

# Search for $Z_c(3900)$ via $\Upsilon(1S, 2S) \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0 D^{*-}$ decay at Belle

## Quarkonium Group meeting

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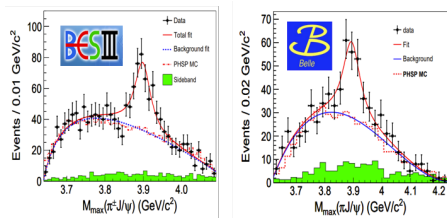
June 18th, 2026



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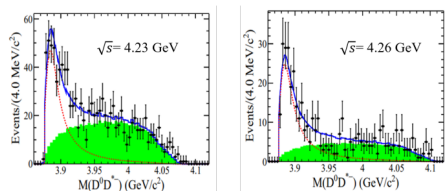
# Motivation

- In 2013, BESIII [PRL 110, 252001] and Belle [PRL 110, 252002] observed a charged charmonium-like state  $Z_c(3900)$  via  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^- J/\psi$



- $M = 3899.0 \pm 3.6 \pm 4.9 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ ,  
 $\Gamma = 46 \pm 16 \pm 20 \text{ MeV}/c^2$

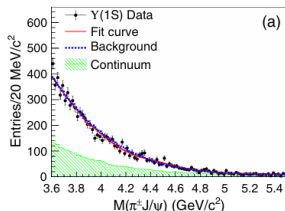
- In 2014-2015, BESIII observed and confirmed a charged charmonium-like state  $Z_c(3885)$  via  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^\pm (D\bar{D}^*)^\mp$  [PRL 112, 022001, PRD 92, 092006]



- $M = 3883.9 \pm 1.5 \pm 4.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ ,  
 $\Gamma = 24.8 \pm 3.8 \pm 11.0 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
- tetraquark ?  $DD^*$  molecule ? threshold effect ?

# Motivation

- Studies of  $Z_c(3900)$  in bottomonium decays only via  $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow Z_c(3900)[\rightarrow \pi J/\psi]$  *anything* and set 90% confidence level  $< 1.3 \times 10^{-5}$  and searched  $\Upsilon(1S, 2S) \rightarrow Z_c^+ Z_c^-$  assuming  $\mathcal{B}(Z_c \rightarrow \pi J/\psi) = 1$  [PRD 93 112013]



- Assume that the signals of  $Z_c(3885) \rightarrow D\bar{D}^*$  and  $Z_c(3900) \rightarrow \pi J/\psi$  have the same origin (named  $T_{cc1}(3900)$  in PDG). The ratio of partial decay widths [PRL 112, 022001]

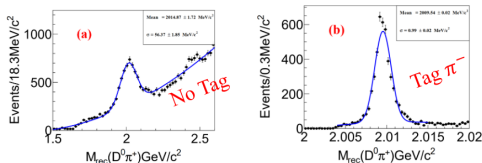
$$\frac{\Gamma(Z_c(3900) \rightarrow D\bar{D}^*)}{\Gamma(Z_c(3900) \rightarrow J/\psi\pi)} = 6.2 \pm 1.1 \pm 2.7$$

- Therefore, it is necessary to **search for  $Z_c(3900)$  in  $\Upsilon(1S, 2S)$  decays via  $Z_c(3900) \rightarrow D\bar{D}^*$  channel** to help understand the production mechanism of  $Z_c(3900)$ .

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# Analysis Strategy

- We do this analysis in basf2 with B2BII, basf2 version: **release 09-00-15**
- We reconstruct the  $\pi^+$ ,  $D^0$  and also reconstruct  $\pi_{\text{slow}}^-$  which decays from the  $D^{*-} (\rightarrow \pi^- \bar{D}^0)$  to improve the resolution of the recoil mass of  $\pi^+ D^0$  system. (the same method as work before [B2N-2023-053])



- Recoil method

$$M(\bar{D}^0) = M_{\text{rec}}(\pi^+ D^0 \pi_{\text{slow}}^-) = \sqrt{(E_{\text{cms}} - E_{\pi^+} - E_{D^0} - E_{\pi_{\text{slow}}^-})^2 - (\vec{p}_{\pi^+} + \vec{p}_{D^0} + \vec{p}_{\pi_{\text{slow}}^-})^2}$$

$$M(D^{*-}) = M_{\text{rec}}(\pi^+ D^0) = \sqrt{(E_{\text{cms}} - E_{\pi^+} - E_{D^0})^2 - (\vec{p}_{\pi^+} + \vec{p}_{D^0})^2}$$

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# Data and MC samples

## Data samples

- $5.8 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  data sample collected at  $\Upsilon(1S)$  peak  $\sqrt{s} = 9.46 \text{ GeV}$ .
- $24.9 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  data sample collected at  $\Upsilon(2S)$  peak  $\sqrt{s} = 10.02 \text{ GeV}$ .
- $89.5 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  data sample collected at off-resonance  $\sqrt{s} = 10.52 \text{ GeV}$ .

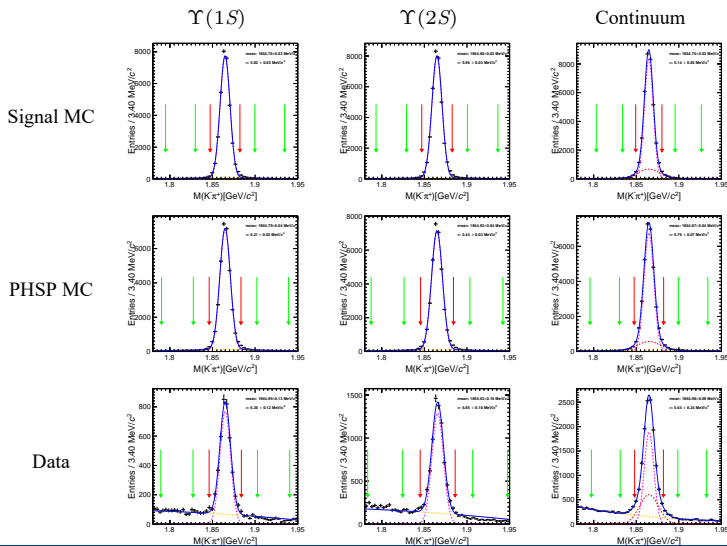
## MC simulation

- $4 \times 10^5$  signal MC (using results of PRL 112, 022001)
- $4 \times 10^5$  no- $Z_c(3900)$  MC
  - prompt  $D^0$  decays to  $K^+\pi^-$  and  $K^+\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-$  (each mode generated half of the sample)
    - $\mathcal{B}(D^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-) = 3.95 \pm 0.03\%$     $\mathcal{B}(D^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-) = 8.23 \pm 0.14\%$
  - inclusive  $\bar{D}^0$  from  $D^{*-} \rightarrow \bar{D}^0\pi^-$
- $1 \times 10^9$  generic  $\Upsilon(1S, 2S)$  MC samples
- generic continuum MC samples with 4 times luminosity of data samples

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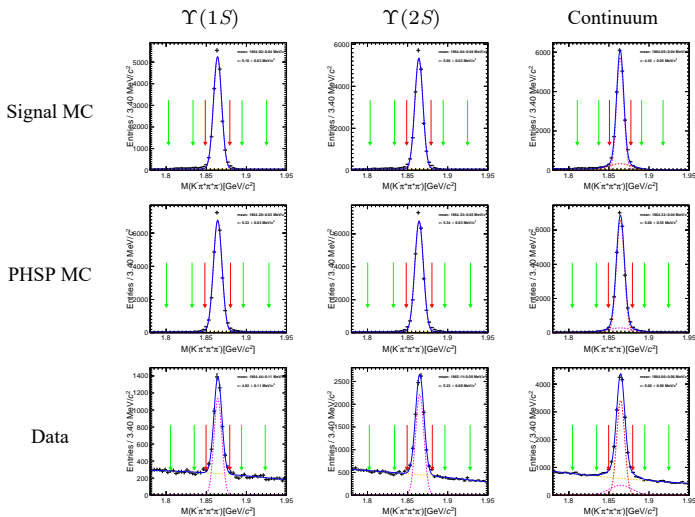
# Basic Selection

- good tracks
  - $|dr| < 0.5 \text{ cm}$  and  $|dz| < 2.0 \text{ cm}$
  - for kaons:  $\frac{\mathcal{L}(K^\pm)}{\mathcal{L}(K^\pm)+\mathcal{L}(\pi^\pm)} > 0.6$  and for pions:  $\frac{\mathcal{L}(K^\pm)}{\mathcal{L}(K^\pm)+\mathcal{L}(\pi^\pm)} < 0.4$
- For prompt  $D^0$  candidates
  - Mass Constraint with kFit
- Require  $M_{\text{rec}}(\pi^+ D^0) - M_{\text{rec}}(\pi^+ D^0 \pi_{\text{slow}}^-) < 0.20 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  and  $1.0 \text{ GeV}/c^2 < M_{\text{rec}}(\pi^+ D^0) < 3.0 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  to reduce the combinatorial background of  $D^{*-}$  candidates.

prompt  $D^0$  mass fit in  $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$  modeSignal Region:  $|M(K^- \pi^+) - m(D^0)| < 3\sigma_{DT}$  and Sideband Region:  $|M(K^- \pi^+) - m(D^0) \pm 9\sigma_{DT}| < 3\sigma_{DT}$ 

prompt  $D^0$  mass fit in  $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$  mode

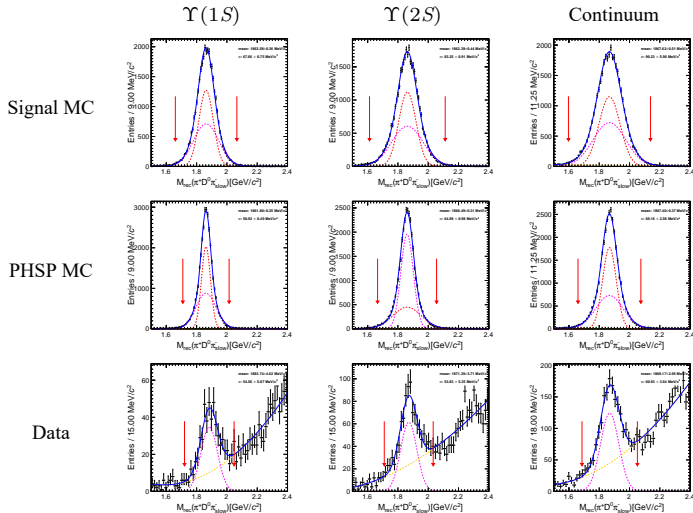
Signal Region:  $|M(K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-) - m(D^0)| < 3\sigma_{DT}$  and Sideband Region:  
 $|M(K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-) - m(D^0) \pm 9\sigma_{DT}| < 3\sigma_{DT}$



# Recoil mass of $\pi^+ D^0 \pi_{\text{slow}}^-$ in $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$ mode

Mass window:  $|M(\bar{D}^0) - m(\bar{D}^0)| < 3\sigma_{DT}$

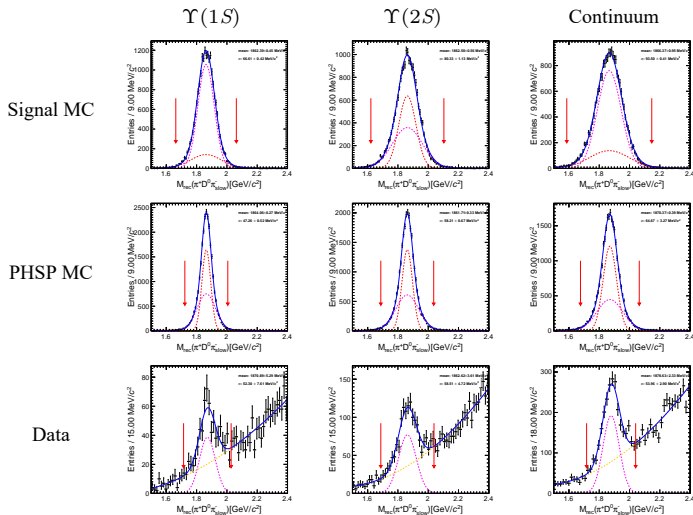
$$M(\bar{D}^0) = M_{\text{rec}}(\pi^+ D^0 \pi_{\text{slow}}^-) = \sqrt{(E_{\text{cms}} - E_{\pi^+} - E_{D^0} - E_{\pi_{\text{slow}}^-})^2 - (\vec{p}_{\pi^+} + \vec{p}_{D^0} + \vec{p}_{\pi_{\text{slow}}^-})^2}$$



# Recoil mass of $\pi^+ D^0 \pi_{\text{slow}}^-$ in $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$ mode

Mass window:  $|M(\bar{D}^0) - m(\bar{D}^0)| < 3\sigma_{DT}$

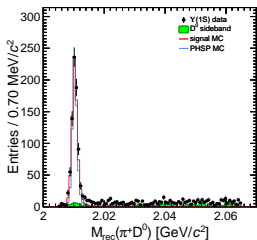
$$M(\bar{D}^0) = M_{\text{rec}}(\pi^+ D^0 \pi_{\text{slow}}^-) = \sqrt{(E_{\text{cms}} - E_{\pi^+} - E_{D^0} - E_{\pi_{\text{slow}}^-})^2 - (\vec{p}_{\pi^+} + \vec{p}_{D^0} + \vec{p}_{\pi_{\text{slow}}^-})^2}$$



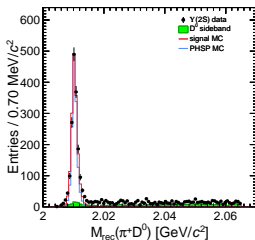
# Recoil mass of $\pi^+ D^0$

$$M(D^{*-}) = M_{\text{rec}}(\pi^+ D^0) = M_{\text{rec}}(\pi^+ D^0) - M_{\text{rec}}(\pi^+ D^0 \pi_{\text{slow}}^-) + m(\bar{D}^0)$$

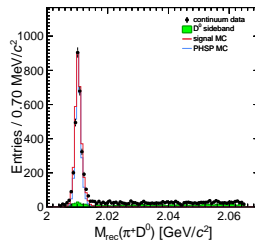
$\Upsilon(1S)$



$\Upsilon(2S)$



continuum



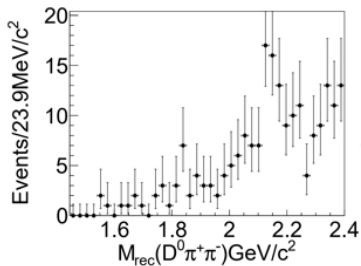
- $\Upsilon(1S)$ :  $\varepsilon(D \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) = 16.0\%$  and  $\varepsilon(D \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-) = 9.4\%$  according to the signal MC samples.  $\sim 1000 D^0 D^*$  events according to the data samples.
- $\Upsilon(2S)$ :  $\varepsilon(D \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) = 16.4\%$  and  $\varepsilon(D \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-) = 9.3\%$  according to the signal MC samples.  $\sim 2000 D^0 D^*$  events according to the data samples.
- Continuum:  $\varepsilon(D \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) = 16.6\%$  and  $\varepsilon(D \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-) = 9.9\%$  according to the signal MC samples.  $\sim 4000 D^0 D^*$  events according to the data samples.

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## topo analysis

showing example of  $\Upsilon(1S)$  generic MC

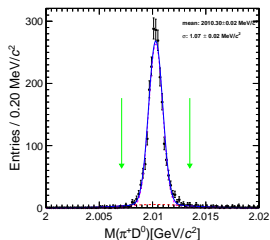
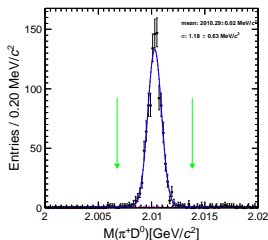
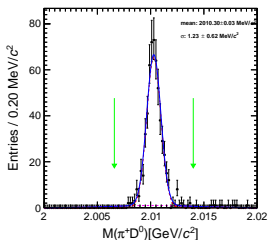
rowNo	decay tree (decay initial-final states)	iDecyTr	nEtr	nCEtr
1	$\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \text{string, string} \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- K^0 \bar{K}^0 \bar{K}^+ K_2^{*0}, K^0 \rightarrow K_L^0, K^0 \rightarrow K_S^0, \bar{K}^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^0, K_2^{*0} \rightarrow \rho^- K^+,$ $\bar{K}^0 \rightarrow K_S^0, \rho^- \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^-$ ( $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^- K_S^0 K^+ K^-$ )	1979	9	9
2	$\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \text{string, string} \rightarrow \pi^- D^{*+} \bar{D}^{*0}, D^{*+} \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0, \bar{D}^{*0} \rightarrow \pi^0 D^0, D^0 \rightarrow \rho^+ K^-, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow \pi^- K^+,$ $\rho^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^+$ ( $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^- K^+ K^-$ )	45	6	15
3	$\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \text{string, string} \rightarrow \pi^0 D^{*+} D^{*+}, D^{*+} \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0, D^{*+} \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{D}^0, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^+ \pi^- K^-, D^0 \rightarrow K^+ a_1^-,$ $a_1^- \rightarrow \rho^0 \pi^-, \rho^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ ( $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^- K^+ K^-$ )	180	6	21
4	$\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \text{string, string} \rightarrow \pi^0 D^{*+} D^{*+}, D^{*+} \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0, D^{*+} \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{D}^0, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \omega K^-, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow \pi^- K^+,$ $\omega \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ ( $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^- K^+ K^-$ )	406	6	27
5	$\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \text{string, string} \rightarrow \pi^- D^{*+} \bar{D}^0, D^{*+} \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow K^+ a_1^-, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow \rho^+ K^-, a_1^- \rightarrow \rho^0 \pi^-,$ $\rho^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^+, \rho^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ ( $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^- K^+ K^-$ )	641	6	33
6	$\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \text{string, string} \rightarrow \pi^- D^{*+} \bar{D}^0, D^{*+} \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow K^+ a_1^-, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow K^0 f_0(1710), a_1^- \rightarrow \rho^0 \pi^-,$ $\bar{K}^0 \rightarrow K_L^0, f_0(1710) \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^-, \rho^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ ( $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^- \pi^- K^+ K^-$ )	742	6	39
7	$\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \text{string, string} \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^- D^{*+} \bar{D}^0, D^{*+} \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow \rho^+ K^-, D^0 \rightarrow K^- a_1^+, \rho^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-,$ $K^- \rightarrow \pi^- K^+, a_1^+ \rightarrow \rho^0 \pi^+, \rho^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ ( $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^- K^+ K^-$ )	932	6	45
8	$\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \text{string, string} \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^- D^{*+} \bar{D}^0, D^{*+} \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 D^0, D^0 \rightarrow \rho^+ K^-, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow \pi^- K^+,$ $\rho^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^+$ ( $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^- K^+ K^-$ )	1168	6	51



- Topological analysis shows that the upturn in the high-mass region of the  $M(\pi^- D^0 \pi_{\text{slow}})$  distributions is mainly caused by the recoil production of excited states,  $D^*$  or higher excited charmed mesons and some multi-particle final states.
- So we apply a mass window:  $|M_{\text{rec}}(\pi^+ D^0 \pi_{\text{slow}}^-) - m(\bar{D}^0)| < 3\sigma_{DT}$  as mentioned before.

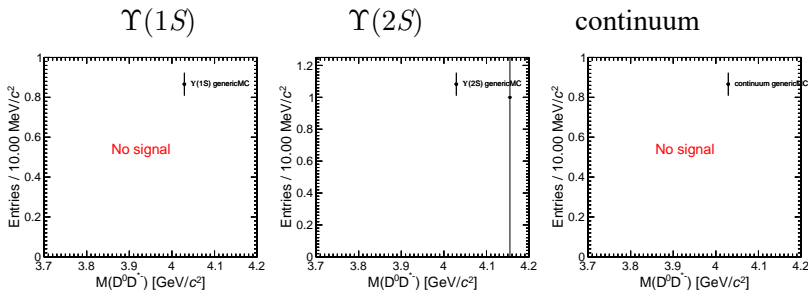
$\Upsilon(1, 2S) \rightarrow D^{*+} D^{*-}$  vetoveto  $\Upsilon(1, 2S) \rightarrow D^{*+} D^{*-}$  background $\Upsilon(1S)$  $\Upsilon(2S)$ 

continuum



- veto mass window:  $|M(\pi^+ D^0) - m(D^{*+})| < 3\sigma_{DT}$

# genericMC in signal region



- No signal is found in the generic MC sample lying in the signal region.
- We may extract the background shape by using sideband data.

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## Summary

- There are lots of  $D^0 D^{*-}$  events in the signal region.
- The process  $\Upsilon(1S, 2S)/e^+ e^- \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0 D^{*-}$  has been observed. We can measure the corresponding branching ratio and cross section.

$$\mathcal{B}(\Upsilon(1S, 2S)/e^+ e^- \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0 D^{*-} + c.c.) = \frac{N_{\Upsilon(1S, 2S)}^{\text{sig}} - N_{\text{cont}}^{\text{sig}} \times f_{\text{scale}}}{N_{\Upsilon(1S, 2S)} \times \mathcal{B}(D^{*-} \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{D}^0) \times \sum_i (\epsilon_i \times \mathcal{B}_i)}$$

$$\sigma(e^+ e^- \rightarrow \pi^+ D^0 D^{*-}) \mathcal{B}(D^{*-} \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{D}^0) = \frac{N_{\Upsilon(1S, 2S)}^{\text{sig}} \times |1 - \Pi|^2}{\mathcal{L}_{\text{con}} \times \sum_i \epsilon_i \mathcal{B}_i \times (1 + \delta_{\text{ISR}})}$$

- No signal is found in the Generic MC sample.
- We didn't open the box.

# Thank you!