

Mysteries in the Meson System at the BESIII Experiment

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Beijing, China

BESIII (Beijing Spectrometer)
at **BEPCII** (Beijing Electron-Positron Collider)
at **IHEP** (Institute for High Energy Physics)



BEPCII: e^+e^- Collisions at E_{CM} between 2.0 and 4.6 GeV



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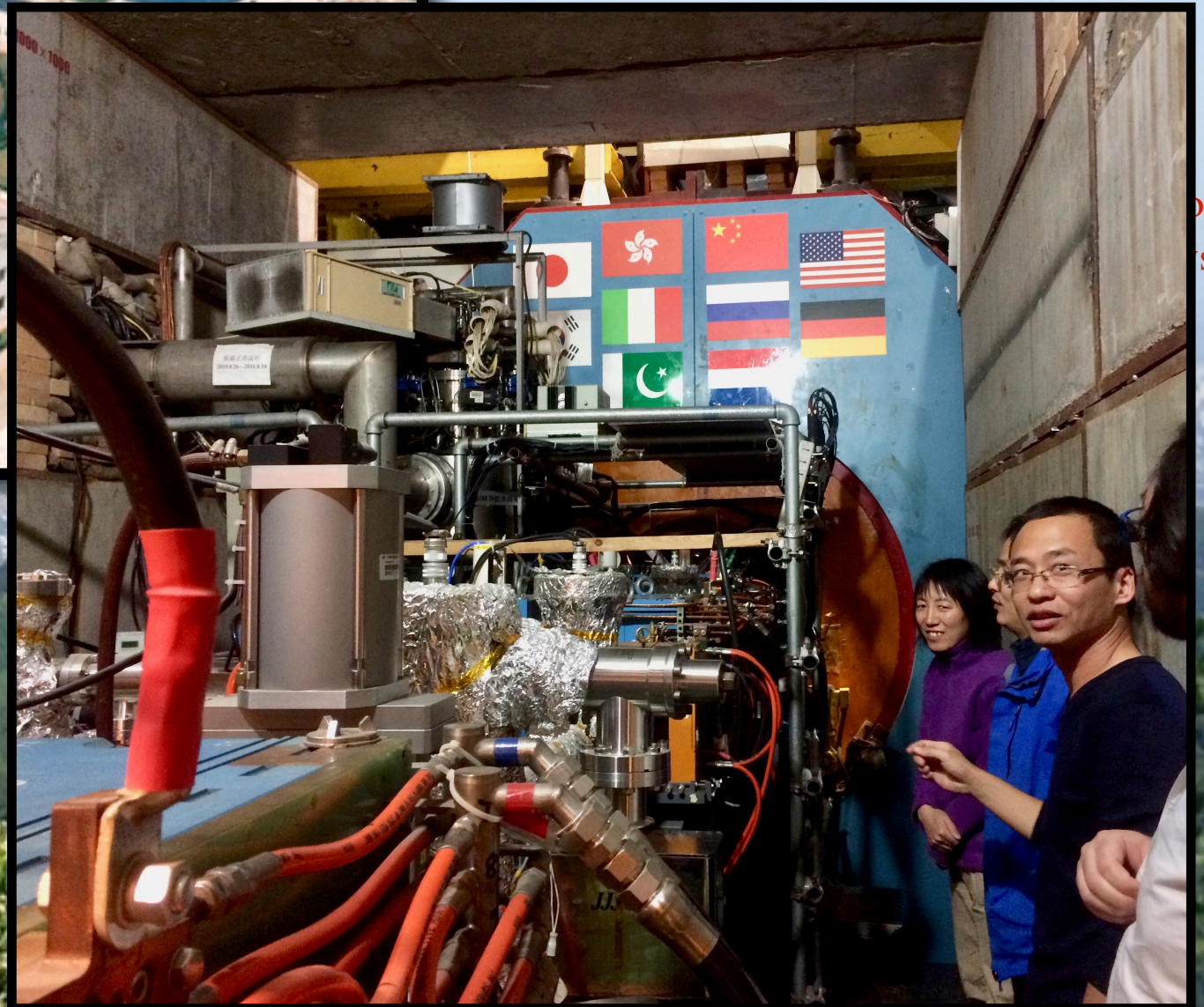
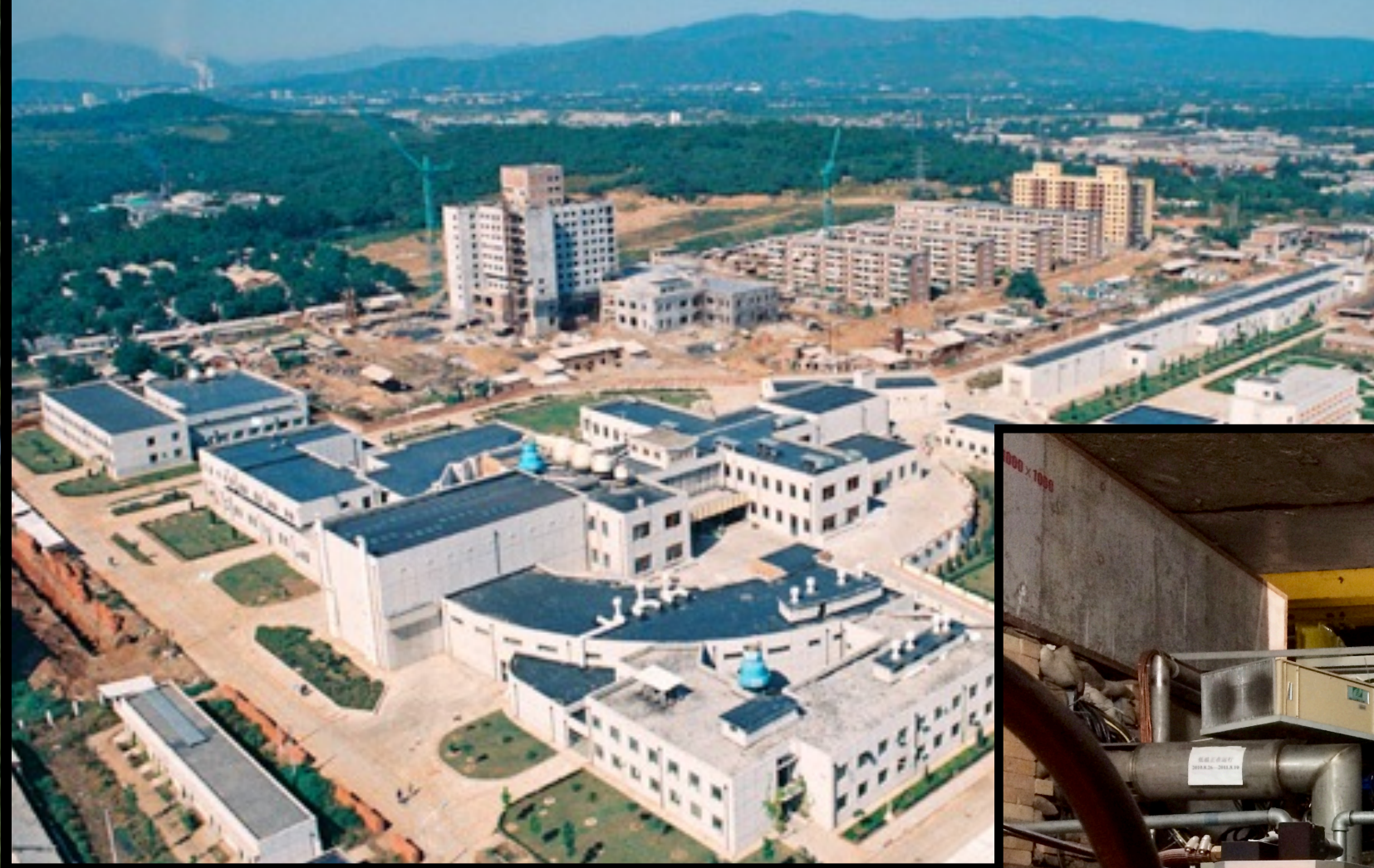
BESIII (Beijing Spectrometer)
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BEPCII: e^+e^- Collisions at E_{CM} between 2.0 and 4.6 GeV

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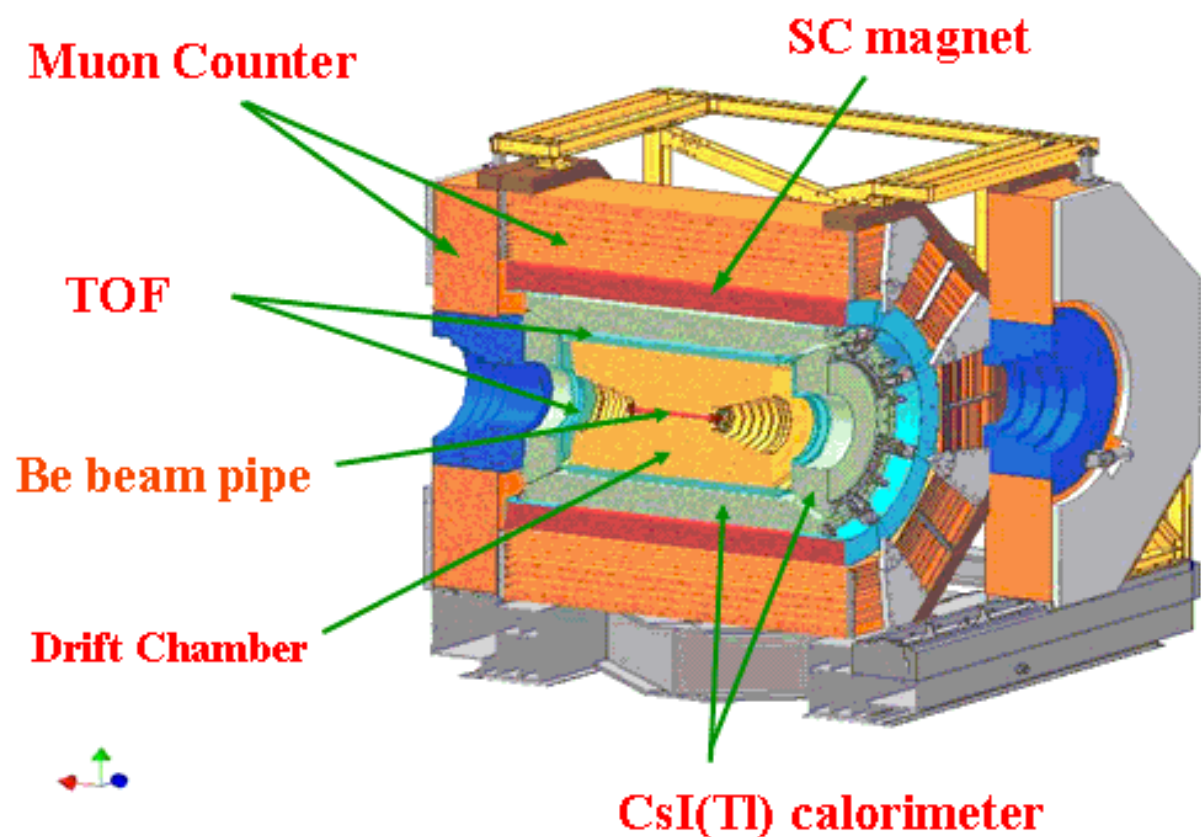
BEPCII: e^+e^- Collisions at E_{CM} between 2.0 and 4.6 GeV

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BESIII Detector (*a standard high-energy physics experiment*)

- (1) Calorimeter: photon energy and direction
- (2) Drift Chamber and Magnet: charged particle momentum
- (3) Time-of-Flight (TOF): charged particle mass



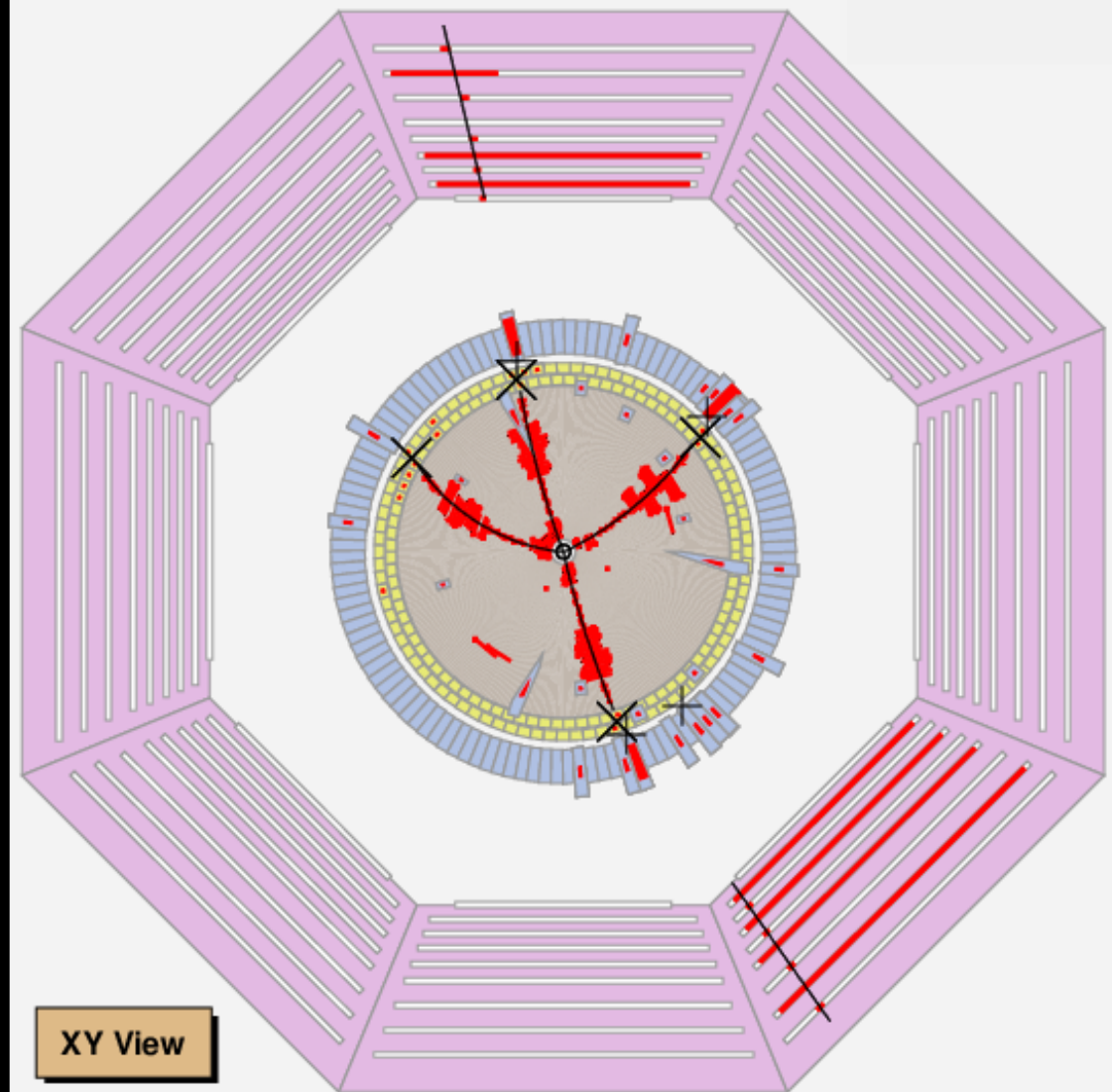
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BEPCII: e^+e^- Collisions at E_{CM} between 2.0 and 4.6 GeV

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$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- J/\psi; \quad J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$$



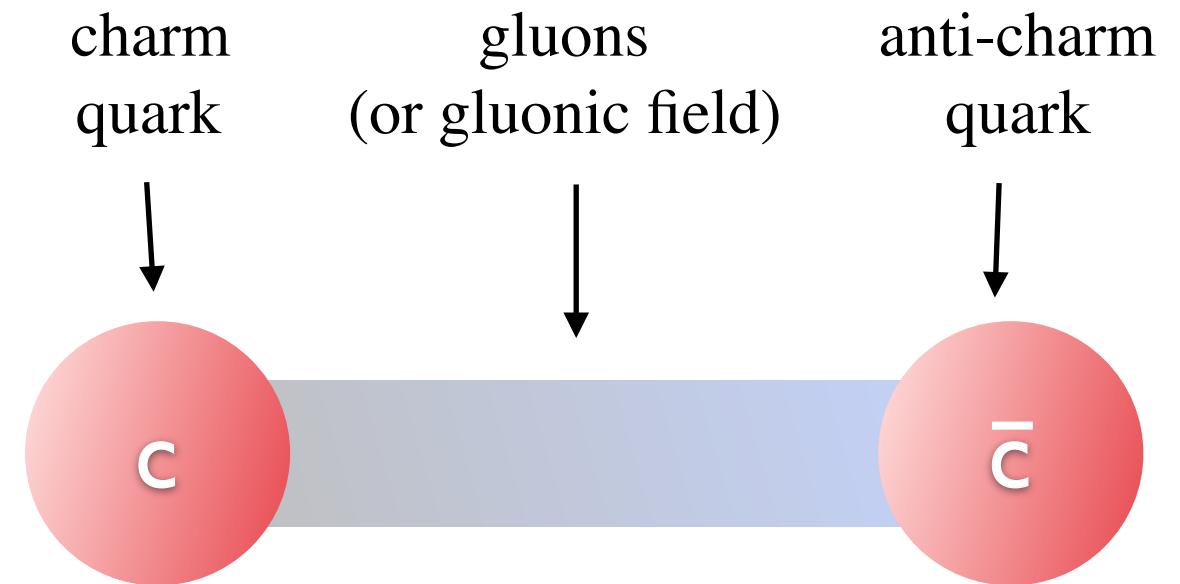
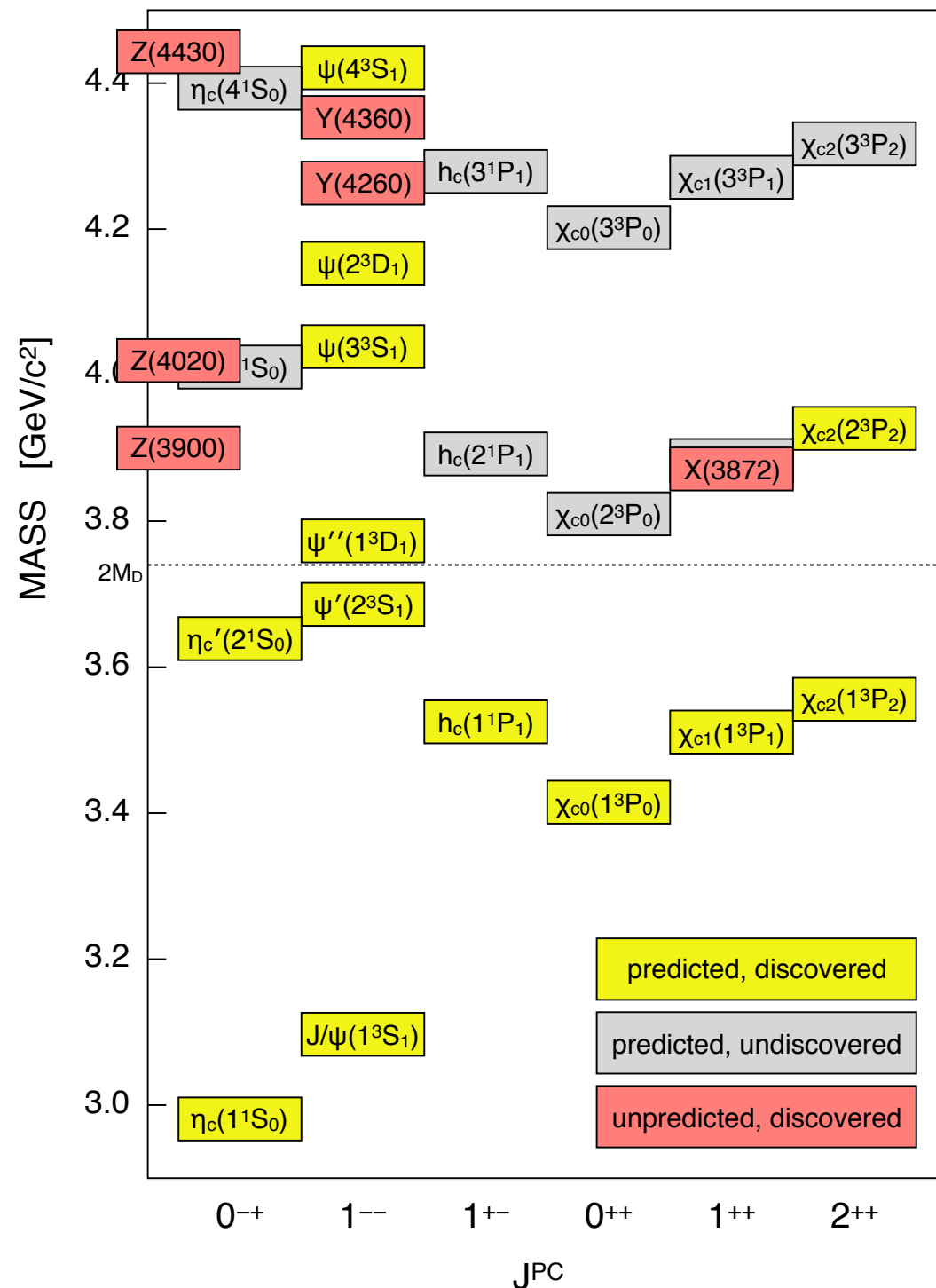
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on Collider)
y Physics)

Charmonium as a Model System (*almost*)

Charmonium Spectrum

predictions based on PRD 72, 054026 (2005)

measurements from PDG



Experimentally accessible quantum numbers:

$$J^{PC}$$

Derived quantum numbers:

$$n^{2S+1}L_J$$

Relationships:

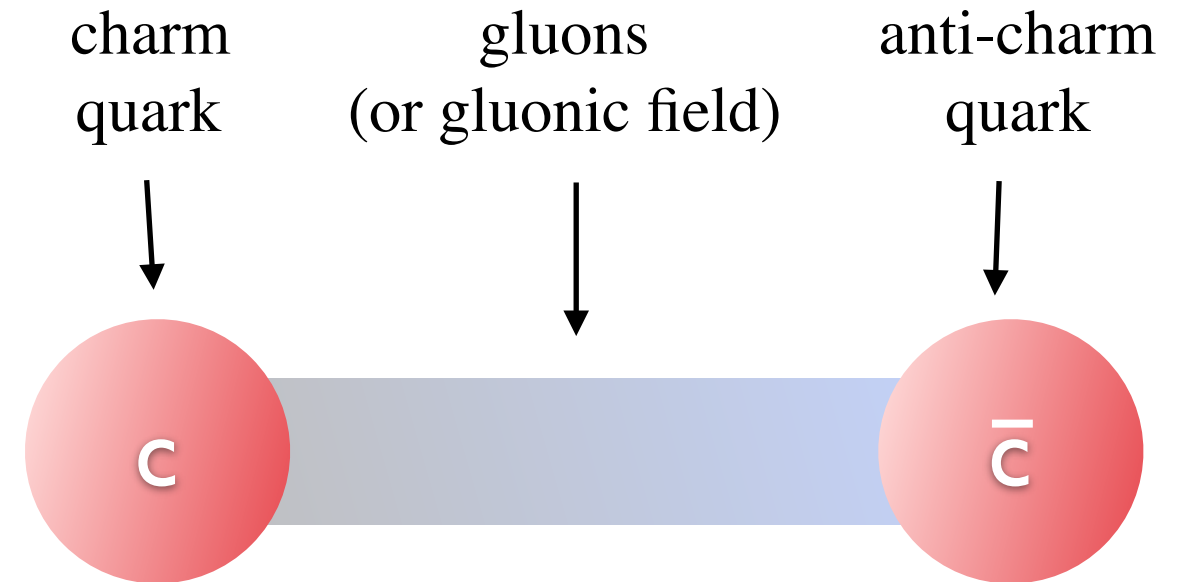
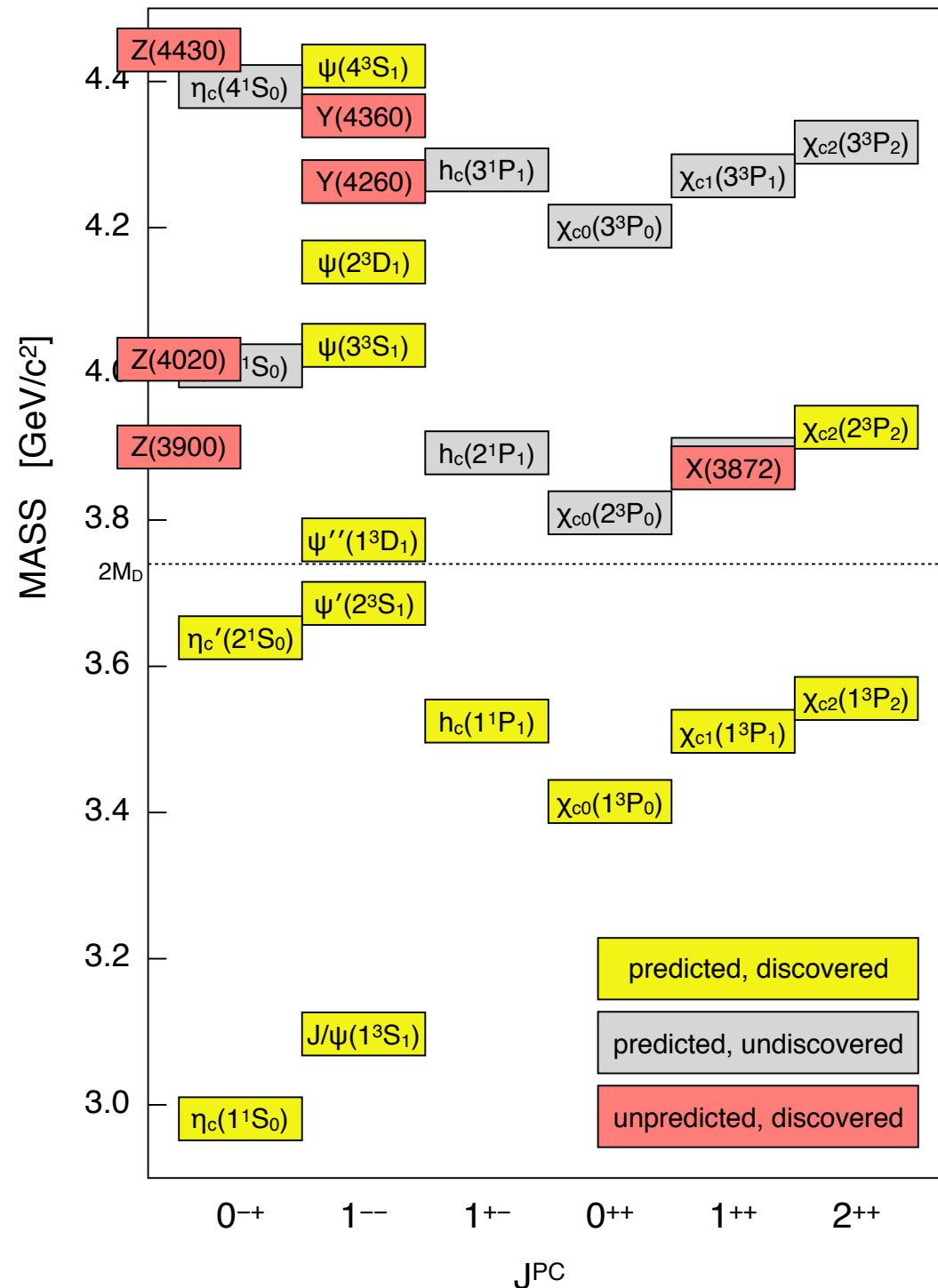
$$P = (-1)^{L+1} \quad C = (-1)^{L+S}$$

Charmonium as a Model System (*almost*)

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Experimentally accessible quantum numbers:

JPC

$$J^{PC} = \begin{cases} 0^{-+} & 1^{+-} & 1^{--} & 0^{++} \\ 2^{-+} & 3^{+-} & 2^{--} & 1^{++} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{cases}$$

Minimal quark content

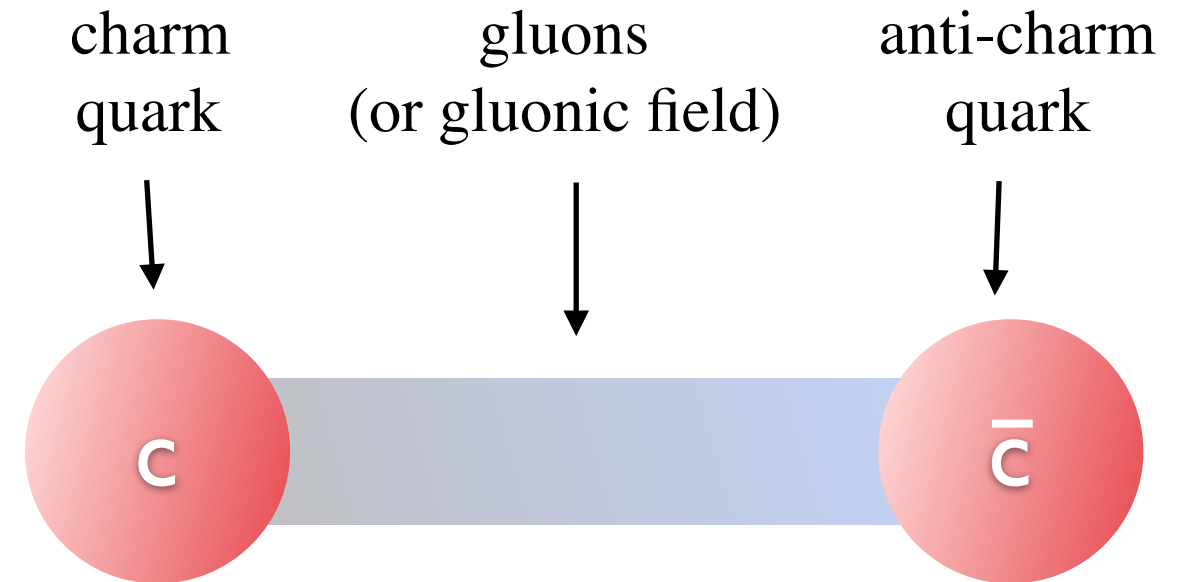
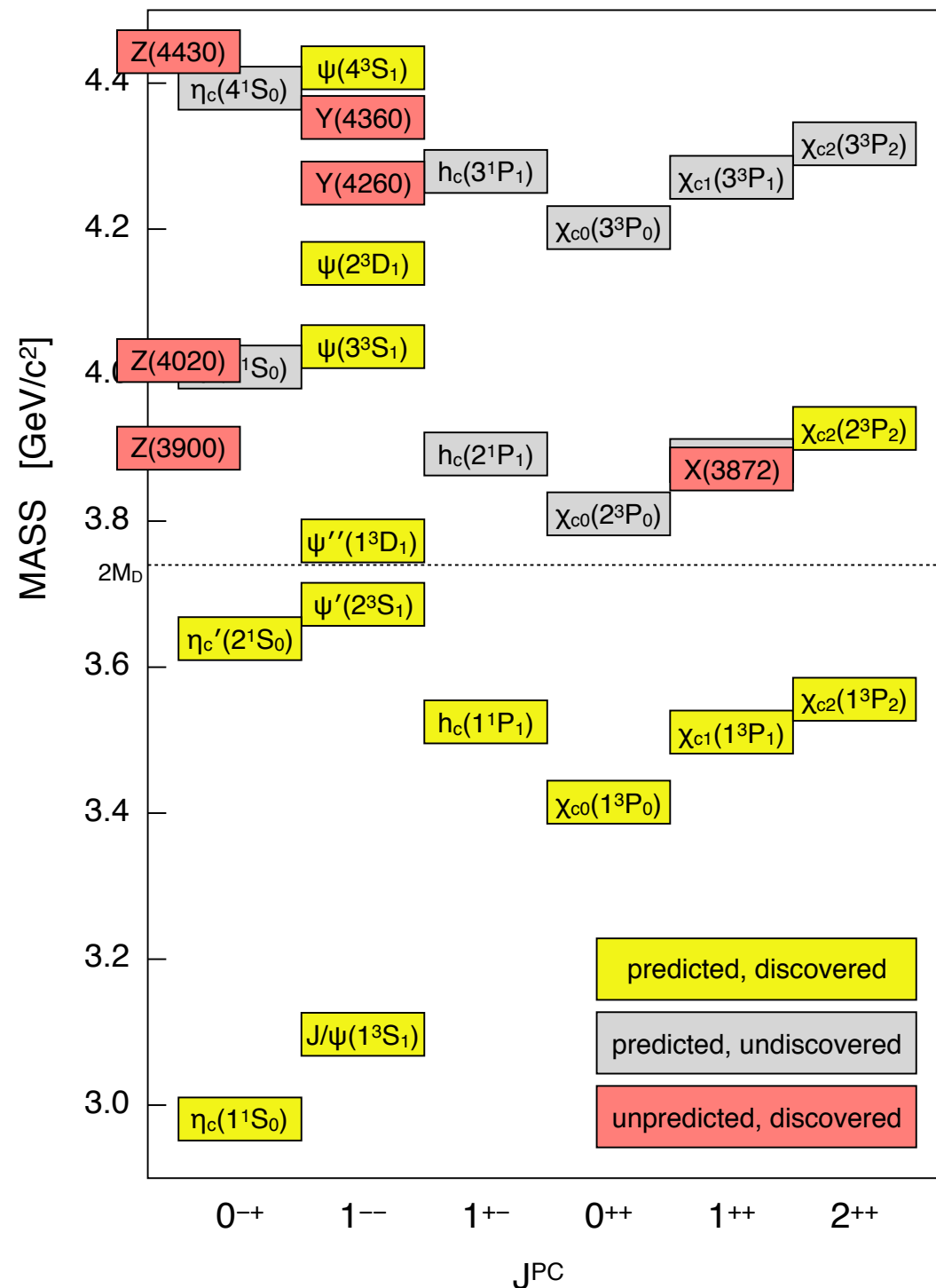
| | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------|----------------|----------|
| $u\bar{d}, u\bar{u} - d\bar{d}, d\bar{u}$ ($I = 1$) | π | b | ρ | a |
| $d\bar{d} + u\bar{u}$ ($I = 0$) | η, η' | h, h' | ω, ϕ | f, f' |
| and/or $s\bar{s}$ | | | | |
| $c\bar{c}$ | η_c | h_c | ψ^\dagger | χ_c |
| $b\bar{b}$ | η_b | h_b | Υ | χ_b |
| $I = 1$ with $c\bar{c}$ | (Π_c) | Z_c | R_c | (W_c) |
| $I = 1$ with $b\bar{b}$ | (Π_b) | Z_b | (R_b) | (W_b) |

[†]The J/ψ remains the J/ψ .

Charmonium as a Model System (*almost*)

Charmonium Spectrum

predictions based on PRD 72, 054026 (2005)
measurements from PDG



Potential models:

Example from Barnes, Godfrey, Swanson:

$$V_0^{(c\bar{c})}(r) = -\frac{4}{3} \frac{\alpha_s}{r} + br + \frac{32\pi\alpha_s}{9m_c^2} \tilde{\delta}_\sigma(r) \vec{S}_c \cdot \vec{S}_{\bar{c}}$$

(Coulomb + Confinement + Contact)

$$V_{\text{spin-dep}} = \frac{1}{m_c^2} \left[\left(\frac{2\alpha_s}{r^3} - \frac{b}{2r} \right) \vec{L} \cdot \vec{S} + \frac{4\alpha_s}{r^3} T \right]$$

(Spin-Orbit + Tensor)

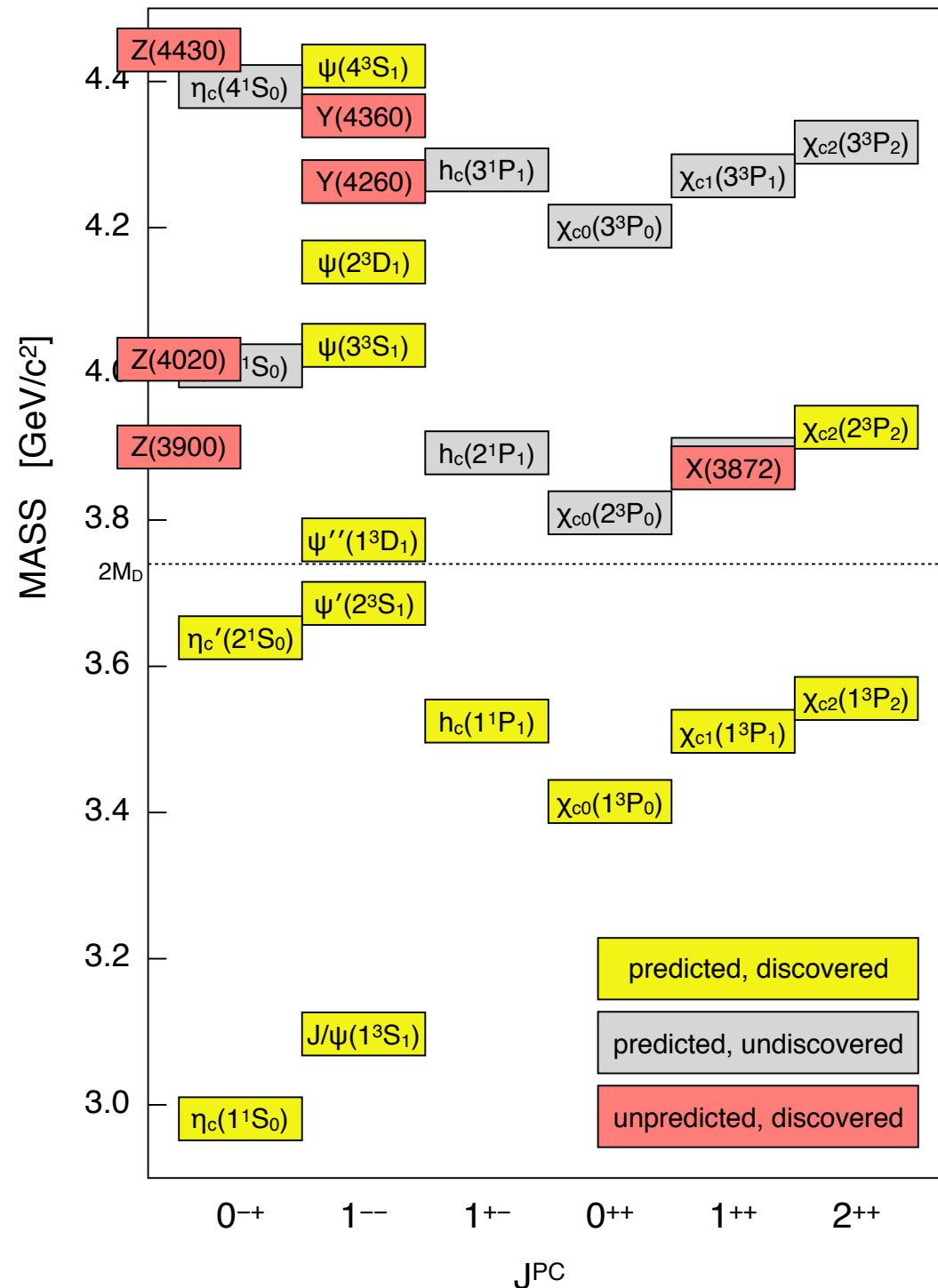
PRD72, 054026 (2005)

Charmonium as a Model System (*almost*)

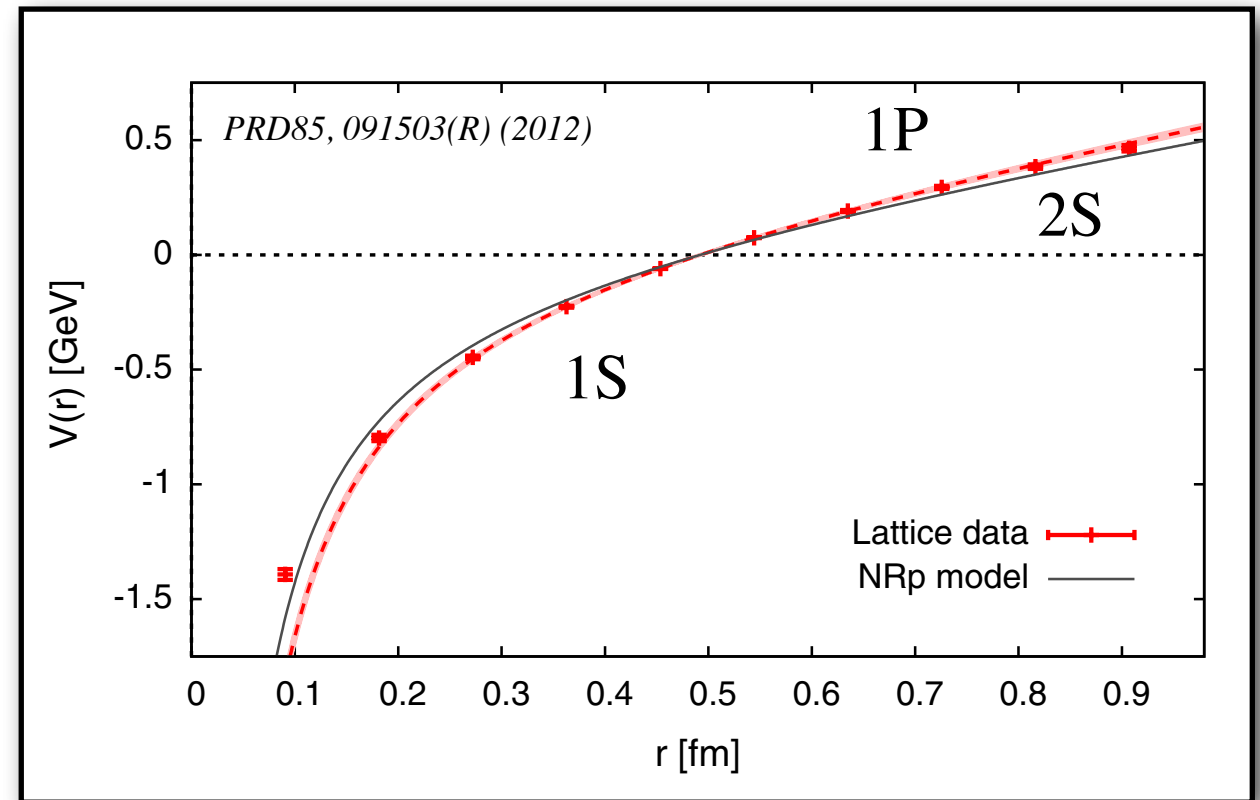
Charmonium Spectrum

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Potential models and Lattice QCD:



Potential models:

Example from Barnes, Godfrey, Swanson:

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(Spin-Orbit + Tensor)

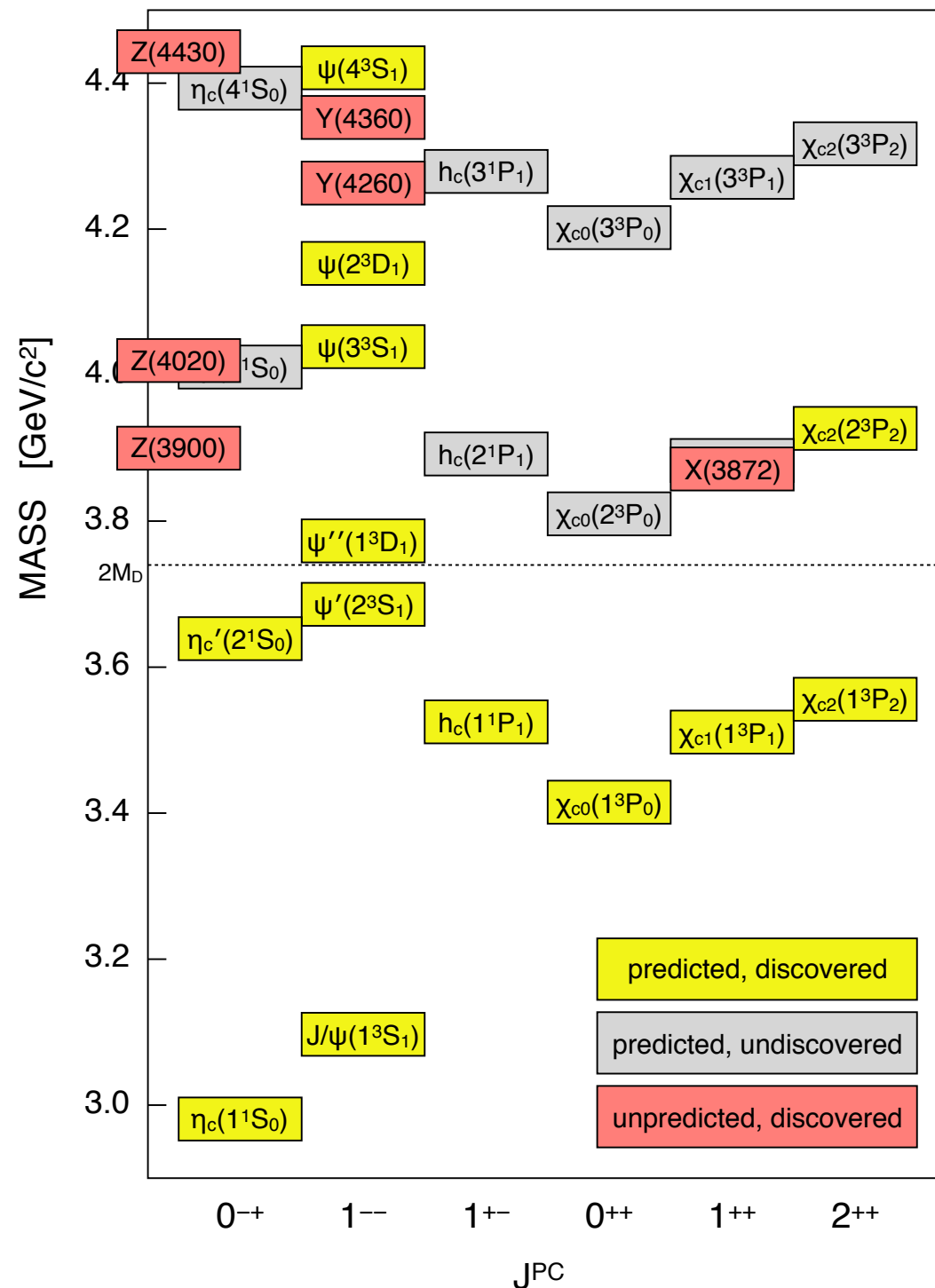
PRD72, 054026 (2005)

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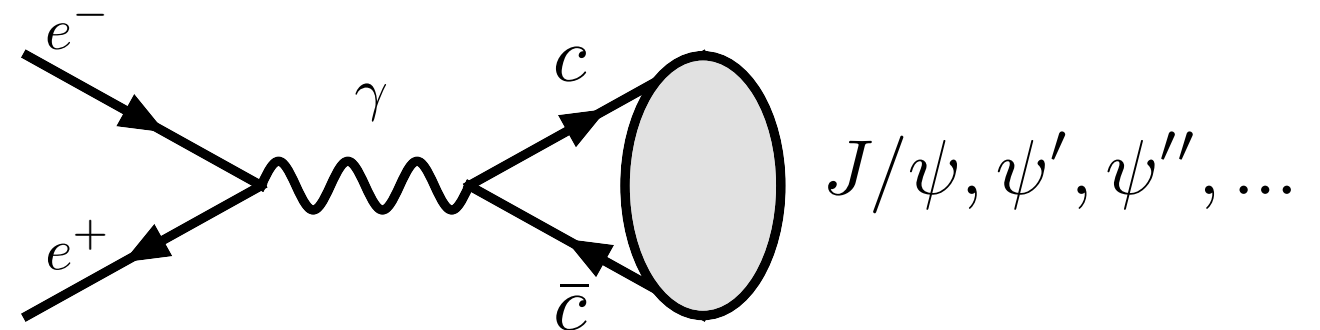
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Charmonium at BESIII:



Potential models:

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(Coulomb + Confinement + Contact)

$$V_{\text{spin-dep}} = \frac{1}{m_c^2} \left[\left(\frac{2\alpha_s}{r^3} - \frac{b}{2r} \right) \vec{L} \cdot \vec{S} + \frac{4\alpha_s}{r^3} \mathbf{T} \right]$$

(Spin-Orbit + Tensor)

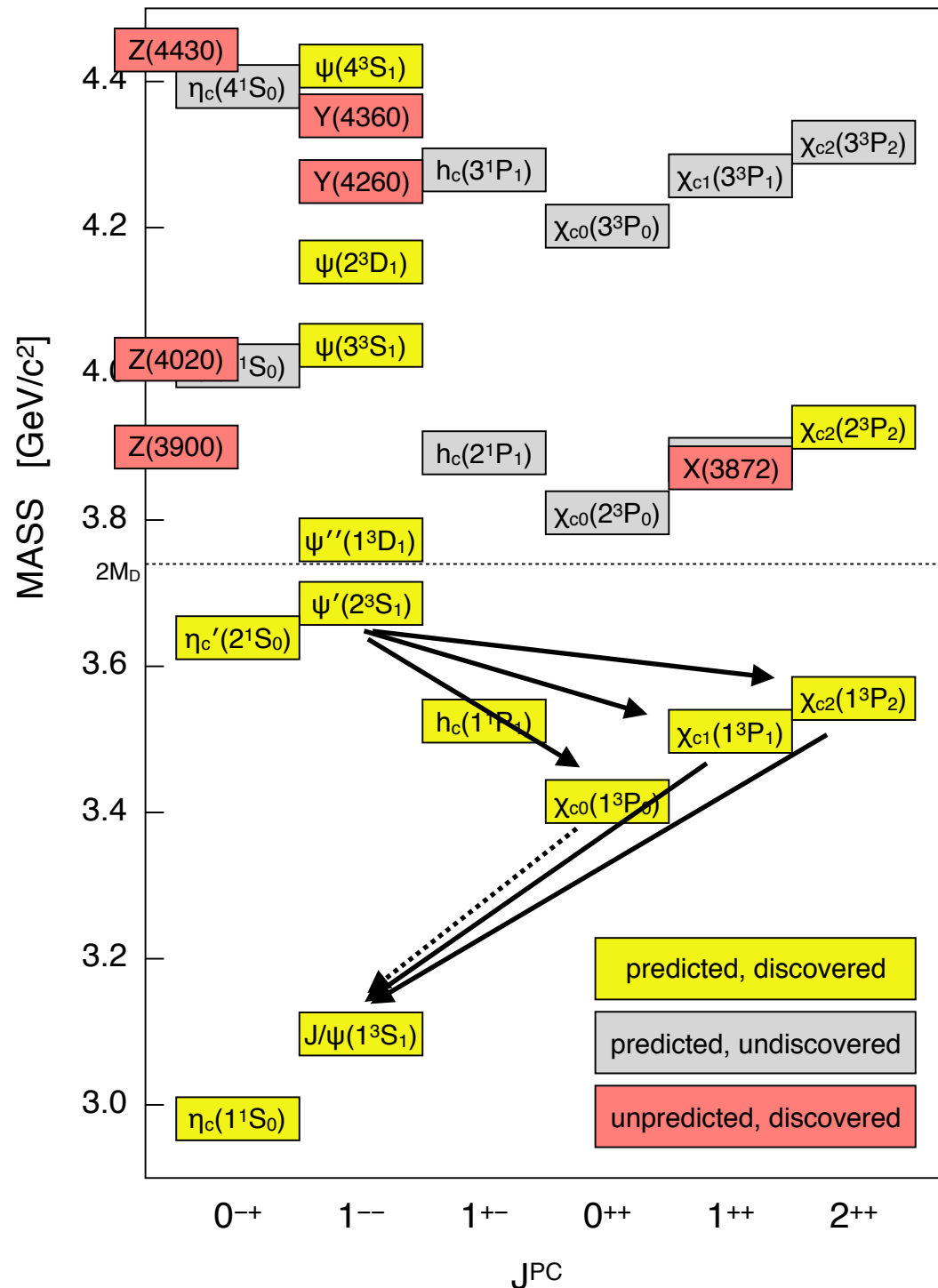
PRD72, 054026 (2005)

Charmonium as a Model System (*almost*)

Charmonium Spectrum

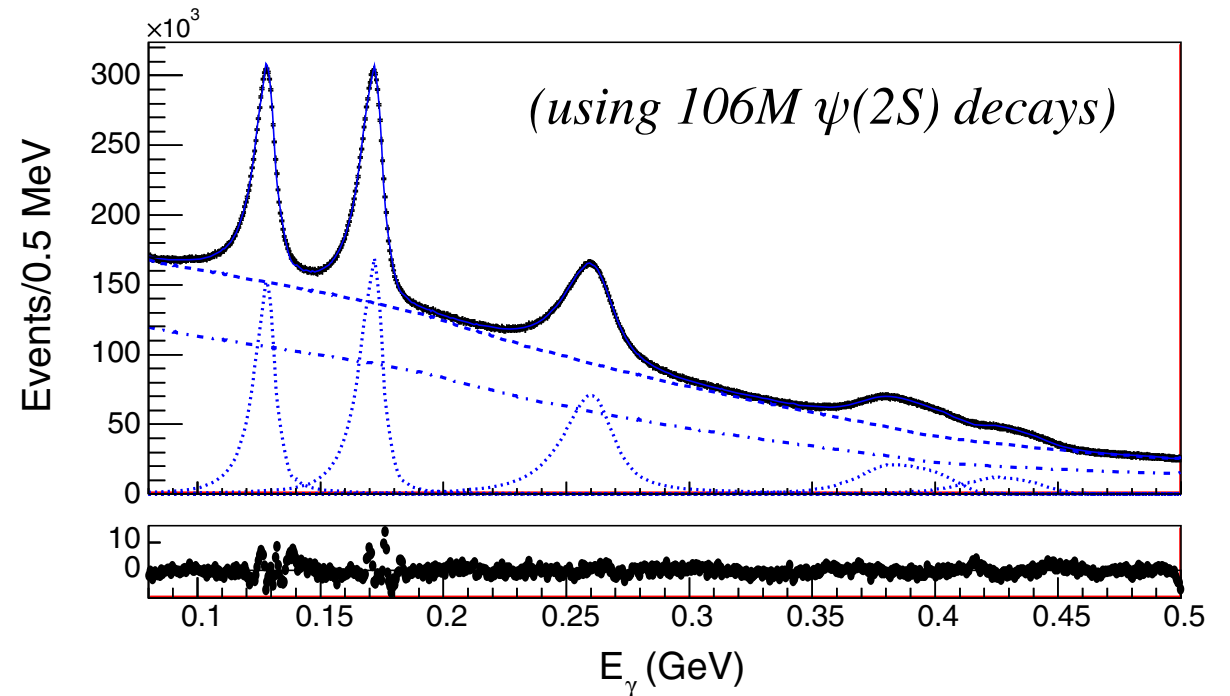
predictions based on PRD 72, 054026 (2005)

measurements from PDG



$$\psi(2S) \rightarrow \gamma + \text{anything}$$

[PRD 96, 032001 (2017)]



Potential models:

Example from Barnes, Godfrey, Swanson:

$$V_0^{(c\bar{c})}(r) = -\frac{4}{3} \frac{\alpha_s}{r} + br + \frac{32\pi\alpha_s}{9m_c^2} \tilde{\delta}_\sigma(r) \vec{S}_c \cdot \vec{S}_{\bar{c}}$$

(Coulomb + Confinement + Contact)

$$V_{\text{spin-dep}} = \frac{1}{m_c^2} \left[\left(\frac{2\alpha_s}{r^3} - \frac{b}{2r} \right) \vec{L} \cdot \vec{S} + \frac{4\alpha_s}{r^3} T \right]$$

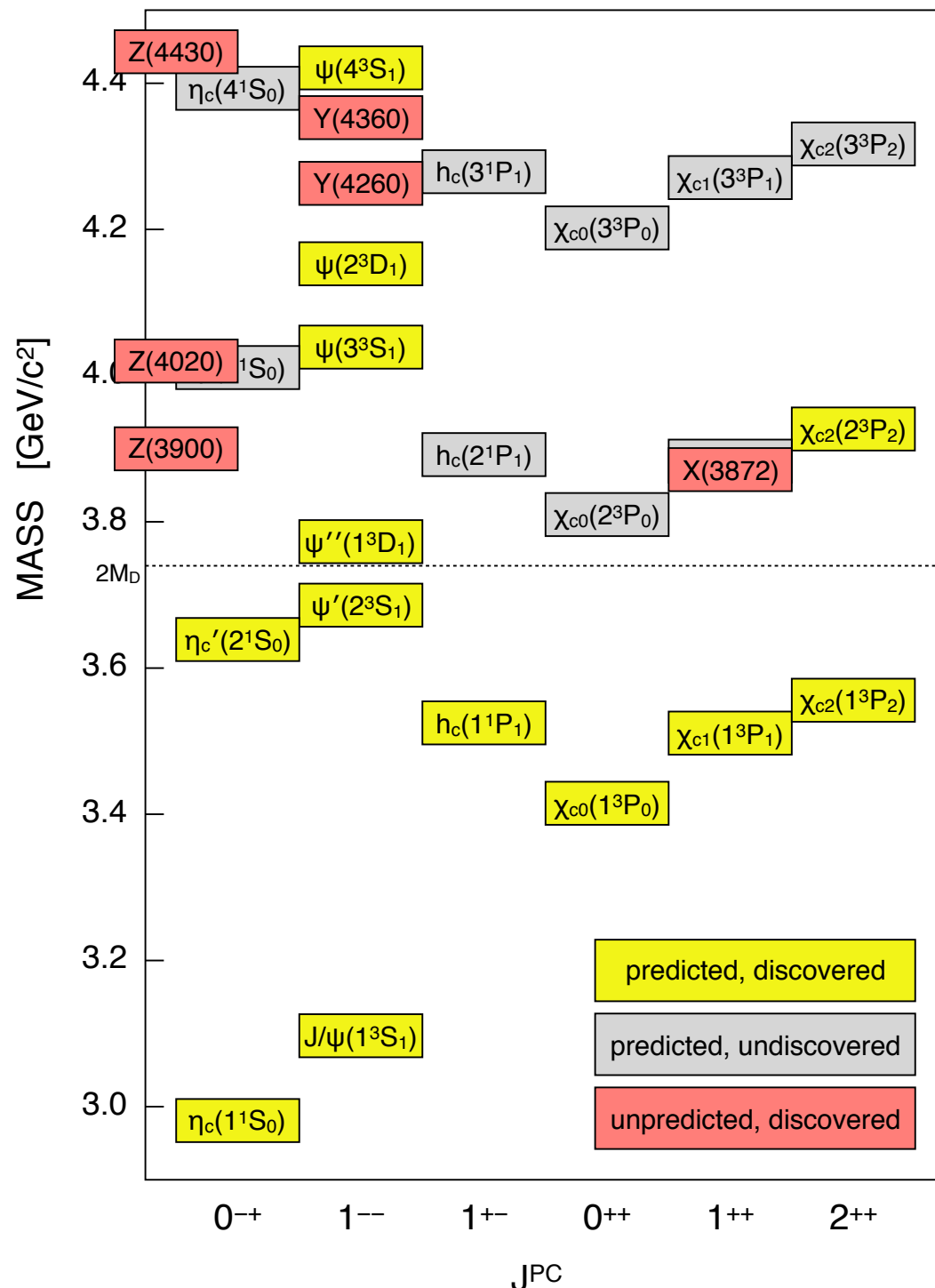
(Spin-Orbit + Tensor)

PRD72, 054026 (2005)

The Broad Physics Reach of BESIII

Charmonium Spectrum

predictions based on PRD 72, 054026 (2005)
measurements from PDG



BESIII Data Sets (primary):

(e^+e^- collisions at E_{CM} between 2.0 and 4.6 GeV)

- 2009: 106M $\psi(2S)$
225M J/ψ
- 2010: 975 pb^{-1} at $\psi(3770)$
- 2011: 2.9 fb^{-1} at $\psi(3770)$ (total)
482 pb^{-1} at **4.01 GeV**
- 2012: 0.45B $\psi(2S)$ (total)
1.3B J/ψ (total)
- 2013: 1092 pb^{-1} at **4.23 GeV**
826 pb^{-1} at **4.26 GeV**
540 pb^{-1} at **4.36 GeV**
~50 pb^{-1} at **3.81, 3.90, 4.09, 4.19, 4.21, 4.22, 4.245, 4.31, 4.39, 4.42 GeV**
- 2014: 1029 pb^{-1} at **4.42 GeV**
110 pb^{-1} at **4.47 GeV**
110 pb^{-1} at **4.53 GeV**
48 pb^{-1} at **4.575 GeV**
567 pb^{-1} at **4.6 GeV**
0.8 fb^{-1} **R-scan** from 3.85 to 4.59 GeV (104 points)
- 2015: **R-scan** from 2-3 GeV + **2.175 GeV** data
- 2016: ~3 fb^{-1} at 4.18 GeV (for D_s)
- 2017: 7 \times 500 pb^{-1} between **4.19** and **4.27 GeV**
- 2018: **J/ψ** (and tuning new RF cavity)

+ Initial State Radiation (ISR)

(data sets from BESII are much smaller (e.g. 58M J/ψ decays))

Mysteries in the Meson System at BESIII

(1) The **proton antiproton** Question

What is the $X(1835)$?

(2) The **$\rho\pi$** Question

Why are there anomalous differences between J/ψ and $\psi(2S)$ decays?

(3) The **Y** Question

*Why are there so many different peaks in exclusive e^+e^- cross sections?
e.g. $Y(4230)$, $Y(4260)$, $Y(4360)$, $Y(4660)$, etc.*

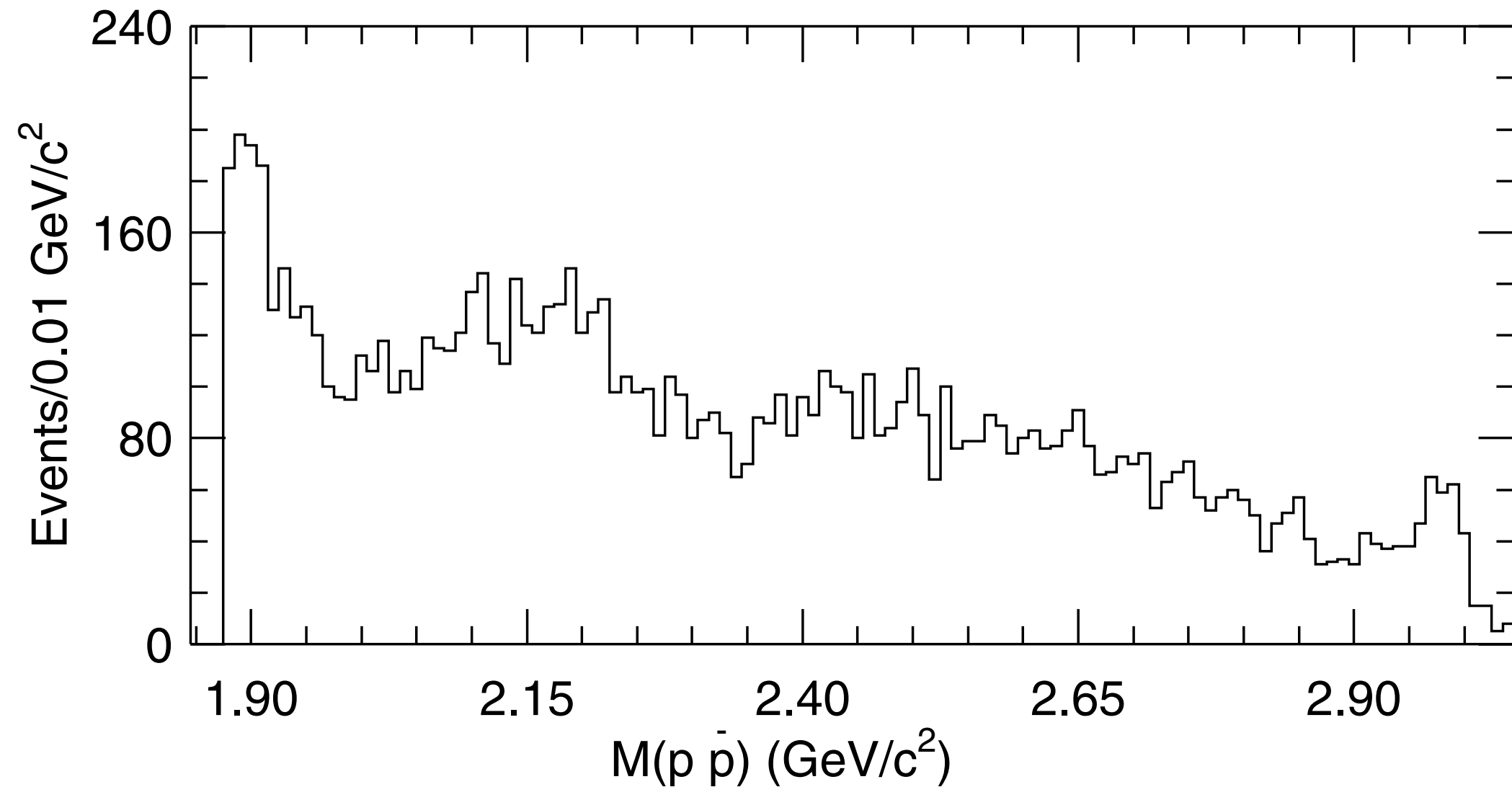
(4) The **Z** Question

*What are the electrically charged “charmoniumlike” peaks?
e.g. $Z_c(3900)$, $Z_c(4020)$, $Z_c(4055)$, etc.*

(1) The proton antiproton Question

$$J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma p \bar{p}$$

[BESII, PRL 91, 022001 (2003)]

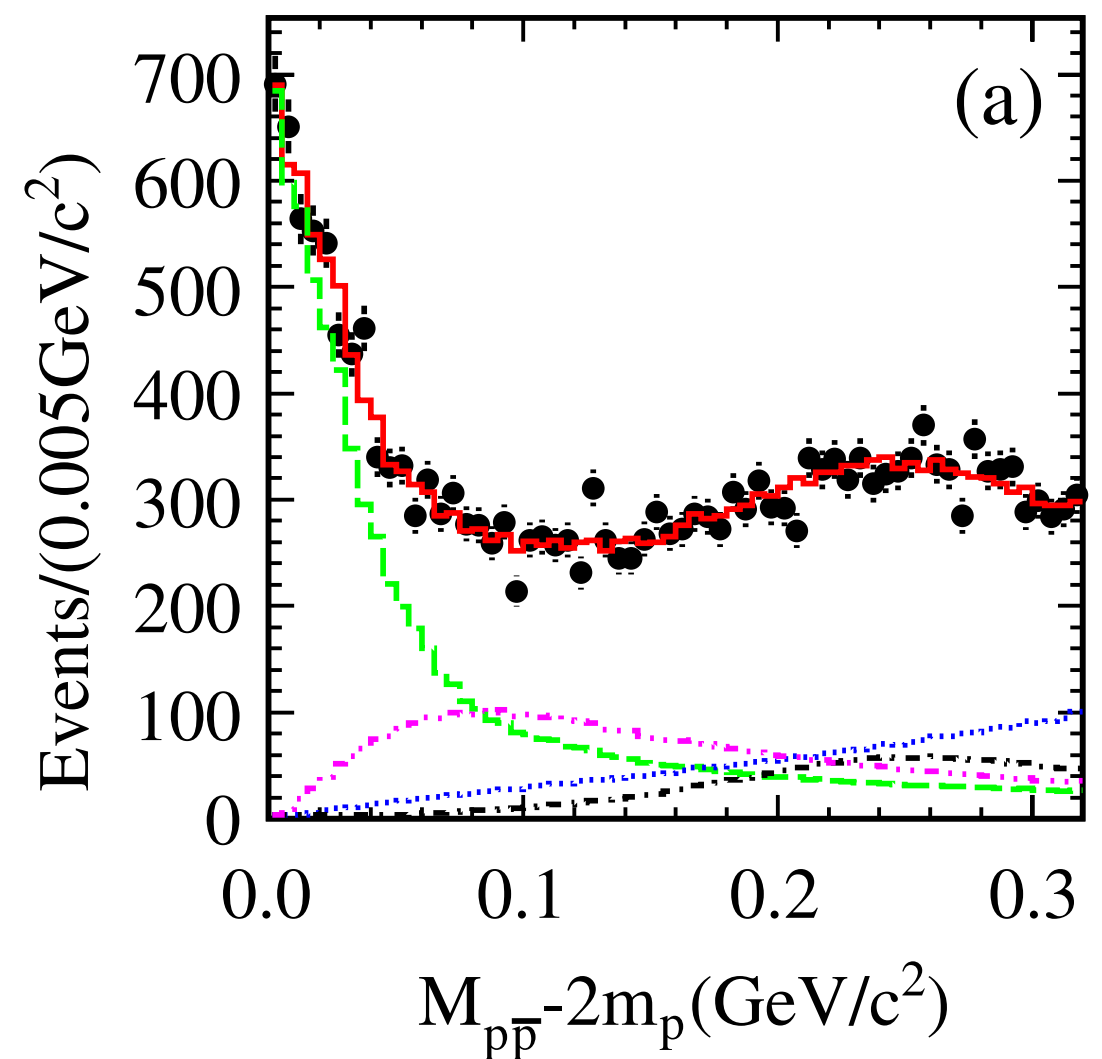
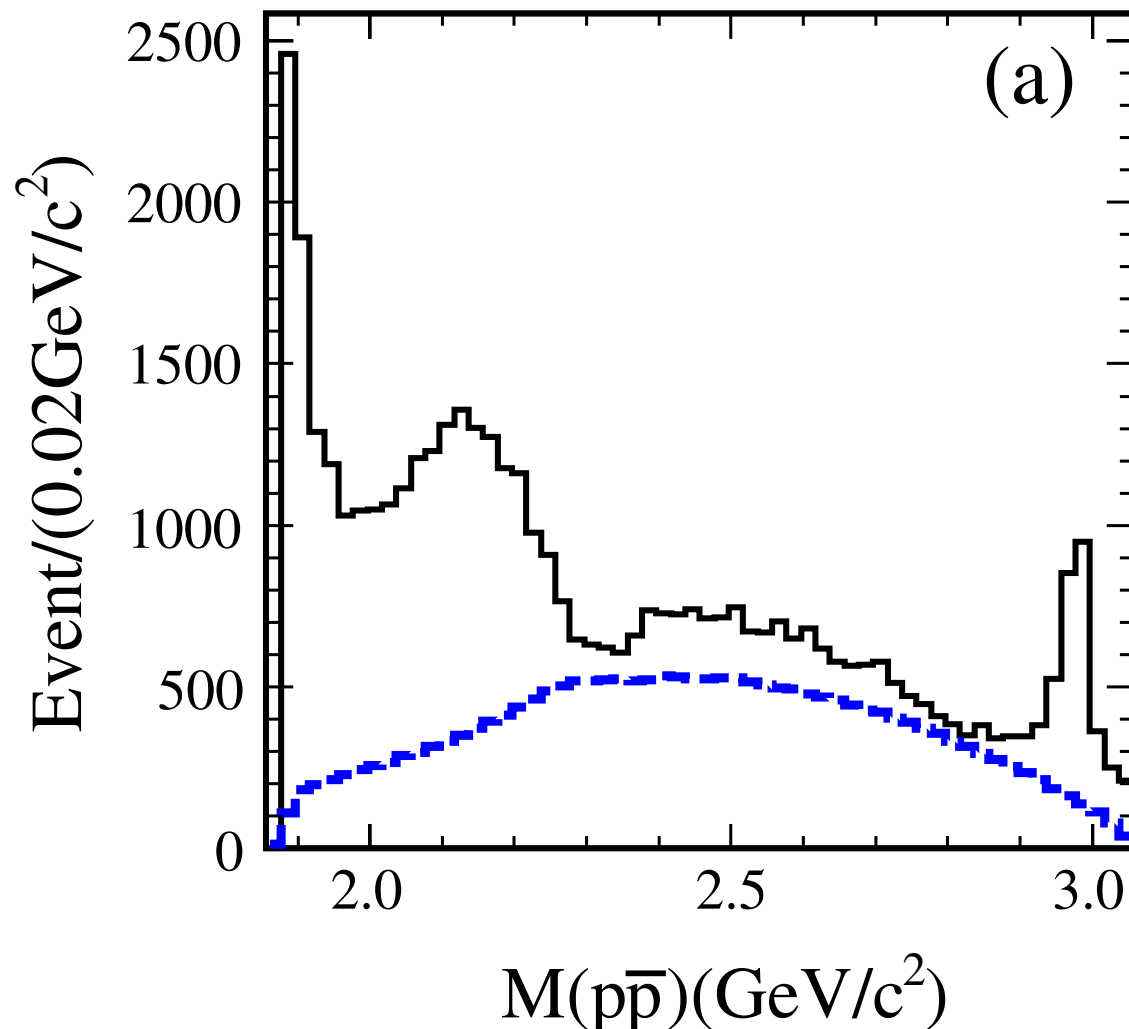


(using 58M J/ψ decays at BESII)

(1) The proton antiproton Question

$$J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma p \bar{p}$$

[PRL 108, 112003 (2012)]



(using 225M J/ψ decays)

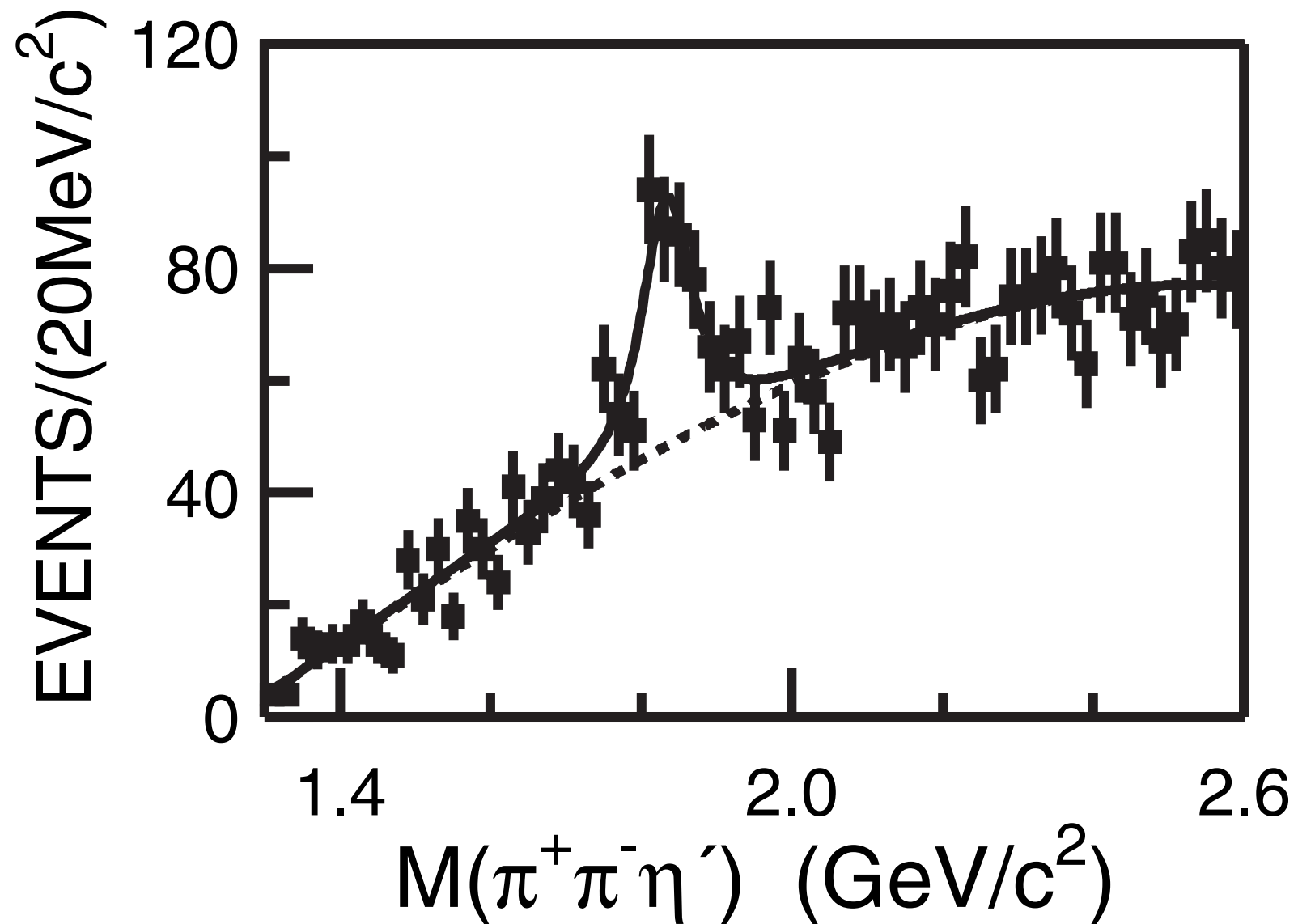
Fit Components: $X(1835)$, 0^{++} phase space, $f_0(2100)$, $f_2(1910)$

$$M = 1832_{-5}^{+19}(\text{stat})_{-17}^{+18}(\text{syst}) \pm 19(\text{model}); \Gamma < 76 \text{ MeV}/c^2; J^{PC} = 0^{-+}$$

(1) The proton antiproton Question

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

[BESII, PRL 95, 262001 (2005)]



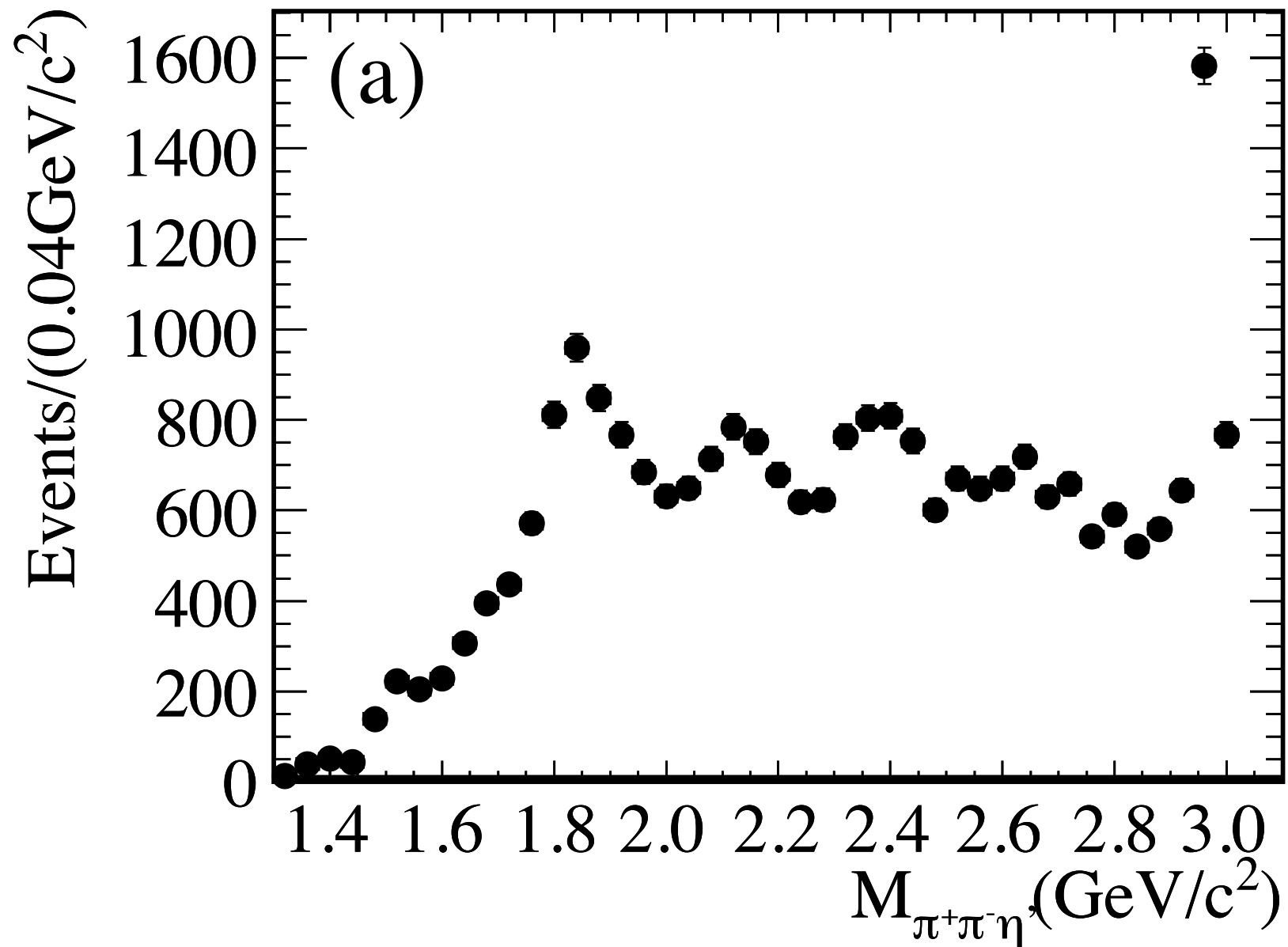
(using 58M J/ψ decays at BESII)

$$M = 1833.7 \pm 6.1(\text{stat}) \pm 2.7(\text{syst}) \text{ MeV}/c^2; \Gamma = 67.7 \pm 20.3(\text{stat}) \pm 7.7(\text{syst}) \text{ MeV}/c^2;$$

(1) The proton antiproton Question

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

[PRL 106, 072002 (2011)]

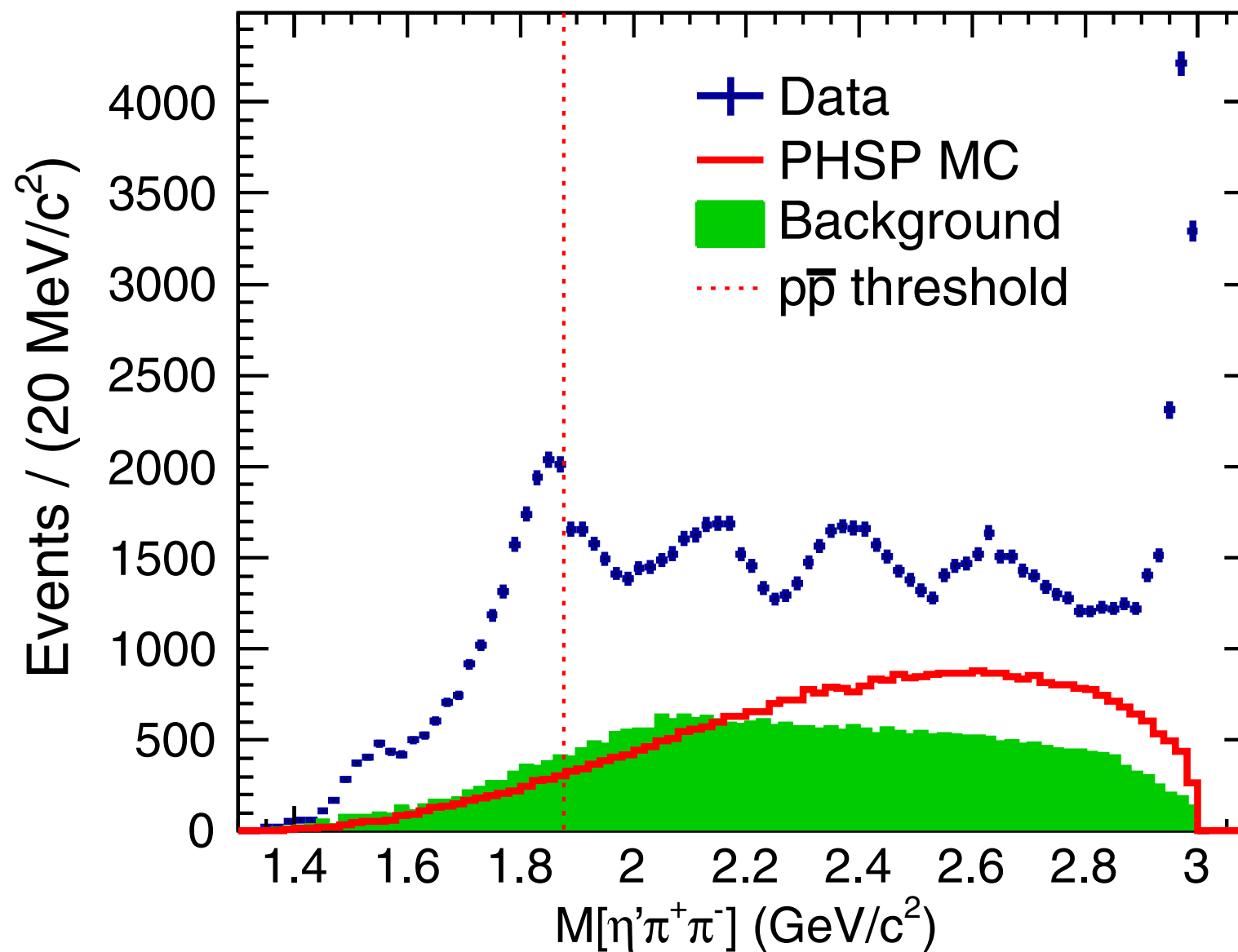


(using 225M J/ψ decays)

(1) The proton antiproton Question

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

[PRL 117, 042002 (2016)]



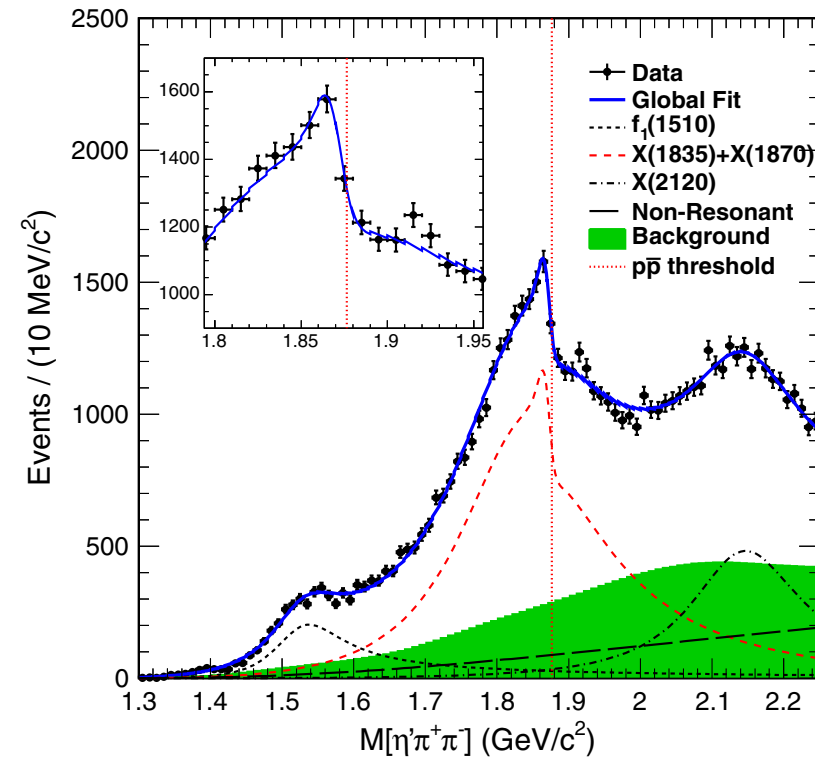
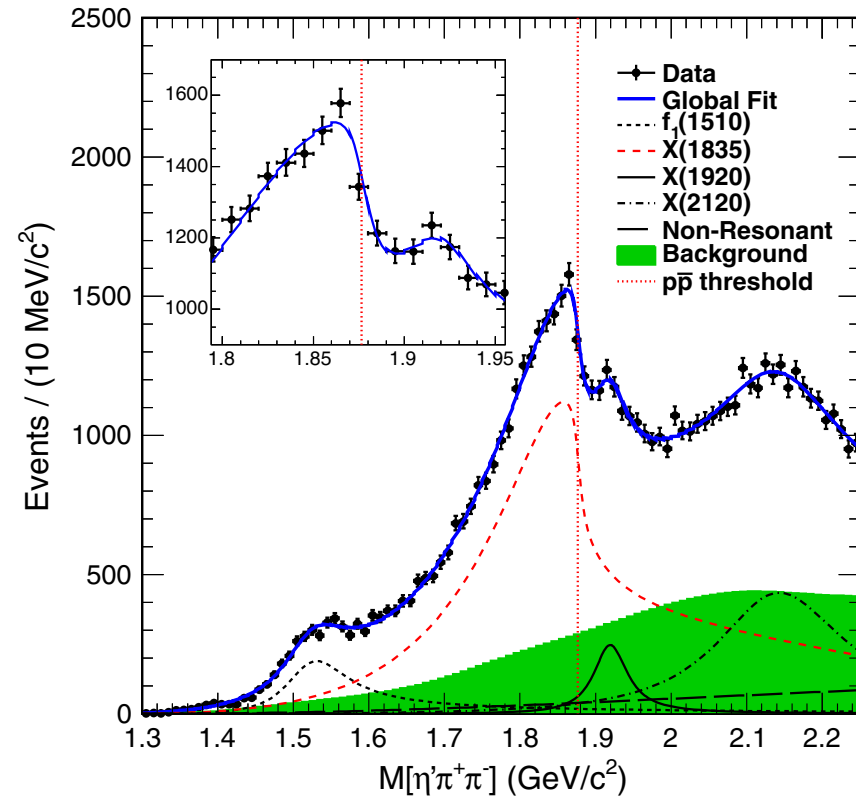
$f_1(1510)$
 $X(1835)??$
 $X(2120)$
 $X(2370)$
 $??(2600)$

(using 1.1B J/ψ decays)

(1) The proton antiproton Question

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

[PRL 117, 042002 (2016)]



The state around 1.85 GeV/c²

| | |
|---|--|
| \mathcal{M} (MeV/c ²) | $1638.0 \pm 121.9^{+127.8}_{-254.3}$ |
| g_0^2 [(GeV/c ²) ²] | $93.7 \pm 35.4^{+47.6}_{-43.9}$ |
| $g_{p\bar{p}}^2/g_0^2$ | $2.31 \pm 0.37^{+0.83}_{-0.60}$ |
| M_{pole} (MeV/c ²) | $1909.5 \pm 15.9^{+9.4}_{-27.5}$ |
| Γ_{pole} (MeV/c ²) | $273.5 \pm 21.4^{+6.1}_{-64.0}$ |
| Branching ratio | $(3.93 \pm 0.38^{+0.31}_{-0.84}) \times 10^{-4}$ |

X(1835)

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Mass (MeV/c ²) | $1825.3 \pm 2.4^{+17.3}_{-2.4}$ |
| Width (MeV/c ²) | $245.2 \pm 13.1^{+4.6}_{-9.6}$ |
| B.R. (constructive interference) | $(3.01 \pm 0.17^{+0.26}_{-0.28}) \times 10^{-4}$ |
| B.R. (destructive interference) | $(3.72 \pm 0.21^{+0.18}_{-0.35}) \times 10^{-4}$ |

X(1870)

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Mass (MeV/c ²) | $1870.2 \pm 2.2^{+2.3}_{-0.7}$ |
| Width (MeV/c ²) | $13.0 \pm 6.1^{+2.1}_{-3.8}$ |
| B.R. (constructive interference) | $(2.03 \pm 0.12^{+0.43}_{-0.70}) \times 10^{-7}$ |
| B.R. (destructive interference) | $(1.57 \pm 0.09^{+0.49}_{-0.86}) \times 10^{-5}$ |

Mysteries in the Meson System at BESIII

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What is the $X(1835)$?

(2) The **$\rho\pi$** Question

Why are there anomalous differences between J/ψ and $\psi(2S)$ decays?

(3) The **Y** Question

*Why are there so many different peaks in exclusive e^+e^- cross sections?
e.g. $Y(4230)$, $Y(4260)$, $Y(4360)$, $Y(4660)$, etc.*

(4) The **Z** Question

*What are the electrically charged “charmoniumlike” peaks?
e.g. $Z_c(3900)$, $Z_c(4020)$, $Z_c(4055)$, etc.*

(2) The $\rho\pi$ Question

The “12% Rule”: Once the charm quarks of the J/ψ or $\psi(2S)$ annihilate, the rest of the process should proceed independently of the origin. So, after taking out transitions,

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow X)}{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow X)} \approx 12\%$$

(2) The $\rho\pi$ Question

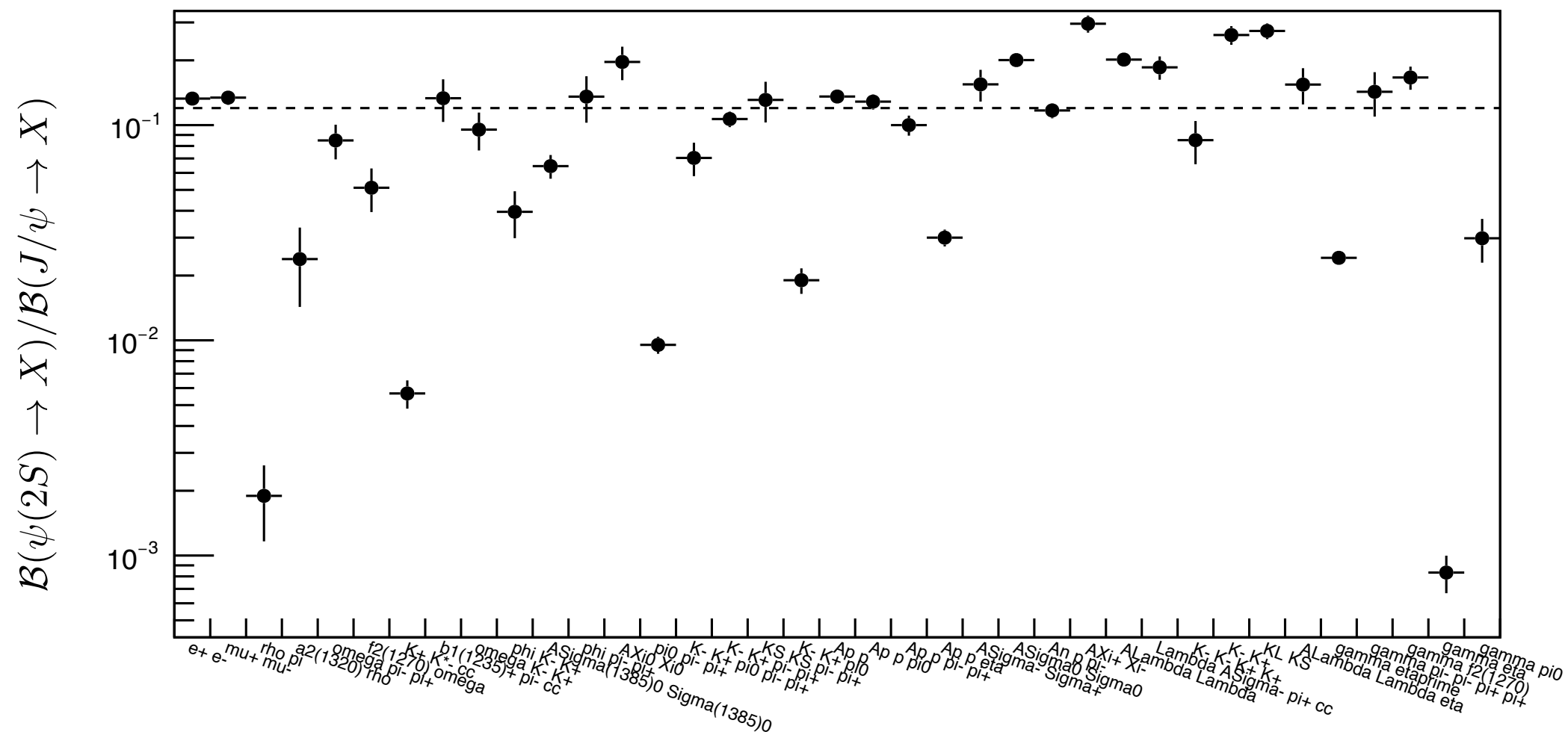
The “12% Rule”: Once the charm quarks of the J/ψ or $\psi(2S)$ annihilate, the rest of the process should proceed independently of the origin. So, after taking out transitions,

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow X)}{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow X)} \approx 12\%$$

Does it work?

Sort of.
But sometimes it
fails spectacularly.

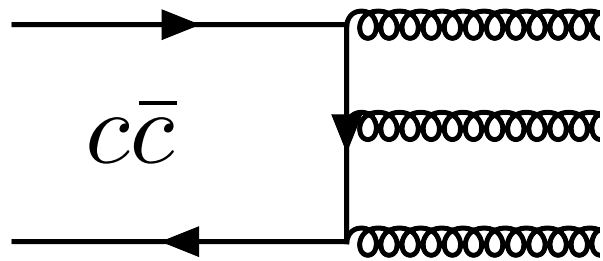
Testing the 12% Rule Using the 2018 PDG



(2) The $\rho\pi$ Question

$$J/\psi \text{ and } \psi(2S) \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0$$

[PLB 710, 594 (2012)]



implies:

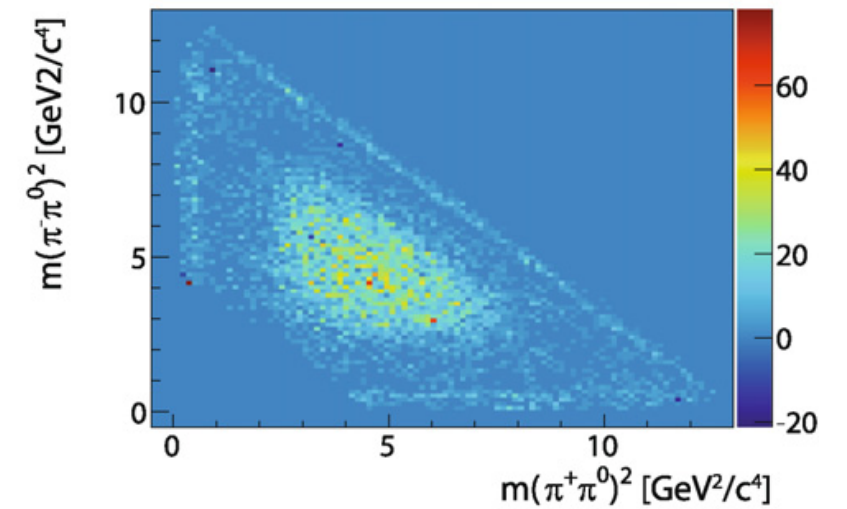
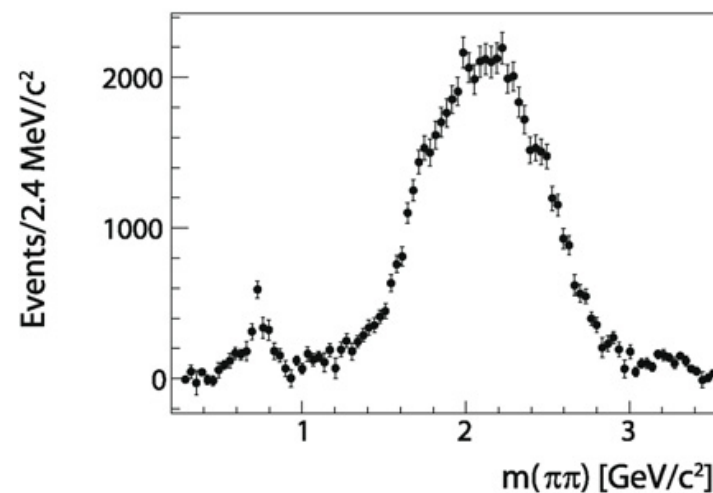
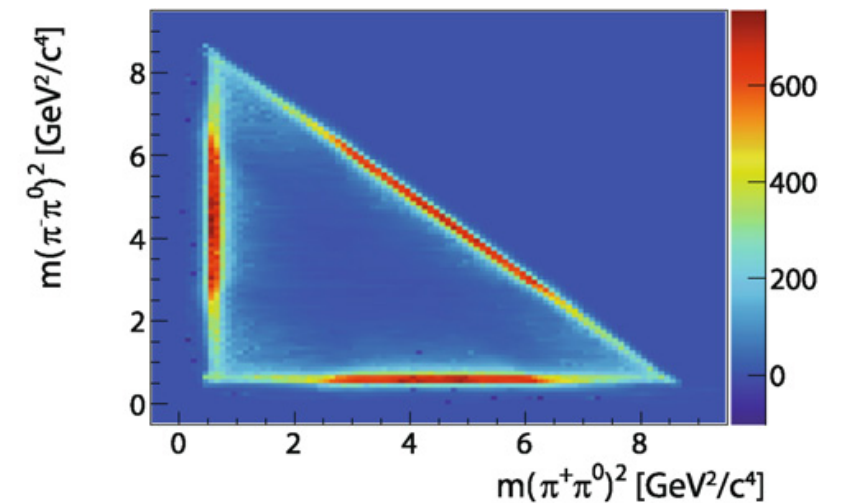
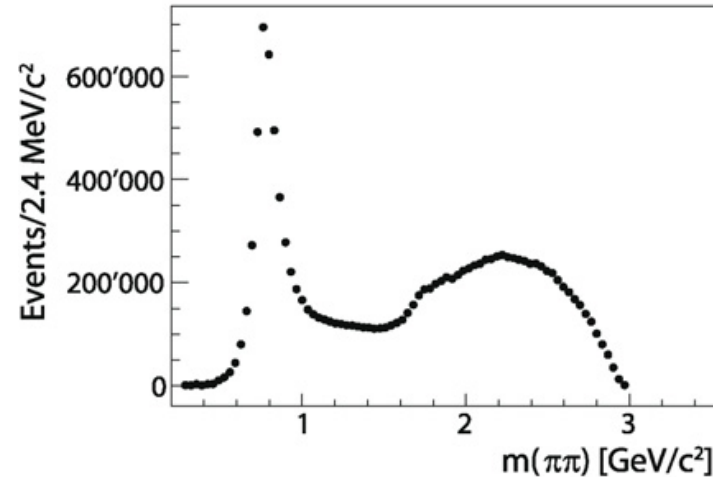
$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow X)}{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow X)} \approx 12\%$$

but:

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0)}{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0)}$$

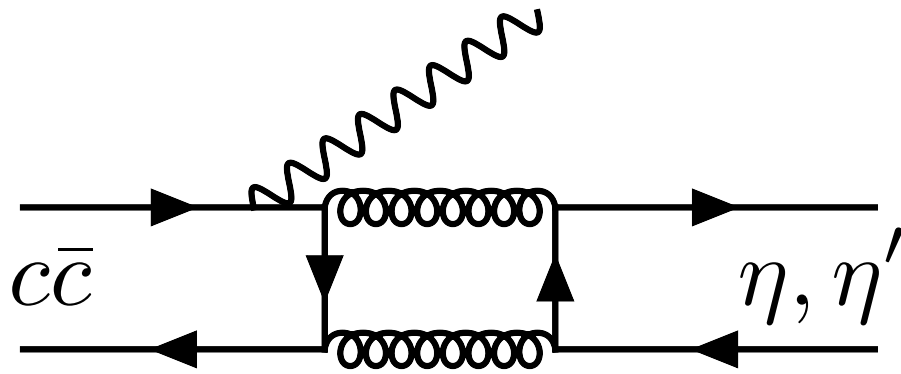
$$= (1.00 \pm 0.01 \text{ (stat.)}^{+0.06}_{-0.05} \text{ (syst.)})\%$$

and $\rho\pi$ is $\sim 2 \times 10^{-3}$



(using 225M J/ψ decays and 106M $\psi(2S)$ decays)

(2) The $\eta\pi$ Question



implies:

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma\eta)}{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma\eta')} \approx \frac{\mathcal{B}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow \gamma\eta)}{\mathcal{B}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow \gamma\eta')}$$

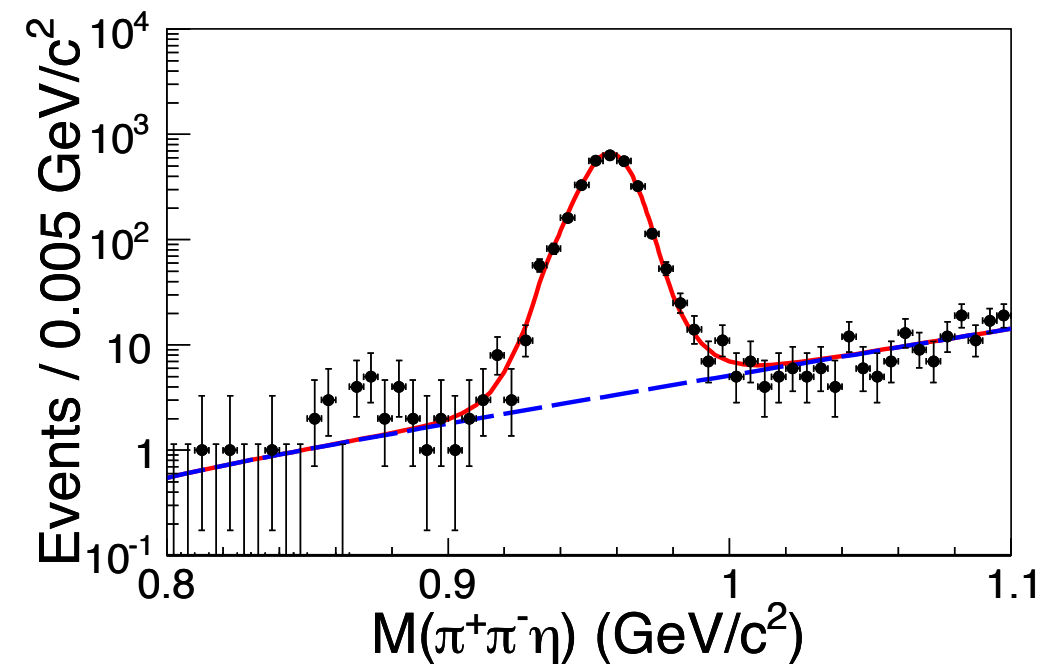
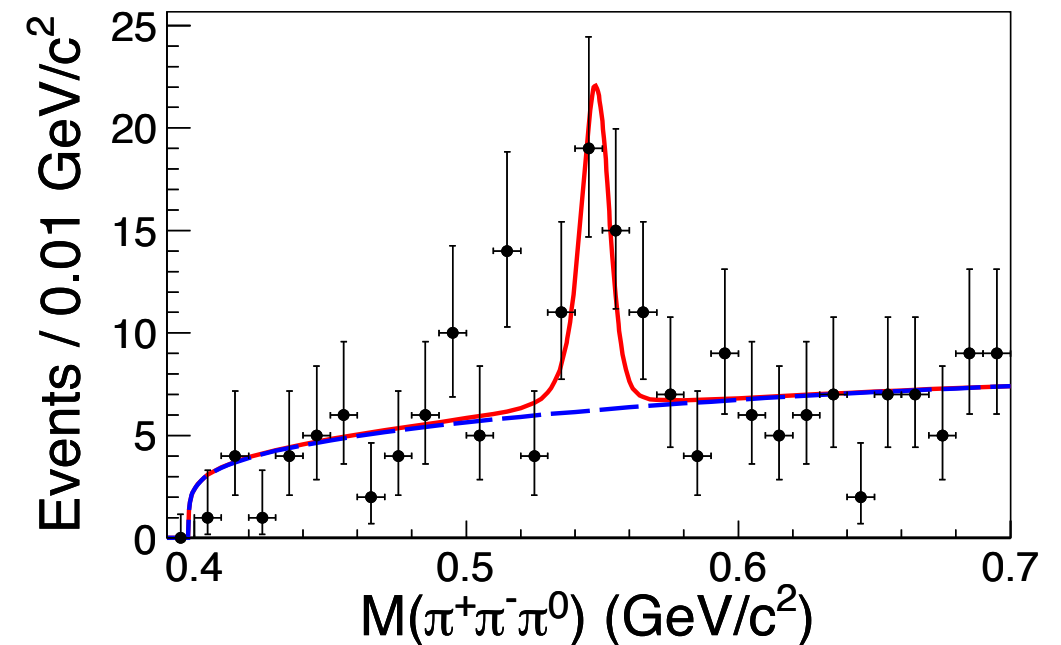
but:

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma\eta)}{\mathcal{B}(J/\psi \rightarrow \gamma\eta')} = (21.4 \pm 0.9)\%$$

and:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathcal{B}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow \gamma\eta)}{\mathcal{B}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow \gamma\eta')} \\ = (0.66 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.02)\% \end{aligned}$$

$\psi(2S) \rightarrow \gamma\eta$ and $\gamma\eta'$
[PRD 96, 052003 (2017)]



(using 448M $\psi(2S)$ decays)

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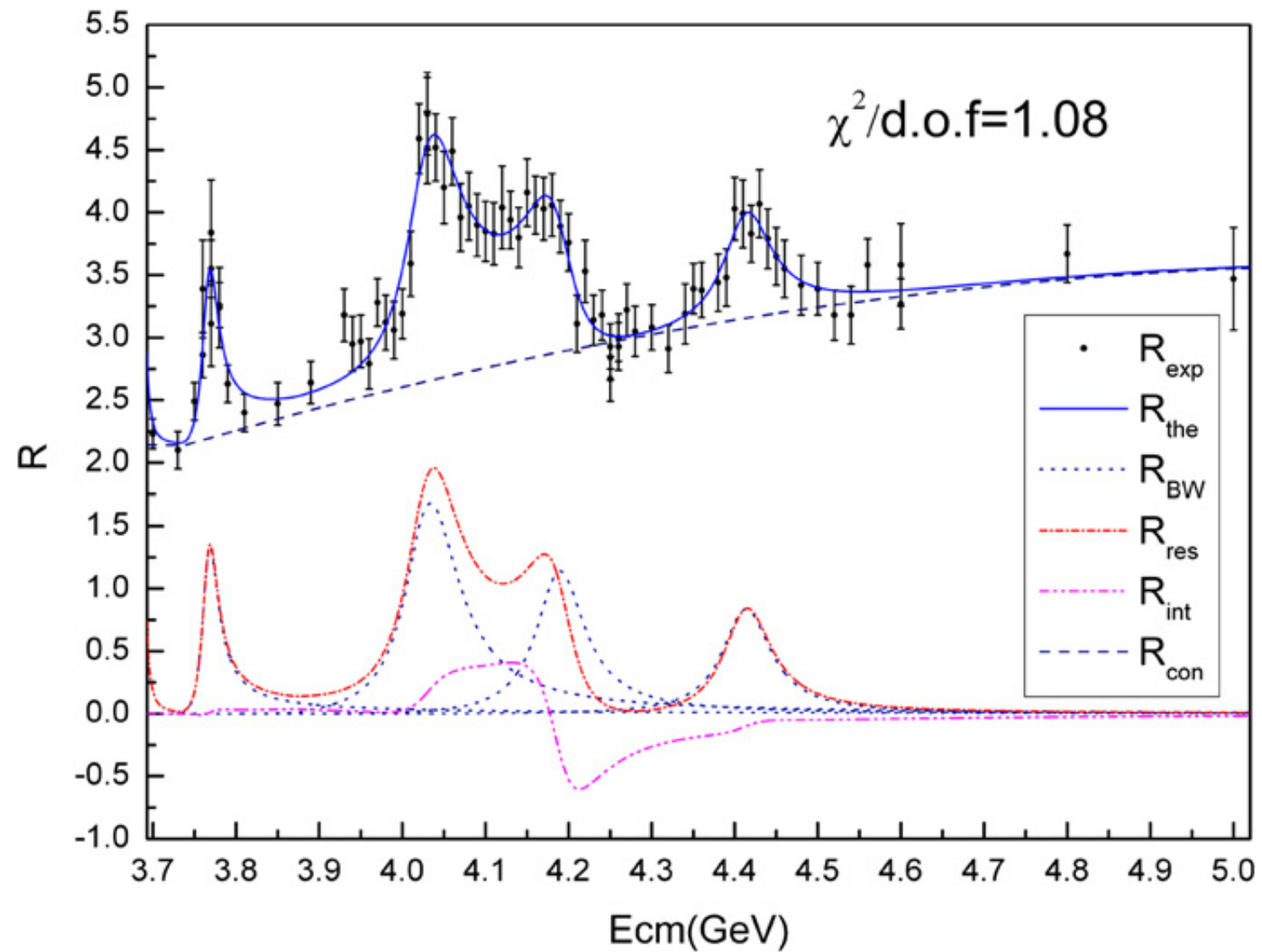
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(3) The Y Question

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$$

[BESII, PLB 660, 315 (2008)]



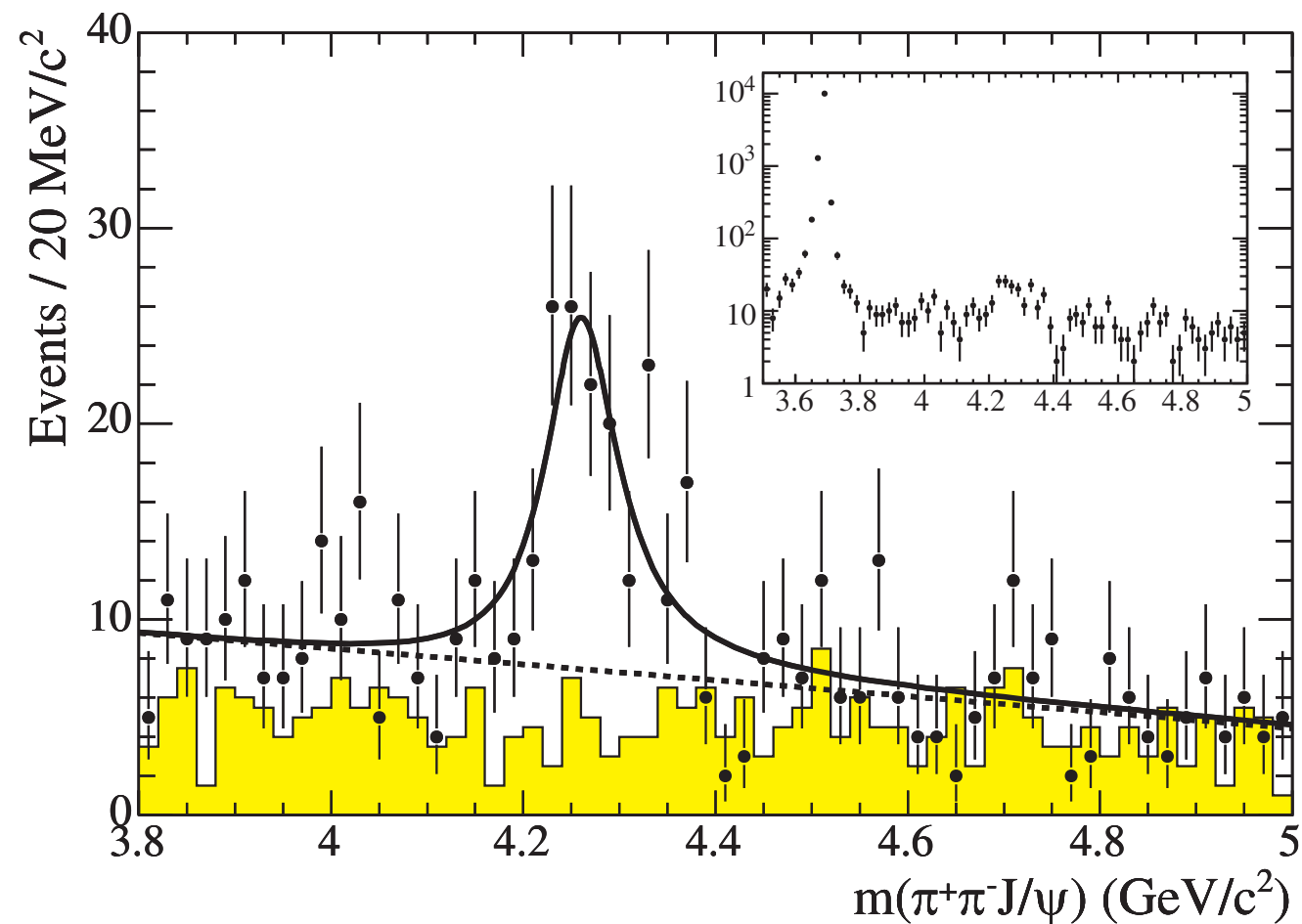
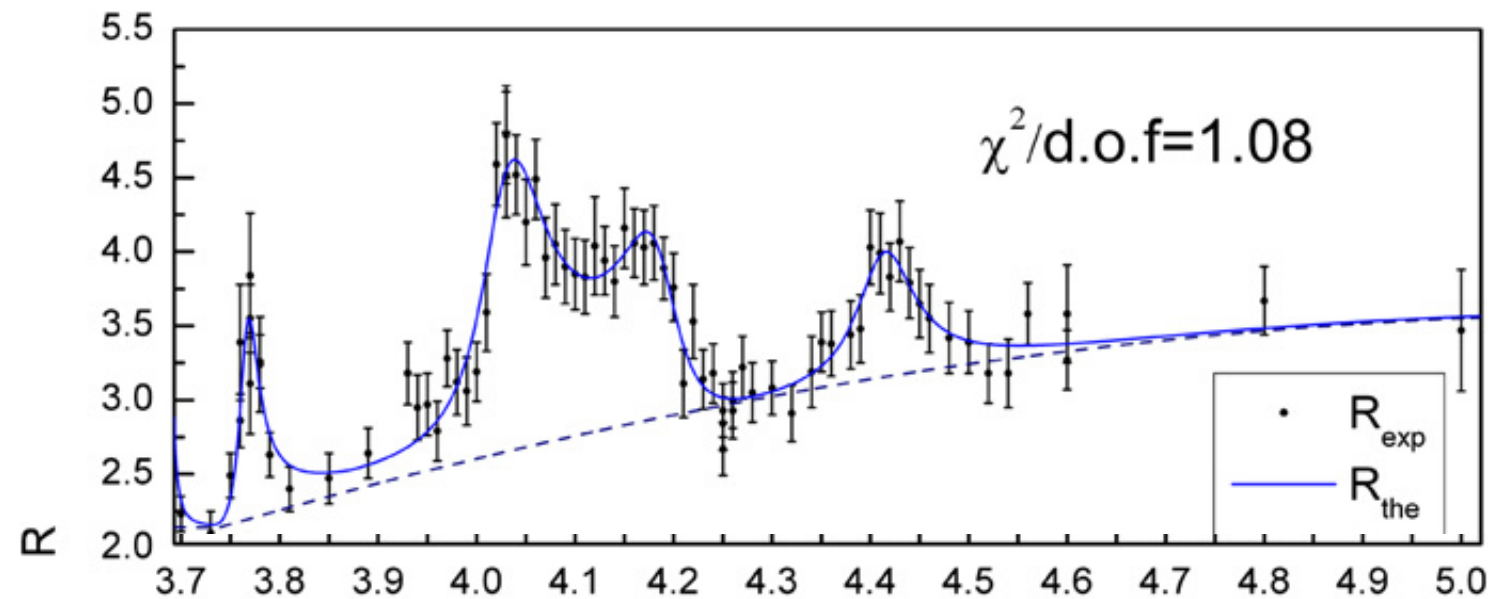
$$\begin{aligned} J/\psi &= 1^3S_1 \\ \psi(2S) &= 2^3S_1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(3770) &= 1^3D_1 \\ \psi(4040) &= 3^3S_1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(4160) &= 2^3D_1 \\ \psi(4415) &= 4^3S_1 \end{aligned}$$

(3) The Y Question

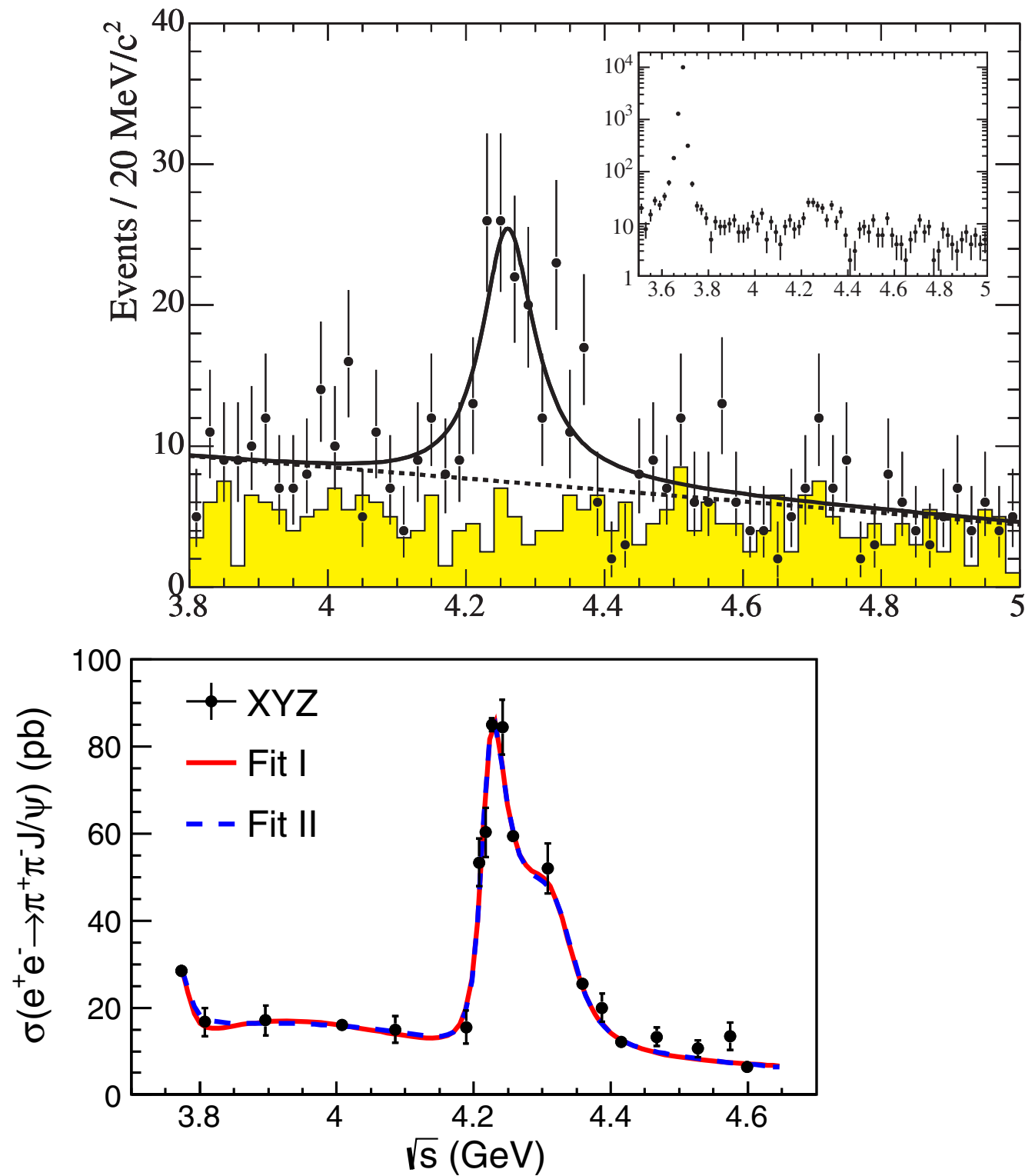
$e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$ vs. $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- J/\psi$
 [BESII, PLB 660, 315 (2008)] [BaBar, PRL 95, 142001 (2005)]



(3) The Y Question

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- J/\psi \quad \text{vs.} \quad e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- J/\psi$$

[BaBar, PRL 95, 142001 (2005)] [PRL 118, 092001 (2017)]



(3) The Y Question

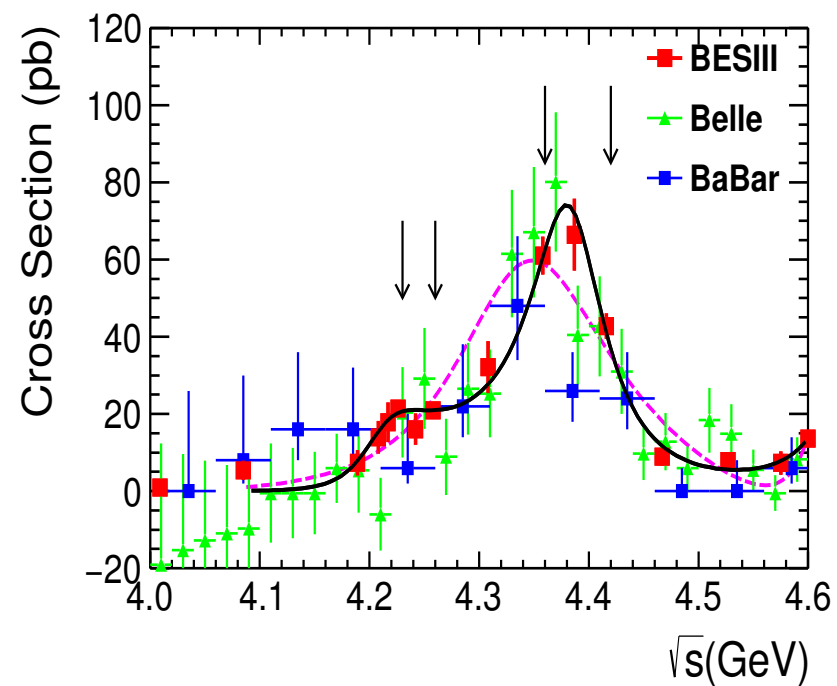
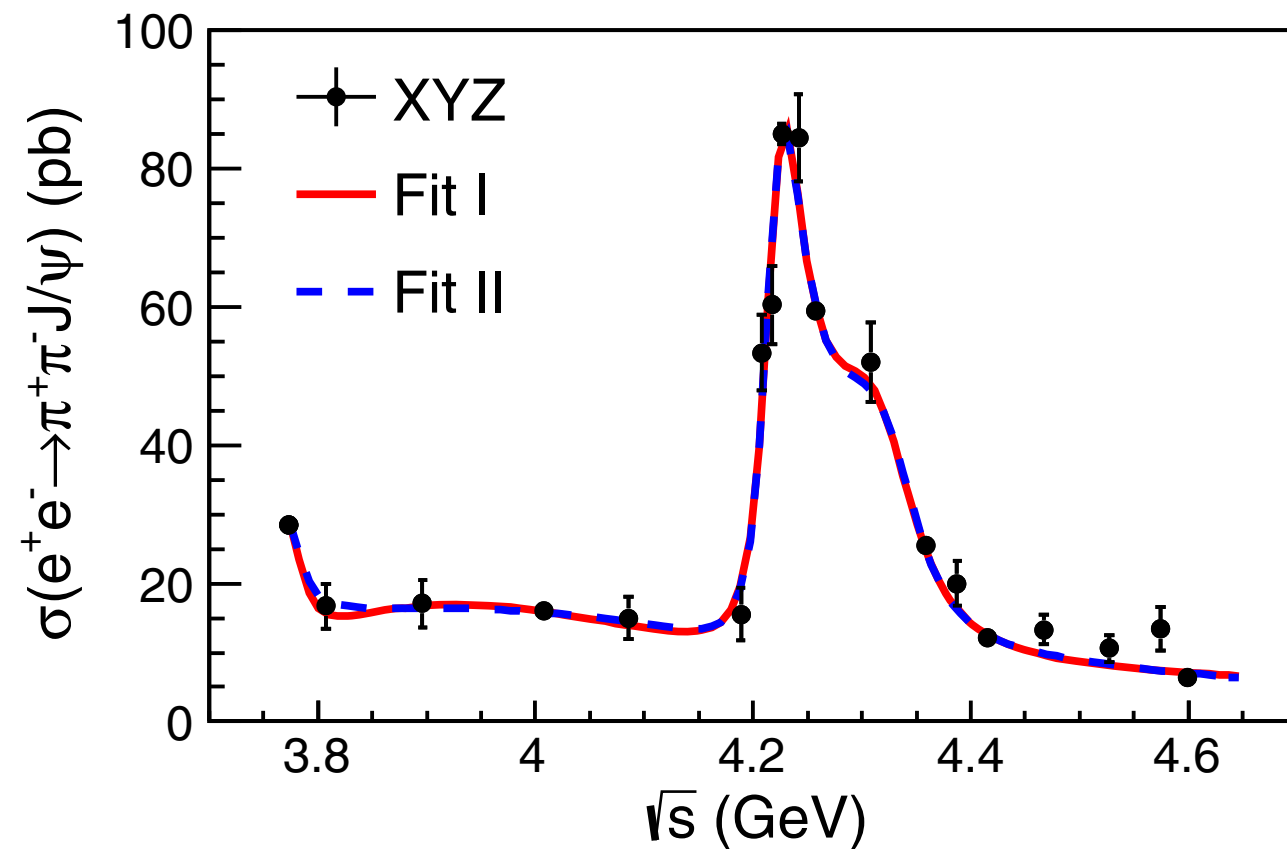
$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- J/\psi$$

[PRL 118, 092001 (2017)]

vs.

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- \psi(2S)$$

[PRD 96, 032004 (2017)]



(3) The Y Question

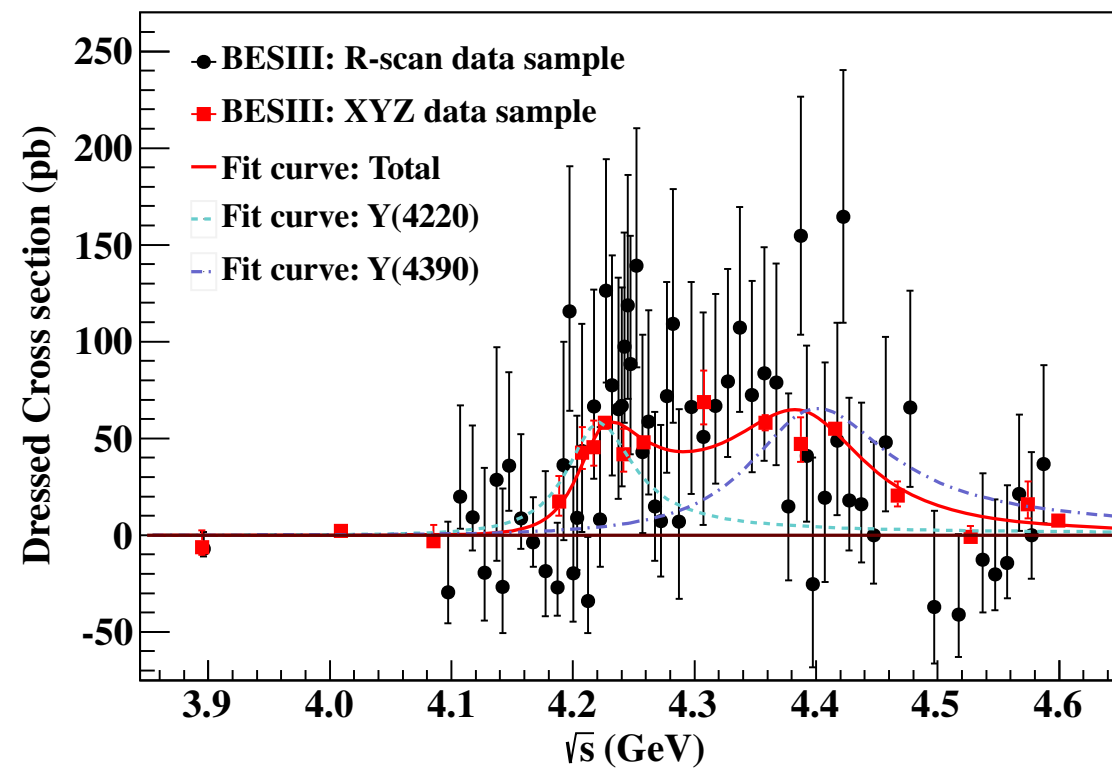
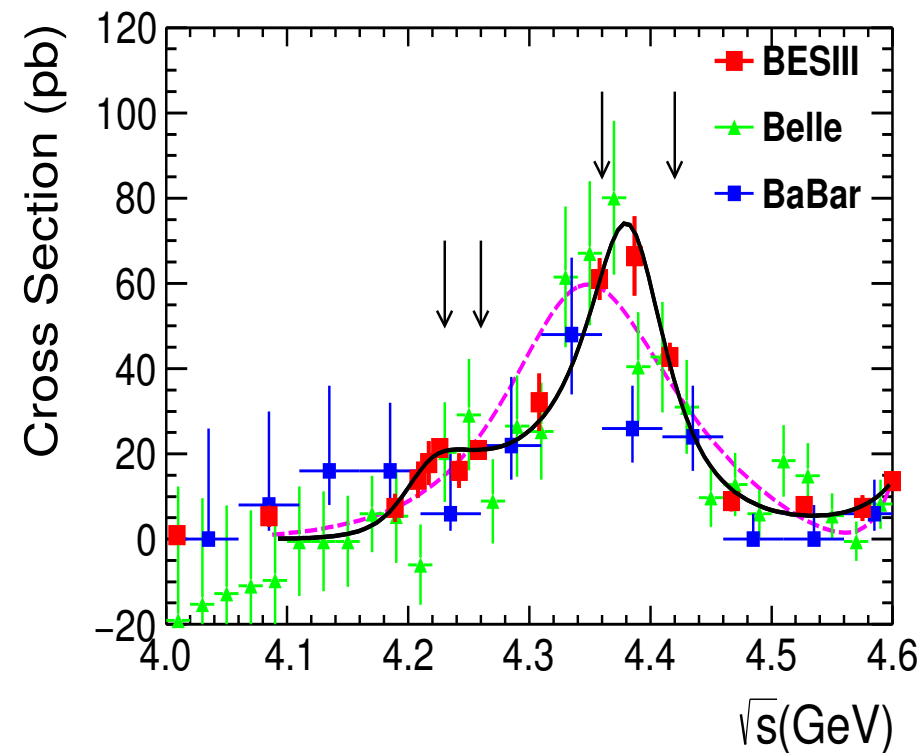
$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\psi(2S)$$

[PRD 96, 032004 (2017)]

vs.

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-h_c(1P)$$

[PRL 118, 092002 (2017)]



(3) The Y Question

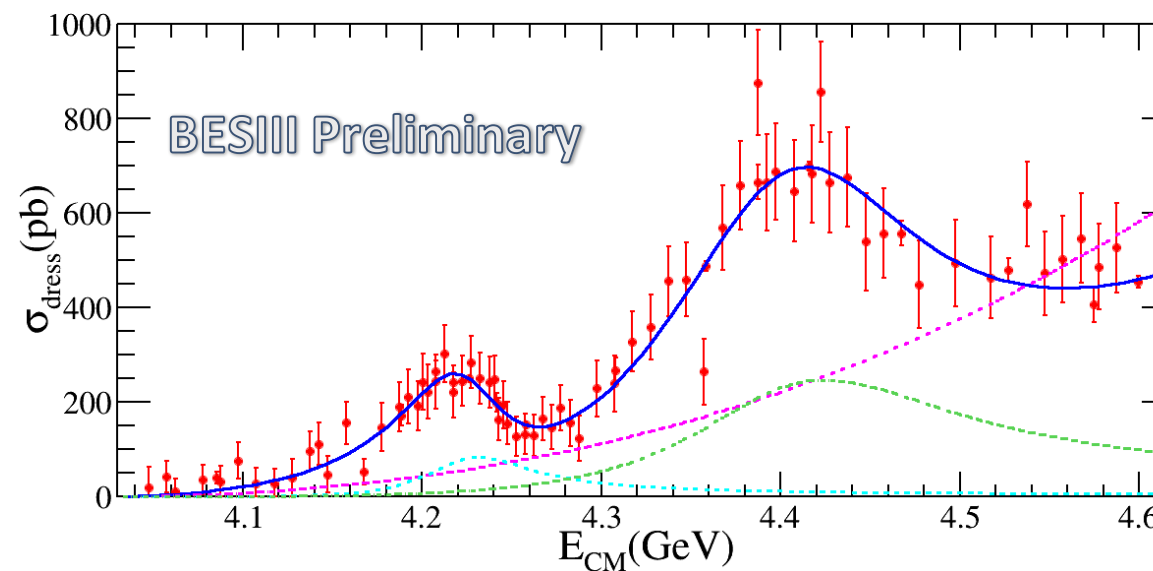
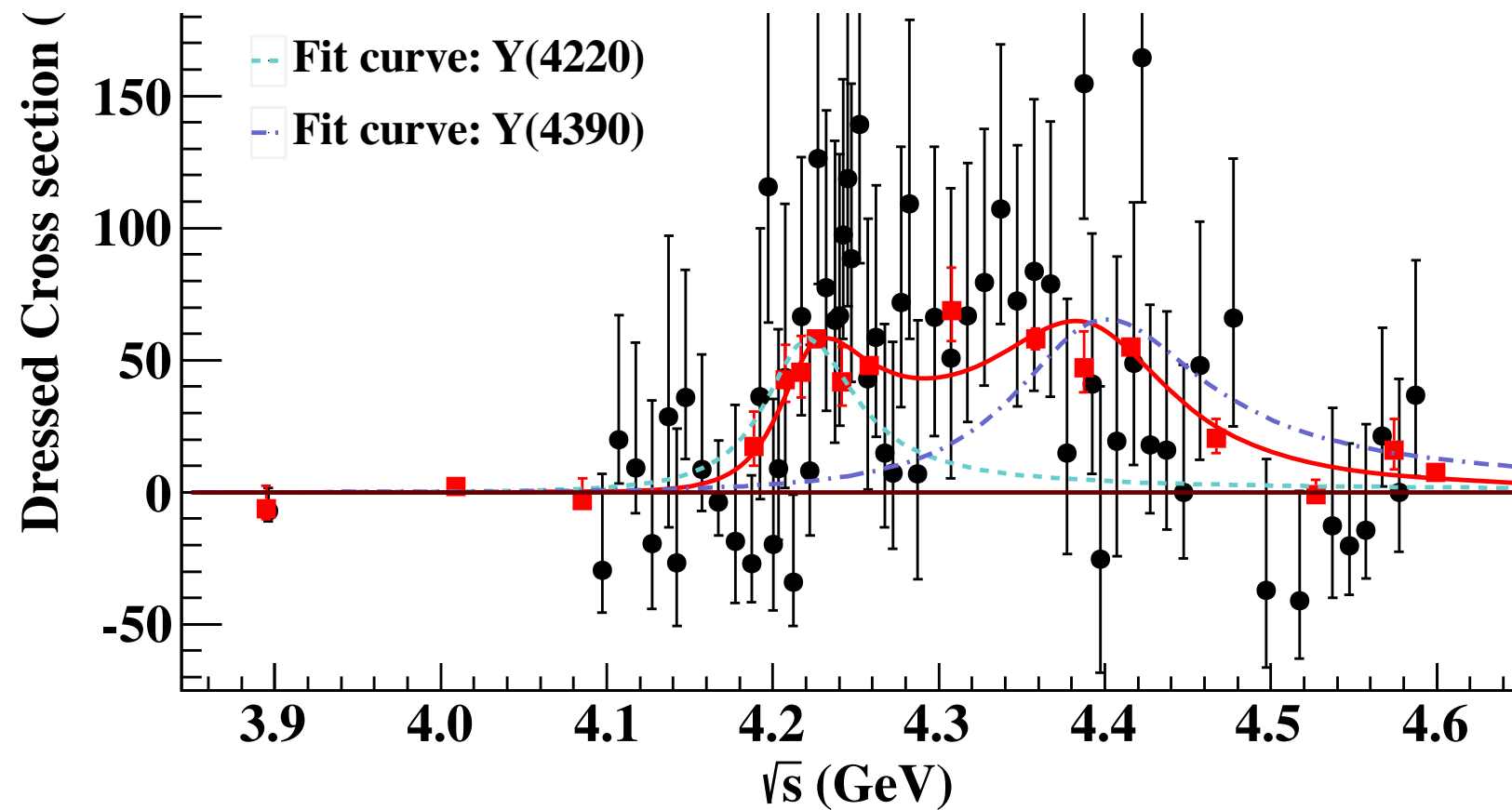
$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- h_c(1P)$$

[PRL 118, 092002 (2017)]

vs.

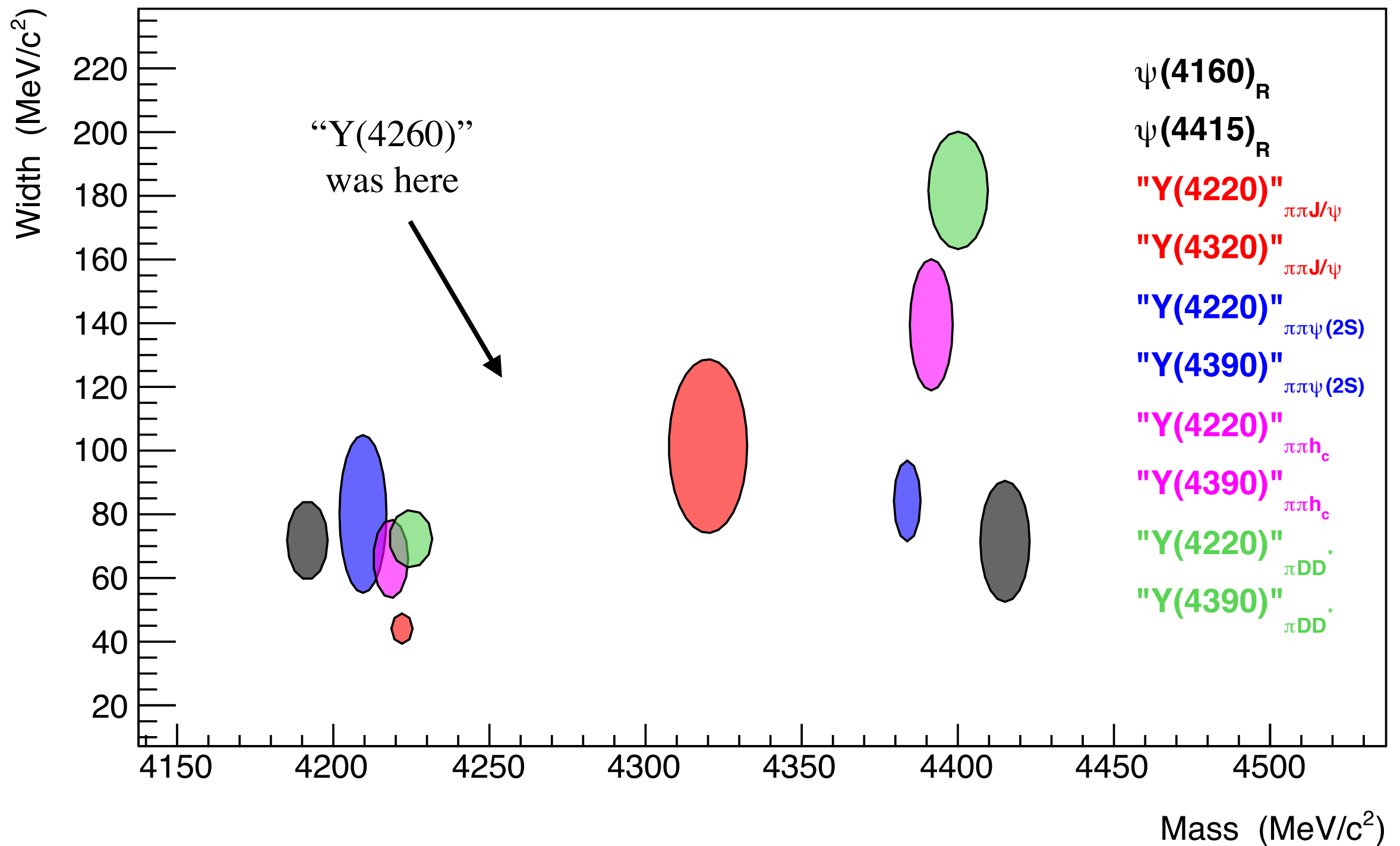
$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0 D^{*-} + c.c.$$

[preliminary (2017)]



(3) The Y Question

Parameters of the Peaks in e^+e^- Cross Sections



Mysteries in the Meson System at BESIII

(1) The **proton antiproton** Question

What is the $X(1835)$?

(2) The **$\rho\pi$** Question

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*Why are there so many different peaks in exclusive e^+e^- cross sections?
e.g. $Y(4230)$, $Y(4260)$, $Y(4360)$, $Y(4660)$, etc.*

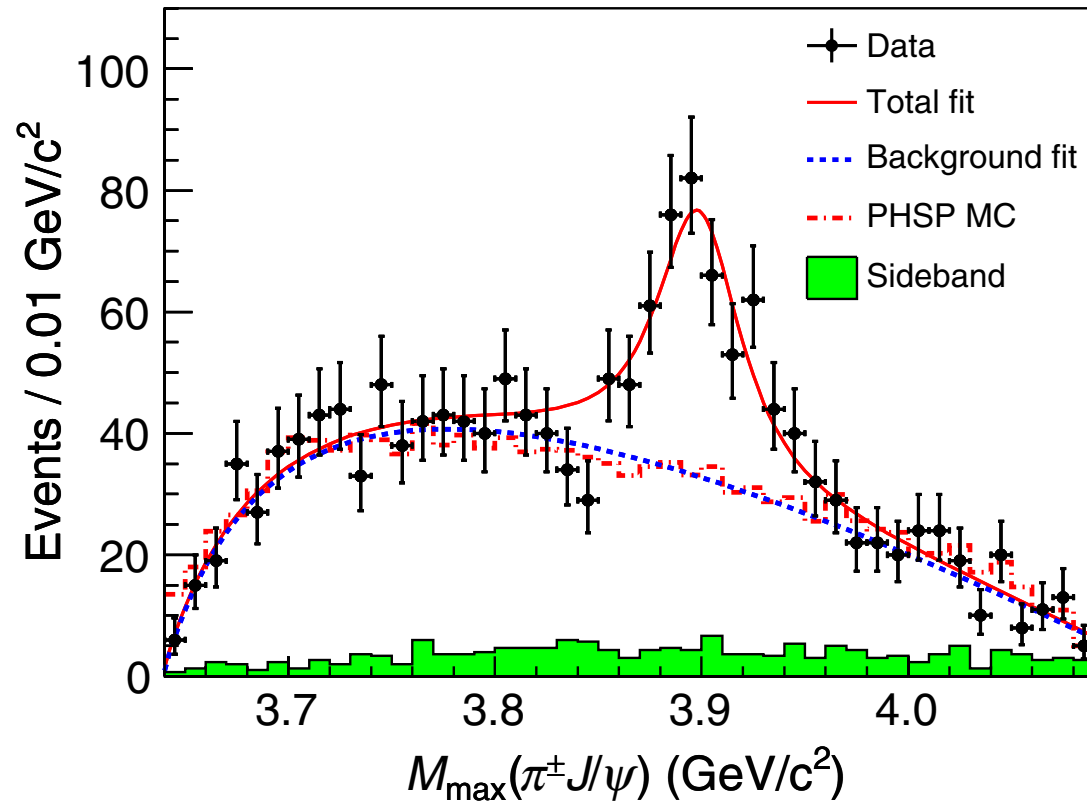
(4) The **Z** Question

*What are the electrically charged “charmoniumlike” peaks?
e.g. $Z_c(3900)$, $Z_c(4020)$, $Z_c(4055)$, etc.*

(4) The **Z** Question

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^\pm(\pi^\mp J/\psi)$$

[PRL 110, 252001 (2013)]



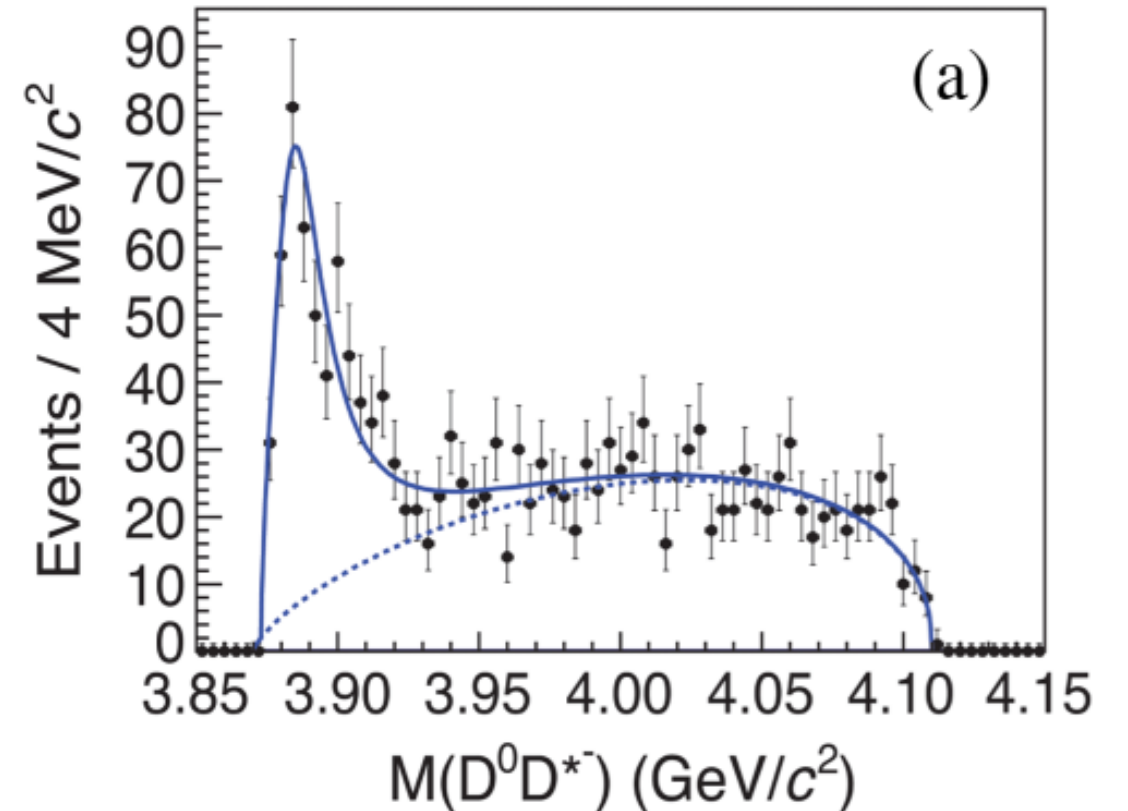
(using 525 pb⁻¹ at 4.26 GeV)

$$M = (3899.0 \pm 3.6 \pm 4.9) \text{ MeV}/c^2;$$

$$\Gamma = (46 \pm 10 \pm 20) \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^\pm(D\bar{D}^*)^\mp$$

[PRL 112, 022001 (2014)]



(using 525 pb⁻¹ at 4.26 GeV)

$$M = (3883.9 \pm 1.5 \pm 4.2) \text{ MeV}/c^2;$$

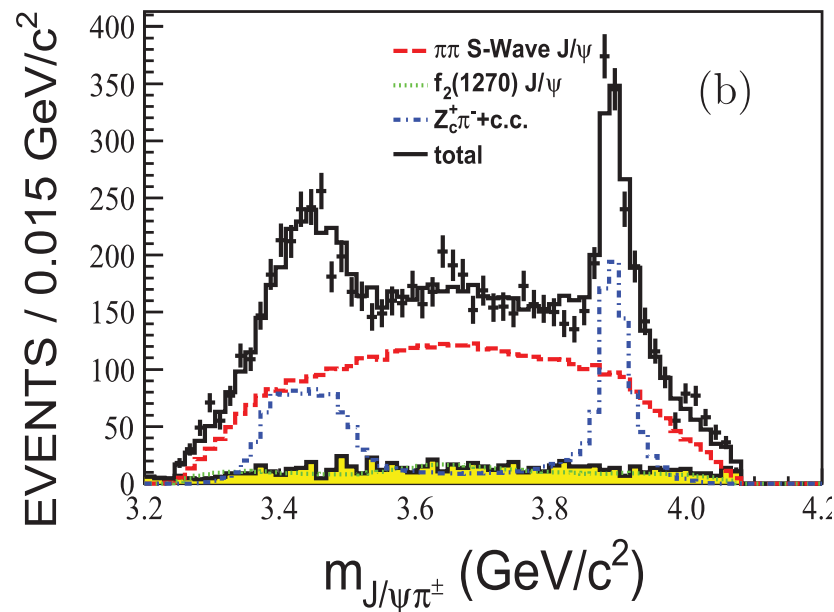
$$\Gamma = (24.8 \pm 3.3 \pm 11.0) \text{ MeV}/c^2;$$

$$J^P = 1^+$$

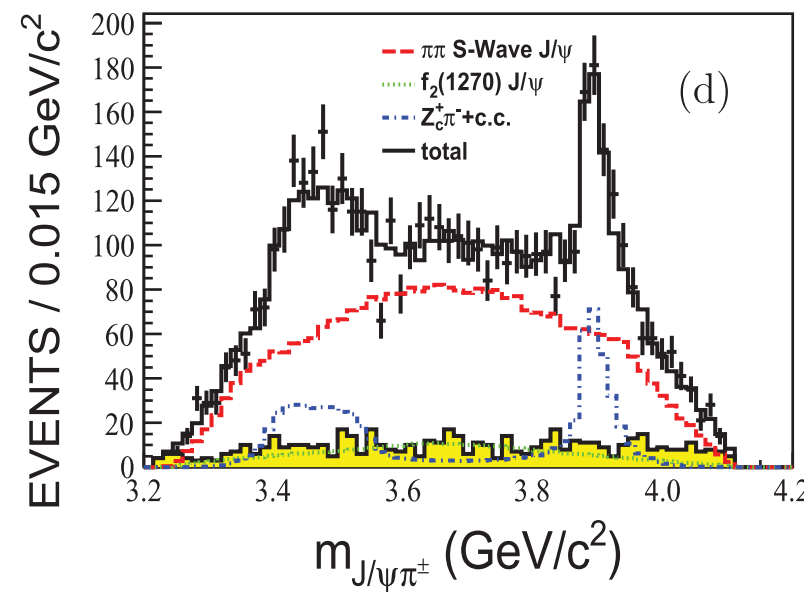
(4) The Z Question

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^\pm(\pi^\mp J/\psi)$$

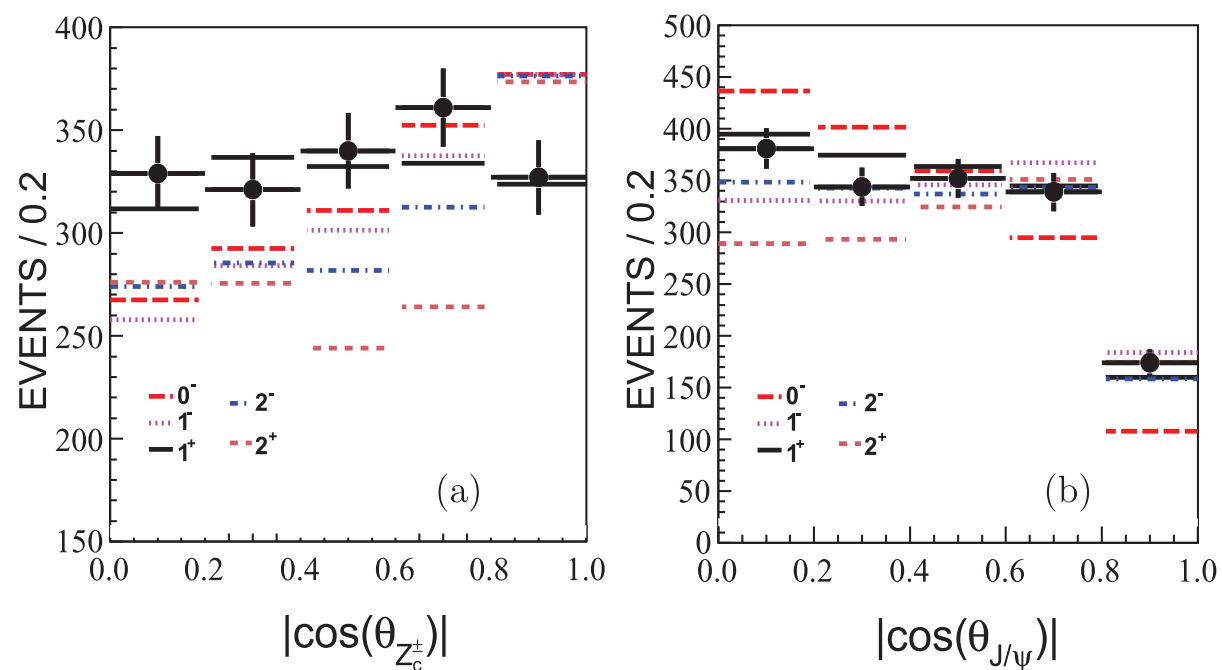
[PRL 119, 072001 (2017) (Aug. 16)]



(using 1092 pb^{-1} at 4.23 GeV)



(using 827 pb^{-1} at 4.26 GeV)



$$M = (3881.2 \pm 4.2 \pm 52.7) \text{ MeV}/c^2;$$

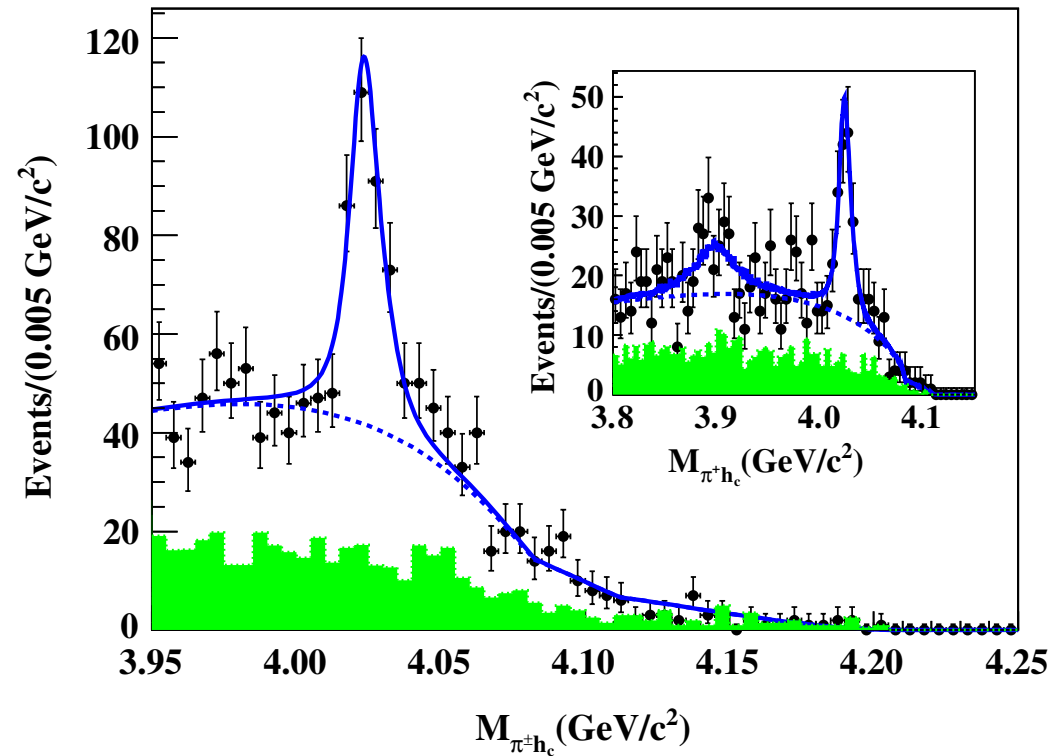
$$\Gamma = (51.8 \pm 4.6 \pm 36.0) \text{ MeV}/c^2;$$

$$J^P = 1^+$$

(4) The Z Question

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^\pm(\pi^\mp h_c(1P))$$

[PRL 111, 242001 (2013)]



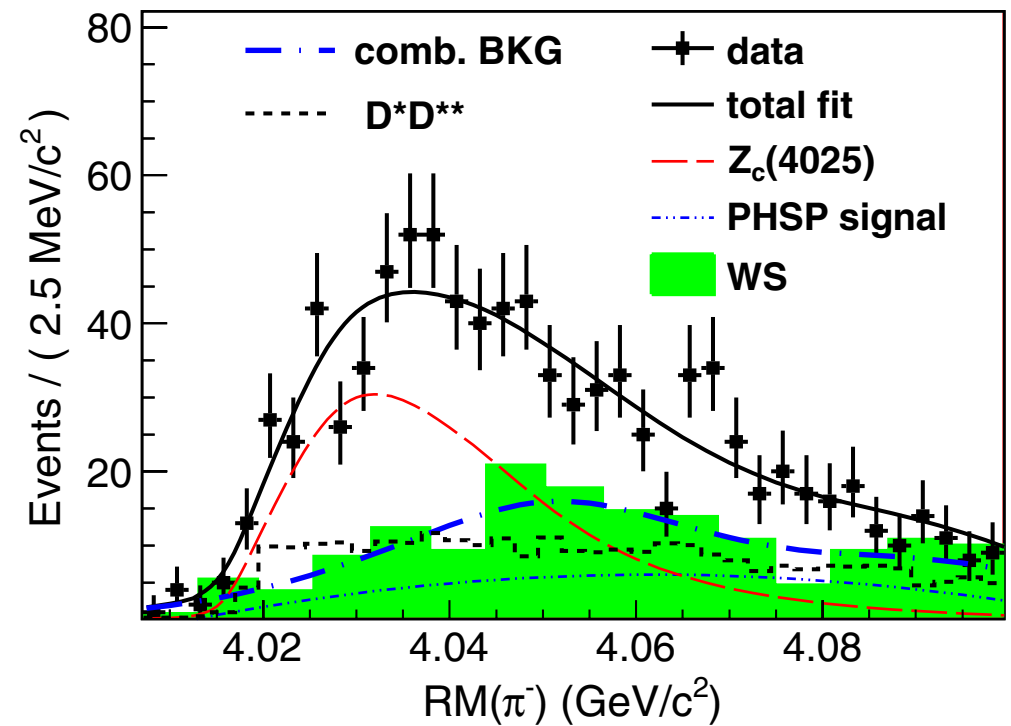
(using 1090 pb^{-1} at 4.23 GeV ,
 827 pb^{-1} at 4.26 GeV ,
 545 pb^{-1} at 4.36 GeV)

$$M = (4022.9 \pm 0.8 \pm 2.7) \text{ MeV}/c^2;$$

$$\Gamma = (7.9 \pm 2.7 \pm 2.6) \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^\pm(D^*\bar{D}^*)^\mp$$

[PRL 112, 132001 (2014)]



(using 827 pb^{-1} at 4.26 GeV)

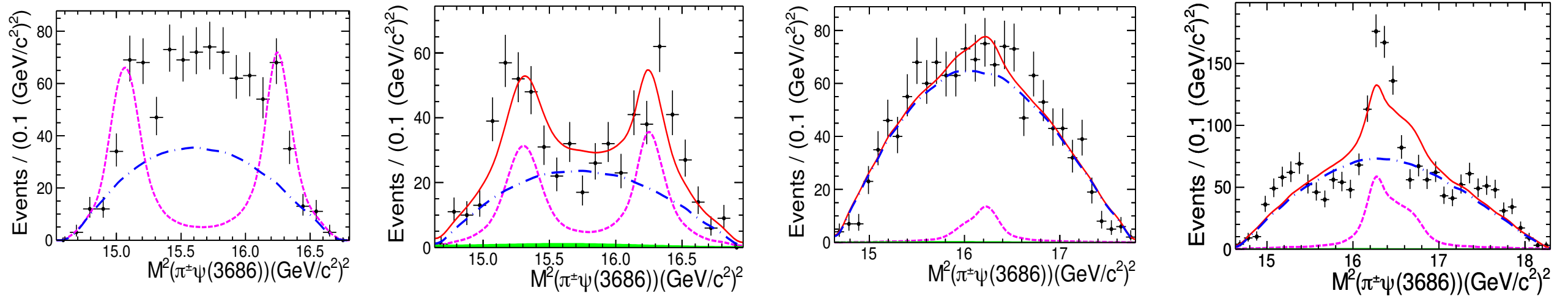
$$M = (4026.3 \pm 2.6 \pm 3.7) \text{ MeV}/c^2;$$

$$\Gamma = (24.8 \pm 5.6 \pm 7.7) \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

(4) The **Z** Question

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\psi(2S)$$

[PRD 96, 032004 (2017)]



(1092 pb⁻¹ at 4.23 GeV; 826 pb⁻¹ at 4.26 GeV; 540 pb⁻¹ at 4.36 GeV; 1074 pb⁻¹ at 4.42 GeV)

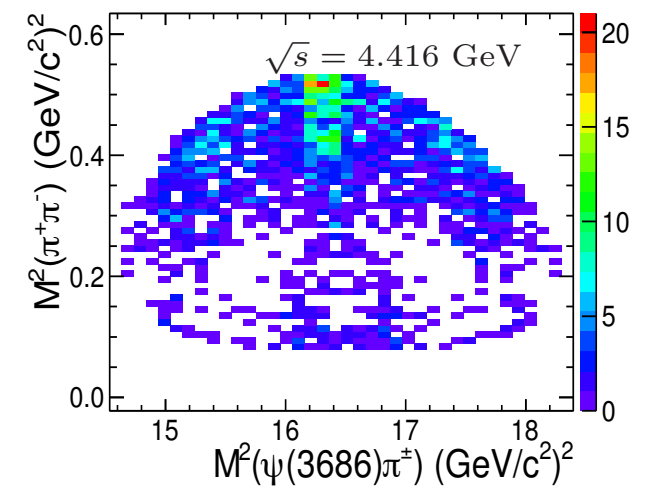
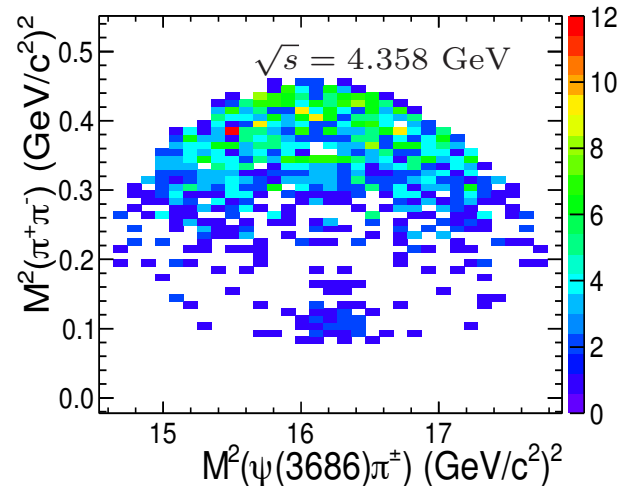
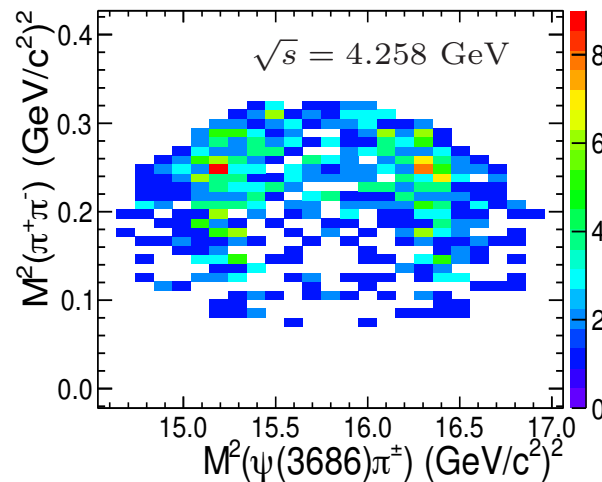
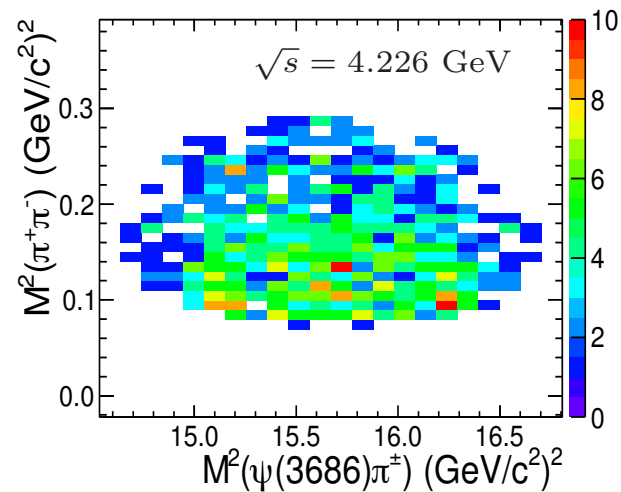
$$M = (4032.1 \pm 2.4) \text{ MeV}/c^2;$$

$$\Gamma = (26.1 \pm 5.3) \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

(4) The Z Question

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\psi(2S)$$

[PRD 96, 032004 (2017)]



(1092 pb^{-1} at 4.23 GeV; 826 pb^{-1} at 4.26 GeV; 540 pb^{-1} at 4.36 GeV; 1074 pb^{-1} at 4.42 GeV)

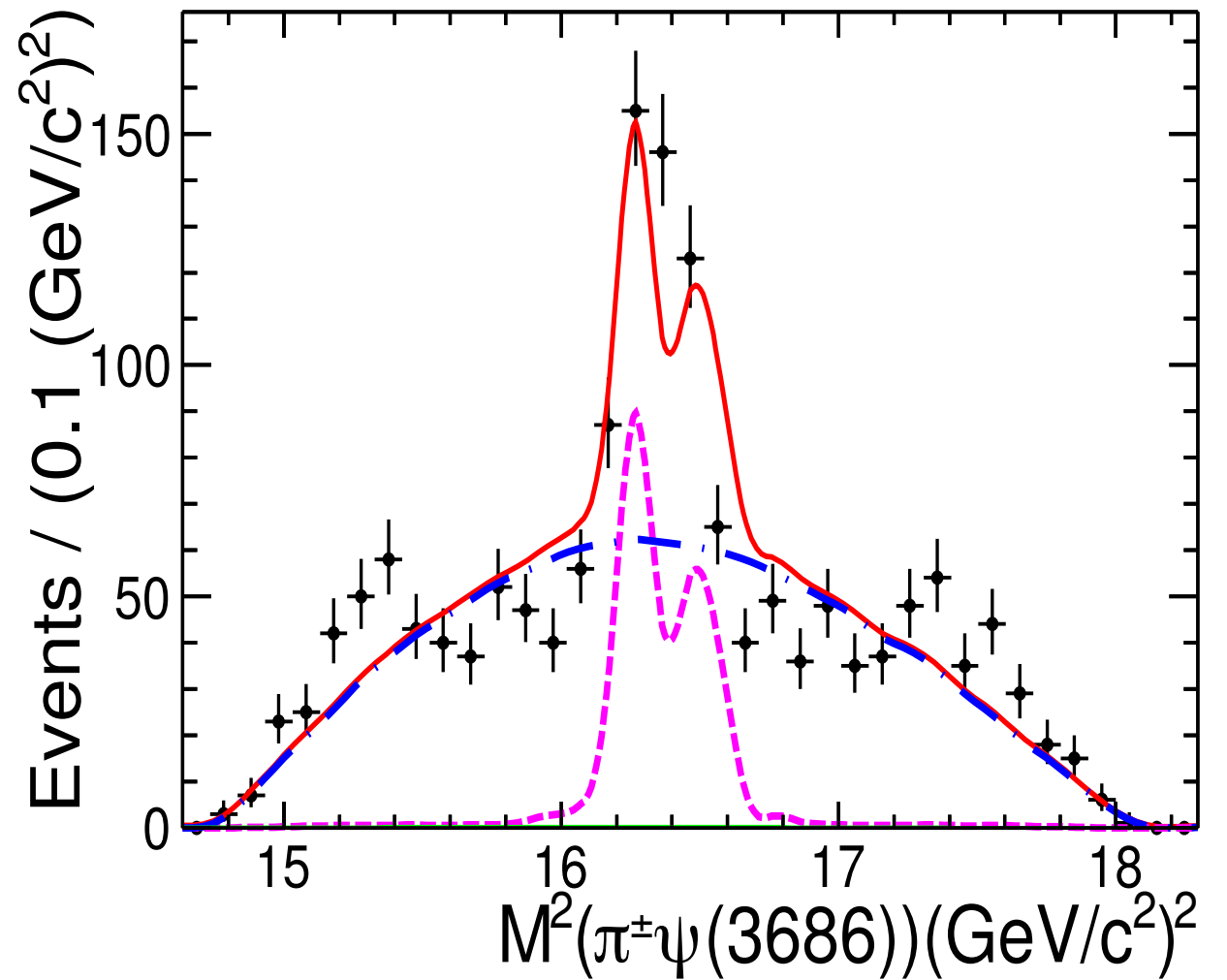
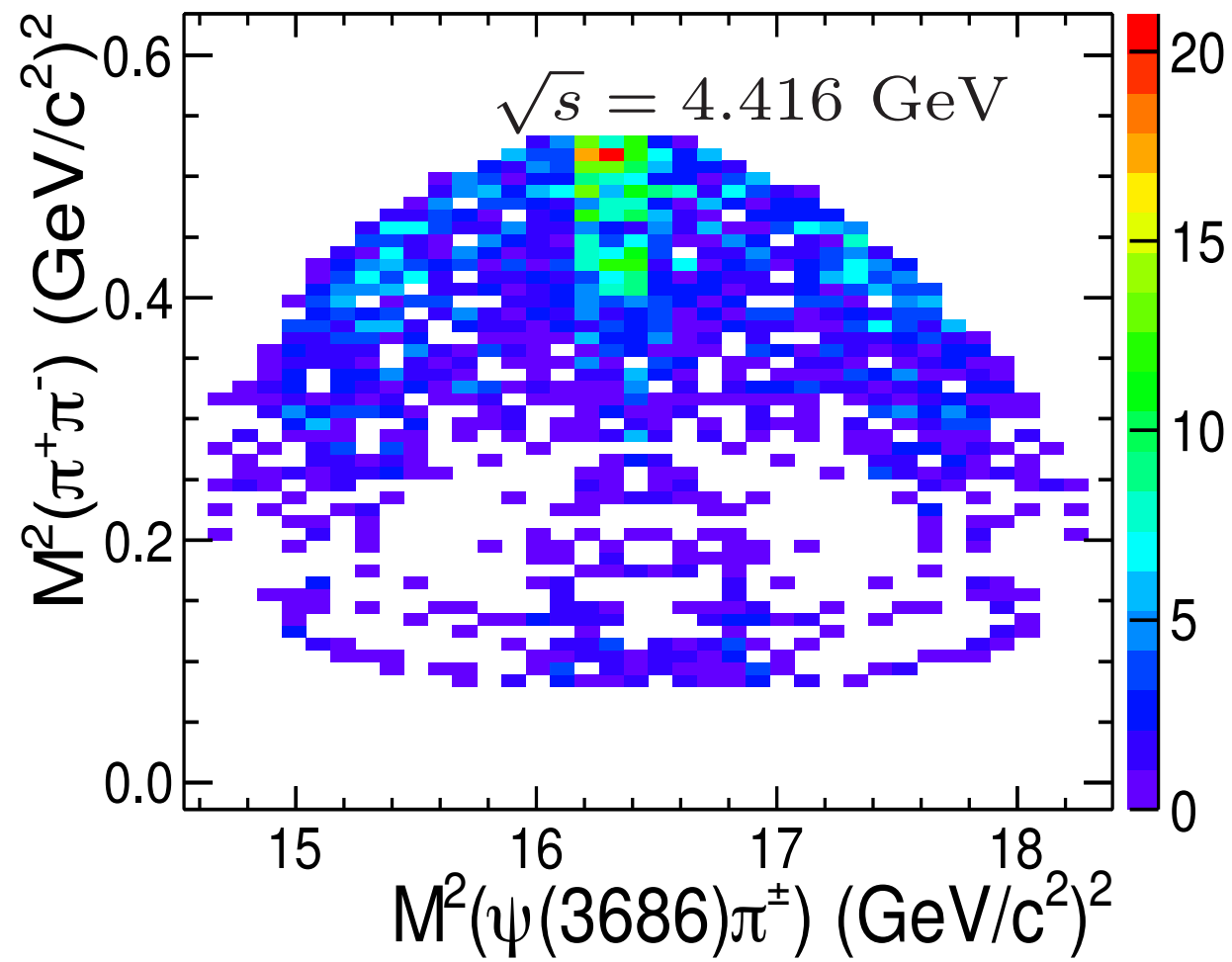
$$M = (4032.1 \pm 2.4) \text{ MeV}/c^2;$$

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(4) The **Z** Question

$$e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-\psi(2S)$$

[PRD 96, 032004 (2017)]



For $M^2(\pi^+\pi^-) > 0.3 \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$:

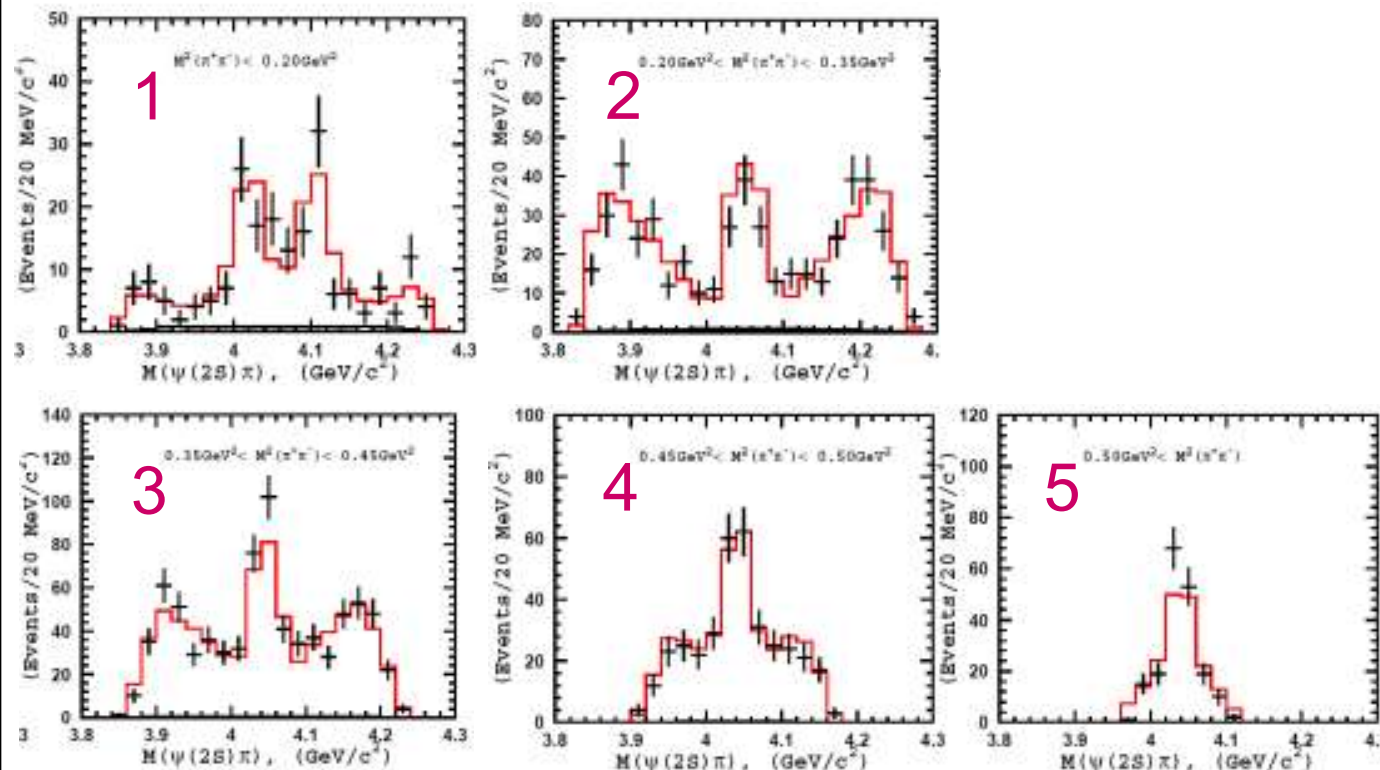
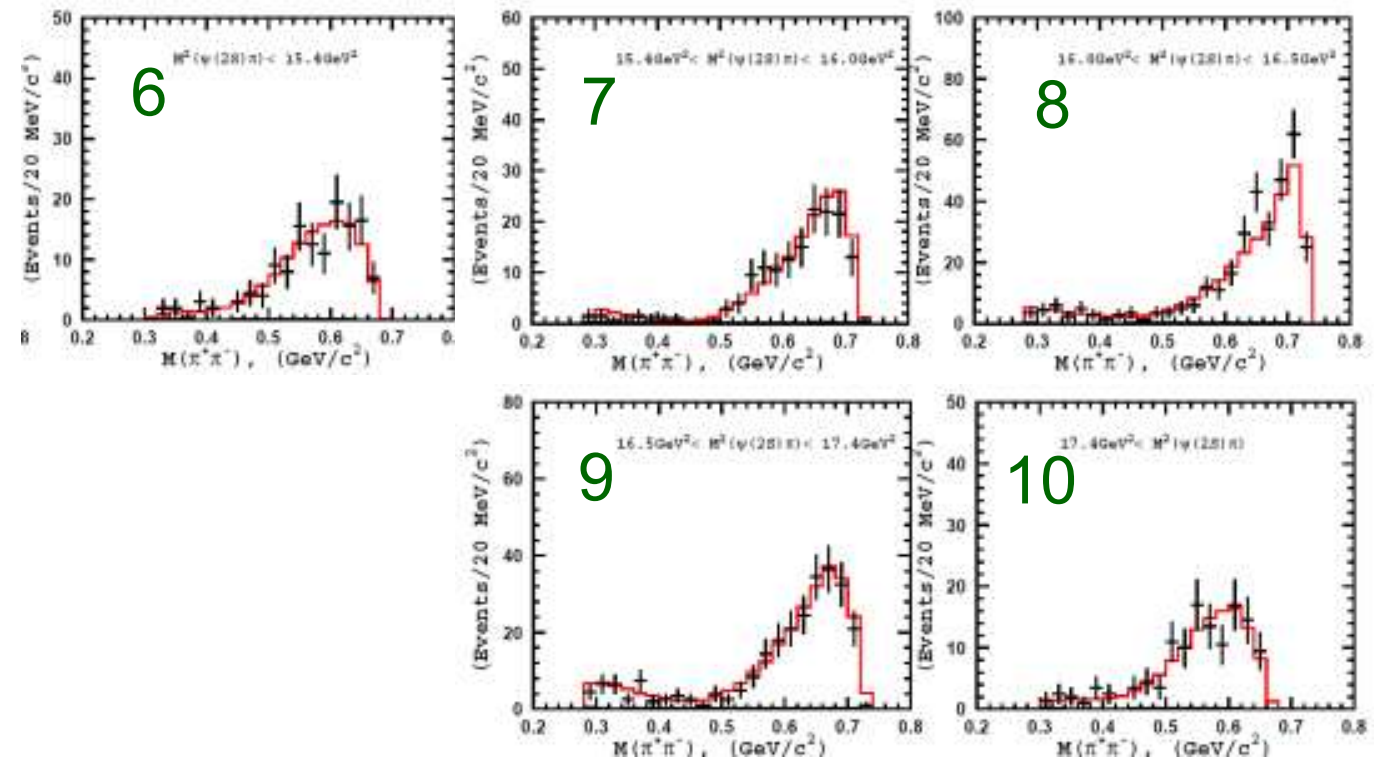
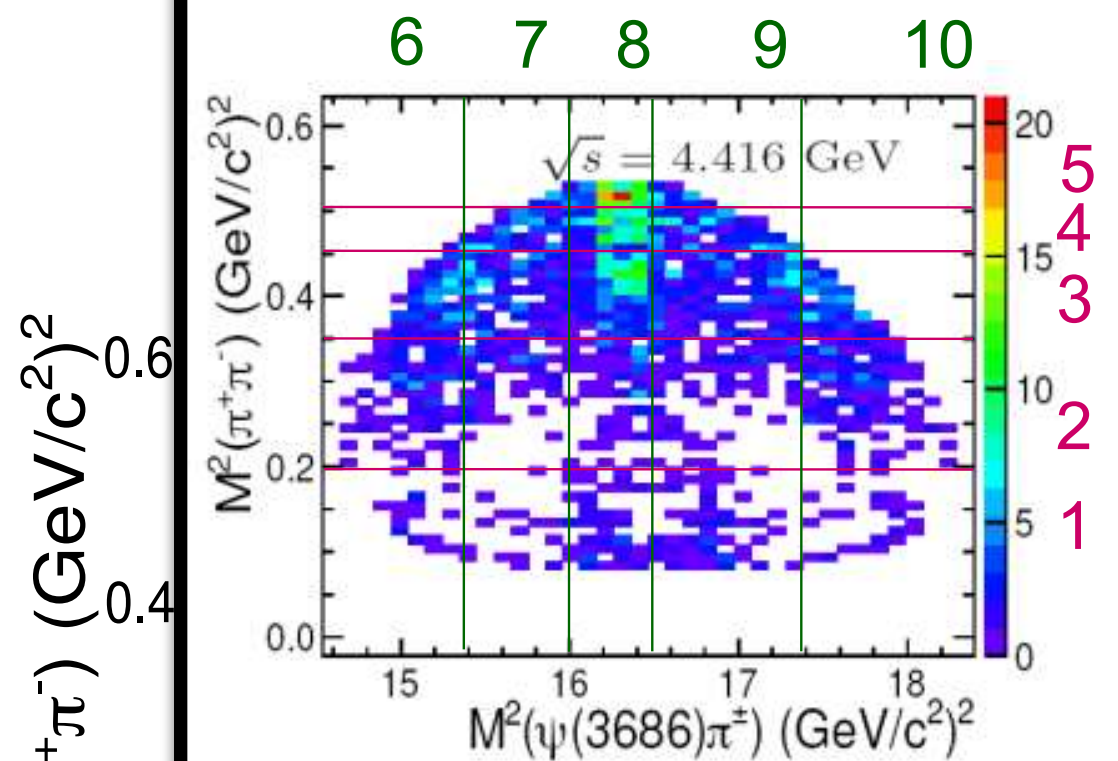
$$M = (4030.3 \pm 0.1) \text{ MeV}/c^2;$$

$$\Gamma = (5.1 \pm 0.2) \text{ MeV}/c^2$$

(4) The Z Question

Alex Bondar, CHARM 2018

Toy Fit of BESIII data at 4.416 GeV



Toy Fit Results:
 $M_z = 4019 \pm 1.9 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
 $\Gamma_z = 29 \pm 4 \text{ MeV}$
 Fit Fraction $12 \pm 3.7\%$

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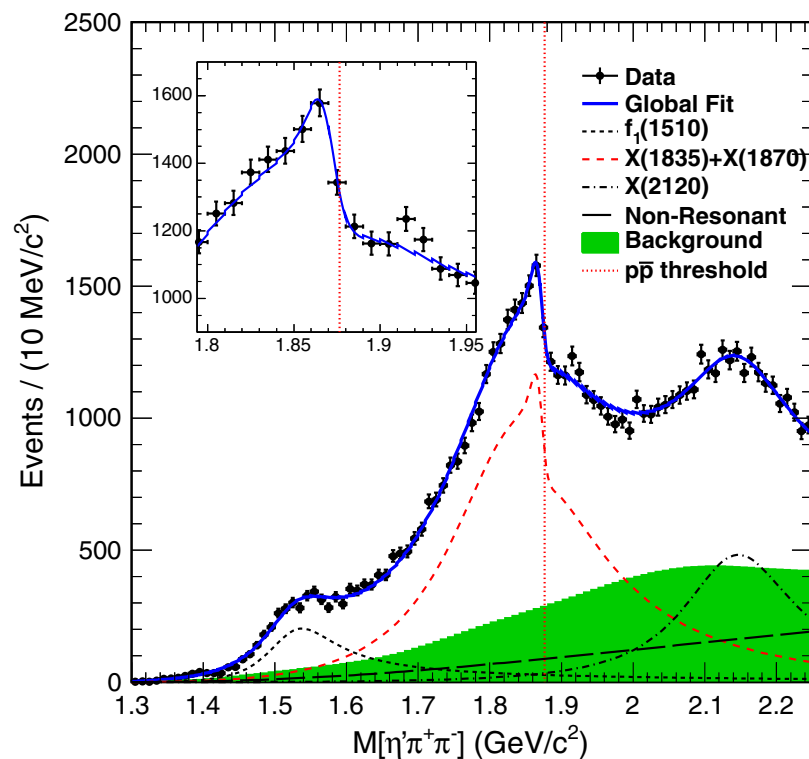
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(4) The **Z** Question

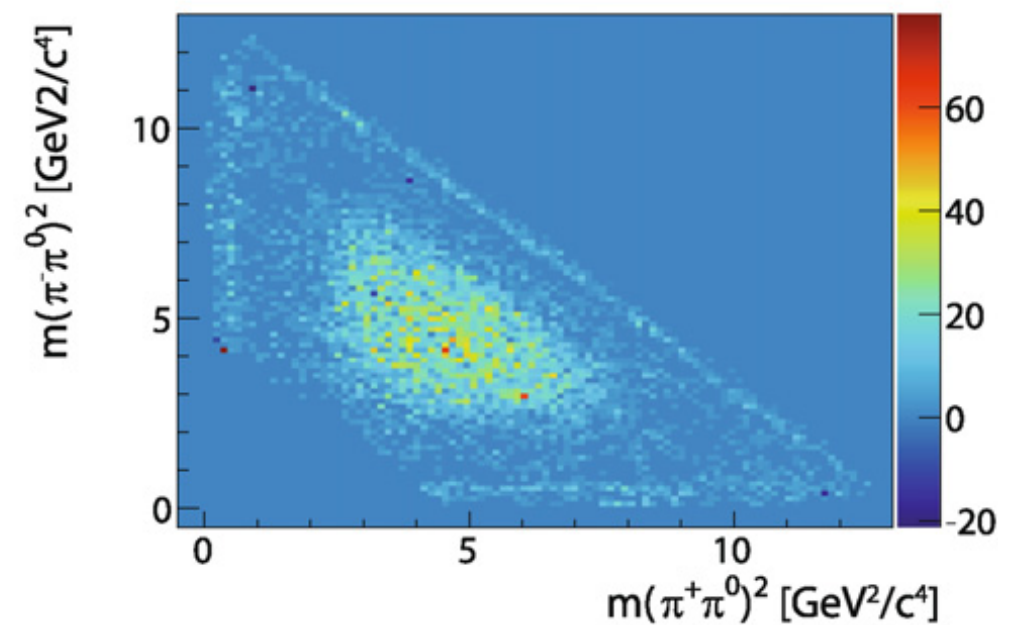
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Mysteries in the Meson System at BESIII

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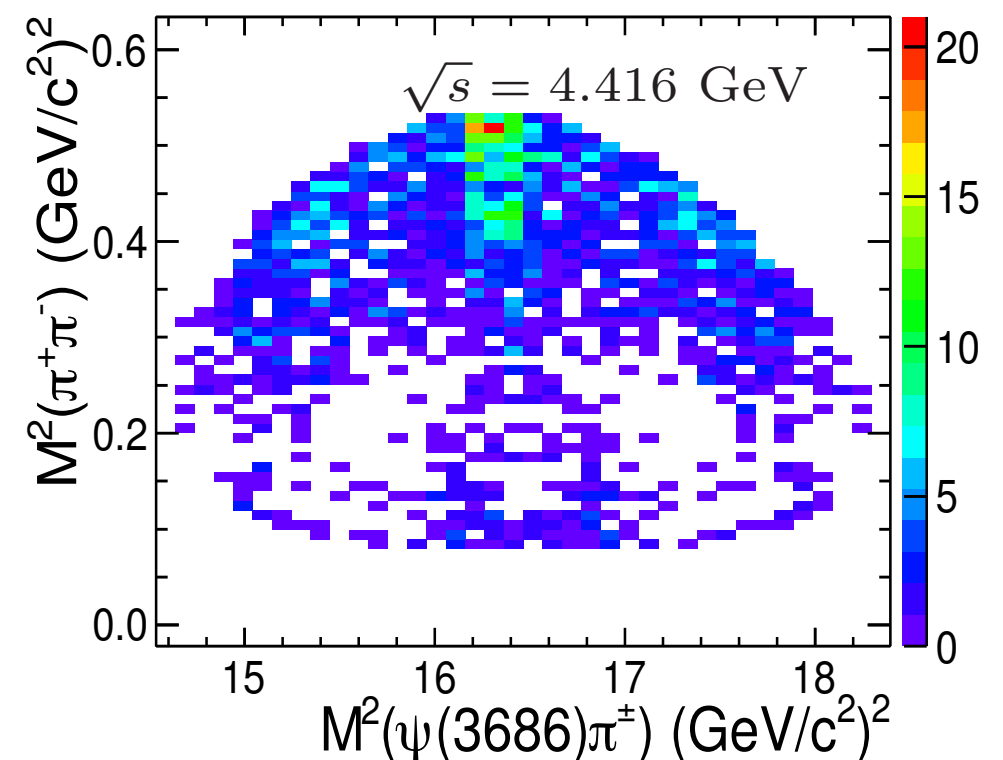
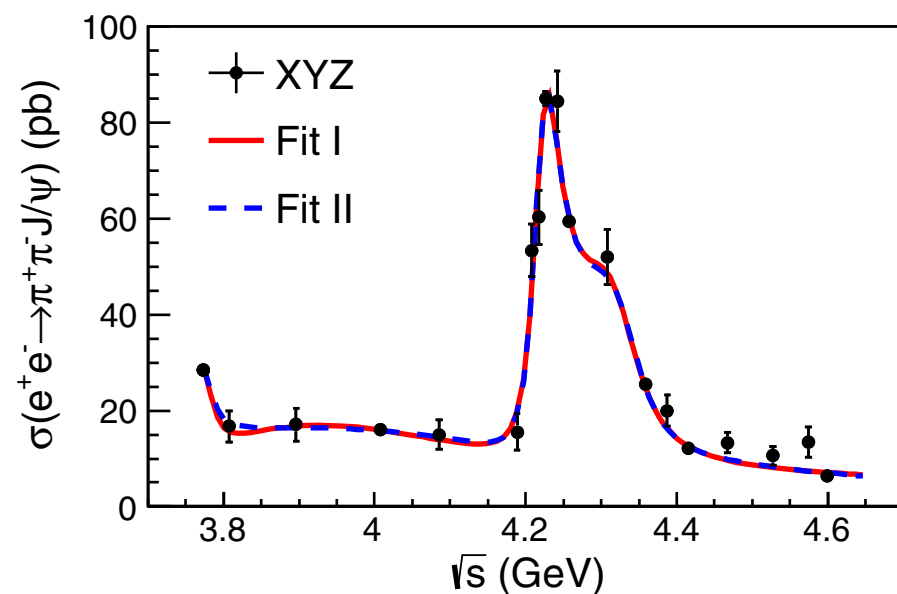


(2) The $\rho\pi$ Question



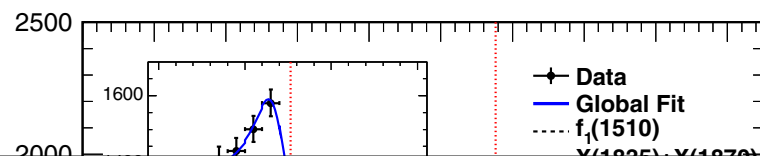
(4) The Z Question

(3) The Y Question



Mysteries in the Meson System at BESIII

(1) The proton antiproton Question



(2) The $\rho\pi$ Question



Conclusions:

- \Rightarrow There is much still to learn about mesons (and more) at BESIII.
- \Rightarrow We are in an era where experiment-theory collaboration has become crucial.
- \Rightarrow We will soon have 10 billion J/ψ decays and more data in the XYZ region...

We look forward to new discoveries!

