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$B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- \alpha_1^+$ ($D_s^- \rightarrow \phi \pi^-, D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0} K^-$)-DECAY CHANNEL
IN THE ATLAS B_s^0 -MIXING STUDIES

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1 Introduction

The main features of the B_s -mixing studies were explained in previous notes [1, 2] (see also references cited therein), so we don't need to repeat them here. Instead we will try to give arguments that B_s -mixing phenomenon is indeed worthy to be studied.

The famous Russian painter Casimir Malevich said a long time ago: "The object in itself is meaningless ... the ideas of the conscious mind are worthless". We would like to choose his great painting "The black square", which is reproduced below, as a starting point of our introduction.



But from this starting point it is possible to go to the very different directions depending from one's imagination. So let us imagine the following picture behind the black square [3]:

"A cat is penned up in a steel chamber, along with the following diabolical device: in a Geiger counter there is a tiny bit of radioactive substance, that perhaps in the course of one hour one of the atoms decays, but also, with equal probability, perhaps none; if it happens, the counter tube discharges and through a relay releases a hammer which shatters a small flask of hydrocyanic acid. If one has left the entire system to itself for one hour, one would say that the cat still lives if meanwhile no atom has decayed. The state vector $|\Psi\rangle$ of the entire system would express this by having in it the living and the dead cat mixed or smeared out in equal parts."

But this is of course nonsense, at least from cat's point of view!

We have reminded Schrödinger's cat old story here in order to give an impression that although we all became familiar with particle mixing, because the superposition principle lies on a very background of quantum mechanics, this phenomenon is by no means obvious or trivial property of reality.

But what is strange and queer at the macrophysics level can still appear as the most common thing at the microphysics level. It seems that even our existence is based on particle mixing as will be explained below.

One of very important characteristics of elementary particle is its mass. We can get some insight about its origin from the following simple trick. The propagator of a massive fermion can be represented in such a way

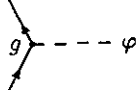
$$\frac{1}{\hat{p} - m} = \frac{1}{\hat{p}} + \frac{1}{\hat{p}} m \frac{1}{\hat{p}} + \frac{1}{\hat{p}} m \frac{1}{\hat{p}} m \frac{1}{\hat{p}} + \dots,$$

or graphically

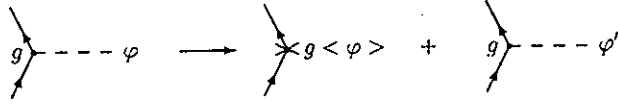
$$\text{---} \bullet \text{---} = \text{---} + \text{---} \times \text{---} + \text{---} \times \text{---} \times \text{---} + \dots$$

where a single line represents the propagator of a massless particle. So things look like as if the massless particle is propagating through some medium and the mass emerges

as a result of friction or interaction with this environment. But what is the medium the particle interacts with? A (massless) fermionic particle can have the following interaction with some scalar field $\mathcal{L}_{int} = g\bar{\psi}\psi\varphi$:

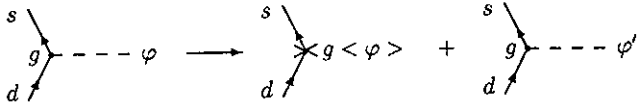


If now the self interactions of this scalar field are such that it doesn't disappear in a vacuum state and develops a nonzero vacuum expectation value $\langle \varphi \rangle$, when it is convenient to expand $\varphi = \langle \varphi \rangle + \varphi'$, where φ' corresponds to the physical scalar particles (excitations over the vacuum) and $\langle \varphi \rangle$ just gives the medium (the vacuum) where all of us are living. Now because of this decomposition of φ the fermion-scalar interaction splits into two parts:



The second diagram represents an emission of the real scalar quantum and the first one generates the fermion mass $m = g\langle \varphi \rangle$.

But if, for example d -quark can emit a scalar particle without changing its flavour, why can't it do this with changing the flavour? We know that the flavour is not always conserved, so the following interaction is not excluded:



But now the first term gives $d-s$ mixing! As a result our initial d and s fields are no longer mass eigenstates (the states with definite mass), instead their time development in the rest frame is described by the matrix Schrödinger's equation ($\hbar = 1$):

$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} m_d & m_{ds} \\ m_{ds} & m_s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \end{pmatrix} \equiv$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_c & \sin \theta_c \\ -\sin \theta_c & \cos \theta_c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{m}_d & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{m}_s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_c & -\sin \theta_c \\ \sin \theta_c & \cos \theta_c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \end{pmatrix},$$

where $\tan 2\theta_c = \frac{2m_{ds}}{m_s - m_d}$ and \tilde{m}_d, \tilde{m}_s mass eigenvalues are defined from the equations $m_d = \tilde{m}_d \cos^2 \theta_c + \tilde{m}_s \sin^2 \theta_c$, $m_s = \tilde{m}_d \sin^2 \theta_c + \tilde{m}_s \cos^2 \theta_c$. It is obvious that the corresponding eigenvectors (the physical d and s quarks) are

$$\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{d} \\ \tilde{s} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_c & -\sin \theta_c \\ \sin \theta_c & \cos \theta_c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{aligned} \tilde{d} &= \cos \theta_c d - \sin \theta_c s \\ \tilde{s} &= \sin \theta_c d + \cos \theta_c s \end{aligned}$$

This particle mixing has one important observable consequence. If initially the weak transitions were possible only within the (u, d) or (c, s) pairs, now the intergeneration

transitions $\tilde{u} \leftrightarrow \tilde{s}$ and $\tilde{c} \leftrightarrow \tilde{d}$ are also possible because, for example, the physical s -quark contains both d and s bare fields $\tilde{s} = \sin \theta_c d + \cos \theta_c s$. Thus $\tilde{u} \rightarrow \tilde{s}$ transition is proportional to $\sin \theta_c$ - sine of the so called Cabibbo angle.

But we have three quark-lepton generations. So after the mixing the weak transitions are possible between any up and any down quarks. The amplitudes of these weak transitions are convenient to express as a 3×3 unitary matrix. This Kobayashi-Maskawa matrix is a generalization of the Cabibbo angle and reveals a remarkable hierarchical structure [4]

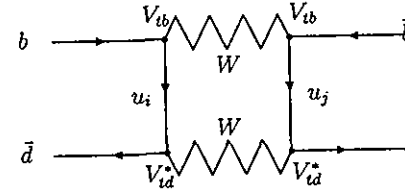
$$\begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \frac{1}{2}\lambda^2 & \lambda & A\lambda^3(\rho - i\eta) \\ -\lambda & 1 - \frac{1}{2}\lambda^2 & A\lambda^2 \\ A\lambda^3(1 - \rho - i\eta) & -A\lambda^2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1)$$

Here $\lambda = \sin \theta_c \approx 0.22$ is a small quantity. So the intergeneration weak transitions are suppressed and this suppression is more strong for not neighboring generations.

If $\eta \neq 0$, the Kobayashi-Maskawa matrix is complex and violates CP . It is commonly believed today that this CP -violation is an important ingredient in baryon-antibaryon asymmetry generation in the universe [5] and so the source of our very existence.

So far we were talking about particle mixing at quark level. But quarks are confined into hadrons and we can study quark-mixing only indirectly via hadron-mixing. B -meson system is very promising in this respect: because of a large mass of the b -quark we can enjoy an asymptotic freedom advantage of QCD and calculate strong interaction corrections, unlike, for example, K -meson system.

In the Standard Model the $B_d - \bar{B}_d$ mixing originates from the following diagram (and from the second one there intermediate up-quark and W lines are interchanged)



u_i stands for any up quark. So

$$B_d - \text{mixing} \sim \sum_{i,j} \lambda_i \lambda_j I(m_i, m_j)$$

where $\lambda_i = V_{u_i b} V_{u_i d}^*$ and $I(m_i, m_j)$ represents the loop integral. This integral diverges quadratically. But this divergence is harmless because the unitarity of the Kobayashi-Maskawa matrix ensures its cancellation in the sum: the unitarity means $\sum \lambda_i = 0$, therefore

$$\sum_{i,j} \lambda_i \lambda_j I(m_i, m_j) = \sum_{i,j} \lambda_i \lambda_j [I(m_i, m_j) - I(0, m_j) - I(m_i, 0) + I(0, 0)]$$

and these subtractions greatly improve the convergence. For example, in case of t -quark contribution, these subtractions lead to the replacement

$$\frac{1}{(k^2 - m_t^2)^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{(k^2 - m_t^2)^2} - \frac{2}{k^2(k^2 - m_t^2)} + \frac{1}{k^2 k^2} = \frac{m_t^4}{k^2 k^2 (k^2 - m_t^2)}$$

From this expression it is also clear that in fact just t -quark contribution is dominant for B -mixing, because of its extraordinary large mass.

When ARGUS made his measurement of the B_d -mixing [6], nobody thought that t -quark is so massive. So the result of this measurement appeared as a big surprise. We can even say that t -quark was discovered by ARGUS, because the large B_d -mixing, observed by ARGUS, is very difficult to explain without the existence of the t -quark with mass $> 100 \text{ GeV}$.

We can infer from the above given diagram that even larger mixing is expected in B_s -system:

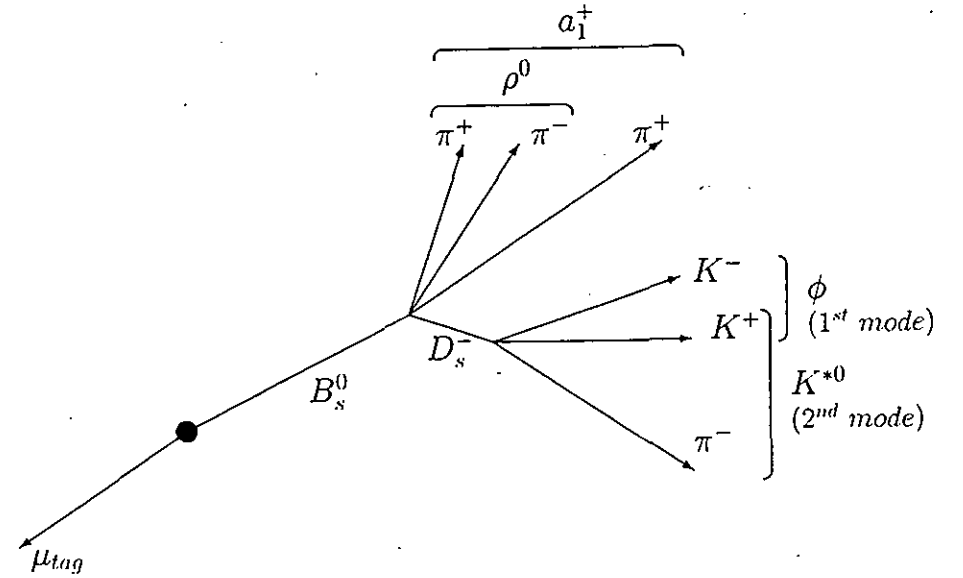
$$\frac{B_s - \text{mixing}}{B_d - \text{mixing}} \sim \left| \frac{V_{ts}}{V_{td}} \right|^2 \sim \frac{1}{\lambda^2 [(1-\rho)^2 + \eta^2]} \sim \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \sim 25$$

We see also that the relative magnitude of B_s and B_d mixings measures $(1-\rho)^2 + \eta^2$ - one side of the notorious unitarity triangle [7]. It is worthwhile to mention that this ratio is, to a great extent, free from hadronic uncertainties, which arise when we ask how quark and antiquark from the above given B -mixing diagram really form B -meson.

To summarize, the B_s -mixing studies are interesting, because they reveal a very fundamental underlying phenomenon - the generation of particle masses and mixing angles via the Higgs mechanism, the least understood thing in the Standard Model. Because of heaviness of the b -quark and asymptotic freedom of QCD, the theory gives very definite predictions about expected B_s -mixing, hampered only from uncertainties due to our inability to solve QCD in the confinement region. But these uncertainties are also, to a certain extent, under control [7]. The theoretical predictions involves such a fundamental property as the unitarity of the Kobayashi-Maskawa matrix (the existence of only three generations). Any deviation between the theory and experiment can lead to significant change of our present day picture of the elementary particle world (recall the B_d -mixing story). The forthcoming ATLAS experiment sensitivity to the B_s -mixing covers the Standard Model prediction range [8]. So it will either give one more conformation of the theory or will open a window into a physics beyond the Standard Model.

2 $D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0} K^-$ decay channel for D_s reconstruction

To observe the B_s^0 -mixing in a real experiment like ATLAS and extract the corresponding x_s parameter, which characterizes the $B_s - \bar{B}_s$ oscillation frequency, you need to reconstruct B_s meson and determine its decay vertex with great precision. Two of the B_s decay channels were considered for this goal up to now: $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- \pi^+$ [1] and $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- a_1^+$ [2]. For the second channel $D_s^- \rightarrow \phi \pi^-$, $\phi \rightarrow K^+ K^-$ decay mode was used for the D_s^- reconstruction. It was mentioned in [1, 2] that other decay channels of D_s^- can be also used to increase signal statistics. In the present note we consider $D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0} K^-$, $K^{*0} \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-$ decay mode as one of the possibilities:



As it is clear from the Table 1 below, this decay channel is quite promising if compared to the previously used $D_s^- \rightarrow \phi \pi^-$.

Table 1.
Branching ratios and signal statistics for $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- a_1^+$ (1260).

Parameter	Value	Comment
$\mathcal{L} [\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}]$	10^{33}	
t [s]	10^7	
$\sigma(b\bar{b} \rightarrow \mu X)$ [μb]	2.3	$p_T^b > 6 \text{ GeV}/c$ $ \eta^b < 2.2$
$N(b\bar{b} \rightarrow \mu X)$	2.3×10^{10}	
$\text{Br}(b \rightarrow B_s^0)$	0.112	
$\text{Br}(B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- a_1^+)$	0.006	
$\text{Br}(a_1^+ \rightarrow \rho^0 \pi^+)$	~ 0.5	
$\text{Br}(\rho^0 \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^+)$	~ 1	
$\text{Br}(D_s^- \rightarrow \phi \pi^-)$	0.036	
$\text{Br}(\phi \rightarrow K^+ K^-)$	0.491	
$\text{Br}(D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0} K^-)$	0.034	
$\text{Br}(K^{*0} \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-)$	~ 0.65	
$N(K^+ K^- \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+)$	136600	$D_s^- \rightarrow \phi \pi^-$
$N(K^+ K^- \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+)$	170800	$D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0} K^-$

Event generation and reconstruction procedures are similar to ones considered in [2]. All other general parameters, like impact parameter resolution for smearing and transverse momentum resolution, are also the same as in [2] and can be found there.

Contrary to the $D_s^- \rightarrow \phi\pi^-$ case, where D_s^- peak was clearly seen in the invariant mass distribution of the three properly charged particles, assuming that two of them are K -mesons and one is pion, now D_s^- peak is not seen (Fig. 1), perhaps because K^{*0} is too wide as compared to ϕ . Thus the combinatorial background from the signal events alone is already able to hide the D_s , and the reader is left with the sentence [9] "if you should see the word "buffalo" written on a cage containing an elephant, don't believe your eyes". Although when D_s^- meson is reconstructed from its true decay products the resulting invariant mass resolution, shown in Fig. 2, is almost the same as for the $D_s^- \rightarrow \phi\pi^-$ mode. Another picture in Fig. 2 shows K^{*0} , reconstructed from its true decay products.

The resolution in the B_s -decay proper time (Fig. 3a) $\sigma_\tau \approx 0.061ps$ is practically the same as for the $D_s^- \rightarrow \phi\pi^-$ mode. The corresponding B_s -decay length resolution in the transverse plane is $\approx 100\mu m$ and the relevant distribution is shown in Fig. 3b.

We expect that signal to background situation when using $D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0}K^-$ mode will be similar to what was considered in [2]. Compare for example Fig. 4 from [2] and from this work, which describes a possible background from the $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- a_1^+$ decay when D_s^- is reconstructed via $D_s^- \rightarrow \phi\pi^-$ or $D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0}K^-$ modes respectively.

The main reason which allowed a good signal to background separation in [2] was the fact that D^- and B_d^0 masses are shifted from the D_s^- and B_s^0 masses by about 100 MeV. But this equally applies to the $D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0}K^-$ case also, because our cut on the D_s^- invariant mass doesn't change very much. The only problem which can arise is a large K^{*0} width (as compared to the ϕ -meson width) and therefore the cut on the invariant mass of K^{*0} should be considerably loose. At present we are not aware of a background for which this circumstance will play a crucial role.

Acceptance and analysis cuts are summarized in Table 2. As it is known [10], a second level trigger is necessary to reduce an event rate, which is still too high after the first level trigger (the tag-muon). For the $B_s \rightarrow D_s^- \pi^+$, $D_s^- \rightarrow \phi\pi^-$ mode the problem was studied in [10] and it was shown that some loose cuts on the invariant masses of ϕ and D_s candidates can be used for this purpose. The resulting trigger efficiency appeared to be [8] about 0.54. For the $B_s \rightarrow D_s^- a_1^+$, $D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0}K^-$ channel, discussed in this note, the second level trigger should be specially investigated, of course. However we expect that the similar mass cuts on D_s and K^{*0} candidates will work in this case also and a 50% trigger efficiency should be a safe estimate.

Table 2.
Number of signal events from $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- a_1^+$ (1260) channel expected in ATLAS after 1 year (10^7s) of operation at $10^{33}cm^{-2}s^{-1}$.

Parameter	Value	Comment
$N(K^+K^-\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+)$	136600	$D_s^- \rightarrow \phi\pi^-$
$N(K^+K^-\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+)$	170800	$D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0}K^-$
Cuts :		
$p_T > 1 GeV/c$		
$ \eta < 2.5$		
$N(K^+K^-\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+)$	9015 (6.6%)	$D_s^- \rightarrow \phi\pi^-$
$N(K^+K^-\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+)$	9910 (5.8%)	$D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0}K^-$
$\Delta\varphi_{\pi\pi} < 35^\circ$		
$\Delta\theta_{\pi\pi} < 15^\circ$		
$ M_{\pi\pi} - M_{\rho^0} < 192 MeV/c^2 (\pm 3\sigma)$		
$ M_{\pi\pi\pi} - M_{a_1^+} < 300 MeV/c^2$		
$\Delta\varphi_{KK} < 10^\circ$		$D_s^- \rightarrow \phi\pi^-$
$\Delta\theta_{KK} < 10^\circ$		
$ M_{KK} - M_\phi < 20 MeV/c^2$		
$ M_{KK\pi} - M_{D_s^-} < 15 MeV/c^2$		
$\Delta\varphi_{K\pi} < 20^\circ$		$D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0}K^-$
$\Delta\theta_{K\pi} < 10^\circ$		
$ M_{K\pi} - M_{K^{*0}} < 80 MeV/c^2$		
$ M_{KK\pi} - M_{D_s^-} < 20 MeV/c^2$		
$N(K^+K^-\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+)$	6830 (5.0%)	$D_s^- \rightarrow \phi\pi^-$
$N(K^+K^-\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+)$	6830 (4.0%)	$D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0}K^-$
D_s^- vertex fit $\chi^2 < 12.0$		
a_1^+ vertex fit $\chi^2 < 12.0$		
B_s^0 proper decay time $> 0.4 ps$		
B_s^0 impact parameter $< 55 \mu m$		
B_s^0 $p_T > 10.0 GeV/c$		
$N(K^+K^-\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+)$ after cuts	4100 (3.0%)	$D_s^- \rightarrow \phi\pi^-$
$N(K^+K^-\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+)$ after cuts	4780 (2.8%)	$D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0}K^-$
Lepton identification	0.8	
Hadron identification	(0.95) ^o	
Trigger efficiency	0.5	
Mass cut $\pm 2\sigma$	0.95	
$N(K^+K^-\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+)$ reconstructed	1240 (0.9%)	$D_s^- \rightarrow \phi\pi^-$
$N(K^+K^-\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-\pi^+)$ reconstructed	1330 (0.8%)	$D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0}K^-$

As we see, about 2570 reconstructed B_s^0 mesons are expected for $10^4 pb^{-1}$ integrated luminosity from $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- a_1^+$ channel when both of $D_s^- \rightarrow \phi \pi^-$ and $D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0} K^-$ modes are used for D_s^- reconstruction. To them we should add 3640 B_s^0 mesons from $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- \pi^+$ channel [8]. So in total we expect 6210 reconstructed B_s^0 mesons per $10^4 pb^{-1}$ integrated luminosity when all as yet considered decay modes are used.

3 Peak amplifier

To extract the oscillation frequency, from M.C. or experimental asymmetry distributions, the so called amplitude fit method is useful [11]. Here we describe some refinements of this method.

In the amplitude fit method an asymmetry distribution $A(t)$ is fitted with the cosine function $A_{fit} \cos(x_s t/\tau)$ in which x_s is fixed and A_{fit} is the only free parameter. Repeating the fit for different values of x_s , we get $A_{fit}(x_s)$ distribution. This distribution is peaked at x_s which corresponds to the true value of the oscillation frequency.

The peak position in the $A_{fit}(x_s)$ distribution can be found with the help of the recently suggested "quantum" peak finding algorithm [12]. The idea of this algorithm is based on the property of small quantum balls to penetrate narrow enough obstacles. So if such a ball is placed on the edge of some potential wall it will find its way down to the potential wall bottom even if the potential wall is distorted by statistical fluctuations.

Let us introduce instead of continuous x_s some discrete parameter i , say through $N_i = A_{fit}(i/2)$. The transformation $A_{fit}(x_s) \rightarrow u(x_s)$, which we call peak amplifier, is defined for selected discrete values of x_s as follows

$$u(i/2) \equiv u_i, \quad u_{i+1} = \frac{P_{i,i+1}}{P_{i+1,i}} u_i, \quad \sum u_i = 1. \quad (2)$$

And $P_{i,i+1}$ transition probabilities are determined by the initial N_i spectrum [12]

$$P_{i,i+1} = A_i \sum_{k=1}^2 \exp \left[\frac{N_{i \pm k} - N_i}{\sqrt{\sigma_{i \pm k}^2 + \sigma_i^2}} \right], \quad (3)$$

A_i normalization constant being defined from the $P_{i,i-1} + P_{i,i+1} = 1$ condition. σ_i is a standard deviation (error) of N_i as determined by the cosine fit.

If now we apply this peak amplifier to the data after the amplitude fit we get the probability distributions shown in Fig. 5 (for $x_s = 30$) and in Fig. 6 (for $x_s = 45$). As we see, the peak amplifier enables a clear determination of x_s from the amplitude fit spectrum.

4 x_s sensitivity range

To estimate the ATLAS sensitivity range for the x_s measurement, the analogous procedure was used as in [8].

Amplitude fit is applied to the asymmetry distribution generated by Monte-Carlo program. The input parameters of this program, such as signal to background ratio,

B_s^0 lifetime, proper-time resolution and dilution factors are the same as in [8], with the exception of the number of signal events, which was taken to be 6210.

The amplitude fit spectrum is further transformed using the peak amplifier transformation as described above. In the resulting $u(x_s)$ spectrum the mean value of x_s and its standard deviation is calculated considering $u(x_s)$ as a probability density. The "experiment" is considered as successful if the measured x_s value (mean value of x_s according to the $u(x_s)$ distribution) is within two standard deviations from the true x_s -value defined in the Monte-Carlo program.

For each x_s point 1000 such "experiments" were generated and the fraction of the successful "experiments" was calculated. The highest value of x_s , for which this fraction is above 95%, is considered as a sensitivity limit for the ATLAS experiment. This limit was found to be about $x_s^{min} = 42.5$. This is almost the same number as found in [8]. In fact the peak amplifier method doesn't give a significant increase for the sensitivity limit, but it allows a more accurate x_s determination, as is indicated by Fig. 6, because the probability peak is much more narrow.

Fig. 7 shows the distribution of the x_s values, found by the peak amplifier method, for 1000 "experiments", generated with the "true" $x_s = 42.5$.

5 "Where is the beginning of the end that comes at the end of the beginning?"

So we are at the end of our investigation. Our main conclusions are:

- $D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0} K^-$ mode enables a two fold increase in the signal statistics for the $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- a_1$ decay channel.
- the ATLAS experiment can reach a sensitivity limit for x_s as high as $x_s^{min} = 42.5$ with the certainty.
- $D_s^- \rightarrow K^{*0} K^-$ mode can be used also for the $B_s \rightarrow D_s^- \pi^+$ channel. If the same increase in signal statistics is assumed, the total number of reconstructed B_s events can reach 10^4 per $10^4 pb^{-1}$ integrated luminosity. According to estimates from [8] this will mean a sensitivity limit for x_s about 46.

Acknowledgments

The authors are grateful to Paula Eerola and Szymon Gadomski for valuable comments. These comments were used in the text. We are also grateful to M. Gostkin for help in the manuscript preparation.

Farewell

When we began this investigation our intention was to write a vivid and joyful story about B_s -mixing, some mixture of science and art (the art part is greatly reduced in this preprint version for technical reasons. For complete version see ATLAS Internal Note PHYS-NO-115, <http://atlasinfo.cern.ch/Atlas/GROUPS/PHYSICS/NOTES/notes.html>). Only scientific framework appeared to us as too narrow to embrace the beauty of life, because [13] "All things are full of labour; man cannot utter it: the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing."

Unfortunately Sasha Bannikov suddenly died at the end of last year and we are forced to end this project without him.

Farewell Sasha! Let this article be a small thing that remains after you in this world as your memory.

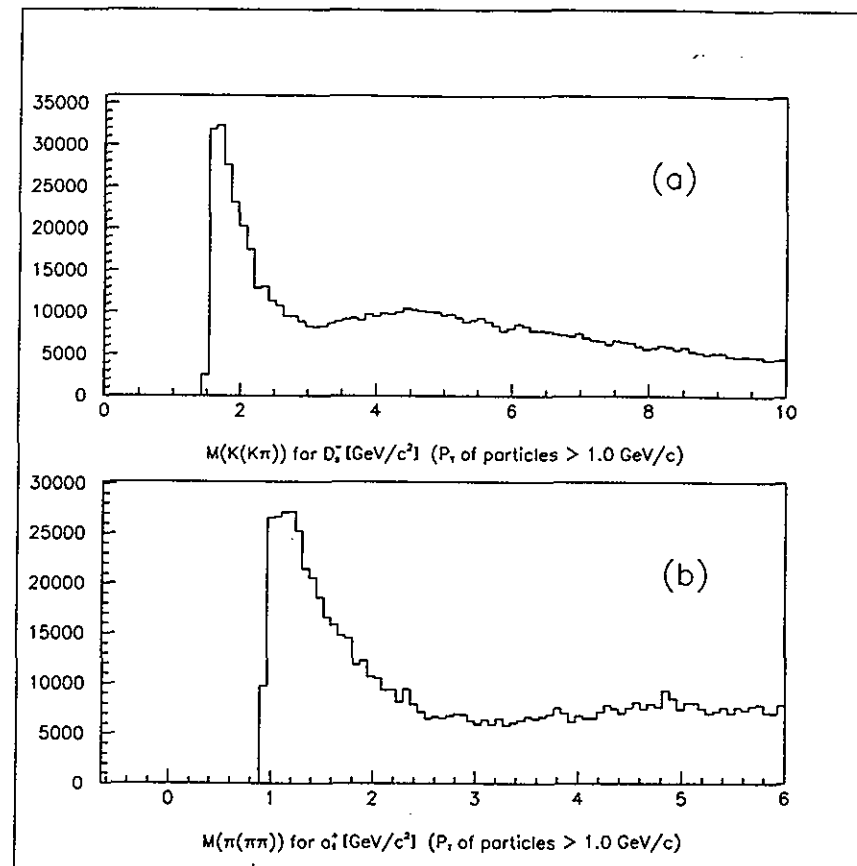


Figure 1: Invariant mass distributions of three charged particle combinations in signal events, assuming $2K + \pi$ (a) or 3π combination (b).

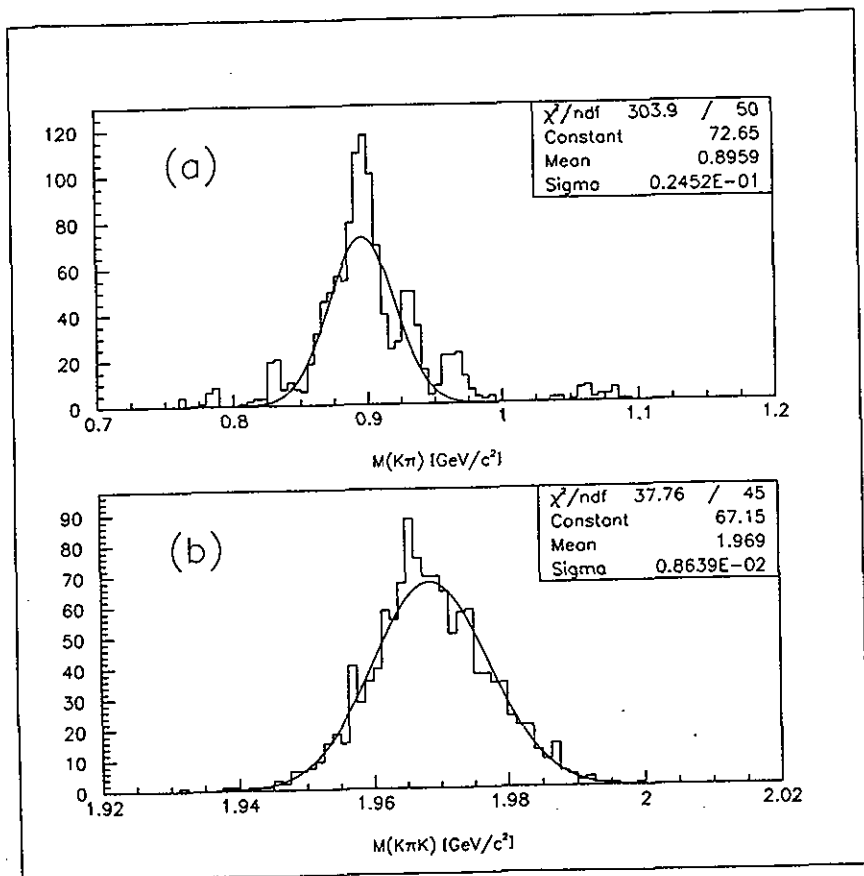


Figure 2: Invariant mass distributions of reconstructed K^{*0} and D_s^- events.

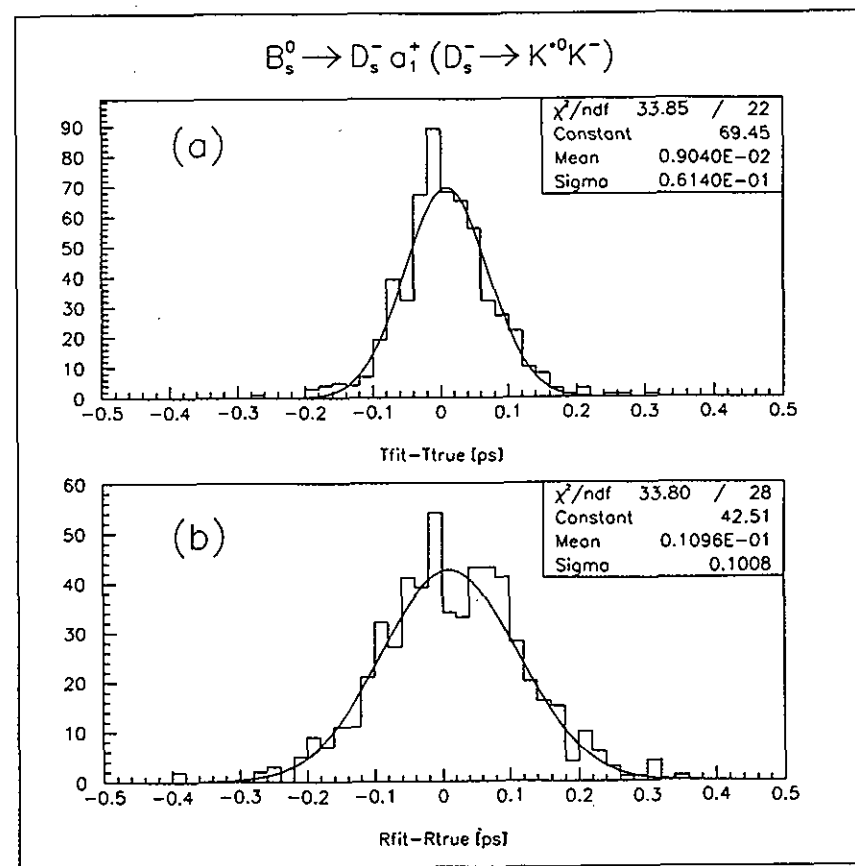


Figure 3: Proper time (a) and transverse radius (b) resolutions for the reconstructed B_s^0 decay vertex.

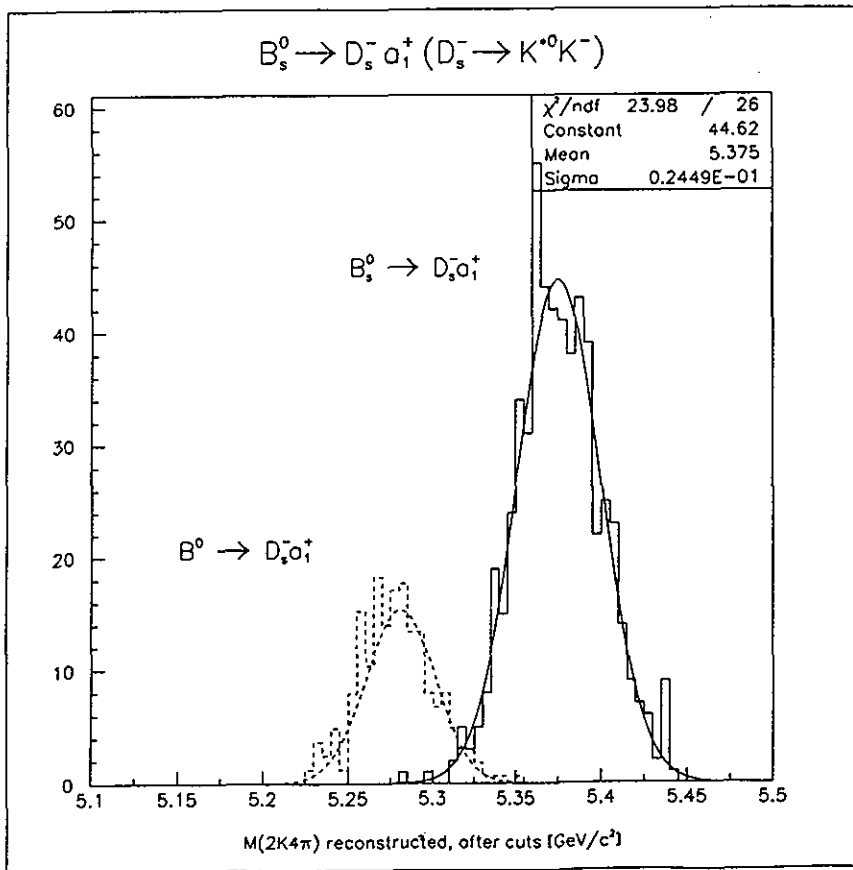


Figure 4: Six particle invariant mass distribution corresponding to the B_s^0 meson. Dashed line - expected upper limit for background from B^0 decay.

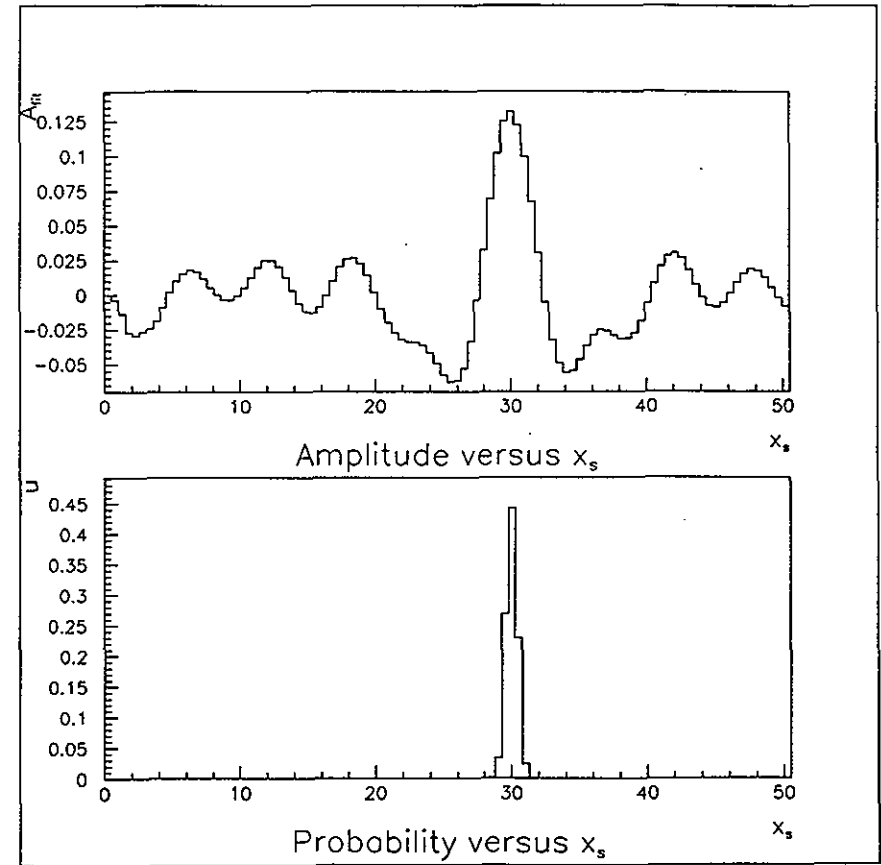


Figure 5: amplitude $A(x_s)$ and probability $u(x_s)$ for $x_s = 30$.

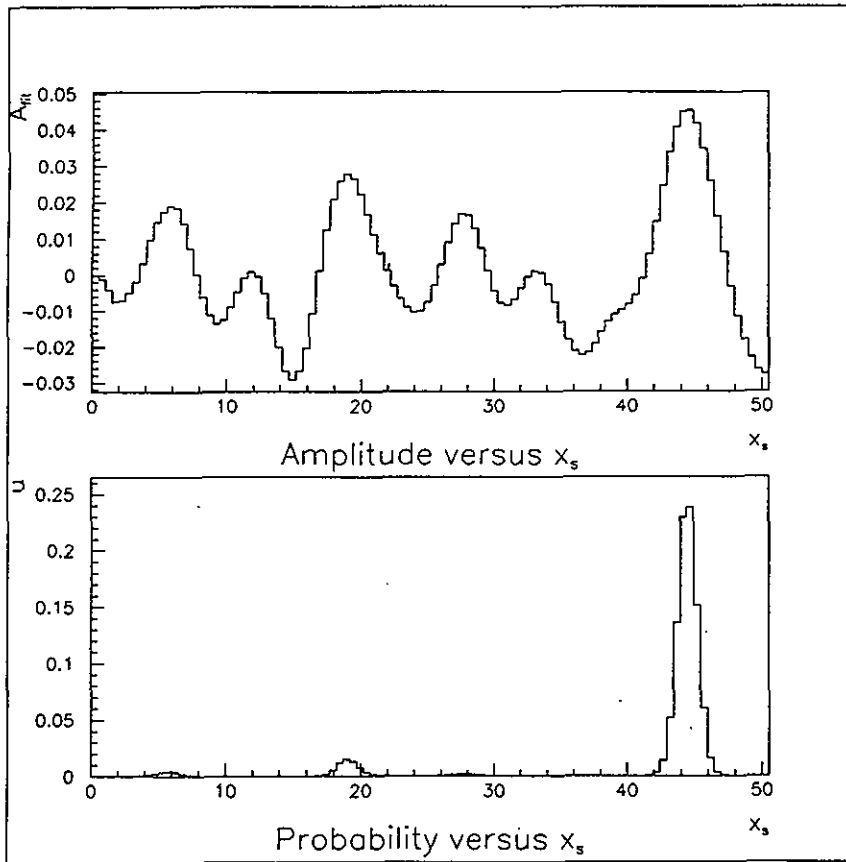


Figure 6: amplitude $A(x_s)$ and probability $u(x_s)$ for $x_s = 45$.

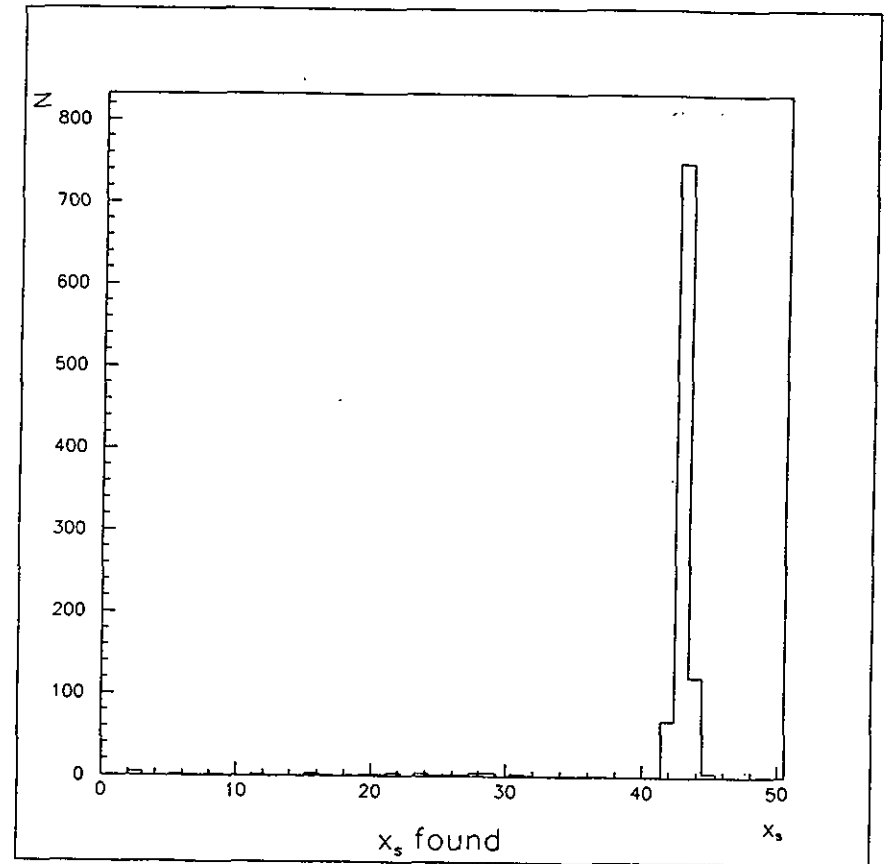


Figure 7: The distribution of the x_s values, found by the peak amplifier method, for 1000 "experiments", generated with the $x_s = 42.5$.

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