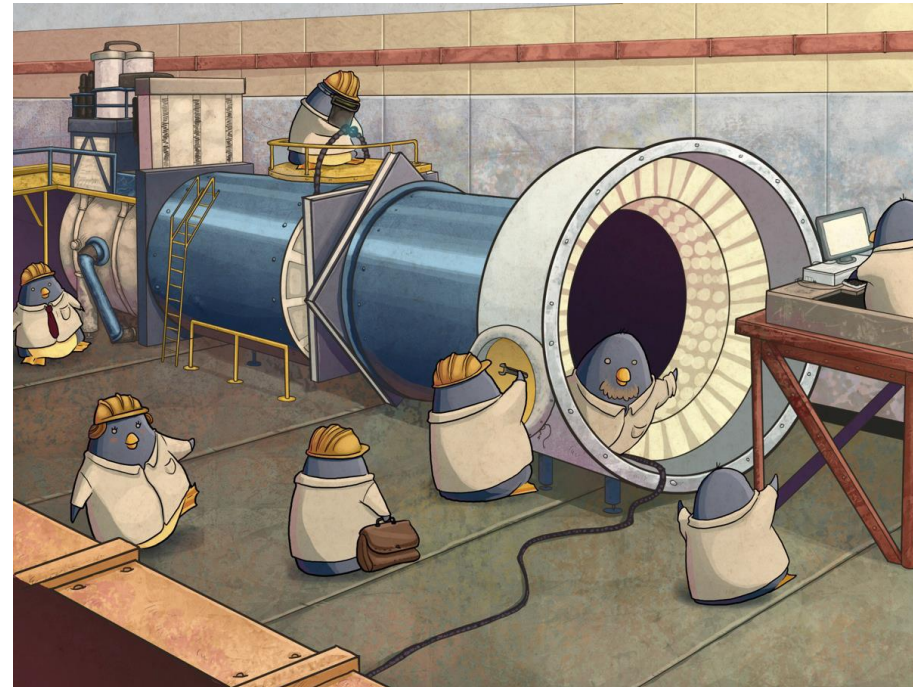




Physics Beyond SM With Kaons at NA62

Jacopo Pinzino

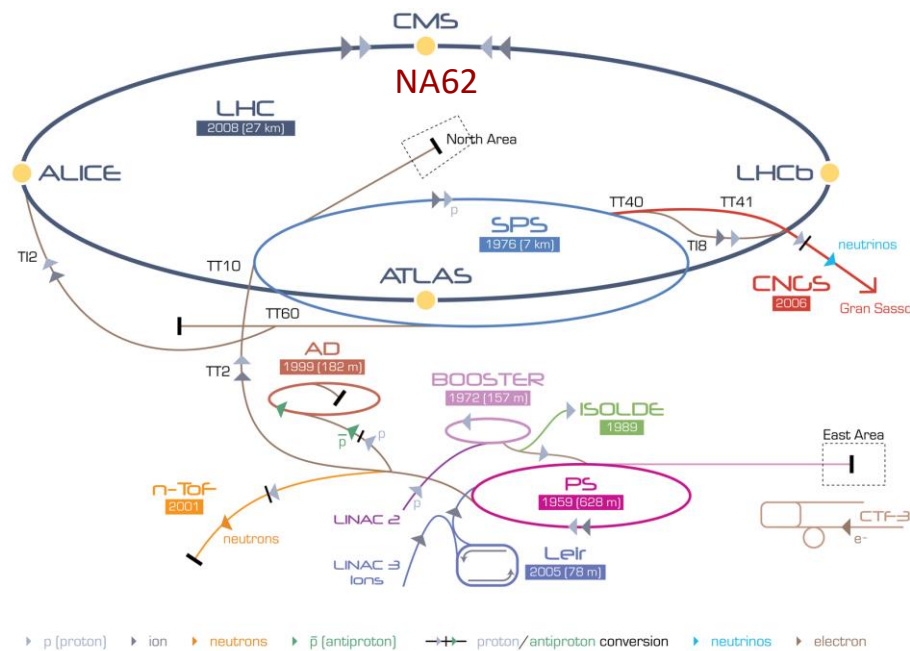


H2020 MSCA COFUND
G.A. 754496

INFN Seminars
24/02/21

The NA62 Experiment

- NA62: High precision fixed-target Kaon experiment at CERN SPS
- Main goal: measurement of $BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu})$
- Broader physics program: LFV / LNV in K^+ decays, hidden sector particles searches.

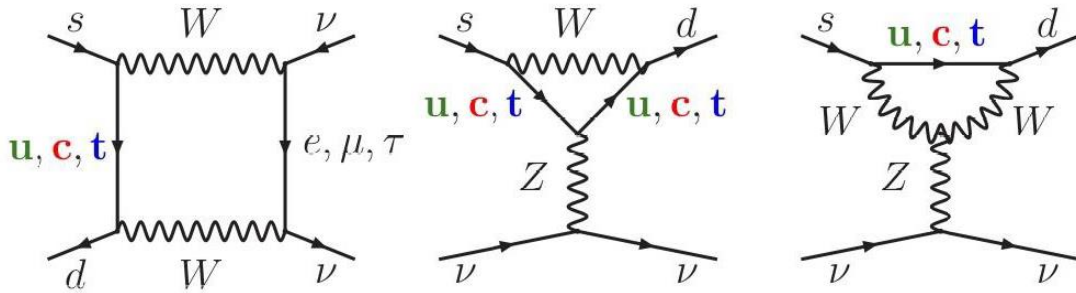


NA62 Timeline

- 2008: NA62 Approval
- 2014: NA62 Pilot Run (partial layout)
- 2015: Commissioning run
- Full detector installation completed in September 2016
- 2016 : First $\pi\nu\nu$ dataset in 2016
- Continuous data-taking until the end of 2018
- data-taking will be resumed in 2021 with improvements

~ 200 participants from: Birmingham, Bratislava, Bristol, Bucharest, CERN, Dubna, GMU-Fairfax, Ferrara, Firenze, Frascati, Glasgow, Lancaster, Liverpool, Louvain, Mainz, Moscow, Napoli, Perugia, Pisa, Prague, Protvino, Roma I, Roma II, San Luis Potosi, Torino, TRIUMF, Vancouver UBC

The $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ decay

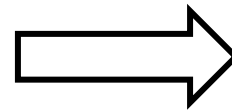


- High sensitivity to **New Physics**
- **FCNC** process forbidden at tree level
- Highly **CKM suppressed** ($\text{BR} \sim |V_{ts} x V_{td}|^2$)

- **Very clean theoretically:** Short distance contribution
- hadronic matrix element extracted from precisely measured $\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu)$
- **Precise SM predictions:** [Buras et al. JHEP 1511 (2015) 33]

$$\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (8.4 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-11}$$

$$\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}) = (3.4 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-11}$$



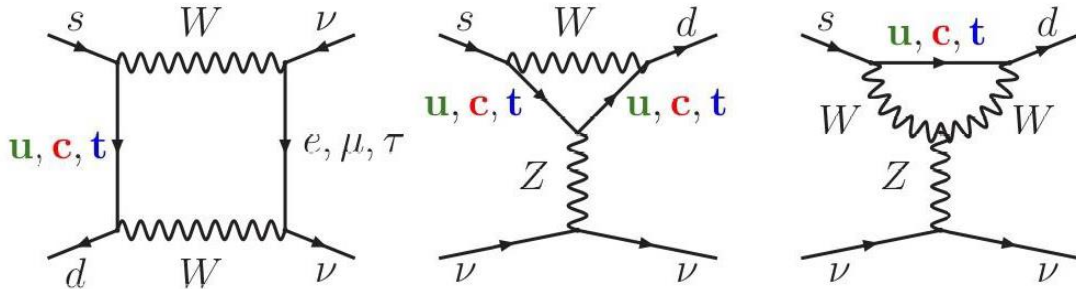
$$\begin{aligned} \text{BR}(B^+ \rightarrow \tau^+ \nu) &= (0.77^{+0.98}_{-0.52}) \times 10^{-4} \\ \text{BR}(B \rightarrow K \mu^+ \mu^-) &= (0.99^{+0.40+0.13}_{-0.32-0.14}) \times 10^{-6} \\ \text{BR}(B^- \rightarrow \rho^- \eta') &= (6.26 \pm 1.70 \pm 0.34) \times 10^{-6} \\ \text{BR}(B_d \rightarrow \phi \eta) &= (1.18 \pm 0.84 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-9} \end{aligned}$$

- **Previous Experimental Result:**

$$\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu})(\text{E787/E949}) = (17.3^{+11.5}_{-10.5}) \times 10^{-11} \text{ [Phys. Rev. D 77, 052003 (2008), Phys. Rev. D 79, 092004 (2009)]}$$

$$\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu})(\text{E391a}) < 2.6 \times 10^{-8} \text{ (90\% C.L.) [Phys. Rev. D 81, 072004 (2010)]}$$

FCNC



- High sensitivity to **New Physics**
- **FCNC** process forbidden at tree level
- Highly **CKM suppressed** ($\text{BR} \sim |V_{ts}xV_{td}|^2$)
- **Very clean theoretically**: Short distance contribution

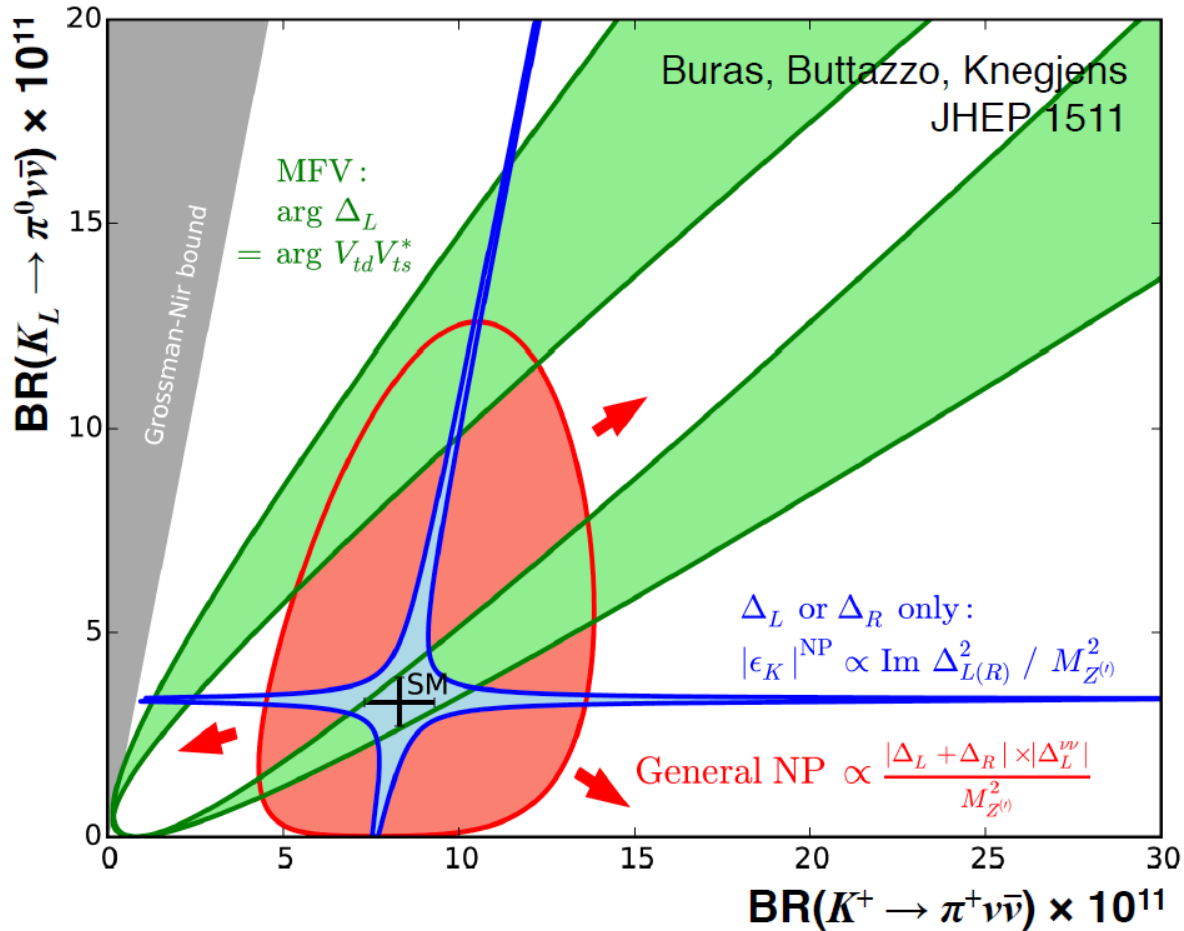
$$H_{eff}^{SM} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\alpha}{2\pi \sin^2 \theta_W} \sum_{l=e,\mu,\tau} (V_{cs}^* V_{cd} X^l + V_{ts}^* V_{td} X(x_t)) (\bar{s}d)_{V-A} (\bar{\nu}_l \nu_l)_{V-A}$$

- G_F is the Fermi constant,
- α is the electromagnetic coupling constant,
- ϑ_W is the weak mixing angle,
- X^l are functions describing the contribution of the c-quark to the amplitude A_l (with $l = e, \mu, \tau$),
- $X(x_t)$ is function describing the contribution of the t-quark,
- $(\bar{s}d)_{V-A}$ and $(\bar{\nu}_l \nu_l)_{V-A}$ are the quark and lepton neutral weak currents with vector - axial vector structure.

The contribution is proportional to the square of the loop particles:
For example $x_t = m_t^2 / M_W^2$

$K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ and New Physics

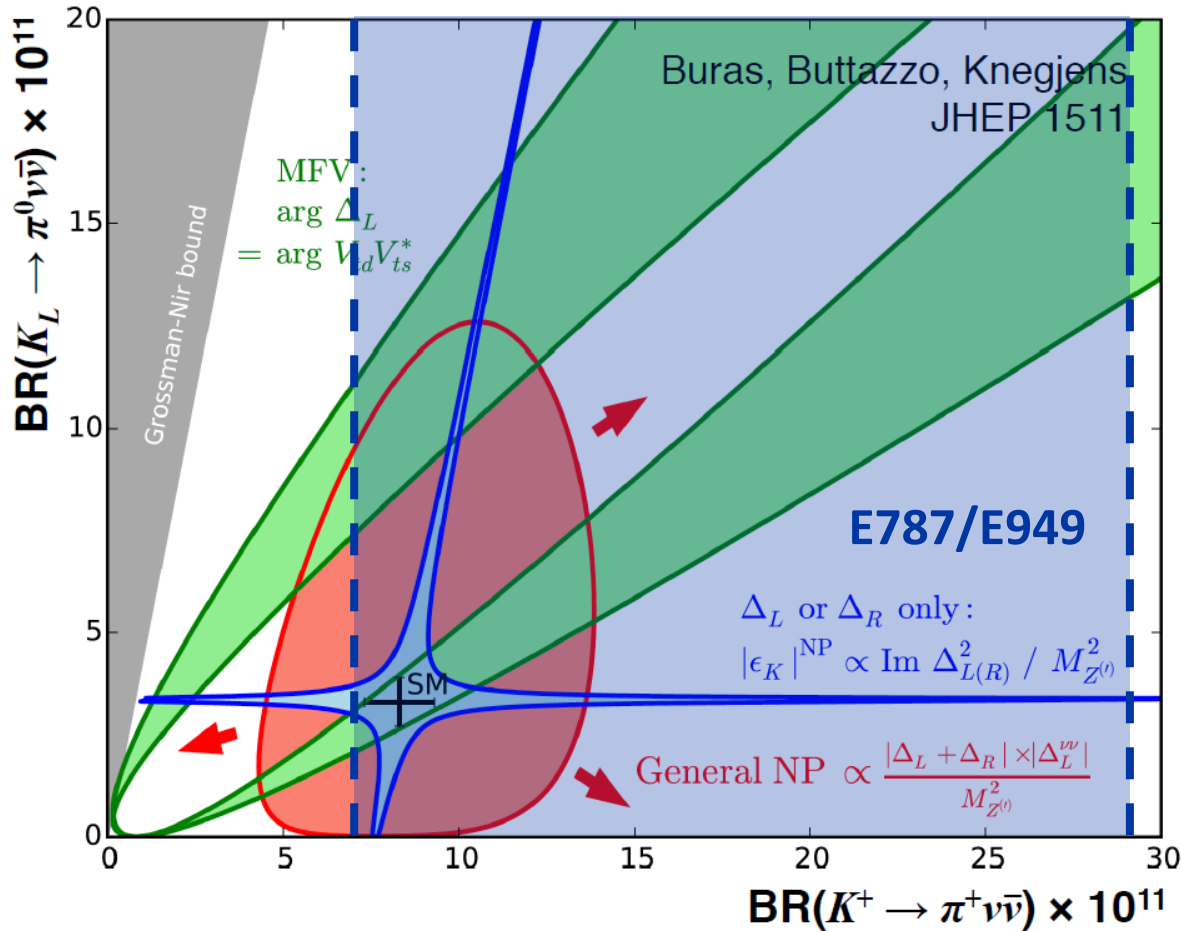
Measurement of charged ($K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$) and neutral ($K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$) modes can discriminate among different NP scenarios



- Models with CKM-like flavor structure (Models with MFV)
 [Buras, Buttazzo, Kneijens, JHEP11(2015)166]
- Custodial Randall-Sundrum
 [Blanke, Buras, Duling, Gemmler, Gori, JHEP 0903 (2009) 108]
- Simplified Z, Z' models
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- Littlest Higgs with T-parity
 [Blanke, Buras, Recksiegel, Eur.Phys.J. C76 (2016) 182]
- LFU violation models
 [Isidori et al., Eur. Phys. J. C (2017) 77: 618]
- Leptoquarks
 [S. Fajfer, N. Košnik, L. Vale Silva, arXiv:1802.00786v1 (2018)]
- MSSM analyses
 [Blazek, Matak, Int.J.Mod.Phys. A29 (2014) no.27],[Isidori et al. JHEP 0608 (2006) 064]

K → πνū and New Physics

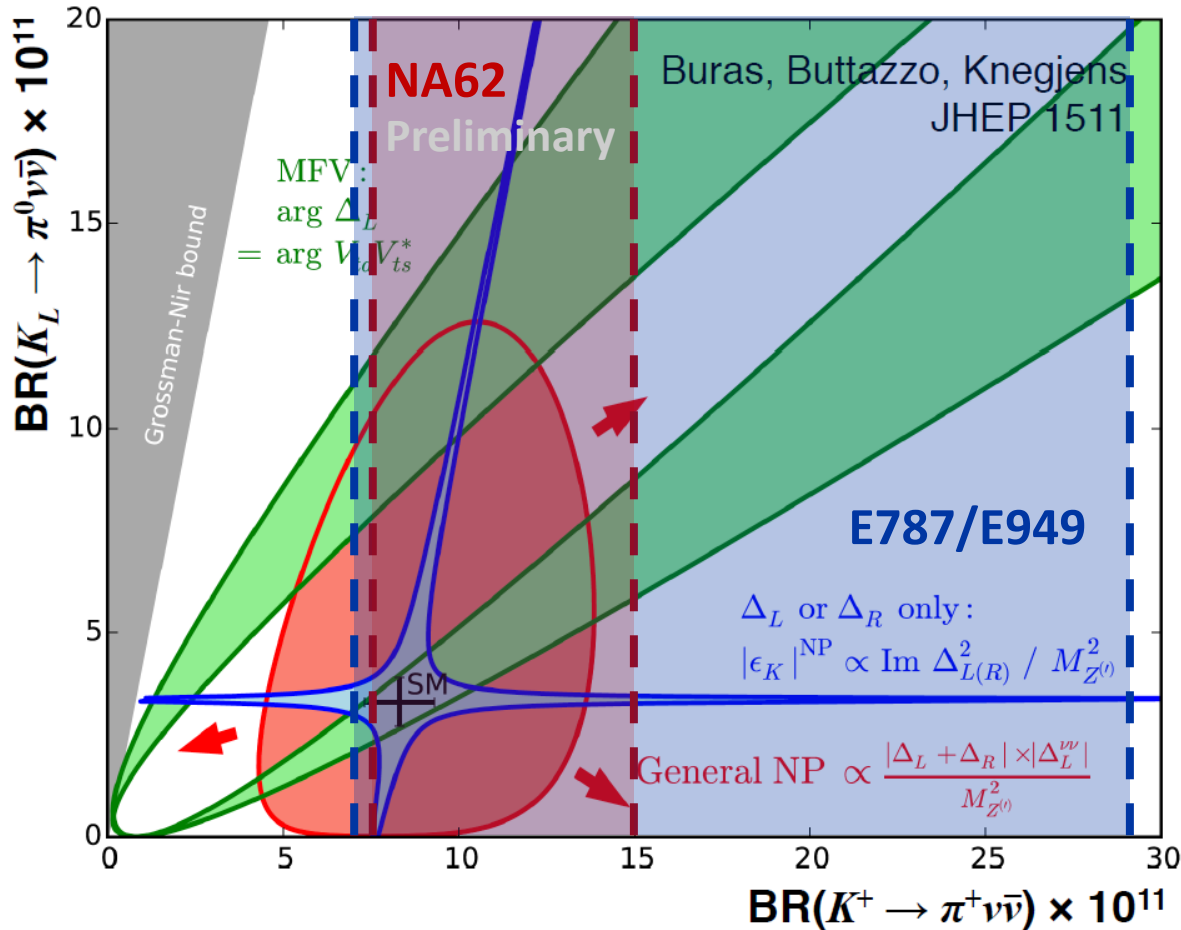
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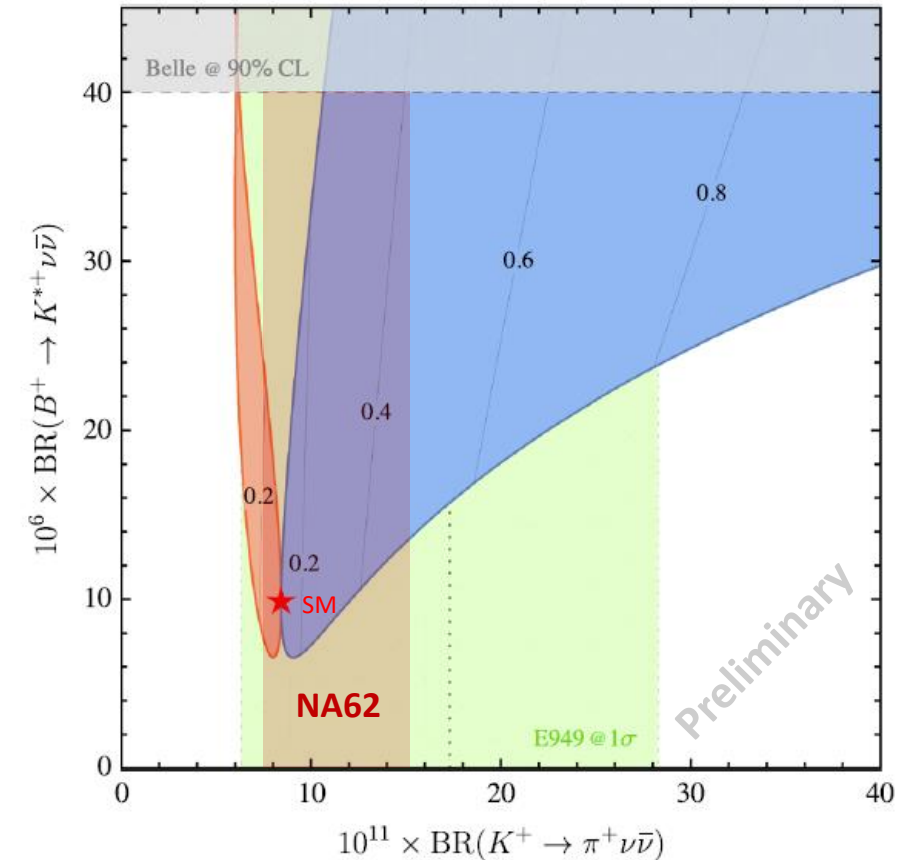


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$K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ and the LFU violation

The Measurement of $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ together with $B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} \nu \bar{\nu}$ can **can probe the Lepton-Flavour Universality**

- An interactions responsible for LFU violations can couple mainly to the third generation of left-handed fermions;
- $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ is the only kaon decays with third-generation leptons (the τ neutrinos) in the final state;
- A deviations from the Standard Model predictions in $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ branching ratios should be closely correlated to similar effects in $B \rightarrow K^{(*)} \nu \bar{\nu}$.



EPJ C (2017) 77: 618

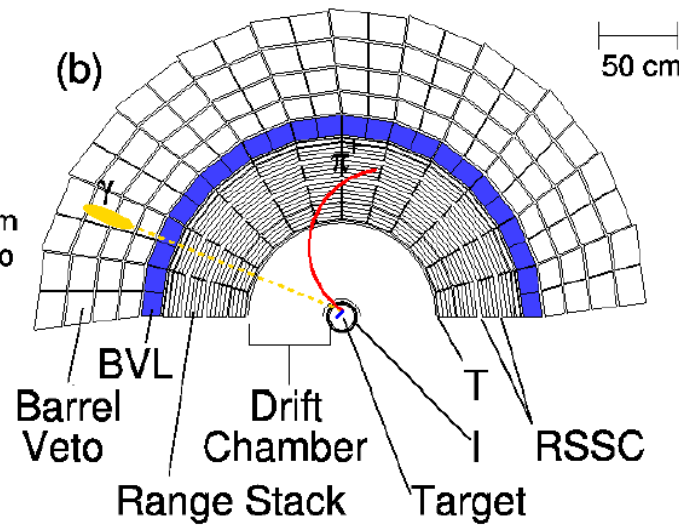
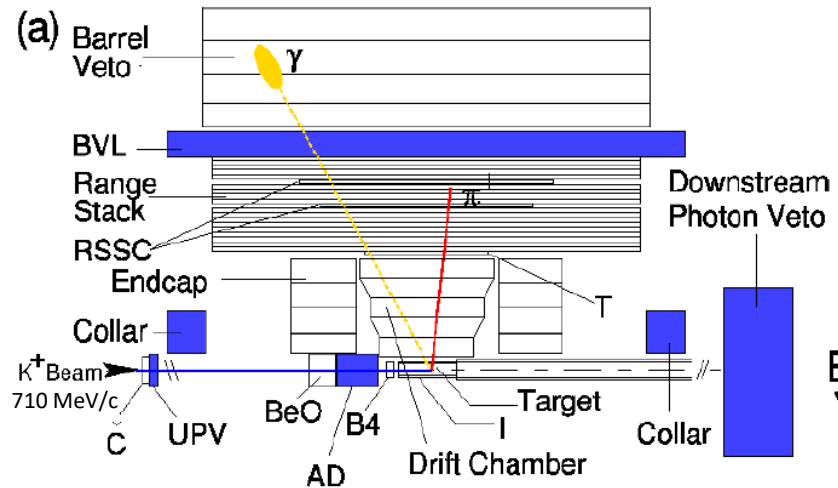
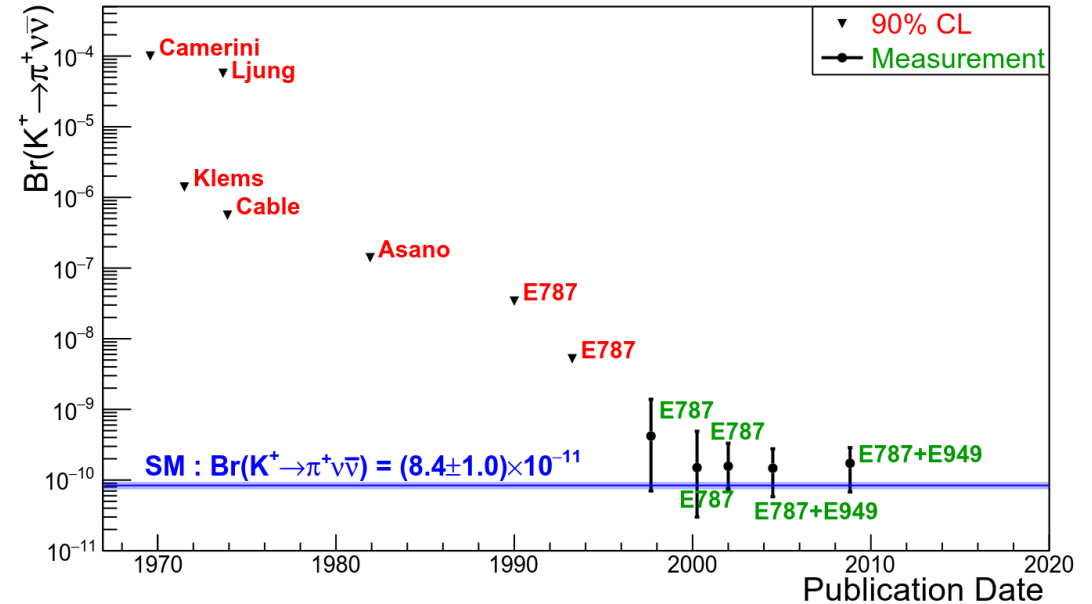
$K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ Experimental State of the Art

Previous experiments

- <<Kaon decay at rest>> technique
 - Kaon can be efficiently separated from the other beam particles
 - Almost all the kaons decay in the fiducial volume
- E787+E949: K^+ decays: $\sim 3.5 \times 10^{12}$
- $BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (17.3^{+11.5}_{-10.5}) \times 10^{-11}$

Single Event Sensitivity: $\sim 0.8 \cdot 10^{-10}$


[Phys. Rev. D 77, 052003 (2008), Phys. Rev. D 79, 092004 (2009)]

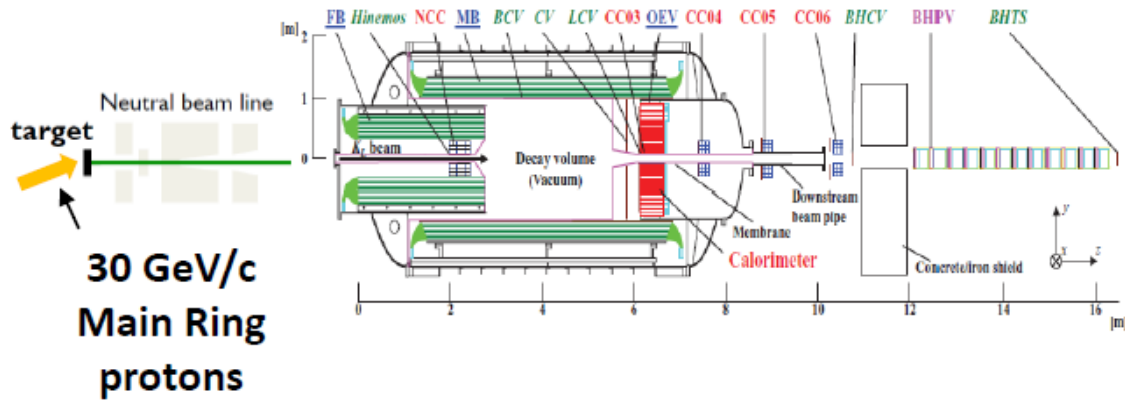



some projects never realised:

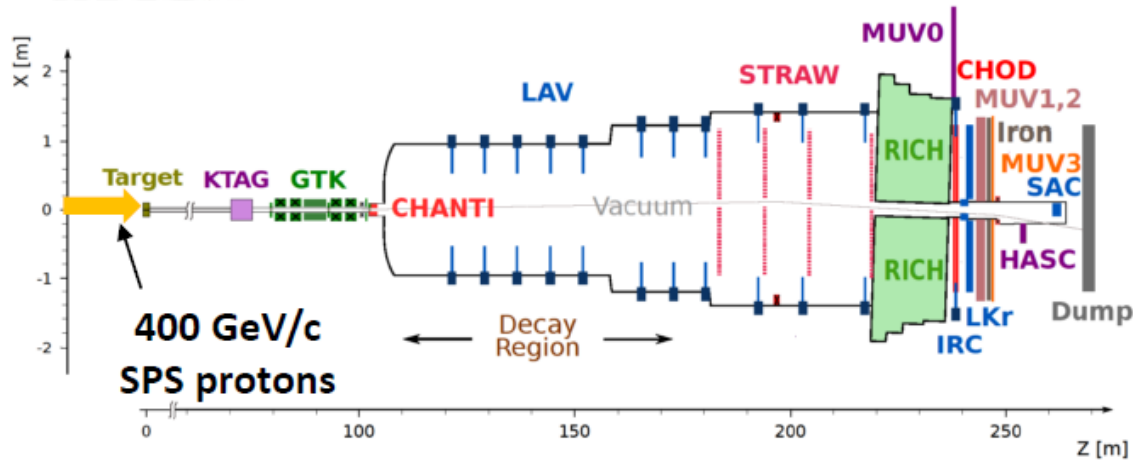
- KAMI,
- CKM,
- KOPIO,
- ProjectX.

$K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ Today


-  experiment at JPARC: $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$

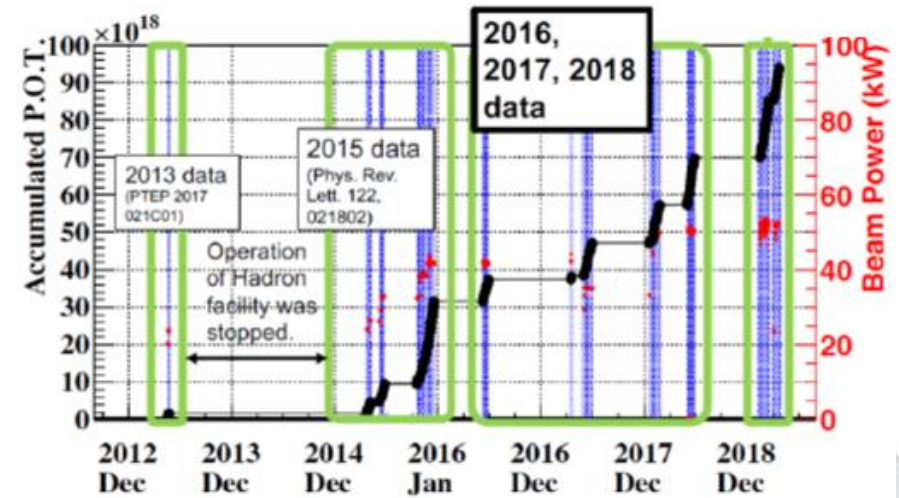
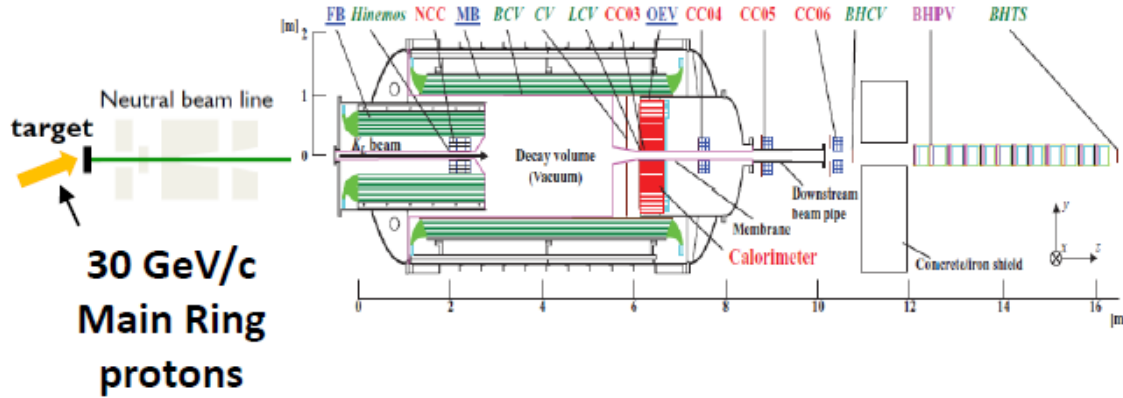



-  experiment at CERN: $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$

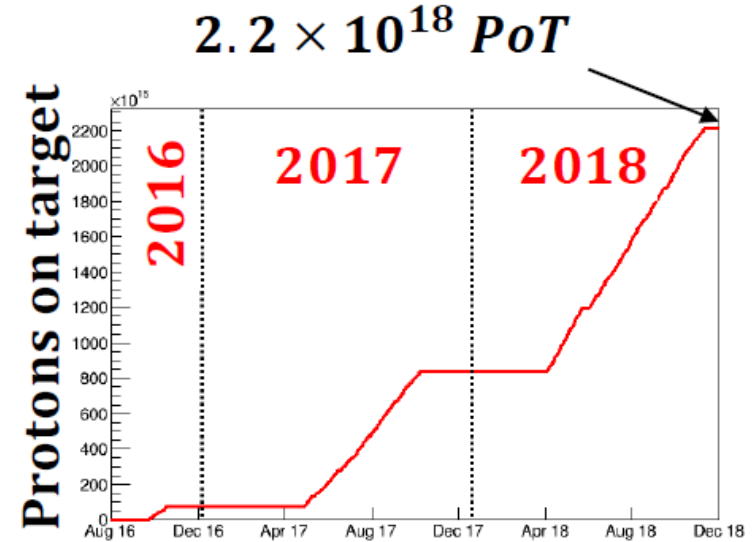
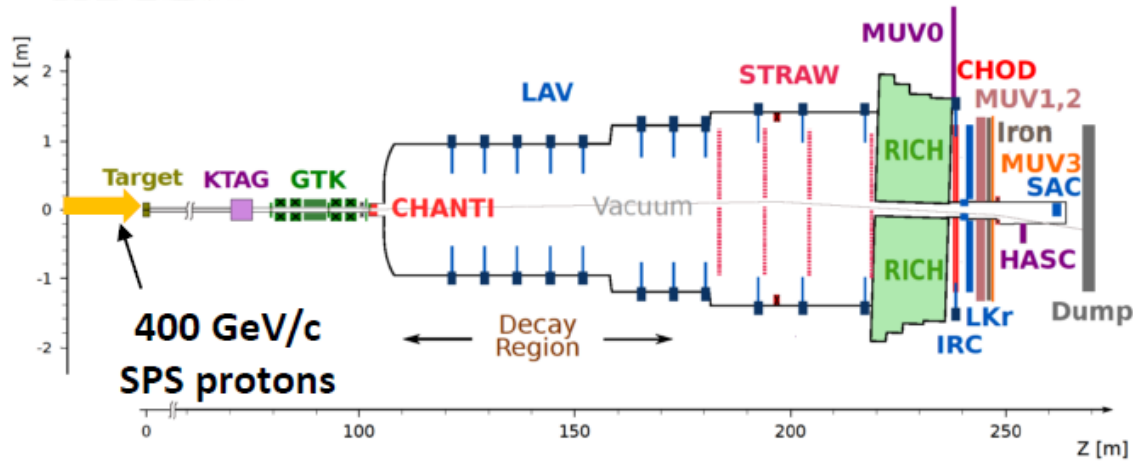


$K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ Today

-  experiment at JPARC: $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$

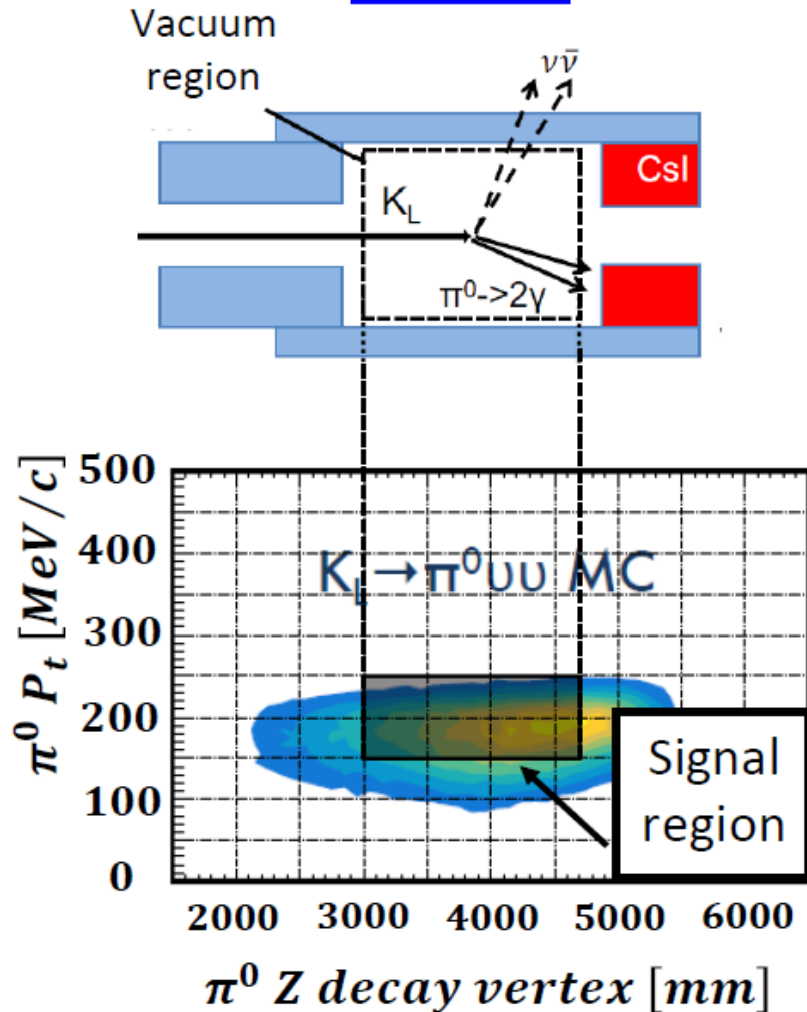


-  experiment at CERN: $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$



$K \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$ at KOTO

Signal



Hermetic detector and efficient photon detection

Outcome from 2016-17-18 data:

- $SES = 6.9 \times 10^{-10}$
- Total background from data expected = 1.05 ± 0.28
- 0.04 SM signal events expected
- 4 (3) events found in signal region: marginally consistent with the expected background
- K^+ background found: now the largest one
- Dedicated run 2020: estimation of the K^+ background
- Upgrade: New charged veto detector to reduce the K^+ background

$$BR(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu})(SM) = (3.4 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-11}$$

$$BR(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu})(KOTO) < 3.0 \times 10^{-9} \quad (2015 \text{ data})$$

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 122, 021802 (2019)]

[<https://indico.cern.ch/event/868940/contributions/3815582/>]

NA62 Layout

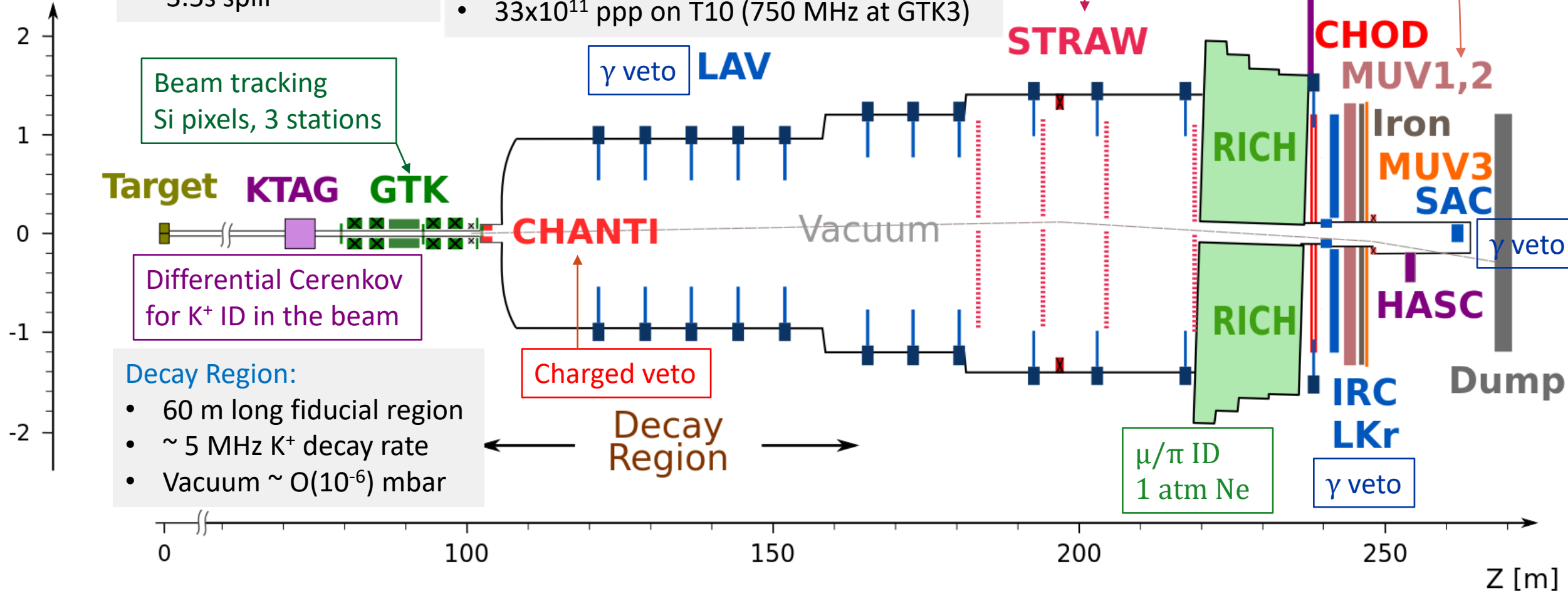
SPS Beam:

- 400 GeV/c protons
- $1,9 \cdot 10^{12}$ protons/spill
- 3.5s spill

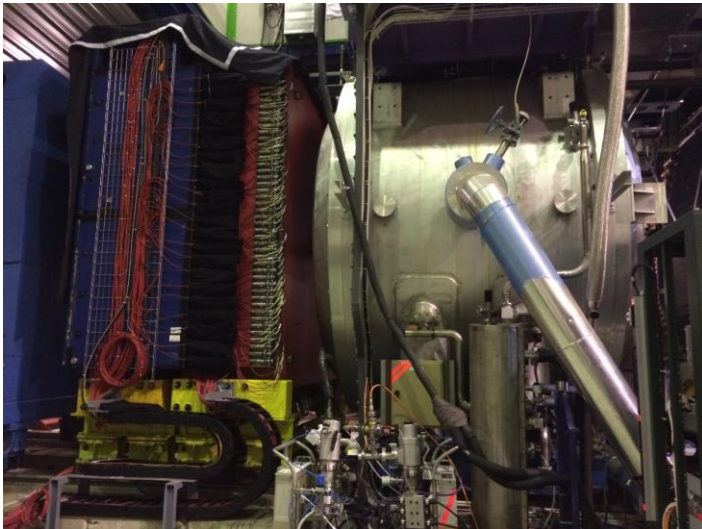
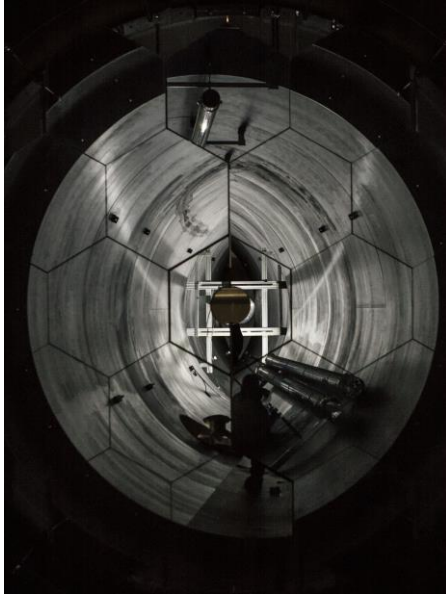
Secondary positive Beam:

- 75 GeV/c momentum
- 1 % bite 100 mrad divergence (RMS)
- 60x30 mm² transverse size
- K⁺ (6%)/ π^+ (70%)/p(24%)
- $33 \cdot 10^{11}$ ppp on T10 (750 MHz at GTK3)

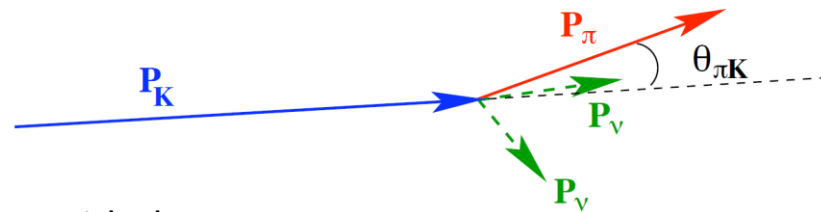
X [m]



Some photos



Analysis Strategy



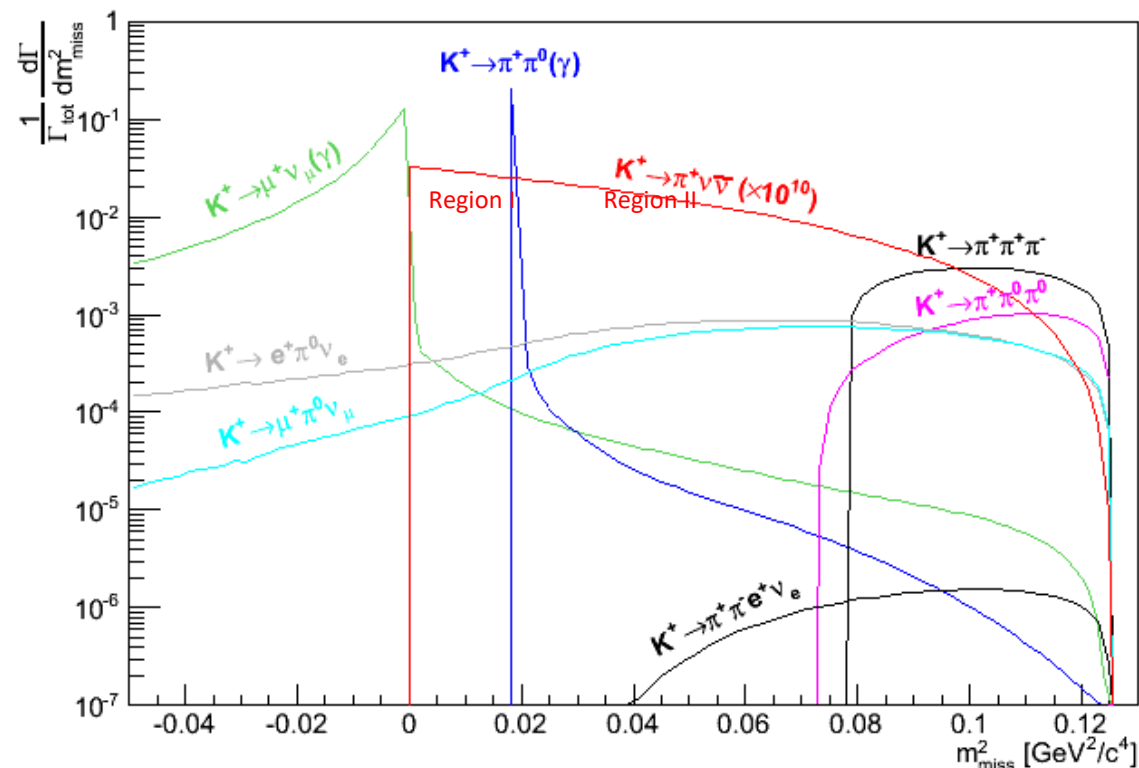
- **New Decay in flight technique**
 - K^+ production cross section increases with the proton energy
 - the detection of photons from background decays is easier at high energy
- **Signal:** 1 beam track, 1 charged track, nothing else
- **Background:** K^+ decay modes; beam activity
- **Kinematics:** $m_{miss}^2 = (P_{K^+} - P_{\pi^+})^2$

Key analysis requirements:

- 2 signal regions in m_{miss}^2
- $15 < P_{\pi^+} < 35$ (45 in 2018) GeV/c
- 60 m long decay region

Experimental principles:

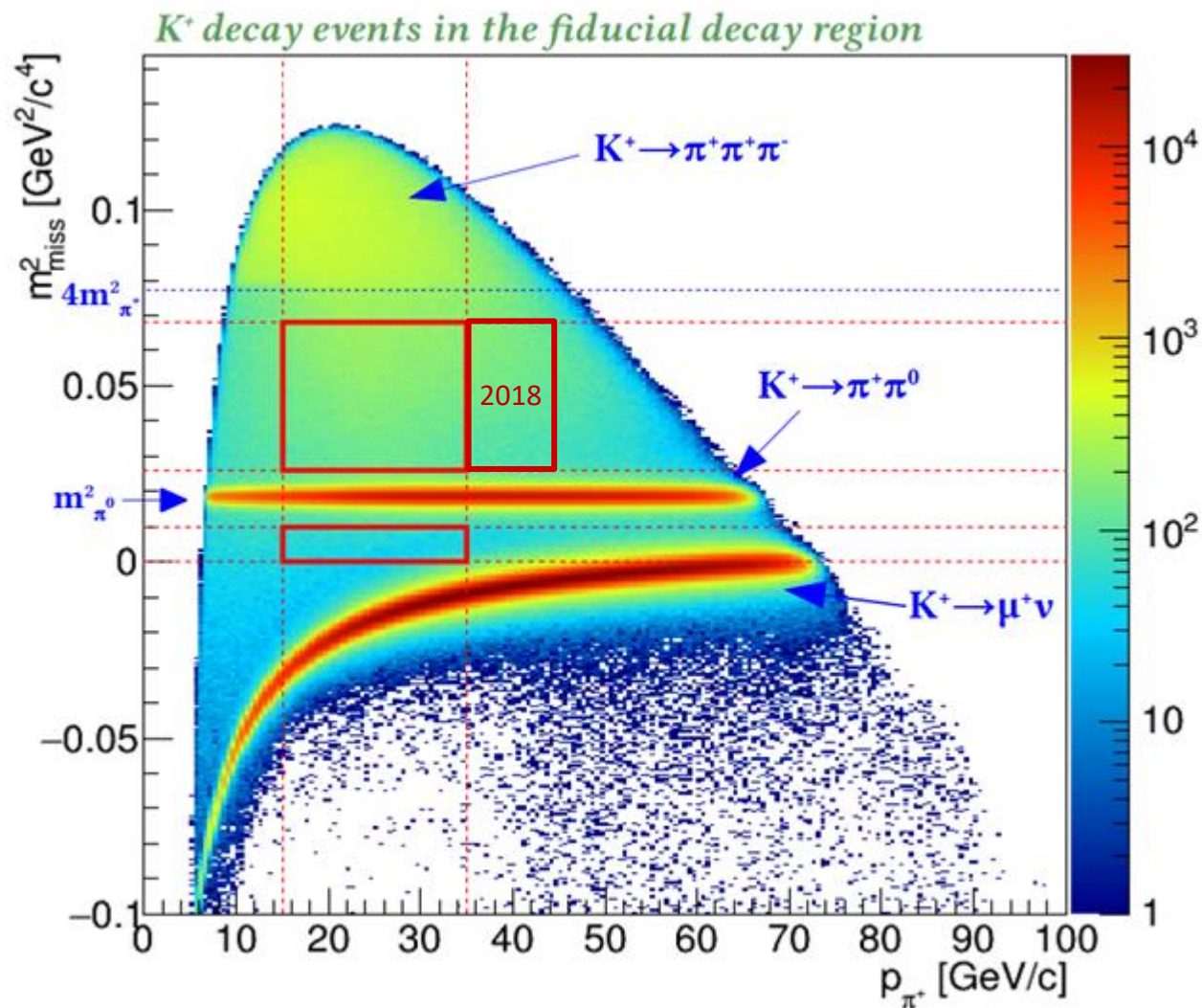
1. Precise kinematic reconstruction
2. PID: K upstream, $e / \mu / \pi$ downstream
3. Hermetic γ detection
4. Sub-ns timing



Keystone:

- O (100 ps) Timing between sub-detectors
- O (10^4) background suppression from kinematics
- $> 10^7$ Muon suppression
- $> 10^7$ π^0 (from $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0$) suppression
- Signal and background control regions are kept blind throughout the analysis
- 7 categories in 2018 (hardware configurations and momentum)
- use of MVA for particle identification and upstream background rejection

Signal Selection



$\pi\nu$ selection:

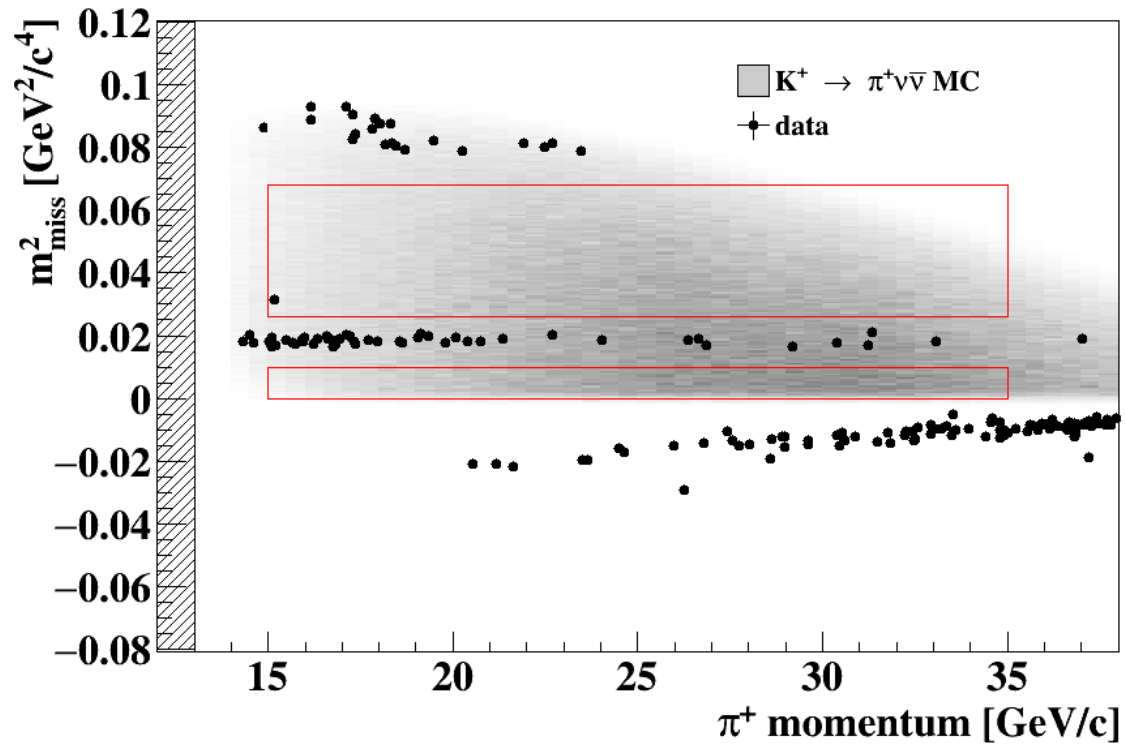
- K⁺ Decay Event
- Fiducial Decay Region
- Particle ID: π^+
- Photon rejection
- Multiple charged particle rejection
- Kinematic Selection of the Signal Regions

Performance:

- $\geq 10^4$ Kinematic background suppression
- $\geq 10^7$ Muon suppression
- $\geq 10^7$ π^0 (from $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0$) suppression
- $O(100 \text{ ps})$ timing between sub-detectors

Process	Branching ratio
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0 (\gamma)$	0.2067
$K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu (\gamma)$	0.6356
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	0.0558
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ \nu$	$4.25 \cdot 10^{-5}$

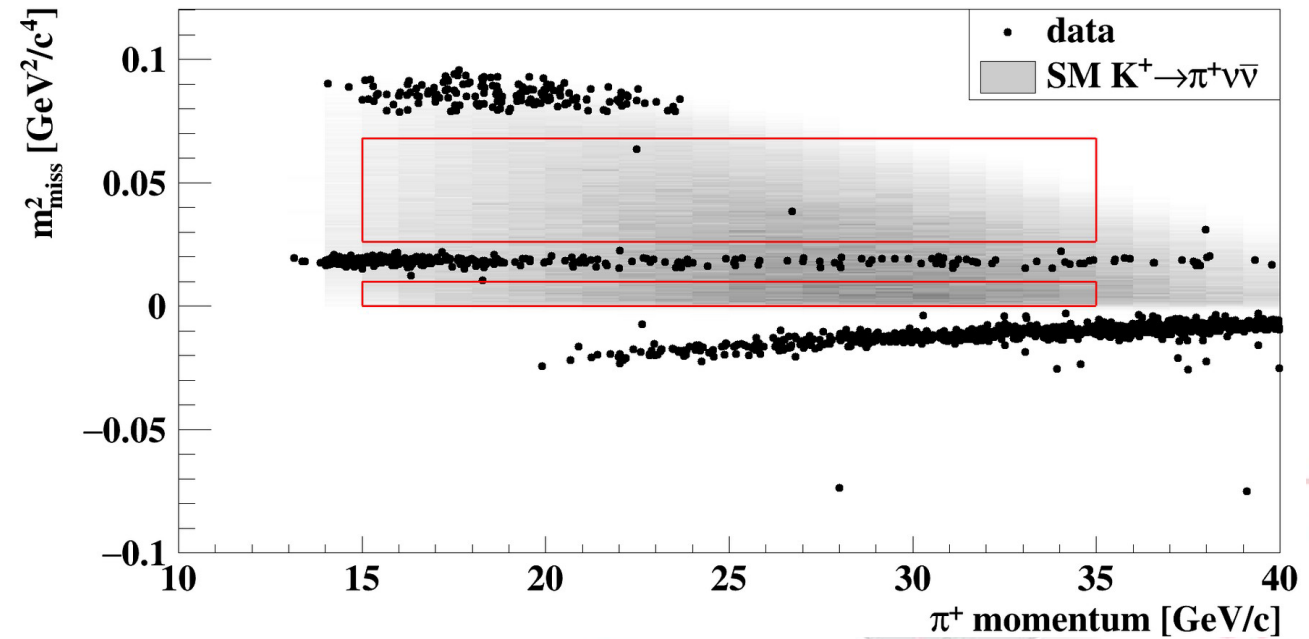
Result of 2016 and 2017 data taking



2016

- 1 events observed
- SES = 3.15×10^{-10}
- $\text{Br}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) < 14 \times 10^{-10}$ @ 90% CL

Phys. Lett. B 791 (2019) 156-166

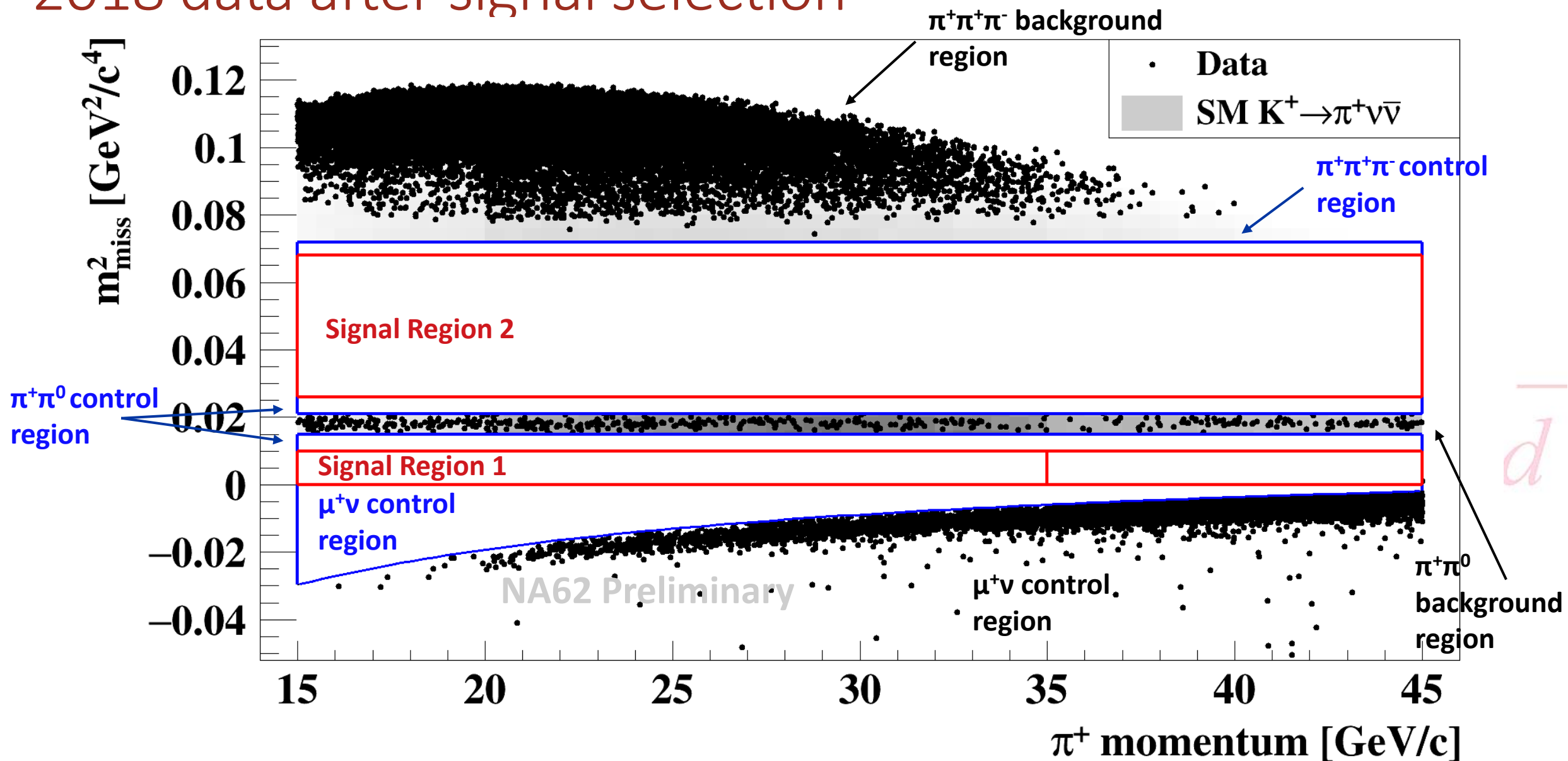


2017

- 2 events observed
- SES = 0.389×10^{-10}
- $\text{Br}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) < 1,7 \times 10^{-10}$ @ 90% CL

[J. High Energ. Phys. 2020, 42 (2020)]

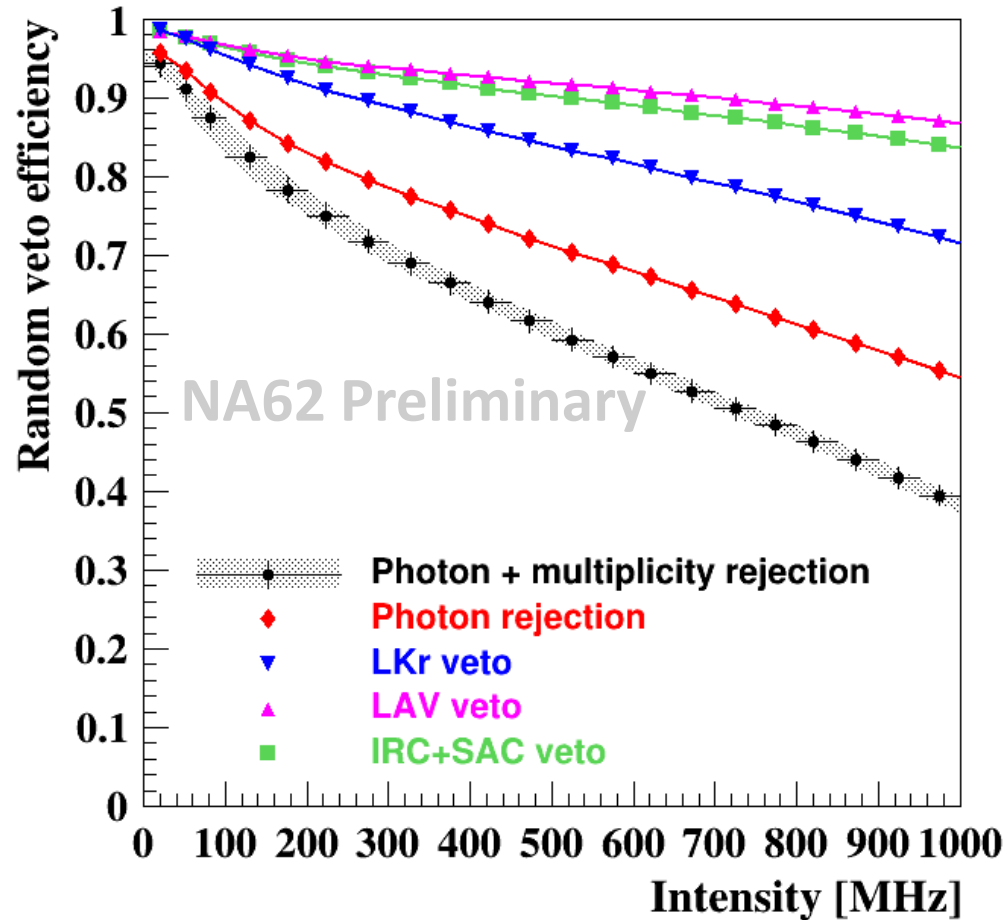
2018 data after signal selection



Single Event Sensitivity (SES)

$$N_{\pi\nu\nu}^{exp} \approx N_{\pi\pi} \epsilon_{trigger} \epsilon_{RV} \frac{A_{\pi\nu\nu}}{A_{\pi\pi}} \frac{Br(\pi\nu\nu)}{Br(\pi\pi)} \implies \text{S.E.S.} = \frac{Br(\pi\nu\nu)}{N_{\pi\nu\nu}^{exp}}$$

	Error budget S.E.S.
Trigger efficiency	5%
MC acceptance	3.5%
Random Veto	2%
Background(normalization)	0.7%
Instantaneous intensity	0.7%
Total	6.5%

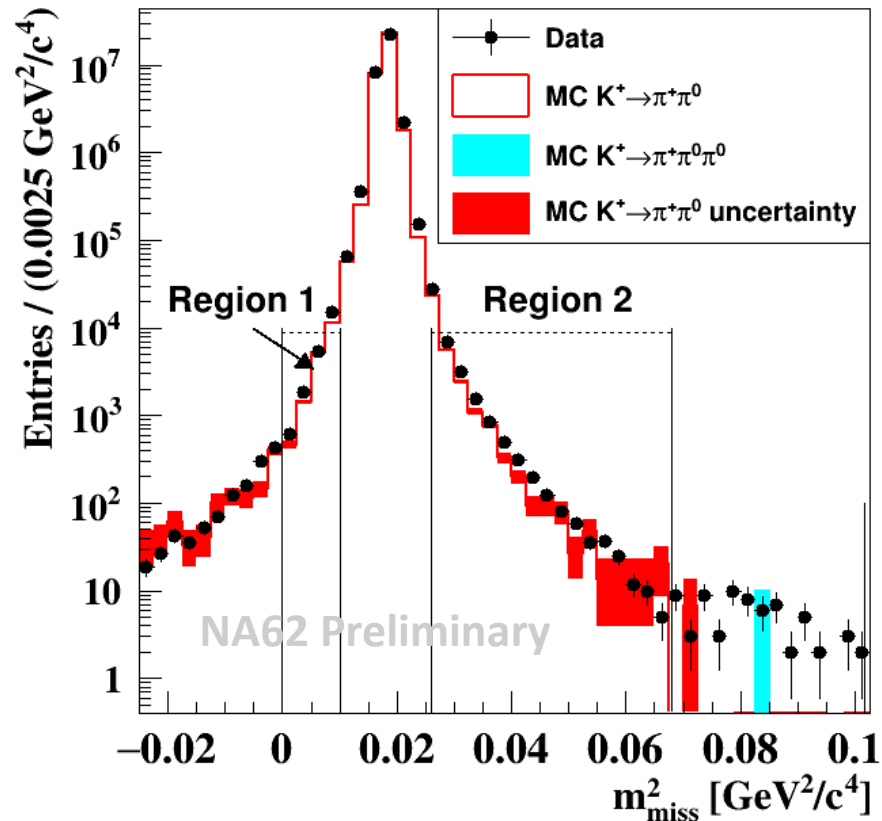


- $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0$ decay used for normalization
- Cancellation of systematic effects (PID, Detector efficiencies, kaon ID and beam related acceptance loss)

$$SES = (1,11 \pm 0.07) \cdot 10^{-11}$$

Background from Kaon Decay Estimation

Control $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0$ data used to study the tails of the m^2_{miss} distribution



Data in $\pi^+ \pi^0$ region after $\pi \nu \nu$ selection (including π^0 rejection)

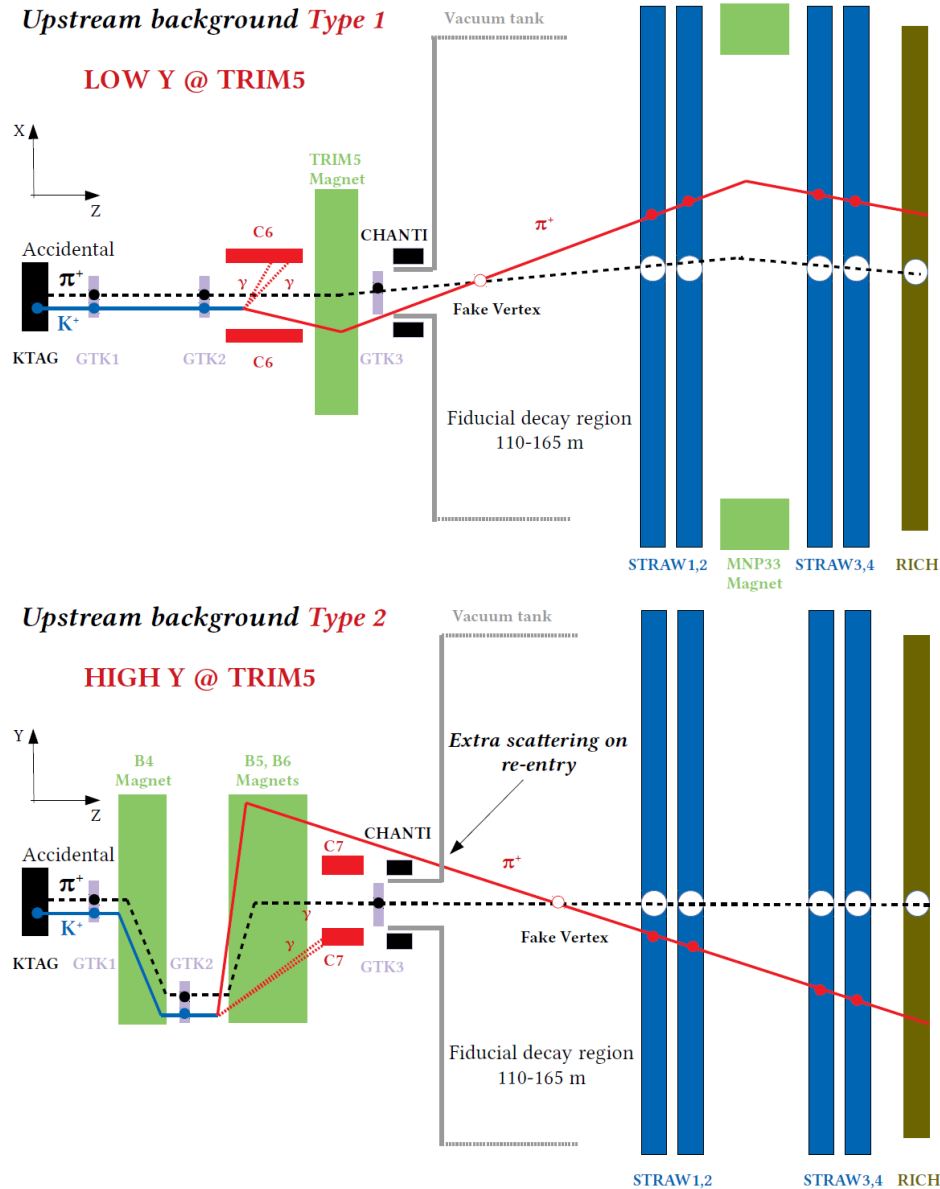
$$N_{\pi\pi}^{exp}(region) = N(\pi^+ \pi^0) \cdot f_{kin}(region)$$

Expected $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0$ in signal regions after the $\pi \nu \nu$ selection

Fraction of $\pi^+ \pi^0$ in signal region measured on control data

- The same procedure is used for $K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu$ and $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$
- $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ \nu_e$ estimation entirely using MC simulations normalized to the S.E.S.

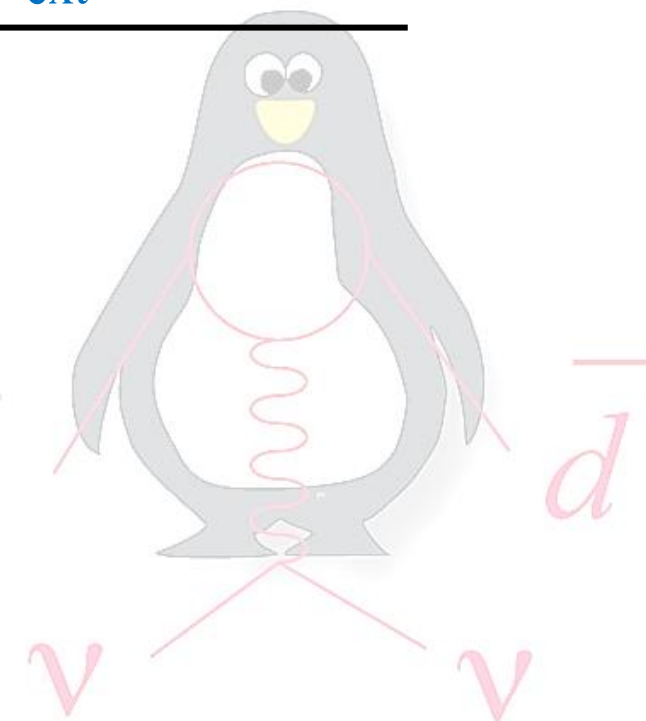
Upstream background



- Pions produced upstream the fiducial volume
 - Early K^+ decay
 - Interaction of beam particles with the beam spectrometer material
- Pions can be associated to an accidental particle of the beam line
- Dangerous if coupled with pion scattering in the first spectrometer chamber
- Kaon-pion association and geometrical cuts effective
- The geometrical origin of those events allow to define samples for backgrounds validation
- Data driven background estimation

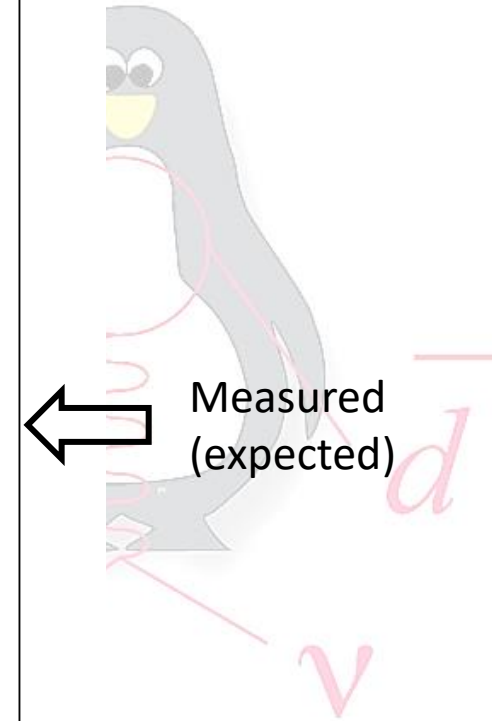
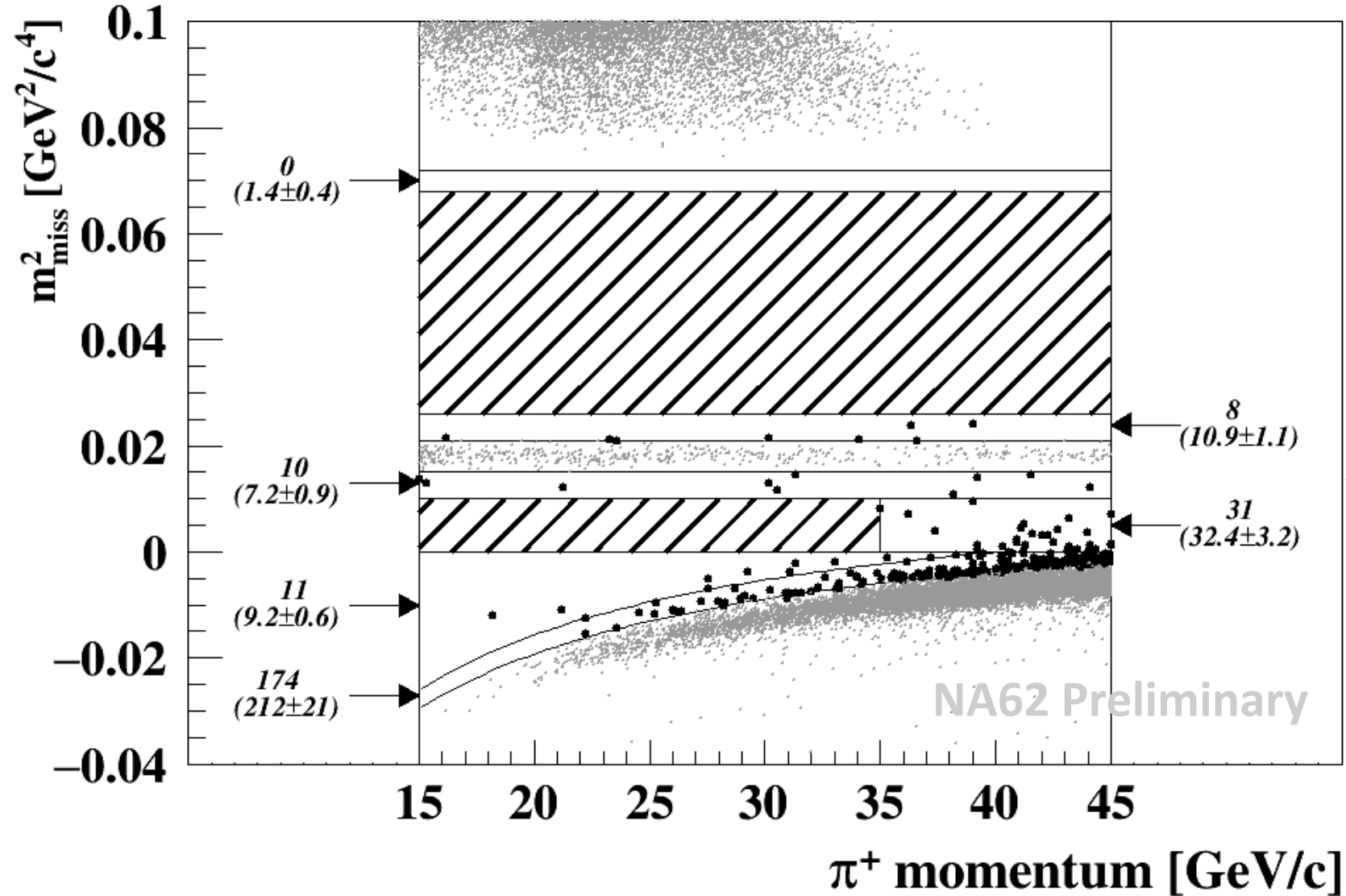
Background summary

Process	Expected events in R1+R2 (2018 data)
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ (SM)	$7.58 \pm 0.40_{\text{syst}} \pm 0.75_{\text{ext}}$
Total Background	$5.28^{+0.99}_{-0.74}$
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0 (\gamma)$	0.75 ± 0.04
$K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu (\gamma)$	0.49 ± 0.05
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ \nu_e$	0.50 ± 0.11
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	0.24 ± 0.08
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \gamma \gamma$	$< 0,01$
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 l^+ \nu$	$< 0,001$
Upstream Background	$3.3^{+0.98}_{-0.73}$

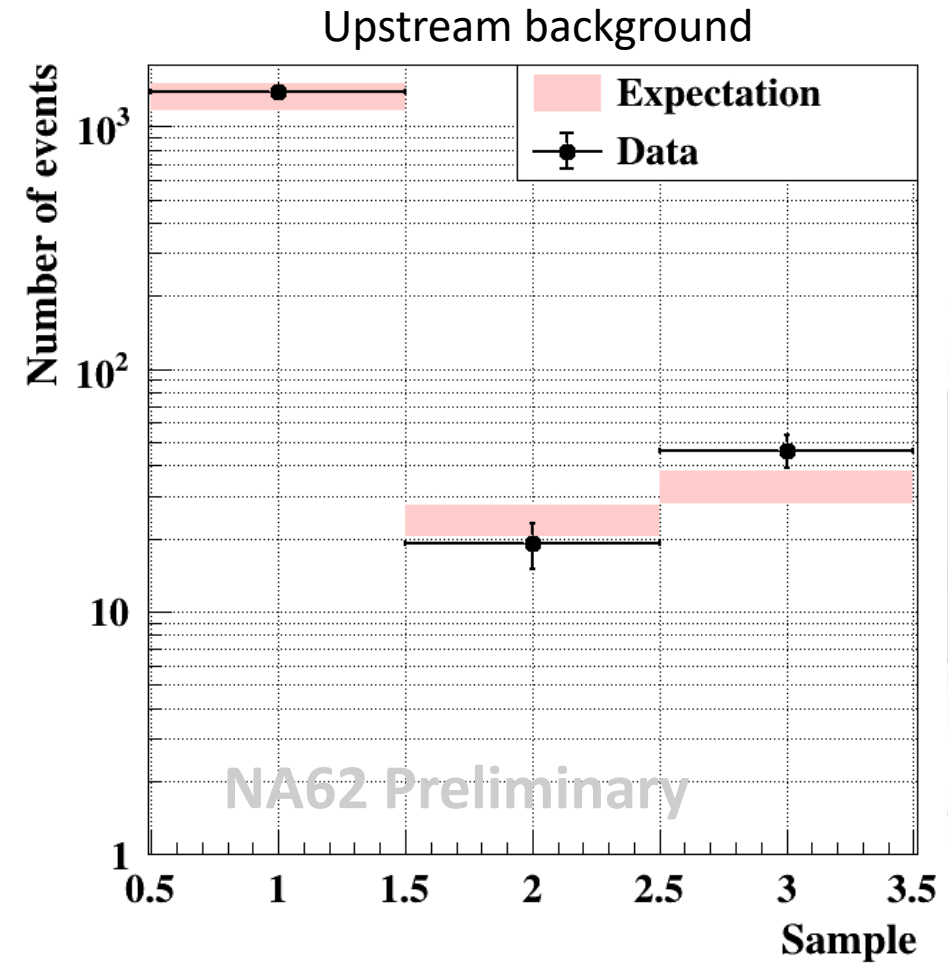
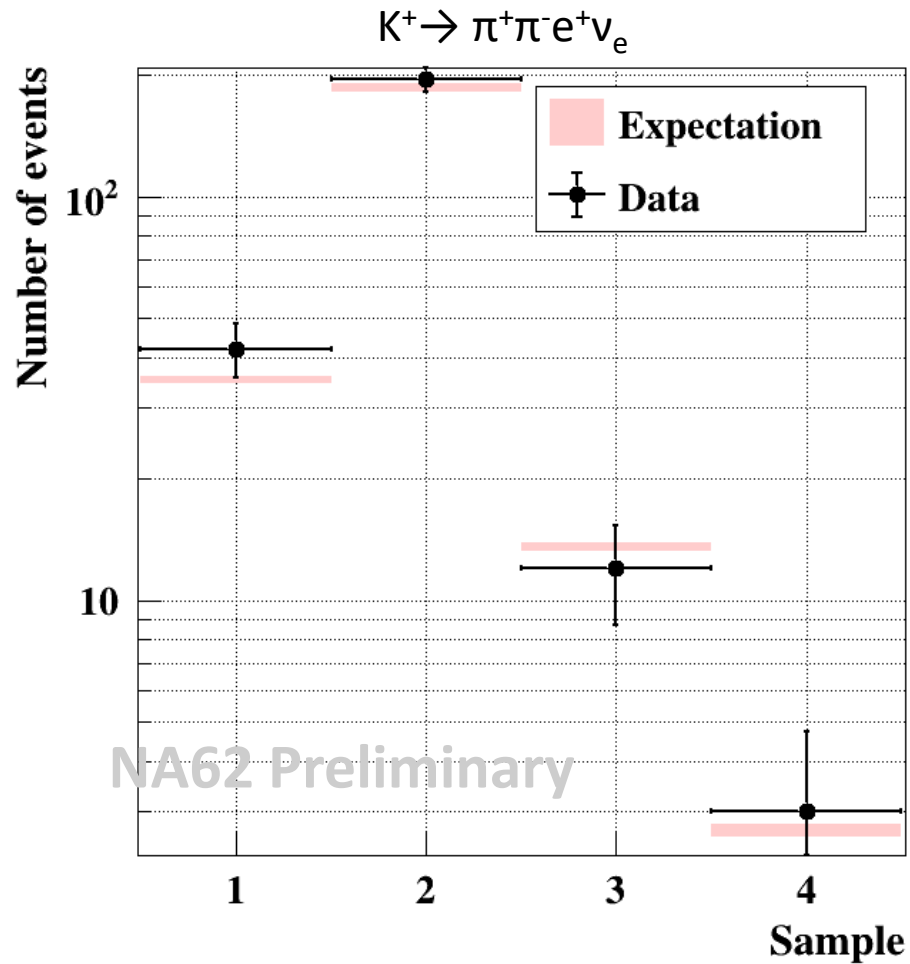


Background expectations validated in control regions using a blind procedure

Control regions: main decays

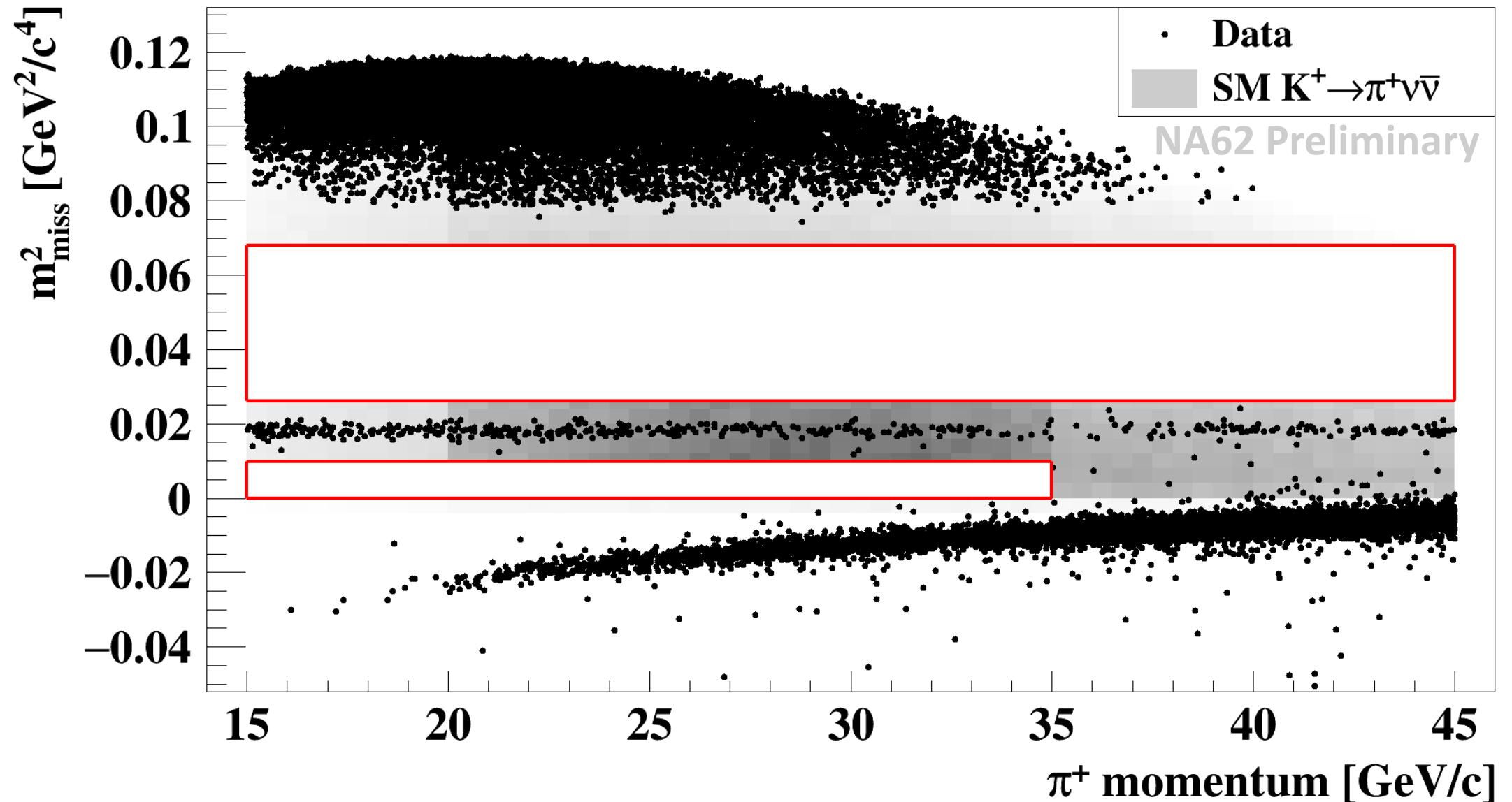


Control regions: $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ \nu_e$ and upstream

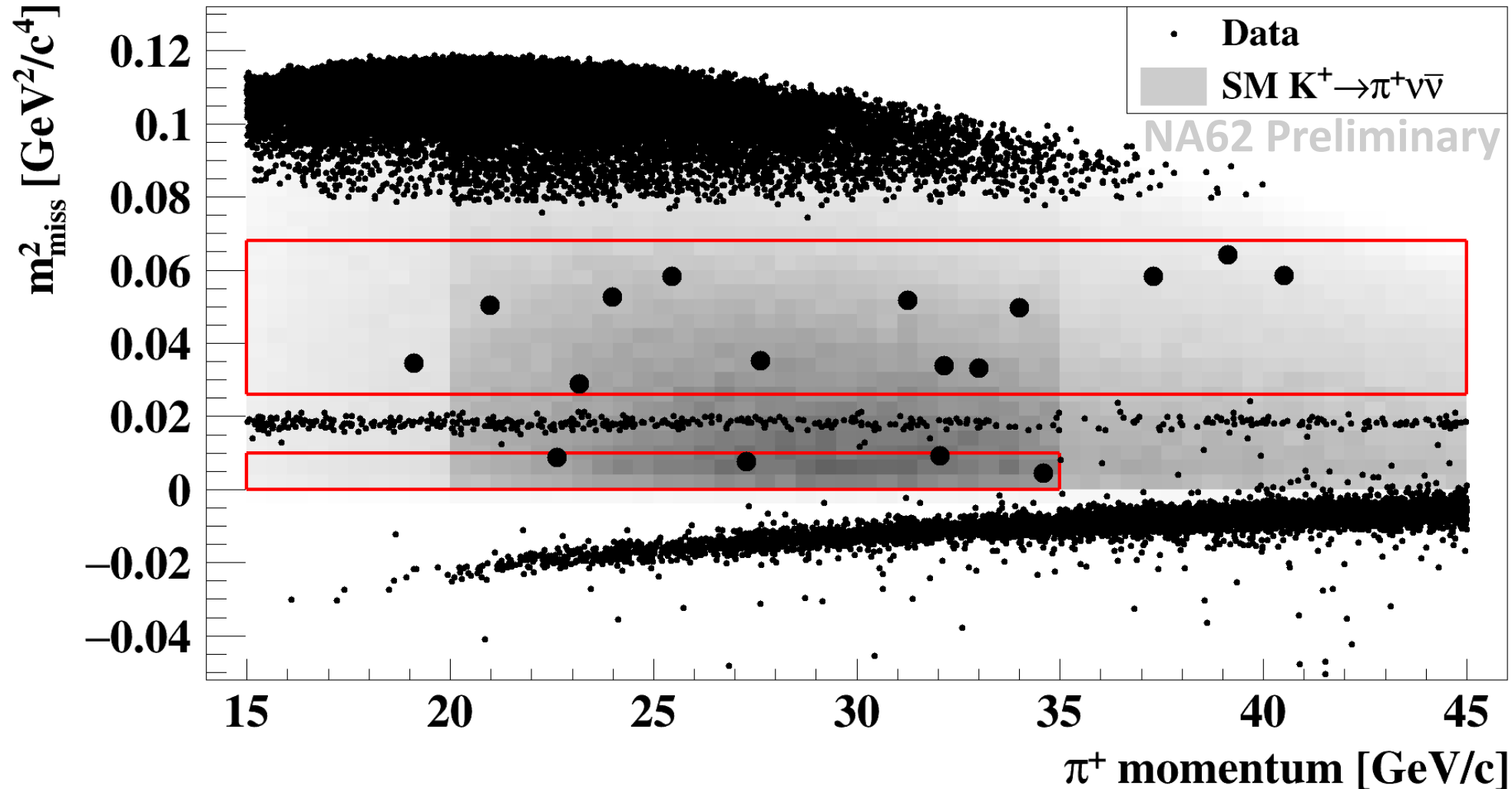


- Data samples defined by inverting signal selection criteria
- The sensitivity of some control samples comparable to the S.E.S.

Before unblinding 2018 data

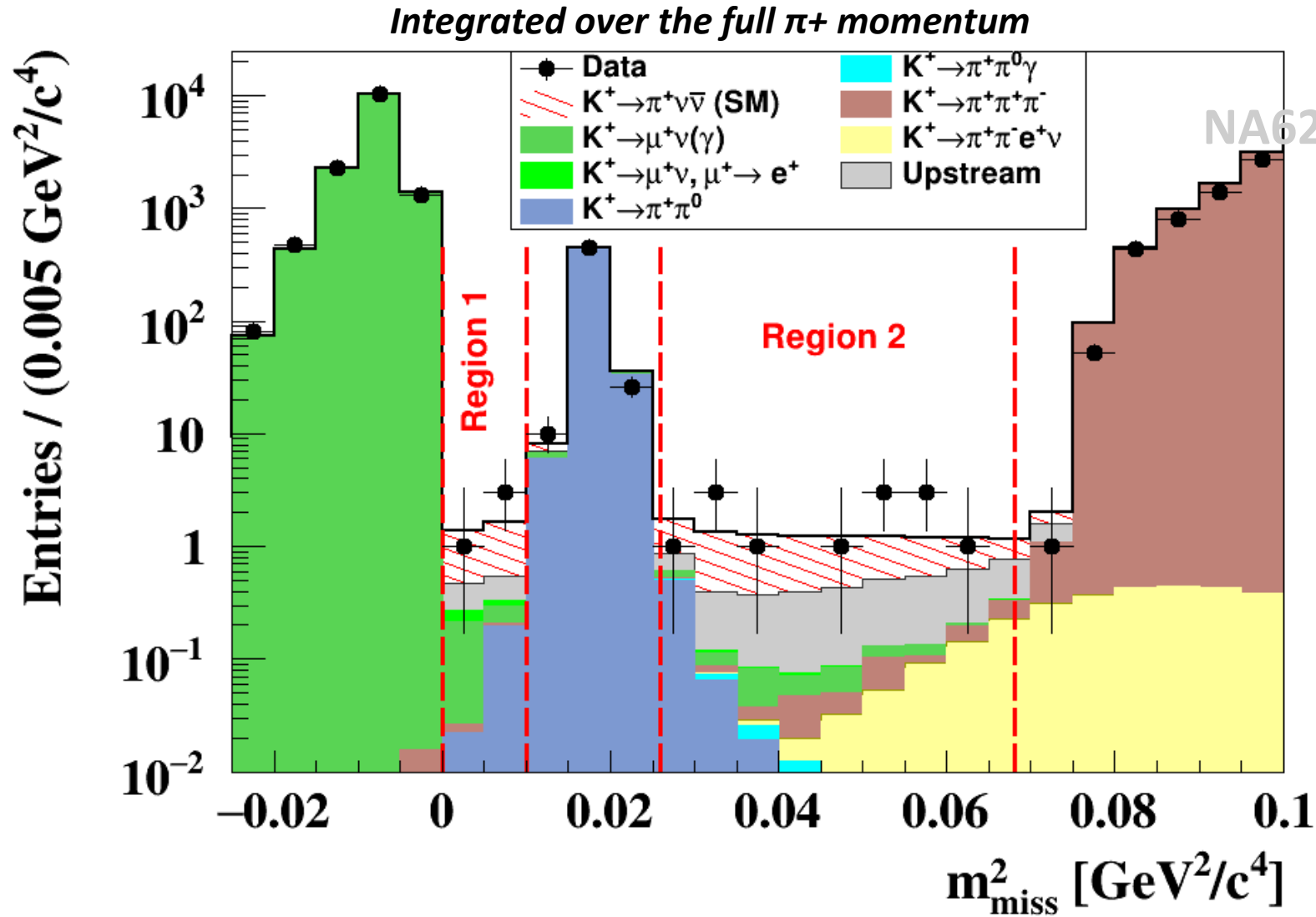


Result



5.3 background + 7.6 SM signal events expected, 17 events observed

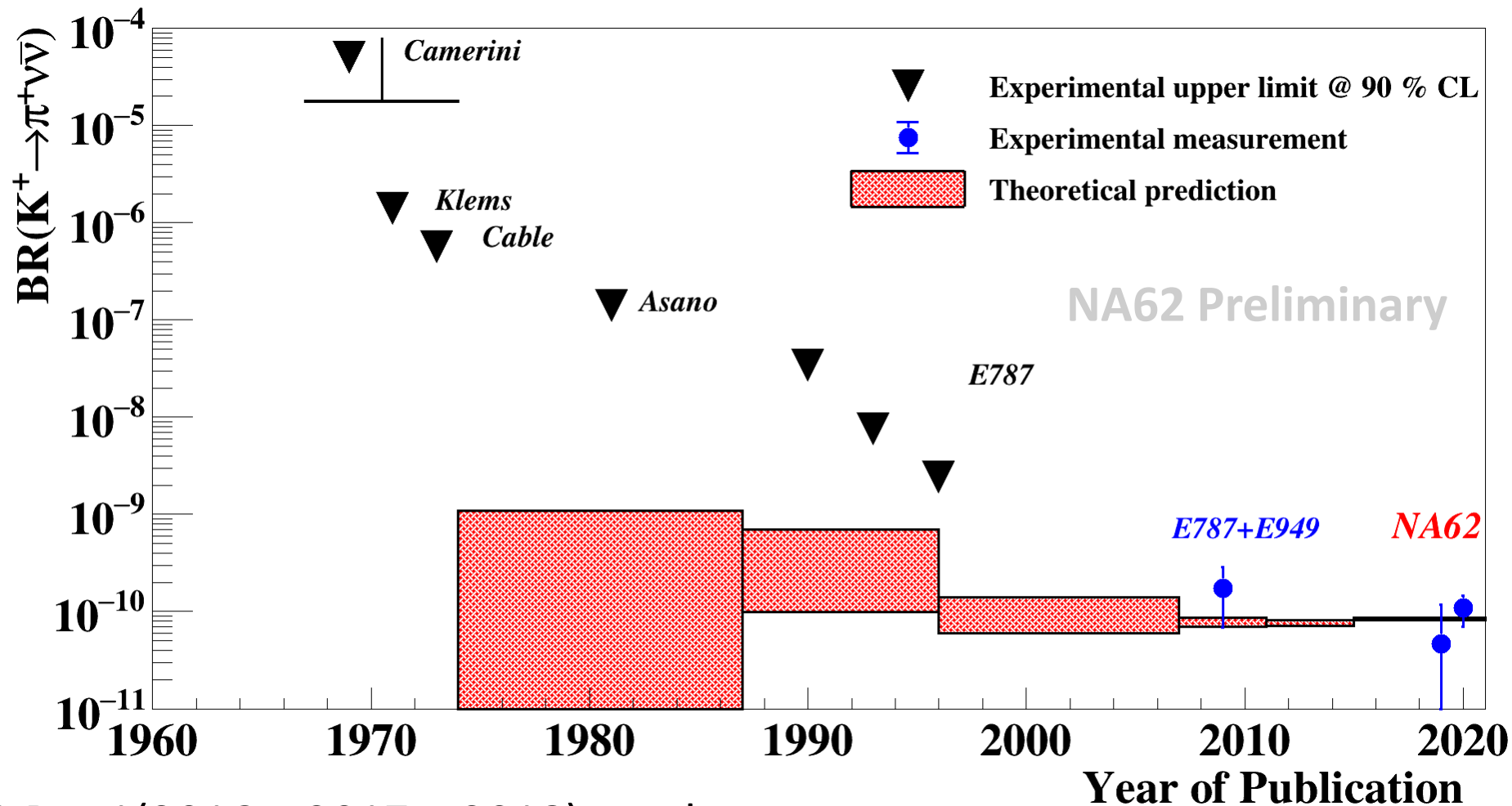
m_{miss}^2 signal and background in the 2018 data



NA62 Preliminary



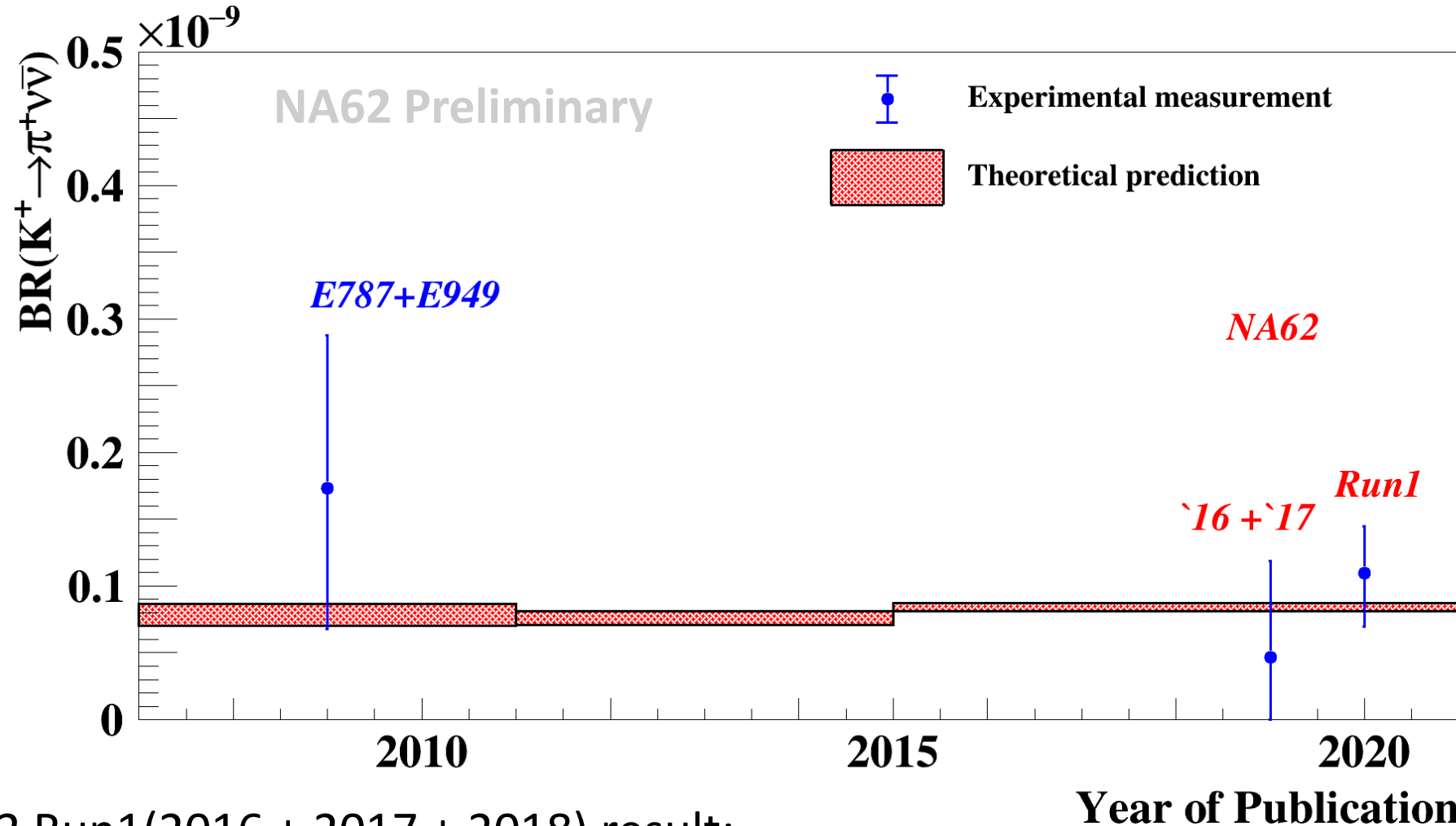
$K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ Result and historical context



NA62 Run1(2016 + 2017 + 2018) result:

$$\text{Br}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (11.0_{-3.5}^{+4.0} \text{stat} \pm 0.3 \text{syst}) \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ (3.5}\sigma \text{ significance)}$$

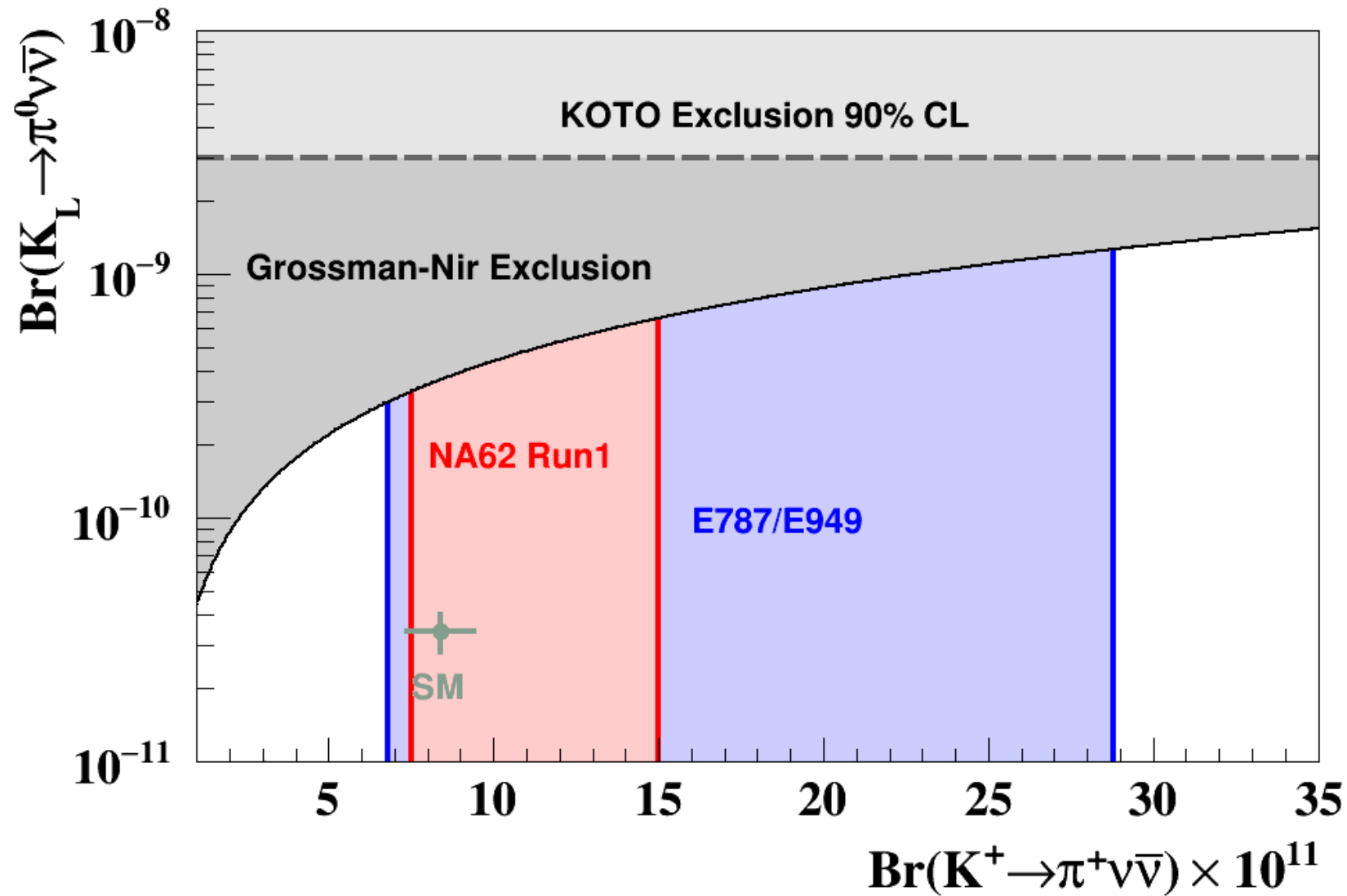
$K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ Result and historical context



NA62 Run1(2016 + 2017 + 2018) result:

$$\text{Br}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (11.0_{-3.5}^{+4.0} \text{stat} \pm 0.3 \text{syst}) \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ (3.5}\sigma \text{ significance)}$$

$K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ result and SM



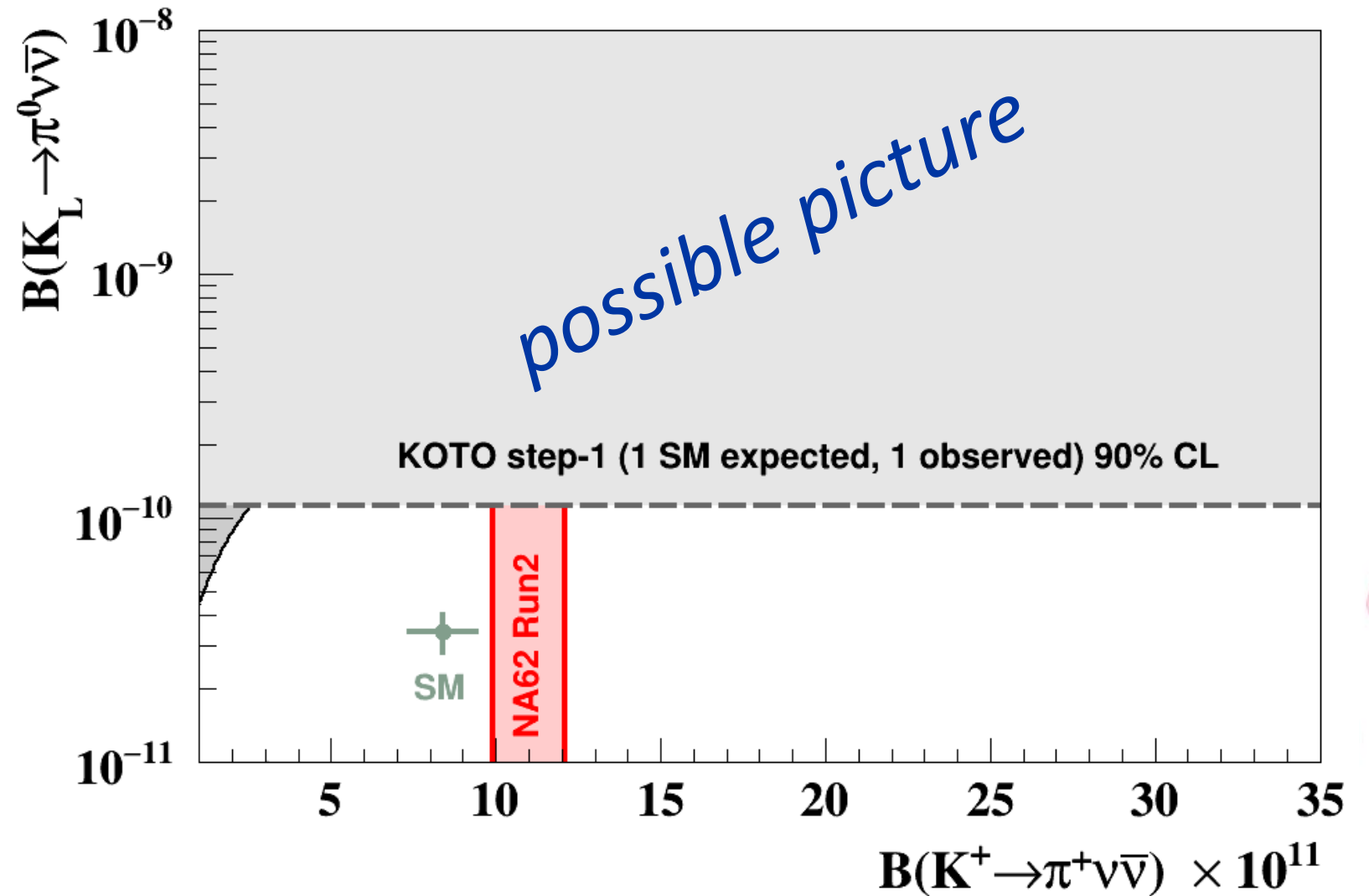
Future (<2025)

NA62 (Run2):

- Hardware improvements

KOTO (step 1):

- Main ring power increase
- Hardware improvements



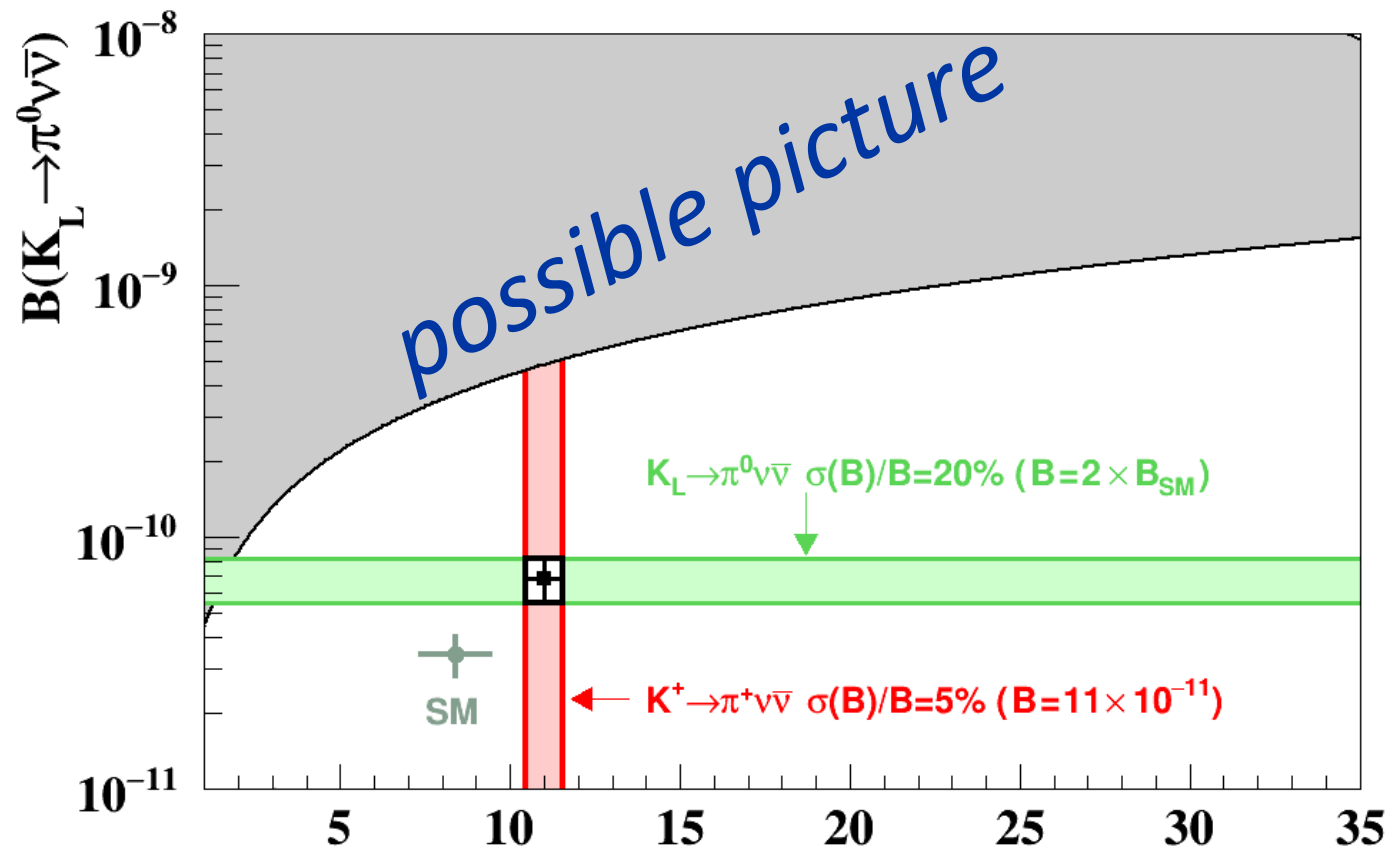
Future (≥ 2025)

K Facility at CERN:

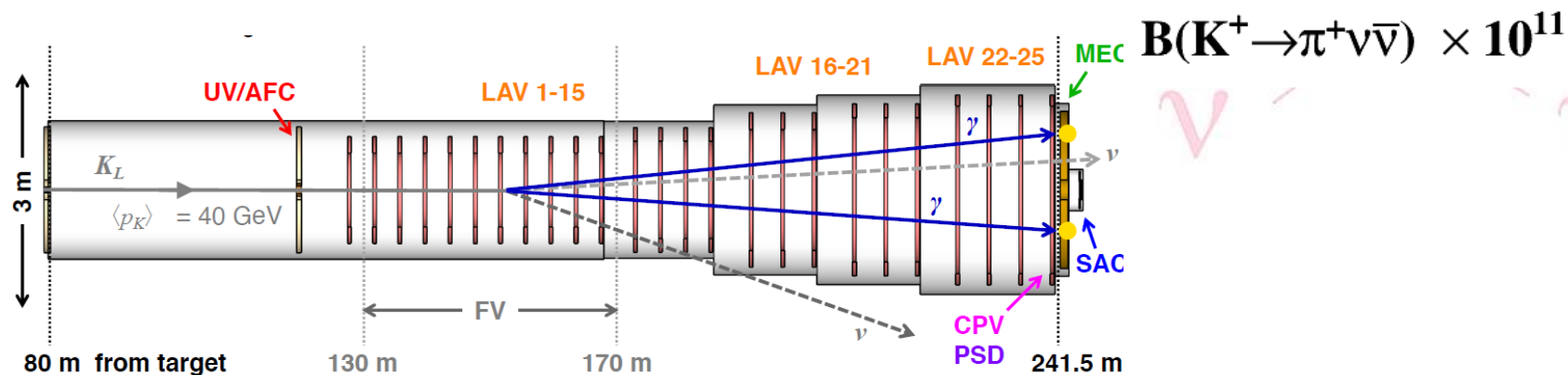
- K^+/K^0
- NA62-like / KLEVER

KOTO (step 2):

- Hardware upgrade



KLEVER



Result summary

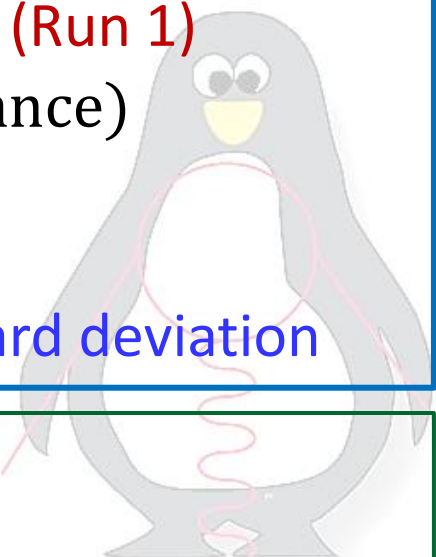
Result from the complete Run 1(2016 + 2017 + 2018):

- Observed events: $1 (2016) + 2 (2017) + 17(2018) = 20$ (Run 1)
- Expected background $\sim 0.2 (2016) + 1.5 (2017) + 5.3 (2018) = 7$ (Run 1)
- $\text{Br}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (11.0_{-3.5}^{+4.0}{}_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.3_{\text{syst}}) \cdot 10^{-11}$ (3.5σ significance)
- The most precise measurement of the BR obtained so far

The result is compatible with the SM prediction within one standard deviation

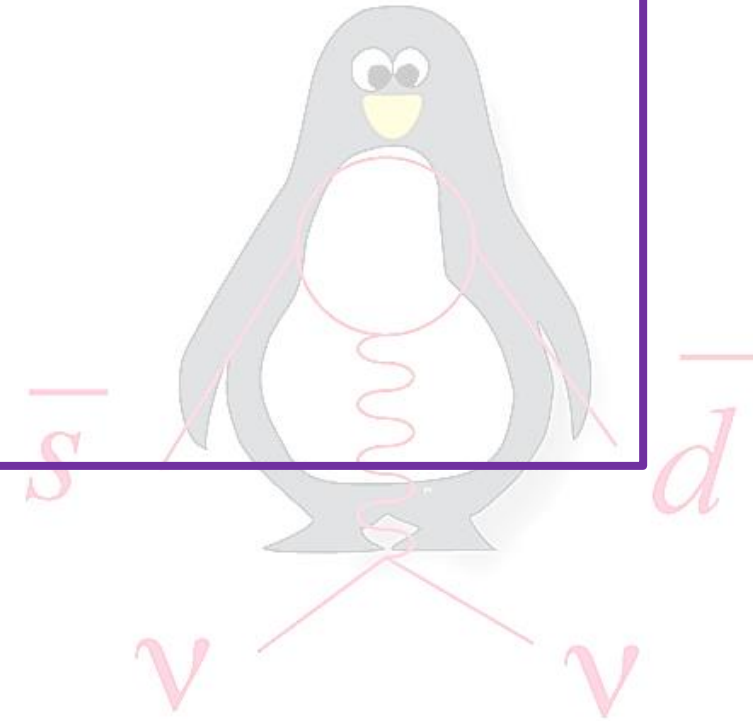
The next Run (2021):

- NA62 will resume data-taking in 2021
- Modifications of the NA62 beam line, installation of an additional beam spectrometer station and a veto counter to reduce upstream background
- New calorimeter downstream of MUV and upstream of the beam dump to further suppress kaon decay background
- More information can be found in the [NA62 SPSC addendum](#)



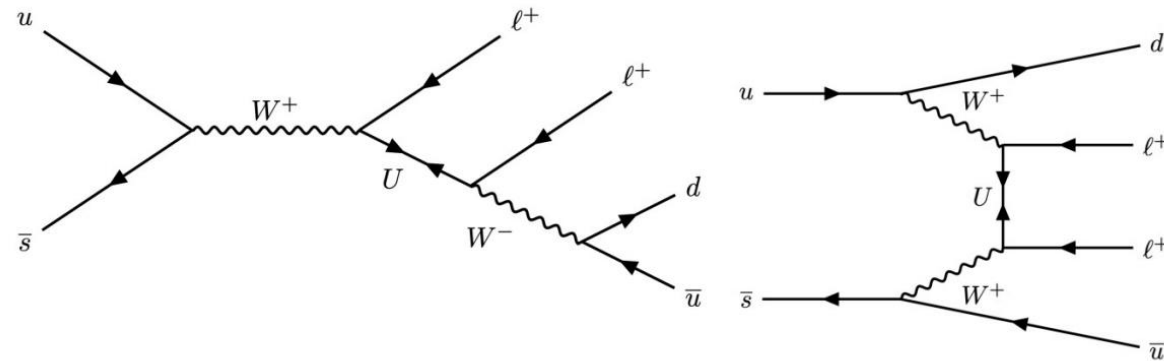
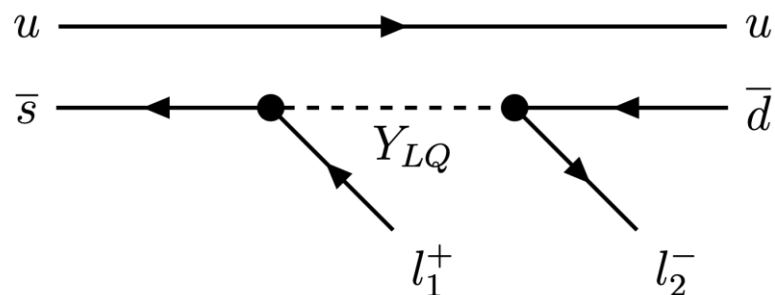
NA62: Broader physics program

- Rare kaon decays
- LNV/LFV in kaon decays
- Exotic searches:
 - HNL searches [[PLB 807 \(2020\) 135599](#)]
 - Dark Photon [[10.1007/JHEP05\(2019\)182](#)]
 - Axion-like particle



LFV & LNV in Kaon Decays

Violation of LN and LF conservation laws predicted in BSM models (for example via Majorana neutrinos or leptoquark)



Previous experimental results:

- $\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- e^+ e^+) < 6.4 \times 10^{-10}$ @ 90% CL
[BNL E865 : PRL 85 2877 (2000)]
- $\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+) < 8.6 \times 10^{-11}$ @ 90% CL
[CERN NA48/2 : PL B769 67 (2017)]

LNV/LFV searches in NA62:

- 2017 + 2018 data
- Blind analysis
- Normalization to SM decays ($K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ l^+ l^-$ and $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$)
- Acceptance:
 - ~5% for $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- e^+ e^+$ and $K^+ \rightarrow \pi e \mu$
 - 10% for $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+$
- Main background is due to pion mis-identification and pion decays in flight

LFV & LNV results

Decay	Previous <i>BR</i> upper limit @ 90% CL [PDG]	<i>NA62</i> <i>BR</i> upper limit @ 90% CL	
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+$	8.6×10^{-11}	4.2×10^{-11}	Improve by factor 2 with 17 data [PLB 797 (2019) 134794]
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- e^+ e^+$	6.4×10^{-10}	2.2×10^{-10}	Improve by factor 3 with 17 data [PLB 797 (2019) 134794]
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ e^+$	5.0×10^{-10}	4.2×10^{-11}	Improve by factor 12 with 17+18 data
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^- e^+$	5.2×10^{-10}	6.6×10^{-11}	Improve by factor 8 with 17+18 data
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ e^-$	1.3×10^{-11}		Not yet competitive with previous dedicated experiment
$K^+ \rightarrow \mu^- \nu e^+ e^+$	2.1×10^{-8}		Stay tuned... <i>SES</i> $\sim 1 \times 10^{-10}$ [17 data]
$K^+ \rightarrow e^- \nu \mu^+ \mu^+$	No previous limit...		Stay tuned... <i>SES</i> $\sim 5 \times 10^{-11}$ [17 data](first search)

Exotic searches example: HNL

A generic possibility of k sterile neutrino mass states:

$$\nu_\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^{3+k} U_{\alpha i} \nu_i. \quad (\alpha = e, \mu, \tau).$$

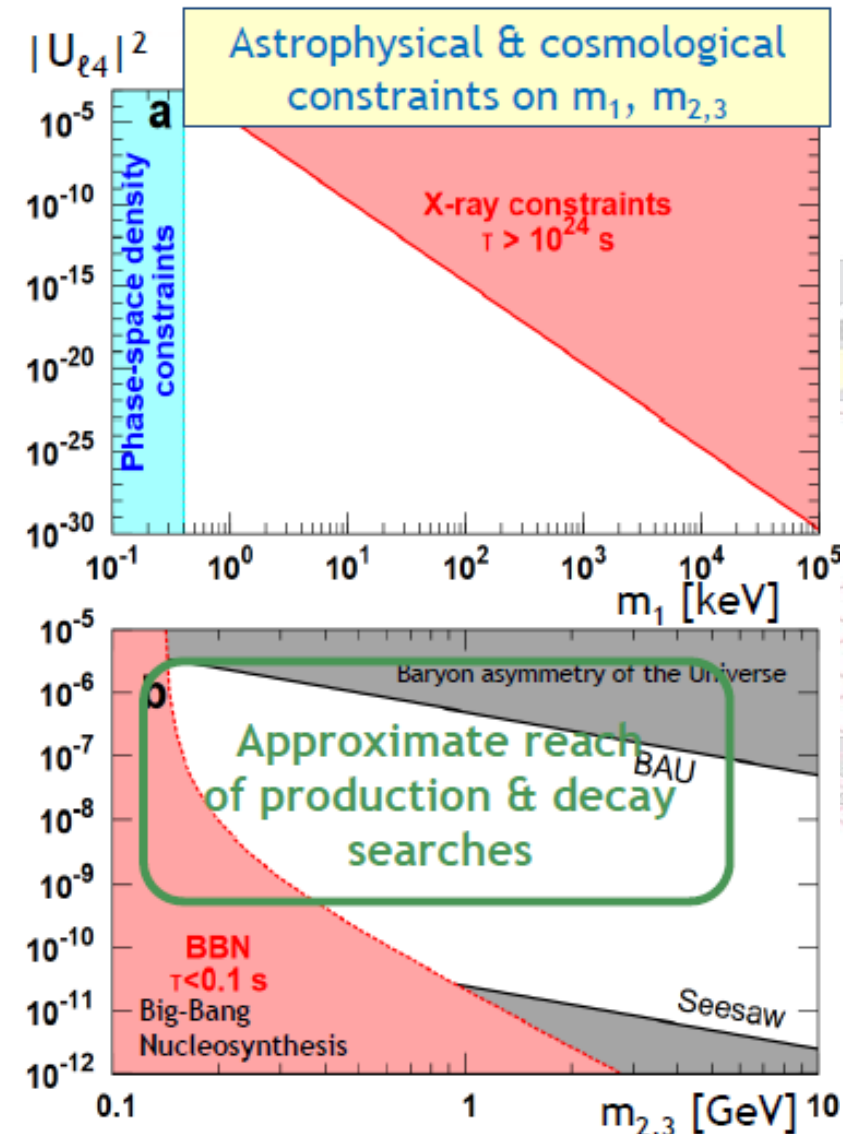
The “neutrino portal” is motivated by its relation to neutrino mass generation.

The ν MSM: the most economical theory accounting for ν masses and oscillations, baryogenesis, and dark matter.

[Asaka, Blanchet, Shaposhnikov, *PLB* 631 (2005) 151]

Three Heavy Neutral Leptons (HNLs):
 $m_1 \sim 10$ keV [DM candidate]; $m_{2,3} \sim 1$ GeV/ c^2 .

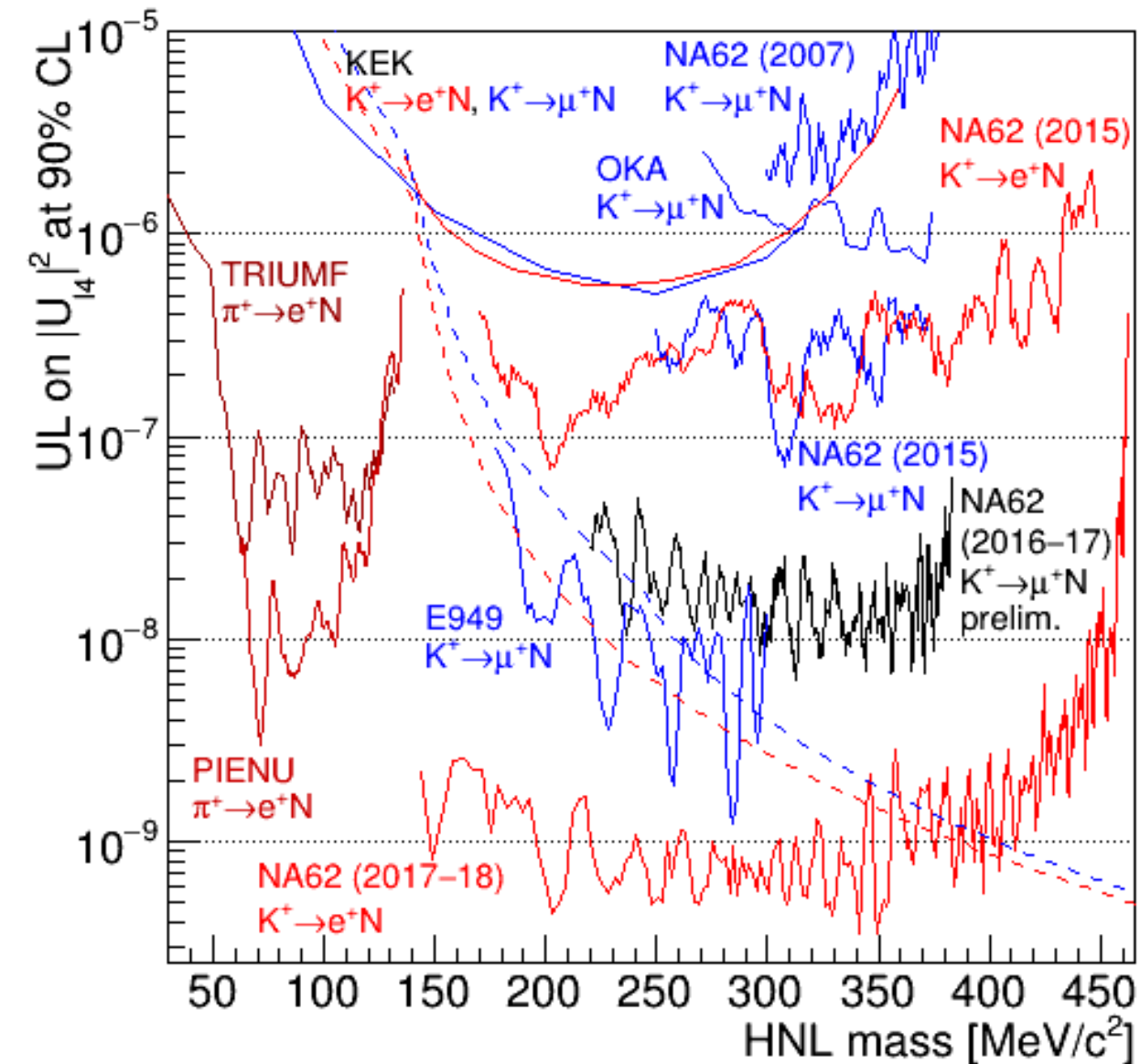
GeV-scale HNLs can be observed via their **production** and **decay**.



Shaposhnikov, *JHEP* 0808 (2008) 008

Boyarsky et al., *Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci.* 59 (2009) 191

HNL summary



- Full 2016 - 18 data set for $|U_{e4}|^2$, $\sim 1/3$ of the data set for $|U_{\mu4}|^2$.
- Improvement over earlier production searches by up to two orders of magnitude in terms of $|U_{e4}|^2$.
- For $|U_{e4}|^2$, the BBN-allowed range is excluded up to 340 MeV. [PLB 807 (2020) 135599]
- For $|U_{\mu4}|^2$, the sensitivity approaches the E949 one; the search extends to 383 MeV.

Rare Kaon Decay example: $(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-)$

FCNC decay described in the scope of ChPT, mediated by one photon exchange $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \gamma^*$

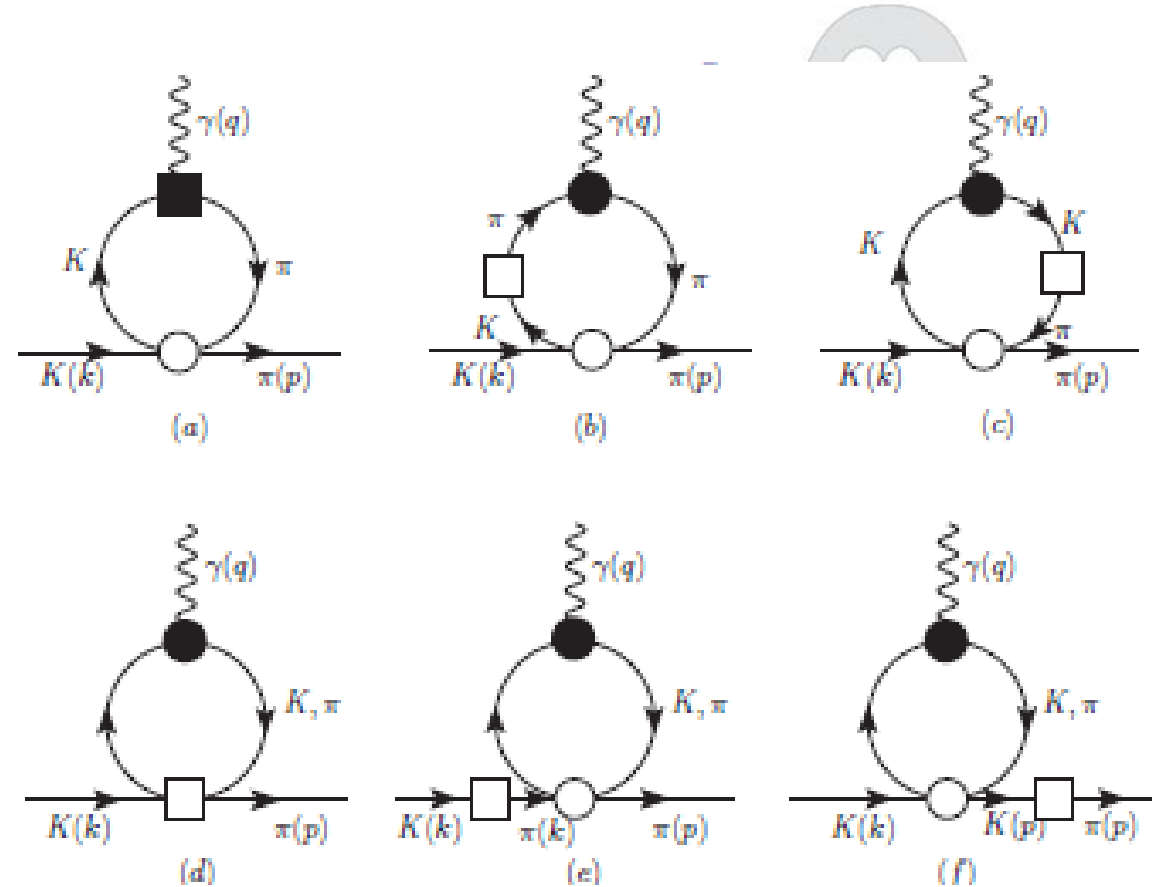
[Nucl. Phys. B291 (1987) 692–719], [Phys. Part. Nucl. Lett. 5 (2008) 76–84]

Together with $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ e^+ e^-$ allow to Test the **Lepton Flavour Universality**.

A precise measurement of these decays could provide an evidence complementary to the B anomaly seen by LHCb.

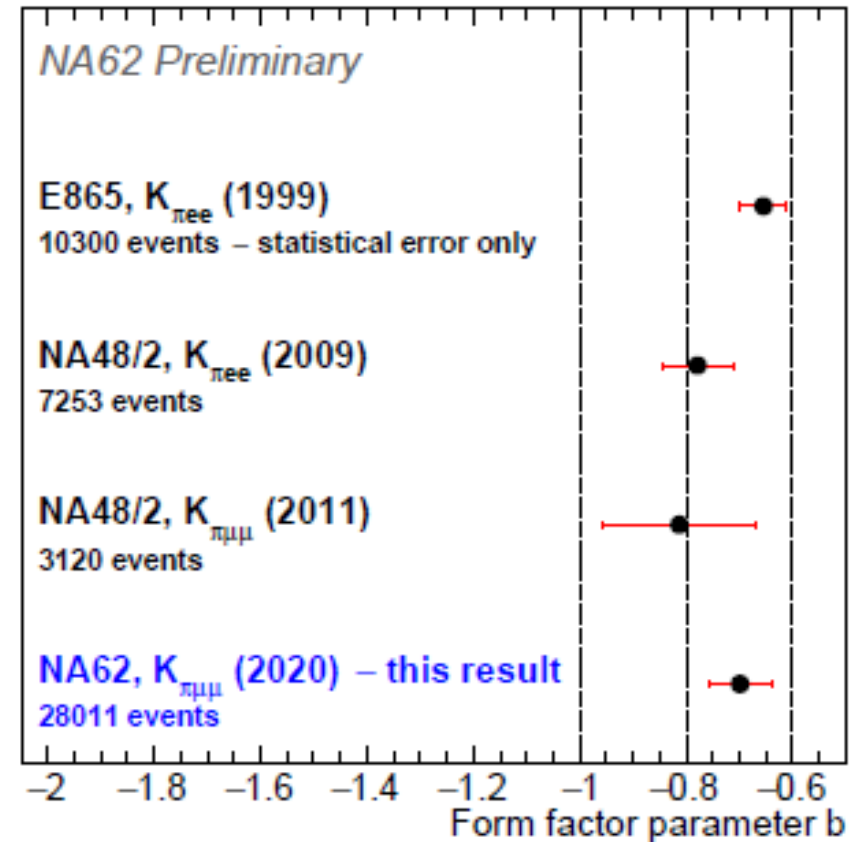
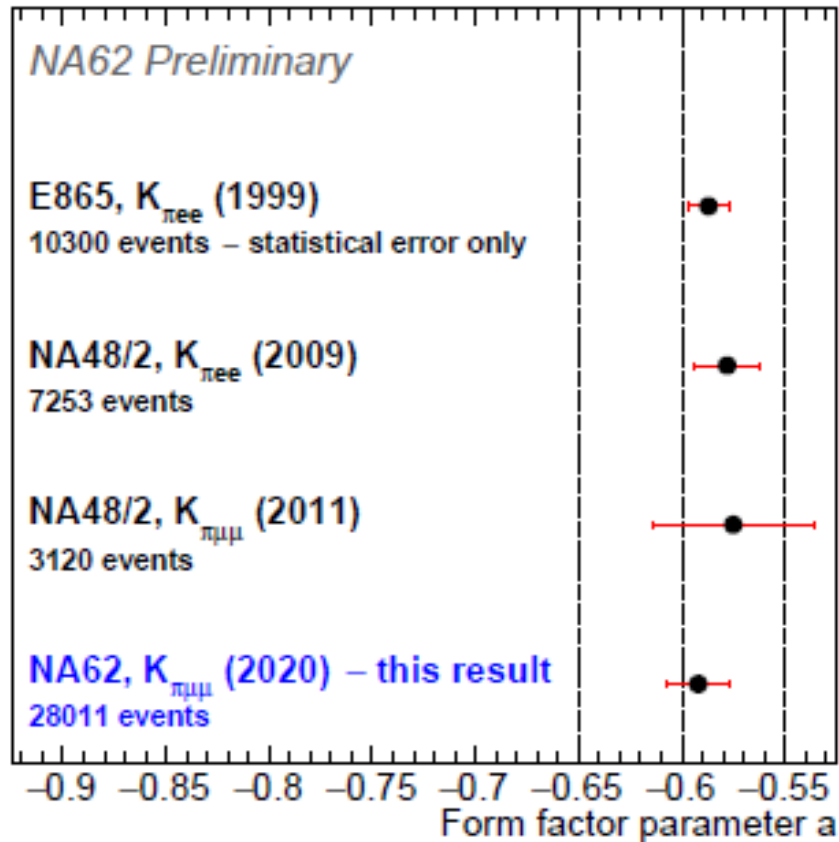
[Phys. Rev. Lett. 122, 191801 (2019)]

[JHEP 02, 049 (2019)]



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

- $N_K \approx 6.76 \cdot 10^{12}$ using the 2017+2018 data sample
- Preliminary $K_{\pi\mu\mu}$ result consistent with $K_{\pi ee}$ FF parameters \rightarrow no tension in LFU observed



$$\text{Br}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-) = (9.27 \pm 0.11) \cdot 10^{-8}$$

E865, $K_{\pi ee}$: [Phys. Rev. Lett. 83 (1999) 4482-4485]

NA48/2, $K_{\pi ee}$: [Phys. Lett. B 677 (2009) 246-254]

NA48/2, $K_{\pi\mu\mu}$: [Phys. Lett. B 697 (2011) 107-115]

LFU Fellini project

I have started recently a FELLINI project that aims to measure precisely (enhancing the precision by a factor 5) the form factor parameters a and b , by collecting $O(200k)$ candidates of $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$ and $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ e^+ e^-$ decays.

Current limitations:

- Statistic error: during the 2016-2018 run there was a trigger downscaling conditions that limited the collected statistic;
- Systematics error:
 - The main source of systematic error is due to the tracks' reconstruction algorithm (optimized for one track events, mis-reconstruction due to accidental hits);
 - A secondary source of error is due to the trigger inefficiency: STRAW tracker high level trigger and charged hodoscope hardware trigger.

$$a_{NA62}^{\mu\mu} = -0.564 \pm 0.034_{stat} \pm 0.024_{syst} \pm 0.001_{ext} = -0.564 \pm 0.042$$

$$b_{NA62}^{\mu\mu} = -0.797 \pm 0.118_{stat} \pm 0.114_{syst} \pm 0.003_{ext} = -0.797 \pm 0.164$$

Conclusion

$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$:

- Result from the complete Run 1(2016 + 2017 + 2018) compatible with the SM prediction within one standard deviation
- $\text{Br}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (11.0_{-3.5}^{+4.0}{}_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.3_{\text{syst}}) \cdot 10^{-11}$ (3.5 σ significance)
- The most precise measurement of the BR obtained so far

- Upper limit improved for LFV and LNV channels ($K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- l^+ l^+$ and $K^+ \rightarrow \pi e \mu$)
- $|U_{\mu 4}|^2$ and $|U_{e 4}|^2$ limit improved for the HNL
- Preliminary $K_{\pi\mu\mu}$ result consistent with $K_{\pi ee}$ FF parameters

Spare

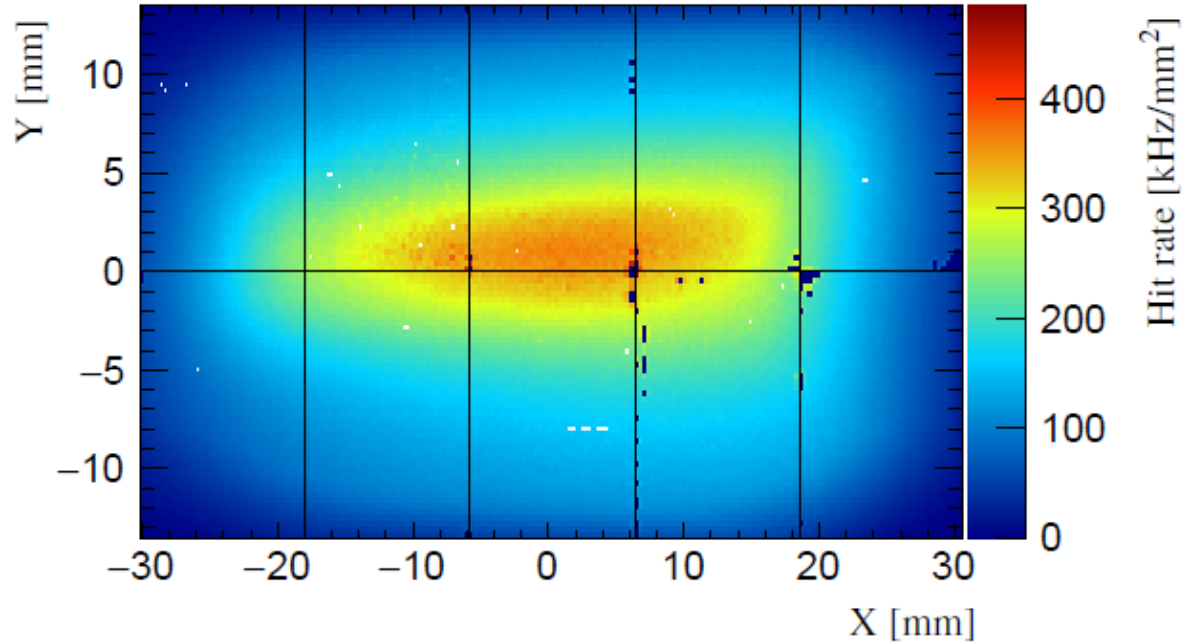
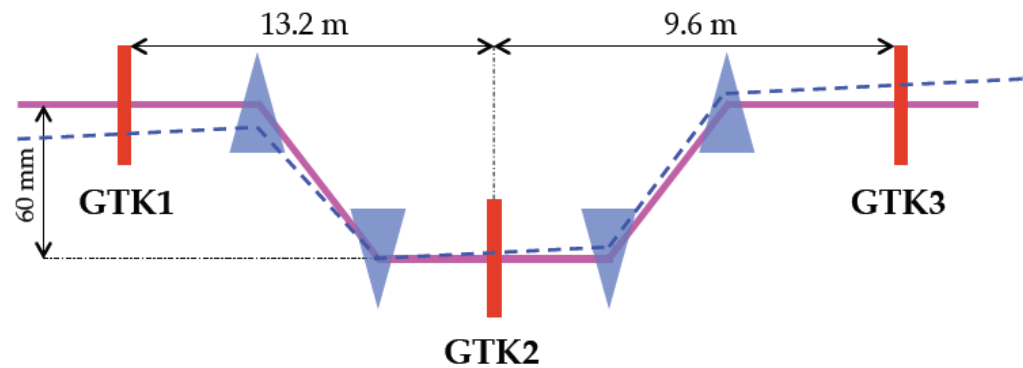
GigaTracker (GTK)

Beam Conditions:

- Overall Rate 750 MHz
- In beam centre 140 KHz/pixel

Precision:

- Hit Time resolution < 200 ps
- Direction resolution = 16 μ rad
- Momentum resolution = 0.2%

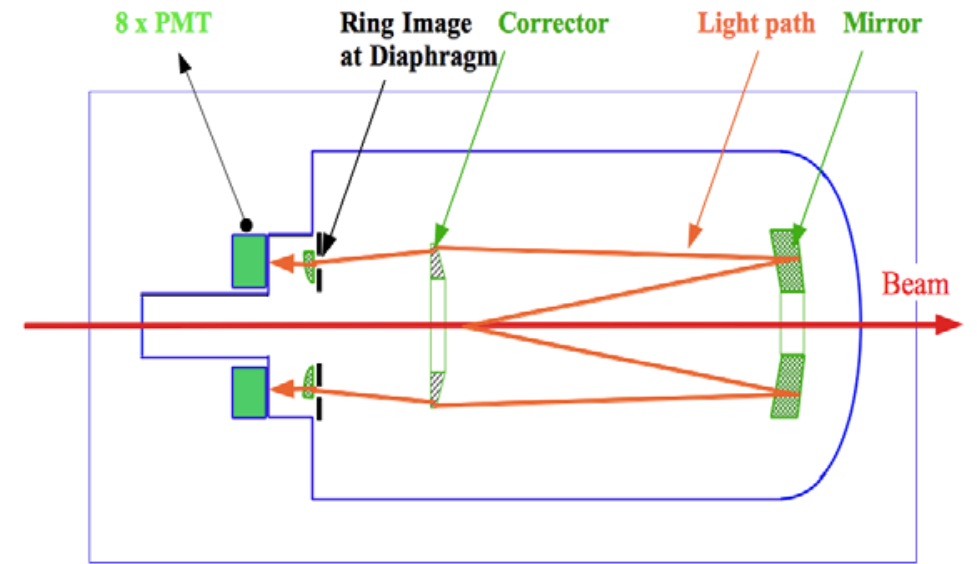


Overview

- 18000 pixel/station (200 x 90)
- 300 x 300 μ m²
- Thickness = 500 μ m (< 0.5% X_0)
- Total area = 62.8 x 27 mm²

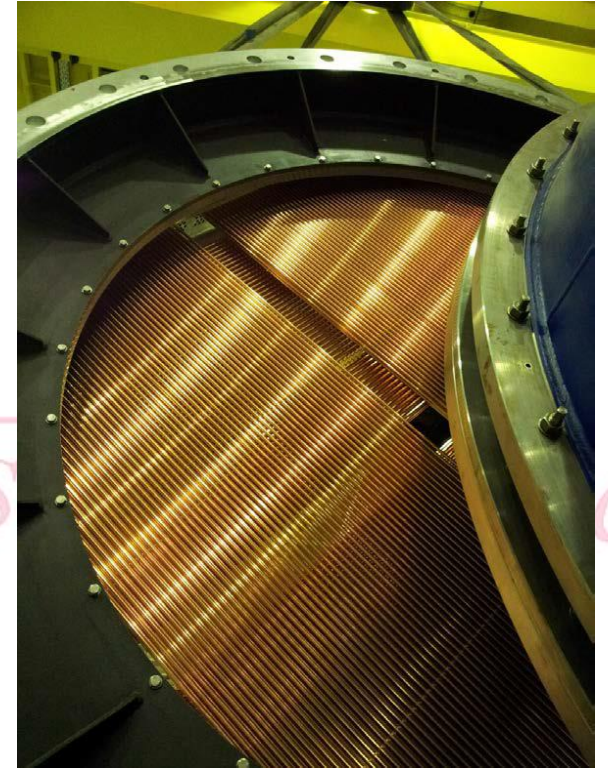
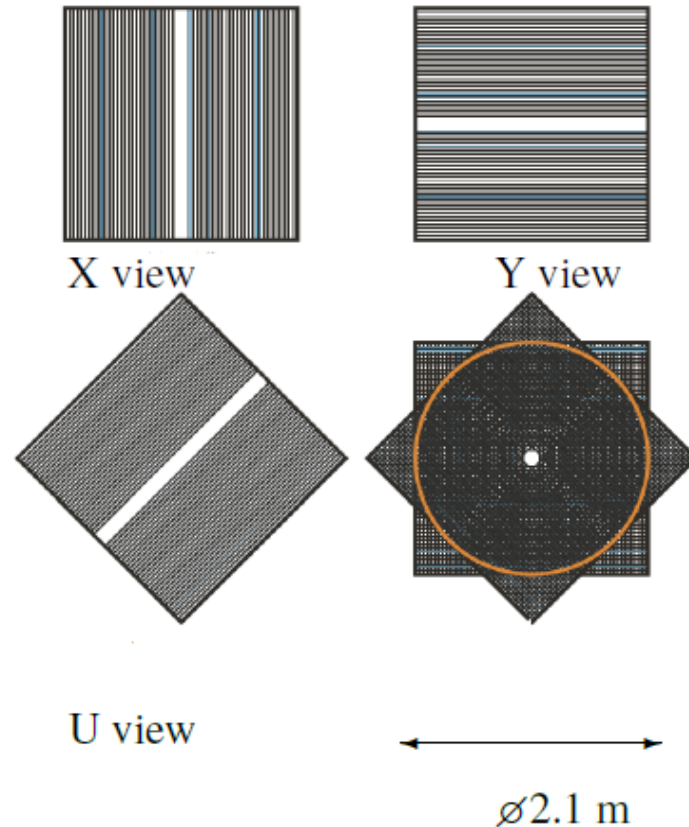
KTAG

- Filled with nitrogen (N₂) at 1.75 bar at room temperature
- total of $3.5 \times 10^{-2} X_0$ of material
- Can be filled with H₂ ($7 \times 10^{-3} X_0$)
- Time resolution = 70 ps



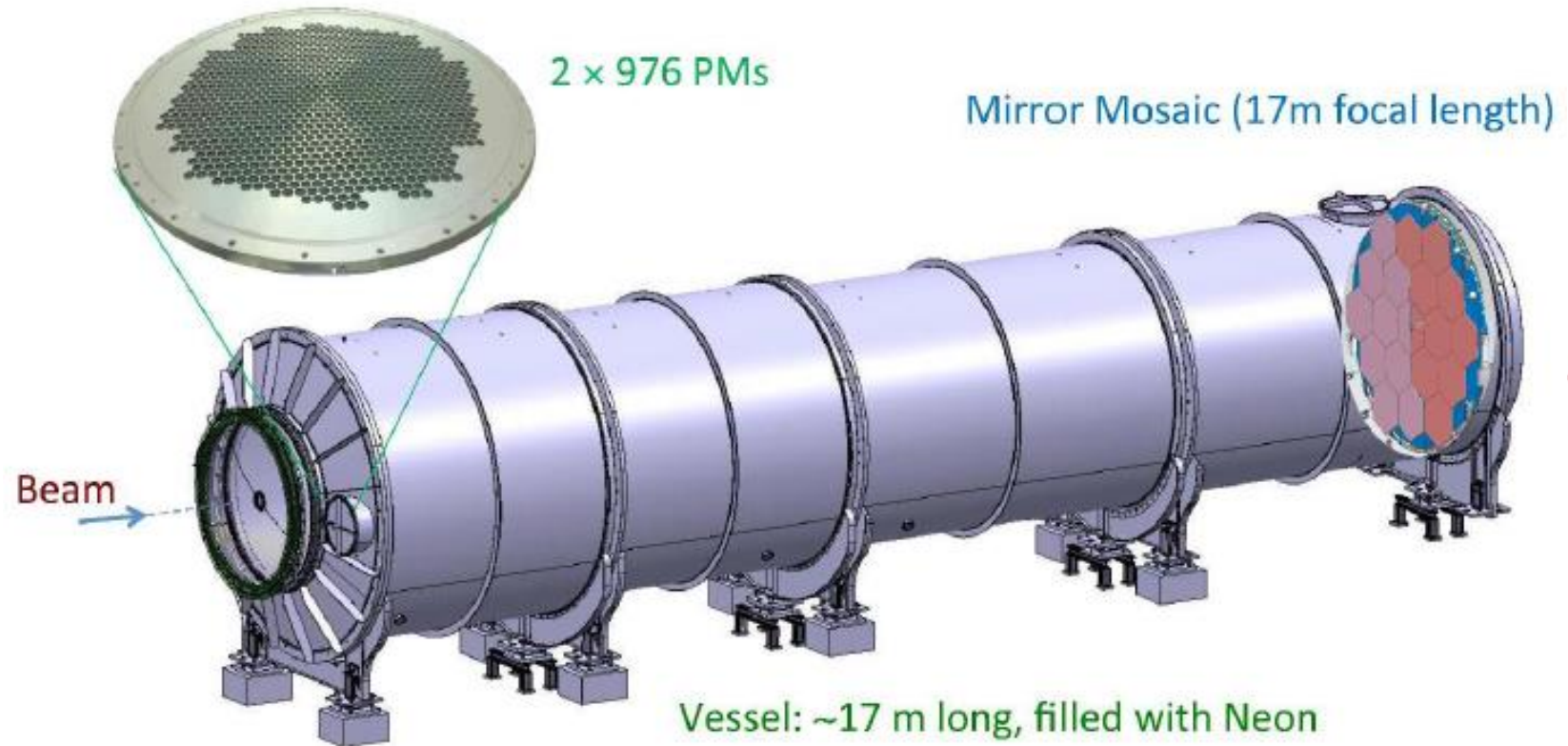
Straw Tracker

- Ultra-thin Straws installed in Vacuum
- 4 Chambers each measures 4 coordinates (views)
- High accuracy (130 μ m per View)
- High efficiency
- Straws: 2.1m long and $\phi = 9.8$ mm;
- Straw Material: 50 nm Cu + 20 nm Au on 36 μ m of Mylar
- Total 7168 Straws (4x4x4x112)
- Gas: Ar/CO₂ (70/30)
- Material Budget of the Spectrometer: 1.8% of X₀



RICH

- 17.5 m long
- 4.2 m wide
- 18 hexagonal mirrors
- Neon at about 990 mbar
- Time resolution < 100 ps



Large-angle veto system (LAV)

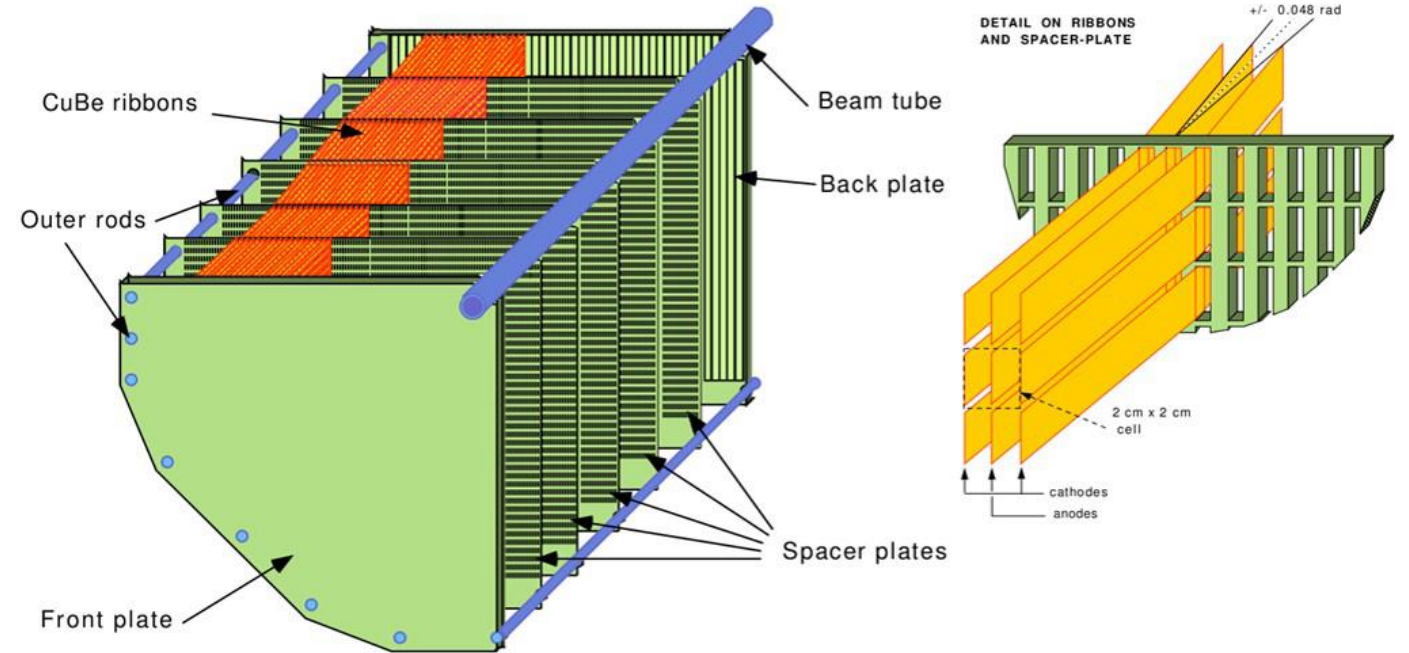
- 12 stations
- Full geometric coverage from 8.5 to 50 mrad
- In only 0.2% of $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0$, decayed in the fiducial region, one photon is outside acceptance
- Inefficiency $< 10^{-4}$



\bar{d}

Liquid Krypton Calorimeter

- quasi-homogeneous calorimeter
- filled with about 9000 litres of liquid krypton at 120 K
- 127 cm depth ($27 X_0$)
- 13248 longitudinal cells with a cross section of about $2 \times 2 \text{ cm}^2$



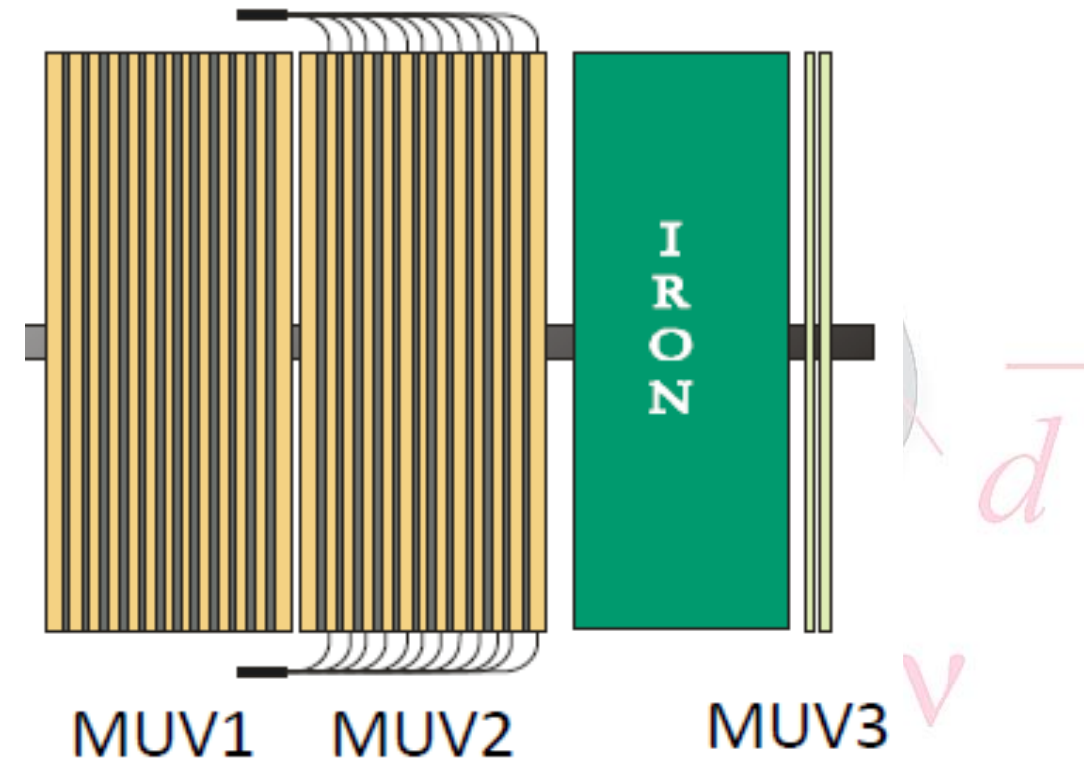
Muon Veto

MUV 1 + 2

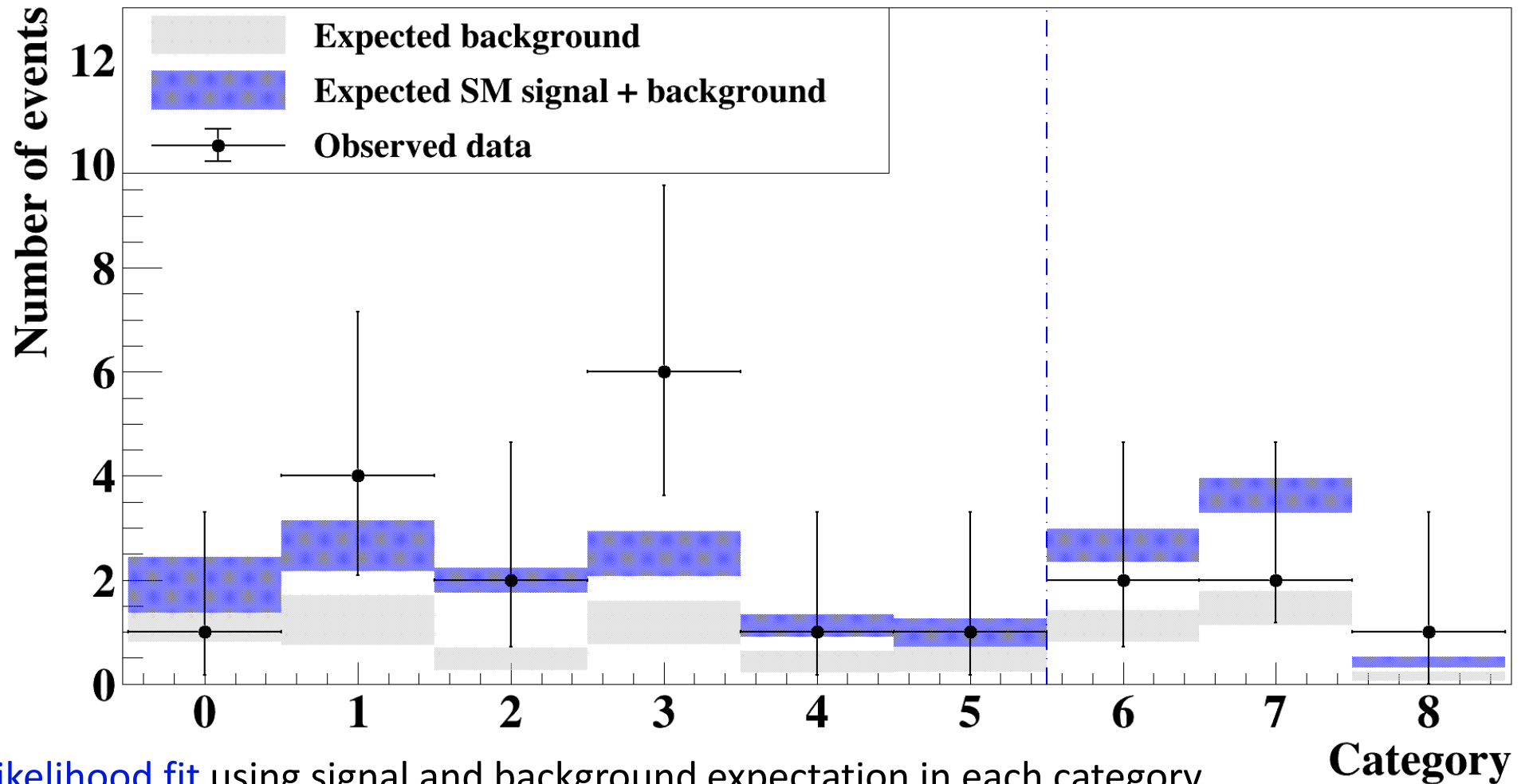
- iron/scintillator sandwich
- 24(MUV1) and 22(MUV2) detection layers
- Alternating horizontal and vertical scintillator strips

MUV3

- After 80 cm of iron
- Fast muon trigger
- Tiles scintillators + PMT

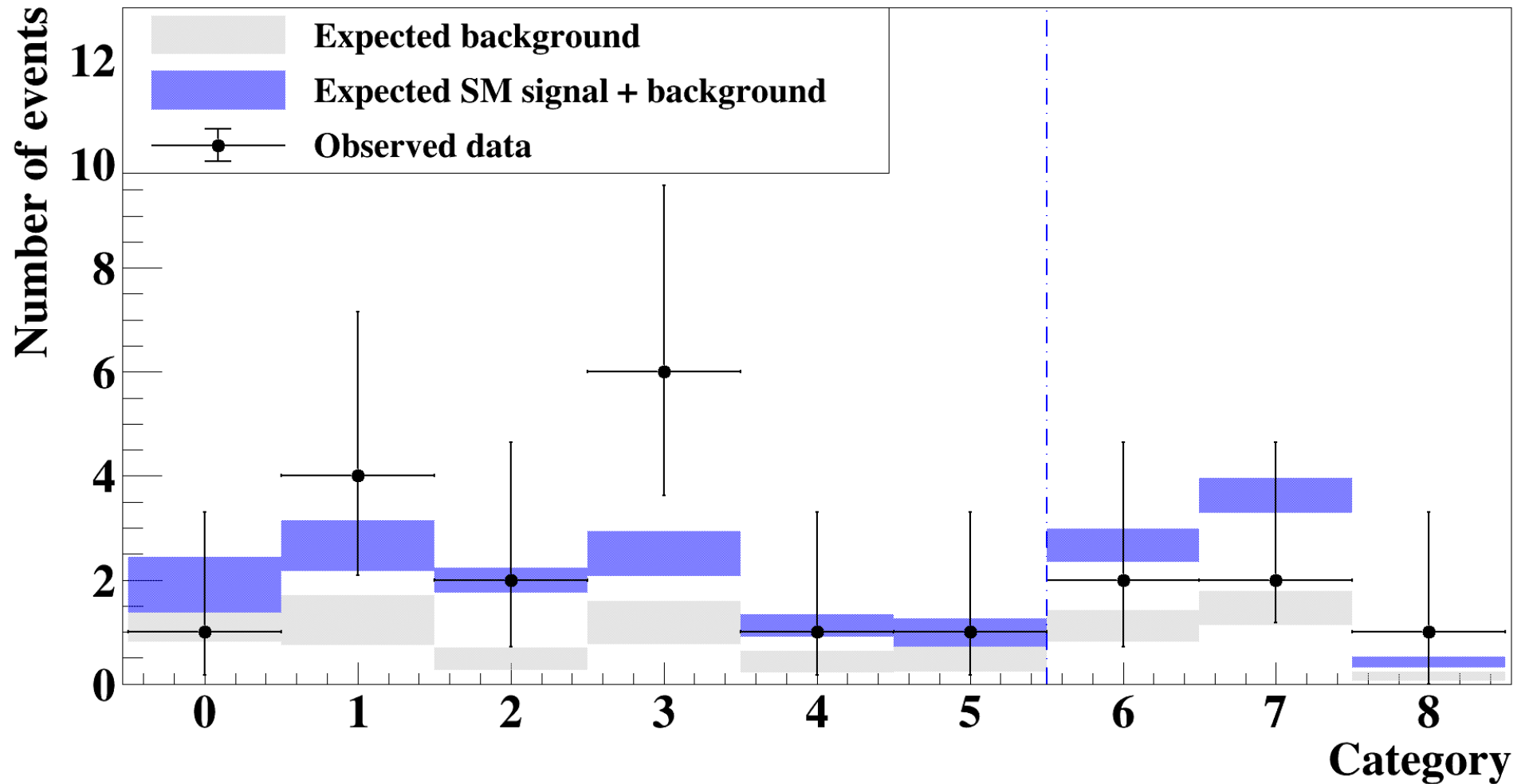


Result



- **Maximum likelihood fit** using signal and background expectation in each category
- Two samples with different hardware configurations in 2018:
 - 2018_S1 ~80% of the 2018 dataset, 5 GeV/c wide bins from 15-45 GeV/c
 - 2018_S2 ~ 20% of the 2018 dataset, integrated over momentum
 - 2016 and 2017 datasets, integrated over momentum added as separate categories

Result

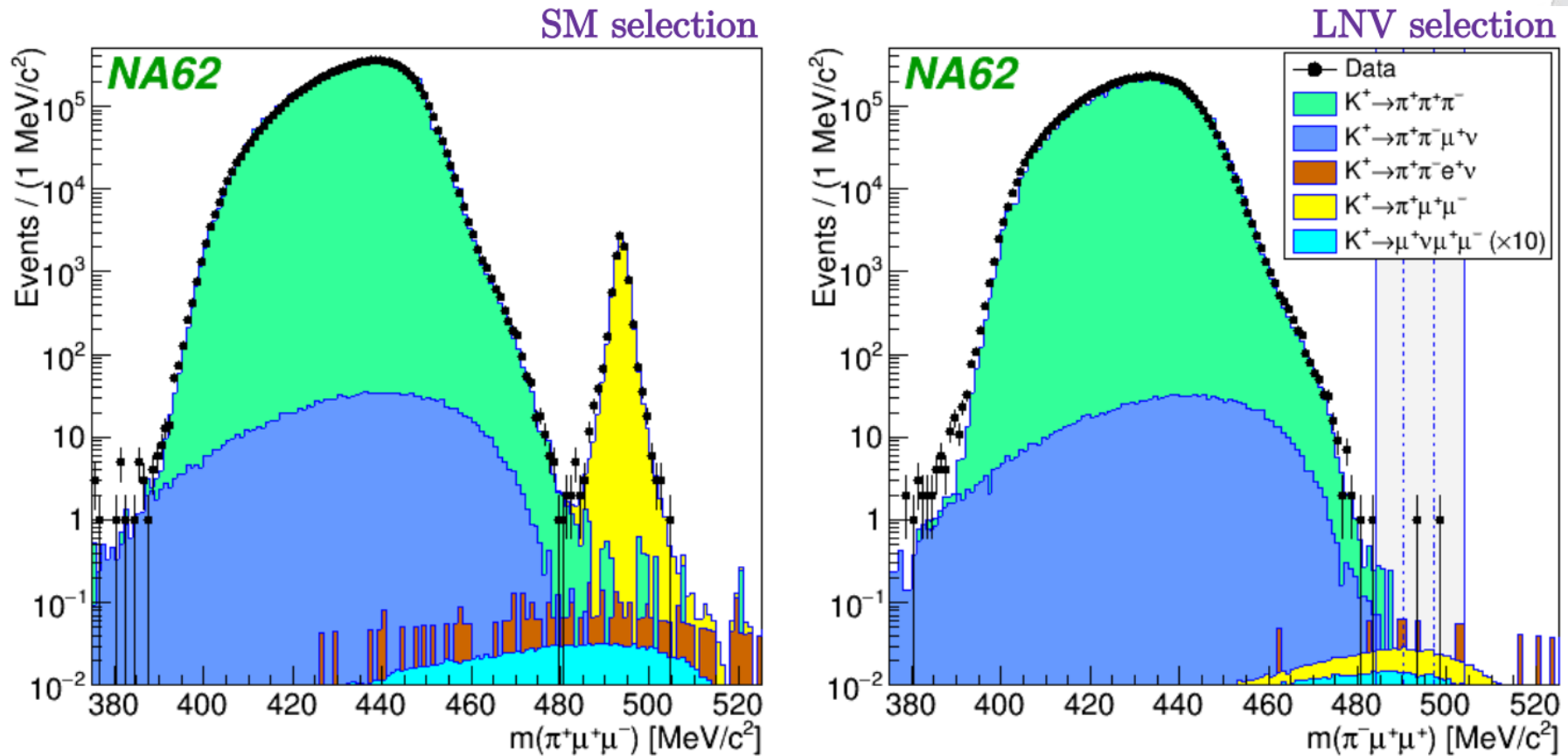


NA62 Run1(2016 + 2017 + 2018) result:

$$\text{Br}(\text{K}^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (11.0_{-3.5}^{+4.0} \text{stat} \pm 0.3 \text{syst}) \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ (3.5}\sigma \text{ significance)}$$

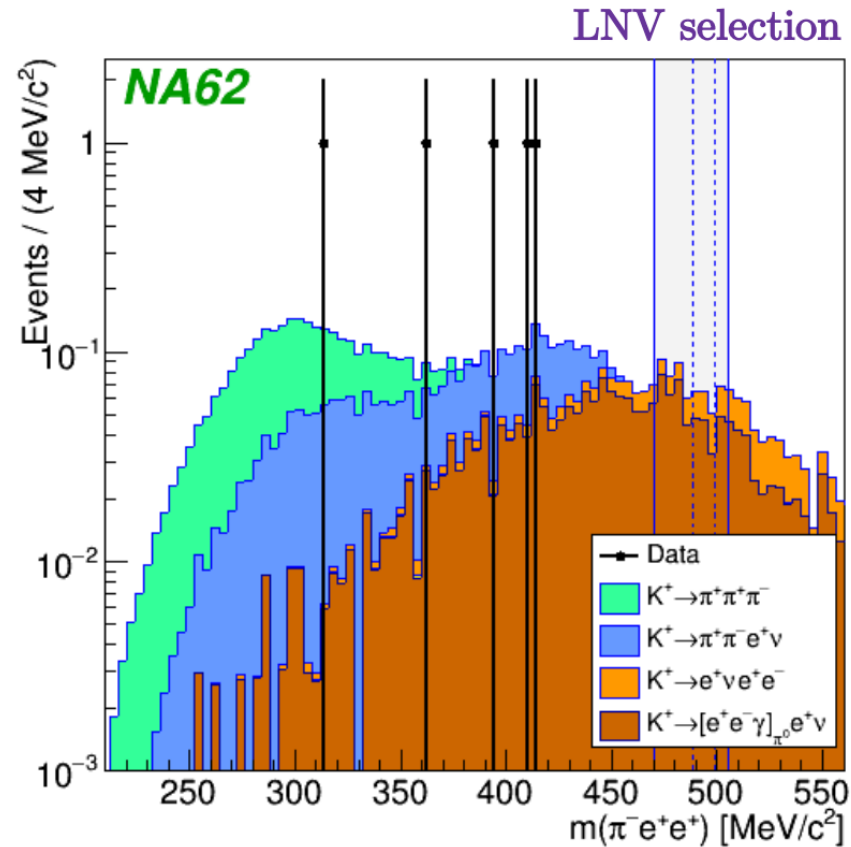
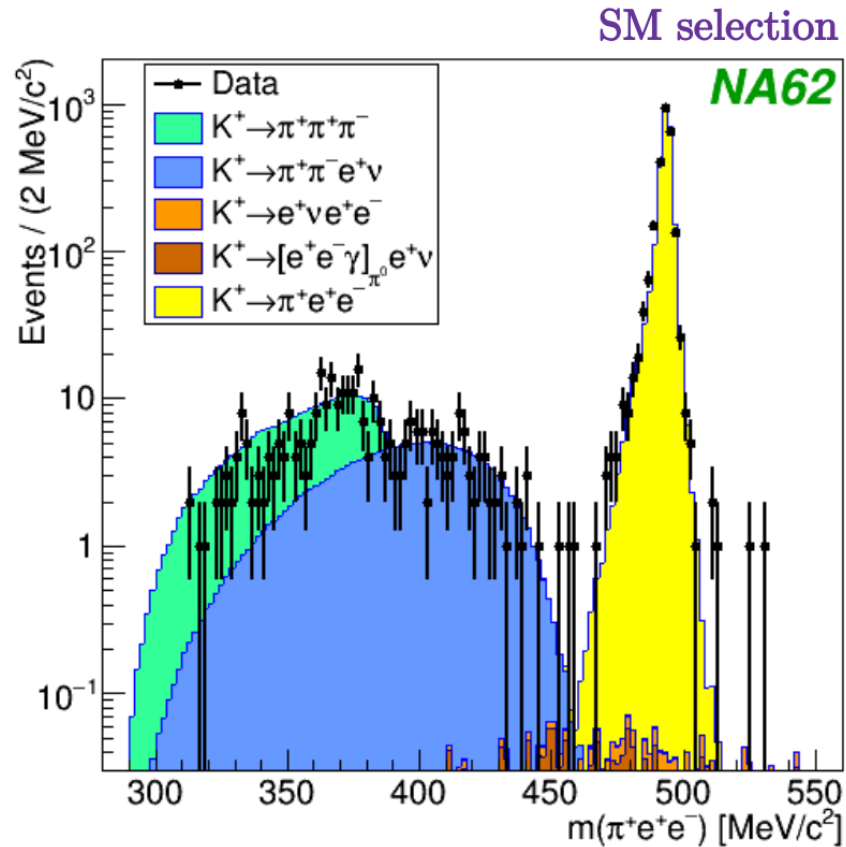
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+$

- Expected background in the blinded region: 0.91 ± 0.41
- One candidate observed in the signal region
- $BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+) < 4.2 \cdot 10^{-11}$ @ 90% CL



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

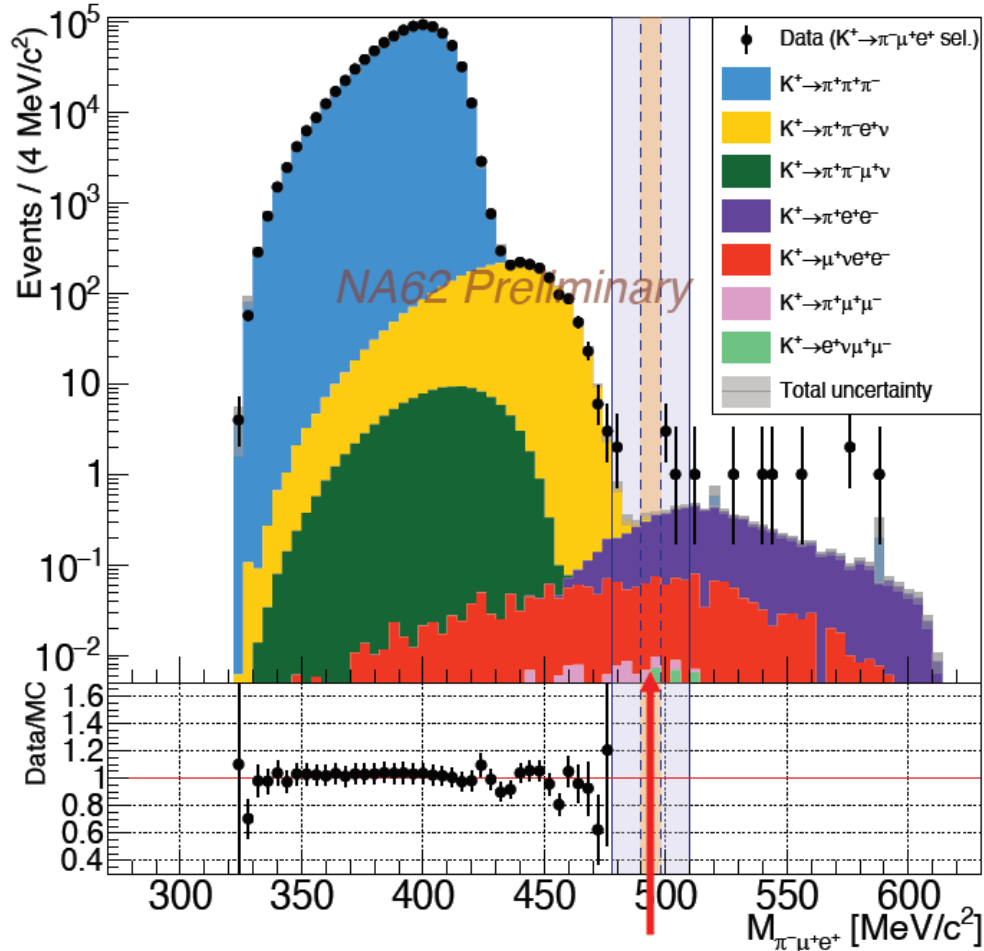
- Expected background in the blinded region: 0.16 ± 0.03
- No candidate observed in the signal region
- $BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- e^+ e^+) < 2.2 \cdot 10^{-10}$ @ 90% CL



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

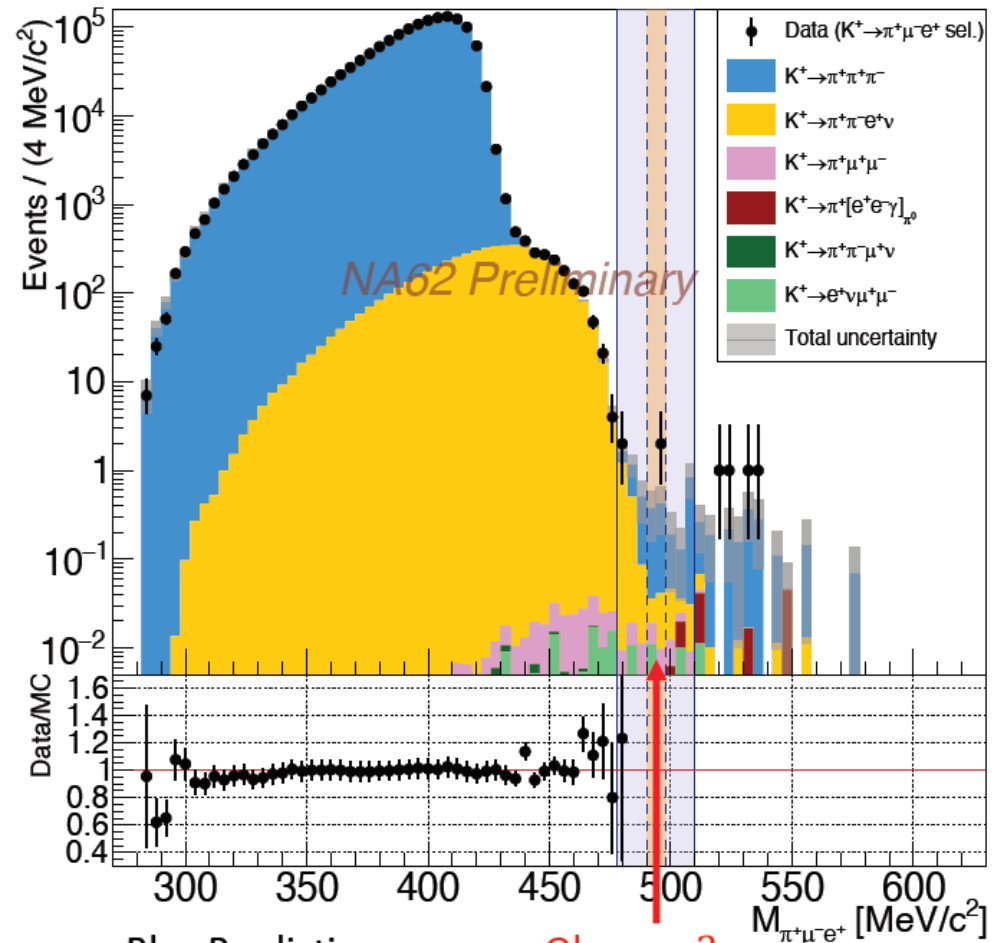
$BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \mu^+ e^+) < 4.2 \times 10^{-11} @ 90\% CL$

$BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^- e^+) < 6.6 \times 10^{-11} @ 90\% CL$



Bkg. Prediction:
 $N_{SR}^{tot} = 1.06 \pm 0.20$

Observe 0
 events in SR



Bkg. Prediction:
 $N_{SR}^{tot} = 0.92 \pm 0.34$

Observe 2
 events in SR

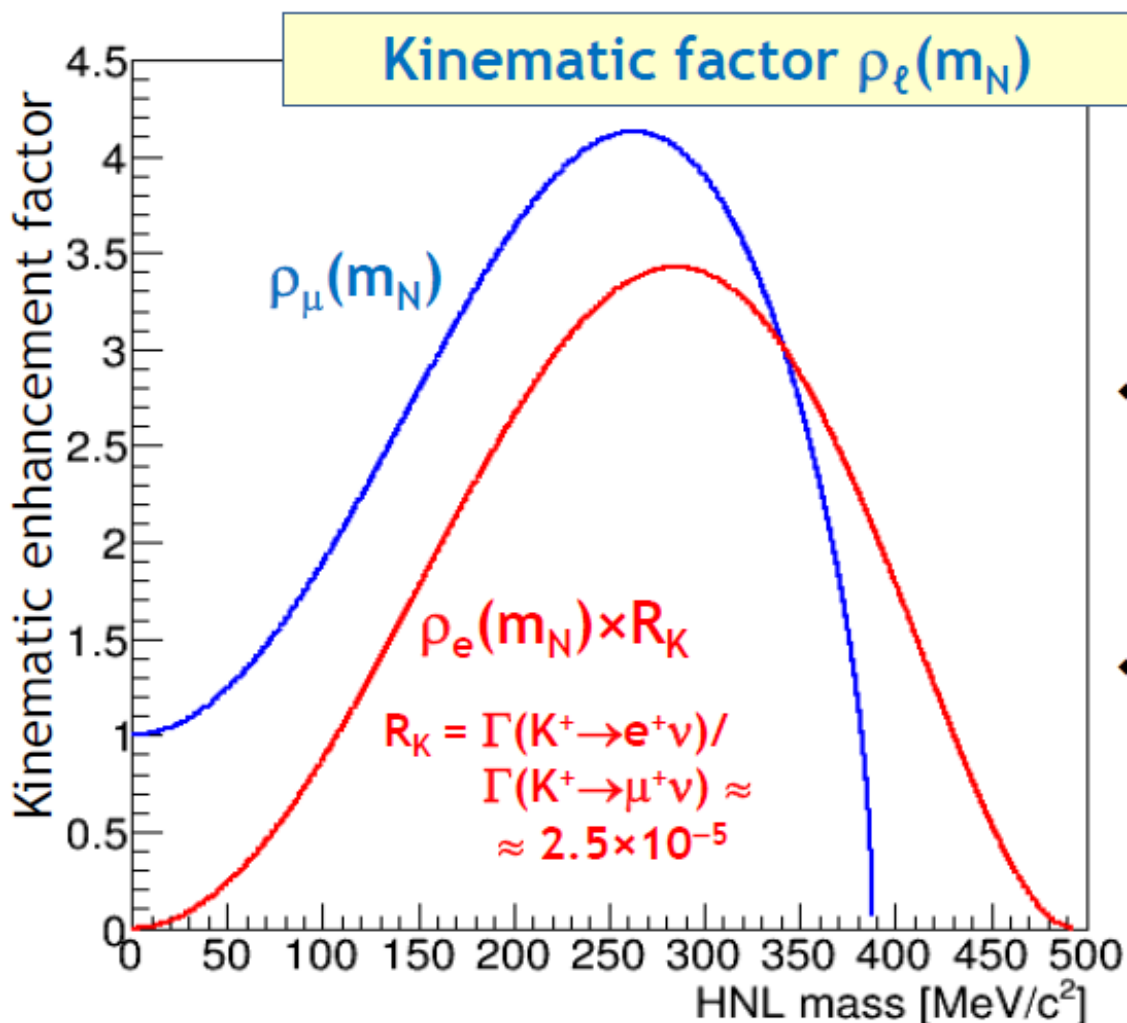
\bar{d}
 \checkmark

HNL production in K^+ decay

$$BR(P^+ \rightarrow \ell^+ N) = BR(P^+ \rightarrow \ell^+ \nu) \times \rho_\ell(m_N) \times |U_{\ell 4}|^2$$

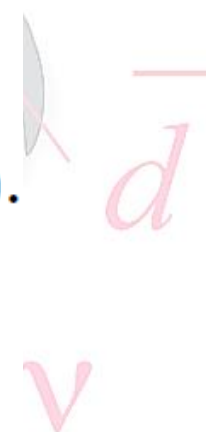
$O(1)$

R. Shrock, PLB96 (1980) 159



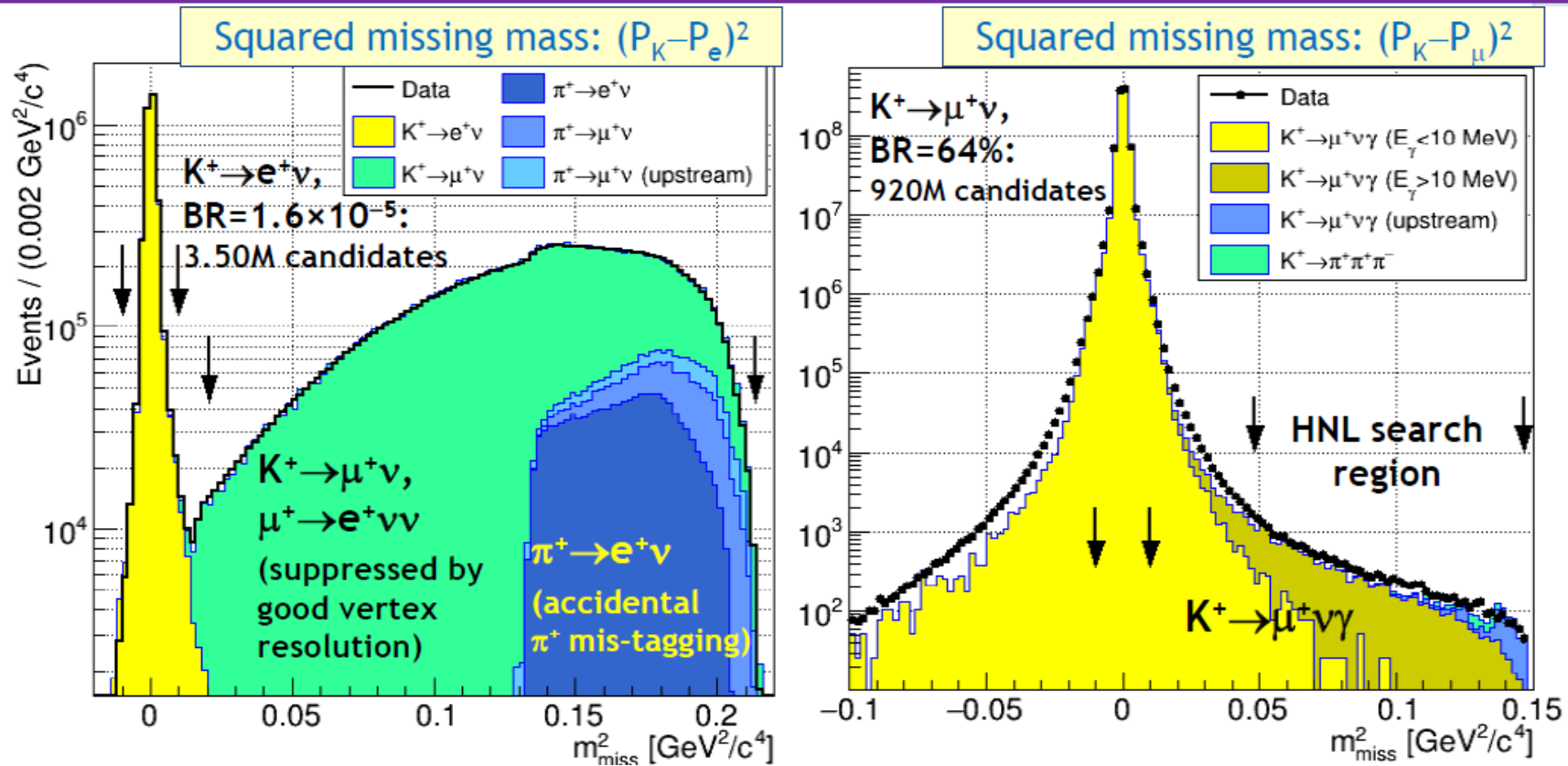
$K^+ \rightarrow \ell^+ N$

- ❖ HNL production is enhanced kinematically wrt SM decays (except near kinematic endpoints).
- ❖ Factor $\sim 10^5$ enhancement in the $K^+ \rightarrow e^+ N$ case: helicity suppression is relaxed.



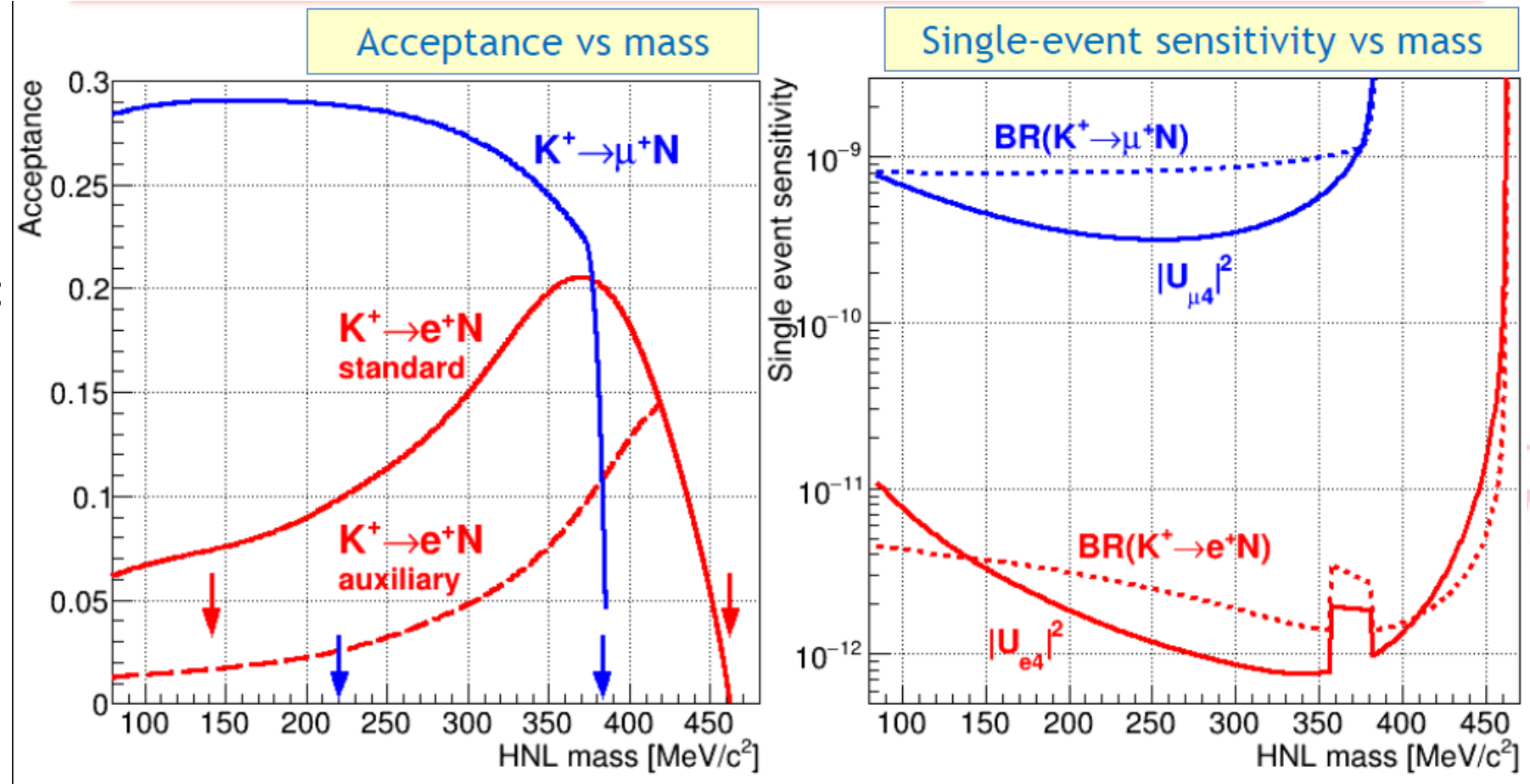
Data Sample

- Number of K^+ in fiducial volume:
 - $(3.52 \pm 0.02) \cdot 10^{12}$ positron case
 - $(4.29 \pm 0.02) \cdot 10^9$ muon case
- A spike in the continuous m_{miss} spectrum is a HNL production signal



Acceptance & single event sensitivity

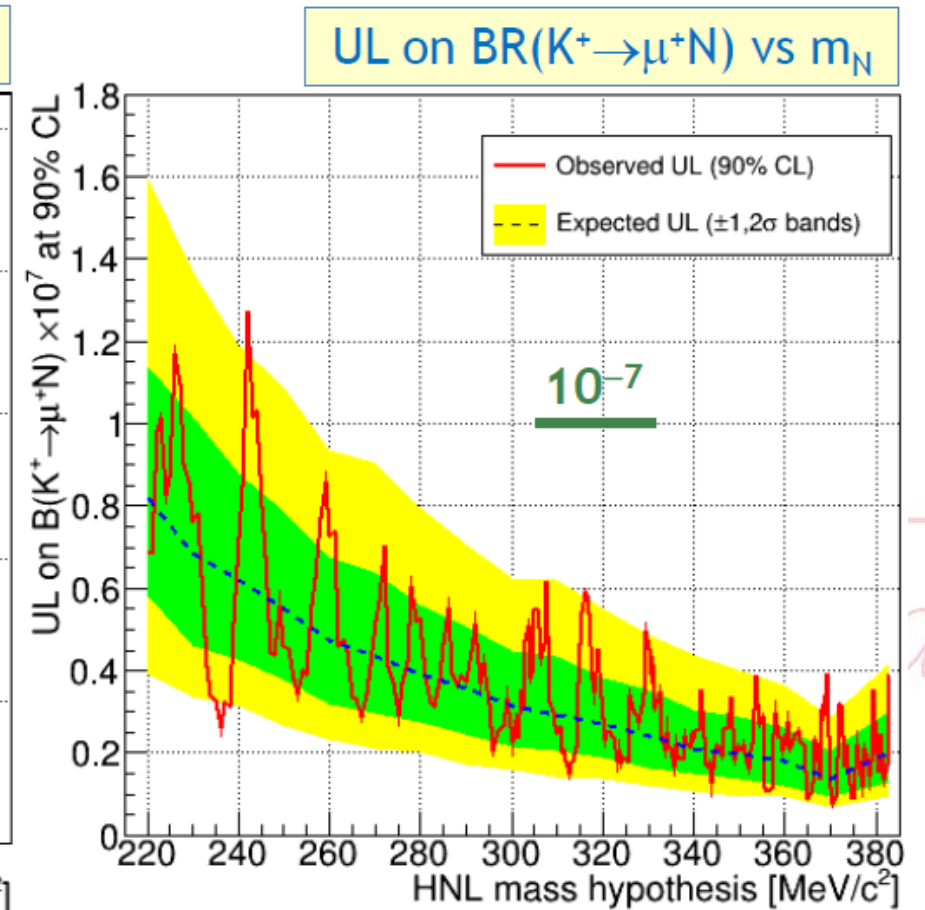
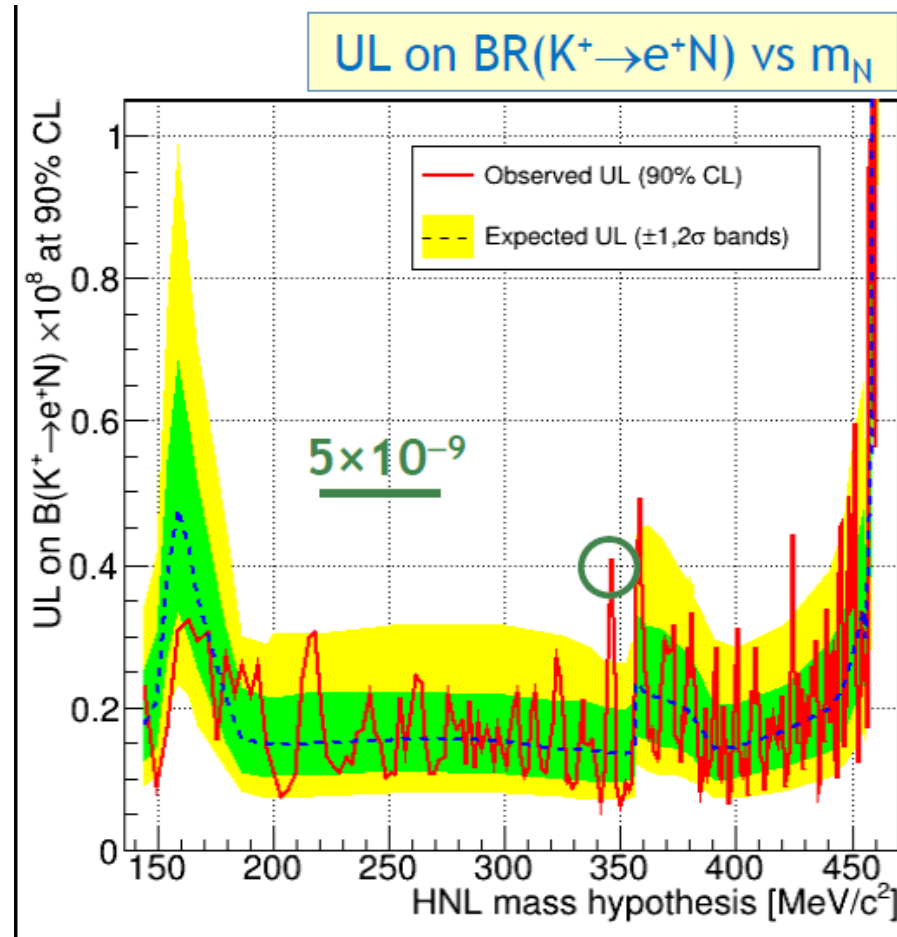
- Standard K_{e2} selection:
 $p_e < 30 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Auxiliary K_{e2} selection:
 $p_e < 20 \text{ GeV}/c$



Definitions: $BR_{SES} = 1/(N_K A)$, $|U_{\ell 4}|^2_{SES} = BR_{SES} / [BR(K^+ \rightarrow l^+ \nu) \rho_\ell(m_N)]$.

Upper limits on BR ($K^+ \rightarrow I^+ N$)

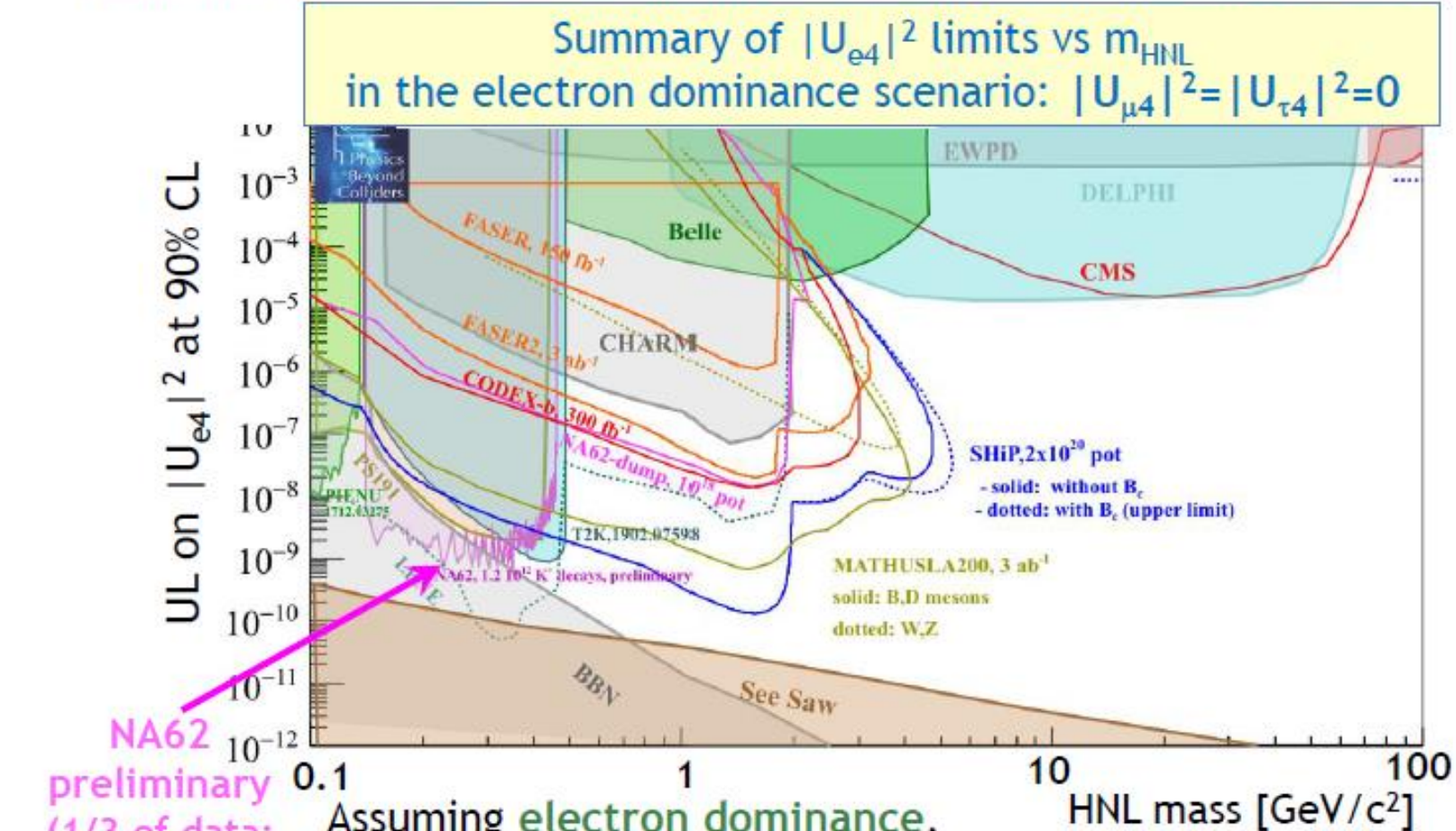
- 90% CL
- Upper Limit vs HNL mass hypothesis



- In the e^+ case, maximum local significance of 3.6 for $m_N = 346$ MeV/ c^2 .
- Accounting for look-elsewhere effect, global significance = 2.2

HNL Comparison to decay searches

(CERN-PBC-REPORT-2018-007; update: Gaia Lanfranchi, PBC meeting, 6 Nov 2019)



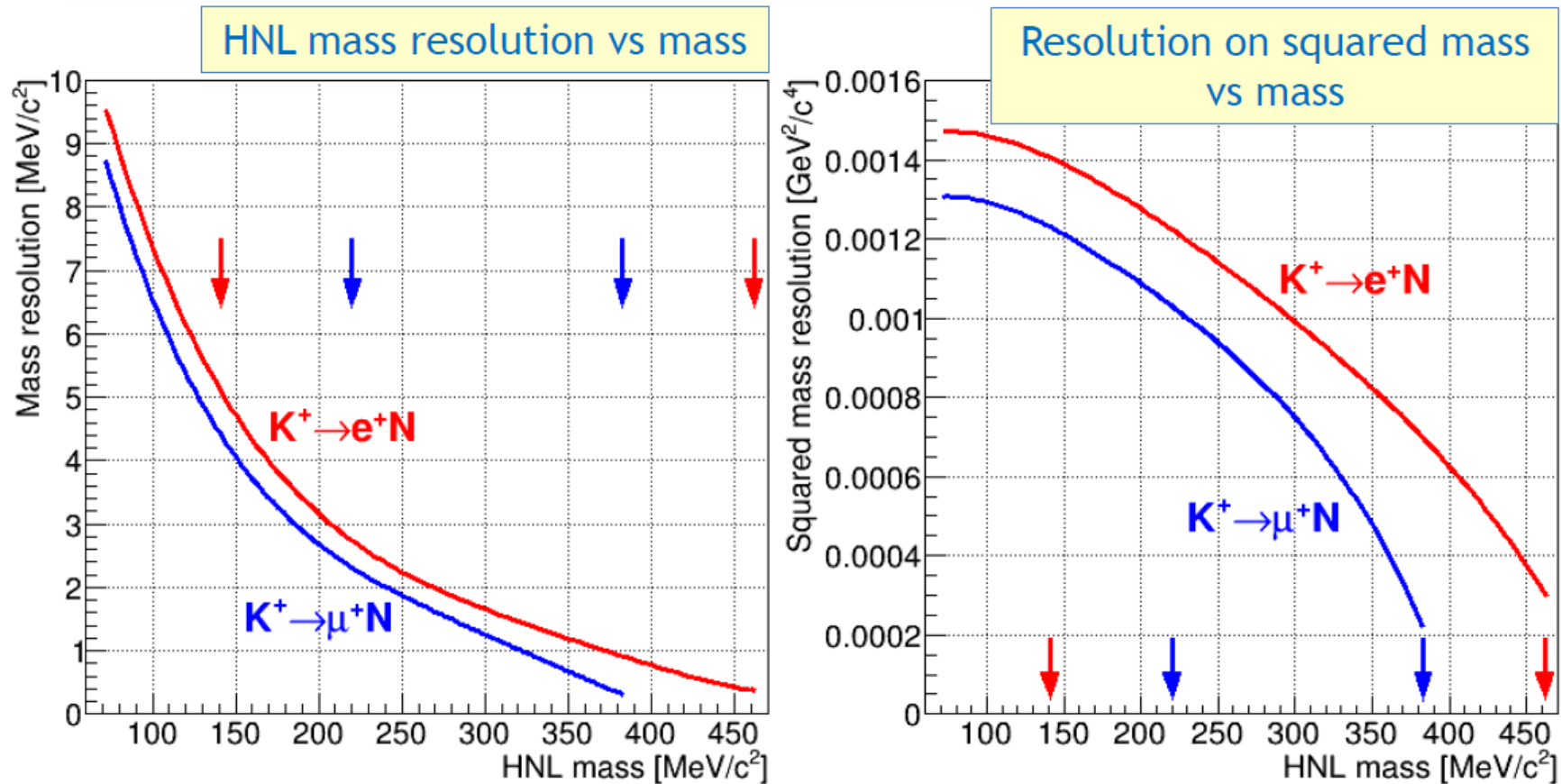
NA62
preliminary
(1/3 of data;
superseded now)

Assuming **electron dominance**,

- ✓ improving on the decay search at PS191;
- ✓ complementary to the decay search at T2K;
- ✓ BBN-allowed range is excluded up to $m_N \approx 340 \text{ MeV}/c^2$.



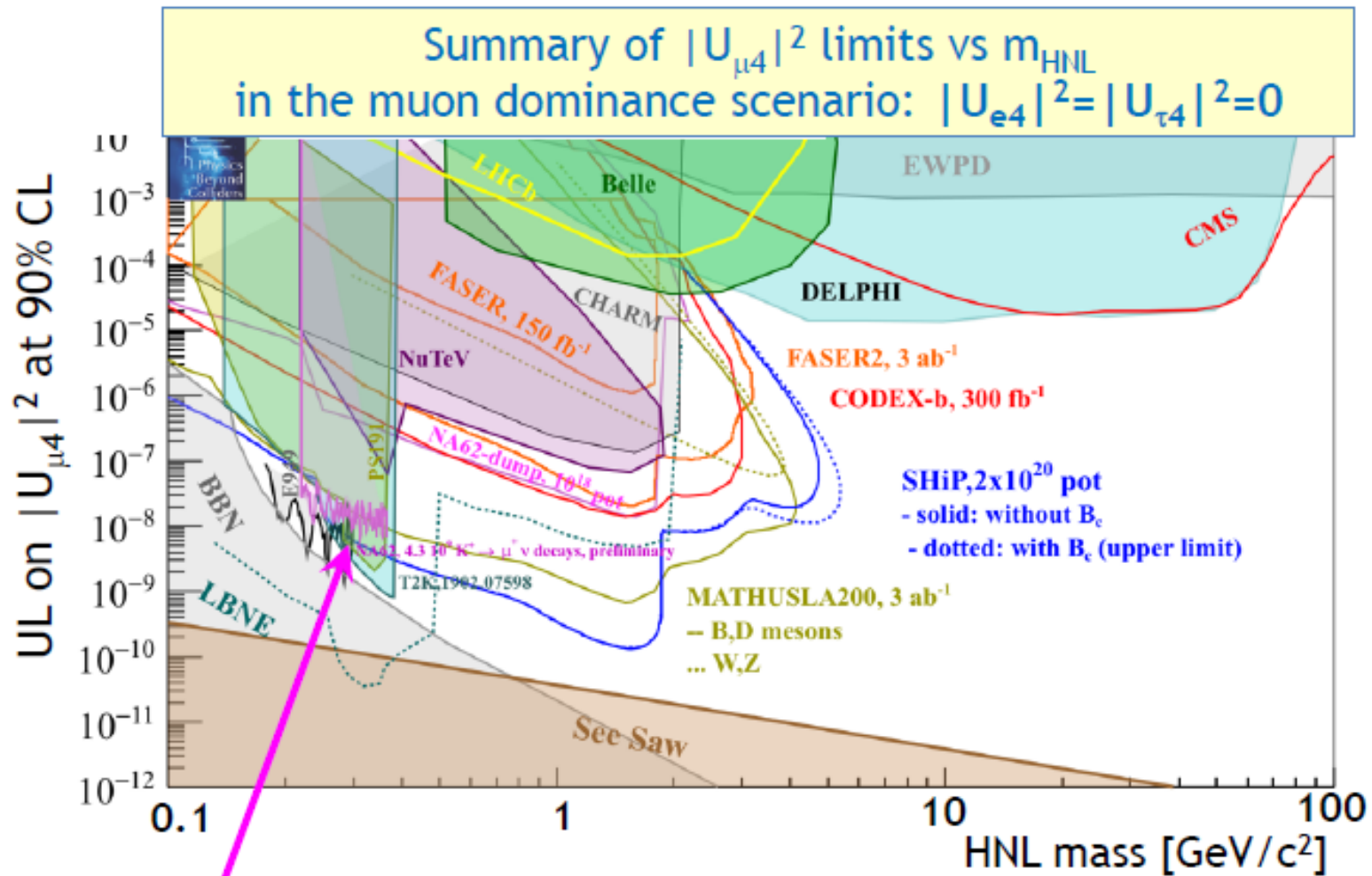
HNL Comparison to decay searches



Selection for each HNL mass hypothesis (m_{HNL}) includes a “mass window” condition:
 $|m - m_{\text{HNL}}| < 1.5\sigma_m$

HNL Comparison to decay searches

(CERN-PBC-REPORT-2018-007; update: Gaia Lanfranchi, PBC meeting, 6 Nov 2019)



NA62 preliminary: approaching the E949 (production) and T2K (decay) limits

References (ICHEP 2020)

- Radoslav Marchevski: New result on the search for the K^+ to π^+ $\nu\nu$ decay at the NA62 experiment at CERN ([pdf slides](#))
- Evgueni Goudzovski: Search for heavy neutral lepton production at the NA62 experiment ([pdf slides](#))
- Lubos Bician: New measurement of the K^+ to π^+ μ^+ μ^- decay at NA62 ([pdf slides](#))
- Joel Swallow: Searches for lepton flavour and lepton number violation in K^+ decays ([pdf slides](#))

