

## Search for $B_c^\pm \rightarrow \phi K^\pm$ in the LHCb experiment

There is no annihilation decay experimentally observed for the  $B_c$  meson to date. The  $B_c^\pm \rightarrow \phi K^\pm$  decay can proceed via annihilation of anti-b and c quarks into a  $W$  intermediate boson or, alternatively, involving final-state rescattering effects. Observation of the  $B_c^\pm \rightarrow \phi K^\pm$  decay will provide a new insight on the  $B_c$  meson properties and lead to a new independent determination of the  $V_{cb}$  element of the CKM matrix, as well as determine the size of annihilation diagrams. The analysis is performed using data from the LHCb experiment, collected in pp collisions at 13 TeV center-of-mass energy. The  $\phi$  meson is reconstructed via its decay to two charged kaons. The  $B^\pm \rightarrow \phi K^\pm$  decay is used for control and normalization.

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