

Non-leptonic hadron decays at the LHC

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on behalf of the **ATLAS, CMS and LHCb** collaborations

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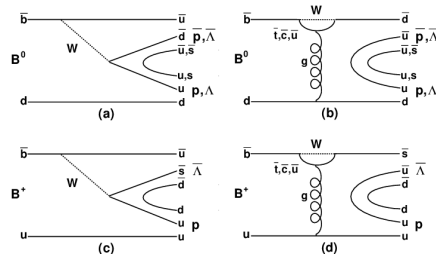


- $B^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ [arXiv:2206.06673 \[hep-ex\]](#)
- $B^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}p\bar{p}$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}p\bar{p}$ [arXiv:2211.08847 \[hep-ex\]](#)
- $B^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0\pi^+\pi^-$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0$ [Eur. Phys. J. C 82 \(2022\) 499](#)
- $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi D_s^{(*)+}$ [JHEP 08 \(2022\) 087](#)
- $B_c(2S)^+$ and $B_c^*(2S)^+$ cross section ratios [Phys. Rev. D 102 \(2020\) 092007](#)
- Charmonium decays in $B \rightarrow (K_s^0 K \pi) K$ [arXiv:2304.14891 \[hep-ex\]](#)
- $\Xi_b^- \pi^+ \pi^-$ decay studies [Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 \(2021\) 252003](#)
- Prompt open-charm production cross sections [JHEP 11 \(2021\) 225](#)

$$B^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p} \text{ and } B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p} \text{ (1/2)}$$

arXiv:2206.06673 [hep-ex]

- Differences in the way B mesons decay to baryonic versus purely mesonic final states have been found since the first experimental measurements
- To date, only three charmless two-body baryonic decays have been observed, namely the $B^+ \rightarrow p\bar{\Lambda}(1520)$, $B^+ \rightarrow p\bar{\Lambda}$ and $B^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$
- Some theoretical predictions allow a yield $\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow pp) \sim 10^{-8}$ that is experimentally accessible¹
- **LHCb** performed a search for the rare hadronic decay $B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ with integrated luminosity of 6 fb^{-1}
- Valuable information on the role of exchange and annihilation diagrams in baryonic B decays



¹Y. K. Hsiao, S.-Y. Tsai, C.-C. Lih, and E. Rodrigues, Testing the W-exchange mechanism with two-body baryonic B decays, JHEP 04 (2020) 035, [arXiv:1906.01805](https://arxiv.org/abs/1906.01805)

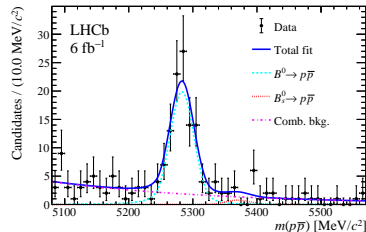
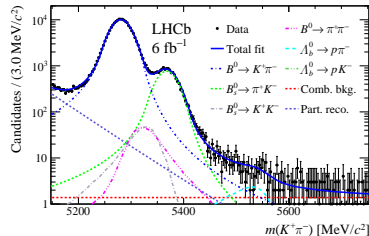
- The yields of $B^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ are normalized to the $B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-$ decays (Similar topology and a precisely measured branching fraction)
- $B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-$ has multiple contributions from other decays treated as systematic effects
- The shape of the partially reconstructed background component is determined from a mixture of simulated samples
- The significances following Wilk's theorem¹ extracted from the fit to the $p\bar{p}$ data are 16.2σ and 0.9σ
- No significant evidence for $B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ was observed

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}) = (1.27 \pm 0.15 \pm 0.05 \pm 0.04) \times 10^{-8}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}) < 4.4(5.1) \times 10^{-9} \text{ at } 90\% (95\%) \text{ CL}$$

¹S. S. Wilks, The large-sample distribution of the likelihood ratio for testing composite hypotheses, Ann. Math. Stat. 9 (1938) 60. [link](#)

$B^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ (2/2)
arXiv:2206.06673 [hep-ex]



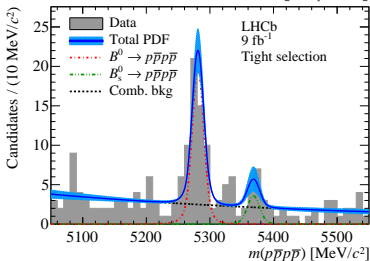
$$B^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}p\bar{p} \text{ and } B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}p\bar{p} \text{ (1/1)}$$

arXiv:2211.08847 [hep-ex]

- The four-body decays are not as suppressed relative to the corresponding two-body decays
- Multi-body baryonic decay modes may be significantly increased due to a threshold enhancement effect in the baryon-antibaryon invariant mass spectrum
- The branching fraction for $p\bar{p}K^+K^-$ is $(4.5 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-6}$, $p\bar{p}K^+\pi^-$ is $(1.4 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-6}$ and $p\bar{p}\pi^+\pi^-$ is $(4.3 \pm 2.0) \times 10^{-7}$
- Neither the fully baryonic decay $B^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}p\bar{p}$ nor $B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}p\bar{p}$ have been observed previously
- **LHCb** performed a search for these decays using a dataset with integrated luminosity of 9 fb^{-1}
- Significances of 9.3σ and 4.0σ , including statistical and systematic uncertainties were observed
- The normalization channels $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^{*0}$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \phi$ were used
- The branching fractions are measured to be

$$B^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}p\bar{p} = (2.2 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.1 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-8}$$

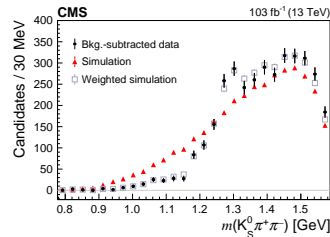
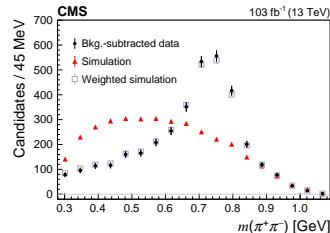
$$B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}p\bar{p} = (2.3 \pm 1.0 \pm 0.2 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-8}$$



$$B^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0\pi^+\pi^- \text{ and } B_s^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0 \text{ (1/2)}$$

Eur. Phys. J. C 82 (2022) 499

- Studies involving K_s^0 are very challenging in the LHC environment
- $B^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0\pi^+\pi^-$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0$ decays can potentially be used for CP asymmetry measurements
- The $B^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0\pi^+\pi^-$ can be used to search for intermediate exotic resonances
- **CMS** performed an analysis of these decays using data from 2017 and 2018 with total integrated luminosity of 103 fb^{-1}
- The $B^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0$ decay was chosen as the normalization channel
- The $K_s^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ candidates are formed from displaced two-prong vertices
- Simulation does not take into account the intermediate resonance structure (re-weighting applied)



$B^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0$ (2/2)

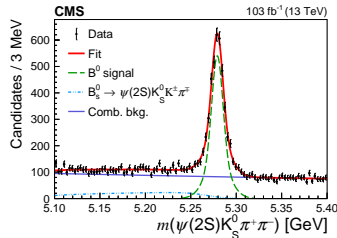
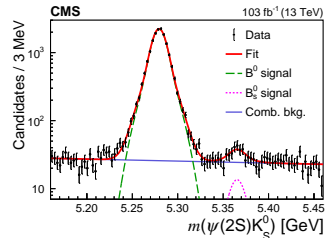
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- Decays are observed with significances exceeding 5 standard deviations ($B_s^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0 \sim 5.2\sigma$, $B^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0 \pi^+ \pi^- > 30\sigma$)
- The resulting branching fraction ratios, measured for the first time

$$R_s = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0)} = (0.69 \pm 0.14(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.11(\text{syst.}) \pm 0.34(f_s/f_d)) \times 10^{-2}$$

$$R_{\pi^+ \pi^-} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0 \pi^+ \pi^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0)} = 0.480 \pm 0.013(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.032(\text{syst.})$$

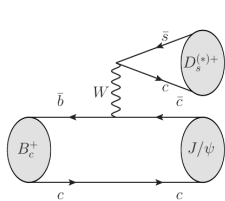
- The fragmentation fraction ratio $f_s/f_d = 0.208 \pm 0.021$ was used
- No significant exotic narrow structures were observed
- Further studies with more data will be needed to investigate more precisely the internal dynamics of the $B^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S)K_s^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ decay



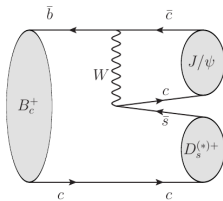
$$B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi D_s^{(*)+} \quad (1/3)$$

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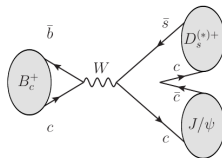
- Operating LHC experiments at a centre-of-mass energy $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$ opens new opportunities to measure the properties of the B_c meson precisely
- Previous studies were limited by the low B_c production cross-section
- These statistics allow measurement of $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi D_s^+$ and $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi D_s^{*+}$
- These decays were studied at **ATLAS** using 139 fb^{-1} of integrated luminosity
- In this channel, B_c decays can occur through a weak transition of either heavy quark (a,b) as well as through a weak annihilation (c)



(a)



(b)

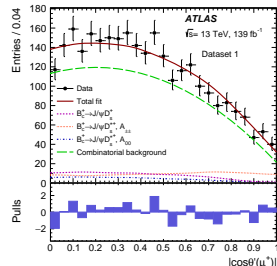
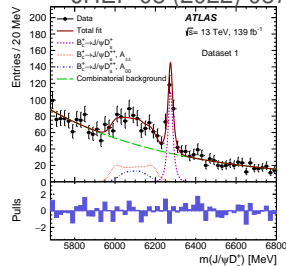


(c)

- J/ψ meson is reconstructed via its decay into a muon pair
- D_s^+ meson is reconstructed via the $D_s^+ \rightarrow \phi\pi^+$ decay, with the ϕ meson decaying into pairs of charged kaons
- D_s^{*+} meson decays into a D_s^+ meson and a soft photon or π^0 which is not reconstructed in the analysis
- The mass difference between D_s^+ and D_s^{*+} is sufficient for the two decay signals to be resolved as two distinct structures in the reconstructed mass of the $J/\psi D_s^+$ system
- $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi D_s^{*+}$ decay is a pseudoscalar meson into two vector states (can be described in terms of three helicity amplitudes: A_{--} , A_{++} and A_{00})
- To suppress the combinatorial background, a BDT is employed
- The extended unbinned maximum-likelihood fit to the two-dimensional distribution of $m(J/\psi D_s^+)$ and $|\cos\theta'(\mu^+)|$ is performed

$$B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi D_s^{(*)+} \quad (2/3)$$

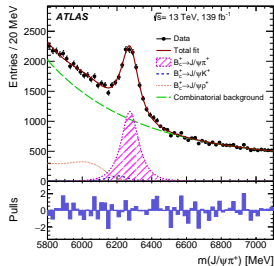
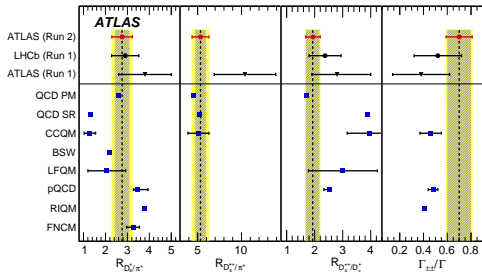
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- $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$ decay is used as a reference to measure the branching fractions such as:

$$R_{D_s^{(*)+}/\pi^+} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi D_s^{(*)+})}{\mathcal{B}(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+)}$$

- $\Gamma_{\pm\pm}/\Gamma$ is the transverse polarization fraction in the $B_c^{*+} \rightarrow J/\psi D_s^{*+}$ decays



- All results are consistent with the earlier measurements by ATLAS¹ and LHCb²
- Results compared with the theory predictions
- A QCD (PM) relativistic potential model agrees well

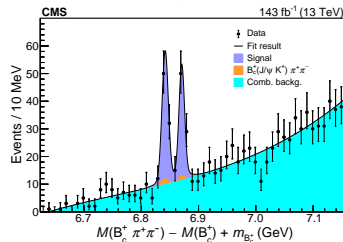
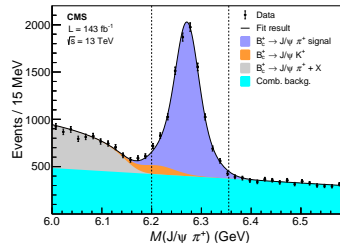
¹ ATLAS Collaboration: [Eur. Phys. J. C 76 \(2016\) 4](#)

² LHCb Collaboration: [Phys. Rev. D 87 \(2013\) 112012](#),
[Addendum: [Phys. Rev. D 89 \(2014\) 019901](#)]

$B_c(2S)^+$ and $B_c^*(2S)^+$ cross section ratios (1/2)

Phys. Rev. D 102 (2020) 092007

- $B_c(2S)^+$ and $B_c^*(2S)^+$ were observed by ATLAS and were analysed by LHCb and CMS as well
- The masses of the $B_c(2S)^+$ and $B_c^*(2S)^+$ states are found to be consistent with theoretical predictions¹⁻³
- These results stimulated new theoretical studies aimed at reaching a better understanding of the B_c^+ quarkonium family
- The latest results are by **CMS** who analyzed the full Run2 with 143 fb^{-1} of data
- The $B_c^{(*)}(2S) \rightarrow B_c^{(*)+} \pi^+ \pi^-$ is followed by $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$ decay
- The B_c^* decay into a B_c and soft photon that is not reconstructed
- The fit was performed for the distribution $\mathcal{M}(B_c^+ \pi^+ \pi^-) - \mathcal{M}(B_c^+) + m_{B_c^+}$ (This variable was used since it provides better resolution)



¹ E. B. Gregory et al. [Phys. Rev. Lett. 104 \(2010\) 022001](#)

² R. J. Dowdall et al. [Phys. Rev. D 86 \(2012\) 094510](#)

³ N. Mathur et al. [Phys. Rev. Lett. 121 \(2018\) 202002](#)

- The main challenge in this cross-section measurement was evaluation of the corresponding (relative) detection efficiencies
- 'Pions' reflects the uncertainty in the reconstruction efficiency of the two pions emitted in decays

	Central	Stat.	Spread	Pions
$\epsilon(B_c(2S)^+)/\epsilon(B_c^+)$	0.196	1.1%	1.8%	4.2%
$\epsilon(B_c^*(2S)^+)/\epsilon(B_c^+)$	0.187	1.0%	1.6%	4.2%
$\epsilon(B_c^*(2S)^+)/\epsilon(B_c(2S)^+)$	0.955	1.4%	0.9%	—

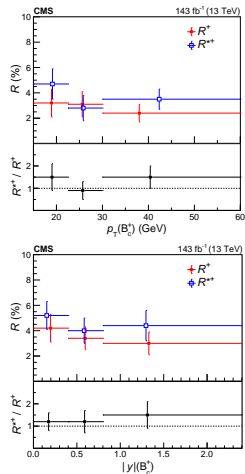
- The ratios of the $B_c^{(*)}(2S)^+ \rightarrow B_c^+$ and $B_c^*(2S)^+ \rightarrow B_c(2S)^+$ cross sections, R^{*+} , R^+ , and R^{*+}/R^+ were measured

$$R^+ = (3.47 \pm 0.63(stat) \pm 0.33(syst))\%$$

$$R^{*+} = (4.69 \pm 0.71(stat) \pm 0.56(syst))\%$$

$$R^{*+}/R^+ = 1.35 \pm 0.32(stat) \pm 0.09(syst)$$

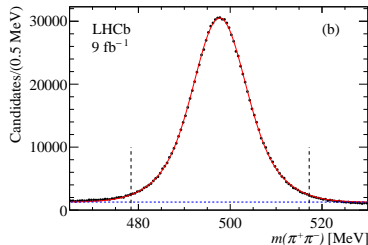
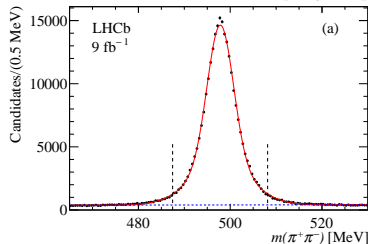
- The dependencies on the transverse momentum p_T and rapidity were studied



Charmonium decays in $B \rightarrow (K_s^0 K \pi) K$ (1/3)

arXiv:2304.14891 [hep-ex]

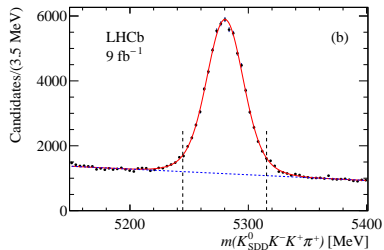
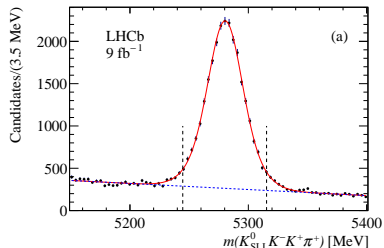
- The $B^+ \rightarrow K_s^0 K^+ K^- \pi^+$ and $B^+ \rightarrow K_s^0 K^+ K^+ \pi^-$ decays are studied since $K_s^0 K \pi$ invariant mass spectra from both decay modes reveal a rich content of charmonium resonances
- A simple factorization method used to describe these events is incomplete since it fails to describe the $B \rightarrow \chi_{c0} K$ mode
- **LHCb** performed a study using Run1 and Run2 datasets with combined integrated luminosity of 9 fb^{-1} focusing on the precise measurement of charmonium parameters
- $K_s^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ reconstruction in two categories: the first involving K_s^0 mesons that decay early enough for the pions to be reconstructed inside the VELO (K_{SLL}^0), and the second containing K_s^0 mesons that decay later such that track segments from the pions are outside the VELO (K_{SDD}^0)
- K_{SLL}^0 has better mass, momentum and vertex resolution
- Both of these categories were used to reconstruct the B meson



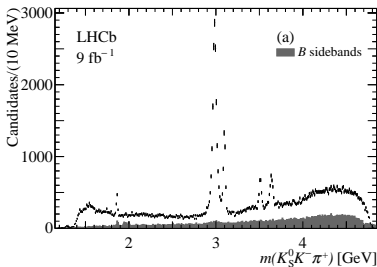
Charmonium decays in $B \rightarrow (K_s^0 K \pi) K$ (1/3)

arXiv:2304.14891 [hep-ex]

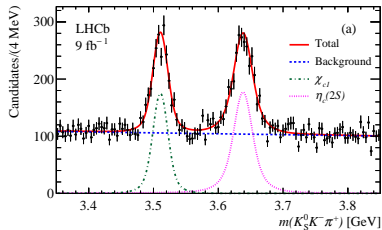
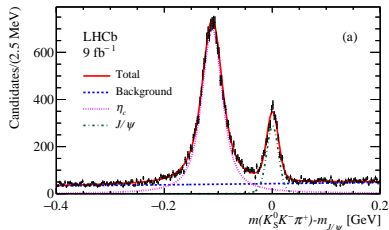
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- The $K_S^0 K \pi$ invariant-mass spectra for events in the B^+ signal region, summed over the K_{SLL}^0 and K_{SDD}^0 datasets
- We can see a broad spectrum of resonances such as η_c , J/ψ , χ_{c1} and $\eta_c(2S)$

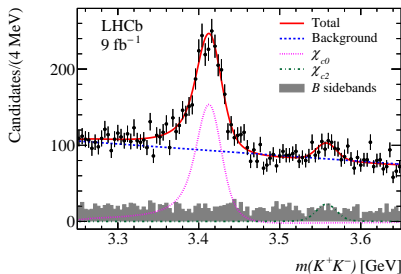


- The measurements of charmonium-resonance parameters such as mass, width and branching ratio are performed with binned fits to the $K_S^0 K \pi$ invariant-mass spectra separately in the $\eta_c - J/\psi$ and the $\chi_{c1} - \eta_c(2S)$ mass regions
- Best determinations from a single measurement

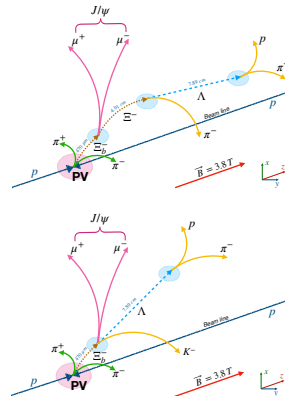


- Looking at the $K^+ K^-$ invariant mass spectrum from the $B \rightarrow K_S^0 K^+ K^- \pi^+$ decays we can see the $\chi_{c0} - \chi_{c2}$ region
- First observation of branching fraction of $B^+ \rightarrow \chi_{c0} K_S^0 \pi^+$ is reported
- Evidence of $B^+ \rightarrow \chi_{c2} K_S^0 \pi^+$
- Measured branching fractions using (top) the η_c and (bottom) the J/ψ resonance as reference for $B^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 K^+ K^- \pi^+$ data

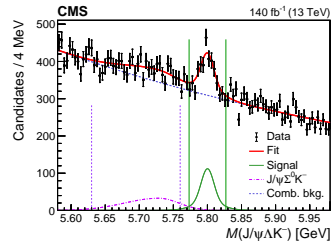
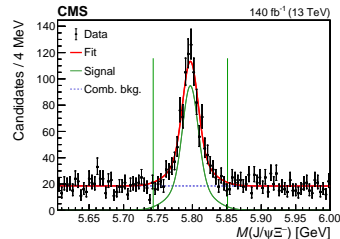
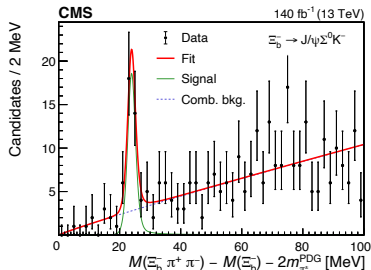
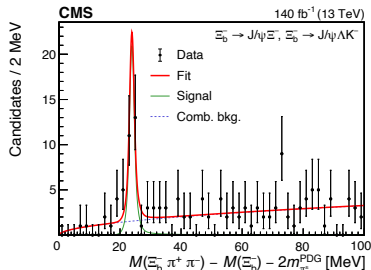
Final state	$\mathcal{B}_\infty (\times 10^{-3})$	PDG ($\times 10^{-3}$)
$B^+ \rightarrow \chi_{c0} K^0 \pi^+$	$1.38 \pm 0.07 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.32$	
$B^+ \rightarrow \chi_{c2} K^0 \pi^+$	$0.87 \pm 0.20 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.20$	0.116 ± 0.025
Final state	$\mathcal{B}_\epsilon (\times 10^{-3})$	
$B^+ \rightarrow \chi_{c0} K^0 \pi^+$	$1.45 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.16$	
$B^+ \rightarrow \chi_{c2} K^0 \pi^+$	$0.92 \pm 0.21 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.10$	



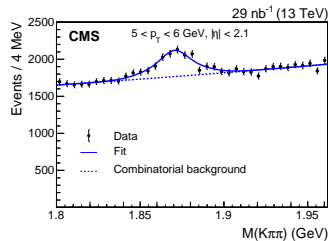
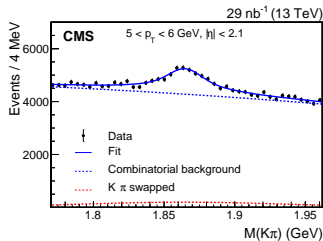
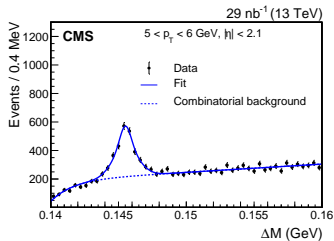
- The Ξ baryon family consists of isodoublet states composed of bsq ($q = u||d$) quarks
- Various theoretical models and calculations predict a spectrum of excited Ξ_b
- Three of the four excited states with $j_{qs} = 1$ were observed in $\Xi_b^- \pi^+$ and $\Xi_b^0 \pi^-$ decays
- **CMS** focused on the search for the Ξ_b^- excited states in the $\Xi_b^- \pi^+ \pi^-$ invariant mass spectrum using a dataset with integrated luminosity of 140 fb^{-1}
- The ground state Ξ_b is reconstructed via its decays to $J/\psi \Xi^-$ and $J/\psi \Lambda K^-$, followed by the decays $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda \pi^-$ and $\Lambda \rightarrow p \pi^-$



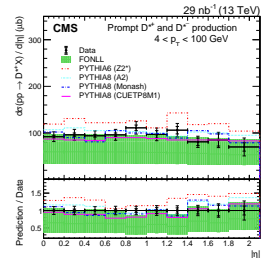
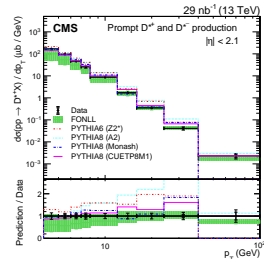
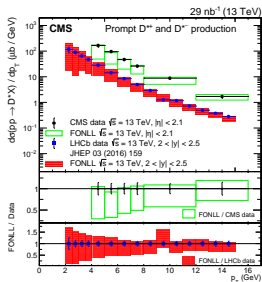
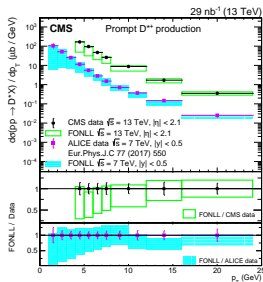
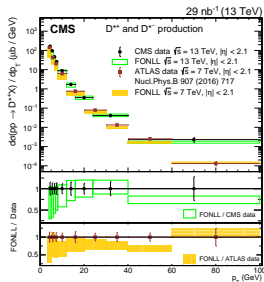
- Partially reconstructed $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow J/\psi \Sigma^0 K^-$ events were included with the shape parameters fixed from simulation studies
- Independent unbinned extended maximum-likelihood fits were applied to the mass difference variable ΔM
- A new resonance was observed with $\Delta M_{\Xi_b(6100)^-} = 24.14 \pm 0.22 \text{ MeV}$ and upper limit on the width of $\Gamma(\Xi_b(6100)^-) < 1.9 \text{ MeV}$
- The significance varies between 6.2σ and 6.7σ



- Cross-section measurement of open-charm mesons is an important test of QCD
- **CMS** studied the cross sections for the prompt production of D^{*+} , D^0 , and D^+ mesons using 29 nb^{-1} of pp collisions at 13 TeV collected in year 2016 (unbiased trigger with high prescale)
 - $pp \rightarrow D^{*+} X \rightarrow D^0 \pi_s^+ X \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi_s^+ X$
 - $pp \rightarrow D^0 X \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ X$
 - $pp \rightarrow D^+ X \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ X$
- π_s^+ “slow” pion has significantly lower momentum than K
- The mass distributions were fitted in bins of p_T and rapidity for $\Delta M = M(K^- \pi^+ \pi_s^+) - M(K^- \pi^+)$, $M(K\pi)$ and $M(K\pi\pi)$



- Measured production cross-sections were compared with theoretical predictions using the FONLL¹ and various Pythia models²
- The agreement with the different predictions is fair in the wide kinematic range analyzed
- The cross-sections were also compared with the other measurements from ATLAS, ALICE and LHCb and also with *PbPb* data measured by CMS



¹ M. Cacciari et.al. [JHEP 05 \(1998\) 007](#) and [Eur. Phys. J. C 75 \(2015\) 610](#)

² T. Sjostrand et.al. [JHEP 05 \(2006\) 026](#) and [Comput. Phys. Commun. 191 \(2015\) 159](#)

- The non-leptonic decays contain a broad spectrum of interesting physics that can be studied in the various channels
- The main goal is to understand the production dynamics of the hadronic decays and precisely describe their parameters
- With a large sample of LHC data at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV the rare processes are experimentally accessible
- New results help to improve the theoretical models



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Stay tuned for new results!