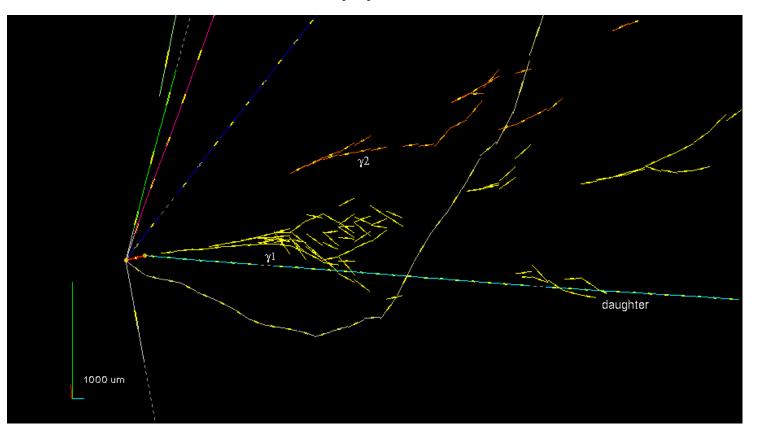


Results of the OPERA experiment

Giovanni De Lellis

University "Federico II" and INFN Napoli

On behalf of the OPERA Collaboration



Outline of the talk

- The OPERA experiment and its detector
- The analysis chain
- Charmed hadron production
- Oscillation physics results
- Background studies
- Significance

PHYSICS: from neutrino mixing to oscillations

3x3 Unitary Mixing Matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{e} \\ \mathbf{v}_{\mu} \\ \mathbf{v}_{\tau} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_{1} \\ \mathbf{v}_{2} \\ \mathbf{v}_{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

PMNS (Pontecorvo-Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata) Matrix



$$c_{ij} = \cos\theta_{ij}, \ s_{ij} = \sin\theta_{ij}$$

11/06/13

OPERA: first direct detection of neutrino oscillations in appearance mode

following the Super-Kamiokande (Macro and Soudan-2) discovery of oscillations with atmospheric neutrinos and the confirmation with solar neutrinos and accelerator beams. An important, missing tile in the oscillation

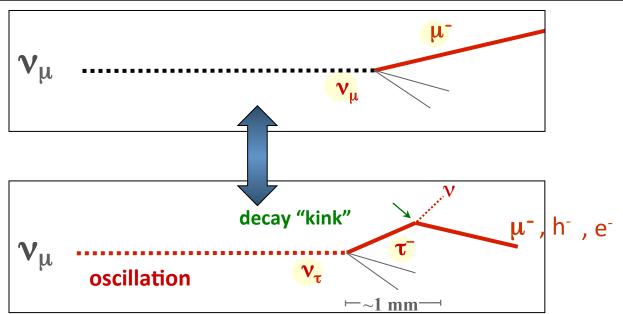
picture.

The PMNS 3-flavor oscillation formalism predicts:

$$P(\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\tau}) \sim sin^2 2\theta_{23} cos^4 \theta_{13} sin^2 (\Delta m^2_{23} L/4E)$$

Requirements:

1) long baseline, 2) high neutrino energy, 3) high intensity beam, 4) detect short lived τ 's 0.80 0.85 0.90 0.95 1.



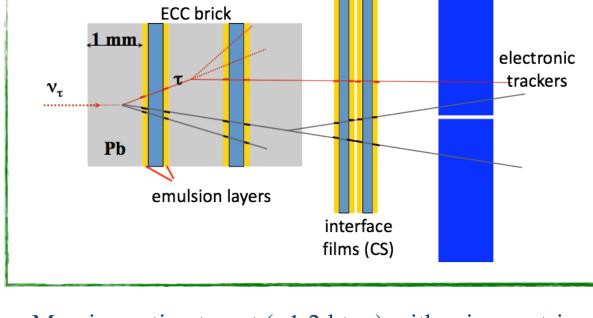
plus 3-prong decay modes

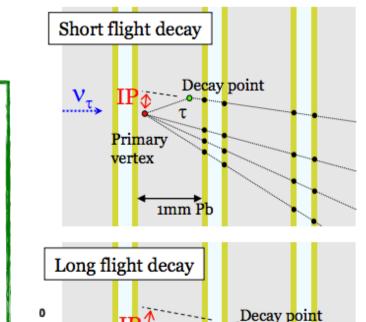
 $\Delta m^2 I (10^{-3} eV^2)$

MINOS Atmospheric Neutrinos, 37.9 kt-yrs

Giovanni De Lellis, CERN Seminar

THE PRINCIPLE: hybrid detector with modular structure





Primary Primary

vertex

• Massive active target (~1.2 kton) with micrometric space resolution

- Detect τ-lepton production and decay
- Electronic detectors to provide the "time stamp", preselect the interaction brick and reconstruct μ charge/momentum
- Underground location (10⁶ reduction of cosmic ray flux)

1mm Pb	
τ DECAY CHANNEL	BR (%)
$\tau\!\to\!\!\mu$	17.7
$\tau \rightarrow e$	17.8
$\tau \rightarrow h$	49.5
τ →3h	15.0

11/06/13

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THE OPERA COLLABORATION

140 physicists, 28 institutions in 11 countries

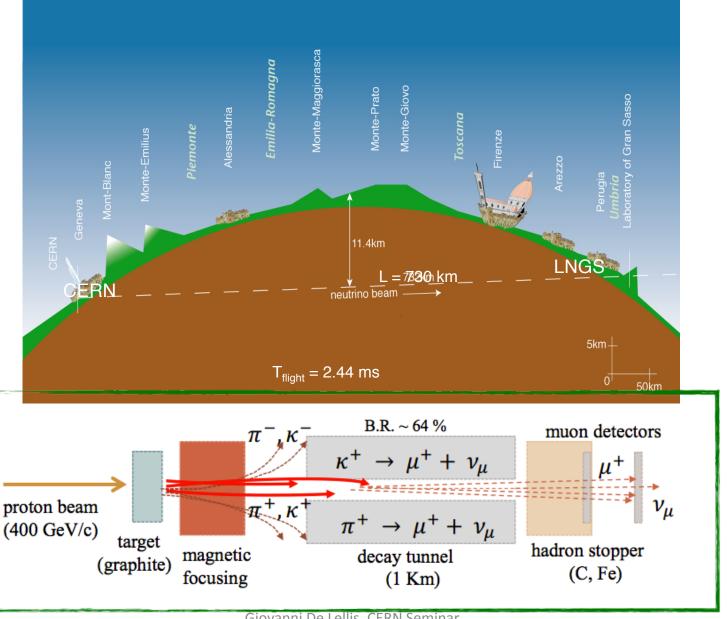


http://operaweb.lngs.infn.it

CNGS BEAM AND LNGS

CNGS beam: tuned for τ-appearance at LNGS



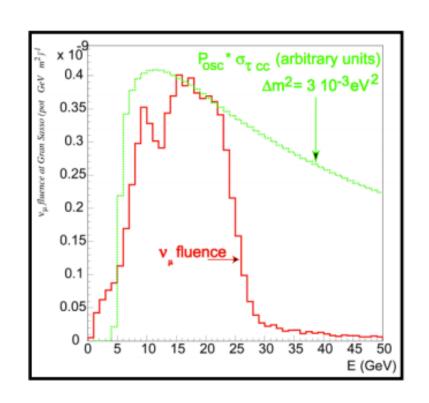


Neutrino Beam Parameters

Beam parameters

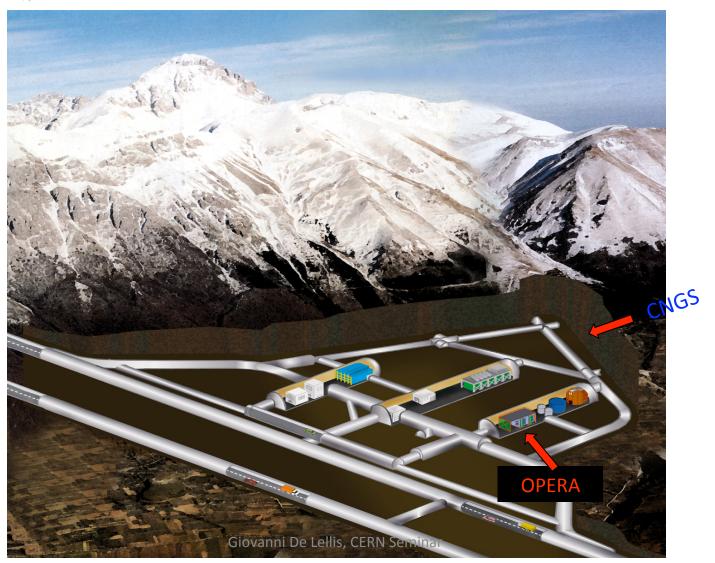
<Εν _μ > (GeV)	17
$(\nu_e + \overline{\nu_e})/\nu_\mu$	0.9% *
$\overline{ u_{\mu}}/ u_{\mu}$	2.0% *
ν _τ prompt	Negligible

^{*} Interaction rate at LNGS

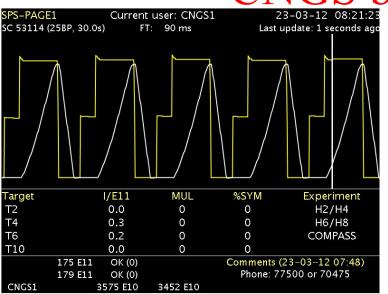


LNGS of INFN, the world largest underground physics laboratory:

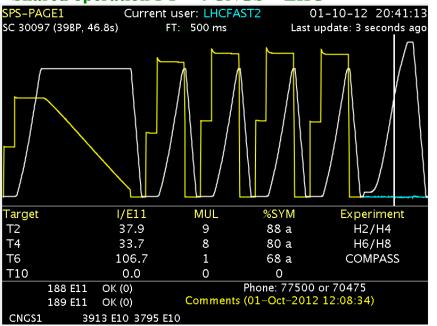
~180'000 m³ caverns' volume, ~3'100 m.w.e. overburden, ~1 cosmic μ / (m² x hour), experimental infrastructure. Suitable to host detector and related facilities, caverns oriented towards CERN.



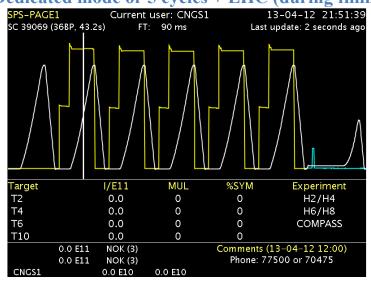
CNGS beam structure



Shared operation FT + 4 CNGS + LHC

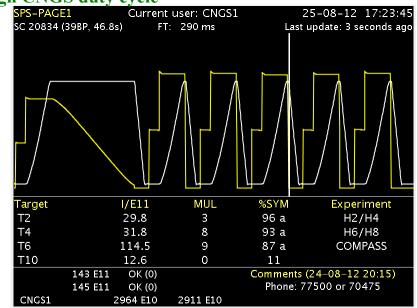


Dedicated mode or 5 cycles + LHC (during filling)



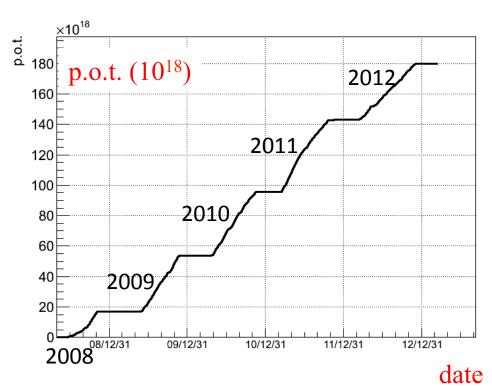
Shared operation no LHC filling (5 CNGS+ FT)

High CNGS duty cycle



Final performances of the CNGS beam after five years (2008 ÷ 2012) of data taking

Year	Beam days	P.O.T. (10 ¹⁹)
2008	123	1.74
2009	155	3.53
2010	187	4.09
2011	243	4.75
2012	257	3.86
Total	965	17.97

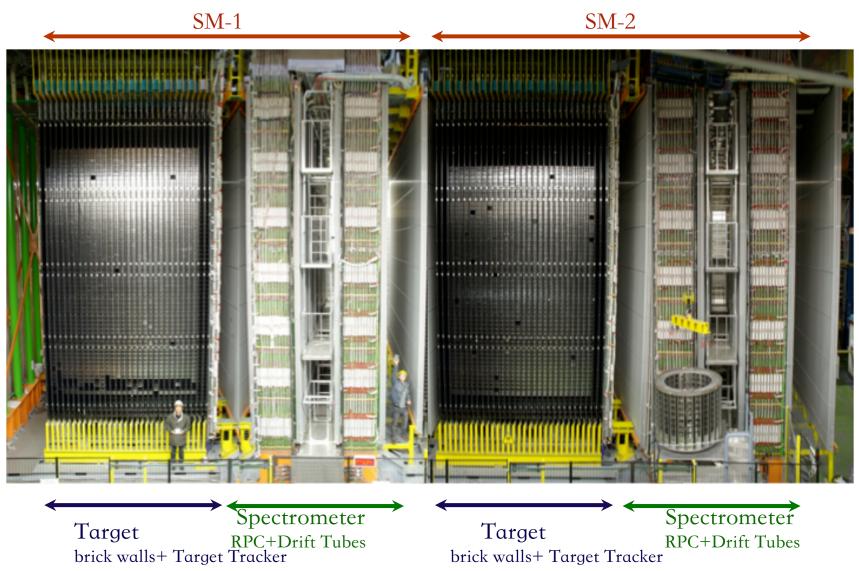


Record performances in 2011 Overall 20% less than the proposal value (22.5)

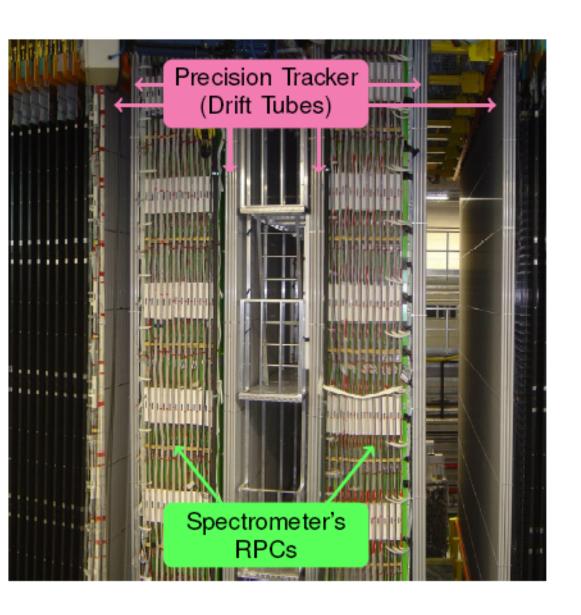
DETECTORS AND FACILITIES in operation:

A very complex experiment...

THE DETECTOR



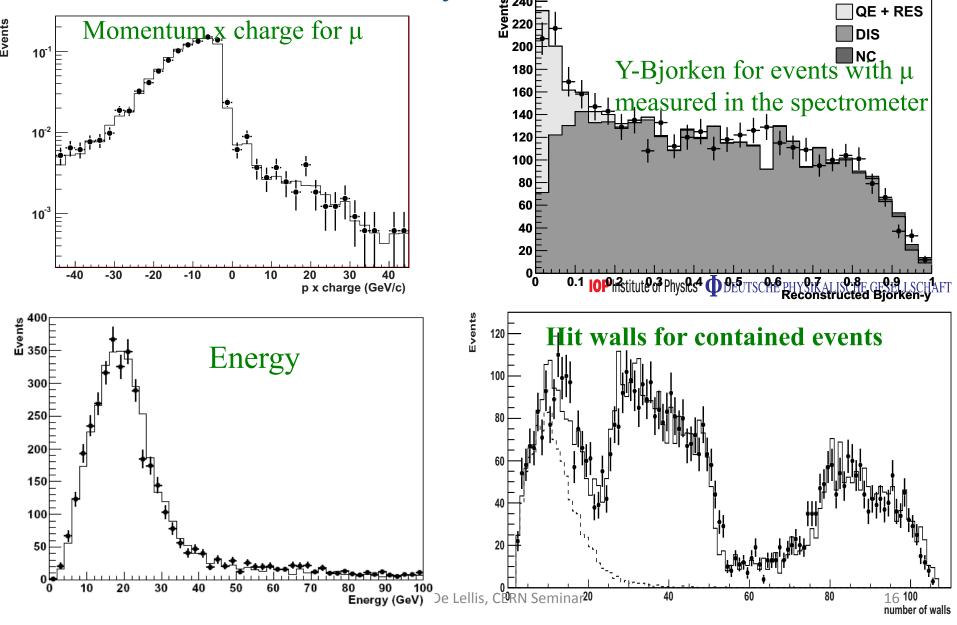
THE MAGNETIC SPECTROMETERS



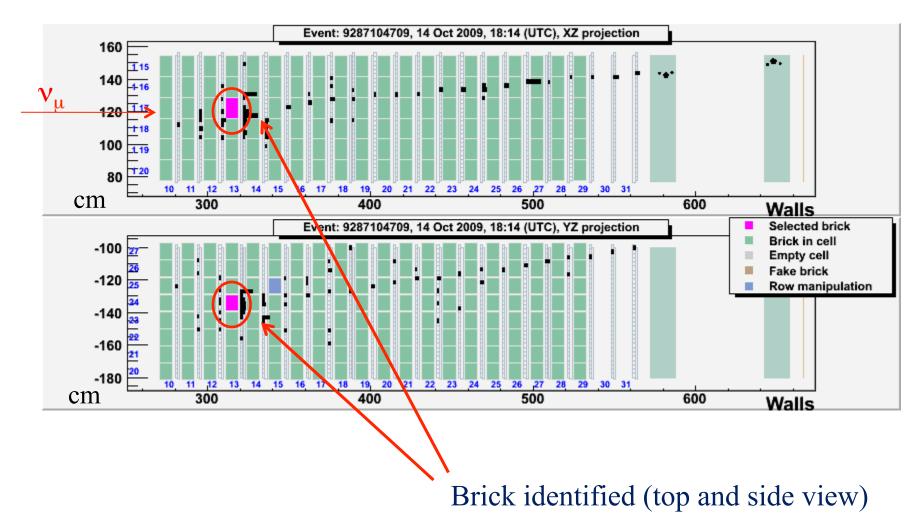
- 1.55 T magnetic field bending particles in the horizontal plane
- 24 slabs of magnetized iron interleaved with 24 RPC planes
- 6 drift tube stations for precision measurement of the angular deflection
- momentum resolution: 20% below 30 GeV/c

Performances of the electronic detector

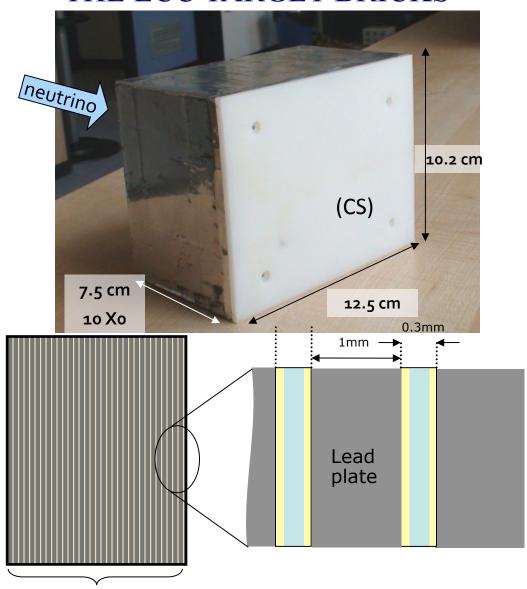
New Journal of Physics Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft (2011) UDSUD1

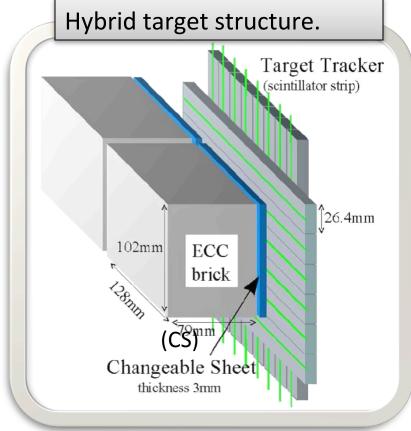


Identification of the interaction brick: iterative process (~1.6 bricks involved in the analysis of one event)



The heart of the experiment: THE ECC TARGET BRICKS





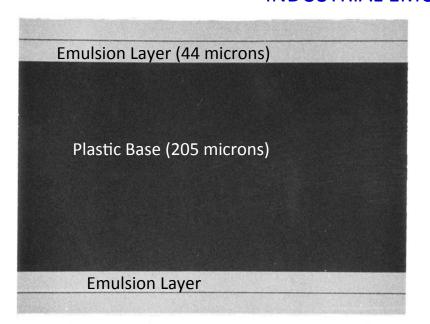
The OPERA target consists of 150'000 ECC bricks.

Total 105'000 m² of lead surface and 111'000 m² of film surface (~ 9 million films)

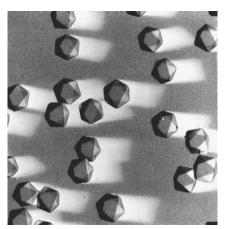
Total target mass: ∼1.2 kton

INDUSTRIAL EMULSION FILMS BY FUJI FILM

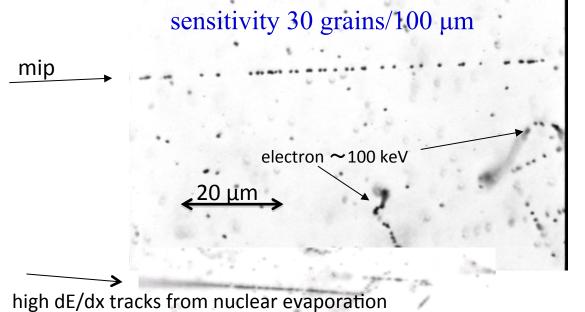
Giovanni De Lellis, CERN Seminar



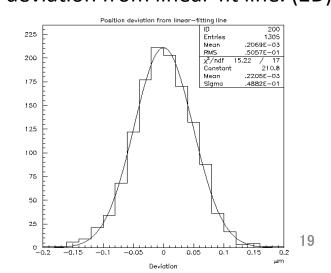
11/06/13



basic detector: AgBr crystal, size = 0.2 micron detection eff.= 0.16/crystal 10¹³ "detectors" per film



intrinsic resolution: 50 nm deviation from linear-fit line. (2D)



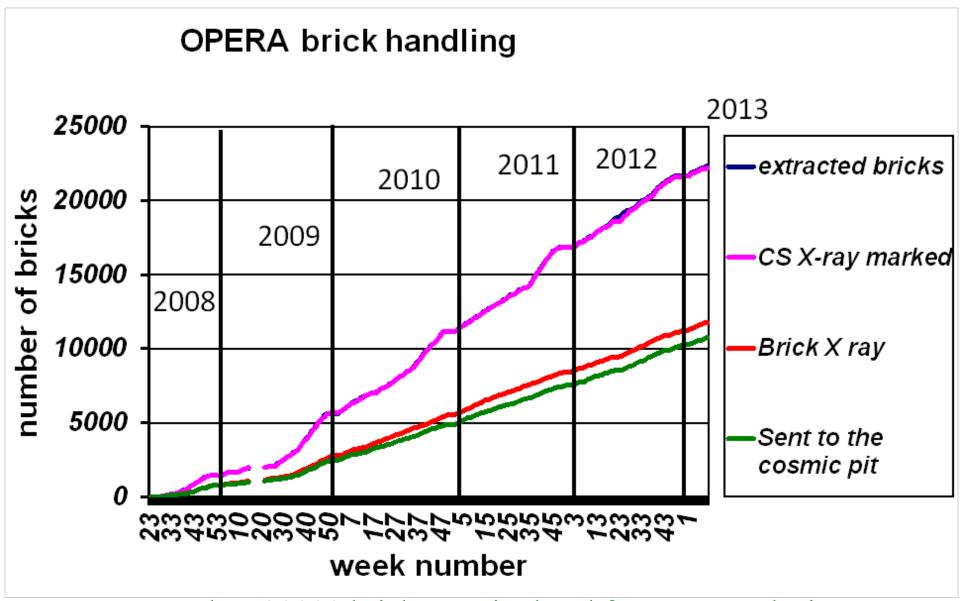
BRICK MANIPULATOR SYSTEM (BMS)





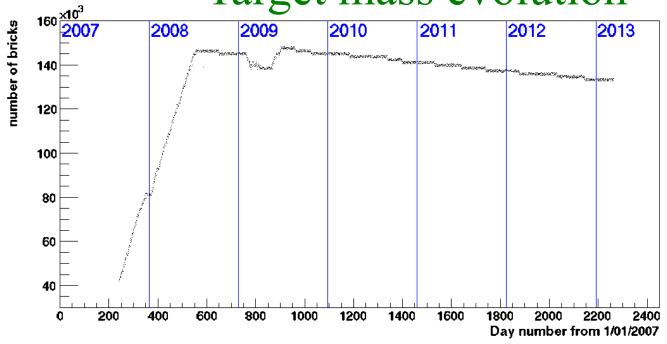
Extraction of "hit" bricks in parallel with CNGS data taking (quasi-online):

- initially used to fill the brick target (two twin devices at either detector sides)
- fully automatic extraction of up to 50 bricks/day (neutrino interactions)

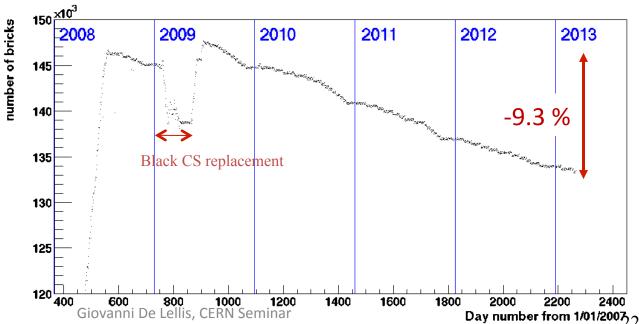


More than 20000 bricks manipulated for event analysis





date bricks
16/07/08 146398
24/06/09 147292
31/05/12 135606
13/03/13 133425
Target loss ~ 112 tons



FILM DEVELOPMENT FACILITY

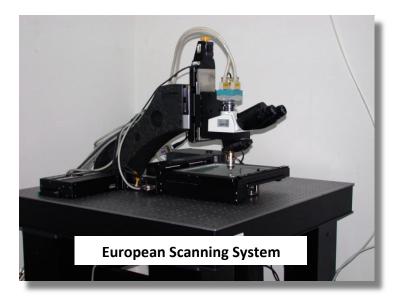


- 5 automated lines running in parallel, in a dark room
- additional facility underground for Changeable Sheet films

Scanning of Changeable Sheets: several tasks accomplished



LNGS: 10 microscopes, 200 cm²/h

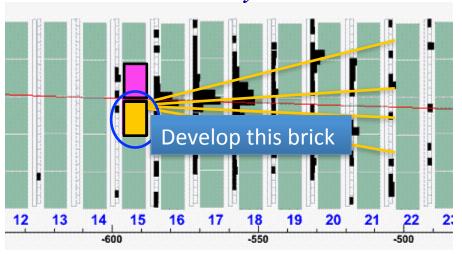




Nagoya: 5 S-UTS, 220 cm²/h



Brick validation by the interface film analysis



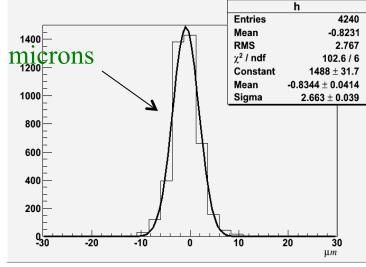
Target Tracker (scintillator strip)

102mm ECC brick

79mm

79mm

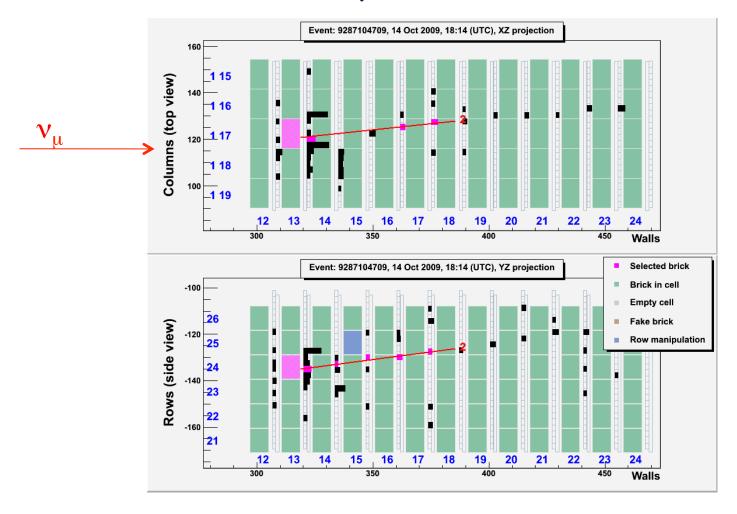
CS doublet alignment by Compton electrons: 2.5 microns



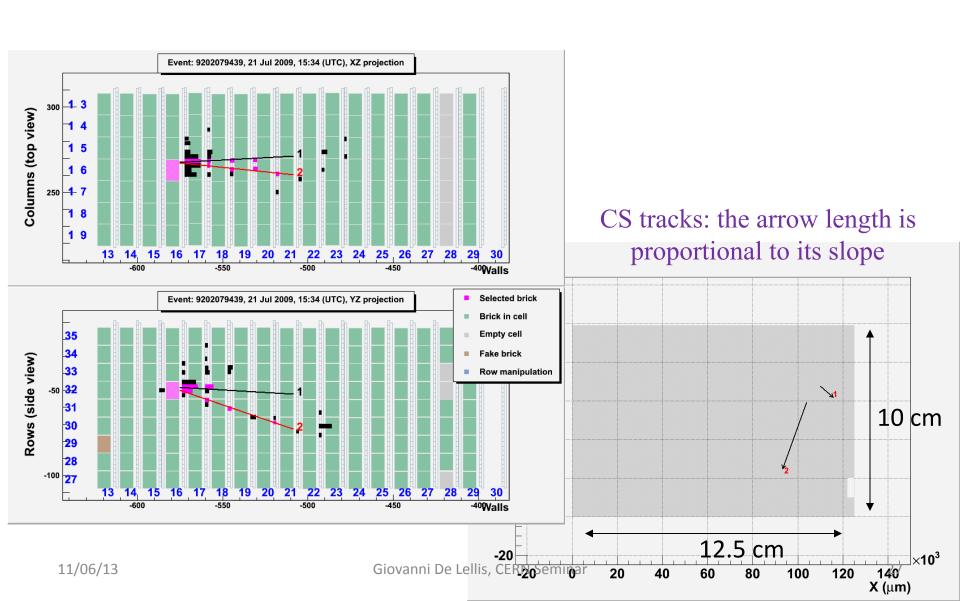
So far 2'000'000 cm² of CS surface have been analysed in OPERA

Interface emulsion films: high signal/noise ratio for event trigger and scanning time reduction

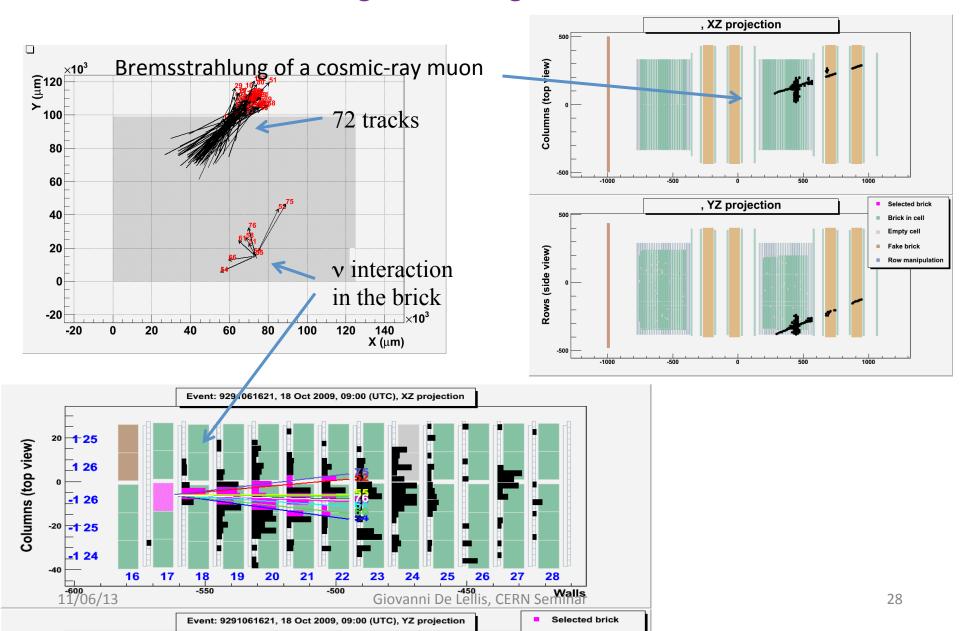
CC interaction: µ track in interface films

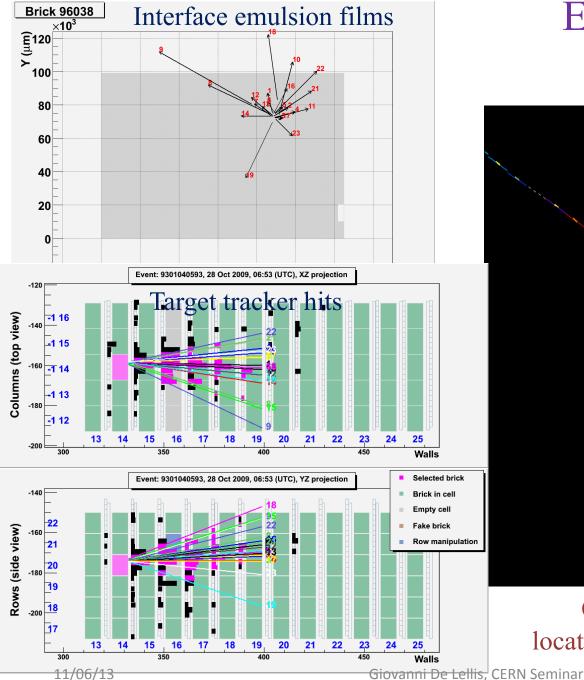


Validation of events without μ in the final state by interface emulsion films

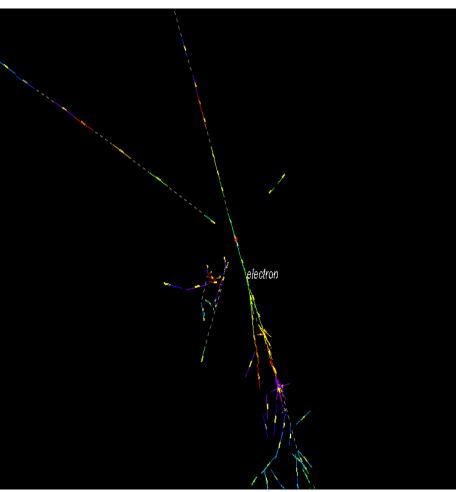


Identification of cosmic ray μ and muons from ν interactions upstream: TT running also during the shutdown





Electron shower pre-selection



One of the electron neutrinos located as seen after the brick analysis

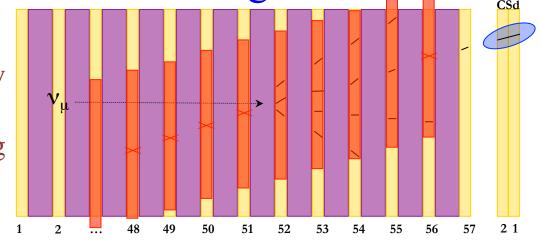
29

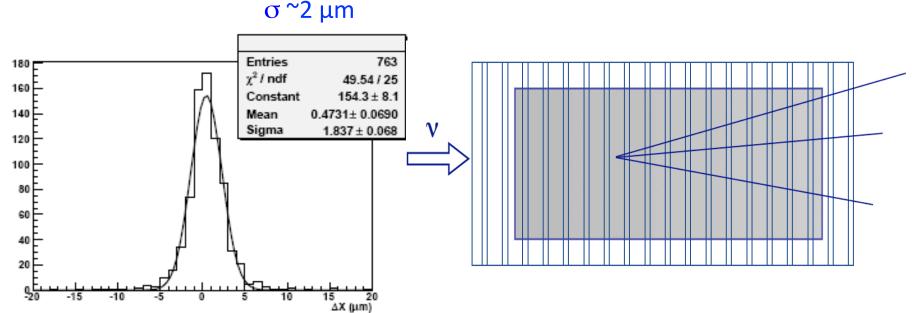
CERN Seminar

Track follow-up and vertex finding

Track follow-up film by film:

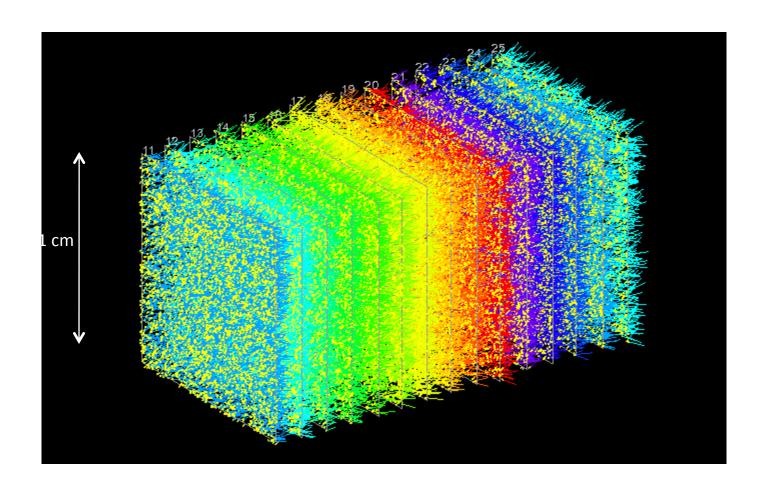
- alignment using cosmic ray tracks
- definition of the stopping point



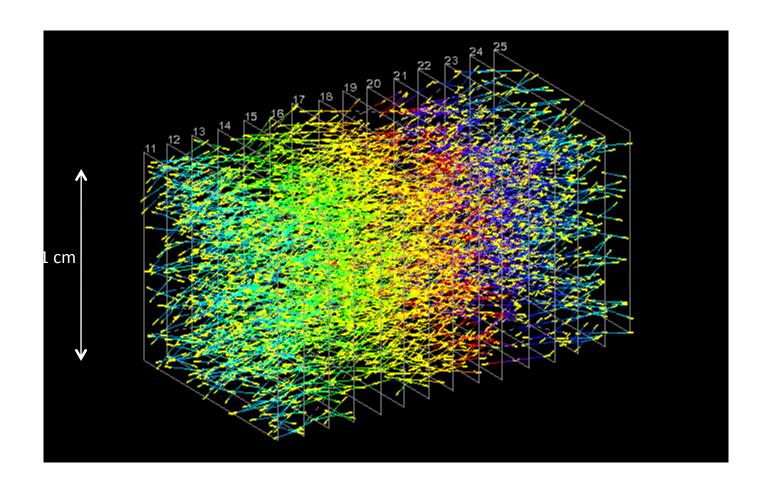


Volume scanning (~2 cm³) around the stopping point

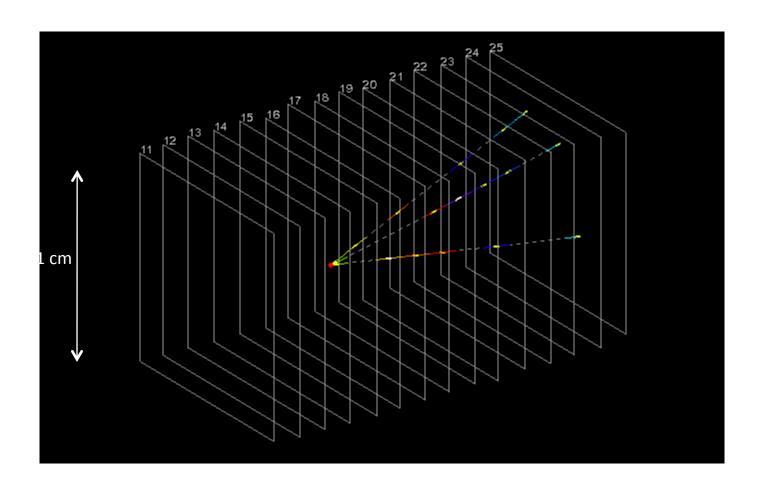
Located neutrino interaction Volume (~2 cm³) around the stopping point



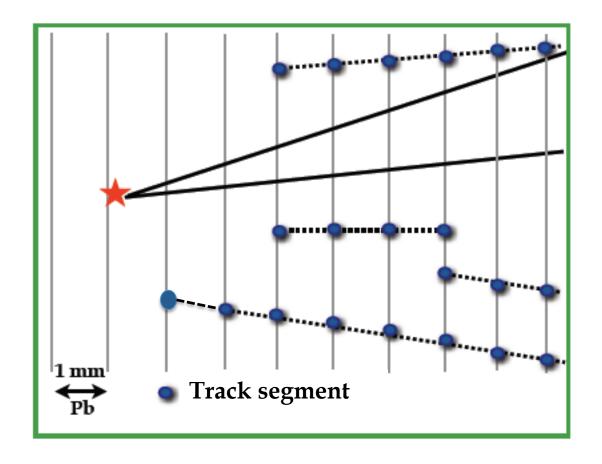
Located neutrino interaction: film to film connection



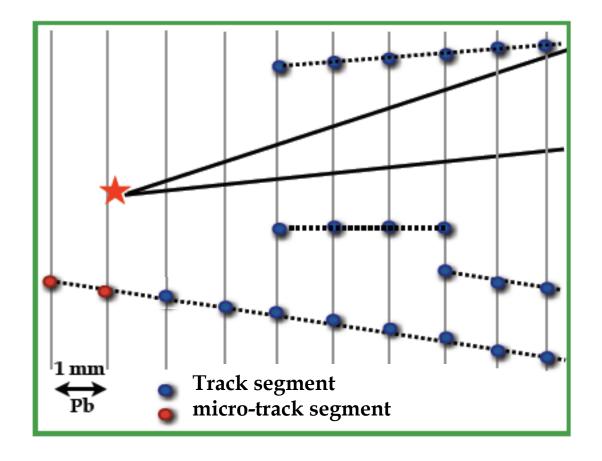
Located neutrino interaction



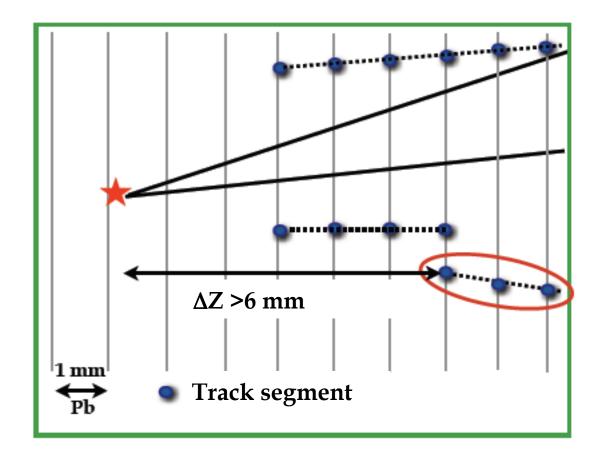
Decay search procedure



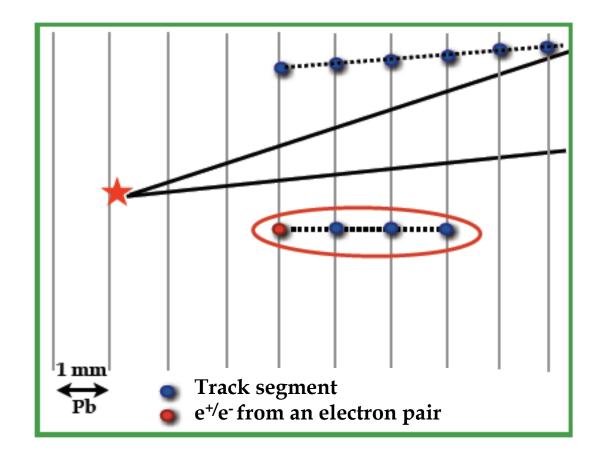
Decay search: penetrating tracks discarded



Decay search: track selection

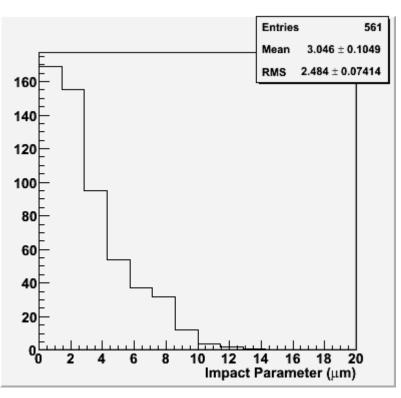


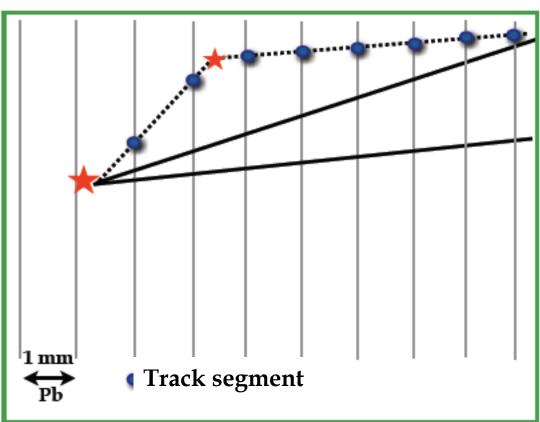
Decay search: electron pair



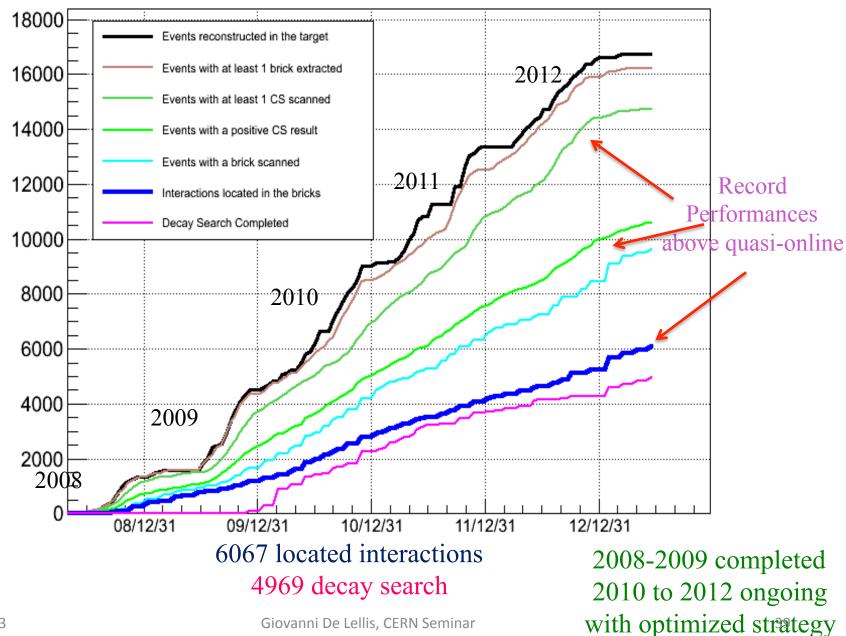
Decay search: kink topology detected

Impact parameter distribution of tracks associated to primary vertices



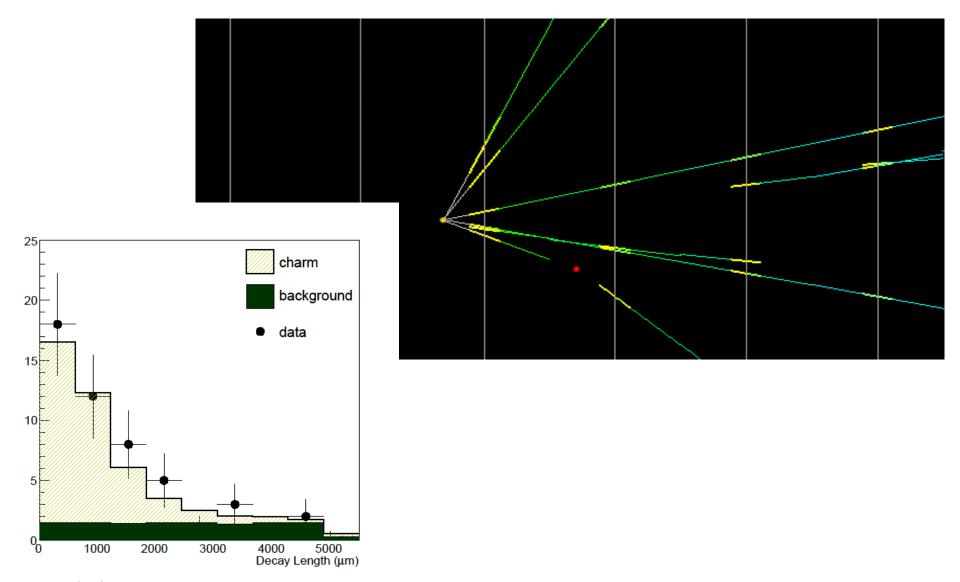


Status of data analysis



Charmed hadron production: an application of the decay search a control sample for τ

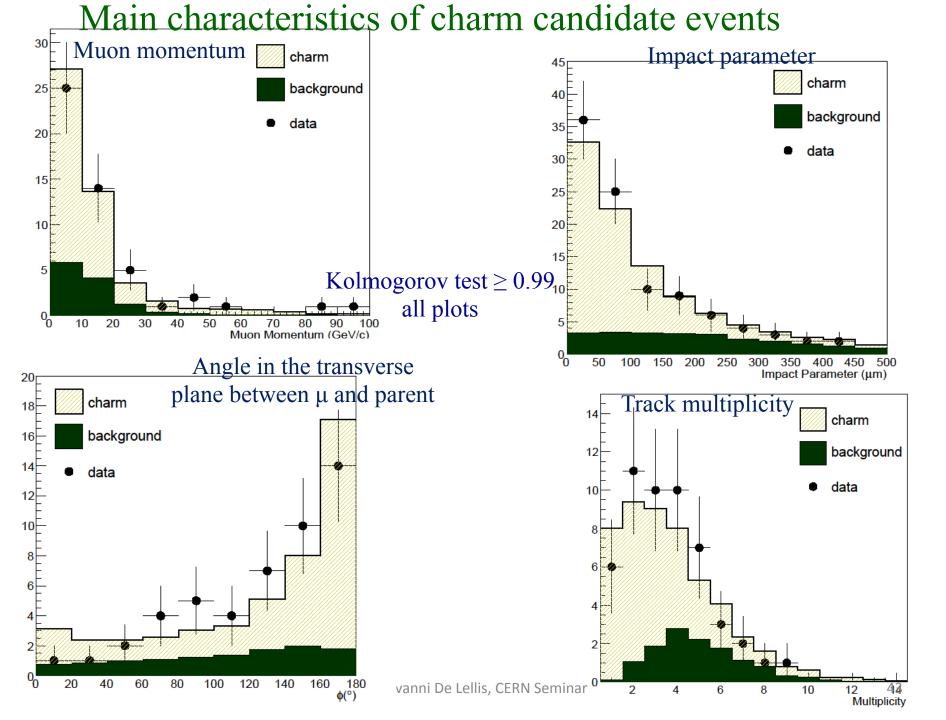
Charm sample: same topology but muon at interaction vertex



Charm yield from the analysis of 2008÷2010 data

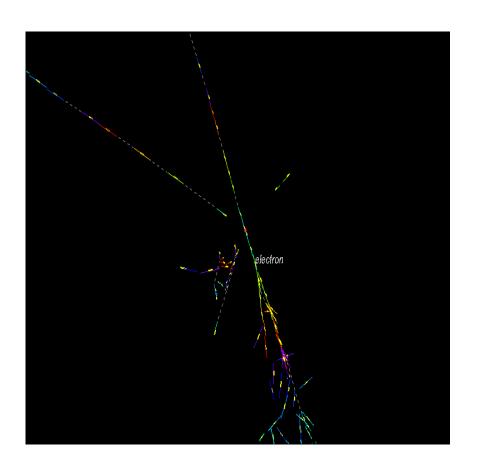
	charm	background	expected	data
1 prong	20 ± 3	9 ± 3	29 ± 4	19
2 prong	15 ± 2	3.8 ± 1.1	19 ± 2	22
3 prong	5 ± 1	1.0 ± 0.3	6 ± 1	5
4 prong	0.8 ± 0.2	-	0.8 ± 0.2	4
All	41±4	14±3	55±5	50

Background, mostly from hadronic interactions (contribution from strange particle decay)

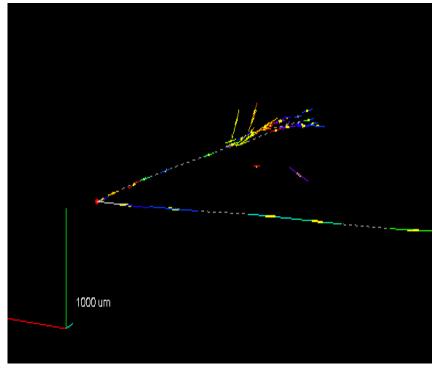


Physics results

$\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{e}$ analysis

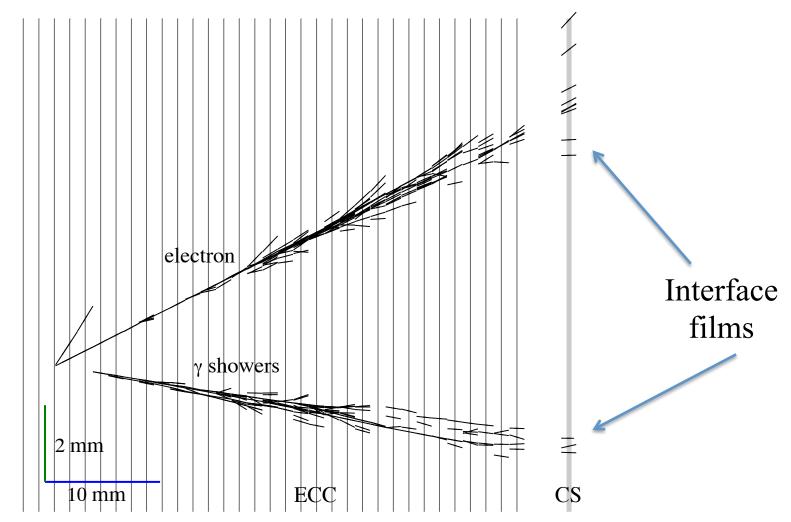


4.1 GeV electron



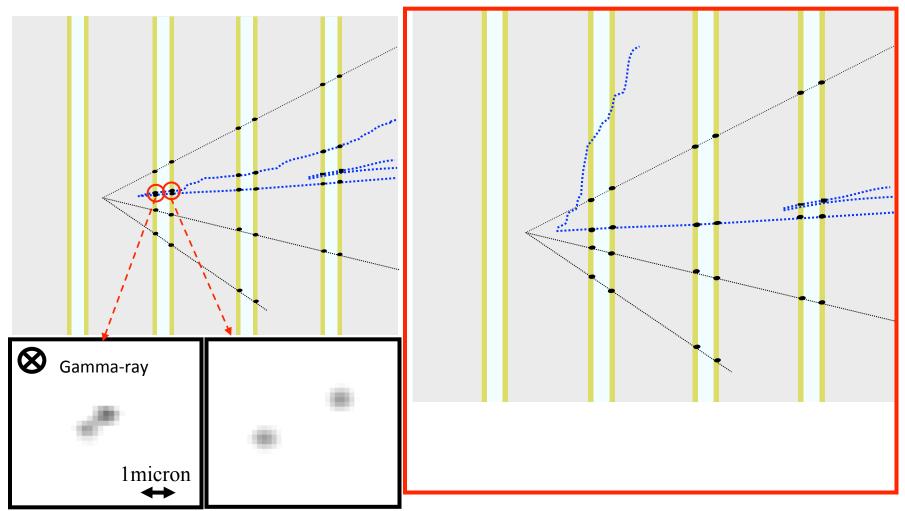
32 events found in the analyzed sample

Electron neutrino search in 2008 and 2009 runs: one of the v_e events with a π^0 as seen in the brick



19 candidates found in a sample of 505 neutrino interactions without muon

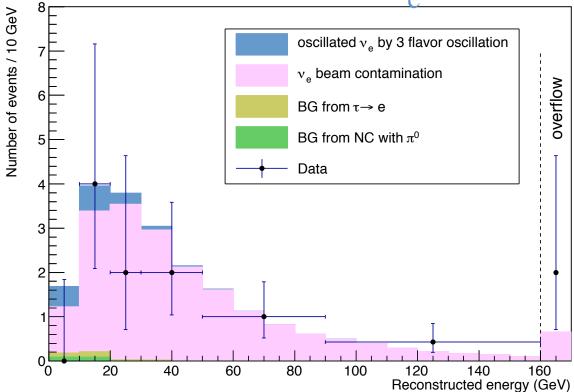
Background from $\nu_{\mu}NC$ ($\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$)



A close-up of an electron pair

BG: 0.17 events (less than 1%)

Energy distribution of the 19 ν_e candidates



Energy cut	$20~{ m GeV}$	$30 \; \mathrm{GeV}$	No cut	
BG common to	BG (a) from π^0	0.2	0.2	0.2
both analyses BG (b) from $\tau \to e$			0.3	0.3
	ν_e beam contamination	4.2	7.7	19.4
Total expected BG in 3-f	4.6	8.2	19.8	
BG to non-standard	ν_e via 3-flavour oscillation	1.0	1.3	1.4
oscillation analysis only				
Total expected BG in nor	5.6	9.4	21.3	
Data	4	6	19	

Observation compatible with background-only hypothesis: 19.8±2.8 (syst) events

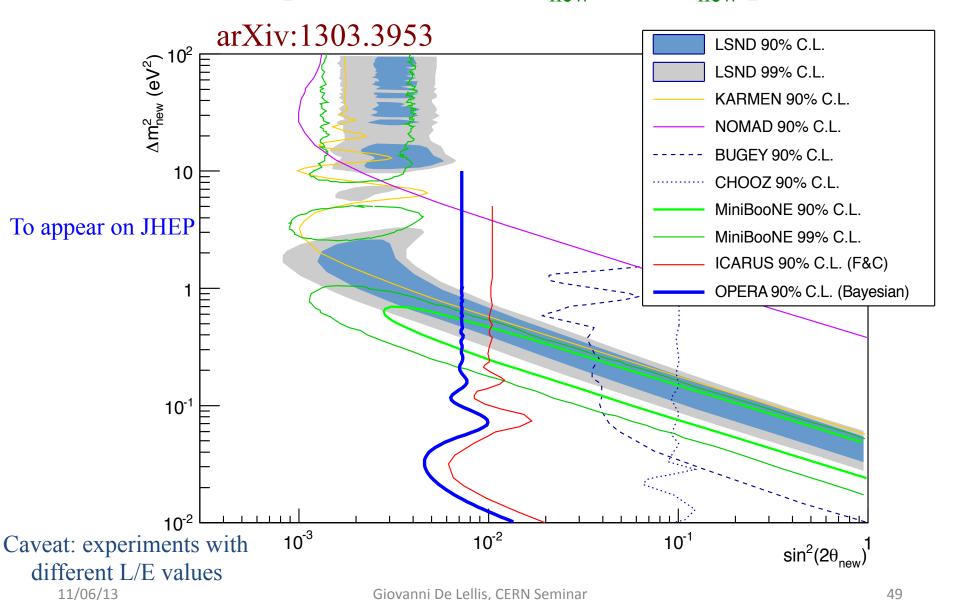
3 flavour analysis

Energy cut to increase the S/N

4 observed events 4.6 expected

 $\Rightarrow \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) < 0.44 \text{ at } 90\% \text{ C.L.}$

Search for non-standard oscillations at large Δm^2 values: exclusion plot in the $\sin^2(2\theta_{new})$ - Δm^2_{new} plane

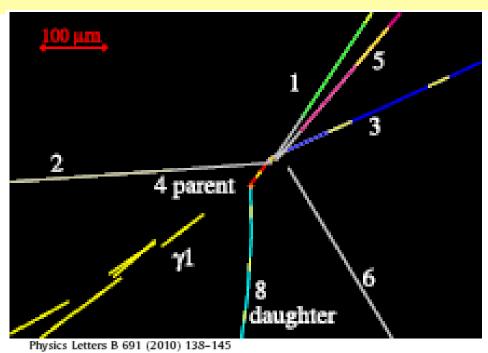


$\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\tau}$ analysis

- 2008-2009 run analysis
- Conservative approach: get confidence on the detector performances before applying any kinematical cut
- No kinematical cut
- Slower analysis speed (signal/noise not optimal)
- Good data/MC agreement

The first v_{τ} "appearance" candidate (2010)

Candidate $\nu_{\tau} \text{ interaction}$ and τ decay from $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{\tau} \text{ oscillation}$





Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

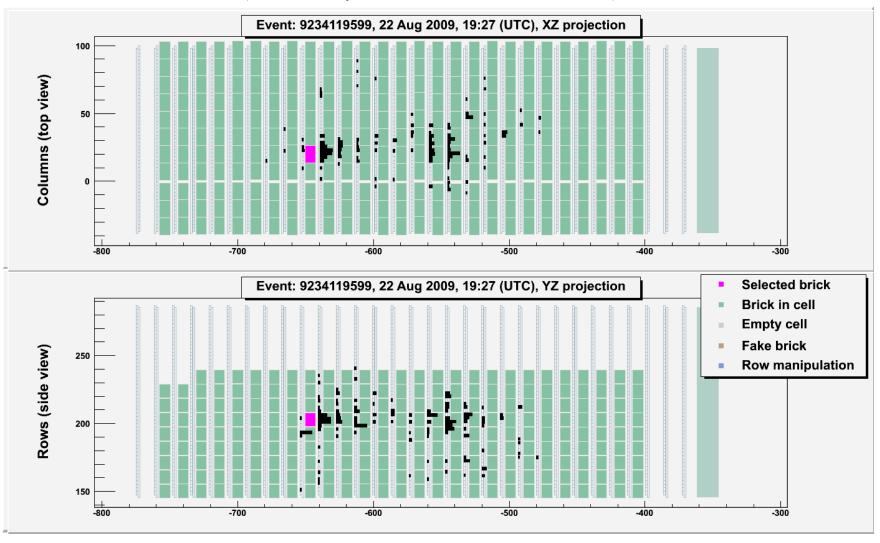
Physics Letters B

www.elsevier.com/locate/physletb

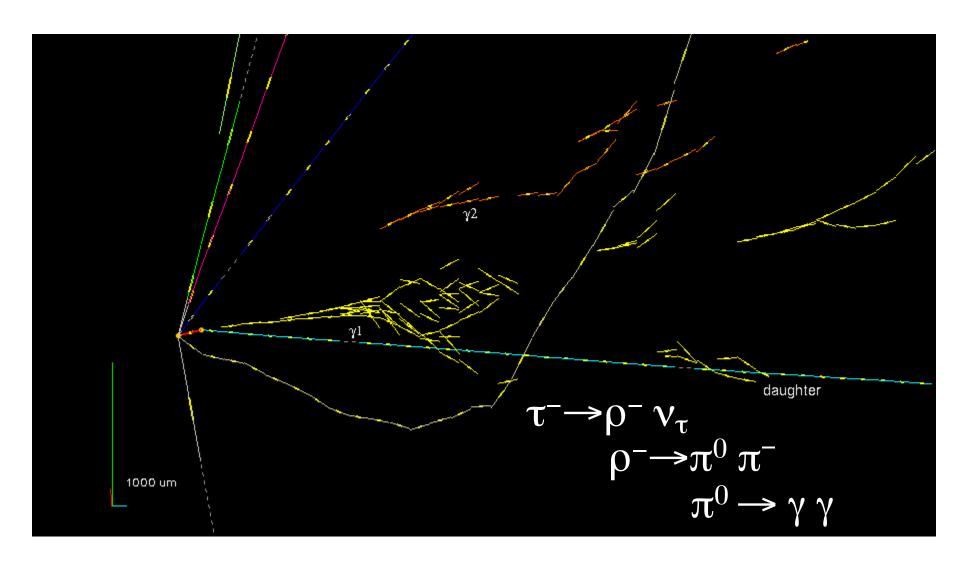


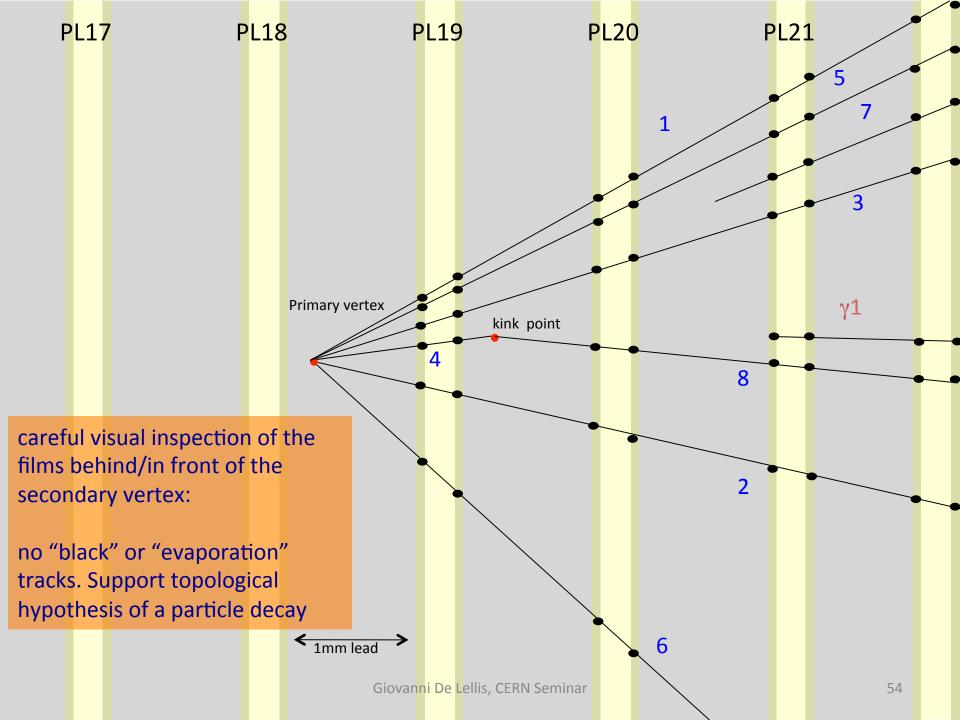
Observation of a first v_{τ} candidate event in the OPERA experiment in the CNGS beam

First tau neutrino candidate event Muonless event 9234119599, taken on 22nd August 2009 (as seen by the electronic detectors)



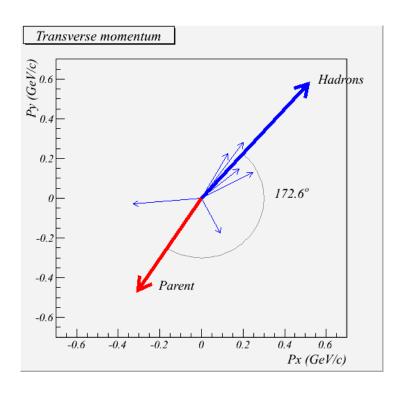
Event reconstruction in the brick





Kinematical variables

 Kinematical variables are computed by averaging the two independent sets of measurements

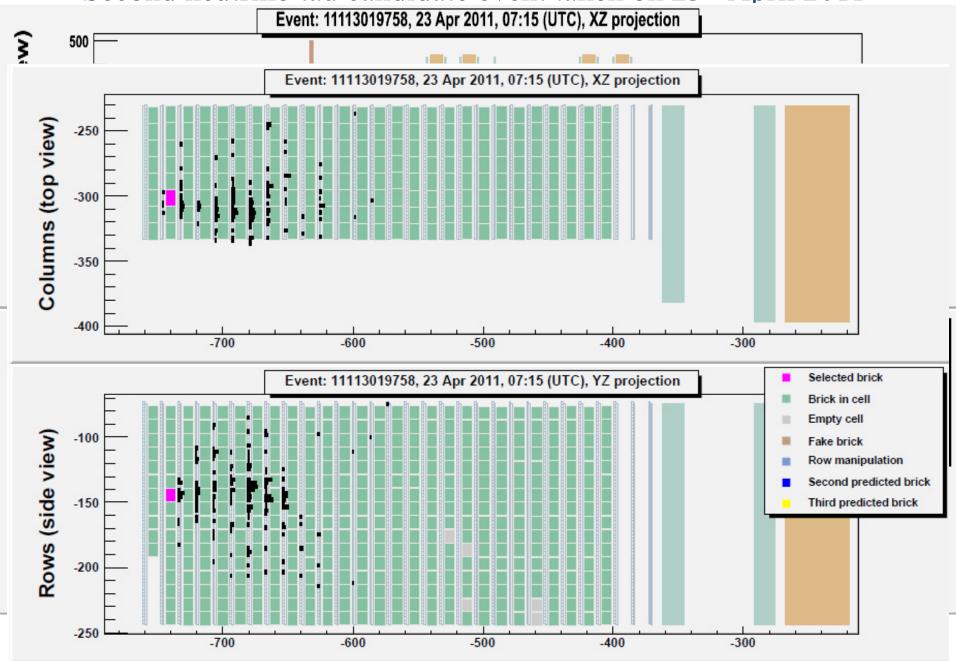


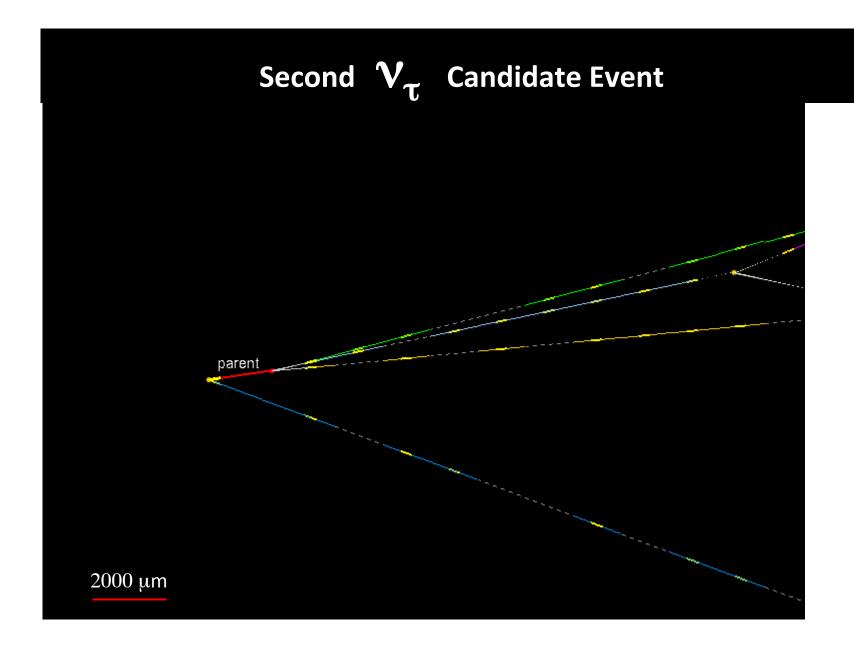
VARIABLE	AVERAGE
kink (mrad)	41 ± 2
decay length (μm)	1335 ± 35
P daughter (GeV/c)	12 ⁺⁶ ₋₃
Pt (MeV/c)	470 +240 ₋₁₂₀
missing Pt (MeV/c)	570 +320 ₋₁₇₀
ф (deg)	173 ± 2

Strategy for the 2010÷2012 runs

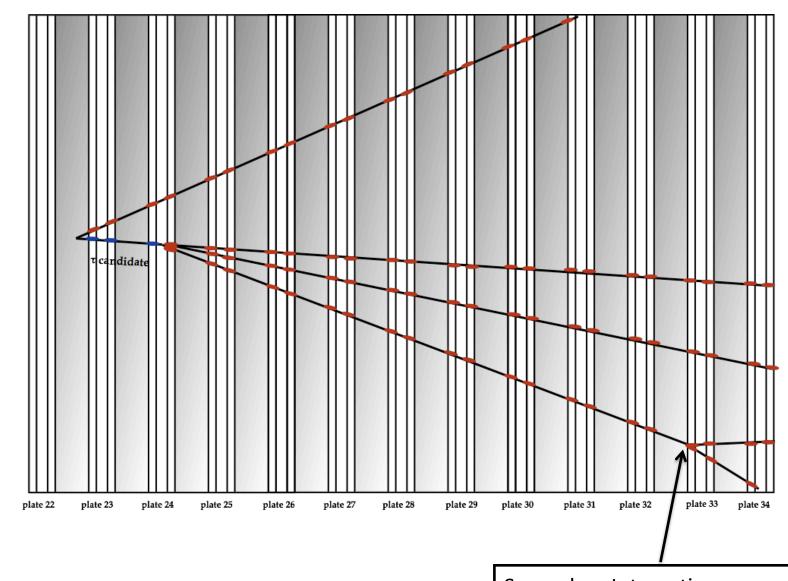
- Apply kinematical selection
- 15 GeV μ momentum cut (upper bound)
- Anticipate the analysis of the most probable brick for all the events before moving to the second (and further ones): optimal ratio between efficiency and analysis time
- Anticipate the analysis of 0μ events (events without any μ in the final state)
- In view of 2012 Summer conferences: 0μ and 1μ sample for 2010 run, for 2011 run stick to 0μ sample only, 2012 not yet analysed

Second neutrino tau candidate event taken on 23rd April 2011





Schematics of the event



11/06/13

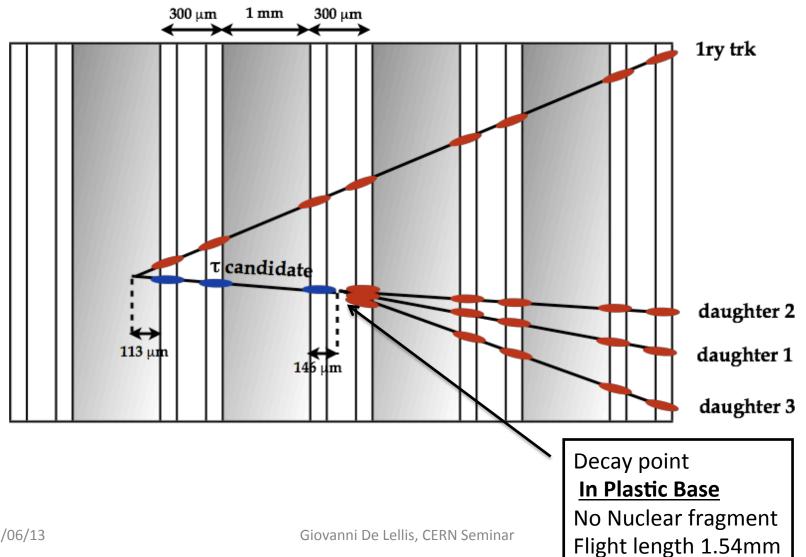
Beam View

Ф=167°

Giovanni De Lellis, CERN Seminar

Secondary Interaction
In Emulsion
With four Nuclear fragments

Zoom of the primary interaction and decay region



Momentum measurement and particle identification of event tracks

Track#	Momentum (1σ interval) [GeV/c]	Particle ID	Method / Comments
Primary	2.8 (2.1-3.5)	Hadron	Momentum-Range Consistency Check Stops after 2 brick walls. Incompatible with muon (26÷44 brick walls)
d1	6.6 (5.2 - 8.6)	Hadron	Momentum-Range Consistency Check
d2	1.3 (1.1 -1.5)	Hadron	Momentum-Range Consistency Check
d3	2.0 (1.4 - 2.9)	Hadron	Interaction in the Brick @ 1.3cm downstream

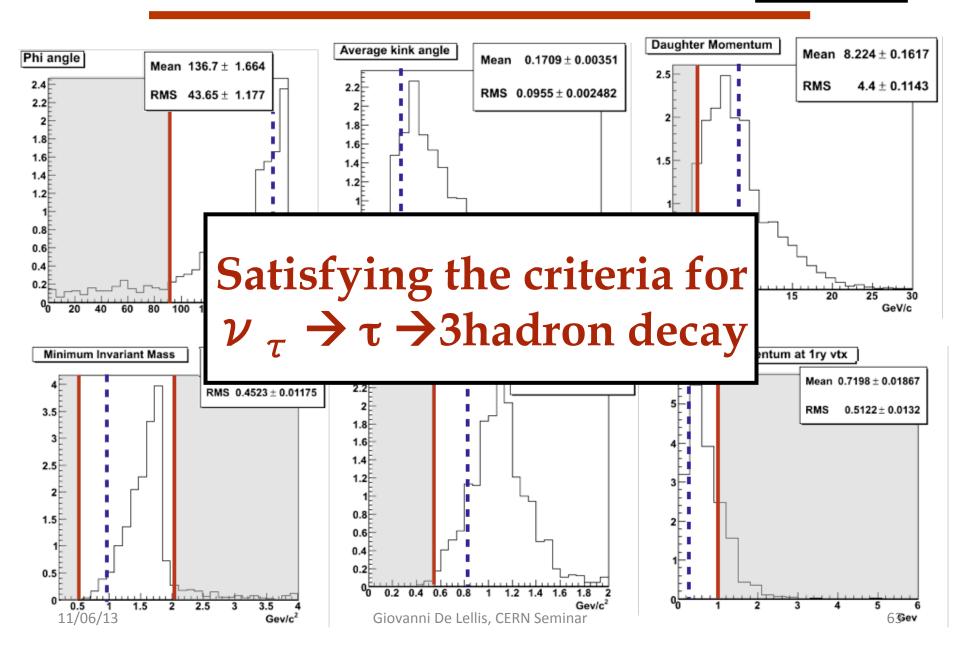
Independent momentum measurements carried out in two labs

Kinematics of the second Candidate Event

	Cut	Value
φ (Tau - Hadron) [degree]	>90	167.8±1.1
average kink angle [mrad]	< 500	87.4±1.5
Total momentum at 2ry vtx [GeV/c]	> 3.0	8.4±1.7
Min Invariant mass [GeV/c²]	0.5 < < 2.0	0.96±0.13
Invariant mass [GeV/c²]	0.5 < < 2.0	0.80±0.12
Transverse Momentum at 1ry vtx [GeV/c]	< 1.0	0.31±0.11

Kinematics of the second candidate event

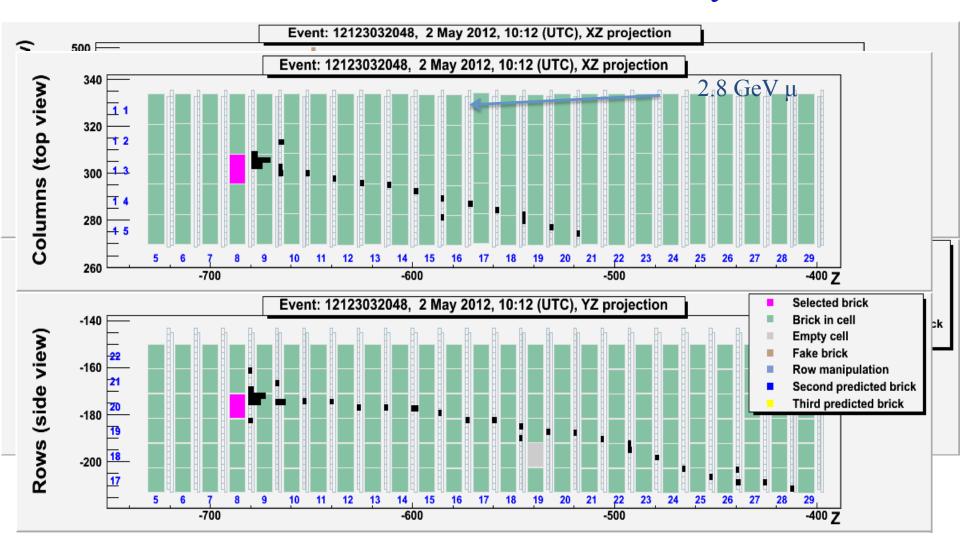




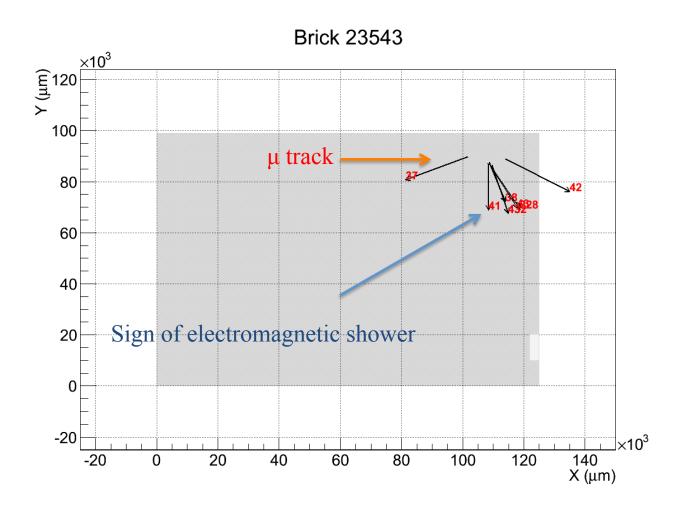
After 2012 Summer conferences

• Extension of the analysed sample to events with one μ in the final state

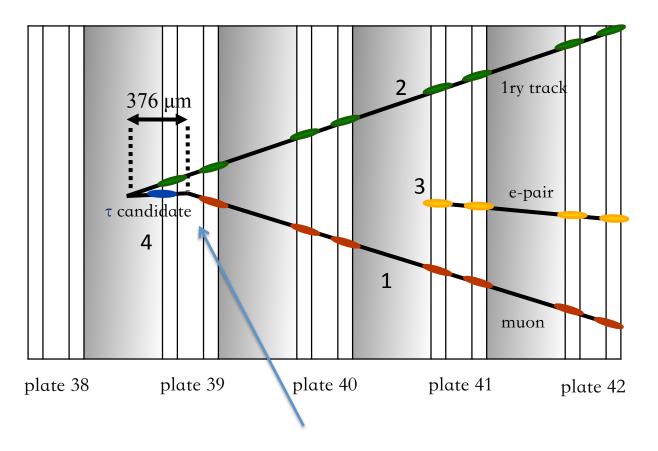
Third tau neutrino event taken on May 2nd 2012



Analysis of the interface films



τ→μ candidate brick analysis and decay search



Decay in the plastic base

$\tau \rightarrow \mu$ candidate



2

Third tau neutrino event $\tau \rightarrow \mu$

Decay vertex
Primary vertex
muon
hadron

₁₀₀₀ µm

⁻gamma.

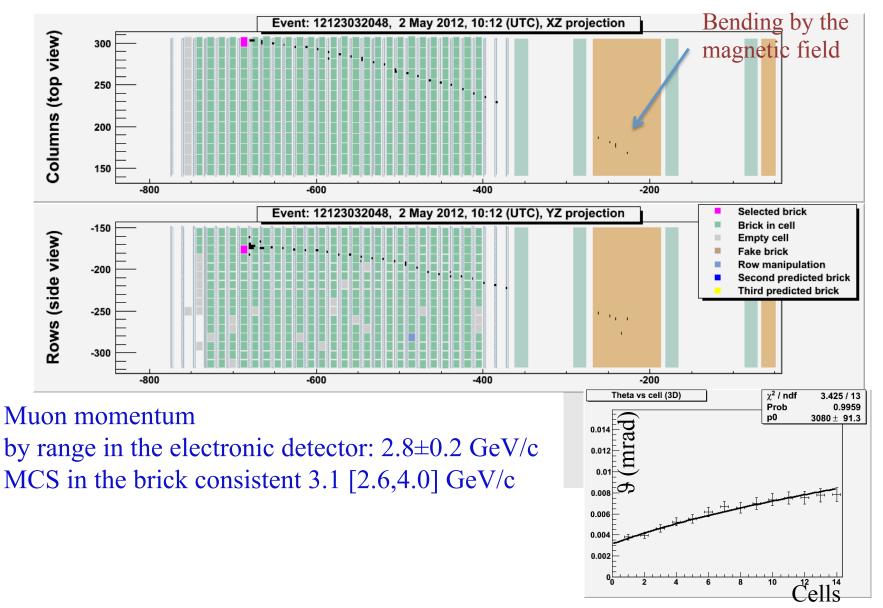
Event tracks' features

TRACK NUMBER	PID	MEASUREMENT 1			MEASUREMENT 2		
		Θ_{X}	$\Theta_{ m Y}$	P (GeV/c)	Θ_{X}	$\Theta_{ m Y}$	P (GeV/c)
1 DAUGHTER	MUON	-0.217	-0.069	3.1 [2.6,4.0]MCS	-0.223	-0.069	2.8±0.2 Range (TT+RPC)
2	HADRON Range	0.203	-0.125	0.85 [0.70,1.10]	0.205	-0.115	0.96 [0.76,1.22]
3	PHOTON	0.024	-0.155	2.64 [1.9,4.3]	0.029	-0.160	3.24 [2.52,4.55]
4 PARENT	TAU	-0.040	0.098		-0.035	0.096	

y attachment

	δθ _{RMS} (mrad)	DZ (mm)	Measured IP (µm)	IP resolution (μm)	ATTACHMENT
1ry vertex	6	3.1	18.2	13.6	OK
2ry vertex	6	2.8	68.7	12.2	EXCLUDED

Muon charge and momentum reconstruction



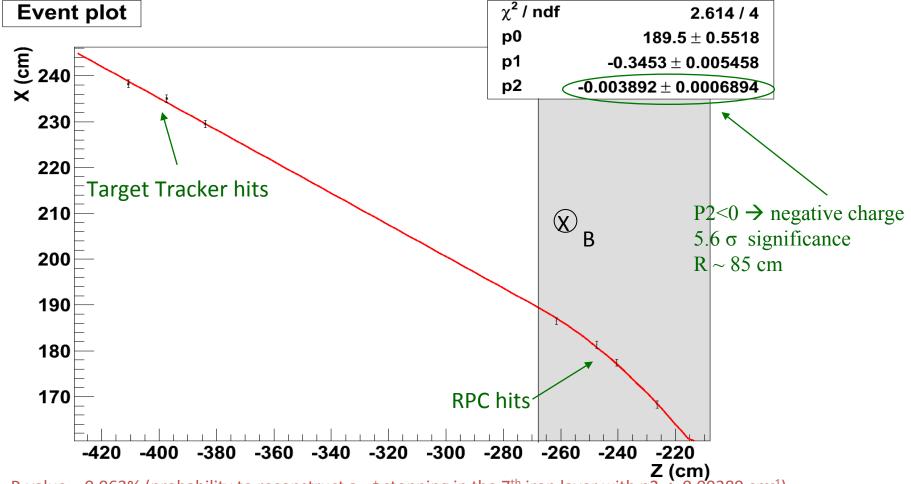
Charge determination of the muon

Charge measurement based on TT and RPC hits when no hits in drift tubes Fit function:

$$X(z) = p0 + p1 x (z-z0) + p2 x (z-z0)^2$$

 $X(z) = p0 + p1 x (z-z0)$

for z>z0, start of magnetized region for z<z0

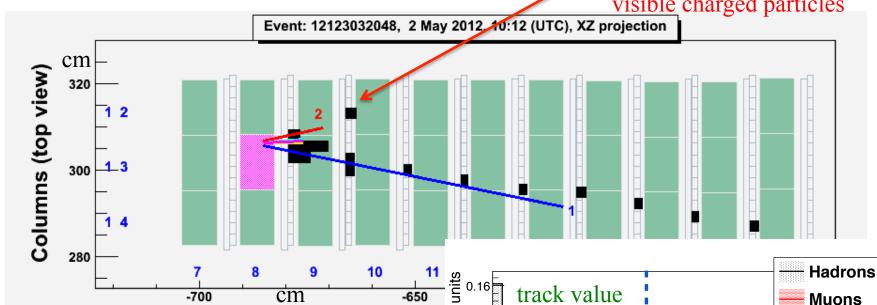


P-value = 0.063% (probability to reconstruct a μ^+ stopping in the 7th iron layer with p2 < -0.00389 cm⁻¹)

72

Track follow down to assess the nature of track 2

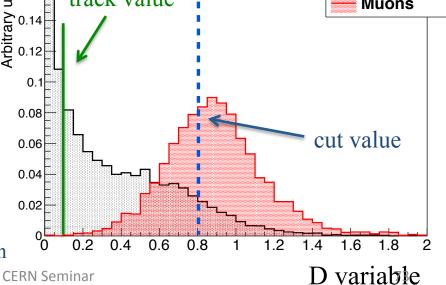
Track 2 interacting in the downstream brick without visible charged particles



Momentum/range inconsistent with μ hypothesis 0.9 GeV/4 cm Lead

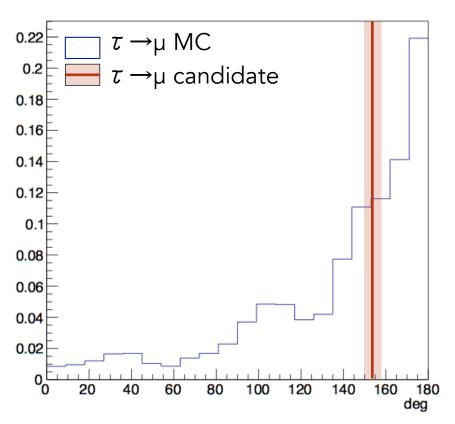
$$D = \frac{L}{R_{lead}(p)} \frac{\rho_{lead}}{\rho_{average}}$$

L = track length $R_{lead} = \mu \text{ range}$ $\rho_{average} = \text{average density}$ $\rho_{lead} = \text{lead density}$ $\rho = \text{momentum in emulsion}$



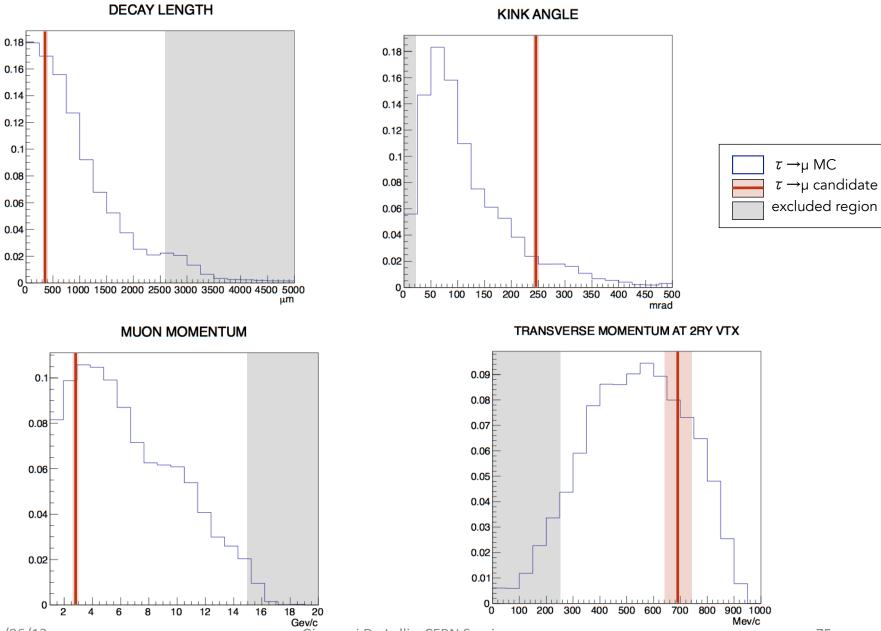
Kinematical variables

PHI ANGLE



VARIABLE	AVERAGE	
Kink angle (mrad)	245 ± 5	
decay length (μm)	376 ± 10	
Pμ (GeV/c)	2.8±0.2	
Pt (MeV/c)	690±50	
φ (degrees)	154.5 ± 1.5	

Kinematical variables. All cuts passed: $\tau \rightarrow \mu$ candidate



11/06/13

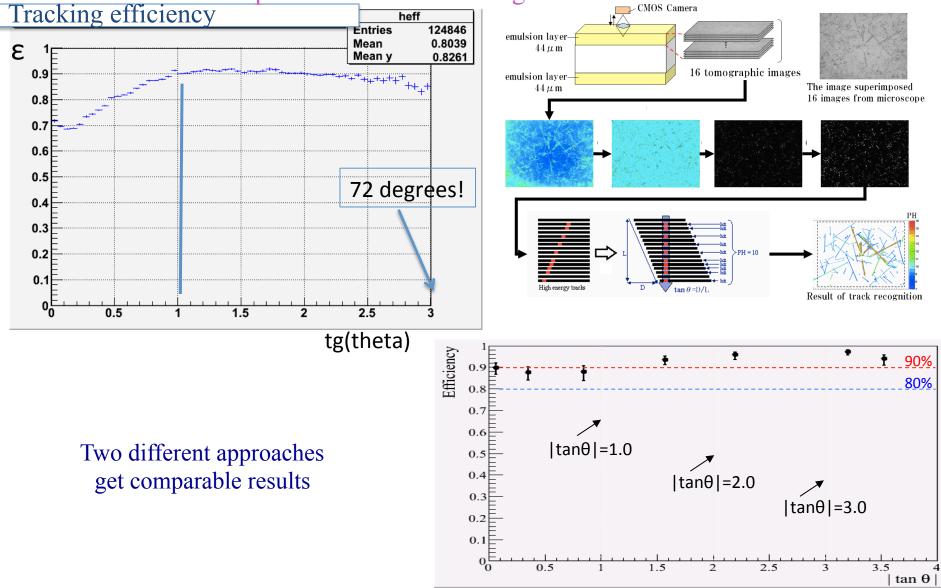
Giovanni De Lellis, CERN Seminar

Background studies

Improvements on the background rejection: large angle track detection

Undetected soft and large angle muons are the source of charm background

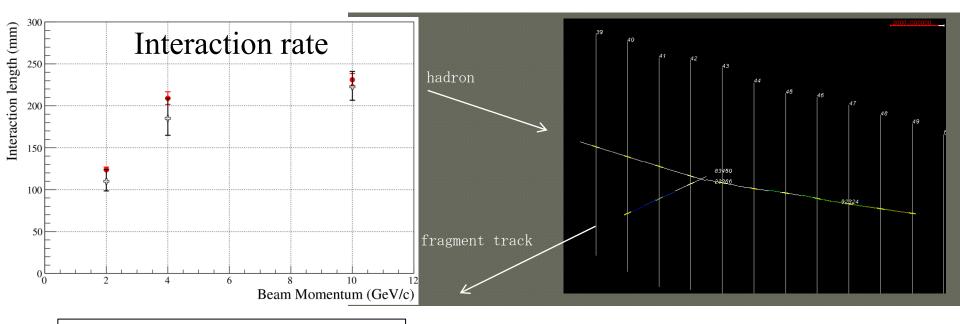
Detection of particles and nuclear fragments in hadronic interactions



Background studies: hadronic interactions

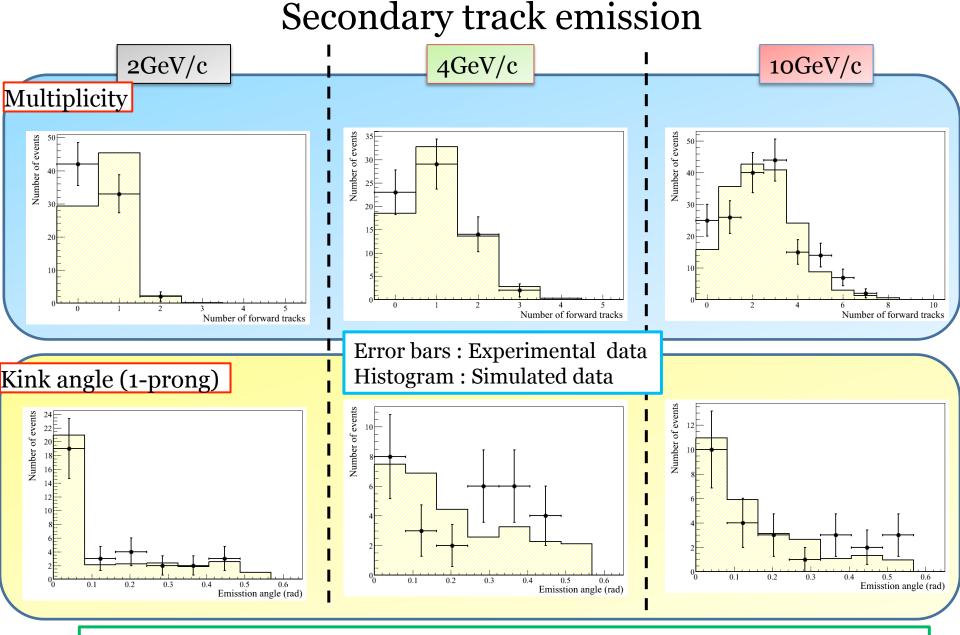
Comparison of large data sample (π - beam test at CERN) with Fluka simulation: check the agreement and estimate the systematic error of simulation

Track length analysed in the brick: 2 GeV/c: 8.5 m, 4 GeV/c: 12.6 m, 10 GeV/c: 38.5 m



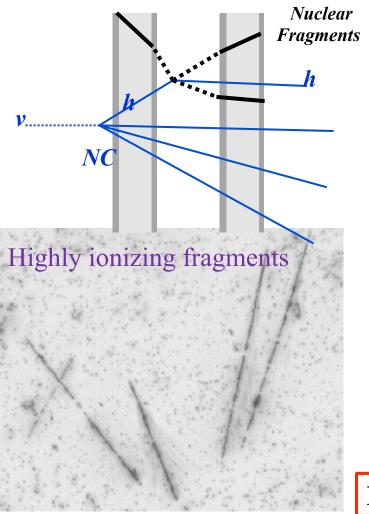
Black: π - beam data

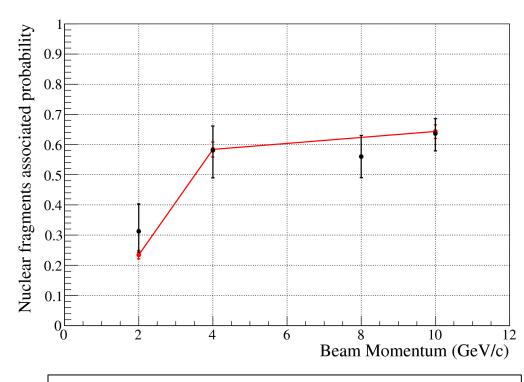
Red: MC (FLUKA) simulation



Good agreement within the statistical error: systematic error reduced to 30%

Nuclear fragments emission probability



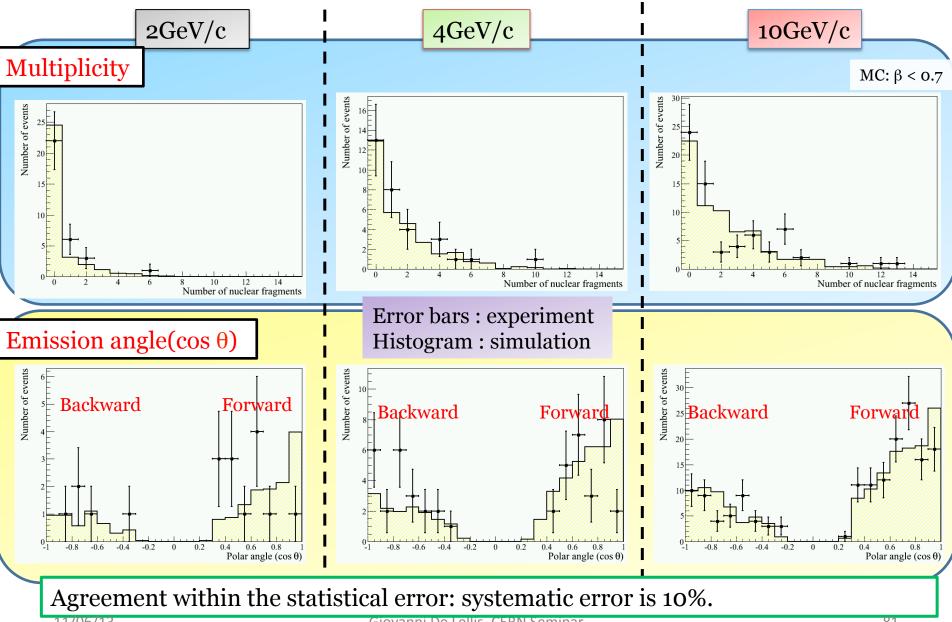


Black: experimental data

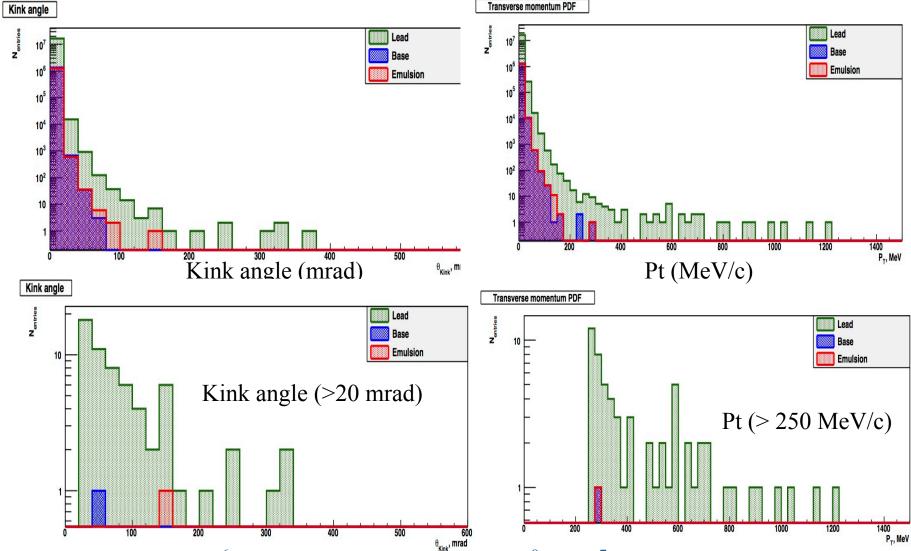
Red : simulated data ($\beta = p/E = 0.7$)

It provides additional background reduction.

Nuclear fragments in 1 and 3 prong interactions



Large angle muon scattering



Rate in lead (10⁻⁶) and less in emulsion/base (10⁻⁸ to 10⁻⁷). No measurements except an upper limit: S.A. Akimenko et al., NIM A423 (1986) 518 (< 10⁻⁵ in lead). 10⁻⁵ rate used

Plan to revise this number by an experimental measurement with emulsion

Statistical considerations Extended sample to muonic interactions

Extended sample

	Signal	Background	Charm	μ scattering	had int
$\tau \rightarrow h$	0.66	0.045	0.029		0.016
$\tau \rightarrow 3h$	0.51	0.090	0.087		0.003
$\tau \rightarrow \mu$	0.56	0.026	0.0084	0.018	
$\tau \rightarrow e$	0.49	0.065	0.065		
total	2.22	0.226	0.19	0.018	0.019

3 observed events in the $\tau \rightarrow h$, $\tau \rightarrow 3h$ and $\tau \rightarrow \mu$ channels Pvalue = $P_0 = 1.125 \times 10^{-4}$

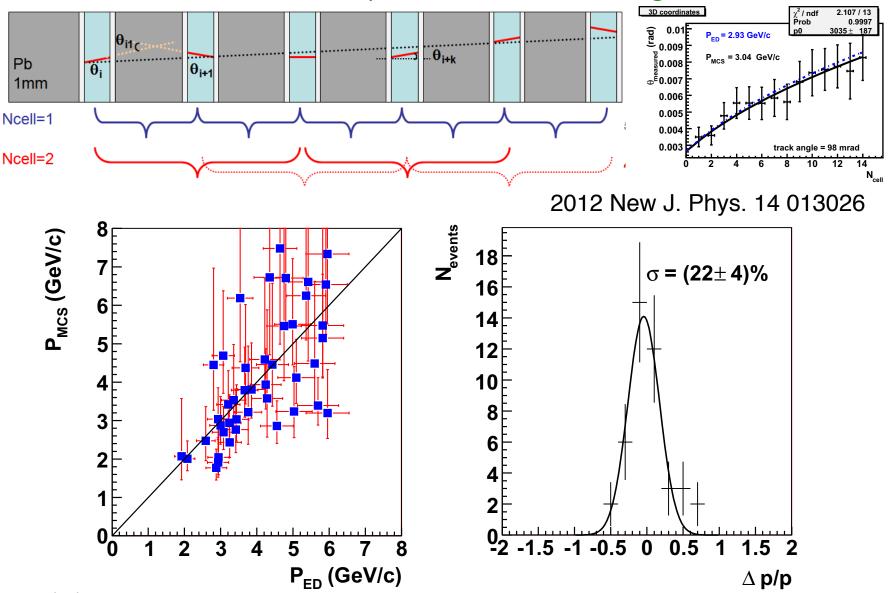
Probability to be explained by background = $7.29 ext{ } 10^{-4}$

This corresponds to 3.2σ significance of non-null observation

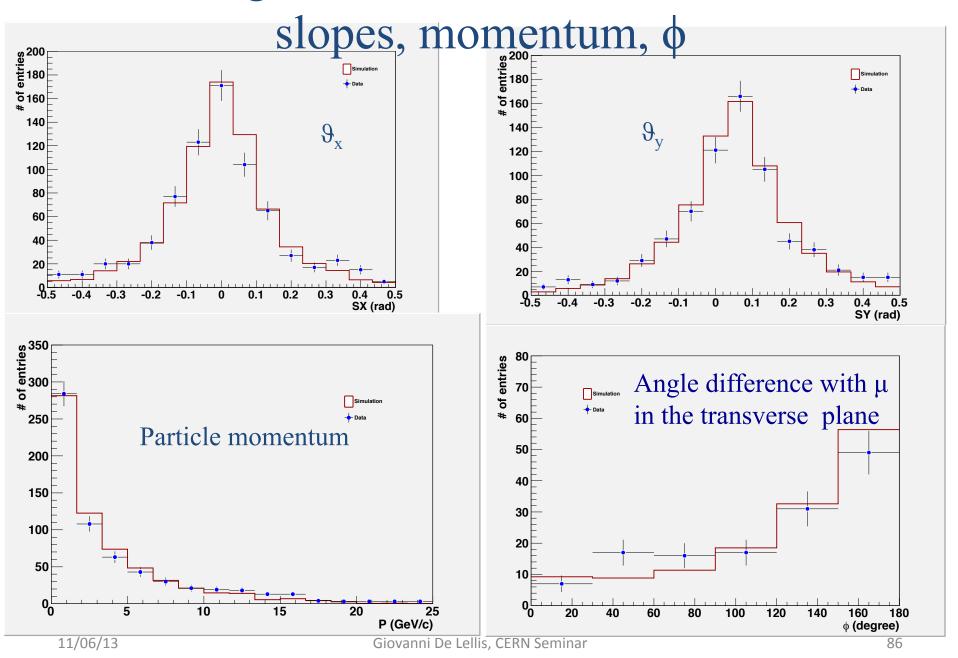
Exploit kinematical characteristics of the events: likelihood analysis

Data/MC agreement for relevant variables

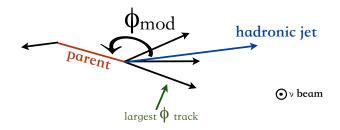
Momentum measurement by multiple Coulomb scattering for identified μ in the 2÷6 GeV range

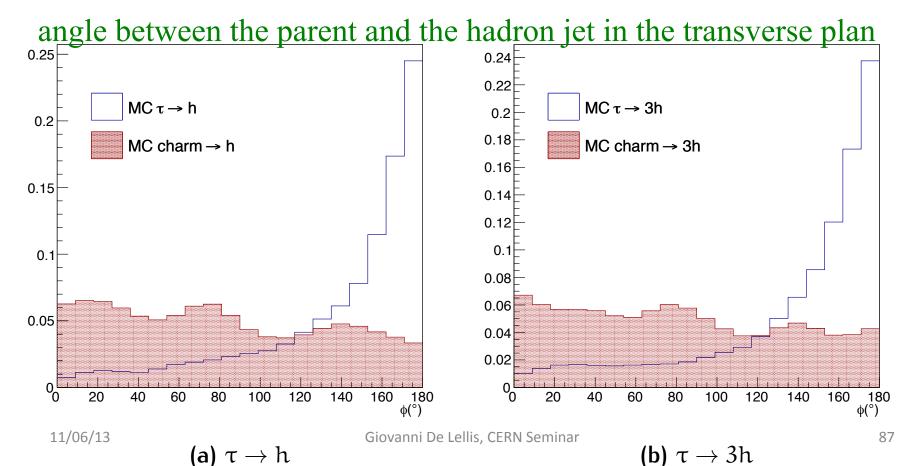


Data/MC agreement for the relevant variables:



Likelihood analysis: one of the discriminating variables





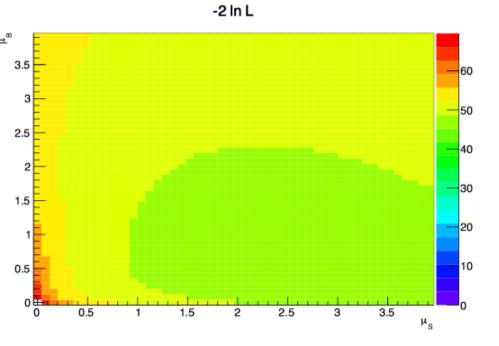
Statistical considerations

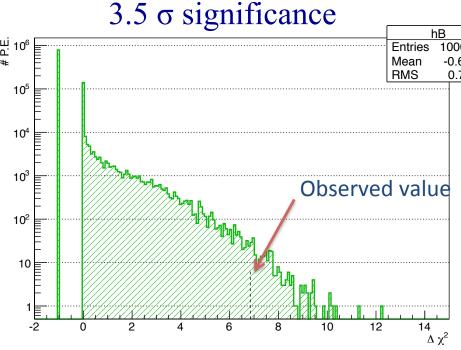
Combining different channels: Likelihood based method, see e.g.

G. Cowan et al., Eur. Phys. J. C71 (2011) 1554

$$f^{S+B}(s,b,x) = rac{sf_S(x) + bf_B(x)}{s+b} \ LR = -2\lnrac{\mathcal{L}(0,b)}{\mathcal{L}(s,b)}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(s,b) = \frac{(s+b)^n e^{-(s+b)}}{n!} \prod_{c=1}^4 \prod_{i=0}^{n_c} \prod_{v=1}^{n_v} f_{v,c}^{S+B}(s,b,x_v)$$





Evidence for $v_{\mu} \rightarrow v_{\tau}$ in appearance mode

- Three events reported
- Conservative background evaluation
- Significance of 3.2σ with simple counting method
- With a first likelihood approach, 3.5σ level
- 4σ observation within reach

Thank you for your attention