# The photon polarisation in radiative B decays

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#### Introduction

- Radiative B meson decays
- How to extract the photon polarisation
- Experimental results

#### Why b→sΥ?

• Since this is a Flavour Changing Neutral Current (FCNC), this process only occurs through at loop level.



- May be sensitive to New Physics.
- We can test the standard model for such decays by confronting theoretical predictions against experimental measurements.

#### Which observable to use ?

• Exlusive decay rate :  $\Gamma(B \to M\gamma)$ 

Experimentaly accessible but difficulty to predict accurately.

• Inclusive decay rate :  $\Gamma(b \rightarrow X_s \gamma)$ 

Experimentaly difficult but small theoretical uncertaincies.

• <u>Photon Polarisation</u> :  $\frac{\Gamma_R - \Gamma_L}{\Gamma_R + \Gamma_L} = \lambda_{\gamma}$ 

In accelerator experiment, the polarisation cannot be directly measured but the theoretical uncertaincies are of the order of 10%.

• <u>CP asymmetry</u> :  $\frac{\overline{\Gamma} - \Gamma}{\overline{\Gamma} + \Gamma}$ 

Experimentaly difficult but small theoretical uncertaincies.

### Photon polarisation in the SM

• Decay rate :

$$\bar{s}\Gamma(b\to s\gamma)_{\mu}b\propto \bar{s}\sigma_{\mu\nu}q^{\nu}(m_b\frac{1+\gamma^5}{2}+m_s\frac{1-\gamma^5}{2})b$$

 $m_s \approx 95 Mev$ 

 $\frac{m_s}{m_b} \approx 0.02$ 

 $m_b \approx 4.18 Gev$ 

According to the SM : The photon will be mostly left-handed for  $b \to s\gamma$  and right-handed for  $\bar{b} \to \bar{s}\gamma$ .

We expect  $\lambda_{\gamma} \approx -1$ 

Charm loop contribution : 10 %



## Extracting the photon polarisation

We can relate the polarisation of the s quark and the photon :



#### How to measure the polarisation of the s quark :

We need an observable which changes sign under parity.

Angular analysis can provide such observables given that we have 2 amplitudes with a relative phase.

If the photon decays, we can as well measure the interferences of left and right handed amplitude :

Virtual photon contribution.

$$b \to s(e^+e^-)$$

Nuclear conversion to a lepton pair.

#### Extracting the photon polarisation

Why and which
3-body decay?

 $B^+ \to K_1^+ \gamma \to (K^+ \pi^- \pi^+) \gamma$ 

- The Kππ decay can be used as a reference plane
- We count how many times Υ is going above and under this plane.



$$\begin{split} |M(K_1 \to K\pi\pi)|^2 &\propto |\vec{\epsilon}_{K_1} \cdot J|^2 \\ |M(K_{1R/L} \to K\pi\pi)|^2 &\propto \frac{1}{4} (1 + \cos^2 \theta) (|J_x|^2 + |J_y|^2) \pm \cos \theta Im[J_x J_y^*] \\ \mathscr{A}_{up-down} &= \frac{\int_0^1 d\cos\theta \frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta} - \int_{-1}^0 d\cos\theta \frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta}}{\int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta \frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta}} = \lambda_\gamma \frac{3}{2} \frac{\int ds_{23} ds_{13} Im[J_x J_y^*]}{\int ds_{23} ds_{13} (|J_x|^2 + |J_y|^2)} \end{split}$$

#### Modeling the hadronic decay

Considering only K1(1270), we have 3 decay channels leading to  $K\pi\pi$ :

$$K^*\pi$$
  $\rho K$   $\kappa\pi$ 

Large uncertainties originating from the kappa channel contribution and limited knowledge on the relative branching ratios of other kaonic resonances.

$$\mathscr{A}_{up-down} = \lambda_{\gamma} \frac{3}{2} \frac{\int ds_{23} ds_{13} Im[J_x J_y^*]}{\int ds_{23} ds_{13} (|J_x|^2 + |J_y|^2)}$$









#### **Experimental results**

$$B^+ \to K_1^+ \gamma \to (K^+ \pi^- \pi^+) \gamma$$

LHCb recently collected a sample of about 14000 events leading to a measurements of the Up-Down asymmetry 4  $\sigma$  away from zero in the K1(1270) region.

Belle has smaller sample but we can expect results from Belle II in the future.



# Conclusions

- We can test the SM with the  $B \rightarrow K1^{\circ}$  decay.
- Experimental results show a 4  $\sigma$  deviation from zero for the measurements of the Up- Down asymmetry.
- More work is needed on the modelisation of K1 decay in order to extract the photon polarisation.

## Back up slides

 $B^+ \to K_1^+ \gamma \to K^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$ 





## Input parameters

 $K_{1(1270)}$  and  $K_{1(1400)}$  are a mixture of  $1^1P_1$  and  $1^3P_1$  states

#### **Results s-depedant with** $\left|\frac{\overrightarrow{f_{K_{1}(1270),pol.}}}{(s-m_{K_{1}(1270)}^{2}) - im_{K_{1}(1270)}\Gamma_{K_{1}(1270)}(s)} + \frac{f_{p}\overrightarrow{f_{K_{1}(1400),pol.}}}{(s-m_{K_{1}(1400)}^{2}) - im_{K_{1}(1400)}\Gamma_{K_{1}(1400)}(s)}\right|^{2}$ ensity (Arbitrary units) $\Gamma_{K_1,pol.}(s) = \int_{s13,s23} \frac{1}{128(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{s^{3/2}} \frac{3}{2} \left| \mathcal{M}_{K_1,pol.} \right|^2 ds_{13} ds_{23}$ 1.15 1.2 1.25 1.35 1.45 1.5 1.55 √s (Gev) 0.45 K1(1270) K1(1400) 0.4 $\Gamma_{K_{1(1270)}} \approx 90 Mev \checkmark$ $\Gamma_{K_{1(1400)}} \approx 174 Mev$ 0.35 0.3 0.25 Γ (Gev) 0.2 tensity (Arbitrary 0.15 0.1 0.05 1.1 1.15 1.2 1.25 1.35 1.4 1.45 1.5 1.55 1.6 √s (Gev)

1.1

1.15

1.2

1.25

1.3

1.35 √s (Gev) 1.45

1.5

1.55