INFN Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare Sezione di Ferrara

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Measurement of R(D*) with hadronic tau decays

Benedetto Gianluca Siddi

On behalf of the LHCb Collaboration

Università degli studi di Ferrara
INFN - Sezione Ferrara
CERN

Mini-workshop on D(*) tau nu and related topics
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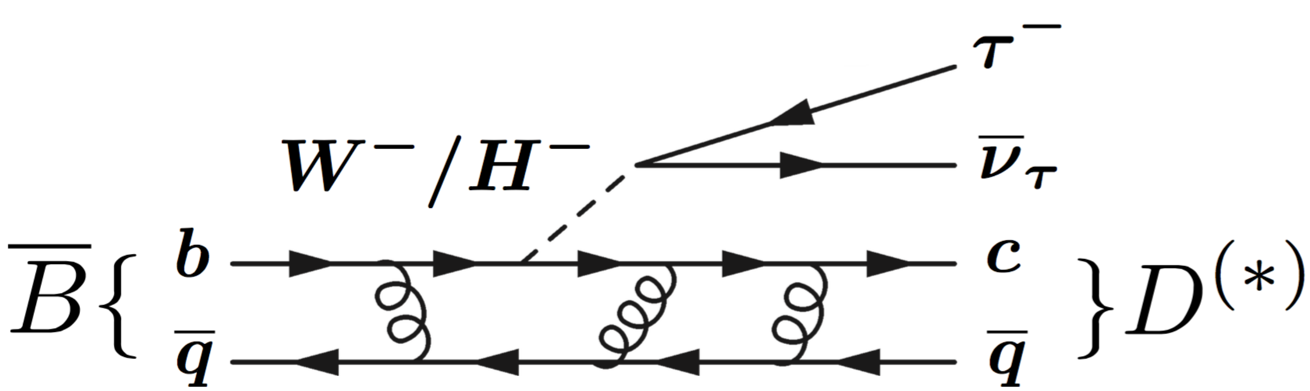
B hadron semileptonic decays in tau lepton final states

Lepton universality, described in the Standard Model, predicts equal coupling between gauge bosons and the three lepton families.

SM extensions bring in additional interactions, implying in some cases a stronger coupling with the third generation of leptons.

Semileptonic decays of b hadrons provide a *sensitive probe to such New Physics effects*.

Presence of additional charged Higgs bosons, required by such SM extensions, can have significant effect on the semi-tauonic decay rate for example in $\bar{B}^0 \to D^{*+}\tau^-\bar{\nu}_\tau$



$$R(D^*) = \frac{\mathcal{B}(\bar{B}^0 \to D^{*+}\tau^-\bar{\nu}_\tau)}{\mathcal{B}(\bar{B}^0 \to D^{*+}\mu^-\bar{\nu}_\tau)} \qquad R(D) = \frac{\mathcal{B}(\bar{B}^0 \to D^{+}\tau^-\bar{\nu}_\tau)}{\mathcal{B}(\bar{B}^0 \to D^{+}\mu^-\bar{\nu}_\tau)}$$

B hadron semileptonic decays in tau leptons final states

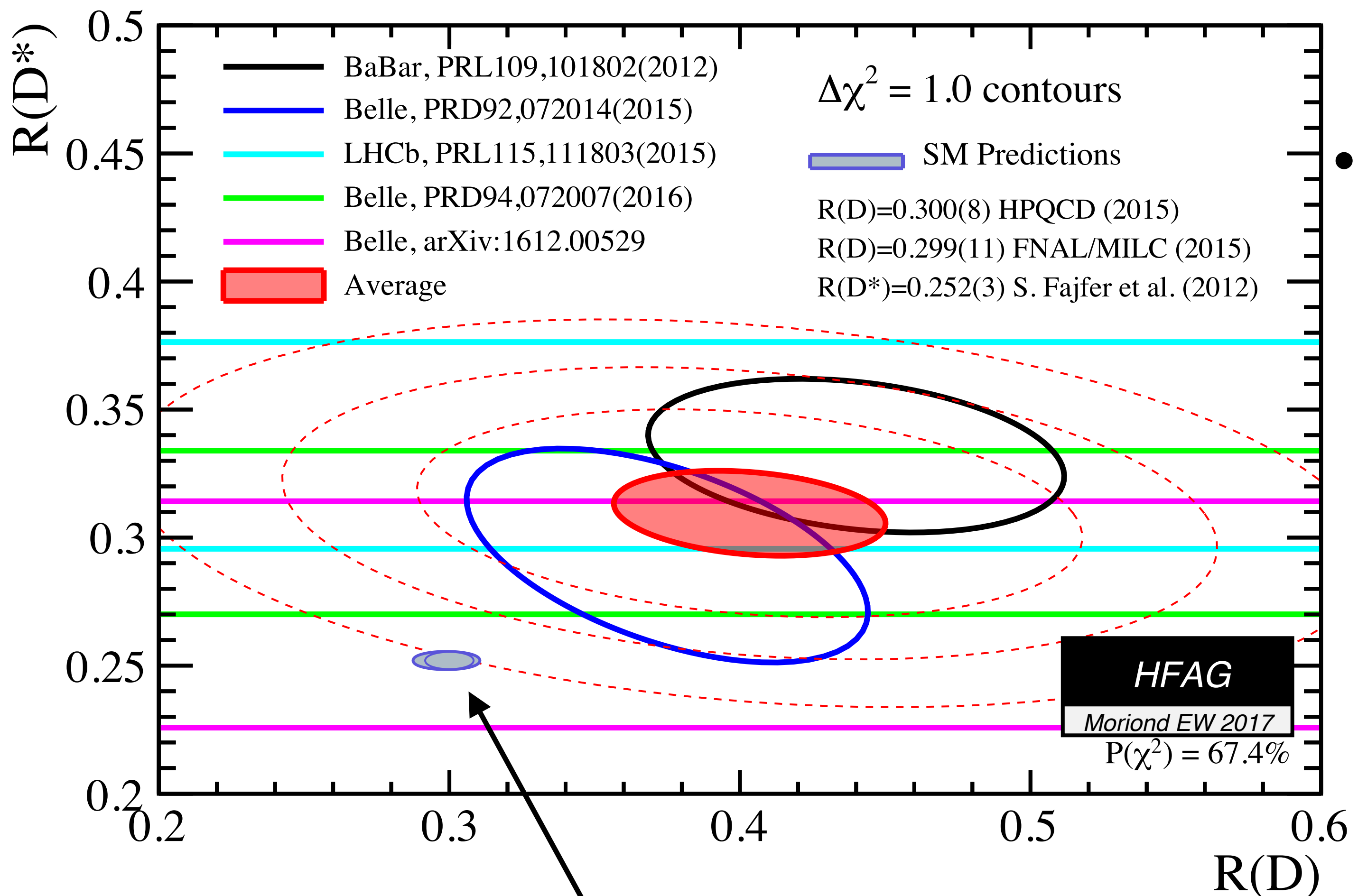
- These decays are successfully studied in B factories with high purity and high statistics $D^{(*)}\tau\nu$ samples
- Despite the hadronic environment LHCb is also able to study such kind of decays and extend to other b hadrons thanks to the high boost of the b hadrons and excellent vertexing

Analysis Challenges

- Finding kinematic variables that distinguish signal from background
- Suppressing background with additional charged/neutral particles
- Normalization channel

- These challenges have different levels of importance and difficulty, and different solutions between analyses
  - Especially between analyses of muonic and hadronic τ decays

B hadron semileptonic decays in tau leptons final states



SM precision = 1.19%

- Previous measurements of the combination of R(D) and R(D*) performed by Belle, BaBar and LHCb are in tensions with the Standard Model expectation (~4$\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ standard deviations)

- The $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ has been reconstructed in the muonic mode $\boldsymbol{\tau \to \mu\nu\nu}$
- The normalization channel $\mathbf{B^0 \to D^* \tau\nu}$ share the same visible final state

Tau leptons with hadronic final state

- Semileptonic decay without charged leptons in the final state
- In our analysis the τ is reconstructed in the hadronic $\tau\rightarrow\pi\pi\pi\nu$ decay mode
- The normalization channel used is $B^0\rightarrow D^*\pi\pi\pi$ decay

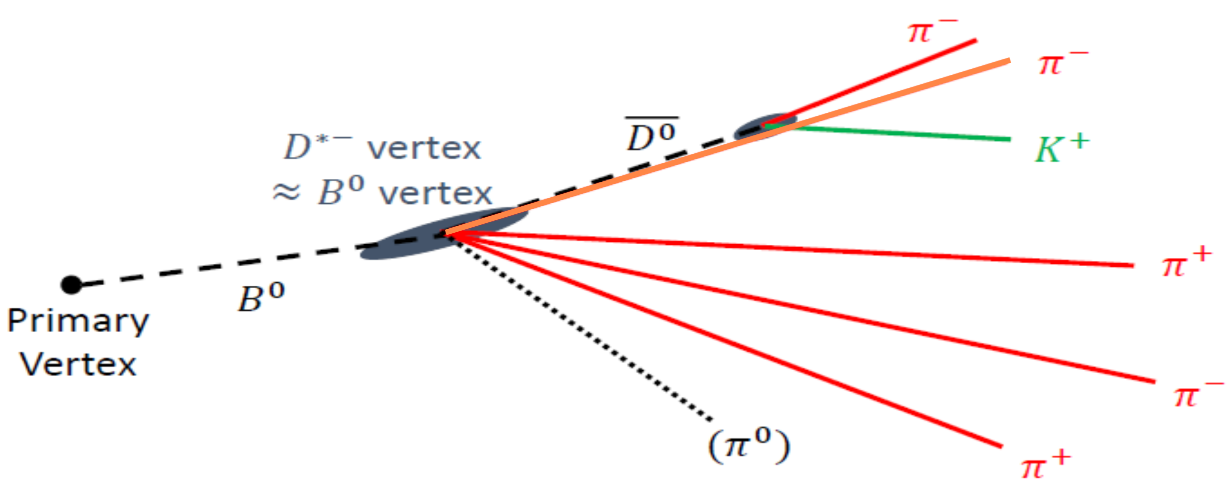
$$R_{had}(D^*) = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \to D^*\tau\nu)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \to D^*\pi\pi\pi)} \longrightarrow R(D^*) = R_{had} \times \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \to D^*3\pi)}{\mathcal{B}(B \to D^*\mu\nu)}$$

Same final state

Most of the systematics uncertainties cancel

We will take the last two as external input

Vertex Inversion method

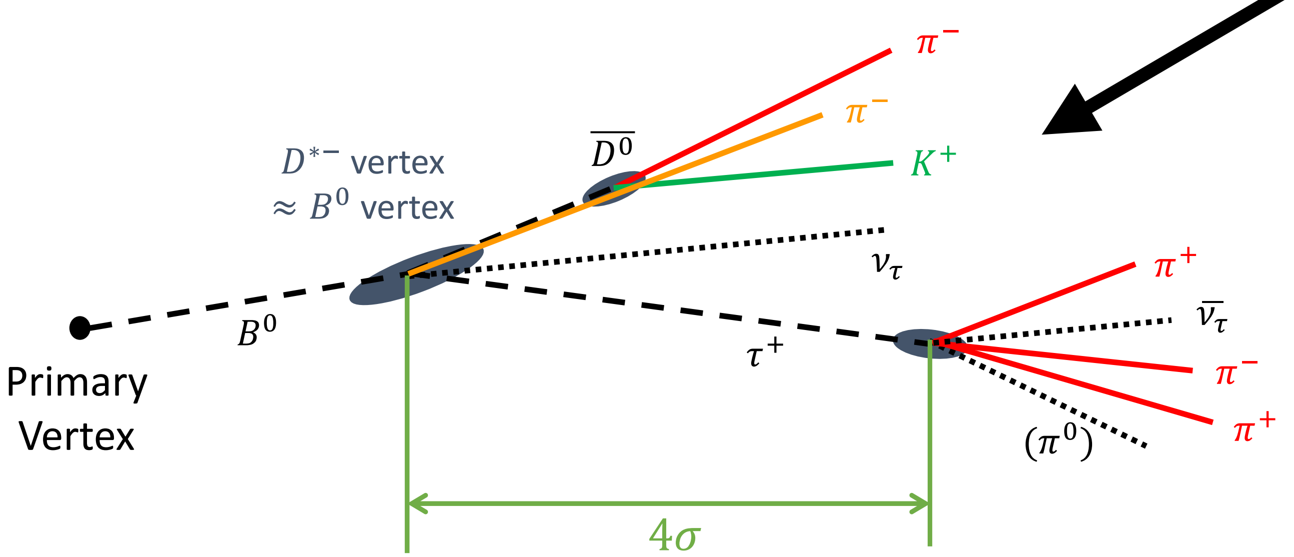


The most abundant **background** source due to hadronic B decays into $D^*3\pi X$.

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \to D^* 3\pi + N)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \to D^* \tau \nu)_{SM}} \sim 100$$

Good precision in **τ decay vertex** reconstruction

Inversion cut → τ vertex is downstream with respect to the B^0 vertex with a significance of at least at 4σ.



Background coming from $B \to D^*3\pi X$ is suppressed by 3 orders of magnitude

Double charm background

- The remaining background consists of B^0 decays where the 3π vertex is transported away from the D^0 vertex by a charm carrier (D^0, D^+, D_s)

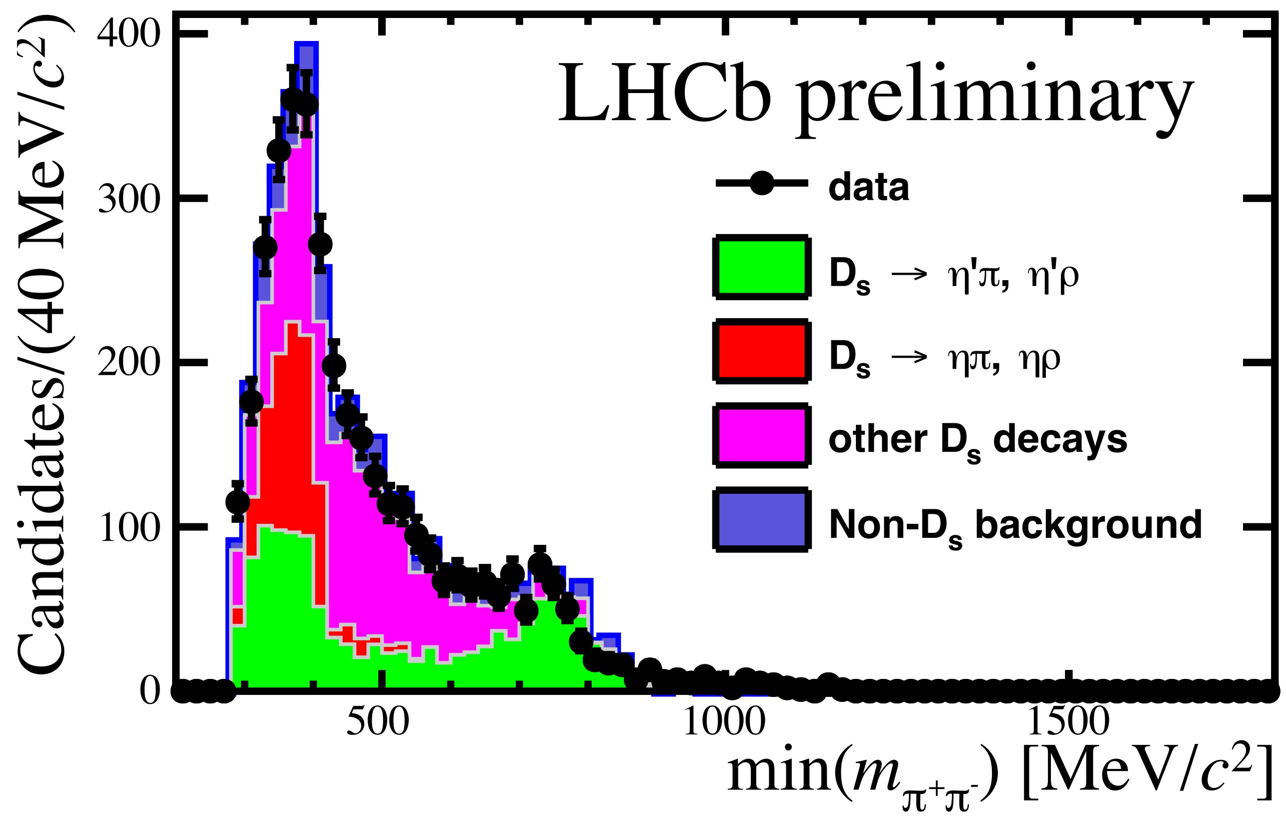
$$\frac{BR(B^0 \to D^* D_{(s)}^{(*)}; D_{(s)}^{(*)} \to 3\pi + X)}{BR(B^0 \to D^* \tau \nu)_{SM}} \sim 10$$

- LHCb has three very good tools to limit this background:
  - 3π dynamics
  - Isolation criteria against charged tracks and neutral energy deposits
  - Partial reconstruction in the signal and background hypotheses
- A Boosted Decision Tree is trained using variables computed with partial reconstruction and isolation criteria to discriminate double charm decays from signal

Double charm background

- The D_s decay model has been determined directly from data, using a enriched sample obtained using a BDT output region that is enriched in such decays (high purity)
- The min $M(2\pi)$, max $M(2\pi)$, $M(\pi^+\pi^+)$ and $M(3\pi)$ mass are fitted simultaneously

- PDF contains:
  - D_s decays where at least 1 pion is from η or η’: $\eta\pi$, $\eta\rho$, $\eta'\pi$, $\eta'\rho$
  - D_s decays where at least 1 pion is from an IS other η, η’: $IS\pi$, $IS\rho$ (IS could be ω, ϕ)
  - D_s decays where none of the 3 pions comes from an IS, subdivided in: $K^0 3\pi$, $\eta 3\pi$, $\eta' 3\pi$, $\omega 3\pi$, $\phi 3\pi$, 3π non resonant final state.



- The weights obtained by this fit are then used to construct the D_s templates

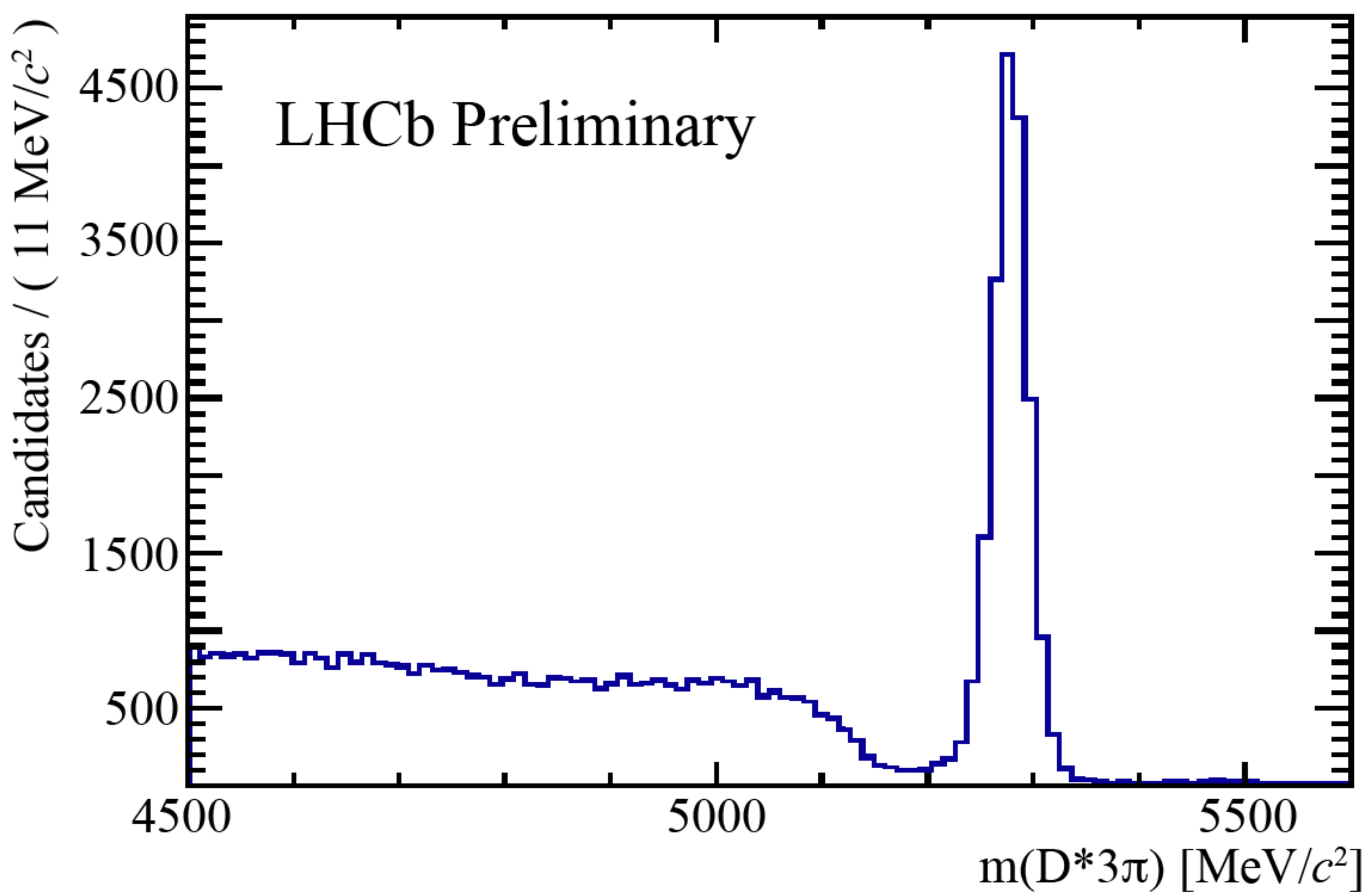
Normalization channel

- The normalization channel has to be as similar as possible to the signal channel to cancel all systematics linked to trigger, particle ID, selection cuts

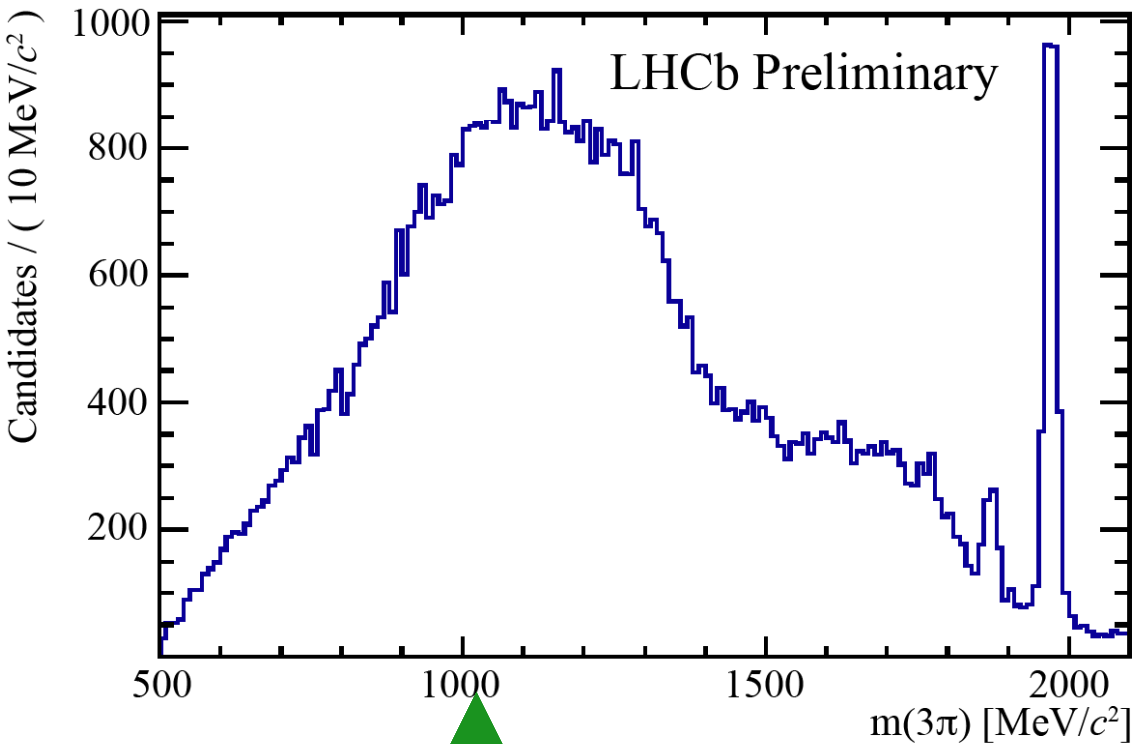
- What we are going to measure is:

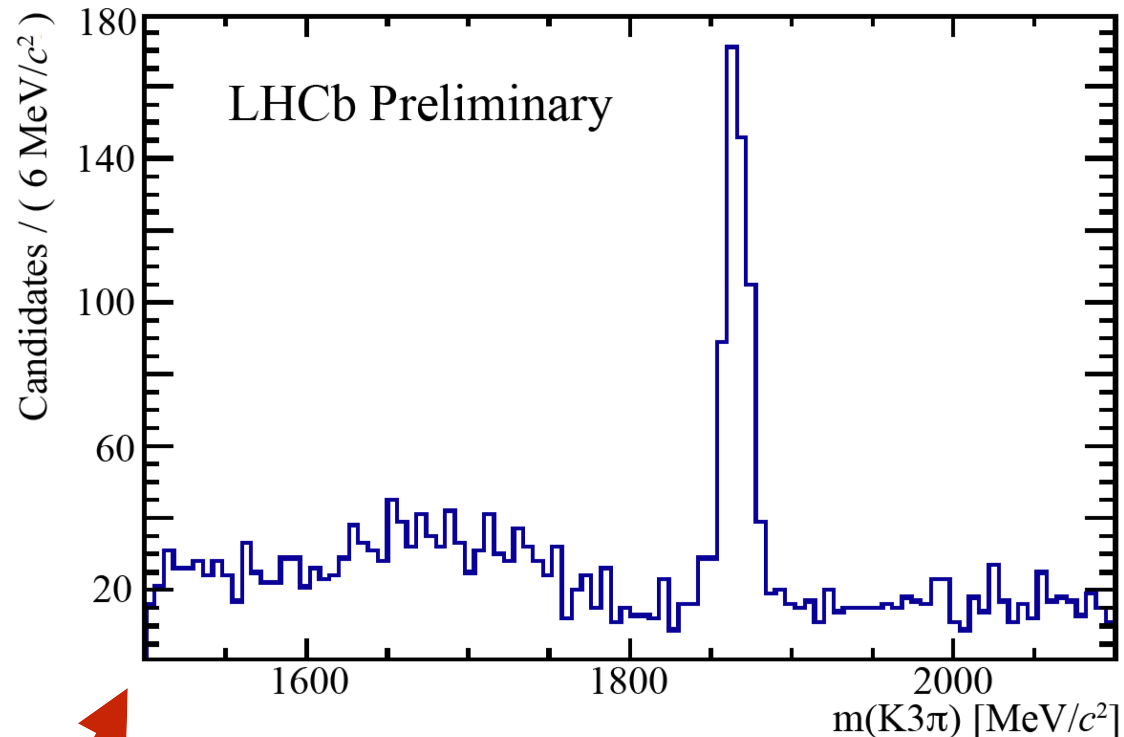
$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \to D^*\tau\nu)}{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \to D^*\pi\pi\pi)}$$

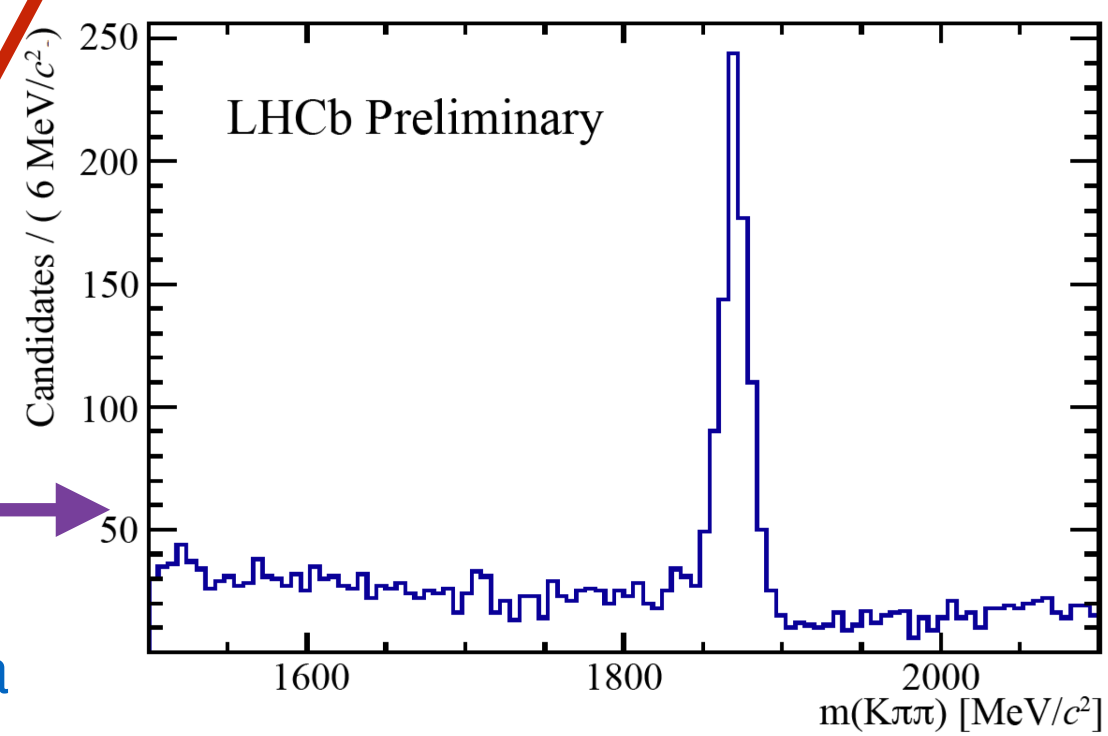
- They differ by: softer pions and D^* due to the presence of two neutrinos, kinematics of the 3π system is not exactly the same:
  - This gives a small residual effect on the efficiency ratio.



Control channels D_s, D^0 and D^+







- 3π invariant mass, at early stage of the data selection
- $D^0 \rightarrow K3\pi$ peak: anti-isolation cut
- $D^+ \rightarrow K\pi\pi$ peak: anti-PID cut
- "Standard candles" used to check Data and MC agreement

Signal extraction

Signal Reconstruction:

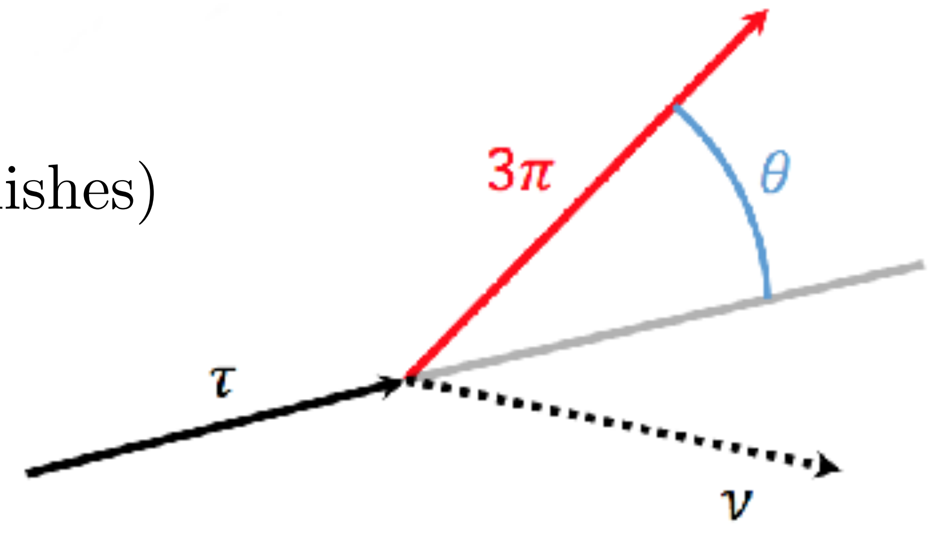
- Assume 2 neutrinos in the event; can be used to access the full kinematics and can reject background where no neutrinos are emitted from B vertex
  - Reconstruction of the τ and B^0 momentum and τ decay time constraining their masses
  - Reconstruction of the W^* mass and a cut $M_{W^*} > 0$ is applied
  - A reconstruction efficiency of about 95% is reached

This method consists of solving the the following equation:

$$|\vec{p}_\tau| = \frac{(m_{3\pi}^2 + m_\tau^2)|\vec{p}_{3\pi}|cos\theta \pm E_{3\pi}\sqrt{(m_\tau^2 - m_{3\pi}^2)^2 - 4m_\tau^2|\vec{p}_{3\pi}|^2 sin^2\theta}}{2(E_{3\pi}^2 - |\vec{p}_{3\pi}|^2 cos^2\theta)}$$

where θ is the angle between τ and 3π direction

(θ has been chosen such that the square root vanishes)



Fit Model

- An extended maximum likelihood 3-dimensional fit using templates in:
  - q^2 (the squared momentum transferred to the tau-nu system),
  - 3π decay time,
  - The output of the BDT extracted from simulated and Data-Driven control samples

- The Fit Model consists of 5 categories:
  - Signal described by the sum of $\tau\to\pi\pi\pi\nu$ and $\tau\to\pi\pi\pi\pi^0\nu$
  - $B^0\to D^{**}\tau\nu$
  - Double Charm components
  - $B^0\to D^{*}3\pi X$
  - Combinatorial background

Main systematics

- MC statistics: difficult to produce very large samples (same issue for muonic analysis)
- External BR 4.3%, reduced (before 11%) thanks to last BaBar measurement (Phys. Rev. D 94, 091101 (2016))
- $B \rightarrow D^{*}$ (D_s, D^0, D^+)X and $B^0 \rightarrow D^{*}3\pi X$ backgrounds

The total is above the statistical precision

Improvements with more data, more MC.

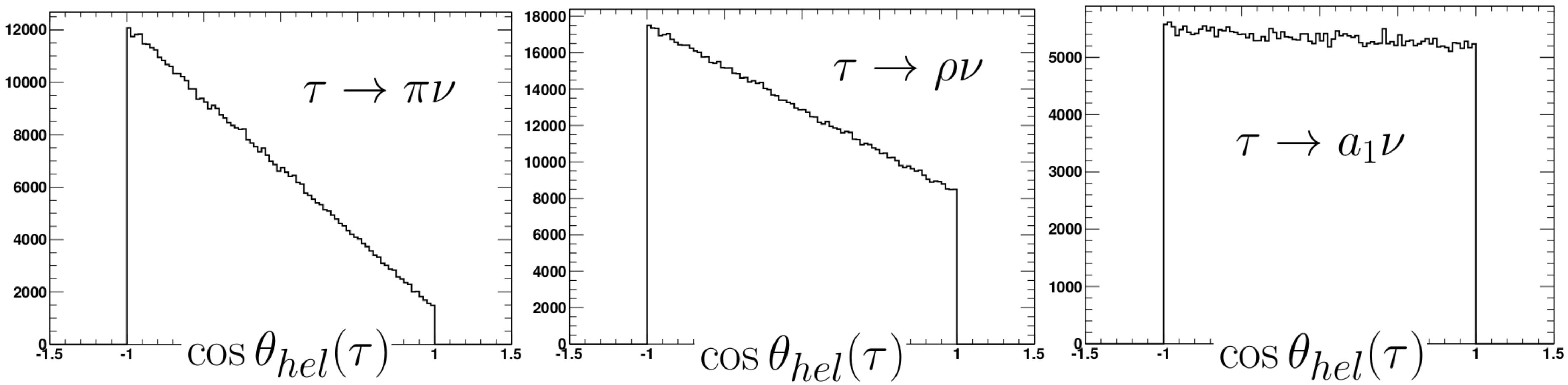
Uncertainties due to the knowledge of external BRs can be reduced with the help of other experiments

τ polarization study

Belle:(arXiv:1612.00529)
from Karol ADAMCZYK talk at CKM 2016

- D$*$ and τ polarizations in semitauonic B decays are sensitive probes of various NP scenarios
- $\cos\theta_{hel}$ (τ) can be measured if there is a single ν in τ decay $\tau \rightarrow h\nu_\tau$, h = π, ρ, a1

Spin analysers: $$\frac{d\Gamma}{dcos(\theta_{hel}(\tau))} = \frac{1}{2}(1+\alpha P_\tau cos(\theta_{hel}(\tau)))$$ With $$P_\tau = \frac{2}{\alpha}\frac{\Gamma_{cos\theta_{hel}>0}-\Gamma_{cos\theta_{hel}<0}}{\Gamma_{cos\theta_{hel}>0}+\Gamma_{cos\theta_{hel}<0}}$$



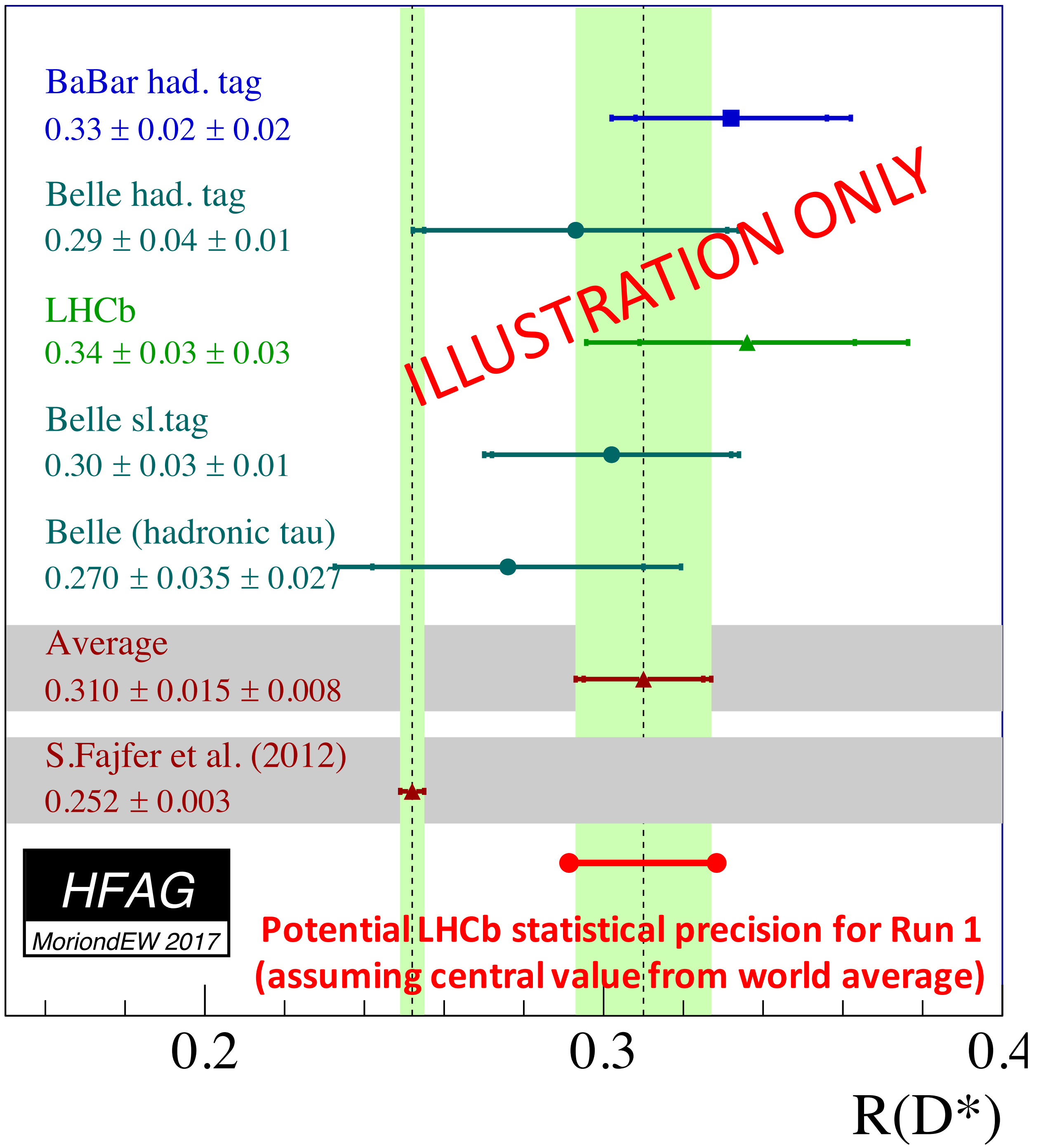
$\alpha = 1$ for $\tau \rightarrow \pi\nu$

$\alpha = \frac{m_\tau^2 - 2m_V^2}{m_\tau^2 + 2m_V^2}$, $\alpha = 0.45$ for $\tau \rightarrow \rho\nu$

- In the case of hadronic R(D*)
  - Pros: The systematics due to the knowledge of τ polarization is small ($\alpha \approx 0.02$)
  - Cons: Difficult to perform polarization studies

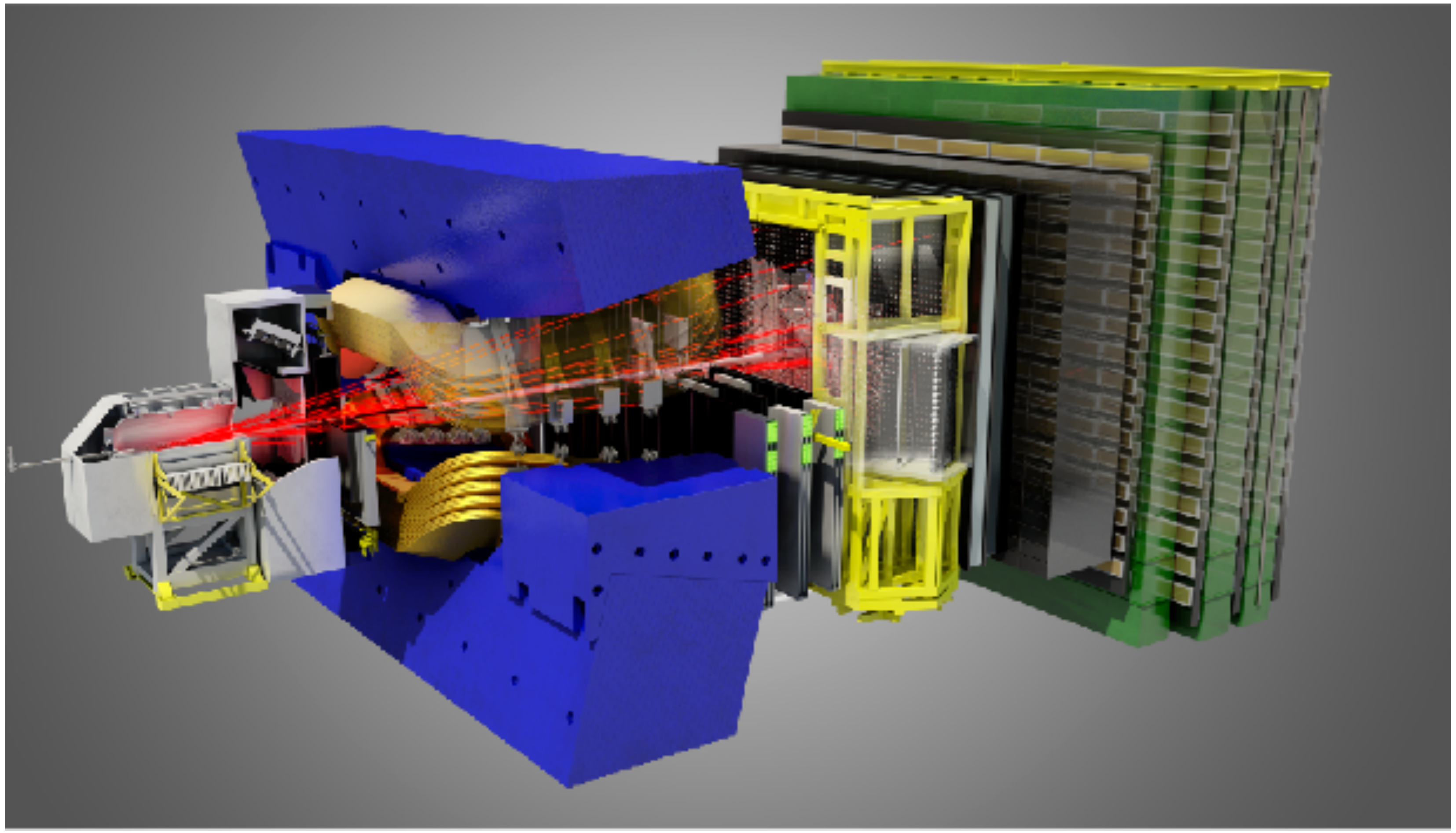
Conclusions

- Semitauonic B decays are great tool to discover new physics
- Several measurements of R are ongoing, e.g. $R(D^*)$, $R(D)$, $R(J/\psi)$, $R(\Lambda_c)$ and more modes are possible to do
- Thanks to the LHCb capability, it is possible to reconstruct hadronic tau decays with good precision.
- ☑ Statistical precision in Signal extraction for hadronic $R(D^*)$ about 7% for Run1 data → competitive with the muonic LHCb measurement (PRL 115, 111803) and with the world average (arXiv:1612.07233)
- It will be possible to study not only R but also angles, polarizations, form factors, and other physical quantities



Backup

The LHCb Detector



- **Single arm spectrometer** at LHC in the pseudorapidity range $2<\eta<5$;
- Optimized to study hadron decays containing **b** and **c** quarks:
  - CP violation, rare decays, heavy flavor production;
- **Excellent vertex resolution** and separation of B vertices;
- Good **momentum and mass resolution**;
- Excellent **PID** capabilities (good separation **K-π** and muon identification);

- Run 1: collected about 1 fb^{-1} @ $\sqrt{s}$ = 7 TeV in 2011 and about 2 fb^{-1} @ $\sqrt{s}$ = 8 TeV in 2012
- Run 2: collected about 2.0 fb^{-1} @ $\sqrt{s}$ = 13 TeV