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Search for direct CP violation in the charged kaon decays (NA48/2)

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on behalf of the **NA48/2** collaboration

Cambridge, CERN, Chicago, Dubna, Edinburgh, Ferrara, Firenze, Mainz, Northwestern, Perugia,
Pisa, Saclay, Siegen, Torino, Vienna

Outline

- Direct CP violation in charged Kaons
- The NA48/2 experimental setup
- Extraction of CPV asymmetries method
- CPV asymmetries in the charged $K^{\pm} \rightarrow \pi^{\pm} \pi^+ \pi^+$ and neutral $K^{\pm} \rightarrow \pi^{\pm} \pi^0 \pi^0$ modes
- Conclusions

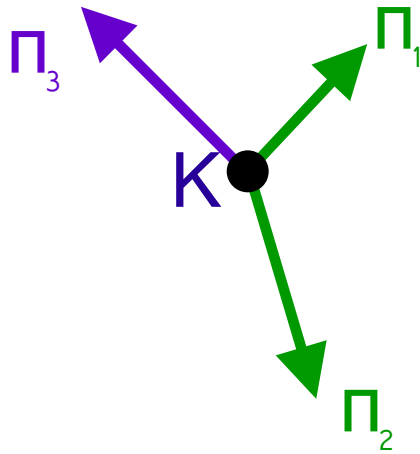
Direct CP violation in $K^\pm \rightarrow 3\pi$ decays

"charged"

$$\text{BR}(K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^+ \pi^-) = 5.57\%$$

"neutral"

$$\text{BR}(K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^0 \pi^0) = 1.73\%$$



$$K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^+ \pi^- \quad g = -0.2154 \pm 0.0035$$

$$K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^0 \pi^0 \quad g = 0.652 \pm 0.031$$

$$|h|, |k| \sim 10^{-2} \ll |g|$$

Linear slope g dominates over quadratic terms h, k

Kinematics:

$$s_i = (P_K - P_{\pi_i})^2 \quad i=1, 2, 3 \quad (3=\text{odd } \pi)$$

$$s_0 = (s_1 + s_2 + s_3)/3$$

$$u = (s_3 - s_0)/m_\pi^2$$

$$v = (s_2 - s_1)/m_\pi^2$$

Matrix element:

$$|M(u, v)|^2 \sim 1 + gu + hu^2 + kv^2$$

Direct CP violation in $K^\pm \rightarrow 3\pi$ decays

$$A(K \rightarrow 3\pi) = a + b \times u$$

$\Delta I = 3/2$ in the 2nd amplitude
 Two $\Delta I = \frac{1}{2}$ amplitudes with different weak and strong phases \rightarrow interference effects on

g_+ = K^+ decays

g_- = K^- decays

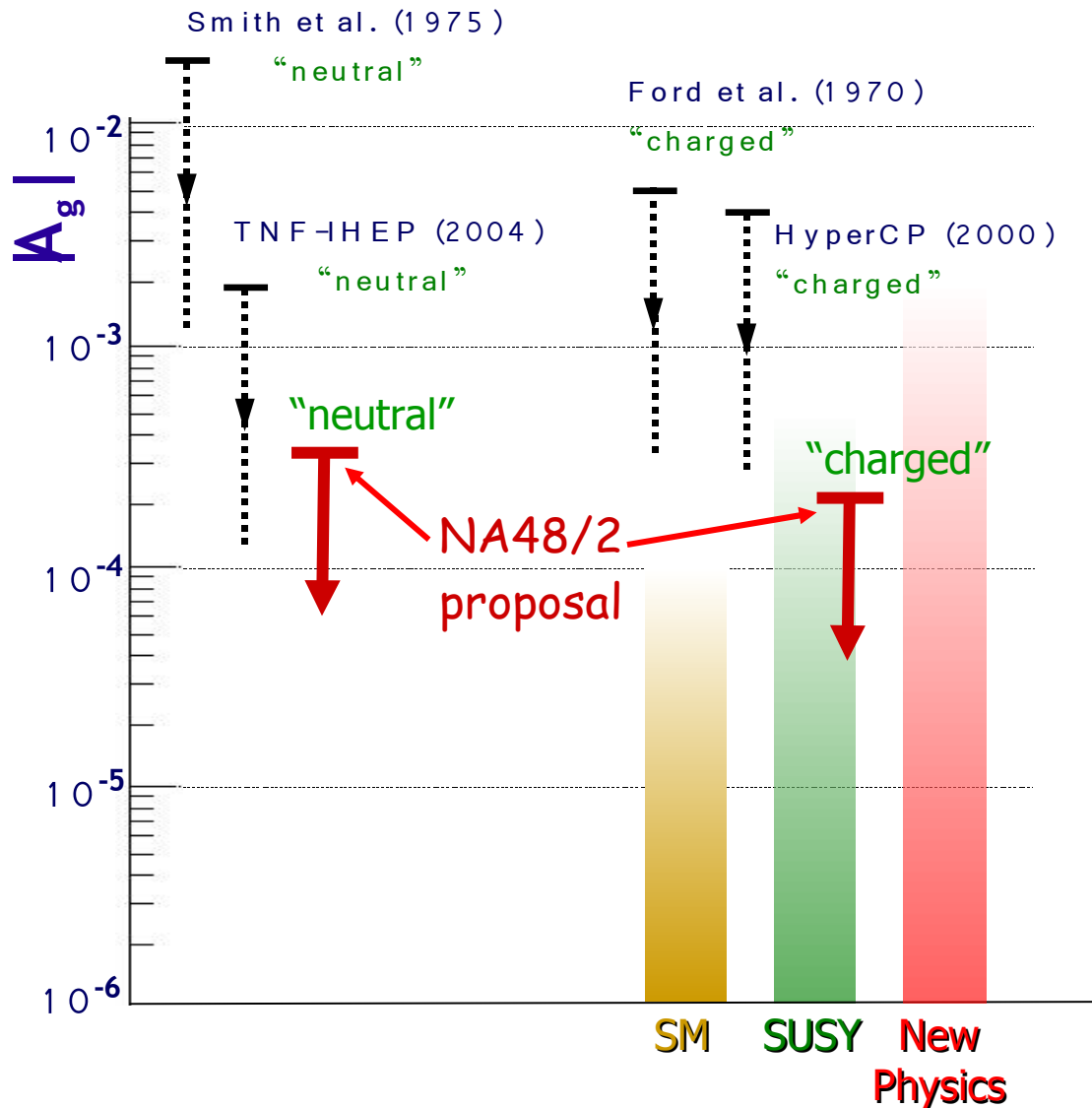
$$|A(K \rightarrow 3\pi)|^2 \propto 1 + g \times u$$

$$A_g \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{(g_+ - g_-)}{(g_+ + g_-)} = \frac{\delta g}{2g} \quad \text{slope asymmetry } A_g \neq 0$$

\rightarrow direct CP violation

Channels with high statistics, simple selection
and low background level

A_g status before NA48/2



THEORY:

SM contribution: many theoretical computations from several groups
Large uncertainties.

Predictions in range few 10^{-6} ... 5×10^{-5}

Some enhancements possible **beyond SM**, partially in the reach of NA48/2

NA48 data taking history

Study of direct CP violation in neutral Kaons (ϵ'/ϵ), charged Kaons (A_g) and GIM suppressed very rare Kaon decays (future)

Year	Exp	Beam	Physics goal
1997	NA48	K_L+K_S	ϵ/ϵ
1998	NA48	K_L+K_S	ϵ/ϵ , Rare KI decays
1999	NA48	K_L+K_S	ϵ/ϵ , Rare KI decays
		K_L	$Ke3/K\mu3$
		HI K_S	Ks/hyperon decays
2000	NA48	K_L	ϵ/ϵ checks, neutral KI decays
	NA48	η	ϵ/ϵ checks
	NA48/1	HI K_S	Neutral Ks decays, η_{000}
2001	NA48	K_L+K_S	ϵ/ϵ
2002	NA48/1	HI K_S	Neutral Ks decays, η_{000}
2003	NA48/2	K^+/K^-	Direct CPV in $K^\pm \rightarrow (3\pi)^\pm$
2004	NA48/2	K^+/K^-	Rare K^\pm decays
FUTURE	> 2008 very rare Kaon decays		

see also B.Bloch
& C. Morales talks
@PASCOS06

NA48/2 experiment (@CERN SPS)

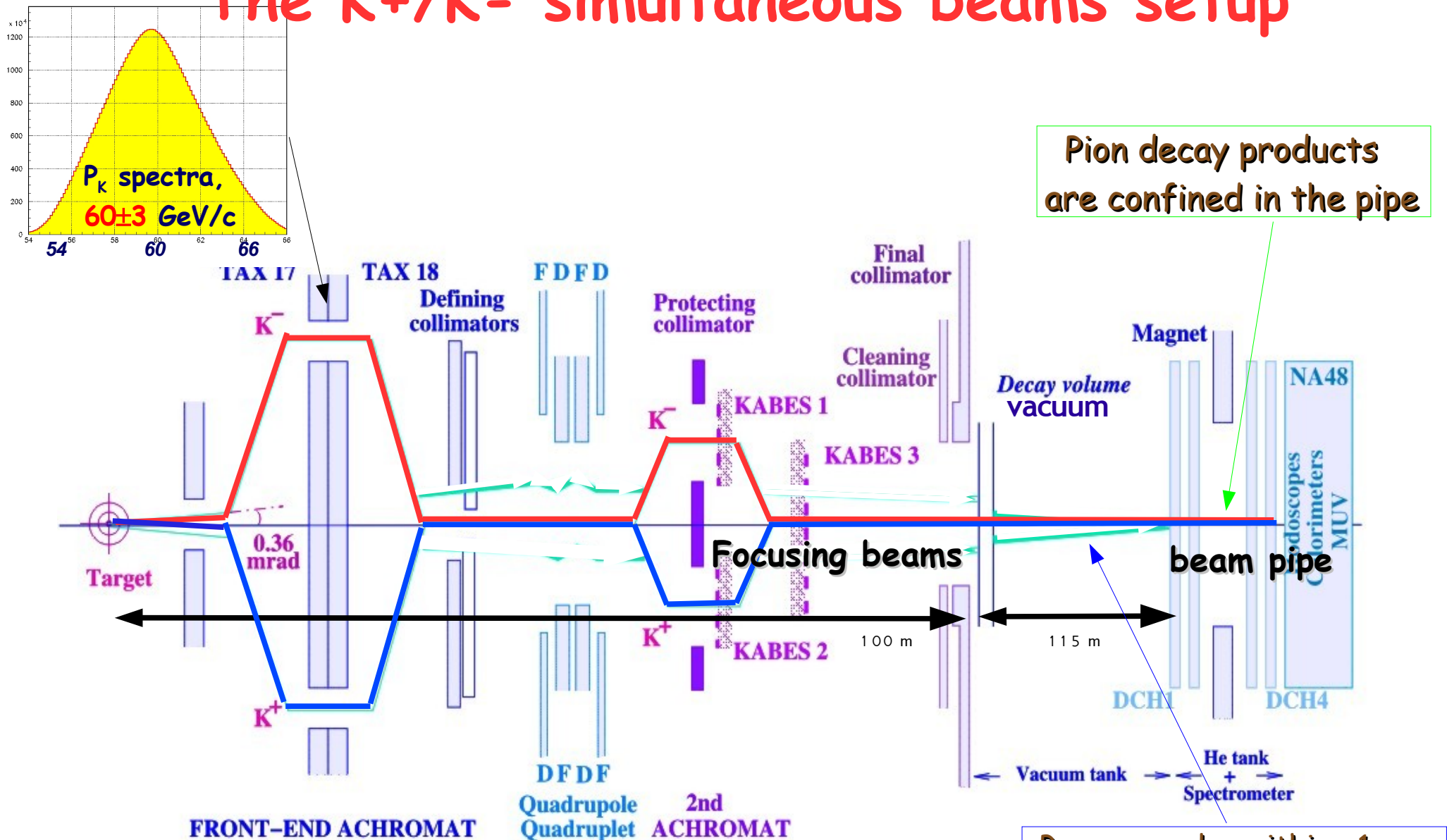
Primary NA48/2 goal

- Measure slope asymmetry A_g in "charged" and "neutral" modes with high accuracy (few 10^{-4})

Experimental strategy

- Use two **simultaneous** K^+ and K^- beams, **superimposed** in space, with momentum spectra $(60 \pm 3) \text{ GeV}/c$
- Detect **asymmetry** exclusively via **slopes** of ratios of normalized "u" distributions
- **Equalize K^+ and K^- acceptances** by frequently alternating polarities of beam line and spectrometer magnets

The K⁺/K⁻ simultaneous beams setup

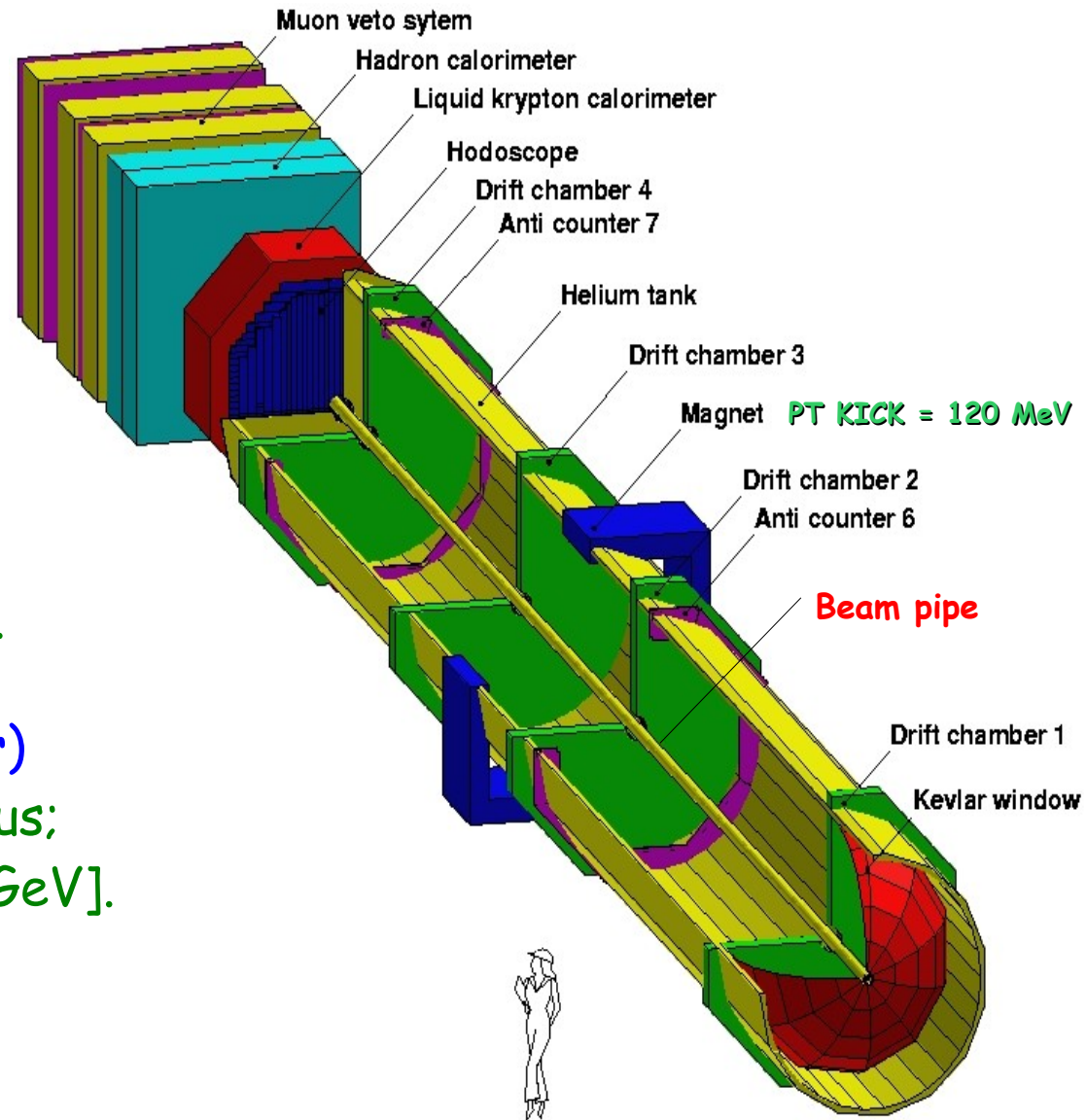


- Split +/-
- Select momentum
- Recombine +/-
- Focusing
- Muon sweeping
- Cleaning
- Beam spectrometer

The detector

Main detector components:

- Magnetic spectrometer (4 DCHs):
4 views/DCH → high efficiency;
 $\Delta p/p = 1.0\% + 0.044\% \cdot p$ [GeV/c]
- Hodoscope
fast trigger;
precise time measurement (150ps).
- Liquid Krypton EM calorimeter (LKr)
High granularity, quasi-homogeneous;
 $\Delta E/E = 3.2\%/\sqrt{E} + 9\%/E + 0.42\%$ [GeV].
- Hadron calorimeter, muon veto counters, photon vetoes



Strategy: extraction of A_g

- Record K into 3-pion Dalitz plot as a function of (u,v).
- Project K^+ and K^- Dalitz plots onto u-axis: obtain $N^+(u)$, $N^-(u)$
- If acceptance of K^+ and K^- is equal, Δg evaluated from a fit to the ratio $R(u)$:

$$g^+ = -0.2154 \pm 0.0035$$

$$g^- = 0.652 \pm 0.031$$

$$R(u) = \frac{N^+(u)}{N^-(u)} = n \frac{1 + g^+ \cdot u + h \cdot u^2 + \dots}{1 + g^- \cdot u + h \cdot u^2 + \dots} \approx n \left[1 + \frac{\Delta g \cdot u}{1 + g^- \cdot u + h \cdot u^2} \right]$$

- From the slope difference Δg , extract the asymmetry $A_g = \Delta g / 2g$

☀ BUT! there are experimental asymmetries which do not cancel in the simple ratio $R(u)$

To cancel the charge-asymmetry in detector illumination and beam optics

Beam line (achromat) polarity (A) reversed on weekly basis

Spectrometer magnet polarity (B) reversed on few hours basis

Strategy: L/R asymmetry cancellation

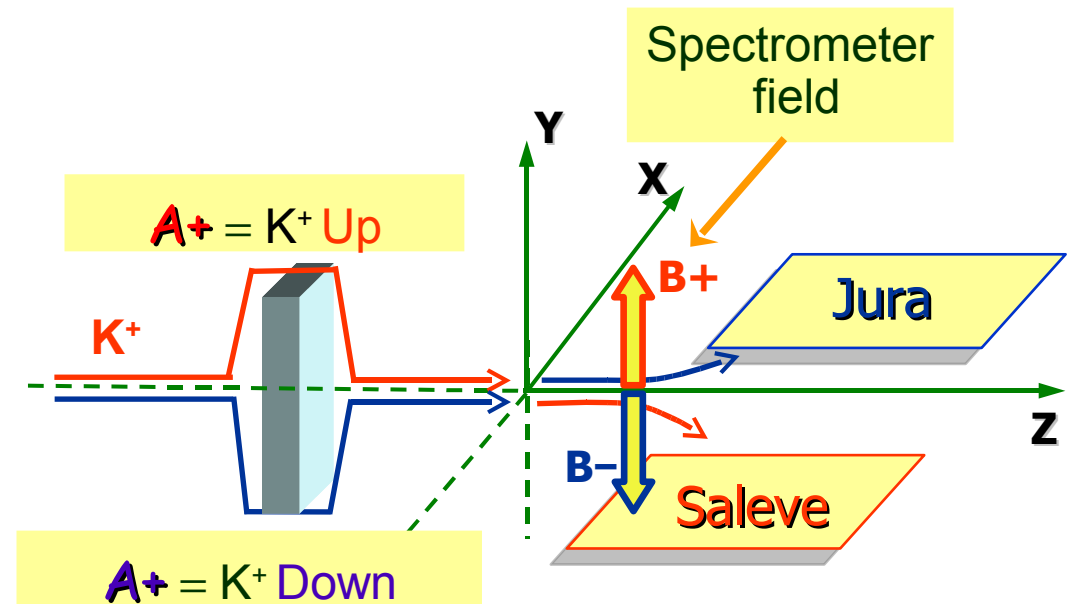
Detector left-right asymmetry cancels
in 4 single ratios of K^+ over K^- $N(u)$ distributions:

$$R_{US} = \frac{N(A+B+K+)}{N(A+B-K-)}$$

$$R_{UJ} = \frac{N(A+B-K+)}{N(A+B+K-)}$$

$$R_{DS} = \frac{N(A-B+K+)}{N(A-B-K-)}$$

$$R_{DJ} = \frac{N(A-B-K+)}{N(A-B+K-)}$$



Indexes correspond to:

beamline polarity (U / D), left/right direction of kaon deviation in spectrometer (S / J)

K samples in numerator and denominator **illuminate the same parts of the detector**

Strategy: additional cancellations

Use a quadruple ratio to cancel also global time instabilities and beam-line biases:

$$R_4 = R_{US} \times R_{UJ} \times R_{DS} \times R_{DJ} \quad \Rightarrow \quad R_4(u) = n (1 + 4 \Delta g u)$$

Normalization Slope difference

The measurement is sensitive only to **time variations** of small **asymmetry in experimental conditions** with a **characteristic time smaller** than the corresponding field-alternation period (beam - week, detector - hours).

Data samples

- Data taking: 2003 + 2004
- Effective days: ~50 + ~60
- Amount of data recorded: $\sim 16 \cdot 10^9$ triggers ~ 200 TB
- Sensitivity to rare K decays: BR's down to 10^{-9}

$3.1 \cdot 10^9 K^{\pm} \rightarrow \pi^{\pm} \pi^+ \pi^-$

- ONLY SPECTROMETER
 - Ghost track suppression
 - Select 3-track vertex with smallest χ^2
 - Track time consistency cuts
 - Decay vertex within the fiducial volume
 - Transverse momentum cut

$\sim 0.1 \cdot 10^9 K^{\pm} \rightarrow \pi^{\pm} \pi^0 \pi^0$

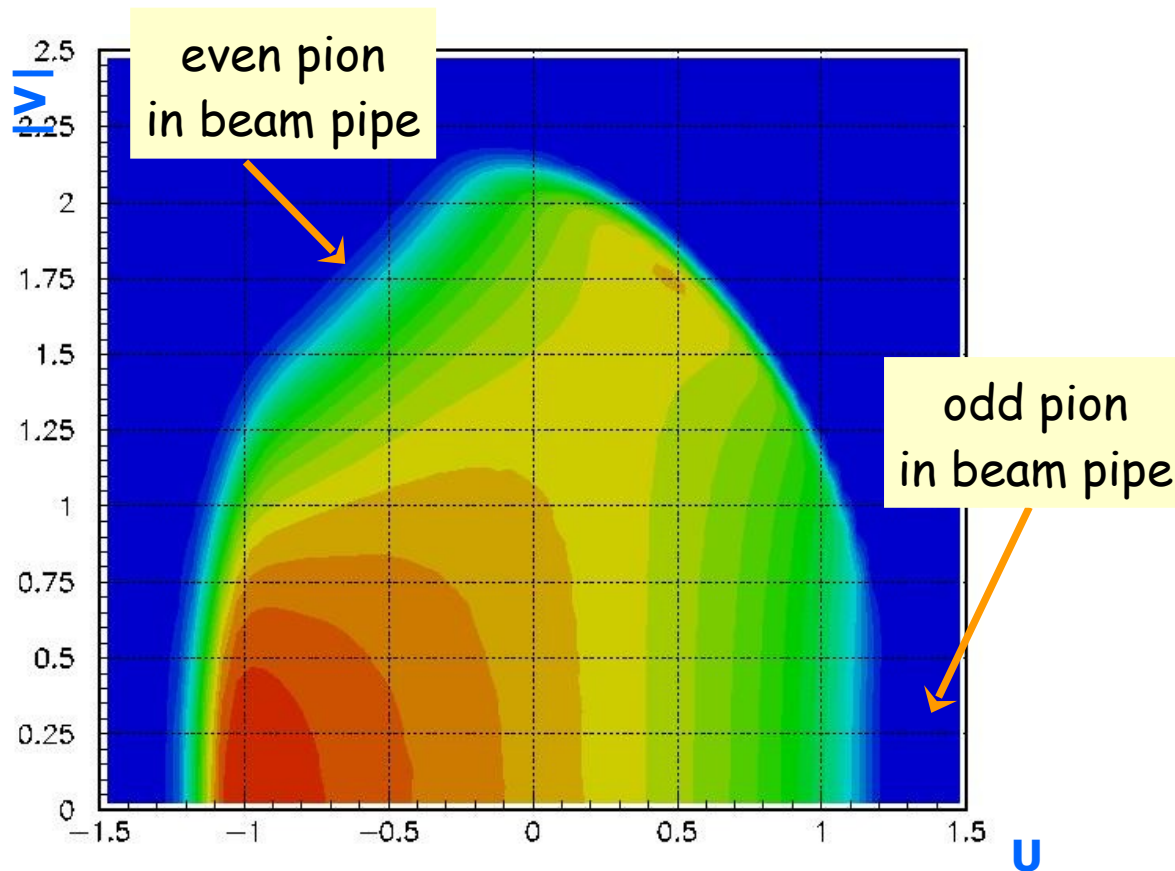
- ONLY LKR & SPECTROMETER
 - At least 4 photons with $E > 3$ GeV/c
 - At least 1 tracks with $p > 5$ GeV/c
 - Track-photons time consistency
 - Decay vertex and impact points within the fiducial volume
 - Fiducial distance γ - γ (10 cm) and γ -track (15 cm)

NO RELEVANT BACKGROUND

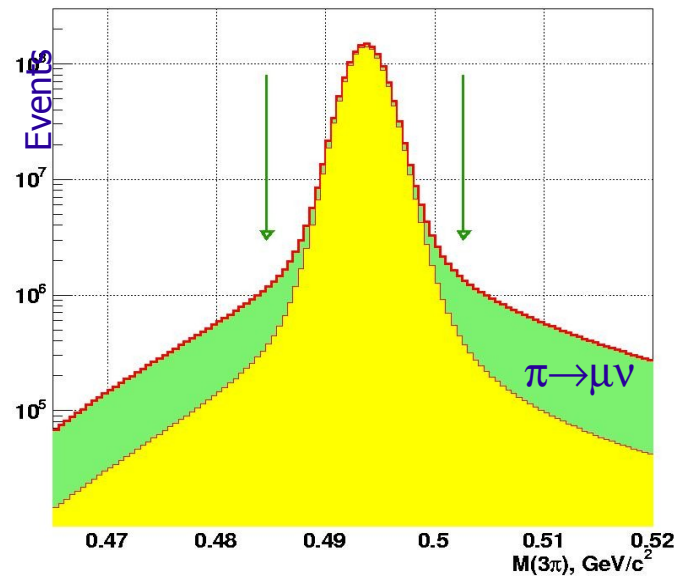
Dalitz plot of $K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^+ \pi^-$

Full statistics:

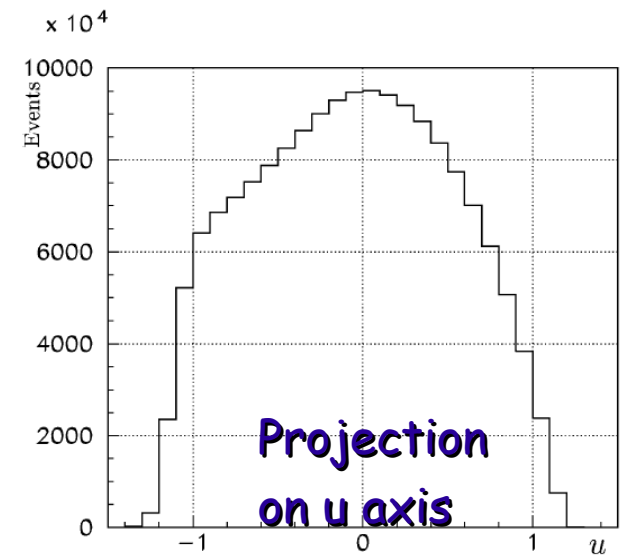
3.1×10^9 events selected
($K^+ / K^- \sim 1.8$)



$\sigma \sim 1.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$



$\pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+$ invariant mass (GeV/c^2)

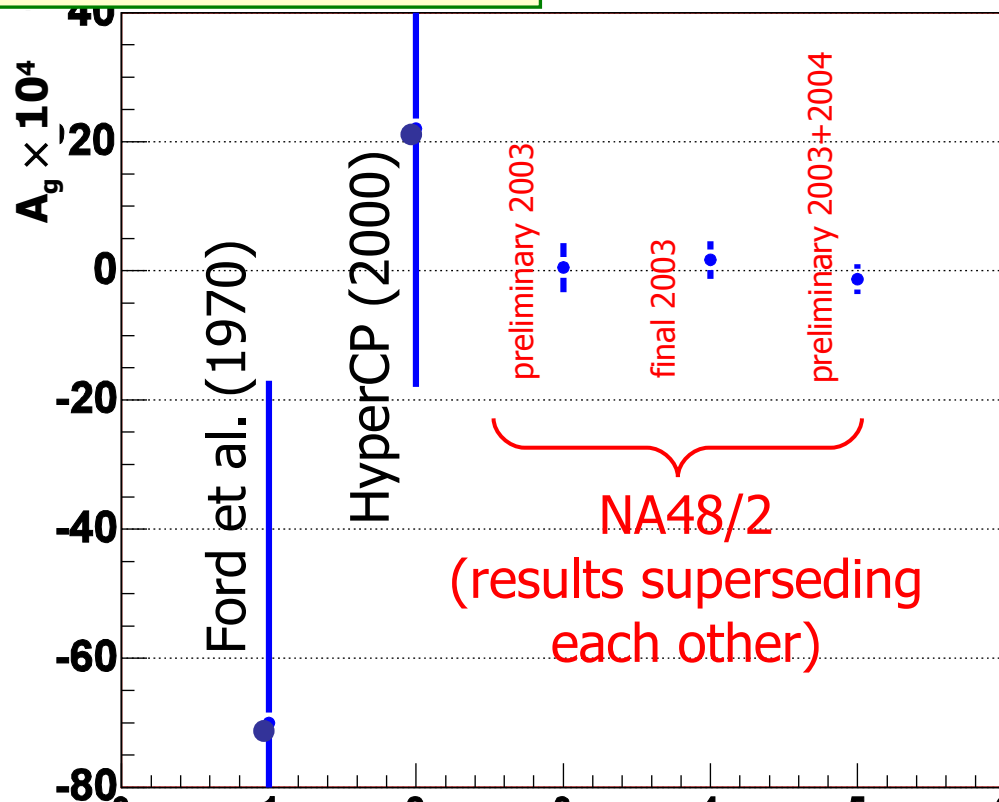


A_g^C measurement results

$$A_g^C = (-1.3 \pm 1.5_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.9_{\text{trig(stat)}} \pm 1.4_{\text{syst}}) \times 10^{-4}$$

$$A_g^C = (-1.3 \pm 2.3) \times 10^{-4}$$

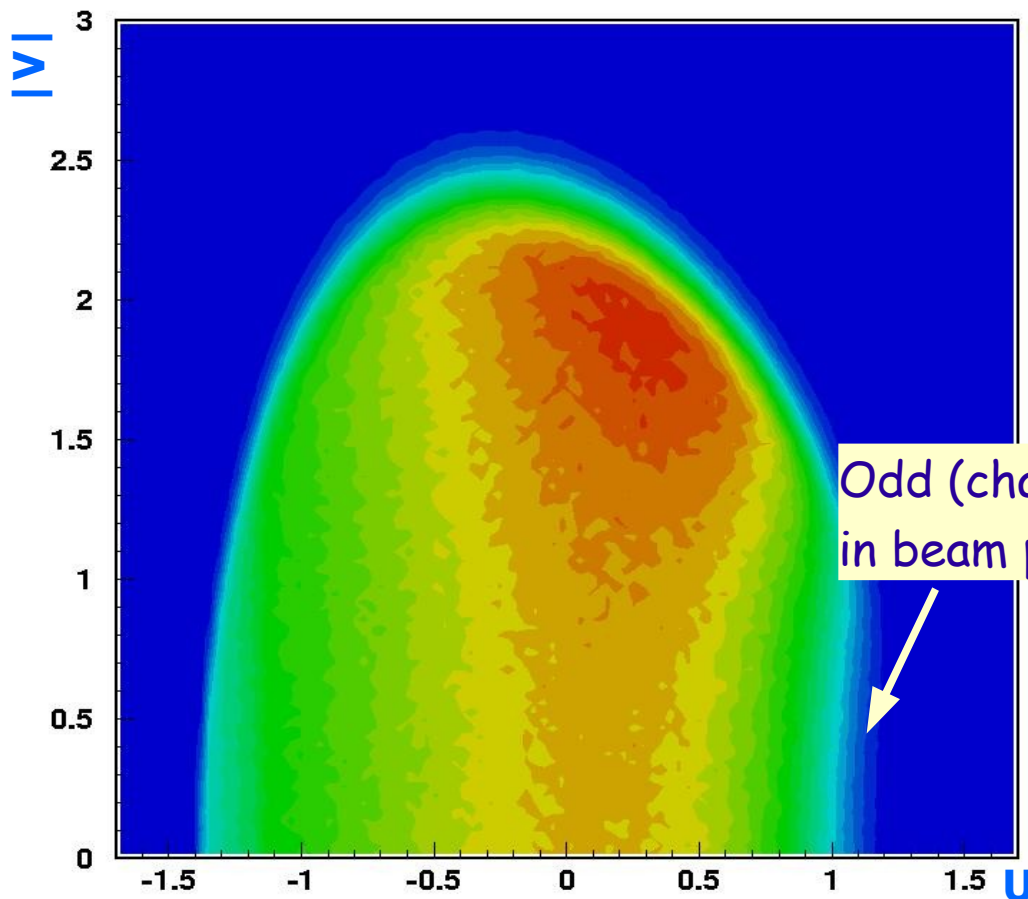
Measurements of A_g^C



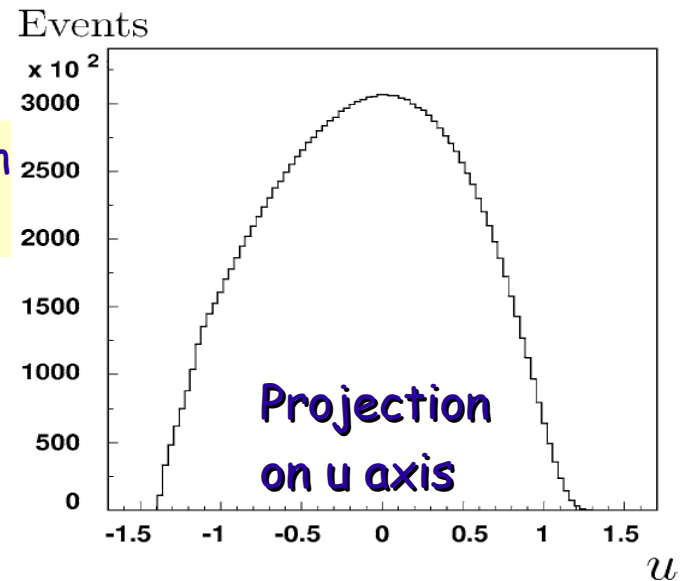
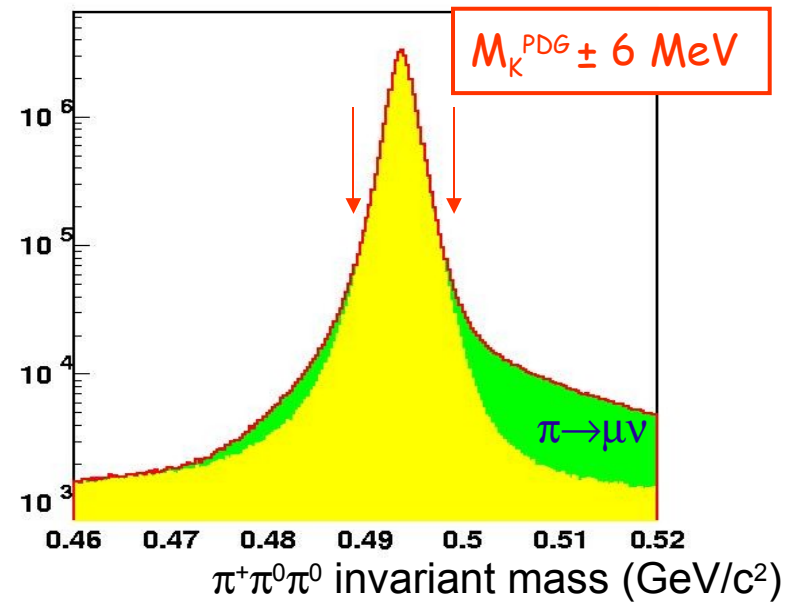
Published result 2003 data:
PLB 634 (2006) 474
2003+ 2004 preliminary

Dalitz plot of $K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^0 \pi^0$

Full statistics:
 91×10^6 events selected
($K^+ / K^- \sim 1.8$)



$\sigma \sim 0.9 \text{ MeV}/c^2$

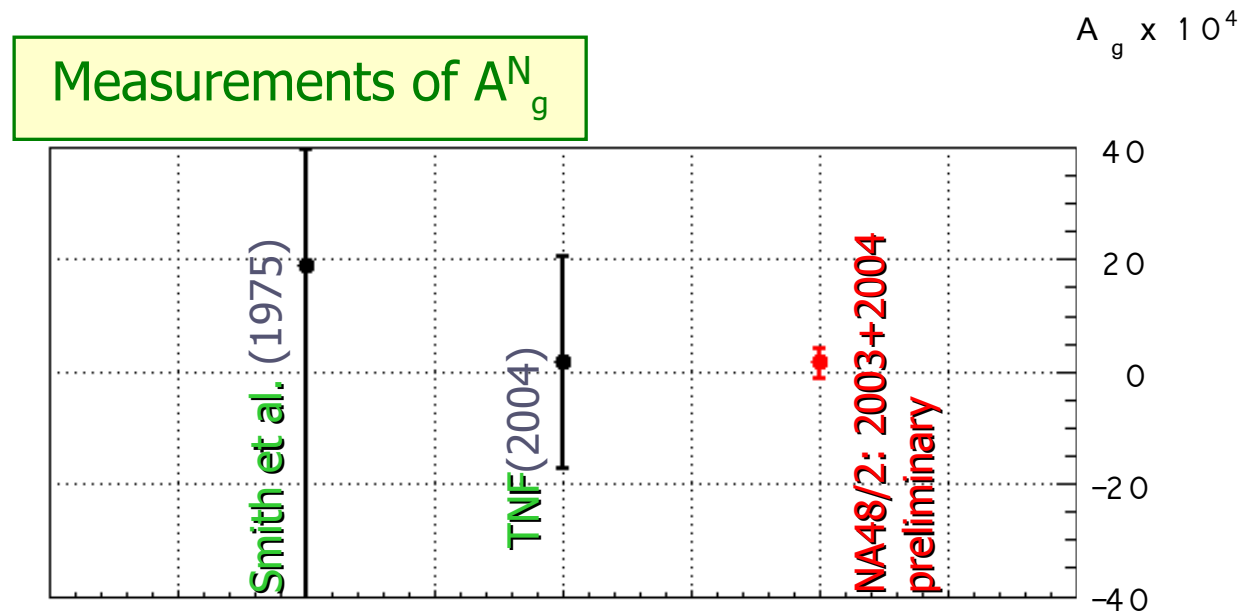


A_g^N measurement results

$$A_g^N = (2.1 \pm 1.6_{\text{stat}} \pm 1.0_{\text{syst}} \pm 0.2_{\text{ext}}) \times 10^{-4}$$

$$A_g^N = (2.1 \pm 1.9) \times 10^{-4}$$

Published result:
PLB 638 (2006) 22
2003+2004 preliminary



Conclusions

- $K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^+ \pi^-$ mode:

- Preliminary NA48/2 result on full statistics:

$$A_g^C = (-1.3 \pm 2.3) \cdot 10^{-4}$$

(for 2003 data PLB 634 (2006) 474)

- $K^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^0 \pi^0$ mode:

- Preliminary NA48/2 result on full statistics:

$$A_g^N = (+2.1 \pm 1.9) \cdot 10^{-4}$$

(for 2003 data PLB 638 (2006) 22)

- Errors are dominated by statistics.
- Results 10 times more accurate than past measurements
- No CPV $A^{C,N}_g$ found at few 10^{-4}
- Results are not in disagreement with SM predictions