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# Sensitivity potential to a flavor-changing scalar boson with DUNE and NA64

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Muons in Minneapolis Workshop  
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# Outline

- Motivation
- Benchmark model: Charge Lepton Flavor violating scalar boson model
- Sensitivity potential at muon beam-dump experiments
  - NA64 $\mu$
  - DUNE
- DIS  $e/\mu \rightarrow \tau$  conversion as possible BSM signal at NA64
- Conclusions

# Motivation

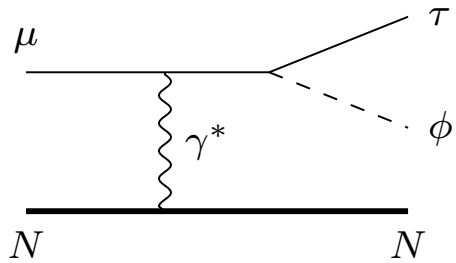
- Dark Sector physics could manifest in interactions with leptons:
  - Existing discrepancy between muon  $g-2$  theory and experiment.
  - Lepton flavor is conserved with massless neutrinos.
  - Non-zero neutrino masses: neutrino oscillations motivate search for Lepton Flavor violations.
  - Charged Lepton flavor violation is heavily suppressed in the SM  $\rightarrow$  sensitive test of new physics.
  - A lepton-flavor-violating interaction could be mediated by a Dark Sector particle, feebly coupling to SM.

# Motivation

- Many experiments use e/muon beams to search for CLFV:
  - Muon-e-Gamma (MEG II, PSI):  $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \gamma$
  - Mu3e experiment (PSI):  $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+e^+e^-$
  - Mu2e experiment (Fermilab):  $\mu N \rightarrow eN$
  - COMET experiment (JPARC):  $\mu N \rightarrow eN$
  - Belle (II)  $e^+e^-$  collider: tau decays to  $\ell$  leptons,  $\ell=e,\mu$
  - **NA64e**, **NA64 $\mu$** :  $e/\mu$ -beam + target: missing energy/momentum technique
  - **DUNE**, HyperK: Proton dump experiments producing an intense muon beam as a “side product” + Near Detector suite
  - Others: M<sup>3</sup>, SHADOWS, HIKE, ATLAS, SHIP,...

# CLFV model

- Recent model put forward: Y. Ema, Z. Liu, K-F Lyu and M. Pospelov *JHEP* 135 (2023).
- Flavor-changing scalar boson with accidental longevity



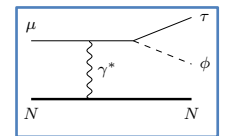
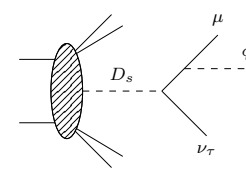
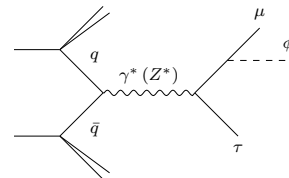
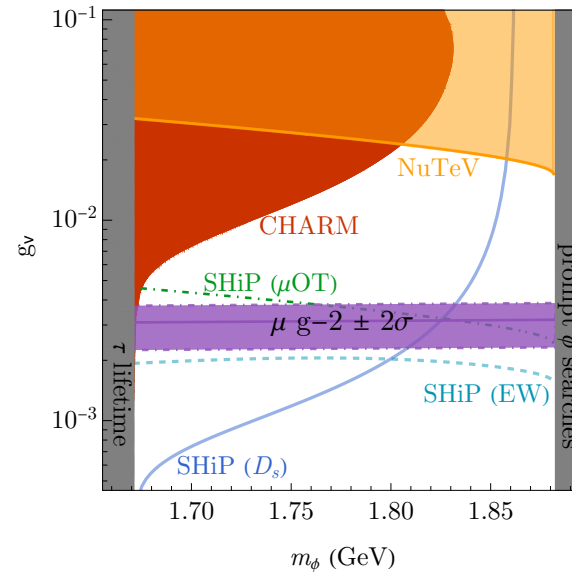
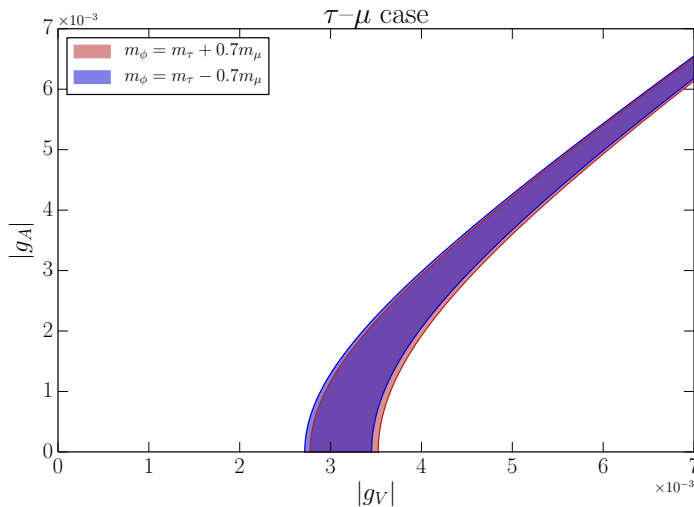
$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{I}} = \phi \bar{\mu} (g_V + g_A \gamma^5) l + \phi^* \bar{l} (g_V^* - g_A^* \gamma^5) \mu$$

- $m_\phi < \ell_2 - \ell_1$  : leads to prompt decay of  $l_2$  (lepton lifetime)
  - $m_\phi > \ell_2 + \ell_1$  : prompt decay of  $\phi$  (prompt decay searches)
  - $|\ell_2 - \ell_1| < m_\phi < \ell_2 + \ell_1$  : two-body decay not allowed, long lifetime
- ➔ Macroscopic propagation distance between production and decay

# CLFV model target parameter

Y. Ema, Z. Liu, K-F Lyu and M. Pospelov *JHEP* 135 (2023).

- Benchmark parameter target region to explain the muon  $g-2$  anomaly
- Existing/projected limits from  $\mu$ -on-target, direct EW production, heavy-meson decay



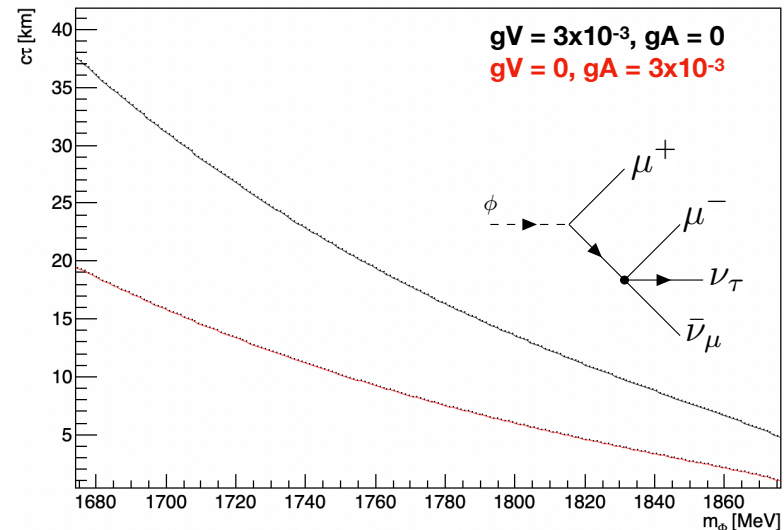
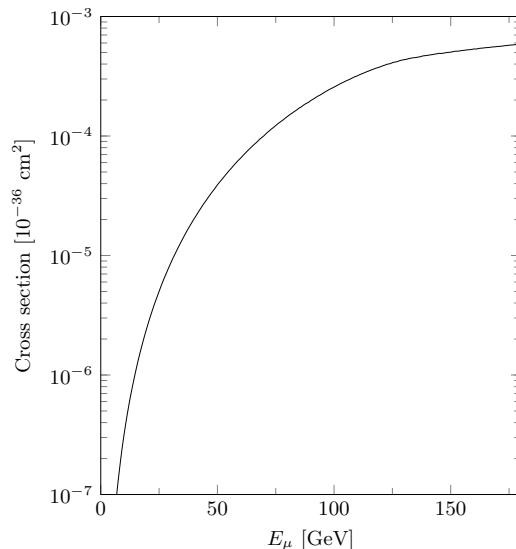
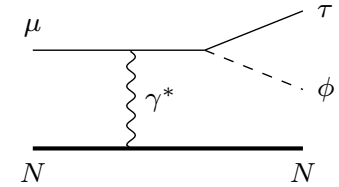
# CLFV model and $\mu$ on target

- Production cross section and lifetime:

$$s > \left( \sum_x m_x \right)^2$$

$$m_\mu^2 + m_N^2 + 2E_\mu m_N > (m_\tau + m_N + m_\phi)^2$$

**if**  $m_\phi \simeq m_\tau$   $E_\mu > \frac{(2m_\tau + m_N)^2 - m_\mu^2 - m_N^2}{2m_N} \simeq 3.8\text{GeV}$



# CLFV as a benchmark for $\mu$ -on-target experiments

- $\mu$ -on-target experiments are promising to detect new signals:
  - precisely measure incoming muon energies/distributions
  - measure outgoing particles and/or search for excess above Bg after dump
- Experimental scenarios:
  - **NA64 $\mu$** : High-intensity, 160 GeV/c muon beam at CERN SPS (Pb/W target)
  - **DUNE**: High-intensity, wide-energy muon beam produced as by-product from neutrino beam production (Steel target)

Signal yield at detector:

$$N_\phi = \int dE_\phi \Phi_\phi(E_\phi) \times \frac{l_{\text{det}}}{\gamma\beta c\tau_\phi}$$

Signal flux at production:

$$\Phi_\phi(E_\phi) = l_{\text{target}} n_A \int dE \Phi_\mu(E) \times \int_0^{\theta_{\text{det}}} d\theta_\phi \sin\theta_\phi \frac{d^2\sigma(E, E_\phi)}{dE_\phi d\cos\theta_\phi}$$

D. V. Kirpichnov et al. Phys. Rev. D 104 (2021)  
<https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.104.076012>

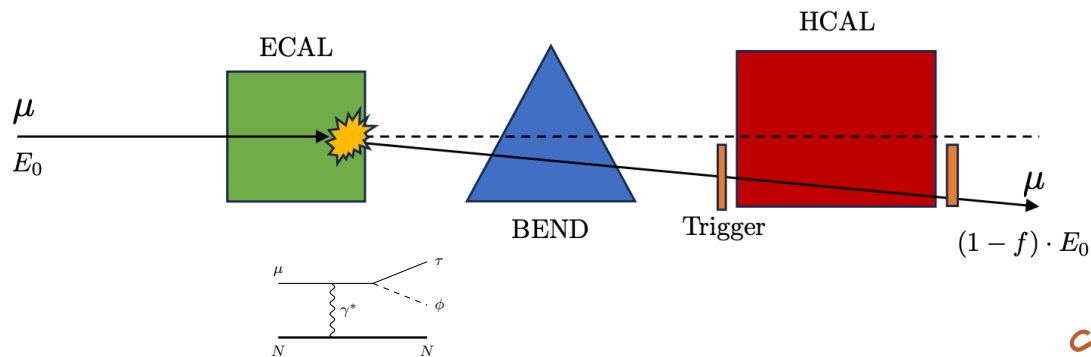


# General approach

- General approach to probe hidden sectors with muon beams on target
- Milicharged particle search: [S. Gninenko et al. PRD 100 \(2019\) 035003](#)
- Deep-inelastic  $e$ - $\tau$ ,  $\mu$ - $\tau$  conversion: [S. Gninenko et al. PRD 98 \(2018\) 015007](#)
- Vector portal interaction with light dark matter: [S. Gninenko et al. Phys. Lett. B 796 \(2019\) 117](#)
- Leptonic scalar as portal interaction: [S. Gninenko et al. PRD 106 \(2022\) 015003](#)
- Spin-0 mediators: [H. Sieber et al. hep-ph:arXiv:2305.09015](#)
- CLFV scalar: [BR et al. EPJ C \(2023\) 83:775](#)

# NA64 $\mu$ experiment

- NA64 $\mu$  is a fixed-target experiment at CERN looking for DM portal interactions.
- The experiment uses the 160-GeV/c muon beam from CERN SPS.
- Beam scintillators, veto counters, low material-budget trackers, dipole magnets constrain the incoming beam momentum.
- Missing energy/momentum carried away by a New Particle leaves a scattered muon.
- Invisible-mode: muon final-state phase-space from the decaying  $\tau$  used as a proxy

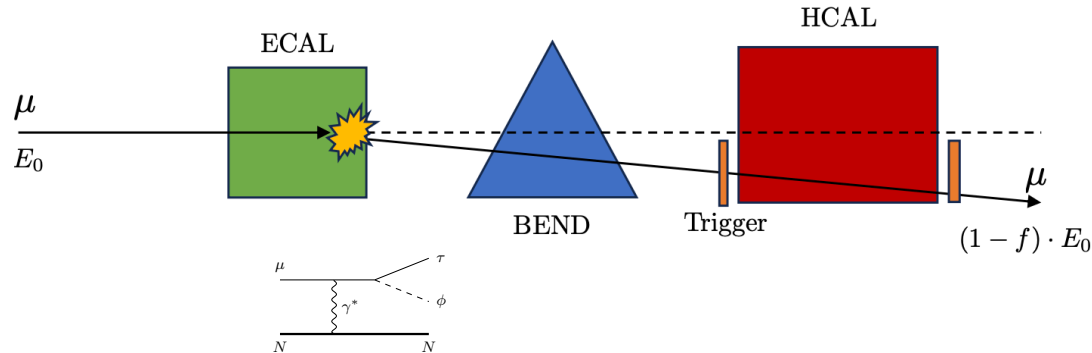


See more details on NA64  
in Paolo Crivelli's talk

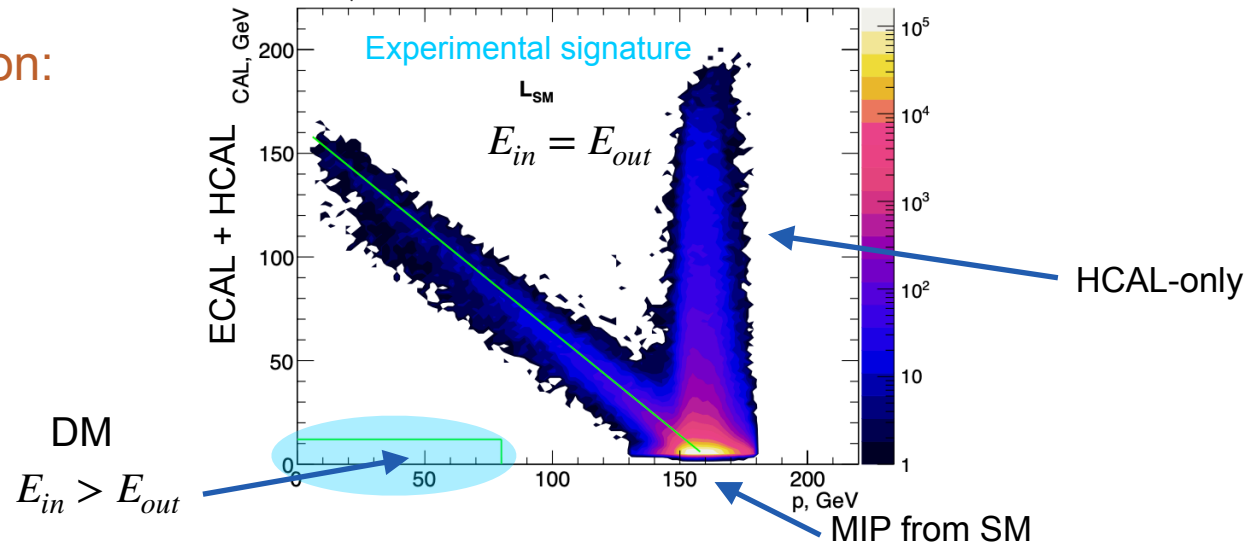
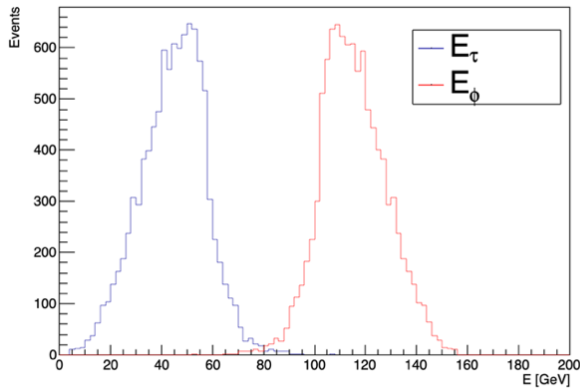
# NA64 $\mu$ experiment

*Initial state*  
Well-defined incoming  
 $\mu$  with  $\sim 160$  GeV/c

*Final state*  
Single scattered  $\mu$  with muon  
compatible energy deposit in the  
detector and momentum  $\lesssim 80$  GeV/c

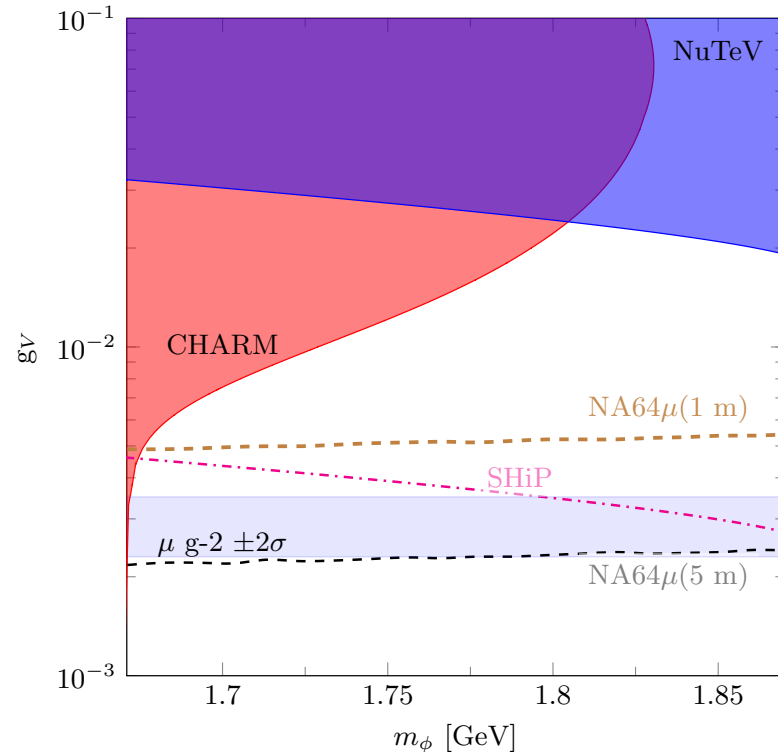


Sampling the diff. cross section:



# NA64 $\mu$ experiment

- Sensitivity study using an ideal scenario:
  - Assuming  $\sim 3 \times 10^{13}$  MOT
  - Assuming a future optimized of target length/material (Pb/W)
  - No reconstruction, trigger effects
  - Both leptonic and hadronic decay modes allowed



BR, L. Molina-Bueno, L. Fields, H. Sieber, P. Crivelli EPJ C (2023) 83:775  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cpc.2021.108129>

# NA64 $\mu$ experiment

- Challenges:
  - Assumed total collected data:  $\sim 3 \times 10^{13}$  MOT
  - Muon beam intensity for NA64: CERN M2 can deliver  $10^{12}$  POT per spill, 3500 spills/day,  $2 \times 10^8$   $\mu$ /spill (note: SHiP p beam intensity is expected to be higher)
    - Assuming  $10^{11}$  MOT/day, 80% duty cycle,  $3 \times 10^{13}$  MOT is reachable in  $\sim 43$  days...
    - Current NA64 $\mu$  capable to operate at  $10^7$   $\mu$ /spill
    - Planned updates during LS3 (2026-2028) to trigger, electronics, detectors to reach  $\sim 6 \times 10^7$
    - Beam induced background increases with higher intensity (pile-up, muon beam halo)
  - Trigger on downstream muon from  $\tau$  leptonic decay: 17% decay BR
  - Other  $\tau$  hadronic final states travel long due to  $c\tau$  before decaying
  - Target several meters of heavy Z nuclear target... (W ECAL to be tested in 2024)

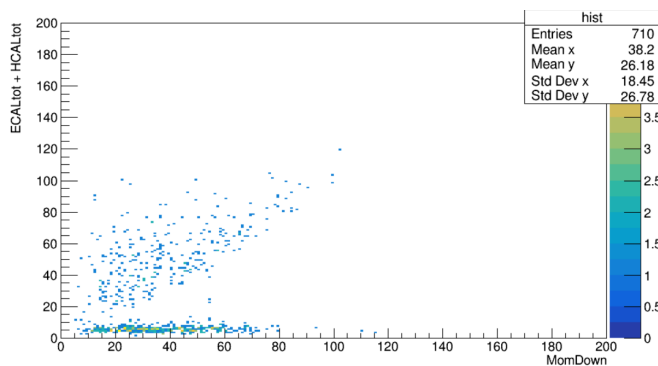
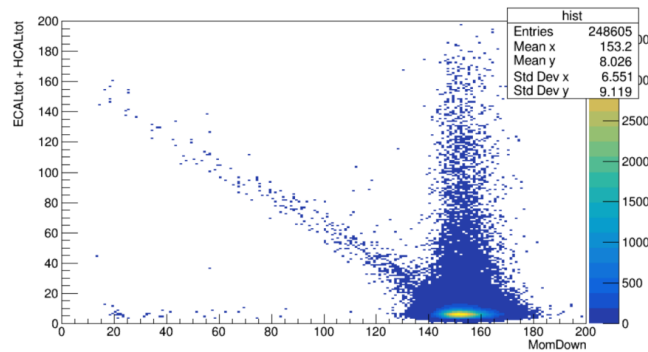
BR, L. Molina-Bueno, L. Fields, H. Sieber, P. Crivelli EPJ C (2023) 83:775  
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# NA64 $\mu$ experiment

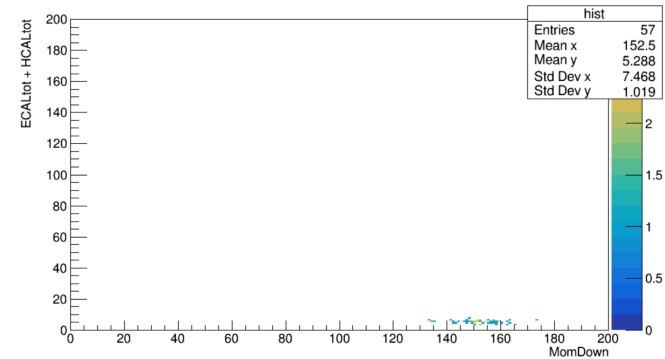
ETH group:  
Claudine Felten  
Benjamin B. Oberhauser  
Henri Sieber

- Ongoing work: full Geant4 simulation using the DMG4\* package

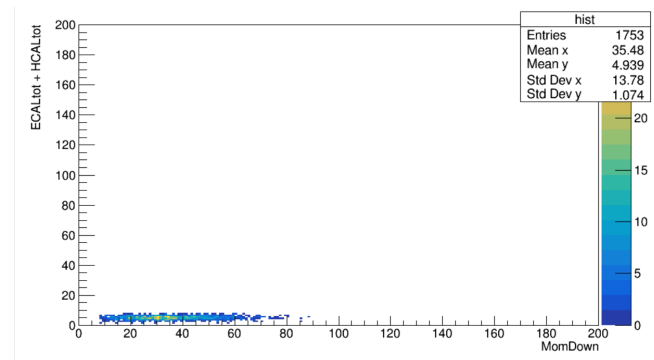
Beam quality cuts, high downstream muon fit quality, and low Veto calorimeter activity



Require trigger and also MIP compatible events (different MOT)



SM



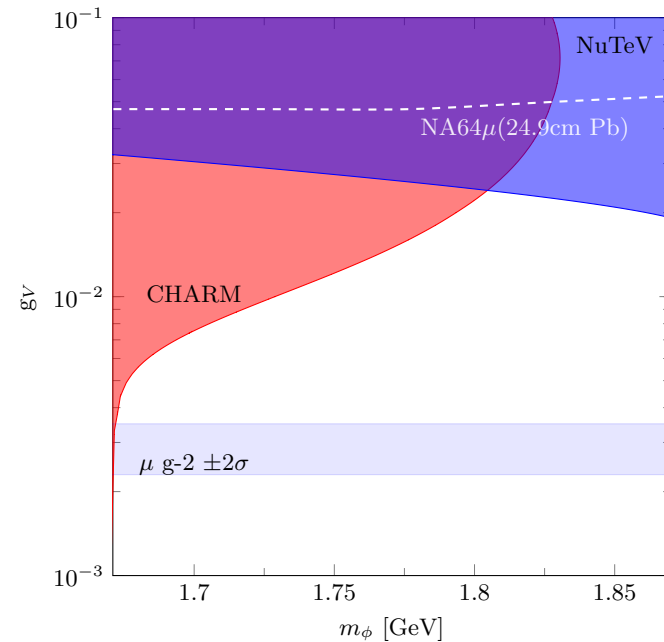
CLFV  
scalar  
signal

\*M. Bondi et al. *Comp. Phys. Comm.* 269 (2021).  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cpc.2021.108129>

# NA64 $\mu$ experiment

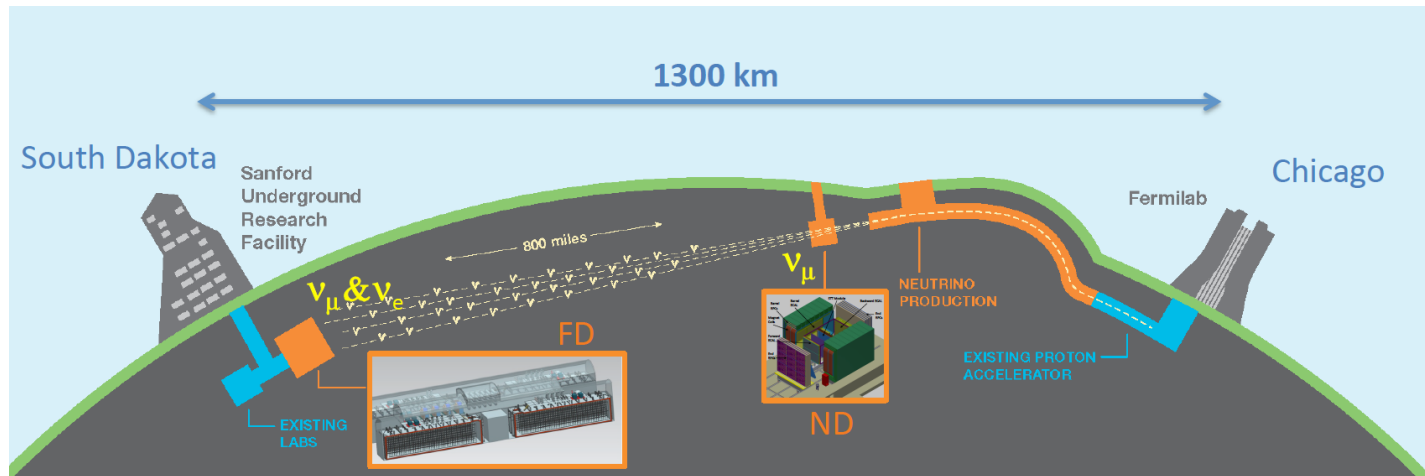
ETH group:  
Claudine Felten  
Benjamin B. Oberhauser  
Henri Sieber

- Sensitivity using current NA64 $\mu$  setup:
  - Assuming  $\sim 3 \times 10^{13}$  MOT
  - Full Geant4 simulation
  - Including det acceptance, tracking reconstruction, quality cuts
  - Current eff. 24.9 cm Pb ECAL target
  - $\sim 17\%$  leptonic decay mode
  - (Signal cuts still being optimized)



# DUNE experiment

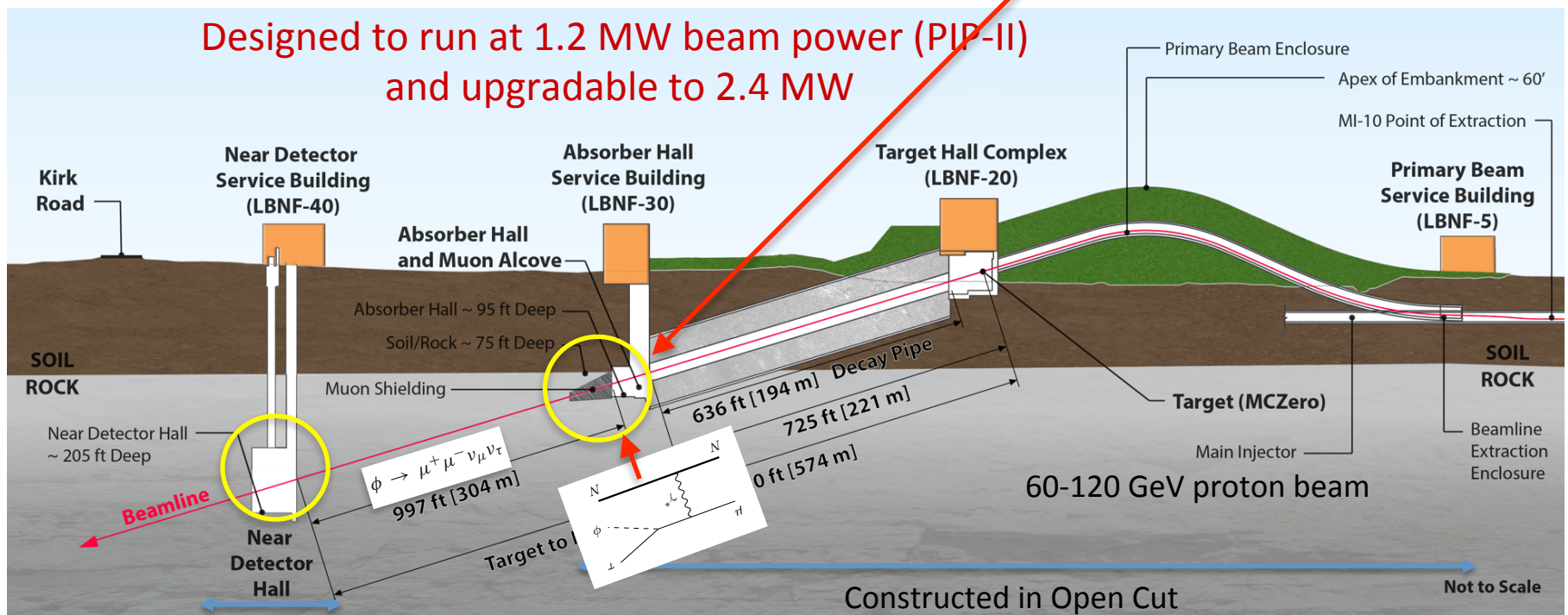
- LBNF (Long-Baseline Neutrino Facility) and DUNE (Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment):
  - Neutrinos from high-power proton beam: 1.2 MW, upgradable to 2.4 MW
  - Near Detector to characterize the neutrino beam
  - Far Detector: 40 kton Liquid Argon underground detectors





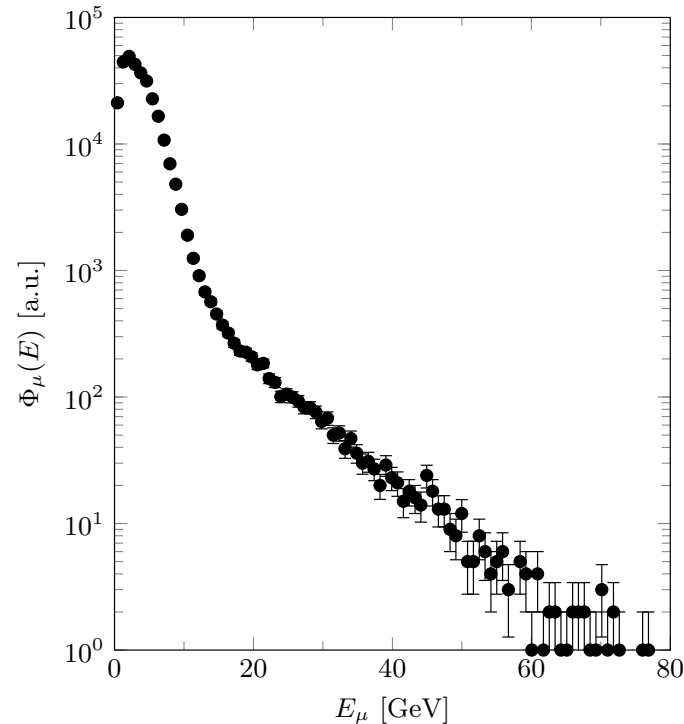
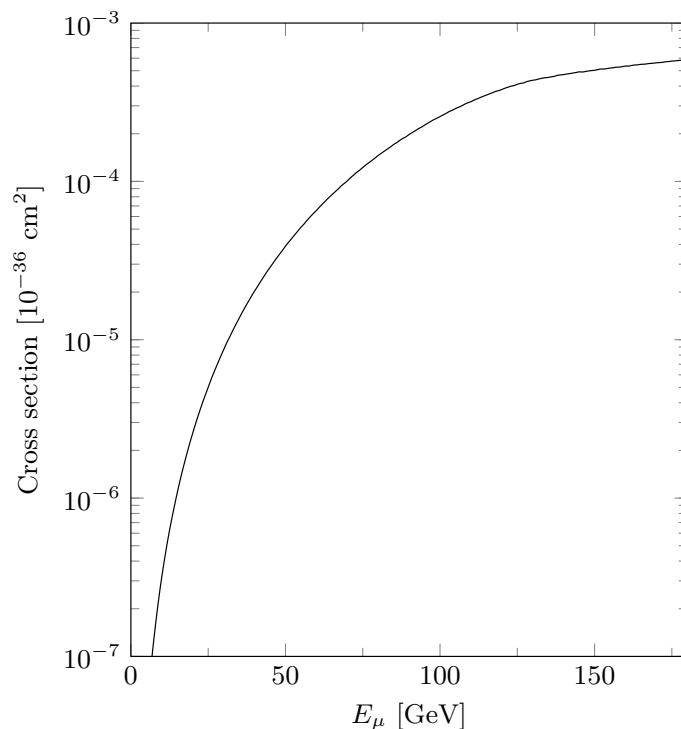
# DUNE experiment

- Neutrino beam: 60-120 GeV p-beam hitting graphite target
- Hadrons decay to leptons, neutrinos in 220-m long decay pipe
- 30-m long stainless steel acts as a **muon beam dump**



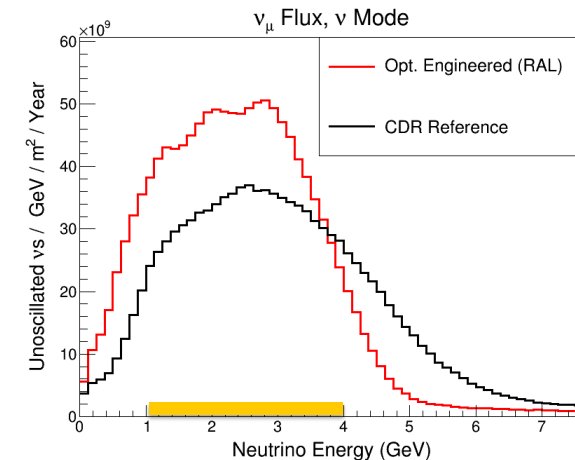
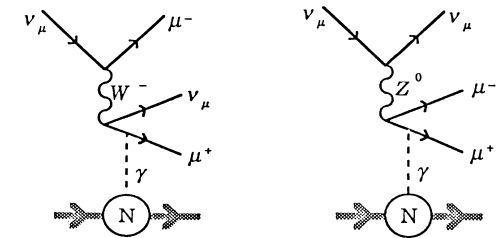
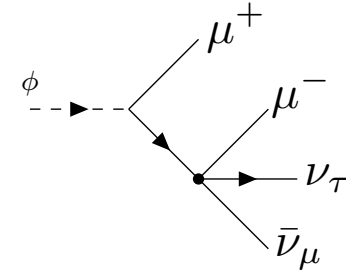
# DUNE experiment

- Full simulation of LBNF beam by DUNE beam group
- Extract muon flux at the end of the decay pipe
- Estimated integrated muon flux  $\Phi_\mu \sim 5 \times 10^{19}$  per  $1 \times 10^{21}$  POT (1 year of operation)
- Cross-section steeply rising: tail of the muon flux enhances production



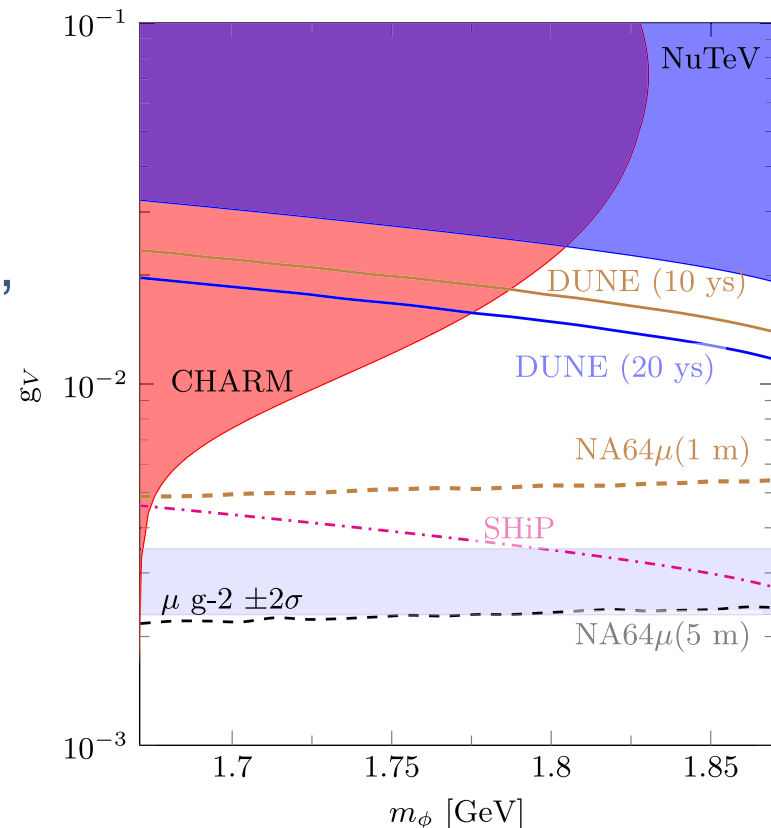
# DUNE experiment

- Assume visible mode: CLFV boson decays before/within the LArTPC Near Detector
- Signature: look for  $\mu^+\mu^-$  pair without any other activity
- Possible backgrounds:
  - Neutrino trident production (Investigation w/ GENIE v3)
    - Small cross section at  $E_\nu \sim 1-10$  GeV neutrino energy
    - $M_{\mu\mu}$  invariant mass distribution steeply falling at low mass
  - Neutrino-Ar quasi-elastic, Resonant, and DIS scattering with meson production + decay (GENIE v3)
    - additional hadronic activity in the final state
- Discriminating for low-multiplicity events and no hadronic activity, and using  $M_{\mu\mu}$  invariant mass cut, could eliminate backgrounds
- GENIE v3: simulated comprehensive neutrino-Argon interactions with LBNF beam, low multiplicity cut eliminated all backgrounds
- Full detector simulation to be done



# DUNE experiment

- Sensitivity study using ideal scenario:
  - Assuming beam time: 10 years, 20 years ( $10^{19}$  MOT/year)
  - Decay branching ratio of 17%
  - Background free
  - 5 m x 5 m LAr Near Detector



BR, L. Molina-Bueno, L. Fields, H. Sieber, P. Crivelli EPJ C (2023) 83:775  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cpc.2021.108129>

# DIS $e(\mu) \rightarrow \tau$ conversion at NA64

$$e(\mu) + (A, Z) \rightarrow \tau + X$$

- High-energy-scale BSM physics could contribute to CLFV at low-energy via universal effective LFV operators that can be tested at NA64e, $\mu$ .
- Possible Dim-6 operators specified in paper by S. Gninenko et al (2018).
- Existing limits on S, V-operators from ZEUS and from rare meson decays.
- But missing limits on T-operators:  $\mu \rightarrow \tau$  DIS conversion, and multiple other quark flavor combinations.
- NA64 is an inclusive mode experiment: all possible quark flavor combinations are summed up.

$$\begin{aligned} \tau &\rightarrow \ell + M^0, \\ B &\rightarrow \ell + \tau, \\ B &\rightarrow \ell^\pm + \tau^\mp + M \end{aligned}$$

$$e^- + q_i \rightarrow \tau^- + q_f, \quad \mu^- + q_i \rightarrow \tau^- + q_f$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\ell\tau} = \sum_{I,if,XY} \left( \Lambda_{Iif,XY}^{\ell\tau} \right)^{-2} \mathcal{O}_{Iif,XY}^{\ell\tau} + \text{H.c.}, \quad \ell = e, \mu,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S} \text{ - type: } & \mathcal{O}_{Sif,XY}^{\ell\tau} = (\bar{\tau} P_X l) (\bar{q}_f P_Y q_i), \\ \mathbf{V} \text{ - type: } & \mathcal{O}_{Vif,XY}^{\ell\tau} = (\bar{\tau} \gamma^\mu P_X l) (\bar{q}_f \gamma_\mu P_Y q_i), \\ \mathbf{T} \text{ - type: } & \mathcal{O}_{Tif,XX}^{\ell\tau} = (\bar{\tau} \sigma^{\mu\nu} P_X l) (\bar{q}_f \sigma_{\mu\nu} P_X q_i) \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} i, f &= u, d, s, c, b, t \\ X, Y &= L, R \end{aligned}$$

S. Gninenko et al. PRD 98 (2018) 015007  
<https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.98.015007>

# DIS $e(\mu) \rightarrow \tau$ conversion at NA64

$$e(\mu) + (A, Z) \rightarrow \tau + X$$

- Synergy with CLFV scalar boson: mean energy for  $\tau$  depends on the type of operator, but similarly boosted  $\tau$  in the final state.
- Both cases fall into the sensitivity range of NA64 (see tables below). Final-state tau energy is similar to the CLFV scalar boson final-state.
- Backgrounds (dominated by bremsstrahlung) are expected to be suppressed by a minimal cut on the final-state energy 10-30 GeV.  $\sigma(\ell + A \rightarrow \ell + X) \approx \sigma_{BS}(\ell + A \rightarrow \ell + X)$
- We are in the process of implementing this into the full simulation of NA64 and DMG4.

Mean  $\tau$  energy  
e-beam, E = 100 GeV

Operator	$\langle E_\tau \rangle_I$
$S$ operators	25
$V$ operators	57
$T$ operators	62

Mean  $\tau$  energy  
 $\mu$ -beam, E = 150 GeV

Operator	$\langle E_\tau \rangle_I$
$S$ operators	38
$V$ operators	86
$T$ operators	93

S. Gninenko et al. PRD 98 (2018) 015007  
<https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.98.015007>

# Summary

- Charged lepton flavor violating signature could be a sensitive test of New Physics.
- Benchmark: scalar CLFV boson with longevity.
- Considered two  $\mu$  beam-dump experiments: NA64 $\mu$  and DUNE
- Both experiments have potential to explore the parameter space - although both are challenging.
- The techniques used are general and other DM and Portal Interaction scenarios could be tested at NA64.
- DIS  $e/\mu \rightarrow \tau$  conversion that could hint at New Physics operators suppressed at low-energy.
- Other ideas for  $\mu$ -on-target tests are welcome!

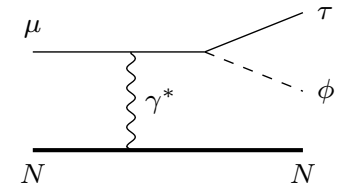
**Thank you for the attention!**



# Backup

# CLFV model

- Production:



$$\frac{d\sigma(p + q \rightarrow p' + k)}{d(p \cdot k)} = \frac{|\bar{\mathcal{A}}_{2 \rightarrow 2}|^2}{8\pi s^2} \quad \mu\gamma \xrightarrow{2 \rightarrow 2} \tau\phi$$

- Feynncalc:

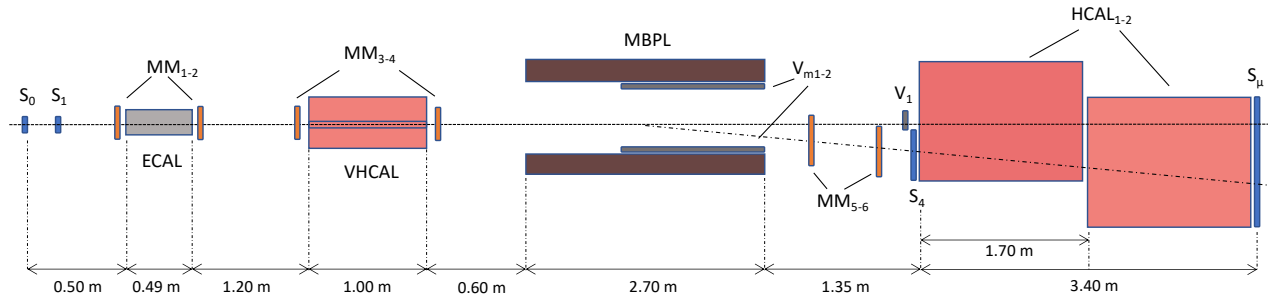
$$|\bar{\mathcal{A}}_{2 \rightarrow 2}|^2 = -\frac{e^2 m_\mu m_\tau (g_A g_A^* - g_V g_V^*)}{(m_\mu^2 - s)^2 (m_\tau^2 - u)^2} \times$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \times [m_\mu^4 (m_\phi^2 + u) + 2m_\mu^3 (m_\tau^3 - m_\tau u) \\ & + m_\mu^2 (m_\tau^4 - 2m_\phi^2 s - 2m_\tau^2 u + u(u - 2s)) \\ & + 2m_\mu m_\tau s (u - m_\tau^2) + s (m_\phi^2 s + m_\tau^4 - 2m_\tau^2 u + u(s + u))] \end{aligned}$$

$$x = E_\phi / E_\mu \quad s = (p + q)^2 \simeq m_\mu^2 - \frac{u - m_\tau^2}{1 - x}$$

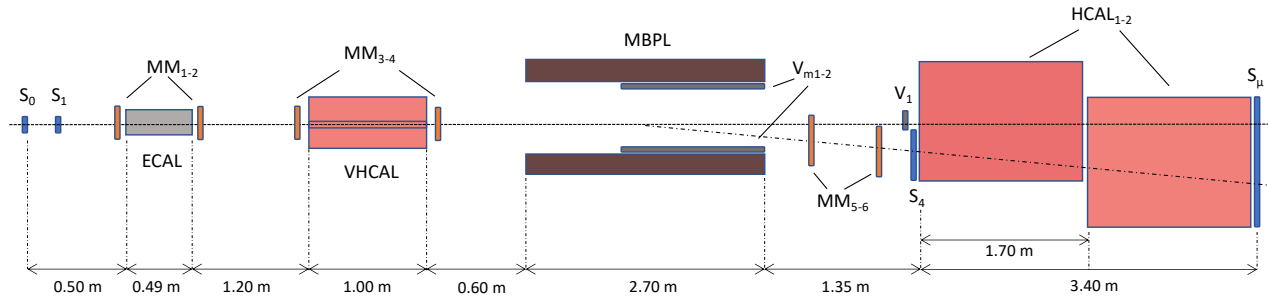
$$u = (p - k)^2 \simeq -E_\mu x \theta_\phi^2 - \frac{1 - x}{x} m_\phi^2 + (1 - x) m_\mu^2$$

# NA64 $\mu$ experiment

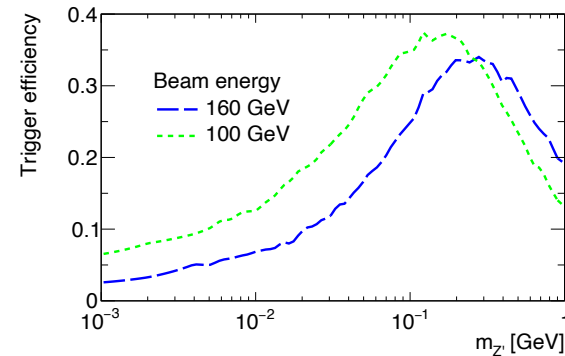


- Scattered muon carries away  $E_{\mu}' = fE_{\mu}$ , DM  $(1-f)E_{\mu}$ , Emiss =  $E_{\mu} - E_{\mu}'$
- 40X0 ECAL (Pb-Scint),
- VHCAL (Cu-Scint) to veto charged secondaries by upstream muon interactions.
- HCAL modules,  $7.5\lambda_l$  Steel-Scint,
- 2nd magnetic spectrometer with 1.4 T\*m, 6 MM detectors for tracking

# NA64 $\mu$ experiment



- Initial muon tag:  $S_0 \times S_1 \times S_\mu$
- $S_4$  shifted from beam axis
- Combined trigger eff for  $S_0 \times S_1 \times S_4 \times S_\mu$
- Additional veto in  $V_1 \times V_{m1-2}$  gives trigger eff. of 0.1%
- Cuts:
  - Initial beam momentum [140, 180] GeV/c
  - Single downgoing track with  $< 80$  GeV/c ( $10^{-12}$ )
  - No energy deposit in VHCAL,
  - No deposit in HCAL (MIP)



# Muon beam profile

