



# results on flavour spectroscopy

The 42<sup>nd</sup> International conference  
on High Energy Physics  
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(on behalf of the  Collaboration)



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# Outline: selected recent results in exotic and conventional spectroscopy

## ➤ Observation of structures in the di-charmonium mass spectrum

[ [PRL 132 \(2024\) 111901](#) ] ( $X \rightarrow J/\psi J/\psi$ )

Confirmation + 1<sup>st</sup> observation + 1<sup>st</sup> evidence

## ➤ Observation of the transition $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Xi^- K^+$


[ [arXiv:2401.16303](#), accepted by EPJC ]

1<sup>st</sup> observation

➤ All results are based on the LHC Run-2 dataset collected by CMS in the years 2016-2018  
( pp collisions @  $\sqrt{s} = 13\text{TeV}$ ;  $\mathcal{L}_{int} \approx 135 - 140\text{fb}^{-1}$ )

# 1. Peaking structures in $J/\psi J/\psi$ mass spectrum

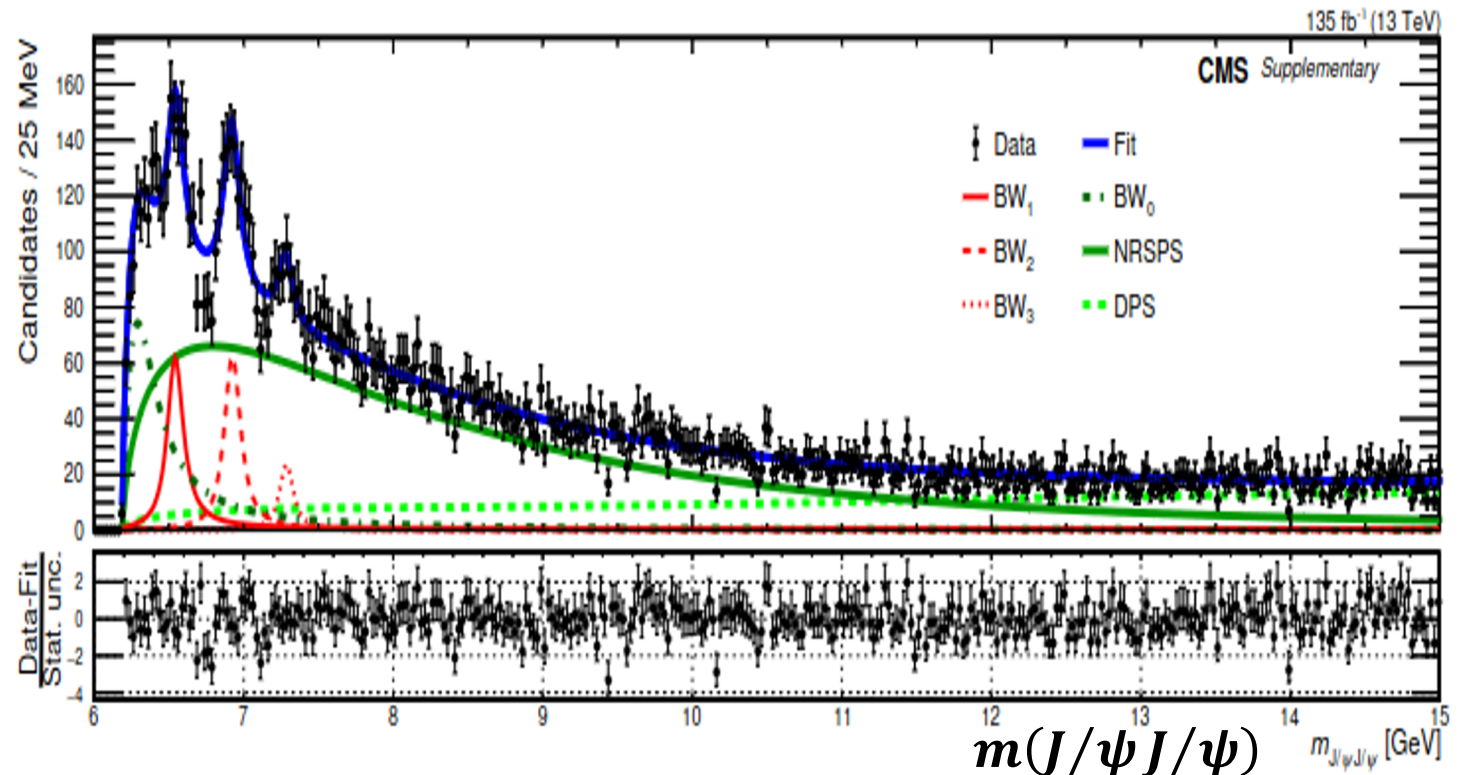
# Baseline fit modelling for reconstructed $J/\psi J/\psi$ mass spectrum

➤ In 2020  observed a peak in the  $J/\psi J/\psi$  mass spectrum, the  $X(6900)$ , which was considered with great interest as a **possible all-charm tetraquark** (alternative interpretations have also been advocated). [see backup]

➤ After event selection ( $\mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$  final state; refer to the paper) ... a **baseline model** to fit the  $J/\psi J/\psi$  spectrum is built with a ...  
... **minimal number of potential structures added to the null-hypothesis (background-only)** by adding - @ each subsequent step - **the most prominent structure** & **keeping it in the baseline...** IF local statistical significance  $> 3\sigma$  (by standard likelihood ratio method)  
This is repeated until no more structures can be added.

Procedure

➤ Spectrum visualization

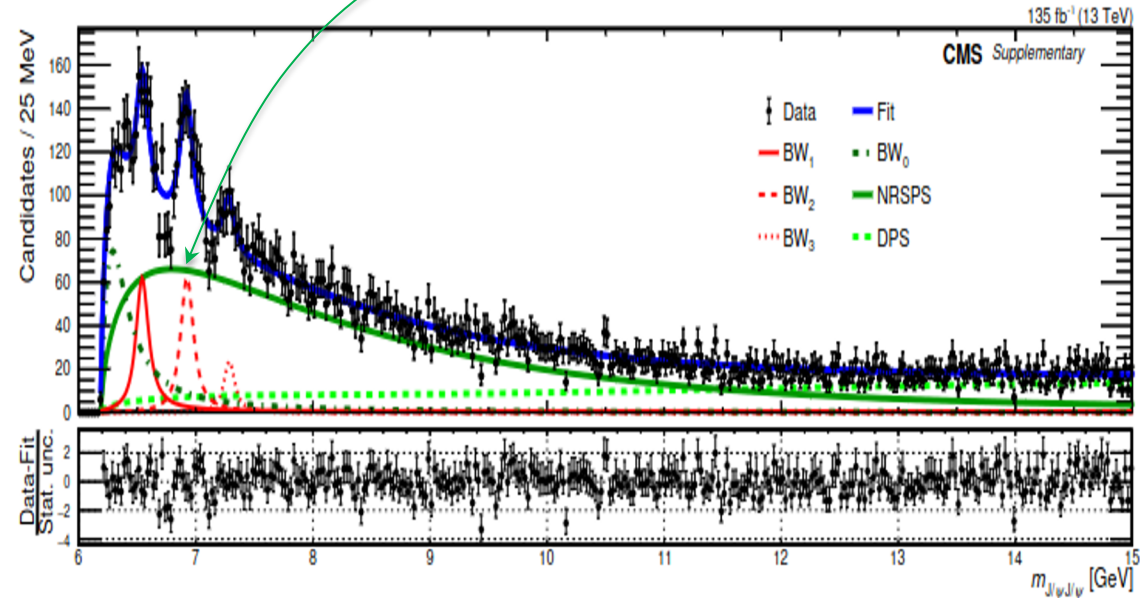


# $J/\psi J/\psi$ mass spectrum : background description

➤ Main physical background sources:

➤ 2 genuine  $J/\psi$ s combined randomly arising from:  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{non-resonant single parton scattering (NRSPS)} \end{array} \right.$

→ dominant near threshold region  
( $p_T < 10 \text{ GeV}$ )

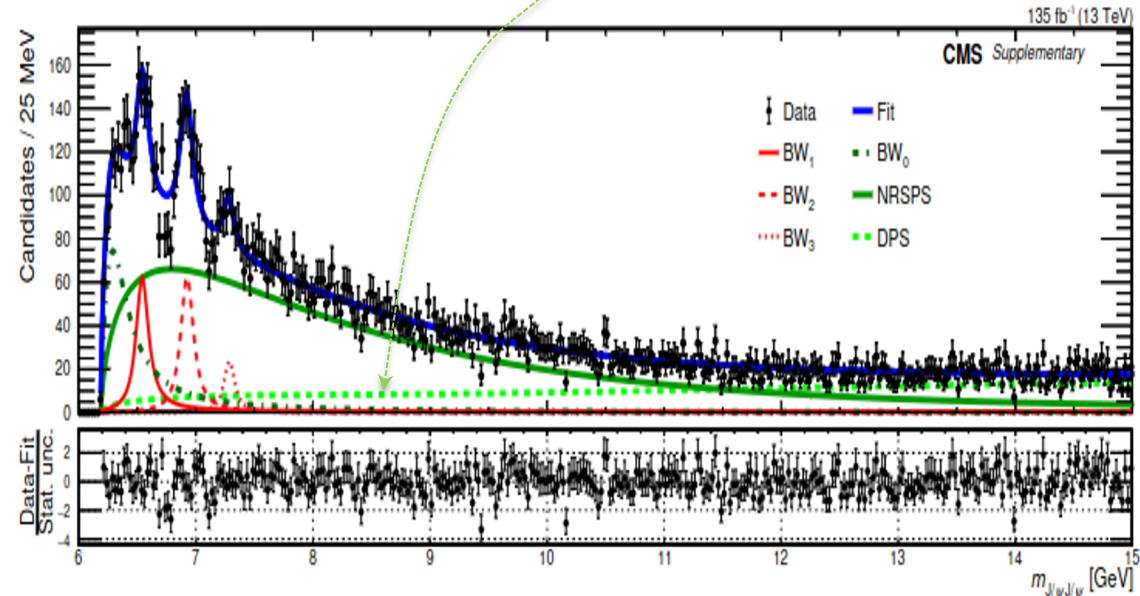


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→ dominant from  $p_T > 12 \text{ GeV}$



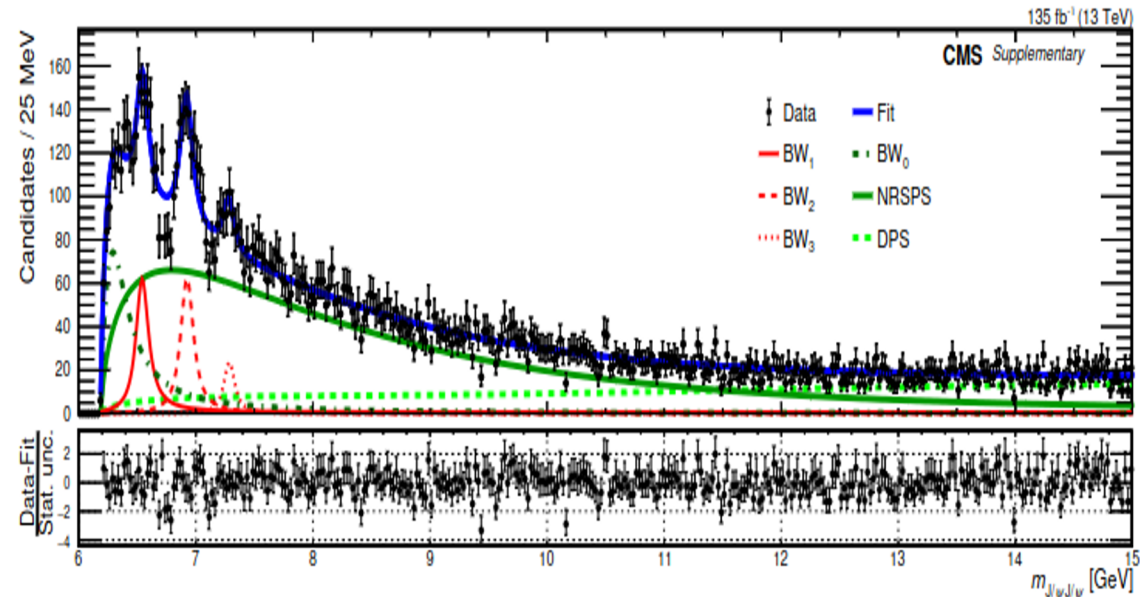
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➤ Shapes from simulation that includes: **direct production** + **feed-down processes** ( $J/\psi$  as decay product)

Additional **feed-down processes** from double-charmonium resonances: generated separately



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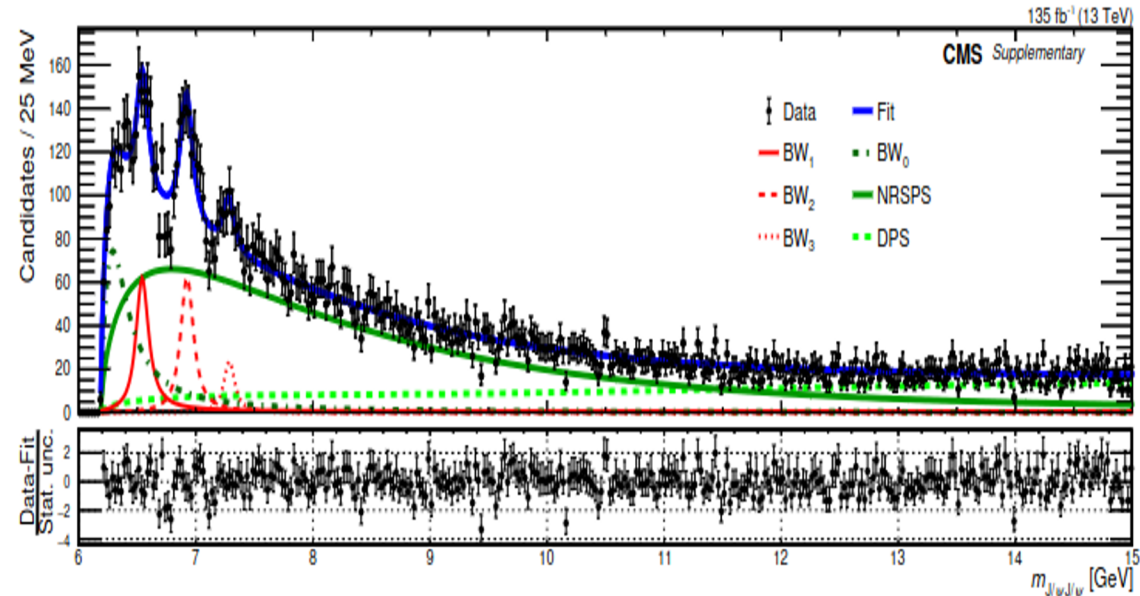
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## ➤ Residual combinatorial background sources (effects are accounted for as systematics) :

➤ At least one non-genuine  $J/\psi$  arising from:  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \geq 1 \text{ genuine } \mu \text{ candidate(s) not from a } J/\psi \text{ decay} \\ \geq 1 \text{ hadron(s) misidentified/misreconstructed as } \mu \end{array} \right.$





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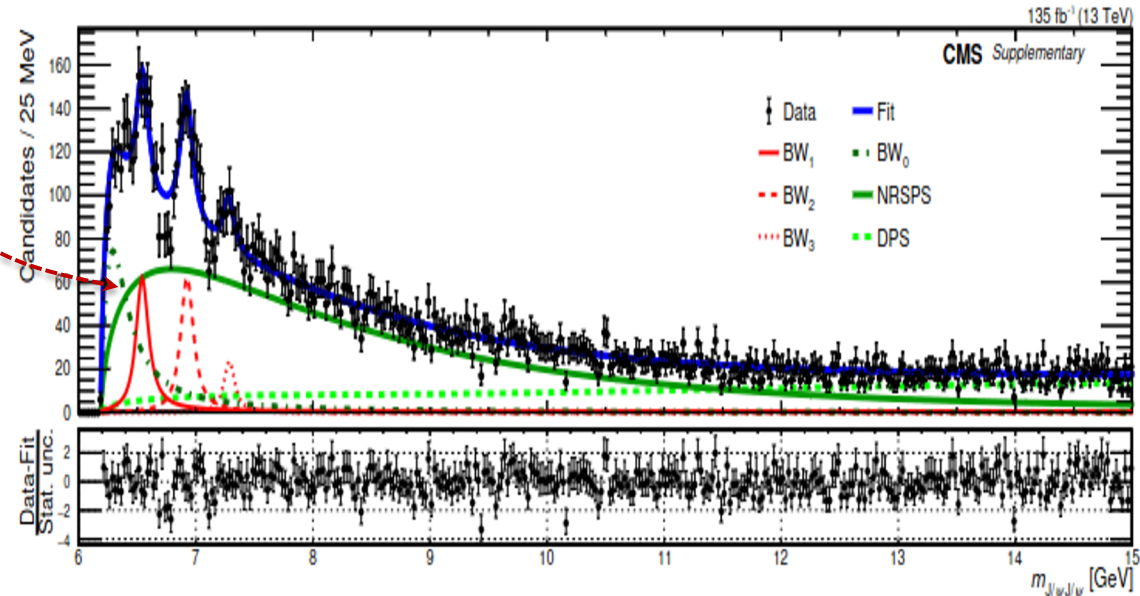
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## ➤ Inadequacy of NRSPS near threshold (a resonance? a near-threshold enhancement? feed-down effects?)

+ **additional *ad hoc* background**

[modelled empirically by a B.-W. ( $BW_0$ ) with free  $m$  &  $\Gamma$ ]



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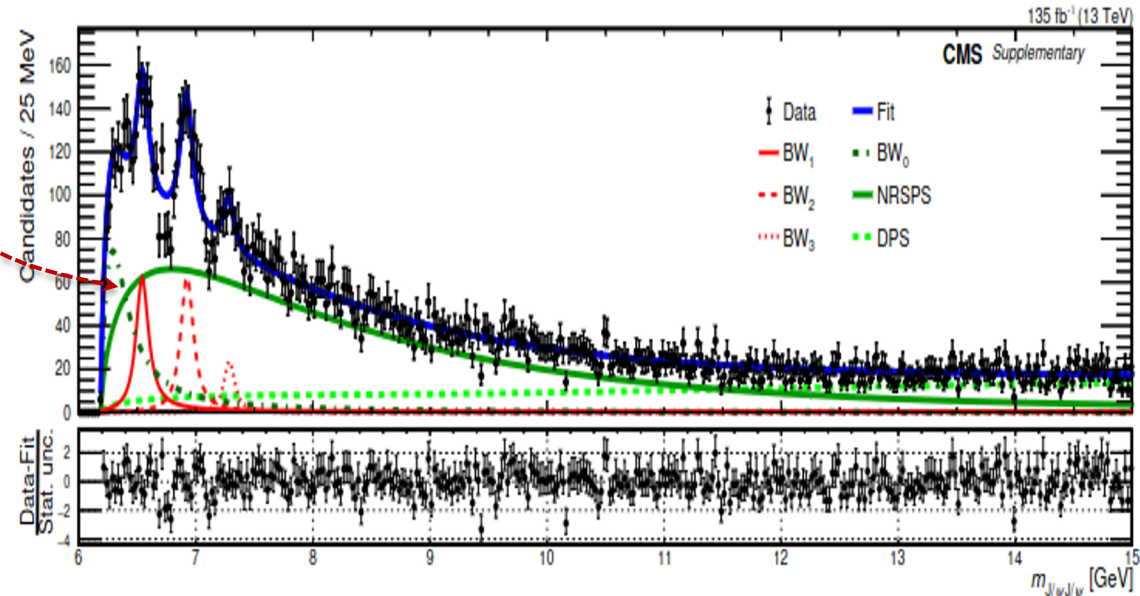
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Null-hypothesis ("bkg-only") model:

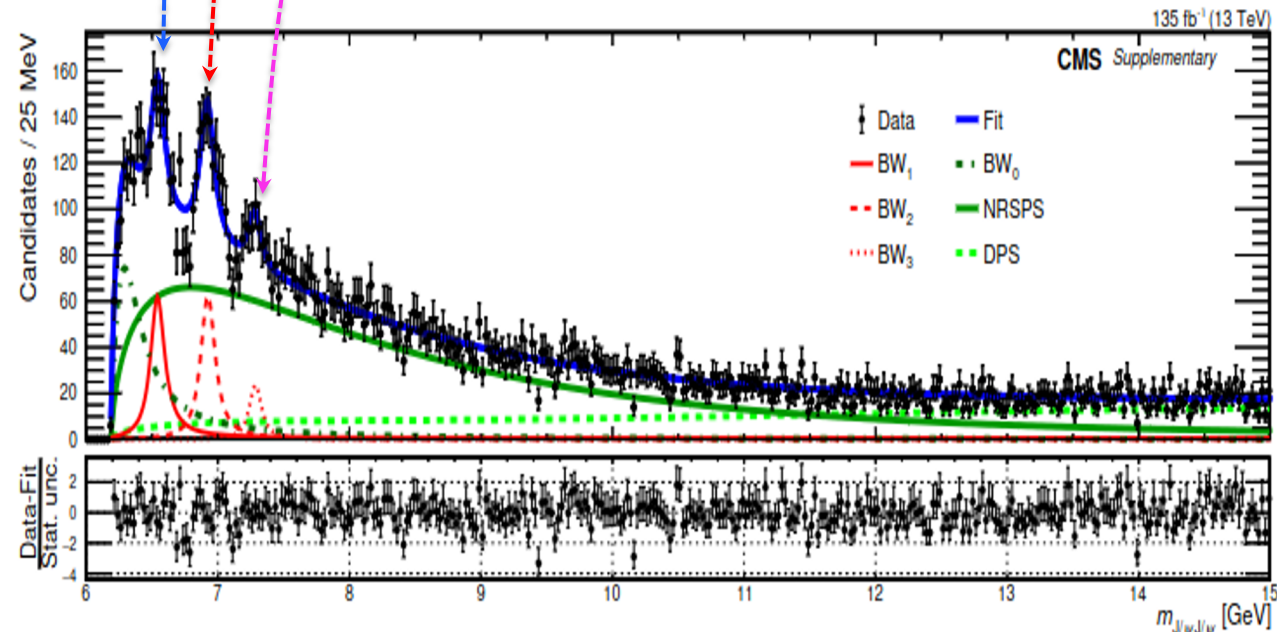
NRSPS+DPS +  $BW_0$



# $J/\psi J/\psi$ mass spectrum : fit with 3 non-interfering resonances

➤ Signal model: 3 resonant structures - labelled as  $BW_1$ ,  $BW_2$ ,  $BW_3$  -

Each *scalar relativistic B.-W.* is convoluted with a Gaussian resolution function [Pythia or JHUGen] (ranging from 10MeV @6.5GeV ... to 18MeV @7.3GeV)



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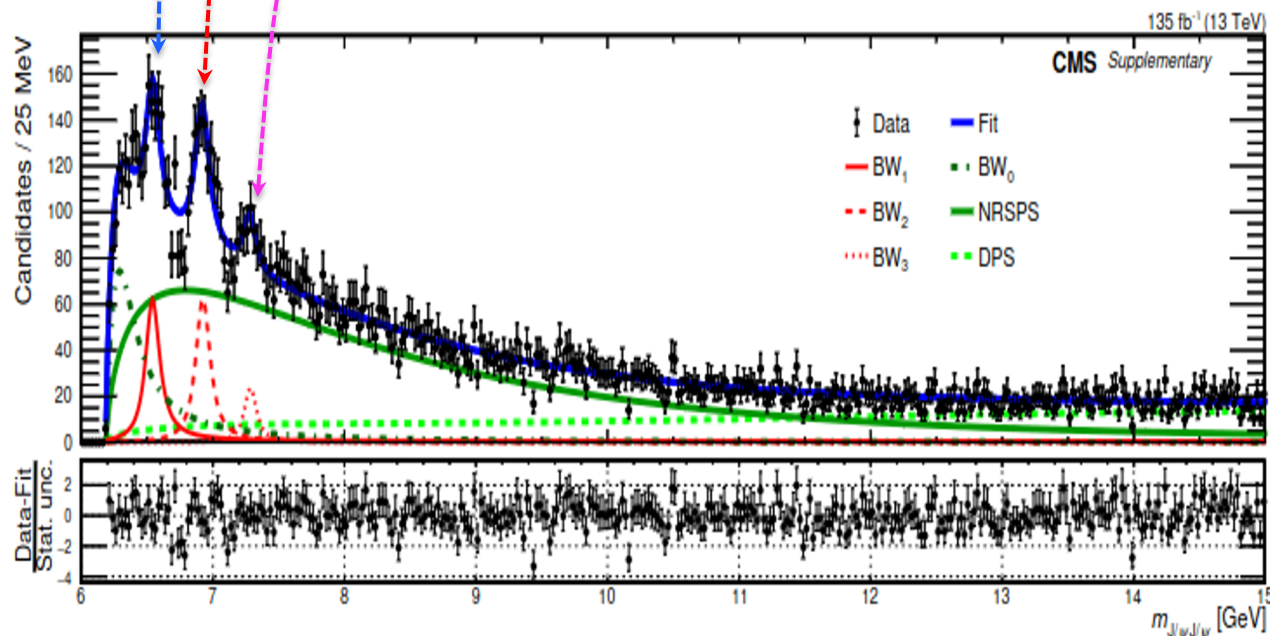
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➤ **UML fit model:** BKG (NRSPS+DPS+ $BW_0$ ) + SIGNAL ( $BW_2$ +  $BW_1$  +  $BW_3$ )

All 3 widths are much larger than the detector mass resolution

➤ Fit on **full spectrum** up to 15GeV to verify the **adequacy of the background model**:  $P(\chi^2) = 98\%$

**Fit fractions:** 58% NRSPS,  
25% DPS,  
9%  $BW_0$   
8%  $BW_1$ + $BW_2$ + $BW_3$



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➤ **Signal model:** 3 resonant structures - labelled as  $BW_1, BW_2, BW_3$  - found to be statistically significant

Each *scalar relativistic B.-W.* is convoluted with a **Gaussian resolution function** [Pythia or JHUGen] (ranging from 10MeV @6.5GeV ... to 18MeV @7.3GeV)

Local significance of the peaks (LR method: *with vs without*):

$BW_2$ :  $9.4\sigma$

$BW_1$ :  $6.5\sigma$

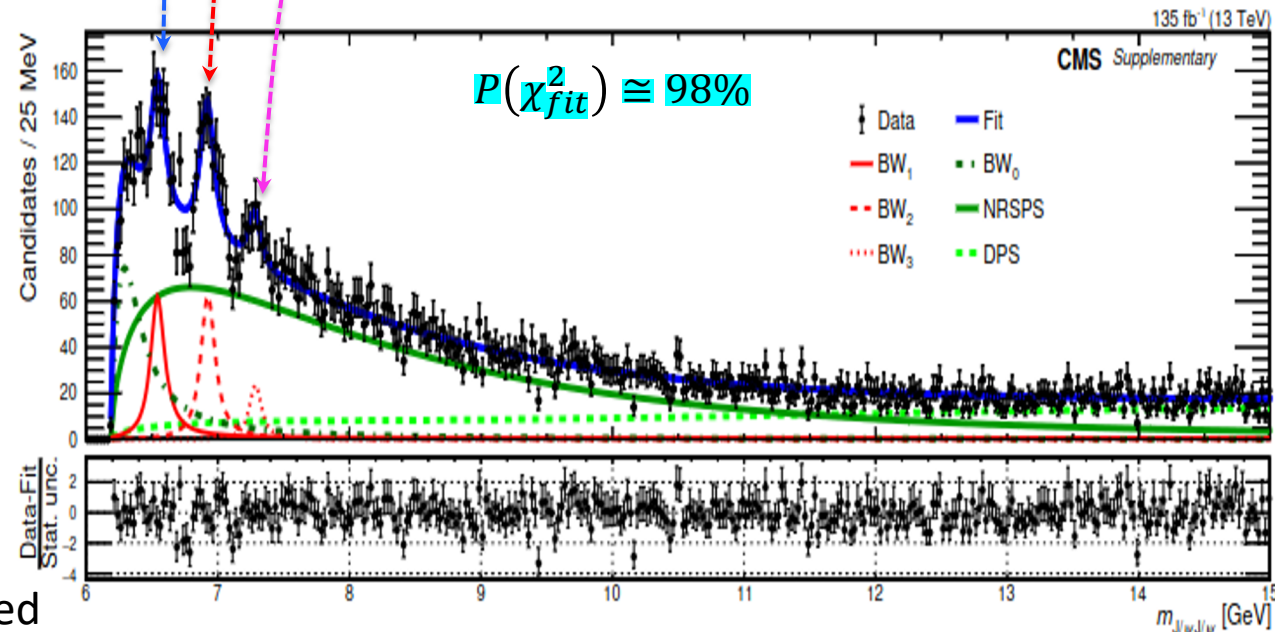
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Signal region small → impact of deviations diluted

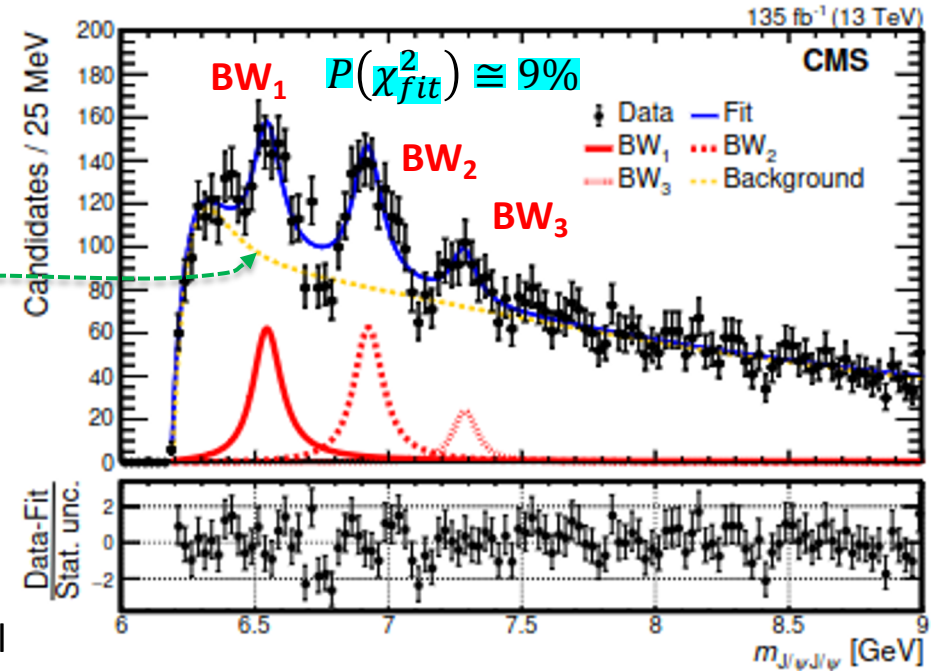
# $J/\psi J/\psi$ mass spectrum : fit result with no-interference model

➤ Spectrum and fit up to 9 GeV (“signal region”):

Total background: **NRSPS + DPS +  $BW_0$**

		$BW_1$	$BW_2$	$BW_3$
No-interference	$m$ [MeV]	$6552 \pm 10 \pm 12$	$6927 \pm 9 \pm 4$	$7287^{+20}_{-18} \pm 5$
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	$N$	$470^{+120}_{-110}$	$492^{+78}_{-73}$	$156^{+64}_{-51}$

Note:  $BW_0$  parameters very sensitive to the additional part of the model



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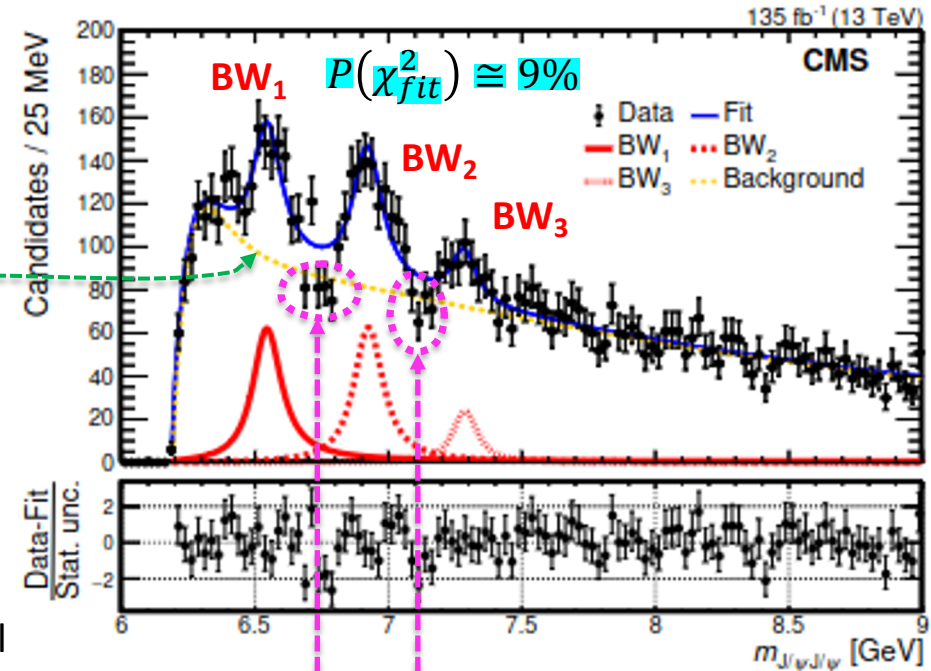
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[ first error is statistic, second is systematic ]

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In the signal region  $P(\chi^2) = 9\%$  only:  
2 **dips** are poorly described



Next step is to ... introduce **interference** with the aim to increase the agreement



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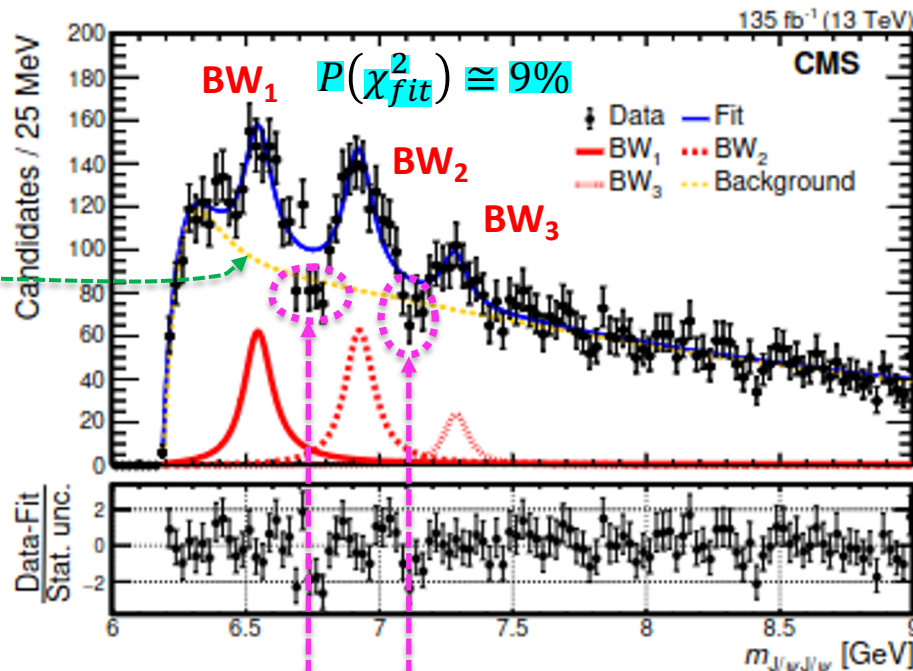
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Under the assumption of no interference between signal components and between signal(s) & background

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- **CONFIRMATION** of **X(6900)** ( $BW_2$ ) Values consistent with
- **OBSERVATION** of **X(6600)** ( $BW_1$ )
- **EVIDENCE** for **X(7100)** ( $BW_3$ )

(model I)

$m(6900)$	$\Gamma(6900)$
$6905 \pm 11 \pm 7$	$80 \pm 19 \pm 33$

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(see next slide)



# $J/\psi J/\psi$ mass spectrum : fit result with interference models - I

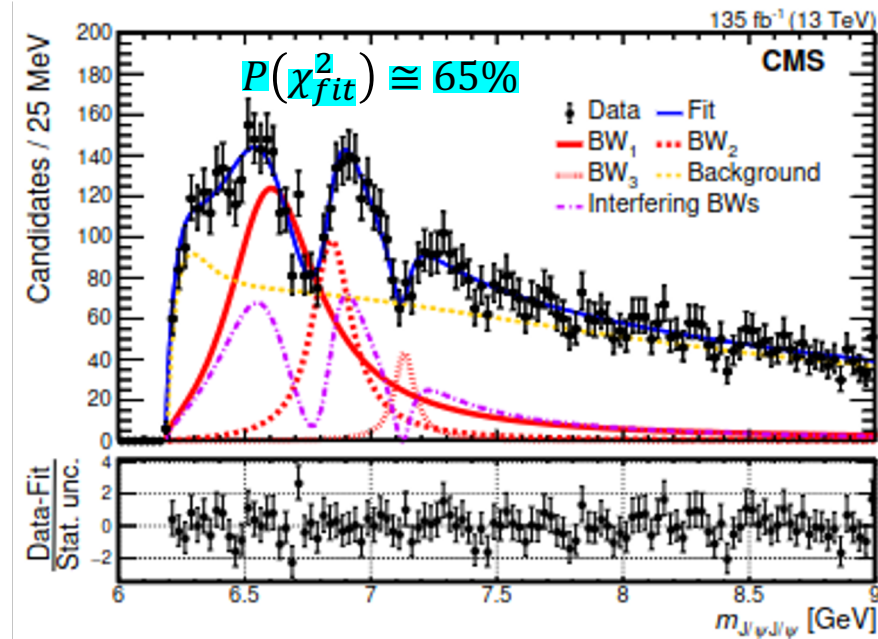
➤ Interference models based on the 3 found structures:

➤ **3-way interference** ... implemented with a term proportional to:  
 [ three  $J^P = 0^+$  resonances ]  $|r_1 \exp(i\phi_1) BW_1 + r_2 BW_2 + r_3 \exp(i\phi_3) BW_3|^2$

reference

➤ improved fit :  $P(\chi^2) = 65\%$  (due to improved dips' description)

➤ Local statistical significance improved for each signal ( $BW_3$  @  $4.7\sigma$ );  
 Global significance for  $BW_3$  with MC pseudo-experiments:  $3.4\sigma$ .



# J/ψ J/ψ mass spectrum : fit result with interference models - I

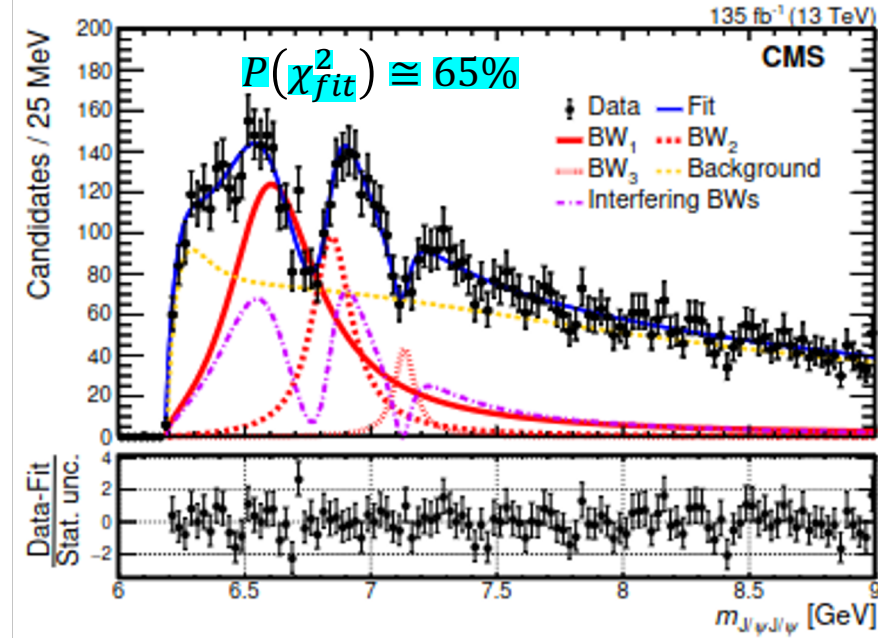
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X(6900) is compatible with the  observation

(model II)

$m(6900)$	$6886 \pm 11 \pm 11$
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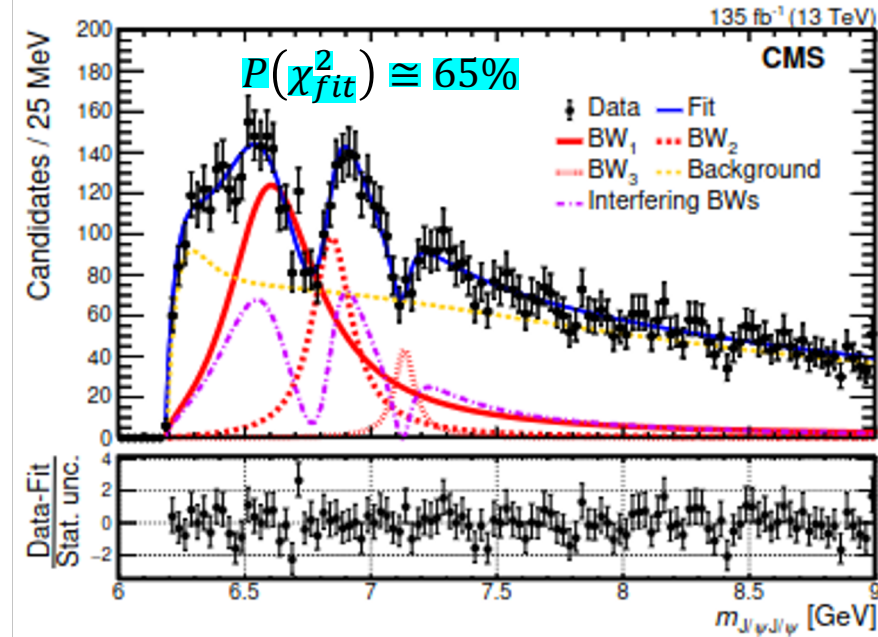
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➤ 2-way interferences

➤ less preferred fits :  $P(\chi^2) < 30\%$



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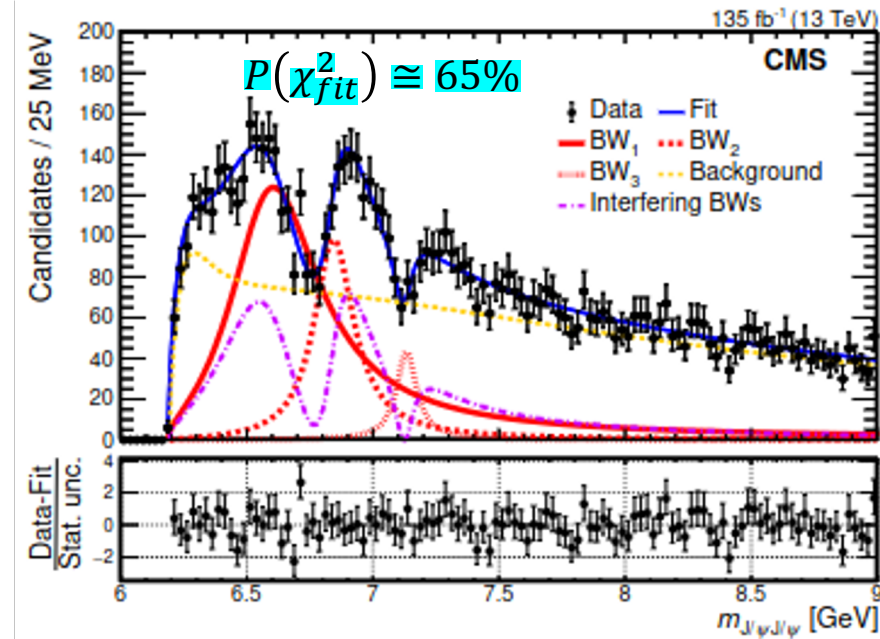
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the states could have the same quantum numbers and be coherently produced

➤ NRSPS interfering with BWs (LHCb model II) is considered less probable as it may be mixture of different  $J^P$  states

➤ LHCb model II investigated [on CMS data with CMS background shape] → no good fit [see backup]

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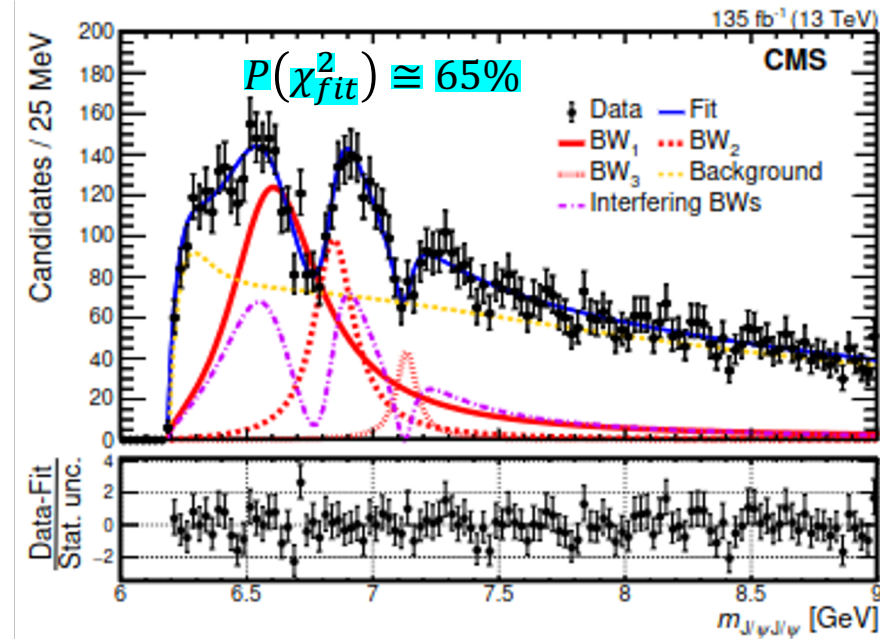
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➤ Interference between resonances is one possible mechanism: other models may be able to reproduce the dips as well

➤ ATLAS [ [PRL 131 \(2023\) 151902](#) ] also confirmed the X(6900) structure & a near-threshold excess [see backup]

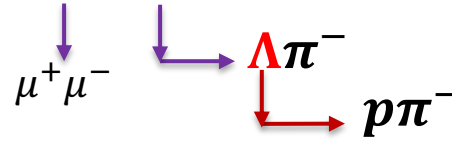


## 2. First observation of the decay $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi E^- K^+$

# Study of the decay $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Xi^- K^+$

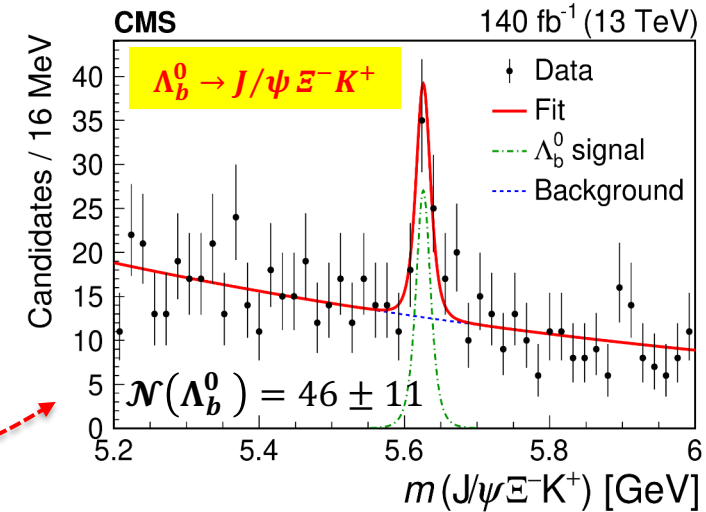
➤ First observation of the  $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Xi^- K^+$  transition through the decay chain :

LOCAL STATISTICAL  
SIGNIFICANCE  $\sim 5.8\sigma$



➤ Signal yields extracted by means of UML fits with models:

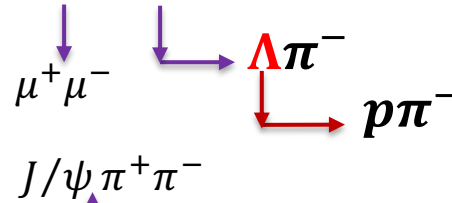
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- background: Exponential



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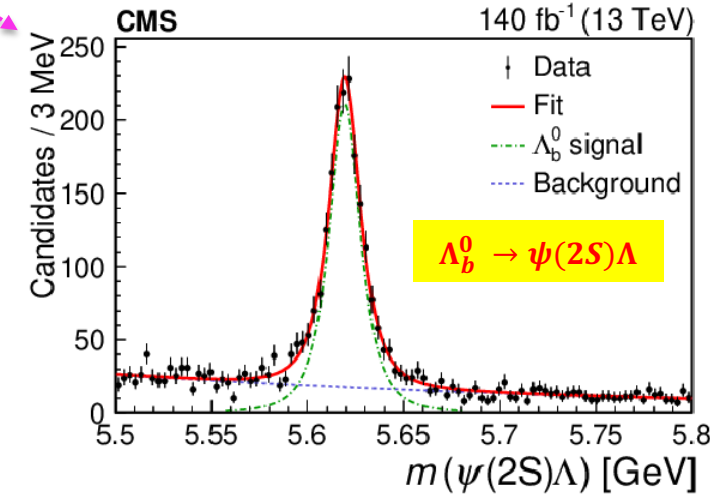
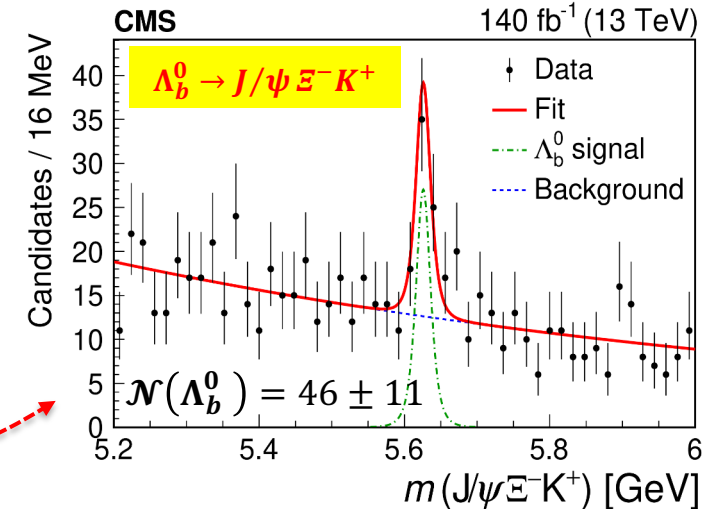


Normalization channel :  $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S) \Lambda$

(more copious, similar topology and kinematics) → reduced systematics

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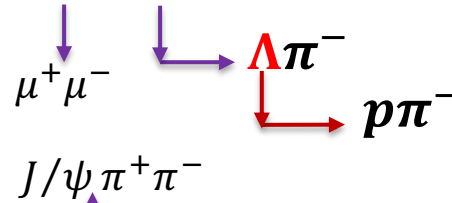




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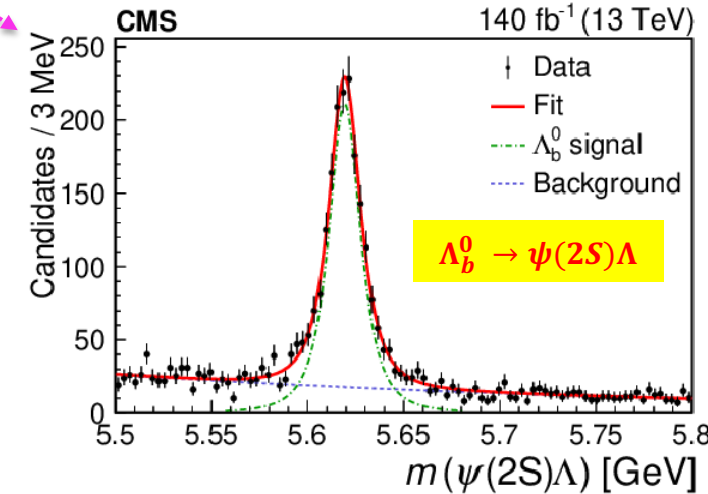
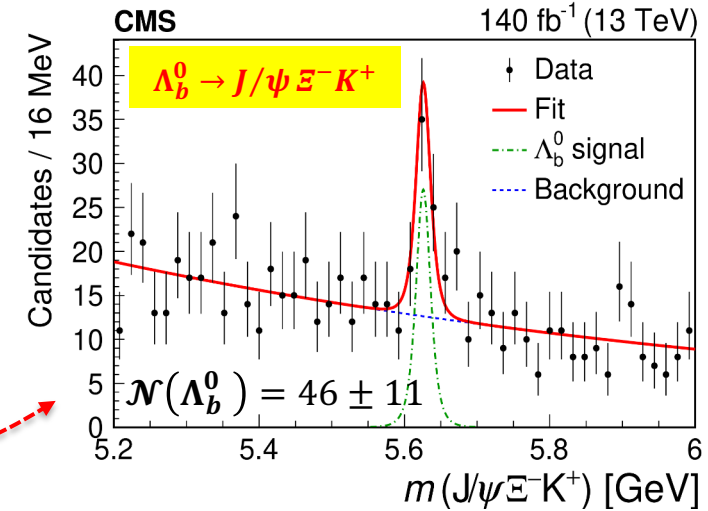
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➤ Branching fraction ratio measurement (with slightly tighter selection):

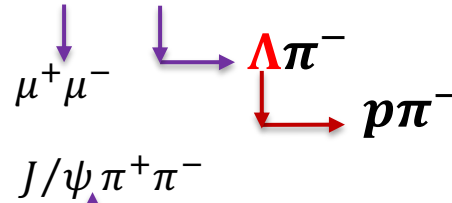
$$R = \frac{\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Xi^- K^+)}{\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S) \Lambda)} =$$



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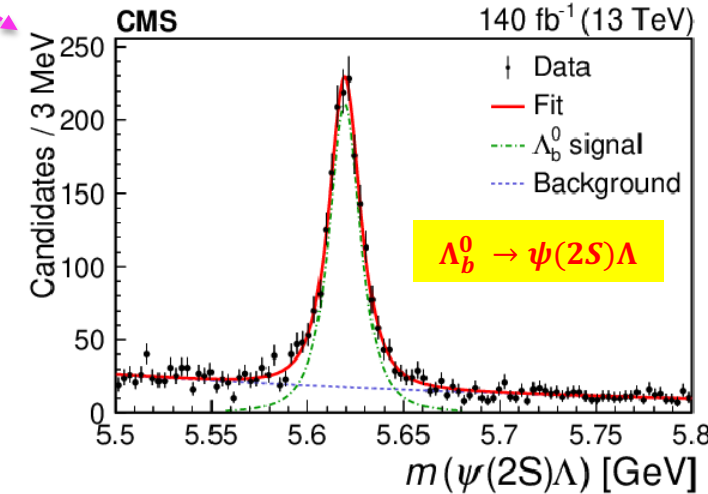
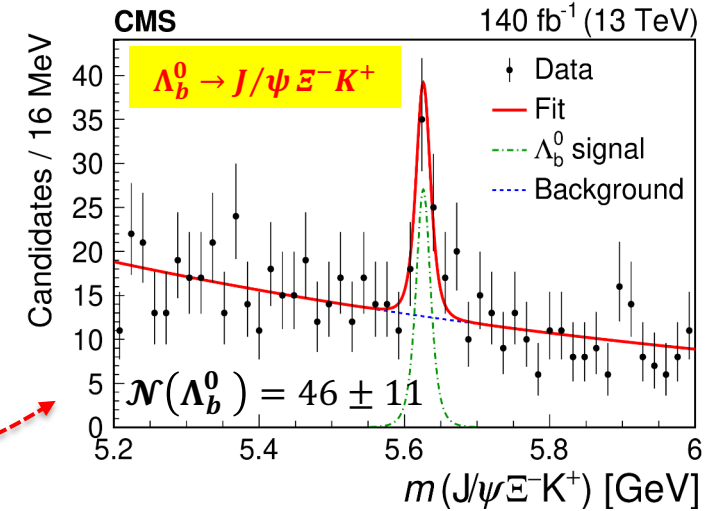
➤ Signal yields extracted by means of UML fits with models:

- signal: t-Student ( $\mu, \sigma$  free;  $n$  fixed from MC)
- background: Exponential

... corrected by total efficiency (evaluated on MC)

➤ Branching fraction ratio measurement (with slightly tighter selection):

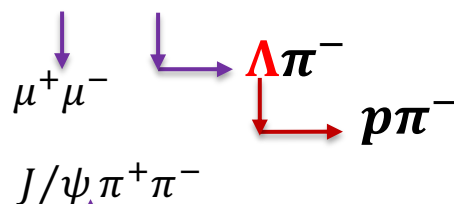
$$R = \frac{\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Xi^- K^+)}{\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S) \Lambda)} = \frac{\mathcal{N}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Xi^- K^+)}{\mathcal{N}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S) \Lambda)} \cdot \frac{\varepsilon(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S) \Lambda)}{\varepsilon(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Xi^- K^+)}$$



# Study of the decay $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Xi^- K^+$

➤ First observation of the  $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \Xi^- K^+$  transition through the decay chain :

LOCAL STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE  $\sim 5.8\sigma$



Normalization channel :  $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \psi(2S) \Lambda$

(more copious, similar topology and kinematics)  $\rightarrow$  reduced systematics

➤ Signal yields extracted by means of UML fits with models:

- signal: t-Student ( $\mu, \sigma$  free;  $n$  fixed from MC)
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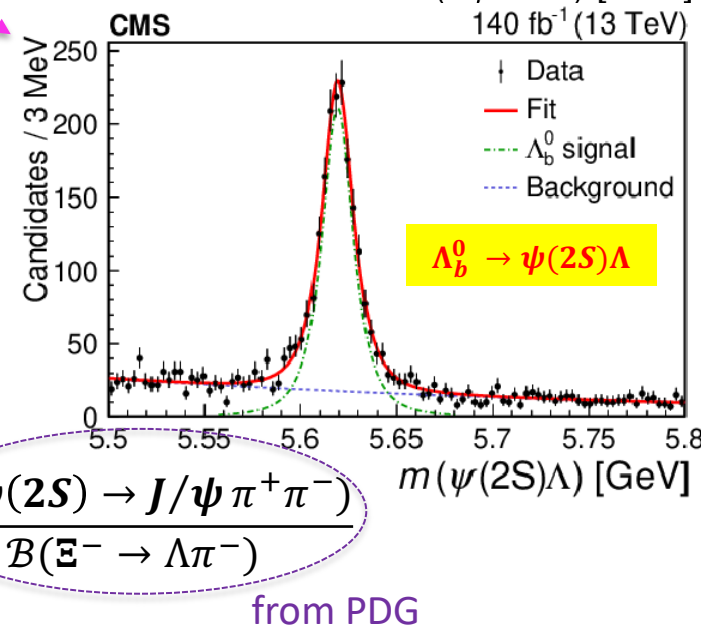
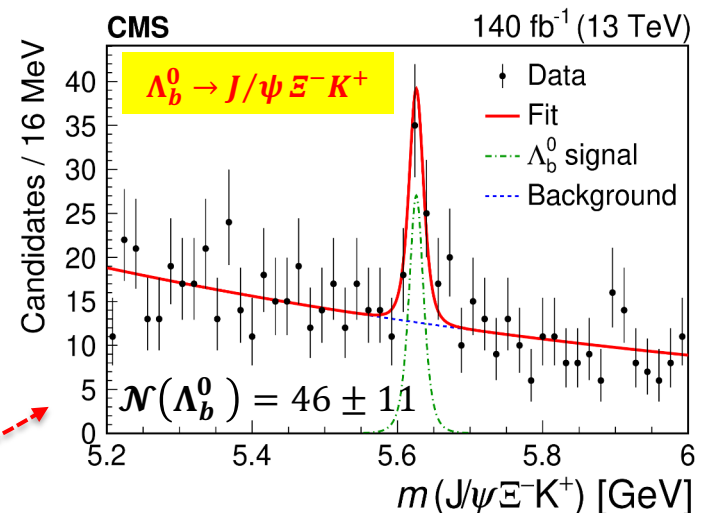
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$$= [3.38 \pm 1.02(\text{stat}) \pm 0.61(\text{syst}) \pm 0.03(\mathcal{B})]\%$$

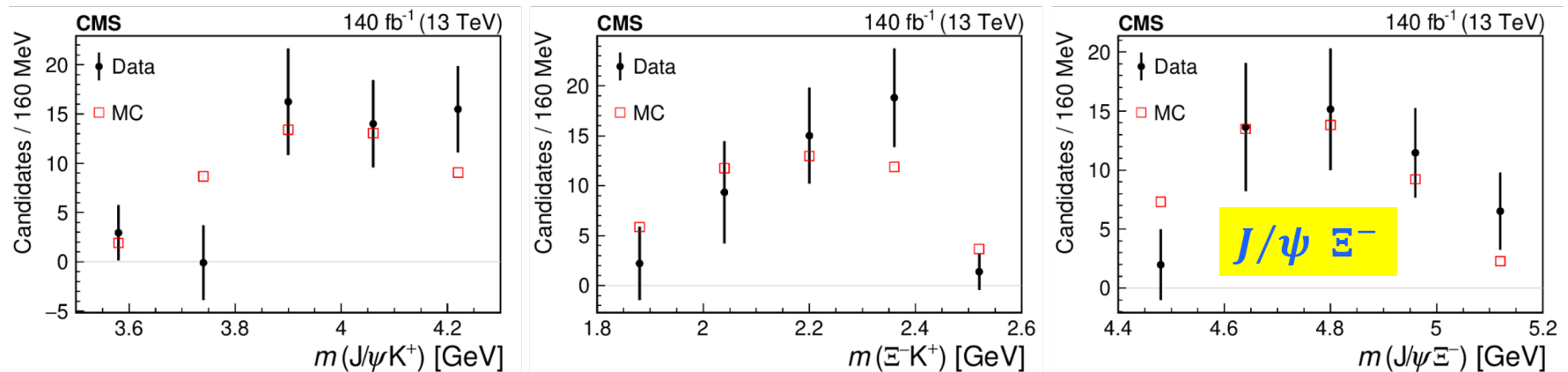
Large statistical uncertainties due to small signal yield




from PDG

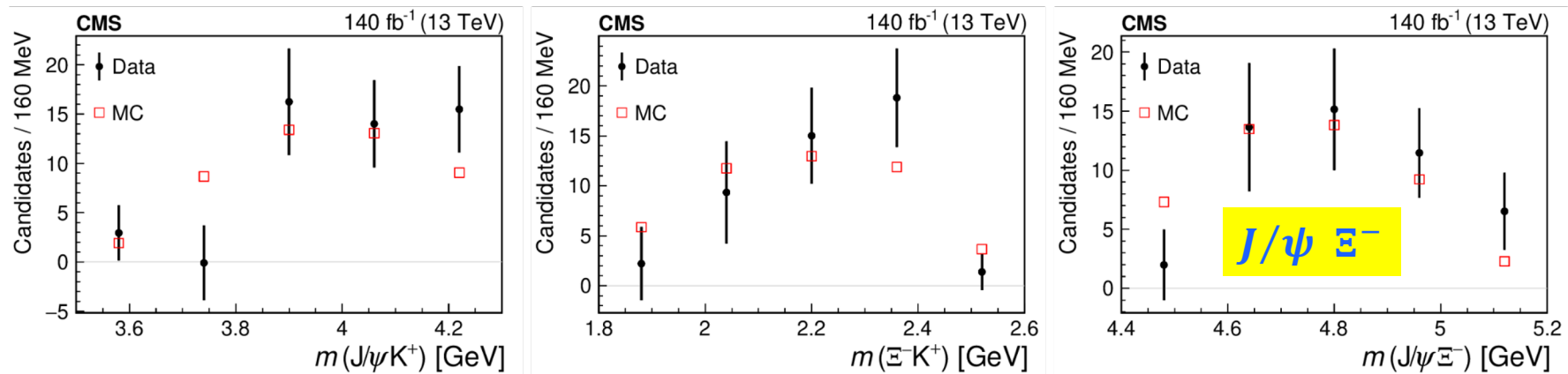
# Exploring two-body invariant masses

- Hidden-charm exotic states reported by  in  $J/\psi p$  and  $J/\psi \Lambda$  systems  
(e.g. *pentaquarks candidates* in  $\Lambda_b \rightarrow J/\psi p K^-$  and  $\Xi_b^- \rightarrow J/\psi \Lambda K^-$ )
- In principle this new decay represents the first 3-body decay allowing to access the  $J/\psi \Xi^-$  sub-system
- Background-subtracted mass distributions (**sPlot**), to be used to search for **intermediate resonances**, are compared with the phase-space model (from simulation):



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These distributions do not show any relatively narrow peak and agree, within uncertainties, with the predictions from the phase space simulation

- The **sensitivity** of this analysis to potential pentaquark signals in the  $J/\psi \Xi^-$  intermediate invariant mass distributions is **limited by the low signal yield** for the time being.

## Conclusions & Outlook

- Explored  $J/\psi J/\psi$  mass spectrum finding a likely 3-way structures pattern, **confirming** the **X(6900)** observed by LHCb, **observing** the **X(6600)** and **having an evidence for X(7100)**, possibly hinting at a new spectroscopy of **all-charmed tetraquarks**.
- The measurement of the production Xsections (in a fiducial region) is in our plans as well.
- In general CMS has good sensitivity to all-muon final states (see also the **triple- $J/\psi$**  result [NATURE Physics 304 (2023) 1], and the  **$J/\psi \rightarrow 4\mu$  decay**). (see **S.Leontsinis's** talk [ Q&LV 19.07 @ 15.45 ])  
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- The Run-3 data being collected will help to achieve very interesting new/updated results, in Heavy Flavour Spectroscopy & Production, **integrating and/or complementing** LHCb (& ATLAS) results (mainly pp collisions) and ALICE (HI collisions), in spite of **huge backgrounds**, **trigger constraints**, **particle identification limitations**. However, Run-2 data have not yet been fully explored as well.



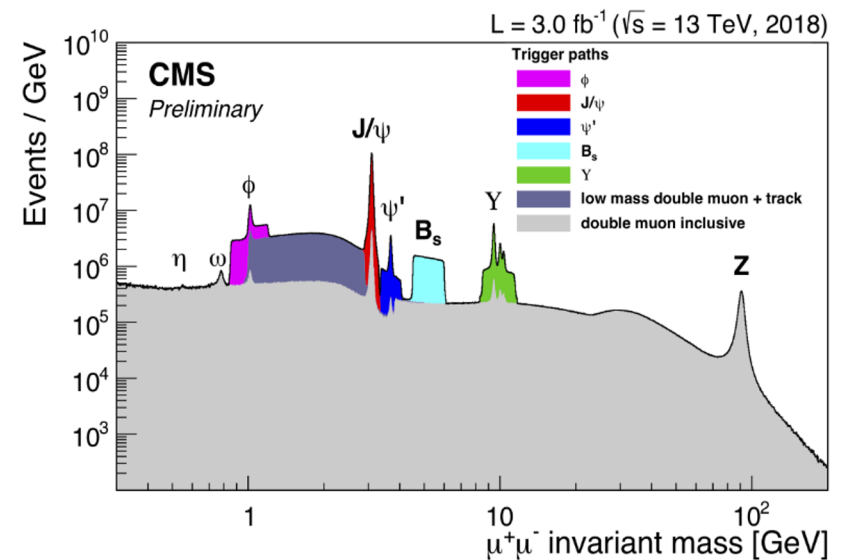
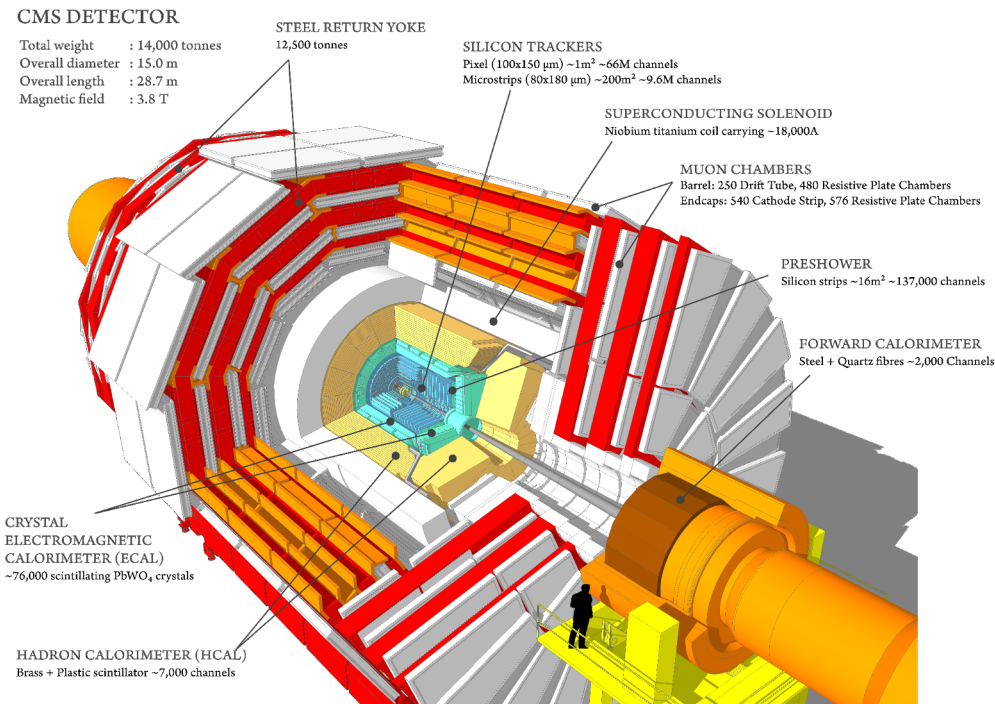
## Backup material

# Backup: The CMS detector @LHC



➤ General purpose detector with cylindrical symmetry and (almost) full coverage of the solid angle

Strengths (for the discussed analyses):

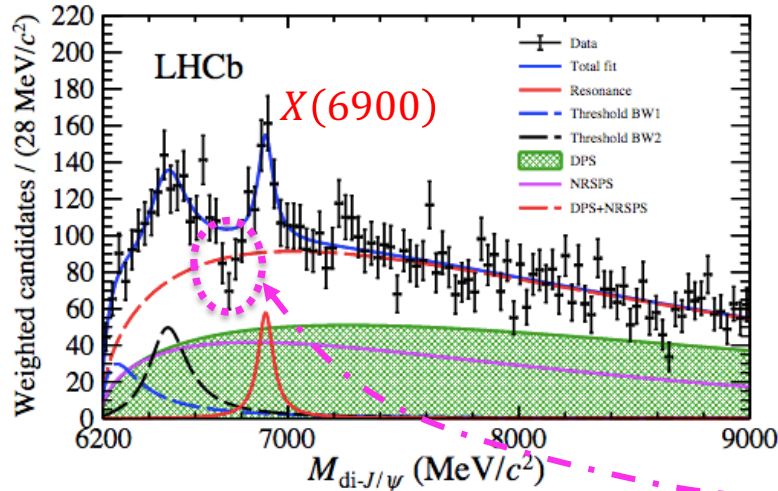
- muon reconstruction and identification
- large muons' acceptance
- high-performance tracking & vertexing



# LHCb models fitting the $J/\psi J/\psi$ mass spectrum [ [Sci. Bull. 65 \(2020\) 23](#) ]

➤ In 2020  observed a peak in the  $J/\psi J/\psi$  mass spectrum, the  $X(6900)$ , which was considered with great interest as a **possible all-charm tetraquark** (even if also alternative interpretations have been advocated).  reported two alternative fit models:

## ➤ Model-I :

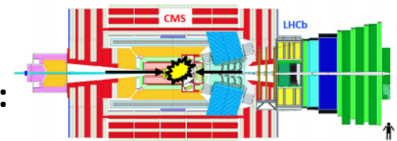


**3 B.-W.s:** - 1 for the signal peak  $X(6900)$   
 - other 2 auxiliary “threshold” B.-W.s for the initial raise and first “bump”

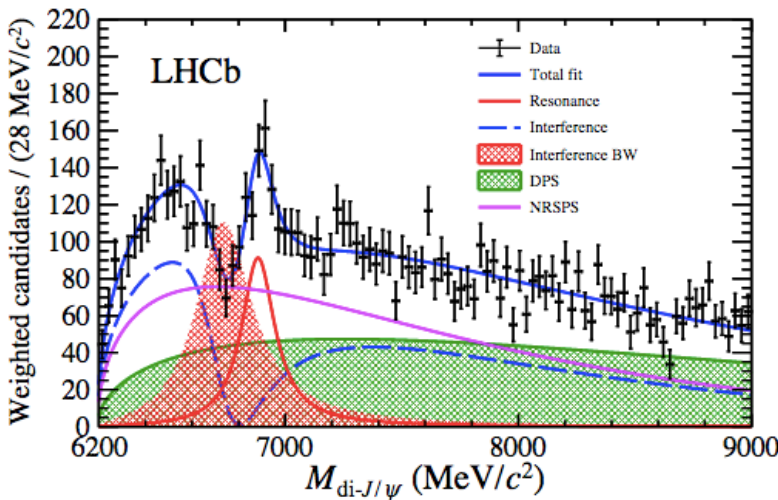
NRSPS+DPS shapes for the background

Different acceptance →

Different BKG-shape in CMS :



## ➤ Model-II



It poorly describes the dip, suggesting to try a destructive interference of a “virtual” B.-W. with the NRSPS bkg. component, while getting rid of the “threshold B.-W.s”.

**Masses & natural widths** for the  $X(6900)$  result to be compatible in the two models. LHCb is agnostic on which one is to prefer.

$X(6900)$ ,  
renamed  
 $T_{\psi\psi}(6900)$

# $J/\psi J/\psi$ mass spectrum : background description - I

## ➤ Major physical background sources:

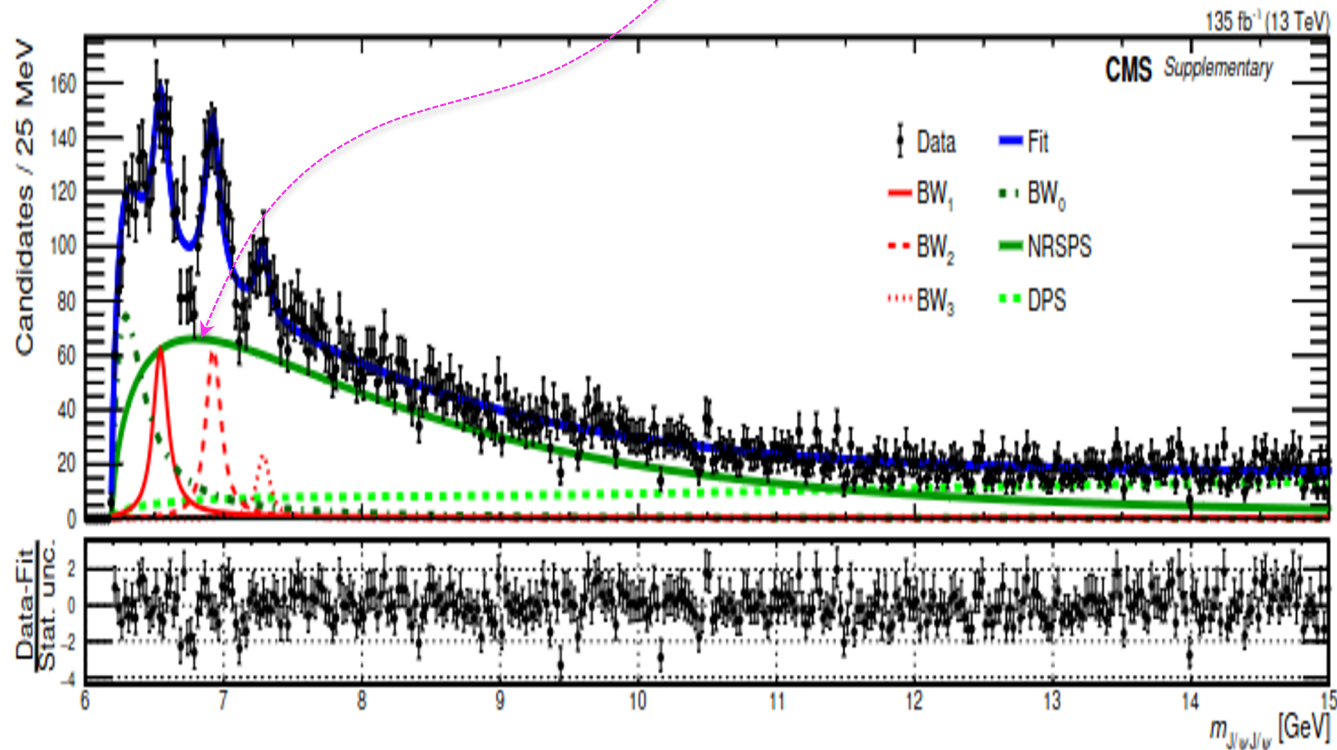
➤ 2 genuine  $J/\psi$ s combined randomly, i.e. not from a resonant decay, arising from:

- single parton-parton collision:

non-resonant single parton scattering (NRSPS)

[Pythia8, CASCADE (NLO), HELAC-ONIA (NNLO)]

→ dominant near threshold region ( $p_T < 10 GeV$ )



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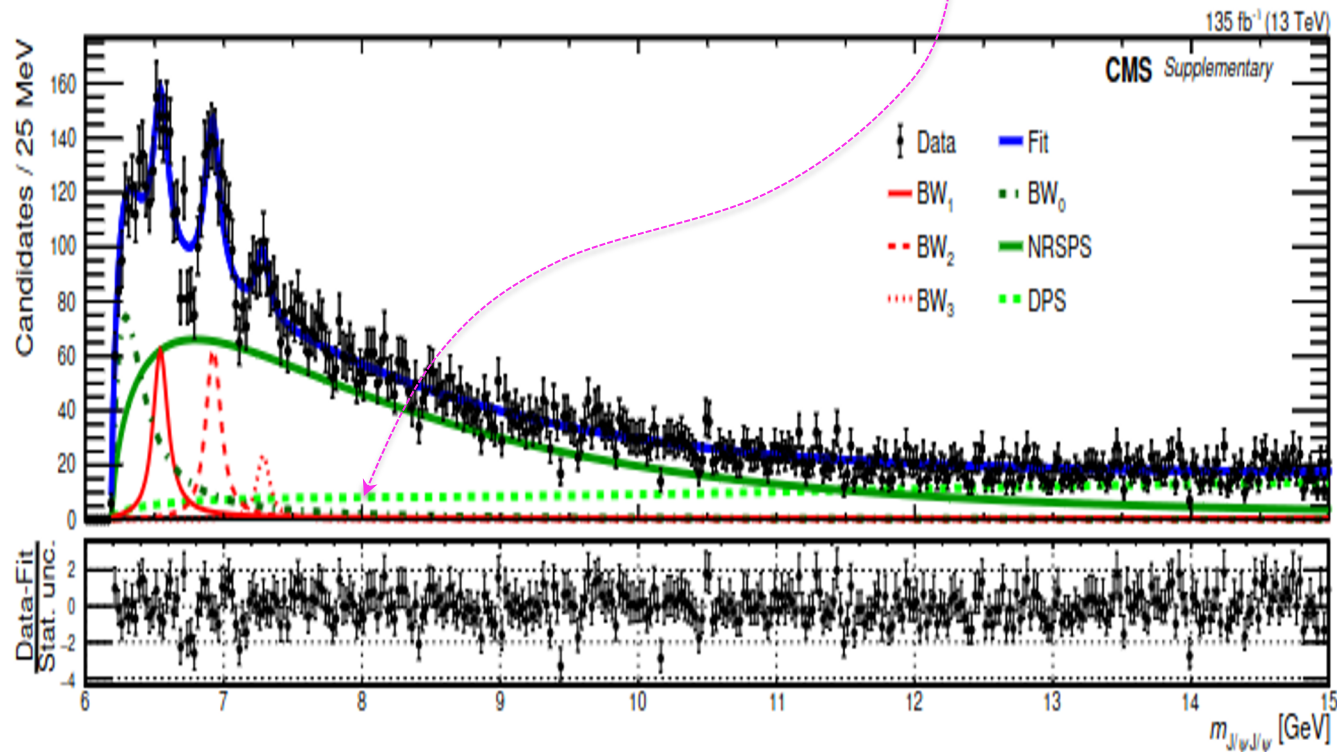
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→ dominant near threshold region ( $p_T < 10 GeV$ )

- a pair of parton-parton interactions in a single pp collision:

double parton scattering (DPS) [see above]

→ dominant from  $p_T > 12 GeV$



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➤ Simulation includes: direct production + feed-down processes ( $J/\psi$  as decay product)

Additional feed-down processes from double-charmonium resonances: generated separately [Pythia8]



# $J/\psi J/\psi$ mass spectrum : background description - II

## ➤ Major physical background sources:

➤ 2 genuine  $J/\psi$ s combined randomly, i.e. not from a resonant decay, arising from:

- single parton-parton collision:

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➤ Simulation includes: direct production + feed-down processes ( $J/\psi$  as decay product)

Additional feed-down processes from double-charmonium resonances: generated separately [Pythia8]

## ➤ Residual combinatorial background sources: (these residual effects are accounted for as systematics)

➤ At least one non-genuine  $J/\psi$  arising from:

- one or more genuine  $\mu$  candidate(s) not from a  $J/\psi$  decay

- one (or more) hadron(s) misidentified as  $\mu$  candidate(s) or misreconstructed

➤ Null-hypothesis model: NRSPS+DPS

Shapes from Pythia8 distributions, parametrized by :

- SPS: threshold func. \* poly2 \* exp. (1 floating param.)
- DPS: sqrt \* poly2 \* exp.





# $J/\psi J/\psi$ mass spectrum : background description - III

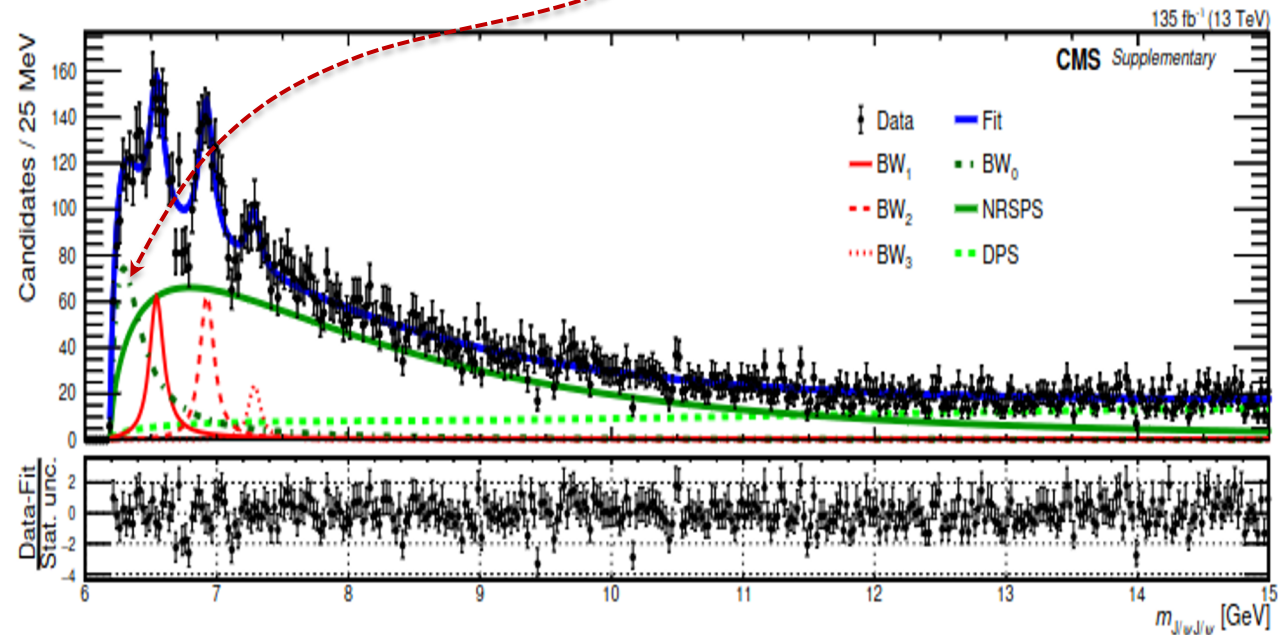
➤ Null-hypothesis model: NRSPS+DPS + additional background to *ad hoc* describe the threshold enhancement

Shapes from Pythia8 distributions, parametrized by :

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modelled empirically by a B.-W. ( $BW_0$ ) with free  $m$  &  $\Gamma$

➤ Spectrum visualization



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Shapes from Pythia8 distributions, parametrized by :

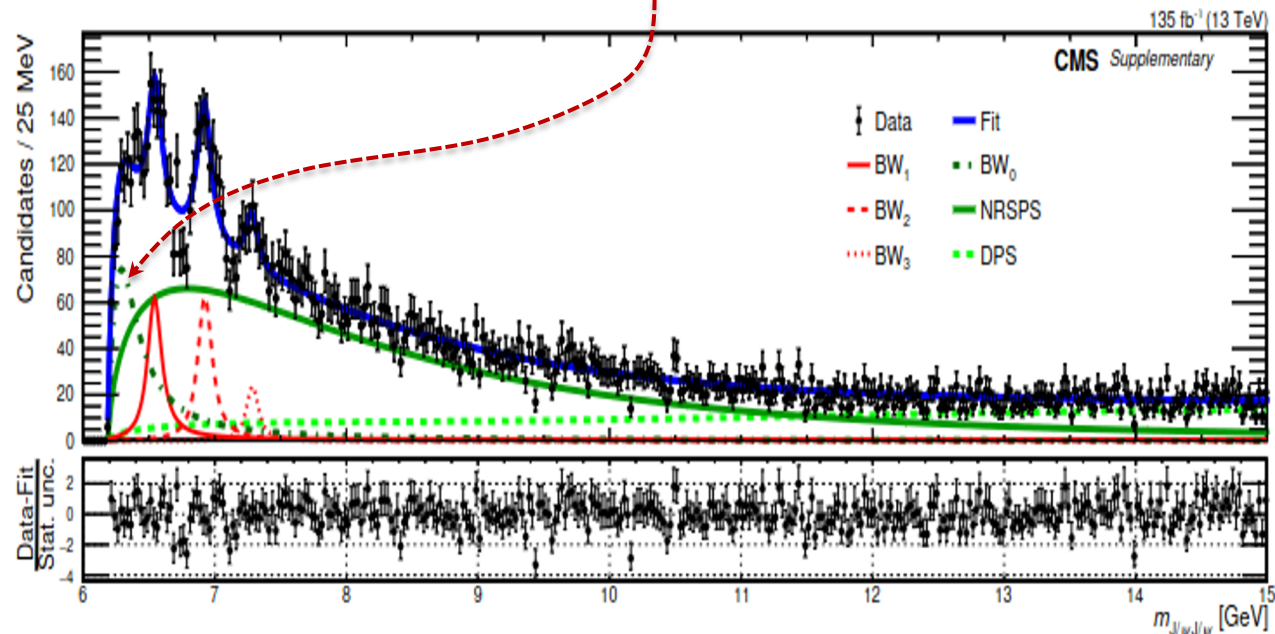
- SPS: threshold func. \* poly2 \* exp. (1 floating param.)
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modelled empirically by a B.-W. ( $BW_0$ ) with free  $m$  &  $\Gamma$

Takes into account the inadequacy of NRSPS near threshold. This excess may be due to:

- a genuine resonance
- feed-down of partially reconstructed higher mass states ( $J/\psi \psi(2S)$ , ... ) [checked from MC]
- near threshold enhancements as those in mass spectra of VV final states ( $\phi\phi, \phi\omega, J/\psi \phi, J/\psi \omega$ )
- coupled-channel interactions, final state rescattering (triangle singularities), pomeron-exchange processes, ...

## ➤ Spectrum visualization

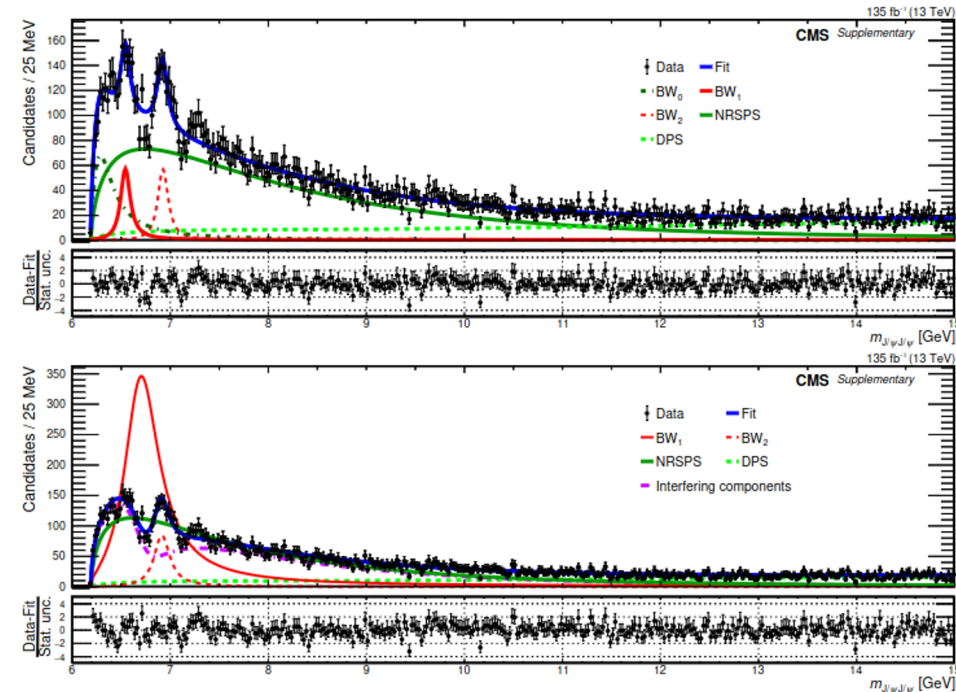


# $J/\psi J/\psi$ mass spectrum : fit with LHCb models

➤ The LHCb signal models are also tested: similar results, but no improvement on the fit quality

## LHCb signal models + CMS background

- **Model I (top):**  
[NRSPS + DPS + X(6900) + 2BW below 6900]
  - X(6900) parameters in agreement
  - but dip at 6.7 not well described
- **Model II (bottom):**  
[NRSPS + DPS + X(6900) + 1BW below 6900 interfering with NRSPS]
  - Larger X(6700) amplitude
  - X(7300) region not well described



➤  $J/\psi J/\psi$  and  $J/\psi + \psi(2S)$  in  $4\mu$  final state studied at ATLAS using  $140 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of pp collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$

Prompt (SPS, DPS) and non-prompt ( $b\bar{b} \rightarrow J/\psi J/\psi + X$ ) background contributions are considered

Feed-down included only for di- $J/\psi$  channel

4 $\mu$  mass data vs background predictions before fit for  $J/\psi + J/\psi$  and  $J/\psi + \psi(2S)$

Signal model: interfering BWs  $\otimes$  Gaussian resolution (introduced gradually to improve the fit)

- di- $J/\psi$  signal:

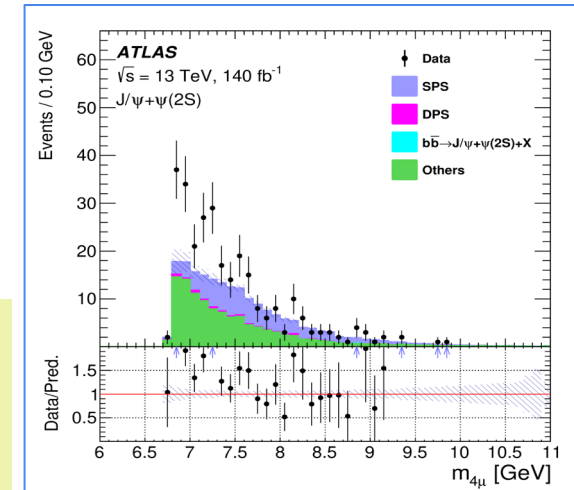
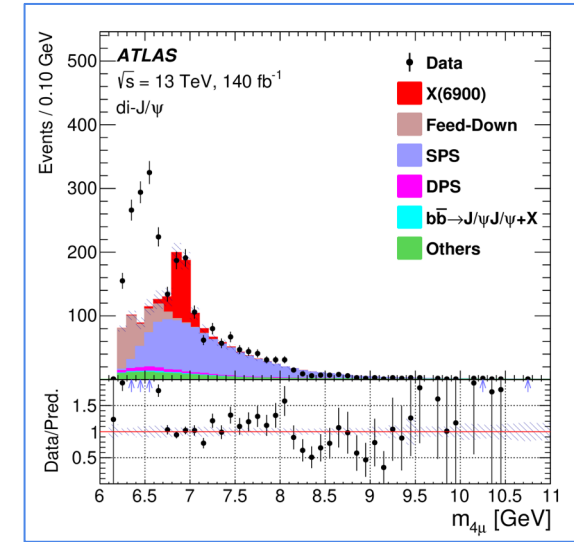
- A) 3 interfering scalar BWs
- B) 2 interfering scalar BWs, the first interferes also with SPS

- $J/\psi + \psi(2S)$  signal:

- A') 3 interfering BWs from A (fixed) + stand-alone 4<sup>th</sup> resonance
- B') single resonance

➤ Statistically significant excesses with respect to SPS-dominated backgrounds are seen in the di- $J/\psi$  channel consistent with a narrow resonance at 6.9 GeV and a broader structure at lower mass.

A statistically significant excess is also seen in the  $J/\psi + \psi(2S)$  channel.



➤ In detail:

➤ di-J/ψ: models A and B describe the spectrum better than models with fewer/no interference.

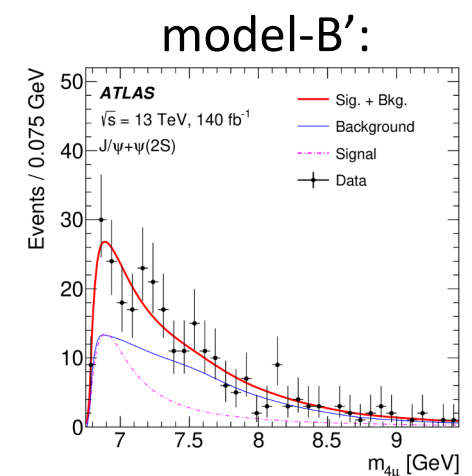
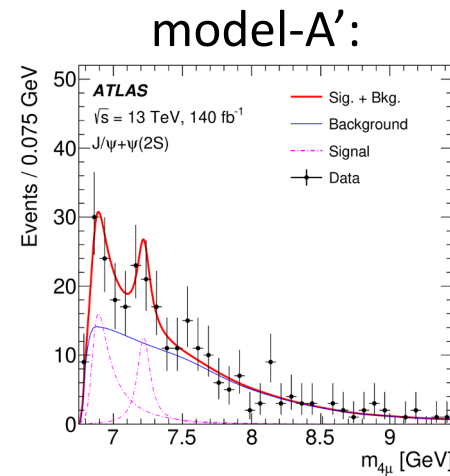
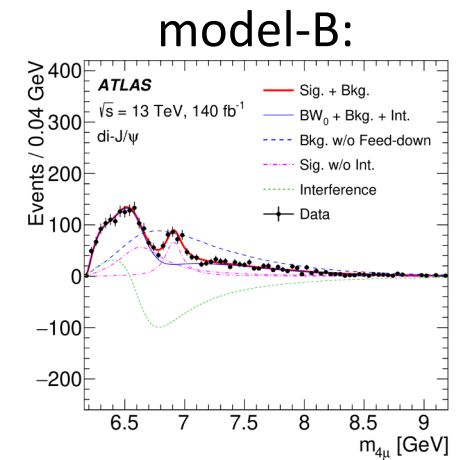
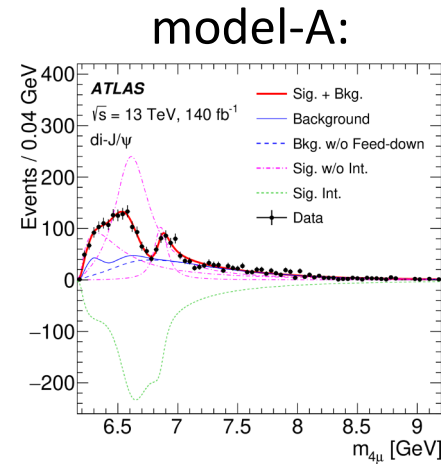
**Significance for all resonances and for X(6900) alone greater than 5σ**

The broad structure at low mass could result from other physical effects (e.g. feed-down from higher di-charmonium resonances)

➤ J/ψ+ψ(2S): significance for all resonances with model A' (B') is 4.7σ (4.3σ)

Structure at 7.2 GeV alone in model A': 3.0σ

More statistics will help to better understand the structures in both channels



# Systematic uncertainties

➤ Systematic uncertainties for masses & widths of the 3 peaking structures in the  $J/\psi J/\psi$  spectrum

Fit	Dominant sources	$M_{BW_1}$	$M_{BW_2}$	$M_{BW_3}$	$\Gamma_{BW_1}$	$\Gamma_{BW_2}$	$\Gamma_{BW_3}$
No-interference	Signal shape	3	3	3	10	5	5
	NRSPS shape	3	1	1	18	15	17
	Feed-down	11	1	1	25	8	6
	<b>Total uncertainty</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
Interference	Signal shape	7	12	7	56	8	7
	DPS shape	1	3	2	18	6	2
	NRSPS shape	9	14	13	85	9	20
	Mass resolution	8	4	1	24	7	13
	Combinatorial bkg.	7	2	<1	5	3	2
	Feed-down	+0 -27	+44 -0	+38 -0	+0 -210	+19 -0	+12 -0
(in MeV)	<b>Total uncertainty</b>	<b>+16 -31</b>	<b>+48 -20</b>	<b>+41 -15</b>	<b>+110 -240</b>	<b>+25 -17</b>	<b>+29 -26</b>

**Note:** acceptance & trigger/selection efficiencies varying very slowly in the search region: considered as systematics