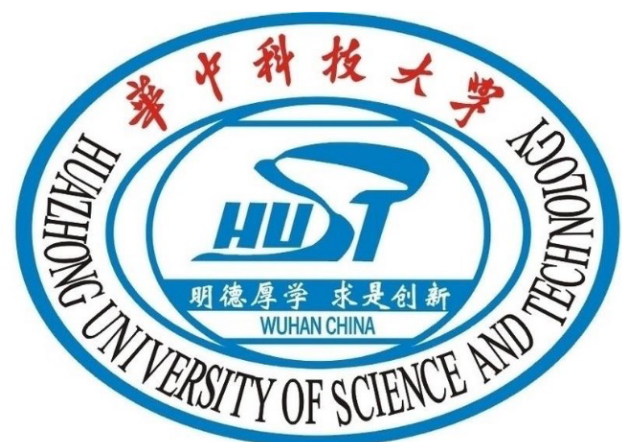


# Progress on inclusive charm decays

**Qin Qin**

**Huazhong University of Science and Technology**

2502.05901, collaborating with K.K.Shao, C.Huang



**第七届重味物理与量子色动力学研讨会**  
**南京师范大学，2025年04月18-22日**



## Semi-inclusive charm decays

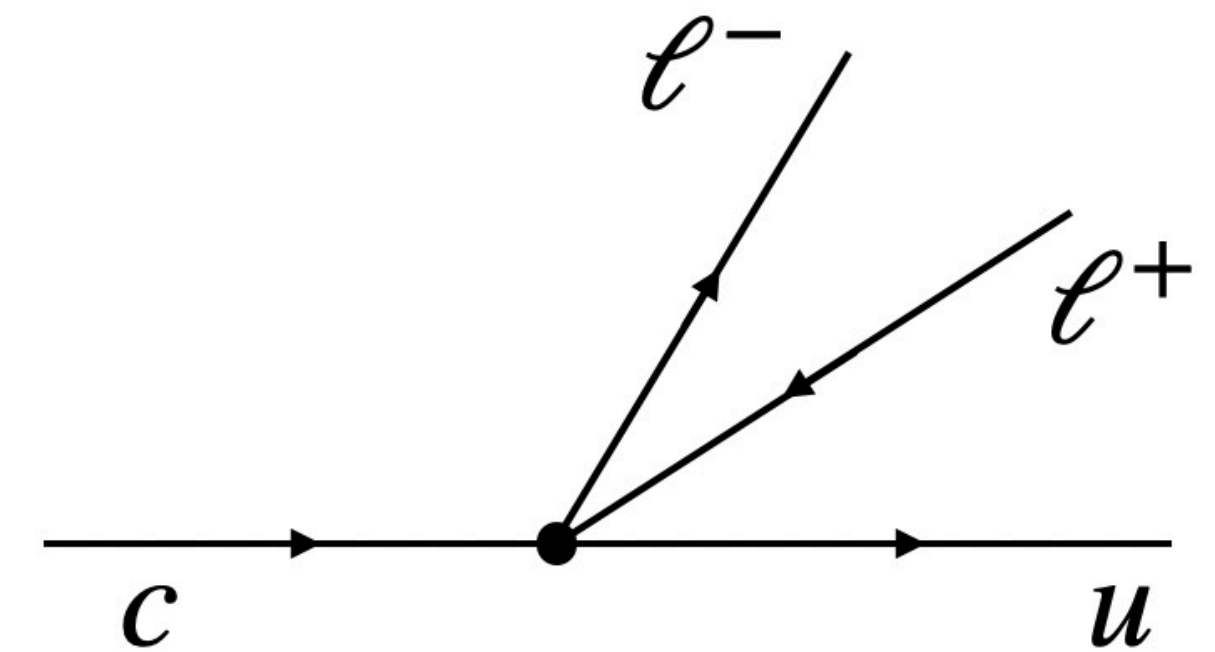
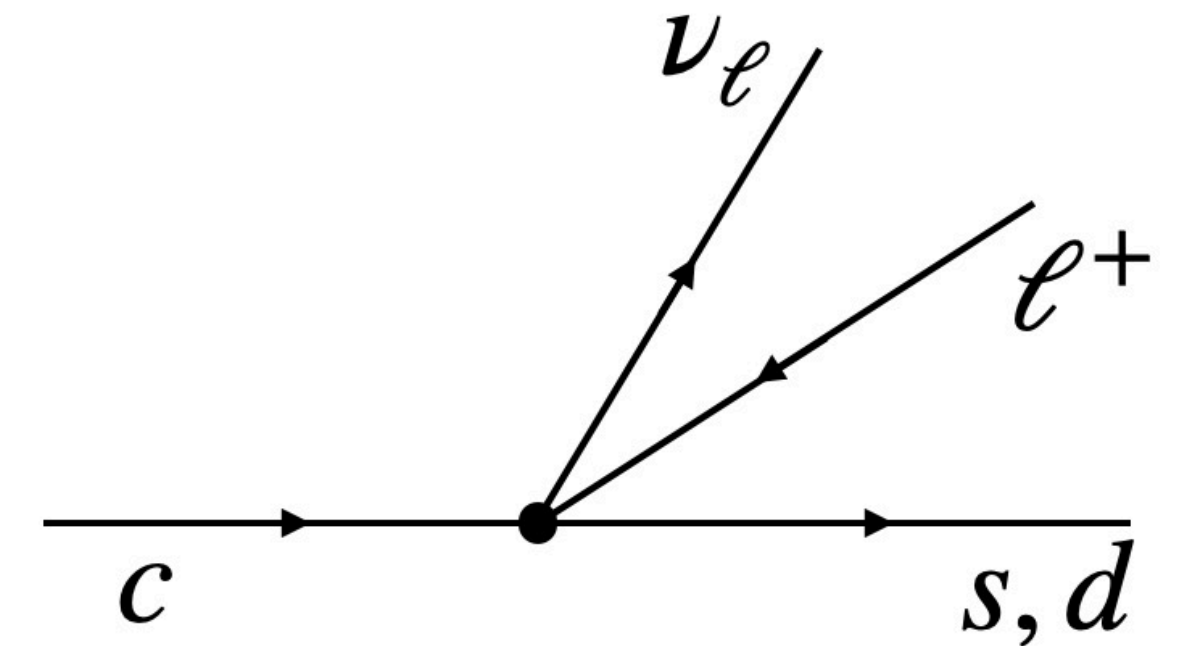
❖ Experimental detection of partial final state particles

➔  $D \rightarrow e^+ X$  ( $D \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e X$ , only  $e^+$  is detected)

❖ Sum of a group of exclusive channels

➔  $D^0 \rightarrow e^+ X_s = D \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e K^-, e^+ \nu_e K^- \pi^0, e^+ \nu_e \bar{K}^0 \pi^-, \dots$

➔  $D^0 \rightarrow e^+ X_d = D \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \pi^-, e^+ \nu_e \pi^- \pi^0, e^+ \nu_e \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^-, \dots$



# Why inclusive charm decays?

## ❖ As weak decays of heavy hadrons

- ➔ Probe new physics
- ➔ Understand QCD

## ❖ Compared to exclusive decays

- ➔ Better theoretical control

More important with stronger experiment (BESIII, STCF)

## ❖ Compared to beauty decays

- ➔ Special to new dynamics attached with up-type quarks
- ➔ More sensitive to power corrections

Determination by charm, application in beauty

## Why inclusive charm decays?

### ❖ Resolve (or at least give hints to) current flavor puzzles/anomalies

➔ Puzzles in **charmed hadron lifetimes**: theory vs experiment

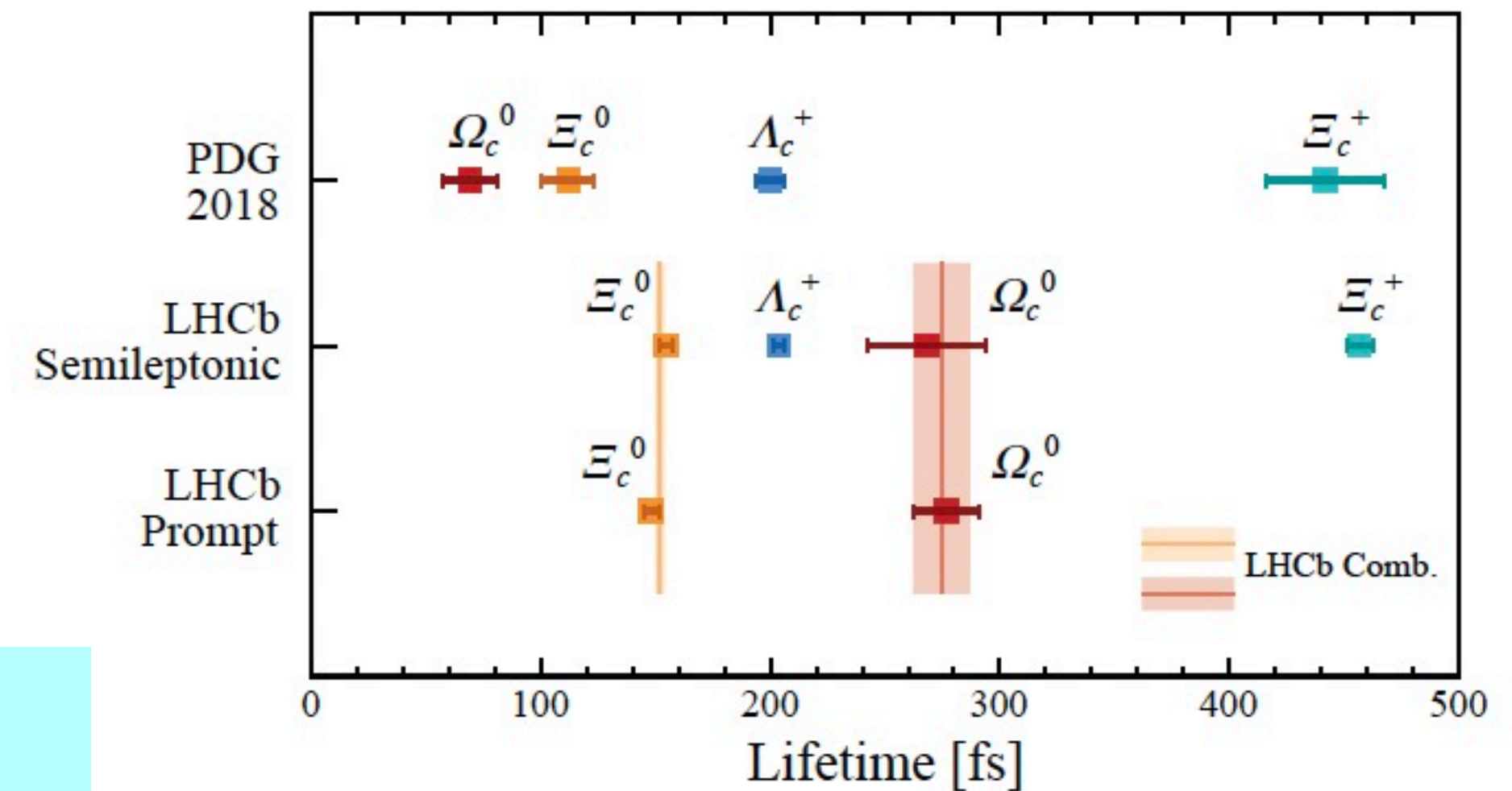
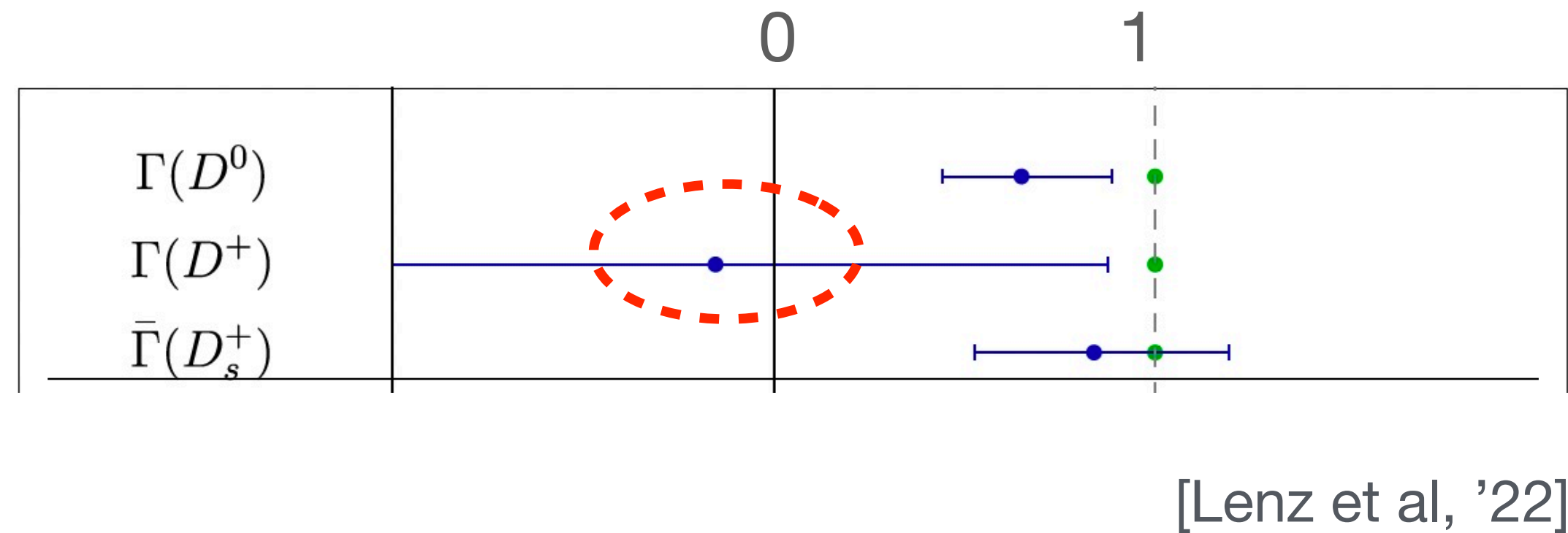
➔  $V_{cb}$ ,  $V_{ub}$  **puzzles**: inclusive vs exclusive

➔  $b \rightarrow s$  **anomalies**:  $P'_5$  in  $B \rightarrow K^* \ell \ell$



# Why inclusive charm decays?

## ❖ Flavor puzzle 1. Charmed hadron lifetimes: theory vs experiment



❖ **Key issue:** Nonperturbative power corrections with large/unknown uncertainties

❖ **Solution:** Extraction in the inclusive decay spectrum

➡ Spectrum and lifetime share **identical** HQE parameters

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}(1/m_c^3) &\Rightarrow \tau(\Xi_c^+) > \tau(\Lambda_c^+) > \tau(\Xi_c^0) > \tau(\Omega_c^0), \\ \mathcal{O}(1/m_c^4) &\Rightarrow \tau(\Omega_c^0) > \tau(\Xi_c^+) > \tau(\Lambda_c^+) > \tau(\Xi_c^0), \\ \mathcal{O}(1/m_c^4) \text{ with } \alpha &\Rightarrow \tau(\Xi_c^+) > \tau(\Omega_c^0) > \tau(\Lambda_c^+) > \tau(\Xi_c^0). \end{aligned}$$

[Cheng, '21]

Again a more precise experimental determination of  $\mu_\pi^2$  from fits to semileptonic  $D^+$ ,  $D^0$  and  $D_s^+$  meson decays – as it was done for the  $B^+$  and  $B^0$  decays – would be very desirable.

[Lenz et al, '22]

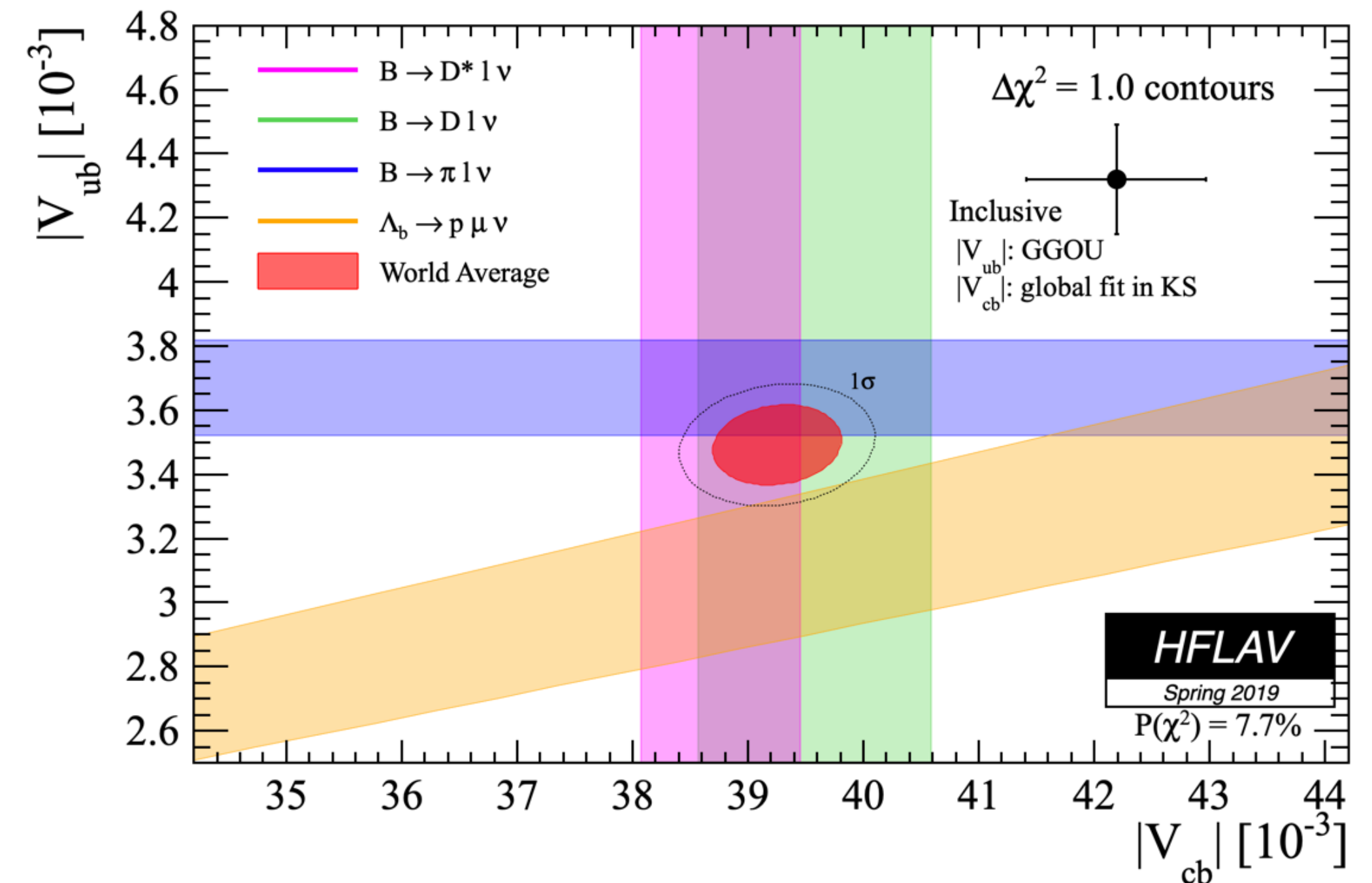
# Why inclusive charm decays?

❖ **Flavor puzzle 2.**  $V_{cb}$ ,  $V_{ub}$ : inclusive vs exclusive

◆ **Key issue:** Systematic uncertainties from theoretical inclusive and exclusive frameworks?

◆ **Solution:** Test  $V_{cd}$ ,  $V_{cs}$ : inclusive vs exclusive

➡ **Await the first inclusive values**



# Why inclusive charm decays?

## ❖ Flavor puzzle 3. $b \rightarrow s$ anomalies: $P'_5$ in $B \rightarrow K^* \ell \ell$

◆ **Key issue:** First-principle calculation of long-distance penguin in this channel is still missing

➔ Only achieved in  $B \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$

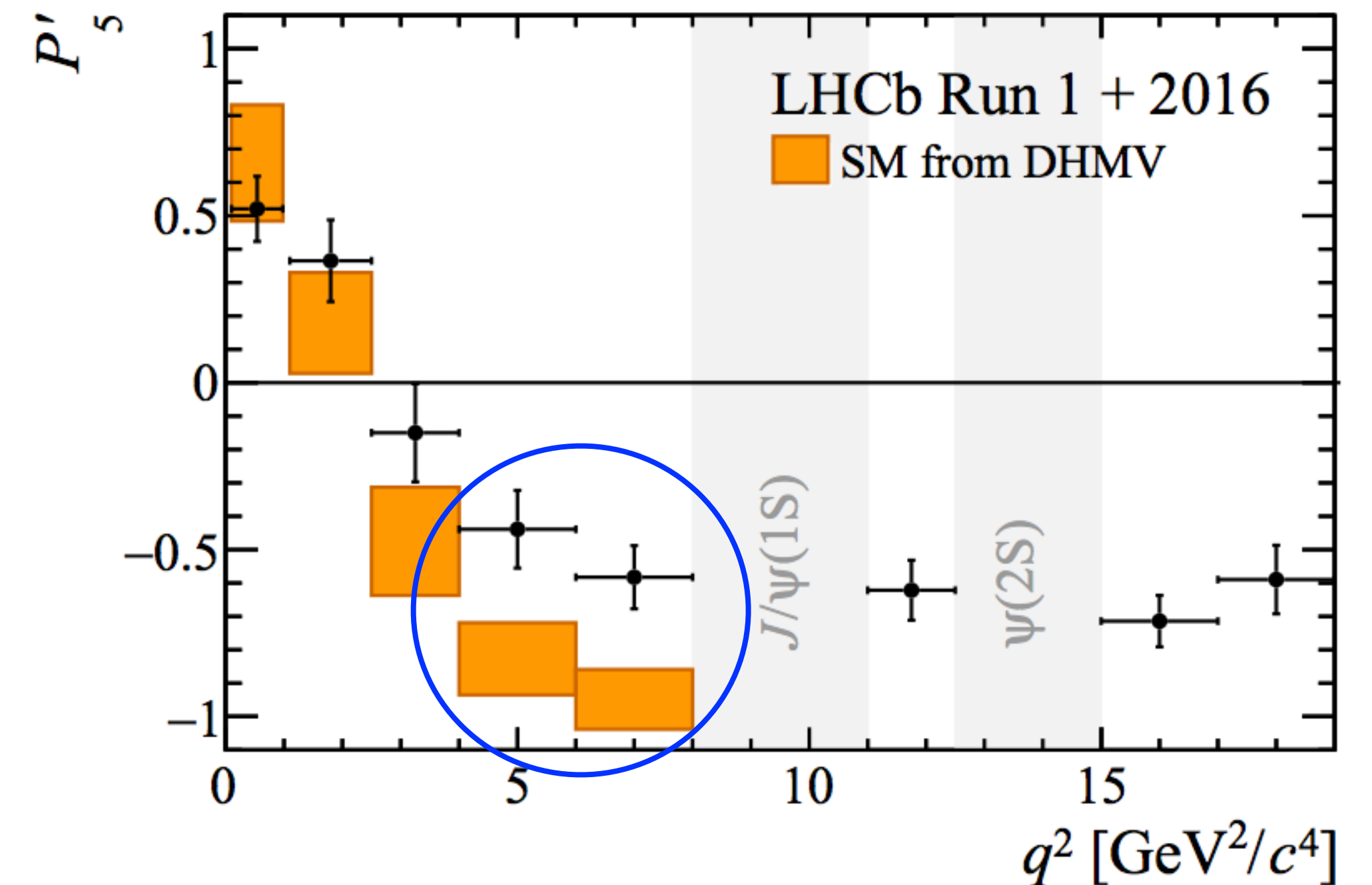
[QQ, Shen, Wang, Wang, PRL, '23]

◆ **Solution:** Test FCNC inclusive decays

➔ Inclusive  $B \rightarrow X_{d,s} \ell \ell$

[Huber, Hurth, Jenkins, Lunghi, QQ, Vos, JHEP, '19, '20, '24]

➔ Inclusive  $D \rightarrow X_u \ell \ell$





# Theoretical framework

## ❖ Optical theorem

$$\sum \langle D | H | X \rangle \langle X | H | D \rangle \propto \text{Im} \int d^4x \langle D | T\{H(x)H(0)\} | D \rangle$$

## ❖ Operator product expansion (OPE)

➔ Short distance  $x \sim 1/m_c$

➔ Dynamical fluctuation in D meson  $\sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$

$$T\{H(x)H(0)\} = \sum_n C_n(x) O_n(0) \rightarrow 1 + \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{m_c} + \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}{m_c^2} + \dots$$

Systematic OPE in HQET.



# Theoretical framework

- Heavy quark effective theory

$$h_v(x) \equiv e^{-im_c v \cdot x} \frac{1 + \gamma \cdot v}{2} c(x) \quad v = (1, 0, 0, 0)$$

Subtract the big intrinsic momentum,  
Leave only  $\sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$  degrees of freedom.

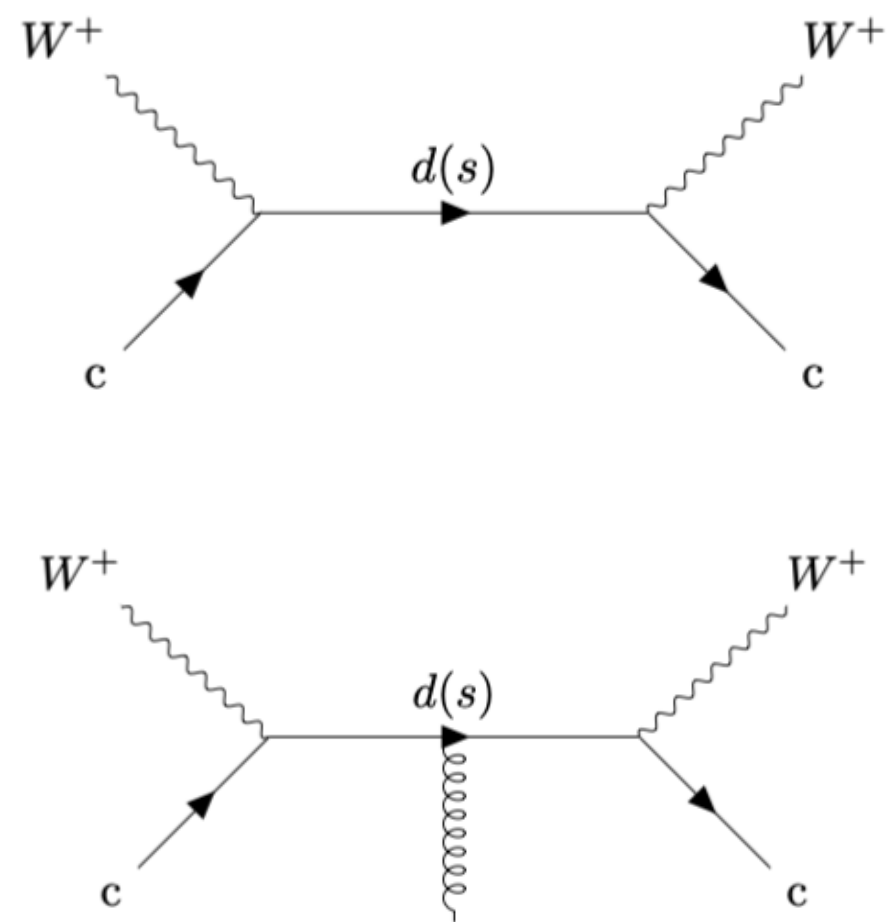
$$L \ni \bar{h}_v i v \cdot D h_v - \bar{h}_v \frac{D_\perp^2}{2m_c} h_v - a(\mu) g \bar{h}_v \frac{\sigma \cdot G}{4m_c} h_v + \dots$$

Similar to  $\frac{m}{\sqrt{1-v^2}} = m + \frac{1}{2} m v^2 + \dots$

# Theoretical framework

❖ **OPE and Perturbative QCD:** Systematical expansion of  $\alpha_s(m_c)$  and  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}/m_c$

$$\langle T\{H(x)H(0)\} \rangle = \sum_n C_n(x) \langle O_n(0) \rangle$$



★ LO:  $\alpha_s^0(m_c)$

★ NLO:  $\alpha_s(m_c)$

★ NNLO:  $\alpha_s^2(m_c)$

★ ...

★ Dim-3:  $\bar{h}_\nu h_\nu$  ( $\bar{c}\gamma^\mu c$ ) **partonic decay rate**

★ Dim-5:  $\bar{h}_\nu D_\perp^2 h_\nu$ ,  $g\bar{h}_\nu \sigma \cdot G h_\nu$ .

★ Dim-6:  $\bar{h}_\nu D_\mu (\nu \cdot D) D^\mu h_\nu$ ,  $(\bar{h}_\nu \Gamma_1 q)(\bar{q} \Gamma_2 h_\nu), \dots$

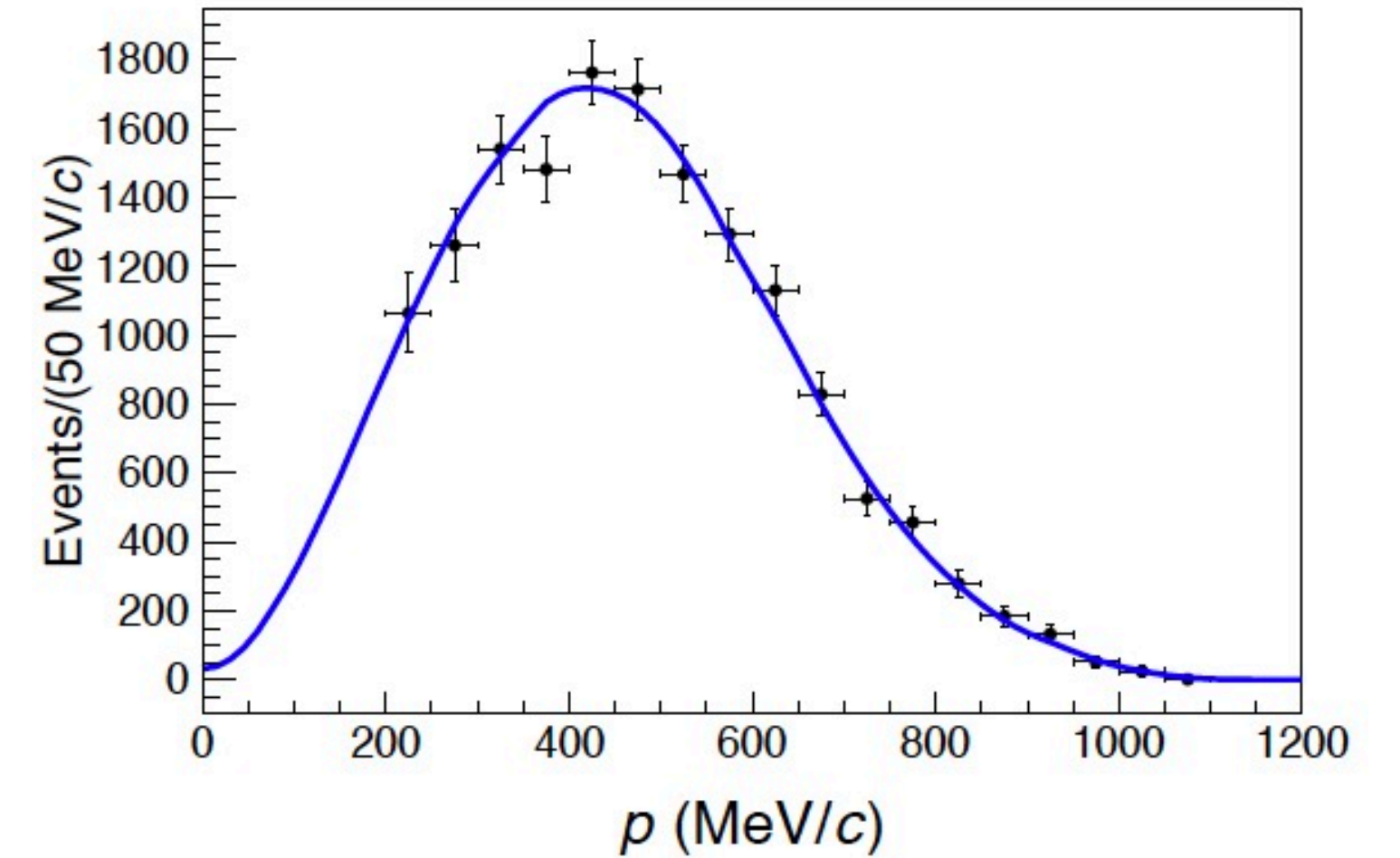
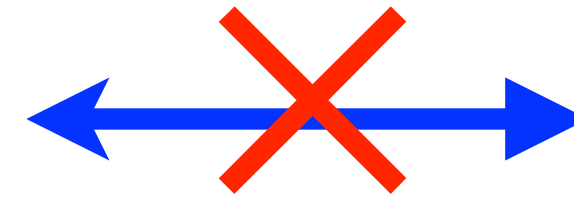
★ ...

**Question: convergent expansion of  $\alpha_s(m_c)$  and  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}/m_c$ ?**

# Theoretical results

## ❖ Electron energy spectrum ( $y \equiv 2E_e/m_c$ )

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma_0} \frac{d\Gamma}{dy} = 12(1-y)y^2\theta(1-y) + \frac{2\mu_\pi^2}{m_c^2} \left[ -10y^3\theta(1-y) + 2\delta(1-y) \right] - \frac{2\mu_G^2}{3m_c^2} \left[ 6y^2(6-5y)\theta(1-y) \right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s, \frac{\Lambda^3}{m_c^3})$$



## ❖ Up to finite power, the obtained spectrum is **NOT** the experimental spectrum

➔ Observables require integration over final states

➔  $\Gamma = \int \frac{d\Gamma}{dy} dy$ ,  $\langle E_\ell^n \rangle = \frac{1}{\Gamma} \int \frac{d\Gamma}{dy} E_\ell^n dy$  (n=1,2,3,4) are the **observables**

➔ Shape function — — infinite power summation?

[Neubert, '93]

# Theoretical results

❖ Analytical results for total decay rate and energy moments (NNLO &  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^3/m_c^3$ )

NNLO numerical results  
provided by Long Chen

[Chen,Chen,Guan,Ma,'23]

NLO analytical integration

$$\Gamma_{D_i} = \sum_{q=d,s} \hat{\Gamma}_0 |V_{cq}|^2 m_c^5 \left\{ 1 + \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{25}{4} - \pi^2 \right) + \frac{\alpha_s^2}{\pi^2} \left[ \frac{\beta_0}{4} \frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{25}{4} - \pi^2 \right) \log \left( \frac{\mu^2}{m_c^2} \right) + 2.14690n_l - 29.88311 \right] \right. \\ \left. - 8\rho\delta_{sq} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mu_\pi^2(D_i)}{m_c^2} - \frac{3}{2} \frac{\mu_G^2(D_i)}{m_c^2} + 6 \frac{\rho_D^3(D_i)}{m_c^3} + \dots \right\},$$

Dim-5,  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2/m_c^2$ 
Dim-6,  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^3/m_c^3$

# Mass scheme

❖ **Pole mass scheme** (suffering from renormalon)

$$\Gamma/\Gamma_{\text{LO}} = 1 - 0.77\alpha_s - 2.38\alpha_s^2 - 10.73\alpha_s^3 \approx 1 - 30\% - 36\% - 62\%$$

Not convergent,  
negative at NNNLO!

❖  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  mass scheme

$$\Gamma/\Gamma_{\text{LO}} = 1 + 1.35\alpha_s + 3.02\alpha_s^2 + 7.69\alpha_s^3 \approx 1 + 52\% + 46\% + 44\%$$

Convergent,  
but very slowly!

$$\Gamma = m_c^5(\Gamma^{(0)} + \alpha_s\Gamma^{(1)} + \alpha_s^2\Gamma^{(2)}) = \left(\bar{m}_c(1 + \alpha_s m^{(1)} + \alpha_s^2 m^{(2)})\right)^5 (\Gamma^{(0)} + \alpha_s\Gamma^{(1)} + \alpha_s^2\Gamma^{(2)})$$

❖ **1S mass scheme** (half of  $J/\psi$  mass)

[Hoang,Ligeti,Manohar, '98]

$$\Gamma/\Gamma_{\text{LO}} \approx 1 - 13.1\% - 4.8\% + 1.8\%$$

**Answer: convergent expansion of  $\alpha_s(m_c)$  !**



## Theoretical results

❖ Analytical results for total decay rate and energy moments (NNLO &  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^3/m_c^3$ )

$$\langle E_e \rangle_{D_i} = \frac{\hat{\Gamma}_0}{\Gamma_{D_i}} \sum_{q=d,s} |V_{cq}|^2 m_c^6 \left[ \frac{3}{10} + \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} a_1^{(1)} + \frac{\alpha_s^2}{\pi^2} a_1^{(2)} - 3\rho\delta_{sq} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mu_G^2(D_i)}{m_c^2} + \frac{139}{30} \frac{\rho_D^3(D_i)}{m_c^3} + \frac{3}{10} \frac{\rho_{LS}^3(D_i)}{m_c^3} + \dots \right],$$

$$\langle E_e^2 \rangle_{D_i} = \frac{\hat{\Gamma}_0}{\Gamma_{D_i}} \sum_{q=d,s} |V_{cq}|^2 m_c^7 \left[ \frac{1}{10} + \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} a_2^{(1)} + \frac{\alpha_s^2}{\pi^2} a_2^{(2)} - \frac{6}{5} \rho\delta_{sq} + \frac{1}{12} \frac{\mu_\pi^2(D_i)}{m_c^2} - \frac{11}{60} \frac{\mu_G^2(D_i)}{m_c^2} + \frac{17}{6} \frac{\rho_D^3(D_i)}{m_c^3} + \frac{7}{30} \frac{\rho_{LS}^3(D_i)}{m_c^3} + \dots \right],$$

$$\langle E_e^3 \rangle_{D_i} = \frac{\hat{\Gamma}_0}{\Gamma_{D_i}} \sum_{q=d,s} |V_{cq}|^2 m_c^8 \left[ \frac{1}{28} + \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} a_3^{(1)} + \frac{\alpha_s^2}{\pi^2} a_3^{(2)} - \frac{1}{2} \rho\delta_{sq} + \frac{1}{14} \frac{\mu_\pi^2(D_i)}{m_c^2} - \frac{1}{14} \frac{\mu_G^2(D_i)}{m_c^2} + \frac{223}{140} \frac{\rho_D^3(D_i)}{m_c^3} + \frac{1}{7} \frac{\rho_{LS}^3(D_i)}{m_c^3} + \dots \right],$$

$$\langle E_e^4 \rangle_{D_i} = \frac{\hat{\Gamma}_0}{\Gamma_{D_i}} \sum_{q=d,s} |V_{cq}|^2 m_c^9 \left[ \frac{3}{224} + \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} a_4^{(1)} + \frac{\alpha_s^2}{\pi^2} a_4^{(2)} - \frac{3}{14} \rho\delta_{sq} + \frac{3}{64} \frac{\mu_\pi^2(D_i)}{m_c^2} - \frac{13}{448} \frac{\mu_G^2(D_i)}{m_c^2} + \frac{481}{560} \frac{\rho_D^3(D_i)}{m_c^3} + \frac{9}{112} \frac{\rho_{LS}^3(D_i)}{m_c^3} + \dots \right],$$

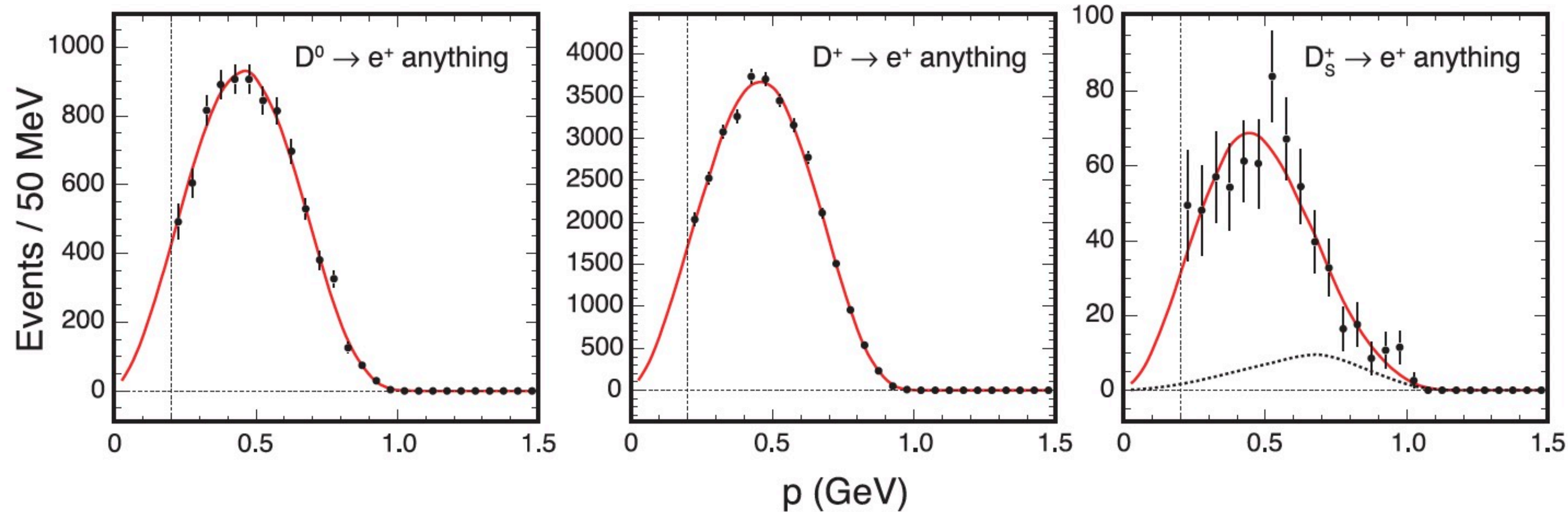
# Experimental status

## CLEO measurements

$$D^0 \rightarrow e^+ X$$

$$D^+ \rightarrow e^+ X$$

$$D_s^+ \rightarrow e^+ X$$



$$\mathcal{B}(D^0 \rightarrow X e^+ \nu_e) = (6.46 \pm 0.09 \pm 0.11)\%,$$

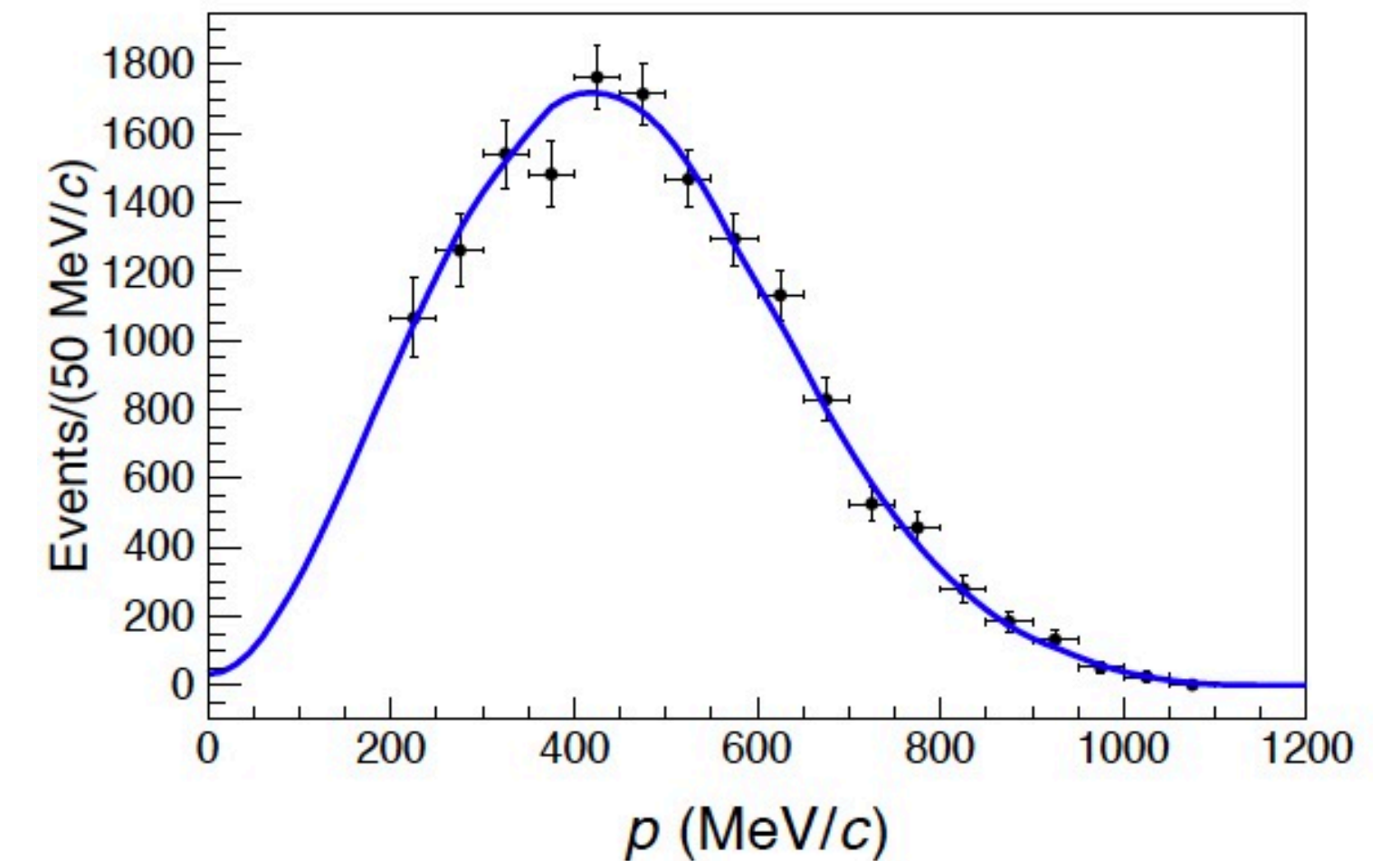
$$\mathcal{B}(D^+ \rightarrow X e^+ \nu_e) = (16.13 \pm 0.10 \pm 0.29)\%,$$

$$\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow X e^+ \nu_e) = (6.52 \pm 0.39 \pm 0.15)\%,$$

[CLEO, '09]

## BESIII measurements

$$D_s^+ \rightarrow e^+ X$$



$$\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow X e^+ \nu_e) = (6.30 \pm 0.13 \pm 0.10)\%$$

[BESIII, '21]

**2% precision!**



# Experimental data

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dy} = ay^2(1 + by)(1 - y)$$

Original data

Extrapolation

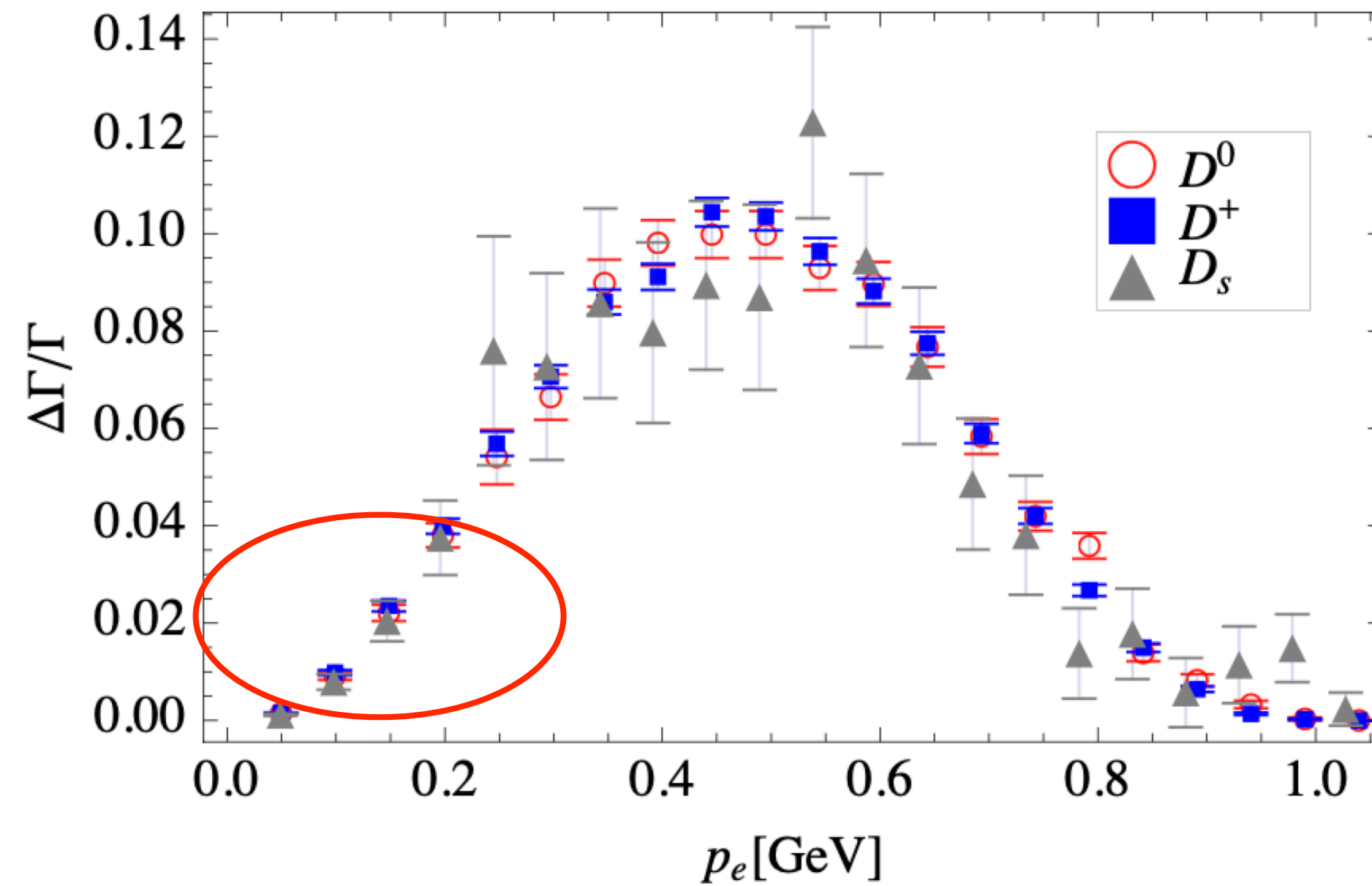
All-bin distribution

Lorentz boost

Rest frame

MC Simulation

Electron energy moments



$$\begin{aligned} \langle E_e \rangle_{exp}^{D_s} &= 0.437(6) \text{ GeV}, & \langle E_e^2 \rangle_{exp}^{D_s} &= 0.220(5) \text{ GeV}^2 \\ \langle E_e \rangle_{exp}^{D^0} &= 0.462(5) \text{ GeV}, & \langle E_e^2 \rangle_{exp}^{D^0} &= 0.242(5) \text{ GeV}^2 \\ \langle E_e \rangle_{exp}^{D^+} &= 0.455(4) \text{ GeV}, & \langle E_e^2 \rangle_{exp}^{D^+} &= 0.236(4) \text{ GeV}^2 \\ \langle E_e^3 \rangle_{exp}^{D_s} &= 0.121(4) \text{ GeV}^3, & \langle E_e^4 \rangle_{exp}^{D_s} &= 0.072(3) \text{ GeV}^4 \\ \langle E_e^3 \rangle_{exp}^{D^0} &= 0.138(4) \text{ GeV}^3, & \langle E_e^4 \rangle_{exp}^{D^0} &= 0.084(3) \text{ GeV}^4 \\ \langle E_e^3 \rangle_{exp}^{D^+} &= 0.134(3) \text{ GeV}^3, & \langle E_e^4 \rangle_{exp}^{D^+} &= 0.081(3) \text{ GeV}^4 \end{aligned}$$

Statistical uncertainties uncorrelated,  
Systematic uncertainties fully correlated.

## Global fit

❖ Global fit in two mass schemes, each with **Scenario 1** ( $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2/m_c^2$ ) and **Scenario 2** ( $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^3/m_c^3$ )

$\overline{\text{MS}}$ scheme	$\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}$	$D_i$	$\mu_\pi^2/\text{GeV}^2$	$\mu_G^2/\text{GeV}^2$	$\rho_D^3/\text{GeV}^3$	$\rho_{LS}^3/\text{GeV}^3$
Scenario 1	4.5	$D^{0,+}$	$0.09 \pm 0.01$	$0.27 \pm 0.14$	-	-
		$D_s$	$0.09 \pm 0.02$	$0.39 \pm 0.12$	-	-
Scenario 2	2.1	$D^{0,+}$	$0.11 \pm 0.02$	$0.26 \pm 0.14$	$-0.002 \pm 0.002$	$0.003 \pm 0.002$
		$D_s$	$0.12 \pm 0.02$	$0.38 \pm 0.13$	$-0.003 \pm 0.002$	$0.005 \pm 0.002$

1S scheme	$\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.}$	$D_i$	$\mu_\pi^2/\text{GeV}^2$	$\mu_G^2/\text{GeV}^2$	$\rho_D^3/\text{GeV}^3$	$\rho_{LS}^3/\text{GeV}^3$
Scenario 1	4.9	$D^{0,+}$	$0.04 \pm 0.01$	$0.33 \pm 0.02$	-	-
		$D_s$	$0.06 \pm 0.02$	$0.44 \pm 0.02$	-	-
Scenario 2	0.33	$D^{0,+}$	$0.09 \pm 0.02$	$0.32 \pm 0.02$	$-0.003 \pm 0.002$	$0.004 \pm 0.002$
		$D_s$	$0.11 \pm 0.02$	$0.43 \pm 0.02$	$-0.004 \pm 0.002$	$0.005 \pm 0.002$

Reliable perturbative calculation ensures a good fit!

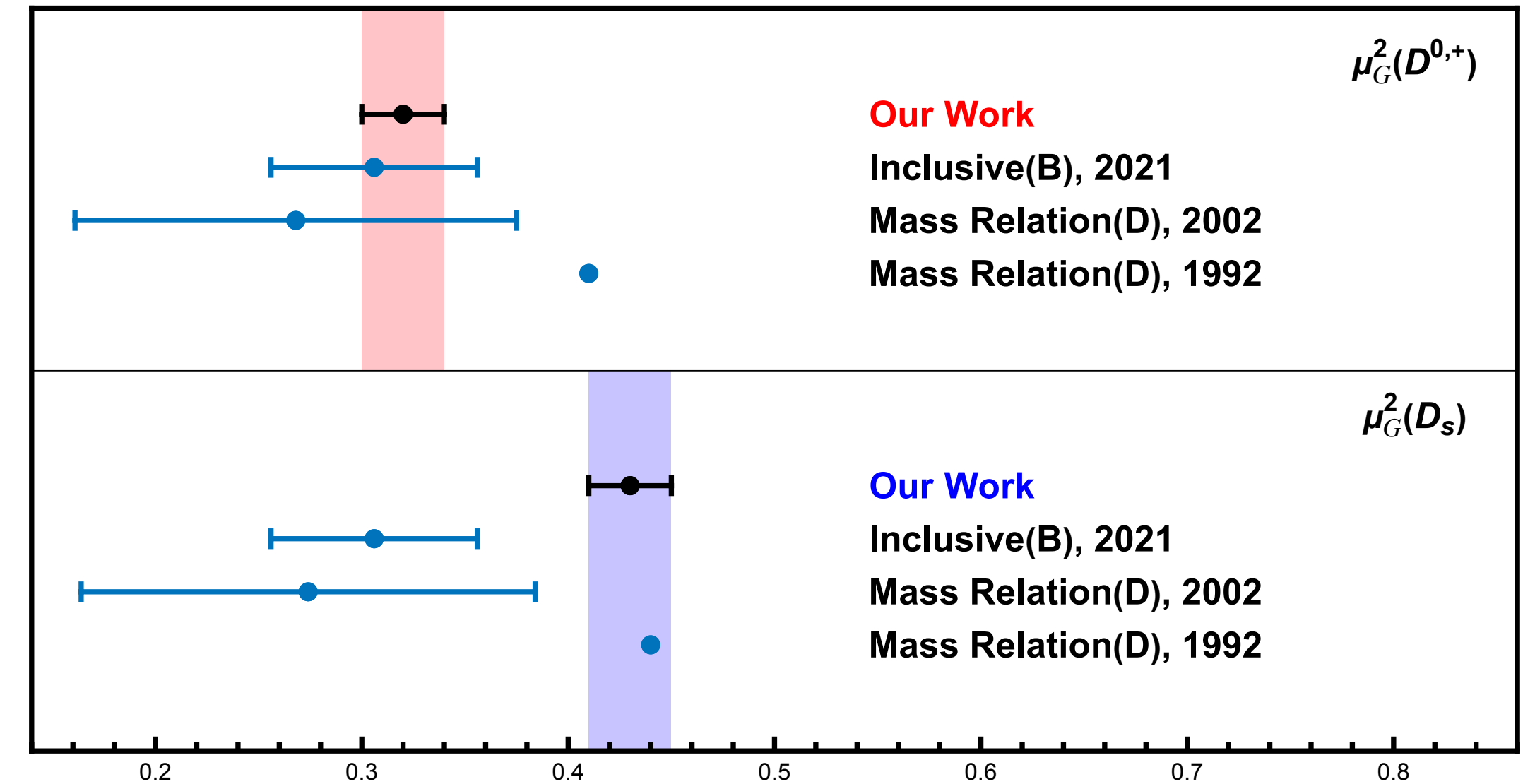
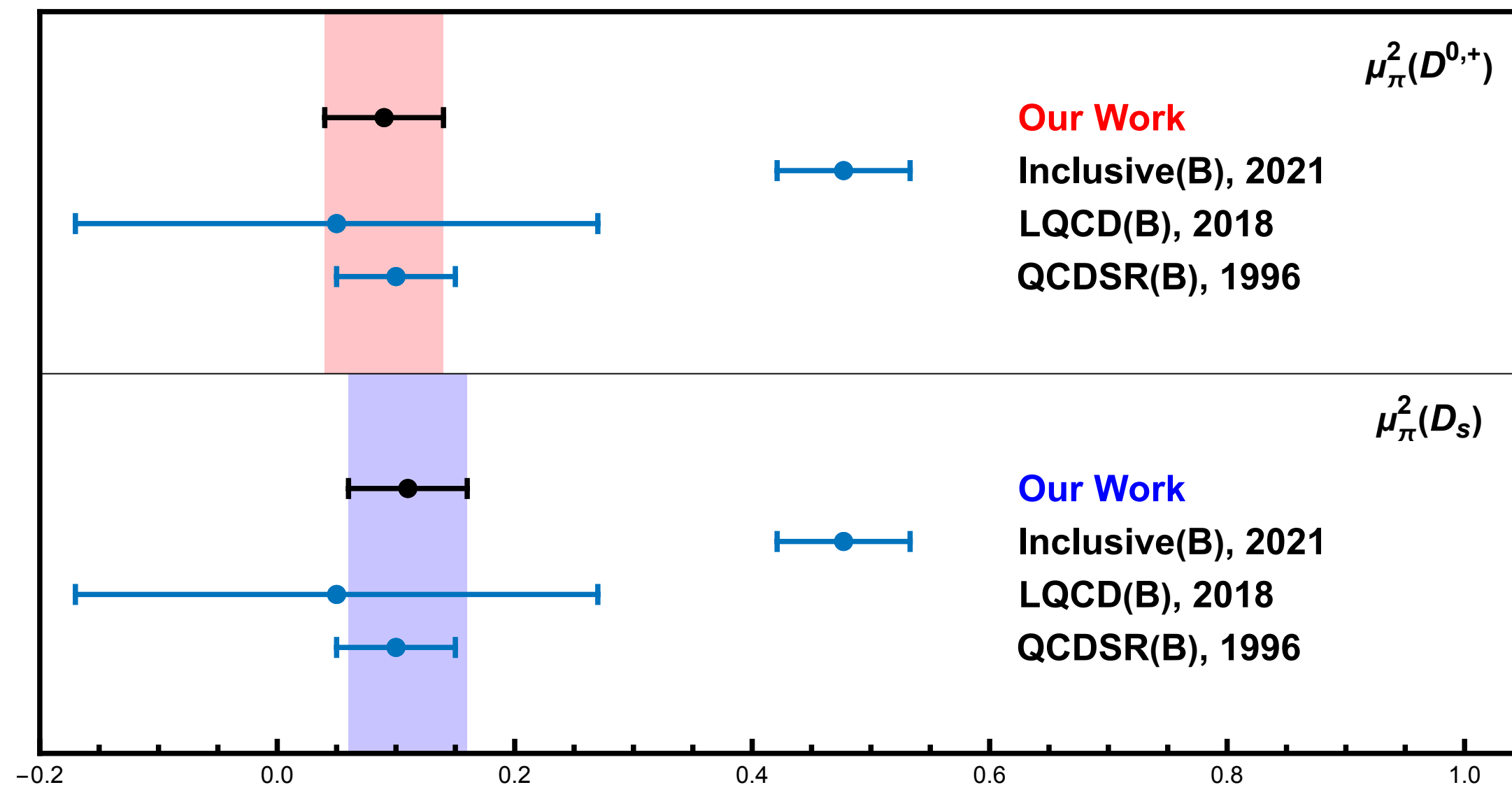
Differences between Scenarios 1 and 2 as systematic uncertainties.

# Global fit

## ❖ Extracted nonperturbative HQET parameters

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu_\pi^2(D^{0,+}) &= (0.09 \pm 0.05)\text{GeV}^2, & \mu_\pi^2(D_s^+) &= (0.11 \pm 0.05)\text{GeV}^2, \\
 \mu_G^2(D^{0,+}) &= (0.32 \pm 0.02)\text{GeV}^2, & \mu_G^2(D_s^+) &= (0.43 \pm 0.02)\text{GeV}^2, \\
 \rho_D^3(D^{0,+}) &= (-0.003 \pm 0.002)\text{GeV}^3, & \rho_D^3(D_s^+) &= (-0.004 \pm 0.002)\text{GeV}^3, \\
 \rho_{LS}^3(D^{0,+}) &= (0.004 \pm 0.002)\text{GeV}^3, & \rho_{LS}^3(D_s^+) &= (0.005 \pm 0.002)\text{GeV}^3.
 \end{aligned}$$

**Sizable** breaking effects of flavor **SU(3) symmetry** and heavy quark symmetry.

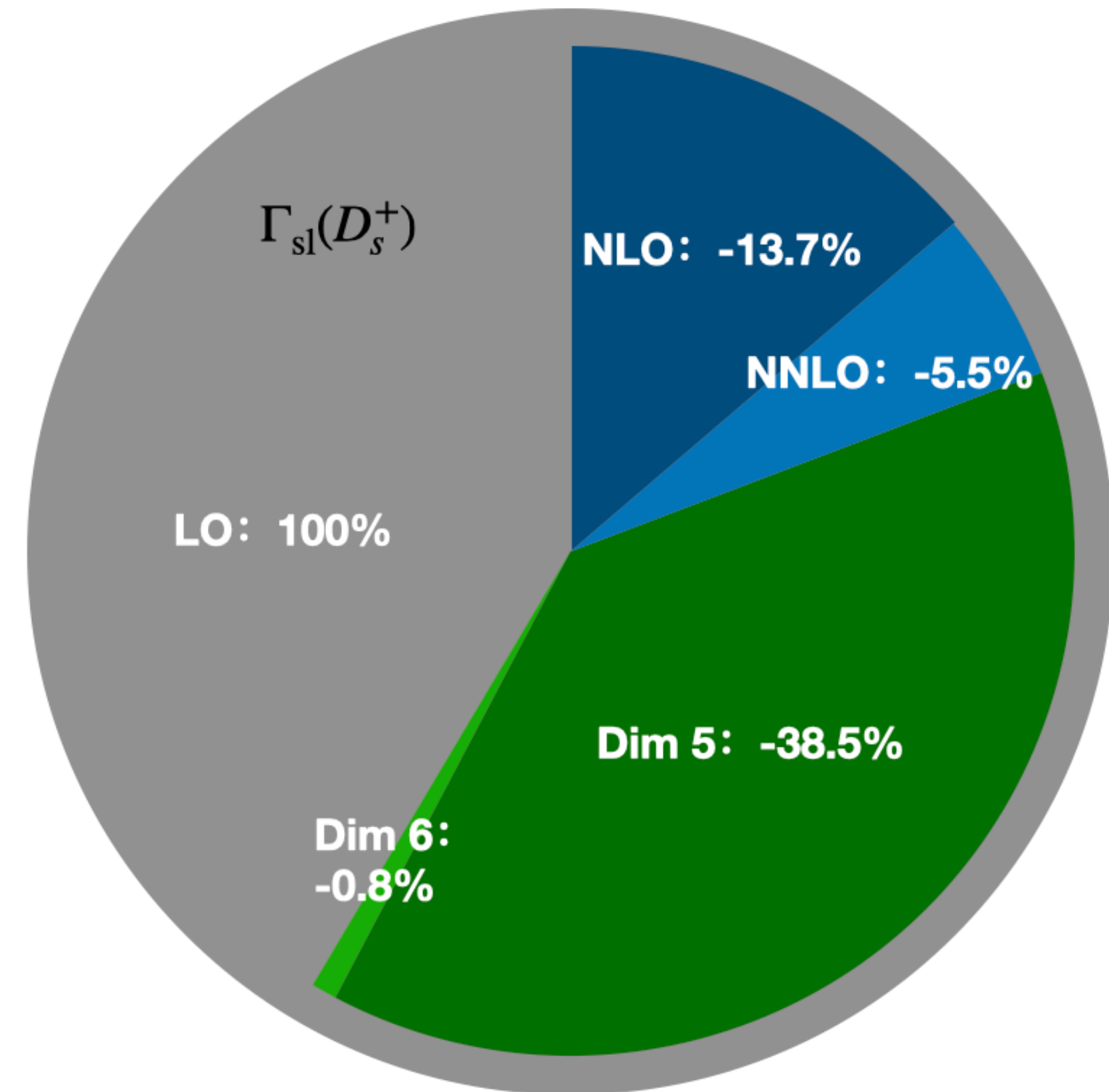
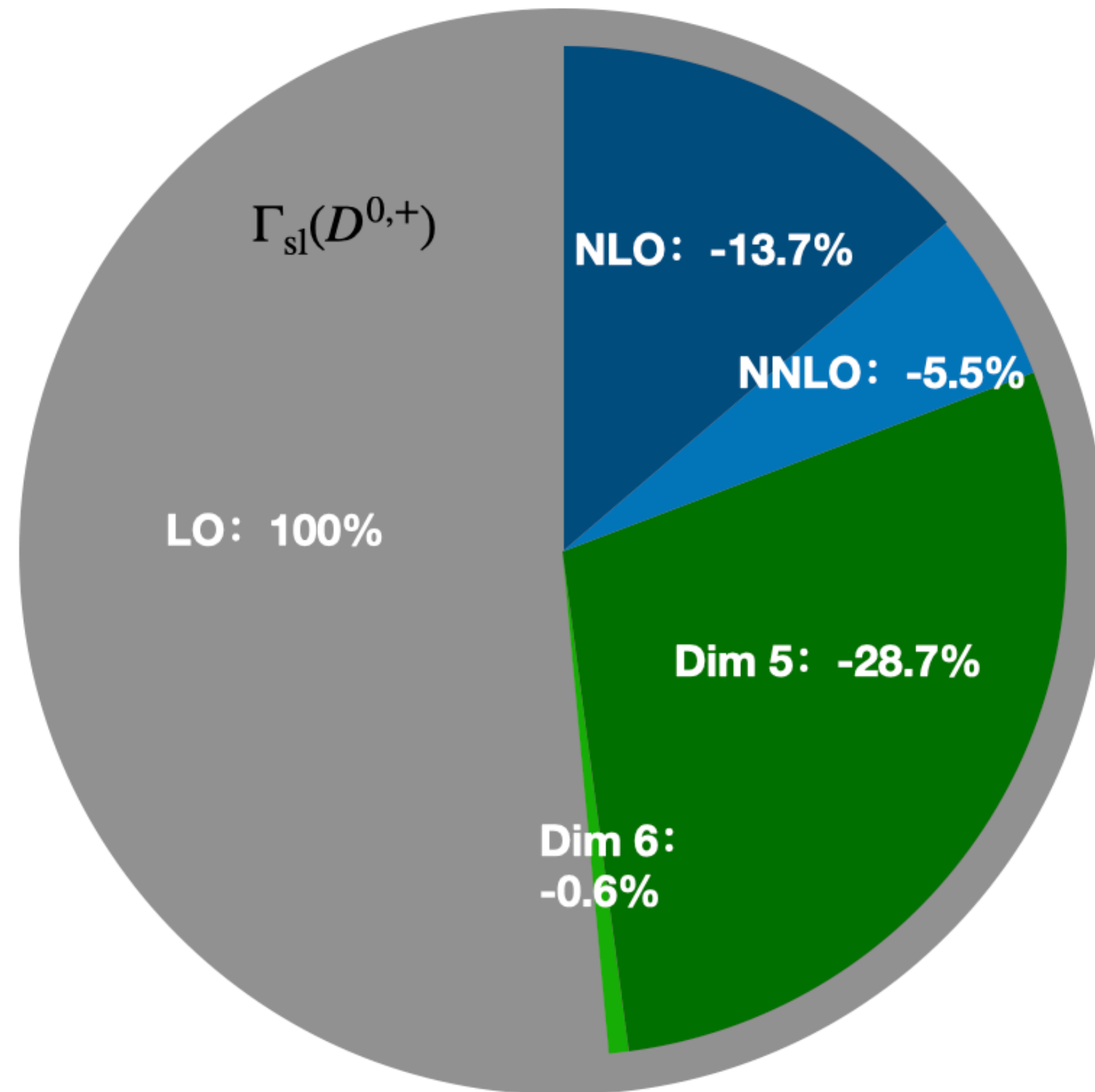


**Inappropriate to use beauty parameters for charm!**



## Final comment: Convergence

❖ Various contributions to inclusive  $D^{0,+}$  and  $D_s^+$  decay widths



**Convergent expansions of  $\alpha_s(m_c)$  and  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}/m_c$  !**

# Summary and Prospect

- ❖ For the **first time**, the **HQE parameters** in inclusive charm decays are determined model independently, by data
- ❖  $\alpha_s$ -**expansion and heavy quark expansion** are **valid** in inclusive charm decays (with appropriate mass scheme chosen)
- ❖ **Possible improvements**
  - ➔ Include higher order radiative corrections,  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$
  - ➔ Include higher power corrections, complete dimension-6 and -7 operator
  - ➔ Extend the study to charmed baryons
  - ➔ .....

# Wishlist

- ❖ Measurements performed in the **rest frame** of charmed hadrons
- ❖ **Direct measurements** of  $\langle E_e^n \rangle$ , instead of the electron energy spectrum
- ❖ Measurements of  $q^2$ -**moments**, good for higher-dimensional operators
- ❖ Separate  $X_d$ ,  $X_s$ , to give **first** inclusive measurements of  $V_{cd}$ ,  $V_{cs}$

**Thank you!**

# Backup

## Mass scheme transformation

$$m_c = \bar{m}_c(\mu) \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha_s(\mu)}{\pi} \left( \frac{4}{3} + \log \left( \frac{\mu^2}{\bar{m}_c^2} \right) \right) + \frac{\alpha_s^2(\mu)}{\pi^2} \frac{1}{288} \left( 112\pi^2 + 2905 + 16\pi^2 \log(4) - 48\zeta(3) \right) \right. \\ \left. - 12(2n_f - 45) \log^2 \left( \frac{\mu^2}{\bar{m}_c^2} \right) - 4(26n_f - 519) \log \left( \frac{\mu^2}{\bar{m}_c^2} \right) - 2(71 + 8\pi^2) n_f \right] + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$$

$$m_c = m_{c,1S} + m_{c,1S} \frac{\alpha_s(\mu)^2 C_F^2}{8} \left\{ 1 + \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \left[ \left( -\log(\alpha_s(\mu) m_{c,1S} C_F / \mu) + \frac{11}{6} \right) \beta_0 - 4 + \frac{\pi}{8} C_F \alpha_s \right] + \dots \right\}$$



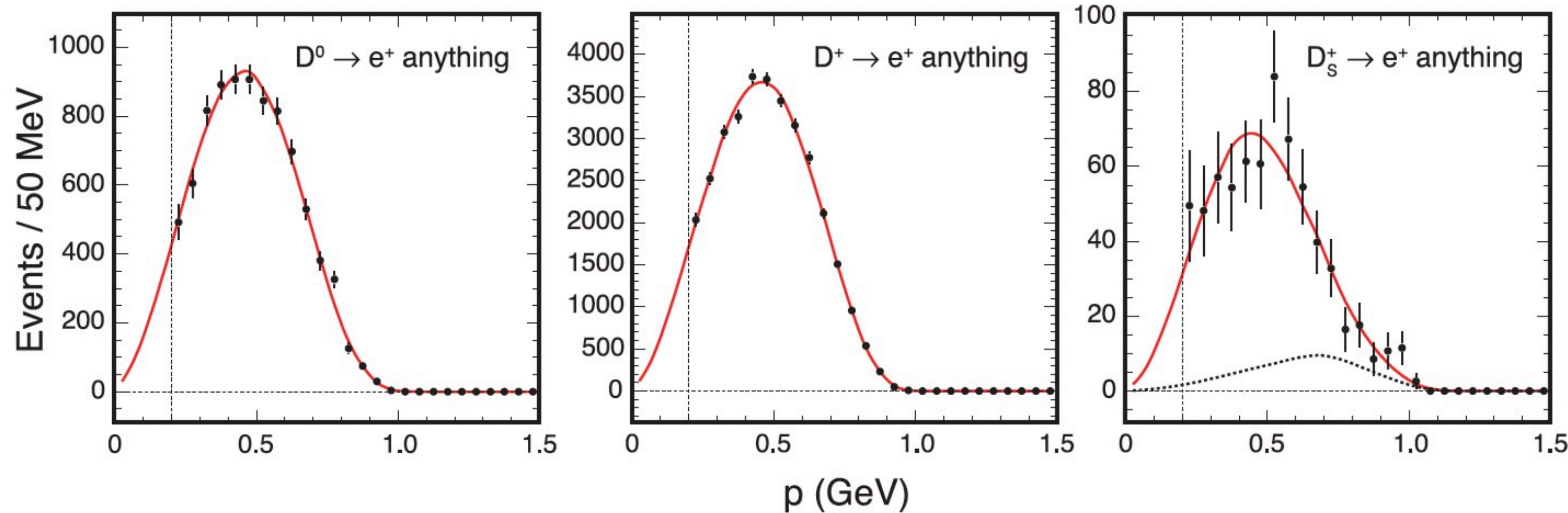
# Experimental status

## CLEO measurements

$$D^0 \rightarrow e^+ X$$

$$D^+ \rightarrow e^+ X$$

$$D_s^+ \rightarrow e^+ X$$

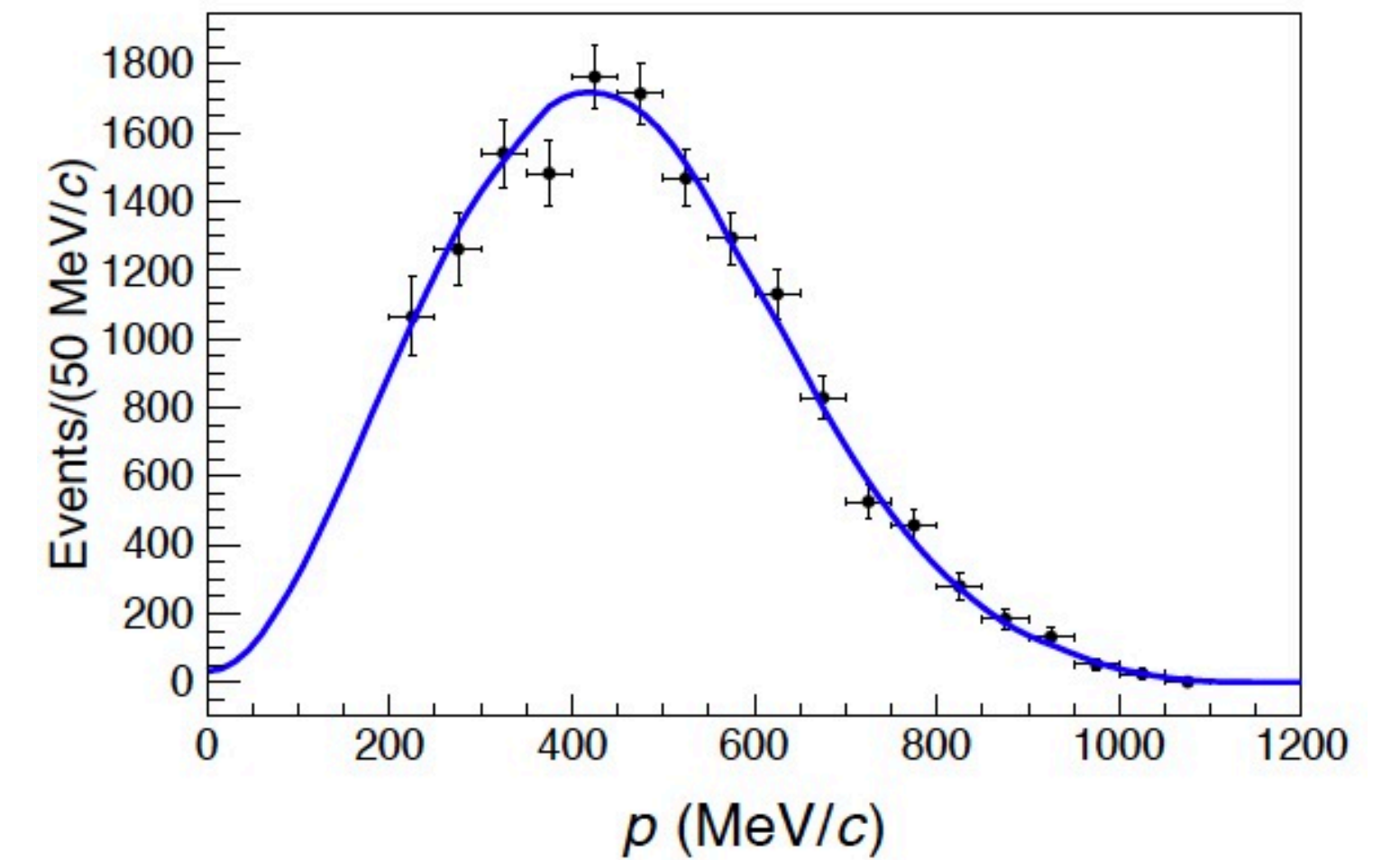


with  $3.0 \times 10^6$   $D^0 \bar{D}^0$  and  $2.4 \times 10^6$   $D^+ D^-$  pairs, and is used to study  $D^0 \rightarrow e^+ X$  decays. The latter data set contains  $0.6 \times 10^6$   $D_s^{*\pm} D_s^\mp$  pairs,

[CLEO ( $818 \text{pb}^{-1}(D^{0,\pm})$ ,  $602 \text{pb}^{-1}(D_s^\pm)$ ), '09]

## BESIII measurements

$$D_s^+ \rightarrow e^+ X$$

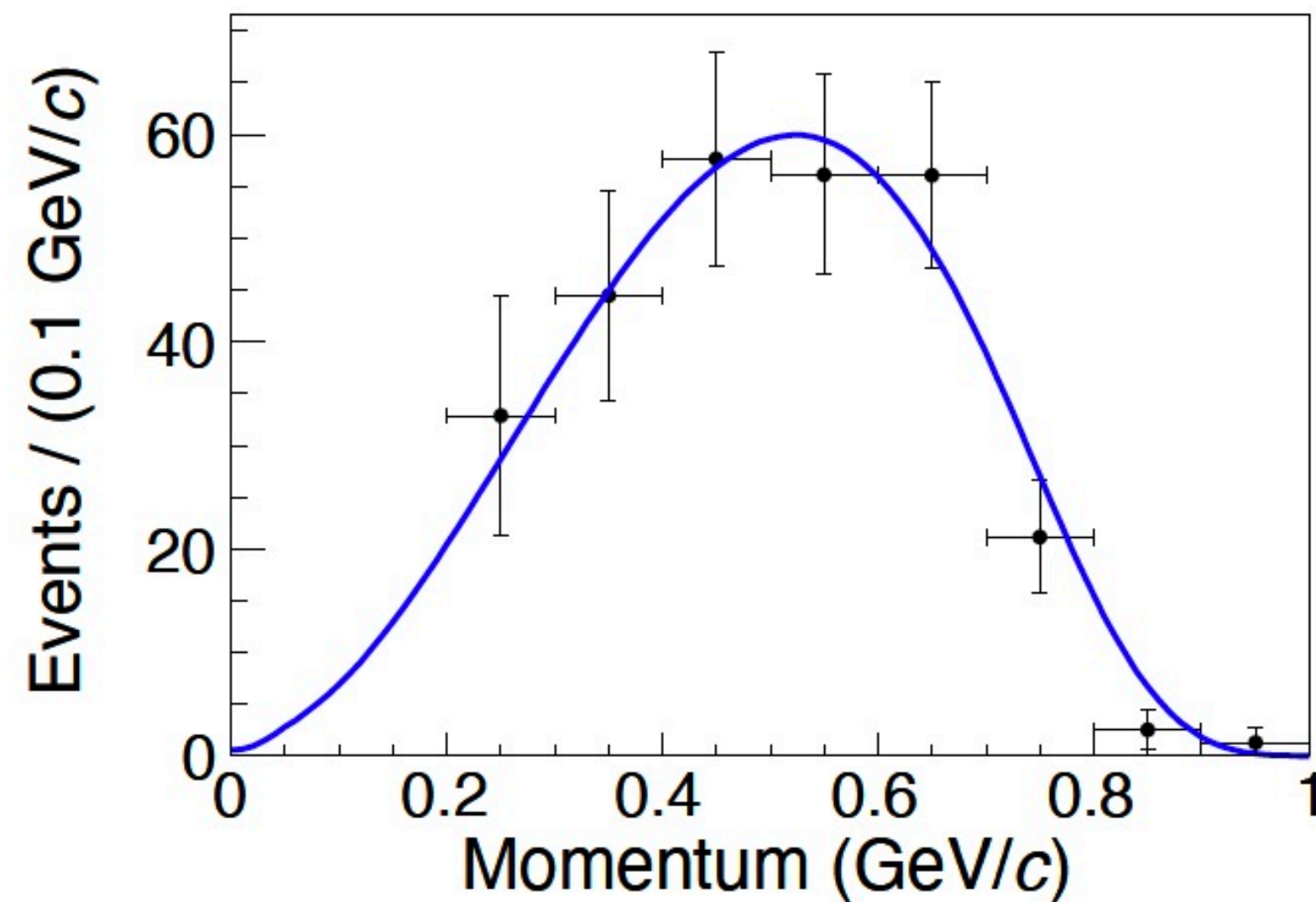


$E_{\text{cm}}$ (MeV)	$\int \mathcal{L} dt$ ( $\text{pb}^{-1}$ )	$N_{D_s} (\times 10^6)$
4178	$3189.0 \pm 0.9 \pm 31.9$	6.4
4189	$526.7 \pm 0.1 \pm 2.2$	1.0
4199	$526.0 \pm 0.1 \pm 2.1$	1.0
4209	$517.1 \pm 0.1 \pm 1.8$	0.9
4219	$514.6 \pm 0.1 \pm 1.8$	0.8
4225 – 4230 [32]	$1047.3 \pm 0.1 \pm 10.2$ [33]	1.3

# Experimental status

## BESIII measurements

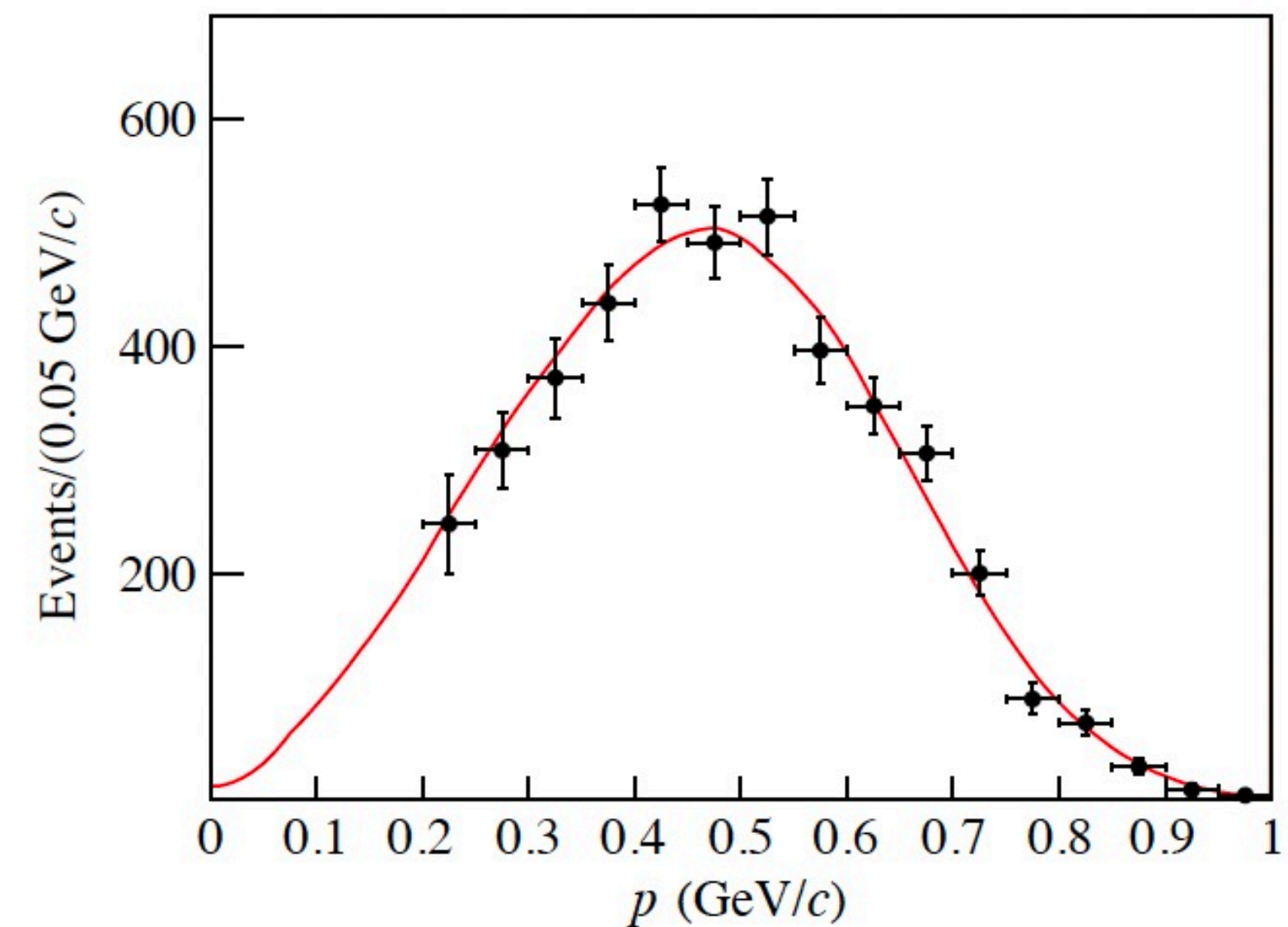
$$\Lambda_c \rightarrow e^+ X$$



$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow X e^+ \nu_e) = (3.95 \pm 0.34 \pm 0.09) \%$$

[BESIII (567 pb<sup>-1</sup>), '18]

$$\Lambda_c \rightarrow e^+ X$$



$$\mathcal{B}(\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow X e^+ \nu_e) = (4.06 \pm 0.10_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.09_{\text{syst}}) \%$$

[BESIII (4.5 fb<sup>-1</sup>), '23]