New experiment to search for $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$ at PSI status and prospects

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For the MEG collaboration

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Physics Motivation

μ e γ decay

- Event signature
 - Back to back,
 - Time coincident
 - $E_e = E\gamma = 52.8 MeV$



- Lepton-family-number nonconserving process
- Forbidden in the standard model
- Sensitive to physics beyond the standard model SUSY-GUT, SUSY+ _R, ...
- Present experimental bound

Br(μ^+ e⁺) < 1.2 x 10⁻¹¹ (MEGA experiment, 1999)

• New experiment with a sensitivity of BR~10⁻¹⁴ planned at PSI

Physics Motivation, cont'd



SU(5) SUSY-GUT predicts BR (μ e γ) = 10⁻¹⁵ - 10⁻¹³ (SO(10) SUSY-GUT: even larger value 10⁻¹³ - 10⁻¹¹)

Physics Motivation, cont'd

Good news from ...

- Solar neutrino results from Super-Kamiokande "MSW large angle mixing" is favored
 - \Rightarrow enhance μ e γ rate
- Muon g-2 experiment at BNL
 2.6σ deviation from the SM prediction
 ⇔ enhance μ eγ rate

Signature of μ e could be discovered somewhere above BR ~ 10⁻¹⁴



New μ e γ experiment at PSI



- Sensitivity down to BR~10⁻¹⁴
- Most intense DC muon beam at PSI
- Liquid xenon photon detector
- Positron spectrometer with gradient magnetic field
- Thin superconducting magnet
- Positron tracker and timing counter
- Engineering/physics run will start in the summer of 2003

MEG collaboration

Proposal approved in May 1999 at PSI

| Institute | Country | Main Resp. | Head | Scientists | Students |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------|------------|----------|
| ICEPP, Univ. of Tokyo | Japan | LXe Calorimeter | T. Mori | 12 | 3 |
| Waseda University | Japan | Cryogenics | T. Doke | 5 | 3 |
| INFN, Pisa | Italy | e⁺ counter, trigger, M.C. | C. Bemporad | 4 | 3 |
| IPNS, KEK, Tsukuba | Japan | Supercoducting Solenoid | A. Maki | 5 | - |
| PSI | Switzerland | Drift Chamber, Beamline, DAQ | S. Ritt | 4 | - |
| BINP, Novosibirsk | Russia | LXe Tests and Purification | B. Khazin | 4 | - |
| Nagoya University | Japan | Cryogenics | K. Masuda | 1 | - |

Where to search for $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$?

Paul Scherrer Institut (PSI) in Switzerland





Ring Cyclotron:

Operating current ~ 1.8 mA (Max >2.0mA)

• DC muon beam rate above $10^8 \mu/s$ at π E5 beam line



Sensitivity and Backgrounds

• Single event sensitivity

 N_{μ} =1x10⁸/sec, T=2.2x10⁷sec, $\Omega/4\pi$ =0.09, ϵ_{γ} =0.7, ϵ_{e} =0.95

 \Rightarrow BR(μ^+ e⁺ γ) ~ 0.94 x 10⁻¹⁴

- Major backgrounds
 - Accidental Coincidence Michel decay(µ + e + e μ) + random B_{eesidental} ~ 5 x 10⁻¹⁵

$$\mu^{+} e^{+} e^{\mu} B_{prompt} \sim 10^{-17}$$

Expected detector performance

| E _e | 0.7% (FWHM) |
|----------------|--------------------|
| E | 1.4 – 2.0 % (FWHM) |
| θ_{e} | 12 – 14 mrad(FWHM) |
| t _e | 0.15 nsec (FWHM) |

Gamma detection



Excellent energy-, timing-, and position resolutions

⇒ Liquid xenon scintillation detector

Detector design

- Active volume of LXe: 600 liter
- Scintillation light is collected by ~800 PMTs immersed in LXe
- Effective coverage: ~ 35%



Liquid Xenon Scintillator

- High light yield (75% of NaI(TI))
- Fast signals
 - →avoid accidental pileups
- Spatially uniform response No need for segmentation



LXe properties

| Mass number | 131.29 |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Density | 3.0 g/cm ³ |
| Boiling and melting points | 165 K, 161 K |
| Energy per scintillation photon | 24 eV |
| Radiation length | 2.77 cm |
| Decay time | 4.2 nsec (fast)22 nsec (slow)45 nsec (recombi.) |
| Scintillation light wave length | 175 nm |
| Refractive index | 1.57 – 1.75? |

Small Prototype



- 32 x PMTs
- Active Xe volume

116 x 116 x 174 mm³ (2.3liter)

 Energy-, Position-, and Timing resolution for gamma up to 2MeV



Small Prototype results

Energy



Simple extrapolations from the results implied

 $\begin{array}{ll} \sigma_{energy} & \sim 1\%, \\ \sigma_{position} & \sim a \ few \ mm, \\ \sigma_{time} & \sim 50 \ psec \end{array}$

for 52.8MeV gamma from $\mu \! \rightarrow \! e \, \gamma$

But, has to be verified with larger detector for higher energy(~50MeV) gamma rays

Small Prototype results, cont'd



Large Prototype



- 228 PMTs, 69liter LXe
- Large enough to test with ~50MeV γ

Purposes

- Performance test with high energy γ (Energy-, position-, time resolutions)
- Check of cryogenics and other detector components
- Absorption length measurements



Large Prototype Current Status

- Construction finished
- Performance of the cryogenics very good!
- First test with 40MeV γ beam in June 2001 at AIST, Tsukuba, Japan
 - \bullet 40MeV γ observed, analysis in progress
 - Various detector components worked well (refrigerator, feedthrough, PMT holder, etc.)
- Second beam test is scheduled at the beginning of 2002
- Test with cosmic rays in progress



Positron Detection



COBRA spectrometer

- Thin superconducting magnet with gradient magnetic field
- Drift chamber for positron tracking
- Scintillation counters for timing measurement

COBRA spectrometer

COnstant Bending RAdius (COBRA) spectrometer

• Constant bending radius independent of emission angles



Uniform field

• Low energy positrons quickly swept out





Magnet



- $B_c = 1.26T$, $B_{z=1.25m} = 0.49T$, operating current = 359A
- Five coils with three different diameter to realize gradient field
- Compensation coils to suppress the residual field around the LXe detector
- High-strength aluminum stabilized superconductor →thin superconducting coil

Magnet Residual field around LXe detector

Tolerance to magnetic field of PMT



Magnet current status

- Magnet design finalized
- High-strength aluminum stabilized superconductor
 All the cable fabricated and delivered.
- Coil winding is starting
- Construction of the cryostat and assembly will be finished by the end of 2002



Positron Tracker

- 17 chamber sectors aligned radially with 10 ° intervals
- Two staggered arrays of drift cells
- Chamber gas: He-C₂H₆ mixture
- Vernier pattern to determine z-position



Positron Tracker, cont'd





- Prototype with same cell geometry as the final detector.
- Test in the magnetic field up to 1T.

Positron Timing Counter



- Two layers of scintillator bars placed at right angles with each other Outer: timing measurement Inner: additional trigger information
- Goal σ_{time} ~ 50psec

Positron Timing Counter, cont'd

CORTES: Timing counter test facility with cosmic rays at INFN-Pisa



Trigger Electronics

| * | Beam rate | 10 ⁸ s ⁻¹ |
|-----|--|-----------------------------------|
| * | Fast LXe energy sum > 45MeV | 2×10 ³ s ⁻¹ |
| * | γ interaction point | |
| * | e ⁺ hit point in timing counter | |
| * | time correlation $\gamma - e^+$ | 200 s ⁻¹ |
| *** | angular correlation $\gamma - e^+$ | 20 s ⁻¹ |

Possible trigger system structure



Beam Transport System

- Two separate branches of the π E5 beam line, "U"-branch and "Z"-branch
- Comparative study between two branches on going. Muon instensity, μ/e ratio,...



The layout of *π***E5**

Slow Control System

- New field bus system under development for reliable control of cryogenics of LXe detector, superconducting magnet, high voltage supply
- Low cost (typ. 20 US\$ per node)
- Several prototypes have been built and tested at PSI
- See http://midas.psi.ch/mscb



Summary

- New experiment to search for µ→e γ down to BR~10⁻¹⁴ at PSI is in preparation.
- Signature of new physics such as SUSY-GUT could be discovered somewhere above BR~10⁻¹⁴.
- Preparations of all the detector components are going well.
- Next big milestone is the second gamma beam test with the large prototype of the xenon detector at AIST in the beginning of 2002.

For more info, see http://meg.icepp.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp