

Lepton Universality and cLFV at LHCb

Giulia Frau

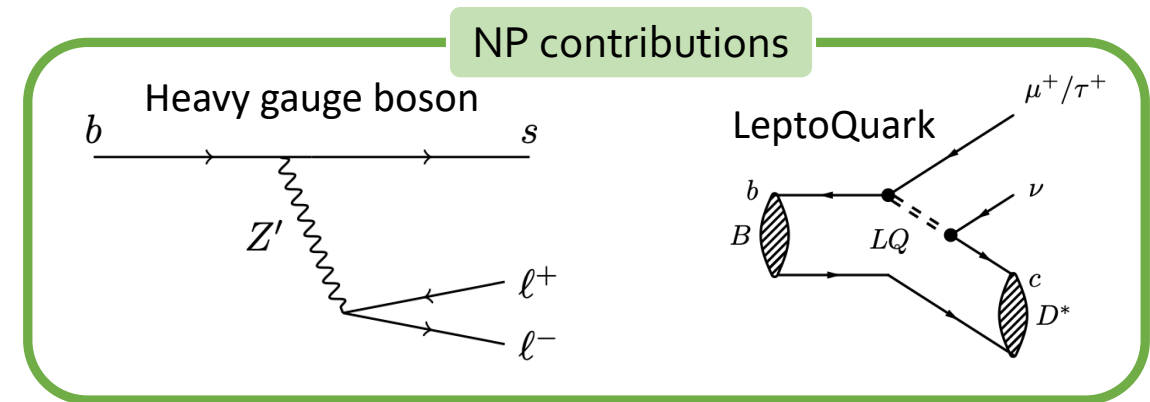
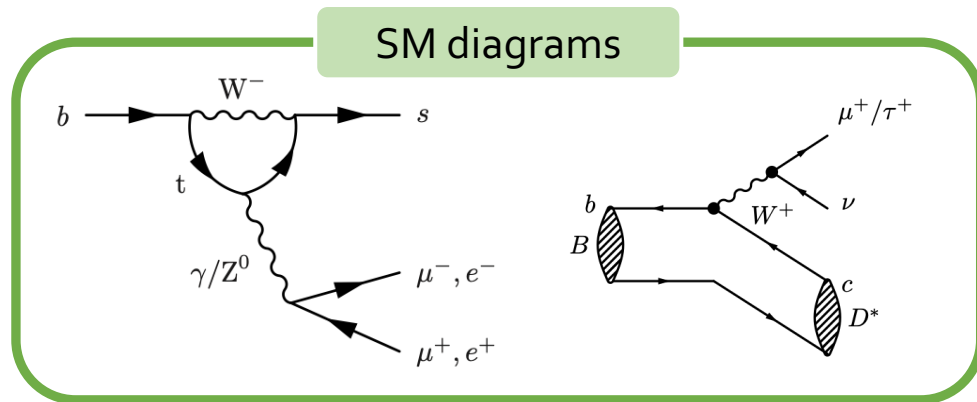
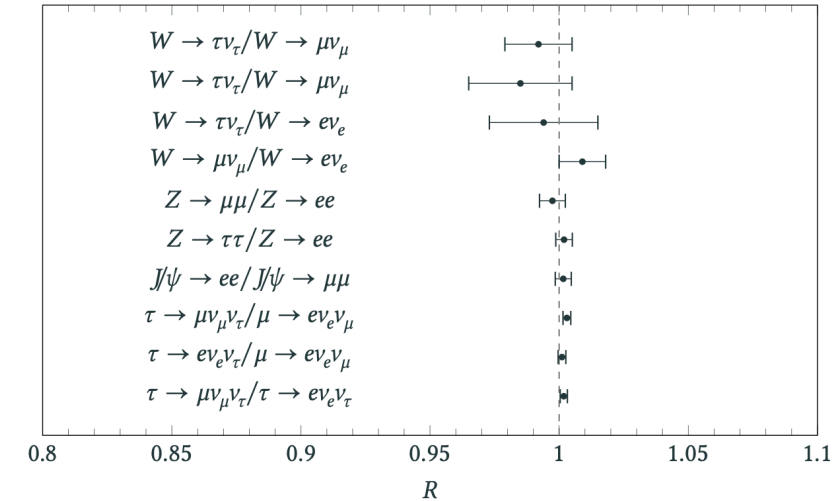
on behalf of the LHCb Collaboration

4th International conference on cLFV

20-22.06.2023 Heidelberg, DE

Lepton flavour universality

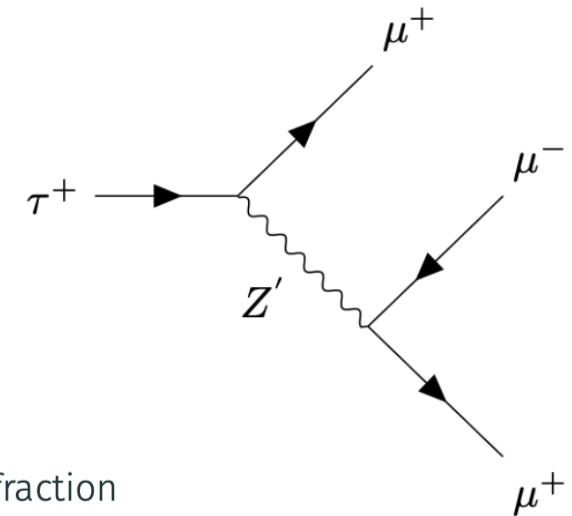
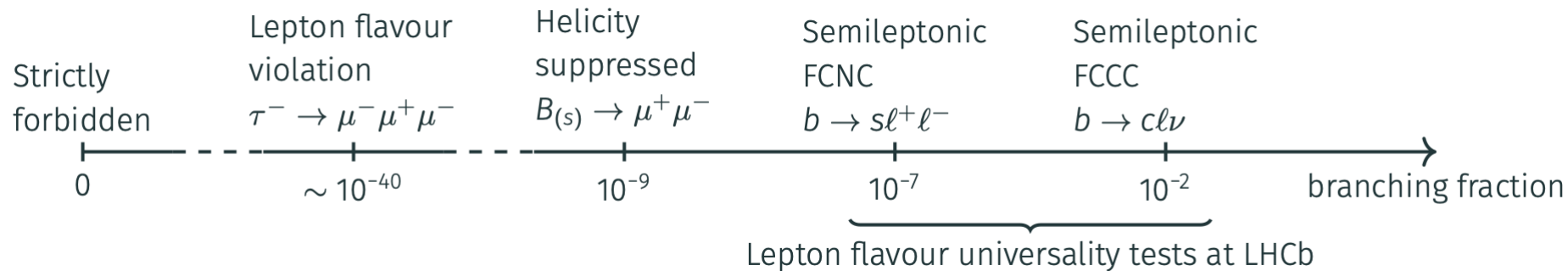
- Standard Model (SM) predicts same electroweak coupling for all three lepton flavours
 - ➔ **Lepton Flavour Universality (LFU)**
- validated experimentally in W and Z bosons decays, quarkonia, lepton decays
- **Contribution from New Physics (NP) can affect**
 - **relative decay rates** ($b \rightarrow sll$ and $b \rightarrow cl\nu_l$ transitions)
 - very well predicted (deviation from unity \rightarrow hint of LFU violation)
 - cancellation of uncertainties (form factors, $c\bar{c}$ loop)



- At LHCb, tension with SM observed in precise analyses of $b \rightarrow s\mu\mu$ decays
 - **differential BF measurement** of $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\mu^+\mu^-$ [[PRL 127, 151801](#)]
 - **angular observables** in $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\mu^+\mu^-$ and $B^{(+) \rightarrow K^{*(+)}\mu^+\mu^-}$ [[JHEP11\(2021\)043](#), [PRL 125, 011802](#), [PRL 126, 161802](#)]

Lepton flavour violation

- LFU violation generally implies **Lepton Flavour Violation (LFV)** [[PRL 114 \(2015\) 091801](#)]
- Tensions with SM observed in LFU tests motivate search for cLFV in b -hadron (or purely leptonic) decays
- cLFV strongly suppressed in the SM with neutrino oscillations ($< \mathcal{O}(10^{-40})$)
 - **Observation** of cLFV \rightarrow sign of **new physics**
 - **Limit setting on BF** \rightarrow **constrain theories of NP** [[Phys. Rev. D 92, 054013](#), [Phys. Rev. D 94, 115021](#)]
 - including Z' or leptoquarks, heavy neutrinos...
 - that predict $\text{BF} \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-10} - 10^{-7})$

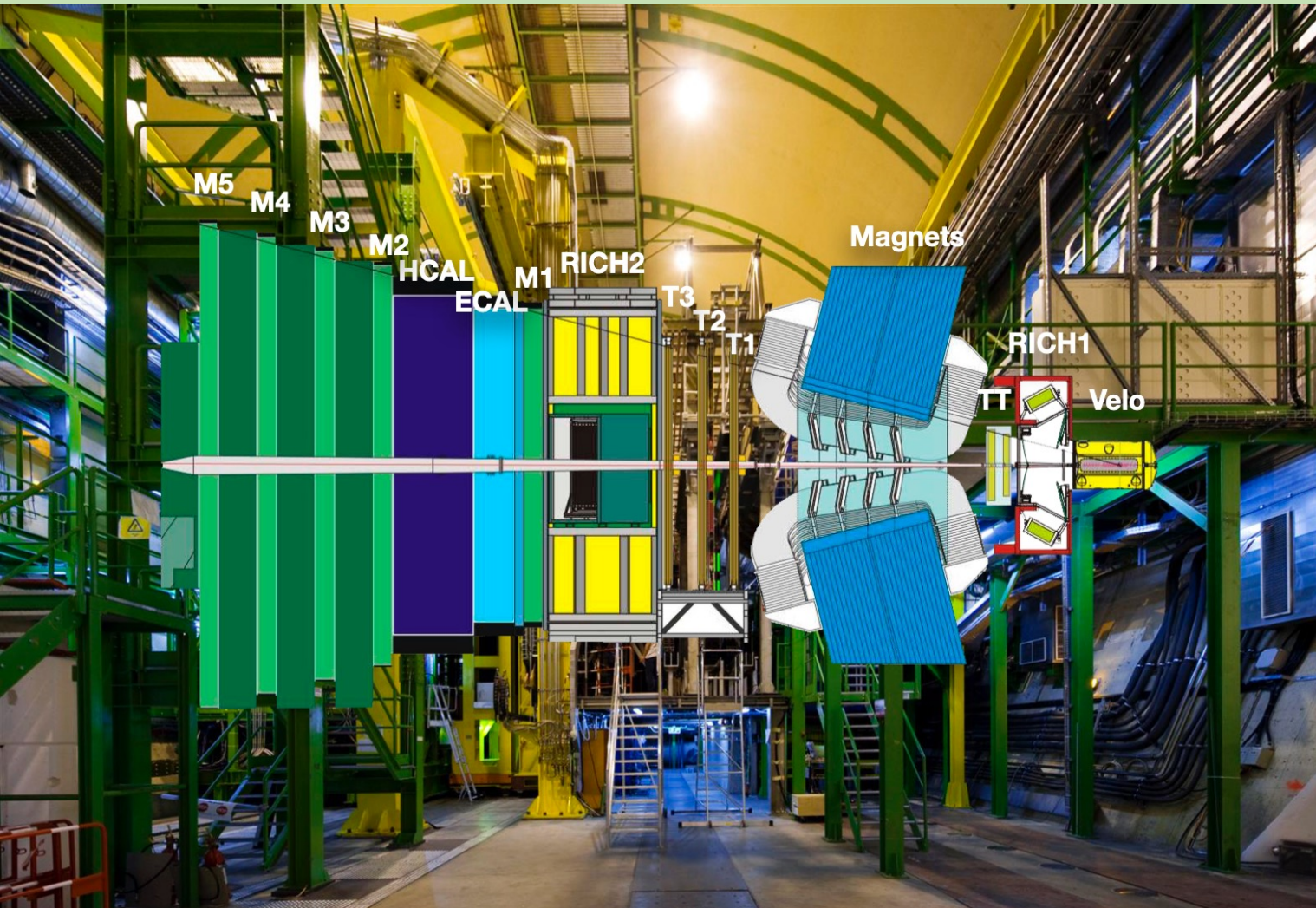


[[A. Seuthe, Moriond 2023](#)]

Latest results on **LFU** tests and **LFV** searches by LHCb including:

- LFU tests with $b \rightarrow sl^+l^-$ decays (R_K, R_{K^*})
- LFU tests with $b \rightarrow cl^+\nu_l$ decays (R_{D^*}, R_{D^0})

- cLFV semileptonic B decays
 - $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\mu^\pm e^\mp$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\mu^\pm e^\mp$
 - $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\tau^\pm\mu^\mp$
- The $\tau^+ \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\mu^+$ decay



- Single arm forward spectrometer ($2 < \eta < 5$) located at the LHC
- Excellent **particle identification (PID)** from RICH(1,2), ECAL and Muon Stations
 - $\epsilon(e \rightarrow e) \sim 90\%$ and $\epsilon(e \rightarrow h) \sim 5\%$
 - $\epsilon(K \rightarrow K) \sim 95 - 97\%$ and $\epsilon(\pi \rightarrow K) \sim 5\%$
 - $\epsilon(\mu \rightarrow \mu) \sim 97\%$ and $\epsilon(\pi \rightarrow \mu) \sim 1 - 3\%$
- **Good tracking system**
 - $\Delta p/p = 0.5\%$ at low momentum
 - IP resolution $(15 + 29/p_T[\text{GeV}])\mu\text{m}$

	Run 1 (2011,2012)		Run 2 (2015-2018)
\sqrt{s}	7 TeV	8 TeV	13 TeV
\mathcal{L}_{int}	1.0 fb ⁻¹	2.0 fb ⁻¹	~6 fb ⁻¹

[2008 JINST 3 S08005], [arXiv:1306.0249]

LFU tests with $b \rightarrow sl^+l^-$ decays

LFU tests with $b \rightarrow sl^+l^-$ decays

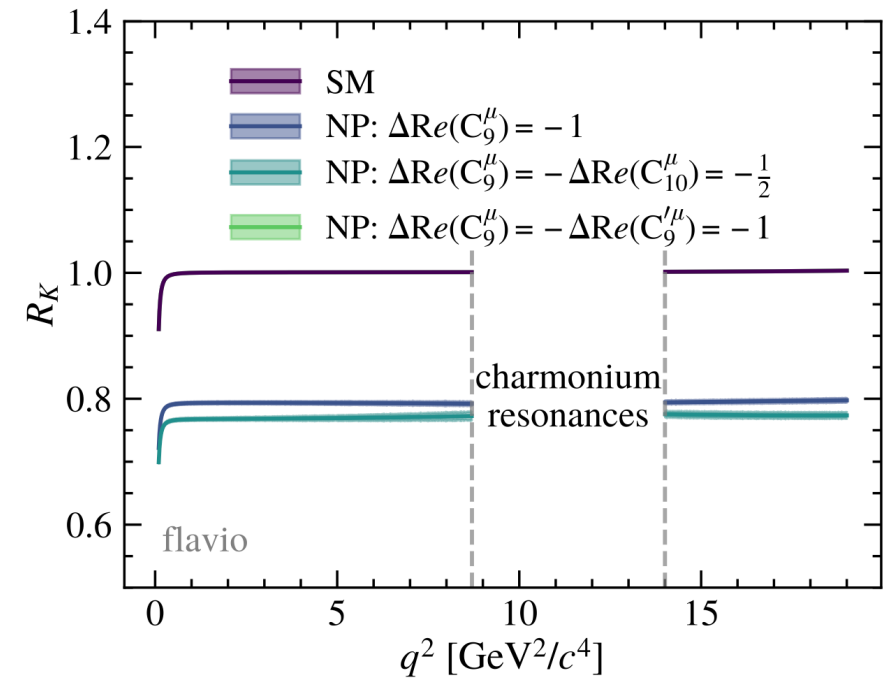
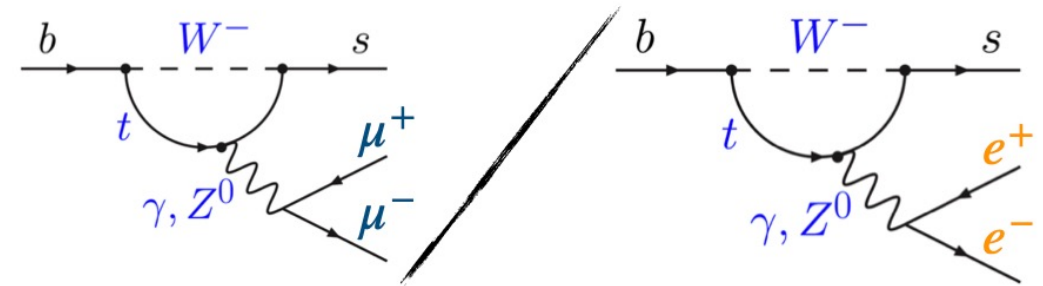
- FCNC processes only allowed at loop level (BF $\sim 10^{-6}$)
 → clean probe for NP
- LFU test performed via the measurement of the ratio

$$R_{H_s}(q_{min}^2, q_{max}^2) = \frac{\int_{q_{min}^2}^{q_{max}^2} \frac{d\Gamma(H_b \rightarrow H_s \mu^+ \mu^-)}{dq^2} dq^2}{\int_{q_{min}^2}^{q_{max}^2} \frac{d\Gamma(H_b \rightarrow H_s e^+ e^-)}{dq^2} dq^2}$$

- with $H_b = B, \Lambda_b$ and $H_s = K, K^*, K_s^0, \phi, pK$
- Advantage: cancellation of hadronic uncertainties in theory predictions
- Expected to be unity except for different Yukawa couplings and kinematic effects
- Any **deviation from unity** → clear **sign of NP**
- Effective Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H}_{eff} \sim -\frac{4G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{tb} V_{ts}^* \sum_i (c_i^{SM} + \Delta_i^{NP}) \mathcal{O}_i$$

← Local operator
← NP contribution
← Wilson coefficient operator

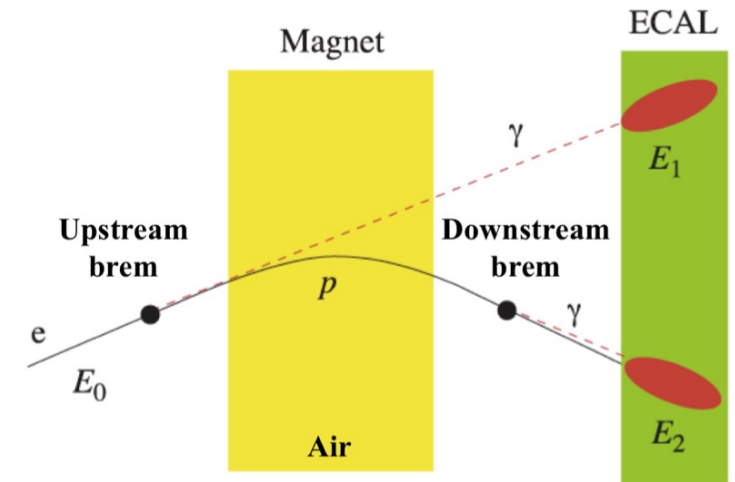
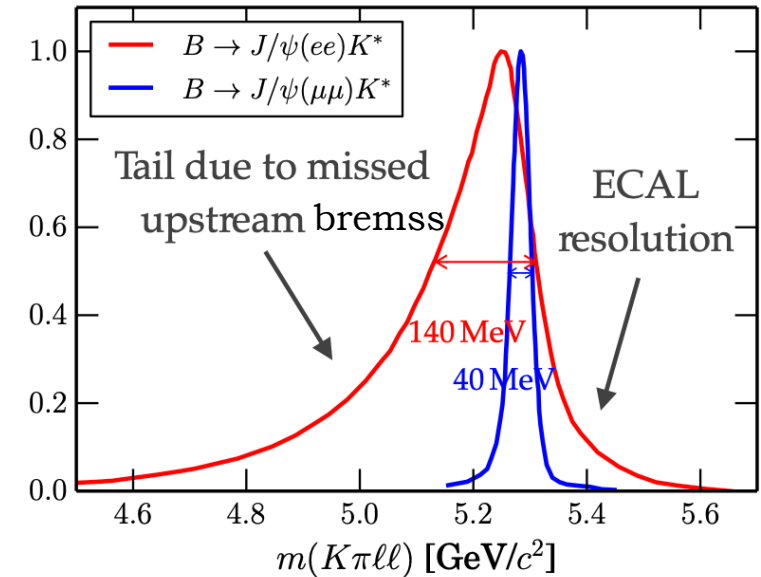


[LHC seminar talk]

- Very **different reconstruction** at LHCb for **electrons and muons**
- Electrons
 - Energy loss due to Bremsstrahlung photon emission
 - High occupancy in ECAL
- Recovery procedure to improve energy resolution
 - look for photon cluster in the ECAL compatible with e direction before the magnet
- Higher background contamination and sensitivity to background modelling
- Measurement of **double ratio** to **reduce experimental systematics**

$$R_{K^{(*)}} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K^{(*)}\mu^+\mu^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K^{(*)}J/\psi(\mu^+\mu^-))} / \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K^{(*)}e^+e^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K^{(*)}J/\psi(e^+e^-))}$$

- Simultaneous fit to resonant and non-resonant channels
- Cross-check with $r_{J/\psi} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow KJ/\psi(\mu^+\mu^-))}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow KJ/\psi(e^+e^-))} \equiv 1$ [[arXiv:1307.1189](https://arxiv.org/abs/1307.1189)]



➤ **Simultaneous measurement of R_K and R_{K^*}** with Run 1 + Run 2 data in two q^2 regions

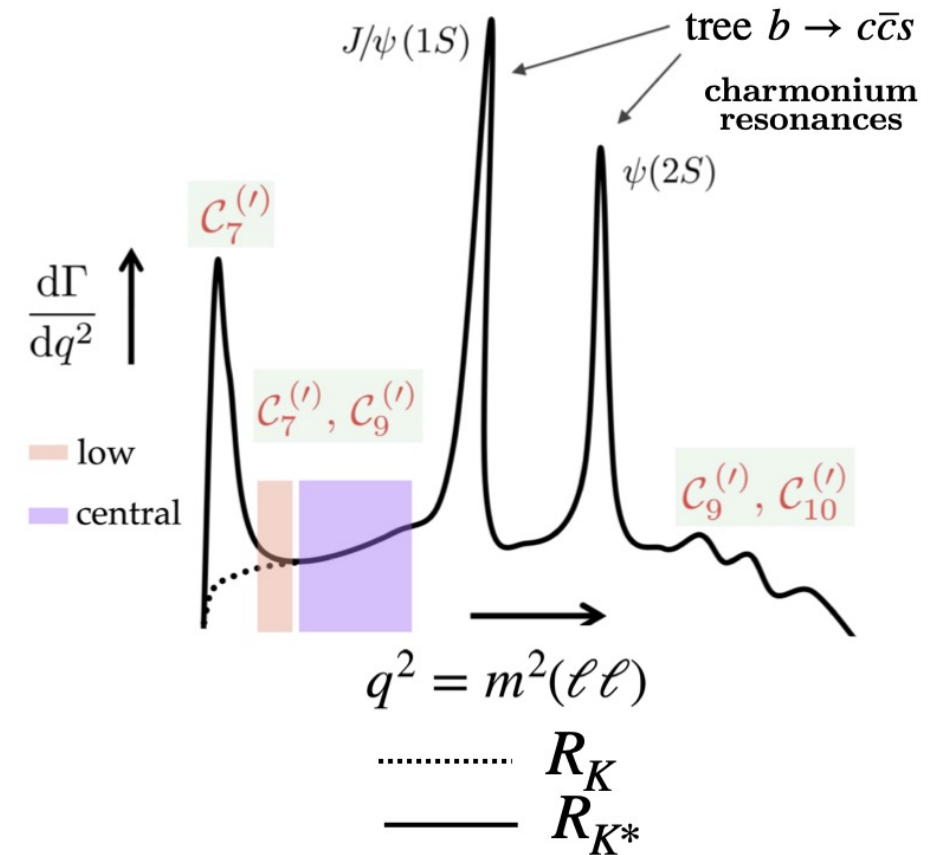
- low- $q^2 \in [0.1, 1.1] \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$
- central- $q^2 \in [1.1, 6.0] \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$

➤ K^* reconstructed via its $K^+\pi^-$ decay

➤ **Background suppression**

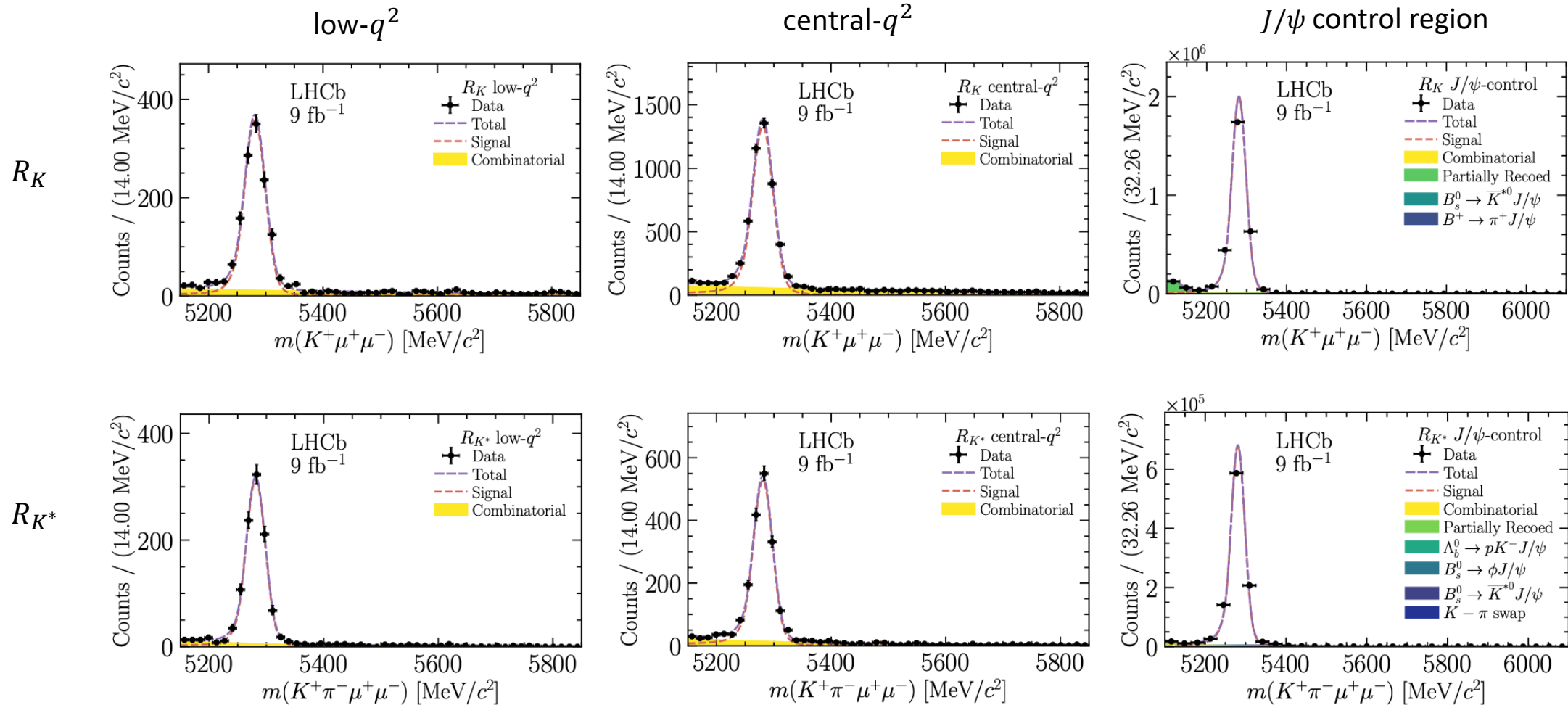
- In both modes, multivariate classifiers trained to suppress combinatorial bkg
- In electron mode, second multivariate classifier trained against partially reconstructed bkg based on vertex and track quality information
- Vetoes for specific decays
- Lepton and hadron PID selection to reduce mis-ID bkg

➤ Residual background from mis-ID modelled with data-driven approach



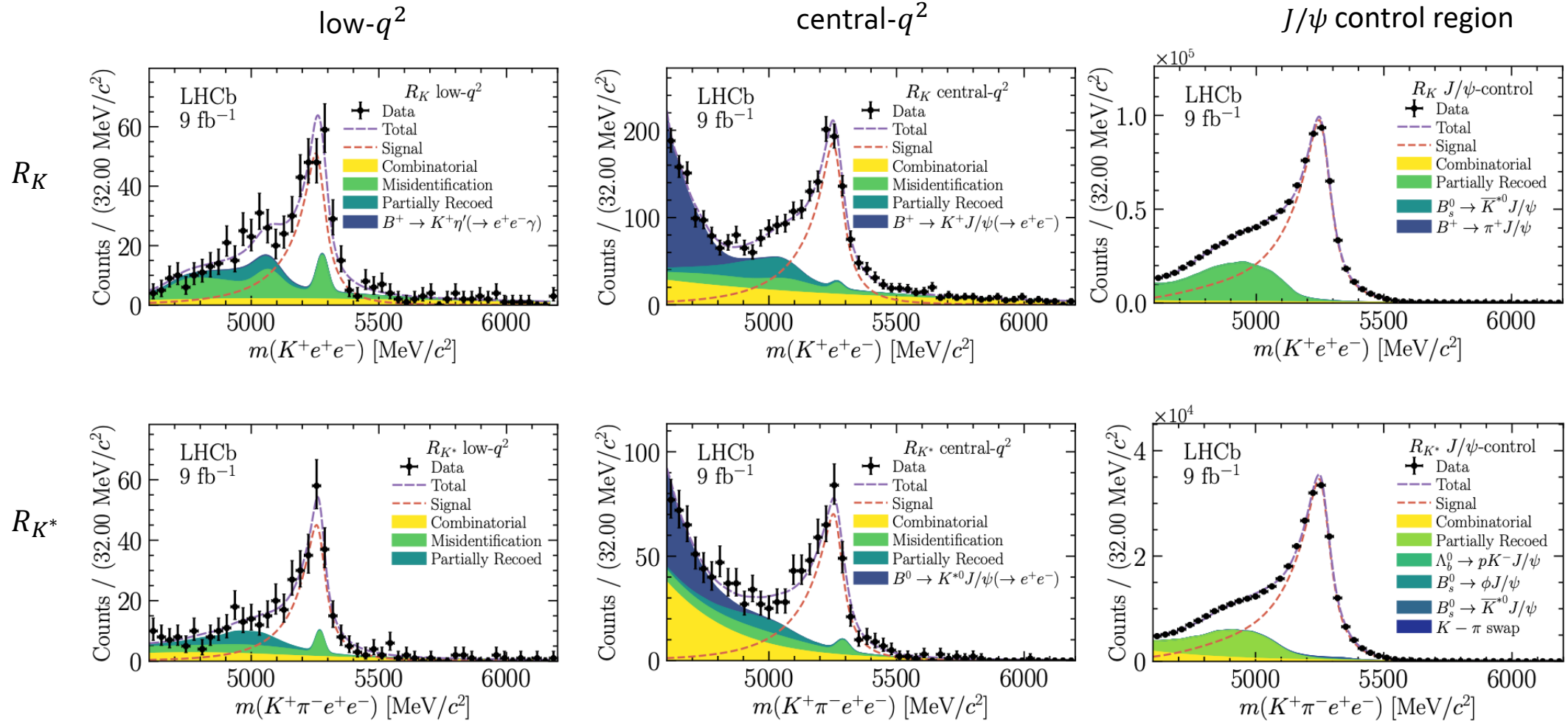
Muon mode

- Very clean
- BF compatible with published results [JHEP 06 (2014) 133, JHEP 11 (2016) 047]

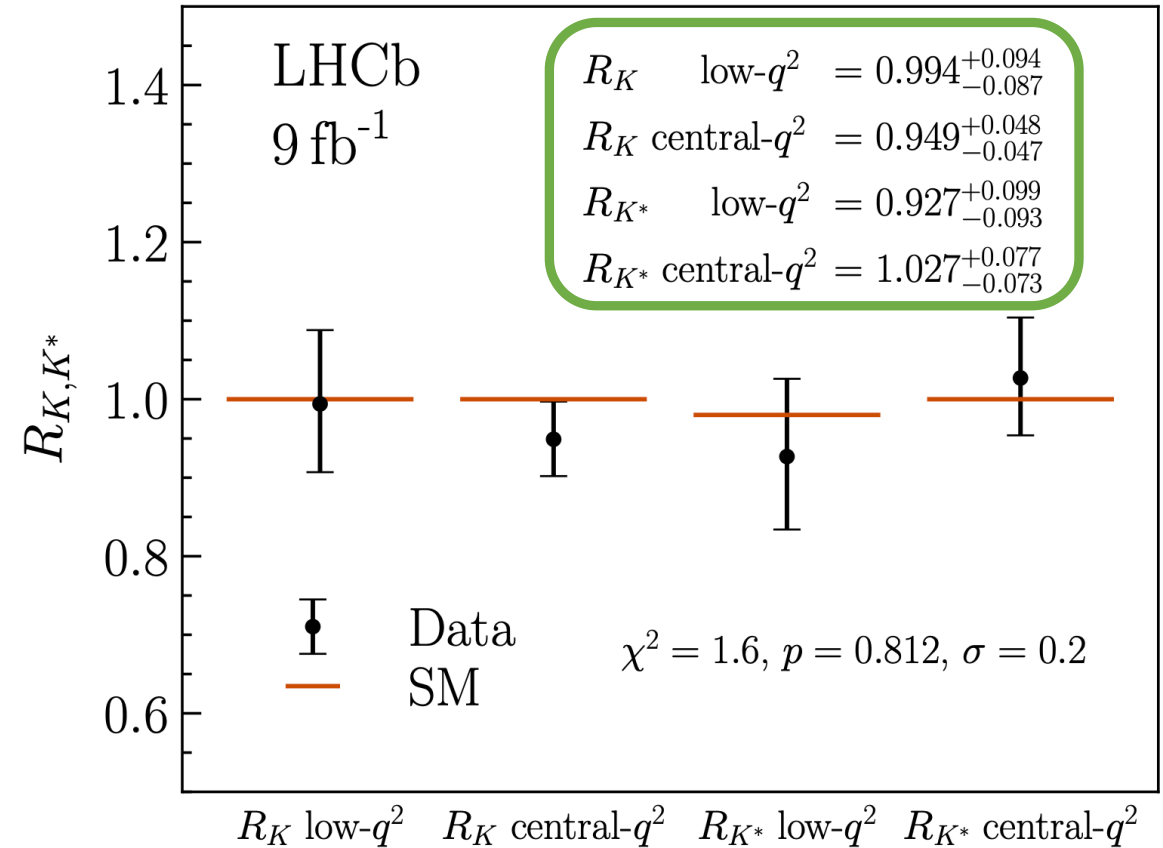


Electron mode

- Brems. tail from J/ψ entering rare mode constrained in simultaneous fit
- Partially reconstructed bkg from $K^{*0}e^+e^-$ constrained in $K^+e^+e^-$



- **Most precise** LFU test with $b \rightarrow sl^+l^-$ decays
- **First measurement of R_K in low q^2** ($\in [0.1, 1.1] \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$)
- Results in **agreement with SM** predictions within 0.2σ
- Dominated by statistical uncertainties
- Leading systematic from mis-ID backgrounds

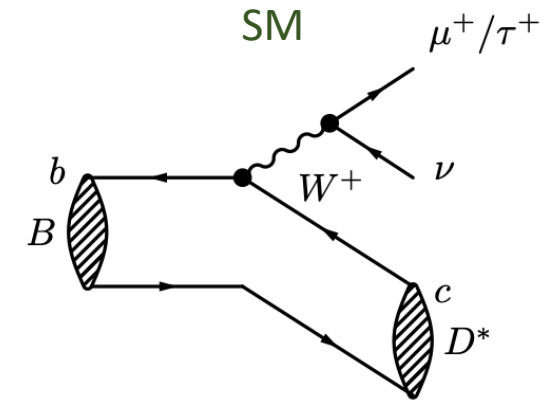


- Shift to higher values in R_K central- q^2 wrt [[Nat. Phys. 18, 277–282 \(2022\)](#)]
 - +0.064 due to contamination at looser working point
 - +0.038 due to not inclusion of background in mass fit

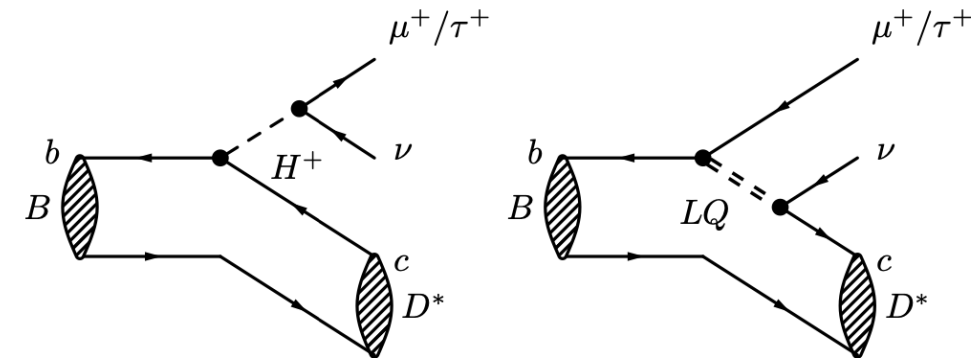
LFU tests with $b \rightarrow cl^+ \nu_l$ decays

LFU tests with $b \rightarrow cl^+ \nu_l$ decays

- FCCC semileptonic tree level processes mediated by a W boson in the SM
- Measurement of the ratio $R(X_c) = \frac{\mathcal{B}(X_b \rightarrow X_c \tau \nu_\tau)}{\mathcal{B}(X_b \rightarrow X_c l \nu_l)}$
 - with $X_b = B^0, B_{(c)}^+, B_S^0, \Lambda_b, \dots$ and $X_c = D, D^*, D_S, \Lambda_c, J/\psi$
- Sensitive to NP couplings of third lepton generation (LQ, charged Higgs, W')
- **Advantages**
 - reduction of theoretical and systematic uncertainties
- **Challenges**
 - missing neutrinos: τ reconstructed via its muonic $\tau^- \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_\tau$ or hadronic $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^- (\pi^0) \nu_\tau$ decay
 - Several background sources
 - Relative contributions extracted by means of template fits from control sample or simulations



NP contributions



- **Longstanding** $\sim 3\sigma$ deviation from SM in $\mathcal{R}(D^*)$ and $\mathcal{R}(D^0)$ [[Eur.Phys.J.C 77 \(2017\) 12, 895](#)]

- **Before:** measurement of $\mathcal{R}(D^*)$ with Run 1 $D^{*+}\mu^-$ data [[PRL 115, 111803](#)]

- 2.1 σ deviation from SM expectation

- **Now:** first joint measurement of $\mathcal{R}(D^*)$ and $\mathcal{R}(D^0)$ using Run 1 data

First measurement at a hadron collider

$$\mathcal{R}(D^{(*)}) = \frac{\mathcal{B}(\bar{B} \rightarrow D^{(*)} \tau^- \bar{\nu}_\tau)}{\mathcal{B}(\bar{B} \rightarrow D^{(*)} \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu)} \text{ with } \tau^- \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_\tau \text{ and } D^* \rightarrow D^0 (\rightarrow \pi K) \pi$$

- **Selected using $D^0\mu^-$ sample** ~ 5 times bigger than $D^{*+}\mu^-$ sample

- Higher branching fractions and higher efficiency

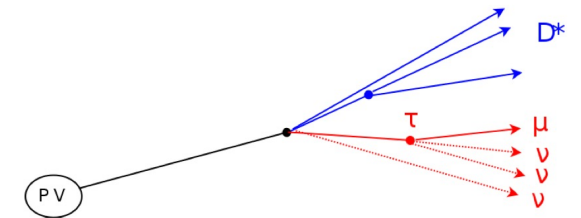
- Simultaneous analysis of the two samples

- constrain common parameters of the fit models applied to data

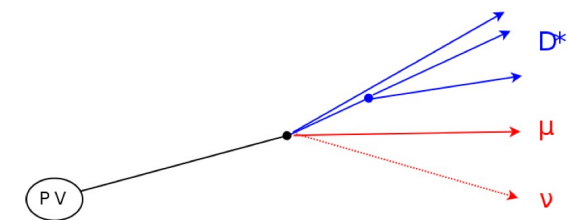
- reduce correlation

- **Background sources:** partially reconstructed B decays, combinatorics, mis-ID of charged tracks

$$\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow D^{*+} \tau^- \bar{\nu}_\tau$$



$$\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow D^{*+} \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu$$



[[LHC seminar talk](#)]

➤ 3D template fit

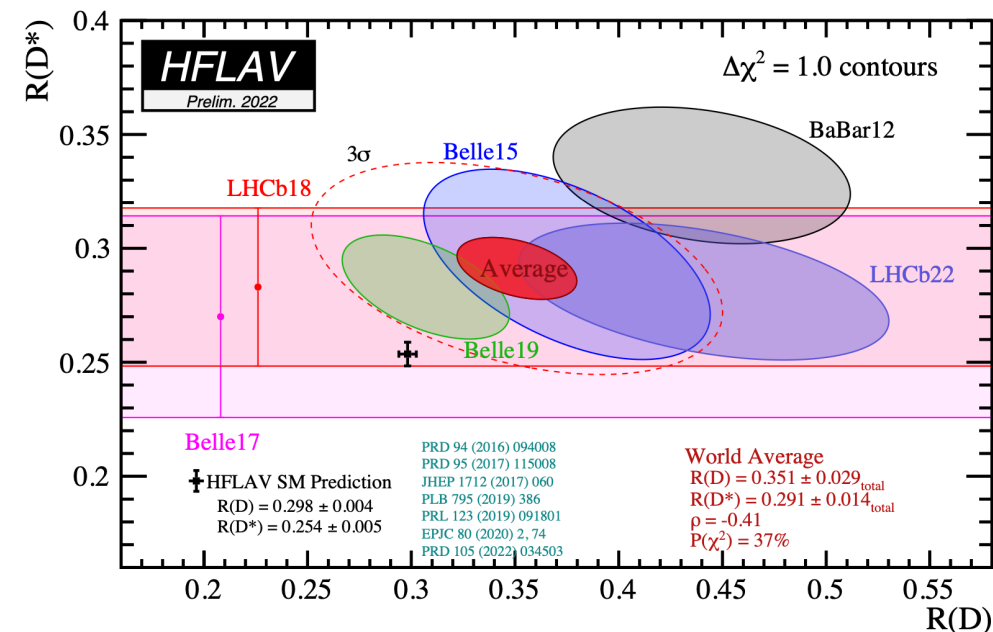
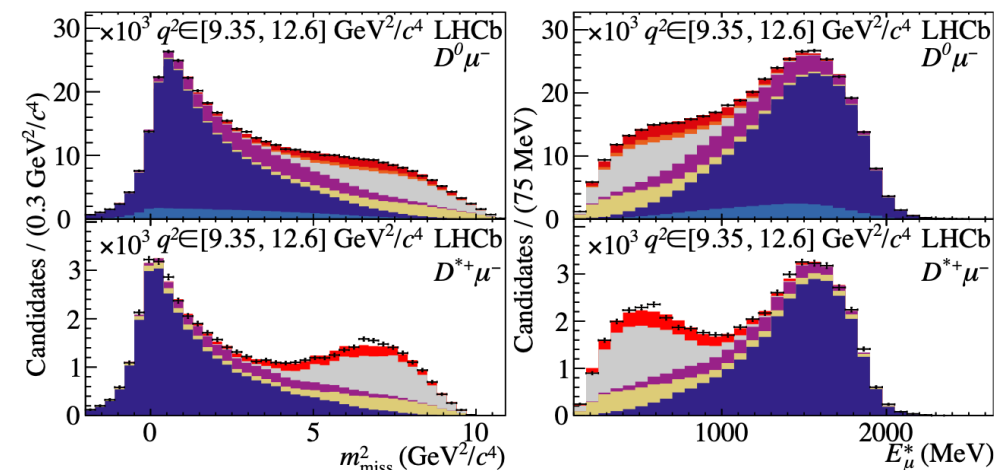
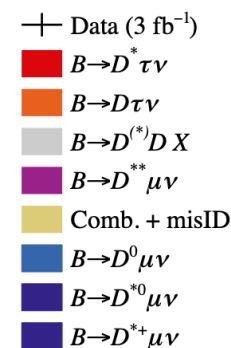
- $E_{\mu}^*, m_{miss}^2 = (p_B - p_{D^{(*)}} - p_{\mu})^2, q^2 = (p_B - p_{D^{(*)}})^2$

➤ Results

- $\mathcal{R}(D^*) = 0.281 \pm 0.018 \pm 0.024$
- $\mathcal{R}(D^0) = 0.441 \pm 0.060 \pm 0.066$
- correlation $\rho = -0.43$
- 1.9 σ agreement with SM expectation

➤ New preliminary average

- slightly lower $\mathcal{R}(D^*)$ and slightly higher $\mathcal{R}(D^0)$
- Reduced correlation
- 3.3 $\sigma \rightarrow 3.5\sigma$ deviation from the SM observed in the combination of $\mathcal{R}(D^*)$ and $\mathcal{R}(D^0)$



[LHC seminar talk]

- Measurement of $\mathcal{R}(D^*)$ with $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^- (\pi^0) \nu_\tau$ on Run 2 data (2 fb^{-1})
- Lower statistics wrt muonic decay but more control over background
- $B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+$ as normalisation channel

$$\mathcal{K}(D^{*-}) \equiv \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \tau^+ \nu_\tau)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+)}$$

External inputs

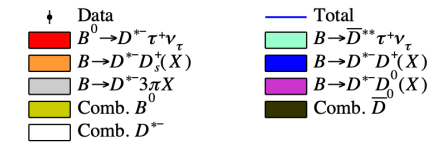
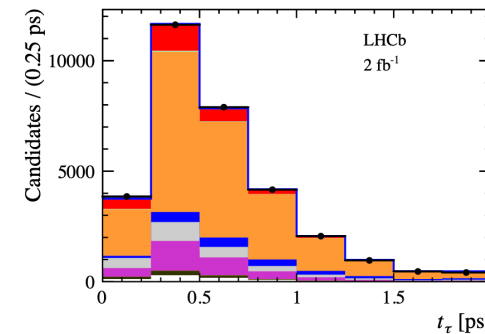
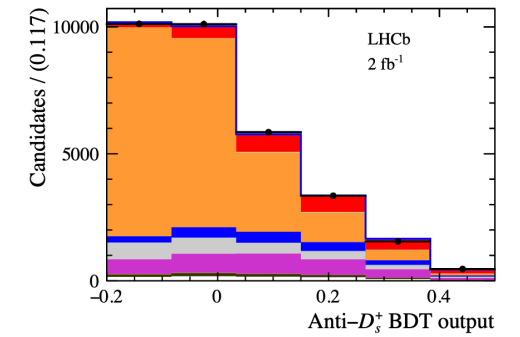
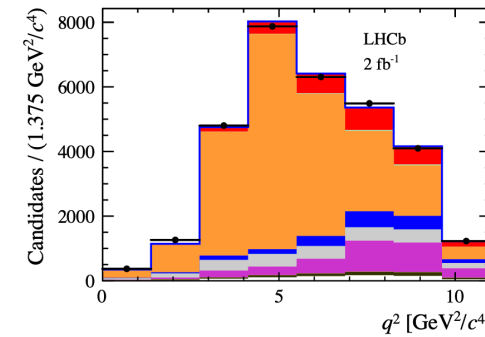
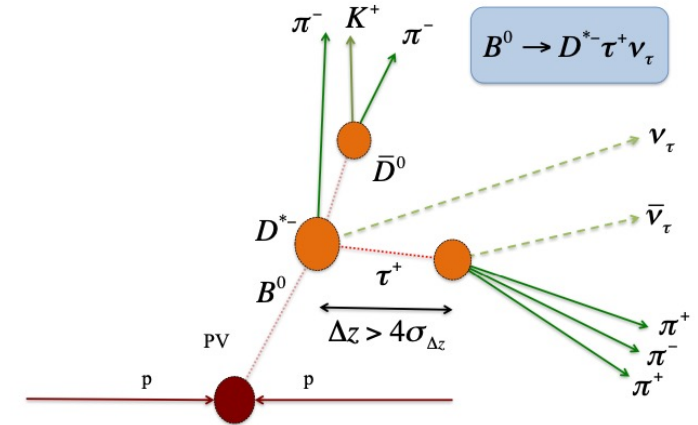
$$\mathcal{R}(D^{*-}) = \mathcal{K}(D^{*-}) \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} 3\pi)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \mu^+ \nu_\mu)}$$

- 3D template fit: $q^2 \equiv (p_{B^0} - p_{D^*})^2$, τ^+ decay time, τ vs. D_s^+ BDT output
- Results

$$\mathcal{K}(D^{*-}) = 1.70 \pm 0.10(\text{stat})_{-0.10}^{+0.11}(\text{syst})$$

$$\mathcal{R}(D^{*-}) = 0.247 \pm 0.015(\text{stat}) \pm 0.015(\text{syst}) \pm 0.012(\text{ext})$$

- Limited by the size of the simulation sample used to extract PDF

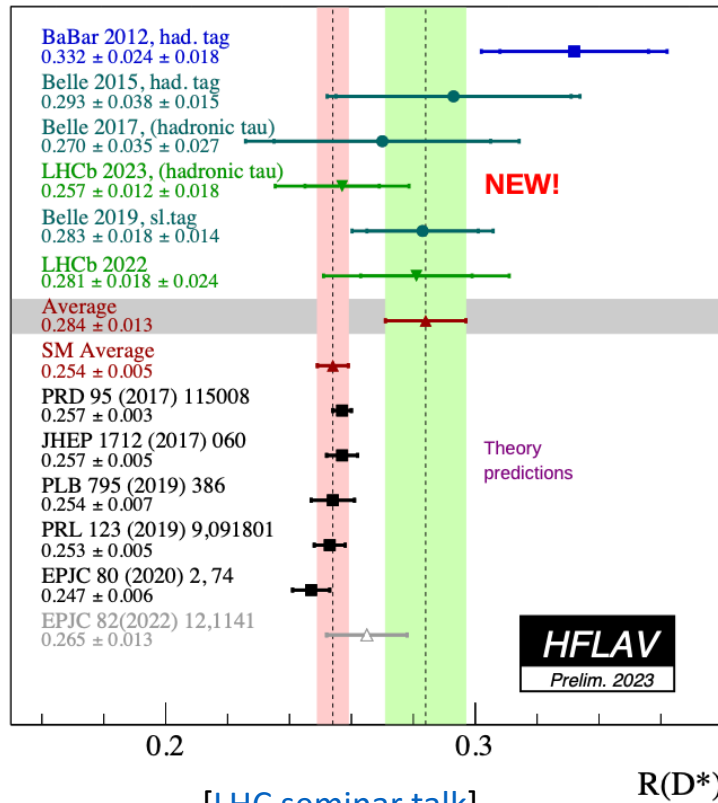


➤ Combined results with Run 1 data

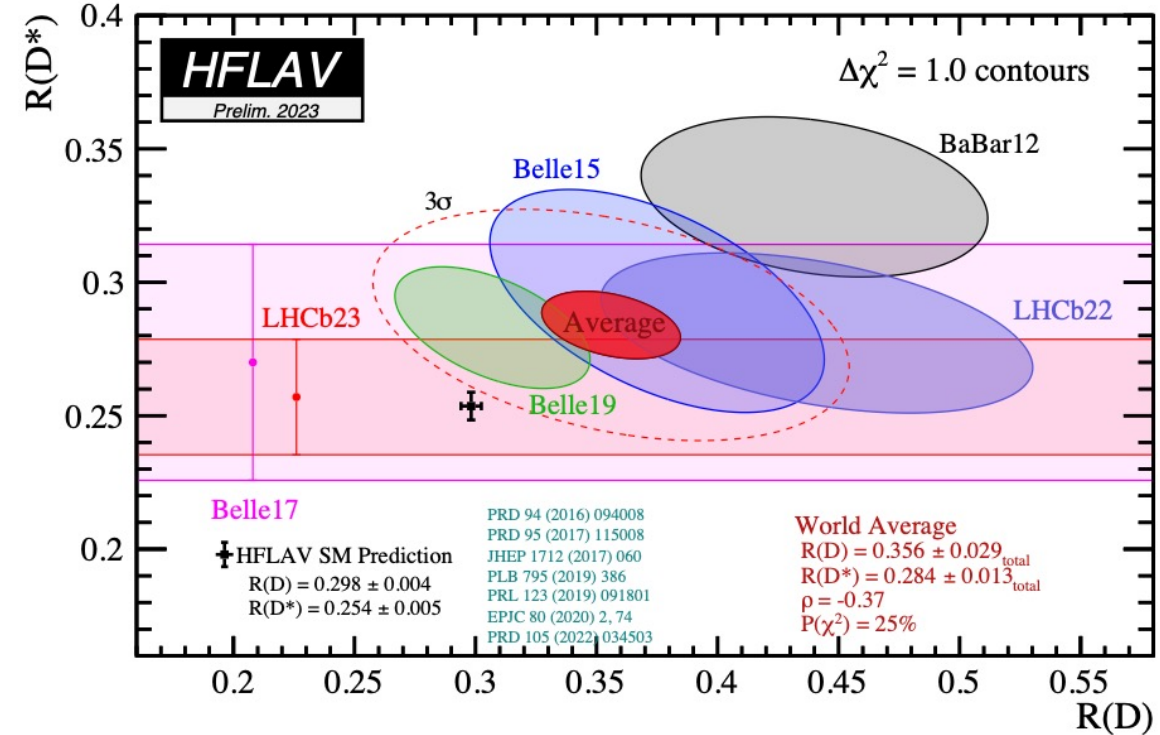
$$\mathcal{R}(D^*)_{\text{comb}} = 0.257 \pm 0.012(\text{stat}) \pm 0.014(\text{syst}) \pm 0.012(\text{ext})$$

➤ In agreement with the SM within 1σ ($\mathcal{R}(D^*)_{SM} = 0.254 \pm 0.005$ [HFLAV])

➤ One of the most precise measurements of $\mathcal{R}(D^*)$



[LHC seminar talk]



➤ New preliminary world average

$$\mathcal{R}(D^*) = 0.284 \pm 0.013 \quad \mathcal{R}(D) = 0.356 \pm 0.029$$

➤ **3.2 σ deviation** from SM expectation for the combination $\mathcal{R}(D^*) - \mathcal{R}(D)$

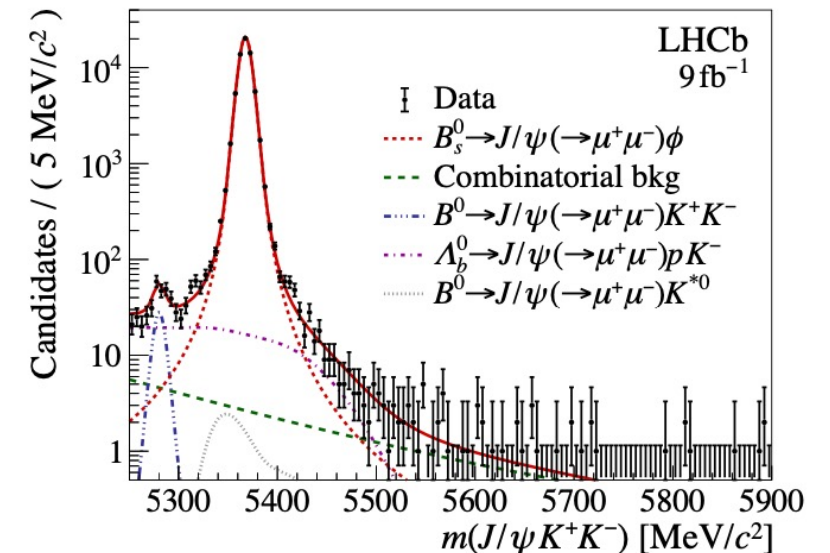
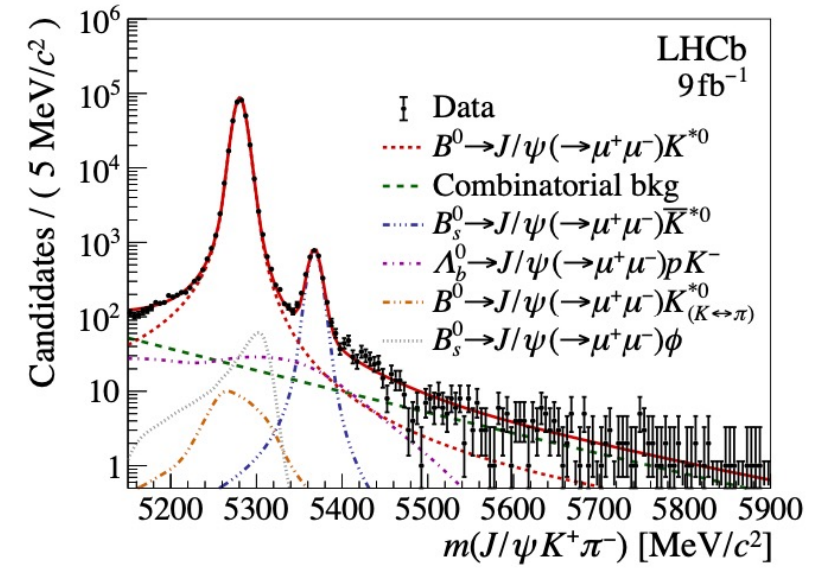
➤ Recent results: $\mathcal{R}(J/\psi)$ [Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 121801], $\mathcal{R}(\Lambda_c)$ [PRL 128, 191803]...

➤ Other ongoing measurements of $\mathcal{R}(D_s)$, $\mathcal{R}(D)$

cLFV searches

$$B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \mu^\pm e^\mp \text{ and } B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^\pm e^\mp$$

- NP predictions can reach 10^{-7} [Phys. Rev. D 92, 054013]
 - Different NP effects on $b \rightarrow s \mu^+ e^-$ and $b \rightarrow s \mu^- e^+$
 - Separate BF limit evaluation for $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \mu^+ e^-$ and $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \mu^- e^+$ also provided
- Search on **Run 1 + Run 2** data
- $K^{*0}(892)$ and $\phi(1020)$ reconstructed via $K^{*0} \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-$ and $\phi \rightarrow K^+ K^-$
- $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-) K^{*0}$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-) \phi$ used as **control and normalisation channels**
- **Background rejection**
 - dedicated vetoes to reject background from mis-ID in b -hadron decays
 - BDT trained against combinatorial background
- **Modelling of the remaining background contamination**
 - Precise description of $B \rightarrow D l \nu_l$ decays needed



➤ No significant signal is observed

➤ Improved upper limits at 90%(95%) CL

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

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

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

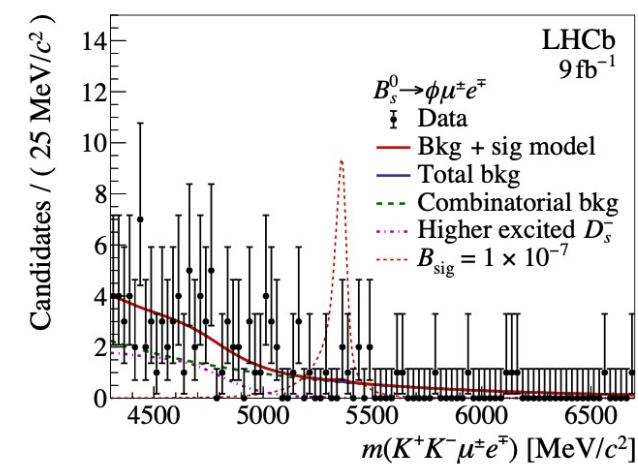
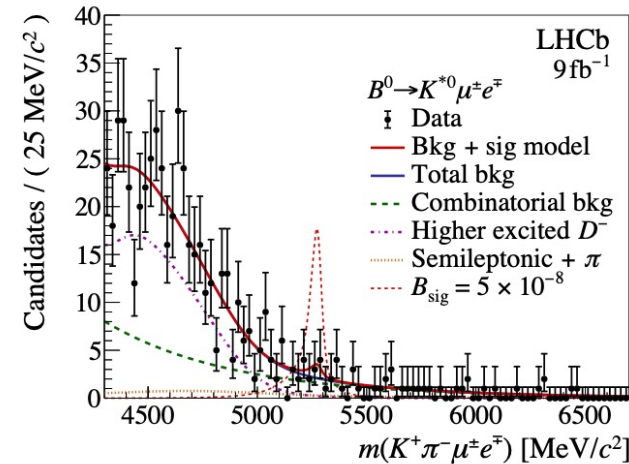
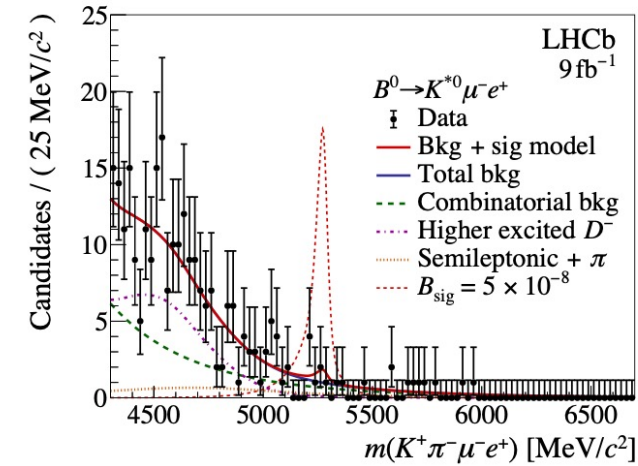
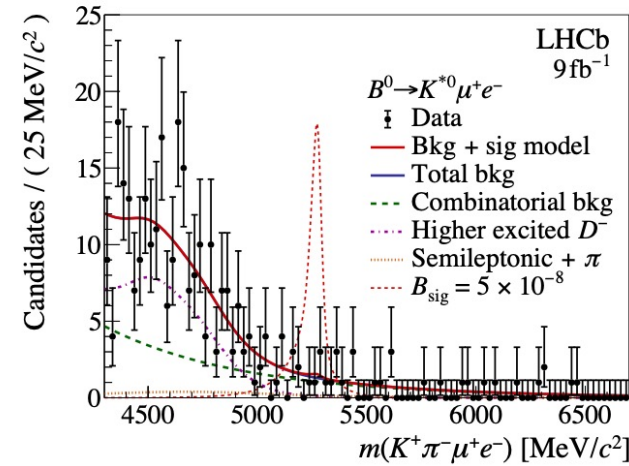
wrt Belle's result ($\mathcal{O}(10^{-7})$) [[PRD 98, 071101\(R\) \(2018\)](#)]

➤ World's first limit at 90%(95%) CL

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

➤ Limits on BFs assuming uniform phase-space decay model

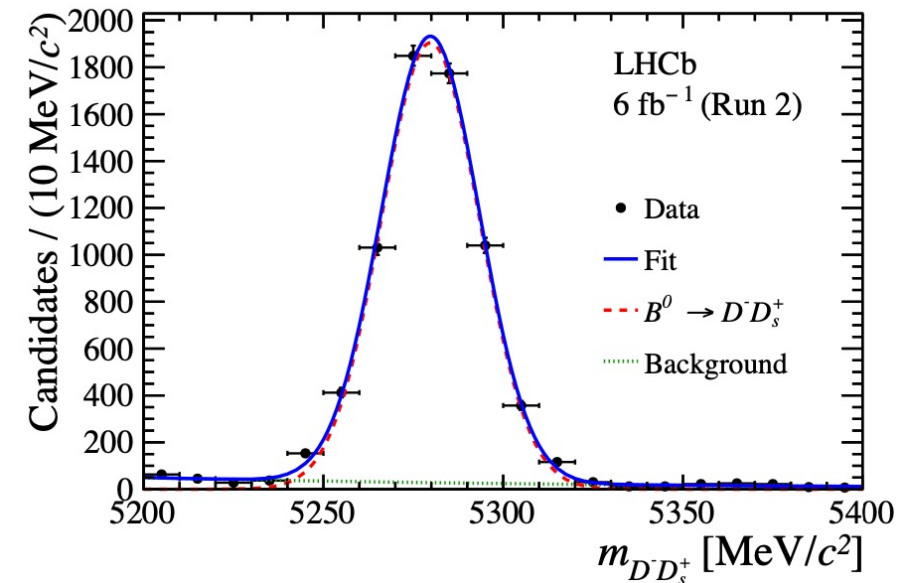
➤ (Re-)intepretation in terms of scalar and left-handed LF violating NP models also provided



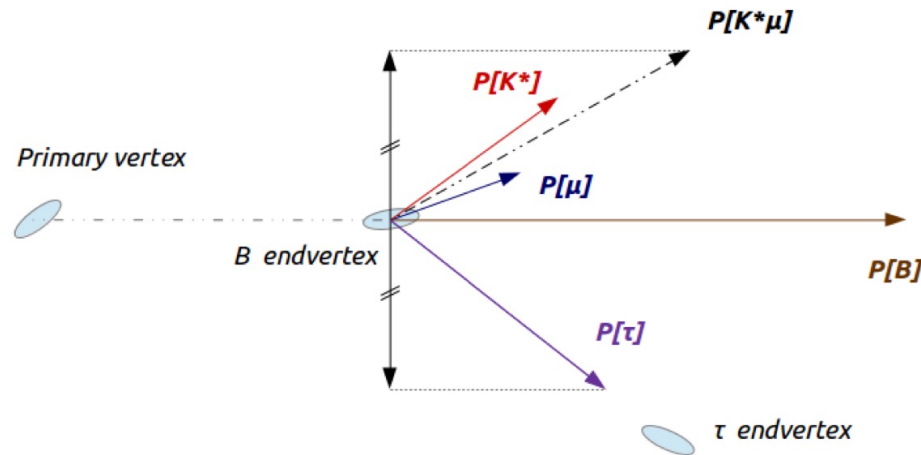
➤ First search for the $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \tau^\pm \mu^\mp$ decay on Run 1 + Run 2 data

➤ Analysis strategy

- K^{*0} reconstructed via $K^{*0} \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-$
- τ reconstructed via $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^- (\pi^0) \nu_\tau$
- Independent analysis on $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \tau^+ \mu^-$ and $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \tau^- \mu^+$
 - Affected by different backgrounds
 - Different theoretical interpretation
- $B^0 \rightarrow D^- (K^+ \pi^- \pi^-) D_s^+ (K^+ K^- \pi^+)$ as normalisation channel
- Multivariate classifiers trained against combinatorial and mis-ID background + PID cuts



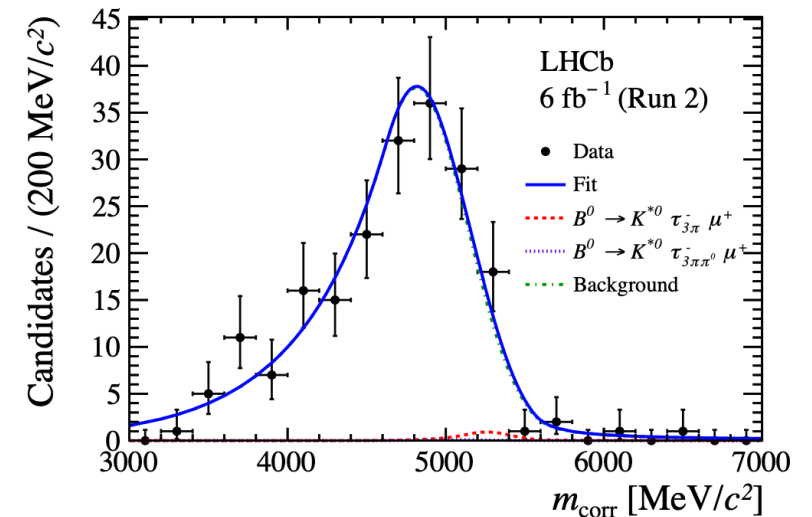
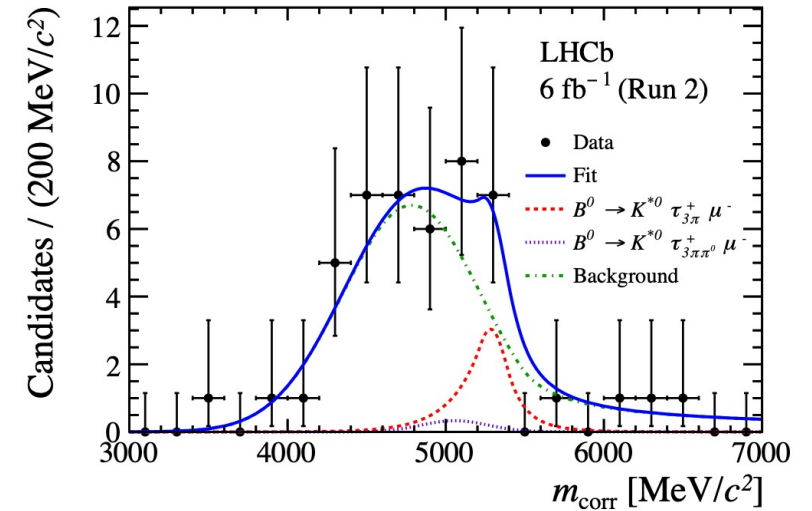
- Fit to $m_{corr} = \sqrt{p_\perp^2 + m_{K^*\tau\mu}^2} + p_\perp$
- p_\perp missing momentum perpendicular to B^0 direction



- No significant signal is observed
- **Most stringent limits on $b \rightarrow s\tau\mu$ transitions set at 90%(95%) CL**

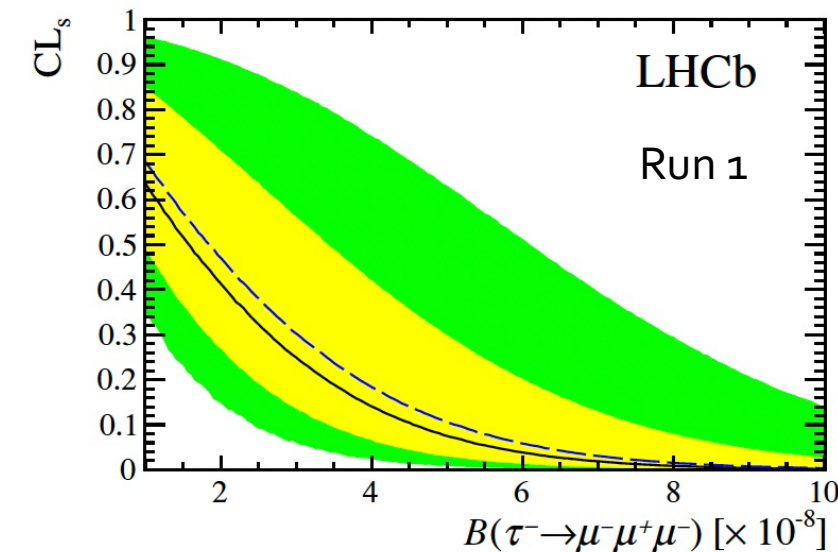
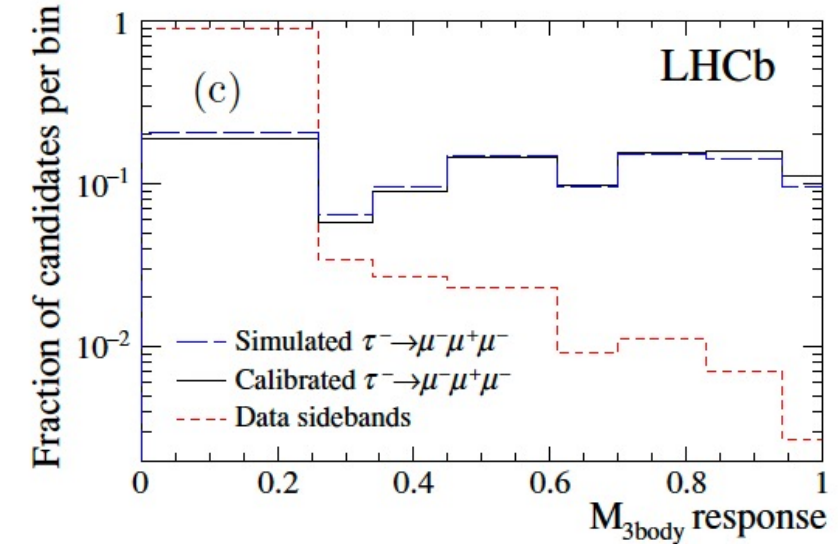
$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \tau^+ \mu^-) < 1.0(1.2) \times 10^{-5}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \tau^- \mu^+) < 8.2(9.8) \times 10^{-6}$$



The $\tau^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+$ decay

- Current **best experimental limit** from Belle [[arXiv:1001.3221](https://arxiv.org/abs/1001.3221)]
 - 2.1×10^{-8} at 90% CL
- **LHCb analysis on Run 1 data** [[JHEP02\(2015\)121](https://arxiv.org/abs/1502.02121)]
 - $D_s^+ \rightarrow \phi(\mu^+ \mu^-)\pi^+$ used as a normalisation channel
 - Challenges: identify and reject background sources
 - Combinatorial and mis-ID background ($D_{(s)}^+ \rightarrow 3\pi, D^+ \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+$)
 - Background suppression achieved by means of multivariate classifiers
 - Upper limit: $4.6(5.6) \times 10^{-8}$ at 90%(95%) CL
- **Ongoing analysis with Run 2 data (coming out soon!)**
- **Extrapolated limit** from Run 1 to Run 1 + Run 2 (higher luminosity and cross section)
 - $2.5(3.1) \times 10^{-8}$ at 90%(95%) CL
- Development of a more efficient selection



➤ **LFU tests:** many **analyses** and **updates** are **ongoing**

➤ $b \rightarrow sll$ decays: $R_\phi, R_\Lambda, R_{pK}, R_{K\pi\pi}$

➤ $b \rightarrow cl\nu_l$ decays: $R_{D_s}, R_{D^+}, R_{D^*}$ with $\mu/e, R_{D^{**}}$

➤ **Previous cLFV searches**

➤ $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^\pm e^\mp$ [[arXiv:1909.01010](https://arxiv.org/abs/1909.01010)]

➤ $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^- \tau^+$ using B_{s2}^{*0} decays [[JHEP06\(2020\)129](https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.129)]

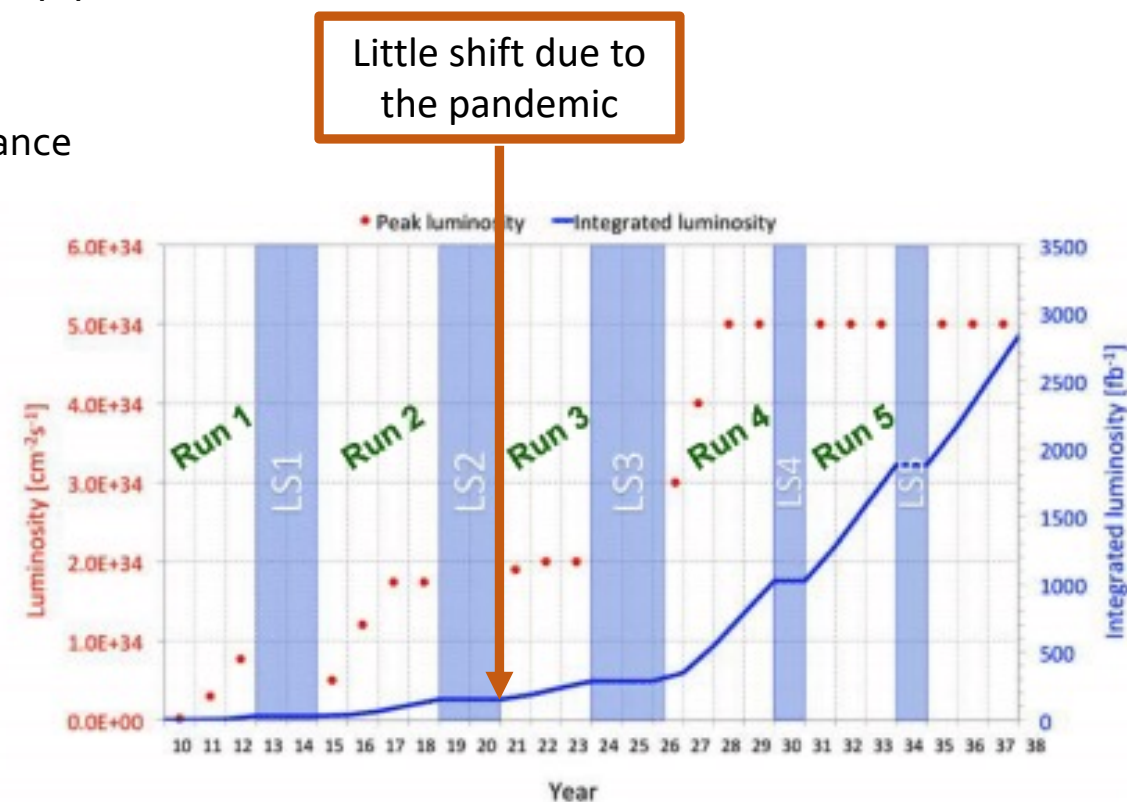
➤ $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \tau^\pm \mu^\mp$ [[PRL 123, 211801 \(2019\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1906.01180)]

➤ Charm sector: $D_{(s)}^+ \rightarrow h^\pm l^\pm l'^\mp$ [[JHEP06\(2021\)044](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.044)]

➤ **Ongoing cLFV searches with Run 1 and Run 2 data**

➤ $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^\pm \tau^\mp, B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow e^\pm \mu^\mp, \Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda e^\mp \mu^\pm, \Lambda_b \rightarrow pK\tau^\mp \mu^\pm \dots$

- LHCb has a very rich program in **LFU tests** and **cLFV searches** in *b*- and *c*-hadron decays
 - powerful way to **search for NP**
- No cLFV observed so far → More stringent limits on the BF's to constrain BSM theories
- Many other analyses with the whole Run 1 + Run 2 dataset in the pipeline
- **Run 3** has started!
 - upgraded detector and trigger system will enhance signal acceptance
 - 5 times larger instantaneous luminosity than in Run 2 (50 fb^{-1})



Backup

