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Search for K+ decays to a lepton and invisible particles

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The NA62 experiment at CERN reports searches for $K+\to e+N$, $K+\to \mu+N$ and $K+\to \mu+\nu X$ decays, where N and X are massive invisible particles, using the 2016-2018 data set.

The N particle is assumed to be a heavy neutral lepton, and the results are expressed as upper limits of O(10–9) and O(10–8) of the neutrino mixing parameter |Ue4|2 and $|U\mu4|2$, improving on the earlier searches for heavy neutral lepton production and decays in the kinematically accessible mass range.

The X particle is considered a scalar or vector hidden sector mediator decaying to an invisible final state, and upper limits of the decay branching fraction for X masses in the range 10-370 MeV/c2 are reported for the first time, ranging from O(10-5) to O(10-7).

An improved upper limit of 1.0×10^{-6} is established at 90% CL on the K+ $\rightarrow \mu$ + $\nu\nu\nu^{-}$ branching fraction.

Working group

WG5

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