







# An experiment to measure BR( $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 vv$ ) at the CERN SPS



Birmingham. 2018, January 17th

### Outline



Overview of precision physics and rare decays  $K \rightarrow \pi v v$ 



BR( $K \rightarrow \pi \nu \nu$ ) measurement state of the art:

- NA62 experiment at the CERN SpS for the BR( $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu$ ) measurement
- KOTO Experiment at J-PARC for the BR( $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \nu$ ) measurement



KLEVER project, proposal for a new experiment at the CERN SpS for the BR( $K_{L} \rightarrow \pi^{0}vv$ ) measurement:

- Goal, challenges
- Apparatus
- Expected sensitivity

# Precision physics and rare decays

How can we extend the search for new physics to high effective scales?

| Direct search <b>&gt;&gt; Energy</b> frontier  | Indirect search >> Intensity frontier   |
|--|---|
| Create new degrees of freedom in lab.<br>Explore spectroscopy of new d.o.f.<br><b>Λ ~ 1-10 TeV</b> | Evidence of new degrees of freedom as<br>alteration of SM rates<br>Explore symmetry properties of new d.o.f<br>Λ ~ 1-1000 TeV |

#### A rare decay is useful as a New Physics (NP) probe if:

- Process is (strongly) suppressed in the SM
- Parameter to be measured precisely calculated in SM
- There are specific predictions for NP contributions

#### What may be studied with rare decays:

- Explicit violations of the SM (e.g., lepton flavor violation)
- Tests of fundamental symmetries such as CP and CPT
- Search for new d.o.f. in the flavor sector, e.g., in FCNC processes
- Strong interaction dynamics at low energy using exclusive processes

....

### The CKM matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{2} & \lambda & A\lambda^3(\rho - i\eta) \\ -\lambda & 1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{2} & A\lambda^2 \\ A\lambda^3(1 - \rho - i\eta) & -A\lambda^2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \mathscr{O}(\lambda^4)$$

V is unitary: V<sup>+</sup>V = 1



B unitary triangle  $V_{ud} V_{ub}^* + V_{cd} V_{cb}^* + V_{td} V_{tb}^* = 0$ 

#### K unitary triangle $V_{us} V_{us}^* + V_{cd} V_{cs}^* + V_{td} V_{ts}^* = 0$

| Observable  | Measurement                                |  |
|---|--|--|
| $K^+ \to \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$   | $ V_{ts}^*V_{td} $                         |  |
| $K_L \to \pi^0 \nu \bar{\nu}$   | $\mathrm{Im} V_{ts}^* V_{td} \propto \eta$ |  |
| $B_d \to J/\psi K_S$  | $\sin 2\beta$                              |  |
| $\frac{\Delta m_{B_d}}{\Delta m_{B_s}} = \frac{B_d - \bar{B}_d}{B_s - \bar{B}_s}$ | $ V_{td}/V_{ts} $                          |  |

### Unitarity triangles: state of the art



#### www.utfit.org

ckmfitter.in2p3.fr

### **Rare Kaon Decays**

| Decay                              | $\Gamma_{\rm SD}/\Gamma$ | Theory err.* | SM BR × 10 <sup>-11</sup> | Exp. BR × 10 <sup>-11</sup> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $K_L \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$      | 10%                      | 30%          | 79 ± 12 (SD)              | 684 ± 11                    |
| $K_L  ightarrow \pi^0 e^+ e^-$     | 40%                      | 10%          | 35 ± 10                   | < 28†                       |
| $K_L  ightarrow \pi^0 \mu^+ \mu^-$ | 30%                      | 15%          | 14 ± 3                    | < 38†                       |
| $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ v v$        | 90%                      | 4%           | $7.8 \pm 0.8$             | 17 ± 11                     |
| $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 v v$        | >99%                     | 2%           | $2.4 \pm 0.4$             | < 2600 <sup>+</sup>         |

- FCNC processes
- Dominated by Z-penguin and box diagrams
- Suppressed by GIM mechanism.





$$BR(K^{+} \to \pi^{+} \nu \bar{\nu}) = \kappa_{+} \left[ \left( \frac{Im \lambda_{t}}{\lambda^{5}} X(x_{t}) \right)^{2} + \left( \frac{Re \lambda_{t}}{\lambda^{5}} X(x_{t}) + \frac{Re \lambda_{c}}{\lambda} P_{c}(X) \right)^{2} \right]$$
$$BR(K_{L} \to \pi^{0} \nu \bar{\nu}) = \kappa_{L} \left( \frac{Im \lambda_{t}}{\lambda^{5}} X(x_{t}) \right)^{2}$$

 $\lambda = V_{us}$  $\lambda_c = V_{cs}V_{cd}*$  $\lambda_t = V_{td}V_{ts}*$  $x_t = m^2 t/m^2 w$ 



$$x_t = m^2 t / m^2 W$$





Uncertainty on SM predictions for  $K \rightarrow \pi v v$  BRs **mostly from**  $V_{CKM}$ 

#### **Example of CKM constraints:**

• Current experimental value for BR( $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ vv$ )



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#### **Example of CKM constraints:**

- Current experimental value for BR( $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ vv$ )
- $BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ vv)$  to ±10%
- BR( $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 v v$ ) to 15%



Uncertainty on SM predictions for  $K \rightarrow \pi v v$  BRs mostly from  $V_{CKM}$ 



#### **Example of CKM constraints:**

- Current experimental value for BR( $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ vv$ )
- $BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu)$  to ±10%
- BR( $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 v v$ ) to 15%
- $\varepsilon_K$  resolve ambiguities  $(K \to \pi \pi \not C \not P)$



# $K \rightarrow \pi v v$ and new physics

New physics (NP) affects BRs differently for K<sup>+</sup> and K<sub>L</sub> channels

Measurements of both could discriminate among NP scenarios



- Models with CKM-like flavor structure:
  - Models with MFV
- Models with new flavorviolating 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

# $K \rightarrow \pi v v$ and new physics

#### $K \rightarrow \pi v v$ is uniquely sensitive to high mass scales.

#### NP may simply occur at a higher mass scale

 $\rightarrow$  Null results from direct searches at LHC so far....

Indirect probes to explore high mass scales become very interesting!

Es: Tree-level flavor changing Z' LH+RH couplings

- Some fine-tuning around constraint from ε<sub>κ</sub>
- K → πvv sensitive to mass scales up to 2000 TeV (up to tens of TeV even if LH couplings only)
- Order of magnitude higher than for B decays



### **Experimental measurement**

**Current theoretical prediction:** 

**Experimental status:** 

 $BR(K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu)_{SM} = (8.4 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-11}$ 

 $BR(K^+ \to \pi^+ \nu \bar{\nu})_{exp} = (17.3^{+11.5}_{-10.5}) \times 10^{-11}$ 

Only measurement obtained by E787 and E949 at BNL with stopped kaon decays (7 events)

BR(K<sub>L</sub> $\rightarrow \pi^0 vv)_{SM}$  = (3.4 ± 0.6) x 10<sup>-11</sup>

Neutral decay  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 v v$  has never been measured

Gap between theoretical precision and large experimental error motivates a strong **experimental effort**. Significant new constraints can be obtained.



NA62 experiment at CERN SpS is now running with the aim to measure BR( $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu$ )



KOTO experiment at J-PARC is now running with the aim to measure BR( $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \nu$ )



### NA62 at CERN SPS

The **CERN-SPS secondary beam line** already used for the NA48 experiment can deliver the required K<sup>+</sup> intensity



NA62 is housed in the **CERN North Area**. The SpS extraction line is providing a secondary charged hadron beam 50 times more intense than in the past, with only 30% more SPS protons on target.

**400 GeV/c p** impinge on a Be target and produce a secondary charged beam: **6%** are **K**<sup>+</sup> (mixed with  $\pi$  and p). Signal acceptance considerations drive the choice of a **75 GeV/c K**<sup>+</sup>

# NA62 Experiment site



### NA62 Apparatus

**270 m long** downstream of the beryllium target. Useful K<sup>+</sup> decays are detected in a **65 m long fiducial volume**.



Approximately cylindrical shape around the beam axis for the main detectors. Diameter varies from 20 to 400 cm.

Each detector sends ~ 10 MHz of raw input data to the Level 0 trigger (FPGA) that selects 1 MHz of events. L1 and L2 triggers (software) guarantee a maximum of 10 kHz of acquisition rate.

### NA62 Goal

#### Design criteria: kaon intensity, signal acceptance, background suppression

#### Kaons with high momentum. **Decay in flight technique**. Signal signature: K<sup>+</sup> track + π<sup>+</sup> track



#### Backgrounds

| Decay                           | BR  | Main Rejection Tools               |
|---------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| $K^+ \to \mu^+ \nu_\mu(\gamma)$ | 63% | $\mu$ -ID + kinematics             |
| $K^+ \to \pi^+ \pi^0(\gamma)$   | 21% | $\gamma$ -veto + kinematics        |
| $K^+ \to \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$     | 6%  | multi-track + kinematics           |
| $K^+ \to \pi^+ \pi^0 \pi^0$     | 2%  | $\gamma$ -veto + kinematics        |
| $K^+ \to \pi^0 e^+ \nu_e$       | 5%  | $e\text{-ID} + \gamma\text{-veto}$ |
| $K^+ \to \pi^0 \mu^+ \nu_\mu$   | 3%  | $\mu$ -ID + $\gamma$ -veto         |

#### **Basic ingredients:**

- O(100 ps) Timing between sub-detectors
- O(10<sup>4</sup>) Background suppression from kinematics
- O(10<sup>7</sup>)  $\mu$ -suppression (K<sup>+</sup> $\rightarrow \mu^+ \nu$ )
- O(10<sup>7</sup>)  $\gamma$ -suppression (from K<sup>+</sup> $\rightarrow \pi^{+}\pi^{0}, \pi^{0} \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ )

BR(K<sup>+</sup>  $\rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu$ ) with 10% accuracy: O(100) SM events + control of systematics at % level

Assuming 10% signal acceptance and a BR(K<sup>+</sup>  $\rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu$ ) ~10<sup>-10</sup> at least **10<sup>13</sup> K<sup>+</sup> decays are required** 

### NA62: Beam ID & Traking



#### Beam ID & Tracking

- **KTAG:** Differential Čerenkov counter blind to all particles but kaons of appropriate momentum
- **GTK:** GigaTracKer Spectrometer for K<sup>+</sup> momentum and timing measurement
- **CHANTI:** Charged particle veto to reduce the background induced by inelastic interactions

## NA62: Secondary ID & Tracking



#### Secondary particle ID & Tracking

- **STRAW:** Spectrometer with STRAW tubes for secondary particle momentum measurement
- **CHOD:** Charged Hodoscope of plastic scintillator to provide fast signal of the beam
- **RICH:** Ring Imaging Cherenkov detector for the secondary particle identification

### NA62: Photon Veto System



#### **Photon Veto**

- **LAV:** Large Angle Veto. 12 stations to veto  $\gamma$  with angles 8.5 < $\theta$  <50 mrad
- IRC/SAC: Inner Ring Calorimeter and Small Angle Calorimeter. To veto  $\gamma$  with angles <1 mrad
- **LKr:** NA48 LKr Calorimeter: to veto  $\gamma$  with angles 1 < $\theta$  <8.5 mrad and for PID.

### NA62: Muon Veto System



#### **Beam ID & Tracking**

MUV3: Efficient fast Muon Veto used in the hardware trigger level.

MUV1/2: Hadronic calorimeters for the  $\mu/\pi$  separation

### NA62 Timescale

#### 2014 Pilot Run

- 2015 Commissioning Run
- **2016** Commissioning + Physics Run  $\rightarrow$  SM sensitivity reached O(10<sup>-10</sup>).
- **2017** Physics  $Run \rightarrow Improve$  on the present state of the art.
- **2018** > 6 months of data taking expected...

Assuming that the 2018 run is as successful as the 2017 one, by the end of 2018 NA62 should have collected between 20 and 30 PNN events at the SM sensitivity

- For the spring 2018 the results from the full 2016 statistics will be presented
- Processing of the 2017 data has started

**2019-2020** LS2 (Long shutdown 2)

# Fixed target runs at the SPS

**Physics** 

Shutdown

**Technical stop** 

Beam commissioning

- **2021 Run 3**: To fulfill the original goal of about O(100) SM events the hypothesis to continue NA62 data taking after LS2 is under consideration, together with a dump-mode data taking for dark sector studies.
- **2026** Run 4: Once  $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \nu \nu$  has been measured to 10%,

try to measure  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \nu \implies$  KLEVER experiment



# $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 vv$ : Experimental issues

With neutral beam there is no information on  $K_{\text{\tiny L}}$  momentum

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  $p_\perp = 0$

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

Used to reconstruct vertex position

$$m_{\pi^0}^2 = 2E_1 E_2 \left(1 - \cos\theta\right) \quad R_1 \approx R_2 \equiv R = \frac{d\sqrt{E_1 E_2}}{m_{\pi^0}}$$



#### Main backgrounds

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

# KOTO: $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 v v$ at J-PARC



Reached 42 kW of slow-extracted beam power in 2016



Preliminary results: 10% of 2015 data

- SES =  $5.9 \times 10^{-9}$
- Expected background = 0.17 events
- Background estimate under study, signal box not yet unblinded

Beam power will gradually increase to 100 kW by 2018

# KOTO: $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 v v$ at J-PARC

#### **KOTO Step-2 upgrade:**

- Increase beam power to >100 kW
- New neutral beamline at 5°
- 〈p(KL)〉 = 5.2 GeV
- Increase FV from 2 m to 11 m
- Complete rebuild of detector
- Requires extension of hadron hall



#### Long-term future: Strong intention to upgrade to ~100 event sensitivity

- No official Step 2 proposal yet (plan outlined in 2006 KOTO proposal)
- Scaling from original estimates: ~10 SM evts/yr per 100 kW beam power
- Exploring machine & detector upgrade possibilities to increase sensitivity
- Indicative timescale: data taking starting 2025?

# A $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 vv$ experiment at the SPS?

**KL Experiment for VEry Rare events** 



#### **Interesting features**

- High-energy experiment: complementary approach to KOTO
- Photons from K<sub>L</sub> decays boosted forward
  - Makes photon vetoing easier veto coverage only out to 100 mrad
- Roughly same vacuum tank layout and fiducial volume as NA62
- Possible to re-use LKr calorimeter, NA62 experimental infrastructure?

# **High-intensity neutral beam issues**

#### Assumptions

parameters

Beam

• BR( $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 v v$ ) = 3.4 × 10<sup>-11</sup>

Acceptance for decays occurring in FV ~ 10%

- 400 GeV p on 400 mm Be target
  - Production at 2.4 mrad to optimize (K<sub>L</sub> in FV)/n



 $2.8 \times 10^{-5} K_L$  in beam/pot



#### Probability for decay inside FV ~ 2%

Required total proton flux =  $5 \times 10^{19}$  pot. **10<sup>19</sup> pot/year** (= 100 eff. days) E.g.:  $2 \times 10^{13}$  ppp/16.8 s

**6× increase relative to NA62**,  $2 \times 10^{13}$  ppp not currently available on North Area targets

#### Target area and transfer lines would require upgrades:

- Minimization of consequences of beam loss
- Additional shielding against continuous small losses
- Study issues of equipment survival, e.g., TAX motors
- Ventilation, zone segmentation, etc.

# **Beamline layout for intensity upgrade**

#### Tight neutral beam collimation

• Longer K<sub>L</sub> lifetime  $(\tau_L/\tau_+ \sim 5)$ 



Detailed solutions & meaningful cost estimates will require serious study by the CERN Accelerator & Technology Sector

#### Dump collimator TAX1/2:

*r* = 5 mm at *z* = 15 m

- 2 vertical sweeping magnets upstream of TAX
- 3 horizontal muon
   sweeping magnets
   downstream of TAX.
- Defining collimator:

*r* = 42 mm at *z* = 60 m

Active Final Collimator

z = 105 m to remove upstream decay products

- Regenerated K<sub>S</sub> reduced to 10<sup>-4</sup> between defining and final collimators
- Final collimator is also an active detector to veto upstream decays

### **Beam simulation and flux estimates**



# KLEVER Detector layout for $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 v v$

Vacuum tank layout and FV similar to NA62



# 90-m distance from FV to LKr significantly helps background rejection

- Most  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0$  decays with lost photons occur just upstream of the LKr
- "π<sup>0</sup>s" from mispaired γs are mainly reconstructed downstream of FV

Signal selection:  $2\gamma$  in the LKr + nothing!



# Suitability of NA62 LKr calorimeter



# Explore possibilities to improve time resolution with faster readout:

- Signal  $\pi^0$  candidates all have  $E\gamma\gamma > 20$  GeV:
  - $\sigma_t$  = 2.5 ns/ $\sqrt{E}$  (GeV)  $\rightarrow$  500 ps or better
- Needs improvements
- Simulating readout upgrades to estimate effect on time resolution: Shorter shaping time, faster FADCs

# Evaluate long-term reliability of LKr (2018 $\rightarrow$ 2030):

Identify support systems needing replacement or upgrade

Catalog of dead cells, prospects for repair



NA48 LKr Installation. 1996

### **Alternative: longitudinally-segmented Shashlik**



Based on PANDA forward EM calorimeter produced at Protvino

Fine-sampling shashlik: 0.275 mm Pb + 1.5 mm scintillator

 $\sigma_{E}/VE \simeq 3\%/VE (GeV)$  $\sigma_{t} \simeq 72 \text{ ps/VE (GeV)}$  $\sigma_{x} \simeq 13 \text{ mm/VE (GeV)}$ 



PANDA prototypes

Thicker spy scintillators tiles (5-20 mm) with independent WLS fiber readout to reconstruct the direction of incoming particle



example of shashlik module (500 layers) with 10 extra tiles.

#### Longitudinal shower information from spy tiles

- PID information: identification of μ, π, n interactions
- Shower depth information: improved time resolution for EM showers

# Vetoes for upstream *K*<sub>L</sub> decays



AFC: Active Final Collimator Rejects  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0$  from upstream of final collimator (80 m < z < 105 m, 25 m of vacuum)

#### Upstream veto (UV):

- 10 cm < r < 1 m:</p>
- Shashlyk calorimeter modules à la PANDA





#### **Active Final Collimator**

- 4.2 < r < 10 cm
- LYSO collar counter
- 80 cm long
- Internal collimating surfaces

Intercepts halo particles from scattering on defining collimator or  $\gamma$  absorber

Active detector  $\rightarrow$  better rejection for  $\pi^0$  from *n* interactions

Residual background from upstream  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0$ : 15 events/5 years

### Large-angle photon vetoes



**Baseline technology:** 

1 mm Lead + 5 mm scintillator tile detector

# 26 new large-angle photon veto stations (LAV)

- 5 sizes, sensitive radius 0.9 to 1.6 m, at intervals of 4 to 6 m
- Hermetic coverage out to 100 mrad for  $E_{\gamma}$  down to ~100 MeV
- Based on design of Vacuum Veto System detectors planned for the CKM experiment at Fermilab
- Assumed efficiency based on E949 and CKM VVS experience

The efficiency of the CKM VVS prototype was measured in 2007 (NA62 hypothesis) using the tagged electron beam of Frascati Beam-Test Facility

Efficiency at low energy from simulations performed by E949 and KOPIO, validated with E949 data (E949 photon vetoes had same basic structure as the CKM VVS)



### **Small-angle photon vetoes**



#### **Small-angle photon vetos** must reject high-energy $\gamma$ s escaping through the LKr Calorimeter bore

- **SAC**: angular coverage out to 0.4 mrad, completely occludes the beam. 0
- **IRC**: for  $\gamma$ s from downstream decays at slightly larger angles, it does not see the beam directly



#### SAC required inefficiency:

### **Small-angle photon vetoes**

**Baseline technology:** Tungsten/silicon-pad sampling calorimeter with crystal metal absorber

**SAC** must be largely insensitive to the neutral beam:

**3 GHz of neutrons and 700 MHz of photons** (only 21 MHz with E > 30 GeV, 97% < 30 GeV)

The design of this detector is one of the most challenging aspects of the experiment

#### **Design criteria:**

- Ratio  $\lambda_{int}/X_0$  as large as possible (largely transparent to the neutrons)
- Excellent time resolution:  $\sigma_t < 300$  ps.

To reduce accidental veto rate by coincidence with LKr.

- Moderate energy resolution: < 10%/VE (GeV) for  $\gamma$ s to allow threshold adjustment
- 2D transverse segmentation with a granularity sufficient to keep the single-channel rate below a few MHz
- longitudinal segmentation for  $\gamma$ /n discrimination by shower profile analysis
- Extremely good radiation tolerance

**IRC** same technology but with higher sampling fraction

# **Charged particle Veto**



Secondary charged particle clusters in LKr calorimeter can be reconstructed as fake  $\pi^0$ 

 $K_{e3}$  most dangerous mode:

- Large BR
- $e^{\pm}$  create electromagnetic shower easy to mistake for  $\gamma$  in LKr.

Acceptance  $\pi^0 v v / K_{e3} = 30$ 

Need 10<sup>-9</sup> suppression

#### **Baseline technology:**

- 2 thin plastic-scintillator arrays, 5 mm thick (2 X<sub>0</sub>) supported on carbon fiber membrane,
  - 3 m upstream the LKr calorimeter
- 1 thin plastic-scintillator arrays, 1 cm thick,
  - 3 m downstream the LKr calorimeter to help identify  $\,\pi$  and  $\mu$
- Cracks staggered between planes



# **Charged particle rejection**

 $K_L \rightarrow \pi^{\pm} e^{\mp} \nu$  can emulate the signal when both  $\pi^{\pm}$  and  $e^{\mp}$  deposits energy in the LKr



HAC/(HAC+LKr) < 0.05 eliminates 93% of  $\pi$  preserving 99% of  $\gamma$ 

#### **Geant4 simulation:**

- Fake π<sup>0</sup> vertex are reconstructed always downstream of the true K<sub>L</sub> decay point (π<sup>±</sup> deposits only a fraction of its energy).
- Decays in FV all occur at least 50 m upstream of the LKr: all within the acceptance of the CPV



Transverse cluster spread between 1.10 cm and 1.35 cm selects 95% of  $\gamma$  and eliminates 95% of  $\pi$ 

# $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0$ rejection

 $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0$  simulated with fast MC (5 yr equivalent statistics)

Accept events with 2 γs in LKr and no hits in UV/AFC, LAV, IRC/SAC
 Distinguish between even/odd pairs and events with fused clusters





### $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 v v$ acceptance



### $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 v v$ sensitivity summary

| Channel   | Simulated statistics    | Events<br>found | Expected<br>in 5 yrs* |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 v v$   | 100k yr                 | 1.94M           | 97                    |
| $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0$   | 5 yr                    | 111             | 111                   |
| $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$<br>All bkg evts from cluster fusion<br>Upstream decays not yet included | 1 yr                    | 3               | 15                    |
| $K_L \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$<br>$p_\perp$ cut very effective   | З yr                    | 0               | 0                     |
| $K_L \rightarrow$ charged   | thought to be reducible |                 |                       |

\*Must subtract 35% for  $K_L$  losses in dump  $\gamma$  converter

~ 60 SM  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \nu$  in 5 years with  $S/B \sim 1$ 

#### Background study incomplete!

- $\pi^0$  from interactions of halo neutrons on residual gas, detector materials
- Radiative K<sub>L</sub> decays, K<sub>s</sub>/hyperon decays

### Background from $\Lambda \rightarrow n\pi^0$

 $\Lambda \rightarrow n\pi^0$  (BR = 35.8%) can mimic signal decay

- A and K produced in similar numbers:  $O(10^{15})$  A in beam in 5 years
- Small but significant fraction of Λ decay in fiducial volume
  - $c\tau_{\Lambda} = 7.89$  cm, but  $\Lambda$  is forward produced: hard momentum spectrum
- $p_{\perp}$  cut of the analysis selection is partially effective:  $p^*(\Lambda \rightarrow n\pi^0) = 105 \text{ MeV}$



Move from  $\theta = 2.4 \rightarrow 8$  mrad production angle looks promising: decrease  $\Lambda$  flux in beam and soften  $\Lambda$  momentum spectrum

# Neutral beamline layout (8.0 mrad)

#### Changing production angle $\theta = 2.4 \rightarrow 8.0$ mrad:

- 3x decrease in K<sub>L</sub> decays in fiducial volume Advantages to moving to larger angle:
- Neutron flux decreased by factor ~7
- Much less demanding rates on SAC

Possible to use thinner absorber in beam?



N(r) N(k)



#### $\pi^0 v v / \pi^0 \pi^0$ ratio at 8 mrad





 $\theta$  (rad)

#### Next steps:

- Finish optimization studies
- Better quantify  $\Lambda$  rejection from  $p \perp$  cut
- New 8.0 mrad beamline design with increased solid angle

Ξ

max

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### Photon Conversion with crystals

The coherent interaction of high-energy photons with a crystal lattice can enhance the probability of pair production: same photon efficiency with **less thickness** 



#### Rel. pair production in Tungsten (W):

2 potential uses in KLEVER for a converter with large effective  $\lambda_{int}/X_0$ :

#### Beam photon converter in dump collimator

• Effective at converting beam  $\gamma$  while relatively transparent to  $K_L$ 

#### Absorber material for small-angle calorimeter (SAC)

 Must be insensitive as possible to ~GHz of beam neutrons while efficiently vetoing high-energy photons from K<sub>L</sub> decays

### Beam test of $\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ in crystals

A test with high-energy tagged photon beam is foreseen in collaboration with the member of the AXIAL experiment (group with experience with coherent phenomena in crystals)

At the CERN SpS tagged photon beam of energy up to ~150 GeV can be produced: **H4 beamline** 

1 week of beam requested in 2018

#### Test measurements:

- γ → e+e− enhancement with a commercially available tungsten crystal
- Pair-conversion probability as a function of angle of incidence for different energies (spanning 5 < E<sub>γ</sub> < 150 GeV)</li>
- Spectrum of transmitted γ energy for a thick (~10 mm) crystal



July 2017 AXIAL data taking at H4 (CERN)

## Setup for test beam

Tagged photon beam setup for test beam is an evolution of the AXIAL setup (nearly all detectors and DAQ system available for use from AXIAL)



**Test goal**: direct study about the utility of using crystals converter to reduce the photon flux in the neutral beam and to be transparent to neutrons in the small angle calorimeter. Measurements would allow to introduce into Geant4 detailed simulation of coherent effects in crystal

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### Additional ideas to pursue

#### Preliminary idea investigation

Add a tracking system for charged particle?



Possible expansion of physics program (K<sub>L</sub>  $\rightarrow \pi^0 \ell^+ \ell^-$ , LFV, etc.)

Final-state reconstruction for LKr efficiency estimation & systematic control

Potential complications for  $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \nu \nu$ 

- Simulate impact of material budget on photon veto efficiency
- Evaluate impact of magnet on photon veto coverage



Non-destructive muon tracking downstream of LKr?

#### Add a preshower detector in front of LKr?



Place  $\gamma$  converter in front of tracking planes, measure impact angle



Same complications as for adding tracking

### **Status and timeline**

Project timeline – target dates:

#### 2017-2018 Project consolidation and proposal

- Beam test of crystal pair enhancement
- Consolidate the design
- 2019-2021 Detector R&D
- **2021-2025** Detector construction
  - Possible neutral beam test if compatible with NA62
- 2024-2026 Installation during LS3
- 2026- Data taking beginning Run 4

Vast majority of institutes participating in NA62 have expressed interest in KLEVER. We are actively seeking new collaborators.

KLEVER is being discussed in the CERN Physics Beyond Colliders working groups and an expression of interest will be prepared for the CERN SPSC to be submitted as input to the European Strategy for Particle Physics

### Conclusion



Flavor will play an important role in identifying new physics, even if NP is found at the LHC

- $K \rightarrow \pi v v$  is a uniquely sensitive indirect probe for high mass scales
- $\, \bullet \,$  Need precision measurements of both  $K^{\scriptscriptstyle +}$  and  $K_L$  decays

Preliminary design studies indicate that an experiment to measure BR( $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 vv$ ) can be performed at the SPS in Run 4 (2026-2029)

- Many issues still to be addressed!
- Expected sensitivity: ~ 60 SM events with S/B ~ 1
- Comparable in precision to KOTO Step 2, with complementary technique (high vs. low energy) and different systematics
- $K_L \to \pi^0 \nu \nu$  is a difficult measurement
  - 2 efforts are justified to ensure precision measurement of the BR!

