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Mixing and time-dependent CP violation in Charm decays at LHCb

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on behalf of the LHCb collaboration



EPFL

What's charming in Charm physics?

- Charmed neutral meson is the **only one made of up-type quark**.
Mixing & CPV extremely suppressed in SM
 → powerful probe for new interactions at energy scales \gg colliders

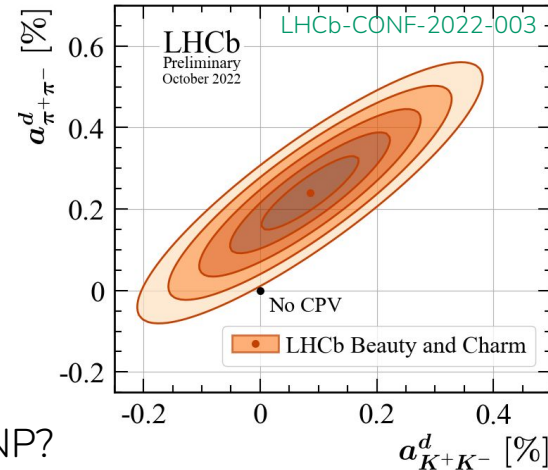
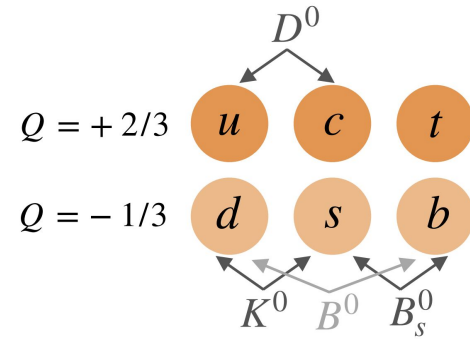
- In 2019 LHCb reported **first observation of CPV in charm decay**,

$$\Delta A_{CP} = A_{CP}(K^+K^-) - A_{CP}(\pi^+\pi^-) \neq 0, \text{ PRL122,211803}$$

followed in 2023 by first evidence of CPV in a single decay channel

PRL131.091802

- Need further measurement to clarify theoretical interpretation, SM or NP?



Mixing and CPV in Charm

Grossman & al. 2009
Kagan & Sokoloff 2009
Kagan & Silvestrini 2021

- Flavoured neutral meson evolution effectively described by

$$i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{pmatrix} M^0(t) \\ \overline{M}^0(t) \end{pmatrix} = \left[\begin{pmatrix} M & M_{12} \\ M_{12}^* & M \end{pmatrix} - \frac{i}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \Gamma & \Gamma_{12} \\ \Gamma_{12}^* & \Gamma \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{pmatrix} M^0(t) \\ \overline{M}^0(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

NP → off-shell transitions
on-shell transitions

- Oscillations are governed by two mixing parameters:

$$x_{12} \equiv \frac{2|M_{12}|}{\Gamma} \simeq \frac{\Delta m}{\Gamma}, \quad y_{12} \equiv \frac{|\Gamma_{12}|}{\Gamma} \simeq \frac{\Delta\Gamma}{\Gamma}$$

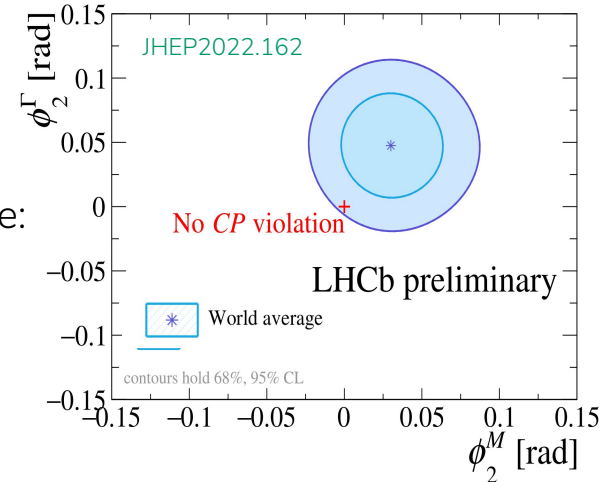
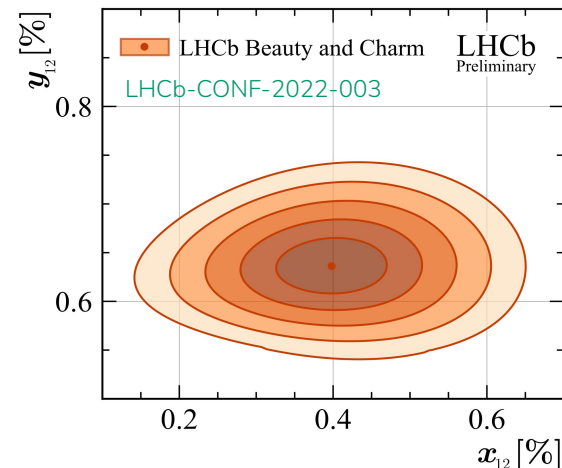
→ Moving from first observation (2009) to precision measurements

- CPV in mixing is regulated by absorptive and dispersive mixing phase:

$$\phi_2^M \sim \arg(M_{12}), \quad \phi_2^\Gamma \sim \arg(\Gamma_{12})$$

→ Still no evidence of CPV in mixing

current experimental precision ~ 20 mrad vs. SM prediction $O(2$ mrad)



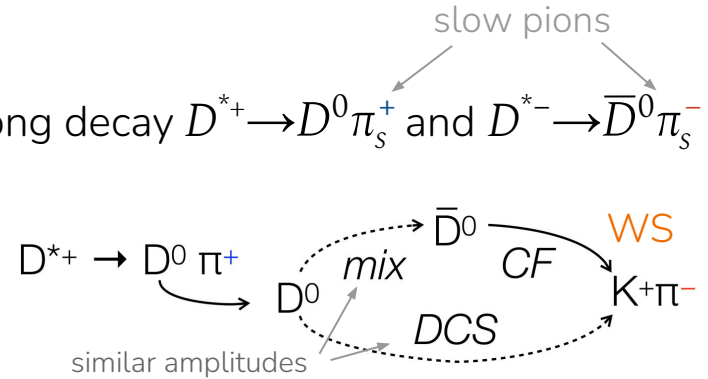
Recent LHCb measurements

- Measurement of mixing and CPV in $D^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-$ decay
with Run 2 LHCb dataset [LHCb-PAPER-2024-008](#)
- Measurement of time-dependent CPV in $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$ decays
with Run 1+2 LHCb dataset [arXiv:2405.06556](#)

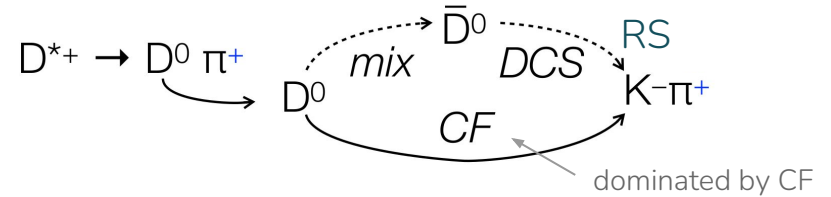
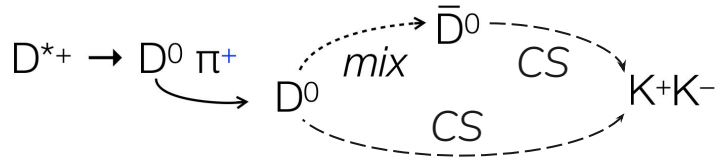
Mixing and CPV in $D^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-$

$D^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-$ WS decay channel

- Neutral D meson flavour tagged exploiting strong decay $D^{*+} \rightarrow D^0 \pi_s^+$ and $D^{*-} \rightarrow \bar{D}^0 \pi_s^-$
- Final state of interest: **Wrong sign (WS)**



- Normalization channels: **Right sign (RS)** and **KK** ← used to cancel instrumental efficiency/asymmetry



- Measure the time dependence of the yield ratio $R_{K\pi}^\pm(t)$

$$\tilde{R}_{K\pi}^+(t) \equiv \frac{\Gamma(D^0(t) \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-) \Gamma(\bar{D}^0(t) \rightarrow K^+ K^-)}{\Gamma(\bar{D}^0(t) \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-) \Gamma(D^0(t) \rightarrow K^+ K^-)} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{R}_{K\pi}^-(t) \equiv \frac{\Gamma(\bar{D}^0(t) \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) \Gamma(D^0(t) \rightarrow K^+ K^-)}{\Gamma(D^0(t) \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) \Gamma(\bar{D}^0(t) \rightarrow K^+ K^-)}$$

Ratio decay-time dependency

$t := D^0$ decay time in unit of D^0 lifetime

$$\frac{\tilde{R}_{K\pi}^+(t) + \tilde{R}_{K\pi}^-(t)}{2} \approx R_{K\pi} \left(1 + \frac{c_{K\pi}}{\sqrt{R_{K\pi}}} t + \frac{c'_{K\pi}}{R_{K\pi}} t^2 \right),$$

low sensitivity to quadratic term

$$\frac{\tilde{R}_{K\pi}^+(t) - \tilde{R}_{K\pi}^-(t)}{2} \approx R_{K\pi} \left(\tilde{A}_{K\pi} + \frac{\Delta\tilde{c}_{K\pi}}{\sqrt{R_{K\pi}}} t + \frac{\Delta\tilde{c}'_{K\pi}}{R_{K\pi}} t^2 \right),$$

- $R_{K\pi}$ is the DCS/CF ratio $\sim 3.4 \times 10^{-3}$

- Mixing observables:

- $c_{K\pi} \approx y_{12} + x_{12} \Delta_{K\pi}$

mostly sensitive to y_{12}

strong phase difference

$$\Delta_{K\pi} = -10^\circ \pm 3^\circ$$

LHCb-CONF-2022-003,
PRD86.112001, EPJC82.1009

- $c'_{K\pi} \approx \frac{x_{12}^2 + y_{12}^2}{4}$

- CPV observables:

- $\tilde{A}_{K\pi} \approx a_{\text{DCS}}^d - 2a_{KK}^d$

SM predict $a_{\text{DCS}}^d = 0$
only one amplitude in $D^0 \rightarrow K\pi$

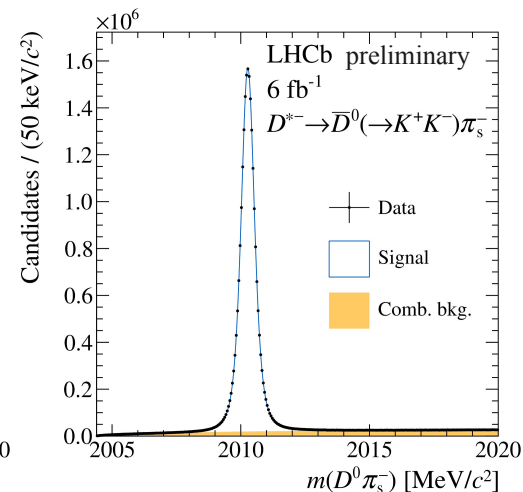
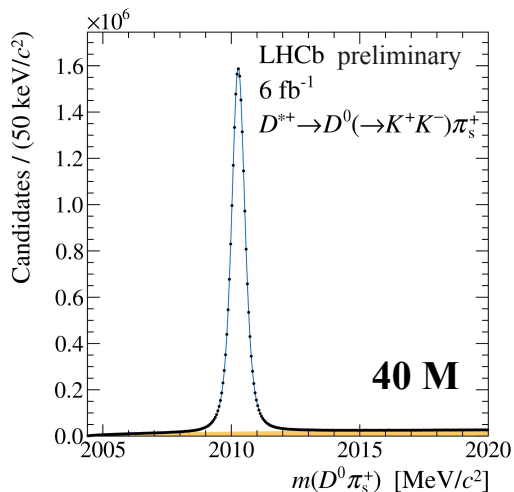
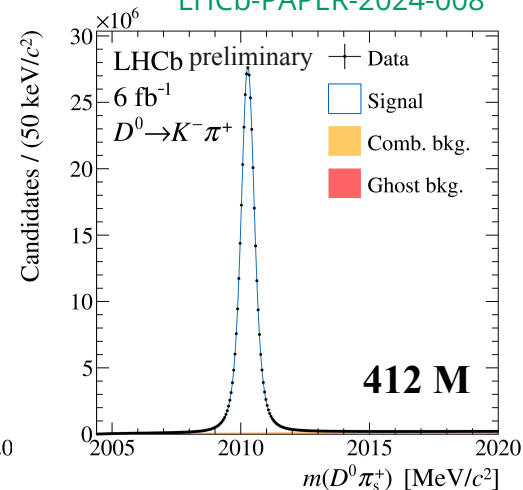
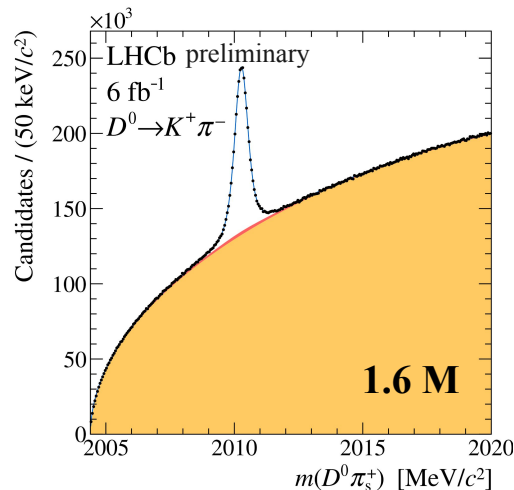
- $\Delta\tilde{c}_{K\pi} \approx \phi_2^M x_{12} \left(1 + 2\sqrt{R_{K\pi}} \right) - \phi_2^\Gamma y_{12} \Delta_{K\pi}$

mostly sensitive to $\phi_2^M x_{12} \approx -\Delta Y$

- $\Delta\tilde{c}'_{K\pi} \approx \left[\phi_2^M \left(1 + 4\sqrt{R_{K\pi}} \right) - \phi_2^\Gamma \right] \frac{x_{12} y_{12}}{2}$

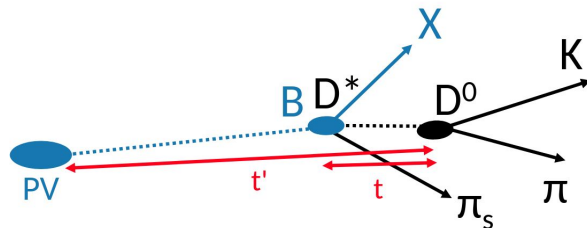
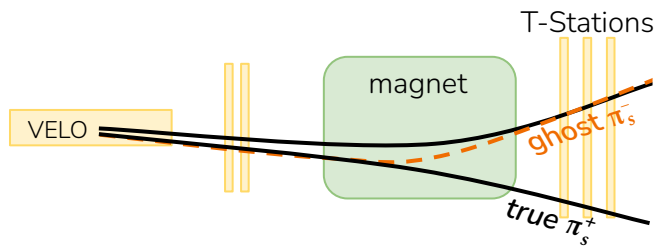
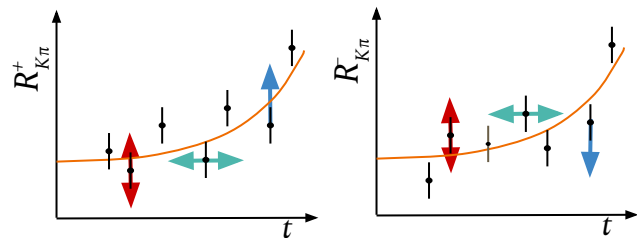
Dataset

- Dataset: Run 2, 6 fb^{-1} pp collision @ 13 TeV
- Sample divided depending on: D^0 final states, t and data-taking period
- Binned fit performed simultaneously to $D^0\pi^+$ invariant mass distributions of WS and RS to disentangle signal from main backgrounds
- Similar fit performed simultaneously to $D^0 \rightarrow K^+K^-$ samples from D^{*+} and D^{*-}



Experimental challenges

- Misassociation of correct VELO hits with wrong T-Stations hits turn RS π_s in **WS ghosts π_s** that peak in D^* mass
 → Pure ghost subsample used as proxy for bkg shape
- t biased towards higher values due to **secondary D^* from b -hadrons decays**
 → Reject bkg cutting on $\text{IP}(D^0)$. Residual time biases determined via 2D template fit to t vs. $\text{IP}(D^0)$
- $D^0 \rightarrow K^+K^-$ kinematics is equalized to $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$ to exactly cancel instrumental asymmetries



Mixing + CPV fit – Results

All parameters are statistically dominated
Uncertainty improved by 1.6x wrt PRD97,031101

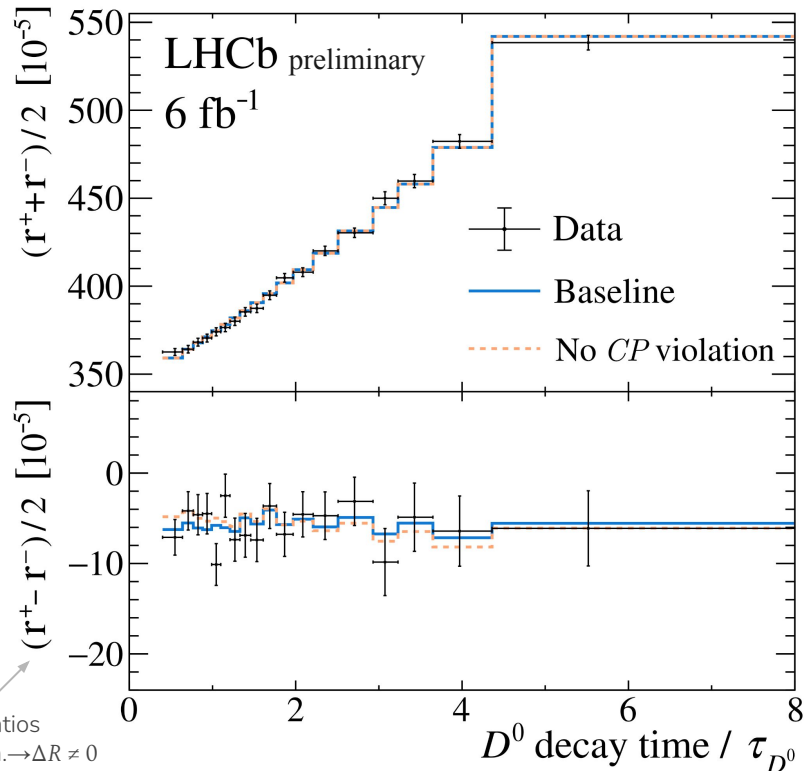
Mixing observables

$c'_{K\pi} \neq 0$, 3.5σ evidence for a significant quadratic term

Parameters		$R_{K\pi}$	$c_{K\pi}$	Correlations (%)			
				$c'_{K\pi}$	$\tilde{A}_{K\pi}$	$\Delta\tilde{c}_{K\pi}$	$\Delta\tilde{c}'_{K\pi}$
$R_{K\pi}$	$(342.7 \pm 1.9) \times 10^{-5}$	100	-92.7	80.3	0.8	-0.7	0.0
$c_{K\pi}$	$(52.8 \pm 3.3) \times 10^{-4}$		100	-94.3	-1.4	1.3	-0.6
$c'_{K\pi}$	$(12.0 \pm 3.5) \times 10^{-6}$			100	0.7	-0.6	0.0
$\tilde{A}_{K\pi}$	$(-8.2 \pm 5.9) \times 10^{-3}$				100	-93.4	81.0
$\Delta\tilde{c}_{K\pi}$	$(3.2 \pm 3.6) \times 10^{-4}$					100	-94.3
$\Delta\tilde{c}'_{K\pi}$	$(-2.0 \pm 3.8) \times 10^{-6}$						100

CPV observables

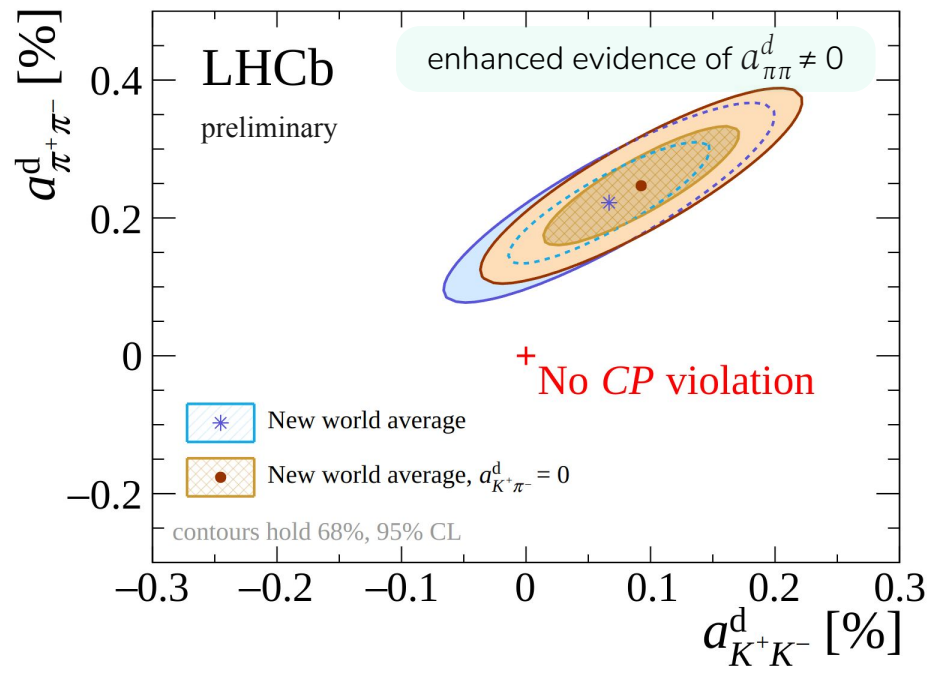
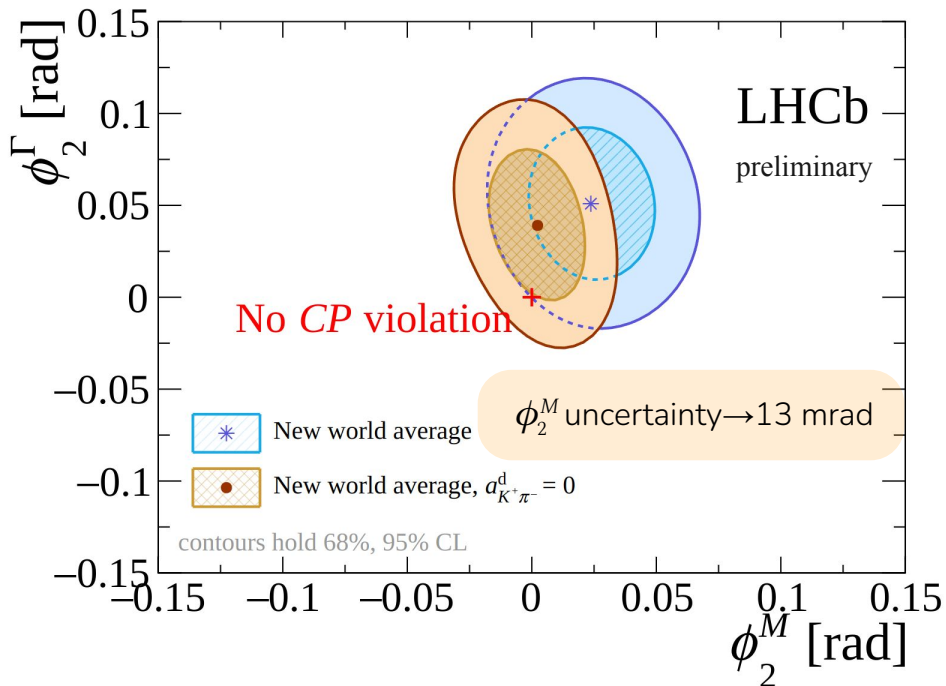
No evidence of CPV neither in decay, mixing nor interference



Impact on World Average - $a_{\text{DCS}}^d = 0$

New charm+beauty LHCb fit
→ Aidan talk @ 17.30

- Assuming $a_{\text{DCS}}^d = 0$ boosts ϕ_2^M sensitivity and allows to perform an independent measurement of a_{KK}^d



Time-dependent CPV in $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0$

Observable and dataset

- Time dependent CP asymmetry can be expanded as

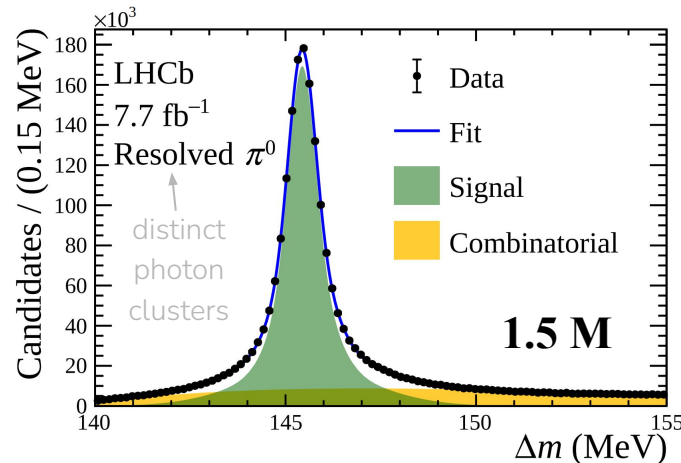
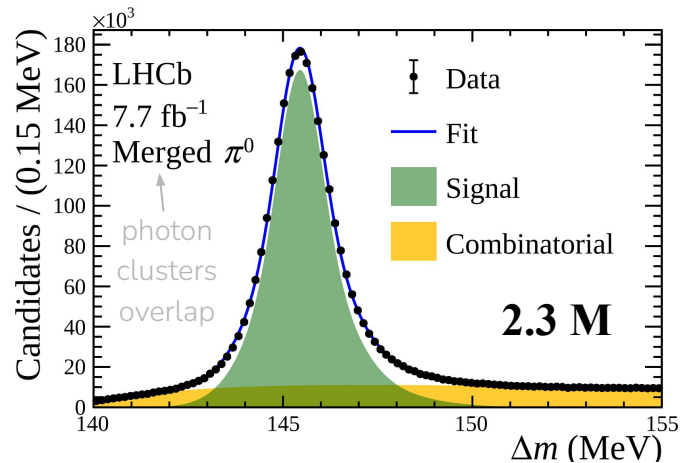
$$A_{CP}^f(t) \equiv \frac{\Gamma(D^0(t) \rightarrow f) - \Gamma(\bar{D}^0(t) \rightarrow f)}{\Gamma(D^0(t) \rightarrow f) + \Gamma(\bar{D}^0(t) \rightarrow f)} \approx a_f^d + \Delta Y_f t$$

- In $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0$ (self-conjugated multibody decay):

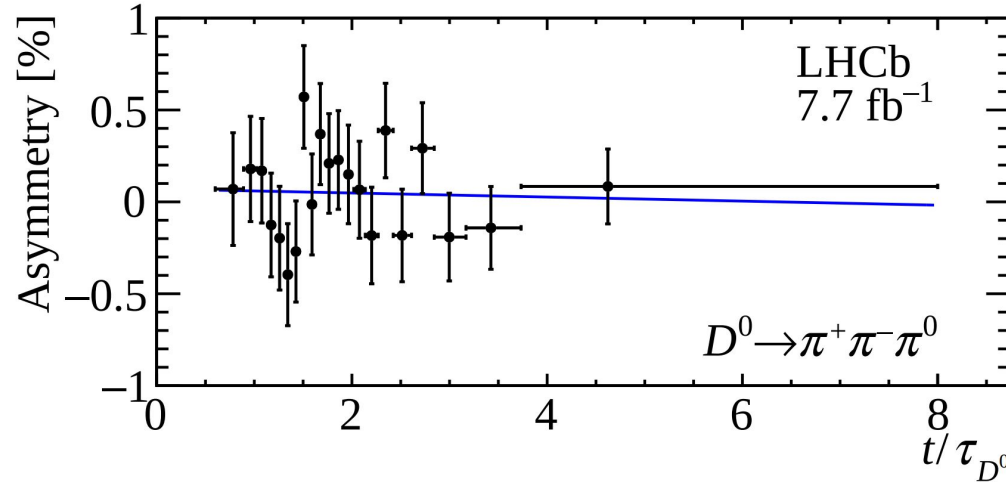
PRD91,094032 $\Delta Y_f \approx \phi_2^M x_{12} (1 - 2F_f^+) \leftarrow$ CP-even fraction

PLB747,9 $F_{\pi\pi\pi^0}^+ = 0.973 \pm 0.017 \sim$ entirely CP-even

- Dataset: 2012 + Run 2, 7.7 fb^{-1} , D^* tagged
- Sample divided depending on t , data-taking period, magnet polarity and $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ decay category
- Trigger induced time-dependent asymmetries removed equalizing D^0, π_s kinematics among D^{*+} and D^{*-}



Final results



$$\Delta Y = (-1.3 \pm 6.3(\text{stat}) \pm 2.4(\text{syst})) \times 10^{-4}$$

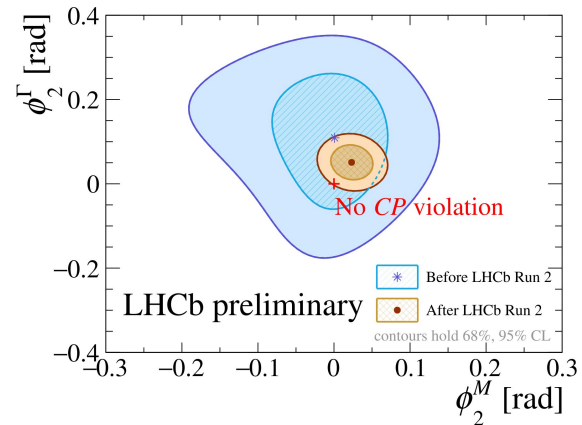
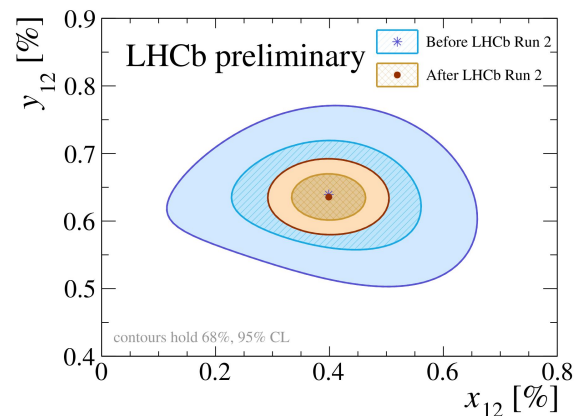
- Consistent with no CP violation and statistically limited
- First measurement of time-dependent CPV in a decay with π^0 @ hadron collider

Conclusions

- Main advancement in charm CPV
 - CPV mixing phase ϕ_2^M uncertainties down to 13 mrad
→ compatible with zero, 6x SM prediction
 - new independent measurement of a_{KK}^d
→ enhanced evidence of direct CPV in $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$
- Very successful Run 2. Measurements still statistically dominated
- The way is paved for Run 3. Expected 2x efficiency / fb⁻¹ for $D^0 \rightarrow hh'$
- Still more to come from Run 1+2, stay tuned !

Thank you!

LHCb-PAPER-2024-008



Backup

Phenomenological vs Theoretical parametrization

$$|D_{1,2}\rangle = p|D^0\rangle \pm q|\bar{D}^0\rangle$$

Phenomenological

$$x = \Delta m / \Gamma$$

$$y = \Delta\Gamma / 2\Gamma$$

$$\left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^2 = \frac{M_{12}^* - \frac{i}{2}\Gamma_{12}^*}{M_{12} - \frac{i}{2}\Gamma_{12}}$$

$$\phi_2 \equiv \arg\left[\frac{q}{p} \frac{(\lambda_s - \lambda_d)^2 \Gamma_2}{4}\right]$$

Theoretical

$$x_{12} = 2|M_{12}|/\Gamma$$

$$y_{12} = |\Gamma_{12}|/\Gamma$$

$$\phi_2^\Gamma \equiv \arg\left[\frac{\Gamma_{12}}{\frac{1}{4}(\lambda_s - \lambda_d)^2 \Gamma_2}\right]$$

$$\phi_2^M \equiv \arg\left[\frac{M_{12}}{\frac{1}{4}(\lambda_s - \lambda_d)^2 M_2}\right]$$

$$x_{12} \approx |x|$$

$$y_{12} \approx |y|$$

$$\left|\frac{q}{p}\right| - 1 \approx \frac{x_{12}y_{12}}{x_{12}^2 + y_{12}^2} \sin(\phi_2^M - \phi_2^\Gamma)$$

$$\phi_2 \approx -\frac{x_{12}^2}{x_{12}^2 + y_{12}^2} \phi_2^M - \frac{y_{12}^2}{x_{12}^2 + y_{12}^2} \phi_2^\Gamma$$

intrinsic CPV mixing phases, defined with respect to the dominant $\Delta U = 2$ dispersive and absorptive mixing amplitudes

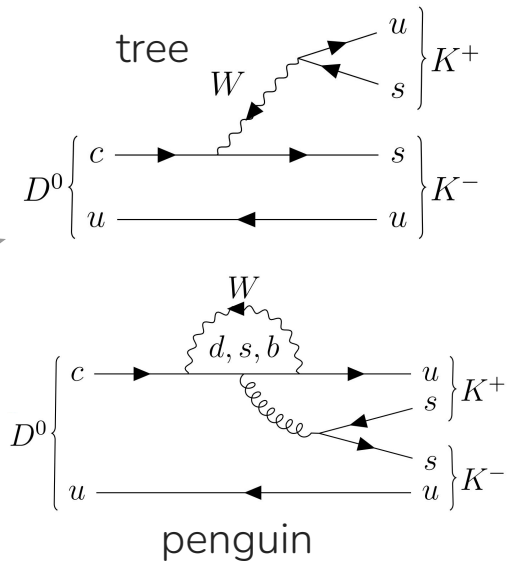
Kagan & Silvestrini 2021

CP violation manifestations

- CPV in the decay 

$$\mathcal{A}(M \rightarrow f) = |a_1|e^{i(\delta_1+\phi_1)} + |a_2|e^{i(\delta_2+\phi_2)}$$

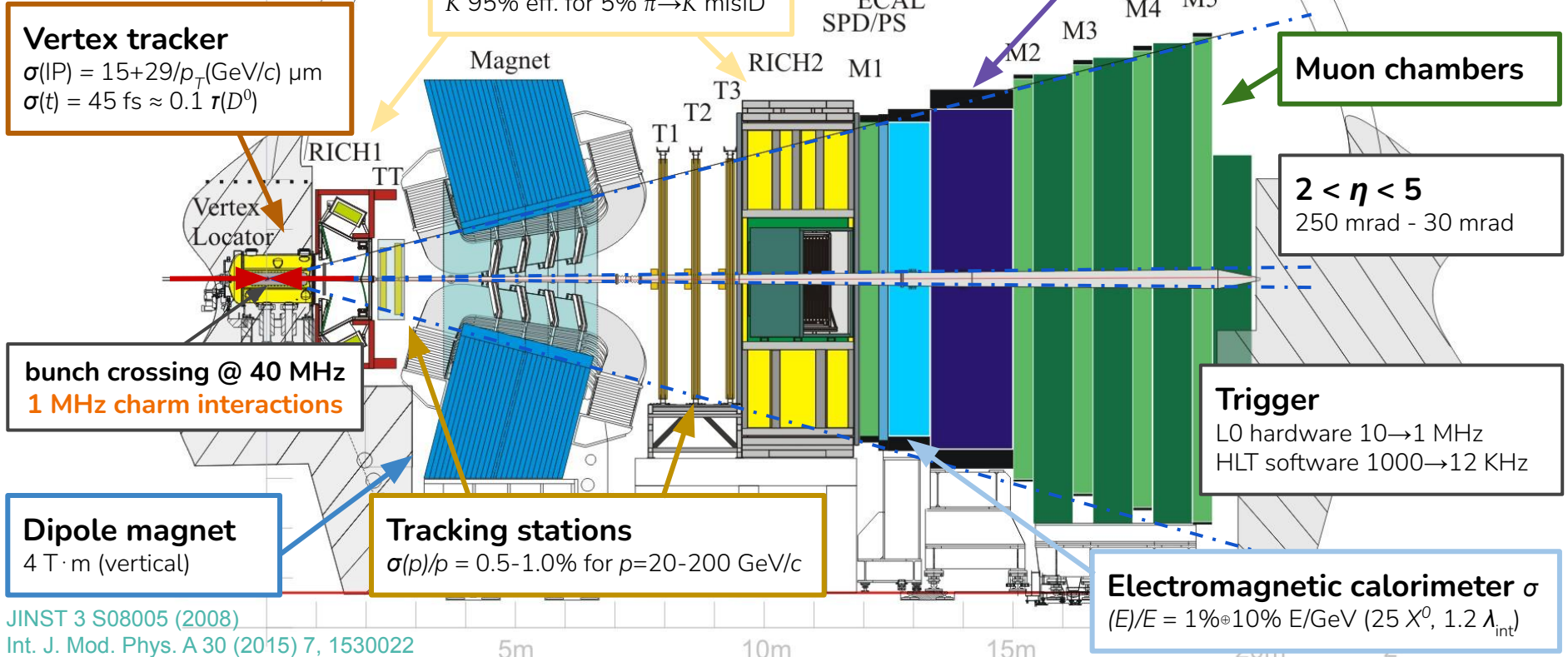
$$\mathcal{A}(\bar{M} \rightarrow \bar{f}) = |a_1|e^{i(\delta_1-\phi_1)} + |a_2|e^{i(\delta_2-\phi_2)}$$



need for at least two interfering amplitudes with different weak ϕ and strong δ phases

$$a_f^d = \frac{|\mathcal{A}(M \rightarrow f)|^2 - |\mathcal{A}(\bar{M} \rightarrow \bar{f})|^2}{|\mathcal{A}(M \rightarrow f)|^2 + |\mathcal{A}(\bar{M} \rightarrow \bar{f})|^2} \propto \sin(\phi_2 - \phi_1) \sin(\delta_2 - \delta_1)$$

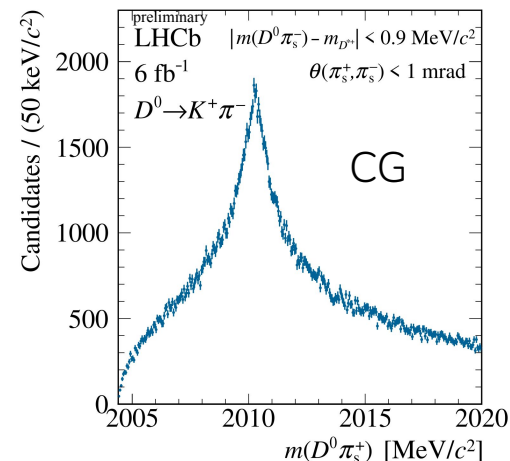
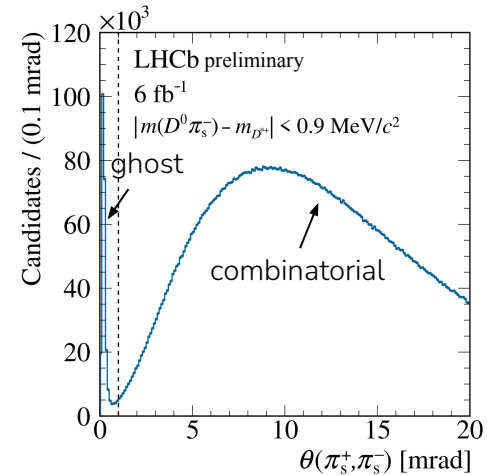
LHCb experiment - Run 1+2



JINST 3 S08005 (2008)
 Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 30 (2015) 7, 1530022

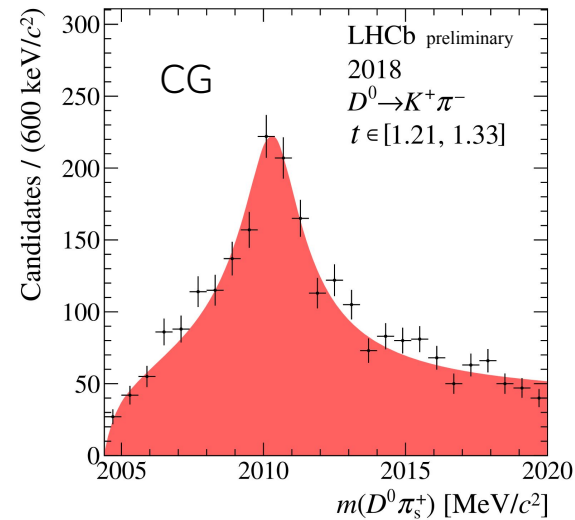
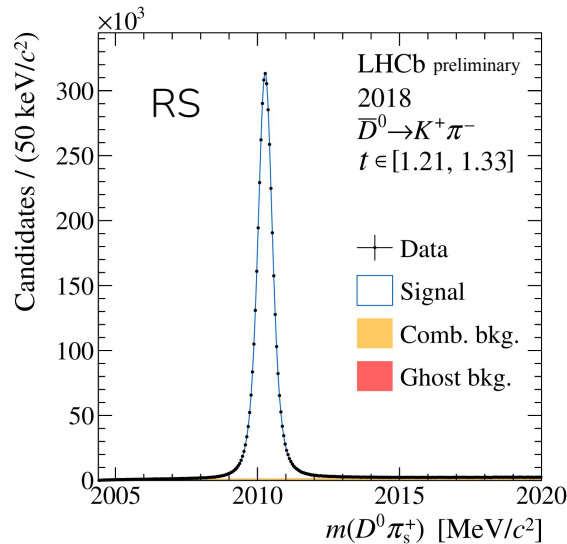
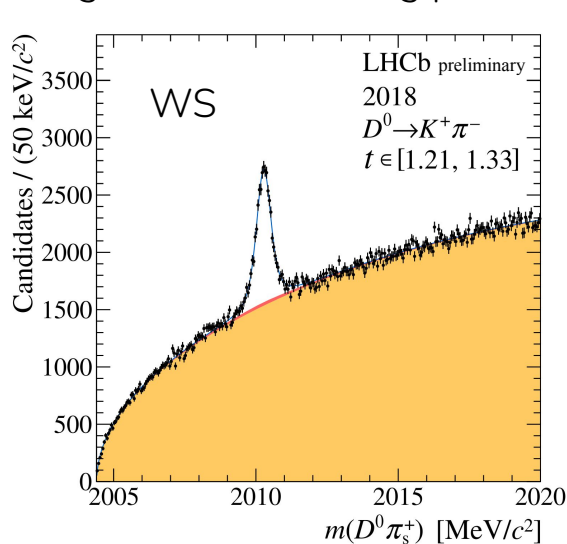
Ratio biases – Ghost background proxy

- A fraction of D^0 candidates is used to reconstruct both WS D^{*+} and RS D^{*-}
- RS D^* within 3σ from D^* peak, are most likely genuine
→ common WS are either ghost or combinatorial bkg and discarded to improve signal-to-noise ratio
- In this sample, ghost and combinatorial component can be disentangled looking at angle between π_s^+ and π_s^-
- This pure subsample of common ghost (CG) is used as a proxy for residual ghost bkg



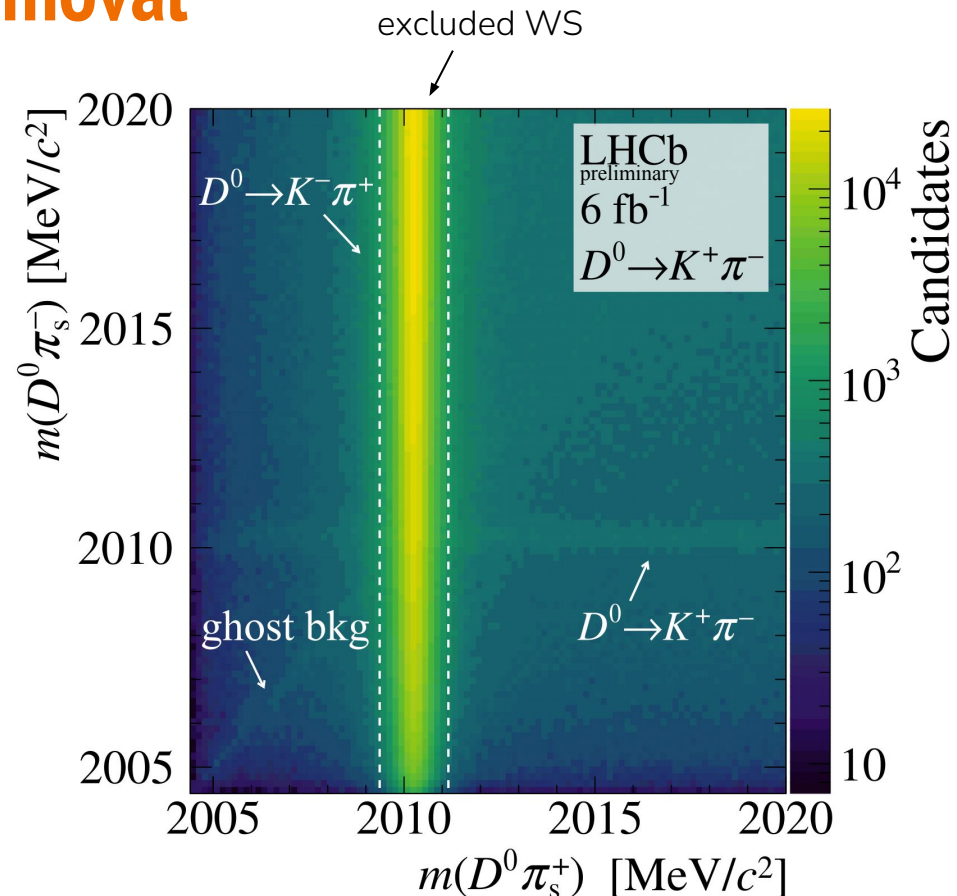
WS/RS Ratio determination - D^* mass fit

- Constraining D^* in the PV improve mass resolution by a factor of 2
- A χ^2 binned fit is performed **simultaneously** to D^* mass distributions of WS, RS and CG
- Each subsample independently fitted (decay-time interval, data-taking period, and D^0 final state)
- Signal and Ghost bkg pdf are shared



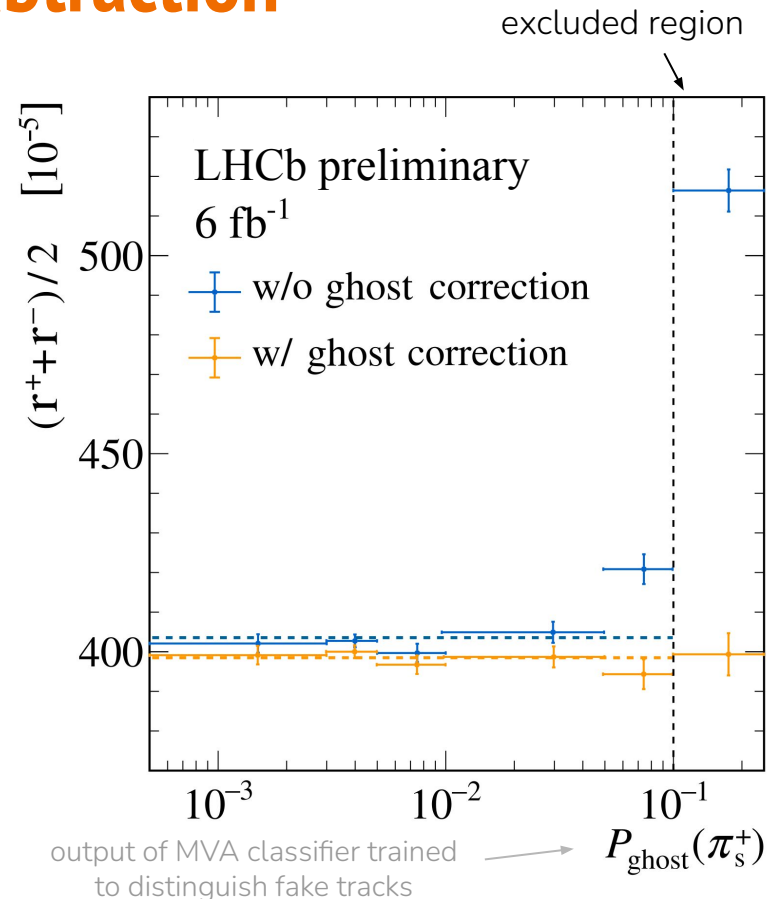
Ratio biases – common WS removal

- Removing these WS-RS multiple candidates, a small fraction of proper WS decays are removed, biasing the ratio
- Estimated and subtracted bias $\sim \sigma(R_{K\pi})/5$



Ratio biases – Test of ghost bkg. subtraction

- Test capability to correctly remove ghost bkg.
- Fit WS-to-RS ratio in 6 bin of $P_{\text{ghost}}(\pi_s^+)$ with and without ghost component
- When ghosts are neglected clear bias appears
- Adding ghost component removes any dependence
- The subtracted bias on $R_{K\pi}$ from ghost bkg. is $\sim 1\%$



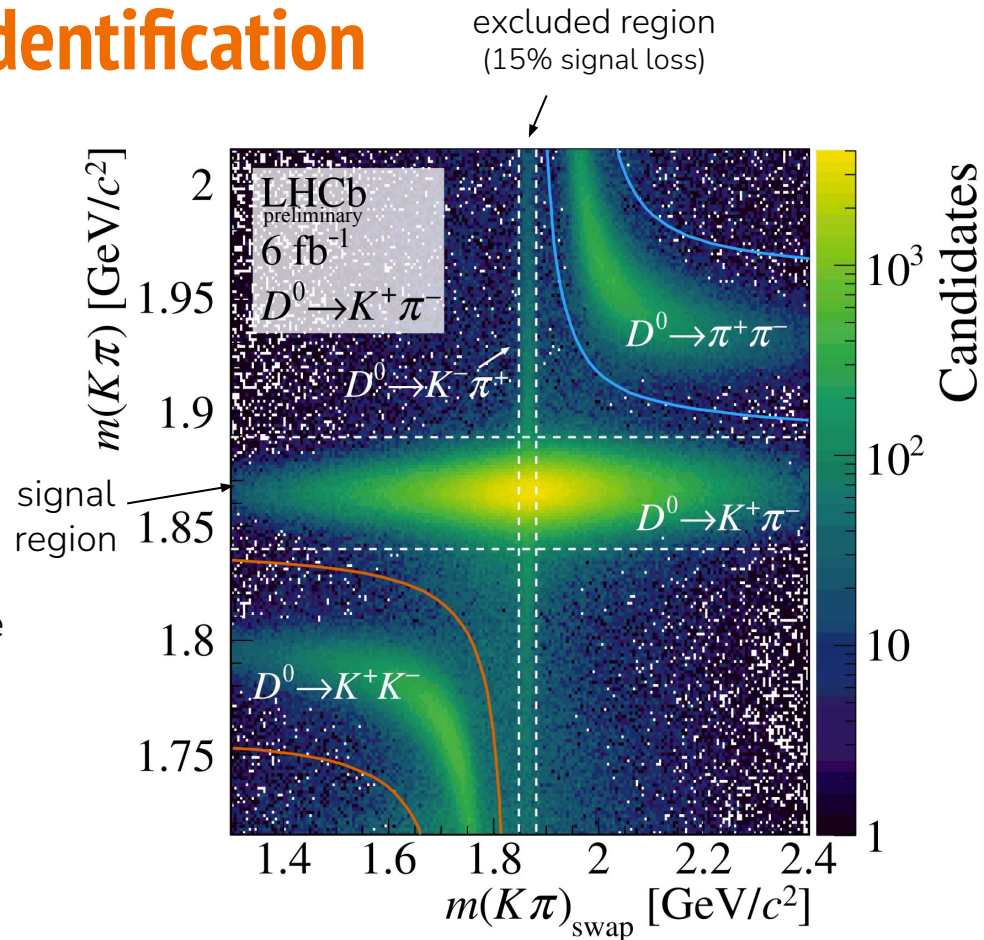
Ratio biases – Particles misidentification

- Remove background from single mis-ID
 $D^0 \rightarrow K^+(\rightarrow \pi^+) K^-$ and $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+(\rightarrow K^+) \pi^-$

$$|m(K\pi) - m(D^0)_{\text{PDG}}| < 24 \text{ MeV} (3\sigma)$$
- Misreconstructed multibody charm decays found to be negligible in previous studies
- Reduce by factor of 5 background from double mis-ID $D^0 \rightarrow K^-(\rightarrow \pi^-) \pi^+(\rightarrow K^+)$ (RS \rightarrow WS)

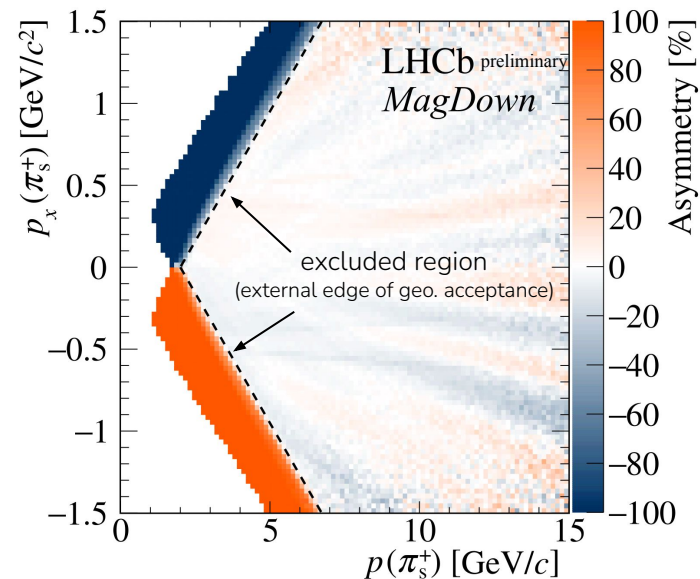
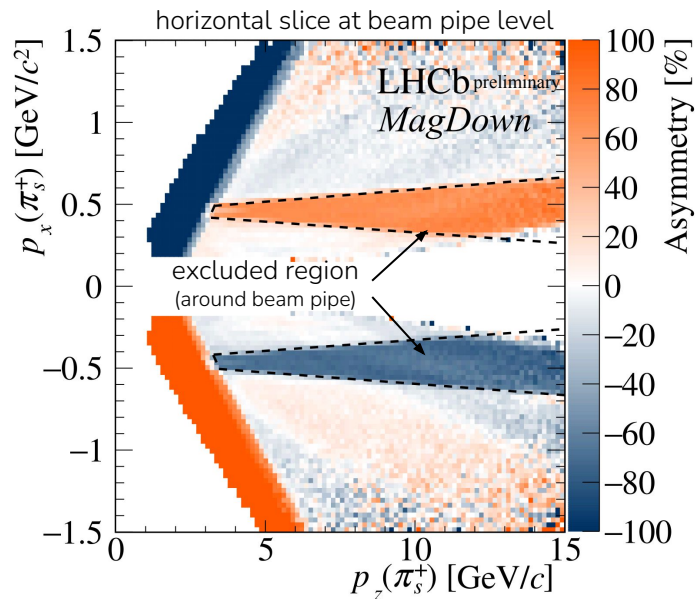
$$|m(K\pi)_{\text{swap}} - m(D^0)_{\text{PDG}}| > 16 \text{ MeV} (1.5\sigma)$$

Subtracted residual bias $\sim \sigma(R_{K\pi})/10$



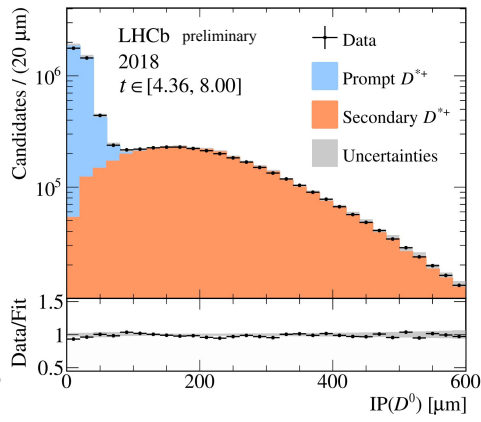
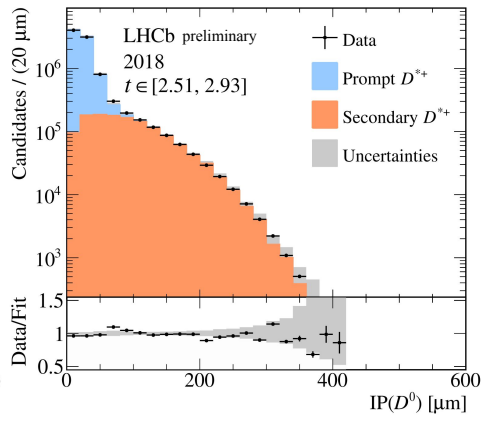
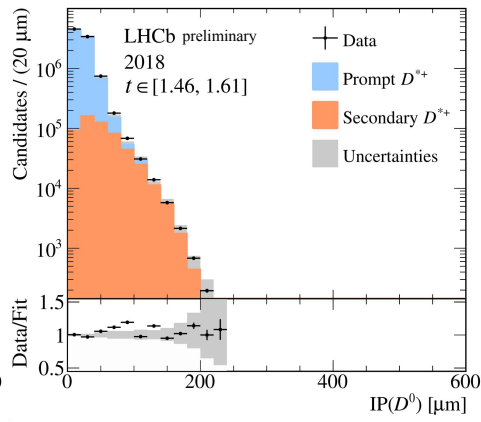
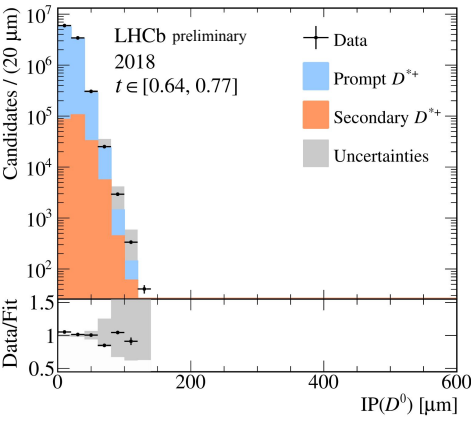
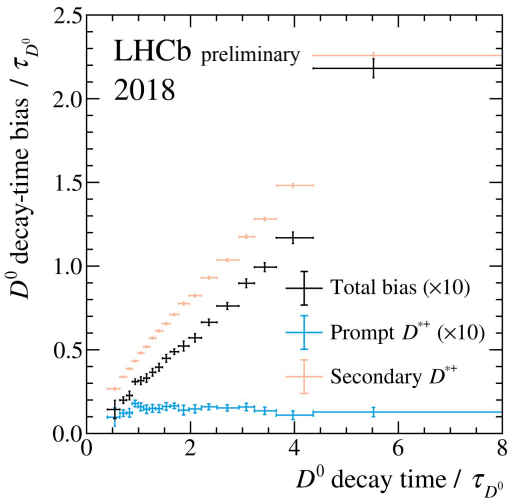
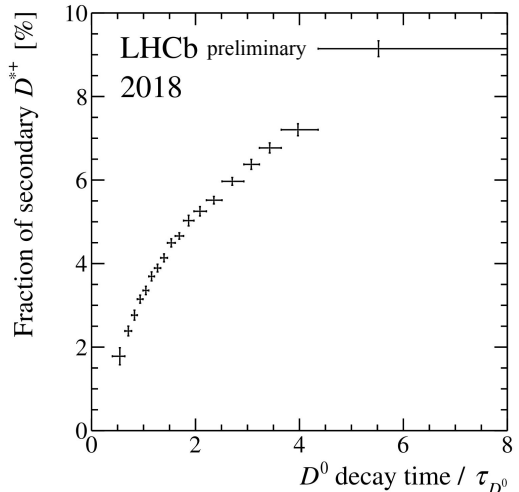
Asymmetry bias – Nuisance asymmetry correction

- When $A_D(\pi_s)$ is not small, correction terms appear in equations in previous slide
- Very high asymmetry regions are conservatively removed (15% signal loss)
→ collateral benefit: remove 40% of residual ghost contamination



Decay-time bias – Results

- Final results in 2018 data-taking period



Alternative observable/parameterization

- Alternative observable/parameterization already presented at previous LHC seminar:

$$R_{K\pi}^+(t) \equiv \frac{\Gamma(D^0(t) \rightarrow K^+\pi^-)}{\Gamma(\bar{D}^0(t) \rightarrow K^+\pi^-)} \quad R_{K\pi}^-(t) \equiv \frac{\Gamma(\bar{D}^0(t) \rightarrow K^-\pi^+)}{\Gamma(D^0(t) \rightarrow K^-\pi^+)}$$

$$R_{K\pi}^\pm(t) = R_{K\pi}(1 \pm A_{K\pi}) + \sqrt{R_{K\pi}(1 \pm A_{K\pi})} (c_{K\pi} \pm \Delta c_{K\pi}) t/\tau_{D^0} + (c'_{K\pi} \pm \Delta c'_{K\pi}) (t/\tau_{D^0})^2$$

- $R_{K\pi}$ and mixing observables are unchanged
- CPV observables transform to:
 - $A_{K\pi}$ is the CP asymmetry in DCS
 - $\Delta c_{K\pi} \approx x_{12} \sin \phi_2^M \cos \Delta_{K\pi} - y_{12} \sin \phi_2^\Gamma \sin \Delta_{K\pi}$
 - $\Delta c'_{K\pi} \approx \frac{1}{2} x_{12} y_{12} \sin(\phi_2^M - \phi_2^\Gamma)$

Mixing + CPV fit – Systematic uncertainties

- Main systematic sources are D^{*+} mass fit model and ghost bkg pdf
- Instrumental asymmetry are relevant only for CPV observables → statistically dominated
- Dominant systematic in previous iteration (decay-time bias) reduced by one order of magnitude
- Total systematic uncertainty improved by a factor of 2 [PRD97,031101](#)
- a_{KK}^d and ΔY external inputs are absorbed in the new observable definition

Source	$R_{K\pi}$ [10^{-5}]	$c_{K\pi}$ [10^{-4}]	$c'_{K\pi}$ [10^{-6}]	$A_{K\pi}$ [10^{-3}]	$\Delta c_{K\pi}$ [10^{-4}]	$\Delta c'_{K\pi}$ [10^{-6}]
Mass modeling	0.5	0.8	0.9	1.4	0.8	0.8
Ghost soft pions	0.4	0.8	0.8	1.1	0.8	1.1
Instrumental asymm.	–	–	–	1.2	0.7	0.7
a_{KK}^d ext. input	–	–	–	1.1	–	–
ΔY ext. input	–	–	–	–	0.1	0.1
Doubly Mis-ID bkg.	0.1	0.1	0.1	–	–	–
Common removal	0.2	–	–	–	–	–
Decay-time bias	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	–	–
m_{D^0}/τ_{D^0} ext. input	–	0.1	0.1	–	–	–
Total syst. uncertainty	0.7	1.1	1.2	2.4	1.3	1.4
Statistical uncertainty	1.9	3.3	3.5	5.5	3.3	3.5
Total uncertainty	2.0	3.5	3.7	6.0	3.6	3.8

Impact on World average

- Global fit performed à la HFLAV [JHEP2022.162](#)

