Searches for Lepton Number Violation and resonances in the $K^{\pm} \to \pi\mu\mu$ decays by NA48/2 at CERN

Karim Massri – University of Liverpool

on behalf of the NA48/2 Collaboration

(email: karim.massri@cern.ch)

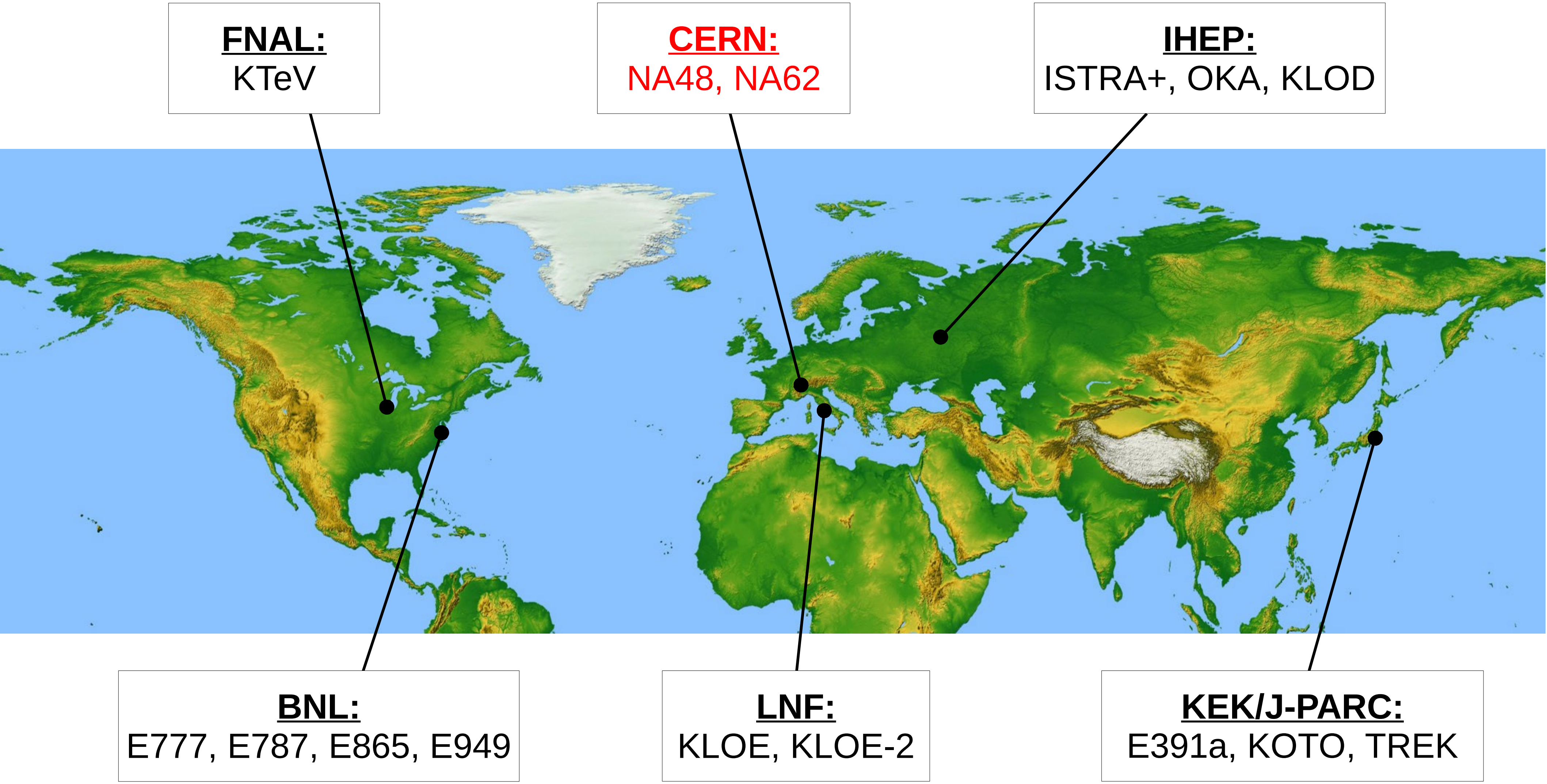
Outline:

- The NA48/2 experiment
- Theoretical Motivations
- Search for LNV $K^{\pm} \to \pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm}\mu^{\pm}$ decay – Majorana neutrinos
- Search for resonances in $K^{\pm} \to \pi^{\pm}\mu^{+}\mu^{-}$ decays
- Prospects for the NA62 experiment

51st Rencontres de Moriond (EW session)

La Thuile, Italy – 13/03/2016

Kaon Physics Facilities

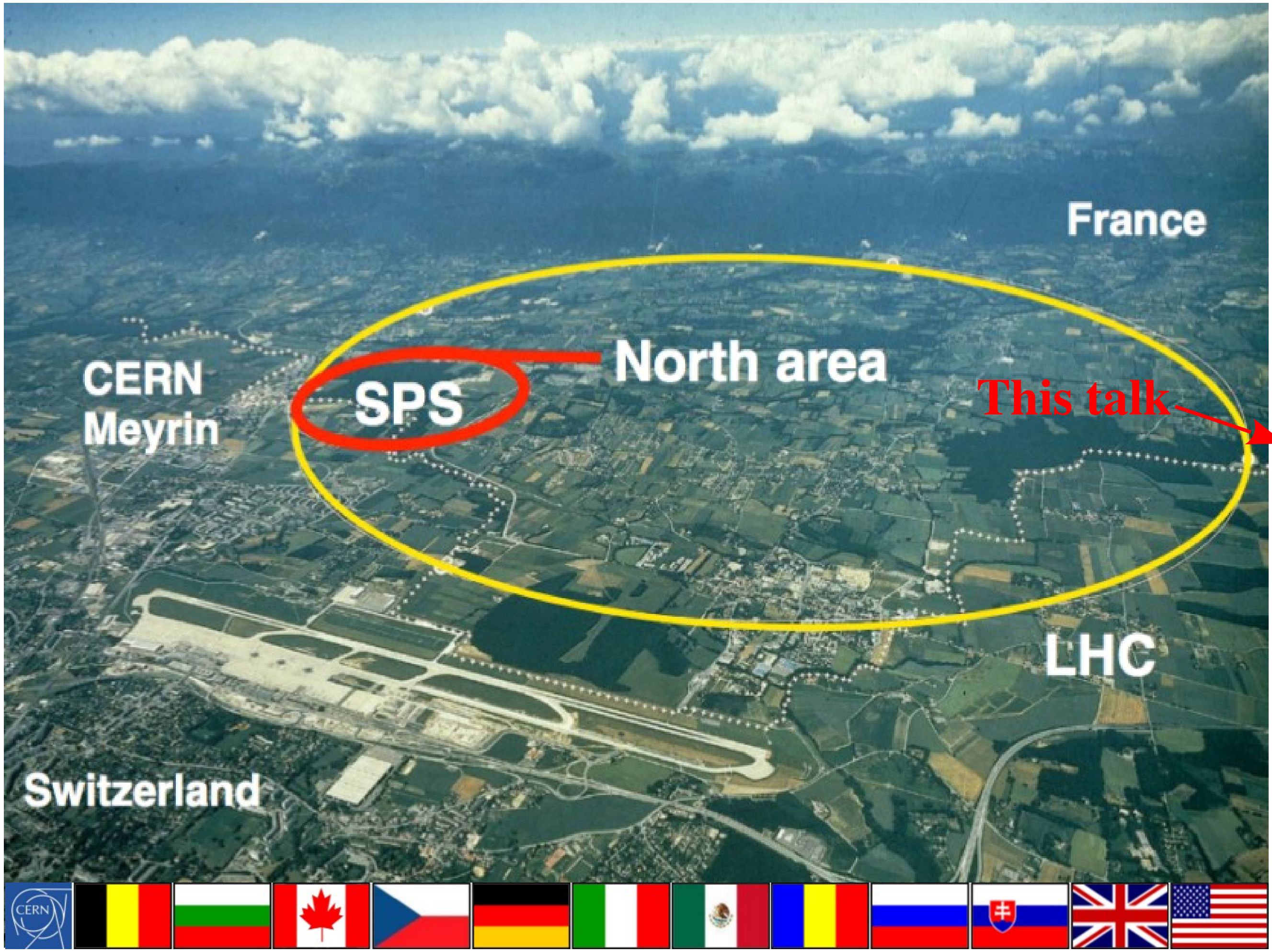


A variety of experimental techniques:

K decay-in-flight (CERN, IHEP, FNAL), stopped K (BNL, JPARC) and a ϕ factory (LNF)

The NA48/NA62 experiments @ CERN

NA62 is the last from a long tradition of fixed-target Kaon experiments in the CERN North Area
[*G. Ruggiero – π^0 Form Factor and $K^+ \to \pi^+ \nu\bar{\nu}$ at NA62*]



History of NA48/NA62 experiments		
1997 ↓ 2001	NA48 (K_S/K_L)	Re ε'/ε **Discovery of direct CPV**
2002	NA48/1 (K_S/hyperons)	Rare K_S and hyperon decays
2003 ↓ 2004	**NA48/2 (K^+/K^-)**	Direct CPV, **Rare K^+/K^- decays**
2007 ↓ 2008	NA62-R_K (K^+/K^-)	$R_K = K^{\pm}_{e2}/K^{\pm}_{\mu 2}$
2015 ↓ -	NA62 (K^+)	$K^+ \to \pi^+\nu\bar{\nu}$, Rare K^+ and π^0 decays

NA62: currently ~ 200 participants, 29 institutions from 12 countries

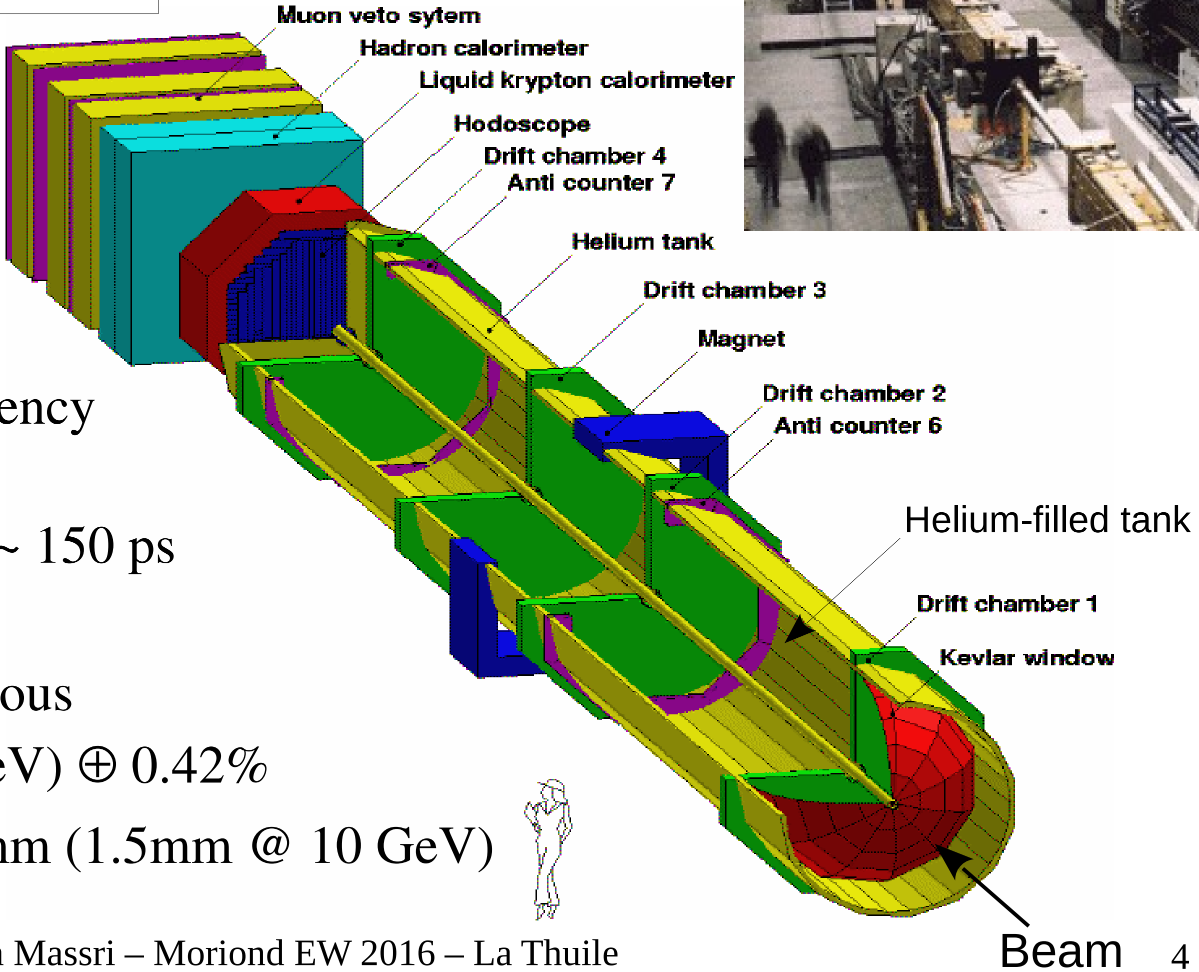
The NA48/2 detector

Narrow momentum band $K^\pm$ beams:
$P_K = 60$ GeV/c, $\delta P_K/P_K \sim 1\%$ (rms)
Nominal $K^\pm$ decay rate: ~ 100 kHz
Main triggers: 3-track vertex, $K^\pm \to \pi^\pm\pi^0\pi^0$
Simultaneous K^+/K^- beams

22% of kaons decay in 114m-long vacuum tank upstream the detector

Principal sub-detectors:

- **Spectrometer (4 DCHs)**
  $\sigma_p/p = 1.02\% \oplus 0.044\%$ p(GeV)
  4 views/DCH: redundancy → efficiency
- **Scintillator Hodoscope**
  Fast trigger, time measurement $\sigma_t \sim 150$ ps
- **LKr EM calorimeter**
  High-granularity, quasi-homogeneous
  $\sigma_E/E = 3.2\%/\sqrt{E(GeV)} \oplus 9\%/E(GeV) \oplus 0.42\%$
  $\sigma_x = \sigma_y = 4.2mm/\sqrt{E(GeV)} \oplus 0.6mm$ (1.5mm @ 10 GeV)



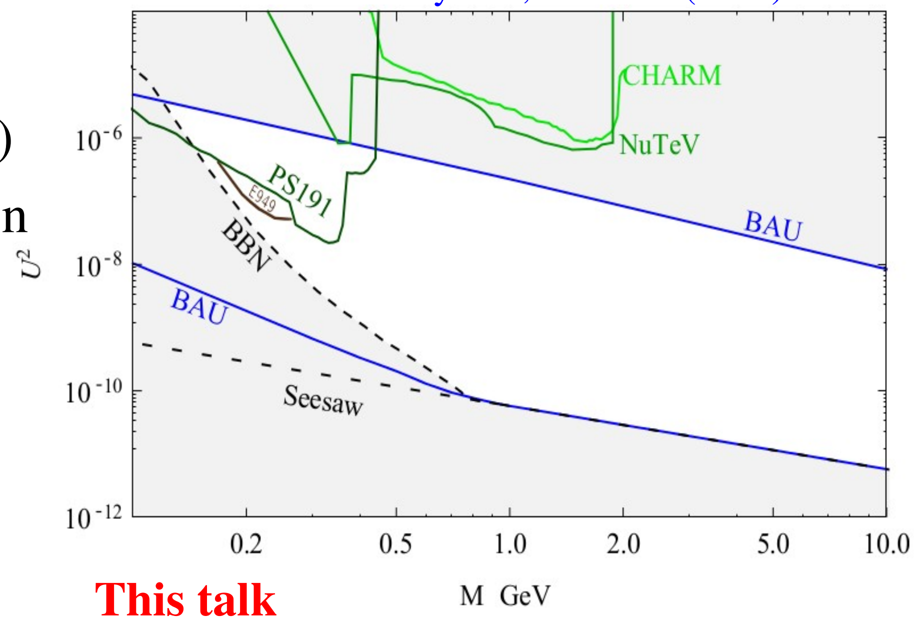
Majorana Neutrinos

Asaka-Shaposhnikov model (νMSM) [Asaka and Shaposhnikov, PLB 620 (2005) 17]:
Dark Matter + Baryon Asymmetry of the Universe (BAU) + low mass of SM ν can be explained by adding three sterile Majorana neutrinos N_i to the SM

- N_1 is the lightest O(keV) → Dark Matter candidate
- N_2, N_3 are nearly degenerate (100 MeV to few GeV)

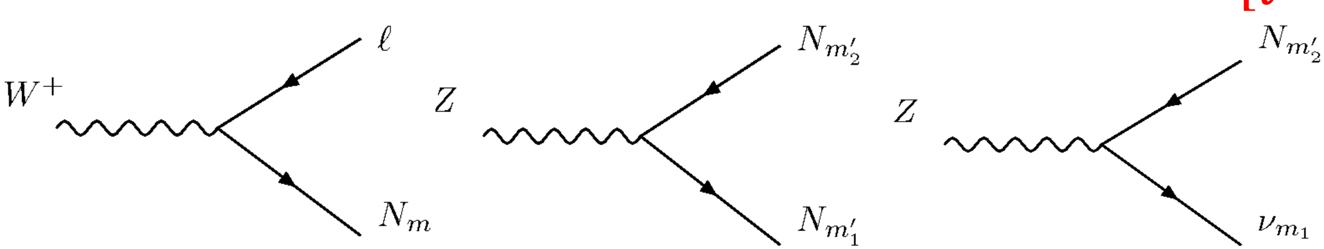
to tune CPV-phases and extra-CKM sources of baryon asymmetry. N_2, N_3 produce standard neutrino masses through seesaw with a Yukawa coupling of ~ 10^{-8}

Gorbunov & Timiryasov, PLB 745 (2015) 29



Active-sterile neutrino mixing (U-matrix):

Effective vertices involving the sterile neutrinos N_i, the $W^\pm$, Z bosons and SM leptons



$$BR(K^\pm \to \mu^\pm N) \times BR(N \to \pi^\mp \mu^\pm) \sim |U_{\mu 4}|^4$$

This talk [$\ell = \mu$]

$N_{2,3}$ production in $K^\pm$ decays:

$K^\pm \to \ell^\pm N$, $K^\pm \to \pi^0 \ell N$, …

$N_{2,3}$ decays for $m_{2,3} < m_K - m_\ell$:

$N \to \pi^\pm \ell^\mp$, $N \to \pi^0 \nu$

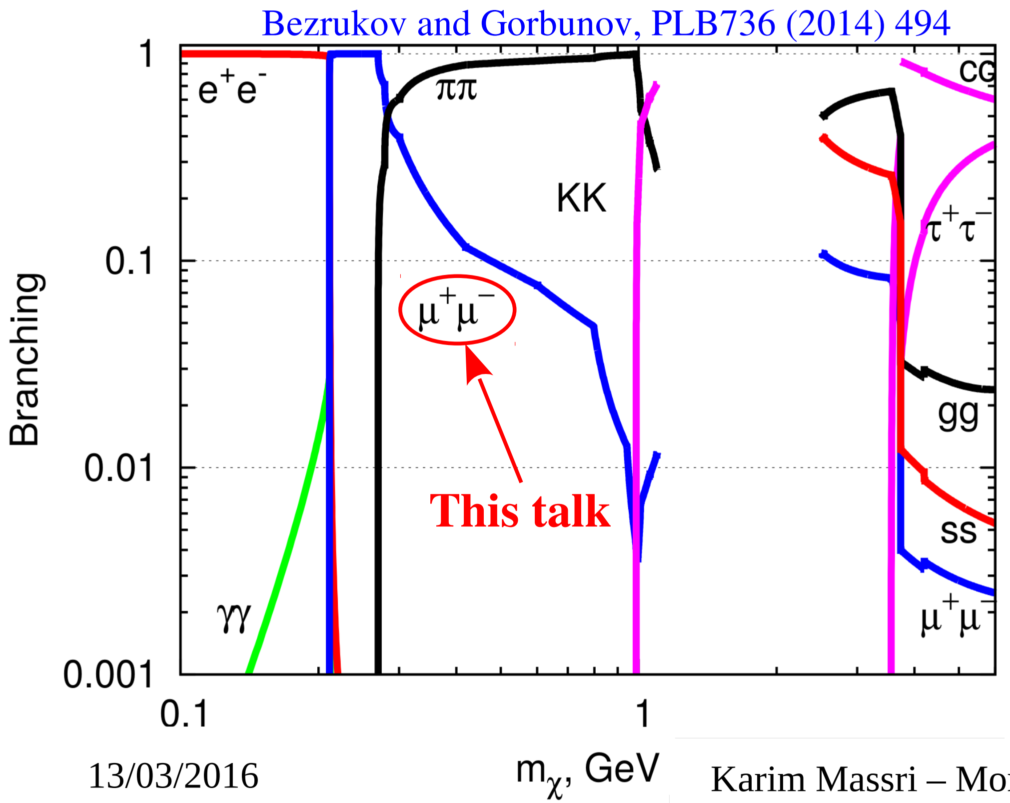
$N \to \ell_1^\pm \ell_2^\mp \nu_2$, $N \to \nu_1 \ell_2^+ \ell_2^-$

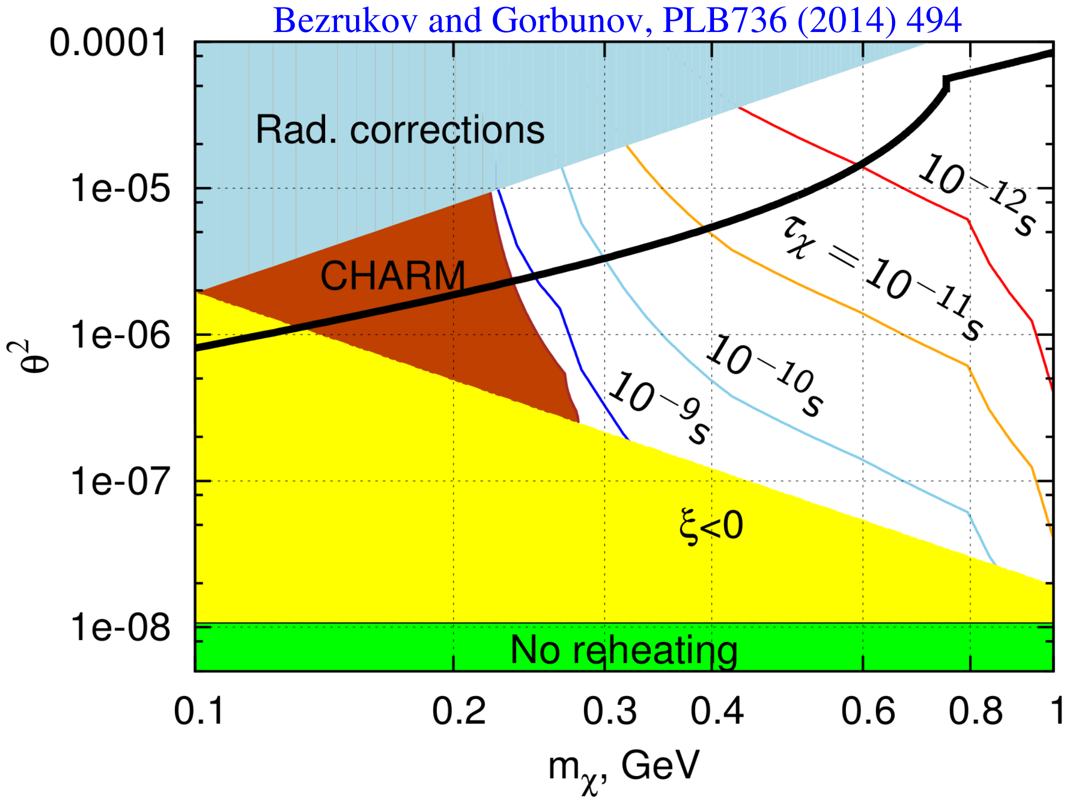
$N \to \nu_\ell \nu \bar{\nu}$

Inflatons

Shaposhnikov-Tkachev model [Shaposhnikov and Tkachev, PLB 639 (2006) 414]:
νMSM + a real scalar field (inflaton χ) with scale-invariant couplings
Explains Universe homogeneity and isotropy on large scales/structures on smaller scales

- χ-Higgs mixing with mixing angle θ
- χ-Higgs coupling → Universe reheating
- χ is unstable: $\tau \sim (10^{-8}$-$10^{-12})$ s





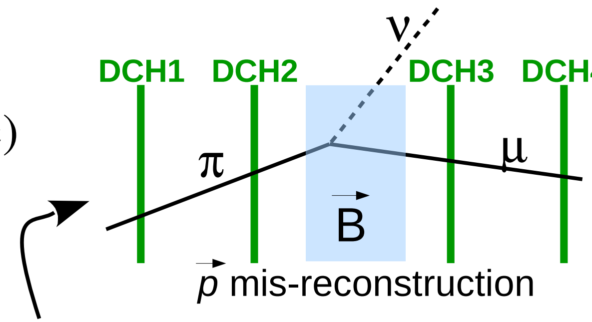
χ in Kaon decays [m_χ < 354 MeV/c^2]

$$BR(K^\pm \to \pi^\pm \chi) = 1.3\times10^{-3}\left(\frac{2|\vec{p}_\chi|}{M_K}\right)\theta^2$$

The NA48/2 same-sign muons sample (LNV)

Basic principles of the searches:

- Fully reconstructed final states, 3-track vertex topology
- Similar topology to normalisation channel $K^\pm \to \pi^\pm\pi^+\pi^-$
  → First-order cancellation of systematic effects (trigger inefficiency, etc)



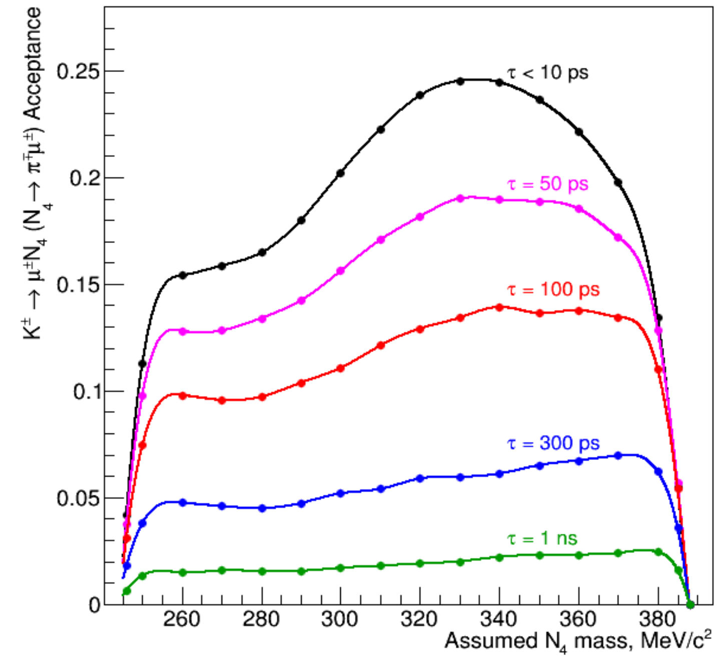
Search for Lepton Number Violation – Majorana neutrinos

- Method: exclusive search for the $K^\pm \to \pi^\mp\mu^\pm\mu^\pm$ decay
- Main background: **$K^\pm \to \pi^\pm\pi^+\pi^-$ with 2 $\pi^\pm \to \mu^\pm\nu$ decays** (one within the Spectrometer)
- Sensitivity: UL on $BR(K^\pm \to \pi^\mp\mu^\pm\mu^\pm)$
  UL on $BR(K^\pm \to \mu^\pm N_4) \times BR(N_4 \to \pi^\mp\mu^\pm)$

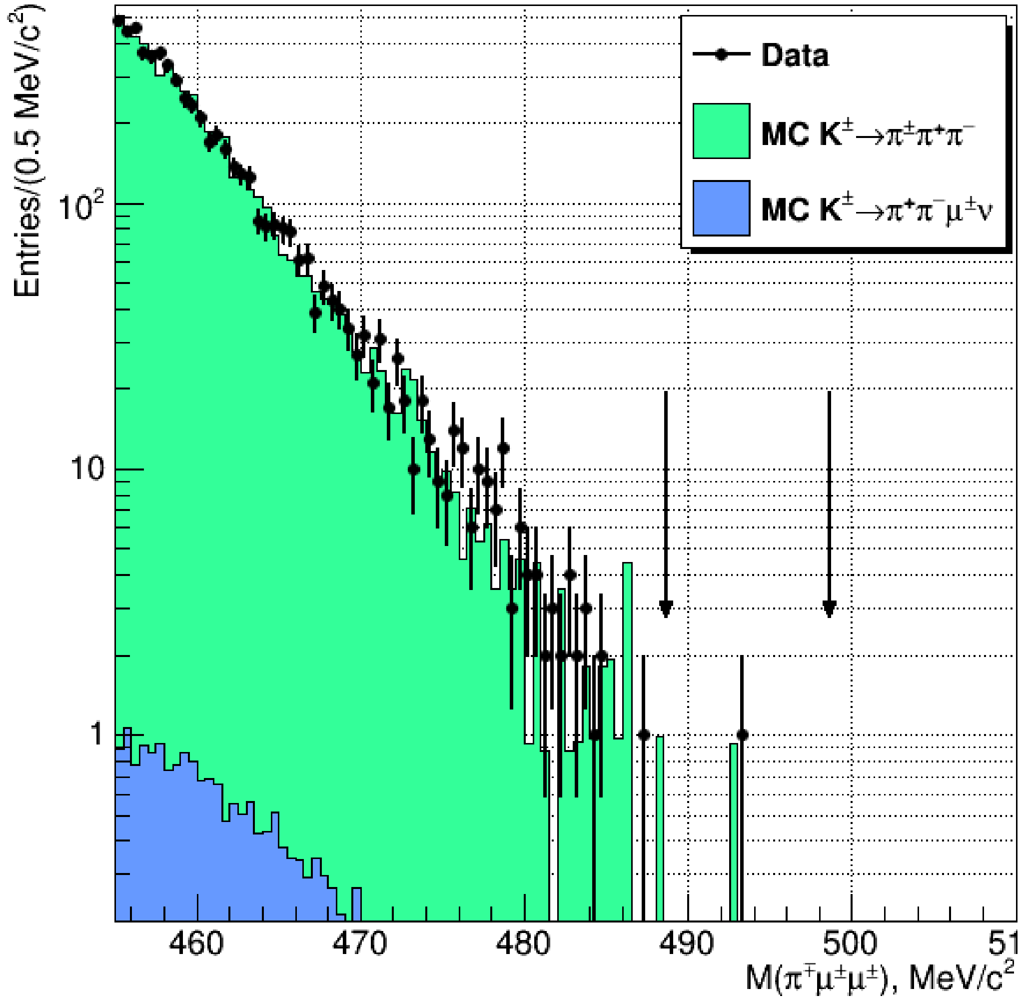
$$\sim \frac{1}{N_K * Acceptance}$$

> $K^\pm$ decays in the fiducial volume: $N_K \sim 2\times10^{11}$
> (from reconstructed $K^\pm \to \pi^\pm\pi^+\pi^-$ decays)

Mass and lifetime dependence of the signal acceptance from dedicated MC simulation of the signal



The same-sign muons selection (LNV)



- **Blind analysis:** $K^{\pm}\to\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm}\mu^{\pm}$ selection based on
  - $K^{\pm}\to\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm}\mu^{\pm}$ MC simulation
    - Uniform phase-space ($|M_{fi}|^2 = 1$)
    - Resonant Majorana neutrino model
  - $K^{\pm}\to\pi^{\pm}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}$ MC simulation (10^{10} events)
  - Control Region: $M(\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm}\mu^{\pm}) < 480$ MeV/c^2
- **Event selection:**
  - One well-reconstructed 3-track vertex
  - 2 same-sign muons, 1 odd-sign pion
  - Total P_T consistent with zero
  - Signal Region: $|M(\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm}\mu^{\pm}) - M_K| < 5$ MeV/c^2
- **Expected background:** Additional $K^{\pm}\to\pi^{\pm}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}$ MC sample (10^{10} events) used to evaluate number of expected $K^{\pm}\to\pi^{\pm}\pi^{+}\pi^{-}$ events in Signal Region

Events in Signal Region observed after finalising $K^{\pm}\to\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm}\mu^{\pm}$ selection → $\mathbf{N_{obs} = 1}$

Expected background (from MC simulation): $N_{exp} = 1.163 \pm 0.867_{stat} \pm 0.021_{ext} \pm 0.116_{syst}$

Rolke-Lopez statistical treatment to get $UL(N_{sig})$ → **$BR(K^{\pm}\to\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm}\mu^{\pm}) < 8.6 \times 10^{-11}$ @ 90% CL**

The NA48/2 opposite-sign muons sample (LNC)

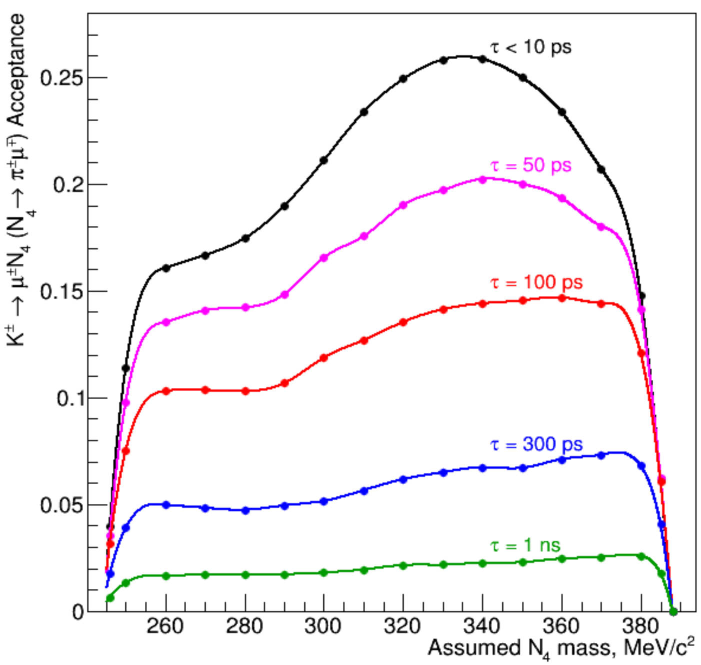
Basic principles of the searches:

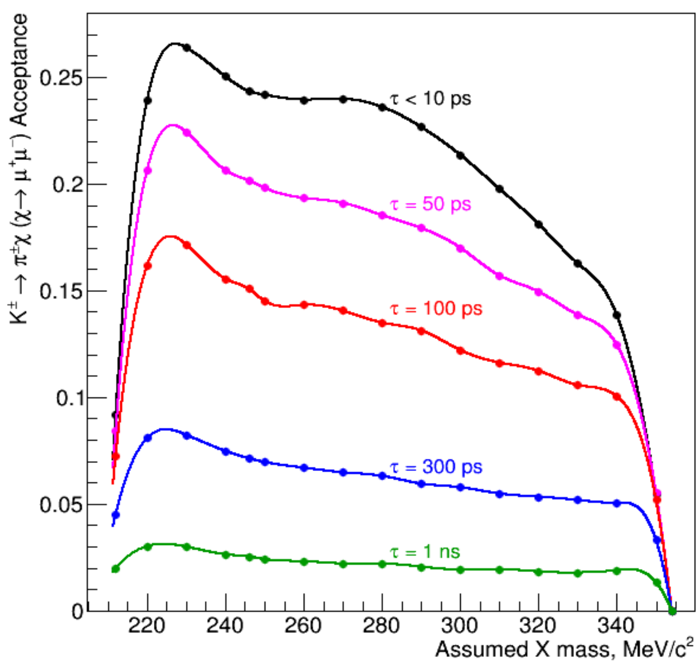
- Fully reconstructed final states, 3-track vertex topology
- Similar topology to normalisation channel $K^\pm \to \pi^\pm\pi^+\pi^-$
  → First-order cancellation of systematic effects (trigger inefficiency, etc)

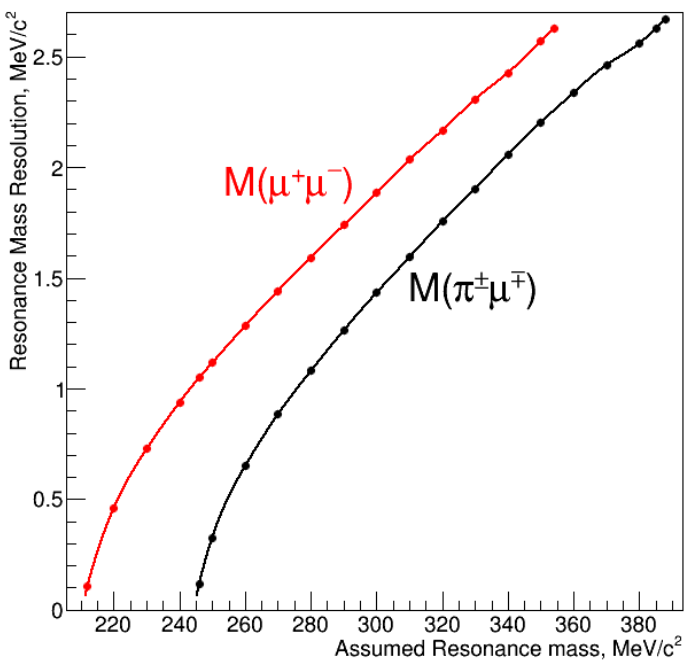
Search for resonances in $K^\pm \to \pi^\pm\mu^+\mu^-$ decays

- Method: exclusive search for the decay chains $K^\pm \to \mu^\pm N_4 (N_4 \to \pi^\pm\mu^\mp)$, $K^\pm \to \pi^\pm X (X \to \mu^+\mu^-)$
- Main background: **$K^\pm \to \pi^\pm\mu^+\mu^-$ (irreducible)** → Limited sensitivity
- Sensitivity: UL on $BR(K^\pm \to \mu^\pm N_4) \times BR(N_4 \to \pi^\pm\mu^\mp)$
  UL on $BR(K^\pm \to \pi^\pm X) \times BR(X \to \mu^+\mu^-)$

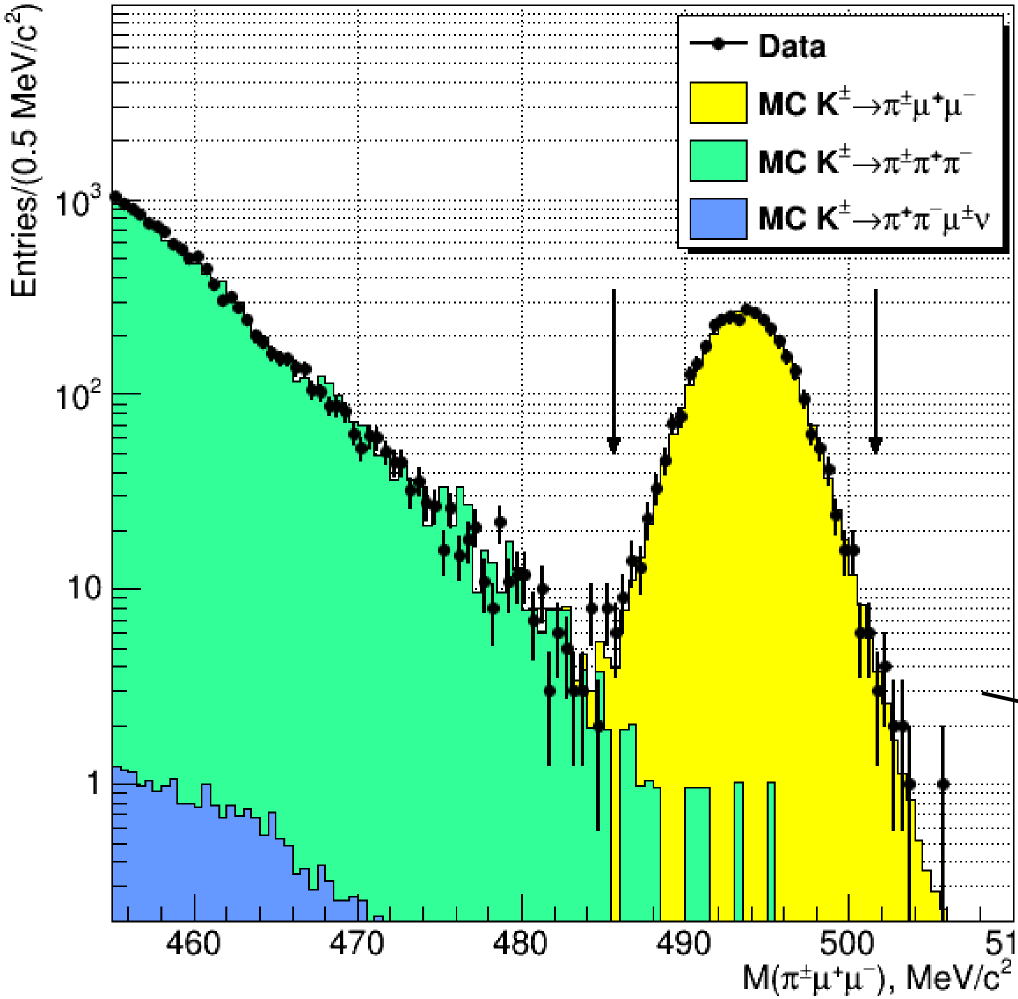
$$\sim \frac{\sqrt{BR(K^\pm \to \pi^\pm\mu^+\mu^-)}}{\sqrt{N_K * Acceptance}} \sqrt{\frac{\sigma(M_{res})}{m_K - (m_\pi + 2m_\mu)}}$$



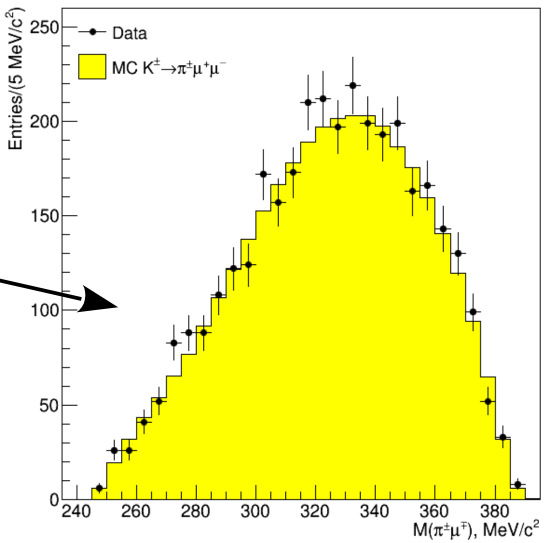


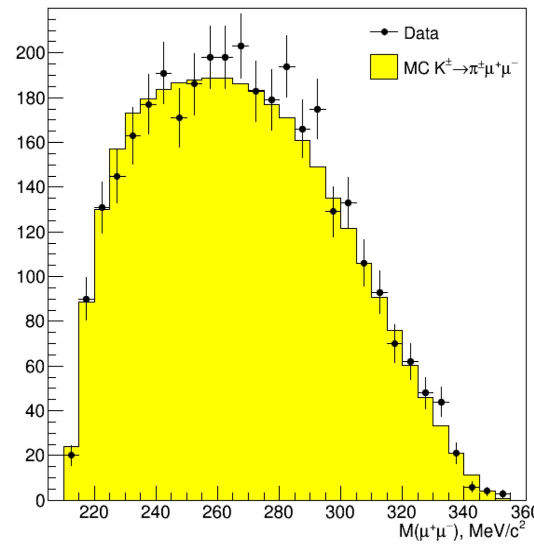


The opposite-sign muons selection (LNC)



- **Event selection:**
  - Minimal changes with respect to same-sign
  - One well-reconstructed 3-track vertex
  - 2 opposite-sign muons, 1 pion
  - Total P_T consistent with zero
  - Signal Region: $|M(\pi^\pm\mu^+\mu^-) - M_K| < 8$ MeV/c^2





3489 $K^\pm \to \pi^\pm\mu^+\mu^-$ candidates in Signal Region
$K^\pm \to \pi^\pm\pi^+\pi^-$ background: (0.36 ± 0.10)%

→ To be scanned searching for peaks in $M(\pi^\pm\mu^\mp)$ and $M(\mu^+\mu^-)$ invariant masses

Improved selection with respect to previous NA48/2 $K^\pm \to \pi^\pm\mu^+\mu^-$ analysis [PLB 697 (2011) 107]

The mass scan framework

<u>Basic principles:</u>

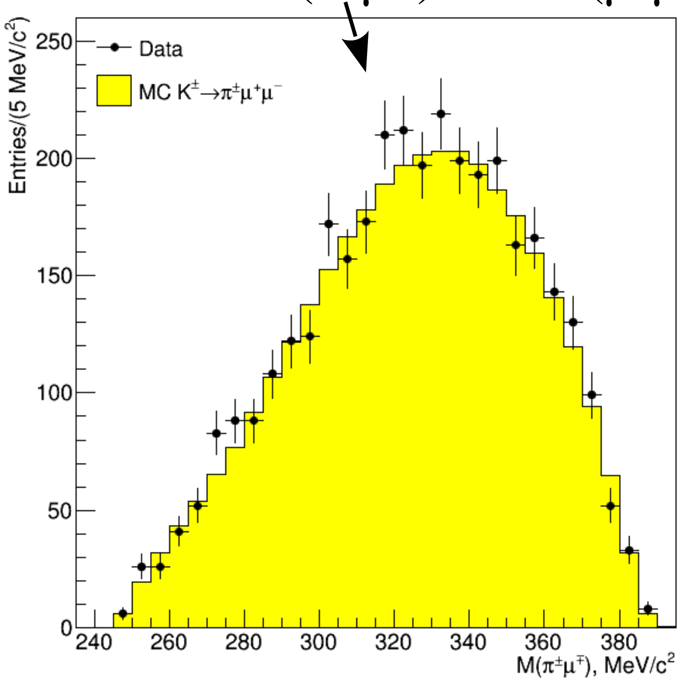
- Based on selected $K^{\pm}\to\pi\mu\mu$ candidates. Variable step = $0.5\sigma(M_{res})$ and window = $\pm 2\sigma(M_{res})$
- For each M_{res}: Observed events in data (N_{obs}) vs Expected events from MC (N_{exp}) → UL(N_{sig})
- Rolke-Lopez statistical treatment used in each mass hypothesis M_{res} to get UL(N_{sig})

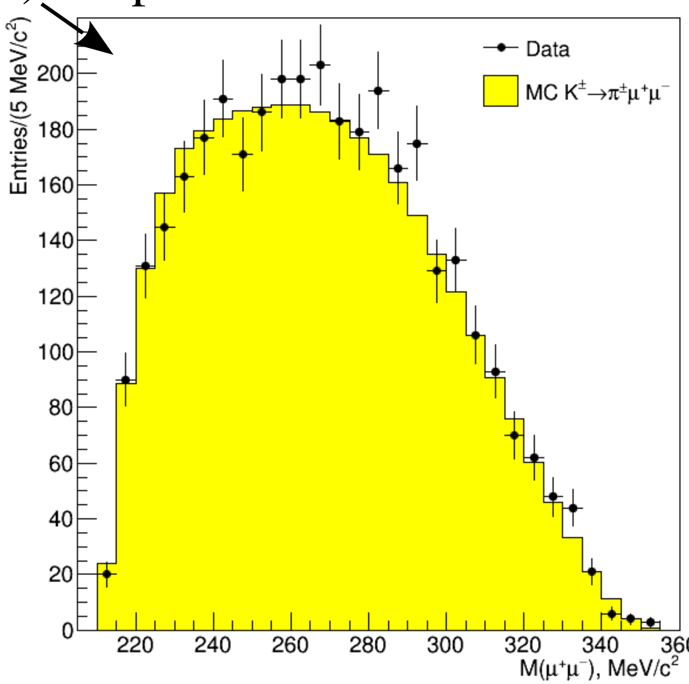
Search for Lepton Number Violation – Majorana neutrinos

- 284 mass hypotheses M_{res} tested
- 2 possibilities in building $M(\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm})$ [same-sign μs]: closest invariant mass to M_{res} considered

Search for resonances in $K^{\pm}\to\pi^{\pm}\mu^{+}\mu^{-}$ decays

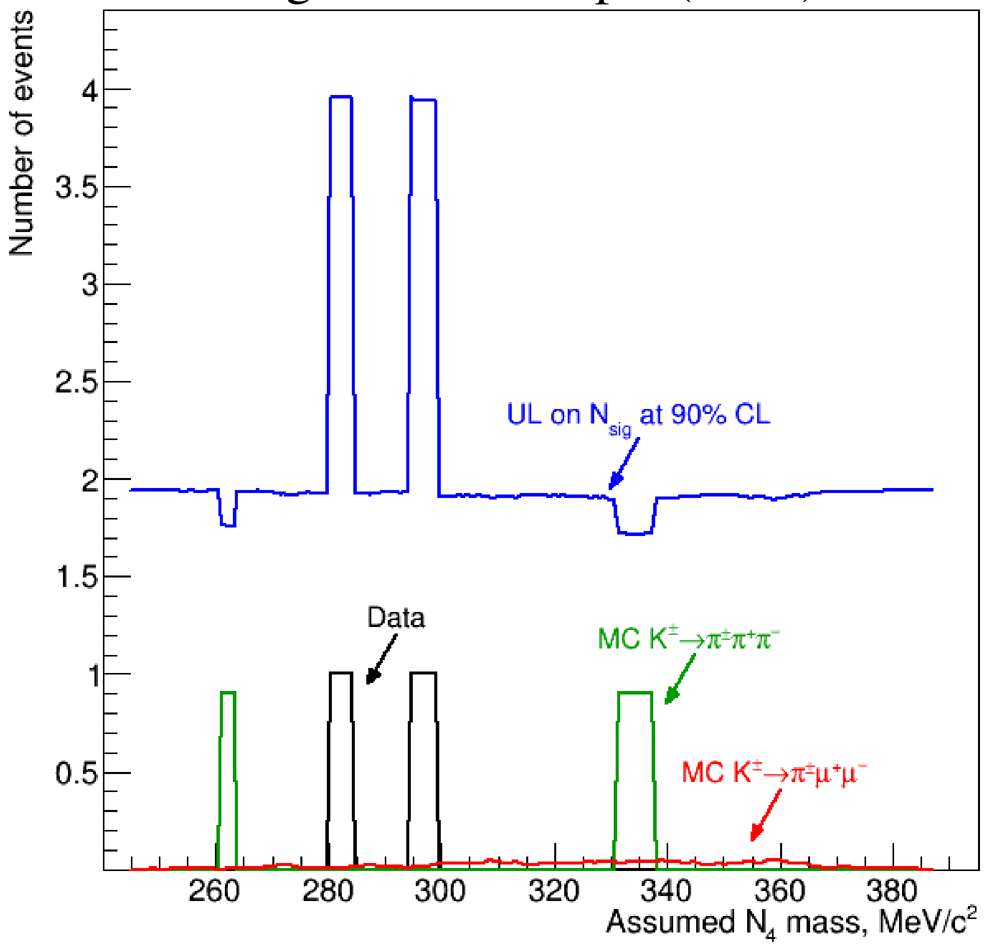
- The distributions of both invariant masses $M(\pi^{\pm}\mu^{\mp})$ and $M(\mu^{+}\mu^{-})$ are probed
- 267 hypotheses for $M(\pi^{\pm}\mu^{\mp})$
- 280 hypotheses for $M(\mu^{+}\mu^{-})$
- $K^{\pm}\to\pi^{\pm}\mu^{+}\mu^{-}$ MC simulation uses form factors extracted from the selected data sample to obtain best data/MC agreement

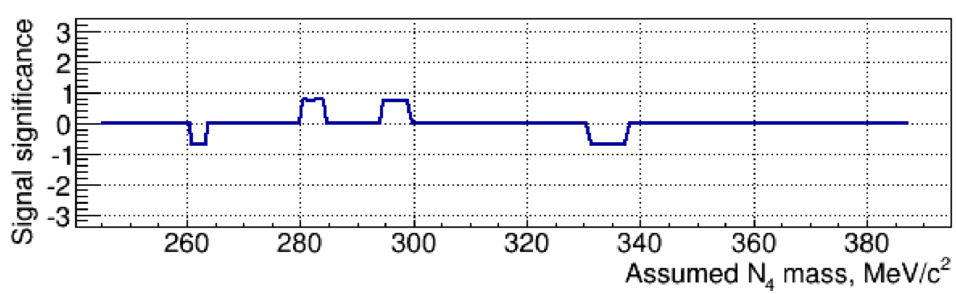




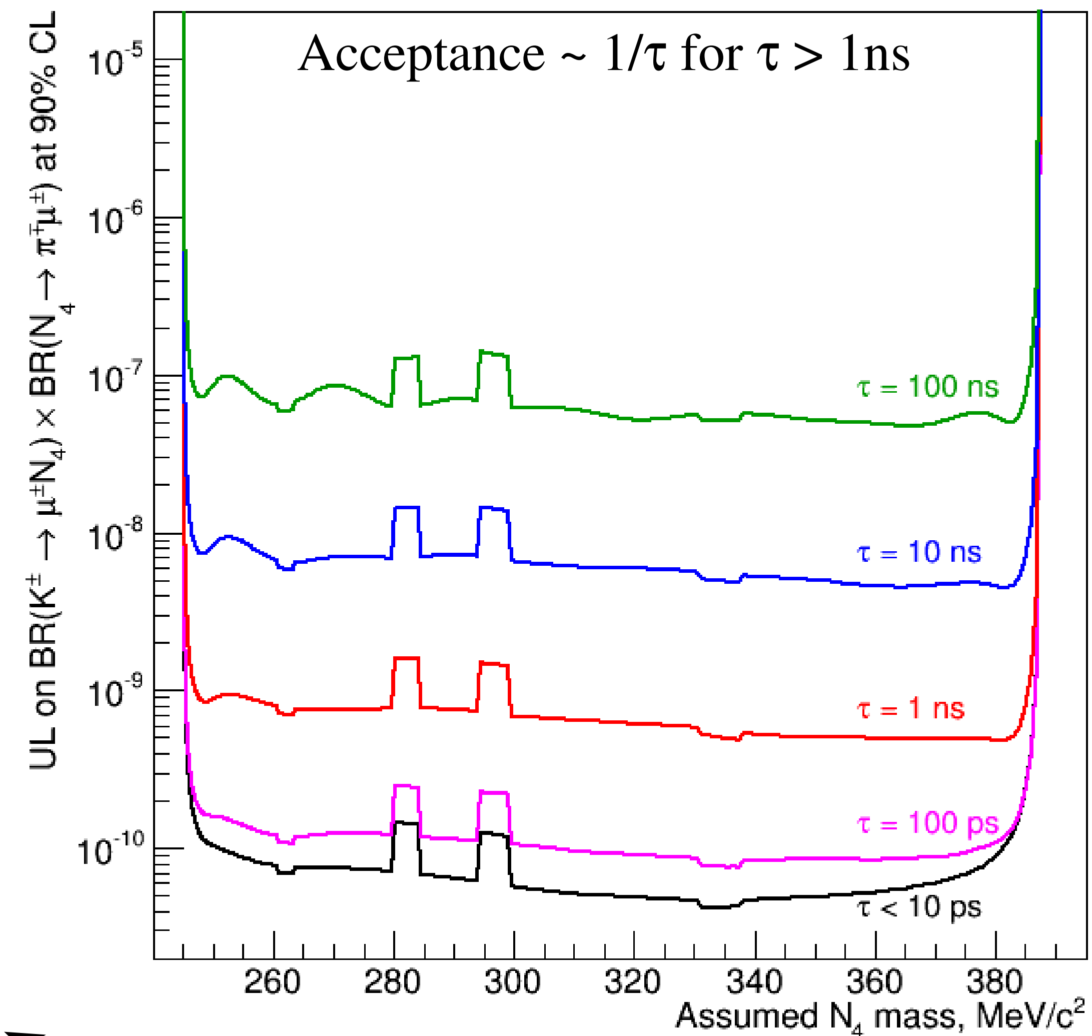
Search for $K^{\pm}\to\mu^{\pm}N_4(N_4\to\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm})$ decays

Same-sign muons sample (LNV)





$$UL(BR(K^{\pm}\to\mu^{\pm}N_4)BR(N_4\to\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm}))=\frac{UL(N_{sig})}{N_K * Acceptance}$$



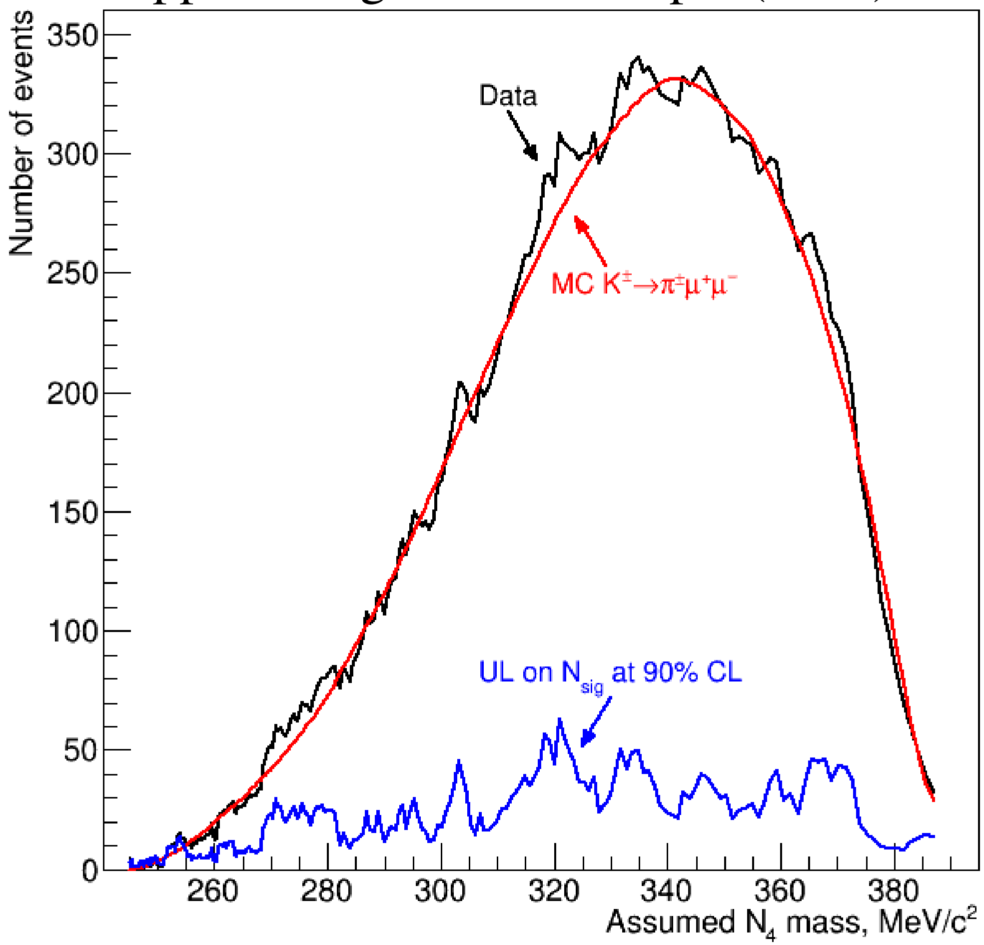
Statistical significance $z=\frac{N_{obs}-N_{\exp}}{\sigma(N_{obs})\oplus\sigma(N_{\exp})}$

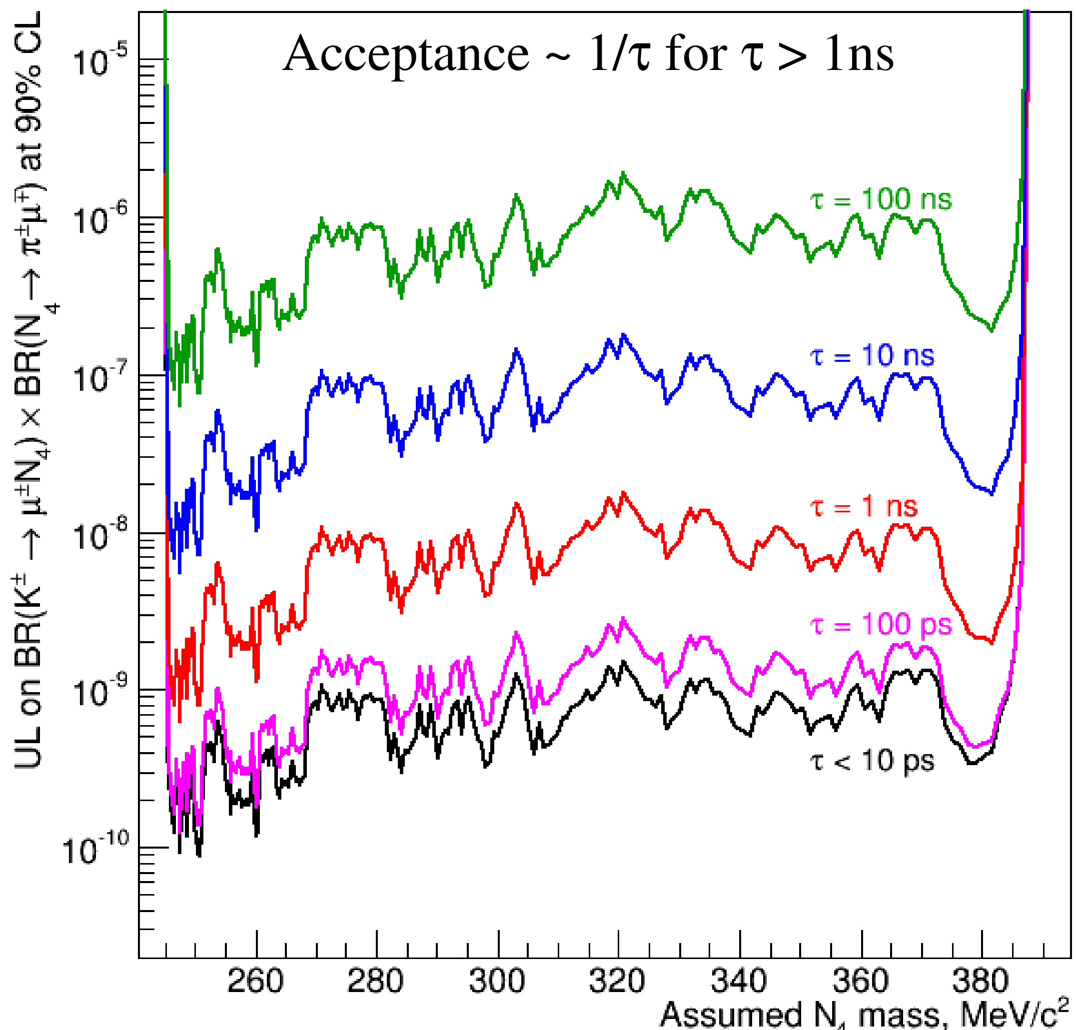
never exceeds +3σ: **no signal observed**

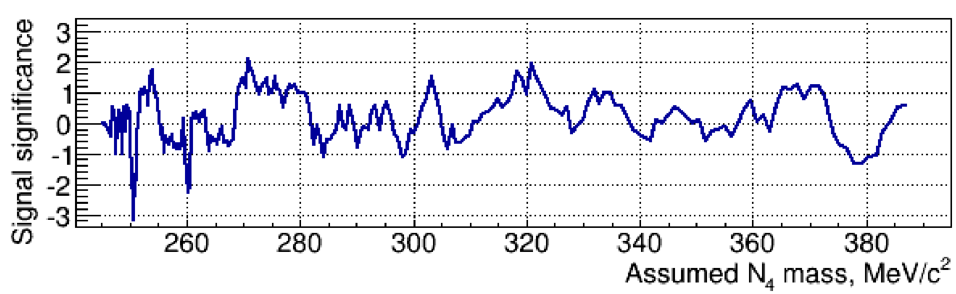
Search for $K^{\pm}\rightarrow\mu^{\pm}N_4(N_4\rightarrow\pi^{\pm}\mu^{\mp})$ decays

Opposite-sign muons sample (LNC)

$$UL(BR(K^{\pm}\rightarrow\mu^{\pm}N_4)BR(N_4\rightarrow\pi^{\pm}\mu^{\mp}))=\frac{UL(N_{sig})}{N_K * Acceptance}$$





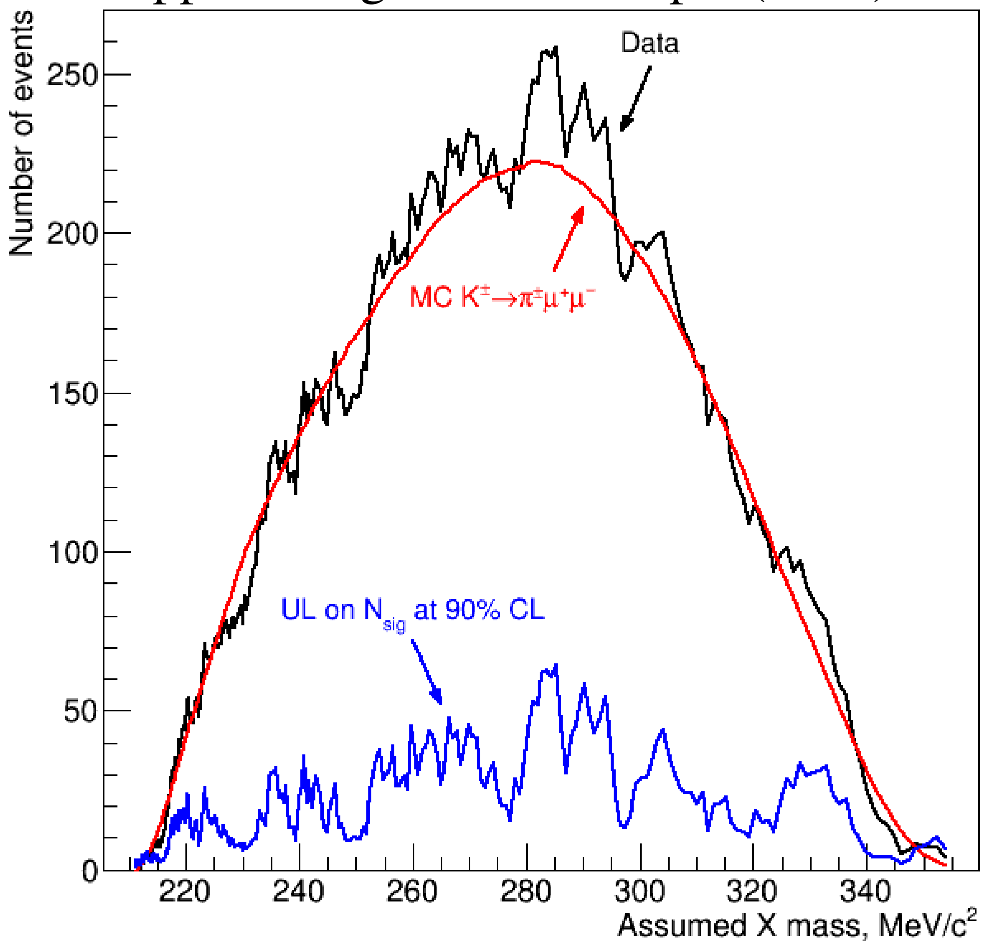


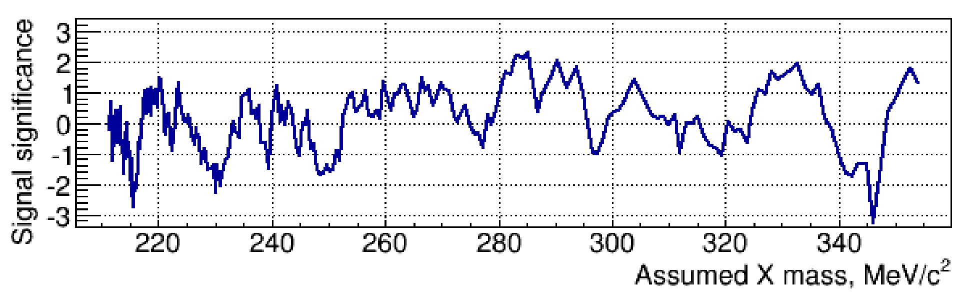
Statistical significance $z=\frac{N_{obs}-N_{exp}}{\sigma(N_{obs})\oplus\sigma(N_{exp})}$

never exceeds $+3\sigma$: **no signal observed**

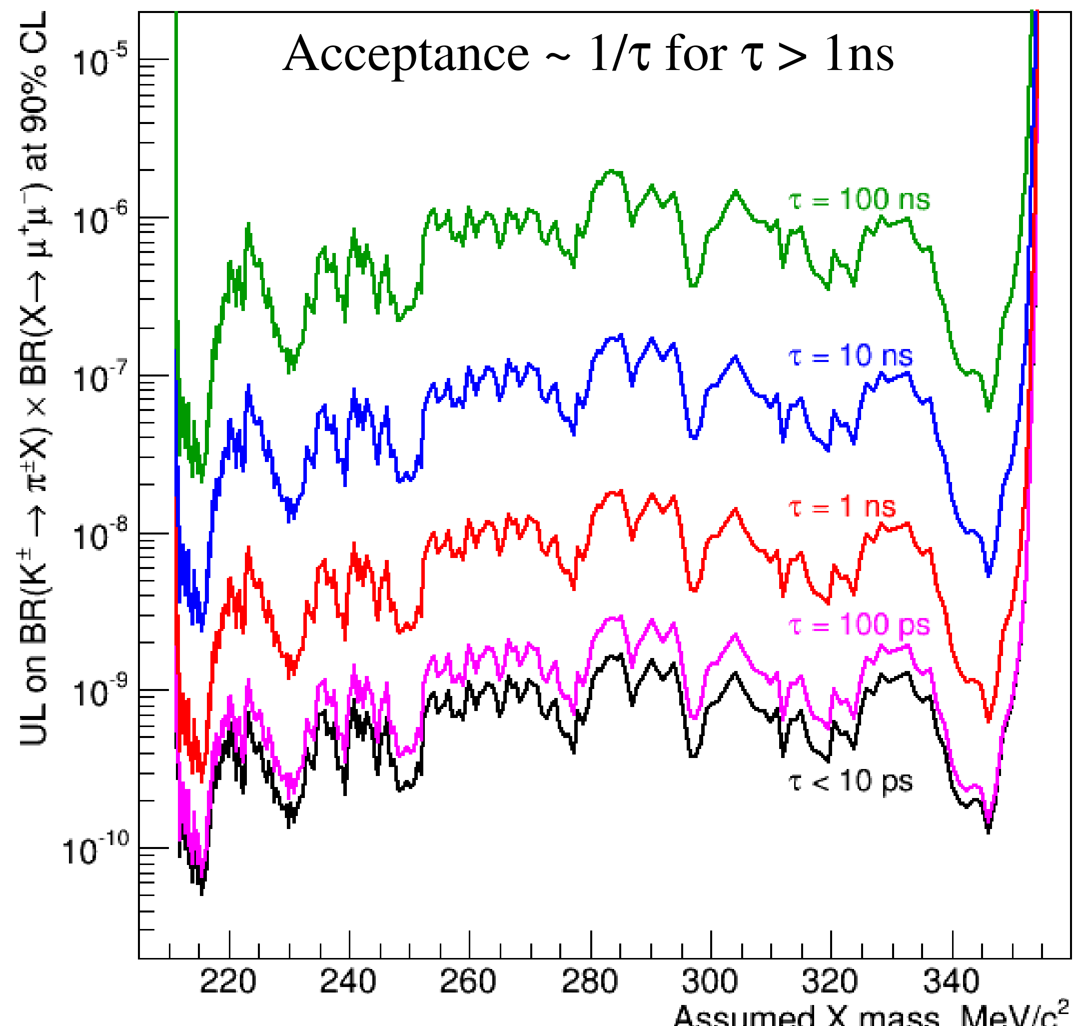
Search for K→$\pi^{\pm}$X(X→$\mu^+\mu^-$) decays

Opposite-sign muons sample (LNC)





$$UL(BR(K^{\pm}\rightarrow\pi^{\pm}X)BR(X\rightarrow\mu^{+}\mu^{-}))=\frac{UL(N_{sig})}{N_K*Acceptance}$$

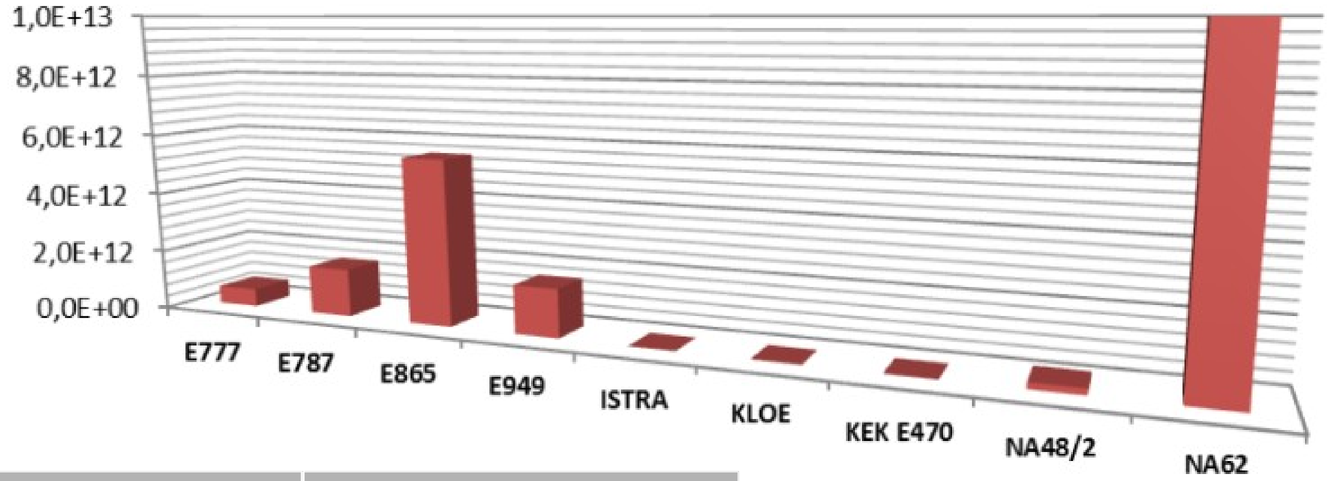


Statistical significance $z=\frac{N_{obs}-N_{exp}}{\sigma(N_{obs})\oplus\sigma(N_{exp})}$

never exceeds +3σ: **no signal observed**

Prospects for the new NA62 experiment

NA62 will collect the world-largest K^+ decay sample: ~ 10^{13} decays in 3 years of data taking (~ 50 times more than NA48/2)



Kaon and π^0 LNFV decays

Mode	UL at 90% CL	Experiment	NA62 acceptance*
$K^+ \to \pi^+\mu^+e^-$	1.3×10^{-11}	BNL 777/865	~ 10%
$K^+ \to \pi^+\mu^-e^+$	5.2×10^{-10}	BNL 865	~ 10%
$K^+ \to \pi^-\mu^+e^+$	5.0×10^{-10}	BNL 865	~ 10%
$K^+ \to \pi^-e^+e^+$	6.4×10^{-10}	BNL 865	~ 5%
$K^+ \to \pi^-\mu^+\mu^+$	**8.6×10^{-11}**	**NA48/2**	**~ 20%**
$K^+ \to \mu^-\nu e^+e^+$	2.0×10^{-8}	Geneva Saclay	~ 2%
$K^+ \to e^-\nu\mu^+\mu^+$	no data		~ 10%
$\pi^0 \to \mu^+e^-$	3.6×10^{-6}	KTeV	~2%
$\pi^0 \to \mu^-e^+$			

This talk

* From fast MC with flat phase-space distribution.

Single-event sensitivity: $1/(N_K \times \text{acceptance})$

NA62 Sensitivities:
~10^{-12} for K^+ decays
~10^{-11} for π^0 decays

Conclusions

The NA48/2 experiment at CERN was exposed to ~ 2×10^{11} $K^{\pm}$ decays in 2003-2004

- **<u>New NA48/2 results presented for the first time today:</u>**
  - **Search for LNV $K^{\pm}\to\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm}\mu^{\pm}$ decay:**
    - **$BR(K^{\pm}\to\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm}\mu^{\pm}) < 8.6\times10^{-11}$ @ 90% CL [World Best Limit]**
    - Factor of 10 improvement with respect to previous best limit [1.1×10^{-9} @ 90% CL]
  - **Search for $K^{\pm}\to\mu^{\pm}N_4(N_4\to\pi^{\mp}\mu^{\pm})$ decays [Majorana neutrinos]**
    - Limits on BR products of the order of **10^{-10}** for neutrino lifetimes < 100 ps
  - **Search for $K^{\pm}\to\mu^{\pm}N_4(N_4\to\pi^{\pm}\mu^{\mp})$ decays [LNC heavy neutrinos]**
    - Limits on BR products of the order of **10^{-9}** for neutrino lifetimes < 100 ps
  - **Search for $K\to\pi^{\pm}X(X\to\mu^{+}\mu^{-})$ decays [Inflatons, …]**
    - Limits on BR products of the order of **10^{-9}** for resonance lifetimes < 100 ps

- **<u>Prospects for the new NA62 experiment:</u>**
  - Major beam and detector upgrades for $K^{+}\to\pi^{+}\nu\bar{\nu}$: improved performances
  - NA62 will collect the world-largest K^{+} decay sample (~ 10^{13}) in 3 years of data taking
  - Potential sensitivities ~ 10^{-12} for K decays, ~ 10^{-11} for π^{0} decays