# "Recent results and prospects on Dark Interactions from NA48/2 & NA62"

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# Kaon physics @ CERN





# Why Kaons?



**Non-MFV: FCNC** decays with high suppression in the standard model and The  $K \rightarrow \pi v \overline{v}$  has a very clean theoretical clean SM prediction ( $\lambda^5$ prediction. suppression). Kaon Factory: New Physics effects Clean environment in K: in flavour physics NA62 & NA48/2 few decay channels, low and search for background. Direct and exotics in mesons indirect search for new decays states and DM portals. Easier in K: the B decays are suppressed (Vub<<Vus) while  $R_{\kappa}$  is MFV: helicity suppressed 10<sup>-5</sup>. Cleaner observables are sensitive environment to search to SUSY ( $B \rightarrow II$ ,  $B \rightarrow I_V$ , for forbidden decays.  $K \rightarrow I_V$ ). LFV decays forbidden in SM. 3

# NA48/2: charged K CP violation



- K+/K- beams (60 GeV/c)
  - Produced in Be target from 400 GeV/c protons from SPS
- Main goal: study CP violation in 3π decays
- Spectrometer: 4 DCH σ<sub>P</sub>/p=1.02%+ 0.044% p(GeV)
- LKr Calorimeter
- $\sigma_{E}$ /E=3.2%/ $\sqrt{E(GeV)}$ +9%/E(GeV)+0.42%
- Veto system, fast timing, flexible trigger configuration
- Data collected in 2003+2004





# NA62: ultra-rare decays





- 75 GeV/c hadron beam (~8% K) from 400 GeV/c p from SPS
  - Total rate ~800 MHz, 10<sup>12</sup> pot, 3.5 s spill
- Complete kinematics, quasi-hermetic veto system, PID system, calorimeters
- Main goal:  $K^+ \rightarrow \pi v v^-$  O(100) events with decay in flight
  - 10<sup>13</sup> K+ decays, 10% acceptance, bkg rejection >10<sup>12</sup>



# NA62: Broad K decays program

 Unprecedented statistics for many K+ decay modes

# Key point: **digital trigger**

- Very flexible
  - Trigger path in common with readout electronics (FPGA based)
- GPU trigger



Process	Violates	90% C.L. limit	NA62 Acceptance
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ e^-$	LF	< 1.3 x 10 <sup>-11</sup>	~10%
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^- e^+$	LF	< 5.2 x 10 <sup>-10</sup>	~10%
K+→π <sup>-</sup> μ+e+	LF , LN	< 5.0 x 10 <sup>-10</sup>	~10%
K <sup>+</sup> →π <sup>-</sup> e <sup>+</sup> e <sup>+</sup>	LN	< 6.4 x 10 <sup>-10</sup>	~5%
$K^+{\rightarrow}\pi^{-}\mu^{+}\mu^{+}$	LN	< 1.1 x 10 <sup>-9</sup>	~20%
$K^+ \rightarrow \mu^- \nu e^+ e^+$	LN	< 2.0 x 10 <sup>-8</sup>	~2%
$\pi^0 \rightarrow \mu^- e^+$	LF	< 3.4 x 10 <sup>-9</sup>	~2%
$\pi^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ e^-$	LF	< 3.8 x 10 <sup>-10</sup>	~2%
$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^- e^+ e^+ v$	LF	<1.6x10 <sup>-6</sup>	~2%

# NA48/2: the $\mu\mu$ sample



Three sterile (Majorana) neutrinos
 N1 is the lightest (dark matter) N2,
 N3 produce v masses and solve
 SM neutrinos problems and
 Baryon asymmetry





- Inflatons: Shaposhnikov-Tkachev [PLB 639 (2008) 414]
  - Add a real scalar field (inflaton χ) to vMSM to explain Universe homogeneity and isotropy
  - Mixing with Higgs boson: θ
  - mχ < 354 MeV/c² with kaons (**K⁺→**π⁺χ)
  - $\chi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$  considered in this analysis

$$BR(K^{\pm} \to \pi^{\pm}\chi) = 1.3 \times 10^{-3} \left(\frac{2|p_{\chi}|}{M_K}\right) \theta^2$$

# LNV & LNC selection

- 3 track topology
  - Opposite/same sign muons
  - No missing momentum
  - Total mass close to K mass (5 MeV/c<sup>2</sup>)
- Background:





- 1.64x10<sup>11</sup> K decays in fiducial region
  - Opposite sign: **3489** events
    ( (0.36±0.10)% bkg)
  - Same sign: 1 events (1 bkg)



# LNC: mass scan



Data

300

300

320

320

 $n_{obs} - n_{exp}$ 

 $n_{obs} \oplus n_{exp}$ 

340

340

9

Assumed X mass, MeV/c<sup>2</sup>

- About **280** mass bins
- The signal significance never exceed 3σ: no signal observed

# LNV: mass scan

- UL 8.6x10<sup>-11</sup> @ 90% CL
  - Mass scan:
    - About 280 mass bins
    - The signal significance never exceed 3σ: no signal observed
    - Both for opposite/same sign muons the acceptance is studied as a function of the heavy neutrinos/inflaton lifetime





NA48/2 µµ sample summary & NA62 prospects

# Sample of about **2x10<sup>11</sup> K** decays, from 2003+2004 NA48/2 run

- Search for LNV K<sup>+</sup> $\rightarrow \pi^{-}\mu^{+}\mu^{+}$ : UL 8.6x10<sup>-11</sup> @ 90% CL
- Search for Majorana sterile neutrinos K<sup>+</sup> $\rightarrow$ µ<sup>+</sup>N<sub>4</sub> (N<sub>4</sub> $\rightarrow$ π<sup>-</sup>µ<sup>+</sup>): UL ~10<sup>-10</sup> for  $\tau$ <100 ps
- Search for heavy sterile neutrinos K<sup>+</sup> $\rightarrow$ µ<sup>+</sup>N<sub>4</sub> (N<sub>4</sub> $\rightarrow$ π<sup>+</sup>µ<sup>-</sup>): UL ~10<sup>-9</sup> for  $\tau$ <100 ps
- Search for inflatons K<sup>+</sup> $\rightarrow \pi^+$ X (X $\rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ ): UL ~10<sup>-9</sup> for  $\tau$ <100 ps
- NA62 will improve both statistics and systematics: potentially two orders of magnitude





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# **Dark Photon**

- The most economic SM extension in the dark sector is the introduction of a vector field through a new U(1) symmetry  $\sim$ 
  - The dark photon (A') is the boson associated to this symmetry

$$\mathcal{L}_{mix} = -\frac{\mathcal{E}}{2} F_{\mu\nu}{}^{QED} F^{\mu\nu}{}_{dark}$$

 In the most generic case the mixing with quarks and leptons could be different (qf)

$$\mathcal{L} \sim \mathbf{g}' q_f \overline{\psi_f} \gamma^{\mu} \psi_f U'$$

- The Dark Photon could be a good dark matter portal candidate and can explain positrons excess
- For free: the dark photon could explain the g-2 anomaly [M. Pospelov Phys.Rev. D80 (2009) 095002]







## Dark Photon in $\pi^0$ decays



In the mass region allowed for the  $\pi^0$ , the A' width is

$$\Gamma_{A'} \approx \Gamma(A' \to e^+ e^-) = \frac{1}{3} \alpha \varepsilon^2 m_{A'} \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_e^2}{m_{A'}^2}} \left(1 + \frac{2m_e^2}{m_{A'}^2}\right) \approx \alpha \varepsilon^2 m_{A'}/3$$

# Status of visible searches in early 2015

- The visible decay (in  $10^{-4}$ fermions) is 10<sup>-5</sup> constrained by aµ.50 various experiments: 10<sup>-6</sup> Beam dump E774 Fix target 10<sup>-7</sup> Meson decays Room for Dark 10<sup>-8</sup> E141
  - Photon parameters to explain g-2
  - The invisible decay has much less constraints



# $\pi^0_D$ Data selection



**(1.57±0.05)x10**<sup>11</sup> kaon decays

# **K**<sup>+</sup>→ $\pi^{+}\pi^{0}_{D}$ selection

- m<sub>K</sub> in 20 MeV,  $m_{\pi 0}$  in 8 Mev, no missing momentum
- 1.38x10<sup>7</sup> events
  selected

# **K**<sup>+</sup>→ $π^0_D μ^+ ν$ selection

- Neutrino mass compatible with zero,  $m_{\pi 0}$  in 8 MeV, missing total and transverse momentum
- 0.31x10<sup>7</sup> events selected

Total: 1.69x10<sup>7</sup>

# **UL from Dalitz decays**



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The dark photon should appear as a **narrow peak** in the  $\pi^0_D$  spectrum

### Mass scan:

- 404 bins in 9 MeV/c<sup>2</sup><m<sub>A'</sub><120 MeV/c<sup>2</sup>
- For each beam the confidence interval is obtained comparing observed and expected events.
- Local significance never exceed 3σ: **no dark photon signal**



# NA48/2 results on Dark Photon

- The limit obtained is background limited
- Modest
  improvement with
  larger statistics
  ~(1/N<sub>K</sub>)<sup>1/2</sup>
  - If A' couples with  $10^{-8}$ quarks and decays  $10^{-9}$ in leptons then the g-2 explanation is  $10^{-10}$ almost ruled out. (see also KLOE results  $10^{-11}$ Y.Kolomensky)  $10^{-11}$

### Visible decay searches now



[Phys.Lett. B746 (2015) 178]

# Hidden search in NA62 (>2018)



- A' are produced either in the target or in the TAX
  - Hadrons are stopped in the TAX
  - NA62 decay region and detectors essentially untouched
- 10<sup>18</sup> POT per year



# Long lived dark photon





- A' decays in ee or  $\mu\mu$
- 90% C.L. assuming 2x10<sup>18</sup> POT and 0 background
- Only A' produced in the target (not in the dump) are considered



# HNL & ALPs



- Heavy Neutral Leptons: assuming 2x10<sup>18</sup> POT, NA62 could cover a broad region in MeV-GeV
  - HNL→πe, πμ
  - Sensitivity will increase including semileptonic and hadronics decay modes

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- ALPs: are produced by Primakoff effect [JHEP 1602 (2016) 018], and decay in  $\gamma\gamma$ 
  - Significant contribution below 200 MeV (assuming 0 bkg and 4x10<sup>7</sup>)
  - Preliminary test in 2015 (10<sup>14</sup> POT) demonstrates that 0 bkg is achievable

# Conclusions

- **NA48/2** has improved limits on the search for dark matter portals and exotics
  - HNL, Majorana, Inflatons, Dark Photons
- **NA62** is taking data to search for ultra-rare  $\pi v v$  decay.
- Thanks to a very flexible trigger system, along with the main goal, other searches will be carried out with huge statistics and better resolution.
- The possibility to run in "dump" mode to improve searches of DP (vector portal), HNL (neutrino portal), ALPs (axial portal) in higher masses regions will be also considered.

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### Prospects from $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ A'$

K<sup>+</sup> $\rightarrow \pi^+$ A' is favorite wrt  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma$ A' from an experimental point of view:

- Lower irreducible background  $(\pi ee vs \pi^0_D)$
- Higher flux (x4)
- Higher acceptance
- But the BR is ~10<sup>-4</sup> wrt  $\pi^0$ . The expected limit (for  $m_{A'} > m_{\pi 0}$ ) is  $\epsilon^2 \sim 10^{-5}$ . Not competitive with existing limits

[DavoudiasI, Lee, Marciano PRD89 (2014) 095006 ] ot



# **Protophobic DP interaction**

A recent results in Be8 [PRL 116, 042501 (2016)] indicates a possible DP in the region excluded by NA48/2

This is possible if the DP is proto-phobic. In this case the production through the π<sup>0</sup> decay is prohibited



ProtoPhobic coupling





# Majorana neutrino in second family





# GPU trigger: almagest algorithm





- Tesla K20
- Only computing time presented
- <0.5 us per event (multirings) for large buffers

