



UNIVERSITÄT
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SEIT 1386



Null Tests in B Decays

LFU, LFV, rare searches

Sara Celani, on behalf of the LHCb collaboration

LHCb Implications Workshop

CERN, 23-25 Oct, 2024



Lepton Flavour Universality

LFU

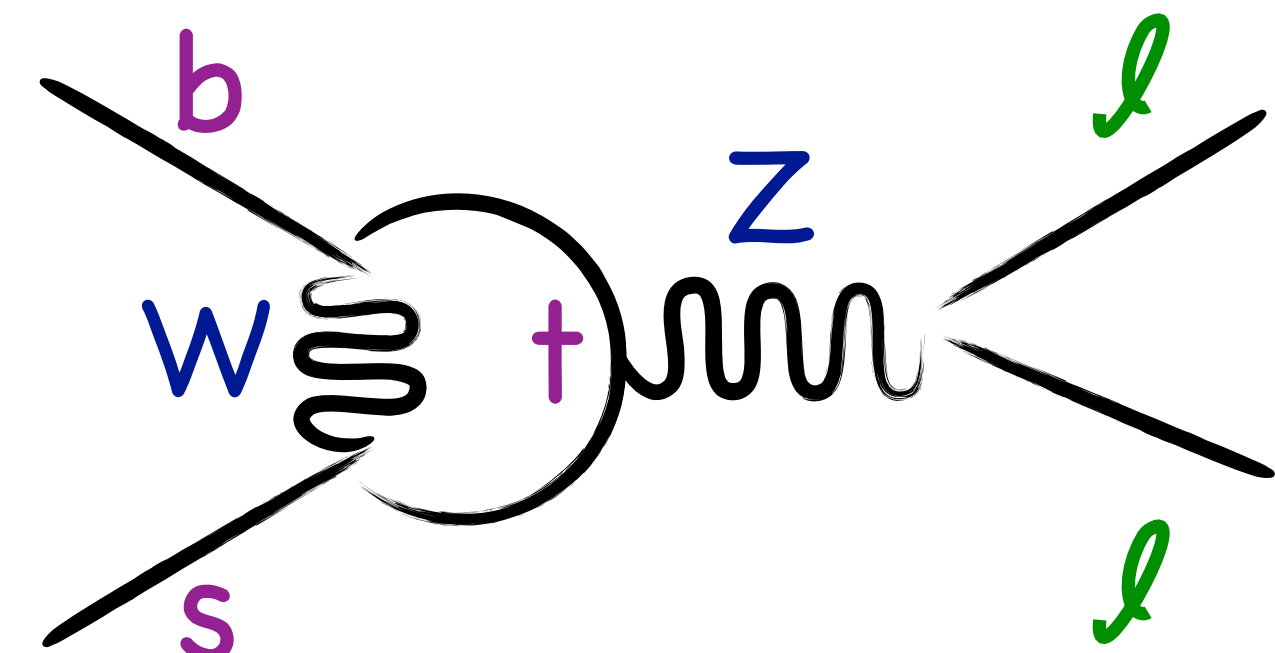
- $b \rightarrow s\ell\ell$ transitions extensively used to test the lepton universality of the SM
 - ▶ Rare processes, happen only via loop or boxes, $\mathcal{B} \sim 10^{-7} - 10^{-6}$
 - ▶ **New non-LFU physics** mediators can contribute with comparable amplitudes

- Test LFU by measuring **relative rates**

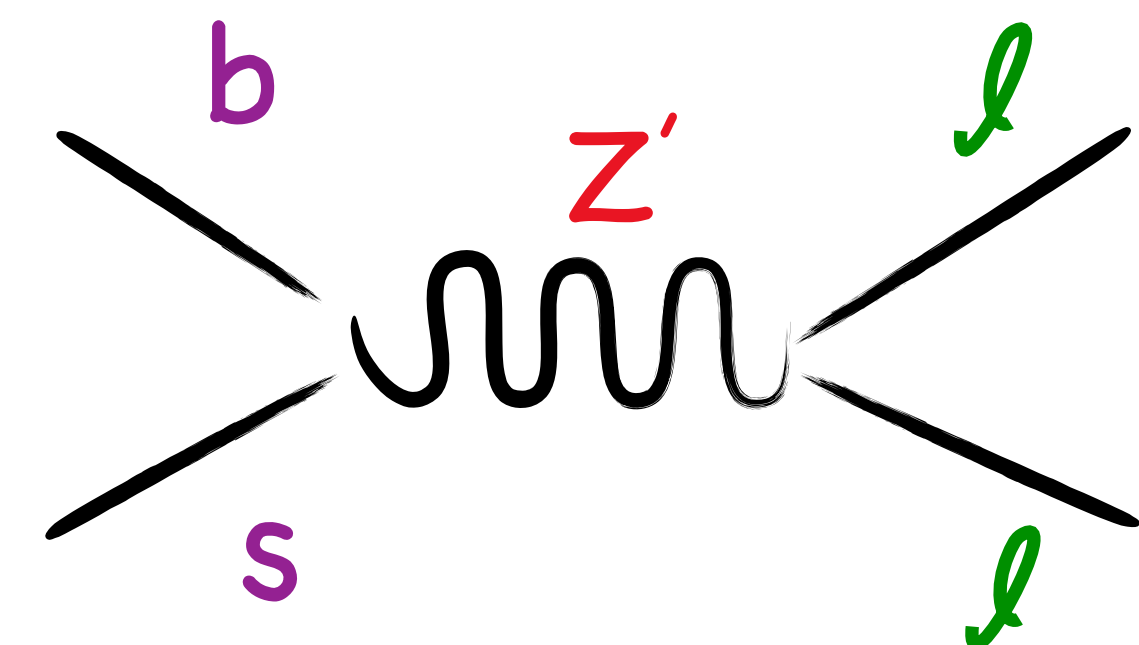
$$R_X = \frac{\int_{q_{\min}^2}^{q_{\max}^2} \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow X\mu^+\mu^-)}{dq^2} dq^2}{\int_{q_{\min}^2}^{q_{\max}^2} \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow Xe^+e^-)}{dq^2} dq^2} \stackrel{\text{SM}}{\equiv} 1 \quad \text{if } m_\ell^2 \ll q^2$$

- ▶ are clean: hadronic uncertainties cancels out in the ratio
- ▶ are predicted by the SM with very high precision

Neutral Current



New Physics



— LHCb dominates the precision on LFU tests with different hadronic systems $X = K, K^*, pK\dots$

— Today's talk:

NEW! ▶ LFU test with $B_s \rightarrow \phi_{(\rightarrow K^+K^-)} \ell^+ \ell^-$ decays

[CERN seminar](#)

❖ First LFU test with a B_s decay

❖ First LHCb high- q^2 LFU test

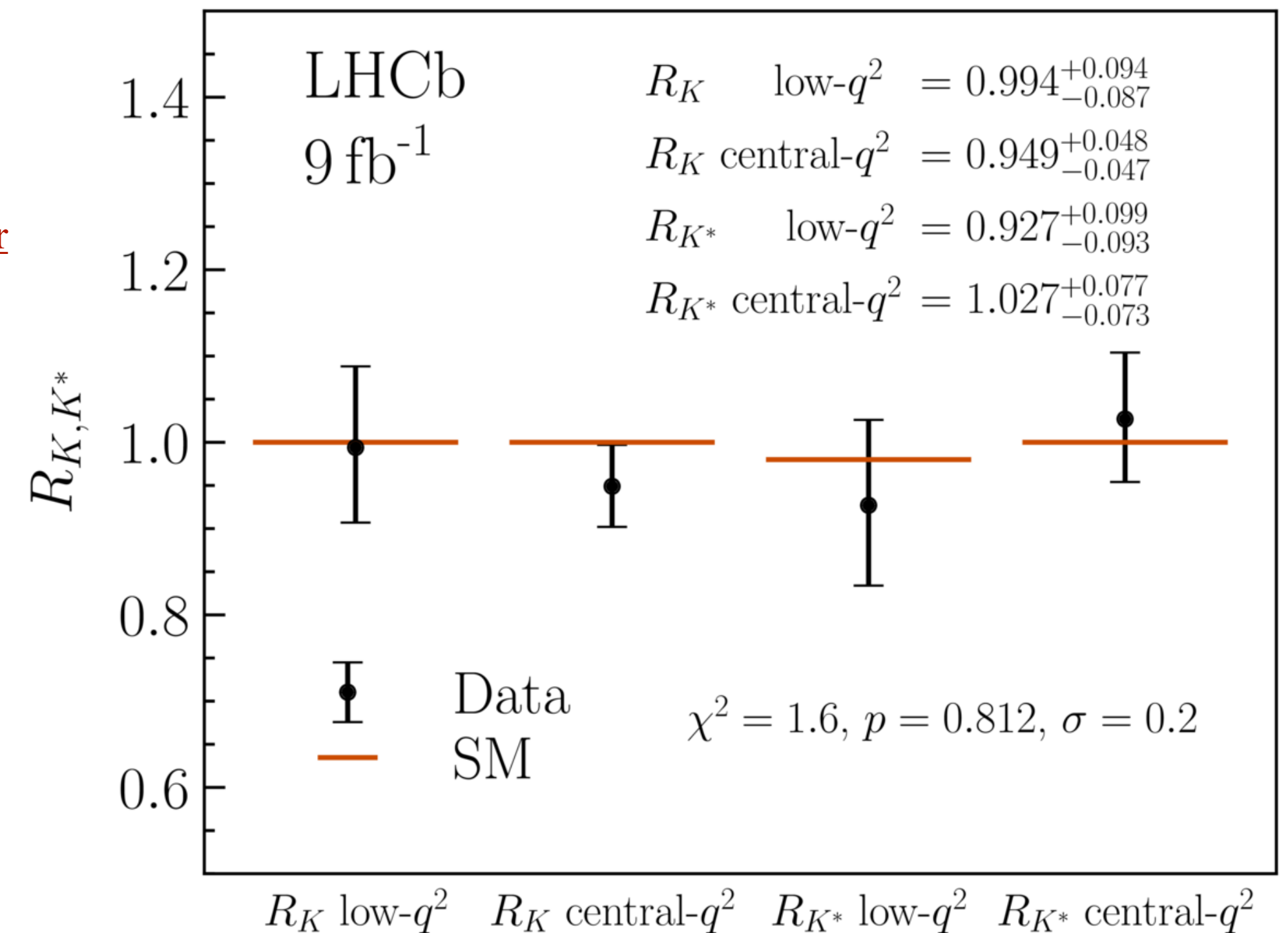
❖ First observation of $B_s \rightarrow \phi e^+ e^-$ decay*

NEW! ▶ LFU test with $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^+ \pi^- \ell^+ \ell^-$ decays

❖ First inclusive LFU test with 5-body decays

❖ First observation of $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ e^-$ decay

PRL 131 (2023) 051803



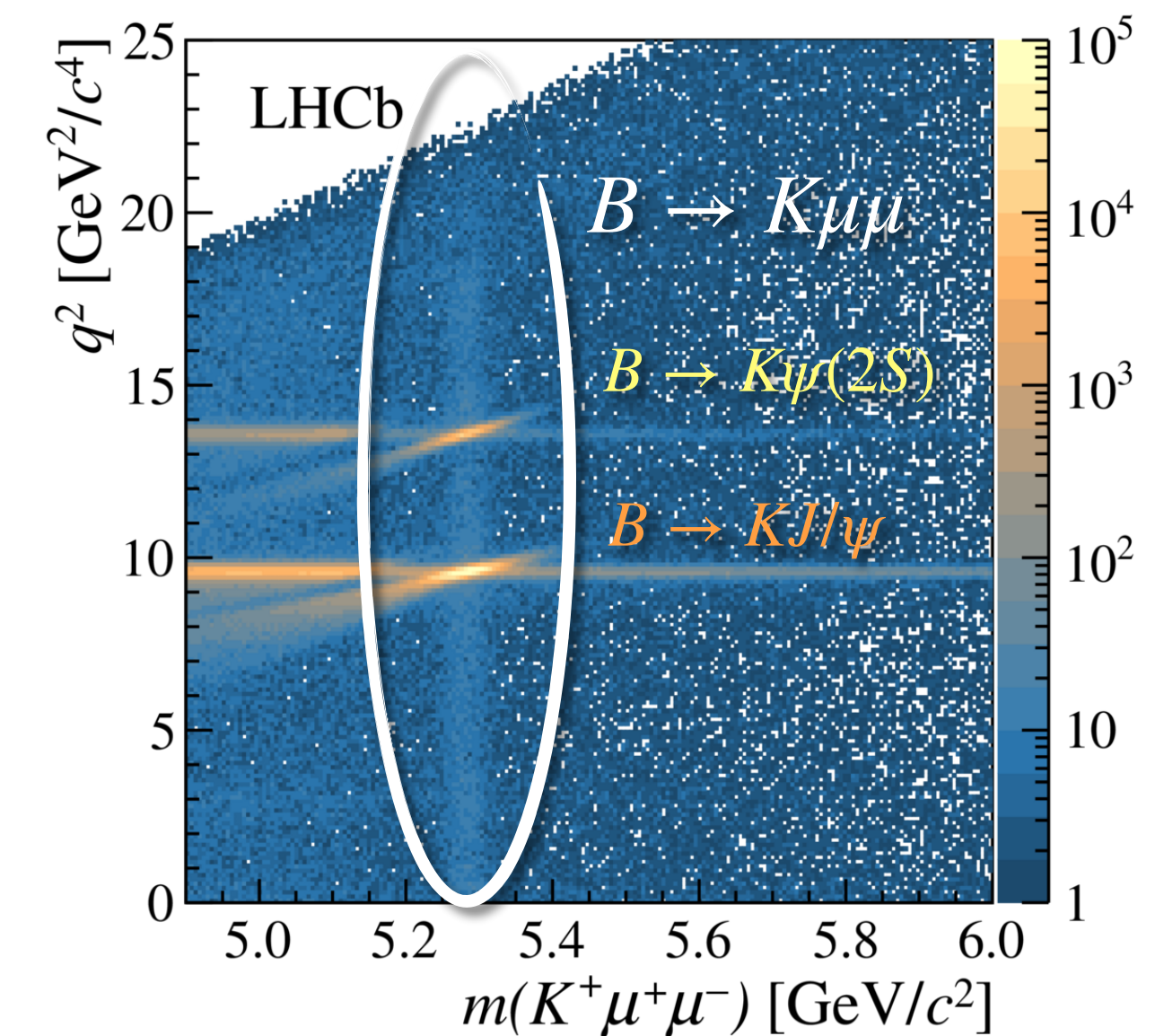
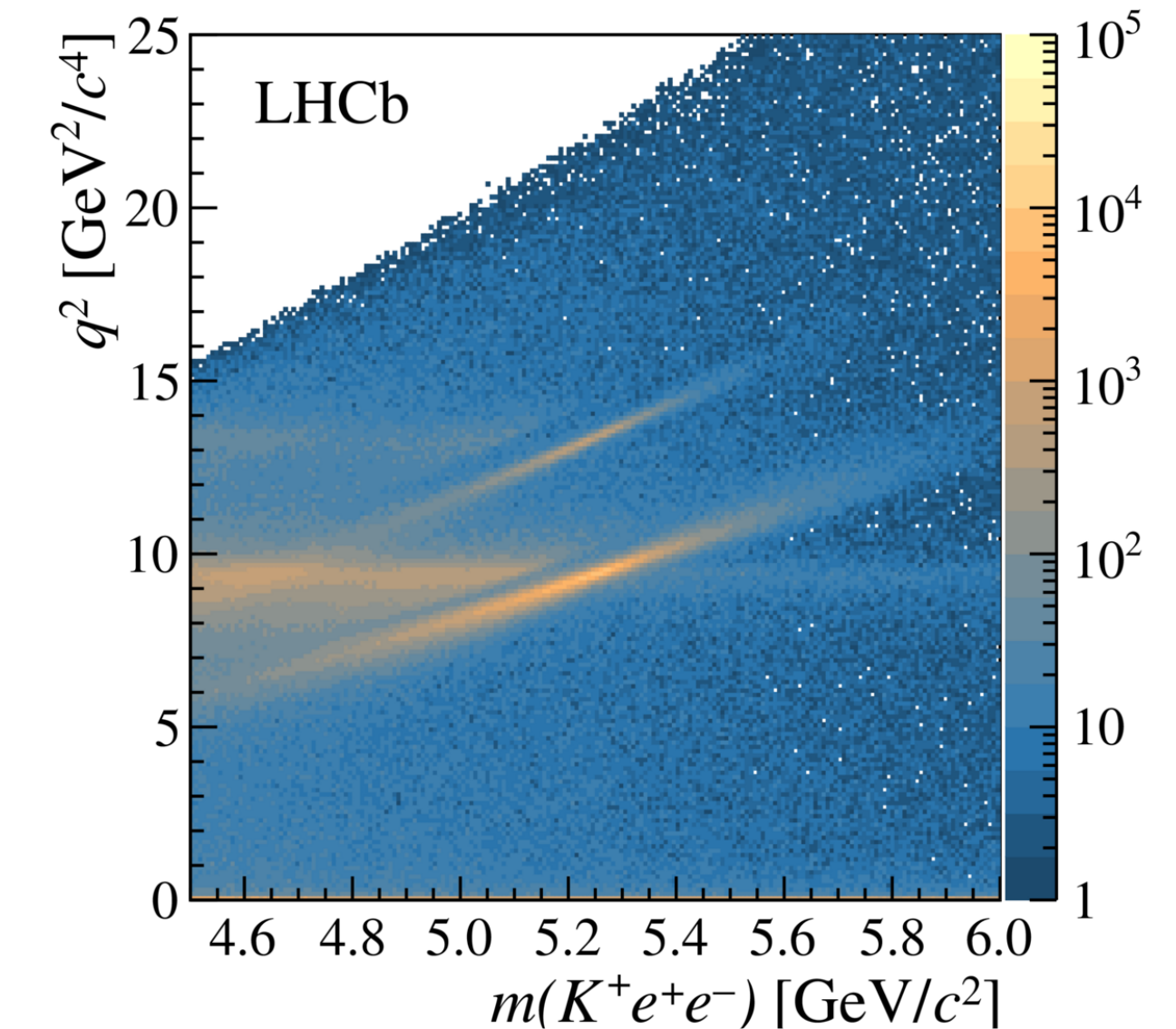
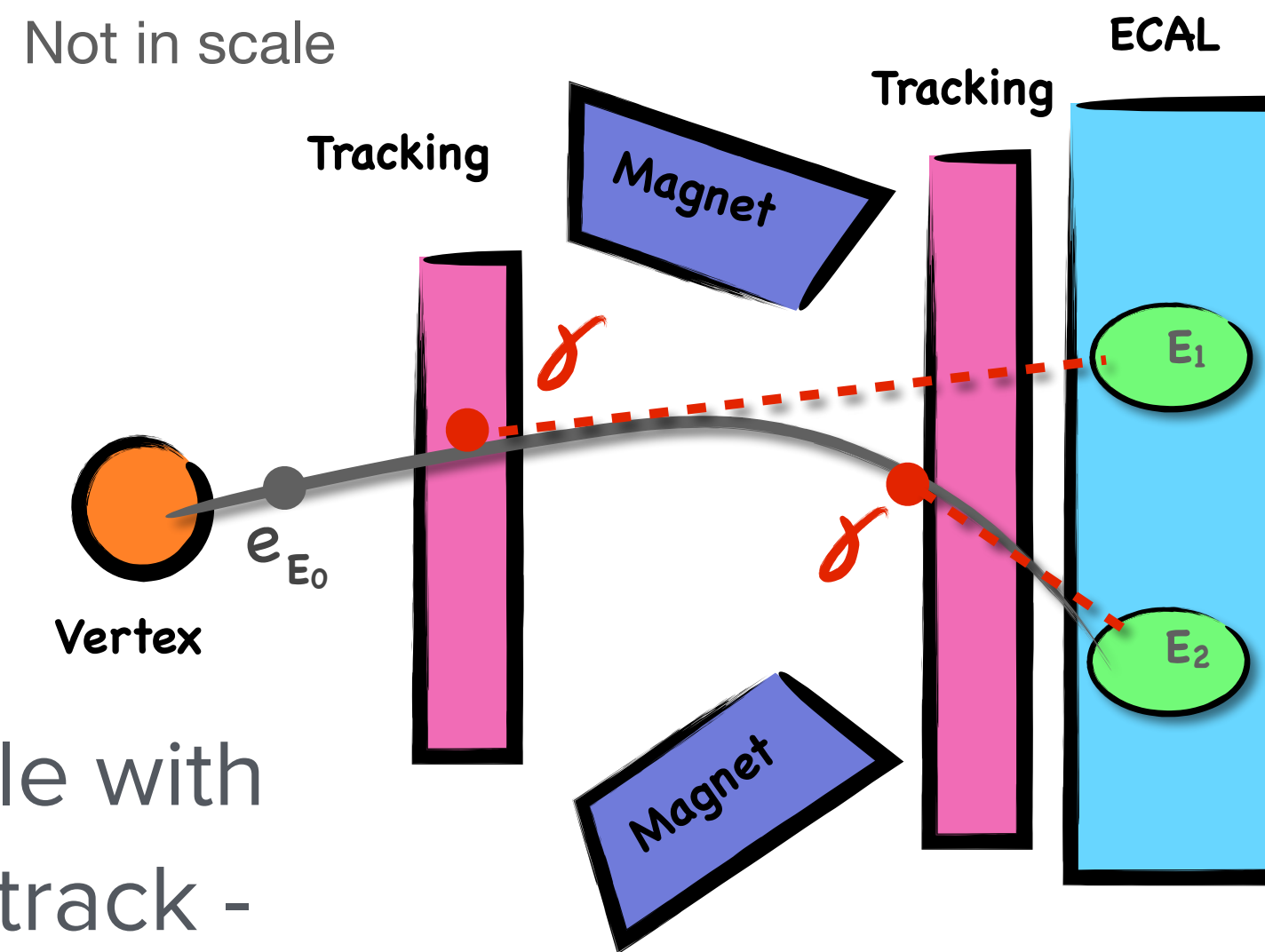
*together with very low q^2 analysis [LHCb-PAPER-2024-030], in preparation, see [Lakshan Madhan talk](#)

LFU ratios challenges: e vs μ

$$q^2 = m^2(\ell^+\ell^-)$$

PRL 122 (2019) 191801

- Most electrons emit **bremsstrahlung** photons:
 - Need to recover the photon cluster energy
 - Photon added if compatible with the extrapolated electron track - $\mathcal{O}(50\%)$ efficient
- High occupancy in the ECAL
 - Higher energy thresholds \rightarrow lower statistics

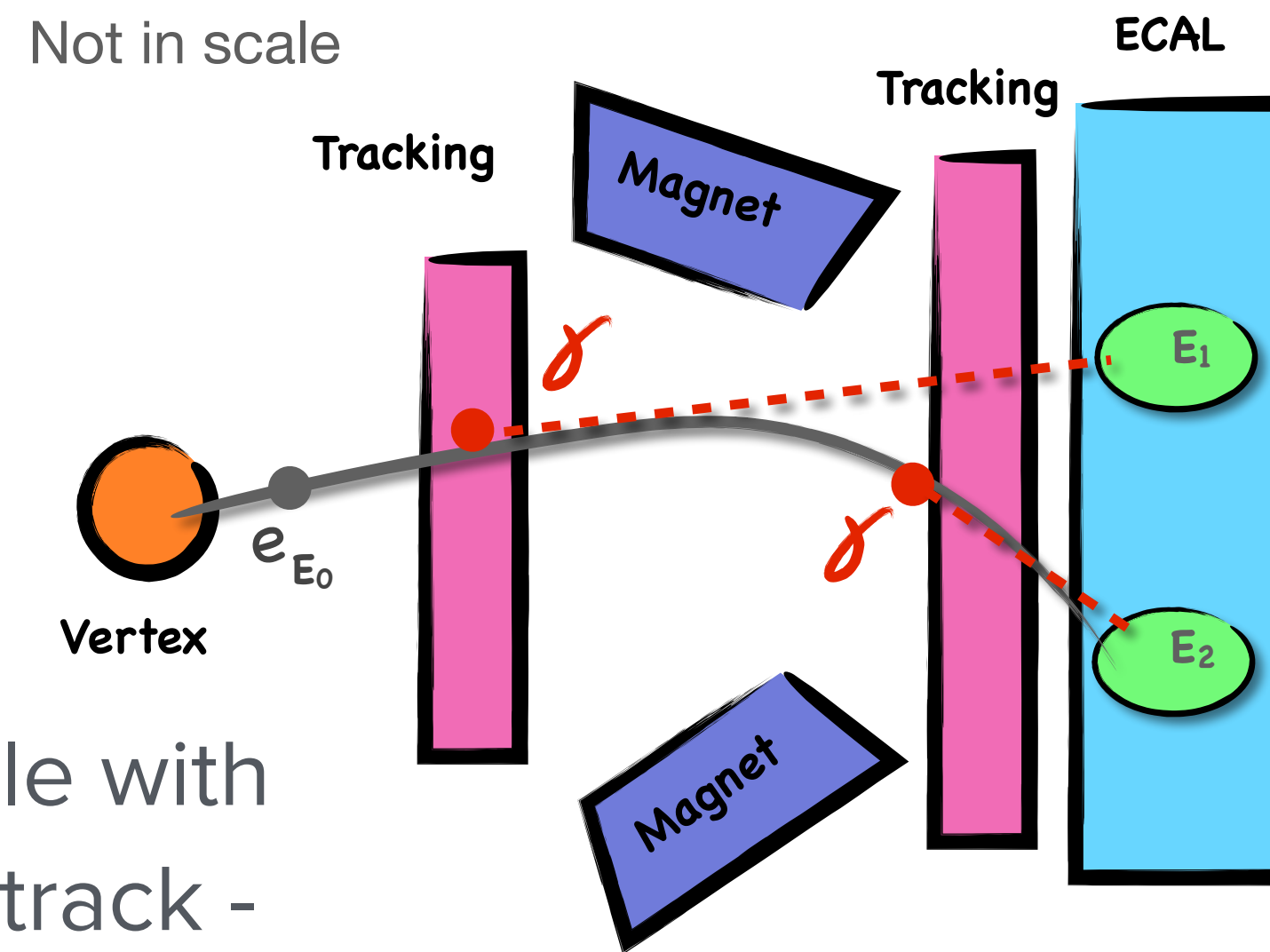


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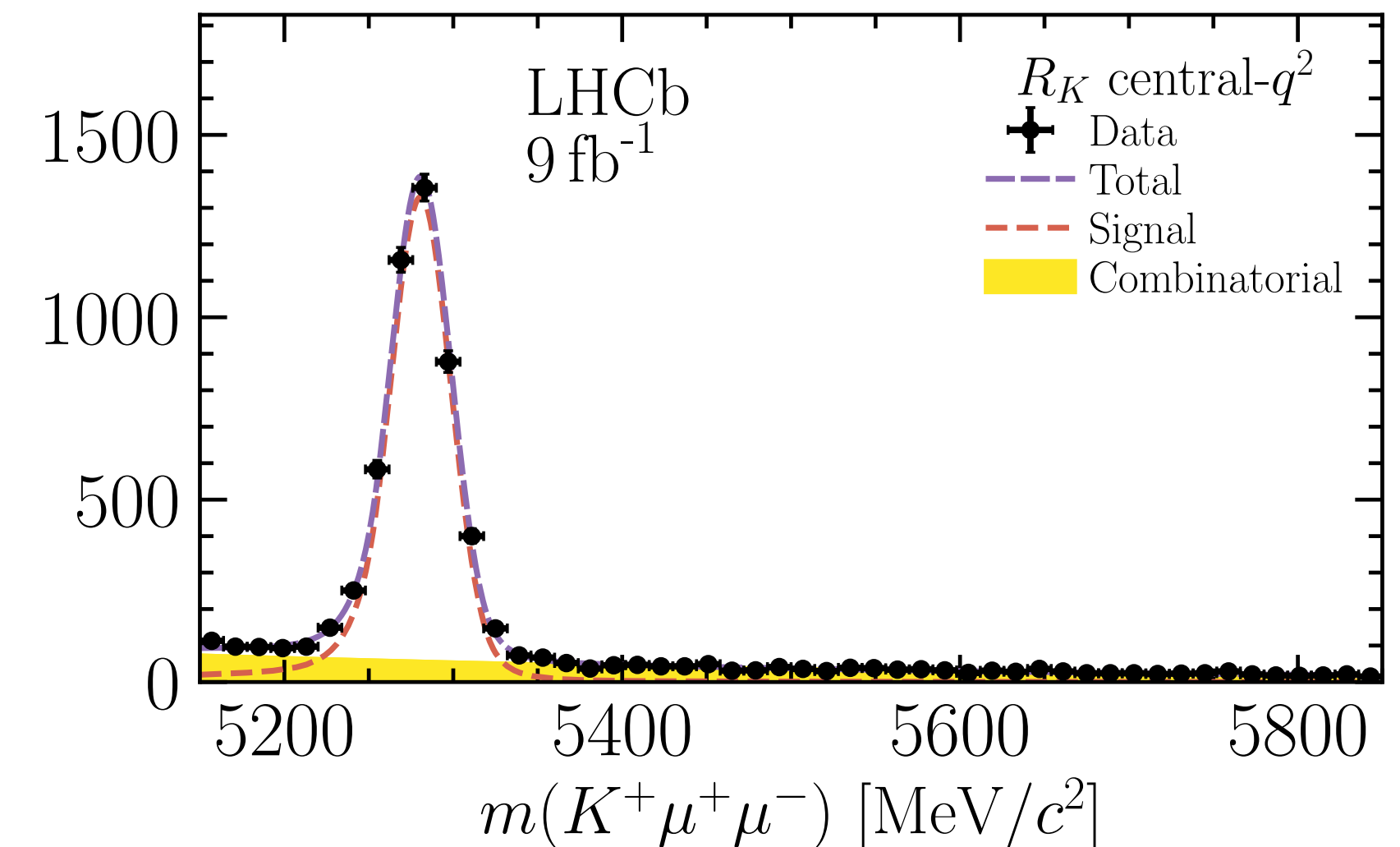
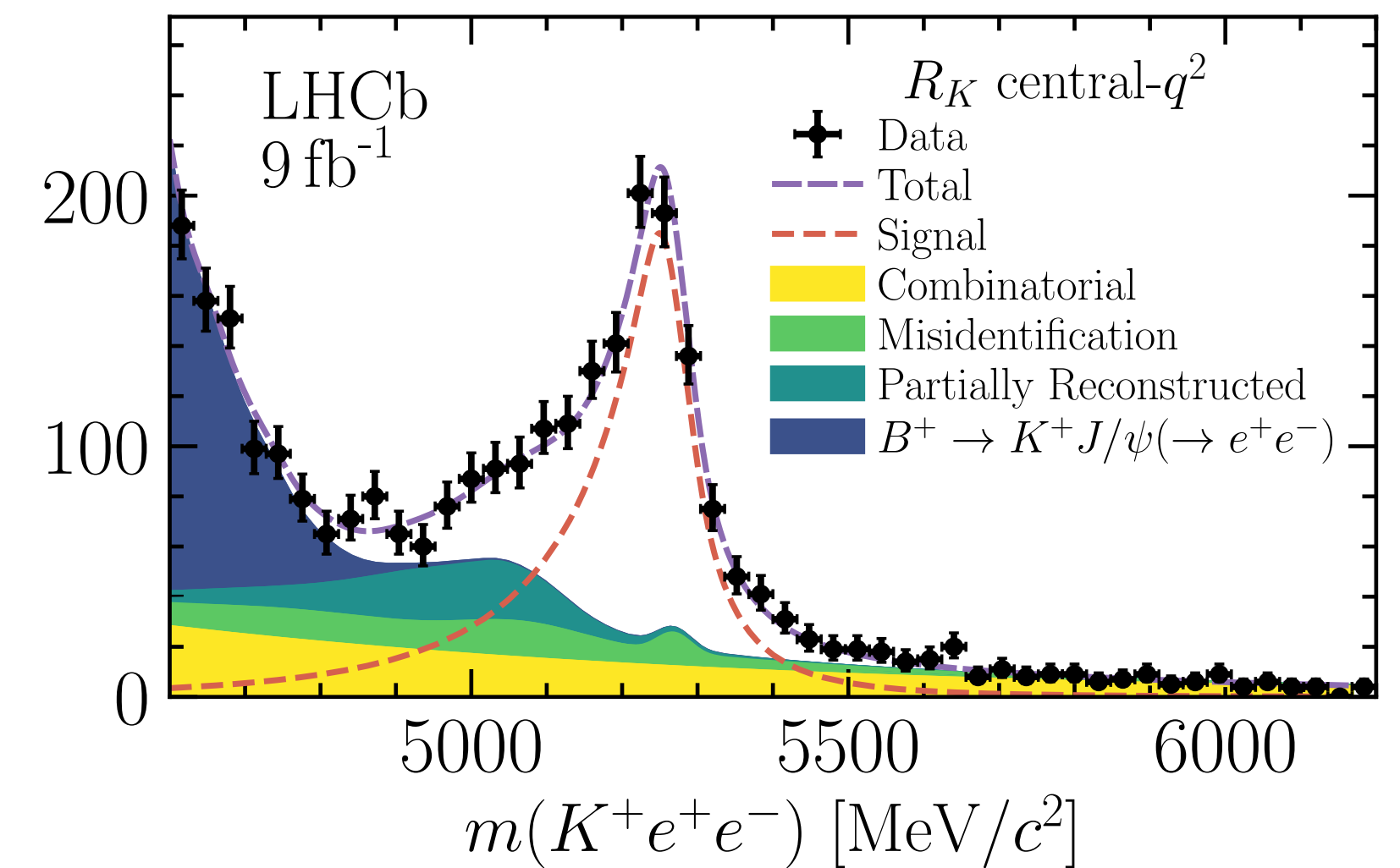
— High occupancy in the ECAL

- ▶ Higher energy thresholds \rightarrow lower statistics

— Additional backgrounds in the electron modes

- ▶ Partially reconstructed decays, misID $h \rightarrow e$, leakage from resonant decays

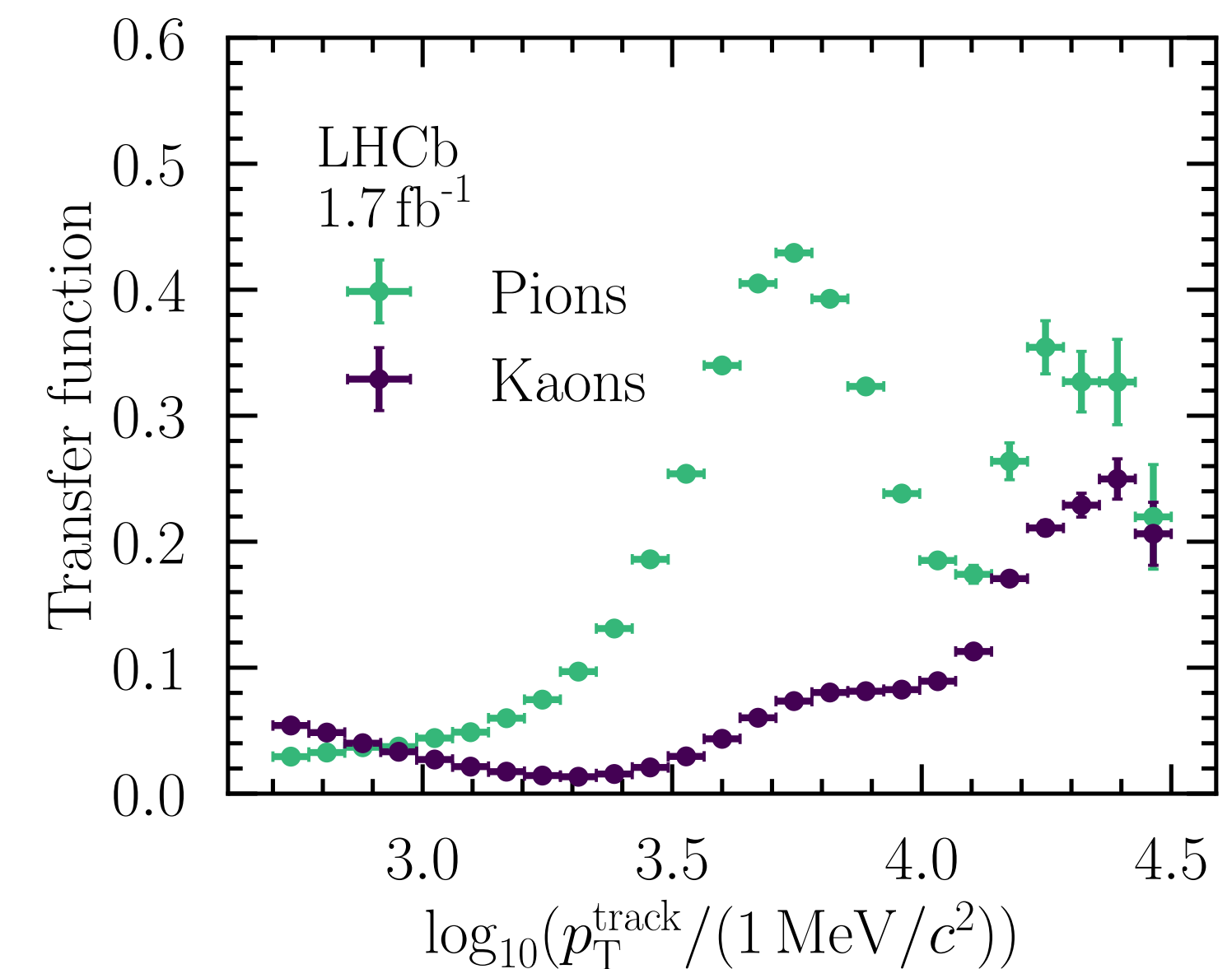
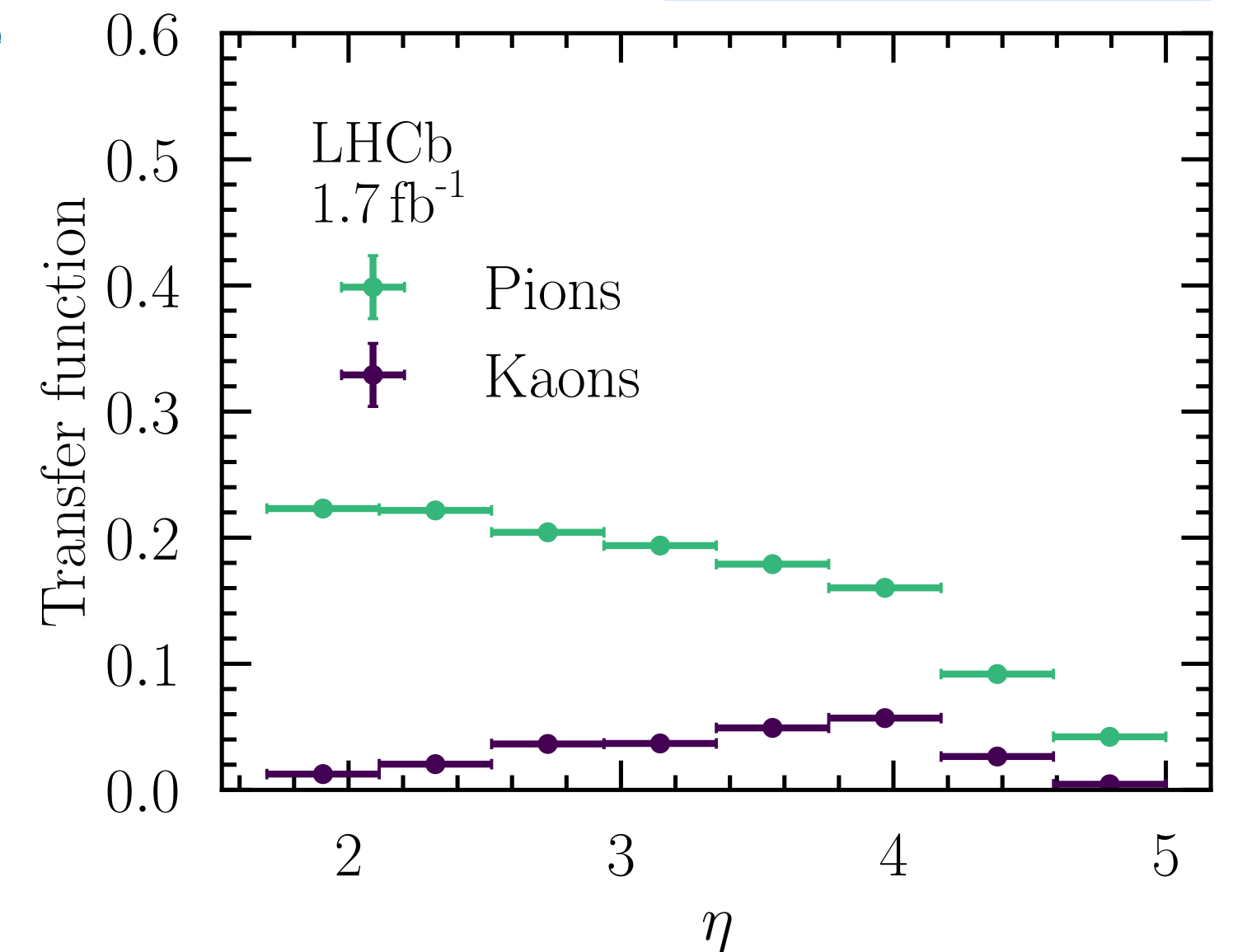
PRL 131 (2023) 051803



$h \rightarrow e$ misID background

- Data driven method developed in R_K & R_{K^*} analysis
- Basic principles:
 - ▶ Define control regions enriched in misID, by inverting PID criteria on the electrons
 - ▶ Compute weights to transfer knowledge from control to signal regions

PRD 108 (2023) 032002

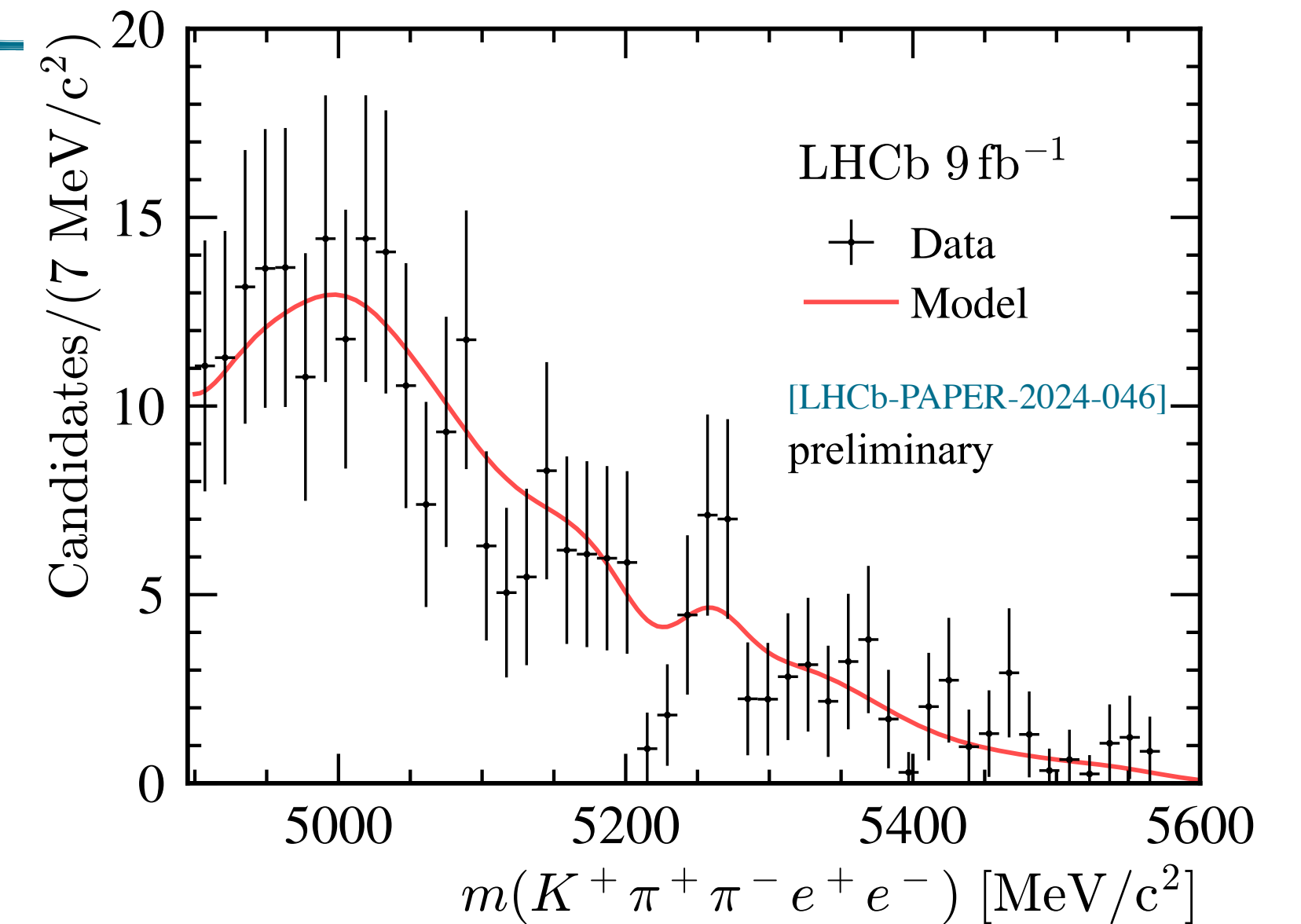


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 - ▶ Use the mis-ID weighted events in the control regions to estimate lineshape and amount of misID background

$$X = K\pi\pi$$

[LHCb-PAPER-2024-046], in preparation

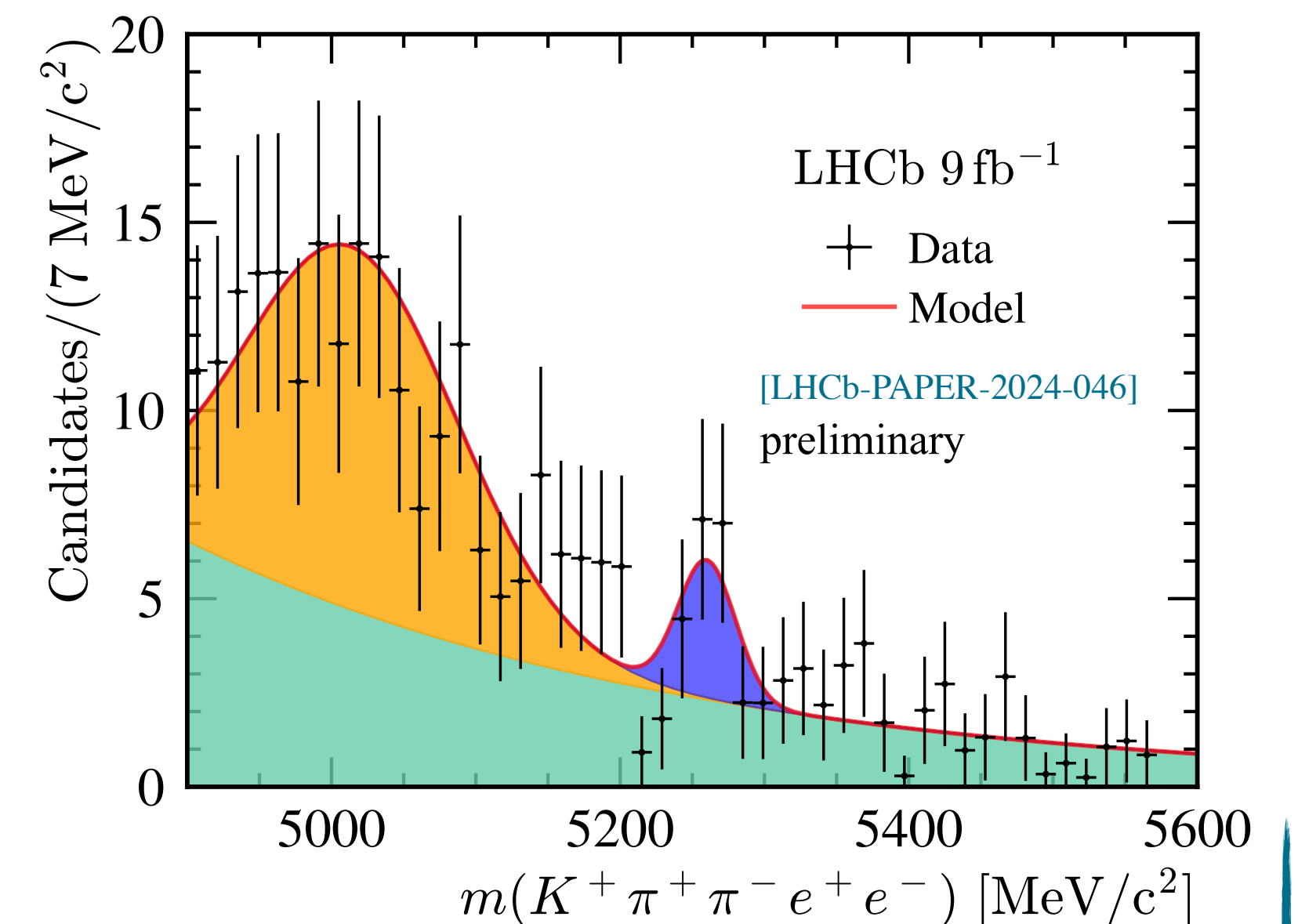
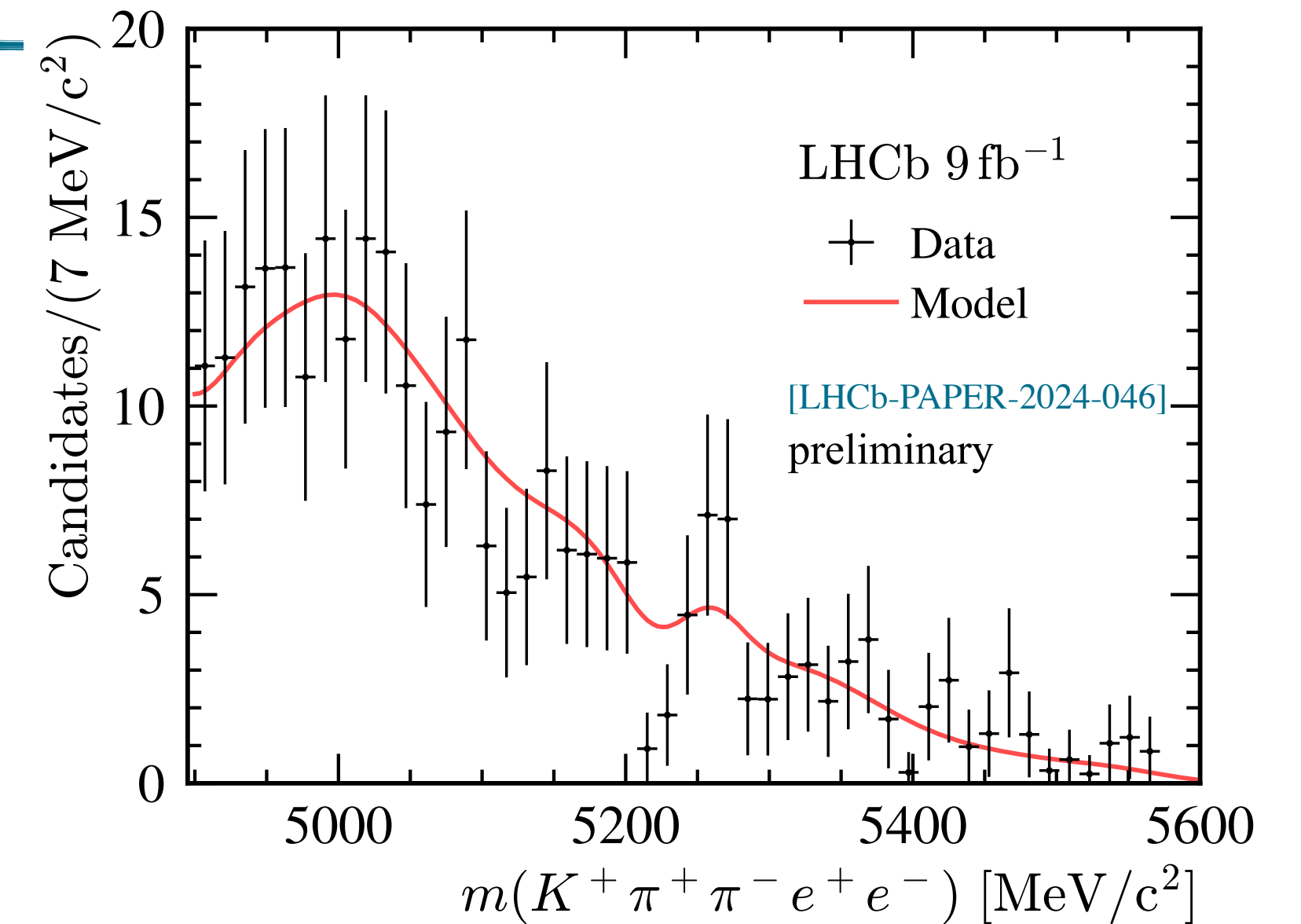


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 - ▶ Use the mis-ID weighted events in the control regions to estimate lineshape and amount of misID background
- Main source of systematics, assessed by varying
 - ▶ The size of the contribution
 - ▶ The lineshape models
 - ▶ The PID criteria to decide it was a K or a π misID

$$X = K\pi\pi$$

[LHCb-PAPER-2024-046], in preparation



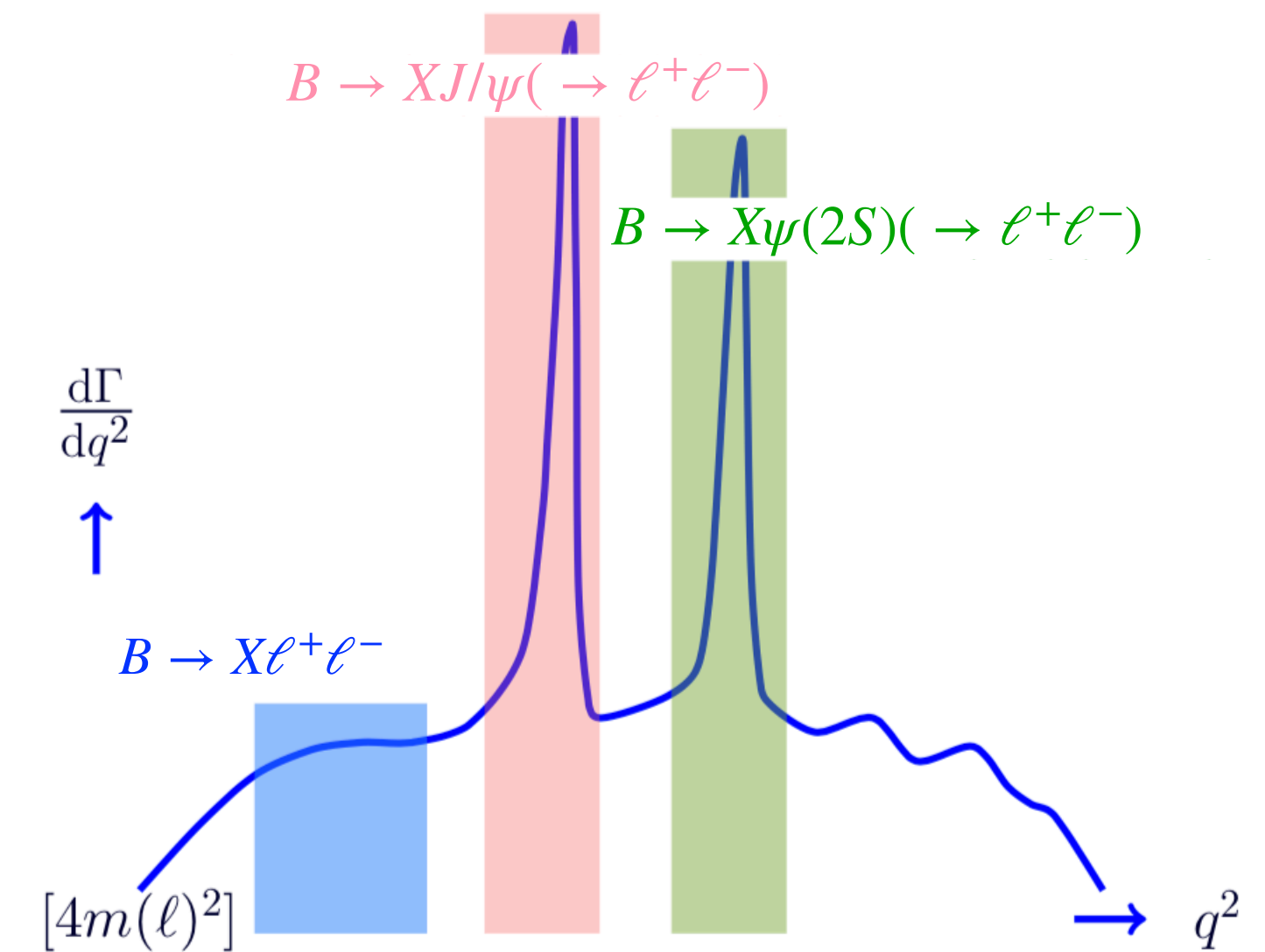
LFU ratio: Experimental strategy

- R_X are measured as double ratios, to mitigate e/μ reconstruction differences

$$R_X = \frac{\mathcal{N}_{B \rightarrow X\mu^+\mu^-} \cdot \mathcal{N}_{B \rightarrow XJ/\psi(\rightarrow e^+e^-)}}{\mathcal{N}_{B \rightarrow XJ/\psi(\rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)} \cdot \mathcal{N}_{B \rightarrow Xe^+e^-}} \cdot \frac{\epsilon_{B \rightarrow XJ/\psi(\rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)} \cdot \epsilon_{B \rightarrow Xe^+e^-}}{\epsilon_{B \rightarrow X\mu^+\mu^-} \cdot \epsilon_{B \rightarrow XJ/\psi(\rightarrow e^+e^-)}}$$

- **Yields:** unbinned maximum-likelihood fits to the B invariant mass

- **Efficiencies:** simulation corrected for well-known MC/data differences



LFU ratio: Experimental strategy

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► **Yields:** unbinned maximum-likelihood fits to the B invariant mass

► **Efficiencies:** simulation corrected for well-known MC/data differences

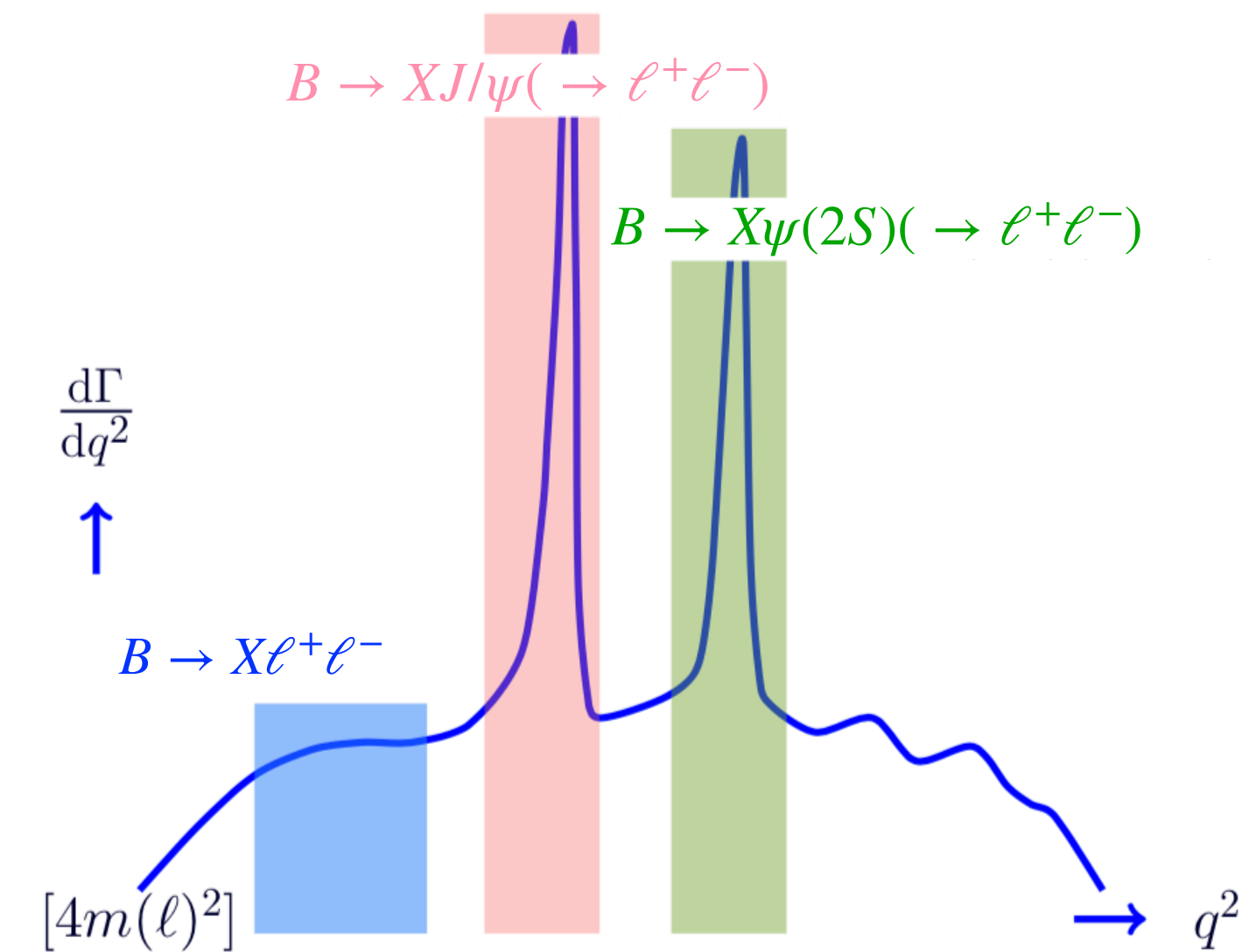
- Resonant channels also used for checks/data driven studies

► J/ψ and $\psi(2S)$ satisfy LFU, not mediated by $b \rightarrow s\ell\ell$

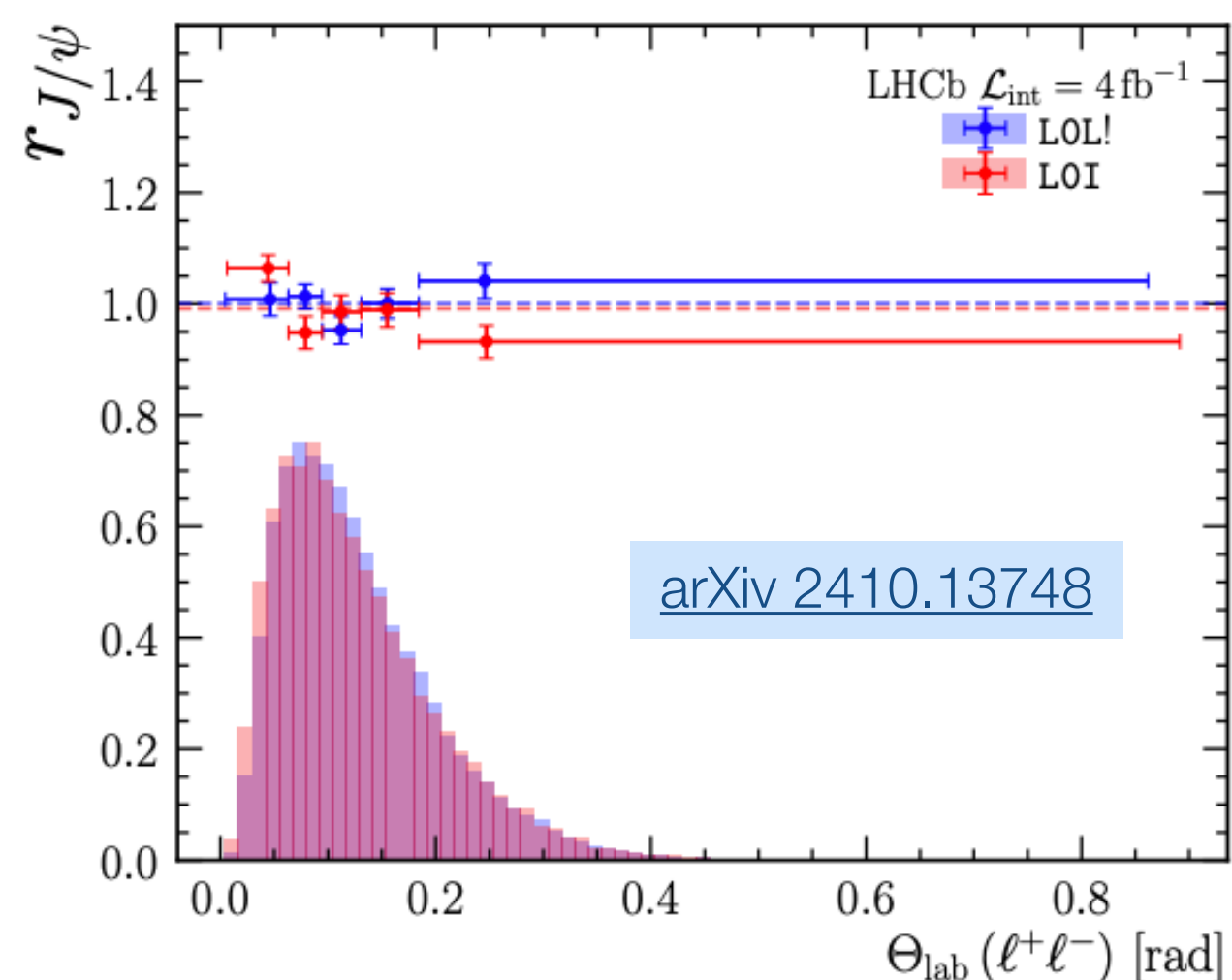
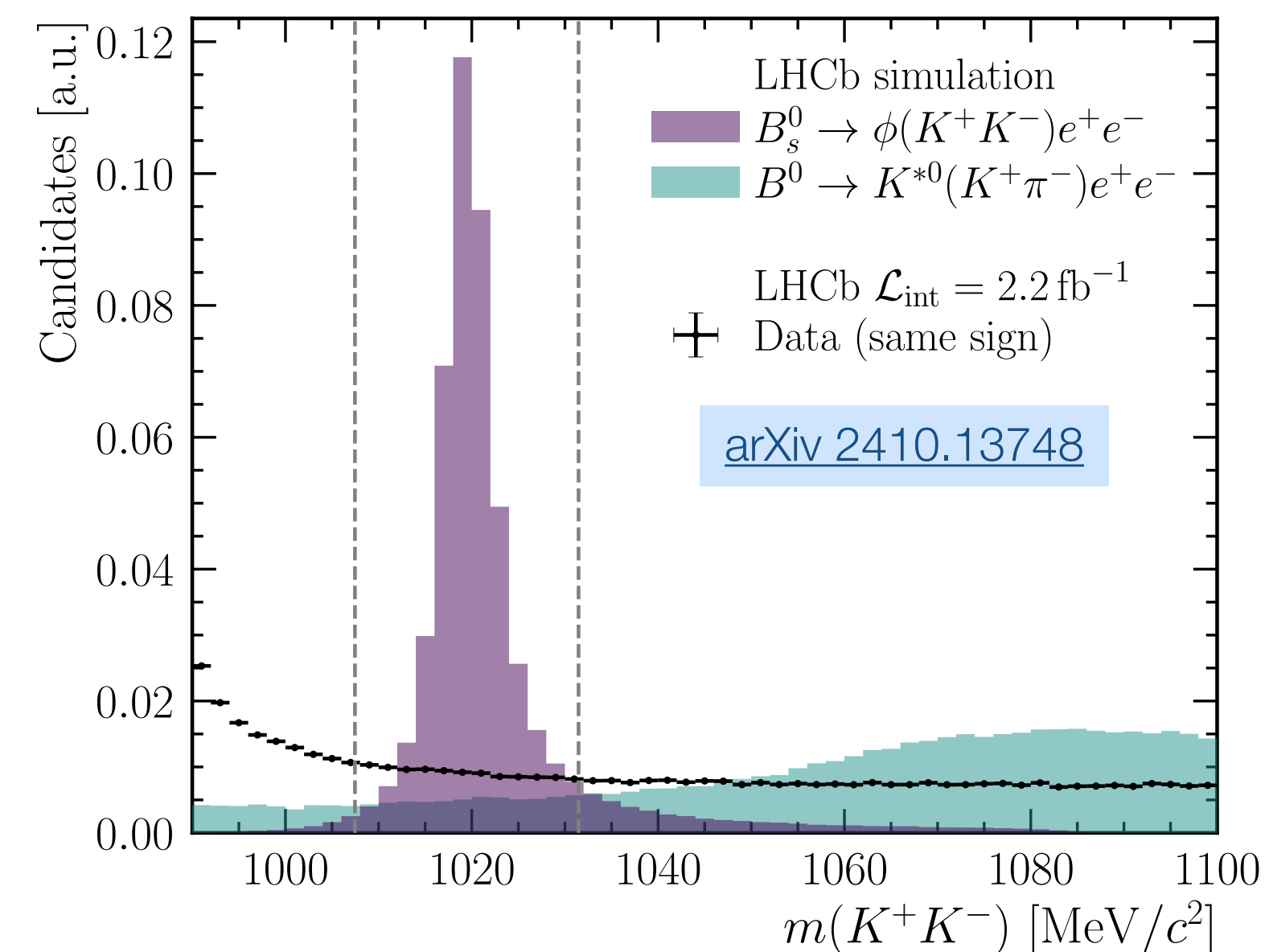
$$\diamond r_{J/\psi} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow XJ/\psi(\rightarrow \mu\mu))}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow XJ/\psi(\rightarrow ee))} \equiv 1 \quad \text{Sensitive to } e, \mu \text{ differences}$$

$$\diamond R_{\psi(2S)} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow X(\psi(2S)) \rightarrow \mu\mu)}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow X(J/\psi) \rightarrow \mu\mu)} \cdot \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow X(J/\psi) \rightarrow ee)}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow X(\psi(2S)) \rightarrow ee)} \equiv 1$$

Efficiency related systematics cancel in double ratio



- Measurement performed in in three q^2 regions
 - ▶ low- q^2 : $0.1 < q^2 < 1.1 \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$
 - ▶ central- q^2 : $1.1 < q^2 < 6.0 \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$
 - ▶ high- q^2 : $15 < q^2 < 19 \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$
- Use full LHCb dataset (9 fb^{-1})
- Take advantage of the narrow ϕ resonance and excellent $m(K^+K^-)$ resolution at LHCb



- Cross checks:

- ▶ $r_{J/\psi} = 0.997 \pm 0.013$

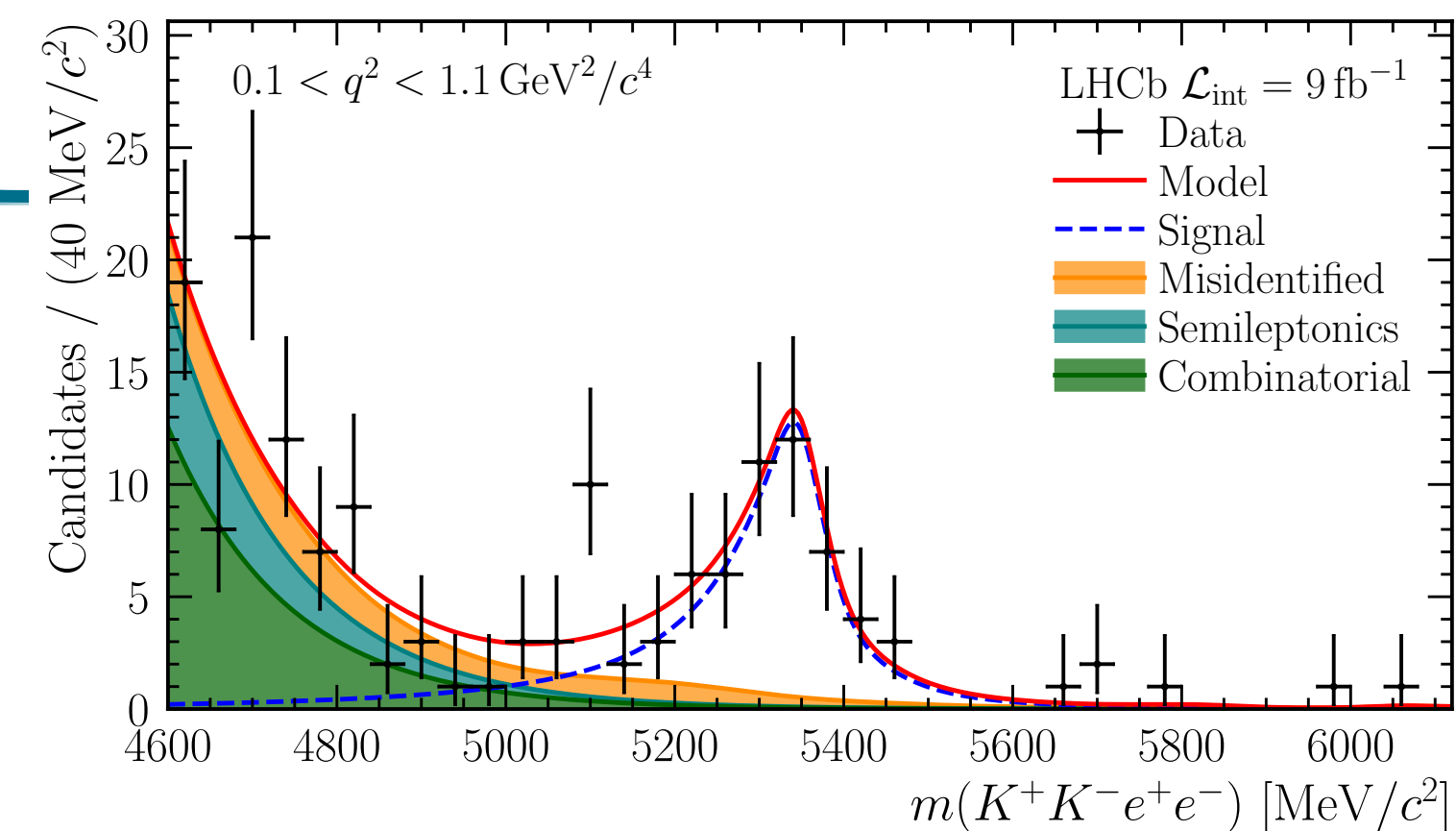
- ▶ $R_{\psi(2S)} = 1.010 \pm 0.026$

- Uncertainties includes systematics due to the calibration sample size

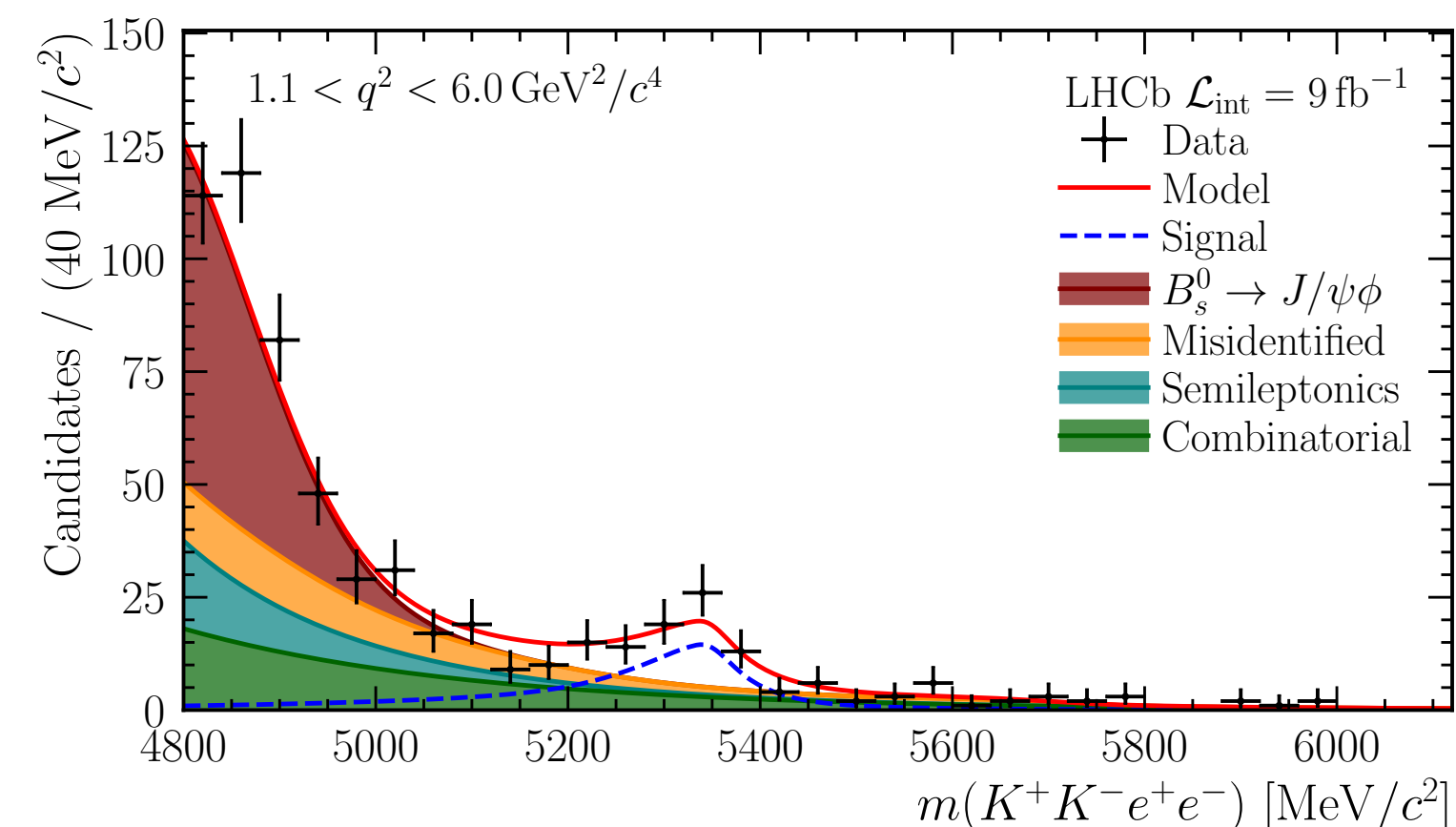
$B_s \rightarrow \phi e^+ e^-$ observation*

- $h \rightarrow e$ mis-identification modeled with pass-fail method
- Tree-level $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- e^+ \nu_e$ in central and low- q^2
- Leakage from $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi J/\psi (\rightarrow e^+ e^-)$ in central and high- q^2
- Leakage from $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \psi(2S) (\rightarrow e^+ e^-)$ in high- q^2
- Challenges in combinatorial high- q^2 due to the limited phase space after the selection
 - ▶ Use “acceptance” function validated on same-sign data

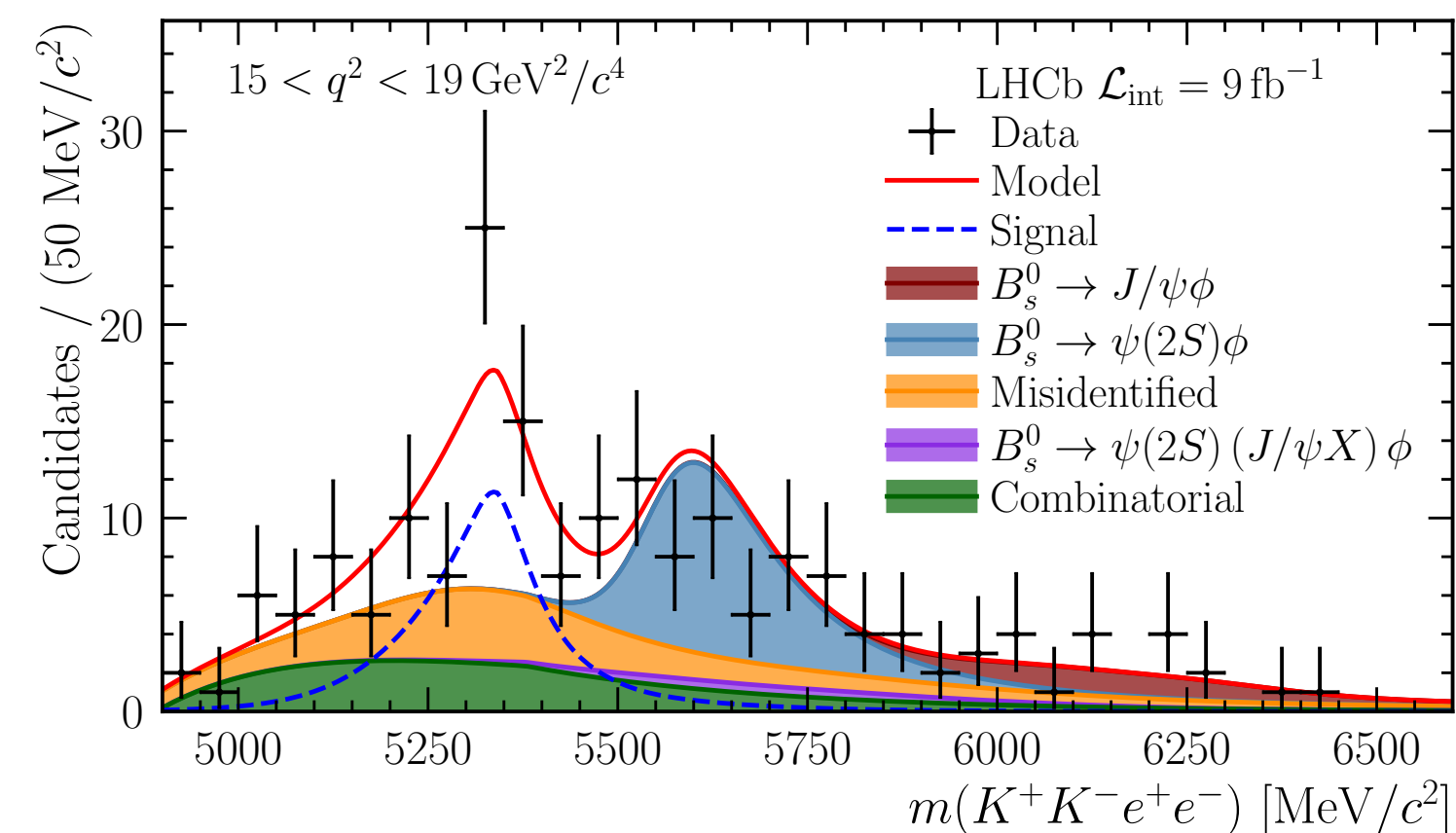
*together with very low q^2 analysis [LHCb-PAPER-2024-030], in preparation, see [Lakshan Madhan talk](#)



Statistical significance:
 6.8σ

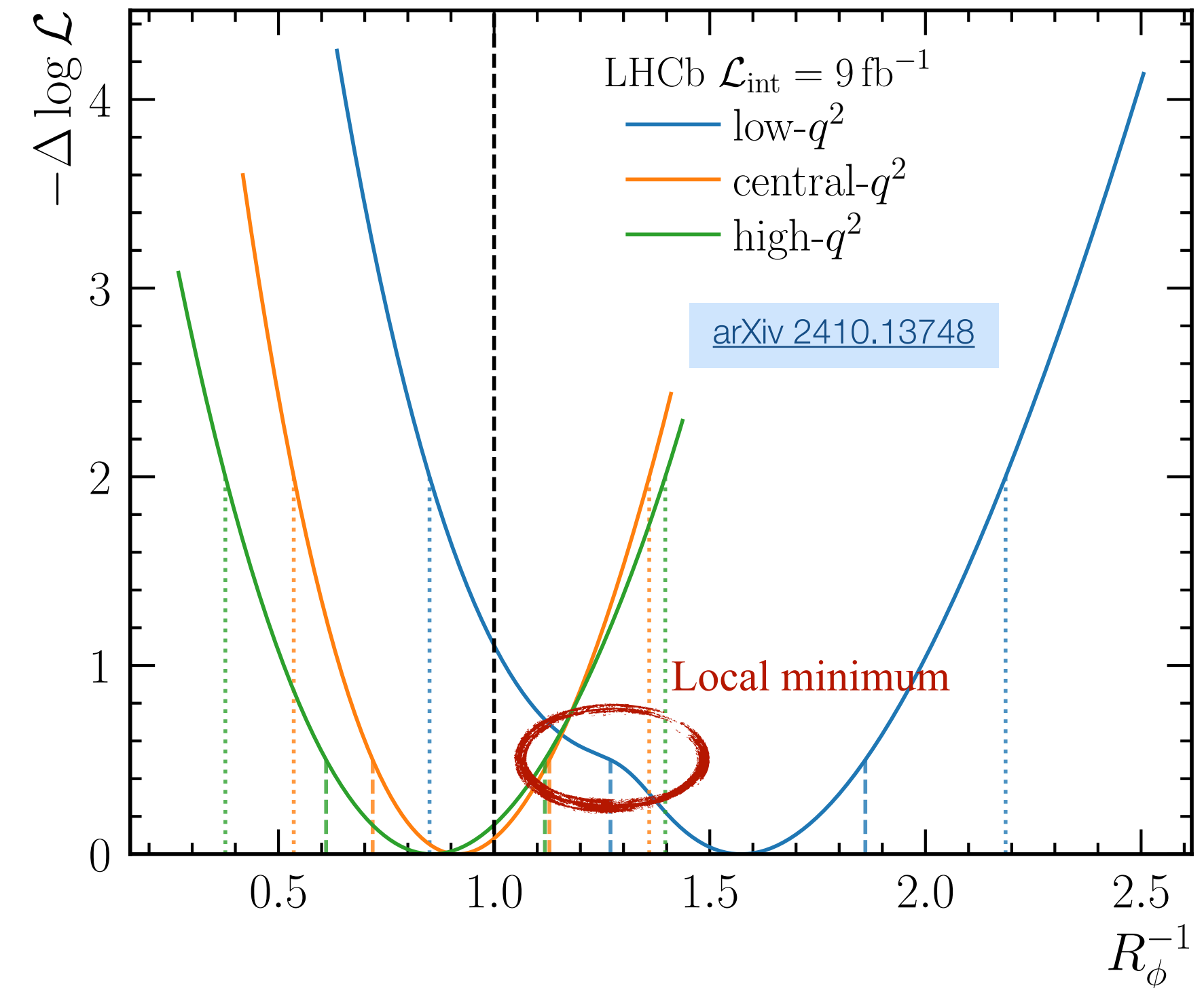


Statistical significance:
 5.4σ



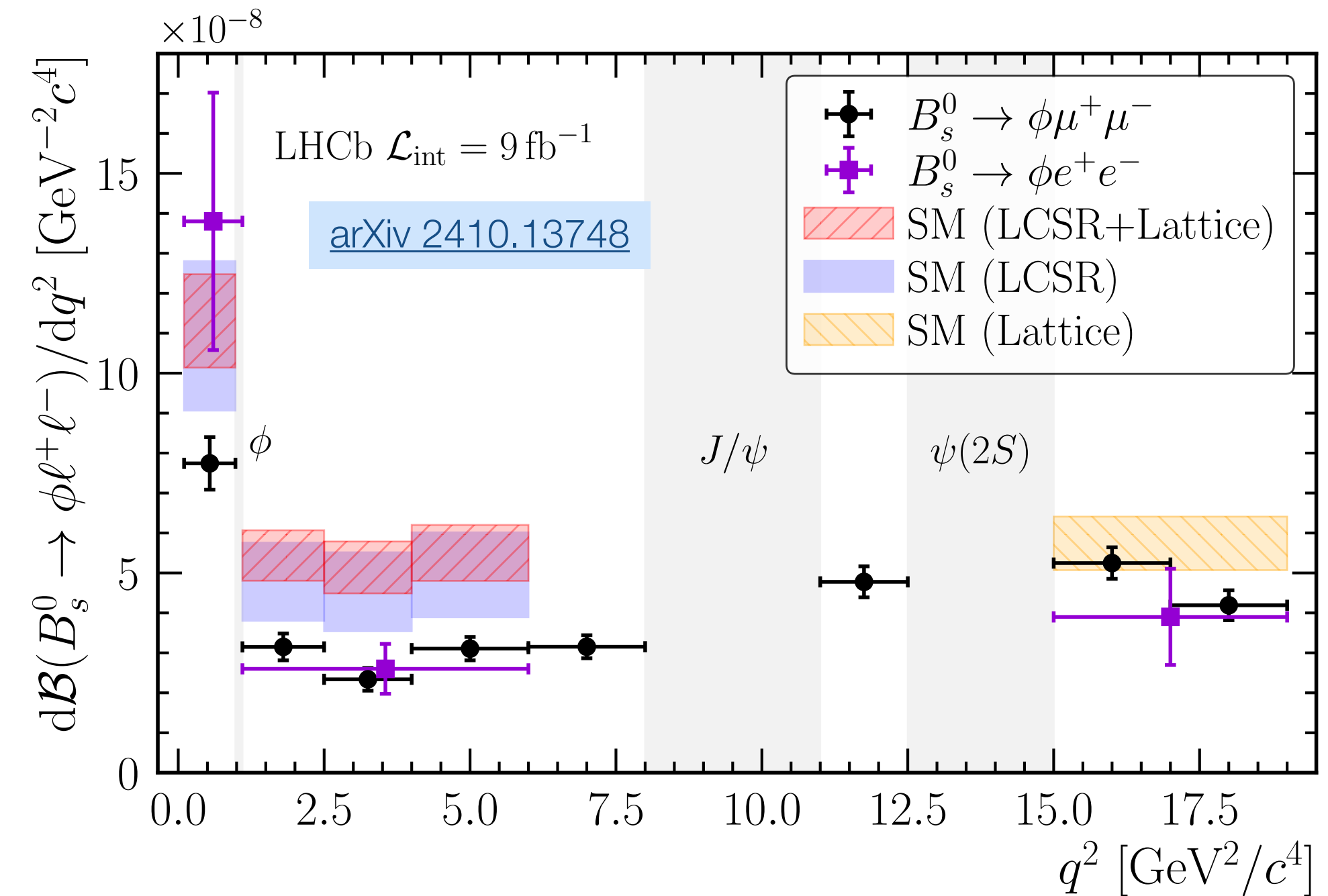
Statistical significance:
 3.6σ

q^2 [GeV^2/c^4]	R_ϕ^{-1}
$0.1 < q^2 < 1.1$	$1.57^{+0.28}_{-0.25} \pm 0.05$
$1.1 < q^2 < 6.0$	$0.91^{+0.20}_{-0.19} \pm 0.05$
$15.0 < q^2 < 19.0$	$0.85^{+0.24}_{-0.23} \pm 0.10$



- In agreement with SM predictions
- Dominated by statistical uncertainty
- Main systematics due to signal and background modelling shapes

q^2 [GeV ² /c ⁴]	$d\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi e^+ e^-)/dq^2$ [10 ⁻⁷ GeV ⁻² c ⁴]
$0.1 < q^2 < 1.1$	$1.38^{+0.25}_{-0.22} \pm 0.04 \pm 0.19 \pm 0.06$
$1.1 < q^2 < 6.0$	$0.26 \pm 0.06 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.01 \pm 0.01$
$15.0 < q^2 < 19.0$	$0.39 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.02 \pm 0.02$

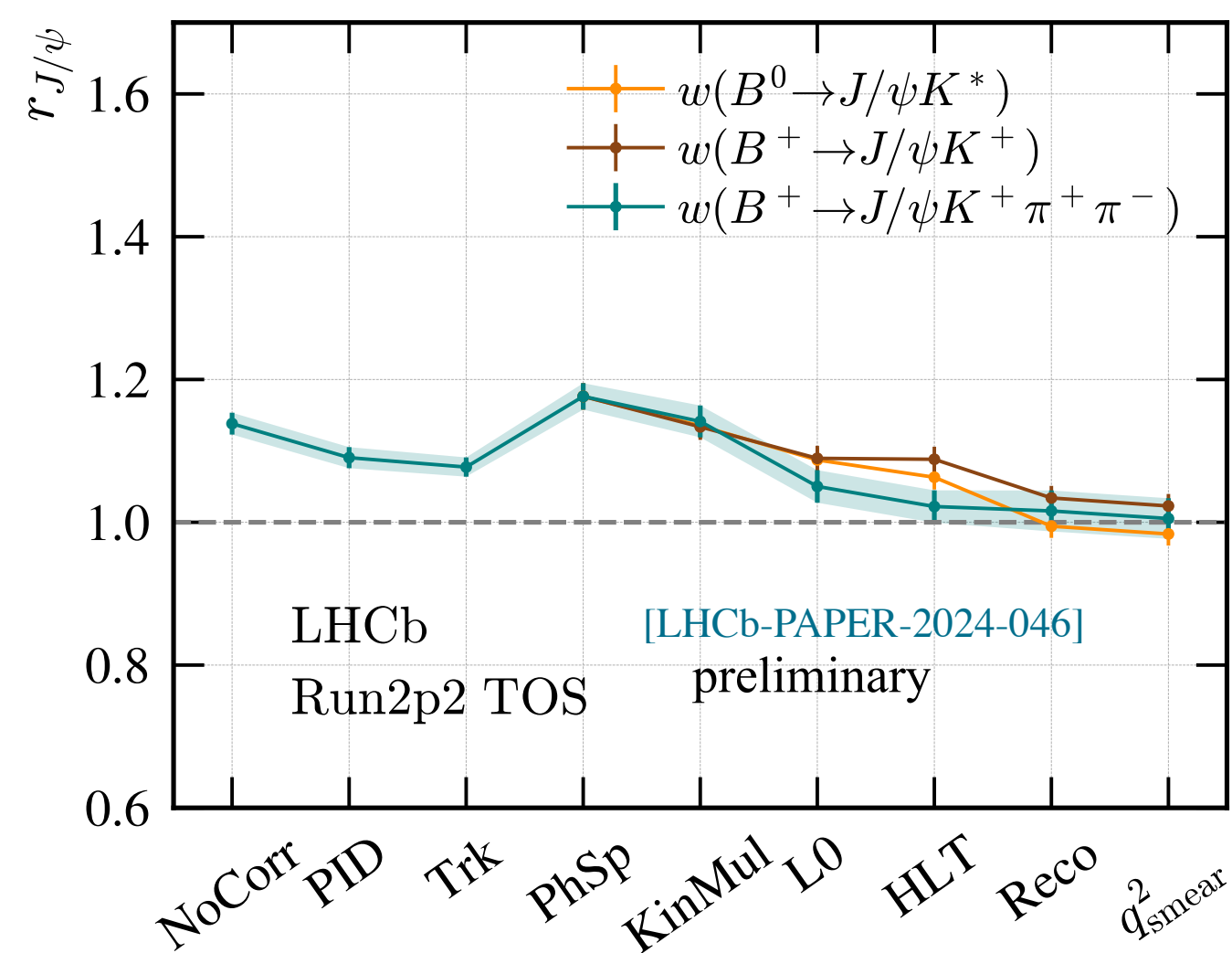
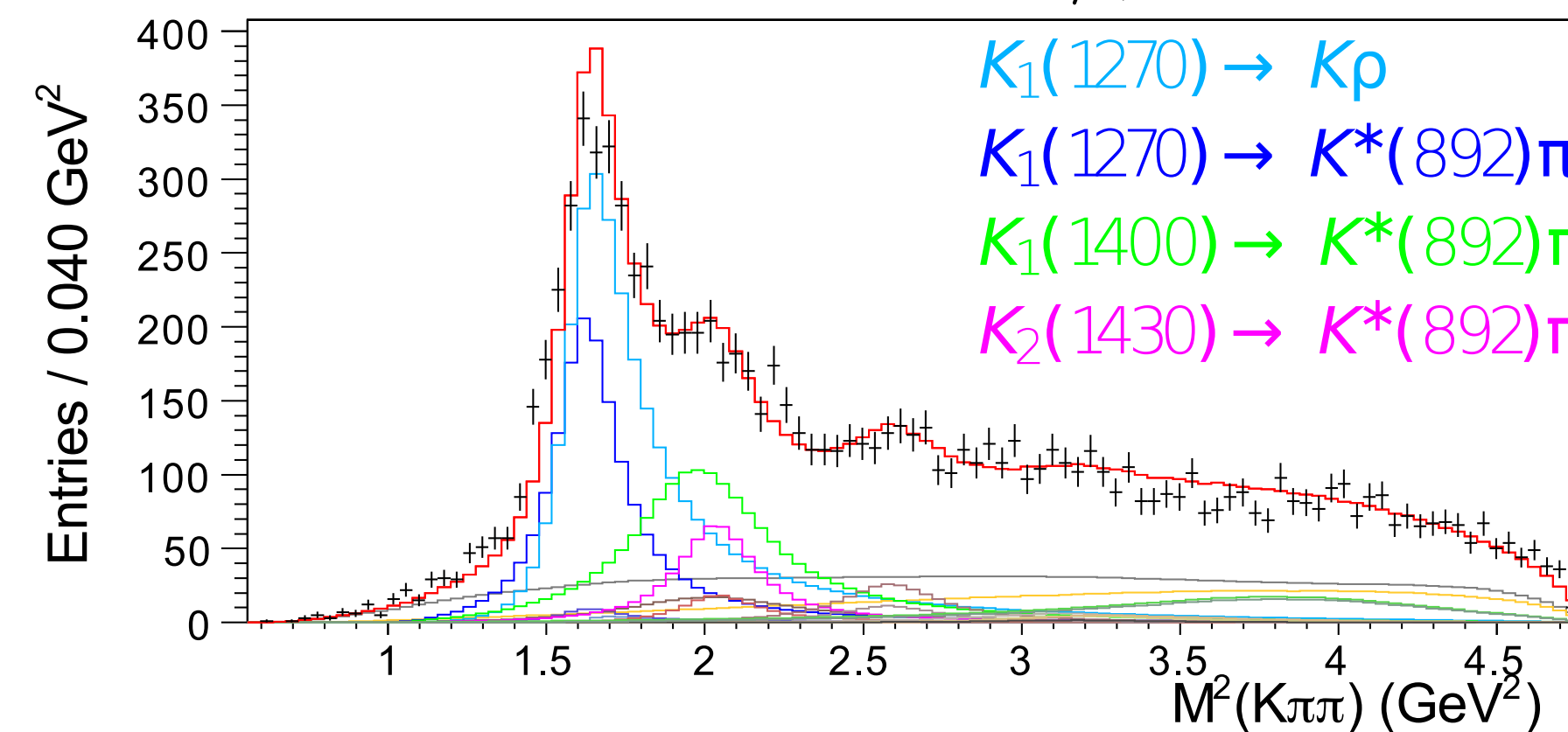


- In agreement with SM predictions
- Dominated by statistical uncertainty
- Main systematics due to signal and background modelling shapes
- $\mathcal{B}(B_s^- \rightarrow \phi e^+ e^-)$ agrees with measured $\mathcal{B}(B_s^- \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-)$

- Measurement performed in central- q^2 : $1.1 < q^2 < 7.0 \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$
- Use full LHCb dataset (9 fb^{-1})
- Inclusive in the very complex $K\pi\pi$ system
- Simulated with phase-space model
 - ▶ Reweighted to match resonance structures seen in J/ψ resonant channel
 - ▶ Extensive systematics studied

PRD 83 (2011) 032005

$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^+ \pi^- J/\psi$ Belle



- Cross checks:

▶ $r_{J/\psi} = 1.033 \pm 0.017$

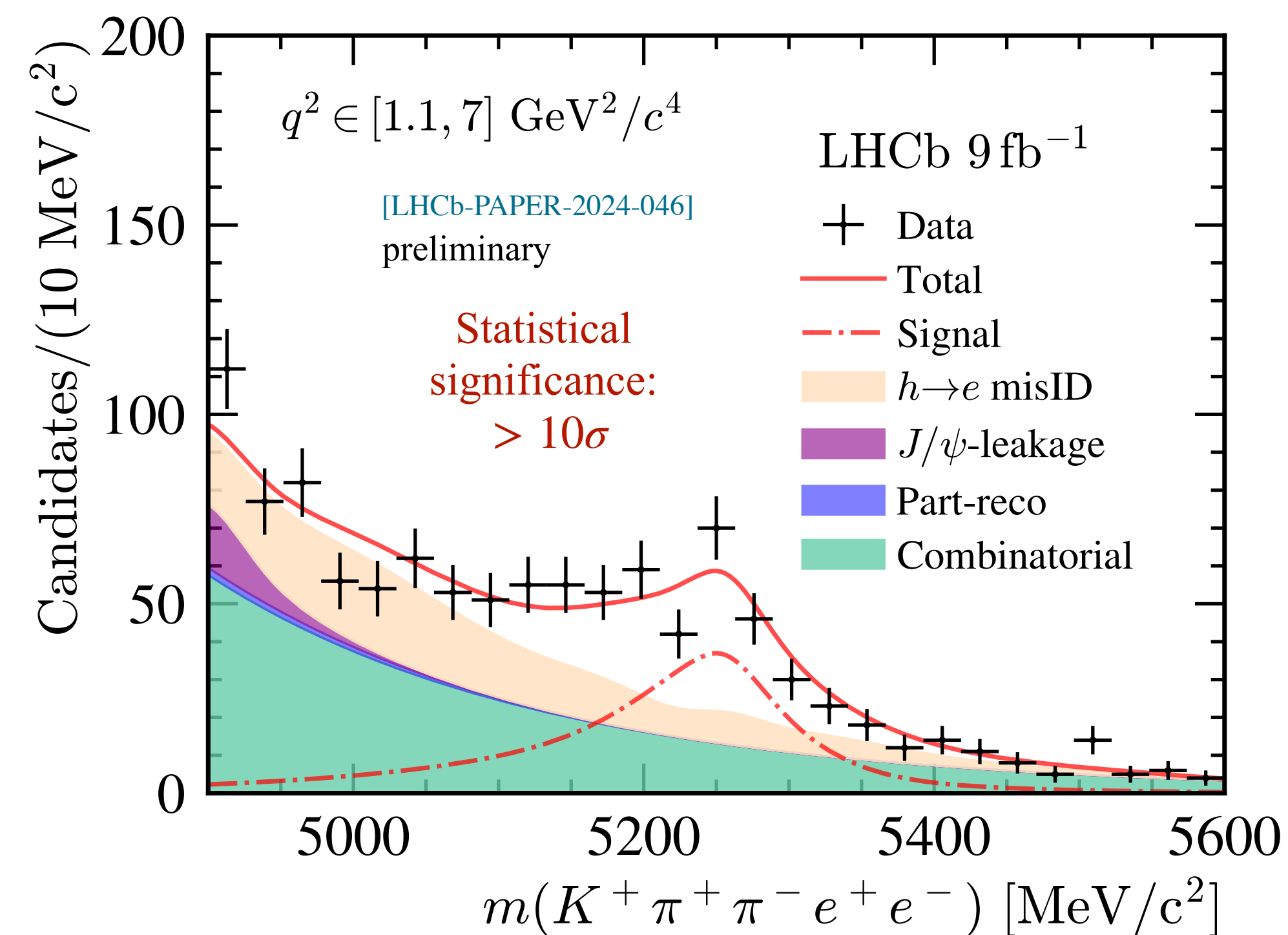
▶ $R_{\psi(2S)} = 1.040 \pm 0.030$

- Uncertainties includes only systematics due to the calibration sample size

$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ e^-$ observation

$$X = K\pi\pi$$

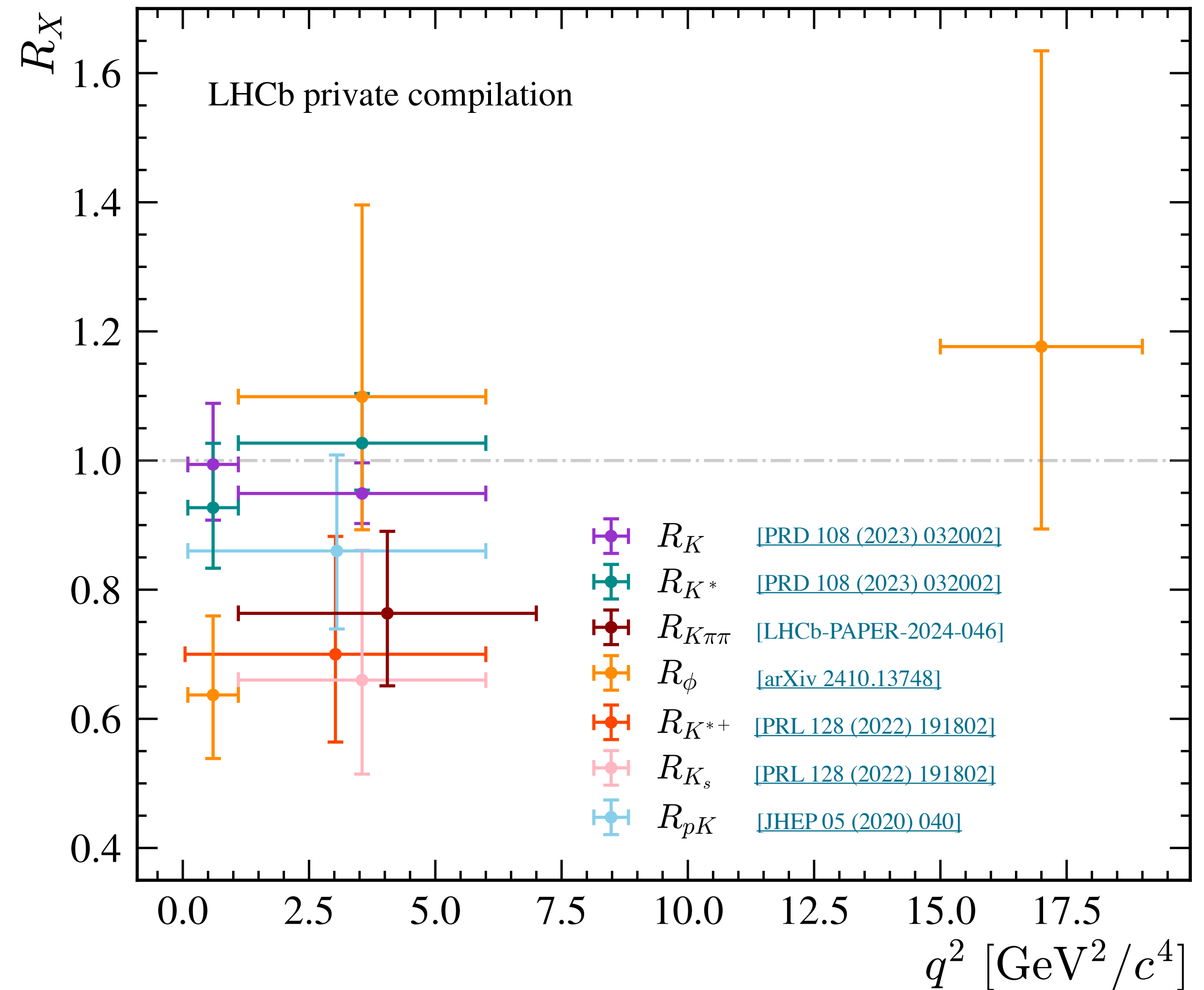
- $h \rightarrow e$ mis-identification modeled with pass-fail method
- Leakage from $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^+ \pi^- J/\psi(\rightarrow e^+ e^-)$
- Partially-reconstructed background
 - ▶ Challenging, no a priori information on underlying structure
 - ▶ Shape and amount extracted from J/ψ resonant data



$R_{K\pi\pi}$ - Results

$$R_{K\pi\pi}^{-1} = 1.31^{+0.18}_{-0.17} \text{ (stat)} \text{ } ^{+0.12}_{-0.09} \text{ (syst)}$$

- In agreement with the SM predictions
- Main source of systematics:
 - ▶ Background modelling
 - ▶ Reweighting of the simulated phase-space





Rare searches and Lepton Flavour Violation

Rare searches

- Strongly suppressed decays $\mathcal{B} < \mathcal{O}(10^{-7})$, sensitive to NP contributions

EPJ 84 (2024) 468

@90% CL

- First search for $B_c^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$ $R_{\pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^- / J/\psi \pi^+} < 2.1 \times 10^{-4}$

- ▶ No theory predictions, can provide insights to QCD
- ▶ Fit to $m(\pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-)$ in q^2 intervals

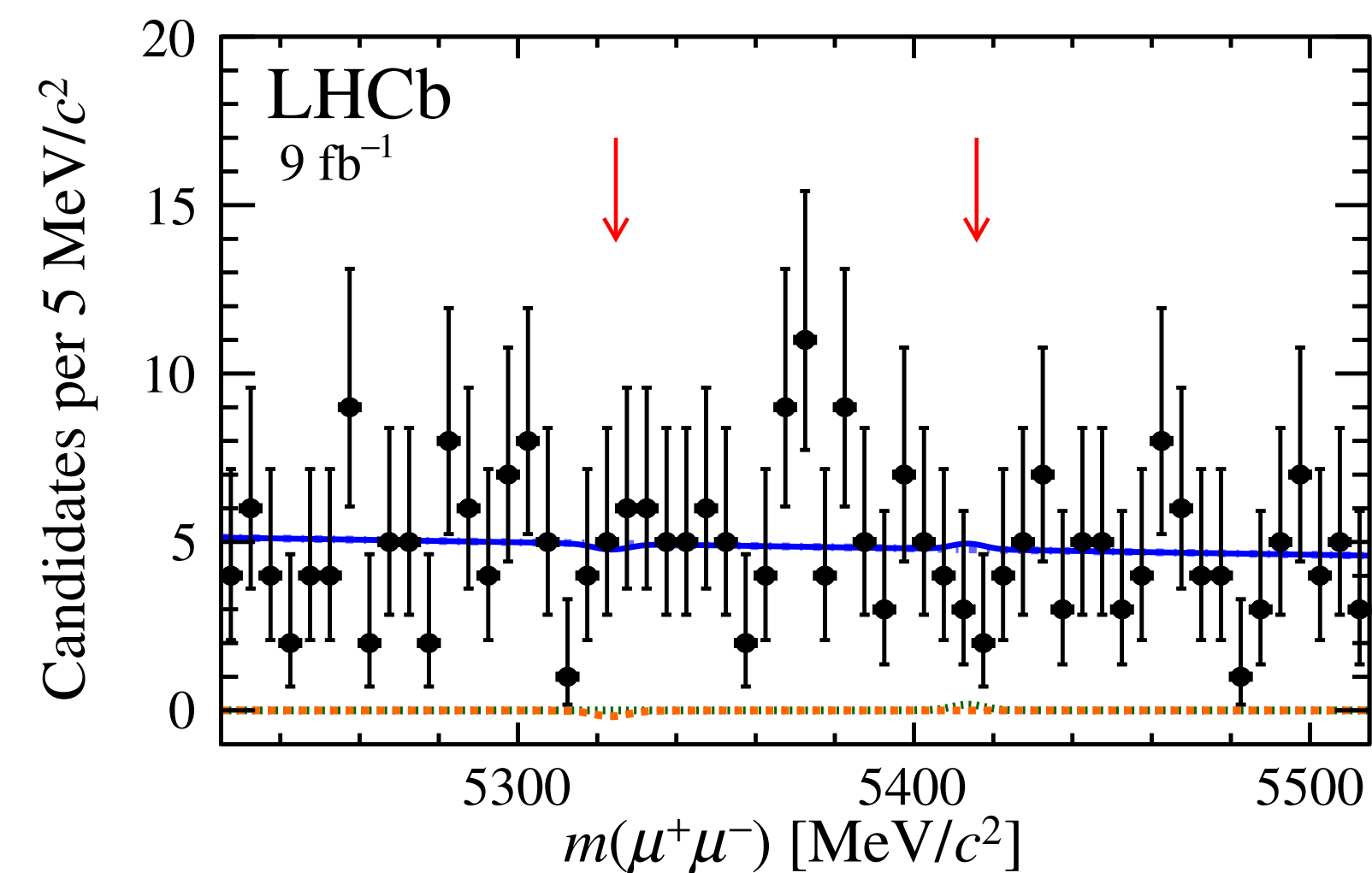
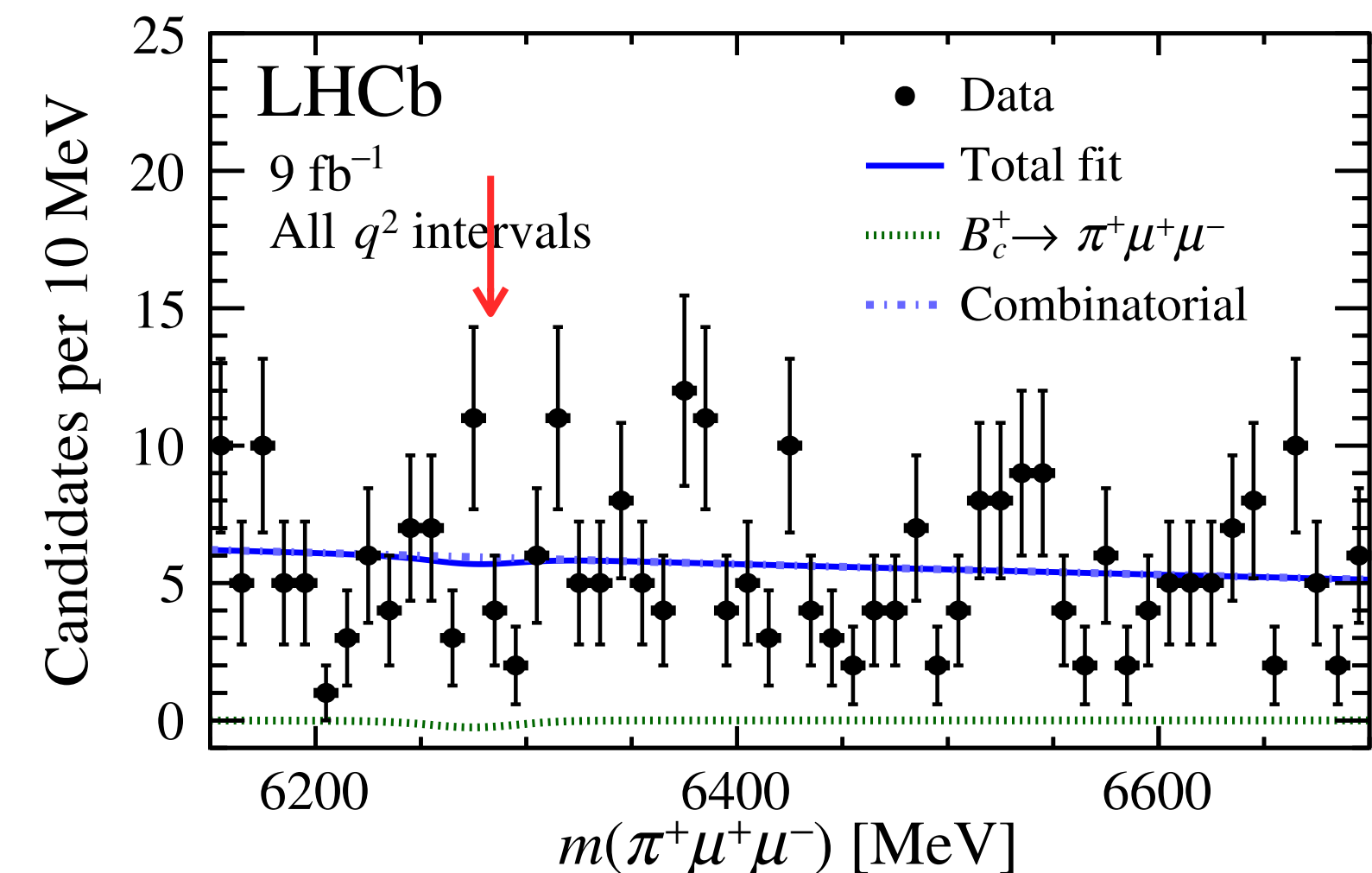
- First search of $B_{(s)}^{*0} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ decays in $B_c^+ \rightarrow B_{(s)}^{*0}(\mu^+ \mu^-) \pi^+$

- ▶ Accurate SM predictions $\mathcal{B} \sim 10^{-11}$ [PRL 116 \(2016\) 14, 141801](#)
- ▶ Exploit B_c^+ displaced vertex to reduce combinatorial bkg
- ▶ Simultaneous fit to $m(\mu^+ \mu^-)$ and $m(\pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-)$

LHCb-CONF-2024-003

$$R_{B^{*0}(\mu^+ \mu^-) \pi^+ / J/\psi \pi^+} < 3.8 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$R_{B_s^{*0}(\mu^+ \mu^-) \pi^+ / J/\psi \pi^+} < 5.0 \times 10^{-5} \quad @90\% \text{ CL}$$



Rare searches

- Search for $B \rightarrow D\mu^+\mu^-$
 - Different interactions: Annihilation, penguins, W^+ exchange....
 - Studied with and without a J/ψ intermediate resonance
- Selected in $q^2 \in [0.044, 8.0] \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$
- World's best limits at 95% of CL
- Improved precision of $\mathcal{B}(B_c^+ \rightarrow D_s^+ J/\psi)$

$$\frac{f_c}{f_u} \cdot \mathcal{B}(B_c^+ \rightarrow D_s^+ J/\psi) = (1.63 \pm 0.15 \pm 0.13) \times 10^{-5}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \bar{D}^0 \mu^+ \mu^-) < 5.1 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow D_s^+ \mu^+ \mu^-) < 3.2 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \bar{D}^0 \mu^+ \mu^-) < 1.6 \times 10^{-7}$$

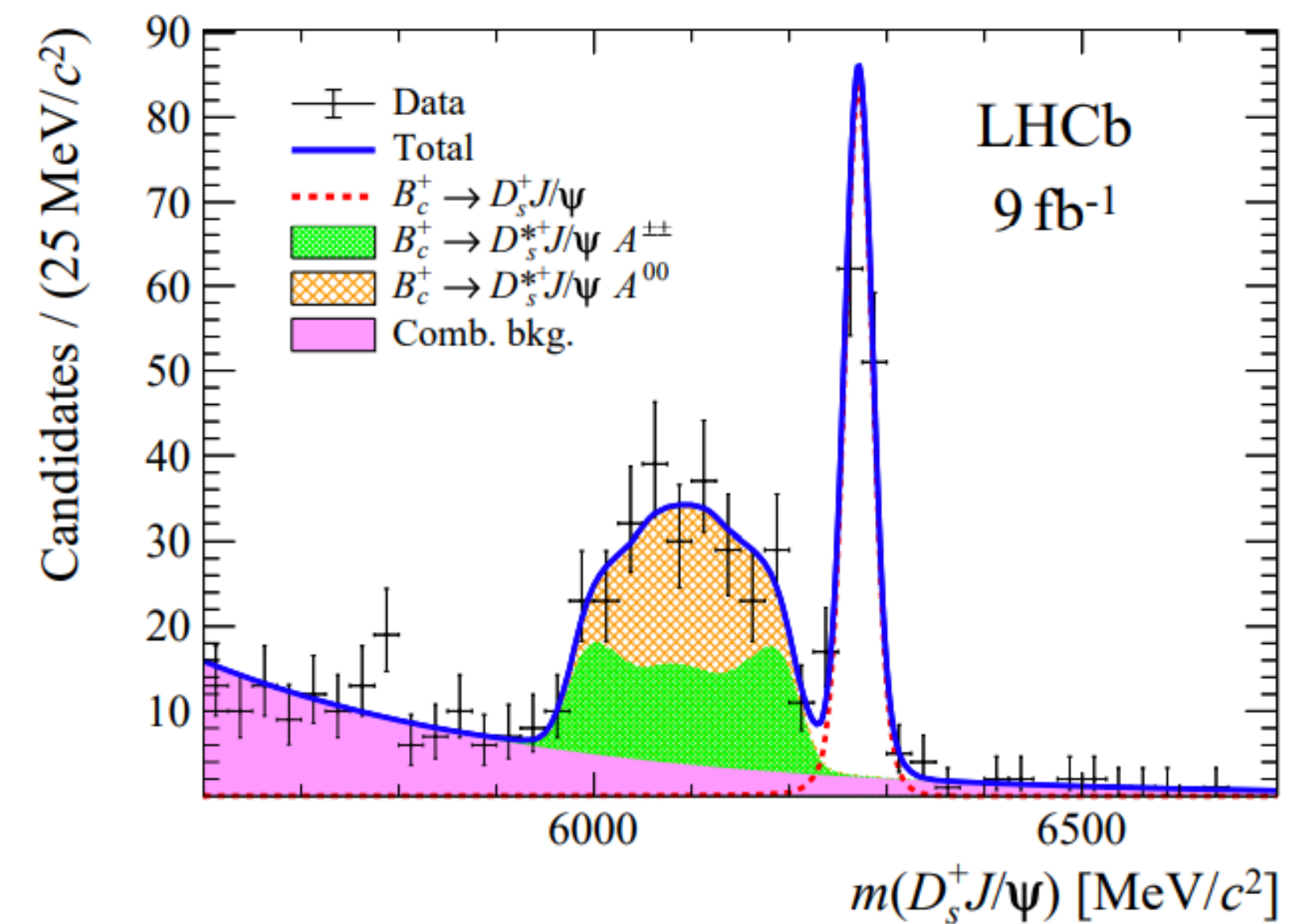
$$f_c/f_u \cdot \mathcal{B}(B_c^+ \rightarrow D_s^+ \mu^+ \mu^-) < 9.6 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \bar{D}^0 J/\psi) < 1.1 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow D_s^+ J/\psi) < 3.5 \times 10^{-7}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \bar{D}^0 J/\psi) < 1.5 \times 10^{-6}$$

JHEP 02 (2024) 032



- $b \rightarrow s\ell\ell$ transitions also used to look for LFV decays
 - ▶ Related to possible LFUV
 - ▶ Can help constraining NP models
- Search for $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\mu^\pm e^\mp$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\mu^\pm e^\mp$
 - ▶ Results also for $b \rightarrow s\mu^+e^-$ and $b \rightarrow s\mu^-e^+$ separately
 - ▶ No access found, best limits set

@90% (95%) CL

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

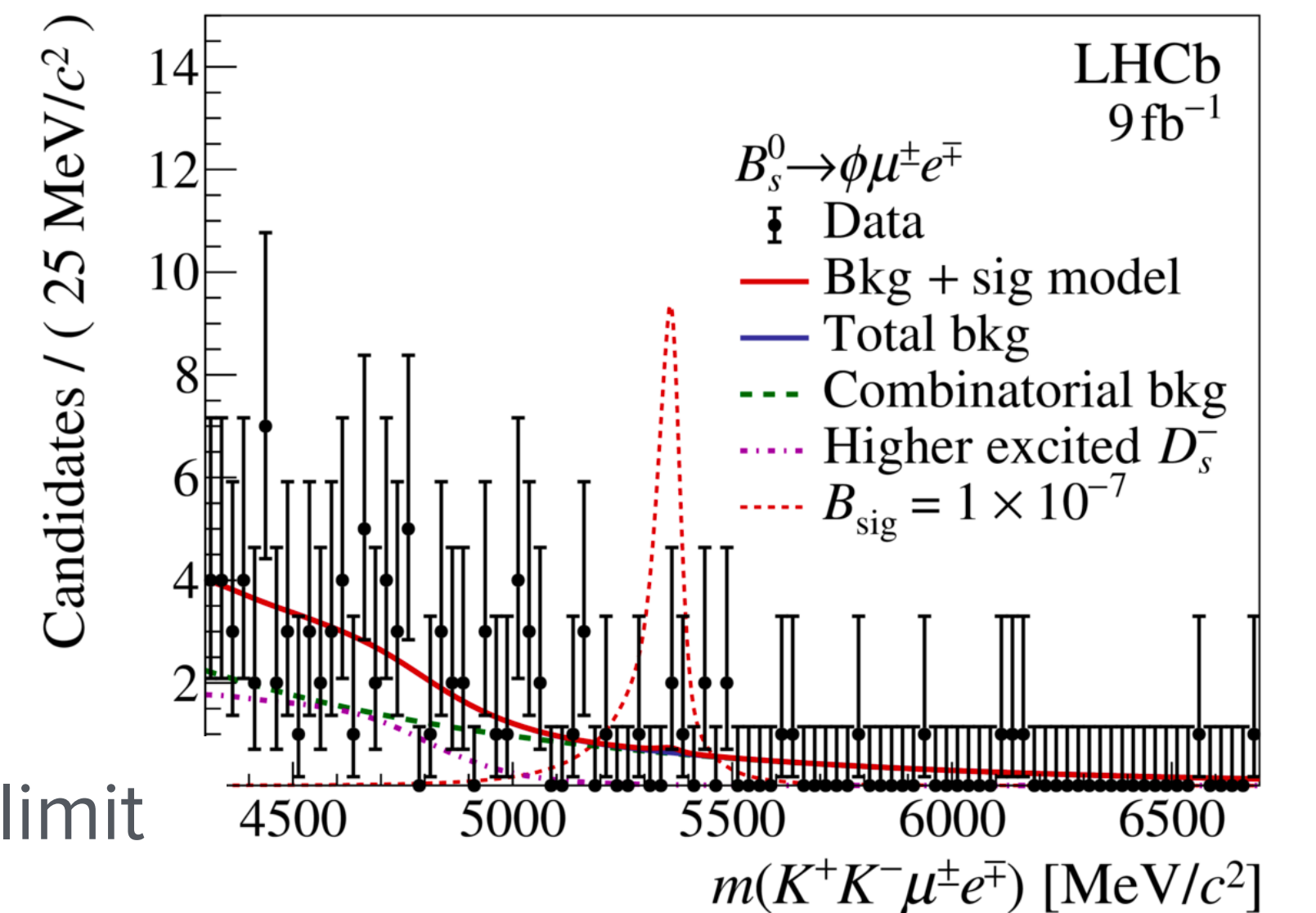
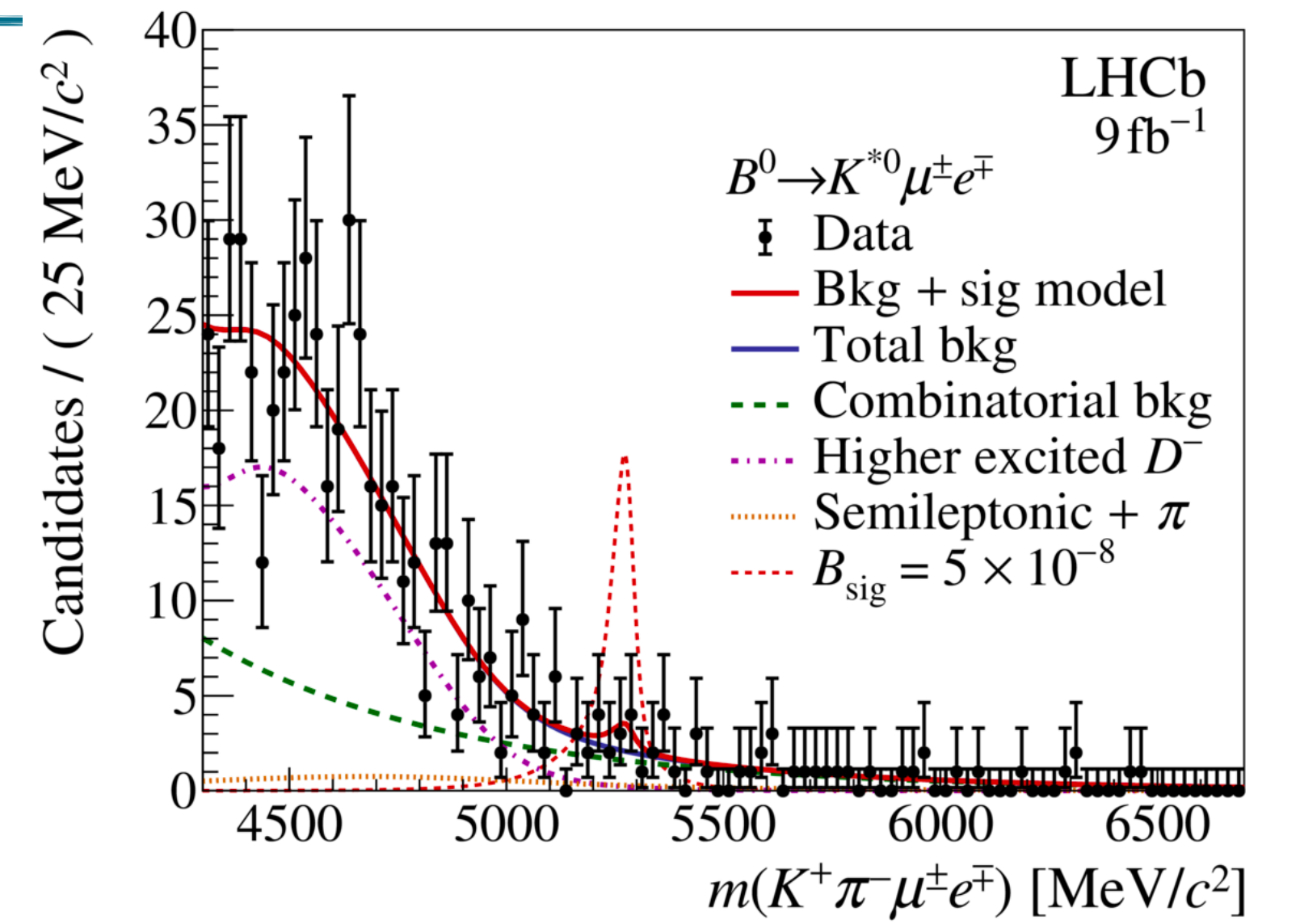
$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\mu^-e^+) < 6.8 \times 10^{-9} \quad (7.9 \times 10^{-9}),$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\mu^\pm e^\mp) < 10.1 \times 10^{-9} \quad (11.7 \times 10^{-9}),$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\mu^\pm e^\mp) < 16.0 \times 10^{-9} \quad (19.8 \times 10^{-9})$$

World first limit

- ▶ Provided limits on a scalar and left-handed NP scenario



LFV with taus

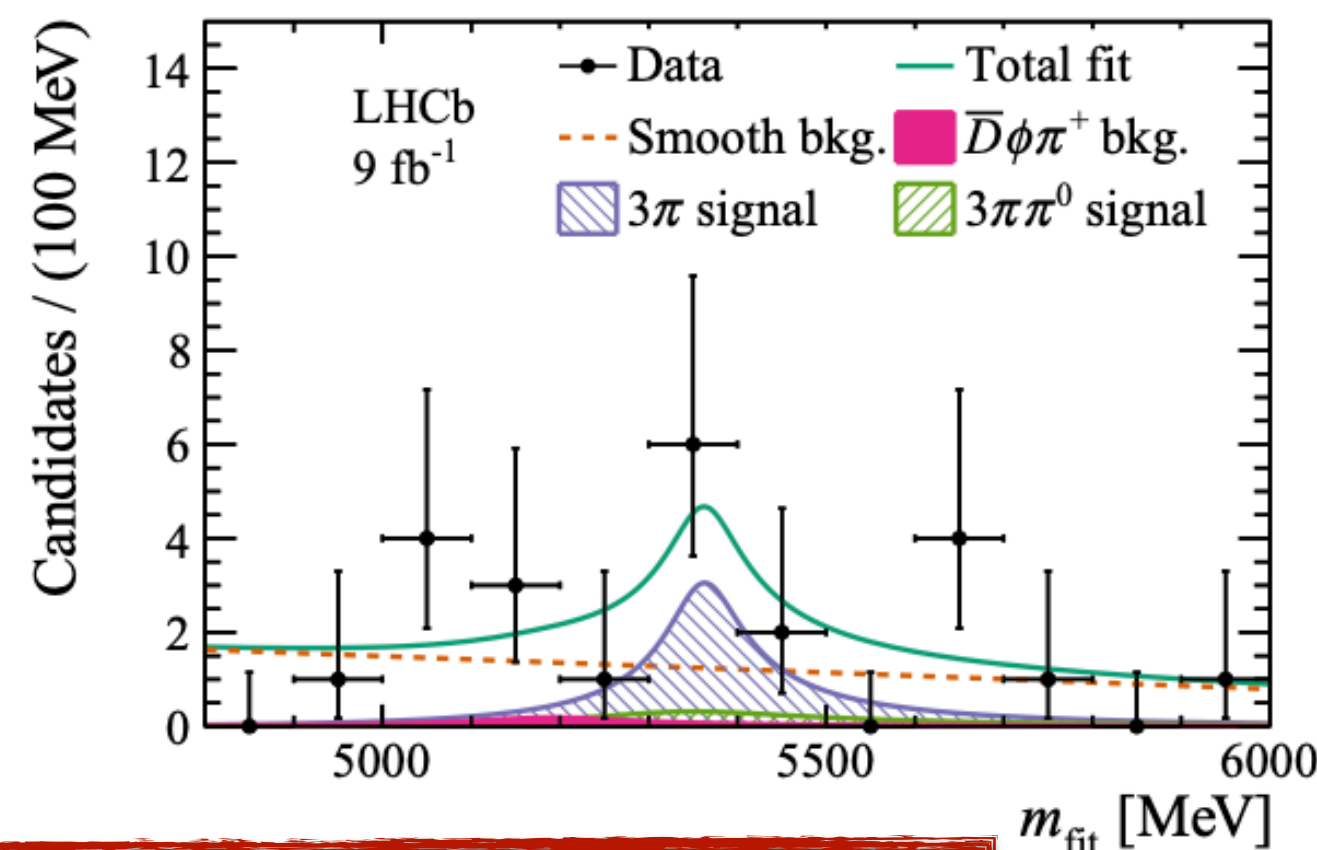
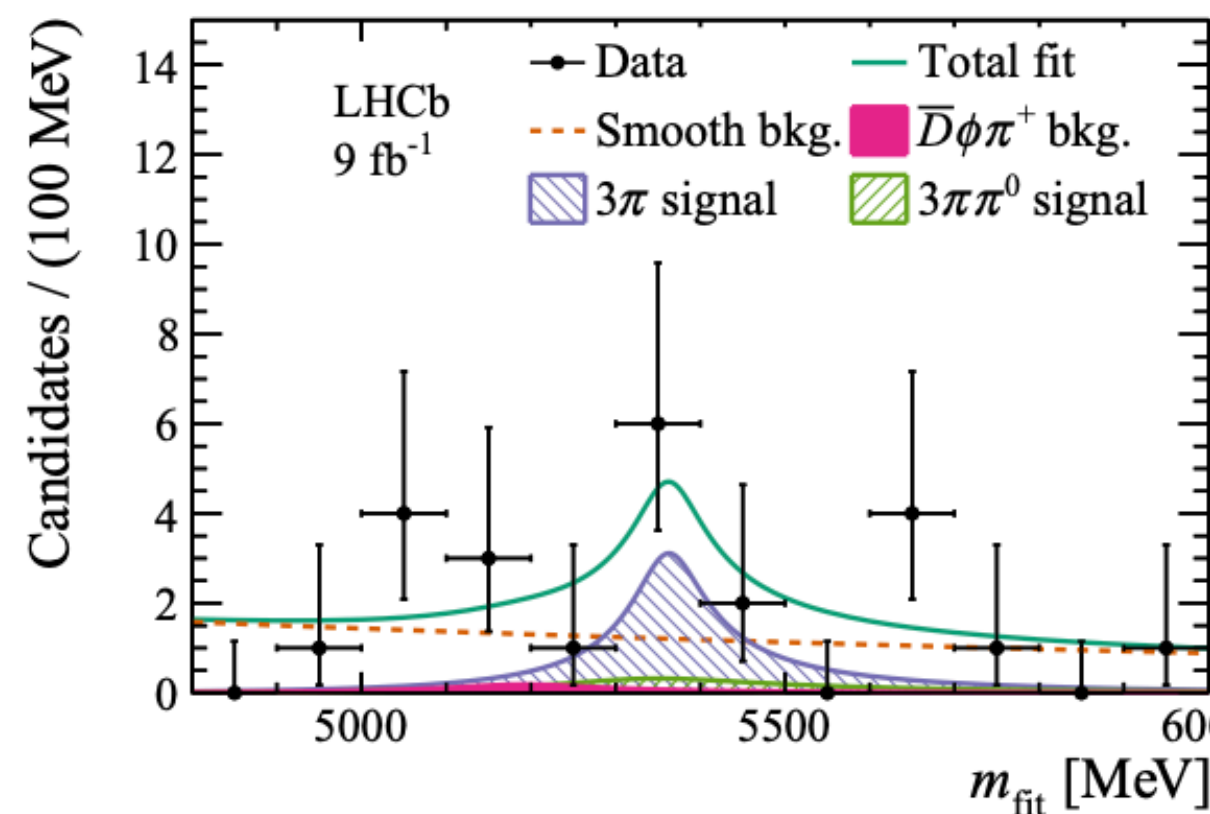
@90% CL

- Use $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^- (\pi^0) \nu_\tau$
- Search for $B^+ \rightarrow K^{*0} \tau^\pm \mu^\mp$

- ▶ Separated treatment for charges combinations
- ▶ Corrected mass used to recover neutrinos energies:

$$m_{\text{corr}} = \sqrt{p_\perp^2 + m_{K^* \tau \mu}^2 + p_\perp^2}$$

arXiv:2405.13103



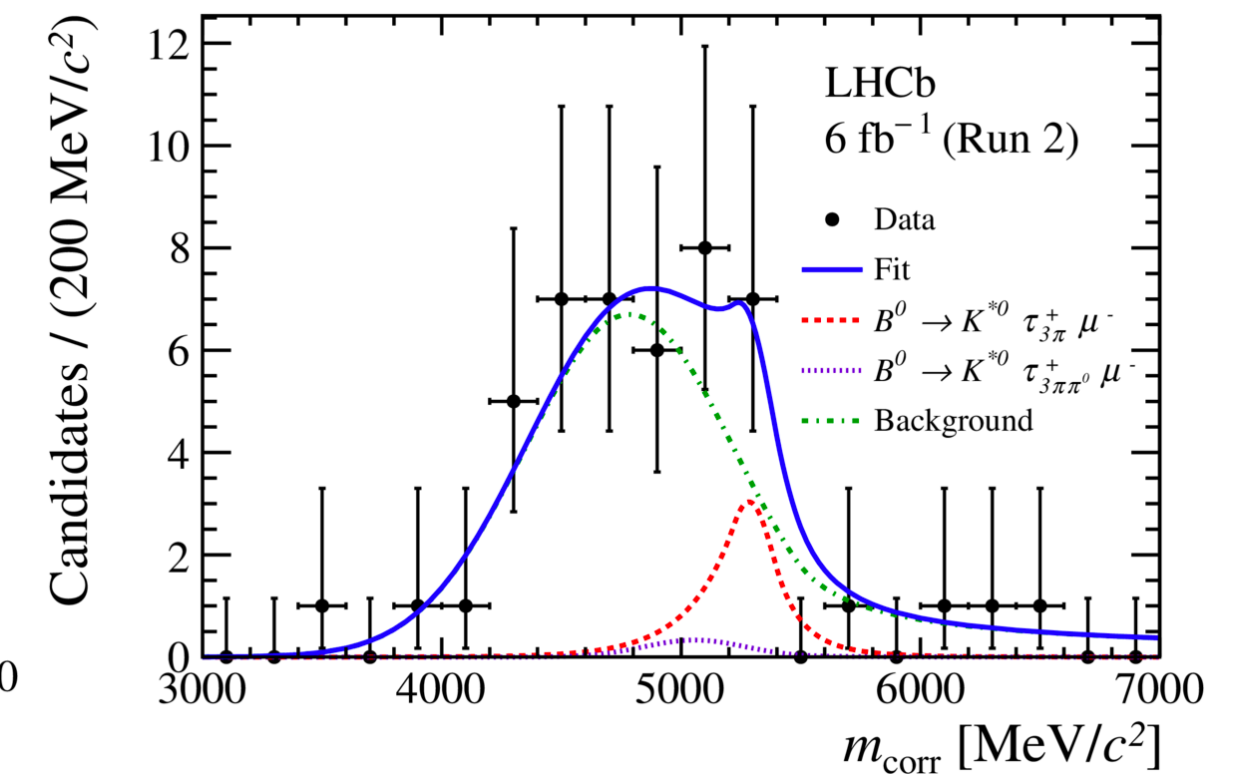
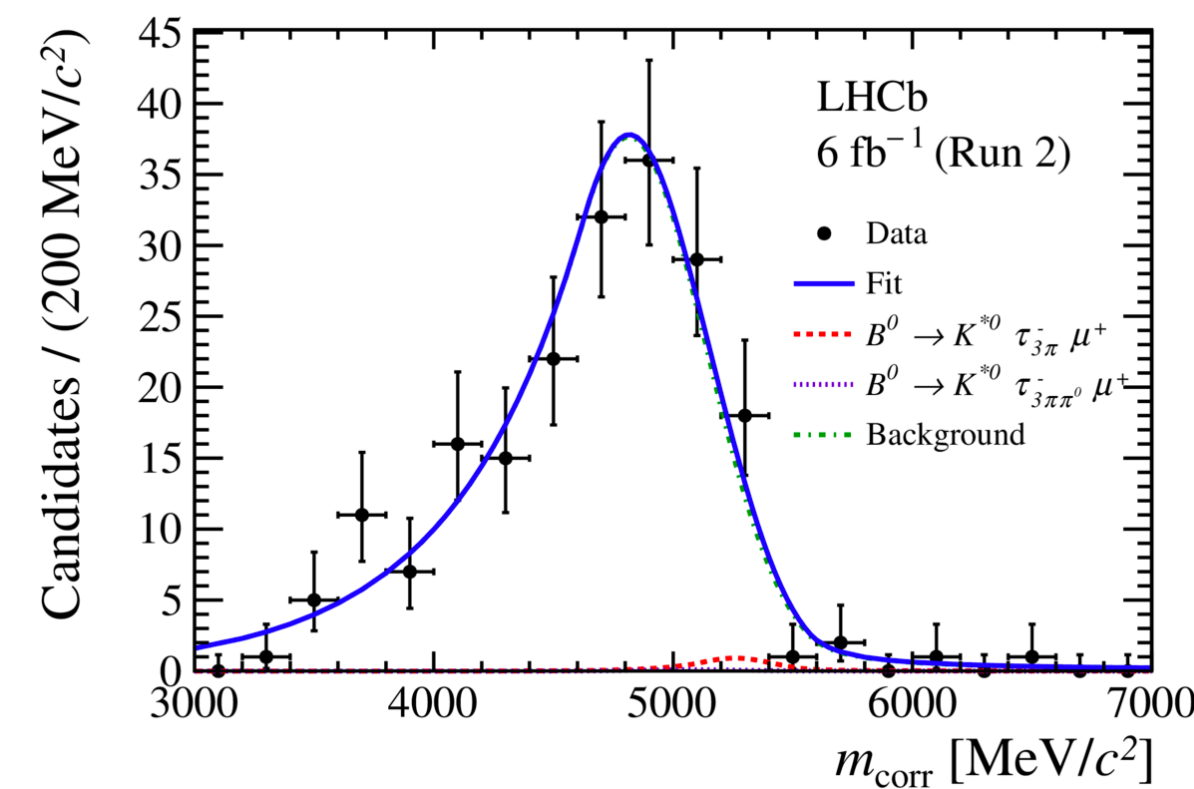
$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \tau^-) < 1.0 \times 10^{-5}$$

@90% CL

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \tau^+ \mu^-) < 1.0 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \tau^- \mu^+) < 8.2 \times 10^{-6}$$

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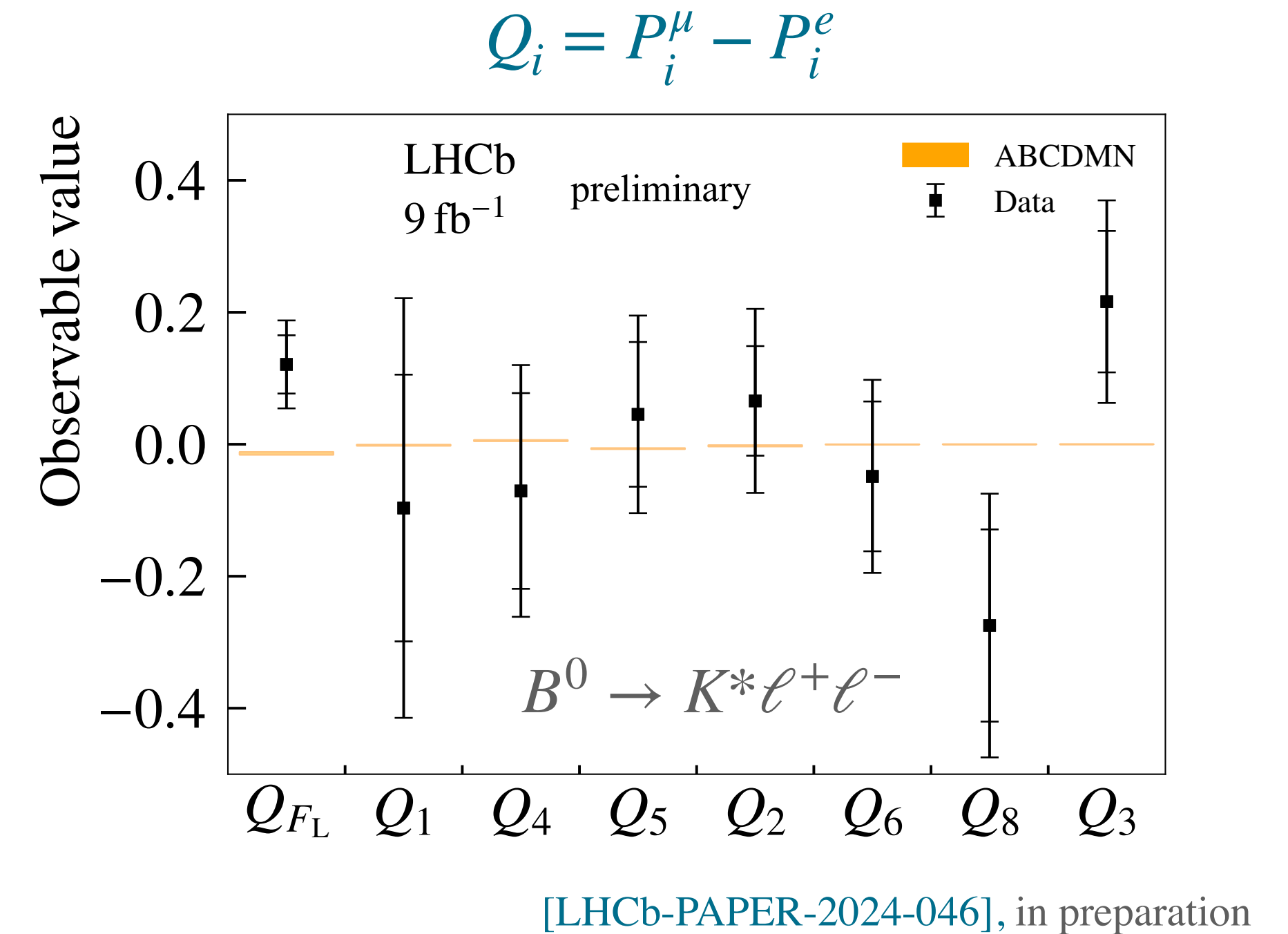


- Search for $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \tau \mu$

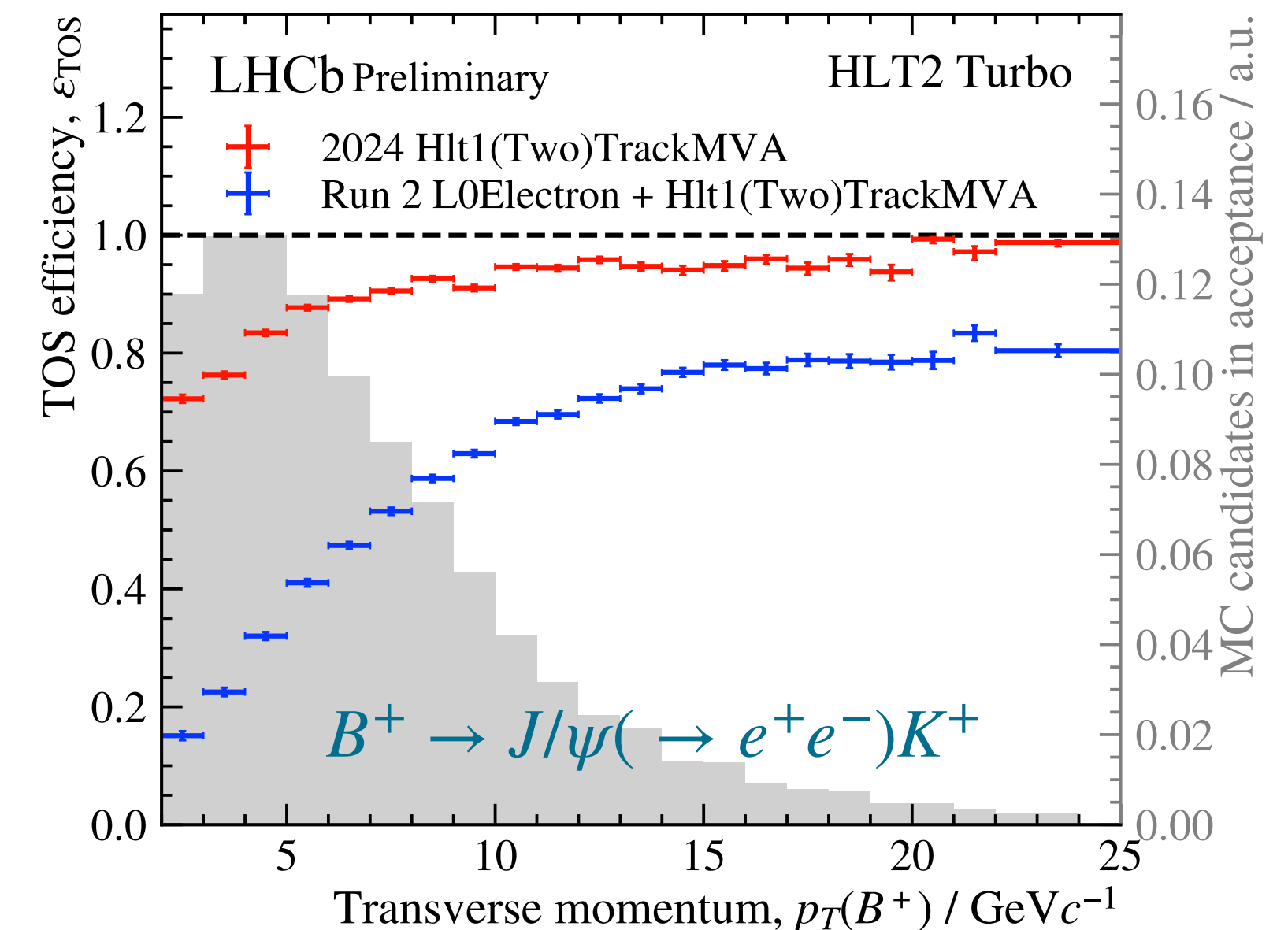
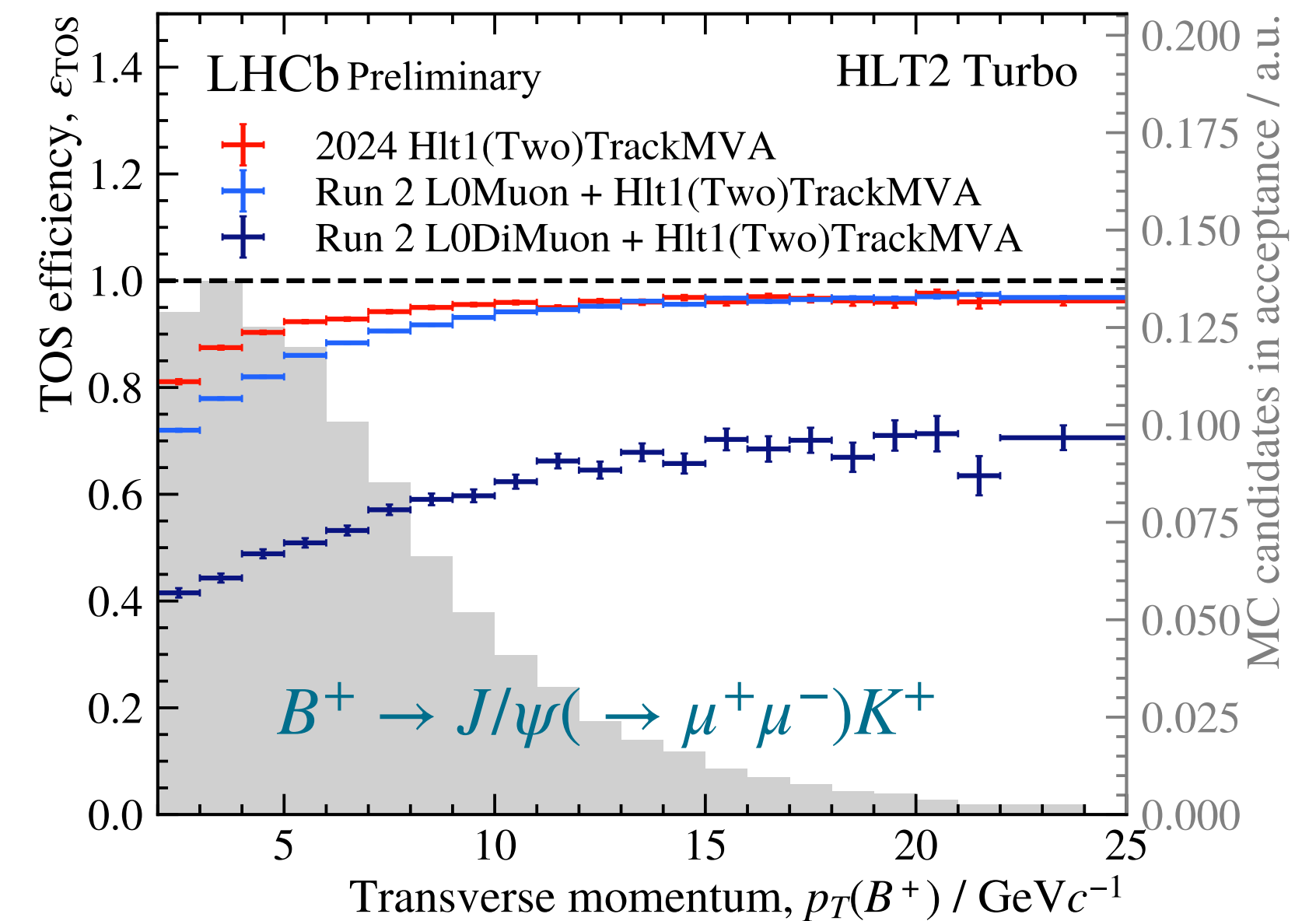
- ▶ Mass re-fitted including missing neutrino momentum and kinematic constraints
- ▶ No charge separation possible

Outlook

- More updating/searches ongoing with Run2 data
 - Direct searches in $\tau \rightarrow 3\mu$ (under internal review),
 $\tau \rightarrow \phi\mu, \tau \rightarrow p\mu\mu$
see [Lakshan Madhan talk](#)
 - LFU observables in angular analysis



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 - ▶ Direct searches in $\tau \rightarrow 3\mu$ (under internal review),
 $\tau \rightarrow \phi\mu, \tau \rightarrow p\mu\mu$
see [Lakshan Madhan talk](#)
 - ▶ LFU observables in angular analysis
- New data from Run3!
 - ▶ Collected with an upgraded detector and trigger system
 - ▶ Reducing systematics due to data driven methods
 - ▶ Better sensitivities for LFV and rare searches

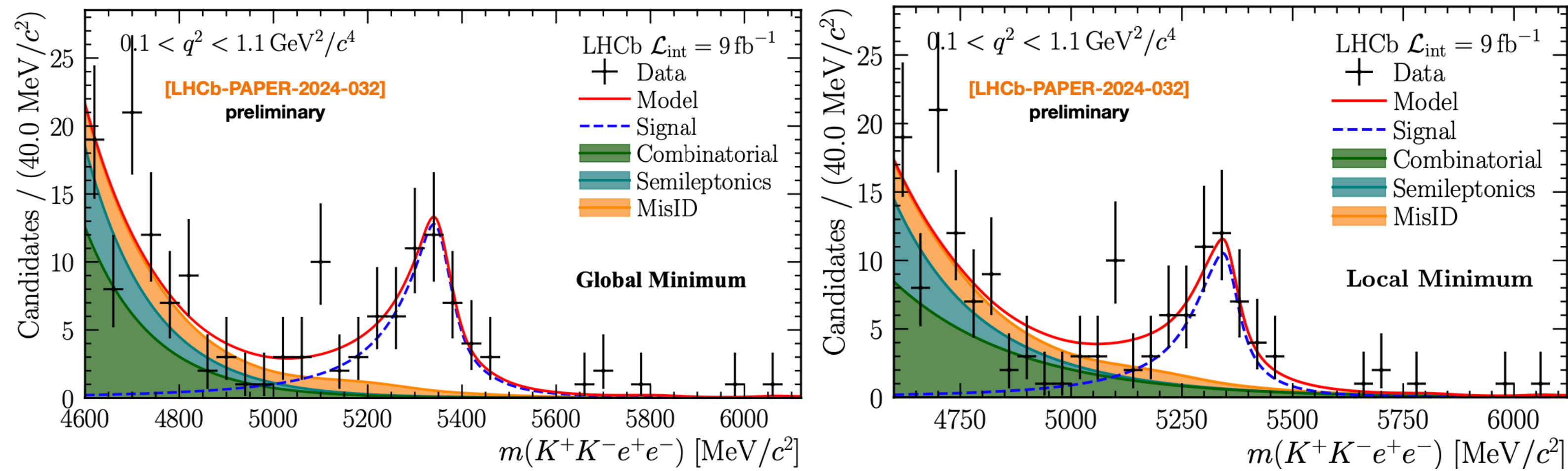




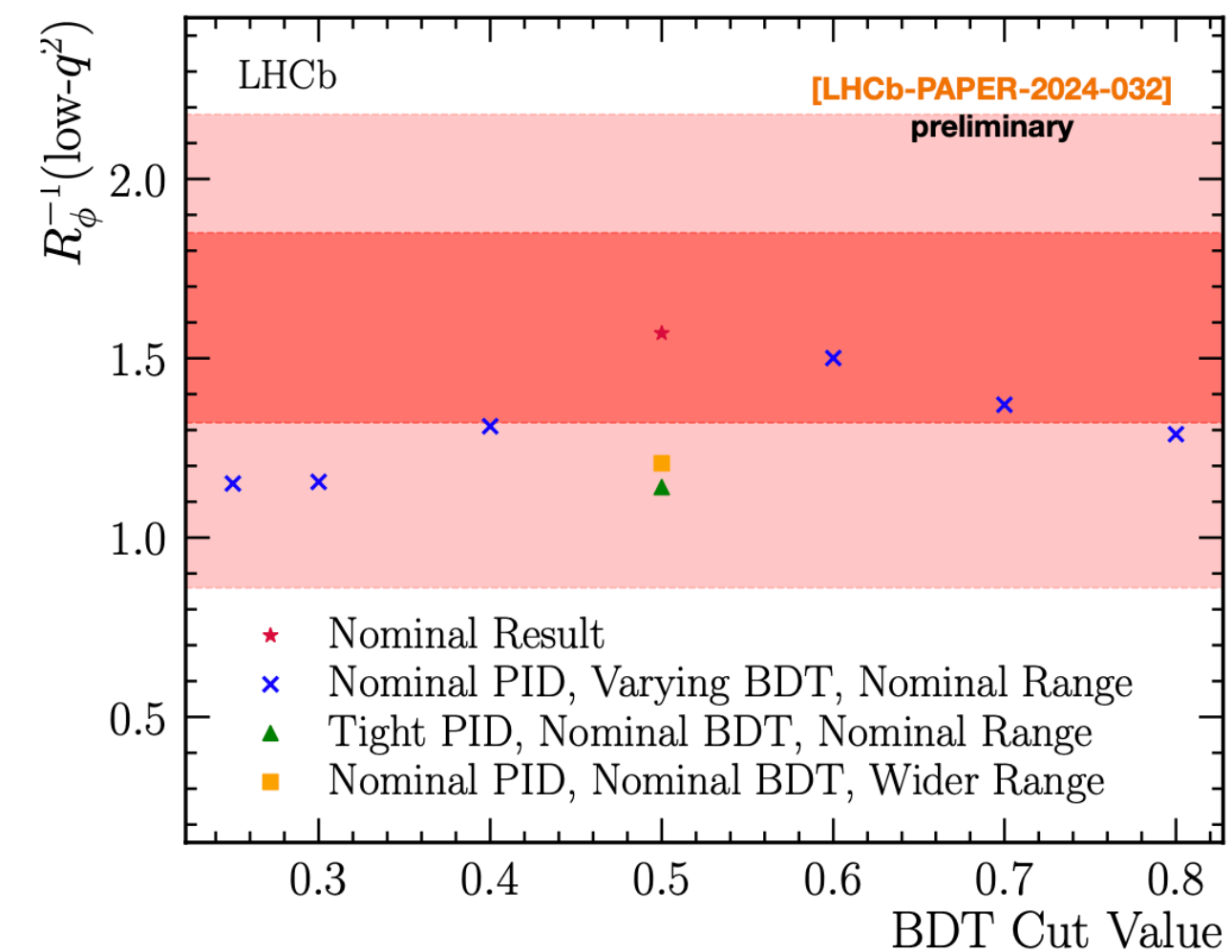
Back-up

R_ϕ Secondary minimum

- Secondary minimum characterised by flatter combinatorial

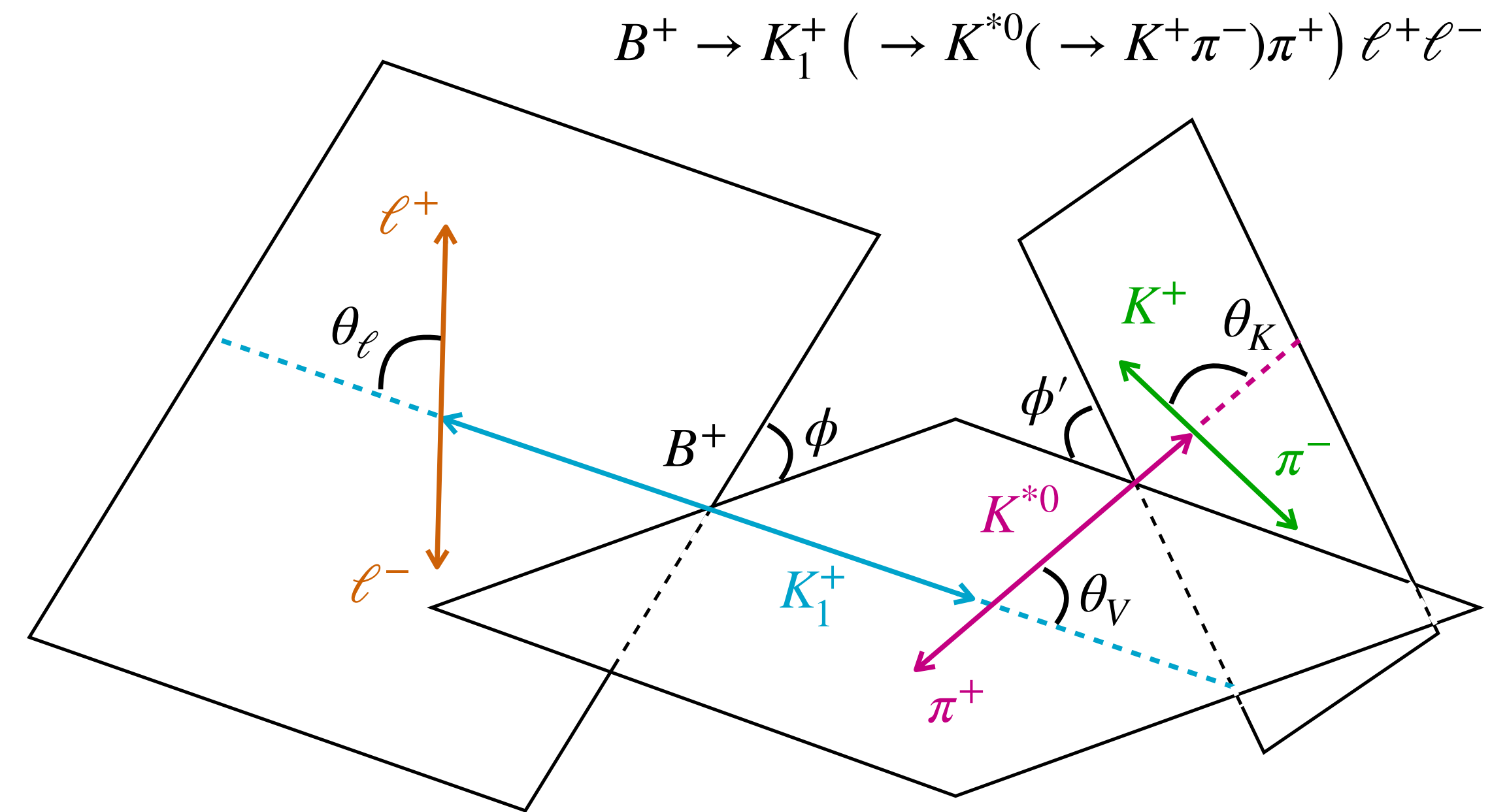


- Variations of analysis choices affect which minimum is global



$R_{K\pi\pi}$ Phase-space correction

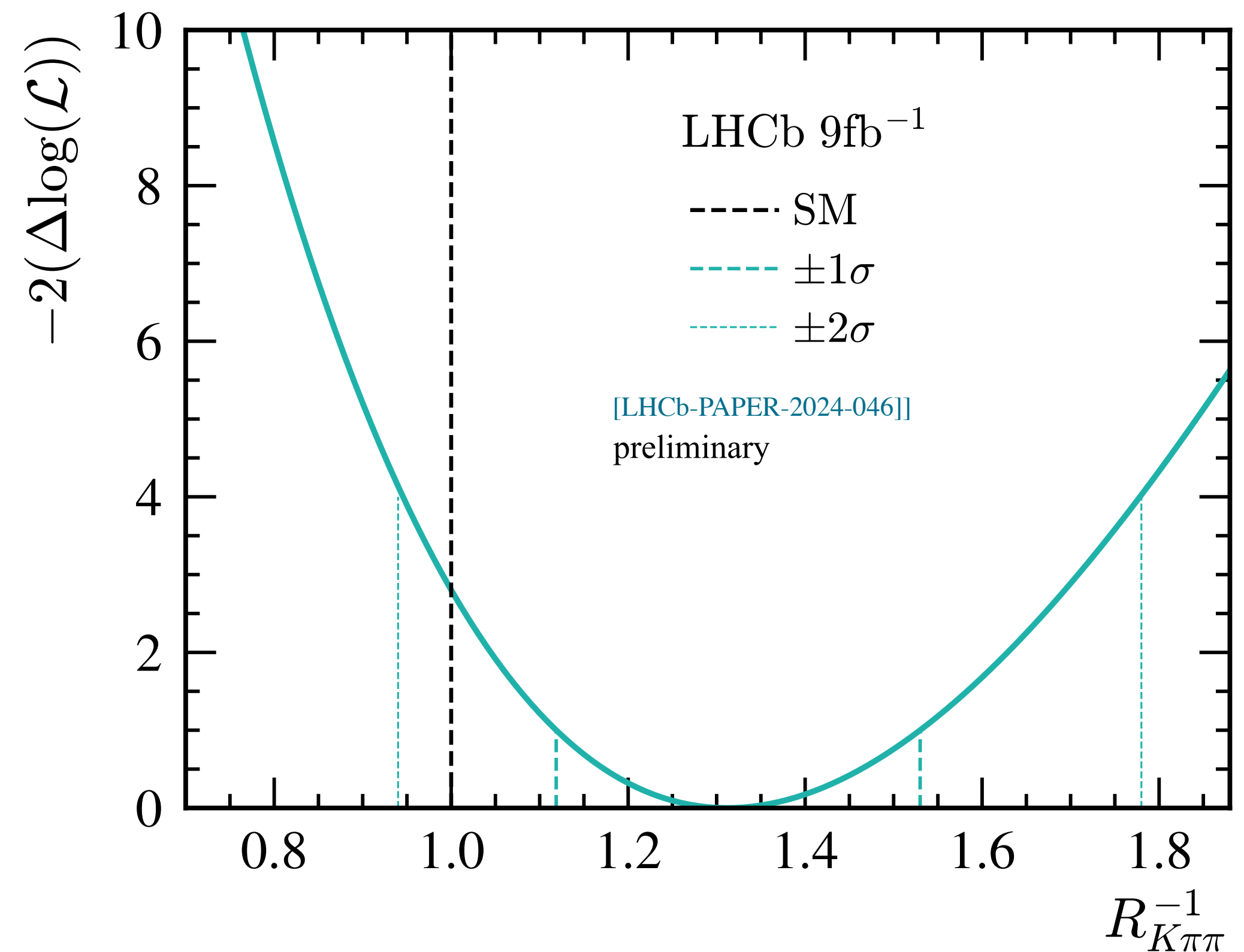
- BDT reweighter comparing simulation and $B \rightarrow K^+ \pi^+ \pi^- J/\psi(\rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)$ s-weighted data
 - ▶ Trained on $m(K\pi), m(\pi\pi), m(K\pi\pi), \cos \theta_L, \cos \theta_K, \cos \theta_V$
 - ▶ 10-fold cross validation
 - ▶ Also transferred to electrons
 - ▶ Data unfolded with efficiencies maps to take in account acceptance effects
- Systematics uncertainties are assigned by:
 - ▶ Training the reweighters on $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^+ \pi^- \gamma$ decays
 - ▶ Using no angular information in the training
 - ▶ Training on custom simulation where the $K\pi\pi$ system is in different spin configuration



$R_{K\pi\pi}$ Phase-space correction

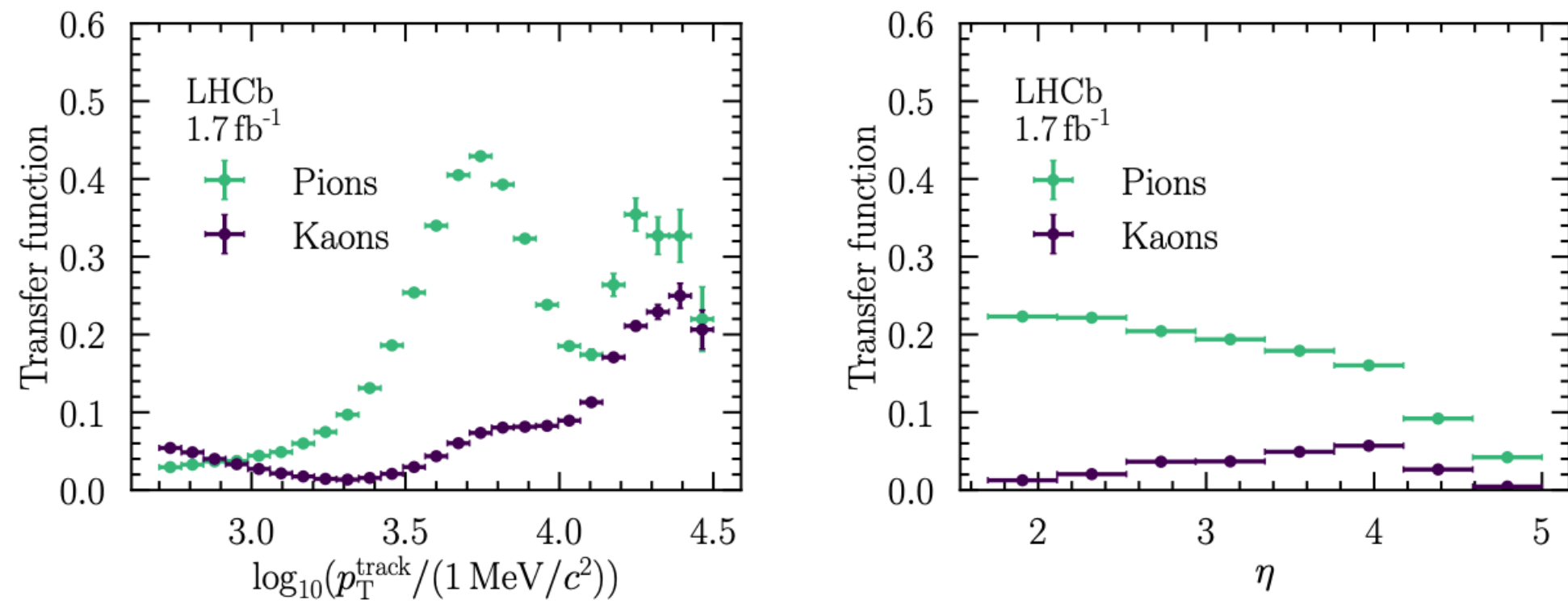
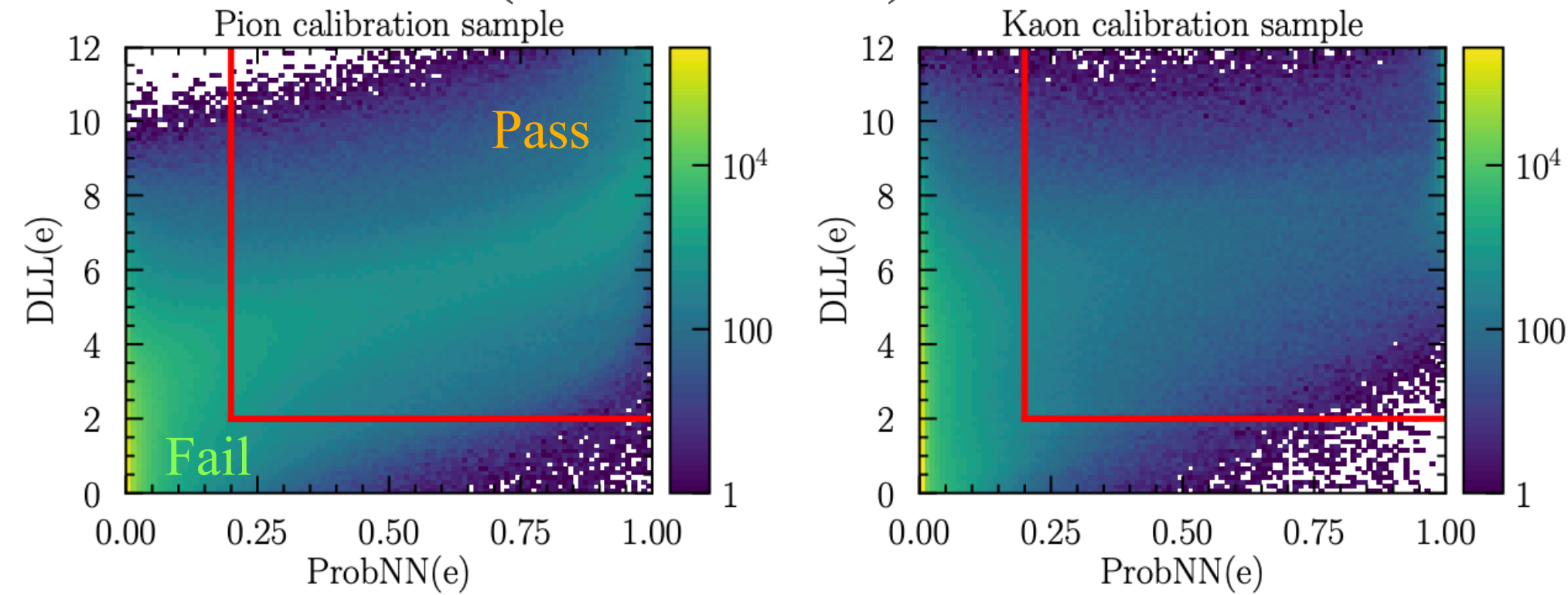
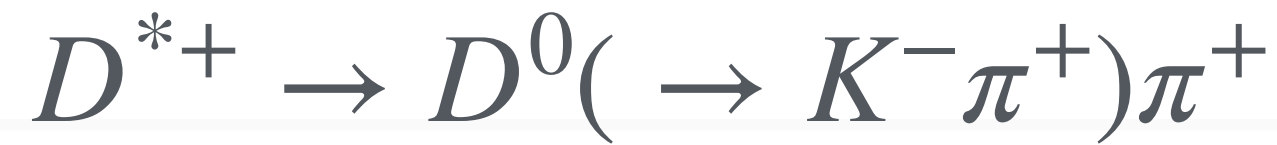
$$R_{K\pi\pi}^{-1} = 1.31^{+0.18}_{-0.17} (\text{stat})^{+0.12}_{-0.09} (\text{syst})$$

- Profile log likelihood used to evaluate the **agreement with SM: 1.7σ**
- **First observation** of $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ e^-$ decay, significance $> 10\sigma$ (Wilk's theorem)
- Systematics directly added by convoluting the likelihood with a Gaussian kernel



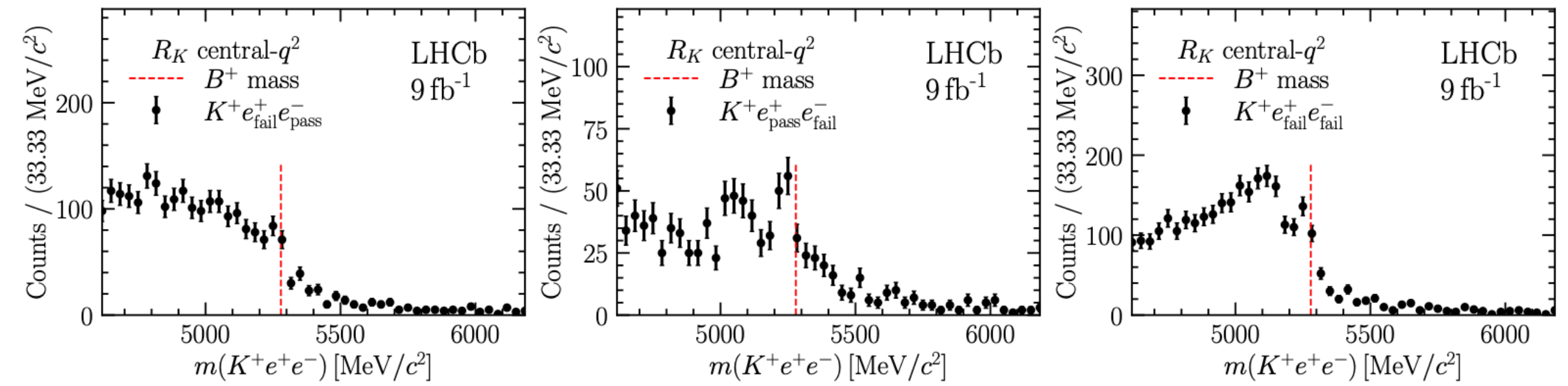
Pass-Fail

[PRD 108 (2023) 032002]



$$w_{\text{fake}} = \frac{\epsilon_{\text{pass}}}{\epsilon_{\text{fail}}}(p_T, \eta)$$

Control regions



Combined and weighted for transfer functions

