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# $B_c^+$ physics at LHCb

Lucio Anderlini

*on behalf of the LHCb Collaboration*

*Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare – Sezione di Firenze*

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Ann Arbor, MI – United States of America

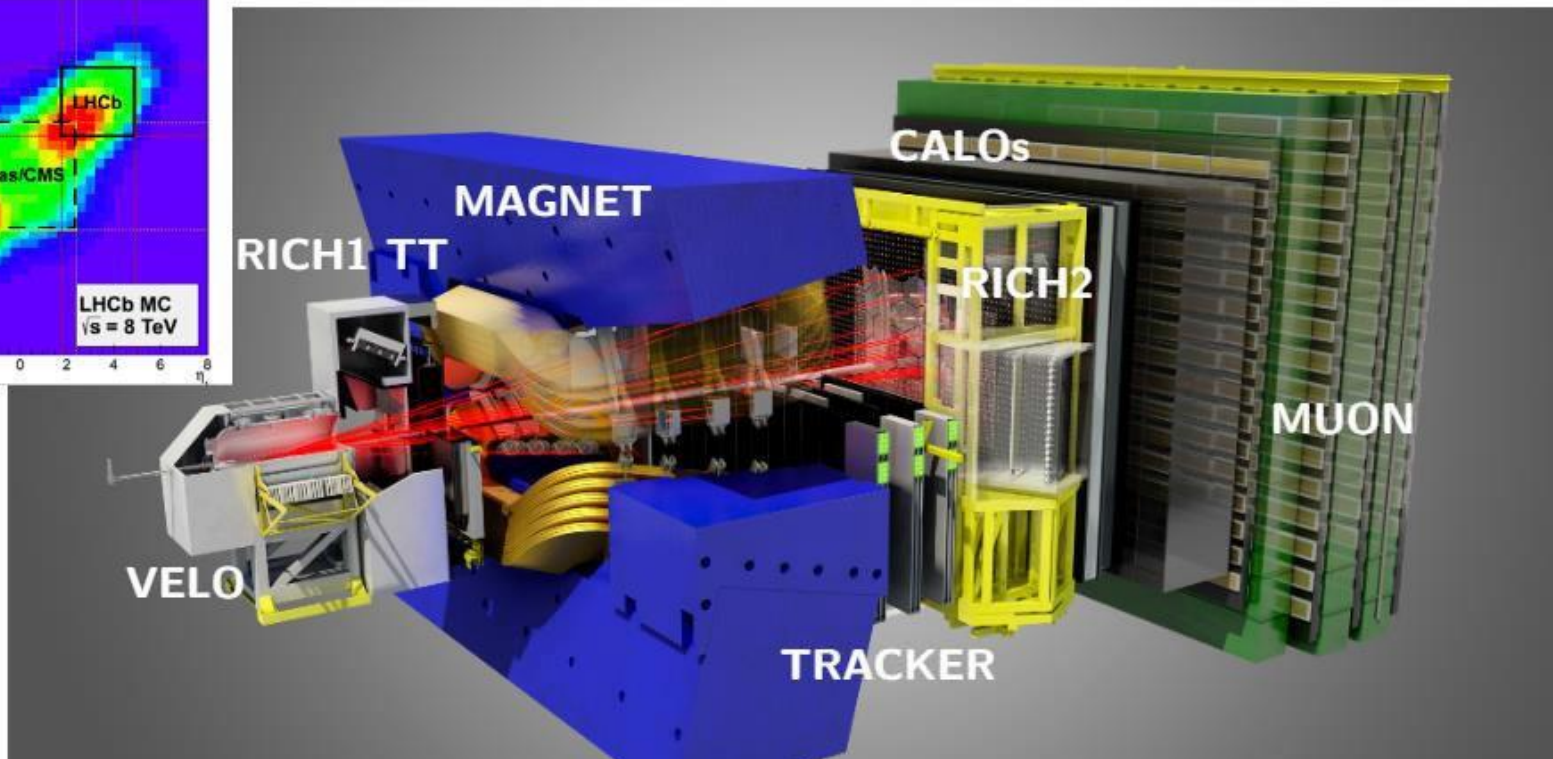
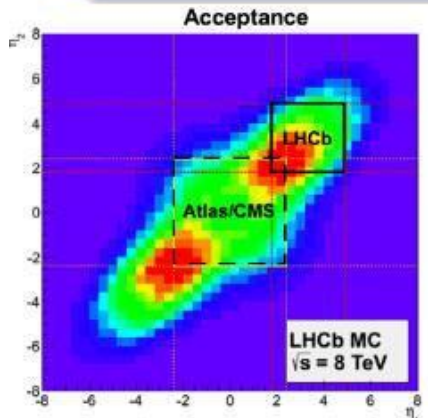
# Introduction

- $B_c^+$  meson is the **ground state** of the  $(\bar{b}c)$  bound states.
- It is a **unique state** in the Standard Model, being composed of a heavy quark-antiquark pair of different flavours.
- Discovered at CDF in 1995
- Production disfavored in  $e^+e^-$  collisions  
(and forbidden at  $b$ -factories)
- Great potential for the LHC, and especially the LHCb experiment.

Outline		
The LHCb detector		
<a href="#">Int. J. Mod. Phys. A30 (2015) 1530022</a>		
Production in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV		2012 data, 2 fb <sup>-1</sup>
<a href="#">PRL 114 (2015) 132001</a>		
Lifetime measurement		
with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \mu^+ \nu X$	<a href="#">EPJC74 (2014) 5, 2839</a>	2012 data, 2 fb <sup>-1</sup>
with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$	<a href="#">PLB 742 (2014) 29</a>	Run-1 data, 3 fb <sup>-1</sup>
Mass measurement		
with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$	<a href="#">PRL 109 (2012) 232001</a>	2011 data, 370 pb <sup>-1</sup>
with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi D_s^+$	<a href="#">PRD 87 (2013) 112012</a>	Run-1 data, 3 fb <sup>-1</sup>
with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi p \bar{p} \pi^+$	<a href="#">PRL (2014) 152003</a>	Run-1 data, 3 fb <sup>-1</sup>
Study of $B_c^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S) \pi^+$	<a href="#">arXiv:1507.03516</a>	Run-1 data, 3 fb <sup>-1</sup>

**New**

# LHCb: A wonderful detector to study $B_c^+$ decays



## Key features

[Int. J. Mod. Phys. A30 \(2015\) 1530022](#)

Unique geometrical acceptance

$2 < \eta < 5$ ;  $\sim 40\%$  of  $b$  quarks in acceptance

Excellent Vertex Locator (VELO)

$\sigma_{PV_{xy}} \sim 10 \mu m$ ,  $\sigma_{PV_z} \sim 60 \mu m$

Tracking system

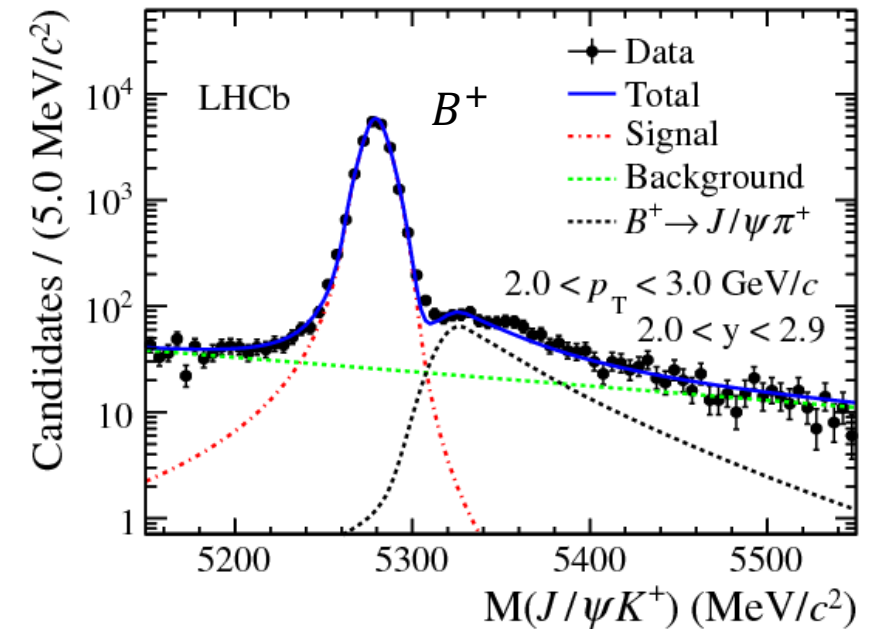
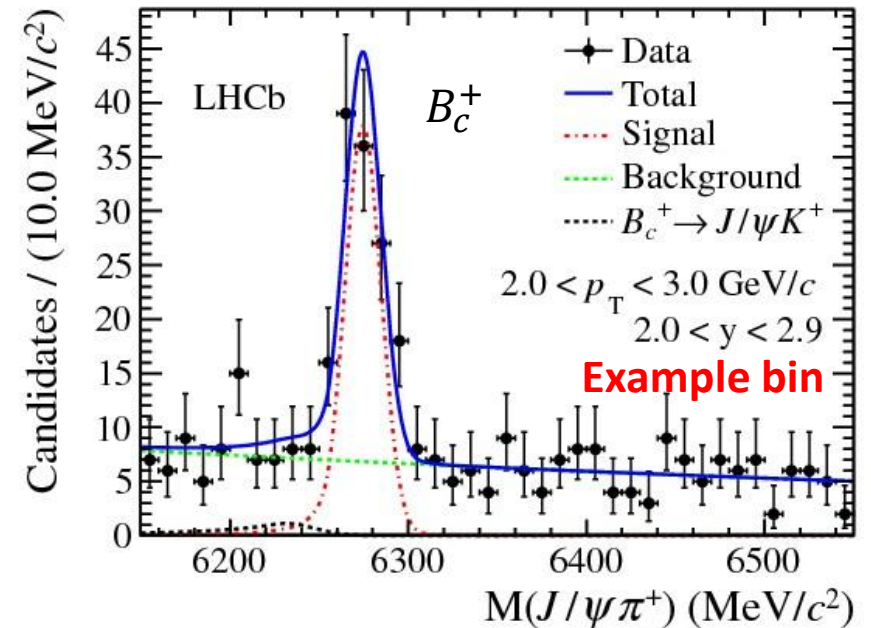
$\Delta p/p \sim 0.5 - 1\%$

Muon system

$\epsilon(\mu \rightarrow \mu) \sim 97\%$ , MisID rate( $h \rightarrow \mu$ )  $\sim 1\%$

# Production measurement

- Proton-Proton collisions **at 8 TeV** in the center of mass.
- $2.0 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of data collected in 2012
- Decay mode:  $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$
- Control channel:  $B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi K^+$
- First **double-differential** measurement of  $B_c^+$  **production cross-section**
- Range:  
 $0 < p_T < 20 \text{ GeV}/c$  and  $2 < y < 4.5$



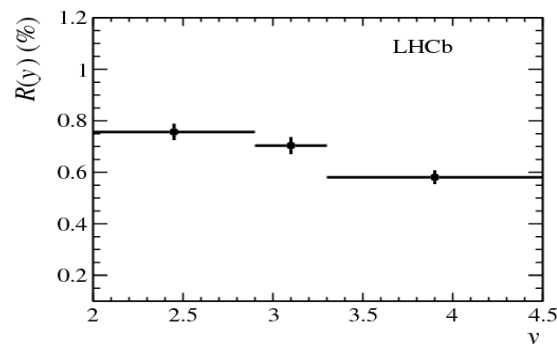
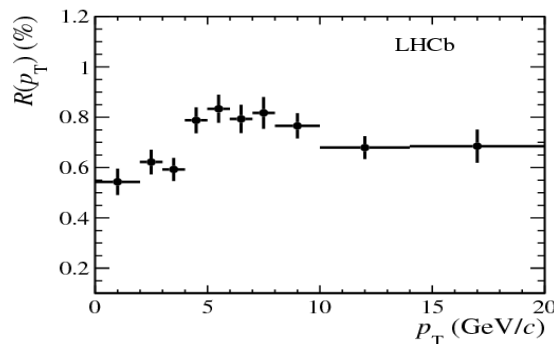
# Production measurement

Excellent agreement observed with the full  $\alpha_s^4$  calculation implemented in the Event generator

**BcVegPy** [[Comp. Phys. Commun. 159 \(2003\) 192](#)]

Ratio  $\frac{\sigma(pp \rightarrow B_c^+ X) \times Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+)}{\sigma(pp \rightarrow B^+ X) \times Br(B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi K^+)}$ , normalized to the full range is:

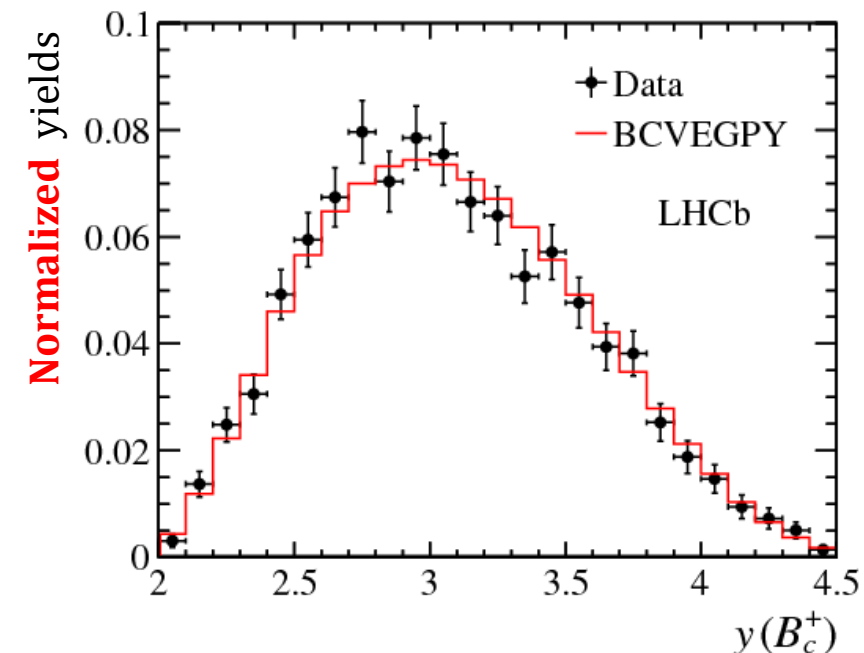
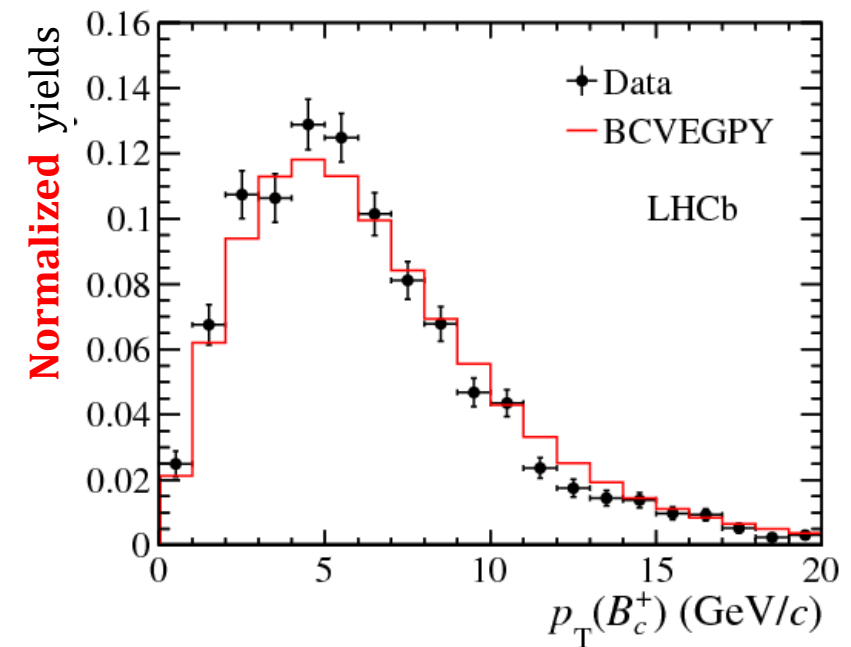
$$R = (0.638 \pm 0.018 (stat) \pm 0.09 (syst))\%$$



LHCb published the same ratio for pp collisions at 7 TeV:

$$(0.68 \pm 0.10 (stat) \pm 0.03 (syst) \pm 0.16(\tau))\%$$

where the last uncertainty is inherited from the  $B_c^+$  **lifetime**.





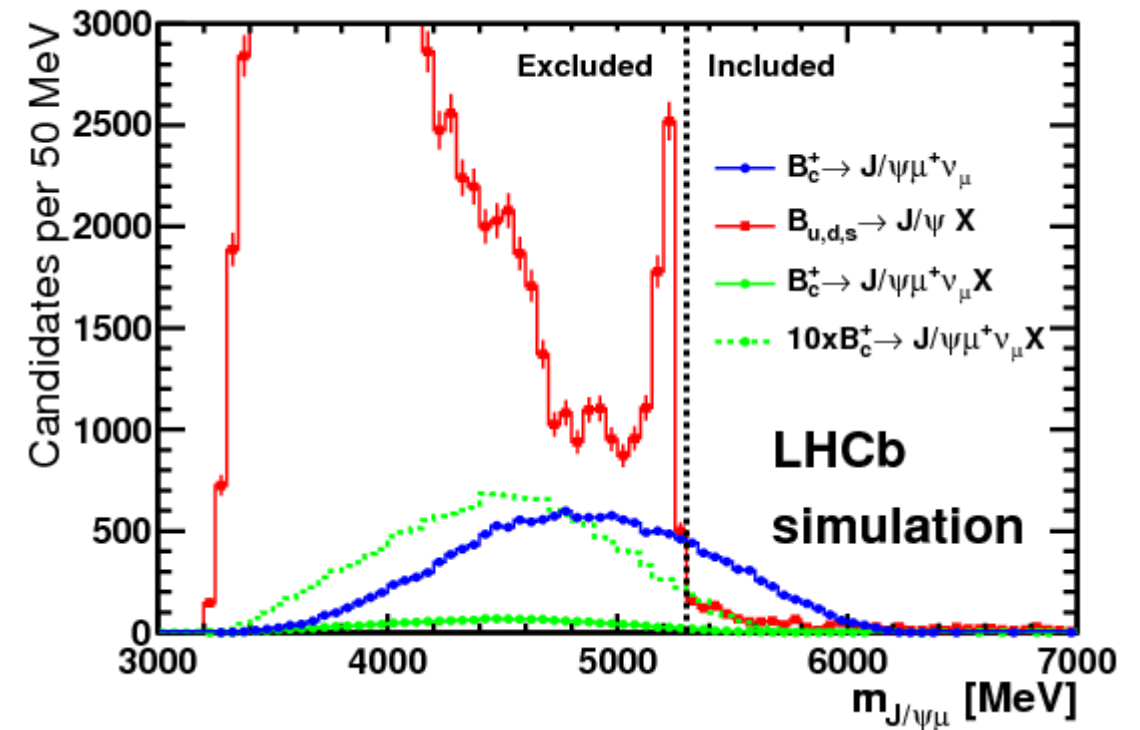
# Production and semileptonic decay

The production measurements can be combined to the measurement of

$$R_{\pi\mu} = \frac{Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi\pi^+)}{Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi\mu^+\nu)}$$

The computation of  $Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi\mu^+\nu)$  is theoretically cleaner, opening to **absolute branching fraction** measurements.

$$R_{\pi\mu} = 0.0469 \pm 0.0028 \pm 0.0046$$



The measurement is performed using the data with  $m_{J/\psi\mu} \in [m_{B_u}, 7 \text{ GeV}/c^2]$  with much smaller background from B decays.

# Lifetime measurement

LHCb has performed  $B_c^+$  lifetime measurements using the decay modes

- $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \mu^+ \nu X$ , **partially reconstructed**, high statistics, lifetime unbiased selection
- $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$ , **fully reconstructed**, suppressed decay width, and thus smaller statistics.

Selection based on Neural Network.

The two measurements (described below) are **competitive** and **complementary**, with fully uncorrelated statistical and systematic uncertainties

Lifetime can be directly related to the sum of all the decay widths, it represents a «*checksum*» of the **theoretical models** describing  $B_c^+$  decays.

Theoretical model	Lifetime prediction (ps)
Lusignoli, Masetti (1990) Rome preprint 774	Pontential Models (PM): 0.5
Eichten, Quigg (1994) FERMILAB-CONF-94-117-T	PM with $c \rightarrow s$ suppression: 1.3
Bigi (1995) <a href="http://hep-ph/9508408">hep-ph/9508408</a>	Heavy Quark Expansion: 0.4
Kiselev <i>et al.</i> (2000) Nucl.PB 585 (2000) 353-382	Potential models: $0.55 \pm 0.15$ QCD sum rules: $0.48 \pm 0.05$
Chang <i>et al.</i> (2000) PRD64 (2001) 014003	Fit of b and c hadron lifetimes: 0.37 – 0.47

# Lifetime measurement with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \mu^+ \nu X$

Excellent experimental signature: 3 muons

Good statistics (wrt.  $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$ )

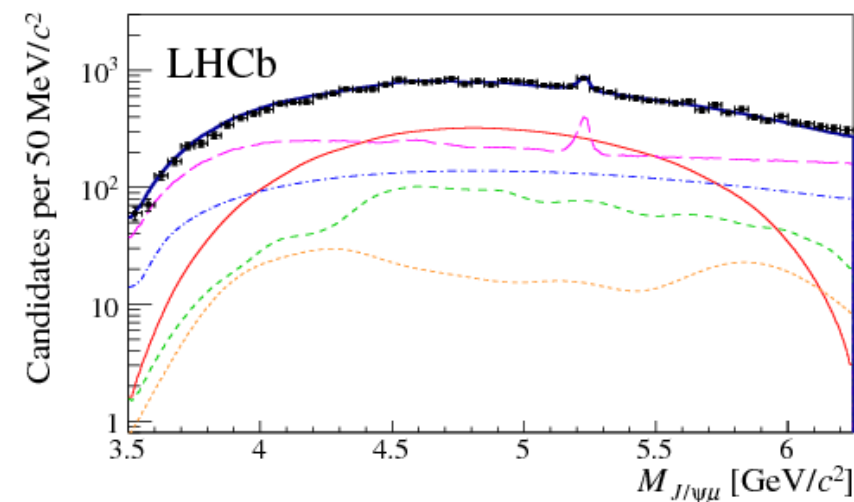
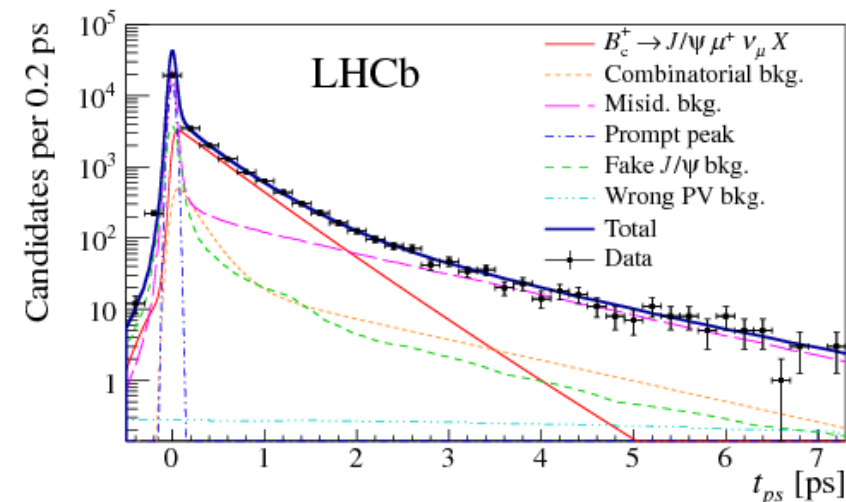
**Dataset:**  
2012 pp data  
(2 fb<sup>-1</sup>)

Allows **lifetime unbiased** selection strategy

Time dependence of the efficiency is often an important source of systematic uncertainty!

Result obtained from 2D maximum likelihood unbinned fit.  
Fit variables are:

- **Pseudo-proper decay time ( $t_{ps}$ )** defined in the  $J/\psi \mu^+$  rest frame
- **Invariant mass of the  $J/\psi \mu^+$  combination.** Because of partial reconstruction  $m(J/\psi \mu^+) \in [3.5, 6.3] \text{ GeV}/c^2$



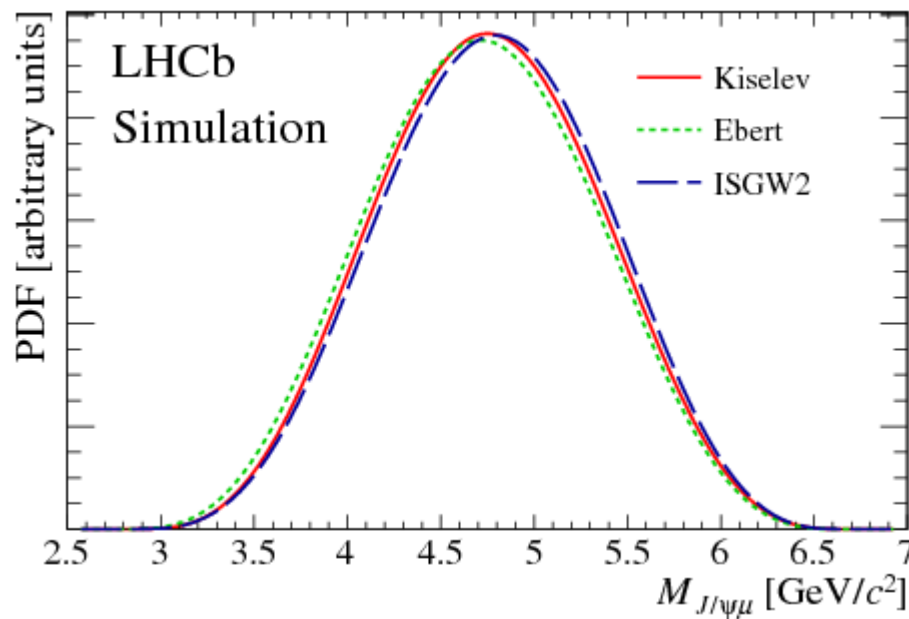


# Lifetime measurement with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \mu^+ \nu X$

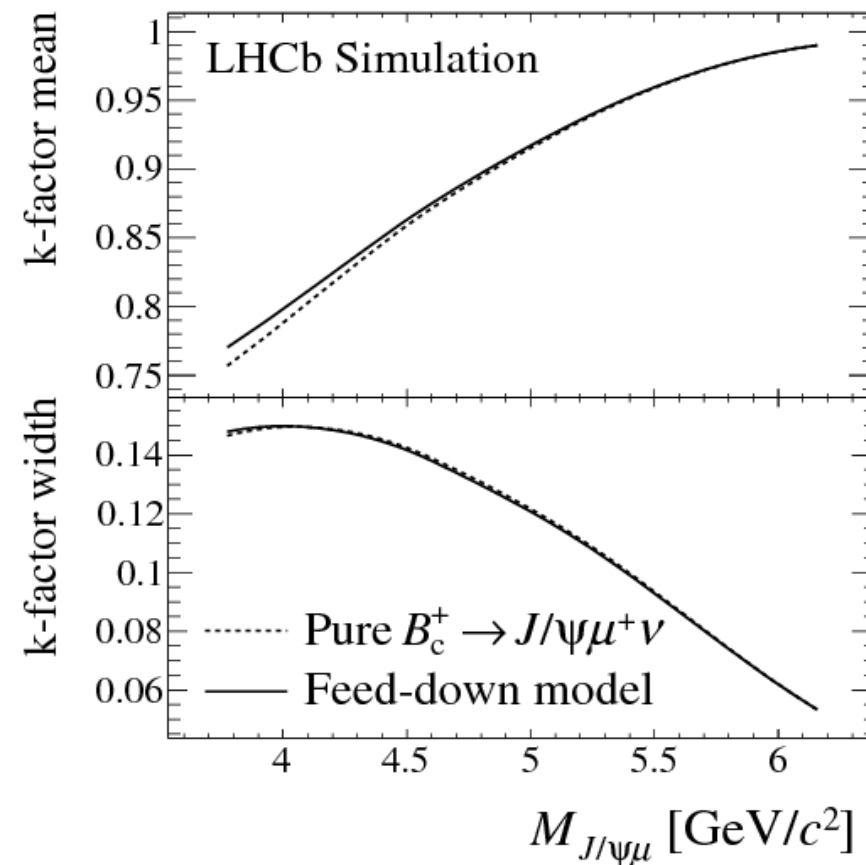
The correction  $k$  between the *pseudo-proper* and *proper decay time* relies on **theoretical decay models** for:

- **Decay form factor** (accounting for  $\nu$  missing energy)
- **Feed down modes** (missing energy from other particles)

- $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \tau^+$
- $B_c^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S) \mu^+ \nu$
- $B_c^+ \rightarrow \chi_c \mu^+ \nu$
- ...



The  $k$  factor is a statistical correction whose distribution depends on the mass  $m(J/\psi \mu^+)$



**Lifetime:**  
( $509 \pm 8 \pm 12$ ) fs

# Lifetime measurement with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$

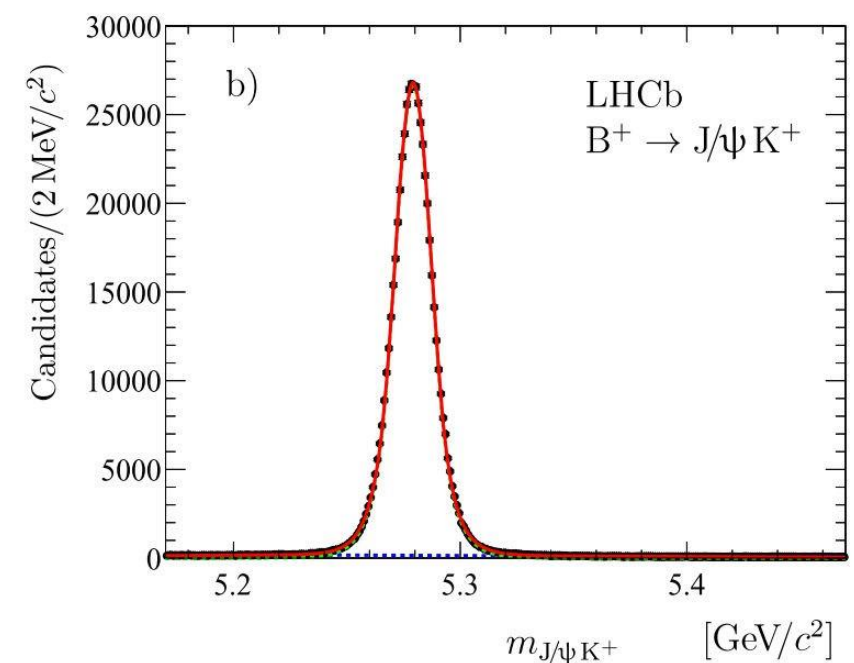
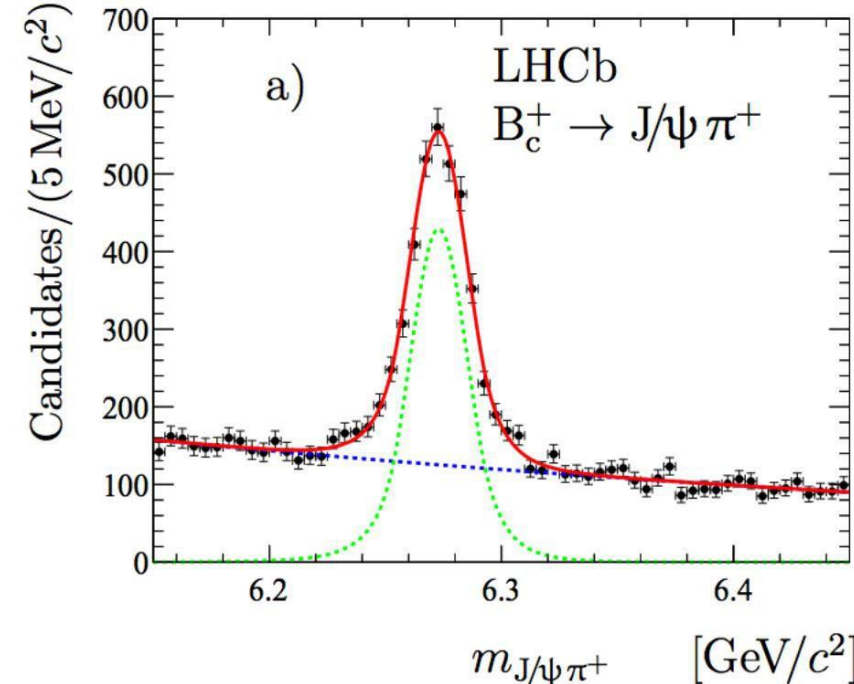
Same quantity, completely uncorrelated measurement.

Hadronic channel allows **good signal/background separation** based on the peaking distribution  $m(J/\psi \pi^+)$

The large number of  $\pi^+$  from primary vertex forces **lifetime biased selection strategy**.

The latter relies on a *Neural Network* classifier introducing a non-flat **efficiency** as a function of the decay times.

Normalization channel,  $B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi K^+$  used to «measure» the **efficiency** function directly from data.



# Lifetime measurement with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$

$$N_{Bu}(t) \propto \epsilon_{Bu}(t) \times \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_{Bu}}\right)$$

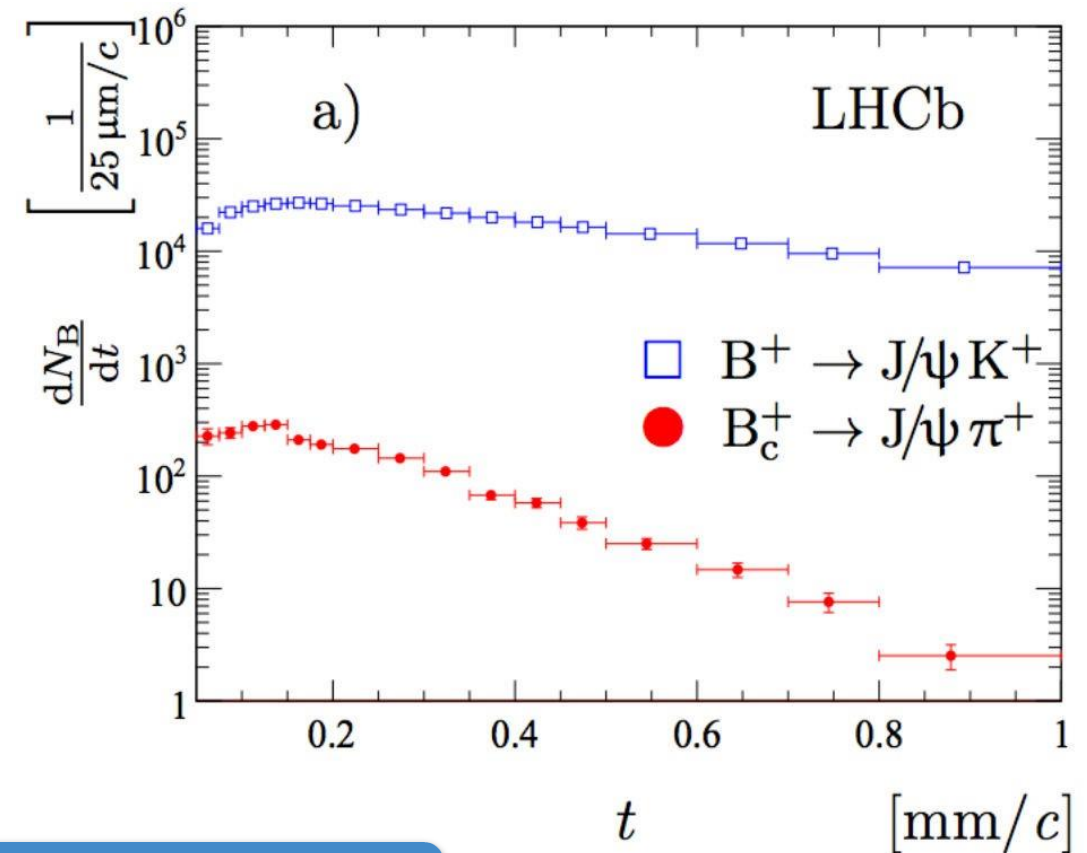
$$N_{Bc}(t) \propto \epsilon_{Bc}(t) \times \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau_{Bc}}\right)$$

$$R(t) = \frac{N_{Bc}(t)}{N_{Bu}(t)} \propto \frac{\epsilon_{Bc}(t)}{\epsilon_{Bu}(t)} \times \exp\left(-t \left(\frac{1}{\tau_{Bc}} - \frac{1}{\tau_{Bu}}\right)\right)$$

$\frac{\epsilon_{Bc}(t)}{\epsilon_{Bu}(t)}$  is very close to unity (in range [0.8,1.1])

$\left(\frac{1}{\tau_{Bc}} - \frac{1}{\tau_{Bu}}\right)$  got from fit to «ratio histogram»

$\tau_{Bu}$  is taken from PDG



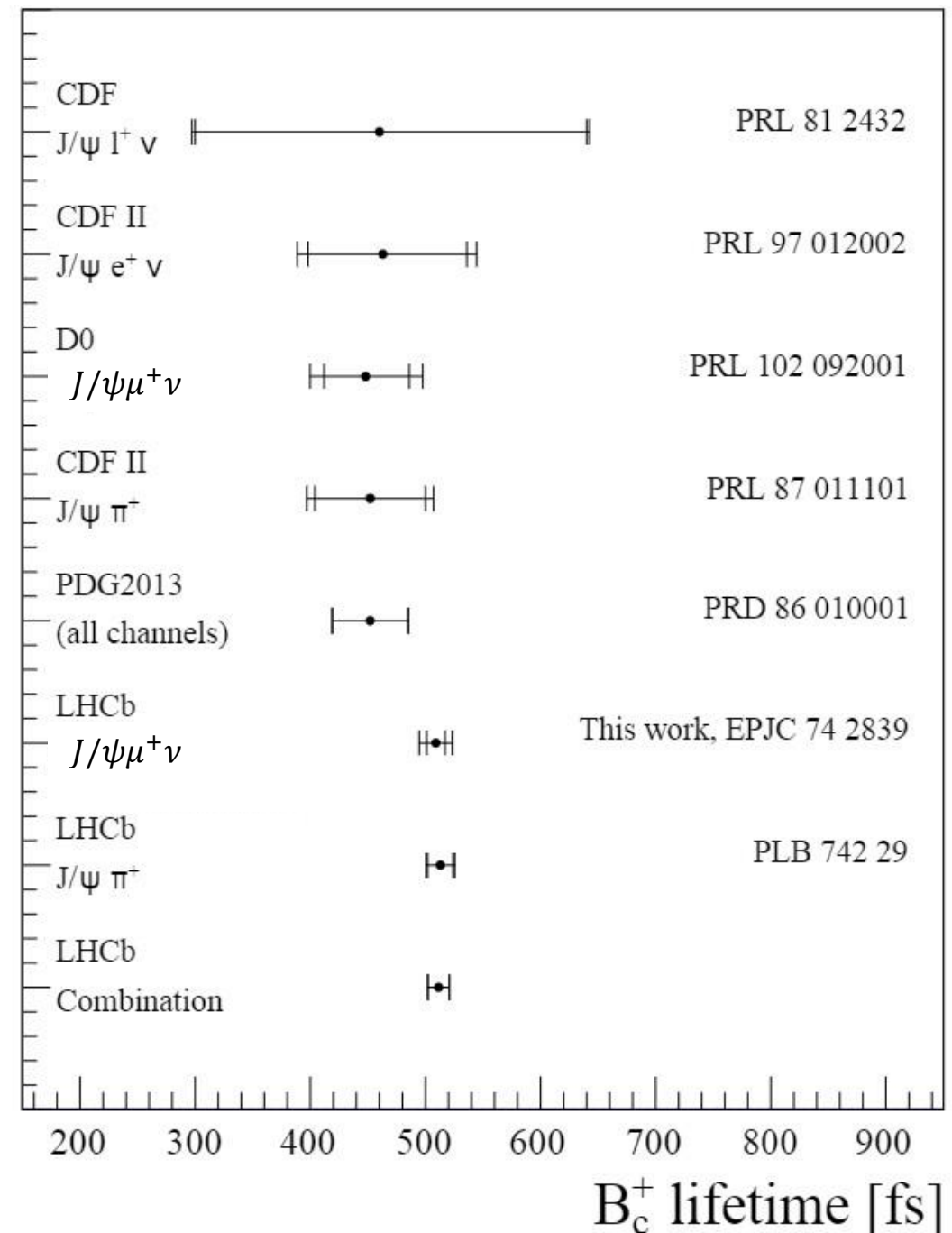
Measured Lifetime:  $513 \pm 11.0 \pm 5.7$  fs

# Lifetime measurements

Great improvement in the World Average for the  $B_c^+$  lifetime during the Run-1 of the LHC.

This heavily reduces the systematic uncertainty on most of the **other measurements** of  $B_c^+$ .

	Lifetime (fs)
$B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \mu^+ \nu$	$509 \pm 8 \pm 12$
$B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$	$513.4 \pm 11.0 \pm 5.7$
New World Average <a href="#">[HFAG Fall2014, arXiv:1412.7515]</a>	$507 \pm 9$



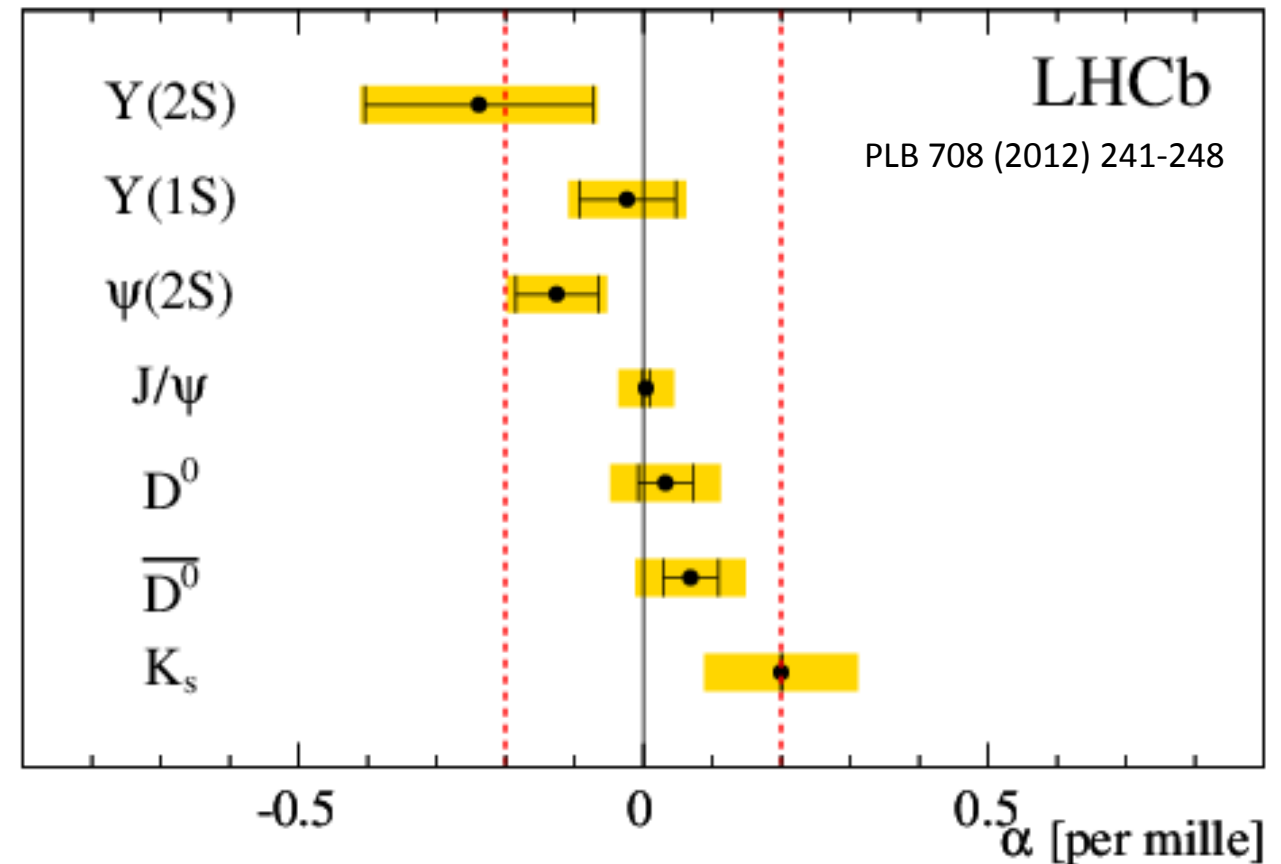
# Mass measurement

Mass is an important test for non-perturbative QCD predictions.

A dominant systematic uncertainty in mass measurements is due to **momentum scale calibration**.

**Calibration** and systematic assessment are performed using  $K_S^0$ ,  $D^0$ ,  $c\bar{c}$ , and  $b\bar{b}$  2-body decays.

Reconstructed and world-average masses are compared to measure the momentum bias  $\alpha$ .



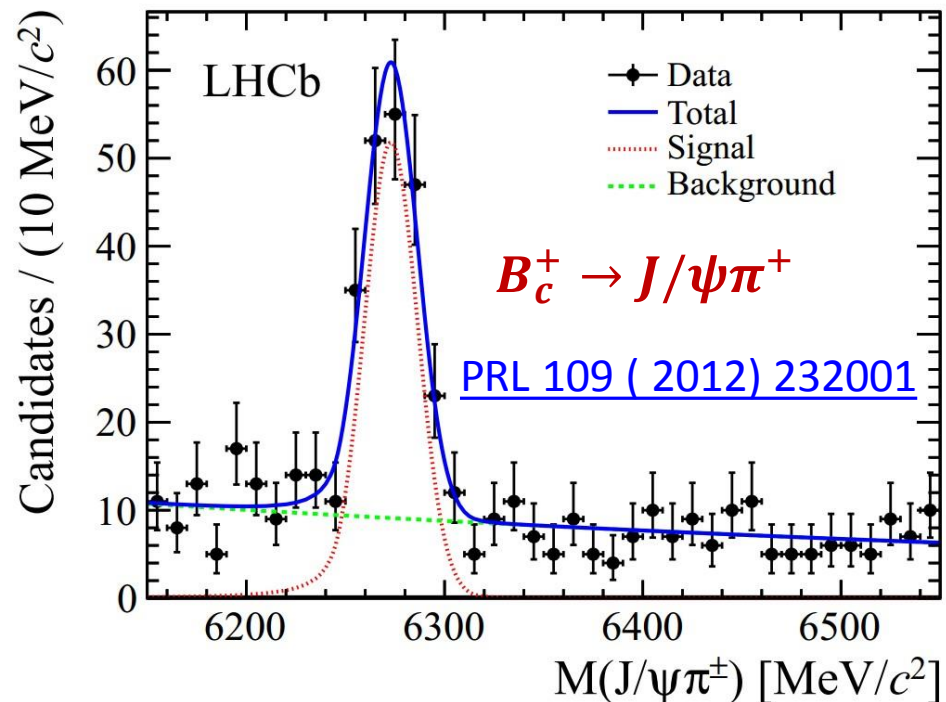
$\alpha$  is the correction to the momentum needed to obtain the PDG mass.

Error bars: statistical error

Yellow band: statistical  $\oplus$  systematic err.

To reduce impact of calibration on mass measurement, one uses low-Q decay modes.

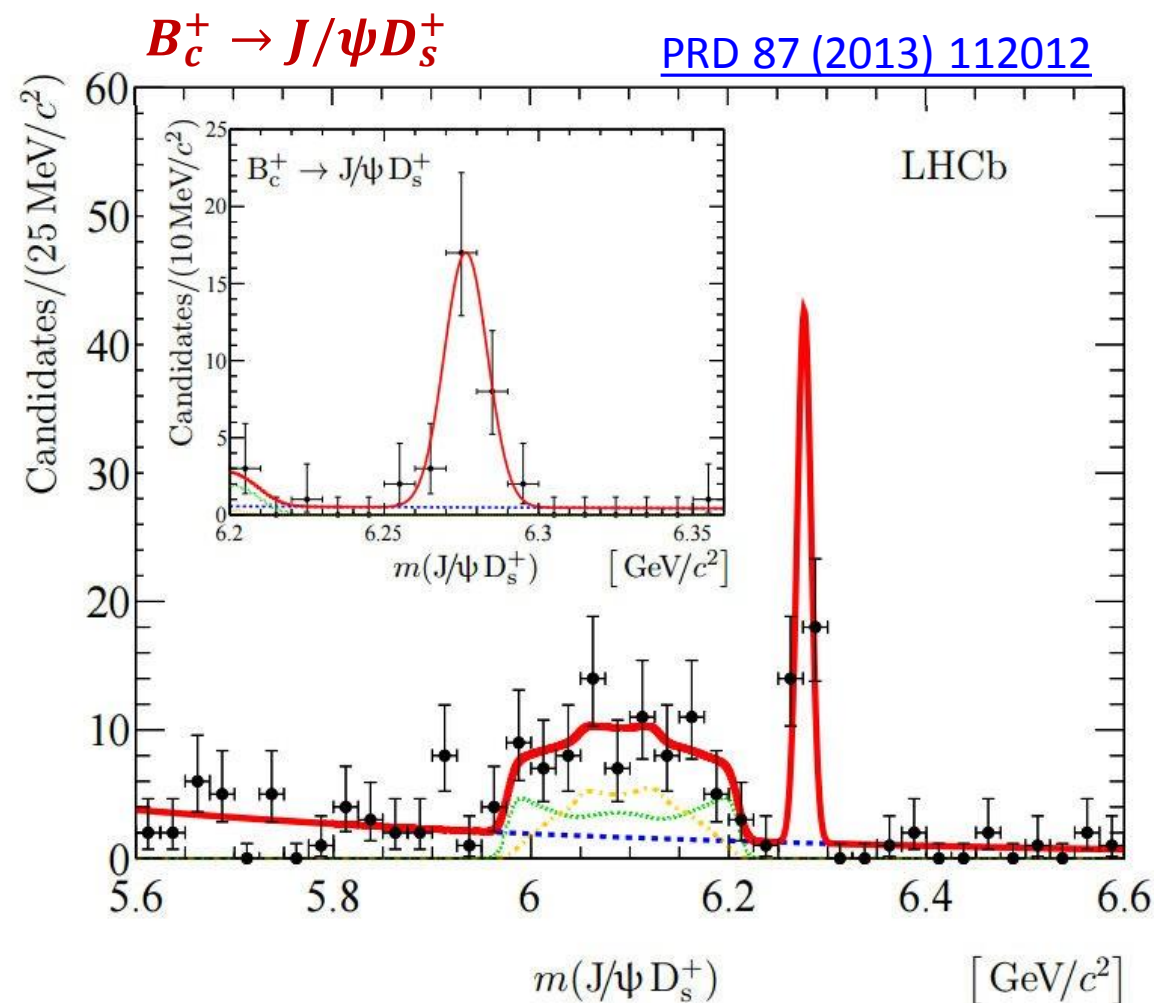
# Mass measurement



**Dataset:** Early 2011 ( $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$ , Luminosity  $370 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ )

**Measured mass:**

$$6273 \pm 1.3 \text{ (stat)} \pm 1.6 \text{ (syst)} \text{ MeV}/c^2$$



**Dataset:** Full Run1 ( $\sqrt{s} = 7 + 8 \text{ TeV}$ ,  $1 + 2 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ )

**Measured mass:**

$$6276.28 \pm 1.44 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.36 \text{ (syst)} \text{ MeV}/c^2$$



# Mass measurement with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi p \bar{p} \pi^+$

## First observation of baryonic $B_c^+$ decays

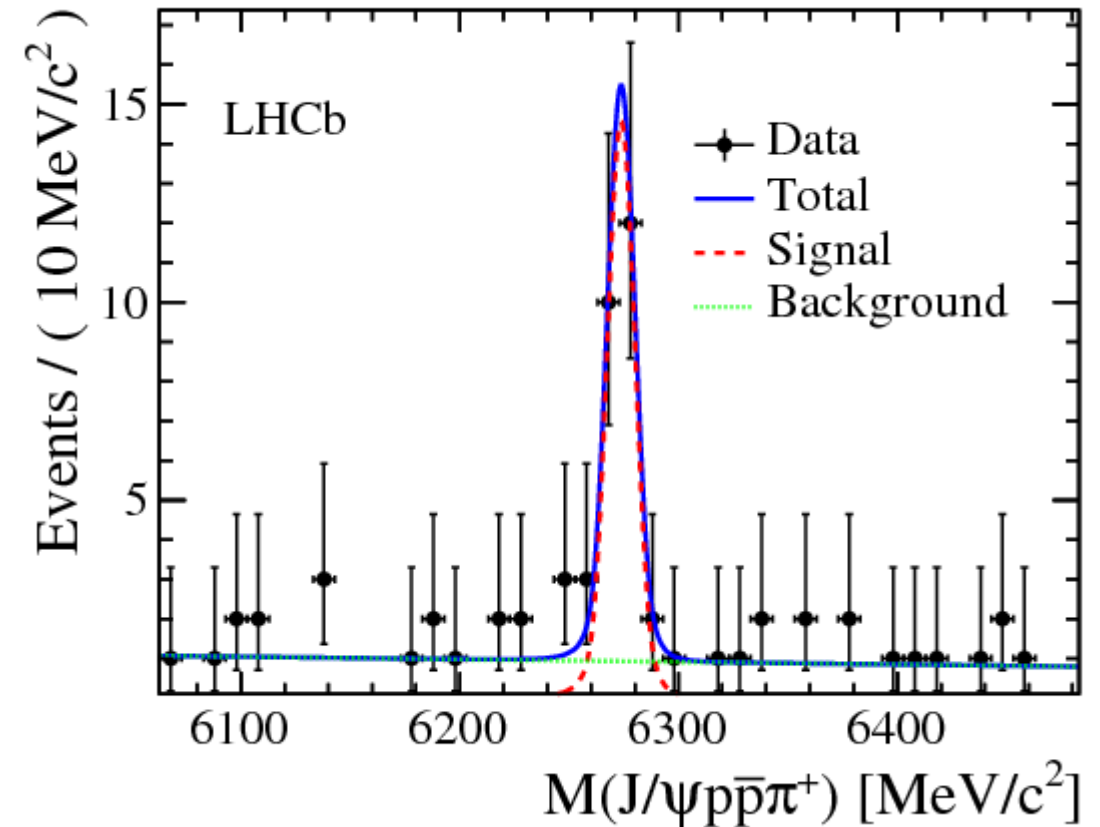
**Dataset:** Full Run-1 ( $\sqrt{s} = 7+8$  TeV,  $1+2$  fb $^{-1}$ )

**Measured mass:**

$$6274.0 \pm 1.8 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.4 \text{ (syst)} \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

The  $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$  channel was used as normalization

$$\frac{Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi p \bar{p} \pi^+)}{Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+)} = 0.143^{+0.039}_{-0.034} \pm 0.013$$



# Mass measurements

CDF  $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^\pm$

[JHEP 01 \(2015\) 63](#)

LHCb  $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^\pm$

[PRL 109 \(2012\) 232001](#)

LHCb  $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi D_s^\pm$

[PRD 87 \(2013\) 112012](#)

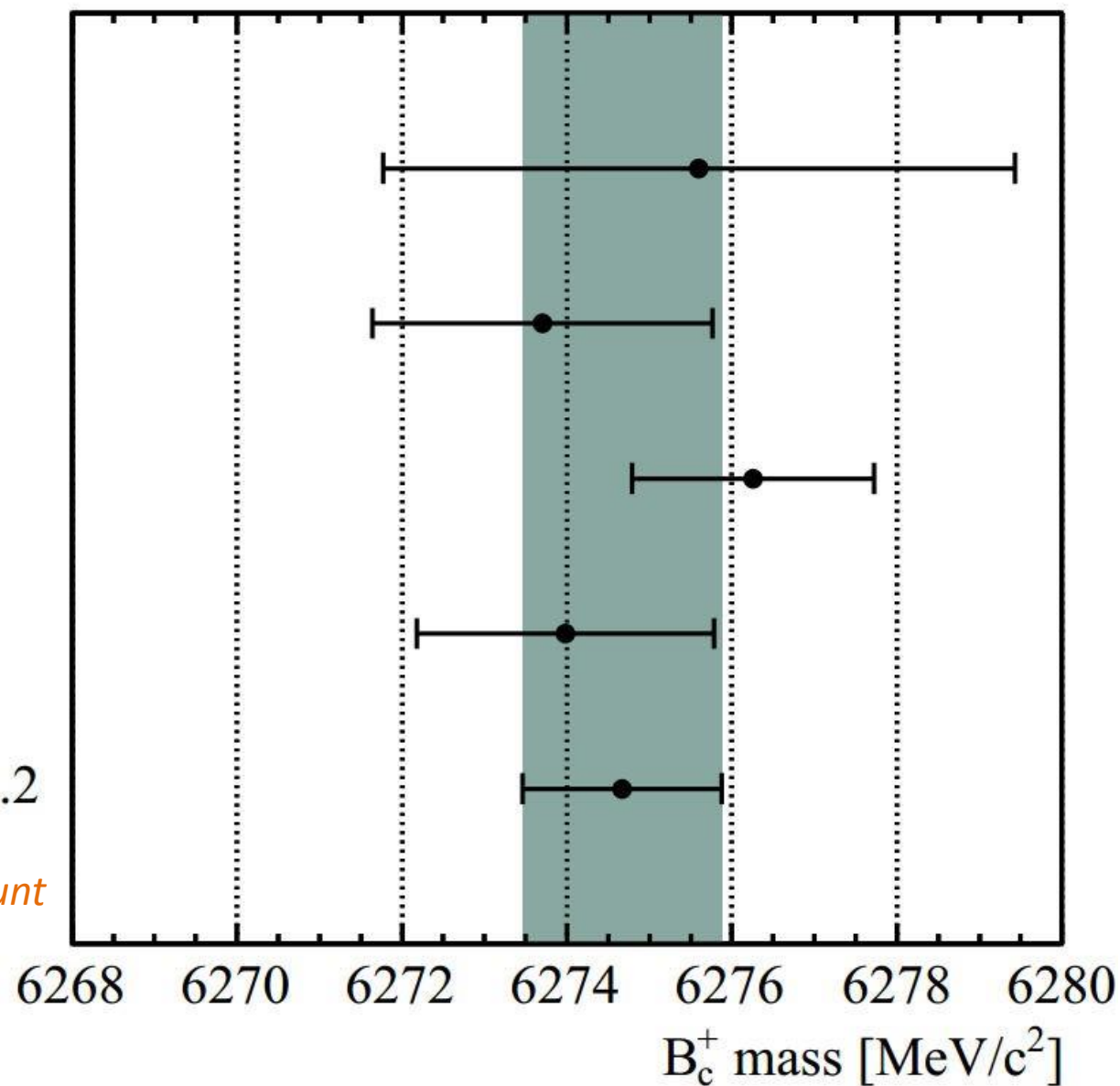
LHCb  $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi p \bar{p} \pi^\pm$

[PRL 113 \(2014\) 152003](#)

LHCb average:  $6274.7 \pm 1.2$

[PRL 113 \(2014\) 152003](#)

*Correlations are properly taken into account*





$$\frac{Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi^+)}{Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi\pi^+)}$$

Decay discovered by LHCb with 2011 data [[PRD87 \(2012\) 071103](#)]

Update of the relative branching fraction using full Run-1 statistics (3 fb<sup>-1</sup> based on 2 independently trained *Boosted Decision Trees* (BDT), applied to statistically independent halves of the sample.

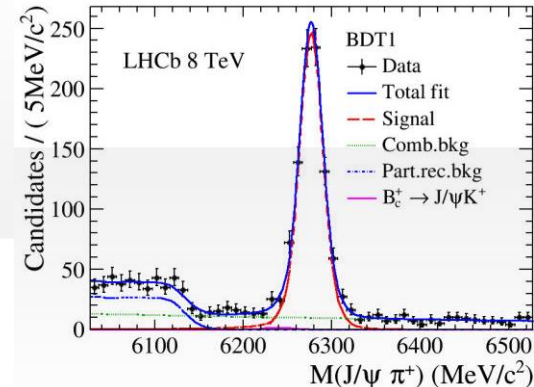
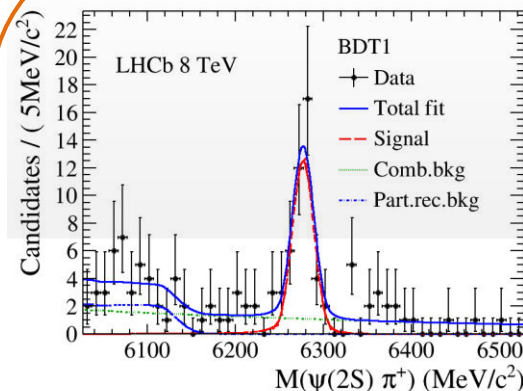
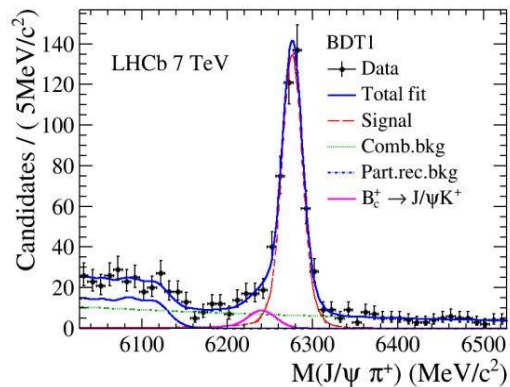
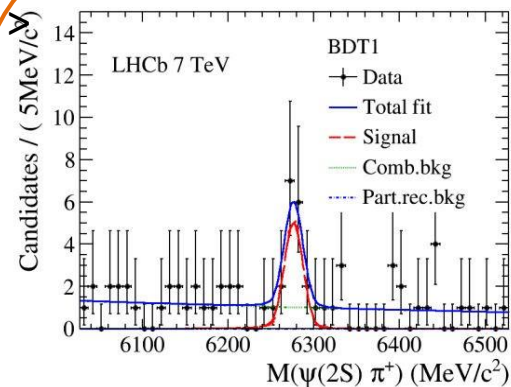
	2011 (1 fb <sup>-1</sup> )		2012 (2 fb <sup>-1</sup> )	
	BDT1	BDT2	BDT1	BDT2
Signal yield	437 ± 24	475 ± 26	883 ± 34	950 ± 36
BDT efficiency	(62.99 ± 0.007)%	(62.29 ± 0.06)%	(62.33 ± 0.6)%	(68.50 ± 0.06)%
Product of all other efficiencies	(1.392 ± 0.003)%		(1.339 ± 0.003)%	

$$R = \frac{Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi^+)}{Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi\pi^+)}$$

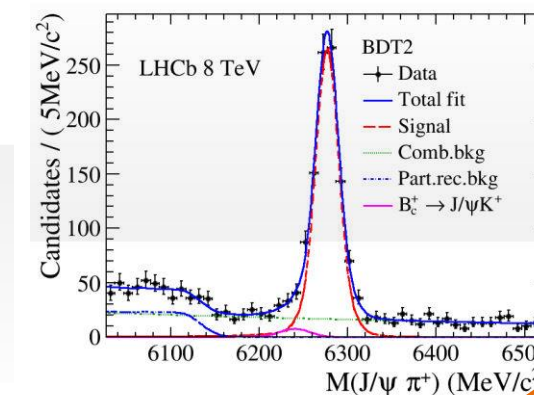
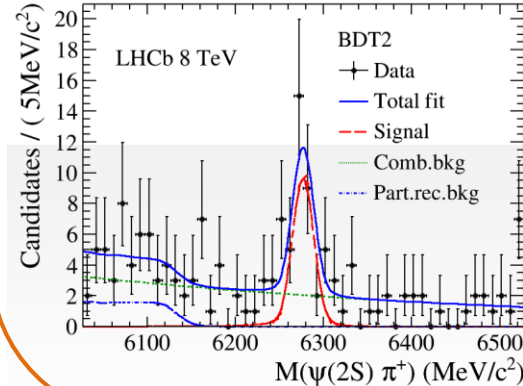
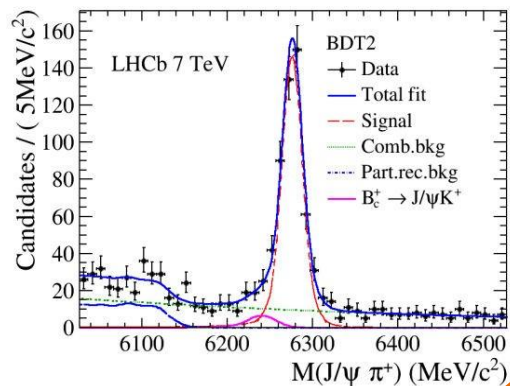
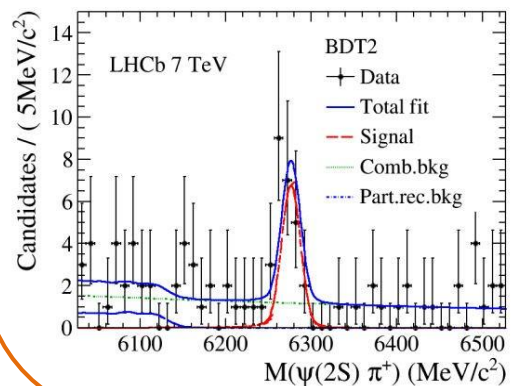
2011

2012

BDT1



BDT2



$$R^{2015} = 0.268 \pm 0.032 \pm 0.007 \pm 0.006 (Br)$$

arXiv:1507.03516

$$R^{2012} = 0.250 \pm 0.068 \pm 0.014 \pm 0.006 (Br)$$

PRD87 (2012) 071103

# Conclusion

**LHCb** is today leading the field with the world-best measurements of

- **Mass**( $6274.7 \pm 1.2$ ) **MeV/c<sup>2</sup>**,
- **Lifetime** ( $506 \pm 9$ ) **fs** , and
- **production cross-section**.

The **second run of the LHC**, at higher luminosity and with enhanced cross-section, is expected to be the door to **precision measurements of the  $B_c^+$  meson**, yielding to new exciting results, for example concerning **excited states**.

## LHCb Papers on the $B_c^+$ meson

PRD 87 (2013) 071103	Observation of $B_c^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi^+$
PRD 87 (2013) 112012	Observation of $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi D_s^+$ and $B_c^+ \rightarrow J\psi D_s^{*+}$
PRL (2012) 251802	First observation of $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+$
PRL 109 (2012) 232001	$B_c^+$ production and mass with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$
JHEP 09 (2013) 075	First observation of $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi K^+$
PRL 111 (2013) 181801	First observation of $B_c^+ \rightarrow B_s^0 \pi^+$
JHEP 1311 (2013) 094	Observation of decay $B_c^+ \rightarrow J\psi K^+ K^- \pi^+$
EPJC 74 (2014) 2839	Lifetime measurement with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \mu^+ \nu_X$
JHEP 05 (2014) 148	Evidence of $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi 3\pi^+ 2\pi^-$
PRD 90 (2014) 032009	$Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \mu^+ \nu)/Br(B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+)$
PRL 113 (2014) 152003	Observation of $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi p \bar{p} \pi^+$
PRL 114 (2015) 132001	$B_c^+$ production at $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV
PLB 742 (2015) 29	$B_c^+$ lifetime with $B_c^+ \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+$
arXiv:1507.03516	Update $B_c^+ \rightarrow \psi(2S)\pi^+$

Additional figures



# Lifetime measurement

To assess in a data-driven way the effect of theoretical inputs to the signal model, we deform the simulated Dalitz plane with two deformation parameters  $\alpha_\nu$  and  $\alpha_\psi$ , and perform the full 2D fit.

The goodness of each fit is measured with a binned method comparing the distributions of  $m(J/\psi\mu^+)$  and of the two solutions of  $q^2$  got from partial reconstruction.

No offset larger than 5 fs (1% of  $\tau_{B_c}$ ) is found to be consistent with data.

5 fs is thus taken as systematic uncertainty on theoretical inputs.

