



First measurement of hadronic event shapes in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV[☆]

CMS Collaboration^{*}

CERN, Switzerland

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ABSTRACT

Hadronic event shapes have been measured in proton–proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV, with a data sample collected with the CMS detector at the LHC. The sample corresponds to an integrated luminosity of 3.2 pb^{-1} . Event-shape distributions, corrected for detector response, are compared with five models of QCD multijet production.

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Event shapes provide information about the properties of hadronic final states from particle collisions. Suitably defined event-shape variables were among the first observables proposed to test the theory of quantum chromodynamics (QCD) [1,2] and have been important in enabling progress in the theory. At e^+e^- and ep colliders, event shapes have played a crucial role in the extraction of the strong coupling constant α_s . They have been essential in tuning the parton shower and non-perturbative components of Monte Carlo (MC) event generators and have provided a laboratory for developing and testing analytical probes of the hadronization process. More recently, a large set of event-shape variables suitable for pp colliders has been proposed [3,4]. An important aspect of these variables is their normalization to the measured sum of transverse momentum or energy of all the objects in the event. It is thus expected that energy-scale uncertainties should cancel to a large extent. Event-shape variables represent a valuable tool for early measurements of the properties of QCD multijet events at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) and the tuning of MC models [5].

This Letter presents the first measurement of hadronic event shapes with a data sample of 7 TeV proton–proton collisions collected with the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) detector at the LHC. The data sample corresponds to an integrated luminosity of 3.2 pb^{-1} .

A detailed description of the CMS experiment can be found elsewhere [6]. CMS uses a right-handed coordinate system, with the origin located at the nominal collision point, the x-axis point-

ing towards the center of the LHC ring, the y-axis pointing up (perpendicular to the LHC plane), and the z-axis along the anticlockwise beam direction. The polar angle θ is measured from the positive z-axis, the azimuthal angle ϕ is measured in the xy plane, and the pseudorapidity is defined as $\eta = -\ln[\tan(\theta/2)]$. The central feature of the CMS apparatus is a superconducting solenoid, of 6 m internal diameter, providing an axial field of 3.8 T. Within the field volume are the silicon pixel and strip tracker, the crystal electromagnetic calorimeter (ECAL), and the brass/scintillator hadron calorimeter (HCAL). Muons are measured in gas-ionization detectors embedded in the steel return yoke. In the region $|\eta| < 1.74$, the HCAL cells have widths of 0.087 in pseudorapidity and 0.087 rad in azimuth (ϕ). In the (η, ϕ) plane, and for $|\eta| < 1.48$, the HCAL cells map on to 5×5 ECAL crystal arrays to form calorimeter towers projecting radially outwards from close to the nominal interaction point. At larger values of $|\eta|$, the size of the towers increases and the matching ECAL arrays contain fewer crystals. A preshower detector consisting of two planes of silicon sensors interleaved with lead is located in front of the ECAL at $|\eta| > 1.479$. In addition to the barrel and endcap detectors, CMS has extensive forward calorimetry covering the region $3.0 < |\eta| < 5.0$.

Two event-shape variables have been studied: the central transverse thrust $\tau_{\perp, C}$ and the central thrust minor $T_{m, C}$. The two variables probe different QCD radiative processes and are mostly sensitive to the modeling of two- and three-jet topologies. The term *central* (C) indicates that the input to the calculation of these quantities are jets in the central region of the detector ($|\eta| < 1.3$), where sub-leading contributions in the calculation of the event-shape variables are less significant, and systematic uncertainties on the jet reconstruction are smaller.

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

The central transverse thrust is defined as [4]

$$\tau_{\perp,C} \equiv 1 - \max_{\hat{n}_T} \frac{\sum_i |\vec{p}_{\perp,i} \cdot \hat{n}_T|}{\sum_i p_{\perp,i}}, \quad (1)$$

where $p_{\perp,i}$ is the transverse momentum of selected jet i . The axis \hat{n}_T which maximizes the sum, and thus minimizes $\tau_{\perp,C}$, is called the transverse thrust axis $\hat{n}_{T,C}$. The central transverse thrust is a measure of the radiation along the transverse thrust axis. The central thrust minor is a measure of the radiation out of the plane defined by $\hat{n}_{T,C}$ and the beam axis. It is defined as

$$T_{m,C} \equiv \frac{\sum_i |\vec{p}_{\perp,i} \times \hat{n}_{T,C}|}{\sum_i p_{\perp,i}}. \quad (2)$$

Two-jet events that are well balanced have low values of these two variables, while isotropic multijet events have high values.

The transverse momenta of jets are used as input to the event-shape calculation. Jets are reconstructed using individual particles that have been identified, and whose energies have been measured, using a particle flow technique [7], which combines information from all subdetectors: charged tracks in the tracker and energy deposits in the electromagnetic and hadronic calorimeters, as well as signals in the preshower detector and the muon system. The energy calibration is performed separately for each particle type. As a result, the input to the jet clustering is almost fully calibrated and the resulting jets require only a small energy correction (below 10% in the central region). Jet clustering is performed using the anti- k_T clustering algorithm [8,9] with a distance parameter $R = 0.5$.

Five MC generators are used to produce simulated samples for comparison with the data; the specifics of each generator are detailed below. In addition to the generator-level samples, we use “full-simulation” samples, where the events produced at the generator level are processed with a simulation of the CMS detector response based on GEANT4 [10]. As event-shape distributions are sensitive to QCD radiation, they are primarily affected by the description of the parton showering and the hadronization process, and, to a lesser extent, by the description of multiparton interactions, which is included in all generators used.

The first generator considered is PYTHIA 6.4.22 (PYTHIA6) [11] with tune D6T [12]. In this version of PYTHIA, parton showers are ordered by mass. The second generator is PYTHIA 8.145 (PYTHIA8) [13] with tune 2C [14]. In this version of PYTHIA, parton showers are ordered by p_T . The underlying event model is based on the multiple-parton interaction model of PYTHIA6, interleaved with initial- and final-state radiation. The third generator is HERWIG++ 2.4.2 [15] used with the tune of older version 2.3. The parton showering in HERWIG++ is based on the coherent-branching algorithm, with angular ordering of the showers. The underlying event is simulated using an eikonal multiple parton-parton scattering model. The fourth is MADGRAPH 4.4.24 [16] in conjunction with PYTHIA6, with tune D6T. Events containing from two to four jets matched to partons with p_T above 20 GeV/c are produced with MADGRAPH using a matrix element (ME) calculation and subsequently passed to PYTHIA to generate parton showers (PS). The MLM matching procedure [17] is used to avoid double counting between the ME and PS calculations. For the matching, the minimum jet p_T threshold is set to 30 GeV/c. Finally, the ALPGEN 2.13 [18] generator is used in a similar way to MADGRAPH. ALPGEN samples are produced separately for each jet multiplicity from two to six jets, matched to partons with p_T above 20 GeV/c, and are weighted according to their theoretical cross section. Events produced with ALPGEN using the ME calculation are passed to PYTHIA, and the MLM matching procedure is used to avoid double counting. For the matching of ME partons to jets, the lower jet p_T

threshold is set to 20 GeV/c and the maximum distance between partons and jets is kept to its default value of $\Delta R = 0.7$.

The data were collected between April and August 2010. Non-collision background is removed by applying quality cuts that ensure the presence of a well-reconstructed primary vertex [19]. The selected data sample is then divided into three bins defined by $p_{T,1}$, the p_T of the leading jet (the jet reconstructed offline with the highest p_T). The low- p_T bin contains events with $90 < p_{T,1} < 125$ GeV/c, the medium- p_T bin with $125 < p_{T,1} < 200$ GeV/c, and the high- p_T bin with $p_{T,1} > 200$ GeV/c. Data in all bins are selected using single-jet triggers that require an online reconstructed jet with p_T greater than 30 GeV/c for the low- p_T bin, and greater than 50 GeV/c for the medium- p_T and high- p_T bins. The trigger with a 30 GeV/c threshold was prescaled as the instantaneous luminosity of the LHC increased; the effective luminosity in the low- p_T bin is only 0.32 pb^{-1} . The trigger efficiency, measured from a sample acquired with lower-threshold triggers, is greater than 99% for all p_T bins.

Quality cuts are imposed on the jets in order to remove spurious jets caused by calorimeter noise or other remaining non-collision background. Jets must consist of at least two particles, including at least one charged hadron, and not more than 99% of the jet energy may be carried by neutral hadrons alone, by photons alone, or by electrons alone. All jets within the detector acceptance ($|\eta| < 5$), with $p_T > 30$ GeV/c, and passing the quality criteria are subsequently considered. However, if one of the two leading jets does not pass the quality cuts, the event is rejected. This requirement rejects less than 1% of the events. After the initial jet selection, the two leading jets are required to be within $|\eta| < 1.3$, or the event is rejected. All selected jets within $|\eta| < 1.3$ are used in the event-shape calculation.

In the low, medium, and high- p_T data samples, this selection retains respectively 62 000, 180 000, and 23 000 events, of which 77%, 65%, and 52% are events with exactly two selected jets.

The event-shape distributions are distorted by the energy and angular resolutions of the detector. The measured distributions are unfolded to allow comparison with the event-shape distributions calculated in the generator-level samples. We use a regularized unfolding method based on singular-value decomposition (SVD) of the response matrix [20]. The inputs to the unfolding algorithm are the distributions measured in data and the response matrix, determined from the event-shape distributions of the PYTHIA6 generator-level and full simulation samples. The algorithm returns the unfolded data distribution, together with its correlation and error matrices. All of the unfolding corrections are below 5%.

The dominant systematic uncertainty in the event-shape distributions comes from the jet energy scale. While the event-shape definitions are expected to be invariant under a shift in jet energy scale, the uncertainty on the energy scale modifies the number of jets passing the p_T threshold, thus affecting the event shapes. In order to estimate the resulting uncertainty on the event-shape distributions, a shift of the jet energy scale is applied to all jets entering the calculation, based on an uncertainty estimate which varies between 3% and 5%, depending on η and p_T [21]. The maximum bin-by-bin difference between the original distributions and the two shifted distributions, after unfolding, is of the order of 4% and is assigned as a systematic uncertainty. The effects of the angular resolution and the uncertainty on the jet energy are estimated in a similar way and are found to be insignificant.

Energy resolution studies have revealed up to a 10% difference between the data and the MC simulation [21] from which the response matrix is estimated. In order to estimate the effect of this difference on the event-shape distributions, a new response matrix is determined from a MC sample in which the jet energies are smeared by an additional 10%. The differences between the original

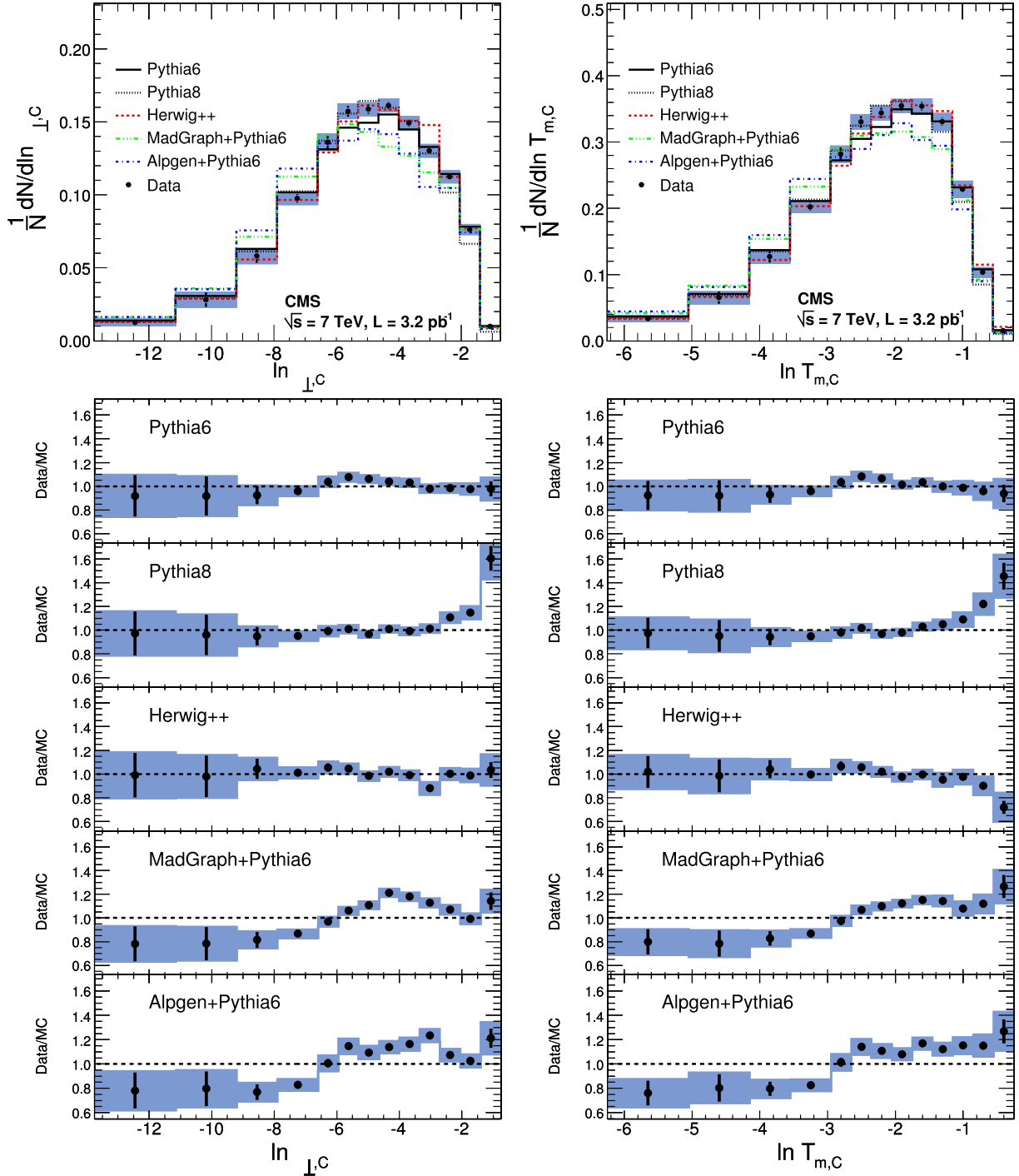


Fig. 1. Distributions of the logarithm of the central transverse thrust (top left) and central thrust minor (top right) for events with a leading jet p_T between 90 and 125 GeV/c, from data and from five MC simulations. The error bars on the data points represent the statistical uncertainty on the data, and the shaded (blue) bands represent the sum of statistical and systematic errors. The lower plots show the ratio between data and the different simulated samples. The first bin in these distributions contains the underflow. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this Letter.)

event-shape and the unfolded event-shape distributions obtained with the new response matrix are found to be below 1%.

The robustness of the result against possible bias due to the unfolding was also tested. We checked that the differences between the unfolded data and each generator-level sample were comparable with the differences found between data before unfolding and the corresponding full-simulation sample. Here, the agreement between event-shape distributions in data and simu-

lation was quantified by a χ^2 statistic. We also ranked the simulated samples by their increasing agreement with the data, and checked that the ranking was the same before and after unfolding. Alternative unfolding methods [22] were applied; the resulting event-shape distributions differed by less than 1% from the results of the SVD unfolding. We also determined the response matrix using MADGRAPH MC samples instead of PYTHIA6 samples and found no significant differences.

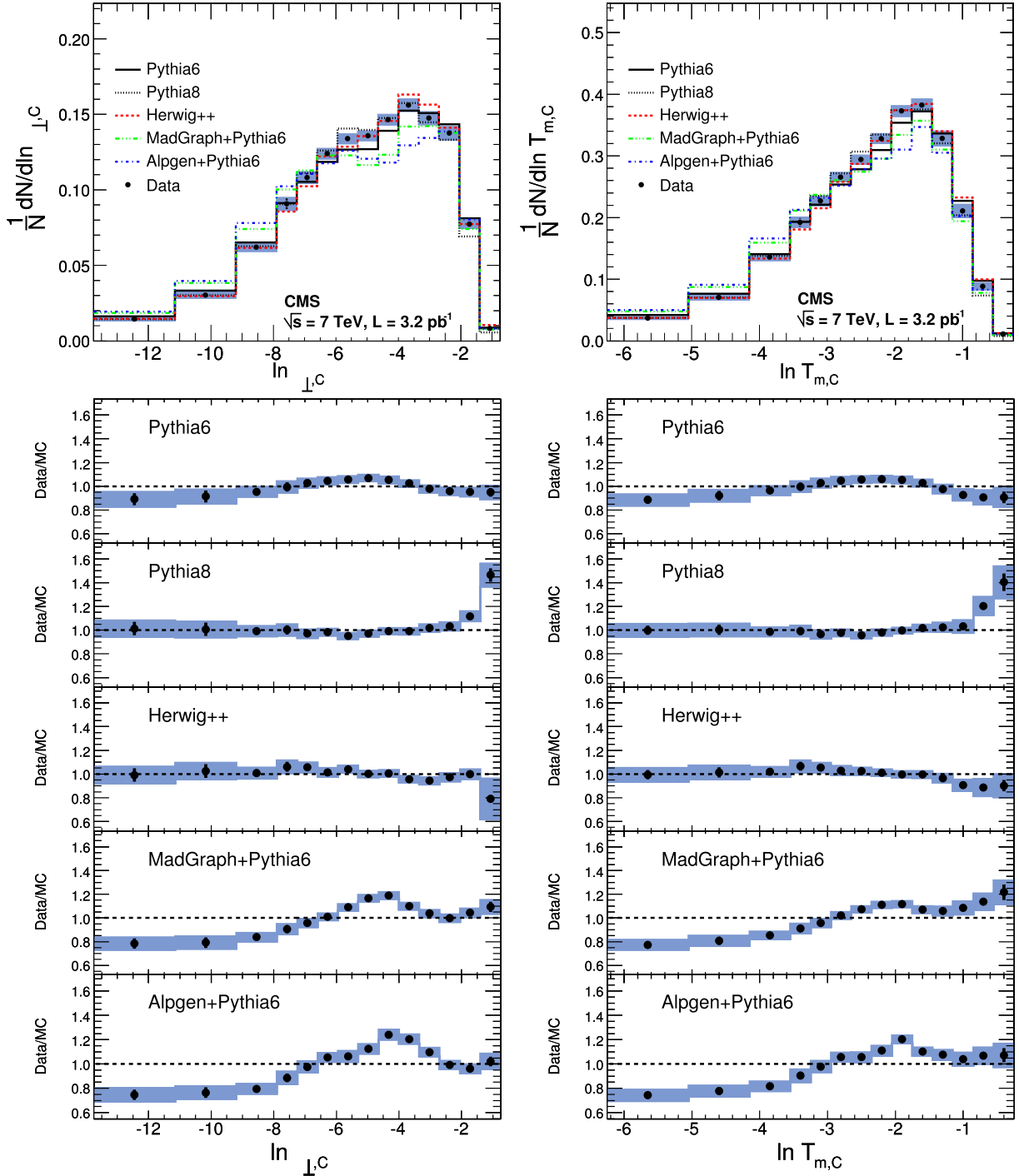


Fig. 2. Distributions of the logarithm of the central transverse thrust (top left) and central thrust minor (top right) for events with a leading jet p_T between 125 and 200 GeV/c, from data and from five MC simulations. The error bars on the data points represent the statistical uncertainty on the data, and the shaded (blue) bands represent the sum of statistical and systematic errors. The lower plots show the ratio between data and the different simulated samples. The first bin in these distributions contains the underflow. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this Letter.)

The increase in the instantaneous luminosity of the LHC was accompanied by an increase in the average number of interactions per bunch crossing. The effect on the event-shape distributions was checked by measuring these distributions separately for events with exactly one, two, and more than two primary vertices. The resulting three sets of distributions were found to agree within statistical errors.

Finally, we constructed event-shape distributions with an alternative jet reconstruction, based exclusively on information from

the tracking detectors [23], and found that they agree within errors with the distributions based on particle flow reconstruction.

The unfolded event-shape distributions from data and from the PYTHIA6, PYTHIA8, HERWIG++, MADGRAPH, and ALPGEN MC generators are shown in Figs. 1–3 for the low, medium, and high- p_T samples, respectively. The error bars represent the statistical uncertainties on the data and the shaded (blue) bands represent the quadratic sum of the statistical and systematic uncertainties, discussed above. The ratios between data and MC simulations are

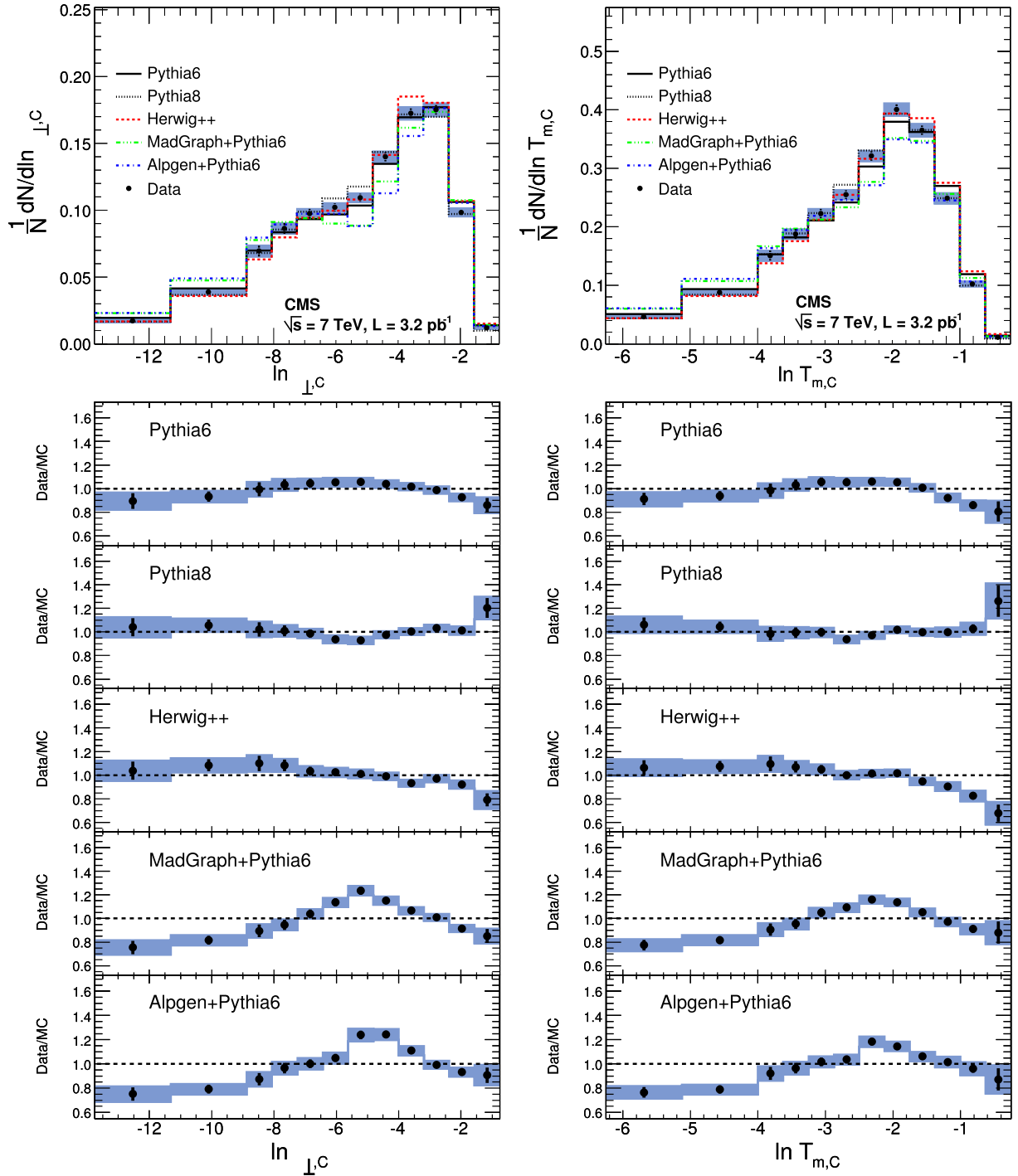


Fig. 3. Distributions of the logarithm of the central transverse thrust (top left) and central thrust minor (top right) for events with a leading jet $p_{T,1} > 200$ GeV/c, from data and from five MC simulations. The error bars on the data points represent the statistical uncertainty on the data, and the shaded (blue) bands represent the sum of statistical and systematic errors. The lower plots show the ratio between data and the different simulated samples. The first bin in these distributions contains the underflow. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this Letter.)

shown in the lower plots of Figs. 1–3 for each of the five MC generators.

The PYTHIA6 and HERWIG++ predictions agree with the measurements in all three momentum bins, while the ALPGEN and MADGRAPH curves deviate from the data as a result of an overestimate of the fraction of back-to-back dijet events, which enter the lower tail of the distributions. The PYTHIA8 predictions agree with the measurements in all bins of the event-shape variables except in the highest bin, where an underestimate is observed. This

disagreement, however, affects only a very small region of the parameter space (0.5% of all events).

Further studies indicate that, while the momentum of the first leading jet agrees well between data and MC generators, that of the second leading jet is higher in MADGRAPH than in the data. This results in differences in the distribution of $\Delta\phi$ between the two leading jets, which then lead to a shift of the event-shape distributions towards lower values [24]. We conclude that the regime at high jet momentum and large number of jets, where the explicit

ME calculations of ALPGEN and MADGRAPH significantly improve the pure PS treatment, has not been reached.

In conclusion, we have presented the first measurement of two event-shape variables, the central transverse thrust and the central thrust minor, using a data sample of proton–proton collisions at a center-of-mass energy of 7 TeV, accumulated by the CMS detector at the LHC. The measured event-shape distributions are presented after correction for the detector response. We compare them with predictions from the PYTHIA6, PYTHIA8, HERWIG++, MADGRAPH, and ALPGEN MC generators. The event-shape distributions from PYTHIA6, PYTHIA8, and HERWIG++ show satisfactory agreement with the data, while discrepancies are found between the data and predictions from ALPGEN and MADGRAPH. These measurements provide input for the improvement of currently available models of QCD multijet production.

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CMS Collaboration

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

Yerevan Physics Institute, Yerevan, Armenia

W. Adam, T. Bergauer, M. Dragicevic, J. Erö, C. Fabjan, M. Friedl, R. Frühwirth, V.M. Ghete, J. Hammer¹, S. Häsnel, C. Hartl, M. Hoch, N. Hörmann, J. Hrubec, M. Jeitler, G. Kasieczka, W. Kiesenhofer, M. Krammer, D. Liko, I. Mikulec, M. Pernicka, H. Rohringer, R. Schöfbeck, J. Strauss, A. Taurok, F. Teischinger, W. Waltenberger, G. Walzel, E. Widl, C.-E. Wulz

Institut für Hochenergiephysik der OeAW, Wien, Austria

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

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

L. Benucci, K. Cerny, E.A. De Wolf, X. Janssen, T. Maes, L. Mucibello, S. Ochesanu, B. Roland, R. Rougny, M. Selvaggi, H. Van Haevermaet, P. Van Mechelen, N. Van Remortel

Universiteit Antwerpen, Antwerpen, Belgium

V. Adler, S. Beauceron, F. Blekman, S. Blyweert, J. D'Hondt, O. Devroede, R. Gonzalez Suarez, A. Kalogeropoulos, J. Maes, M. Maes, S. Tavernier, W. Van Doninck, P. Van Mulders, G.P. Van Onsem, I. Villella

Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussel, Belgium

O. Charaf, B. Clerbaux, G. De Lentdecker, V. Dero, A.P.R. Gay, G.H. Hammad, T. Hreus, P.E. Marage, L. Thomas, C. Vander Velde, P. Vanlaer, J. Wickens

Université Libre de Bruxelles, Bruxelles, Belgium

S. Costantini, M. Grunewald, B. Klein, A. Marinov, J. McCartin, D. Ryckbosch, F. Thyssen, M. Tytgat, L. Vanelderden, P. Verwilligen, S. Walsh, N. Zaganidis

Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

S. Basegmez, G. Bruno, J. Caudron, L. Ceard, J. De Favereau De Jeneret, C. Delaere, P. Demin, D. Favart, A. Giammanco, G. Grégoire, J. Hollar, V. Lemaître, J. Liao, O. Militaru, S. Oryn, D. Pagano, A. Pin, K. Piotrkowski, N. Schul

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

N. Belyi, T. Caebergs, E. Daubie

Université de Mons, Mons, Belgium

G.A. Alves, D. De Jesus Damiao, M.E. Pol, M.H.G. Souza

Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Fisicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

W. Carvalho, E.M. Da Costa, C. De Oliveira Martins, S. Fonseca De Souza, L. Mundim, H. Nogima, V. Oguri, W.L. Prado Da Silva, A. Santoro, S.M. Silva Do Amaral, A. Sznajder

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

F.A. Dias, M.A.F. Dias, T.R. Fernandez Perez Tomei, E.M. Gregores², F. Marinho, S.F. Novaes, Sandra S. Padula

Instituto de Fisica Teorica, Universidade Estadual Paulista, Sao Paulo, Brazil

N. Darmenov¹, L. Dimitrov, V. Genchev¹, P. Iaydjiev¹, S. Piperov, M. Rodozov, S. Stoykova, G. Sultanov, V. Tcholakov, R. Trayanov, I. Vankov

Institute for Nuclear Research and Nuclear Energy, Sofia, Bulgaria

M. Dyulendarova, R. Hadjiiska, V. Kozhuharov, L. Litov, E. Marinova, M. Mateev, B. Pavlov, P. Petkov

University of Sofia, Sofia, Bulgaria

J.G. Bian, G.M. Chen, H.S. Chen, C.H. Jiang, D. Liang, S. Liang, J. Wang, J. Wang, X. Wang, Z. Wang, M. Xu, M. Yang, J. Zang, Z. Zhang

Institute of High Energy Physics, Beijing, China

Y. Ban, S. Guo, Y. Guo, W. Li, Y. Mao, S.J. Qian, H. Teng, L. Zhang, B. Zhu, W. Zou

State Key Lab. of Nucl. Phys. and Tech., Peking University, Beijing, China

A. Cabrera, B. Gomez Moreno, A.A. Ocampo Rios, A.F. Osorio Oliveros, J.C. Sanabria

Universidad de Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia

N. Godinovic, D. Lelas, K. Lelas, R. Plestina³, D. Polic, I. Puljak

Technical University of Split, Split, Croatia

Z. Antunovic, M. Dzelalija

University of Split, Split, Croatia

V. Brigljevic, S. Duric, K. Kadija, S. Morovic

Institute Rudjer Boskovic, Zagreb, Croatia

A. Attikis, M. Galanti, J. Mousa, C. Nicolaou, F. Ptochos, P.A. Razis,
H. Rykaczewski

University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus

Y. Assran⁴, M.A. Mahmoud⁵

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

A. Hektor, M. Kadastik, K. Kannike, M. Müntel, M. Raidal, L. Rebane

National Institute of Chemical Physics and Biophysics, Tallinn, Estonia

V. Azzolini, P. Eerola

Department of Physics, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland

S. Czellar, J. Härkönen, A. Heikkinen, V. Karimäki, R. Kinnunen, J. Klem,
M.J. Kortelainen, T. Lampén, K. Lassila-Perini, S. Lehti, T. Lindén, P. Luukka,
T. Mäenpää, E. Tuominen, J. Tuominiemi, E. Tuovinen, D. Ungaro,
L. Wendland

Helsinki Institute of Physics, Helsinki, Finland

K. Banzuzi, A. Korpela, T. Tuuva

Lappeenranta University of Technology, Lappeenranta, Finland

D. Sillou

Laboratoire d'Annecy-le-Vieux de Physique des Particules, IN2P3–CNRS, Annecy-le-Vieux, France

M. Besancon, S. Choudhury, M. Dejardin, D. Denegri, B. Fabbro, J.L. Faure, F. Ferri,
S. Ganjour, F.X. Gentit, A. Givernaud, P. Gras, G. Hamel de Monchenault, P. Jarry, E. Locci,
J. Malcles, M. Marionneau, L. Millischer, J. Rander, A. Rosowsky, I. Shreyber, M. Titov,
P. Verrecchia

DSM/IRFU, CEA/Saclay, Gif-sur-Yvette, France

S. Baffioni, F. Beaudette, L. Bianchini, M. Bluj⁶, C. Broutin, P. Busson, C. Charlot, T. Dahms,
L. Dobrzynski, R. Granier de Cassagnac, M. Haguenaer, P. Miné, C. Mironov, C. Ochando,
P. Paganini, D. Sabes, R. Salerno, Y. Sirois, C. Thiebaux, B. Wyslouch⁷, A. Zabi

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

J.-L. Agram⁸, J. Andrea, A. Besson, D. Bloch, D. Bodin, J.-M. Brom, M. Cardaci, E.C. Chabert, C. Collard, E. Conte⁸, F. Drouhin⁸, C. Ferro, J.-C. Fontaine⁸, D. Gelé, U. Goerlach, S. Greder, P. Juillot, M. Karim⁸, A.-C. Le Bihan, Y. Mikami, P. Van Hove

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

F. Fassi, D. Mercier

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

C. Baty, N. Beaupere, M. Bedjidian, O. Bondu, G. Boudoul, D. Boumediene, H. Brun, N. Chanon, R. Chierici, D. Contardo, P. Depasse, H. El Mamouni, A. Falkiewicz, J. Fay, S. Gascon, B. Ille, T. Kurca, T. Le Grand, M. Lethuillier, L. Mirabito, S. Perries, V. Sordini, S. Tosi, Y. Tschudi, P. Verdier, H. Xiao

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

V. Roinishvili

E. Andronikashvili Institute of Physics, Academy of Science, Tbilisi, Georgia

G. Anagnostou, M. Edelhoff, L. Feld, N. Heracleous, O. Hindrichs, R. Jussen, K. Klein, J. Merz, N. Mohr, A. Ostapchuk, A. Perieanu, F. Raupach, J. Sammet, S. Schael, D. Sprenger, H. Weber, M. Weber, B. Wittmer

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

M. Ata, W. Bender, M. Erdmann, J. Frangenheim, T. Hebbeker, A. Hinzmann, K. Hoepfner, C. Hof, T. Klimkovich, D. Klingebiel, P. Kreuzer, D. Lanske[†], C. Magass, G. Masetti, M. Merschmeyer, A. Meyer, P. Papacz, H. Pieta, H. Reithler, S.A. Schmitz, L. Sonnenschein, J. Steggemann, D. Teysier

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

M. Bontenackels, M. Davids, M. Duda, G. Flügge, H. Geenen, M. Giffels, W. Haj Ahmad, D. Heydhausen, T. Kress, Y. Kuessel, A. Linn, A. Nowack, L. Perchalla, O. Pooth, J. Rennefeld, P. Sauerland, A. Stahl, M. Thomas, D. Tornier, M.H. Zoeller

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

M. Aldaya Martin, W. Behrenhoff, U. Behrens, M. Bergholz⁹, K. Borras, A. Cakir, A. Campbell, E. Castro, D. Dammann, G. Eckerlin, D. Eckstein, A. Flossdorf, G. Flucke, A. Geiser, I. Glushkov, J. Hauk, H. Jung, M. Kasemann, I. Katkov, P. Katsas, C. Kleinwort, H. Kluge, A. Knutsson, D. Krücker, E. Kuznetsova, W. Lange, W. Lohmann⁹, R. Mankel, M. Marienfeld, I.-A. Melzer-Pellmann, A.B. Meyer, J. Mnich, A. Mussgiller, J. Olzem, A. Parenti, A. Raspereza, A. Raval, R. Schmidt⁹, T. Schoerner-Sadenius, N. Sen, M. Stein, J. Tomaszewska, D. Volyanskyy, R. Walsh, C. Wissing

Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, Hamburg, Germany

C. Autermann, S. Bobrovskiy, J. Draeger, H. Enderle, U. Gebbert, K. Kaschube, G. Kaussen, R. Klanner, J. Lange, B. Mura, S. Naumann-Emme, F. Nowak, N. Pietsch, C. Sander, H. Schettler, P. Schleper, M. Schröder, T. Schum, J. Schwandt, A.K. Srivastava, H. Stadie, G. Steinbrück, J. Thomsen, R. Wolf

University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany

C. Barth, J. Bauer, V. Buege, T. Chwalek, W. De Boer, A. Dierlamm, G. Dirkes, M. Feindt, J. Gruschke, C. Hackstein, F. Hartmann, S.M. Heindl, M. Heinrich, H. Held, K.H. Hoffmann, S. Honc, T. Kuhr, D. Martschei, S. Mueller, Th. Müller, M. Niegel, O. Oberst, A. Oehler, J. Ott, T. Peiffer, D. Piparo, G. Quast, K. Rabbertz, F. Ratnikov, M. Renz, C. Saout, A. Scheurer, P. Schieferdecker, F.-P. Schilling, G. Schott, H.J. Simonis, F.M. Stober, D. Troendle, J. Wagner-Kuhr, M. Zeise, V. Zhukov¹⁰, E.B. Ziebarth

Institut für Experimentelle Kernphysik, Karlsruhe, Germany

G. Daskalakis, T. Geralis, S. Kesisoglou, A. Kyriakis, D. Loukas, I. Manolagos, A. Markou, C. Markou, C. Mavrommatis, E. Ntomari, E. Petrakou

Institute of Nuclear Physics “Demokritos”, Aghia Paraskevi, Greece

L. Gouskos, T.J. Mertzimekis, A. Panagiotou¹

University of Athens, Athens, Greece

I. Evangelou, C. Foudas, P. Kokkas, N. Manthos, I. Papadopoulos, V. Patras, F.A. Triantis

University of Ioánnina, Ioánnina, Greece

A. Aranyi, G. Bencze, L. Boldizsar, G. Debreczeni, C. Hajdu¹, D. Horvath¹¹, A. Kapusi, K. Krajczar¹², A. Laszlo, F. Sikler, G. Vesztergombi¹²

KFKI Research Institute for Particle and Nuclear Physics, Budapest, Hungary

N. Beni, J. Molnar, J. Palinkas, Z. Szillasi, V. Veszpremi

Institute of Nuclear Research ATOMKI, Debrecen, Hungary

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

University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary

S. Bansal, S.B. Beri, V. Bhatnagar, N. Dhingra, M. Jindal, M. Kaur, J.M. Kohli, M.Z. Mehta, N. Nishu, L.K. Saini, A. Sharma, A.P. Singh, J.B. Singh, S.P. Singh

Panjab University, Chandigarh, India

S. Ahuja, S. Bhattacharya, B.C. Choudhary, P. Gupta, S. Jain, S. Jain, A. Kumar, R.K. Shivpuri

University of Delhi, Delhi, India

R.K. Choudhury, D. Dutta, S. Kailas, S.K. Kataria, A.K. Mohanty¹, L.M. Pant, P. Shukla

Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai, India

T. Aziz, M. Guchait¹³, A. Gurtu, M. Maity¹⁴, D. Majumder, G. Majumder, K. Mazumdar, G.B. Mohanty, A. Saha, K. Sudhakar, N. Wickramage

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research – EHEP, Mumbai, India

S. Banerjee, S. Dugad, N.K. Mondal

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research – HECP, Mumbai, India

H. Arfaei, H. Bakhshiansohi, S.M. Etesami, A. Fahim, M. Hashemi, A. Jafari, M. Khakzad, A. Mohammadi, M. Mohammadi Najafabadi, S. Paktinat Mehdiabadi, B. Safarzadeh, M. Zeinali

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

M. Abbrescia^{a,b}, L. Barbone^{a,b}, C. Calabria^{a,b}, A. Colaleo^a, D. Creanza^{a,c}, N. De Filippis^{a,c}, M. De Palma^{a,b}, A. Dimitrov^a, L. Fiore^a, G. Iaselli^{a,c}, L. Lusito^{a,b,1}, G. Maggi^{a,c}, M. Maggi^a, N. Manna^{a,b}, B. Marangelli^{a,b}, S. My^{a,c}, S. Nuzzo^{a,b}, N. Pacifico^{a,b}, G.A. Pierro^a, A. Pompili^{a,b}, G. Pugliese^{a,c}, F. Romano^{a,c}, G. Roselli^{a,b}, G. Selvaggi^{a,b}, L. Silvestris^a, R. Trentadue^a, S. Tupputi^{a,b}, G. Zito^a

^a INFN Sezione di Bari, Bari, Italy

^b Università di Bari, Bari, Italy

^c Politecnico di Bari, Bari, Italy

G. Abbiendi^a, A.C. Benvenuti^a, D. Bonacorsi^a, S. Braibant-Giacomelli^{a,b}, L. Brigliadori^a, P. Capiluppi^{a,b}, A. Castro^{a,b}, F.R. Cavallo^a, M. Cuffiani^{a,b}, G.M. Dallavalle^a, F. Fabbri^a, A. Fanfani^{a,b}, D. Fasanella^a, P. Giacomelli^a, M. Giunta^a, S. Marcellini^a, M. Meneghelli^{a,b}, A. Montanari^a, F.L. Navarria^{a,b},

F. Odorici ^a, A. Perrotta ^a, F. Primavera ^a, A.M. Rossi ^{a,b}, T. Rovelli ^{a,b}, G. Siroli ^{a,b}, R. Travaglini ^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Bologna, Bologna, Italy

^b Università di Bologna, Bologna, Italy

S. Albergo ^{a,b}, G. Cappello ^{a,b}, M. Chiorboli ^{a,b,1}, S. Costa ^{a,b}, A. Tricomi ^{a,b}, C. Tuve ^a

^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}, S. Frosali ^{a,b}, E. Gallo ^a, C. Genta ^a, P. Lenzi ^{a,b}, M. Meschini ^a, S. Paoletti ^a, G. Sguazzoni ^a, A. Tropiano ^{a,1}

^a INFN Sezione di Firenze, Firenze, Italy

^b Università di Firenze, Firenze, Italy

L. Benussi, S. Bianco, S. Colafranceschi ¹⁵, F. Fabbri, D. Piccolo

INFN Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, Frascati, Italy

P. Fabbriatore, R. Musenich

INFN Sezione di Genova, Genova, Italy

A. Benaglia ^{a,b}, F. De Guio ^{a,b,1}, L. Di Matteo ^{a,b}, A. Ghezzi ^{a,b,1}, M. Malberti ^{a,b}, S. Malvezzi ^a, A. Martelli ^{a,b}, A. Massironi ^{a,b}, D. Menasce ^a, L. Moroni ^a, M. Paganoni ^{a,b}, D. Pedrini ^a, S. Ragazzi ^{a,b}, N. Redaelli ^a, S. Sala ^a, T. Tabarelli de Fatis ^{a,b}, V. Tancini ^{a,b}

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

^b Università di Milano-Bicocca, Milano, Italy

S. Buontempo ^a, C.A. Carrillo Montoya ^a, A. Cimmino ^{a,b}, A. De Cosa ^{a,b}, M. De Gruttola ^{a,b}, F. Fabozzi ^{a,16}, A.O.M. Iorio ^a, L. Lista ^a, M. Merola ^{a,b}, P. Noli ^{a,b}, P. Paolucci ^a

^a INFN Sezione di Napoli, Napoli, Italy

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

P. Azzi ^a, N. Bacchetta ^a, P. Bellan ^{a,b}, M. Bellato ^a, M. Biasotto ^{a,17}, A. Branca ^a, P. Checchia ^a, E. Conti ^a, M. De Mattia ^{a,b}, T. Dorigo ^a, F. Fanzago ^a, F. Gasparini ^{a,b}, P. Giubilato ^{a,b}, A. Gresele ^{a,c}, M. Gulmini ^{a,17}, A. Kaminskiy ^{a,b}, S. Lacaprara ^{a,17}, I. Lazzizzera ^{a,c}, M. Margoni ^{a,b}, M. Mazzucato ^a, A.T. Meneguzzo ^{a,b}, M. Nespolo ^a, L. Perrozzi ^{a,1}, N. Pozzobon ^{a,b}, P. Ronchese ^{a,b}, F. Simonetto ^{a,b}, E. Torassa ^a, M. Tosi ^{a,b}, S. Vanini ^{a,b}, P. Zotto ^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Padova, Padova, Italy

^b Università di Padova, Padova, Italy

^c Università di Trento (Trento), Padova, Italy

U. Berzano ^a, C. Riccardi ^{a,b}, P. Torre ^{a,b}, P. Vitulo ^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Pavia, Pavia, Italy

^b Università di Pavia, Pavia, Italy

M. Biasini ^{a,b}, G.M. Bilei ^a, B. Caponeri ^{a,b}, L. Fanò ^{a,b}, P. Lariccia ^{a,b}, A. Lucaroni ^{a,b,1}, G. Mantovani ^{a,b}, M. Menichelli ^a, A. Nappi ^{a,b}, A. Santocchia ^{a,b}, L. Servoli ^a, S. Taroni ^{a,b}, M. Valdata ^{a,b}, R. Volpe ^{a,b,1}

^a INFN Sezione di Perugia, Perugia, Italy

^b Università di Perugia, Perugia, Italy

P. Azzurri ^{a,c}, G. Bagliesi ^a, J. Bernardini ^{a,b}, T. Boccali ^{a,1}, G. Broccolo ^{a,c}, R. Castaldi ^a, R.T. D'Agnolo ^{a,c}, R. Dell'Orso ^a, F. Fiori ^{a,b}, L. Foà ^{a,c}, A. Giassi ^a, A. Kraan ^a, F. Ligabue ^{a,c}, T. Lomtadze ^a, L. Martini ^a, A. Messineo ^{a,b}, F. Palla ^a, F. Palmonari ^a, S. Sarkar ^{a,c}, G. Segneri ^a, A.T. Serban ^a, P. Spagnolo ^a, R. Tenchini ^{a,*}, G. Tonelli ^{a,b,1}, A. Venturi ^{a,1}, 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, D. Del Re^{a,b}, E. Di Marco^{a,b}, M. Diemoz^a, D. Franci^{a,b}, M. Grassi^a,
E. Longo^{a,b}, G. Organtini^{a,b}, A. Palma^{a,b}, F. Pandolfi^{a,b,1}, R. Paramatti^a, S. Rahatlou^{a,b}

^a INFN Sezione di Roma, Roma, Italy

^b Università di Roma “La Sapienza”, Roma, Italy

N. Amapane^{a,b}, R. Arcidiacono^{a,c}, S. Argiro^{a,b}, M. Arneodo^{a,c}, C. Biino^a, C. Botta^{a,b,1}, N. Cartiglia^a,
R. Castello^{a,b}, M. Costa^{a,b}, N. Demaria^a, A. Graziano^{a,b,1}, C. Mariotti^a, M. Marone^{a,b}, S. Maselli^a,
E. Migliore^{a,b}, G. Mila^{a,b}, V. Monaco^{a,b}, M. Musich^{a,b}, M.M. Obertino^{a,c}, N. Pastrone^a,
M. Pelliccioni^{a,b,1}, A. Romero^{a,b}, M. Ruspa^{a,c}, R. Sacchi^{a,b}, V. Sola^{a,b}, A. Solano^{a,b}, A. Staiano^a,
D. Trocino^{a,b}, A. Vilela Pereira^{a,b,1}

^a INFN Sezione di Torino, Torino, Italy

^b Università di Torino, Torino, Italy

^c Università del Piemonte Orientale (Novara), Torino, Italy

F. Ambrogini^{a,b}, S. Belforte^a, F. Cossutti^a, G. Della Ricca^{a,b}, B. Gobbo^a, D. Montanino^{a,b}, A. Penzo^a

^a INFN Sezione di Trieste, Trieste, Italy

^b Università di Trieste, Trieste, Italy

S.G. Heo

Kangwon National University, Chunchon, Republic of Korea

S. Chang, J. Chung, D.H. Kim, G.N. Kim, J.E. Kim, D.J. Kong, H. Park, D. Son, D.C. Son

Kyungpook National University, Daegu, Republic of Korea

Zero Kim, J.Y. Kim, S. Song

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

S. Choi, B. Hong, M. Jo, H. Kim, J.H. Kim, T.J. Kim, K.S. Lee, D.H. Moon, S.K. Park, H.B. Rhee, E. Seo,
S. Shin, K.S. Sim

Korea University, Seoul, Republic of Korea

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

University of Seoul, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Y. Choi, Y.K. Choi, J. Goh, J. Lee, S. Lee, H. Seo, I. Yu

Sungkyunkwan University, Suwon, Republic of Korea

M.J. Bilinskas, I. Grigelionis, M. Janulis, D. Martisiute, P. Petrov, T. Sabonis

Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania

H. Castilla Valdez, E. De La Cruz Burelo, R. Lopez-Fernandez, A. Sánchez Hernández,
L.M. Villasenor-Cendejas

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

S. Carrillo Moreno, F. Vazquez Valencia

Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City, Mexico

H.A. Salazar Ibarquen

Benemerita Universidad Autonoma de Puebla, Puebla, Mexico

E. Casimiro Linares, A. Morelos Pineda, M.A. Reyes-Santos

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

P. Allfrey, D. Krofcheck

University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

P.H. Butler, R. Doesburg, H. Silverwood

University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand

M. Ahmad, I. Ahmed, M.I. Asghar, H.R. Hoorani, W.A. Khan, T. Khurshid, S. Qazi

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

M. Cwiok, W. Dominik, K. Doroba, A. Kalinowski, M. Konecki, J. Krolikowski

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

T. Frueboes, R. Gokieli, M. Górski, M. Kazana, K. Nawrocki, K. Romanowska-Rybinska, M. Szeleper, G. Wrochna, P. Zalewski

Soltan Institute for Nuclear Studies, Warsaw, Poland

N. Almeida, A. David, P. Faccioli, P.G. Ferreira Parracho, M. Gallinaro, P. Martins, P. Musella, A. Nayak, P.Q. Ribeiro, J. Seixas, P. Silva, J. Varela¹, H.K. Wöhri

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

I. Belotelov, P. Bunin, M. Finger, M. Finger Jr., I. Golutvin, A. Kamenev, V. Karjavin, G. Kozlov, A. Lanev, P. Moisenz, V. Palichik, V. Perelygin, S. Shmatov, V. Smirnov, A. Volodko, A. Zarubin

Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Russia

N. Bondar, V. Golovtsov, Y. Ivanov, V. Kim, P. Levchenko, V. Murzin, V. Oreshkin, I. Smirnov, V. Sulimov, L. Uvarov, S. Vavilov, A. Vorobyev

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

Yu. Andreev, S. Gninenko, N. Golubev, M. Kirsanov, N. Krasnikov, V. Matveev, A. Pashenkov, A. Toropin, S. Troitsky

Institute for Nuclear Research, Moscow, Russia

V. Epshteyn, V. Gavrilo, V. Kaftanov[†], M. Kossov¹, A. Krokhotin, N. Lychkovskaya, G. Safronov, S. Semenov, V. Stolin, E. Vlasov, A. Zhokin

Institute for Theoretical and Experimental Physics, Moscow, Russia

E. Boos, M. Dubinin¹⁸, L. Dudko, A. Ershov, A. Gribushin, O. Kodolova, I. Lokhtin, S. Obraztsov, S. Petrushanko, L. Sarycheva, V. Savrin, A. Snigirev

Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia

V. Andreev, M. Azarkin, I. Dremin, M. Kirakosyan, S.V. Rusakov, A. Vinogradov

P.N. Lebedev Physical Institute, Moscow, Russia

I. Azhgirey, S. Bitioukov, V. Grishin¹, V. Kachanov, D. Konstantinov, A. Korablev, V. Krychkine, V. Petrov, R. Ryutin, S. Slabospitsky, A. Sobol, L. Tourtchanovitch, S. Troshin, N. Tyurin, A. Uzunian, A. Volkov

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

P. Adzic¹⁹, M. Djordjevic, D. Krpic¹⁹, J. Milosevic

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

M. Aguilar-Benitez, J. Alcaraz Maestre, P. Arce, C. Battilana, E. Calvo, M. Cepeda, M. Cerrada, N. Colino, B. De La Cruz, C. Diez Pardos, D. Domínguez Vázquez, C. Fernandez Bedoya, J.P. Fernández Ramos, A. Ferrando, J. Flix, M.C. Fouz, P. Garcia-Abia, O. Gonzalez Lopez, S. Goy Lopez, J.M. Hernandez, M.I. Josa, G. Merino, J. Puerta Pelayo, I. Redondo, L. Romero, J. Santaolalla, C. Willmott

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

C. Albajar, G. Codispoti, J.F. de Trocóniz

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Madrid, Spain

J. Cuevas, J. Fernandez Menendez, S. Folgueras, I. Gonzalez Caballero, L. Lloret Iglesias, J.M. Vizan Garcia

Universidad de Oviedo, Oviedo, Spain

J.A. Brochero Cifuentes, I.J. Cabrillo, A. Calderon, M. Chamizo Llatas, S.H. Chuang, J. Duarte Campderros, M. Felcini²⁰, M. Fernandez, G. Gomez, J. Gonzalez Sanchez, C. Jorda, P. Lobelle Pardo, A. Lopez Virto, J. Marco, R. Marco, C. Martinez Rivero, F. Matorras, F.J. Munoz Sanchez, J. Piedra Gomez²¹, T. Rodrigo, A. Ruiz Jimeno, L. Scodellaro, M. Sobron Sanudo, I. Vila, R. Vilar Cortabitarte

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

D. Abbaneo, E. Auffray, G. Auzinger, P. Baillon, A.H. Ball, D. Barney, A.J. Bell²², D. Benedetti, C. Bernet³, W. Bialas, P. Bloch, A. Bocci, S. Bolognesi, H. Breuker, G. Brona, K. Bunkowski, T. Camporesi, E. Cano, G. Cerminara, T. Christiansen, J.A. Coarasa Perez, B. Curé, D. D’Enterria, A. De Roeck, F. Duarte Ramos, A. Elliott-Peisert, B. Frisch, W. Funk, A. Gaddi, S. Gennai, G. Georgiou, H. Gerwig, D. Gigi, K. Gill, D. Giordano, F. Glege, R. Gomez-Reino Garrido, M. Gouzevitch, P. Govoni, S. Gowdy, L. Guiducci, M. Hansen, J. Harvey, J. Hegeman, B. Hegner, C. Henderson, G. Hesketh, H.F. Hoffmann, A. Honma, V. Innocente, P. Janot, E. Karavakis, P. Lecoq, C. Leonidopoulos, C. Lourenço, A. Macpherson, T. Mäki, L. Malgeri, M. Mannelli, L. Masetti, F. Meijers, S. Mersi, E. Meschi, R. Moser, M.U. Mozer, M. Mulders, E. Nesvold¹, M. Nguyen, T. Orimoto, L. Orsini, E. Perez, A. Petrilli, A. Pfeiffer, M. Pierini, M. Pimiä, G. Polese, A. Racz, G. Rolandi²³, T. Rommelskirchen, C. Rovelli²⁴, M. Rovere, H. Sakulin, C. Schäfer, C. Schwick, I. Segoni, A. Sharma, P. Siegrist, M. Simon, P. Sphicas²⁵, D. Spiga, M. Spiropulu¹⁸, F. Stöckli, M. Stoye, P. Tropea, A. Tsiros, A. Tsyganov, G.I. Veres¹², P. Vichoudis, M. Voutilainen, W.D. Zeuner

CERN, European Organization for Nuclear Research, Geneva, Switzerland

W. Bertl, K. Deiters, W. Erdmann, K. Gabathuler, R. Horisberger, Q. Ingram, H.C. Kaestli, S. König, D. Kotlinski, U. Langenegger, F. Meier, D. Renker, T. Rohe, J. Sibille²⁶, A. Starodumov²⁷

Paul Scherrer Institut, Villigen, Switzerland

P. Bortignon, L. Caminada²⁸, Z. Chen, S. Cittolin, G. Dissertori, M. Dittmar, J. Eugster, K. Freudenreich, C. Grab, A. Hervé, W. Hintz, P. Lecomte, W. Lustermann, C. Marchica²⁸, P. Martinez Ruiz del Arbol, P. Meridiani, P. Milenovic²⁹, F. Moortgat, P. Nef, F. Nessi-Tedaldi, L. Pape, F. Pauss, T. Punz, A. Rizzi, F.J. Ronga, M. Rossini, L. Sala, A.K. Sanchez, M.-C. Sawley, B. Stieger, L. Tauscher[†], A. Thea, K. Theofilatos, D. Treille, C. Urscheler, R. Wallny²⁰, M. Weber, L. Wehrli, J. Weng

Institute for Particle Physics, ETH Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland

E. Aguiló, C. Amsler, V. Chiochia, S. De Visscher, C. Favaro, M. Ivova Rikova, B. Millan Mejias, C. Regenfus, P. Robmann, A. Schmidt, H. Snoek, L. Wilke

Universität Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland

Y.H. Chang, K.H. Chen, W.T. Chen, S. Dutta, A. Go, C.M. Kuo, S.W. Li, W. Lin, M.H. Liu, Z.K. Liu, Y.J. Lu, J.H. Wu, S.S. Yu

National Central University, Chung-Li, Taiwan

P. Bartalini, P. Chang, Y.H. Chang, Y.W. Chang, Y. Chao, K.F. Chen, W.-S. Hou, Y. Hsiung, K.Y. Kao, Y.J. Lei, R.-S. Lu, J.G. Shiu, Y.M. Tzeng, M. Wang

National Taiwan University (NTU), Taipei, Taiwan

A. Adiguzel, M.N. Bakirci³⁰, S. Cerci³¹, C. Dozen, I. Dumanoglu, E. Eskut, S. Girgis, G. Gokbulut, Y. Guler, E. Gurpinar, I. Hos, E.E. Kangal, T. Karaman, A. Kayis Topaksu, A. Nart, G. Onengut, K. Ozdemir, S. Ozturk, A. Polatoz, K. Sogut³², B. Tali, H. Topakli³⁰, D. Uzun, L.N. Vergili, M. Vergili, C. Zorbilmez

Cukurova University, Adana, Turkey

I.V. Akin, T. Aliev, S. Bilmis, M. Deniz, H. Gamsizkan, A.M. Guler, K. Ocalan, A. Ozpineci, M. Serin, R. Sever, U.E. Surat, E. Yildirim, M. Zeyrek

Middle East Technical University, Physics Department, Ankara, Turkey

M. Deliomeroglu, D. Demir³³, E. Gülmez, A. Halu, B. Isildak, M. Kaya³⁴, O. Kaya³⁴, S. Ozkorucuklu³⁵, N. Sonmez³⁶

Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey

L. Levchuk

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

P. Bell, F. Bostock, J.J. Brooke, T.L. Cheng, E. Clement, D. Cussans, R. Frazier, J. Goldstein, M. Grimes, M. Hansen, D. Hartley, G.P. Heath, H.F. Heath, B. Huckvale, J. Jackson, L. Kreczko, S. Metson, D.M. Newbold³⁷, K. Nirunpong, A. Poll, S. Senkin, V.J. Smith, S. Ward

University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom

L. Basso, K.W. Bell, A. Belyaev, C. Brew, R.M. Brown, B. Camanzi, D.J.A. Cockerill, J.A. Coughlan, K. Harder, S. Harper, B.W. Kennedy, E. Olaiya, D. Petyt, B.C. Radburn-Smith, C.H. Shepherd-Themistocleous, I.R. Tomalin, W.J. Womersley, S.D. Worm

Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, United Kingdom

R. Bainbridge, G. Ball, J. Ballin, R. Beuselinck, O. Buchmuller, D. Colling, N. Cripps, M. Cutajar, G. Davies, M. Della Negra, J. Fulcher, D. Futyan, A. Guneratne Bryer, G. Hall, Z. Hatherell, J. Hays, G. Iles, G. Karapostoli, L. Lyons, A.-M. Magnan, J. Marrouche, R. Nandi, J. Nash, A. Nikitenko²⁷, A. Papageorgiou, M. Pesaresi, K. Petridis, M. Pioppi³⁸, D.M. Raymond, N. Rompotis, A. Rose, M.J. Ryan, C. Seez, P. Sharp, A. Sparrow, A. Tapper, S. Tourneur, M. Vazquez Acosta, T. Virdee, S. Wakefield, D. Wardrope, T. Whyntie

Imperial College, London, United Kingdom

M. Barrett, M. Chadwick, J.E. Cole, P.R. Hobson, A. Khan, P. Kyberd, D. Leslie, W. Martin, I.D. Reid, L. Teodorescu

Brunel University, Uxbridge, United Kingdom

K. Hatakeyama

Baylor University, Waco, USA

T. Bose, E. Carrera Jarrin, A. Clough, C. Fantasia, A. Heister, J.St. John, P. Lawson, D. Lazic, J. Rohlf, D. Sperka, L. Sulak

Boston University, Boston, USA

A. Avetisyan, S. Bhattacharya, J.P. Chou, D. Cutts, A. Ferapontov, U. Heintz, S. Jabeen, G. Kukartsev, G. Landsberg, M. Narain, D. Nguyen, M. Segala, T. Speer, K.V. Tsang

Brown University, Providence, USA

M.A. Borgia, R. Breedon, M. Calderon De La Barca Sanchez, D. Cebra, S. Chauhan, M. Chertok, J. Conway, P.T. Cox, J. Dolen, R. Erbacher, E. Friis, W. Ko, A. Kopecky, R. Lander, H. Liu, S. Maruyama, T. Miceli, M. Nikolic, D. Pellett, J. Robles, S. Salur, T. Schwarz, M. Searle, J. Smith, M. Squires, M. Tripathi, R. Vasquez Sierra, C. Veelken

University of California, Davis, Davis, USA

V. Andreev, K. Arisaka, D. Cline, R. Cousins, A. Deisher, J. Duris, S. Erhan, C. Farrell, J. Hauser, M. Ignatenko, C. Jarvis, C. Plager, G. Rakness, P. Schlein[†], J. Tucker, V. Valuev

University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, USA

J. Babb, R. Clare, J. Ellison, J.W. Gary, F. Giordano, G. Hanson, G.Y. Jeng, S.C. Kao, F. Liu, H. Liu, A. Luthra, H. Nguyen, G. Pasztor³⁹, A. Satpathy, B.C. Shen[†], R. Stringer, J. Sturdy, S. Sumowidagdo, R. Wilken, S. Wimpenny

University of California, Riverside, Riverside, USA

W. Andrews, J.G. Branson, G.B. Cerati, E. Dusinberre, D. Evans, F. Golf, A. Holzner, R. Kelley, M. Lebourgeois, J. Letts, B. Mangano, J. Muelmenstaedt, S. Padhi, C. Palmer, G. Petrucciani, H. Pi, M. Pieri, R. Ranieri, M. Sani, V. Sharma¹, S. Simon, Y. Tu, A. Vartak, F. Würthwein, A. Yagil

University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, USA

D. Barge, R. Bellan, C. Campagnari, M. D'Alfonso, T. Danielson, K. Flowers, P. Geffert, J. Incandela, C. Justus, P. Kalavase, S.A. Koay, D. Kovalskyi, V. Krutelyov, S. Lowette, N. Mccoll, V. Pavlunin, F. Rebassoo, J. Ribnik, J. Richman, R. Rossin, D. Stuart, W. To, J.R. Vlimant

University of California, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, USA

A. Bornheim, J. Bunn, Y. Chen, M. Gataullin, D. Kcira, V. Litvine, Y. Ma, A. Mott, H.B. Newman, C. Rogan, V. Timciuc, P. Traczyk, J. Veverka, R. Wilkinson, Y. Yang, R.Y. Zhu

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, USA

B. Akgun, R. Carroll, T. Ferguson, Y. Iiyama, D.W. Jang, S.Y. Jun, Y.F. Liu, M. Paulini, J. Russ, N. Terentyev, H. Vogel, I. Vorobiev

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA

J.P. Cumalat, M.E. Dinardo, B.R. Drell, C.J. Edelmaier, W.T. Ford, B. Heyburn, E. Luiggi Lopez, U. Nauenberg, J.G. Smith, K. Stenson, K.A. Ulmer, S.R. Wagner, S.L. Zang

University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, USA

L. Agostino, J. Alexander, A. Chatterjee, S. Das, N. Eggert, L.J. Fields, L.K. Gibbons, B. Heltsley, W. Hopkins, A. Khukhunaishvili, B. Kreis, V. Kuznetsov, G. Nicolas Kaufman, J.R. Patterson, D. Puigh, D. Riley, A. Ryd, X. Shi, W. Sun, W.D. Teo, J. Thom, J. Thompson, J. Vaughan, Y. Weng, L. Winstrom, P. Wittich

Cornell University, Ithaca, USA

A. Biselli, G. Cirino, D. Winn

Fairfield University, Fairfield, USA

S. Abdullin, M. Albrow, J. Anderson, G. Apollinari, M. Atac, J.A. Bakken, S. Banerjee, L.A.T. Bauerdick, A. Beretvas, J. Berryhill, P.C. Bhat, I. Bloch, F. Borcherding, K. Burkett, J.N. Butler, V. Chetluru, H.W.K. Cheung, F. Chlebana, S. Cihangir, M. Demarteau, D.P. Eartly, V.D. Elvira, S. Esen, I. Fisk, J. Freeman, Y. Gao, E. Gottschalk, D. Green, K. Gunthoti, O. Gutsche, A. Hahn, J. Hanlon, R.M. Harris, J. Hirschauer, B. Hooberman, E. James, H. Jensen, M. Johnson, U. Joshi, R. Khatiwada, B. Kilminster, B. Klima, K. Kousouris, S. Kunori, S. Kwan, P. Limon, R. Lipton, J. Lykken, K. Maeshima, J.M. Marraffino, D. Mason,

P. McBride, T. McCauley, T. Miao, K. Mishra, S. Mrenna, Y. Musienko⁴⁰, C. Newman-Holmes, V. O'Dell, S. Popescu⁴¹, R. Pordes, O. Prokofyev, N. Saoulidou, E. Sexton-Kennedy, S. Sharma, A. Soha, W.J. Spalding, L. Spiegel, P. Tan, L. Taylor, S. Tkaczyk, L. Uplegger, E.W. Vaandering, R. Vidal, J. Whitmore, W. Wu, F. Yang, F. Yumiceva, J.C. Yun

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, USA

D. Acosta, P. Avery, D. Bourilkov, M. Chen, G.P. Di Giovanni, D. Dobur, A. Drozdetskiy, R.D. Field, M. Fisher, Y. Fu, I.K. Furic, J. Gartner, S. Goldberg, B. Kim, S. Klimentko, J. Konigsberg, A. Korytov, A. Kropivnitskaya, T. Kypreos, K. Matchev, G. Mitselmakher, L. Muniz, Y. Pakhotin, C. Prescott, R. Remington, M. Schmitt, B. Scurlock, P. Sellers, N. Skhirtladze, D. Wang, J. Yelton, M. Zakaria

University of Florida, Gainesville, USA

C. Ceron, V. Gaultney, L. Kramer, L.M. Lebolo, S. Linn, P. Markowitz, G. Martinez, J.L. Rodriguez

Florida International University, Miami, USA

T. Adams, A. Askew, D. Bandurin, J. Bochenek, J. Chen, B. Diamond, S.V. Gleyzer, J. Haas, S. Hagopian, V. Hagopian, M. Jenkins, K.F. Johnson, H. Prosper, L. Quertenmont, S. Sekmen, V. Veeraraghavan

Florida State University, Tallahassee, USA

M.M. Baarmand, B. Dorney, S. Guragain, M. Hohlmann, H. Kalakhety, R. Ralich, I. Vodopiyanov

Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, USA

M.R. Adams, I.M. Anghel, L. Apanasevich, Y. Bai, V.E. Bazterra, R.R. Betts, J. Callner, R. Cavanaugh, C. Dragoiu, E.J. Garcia-Solis, C.E. Gerber, D.J. Hofman, S. Khalatyan, F. Lacroix, C. O'Brien, C. Silvestre, A. Smoron, D. Strom, N. Varelas

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

U. Akgun, E.A. Albayrak, B. Bilki, K. Cankocak⁴², W. Clarida, F. Duru, C.K. Lae, E. McCliment, J.-P. Merlo, H. Mermerkaya, A. Mestvirishvili, A. Moeller, J. Nachtman, C.R. Newsom, E. Norbeck, J. Olson, Y. Onel, F. Ozok, S. Sen, J. Wetzel, T. Yetkin, K. Yi

The University of Iowa, Iowa City, USA

B.A. Barnett, B. Blumenfeld, A. Bonato, C. Eskew, D. Fehling, G. Giurgiu, A.V. Gritsan, Z.J. Guo, G. Hu, P. Maksimovic, S. Rappoccio, M. Swartz, N.V. Tran, A. Whitbeck

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA

P. Baringer, A. Bean, G. Benelli, O. Grachov, M. Murray, D. Noonan, V. Radicci, S. Sanders, J.S. Wood, V. Zhukova

The University of Kansas, Lawrence, USA

T. Bolton, I. Chakaberia, A. Ivanov, M. Makouski, Y. Maravin, S. Shrestha, I. Svintradze, Z. Wan

Kansas State University, Manhattan, USA

J. Gronberg, D. Lange, D. Wright

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, USA

A. Baden, M. Boutemour, S.C. Eno, D. Ferencek, J.A. Gomez, N.J. Hadley, R.G. Kellogg, M. Kirn, Y. Lu, A.C. Mignerey, K. Rossato, P. Rumerio, F. Santanastasio, A. Skuja, J. Temple, M.B. Tonjes, S.C. Tonwar, E. Twedt

University of Maryland, College Park, USA

B. Alver, G. Bauer, J. Bendavid, W. Busza, E. Butz, I.A. Cali, M. Chan, V. Dutta, P. Everaerts, G. Gomez Ceballos, M. Goncharov, K.A. Hahn, P. Harris, Y. Kim, M. Klute, Y.-J. Lee, W. Li, C. Loizides, P.D. Luckey, T. Ma, S. Nahn, C. Paus, D. Ralph, C. Roland, G. Roland, M. Rudolph, G.S.F. Stephans, K. Sumorok, K. Sung, E.A. Wenger, S. Xie, M. Yang, Y. Yilmaz, A.S. Yoon, M. Zanetti

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA

P. Cole, S.I. Cooper, P. Cushman, B. Dahmes, A. De Benedetti, P.R. Duderø, G. Franzoni, J. Haupt, K. Klapoetke, Y. Kubota, J. Mans, V. Rekovic, R. Rusack, M. Sasseville, A. Singovsky

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA

L.M. Cremaldi, R. Godang, R. Kroeger, L. Perera, R. Rahmat, D.A. Sanders, D. Summers

University of Mississippi, University, USA

K. Bloom, S. Bose, J. Butt, D.R. Claes, A. Dominguez, M. Eads, J. Keller, T. Kelly, I. Kravchenko, J. Lazo-Flores, C. Lundstedt, H. Malbouisson, S. Malik, G.R. Snow

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, USA

U. Baur, A. Godshalk, I. Iashvili, S. Jain, A. Kharchilava, A. Kumar, S.P. Shipkowski, K. Smith

State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, USA

G. Alverson, E. Barberis, D. Baumgartel, O. Boeriu, M. Chasco, K. Kaadze, S. Reucroft, J. Swain, D. Wood, J. Zhang

Northeastern University, Boston, USA

A. Anastassov, A. Kubik, N. Odell, R.A. Ofierzynski, B. Pollack, A. Pozdnyakov, M. Schmitt, S. Stoynev, M. Velasco, S. Won

Northwestern University, Evanston, USA

L. Antonelli, D. Berry, M. Hildreth, C. Jessop, D.J. Karmgard, J. Kolb, T. Kolberg, K. Lannon, W. Luo, S. Lynch, N. Marinelli, D.M. Morse, T. Pearson, R. Ruchti, J. Slaunwhite, N. Valls, J. Warchol, M. Wayne, J. Ziegler

University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, USA

B. Bylsma, L.S. Durkin, J. Gu, C. Hill, P. Killewald, K. Kotov, T.Y. Ling, M. Rodenburg, G. Williams

The Ohio State University, Columbus, USA

N. Adam, E. Berry, P. Elmer, D. Gerbaudo, V. Halyo, P. Hebda, A. Hunt, J. Jones, E. Laird, D. Lopes Pegna, D. Marlow, T. Medvedeva, M. Mooney, J. Olsen, P. Piroué, X. Quan, H. Saka, D. Stickland, C. Tully, J.S. Werner, A. Zuranski

Princeton University, Princeton, USA

J.G. Acosta, X.T. Huang, A. Lopez, H. Mendez, S. Oliveros, J.E. Ramirez Vargas, A. Zatserklyaniy

University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, USA

E. Alagoz, V.E. Barnes, G. Bolla, L. Borrello, D. Bortoletto, A. Everett, A.F. Garfinkel, Z. Gecse, L. Gutay, Z. Hu, M. Jones, O. Koybasi, A.T. Laasanen, N. Leonardo, C. Liu, V. Maroussov, P. Merkel, D.H. Miller, N. Neumeister, I. Shipsey, D. Silvers, A. Svyatkovskiy, H.D. Yoo, J. Zablocki, Y. Zheng

Purdue University, West Lafayette, USA

P. Jindal, N. Parashar

Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, USA

C. Boulahouache, V. Cuplov, K.M. Ecklund, F.J.M. Geurts, J.H. Liu, B.P. Padley, R. Redjimi, J. Roberts, J. Zabel

Rice University, Houston, USA

B. Betchart, A. Bodek, Y.S. Chung, R. Covarelli, P. de Barbaro, R. Demina, Y. Eshaq, H. Flacher, A. Garcia-Bellido, P. Goldenzweig, Y. Gotra, J. Han, A. Harel, D.C. Miner, D. Orbaker, G. Petrillo, D. Vishnevskiy, M. Zielinski

University of Rochester, Rochester, USA

A. Bhatti, L. Demortier, K. Goulios, G. Lungu, C. Mesropian, M. Yan

The Rockefeller University, New York, USA

O. Atramentov, A. Barker, D. Duggan, Y. Gershtein, R. Gray, E. Halkiadakis, D. Hidas, D. Hits, A. Lath, S. Panwalkar, R. Patel, A. Richards, K. Rose, S. Schnetzer, S. Somalwar, R. Stone, S. Thomas

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

G. Cerizza, M. Hollingsworth, S. Spanier, Z.C. Yang, A. York

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA

J. Asaadi, R. Eusebi, J. Gilmore, A. Gurrola, T. Kamon, V. Khotilovich, R. Montalvo, C.N. Nguyen, I. Osipenkov, J. Pivarski, A. Safonov, S. Sengupta, A. Tatarinov, D. Toback, M. Weinberger

Texas A&M University, College Station, USA

N. Akchurin, C. Bardak, J. Damgov, C. Jeong, K. Kovitangoon, S.W. Lee, P. Mane, Y. Roh, A. Sill, I. Volobouev, R. Wigmans, E. Yazgan

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, USA

E. Appelt, E. Brownson, D. Engh, C. Florez, W. Gabella, W. Johns, P. Kurt, C. Maguire, A. Melo, P. Sheldon, J. Velkovska

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, USA

M.W. Arenton, M. Balazs, S. Boutle, M. Buehler, S. Conetti, B. Cox, B. Francis, R. Hirosky, A. Ledovskoy, C. Lin, C. Neu, R. Yohay

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, USA

S. Gollapinni, R. Harr, P.E. Karchin, P. Lamichhane, M. Mattson, C. Milstène, A. Sakharov

Wayne State University, Detroit, USA

M. Anderson, M. Bachtis, J.N. Bellinger, D. Carlsmith, S. Dasu, J. Efron, L. Gray, K.S. Grogg, M. Grothe, R. Hall-Wilton¹, M. Herndon, P. Klabbers, J. Klukas, A. Lanaro, C. Lazaridis, J. Leonard, D. Lomidze, R. Loveless, A. Mohapatra, D. Reeder, I. Ross, A. Savin, W.H. Smith, J. Swanson, M. Weinberg

University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA

* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: Roberto.Tenchini@cern.ch (R. Tenchini).

† Deceased.

¹ Also at CERN, European Organization for Nuclear Research, Geneva, Switzerland.

² Also at Universidade Federal do ABC, Santo Andre, Brazil.

³ Also at Laboratoire Leprince-Ringuet, Ecole Polytechnique, IN2P3–CNRS, Palaiseau, France.

⁴ Also at Suez Canal University, Suez, Egypt.

⁵ Also at Fayoum University, El-Fayoum, Egypt.

⁶ Also at Soltan Institute for Nuclear Studies, Warsaw, Poland.

⁷ Also at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA.

⁸ Also at Université de Haute-Alsace, Mulhouse, France.

- ⁹ Also at Brandenburg University of Technology, Cottbus, Germany.
- ¹⁰ Also at Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia.
- ¹¹ Also at Institute of Nuclear Research ATOMKI, Debrecen, Hungary.
- ¹² Also at Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary.
- ¹³ Also at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research – HECR, Mumbai, India.
- ¹⁴ Also at University of Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, India.
- ¹⁵ Also at Facoltà Ingegneria Università di Roma “La Sapienza”, Roma, Italy.
- ¹⁶ Also at Università della Basilicata, Potenza, Italy.
- ¹⁷ Also at Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro dell’INFN, Legnaro, Italy.
- ¹⁸ Also at California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, USA.
- ¹⁹ Also at Faculty of Physics of University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia.
- ²⁰ Also at University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, USA.
- ²¹ Also at University of Florida, Gainesville, USA.
- ²² Also at Université de Genève, Geneva, Switzerland.
- ²³ Also at Scuola Normale e Sezione dell’INFN, Pisa, Italy.
- ²⁴ Also at INFN Sezione di Roma; Università di Roma “La Sapienza”, Roma, Italy.
- ²⁵ Also at University of Athens, Athens, Greece.
- ²⁶ Also at The University of Kansas, Lawrence, USA.
- ²⁷ Also at Institute for Theoretical and Experimental Physics, Moscow, Russia.
- ²⁸ Also at Paul Scherrer Institut, Villigen, Switzerland.
- ²⁹ Also at University of Belgrade, Faculty of Physics and Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia.
- ³⁰ Also at Gaziosmanpasa University, Tokat, Turkey.
- ³¹ Also at Adiyaman University, Adiyaman, Turkey.
- ³² Also at Mersin University, Mersin, Turkey.
- ³³ Also at Izmir Institute of Technology, Izmir, Turkey.
- ³⁴ Also at Kafkas University, Kars, Turkey.
- ³⁵ Also at Suleyman Demirel University, Isparta, Turkey.
- ³⁶ Also at Ege University, Izmir, Turkey.
- ³⁷ Also at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, United Kingdom.
- ³⁸ Also at INFN Sezione di Perugia; Università di Perugia, Perugia, Italy.
- ³⁹ Also at KFKI Research Institute for Particle and Nuclear Physics, Budapest, Hungary.
- ⁴⁰ Also at Institute for Nuclear Research, Moscow, Russia.
- ⁴¹ Also at Horia Hulubei National Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering (IFIN-HH), Bucharest, Romania.
- ⁴² Also at Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey.