The increasing number of flavour anomalies calls for the investigation of new processes where tensions similar to the observed ones could emerge. Observables sensitive to physics beyond the Standard Model need to be identified. We discuss the inclusive semileptonic decays of polarized beauty baryons, computed through the heavy quark expansion at $O(1/m_b^3)$ and at the leading order in $\alpha_s$. We account for New Physics interactions in a model-independent way, extending the Standard Model $b \to U\ell\bar{\nu}_\ell$ low energy Hamiltonian (with $U = u$, $c$ and $\ell = e$, $\mu$, $\tau$) with the inclusion of the full set of $D=6$ semileptonic operators with left-handed neutrinos. We identify a set of promising observables, the study of which can be included in the physics programmes of future facilities, such as FCC-e.
1. Introduction

In the searches for signals of New Physics (NP), deviations in a number of observables with respect to the Standard Model (SM) predictions have recently been detected. They constitute the so-called flavour anomalies, and show up in selected tree-level and loop-induced decays of $B$, $B_s$ and $B_c$ mesons [1]. In particular, hints of lepton flavour universality (LFU) violations have been collected. The observed deviations call for new investigations, in particular focused on other heavy hadron decay processes. Here, we analyze the inclusive semileptonic beauty baryon decays [2], for which the nonperturbative effects of strong interactions can be systematically treated exploiting an expansion in the inverse heavy quark mass [3, 4].

Even though the formalism holds for a generic baryon comprising a heavy quark, we focus on inclusive $\Lambda_b \to X_{c,u} \ell^- \bar{\nu}_\ell$ decays, performing the heavy quark mass expansion (HQE) at $O(1/m_Q^3)$. At each order in the expansion, a number of hadronic matrix elements is required; they are parametrized in terms of basic non perturbative quantities. Our main result is the derivation of the baryon matrix elements at $O(1/m_Q^3)$ in the case of a polarized baryon. The result is applied to derive the fully differential decay rate for $\Lambda_b \to X_{c,u} \ell^- \bar{\nu}_\ell$ both in the SM and in an extension of the SM effective weak Hamiltonian comprising vector, scalar, pseudoscalar, tensor and axial operators. Other studies extending the effective Hamiltonian in a similar way are in [5–11].

At LHC the $\Lambda_b$ is produced unpolarized [12–15] since the $b$ quark mainly comes from QCD processes. A sizable longitudinal $\Lambda_b$ polarization is expected for $b$ quarks produced in $Z$ and top quark decays [16–18]. The investigations of effects beyond the Standard Model (BSM) in the polarized case must be optimized in such an experimental environment. Our analysis and results are presented below.

2. Generalized effective weak Hamiltonian

We consider a beauty baryon $H_b$ with spin $s$. The inclusive semileptonic $H_b(p, s) \to X_U(p_X) \ell^- (p_\ell) \bar{\nu}_\ell (p_\nu)$ decays ($U = u, c$), induced by the $b \to u, c$ transitions, are described by the general low-energy Hamiltonian, which extends the SM one:

$$H_{\text{eff}}^{b\to U\ell\nu} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{Ub}$$

$$\left[ (1 + \epsilon_{V}^U) (\bar{U} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5)b) (\bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5)\nu_\ell) + \epsilon_{L}^U (\bar{U} b) (\bar{\ell} (1 - \gamma_5)\nu_\ell) + \epsilon_{R}^U (\bar{U} \gamma_5 b) (\bar{\ell} (1 - \gamma_5)\nu_\ell) 
+ \epsilon_{T}^U (\bar{U} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5)b) (\bar{\ell} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5)\nu_\ell) + \epsilon_{S}^U (\bar{U} \gamma_\mu (1 + \gamma_5)b) (\bar{\ell} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5)\nu_\ell) \right] + \text{h.c.}$$

$\epsilon_{V,S,P,T,R}^U$ are complex and lepton-flavour dependent coefficients. Only left-handed neutrinos are considered, and $V_{Ub}$ is the relevant Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) matrix element. The Hamiltonian can be written as

$$H_{\text{eff}}^{b\to U\ell\nu} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{Ub} \sum_{i=1}^{5} C_{i}^U J_{M}^{(i)} L_{M}^{(i)} + \text{h.c.}$$

with $C_{i}^U = (1 + \epsilon_{V}^U)$ and $C_{2,3,4,5}^{U} = \epsilon_{S,P,T,R}^U$. $J_{M}^{(i)} (L_{M}^{(i)})$ is the hadronic (leptonic) current in each operator, $M$ are set of Lorentz indices contracted between $J$ and $L$. The SM expression is recovered for $i = 1$ and $\epsilon_{V,S,P,T,R}^U = 0$. We keep $m_\ell \neq 0$ for all leptons $\ell = e, \mu, \tau$. 

Probing New Physics with heavy hadron decays

Fulvia De Fazio

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The hadron momentum $p$ with $\gamma_5$ is the lepton pair momentum, and $d\Sigma$ is the phase-space element $d\Sigma = (2\pi)^4 q^4 (q - p_\ell - p_\nu)[dp_\ell][dp_\nu]$, with $[dp] = \frac{d^3p}{(2\pi)^3 2p^0}$. The lepton tensor is $(L^{ij})_{MN} = L^{(ij)^M} L^{(ij)^N}$. On the basis of the optical theorem, the hadronic tensor $(W_{ij})_{MN} = \frac{1}{i\pi} \text{Im}(T^{ij})_{MN}$ is given in terms of the forward amplitude

$$
(T^{ij})_{MN} = i \int d^4x \ e^{-i\mathbf{x}\cdot\mathbf{p}} \langle H_b(p,s)|T[J_M^{(ij)}(x) J_N^{(ij)}(0)]|H_b(p,s)\rangle.
$$

The hadron momentum $p = m_b v + k$ is written in terms of the four-velocity $v$, the heavy quark mass $m_b$ and a residual momentum $k$ of order $\Lambda_QCD$. The QCD $b$ quark field $b(x)$ is redefined as $b(x) = e^{-i m_b v \cdot x} b_v(x)$, with $b_v(x)$ satisfying the equation $b_v(x) = \left( P_+ + \frac{iD}{2m_b} \right) b_v(x)$, with $P_+ = \frac{1+i\gamma_5}{2}$ the velocity projector. Introducing $p_X = m_b v + k - q$ we have:

$$(T^{ij})_{MN} = \langle H_b(v,s)|\tilde{b}_v(0)\Gamma_M^{(ij)} S_U(p_X)\Gamma_N^{(ij)} b_v(0)|H_b(v,s)\rangle,$$

with $S_U(p_X)$ the $U$ quark propagator. The heavy quark expansion in powers of $m_b^{-1}$ is carried out [3, 4]. It is obtained replacing $k \to iD$ ($D$ is the QCD covariant derivative) and expanding $S_U(p_X) = S_U^{(0)} - S_U^{(1)} (iD) S_U^{(0)} + S_U^{(1)} (iD) S_U^{(0)} (iD) S_U^{(0)} + \ldots$ where $S_U^{(0)} = \frac{1}{m_b \gamma_5 - \not{q} - m_U}$.

Writing $p_U = m_b v - q$, $\mathbf{P} = (\not{p} + m_U)$ and $\Delta_0 = p_0^2 - m_U^2$, the expansion at order $1/m_b^3$ reads:

$$
\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im}(T^{ij})_{MN} = \frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \left. \langle H_b(v,s)|\tilde{b}_v(0)\Gamma_M^{(ij)} \mathcal{P} \Gamma_N^{(ij)} b_v(0)|H_b(v,s)\rangle \right|_{\Delta_0} + \ldots
$$

Writing $p_U = m_b v - q$, $\mathbf{P} = (\not{p} + m_U)$ and $\Delta_0 = p_0^2 - m_U^2$, the expansion at order $1/m_b^3$ reads:

$$
\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im}(T^{ij})_{MN} = \frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \left. \langle H_b(v,s)|\tilde{b}_v(0)\Gamma_M^{(ij)} \mathcal{P} \Gamma_N^{(ij)} b_v(0)|H_b(v,s)\rangle \right|_{\Delta_0} + \ldots
$$

The expression (6) involves the hadronic matrix elements

$$M_{\mu_1\ldots\mu_n} = \langle H_b(v,s)|(\tilde{b}_v)_a(iD_{\mu_1}) \ldots (iD_{\mu_n}) (b_v)_b|H_b(v,s)\rangle,$$

with $a, b$ Dirac indices. The matrix elements can be written in terms of nonperturbative parameters, the number of which increases with the order of the expansion. At $O(1/m_b^3)$ the required ones are:

$$
\langle H_b(v,s)|\tilde{b}_v(iD)^2 b_v|H_b(v,s)\rangle = -2m_H \mu_\pi^2
$$

$$
\langle H_b(v,s)|\tilde{b}_v(iD_{\mu})(iD_{\nu}) (-i\sigma^{\mu\nu}) b_v|H_b(v,s)\rangle = 2m_H \mu_G^2
$$

$$
\langle H_b(v,s)|\tilde{b}_v(iD_{\mu})(iv \cdot D) (iD_{\nu}) b_v|H_b(v,s)\rangle = 2m_H \mu_D^3
$$

$$
\langle H_b(v,s)|\tilde{b}_v(iD_{\mu})(iv \cdot D) (-i\sigma^{\mu\nu}) b_v|H_b(v,s)\rangle = 2m_H \mu_{LS}^3
$$
A method to compute $M_{\mu_1...\mu_n}$ is proposed in [19, 20]. In the case of baryons the dependence on the spin $s_{\mu}$ in (7) must be kept. In [2] $M_{\mu_1...\mu_n}$ have been derived at order $1/m_{h}^3$ for a polarized baryon, considering all operators in (1). This extends previous results in [9, 11, 21–23].

From the expressions of the matrix elements $M_{\mu_1...\mu_n}$ the hadronic tensor can be computed and expanded in Lorentz structures which depend on $v, q$ and $s$. The results for the SM and for the effective Hamiltonian Eq. (1) are collected in [2]. The four-fold differential decay rate for the $H_b(v, s) \rightarrow X(p_X)\ell^-(p_{\ell})\bar{\nu}_{\ell}(p_{\nu})$ transition reads

$$
\frac{d^4 \Gamma}{dq^2 d(v \cdot q) dE_{\ell} d \cos \theta_{\ell}} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{Ub}|^2}{32(2\pi)^3 m_H} \sum_{i,j} C^i_i C^j_j \frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im}(T^{ij})_{MN} (L^{ij})_{MN} ,
$$

with $p_{\ell} = (E_{\ell}, \vec{p}_{\ell})$, $\theta_{\ell}$ the angle between $\vec{p}_{\ell}$ and $\vec{s}$ in the $H_b$ rest frame. Double and single decay distributions are obtained integrating (12) over the phase-space [24]. Performing all integrations, the full decay width can be written as:

$$
\Gamma(H_b \rightarrow X\ell^\nu_{\ell}) = \Gamma_b \sum_i \left\{ c^{(i)}_0 + \frac{\mu_2^2}{m_b^2} c^{(i)}_2 + \frac{\mu_3^2}{m_b^2} c^{(i)}_3 + \frac{\rho_3^3}{m_b^2} \rho_{3s} c^{(i)}_2 + \frac{\rho_3^3}{m_b^2} \rho_{3s} c^{(i)}_3 \right\} ,
$$

with $\Gamma_b = \frac{G_F^2 m_b^5 |V_{Ub}|^2}{192\pi^3}$. The index $i$ runs over the contribution of the various operators and of their interferences. The coefficients $C^{(i)}$ depend on the NP couplings in (1) and can be found in [2].

The OPE breaks down in the endpoint region of the spectra, where singularities appear. They require to be resummed in a $H_b$ shape function, and the convolution with such a function smears the spectra at the endpoint. We have not considered the effects of the baryon shape function, which is not known at present. Perturbative QCD corrections are also not included: in the SM various corrections have been computed [25–30].

4. Results for $\Lambda_b \rightarrow X_{c,u}\ell^\nu_{\ell}$

We collect in this Section some results obtained for observables in $\Lambda_b \rightarrow X_{c,u}\ell^\nu_{\ell}$. We refer to [2] for the input parameters. For the couplings $e^{\ell}_{V,S,P,T,R}$ in (1), for $U = u$ we use the ranges fixed in [31]. For $U = c$ we fix three NP benchmark points, set in [6] and [32].

In the SM, using $|V_{cb}| = 0.042, |V_{ub}| = 0.0037$ and $\tau_{\Lambda_b} = (1.471 \pm 0.009) \times 10^{-12}$ s [33], we obtain: $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b \rightarrow X_c\mu\bar{\nu}_{\mu}) = 11.0 \times 10^{-2}, \mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b \rightarrow X_c\tau\bar{\nu}_{\tau}) = 2.4 \times 10^{-2}, \mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b \rightarrow X_u\mu\bar{\nu}_{\mu}) = 11.65 \times 10^{-4}$ and $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b \rightarrow X_u\tau\bar{\nu}_{\tau}) = 2.75 \times 10^{-4}$. For comparison, the available measurements are $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b \rightarrow X_c\ell^\nu_{\ell} + \text{anything}) = (10.9 \pm 2.2) \times 10^{-2} \ell = e, \mu$, and $\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b \rightarrow p\mu^-\bar{\nu}) = (4.1 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-4}$ [33].

Among the various interesting observables, for polarized $\Lambda_b$ we mention here the distribution $\frac{d\Gamma(\Lambda_b \rightarrow X_U\ell\bar{\nu}_\ell)}{d \cos \theta_{\ell}} = A_U^\ell + B_U^\ell \cos \theta_{\ell}$. In the ratio $R_{\Lambda_b}(X_U) = \frac{\Gamma(\Lambda_b \rightarrow X_U \tau \bar{\nu}_\tau)}{\Gamma(\Lambda_b \rightarrow X_U \mu \bar{\nu}_\mu)} = \frac{A_U^\tau}{A_U^\mu}$ several theoretical uncertainties cancel out. The predictions in SM and in NP at the chosen benchmark points are: $R_{\Lambda_b}(X_u)^{SM} = 0.234, R_{\Lambda_b}(X_u)^{NP} = 0.238, R_{\Lambda_b}(X_c)^{SM} = 0.214, R_{\Lambda_b}(X_c)^{NP} = 0.240$, at the leading order in $\alpha_s$. Also the ratio $R_{\Lambda_b}^U = B_U^\ell / B_U^\mu$ is sensitive to NP. In SM we find: $R_{\Lambda_b}^U = 0.1$ and $R_{\Lambda_b}^S = 0.08$. To study the correlation between $R_{\Lambda_b}(X_U)$ and $R_{\Lambda_b}^U$ we consider, as an example,
Figure 1: correlation between $R_{\Lambda_b}(X_c)$ and $R_S^c$. The dot corresponds to SM, the broad region to NP.

the generalized effective Hamiltonian extended only with the tensor operator. The correlation plot in Fig. 1 shows that, although experimentally challenging, the measurement of the two ratios discriminates SM from NP.

5. Conclusions

We have described the calculation of the inclusive semileptonic decay width of a polarized heavy hadron at order $O(1/m_b^3)$ in the HQE, at leading order in $\alpha_s$ and for non vanishing charged lepton mass. NP is considered extending the SM effective Hamiltonian including the full set of $D = 6$ semileptonic operators. Among the various result, the correlation in Fig. 1 shows the discriminating power between SM and NP which can be obtained by the analysis of inclusive polarized $\Lambda_b$ semileptonic modes.

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