

Search for $B_s, B^0 \rightarrow \mu\mu$ decays at CMS

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Results were presented from a search for the rare decays $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ and $B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ and 8 TeV, with data samples corresponding to integrated luminosities of 5 and 20 fb^{-1} , respectively, collected by the CMS experiment at the LHC. An unbinned maximum-likelihood fit to the dimuon invariant mass distribution gives a branching fraction $\mathcal{B}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) = (3.0_{-0.9}^{+1.0}) \times 10^{-9}$, where the uncertainty includes both statistical and systematic contributions. An excess of $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ events with respect to background is observed with a significance of 4.3 standard deviations. The expected median significance of this excess is 4.8 standard deviations. For the decay $B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ an upper limit of $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) < 1.1 \times 10^{-9}$ at the 95% confidence level is determined. Both results are in agreement with the expectations from the standard model.

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In the standard model (SM) of particle physics, tree-level diagrams do not contribute to flavor-changing neutral-current (FCNC) decays. However, FCNC decays may proceed through higher-order loop diagrams, and this opens up the possibility for contributions from non-SM particles. In the SM, the rare FCNC decays $B_s(B^0) \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ have small branching fractions of $\mathcal{B}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) = (3.57 \pm 0.30) \times 10^{-9}$, corresponding to the decay-time integrated branching fraction, and $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) = (1.07 \pm 0.10) \times 10^{-10}$ [1, 2].

Several extensions of the SM, such as supersymmetric models with non-universal Higgs boson masses [3], specific models containing leptoquarks [4], and the minimal supersymmetric standard model with large $\tan\beta$ [5, 6], predict enhancements to the branching fractions for these rare decays. The decay rates can also be suppressed for specific choices of model parameters [7].

Over the past 30 years, significant progress in sensitivity has been made, with exclusion limits on the branching fractions improving by five orders of magnitude. The ARGUS [8], UA1 [9], CLEO [10], Belle [11], BaBar [12], CDF [13], D0 [14], ATLAS [15], CMS [17], and LHCb [16] experiments have all published limits on these decays (see Figure 1). The LHCb experiment has subsequently shown evidence, with 3.5 standard deviation significance, for the decay $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ with $\mathcal{B}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) = (3.2_{-1.2}^{+1.5}) \times 10^{-9}$ [18].

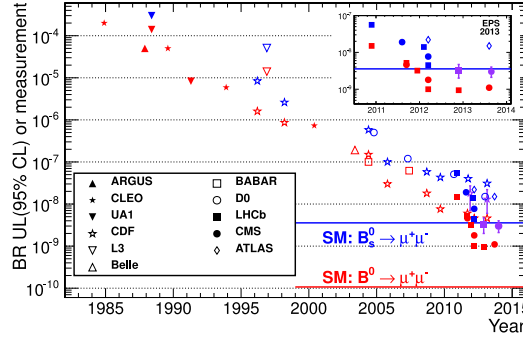


Figure 1: Historical perspective of the search for $B \rightarrow l + l^-$. The inset shows the recent past. [19]

In the presentation a measurement of $\mathcal{B}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$ based on a simultaneous search for $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ and $B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ decays using a data sample of pp collisions corresponding to integrated luminosities of $5 fb^{-1}$ at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV and $20 fb^{-1}$ at 8 TeV collected by the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) experiment at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) was reported [20]. For these data, the peak luminosity varied from 3.5×10^{30} to $7.7 \times 10^{33} cm^{-2}s^{-1}$. The average number of interactions per bunch crossing (pileup) was 9 (21) at $\sqrt{s} = 7(8)$ TeV. The search for the $B \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ signal, where B denotes B_s or B^0 , is performed in the dimuon invariant mass regions around the B_s and B^0 masses.

Figure 2 shows the result of the search for the rare decays $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ and $B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$. No significant evidence is observed for $B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ and an upper limit of $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) < 1.1 \times 10^{-9}$ is established at 95% CL. For $B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$, an excess of events with a significance of 4.3 (4.8) standard deviations is observed (median expected), and a branching fraction of $\mathcal{B}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) = (3.0_{-0.9}^{+1.0}) \times 10^{-9}$ is determined, in agreement with the standard model expectations.

The CMS experiment prepares for improved measurements of these rare B decays for the upcoming LHC run 2 starting 2015. The LHC experiments' objective for 2015 is to run a physics

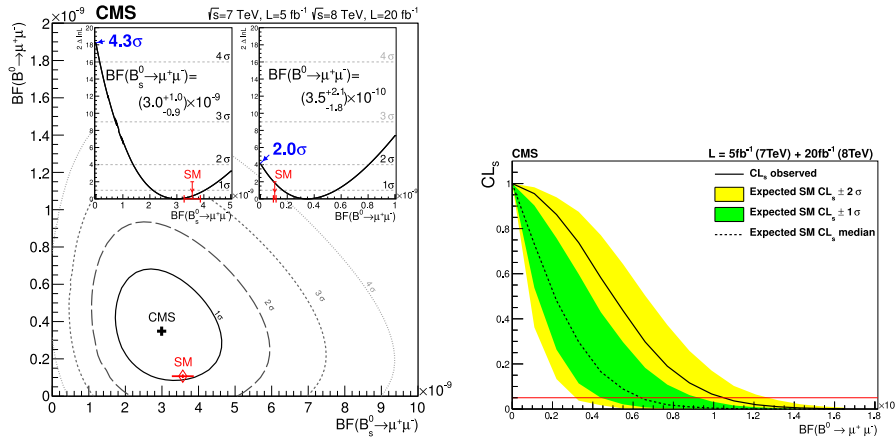


Figure 2: Left, scan of the ratio of the joint likelihood for $\mathcal{B}(B_s \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$ and $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$. As insets, the likelihood ratio scan for each of the branching fractions when the other is profiled together with other nuisance parameters; the significance at which the background-only hypothesis is rejected is also shown. Right, observed and expected CL_S for $B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ as a function of the assumed branching fraction. [20]

programme at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV, which will result in *e.g.* much higher pileup per event ($\simeq 40$) compared to run 1. For the CMS experiment the triggering on the rare $B_s(B^0)$ decays to μ^+ , μ^- final states will be a major challenge then.

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