



An overview of $b \rightarrow s\mu^+\mu^-$ decays at LHCb

Janina Nicolini

On behalf of the LHCb Collaboration

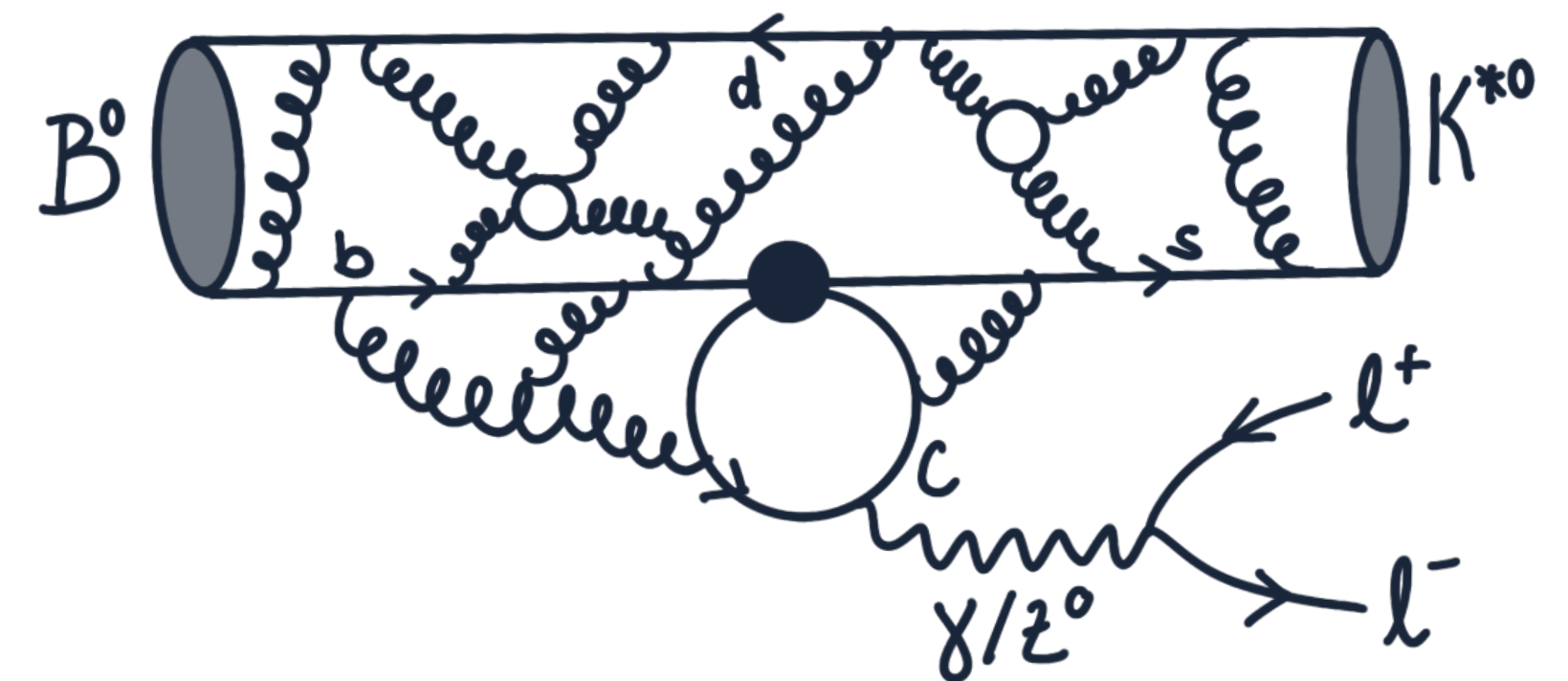
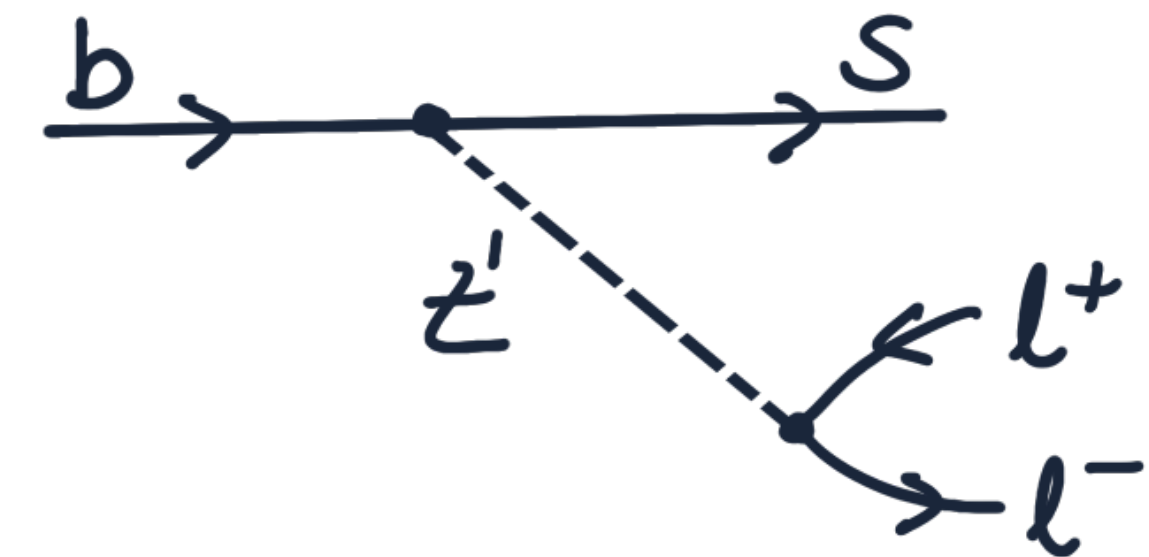
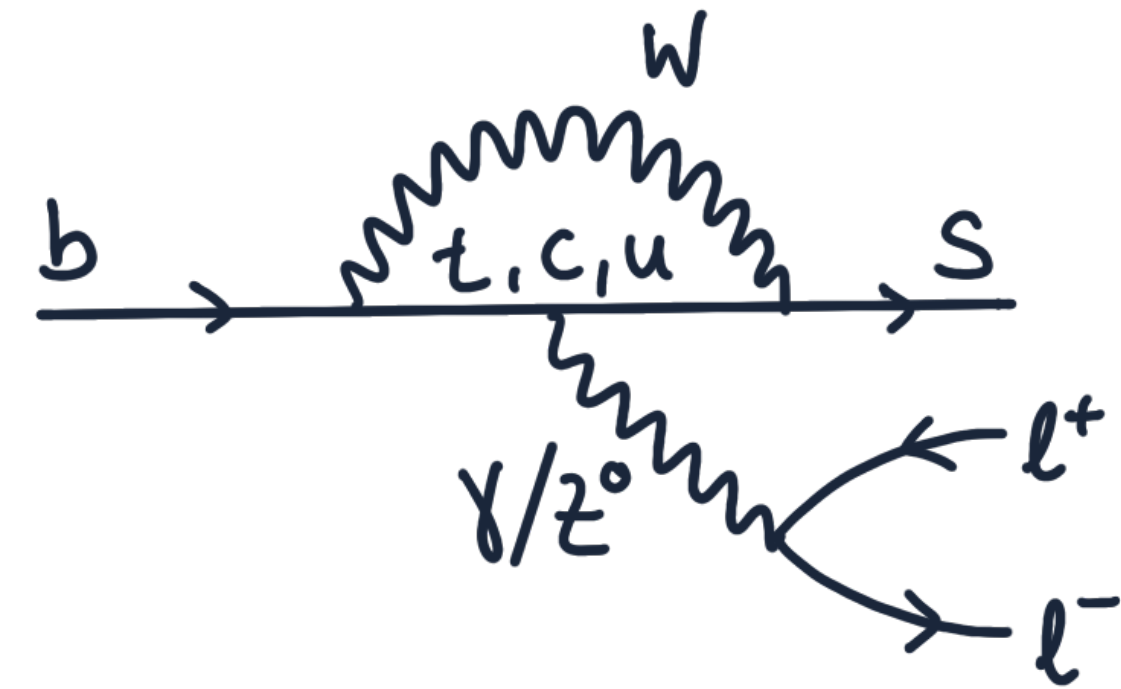
2023 European Physical Society Conference

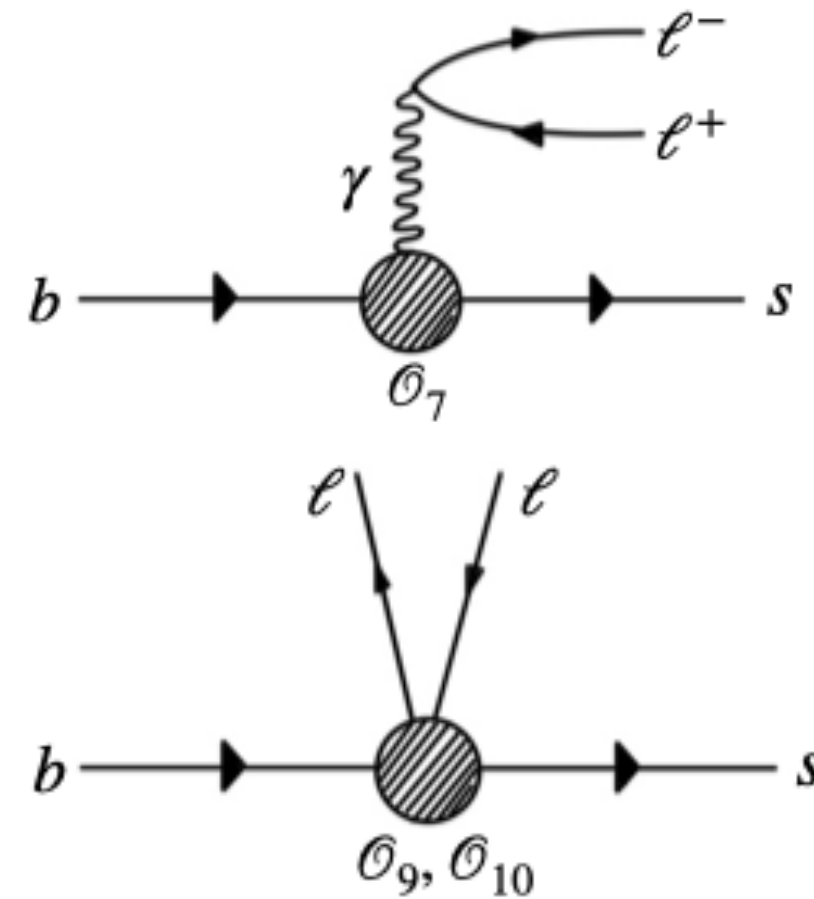
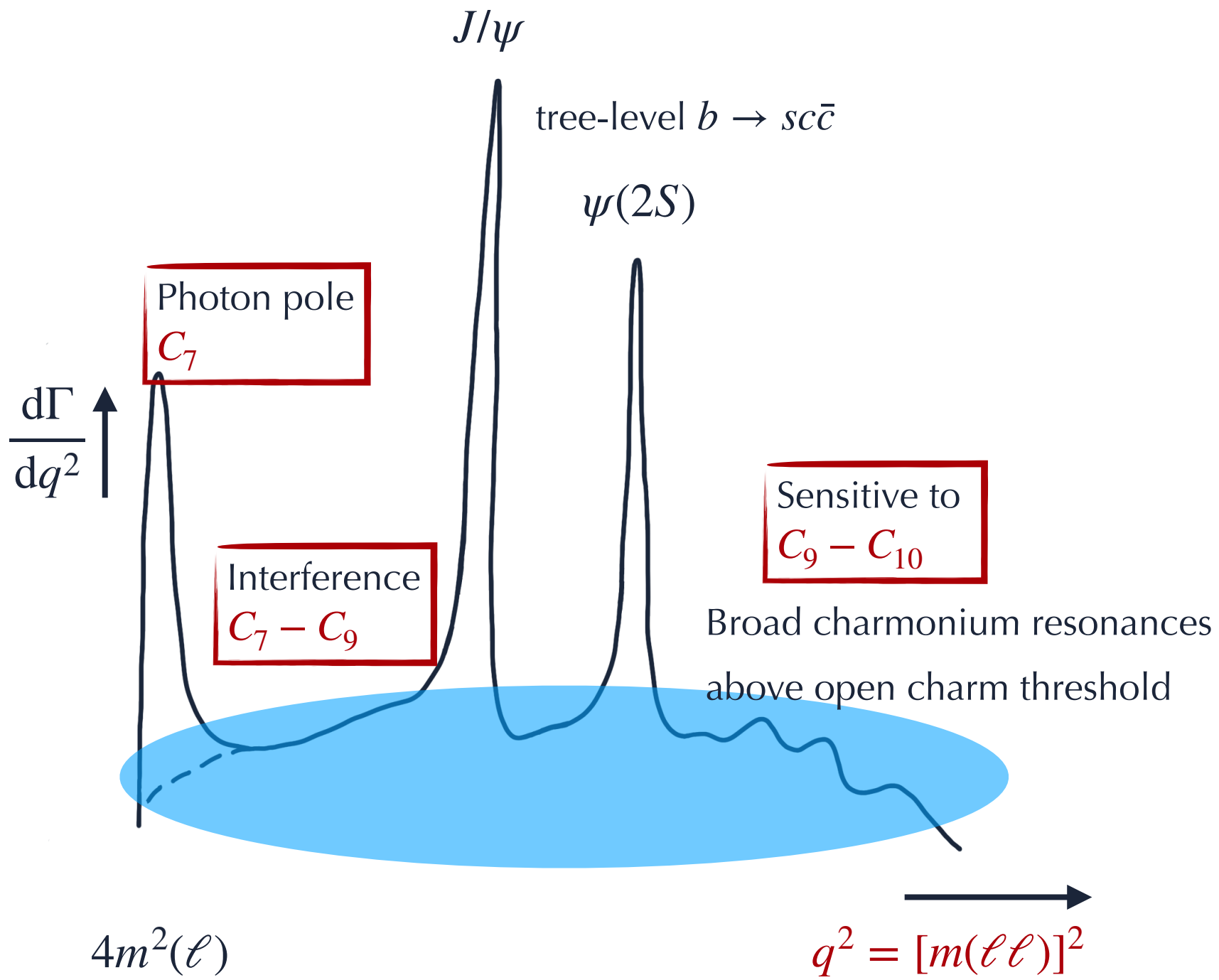
for High Energy Physics

24th of August 2023



- Flavour-changing neutral currents at loop level
- Ideal for indirect searches $\mathcal{B}(b \rightarrow s \ell^+ \ell^-) \sim 10^{-7} - 10^{-6}$
- New Physics (NP) can contribute :
 1. Enhance/suppress decay rates
 2. Modify angular distributions
 3. Introduce CP violation source
- Study in hadronised states
 1. Form Factor (FF) calculations
 2. Contributions of non-local uncertainties challenging
- Focus on muon decays
 - more results for LFU und LFV in [A. López Huertas talk](#)

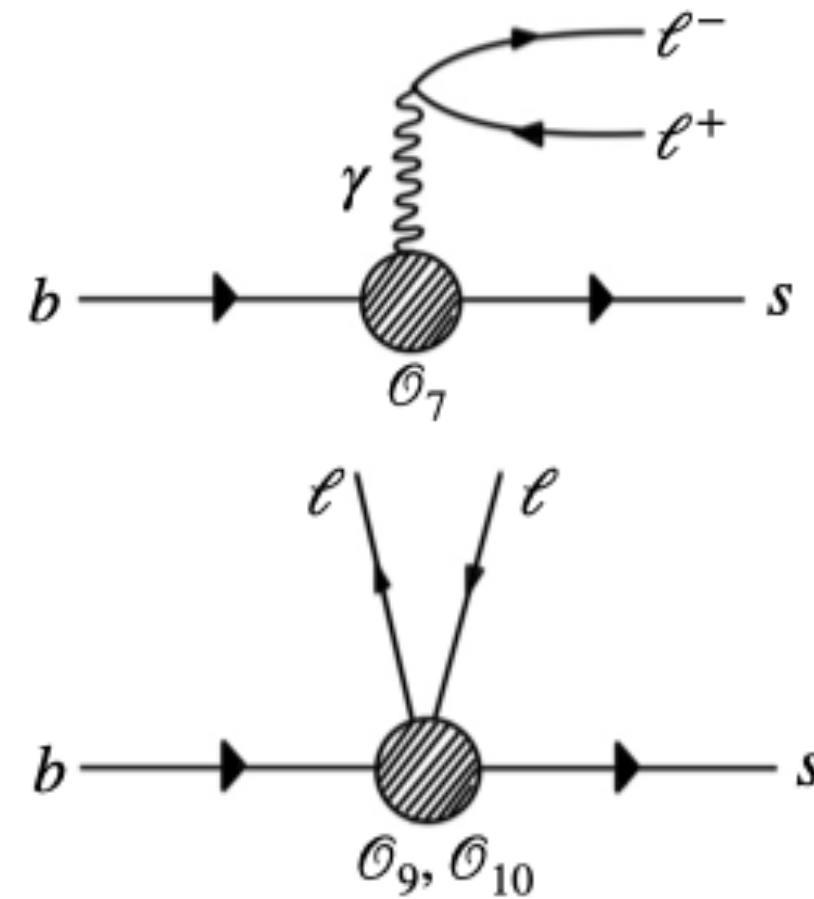
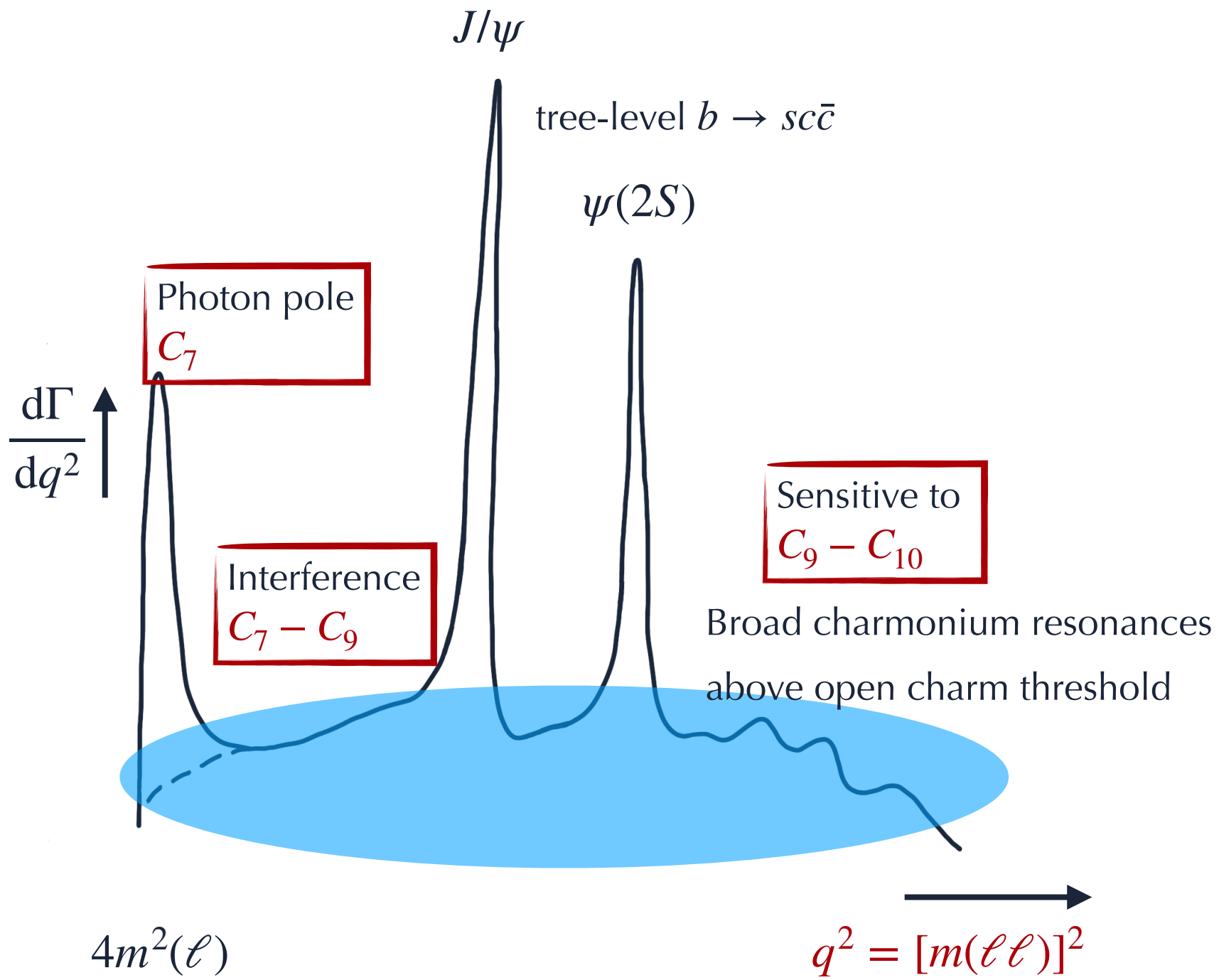




Weak effective Hamiltonian

$$H_{eff} = \frac{-4G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{tb} V_{ts}^* \sum_i C_i(q^2) O_i$$

- Wilson coefficients $C_i(q^2) = C_i^{SM} + C_i^{NP}$
- Additional NP operator O_i^{NP} (e.g. [JHEP.01\(2015\)155](#))

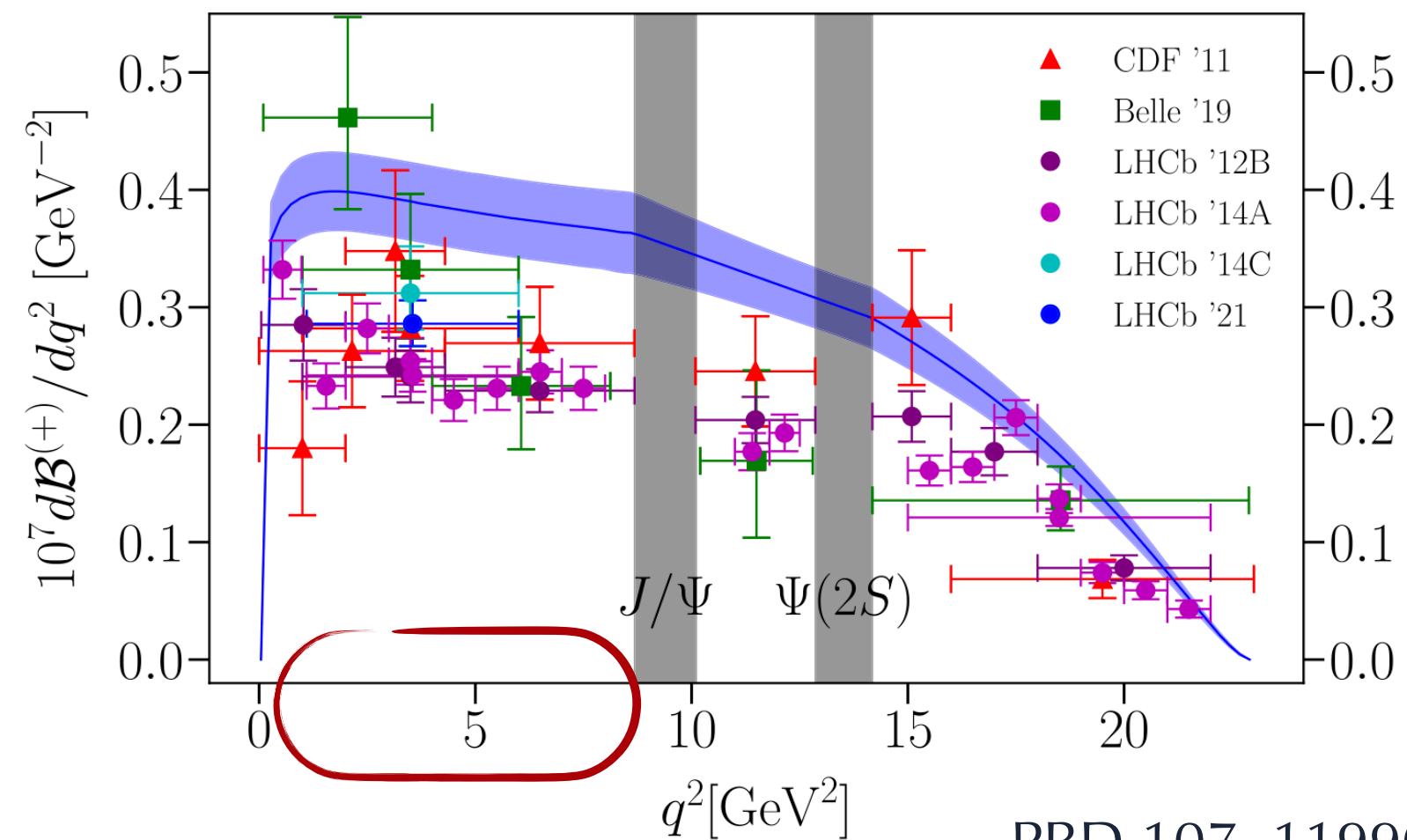


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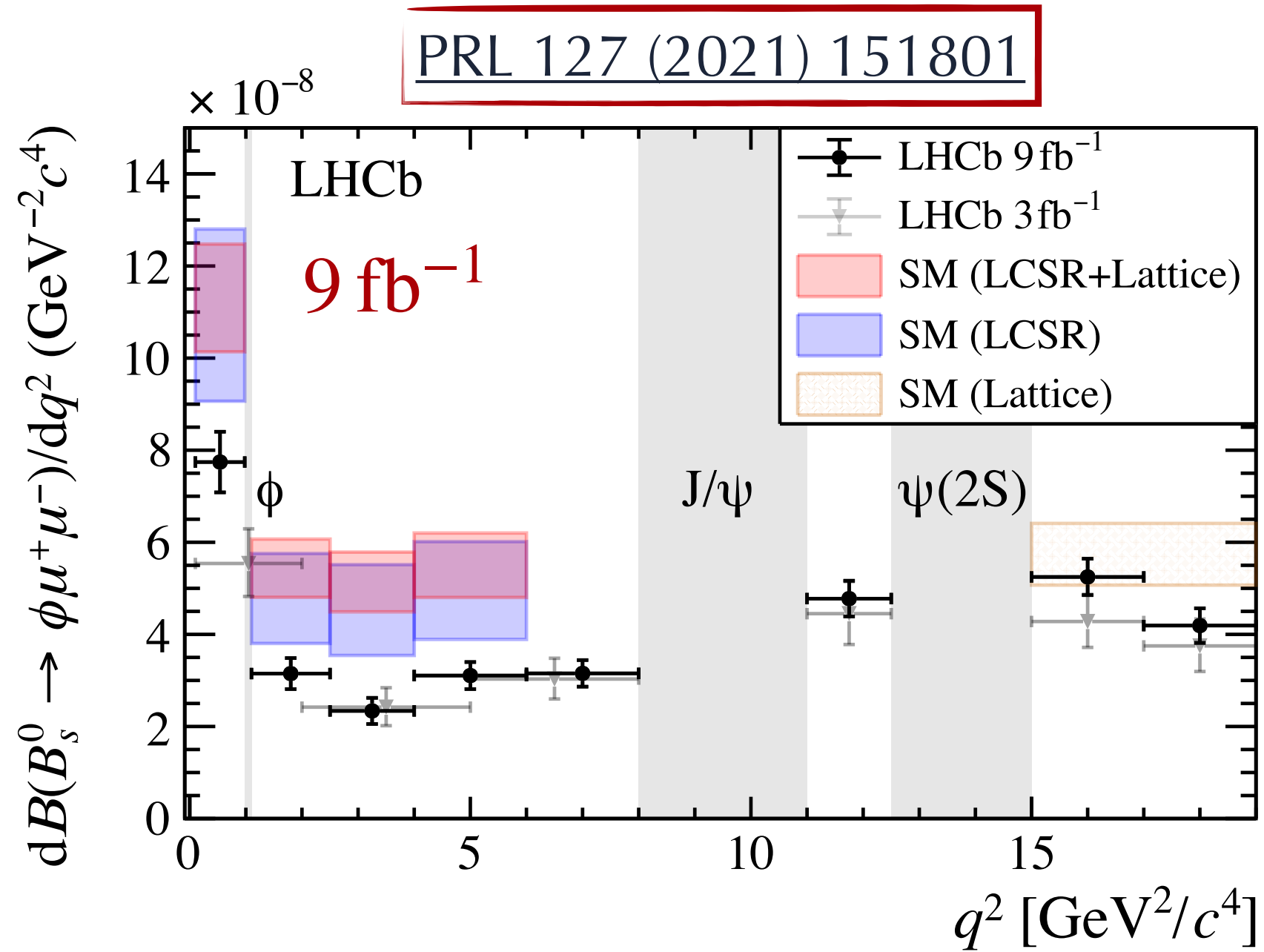
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$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$

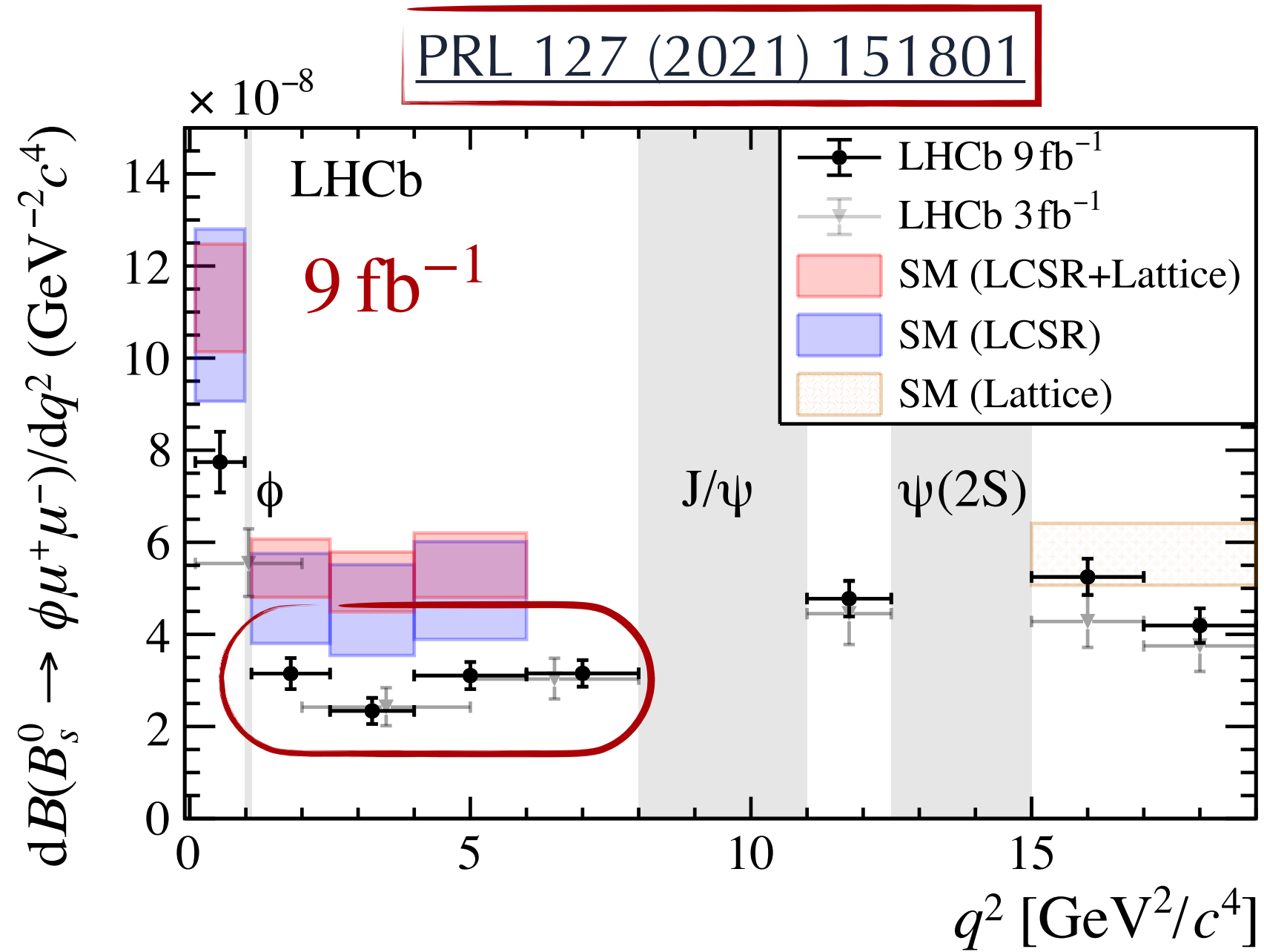


PRD 107, 119903 (2023)

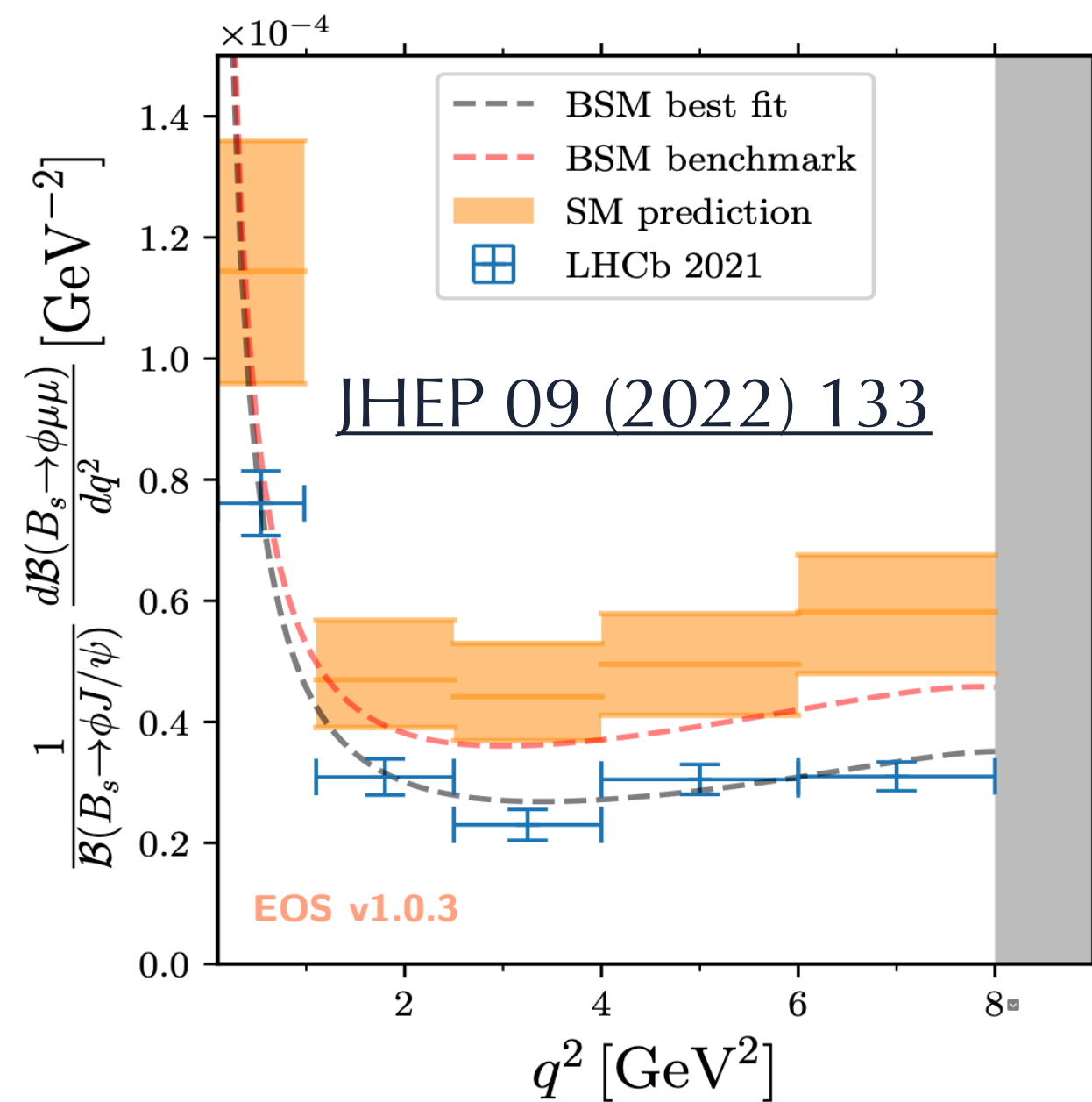
- **B anomalies:** in differential BF & angular observables (CP -even S_i , CP -odd A_i)
- Angular analysis experimentally more challenging → disentangle Wilson coefficients
- Meson and baryon decays probe different spin configurations



- Factor 4 more B_s^0 compared to JHEP 09 (2015) 179
- Reconstructed via displaced $K^+K^-\mu^+\mu^-$ vertex
- Veto q^2 for $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi(\rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)\phi$, $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi J/\psi$ and $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\psi(2S)$
- Normalised to $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi J/\psi$
- **Simultaneous fit** to different q^2 bins



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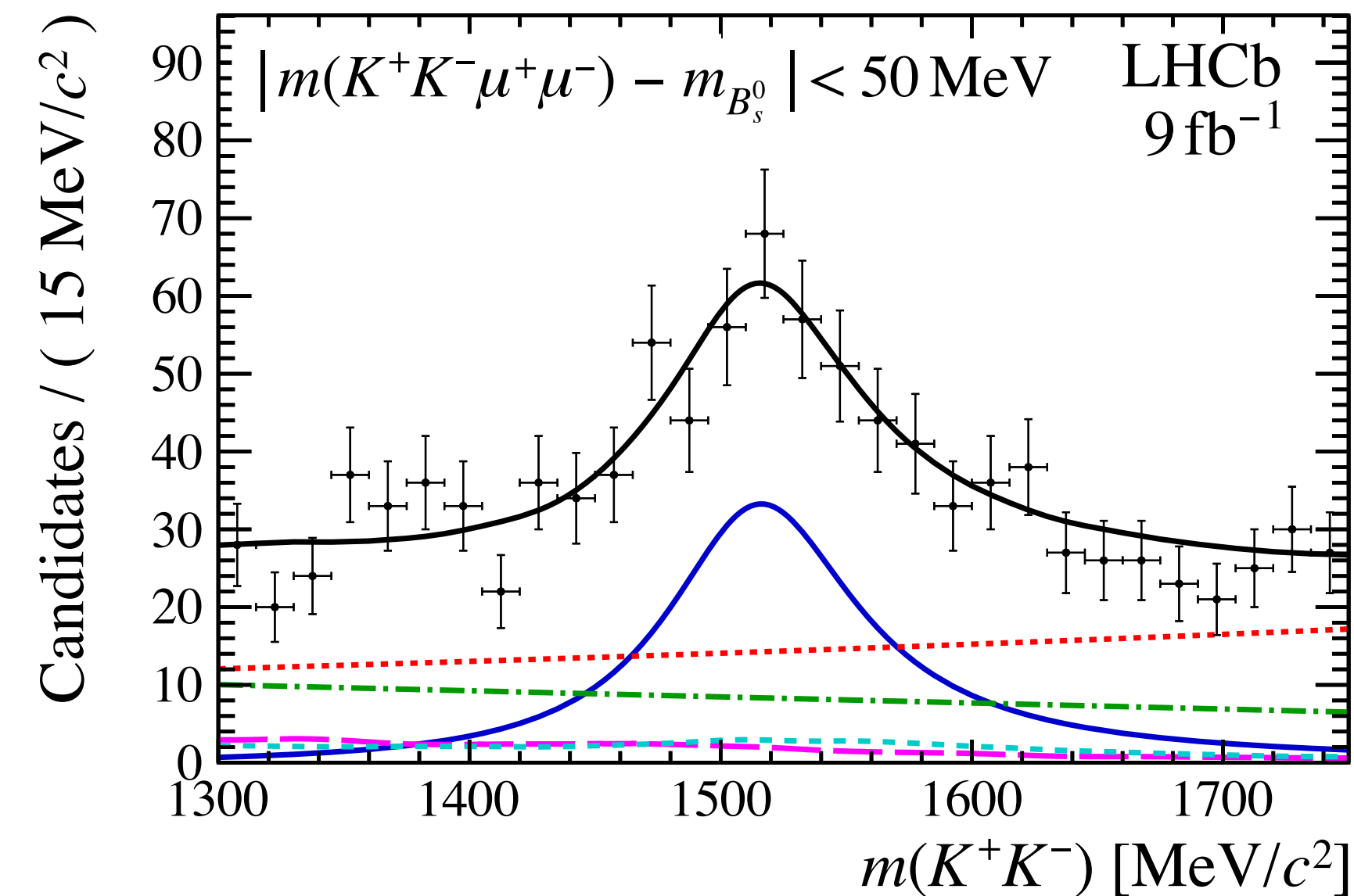
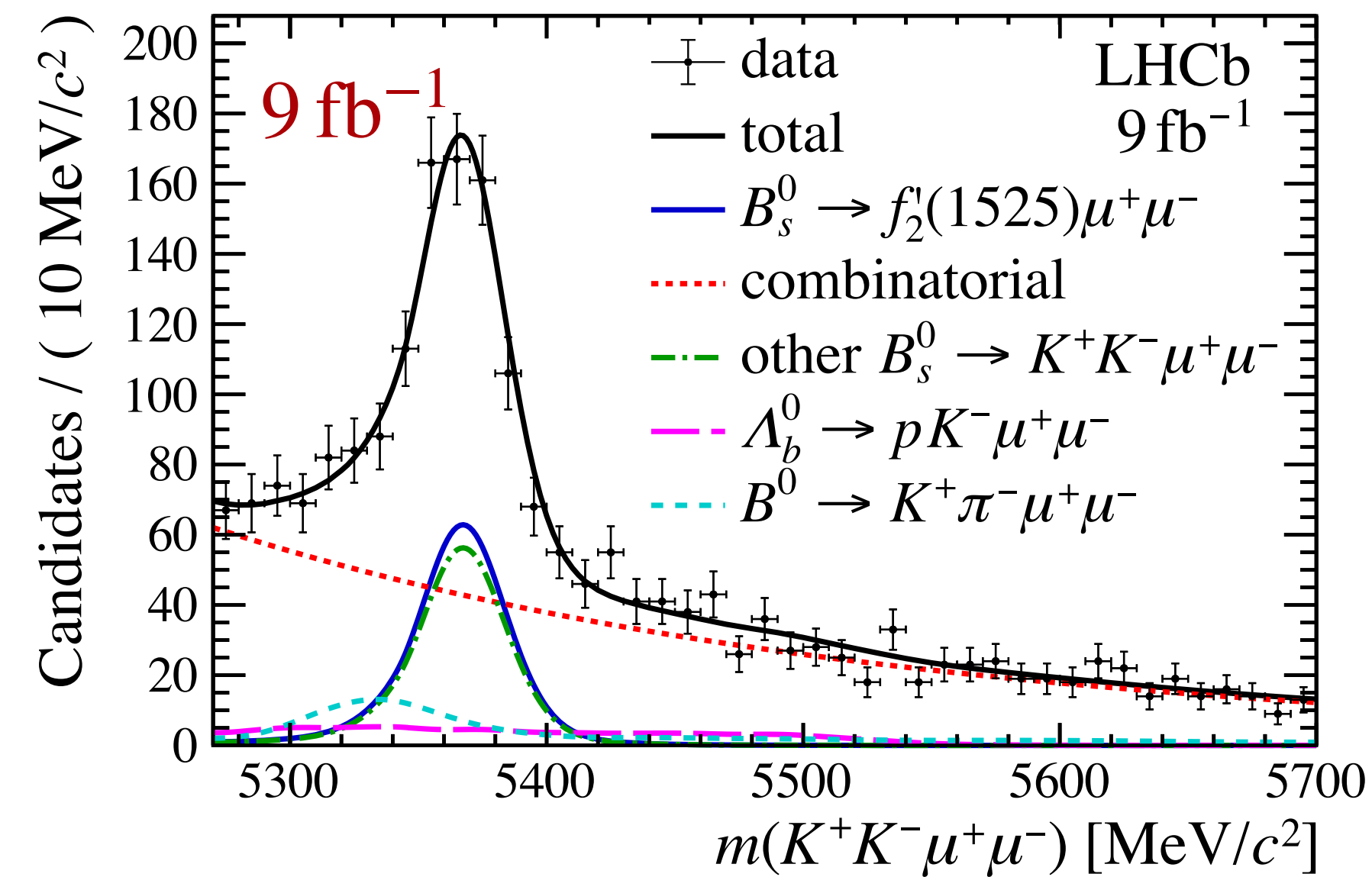
Most precise BF measurement

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\mu^+\mu^-) = (8.14 \pm 0.22 \pm 0.16 \pm 0.39 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-7}$$

stat. syst. abs. BF q^2 extrapol.

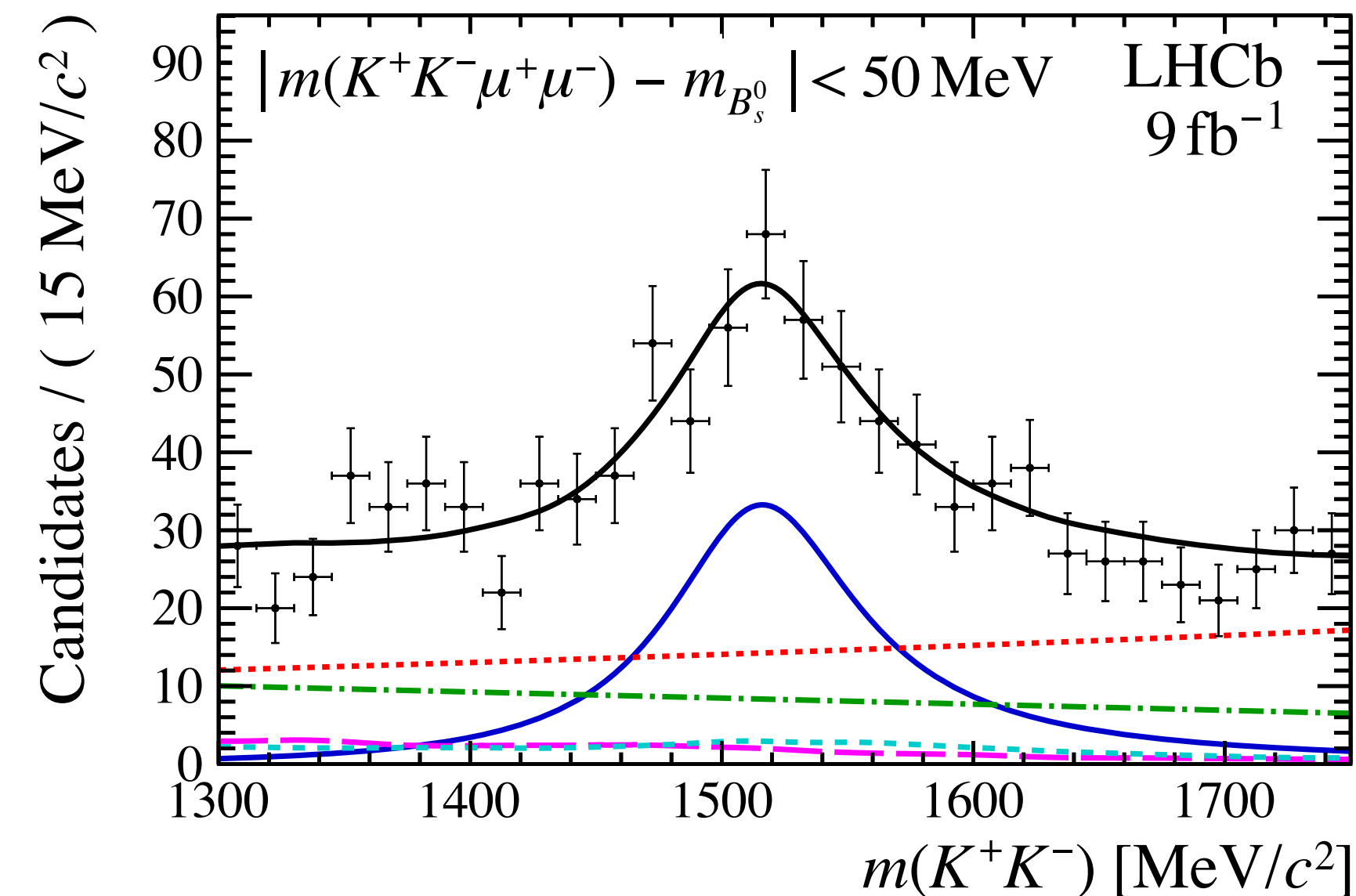
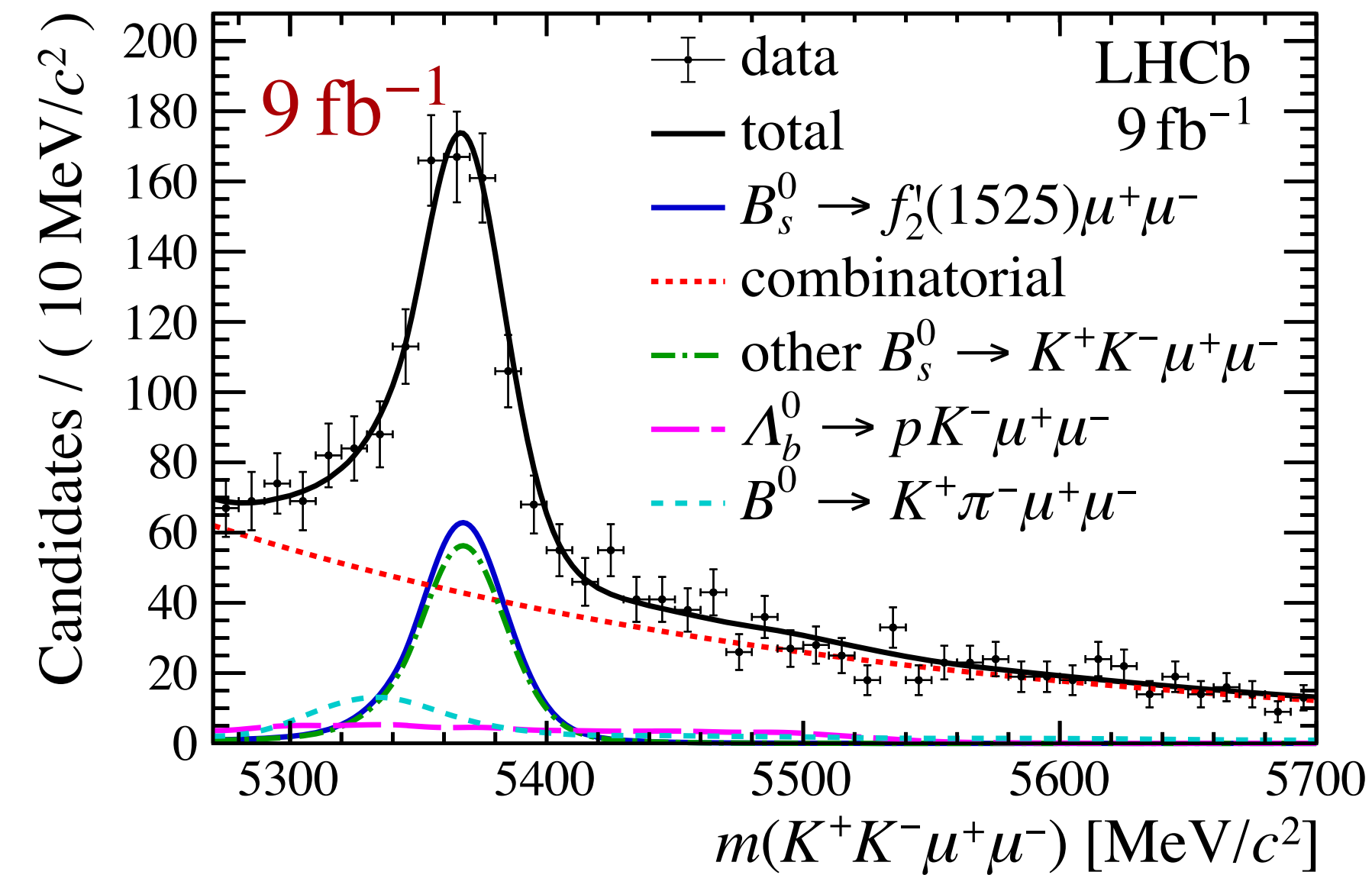
In $q^2[1.1,6.0] \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$: **3.6σ** (LCSR+Lattice) and **1.8σ** (LCSR)

PRL 127 (2021) 151801



- Measurement with **spin-2 meson** in final state
- Similar selection to $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-$ and normalised to $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi J/\psi$
- Combined in q^2 $[0.1, 0.98] \cup [1.1, 8.0] \cup [11.0, 12.5]$ GeV²/c⁴
- **2D fit** to $m(K^+K^-\mu^+\mu^-)$ and $m(K^+K^-)$
with $|m(f_2'(1525)) - m_{PDG}| < 225$ MeV/c²
- **S- and P-wave contributions** from ϕ , $\phi(1680)$, ... resonances

PRL 127 (2021) 151801



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9σ observation

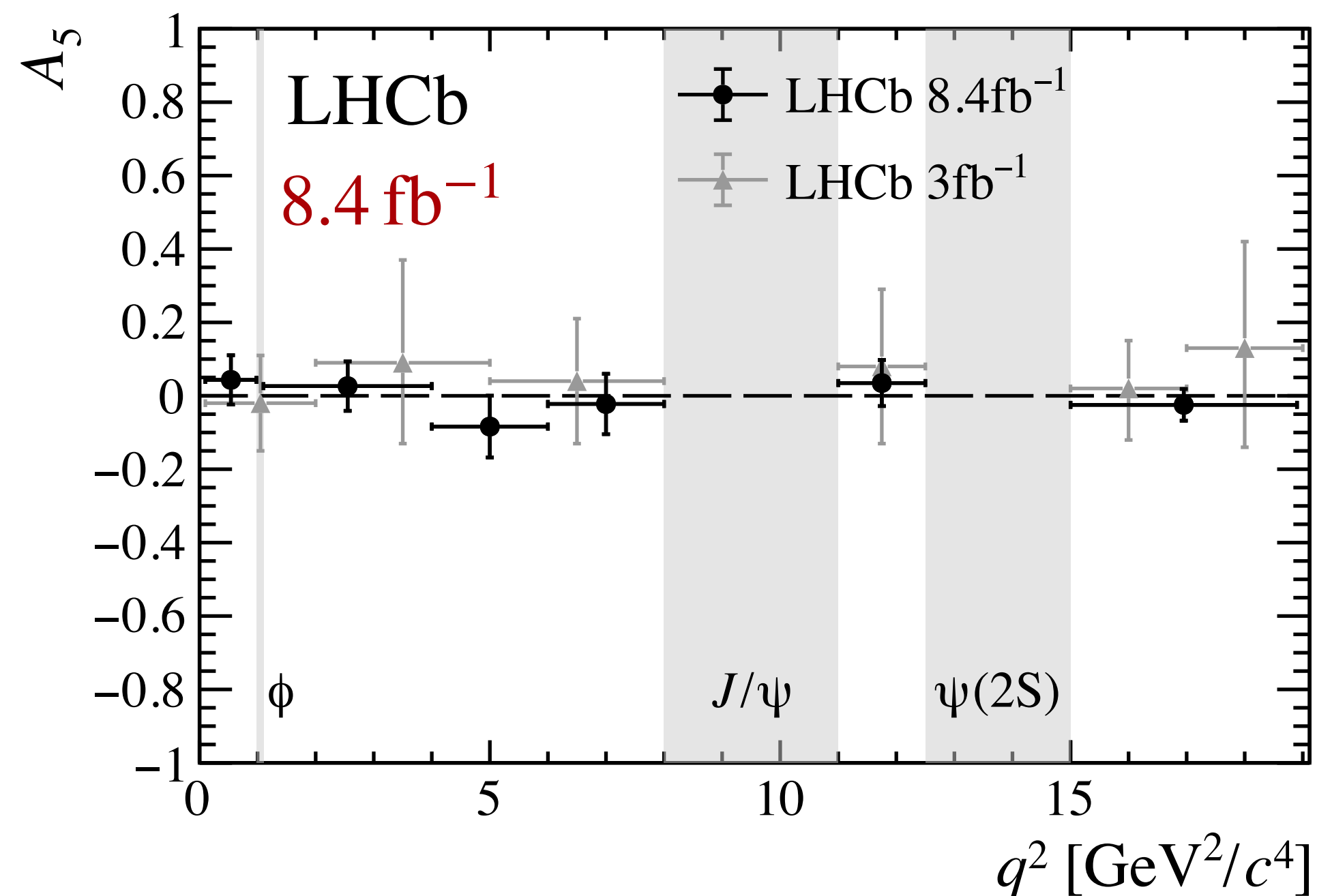
BF same order of magnitude as SM

$$\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow f_2' \mu^+ \mu^-) = (1.57 \pm 0.19 \pm 0.06 \pm 0.08 \pm 0.06) \times 10^{-7}$$

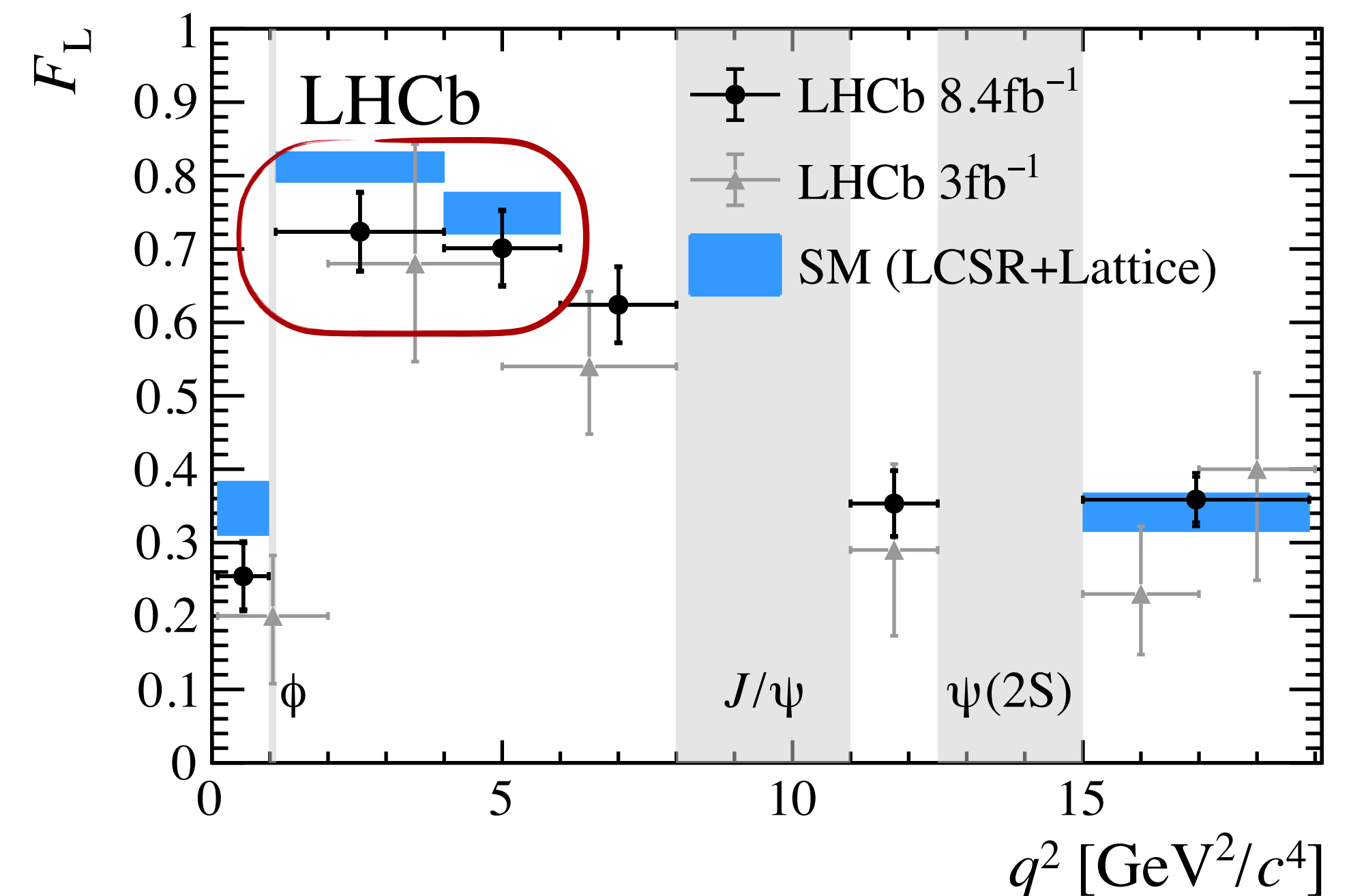
stat. syst. abs. BF q^2 extrapol.

- Same selection as BF measurement, flavour-untagged ($\phi \rightarrow K^+K^-$)
- Update of [JHEP 09 \(2015\) 179](#)
- Simultaneous fit to $[\theta_h, \theta_l, \phi, m(K^+K^-\mu^+\mu^-)]$
- S-wave only systematic uncertainty
- Agreement with SM, CP-Asymmetries ~ 0
- Mild trend in F_L

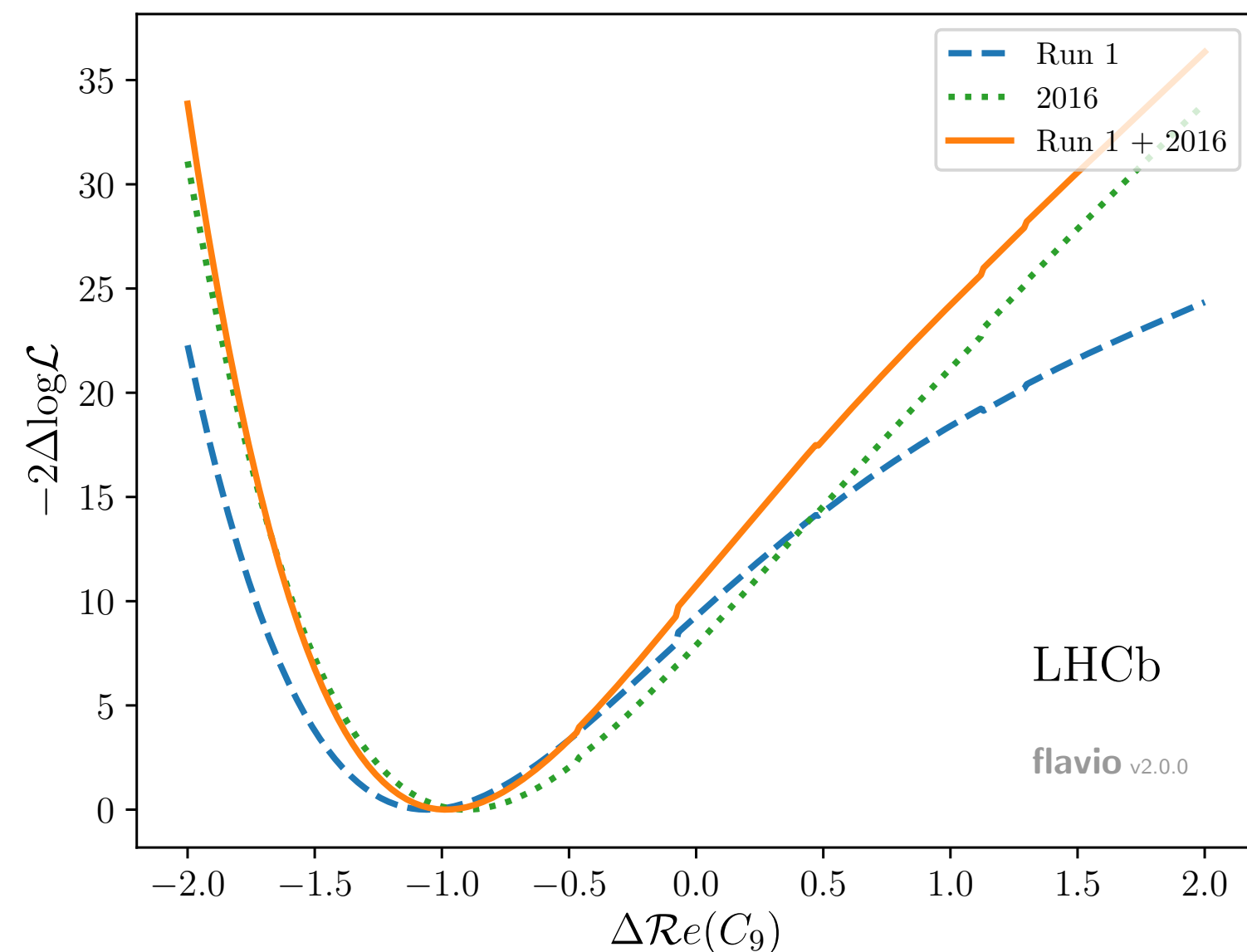
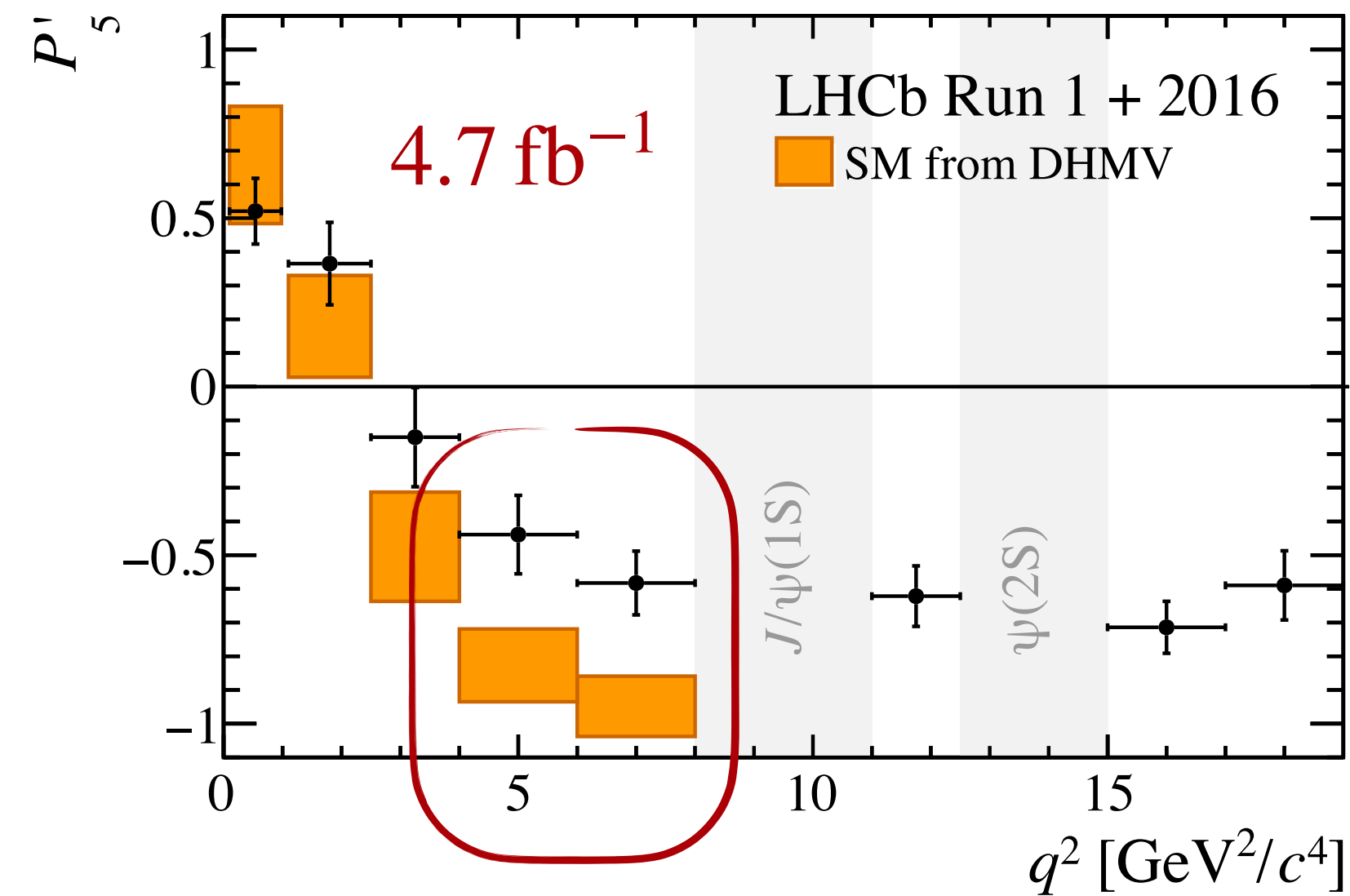
JHEP 11 (2021) 043



F_L : fraction of longitudinal polarisation of hadron



PRL 125, 011802 (2020)



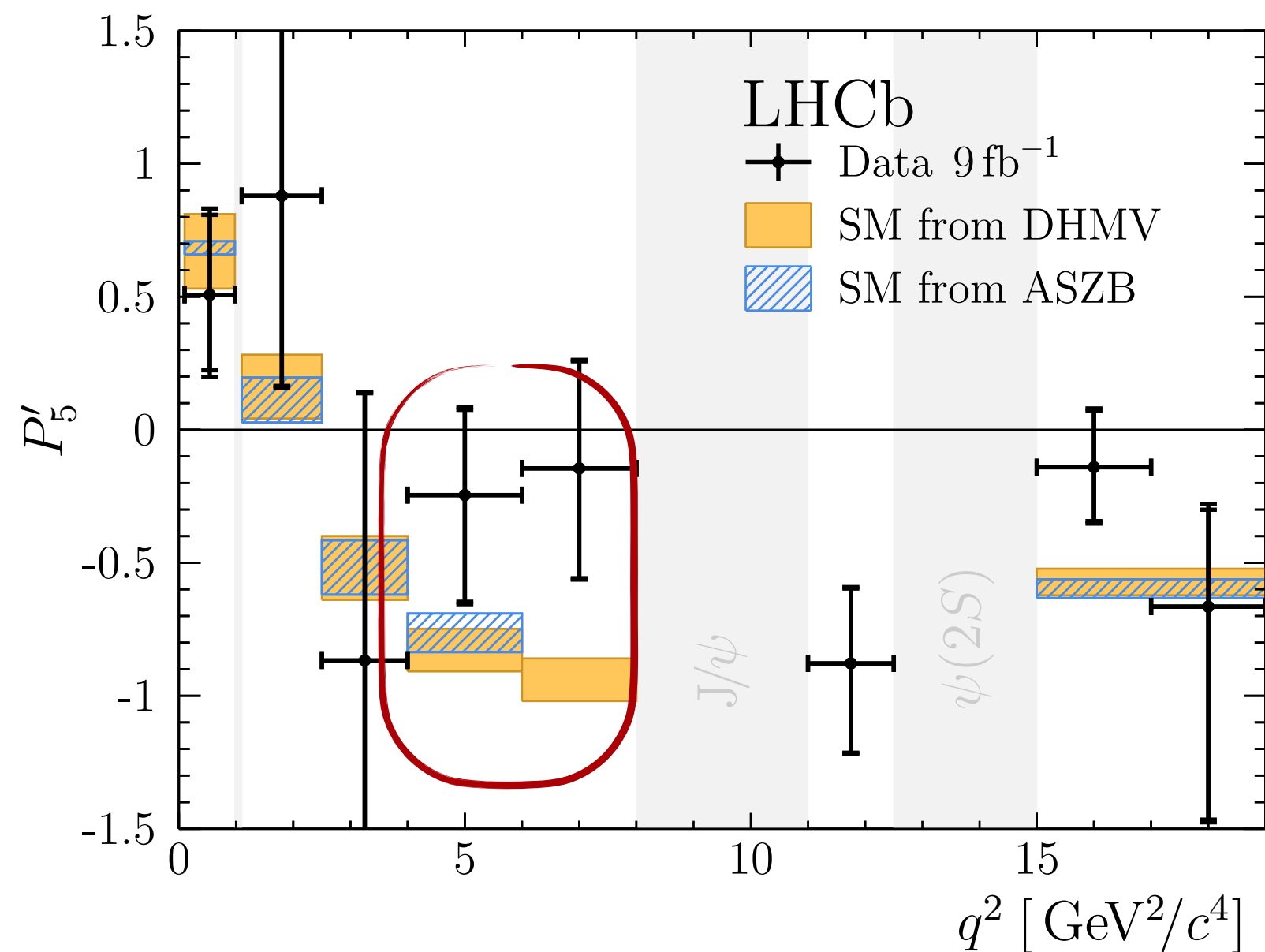
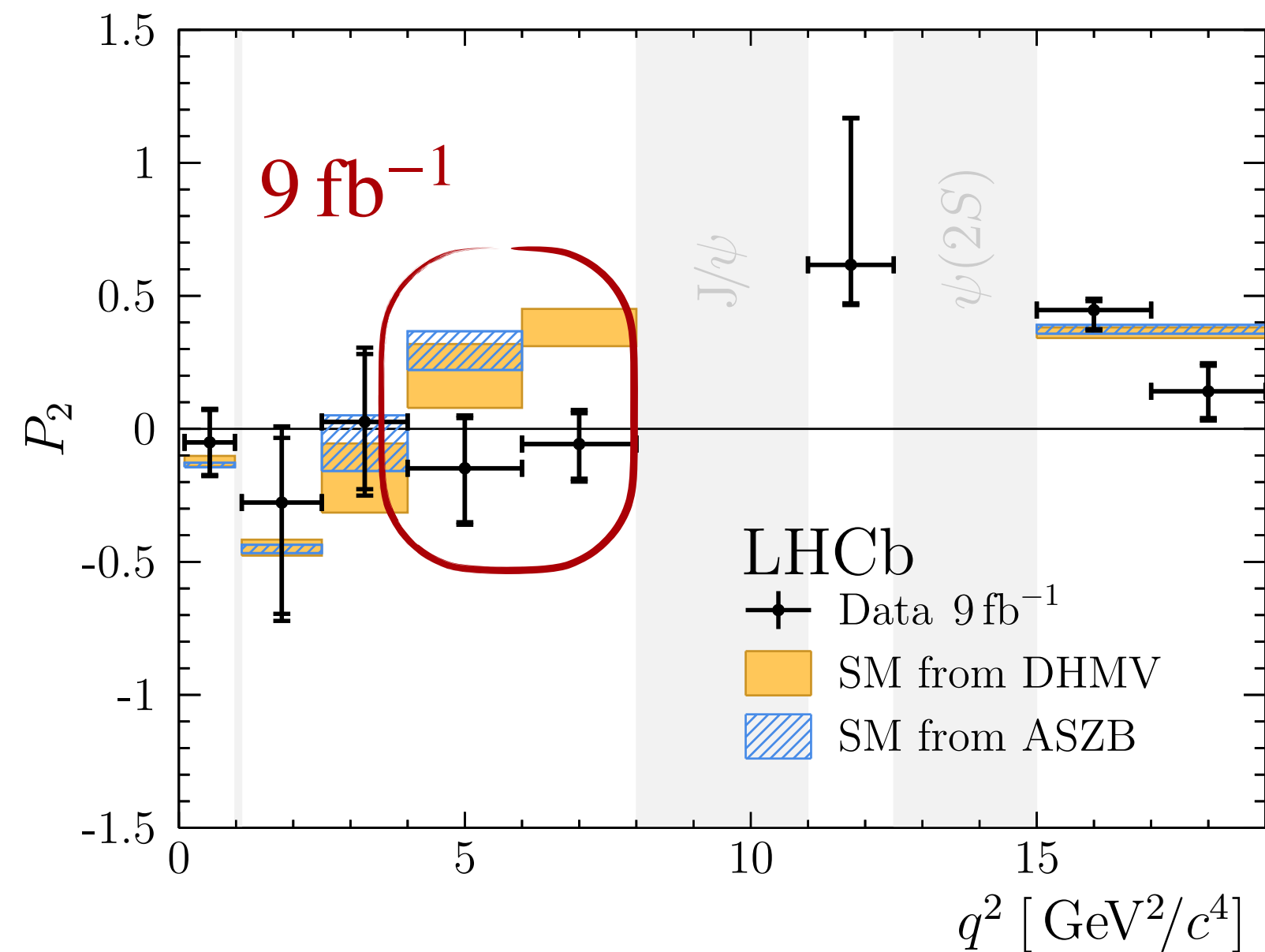
- Update of JHEP 02 (2016) 104
- Same selection as Run1 result, minor changes for 2016
- $P'_i = \frac{S_i}{\sqrt{F_L(1 - F_L)}}$ observables to reduce FF uncertainties
 - non-local uncertainties ($c\bar{c}$ loop) remain
- Simultaneous fit to $[\theta_h, \theta_l, \phi, m(K^+ \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^-)]$
- S-wave contribution determined with $m(K^+ \pi^-)$
- S- and P-wave interference treated as nuisance parameters
- Tension with SM e.g. P'_5

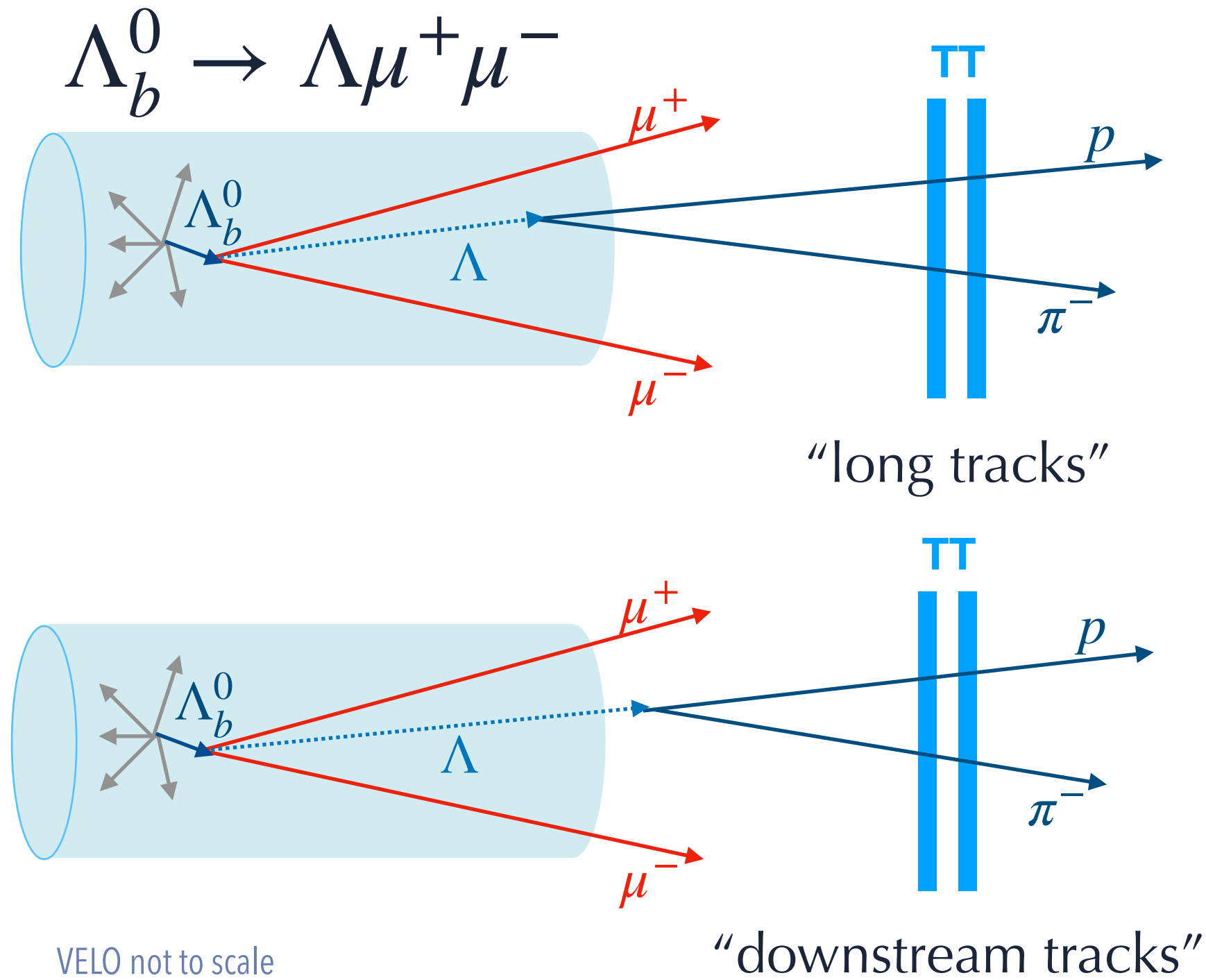
preferred over SM at 3.3σ

$$\Delta\text{Re}(C_9) = -0.99^{+0.25}_{-0.21}$$

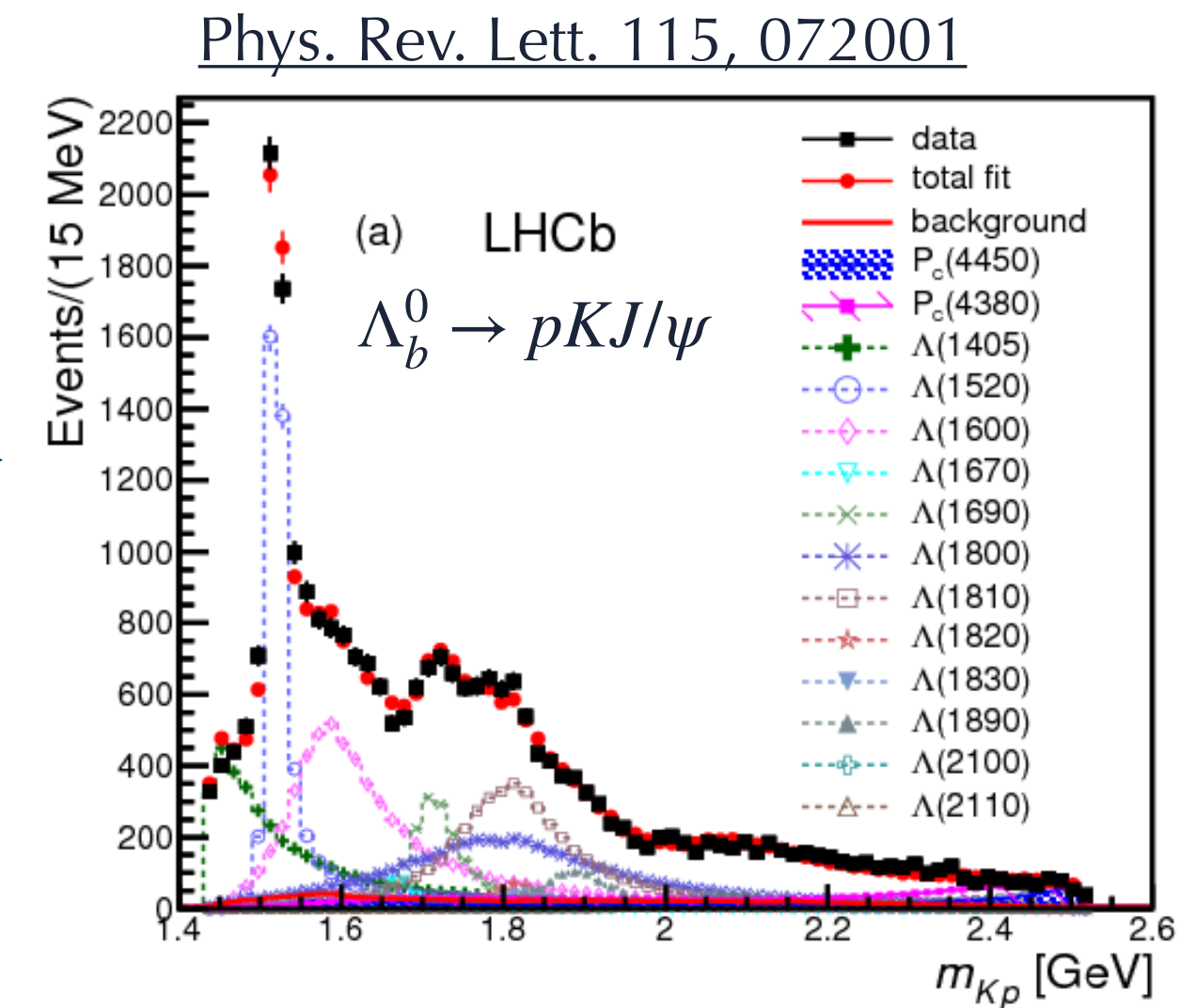
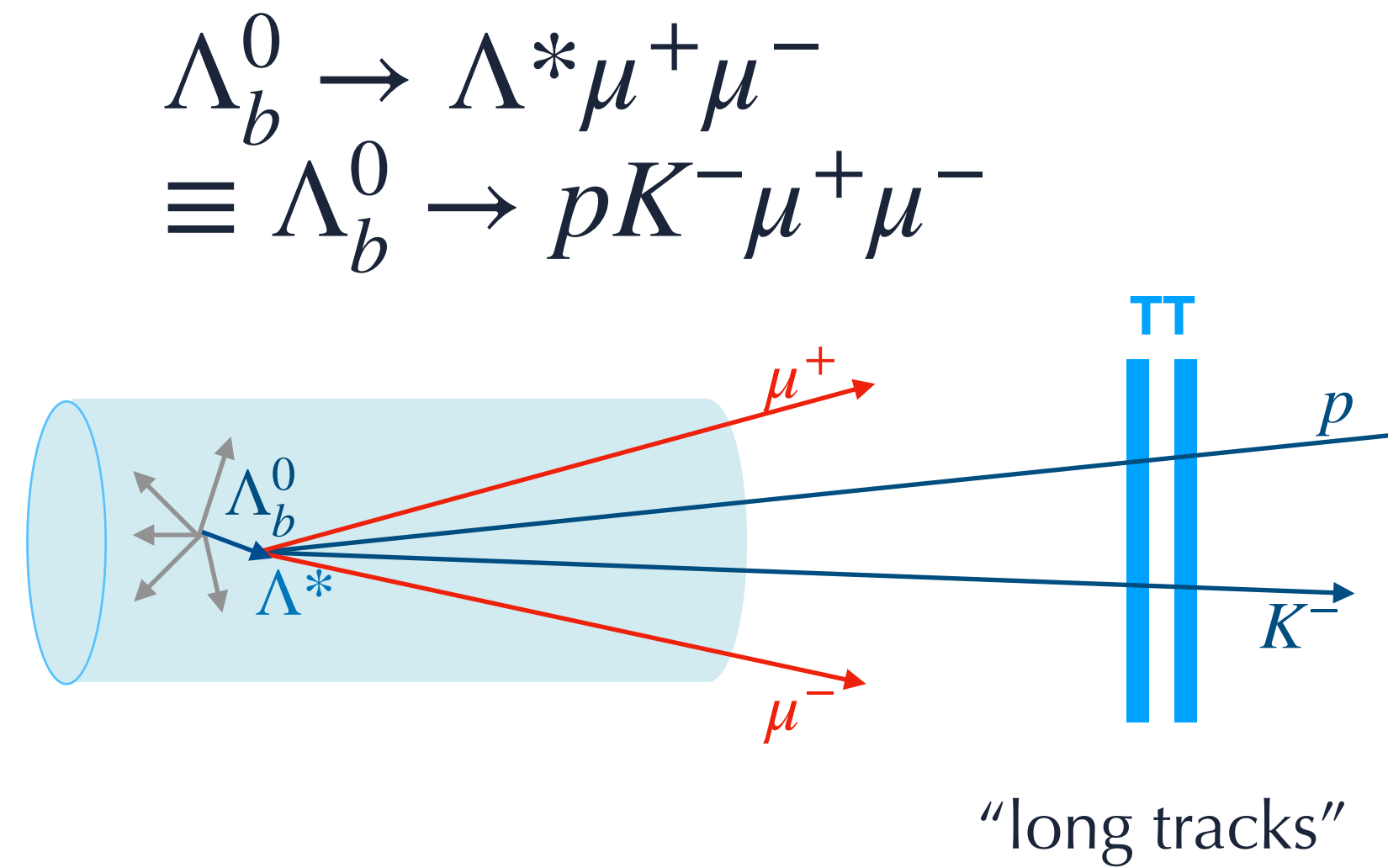
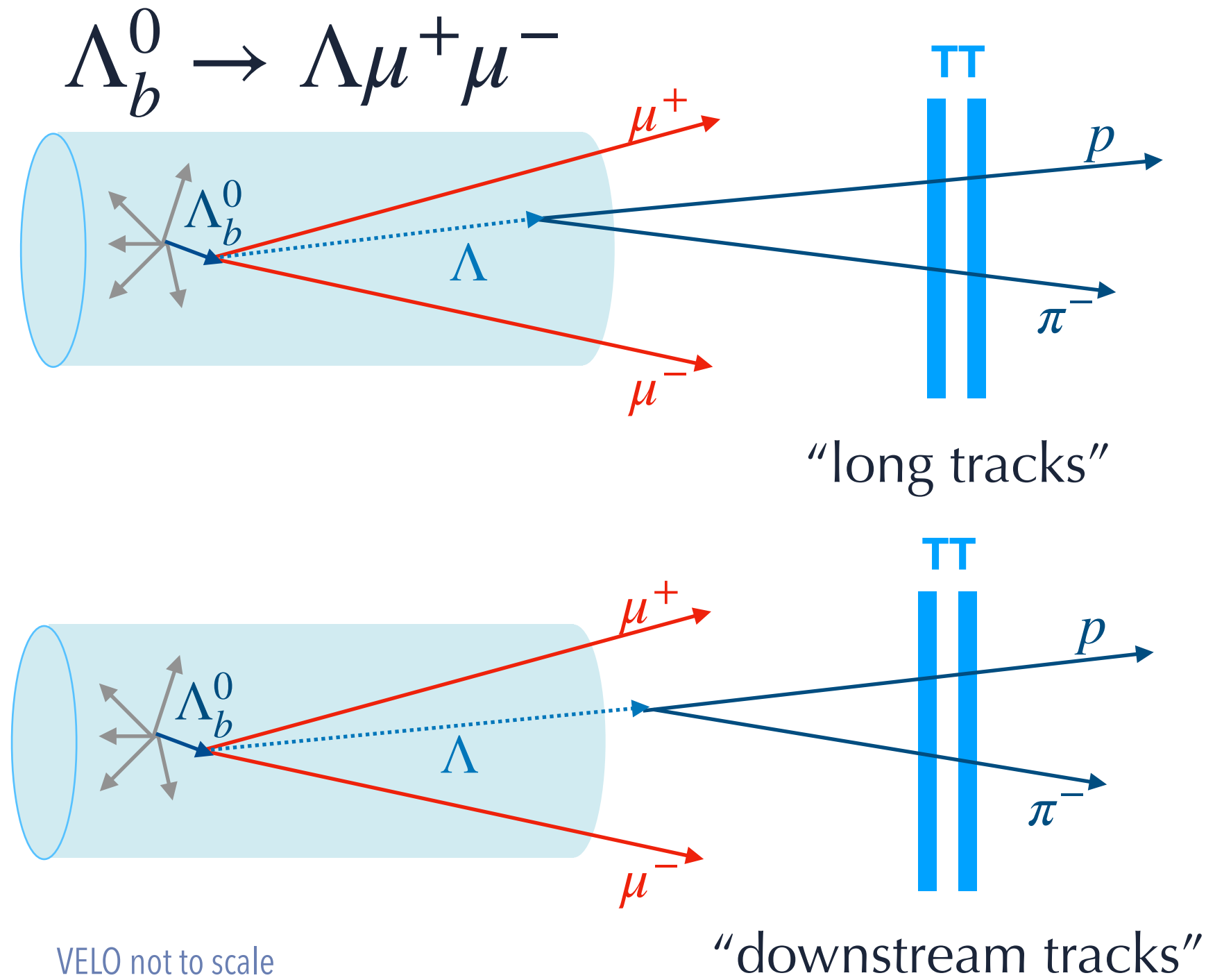
PRL 126, 161802 (2021)

- First measurement of **full set of P-wave** observables
- S-wave treated as nuisance parameters
- Reconstructed via $B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} (\rightarrow K_s^0 \pi^+) \mu^+ \mu^-$
with $K_s^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$
→ lower statistics due to reconstruction of K_s^0
- General good agreement with SM predictions
- P_2 and P'_5 show same deviations as in $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} \mu^+ \mu^-$





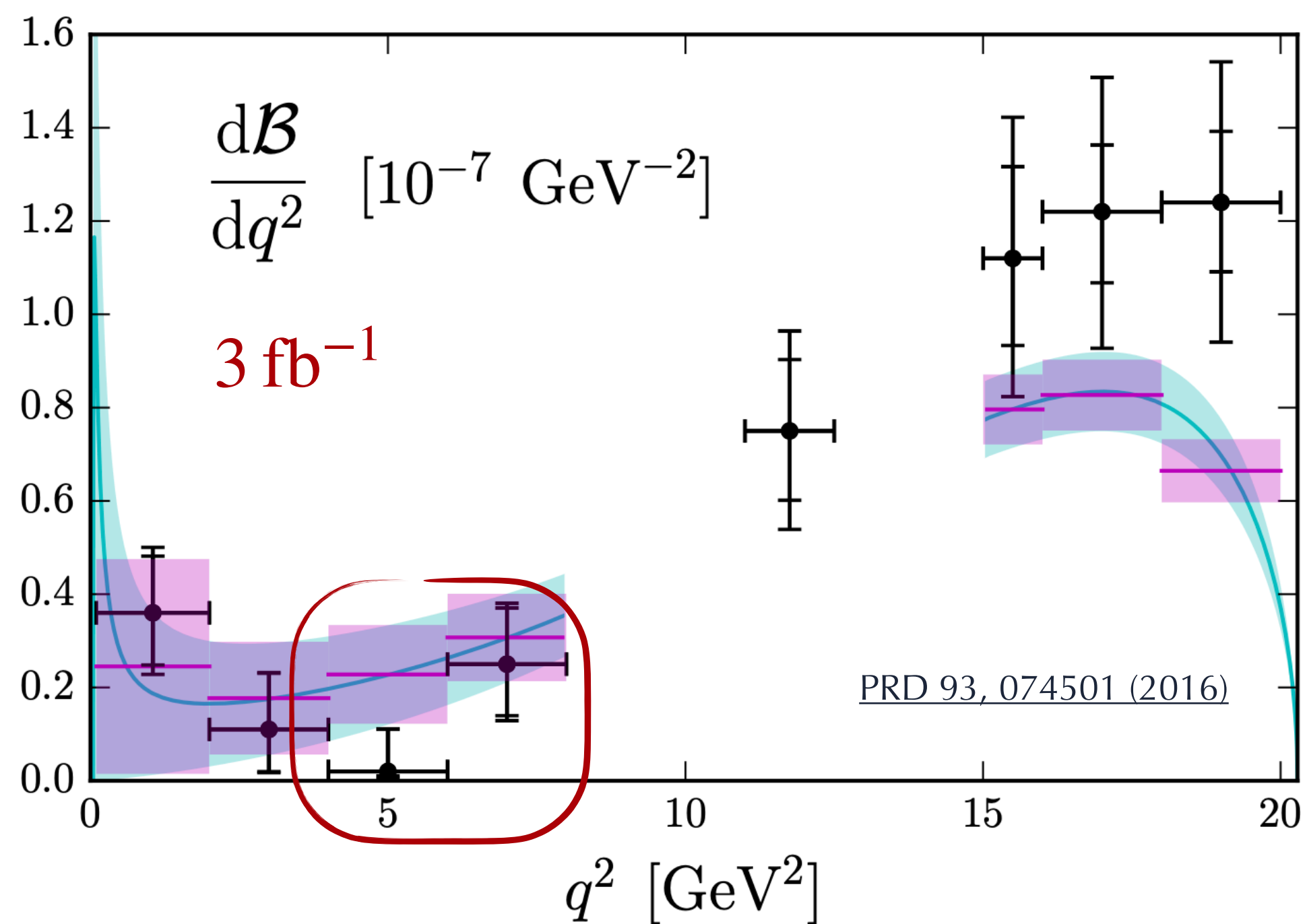
- ✓ Λ weakly-decaying hyperon
- ✗ lower efficiency to detect in acceptance
- ✗ lower efficiency to reconstruct vertex
- ✓ easier theoretical predictions



Λ^* : excited states, decay strongly

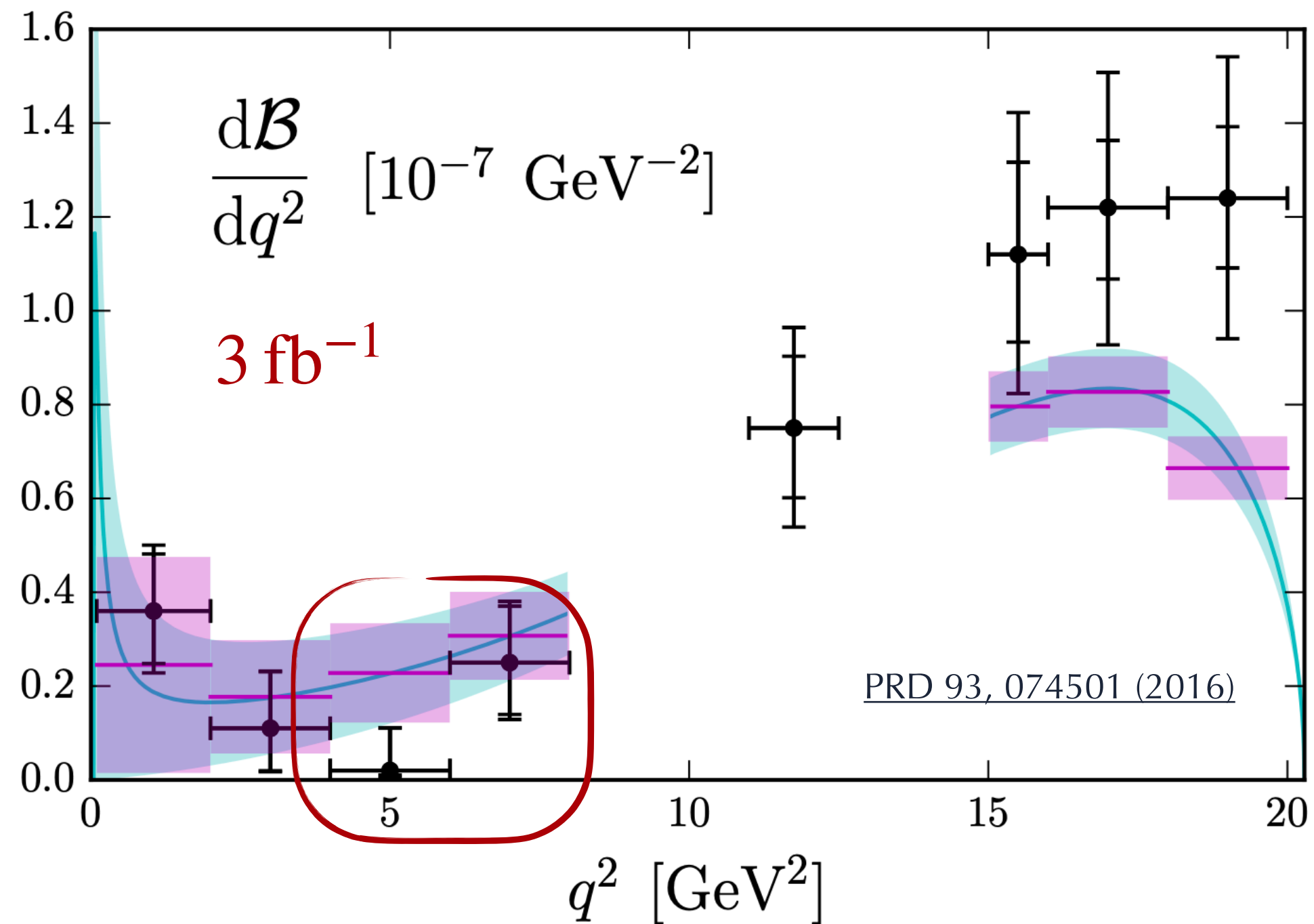
- ✓ Λ weakly-decaying hyperon
- ✗ lower efficiency to detect in acceptance
- ✗ lower efficiency to reconstruct vertex
- ✓ easier theoretical predictions
- ✗ interferences with other resonances
- ✓ Λ^* always decays in acceptance
- ✓ easy to reconstruct vertex
- ✗ more difficult theoretical interpretation

JHEP 06 (2015) 115



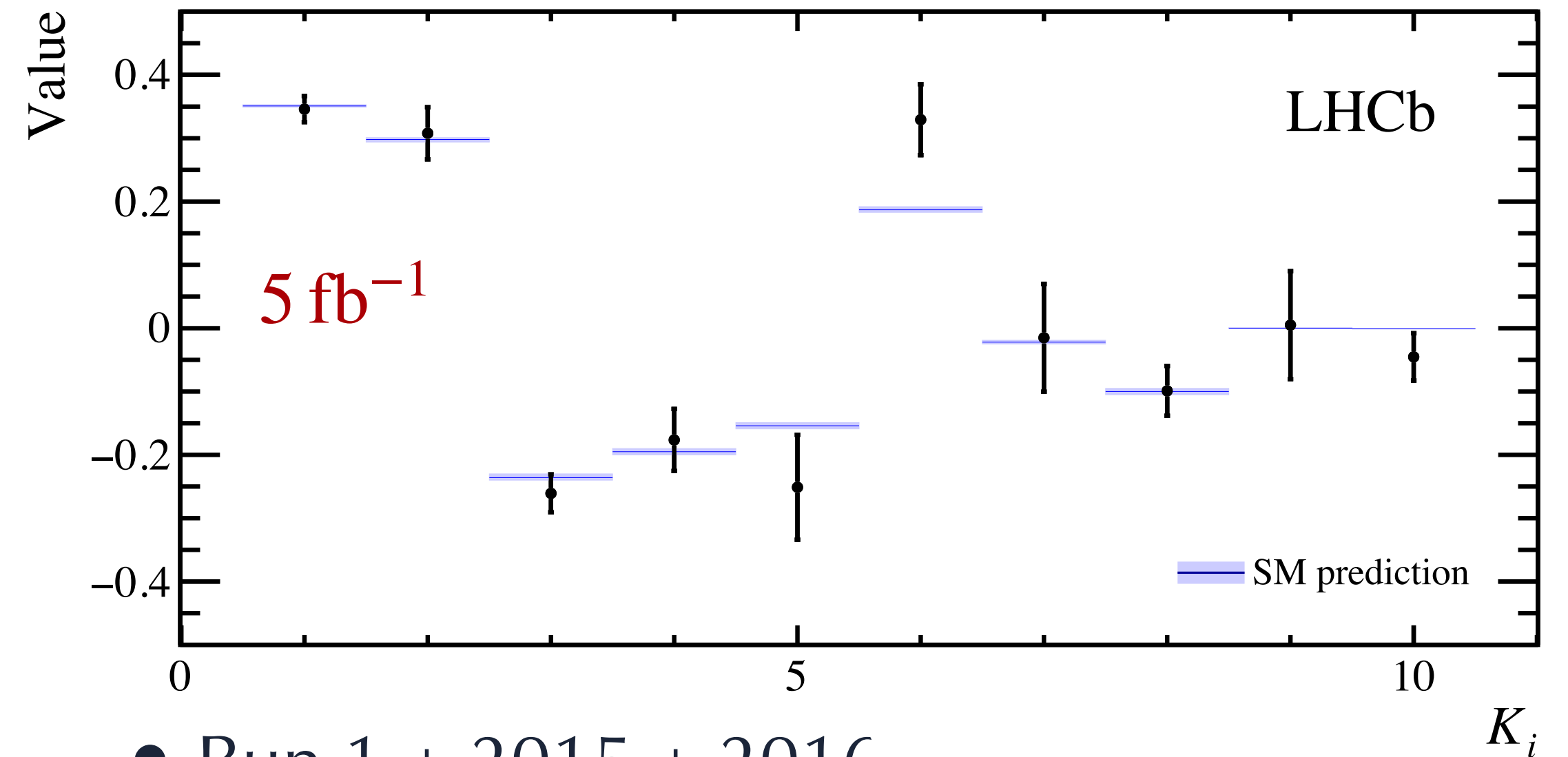
- Run 1 analysis with $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda(\rightarrow p\pi^-)\mu^+\mu^-$
- Normalised to J/ψ decay
- again **deviation in low q^2** region
- Dominant syst. uncertainty $\mathbf{B}(\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow J/\psi\Lambda)$

JHEP 06 (2015) 115



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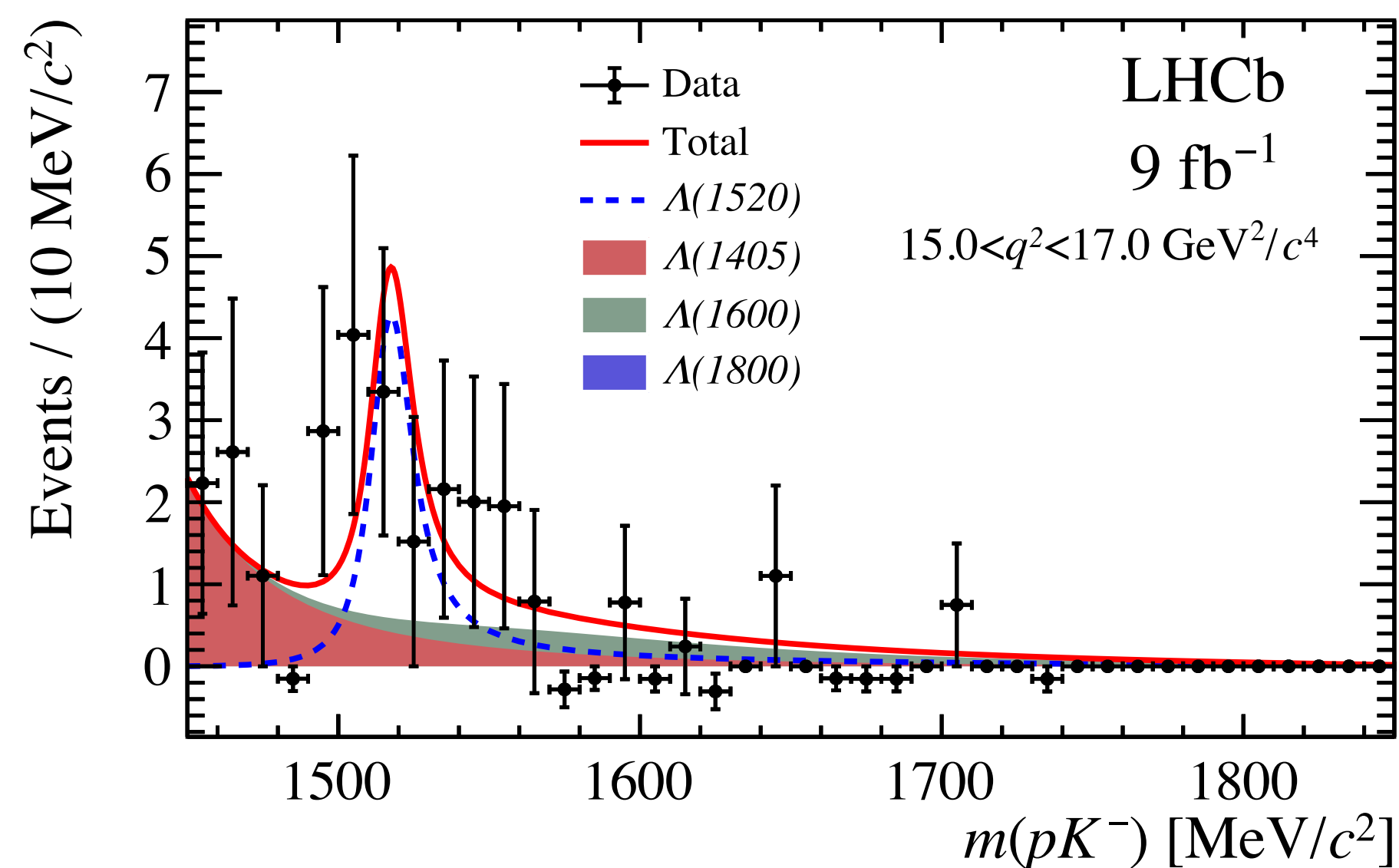
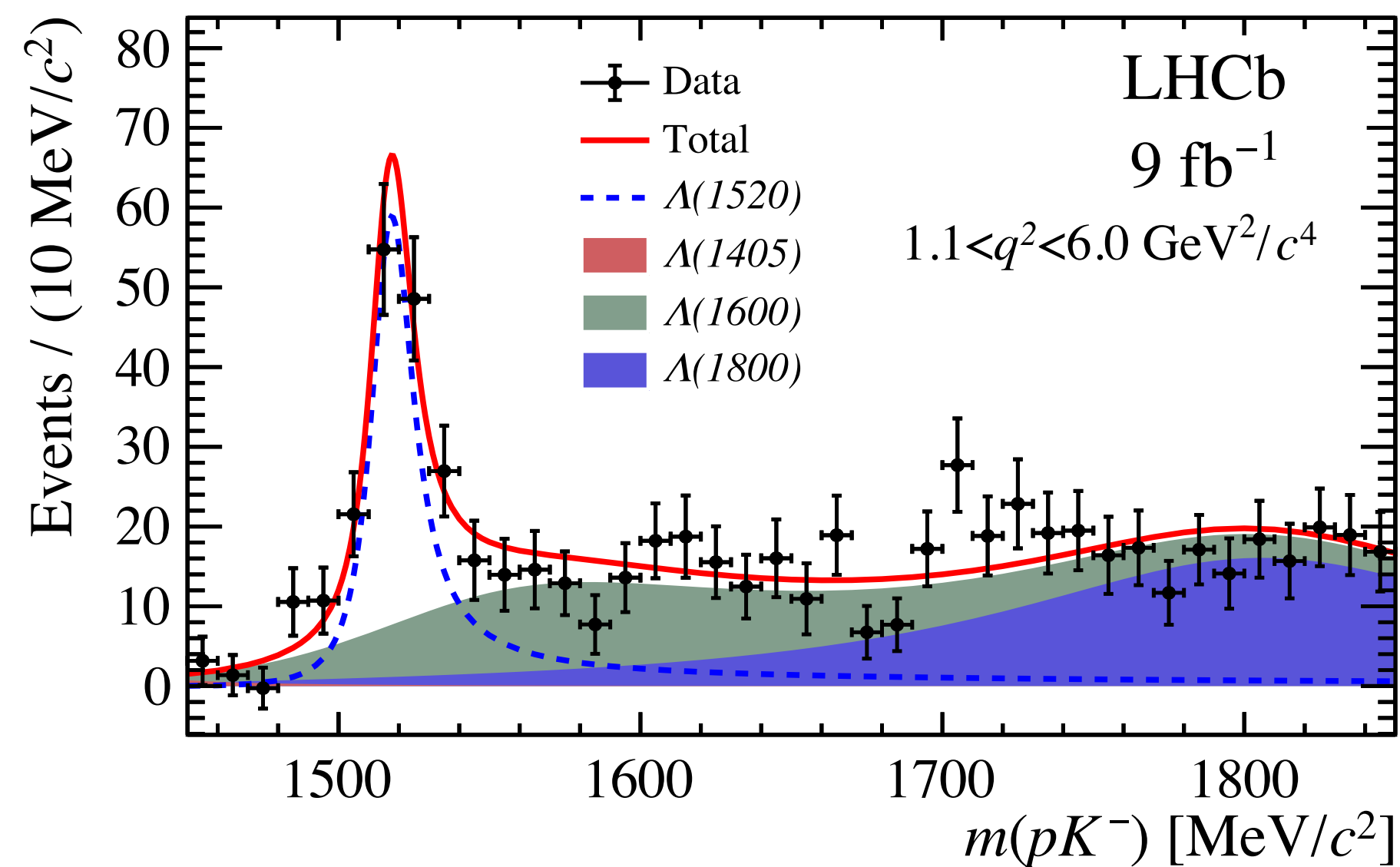
JHEP 09 (2018) 146



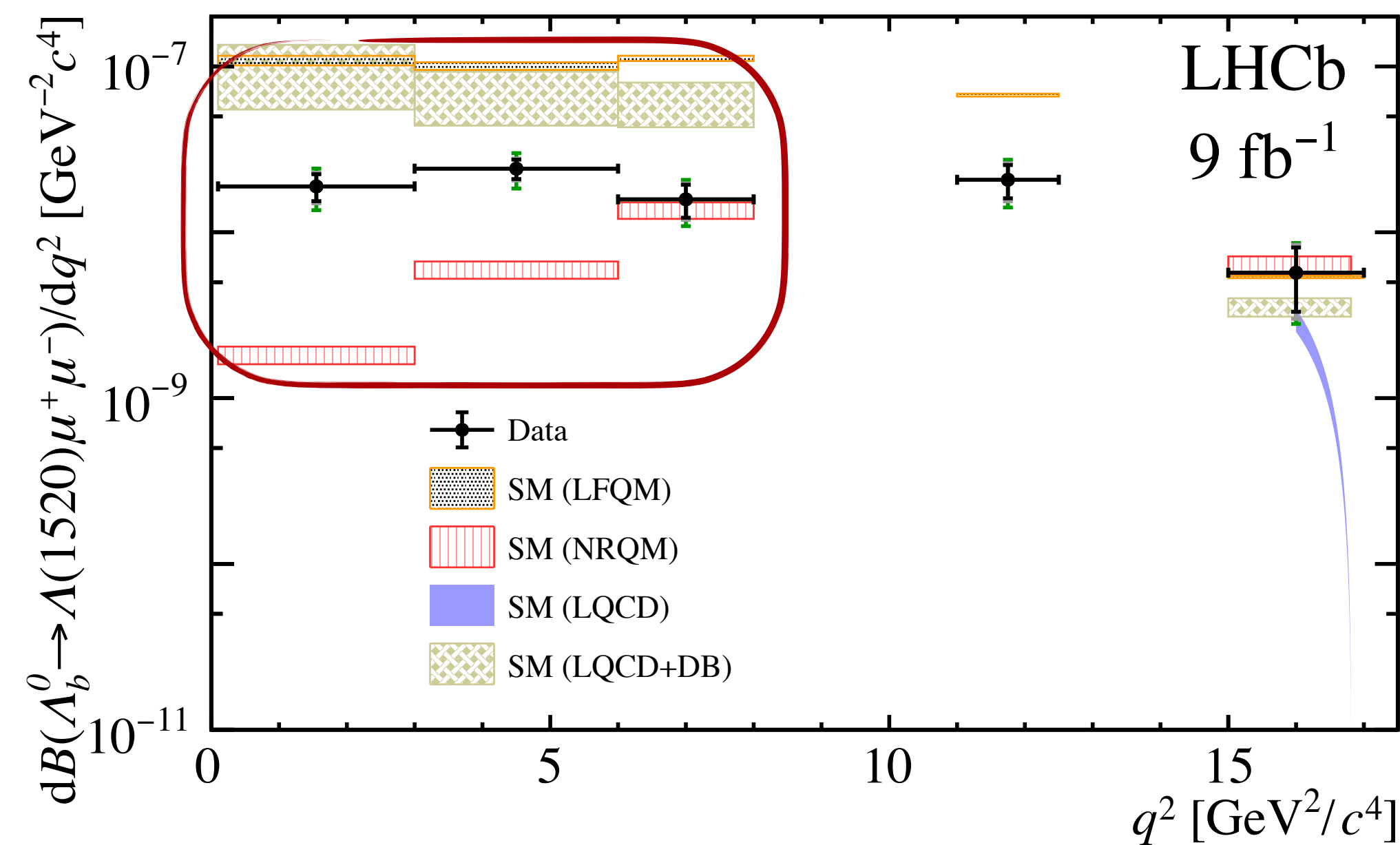
- Run 1 + 2015 + 2016
- Accounting for **possible polarised of Λ_b^0**
→ 5 angles: $\theta, \theta_l, \theta_b, \phi_l, \phi_b$
- Method of Moments angular analysis
→ extracting full basis for first time
- Extracted from high $q^2 [15, 20] \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$
- Consistent with SM

arXiv:2302.08262

Accepted by PRL



- First measurement of rare decay with $\Lambda(1520) \rightarrow pK^-$ resonance
- Normalised to $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow pK^- J/\psi$
- Narrow $\Lambda(1520)$ width ~ 16 MeV
- High- q^2 consistent with SM,
low- q^2 inconclusive



- Several results in semi-leptonic $b \rightarrow s\mu^+\mu^-$ constraining NP
- Tensions with SM persist in decay rates and angular observables
- More results for LFU und LFV in A. López Huertas talk
- Also measurements with $b \rightarrow d\mu^+\mu^-$ decays
e.g. $B^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm\mu^+\mu^-$ JHEP 10 (2015) 034, $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow p\pi^-\mu^+\mu^-$ JHEP 04 (2017) 029
- New measurement and more results updating to full Run 1+2 on the way

More data will become available with Run 3. **Still statistically dominated**, so stay tuned!



Backup

Mesons

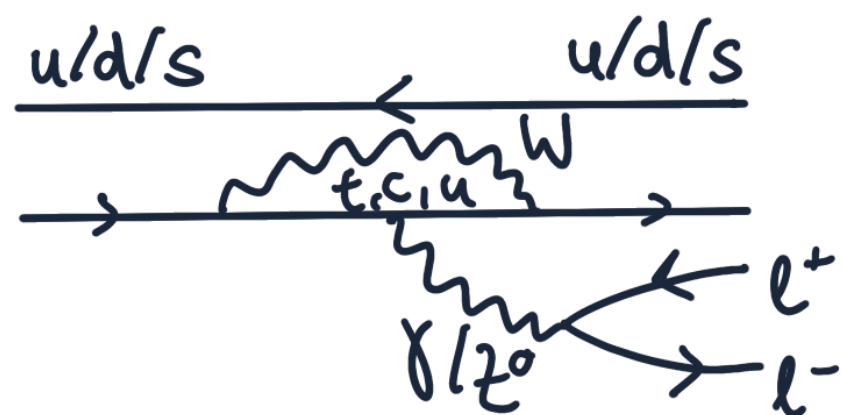
$0 \rightarrow 0$



$0 \rightarrow 1$



$0 \rightarrow 2$



Baryons

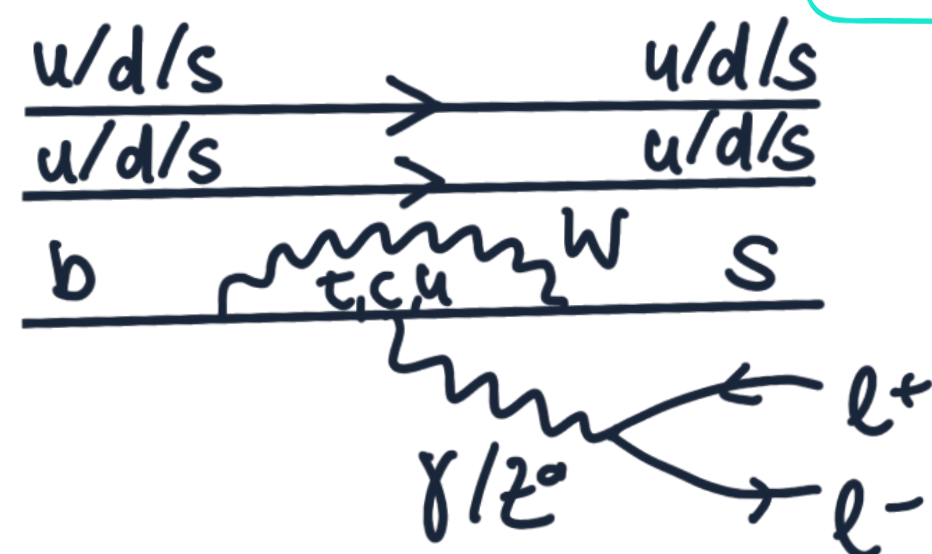
$1/2 \rightarrow 1/2$



$1/2 \rightarrow 3/2$



$1/2 \rightarrow 5/2$



'narrow' final state hadron

→ easy to select

'broad' final state hadron

→ interferences of overlapping states

weakly-decaying final state

→ easier theoretical interpretation

Testing different spin configurations
Weakly-decaying hadrons rich angular structure

Example for $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi \mu^+ \mu^-$

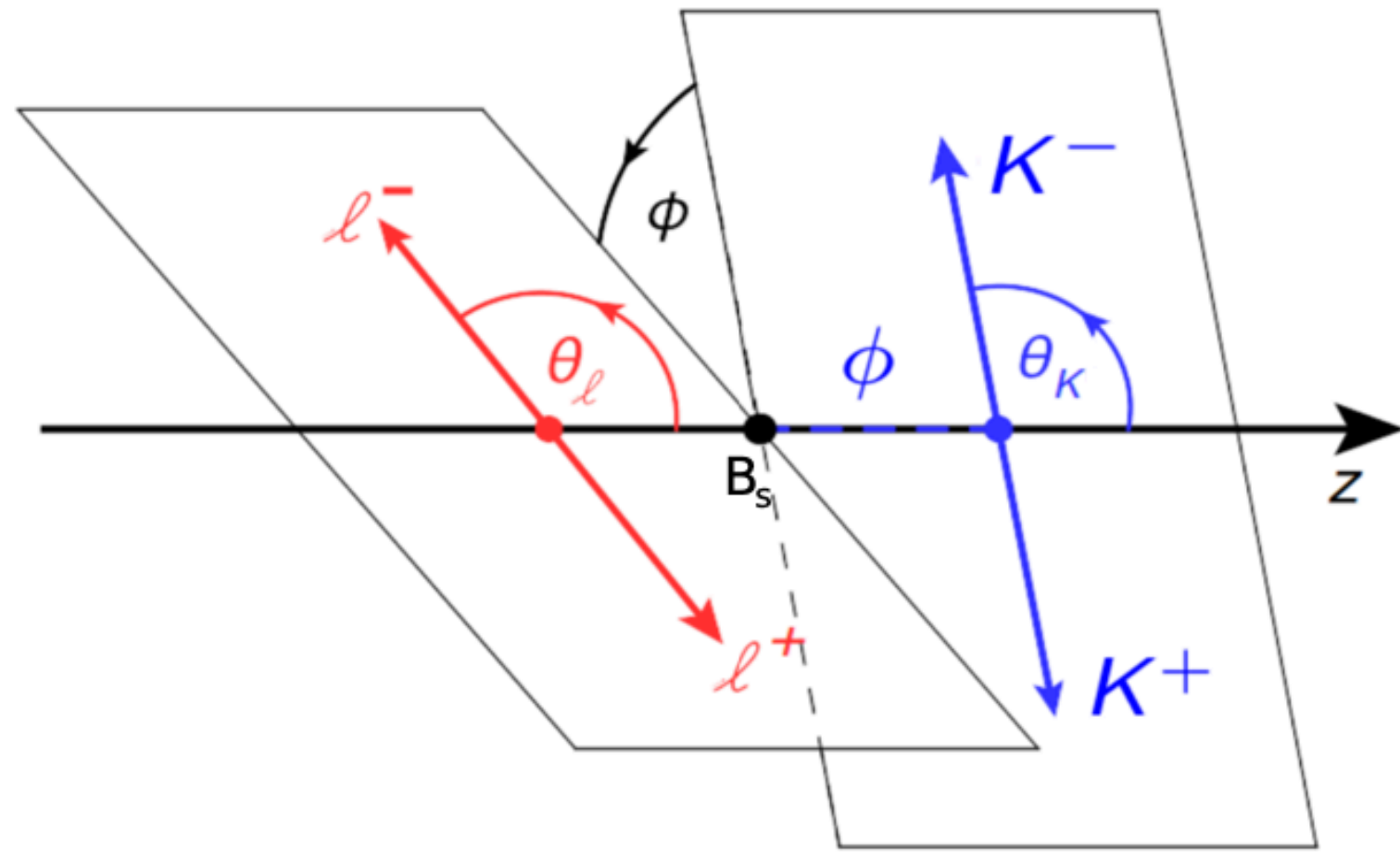
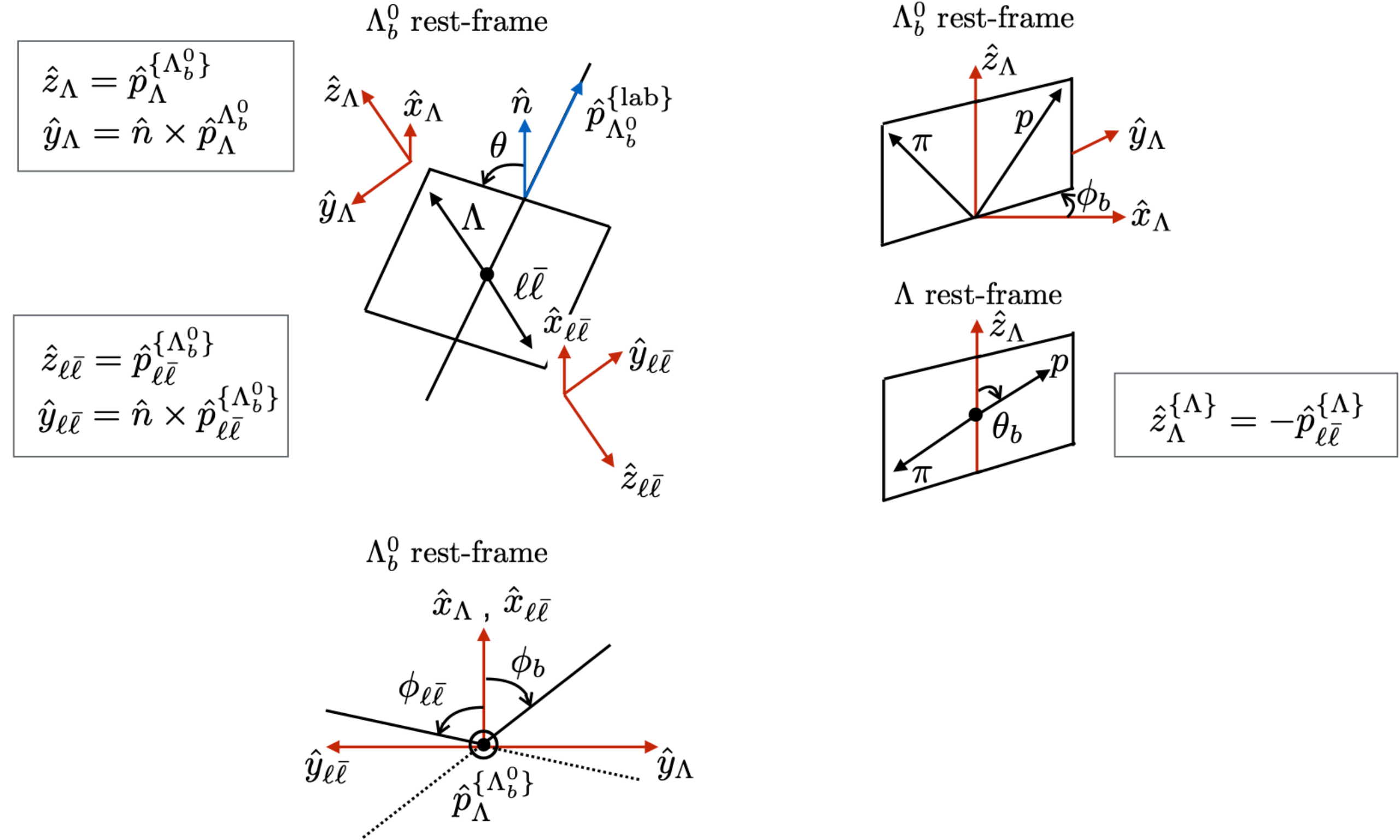


Figure 2: Schematic of the three decay angles, θ_K , θ_l and ϕ .

θ_K : angle between the daughter particles of the strange hadron
 θ_l : angle between the two leptons
 ϕ : angle between lepton and hadron plane

Example for $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda \mu^+ \mu^-$



5 angles reduce to 3 again for unpolarised Λ_b^0 .
 No polarisation supported by LHCb, CMS and ATLAS measurements