



Overview of rare decays at LHCb

Giulia Frau

on behalf of the LHCb Collaboration

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FSP LHCb

Erforschung von
Universum und Materie



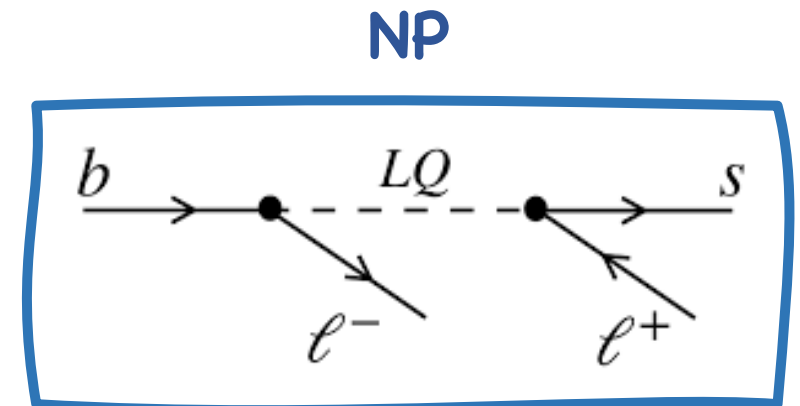
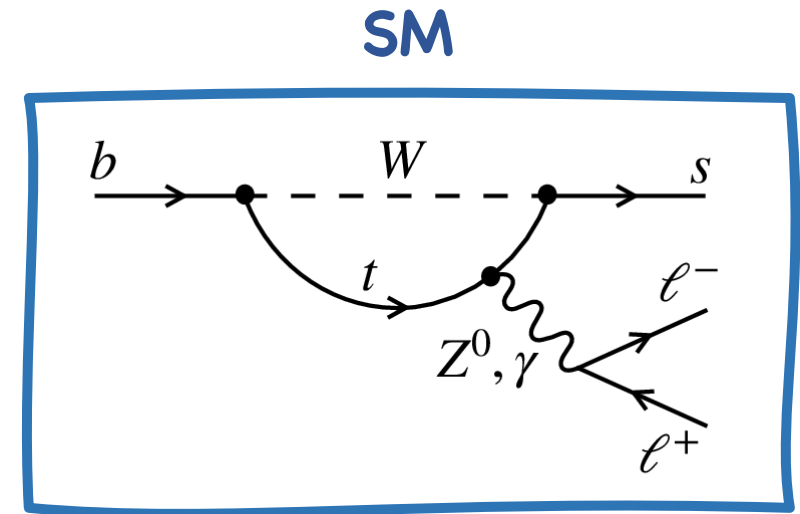
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IMPRS
for Precision Tests of
Fundamental Symmetries
INTERNATIONAL MAX PLANCK
RESEARCH SCHOOL

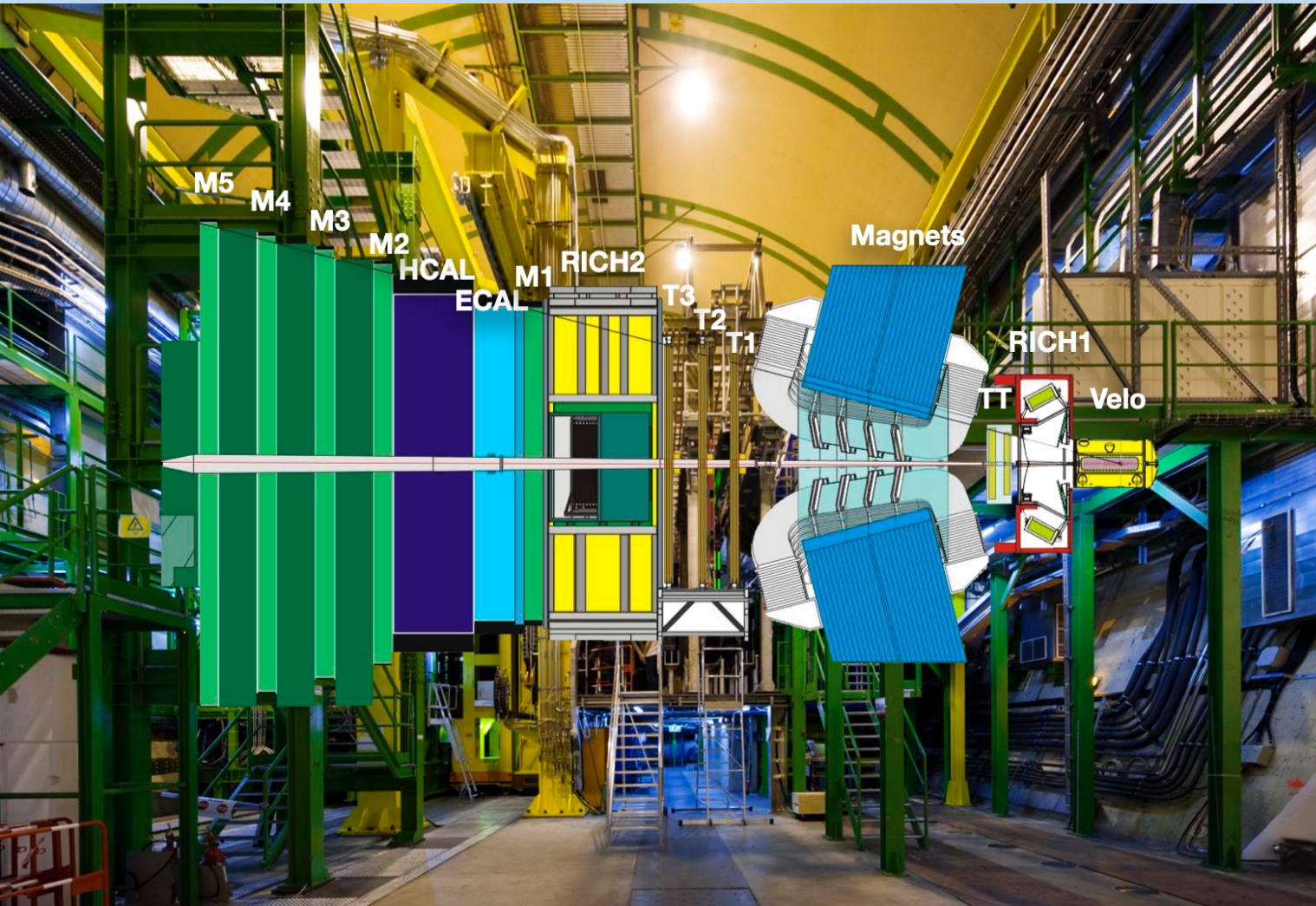


Rare decays

- Processes forbidden in the Standard Model (SM) at tree level
 - **Flavour Changing Neutral Current** (FCNC) decays only occur via electroweak penguin or box diagrams \Rightarrow strongly suppressed
 - Contribution from **New Physics** (NP) can affect branching fractions (BF), angular distributions, universality violation ...
- Precision measurements of rare decays \Rightarrow **indirect search for NP**
- At **LHCb**
 - Electroweak penguin decays like $b \rightarrow sl^+l^-$ transitions
 - Lepton Flavour Universality (LFU) tests $\Rightarrow R_K, R_{K^*}$
 - Radiative decays
 - Very rare decays
 - Purely leptonic, Lepton Flavour (LFV) and Lepton Number Violating (LNV) processes
 - Charm decays



The LHCb detector



- Single arm forward spectrometer ($2 < \eta < 5$)
- Excellent **particle identification** from RICH(1,2), ECAL and Muon Stations
 - $\epsilon(e \rightarrow e) \sim 90\%$ and $\epsilon(h \rightarrow e) \sim 5\%$
 - $\epsilon(K \rightarrow K) \sim 95 - 97\%$ and $\epsilon(\pi \rightarrow K) \sim 5\%$
 - $\epsilon(\mu \rightarrow \mu) \sim 97\%$ and $\epsilon(\pi \rightarrow \mu) \sim 1 - 3\%$
- Good **tracking system**
 - $\Delta p/p = 0.5\%$ at low momentum
 - Impact parameter resolution $(15 + 29 / p_T)\mu m$

	Run 1 (2011,2012)		Run 2 (2015-2018)
\sqrt{s}	7 TeV	8 TeV	13 TeV
$\int \mathcal{L} dt$	1.0 fb ⁻¹	2.0 fb ⁻¹	~6 fb ⁻¹

[2008 JINST 3 S08005], [arXiv:1306.0249]

- FCNC + helicity suppressed
 - SM deviations could reveal existence of new particles (Z' , LQ, ...)

➤ **Results in agreement with SM predictions within 2σ**

➤ **Measurement of**

- $\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = 3.09_{-0.43}^{+0.46} {}_{-0.11}^{+0.15} \times 10^{-9}$
 - Excess of 10σ from background
- $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) < 2.6 \times 10^{-10}$ @ 95% CL
 - **Most stringent limit up to date**

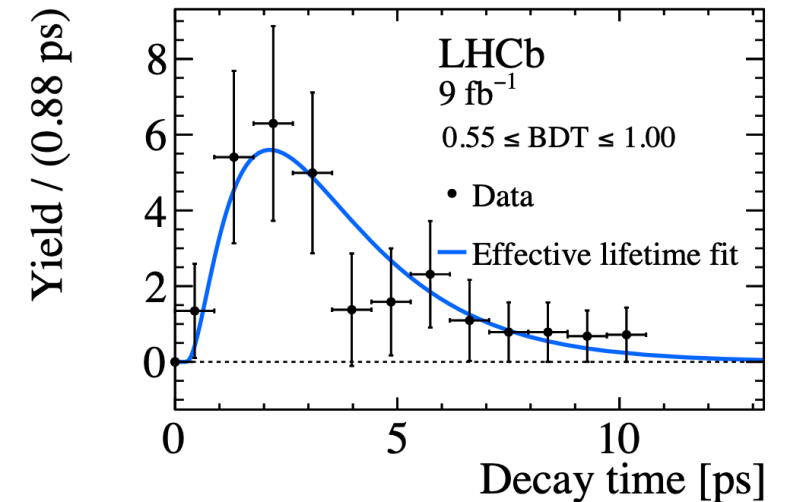
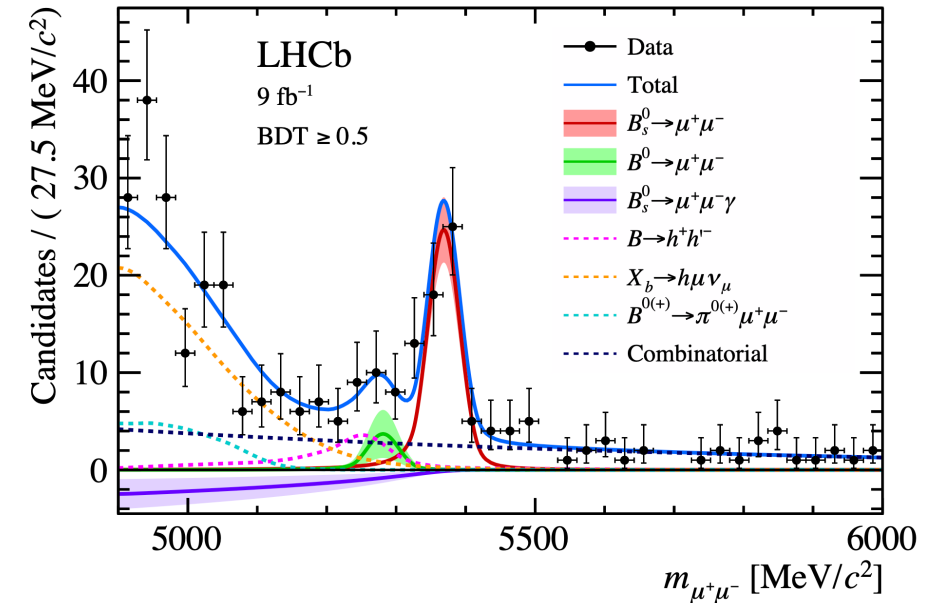
Most precise measurement
from CMS ([more here](#))
 $2.69_{-0.35}^{+0.37} \times 10^{-9}$

➤ **First search for $B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \gamma$**

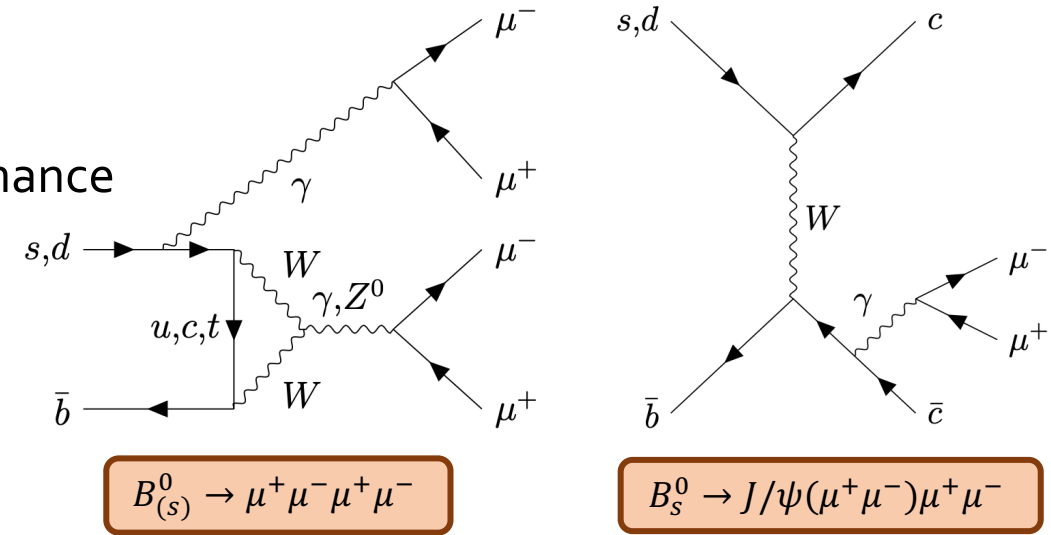
- $\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \gamma)_{m_{\mu\mu} > 4.9 \text{ GeV}/c^2} < 2.0 \times 10^{-9}$ @ 95% CL

➤ **Measurement of $B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ effective lifetime superseding previous result**

- $\tau(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = 2.07 \pm 0.29 \pm 0.03 \text{ ps}$
- Outside the range of light ($\tau_L = 1.432 \pm 0.005 \text{ ps}$) and high ($\tau_H = 1.620 \pm 0.007 \text{ ps}$) eigenstates



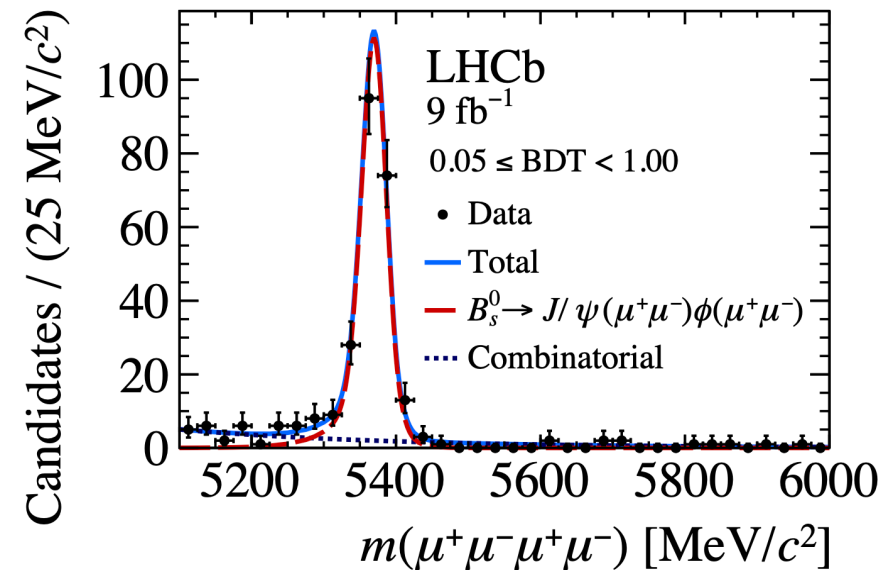
- Highly suppressed in the SM
 - $\sim 10^{-10}$ for the B_s^0 mode and $\sim 10^{-12}$ for the B^0 mode
- Rate enhanced in **BSM theories** with light narrow scalar resonance
- Search for
 - **Non resonant mode** new wrt to Run 1
 - $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow a(\mu^+ \mu^-)a(\mu^+ \mu^-)$: assuming $m_a = 1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
 - $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-)\mu^+ \mu^-$: $\sim 10^{-13} - 10^{-11}$ in SM



- $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-)\phi(\mu^+ \mu^-)$ used as **normalisation channel**

➤ Background rejection

- $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-)\phi(\mu^+ \mu^-)$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi(\mu^+ \mu^-)\phi(\mu^+ \mu^-)$ suppressed by J/ψ and ϕ vetoes
- PID selection to reduce misID background from b -hadron decays

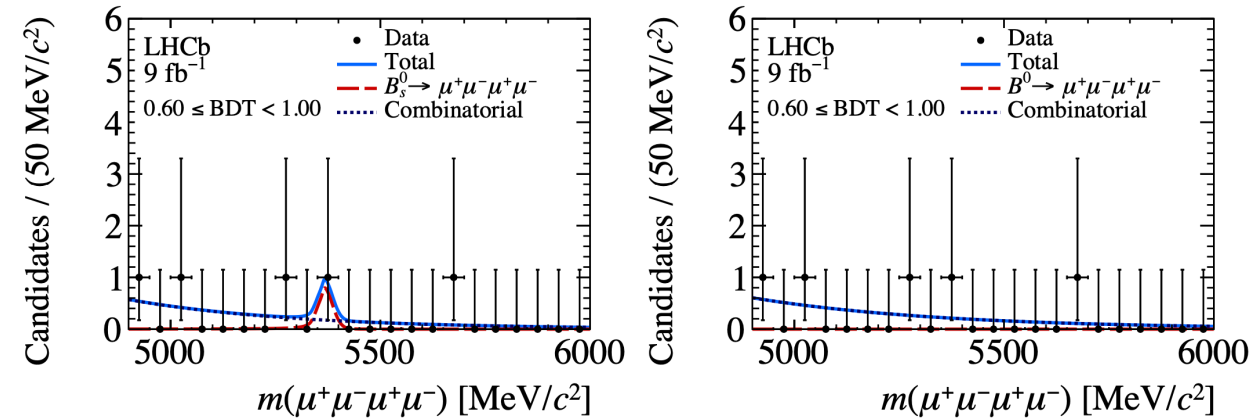


❖ No significant signal observed

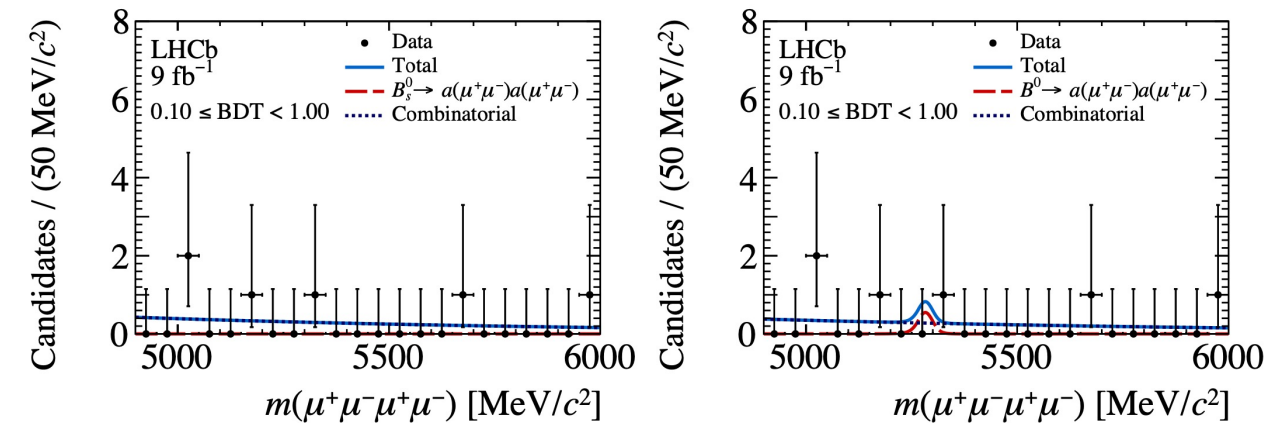
❖ Most stringent limits up to date set @ 95% CL

- $\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-) < 8.6 \times 10^{-10}$
- $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-) < 1.8 \times 10^{-10}$
- $\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow a(\mu^+ \mu^-) a(\mu^+ \mu^-)) < 5.8 \times 10^{-10}$
- $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow a(\mu^+ \mu^-) a(\mu^+ \mu^-)) < 2.3 \times 10^{-10}$
- $\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-) \mu^+ \mu^-) < 2.6 \times 10^{-9}$
- $\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-) \mu^+ \mu^-) < 1.0 \times 10^{-9}$

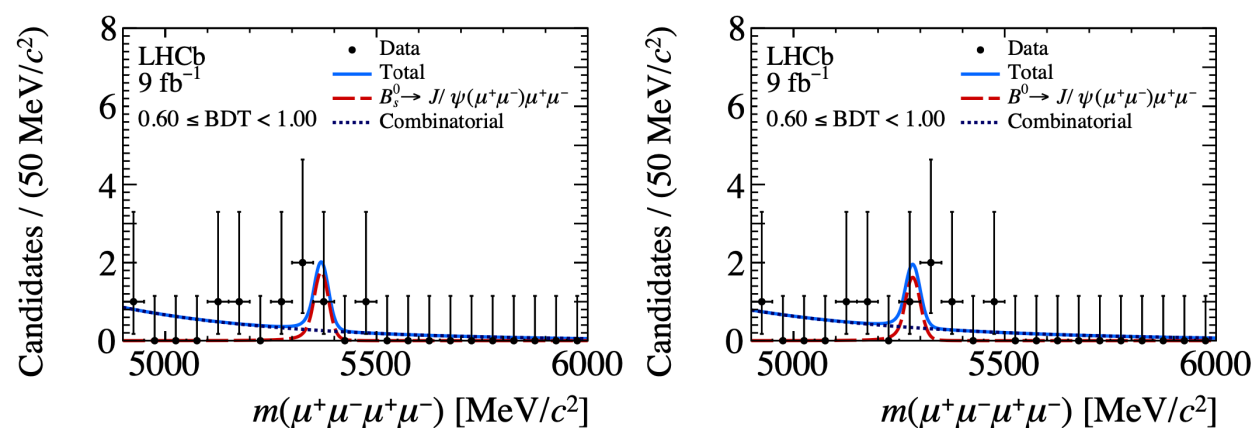
$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$$



$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow a(\mu^+ \mu^-) a(\mu^+ \mu^-)$$



$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-) \mu^+ \mu^-$$



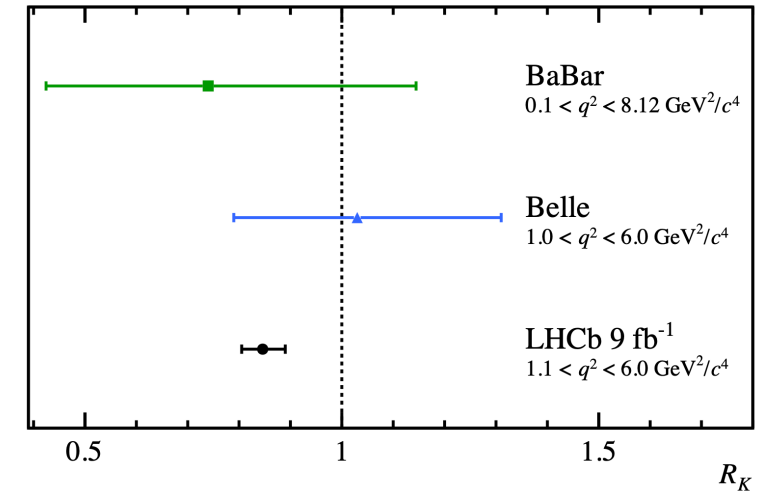
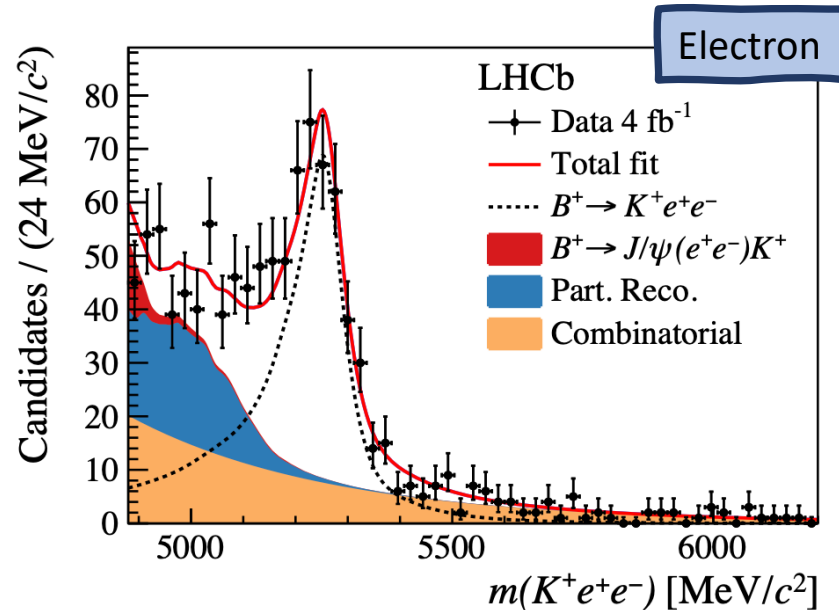
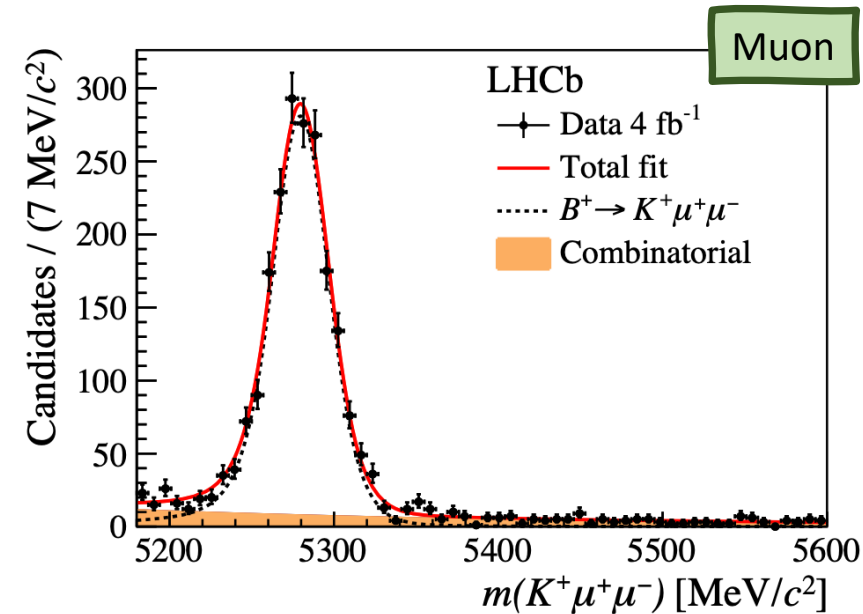
- The SM predicts same electroweak couplings for all the three lepton flavours
 ⇒ **Lepton Flavour Universality (FLU)**
- Extensions to SM predict new virtual particles contributing to $b \rightarrow s$ transitions and have nonuniversal interactions
 ⇒ $b \rightarrow s l^+ l^-$ transitions as **probe for LFU**

❖ Measurement of $R_K = \frac{B(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^+ \mu^-)}{B(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ e^+ e^-)} \times \frac{B(B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi(e^+ e^-) K^+)}{B(B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-) K^+)}$ in $q^2 \in [1.1, 6.0] \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$

$$\frac{\Gamma(Z \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)}{\Gamma(Z \rightarrow e^+ e^-)} = 1.0001 \pm 0.0024$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(W \rightarrow \mu \nu_\mu)}{\Gamma(W \rightarrow e \nu_e)} = 0.996 \pm 0.008$$

$$R_K = 0.846^{+0.044}_{-0.041}$$



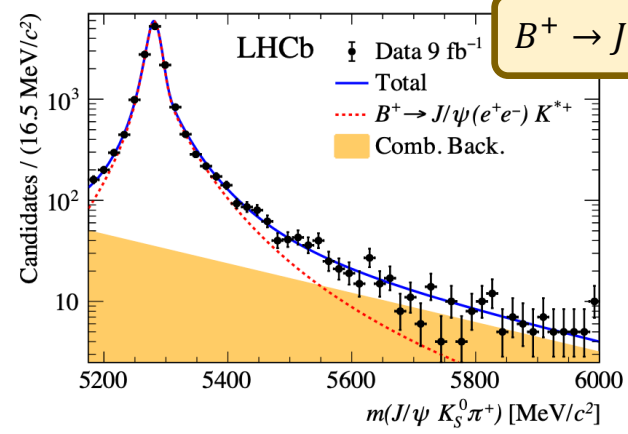
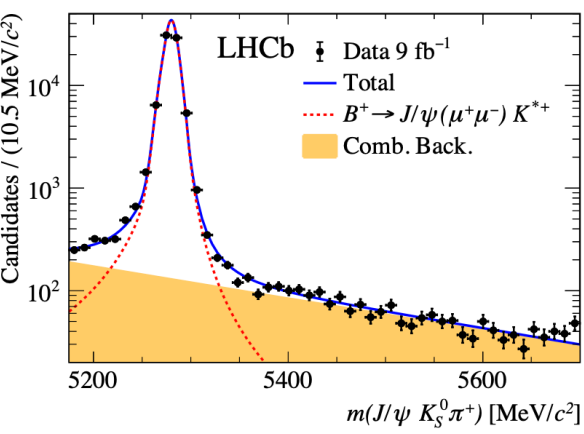
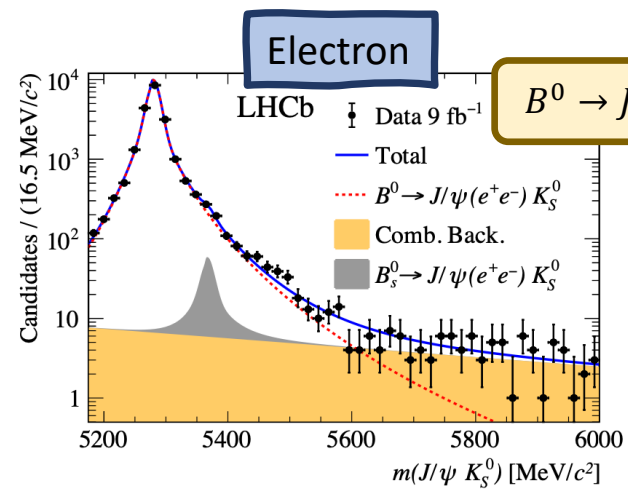
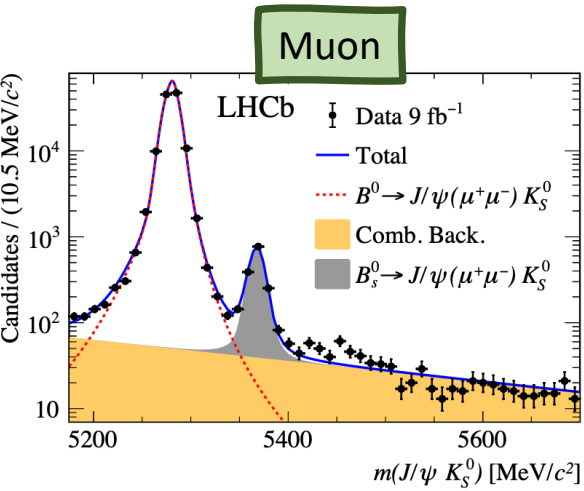
- Study of the isospin partners

$$B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 l^+ l^- \text{ and } B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} l^+ l^-$$

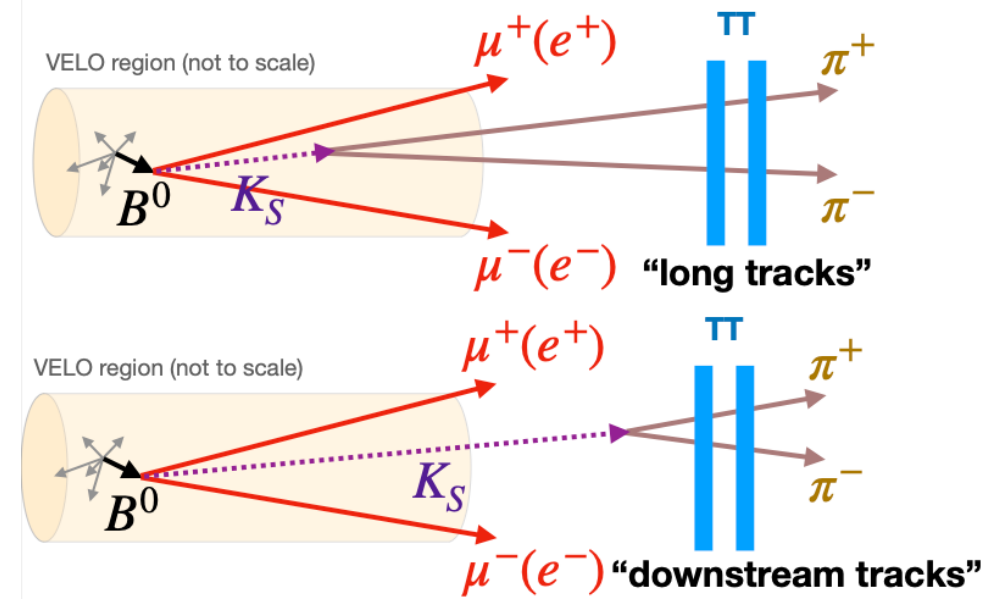
- Resonant modes as control channels

$$R_{K_S^0}^{-1} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 e^+ e^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \mu^+ \mu^-)} \times \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-) K_S^0)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(e^+ e^-) K_S^0)} \text{ in } q^2 \in [1.1, 6.0] \text{ GeV}^4/c^2$$

$$R_{K^{*+}}^{-1} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} e^+ e^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} \mu^+ \mu^-)} \times \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-) K^{*+})}{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi(e^+ e^-) K^{*+})} \text{ in } q^2 \in [0.045, 6.0] \text{ GeV}^4/c^2$$



- Long lived K_S^0 in the final state reducing experimental efficiency
- K_S^0 reconstruction



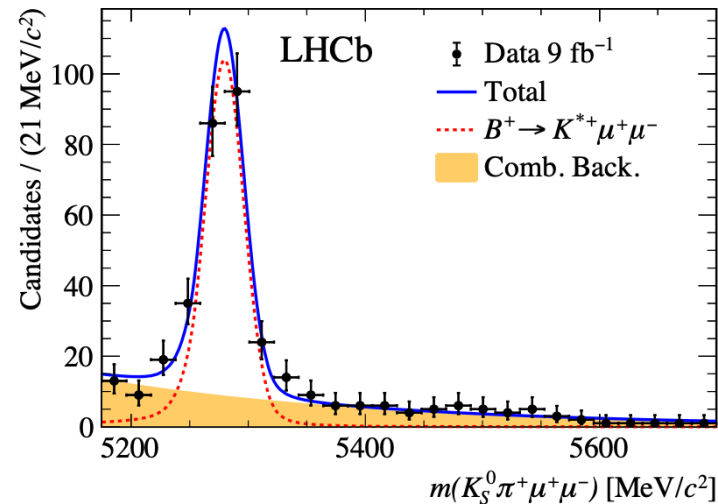
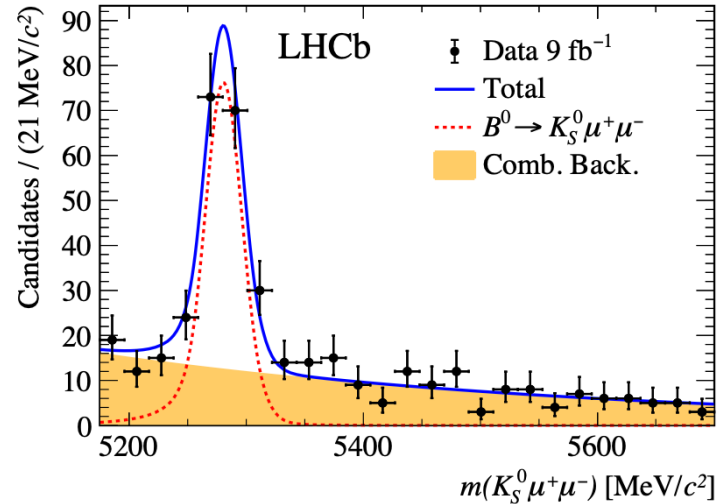
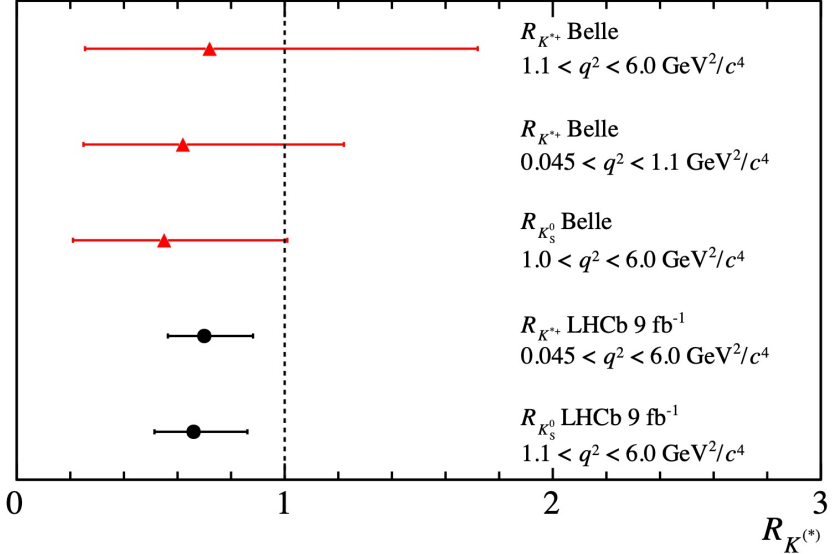
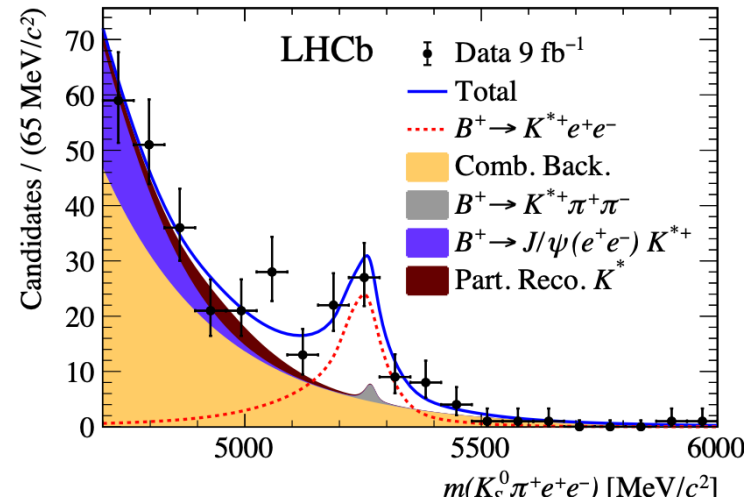
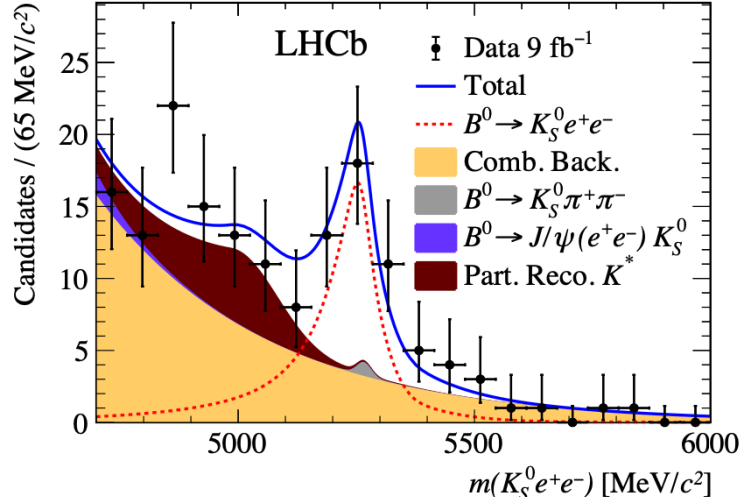
$$R_{K_S^0}^{-1} = 1.51^{+0.40}_{-0.35}(\text{stat.})^{+0.09}_{-0.04}(\text{syst.})$$

$$R_{K_S^0} = 0.66^{+0.20}_{-0.14}(\text{stat.})^{+0.02}_{-0.04}(\text{syst.})$$

$$R_{K^{*+}}^{-1} = 1.44^{+0.32}_{-0.29}(\text{stat.})^{+0.09}_{-0.06}(\text{syst.})$$

$$R_{K^{*+}} = 0.70^{+0.18}_{-0.13}(\text{stat.})^{+0.03}_{-0.04}(\text{syst.})$$

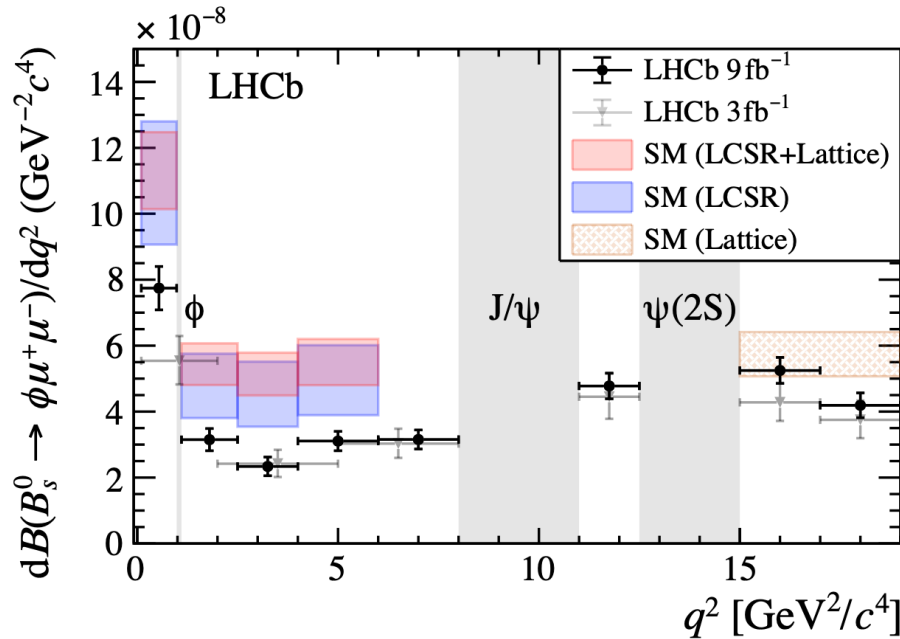
➤ $R_{K_S^0}^{-1}$ and $R_{K^{*+}}^{-1}$ consistent with SM at **1.5 σ** and **1.4 σ**



➤ Same deficit of muonic wrt electronic decays observed in other LHCb LFU tests like R_{K^*} ([JHEP08\(2017\)055](#)) and R_{pK} ([JHEP05\(2020\)040](#))

Marin Benito's talk
Friday 9:30

- Most precise measurement of the **differential BF** of $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-$ in the q^2 region $[1.1, 6] \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$
- Multivariate classifier trained against combinatorial background
- 3.6σ below SM prediction (LCSR+lattice), 1.8σ below SM prediction (LCSR)

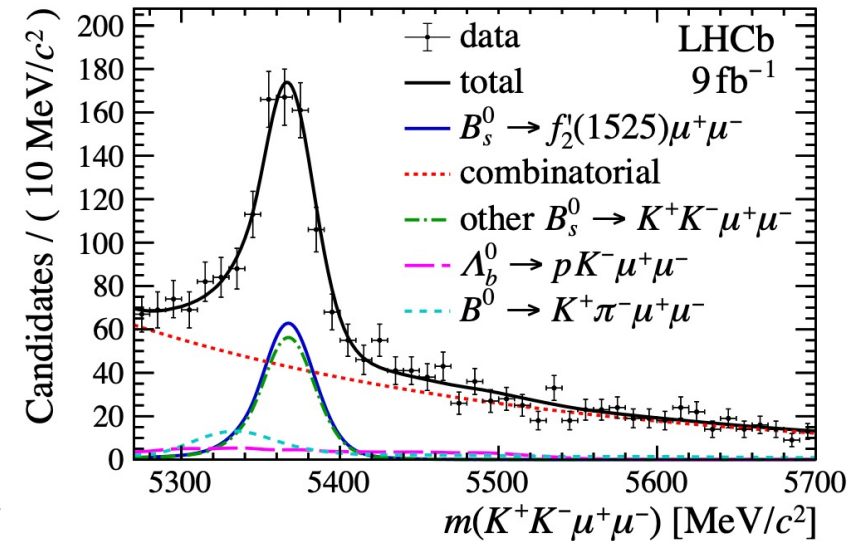
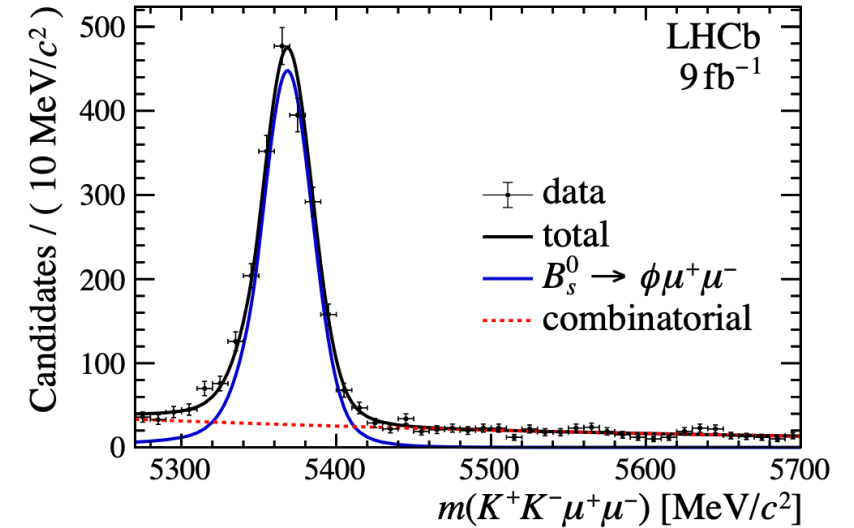


- Result in agreement with previous LHCb measurement

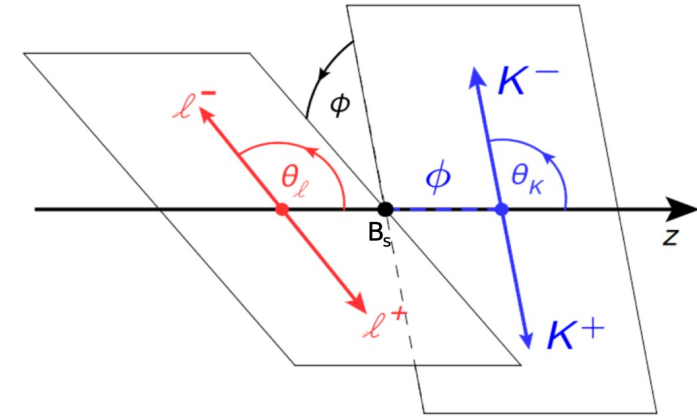
- $\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-) = (8.14 \pm 0.21 \pm 0.16 \pm 0.03 \pm 0.39) \times 10^{-7}$

- **First observation** of $B_s^0 \rightarrow f_2'(1525) \mu^+ \mu^-$ decay

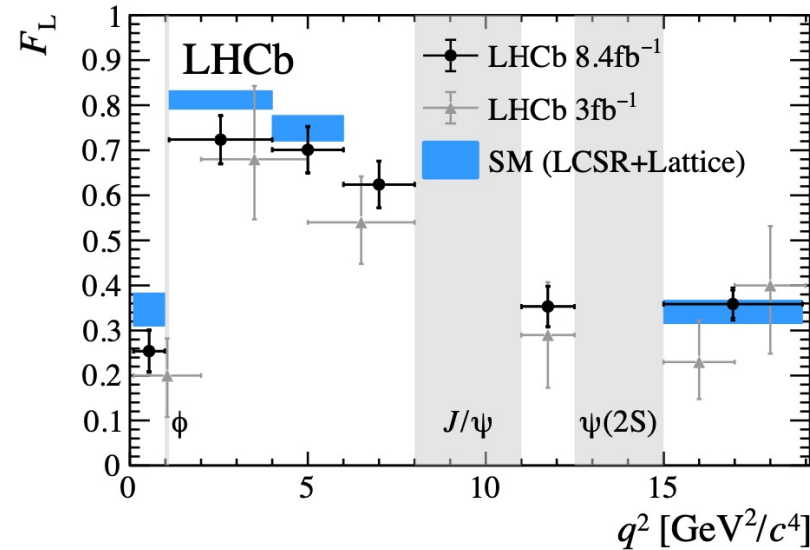
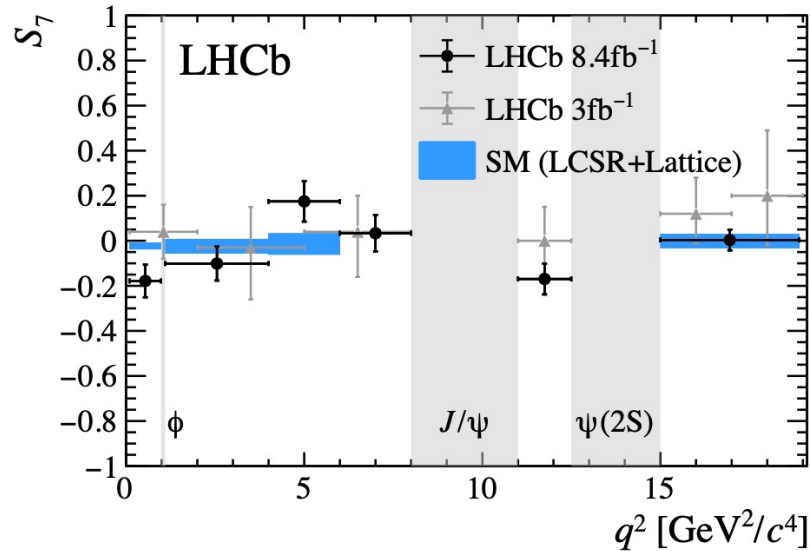
- $\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow f_2'(1525) \mu^+ \mu^-) = (1.57 \pm 0.19 \pm 0.06 \pm 0.06 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-7}$



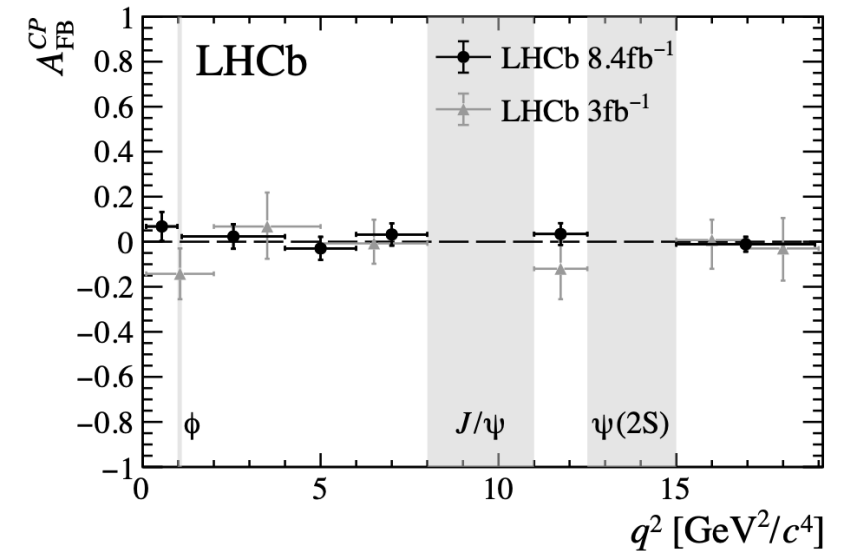
- Angular analysis complementary to BF measurement in probing NP contributions
- Most precise measurement of $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-$ angular observables
 - ϕ reconstructed via $\phi \rightarrow K^+ K^-$ decay
- Unbinned maximum likelihood fit to $m(KK\mu\mu)$, θ_l , θ_K and ϕ in q^2 bins



CP-averages observables



CP-asymmetry



- Angular observables compatible with SM predictions (no CP asymmetry)
 - CP averages: small deviation in F_L at low q^2
- Deviation consistent with results observed in $B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} \mu^+ \mu^-$ ([PRL 126, 161802\(2021\)](#)) and $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \mu^+ \mu^-$ ([PRL 125, 011802\(2020\)](#))

- Mainly proceeds via **color-suppressed penguin annihilation**
 - very suppressed in the SM ($\sim 10^{-12}$)
- Contributions from **$\omega - \phi$ mixing**
 - enhances decay rate to $\sim 10^{-11} - 10^{-10}$ (accessible at HL-LHC)

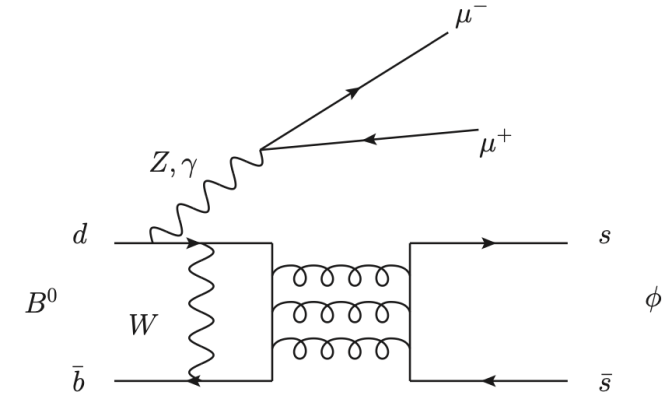
- Measurement of

$$\mathcal{R} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-)}$$

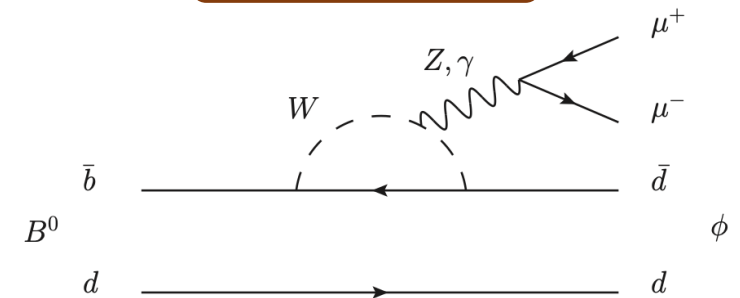
- Analysis strategy

- $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-$ used as **normalisation channel**
- $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \phi$ used as **control channel** (more copious)
- **Background sources**
 - Mass vetoes to suppress peaking background from misID ($B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \phi$, $\Lambda_b \rightarrow p K^- \mu^+ \mu^-$)
 - Multivariate classifier (BDT) trained to reduce combinatorial background

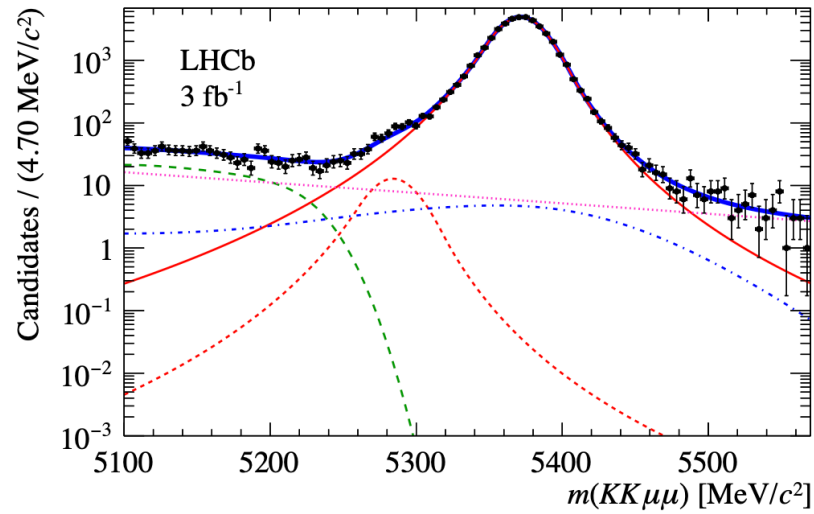
Weak annihilation



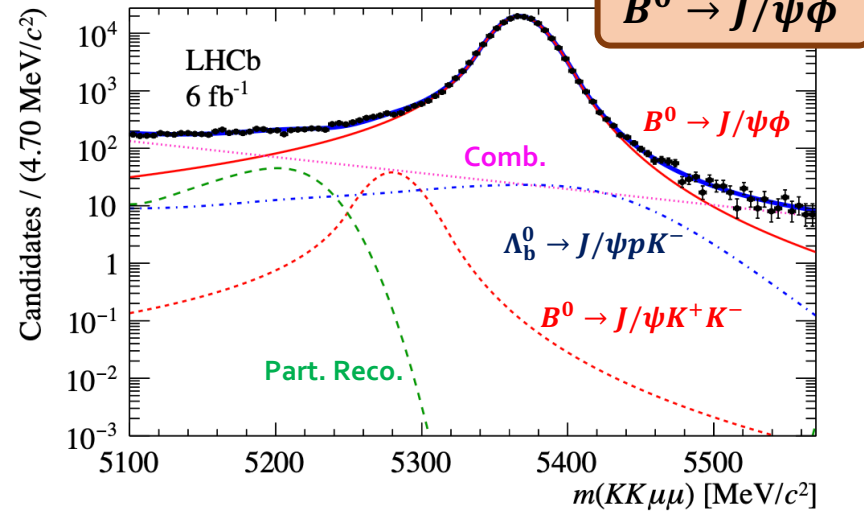
$\omega - \phi$ mixing



Run 1

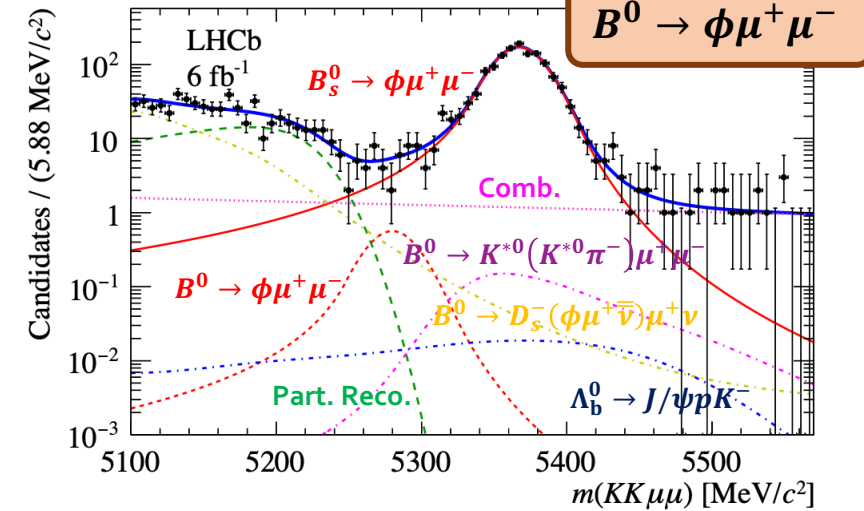
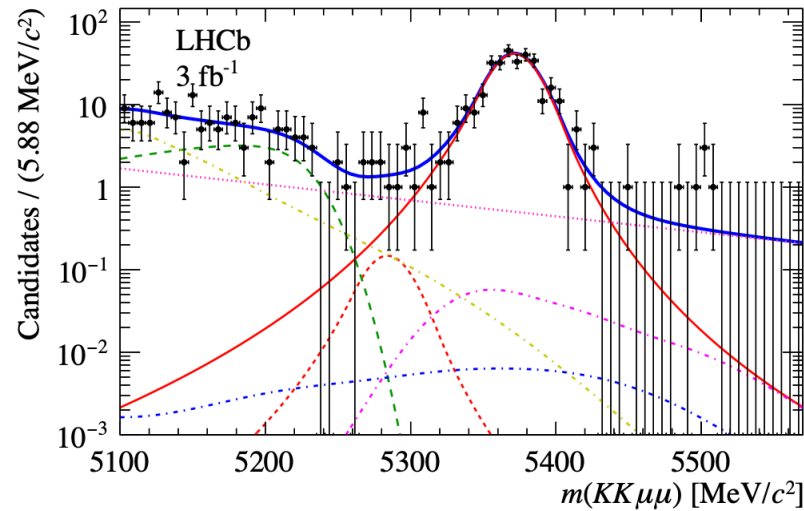


Run 2



- No significant signal observed
- Excluding ϕ and charmonium region in dimuon spectrum

$$\mathcal{R} < 4.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ @ 90\% CL}$$



- Assuming phase-space model

$$\mathcal{B} < 3.2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ @ 90\% CL}$$

in full q^2 region

➤ Tensions with SM observed LFU tests motivate search for **LFV b -hadron decays**

➤ Parallel search for $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \mu^\pm e^\mp$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^\pm e^\mp$

➤ **Analysis strategy**

❖ K^{*0} (892) and ϕ (1020) reconstructed via $K^{*0} \rightarrow K^+ \phi^-$ and $\phi \rightarrow K^+ K^-$

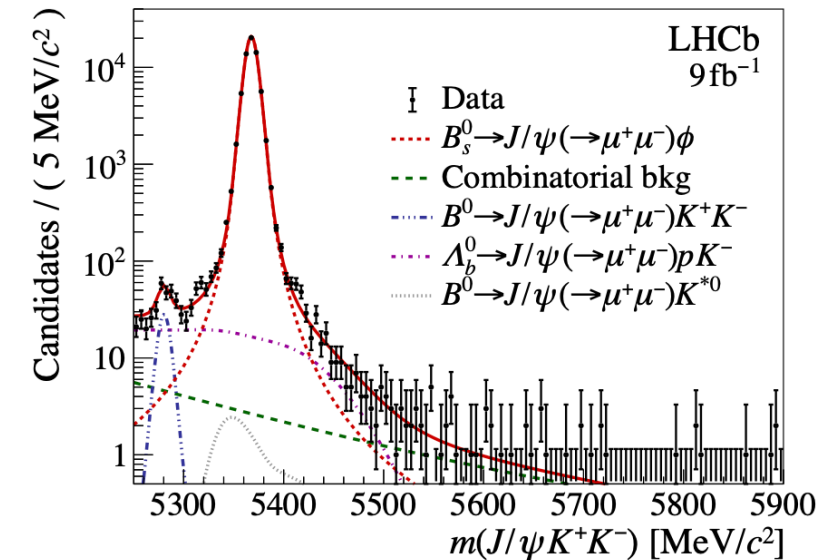
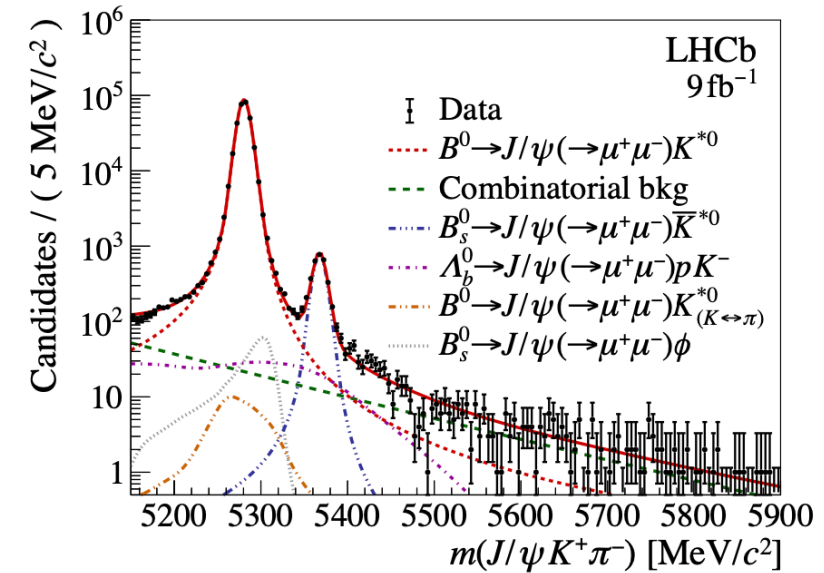
❖ Charge split $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \mu^\pm e^\mp$ into $K^+ \mu^+$ and $K^+ \mu^-$

❖ $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-) K^{*0}$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-) \phi$ used as **normalisation**

channels

❖ **Background rejection**

- dedicated vetoes to reject background from misID in b -hadron decays
- multivariate classifiers trained against combinatorial background



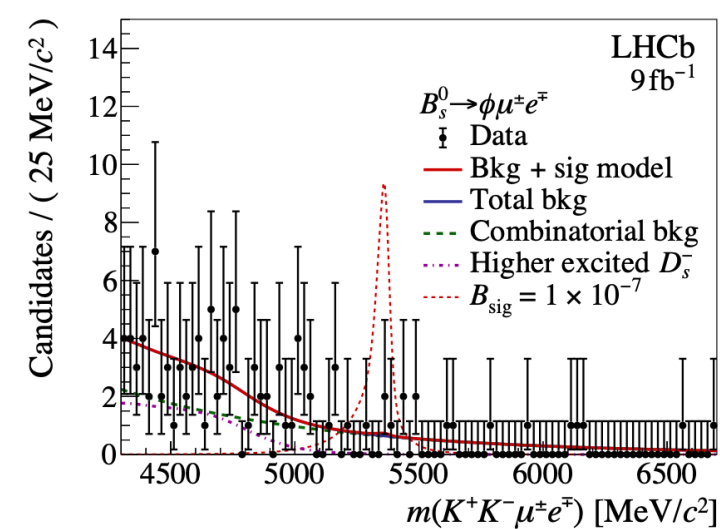
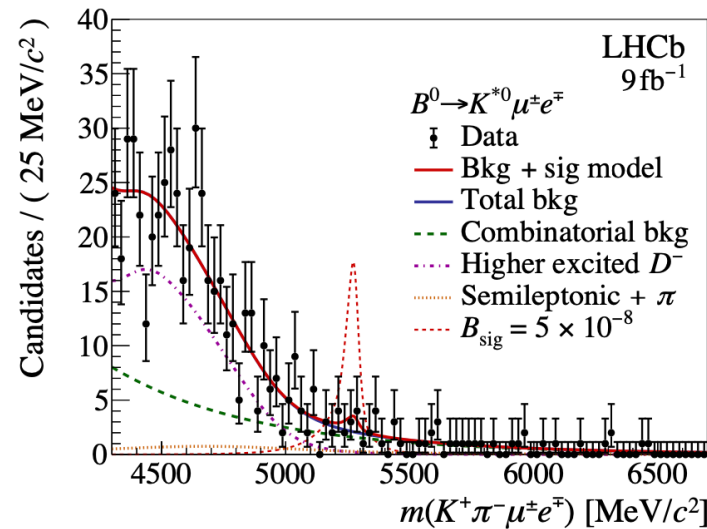
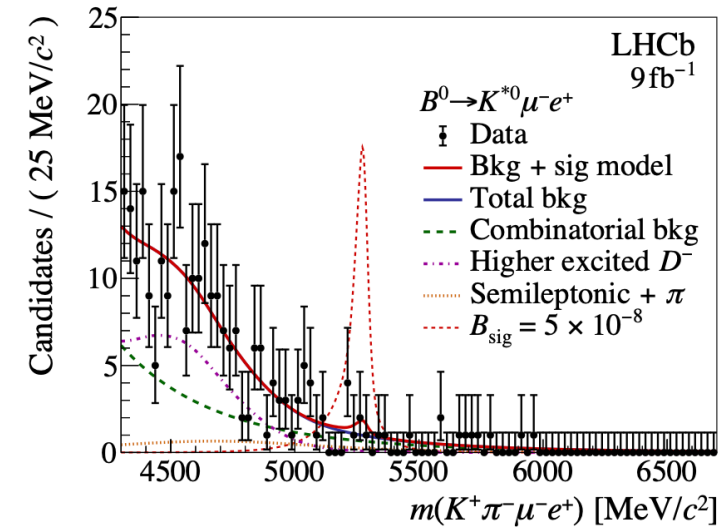
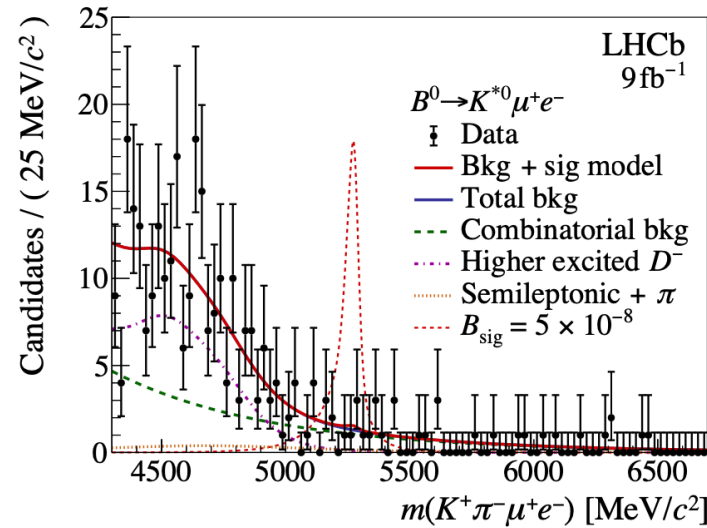
- No significant signal is observed
- **Improved upper limits @ 90%(95%) CL**

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \mu^+ e^-) < 5.7(6.9) \times 10^{-9}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \mu^+ e^-) < 6.8(7.9) \times 10^{-9}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \mu^\pm e^\mp) < 10.1(11.7) \times 10^{-9}$$
 wrt Belle's result ([PRD 98, 071101 \(2018\)](#))
- **World's first limit set @ 90%(95%) CL**

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^\pm e^\mp) < 16.0(19.8) \times 10^{-9}$$
- Nominal limits assume uniform phase space for signal decays
- (Re-)intepretation in terms of scalar and left-handed LF violating NP models also provided



- b -baryons radiative decays allows direct measurement of **photon polarization**
 - due to nonzero spin of the initial- and final-state particles
- First measurement of **photon polarization** in $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma$ decay, with $\Lambda \rightarrow p \pi^-$

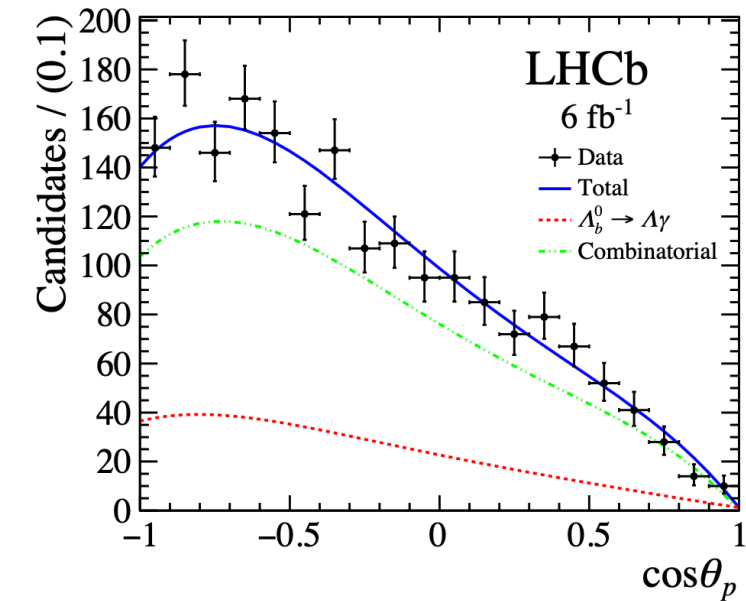
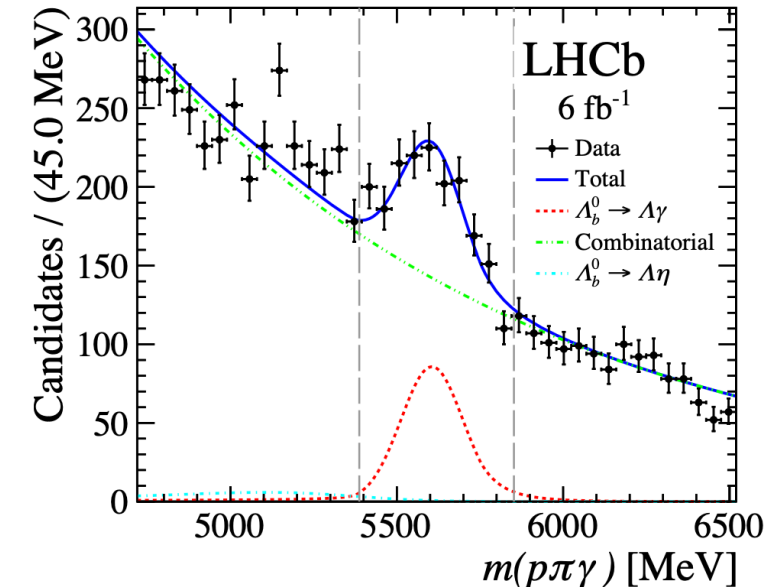
$$\alpha_\gamma \equiv \frac{\gamma_L - \gamma_R}{\gamma_L + \gamma_R}$$

- First study of **CP angular asymmetry** in $b \rightarrow s \gamma$ transitions
- **Angular distribution** defined as $\frac{d\Lambda}{d(\cos\theta_p)} \sim 1 - \alpha_\gamma \alpha_\Lambda \cos\theta_p$ with
 - α_Λ describing interference between parity-violating s-wave and parity-conserving p-wave of $\Lambda \rightarrow p \pi^-$ decay
 - θ_p angle between p momentum and negative Λ_b^0 momentum in the Λ rest frame

- Results in agreement with SM predictions and previous measurements in b -meson decays

$$\alpha_\gamma = 0.82^{+0.17}_{-0.26} {}^{+0.04}_{-0.13}$$

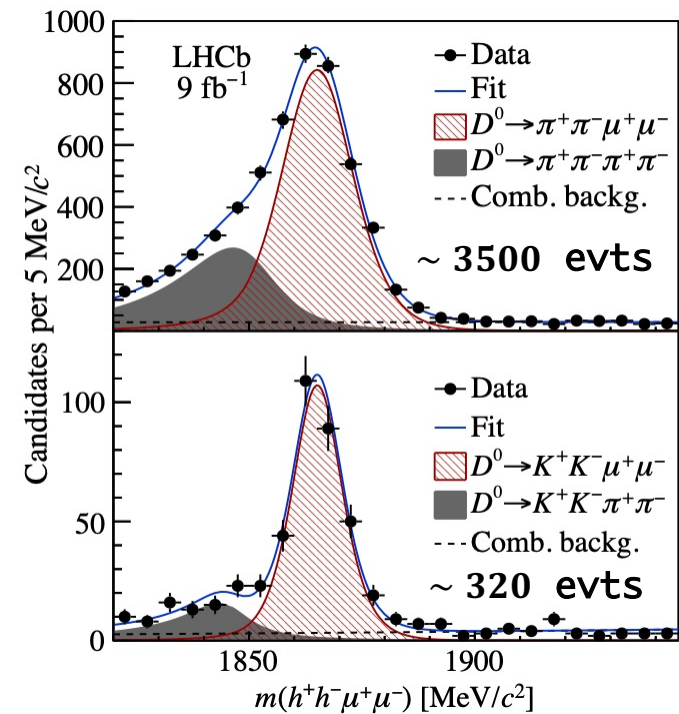
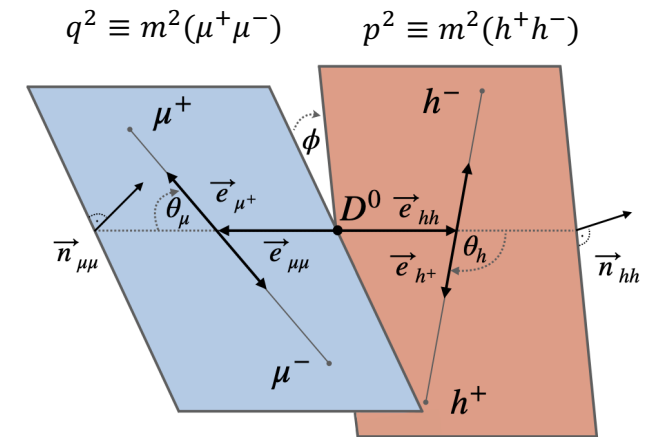
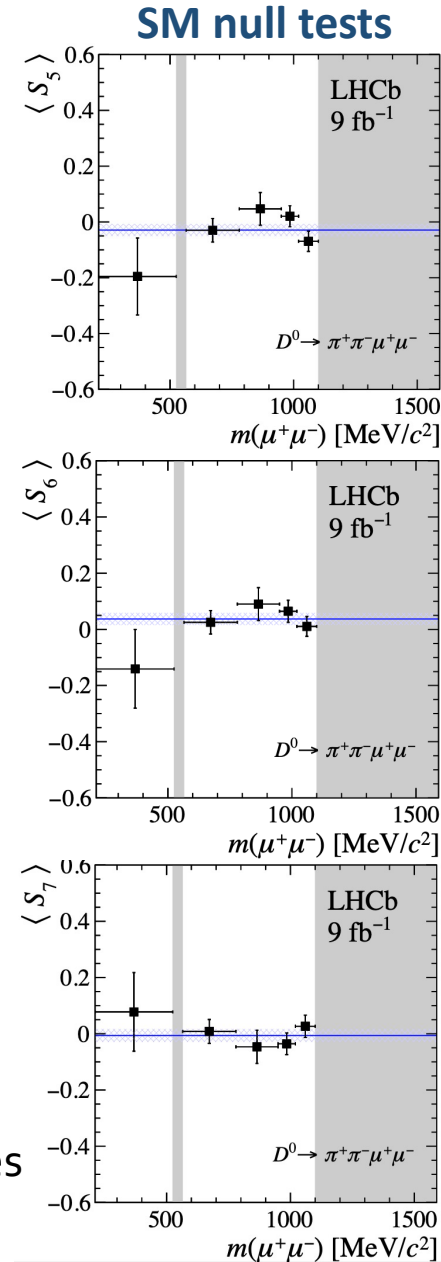
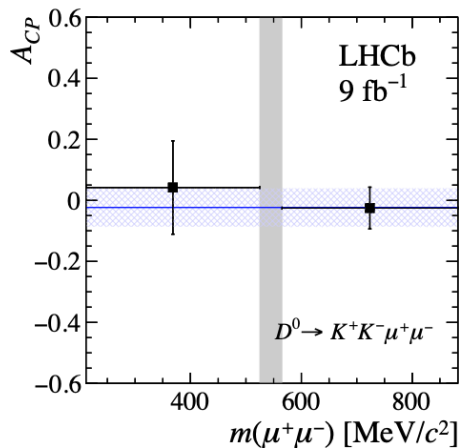
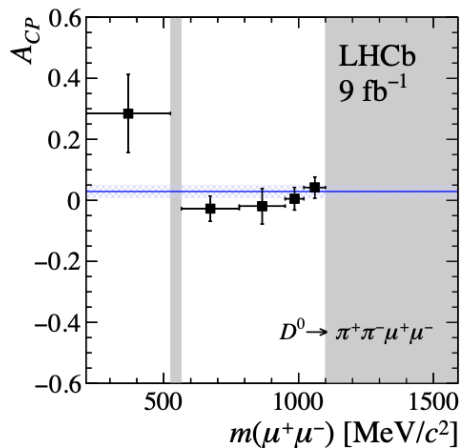
- **No CP asymmetry** is observed
- Precision of the results dominated by statistical uncertainty



- FCNC $c \rightarrow ul^+l^-$ transitions sensitive to BSM contributions
 - More suppressed than $b \rightarrow sl^+l^-$ because of GIM mechanism
 - Long distance effects are dominating
- First full angular analysis of a rare charm decay
- Measurement of the full set of CP-averaged angular observables and CP asymmetries as function of $q^2 \equiv m^2(\mu^+\mu^-)$

Updated measurement of CP asymmetry

$$A_{CP} \equiv \frac{\Gamma(D^0 \rightarrow h^+h^-\mu^+\mu^-) - \Gamma(\bar{D}^0 \rightarrow h^+h^-\mu^+\mu^-)}{\Gamma(D^0 \rightarrow h^+h^-\mu^+\mu^-) + \Gamma(\bar{D}^0 \rightarrow h^+h^-\mu^+\mu^-)}$$

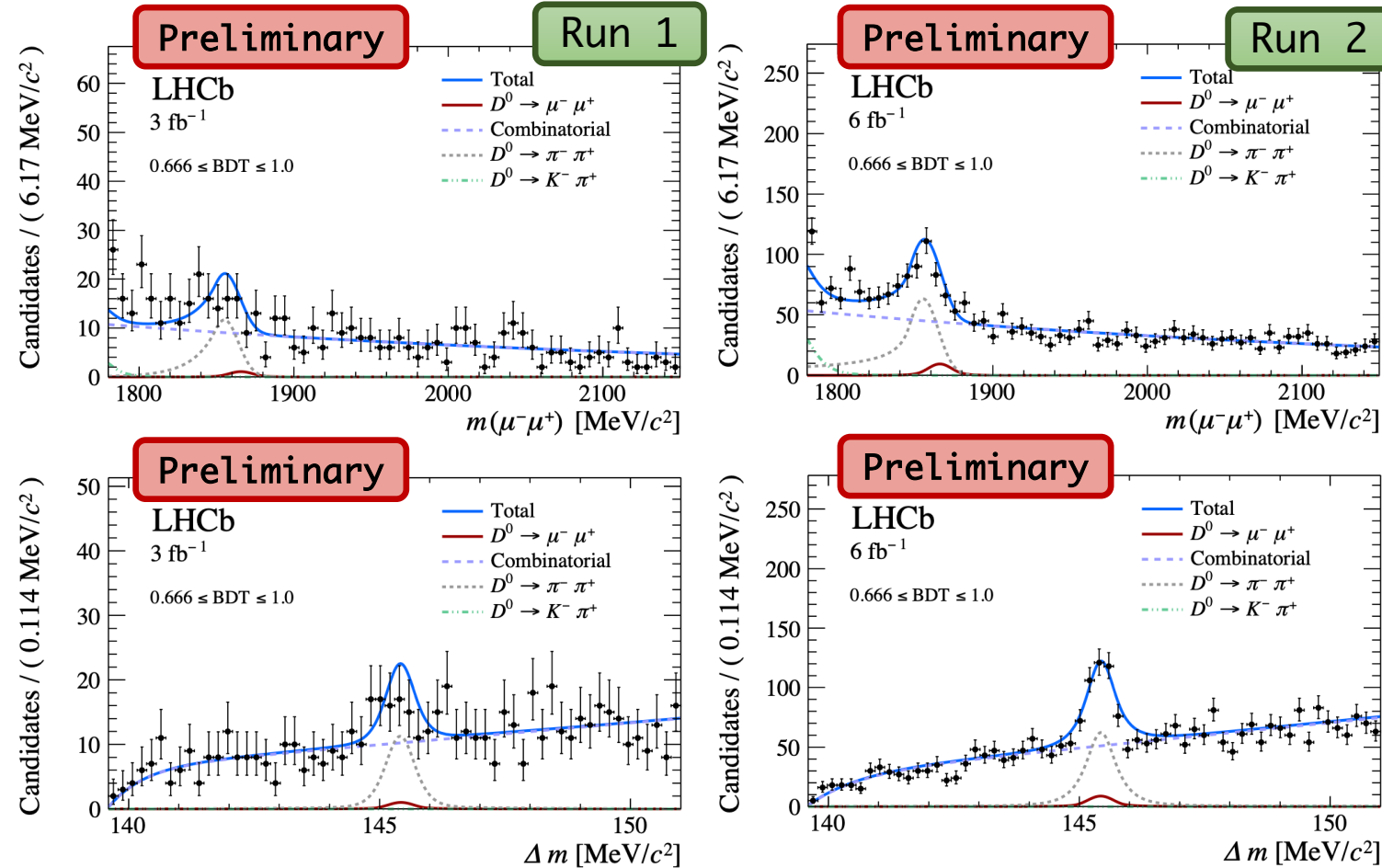


- Results consistent with SM null hypothesis with overall p values of 79% (0.8%) for $D \rightarrow \pi\pi\mu\mu$ ($D \rightarrow KK\mu\mu$)

- SM predicts $\text{BF} \sim 10^{-18}$
 - LQ could mediate already at tree level
- Search for $D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ from $D^{*+} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^+$
 - Improves background rejection
 - 2D fit to $m_{\mu^+ \mu^-}$ and $\Delta m = m_{D^{*+}} - m_{D^0}$
- $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$ and $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ used as normalisation channels
- Background rejection
 - Multivariate classifier (BDT) trained against combinatorial
 - PID based classifier to suppress misID background
- World's most stringent limit

$$\mathcal{B}(D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) < 2.94 \times 10^{-9} \text{ @ 90\% CL}$$

Fit in most sensitive BDT bin



More than a factor two improvement wrt previous LHCb result

- ❖ Precise measurements of flavour observables represent a powerful way to constrain BSM physics
 - Most results in agreement with SM prediction
 - Though some tensions exist \Rightarrow motivate further work both in theory and experiments
- ❖ LHCb covers a wide range of rare decays
 - A lot more not shown today
 - More analyses with full LHCb dataset will be out soon
- ❖ Run 3 data taking has started
 - Upgraded detector and trigger system will enhance signal acceptance
 - 5 times more luminosity for LHCb





Backup

