

# Next-generation kaon experiments

International Conference on Heavy Quarks and Leptons  
University of Warwick, 17 September 2021

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**For the NA62 Collaboration and KLEVER Project**

# Rare kaon decays

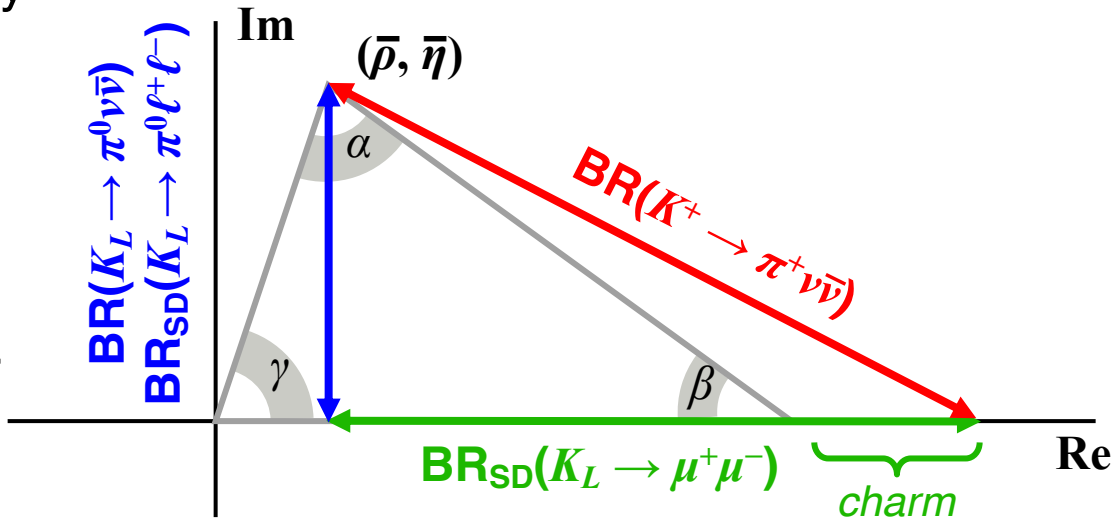
Decay	$\Gamma_{SD}/\Gamma$	Theory err.*	SM BR $\times 10^{11}$	Exp. BR $\times 10^{11}$ (Sep 2019)
$K_L \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$	10%	30%	$79 \pm 12$ (SD)	$684 \pm 11$
$K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ e^-$	40%	10%	$3.2 \pm 1.0$	$< 28^\dagger$
$K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu^+ \mu^-$	30%	15%	$1.5 \pm 0.3$	$< 38^\dagger$
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$	90%	4%	$8.4 \pm 1.0$	$< 18.5^\dagger$
$K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$	$> 99\%$	2%	$3.4 \pm 0.6$	$< 300^\dagger$

\*Approx. error on LD-subtracted rate excluding parametric contributions     $^\dagger 90\%$  CL

FCNC processes dominated by Z-penguin and box diagrams

Rates related to  $V_{CKM}$  with minimal non-parametric uncertainty

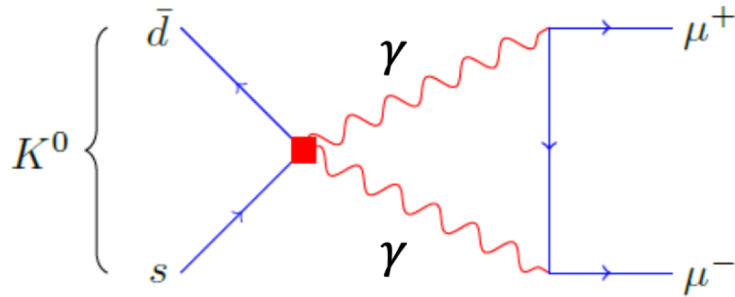
$V_{CKM}$  overconstrained: look for NP in specific channels



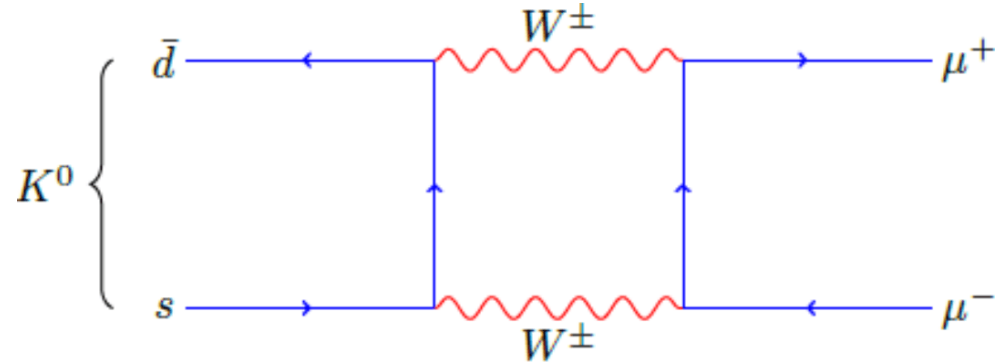
$$K_{S,L} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$

$$\text{BR}_{\text{SM}}(K_{S,L} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \propto |A_{S,L}^{LD} + A_{S,L}^{SD}|^2$$

Long distance (LD)



Short distance (SD)



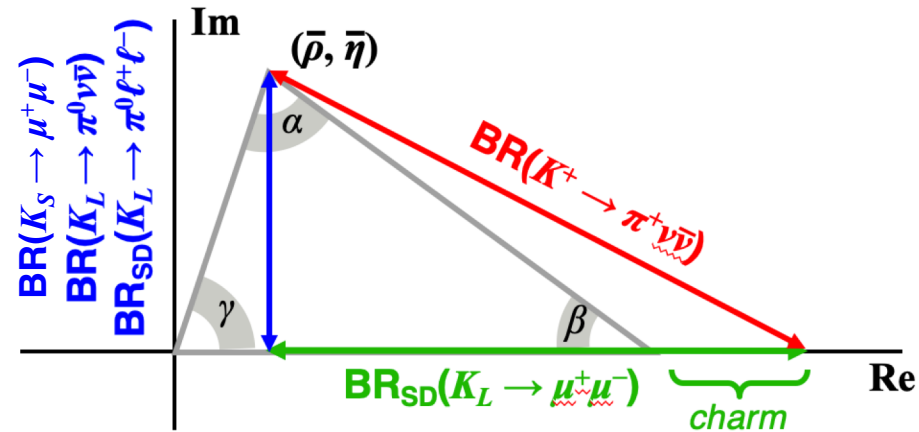
$$\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \rightarrow A_L^{SD} \propto (1 - \rho)$$

- SM prediction depends on sign of  $A(K_L \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$ , which determines LD/SD interference
- $\text{BR}_{\text{exp}}(K_L \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (6.84 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-9}$   
See e.g. BNL E871 result, PRL84 (2000)

$$\text{BR}(K_S \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) \rightarrow A_S^{SD} \propto \eta$$

- $\text{BR}_{\text{SM}}(K_S \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) = (5.0 \pm 1.5) \times 10^{-12}$   
If  $> 10^{-11}$   $\rightarrow$  unambiguous sign of NP  
Isidori, Unterdorfer '04

- Due to  $K_S K_L$  interference, high sensitivity to NP and to sign of  $A(K_L \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)$   
see e.g. D'Ambrosio & Kitahara '17, Dery et al. '21



# $K_S$ decays at LHCb

$10^{13} K_S/\text{fb}^{-1}$  produced in LHCb acceptance

About 1 strange hadron per event!

Production rate compensates for low trigger efficiency and long lifetime

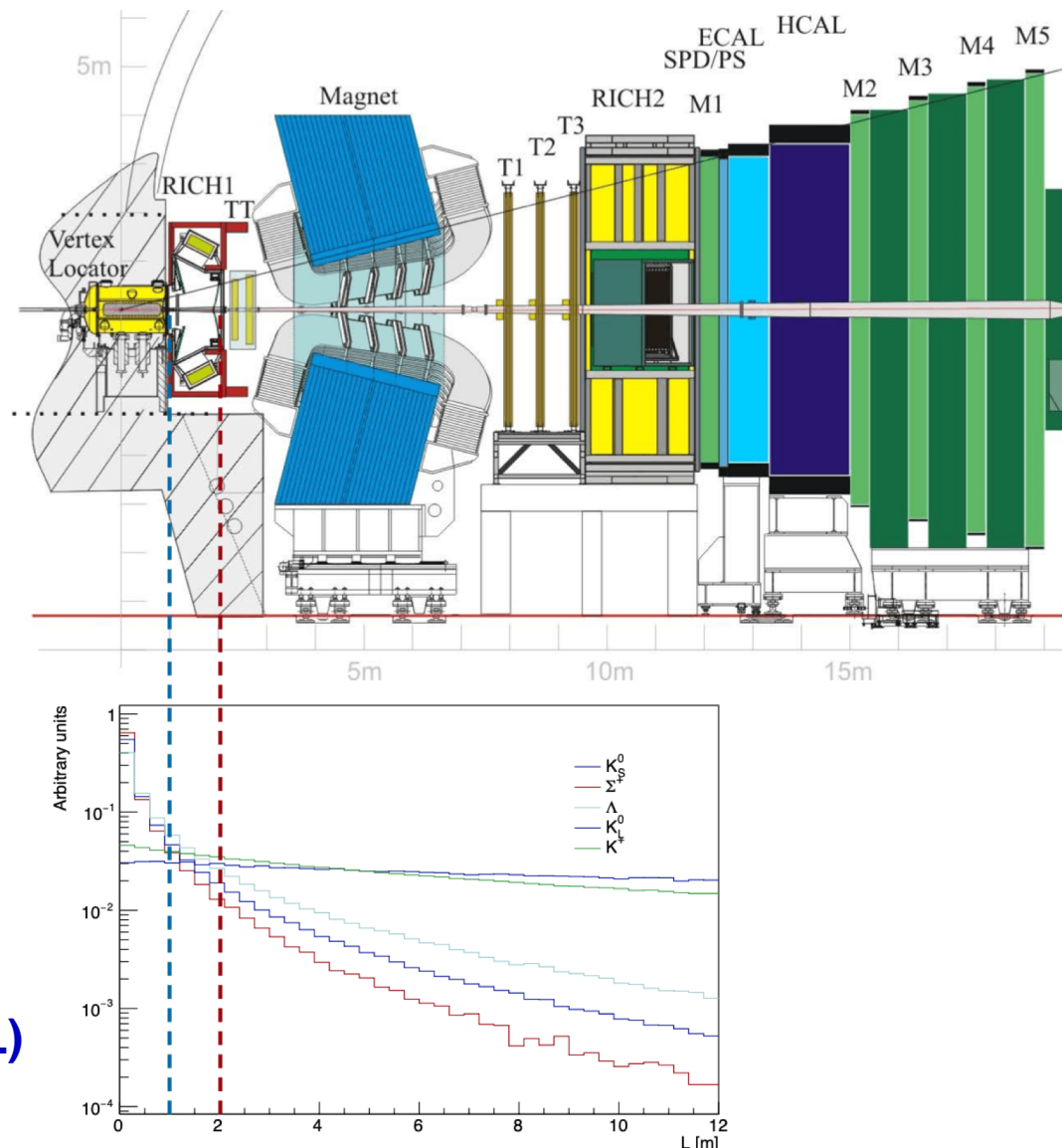
Vast  $K$  program for Run 3:

- $K_{S,L} \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$
- $K_S \rightarrow \pi^0\mu^+\mu^-$
- $K_S \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-e^+e^-$
- $K_S \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-\ell^+\ell^-$
- $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+\ell^+\ell^-$
- + others

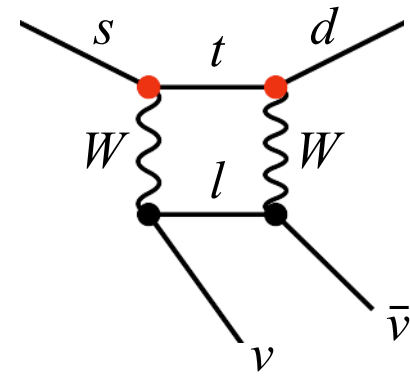
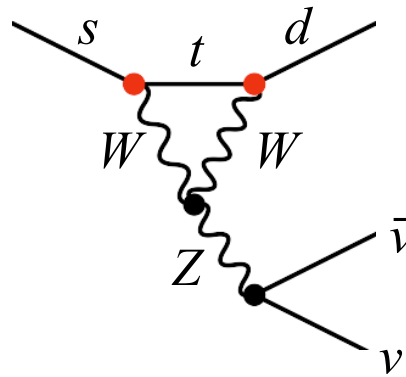
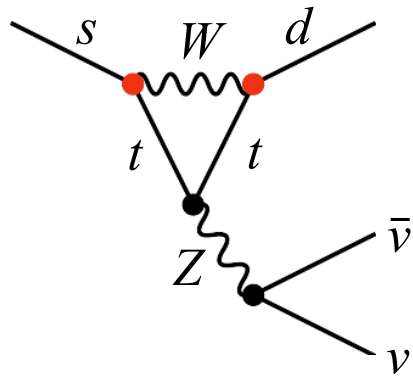
For example:

$\text{BR}(K_S \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) < 2.1 \times 10^{-10}$  (90%CL)

PRL125 (2020) 231801



# $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ in the Standard Model



**Extremely rare decays with rates very precisely predicted in SM:**

- Hard GIM mechanism + pattern of CKM suppression ( $V_{ts}^* V_{td}$ )
- No long-distance contributions from amplitudes with intermediate photons
- Hadronic matrix element obtained from  $\text{BR}(K_{e3})$  via isospin rotation

**SM predicted rates**  
Buras et al, JHEP 1511\*

**Experimental status**  
(before Sep 2019)

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

$\text{BR} = (8.4 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-11}$

$\text{BR} = (17.3^{+11.5}_{-10.5}) \times 10^{-11}$   
Stopped  $K^+$ , 7 events observed  
BNL 787/949, PRD79 (2009)

$K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$

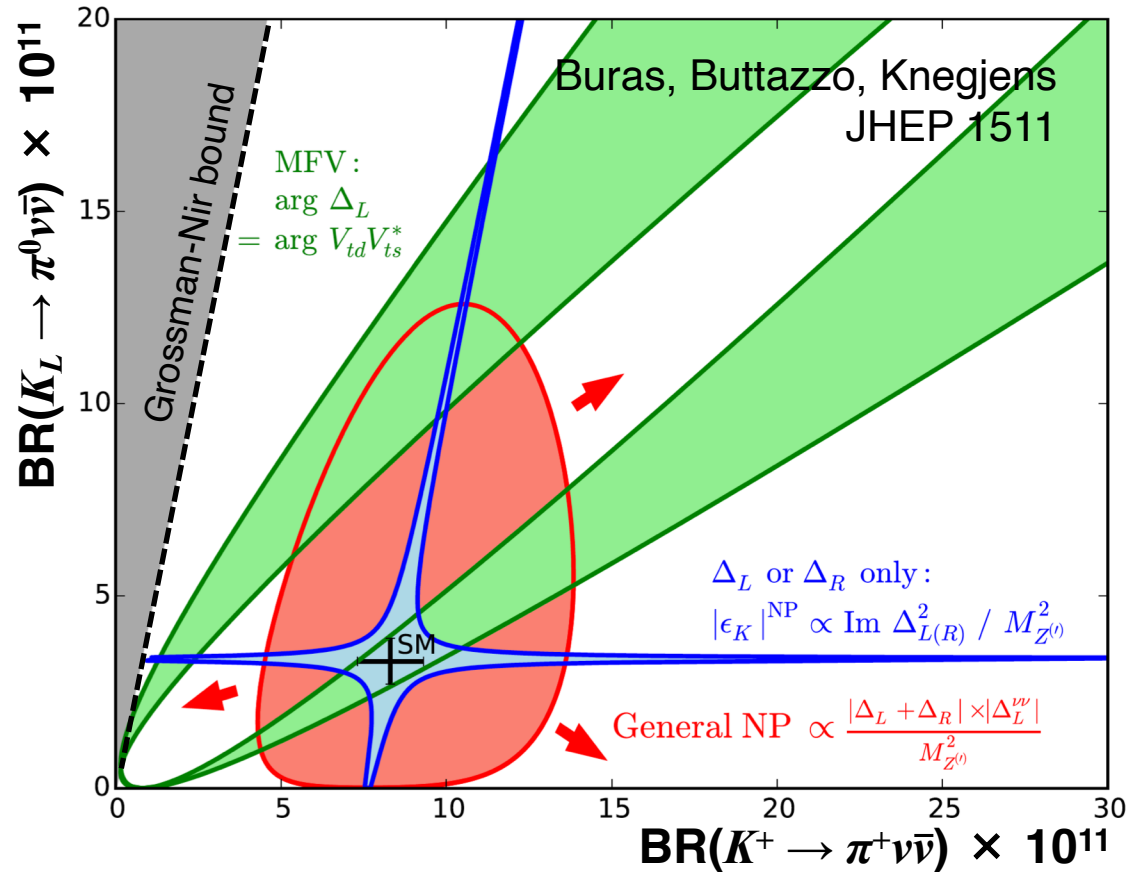
$\text{BR} = (3.4 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-11}$

$\text{BR} < 300 \times 10^{-11}$  90%CL  
KOTO, PRL122 (2019)

\* Tree-level determinations of CKM matrix elements

# $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ and new physics

**New physics affects  $K^+$  and  $K_L$  BRs differently**  
 Measurements of both can discriminate among NP scenarios



- Models with CKM-like flavor structure
  - Models with MFV
- Models with new flavor-violating interactions in which either LH or RH couplings dominate
  - $Z/Z'$  models with pure LH/RH couplings
  - Littlest Higgs with  $T$  parity
- Models without above constraints
  - Randall-Sundrum
- **Grossman-Nir bound**  
 Model-independent relation
 
$$\frac{\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu})}{\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu})} \times \frac{\tau_+}{\tau_L} \leq 1$$

# $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$ : Experimental issues

**Essential signature:  $2\gamma$  with unbalanced  $p_\perp$  + nothing else!**

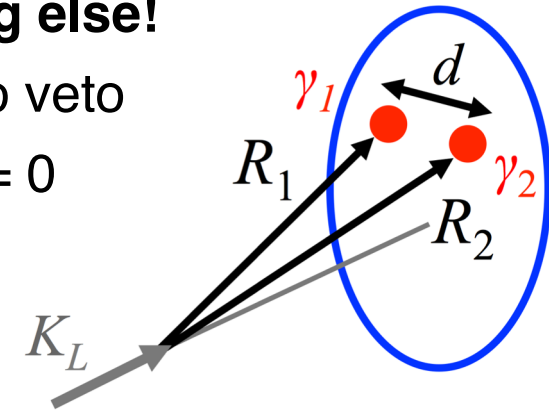
All other  $K_L$  decays have  $\geq 2$  extra  $\gamma$ s or  $\geq 2$  tracks to veto

Exception:  $K_L \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ , but not a big problem since  $p_\perp = 0$

$K_L$  momentum generally is not known

$M(\gamma\gamma) = m(\pi^0)$  is the only sharp kinematic constraint

Generally used to reconstruct vertex position



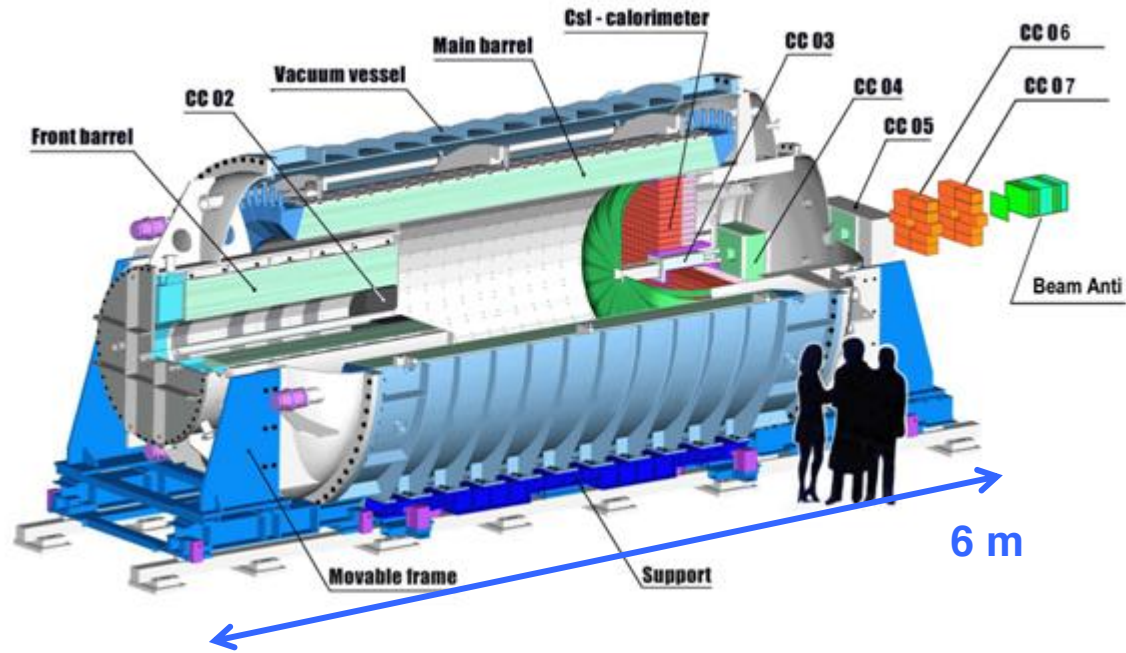
$$m_{\pi^0}^2 = 2E_1 E_2 (1 - \cos \theta)$$

$$R_1 \approx R_2 \equiv R = \frac{d\sqrt{E_1 E_2}}{m_{\pi^0}}$$

**Main backgrounds:**

Mode	BR	Methods to suppress/reject
$K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0$	$8.64 \times 10^{-4}$	$\gamma$ vetoes, $\pi^0$ vertex, $p_\perp$
$K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$	19.52%	$\gamma$ vetoes, $\pi^0$ vertex, $p_\perp$
$K_L \rightarrow \pi e \nu(\gamma)$	40.55%	Charged particle vetoes, $\pi$ ID, $\gamma$ vetoes
$\Lambda \rightarrow \pi^0 n$		Beamline length, $p_\perp$
$n + A \rightarrow X \pi^0$		High vacuum decay region

# $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$ at J-PARC



Primary beam: 30 GeV  $p$

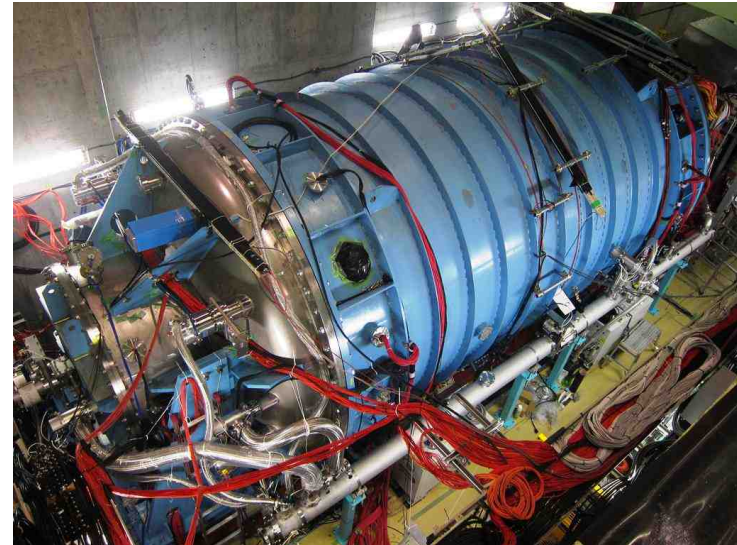
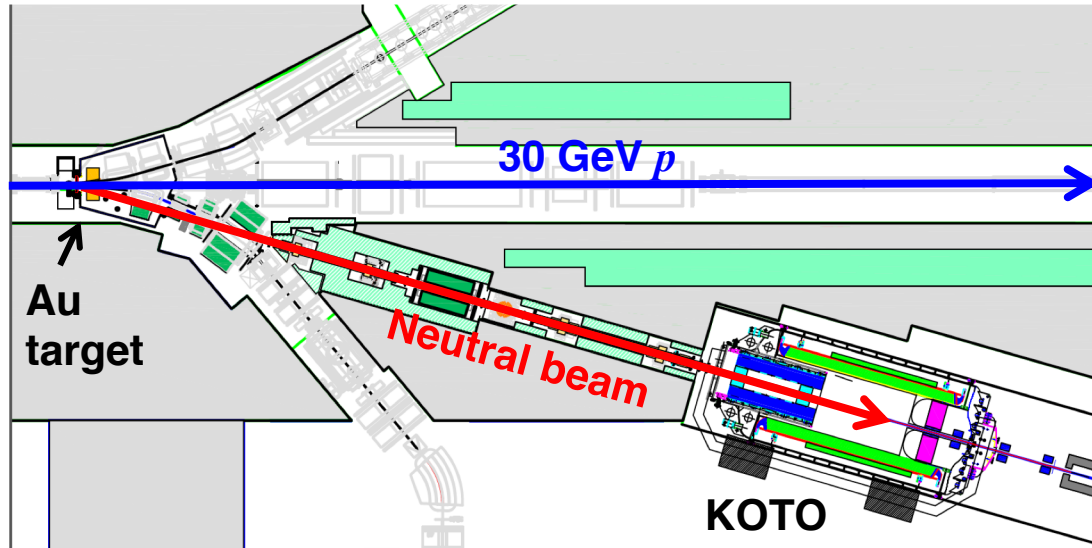
50 kW =  $5.5 \times 10^{13}$  p/5.2 s (2019)

Neutral beam ( $16^\circ$ )

$\langle p(K_L) \rangle = 2.1$  GeV

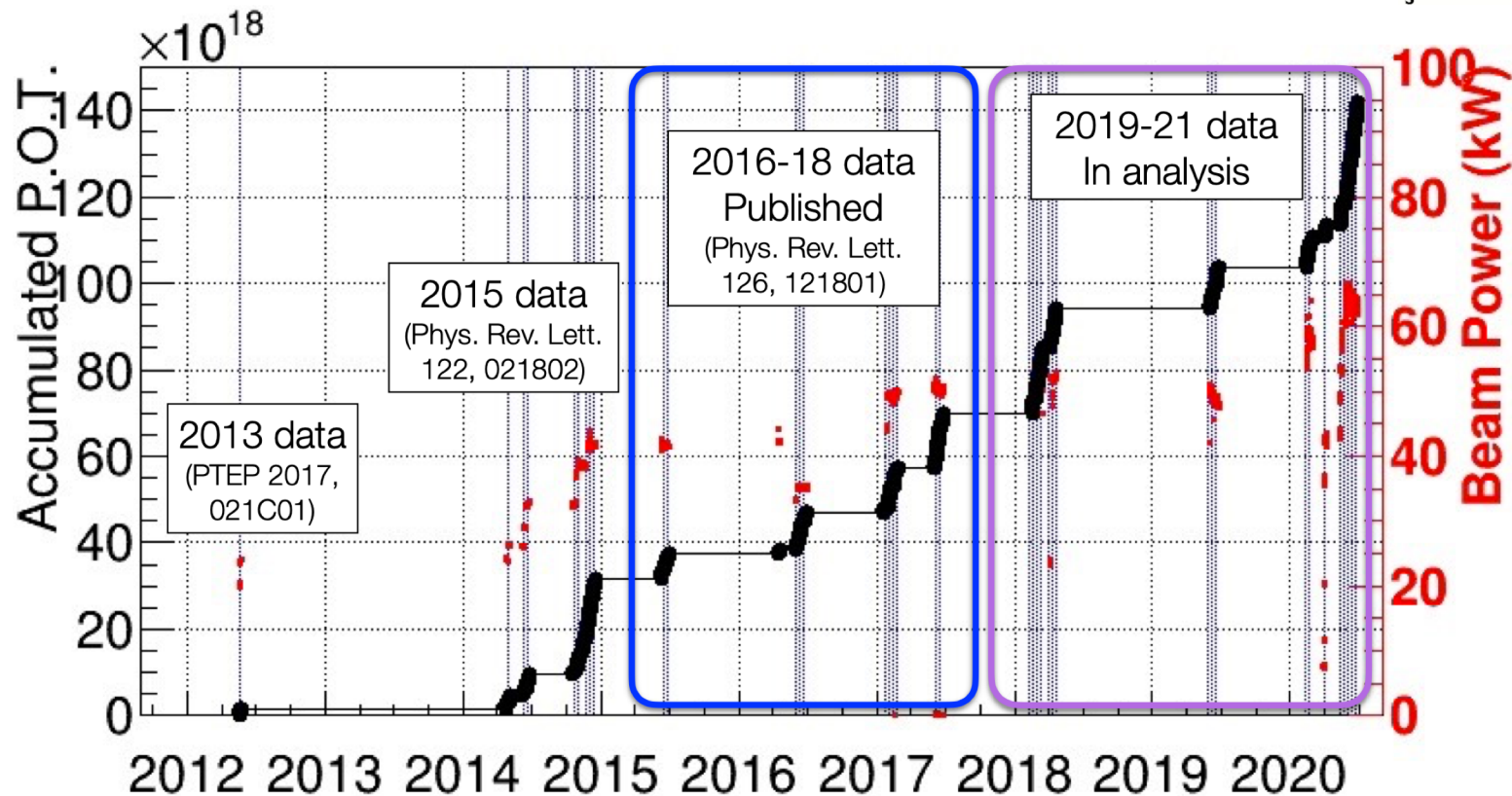
50% of  $K_L$  have 0.7-2.4 GeV

8  $\mu$ sr “pencil” beam





# KOTO status and timeline



## 2015 run

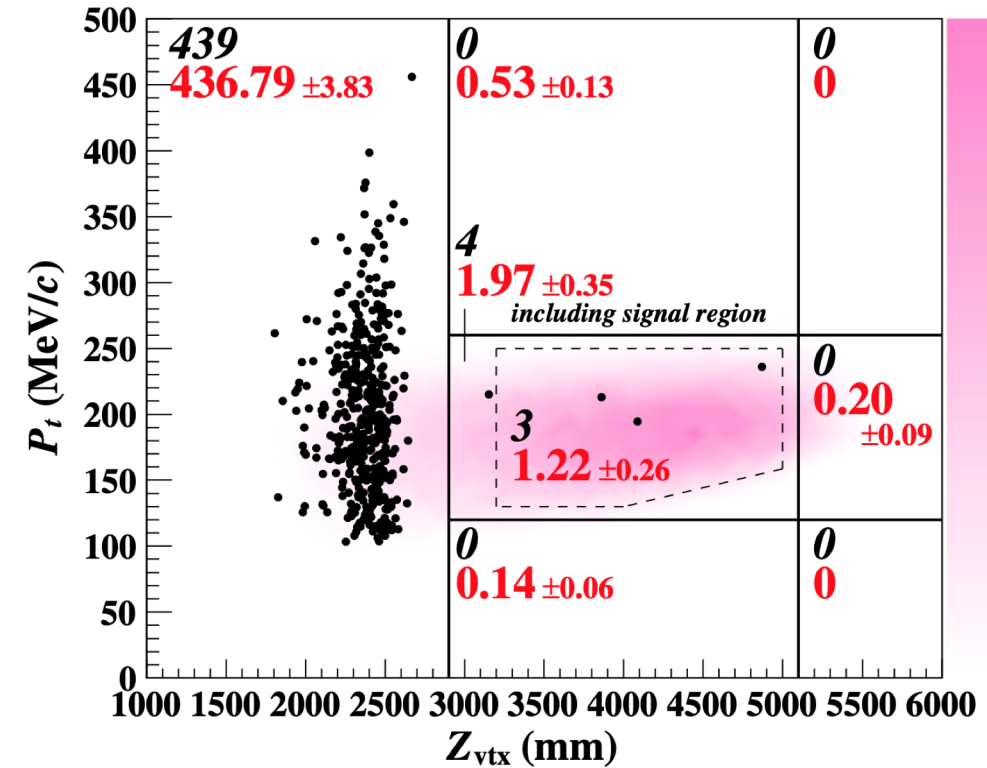
- Reached **40 kW** slow-extracted beam power
- $2.2 \times 10^{19}$  pot collected
- **$\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \nu) < 3.0 \times 10^{-9}$  (90%CL)**  
PRL 122 (2019) 021802

## 2016-2018 runs

- Reached **50 kW** beam power
- $3.1 \times 10^{19}$  pot collected
- **Results recently published**

**2019-2021 runs: Work in progress**

# Final result: 2016-2018 data



## Expected backgrounds

Source	Expected (68%CL)
$K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$	$0.01 \pm 0.01$
$K_L \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ halo	$0.26 \pm 0.07$
Other $K_L$ decays	$0.005 \pm 0.005$
$K^+_{e3} + K^+_{\mu 3} + K^+_{\pi 2}$	$0.87 \pm 0.25$
$n$ interaction in Csl	$0.017 \pm 0.002$
$\eta$ from $n$ in CV	$0.03 \pm 0.01$
$\pi^0$ from upstream int.	$0.03 \pm 0.03$
<b>Total</b>	<b><math>1.22 \pm 0.26</math></b>

\* Newly evaluated source since KAON 2019

**$BR(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \nu) < 4.9 \times 10^{-9}$  (90%CL)**

$30.5 \times 10^{19}$  pot

**$SES = (7.20 \pm 0.05_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.66_{\text{syst}}) \times 10^{-10}$**

0.04 signal + 1.22 background events expected

**3 events in signal box**

$K_L$  flux from  $K_L \rightarrow 2\pi^0 = 6.8 \times 10^{12}$

$\pi^0 \nu \nu$  acceptance from MC:

Decay in FV: 3.3%

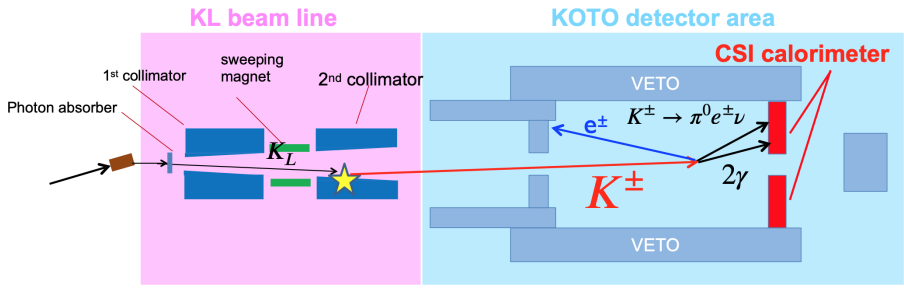
Overall acceptance: 0.6%

**PRL 126 (2021) 121801**

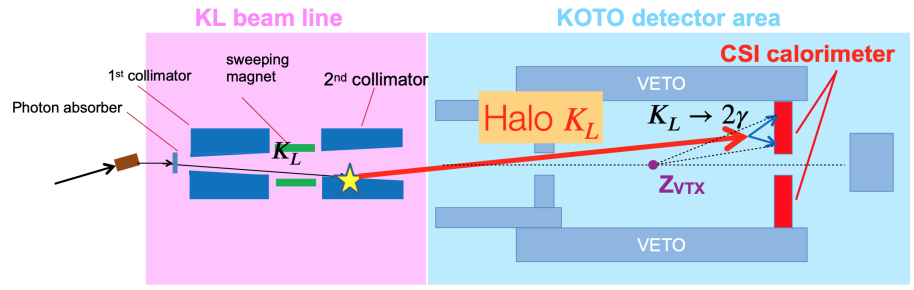
# Background studies for 2016-2018



## $K^+$ decays (charge exchange)

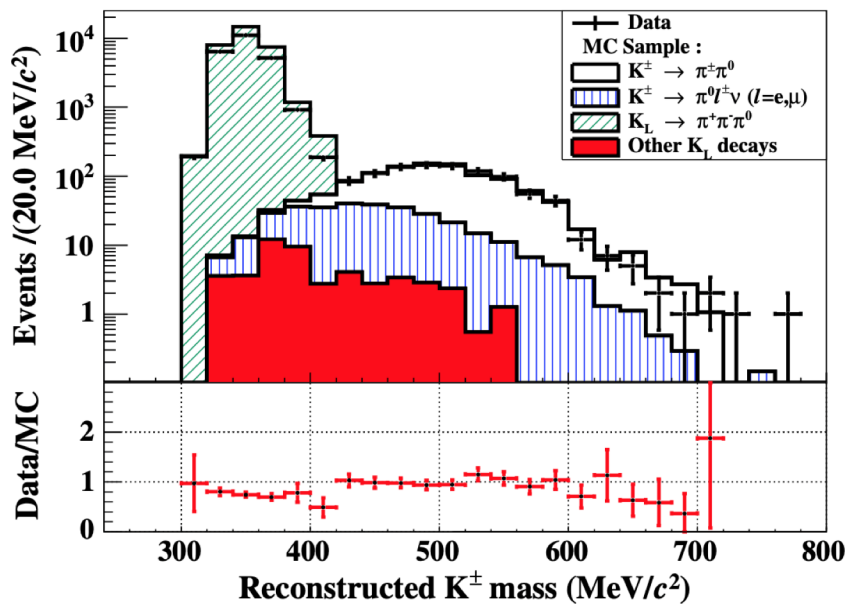


## $K_L \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ (scattered $K_L$ )

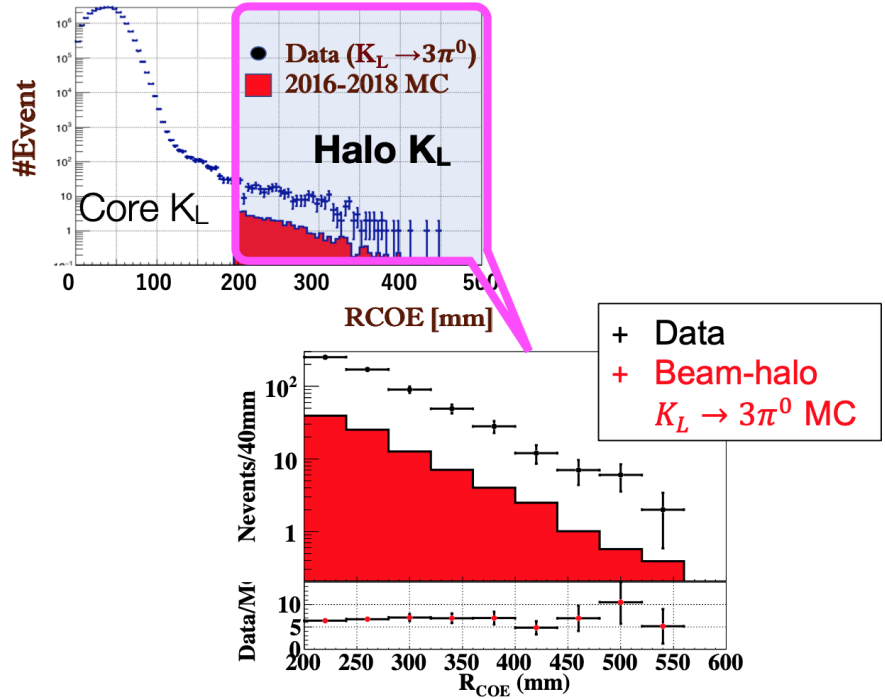


### Dedicated data taking June 2020:

- Measure  $K^+$  flux with 3-cluster sample ( $\pi^+\pi^0$  reconstruction hypothesis)



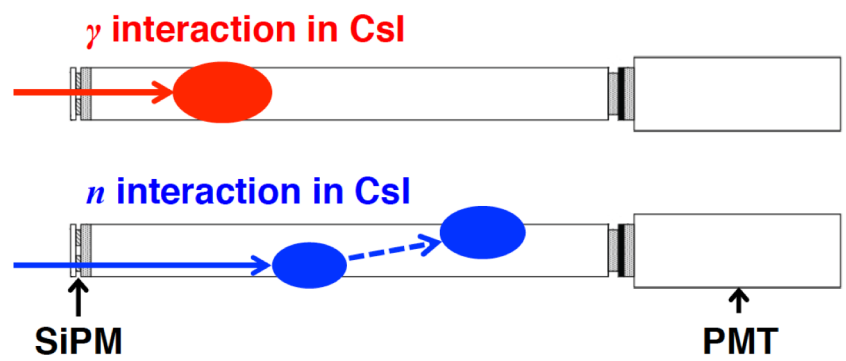
- $K_L \rightarrow 3\pi^0$  events reconstructed by center of energy to calibrate  $K_L$  halo in MC



# Improvements for 2019-2021

## Dual side readout for CsI modules

Installed for 2019 run



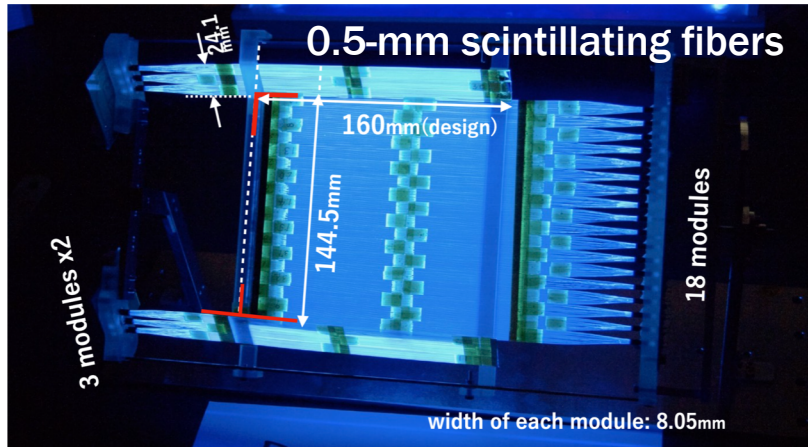
Resolve  $\gamma/n$  interaction depth by reading light from front CsI face with SiPM

Reduces neutron background  $\sim 50x$

## Upstream charged-particle veto

Prototype installed for 2020 run

Final version available in 2021



Reduces  $K^+$  background  $\sim 20x$

- **May-June 2021 run recently completed**
- **Data set of comparable size to 2016-2018 under analysis**

Run	pot [ $10^{18}$ ]	UCV
2016-2018	30.5	No
2019	18.5	No
2020	2.5	No
	6.9	Yes
2021 (in progress)	$\sim 35$	Yes

# Outlook after 2021

**Signal:** Need ~20x more (flux × acceptance) to reach SM SES

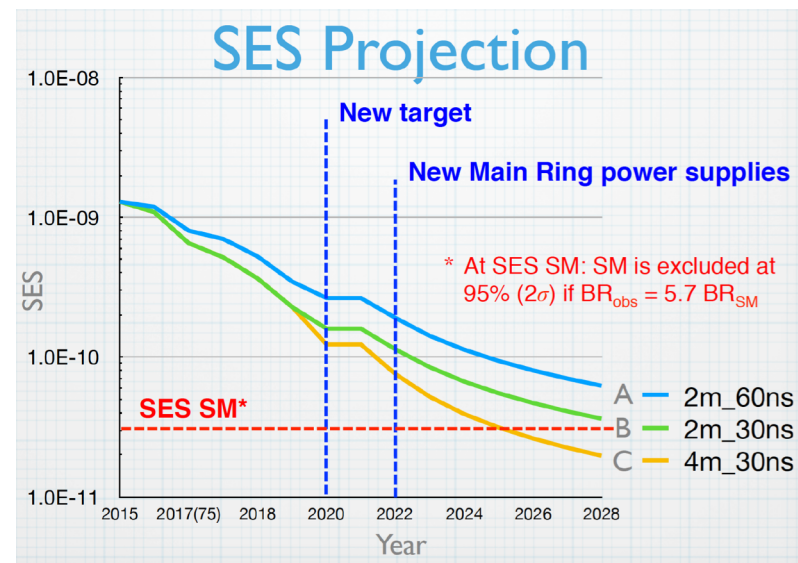
- Beam power expected to increase from 50 → 100 kW after 2022

## Mid-term Plan of MR

**FX:** The higher repetition rate scheme : Period 2.48 s → 1.32 s for 750 kW.  
 (= shorter repetition period) → 1.16 s for 1.3 MW  
**SX:** Mitigation of the residual activity for the beam power upgrade

JFY	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Event		long shutdown							
FX power [kW]	515	-	>700	800	900	>1000	>1100	>1200	1300
SX power [kW]	55	60~70	>80	>80	>80	>80	~100	~100	~100
Cycle time for Fast Extraction	2.48s		1.32s	1.32s	1.32s	1.32s	<1.32s	<1.32s	1.16s
New Magnet PS		Mass Production installation/Test							
RF system upgrade									
2 <sup>nd</sup> harmonic rf system									
Collimator system		Add.colli. (3.5kW)							
Injection system		Kicker PS improvement, Septa manufacture/test							
FX system									
Beam Monitors (BPM circuits)									
SX Local shield									
Diffuser/ Bent crystal/ VHF									

T. Yamanaka, J-PARC PAC, Jul 2018



- July 2021** Shutdown for MR magnet PS upgrade  
Increase power, better spill structure
- June 2022** Tuning for FX
- Fall 2022** FX beam for users  
SX beam tuning → 80 kW SX for users

SES projection from 2018 and will be updated soon, but main conclusion unchanged:

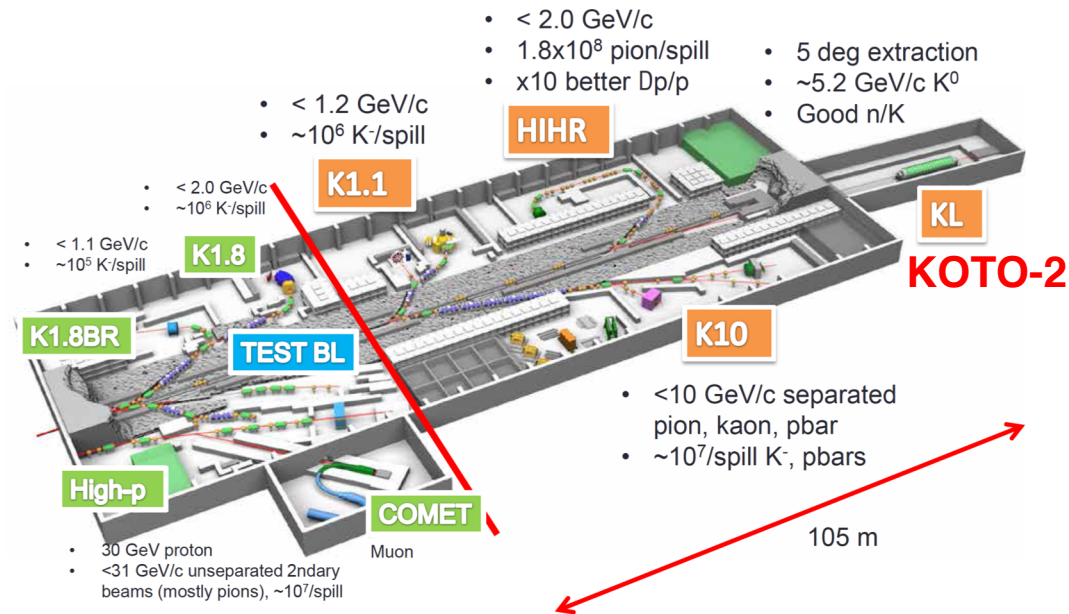
**Expect to approach SM SES by mid-decade**

# KOTO long-term plans: Step-2



- Plan outlined in 2006 proposal to upgrade to O(100) SM event sensitivity over the long term
- Now beginning design work for a new experiment to achieve this sensitivity

- Increase beam power to > 100 kW
- New neutral beamline at 5°  
 $\langle p(K_L) \rangle = 5.2 \text{ GeV}$
- Increase FV from 2 m to 12 m  
 Complete rebuild of detector
- **Requires hadron-hall extension**

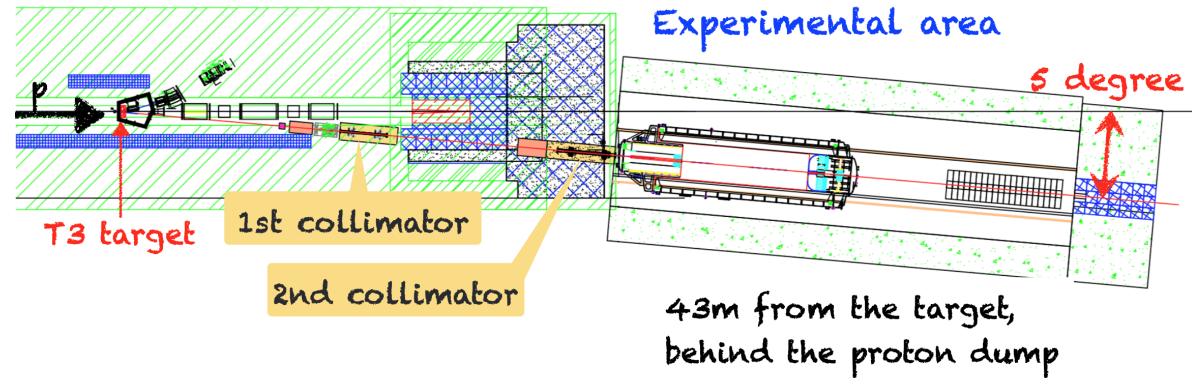


- Hadron-hall extension is a joint project with nuclear physics community  
 KOTO Step-2 is a flagship project
- Described in KEK Road Map 2021 for research strategy 2022-2027
- Focused review conducted in Aug 2021, with KOTO providing Step-2 input

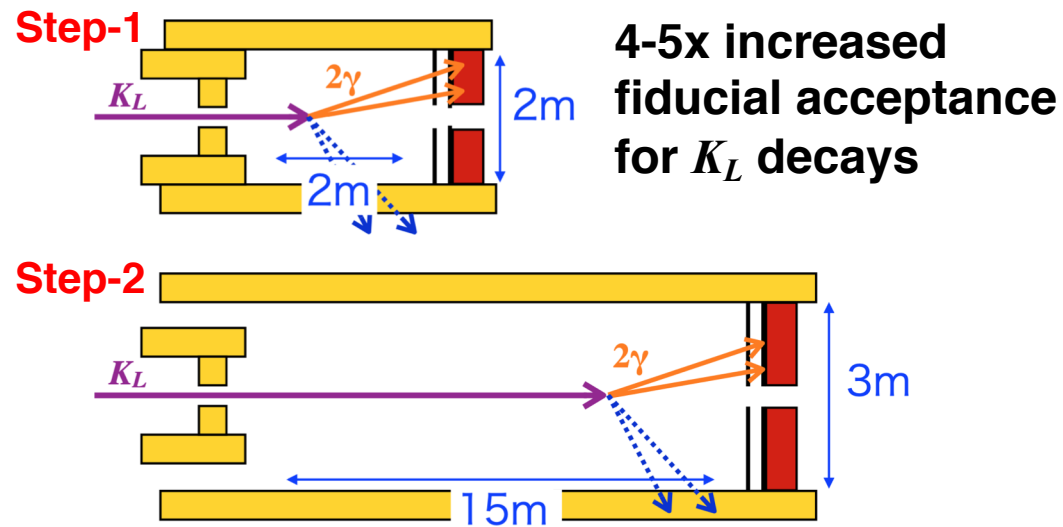
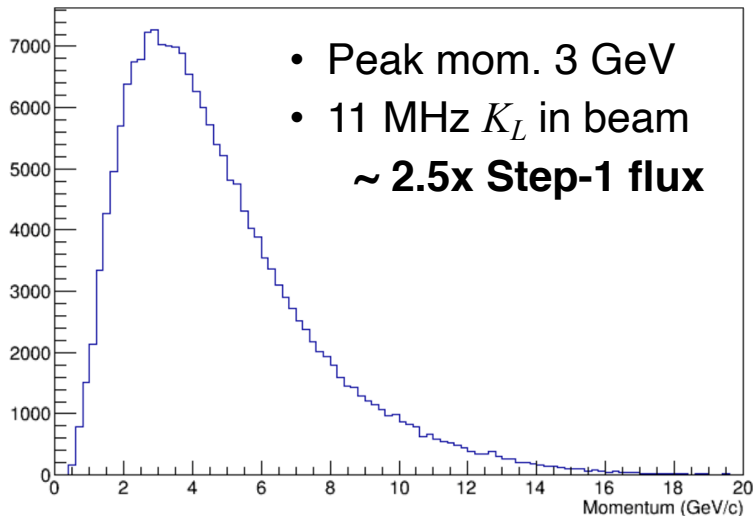
# KOTO Step-2 detector

## Step-2 beamline setup in hadron-hall extension

- Smaller angle ( $16^\circ \rightarrow 5^\circ$ )
- Longer beamline (20  $\rightarrow$  43 m)
- 2 collimators

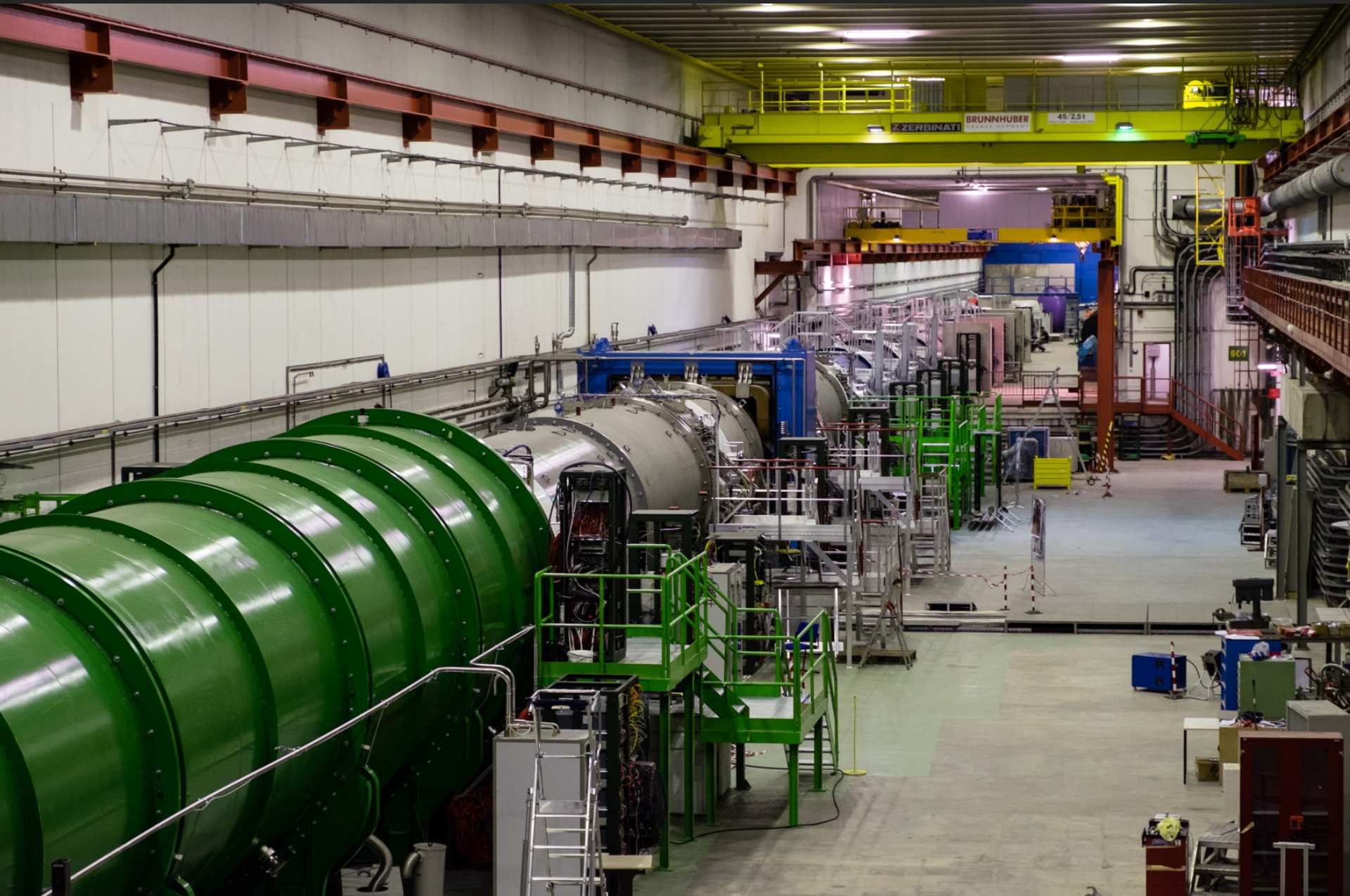


## $K_L$ spectrum at beam exit



**New sensitivity studies for smaller beam angle & larger detector:  
 $\sim 60$  SM evts with  $S/B \sim 1$  at 100 kW beam power ( $3 \times 10^7$  s)**

# The NA62 experiment at the CERN SPS

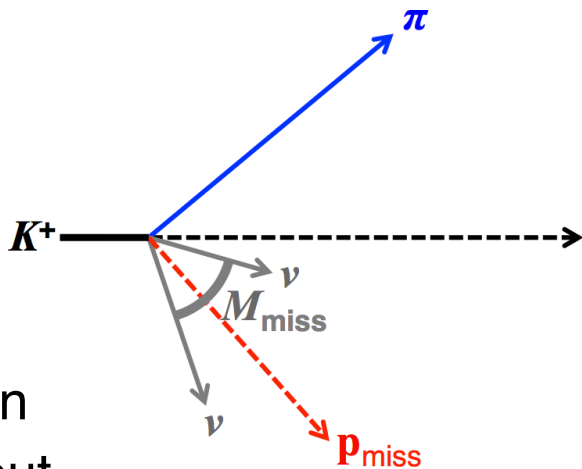




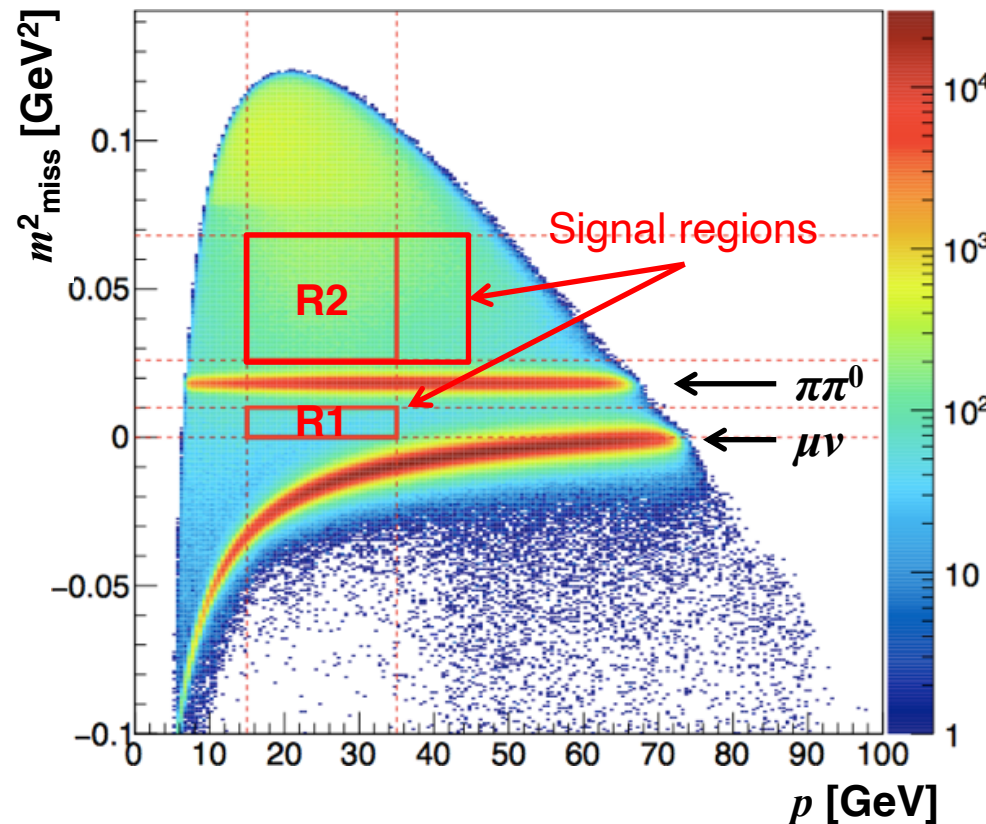
# $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ with decay in flight

Signal:

$$\text{BR} = (8.4 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-11}$$



- $K$  track in
- $\pi$  track out
- No other particles in final state
- $M_{\text{miss}}^2 = (p_K - p_\pi)^2$



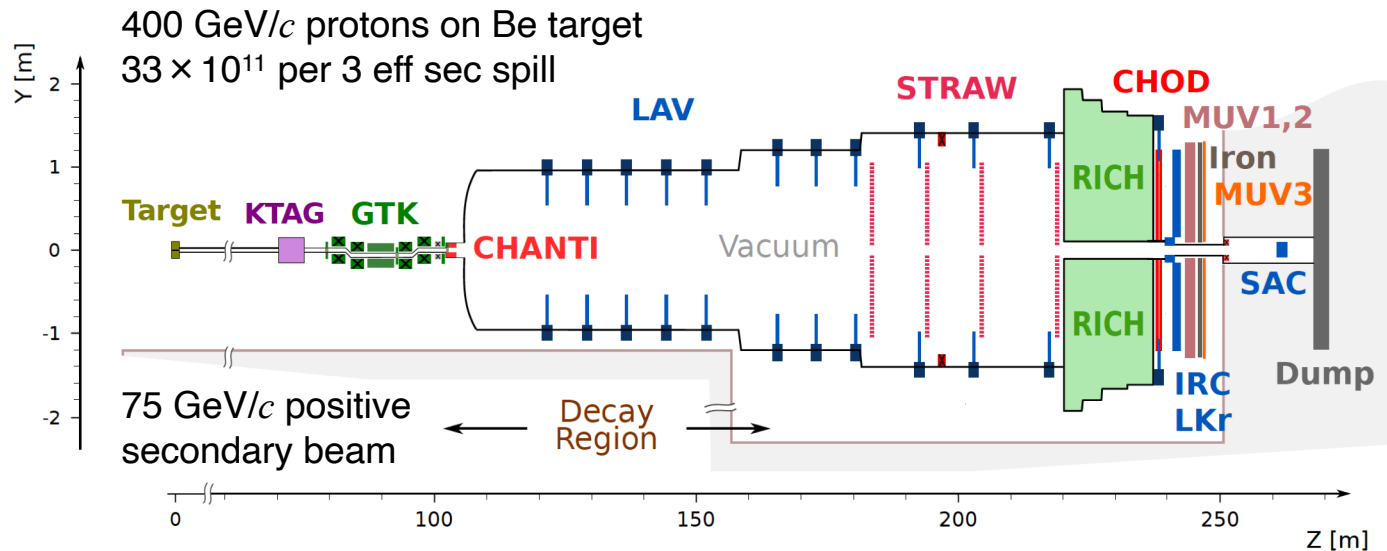
Selection criteria:

- $K^+$  beam identification
- Single track in final state
- $\pi^+$  identification ( $\epsilon_\mu \sim 1 \times 10^{-8}$ )
- $\gamma$  rejection ( $\epsilon_{\pi^0} \sim 3 \times 10^{-8}$ )

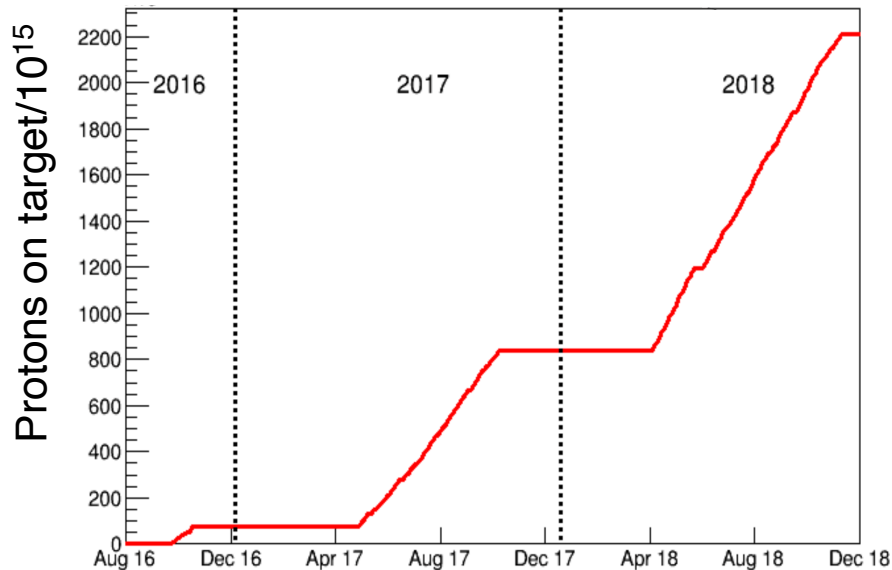
# NA62 status and timeline



- High-rate, precision tracking: 750 MHz at GTK
- Redundant PID and muon vetoes
- Hermetic photon vetoes
- High-performance EM calorimeter



## NA62 data taking:



**2016** 40% of nominal intensity  
 $0.12 \times 10^{12} K^+$  decays in FV

**2017** 60% of nominal intensity  
 $1.5 \times 10^{12} K^+$  decays in FV

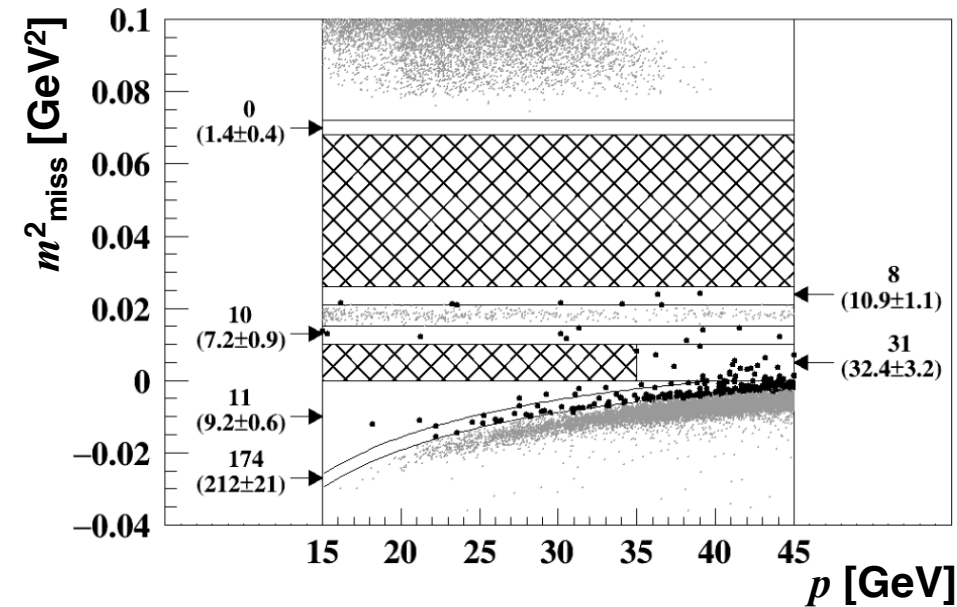
**Combined result, 2016-2017 data:**  
 $BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) < 1.78 \times 10^{-10}$  (90% CL)  
**3 events observed** JHEP11 (2020) 042

**2018** 60-70% of nominal intensity  
 $2.6 \times 10^{12} K^+$  decays in FV

# Final results: 2016-2018 data



## Background estimates for 2018



Background	Subset S1	Subset S2
$\pi^+\pi^0$	$0.23 \pm 0.02$	$0.52 \pm 0.05$
$\mu^+\nu$	$0.19 \pm 0.06$	$0.45 \pm 0.06$
$\pi^+\pi^-e^+\nu$	$0.10 \pm 0.03$	$0.41 \pm 0.10$
$\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-$	$0.05 \pm 0.02$	$0.17 \pm 0.08$
$\pi^+\gamma\gamma$	$< 0.01$	$< 0.01$
$\pi^0l^+\nu$	$< 0.001$	$< 0.001$
Upstream	$0.54^{+0.39}_{-0.21}$	$2.76^{+0.90}_{-0.70}$
<b>Total</b>	$1.11^{+0.40}_{-0.22}$	$4.31^{+0.91}_{-0.72}$

## NA62 2016-2018 data

JHEP 06 (2021) 093

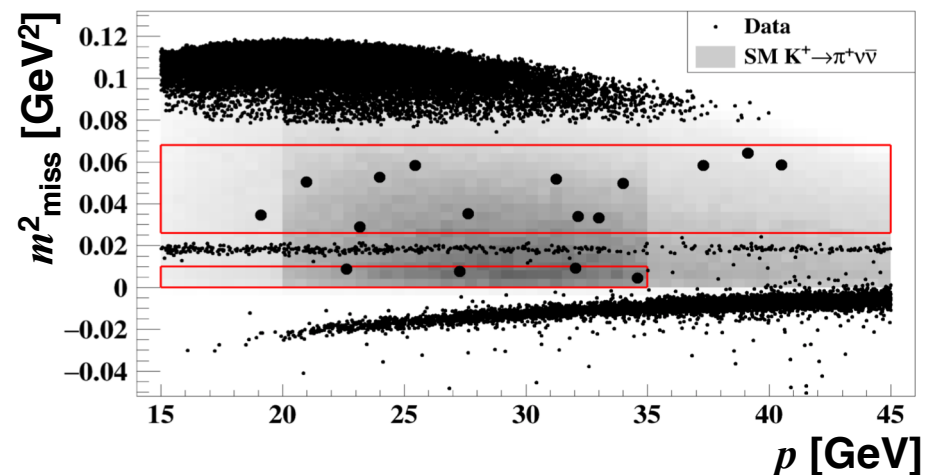
SES:  $(8.39 \pm 0.53) \times 10^{-11}$

Expected sig:  $10.01 \pm 0.42_{\text{sys}} \pm 1.19_{\text{ext}}$

Expected bkg:  $7.03^{+1.05}_{-0.82}$  evts

**20 events observed!**

## 17 signal candidates in 2018 data



# NA62 through LS3



## Summary of NA62 Run 1 (2016-2018):

- Expected signal (SM): 10 events
- Expected background: 7 events
- Total observed: 20 events
- $3.4\sigma$  signal significance
- Most precise measurement to date

$$\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu) = (10.6^{+4.0}_{-3.4 \text{ stat}} \pm 0.9_{\text{syst}}) \times 10^{-11}$$

## Plans for NA62 Run 2 (from LS2 to LS3):

**NA62 resumed data taking in July 2021!**

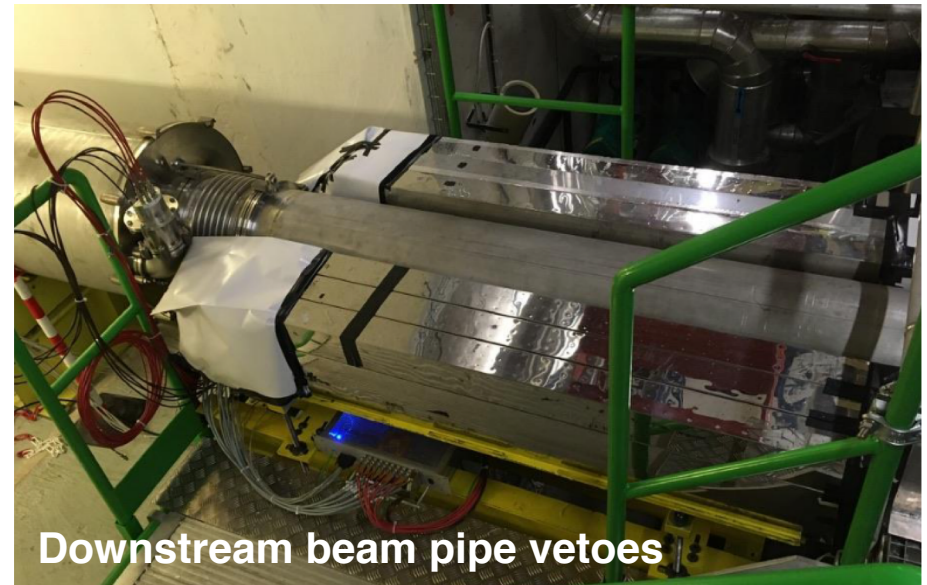
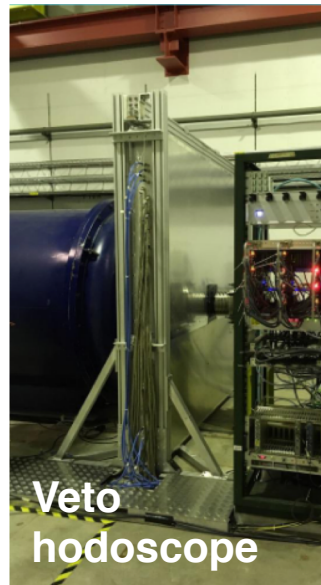
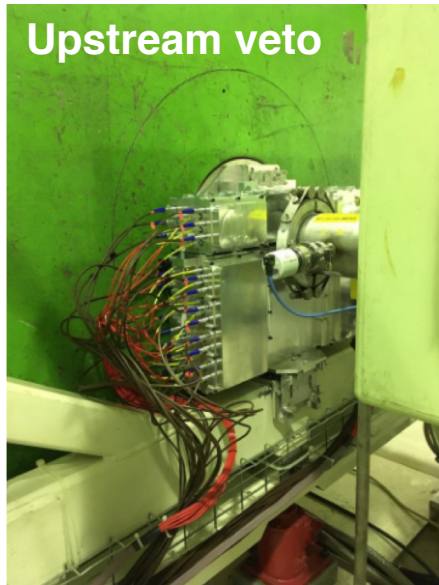
Key modifications to reduce background from upstream decays and interactions:

- Rearrangement of beamline elements around GTK achromat
- 4<sup>th</sup> station added to GTK beam tracker
- New veto hodoscope upstream of decay volume and additional veto counters around downstream beam pipe

Running at higher beam intensity (70%  $\rightarrow$  100%)

**Expect to measure  $\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu)$  to O(10%) by LS3**

# NA62 through LS3



## NA62 resumed data taking in July 2021!

Key modifications to reduce background from upstream decays and interactions:

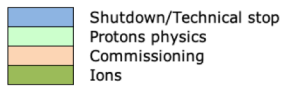
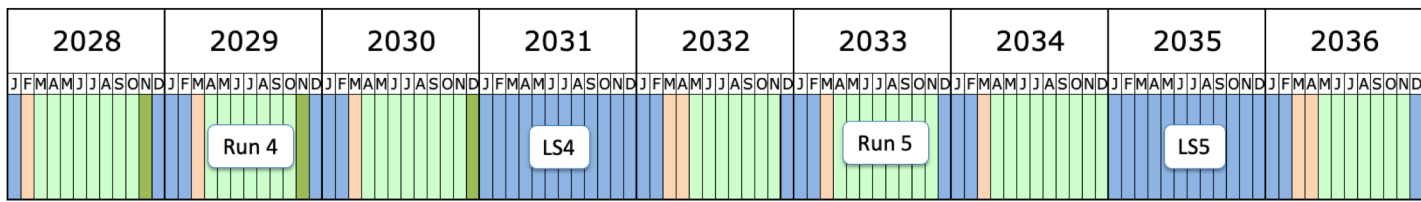
- Rearrangement of beamline elements around GTK achromat
- 4<sup>th</sup> station added to GTK beam tracker
- New veto hodoscope upstream of decay volume and additional veto counters around downstream beam pipe

Running at higher beam intensity (70% → 100%)

**Expect to measure  $\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu})$  to O(10%) by LS3**

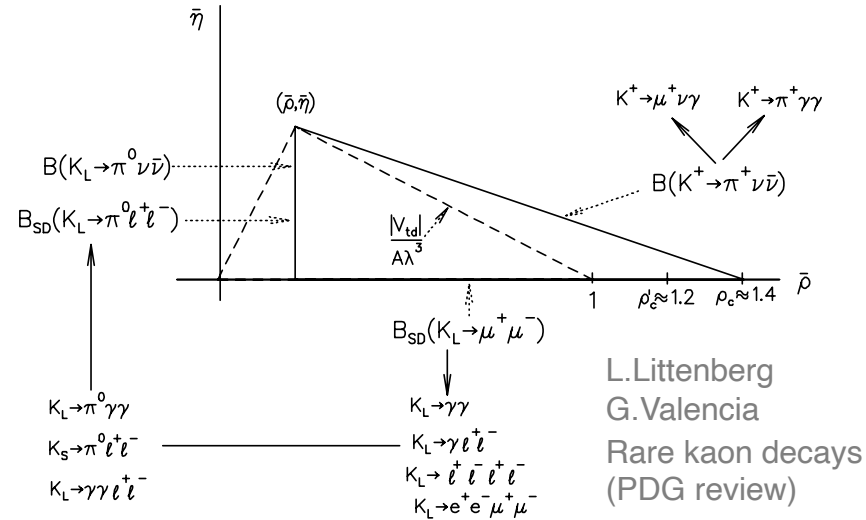
# Fixed target runs at the SPS

Fixed target runs planned to accompany LHC running through 2036



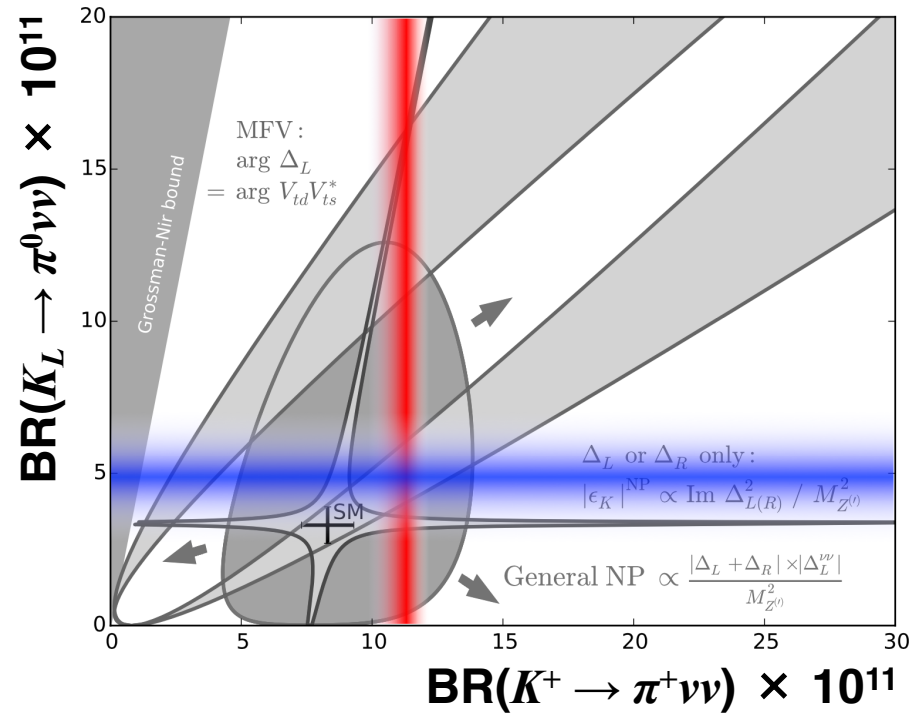
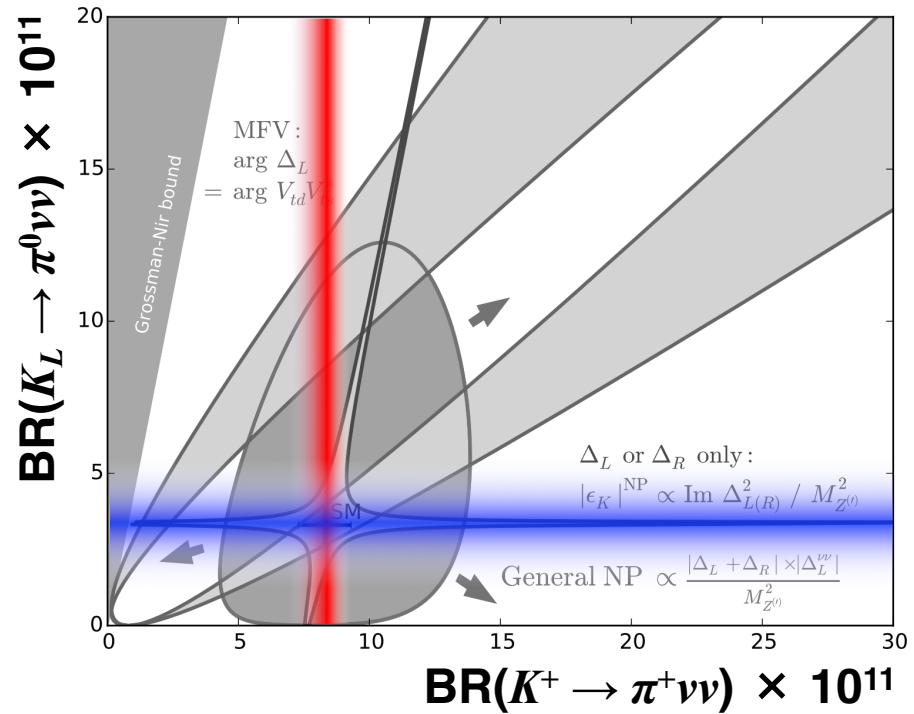
<https://lhc-commissioning.web.cern.ch/schedule/LHC-long-term.htm>

There is an opportunity at the SPS for an **integrated program** to pin down new physics in kaon decays  
 Measurement of all rare kaon decay modes — **charged and neutral** — to give clear insight into the flavor structure of new physics



# Physics opportunities in the kaon sector

Precision measurements of  $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \nu$  BRs can provide model-independent tests for new physics at mass scales of up to  $O(100 \text{ TeV})$



- $\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu) = \mathbf{BR_{SM}}$  with  $\delta\text{BR} = \mathbf{5\%}$
- $\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \nu) = \mathbf{BR_{SM}}$  with  $\delta\text{BR} = \mathbf{20\%}$

- $\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu) = \mathbf{1.33 BR_{SM}}$  with  $\delta\text{BR} = \mathbf{5\%}$
- $\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \nu) = \mathbf{1.50 BR_{SM}}$  with  $\delta\text{BR} = \mathbf{20\%}$

# High-intensity kaon beams at the SPS

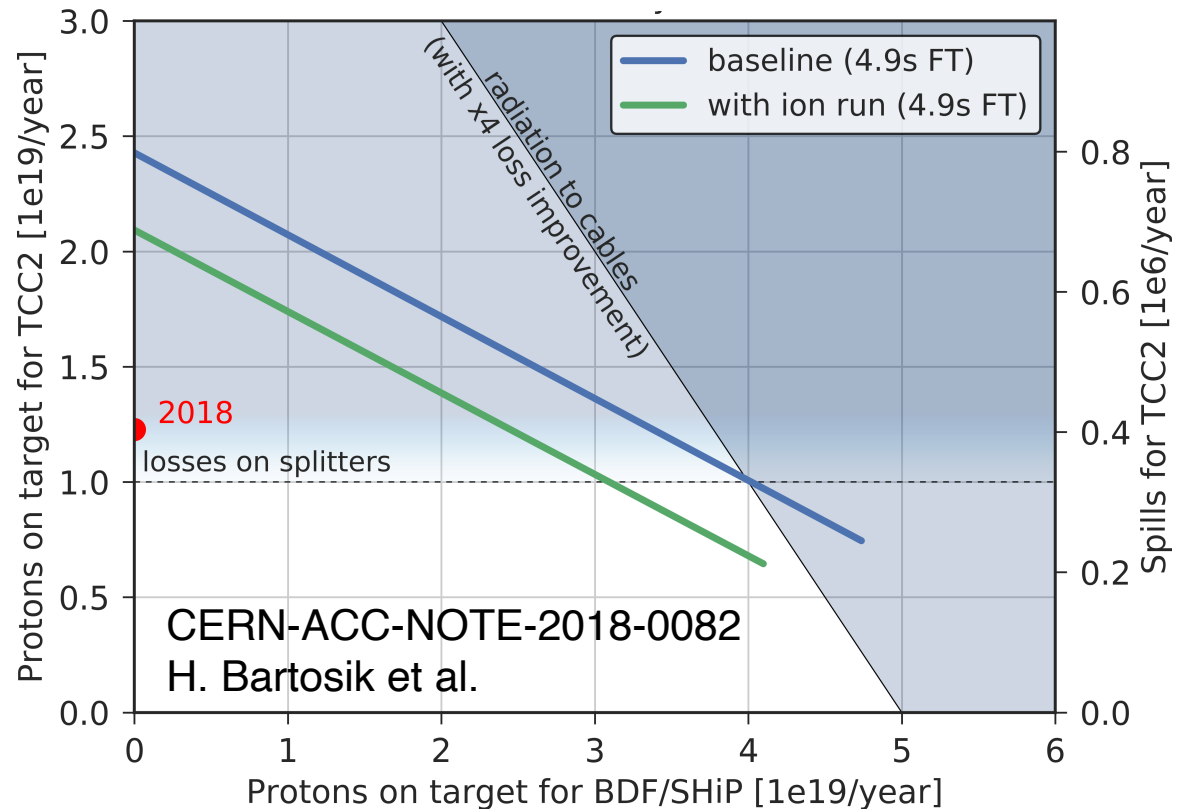
Operational scenarios and limits on the intensity deliverable to the North Area targets were studied in context of the BDF proposal as part of Physics Beyond Colliders

Experiments to measure  $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \nu$  BRs at the SPS would require:

- $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu$   
 **$6 \times 10^{18}$  pot/year**  
**4x increase**
- $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \nu$   
 **$1 \times 10^{19}$  pot/year**  
**6x increase**

increases with respect to present primary intensity

SPS proton sharing (4.9 sec flat top, 80% uptime)



**A kaon experiment at 6x present intensity is compatible with a diverse North Area program**



# High-intensity proton beam study

## Conclusions from PBC Conventional Beams working group

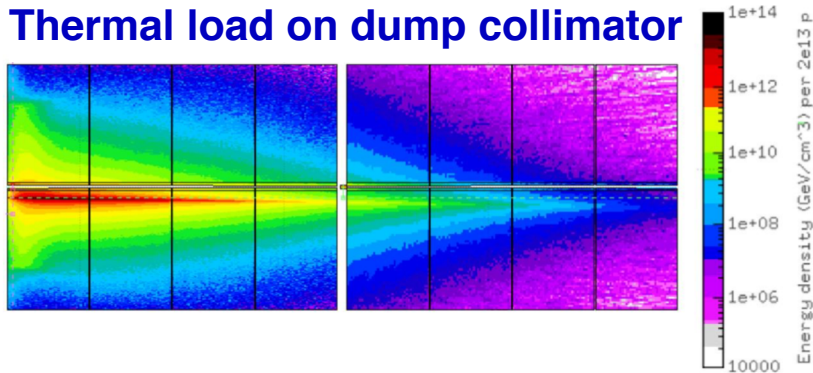
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Issue	Approach
<b>Extraction losses</b>	Good results on ZS losses and spill quality from SPS Losses & Activation WG (SLAWG) workshop, 9-11 November 2017: <a href="https://indico.cern.ch/event/639766/">https://indico.cern.ch/event/639766/</a>
<b>Beam loss on T4</b>	Vertical by-pass to increase T4 → T10 transmission to 80%
<b>Equipment protection</b>	Interlock to stop SPS extraction during P0Survey reaction time
<b>Ventilation in ECN3</b>	Preliminary measurements indicate good air containment Comprehensive ventilation system upgrade not needed
<b>ECN3 beam dump</b>	Significantly improved for NA62 Need to better understand current safety margin
<b>T10 target &amp; collimator</b>	Thermal load on T10 too high → Use CNGS-like target? Dump collimator will require modification/additional cooling
<b>Radiation dose at surface above ECN3</b>	8 mrad vertical targeting angle should help to mitigate Preliminary results from FLUKA simulations Proposed target shielding scheme appears to be adequate Mixed mitigation strategy may be needed for forward muons

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# Beam and target simulations

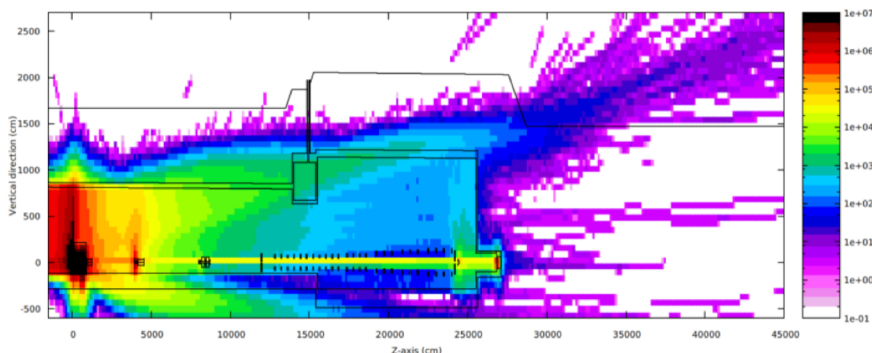
## Thermal load on dump collimator



## CNGS rod target



## Dose rate simulation in ECN3, $K_L$ beam



## Thermal simulations of target and TAX dump collimator

- Identified upgrades needed for high-intensity beam
- Target: CNGS-like design: carbon-carbon supports, pressurized air cooling
- TAX: Cooling elements nearer to center of collimator, like for SPS beam dump

## Neutral beam and prompt surface dose

- **Neutrons:** Shielding adequate to reduce surface dose; need access shaft airlock
- **Muons:** Additional shielding at target and/or at downstream end of ECN3

## Complete evaluation of random veto and trigger rates with full FLUKA beamline simulation for all particles down to 100 MeV

- Random veto rate = 140 MHz

# $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu$ at high-statistics



**The NA62 decay-in-flight technique is now well established!**

- Background estimates validated by in-depth study with data and MC
- Lessons learned in 2016-2018 will be put in action in 2021-2024

**Possible next step:**

**An experiment at the SPS to measure  $\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu)$  to within  $\sim 5\%$ !**

Requires 4x increase in intensity  $\rightarrow$  matches present limit with charged secondary beam (after major upgrades)

**Basic design of experiment will work at high intensity**

**Key challenges:**

- Require much improved time resolution to keep random veto rate under control
- Must maintain other key performance specifications at high-rate:
  - Space-time reconstruction, low material budget, single photon efficiencies, control of non-gaussian tails, etc.

**Synergies to be explored:**

- Challenges often aligned with (sometimes more stringent than) High Luminosity LHC projects and next generation flavor/dark matter experiments

## NA62 straw chambers

- Straw diameter: 9.8 mm
- Hit trailing-time resolution:  $\sim 30$  ns
- Maximum drift time:  $\sim 150$  ns
- Mylar straws: 36 wall  $\mu\text{m}$  thickness
- Material budget: 1.7%  $X_0$



## Straw chambers for 4x intensity

- **Main feature: Straw diameter  $\sim 5$  mm**
- **Improved trailing-time resolution:  $\sim 6$  ns (per straw)**
- **Smaller maximum drift time:  $\sim 80$  ns**
- **Rate capability increased 6-8x**
- Layout: 4 chambers,  $\sim 21000$  straws
- Decreased straw wall thickness:  $\sim 20$   $\mu\text{m}$ , with copper and gold plating
- Material budget: 1.4%  $X_0$

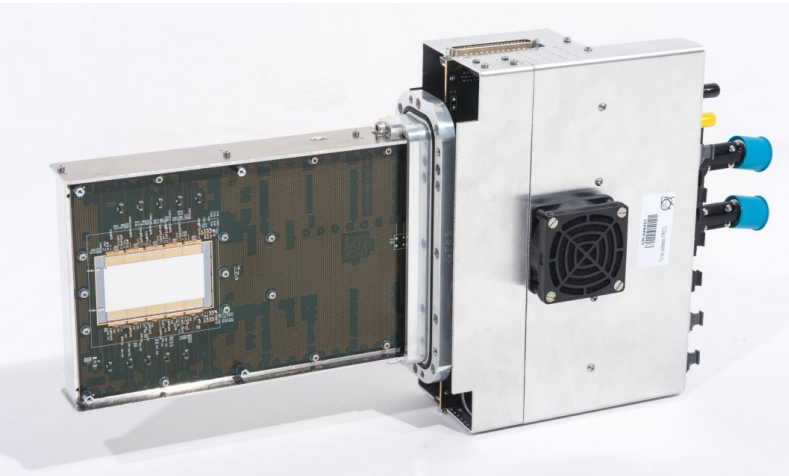
**Design studies in progress at CERN and Dubna**

# Experimental challenges: GTK



## GTK for 4x intensity

- Time resolution < 50 ps per plane, no non-gaussian tails!
- Pixel size: < 300 × 300 μm<sup>2</sup>
- Efficiency: > 99% (incl. fill factor)
- Material budget: 0.3-0.5% X<sub>0</sub>
- Beam intensity: 3 GHz over ~ 3x6 cm<sup>2</sup>
- Maximum local intensity: 8 MHz/mm<sup>2</sup>
- Radiation resistance: 2.3x10<sup>15</sup> n eq/cm<sup>2</sup>/yr

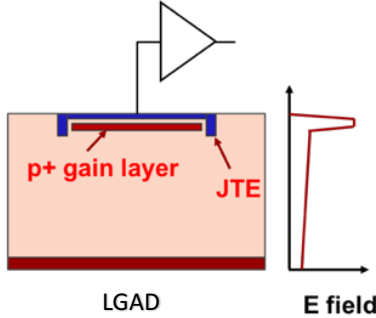


NA62 Gigatracker station

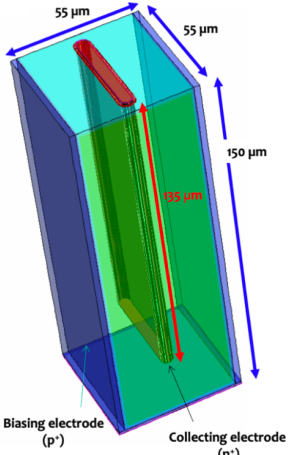
Continue to improve planar sensors while monitoring progress on new technologies

Possible synergies with ongoing development efforts:

**LGAD: Low Gain Avalanche Detectors**

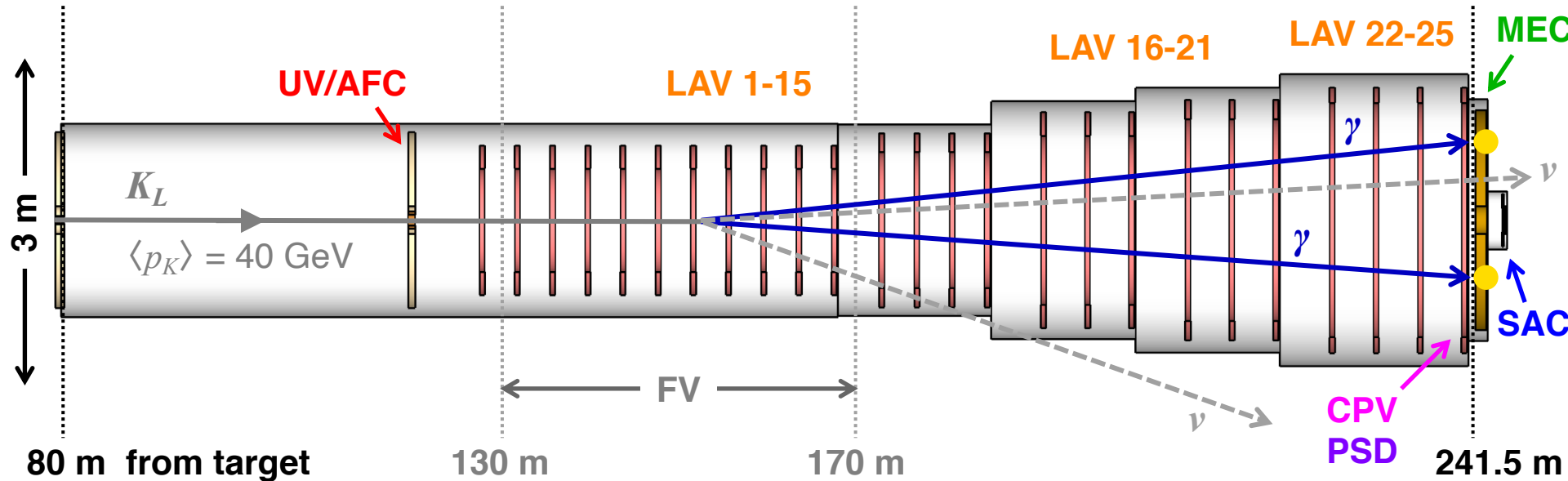


**TimeSPOT: time-stamping 3D sensors**



# A $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$ experiment at the SPS?

400-GeV SPS proton beam on Be target at  $z = 0$  m



**$K_L$ EVER target sensitivity:**

**5 years starting Run 4**

**$\sim 60$  SM  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$**

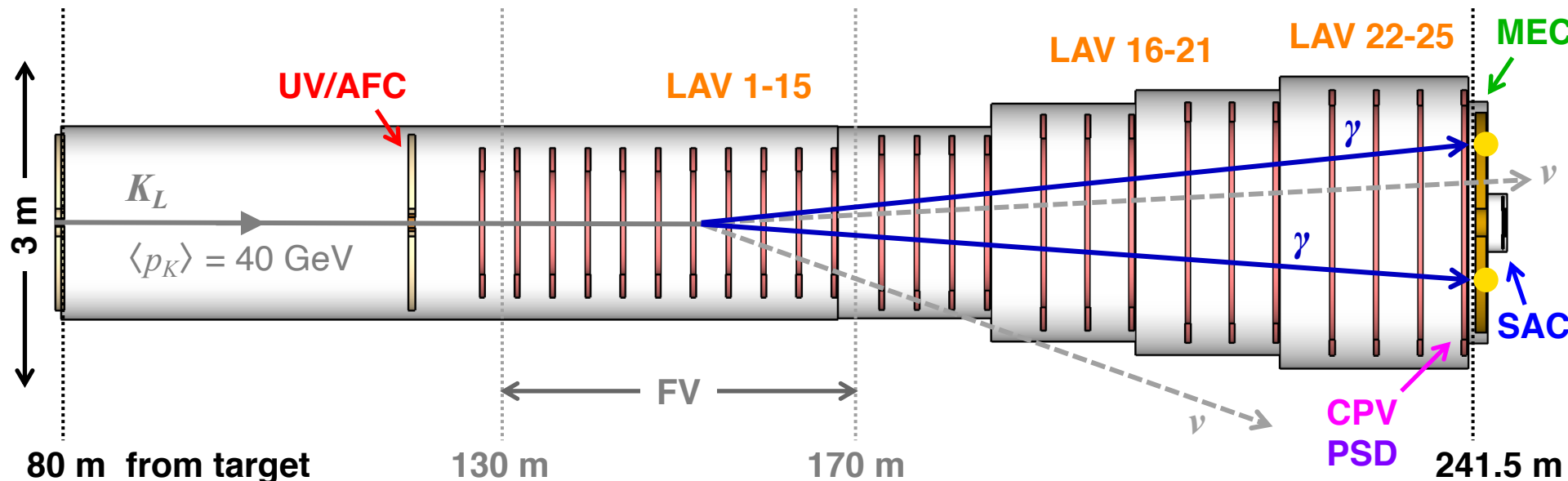
**$S/B \sim 1$**

**$\delta BR/BR(\pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}) \sim 20\%$**

- High-energy experiment: Complementary to KOTO
- Photons from  $K_L$  decays boosted forward
  - Makes photon vetoing easier - veto coverage only out to 100 mrad
- Roughly same vacuum tank layout and fiducial volume as NA62

# A $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$ experiment at the SPS

400-GeV SPS proton beam on Be target at  $z = 0$  m



## Main detector/veto systems:

- UV/AFC** Upstream veto/Active final collimator
- LAV1-25** Large-angle vetoes (25 stations)
- MEC** Main electromagnetic calorimeter
- SAC** Small-angle vetoes
- CPV** Charged particle veto
- PSD** Pre-shower detector

**KEVER target sensitivity:**

**5 years starting Run 4**

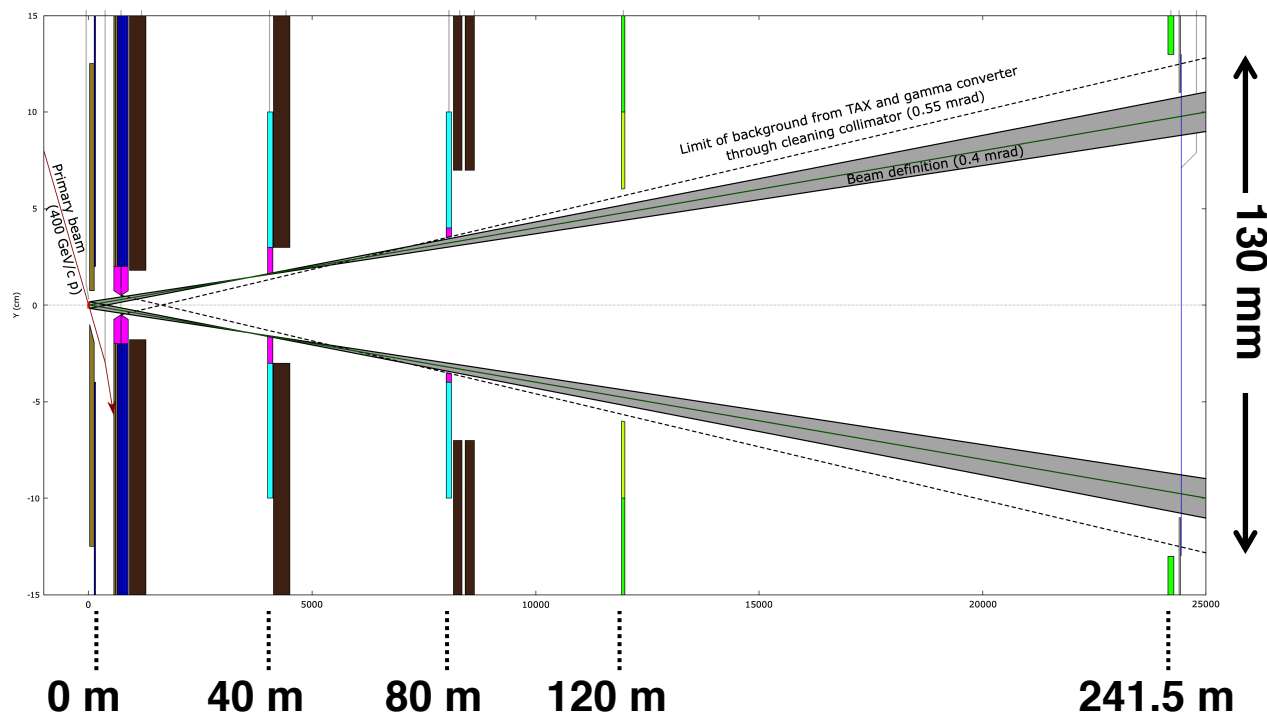
**$\sim 60$  SM  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$**

**$S/B \sim 1$**

**$\delta BR/BR(\pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}) \sim 20\%$**

# Neutral beam and beamline

- 400 GeV  $p$  on 400 mm Be target
- Production angle  $\theta = 8.0$  mrad
- Solid angle  $\Delta\theta = 0.4$  mrad
- $2.1 \times 10^{-5} K_L/\text{pot}$  in beam
- $\langle p(K_L) \rangle = 40$  GeV
- Probability for decay inside FV  $\sim 4\%$
- Acceptance for  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \nu$  decays occurring in FV  $\sim 5\%$



- **4 collimation stages** to minimize neutron halo, including beam scattered from absorber
- **Photon absorber** in dump collimator

NB: Choice of higher production angle under study to decrease rate of  $\Lambda \rightarrow n\pi^0$  decays in detector:

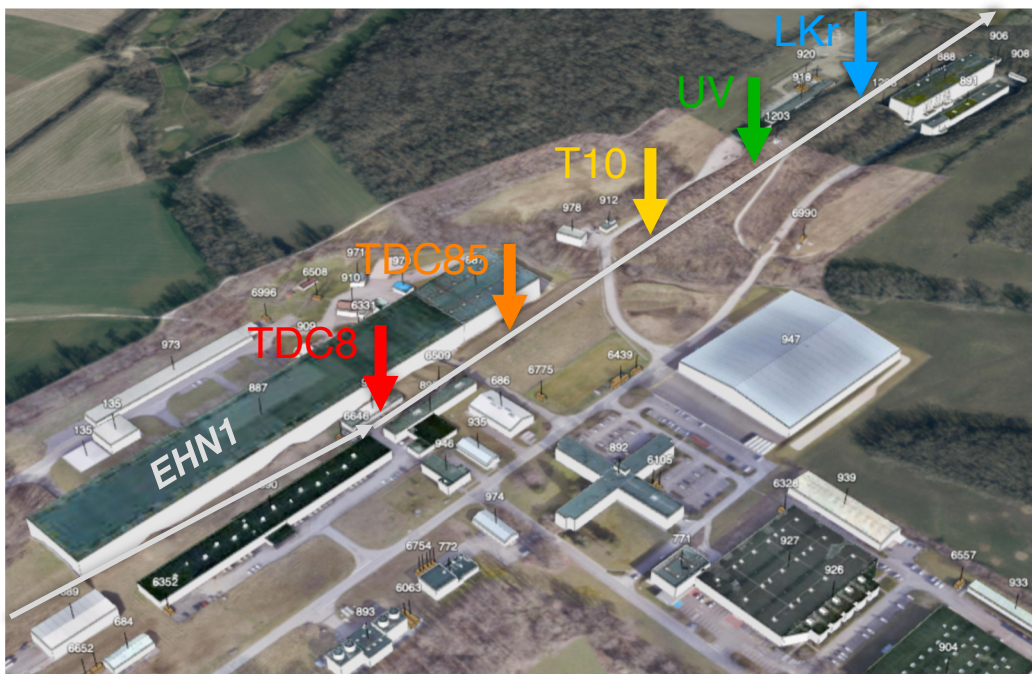
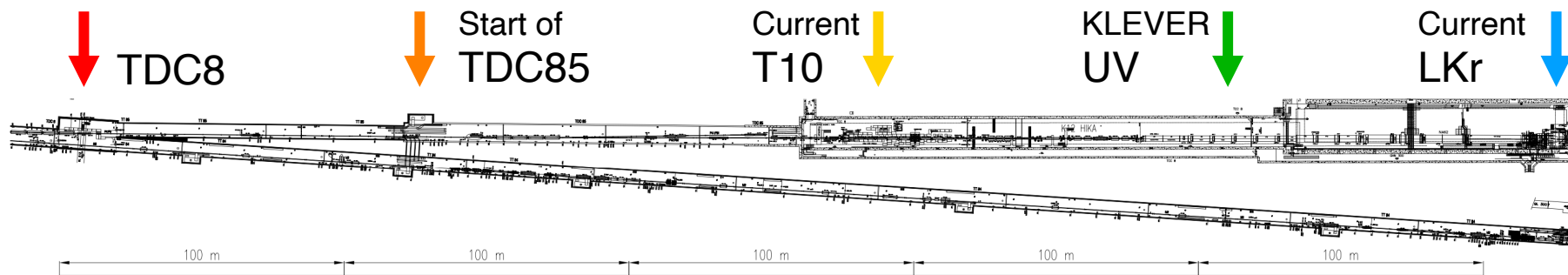
Possible changes to beamline configuration and experimental layout



# Long beamline to suppress $\Lambda \rightarrow n\pi^0$

Maintain  $\theta = 8$  mrad and increase length of beamline

E.g.: Move T10 from TCC8 to start of TDC85 (120 m  $\rightarrow$  270 m from T10 to UV)




- Maintain  $K_L$  momentum  
Fewer design changes for KLEVER
- Preserve  $K_L$  flux per solid angle  
Still lose 2x in  $K_L$  flux due to tighter beam collimation
- Infrastructure work needed
- RP issues for area downstream of TDC85 to be investigated
- **Alternatively, ECN3 extension would solve problem**

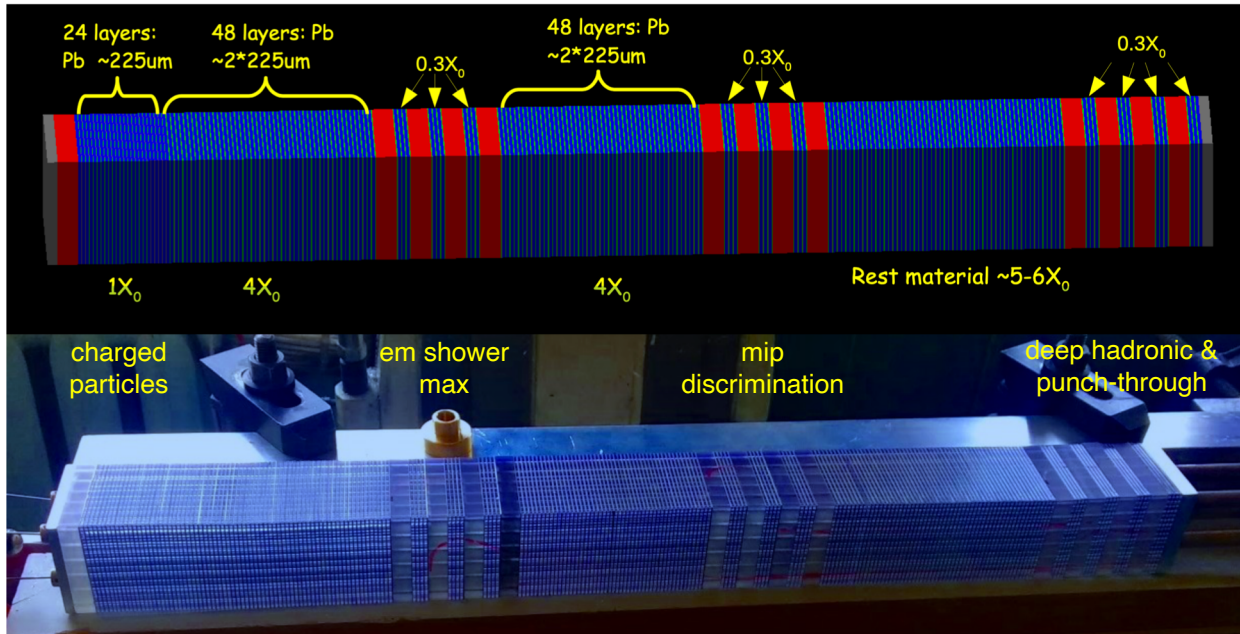
# Shashlyk calorimeter with spy tiles

## Requirements for main electromagnetic calorimeter (MEC):

Excellent efficiency, time resolution  $\sim 100\text{ps}$ , good 2-cluster separation



**LKr calorimeter from NA62:**  
**Photon detection efficiency probably adequate**  
**Time resolution  $\sim 500\text{ ps}$  for  $\pi^0$  with  $E_{\gamma\gamma} > 20\text{ GeV}$   $\rightarrow$  requires improvement**



## Main electromagnetic calorimeter (MEC):

Fine-sampling shashlyk based on PANDA forward EM calorimeter produced at Protvino

0.275 mm Pb + 1.5 mm scintillator

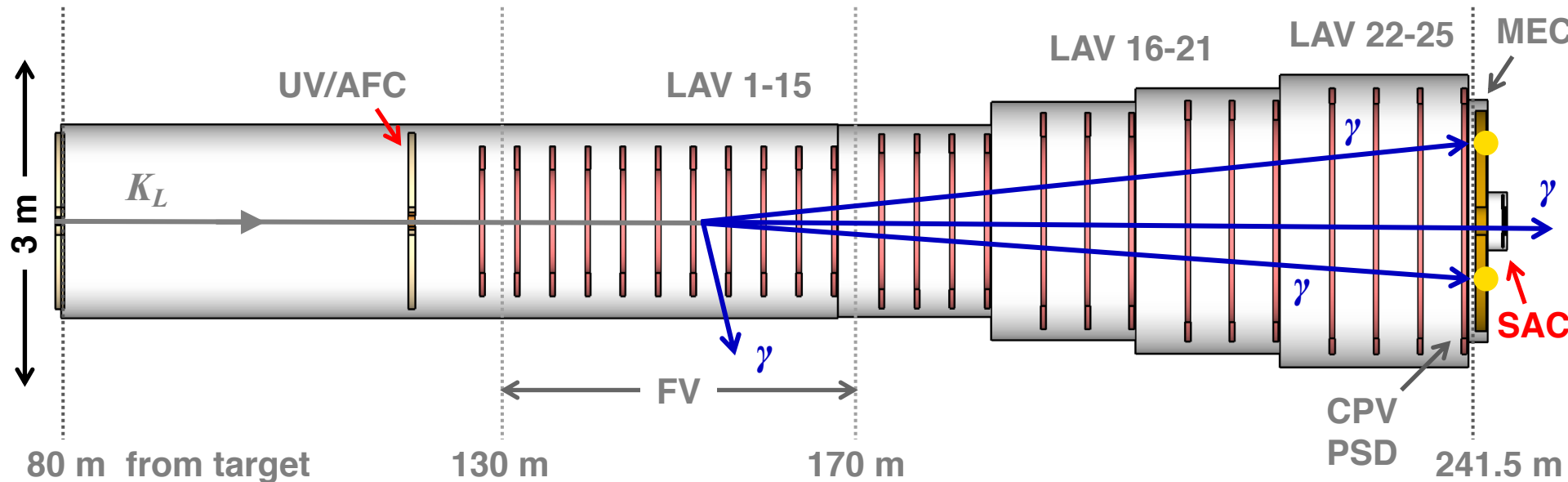
## PANDA/KOPIO prototypes:

- $\sigma_E/\sqrt{E} \sim 3\% \sqrt{E}$  (GeV)
- $\sigma_t \sim 72\text{ ps} \sqrt{E}$  (GeV)
- $\sigma_x \sim 13\text{ mm} \sqrt{E}$  (GeV)

## Longitudinal shower information from spy tiles

- PID information: identification of  $\mu, \pi, n$  interactions
- Shower depth information: improved time resolution for EM showers

# Small-angle photon veto



## Small-angle photon calorimeter system (SAC)

- Rejects high-energy  $\gamma$ s from  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0$  escaping through beam hole
- Must be insensitive as possible to 430 MHz of beam neutrons

Beam comp.	Rate (MHz)	Req. $1 - \epsilon$
$\gamma, E > 5 \text{ GeV}$	<b>50</b>	$10^{-2}$
$\gamma, E > 30 \text{ GeV}$	<b>2.5</b>	$10^{-4}$
$n$	<b>430</b>	—

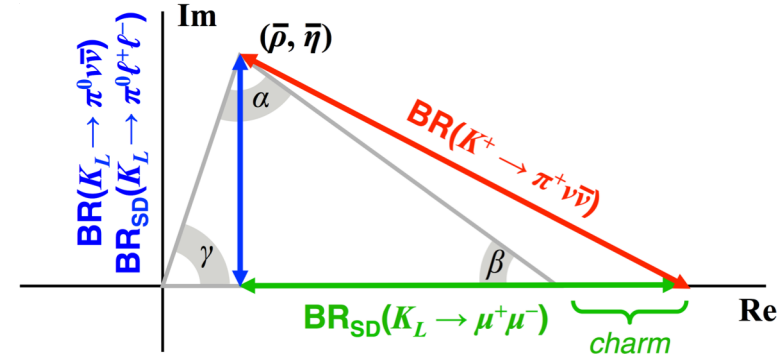
## Possible solutions:

- Tungsten/silicon-pad sampling calorimeter with crystal metal absorber to exploit enhancement of photon conversion by coherent interaction with lattice
- Compact Cerenkov calorimeter with oriented crystals

# What about $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \ell^+ \ell^-$ ?

## $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \ell^+ \ell^-$ vs $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ :

- Somewhat larger theoretical uncertainties from long-distance physics
  - SD CPV amplitude:  $\gamma/Z$  exchange
  - LD CPC amplitude from  $2\gamma$  exchange
  - LD indirect CPV amplitude:  $K_L \rightarrow K_S$
- $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \ell^+ \ell^-$  can be used to explore helicity suppression in FCNC decays



**$K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \ell^+ \ell^-$  CPV amplitude  
constrains UT in same way  
as  $\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu})$**

## Experimental status:

$$\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ e^-) < 28 \times 10^{-11}$$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 93 (2004) 021805

$$\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu^+ \mu^-) < 38 \times 10^{-11}$$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 84 (2000) 5279–5282

## Main background: $K_L \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- \gamma \gamma$

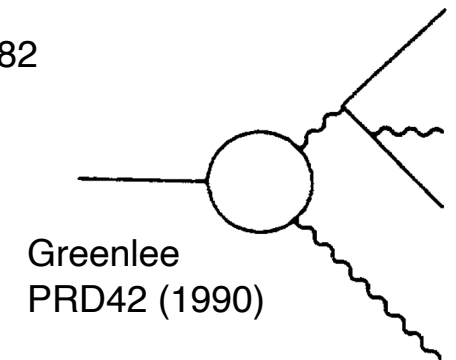
- Like  $K_L \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- \gamma$  with hard bremsstrahlung

$$\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow e^+ e^- \gamma \gamma) = (6.0 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-7}$$

$$E_\gamma^* > 5 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \gamma \gamma) = 10^{+8}_{-6} \times 10^{-9}$$

$$m_{\gamma\gamma} > 1 \text{ MeV}$$



Greenlee  
PRD42 (1990)

# Integrated program with $K^+$ and $K_L$ beams

Availability of high-intensity  $K^+$  and  $K_L$  beams at the SPS:

Important physics measurements at boundary of NA62 and KLEVER!

## **Example: Experiment for rare $K_L$ decays with charged particles**

- $K_L$  beamline, as in KLEVER
- Tracking and PID for secondary particles, as in NA62

## **Physics objectives:**

- $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \ell^+ \ell^-$   
Excellent  $\pi^0$  mass resolution – look for signal peak over Greenlee background
- Lepton-flavor violation in  $K_L$  decays
- Radiative  $K_L$  decays and precision measurements
- $K_L$  decays to exotic particles

## **Will provide valuable information to characterize neutral beam**

- Example: Measurement of  $K_L$ ,  $n$ , and  $\Lambda$  fluxes and halo
- Experience from KOTO and studies for KLEVER show this to be critical!

## **Just getting started!**

# Summary and outlook

**$K \rightarrow \pi\nu\nu$  and other rare kaon decays are uniquely sensitive indirect probes for new physics at high mass scales**

Need precision measurements of both rare  $K^+$  and  $K_{S,L}$  decays!

LHCb BR measurements for decays such as  $K_{S,L} \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$  and  $K_S \rightarrow \pi^0\mu^+\mu^-$  will help with theoretical systematics (e.g., separate LD/SD contributions)

NA62 will improve on current knowledge of  $\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+\nu\nu)$  in short term, ultimately reaching O(10%) precision

KOTO is making significant progress in background reduction and will reach SM sensitivity to  $\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0\nu\nu)$  by 2025

Next generation rare kaon experiments with high-intensity beams and cutting-edge detectors will provide a powerful tool to search for physics beyond the Standard Model

Planning has started for KOTO-2 at J-PARC to measure  $\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0\nu\nu)$

An integrated program of  $K^+$  and  $K_L$  experiments is taking shape at CERN

# Additional information

International Conference on Heavy Quarks and Leptons  
University of Warwick, 17 September 2021

Matthew Moulson – INFN Frascati

**For the NA62 Collaboration and KLEVER Project**

# $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \bar{\nu}$ and the unitarity triangle

$$\text{BR}(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}) = (8.39 \pm 0.30) \times 10^{-11} \cdot \left[ \frac{|V_{cb}|}{0.0407} \right]^{2.8} \cdot \left[ \frac{\gamma}{73.2^\circ} \right]^{0.74} \quad \text{Buras et al., JHEP 1511}$$

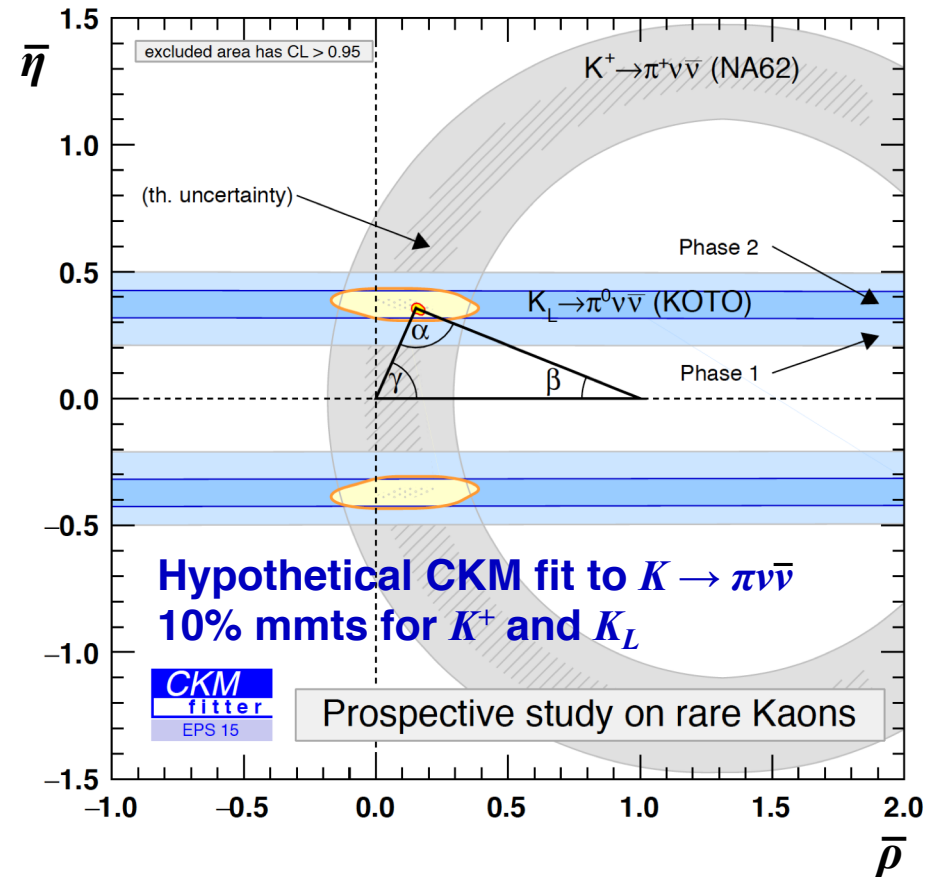
$$\text{BR}(K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}) = (3.36 \pm 0.05) \times 10^{-11} \cdot \left[ \frac{|V_{ub}|}{3.88 \times 10^{-3}} \right]^2 \cdot \left[ \frac{|V_{cb}|}{0.0407} \right]^2 \cdot \left[ \frac{\sin \gamma}{\sin 73.2^\circ} \right]^2$$

**Dominant uncertainties for SM BRs are from CKM matrix elements**

**Intrinsic theory uncertainties 1.5-3.5%**

**Measuring BRs for both  $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$  and  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$  can determine the CKM unitarity triangle independently from  $B$  inputs:**

- Over-constrain CKM matrix  $\rightarrow$  reveal NP effects
- Sensitivity complementary to  $B$  decays





# Dump mode after 2025



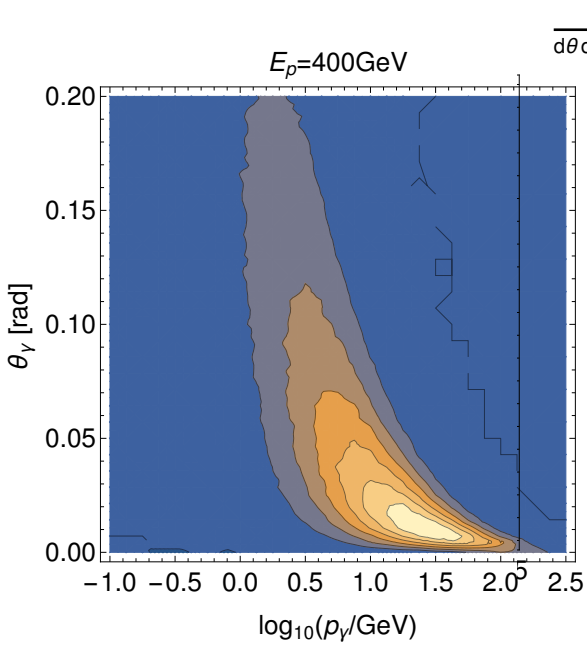
## Search for visible decays feebly-interacting new-physics particles

- **10x improvement in statistics** expected with respect to 2021-2023 data taking
- If no signal and negligible background → **10x sensitivity improvement**

**Dump mode is most sensitive to forward processes, complimentary to off-axis experiments**

Distribution of photons from neutral pion decays in TAX: Primakov production

ALPs go in approx. same direction



Can capture distribution up to 5 mrad

Sensitivity to FIP lifetime depends on distance production-detector and length of detector (few ns, complimentary to other experiments)

