

MEG Experiment at PSI Status and Prospects

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on behalf of the MEG collaboration

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Contents

- $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$ search at MEG
- MEG Detector
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MEG Collaboration



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What Is MEG?

- MEG is an experiment to search for the lepton flavor violating (LFV) muon decay, µ→eγ.
- Target sensitivity at BR~10⁻¹³ improving the present limit by two orders of magnitude.
- There's a real chance to discover an evidence of new physics beyond the SM such as SUSY-GUTs.





Why to Look for $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$?

- LFV found in the neutral sector. Why not in the charged sector?
- Many "positive" SUSY predictions
- No BG from the standard model

10⁻⁸

 Complementary to LHC experiments at some parameter space



-10

10

 $f_1(M) = 2.4$, $\mu > 0$, $M_1 = 50 \text{ GeV}$

Experimental bound 1.2x10⁻¹¹



What's Necessary for $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ Search?

- A lot of muons
 - High intensity μ^+ beam
 - High duty factor to minimize accidental background
- Good detector
 - Precise measurements of energy, timing and angle both for positron and gamma
 - Capability to identify pileups

$$B_{acc} \propto \delta E_{\rm e} \cdot \delta t_{e\gamma} \cdot (\delta E_{\gamma})^2 \cdot (\delta \theta_{\rm e\gamma})^2$$



Our Solution

- World's most intense DC muon beam up to $10^8 \mu^+$ /sec at Paul Scherrer Institute
- MEG detector
 - Gamma: LXe scintillation detector
 - Positron: COBRA positron spectrometer with gradient magnetic field.



MEG Detector



Accelerator

- PSI is the best place for $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ search.
- 590MeV ring cyclotron
- Beam power over 1MW
- 2mA proton current (planned to go higher) CER
- Continuous muon beam
- MEG at PSI
 - 1998 LOI
 - 1999 Proposal
 - 1999 Approval





Beam Transport and Target



- Beam transport system
 - πE5 beam channel
 - 28MeV/c surface muon beam up to 10⁸/sec
 - Wien filter for μ^+/e^+ separation
 - Superconducting transport solenoid with degrader
 - Beam spot size: σ ~10mm
- Target
 - 205µm-thick polyethylene/polyester sandowitch target supported by Rohacell frame
 - Slanted angle 20.5°
 - holes (Φ10mm) to check vertex reconstruction





Liquid Xenon Scintillation Detector

- World's largest LXe scintillation detector
- C-shape 800L LXe is surrounded by 846 photomulipliers (PMTs).
- How to measure high energy gamma-ray?
 - Energy: collect scintillation light as much as possible
 - **Position**: PMT output distribution
 - Time: average photon arrival time
- All PMTs are read out by waveform digitizer→pileup ID, particle ID







LXe Detector: Calibration and Monitoring



Positron Spectrometer: COBRA Concept



Drift Chamber System

- 16 chambers radially aligned with 10° intervals
- Minimize amount of material to avoid multiple-scattering and annihilation photon BG
- Two staggered layout of drift cells for R measurement (σ_R~100-200µm)
- Charge division on anode wire and Varnier pattern cathode pad to measure Z (σ_z~300µm)







Timing Counter

- Fast timing counter for positron
- Phi-counter: scintillator bars read out by fine mesh PMTs at both ends to measure the positron timing.
- Z-counter: Scintillating fiber read out by APD for additional trigger information



Scintillating fiber + APD

Counter size (cm) Exp. application (*) **PMT** Scintillator $\lambda_{\rm att}$ (cm) $\sigma_t(\text{meas})$ $\sigma_t(exp)$ (T x W x L) G.D.Agostini **XP2020** 3x 15 x 100 **NE114** 200 120 60 T. Tanimori 3 x 20 x 150 SCSN38 R1332 180 140 110 **T. Sugitate** 4 x 3.5 x 100 SCSN23 **R1828** 200 50 53 R.T. Gile **XP2020** 270 5 x 10 x 280 **BC408** 110 137 TOPAZ R1828 4.2 x 13 x 400 **BC412** 300 210 240 R. Stroynowski 2 x 3 x 300 SCSN38 **XP2020** 180 180 420 R6680 4 x 6 x 255 Belle **BC408** 250 90 143 MEG 4x4x90 BC **R5924** 270 38

Comparison of long timing counters (from E. Nappi)

Scintillator bar + fine-mesh PMT

Waveform Digitizer

- All detectors will be read by Domino Ring Sampler (DRS) developed at PSI
 - Sampling speed: 1.6GHz for LXe and TC, 0.5GHz for DC
 - 1024 sampling cells



Run 2008



MEG in 2007

- Engineering run in 2007
- All the main detector components assembled and operated.
- $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ trigger worked at expected rate.
- Test physics run (~1-2days)
- Issues

•

- LXe γ-detector
 - Low light yield due to impurity in LXe
 - HV feedthrough problem
- e⁺ spectrometer
 - Some layers were not operational in drift chamber system
 - Fiber counters in the TOF detector system are missing.

MEG in 2008

- Solved (partly) the problems we had last year.
- LXe detector
 - Light yield recovered by a factor of two! by the purification
 - Calibration in full acceptance using high energy γ from π^0 decay
 - Long term stability
- Drift chamber
 - Some layers are not working at full efficiency due to tripping
- Timing counter
 - Fiber counters operational
- $\bullet \ \pi^0$ Dalitz decay for relative timing bw/ LXe detector and timing counter
- Reduced electric noise



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- Reduced electric noise
- ...

Started physics data production on Sep. 12th!

Not a Simulation!

Example of $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ "trigger" event

Run#24501 event462

Not a Simulation!

Example of $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ "trigger" event

Run#24501 event462

Most likely accidental BG event

Run Schedule 2008



500

Beam off + RD

Date

07/09 13/09 20/09 26/09 02/10 08/10 15/10 21/10 27/10 02/11 09/11

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• "Significant" physics result

LXe Detector: Performance 2008

- LXe detector calibrated in full acceptance with 55- and 83-MeV γ from π^0 decay
- Systematic non-uniformity of detector response. Yet to be studied.





LXe Detector: Performance 2008

- Timing resolution for 55MeV-γ
 - Relative time between LXe and timing counter with pre-shower converter
 - LXe timing resolution = 160ps 70ps(timing counter) 60ps(target)

= 130ps (σ)

- \bullet Position resolution for 55MeV- γ
 - Shadows of lead collimator slits
 - LXe position resolution
 - 0.5cm (σ) @ edge
 - 0.65cm (σ) @ slit (need further analysis)



LXe Detector: Calibration and Monitoring

- Continuous: PMT gain monitoring with LED
- Daily: PMT gain measurement
- Every second day:
 - Calibration with monoenergetic γ from nuclear reaction using proton from Cockcroft-Walton accelerator
 - Alpha sources on wire



Drift Chamber: Performance in 2008

- Calibration
 - Alignment done with Michel-positron tracks
 - Z- and R-resolutions are measured with Michel positron
 - Momentum resolution measured at the edge of the Michel spectrum
- Low efficiency due to frequent tripping of some chambers







Timing Counter: Performance in 2008

- Time calibration
 - Time coincident γs (4.4 and 11.7MeV) from B(p, $\gamma)C$ using protons from CW accelerator
 - Cosmic ray
 - Dalitz π^0 decay ($\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma e^+e^-$) for calibration of $T_{e\gamma}$
 - Radiative decay (to be studied)

TC time resolution



$T_{e\gamma}$ distribution in Dalitz π^0 decay



| Background and Sensitivity | | | o be update |
|--|---|--|--|
| | Goal Measured Simulation | 2007 Measured | 2008 Prospects |
| Gamma Energy (%) Gamma Timing (nsec) Gamma Position (mm) Gamma Efficiency (%) e ⁺ Timing (nsec) e ⁺ Momentum (%) e ⁺ Angle (mrad) e ⁺ Efficiency (%) Muon Decay Point (mm) | 4.5-5.0 0.15 4.5-9.0 >40 0.1 0.8 10.5 65. 2.1 | 6.5 0.27* 15. >40 0.12* 2.1 17. 65. 3. | |
| Muon Rate (sec ⁻¹) Running Time (week) (1 week = 4x10 ⁵ sec) Single Event Sensitivity | 3x10 ⁷ 100 0.5x10 ⁻¹³ | 3x10 ⁷ | 2.8x10 ⁷ 12 8.5x10 ⁻¹³ |
| Accidental Rate # of Accidental Events 90% CL Limit | 0.1-0.3x10 ⁻¹³ 0.2-0.5 2x10 ⁻¹³ | | <10-11 |

To be updated

* added another 0.25nsec for BG evaluation (DRS time synchronization)

Physics Analysis

• Do we find $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ event(s) in data 2008?

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• Do we find $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ event(s) in data 2008?

→We don't know yet, because...

Physics Analysis

- Blind analysis: Hidden signal box
- Maximum likelihood analysis
- Preselection for data reduction and efficient analysis
- Framework/tools are ready and being tested.







How about Next Year or Later?

- Various improvements in detector performance are expected next year
 - Detector calibration still being improved.
 - New waveform digitizer (DRS4) will be installed for run 2009
 - Better time synchronization among the chips
 - Better temperature dependence
 - Ghost pulse problem solved
 - Prototype under testing.
 - Further improvement of light yield in LXe?
 - Still lower than expected (a factor of two).
 - Spectrometer performance
 - Problem of chamber tripping to be solved.
 - Reconstruction algorithms to be improved.

New digitizer chip (DRS4) Prototype



Summary

- MEG experiment seeks evidence for the LFV process, $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$.
- All detectors assembled again and calibrated for run 2008.
- We finally started physics-data production in September!
- Detector performance is still to be optimized.
- Goal of run 2008
 - Physics data production for ~12 weeks
 - Get the first but "significant" physics result with a sensitivity improving the present experimental bound (BR < 1.2x10⁻¹¹)
- MEG is expected to reach a sensitivity at a few x 10⁻¹³ branching ratio in a few years of data taking.

Conclusion

We hope to have the first physics results sometime next year.



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