

A strange program for the LHC

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Introduction

- LHCb experiment at LHC
 - Designed mostly for **b** and **c** decays
 → low trigger efficiency otherwise
 - But there is also an ~infinite **strangeness** production at LHC (kaon xs ~ 1.2 **barn**)
 - Infinite production times zero efficiency requires L'Hopital
 - In 2011 we managed to get world best result in $K_S \rightarrow \mu\mu$
 - Major improvements in the trigger for **s** decays done for Run-II (2016-2018), and ongoing for Upgrade (>=2021)















 ϵ (2011-2012) ~ 1-2% ϵ (Run-II) improved HLT ~ 18% (dimuons) Maximum allowed by L0 ~30%





 ϵ (2011-2012) ~ 1-2% ϵ (Run-II) improved HLT ~ 18% (dimuons) Maximum allowed by L0 ~30% ε(Upgrade) ~ 80-100%? Simulation studies show that rate would be under control

V. Chobanova et al, CERN-LHCb-PUB-2016-017

$K_S \rightarrow \mu \mu$: motivation



- SM prediction: BR($K_S \rightarrow \mu\mu$) = $(5.18 \pm 1.50_{LD} \pm 0.02_{SD})x10^{-12}$ JHEP05(2018) 024, JHEP 0401 (2004) 009, NPB 366 (1991) 189
- $K_S \rightarrow \mu\mu$ sensitive to different physics than $K_L \rightarrow \mu\mu$, NP can be bigger than SM by ~1 order of magnitude or even saturate current EXP limit



Example of a SUSY scenario from V.Chobanova et al., JHEP05(2018) 024

Leptoquark scenarios from Bobeth & Buras, JHEP02(2018)101



$K_S \rightarrow \mu \mu \text{ prospects}$



Run- I: BR< 8 (10)x10⁻¹⁰ @90(95)%CL

- Extrapolating from Run-I result
- Full Run-II analysis ongoing: expected to improve by a factor 4 to 10 Run-I's sensitivity
 - Better trigger
 - Better reco/selection
- Future: start to investigate tagged decays, which would allow to access NP in the K_S-K_L interference [D'Ambrosio&Kitahara PRL 119, 201802 (2017)]

Could well become the strongest limit on a BR by an LHC experiment



The HyperCP evidence

• The HyperCP collaboration found evidence for $\Sigma \rightarrow p\mu\mu$ decays, and provided a BR:

 $\mathcal{B}(\Sigma^+ \to p \mu^+ \mu^-) = (8.6^{+6.6}_{-5.4} \pm 5.5) \cdot 10^{-8}$ [Phys.Rev.Lett. 94 (2005) 021801]

- Consistent w/ SM: 1.6 < BR[x10⁻⁸] < 9 X G He et al, PRD 72 (2005) 074003
- This evidence had wide relevance since all 3 observed events had the same dimuon invariant mass (214 MeV)
- Suggested the existence of a new neutral particle at that mass







LHCb-PAPER-2017-049 arXiv:1712.08606 PRL 120, 221803 (2018)

- Current result Σ→pµµ : Found 4σ evidence BR(Σ→pµµ) :2.1^{+1.6}_{-1.2} x 10⁻⁸, no evidence of resonant dilepton state
- **Run-II**: We expect ~150 signal events \rightarrow measure AFB
- Upgrade(s): Full differential decay rate

 $\Sigma \rightarrow p \mu \mu$



10y ago we thought this channel was ~impossible and instead now we are even thinking on an amplitude analysis....

$K_S \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu \mu$ sensitivity study



arXiv:1808.03477 [hep-ex]



Phase-II-upgrade? →

| a_S | =1.2±0.2 from NA48 fixing b_S from VMD PLB599 (2004) 197-211,

Table 4: Projected statistical uncertainties on a_S under various conditions.

Much more bkg than $K_S \rightarrow \mu \mu$, but also 1000x more signal

Configuration	Phase I	Phase II
BR & q^2 fit	0.25	0.10
BR & q^2 fit with NA48 constraint	0.19	0.10
BR & q^2 fit fixing b_S	0.06	0.024
a_S measurement from BR alone	0.06	0.024
(fixing b _s)		



arXiv:1808.03477 [hep-ex]

$K_S \rightarrow \gamma \mu \mu$?

 $K_S \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu \mu$ analysis can also be extended to other neutrals, eg: $K_S \rightarrow \gamma \mu \mu$ But harder to separate from $K_S \rightarrow \pi \pi$ as the mass of the neutral gets lighter (unless a cut on the energy is used)





Semileptonic decays

arXiv:1808.03477 [hep-ex]

• Semileptonic Hyperon Decays (SHD)

Very interesting in view of LUV hints in semileptonic B decays

Many muonic modes have still very poor precision (20%, 100%)

• ③ High BR (10⁻⁴): Massive yields in LHCb acceptance

 $R_{B_{1}B_{2}}^{\rm NP} \simeq \frac{\left(\epsilon_{S}^{s\mu} \frac{f_{S}(0)}{f_{1}(0)} + 12 \epsilon_{T}^{s\mu} \frac{g_{1}(0)}{f_{1}(0)} \frac{f_{T}(0)}{f_{1}(0)}\right)}{(1 - \frac{3}{2}\delta) \left(1 + 3\frac{g_{1}(0)^{2}}{f_{1}(0)^{2}}\right)} \Pi(\Delta, m_{\mu})$



Gonzalez-Alonso & JMC, NA62 Phyics Handbook

https://indico.cern.ch/event/590880/contributions/2485320/

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- Strate Challenging peaking backgrounds:

For each $B1 \rightarrow B2 \mu v$ there is always a $B1 \rightarrow B2\pi$ (inc. $\rightarrow B2\mu v$)



Can be separated in search planes

Semileptonic decays



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Very interesting in view of LUV hints in semileptonic B decays

Many muonic modes have still very poor precision (20%, 100%)

- ③ High BR (10⁻⁴): Massive yields in LHCb acceptance
- Other Challenging peaking backgrounds:

For each $B1 \rightarrow B2 \mu v$ there is always a $B1 \rightarrow B2\pi$ (inc. $\rightarrow B2\mu v$)



Can be separated in search planes

Lepton Flavour Violation



arXiv:1808.02006 [hep-ex]

• Lepton Flavour Violation is a hot topic nowadays

LHCb can do:

 $K_S \to e \mu$

No limit exits so far $K_L \rightarrow e\mu < 4.7 \times 10^{-12}$ BNL, PRL **81** (1998) 5734–5737 $K_S \rightarrow e\mu$ is a LFV model discriminator

Lepton Flavour Violation



arXiv:1808.02006 [hep-ex]

• Lepton Flavour Violation is a hot topic nowadays



LHCb can do:

 $K_S \rightarrow e\mu$ $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+\mu^-e^+$

Lepton Flavour Violation



arXiv:1808.02006 [hep-ex]

• Lepton Flavour Violation is a hot topic nowadays



Charged kaons

• K^+ mass in $K \rightarrow 3\pi$

- Under study sensitivity to $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu \mu$ vs NA62
 - Benefits from the new dimuon triggers (the same way as $K_S \rightarrow \mu\mu$)







gain erc

B and L violation (very low priority)

CLAS collaboration (Jefferson Lab): Limits on **B** and **L** violation



arXiv:1507.03859 [hep-ex]

We can easily do many of CLAS' decays

...as well as others:

- Σ→ 3μ
- ∧→ п3µ

...and many other crazy (J conserving) combinations.

Currently very low priority, since we assume that BSM contributions can only be as much as BR ~10⁻⁵⁶









Conclusions

- **s** decays are awesome
 - High interest for BSM
 - Ultimate experimental precision ~ 10⁻¹¹ 10⁻¹²
- There is an LHCs community in the LHCb village
 - Trigger is constantly improving
 - We aim for LHCb upgrade to reach efficiencies **s** as high as for **b**'s
- Run-II (2016-2018) data analysis ongoing $\Sigma \rightarrow p\mu\mu$, $K_S \rightarrow \mu\mu$, $K_S \rightarrow (\gamma/\pi^0)\mu\mu$...

Backup

 $BR(B_s \to \mu^+ \mu^-) = 2.65^{+0.43}_{-0.39} \times 10^{-9}, \qquad BR(B_d \to \mu^+ \mu^-) = 1.09^{+0.74}_{-0.68} \times 10^{-10}.$



https://arxiv.org/pdf/1904.08399.pdf



Strangeness decays

- So far a kaons showed great success on indirect searches: *c*, *b*, *t*, CKM ...
- High theoretical interest, most notably to test departures from MFV paradigm (eg, flavor generic)



- Useful to understand "Hints" for BSM in b sector
 - Eg: deviations in b \rightarrow sµµ: are they replicated in s \rightarrow dµµ?
- Potentially immense samples : high(est) ultimate experimental precision

Y 🗲 interesting

 \rightarrow interesting



Efficiencies

			eff/eff(K_)	Mass resolution	
Channel	$Xs/Xs(K_S)$	$eff/eff(K_S)$	w/ Downstream tracks	$\sigma_L(\text{MeV}/c^2)$	$\sigma_D({ m MeV}/c^2)$
$K_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$	1	1.0(1.0)	1.8(1.8)	~ 3.0	~ 8.0
$K_s^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$	1	1.1(0.30)	1.9(0.91)	~ 2.5	~ 7.0
$K_s^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu^+ \mu^-$	1	0.93(0.93)	1.5(1.5)	~ 35	~ 45
$K_s^{\bar{0}} \rightarrow \gamma \mu^+ \mu^-$	1	0.85(0.85)	1.4(1.4)	~ 60	~ 60
$K_s^{\overline{0}} \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$	1	0.37(0.37)	1.1(1.1)	~ 1.0	~ 6.0
$K_{L}^{0} \rightarrow \mu^{+}\mu^{-}$	~ 1	$2.7(2.7) \times 10^{-3}$	0.014(0.014)	~ 3.0	~ 7.0
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	~ 2	$9.0 (0.75) \times 10^{-3}$	$41 (8.6) \times 10^{-3}$	~ 1.0	~ 4.0
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$	~ 2	$6.3(2.3) \times 10^{-3}$	0.030(0.014)	~ 1.5	~ 4.5
$\Sigma^+ \rightarrow p \mu^+ \mu^-$	~ 0.13	0.28(0.28)	0.64(0.64)	~ 1.0	~ 3.0
$\Lambda ightarrow p\pi^-$	~ 0.45	0.41 (0.075)	1.3(0.39)	~ 1.5	~ 5.0
$\Lambda ightarrow p \mu^- \bar{\nu_{\mu}}$	~ 0.45	0.32(0.31)	0.88(0.86)	_	_
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda \mu^- \bar{\nu_{\mu}}$	~ 0.04	$39(5.7) \times 10^{-3}$	0.27(0.09)	_	_
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Sigma^0 \mu^- \bar{\nu_{\mu}}$	~ 0.03	$24 (4.9) \times 10^{-3}$	0.21(0.068)	_	_
$\Xi^- \rightarrow p \pi^- \pi^-$	~ 0.03	0.41(0.05)	0.94(0.20)	~ 3.0	~ 9.0
$\Xi^0 \rightarrow p \pi^-$	~ 0.03	1.0(0.48)	2.0(1.3)	~ 5.0	~ 10
$\Omega^- \rightarrow \Lambda \pi^-$	~ 0.001	95 (6.7) $\times 10^{-3}$	0.32(0.10)	~ 7.0	~ 20

* More details in: arXiv:1808.03477 [hep-ex]

Sensitivity of (semi)leptonic kaon decays in a nutshell

● *K*_{ℓ3}



$$\Gamma_{K_{\ell 2}(\gamma)} = \frac{G_F^2 m_K m_{\ell}^2}{8\pi} (1 - \frac{m_{\ell}^2}{m_P^2})^2 |\tilde{V}_{us}^{\ell}|^2 f_{K^{\pm}}^2 (1 - 4\epsilon_R^s - \underbrace{\frac{2B_0}{m_{\ell}}\epsilon_P^{s\mu}}_{\chi \text{ enh.}})$$

- $|\tilde{V}_{us}^{\ell}|$ only accessible through CKM unitarity and LUV tests
- ϵ_R^s cannot be completely disentangled from $\epsilon_P^{s\ell}$
- $\epsilon_{S,T}^{s\ell}$ accessible through the spectra/angular distribution

Kaon decays alone cannot disentangle all NP possibilities

$K_S \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-ee$ sensitivity study





Based on simulation:

Expected a signal yield of

 $N = 120^{+280}_{-100}$

For the full Run-I dataset

Expected background yield is not well known yet

K0 tagging?



arXiv:1808.03477 [hep-ex]

$pp \to K^0 K^- X, \, pp \to K^{*+} X \to K^0 \pi^+ X \text{ and } pp \to K^0 \Lambda^0 X.$



Lifetime acceptance and $K_L \rightarrow \mu \mu$ background

 K_{I} and K_{S} are distinguishable only by the decaytime... ... and that is in theory. In practice, LHCb decaytime acceptance is not great for kaons

 $\epsilon(t) \sim e^{-\beta t}$ With $\beta \gtrsim 5 \text{x} \Gamma \text{s}$ (>> Γ_{I}).

This makes the two lifetime distributions to look similar

But the overall efficiency ratio is of course different

And makes $K_{I} \rightarrow \mu \mu$ to become a $\frac{\epsilon_{K_{\rm L}^0}}{\epsilon_{K_{\rm S}^0}} = \frac{\Gamma_L \int_{0.1\tau_S}^{1.45\tau_S} e^{-t(\Gamma_S + \beta)} dt}{\Gamma_S \int_{0.1\tau_S}^{1.45\tau_S} e^{-t(\Gamma_L + \beta)} dt} \approx 2.2 \times 10^{-3}$ negligible background for the current level of precision But can be relevant when we approach the 10⁻¹¹ level

 $\beta \sim 86 \, \mathrm{ns}^{-1}$



Normalization of event yield



Converting a signal yield into a branching ratio K_s^0 production crossection $N(K_s^0 \to \pi \mu \mu) = \overset{\checkmark}{\sigma} (K_s^0) BR(K_s^0 \to \pi \mu \mu) \overset{\checkmark}{\epsilon} L$

Absolute efficiency

Integrated luminosity

How? (normalization of event yield)





$$\frac{N(K_s^0 \to \pi \mu \mu)}{N(K_s^0 \to \pi \pi)} = \frac{\sigma(K_s^0)BR(K_s^0 \to \pi \mu \mu)\epsilon I}{\sigma(K_s^0)BR(K_s^0 \to \pi \pi)\epsilon' I}$$

Introduce in the ntuples a $K_s^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$ decays counter

Very well known (69.20±0.05)%

Dilepton mass distribution

Take formulae from hep-ph/9808289

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dz} = \frac{\alpha^2 M_K}{12\pi (4\pi)^4} \lambda^{3/2} (1, z, r_\pi^2) \sqrt{1 - 4\frac{r_\ell^2}{z}} \left(1 + 2\frac{r_\ell^2}{z}\right) |W(z)|^2 , \qquad (3)$$

 $z=m^2 \rightarrow d\Gamma/dm = 2m d\Gamma/dz$

 $W_i(z) = G_F M_K^2(a_i + b_i z) + W_i^{\pi\pi}(z) , \qquad (11)$

$$W_i^{\pi\pi}(z) = \frac{1}{r_{\pi}^2} \left[\alpha_i + \beta_i \frac{z - z_0}{r_{\pi}^2} \right] F(z) \ \chi(z) \ ,$$

Remind of Bmm sensitivity

B mesons

We check that we get right the expected increase of B meson yields (i.e, a factor \sim 2)



D mesons

For D mesons the increase is slightly smaller (~1.6-1.7)





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Strange particles

Increase for most of them is $\sim 40\%$

A bit less for baryons (note: baryons, not antibaryons)

However, the momentum is also different w.r.t 7 TeV.



In particular, for the K0s decaying in the VELO the increase is "only" $\sim 30\% \rightarrow$ This is the number we really care for Ks $\rightarrow \mu\mu$ studies



Leptons

Increase in tau yiled consistent with ~ 2, expected by the fact that most of them come from b's and c's

Check with more stats if the asymmetry +/- is still there



 \rightarrow the long-distance (LD) contributions:



 \rightarrow the short-distance (SD) contributions:





$K_S \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu \mu$ sensitivity study

The background discrimination



V. Chobanova et al, CERN-LHCb-PUB-2016-017



• As usual: BDT trained against combinatorial background

• Specific backgrounds: $K_S \rightarrow \pi\pi$, $K_L \rightarrow \pi\pi\pi$, $K_{S/L} \rightarrow \mu\mu\gamma\gamma$ (negligible)

Don't affect the sensitivity estimate

$K_S \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu \mu$ sensitivity study _{Fit, FULL}



V. Chobanova et al, CERN-LHCb-PUB-2016-017



$K_S \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu \mu$ sensitivity study _{Fit, PARTIAL}



V. Chobanova et al, CERN-LHCb-PUB-2016-017



Strangeness production/detection at LHCb

- The pp collisions @ LHC produce a 'kaon flux' of 10¹³ K_S per fb⁻¹ of luminosity in the LHCb acceptance
- Charged decay products can be reconstructed using Long Tracks or Downstream Tracks
- We use Long Tracks for RnS
- Downstream will be investigated (extra yield, but worse reconstruction quality)



European

Research

Council

erc



Ongoing stuff



K⁺ studies





Large samples of charged kaon decays are available

K⁺ mass is not very well known

 $K^+ \rightarrow \pi \mu \mu$?





- The $K_S \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu \mu$ PARTIAL analysis can be recasted for general/inclusive $K_S \rightarrow X^0 \mu \mu$. With X being whatever neutral system:
 - $K_S \rightarrow \gamma \mu \mu$. Can also be completed with photon reconstruction
 - $K_S \rightarrow (l+l-)\mu\mu$. Some of them are also being searched for explicitly
 - Some exotic, eg, 17 MeV neutral boson of Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 042501 (2016)

Limits can be provided as a function of X⁰ mass





$K_S \rightarrow \mu \mu$ full Run-I analysis



- Analysed full Run-I (2011-2012) data
- Events classified using a BDT trained against combinatorial background
- Dedicated muon identification algorithm trained against $K_S \rightarrow \Pi \Pi$
- Mass resolution 4 MeV



Background

 $K_L \rightarrow \mu \mu$ negligible: (down to 10⁻¹¹ precision)

 $K \rightarrow \pi \mu v$: negligible

 $\Lambda \rightarrow$ pn removed by a cut in the Armenteros-Podolanski plot.

- Combinatorial background
- $K_s \rightarrow \pi\pi$ double misid

$K_S \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-ee$ sensitivity study



C.Marin et al, CERN-LHCb-PUB-2016-016



Based on simulation:

Expected a signal yield of

 $N = 120^{+280}_{-100}$

For the full Run-I dataset

Expected background yield is not well known yet



Why? ($K_s \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu \mu$ and SM errors on $K_L \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu \mu$)

 $\mathcal{B}(K_L \to \pi^0 \mu^+ \mu^-)_{\rm SM} = \{1.4 \pm 0.3, 0.9 \pm 0.2\} \cdot 10^{-11}$

$$\mathcal{B}(K_L \to \pi^0 l^+ l^-) = \left(C_{\rm dir}^l \pm C_{\rm int}^l |a_S| + C_{\rm mix}^l |a_S|^2 + C_{\gamma\gamma}^l + C_S^l \right) \cdot 10^{-12}$$

$$|a_{S}| = 1.20 \pm 0.20$$

$$C_{dir}^{e} = (4.62 \pm 0.24) \left[(\operatorname{Im} Y_{A})^{2} + (\operatorname{Im} Y_{V})^{2} \right],$$

$$C_{int}^{e} = (11.3 \pm 0.3) \operatorname{Im} Y_{V},$$

$$C_{mix}^{e} = 14.5 \pm 0.5,$$

$$C_{\gamma\gamma}^{e} \approx C_{S}^{e} \approx 0,$$

$$C_{\gamma\gamma}^{\mu} \approx C_{S}^{e} \approx 0,$$

$$C_{int}^{\mu} = (1.09 \pm 0.05) \left[2.32 (\operatorname{Im} Y_{A})^{2} + (\operatorname{Im} Y_{V})^{2} \right]$$

$$K_{S}^{0} \rightarrow \pi^{0} \mu^{+} \mu^{-} \qquad \text{NA48} \qquad (2.9 + 1.5) \times 10^{-9}$$

$$C_{mix}^{\mu} = 3.36 \pm 0.20,$$

$$C_{\gamma\gamma}^{\mu} = 5.2 \pm 1.6,$$

$$C_{\gamma\gamma}^{\mu} = (0.04 \pm 0.01) \operatorname{Re} Y_{S} + 0.0041 (\operatorname{Re} Y_{S})^{2}.$$

$$I \qquad \text{Improved measurements of BR(K_{S} \rightarrow \pi^{0} \mu \mu) \qquad \text{will translate into improved BSM} \qquad \text{constraints from } K_{L} \rightarrow \pi^{0} \mu \mu \qquad 52$$