

# Analysis of $\Omega_b^- \rightarrow \Xi_c^+ K^- \pi^-$ at LHCb using Run 3 data

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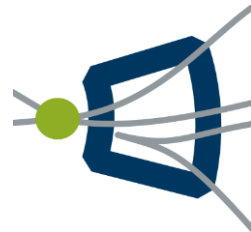
DPG Frühjahrstagung, 2026

18 March 2026



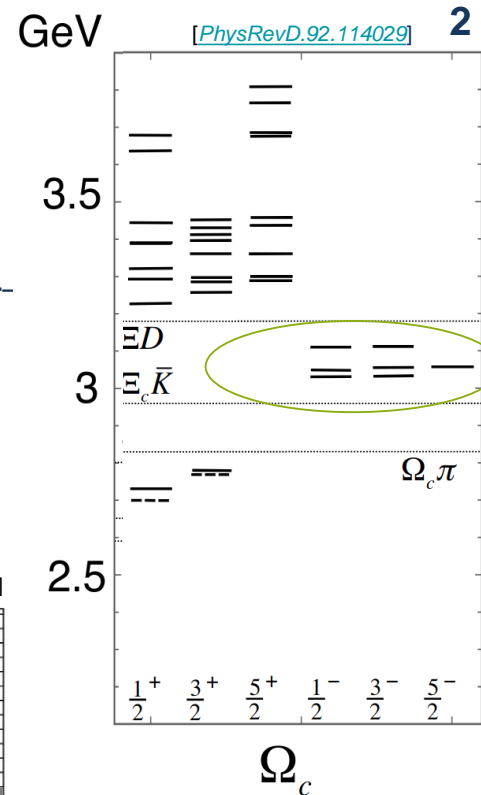
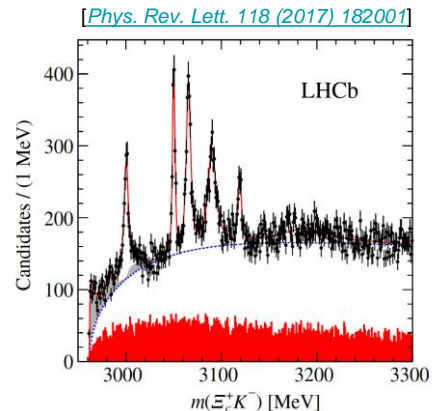
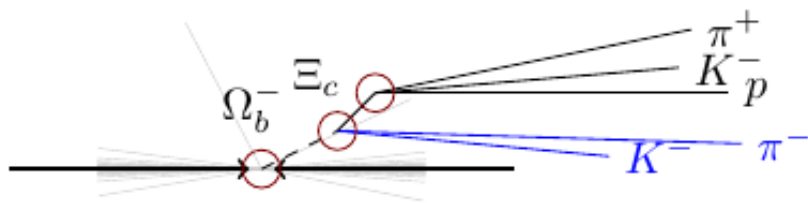
**FSP**

Erforschung  
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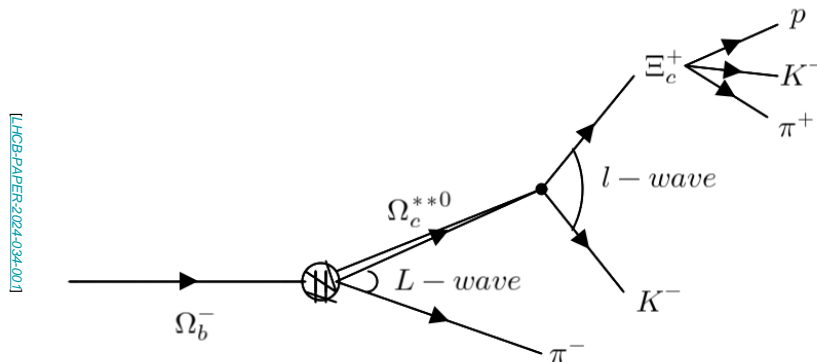
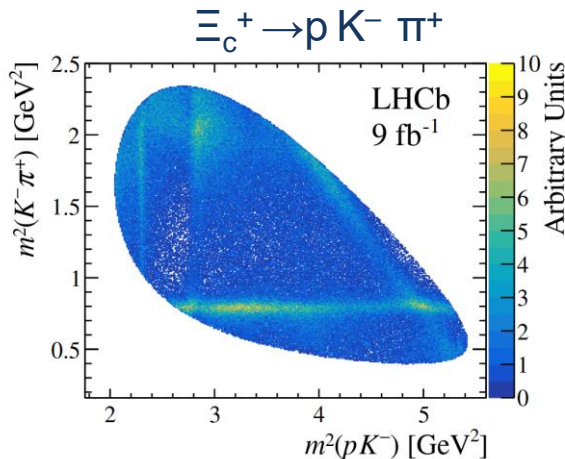
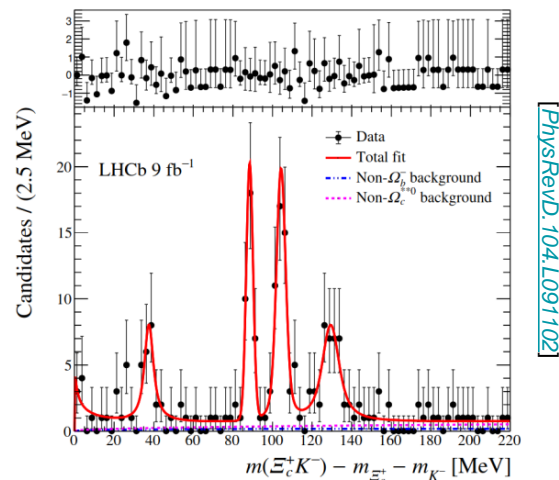
# Physics motivation

- ❖ Five new narrow  $\Omega_c^0$  states in prompt production observed by the LHCb collaboration [[Phys. Rev. Lett. 118 \(2017\) 182001](#)].
- ❖ Same states observed in decay  $\Omega_b^- \rightarrow \Xi_c^+(\rightarrow p K^- \pi^+) K^- \pi^-$  [[PhysRevD.104.L091102](#)].
  - Best suited for analysis to study spin and parity.
- ❖ Aim for precise measurements of quantum numbers with Run 3 data.

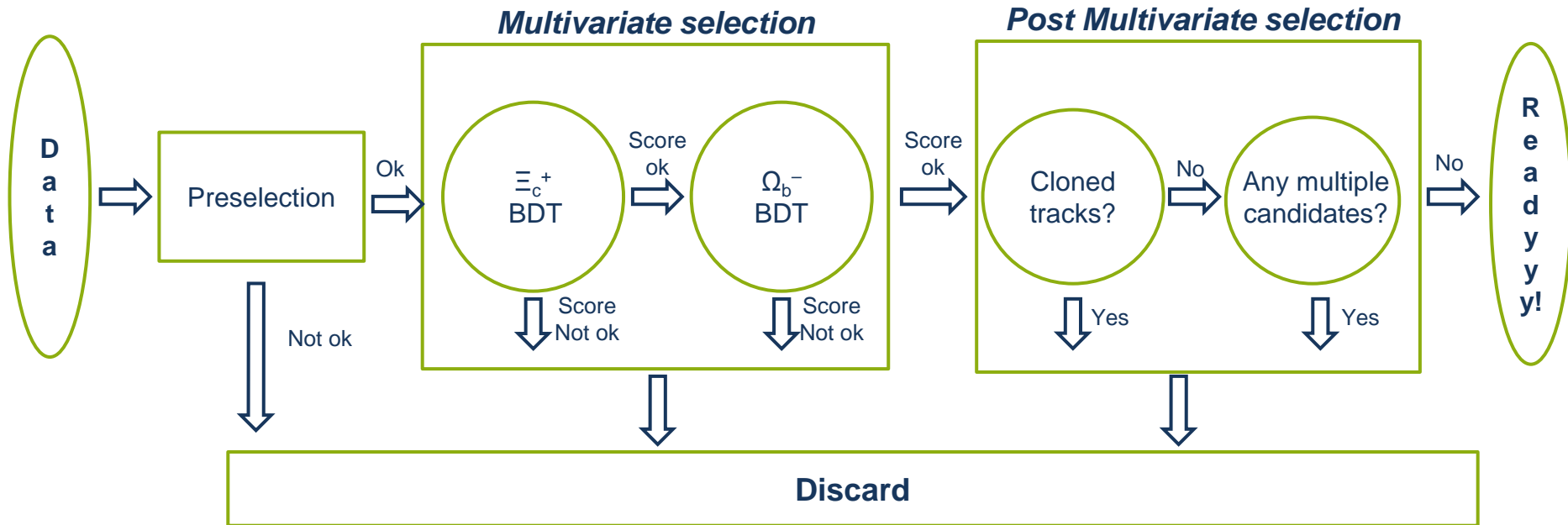


# Analysis goals

- ❖ Spectroscopy of charm hadrons
  - Studying excited states of  $\Omega_c^0$ .
  - Measure mass, widths and fit fractions.
- ❖ Spin properties
  - Studying sensitivity of helicity amplitudes on polarization of  $\Xi_c^+$  decay products.
  - Include established amplitude models for  $\Xi_c^+ \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+$ .



# Full selection of events



# Multivariate selection using GBDTs

- ❖ Decision trees (DTs) use simple decision rules from data features to make inferences.
- ❖ Gradient boosting is combining such 'weaker' trees for improved performance.
- ❖ For this analysis:
  - $\Xi_c^+$  BDT for  $\Xi_c^+ \rightarrow pK^-\pi^+$  decays.
  - $\Omega_b^-$  BDT for  $\Omega_b^- \rightarrow \Xi_c^+ K^-\pi^-$  decays.
- ❖ The features for training can be categorized into 3 parts:
  - Geometrical features (Radial distance, IPCHI2).
  - PID features (PROBNNs, PID).
  - Kinematic features (pT, mass).

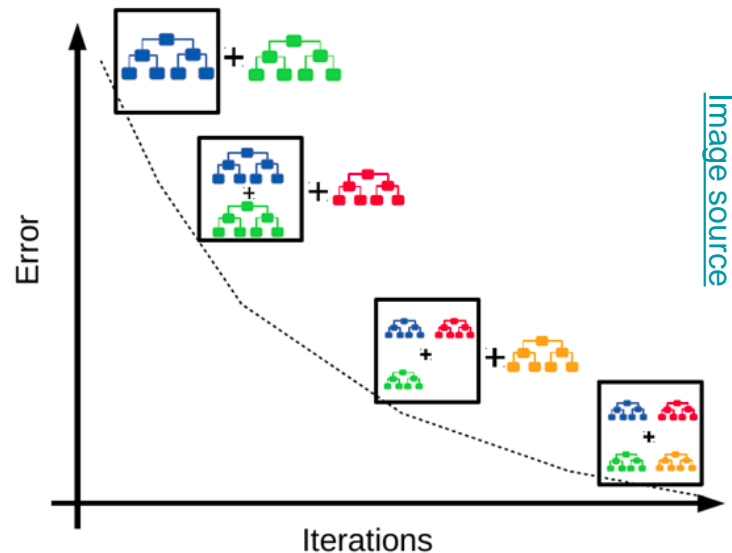
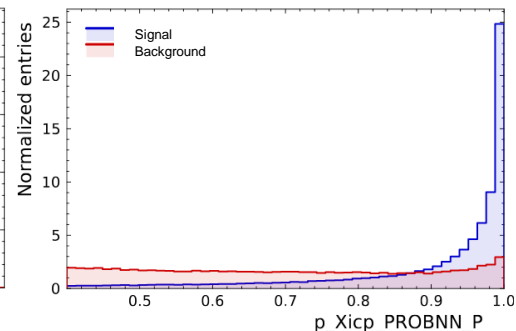
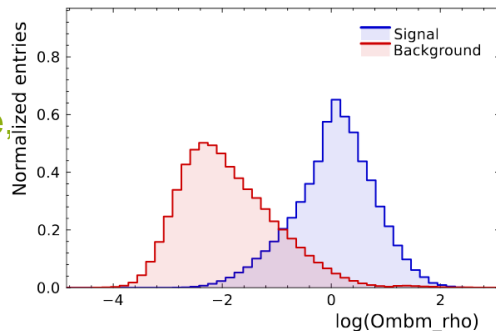
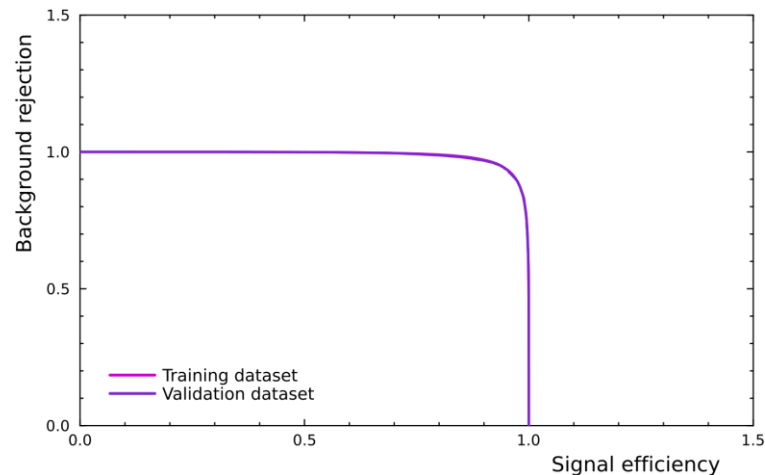
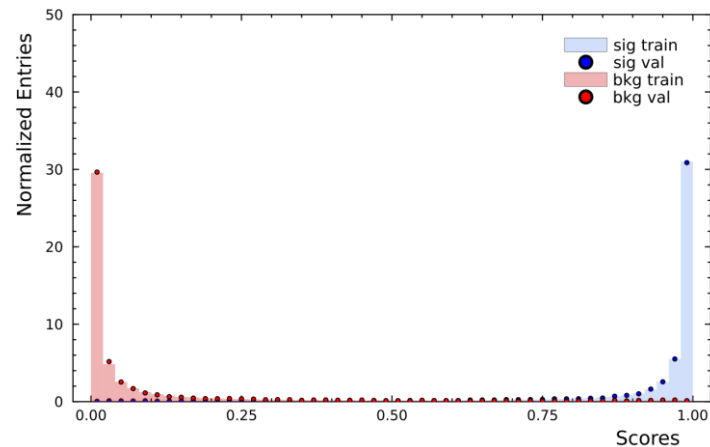
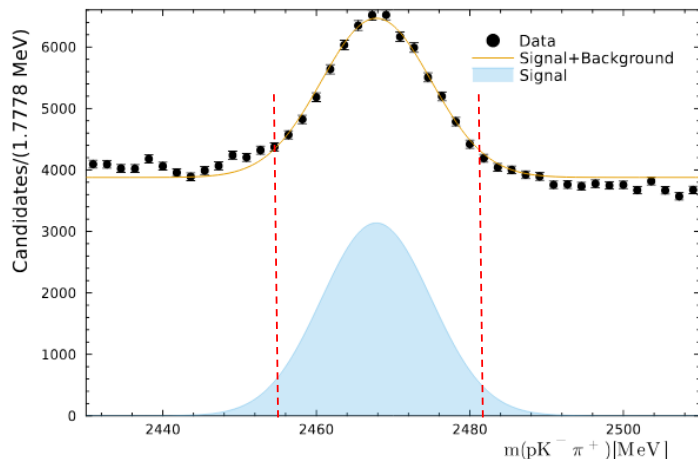


Image source



# $\Xi_c^+$ BDT performance

- ❖ BDT performance is good
  - Nice separation of signal and background.
  - No visible traces of overfitting.
- ❖ Apply conditions for sufficient  $\Xi_c^+$  candidates
  - $\Xi_c^+$  BDT score  $> 0.1$ .
  - Select candidates in  $2\sigma$  window around  $\Xi_c^+$  mass peak.
  - $\Xi_c^+$  BDT score as input feature for  $\Omega_b^-$  BDT.



# Optimization of $\Omega_b^-$ -BDT

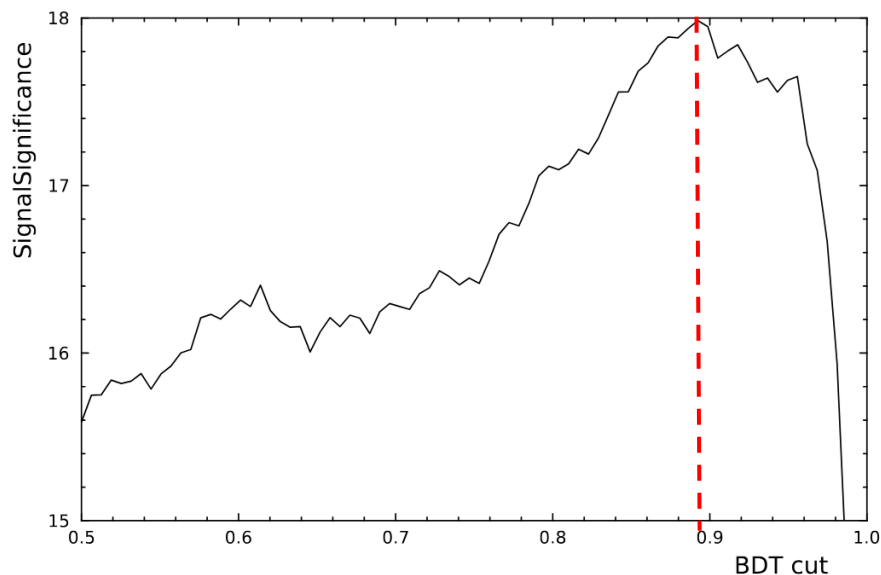
## ❖ Procedure :

- Scan through a range of BDT scores.
- Select events with scores larger than this set value (BDT cut).
- Evaluate signal (S) and background (B) yields in a fixed  $2\sigma$  interval around  $\Omega_b^-$  mass.

## ❖ $\Xi_c^+$ BDT do not need to be optimized

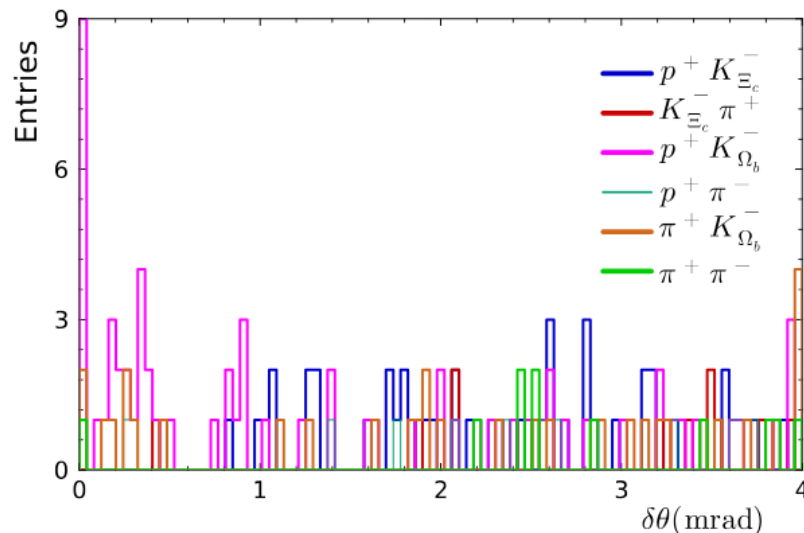
- For systematics :)

$$\text{SignalSignificance} = \frac{S}{\sqrt{S+B}}$$



# Cloned tracks and multiple candidates

- ❖ Cloned tracks are removed if two-track combinations have opening angles ( $\delta\theta$ ) less than 1 mrad.
- ❖ Multiple candidates are removed by selecting candidate with highest BDT score.



Year	Pre-BDT	$\Xi_c^+$ BDT	Optimized $\Omega_b^-$ BDT	Remove cloned tracks	Remove multiple candidates
2024	22,739,305	1,048,882	1976	1784	<b>1739</b>
2025	114,942,557	3,996,614	2906	2488	<b>2438</b>

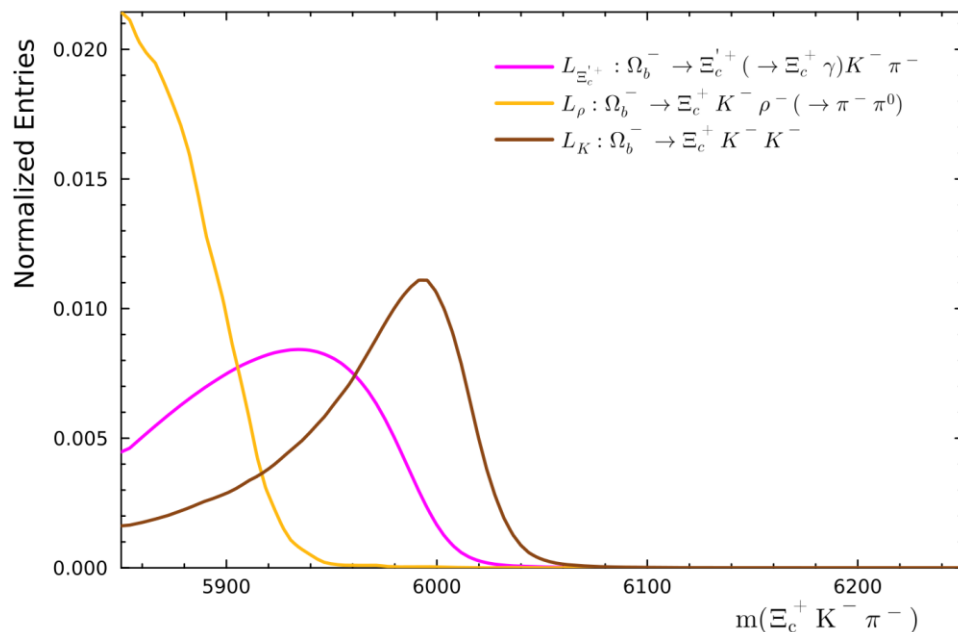


# Fit model for the $\Xi_c^+ K^- \pi^-$ mass spectrum

- ❖ The complete model can be written as:

$$\frac{dN}{dm(\Xi_c^+ K^- \pi^-)} = N_{sig}(f_{MC} \text{Normal}(m; \mu, \sigma \times \sigma_{ratio}) + (1 - f_{MC}) \text{Normal}(m; \mu, \sigma)) \\ + N_{bkg} \text{Exponential}(m; \lambda) + N_{\Xi_c^+} L_{\Xi_c^+}(m) + N_{\rho} L_{\rho}(m) + N_K L_K(m)$$

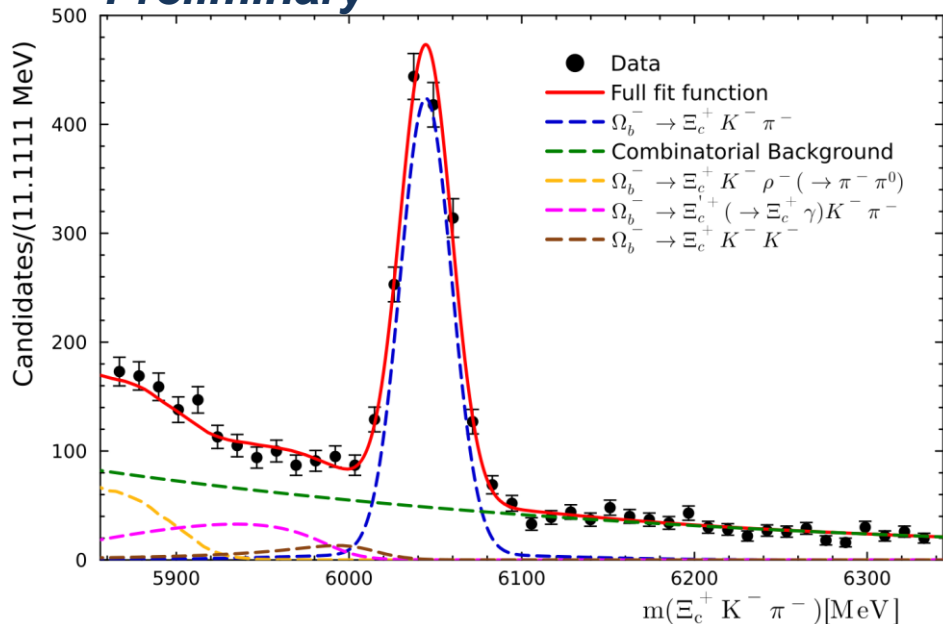
- ❖ Parameters  $f_{MC}$  and  $\sigma_{ratio}$  fixed from MC, rest all parameters are floated.
- ❖ 'L' are different lineshapes for feed-down backgrounds.
  - Modeled using simulated data from RapidSim.
- ❖ All components normalized to fit range.



# $\Xi_c^+ K^- \pi^-$ mass spectrum

- ❖ An extended negative log likelihood (extended-nll) fit is performed in the fit range of (5850,6350) MeV.
  - Signal yield per luminosity is roughly **2.5x** more compared to Run 2.

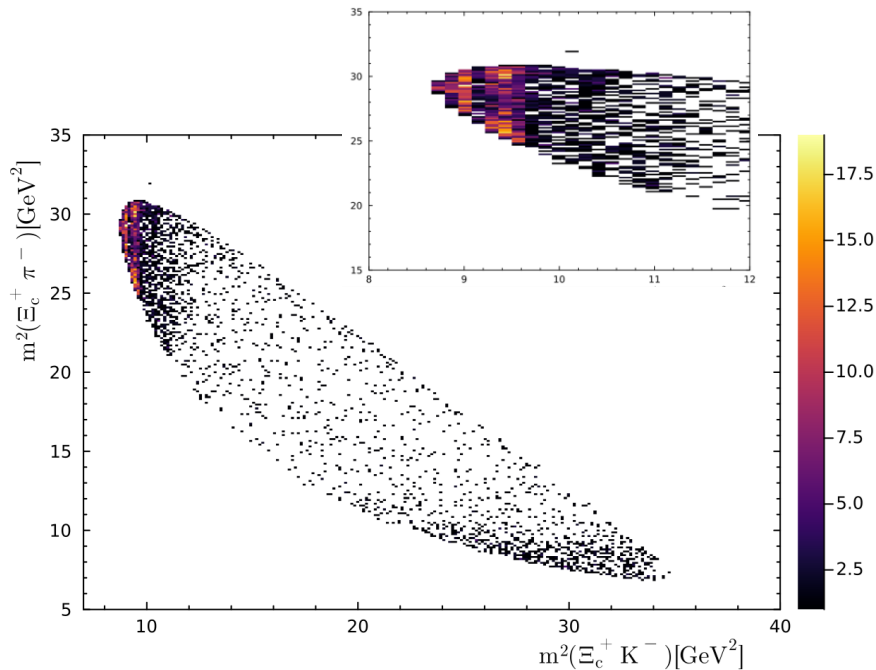
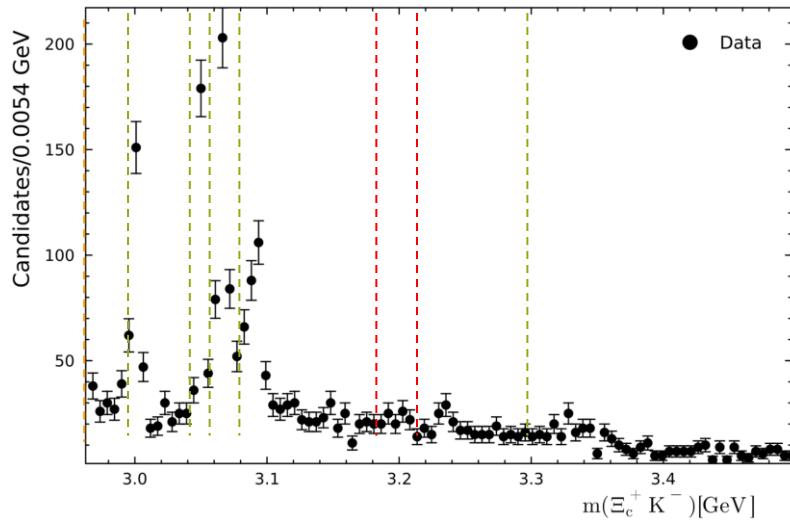
*Preliminary*



$\mu$	$6044.52 \pm 0.75$ MeV
$\sigma$	$74.48 \pm 3.45$ MeV
$\lambda$	$0.0027 \pm 0.0003$ MeV <sup>-1</sup>
$N_{\text{sig}}$	<b><math>1464.22 \pm 65.78</math></b>
$N_{\text{bkg}}$	$1982.5 \pm 79.03$
$N_{\Xi^+}$	$343.45 \pm 104.8$
$N_{\rho}$	$281.73 \pm 58.63$
$N_K$	$105.06 \pm 79.75$

LHCb sample	Signal Yield	Signal Yield per fb <sup>-1</sup>
Run 1 (3 fb <sup>-1</sup> )	44 ± 5	15 ± 2
Run 2 (6 fb <sup>-1</sup> )	199 ± 13	33 ± 2
Run 1 + Run 2 (9 fb <sup>-1</sup> )	240 ± 17	27 ± 1
<b>Run 3 (~ 17.8 fb<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>1464 ± 66</b>	<b>82 ± 4</b>

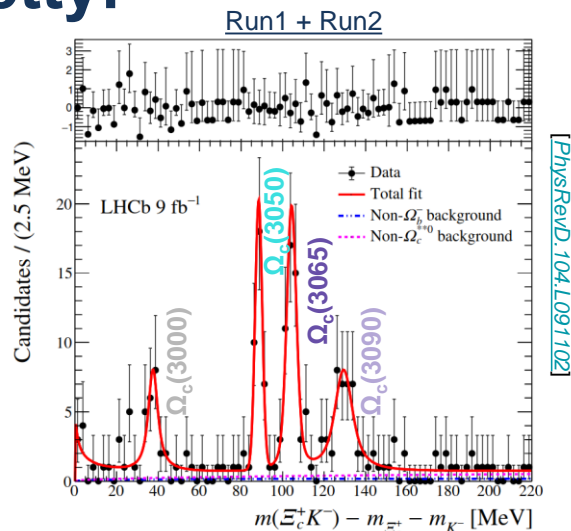
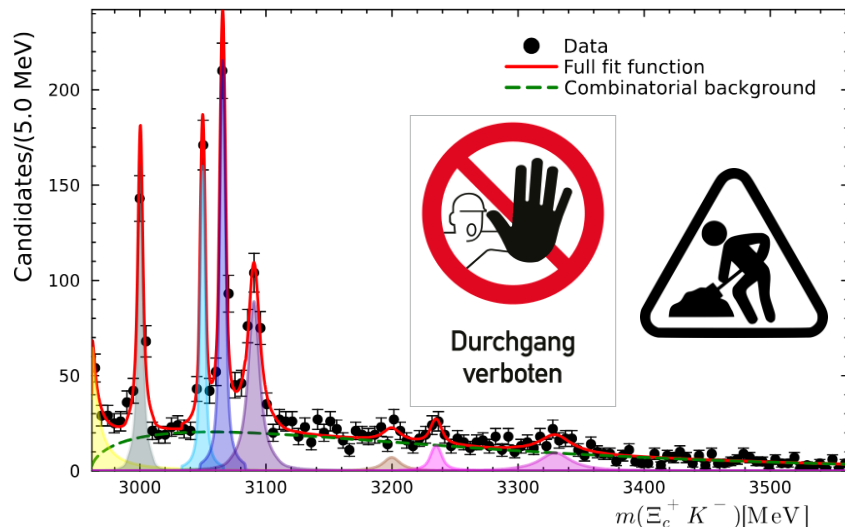
# $\Xi_c^+ K^-$ spectrum



❖ All excited  $\Omega_c^0$  resonances appear in a small region of the spectrum:

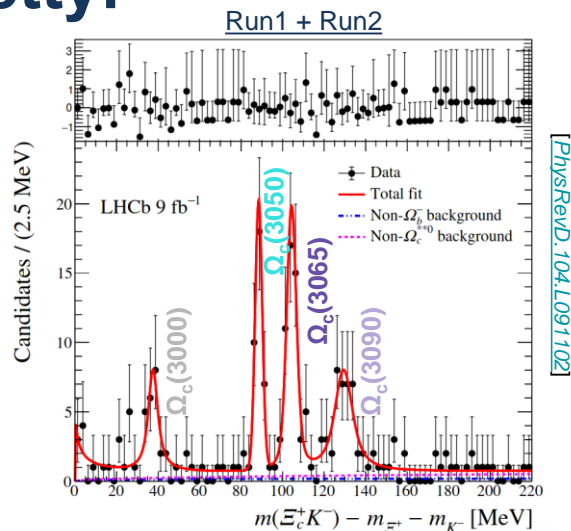
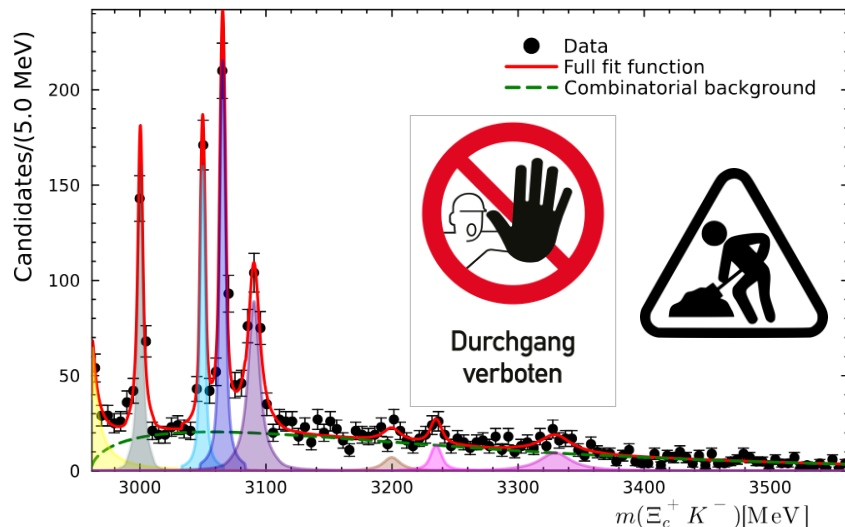
- Observed resonances incomplete set of quantum numbers.
- Unexplained peaking structures that ‘maybe’ are resonances.
- The  $\Xi_c^+ K^-$  threshold enhancement considered for study.

# Fitting $\Xi_c^+ K^-$ spectrum ... not so pretty!



- ❖ To fit spectrum :
  - Resonance peaks : Relativistic Breit Wigner (RBW)  $\otimes$  Resolution.
  - Combinatorial background : Exponential x Phase space function.
- ❖ Extremely narrow peaks dominated by resolution.
- ❖ Resolution model is to be investigated.

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To be continued ...

# Summary and next steps

- ❖ Run 3 data looks promising for studying  $\Omega_b^- \rightarrow \Xi_c^+ K^- \pi^-$  process to study excited states of  $\Omega_c^0$ .
- ❖ Data is now clean enough with background substantially reduced after careful multivariate selection and removal of unwanted events.
- ❖  $\Xi_c^+ K^- \pi^-$  spectrum is understood well.
- ❖ Resonances in the  $\Xi_c^+ K^-$  spectra are under study, promising to measure  $J^P$  of these states with high fidelity.

# BACKUP

# Discriminating variables for BDTs

Variable	Definition	Applied to	BDT
$1 - \sqrt{1 - \text{ProbNN}}$	The probability that the daughters are correctly identified	$p, K^-, \pi^-, K^-, \pi^-$	$\Xi_c^+, \Omega_b^-$
$\log(p_T)$	The natural logarithm of the transverse momentum	$p, K^-, \pi^-, \Xi_c^+, K^-, \pi^-, \Omega_b^-$	$\Xi_c^+, \Omega_b^-$
$\log(PID)$	The natural logarithm of the PID of particle	$p$	$\Xi_c^+$
$\log(\chi_{IP}^2)$	The natural logarithm of the impact parameter $\chi^2$ of the particles w.r.t primary vertex (PV)	$p, K^-, \pi^-, \Xi_c^+, K^-, \pi^-, \Omega_b^-$	$\Xi_c^+, \Omega_b^-$
$\log(\chi_{FD}^2)$	The natural logarithm of the flight distance $\chi^2$ of the composite particles	$\Xi_c^+, \Omega_b^-$	$\Xi_c^+, \Omega_b^-$
$\log(\rho)$	The natural logarithm of the radial distance of composite particle from the beam axis	$\Xi_c^+, \Omega_b^-$	$\Xi_c^+, \Omega_b^-$
$\log(\max(p_T))$	The natural logarithm of the maximum of the daughter transverse momenta	$p, K^-, \pi^-, K^-, \pi^-$	$\Xi_c^+, \Omega_b^-$
$\log(\min(p_T))$	The natural logarithm of the minimum of the daughter transverse momenta	$p, K^-, \pi^-, K^-, \pi^-$	$\Xi_c^+, \Omega_b^-$
$\log(\max(\chi_{IP}^2))$	The natural logarithm of the maximum of the impact parameter $\chi^2$ of the daughters	$p, K^-, \pi^-, K^-, \pi^-$	$\Xi_c^+, \Omega_b^-$
$\log(\min(\chi_{IP}^2))$	The natural logarithm of the minimum of the impact parameter $\chi^2$ of the daughters	$p, K^-, \pi^-$	$\Xi_c^+$
BDT score	Score of the $\Xi_c^+$ BDT		$\Omega_b^-$



- ❖ Data from 2024 and 2025 (partial) of Run 3 as tabulated below.
- ❖ Pre-selection for data done at trigger level and ntuple generation level are tabulated below.
- ❖ Following cuts were applied to the generated ntuples:
  - $\log(\text{Xicp\_rho}) > -2$
  - $p\_Xicp\_PROBNN\_P > 0.4$
  - $\log(\text{Minimum\_IPCHI2\_XicDau}) > 2.0$

Data block	Luminosity (fb <sup>-1</sup> )
Sprucing24c2a	3.192
Sprucing24c3a	2.087
Sprucing24c4a	1.146
Sprucing25c1	2.018
Sprucing25c2	-4.282
Sprucing25c3	-2.676
Sprucing25c4	2.407

Selection criteria while making ntuples

$\pi^\pm$	ProbNN > 0.1 PID_K < 20
p	ProbNN > 0.1 PID_P > -10
$K^-$	ProbNN > 0.1 PID_K > -10 $p_T > 250$ MeV $\chi_{IP}^2 > 4$

Selection criteria at trigger level

$\Omega_b^-$	5850 MeV < M < 6350 MeV $p_T > 5000$ MeV Vertex $\chi_{DOF}^2 < 10$ $\chi_{IP}^2 < 25$ $\tau > 0.2$ ps DIRA > 0.999
$\Xi_c^+$	2418 MeV < M < 2518 MeV Vertex $\chi_{DOF}^2 < 10$ $\chi_{FD}^2 < 36$ DIRA > 0 $\chi_{IP}^2 > 0$ DOCA < 0.2 mm
$\pi^-$	PID_K < 5 $P > 3000$ MeV $p_T > 300$ MeV
$K^-$	PID_K > -5 $P > 5000$ MeV $p_T > 500$ MeV
p	PID_K > -5 $P > 8000$ MeV $p_T > 500$ MeV

# Multivariate selection statistics

## ❖ For training the models

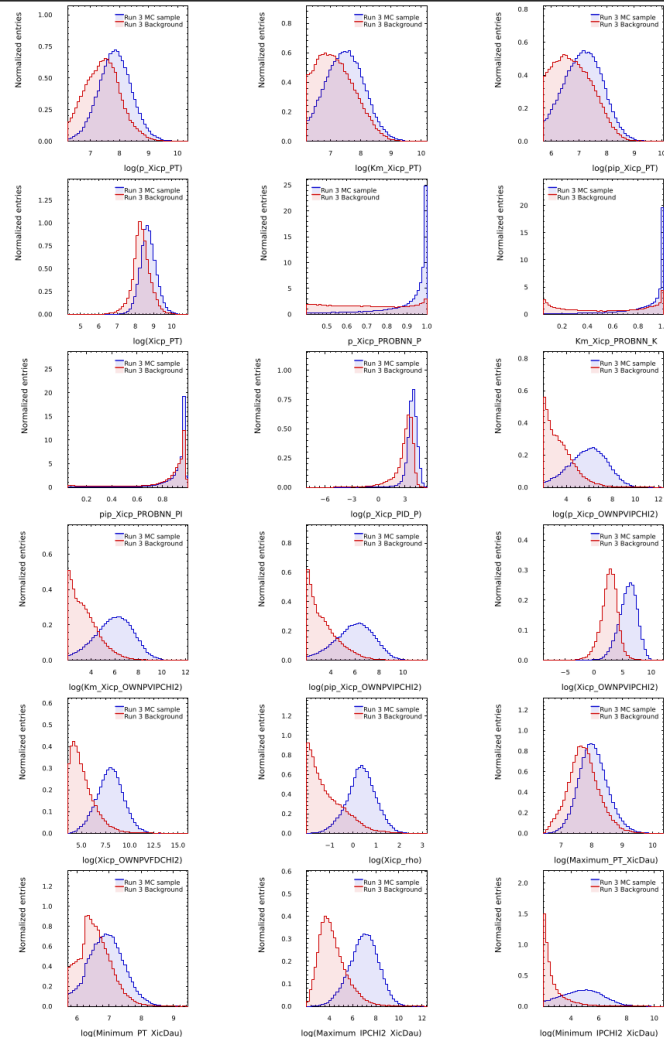
- 2024 MC is used for signal events
- Sidebands from 2024 data are used for background
  - (2508,2518) MeV for Xicp\_BDT
  - (6250,6350) MeV for Ombm\_BDT

	Training Set	Validation Set
<b>Xicp_BDT</b>	Signal : 105240 Background : 87349	Signal : 11694 Background : 9707
<b>Ombm_BDT</b>	Signal : 13337 Background : 13337	Signal : 1483 Background : 1482

# Xicp\_BDT features

## ❖ Feature importance:

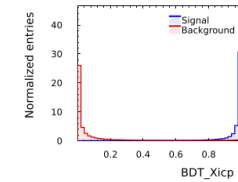
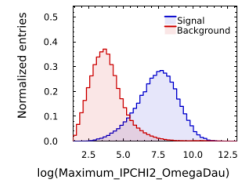
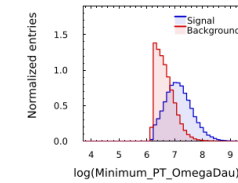
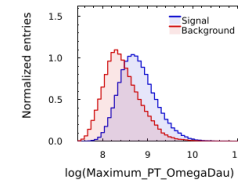
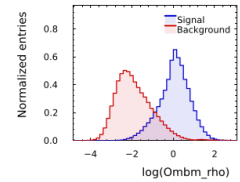
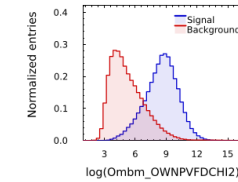
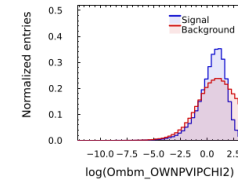
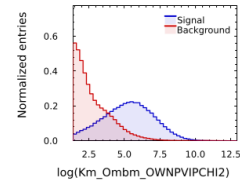
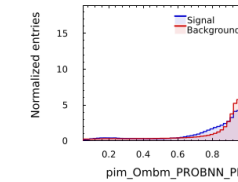
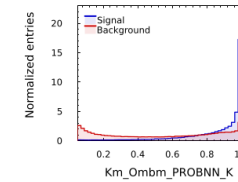
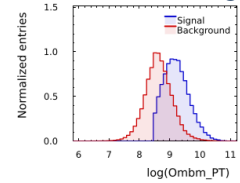
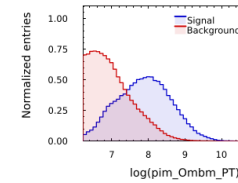
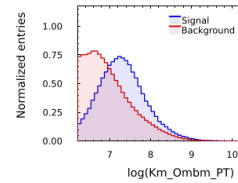
- $\log(\text{Maximum\_IPCHI2\_XicDau})$
- $\log(\text{Xicp\_OWNPVIPCHI2})$
- $\log(\text{Minimum\_IPCHI2\_XicDau})$
- $\log(\text{Xicp\_rho})$
- $p\_Xicp\_PROBNN\_P$
- $\text{Km\_Xicp\_PROBNN\_K}$
- $\log(p\_Xicp\_PID\_P)$
- $\log(\text{Xicp\_OWNPVFDCHI2})$
- $\log(p\_Xicp\_PT)$
- $\log(\text{Minimum\_PT\_XicDau})$
- $\log(\text{pip\_Xicp\_PT})$
- $\log(\text{pip\_Xicp\_OWNPVIPCHI2})$
- $\log(\text{Xicp\_PT})$
- $\text{pip\_Xicp\_PROBNN\_PI}$
- $\log(\text{Maximum\_PT\_XicDau})$
- $\log(\text{Km\_Xicp\_PT})$
- $\log(\text{Km\_Xicp\_OWNPVIPCHI2})$
- $\log(p\_Xicp\_OWNPVIPCHI2)$



# Ombm\_BDT features

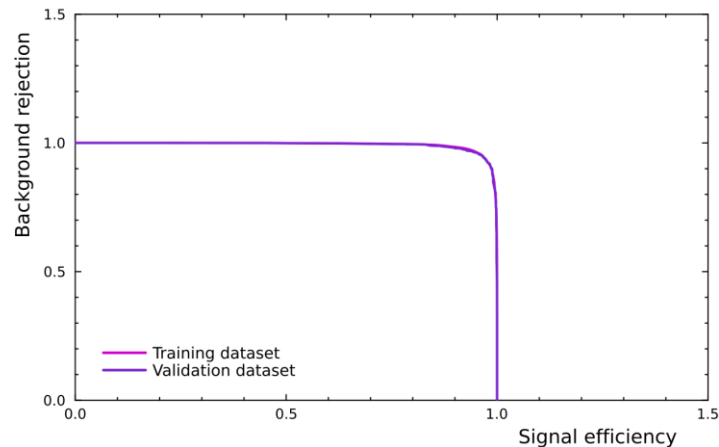
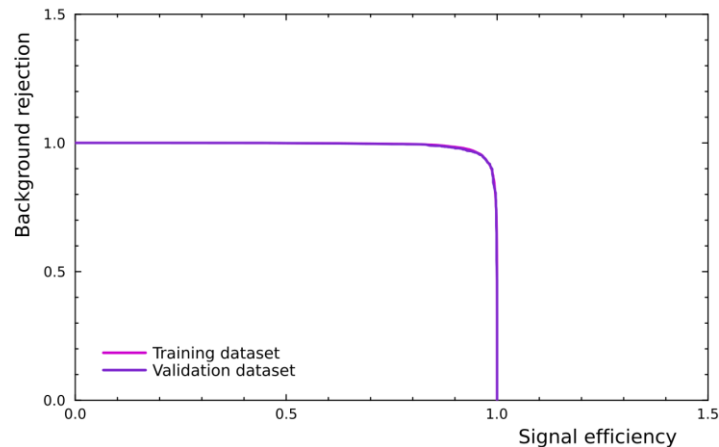
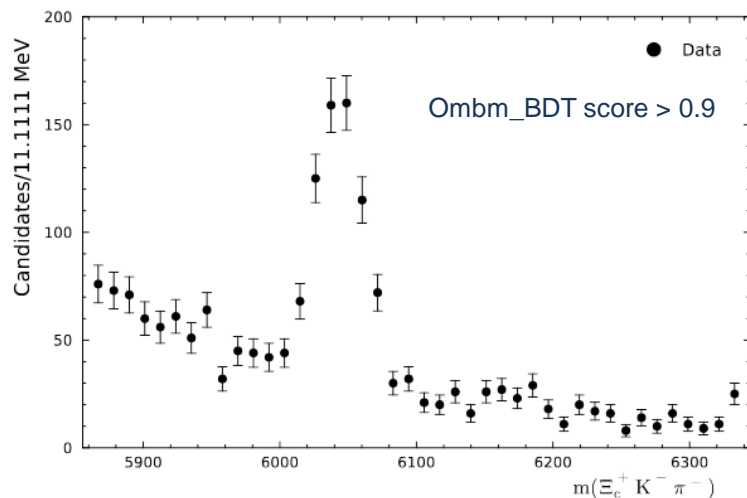
## ❖ Feature importance

- **BDT\_Xicp (Xicp\_BDT score)**
- **log(Maximum\_IPCHI2\_OmegaDau)**
- **log(Minimum\_PT\_OmegaDau)**
- **log(Ombm\_rho)**
- **Km\_Ombm\_PROBNN\_K**
- **log(Ombm\_PT)**
- **log(Ombm\_OWNPVIPCHI2)**
- **log(pim\_Ombm\_PT)**
- **log(Km\_Ombm\_OWNPVIPCHI2)**
- **log(Ombm\_OWNPVFDCHI2)**
- **log(Km\_Ombm\_PT)**
- **log(Maximum\_PT\_OmegaDau)**
- **pim\_Ombm\_PROBNN\_PI**

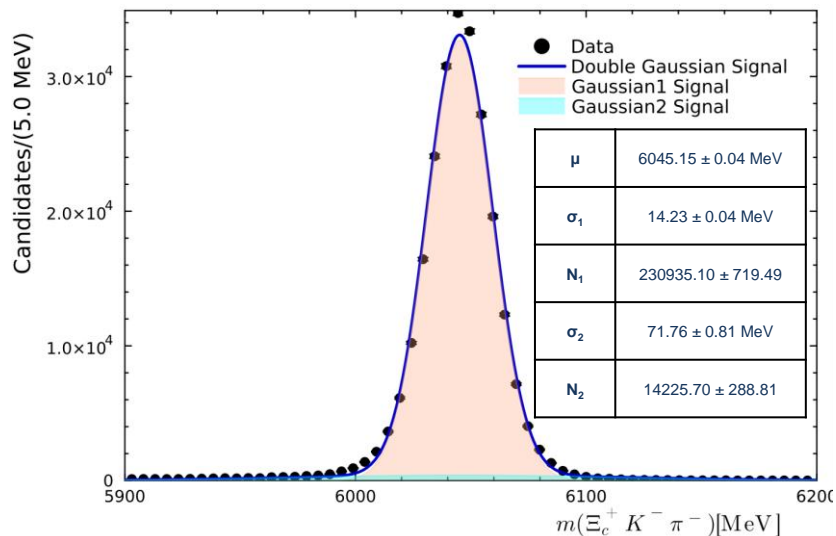


# $\Omega_b^-$ - BDT performance

- ❖ BDT performance is good just like in  $\Xi_c^+$  BDT
- ❖ Quite reduced background for high scores
  - $\Omega_b^-$  signal distinctly visible at expected PDG value



# Fit model for the $\Xi_c^+ K^- \pi^-$ mass spectrum



$$f_{MC} = \frac{N_1}{N_1 + N_2}$$

$$\sigma_{MC} = \sqrt{f\sigma_1^2 + (1-f)\sigma_2^2}$$

- ❖ The fit model to describe the  $\Xi_c^+ K^- \pi^-$  spectra comprises of three components:
  - Double Gaussian signal model with ratio of widths and fit fraction fixed from MC.
  - Exponential function for the combinatorial background
  - Lineshapes for feed-down backgrounds.
- ❖ The double gaussian fit for  $\Xi_c^+ K^- \pi^-$  spectra is shown for MC. From fit data, we get
  - Fit fraction ( $f_{MC}$ ) = 0.94
  - Effective width ( $\sigma_{MC}$ ) = 22.11 MeV
  - $\sigma_{ratio} = \sigma_1/\sigma_2 = 0.19$

# Cloned tracks and multiple candidates

- ❖ After multivariate selection, further cleaning of data is done.
- ❖ Cloned tracks are looked for using  $\delta\theta$  distributions.
  - $\delta\theta$  is the angle measured between two tracks using their momenta.
  - Tracks with very small  $\delta\theta$  are more prone to be 'cloned'.
  - Remove these events if  $\delta\theta < 1$  mrad
- ❖ For multiple candidates,
  - Define UniqueID = EventNumber +  $10^9 \times$  RunNumber
  - Events with same UniqueID are counted as multiple
  - candidates.
  - From this set, select events with highest Ombm BDT score.

# $\Xi_c^+ K^-$ spectrum

