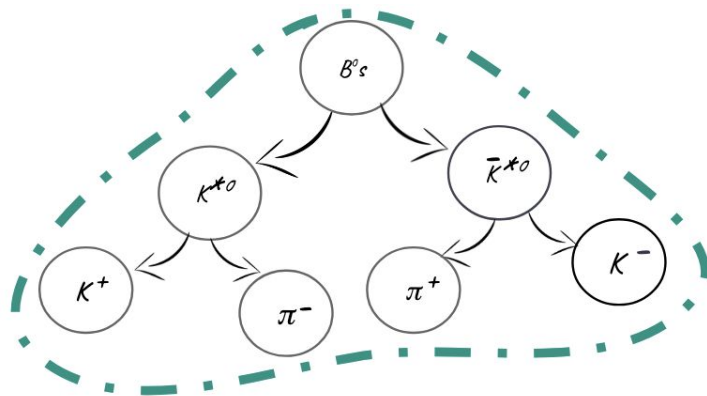
B **b2vv**

Project information

- 1,304 Commits
- 40 Branches
- 0 Tags
- 5.3 GiB Project Storage

Pipeline Jobs 7 Tests 0

check	build	test
check-formatting	check-docs	all-kstkstb
	check-eos-access	all-phikstb
	setup-env	all-rhokst



Analysis software developments

- Analysis supported by **python package** designed for **full selection of events & efficiencies computation**
- Full analysis pipeline is **mode-independent** across Charmless $B \rightarrow VV$ decays
 - **CI-tested** across multiple decay modes

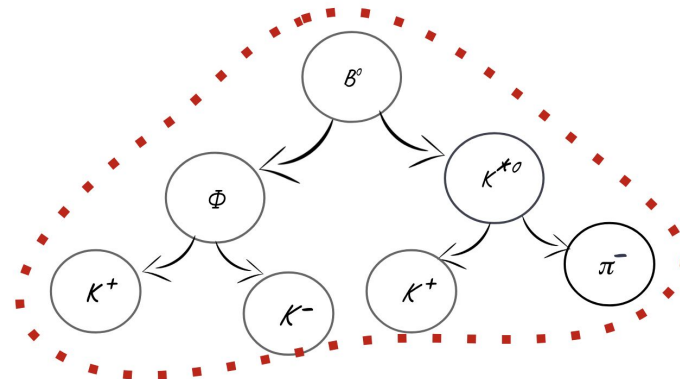
B b2vv

Project information

- 1,304 Commits
- 40 Branches
- 0 Tags
- 5.3 GiB Project Storage

Pipeline Jobs 7 Tests 0

check	build	test
check-formatting	check-docs	all-kstkstb
	check-eos-access	all-phikstb
	setup-env	all-rhokst



Analysis software developments

- Analysis supported by **python package** designed for **full selection of events & efficiencies computation**
- Full analysis pipeline is **mode-independent** across Charmless $B \rightarrow VV$ decays
 - **CI-tested** across multiple decay modes

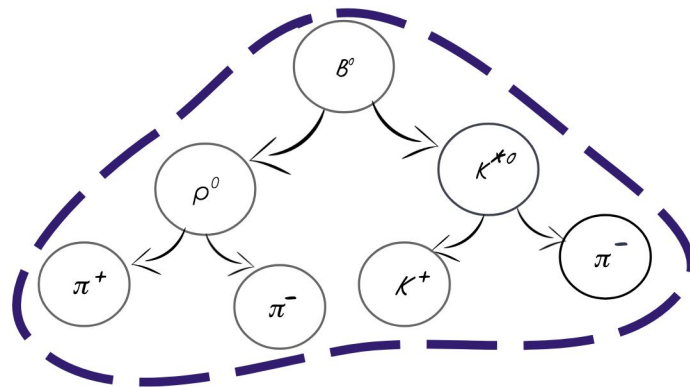
B **b2vv**

Project information

- 1,304 Commits
- 40 Branches
- 0 Tags
- 5.3 GiB Project Storage

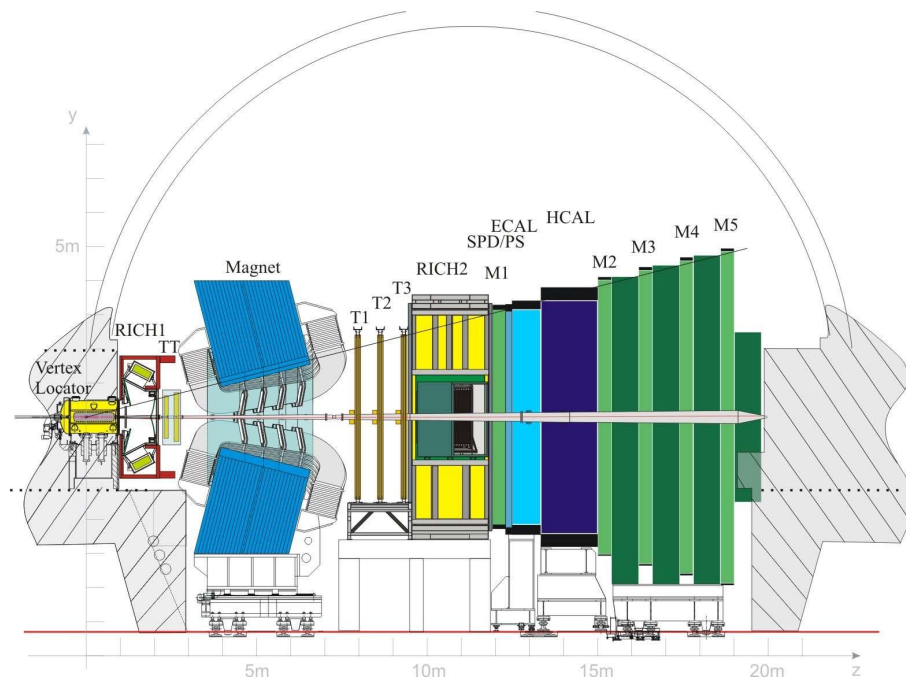
Pipeline Jobs 7 Tests 0

check	build	test
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> check-formatting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> check-docs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> all-kstkstb
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> check-eos-access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> all-phikstb
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> setup-env	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> all-rhokst



The LHCb experiment

- Full LHCb **Run 1 & Run 2 dataset**, totals an integrated luminosity of 9 fb^{-1} of pp collisions
 - Abundance of B^0 and B_s^0 mesons
- **Vertexing information** allows identification of **displaced vertices** from B -meson decays
- **Excellent particle identification (PID)** information from RICH systems - easily separate **charged final state hadrons, p-K-pi**
- **Good momentum resolution** from tracking allows to distinguish B^0 and B_s^0 peaks in invariant mass



Candidate selection & simulation corrections

Trigger

Separate categories at
hardware trigger stage:
Trigger on signal (TOS)

vs

Trigger independent of signal
(TIS)

High level trigger
requirements on decay
topology

Pre-selections

$m_{\pi\pi} : 300 - 1200 \text{ MeV}$

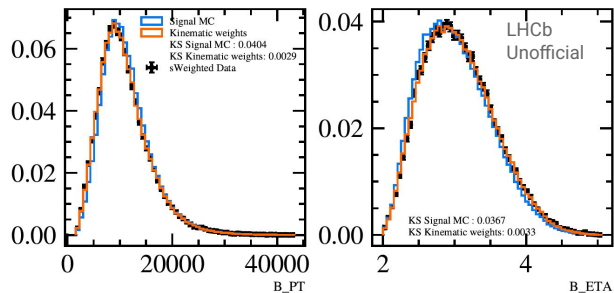
$m_{K\pi} : \pm 300 \text{ MeV } K^*(892)$

Requires **displaced secondary
vertex & high p_T tracks**

Kinematic corrections

Kinematics of B -meson in
simulation corrected using
sWeighted data as target

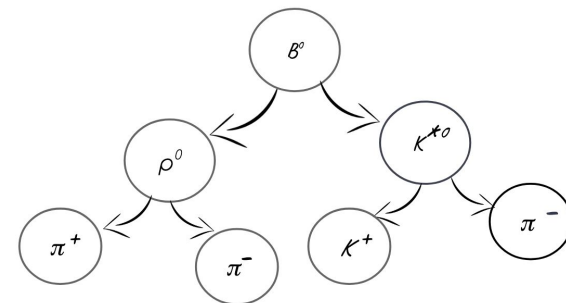
Separate weights derived for
exclusive trigger categories



PID corrections

PID variables in simulation
poorly modelled

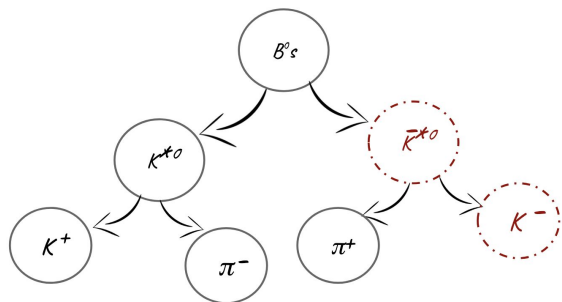
PID variables corrected using
dedicated samples of
calibration data



Control over backgrounds

Mis-identified background

Mis-identified final state hadrons from p/K/pi swaps are controlled with **PID requirements**



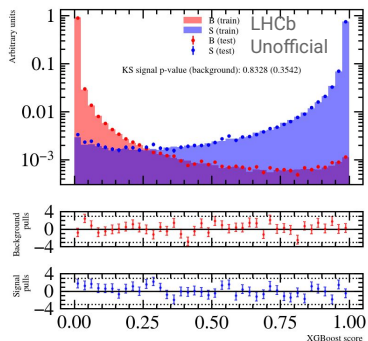
Key background : $B_s^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \bar{K}^{*0}$

From pi-K swap

Occupies invariant mass region between signal decay modes

Combinatorial background

Controlled by **BDT** trained on decay topology, kinematics and isolation information



XGBoost BDT

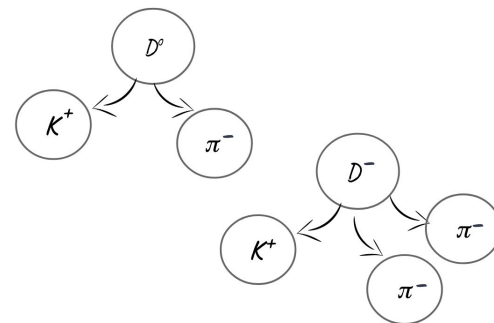
5 k-folds

Hyper-parameters optimised using optuna package

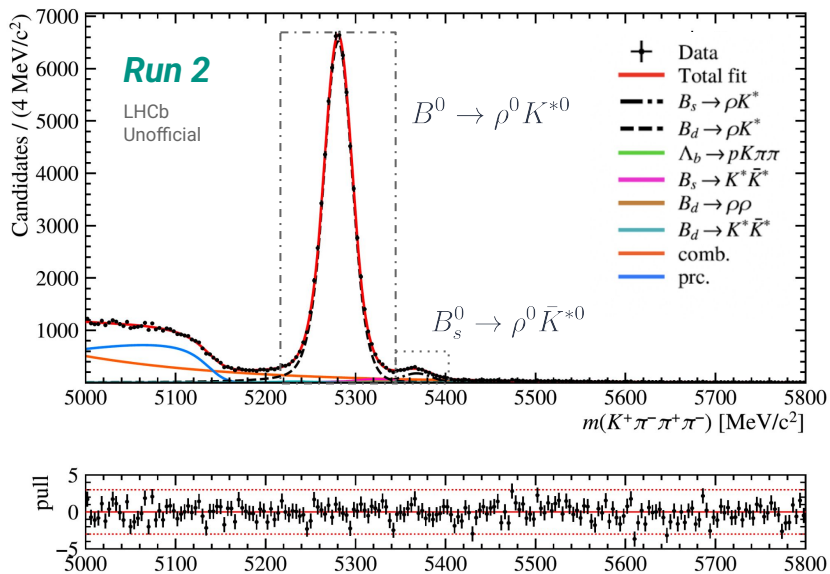
Charm contaminations

Dedicated **veto**s in the **invariant mass** of 2/3 body combinations

Acceptance effects of these cuts needs to be carefully modelled



Candidate selected fits



Total yield

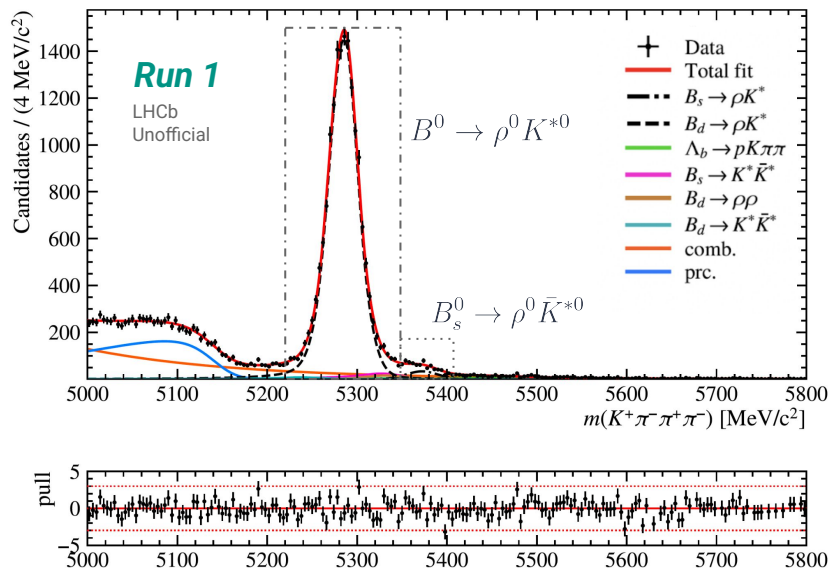
$B^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 K^{*0}$	$B_s^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 \bar{K}^{*0}$
~85,000	~2,000

Signal significance

$B^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 K^{*0}$	$B_s^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 \bar{K}^{*0}$
Run 1: 119	Run 1: 9
Run 2: 250	Run 2: 25

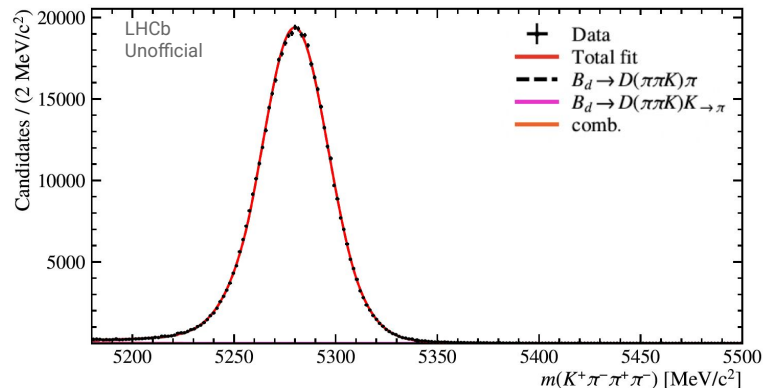
- BDT score & PID selection cuts optimised simultaneously for signal significance

$$\text{significance} = \frac{S}{\sqrt{S+B}}$$



Branching fraction measurements

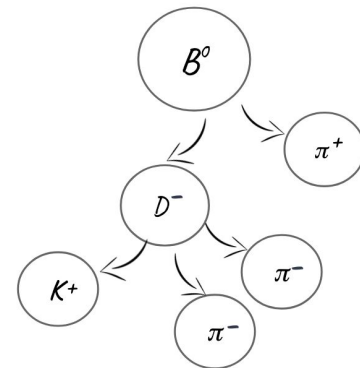
- Use as **normalisation mode** $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow D_{(s)}^- \pi^+$
 - $D_{(s)} \rightarrow \pi\pi K$ **same final state** to limit systematic uncertainties
 - Clean high stats mode - allow for precise measurement of the signal branching fractions
 - **Dedicated BDT and corrections** owing to differing kinematics



Signal candidates from mass fit needs to consider f_{VV} from amplitude fit

$$\mathcal{B}(sig) = \frac{N_{sig}}{N_{norm}} \frac{\epsilon_{norm}}{\epsilon_{sig}} \mathcal{B}(norm) \rightarrow \text{Well measured branching fraction}$$

Efficiencies derived from corrected simulation



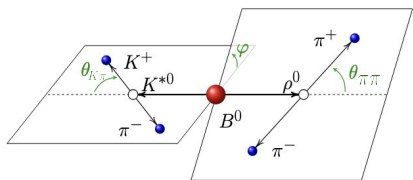
Amplitude fits of $B^0 \rightarrow (\pi^+ \pi^-)(K^+ \pi^-)$

- Fits to selected data samples in the signal region
- Combinatorial background modelled using the B mass sidebands

Angular fits to the variables

$$m(V_1), m(V_2), \cos(\theta_1), \cos(\theta_2), \phi$$

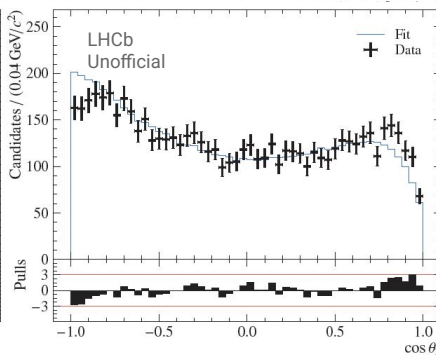
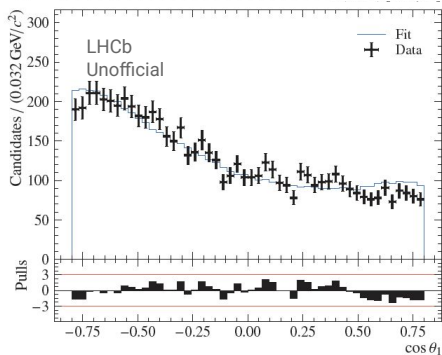
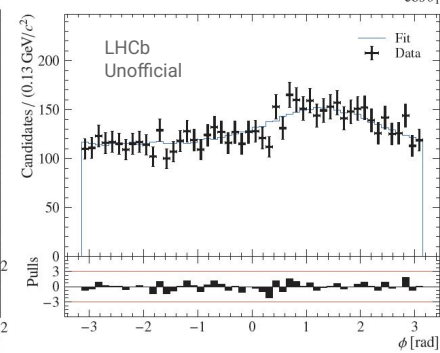
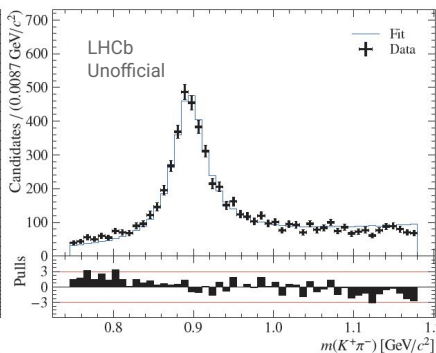
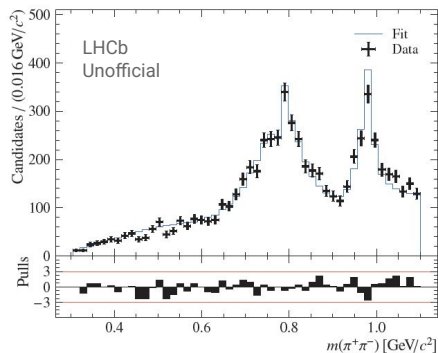
Run 1, B^0



$\pi^+ \pi^-$
 $\rho(770)$
 ω
 $f_0(500)$
 $f_0(980)$
 $f_0(1370)$

$K^+ \pi^-$
 $K^* (892)$
 $K^+ \pi^-_{S\text{-wave}}$

14 contributing terms



Angular acceptance modelled using Legendre polynomials

Angular fitter framework generalised for other Charmless $B \rightarrow VV$ decays

Summary

- Event selection is well advanced with abundant yield of signal candidates
- Branching fraction measurements are progressing and inclusive measurements will be finalised soon
- Development of angular fitter is ongoing
 - Preliminary amplitude fits show promise
 - Collaboration with Peking university on developing amplitude fits
- Software packages developed for this analysis provide useful generalisation and support for other ongoing (and future planned) analyses of Charmless B->VV decays

Thanks for listening!

Backup

Detailed summary of the selection for $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 K^{*0}$

Full Run 1 & Run 2 dataset

- B2KsthhLine used for stripping
 - $m_{\pi\pi}$ mass range of 300-1200 MeV

MC is re-stripped to remove any PID cuts & PID variables are corrected using PIDGen2 (equivalent to PIDCorr)

Mass vetoes for D meson decays

4D optimisation of the chosen FOM for the combinatorial BDT cut & PID selection working point

- Separate selection for exclusive hTOS & TIS samples

Trigger

	Trigger lines
L0	L0_HadronDecision_TOS or L0HadronDecision_TIS or L0MuonDecision_TIS or L0DiMuonDecision_TIS or L0ElectronDecision_TIS or L0PhotonDecision_TIS and
HLT1	Hlt1TrackAllL0Decision_TOS or Hlt1TrackMVADecision_TOS or Hlt1TwoTrackMVADecision_TOS and
HLT2	Hlt2Topo2BodyBBDTDecision_TOS or Hlt2Topo3BodyBBDTDecision_TOS or Hlt2Topo4BodyBBDTDecision_TOS or Hlt2Topo2BodyDecision_TOS or Hlt2Topo3BodyDecision_TOS or Hlt2Topo4BodyDecision_TOS

Pre-selection

Variable	Cut
allTracks_p	< 100 GeV
allTracks_isMuon	== 0
allTracks_GhostProb	< 0.3
B_IPCHI2_OWNPV	> 0
B_IP_OWNPV	< 0.2 mm
B_FDCHI2_OWNPV	> 0
B_FD_OWNPV	< 100 mm
Kst_IPCHI2_OWNPV	> 0
Rho_IPCHI2_OWNPV	> 0
nLongTracks	< 250
CosThetaClone	< 0.9999998
k1_PIDK	> -5
$ M(K^\pm\pi^\mp) - M_{D^0,PDG} $	> 30 MeV
$ M(K^\pm\pi^\mp\pi^\mp) - M_{D^\mp,PDG} $	> 40 MeV

PID & BDT selection

$B^0 \rightarrow (p_1^+ p_2^-)(k_1^+ p_3^-)$	
Variable	Definition
min_pi_ProbNN	Min(π s ProbNNpi*(1-ProbNNk))
k1_ProbNN	Min(K s ProbNNk*(1-ProbNNpi))
max_ProbNNp	Max(p 2, p 3s ProbNNp))
optimBDT	Optimised combinatorial BDT score