

A model-independent measurement of the CKM angle  $\gamma$   
in partially reconstructed  $B^\pm \rightarrow Dh^\pm$  decays with  $D \rightarrow$   
 $K^0_S h^+ h^-$  ( $h = \pi, K$ )

LHCb Collaboration

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# A model-independent measurement of the CKM angle $\gamma$ in partially reconstructed $B^\pm \rightarrow D^* h^\pm$ decays with $D \rightarrow K_S^0 h^+ h^-$ ( $h = \pi, K$ )



## The LHCb collaboration

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**ABSTRACT:** A measurement of  $CP$ -violating observables in  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^* K^\pm$  and  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^* \pi^\pm$  decays is made where the photon or neutral pion from the  $D^* \rightarrow D\gamma$  or  $D^* \rightarrow D\pi^0$  decay is not reconstructed. The  $D$  meson is reconstructed in the self-conjugate decay modes,  $D \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$  or  $D \rightarrow K_S^0 K^+ K^-$ . The distribution of signal yields in the  $D$  decay phase space is analysed in a model-independent way. The measurement uses a data sample collected in proton-proton collisions at centre-of-mass energies of 7, 8, and 13 TeV, corresponding to a total integrated luminosity of approximately  $9 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . The  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^* K^\pm$  and  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^* \pi^\pm$   $CP$ -violating observables are interpreted in terms of hadronic parameters and the CKM angle  $\gamma$ , resulting in a measurement of  $\gamma = (92_{-17}^{+21})^\circ$ . The total uncertainty includes the statistical and systematic uncertainties, and the uncertainty due to external strong-phase inputs.

**KEYWORDS:** B Physics, CKM Angle Gamma, CP Violation, Hadron-Hadron Scattering

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**1 Introduction**

In the Standard Model,  $CP$  violation in the quark sector is described using the Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) matrix [1, 2]. One representation of this matrix is the Unitarity Triangle [3]. The CKM angle  $\gamma \equiv \arg(-V_{ud}V_{ub}^*/V_{cd}V_{cb}^*)$  can be measured using tree-level decays. Assuming tree-level processes do not include physics beyond the Standard Model [4, 5], a comparison of direct  $\gamma$  measurements and indirect determinations can test the Standard Model [6]. This is because indirect determinations come from global CKM fits using other CKM observables, which are sensitive to physics beyond the Standard Model. In addition, measurements of  $\gamma$  have negligible theoretical uncertainty [7] because all hadronic parameters are determined directly from data, removing the need to model non-perturbative hadronic effects that can result in large theoretical uncertainties. The current value of the indirect determination is  $\gamma = (65.5_{-2.7}^{+1.1})^\circ$  [8] whilst the latest  $\gamma$  combination using LHCb data yields  $\gamma = (63.8_{-3.7}^{+3.5})^\circ$  [9].

The interference of  $b \rightarrow c$  and  $b \rightarrow u$  amplitudes can be used to measure  $\gamma$ . This paper presents a study of  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\gamma/\pi^0]_{D^*} h^\pm$  decays,  $h = \{\pi, K\}$ . The  $D^*$  meson is a superposition of the  $D^{*0}(2007)^0$  and  $\bar{D}^{*0}(2007)^0$  states and decays to a neutral  $D$  meson and an accompanying photon or neutral pion. The  $D$  meson is a superposition of the  $D^0$  and  $\bar{D}^0$  states and subsequently decays to  $K_S^0 h^+ h^-$ . Therefore, the effects of the interference manifest themselves as differences in the  $D$ -decay Dalitz-plot distributions for decays originating from

a  $B^+$  or  $B^-$  meson. The  $D \rightarrow K_S^0 h^+ h^-$  modes are considered golden channels given their rich interference structures. These can be exploited to measure  $\gamma$  [10–13] by binning the Dalitz plots. To interpret the Dalitz-plot distributions in terms of  $\gamma$ , strong-phase information for the  $D$  decays is required. In this study, a model-independent approach is adopted, which uses strong-phase measurements from BESIII [14, 15] and CLEO [16]. The strong-phase parameters were determined using quantum correlated  $D^0 \bar{D}^0$  pairs produced at the  $\psi(3770)$  resonance. The use of these directly measured parameters results in systematic uncertainties on  $\gamma$  that are reliably determined. This avoids use of any amplitude model where the associated uncertainty is difficult to estimate.

The decay chain of  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^* K^\pm$  with  $D^* \rightarrow D\pi^0$  or  $D^* \rightarrow D\gamma$ , followed by the  $D \rightarrow K_S^0 h^+ h^-$  decay, has been studied in the Belle [17] and BaBar [18] experiments. For each experiment, it was analysed alongside other  $B^\pm$  decays using a model-dependent method. Recently, this decay has also been studied at LHCb [19], leading to a measurement of  $\gamma = (69 \pm 14)^\circ$ . The key difference between the measurement presented in ref. [19] and that presented here is the treatment of the photon and neutral pion from the decay of the  $D^*$  meson. Here, no reconstruction requirements are placed on these neutral particles, leading to a high selection efficiency, but with the additional complication of a higher background level. The  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^* K^\pm$   $CP$ -violating observables are better constrained here, but the large background contributions lead to, comparatively, worse constraints on the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^* \pi^\pm$   $CP$ -violating observables. In ref. [19], the photon and neutral pion from the  $D^*$  decay are reconstructed and the selection requirements placed on them reduce the signal efficiency by approximately 75% due to the complex reconstruction of low momentum neutral particles at LHCb [20]. Since no requirement is placed on the neutral particle in the present analysis, the  $D^* \rightarrow D\gamma$  and  $D^* \rightarrow D\pi^0$  components are distinguished using their different distributions in the invariant mass combination of the  $D$  meson and its companion hadron,  $m(Dh)$ . This exploits the spin-parity structure of the  $D^*$  decays. The measurement in this analysis is performed using a data sample collected in proton-proton ( $pp$ ) collisions at centre-of-mass energies of 7, 8, and 13 TeV, corresponding to a total integrated luminosity of approximately  $9 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ .

## 2 Analysis overview

In  $B^- \rightarrow [D\gamma/\pi^0]_{D^*} h^-$  decays, the  $D$  meson is a superposition of the  $D^0$  and  $\bar{D}^0$  states. Therefore, the favoured contribution (via  $D^0$ ) and the suppressed contribution (via  $\bar{D}^0$ ) can interfere if the decay products of the  $D$  meson are common to both  $D^0$  and  $\bar{D}^0$ . As an example, the overall amplitude for  $B^- \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*} K^-$  can be written as,

$$\mathcal{A}(B^- \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*} K^-) = \mathcal{A}_B(\mathcal{A}_D + r_B^{D^*K} \exp[i(\delta_B^{D^*K} - \gamma)]\mathcal{A}_{\bar{D}}), \quad (2.1)$$

and for  $B^- \rightarrow [D\gamma]_{D^*} K^-$  as

$$\mathcal{A}(B^- \rightarrow [D\gamma]_{D^*} K^-) = \mathcal{A}_B(\mathcal{A}_D - r_B^{D^*K} \exp[i(\delta_B^{D^*K} - \gamma)]\mathcal{A}_{\bar{D}}), \quad (2.2)$$

where  $\mathcal{A}_B$  is the amplitude of the favoured  $B^-$  decay, and  $\mathcal{A}_{D(\bar{D})}$  is the amplitude of the  $D^0$  ( $\bar{D}^0$ ) decay. The hadronic parameters,  $r_B^{D^*K}$  and  $\delta_B^{D^*K}$ , are the ratio of the magnitudes of the suppressed and favoured  $B^\pm$  decays and the strong-phase difference between them,

respectively. The sign change between eqs. (2.1) and (2.2) arises from a phase shift of  $\pi$  between the strong-phase differences due to the quantum numbers of the pion and photon [21]. In order to use a single strong-phase parameter for all  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\gamma/\pi^0]_{D^*} K^\pm$  decays, the phase shift is propagated through as a sign change. Similar amplitudes to eqs. (2.1) and (2.2) can be written for  $B^+$  decays where  $\mathcal{A}_D$  is replaced by  $\mathcal{A}_{\bar{D}}$  and vice versa, and  $-\gamma$  is replaced by  $+\gamma$ . This sign change on  $\gamma$  allows a measurement to be extracted using  $B^+$  and  $B^-$  decays. Similar amplitudes can also be written for the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^* \pi^\pm$  decays with replacements for  $r_B$  and  $\delta_B$ .

The Dalitz-plot formalism is used to describe the  $D \rightarrow K_S^0 h^+ h^-$  phase space with two degrees of freedom:  $s_+$ , the squared invariant mass of the  $K_S^0 h^+$  system, and  $s_-$ , the squared invariant mass of the  $K_S^0 h^-$  system. Each point on the Dalitz plot represents a different kinematic final state of the  $D$  decay described by the corresponding hadronic parameters. The analysis is performed in  $2 \times \mathcal{N}$  bins of the Dalitz plot (referred to as Dalitz bins), labelled  $i = -\mathcal{N}$  to  $+\mathcal{N}$  excluding zero. The Dalitz bins are symmetrical about the line  $s_+ = s_-$ , with positive bins where  $s_- > s_+$  and negative bins where  $s_- < s_+$ . The Dalitz binning schemes for  $D \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$  and  $D \rightarrow K_S^0 K^+ K^-$  decays are known as the ‘optimal’ ( $\mathcal{N} = 8$ ) and ‘2-bins’ ( $\mathcal{N} = 2$ ) binning schemes, respectively. These were constructed such that the average of the strong phases across a bin maximises sensitivity to  $\gamma$  and are detailed in ref. [16]. These are the same binning schemes used in ref. [22] which studied  $B^\pm \rightarrow Dh^\pm$  decays with the  $D$  meson decaying to the same final state.

The analysis presented in this paper uses a model-independent approach, taking strong-phase measurements for the  $D$  decays from BESIII [14, 15] and CLEO [16] in the form of  $c_i$  and  $s_i$  parameters. These are the amplitude-averaged cosine and sine of the strong-phase difference between the  $D^0$  and  $\bar{D}^0$  decays,

$$\begin{aligned} c_i &\equiv \frac{\int_i ds_- ds_+ |\mathcal{A}_D(s_-, s_+)| |\mathcal{A}_{\bar{D}}(s_+, s_-)| \cos(\delta_D(s_-, s_+) - \delta_D(s_+, s_-))}{\sqrt{\int_i ds_- ds_+ |\mathcal{A}_D(s_-, s_+)|^2 \int_i ds_- ds_+ |\mathcal{A}_{\bar{D}}(s_+, s_-)|^2}}, \\ s_i &\equiv \frac{\int_i ds_- ds_+ |\mathcal{A}_D(s_-, s_+)| |\mathcal{A}_{\bar{D}}(s_+, s_-)| \sin(\delta_D(s_-, s_+) - \delta_D(s_+, s_-))}{\sqrt{\int_i ds_- ds_+ |\mathcal{A}_D(s_-, s_+)|^2 \int_i ds_- ds_+ |\mathcal{A}_{\bar{D}}(s_+, s_-)|^2}}, \end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

where  $\int_i ds_- ds_+$  denotes integration over the phase space of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  Dalitz bin. These measurements are efficiency-corrected at BESIII and CLEO and assumed to be directly applicable in an LHCb analysis as the efficiency correction is small.

In this analysis, effects from  $CP$  violation in  $D$  decays and from  $D$  mixing are assumed to be negligible, considering the current experimental sensitivity [23]. In addition,  $K_S^0$  mixing, regeneration in  $K_S^0$  interactions with matter, and  $K_S^0$   $CP$  violation are similarly ignored [24]. As a result, the  $CP$  transformation of the  $D$  decay amplitudes results in  $\mathcal{A}_D(s_-, s_+) = \mathcal{A}_{\bar{D}}(s_+, s_-)$ . The expected yield of the  $B^\pm$  decays per Dalitz bin is calculated by squaring the overall amplitudes and integrating over phase space and decay time. When doing so, the observed fractional yield of  $D^0$  decays in bin  $i$  is defined as,

$$F_i \equiv \frac{\int_i ds_- ds_+ \eta(s_-, s_+) |\mathcal{A}_D(s_-, s_+)|^2}{\int ds_- ds_+ \eta(s_-, s_+) |\mathcal{A}_D(s_-, s_+)|^2}, \tag{2.4}$$

where  $\eta(s_-, s_+)$  is the experimental efficiency. Furthermore, a set of  $CP$ -violating observables

can be defined using the physical parameters,  $r_B^{D^*K}$ ,  $\delta_B^{D^*K}$ , and  $\gamma$ ,

$$x_{\pm}^{D^*K} \equiv r_B^{D^*K} \cos(\delta_B^{D^*K} \pm \gamma) \quad \text{and} \quad y_{\pm}^{D^*K} \equiv r_B^{D^*K} \sin(\delta_B^{D^*K} \pm \gamma). \quad (2.5)$$

A parameterisation [25] for the  $B^{\pm} \rightarrow D^* \pi^{\pm}$  decays, because  $\gamma$  is common among all decays, involves the introduction of a new quantity,

$$\xi \equiv \frac{r_B^{D^* \pi}}{r_B^{D^* K}} \exp[i(\delta_B^{D^* \pi} - \delta_B^{D^* K})]. \quad (2.6)$$

Using the real and imaginary parts of the  $\xi$  parameter, the  $CP$ -violating observables for  $B^{\pm} \rightarrow D^* \pi^{\pm}$  can be recovered,

$$x_{\pm}^{D^* \pi} = \Re(\xi) x_{\pm}^{D^* K} - \Im(\xi) y_{\pm}^{D^* K} \quad \text{and} \quad y_{\pm}^{D^* \pi} = \Re(\xi) y_{\pm}^{D^* K} + \Im(\xi) x_{\pm}^{D^* K}. \quad (2.7)$$

The resulting yield equations for  $B^{\pm} \rightarrow [D\pi^0/\gamma]_{D^*} h^{\pm}$  decays with the appropriate  $CP$ -violating observables, where the superscripts have been omitted for brevity, are

$$\begin{aligned} N_i^{+, D\pi^0} &= h_B^{+, D\pi^0} [F_{-i} + (x_+^2 + y_+^2) F_{+i} + 2\sqrt{F_{-i} F_{+i}} (c_i x_+ - s_i y_+)], \\ N_i^{-, D\pi^0} &= h_B^{-, D\pi^0} [F_{+i} + (x_-^2 + y_-^2) F_{-i} + 2\sqrt{F_{+i} F_{-i}} (c_i x_- + s_i y_-)], \\ N_i^{+, D\gamma} &= h_B^{+, D\gamma} [F_{-i} + (x_+^2 + y_+^2) F_{+i} - 2\sqrt{F_{-i} F_{+i}} (c_i x_+ - s_i y_+)], \\ N_i^{-, D\gamma} &= h_B^{-, D\gamma} [F_{+i} + (x_-^2 + y_-^2) F_{-i} - 2\sqrt{F_{+i} F_{-i}} (c_i x_- + s_i y_-)], \end{aligned} \quad (2.8)$$

where  $h_B^{\pm, D\pi^0}$  and  $h_B^{\pm, D\gamma}$  are normalisation constants. The separate normalisation for each  $B$  charge and  $D^*$  decay absorbs production and most detection asymmetries. To fix this normalisation, the yield per Dalitz bin is determined using,

$$N_i^{\pm} = \frac{Y_i^{\pm}}{\sum_j Y_j^{\pm}} N_{\text{total}}^{\pm}, \quad (2.9)$$

where  $Y_i^{\pm}$  is the fractional yield in a Dalitz bin, *i.e.* eq. (2.8) without the normalisation constants, and is therefore determined via the  $F_i$  parameters and  $CP$ -violating observables. The total yield for a signal component over the entire  $D$  decay phase space is determined in a fit to the reconstructed mass and denoted by  $N_{\text{total}}^{\pm}$ . In deriving eq. (2.8), the effect of detector efficiency is taken into account in the measured  $F_i$  values.

From the above description, the analysis strategy can be summarised as follows. A sample is selected as described in section 4. Then the  $m(Dh)$  distribution of every signal and background component is determined using a global fit, as described in section 5. The resulting mass shapes and yields are used in a subsequent fit to determine the  $CP$ -violating observables, as described in section 6. The associated systematic uncertainties are evaluated in section 7. The  $CP$ -violating observables are then interpreted in terms of the physical parameters, including  $\gamma$ , as described in section 8.

### 3 LHCb detector and simulation

The LHCb detector [26, 27] is a single-arm forward spectrometer covering the pseudorapidity range  $2 < \eta < 5$ , designed for the study of particles containing  $b$  or  $c$  quarks. The detector includes a high-precision tracking system consisting of a silicon-strip vertex detector surrounding

the  $pp$  interaction region, a large-area silicon-strip detector located upstream of a dipole magnet with a bending power of about 4 Tm, and three stations of silicon-strip detectors and straw drift tubes placed downstream of the magnet. The tracking system provides a measurement of the momentum,  $p$ , of charged particles with a relative uncertainty that varies from 0.5% at low momentum to 1.0% at 200 GeV/ $c$  for tracks that are reconstructed in the vertex detector. For these, the minimum distance of a track to a primary  $pp$  collision vertex (PV), the impact parameter (IP), is measured with a resolution of  $(15 + 29/p_T) \mu\text{m}$ , where  $p_T$  is the component of the momentum transverse to the beam, in GeV/ $c$ . Different types of charged hadrons are distinguished using information from two ring-imaging Cherenkov detectors. Photons, electrons and hadrons are identified by a calorimeter system consisting of scintillating-pad and preshower detectors, an electromagnetic calorimeter and a hadronic calorimeter. Muons are identified by a system composed of alternating layers of iron and multiwire proportional chambers.

The online event selection is performed by a trigger, which consists of a hardware stage, based on information from the calorimeter and muon systems, followed by a software stage, which applies a full event reconstruction. The latter is further split into two stages. First, at least one particle is required to have high  $p_T$  and high  $\chi_{\text{IP}}^2$ , where  $\chi_{\text{IP}}^2$  is defined as the difference in the primary vertex fit  $\chi^2$  with and without the inclusion of that particle. Then a multivariate algorithm [28] is used to identify secondary vertices consistent with being a two-, three-, or four-track  $b$ -hadron decay. The PVs are fitted with and without the tracks of the decay products of the  $B$  candidate, and the PV that gives the smallest  $\chi_{\text{IP}}^2$  is associated with the  $B$  candidate.

Simulation is primarily used to model mass distributions of the signal and background components and determine efficiencies. In the simulation,  $pp$  collisions are generated using PYTHIA [29, 30] with a specific LHCb configuration [31]. Decays of unstable particles are described by EVTGEN [32], in which final-state radiation is generated using PHOTOS [33]. The interaction of the generated particles with the detector and its response are implemented using the GEANT4 toolkit [34, 35] as described in ref. [36]. The underlying  $pp$  interaction is reused multiple times, with an independently generated signal decay for each [37]. In addition, fast simulation [38, 39] is used to model backgrounds with broad mass distributions.

## 4 Candidate selection

The candidate selection used in this paper is built on that used to select  $B^\pm \rightarrow [K_S^0 h^+ h^-]_D h'^\pm$  decays in ref. [22]. This reconstructs the same final state as in the present analysis, where reconstruction of the photon or neutral pion from the  $D^*$  decay is not required.

A  $B$  decay candidate is built by first reconstructing a  $K_S^0$  meson using two tracks identified as oppositely charged pions. If the pion tracks are reconstructed in the vertex detector, they form a *long*  $K_S^0$  candidate, otherwise they form a *downstream*  $K_S^0$  candidate. This distinction is important since long  $K_S^0$  candidates have better mass, vertex, and momentum resolution. For this reason, long and downstream  $K_S^0$  candidates are treated separately. The  $K_S^0$  meson is combined with two further tracks identified as either oppositely charged pions or kaons to form a  $D$  meson candidate. Particle identification (PID) requirements are applied to these charged kaons and pions. The  $D$  meson candidate is then combined with a companion kaon or pion, again distinguished using PID requirements, to form a  $B$  meson candidate. To improve

the mass resolution of the reconstructed  $B$  candidate, a kinematic fit [40] is applied, where the reconstructed masses of the  $K_S^0$  and  $D$  mesons are constrained to their known values.

The optimal PID requirement for the companion track is determined using pseudo-experiments to evaluate the sensitivity to  $\gamma$ . A tighter identification requirement for the  $DK$  sample than that in ref. [22] is found to be favourable, resulting in around 70% of true companion kaons reconstructed in the  $B^\pm \rightarrow DK^\pm$  data sample, with the remainder misidentified and reconstructed in the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm$  sample. The requirement results in only 5% of the true companion pions being misidentified and reconstructed in the  $B^\pm \rightarrow DK^\pm$  data sample. Further PID requirements are placed on the  $D$  decay products to reduce background from semileptonic  $D$  decays.

The background contributions from  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*h^\pm$  decays with  $D \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^+\pi^-$  or  $D \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^-$  are reduced by requiring the decay vertex of long  $K_S^0$  candidates to be significantly displaced from the  $D$  decay vertex. Also, the background from  $B$  decays that reach the final state without an intermediate  $D$  meson is reduced by requiring well separated  $D$  and  $B$  decay vertices.

The large combinatorial background is suppressed using a boosted decision tree (BDT) [41, 42] classifier. The details of this can be found in ref. [43], with separate BDT classifiers for long and downstream  $K_S^0$  candidates and for data collected from 2011–2012 and 2015–2018. The optimal thresholds that maximise the sensitivity to  $\gamma$  are determined using pseudoexperiments. Compared to ref. [22], which used the same BDT classifier, a tighter threshold is found to be necessary, due to the higher rate of combinatorial background in the region of the  $B \rightarrow D^*h$  decays compared to  $B \rightarrow Dh$  decays in the  $m(Dh)$  spectra.

Reconstructed candidates are assigned to one of 8 categories according to the  $B$  decay,  $D$  decay, and  $K_S^0$  candidate type:  $(D\pi, DK) \times (K_S^0\pi\pi, K_S^0KK) \times (\text{downstream, long})$ . A global fit is performed simultaneously in these categories.

## 5 Reconstructed mass fit

The global fit is a binned extended maximum-likelihood fit to the reconstructed mass,  $m(Dh)$ , over the range 4900–5600 MeV/ $c^2$ . There are four signal components,  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\gamma]_{D^*}K^\pm$ ,  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\gamma]_{D^*}\pi^\pm$ ,  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*}K^\pm$ , and  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*}\pi^\pm$  where a photon or a neutral pion are missed, and a number of background components from both charged and neutral  $B$  hadrons.

The signals from the two  $D^*$  decay modes are distinguished using their different  $m(Dh)$  spectra which depend on the spin-parity and mass of the missing neutral particle. For  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\gamma]_{D^*}h^\pm$  decays, the  $m(Dh)$  distribution is described by a parabola exhibiting a maximum, where the range is defined by kinematic limits,  $a$  and  $b$ . Mass-dependent reconstruction and selection efficiencies require the introduction of a linear dependence defined by the asymmetry parameter,  $\zeta$ . Detector resolution effects are accounted for by convolving the parabola and asymmetry term with a resolution function,  $p_{\text{Res}}(m|\vec{\theta})$ , defined by a set of variables  $\vec{\theta}$ . This results in a broad structure described by the following probability density function (PDF),

$$B^\pm \rightarrow [D\gamma]_{D^*}h^\pm : p(m) = - \int_a^b d\mu (\mu - a)(\mu - b) p_{\text{Res}}(m|\vec{\theta}) \left( \frac{1 - \zeta}{b - a} \mu + \frac{b\zeta - a}{b - a} \right). \quad (5.1)$$



In the case of  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*} h^\pm$  decays, the  $m(Dh)$  distribution is described by a parabola that exhibits a minimum. Reconstruction and detector effects lead to a double-peaked structure with corresponding  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $\zeta$  parameters taking into account the difference between  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\gamma]_{D^*} h^\pm$  and  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*} h^\pm$  decays. It is described by the following PDF,

$$B^\pm \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*} h^\pm : p(m) = \int_a^b d\mu \left( \mu - \frac{a+b}{2} \right)^2 p_{\text{Res}}(m|\vec{\theta}) \left( \frac{1-\zeta}{b-a} \mu + \frac{b\zeta-a}{b-a} \right). \quad (5.2)$$

The resolution function for these signals is that used for the fully reconstructed background decays,  $B^\pm \rightarrow Dh^\pm$ . This is the sum of a Gaussian and a modified Gaussian function,

$$p(m) = \begin{cases} f \exp\left(\frac{-(\Delta m)^2(1+\beta(\Delta m)^2)}{2\sigma^2+\alpha_L(\Delta m)^2}\right) + (1-f)p_G(m|\mu, \sigma), & \text{if } \Delta m < 0 \\ f \exp\left(\frac{-(\Delta m)^2(1+\beta(\Delta m)^2)}{2\sigma^2+\alpha_R(\Delta m)^2}\right) + (1-f)p_G(m|\mu, \sigma), & \text{if } \Delta m > 0, \end{cases} \quad (5.3)$$

where  $p_G(m|\mu, \sigma)$  is a Gaussian function and  $\alpha_L$ ,  $\alpha_R$ , and  $\beta$  are used to model radiative tails. The parameter  $\Delta m$  is  $m - m_B$  where  $m_B$  is the  $B$ -meson mass, a freely varying parameter in the fit. For the signal modes and the  $B^\pm \rightarrow Dh^\pm$  background, the shape parameters are initially determined according to the full LHCb simulation. To obtain a good-quality description of the simulated signal samples, the  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*} h^\pm$  signal is parameterised by summing two instances of the function described in eq. (5.2). In the fit to data some parameters are allowed to vary to account for resolution differences between simulation and data. These include the width parameters for the  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*} h^\pm$  signal and the fully reconstructed backgrounds, and the asymmetry parameters for the  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\gamma]_{D^*} h^\pm$  signal. The asymmetry parameters for the  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*} h^\pm$  component are also allowed to vary. The remaining parameters are fixed from simulation.

The background contribution from  $B^0 \rightarrow [D\pi^\mp]_{D^*} h^\pm$  decays where the pion is missed has a similar decay topology to  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*} h^\pm$  decays. As a result, the background is modelled using the same parameterisation. In the fit to data the asymmetry and width parameters are shared with the  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*} h^\pm$  component, and other parameters are fixed from simulation.

There are a number of background contributions from various  $B$  decays, where one or more particles are not reconstructed and the companion hadron  $h$  is correctly identified. The PDFs for these background components are determined from simulation. The functions with which the simulation samples are modelled are eq. (5.1) or eq. (5.2) with additional Gaussian components as appropriate, convolved with a resolution function. The resolution function is either a single or double Gaussian function as needed for a good description of simulated events. Simulated samples come from one of three sources: full simulation, which is typically used to generate the dominant two-body decays; a fast simulation [38], which is typically used to generate multi-body decays or less common two-body decays; and a second fast simulation package called LAURA<sup>++</sup> [39], which generates three-body decays from an amplitude model and then smears the generated momenta. The background components modelled by fast simulation have  $m(Dh)$  distributions which are typically very broad (on the order of 100 MeV/ $c^2$ ) compared to the  $B^\pm \rightarrow Dh^\pm$ . This means that resolution differences between simulation and data are negligible and are not considered.

The dominant background contribution in  $m(D\pi)$  is from  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm\pi^0$  decays, specifically due to  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\rho^\pm$  decays for which the PDF is determined from simulation. In  $m(DK)$

the largest background is from  $B^\pm \rightarrow DK^\pm\pi^0$  decays. This is modelled using fast simulation [38] for the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D[K^\pm\pi^0]_{K^*(892)^\pm}$  and  $B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm[D\pi^0]_{D^*(2400)}$  resonances. These resonances are combined into a single sample using fit fractions from ref. [44] with branching ratios from ref. [45]. The  $m(Dh)$  distributions for  $B \rightarrow D^*h\pi$  decays are determined from simulation for the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*\rho^\pm$  and  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*K^{*\pm}$  resonances, where the former is used to model contributions from both  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*\pi^\pm\pi^0$  and  $B^0 \rightarrow D^*\pi^+\pi^-$  decays.

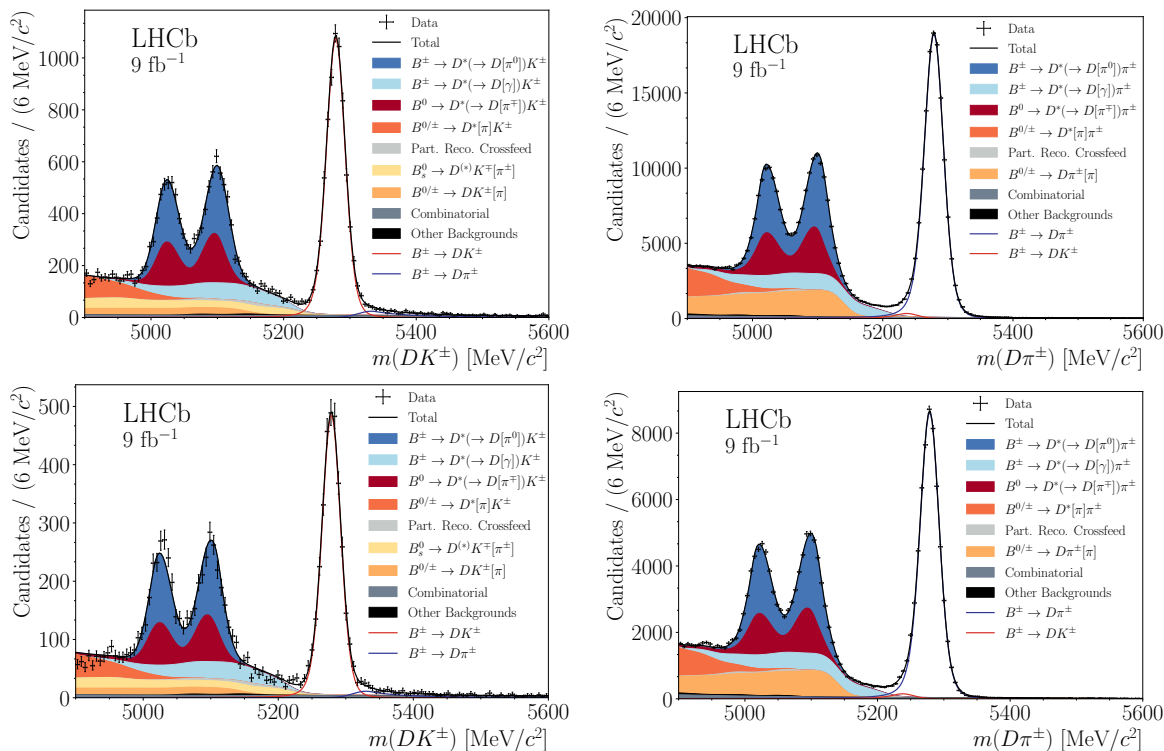
Background contributions from  $B_s^0 \rightarrow DK\pi$  and  $B^0 \rightarrow Dh\pi$  decays are generated using LAURA<sup>++</sup> with amplitude models as determined in refs. [44, 46, 47]. A number of  $m(Dh)$  components are parameterised using fast simulation [38], namely, for  $B_s^0 \rightarrow D^*K\pi$  and nonresonant  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm\pi^0$  decays, as well as  $B^\pm \rightarrow Da_1^\pm$  decays with  $a_1^\pm \rightarrow \rho^0\pi^\pm$ . In the latter contribution, only the component where two pions with same-sign charges are missed is considered, since this leads to a background component that requires careful distinction in the subsequent  $CP$  fit. The component where two oppositely charged pions are missed is similar in shape to the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*\pi^\pm\pi^0$  and combinatorial background components and is therefore absorbed by them. There is also a small background contribution from  $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow Dp\pi^-$  decays, where the pion is missed and the proton is misidentified as a kaon. The  $m(Dh)$  distribution for this component is taken from ref. [48].

For each component, there is an associated cross-feed component where the companion hadron is misidentified. Simulated samples are modified to assign the wrong particle hypothesis and weighted to take into account the momentum-dependent misidentification efficiency. The resulting shape is then fitted with a number of Gaussian and/or Crystal Ball functions [49] as required to achieve a high-quality fit. The combinatorial background is parameterised using an exponential function where the slope is allowed to vary freely in the fit to data.

For each component, a yield is specified in the fit. The yields for the fully reconstructed  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm$  decays vary freely in each category. The signal yields and those corresponding to the  $B^\pm \rightarrow DK^\pm$  background decays are parameterised in terms of the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm$  yields with ratios of branching fractions and efficiencies. For the  $B^0 \rightarrow [D\pi^\mp]_{D^{*\mp}}h^\pm$  background, the ratios are Gaussian-constrained to the values and uncertainties for the efficiencies, determined from simulation, and for branching fractions from ref. [45]. For the majority of the remaining background components, their branching fractions and efficiencies are not known reliably and carry large uncertainties. A more accurate parameterisation uses fitted yields from ref. [48] where  $CP$  violation in the global yields is assumed to be negligible. For example, this is a good assumption for the Cabibbo-favoured  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm$  and  $B_s^0 \rightarrow \bar{D}^0K^-\pi^+$  decays where the corresponding value of  $r_B$  is small. Therefore, the yield for the  $B_s^0 \rightarrow \bar{D}^0K^-\pi^+$  background can be parameterised as

$$N(B_s^0 \rightarrow \bar{D}^0K^-\pi^+)_{K_S^0hh} = \frac{N(B_s^0 \rightarrow \bar{D}^0K^-\pi^+)_{\pi K}}{N(B^- \rightarrow D^0\pi^-)_{K\pi}} \times N(B^- \rightarrow D^0\pi^-)_{K_S^0hh}, \quad (5.4)$$

where charge-conjugate processes are implied. The  $K_S^0hh$  subscript denotes yields in this analysis,  $\pi K$  denotes yields from decays reconstructed as  $D(\rightarrow \pi^\pm K^\mp)K^\pm$  in ref. [48], and  $K\pi$  denotes yields from decays reconstructed as  $D(\rightarrow K^\pm\pi^\mp)\pi^\pm$  in ref. [48]. The same parameterisation is also used for the following backgrounds:  $B_s^0 \rightarrow D^*K^\mp\pi^\pm$ ,  $B^0 \rightarrow D\pi^+\pi^-$ ,  $B^\pm \rightarrow Dh^\pm\pi^0$ ,  $B \rightarrow D^*\pi\pi$ ,  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*K^\pm\pi^0$ ,  $B^\pm \rightarrow Da_1^\pm$ , and  $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow Dp\pi^-$ .



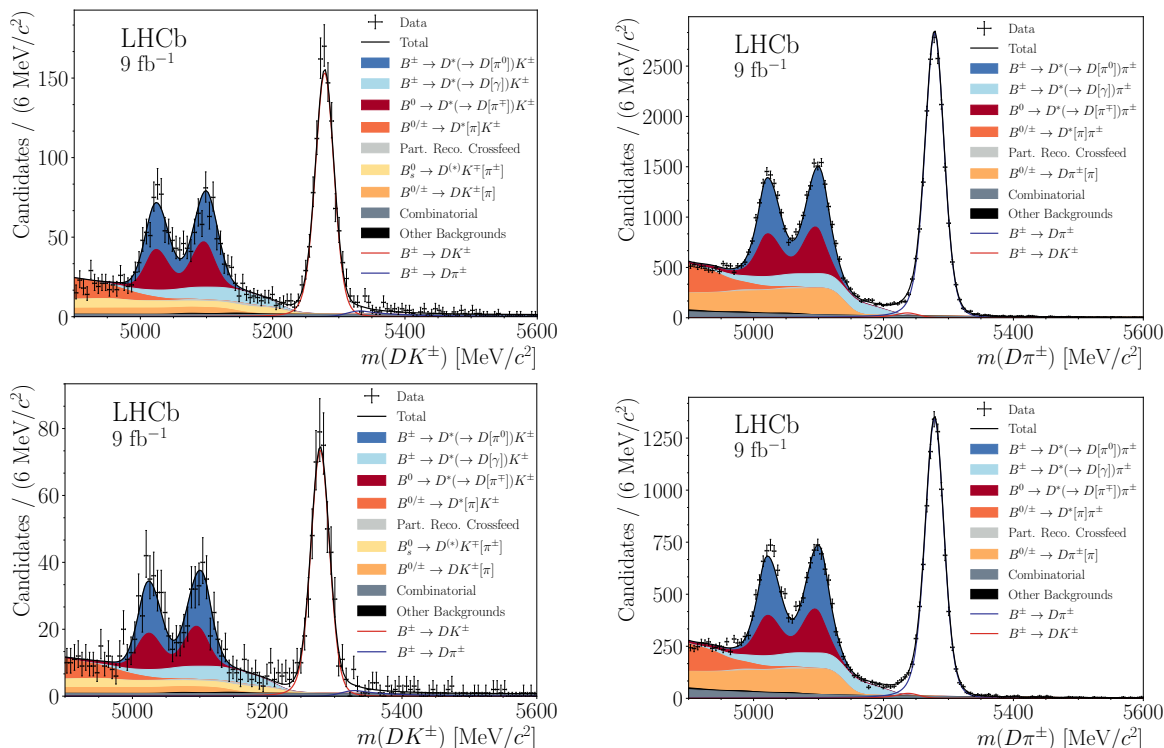
**Figure 1.** Mass distributions for (left)  $DK$  samples and (right)  $D\pi$  samples, with  $D \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$  decays reconstructed with a (top) downstream  $K_S^0$  candidate and a (bottom) long  $K_S^0$  candidate. The projections of the fit results are overlaid. In the legend, particles in square brackets are not reconstructed.

The yield of the  $B^0 \rightarrow D^{(*)} K^\pm \pi^\mp$  background is parameterised using that of the  $B_s^0 \rightarrow D^{(*)} K^\pm \pi^\mp$  background using ratios of branching fractions, fragmentation fractions, and efficiencies due to the mass range. For the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm \pi^0$  background, the total yield is parameterised similarly to eq. (5.4), however the ratio of the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\rho^\pm$  resonance to the nonresonant component is unknown. Thus, the fraction between these two components varies freely in the fit to data and the resonant decay is found to be dominant. All cross-feed components are parameterised in terms of the yield of the correctly identified component and corrected for the misidentification rate. The yield of the combinatorial background is allowed to vary freely in each category.

The results of the global fit are shown in figures 1 and 2 with signal and background yields over the fit region, 4900–5600 MeV/ $c^2$ , quoted in table 1. For most components, the uncertainty on their yield is smaller than their Poisson uncertainty. These are components where the ratio of yields has been fixed from external measurements or simulation. The yields of the fully reconstructed  $B^\pm \rightarrow Dh^\pm$  components can be compared to those in ref. [22] where these decays were treated as signal, and are found to be consistent considering selection differences.

## 6 Determination of the $CP$ -violating observables

At this stage, a binned extended maximum-likelihood fit is performed to determine the  $CP$ -violating observables. The categories are additionally split by  $B$  meson charge and



**Figure 2.** Mass distributions for (left)  $DK$  samples and (right)  $D\pi$  samples, with  $D \rightarrow K_S^0 K^+ K^-$  decays reconstructed with a (top) downstream  $K_S^0$  candidate and a (bottom) long  $K_S^0$  candidate. The projections of the fit results are overlaid. In the legend, particles in square brackets are not reconstructed.

Dalitz bins. It is performed in the same mass range as the global fit from which all shape parameters are fixed.

Different components have different distributions over the Dalitz plot depending on how they decay and whether the decay is  $CP$ -violating. The signal is described using the set of equations shown in eq. (2.8) where the  $CP$ -violating observables,  $x_{\pm}$  and  $y_{\pm}$ , and the normalisation factors are free in the fit. The same is true for the  $B^{\pm} \rightarrow Dh^{\pm}$  background where corresponding  $CP$ -violating observables and normalisation factors are free in the fit. For other backgrounds originating from  $B$  hadrons the integrated yield over the phase space is fixed from the global fit. Some of these background components are  $CP$ -violating and are described using similar equations to eq. (2.8) but with the addition of a coherence factor,  $\kappa$ , diluting the interference term, for example

$$N_i^+ \propto [F_{-i} + (x_+^2 + y_+^2)F_{+i} + 2\kappa\sqrt{F_{-i}F_{+i}}(c_i x_+ - s_i y_+)]. \quad (6.1)$$

Since these background contributions include multiple resonances, the coherence factor is not necessarily unity. These  $CP$ -violating background components are parameterised with their own set of  $CP$ -violating observables, which are fixed using hadronic parameters from ref. [9] unless stated otherwise. For the  $B^0 \rightarrow DK^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$  and  $B^0 \rightarrow D^*K^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$  background decays,  $r_B$  values of 0.25 are used as this corresponds to that of the  $B^0 \rightarrow DK^{*0}$  decay. The same resonance is used to fix the strong phase for  $B^0 \rightarrow DK^{\pm}\pi^{\mp}$  decays to  $197^\circ$ . For

$D$ decay	Component	Reconstructed as:	
		$B^\pm \rightarrow DK^\pm$	$B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm$
$D \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$	$B^\pm \rightarrow D^*[D\pi^0]K^\pm$	$6244 \pm 12$	$2716 \pm 5$
	$B^\pm \rightarrow D^*[D\pi^0]\pi^\pm$	$340 \pm 1$	$113\,170 \pm 229$
	$B^\pm \rightarrow D^*[D\gamma]K^\pm$	$3144 \pm 6$	$1247 \pm 2$
	$B^\pm \rightarrow D^*[D\gamma]\pi^\pm$	$166 \pm 1$	$60\,285 \pm 121$
	$B^\pm \rightarrow DK^\pm$	$10\,398 \pm 21$	$4726 \pm 9$
	$B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm$	$590 \pm 1$	$196\,804 \pm 398$
	Other backgrounds	$10\,402 \pm 105$	$206\,664 \pm 592$
	Combinatorial background	$1343 \pm 147$	$15\,177 \pm 706$
$D \rightarrow K_S^0 K^+ K^-$	$B^\pm \rightarrow D^*[D\pi^0]K^\pm$	$790 \pm 3$	$344 \pm 1$
	$B^\pm \rightarrow D^*[D\pi^0]\pi^\pm$	$43 \pm 1$	$14\,327 \pm 65$
	$B^\pm \rightarrow D^*[D\gamma]K^\pm$	$397 \pm 1$	$157 \pm 1$
	$B^\pm \rightarrow D^*[D\gamma]\pi^\pm$	$21 \pm 1$	$7636 \pm 34$
	$B^\pm \rightarrow DK^\pm$	$1527 \pm 6$	$694 \pm 2$
	$B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm$	$88 \pm 1$	$29\,786 \pm 135$
	Other backgrounds	$1573 \pm 15$	$31\,278 \pm 115$
	Combinatorial background	$263 \pm 46$	$4413 \pm 261$

**Table 1.** Signal and background yields from the global fit over the full mass range,  $4900 \sim 5600 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ . All yields and uncertainties are rounded to the nearest integer and uncertainties of 1 mean one or fewer. Backgrounds that are not written explicitly in this table are included in the ‘Other Backgrounds’ component.

the background from  $B^0 \rightarrow D^* K^\pm \pi^\mp$  decays a strong phase of  $70^\circ$  is chosen from auxiliary studies of  $B^0 \rightarrow DK^{*0}$  used in ref. [50], while for those from  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^{(*)} K^\pm \pi^0$  decays the  $B^\pm \rightarrow DK^{*\pm}$  decay is used to fix the  $r_B$  values to 0.106 and the strong phases at  $35^\circ$ . For the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^{(*)} \pi^\pm \pi^0$  backgrounds,  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm$  decays are used to fix the  $r_B$  values at 0.0048. The strong phases are arbitrarily chosen to be  $100^\circ$  for the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm \pi^0$  background and  $200^\circ$  for the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^* \pi^\pm \pi^0$  background decay since their values are unknown. The full range of values is used to determine the associated systematic uncertainty. The value of  $\kappa$  is not well known for any of these decays. Hence, the central value is estimated using a single decay, by calculating the fraction of the  $B^0 \rightarrow DK^{*0}$  decay in the  $B^0 \rightarrow DK^\pm \pi^\mp$  background contribution using branching fractions and efficiencies. The result is 0.5, and it is used as the nominal coherence factor for all the  $CP$ -violating background components, except the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm \pi^0$  background decay. Here, it is well established that the background is dominated by the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\rho^\pm$  resonant process [44] and therefore a coherence factor of one is used. The systematic uncertainty associated with all these choices is determined by considering the full spectrum of reasonable variations in all hadronic parameters.

There are also  $CP$ -conserving background components, which can exhibit one of three types of Dalitz-plot distributions. If the background decays via a  $D^0(\bar{D}^0)$  and is reconstructed as a  $B^-(B^+)$  decay, it has the Dalitz-plot distribution of a  $D^0$  meson. In this case the yield per

Dalitz bin for the  $B^\pm$  decay,  $N_i^\pm$ , is proportional to  $F_{\mp i}$ . Background decays that fall into this category are  $B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-}h^+$  and  $B^0 \rightarrow [D\pi^-]_{D^*} K^+\pi^0$  decays. Conversely, if the background decays via a  $\bar{D}^0(D^0)$  and is assigned as a  $B^-(B^+)$  decay, it has the Dalitz-plot distribution of a  $\bar{D}^0$  meson. Here the yield per Dalitz bin for the  $B^\pm$  decay,  $N_i^\pm$ , is proportional to  $F_{\pm i}$ . The  $B_s^0 \rightarrow D^{(*)}K^-\pi^+$  and  $B^- \rightarrow D\pi^-\pi^-\pi^+$  decays where pions with same-sign charges are not reconstructed fall into this category. Lastly, there are backgrounds which decay via either a  $D^0$  or  $\bar{D}^0$  with equal probability. The yield per Dalitz bin is proportional to the average of the  $F_{+i}$  and  $F_{-i}$  values. The  $B^0 \rightarrow D^{(*)}\pi^+\pi^-$  decays fall into this category. The yields of the associated cross-feed components are determined with the same parameterisation used in the global fit. The distribution of the combinatorial background is not known and hence the yield varies freely in every Dalitz bin.

The  $CP$ -violating backgrounds are parameterised similarly to eq. (2.8) with fixed values of  $x_\pm$  and  $y_\pm$  that have large associated uncertainties. To avoid contamination of the signal measurements, two sets of  $F_i$  values are introduced, one is used to parameterise the signal components, and another for all backgrounds, except the combinatorial background which has no dependence on  $F_i$ . Additionally, separate  $F_i$  values are used for long and downstream  $K_S^0$  candidates. The  $F_i$  parameters are implemented in the fit in terms of recursive fractions, identically to ref. [22], and vary freely in the  $CP$  fit. For the signal  $F_i$  parameters, the values are driven by the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*\pi^\pm$  component, and for the background  $F_i$  parameters the dominant contribution comes from the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm$  and  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\rho^\pm$  components.

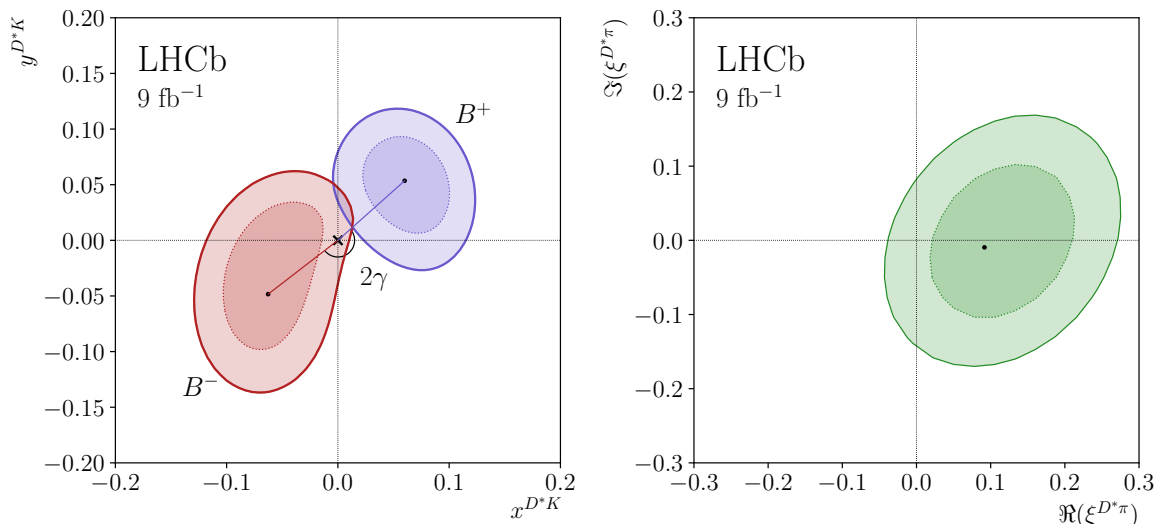
In summary, in the  $CP$  fit the parameters that are allowed to vary are the two sets of six cartesian  $CP$ -violating observables for the signal and  $B^\pm \rightarrow Dh^\pm$  decays, two sets of  $F_i$  parameters, the yields of the combinatorial background in each Dalitz bin, and the normalisation factors given in eq. (2.8).

Instabilities and biases in the fit are studied using pseudoexperiments that are generated and fitted using the baseline fit model. All  $CP$ -violating observables show normalised residuals consistent with a normal Gaussian distribution except the  $\Re(\xi^{D^*\pi})$  parameter that exhibits a bias of 15% and a 6% over-coverage in its statistical uncertainty. Both the bias and the overestimated uncertainty are found to be due to statistical fluctuations leading to small data yields in certain bins and are reduced if a larger data sample is generated. The measured  $\Re(\xi^{D^*\pi})$  parameter is corrected for both of these features. The  $CP$ -violating observables for the  $B^\pm \rightarrow Dh^\pm$  decays are cross-checked against results from ref. [22] and are found to be consistent.

The results of the  $CP$ -violating observables for the signal are shown in figure 3. The 68.3% and 95.5% confidence regions are determined using a likelihood scan and include only statistical uncertainties. In the left-hand plot of figure 3, the angle between the two lines converging at the origin is  $2\gamma$ , and the length of each line is  $r_B^{D^*K}$ . In the right-hand plot of figure 3, the  $CP$ -violating observables for the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*\pi^\pm$  decay is shown, where the distance from the origin to the central value point is the ratio  $r_B^{D^*\pi}/r_B^{D^*K}$ , which is around 0.1 as expected [9].

## 7 Systematic uncertainties

The various sources of systematic uncertainty are summarised in table 2. A systematic uncertainty is assigned to account for the fact that the  $D$  decay phase-space efficiency is



**Figure 3.** Contours at 68.3% and 95.5% confidence levels indicated by the darker and lighter regions, respectively, for (left, red)  $(x_{-}^{D^{*K}}, y_{-}^{D^{*K}})$  which is labelled  $B^{-}$  and (left, purple)  $(x_{+}^{D^{*K}}, y_{+}^{D^{*K}})$  which is labelled  $B^{+}$ , and (right)  $(\Re(\xi^{D^{*}\pi}), \Im(\xi^{D^{*}\pi}))$ , including only statistical uncertainty. The black points indicate the central values.

assumed to be uniform. The strong-phase inputs are based on measurements at CLEO and BESIII and have been corrected for efficiency effects at these charm factories. As a result, there is a small difference between the strong-phase inputs used in this paper and those that would be determined if the strong-phase inputs were modulated by  $\eta(s)$ . The systematic uncertainty is evaluated using amplitude models in ref. [51] to calculate strong phases with and without efficiency corrections which are determined using simulation. Pseudoexperiments are then generated using strong phases with efficiency corrections and fitted using strong phases without efficiency corrections. The mean bias in each  $CP$ -violating observable is taken as the associated systematic uncertainty.

There is a considerable systematic uncertainty due to the mass shape parameterisation. This refers to any fixed mass shape parameter in the fits to simulation or in the global fit. A bootstrapping method [52] is used to ensure statistical uncertainties from the global fit and correlations between shape parameters are accounted for in the error propagation. First, the simulation samples are re-sampled with replacement and the fits to simulation are repeated many times. For each fit result, data are re-sampled with replacement and the global and  $CP$  fits are repeated. The standard deviation of each  $CP$ -violating observable is an estimate of the associated systematic uncertainty.

There are a number of fixed quantities in the global and  $CP$  fits. The systematic uncertainties for these are estimated by varying each fixed quantity within its uncertainty and repeating the fits. The standard deviation of the fitted  $CP$ -violating observables is the associated systematic uncertainty. The fixed quantities that are varied include the asymmetry parameters for the  $B^{\pm} \rightarrow [D\gamma]_{D^{*}} h^{\pm}$  signal,  $\xi_{D\gamma}$ , the branching fractions, the efficiencies, and the yield ratios from ref. [48]. The latter also includes an uncertainty associated with the assumption in the parameterisation of eq. (5.4) that the efficiencies in this analysis and

ref. [48] are the same. Differences of up to 3% are estimated with the simulation, and are included in the variations.

A bias correction is applied to the  $CP$ -violating observables from the  $CP$  fit, which is determined using pseudoexperiments. The size of the biases can vary depending on the input parameters. To determine the systematic uncertainty associated with this the range of biases on the  $CP$ -violating observables are assessed by testing alternative inputs.

There is also a systematic uncertainty due to the resolution of the momentum measurements leading to event migration between neighbouring Dalitz bins. The effect is accounted for at first order in the  $F_i$  parameters, but second order effects remain due to differing intensity distributions between the Dalitz plots for  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*K^\pm$  and  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*\pi^\pm$  decays. The size of the systematic uncertainty is determined in the same way as in ref. [22] and found to be negligible.

There are a number of  $CP$ -violating background contributions which are fixed in the  $CP$  fit. Their inputs carry uncertainties, therefore a systematic uncertainty is assigned. It is evaluated by generating pseudoexperiments with alternative inputs and fitting to the baseline model. In two sets of studies, the hadronic parameters are varied to the upper and lower limits of their 68% confidence levels given in ref. [9]. Then, the larger mean bias in each  $CP$ -violating observable from these two studies is taken as its systematic uncertainty. The coherence factors are varied conservatively as there is no prior knowledge for most background components. For the  $B^0 \rightarrow DK^\pm\pi^\mp$  background decay the coherence factor is shifted to 0.958, the value measured for the  $B^0 \rightarrow DK^{*0}(892)$  decay in an amplitude measurement of the  $B^0 \rightarrow DK^+\pi^-$  decay [44]. For all other backgrounds a value of one is used, except for the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm\pi^0$  decay for which there is no variation.

The leading sources of experimental systematic uncertainties (mass shape parametrisation, fixed branching ratios, fixed yield ratios, and inputs for CPV backgrounds) are driven by the parameterisation of two background components,  $B^\pm \rightarrow DK^\pm\pi^0$  and  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\pi^\pm\pi^0$  decays. Further direct study of these decays will provide the information necessary to reduce systematic uncertainties in a future version of the measurement described here.

The systematic uncertainty due to the external strong-phase inputs is evaluated by varying the  $c_i$  and  $s_i$  values within their measured uncertainties taking into account correlations between them and repeating the fits many times. The standard deviation of the resulting  $CP$ -violating observables is assigned as the systematic uncertainty.

As determined in ref. [22] the systematic uncertainties associated with ignoring  $CP$  violation and regeneration in  $K_S^0$  interactions with matter and charm mixing are expected to be minimal and are not evaluated. The total systematic uncertainty is found to be at least a factor of two smaller than the statistical uncertainty.



Source	$x_-^{D^*K}$	$y_-^{D^*K}$	$x_+^{D^*K}$	$y_+^{D^*K}$	$\Re(\xi^{D^*\pi})$	$\Im(\xi^{D^*\pi})$
Efficiency correction of $(c_i, s_i)$	0.23	0.29	0.21	0.20	0.47	0.31
Mass shape parameterisation	0.35	0.58	0.38	0.33	1.17	0.90
Fixed $\xi_{D\gamma}$ parameter	0.14	0.19	0.15	0.08	0.22	0.32
Fixed branching ratios	0.58	0.44	0.33	0.50	1.09	0.54
Fixed efficiencies	0.23	0.48	0.18	0.27	0.70	0.38
Fixed yield ratios	0.66	0.85	0.46	0.43	1.45	0.77
Bias Correction	0.29	0.35	0.12	0.16	0.62	0.51
Dalitz-bin migration	0.00	0.02	0.04	0.10	0.03	0.11
Inputs for CPV backgrounds	0.35	0.33	0.38	0.21	2.22	1.93
Total of above uncertainties	1.11	1.36	0.85	0.87	3.28	2.46
Strong-phase inputs	0.57	1.54	0.18	0.41	2.33	2.13
Total systematic uncertainty	1.25	2.05	0.87	0.95	4.02	3.26
Statistical uncertainty	2.93	5.69	2.58	2.87	9.37	9.67

**Table 2.** Summary of the systematic uncertainties. Values are expressed in units of  $10^{-2}$ .

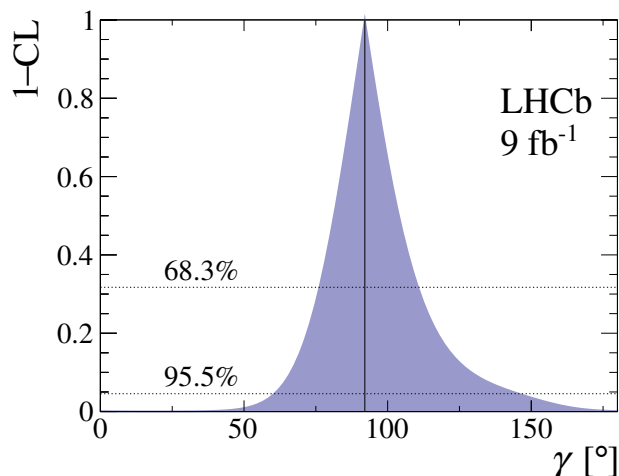
## 8 Interpretation

The  $CP$ -violating observables are measured to be

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_-^{D^*K} &= (-6.3 \pm 2.9 \pm 1.1 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-2}, \\
 y_-^{D^*K} &= (-4.8 \pm 5.7 \pm 1.4 \pm 1.5) \times 10^{-2}, \\
 x_+^{D^*K} &= (6.0 \pm 2.6 \pm 0.9 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-2}, \\
 y_+^{D^*K} &= (5.4 \pm 2.9 \pm 0.9 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-2}, \\
 \Re(\xi^{D^*\pi}) &= (11.5 \pm 9.4 \pm 3.3 \pm 2.3) \times 10^{-2}, \\
 \Im(\xi^{D^*\pi}) &= (-0.9 \pm 9.7 \pm 2.5 \pm 2.1) \times 10^{-2},
 \end{aligned}$$

where the first uncertainty is statistical, the second is systematic, and the third is due to external strong-phase inputs from BESIII [14, 15] and CLEO [16]. The correlation matrices for each of these uncertainties are given in tables 3–5 in appendix A. The  $CP$ -violating observables are interpreted in terms of the physical parameters,  $r_B^{D^*K}$ ,  $\delta_B^{D^*K}$ ,  $r_B^{D^*\pi}$ ,  $\delta_B^{D^*\pi}$ , and  $\gamma$  using a maximum-likelihood fit with a frequentist approach [53]. The 68.3% and 95.5% confidence regions are shown in figures 4 and 5. The parameterisation in eq. (2.5) allows a two-fold symmetry with solutions where  $\gamma \rightarrow \gamma + 180^\circ$  and  $\delta_B \rightarrow \delta_B + 180^\circ$ . Choosing  $0 < \gamma < 180^\circ$ , the numerical solutions are

$$\begin{aligned}
 \gamma &= (92_{-17}^{+21})^\circ, \\
 r_B^{D^*K} &= 0.080_{-0.023}^{+0.022}, \\
 \delta_B^{D^*K} &= (310_{-20}^{+15})^\circ, \\
 r_B^{D^*\pi} &= 0.009_{-0.007}^{+0.005}, \\
 \delta_B^{D^*\pi} &= (304_{-38}^{+37})^\circ.
 \end{aligned}$$

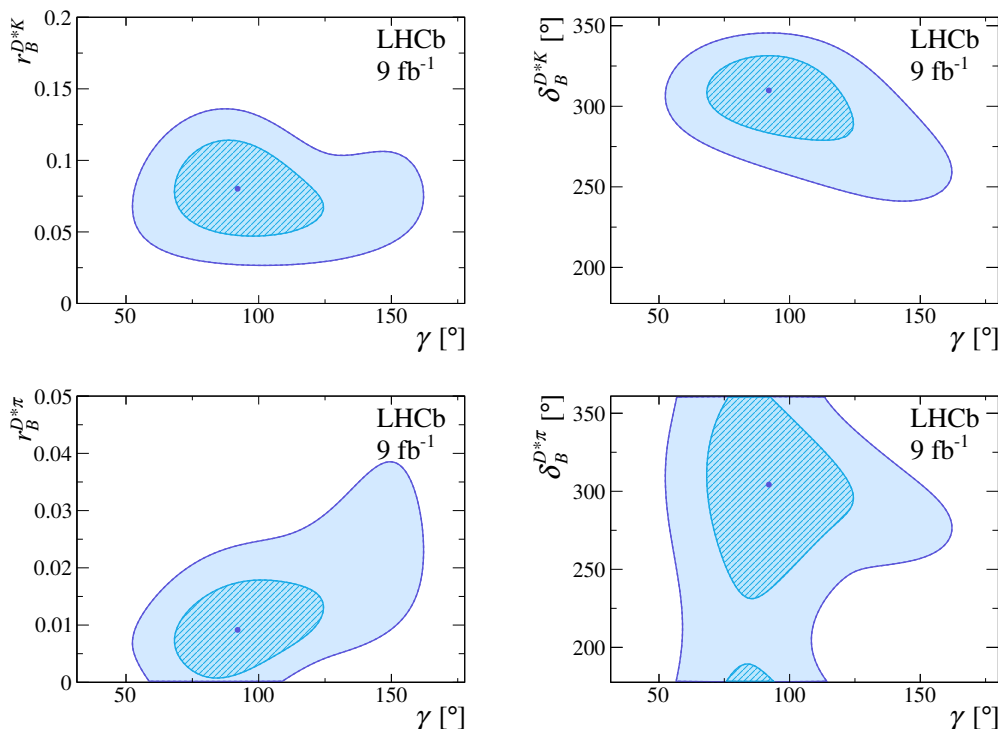


**Figure 4.** Confidence intervals at 68.3% and 95.5% for the CKM angle  $\gamma$ .

The solution for  $\gamma$  is consistent with the latest  $\gamma$  combination using LHCb data,  $\gamma = (63.8_{-3.7}^{+3.5})^\circ$  [9].

In order to compare results from this analysis and ref. [19], it is necessary to ascertain the level of statistical correlation between them. All selected events in ref. [19] also appear in this analysis. The analysis in ref. [19] has 45% (18%) of the  $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\gamma]_{D^*}K^\pm$  ( $B^\pm \rightarrow [D\pi^0]_{D^*}K^\pm$ ) signal yield compared to this analysis. However, a number of differences between the two analyses mean common candidates do not carry the same weight. First, different  $D^*$  decays drive the sensitivity of each analysis. Furthermore, in ref. [19], the two signal channels are well separated, whereas here, both decays occupy the same  $m(Dh)$  region and dilute each others' sensitivities. Finally, the background environments differ between the two analyses. These differences are incorporated into studies with pseudoexperiments which are used to estimate the statistical correlation. It is determined to be a maximum of 3%, and can therefore be treated as negligible. It is noted that the experimental systematic uncertainties are uncorrelated and those of the external inputs are determined.

The  $CP$ -violating observables determined in this analysis and ref. [19] are compared and found to be consistent. For the  $x_\pm^{D^*K}$  and  $y_\pm^{D^*K}$  observables this analysis has overall uncertainties that are 30% smaller, except for  $y_-^{D^*K}$  where it is 30% larger. The uncertainties on the  $\xi^{D^*\pi}$  parameter are almost twice as large as those in ref. [19] due to the dominant presence of the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D\rho^\pm$  background which is suppressed when the  $D^*$  decay is reconstructed. In ref. [19], the uncertainty on  $\gamma$  is smaller at  $14^\circ$  where the sensitivity to  $\gamma$  is enhanced by the corresponding larger value of  $r_B^{D^*K}$ . The central values can also be compared to the  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*K^\pm$ ,  $D \rightarrow hh$  results in ref. [48], and are also found to be consistent. The measurement presented in this paper adds further information on  $CP$  violation in  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*h^\pm$  decays and, in combination with other measurements of the same  $B$  decay mode [19, 48], it will set strong constraints on the CKM angle  $\gamma$  and associated hadronic parameters by removing the ambiguities resulting from multiple solutions in the results of ref. [48].



**Figure 5.** Confidence regions at 68.3% and 95.5% indicated by the lighter and darker shades respectively, for (top, left)  $\gamma$  vs.  $r_B^{D^*K}$ , (top, right)  $\gamma$  vs.  $\delta_B^{D^*K}$ , (bottom left)  $\gamma$  vs.  $r_B^{D^*\pi}$ , and (bottom, right)  $\gamma$  vs.  $\delta_B^{D^*\pi}$ .

## 9 Conclusion

In this work  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*K^\pm$  and  $B^\pm \rightarrow D^*\pi^\pm$  decays with partially reconstructed  $D^* \rightarrow D\gamma$  and  $D^* \rightarrow D\pi^0$  decays, followed by  $D \rightarrow K_S^0\pi^+\pi^-$  and  $D \rightarrow K_S^0K^+K^-$  decays are studied at the LHCb experiment. The full LHCb Run 1 and Run 2 dataset is used to determine the CKM angle  $\gamma$ . The measurement is performed in Dalitz bins of the  $D$  decay phase space in a model-independent manner, using CLEO and BESIII inputs for  $D$  decay strong-phase information. A measurement of the CKM angle  $\gamma = (92_{-17}^{+21})^\circ$  is achieved where the dominant contribution to the uncertainty is statistical.

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	$x_-^{D^*K}$	$y_-^{D^*K}$	$x_+^{D^*K}$	$y_+^{D^*K}$	$\Re(\xi^{D^*\pi})$	$\Im(\xi^{D^*\pi})$
$x_-^{D^*K}$	1.000	0.420	0.158	0.105	0.445	0.422
$y_-^{D^*K}$		1.000	0.115	0.232	0.765	0.631
$x_+^{D^*K}$			1.000	-0.095	0.012	0.409
$y_+^{D^*K}$				1.000	0.263	0.112
$\Re(\xi^{D^*\pi})$					1.000	0.597
$\Im(\xi^{D^*\pi})$						1.000

**Table 3.** Statistical correlation matrix for the  $CP$ -violating observables.

	$x_-^{D^*K}$	$y_-^{D^*K}$	$x_+^{D^*K}$	$y_+^{D^*K}$	$\Re(\xi^{D^*\pi})$	$\Im(\xi^{D^*\pi})$
$x_-^{D^*K}$	1.000	0.630	-0.241	-0.016	0.602	0.083
$y_-^{D^*K}$		1.000	0.008	0.154	0.735	0.230
$x_+^{D^*K}$			1.000	0.515	0.232	0.618
$y_+^{D^*K}$				1.000	0.237	0.112
$\Re(\xi^{D^*\pi})$					1.000	-0.201
$\Im(\xi^{D^*\pi})$						1.000

**Table 4.** Correlation matrix associated with LHCb-related systematic uncertainties.

(Germany), INFN (Italy), SURF (Netherlands), PIC (Spain), GridPP (United Kingdom), CSCS (Switzerland), IFIN-HH (Romania), CBPF (Brazil), and Polish WLCG (Poland). We are indebted to the communities behind the multiple open-source software packages on which we depend. Individual groups or members have received support from ARC and ARDC (Australia); Key Research Program of Frontier Sciences of CAS, CAS PIFI, CAS CCEPP, Fundamental Research Funds for the Central Universities, and Sci. & Tech. Program of Guangzhou (China); Minciencias (Colombia); EPLANET, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, ERC and NextGenerationEU (European Union); A\*MIDEX, ANR, IPhU and Labex P2IO, and Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (France); AvH Foundation (Germany); ICSC (Italy); GVA, XuntaGal, GENCAT, Inditex, InTalent and Prog. Atracción Talento, CM (Spain); SRC (Sweden); the Leverhulme Trust, the Royal Society and UKRI (United Kingdom).

## A Correlation matrices

Table 3 provides the correlation matrix for the statistical uncertainties of the  $CP$ -violating observables. Tables 4 and 5 provide the correlations between the experimental systematic uncertainties and those arising from external strong-phase information, respectively.

	$x_-^{D^*K}$	$y_-^{D^*K}$	$x_+^{D^*K}$	$y_+^{D^*K}$	$\Re(\xi^{D^*\pi})$	$\Im(\xi^{D^*\pi})$
$x_-^{D^*K}$	1.000	0.886	-0.117	-0.063	0.916	0.904
$y_-^{D^*K}$		1.000	-0.124	-0.115	0.935	0.889
$x_+^{D^*K}$			1.000	-0.280	-0.130	0.063
$y_+^{D^*K}$				1.000	0.085	-0.077
$\Re(\xi^{D^*\pi})$					1.000	0.941
$\Im(\xi^{D^*\pi})$						1.000

**Table 5.** Correlation matrix associated with the strong-phase inputs.

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## The LHCb collaboration

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