CERN-EP-2024-123
2025/02/05

CMS-HIG-23-007

Study of WH production through vector boson scattering and extraction of the relative sign of the W and Z couplings to the Higgs boson in proton-proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV

The CMS Collaboration*

Abstract

A search for the production of a W boson and a Higgs boson through vector boson scattering (VBS) is presented, using CMS data from proton-proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV collected from 2016 to 2018. The integrated luminosity of the data sample is 138 fb^{-1} . Selected events must be consistent with the presence of two jets originating from VBS, the leptonic decay of the W boson to an electron or muon, possibly also through an intermediate τ lepton, and a Higgs boson decaying into a pair of b quarks, reconstructed as either a single merged jet or two resolved jets. A measurement of the process as predicted by the standard model (SM) is performed alongside a study of beyond-the-SM (BSM) scenarios. The SM analysis sets an observed (expected) 95% confidence level upper limit of 14.3 (9.9) on the ratio of the measured VBS WH cross section to that expected by the SM. The BSM analysis, conducted within the so-called κ framework, excludes all scenarios with $\lambda_{WZ} < 0$ that are consistent with current measurements, where $\lambda_{WZ} = \kappa_W / \kappa_Z$ and κ_W and κ_Z are the HWW and HZZ coupling modifiers, respectively. The significance of the exclusion is beyond 5 standard deviations, and it is consistent with the SM expectation of $\lambda_{WZ} = 1$.

Published in Physics Letters B as doi:10.1016/j.physletb.2024.139202.

1 Introduction

Precise measurements of the Higgs boson couplings to the W and Z bosons serve as critical tests of electroweak symmetry breaking in the standard model (SM) [1–6]. Within the κ framework [7], where the HWW and HZZ coupling modifiers are denoted as κ_W and κ_Z , respectively, direct measurements of Higgs boson production and decay have tightly constrained the absolute values of κ_W and κ_Z [8, 9]. However, the sign of $\lambda_{WZ} = \kappa_W / \kappa_Z$ has not been probed directly.

A process sensitive to the interference between the HWW and HZZ vertices is needed to extract the sign of λ_{WZ} . A natural choice is the production of a W boson and a Higgs boson (WH) via vector boson scattering (VBS) [10], which proceeds primarily through the leading-order (LO) Feynman diagrams shown in Fig. 1. This is a rare SM process, but the cross section grows quadratically with κ_W or κ_Z and the kinematic distributions are different for the SM ($\lambda_{WZ} = 1$), and $\lambda_{WZ} < 0$, where the W and Higgs bosons both receive a significant Lorentz boost. This is shown in Fig. 2, where the scalar sum of the transverse momentum (p_T) of the Higgs and W bosons is displayed for $\kappa_Z = 1$ and various values of κ_W .

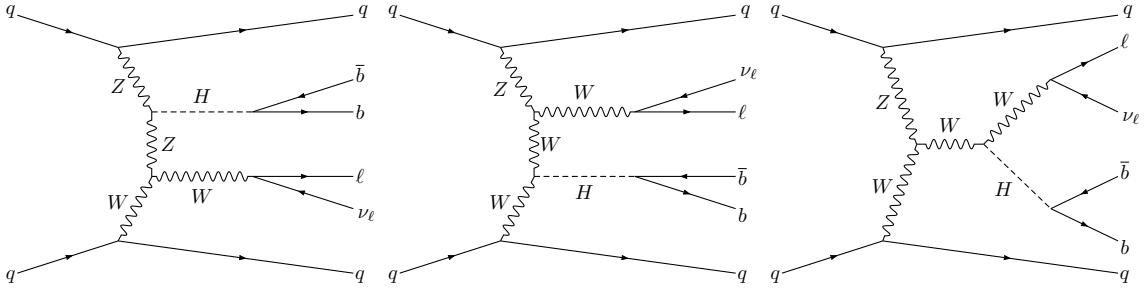


Figure 1: Tree-level Feynman diagrams for the production of $WH \rightarrow \ell\nu b\bar{b}$ via VBS, where ℓ is an electron or muon.

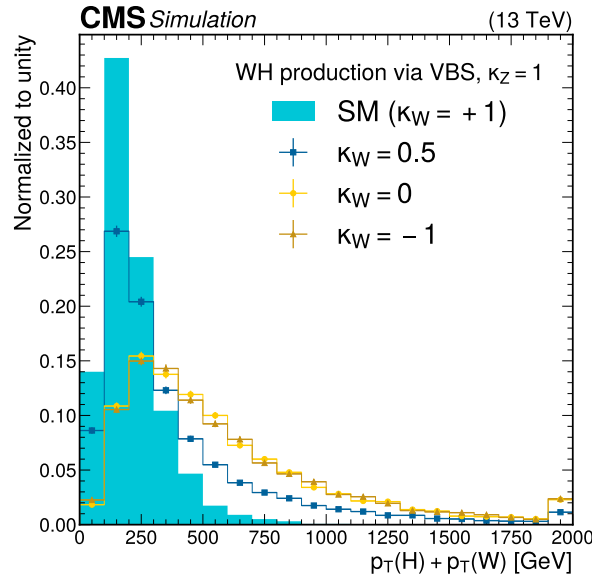


Figure 2: Distributions of the scalar sum of the Higgs boson and W boson p_T , as generated by MADGRAPH, for simulated signal events with $\kappa_Z = 1$ and the following κ_W values: $\kappa_W = 1$ (SM) in light blue (filled), $\kappa_W = 0.5$ in dark blue, $\kappa_W = 0$ in yellow, and $\kappa_W = -1$ in gold. The highest bin also contains the overflows.

In this Letter, we present a study of the production of WH through VBS using the leptonic de-

cay of the W boson to an electron or a muon, possibly also through an intermediate τ lepton, and the decay of the Higgs boson to $b\bar{b}$. The study focuses both on the SM scenario, where $\kappa_W = \kappa_Z = 1$, and on beyond-the-SM (BSM) scenarios, where $\lambda_{WZ} < 0$. The BSM analysis targets events where the Higgs boson decay to b quarks is reconstructed as a single merged jet because of the Lorentz boost it receives, whereas the SM analysis targets events where the b quarks from the Higgs boson are reconstructed as two resolved jets. The two scenarios are analyzed separately and use different methods. The study is based on data from proton-proton collisions at a center-of-mass energy of 13 TeV. The data were collected with the CMS detector [11] at the CERN LHC from 2016 to 2018, corresponding to an integrated luminosity of 138 fb^{-1} . Tabulated results are provided in the HEPData record for this work [12].

2 The CMS detector and object reconstruction

The CMS apparatus [11, 13] is a multipurpose, nearly hermetic detector, designed to trigger on [14, 15] and identify electrons, muons, photons, and (charged and neutral) hadrons [16–18]. A global “particle-flow” (PF) algorithm [19] aims to reconstruct all individual particles in an event (PF candidates), combining information provided by the all-silicon inner tracker and by the crystal electromagnetic and brass-scintillator hadron calorimeters (ECAL and HCAL, respectively), operating inside a 3.8 T superconducting solenoid, with data from the gas-ionization muon detectors embedded in the flux-return yoke outside the solenoid. The PF candidates are used to build τ leptons, jets, and missing transverse momentum [20–22]. Forward calorimeters, made of steel and quartz-fibers, extend the pseudorapidity coverage provided by the barrel and endcap detectors. More detailed descriptions of the CMS detector, together with a definition of the coordinate system used and the relevant kinematic variables, can be found in Refs. [11, 13].

Events of interest are collected using single-lepton triggers, where the charged lepton is required to be isolated from other significant detector activity and have p_T exceeding a threshold that depends on the data-taking period (year). The single-muon trigger requires $p_T > 24$ (27) GeV in 2016 and 2018 (2017), whereas the single-electron trigger requires $p_T > 27$ (32) GeV in 2016 (2017–18).

Muon candidates are reconstructed within the pseudorapidity range $|\eta| < 2.4$ by combining the information from the silicon tracker and the muon chambers [17]. The muon candidates are also required to satisfy a set of quality criteria based on the number of hits measured in the silicon tracker and the muon system, the properties of the muon track, and the impact parameters of the track with respect to the primary vertex (PV) of the event, which is taken to be the vertex corresponding to the hardest scattering in the event, evaluated using tracking information alone, as described in Section 9.4.1 of Ref. [23].

Electron candidates within $|\eta| < 2.5$ are reconstructed by associating fitted tracks in the silicon tracker with electromagnetic energy clusters in the ECAL [24]. Electron candidates are required to satisfy identification criteria based on the shower shape of the energy deposit, the matching of the electron track to the ECAL energy cluster, the relative amount of energy deposited in the HCAL detector, and the consistency of the electron track with the PV. Electron candidates in the transition region between the ECAL barrel and endcaps, $1.44 < |\eta| < 1.57$, are discarded because of suboptimal detector performance. Electron candidates identified as originating from photon conversions in the detector are also rejected.

Muons and electrons are required to be isolated from hadronic activity in the event. The isolation value is defined by summing the p_T of all PF candidates originating from the PV in a cone of radius $\Delta R = \sqrt{(\Delta\eta)^2 + (\Delta\phi)^2} = 0.4$ (0.3) around the muon (electron) track, where ϕ is

the azimuthal angle in radians. The sum is corrected for the contribution of neutral particles from additional interactions in the same or nearby bunch crossings (pileup) [17, 24]. The relative isolation, defined as the isolation sum divided by the p_T of the lepton, is used in selecting well-isolated electrons and muons.

Both the SM and BSM analyses use the “tight” identification criteria described in Refs. [16, 17] to further identify electrons and muons, respectively. The electron identification criteria use a boosted decision tree (BDT) trained to identify electrons based on their kinematic values and isolation, whereas muons are required to pass a set of selections, including the requirement that their relative isolation be less than 0.15. In addition, a less stringent set of identification and isolation criteria, referred to as the “veto” criteria, are used to identify and reject additional leptons.

Jets are clustered using the anti- k_T algorithm [25, 26] taking as input the PF candidates. The clustering algorithm is used with distance parameters of 0.4 and 0.8 to reconstruct so-called AK4 and AK8 jets, respectively. The momenta of jets are corrected to mitigate the contributions of pileup particles, by discarding particles identified originating from pileup vertices and applying an offset correction to subtract the contributions from neutral particles. Further corrections are derived from simulation and by performing in situ measurements of the momentum balance in data. The jet energy resolution amounts typically to 15–20% at 30 GeV, 10% at 100 GeV, and 5% at 1 TeV [21]. Additional selection criteria are applied to each jet to remove those potentially dominated by anomalous contributions from various subdetector components or reconstruction failures, while jets originating from pileup collisions are rejected via a multivariate discriminator [27]. The missing transverse momentum vector $\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}$ is computed as the negative vector $\vec{p}_T$ sum of all PF candidates reconstructed in the event. Its magnitude is denoted as p_T^{miss} [22]. The $\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}$ is modified to account for corrections to the energy scale of the reconstructed jets in the event. The corrections are propagated via the AK4 jet collection.

The AK4 jets originating from b quark hadronization and decay (b jets) are identified using DEEPJET [28–30], a deep neural network whose inputs are the kinematic values of the jets and their constituents, including secondary vertices associated with the jets. A requirement is placed on the output of DEEPJET in order to classify jets as “ b -tagged.” For the chosen working point, the efficiency to select b jets ranges from 71 to 81%, depending on the p_T and η of the jet, and the rate for incorrectly tagging jets originating from the hadronization of gluons or light quarks is approximately 1%. Pairs of b -tagged AK4 jets are used to identify Higgs boson candidates in the SM analysis.

The AK8 jets are used to reconstruct the Higgs boson candidates in the BSM analysis. The mass-decorrelated $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ PARTICLENET tagger [31], a graph neural network that uses the constituents of an AK8 jet to identify its source, is used to identify $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ candidates. The soft-drop grooming algorithm [32] with angular exponent $\beta = 0$ and soft radiation fraction $z = 0.1$, also known as the modified mass-drop algorithm [33], is applied to the AK8 jets to remove soft and wide-angle radiation when estimating the Higgs boson candidate mass. This estimate of the mass is referred to as the soft-drop mass, or m_{SD} , whereas the ungroomed jet mass is denoted as m .

3 Simulated event samples

We model VBS WH events at LO using the MADGRAPH5_aMC@NLO (v2.6.5) [34] Monte Carlo (MC) event generator, interfaced with the PYTHIA (v8.240) [35] program, which is responsible for the modeling of the boson decays. The SM cross section of the generated events is 13 ± 1 fb

after the W boson decays leptonically and the Higgs boson decays to $b\bar{b}$. W decays that produce a muon or electron through an intermediate τ lepton are included in this sample and considered part of the signal. In order to study different λ_{WZ} scenarios, in addition to the SM value of $\kappa_W = \kappa_Z = 1$, we also generate events with $\kappa_W = -1$ and $\kappa_Z = +1$ to test the hypothesis $\lambda_{WZ} = -1$, by manually modifying the κ_W coupling. These BSM events are generated using a different version (v2.6.1) of MADGRAPH5_aMC@NLO. With these same settings, a third VBS WH sample is generated using the MADGRAPH event-by-event reweighting implementation, with a reweighting scheme for 625 different values of κ_W and κ_Z in the range $[-2, 2]$, allowing for a two-dimensional scan of the parameter space.

The main sources of background for both the SM and BSM analyses are $t\bar{t}$ and $W + \text{jets}$ production, because of the presence of at least one W boson and a high jet multiplicity. The $t\bar{t}$ background [36] is generated at next-to-leading-order (NLO) accuracy in perturbative quantum chromodynamics (QCD) with the POWHEG (v2.0) program [37–39]. The $W + \text{jets}$ background is generated with MADGRAPH5_aMC@NLO (v2.6.5) at LO accuracy for up to 4 additional partons merged using the MLM matching scheme [40].

The largest subleading backgrounds for both the SM and BSM analyses are diboson and single top quark production. Diboson events are generated with MADGRAPH5_aMC@NLO at NLO with up to one additional parton, using the FxFx merging scheme [41], or with POWHEG at NLO accuracy. The tW and t -channel single top quark processes are generated to NLO accuracy with POWHEG, whereas s -channel single top quark production is modeled with MADGRAPH5_aMC@NLO (v2.6.5) at NLO accuracy [42–44].

We also consider backgrounds from VBS production of a W boson, quark-initiated WH, and $Z + \text{jets}$ production. The $Z + \text{jets}$ events are generated with the same settings used to generate $W + \text{jets}$ events. The VBS W background events are also generated with these settings, without any additional jets. Finally, quark-initiated WH production is generated at NLO QCD accuracy using the POWHEG event generator extended with the MiNLO procedure [45].

The generated matrix-element-level background events are interfaced with PYTHIA v8.240 or later versions to model parton showers and hadronization, as well as the underlying event. In the case of VBS WH production, we also use PYTHIA, but with a dipole recoil scheme chosen to correctly emulate the color structure [46]. The generation of all samples is based on the CP5 tune [47] for PYTHIA and the NNPDF v3.1 next-to-next-to-leading-order (NNLO) parton distribution functions (PDFs) [48, 49]. Simulated pileup interactions are added to the hard-scattering process, with a multiplicity matched to the pileup profiles of the data. Finally, the response of the CMS detector is modeled with GEANT4 [50].

4 Event selection and background estimation

The selection criteria that target the leptonic W boson decay, a single electron or muon plus p_T^{miss} from a neutrino, are common for the SM and BSM analyses. Events are required to contain a tight muon with $p_T > 26$ (30) GeV in 2016 and 2018 (2017) data, or a tight electron with $p_T > 30$ (35) GeV in 2016 (2017–18) data. Events are rejected if they contain an additional electron or muon with $p_T > 10$ GeV that satisfies the veto criteria. Events are also required to have p_T^{miss} larger than 30 GeV. In addition, in both the SM and BSM analyses, events must contain at least two AK4 jets (the VBS signature jets) that are not b -tagged, do not overlap with the Higgs boson decay products, and satisfy $p_T > 30$ GeV, $|\eta| < 4.7$, $m_{jj} > 500$ GeV, and $|\Delta\eta_{jj}| > 2.5$, where m_{jj} is the invariant mass of the dijet system and $\Delta\eta_{jj}$ is the difference in pseudorapidity between the jets.

The SM analysis is based on selecting two AK4 jets instead of a single AK8 jet to construct the Higgs boson candidate. Specifically, events are required to have two b-tagged AK4 jets with $p_T > 30 \text{ GeV}$, $|\eta| < 2.5$, and a dijet invariant mass (m_{bb}) in the range $50 < m_{bb} < 150 \text{ GeV}$.

A BDT, referred to as the signal BDT, is employed to discriminate between the SM signal and the sum of all backgrounds. The signal events are assigned a target output of 1 and the background events are assigned a target output of 0. The BDT is trained using simulated events to regress the target output with the mean squared error loss function. The training and inference are performed with the XGBoost Python package [51]. The variables that are input to the signal BDT include the p_T , η , and ϕ of the selected lepton and four jets; the p_T and ϕ of $\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}$; the b jet discriminator value of the four selected jets; and m_{jj} , $\Delta\eta_{jj}$, and m_{bb} . Finally, the SM signal region is defined by requiring the signal BDT output to be larger than 0.5, in addition to the m_{bb} , m_{jj} , and $\Delta\eta_{jj}$ selections already applied.

The background in the SM BDT output signal region is estimated from two control regions used to determine the overall rate of the $W + \text{jets}$ and $t\bar{t}$ processes. The distributions of these backgrounds, along with both the distributions and overall rates of other smaller backgrounds, are taken from simulation. The control region used to constrain the $W + \text{jets}$ process is defined by inverting the BDT output requirement for the signal region. In this control region, a second BDT, referred to as the $W + \text{jets}$ BDT, is trained to discriminate between $W + \text{jets}$ and all other processes using the same set of input variables as the signal BDT. Then, the $W + \text{jets}$ BDT distribution is used to extract the overall rate of $W + \text{jets}$ production. The control region used to constrain the $t\bar{t}$ process has the signal BDT output requirement removed and the signal region m_{jj} requirement modified to $100 < m_{jj} < 500 \text{ GeV}$. In this control region, the m_{jj} distribution is fit to extract the overall $t\bar{t}$ production rate.

The signal region for the BSM analysis requires events to have one AK8 jet with $p_T > 300 \text{ GeV}$, $|\eta| < 2.5$, an $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ PARTICLENET score greater than 0.9, $m > 50 \text{ GeV}$, and $40 < m_{SD} < 150 \text{ GeV}$. Events are also required to have no b-tagged AK4 jets. Finally, each event must satisfy $p_T(\ell) + p_T^{\text{miss}} + p_T(H \rightarrow b\bar{b} \text{ jet}) > 900 \text{ GeV}$, and the requirements on the VBS jets are increased to $m_{jj} > 600 \text{ GeV}$ and $|\Delta\eta_{jj}| > 4$.

The background in the BSM signal region is estimated using a modification of the “ABCD” method (e.g. [52, 53]), where two approximately independent variables are used to define four orthogonal regions: region A, the signal region, and regions B, C, and D, which are dominated by background events. In this work, $\Delta\eta_{jj}$ and m_{SD} are used, such that inverting one or both selections on each variable gives the background-dominated regions: $|\Delta\eta_{jj}| \leq 4$ and $m_{SD} < 150 \text{ GeV}$ for region B, $|\Delta\eta_{jj}| > 4$ and $m_{SD} \geq 150 \text{ GeV}$ for region C, and $|\Delta\eta_{jj}| \leq 4$ and $m_{SD} \geq 150 \text{ GeV}$ for region D. The predicted background yield in the signal region $A_{\text{data}}^{\text{pred}}$ is then obtained by the following relation:

$$A_{\text{data}}^{\text{pred}} = \left(B_{\text{data}} \frac{C_{\text{data}}}{D_{\text{data}}} \right) \left(\frac{A_{\text{MC}}/B_{\text{MC}}}{C_{\text{MC}}/D_{\text{MC}}} \right),$$

where B_{data} , C_{data} , and D_{data} are the yields of the three regions in data, and the simulated background yields A_{MC} , B_{MC} , C_{MC} , and D_{MC} are used as a correction (right term) to the standard method (left term). This correction accounts for a small correlation between $\Delta\eta_{jj}$ and m_{SD} for background events that causes an 11% discrepancy between the ABCD prediction in simulation and A_{MC} . This discrepancy is taken as a baseline for the systematic uncertainty in the prediction. However, the background composition varies across regions A, B, C, and D, and it is not known to high precision. As a result, the baseline systematic uncertainty is extended by varying the subleading backgrounds within their respective uncertainties, representing scenar-

ios in which the contributions from each background are larger or smaller, and recalculating the discrepancy of the method.

Based on studies of the discrepancy in the various scenarios, we assign a systematic uncertainty of 13% in the background prediction. The yields in the BSM signal region, with $\kappa_W = -1$, $\kappa_Z = 1$, are tabulated in Table 1 and the yields in regions A, B, C, and D are shown in Fig. 3. Another example scenario ($\kappa_W = 0$, $\kappa_Z = 1$), where the signal sample is generated using the MADGRAPH event-by-event reweighting, is reported.

Table 1: The background yield estimated from data and the signal yield predicted by MC simulation for the $\kappa_W = -1$, $\kappa_Z = 1$ scenario, and for another example scenario ($\kappa_W = 0$, $\kappa_Z = 1$) in the BSM signal region are shown with their associated statistical and systematic uncertainties. The systematic uncertainty in the signal yield quoted here is the sum in quadrature of the independent relative systematic uncertainties. The observed data yield is also tabulated.

Type	Yield	Uncertainty	
		Stat.	Syst.
VBS WH ($\kappa_W = -1$, $\kappa_Z = 1$)	366	3	68
VBS WH ($\kappa_W = 0$, $\kappa_Z = 1$)	89	2	17
Background	108	14	14
Observed data	130		

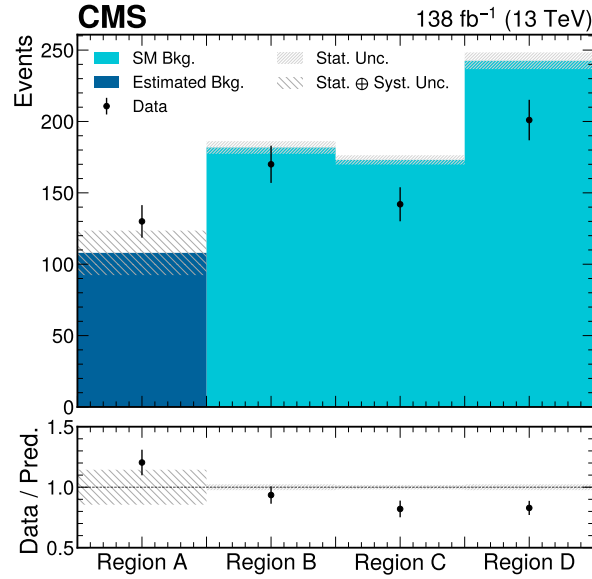


Figure 3: Event yields observed in the data (black points) for regions A, B, C, and D of the BSM analysis, where region A is the signal region. The simulated SM background event yields in the control regions B, C, and D are shown in light blue. The background in the signal region estimated from data in regions B, C, and D is plotted in dark blue. The lower panel shows the ratio of the data to the estimated background yields. The vertical bars on the points give the statistical uncertainty in the data, while the gray and hatched areas represent the statistical and total uncertainties in the estimated backgrounds, respectively.

5 Systematic uncertainties

Results are obtained from binned maximum likelihood fits of the signal and predicted background expectations to the data yields [54]. Three distributions— m_{jj} in the $t\bar{t}$ control region, the $W + \text{jets}$ BDT in the $W + \text{jets}$ control region, and the signal BDT in the signal region—are fit simultaneously in the SM analysis, whereas a single-bin counting experiment is performed for the BSM analysis. Several sources of systematic uncertainties are estimated for these measurements. Systematic uncertainties are treated as nuisance parameters with either Gaussian function priors (shape uncertainties) for the SM analysis, or log-normal function priors (normalization uncertainties) for the BSM analysis, and are included in the likelihood function. Theoretical sources of uncertainty include the renormalization and factorization scales (μ_R and μ_F , respectively), the PDFs, and the modeling of initial- and final-state radiation. Experimental sources of uncertainty include the single-lepton trigger efficiency, lepton identification efficiency, jet energy scale and resolution [21], DEEPJET b-tagging efficiency, PARTICLENET $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ tagger efficiency, and integrated luminosity measurement [55–57]. In the SM analysis, the finite statistical power of the simulated samples is considered as a source of uncertainty using the Barlow-Beeston method [58]. In the BSM analysis, the statistical uncertainties in the background estimation method and the signal simulation are considered as two additional log-normal constraints. The leading systematic uncertainty in the SM signal yield comes from the uncertainty in the b jet tagging efficiency due to the purity of the b jet enriched region where the efficiency is measured in data. The rate of non-b jets in this region is subtracted based on simulation, so the uncertainty is determined by varying the size of the subtraction up and down by 20% [28]. The leading systematic uncertainty in the BSM signal yield comes from the variation of μ_F . In particular, μ_F is varied up and down by a factor of 2, and the largest difference in the signal yield is taken as the systematic uncertainty.

6 Results

The BDT distribution in the signal region for the SM analysis is shown in Fig. 4. The observed (expected) signal strength, the rate of the VBS WH signal relative to the SM, is $2.2^{+6.1}_{-5.8}$ ($1.0^{+4.8}_{-4.1}$). The observed (expected) signal significance is 0.34σ (0.22σ), where σ is a standard deviation. Finally, the observed (expected) 95% confidence level CLs [59, 60] upper limit is 14.3 (9.9) times the SM prediction.

The limits in the BSM analysis are set following the procedure described in Section 3.2 of Ref. [61]. We find that the scenario where $\lambda_{WZ} = \kappa_W/\kappa_Z = -1$, with $|\kappa_W| = 1$ and $|\kappa_Z| = 1$, is excluded at a confidence level (CL) higher than 99.99%, with an expected and observed significance beyond 5σ . This procedure is repeated for 625 different values of κ_W and κ_Z . The exclusion significance regions in the two-dimensional κ_W - κ_Z plane are shown in Fig. 5. The observed 95% CL (2σ) and 99.99% (5σ) contours are given by the dark and light blue colors, respectively, while the expected contours are given by the labeled yellow lines. The contours correspond to the conditions $-2\Delta \log L < 6.18$ and < 28.7 , respectively, where L is the value of the likelihood function. We find that all of the opposite sign scenarios with κ_W and κ_Z values compatible with the current measurements, $|\kappa_W| = 1.02 \pm 0.08$ and $|\kappa_Z| = 1.04 \pm 0.07$ [8], are excluded at a CL higher than 99.99%.

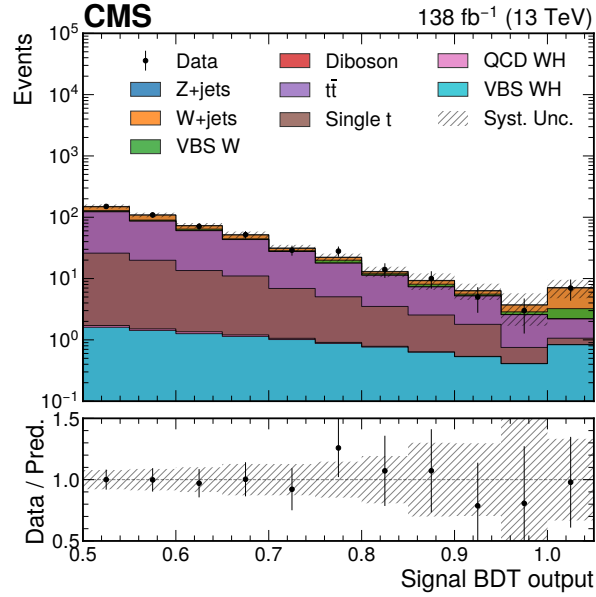


Figure 4: Observed and expected distributions of the BDT output in the signal region of the SM analysis. The data are shown by the points and the expected contributions from the various sources after the fit to the data by the colored histograms. The lower plot displays the ratio of the data to the sum of the predicted distributions. The vertical bars on the points indicate the statistical uncertainty in the data, and the hatched regions show the systematic uncertainty in the sum of the predicted yields. The rightmost bin includes overflow.

7 Summary

In this Letter, we have reported the first study of WH production through vector boson scattering (VBS) using 138 fb^{-1} of data recorded with the CMS detector at the LHC between 2016 and 2018 at a center-of-mass energy of 13 TeV. We focused on both the standard model (SM) scenario and scenarios where $\lambda_{WZ} = \kappa_W / \kappa_Z$, with κ_W and κ_Z being the HWW and HZZ coupling modifiers, respectively, is modified from the SM value of 1. Events were selected by requiring exactly one isolated charged lepton (electron or muon) and the magnitude of the missing transverse momentum p_T^{miss} being consistent with the W boson leptonic decay, two jets consistent with a VBS interaction, and one or two additional jets consistent with the Higgs boson decay to $b\bar{b}$. Assuming a signal with SM features, the observed (expected) ratio between the measured rate of VBS WH and the expectation from the SM is $2.2^{+6.1}_{-5.8}$ ($1.0^{+4.8}_{-4.1}$), corresponding to an observed (expected) 95% confidence level upper limit of 14.3 (9.9) times the SM prediction. The BSM scenario where $\lambda_{WZ} = -1$, with $|\kappa_W| = |\kappa_Z| = 1$, and all the opposite-sign scenarios with κ_W and κ_Z values compatible with the current measurements are excluded with a significance greater than 5 standard deviations, corresponding to a confidence level higher than 99.99%.

Acknowledgments

We congratulate our colleagues in the CERN accelerator departments for the excellent performance of the LHC and thank the technical and administrative staffs at CERN and at other CMS institutes for their contributions to the success of the CMS effort. In addition, we gratefully acknowledge the computing centers and personnel of the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid and other centers for delivering so effectively the computing infrastructure essential to our analyses. Finally, we acknowledge the enduring support for the construction and oper-

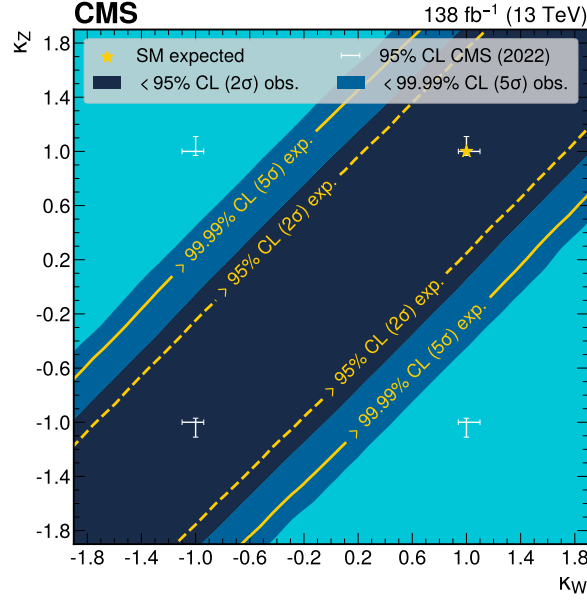


Figure 5: The $>95\%$ (2σ) and $>99.99\%$ (5σ) exclusion regions in the two-dimensional κ_W - κ_Z plane are shown by the dark and light blue colors, respectively. Previous CMS measurements of the magnitude of κ_W and κ_Z at the 95% CL [8] are represented by the horizontal and vertical bars, and the SM expectation is given by the gold star.

ation of the LHC, the CMS detector, and the supporting computing infrastructure provided by the following funding agencies: SC (Armenia), BMBWF and FWF (Austria); FNRS and FWO (Belgium); CNPq, CAPES, FAPERJ, FAPERGS, and FAPESP (Brazil); MES and BNSF (Bulgaria); CERN; CAS, MoST, and NSFC (China); MINCIENCIAS (Colombia); MSES and CSF (Croatia); RIF (Cyprus); SENESCYT (Ecuador); ERC PRG, RVTT3 and MoER TK202 (Estonia); Academy of Finland, MEC, and HIP (Finland); CEA and CNRS/IN2P3 (France); SRNSF (Georgia); BMBF, DFG, and HGF (Germany); GSRI (Greece); NKFIH (Hungary); DAE and DST (India); IPM (Iran); SFI (Ireland); INFN (Italy); MSIP and NRF (Republic of Korea); MES (Latvia); LMTLT (Lithuania); MOE and UM (Malaysia); BUAP, CINVESTAV, CONACYT, LNS, SEP, and UASLP-FAI (Mexico); MOS (Montenegro); MBIE (New Zealand); PAEC (Pakistan); MES and NSC (Poland); FCT (Portugal); MESTD (Serbia); MCIN/AEI and PCTI (Spain); MOSTR (Sri Lanka); Swiss Funding Agencies (Switzerland); MST (Taipei); MHESI and NSTDA (Thailand); TUBITAK and TENMAK (Turkey); NASU (Ukraine); STFC (United Kingdom); DOE and NSF (USA).

Individuals have received support from the Marie-Curie program and the European Research Council and Horizon 2020 Grant, contract Nos. 675440, 724704, 752730, 758316, 765710, 824093, 101115353, 101002207, and COST Action CA16108 (European Union); the Leventis Foundation; the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation; the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation; the Science Committee, project no. 22rl-037 (Armenia); the Belgian Federal Science Policy Office; the Fonds pour la Formation à la Recherche dans l'Industrie et dans l'Agriculture (FRIA-Belgium); the Agentschap voor Innovatie door Wetenschap en Technologie (IWT-Belgium); the F.R.S.-FNRS and FWO (Belgium) under the “Excellence of Science – EOS” – be.h project n. 30820817; the Beijing Municipal Science & Technology Commission, No. Z191100007219010 and Fundamental Research Funds for the Central Universities (China); the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) of the Czech Republic; the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation, grant FR-22-985 (Georgia); the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), under Germany’s Excellence Strategy – EXC 2121 “Quantum Universe” – 390833306, and

under project number 400140256 - GRK2497; the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (HFRI), Project Number 2288 (Greece); the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the New National Excellence Program - ÚNKP, the NKFIH research grants K 131991, K 133046, K 138136, K 143460, K 143477, K 146913, K 146914, K 147048, 2020-2.2.1-ED-2021-00181, and TKP2021-NKTA-64 (Hungary); the Council of Science and Industrial Research, India; ICSC – National Research Center for High Performance Computing, Big Data and Quantum Computing and FAIR – Future Artificial Intelligence Research, funded by the NextGenerationEU program (Italy); the Latvian Council of Science; the Ministry of Education and Science, project no. 2022/WK/14, and the National Science Center, contracts Opus 2021/41/B/ST2/01369 and 2021/43/B/ST2/01552 (Poland); the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, grant CEECIND/01334/2018 (Portugal); the National Priorities Research Program by Qatar National Research Fund; MCIN/AEI/10.13039/501100011033, ERDF “a way of making Europe”, and the Programa Estatal de Fomento de la Investigación Científica y Técnica de Excelencia María de Maeztu, grant MDM-2017-0765 and Programa Severo Ochoa del Principado de Asturias (Spain); the Chulalongkorn Academic into Its 2nd Century Project Advancement Project, and the National Science, Research and Innovation Fund via the Program Management Unit for Human Resources & Institutional Development, Research and Innovation, grant B37G660013 (Thailand); the Kavli Foundation; the Nvidia Corporation; the SuperMicro Corporation; the Welch Foundation, contract C-1845; and the Weston Havens Foundation (USA).

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A The CMS Collaboration

Yerevan Physics Institute, Yerevan, Armenia

A. Hayrapetyan, A. Tumasyan¹ 

Institut für Hochenergiephysik, Vienna, Austria

W. Adam , J.W. Andrejkovic, T. Bergauer , S. Chatterjee , K. Damanakis , M. Dragicevic , P.S. Hussain , M. Jeitler² , N. Krammer , A. Li , D. Liko , I. Mikulec , J. Schieck² , R. Schöfbeck , D. Schwarz , M. Sonawane , S. Templ , W. Waltenberger , C.-E. Wulz² 

Universiteit Antwerpen, Antwerpen, Belgium

M.R. Darwish³ , T. Janssen , T. Van Laer, P. Van Mechelen 

Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussel, Belgium

N. Breugelmans, J. D'Hondt , S. Dansana , A. De Moor , M. Delcourt , F. Heyen, S. Lowette , I. Makarenko , D. Müller , S. Tavernier , M. Tytgat⁴ , G.P. Van Onsem , S. Van Putte , D. Vannerom 

Université Libre de Bruxelles, Bruxelles, Belgium

B. Bilin , B. Clerbaux , A.K. Das, G. De Lentdecker , H. Evard , L. Favart , P. Gianneios , J. Jaramillo , A. Khalilzadeh, F.A. Khan , K. Lee , M. Mahdavihorrami , A. Malara , S. Paredes , M.A. Shahzad, L. Thomas , M. Vanden Bemden , C. Vander Velde , P. Vanlaer 

Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

M. De Coen , D. Dobur , G. Gokbulut , Y. Hong , J. Knolle , L. Lambrecht , D. Marckx , K. Mota Amarilo , A. Samalan, K. Skovpen , N. Van Den Bossche , J. van der Linden , L. Wezenbeek 

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

A. Benecke , A. Bethani , G. Bruno , C. Caputo , J. De Favereau De Jeneret , C. Delaere , I.S. Donertas , A. Giammanco , A.O. Guzel , Sa. Jain , V. Lemaître, J. Lidrych , P. Mastrapasqua , T.T. Tran , S. Wertz 

Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Físicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

G.A. Alves , M. Alves Gallo Pereira , E. Coelho , G. Correia Silva , C. Hensel , T. Menezes De Oliveira , C. Mora Herrera⁵ , A. Moraes , P. Rebello Teles , M. Soeiro, A. Vilela Pereira⁵ 

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

W.L. Aldá Júnior , M. Barroso Ferreira Filho , H. Brandao Malbouisson , W. Carvalho , J. Chinellato⁶, E.M. Da Costa , G.G. Da Silveira⁷ , D. De Jesus Damiao , S. Fonseca De Souza , R. Gomes De Souza, M. Macedo , J. Martins⁸ , L. Mundim , H. Nogima , J.P. Pinheiro , A. Santoro , A. Sznajder , M. Thiel 

Universidade Estadual Paulista, Universidade Federal do ABC, São Paulo, Brazil

C.A. Bernardes⁷ , L. Calligaris , T.R. Fernandez Perez Tomei , E.M. Gregores , B. Lopes Da Costa, I. Maietto Silverio , P.G. Mercadante , S.F. Novaes , B. Orzari , Sandra S. Padula 

Institute for Nuclear Research and Nuclear Energy, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria

A. Aleksandrov , G. Antchev , R. Hadjiiska , P. Iaydjiev , M. Misheva , M. Shopova , G. Sultanov 

University of Sofia, Sofia, BulgariaA. Dimitrov , L. Litov , B. Pavlov , P. Petkov , A. Petrov , E. Shumka **Instituto De Alta Investigación, Universidad de Tarapacá, Casilla 7 D, Arica, Chile**S. Keshri , S. Thakur **Beihang University, Beijing, China**T. Cheng , T. Javaid , L. Yuan **Department of Physics, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China**Z. Hu , Z. Liang, J. Liu, K. Yi^{9,10} **Institute of High Energy Physics, Beijing, China**G.M. Chen¹¹ , H.S. Chen¹¹ , M. Chen¹¹ , F. Iemmi , C.H. Jiang, A. Kapoor¹² , H. Liao , Z.-A. Liu¹³ , R. Sharma¹⁴ , J.N. Song¹³, J. Tao , C. Wang¹¹, J. Wang , Z. Wang¹¹, H. Zhang , J. Zhao **State Key Laboratory of Nuclear Physics and Technology, Peking University, Beijing, China**A. Agapitos , Y. Ban , S. Deng , B. Guo, C. Jiang , A. Levin , C. Li , Q. Li , Y. Mao, S. Qian, S.J. Qian , X. Qin, X. Sun , D. Wang , H. Yang, L. Zhang , Y. Zhao, C. Zhou **Guangdong Provincial Key Laboratory of Nuclear Science and Guangdong-Hong Kong Joint Laboratory of Quantum Matter, South China Normal University, Guangzhou, China**S. Yang **Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, China**Z. You **University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, China**K. Jaffel , N. Lu **Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing, China**G. Bauer¹⁵, B. Li, J. Zhang **Institute of Modern Physics and Key Laboratory of Nuclear Physics and Ion-beam Application (MOE) - Fudan University, Shanghai, China**X. Gao¹⁶ **Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China**Z. Lin , C. Lu , M. Xiao **Universidad de Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia**C. Avila , D.A. Barbosa Trujillo, A. Cabrera , C. Florez , J. Fraga , J.A. Reyes Vega**Universidad de Antioquia, Medellin, Colombia**F. Ramirez , C. Rendón, M. Rodriguez , A.A. Ruales Barbosa , J.D. Ruiz Alvarez **University of Split, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture, Split, Croatia**D. Giljanovic , N. Godinovic , D. Lelas , A. Sculac **University of Split, Faculty of Science, Split, Croatia**M. Kovac , A. Petkovic, T. Sculac **Institute Rudjer Boskovic, Zagreb, Croatia**P. Bargassa , V. Brigljevic , B.K. Chitroda , D. Ferencek , K. Jakovcic, S. Mishra , A. Starodumov¹⁷ , T. Susa 

University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus

A. Attikis , K. Christoforou , A. Hadjiagapiou, C. Leonidou, J. Mousa , C. Nicolaou, L. Paizanos, F. Ptochos , P.A. Razis , H. Rykaczewski, H. Saka , A. Stepennov 

Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

M. Finger , M. Finger Jr. , A. Kveton 

Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Quito, Ecuador

E. Carrera Jarrin 

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

Y. Assran^{18,19}, B. El-mahdy, S. Elgammal¹⁹

Center for High Energy Physics (CHEP-FU), Fayoum University, El-Fayoum, Egypt

M.A. Mahmoud , Y. Mohammed 

National Institute of Chemical Physics and Biophysics, Tallinn, Estonia

K. Ehataht , M. Kadastik, T. Lange , S. Nandan , C. Nielsen , J. Pata , M. Raidal , L. Tani , C. Veelken 

Department of Physics, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland

H. Kirschenmann , K. Osterberg , M. Voutilainen 

Helsinki Institute of Physics, Helsinki, Finland

S. Bharthuar , N. Bin Norjoharuddeen , E. Brücken , F. Garcia , P. Inkaew , K.T.S. Kallonen , T. Lampén , K. Lassila-Perini , S. Lehti , T. Lindén , L. Martikainen , M. Myllymäki , M.m. Rantanen , H. Siikonen , J. Tuominiemi 

Lappeenranta-Lahti University of Technology, Lappeenranta, Finland

P. Luukka , H. Petrow 

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

M. Besancon , F. Couderc , M. Dejardin , D. Denegri, J.L. Faure, F. Ferri , S. Ganjour , P. Gras , G. Hamel de Monchenault , M. Kumar , V. Lohezic , J. Malcles , F. Orlandi , L. Portales , A. Rosowsky , M.Ö. Sahin , A. Savoy-Navarro²⁰ , P. Simkina , M. Titov , M. Tornago 

Laboratoire Leprince-Ringuet, CNRS/IN2P3, Ecole Polytechnique, Institut Polytechnique de Paris, Palaiseau, France

F. Beaudette , G. Boldrini , P. Busson , A. Cappati , C. Charlot , M. Chiusi , F. Damas , O. Davignon , A. De Wit , I.T. Ehle , B.A. Fontana Santos Alves , S. Ghosh , A. Gilbert , R. Granier de Cassagnac , A. Hakimi , B. Harikrishnan , L. Kalipoliti , G. Liu , M. Nguyen , C. Ochando , R. Salerno , J.B. Sauvan , Y. Sirois , L. Urda Gómez , E. Vernazza , A. Zabi , A. Zghiche 

Université de Strasbourg, CNRS, IPHC UMR 7178, Strasbourg, France

J.-L. Agram²¹ , J. Andrea , D. Apparu , D. Bloch , J.-M. Brom , E.C. Chabert , C. Collard , S. Falke , U. Goerlach , R. Haeberle , A.-C. Le Bihan , M. Meena , O. Poncet , G. Saha , M.A. Sessini , P. Van Hove , P. Vaucelle 

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

A. Di Florio 

Institut de Physique des 2 Infinis de Lyon (IP2I), Villeurbanne, France

D. Amram, S. Beauceron , B. Blancon , G. Boudoul , N. Chanon , D. Contardo , P. Depasse , C. Dozen²² , H. El Mamouni, J. Fay , S. Gascon , M. Gouzevitch , C. Greenberg, G. Grenier , B. Ille , E. Jourdhuy, I.B. Laktineh, M. Lethuillier , L. Mirabito, S. Perries, A. Purohit , M. Vander Donckt , P. Verdier , J. Xiao 

Georgian Technical University, Tbilisi, Georgia

I. Lomidze , T. Toriashvili²³ , Z. Tsamalaidze¹⁷ 

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

V. Botta , S. Consuegra Rodríguez , L. Feld , K. Klein , M. Lipinski , D. Meuser , A. Pauls , D. Pérez Adán , N. Röwert , M. Teroerde 

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

S. Diekmann , A. Dodonova , N. Eich , D. Eliseev , F. Engelke , J. Erdmann , M. Erdmann , P. Fackeldey , B. Fischer , T. Hebbeker , K. Hoepfner , F. Ivone , A. Jung , M.y. Lee , F. Mausolf , M. Merschmeyer , A. Meyer , S. Mukherjee , D. Noll , F. Nowotny, A. Pozdnyakov , Y. Rath, W. Redjeb , F. Rehm, H. Reithler , V. Sarkisovi , A. Schmidt , A. Sharma , J.L. Spah , A. Stein , F. Torres Da Silva De Araujo²⁴ , S. Wiedenbeck , S. Zaleski

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

C. Dziwok , G. Flügge , T. Kress , A. Nowack , O. Pooth , A. Stahl , T. Ziemons , A. Zotz 

Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, Hamburg, Germany

H. Aarup Petersen , M. Aldaya Martin , J. Alimena , S. Amoroso, Y. An , J. Bach , S. Baxter , M. Bayatmakou , H. Becerril Gonzalez , O. Behnke , A. Belvedere , F. Blekman²⁵ , K. Borras²⁶ , A. Campbell , A. Cardini , C. Cheng, F. Colombina , M. De Silva , G. Eckerlin, D. Eckstein , L.I. Estevez Banos , O. Filatov , E. Gallo²⁵ , A. Geiser , V. Guglielmi , M. Guthoff , A. Hinzmann , L. Jeppe , B. Kaech , M. Kasemann , C. Kleinwort , R. Kogler , M. Komm , D. Krücker , W. Lange, D. Leyva Pernia , K. Lipka²⁷ , W. Lohmann²⁸ , F. Lorkowski , R. Mankel , I.-A. Melzer-Pellmann , M. Mendizabal Morentin , A.B. Meyer , G. Milella , K. Moral Figueroa , A. Mussgiller , L.P. Nair , J. Niedziela , A. Nürnberg , Y. Otariid, J. Park , E. Ranken , A. Raspereza , D. Rastorguev , J. Rübenach, L. Rygaard, A. Saggio , M. Scham^{29,26} , S. Schnake²⁶ , P. Schütze , C. Schwanenberger²⁵ , D. Selivanova , K. Sharko , M. Shchedrolosiev , D. Stafford, F. Vazzoler , A. Ventura Barroso , R. Walsh , D. Wang , Q. Wang , Y. Wen , K. Wichmann, L. Wiens²⁶ , C. Wissing , Y. Yang , A. Zimmermann Castro Santos 

University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany

A. Albrecht , S. Albrecht , M. Antonello , S. Bein , L. Benato , S. Bollweg, M. Bonanomi , P. Connor , K. El Morabit , Y. Fischer , E. Garutti , A. Grohsjean , J. Haller , H.R. Jabusch , G. Kasieczka , P. Keicher, R. Klanner , W. Korcari , T. Kramer , C.c. Kuo, V. Kutzner , F. Labe , J. Lange , A. Lobanov , C. Matthies , L. Moureaux , M. Mrowietz, A. Nigamova , Y. Nissan, A. Paasch , K.J. Pena Rodriguez , T. Quadfasel , B. Raciti , M. Rieger , D. Savoie , J. Schindler , P. Schleper , M. Schröder , J. Schwandt , M. Sommerhalder , H. Stadie , G. Steinbrück , A. Tews, M. Wolf 

Karlsruher Institut fuer Technologie, Karlsruhe, Germany

S. Brommer , M. Burkart, E. Butz , T. Chwalek , A. Dierlamm , A. Droll, U. Elcabuk, N. Faltermann , M. Giffels , A. Gottmann , F. Hartmann³⁰ , R. Hofsaess 

M. Horzela , U. Husemann , J. Kieseler , M. Klute , R. Koppenhöfer , J.M. Lawhorn , M. Link, A. Lintuluoto , B. Maier , S. Maier , S. Mitra , M. Mormile , Th. Müller , M. Neukum, M. Oh , E. Pfeffer , M. Presilla , G. Quast , K. Rabbertz , B. Regnery , N. Shadskiy , I. Shvetsov , H.J. Simonis , L. Sowa, L. Stockmeier, K. Tauqeer, M. Toms , N. Trevisani , R.F. Von Cube , M. Wassmer , S. Wieland , F. Wittig, R. Wolf , X. Zuo 

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

G. Anagnostou, G. Daskalakis , A. Kyriakis, A. Papadopoulos³⁰, A. Stakia 

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece

P. Kontaxakis , G. Melachroinos, Z. Painesis , I. Papavergou , I. Paraskevas , N. Saoulidou , K. Theofilatos , E. Tziaferi , K. Vellidis , I. Zisopoulos 

National Technical University of Athens, Athens, Greece

G. Bakas , T. Chatzistavrou, G. Karapostoli , K. Kousouris , I. Papakrivopoulos , E. Siamarkou, G. Tsipolitis , A. Zacharopoulou

University of Ioánnina, Ioánnina, Greece

K. Adamidis, I. Bestintzanos, I. Evangelou , C. Foudas, C. Kamtsikis, P. Katsoulis, P. Kokkas , P.G. Kosmoglou Kioseoglou , N. Manthos , I. Papadopoulos , J. Strologas 

HUN-REN Wigner Research Centre for Physics, Budapest, Hungary

C. Hajdu , D. Horvath^{31,32} , K. Márton, A.J. Rádl³³ , F. Sikler , V. Veszpremi 

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

M. Csanád , K. Farkas , A. Fehérkuti³⁴ , M.M.A. Gadallah³⁵ , Á. Kadlecik , P. Major , G. Pásztor , G.I. Veres 

Faculty of Informatics, University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary

B. Ujvari , G. Zilizi 

Institute of Nuclear Research ATOMKI, Debrecen, Hungary

G. Bencze, S. Czellar, J. Molnar, Z. Szillasi

Karoly Robert Campus, MATE Institute of Technology, Gyongyos, Hungary

F. Nemes³⁴ , T. Novak 

Panjab University, Chandigarh, India

J. Babbar , S. Bansal , S.B. Beri, V. Bhatnagar , G. Chaudhary , S. Chauhan , N. Dhingra³⁶ , A. Kaur , A. Kaur , H. Kaur , M. Kaur , S. Kumar , K. Sandeep , T. Sheokand, J.B. Singh , A. Singla 

University of Delhi, Delhi, India

A. Ahmed , A. Bhardwaj , A. Chhetri , B.C. Choudhary , A. Kumar , A. Kumar , M. Naimuddin , K. Ranjan , M.K. Saini, S. Saumya 

Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, HBNI, Kolkata, India

S. Baradia , S. Barman³⁷ , S. Bhattacharya , S. Das Gupta, S. Dutta , S. Dutta, S. Sarkar

Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Madras, India

M.M. Ameen , P.K. Behera , S.C. Behera , S. Chatterjee , G. Dash , P. Jana , P. Kalbhor , S. Kamble , J.R. Komaragiri³⁸ , D. Kumar³⁸ , P.R. Pujahari , N.R. Saha , A. Sharma , A.K. Sikdar , R.K. Singh, P. Verma, S. Verma , A. Vijay

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research-A, Mumbai, India

S. Dugad, G.B. Mohanty , B. Parida , M. Shelake, P. Suryadevara

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research-B, Mumbai, India

A. Bala , S. Banerjee , R.M. Chatterjee, M. Guchait , Sh. Jain , A. Jaiswal, S. Kumar , G. Majumder , K. Mazumdar , S. Parolia , A. Thachayath 

National Institute of Science Education and Research, An OCC of Homi Bhabha National Institute, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India

S. Bahinipati³⁹ , C. Kar , D. Maity⁴⁰ , P. Mal , T. Mishra , V.K. Muraleedharan Nair Bindhu⁴⁰ , K. Naskar⁴⁰ , A. Nayak⁴⁰ , S. Nayak, K. Pal, P. Sadangi, S.K. Swain , S. Varghese⁴⁰ , D. Vats⁴⁰ 

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

S. Acharya⁴¹ , A. Alpana , S. Dube , B. Gomber⁴¹ , P. Hazarika , B. Kansal , A. Laha , B. Sahu⁴¹ , S. Sharma , K.Y. Vaish 

Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan, Iran

H. Bakhshiansohi⁴² , A. Jafari⁴³ , M. Zeinali⁴⁴ 

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

S. Bashiri, S. Chenarani⁴⁵ , S.M. Etesami , Y. Hosseini , M. Khakzad , E. Khazaie⁴⁶ , M. Mohammadi Najafabadi , S. Tizchang⁴⁷ 

University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

M. Felcini , M. Grunewald 

INFN Sezione di Bari^a, Università di Bari^b, Politecnico di Bari^c, Bari, Italy

M. Abbrescia^{a,b} , A. Colaleo^{a,b} , D. Creanza^{a,c} , B. D'Anzi^{a,b} , N. De Filippis^{a,c} , M. De Palma^{a,b} , W. Elmetenawee^{a,b,48} , L. Fiore^a , G. Iaselli^{a,c} , L. Longo^a , M. Louka^{a,b}, G. Maggi^{a,c} , M. Maggi^a , I. Margjeka^a , V. Mastrapasqua^{a,b} , S. My^{a,b} , S. Nuzzo^{a,b} , A. Pellicchia^{a,b} , A. Pompili^{a,b} , G. Pugliese^{a,c} , R. Radogna^{a,b} , D. Ramos^a , A. Ranieri^a , L. Silvestris^a , F.M. Simone^{a,c} , Ü. Sözbilir^a , A. Stamerra^{a,b} , D. Troiano^{a,b} , R. Venditti^{a,b} , P. Verwilligen^a , A. Zaza^{a,b} 

INFN Sezione di Bologna^a, Università di Bologna^b, Bologna, Italy

G. Abbiendi^a , C. Battilana^{a,b} , D. Bonacorsi^{a,b} , P. Capiluppi^{a,b} , A. Castro^{+,a,b} , F.R. Cavallo^a , M. Cuffiani^{a,b} , G.M. Dallavalle^a , T. Diotallevi^{a,b} , F. Fabbri^a , A. Fanfani^{a,b} , D. Fasanella^a , P. Giacomelli^a , L. Giommi^{a,b} , C. Grandi^a , L. Guiducci^{a,b} , S. Lo Meo^{a,49} , M. Lorusso^{a,b} , L. Lunerti^a , S. Marcellini^a , G. Masetti^a , F.L. Navarria^{a,b} , G. Paggi^{a,b} , A. Perrotta^a , F. Primavera^{a,b} , A.M. Rossi^{a,b} , S. Rossi Tisbeni^{a,b} , T. Rovelli^{a,b} , G.P. Siroli^{a,b} 

INFN Sezione di Catania^a, Università di Catania^b, Catania, Italy

S. Costa^{a,b,50} , A. Di Mattia^a , A. Lapertosa^a , R. Potenza^{a,b}, A. Tricomi^{a,b,50} , C. Tuve^{a,b} 

INFN Sezione di Firenze^a, Università di Firenze^b, Firenze, Italy

P. Assiouras^a , G. Barbagli^a , G. Bardelli^{a,b} , B. Camaiani^{a,b} , A. Cassese^a , R. Ceccarelli^a , V. Ciulli^{a,b} , C. Civinini^a , R. D'Alessandro^{a,b} , E. Focardi^{a,b} , T. Kello^a, G. Latino^{a,b} , P. Lenzi^{a,b} , M. Lizzo^a , M. Meschini^a , S. Paoletti^a , A. Papanastassiou^{a,b}, G. Sguazzoni^a , L. Viliani^a 

INFN Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, Frascati, Italy

L. Benussi , S. Bianco , S. Meola⁵¹ , D. Piccolo 

INFN Sezione di Genova^a, Università di Genova^b, Genova, Italy

P. Chatagnon^a , F. Ferro^a , E. Robutti^a , S. Tosi^{a,b} 

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

A. Benaglia^a , F. Brivio^a , F. Cetorelli^{a,b} , F. De Guio^{a,b} , M.E. Dinardo^{a,b} ,
P. Dini^a , S. Gennai^a , R. Gerosa^{a,b} , A. Ghezzi^{a,b} , P. Govoni^{a,b} , L. Guzzi^a ,
M.T. Lucchini^{a,b} , M. Malberti^a , S. Malvezzi^a , A. Massironi^a , D. Menasce^a ,
L. Moroni^a , M. Paganoni^{a,b} , S. Palluotto^{a,b} , D. Pedrini^a , A. Perego^{a,b} ,
B.S. Pinolini^a, G. Pizzati^{a,b}, S. Ragazzi^{a,b} , T. Tabarelli de Fatis^{a,b} 

INFN Sezione di Napoli^a, Università di Napoli 'Federico II'^b, Napoli, Italy; Università della Basilicata^c, Potenza, Italy; Scuola Superiore Meridionale (SSM)^d, Napoli, Italy

S. Buontempo^a , A. Cagnotta^{a,b} , F. Carnevali^{a,b}, N. Cavallo^{a,c} , F. Fabozzi^{a,c} ,
A.O.M. Iorio^{a,b} , L. Lista^{a,b,52} , P. Paolucci^{a,30} 

INFN Sezione di Padova^a, Università di Padova^b, Padova, Italy; Università di Trento^c, Trento, Italy

R. Ardino^a , P. Azzi^a , N. Bacchetta^{a,53} , M. Benettoni^a , A. Bergnoli^a , D. Bisello^{a,b} ,
P. Bortignon^a , G. Bortolato^{a,b}, A. Bragagnolo^{a,b} , A.C.M. Bulla^a , R. Carlin^{a,b} ,
P. Checchia^a , T. Dorigo^a , F. Gasparini^{a,b} , U. Gasparini^{a,b} , E. Lusiani^a ,
M. Margoni^{a,b} , M. Migliorini^{a,b} , J. Pazzini^{a,b} , P. Ronchese^{a,b} , R. Rossin^{a,b} ,
F. Simonetto^{a,b} , M. Tosi^{a,b} , A. Triossi^{a,b} , S. Ventura^a , P. Zotto^{a,b} , A. Zucchetta^{a,b} ,
G. Zumerle^{a,b} 

INFN Sezione di Pavia^a, Università di Pavia^b, Pavia, Italy

C. Aimè^a , A. Braghieri^a , S. Calzaferri^a , D. Fiorina^a , P. Montagna^{a,b} , V. Re^a ,
C. Riccardi^{a,b} , P. Salvini^a , I. Vai^{a,b} , P. Vitulo^{a,b} 

INFN Sezione di Perugia^a, Università di Perugia^b, Perugia, Italy

S. Ajmal^{a,b} , M.E. Ascioti^{a,b}, G.M. Bilei^a , C. Carrivale^{a,b}, D. Ciangottini^{a,b} , L. Fanò^{a,b} ,
M. Magherini^{a,b} , V. Mariani^{a,b} , M. Menichelli^a , F. Moscatelli^{a,54} , A. Rossi^{a,b} ,
A. Santocchia^{a,b} , D. Spiga^a , T. Tedeschi^{a,b} 

INFN Sezione di Pisa^a, Università di Pisa^b, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa^c, Pisa, Italy; Università di Siena^d, Siena, Italy

C.A. Alexe^{a,c} , P. Asenov^{a,b} , P. Azzurri^a , G. Bagliesi^a , R. Bhattacharya^a ,
L. Bianchini^{a,b} , T. Boccali^a , E. Bossini^a , D. Bruschini^{a,c} , R. Castaldi^a ,
M.A. Ciocci^{a,b} , M. Cipriani^{a,b} , V. D'Amante^{a,d} , R. Dell'Orso^a , S. Donato^a ,
A. Giassi^a , F. Ligabue^{a,c} , A.C. Marini^a , D. Matos Figueiredo^a , A. Messineo^{a,b} ,
M. Musich^{a,b} , F. Palla^a , A. Rizzi^{a,b} , G. Rolandi^{a,c} , S. Roy Chowdhury^a ,
T. Sarkar^a , A. Scribano^a , P. Spagnolo^a , R. Tenchini^a , G. Tonelli^{a,b} , N. Turini^{a,d} ,
F. Vaselli^{a,c} , A. Venturi^a , P.G. Verdini^a 

INFN Sezione di Roma^a, Sapienza Università di Roma^b, Roma, Italy

C. Baldenegro Barrera^{a,b} , P. Barria^a , C. Basile^{a,b} , M. Campana^{a,b} , F. Cavallari^a ,
L. Cunqueiro Mendez^{a,b} , D. Del Re^{a,b} , E. Di Marco^{a,b} , M. Diemoz^a , F. Errico^{a,b} ,
E. Longo^{a,b} , J. Mijuskovic^{a,b} , G. Organtini^{a,b} , F. Pandolfi^a , R. Paramatti^{a,b} ,
C. Quaranta^{a,b} , S. Rahatlou^{a,b} , C. Rovelli^a , F. Santanastasio^{a,b} , L. Soffi^a 

INFN Sezione di Torino^a, Università di Torino^b, Torino, Italy; Università del Piemonte Orientale^c, Novara, Italy

N. Amapane^{a,b} , R. Arcidiacono^{a,c} , S. Argiro^{a,b} , M. Arneodo^{a,c} , N. Bartosik^a ,
R. Bellan^{a,b} , A. Bellora^{a,b} , C. Biino^a , C. Borca^{a,b} , N. Cartiglia^a , M. Costa^{a,b} 

R. Covarelli^{a,b} , N. Demaria^a , L. Finco^a , M. Grippo^{a,b} , B. Kiani^{a,b} , F. Legger^a , F. Luongo^{a,b} , C. Mariotti^a , L. Markovic^{a,b} , S. Maselli^a , A. Mecca^{a,b} , L. Menzio^{a,b}, P. Meridiani^a , E. Migliore^{a,b} , M. Monteno^a , R. Mulargia^a , M.M. Obertino^{a,b} , G. Ortona^a , L. Pacher^{a,b} , N. Pastrone^a , M. Pelliccioni^a , M. Ruspa^{a,c} , F. Siviero^{a,b} , V. Sola^{a,b} , A. Solano^{a,b} , A. Staiano^a , C. Tarricone^{a,b} , D. Trocino^a , G. Umoret^{a,b} , R. White^{a,b} 

INFN Sezione di Trieste^a, Università di Trieste^b, Trieste, Italy

S. Belforte^a , V. Candelise^{a,b} , M. Casarsa^a , F. Cossutti^a , K. De Leo^a , G. Della Ricca^{a,b} 

Kyungpook National University, Daegu, Korea

S. Dogra , J. Hong , C. Huh , B. Kim , J. Kim, D. Lee, H. Lee, S.W. Lee , C.S. Moon , Y.D. Oh , M.S. Ryu , S. Sekmen , B. Tae, Y.C. Yang 

Department of Mathematics and Physics - GWNu, Gangneung, Korea

M.S. Kim 

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

G. Bak , P. Gwak , H. Kim , D.H. Moon 

Hanyang University, Seoul, Korea

E. Asilar , J. Choi , D. Kim , T.J. Kim , J.A. Merlin, Y. Ryou

Korea University, Seoul, Korea

S. Choi , S. Han, B. Hong , K. Lee, K.S. Lee , S. Lee , J. Yoo 

Kyung Hee University, Department of Physics, Seoul, Korea

J. Goh , S. Yang 

Sejong University, Seoul, Korea

H. S. Kim , Y. Kim, S. Lee

Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea

J. Almond, J.H. Bhyun, J. Choi , J. Choi, W. Jun , J. Kim , S. Ko , H. Kwon , H. Lee , J. Lee , J. Lee , B.H. Oh , S.B. Oh , H. Seo , U.K. Yang, I. Yoon 

University of Seoul, Seoul, Korea

W. Jang , D.Y. Kang, Y. Kang , S. Kim , B. Ko, J.S.H. Lee , Y. Lee , I.C. Park , Y. Roh, I.J. Watson 

Yonsei University, Department of Physics, Seoul, Korea

S. Ha , H.D. Yoo 

Sungkyunkwan University, Suwon, Korea

M. Choi , M.R. Kim , H. Lee, Y. Lee , I. Yu 

College of Engineering and Technology, American University of the Middle East (AUM), Dasman, Kuwait

T. Beyrouthy, Y. Gharbia

Riga Technical University, Riga, Latvia

K. Dreimanis , A. Gaile , C. Munoz Diaz, D. Osite, G. Pikurs, A. Potrebko , M. Seidel , D. Sidiropoulos Kontos

University of Latvia (LU), Riga, Latvia

N.R. Strautnieks 

Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania

M. Ambrozys , A. Juodagalvis , A. Rinkevicius , G. Tamulaitis 

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

I. Yusuff⁵⁵ , Z. Zolkapli

Universidad de Sonora (UNISON), Hermosillo, Mexico

J.F. Benitez , A. Castaneda Hernandez , H.A. Encinas Acosta, L.G. Gallegos Maríñez, M. León Coello , J.A. Murillo Quijada , A. Sehrawat , L. Valencia Palomo 

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

G. Ayala , H. Castilla-Valdez , H. Crotte Ledesma, E. De La Cruz-Burelo , I. Heredia-De La Cruz⁵⁶ , R. Lopez-Fernandez , J. Mejia Guisao , C.A. Mondragon Herrera, A. Sánchez Hernández 

Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City, Mexico

C. Oropeza Barrera , D.L. Ramirez Guadarrama, M. Ramírez García 

Benemerita Universidad Autonoma de Puebla, Puebla, Mexico

I. Bautista , I. Pedraza , H.A. Salazar Ibarguen , C. Uribe Estrada 

University of Montenegro, Podgorica, Montenegro

I. Bujanja , N. Raicevic 

University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand

P.H. Butler 

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

A. Ahmad , M.I. Asghar, A. Awais , M.I.M. Awan, H.R. Hoorani , W.A. Khan 

AGH University of Krakow, Faculty of Computer Science, Electronics and Telecommunications, Krakow, Poland

V. Avati, L. Grzanka , M. Malawski 

National Centre for Nuclear Research, Swierk, Poland

H. Bialkowska , M. Bluj , M. Górski , M. Kazana , M. Szleper , P. Zalewski 

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

K. Bunkowski , K. Doroba , A. Kalinowski , M. Konecki , J. Krolikowski , A. Muhammad 

Warsaw University of Technology, Warsaw, Poland

K. Pozniak , W. Zabolotny 

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

M. Araujo , D. Bastos , C. Beirão Da Cruz E Silva , A. Boletti , M. Bozzo , T. Camporesi , G. Da Molin , M. Gallinaro , J. Hollar , N. Leonardo , G.B. Marozzo, T. Niknejad , A. Petrilli , M. Pisano , J. Seixas , J. Varela , J.W. Wulff

Faculty of Physics, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia

P. Adzic , P. Milenovic 

VINCA Institute of Nuclear Sciences, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia

M. Dordevic , J. Milosevic , V. Rekovic

Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas Medioambientales y Tecnológicas (CIEMAT),

Madrid, Spain

J. Alcaraz Maestre , Cristina F. Bedoya , Oliver M. Carretero , M. Cepeda , M. Cerrada , N. Colino , B. De La Cruz , A. Delgado Peris , A. Escalante Del Valle , D. Fernández Del Val , J.P. Fernández Ramos , J. Flix , M.C. Fouz , O. Gonzalez Lopez , S. Goy Lopez , J.M. Hernandez , M.I. Josa , E. Martin Viscasillas , D. Moran , C.M. Morcillo Perez , Á. Navarro Tobar , C. Perez Dengra , A. Pérez-Calero Yzquierdo , J. Puerta Pelayo , I. Redondo , S. Sánchez Navas , J. Sastre , J. Vazquez Escobar 

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Madrid, Spain

J.F. de Trocóniz 

Universidad de Oviedo, Instituto Universitario de Ciencias y Tecnologías Espaciales de Asturias (ICTEA), Oviedo, Spain

B. Alvarez Gonzalez , J. Cuevas , J. Fernandez Menendez , S. Folgueras , I. Gonzalez Caballero , J.R. González Fernández , P. Leguina , E. Palencia Cortezon , J. Prado Pico, C. Ramón Álvarez , V. Rodríguez Bouza , A. Soto Rodríguez , A. Trapote , C. Vico Villalba , P. Vischia 

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

S. Bhowmik , S. Blanco Fernández , J.A. Brochero Cifuentes , I.J. Cabrillo , A. Calderon , J. Duarte Campderros , M. Fernandez , G. Gomez , C. Lasasa García , R. Lopez Ruiz , C. Martinez Rivero , P. Martinez Ruiz del Arbol , F. Matorras , P. Matorras Cuevas , E. Navarrete Ramos , J. Piedra Gomez , L. Scodellaro , I. Vila , J.M. Vizan Garcia 

University of Colombo, Colombo, Sri Lanka

B. Kailasapathy⁵⁷ , D.D.C. Wickramarathna 

University of Ruhuna, Department of Physics, Matara, Sri Lanka

W.G.D. Dharmaratna⁵⁸ , K. Liyanage , N. Perera 

CERN, European Organization for Nuclear Research, Geneva, Switzerland

D. Abbaneo , C. Amendola , E. Auffray , G. Auzinger , J. Baechler, D. Barney , A. Bermúdez Martínez , M. Bianco , A.A. Bin Anuar , A. Bocci , L. Borbonovi , C. Botta , E. Brondolin , C. Caillol , G. Cerminara , N. Chernyavskaya , D. d'Enterria , A. Dabrowski , A. David , A. De Roeck , M.M. Defranchis , M. Deile , M. Dobson , G. Franzoni , W. Funk , S. Giani, D. Gigi, K. Gill , F. Glege , J. Hegeman , J.K. Heikkilä , B. Huber, V. Innocente , T. James , P. Janot , O. Kaluzinska , O. Karacheban²⁸ , S. Laurila , P. Lecoq , E. Leutgeb , C. Lourenço , L. Malgeri , M. Mannelli , M. Matthewman, A. Mehta , F. Meijers , S. Mersi , E. Meschi , V. Milosevic , F. Monti , F. Moortgat , M. Mulders , I. Neutelings , S. Orfanelli, F. Pantaleo , G. Petrucciani , A. Pfeiffer , M. Pierini , H. Qu , D. Rabadý , B. Ribeiro Lopes , M. Rovere , H. Sakulin , S. Sanchez Cruz , S. Scarfi , C. Schwick, M. Selvaggi , A. Sharma , K. Shchelina , P. Silva , P. Sphicas⁵⁹ , A.G. Stahl Leiton , A. Steen , S. Summers , D. Treille , P. Tropea , D. Walter , J. Wanczyk⁶⁰ , J. Wang, S. Wuchterl , P. Zehetner , P. Zejdl , W.D. Zeuner

Paul Scherrer Institut, Villigen, Switzerland

T. Bevilacqua⁶¹ , L. Caminada⁶¹ , A. Ebrahimi , W. Erdmann , R. Horisberger , Q. Ingram , H.C. Kaestli , D. Kotlinski , C. Lange , M. Missiroli⁶¹ , L. Noehte⁶¹ , T. Rohe 

ETH Zurich - Institute for Particle Physics and Astrophysics (IPA), Zurich, Switzerland

T.K. Aarrestad , K. Androsov⁶⁰ , M. Backhaus , G. Bonomelli, A. Calandri , C. Cazaniga , K. Datta , P. De Bryas Dexmiers D'archiac⁶⁰ , A. De Cosa , G. Dissertori , M. Dittmar, M. Donegà , F. Eble , M. Galli , K. Gedia , F. Glessgen , C. Grab , N. Härringer , T.G. Harte, D. Hits , W. Lustermann , A.-M. Lyon , R.A. Manzoni , M. Marchegiani , L. Marchese , C. Martin Perez , A. Mascellani⁶⁰ , F. Nessi-Tedaldi , F. Pauss , V. Perovic , S. Pigazzini , C. Reissel , B. Ristic , F. Riti , R. Seidita , J. Steggemann⁶⁰ , A. Tarabini , D. Valsecchi , R. Wallny 

Universität Zürich, Zurich, Switzerland

C. Amsler⁶² , P. Bärttschi , M.F. Canelli , K. Cormier , M. Huwiler , W. Jin , A. Jofrehei , B. Kilminster , S. Leontsinis , S.P. Liehti , A. Macchiolo , P. Meiring , F. Meng , U. Molinatti , J. Motta , A. Reimers , P. Robmann, M. Senger , E. Shokr, F. Stäger , R. Tramontano 

National Central University, Chung-Li, Taiwan

C. Adloff⁶³ , D. Bhowmik, C.M. Kuo, W. Lin, P.K. Rout , P.C. Tiwari³⁸ , S.S. Yu 

National Taiwan University (NTU), Taipei, Taiwan

L. Ceard, K.F. Chen , P.s. Chen, Z.g. Chen, A. De Iorio , W.-S. Hou , T.h. Hsu, Y.w. Kao, S. Karmakar , G. Kole , Y.y. Li , R.-S. Lu , E. Paganis , X.f. Su , J. Thomas-Wilsker , L.s. Tsai, D. Tsionou, H.y. Wu, E. Yazgan 

High Energy Physics Research Unit, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

C. Asawatangtrakuldee , N. Srimanobhas , V. Wachirapusitanand 

Çukurova University, Physics Department, Science and Art Faculty, Adana, Turkey

D. Agyel , F. Boran , F. Dolek , I. Dumanoglu⁶⁴ , E. Eskut , Y. Guler⁶⁵ , E. Gurpinar Guler⁶⁵ , C. Isik , O. Kara, A. Kayis Topaksu , U. Kiminsu , G. Onengut , K. Ozdemir⁶⁶ , A. Polatoz , B. Tali⁶⁷ , U.G. Tok , S. Turkcapar , E. Uslan , I.S. Zorbakir 

Middle East Technical University, Physics Department, Ankara, Turkey

G. Sokmen, M. Yalvac⁶⁸ 

Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey

B. Akgun , I.O. Atakisi , E. Gülmez , M. Kaya⁶⁹ , O. Kaya⁷⁰ , S. Tekten⁷¹ 

Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey

A. Cakir , K. Cankocak^{64,72} , G.G. Dincer⁶⁴ , Y. Komurcu , S. Sen⁷³ 

Istanbul University, Istanbul, Turkey

O. Aydilek⁷⁴ , B. Haciosahinoglu , I. Hos⁷⁵ , B. Kaynak , S. Ozkorucuklu , O. Potok , H. Sert , C. Simsek , C. Zorbilmez 

Yildiz Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey

S. Cerci⁶⁷ , B. Isildak⁷⁶ , D. Sunar Cerci , T. Yetkin 

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

A. Boyaryntsev , B. Grynyov 

National Science Centre, Kharkiv Institute of Physics and Technology, Kharkiv, Ukraine

L. Levchuk 

University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom

D. Anthony , J.J. Brooke , A. Bundock , F. Bury , E. Clement , D. Cussans , H. Flacher , M. Glowacki, J. Goldstein , H.F. Heath , M.-L. Holmberg , L. Kreczko , S. Paramesvaran , L. Robertshaw, S. Seif El Nasr-Storey, V.J. Smith , N. Stylianou⁷⁷ , K. Walkingshaw Pass

Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, United Kingdom

A.H. Ball, K.W. Bell , A. Belyaev⁷⁸ , C. Brew , R.M. Brown , D.J.A. Cockerill , C. Cooke , A. Elliot , K.V. Ellis, K. Harder , S. Harper , J. Linacre , K. Manolopoulos, D.M. Newbold , E. Olaiya, D. Petyt , T. Reis , A.R. Sahasransu , G. Salvi , T. Schuh, C.H. Shepherd-Themistocleous , I.R. Tomalin , K.C. Whalen , T. Williams 

Imperial College, London, United Kingdom

I. Andreou , R. Bainbridge , P. Bloch , C.E. Brown , O. Buchmuller, V. Cacchio, C.A. Carrillo Montoya , G.S. Chahal⁷⁹ , D. Colling , J.S. Dancu, I. Das , P. Dauncey , G. Davies , J. Davies, M. Della Negra , S. Fayer, G. Fedi , G. Hall , M.H. Hassanshahi , A. Howard, G. Iles , C.R. Knight , J. Langford , J. León Holgado , L. Lyons , A.-M. Magnan , S. Mallios, M. Mieskolainen , J. Nash⁸⁰ , M. Pesaresi , P.B. Pradeep, B.C. Radburn-Smith , A. Richards, A. Rose , K. Savva , C. Seez , R. Shukla , A. Tapper , K. Uchida , G.P. Uttley , L.H. Vage, T. Virdee³⁰ , M. Vojinovic , N. Wardle , D. Winterbottom 

Brunel University, Uxbridge, United Kingdom

K. Coldham, J.E. Cole , A. Khan, P. Kyberd , I.D. Reid 

Baylor University, Waco, Texas, USA

S. Abdullin , A. Brinkerhoff , E. Collins , J. Dittmann , K. Hatakeyama , J. Hiltbrand , B. McMaster , J. Samudio , S. Sawant , C. Sutantawibul , J. Wilson 

Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, USA

R. Bartek , A. Dominguez , C. Huerta Escamilla, A.E. Simsek , R. Uniyal , A.M. Vargas Hernandez 

The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, USA

B. Bam , A. Buchot Perraguin , R. Chudasama , S.I. Cooper , C. Crovella , S.V. Gleyzer , E. Pearson, C.U. Perez , P. Rumerio⁸¹ , E. Usai , R. Yi 

Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

A. Akpinar , C. Cosby , G. De Castro, Z. Demiragli , C. Erice , C. Fangmeier , C. Fernandez Madrazo , E. Fontanesi , D. Gastler , F. Golf , S. Jeon , J. O'cain, I. Reed , J. Rohlf , K. Salyer , D. Sperka , D. Spitzbart , I. Suarez , A. Tsatsos , A.G. Zecchinelli 

Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA

G. Benelli , D. Cutts , L. Gouskos , M. Hadley , U. Heintz , J.M. Hogan⁸² , T. Kwon , G. Landsberg , K.T. Lau , D. Li , J. Luo , S. Mondal , N. Pervan , T. Russell, S. Sagir⁸³ , F. Simpson , M. Stamenkovic , N. Venkatasubramanian, X. Yan 

University of California, Davis, Davis, California, USA

S. Abbott , C. Brainerd , R. Breedon , H. Cai , M. Calderon De La Barca Sanchez , M. Chertok , M. Citron , J. Conway , P.T. Cox , R. Erbacher , F. Jensen , O. Kukral , G. Mocellin , M. Mulhearn , S. Ostrom , W. Wei , Y. Yao , S. Yoo , F. Zhang 

University of California, Los Angeles, California, USA

M. Bachtis , R. Cousins , A. Datta , G. Flores Avila , J. Hauser , M. Ignatenko 

M.A. Iqbal , T. Lam , E. Manca , A. Nunez Del Prado, D. Saltzberg , V. Valuev 

University of California, Riverside, Riverside, California, USA

R. Clare , J.W. Gary , M. Gordon, G. Hanson , W. Si 

University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, California, USA

A. Aportela, A. Arora , J.G. Branson , S. Cittolin , S. Cooperstein , D. Diaz , J. Duarte , L. Giannini , Y. Gu, J. Guiang , R. Kansal , V. Krutelyov , R. Lee , J. Letts , M. Masciovecchio , F. Mokhtar , S. Mukherjee , M. Pieri , M. Quinnan , B.V. Sathia Narayanan , V. Sharma , M. Tadel , E. Vourliotis , F. Würthwein , Y. Xiang , A. Yagil

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

A. Barzdukas , L. Brennan , C. Campagnari , K. Downham , C. Grieco , J. Incandela , J. Kim , A.J. Li , P. Masterson , H. Mei , J. Richman , S.N. Santpur , U. Sarica , R. Schmitz , F. Setti , J. Sheplock , D. Stuart , T.Á. Vami , S. Wang , D. Zhang

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, USA

S. Bhattacharya , A. Bornheim , O. Cerri, A. Latorre, J. Mao , H.B. Newman , G. Reales Gutiérrez, M. Spiropulu , J.R. Vlimant , C. Wang , S. Xie , R.Y. Zhu

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

J. Alison , S. An , P. Bryant , M. Cremonesi, V. Dutta , T. Ferguson , T.A. Gómez Espinosa , A. Harilal , A. Kallil Tharayil, C. Liu , T. Mudholkar , S. Murthy , P. Palit , K. Park, M. Paulini , A. Roberts , A. Sanchez , W. Terrill

University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, Colorado, USA

J.P. Cumalat , W.T. Ford , A. Hart , A. Hassani , G. Karathanasis , N. Manganelli , J. Pearkes , C. Savard , N. Schonbeck , K. Stenson , K.A. Ulmer , S.R. Wagner , N. Zipper , D. Zuolo

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, USA

J. Alexander , S. Bright-Thonney , X. Chen , D.J. Cranshaw , J. Fan , X. Fan , S. Hogan , P. Kotamnives, J. Monroy , M. Oshiro , J.R. Patterson , M. Reid , A. Ryd , J. Thom , P. Wittich , R. Zou

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, Illinois, USA

M. Albrow , M. Alyari , O. Amram , G. Apollinari , A. Apresyan , L.A.T. Bauerdick , D. Berry , J. Berryhill , P.C. Bhat , K. Burkett , J.N. Butler , A. Canepa , G.B. Cerati , H.W.K. Cheung , F. Chlebana , G. Cummings , J. Dickinson , I. Dutta , V.D. Elvira , Y. Feng , J. Freeman , A. Gandrakota , Z. Gecse , L. Gray , D. Green, A. Grummer , S. Grünendahl , D. Guerrero , O. Gutsche , R.M. Harris , R. Heller , T.C. Herwig , J. Hirschauer , B. Jayatilaka , S. Jindariani , M. Johnson , U. Joshi , T. Klijnsma , B. Klima , K.H.M. Kwok , S. Lammel , D. Lincoln , R. Lipton , T. Liu , C. Madrid , K. Maeshima , C. Mantilla , D. Mason , P. McBride , P. Merkel , S. Mrenna , S. Nahn , J. Ngadiuba , D. Noonan , S. Norberg, V. Papadimitriou , N. Pastika , K. Pedro , C. Pena⁸⁴ , F. Ravera , A. Reinsvold Hall⁸⁵ , L. Ristori , M. Safdari , E. Sexton-Kennedy , N. Smith , A. Soha , L. Spiegel , S. Stoynev , J. Strait , L. Taylor , S. Tkaczyk , N.V. Tran , L. Uplegger , E.W. Vaandering , I. Zoi

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA

C. Aruta , P. Avery , D. Bourilkov , P. Chang , V. Cherepanov , R.D. Field, E. Koenig , M. Kolosova , J. Konigsberg , A. Korytov , K. Matchev , N. Menendez , G. Mit-

selmakher , K. Mohrman , A. Muthirakalayil Madhu , N. Rawal , S. Rosenzweig , Y. Takahashi , J. Wang 

Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, USA

T. Adams , A. Al Kadhim , A. Askew , S. Bower , V. Hagopian , R. Hashmi , R.S. Kim , S. Kim , T. Kolberg , G. Martinez, H. Prosper , P.R. Prova, M. Wulansatiti , R. Yohay , J. Zhang

Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, Florida, USA

B. Alsufyani, M.M. Baarmand , S. Butalla , S. Das , T. Elkafrawy⁸⁶ , M. Hohlmann , E. Yanes

University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, USA, Chicago, USA

M.R. Adams , A. Baty , C. Bennett, R. Cavanaugh , R. Escobar Franco , O. Evdokimov , C.E. Gerber , M. Hawksworth, A. Hingrajiya, D.J. Hofman , J.h. Lee , D. S. Lemos , A.H. Merrit , C. Mills , S. Nanda , G. Oh , B. Ozek , D. Pilipovic , R. Pradhan , E. Prifti, T. Roy , S. Rudrabhatla , M.B. Tonjes , N. Varelas , M.A. Wadud , Z. Ye , J. Yoo 

The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, USA

M. Alhusseini , D. Blend, K. Dilsiz⁸⁷ , L. Emediato , G. Karaman , O.K. Köseyan , J.-P. Merlo, A. Mestvirishvili⁸⁸ , O. Neogi, H. Ogul⁸⁹ , Y. Onel , A. Penzo , C. Snyder, E. Tiras⁹⁰ 

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

B. Blumenfeld , L. Corcodilos , J. Davis , A.V. Gritsan , L. Kang , S. Kyriacou , P. Maksimovic , M. Roguljic , J. Roskes , S. Sekhar , M. Swartz 

The University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, USA

A. Abreu , L.F. Alcerro Alcerro , J. Anguiano , S. Arteaga Escatel , P. Baringer , A. Bean , Z. Flowers , D. Grove , J. King , G. Krintiras , M. Lazarovits , C. Le Mahieu , J. Marquez , M. Murray , M. Nickel , M. Pitt , S. Popescu⁹¹ , C. Rogan , C. Royon , R. Salvatico , S. Sanders , C. Smith , G. Wilson 

Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, USA

B. Allmond , R. Guju Gurunadha , A. Ivanov , K. Kaadze , Y. Maravin , J. Natoli , D. Roy , G. Sorrentino 

University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, USA

A. Baden , A. Belloni , J. Bistany-riebman, Y.M. Chen , S.C. Eno , N.J. Hadley , S. Jabeen , R.G. Kellogg , T. Koeth , B. Kronheim, Y. Lai , S. Lascio , A.C. Mignerey , S. Nabili , C. Palmer , C. Papageorgakis , M.M. Paranjpe, E. Popova⁹² , A. Shevelev , L. Wang 

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

J. Bendavid , I.A. Cali , P.c. Chou , M. D'Alfonso , J. Eysermans , C. Freer , G. Gomez-Ceballos , M. Goncharov, G. Grosso, P. Harris, D. Hoang, D. Kovalskyi , J. Krupa , L. Lavezzo , Y.-J. Lee , K. Long , C. McGinn, A. Novak , C. Paus , C. Roland , G. Roland , S. Rothman , G.S.F. Stephans , Z. Wang , B. Wyslouch , T. J. Yang 

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA

B. Crossman , B.M. Joshi , C. Kapsiak , M. Krohn , D. Mahon , J. Mans , B. Marzocchi , R. Rusack , R. Saradhy , N. Strobbe 

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska, USA

K. Bloom , D.R. Claes , G. Haza , J. Hossain , C. Joo , I. Kravchenko , J.E. Siado , W. Tabb , A. Vagnerini , A. Wightman , F. Yan , D. Yu 

State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, USA

H. Bandyopadhyay , L. Hay , H.w. Hsia, I. Iashvili , A. Kalogeropoulos , A. Kharchilava , M. Morris , D. Nguyen , S. Rappoccio , H. Rejeb Sfar, A. Williams , P. Young 

Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

G. Alverson , E. Barberis , J. Bonilla , J. Dervan, Y. Haddad , Y. Han , A. Krishna , J. Li , M. Lu , G. Madigan , R. McCarthy , D.M. Morse , V. Nguyen , T. Orimoto , A. Parker , L. Skinnari , D. Wood 

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, USA

J. Bueghly, S. Dittmer , K.A. Hahn , Y. Liu , Y. Miao , D.G. Monk , M.H. Schmitt , A. Taliercio , M. Velasco

University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, USA

G. Agarwal , R. Band , R. Bucci, S. Castells , A. Das , R. Goldouzian , M. Hildreth , K.W. Ho , K. Hurtado Anampa , T. Ivanov , C. Jessop , K. Lannon , J. Lawrence , N. Loukas , L. Lutton , J. Mariano, N. Marinelli, I. Mcalister, T. McCauley , C. Mcgrady , C. Moore , Y. Musienko¹⁷ , H. Nelson , M. Osherson , A. Piccinelli , R. Ruchti , A. Townsend , Y. Wan, M. Wayne , H. Yockey, M. Zarucki , L. Zygalá 

The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA

A. Basnet , B. Bylsma, M. Carrigan , L.S. Durkin , C. Hill , M. Joyce , M. Nunez Ornelas , K. Wei, B.L. Winer , B. R. Yates 

Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, USA

H. Bouchamaoui , P. Das , G. Dezoort , P. Elmer , A. Frankenthal , B. Greenberg , N. Haubrich , K. Kennedy, G. Kopp , S. Kwan , D. Lange , A. Loeliger , D. Marlow , I. Ojalvo , J. Olsen , D. Stickland , C. Tully 

University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, USA

S. Malik 

Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA

A.S. Bakshi , S. Chandra , R. Chawla , A. Gu , L. Gutay, M. Jones , A.W. Jung , A.M. Koshy, M. Liu , G. Negro , N. Neumeister , G. Paspalaki , S. Piperov , V. Scheurer, J.F. Schulte , M. Stojanovic , J. Thieman , A. K. Viridi , F. Wang , A. Wildridge , W. Xie 

Purdue University Northwest, Hammond, Indiana, USA

J. Dolen , N. Parashar , A. Pathak 

Rice University, Houston, Texas, USA

D. Acosta , T. Carnahan , K.M. Ecklund , P.J. Fernández Manteca , S. Freed, P. Gardner, F.J.M. Geurts , I. Krommydas , W. Li , J. Lin , O. Miguel Colin , B.P. Padley , R. Redjimi, J. Rotter , E. Yigitbasi , Y. Zhang 

University of Rochester, Rochester, New York, USA

A. Bodek , P. de Barbaro , R. Demina , A. Garcia-Bellido , O. Hindrichs , A. Khukhunaishvili , N. Parmar, P. Parygin⁹² , R. Taus 

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

B. Chiarito, J.P. Chou , S.V. Clark , D. Gadkari , Y. Gershtein , E. Halkiadakis , M. Heindl , C. Houghton , D. Jaroslowski , S. Konstantinou , I. Laflotte , A. Lath , R. Montalvo, K. Nash, J. Reichert , H. Routray , P. Saha , S. Salur , S. Schnetzer, S. Somalwar , R. Stone , S.A. Thayil , S. Thomas, J. Vora , H. Wang

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee, USA

D. Ally , A.G. Delannoy , S. Fiorendi , S. Higginbotham , T. Holmes , A.R. Kanuganti , N. Karunarathna , L. Lee , E. Nibigira , S. Spanier

Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, USA

D. Aebi , M. Ahmad , T. Akhter , O. Bouhali⁹³ , R. Eusebi , J. Gilmore , T. Huang , T. Kamon⁹⁴ , H. Kim , S. Luo , R. Mueller , D. Overton , D. Rathjens , A. Safonov

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, USA

N. Akchurin , J. Damgov , N. Gogate , V. Hegde , A. Hussain , Y. Kazhykarim, K. Lamichhane , S.W. Lee , A. Mankel , T. Peltola , I. Volobouev

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, USA

E. Appelt , Y. Chen , S. Greene, A. Gurrola , W. Johns , R. Kunnawalkam Elayavalli , A. Melo , F. Romeo , P. Sheldon , S. Tuo , J. Velkovska , J. Viinikainen

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA

B. Cardwell , H. Chung, B. Cox , J. Hakala , R. Hirosky , A. Ledovskoy , C. Neu 

Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, USA

S. Bhattacharya , P.E. Karchin 

University of Wisconsin - Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

A. Aravind, S. Banerjee , K. Black , T. Bose , S. Dasu , I. De Bruyn , P. Everaerts , C. Galloni, H. He , M. Herndon , A. Herve , C.K. Koraka , A. Lanaro, R. Loveless , J. Madhusudanan Sreekala , A. Mallampalli , A. Mohammadi , S. Mondal, G. Parida , L. Pétré , D. Pinna, A. Savin, V. Shang , V. Sharma , W.H. Smith , D. Teague, H.F. Tsoi , W. Vetens , A. Warden

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S. Afanasiev , V. Alexakhin , V. Andreev , Yu. Andreev , T. Aushev , M. Azarkin , A. Babaev , V. Blinov⁹⁵, E. Boos , V. Borshch , D. Budkouski , V. Bunichev , V. Chekhovsky, R. Chistov⁹⁵ , M. Danilov⁹⁵ , A. Dermenev , T. Dimova⁹⁵ , D. Druzhkin⁹⁶ , M. Dubinin⁸⁴ , L. Dudko , A. Ershov , G. Gavrilov , V. Gavrilov , S. Gninenko , V. Golovtcov , N. Golubev , I. Golutvin[†] , I. Gorbunov , Y. Ivanov , V. Kachanov , V. Karjavine , A. Karneyeu , V. Kim⁹⁵ , M. Kirakosyan, D. Kirpichnikov , M. Kirsanov , V. Klyukhin , O. Kodolova⁹⁷ , D. Konstantinov , V. Korenkov , A. Kozyrev⁹⁵ , N. Krasnikov , A. Lanev , P. Levchenko⁹⁸ , N. Lychkovskaya , V. Makarenko , A. Malakhov , V. Matveev⁹⁵ , V. Murzin , A. Nikitenko^{99,97} , S. Obraztsov , V. Oreshkin , V. Palichik , V. Perelygin , M. Perfilov, S. Polikarpov⁹⁵ , V. Popov , O. Radchenko⁹⁵ , M. Savina , V. Savrin , V. Shalaev , S. Shmatov , S. Shulha , Y. Skovpen⁹⁵ , S. Slabospitskii , V. Smirnov , D. Sosnov , V. Sulimov , A. Terkulov , O. Teryaev , I. Tlisova , A. Toropin , L. Uvarov , A. Uzunian , P. Volkov , A. Vorobyev[†], G. Vorotnikov , N. Voytishin , B.S. Yuldashev¹⁰⁰, A. Zarubin , I. Zhizhin , A. Zhokin

†: Deceased

-
- ¹Also at Yerevan State University, Yerevan, Armenia
- ²Also at TU Wien, Vienna, Austria
- ³Also at Institute of Basic and Applied Sciences, Faculty of Engineering, Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, Alexandria, Egypt
- ⁴Also at Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium
- ⁵Also at Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- ⁶Also at Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Campinas, Brazil
- ⁷Also at Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil
- ⁸Also at UFMS, Nova Andradina, Brazil
- ⁹Also at Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing, China
- ¹⁰Now at The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, USA
- ¹¹Also at University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China
- ¹²Also at China Center of Advanced Science and Technology, Beijing, China
- ¹³Also at University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China
- ¹⁴Also at China Spallation Neutron Source, Guangdong, China
- ¹⁵Now at Henan Normal University, Xinxiang, China
- ¹⁶Also at Université Libre de Bruxelles, Bruxelles, Belgium
- ¹⁷Also at an institute or an international laboratory covered by a cooperation agreement with CERN
- ¹⁸Also at Suez University, Suez, Egypt
- ¹⁹Now at British University in Egypt, Cairo, Egypt
- ²⁰Also at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA
- ²¹Also at Université de Haute Alsace, Mulhouse, France
- ²²Also at Istinye University, Istanbul, Turkey
- ²³Also at Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia
- ²⁴Also at The University of the State of Amazonas, Manaus, Brazil
- ²⁵Also at University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany
- ²⁶Also at RWTH Aachen University, III. Physikalisches Institut A, Aachen, Germany
- ²⁷Also at Bergische University Wuppertal (BUW), Wuppertal, Germany
- ²⁸Also at Brandenburg University of Technology, Cottbus, Germany
- ²⁹Also at Forschungszentrum Jülich, Jülich, Germany
- ³⁰Also at CERN, European Organization for Nuclear Research, Geneva, Switzerland
- ³¹Also at Institute of Nuclear Research ATOMKI, Debrecen, Hungary
- ³²Now at Universitatea Babes-Bolyai - Facultatea de Fizica, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- ³³Also at MTA-ELTE Lendület CMS Particle and Nuclear Physics Group, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary
- ³⁴Also at HUN-REN Wigner Research Centre for Physics, Budapest, Hungary
- ³⁵Also at Physics Department, Faculty of Science, Assiut University, Assiut, Egypt
- ³⁶Also at Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, India
- ³⁷Also at University of Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, India
- ³⁸Also at Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, India
- ³⁹Also at IIT Bhubaneswar, Bhubaneswar, India
- ⁴⁰Also at Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, India
- ⁴¹Also at University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, India
- ⁴²Also at Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, Hamburg, Germany
- ⁴³Also at Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan, Iran
- ⁴⁴Also at Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran
- ⁴⁵Also at Department of Physics, University of Science and Technology of Mazandaran, Behshahr, Iran

- ⁴⁶Also at Department of Physics, Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan, Iran
- ⁴⁷Also at Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, Arak University, ARAK, Iran
- ⁴⁸Also at Helwan University, Cairo, Egypt
- ⁴⁹Also at Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development, Bologna, Italy
- ⁵⁰Also at Centro Siciliano di Fisica Nucleare e di Struttura Della Materia, Catania, Italy
- ⁵¹Also at Università degli Studi Guglielmo Marconi, Roma, Italy
- ⁵²Also at Scuola Superiore Meridionale, Università di Napoli 'Federico II', Napoli, Italy
- ⁵³Also at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, Illinois, USA
- ⁵⁴Also at Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche - Istituto Officina dei Materiali, Perugia, Italy
- ⁵⁵Also at Department of Applied Physics, Faculty of Science and Technology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi, Malaysia
- ⁵⁶Also at Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología, Mexico City, Mexico
- ⁵⁷Also at Trincomalee Campus, Eastern University, Sri Lanka, Nilaveli, Sri Lanka
- ⁵⁸Also at Saegis Campus, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka
- ⁵⁹Also at National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece
- ⁶⁰Also at Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland
- ⁶¹Also at Universität Zürich, Zurich, Switzerland
- ⁶²Also at Stefan Meyer Institute for Subatomic Physics, Vienna, Austria
- ⁶³Also at Laboratoire d'Annecy-le-Vieux de Physique des Particules, IN2P3-CNRS, Annecy-le-Vieux, France
- ⁶⁴Also at Near East University, Research Center of Experimental Health Science, Mersin, Turkey
- ⁶⁵Also at Konya Technical University, Konya, Turkey
- ⁶⁶Also at Izmir Bakircay University, Izmir, Turkey
- ⁶⁷Also at Adiyaman University, Adiyaman, Turkey
- ⁶⁸Also at Bozok Universitetesi Rektörlüğü, Yozgat, Turkey
- ⁶⁹Also at Marmara University, Istanbul, Turkey
- ⁷⁰Also at Milli Savunma University, Istanbul, Turkey
- ⁷¹Also at Kafkas University, Kars, Turkey
- ⁷²Now at Istanbul Okan University, Istanbul, Turkey
- ⁷³Also at Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey
- ⁷⁴Also at Erzincan Binali Yildirim University, Erzincan, Turkey
- ⁷⁵Also at Istanbul University - Cerrahpasa, Faculty of Engineering, Istanbul, Turkey
- ⁷⁶Also at Yildiz Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey
- ⁷⁷Also at Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussel, Belgium
- ⁷⁸Also at School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Southampton, Southampton, United Kingdom
- ⁷⁹Also at IPPP Durham University, Durham, United Kingdom
- ⁸⁰Also at Monash University, Faculty of Science, Clayton, Australia
- ⁸¹Also at Università di Torino, Torino, Italy
- ⁸²Also at Bethel University, St. Paul, Minnesota, USA
- ⁸³Also at Karamanoğlu Mehmetbey University, Karaman, Turkey
- ⁸⁴Also at California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, USA
- ⁸⁵Also at United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, USA
- ⁸⁶Also at Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt
- ⁸⁷Also at Bingol University, Bingol, Turkey
- ⁸⁸Also at Georgian Technical University, Tbilisi, Georgia
- ⁸⁹Also at Sinop University, Sinop, Turkey

⁹⁰Also at Erciyes University, Kayseri, Turkey

⁹¹Also at Horia Hulubei National Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering (IFIN-HH), Bucharest, Romania

⁹²Now at an institute or an international laboratory covered by a cooperation agreement with CERN

⁹³Also at Texas A&M University at Qatar, Doha, Qatar

⁹⁴Also at Kyungpook National University, Daegu, Korea

⁹⁵Also at another institute or international laboratory covered by a cooperation agreement with CERN

⁹⁶Also at Universiteit Antwerpen, Antwerpen, Belgium

⁹⁷Also at Yerevan Physics Institute, Yerevan, Armenia

⁹⁸Also at Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

⁹⁹Also at Imperial College, London, United Kingdom

¹⁰⁰Also at Institute of Nuclear Physics of the Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences, Tashkent, Uzbekistan