

# Recent results on *charm and beauty* FCNC decays

**Serena Maccolini**

*on behalf of the LHCb collaboration*

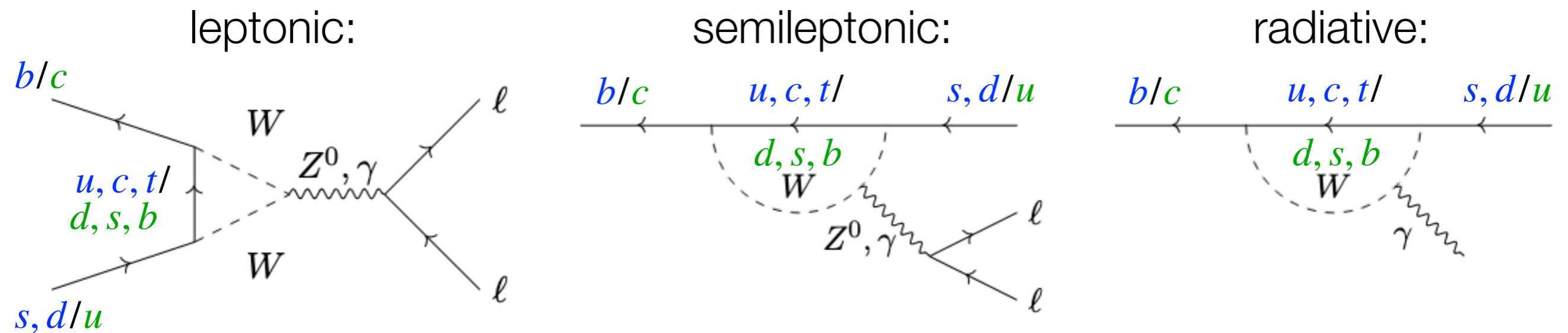
Implications of LHCb measurements and future prospects (IW)

**Geneva (CERN) - October 27, 2023**



# Flavour Changing Neutral Currents

- **FCNC** ( $b \rightarrow s, d$  and  $c \rightarrow u$  transitions) are *forbidden* at **tree** level
- In the SM, only *allowed* at **loop** level (penguin and box diagrams):



→ sensitive to **New Physics!**

(supersymmetry, leptoquarks,  
new gauge bosons, extended Higgs, ...)

- **Charm** decays:
  - further *suppressed* (GIM mechanism)
  - *huge* production cross-section @LHC

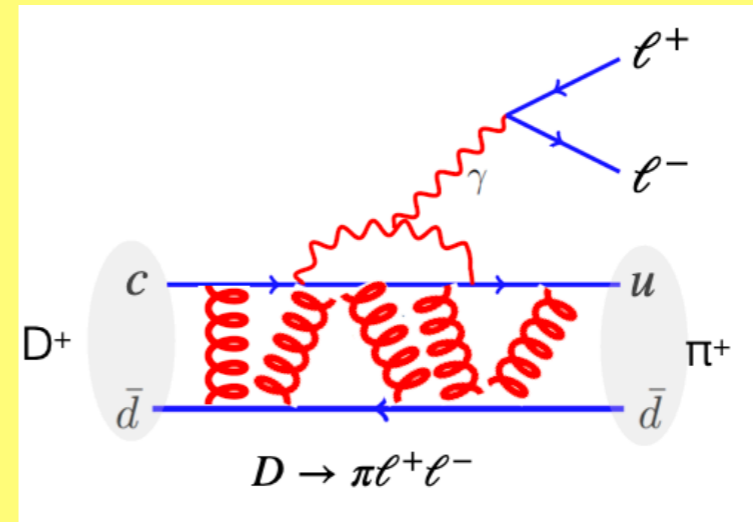
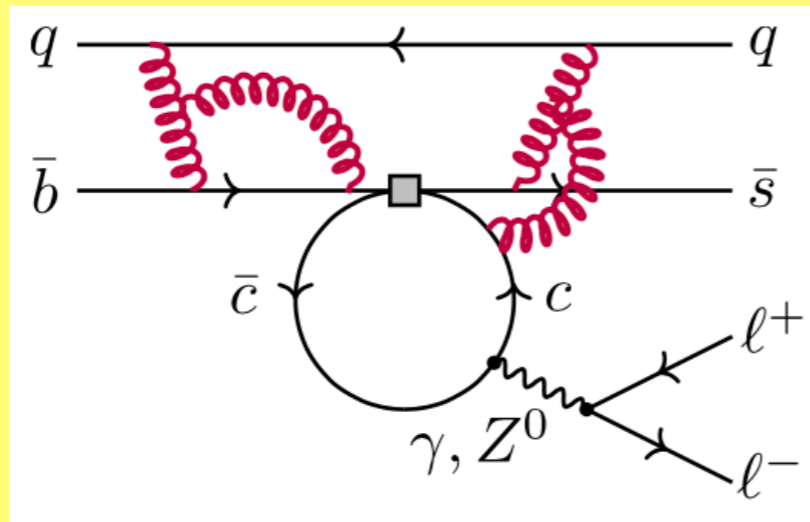
$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow c\bar{c} X)_{\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}} \cong 2.4 \text{ mb}$$

[JHEP 03 (2016) 159]

# Flavour Changing Neutral Currents

## QCD challenges

hadrons (*local* form-factors)  
 +  
 $q\bar{q}$  loops (*non-local* form-factor)  
 +  
 non-factorizable **soft-gluon** corrections

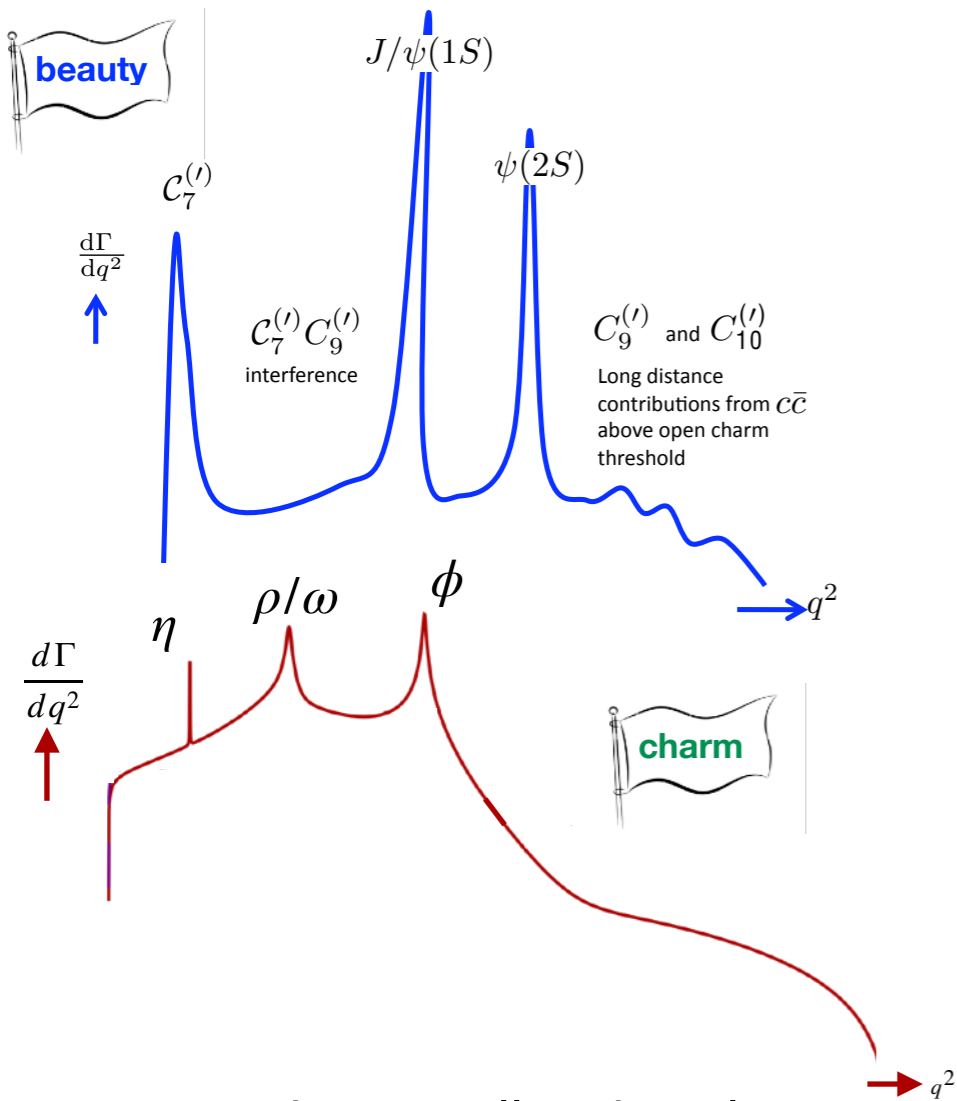


- FCNC
- In the
- le
- $b/c$
- $u, c, t/$   
 $d, s, b$
- $s, d/u$
- Char
- furth
- hug

free level  
 grams):  
 ative:  
 $s, t/$   $s, d/u$   
 $s, b$   
 ew Physics!  
 ptoquarks,  
 ended Higgs, ...)  
 $\text{ev} \cong 2.4 \text{ mb}$   
 59]

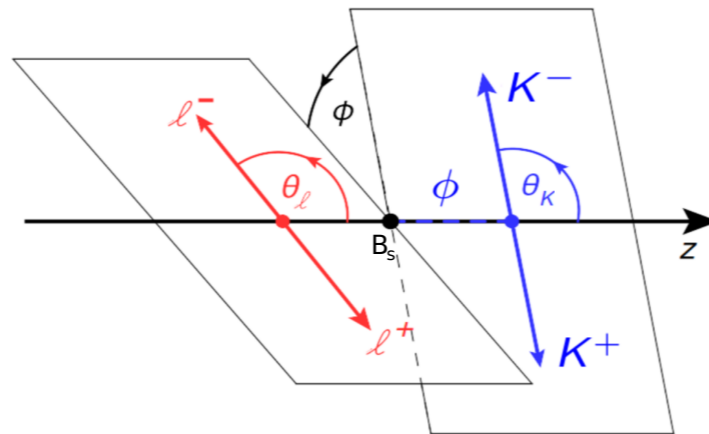
# Observables

## Branching fractions

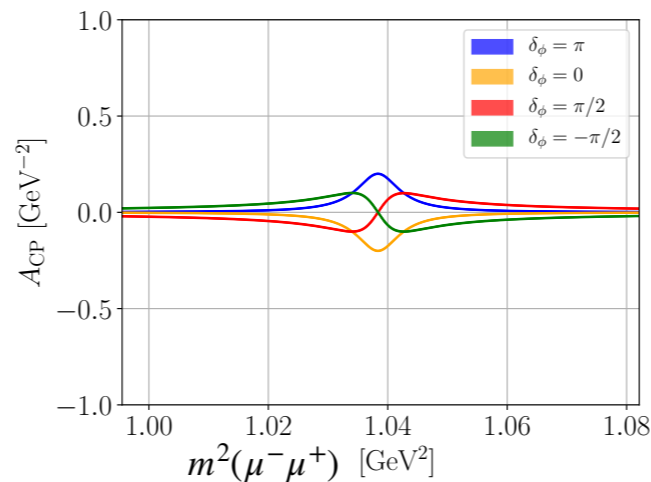


- + experimentally simple
- significant hadronic uncertainties

## Angular analysis

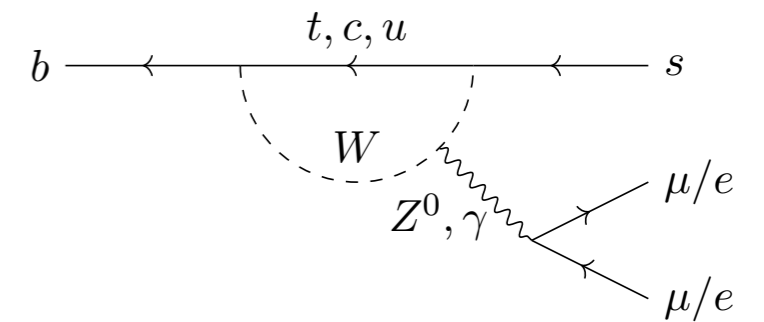


## CP violation

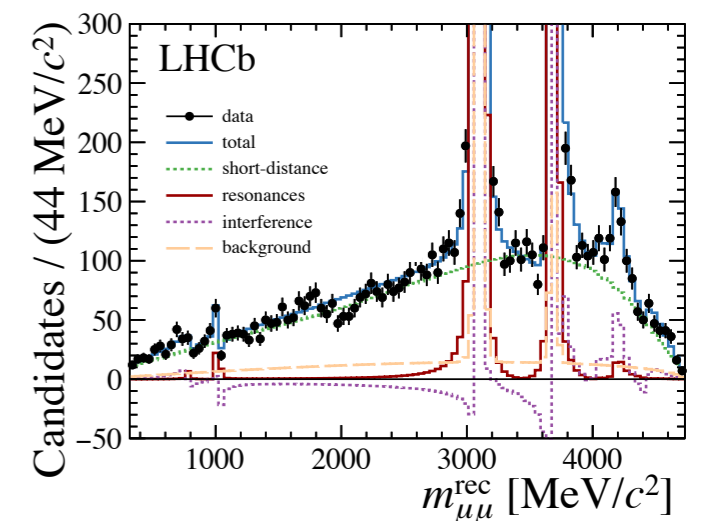


- + theoretically clean
- + probe structures of potential NP

## LFU tests



## Amplitude analysis



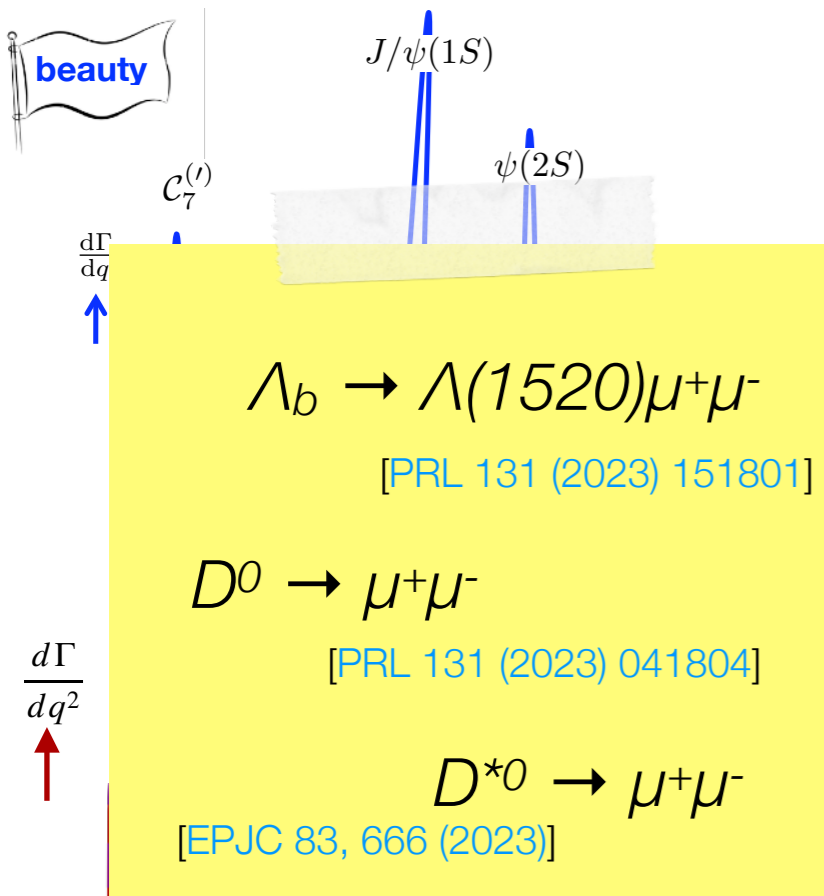
- + information about the composition of the decay



# In this talk

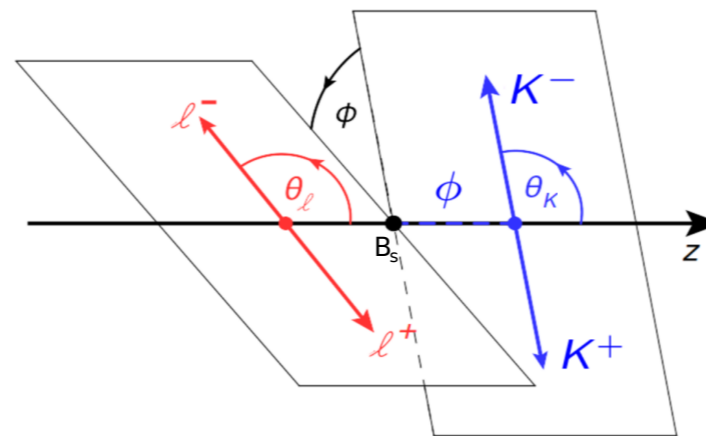
The full LHCb dataset (Run1+Run2) is exploited

## Branching fractions

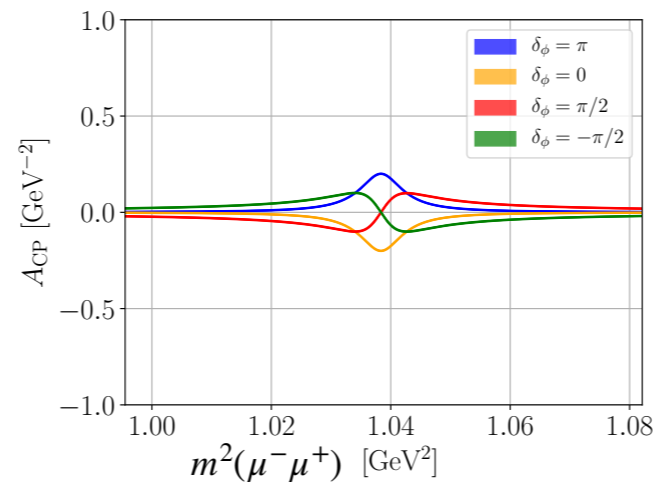


- + experimentally simple
- significant hadronic uncertainties

## Angular analysis

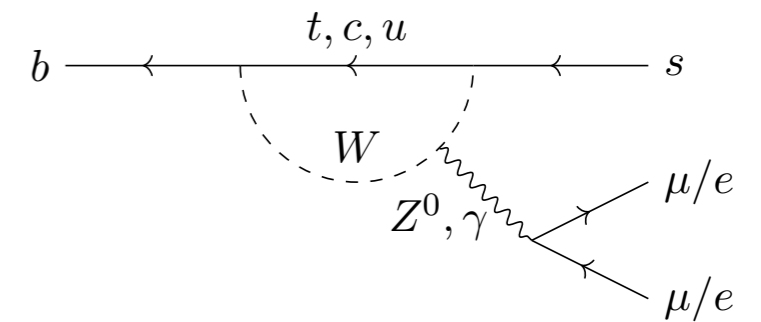


## CP violation

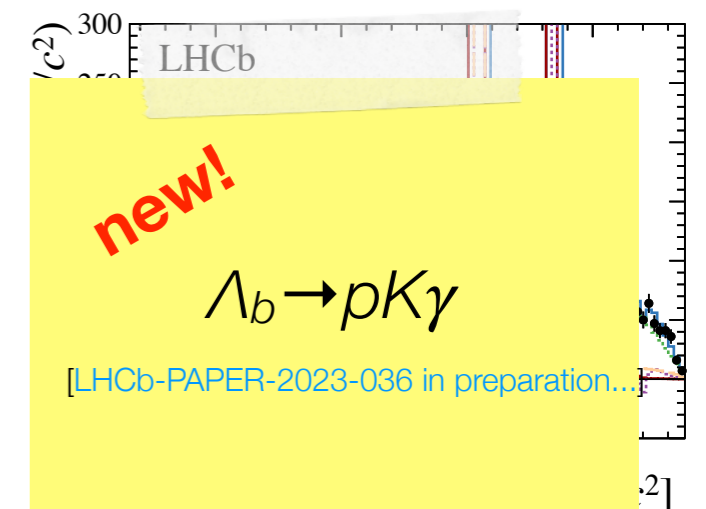


- + theoretically clean
- + probe structures of potential NP

## LFU tests



## Amplitude analysis



- + information about the composition of the decay

# Branching fractions

# strategy

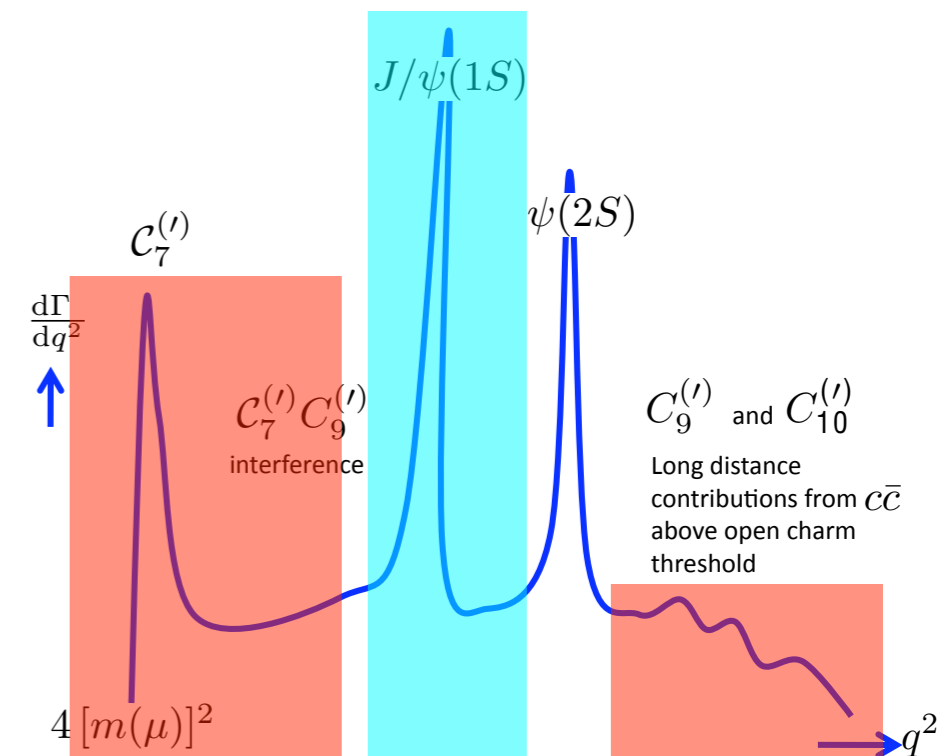
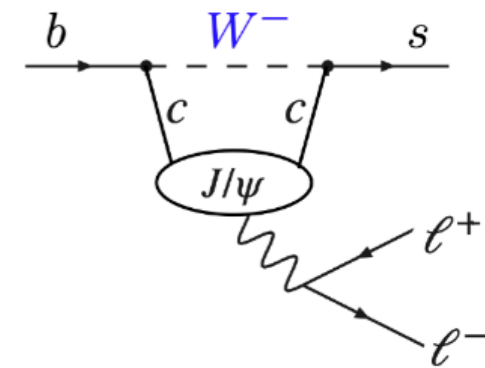
- Measurement in  $q^2$  bins:

$$\frac{d\mathcal{B}}{dq^2} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(norm)}{q_{max}^2 - q_{min}^2} \cdot \frac{N_{sig}}{N_{norm}} \cdot \frac{\epsilon_{norm}}{\epsilon_{sig}}$$

- Remove  $J/\psi$   $q^2$  region and use it as normalisation channel

- Relative to *normalisation* mode:

- Cancellation of systematic uncertainties
- Exploit  $\psi(2S)$  as *control mode* to check procedure

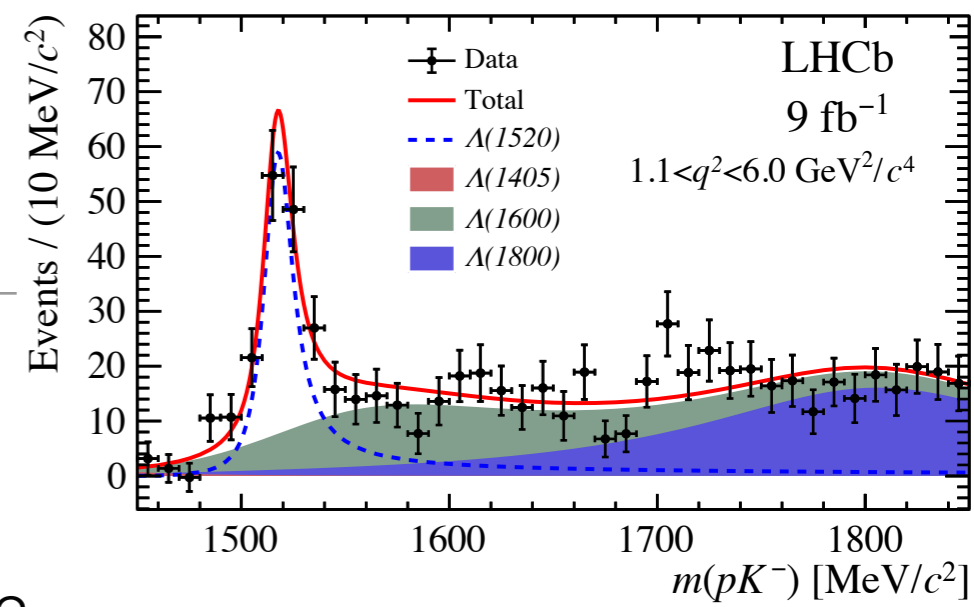


similar approach also possible with *charm* decays exploiting the  $\phi$  resonance

# $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda(1520)\mu^+\mu^-$

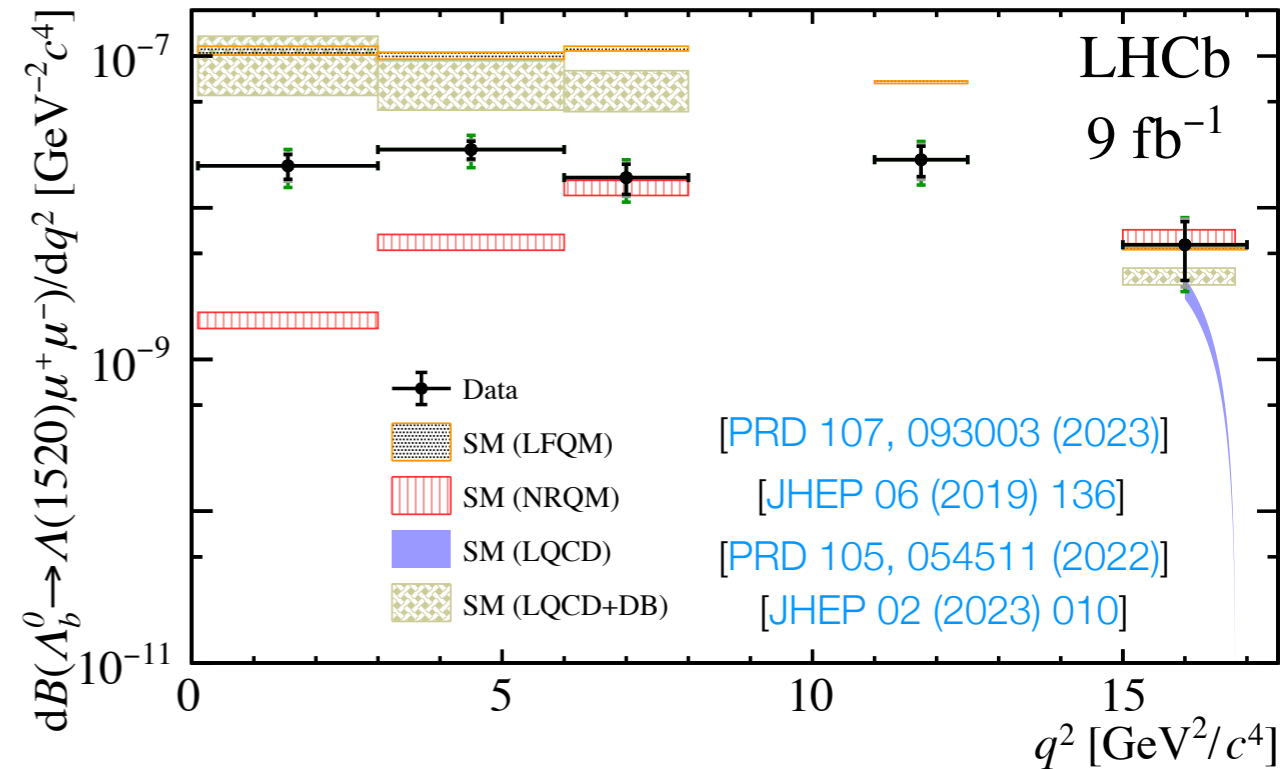
[JHEP 06 (2015) 115]

- Previously done with the ground state  $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi$  (challenging due to long  $\Lambda$  life-time)
- Can we isolate the excited  $\Lambda(1520)$  in the  $pK$  spectra?



stat.  $\pm$  syst.  $\pm$   $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK^- J/\psi$  and  $J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$

$q^2$ interval [ $\text{GeV}^2/c^4$ ]	$N_{\Lambda(1520)\mu^+\mu^-}$	$\frac{d\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda(1520)\mu^+\mu^-)}{dq^2}$ [ $10^{-8} \text{ GeV}^{-2} c^4$ ]
0.1–3.0	$96 \pm 18$	$1.89 \pm 0.35 \pm 0.19 \pm 0.36$
3.0–6.0	$138 \pm 18$	$2.42 \pm 0.32 \pm 0.17 \pm 0.45$
6.0–8.0	$65 \pm 14$	$1.58 \pm 0.36 \pm 0.16 \pm 0.30$
11.0–12.5	$59 \pm 14$	$2.07 \pm 0.47 \pm 0.26 \pm 0.39$
15.0–17.0	$12 \pm 5$	$0.57 \pm 0.24 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.11$
1.1–6.0	$175 \pm 21$	$1.95 \pm 0.23 \pm 0.16 \pm 0.37$

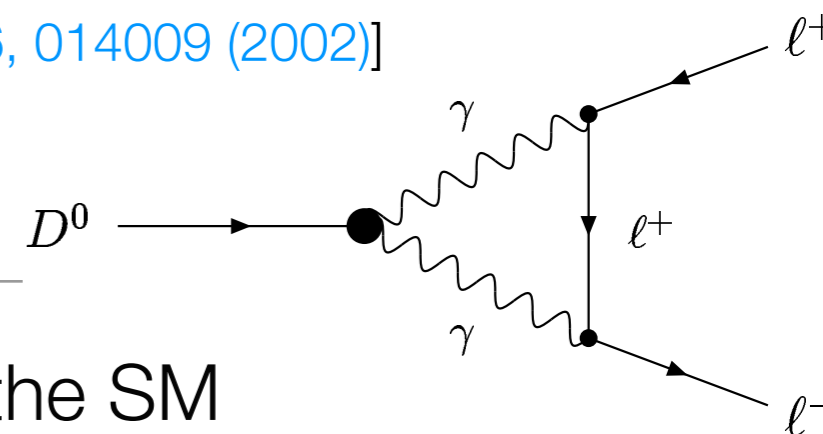


- Internal systematics uncertainty under control but *huge* impact of external inputs
- High  $q^2$ : agreement with theory predictions
- Low  $q^2$ : significant variations, consolidation required

- LFQM: light-front quark model
- NRQM: non-relativistic quark model
- LQCD: lattice QCD
- LQCD+DM: lattice QCD + dispersive model



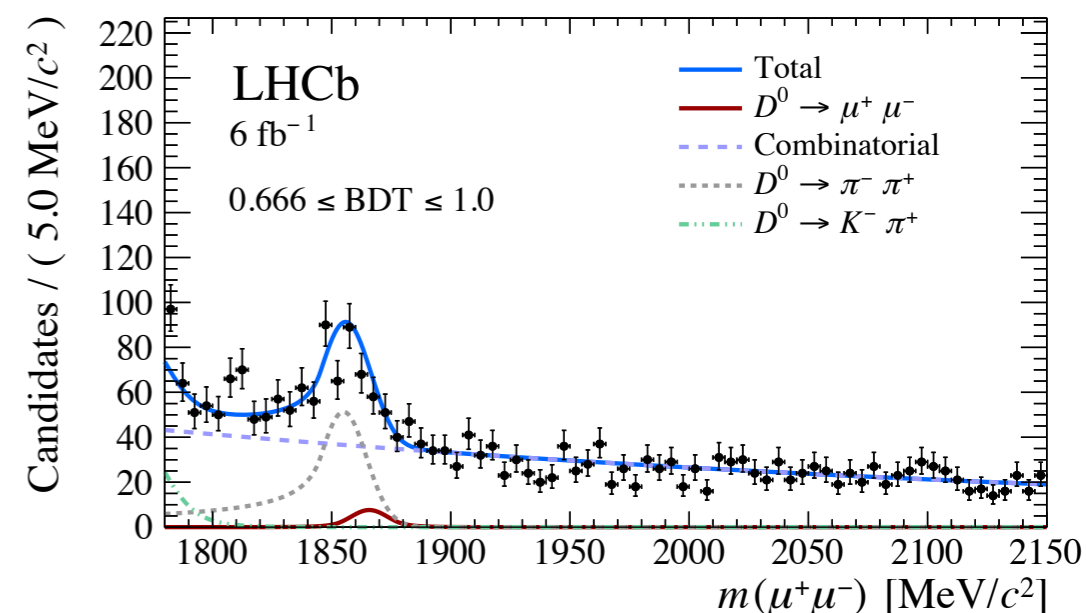
# Search for $D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$



- Intermediate two-photon state  $\rightarrow BF \sim 10^{-13}$  in the SM  
 $BF < 10^{-11}$  (Belle constraint from  $D^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ ) [PRD 93, 051102(R)]

- Using  $D^{*+} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^+$  decays with  $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$  and  $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$  as normalisation channels

- *Backgrounds* and how to deal with them:
  - **combinatorial** (multivariate analysis)
    - $\rightarrow$  three search windows
  - misidentified  $\pi^+ \pi^- \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ 
    - $\rightarrow$  tight PID requirements



- No significant signal observed:

$$\mathcal{B}(D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) < 3.1 (3.5) \times 10^{-9} \text{ at } 90 (95)\% \text{ CL}$$

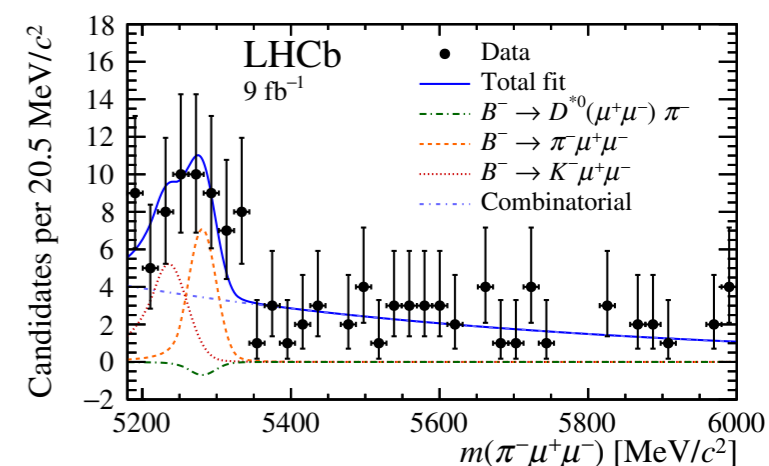
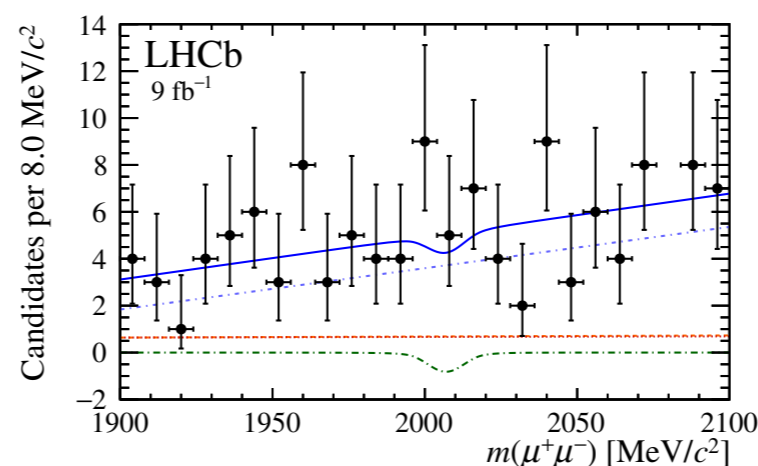
- Most stringent limit of FCNC in the charm sector

main source of systematics:  
hardware (L0) trigger efficiency

# Search for $D^{*0}(2007) \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$

- SM predictions  $BF \sim 10^{-19}$  [JHEP 11 (2015) 142]
- Look for  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0}\pi^-$  decays (background reduction ! )  
and use  $B^- \rightarrow J/\psi K^-$  as normalisation channel

- Simultaneous fit to  $m(\mu^+\mu^-)$  and  $m(\pi^-\mu^+\mu^-)$



- No excess with respect to the bkg-only hypothesis:

$$\mathcal{B}(D^{*0} \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) < 2.6 (3.4) \times 10^{-8} \text{ at } 90 (95)\% \text{ CL}$$

- Most stringent limit on leptonic  $D^{*0}$  decays

main source of systematics:  
external inputs ( $BF$ )

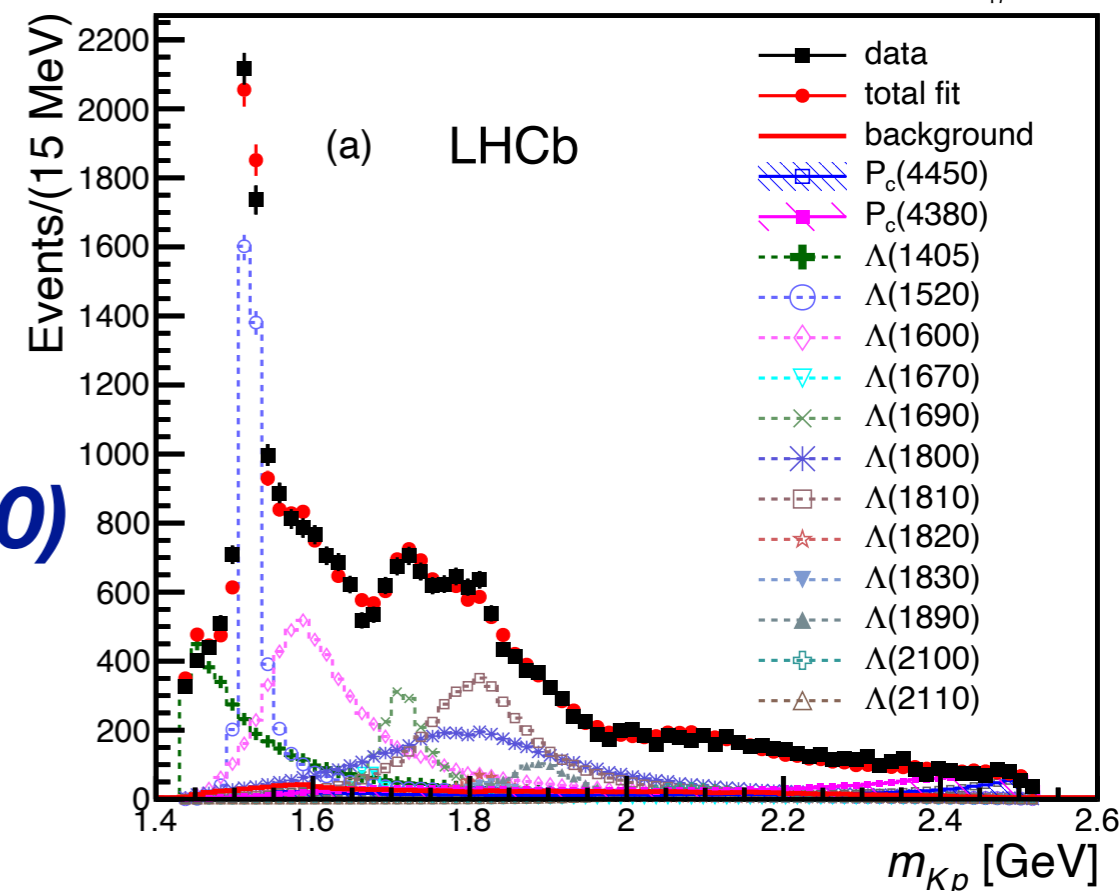
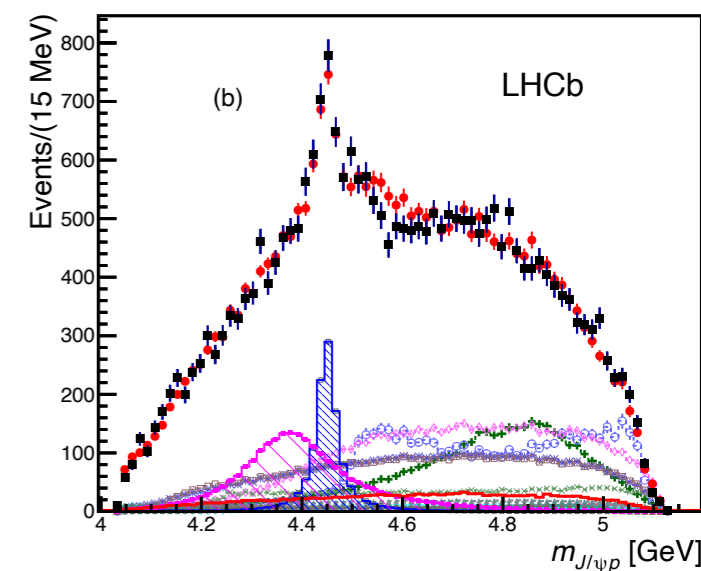


# Amplitude analysis of $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\gamma$

## why?

- $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\pi$  deeply investigated @LHCb:
  - LFU measurement  $R_{pK}$  [JHEP 05 (2020) 040]
  - branching fractions [PRL 131 (2023), 151801]
  - CPV [JHEP 06 (2017) 108]
- Hard to interpret due to *little* knowledge of the  $pK$  spectrum (theoretically limited)
- How can we gain information in terms of resonance structure?
  - *Previous* attempt with  $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pKJ/\psi$ : also discovery of a new state  **$P_c(4450)$**
  - $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\gamma$ : access to *heavier* states with  $m(pK) > 2 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

[PRL 115, 072001 (2015)]





50k signal candidates  
in full LHCb dataset

# Amplitude model

- Amplitude for a generic  $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma$  decay is

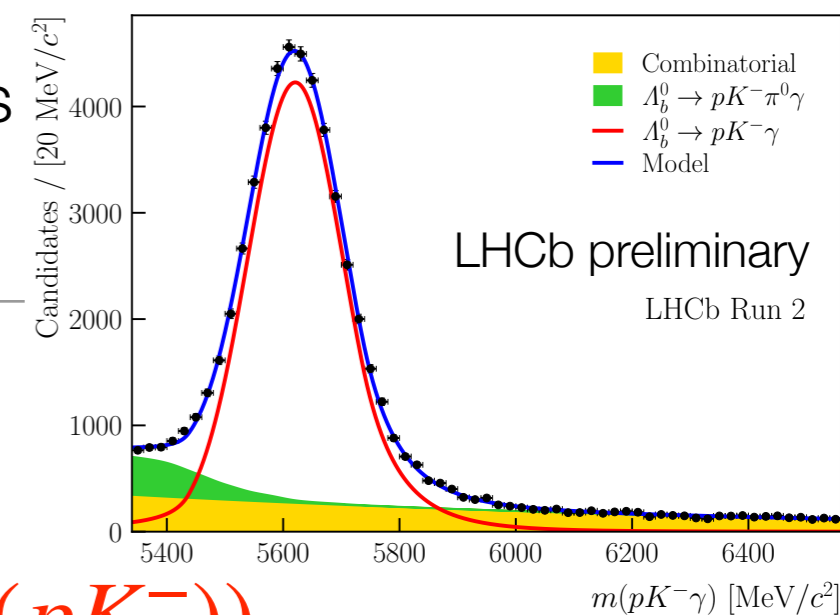
$$\mathcal{A}_{\lambda_\Lambda, \lambda_p}^\Lambda = d_{\lambda_\Lambda, \lambda_p}^{J_\Lambda}(\theta_p) H_{\lambda_\Lambda, \lambda_\gamma}^\Lambda h_{\lambda_p}^\Lambda X_{J_\Lambda}(m(pK^-))$$

Wigner-D function

rotation of spin states  
from the  $\Lambda$  helicity frame  
into the  $p$  helicity frame

helicity couplings  
for  $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda \gamma$  and  $\Lambda \rightarrow pK$   
( $\lambda_K = 0$ )

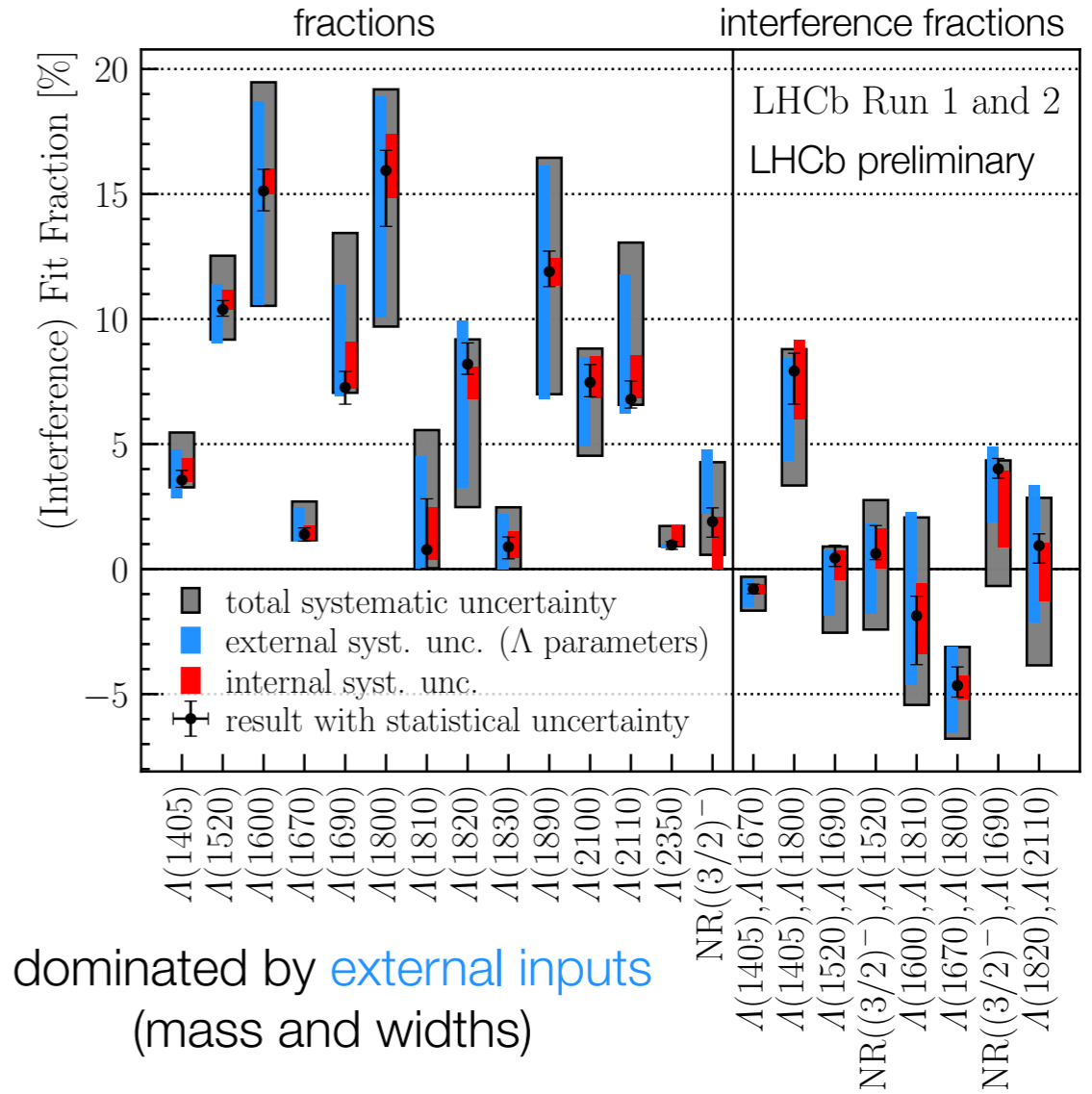
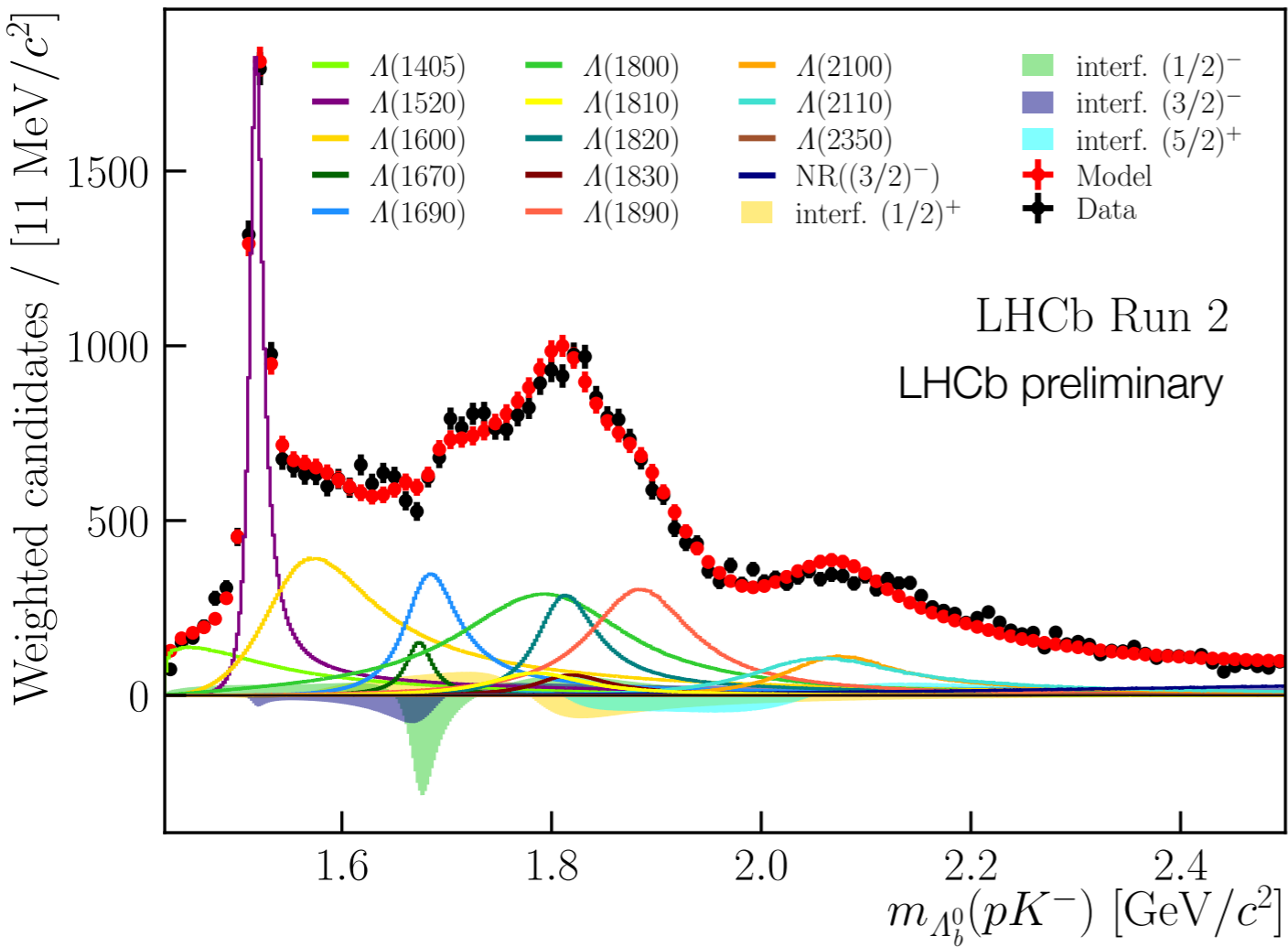
decay dynamics



- Possible resonance helicities are  $\lambda_\Lambda = \pm 1/2$  for  $J_\Lambda = 1/2$  and  $\lambda_\Lambda = \pm 1/2, \pm 3/2$  for  $J_\Lambda \geq 3/2$ :  
→ 2 (4) possible helicity couplings for spin  $J_\Lambda = 1/2$  ( $\geq 3/2$ )
- Final decay rate is the *sum* over all appearing  $\Lambda$  resonances and their possible helicities  $\lambda_\Lambda$  (coherent sum) as well as the initial and final state helicities  $\lambda_{\Lambda_b^0}, \lambda_p, \lambda_\gamma$  (incoherent sum)

# Results

- *Best model* containing all the  $\Lambda$  states with  $L \leq 3$  (mass and width fixed to their nominal values) plus a non-resonant component with  $J^P = 3/2^-$  (considered for syst. uncert.)
- *Second best model*: no non-resonant component and mass and width of the  $\Lambda(2100)$  and  $\Lambda(2110)$  floating using Gaussian constraints





# Prospects for Run1+Run2 data

## ...and discussion

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...feedbacks from *Charm* and *Beauty* rare-decays communities @[LHCb](#)



# Alternative approaches

# in semi-leptonic decays

- **Method (A)** [PRD 97, 091101 (2018), JHEP 06 (2021) 044]


Measure  $BF$  in *non-resonant* region:  
signal events  $\rightarrow$  NP (?)

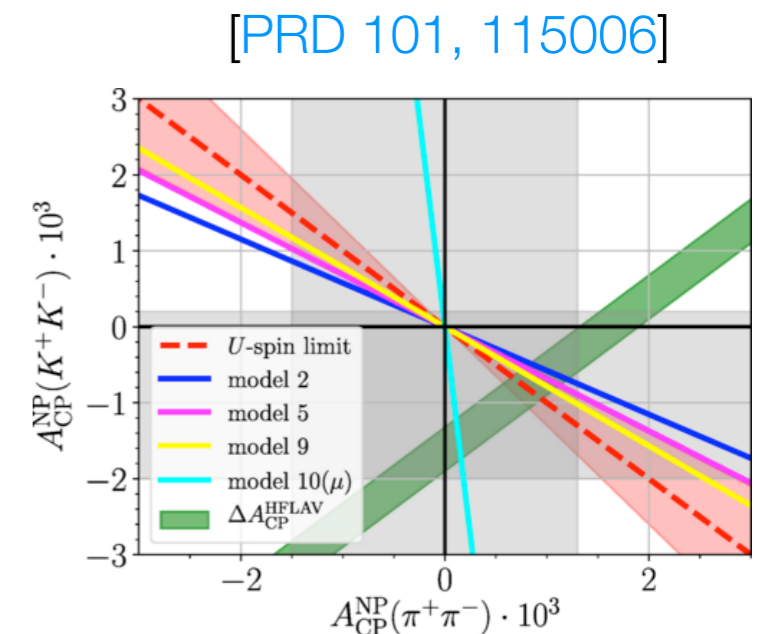
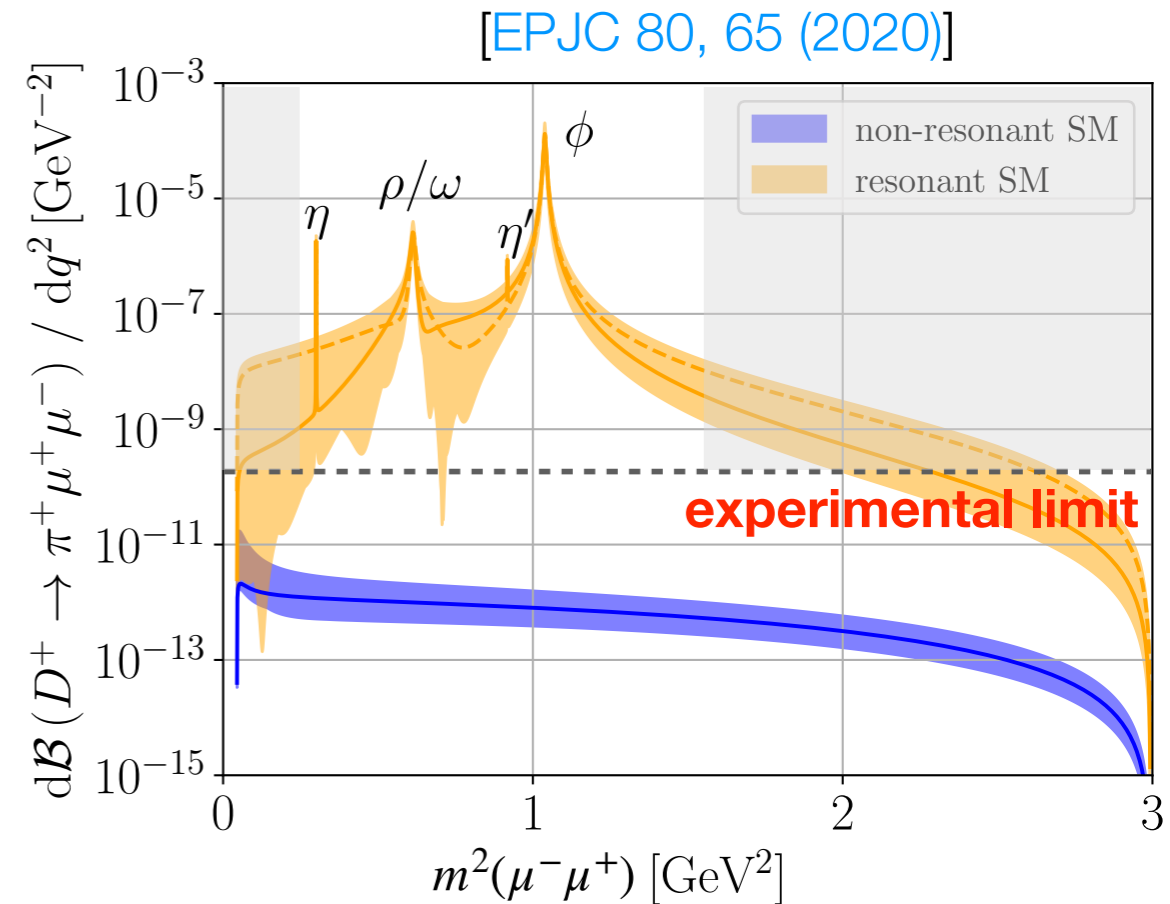
applied only in  $D^0$  decays so far

- **Method (B)** [PRL 121, 091801 (2018), PRL 128, 221801 (2022)]

Study *resonant* region with clean null tests:

- $CP$  asymmetry
- Angular observables

: depending on the nature of possible NP, correlations with the observed  $CP$  violation in *hadronic* decays may exist

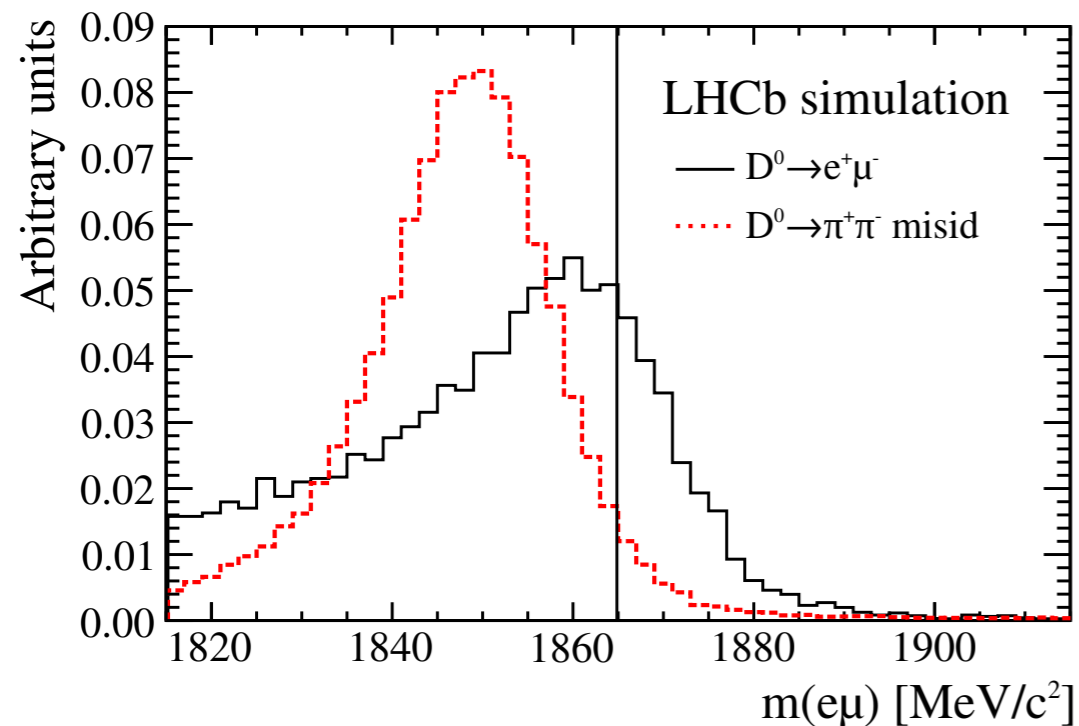


# More challenges

# with photons and electrons

- Branching ratio and  $A_{CP}$  in *radiative* decays
  - study  $D^0 \rightarrow V\gamma$  ( $V = \phi, \rho, K^*$ )
  - complement *Belle* measurements [PRL 118, 051801 (2017)]
  - room for NP with  $A_{CP}$  up to 10% while BF SM-like [JHEP 08 (2017) 091]

[Phys. Lett. B754 (2016) 167]



- Final states with *electrons*
  - experimentally *challenging*
  - coming soon:
    - first **LFU** test with  $D_{(s)}^+ \rightarrow \phi(\rightarrow ll)\pi^+$
  - exploring also **BF** and **LNV+LFV**

# Upcoming LFU tests

- **Exclusive:**

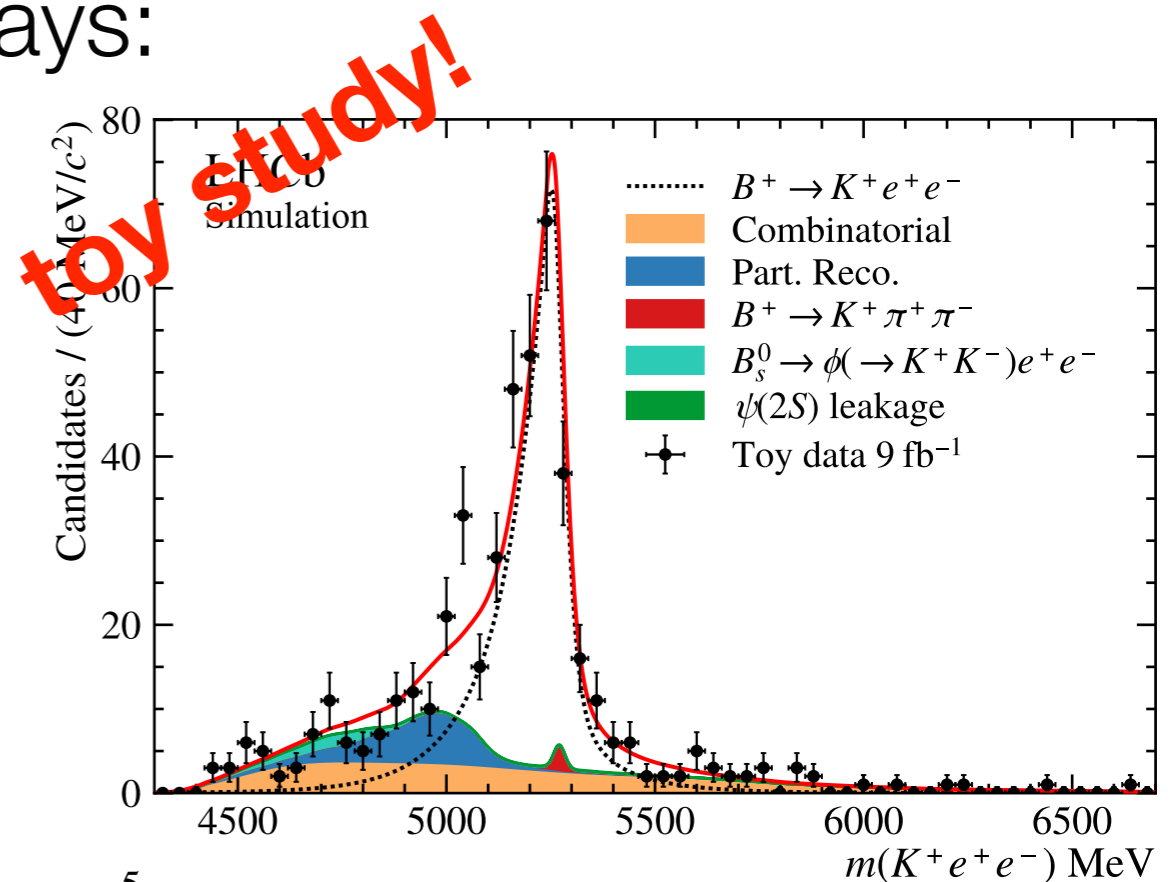
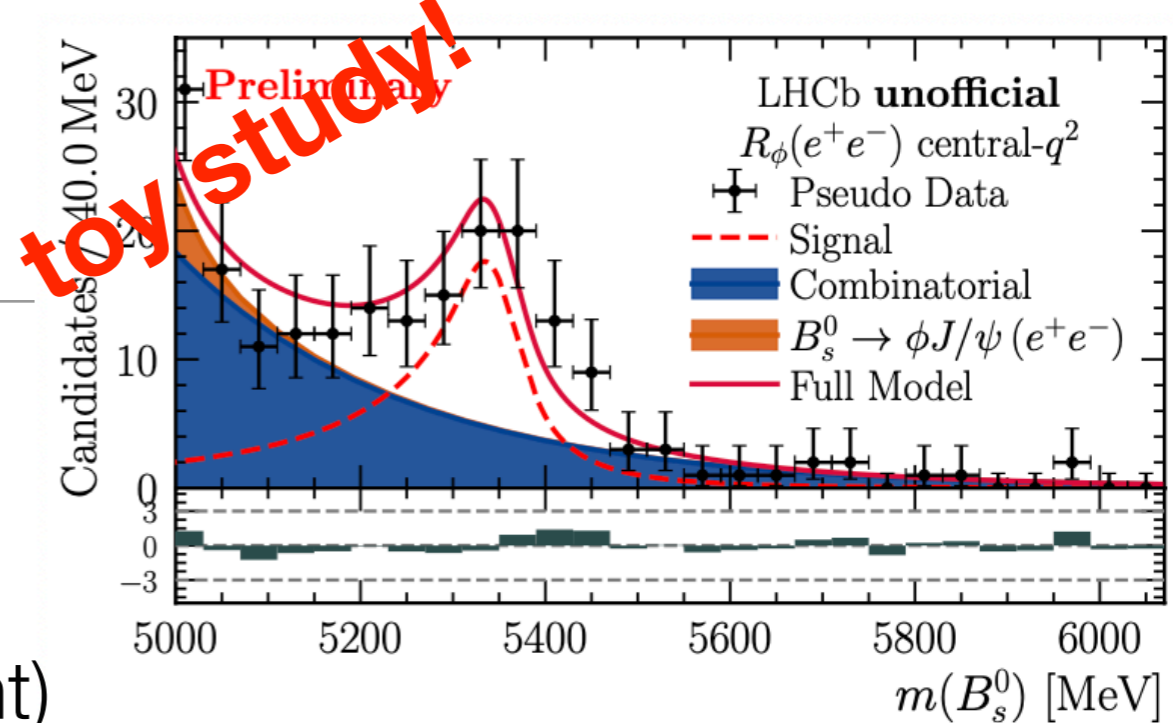
- $R_\phi$  with  $B_s \rightarrow \phi ll$ ,
- $R_\Lambda$  with  $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda ll$  (first measurement)
- $R_{pK}$  with  $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK ll$  (update with 2017+2018)

- **Non-exclusive** multi-body decays:

- $B^+ \rightarrow K \pi \pi ll$
- $B^0 \rightarrow K \pi ll$  (outside  $K^*$  resonance)

- **High  $q^2$**  region in  $R_{K^{(*)}}$  and  $R_\phi$ :

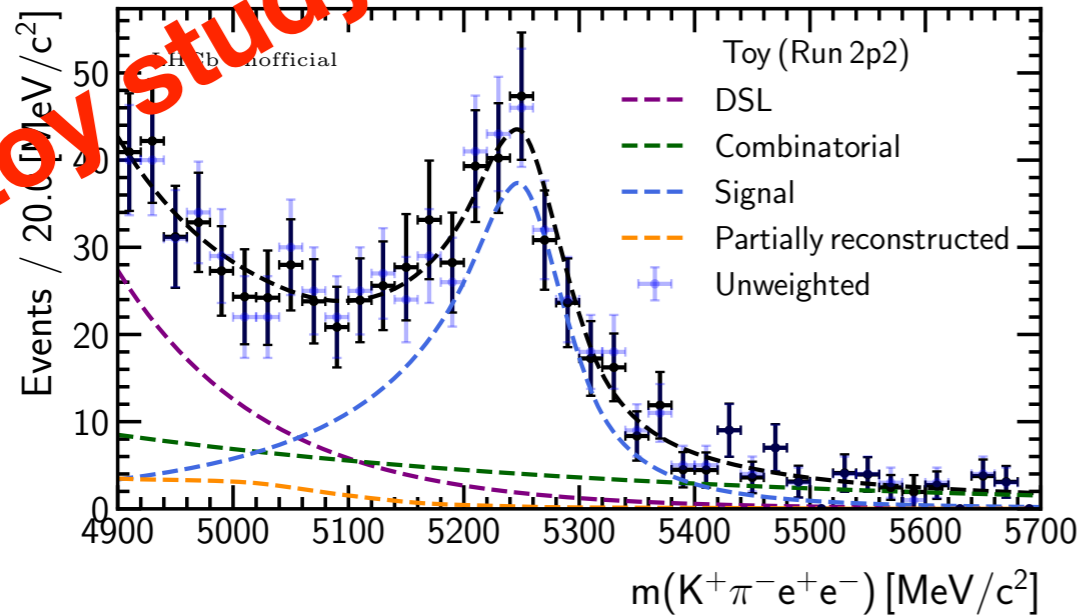
- background contamination  
 $\psi(2S)$  + part. reconstructed + misID



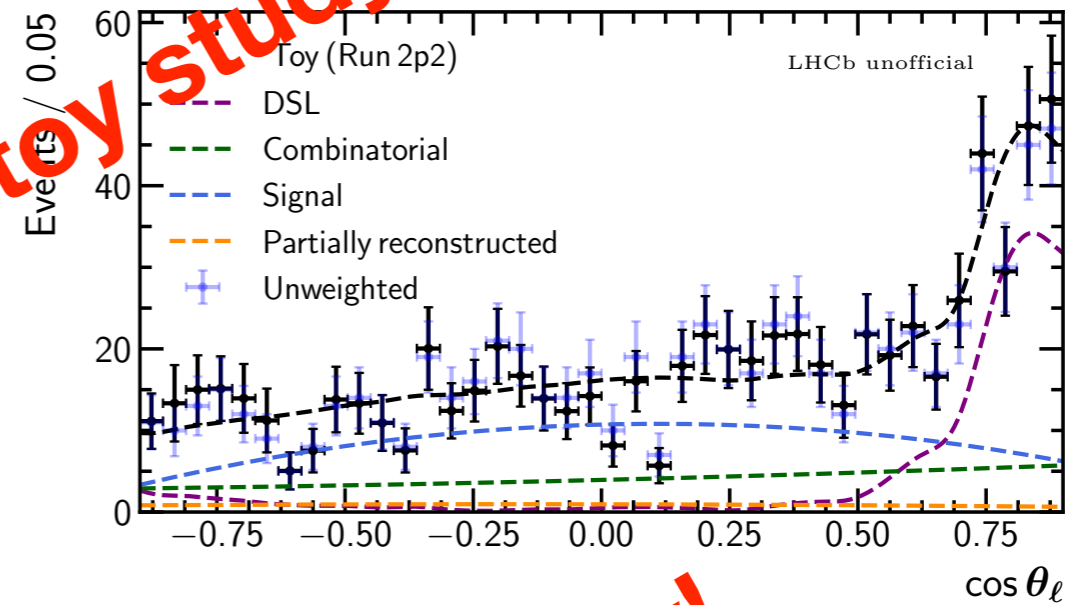
# Angular observables

- Challenging (bin migration + bkg modeling)

toy study!



toy study!

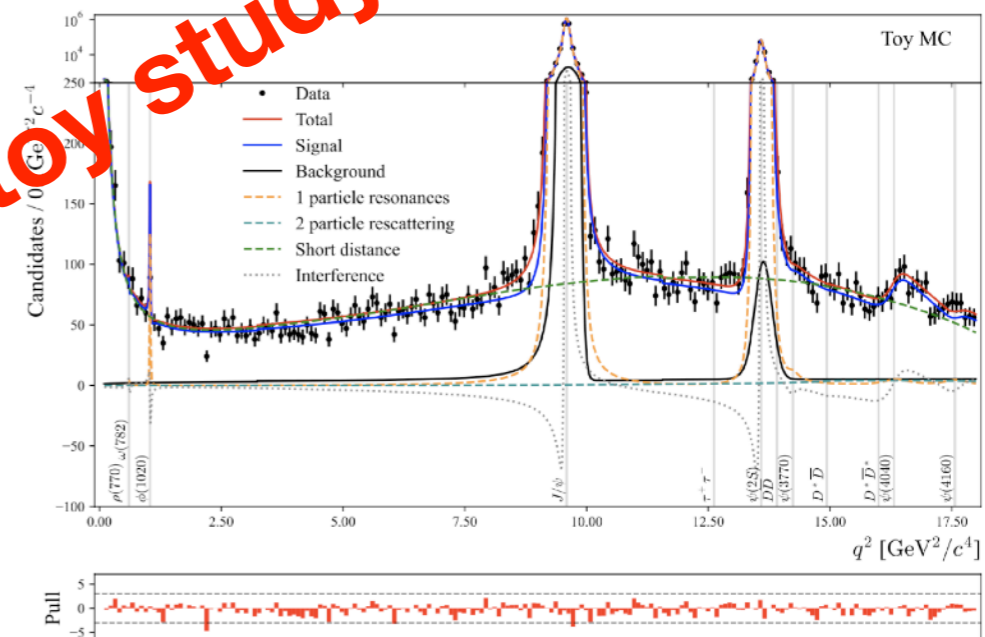


- $B \rightarrow K^* \mu \mu$ : extra fit parameters (massive leptons + scalar amplitudes)

## Binned/Unbinned?

- *unbinned*: study different models
- *binned*: more bins and full dataset

toy study!





# What can we do? (as experimentalists)

- **Hybrid approaches:**

[Eur. Phys. J. C 77 (2017) 161]

amplitude analysis for the extraction of observables  
(complementary to binned approach).

Is this effort appreciated?

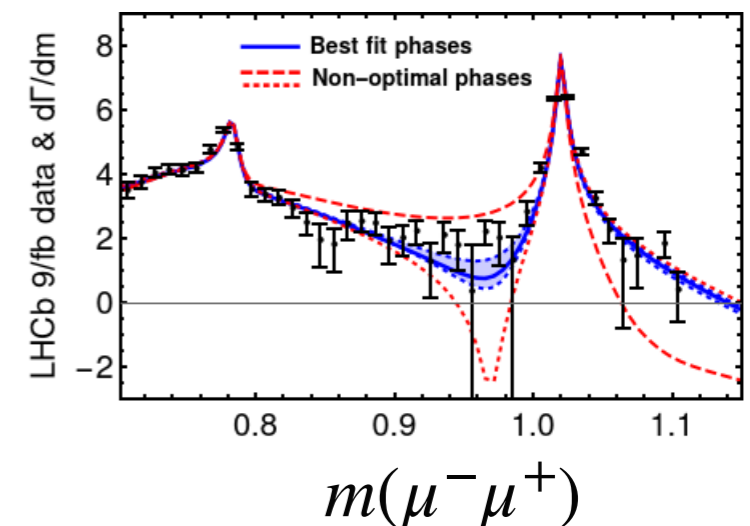
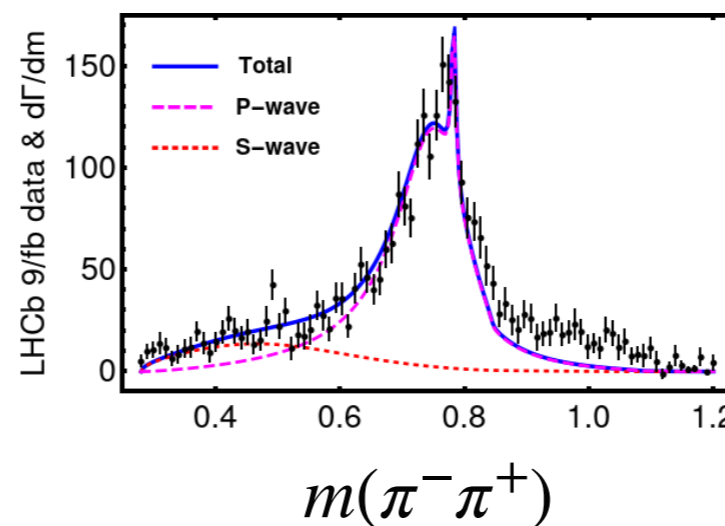
- **Communication:**

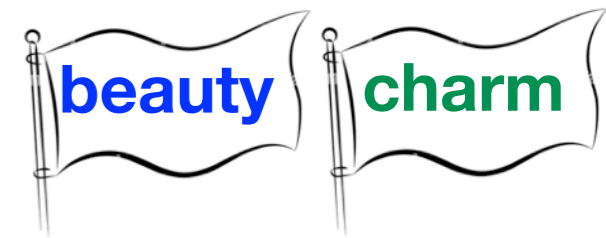
should we share more information? what can be helpful?

eg. invariant-mass spectra

S. Fajfer, L. Silva, E. Solomonidi @Charm2023

really appreciated  
feedback about the effects of a  
S-wave component in  $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\mu^+\mu^-$





# Inputs from theory

- Need for theory **predictions** in beauty:
  - model dependent approaches requires solid inputs regarding QCD effects
  - $b \rightarrow d$  transitions not advanced such as  $b \rightarrow s$  Global analyses of rare  $b \rightarrow d$  and  $b \rightarrow s$  decays - A. Smolkovic @IW2023
  - not accurate description of excited  $K^0$  and  $\Lambda$  resonances
- **Guidance:** how can we improve theoretical interpretation?
  - theoretically clean observables (angular and  $A_{CP}$ )
  - multi-lepton final states, so far only  $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow 4\mu$
  - radiative decays
  - $b \rightarrow d$  transitions Theory of rare charm decays - L. Silva @IW2023
  - $b \rightarrow d$  transitions An unbinned amplitude analysis of  $B \rightarrow \pi\mu\mu$  decays - A. Marshall @IW2023

# Conclusions

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- Presented recent results for rare *charm* and *beauty* decays
- In **beauty** decays:
  - measurement limited by *external* inputs (still experimental)
  - theoretical effort is necessary to *converge* on the understanding of  $\Lambda$  resonances such as in  $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda(1520)\mu^+\mu^-$
  - better understanding of  $pK$  mass spectrum thanks to  $\Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\gamma$
  - complementary observables and update of existing measurements on their way
- In **charm** decays:
  - most stringent limits in  $D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$  and  $D^{*0} \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$
  - measurements *statistically* limited
  - theoretical predictions are hard, looking for *clean* observables (started measuring  $CP$  and angular observables, more input welcome!)







***Thanks!***