



Rare B decays at LHCb

(excluding $b \rightarrow sll$)



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on behalf of the LHCb collaboration



Beauty 2023

Clermont-Ferrand France 3-7 July

Logos at the bottom: Université Clermont, CNRS, LPC, clermont auvergne métropole, INTENSITY, frontier

Rare B decays

Highly **suppressed** in SM:

- Higher orders diagrams
- FCNC box or penguin diagrams
- $b \rightarrow sll$, dedicated presentation later

Signal different from SM?
Possible new physics!

Forbidden in SM:

- Lepton Flavour Violating
- Baryon Number Violating
- ...

Any signal?
Possible new physics!

LHCb detector for rare B decays

- The LHC has a large cross section of b and c hadrons:
 - $\sigma(b\bar{b})_{7\text{ TeV}} = 295\ \mu\text{b}$
 - $\sigma(b\bar{b})_{13\text{ TeV}} = 590\ \mu\text{b}$
- LHCb designed as forward spectrometer to focus on $b\bar{b}$ production
- LHCb uses luminosity levelling:
 - Proton beams are defocused
 - Keeps run conditions more stable during fills
 - Reduces interactions per bunch crossing to 1-2
- All results presented today make use of the full available proton-proton collisions collected by the LHCb experiment:

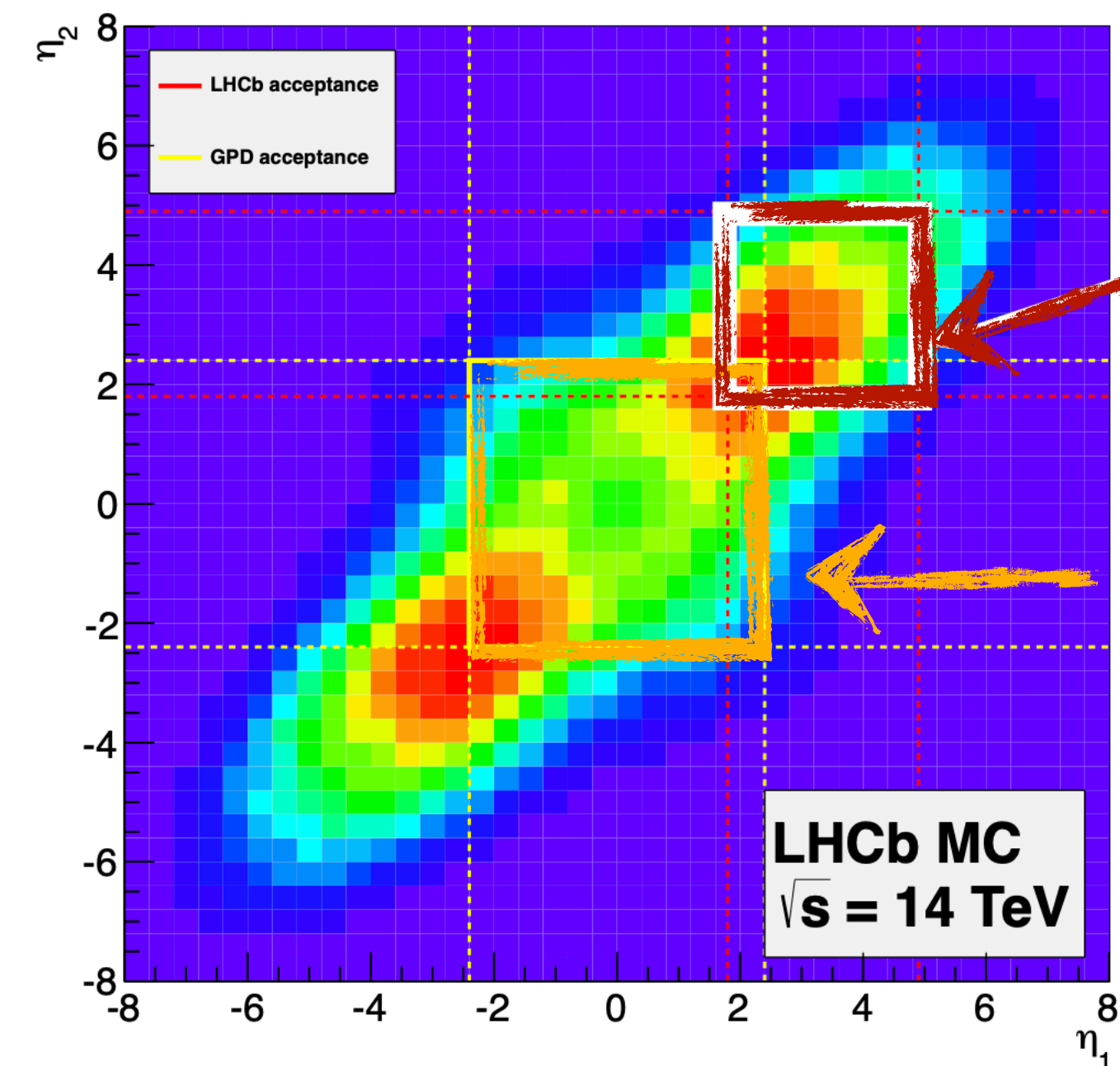
Run 1:

- $1\ \text{fb}^{-1}$ at $\sqrt{s} = 7\ \text{TeV}$
- $2\ \text{fb}^{-1}$ at $\sqrt{s} = 8\ \text{TeV}$

Run 2:

- $6\ \text{fb}^{-1}$ at $\sqrt{s} = 13\ \text{TeV}$

LHCb acceptance $2 < \eta < 5$



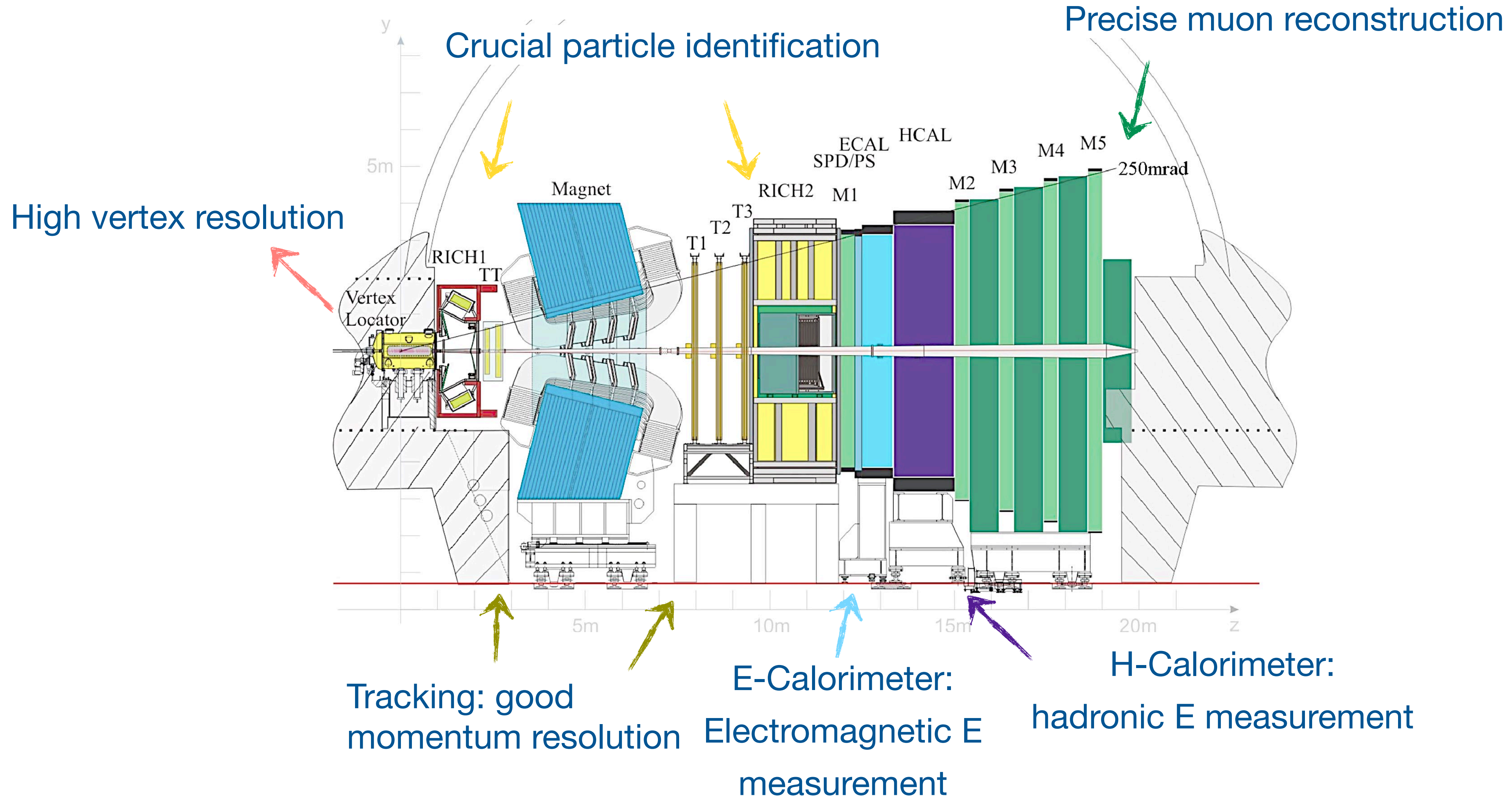
LHCb:
25% of $b\bar{b}$

CMS
ATLAS

LHCb detector for rare B decays

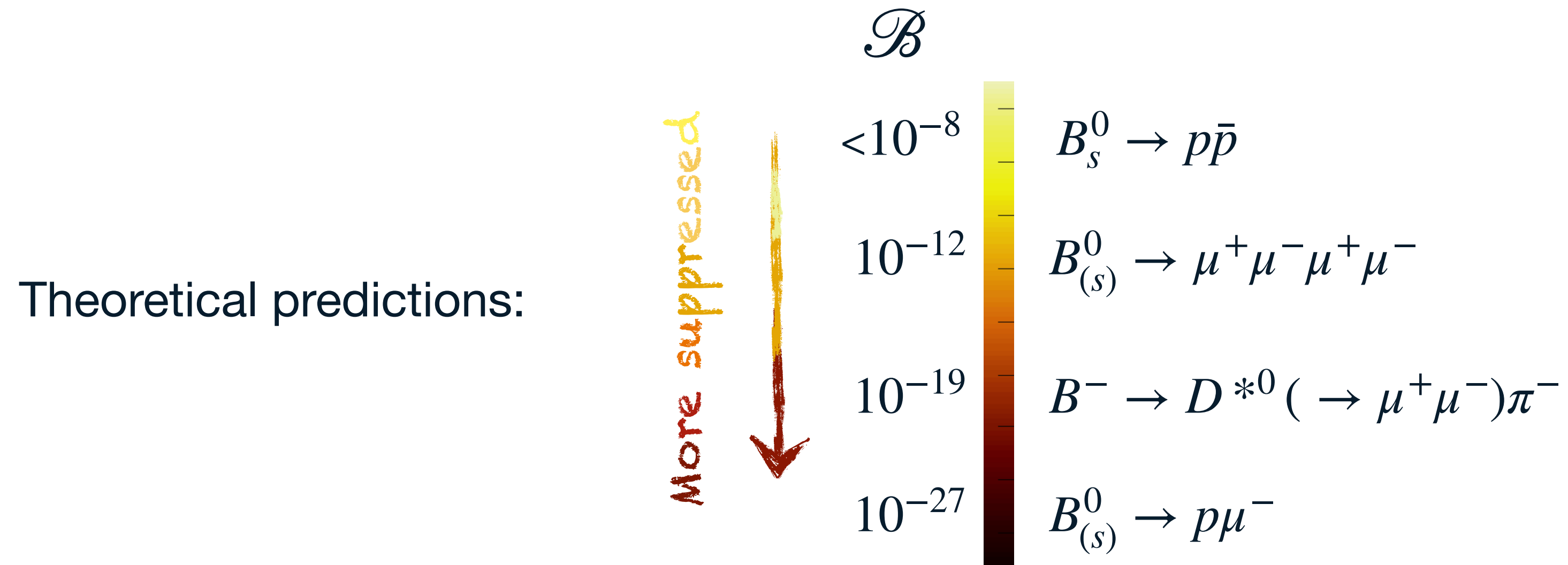
The LHCb detector is very suitable to search for rare B decays.

Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 30, 1530022 (2015)
CERN-LHCC-2003-030



Rare B decays

- In this presentation:



- In next presentation by Sara Celani all about $b \rightarrow sll$.
- More B decays in presentation by Jike Wang.


$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow p\mu^-$$

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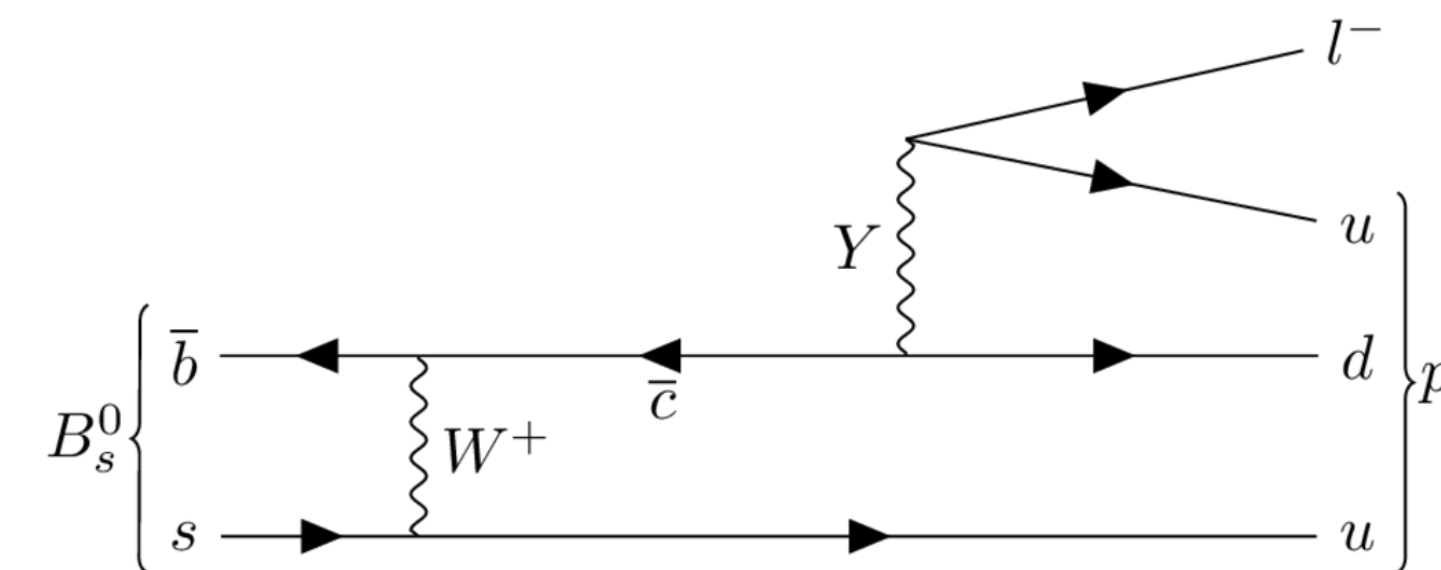
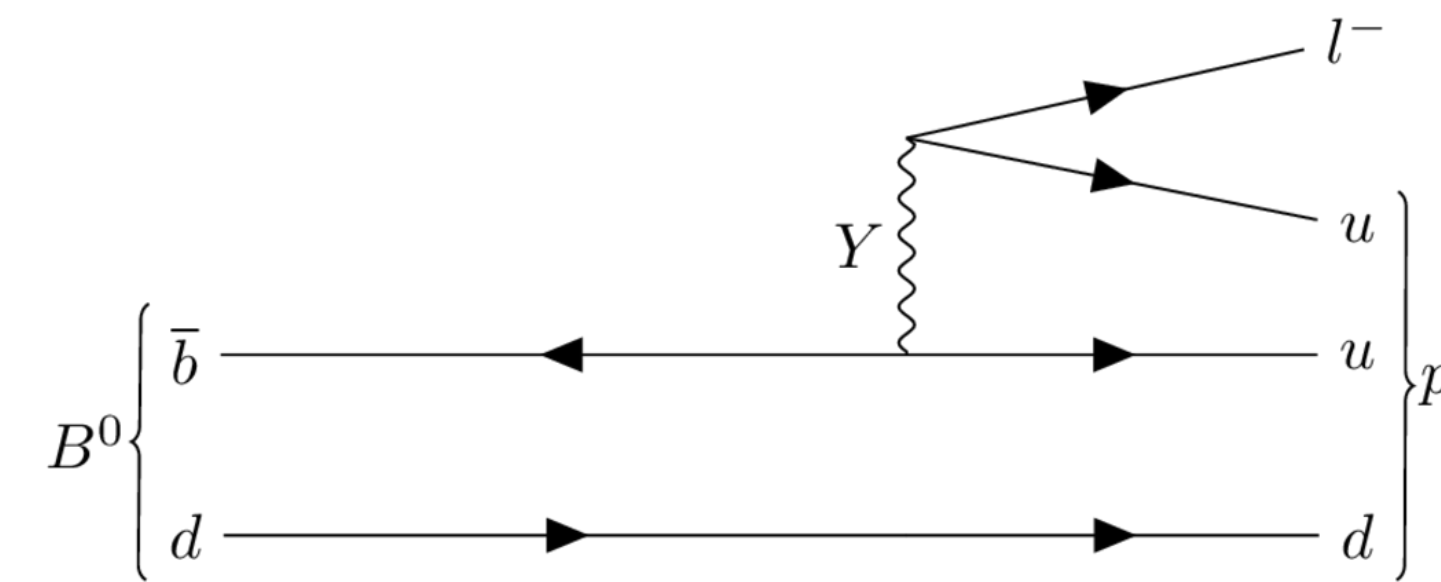
arXiv:2210.10412

First time!

Motivation:

- Lepton and baryon number violation (LNV and BNV).
- Forbidden in the SM with a prediction of $\mathcal{B}(\bar{b} \rightarrow uul^-) < 2.4 \times 10^{-27}$ [1].
- Highly sensitive to new physics: GUT models. 
- Never searched before.

Hypothetical Y boson that couples quarks to leptons and leads to LNV and BNV



[1] Phys. Rev. D **72** (2005) 095001

$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow p\mu^-$

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arXiv:2210.10412

Strategy:

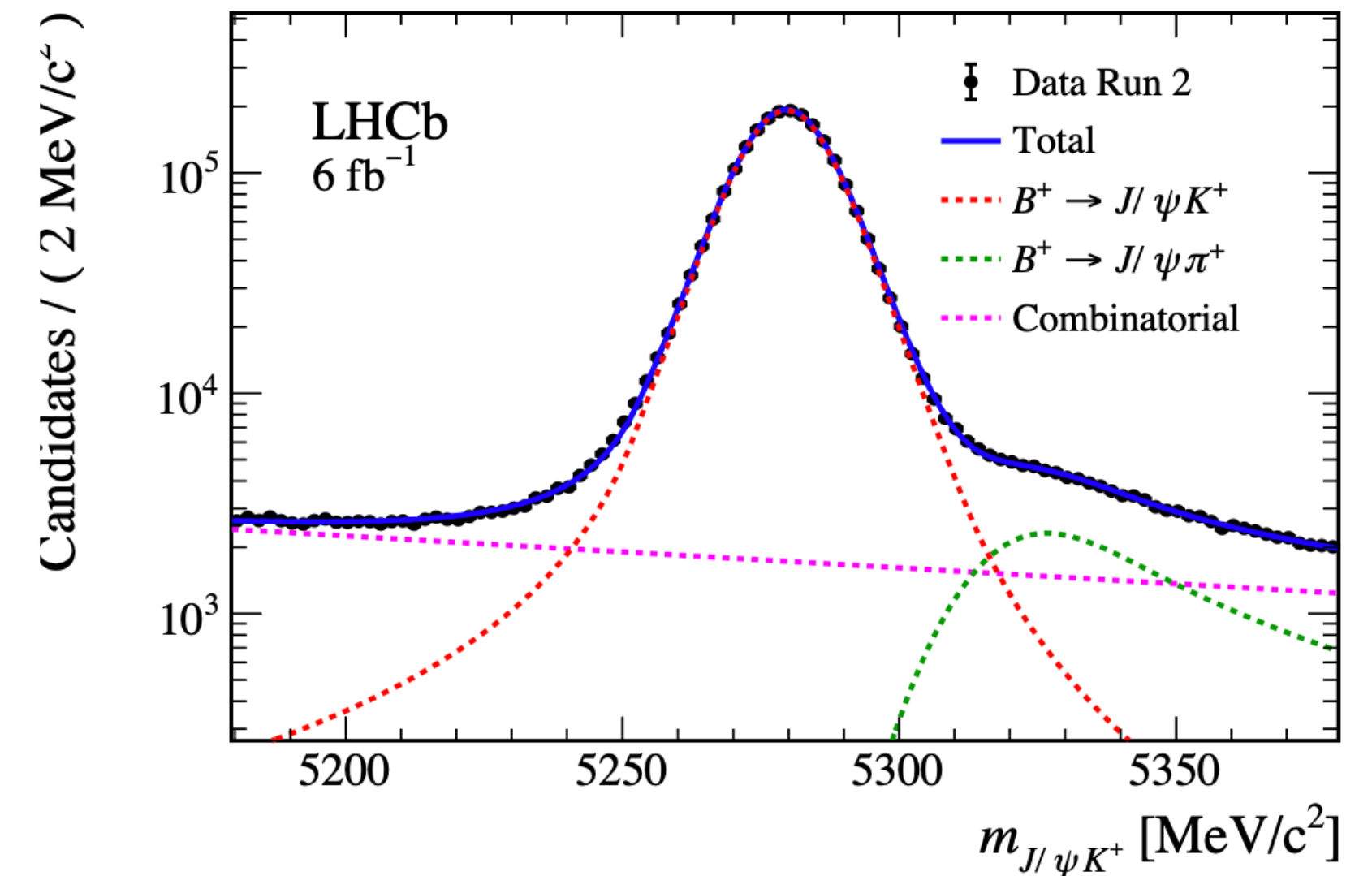
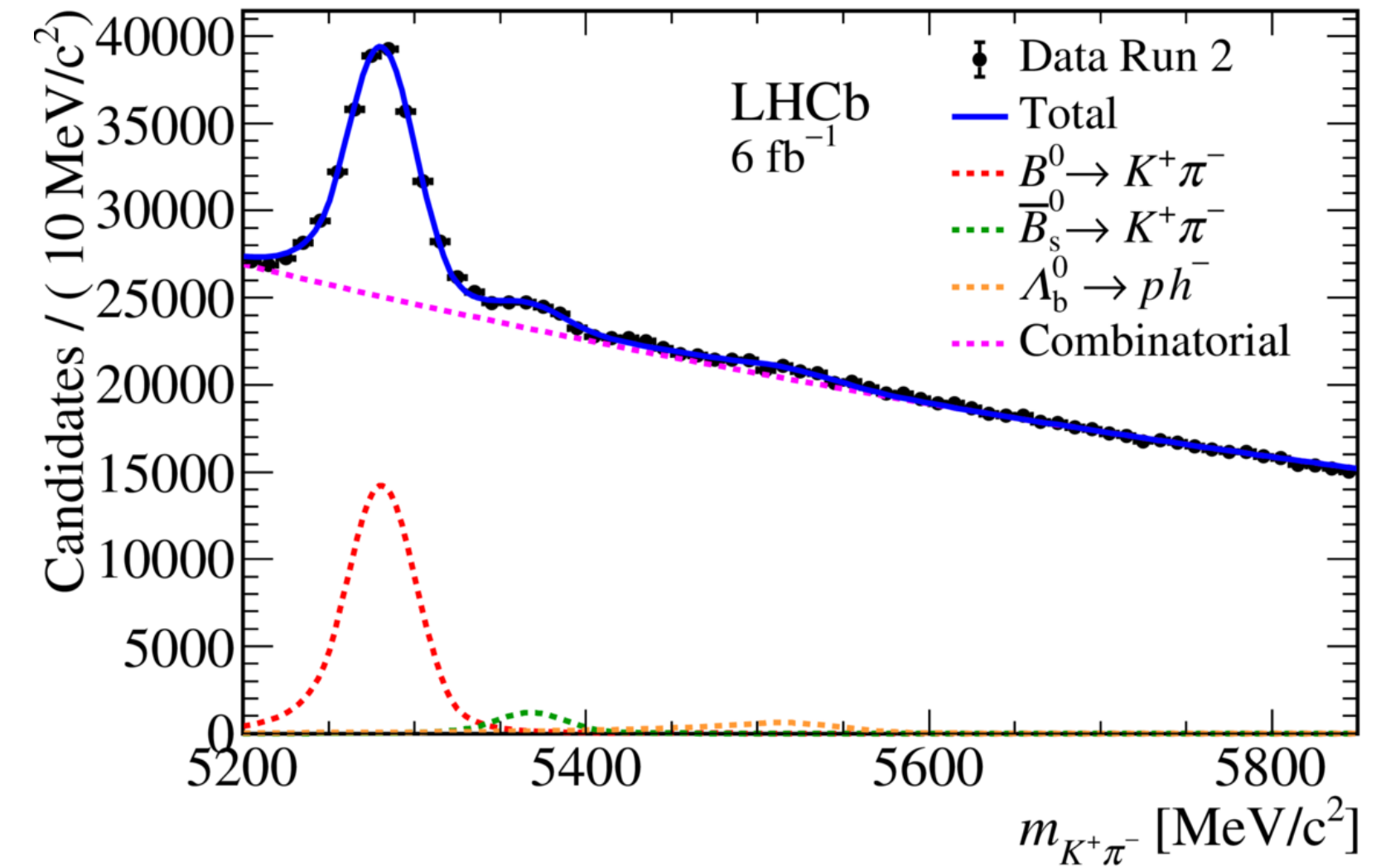
- Use PID to reject hadron misID candidates.
- A multilayer perceptron (MLP) to discriminate the combinatorial background.
- Two **normalisation** channels:

Similar signal topology $B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-$

High stats. and purity $B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi(\rightarrow \mu\mu)K^+$

$$R_{\text{norm}} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+\mu^-)K^+)} = \frac{N_{B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-} \times \varepsilon_{B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+\mu^-)K^+}}{N_{B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+\mu^-)K^+} \times \varepsilon_{B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-}}$$

- Binned in MLP response.
- Signal mass region **blinded** until the selection and fitting procedure were finalised.



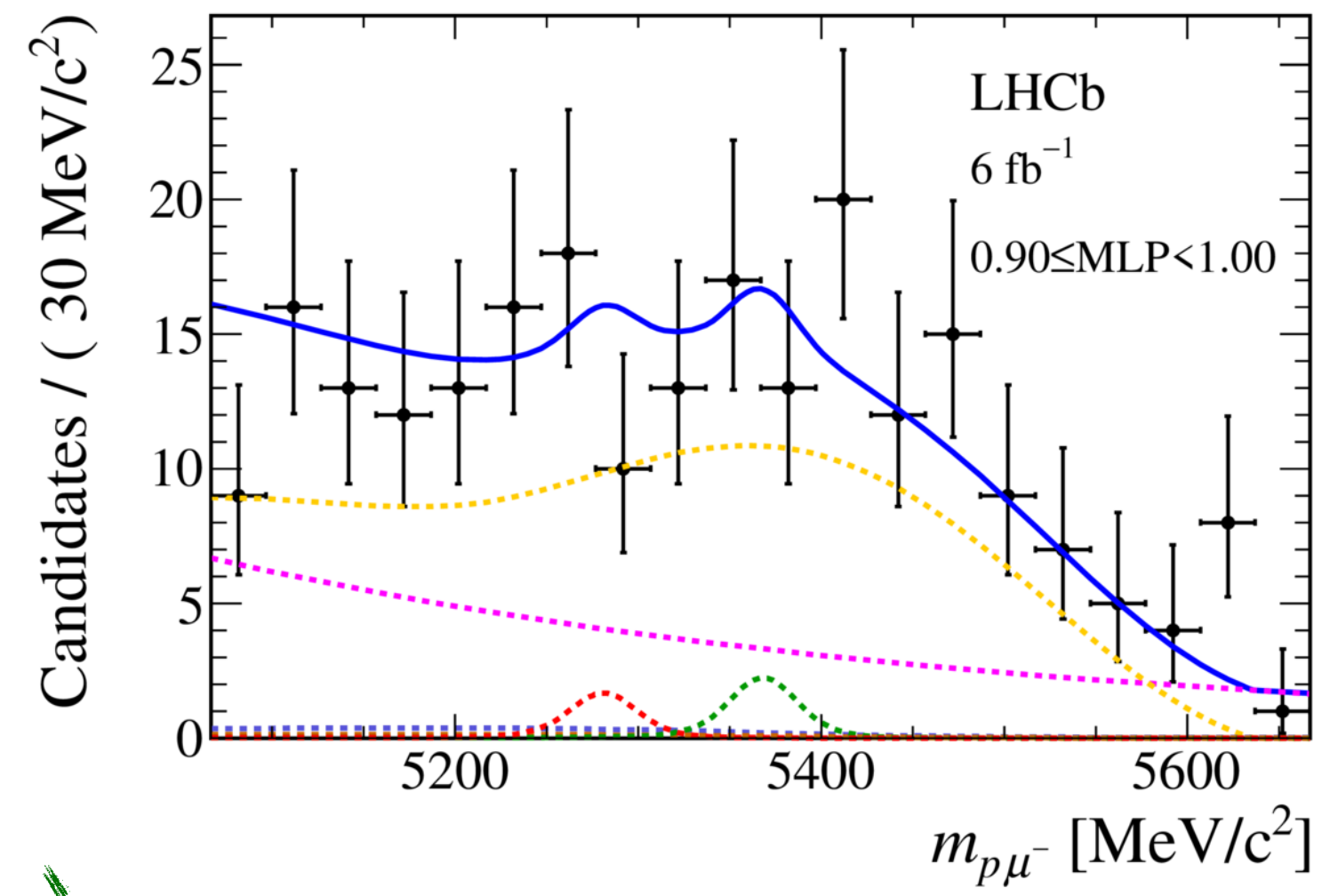
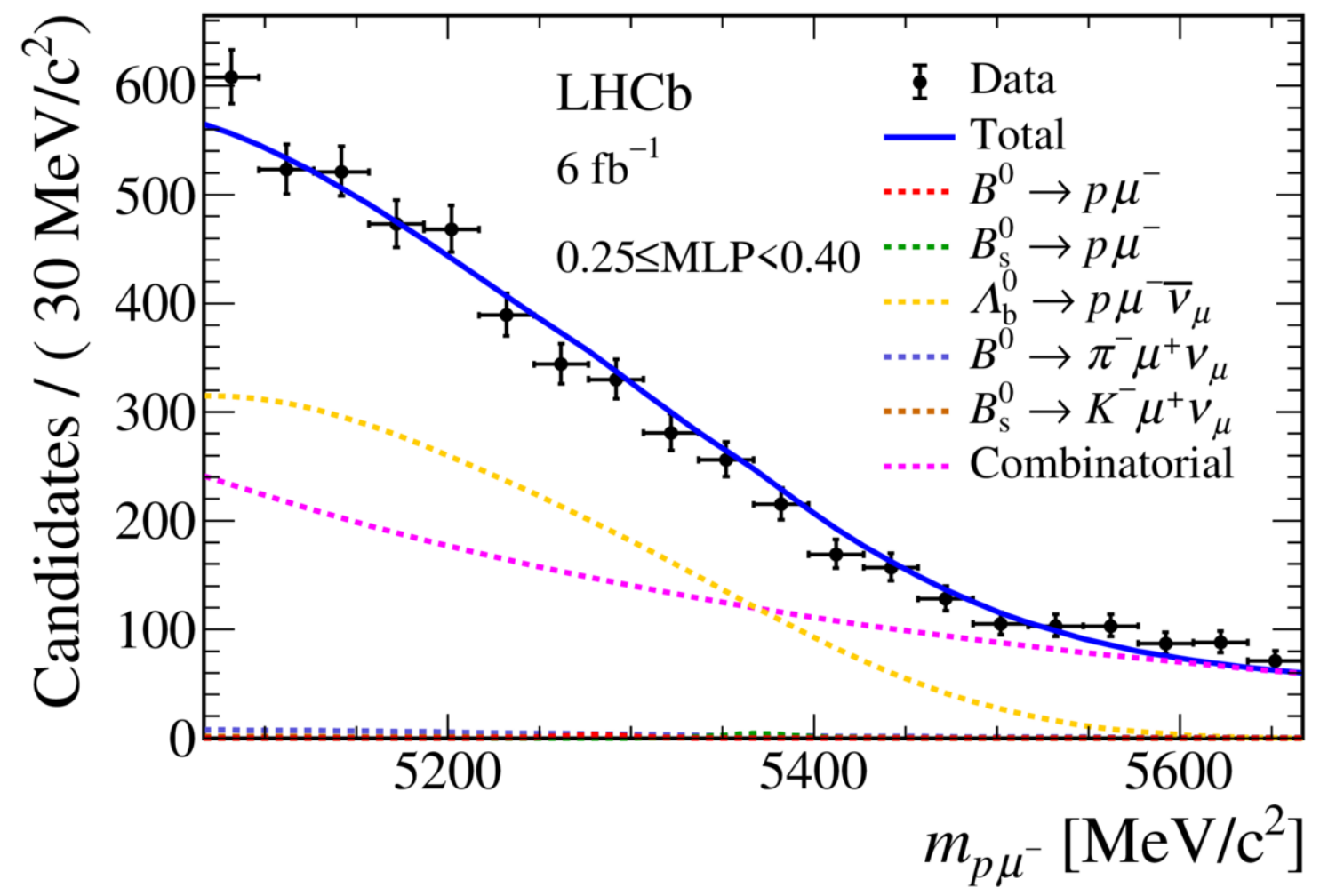
$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow p\mu^-$

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arXiv:2210.10412

Results:

- Signal extraction using fit on $p\mu^-$ mass.
- Not evidence found, limits at 90% (95%) CL:

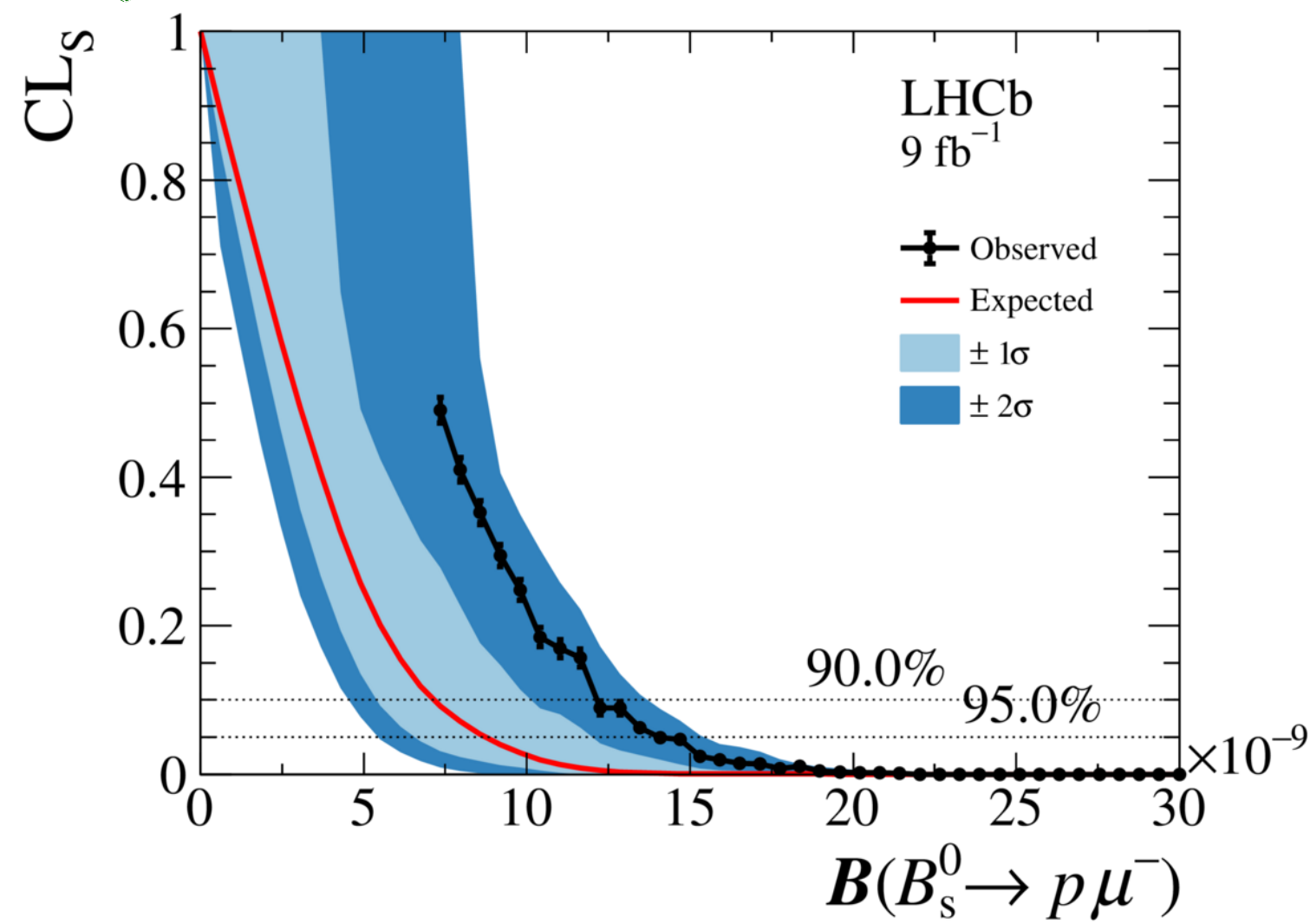
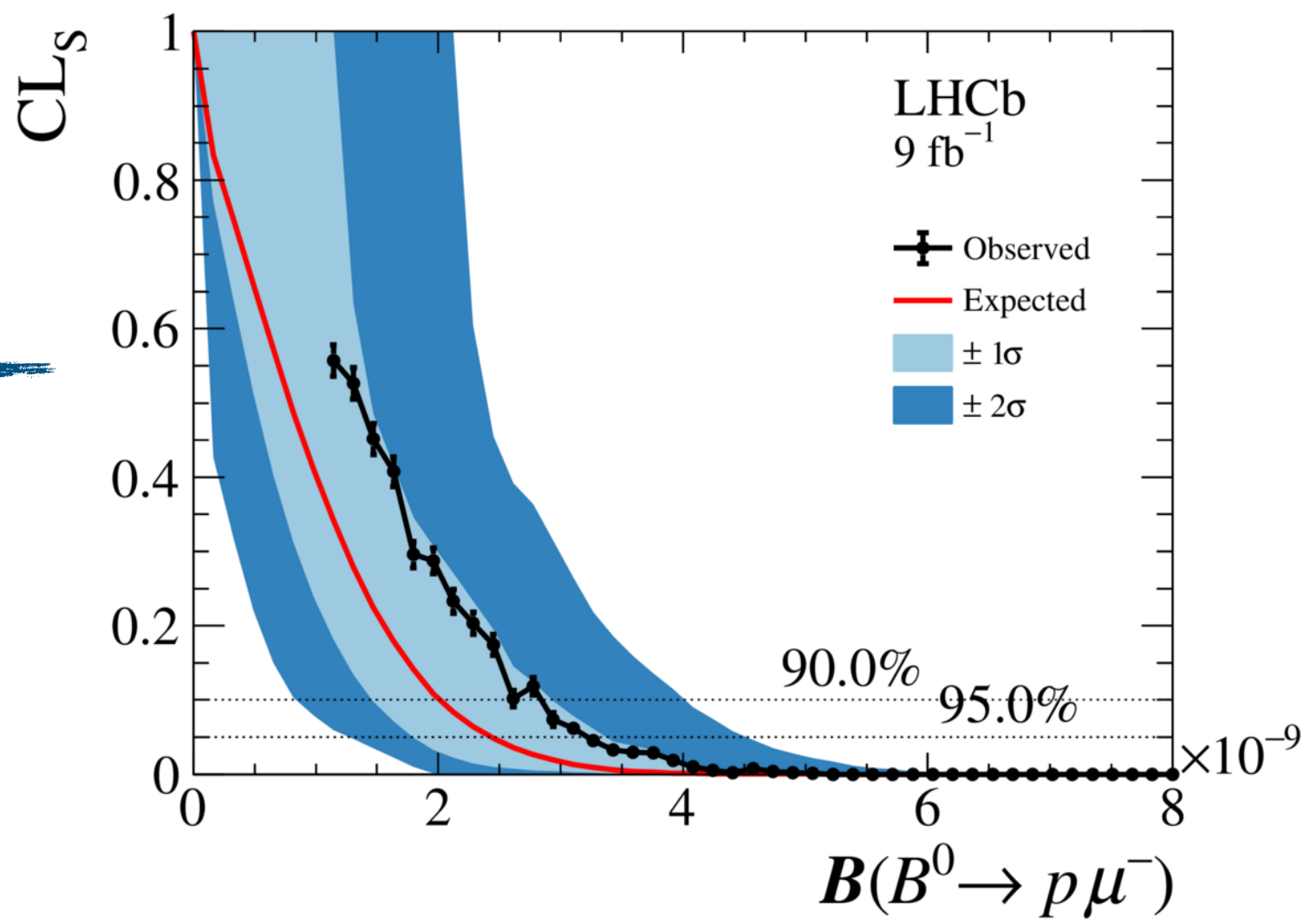
Mass distribution example for two MLP bins and one dataset:



$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow p\mu^-) < 2.6 \text{ (3.1)} \times 10^{-9}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow p\mu^-) < 12.1 \text{ (14.0)} \times 10^{-9}$$

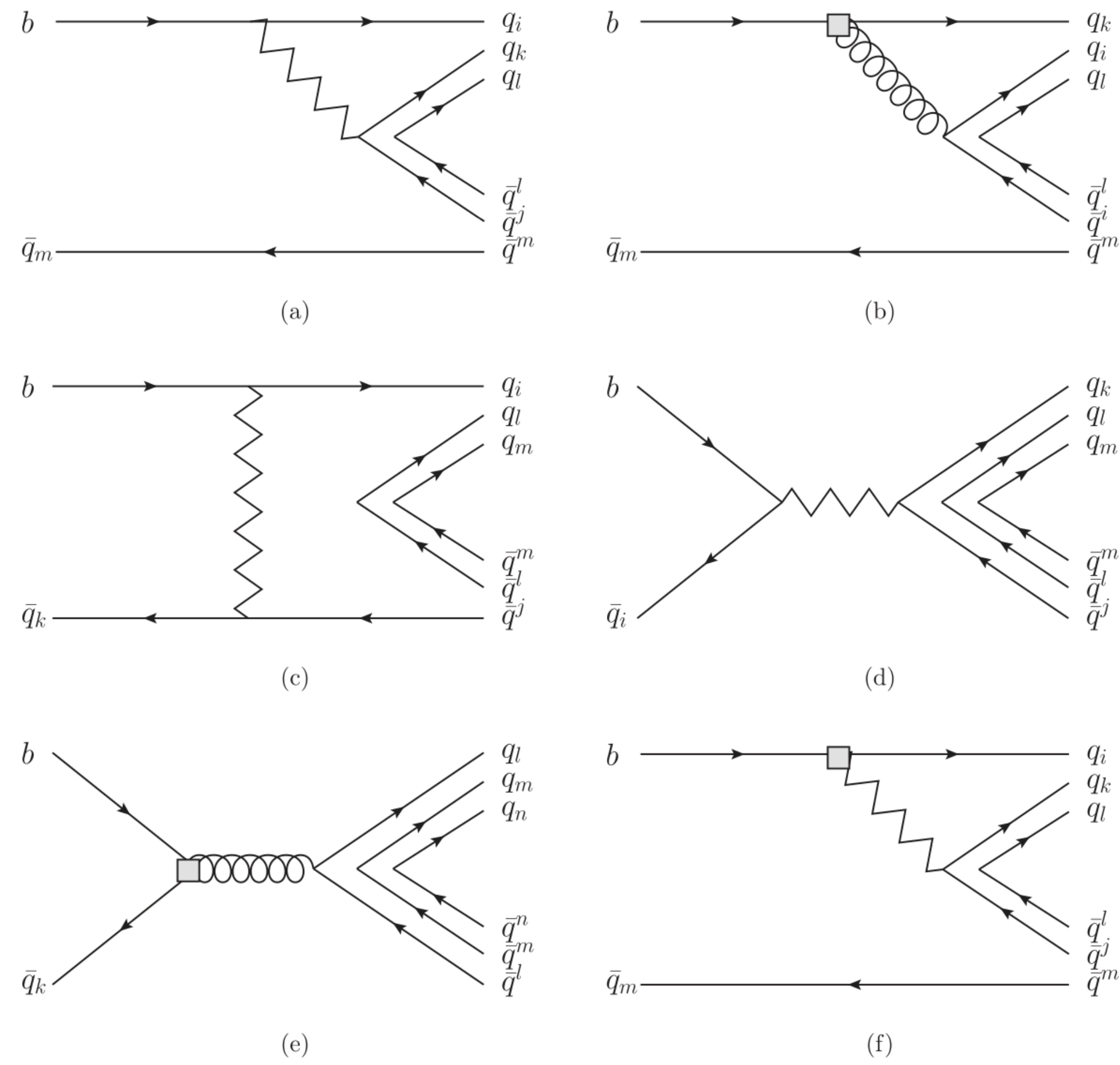
First ULs on these decays!



$B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$

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arXiv:2210.10412

Tree, penguin, W-exchange, annihilation, penguin annihilation and electroweak penguin diagrams for B to baryon pair decays:



Motivation:

- The two-body baryonic decays are suppressed [1,2] →
- Theoretical estimations disagree about the \mathcal{B} [3,4].
Waiting for experimental results to clarify.
- Previous search of $B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ at LHCb with Run 1 [5]:
 $\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}) < 1.5 \times 10^{-8}$ at 90% CL

[1] High Energy Physics **2022** (2022) 4343824

[3] JHEP **04** (2020) 035

[2] Phys. Rev. **D91** (2015) 036003

[4] Phys. Rev. **D95** (2017) 096004

[5] Phys. Rev. Lett. **199** (2017) 232001

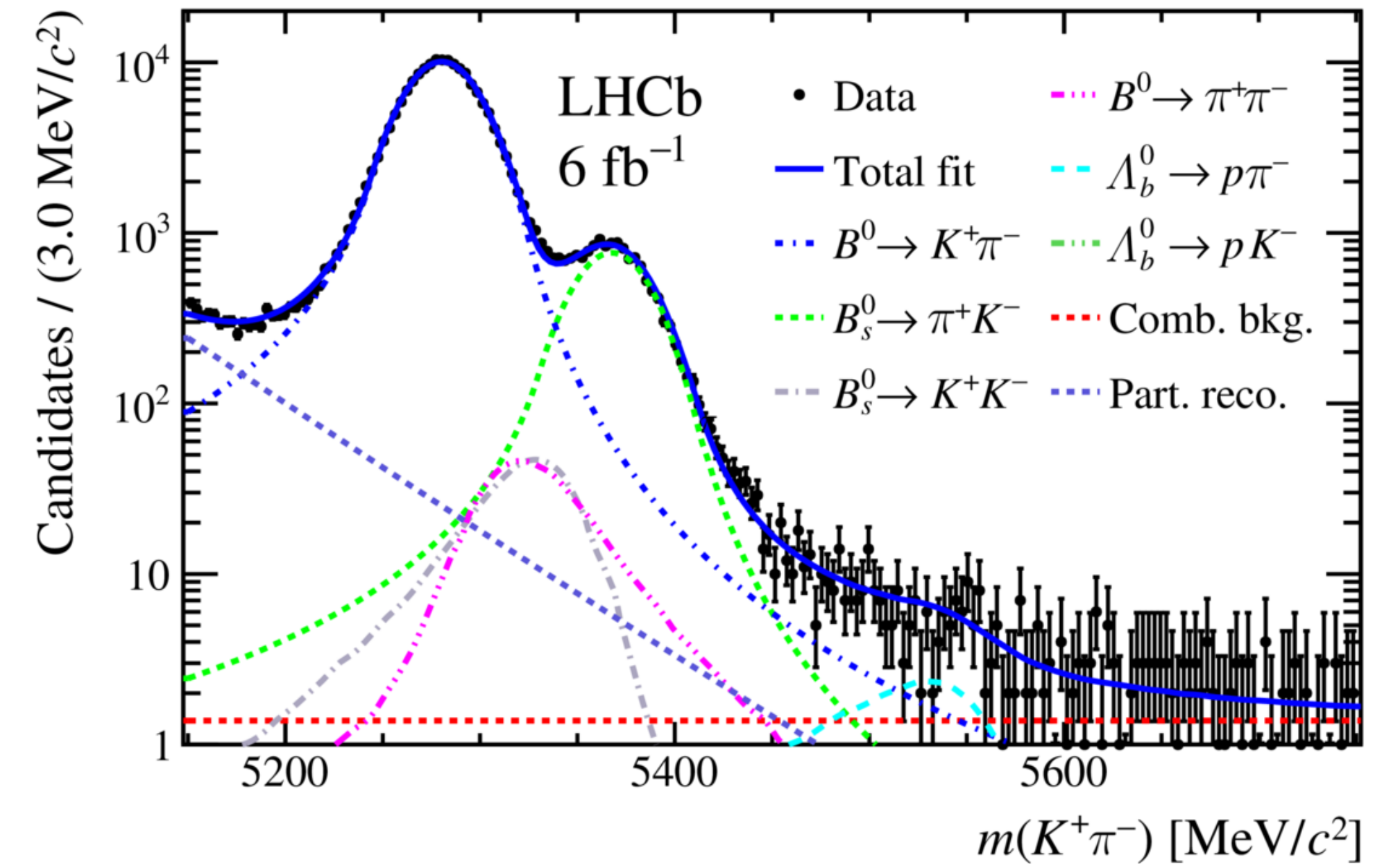
$B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$

LHCb-PAPER-2022-004

arXiv:2206.06673

Strategy:

- Tight PID selection to reduce background from mis-identified hadrons.
- Multivariate technique: boosted decision tree (BDT), to reduce combinatorial background.
- Mass signal blinded until analysis procedure was finalised.
- Normalisation channel: $B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-$



$$\mathcal{B}(B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}) = \frac{N(B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p})}{N(B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-)} \times \frac{\varepsilon_{B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-}}{\varepsilon_{B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}}} \times \mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-) \times \frac{f_d}{f_{d(s)}}$$

$B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$

LHCb-PAPER-2022-004

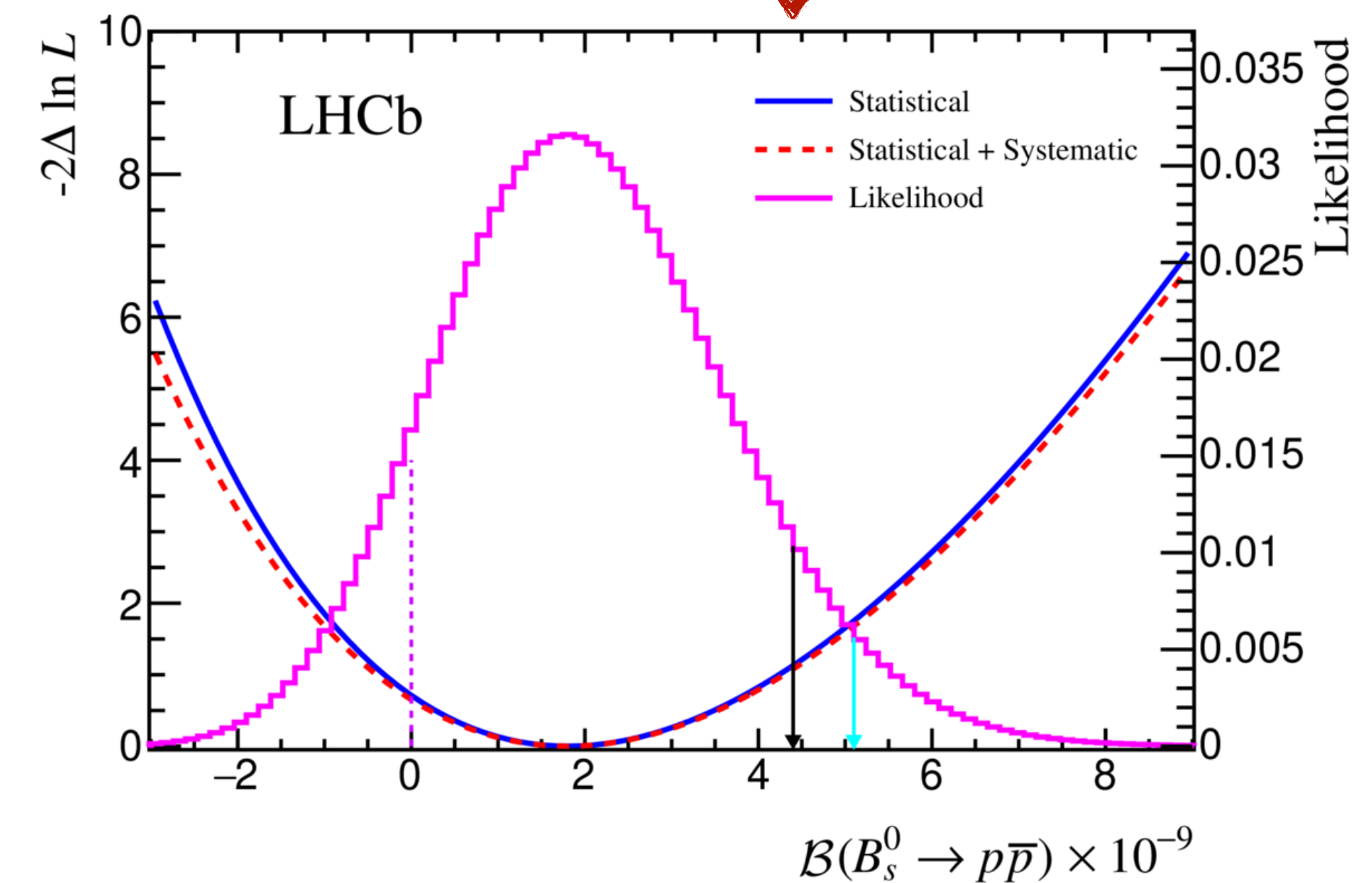
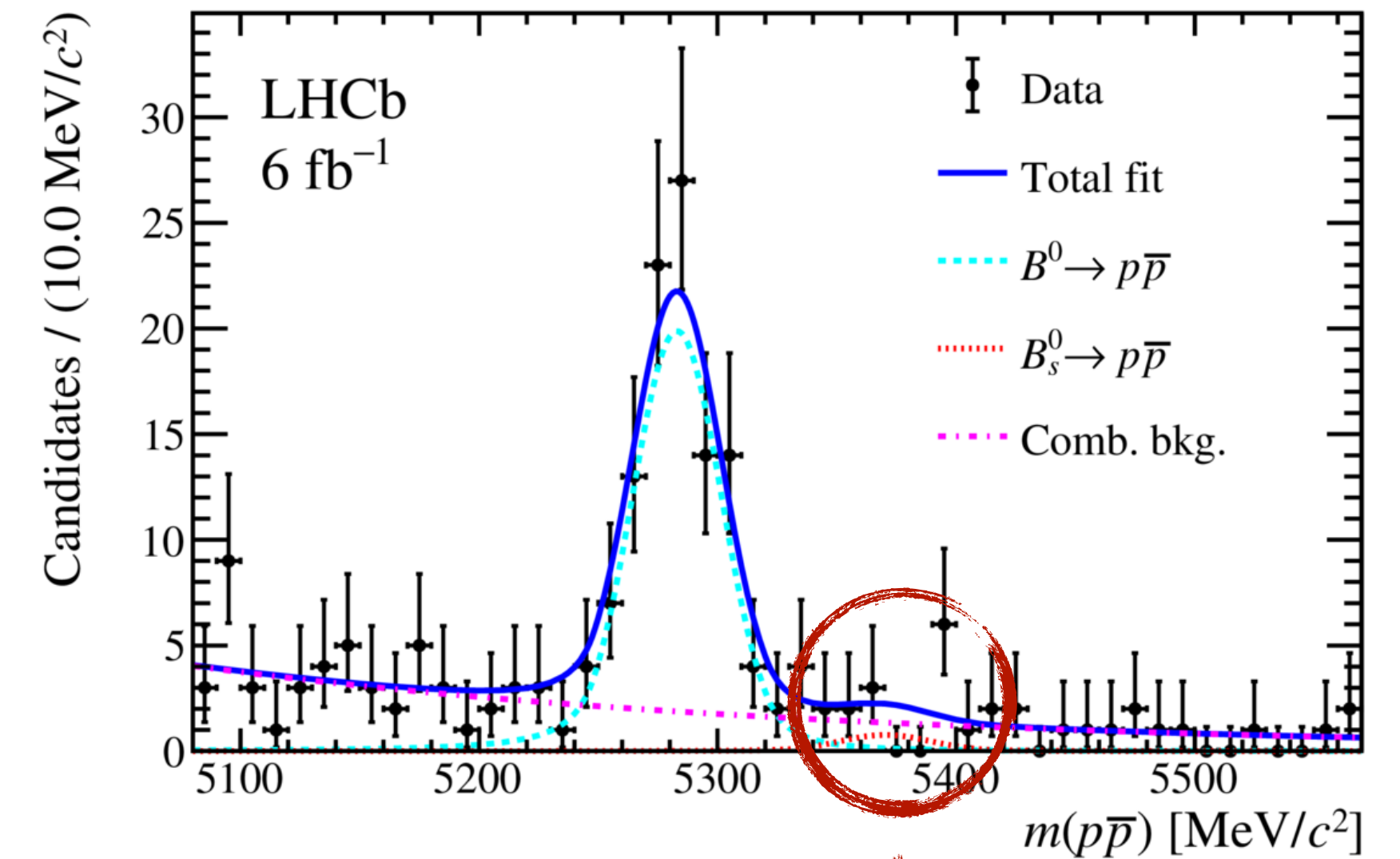
arXiv:2206.06673

Results:

- No evidence of the decay is found.
- Upper limit on the branching fraction at 90 (95)% CL:

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}) < 4.4 \text{ (5.1)} \times 10^{-9}$$

Most stringent UL of this decay to date!



$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$$

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Motivation:

- FCNC transition, no tree level \Rightarrow highly suppressed.

- Theoretically predicted [1]:

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-) = (0.4 - 4.0) \times 10^{-12}$$

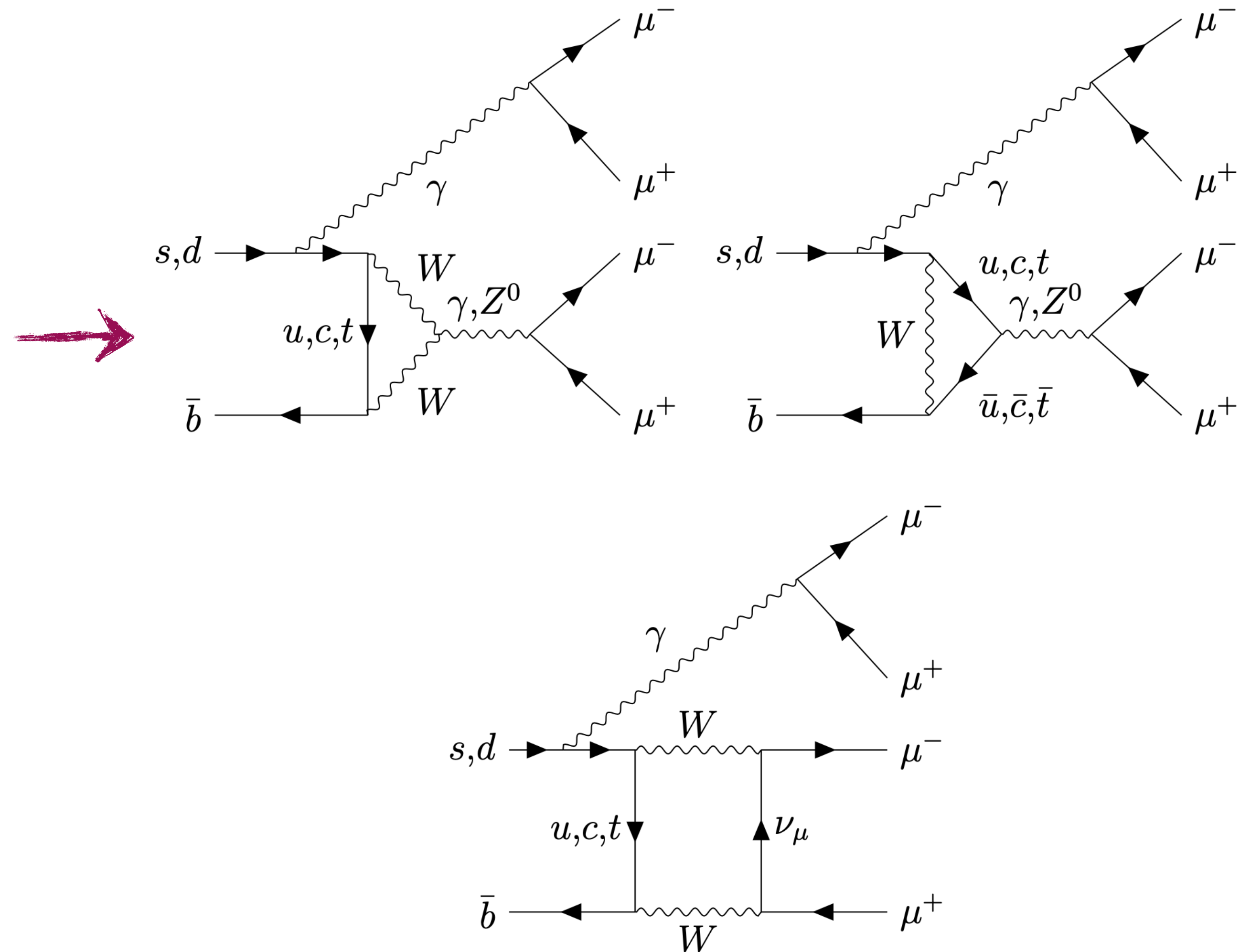
$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-) = (0.9 - 1.0) \times 10^{-10}$$

- Sensitive to new physics: MSSM sgoldstino [2].

- Previous LHCb limits with Run 1 data at 95% CL [3]:

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-) < 6.9 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-) < 2.5 \times 10^{-9}$$



[1] Phys. Atom. Nucl. **81** (2018) 347

[2] Phys. Rev. **D85** (2012) 077701

[3] J. High Energ. Phys. **2017** (2017) 001

$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$$

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Strategy:

- Three considerations, with specific selection requirements:

- Direct decay
- Decay via BSM light scalar a [1,2]
- Decay via J/ψ [3,4]:

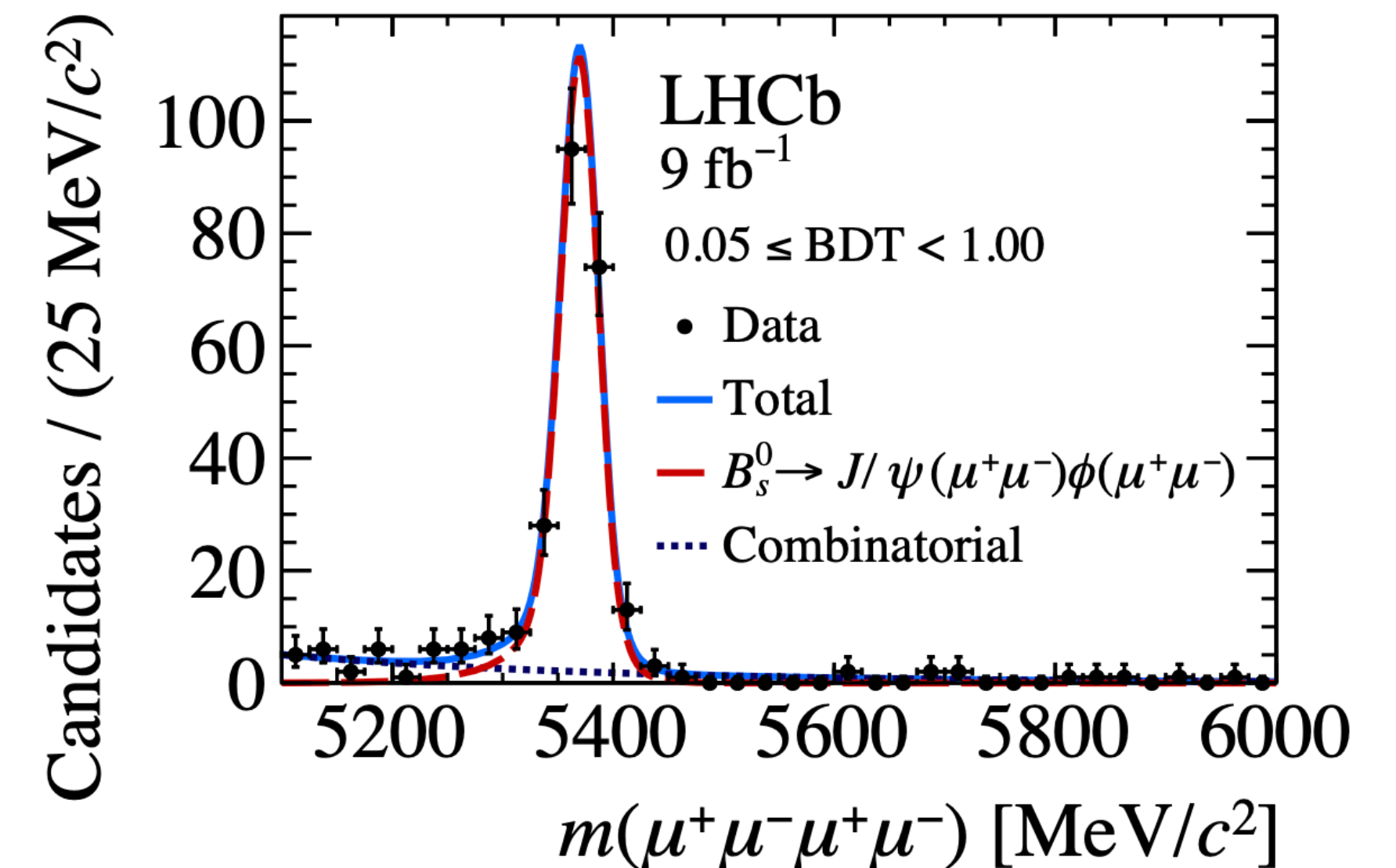
$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi (\mu^+ \mu^-) \mu^+ \mu^-) \sim 10^{-13}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi (\mu^+ \mu^-) \mu^+ \mu^-) \sim 10^{-11}$$

- Normalisation channel: $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi(\mu^+ \mu^-)\Phi(\mu^+ \mu^-)$. ➔

- Combinatorial bkg = muons that do not all originate from the same b-hadron decay.

- Multivariate classifier to reduce combinatorial bkg.



[3] Nucl. Phys. **B577** (2000) 240

[1] Phys. Rev. Lett. **119** (2017) 031802

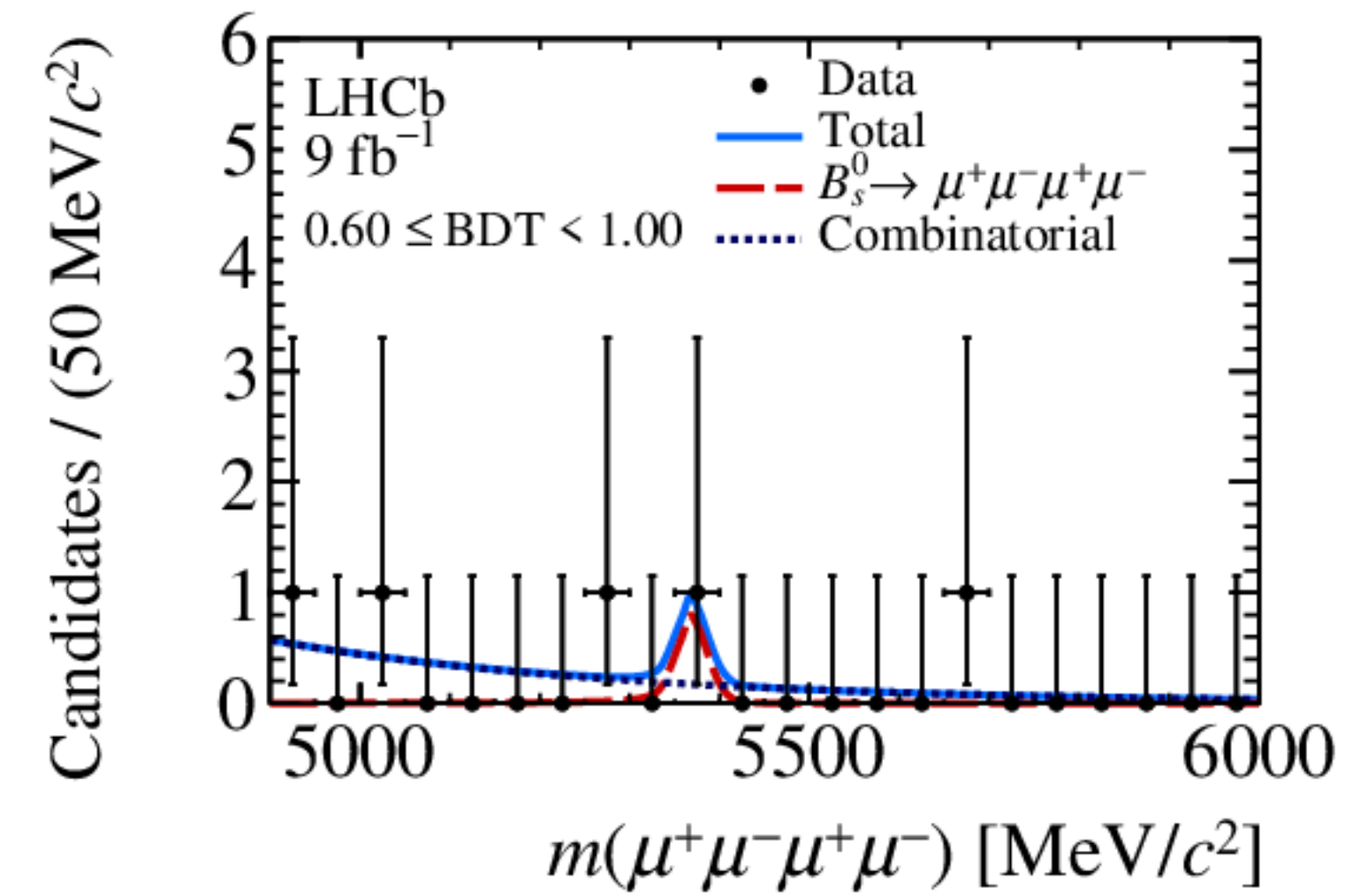
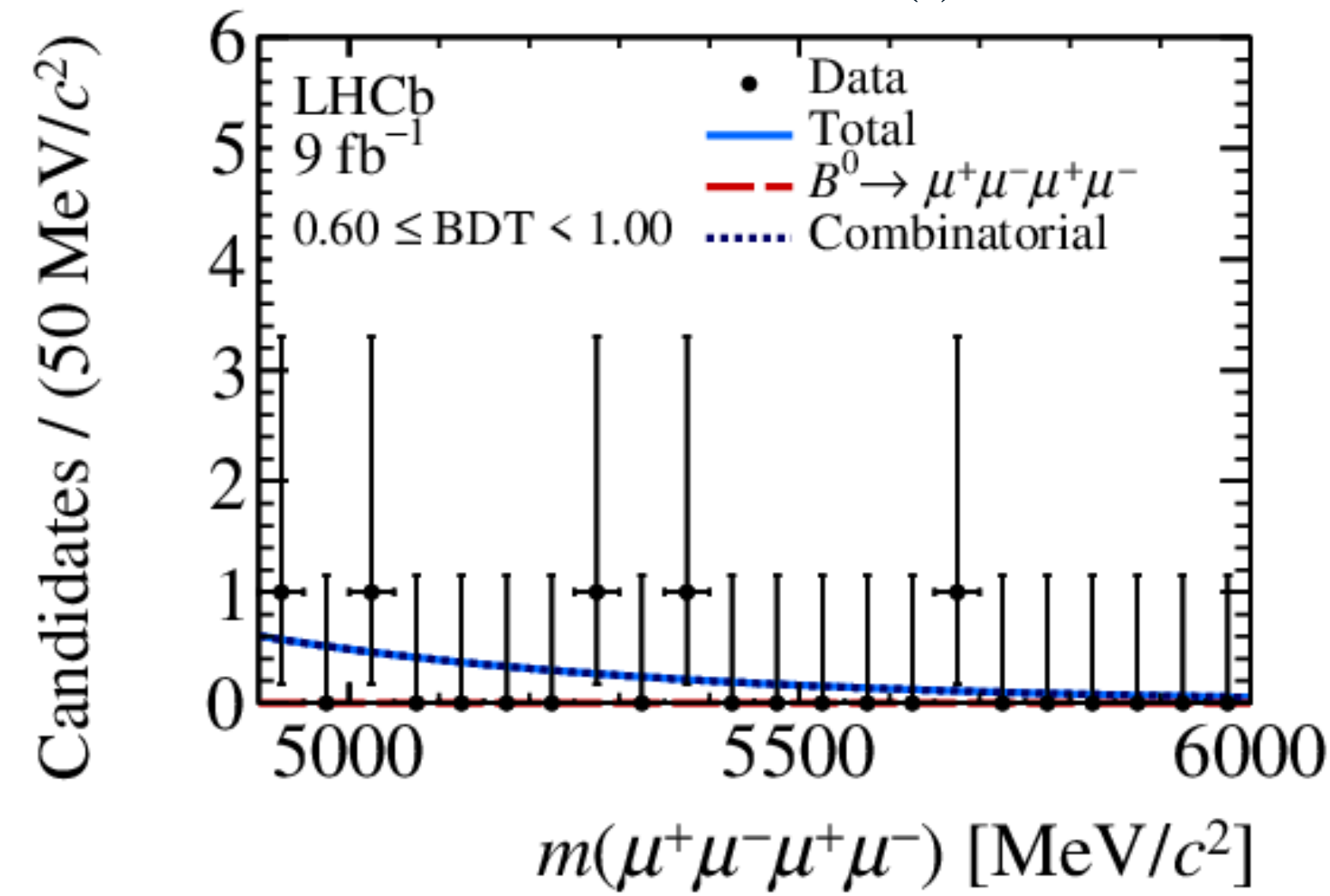
[2] JHEP **03** (2019) 008

[4] Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. **2020** (2020) 083C01

$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$$

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Invariant mass of candidates passing the $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$ selection in the most sensitive BDT interval:

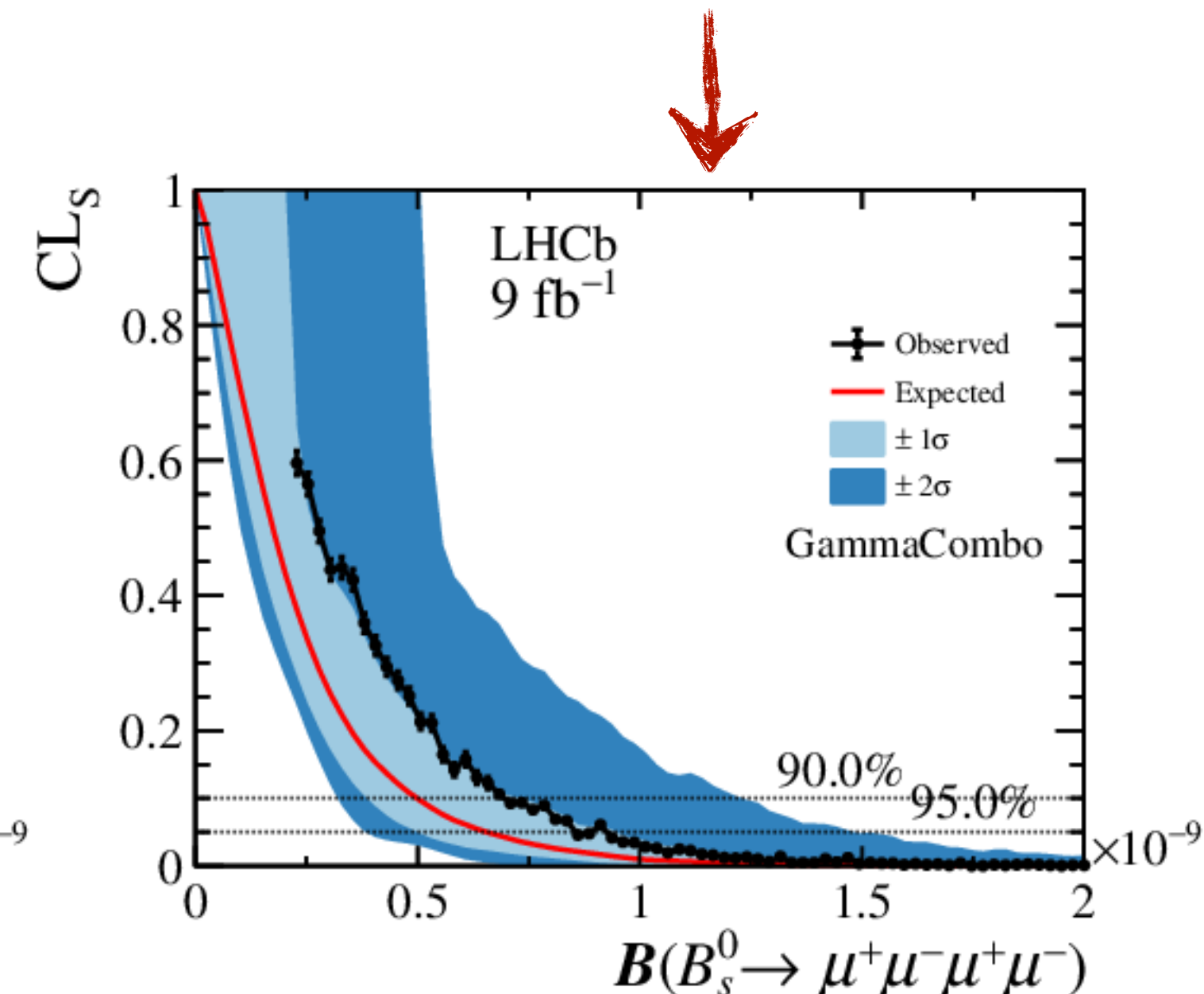
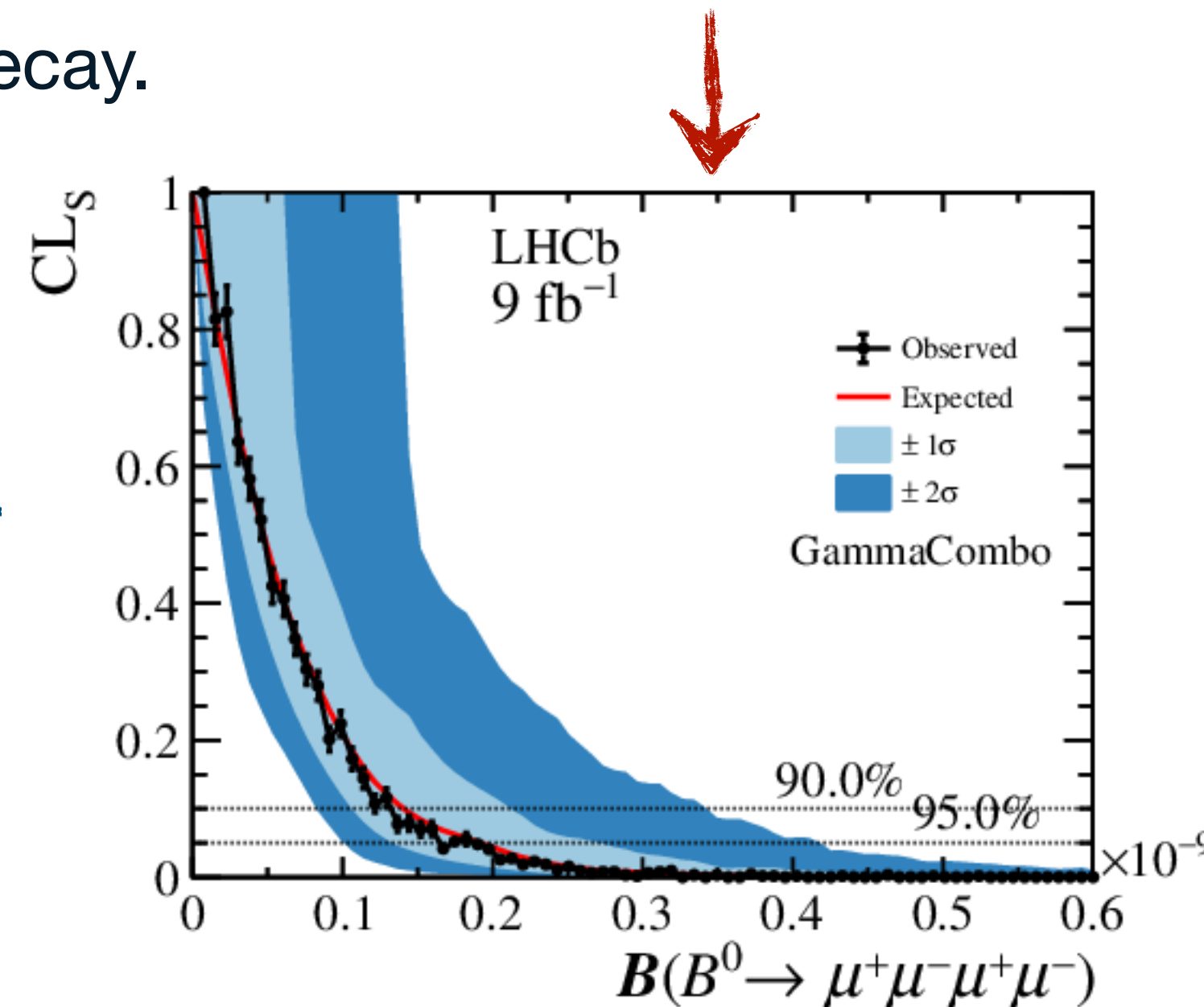


Results:

- Applied Φ and J/ψ vetoes.
- No evidence found of the $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$ decay.
- Limits at 95% CL:

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-) < 1.8 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-) < 8.6 \times 10^{-10}$$



$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$$

Invariant mass of candidates passing the $B^0 \rightarrow a(\mu^+ \mu^-)a(\mu^+ \mu^-)$ selection in the most sensitive BDT interval:

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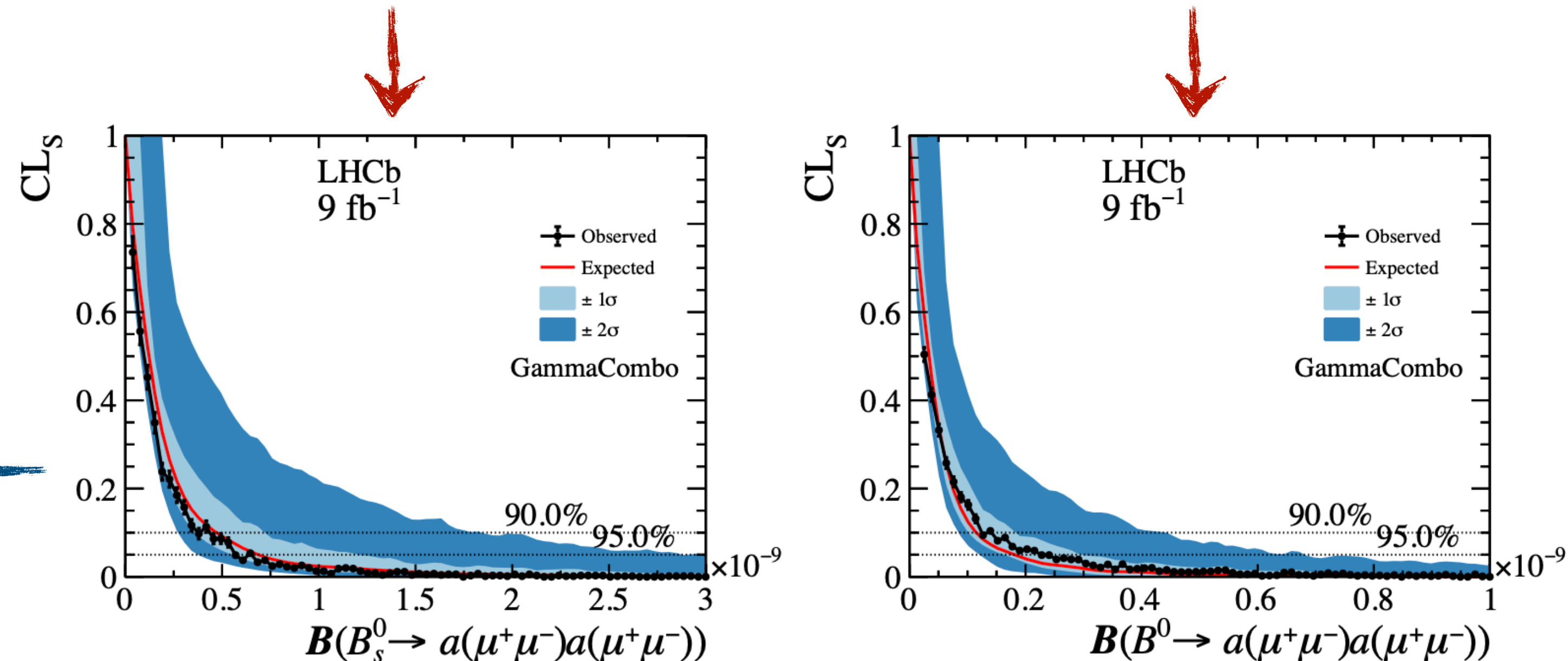
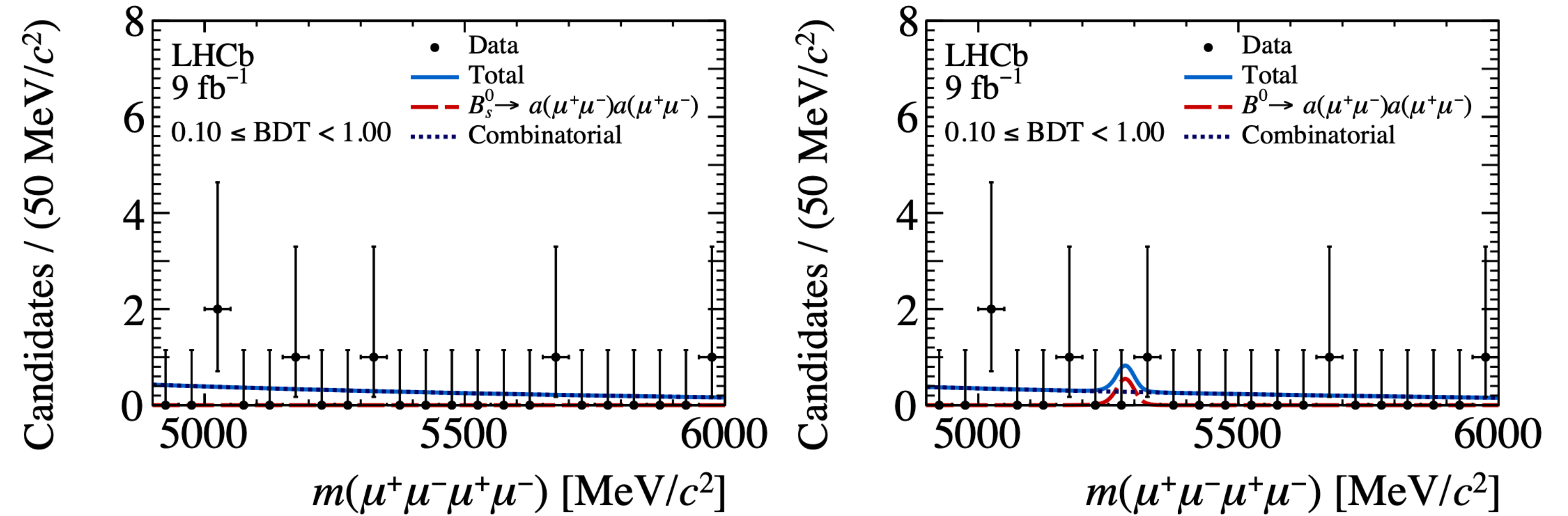
- a = BSM light narrow scalar resonance. In SM extension involving a new strongly interacting sector.
- Two mutually exclusive pairs of opposite-sign muons satisfying:

$$|q_{ij}^2 - q_{kl}^2| < 2\sqrt{\sigma^2(q_{ij}^2) + \sigma^2(q_{kl}^2)}$$

- Limits at 95% CL:

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow a(\mu^+ \mu^-)a(\mu^+ \mu^-)) < 2.3 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow a(\mu^+ \mu^-)a(\mu^+ \mu^-)) < 5.8 \times 10^{-10}$$

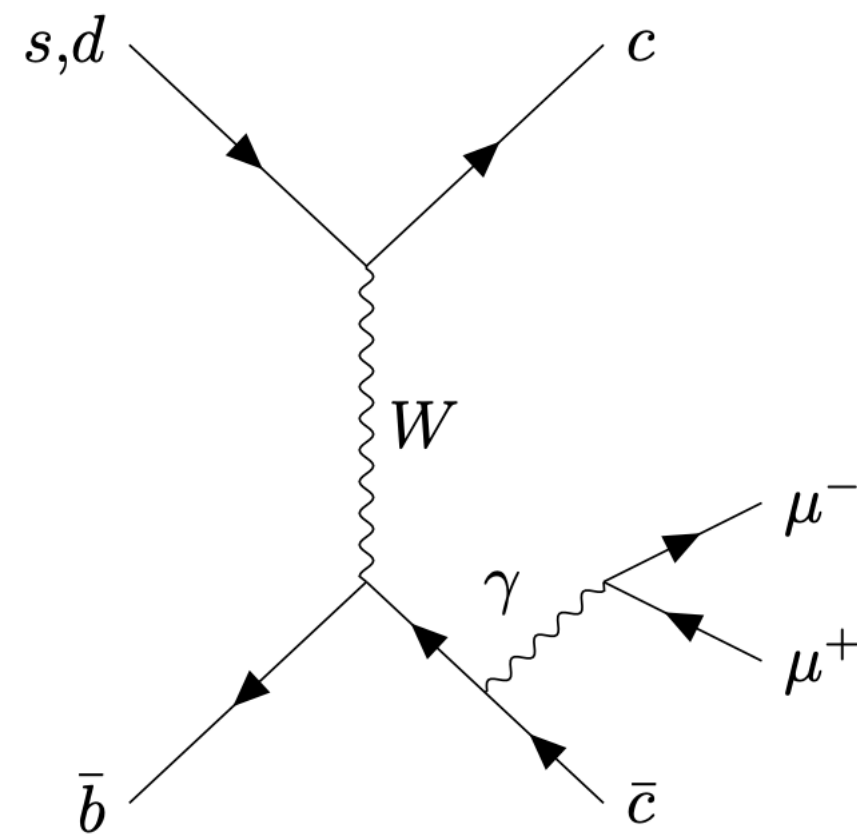


$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$$

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Invariant mass of candidates passing the $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow J/\psi (\mu^+ \mu^-) \mu^+ \mu^-$ selection in the most sensitive BDT interval:

Tree-level $b \rightarrow c$ transitions via W exchange:

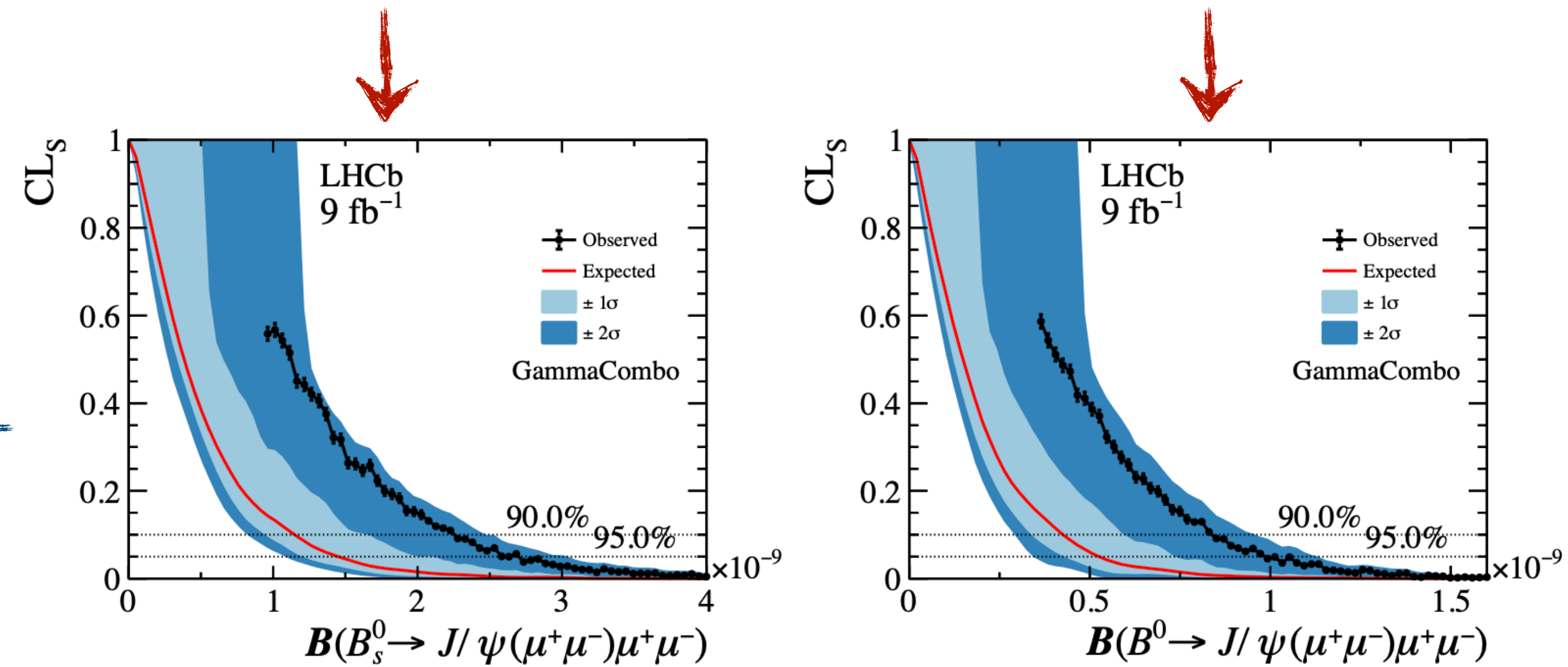
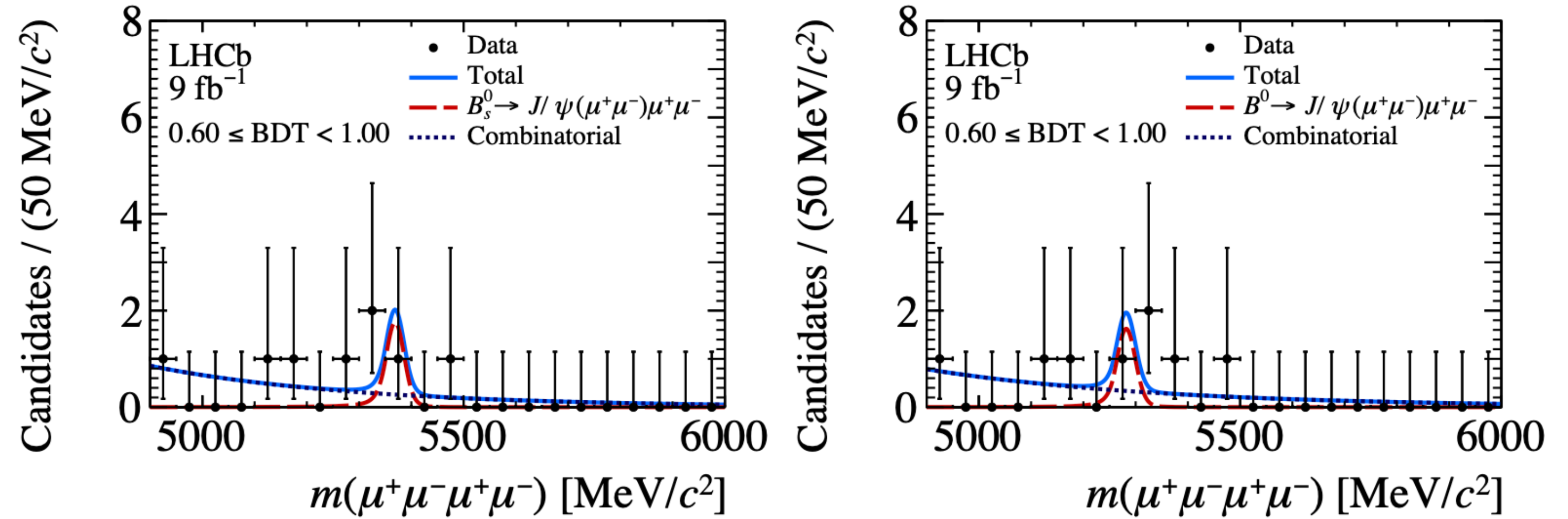


Limits at 95% CL:

$$\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi (\mu^+ \mu^-) \mu^+ \mu^-) < 1.0 \times 10^{-9}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi (\mu^+ \mu^-) \mu^+ \mu^-) < 2.6 \times 10^{-9}$$

Most stringent limits on each of the six decays!



$$B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} (\rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \pi^-$$

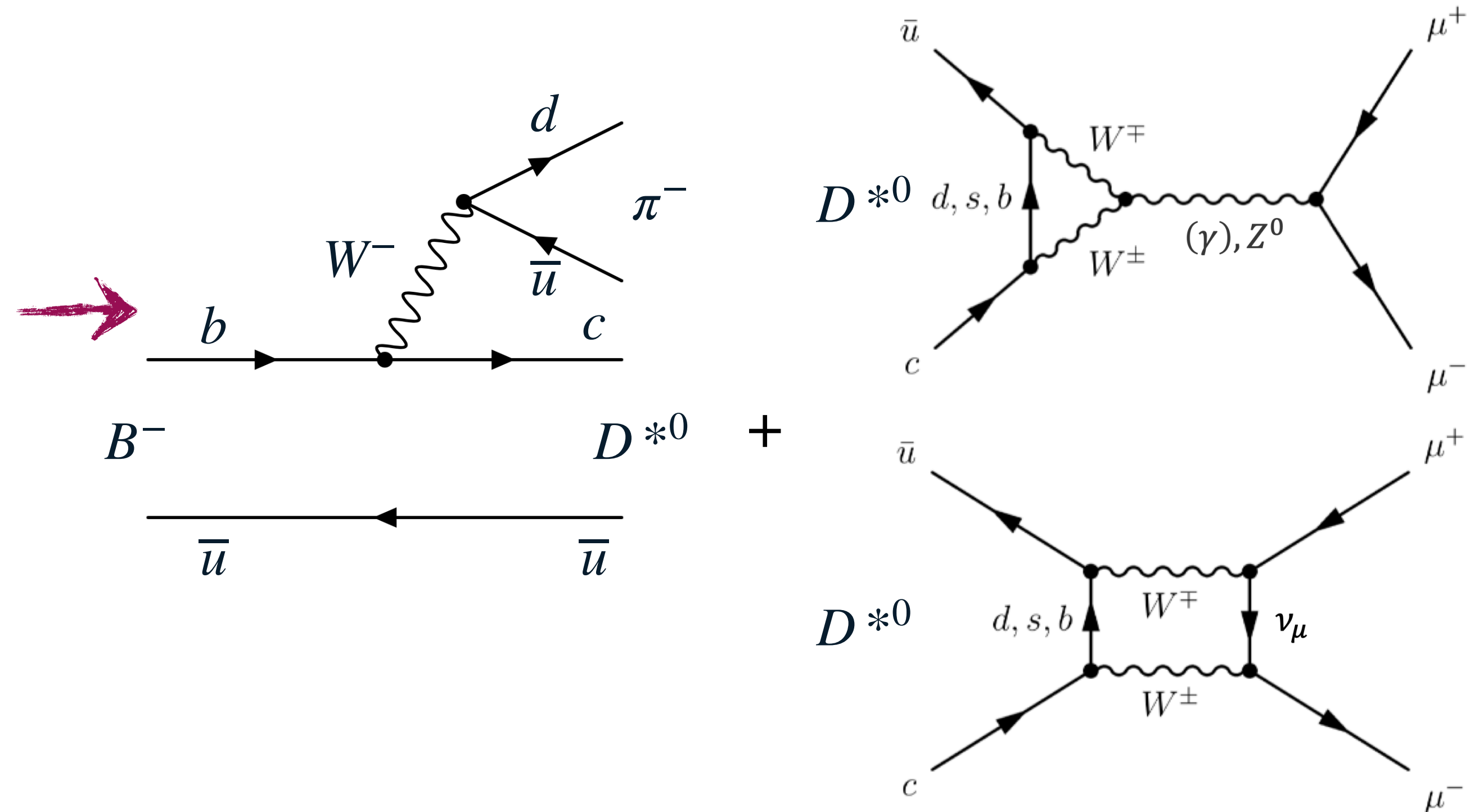
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arXiv:2210.10412

First search of a rare charm-hadron decay exploiting production in beauty decays!

Motivation:

- Search for $D^{*0} (2007)^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ [1].
- D^{*0} production ($b \rightarrow cd\bar{u}$) + $D^{*0} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ decay.
- The B decay allows better bkg. discrimination.
- SM prediction at $\mathcal{O}(10^{-19})$ level [2].
- Potential probe of physics beyond the SM.
- Limit by CMD-3 collaboration at 90% CL [3]:

$$\mathcal{B}(D^{*0} \rightarrow e^+ e^-) < 1.7 \times 10^{-6}.$$



[1] Eur. Phys. J. **C82** (2022) 459 [2] JHEP **11** (2015) 142 [3] Phys. Atom. Nucl. **83** (2020) 954

$$B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} (\rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \pi^-$$

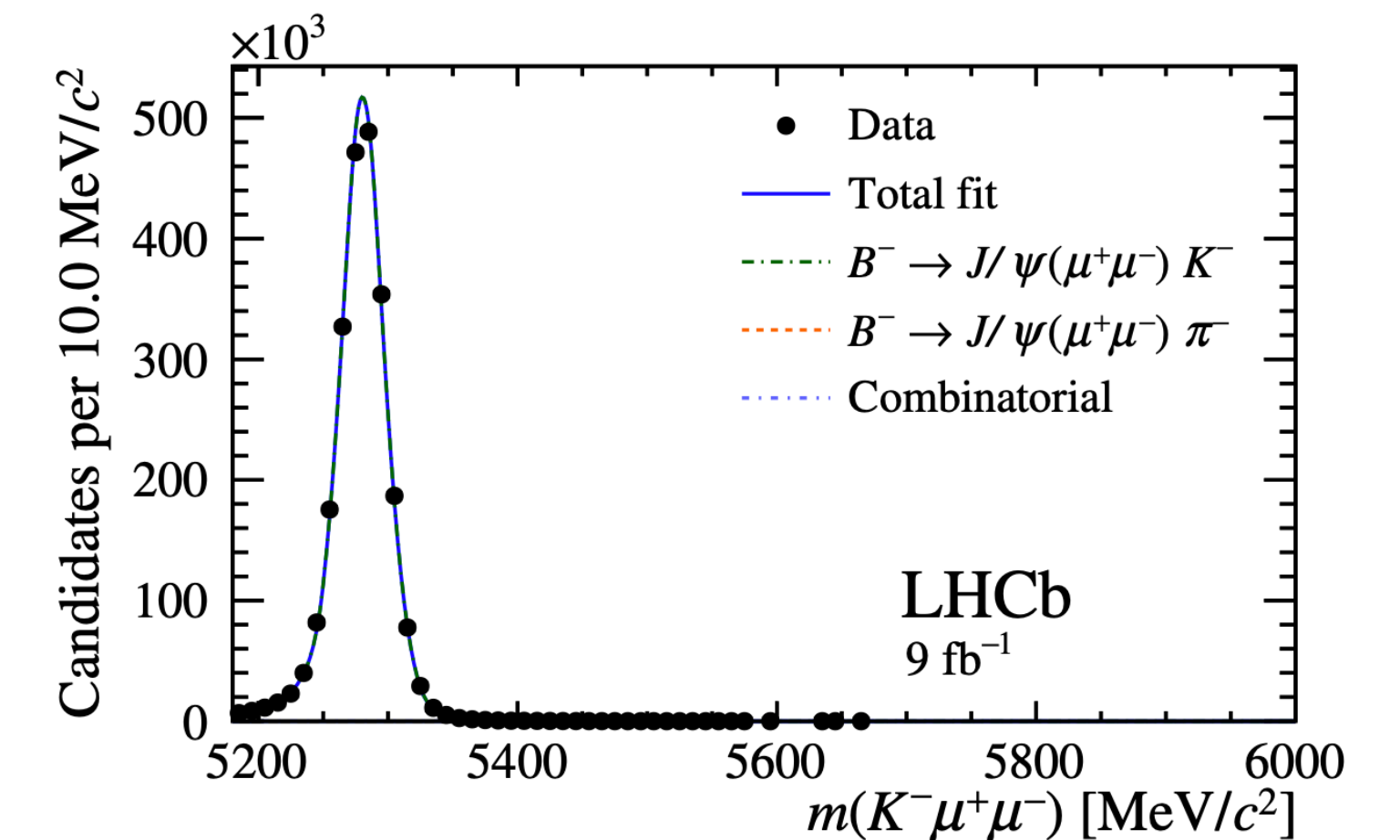
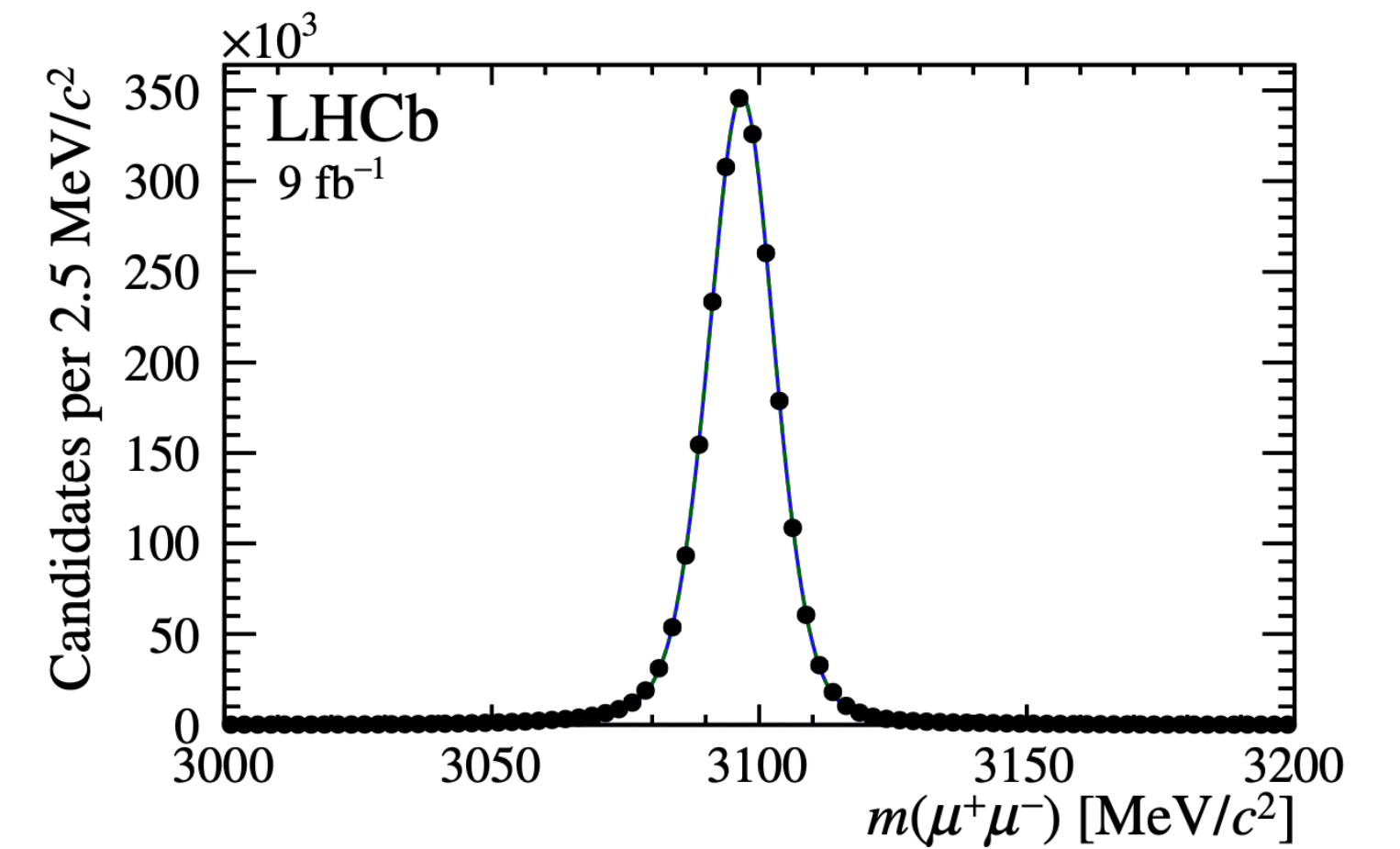
LHCb-PAPER-2023-004
arXiv:2210.10412

Reconstructed invariant mass distributions for $B^- \rightarrow J/\psi(\rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)K^-$ candidates:

Strategy:

- Displace vertex and exclusive final state provide powerful bkg. rejection.
- Use a BDT against combinatorial bkg.
- Use PID info to suppress $K \rightarrow \pi$ and $hh \rightarrow \mu\mu$ misID bkg.
- Signal signature = simultaneous peaks in $m(\mu^+ \mu^-)$ and $m(\pi^- \mu^+ \mu^-)$.
- Normalisation channel $B^- \rightarrow J/\psi(\rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)K^-$.

$$\mathcal{B}(D^{*0} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = \frac{N_{D^{*0}\pi^-}}{N_{J/\psi K^-}} \cdot \frac{\varepsilon_{J/\psi K^-}}{\varepsilon_{D^{*0}\pi^-}} \cdot \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow J/\psi K^-)}{\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow D^{*0}\pi^-)} \cdot \mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)$$



$B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} (\rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \pi^-$

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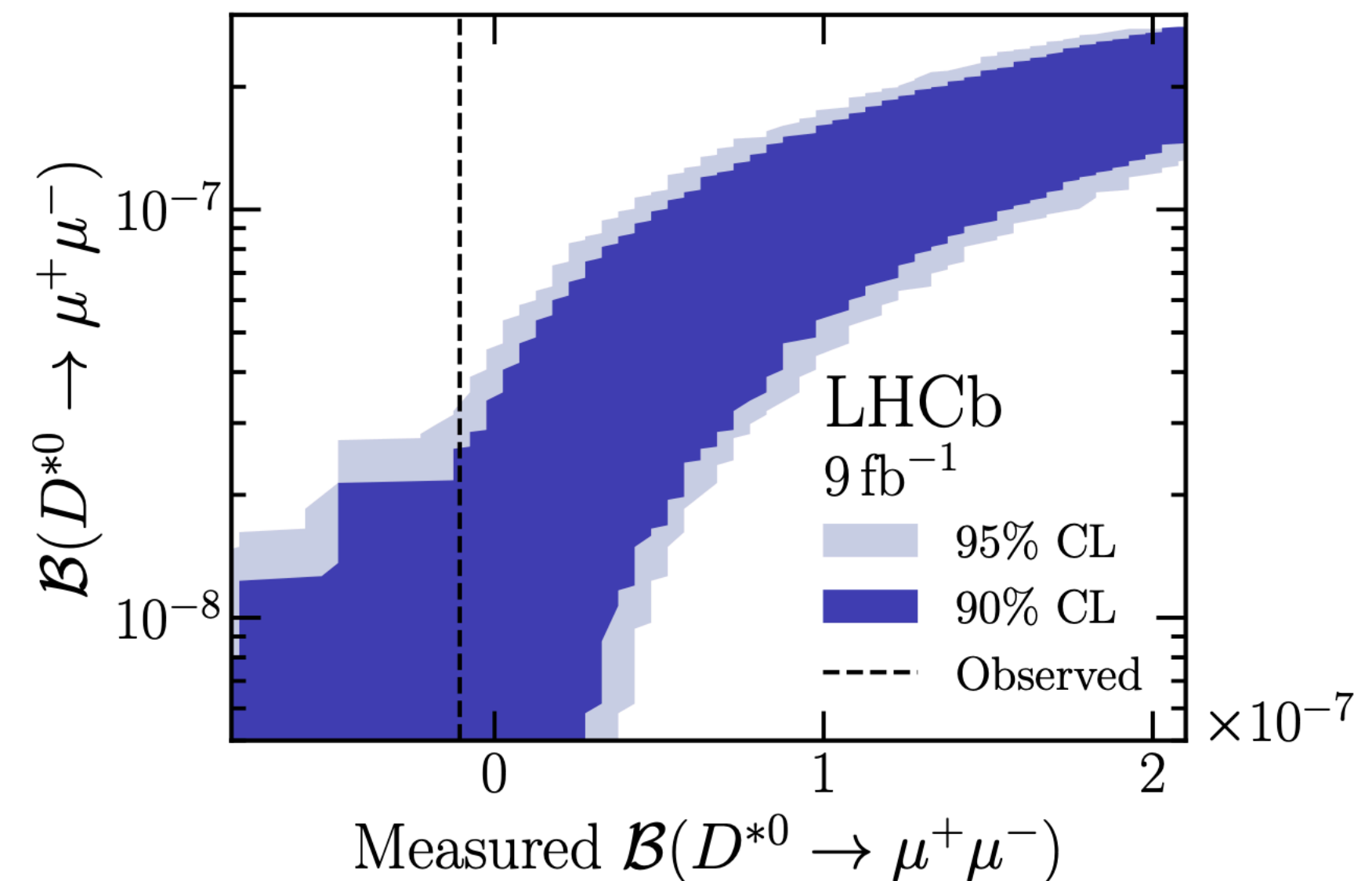
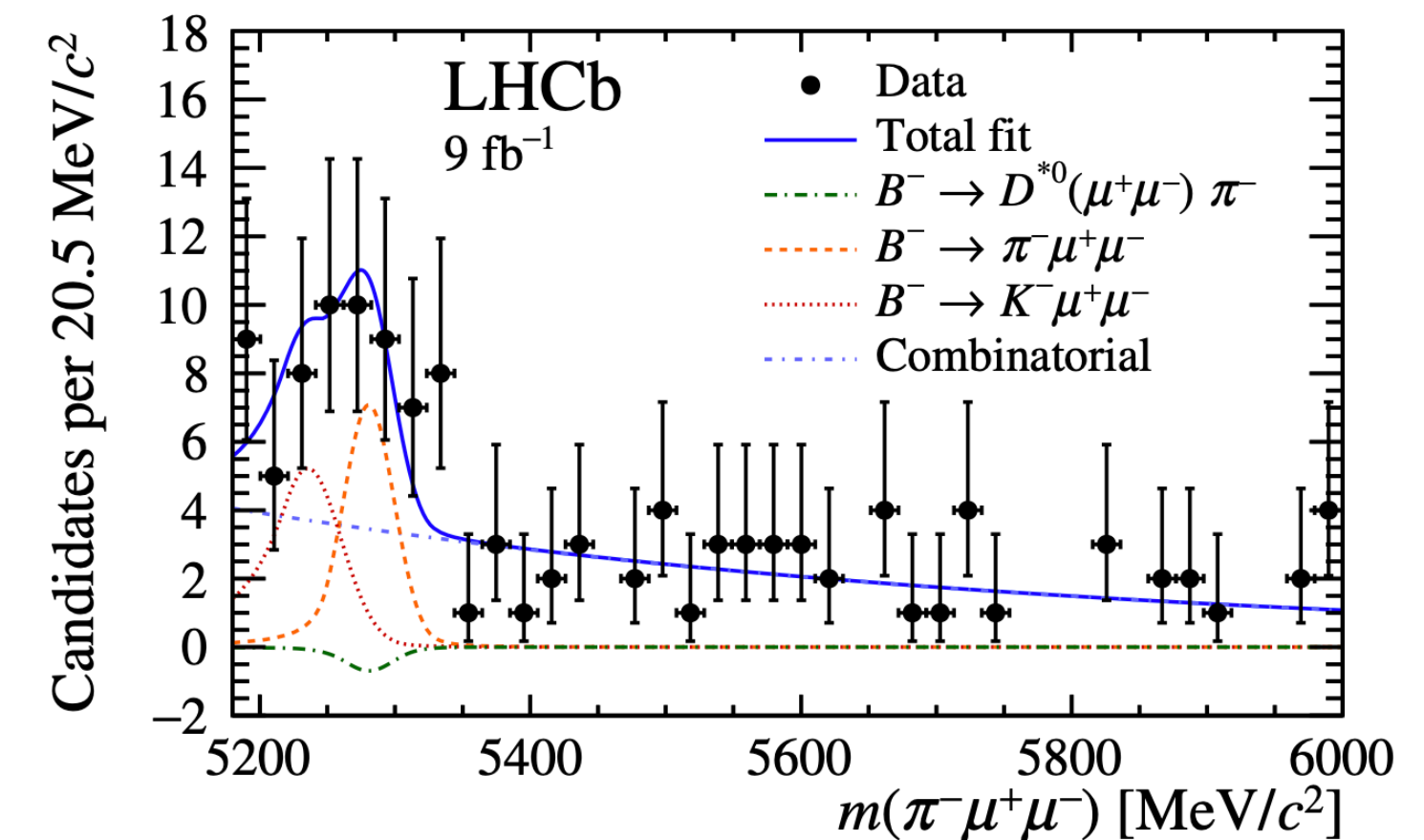
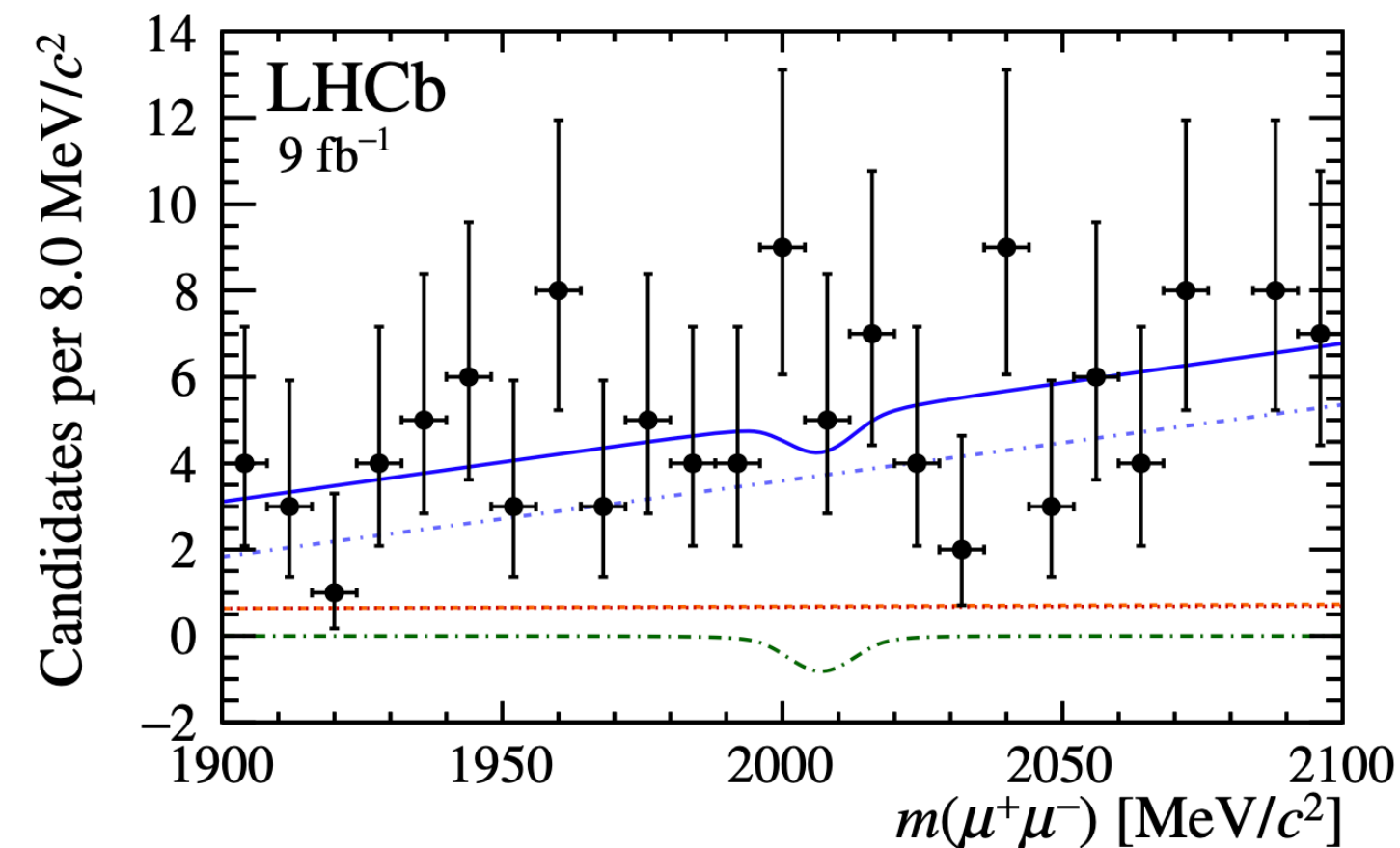
Results:

- First search for a rare charm-meson decay exploiting its production in beauty-meson decays.
- No excess with respect to the background-only hypothesis is observed.
- Upper limits at 90 (95)% CL:

$$\mathcal{B}(D^{*0} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) < 2.6 \text{ (3.4)} \times 10^{-8}$$

Most stringent limit on D^{*0} decays to leptons!

And first limit on D^{*0} to muons!



Conclusions

● In this presentation:

● $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow p\mu^-$ *First time!*

● $B_s^0 \rightarrow p\bar{p}$ *Best limit!*

● $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$ *Most stringent limits on each of the six decays!*

● $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} (\rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)\pi^-$ *Most stringent limit on D^{*0} decays to leptons!*

Rare B decays are dominated by statistical uncertainties, Run 3 is providing more statistics, and the LHCb upgrade ([see presentation](#)) will help us to push the limits of the SM.

New physics can be still hidden in rare B decays!

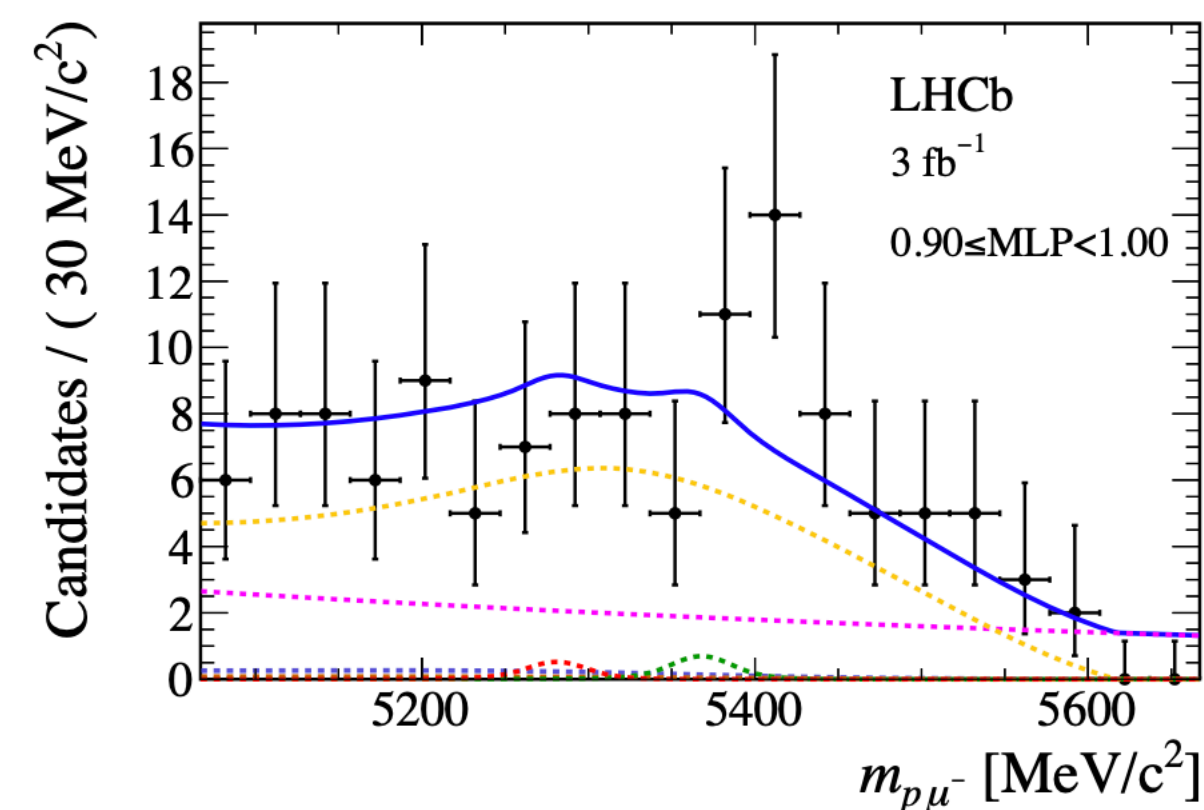
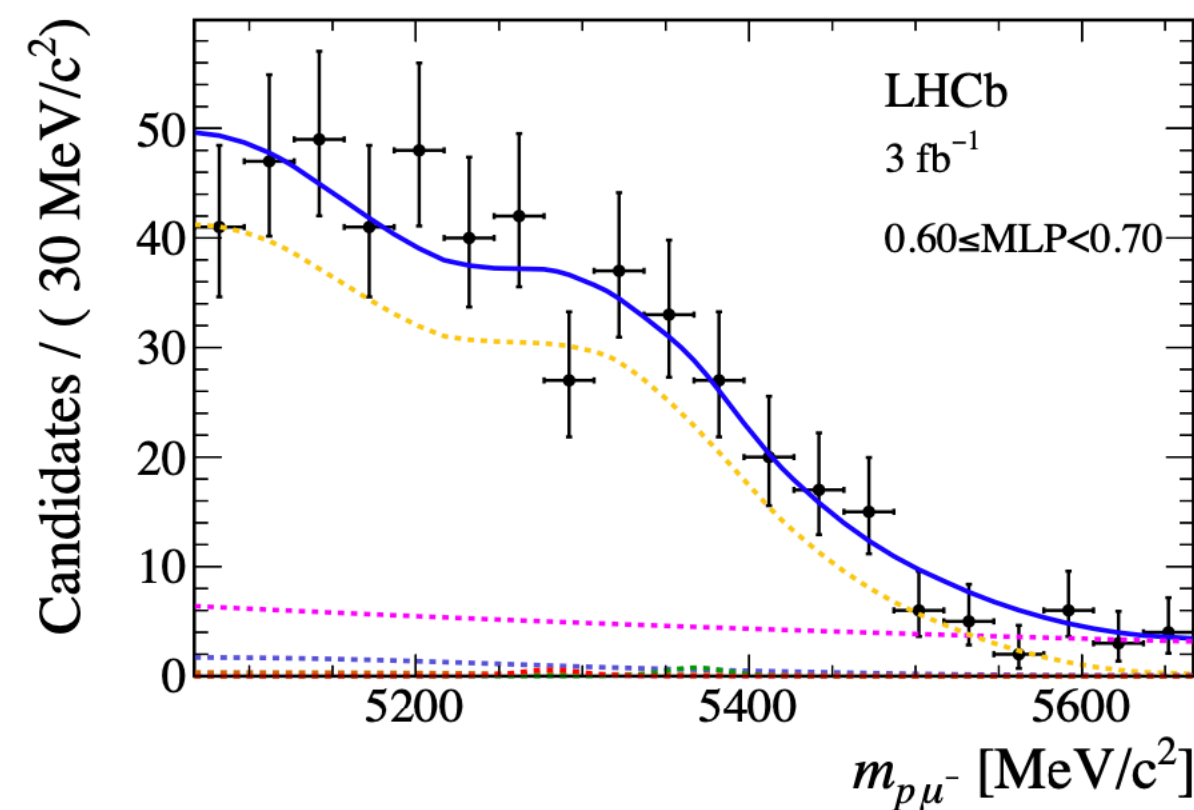
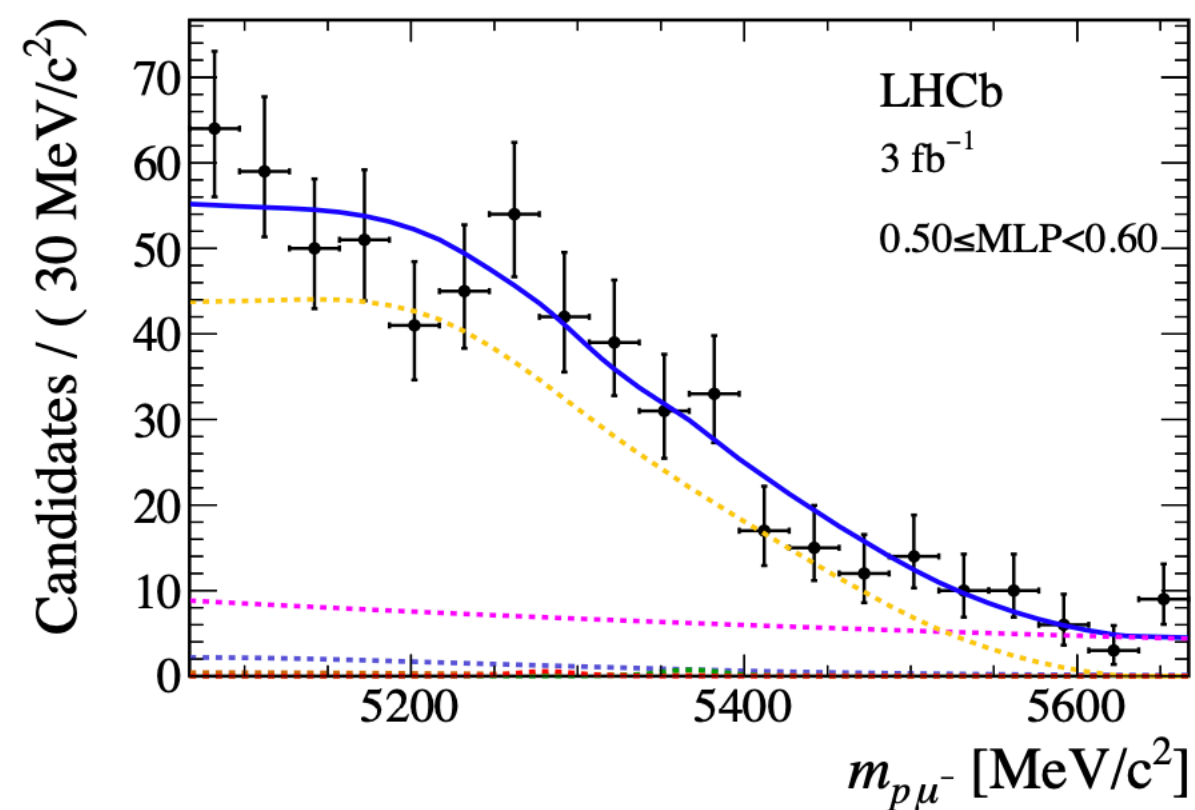
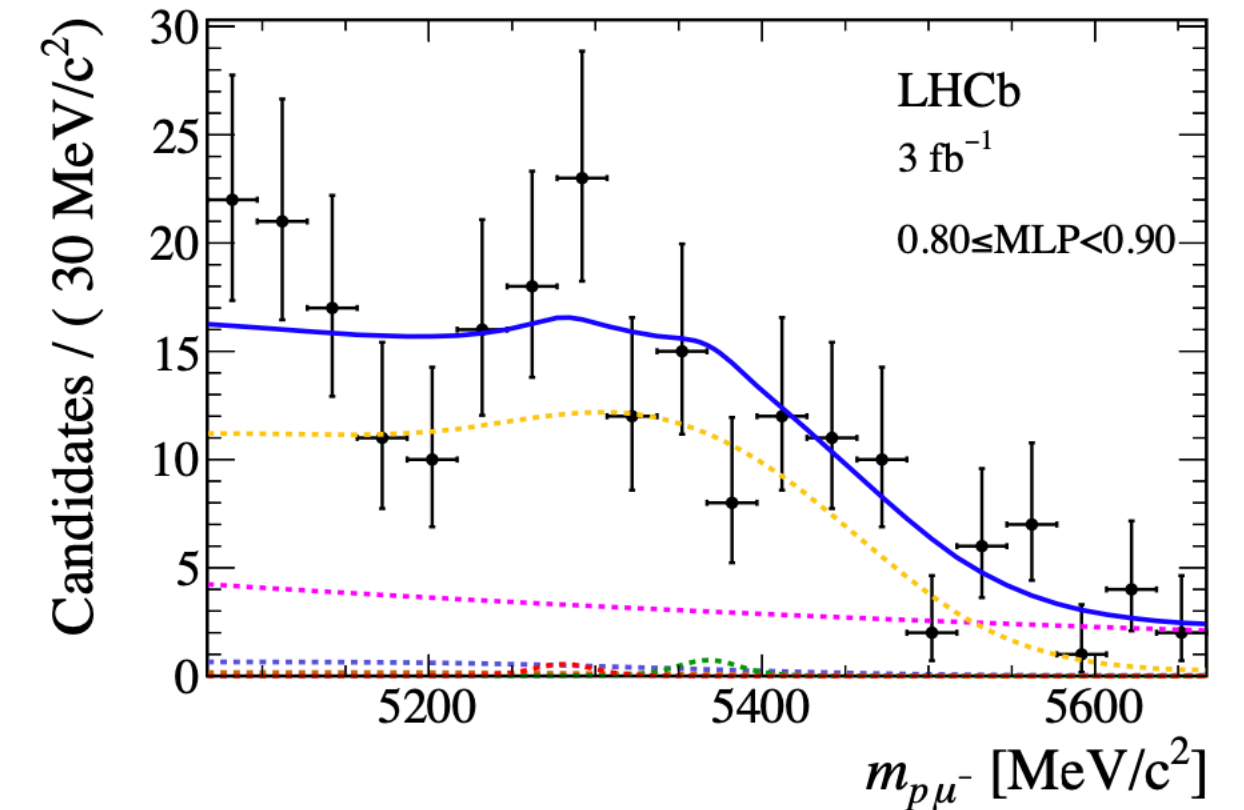
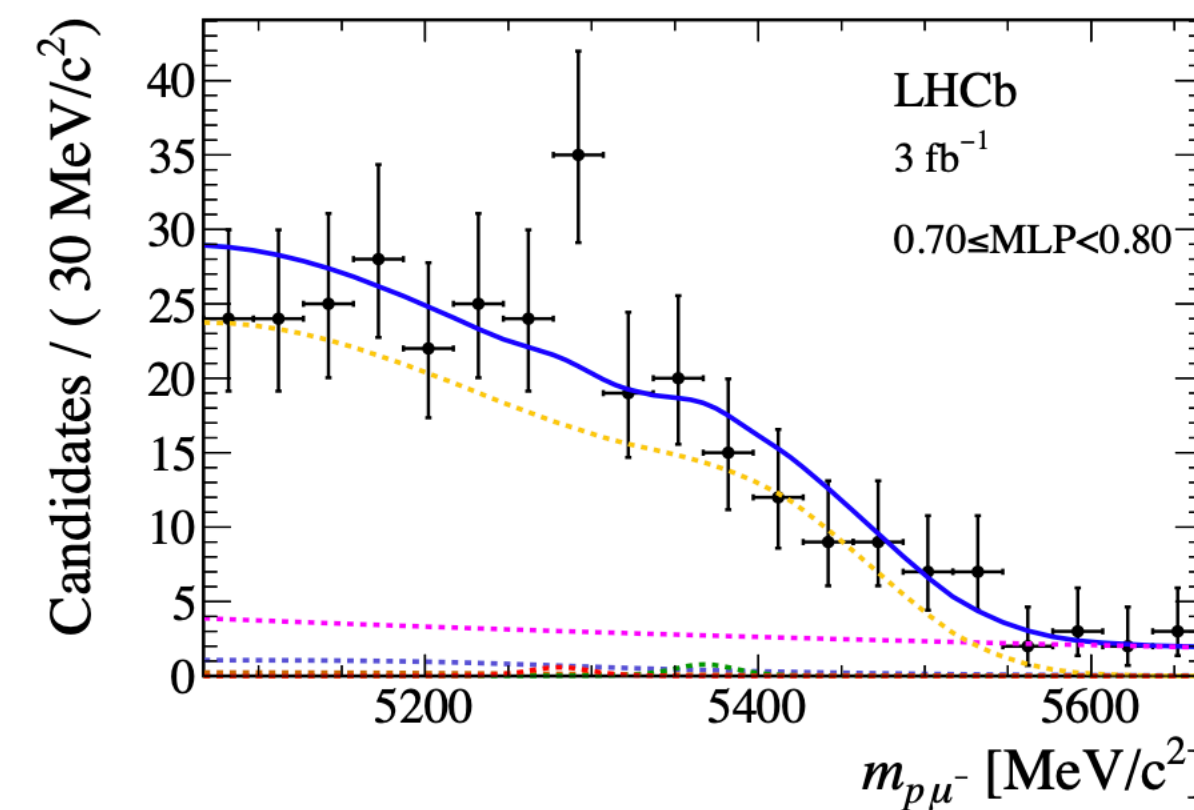
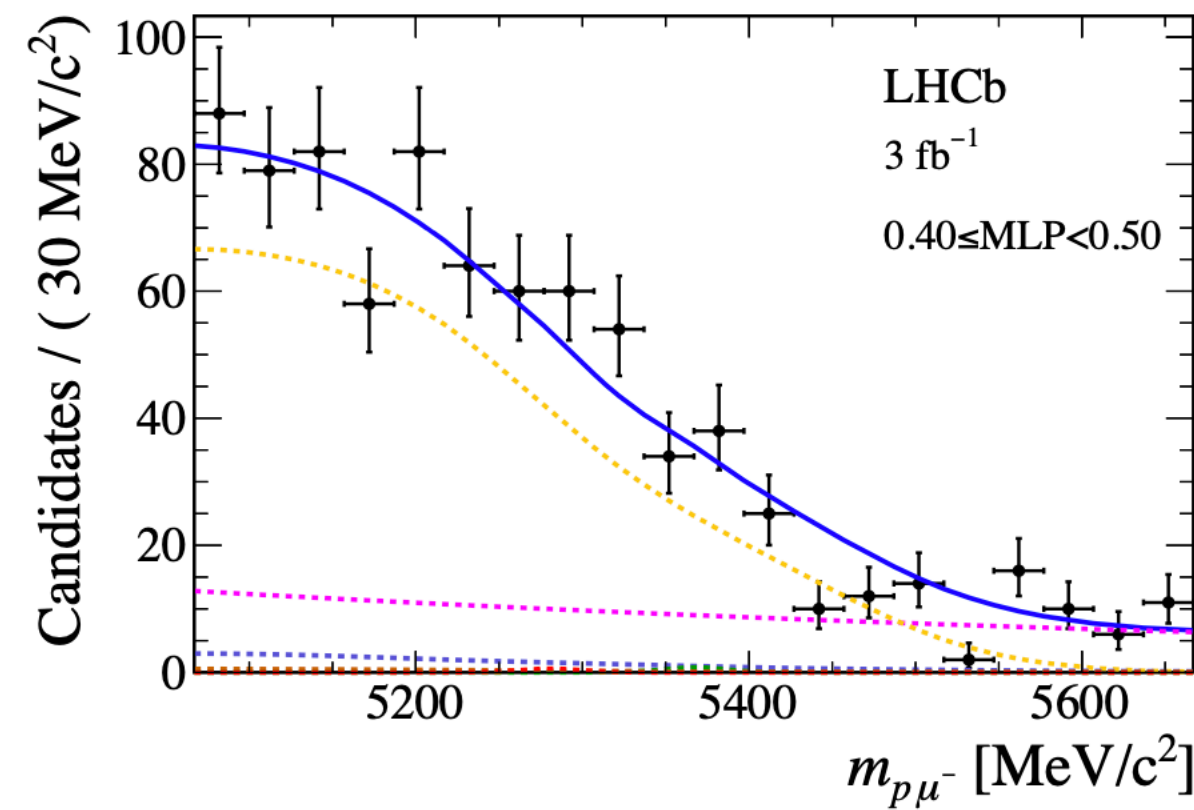
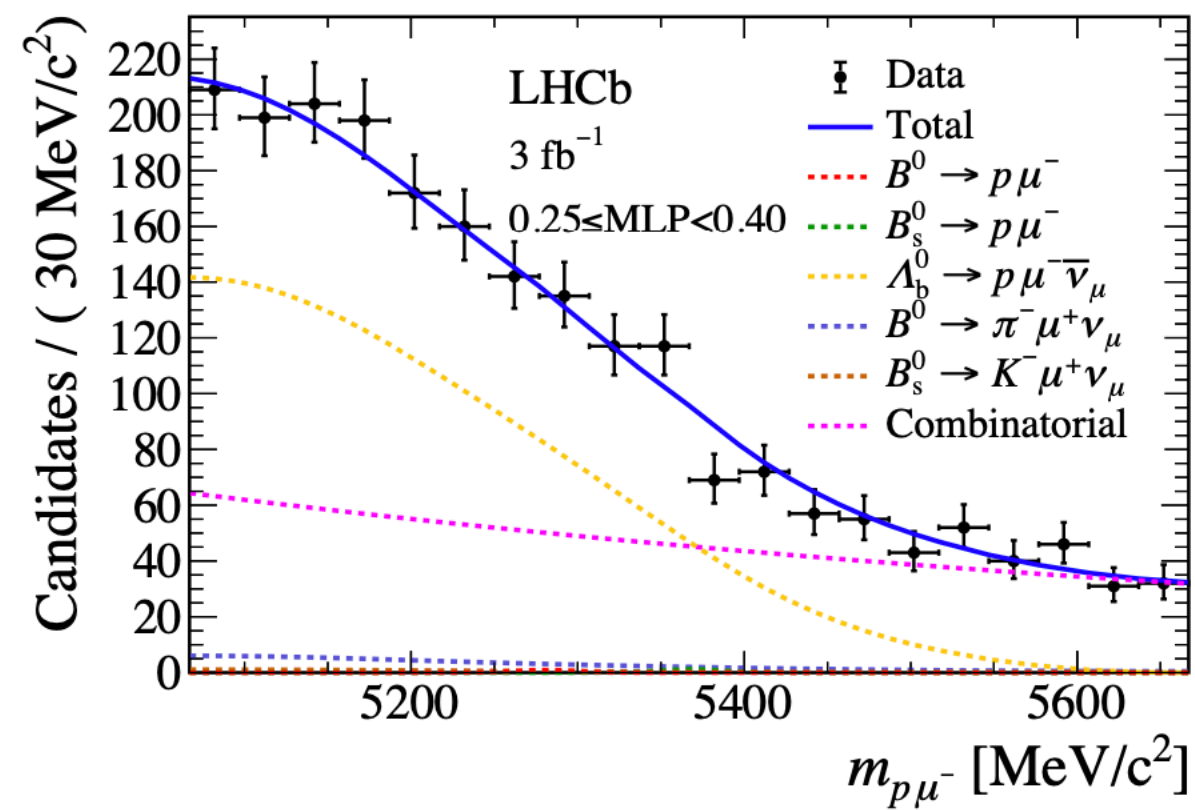
Backup

$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow p\mu^-$$

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CERN-EP-2022-195

All mass distributions in MLP bins in Run 1:

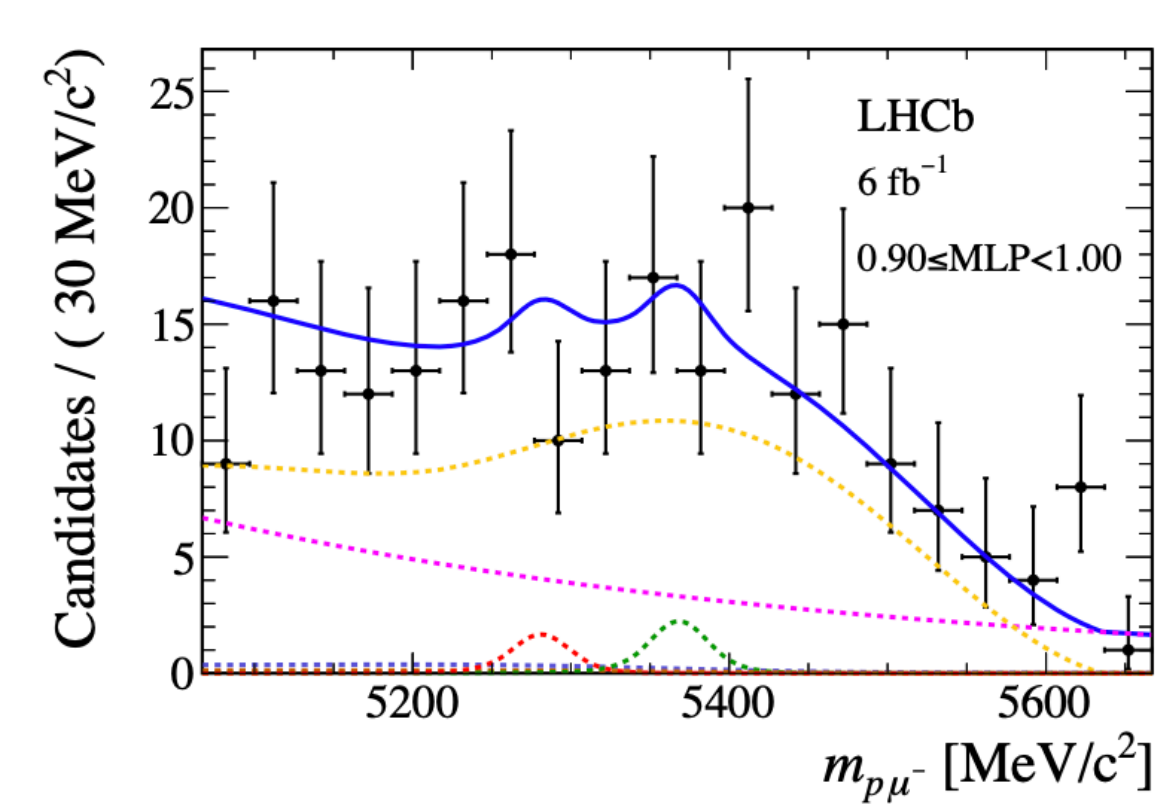
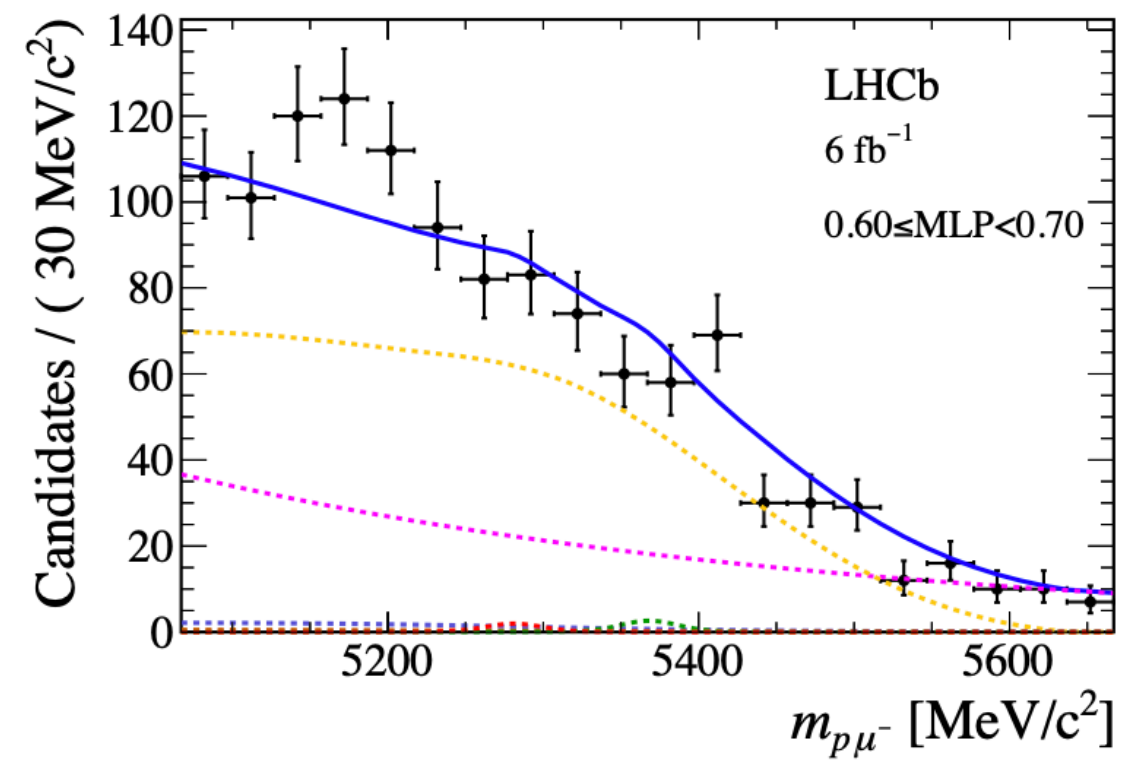
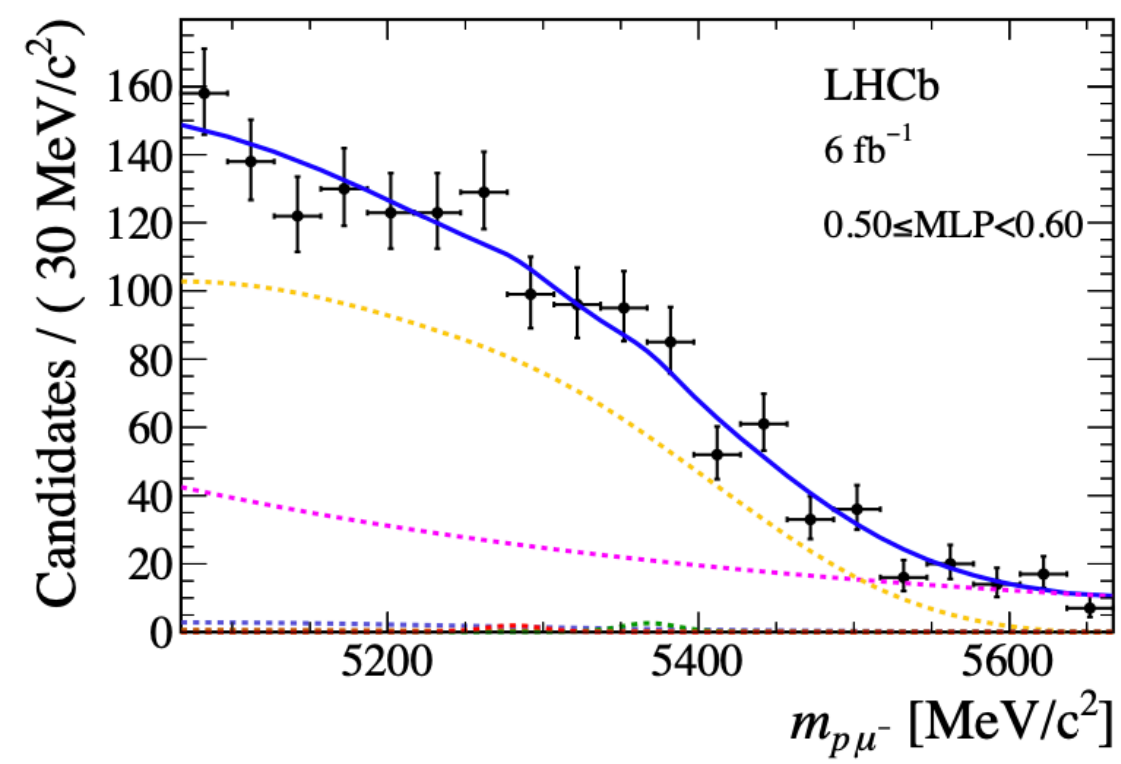
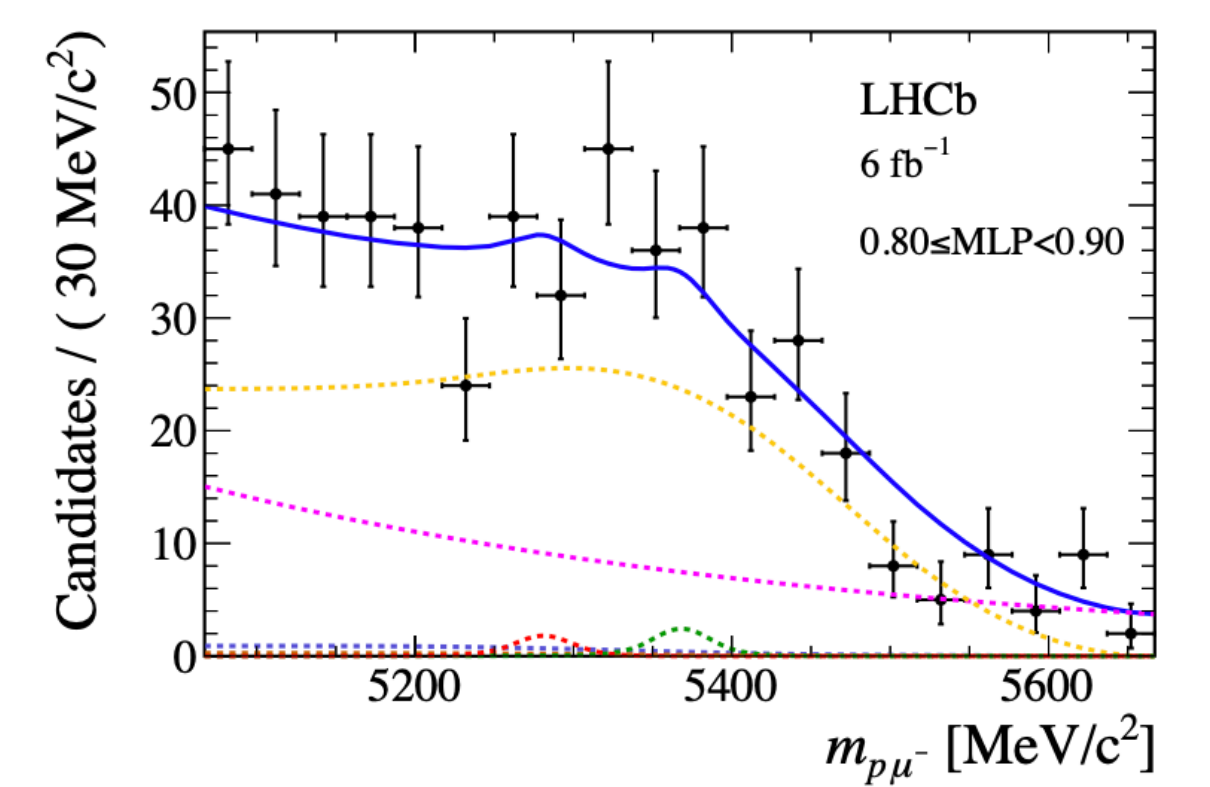
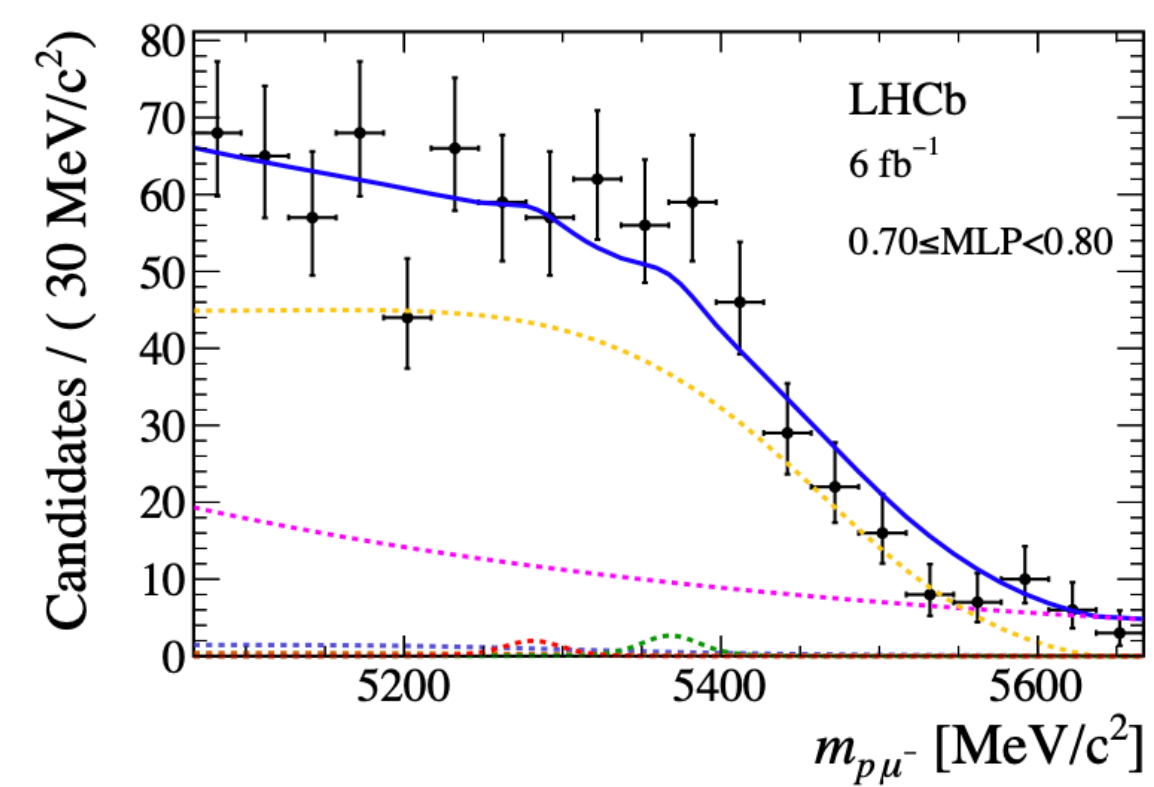
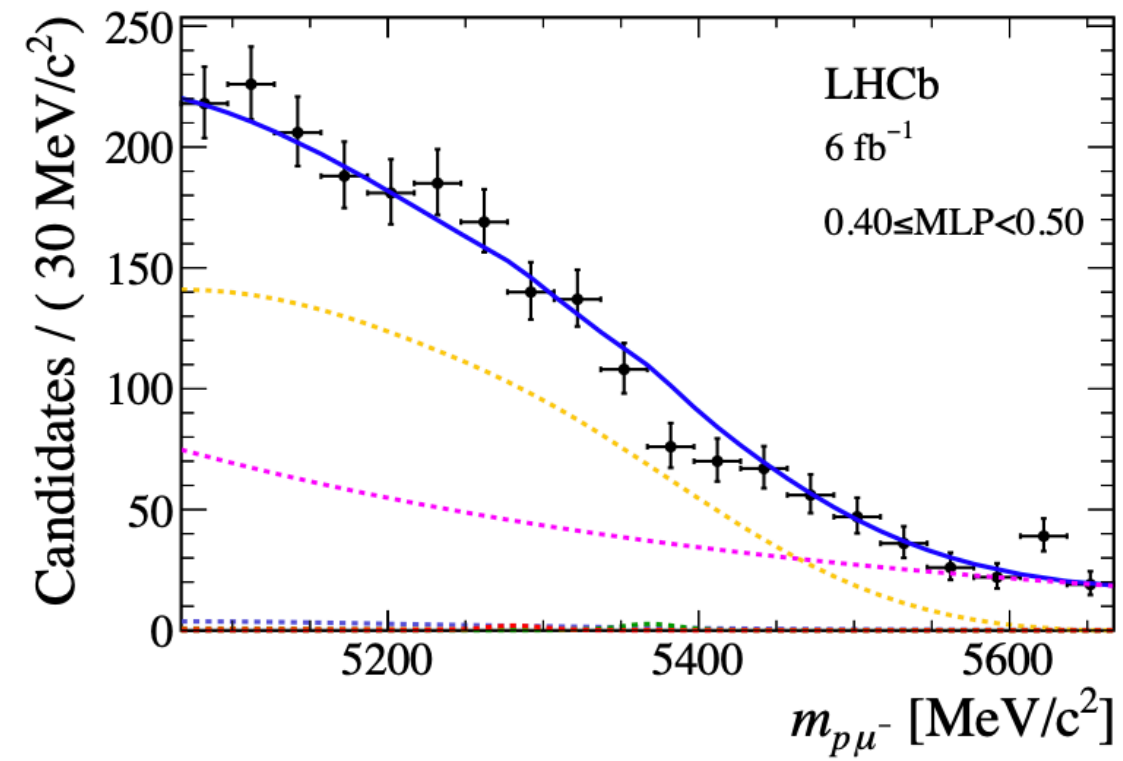
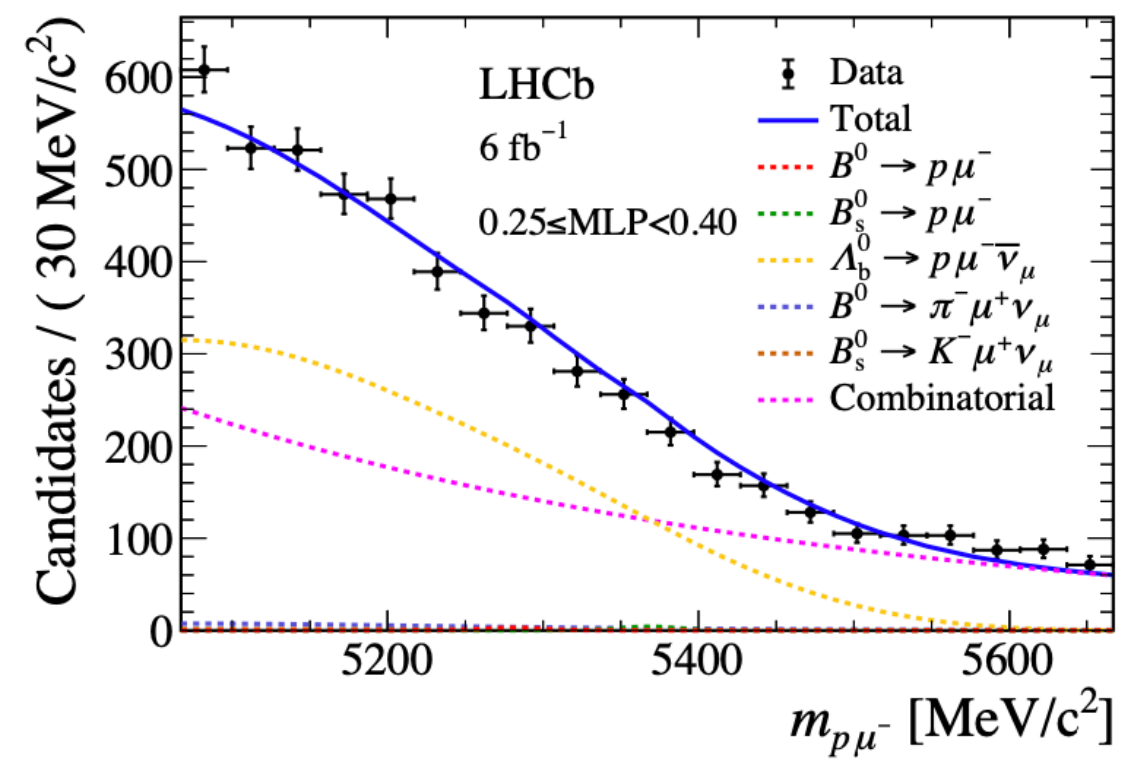


$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow p\mu^-$$

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All mass distributions in MLP bins in Run 2:



$$B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$$

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Mass distributions for all BDT bins:

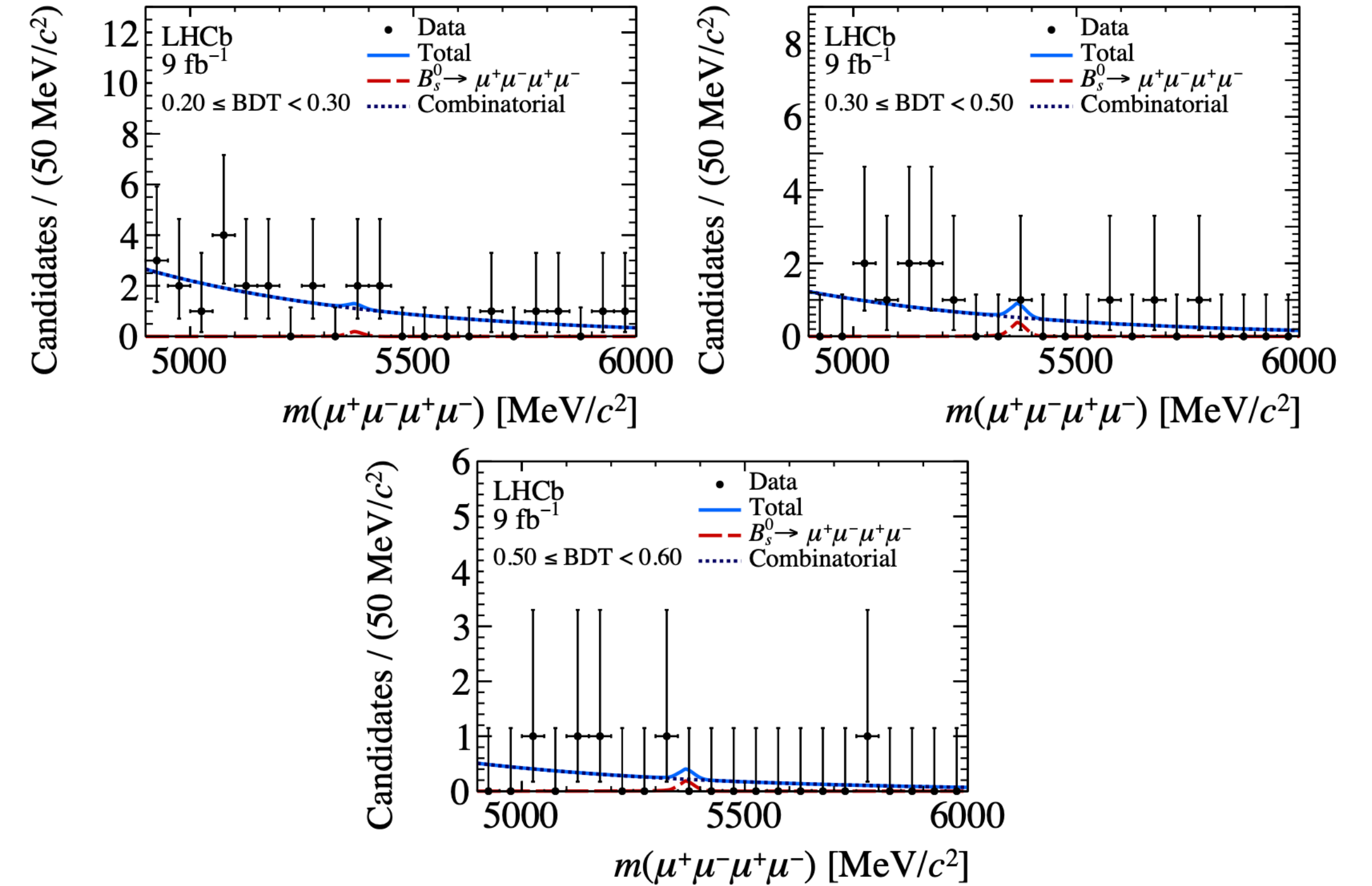
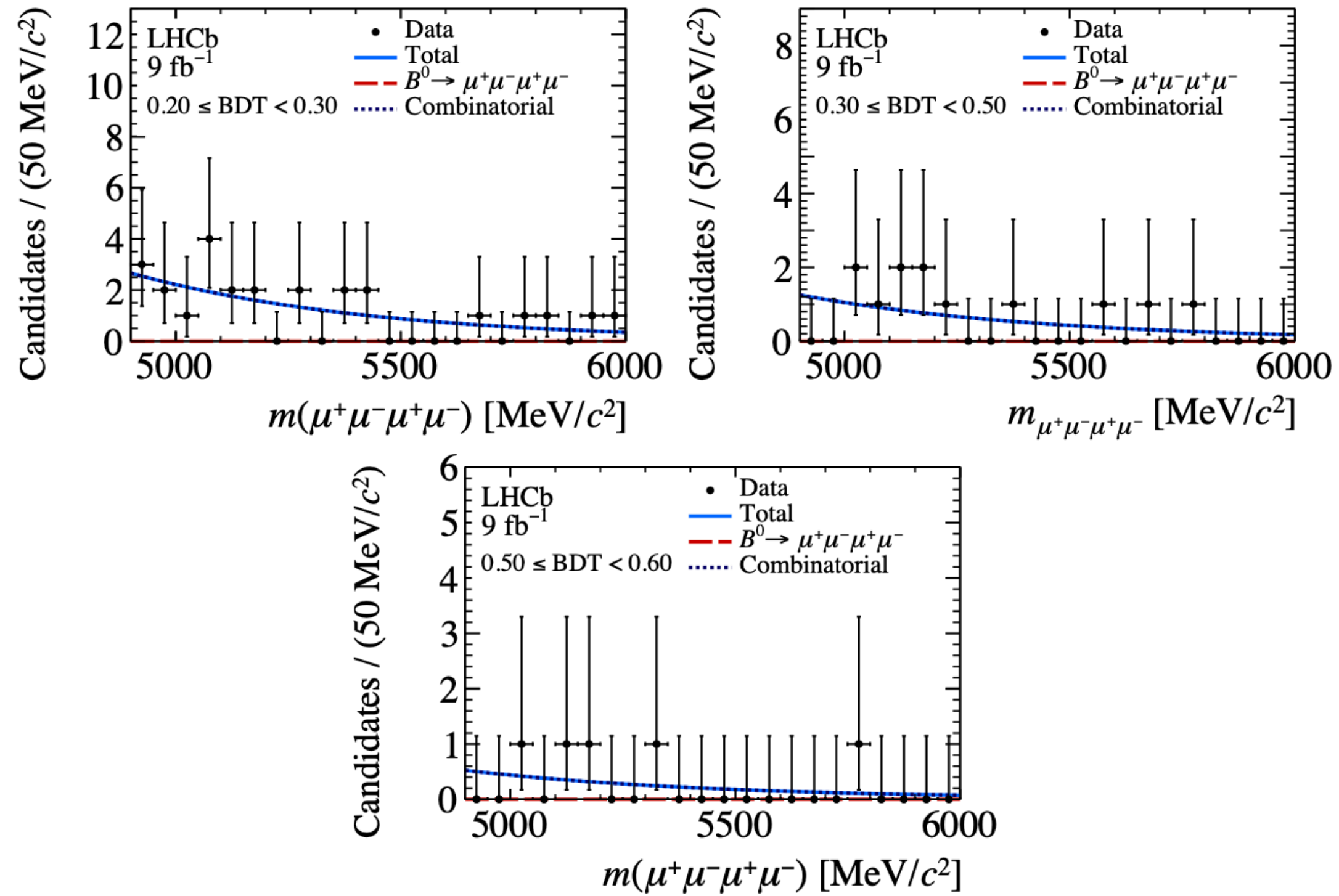


Figure 9: Distribution of the $\mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$ invariant mass of candidates passing the $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$ selection in (top left) the lowest BDT interval, (top right) the second lowest BDT interval and (bottom) the second highest BDT interval, with the fit models used to determine the branching fraction of $B^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$ overlaid.

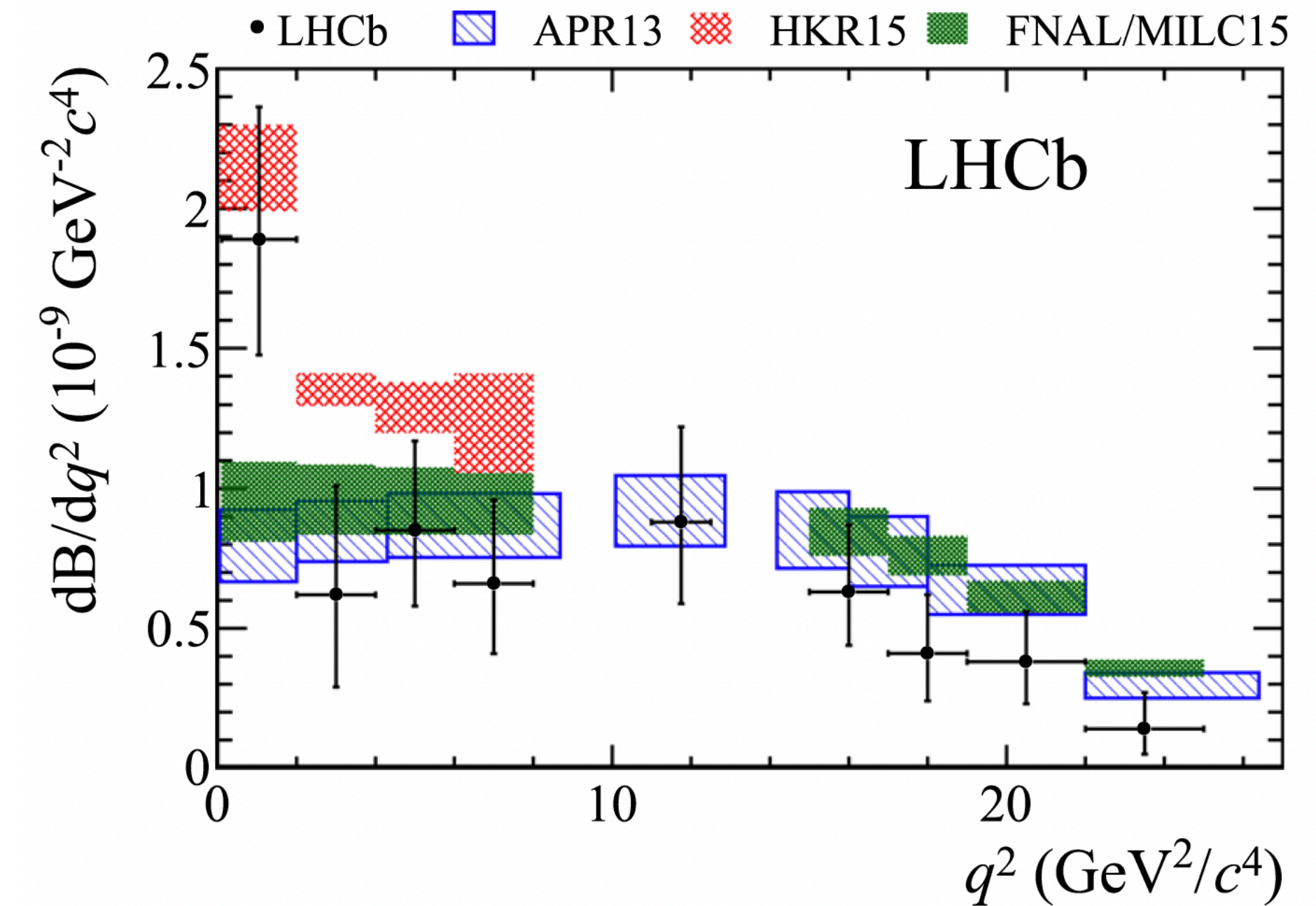
Figure 8: Distribution of the $\mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$ invariant mass of candidates passing the $B_{(s)}^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$ selection in (top left) the lowest BDT interval, (top right) the second lowest BDT interval and (bottom) the second highest BDT interval, with the fit models used to determine the branching fraction of $B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$ overlaid.

$$B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} (\rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \pi^-$$

LHCb-PAPER-2023-004
Submitted to Eur. Phys. J. C.

Differential branching fraction of the $B^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$ decay as a function of q^2 .

The hashed regions correspond to theoretical predictions.



[1] Eur. Phys. J. **C82** (2022) 459

$$B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} (\rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \pi^-$$

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$$\mathcal{B}(D^{*0} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (-1.06 \pm 1.85) \times 10^{-8}$$

$$\mathcal{B}(D^{*0} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) < 2.6 (3.4) \times 10^{-8} \text{ at } 90 (95)\% \text{ CL}$$

Component	Yield
$B^- \rightarrow D^{*0}(\mu^+ \mu^-) \pi^-$	-2 ± 3
$B^- \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^-$	17 ± 7
$B^- \rightarrow K^- \mu^+ \mu^-$	17 ± 8
Combinatorial bkg.	90 ± 13

Table 2: Input parameters used in the estimation of the $D^{*0} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ branching fraction. The uncertainties correspond to the statistical and systematic uncertainties added in quadrature.

Parameter	Value
$\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow J/\psi K^-)$	$(10.20 \pm 0.19) \times 10^{-4}$ [25]
$\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} \pi^-)$	$(4.90 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{-3}$ [25]
$\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)$	$(59.61 \pm 0.33) \times 10^{-3}$ [25]
$\varepsilon_{J/\psi K^-} / \varepsilon_{D^{*0} \pi^-}$	1.21 ± 0.03
$N_{J/\psi K^-}$	$(2316 \pm 8) \times 10^3$

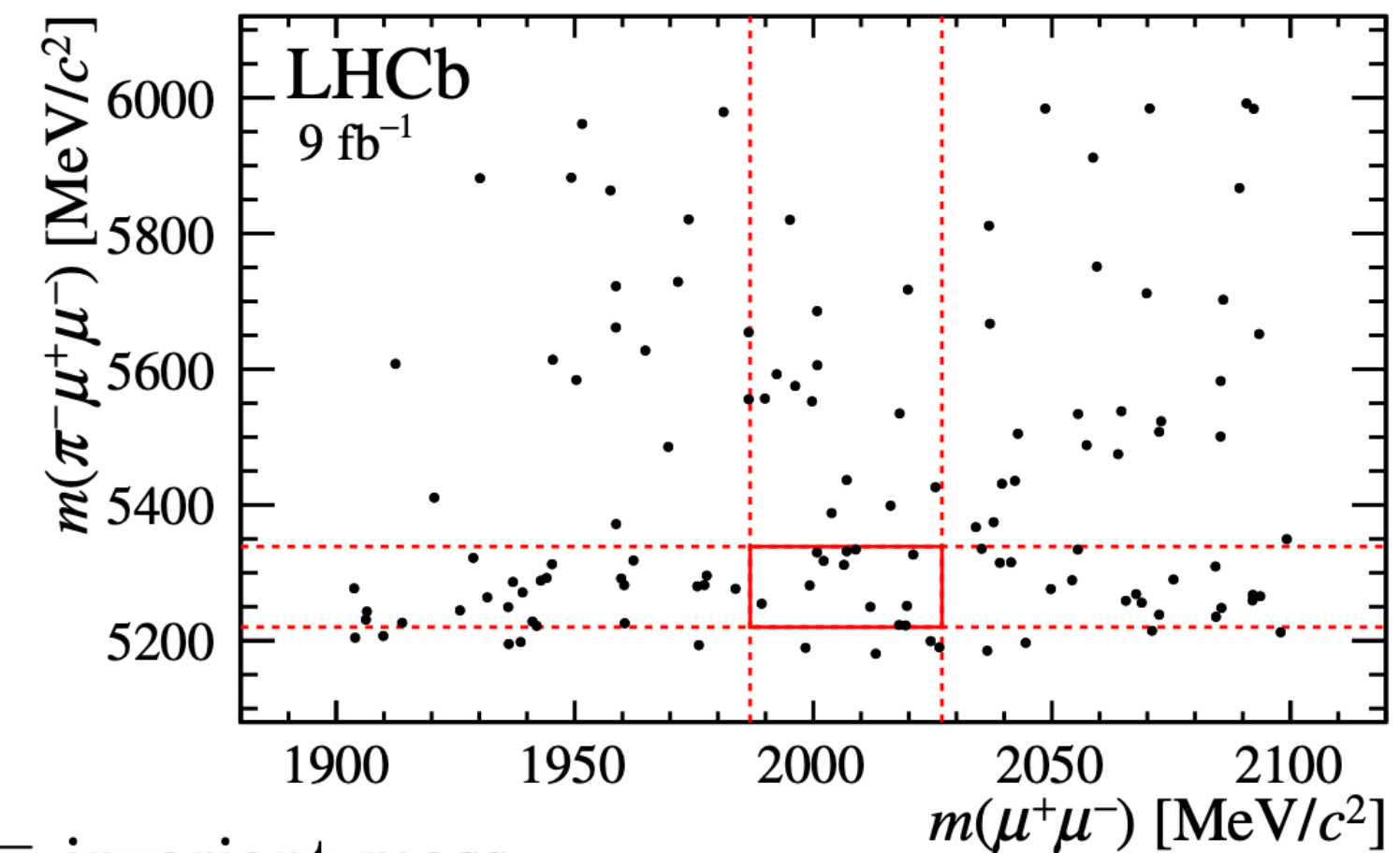
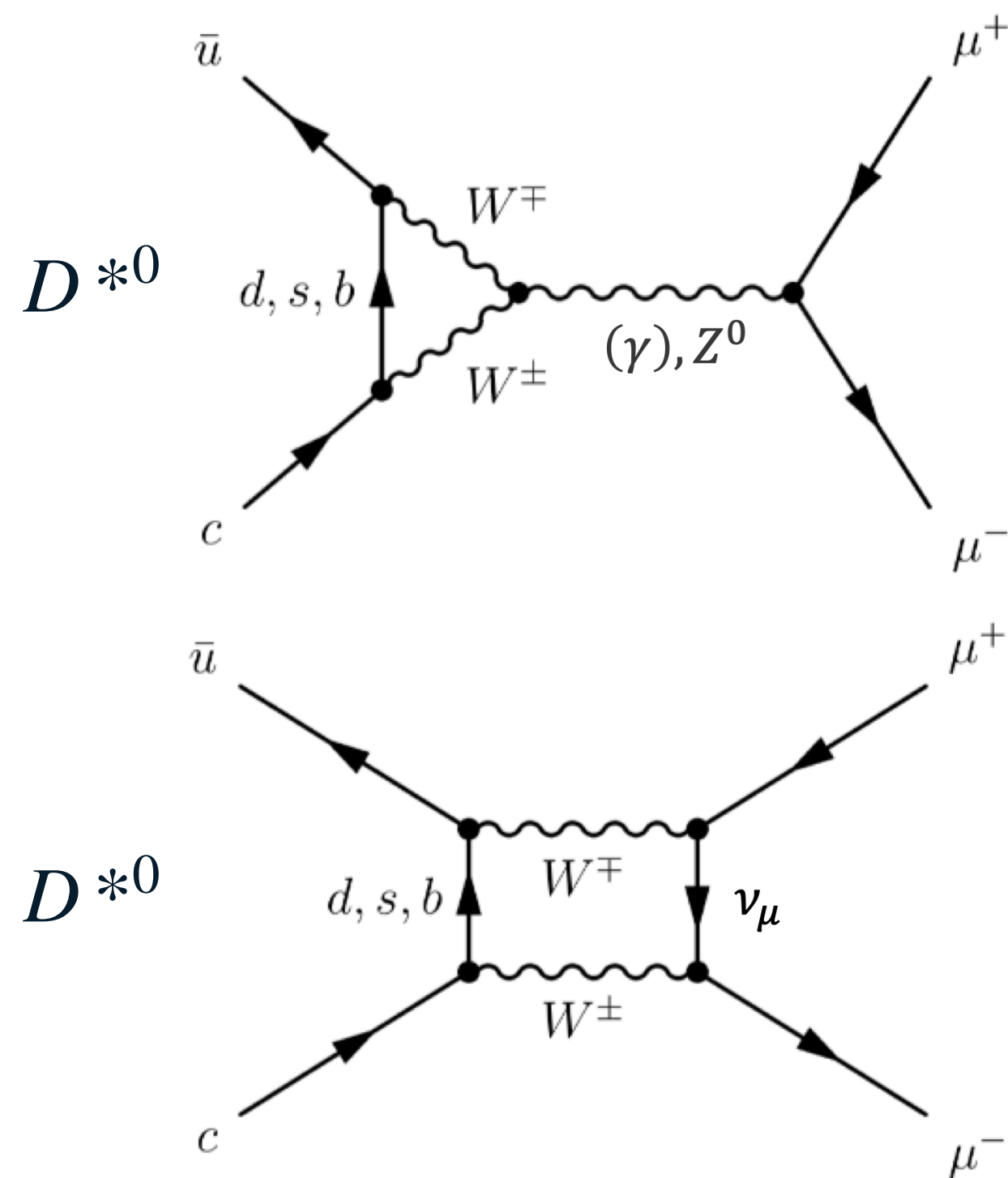


Figure 2: Two-dimensional distribution of $\mu^+ \mu^-$ invariant mass versus $\pi^- \mu^+ \mu^-$ invariant mass for the selected $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0}(\mu^+ \mu^-) \pi^-$ candidates. The red box corresponds to a range of about $\pm 3\sigma$ around the expected signal peak position in each dimension.

D^{*0} vs. D^0

D^{*0}

spin-1 \Rightarrow γ mediator



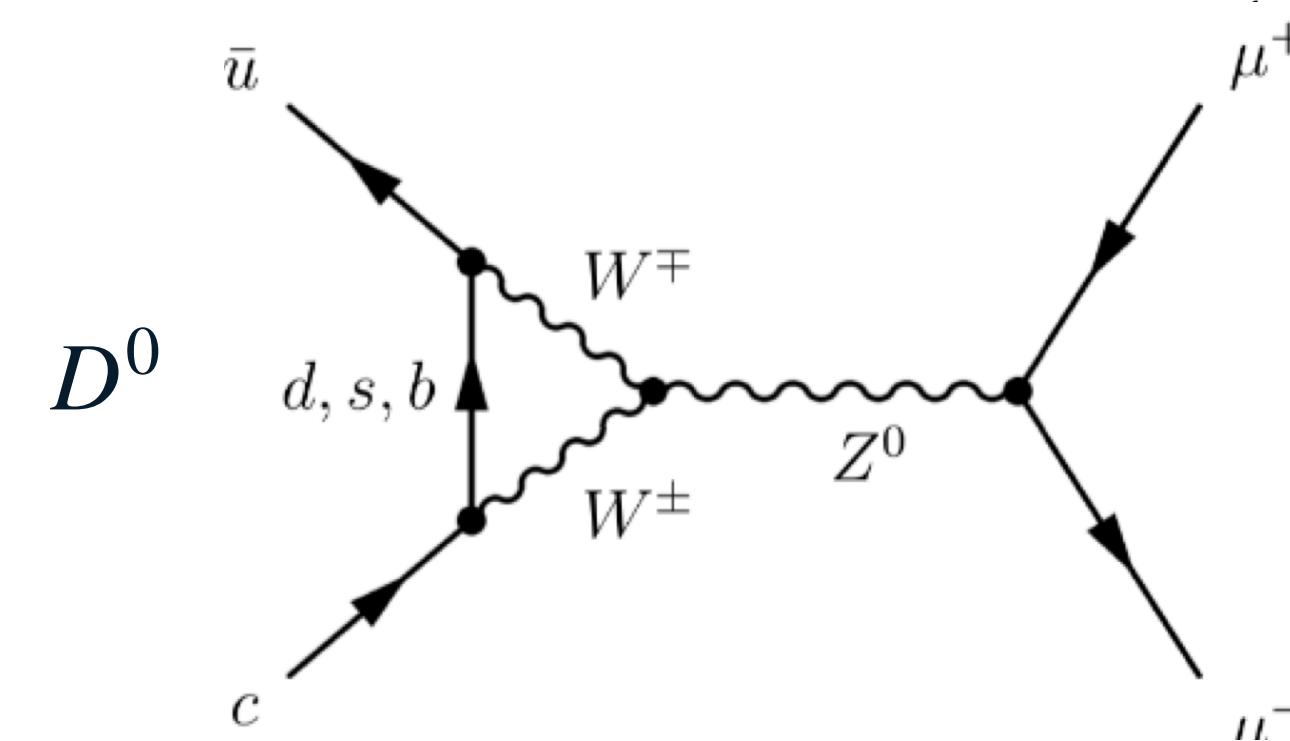
D^0

spin-0 \Rightarrow no γ mediator

Receives two contributions within SM:

Short distance: $\mathcal{B}(D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) < 10^{-18}$ (Z -penguins, W -boxes)

Long distance: $\mathcal{B}(D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) < 10^{-11}$ ($D^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ transitions)



$$\mathcal{B}(D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) < 2.94 \text{ (3.25)} \times 10^{-9} \text{ at 90 (95) \% CL}$$

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