



Suppression of $\Upsilon(1S)$, $\Upsilon(2S)$, and $\Upsilon(3S)$ quarkonium states in PbPb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV



The CMS Collaboration*

CERN, Switzerland

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ABSTRACT

The production yields of $\Upsilon(1S)$, $\Upsilon(2S)$, and $\Upsilon(3S)$ quarkonium states are measured through their decays into muon pairs in the CMS detector, in PbPb and pp collisions at the centre-of-mass energy per nucleon pair of 2.76 TeV. The data correspond to integrated luminosities of $166 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$ and 5.4pb^{-1} for PbPb and pp collisions, respectively. Differential production cross sections are reported as functions of Υ rapidity y up to 2.4, and transverse momentum p_T up to 20 GeV/c. A strong centrality-dependent suppression is observed in PbPb relative to pp collisions, by factors of up to ≈ 2 and 8, for the $\Upsilon(1S)$ and $\Upsilon(2S)$ states, respectively. No significant dependence of this suppression is observed as a function of y or p_T . The $\Upsilon(3S)$ state is not observed in PbPb collisions, which corresponds to a suppression for the centrality-integrated data by at least a factor of ≈ 7 at a 95% confidence level. The observed suppression is in agreement with theoretical scenarios modeling the sequential melting of quarkonium states in a quark gluon plasma.

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1. Introduction

At large energy density and high temperature, strongly interacting matter is predicted by lattice QCD calculations to consist of a deconfined system of quarks and gluons [1]. This state, often referred to as “quark gluon plasma” (QGP) [2], constitutes the main object of studies using high energy heavy ion collisions.

The formation of QGP in nuclear collisions is studied in a variety of ways. One of its most striking signatures is the sequential suppression of quarkonium states, both in the charmonium (J/ψ , ψ' , χ_c , etc.) and the bottomonium ($\Upsilon(1S)$, $2S$, $3S$), χ_b , etc.) families. Historically, this phenomenon was proposed as direct evidence of deconfinement because, in the deconfined medium, the binding potential between the constituents of a quarkonium state, a heavy quark and its antiquark ($Q\bar{Q}$), should be screened by the colour charges of the surrounding light quarks and gluons [3,4]. The suppression of quarkonium production is predicted to occur above the critical temperature of the medium (T_c) and to depend on the $Q\bar{Q}$ binding energy. Since the $\Upsilon(1S)$ is the most tightly bound state among all quarkonia, it is expected to have the highest dissociation temperature. Estimates of dissociation temperatures are given in Ref. [5]: $T_{\text{dissoc}} \approx 2T_c$, $1.2T_c$, and $1T_c$ for the $\Upsilon(1S)$, $\Upsilon(2S)$, and $\Upsilon(3S)$ states, respectively. Other medium effects, such as regeneration from initially uncorrelated quark–antiquark pairs [6,7]

or absorption by comoving particles [8,9] can modify quarkonium production in heavy ion collisions. Furthermore, nuclear effects such as modifications of parton distributions inside nuclei [10] or energy loss processes in nuclear matter [11] are expected to affect the production of quarkonia independently of any QGP formation. An admixture of several of the above-mentioned effects in the context of bottomonium production is investigated in Refs. [12, 13] and a recent review on quarkonium production can be found in Ref. [14].

The suppression of $\Upsilon(1S)$ production in heavy ion collisions relative to pp yields scaled by the number of binary nucleon–nucleon (NN) collisions was first measured by CMS [15] in the midrapidity range $|y| < 2.4$, then by ALICE at forward rapidities $2.5 < y < 4$ [16]. Both measurements were done at the CERN LHC in PbPb collisions at a centre-of-mass energy per nucleon pair, $\sqrt{s_{NN}}$, of 2.76 TeV. A larger suppression of the $\Upsilon(2S)$ and $\Upsilon(3S)$ was first suggested [17] then observed [18] by CMS. In pPb collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$ TeV, ALICE [19] and LHCb [20] reported $\Upsilon(1S)$ yields that are slightly suppressed along the p-going forward direction, possibly indicating the importance of nuclear effects. Lacking pp reference data at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 5.02$ TeV, the pp yields were estimated by interpolating results at 2.76, 7, and 8 TeV [19], or by scaling data at 8 TeV [20]. The $\Upsilon(2S)$ and $\Upsilon(3S)$ were reported by CMS to be slightly more suppressed than the $\Upsilon(1S)$ ground state in pPb collisions [21]. At the BNL RHIC, STAR reported no significant suppression of the overlapping $\Upsilon(1S+2S+3S)$ states in dAu collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 200$ GeV, while observing a suppression in central

* E-mail address: cms-publication-committee-chair@cern.ch.

AuAu collisions at the same energy [22]. Altogether, these results are interpreted as a sequential suppression of the three states in nucleus–nucleus collisions [12,13], with the tighter bound states disappearing less in the QGP.

This Letter reports the production yields of $\Upsilon(1S)$, $\Upsilon(2S)$, and $\Upsilon(3S)$ for PbPb and pp data at the same $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV, using integrated luminosities of $166 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$ and 5.4pb^{-1} , respectively. The two sets of data correspond to approximately the same number of NN collisions. The pp sample collected in 2013 contains 20 times more events than the 2011 data used previously [15,17,18], allowing further differential studies with respect to the Υ meson rapidity and transverse momentum. Muon reconstruction is improved in PbPb collisions relative to Ref. [18], yielding a 35% increase in the number of measured Υ candidates. In total, the improved reconstruction and a relaxed muon- p_T selection provide almost twice the number of $\Upsilon(1S)$ candidates used in Ref. [18]. The yields in PbPb and pp events are used to extract nuclear modification factors, R_{AA} .

2. The CMS detector

A detailed description of the CMS detector, together with a definition of the coordinate system used and the relevant kinematic variables, can be found in Ref. [23]. The central feature of the CMS apparatus is a superconducting solenoid of 6 m internal diameter. A silicon tracker, a crystal electromagnetic calorimeter, and a brass and scintillator hadron calorimeter reside within the magnetic field volume.

Muons are detected in the pseudorapidity interval $|\eta| < 2.4$ using gas-ionization detectors made of three technologies: drift tubes, cathode strip chambers, and resistive-plate chambers, embedded in the steel flux-return yoke of the solenoid. The silicon tracker is composed of pixel detectors (three barrel layers and two forward disks on either side of the detector, made of 66 million $100 \times 150 \mu\text{m}^2$ pixels) followed by microstrip detectors (ten barrel layers, and three inner and nine forward disks on either side of the detector, with strips of pitch between 80 and $180 \mu\text{m}$). The transverse momentum of muons matched to tracks reconstructed in the silicon detector is measured with a resolution better than 1.5% for p_T values smaller than $100 \text{GeV}/c$ [24]. This high resolution is the result of the 3.8 T magnetic field and the high granularity of the silicon tracker.

In addition, CMS has extensive forward calorimetry, including two steel and quartz-fibre Cherenkov hadron forward (HF) calorimeters, that cover the range $2.9 < |\eta| < 5.2$. These detectors are used in the present analysis to select events and to determine the centrality of PbPb collisions, as described in the next section.

3. Data selections

3.1. Event selection and centrality

To select purely inelastic hadronic PbPb collisions, contributions from ultraperipheral collisions and noncollision beam backgrounds are removed, as described in Ref. [25]. Events are preselected if they contain a primary vertex built from at least two tracks, and at least three signals (one in the case of pp collisions) in HF towers on each side of the interaction point with deposited energies of at least 3 GeV in each tower. To further suppress beam-gas events, the distribution of hits in the pixel detector along the beam direction is required to be compatible with particles originating from the event vertex. These criteria select $(97 \pm 3)\%$ of the inelastic hadronic PbPb collisions [25], yielding an efficiency-corrected number of minimum bias (MB) events $N_{\text{MB}} = (1.16 \pm 0.04) \times 10^9$ for the MB sample corresponding to this analysis. The pp data

Table 1

Average values of the number of participating nucleons (N_{part} , with the root-mean-square of its distribution in each bin), and nuclear overlap function (T_{AA} , with its systematic uncertainty) for the centrality bins used in the $\Upsilon(1S)$ (upper rows) and $\Upsilon(2S)$ (middle) analyses. The centrality-integrated values are given in the last row.

Centrality (%)	$\langle N_{\text{part}} \rangle$ (RMS)	$\langle T_{AA} \rangle$ (mb^{-1})
0–5	381 (19)	25.9 ± 1.1
5–10	329 (22)	20.5 ± 0.9
10–20	261 (30)	14.5 ± 0.8
20–30	187 (23)	8.80 ± 0.58
30–40	130 (18)	5.09 ± 0.43
40–50	86.2 (13.6)	2.75 ± 0.30
50–70	42.0 (14.4)	0.98 ± 0.14
70–100	8.8 (6.0)	0.125 ± 0.023
0–10	355 (33)	23.2 ± 1.0
10–30	224 (46)	11.6 ± 0.7
30–50	108 (27)	3.92 ± 0.37
50–100	22.1 (19.3)	0.47 ± 0.07
0–100	113 (115)	5.67 ± 0.32

correspond to an integrated luminosity of 5.4pb^{-1} , known to an accuracy of 3.7% coming from the uncertainty in the calibration based on a van der Meer scan [26].

The measurements are based on events that were first selected by the Level-1 trigger, a hardware-based system that uses information from the muon detectors and calorimeters. The presence of at least two muons was required, with no selection applied on their momenta. The events were then further filtered using a software-based high-level trigger, and rejected if muons were poorly reconstructed, hence likely to be misidentified. The pp and PbPb data were collected using the same trigger logic.

The centrality of PbPb collisions is defined as the fraction of the total number of inelastic hadronic collisions, with 0% representing collisions with the largest overlap of the two nuclei. This fraction is determined from the distribution of total energy in both HF calorimeters. Variables related to the centrality, such as the number of nucleons participating in the collision (N_{part}) and the nuclear overlap function (T_{AA}) [27], are estimated using a Glauber model simulation described in Ref. [25]. The value of T_{AA} at a given centrality is equal to the number of binary NN collisions divided by the NN cross section and can be interpreted as the NN-equivalent integrated luminosity per heavy ion collision.

It is to be noted that the PbPb hadronic cross section ($7.65 \pm 0.42 \text{b}$) computed with this Glauber simulation corresponds to an integrated luminosity of $152 \pm 9 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$, compatible within 1.2 sigma with the experimental value of $166 \pm 8 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$ based on the van der Meer scan. The mean values of T_{AA} and N_{part} are presented in Table 1 for the narrow centrality bins used in the $\Upsilon(1S)$ analysis, the wider bins used in the $\Upsilon(2S)$ analysis, and the centrality-integrated estimate. The most peripheral bins are rather wide and, since quarkonium yields scale with the number of nucleon–nucleon collisions, most bottomonia are produced close to the most central edge of the bins, namely 70% and 50%. The $\langle N_{\text{part}} \rangle$ values shown in the following figures and reported in Table 1 are computed by averaging over all MB events in a given centrality bin, and are therefore not corrected for any bias introduced by requiring the presence of the Υ . Also presented is the root-mean-square (RMS) of the N_{part} distribution in each bin. The uncertainty on T_{AA} is computed by varying the Glauber parameters and the event selection inefficiency, as described in Ref. [25]. In this Letter, $\langle N_{\text{part}} \rangle$ is used to show the centrality dependence of the measurements, while T_{AA} directly enters into the nuclear modification factor calculation: $R_{AA} = N_{\text{PbPb}} / (T_{AA} \sigma_{\text{pp}})$ where N_{PbPb} is the number of Υ produced per PbPb collision in a given kinematic range and σ_{pp} the corresponding Υ cross section in pp collisions.

3.2. Muon selection

Muons are reconstructed using a global fit to a track in the muon detectors that is matched to a track in the silicon tracker. The offline muon reconstruction algorithm used for the PbPb data has been improved relative to that used previously [18]. The efficiency has been increased by running multiple iterations in the pattern recognition step, raising the number of reconstructed $\Upsilon(1S)$ candidates by approximately 35%. Background muons from cosmic rays and heavy-quark semileptonic decays are rejected by imposing a set of selection criteria on each muon track. These criteria are based on previous studies of the performance of the muon reconstruction algorithm [28]. The track is required to have a hit in at least one pixel detector layer, and a respective transverse (longitudinal) distance of closest approach of less than 3(15) cm from the measured primary vertex, primarily to reject cosmic ray muons and muons from hadron decays in flight. To ensure a good p_T measurement, more than 10 hits are requested in the tracker, and the χ^2 per number of degrees of freedom of the trajectory fits is limited to be smaller than 10 when using the silicon tracker and the muon detectors, and smaller than 4 when using only the tracker. Pairs of oppositely charged muons are considered when the χ^2 fit probability of the tracks originating from a common vertex exceeds 1%.

For the $\Upsilon(2S)$ and $\Upsilon(3S)$ analyses, the transverse momentum of each muon (p_T^μ) is required to be above 4 GeV/c, as in previous publications [15,17,18], while one of them is relaxed down to 3.5 GeV/c for the $\Upsilon(1S)$ analysis. Reducing this p_T threshold raises the $\Upsilon(1S)$ yield by approximately 40%, and its statistical significance by up to 50%, depending on the p_T and y of the dimuon system. Relaxing the criterion on the second muon was also considered then discarded, since it did not significantly raise the acceptance for the Υ states. The resulting invariant mass distributions are shown on Fig. 1 for the entire pp and PbPb data samples.

4. Analysis

4.1. Signal extraction

To extract the $\Upsilon(1S)$, $\Upsilon(2S)$, and $\Upsilon(3S)$ meson yields, unbinned maximum likelihood fits to the $\mu^+\mu^-$ invariant mass spectra are performed between 7.5 and 14 GeV/c². The results for the p_T , y - and centrality-integrated case are displayed as solid lines on Fig. 1. Each Υ resonance is modelled by the sum of two Crystal Ball (CB) functions [29] with common mean but different widths to account for the pseudorapidity dependence of the muon momentum resolution. The CB functions are Gaussian resolution functions with the low-side tail replaced by a power law describing final-state radiation. This choice was guided by simulation studies, as well as analyses of large pp event samples collected at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV [30]. Given the relatively large statistical uncertainties, the only signal model parameters that are left free in the fit are the mean of the $\Upsilon(1S)$ peak, and the $\Upsilon(1S)$, $\Upsilon(2S)$ and $\Upsilon(3S)$ meson yields. The other parameters, such as the width of the $\Upsilon(1S)$ peak are fixed in every bin to the corresponding value obtained from simulations. The mean and width of the CB functions describing the $\Upsilon(2S)$ and $\Upsilon(3S)$ peaks are set by the fitted $\Upsilon(1S)$ peak mean and the fixed $\Upsilon(1S)$ width, respectively, multiplied by the world-average mass ratio [31]. The parameters describing the tail of the CB function are fixed to values obtained from simulations, kept common in the three Υ states, then allowed to vary when computing the associated systematic uncertainties. The background distribution is modelled by an exponential function multiplied by an error function (the integral of a Gaussian) describing the low-mass turn-on, with all parameters left free in the fit.

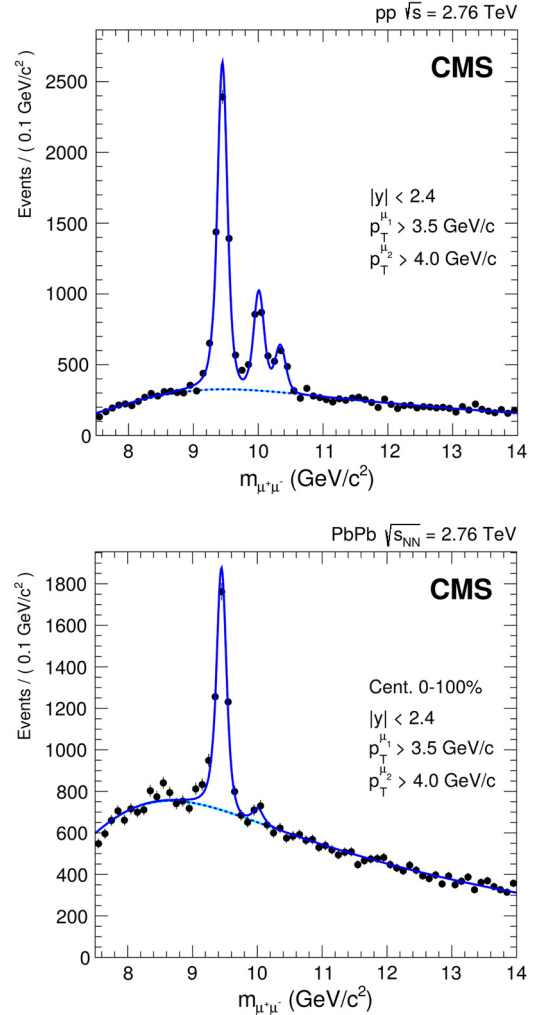


Fig. 1. Dimuon invariant mass distributions in pp (top) and centrality-integrated PbPb (bottom) data at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76$ TeV, for muon pairs having one p_T greater than 4 GeV/c and the other greater than 3.5 GeV/c. The solid (signal + background) and dashed (background only) lines show the result of fits described in the text.

With one muon having p_T greater than 4 GeV/c and the other greater than 3.5 GeV/c, this fitting procedure results in $\Upsilon(1S)$ meson yields and statistical uncertainties of 2534 ± 76 and 5014 ± 87 in centrality-integrated PbPb and pp collisions, respectively. With both muons' transverse momenta above 4 GeV/c, it yields 173 ± 41 for $\Upsilon(2S)$ and 7 ± 38 for $\Upsilon(3S)$ (hence unobserved) in PbPb collisions, and 1214 ± 51 for $\Upsilon(2S)$ and 618 ± 44 for $\Upsilon(3S)$ states in pp collisions.

4.2. Acceptance and efficiency

To correct yields for acceptance and efficiency in the two data samples, the three Υ states have been simulated using the PYTHIA 6.412 generator [32] and embedded in PbPb events simulated with HYDJET 1.8 [33], producing Monte Carlo (MC) events with the same settings as in Ref. [18], including radiative tails handled by PHOTOS [34]. Acceptance is defined as the fraction of Υ in the $|y| < 2.4$ range that decay into two muons, each with $|\eta^\mu| < 2.4$, and $p_T^{\mu 2} > 4$ GeV/c and $p_T^{\mu 1} > 3.5$ or 4 GeV/c for the $\Upsilon(1S)$ and $\Upsilon(2S)/\Upsilon(3S)$ states, respectively. For the $\Upsilon(1S)$ state, the acceptance over the analyzed phase space averages to 35%. For all three Υ states, the acceptance is constant over most of the rapidity range, with a drop at large $|y|$. When the Υ meson has

$p_T \approx 5 \text{ GeV}/c$, the lower p_T decay muon often falls below the required momentum to reach the muon detector, resulting in a drop in acceptance for intermediate p_T . For $\Upsilon(2S)$ and $\Upsilon(3S)$ states, where p_T for both muons is required to be above $4 \text{ GeV}/c$, the acceptance is 28 and 33%, respectively. Within this acceptance, the average reconstruction and trigger efficiencies are 68, 74 and 75% for the $\Upsilon(1S)$, $\Upsilon(2S)$, and $\Upsilon(3S)$ states, respectively. The slightly lower efficiency for the $\Upsilon(1S)$ state arises from including lower- p_T muons, which have smaller reconstruction efficiencies, in particular at midrapidity.

The individual components of the efficiency are crosschecked using collision data and muons from J/ψ meson decays, with a technique called tag-and-probe, similar to the one described in Ref. [30]. The method consists of fitting the J/ψ candidates in data and MC samples, with and without applying the probed selection criterion on one of the muons. The muon reconstruction, identification, and trigger efficiencies in the muon detectors are probed by testing the selection response in a sample collected with single-muon triggers. The small discrepancies observed between the results for data and simulation are used to determine p_T - and η -dependent single-muon correction factors that are applied to muons in the simulation. The net correction factors to the Υ meson yields range from 3 to 18%, the largest being located at low p_T or at large $|\eta|$. The tracker efficiency, larger than 99%, is also evaluated with this method by checking the presence of a track for muons that are primarily reconstructed in the muon detectors. The corresponding uncertainty is evaluated to be 0.3 and 0.6% for each muon, for the pp and PbPb data, respectively.

4.3. Systematic uncertainties

The uncertainty from the fitting procedure is estimated by performing seven changes in the fitting functions. Five of them consist of releasing one by one the originally fixed signal-shape parameters, to accommodate for possible imperfections in the simulation. The other two changes consist of adding to the default background function a first- or second-order Chebychev polynomial. The maxima of the five signal and of the two background variations are summed in quadrature, yielding systematic uncertainties from 4 to 25% in the PbPb data and from 1 to 10% in the pp data, for the $\Upsilon(1S)$ meson yield. For the less significant $\Upsilon(2S)$ signal, the uncertainties range from 13 to 71% in PbPb, and from 1 to 15% in pp data.

The systematic uncertainty from the acceptance and efficiency estimation includes changes of the generated p_T and y spectra, as well as variations of the distribution of Υ candidates across event centrality, within limits imposed by the data themselves. These are propagated into bin-by-bin systematic uncertainties of 0.7 and 1.1% on average, in pp and PbPb collisions, respectively.

Single-muon efficiencies obtained from the tag-and-probe method are assigned a systematic uncertainty from varying requirements for the tag selection, the dimuon mass range, and the distributions of the invariant mass peak and the underlying backgrounds. The maximum deviation in each p_T^μ and η^μ interval is retained as the systematic uncertainty on the single-muon correction factors. Next, the single-muon correction factors are changed within their statistical uncertainties derived from data. To do so, one hundred variations of the single-muon efficiencies are computed, resulting in one hundred dimuon efficiency correction factors in each analysis bin. The RMS of the resulting efficiencies, summed in quadrature with the systematic uncertainty in the efficiency correction factors, represent the overall uncertainty in muon efficiency. The resulting systematic uncertainties range from 3.2 to 7.7% from midrapidity in pp collisions to the most forward bins in PbPb collisions. In addition, the uncertainty in the tracking

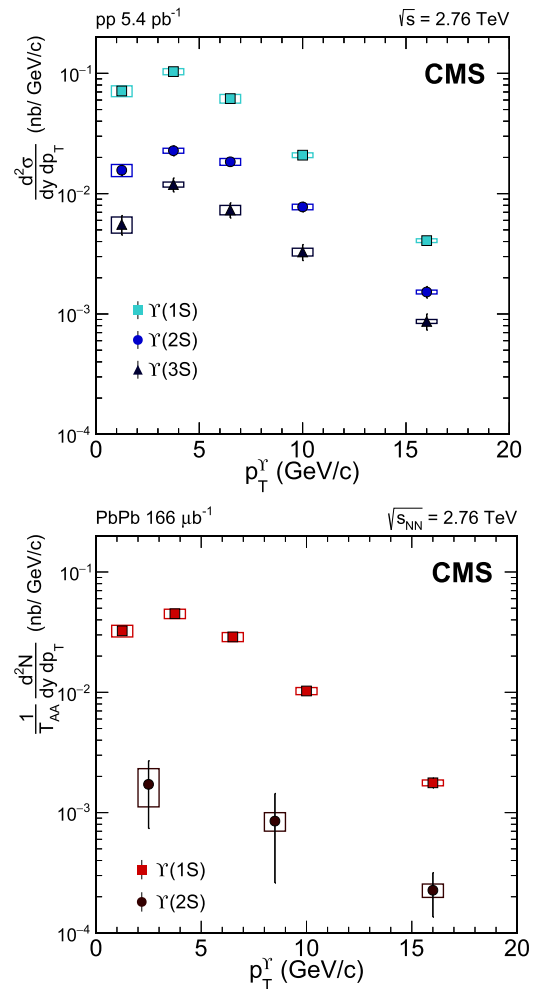


Fig. 2. Differential cross section for Υ states as a function of their transverse momentum and per unit of rapidity in pp (top) and PbPb (bottom) collisions. The PbPb results are integrated over centrality and divided by the number of elementary NN collisions. Statistical (systematic) uncertainties are displayed as error bars (boxes). Global relative uncertainties of 3.7% (pp) and 6.5% (PbPb) are not displayed.

efficiency of 0.3 and 0.6% for each track is considered as fully correlated and thus doubled for dimuon candidates, and taken as a global uncertainty (common to all points).

The relative uncertainties in the integrated luminosity of pp data (3.7%) or the number of PbPb MB events (3%) are also considered as global uncertainties. The uncertainties in the T_{AA} values are given in Table 1.

5. Results

5.1. Cross sections

Figs. 2 and 3 show the differential cross sections as functions of p_T (per unit of rapidity) and $|\eta|$, respectively, in pp (top) and PbPb (bottom) collisions. Measured yields are corrected for the acceptance and efficiency, then divided by the width of the bin in consideration. To put the pp and PbPb data on a comparable scale, the corrected yields are normalized by the measured integrated luminosity in pp collisions, and by the product of the number of corresponding MB events and the centrality-integrated T_{AA} value for PbPb collisions. The statistical uncertainties in pp collisions allow a measurement for the three states using the same binning: five bins in p_T with edges at 0, 2.5, 5.0, 8.0, 12.0, and 20.0 GeV/c,

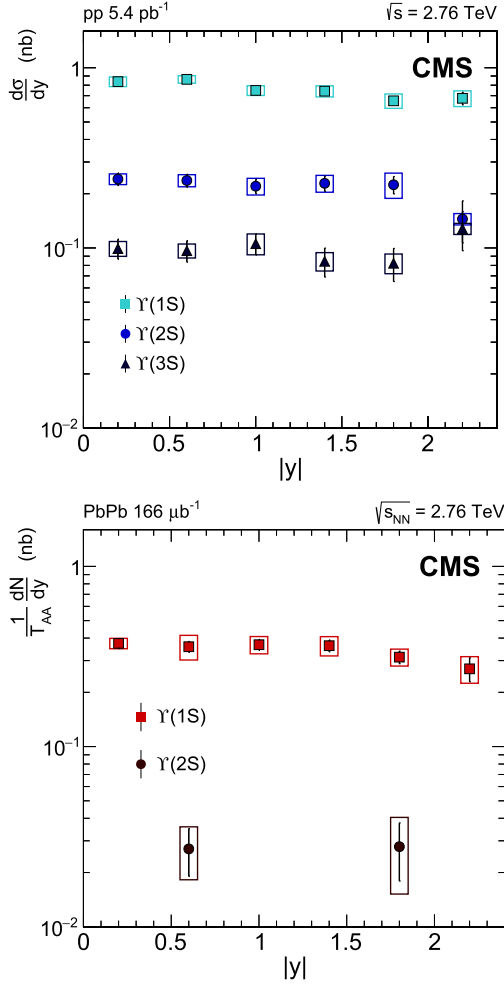


Fig. 3. Differential cross section for Υ states as a function of their rapidity and integrated over transverse momentum in pp (top) and PbPb (bottom) collisions. The PbPb results are integrated over centrality and divided by the number of elementary NN collisions. Statistical (systematic) uncertainties are displayed as error bars (boxes). Global relative uncertainties of 3.7% (pp) and 6.5% (PbPb) are not displayed.

and six equal bins in $|y|$ from 0 to 2.4. In PbPb collisions, that same binning can be used for the $\Upsilon(1S)$ analysis, but wider bins are necessary in the $\Upsilon(2S)$ case: three bins in p_T with edges at 0, 5, 12 and 20 GeV/c, and two bins in y . The $\Upsilon(3S)$ state is not observed in PbPb collisions, and an upper limit is obtained for the p_T -, y - and centrality-integrated yield. The corresponding global (fully correlated) uncertainties (not shown in the plots) include the uncertainty due to the integrated luminosity in pp data, the uncertainties due to T_{AA} and the number of MB events in PbPb data, and the uncertainty in the tracking efficiency in both cases.

5.2. Nuclear modification factors

Nuclear modification factors, R_{AA} , obtained by dividing the PbPb yields by the product of the T_{AA} values and the pp cross sections, are shown on Fig. 4 as a function of the Υ meson p_T (top) and $|y|$ (bottom). The global (fully correlated) uncertainty here includes the uncertainties in tracking efficiency, the integrated luminosity of the pp data, the number of MB PbPb events, and the centrality-integrated T_{AA} value. The R_{AA} results show a suppression of a factor of ≈ 2 and 8 for $\Upsilon(1S)$ and $\Upsilon(2S)$ states, respectively. No pronounced dependence on the Υ meson kinematics is observed, the values being constant within uncertainties as a function of both p_T and y .

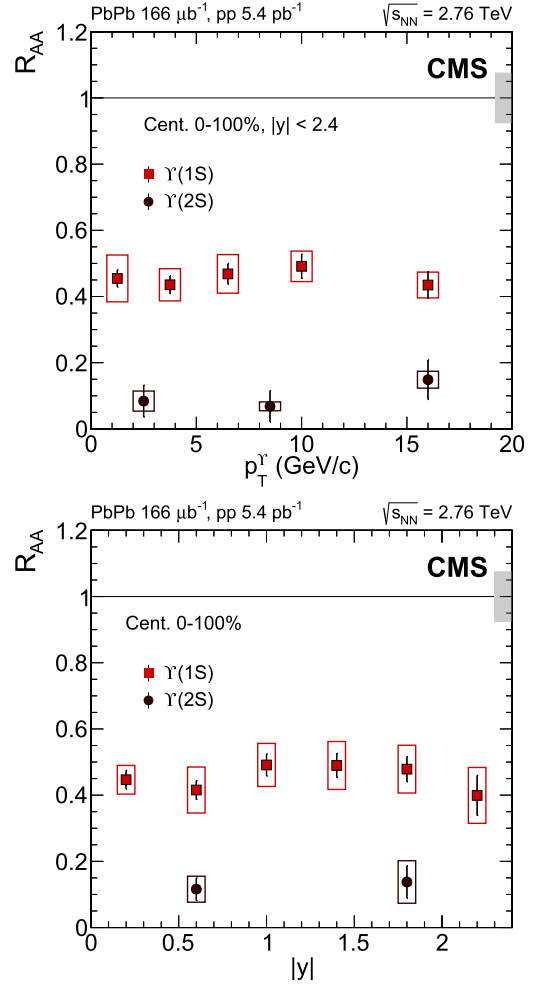


Fig. 4. Nuclear modification factor for $\Upsilon(1S)$ and $\Upsilon(2S)$ states in PbPb collisions as a function of p_T (top) and $|y|$ (bottom). Statistical (systematic) uncertainties are displayed as error bars (boxes), while the global (fully correlated) uncertainty (7.5%) is displayed as a grey box at unity.

Fig. 5 shows R_{AA} as a function of centrality, displayed as the average number of participating nucleons, $\langle N_{part} \rangle$. The global (fully correlated) uncertainties come from the uncertainty in the pp cross sections (which differ for each Υ state), the number of MB PbPb collisions and the PbPb tracking efficiency. The noticeable $\Upsilon(1S)$ centrality dependence, already observed in Ref. [18], is mapped out with more precision. As discussed in Section 3.1, points are displayed at the N_{part} value found by averaging over all MB events in each centrality class. In that respect, it should be noted that the large $\Upsilon(2S)$ suppression observed for the 50–100% centrality range spans a wide range of N_{part} values, over which suppression could significantly change. The R_{AA} values integrated over centrality for the three Υ states are shown in the side panel of Fig. 5.

The lack of observation of the $\Upsilon(3S)$ state in PbPb data provides an upper limit on R_{AA} , using the Feldman–Cousins prescription [35]. The centrality-integrated R_{AA} values for the three states are:

$$R_{AA}(\Upsilon(1S)) = 0.453 \pm 0.014 \pm 0.046;$$

$$R_{AA}(\Upsilon(2S)) = 0.119 \pm 0.028 \pm 0.015;$$

$$R_{AA}(\Upsilon(3S)) < 0.145 \text{ at a 95\% confidence level,}$$

with the first and second uncertainties being one standard deviation statistical and systematic, respectively.

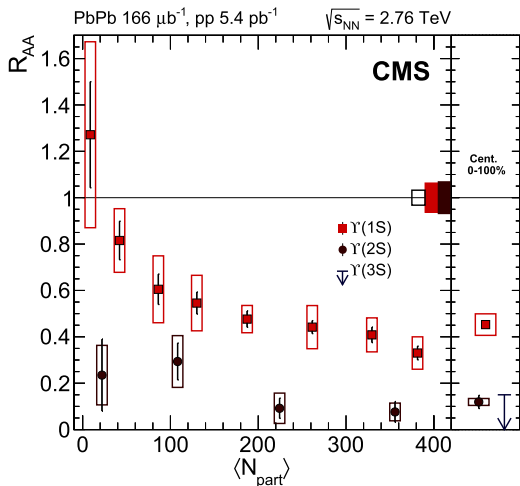


Fig. 5. Nuclear modification factors for $\Upsilon(1S)$ and $\Upsilon(2S)$ meson production in PbPb collisions, as a function of centrality, displayed as the average number of participating nucleons. The upper limit derived on the nuclear modification factor for $\Upsilon(3S)$ is represented with an arrow in the centrality integrated panel at the far right. Statistical (systematic) uncertainties are displayed as error bars (boxes), while the global (fully correlated) uncertainties from the PbPb data (3.2%) or from the pp reference (6.3 and 6.9% for $\Upsilon(1S)$ and $\Upsilon(2S)$ states, respectively) are displayed at unity as empty, filled red, and filled black boxes, respectively. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

These observations are consistent with a sequential melting scenario for the Υ states, as described in Refs. [12,36,37]. These models, which attribute most of the suppression to in-medium melting, do not predict a strong dependence of R_{AA} on rapidity or transverse momentum. Cold nuclear matter effects such as PDF modifications and energy loss also do not exhibit such dependences, and their overall impact on Υ states is much smaller than the observed suppression [11]. In contrast, quarkonium regeneration should depend significantly on p_T , but it is predicted to be small for bottom quarks [12]. The sequential suppression by comoving particles computed in Ref. [38] reproduces the Υ suppression centrality pattern, but any dependence on either p_T or y remains to be assessed.

6. Summary

The $\Upsilon(1S)$, $\Upsilon(2S)$, and $\Upsilon(3S)$ yields have been measured in PbPb and pp collisions at $\sqrt{s_{NN}} = 2.76\text{TeV}$ with the CMS detector, using integrated luminosities of $166\mu\text{b}^{-1}$ and 5.4pb^{-1} , respectively. For the first time, differential production cross sections are derived for individual Υ states as functions of their rapidity and transverse momentum in heavy ion collisions. The $\Upsilon(1S)$ and $\Upsilon(2S)$ states are suppressed in PbPb relative to pp collisions scaled by the number of nucleon–nucleon collisions, by factors of ≈ 2 and 8, respectively, while the absence of a significant $\Upsilon(3S)$ signal corresponds to a suppression by a factor larger than ≈ 7 at a 95% confidence level. While a strong centrality dependence of the suppression is found for the $\Upsilon(1S)$ and $\Upsilon(2S)$ states, no clear dependence is observed as a function of either transverse momentum or rapidity. The level of suppression measured in this analysis is compatible with theoretical models of a sequential melting of quarkonium states in a hot medium.

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The CMS Collaboration

V. Khachatryan, A.M. Sirunyan, A. Tumasyan

Yerevan Physics Institute, Yerevan, Armenia

W. Adam, E. Asilar, T. Bergauer, J. Brandstetter, E. Brondolin, M. Dragicevic, J. Erö, M. Flechl, M. Friedl, R. Frühwirth¹, V.M. Ghete, C. Hartl, N. Hörmann, J. Hrubec, M. Jeitler¹, A. König, I. Krätschmer, D. Liko, T. Matsushita, I. Mikulec, D. Rabady, N. Rad, B. Rahbaran, H. Rohringer, J. Schieck¹, J. Strauss, W. Waltenberger, C.-E. Wulz¹

Institut für Hochenergiephysik, Wien, Austria

O. Dvornikov, V. Makarenko, V. Zykunov

Institute for Nuclear Problems, Minsk, Belarus

V. Mossolov, N. Shumeiko, J. Suarez Gonzalez

National Centre for Particle and High Energy Physics, Minsk, Belarus

S. Alderweireldt, E.A. De Wolf, X. Janssen, J. Lauwers, M. Van De Klundert, H. Van Haevermaet, P. Van Mechelen, N. Van Remortel, A. Van Spilbeeck

Universiteit Antwerpen, Antwerpen, Belgium

S. Abu Zeid, F. Blekman, J. D'Hondt, N. Daci, I. De Bruyn, K. Deroover, S. Lowette, S. Moortgat, L. Moreels, A. Olbrechts, Q. Python, S. Tavernier, W. Van Doninck, P. Van Mulders, I. Van Parijs

Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussel, Belgium

H. Brun, B. Clerbaux, G. De Lentdecker, H. Delannoy, G. Fasanella, L. Favart, R. Goldouzian, A. Grebenyuk, G. Karapostoli, T. Lenzi, A. Léonard, J. Luetic, T. Maerschalk, A. Marinov, A. Randle-conde, T. Seva, C. Vander Velde, P. Vanlaer, D. Vannerom, R. Yonamine, F. Zenoni, F. Zhang²

Université Libre de Bruxelles, Bruxelles, Belgium

A. Cimmino, T. Cornelis, D. Dobur, A. Fagot, G. Garcia, M. Gul, I. Khvastunov, D. Poyraz, S. Salva, R. Schöfbeck, A. Sharma, M. Tytgat, W. Van Driessche, E. Yazgan, N. Zaganidis

Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

H. Bakhshiansohi, C. Beluffi³, O. Bondu, S. Brochet, G. Bruno, A. Caudron, S. De Visscher, C. Delaere, M. Delcourt, B. Francois, A. Giammanco, A. Jafari, P. Jez, M. Komm, G. Krintiras, V. Lemaitre, A. Magitteri, A. Mertens, M. Musich, C. Nuttens, K. Piotrkowski, L. Quertenmont, M. Selvaggi, M. Vidal Marono, S. Wertz

Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

N. Belyi

Université de Mons, Mons, Belgium

W.L. Aldá Júnior, F.L. Alves, G.A. Alves, L. Brito, C. Hensel, A. Moraes, M.E. Pol, P. Rebello Teles

Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Físicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

E. Belchior Batista Das Chagas, W. Carvalho, J. Chinellato⁴, A. Custódio, E.M. Da Costa, G.G. Da Silveira⁵, D. De Jesus Damiao, C. De Oliveira Martins, S. Fonseca De Souza, L.M. Huertas Guativa, H. Malbouisson, D. Matos Figueiredo, C. Mora Herrera, L. Mundim, H. Nogima, W.L. Prado Da Silva, A. Santoro, A. Sznajder, E.J. Tonelli Manganote⁴, A. Vilela Pereira

Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

S. Ahuja^a, C.A. Bernardes^b, S. Dogra^a, T.R. Fernandez Perez Tomei^a, E.M. Gregores^b, P.G. Mercadante^b, C.S. Moon^a, S.F. Novaes^a, Sandra S. Padula^a, D. Romero Abad^b, J.C. Ruiz Vargas

^a *Universidade Estadual Paulista, São Paulo, Brazil*

^b *Universidade Federal do ABC, São Paulo, Brazil*

A. Aleksandrov, R. Hadjiiska, P. Iaydjiev, M. Rodozov, S. Stoykova, G. Sultanov, M. Vutova

Institute for Nuclear Research and Nuclear Energy, Sofia, Bulgaria

A. Dimitrov, I. Glushkov, L. Litov, B. Pavlov, P. Petkov

University of Sofia, Sofia, Bulgaria

W. Fang⁶

Beihang University, Beijing, China

M. Ahmad, J.G. Bian, G.M. Chen, H.S. Chen, M. Chen, Y. Chen⁷, T. Cheng, C.H. Jiang, D. Leggat, Z. Liu, F. Romeo, S.M. Shaheen, A. Spiezia, J. Tao, C. Wang, Z. Wang, H. Zhang, J. Zhao

Institute of High Energy Physics, Beijing, China

Y. Ban, G. Chen, Q. Li, S. Liu, Y. Mao, S.J. Qian, D. Wang, Z. Xu

State Key Laboratory of Nuclear Physics and Technology, Peking University, Beijing, China

C. Avila, A. Cabrera, L.F. Chaparro Sierra, C. Florez, J.P. Gomez, C.F. González Hernández, J.D. Ruiz Alvarez, J.C. Sanabria

Universidad de Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia

N. Godinovic, D. Lelas, I. Puljak, P.M. Ribeiro Cipriano, T. Sculac

University of Split, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture, Split, Croatia

Z. Antunovic, M. Kovac

University of Split, Faculty of Science, Split, Croatia

V. Brigljevic, D. Ferencek, K. Kadija, B. Mesic, S. Micanovic, L. Sudic, T. Susa

Institute Rudjer Boskovic, Zagreb, Croatia

A. Attikis, G. Mavromanolakis, J. Mousa, C. Nicolaou, F. Ptochos, P.A. Razis, H. Rykaczewski, D. Tsiakkouri

University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus

M. Finger⁸, M. Finger Jr.⁸

Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

E. Carrera Jarrin

Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Quito, Ecuador

A.A. Abdelalim^{9,10}, Y. Mohammed¹¹, E. Salama^{12,13}

Academy of Scientific Research and Technology of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Egyptian Network of High Energy Physics, Cairo, Egypt

M. Kadastik, L. Perrini, M. Raidal, A. Tiko, C. Veelken

National Institute of Chemical Physics and Biophysics, Tallinn, Estonia

P. Eerola, J. Pekkanen, M. Voutilainen

Department of Physics, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland

J. Härkönen, T. Järvinen, V. Karimäki, R. Kinnunen, T. Lampén, K. Lassila-Perini, S. Lehti, T. Lindén, P. Luukka, J. Tuominiemi, E. Tuovinen, L. Wendland

Helsinki Institute of Physics, Helsinki, Finland

J. Talvitie, T. Tuuva

Lappeenranta University of Technology, Lappeenranta, Finland

M. Besancon, F. Couderc, M. Dejardin, D. Denegri, B. Fabbro, J.L. Faure, C. Favaro, F. Ferri, S. Ganjour, S. Ghosh, A. Givernaud, P. Gras, G. Hamel de Monchenault, P. Jarry, I. Kucher, E. Locci, M. Machet, J. Malcles, J. Rander, A. Rosowsky, M. Titov, A. Zghiche

IRFU, CEA, Université Paris-Saclay, Gif-sur-Yvette, France

A. Abdulsalam, I. Antropov, F. Arleo, S. Baffioni, F. Beaudette, P. Busson, L. Cadamuro, E. Chapon, C. Charlot, O. Davignon, R. Granier de Cassagnac, M. Jo, S. Lisniak, P. Miné, M. Nguyen, C. Ochando, G. Ortona, P. Paganini, P. Pigard, S. Regnard, R. Salerno, Y. Sirois, T. Strebler, Y. Yilmaz, A. Zabi

Laboratoire Leprince-Ringuet, Ecole Polytechnique, IN2P3–CNRS, Palaiseau, France

J.-L. Agram¹⁴, J. Andrea, A. Aubin, D. Bloch, J.-M. Brom, M. Buttignol, E.C. Chabert, N. Chanon, C. Collard, E. Conte¹⁴, X. Coubez, J.-C. Fontaine¹⁴, D. Gelé, U. Goerlach, A.-C. Le Bihan, K. Skovpen, P. Van Hove

Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien, Université de Strasbourg, Université de Haute Alsace Mulhouse, CNRS/IN2P3, Strasbourg, France

S. Gadrat

Centre de Calcul de l'Institut National de Physique Nucleaire et de Physique des Particules, CNRS/IN2P3, Villeurbanne, France

S. Beauceron, C. Bernet, G. Boudoul, E. Bouvier, C.A. Carrillo Montoya, R. Chierici, D. Contardo, B. Courbon, P. Depasse, H. El Mamouni, J. Fan, J. Fay, S. Gascon, M. Gouzevitch, G. Grenier, B. Ille, F. Lagarde, I.B. Laktineh, M. Lethuillier, L. Mirabito, A.L. Pequegnot, S. Perries, A. Popov¹⁵, D. Sabes, V. Sordini, M. Vander Donckt, P. Verdier, S. Viret

Université de Lyon, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, CNRS–IN2P3, Institut de Physique Nucléaire de Lyon, Villeurbanne, France

T. Toriashvili¹⁶

Georgian Technical University, Tbilisi, Georgia

Z. Tsamalaidze⁸

Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia

C. Autermann, S. Beranek, L. Feld, A. Heister, M.K. Kiesel, K. Klein, M. Lipinski, A. Ostapchuk, M. Preuten, F. Raupach, S. Schael, C. Schomakers, J. Schulz, T. Verlage, H. Weber, V. Zhukov¹⁵

RWTH Aachen University, I. Physikalisches Institut, Aachen, Germany

A. Albert, M. Brodski, E. Dietz-Laursonn, D. Duchardt, M. Endres, M. Erdmann, S. Erdweg, T. Esch, R. Fischer, A. Güth, M. Hamer, T. Hebbeker, C. Heidemann, K. Hoepfner, S. Knutzen, M. Merschmeyer, A. Meyer, P. Millet, S. Mukherjee, M. Olschewski, K. Padeken, T. Pook, M. Radziej, H. Reithler, M. Rieger, F. Scheuch, L. Sonnenschein, D. Teyssier, S. Thüer

RWTH Aachen University, III. Physikalisches Institut A, Aachen, Germany

V. Cherepanov, G. Flügge, B. Kargoll, T. Kress, A. Künsken, J. Lingemann, T. Müller, A. Nehr Korn, A. Nowack, C. Pistone, O. Pooth, A. Stahl¹⁷

RWTH Aachen University, III. Physikalisches Institut B, Aachen, Germany

M. Aldaya Martin, T. Arndt, C. Asawatrangkuldee, K. Beernaert, O. Behnke, U. Behrens, A.A. Bin Anuar, K. Borras¹⁸, A. Campbell, P. Connor, C. Contreras-Campana, F. Costanza, C. Diez Pardos, G. Dolinska, G. Eckerlin, D. Eckstein, T. Eichhorn, E. Eren, E. Gallo¹⁹, J. Garay Garcia, A. Geiser, A. Gizhko, J.M. Grados Luyando, P. Gunnellini, A. Harb, J. Hauk, M. Hempel²⁰, H. Jung, A. Kalogeropoulos, O. Karacheban²⁰, M. Kasemann, J. Keaveney, C. Kleinwort, I. Korol, D. Krücker, W. Lange, A. Lelek, J. Leonard, K. Lipka, A. Lobanov, W. Lohmann²⁰, R. Mankel, I.-A. Melzer-Pellmann, A.B. Meyer, G. Mittag, J. Mnich, A. Mussgiller, E. Ntomari, D. Pitzl, R. Placakyte, A. Raspereza, B. Roland, M.Ö. Sahin, P. Saxena, T. Schoerner-Sadenius, C. Seitz, S. Spannagel, N. Stefaniuk, G.P. Van Onsem, R. Walsh, C. Wissing

Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, Hamburg, Germany

V. Blobel, M. Centis Vignali, A.R. Draeger, T. Dreyer, E. Garutti, D. Gonzalez, J. Haller, M. Hoffmann, A. Junkes, R. Klanner, R. Kogler, N. Kovalchuk, T. Lapsien, T. Lenz, I. Marchesini, D. Marconi, M. Meyer, M. Niedziela, D. Nowatschin, F. Pantaleo¹⁷, T. Peiffer, A. Perieanu, J. Poehlsen, C. Sander, C. Scharf,

P. Schleper, A. Schmidt, S. Schumann, J. Schwandt, H. Stadie, G. Steinbrück, F.M. Stober, M. Stöver, H. Tholen, D. Troendle, E. Usai, L. Vanelderen, A. Vanhoefer, B. Vormwald

University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany

M. Akbiyik, C. Barth, S. Baur, C. Baus, J. Berger, E. Butz, R. Caspart, T. Chwalek, F. Colombo, W. De Boer, A. Dierlamm, S. Fink, B. Freund, R. Friese, M. Giffels, A. Gilbert, P. Goldenzweig, D. Haitz, F. Hartmann¹⁷, S.M. Heindl, U. Husemann, I. Katkov¹⁵, S. Kudella, H. Mildner, M.U. Mozer, Th. Müller, M. Plagge, G. Quast, K. Rabbertz, S. Röcker, F. Roscher, M. Schröder, I. Shvetsov, G. Sieber, H.J. Simonis, R. Ulrich, S. Wayand, M. Weber, T. Weiler, S. Williamson, C. Wöhrmann, R. Wolf

Institut für Experimentelle Kernphysik, Karlsruhe, Germany

G. Anagnostou, G. Daskalakis, T. Geralis, V.A. Giakoumopoulou, A. Kyriakis, D. Loukas, I. Topsis-Giotis

Institute of Nuclear and Particle Physics (INPP), NCSR Demokritos, Aghia Paraskevi, Greece

S. Kesisoglou, A. Panagiotou, N. Saoulidou, E. Tziaferi

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece

I. Evangelou, G. Flouris, C. Foudas, P. Kokkas, N. Loukas, N. Manthos, I. Papadopoulos, E. Paradis

University of Ioánnina, Ioánnina, Greece

N. Filipovic

MTA-ELTE Lendület CMS Particle and Nuclear Physics Group, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary

G. Bencze, C. Hajdu, D. Horvath²¹, F. Sikler, V. Veszpremi, G. Vesztergombi²², A.J. Zsigmond

Wigner Research Centre for Physics, Budapest, Hungary

N. Beni, S. Czellar, J. Karancsi²³, A. Makovec, J. Molnar, Z. Szillasi

Institute of Nuclear Research ATOMKI, Debrecen, Hungary

M. Bartók²², P. Raics, Z.L. Trocsanyi, B. Ujvari

University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary

S. Bahinipati, S. Choudhury²⁴, P. Mal, K. Mandal, A. Nayak²⁵, D.K. Sahoo, N. Sahoo, S.K. Swain

National Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhubaneswar, India

S. Bansal, S.B. Beri, V. Bhatnagar, R. Chawla, U. Bhawandeep, A.K. Kalsi, A. Kaur, M. Kaur, R. Kumar, P. Kumari, A. Mehta, M. Mittal, J.B. Singh, G. Walia

Panjab University, Chandigarh, India

Ashok Kumar, A. Bhardwaj, B.C. Choudhary, R.B. Garg, S. Keshri, S. Malhotra, M. Naimuddin, N. Nishu, K. Ranjan, R. Sharma, V. Sharma

University of Delhi, Delhi, India

R. Bhattacharya, S. Bhattacharya, K. Chatterjee, S. Dey, S. Dutt, S. Dutta, S. Ghosh, N. Majumdar, A. Modak, K. Mondal, S. Mukhopadhyay, S. Nandan, A. Purohit, A. Roy, D. Roy, S. Roy Chowdhury, S. Sarkar, M. Sharan, S. Thakur

Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata, India

P.K. Behera

Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Madras, India

R. Chudasama, D. Dutta, V. Jha, V. Kumar, A.K. Mohanty¹⁷, P.K. Netrakanti, L.M. Pant, P. Shukla, A. Topkar

Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai, India

T. Aziz, S. Dugad, G. Kole, B. Mahakud, S. Mitra, G.B. Mohanty, B. Parida, N. Sur, B. Sutar

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research-A, Mumbai, India

S. Banerjee, S. Bhowmik²⁶, R.K. Dewanjee, S. Ganguly, M. Guchait, Sa. Jain, S. Kumar, M. Maity²⁶, G. Majumder, K. Mazumdar, T. Sarkar²⁶, N. Wickramage²⁷

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research-B, Mumbai, India

S. Chauhan, S. Dube, V. Hegde, A. Kapoor, K. Kothekar, S. Pandey, A. Rane, S. Sharma

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune, India

S. Chenarani²⁸, E. Eskandari Tadavani, S.M. Etesami²⁸, A. Fahim²⁹, M. Khakzad, M. Mohammadi Najafabadi, M. Naseri, S. Paktinat Mehdiabadi³⁰, F. Rezaei Hosseinabadi, B. Safarzadeh³¹, M. Zeinali

Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences (IPM), Tehran, Iran

M. Felcini, M. Grunewald

University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

M. Abbrescia^{a,b}, C. Calabria^{a,b}, C. Caputo^{a,b}, A. Colaleo^a, D. Creanza^{a,c}, L. Cristella^{a,b}, N. De Filippis^{a,c}, M. De Palma^{a,b}, L. Fiore^a, G. Iaselli^{a,c}, G. Maggi^{a,c}, M. Maggi^a, G. Miniello^{a,b}, S. My^{a,b}, S. Nuzzo^{a,b}, A. Pompili^{a,b}, G. Pugliese^{a,c}, R. Radogna^{a,b}, A. Ranieri^a, G. Selvaggi^{a,b}, L. Silvestris^{a,17}, R. Venditti^{a,b}, P. Verwilligen^a

^a INFN Sezione di Bari, Bari, Italy

^b Università di Bari, Bari, Italy

^c Politecnico di Bari, Bari, Italy

G. Abbiendi^a, C. Battilana, D. Bonacorsi^{a,b}, S. Braibant-Giacomelli^{a,b}, L. Brigliadori^{a,b}, R. Campanini^{a,b}, P. Capiluppi^{a,b}, A. Castro^{a,b}, F.R. Cavallo^a, S.S. Chhibra^{a,b}, G. Codispoti^{a,b}, M. Cuffiani^{a,b}, G.M. Dallavalle^a, F. Fabbri^a, A. Fanfani^{a,b}, D. Fasanella^{a,b}, P. Giacomelli^a, C. Grandi^a, L. Guiducci^{a,b}, S. Marcellini^a, G. Masetti^a, A. Montanari^a, F.L. Navarria^{a,b}, A. Perrotta^a, A.M. Rossi^{a,b}, T. Rovelli^{a,b}, G.P. Siroli^{a,b}, N. Tosi^{a,b,17}

^a INFN Sezione di Bologna, Bologna, Italy

^b Università di Bologna, Bologna, Italy

S. Albergo^{a,b}, S. Costa^{a,b}, A. Di Mattia^a, F. Giordano^{a,b}, R. Potenza^{a,b}, A. Tricomi^{a,b}, C. Tuve^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Catania, Catania, Italy

^b Università di Catania, Catania, Italy

G. Barbagli^a, V. Ciulli^{a,b}, C. Civinini^a, R. D'Alessandro^{a,b}, E. Focardi^{a,b}, P. Lenzi^{a,b}, M. Meschini^a, S. Paoletti^a, G. Sguazzoni^a, L. Viliani^{a,b,17}

^a INFN Sezione di Firenze, Firenze, Italy

^b Università di Firenze, Firenze, Italy

L. Benussi, S. Bianco, F. Fabbri, D. Piccolo, F. Primavera¹⁷

INFN Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, Frascati, Italy

V. Calvelli^{a,b}, F. Ferro^a, M. Lo Vetere^{a,b}, M.R. Monge^{a,b}, E. Robutti^a, S. Tosi^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Genova, Genova, Italy

^b Università di Genova, Genova, Italy

L. Brianza^{a,b,17}, M.E. Dinardo^{a,b}, S. Fiorendi^{a,b,17}, S. Gennai^a, A. Ghezzi^{a,b}, P. Govoni^{a,b}, M. Malberti, S. Malvezzi^a, R.A. Manzoni^{a,b,17}, D. Menasce^a, L. Moroni^a, M. Paganoni^{a,b}, D. Pedrini^a, S. Pigazzini, S. Ragazzi^{a,b}, T. Tabarelli de Fatis^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Milano-Bicocca, Milano, Italy

^b Università di Milano-Bicocca, Milano, Italy

S. Buontempo^a, N. Cavallo^{a,c}, G. De Nardo, S. Di Guida^{a,d,17}, M. Esposito^{a,b}, F. Fabozzi^{a,c}, F. Fienga^{a,b}, A.O.M. Iorio^{a,b}, G. Lanza^a, L. Lista^a, S. Meola^{a,d,17}, P. Paolucci^{a,17}, C. Sciacca^{a,b}, F. Thyssen

^a INFN Sezione di Napoli, Napoli, Italy

^b Università di Napoli 'Federico II', Napoli, Italy

^c Università della Basilicata, Potenza, Italy

^d Università G. Marconi, Roma, Italy

P. Azzi^{a,17}, N. Bacchetta^a, L. Benato^{a,b}, D. Bisello^{a,b}, A. Boletti^{a,b}, R. Carlin^{a,b}, A. Carvalho Antunes De Oliveira^{a,b}, P. Checchia^a, M. Dall'Osso^{a,b}, P. De Castro Manzano^a, T. Dorigo^a, U. Dosselli^a, F. Gasparini^{a,b}, U. Gasparini^{a,b}, A. Gozzelino^a, S. Lacaprara^a, M. Margoni^{a,b}, A.T. Meneguzzo^{a,b}, J. Pazzini^{a,b}, N. Pozzobon^{a,b}, P. Ronchese^{a,b}, F. Simonetto^{a,b}, E. Torassa^a, M. Zanetti, P. Zotto^{a,b}, G. Zumerle^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Padova, Padova, Italy

^b Università di Padova, Padova, Italy

^c Università di Trento, Trento, Italy

A. Braghieri^a, A. Magnani^{a,b}, P. Montagna^{a,b}, S.P. Ratti^{a,b}, V. Re^a, C. Riccardi^{a,b}, P. Salvini^a, I. Vai^{a,b}, P. Vitulo^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Pavia, Pavia, Italy

^b Università di Pavia, Pavia, Italy

L. Alunni Solestizi^{a,b}, G.M. Bilei^a, D. Ciangottini^{a,b}, L. Fanò^{a,b}, P. Lariccia^{a,b}, R. Leonardi^{a,b}, G. Mantovani^{a,b}, M. Menichelli^a, A. Saha^a, A. Santocchia^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Perugia, Perugia, Italy

^b Università di Perugia, Perugia, Italy

K. Androsov^{a,32}, P. Azzurri^{a,17}, G. Bagliesi^a, J. Bernardini^a, T. Boccali^a, R. Castaldi^a, M.A. Ciocci^{a,32}, R. Dell'Orso^a, S. Donato^{a,c}, G. Fedi, A. Giassi^a, M.T. Grippo^{a,32}, F. Ligabue^{a,c}, T. Lomtadze^a, L. Martini^{a,b}, A. Messineo^{a,b}, F. Palla^a, A. Rizzi^{a,b}, A. Savoy-Navarro^{a,33}, P. Spagnolo^a, R. Tenchini^a, G. Tonelli^{a,b}, A. Venturi^a, P.G. Verdini^a

^a INFN Sezione di Pisa, Pisa, Italy

^b Università di Pisa, Pisa, Italy

^c Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Pisa, Italy

L. Barone^{a,b}, F. Cavallari^a, M. Cipriani^{a,b}, D. Del Re^{a,b,17}, M. Diemoz^a, S. Gelli^{a,b}, E. Longo^{a,b}, F. Margaroli^{a,b}, B. Marzocchi^{a,b}, P. Meridiani^a, G. Organtini^{a,b}, R. Paramatti^a, F. Preiato^{a,b}, S. Rahatlou^{a,b}, C. Rovelli^a, F. Santanastasio^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Roma, Roma, Italy

^b Università di Roma, Roma, Italy

N. Amapane^{a,b}, R. Arcidiacono^{a,c,17}, S. Argiro^{a,b}, M. Arneodo^{a,c}, N. Bartosik^a, R. Bellan^{a,b}, C. Biino^a, N. Cartiglia^a, F. Cenna^{a,b}, M. Costa^{a,b}, R. Covarelli^{a,b}, A. Degano^{a,b}, N. Demaria^a, L. Finco^{a,b}, B. Kiani^{a,b}, C. Mariotti^a, S. Maselli^a, E. Migliore^{a,b}, V. Monaco^{a,b}, E. Monteil^{a,b}, M. Monteno^a, M.M. Obertino^{a,b}, L. Pacher^{a,b}, N. Pastrone^a, M. Pelliccioni^a, G.L. Pinna Angioni^{a,b}, F. Ravera^{a,b}, A. Romero^{a,b}, M. Ruspa^{a,c}, R. Sacchi^{a,b}, K. Shchelina^{a,b}, V. Sola^a, A. Solano^{a,b}, A. Staiano^a, P. Traczyk^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Torino, Torino, Italy

^b Università di Torino, Torino, Italy

^c Università del Piemonte Orientale, Novara, Italy

S. Belforte ^a, M. Casarsa ^a, F. Cossutti ^a, G. Della Ricca ^{a,b}, A. Zanetti ^a

^a INFN Sezione di Trieste, Trieste, Italy

^b Università di Trieste, Trieste, Italy

D.H. Kim, G.N. Kim, M.S. Kim, S. Lee, S.W. Lee, Y.D. Oh, S. Sekmen, D.C. Son, Y.C. Yang

Kyungpook National University, Daegu, Republic of Korea

A. Lee

Chonbuk National University, Jeonju, Republic of Korea

H. Kim, D.H. Moon

Chonnam National University, Institute for Universe and Elementary Particles, Kwangju, Republic of Korea

J.A. Brochero Cifuentes, T.J. Kim

Hanyang University, Seoul, Republic of Korea

S. Cho, S. Choi, Y. Go, D. Gyun, S. Ha, B. Hong, Y. Jo, Y. Kim, B. Lee, K. Lee, K.S. Lee, S. Lee, J. Lim, S.K. Park, Y. Roh

Korea University, Seoul, Republic of Korea

J. Almond, J. Kim, H. Lee, S.B. Oh, B.C. Radburn-Smith, S.h. Seo, U.K. Yang, H.D. Yoo, G.B. Yu

Seoul National University, Seoul, Republic of Korea

M. Choi, H. Kim, J.H. Kim, J.S.H. Lee, I.C. Park, G. Ryu, M.S. Ryu

University of Seoul, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Y. Choi, J. Goh, C. Hwang, J. Lee, I. Yu

Sungkyunkwan University, Suwon, Republic of Korea

V. Dudenias, A. Juodagalvis, J. Vaitkus

Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania

I. Ahmed, Z.A. Ibrahim, J.R. Komaragiri, M.A.B. Md Ali ³⁴, F. Mohamad Idris ³⁵, W.A.T. Wan Abdullah, M.N. Yusli, Z. Zolkapli

National Centre for Particle Physics, Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

H. Castilla-Valdez, E. De La Cruz-Burelo, I. Heredia-De La Cruz ³⁶, A. Hernandez-Almada, R. Lopez-Fernandez, R. Magaña Villalba, J. Mejia Guisao, A. Sanchez-Hernandez

Centro de Investigacion y de Estudios Avanzados del IPN, Mexico City, Mexico

S. Carrillo Moreno, C. Oropeza Barrera, F. Vazquez Valencia

Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City, Mexico

S. Carpitneyro, I. Pedraza, H.A. Salazar Ibarquen, C. Uribe Estrada

Benemerita Universidad Autonoma de Puebla, Puebla, Mexico

A. Morelos Pineda

Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, Mexico

D. Krofcheck

University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

P.H. Butler

University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand

A. Ahmad, M. Ahmad, Q. Hassan, H.R. Hoorani, W.A. Khan, A. Saddique, M.A. Shah, M. Shoaib, M. Waqas

National Centre for Physics, Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan

H. Bialkowska, M. Bluj, B. Boimska, T. Frueboes, M. Górski, M. Kazana, K. Nawrocki, K. Romanowska-Rybinska, M. Szleper, P. Zalewski

National Centre for Nuclear Research, Swierk, Poland

K. Bunkowski, A. Byszuk³⁷, K. Doroba, A. Kalinowski, M. Konecki, J. Krolikowski, M. Misiura, M. Olszewski, M. Walczak

Institute of Experimental Physics, Faculty of Physics, University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland

P. Bargassa, C. Beirão Da Cruz E Silva, B. Calpas, A. Di Francesco, P. Faccioli, P.G. Ferreira Parracho, M. Gallinaro, J. Hollar, N. Leonardo, L. Lloret Iglesias, M.V. Nemallapudi, J. Rodrigues Antunes, J. Seixas, O. Toldaiev, D. Vadrucchio, J. Varela, P. Vischia

Laboratório de Instrumentação e Física Experimental de Partículas, Lisboa, Portugal

S. Afanasiev, P. Bunin, M. Gavrilenko, I. Golutvin, I. Gorbunov, A. Kamenev, V. Karjavin, A. Lanev, A. Malakhov, V. Matveev^{38,39}, V. Palichik, V. Perelygin, S. Shmatov, S. Shulha, N. Skatchkov, V. Smirnov, N. Voytishin, A. Zarubin

Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Russia

L. Chtchipounov, V. Golovtsov, Y. Ivanov, V. Kim⁴⁰, E. Kuznetsova⁴¹, V. Murzin, V. Oreshkin, V. Sulimov, A. Vorobyev

Petersburg Nuclear Physics Institute, Gatchina (St. Petersburg), Russia

Yu. Andreev, A. Dermenev, S. Gninenko, N. Golubev, A. Karneyeu, M. Kirsanov, N. Krasnikov, A. Pashenkov, D. Tlisov, A. Toropin

Institute for Nuclear Research, Moscow, Russia

V. Epshteyn, V. Gavrilov, N. Lychkovskaya, V. Popov, I. Pozdnyakov, G. Safronov, A. Spiridonov, M. Toms, E. Vlasov, A. Zhokin

Institute for Theoretical and Experimental Physics, Moscow, Russia

A. Bylinkin³⁹

Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, Russia

R. Chistov⁴², M. Danilov⁴², S. Polikarpov

National Research Nuclear University 'Moscow Engineering Physics Institute' (MEPhI), Moscow, Russia

V. Andreev, M. Azarkin³⁹, I. Dremin³⁹, M. Kirakosyan, A. Leonidov³⁹, A. Terkulov

P.N. Lebedev Physical Institute, Moscow, Russia

A. Baskakov, A. Belyaev, E. Boos, A. Demiyarov, A. Ershov, A. Gribushin, O. Kodolova, V. Korotkikh, I. Lokhtin, I. Miagkov, S. Obraztsov, S. Petrushanko, V. Savrin, A. Snigirev, I. Vardanyan

Skobeltsyn Institute of Nuclear Physics, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia

V. Blinov⁴³, Y. Skovpen⁴³, D. Shtol⁴³

Novosibirsk State University (NSU), Novosibirsk, Russia

I. Azhgirey, I. Bayshev, S. Bitioukov, D. Elumakhov, V. Kachanov, A. Kalinin, D. Konstantinov, V. Krychkin, V. Petrov, R. Ryutin, A. Sobol, S. Troshin, N. Tyurin, A. Uzunian, A. Volkov

State Research Center of Russian Federation, Institute for High Energy Physics, Protvino, Russia

P. Adzic⁴⁴, P. Cirkovic, D. Devetak, M. Dordevic, J. Milosevic, V. Rekovic

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Physics and Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia

J. Alcaraz Maestre, M. Barrio Luna, E. Calvo, M. Cerrada, M. Chamizo Llatas, N. Colino, B. De La Cruz, A. Delgado Peris, A. Escalante Del Valle, C. Fernandez Bedoya, J.P. Fernández Ramos, J. Flix, M.C. Fouz, P. Garcia-Abia, O. Gonzalez Lopez, S. Goy Lopez, J.M. Hernandez, M.I. Josa, E. Navarro De Martino, A. Pérez-Calero Yzquierdo, J. Puerta Pelayo, A. Quintario Olmeda, I. Redondo, L. Romero, M.S. Soares

Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas Medioambientales y Tecnológicas (CIEMAT), Madrid, Spain

J.F. de Trocóniz, M. Missiroli, D. Moran

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Madrid, Spain

J. Cuevas, J. Fernandez Menendez, I. Gonzalez Caballero, J.R. González Fernández, E. Palencia Cortezon, S. Sanchez Cruz, I. Suárez Andrés, J.M. Vizan Garcia

Universidad de Oviedo, Oviedo, Spain

I.J. Cabrillo, A. Calderon, J.R. Castiñeiras De Saa, E. Curras, M. Fernandez, J. Garcia-Ferrero, G. Gomez, A. Lopez Virto, J. Marco, C. Martinez Rivero, F. Matorras, J. Piedra Gomez, T. Rodrigo, A. Ruiz-Jimeno, L. Scodellaro, N. Trevisani, I. Vila, R. Vilar Cortabitarte

Instituto de Física de Cantabria (IFCA), CSIC-Universidad de Cantabria, Santander, Spain

D. Abbaneo, E. Auffray, G. Auzinger, M. Bachtis, P. Baillon, A.H. Ball, D. Barney, P. Bloch, A. Bocci, A. Bonato, C. Botta, T. Camporesi, R. Castello, M. Cepeda, G. Cerminara, M. D'Alfonso, D. d'Enterria, A. Dabrowski, V. Daponte, A. David, M. De Gruttola, A. De Roeck, E. Di Marco⁴⁵, M. Dobson, B. Dorney, T. du Pree, D. Duggan, M. Dünser, N. Dupont, A. Elliott-Peisert, S. Fartoukh, G. Franzoni, J. Fulcher, W. Funk, D. Gigi, K. Gill, M. Girone, F. Glege, D. Gulhan, S. Gundacker, M. Guthoff, J. Hammer, P. Harris, J. Hegeman, V. Innocente, P. Janot, J. Kieseler, H. Kirschenmann, V. Knünz, A. Kornmayer¹⁷, M.J. Kortelainen, K. Kousouris, M. Krammer¹, C. Lange, P. Lecoq, C. Lourenço, M.T. Lucchini, L. Malgeri, M. Mannelli, A. Martelli, F. Meijers, J.A. Merlin, S. Mersi, E. Meschi, P. Milenovic⁴⁶, F. Moortgat, S. Morovic, M. Mulders, H. Neugebauer, S. Orfanelli, L. Orsini, L. Pape, E. Perez, M. Peruzzi, A. Petrilli, G. Petrucciani, A. Pfeiffer, M. Pierini, A. Racz, T. Reis, G. Rolandi⁴⁷, M. Rovere, M. Ruan, H. Sakulin, J.B. Sauvan, C. Schäfer, C. Schwick, M. Seidel, A. Sharma, P. Silva, P. Sphicas⁴⁸, J. Steggemann, M. Stoye, Y. Takahashi, M. Tosi, D. Treille, A. Triossi, A. Tsiros, V. Veckalns⁴⁹, G.I. Veres²², M. Verweij, N. Wardle, H.K. Wöhri, A. Zagozdinska³⁷, W.D. Zeuner

CERN, European Organization for Nuclear Research, Geneva, Switzerland

W. Bertl, K. Deiters, W. Erdmann, R. Horisberger, Q. Ingram, H.C. Kaestli, D. Kotlinski, U. Langenegger, T. Rohe

Paul Scherrer Institut, Villigen, Switzerland

F. Bachmair, L. Bäni, L. Bianchini, B. Casal, G. Dissertori, M. Dittmar, M. Donegà, C. Grab, C. Heidegger, D. Hits, J. Hoss, G. Kasieczka, P. Lecomte[†], W. Lustermann, B. Mangano, M. Marionneau, P. Martinez Ruiz del Arbol, M. Masciovecchio, M.T. Meinhard, D. Meister, F. Micheli, P. Musella, F. Nessi-Tedaldi, F. Pandolfi, J. Pata, F. Pauss, G. Perrin, L. Perrozzi, M. Quittnat, M. Rossini, M. Schönemberger, A. Starodumov⁵⁰, V.R. Tavolaro, K. Theofilatos, R. Wallny

Institute for Particle Physics, ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

T.K. Aarrestad, C. Amsler⁵¹, L. Caminada, M.F. Canelli, A. De Cosa, C. Galloni, A. Hinzmann, T. Hreus, B. Kilminster, J. Ngadiuba, D. Pinna, G. Rauco, P. Robmann, D. Salerno, Y. Yang, A. Zucchetta

Universität Zürich, Zurich, Switzerland

V. Candelise, T.H. Doan, Sh. Jain, R. Khurana, M. Konyushikhin, C.M. Kuo, W. Lin, Y.J. Lu, A. Pozdnyakov, S.S. Yu

National Central University, Chung-Li, Taiwan

Arun Kumar, P. Chang, Y.H. Chang, Y.W. Chang, Y. Chao, K.F. Chen, P.H. Chen, C. Dietz, F. Fiori, W.-S. Hou, Y. Hsiung, Y.F. Liu, R.-S. Lu, M. Miñano Moya, E. Paganis, A. Psallidas, J.f. Tsai, Y.M. Tzeng

National Taiwan University (NTU), Taipei, Taiwan

B. Asavapibhop, G. Singh, N. Srimanobhas, N. Suwonjandee

Chulalongkorn University, Faculty of Science, Department of Physics, Bangkok, Thailand

A. Adiguzel, S. Cerci⁵², S. Damarseckin, Z.S. Demiroglu, C. Dozen, I. Dumanoglu, S. Girgis, G. Gokbulut, Y. Guler, I. Hos⁵³, E.E. Kangal⁵⁴, O. Kara, A. Kayis Topaksu, U. Kiminsu, M. Oglakci, G. Onengut⁵⁵, K. Ozdemir⁵⁶, D. Sunar Cerci⁵², B. Tali⁵², S. Turkcapar, I.S. Zorbakir, C. Zorbilmez

Cukurova University, Adana, Turkey

B. Bilin, S. Bilmis, B. Isildak⁵⁷, G. Karapinar⁵⁸, M. Yalvac, M. Zeyrek

Middle East Technical University, Physics Department, Ankara, Turkey

E. Gülmez, M. Kaya⁵⁹, O. Kaya⁶⁰, E.A. Yetkin⁶¹, T. Yetkin⁶²

Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey

A. Cakir, K. Cankocak, S. Sen⁶³

Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey

B. Grynyov

Institute for Scintillation Materials of National Academy of Science of Ukraine, Kharkov, Ukraine

L. Levchuk, P. Sorokin

National Scientific Center, Kharkov Institute of Physics and Technology, Kharkov, Ukraine

R. Aggleton, F. Ball, L. Beck, J.J. Brooke, D. Burns, E. Clement, D. Cussans, H. Flacher, J. Goldstein, M. Grimes, G.P. Heath, H.F. Heath, J. Jacob, L. Kreczko, C. Lucas, D.M. Newbold⁶⁴, S. Paramesvaran, A. Poll, T. Sakuma, S. Seif El Nasr-storey, D. Smith, V.J. Smith

University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom

A. Belyaev⁶⁵, C. Brew, R.M. Brown, L. Calligaris, D. Cieri, D.J.A. Cockerill, J.A. Coughlan, K. Harder, S. Harper, E. Olaiya, D. Petyt, C.H. Shepherd-Themistocleous, A. Thea, I.R. Tomalin, T. Williams

Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, United Kingdom

M. Baber, R. Bainbridge, O. Buchmuller, A. Bundock, D. Burton, S. Casasso, M. Citron, D. Colling, L. Corpe, P. Dauncey, G. Davies, A. De Wit, M. Della Negra, R. Di Maria, P. Dunne, A. Elwood, D. Futyan, Y. Haddad, G. Hall, G. Iles, T. James, R. Lane, C. Laner, R. Lucas⁶⁴, L. Lyons, A.-M. Magnan, S. Malik, L. Mastrolorenzo, J. Nash, A. Nikitenko⁵⁰, J. Pela, B. Penning, M. Pesaresi, D.M. Raymond, A. Richards, A. Rose, C. Seez, S. Summers, A. Tapper, K. Uchida, M. Vazquez Acosta⁶⁶, T. Virdee¹⁷, J. Wright, S.C. Zenz

Imperial College, London, United Kingdom

J.E. Cole, P.R. Hobson, A. Khan, P. Kyberd, D. Leslie, I.D. Reid, P. Symonds, L. Teodorescu, M. Turner

Brunel University, Uxbridge, United Kingdom

A. Borzou, K. Call, J. Dittmann, K. Hatakeyama, H. Liu, N. Pastika

Baylor University, Waco, USA

S.I. Cooper, C. Henderson, P. Rumerio, C. West

The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, USA

D. Arcaro, A. Avetisyan, T. Bose, D. Gastler, D. Rankin, C. Richardson, J. Rohlf, L. Sulak, D. Zou

Boston University, Boston, USA

G. Benelli, E. Berry, D. Cutts, A. Garabedian, J. Hakala, U. Heintz, J.M. Hogan, O. Jesus, K.H.M. Kwok, E. Laird, G. Landsberg, Z. Mao, M. Narain, S. Piperov, S. Sagir, E. Spencer, R. Syarif

Brown University, Providence, USA

R. Breedon, G. Breto, D. Burns, M. Calderon De La Barca Sanchez, S. Chauhan, M. Chertok, J. Conway, R. Conway, P.T. Cox, R. Erbacher, C. Flores, G. Funk, M. Gardner, W. Ko, R. Lander, C. Mclean, M. Mulhearn, D. Pellett, J. Pilot, S. Shalhout, J. Smith, M. Squires, D. Stolp, M. Tripathi

University of California, Davis, Davis, USA

C. Bravo, R. Cousins, A. Dasgupta, P. Everaerts, A. Florent, J. Hauser, M. Ignatenko, N. Mccoll, D. Saltzberg, C. Schnaible, E. Takasugi, V. Valuev, M. Weber

University of California, Los Angeles, USA

K. Burt, R. Clare, J. Ellison, J.W. Gary, S.M.A. Ghiasi Shirazi, G. Hanson, J. Heilman, P. Jandir, E. Kennedy, F. Lacroix, O.R. Long, M. Olmedo Negrete, M.I. Paneva, A. Shrinivas, W. Si, H. Wei, S. Wimpenny, B.R. Yates

University of California, Riverside, Riverside, USA

J.G. Branson, G.B. Cerati, S. Cittolin, M. Derdzinski, R. Gerosa, A. Holzner, D. Klein, V. Krutelyov, J. Letts, I. Macneill, D. Olivito, S. Padhi, M. Pieri, M. Sani, V. Sharma, S. Simon, M. Tadel, A. Vartak, S. Wasserbaech⁶⁷, C. Welke, J. Wood, F. Würthwein, A. Yagil, G. Zevi Della Porta

University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, USA

N. Amin, R. Bhandari, J. Bradmiller-Feld, C. Campagnari, A. Dishaw, V. Dutta, M. Franco Sevilla, C. George, F. Golf, L. Gouskos, J. Gran, R. Heller, J. Incandela, S.D. Mullin, A. Ovcharova, H. Qu, J. Richman, D. Stuart, I. Suarez, J. Yoo

University of California, Santa Barbara, Department of Physics, Santa Barbara, USA

D. Anderson, A. Apresyan, J. Bendavid, A. Bornheim, J. Bunn, Y. Chen, J. Duarte, J.M. Lawhorn, A. Mott, H.B. Newman, C. Pena, M. Spiropulu, J.R. Vlimant, S. Xie, R.Y. Zhu

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, USA

M.B. Andrews, V. Azzolini, T. Ferguson, M. Paulini, J. Russ, M. Sun, H. Vogel, I. Vorobiev, M. Weinberg

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

J.P. Cumalat, W.T. Ford, F. Jensen, A. Johnson, M. Krohn, T. Mulholland, K. Stenson, S.R. Wagner

University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, USA

J. Alexander, J. Chaves, J. Chu, S. Dittmer, K. Mcdermott, N. Mirman, G. Nicolas Kaufman, J.R. Patterson, A. Rinkevicius, A. Ryd, L. Skinnari, L. Soffi, S.M. Tan, Z. Tao, J. Thom, J. Tucker, P. Wittich, M. Zientek

Cornell University, Ithaca, USA

D. Winn

Fairfield University, Fairfield, USA

S. Abdullin, M. Albrow, G. Apollinari, S. Banerjee, L.A.T. Bauerdick, A. Beretvas, J. Berryhill, P.C. Bhat, G. Bolla, K. Burkett, J.N. Butler, H.W.K. Cheung, F. Chlebana, S. Cihangir[†], M. Cremonesi, V.D. Elvira, I. Fisk, J. Freeman, E. Gottschalk, L. Gray, D. Green, S. Grünendahl, O. Gutsche, D. Hare, R.M. Harris, S. Hasegawa, J. Hirschauer, Z. Hu, B. Jayatilaka, S. Jindariani, M. Johnson, U. Joshi, B. Klima, B. Kreis, S. Lammel, J. Linacre, D. Lincoln, R. Lipton, M. Liu, T. Liu, R. Lopes De Sá, J. Lykken, K. Maeshima, N. Magini, J.M. Marraffino, S. Maruyama, D. Mason, P. McBride, P. Merkel, S. Mrenna, S. Nahn, V. O'Dell, K. Pedro, O. Prokofyev, G. Rakness, L. Ristori, E. Sexton-Kennedy, A. Soha, W.J. Spalding, L. Spiegel, S. Stoynev, J. Strait, N. Strobbe, L. Taylor, S. Tkaczyk, N.V. Tran, L. Uplegger, E.W. Vaandering, C. Vernieri, M. Verzocchi, R. Vidal, M. Wang, H.A. Weber, A. Whitbeck, Y. Wu

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, USA

D. Acosta, P. Avery, P. Bortignon, D. Bourilkov, A. Brinkerhoff, A. Carnes, M. Carver, D. Curry, S. Das, R.D. Field, I.K. Furic, J. Konigsberg, A. Korytov, J.F. Low, P. Ma, K. Matchev, H. Mei, G. Mitselmakher, D. Rank, L. Shchutska, D. Sperka, L. Thomas, J. Wang, S. Wang, J. Yelton

University of Florida, Gainesville, USA

S. Linn, P. Markowitz, G. Martinez, J.L. Rodriguez

Florida International University, Miami, USA

A. Ackert, J.R. Adams, T. Adams, A. Askew, S. Bein, B. Diamond, S. Hagopian, V. Hagopian, K.F. Johnson, A. Khatiwada, H. Prosper, A. Santra, R. Yohay

Florida State University, Tallahassee, USA

M.M. Baarmand, V. Bhopatkar, S. Colafranceschi, M. Hohlmann, D. Noonan, T. Roy, F. Yumiceva

Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, USA

M.R. Adams, L. Apanasevich, D. Berry, R.R. Betts, I. Bucinskaite, R. Cavanaugh, O. Evdokimov, L. Gauthier, C.E. Gerber, D.J. Hofman, K. Jung, P. Kurt, C. O'Brien, I.D. Sandoval Gonzalez, P. Turner, N. Varelas, H. Wang, Z. Wu, M. Zakaria, J. Zhang

University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), Chicago, USA

B. Bilki⁶⁸, W. Clarida, K. Dilsiz, S. Durgut, R.P. Gandrajula, M. Haytmyradov, V. Khristenko, J.-P. Merlo, H. Mermerkaya⁶⁹, A. Mestvirishvili, A. Moeller, J. Nachtman, H. Ogul, Y. Onel, F. Ozok⁷⁰, A. Penzo, C. Snyder, E. Tiras, J. Wetzel, K. Yi

The University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA

I. Anderson, B. Blumenfeld, A. Cocoros, N. Eminizer, D. Fehling, L. Feng, A.V. Gritsan, P. Maksimovic, C. Martin, M. Osherson, J. Roskes, U. Sarica, M. Swartz, M. Xiao, Y. Xin, C. You

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA

A. Al-bataineh, P. Baringer, A. Bean, S. Boren, J. Bowen, C. Bruner, J. Castle, L. Forthomme, R.P. Kenny III, S. Khalil, A. Kropivnitskaya, D. Majumder, W. Mcbrayer, M. Murray, S. Sanders, R. Stringer, J.D. Tapia Takaki, Q. Wang

The University of Kansas, Lawrence, USA

A. Ivanov, K. Kaadze, Y. Maravin, A. Mohammadi, L.K. Saini, N. Skhirtladze, S. Toda

Kansas State University, Manhattan, USA

F. Rebassoo, D. Wright

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, USA

C. Anelli, A. Baden, O. Baron, A. Belloni, B. Calvert, S.C. Eno, C. Ferraioli, J.A. Gomez, N.J. Hadley, S. Jabeen, R.G. Kellogg, T. Kolberg, J. Kunkle, Y. Lu, A.C. Mignerey, F. Ricci-Tam, Y.H. Shin, A. Skuja, M.B. Tonjes, S.C. Tonwar

University of Maryland, College Park, USA

D. Abercrombie, B. Allen, A. Apyan, R. Barbieri, A. Baty, R. Bi, K. Bierwagen, S. Brandt, W. Busza, I.A. Cali, Z. Demiragli, L. Di Matteo, G. Gomez Ceballos, M. Goncharov, D. Hsu, Y. Iiyama, G.M. Innocenti, M. Klute, D. Kovalskyi, K. Krajczar, Y.S. Lai, Y.-J. Lee, A. Levin, P.D. Luckey, B. Maier, A.C. Marini, C. Mcginn, C. Mironov, S. Narayanan, X. Niu, C. Paus, C. Roland, G. Roland, J. Salfeld-Nebgen, G.S.F. Stephans, K. Sumorok, K. Tatar, M. Varma, D. Velicanu, J. Veverka, J. Wang, T.W. Wang, B. Wyslouch, M. Yang, V. Zhukova

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA

A.C. Benvenuti, R.M. Chatterjee, A. Evans, A. Finkel, A. Gude, P. Hansen, S. Kalafut, S.C. Kao, Y. Kubota, Z. Lesko, J. Mans, S. Nourbakhsh, N. Ruckstuhl, R. Rusack, N. Tambe, J. Turkewitz

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA

J.G. Acosta, S. Oliveros

University of Mississippi, Oxford, USA

E. Avdeeva, R. Bartek⁷¹, K. Bloom, D.R. Claes, A. Dominguez⁷¹, C. Fangmeier, R. Gonzalez Suarez, R. Kamalieddin, I. Kravchenko, A. Malta Rodrigues, F. Meier, J. Monroy, J.E. Siado, G.R. Snow, B. Stieger

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, USA

M. Alyari, J. Dolen, J. George, A. Godshalk, C. Harrington, I. Iashvili, J. Kaisen, A. Kharchilava, A. Kumar, A. Parker, S. Rappoccio, B. Roozbahani

State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, USA

G. Alverson, E. Barberis, A. Hortiangtham, A. Massironi, D.M. Morse, D. Nash, T. Orimoto, R. Teixeira De Lima, D. Trocino, R.-J. Wang, D. Wood

Northeastern University, Boston, USA

S. Bhattacharya, O. Charaf, K.A. Hahn, A. Kubik, A. Kumar, N. Mucia, N. Odell, B. Pollack, M.H. Schmitt, K. Sung, M. Trovato, M. Velasco

Northwestern University, Evanston, USA

N. Dev, M. Hildreth, K. Hurtado Anampa, C. Jessop, D.J. Karmgard, N. Kellams, K. Lannon, N. Marinelli, F. Meng, C. Mueller, Y. Musienko³⁸, M. Planer, A. Reinsvold, R. Ruchti, G. Smith, S. Taroni, M. Wayne, M. Wolf, A. Woodard

University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, USA

J. Alimena, L. Antonelli, B. Bylsma, L.S. Durkin, S. Flowers, B. Francis, A. Hart, C. Hill, R. Hughes, W. Ji, B. Liu, W. Luo, D. Puigh, B.L. Winer, H.W. Wulsin

The Ohio State University, Columbus, USA

S. Cooperstein, O. Driga, P. Elmer, J. Hardenbrook, P. Hebda, D. Lange, J. Luo, D. Marlow, J. Mc Donald, T. Medvedeva, K. Mei, M. Mooney, J. Olsen, C. Palmer, P. Piroué, D. Stickland, A. Svyatkovskiy, C. Tully, A. Zuranski

Princeton University, Princeton, USA

S. Malik

University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, USA

A. Barker, V.E. Barnes, S. Folgueras, L. Gutay, M.K. Jha, M. Jones, A.W. Jung, D.H. Miller, N. Neumeister, J.F. Schulte, X. Shi, J. Sun, F. Wang, W. Xie

Purdue University, West Lafayette, USA

N. Parashar, J. Stupak

Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, USA

A. Adair, B. Akgun, Z. Chen, K.M. Ecklund, F.J.M. Geurts, M. Guilbaud, W. Li, B. Michlin, M. Northup, B.P. Padley, R. Redjimi, J. Roberts, J. Rorie, Z. Tu, J. Zabel

Rice University, Houston, USA

B. Betchart, A. Bodek, P. de Barbaro, R. Demina, Y.t. Duh, T. Ferbel, M. Galanti, A. Garcia-Bellido, J. Han, O. Hindrichs, A. Khukhunaishvili, K.H. Lo, P. Tan, M. Verzetti

University of Rochester, Rochester, USA

A. Agapitos, J.P. Chou, E. Contreras-Campana, Y. Gershtein, T.A. Gómez Espinosa, E. Halkiadakis, M. Heindl, D. Hidas, E. Hughes, S. Kaplan, R. Kunnawalkam Elayavalli, S. Kyriacou, A. Lath, K. Nash, H. Saka, S. Salur, S. Schnetzer, D. Sheffield, S. Somalwar, R. Stone, S. Thomas, P. Thomassen, M. Walker

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Piscataway, USA

A.G. Delannoy, M. Foerster, J. Heideman, G. Riley, K. Rose, S. Spanier, K. Thapa

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA

O. Bouhali⁷², A. Celik, M. Dalchenko, M. De Mattia, A. Delgado, S. Dildick, R. Eusebi, J. Gilmore, T. Huang, E. Juska, T. Kamon⁷³, R. Mueller, Y. Pakhotin, R. Patel, A. Perloff, L. Perniè, D. Rathjens, A. Rose, A. Safonov, A. Tatarinov, K.A. Ulmer

Texas A&M University, College Station, USA

N. Akchurin, C. Cowden, J. Damgov, F. De Guio, C. Dragoiu, P.R. Duderø, J. Faulkner, E. Gurpinar, S. Kunori, K. Lamichhane, S.W. Lee, T. Libeiro, T. Peltola, S. Undleeb, I. Volobouev, Z. Wang

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, USA

S. Greene, A. Gurrola, R. Janjam, W. Johns, C. Maguire, A. Melo, H. Ni, P. Sheldon, S. Tuo, J. Velkovska, Q. Xu

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, USA

M.W. Arenton, P. Barria, B. Cox, J. Goodell, R. Hirosky, A. Ledovskoy, H. Li, C. Neu, T. Sinthuprasith, X. Sun, Y. Wang, E. Wolfe, F. Xia

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, USA

C. Clarke, R. Harr, P.E. Karchin, J. Sturdy

Wayne State University, Detroit, USA

D.A. Belknap, J. Buchanan, C. Caillol, S. Dasu, L. Dodd, S. Duric, B. Gomber, M. Grothe, M. Herndon, A. Hervé, P. Klabbers, A. Lanaro, A. Levine, K. Long, R. Loveless, I. Ojalvo, T. Perry, G.A. Pierro, G. Polese, T. Ruggles, A. Savin, N. Smith, W.H. Smith, D. Taylor, N. Woods

University of Wisconsin – Madison, Madison, WI, USA

† Deceased.

¹ Also at Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria.

² Also at State Key Laboratory of Nuclear Physics and Technology, Peking University, Beijing, China.

³ Also at Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien, Université de Strasbourg, Université de Haute Alsace Mulhouse, CNRS/IN2P3, Strasbourg, France.

⁴ Also at Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Campinas, Brazil.

⁵ Also at Universidade Federal de Pelotas, Pelotas, Brazil.

⁶ Also at Université Libre de Bruxelles, Bruxelles, Belgium.

⁷ Also at Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, Hamburg, Germany.

⁸ Also at Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Russia.

⁹ Also at Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt.

¹⁰ Now at Zewail City of Science and Technology, Zewail, Egypt.

¹¹ Now at Fayoum University, El-Fayoum, Egypt.

¹² Also at British University in Egypt, Cairo, Egypt.

¹³ Now at Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt.

¹⁴ Also at Université de Haute Alsace, Mulhouse, France.

¹⁵ Also at Skobeltsyn Institute of Nuclear Physics, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia.

¹⁶ Also at Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia.

¹⁷ Also at CERN, European Organization for Nuclear Research, Geneva, Switzerland.

¹⁸ Also at RWTH Aachen University, III. Physikalisches Institut A, Aachen, Germany.

¹⁹ Also at University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany.

²⁰ Also at Brandenburg University of Technology, Cottbus, Germany.

²¹ Also at Institute of Nuclear Research ATOMKI, Debrecen, Hungary.

²² Also at MTA-ELTE Lendület CMS Particle and Nuclear Physics Group, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary.

²³ Also at University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary.

²⁴ Also at Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, India.

²⁵ Also at Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, India.

²⁶ Also at University of Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, India.

²⁷ Also at University of Ruhuna, Matara, Sri Lanka.

²⁸ Also at Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan, Iran.

²⁹ Also at University of Tehran, Department of Engineering Science, Tehran, Iran.

³⁰ Also at Yazd University, Yazd, Iran.

³¹ Also at Plasma Physics Research Center, Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.

³² Also at Università degli Studi di Siena, Siena, Italy.

³³ Also at Purdue University, West Lafayette, USA.

³⁴ Also at International Islamic University of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

³⁵ Also at Malaysian Nuclear Agency, MOSTI, Kajang, Malaysia.

³⁶ Also at Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología, Mexico city, Mexico.

³⁷ Also at Warsaw University of Technology, Institute of Electronic Systems, Warsaw, Poland.

³⁸ Also at Institute for Nuclear Research, Moscow, Russia.

³⁹ Now at National Research Nuclear University 'Moscow Engineering Physics Institute' (MEPhI), Moscow, Russia.

⁴⁰ Also at St. Petersburg State Polytechnical University, St. Petersburg, Russia.

⁴¹ Also at University of Florida, Gainesville, USA.

⁴² Also at P.N. Lebedev Physical Institute, Moscow, Russia.

⁴³ Also at Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics, Novosibirsk, Russia.

⁴⁴ Also at Faculty of Physics, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia.

⁴⁵ Also at INFN Sezione di Roma; Università di Roma, Roma, Italy.

⁴⁶ Also at University of Belgrade, Faculty of Physics and Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia.

⁴⁷ Also at Scuola Normale e Sezione dell'INFN, Pisa, Italy.

⁴⁸ Also at National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece.

⁴⁹ Also at Riga Technical University, Riga, Latvia.

⁵⁰ Also at Institute for Theoretical and Experimental Physics, Moscow, Russia.

⁵¹ Also at Albert Einstein Center for Fundamental Physics, Bern, Switzerland.

⁵² Also at Adiyaman University, Adiyaman, Turkey.

⁵³ Also at Istanbul Aydin University, Istanbul, Turkey.

⁵⁴ Also at Mersin University, Mersin, Turkey.

⁵⁵ Also at Cag University, Mersin, Turkey.

⁵⁶ Also at Piri Reis University, Istanbul, Turkey.

⁵⁷ Also at Ozyegin University, Istanbul, Turkey.

⁵⁸ Also at Izmir Institute of Technology, Izmir, Turkey.

⁵⁹ Also at Marmara University, Istanbul, Turkey.

⁶⁰ Also at Kafkas University, Kars, Turkey.

⁶¹ Also at Istanbul Bilgi University, Istanbul, Turkey.

⁶² Also at Yildiz Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey.

⁶³ Also at Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey.

⁶⁴ Also at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, United Kingdom.

⁶⁵ Also at School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Southampton, Southampton, United Kingdom.

⁶⁶ Also at Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias, La Laguna, Spain.

⁶⁷ Also at Utah Valley University, Orem, USA.

⁶⁸ Also at Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, USA.

⁶⁹ Also at Erzincan University, Erzincan, Turkey.

⁷⁰ Also at Mimar Sinan University, Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey.

⁷¹ Now at The Catholic University of America, Washington, USA.

⁷² Also at Texas A&M University at Qatar, Doha, Qatar.

⁷³ Also at Kyungpook National University, Daegu, Republic of Korea.