

Hadron spectroscopy at BESIII

Recent results and future perspectives

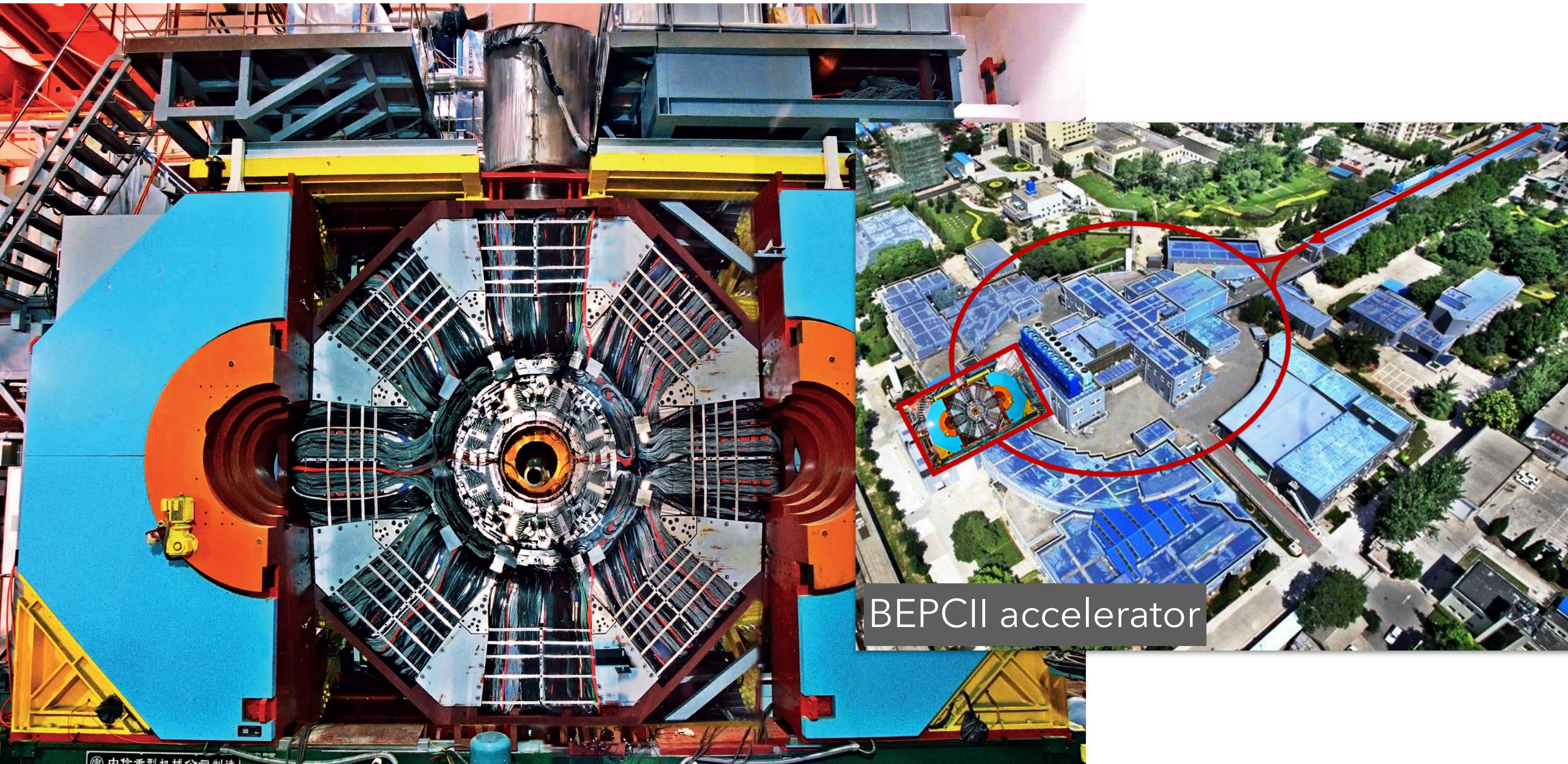
Nils Hüskens
JGU Mainz

JOHANNES GUTENBERG
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ



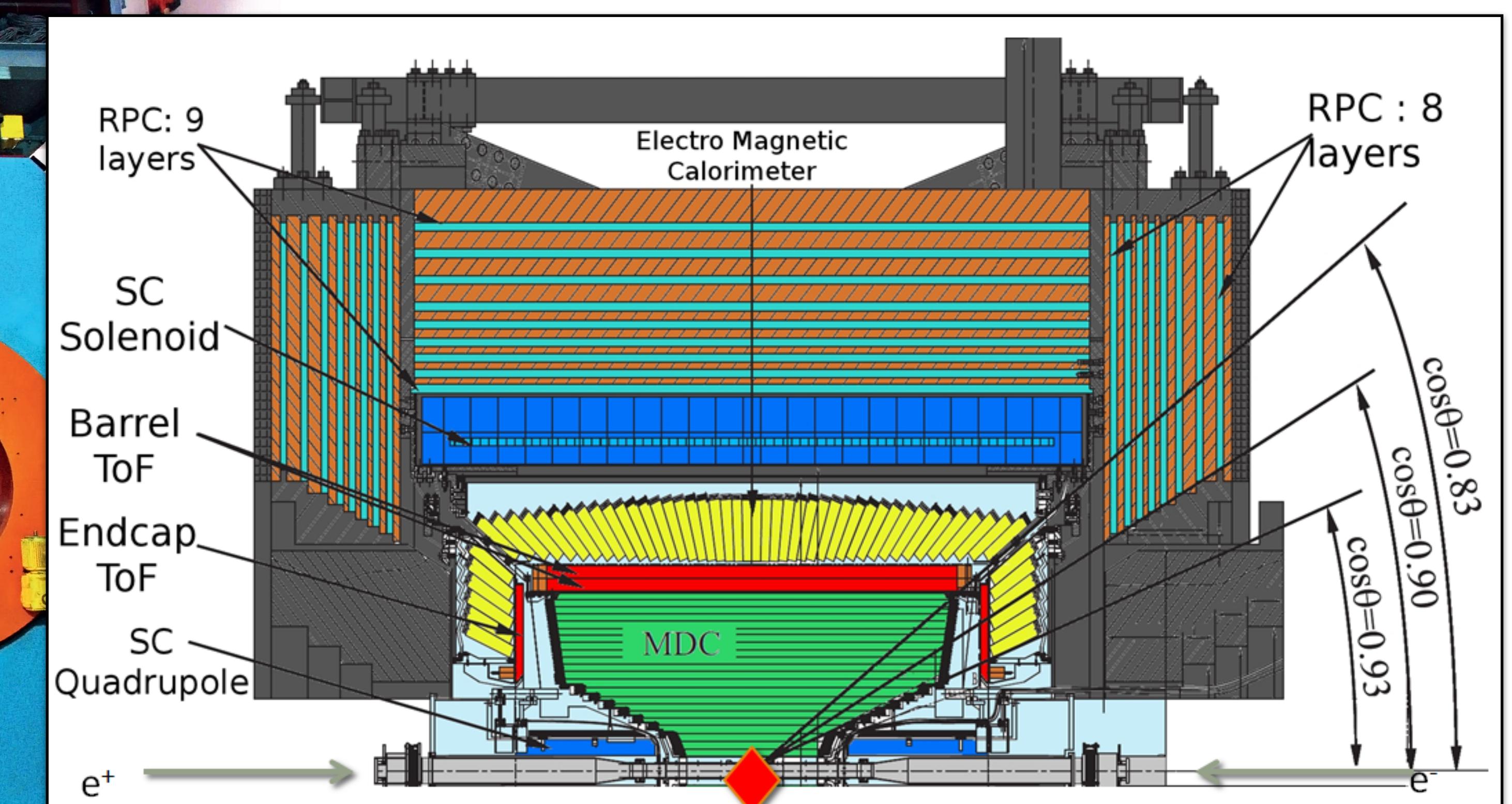
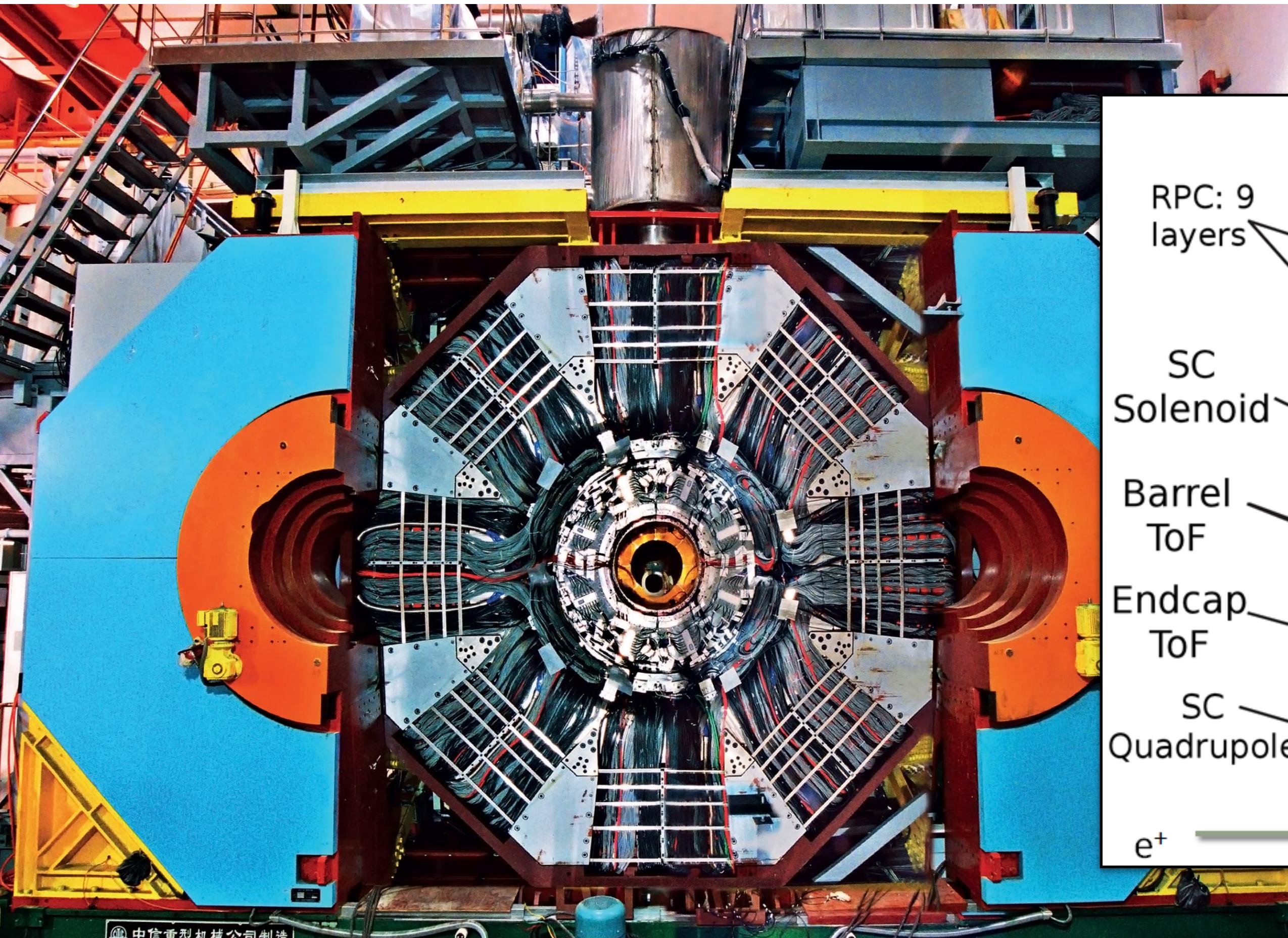
April 15th, 2025

BESIII

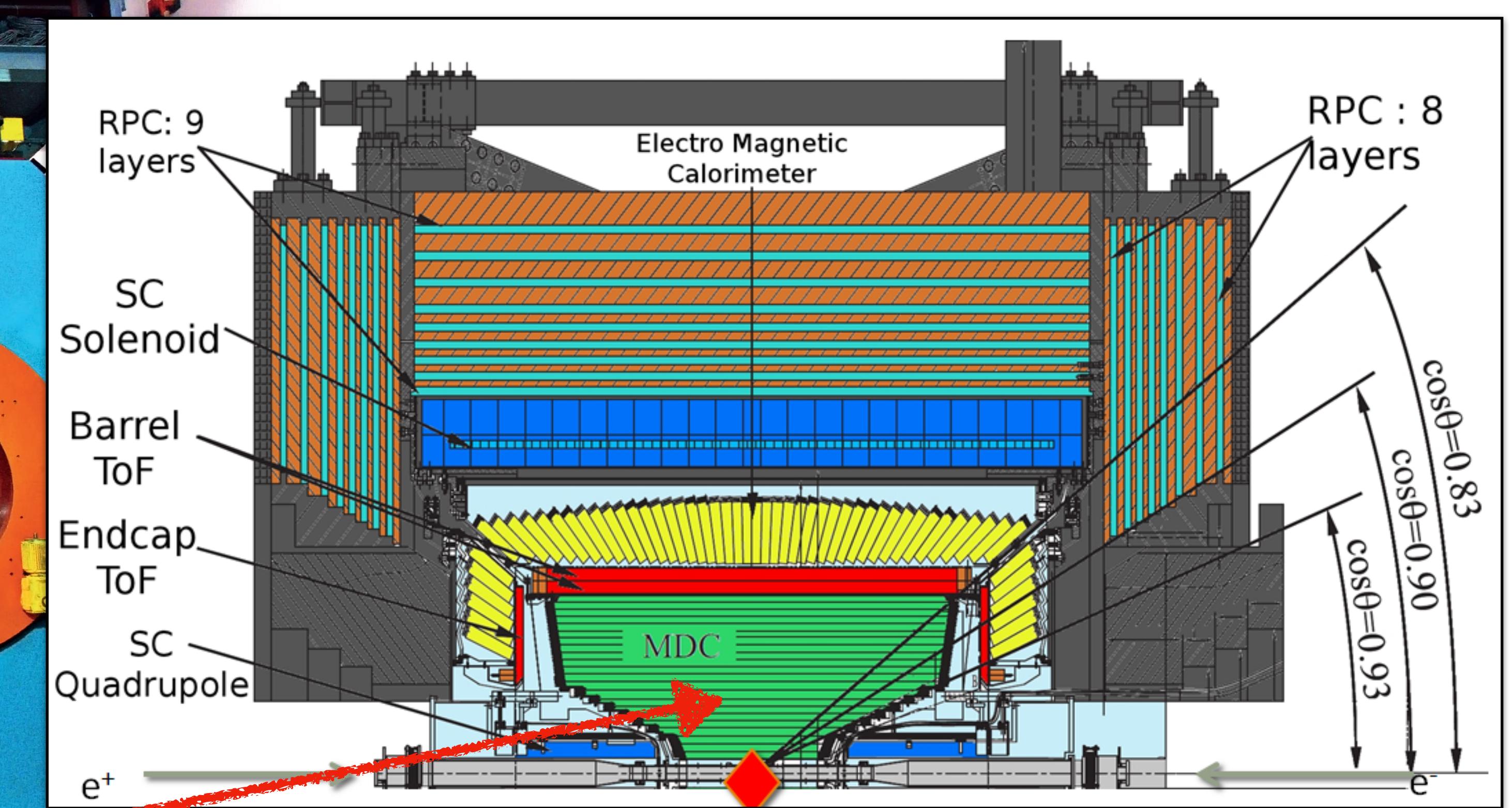
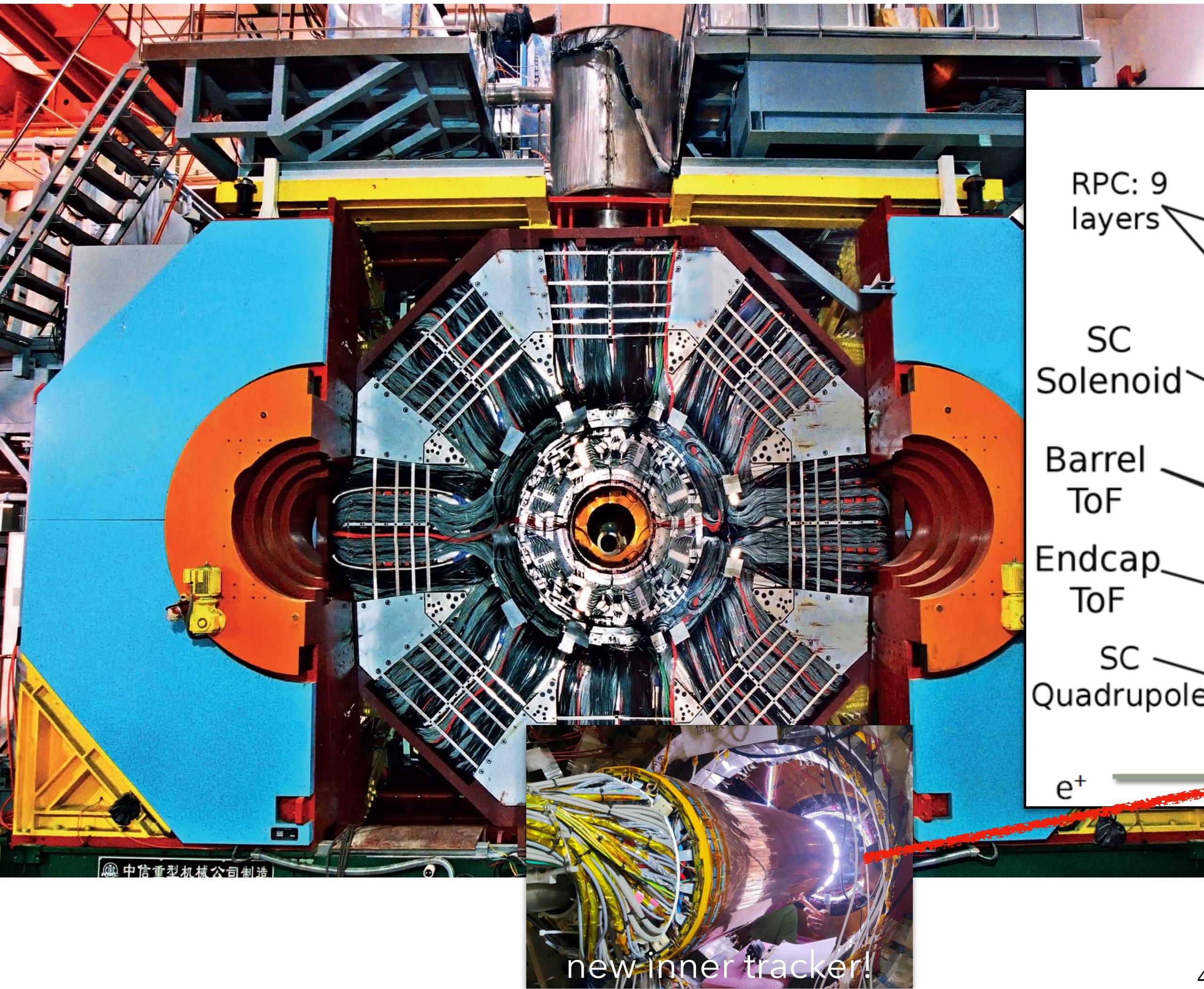


- located at IHEP, Beijing
- operating in τ -charm region:
2 GeV – 5 GeV
- luminosity of $10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2}s^{-1}$
- over 600 members from 85 institutes in 17 countries

BESIII



BESIII



BESIII

broad physics program:

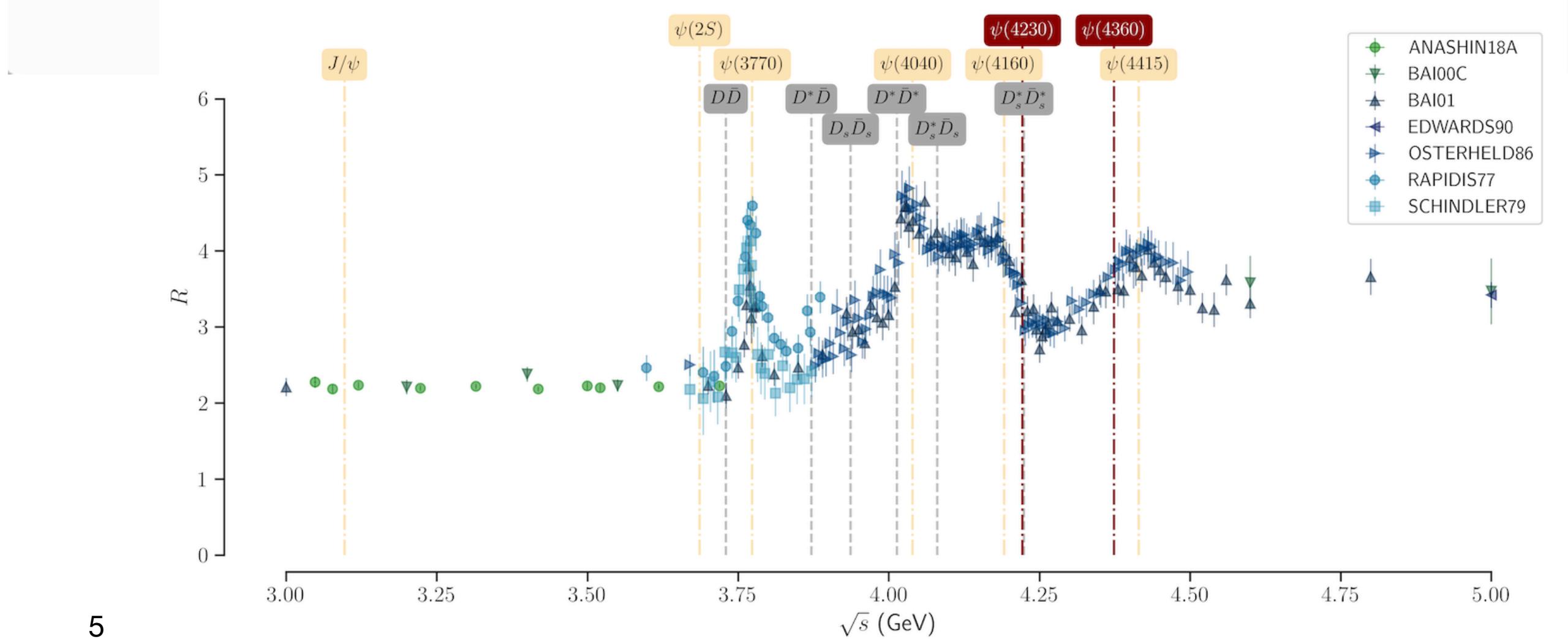
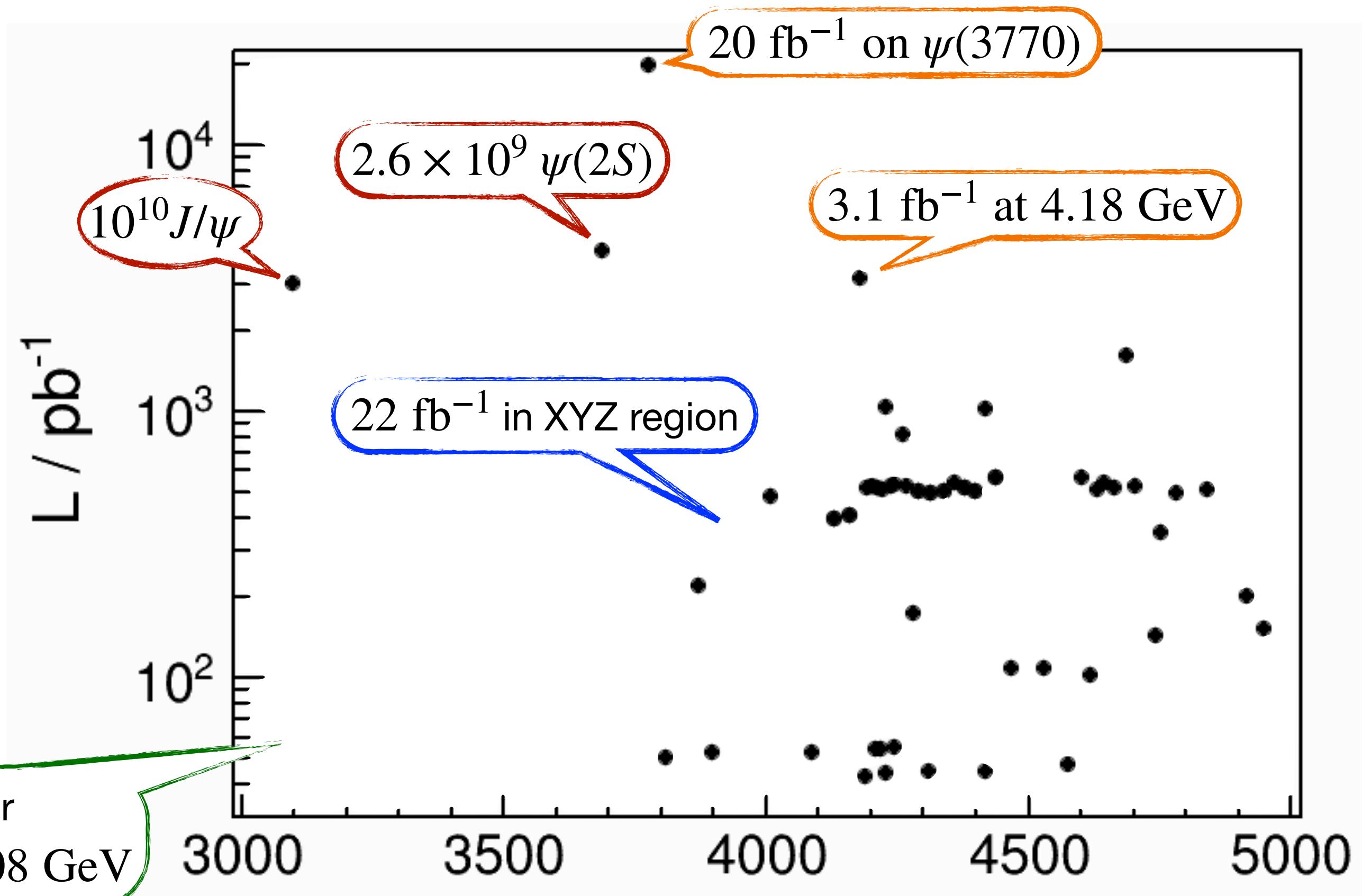
- light hadron spectroscopy including searches for glueballs and hybrid mesons
- η and η' decays
- charmonium transitions
- hyperon physics

- excited ρ , ω , ϕ

- D , D_s decays
- $D^0\bar{D}^0$ pairs
- initial-state-radiation physics
- two-photon fusion

- spectroscopy of charmonium(-like) states
- decays of $X(3872)$, $Z_c(3900)$, ...
- open-charm production
- charmed baryons

- ...

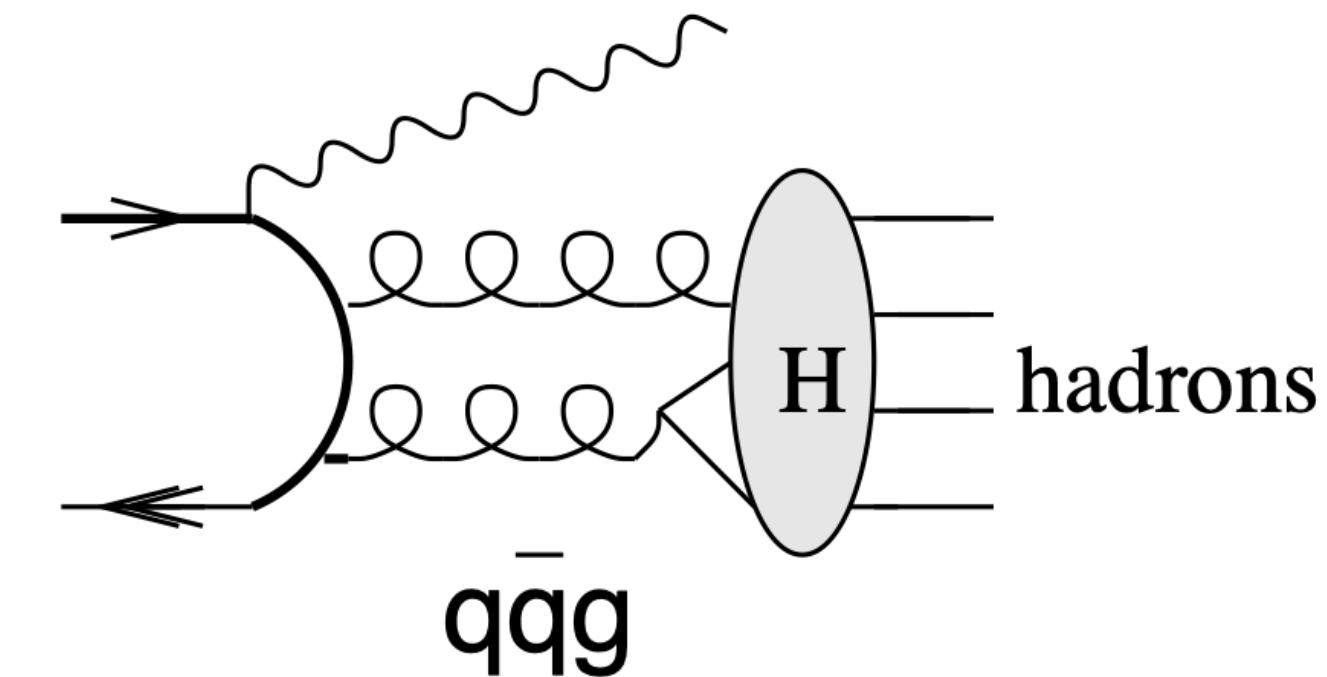
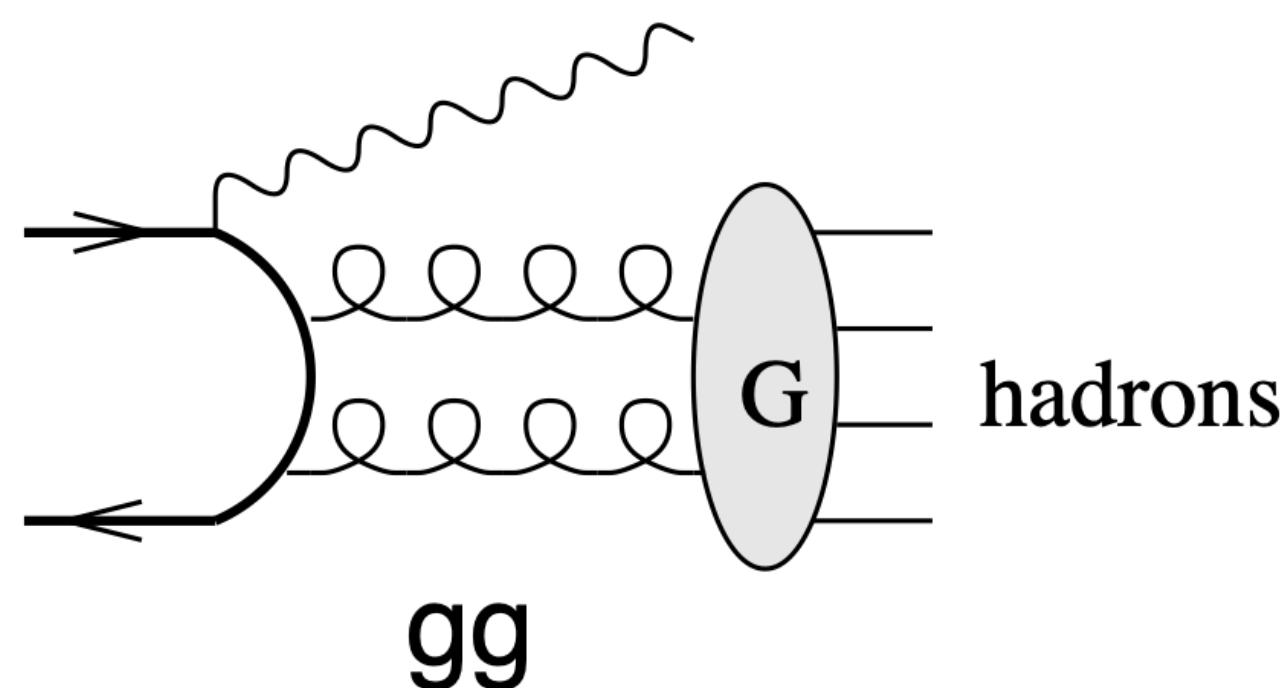


Light hadron spectroscopy

Radiative J/ψ decays

a unique laboratory for light hadron spectroscopy:

- clean, high statistics sample of J/ψ decays
- well-defined initial state with $J^{PC} = 1^{--}$
- radiative decays provide gluon-rich environment

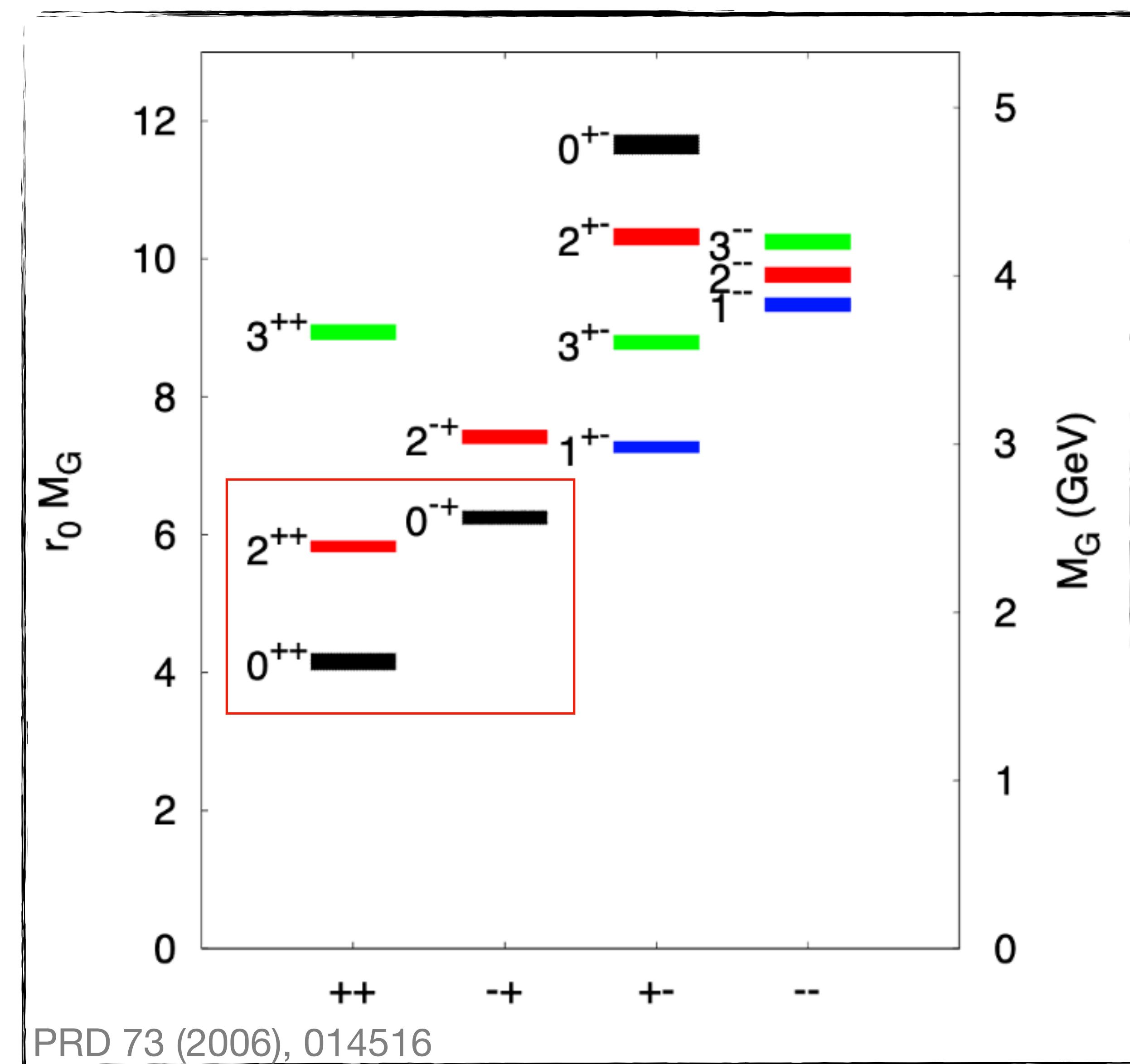
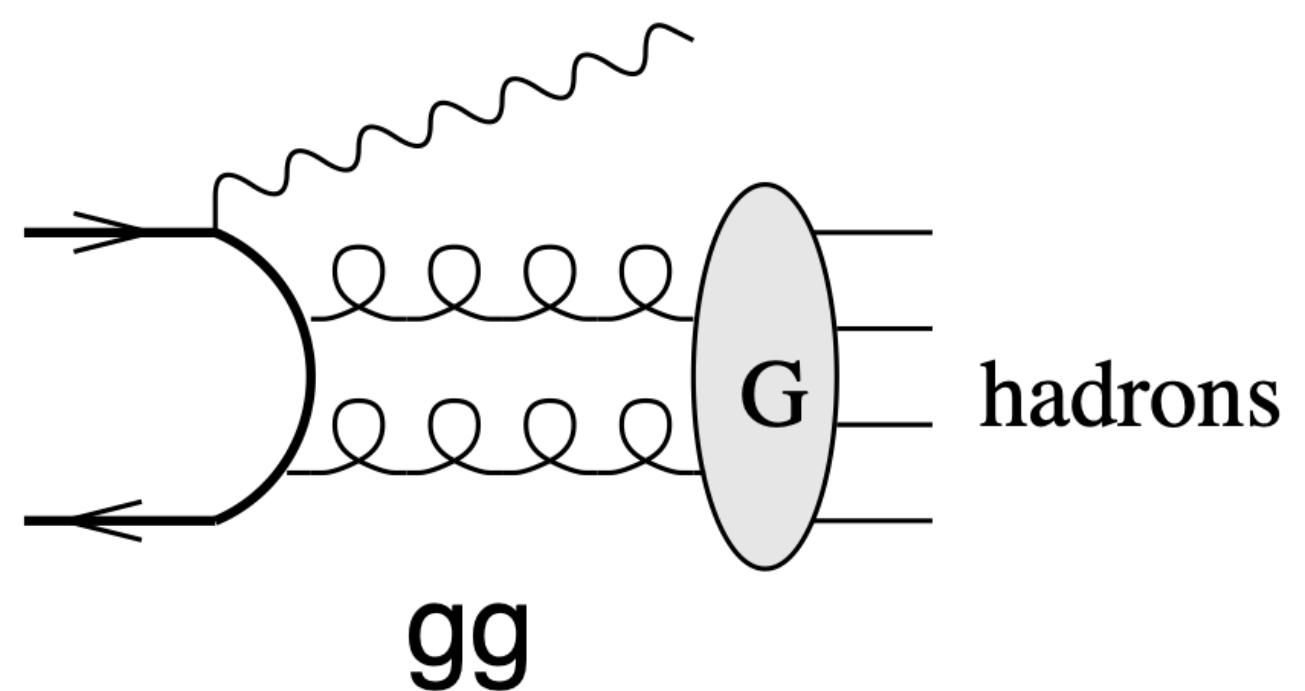


eConf C020620 (2002) THAT07

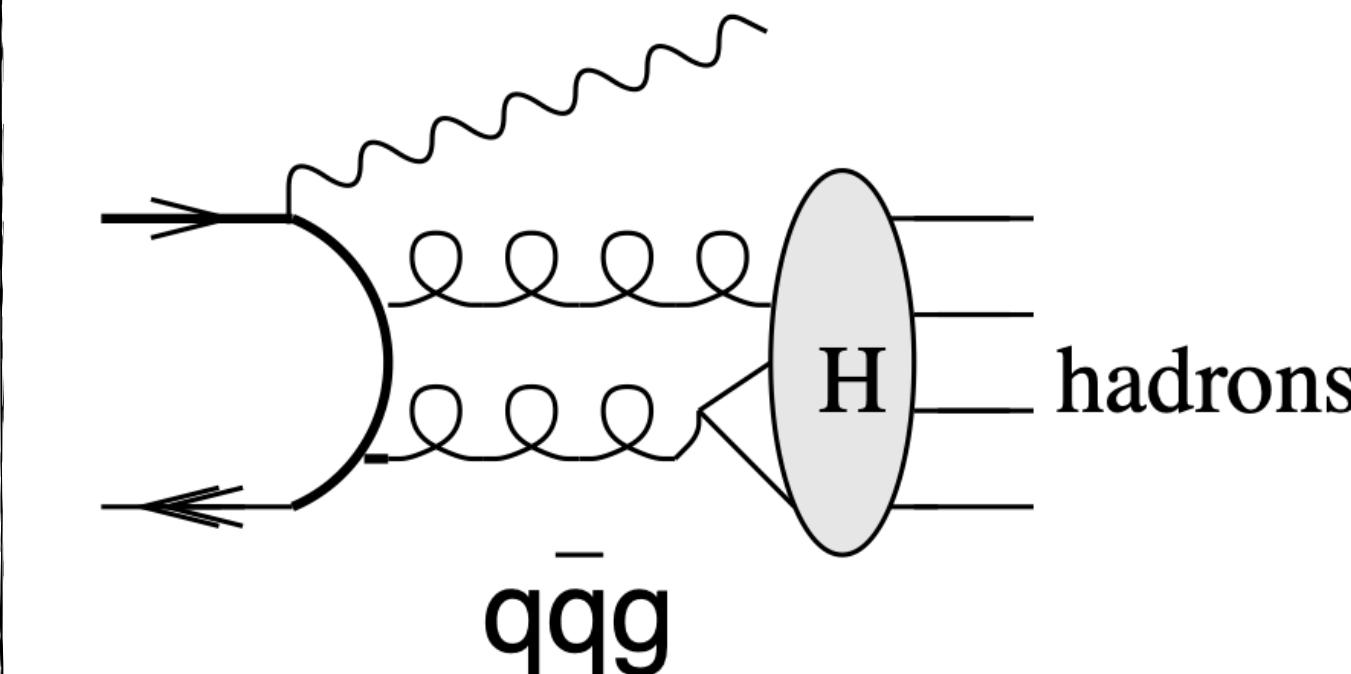
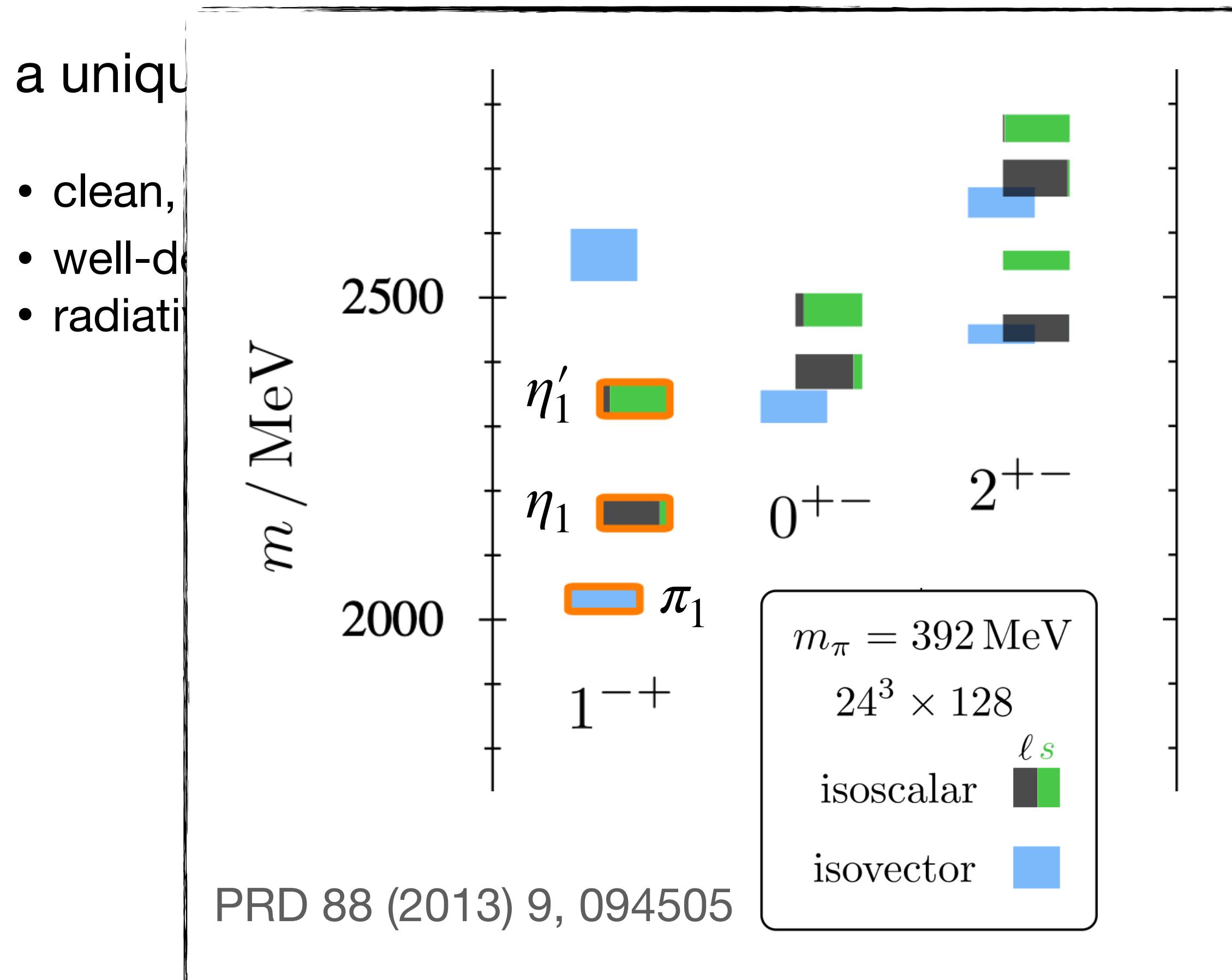
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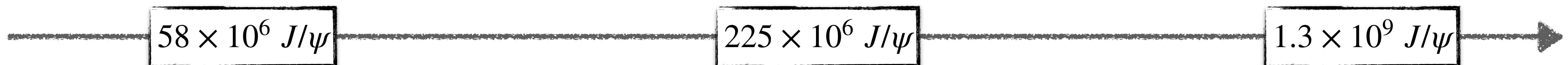
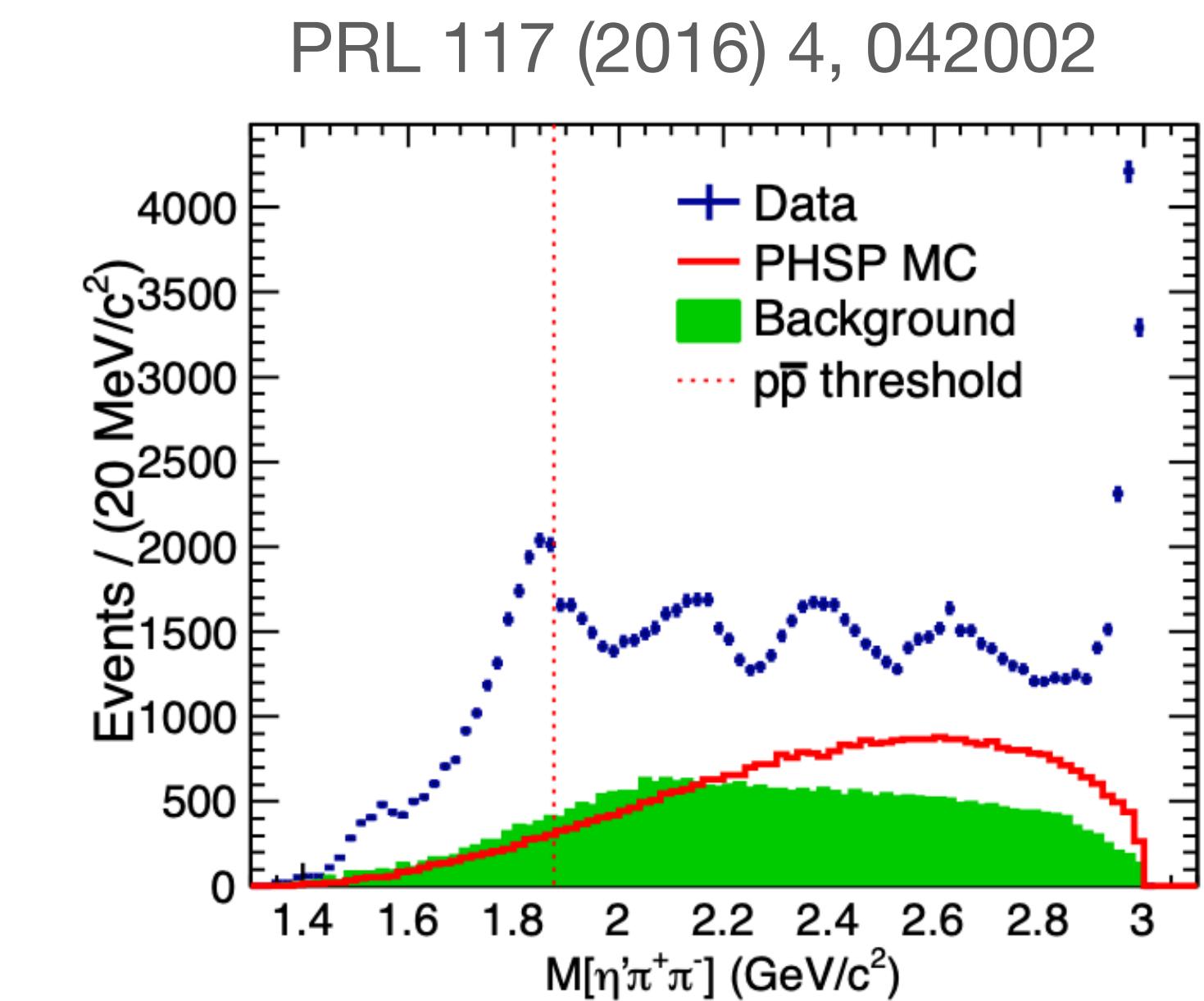
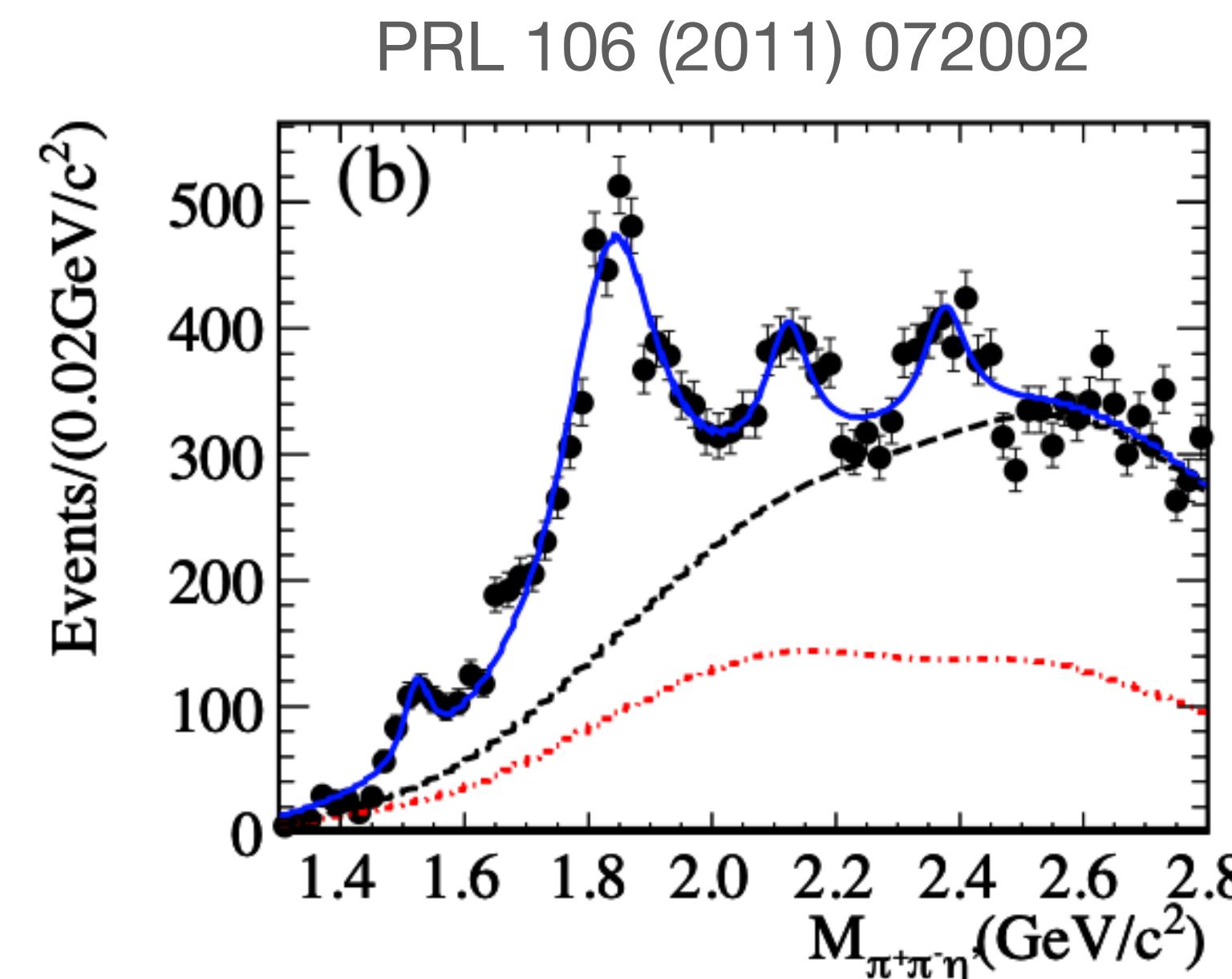
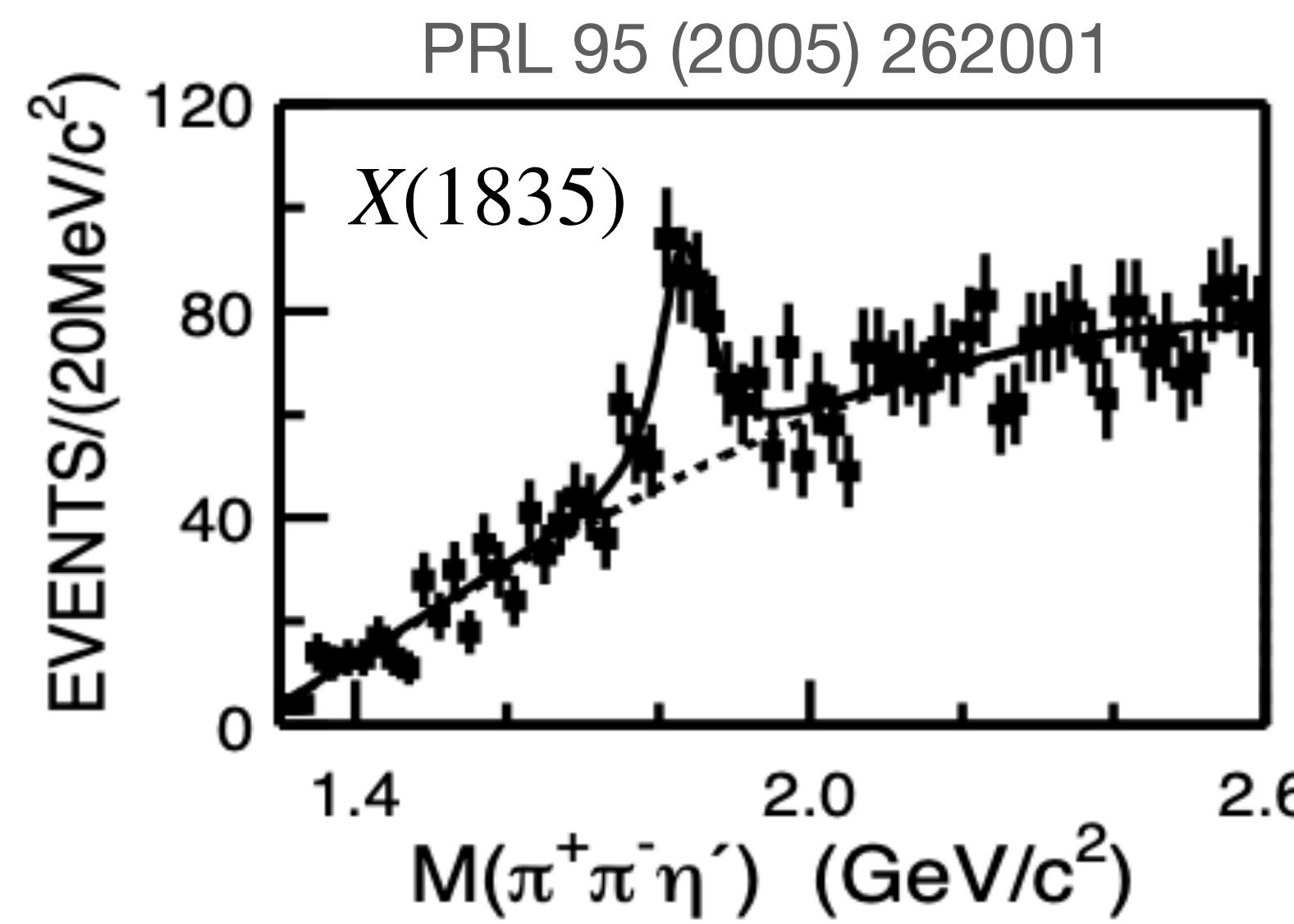
Radiative J/ψ decays



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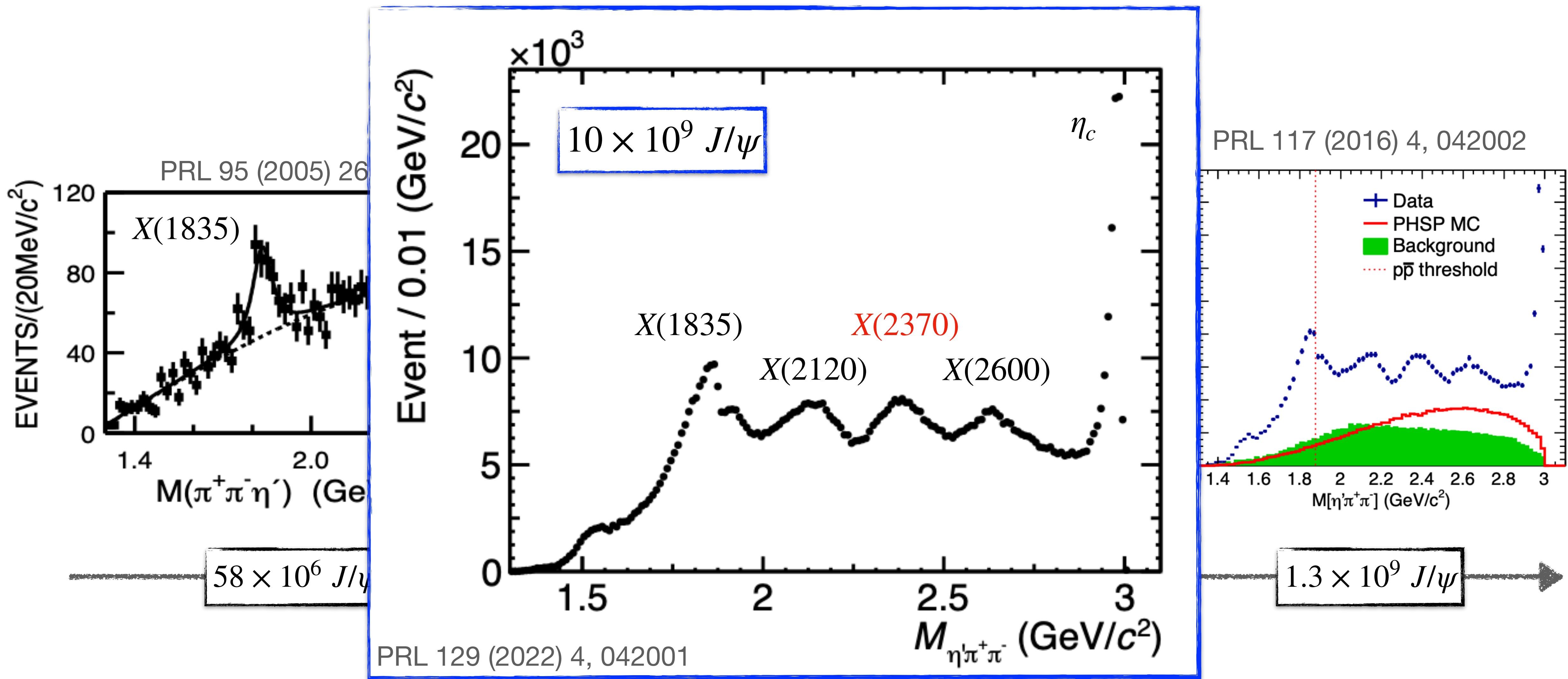
$J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma\eta'\pi^+\pi^-$

or why you can never have too many J/ψ



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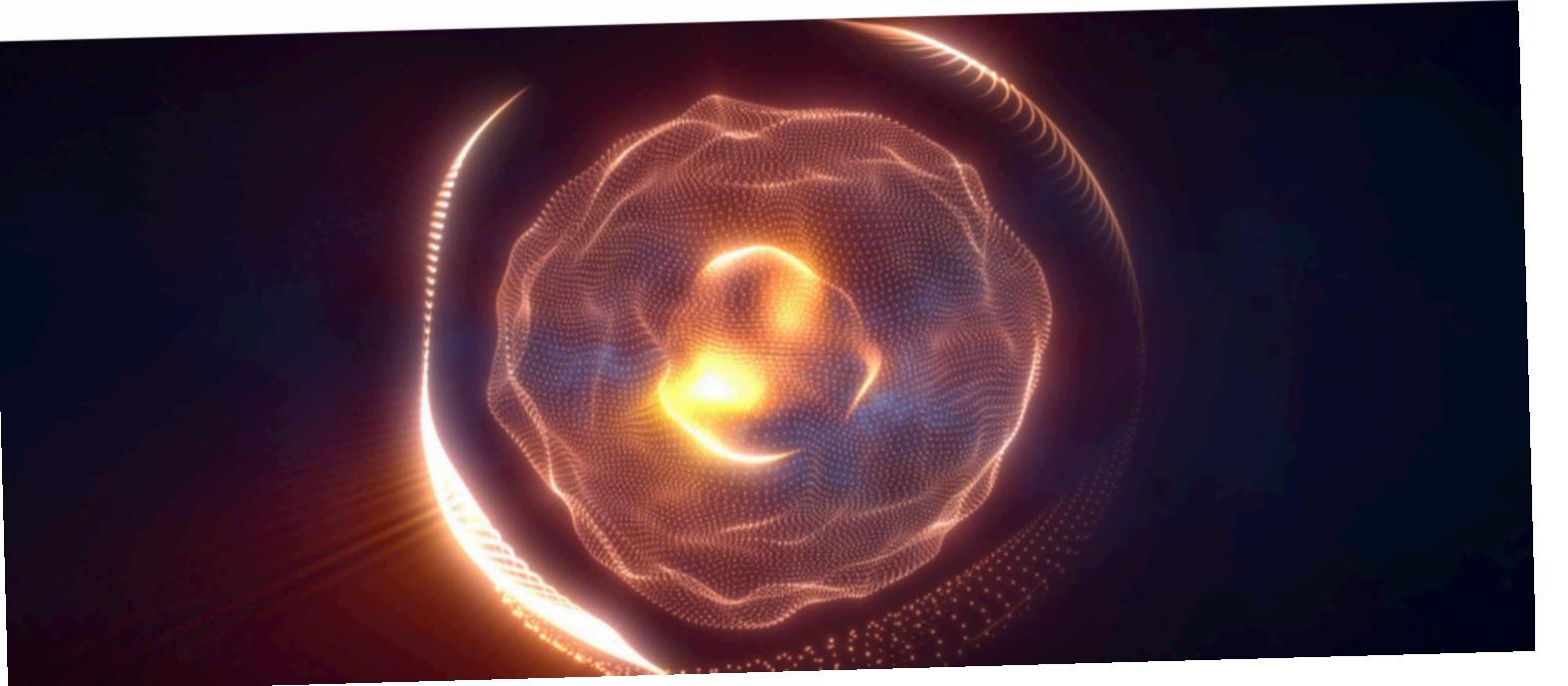
The $X(2370)$

Bericht
10.05.2024
Lesedauer ca. 2 Minuten
[Drucken](#)
[Teilen](#)

TEILCHENPHYSIK
Chinesischer Beschleuniger findet Hinweise auf Gluonenball

Das Standardmodell sagt Teilchen voraus, die nur aus Gluonen bestehen – allerdings wurden sie noch nie beobachtet. Nun scheint ein chinesischer Beschleuniger solche Gluonenbälle erstmals nachgewiesen zu haben.

von [Manon Bischoff](#)



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WOW! A NEW PARTICLE!

Major Evidence of a New Particle Called Glueball: Here's Why It...
289.001 Aufrufe • vor 6 Monaten

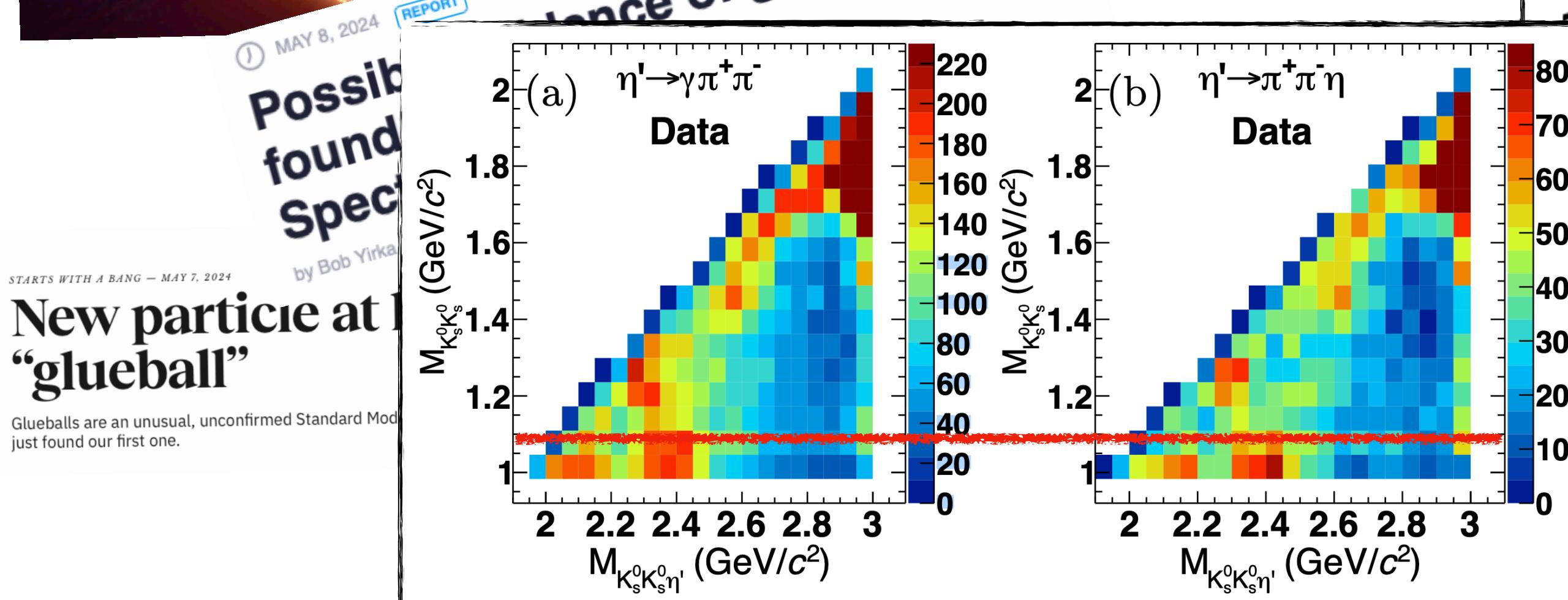
Anton Petrov ✓
0:00 New particle physics discovery 0:55 Proton sti
4K

Possible evidence of glueballs found during Beijing Spectrometer III experiments
REPORT
MAY 8, 2024 by Bob Yirka, Phys.org
STARTS WITH A BANG — MAY 7, 2024
Editors' notes

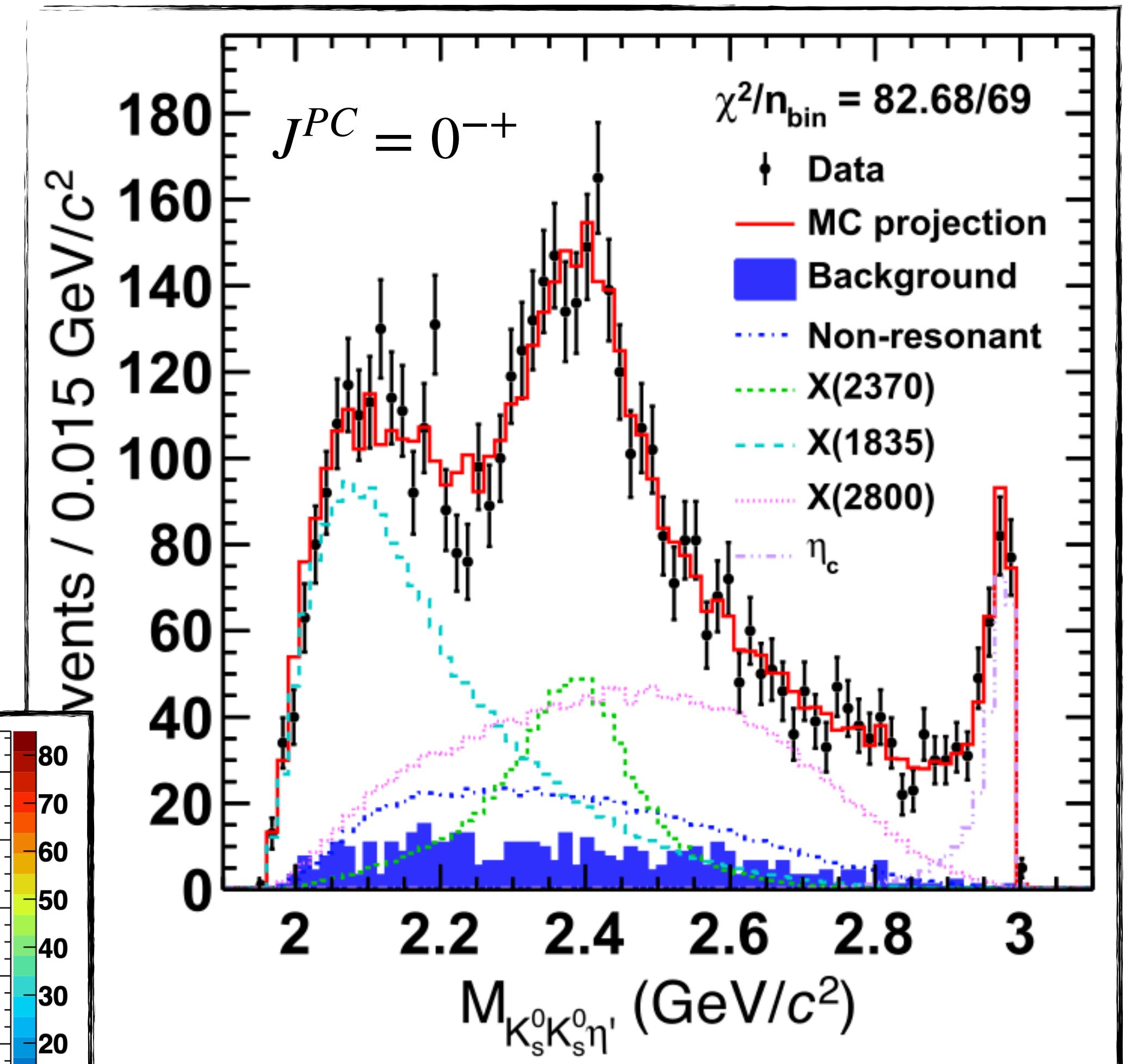
New particle at last! Physicists detect the first “glueball”

Glueballs are an unusual, unconfirmed Standard Model prediction, suggesting bound states of gluons alone exist. We just found our first one.

The $X(2370)$



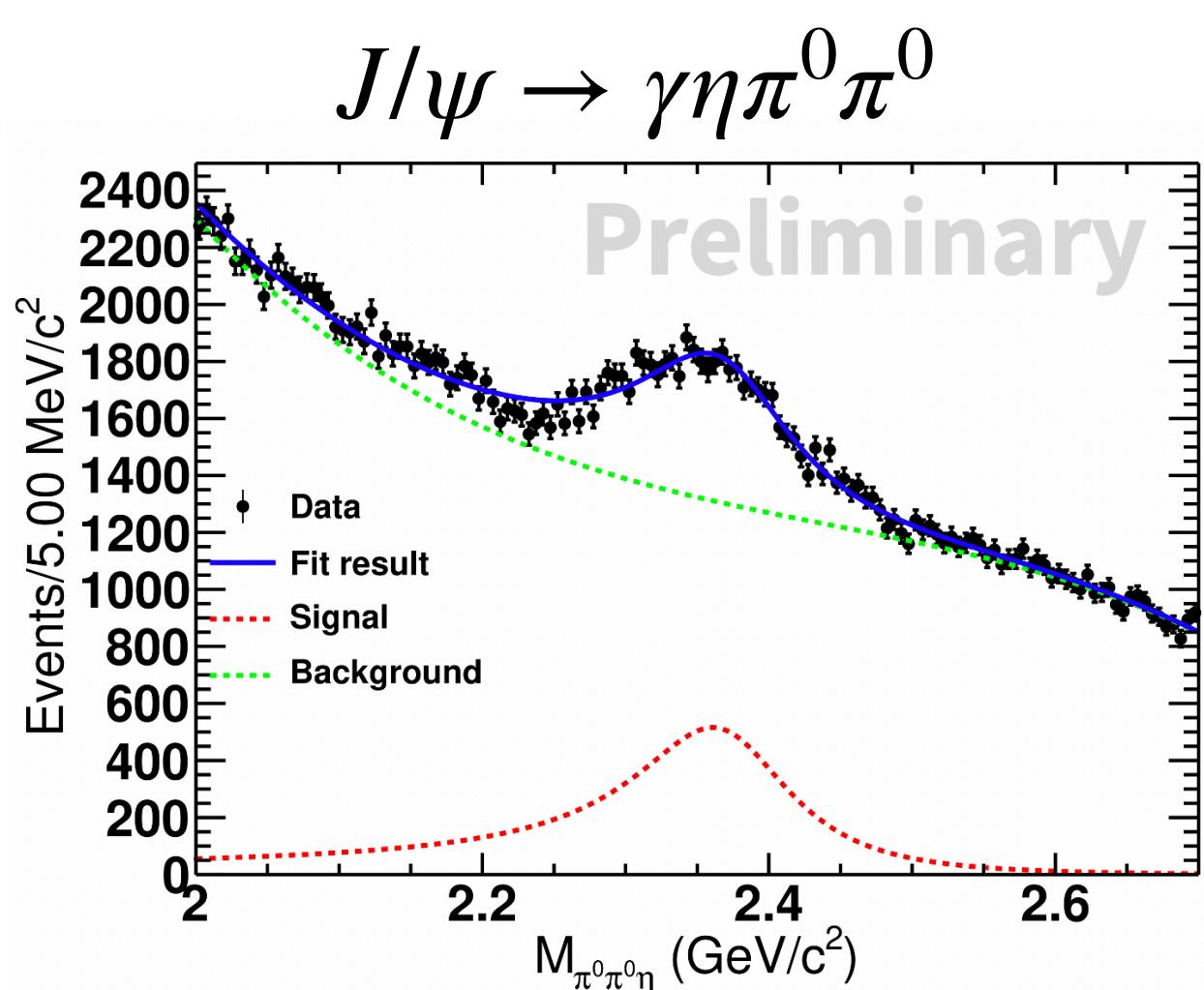
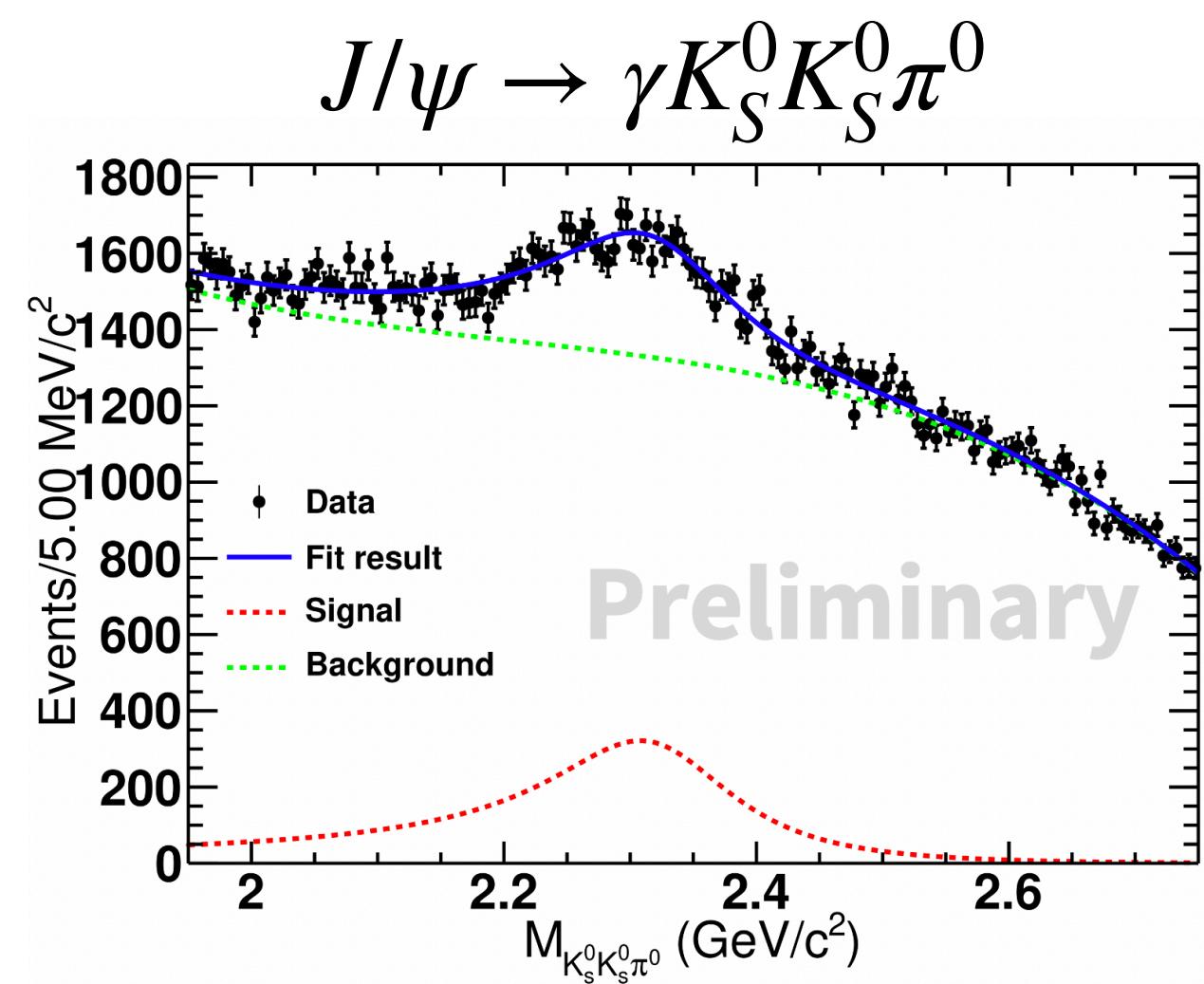
Spin-parity of $X(2370)$ in $J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma K_S^0 K_S^0 \eta'$



PRL 132, 181901 (2024)

The $X(2370)$

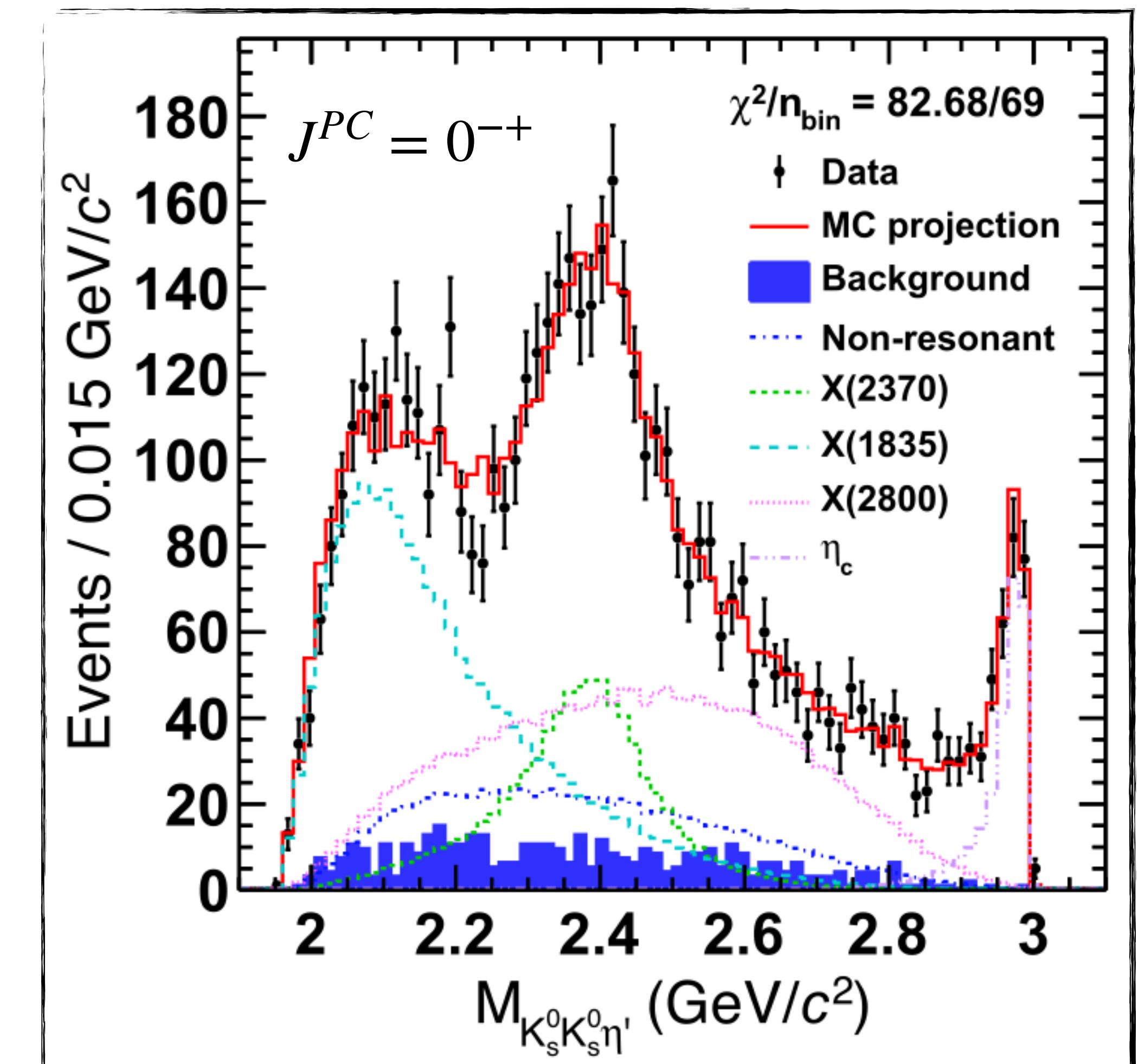
- solid evidence for a new pseudoscalar in multiple final states



- possibly through $f_0(980)\eta'$ and $a_0(980)\pi$ intermediate states

→ we need to know much more!

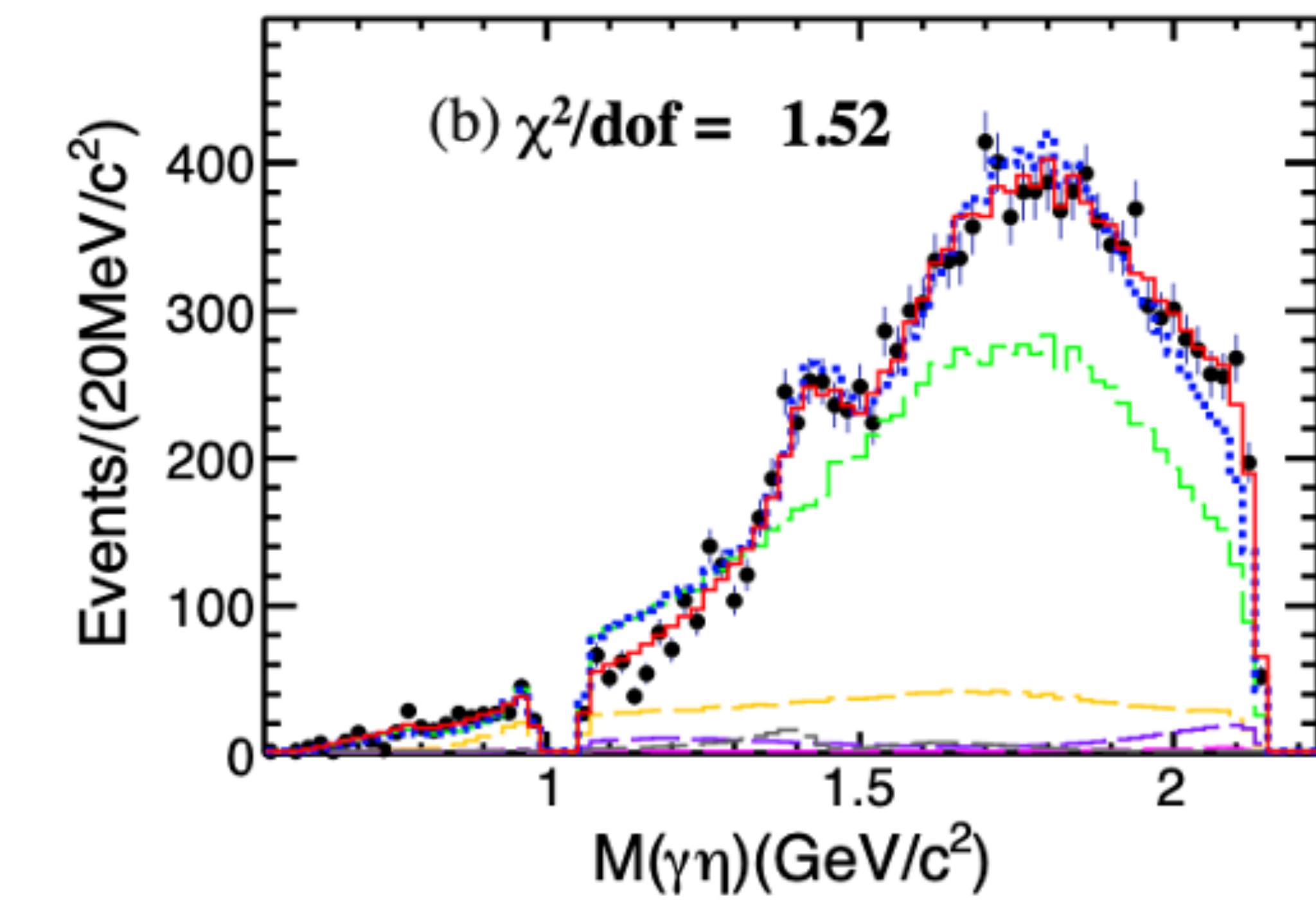
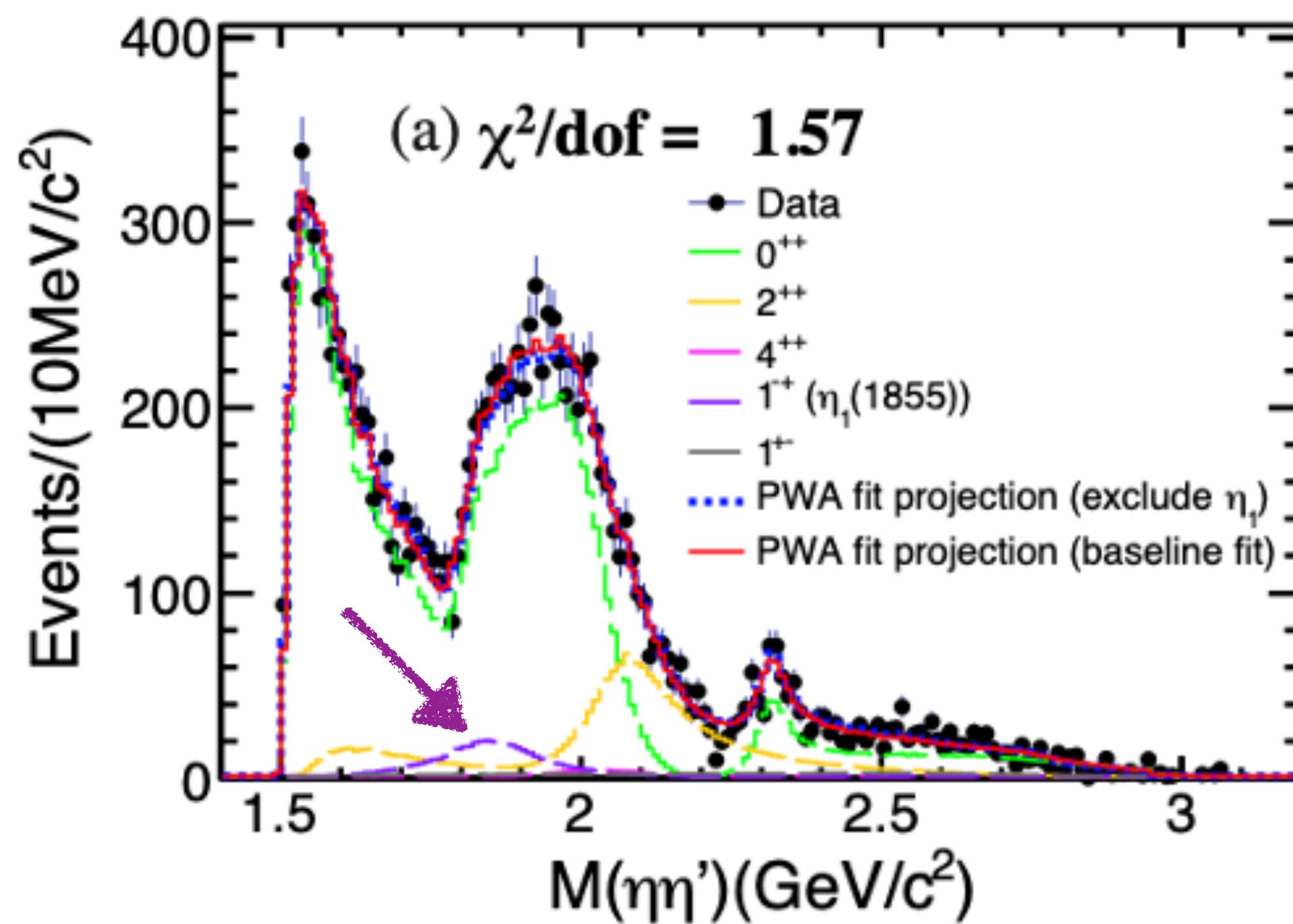
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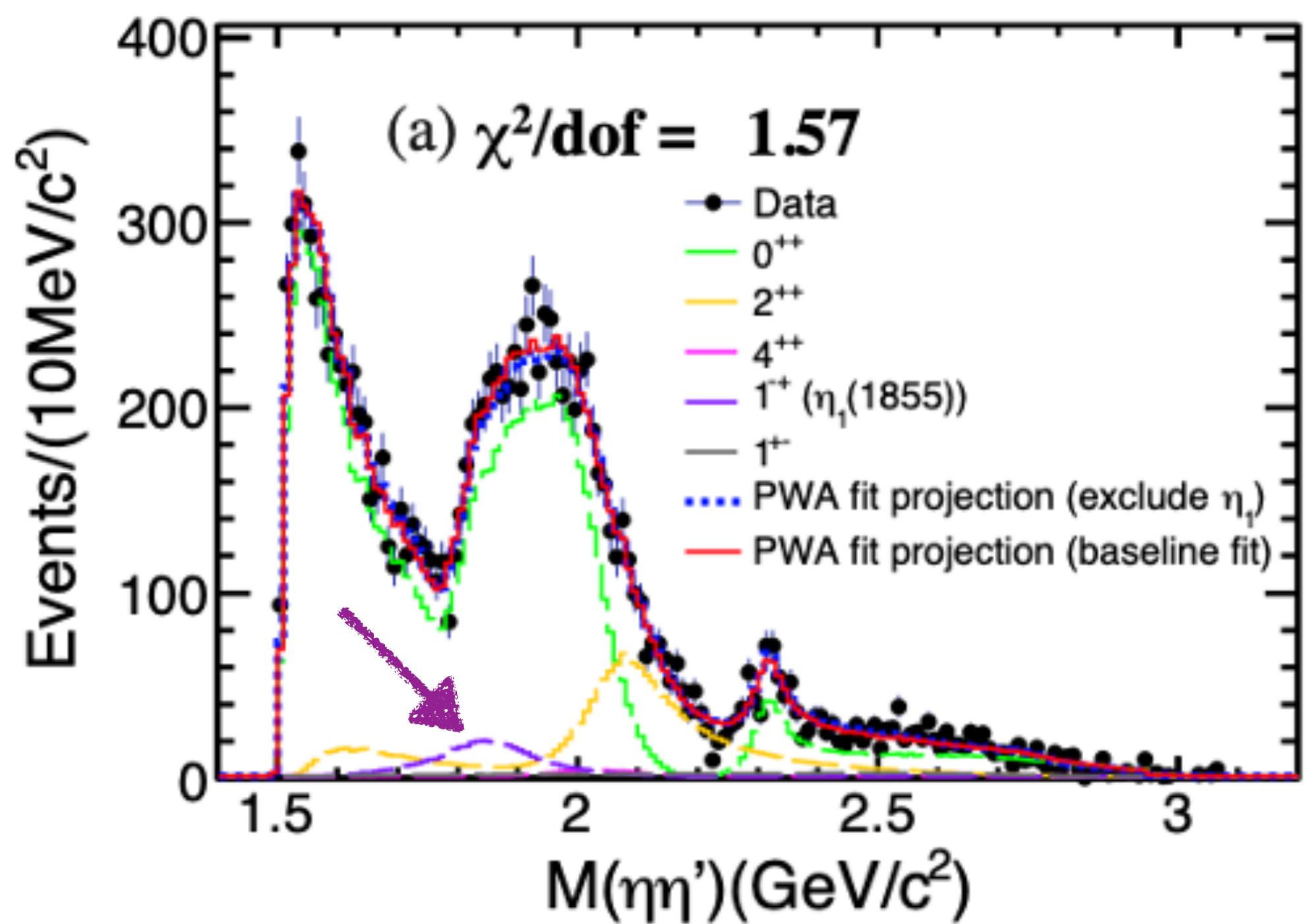
$J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma\eta\eta'$

- a new spin-exotic: the $\eta_1(1855)$ with $J^{PC} = 1^{-+}$



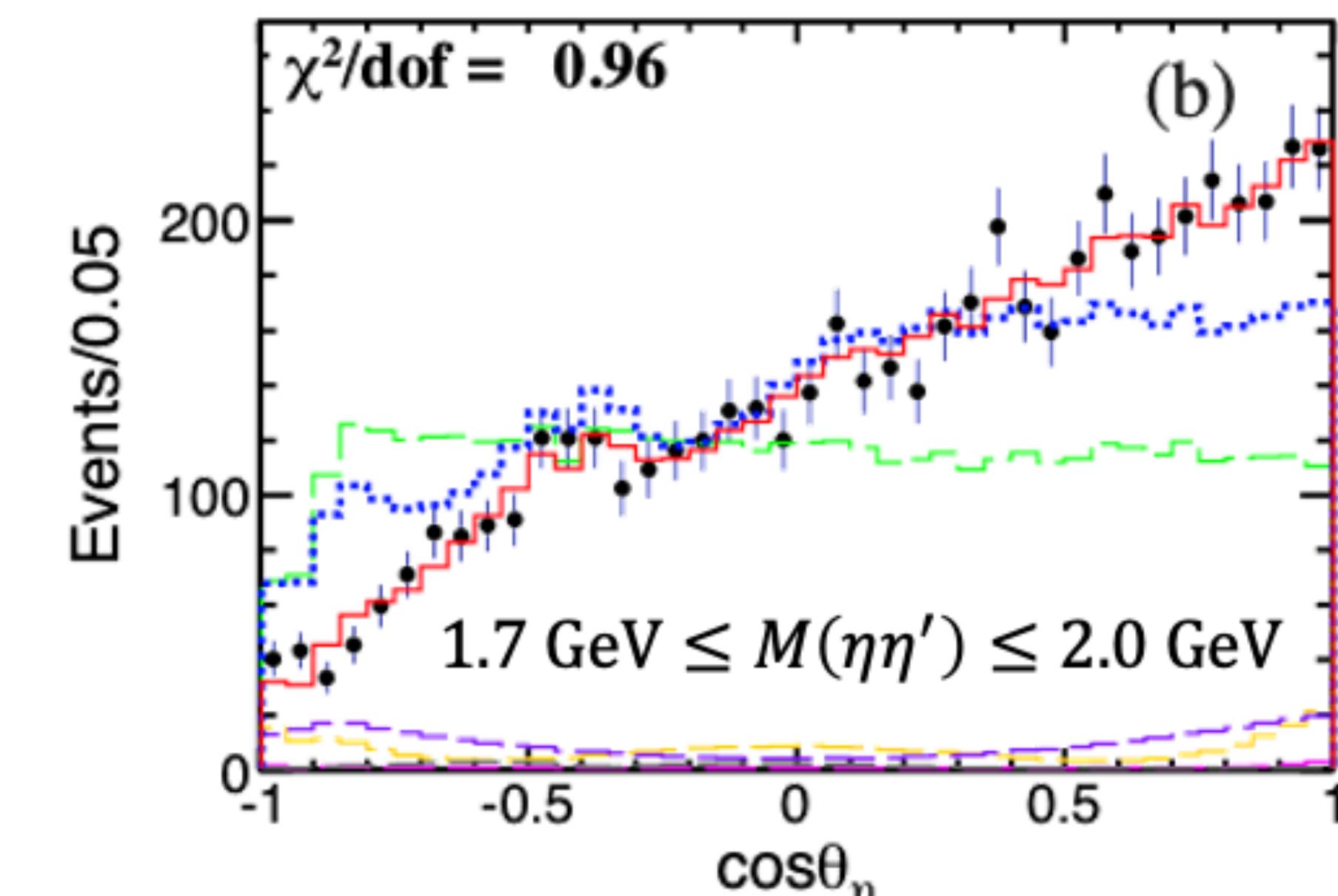
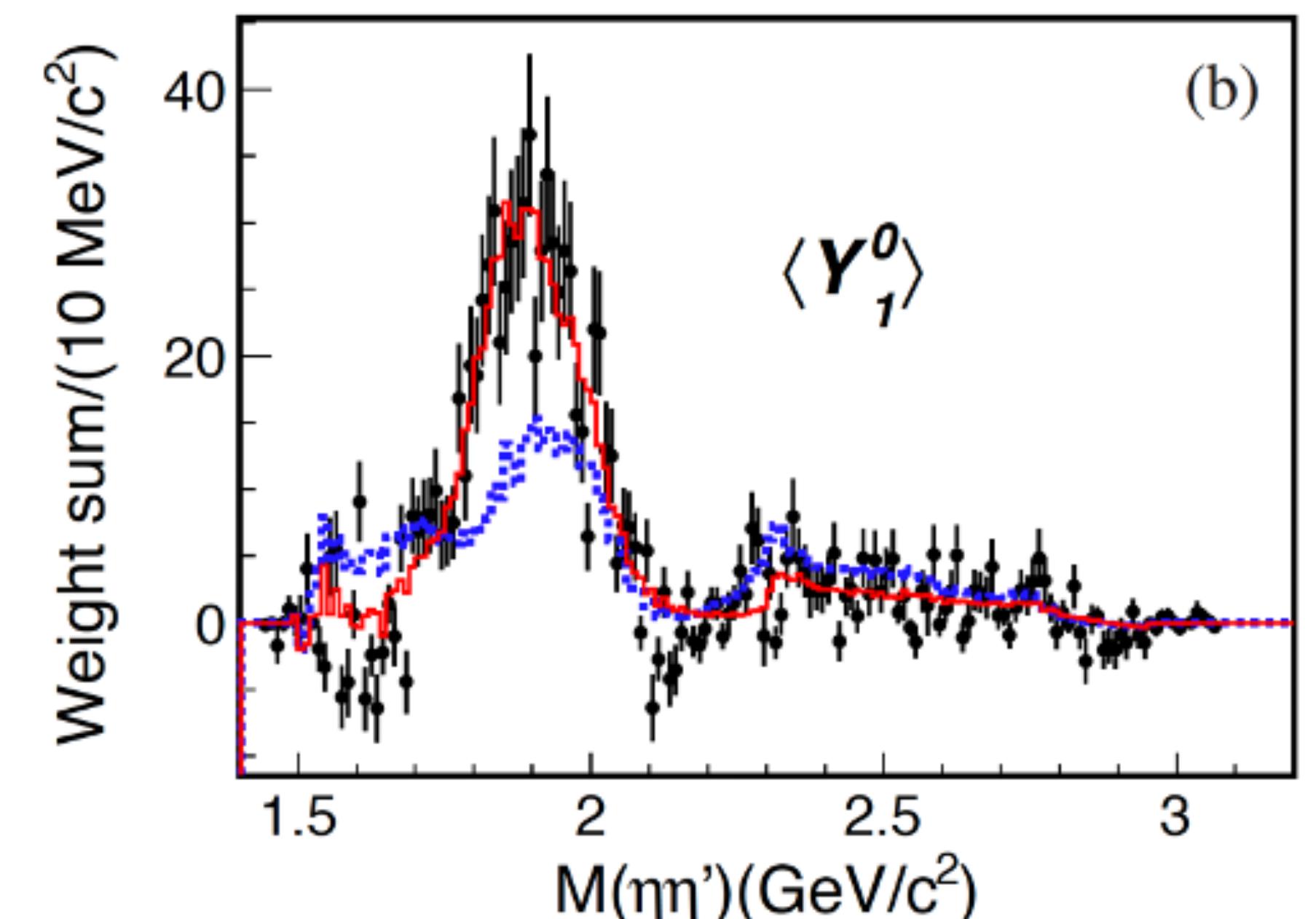
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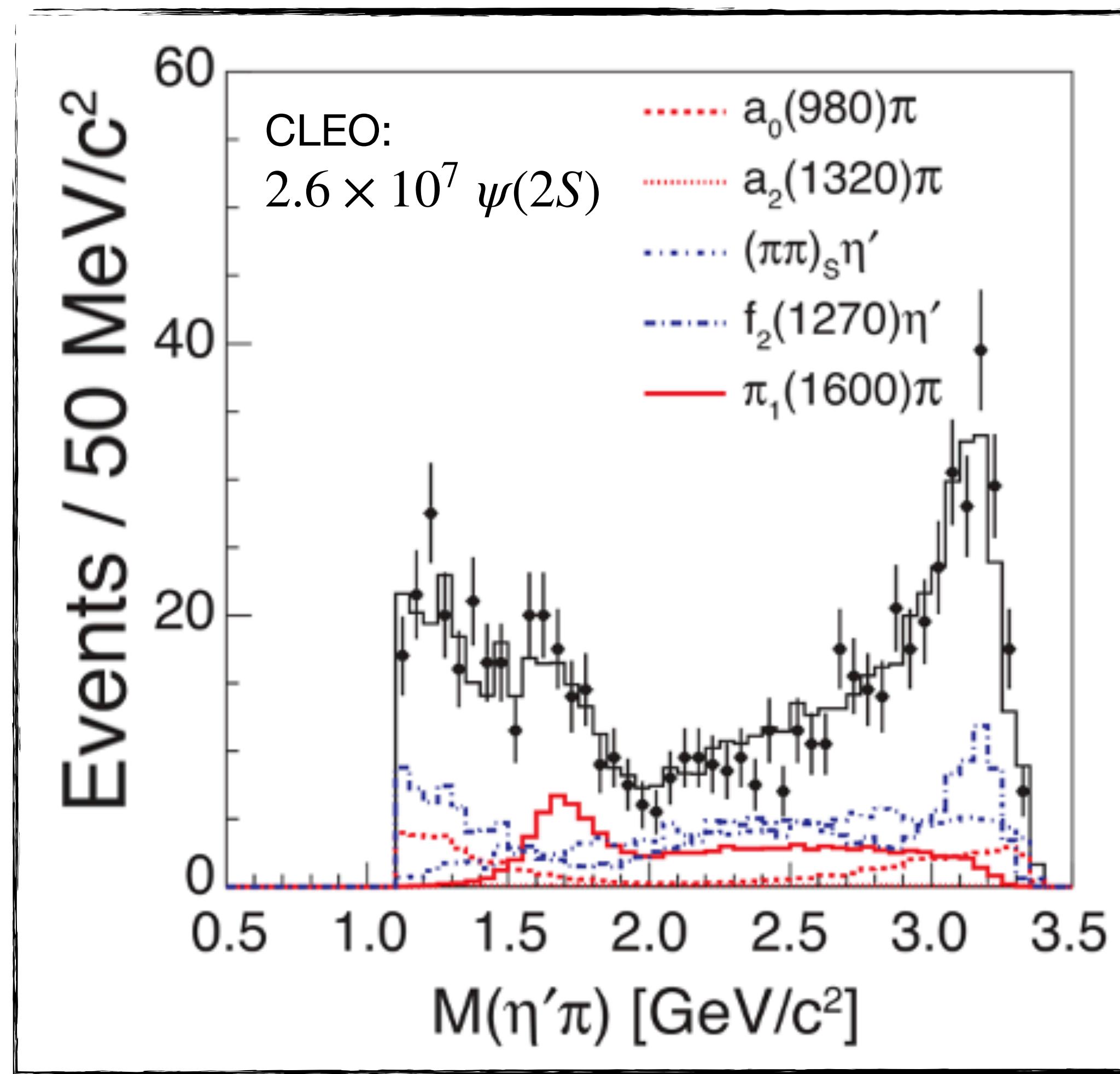
→ need independent confirmation

→ need more info on production & decay for interpretation



$\chi_{c1} \rightarrow \eta' \pi\pi$

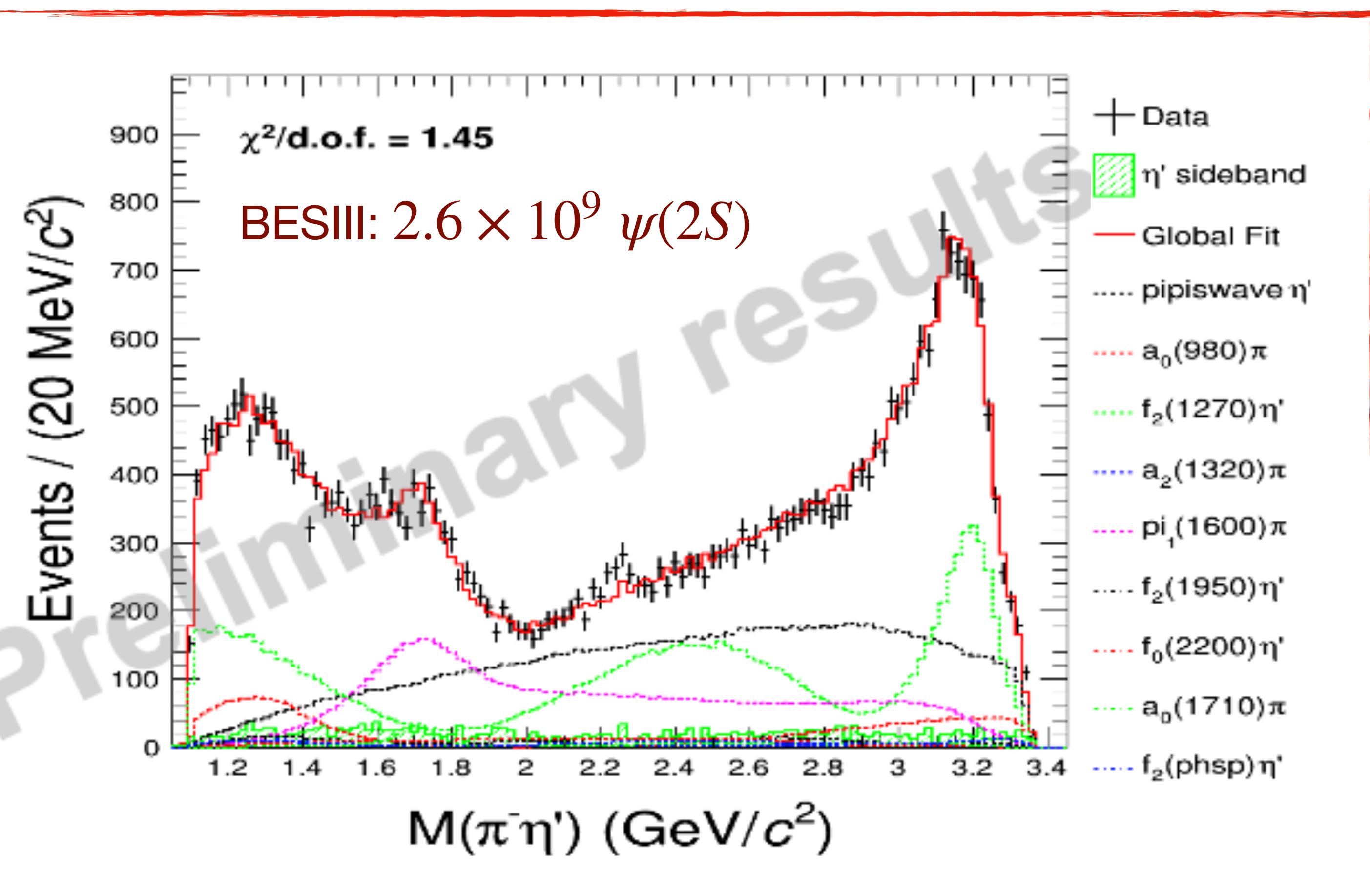
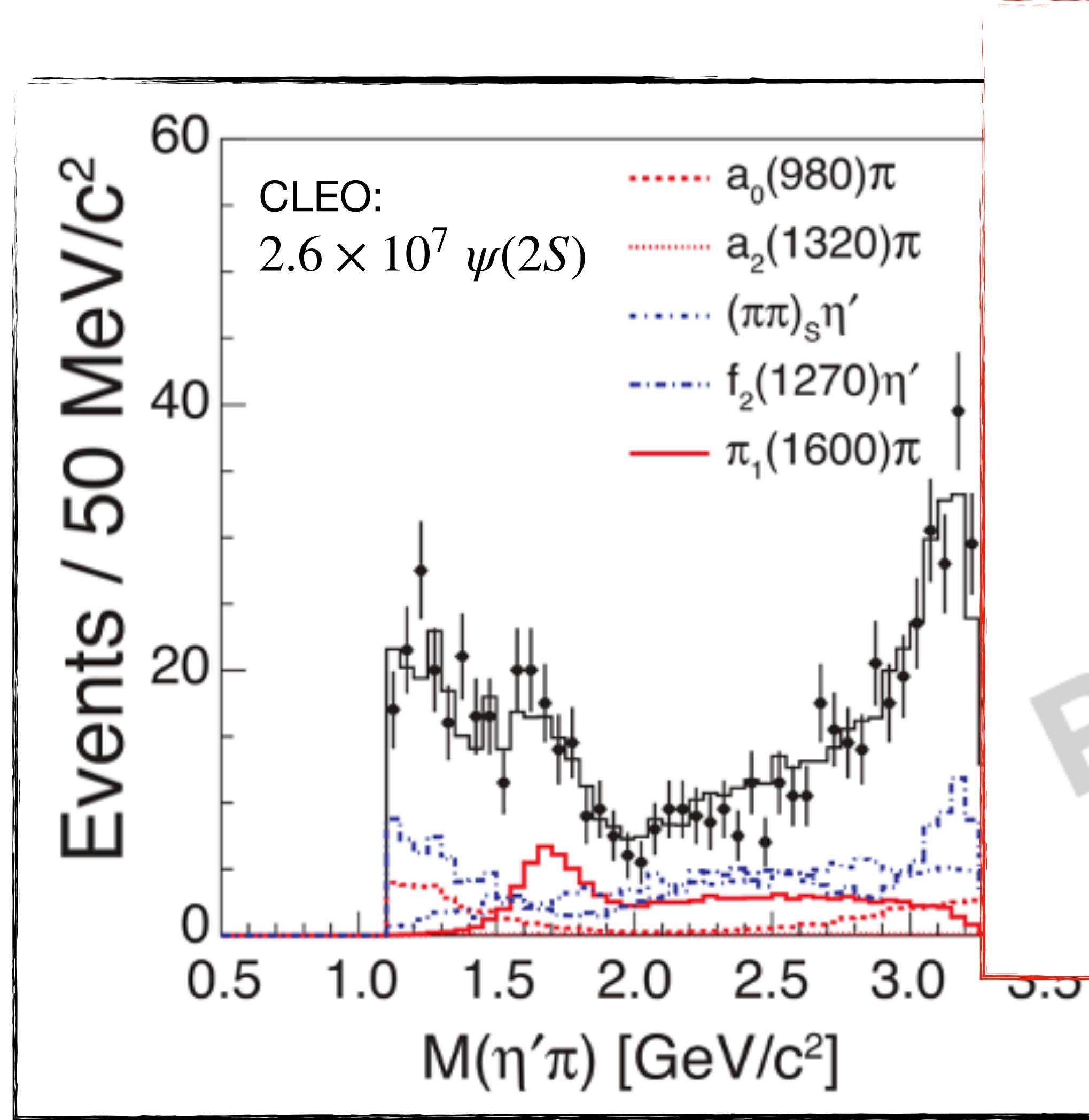
and the case for a large $\psi(2S)$ sample



CLEO see a $\pi_1(1600)$, but lack evidence for phase-motion

$\chi_{c1} \rightarrow \eta' \pi\pi$

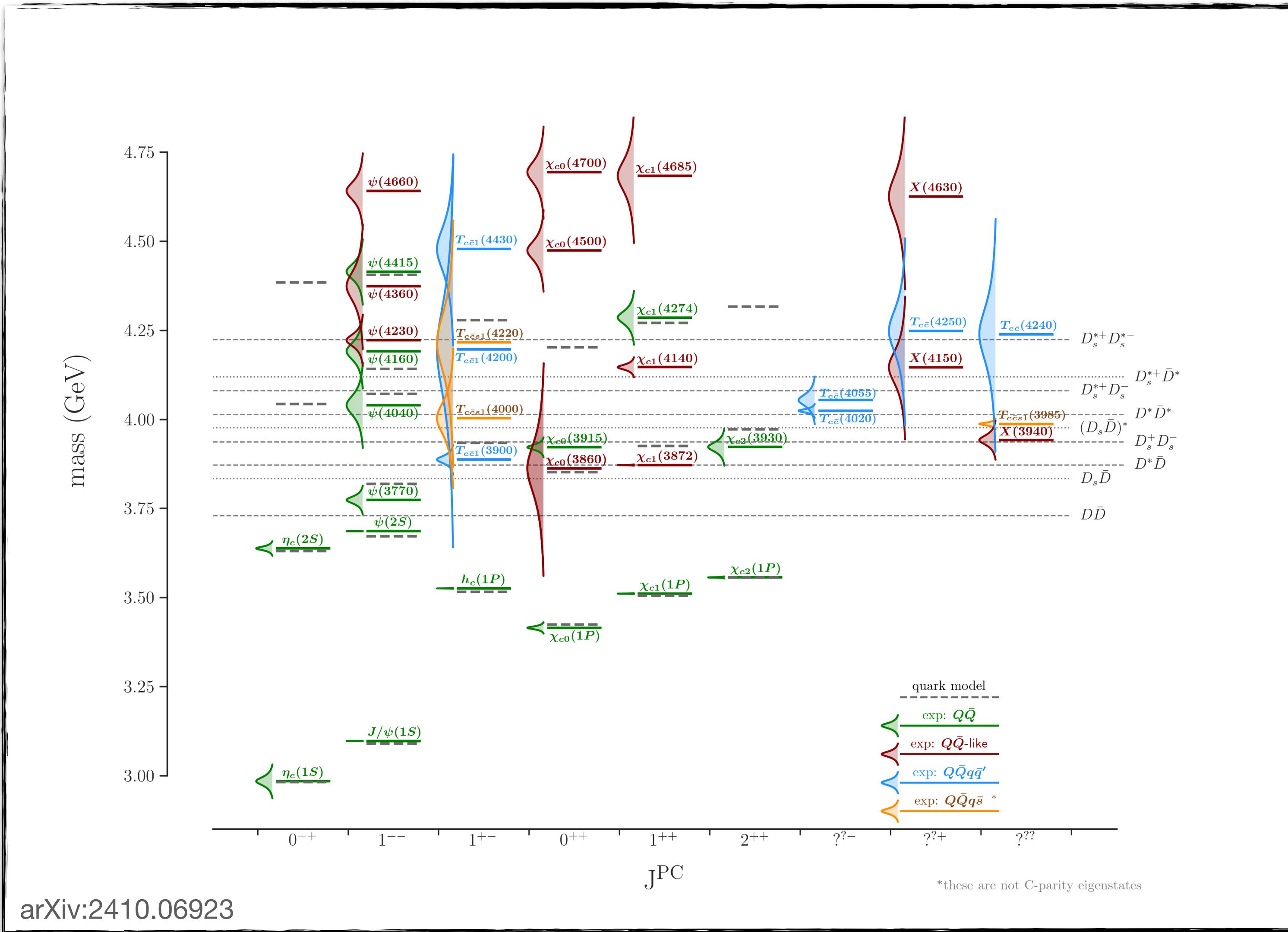
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- clear signal of $\chi_{c1} \rightarrow \pi_1(1600)\pi$
- now looking for other decay modes

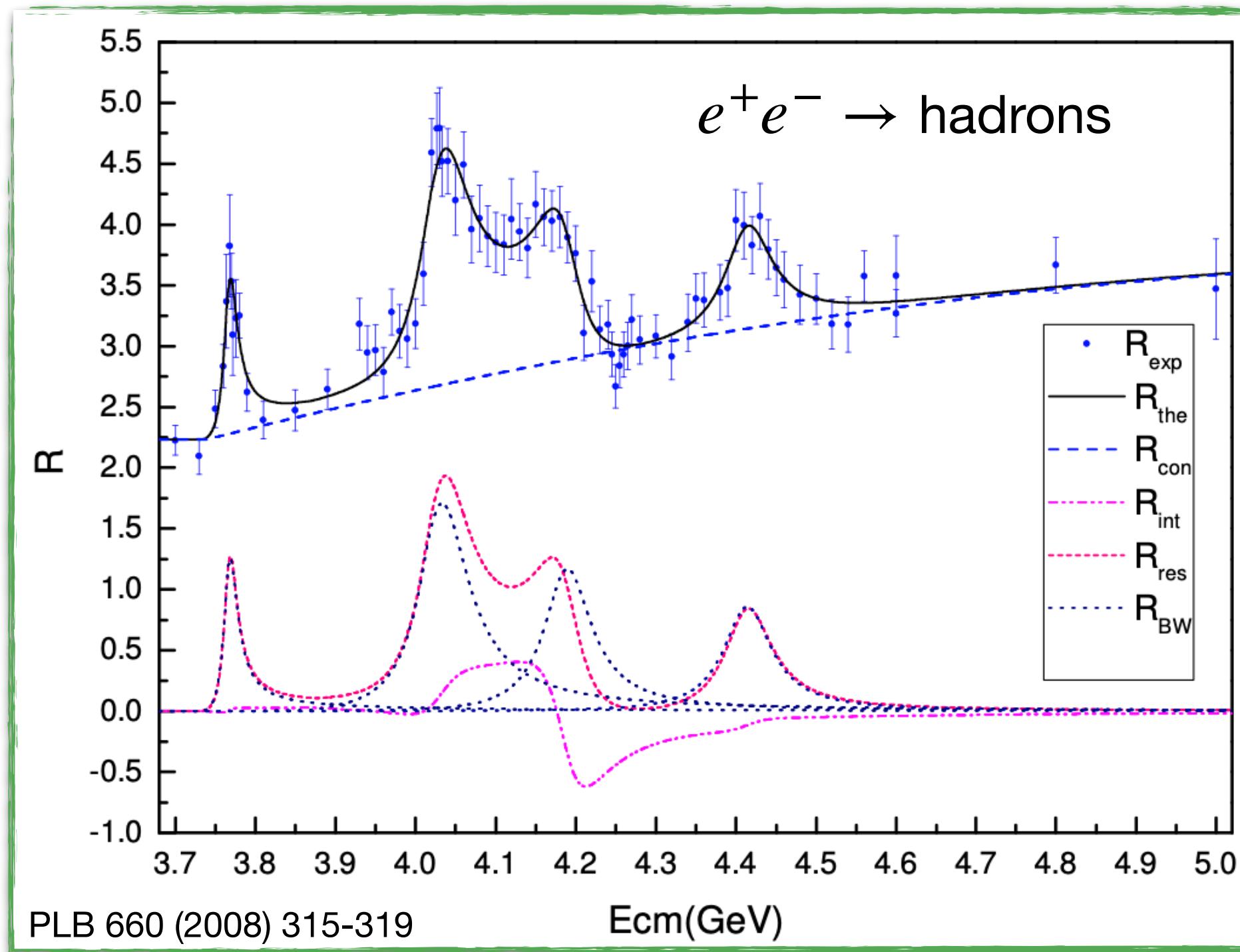
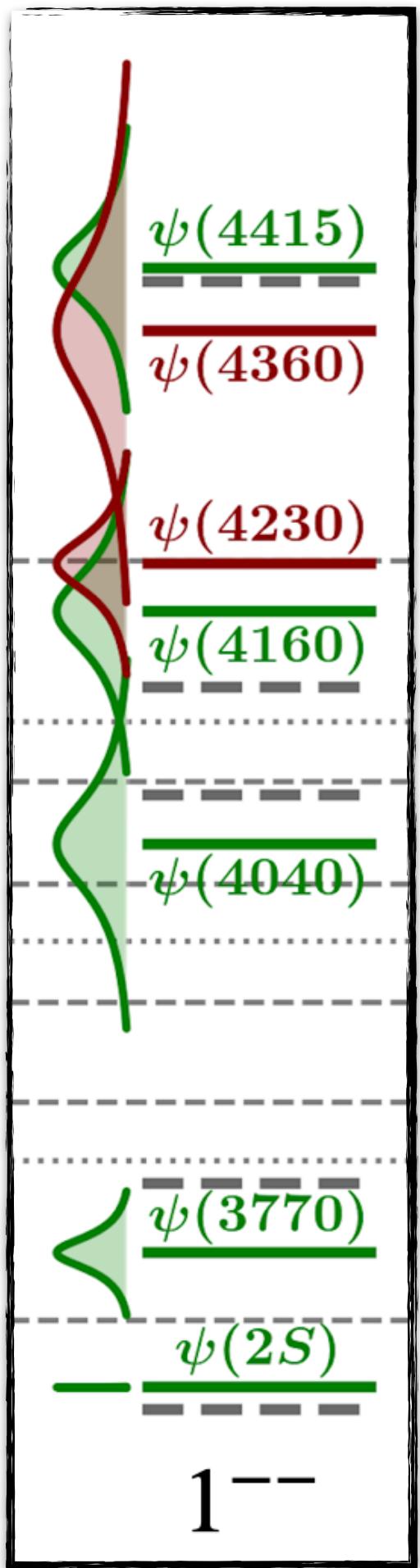
Charmonium(-like) states

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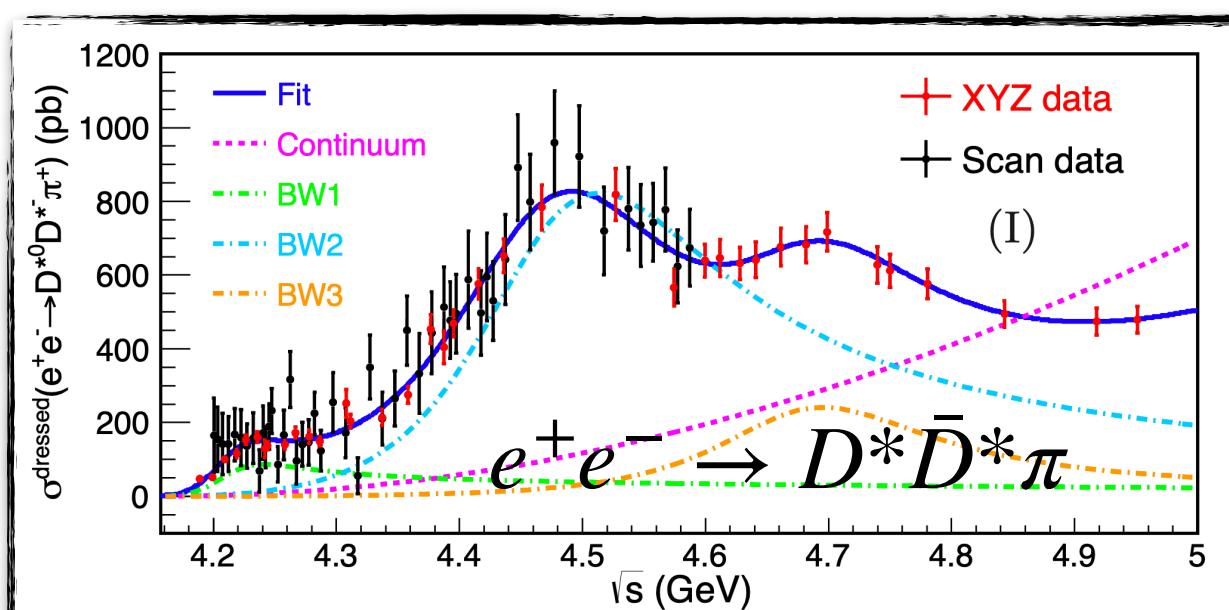
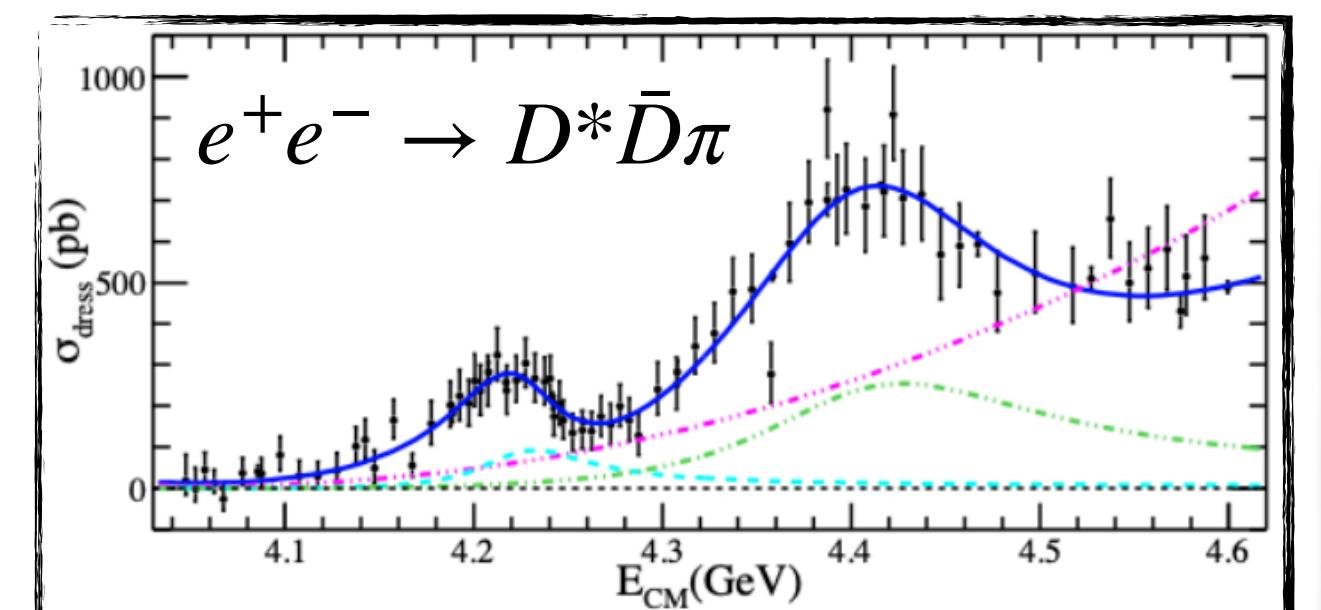
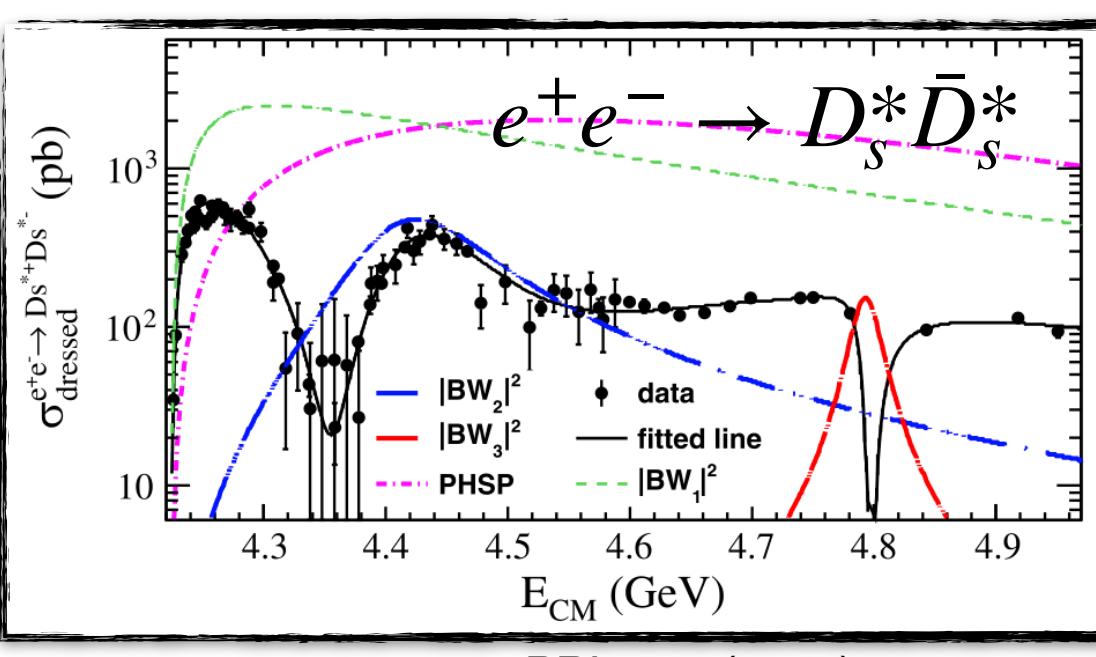
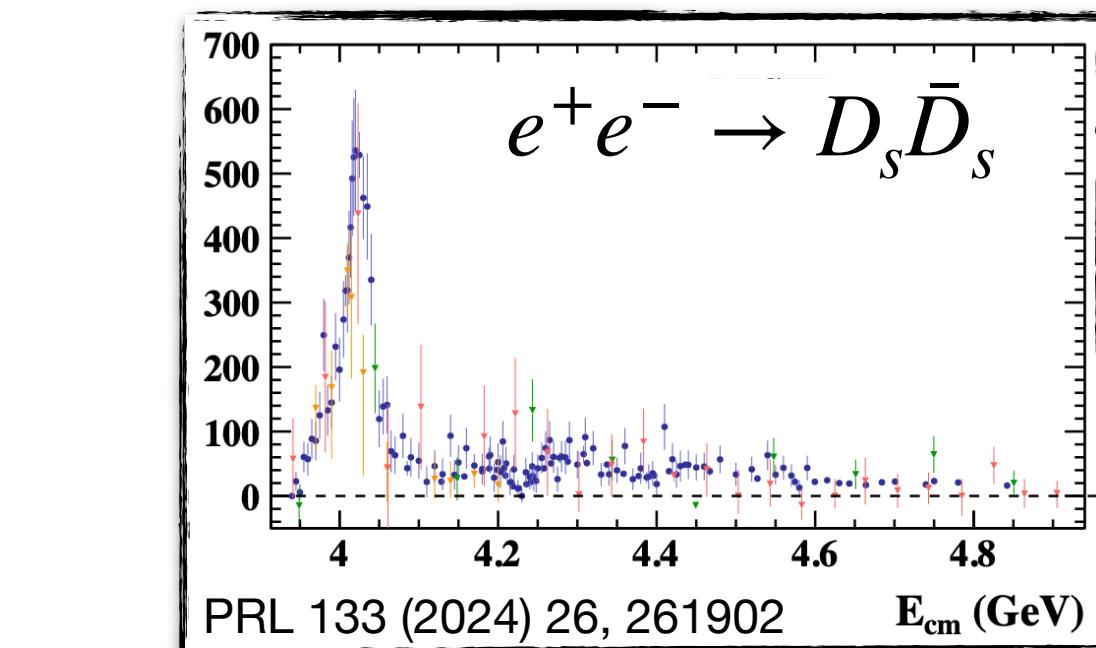
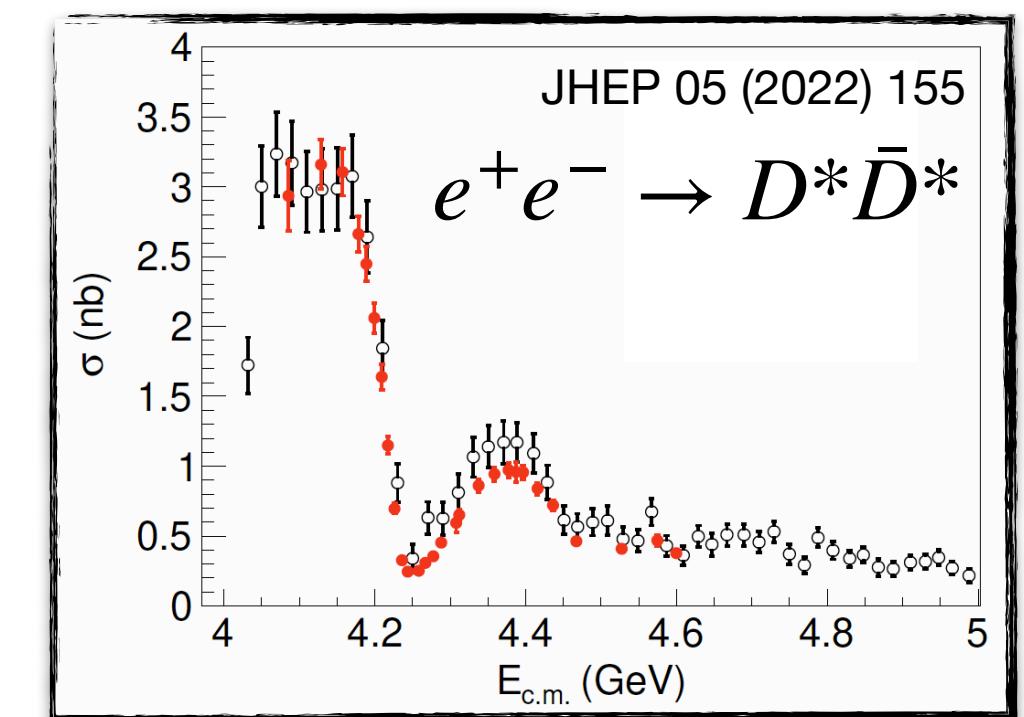
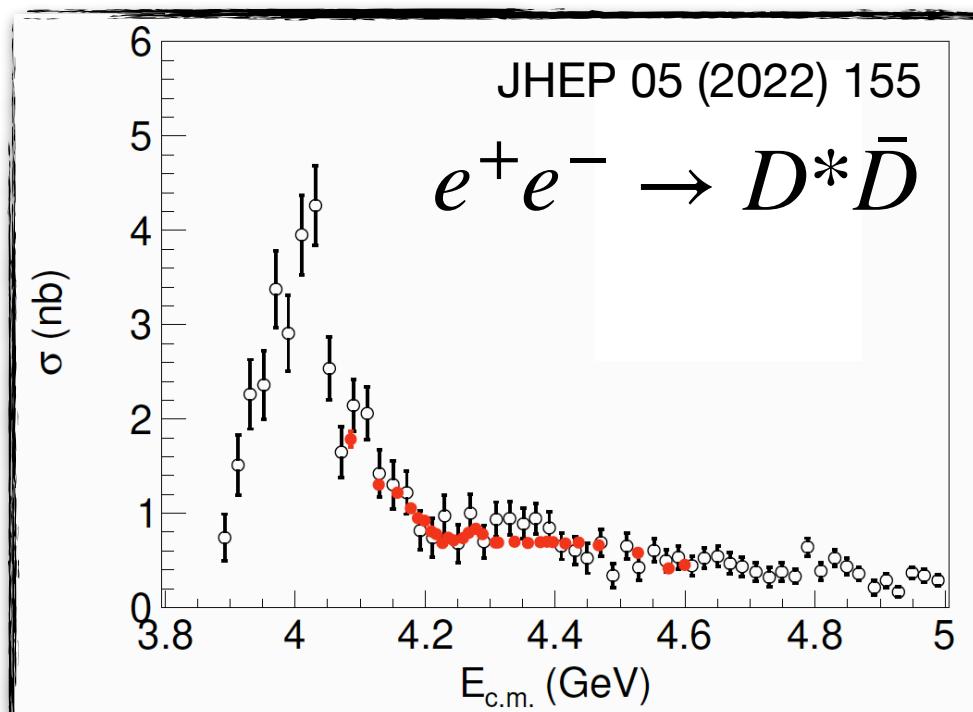
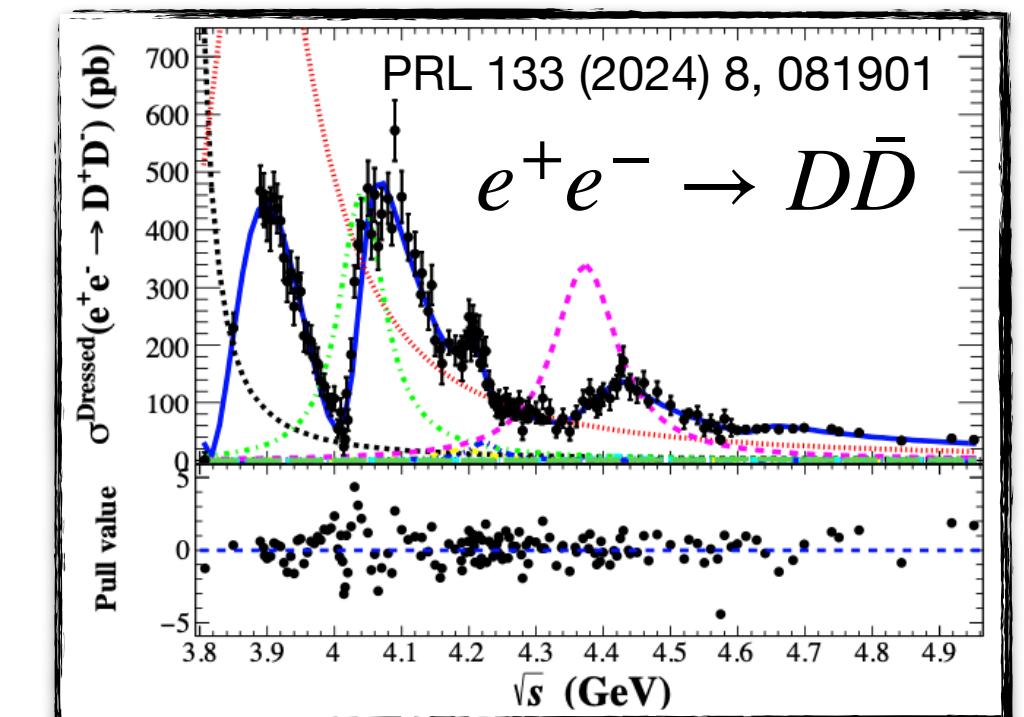
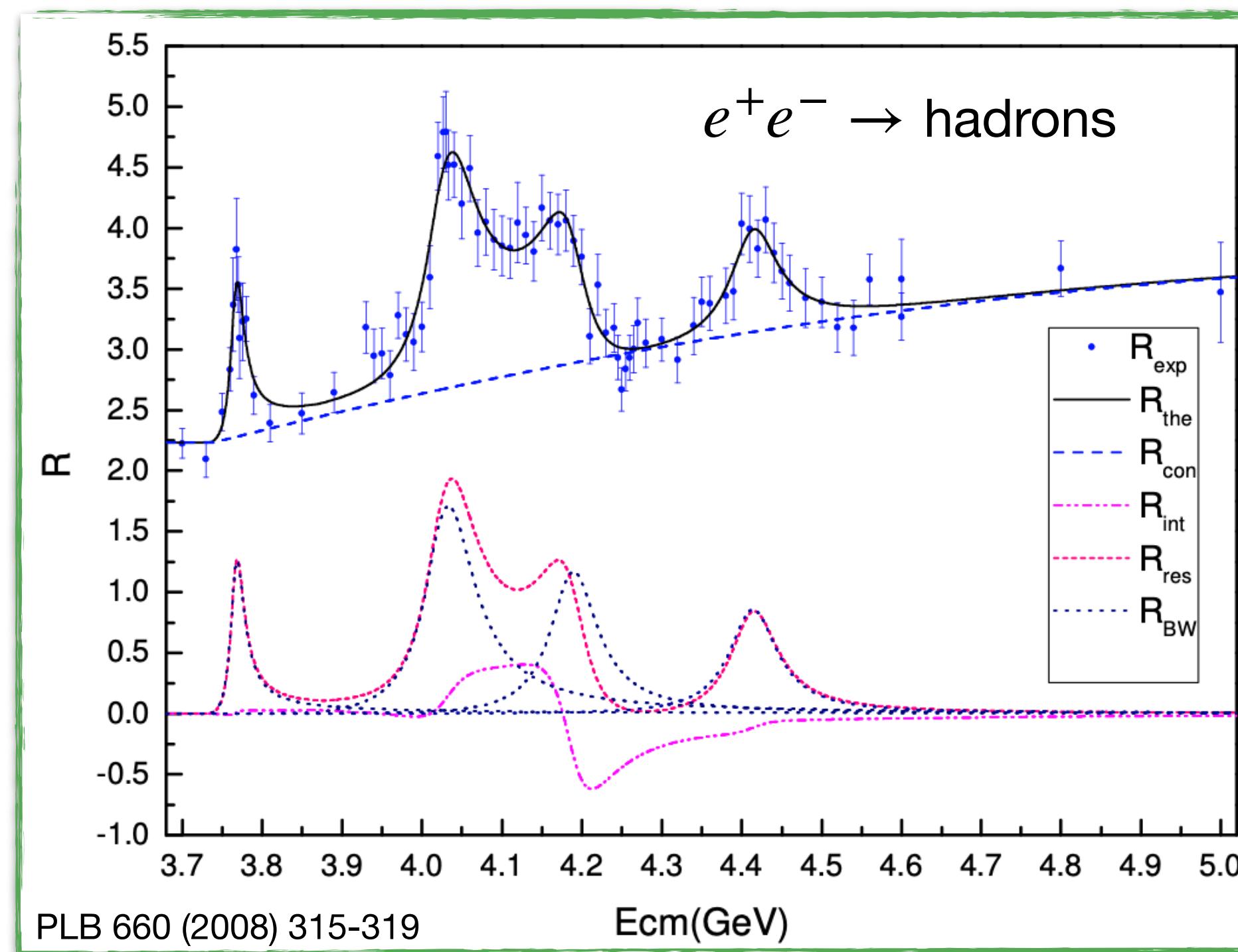
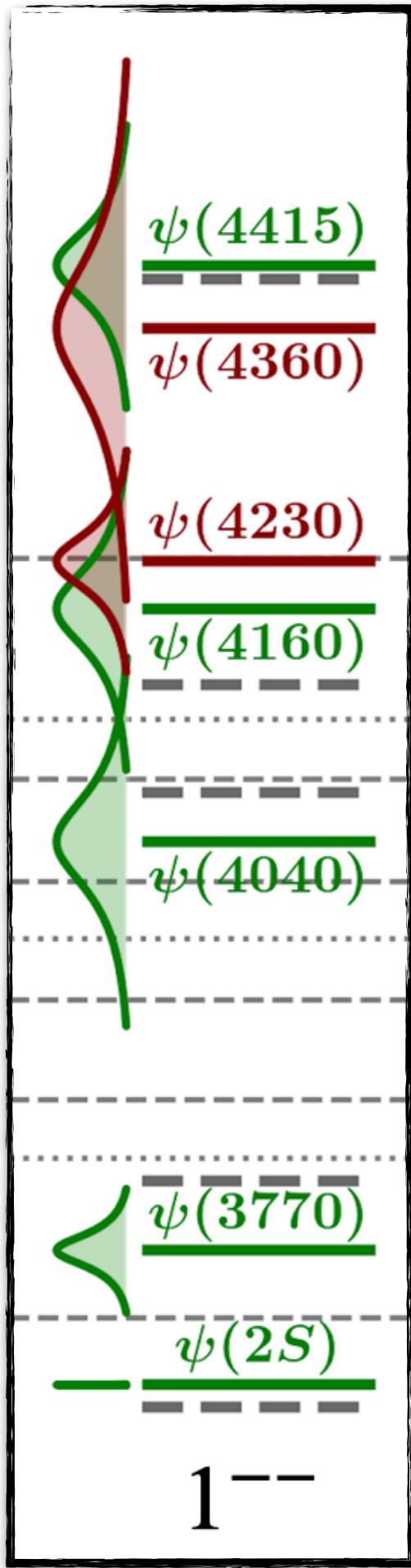


- large number of potentially exotic hadrons discovered above open-charm threshold
- many of them in b -decays at LHCb
- BESIII: directly produce the vector states in e^+e^- annihilation
- transitions to $X(3872)$, Z_c , Z_{cs}

The vector states

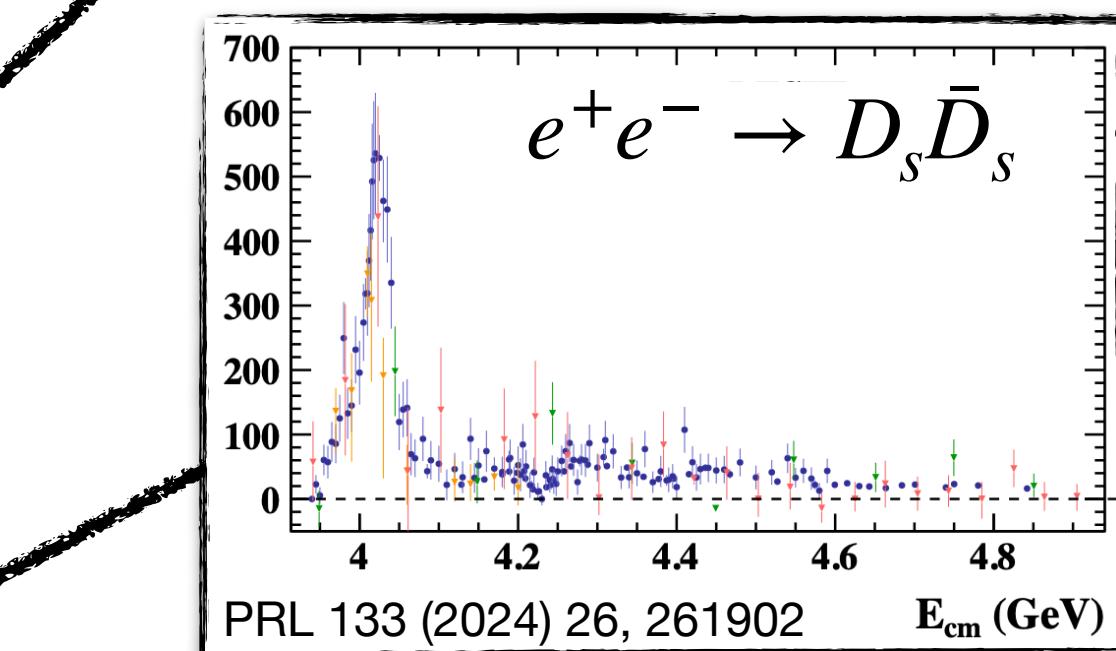
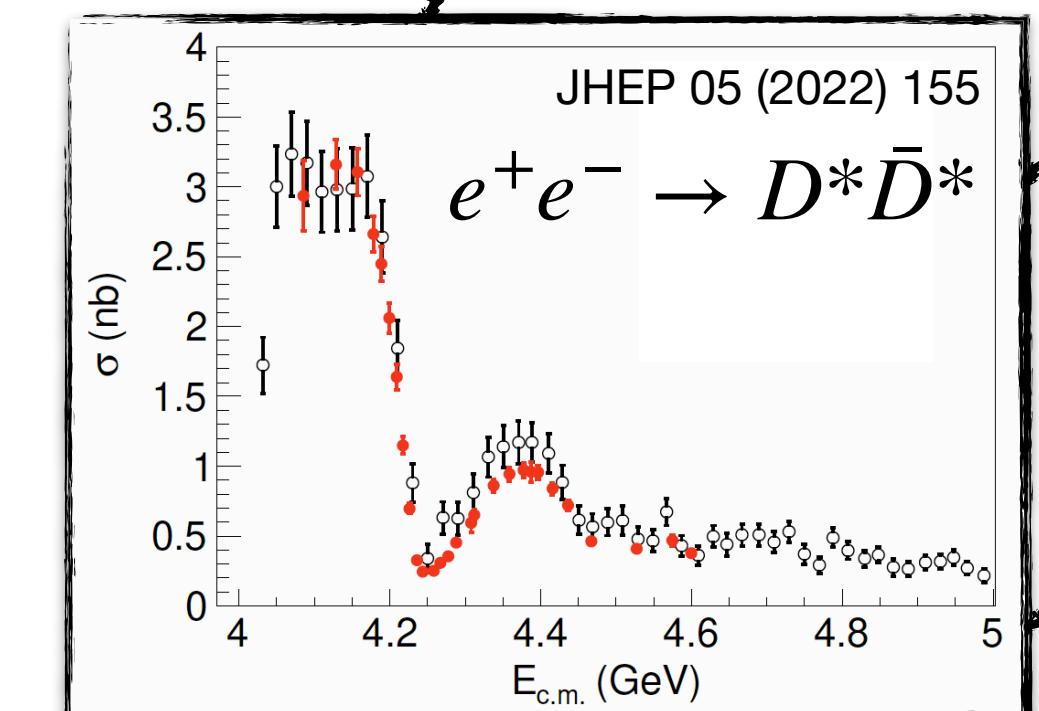
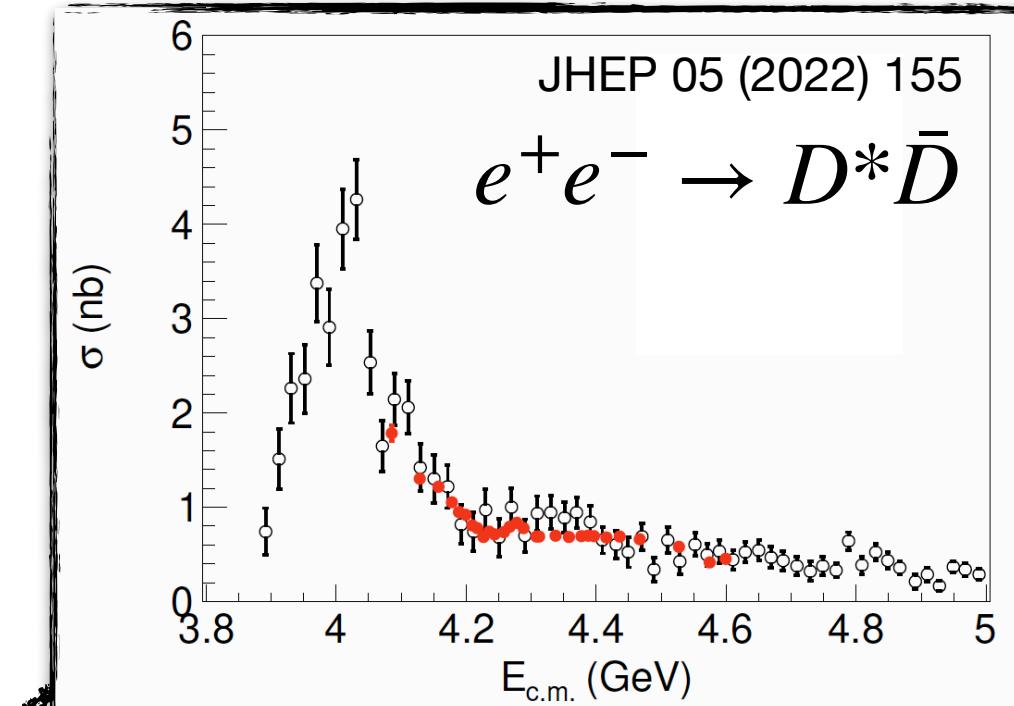
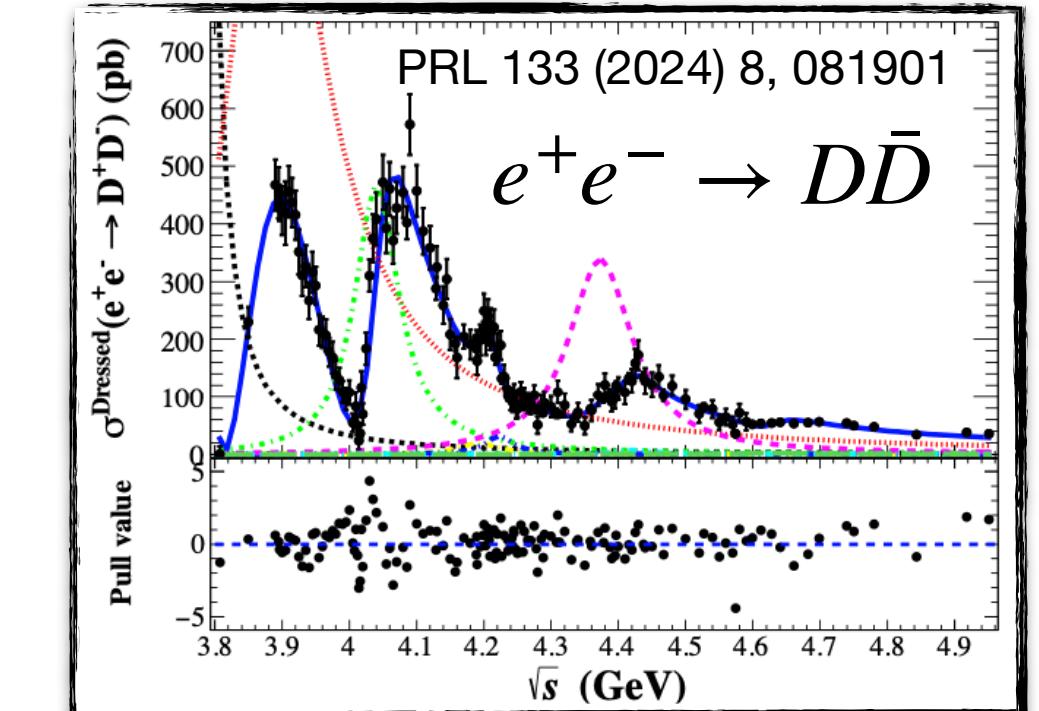
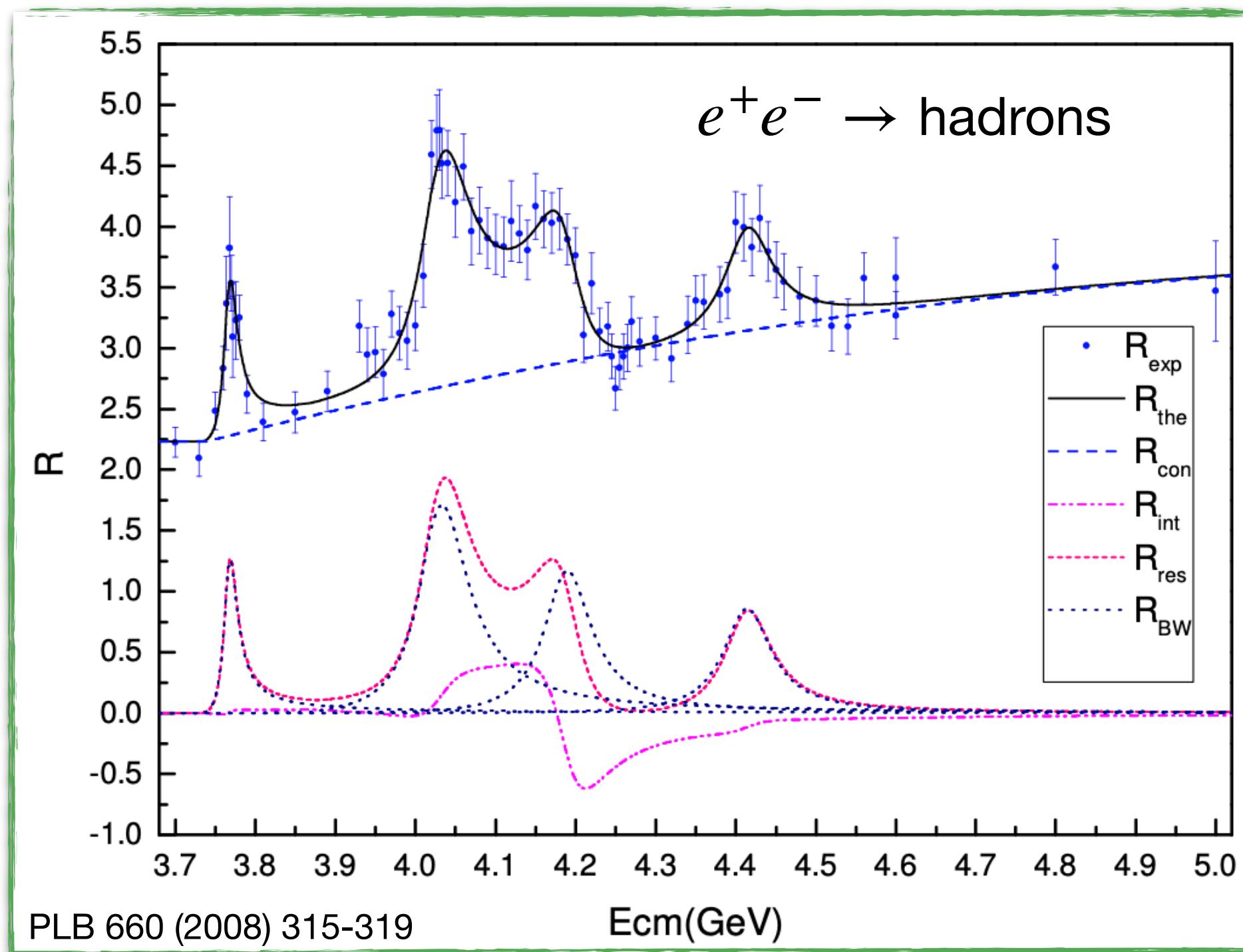
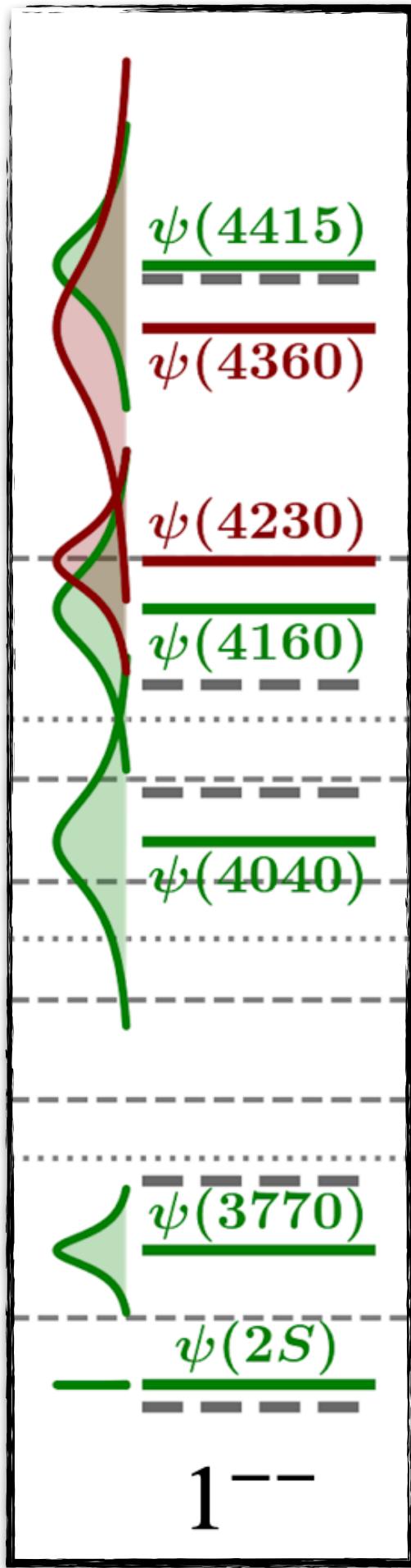


The vector states

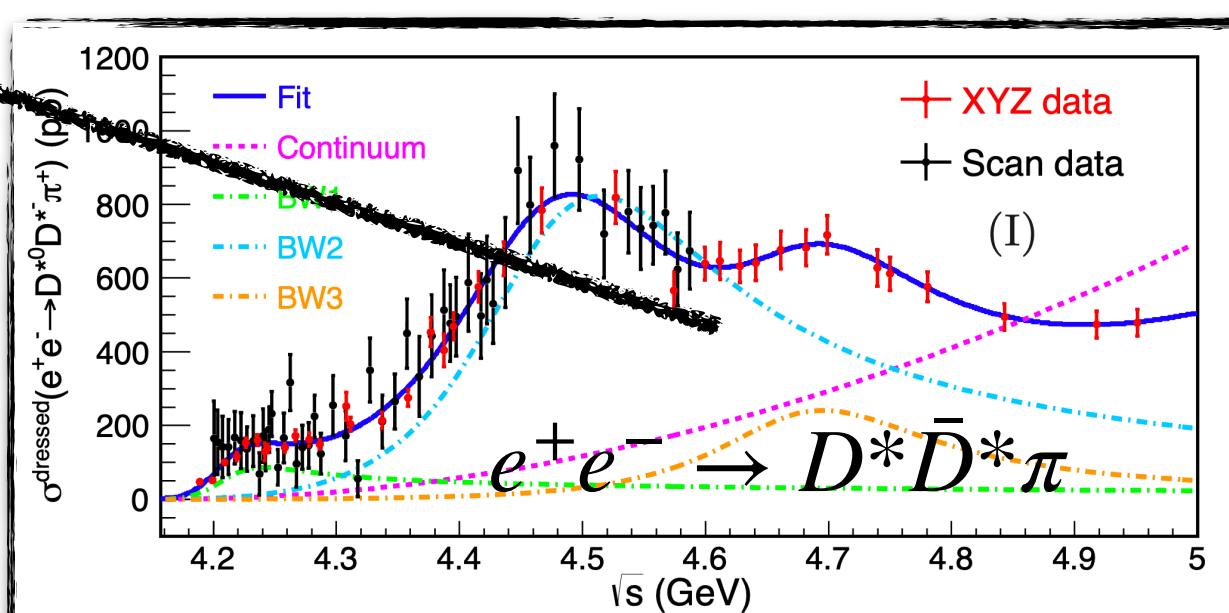
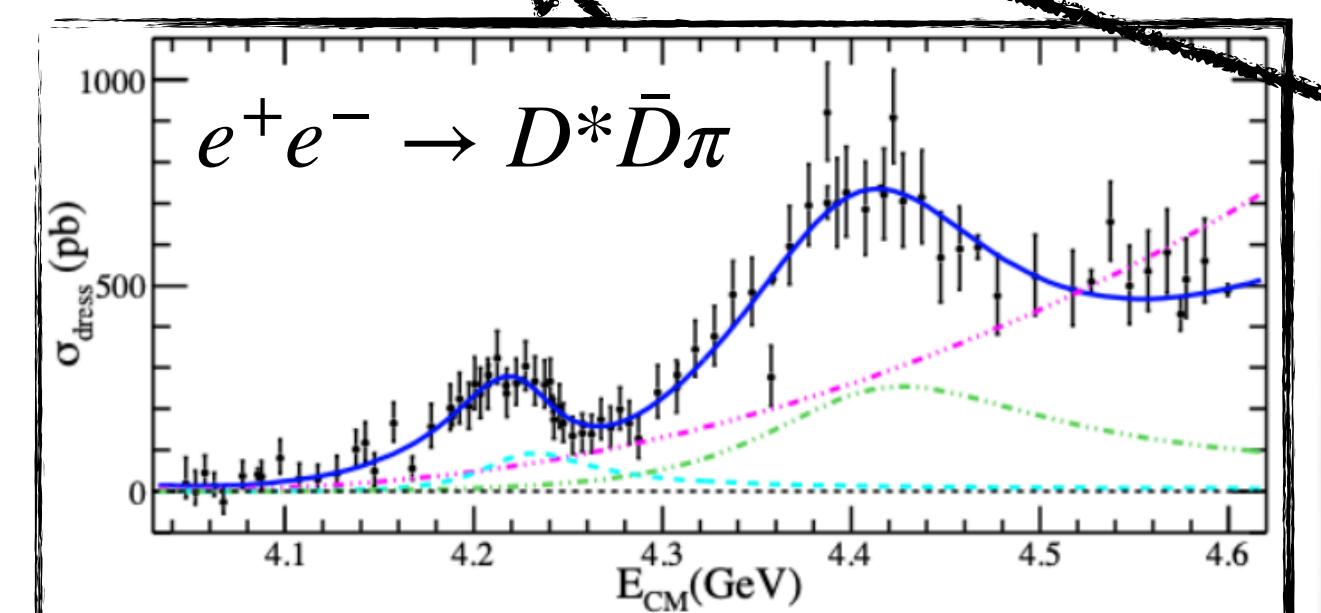
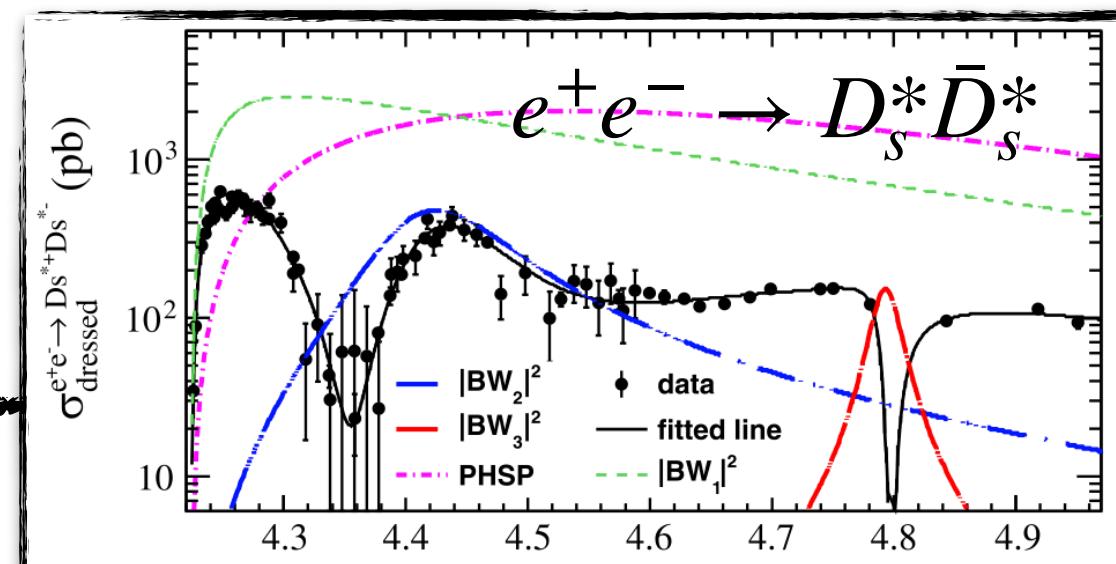


→ working towards exclusive measurements of all the various open-charm production processes
→ cross sections are hard to interpret

The vector states

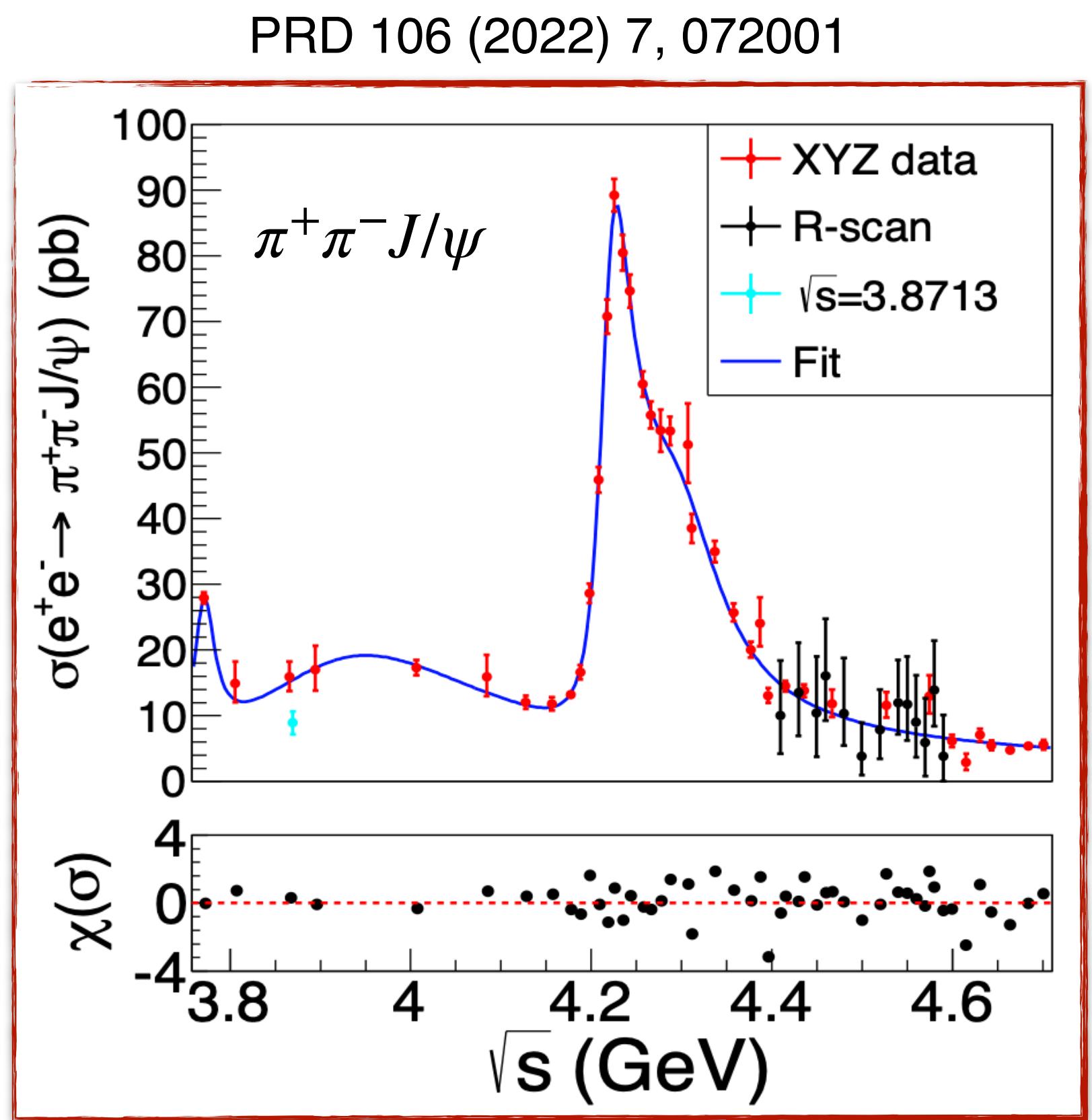
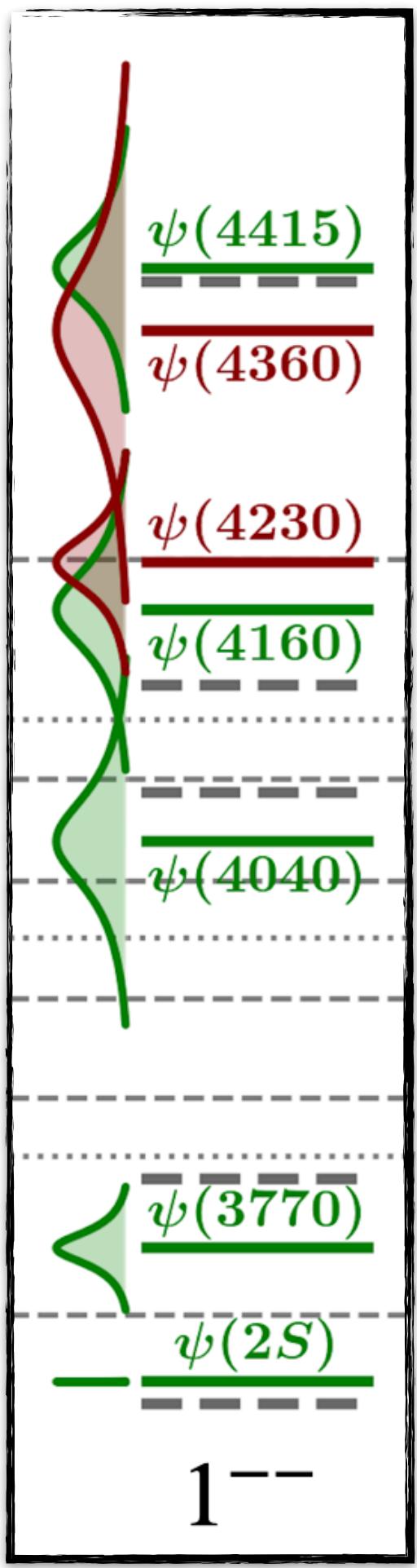


$$= \sum_i$$

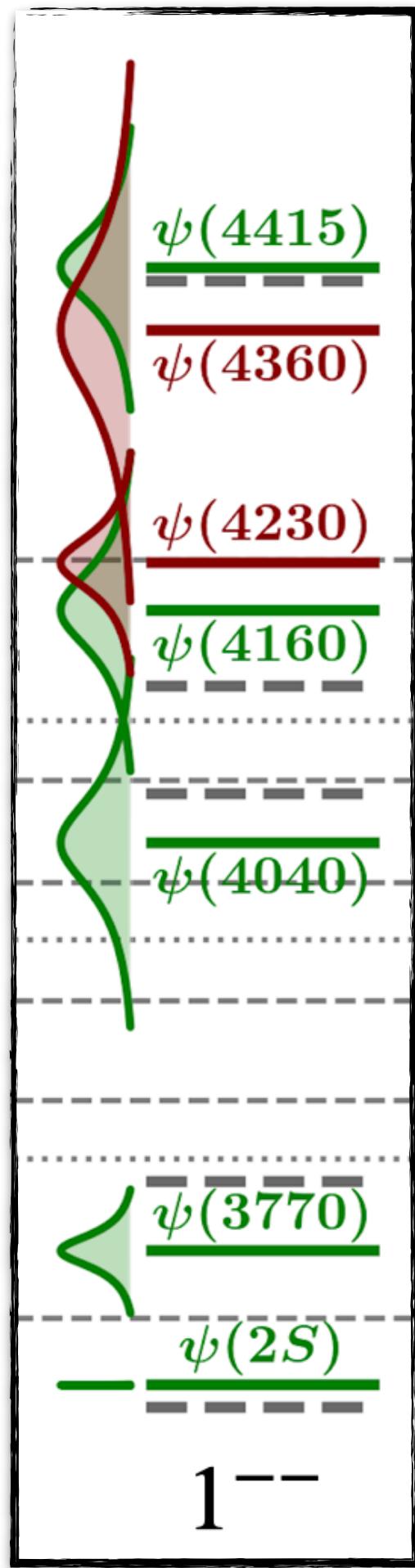


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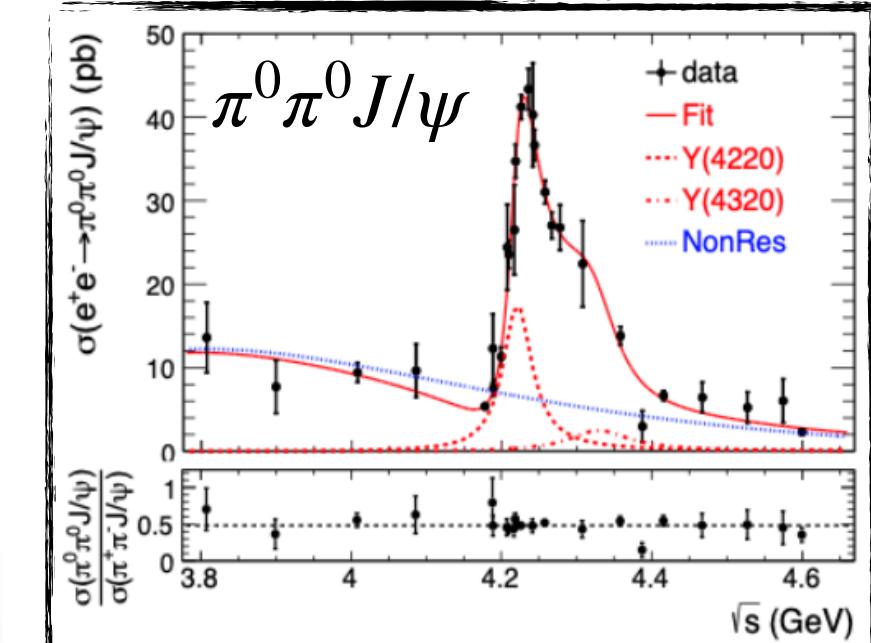


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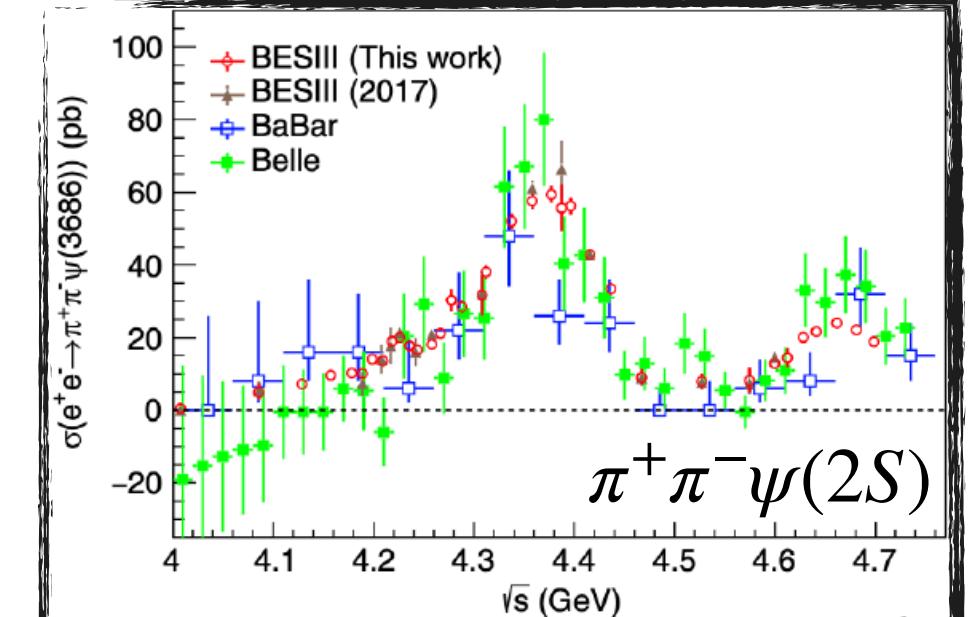


PRD 106 (2022) 7, 072001

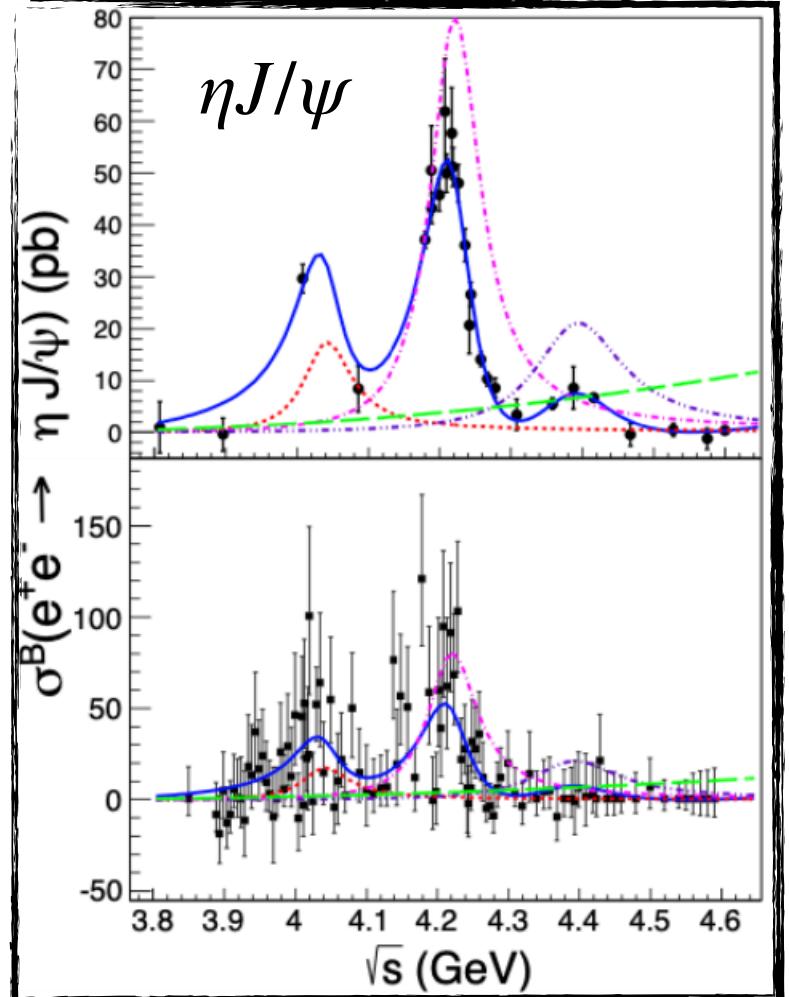
PRD 102 (2020) 1, 012009



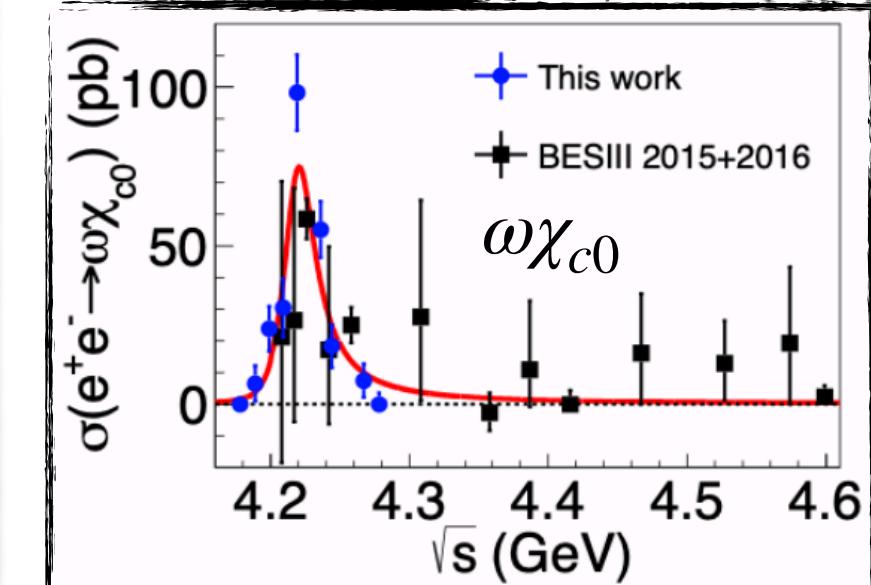
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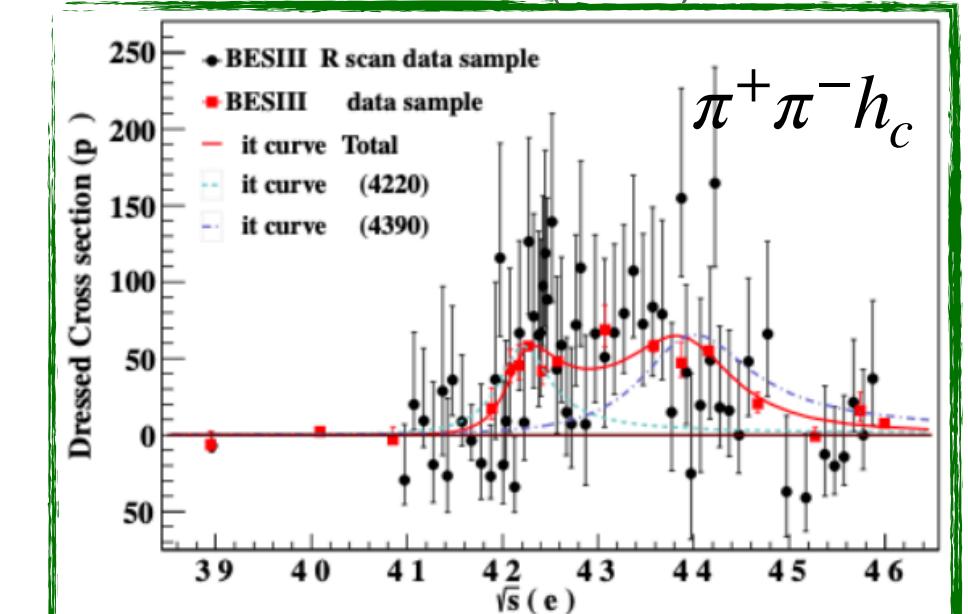
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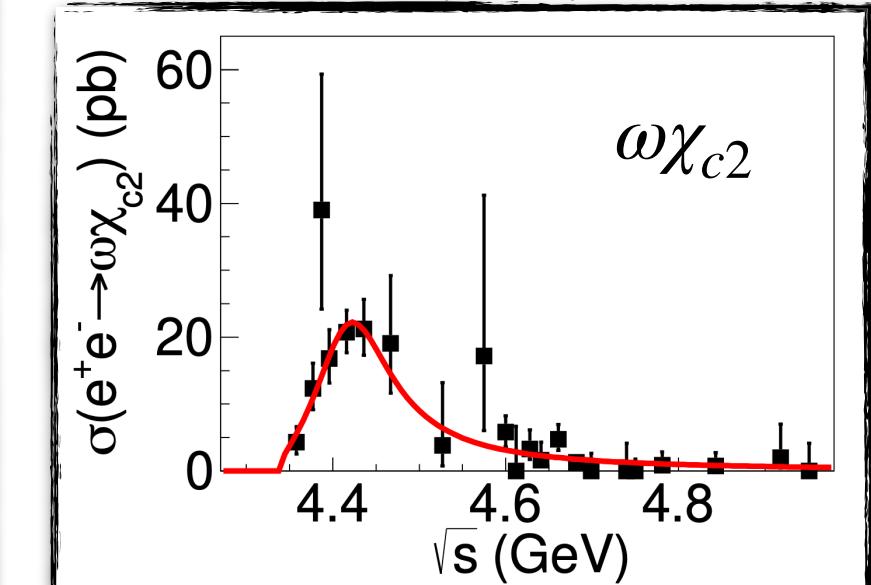
PRD 99 (2019) 9, 091103



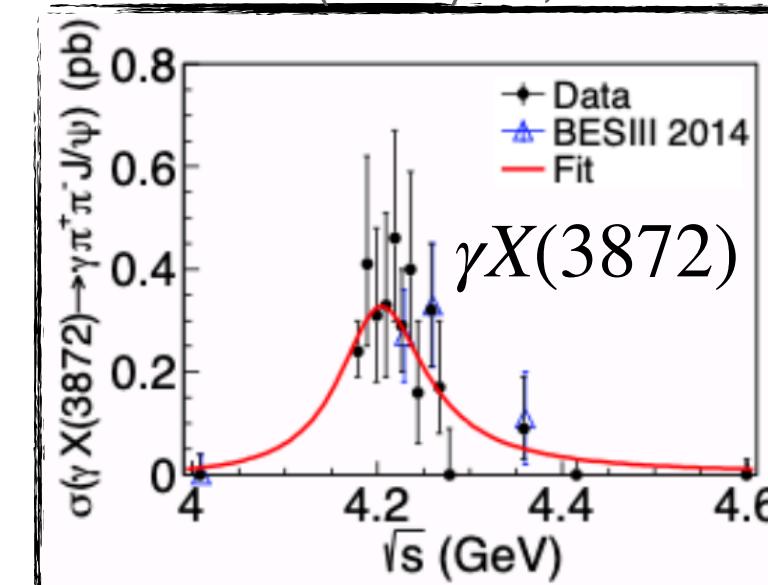
PRL 118 (2017) 9, 092002



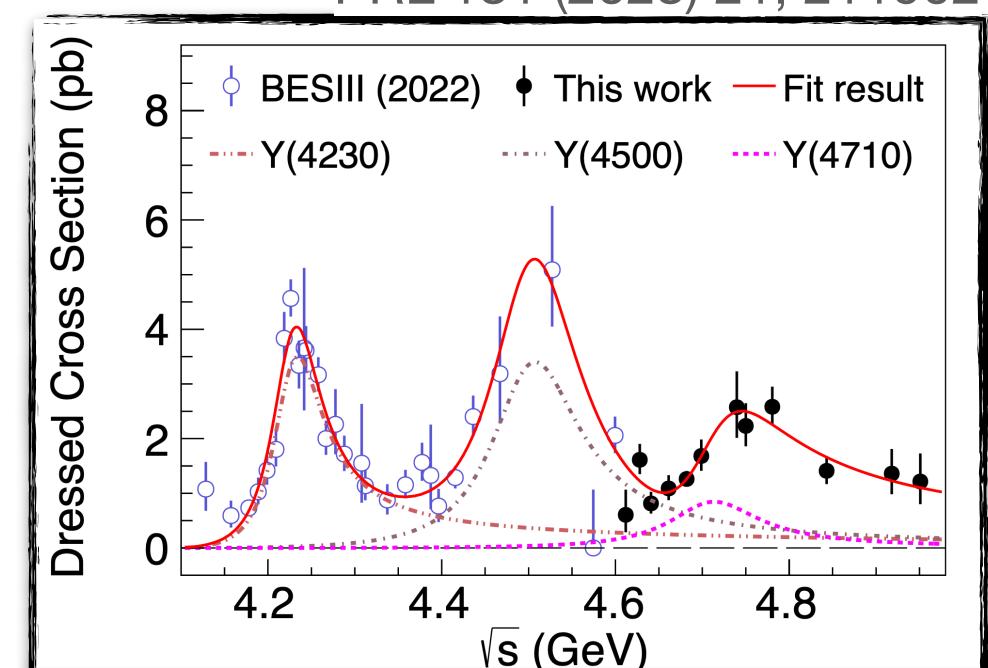
PRL 132 (2019) 16, 161901



PRL 122 (2019) 23, 232002



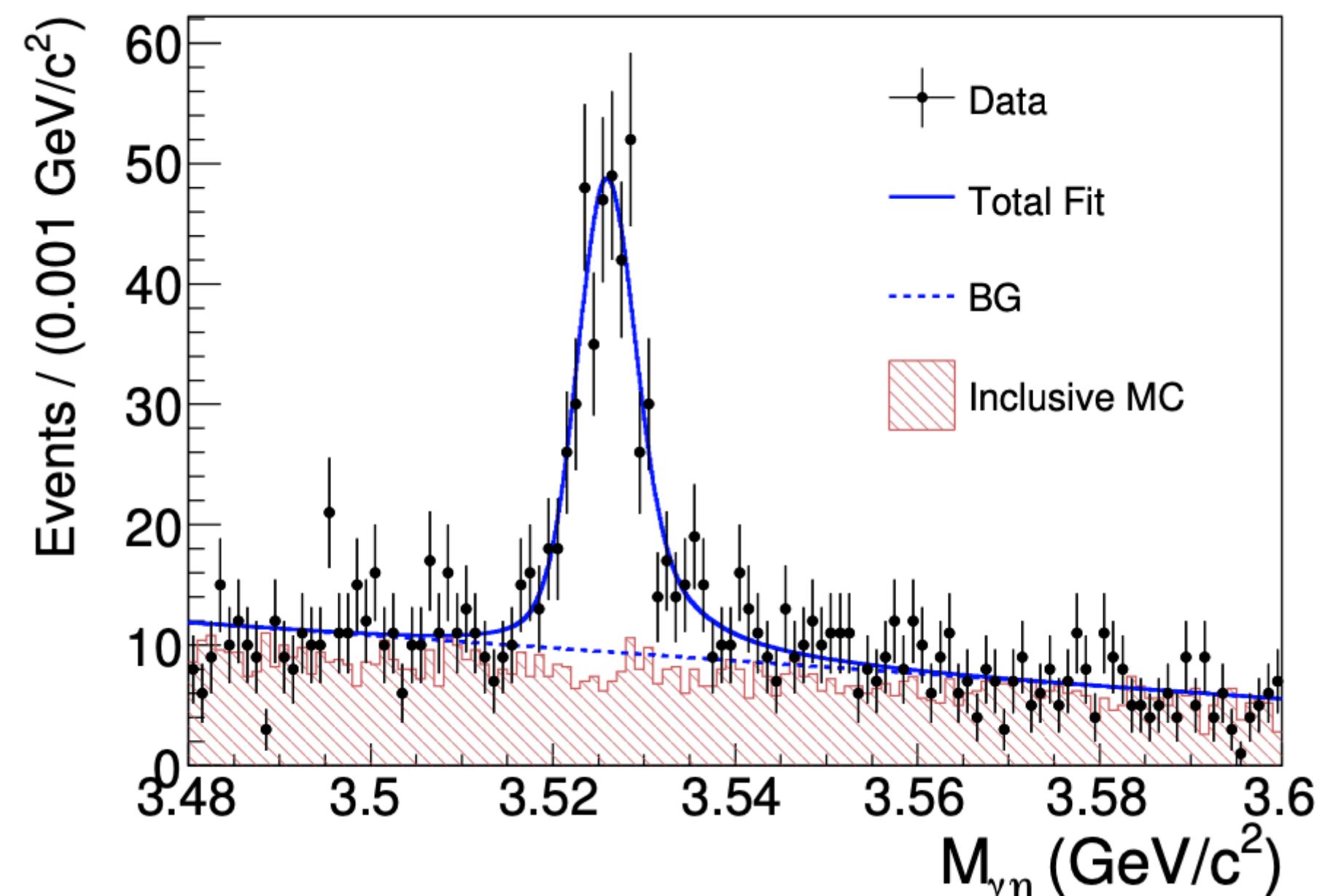
PRL 131 (2023) 21, 211902



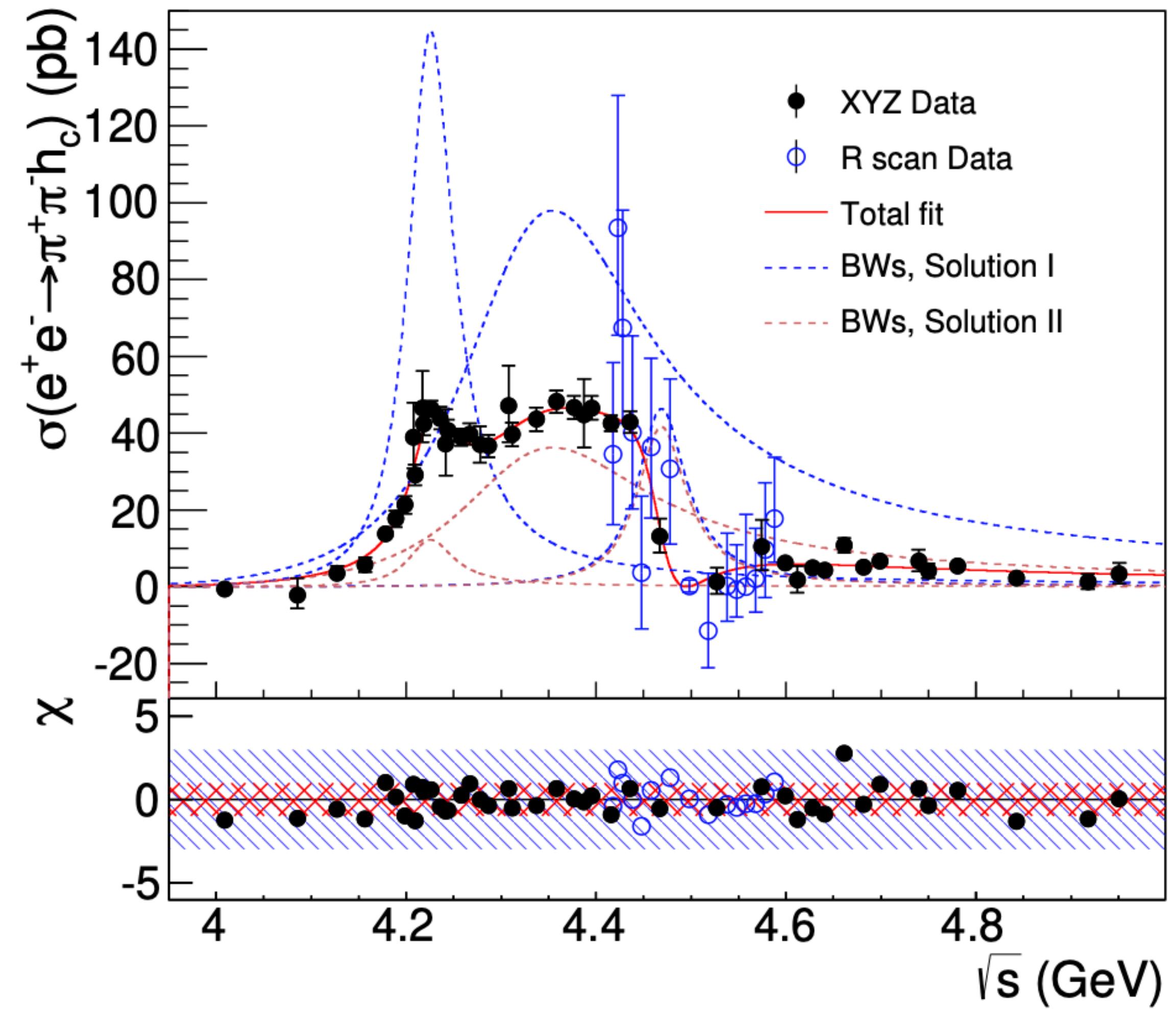
+ many more (including light hadron channels)

Updated $e^+e^- \rightarrow h_c\pi^+\pi^-$

$h_c \rightarrow \gamma\eta_c$ with η_c reconstructed in 16 different decay modes

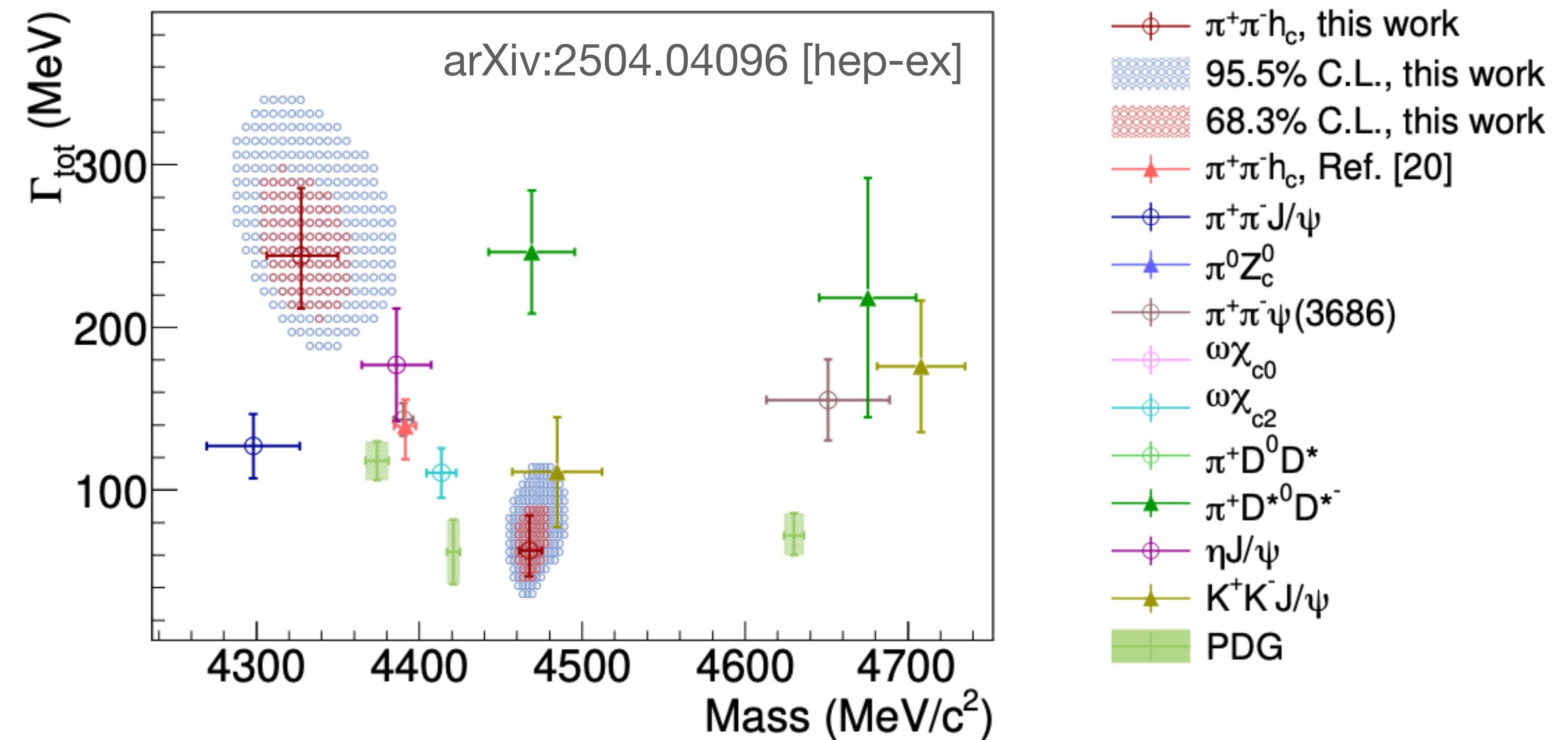
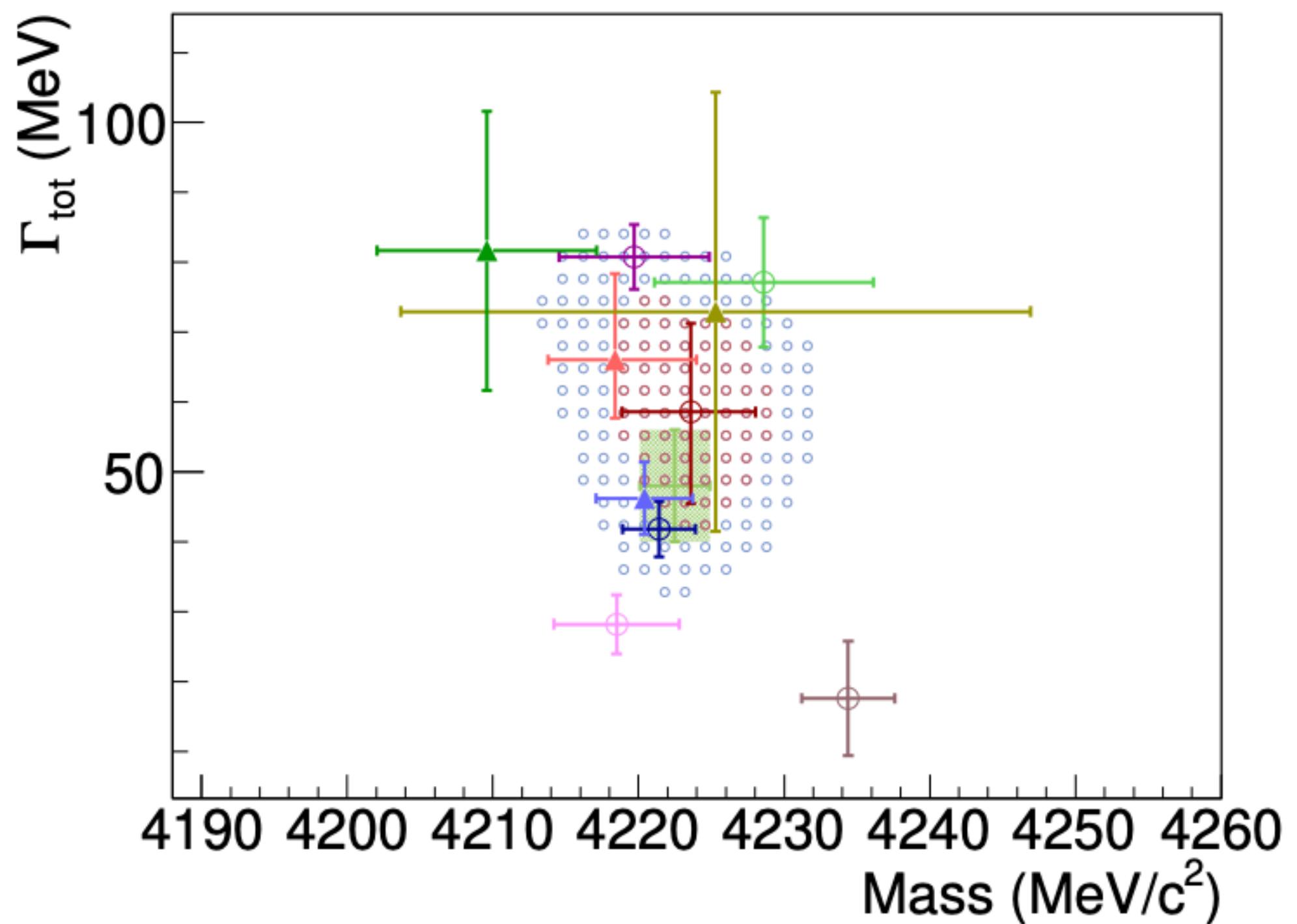


arXiv:2504.04096 [hep-ex]



The vector states - an overview

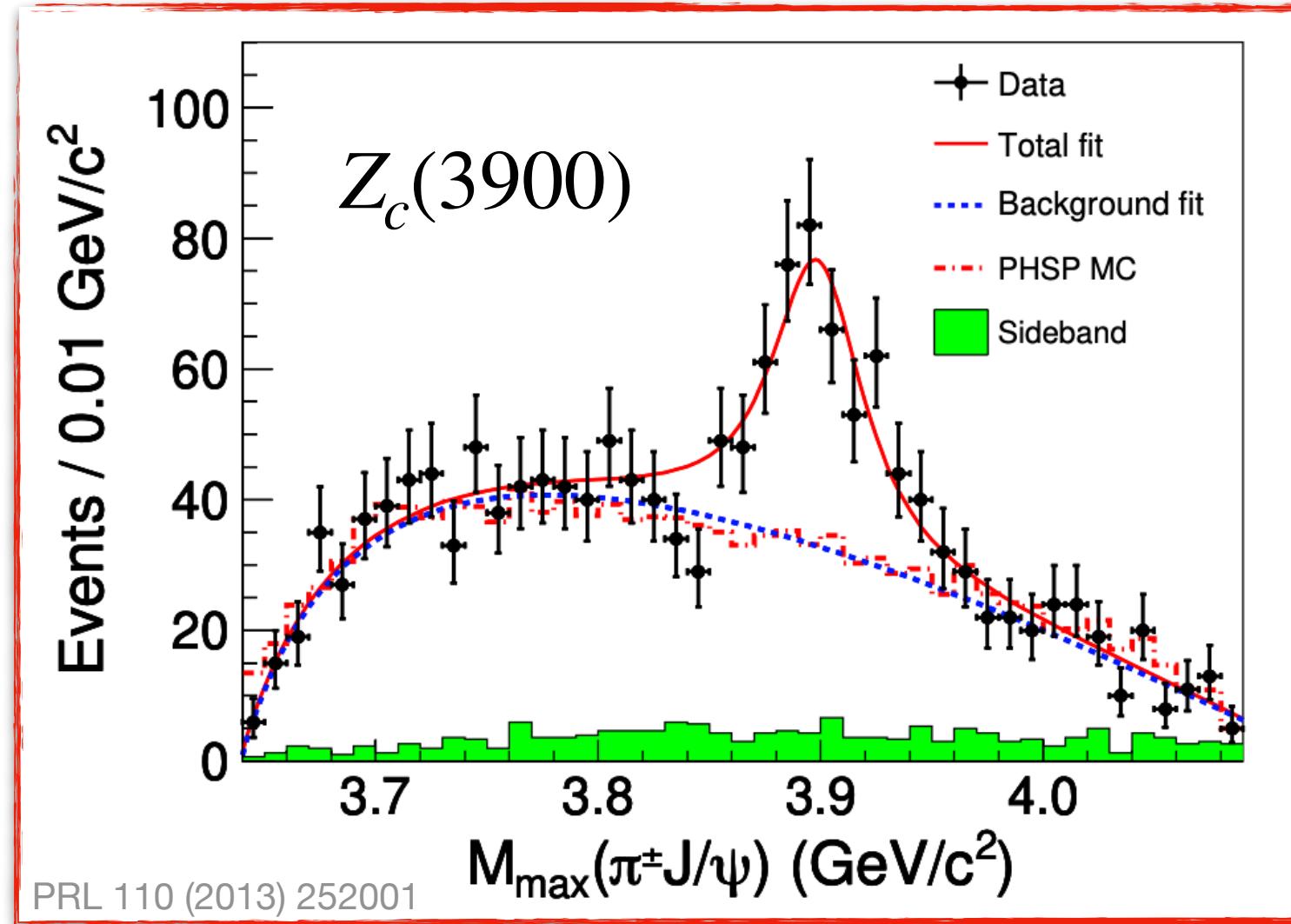
- we know a lot: many, many possible $e^+e^- \rightarrow (c\bar{c})(q\bar{q}), (c\bar{q})(\bar{c}q)$ processes have been studied



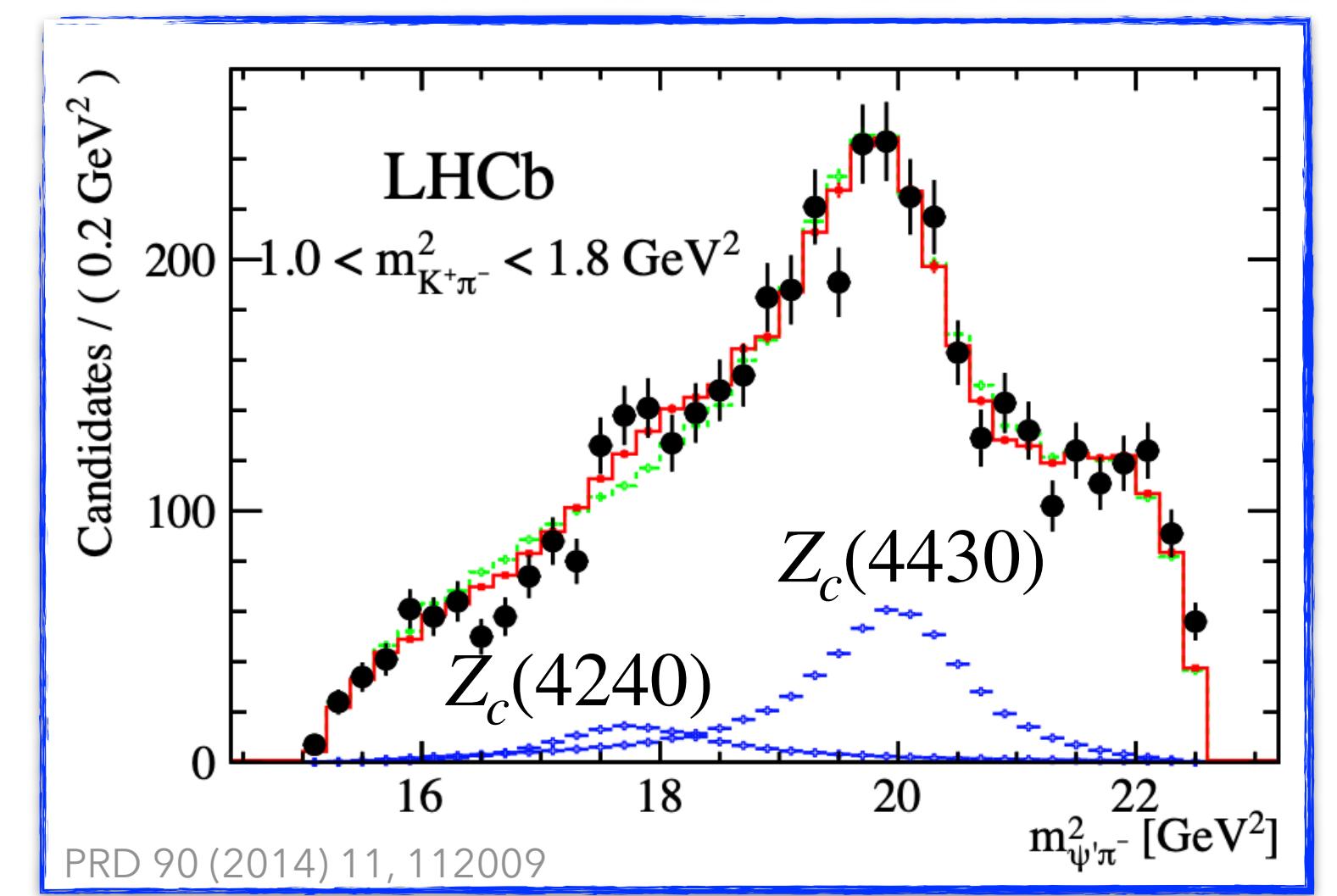
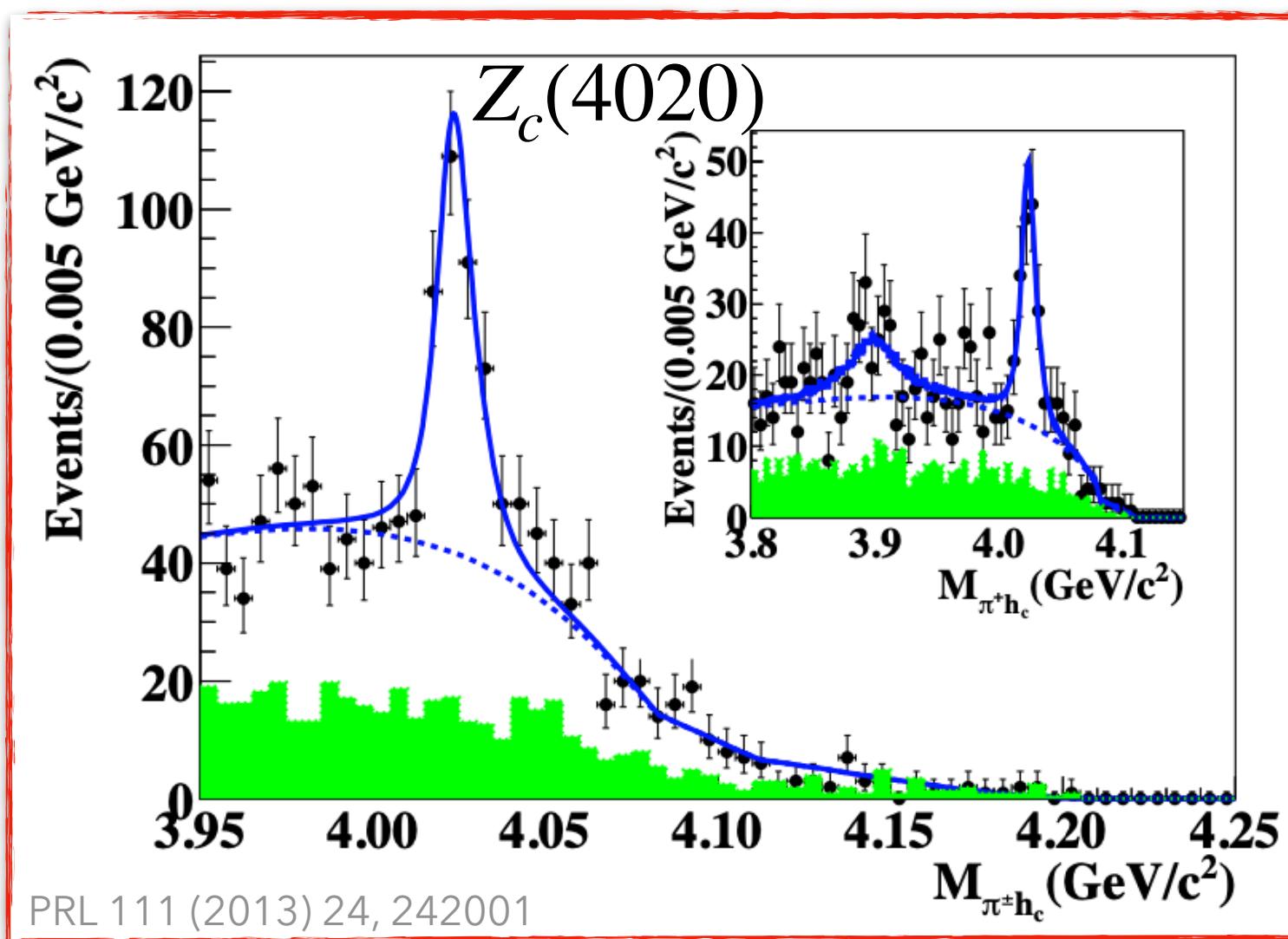
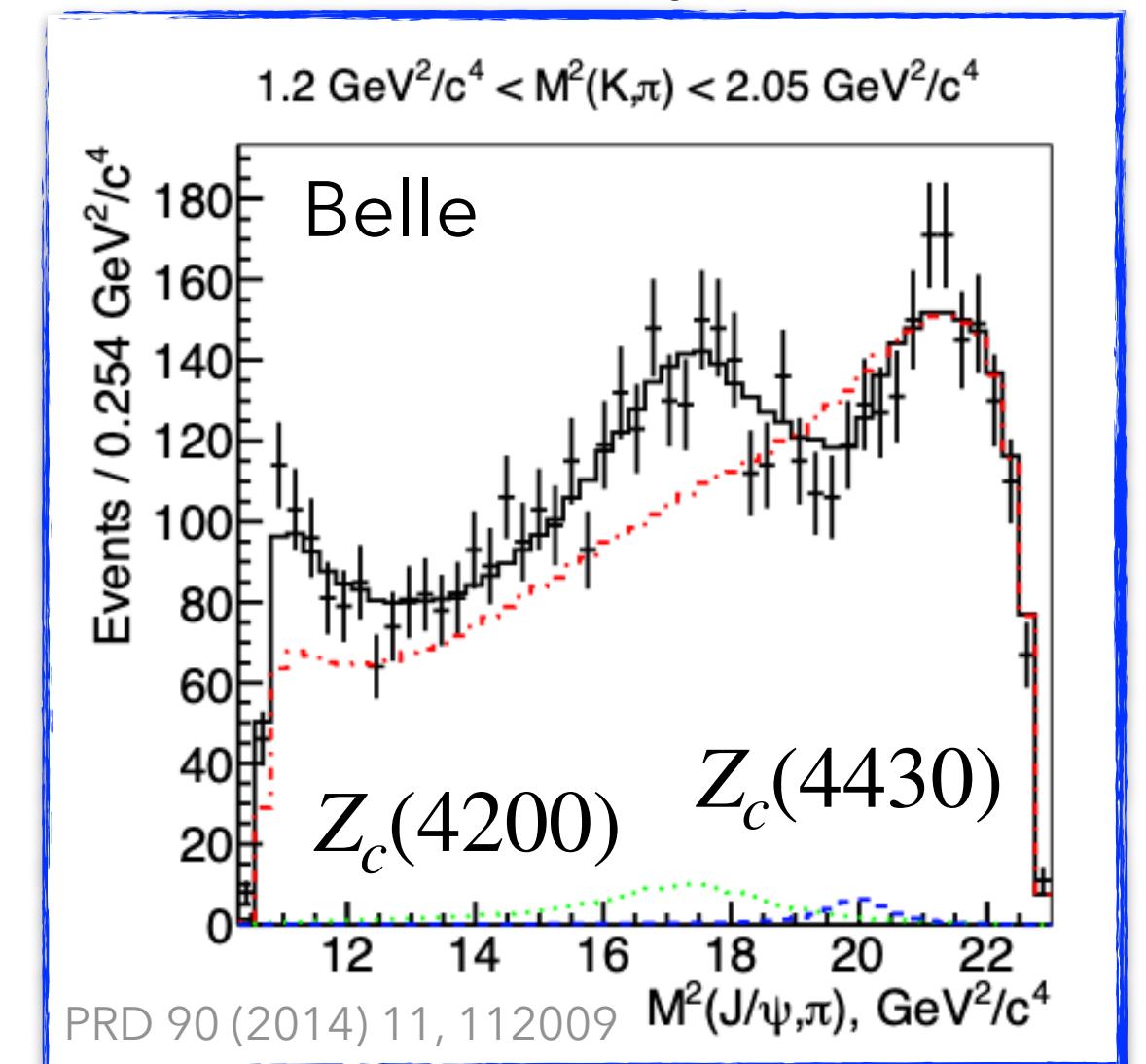
- it still seems we understand too little... no coherent picture of the vector states

Charged charmonium-like states

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow Z_c\pi$$

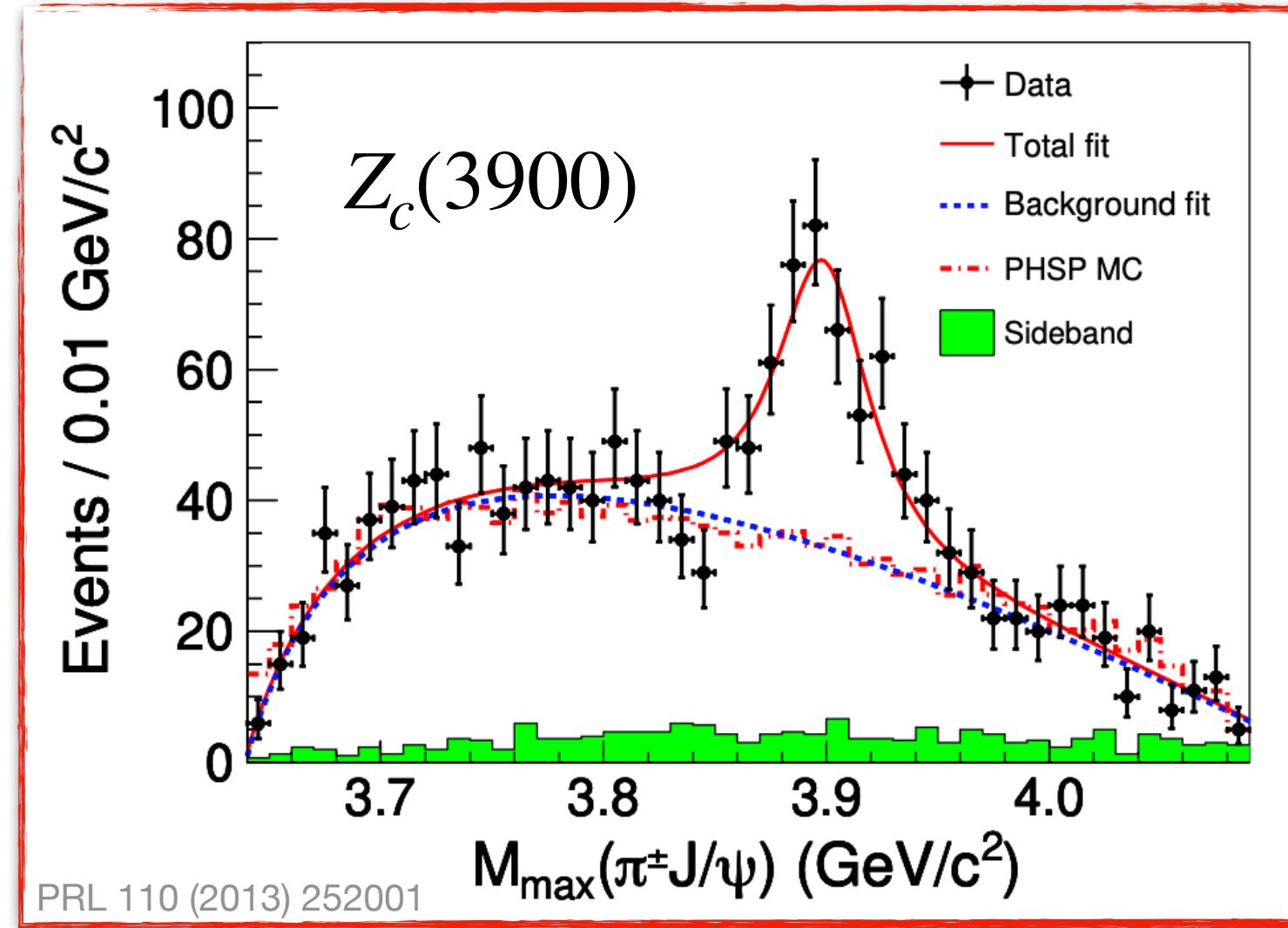


$$B \rightarrow Z_c K$$

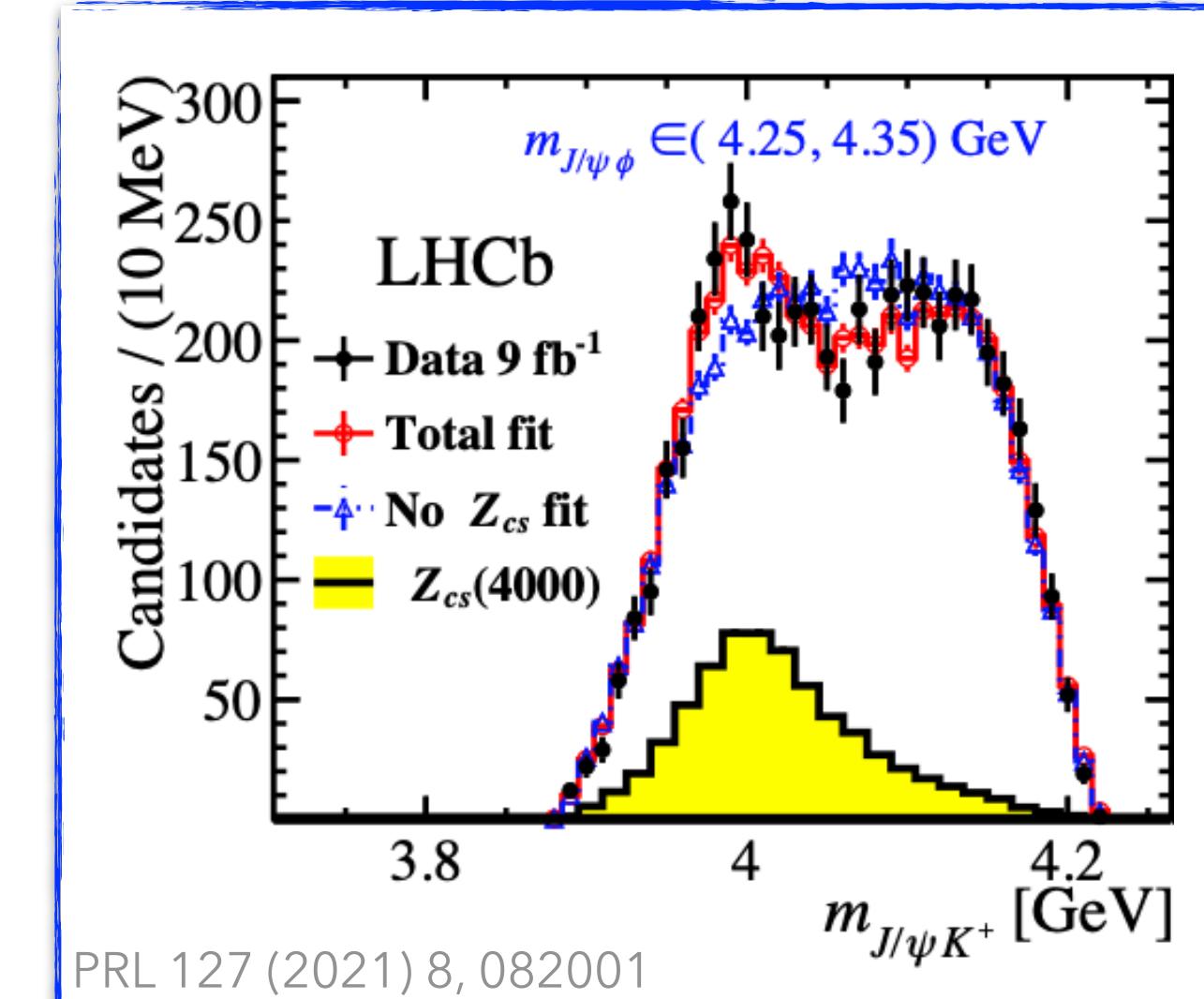


Charged charmonium-like states

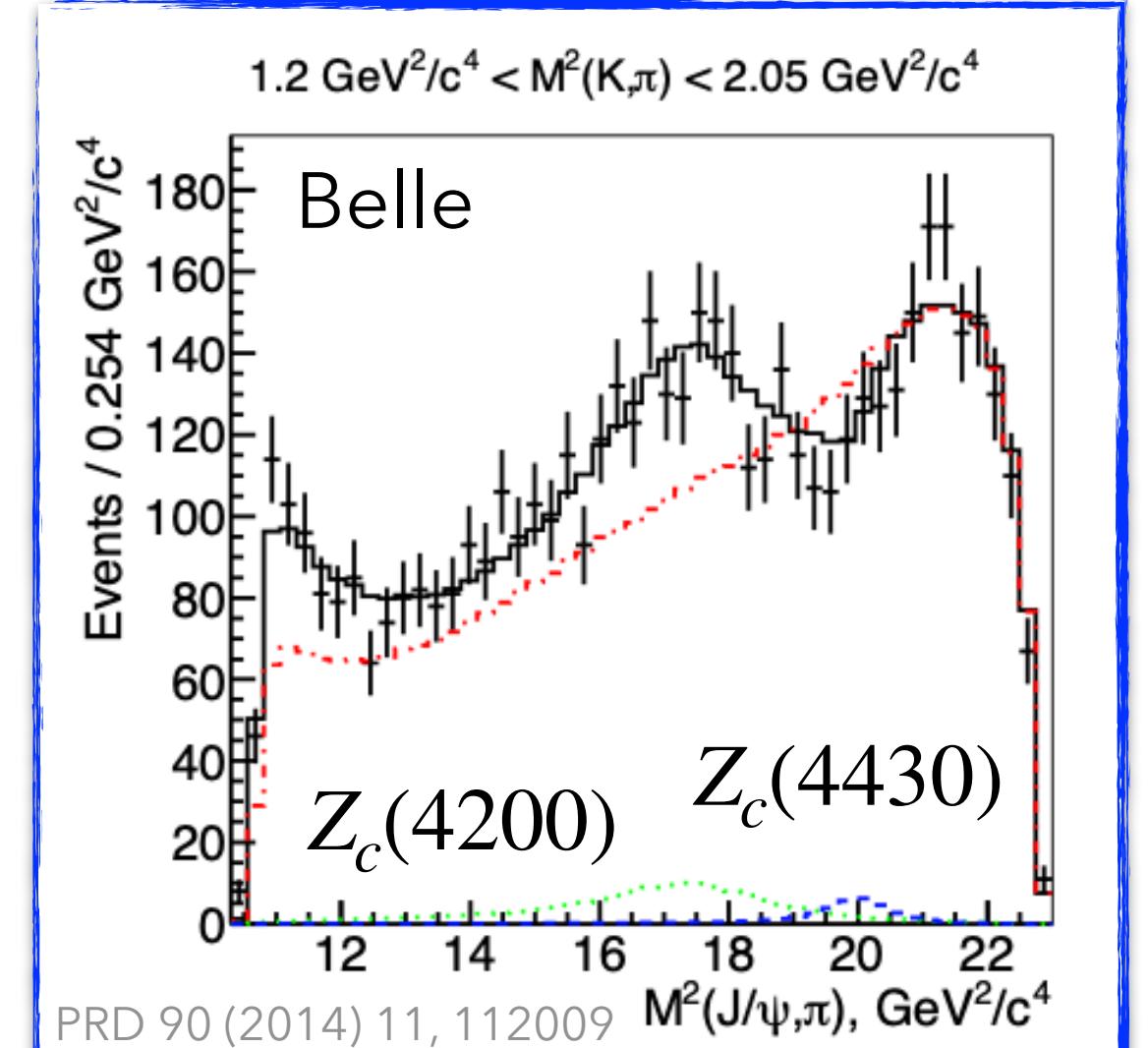
$e^+e^- \rightarrow Z_c\pi$



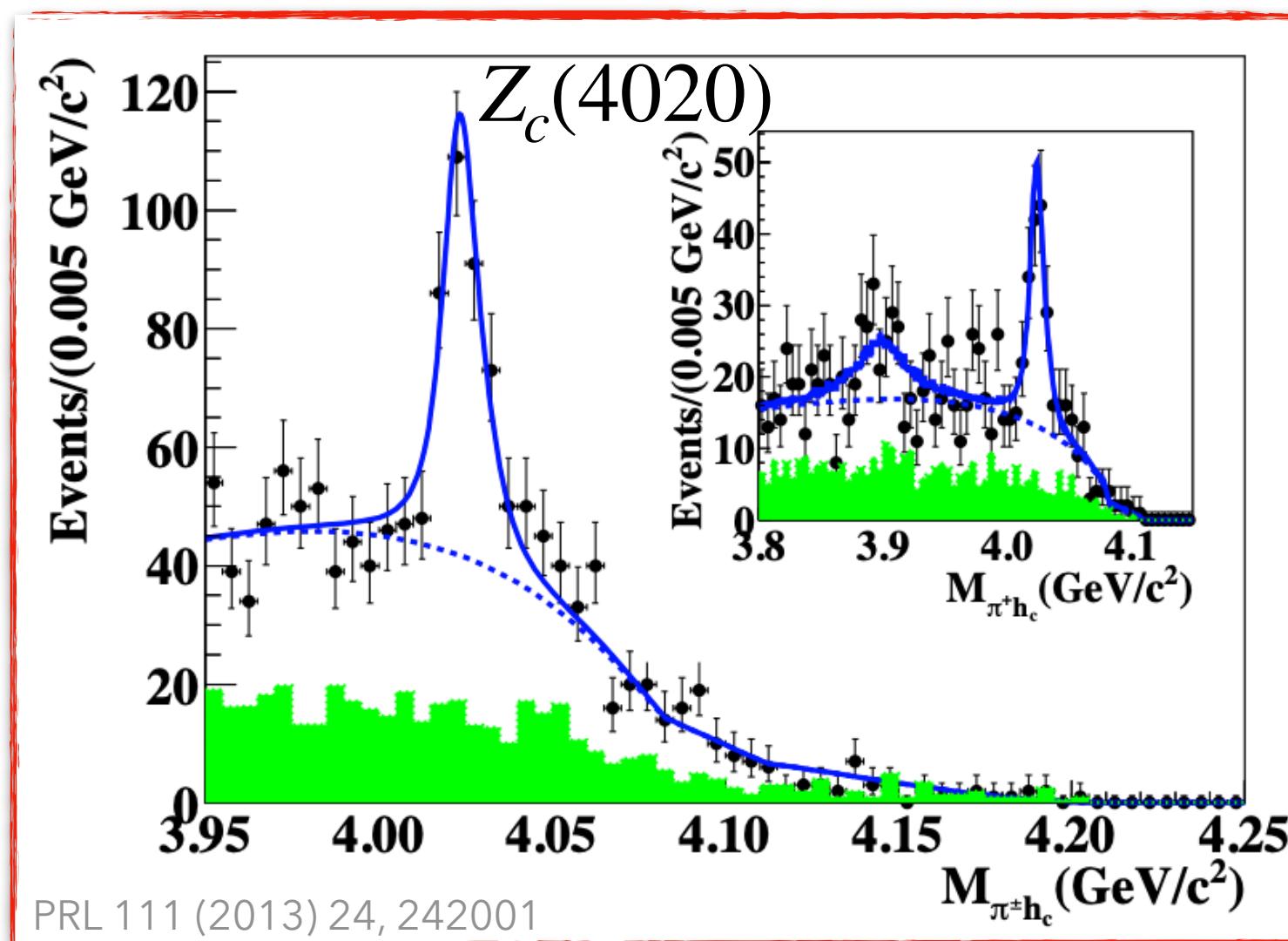
$B \rightarrow Z_c\phi$



$B \rightarrow Z_c K$

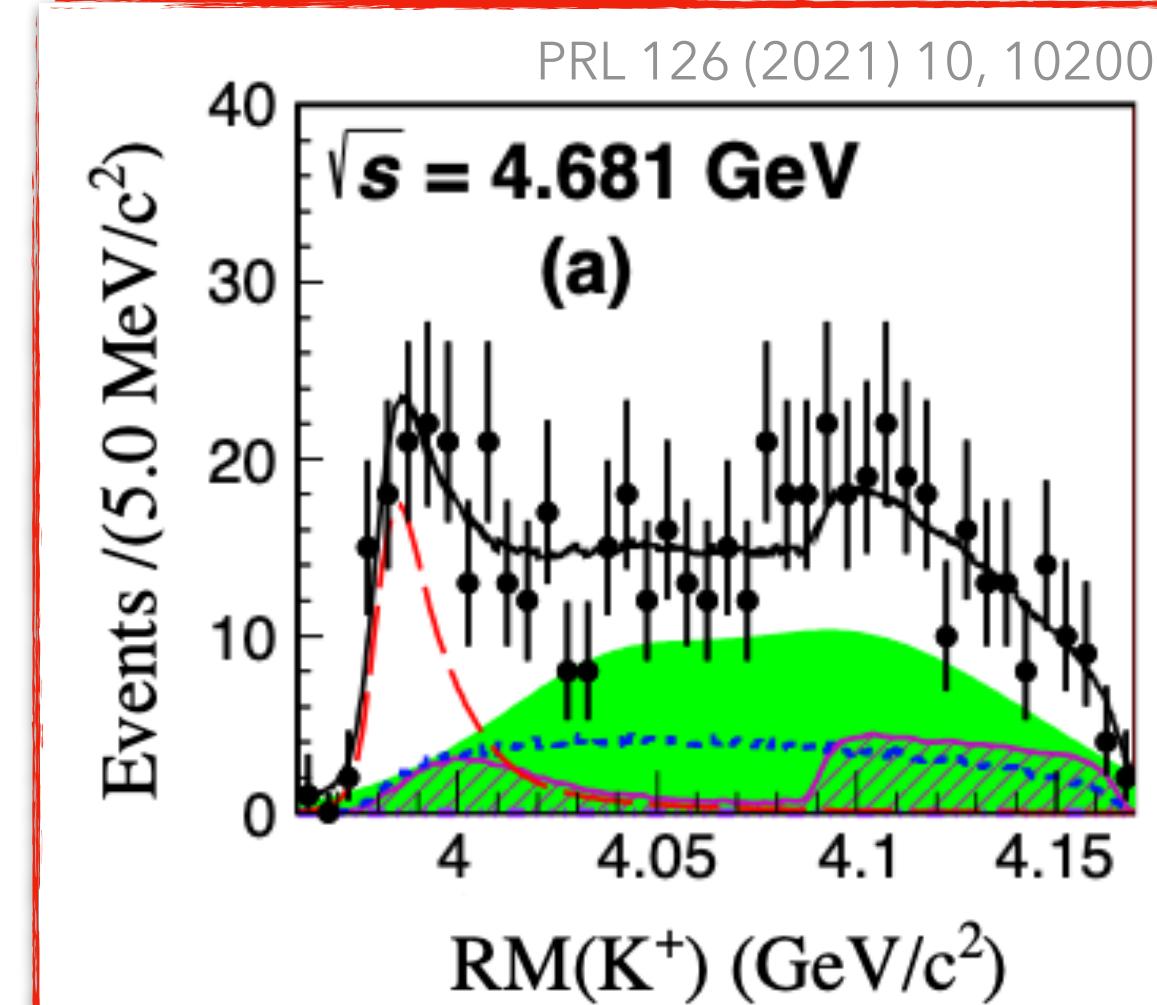


$e^+e^- \rightarrow Z_{cs}K$

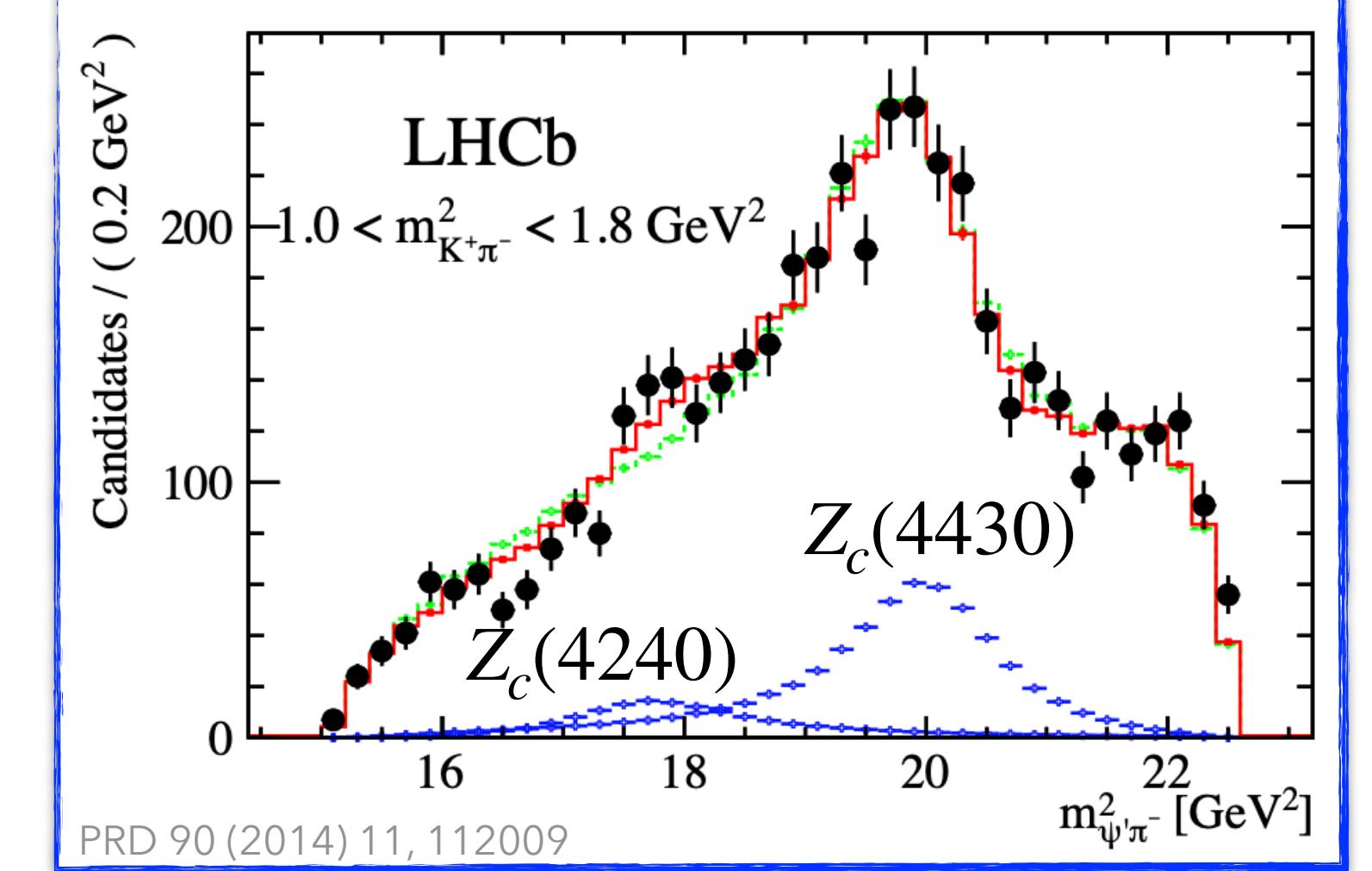


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(a)

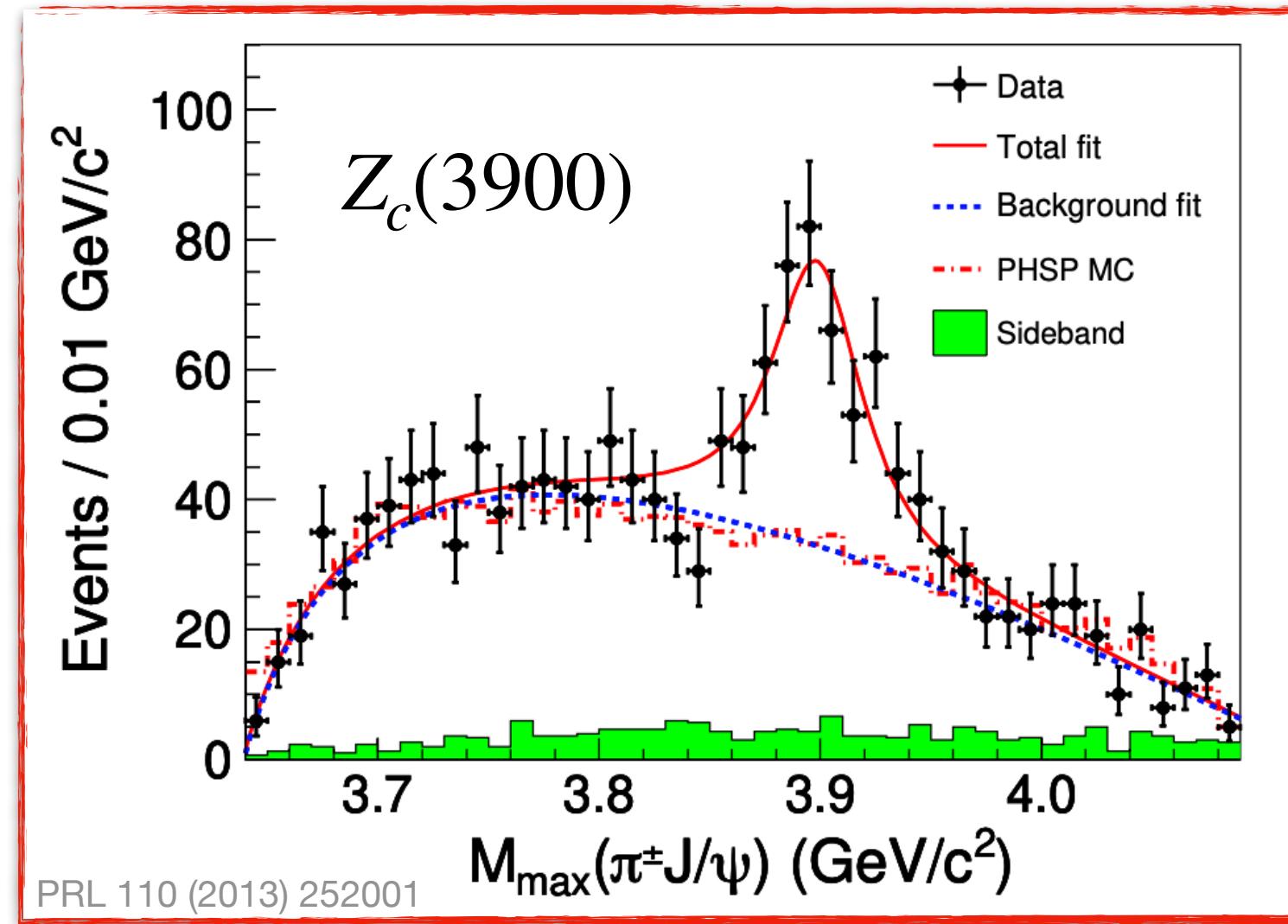


LHCb

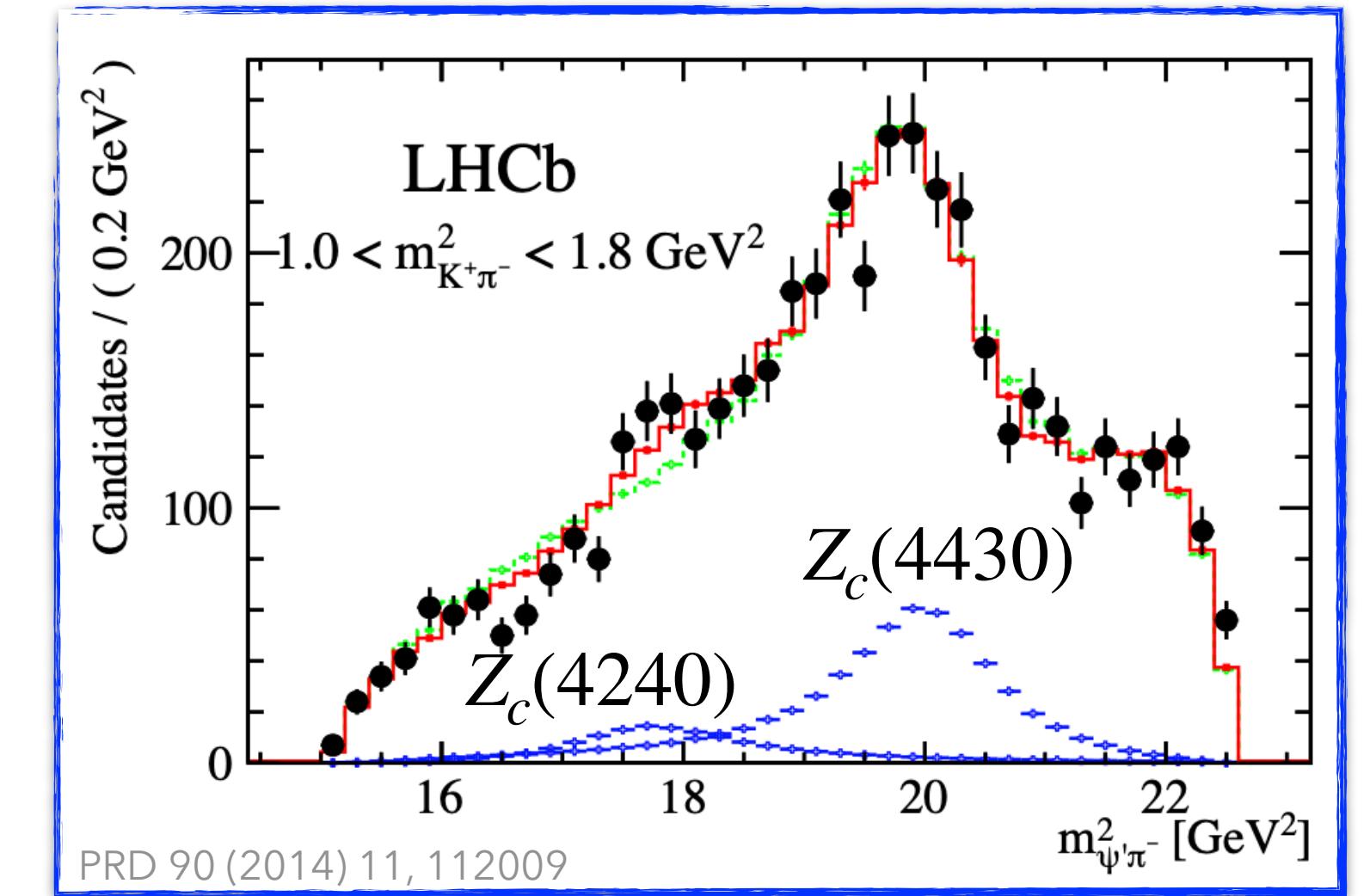
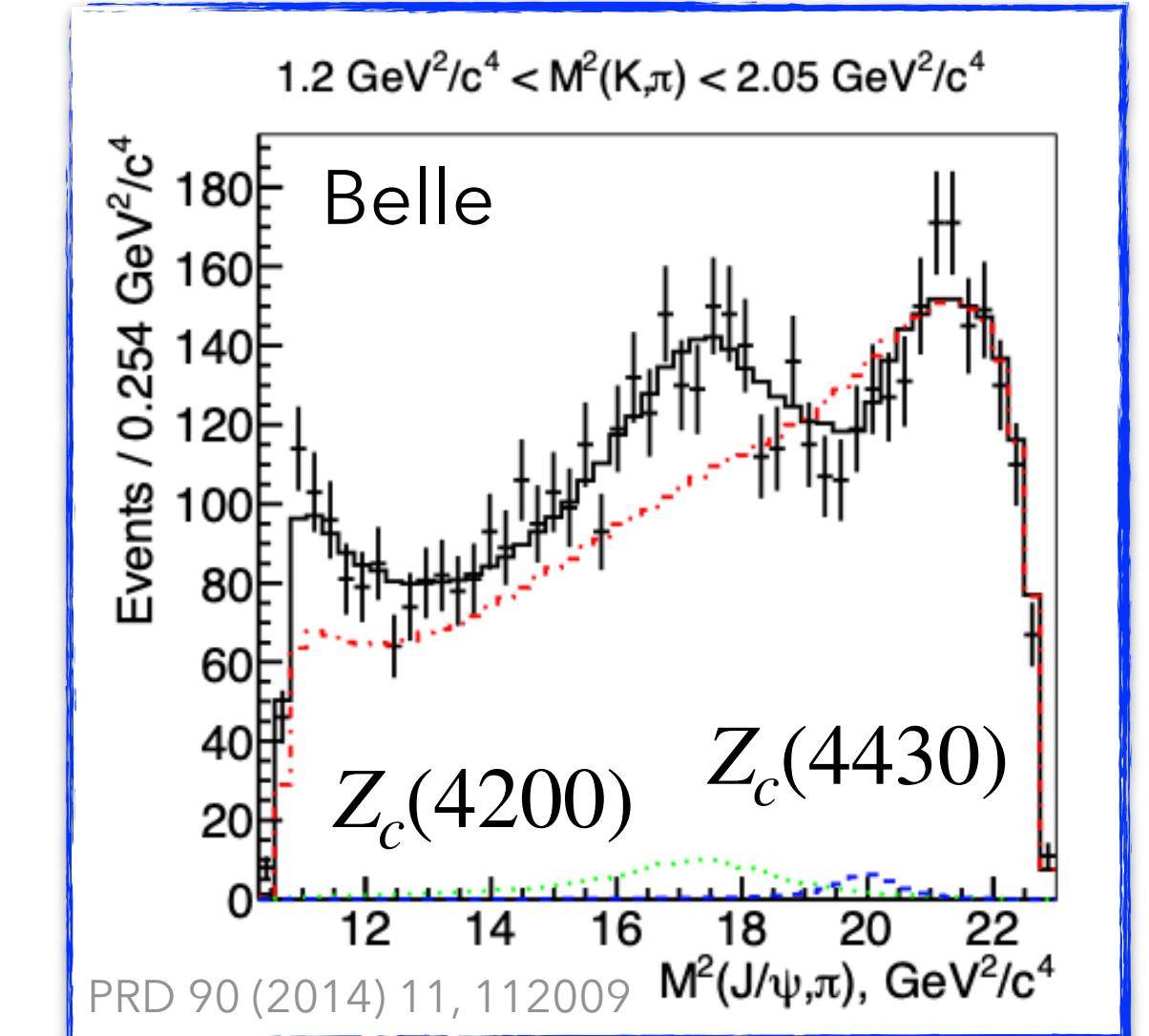
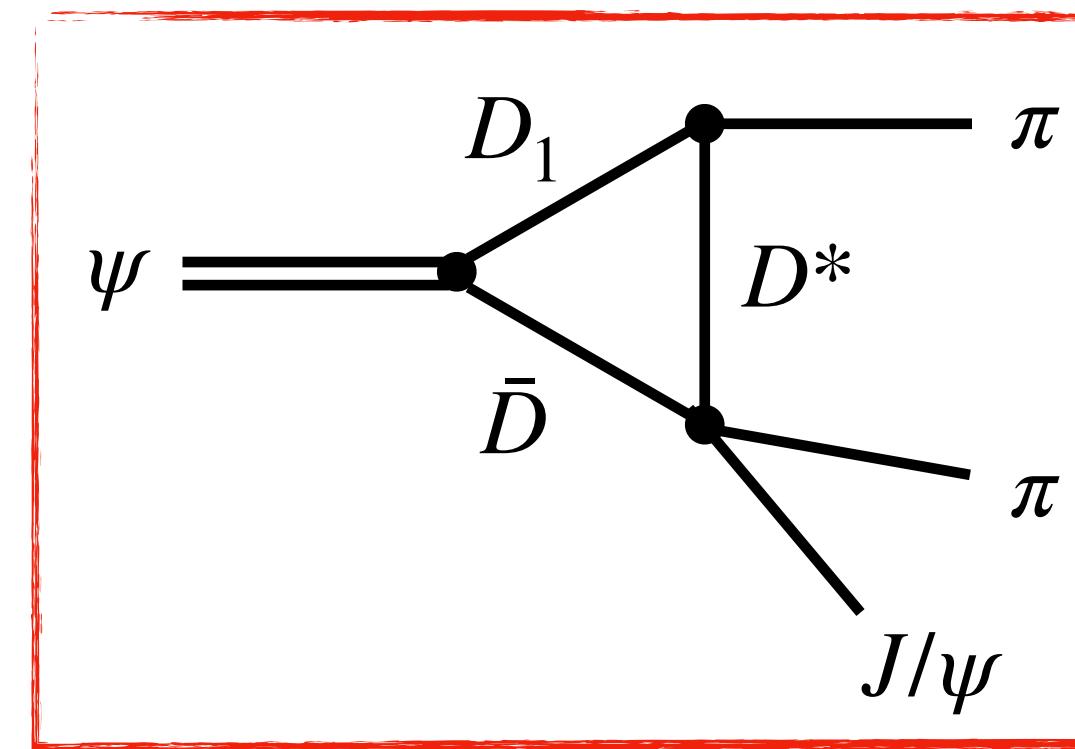
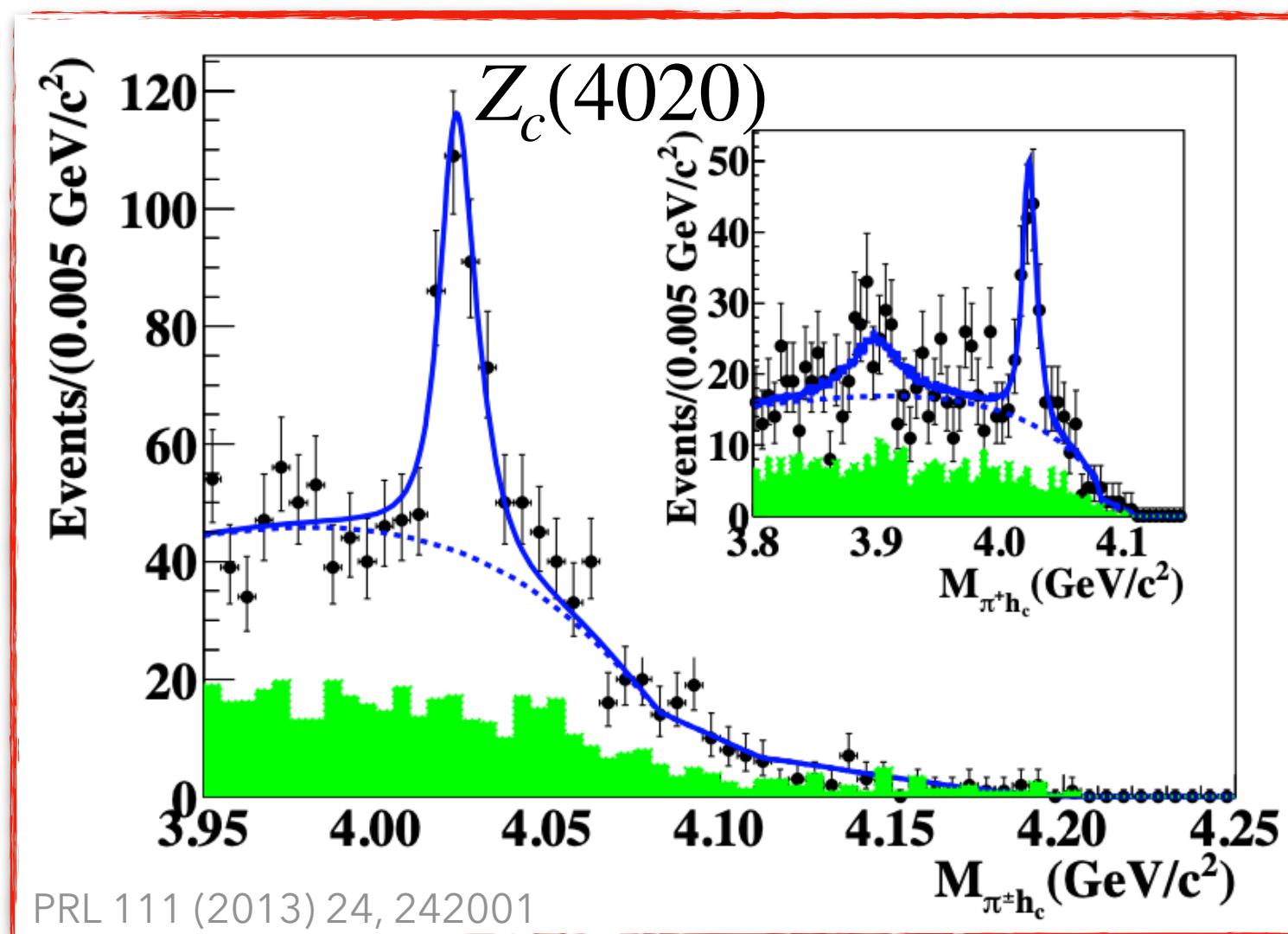
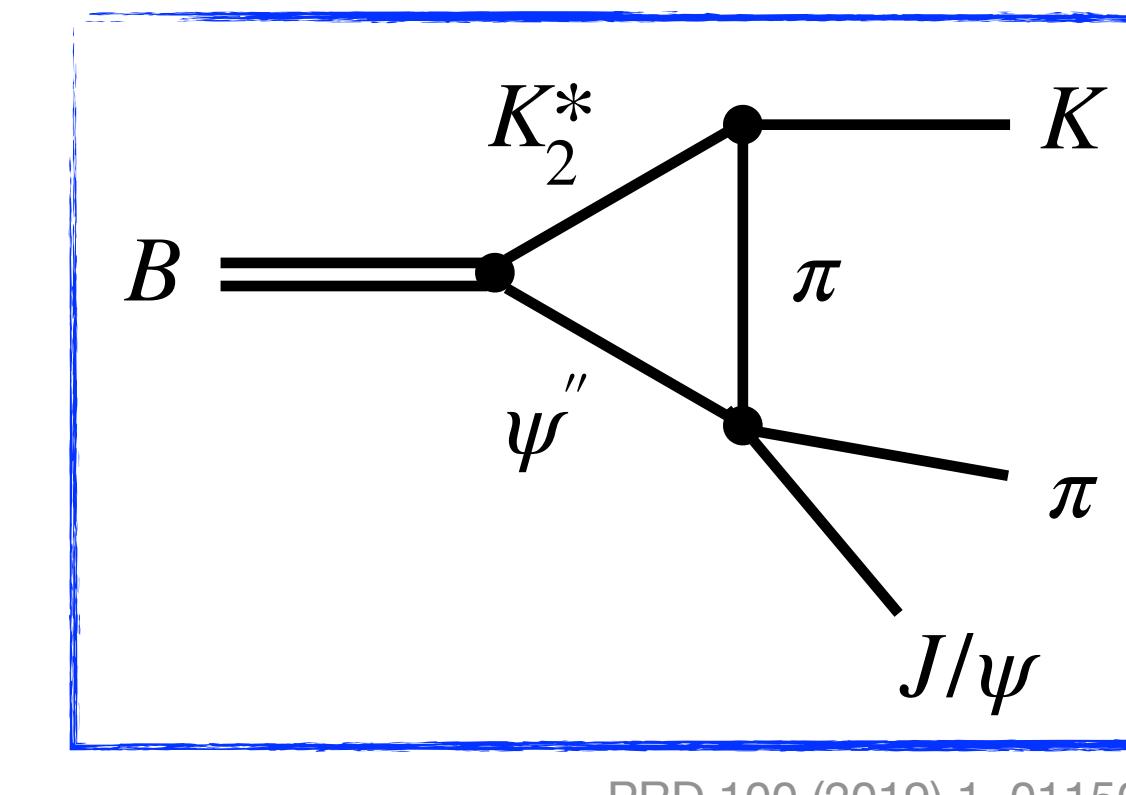


Charged charmonium-like states

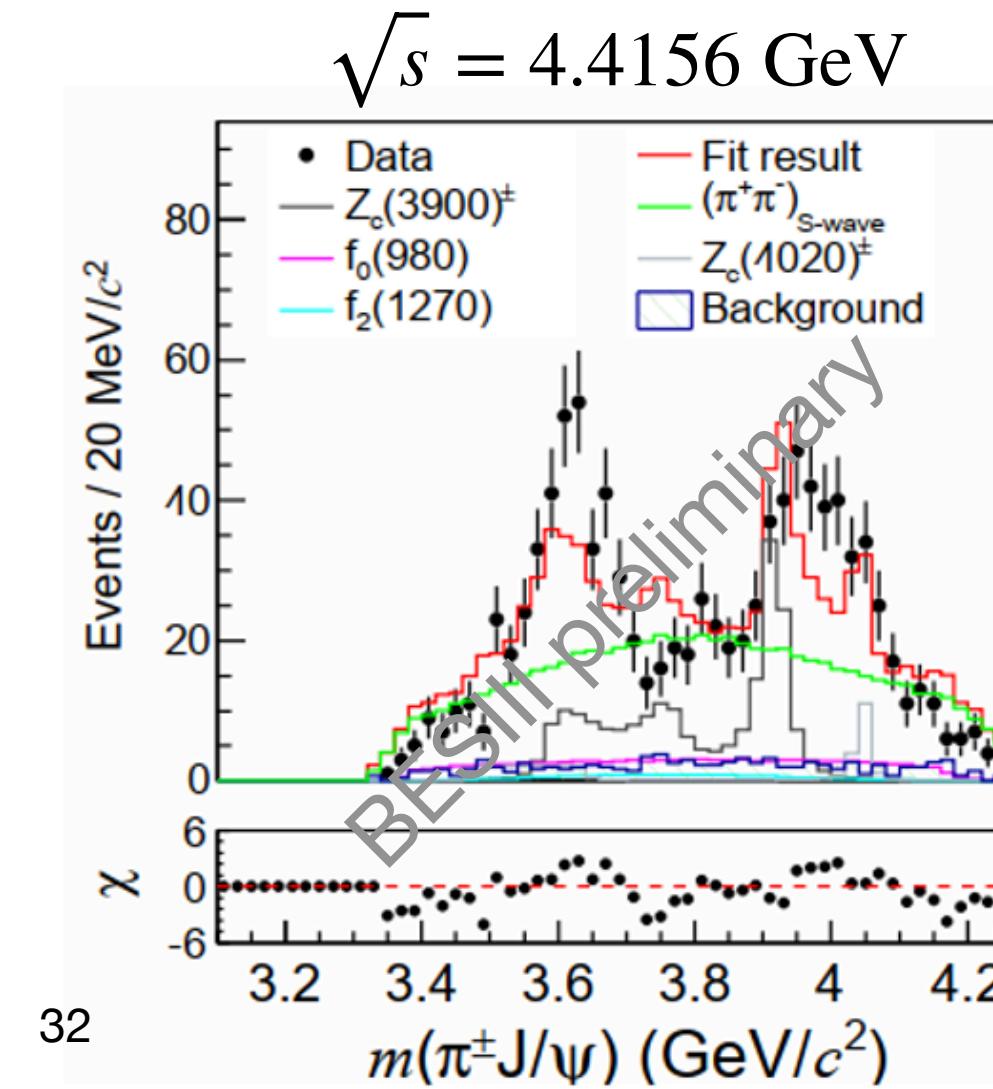
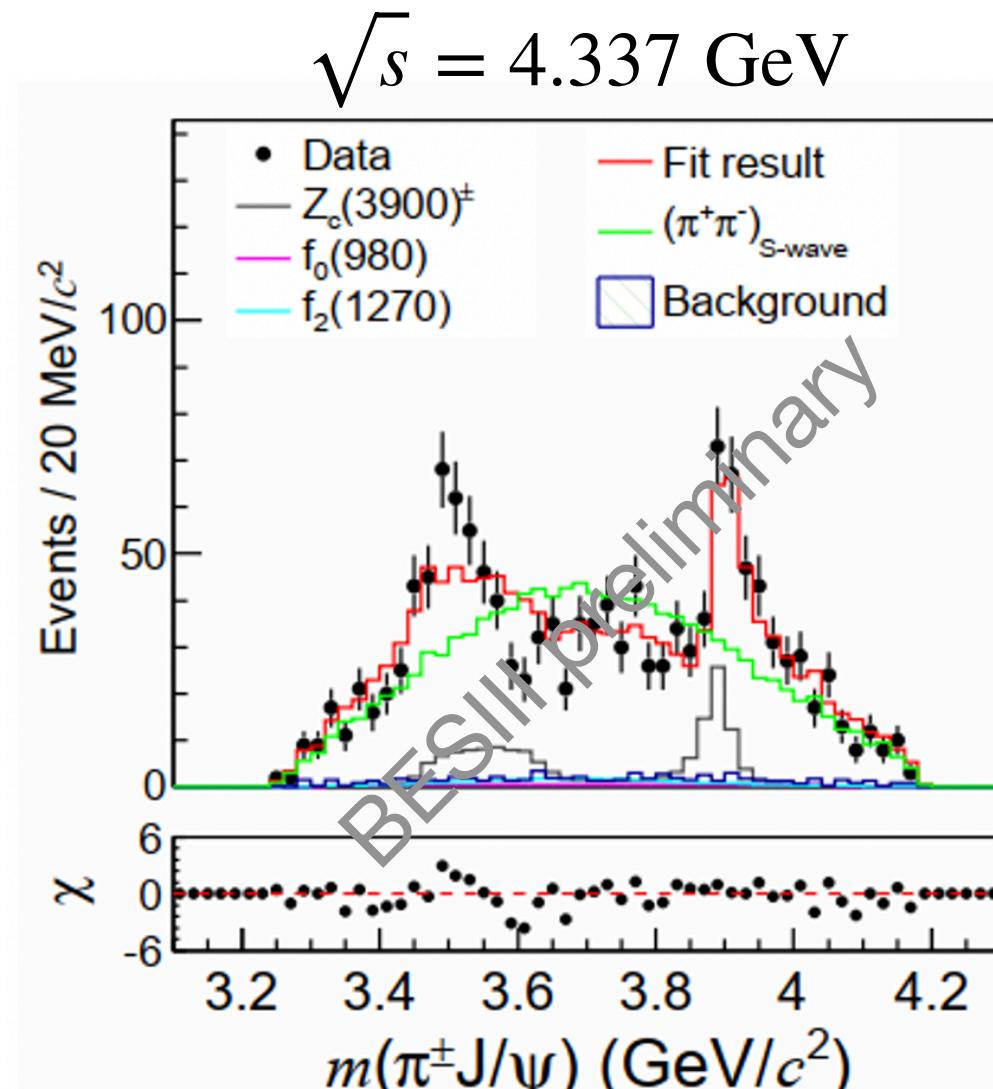
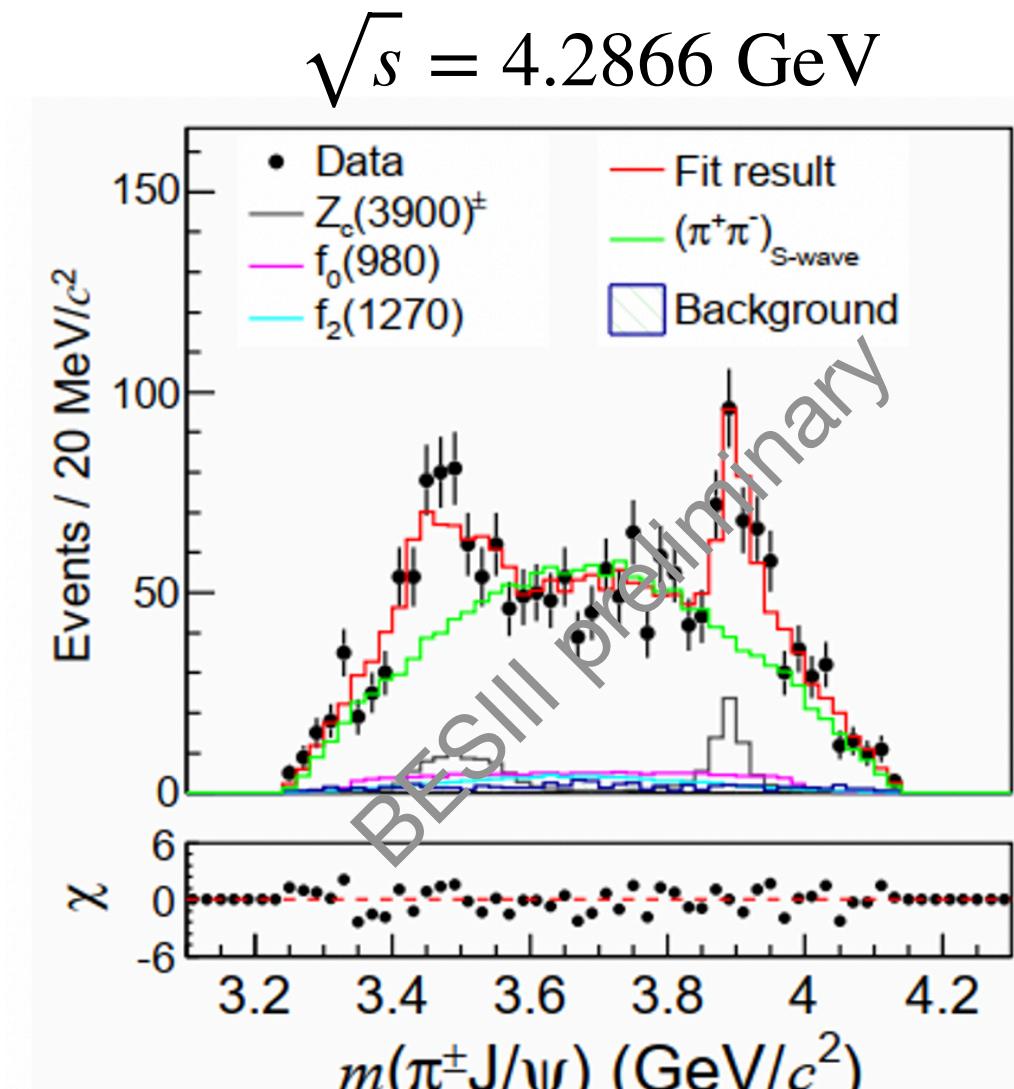
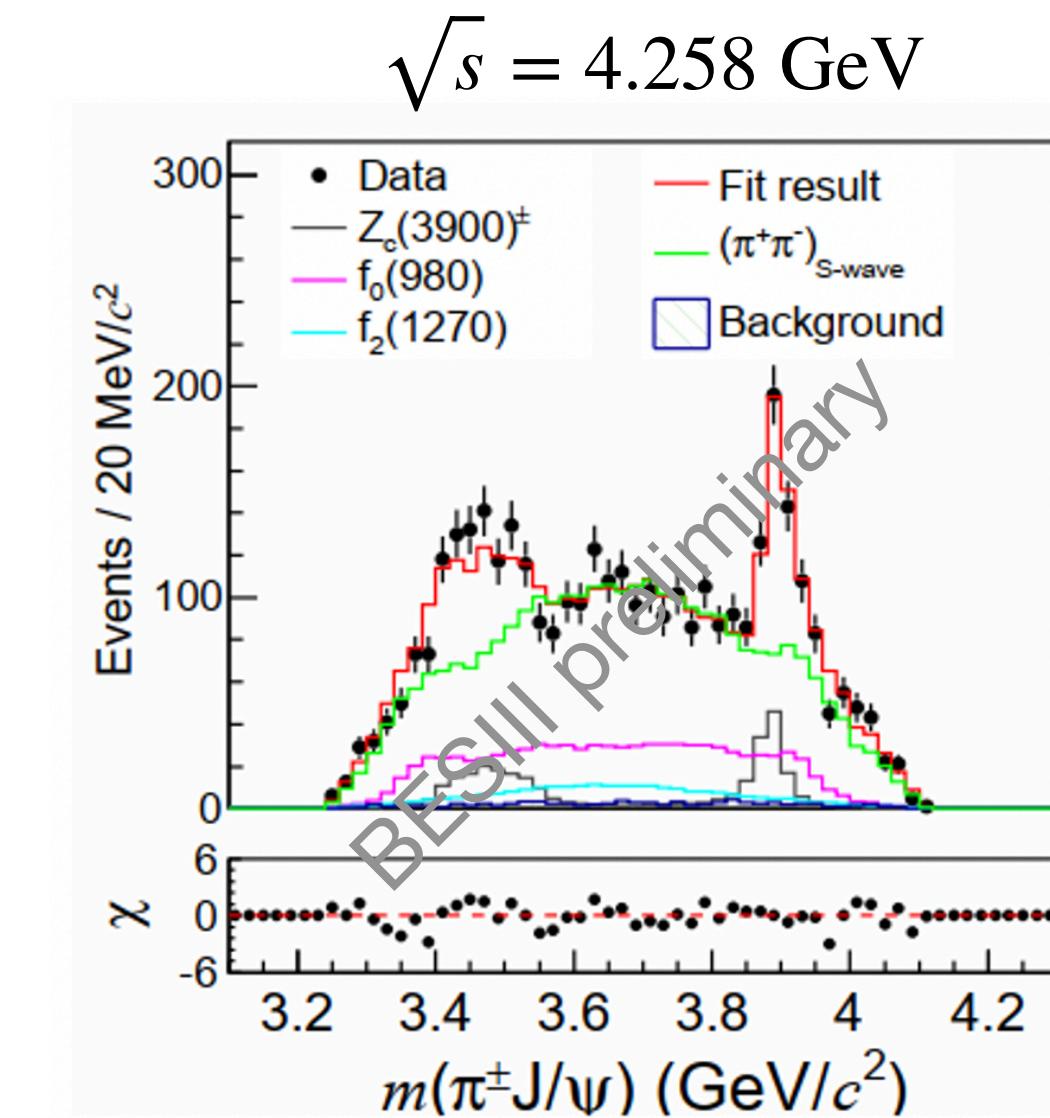
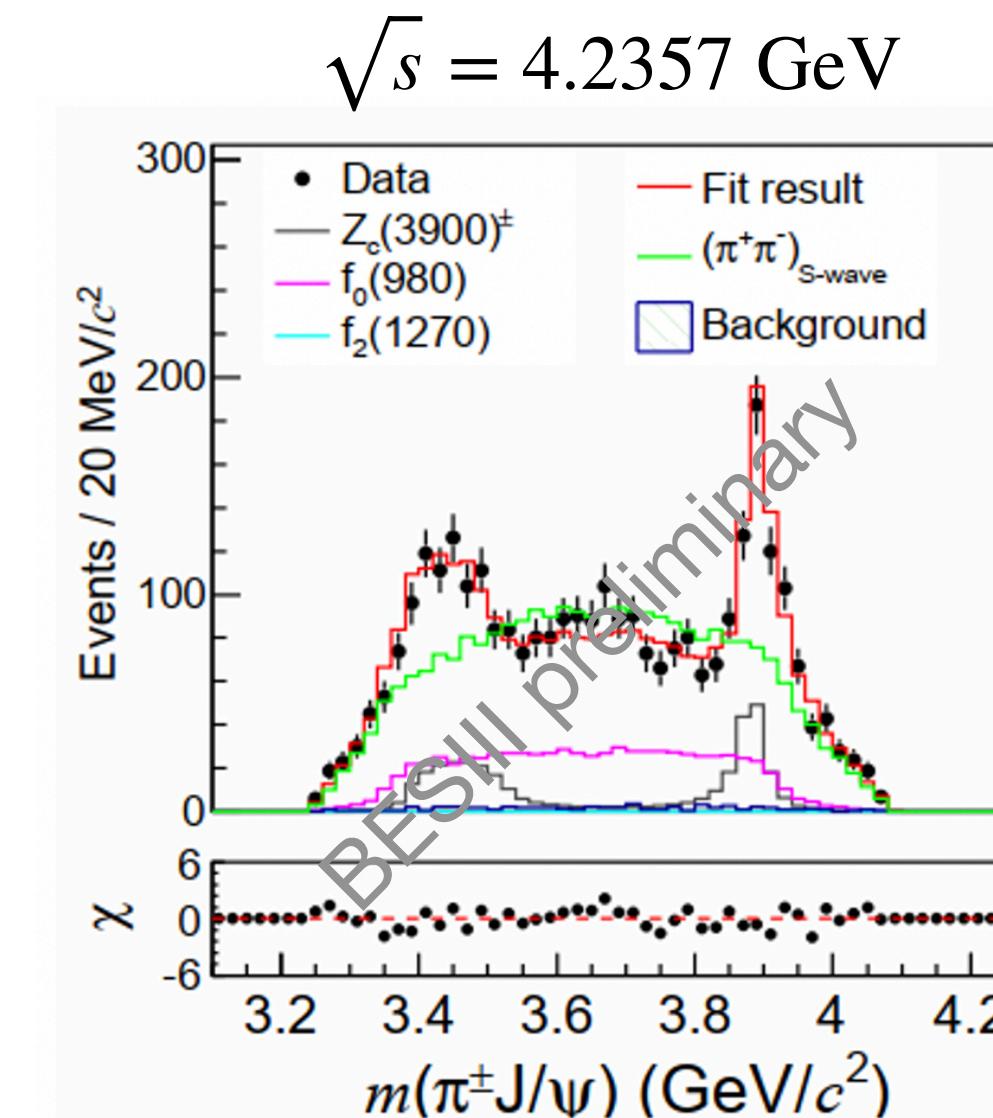
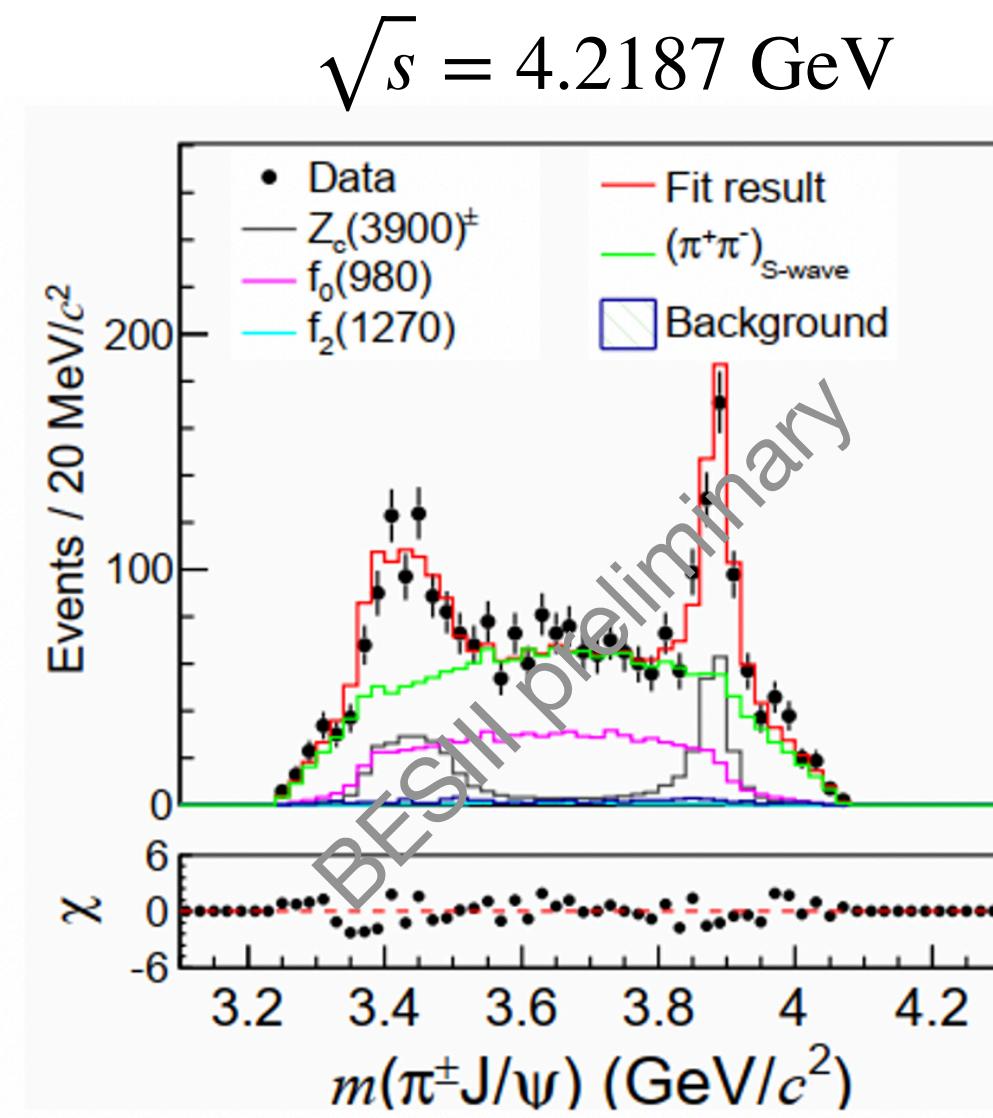
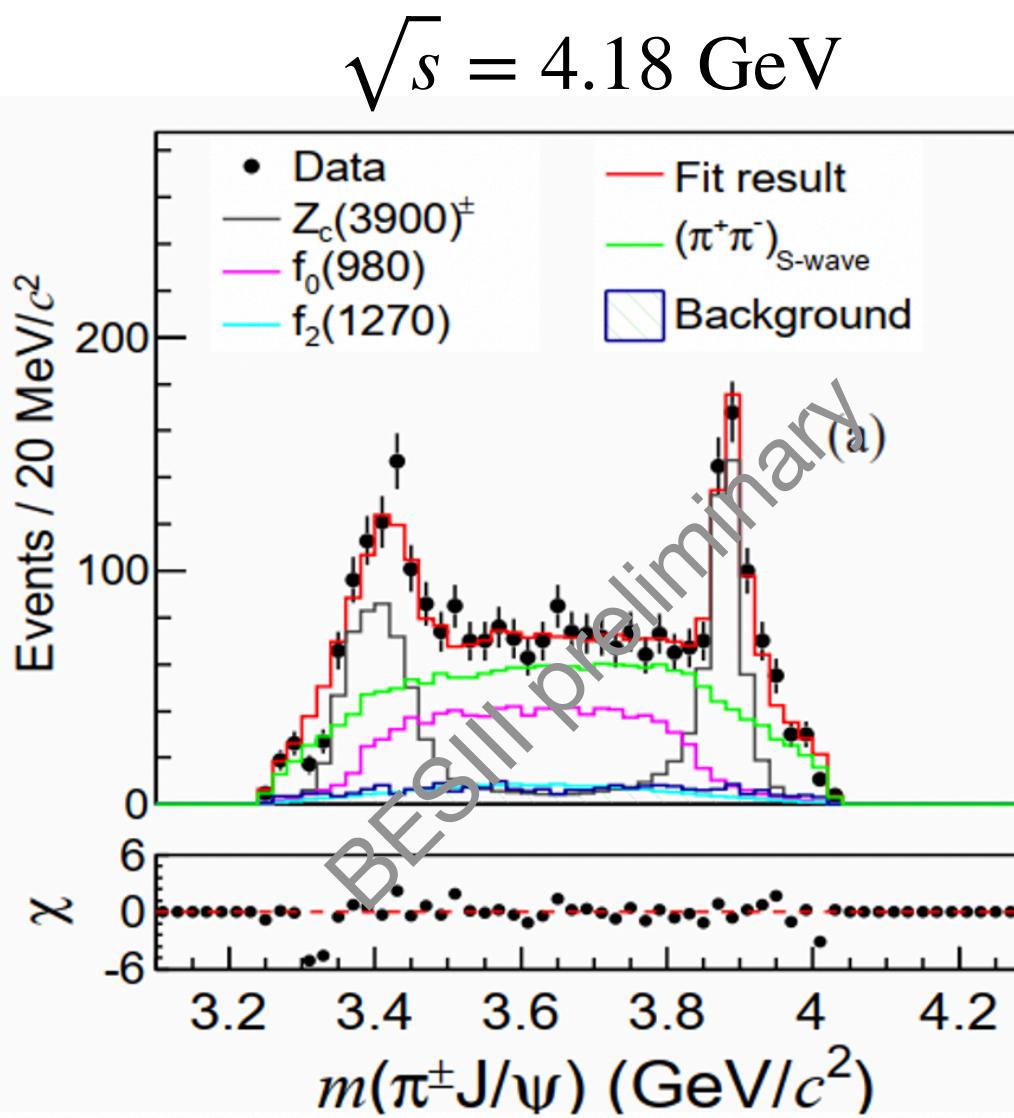
$$e^+e^- \rightarrow Z_c\pi$$



are triangle singularities the solution?



Charged charmonium-like states

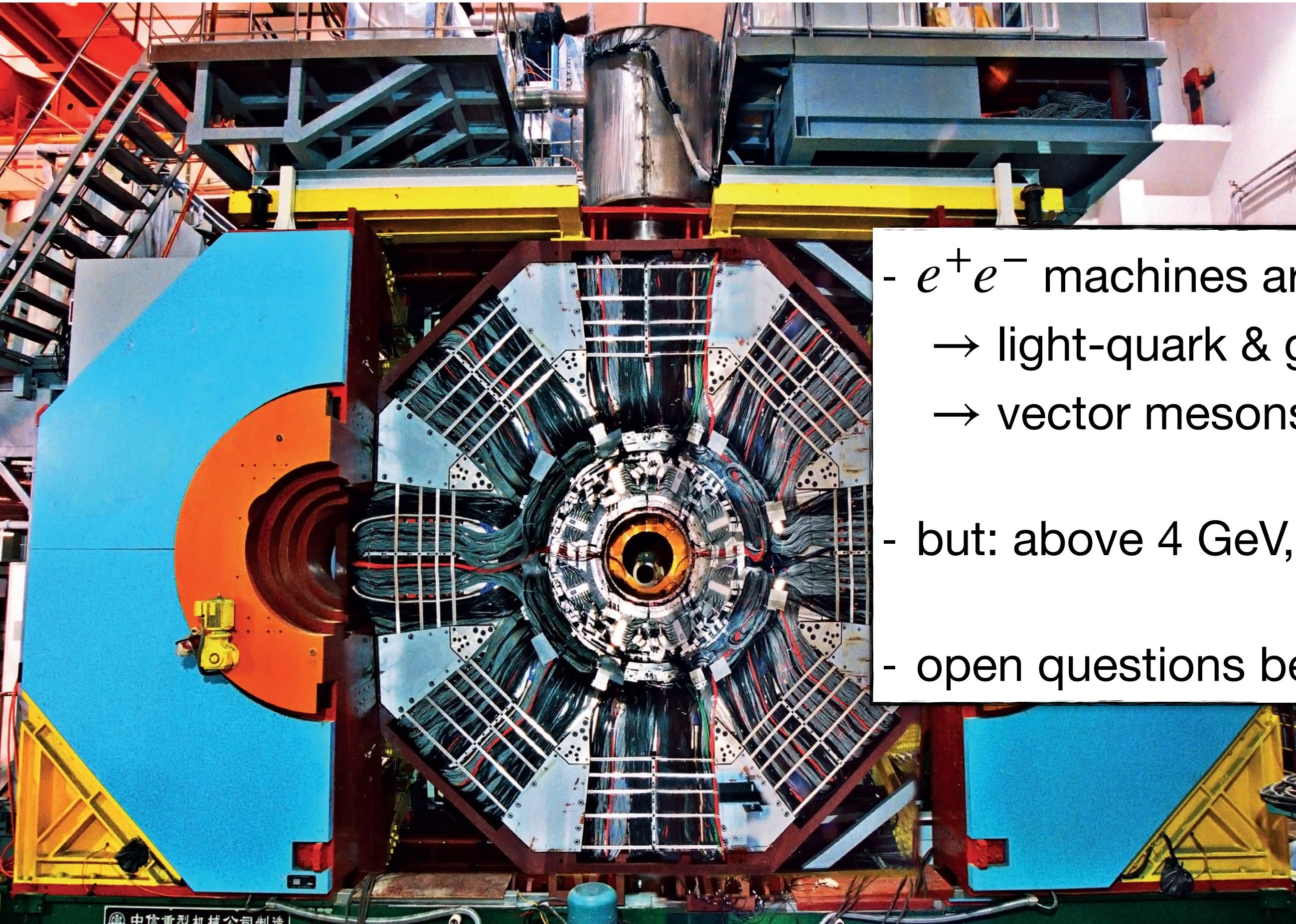


- study how/if the Z_c lineshape varies with c.m. energy
- we can do this for many energies in small steps
- more to come in the future

Summary & Outlook

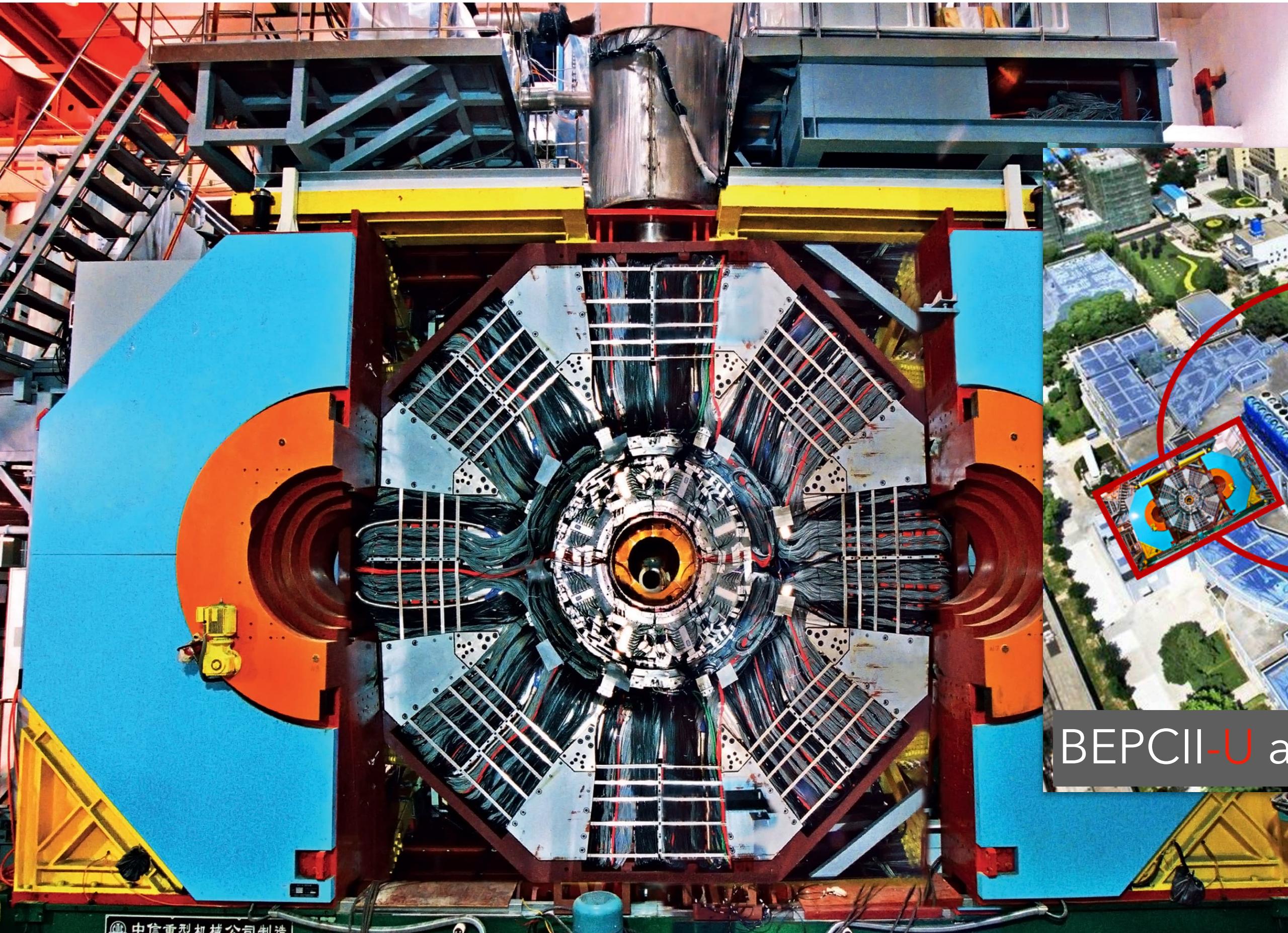
Summary

in the context of photo-/electro-production



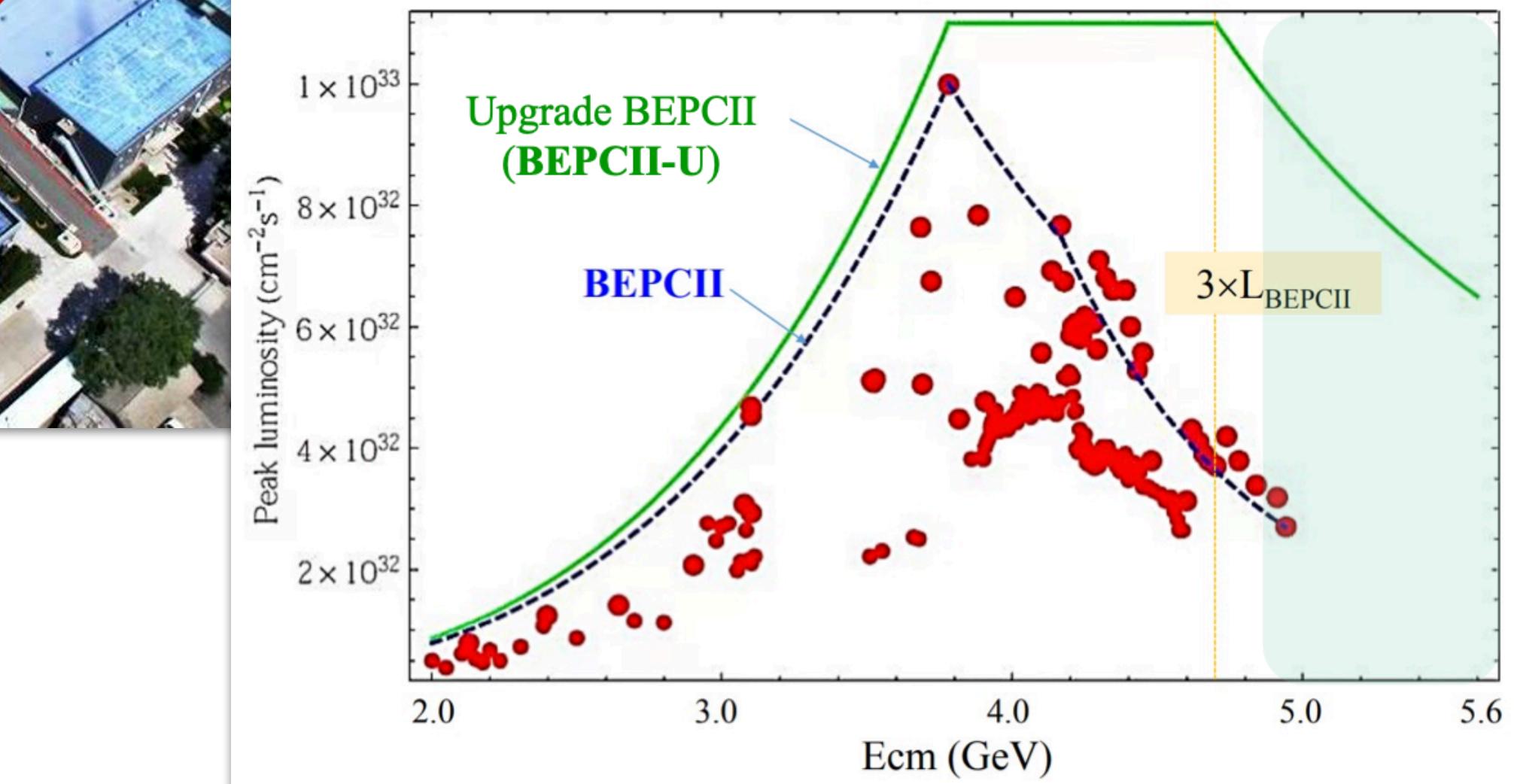
- e^+e^- machines are very powerful at specific tasks in hadron spectroscopy
 - light-quark & gluonic exotics in charmonium decays
 - vector mesons directly in the annihilation
- but: above 4 GeV, (exotic) charmonia with other J^{PC} are a challenge
- open questions between e^+e^- and b -decays

Future perspective



BEPCII-U accelerator

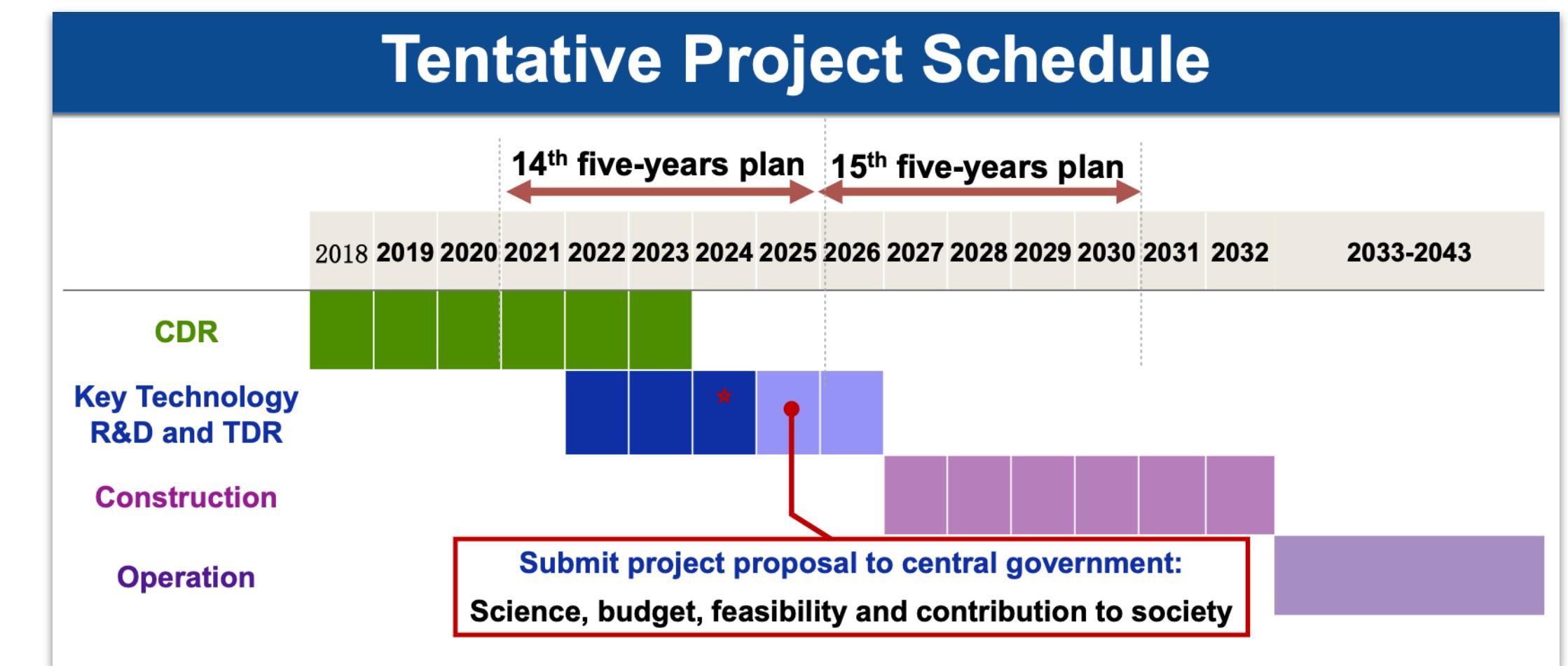
- up to 3x higher luminosities in the XYZ region:
 - enable precision studies of $Z_{c(s)}$ -states & $X(3872)$
 - large dataset at single \sqrt{s} versus finer scans?
- energies of up to 5.6 GeV:
 - new, largely unexplored energy region
 - crossing several charmed baryon thresholds
 - cross $J/\psi p\bar{p}$ threshold



More distant future perspective



- energy range: 2 - 7 GeV
- luminosity: $> 0.5 \times 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- timeline:



detailed information on technical concepts can be found here:

International Workshop on Future Tau Charm Facilities: <https://indico.pnp.ustc.edu.cn/event/1948/overview>

CDR: Front. Phys. 19(1), 14701 (2024)

More distant future perspective

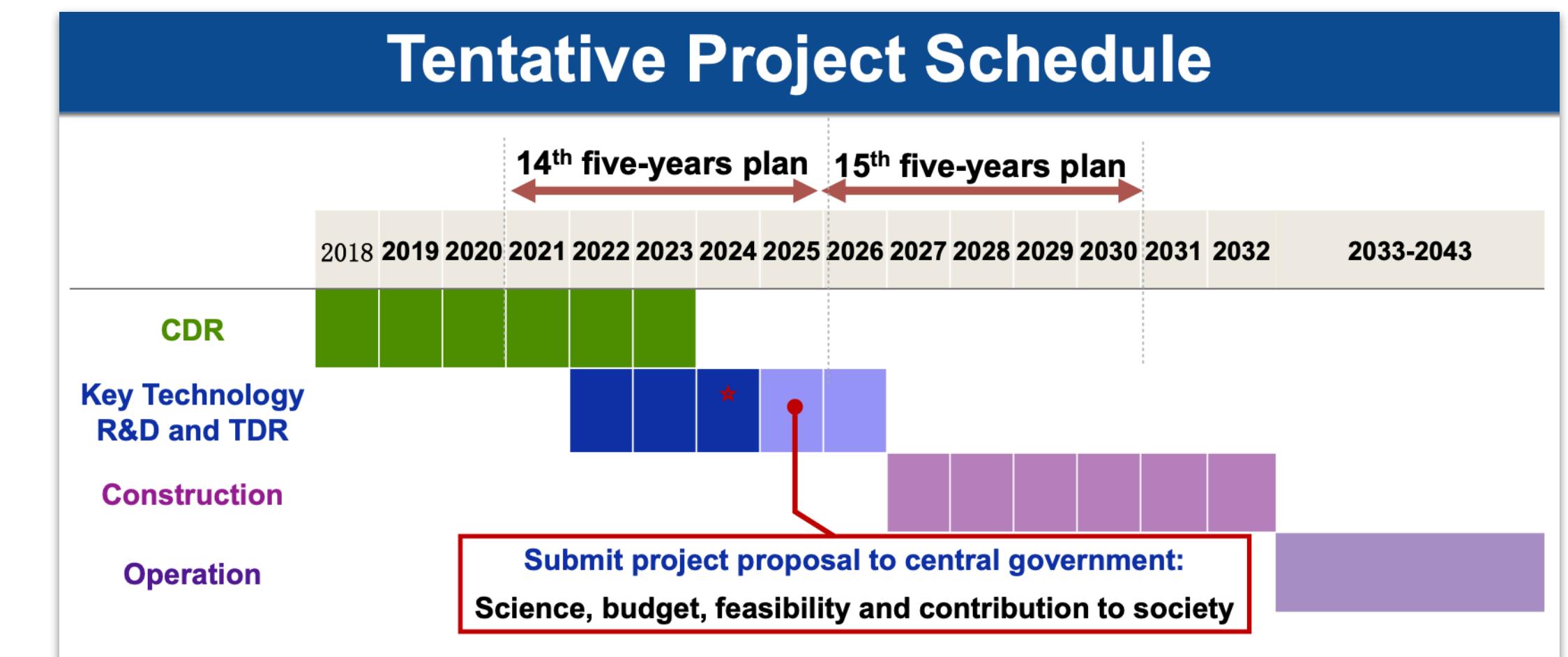
Table 2.1 The expected numbers of events per year at different STCF energy points.

CME (GeV)	Lumi (ab^{-1})	Samples	σ (nb)	No. of events	Remarks
3.097	1	J/ψ	3400	3.4×10^{12}	
3.670	1	$\tau^+\tau^-$	2.4	2.4×10^9	
		$\psi(3686)$	640	6.4×10^{11}	3 trillion J/ψ
3.686	1	$\tau^+\tau^-$	2.5	2.5×10^9	
		$\psi(3686) \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$		2.0×10^9	600 billion $\psi(2S)$
		$D^0\bar{D}^0$	3.6	3.6×10^9	
		$D^+\bar{D}^-$	2.8	2.8×10^9	a few billion D
3.770	1	$D^0\bar{D}^0$		7.9×10^8	Single tag
		$D^+\bar{D}^-$		5.5×10^8	Single tag
		$\tau^+\tau^-$	2.9	2.9×10^9	
		$D^{*0}\bar{D}^0 + \text{c.c.}$	4.0	1.4×10^9	$CP_{D^0\bar{D}^0} = +$
4.009	1	$D^{*0}\bar{D}^0 + \text{c.c.}$	4.0	2.6×10^9	$CP_{D^0\bar{D}^0} = -$
		$D_s^+ D_s^-$	0.20	2.0×10^8	
		$\tau^+\tau^-$	3.5	3.5×10^9	
		$D_s^{*+} D_s^- + \text{c.c.}$	0.90	9.0×10^8	
4.180	1	$D_s^{*+} D_s^- + \text{c.c.}$		1.3×10^8	Single tag
		$\tau^+\tau^-$	3.6	3.6×10^9	
		$J/\psi\pi^+\pi^-$	0.085	8.5×10^7	
4.230	1	$\tau^+\tau^-$	3.6	3.6×10^9	85 million $\pi\pi J/\psi$
		$\gamma X(3872)$			
4.360	1	$\psi(3686)\pi^+\pi^-$	0.058	5.8×10^7	
		$\tau^+\tau^-$	3.5	3.5×10^9	
4.420	1	$\psi(3686)\pi^+\pi^-$	0.040	4.0×10^7	
		$\tau^+\tau^-$	3.5	3.5×10^9	
4.630	1	$\psi(3686)\pi^+\pi^-$	0.033	3.3×10^7	
		$\Lambda_c\bar{\Lambda}_c$	0.56	5.6×10^8	
		$\Lambda_c\bar{\Lambda}_c$		6.4×10^7	Single tag
		$\tau^+\tau^-$	3.4	3.4×10^9	
4.0–7.0	3	300-point scan with 10 MeV steps, $1 \text{ fb}^{-1}/\text{point}$			
> 5	2–7	Several ab^{-1} of high-energy data, details dependent on scan results			

Table 2.2 The expected numbers of produced XYZ -particle events before reconstruction per year at the STCF.

XYZ	$Y(4260)$	$Z_c(3900)$	$Z_c(4020)$	$X(3872)$
No. of events	10^9	10^8	10^8	5×10^6

- energy range: 2 - 7 GeV
- luminosity: $> 0.5 \times 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- timeline:



event/1948/overview

**Thank you for
your attention!**