

SUSY 2014 – Manchester, England (UK)

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Precision tests of the Standard Model with kaon decays at CERN

M. Piccini

CERN & INFN - sezione di Perugia

On behalf of the NA62 collaboration



Introduction



- **Higgs found!** Great success of the Standard Model!
- (Still) **No evidence of new particles**
the Standard Model may be a self-consistent weakly coupled effective field theory up to very high scales without adding new particles up to the Plank mass scale (!).

Is this the end of the story? **No!**

- Experimental “evidence” of new physics
 - Neutrino oscillations:** tiny masses and flavour mixing
 - Baryon asymmetry of the universe:** CKM is not enough to explain all the CP violation;
 - Dark matter;**
 - Dark Energy;**
- Theoretical “evidence” of new physics
 - SM flavour structure;**
 - Hierarchy problem;**
 - Strong CP problem;**

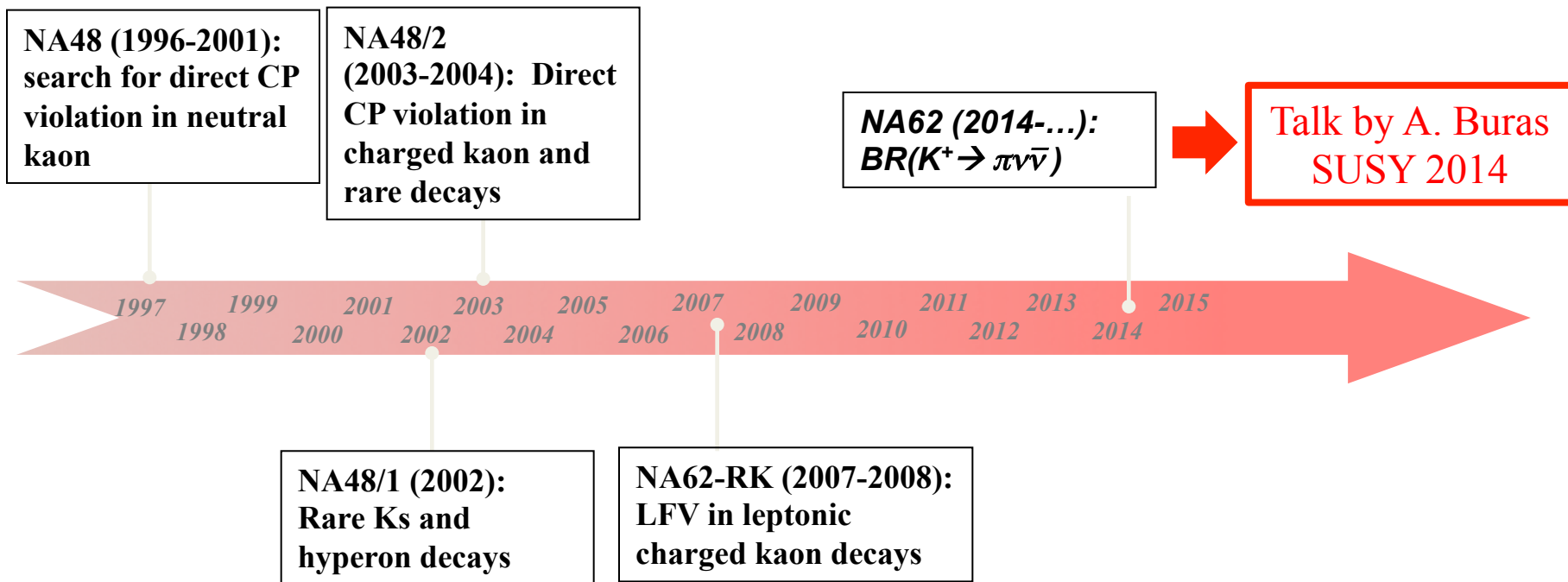
precision tests of SM → **direct and indirect search of new physics**

Kaons at CERN - SPS

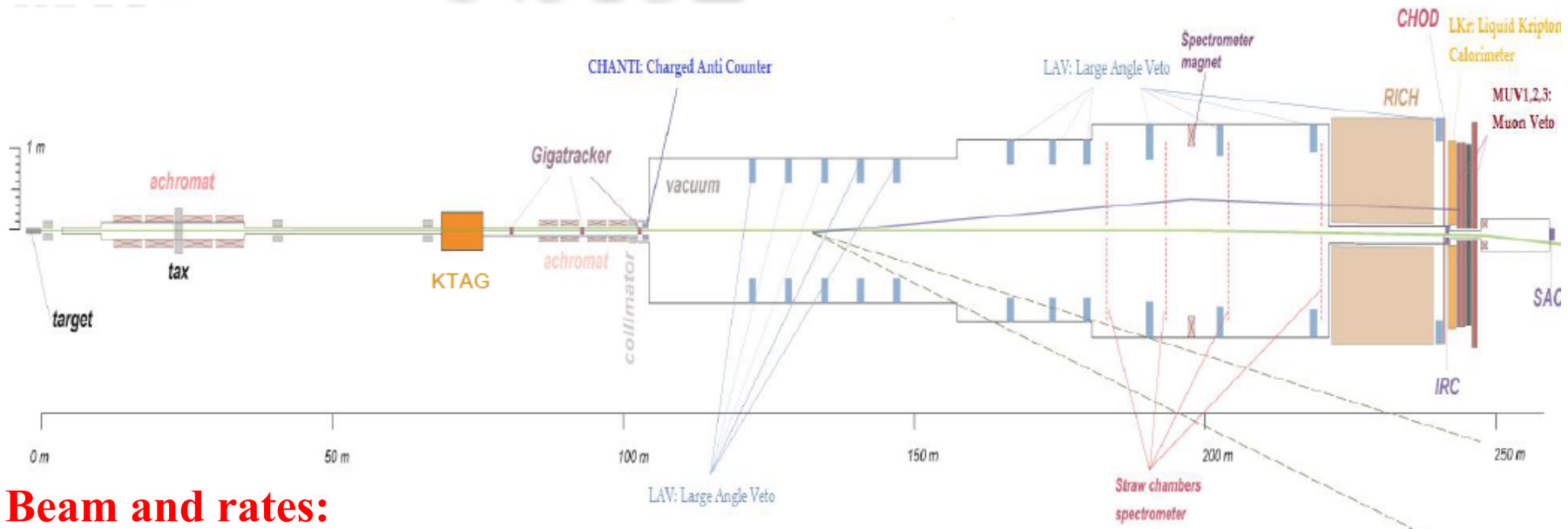


Kaons:

- **Theoretical cleanliness** unmatched
- The SM at $E \sim M_K$ is remarkably **simple** (at least the EW part)
- Breaks of many symmetries: **C, P, CP, flavour**
- Extreme **hard-GIM SM-suppressed FCNC** decays
- Simple event topologies gives **clean experimental signature**
- **Few decay channels**
- Availability of **high intensity beams**



NA62



Beam and rates:

SPS proton beam @400 GeV/c, 1.1×10^{12} protons on beryllium target.
75 GeV/c ($\pm 1\%$) hadron beam (6% kaons).
 ~ 750 MHz on beam spectrometer, ~ 10 MHz kaon decays on main detectors downstream.
60 m decay volume.

Key factors:

Reconstruction and identification of particles on both initial and final states (redundancy)

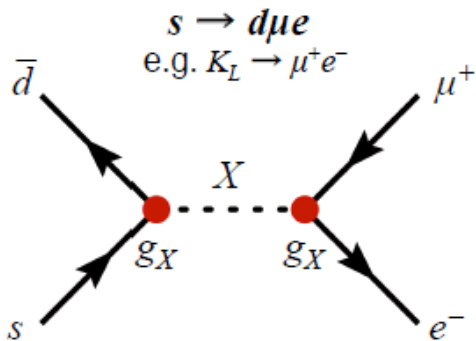
- **Kinematics rejection factor:**
 5×10^3 $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0$, 1.5×10^4 $K^+ \rightarrow 75$ GeV/c
- **Photon veto:** 10^8 on $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
(LAV, LKR, SAC, IRC).
- **Muon ID:** 10^7 (RICH, MUV).

Goal: 10% acceptance on signal
 $O(100)$ events of $K^+ \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ in 2 years

LFNV in kaon decays



Process	Violates	90% C.L. limit	Experiment	Year
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ e^-$	LF	$< 1.3 \times 10^{-11}$	E865	2005
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^- e^+$	LF	$< 5.2 \times 10^{-10}$		2000
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ e^+$	LF, LN	$< 5.0 \times 10^{-10}$		2000
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- e^+ e^+$	LN	$< 6.4 \times 10^{-10}$		2000
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+$	LN	$< 1.1 \times 10^{-9}$	NA48/2	2011
$K^+ \rightarrow \mu^- \nu e^+ e^+$	LN	$< 2.0 \times 10^{-8}$	Geneva-Saclay	1976
$\pi^0 \rightarrow \mu^- e^+$	LF	$< 3.4 \times 10^{-9}$	KTEV	2000
$\pi^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ e^-$	LF	$< 3.8 \times 10^{-10}$		2000
$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^- e^+ e^+ \nu$	LF	$< 1.6 \times 10^{-6}$	JINR-SPEC	1991



Example:
(dimensional argument)

$$\frac{\Gamma_{LFV}}{\Gamma_{LFC}} \sim O\left(\frac{g_X^2}{g_W^2} \cdot \frac{M_W^2}{M_X^2}\right)$$

- NA62 will collect: $\sim 10^{13}$ K decays and $\sim 2.5 \times 10^{12}$ π^0 decays in two years of data taking
- Single event sensitivity: $\sim 10^{-12}$ for K^+ , $\sim 10^{-11}$ for π^0

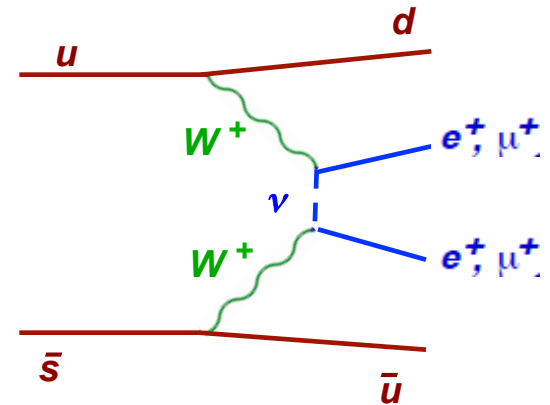
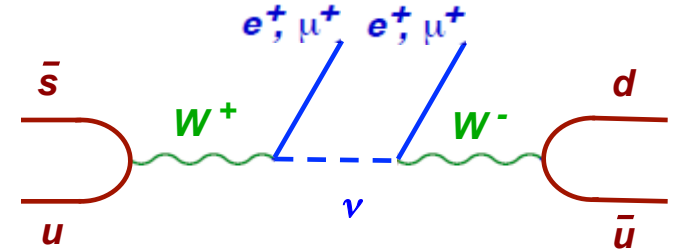
$$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+$$

- LFV possible at tree level;
- $|\Delta L|=2$ transition mediated by Majorana neutrino;
- Unique opportunity to study neutrino-less double beta decay in **second generation**;
- For some LFV SM extension the foreseen rate is close to the present experimental limit

[Phys. Lett. B 491 (2000) 285]

Upper limit before NA48/2 (E867):
 $Br(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+) < 3.0 \times 10^{-9}$ (90% C.L.)

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 85 (2000) 2877]

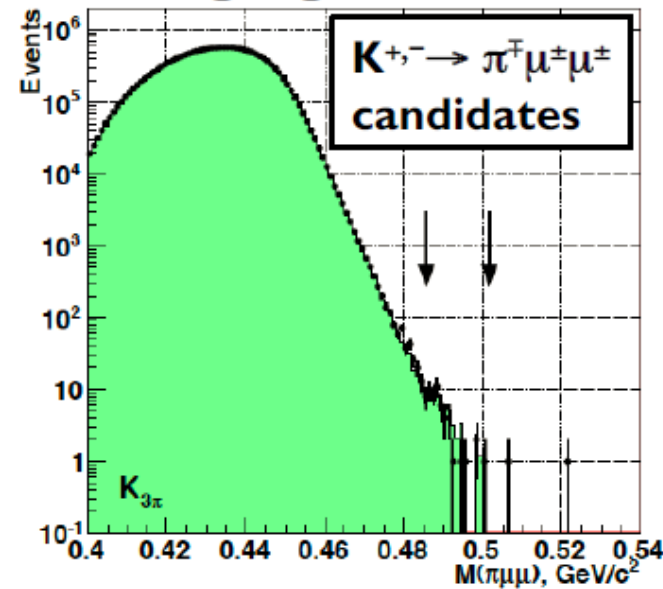
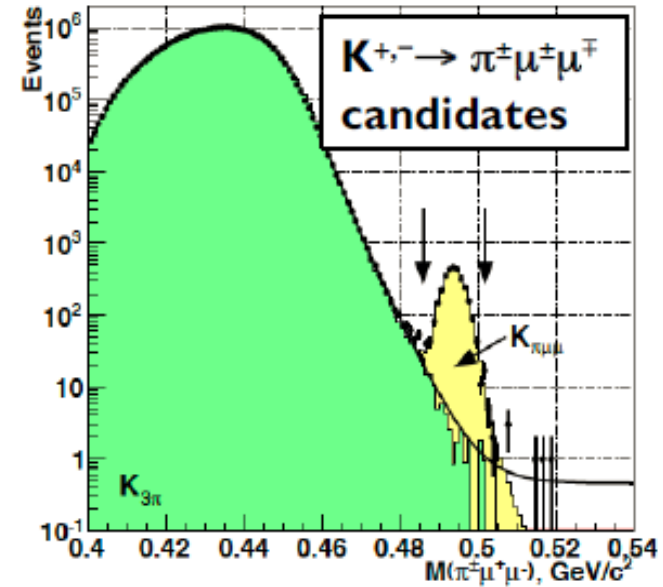


$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+$ in NA48/2

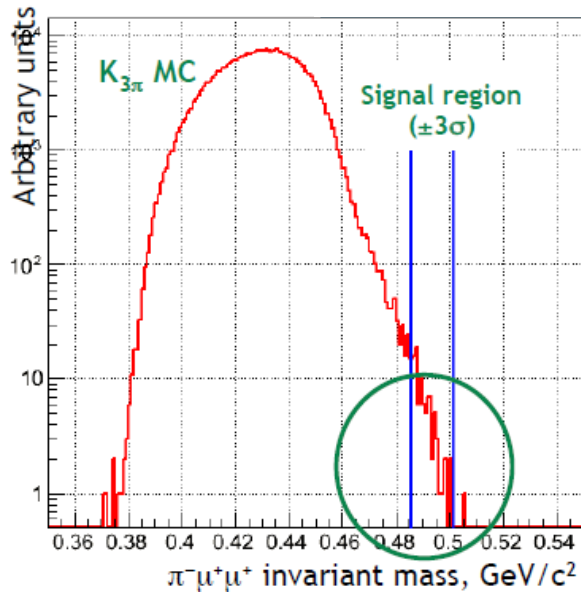
- Three tracks trigger based on charged hodoscope;
- Signal ($K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+$) and normalization ($K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$) selected concurrently with similar cuts to equalize the acceptance;
- Kinematical cuts studied on right sign ($K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$) analysis
- **52 candidates** in signal region with respect to an expected background of 52.6 ± 19.8

BR ($K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\mp \mu^\pm \mu^\pm$) $< 1.1 \times 10^{-9}$ @ 90% CL

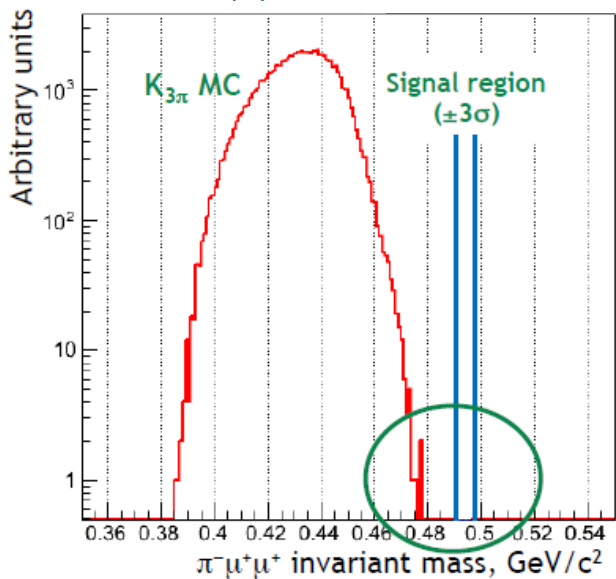
[Phys. Lett. B 697(2011)107]



$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+$ in NA62



- In NA48/2 the main background was due to $\pi \rightarrow \mu \nu$ decay in flight in the spectrometer;
- The mass resolution on $\pi\mu\mu$ was **2.6 MeV/c²**;

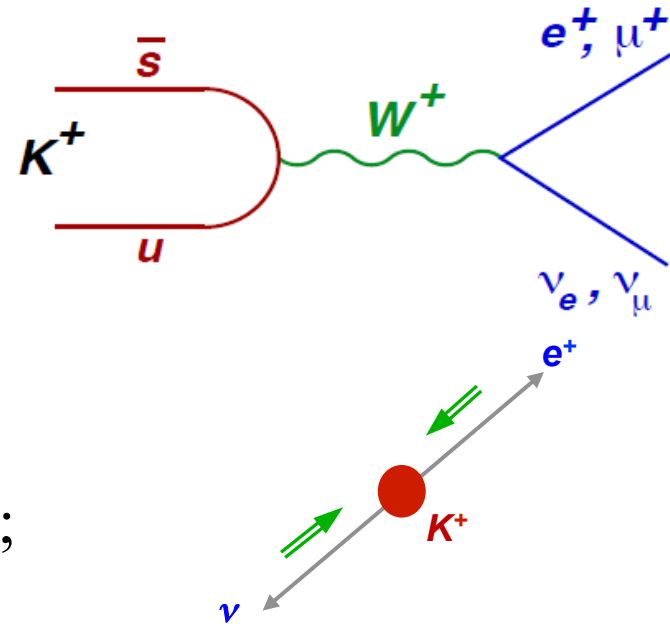


- In NA62 negligible background is expected in the signal region, defined by a smaller invariant mass resolution (**1.1 MeV/c²**);
- A factor of x100 or x1000 improvement could be achieved in NA62.

R_K in the SM

The ratio of kaon leptonic modes is extremely well predicted in the SM

- Helicity suppression;
- Hadronic uncertainties cancel in R_K ratio;
- Radiative corrections are included in the R_K definition and well computed in SM;



$$R_K = \frac{\Gamma(K^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu)}{\Gamma(K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu)} = \frac{m_e^2}{m_\mu^2} \left(\frac{m_K^2 - m_e^2}{m_K^2 - m_\mu^2} \right)^2 (1 + \delta R_K^{rad.corr.})$$

$$R_K = (2.477 \pm 0.001) \times 10^{-5} \quad [V.Cirigliano, I.Rosell, Phys. Rev. Lett. 99 (2007) 231801]$$

A precise measurement of R_K is a **stringent test** of the SM!

R_K beyond the SM

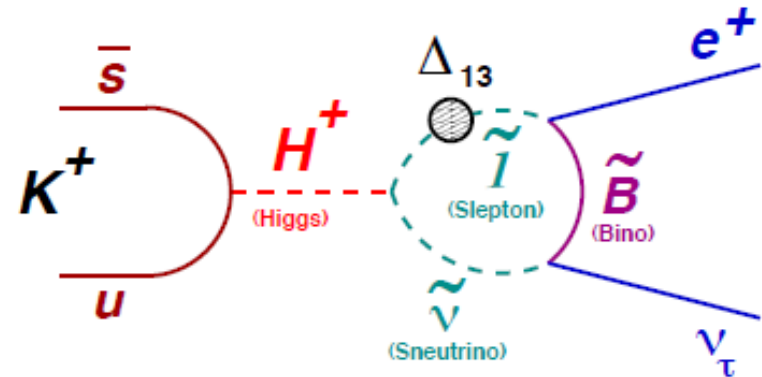
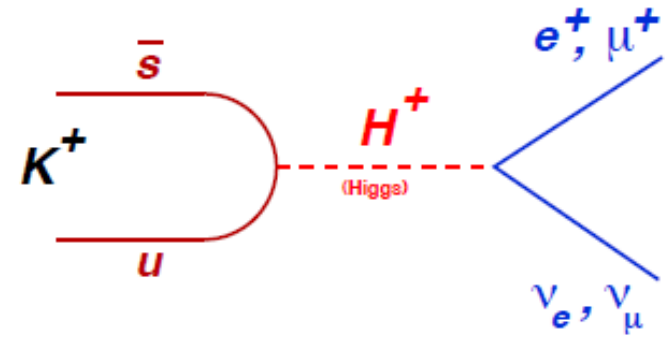
In several SM extensions the presence of LFV terms enhance the decay rate with sizeable effect:

$$R_K^{LFV} = \frac{\Gamma_{SM}(K \rightarrow e\nu_e) + \Gamma_{LFV}(K \rightarrow e\nu_\tau)}{\Gamma_{SM}(K \rightarrow \mu\nu_\mu)}$$

In model with 2 Higgs doublets (e.g. **2HDM-II** MSSM) and LFV sources, for large $\tan\beta$ contribution at the level of % is expected (one loop level):

$$R_K^{LFV} \approx R_K^{SM} \left[1 + \left(\frac{m_K^4}{m_{H^\pm}^4} \right) \left(\frac{m_\tau^2}{m_e^2} \right) |\Delta_{13}|^2 \tan^6 \beta \right]$$

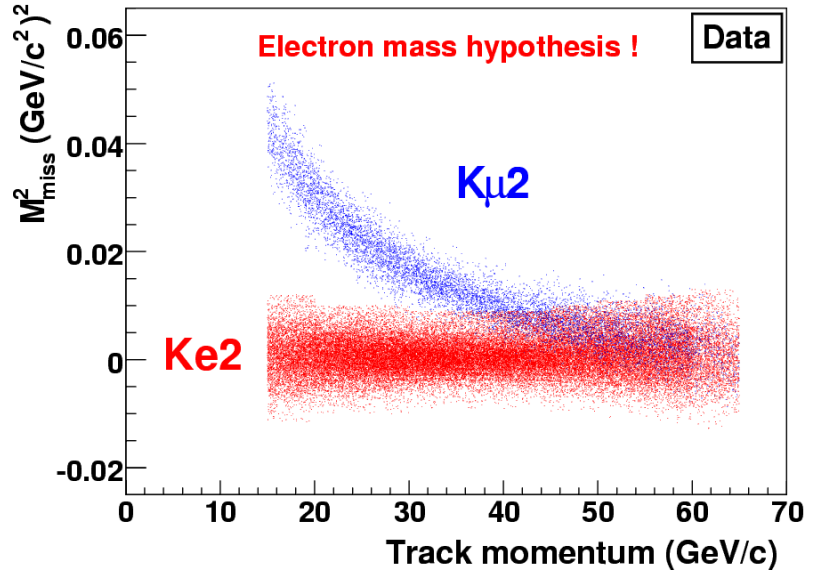
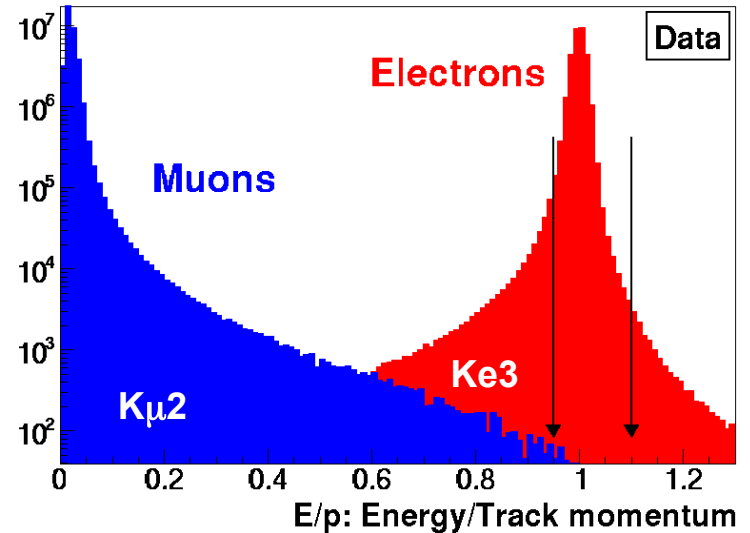
[Masiero et al., PRD 74 (2006) 011701]
[Masiero et al., JHEP 0811 (2008) 042]
[Girrbach, Nierste, arXiv:1202.4906]



K_{e2} and $k_{\mu2}$ selection

- $K \rightarrow \mu \nu$ ($K_{\mu2}$) and $K \rightarrow e \nu$ (K_{e2}) are collected **simultaneously**:
 - **1 track** in the spectrometer and in the acceptance of the electromagnetic calorimeter and muon counter;
 - **Decay vertex** well reconstructed in the decay region;
 - Forward **photon veto** using the electromagnetic calorimeter;
 - Track momentum: $13 < p < 65 \text{ GeV}/c$.
- $K_{\mu2}$ and K_{e2} are separated by:
 - **Different E/p**:
 - ✓ electron if $(0.9 \text{ to } 0.95) < E/p < 1.1$,
 - ✓ muon if $E/p < 0.85$;
 - **Missing mass**:

$$M_{\text{miss}}^2 = (\mathbf{P}_K - \mathbf{P}_i)^2 \text{ with } i=e \text{ or } \mu$$
- The analysis is done in **10 momentum bins**:
 - The selection criteria are tuned in each bin
 - SUSY 2014 – Manchester – England (UK)



Data set

K_{e2} :

145958 events selected (more than a factor 10 with respect to the best previous measurement)

Background sources (in %):

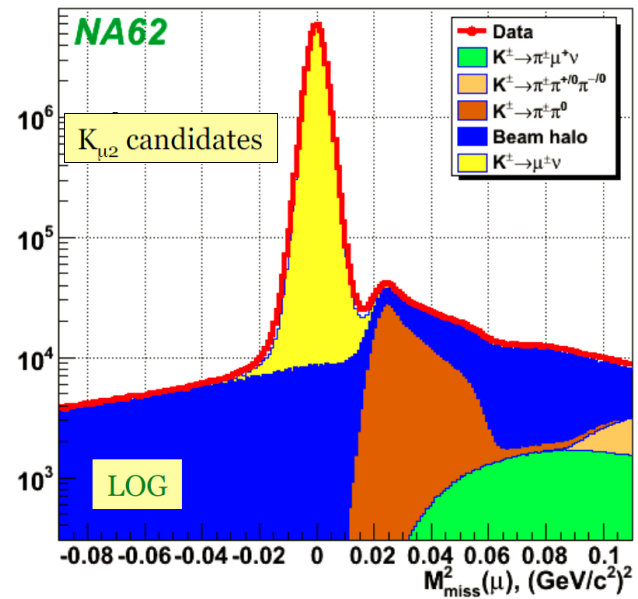
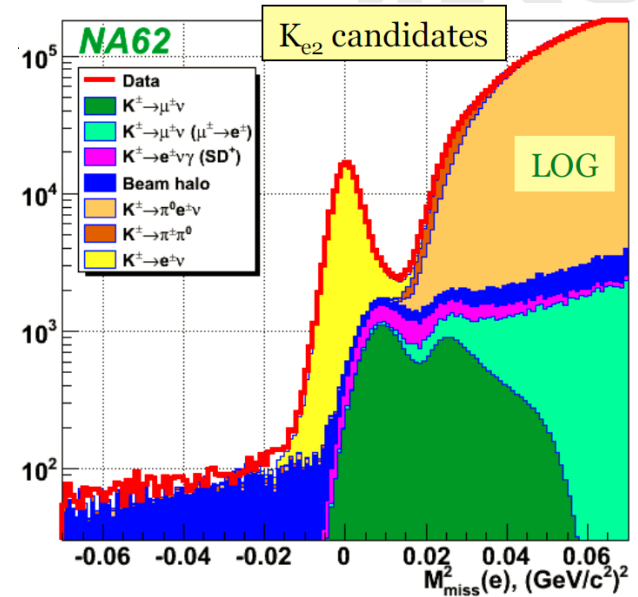
- $K_{\mu 2}$ 5.64 ± 0.20
- $K_{\mu 2}$ (μ decay) 0.26 ± 0.03
- $K_{e2\gamma}$ (SD⁺) 2.60 ± 0.11
- Beam halo 2.11 ± 0.09
- K_{e3} 0.18 ± 0.09
- $K_{2\pi}$ 0.12 ± 0.06
- Wrong sign K 0.04 ± 0.02

Total 10.95 ± 0.27

$K_{\mu 2}$:

42.817 M events (with pre-scaled trigger)

Main background: beam halo muons
(0.50 ± 0.01)%



Final result

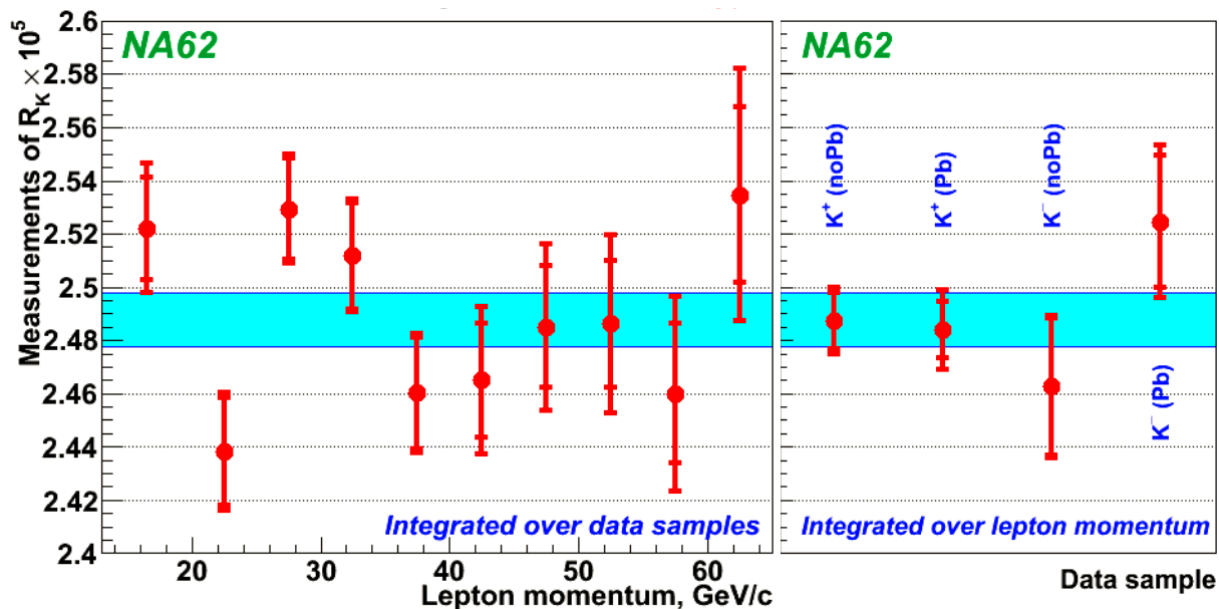


$$R_K = (2.488 \pm 0.007_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.007_{\text{syst}}) \times 10^{-5}$$

$$= (2.488 \pm 0.010) \times 10^{-5}$$

[Phys. Lett. B 719 (2013) 326]

- Analysis in 10 momentum bin and 4 data sub-samples ;
- Fit over 40 measurements: $\chi^2 = 47/39$;
- **0.4%** precision reached;
- Theoretical error still **one order of magnitude better**.



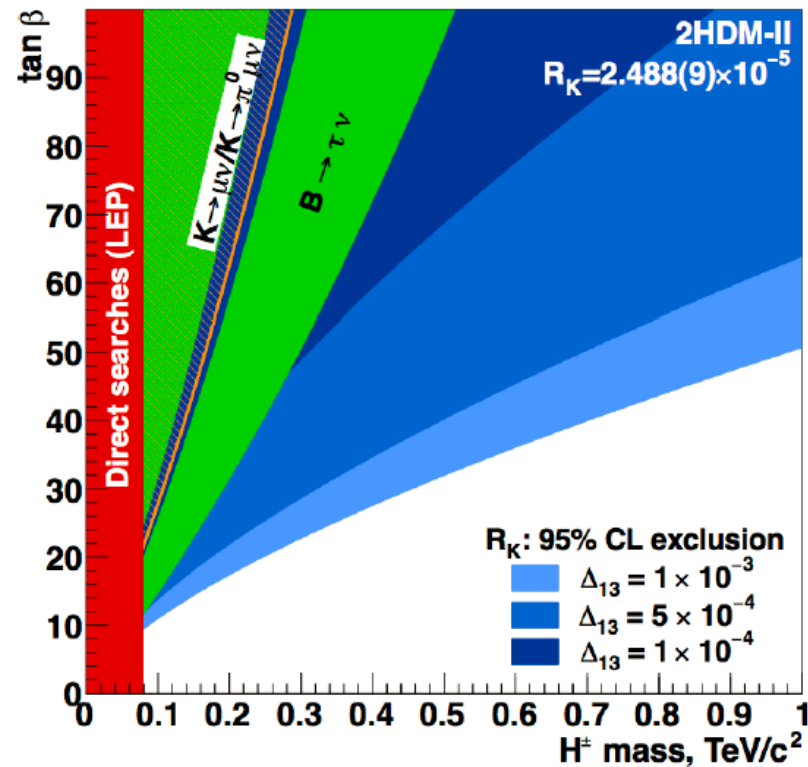
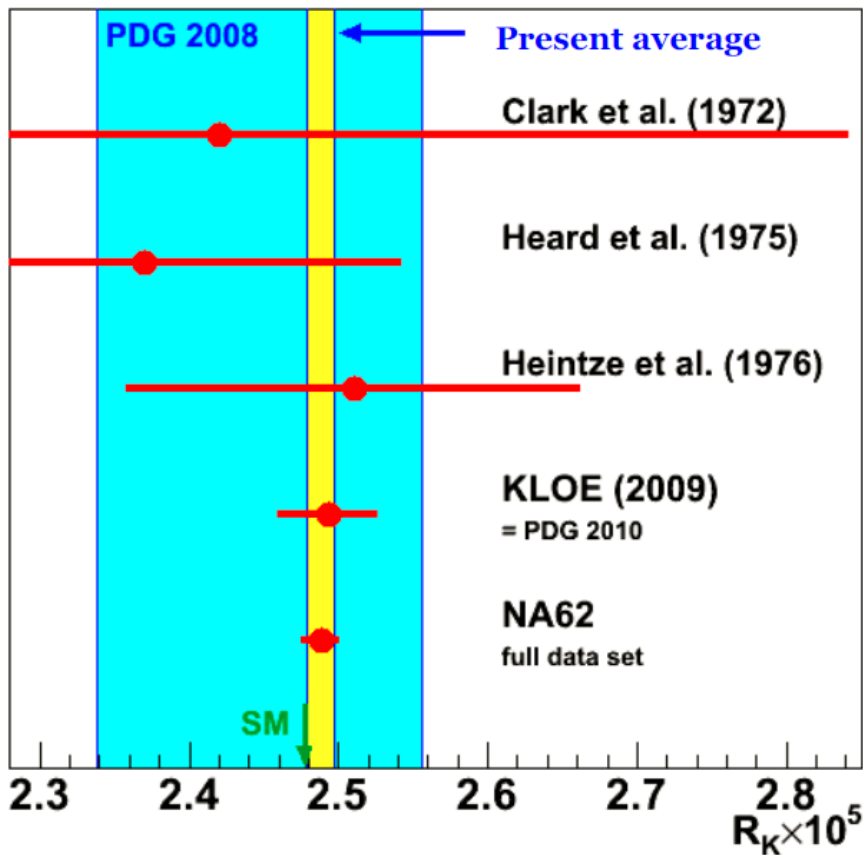
Source	$\delta R_K \times 10^5$
Statistical	0.007
$K_{\mu 2}$	0.004
$BR(K_{e2\gamma} SD^+)$	0.002
Beam halo	0.002
$K_{e3}, K_{\pi 2}$	0.003
Material	0.002
Acceptance	0.002
DHC alignment	0.001
Electron ID	0.001
LKr read. ineff.	0.001
Trigger	0.001
Total	0.010

Word average

$$R_K = (2.488 \pm 0.009) \times 10^{-5}$$

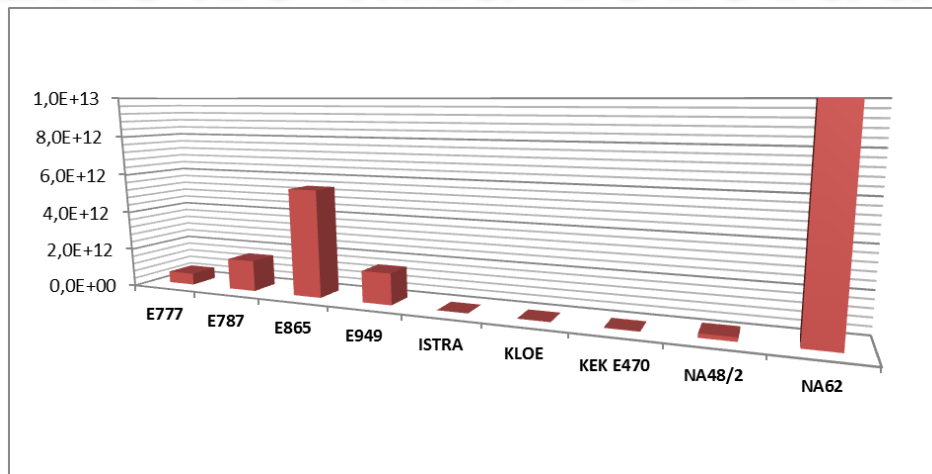
[our own average]

Precision of **0.4%**. In agreement with SM expectation within 1.2σ



NA62: Statistical error at the 1‰ level achievable

Exotic and forbidden decays



- **NA62** will collect an unprecedented amount of K^+ decays giving the possibility to re-measure rare decays properties and look for **forbidden and exotic decays**
- The **NA62 trigger system** is flexible and fully reconfigurable (based on FPGA)

	B865	E787	E949	NA62
Energy p	25.5 GeV	25.5 GeV	25.5 GeV	400 GeV
Protons ϕ	10^{13} in 2.8s/5.1s	$\sim 10^{13}$ /1.6s	$\sim 10^{13}$ /2.2 s	$\sim 10^{12}$ in 4.6s/16.8s
Energy K	6 GeV	700 MeV (stopped)	710 MeV (stopped)	75 GeV
Beam	71 MHz K, 1.4 GHz π , 0.7 GHz p	(2.5-4) MHz K with $\pi/K = 0.25$	6 MHz K with $K/\pi \sim 3$	45 MHz K, 525 MHz π , 173 MHz protons
Decay region	5 m (6% kaon decay)	Stopped (20% kaon decay)	Stopped (20% kaon decay)	60 m (10% kaon decay)

NA62 decay list

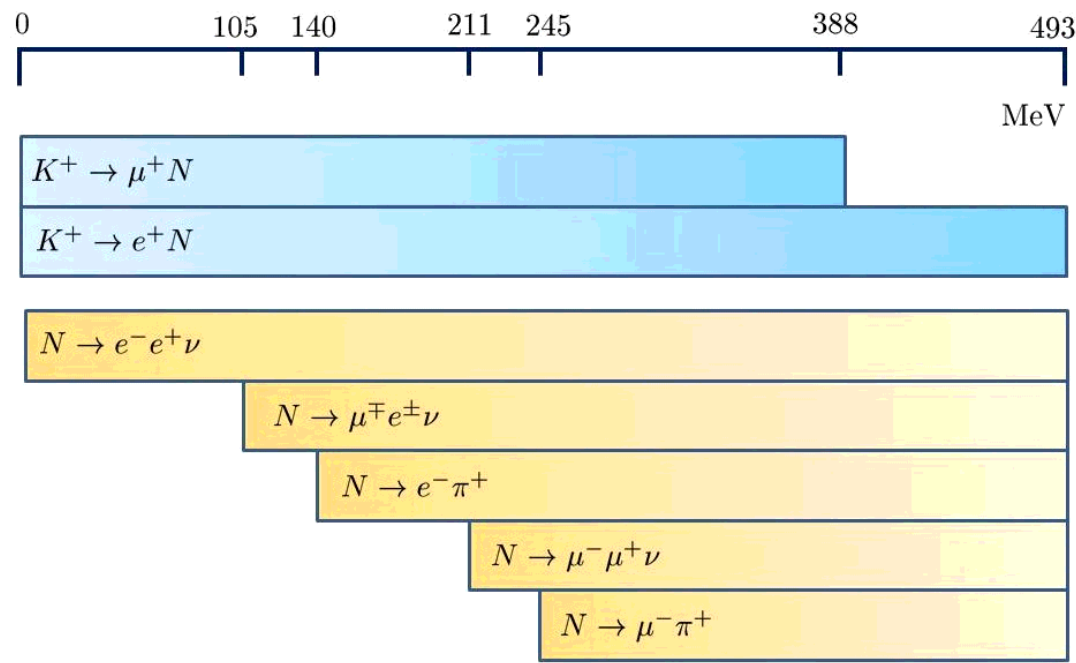
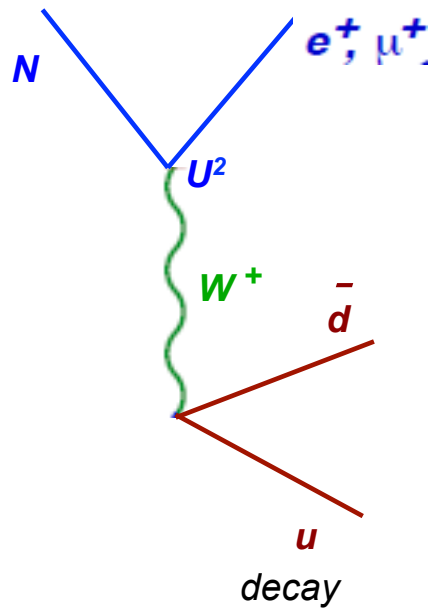
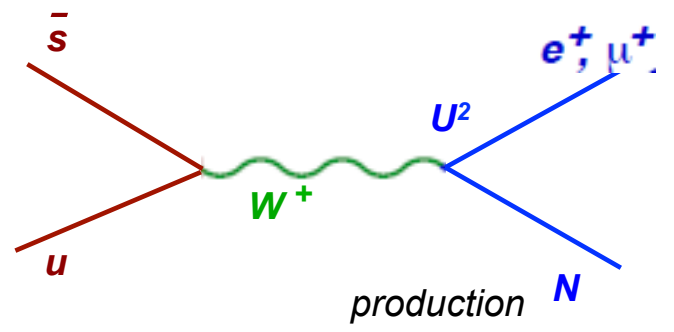


List (not complete) of forbidden and exotic decays:

Process	motivation	90% C.L. limit	Experiment	Year
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ X^0$	New particle	$< 5.9 \times 10^{-11} m_{X^0}=0$	E787, E949	2002
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \chi\chi$	New particles	(several)	Example: E949	2008
$\pi^0 \rightarrow ee(\gamma)$	Dark force	(several)	(several)	--
$\pi^0 \rightarrow eeee$	T viol. in SI and EI	$C=-0.77+-0.53$	Samios et. al.	1962
$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma$	C violation	$< 3.1 \times 10^{-8}$	Crystal Box	1988
$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$	light scalar	$< 2 \times 10^{-8}$	Crystal Box	1988
$\pi^0 \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$	RH neutrino	$< 2.7 \times 10^{-7}$	E949	2005
sgoldstino	New particle	$< 9 \times 10^{-6}$	Hyper-CP, ISTRA+	
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ e^- \nu$	$\Delta S \neq \Delta Q$	$< 1.2 \times 10^{-8}$	Geneva-Saclay	1976
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \mu^- \nu$	$\Delta S \neq \Delta Q$	$< 3.0 \times 10^{-6}$	Birge et al.	1965
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \gamma$	Angular momentum	$< 2.3 \times 10^{-9}$	E949	2005

Sterile neutrinos in K

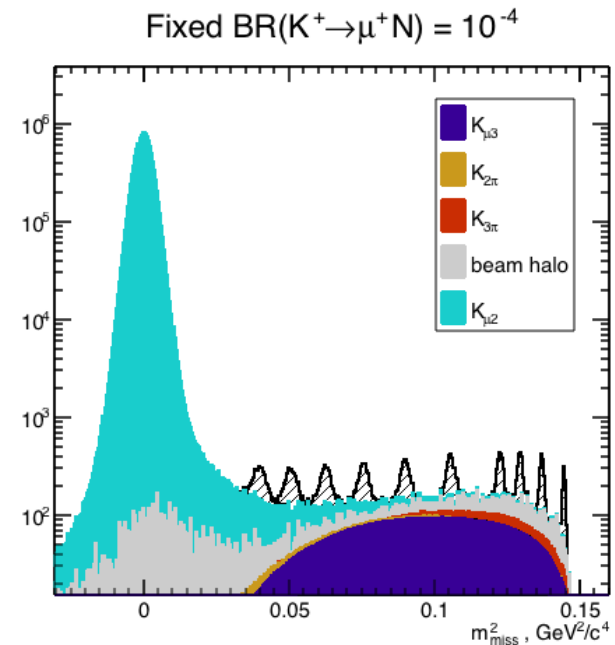
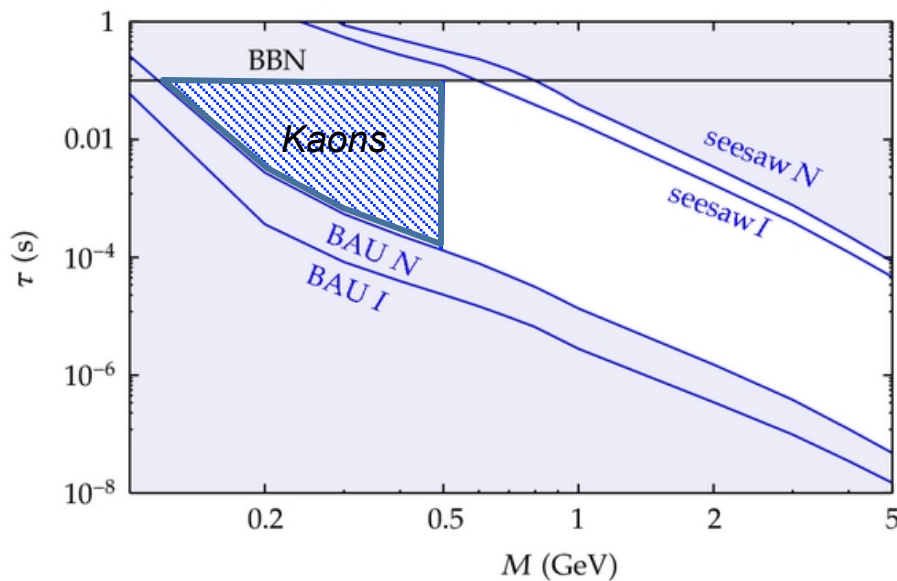
- The meson factories are an ideal place to produce and study heavy neutrinos ($N_{2,3}$);
- In principle several **LFV** decay modes accessible;
- The neutrinos mass accessible in kaon decays is limited by M_K



Sterile neutrino analysis



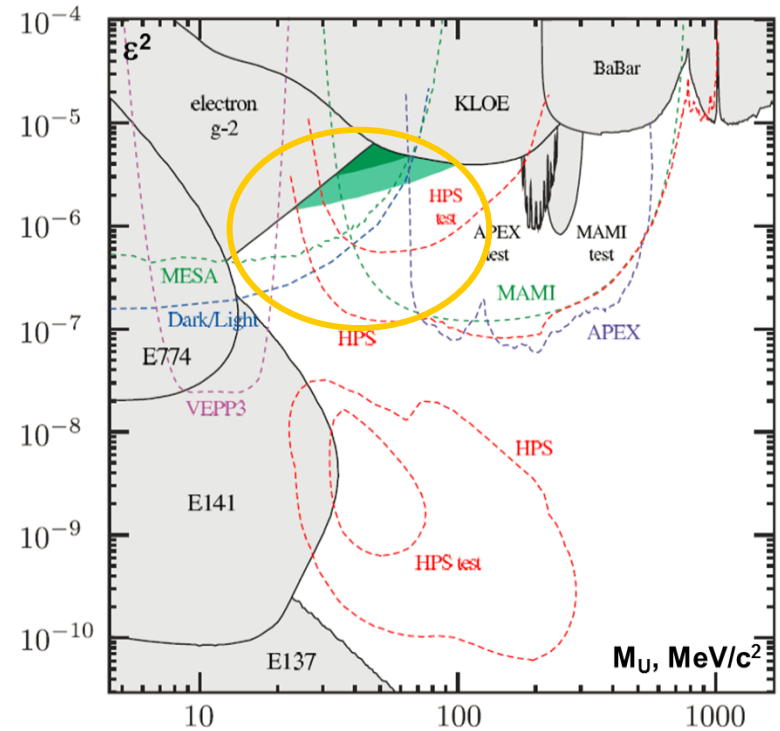
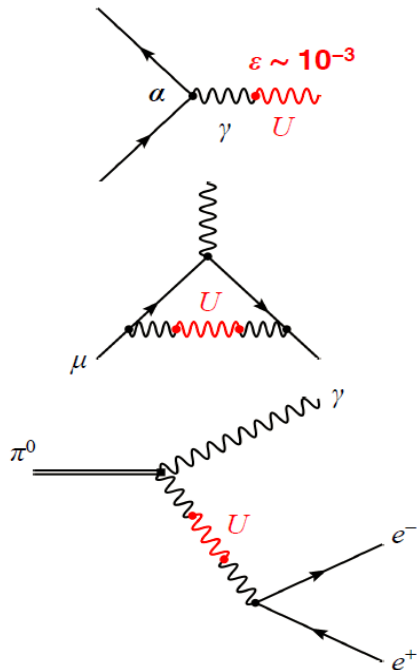
- The ongoing analysis in **NA62-R_K** is done assuming **long lived heavy neutrinos** → **Missing mass** analysis
- In **NA62** higher statistics, better resolution on the invariant mass, better photon veto to control $K_{\mu 3}$ and $K_{2\pi}$ backgrounds, will **increase significantly the sensitivity**;
- The kaons will help to cover the full parameters space in the regions allowed by general constraints.



Dark photons

The search for the **U boson** (aka **dark photon**) is becoming interesting as possible explanation of several *SM anomalies*:

- PAMELA e^+ excess
- Dama/Libra dark matter signals
- [R. Bernabei et al., *Eur. Phys. J. C*56, 333 (2008)]
- 3.6σ anomalies in $(g-2)_\mu$



- Search in $\pi^0 \rightarrow U\gamma$ decays (with $U \rightarrow e^+e^-$)
 - NA62 will collect 10^8 $\pi^0 \rightarrow e^+e^-\gamma$ decays/year
 - M_{ee} resolution of 1 MeV
 - Sensitive to $M_U < 100$ MeV with $\epsilon^2 \sim 10^{-6}$
- Analysis on the **NA48/2** data ongoing
- **NA62** will improve the **NA48/2** upper limit.

Conclusions



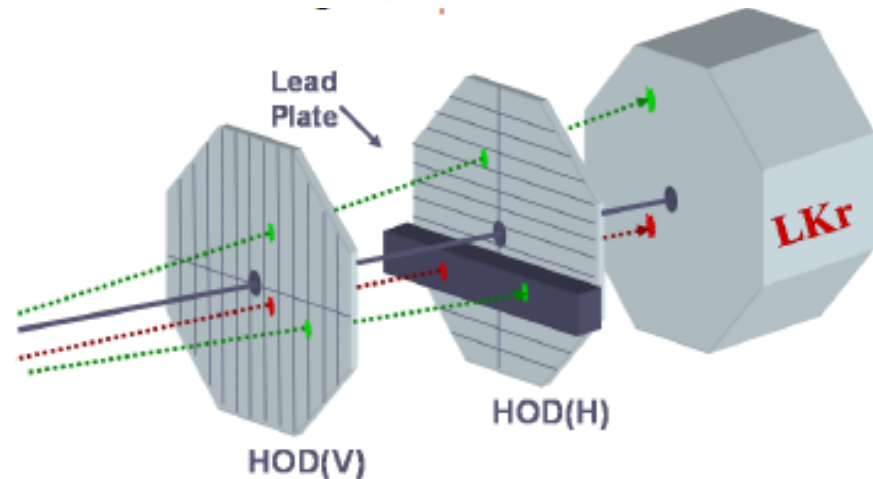
- The **Kaons** have written several chapters in particle physics:
 - ✓ Strangeness
 - ✓ Parity violation
 - ✓ Oscillation and regeneration
 - ✓ CP violation (indirect and direct!)
 - ✓ GIM mechanism
- The **Kaons** have still arrows in their quiver:
 - ✓ The $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ is an unique laboratory to test new physics scenarios;
 - ✓ Other LFV, forbidden and exotics decays may shed new light on some obscure point of the SM;
 - ✓ **NA62** will profit from high intensity hadron beam, flexible trigger configuration and $\sim 10\%$ acceptance on several decays; data taking will start next autumn

*“It is important to cast as wide an experimental net as possible”
(M. Pospelov @ this conference)*

We are part of this net and data taking will start in October 2014 !

SPARES

Main background to K_{e2}



The main background is given by $K_{\mu 2}$ in the K_{e2} sample

- ✓ μ catastrophic energy loss in LKr: $P_{\mu e} = 3 \cdot 10^{-6}$
- ✓ Direct measurement of $P_{\mu e}$ selecting a pure μ sample
- ✓ Lead plate in front of LKr ($9.2X_0$, 20% of total area)
- ✓ Uncertainty on the evaluated $K_{\mu 2}$ background 3 times smaller with respect to MC only

