

Muon beams towards muonium physics and detection across the road

Jian Tang (唐健)

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May 8, 2025, Institute of High Energy Physics, Beijing

SMOOTH Lab @ SYSU & the MACE working group

The logo for the SMOOTH Lab, featuring the word "SMOOTH" in a bold, stylized font. The "S" and "H" are black, while the "M" and "O" are green. The letters have a slight shadow effect.

SYSU MuOn and Optical Tomography

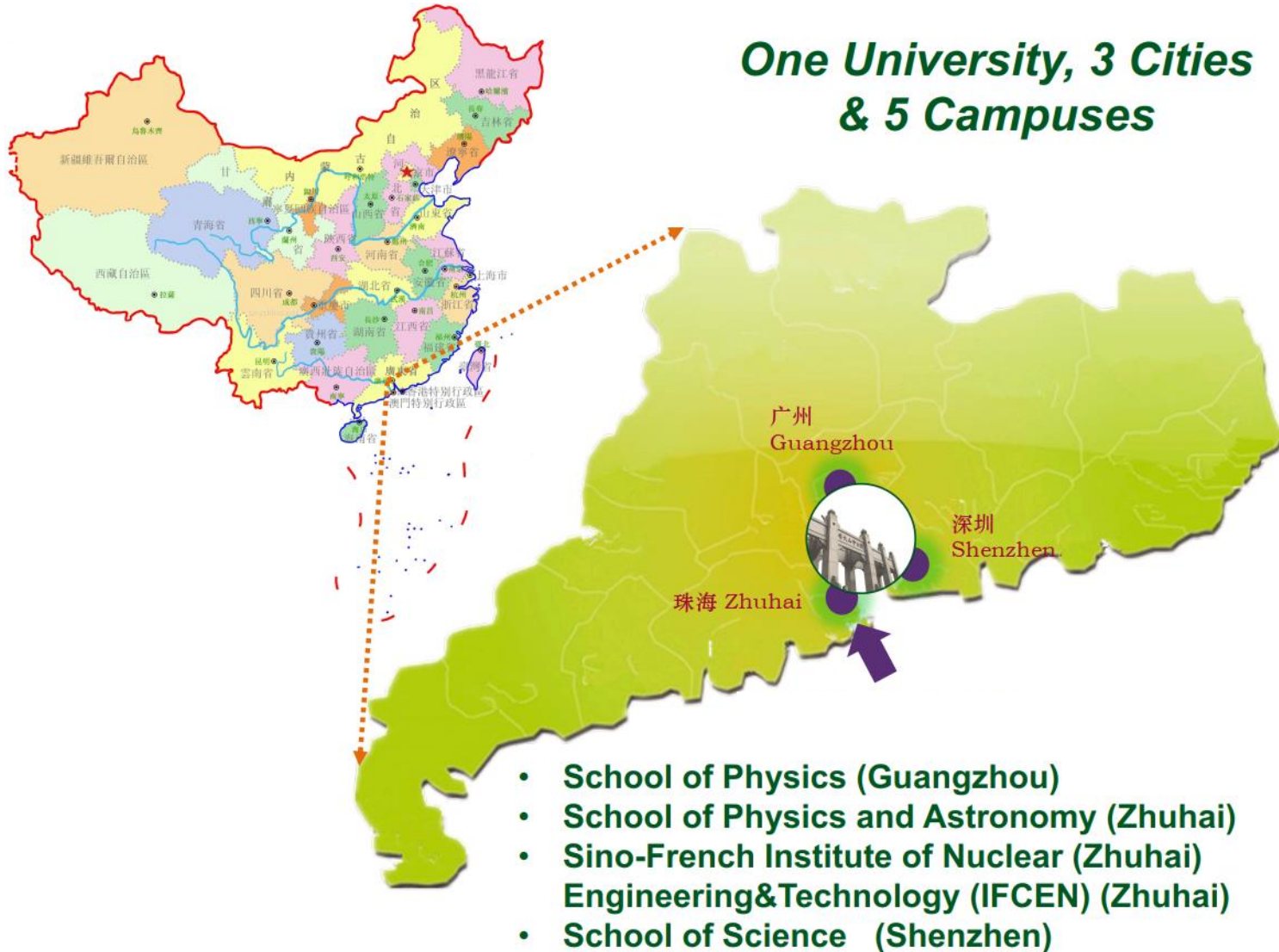
The logo for the MACE experiment, featuring the letters "MACE" in a stylized, calligraphic font. The "M" and "A" are black, while the "C" and "E" are red.

Muonium-to-Antimuonium Conversion Experiment

Reference: Conceptual Design of MACE, arXiv: 2410.18817

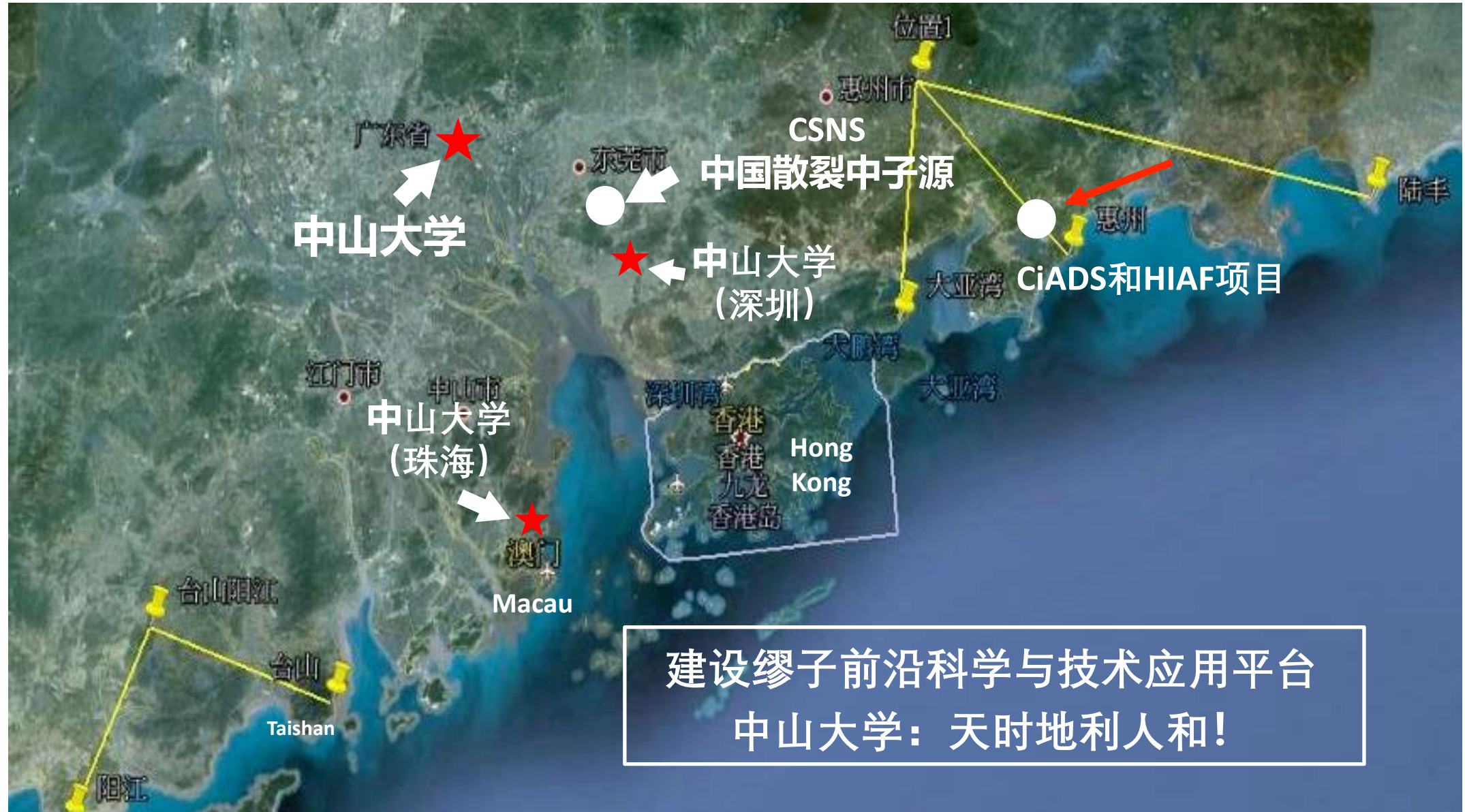
A strong team in SYSU

One University, 3 Cities & 5 Campuses



- More than 30 faculty members working on HEP/NP-related areas: Th+Ph+Ex.
- Muon physics: COMET, Mu2e, MACE...
- Neutrino physics: Daya Bay, JUNO, DUNE, MOMENT, JNE, PandaX...
- Neutron physics: nuclear data...
- Collider physics: ATLAS, CMS, BESIII...
- Astroparticle physics: AMS, LHAASO, HERD, HUNT...
- Nuclear materials and radiation shield...

SYSU & National accelerator facilities



Platform for Muon Science and Technology



SMOOTH Laboratory





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- Review of the past experience
- **Motivations for muon physics**
- Conceptual design of MACE
- Local laboratory: SMOOTH

Symmetries of SM

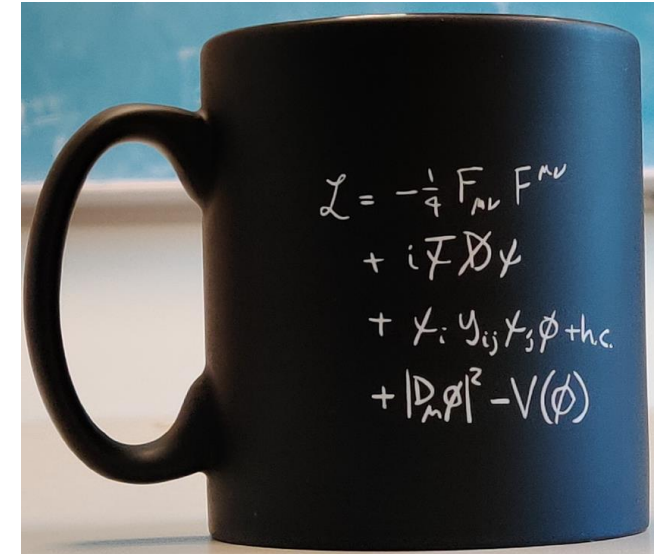
- The Standard Model (SM) gauge symmetry:

$$\mathcal{G}_{\text{SM}} = \underbrace{\text{SU}(3)_C}_{\text{QCD}} \times \underbrace{\text{SU}(2)_L \times \text{U}(1)_Y}_{\text{Electroweak}}$$

- The absence of right-handed neutrino leads to lepton flavor symmetry:

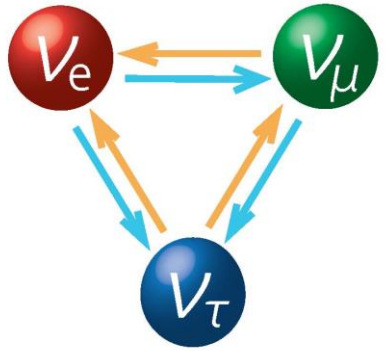
$$\mathcal{G}_{\text{SM}}^{\text{global}} = \underbrace{\text{U}(1)_B}_{\text{Baryon number conservation}} \times \underbrace{\text{U}(1)_{L_e} \times \text{U}(1)_{L_\mu} \times \text{U}(1)_{L_\tau}}_{\text{Lepton flavor conservation}}$$

- Lepton flavor is always conserved **in the Standard Model**, however...

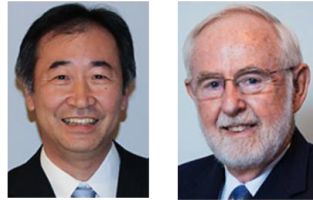


	Lepton number	Lepton family number (lepton flavor)		
		L_e	L_μ	L_τ
e^- & ν_e	1	1	0	0
μ^- & ν_μ	1	0	1	0
τ^- & ν_τ	1	0	0	1

Neutral leptons oscillate!



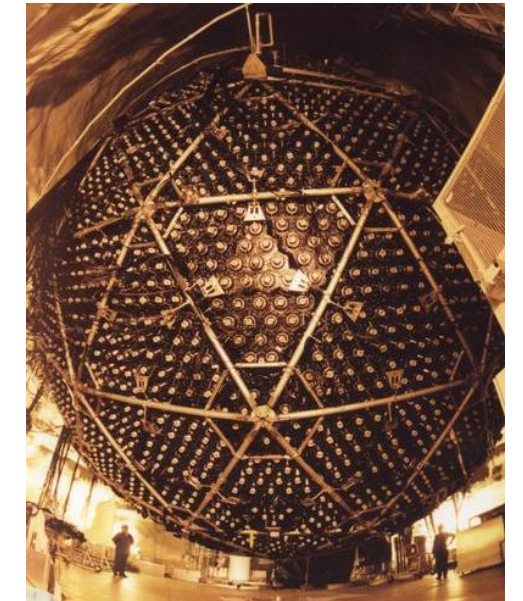
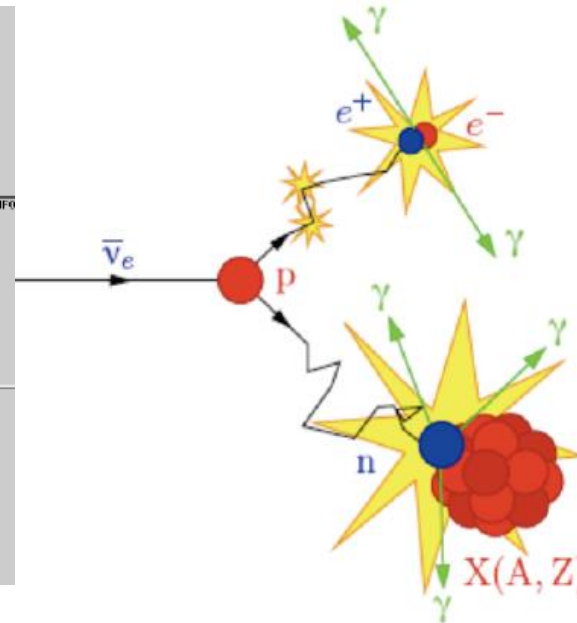
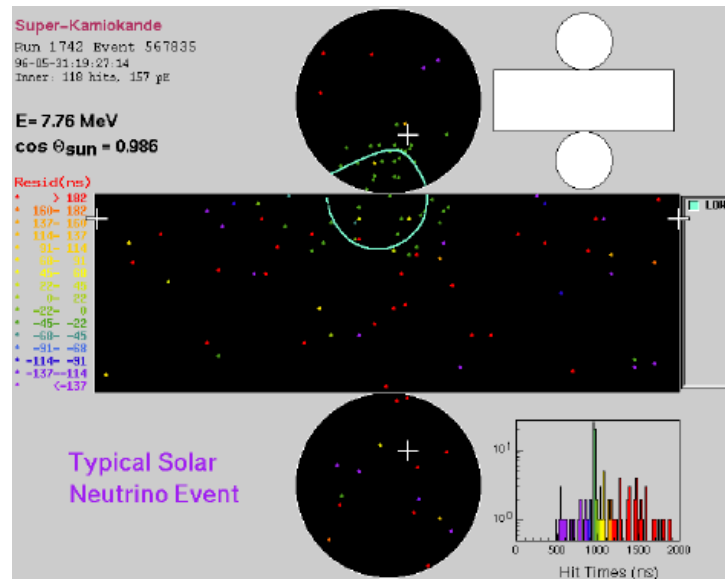
"For the greatest benefit to mankind"
Alfred Nobel
2015 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS
Takaaki Kajita
Arthur B. McDonald



"For the discovery of **neutrino oscillations**,
which shows that **neutrinos have mass**"

$$U_{\text{PMNS}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13} e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13} e^{i\delta} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$= \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Neutrino Production} \end{array} \right) \times \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Neutrino Propagation} \end{array} \right) \times \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{Neutrino Detection} \end{array} \right)$$

cLFV: a portal of new physics

➤ **Lepton flavor is not conserved in the real world.**

- Neutrino oscillation: neutrinos have mass and mixing.
- So cLFV should exist, but it hasn't been seen yet...

✓ Many new physics model beyond SM predict observable cLFV.

➤ Charged lepton flavor violation (cLFV) → a way to new physics beyond SM.

✓ cLFV is forbidden in SM, free of SM background.

$$\text{Br}(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) = \frac{3\alpha}{32\pi m_W^4} \left| U_{\mu 2} U_{2e}^\dagger \Delta m_{21}^2 + U_{\mu 3} U_{3e}^\dagger \Delta m_{31}^2 \right|^2 \sim 10^{-54}$$

✓ **A clear evidence of new physic if discovered!**

✓ Provides a strong constrain to new physics models if not discovered.



MEGII (PSI)
 $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$



Mu3e (PSI)
 $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+$



Mu2e (Fermilab)
 $\mu^- N \rightarrow e^- N$



COMET (J-PARC)
 $\mu^- N \rightarrow e^- N$



Muonium-to-Antimuonium Conversion Experiment

MACE in China initiative muon beamline
 $M \rightarrow \bar{M} \ (\mu^+ e^- \rightarrow \mu^- e^+)$

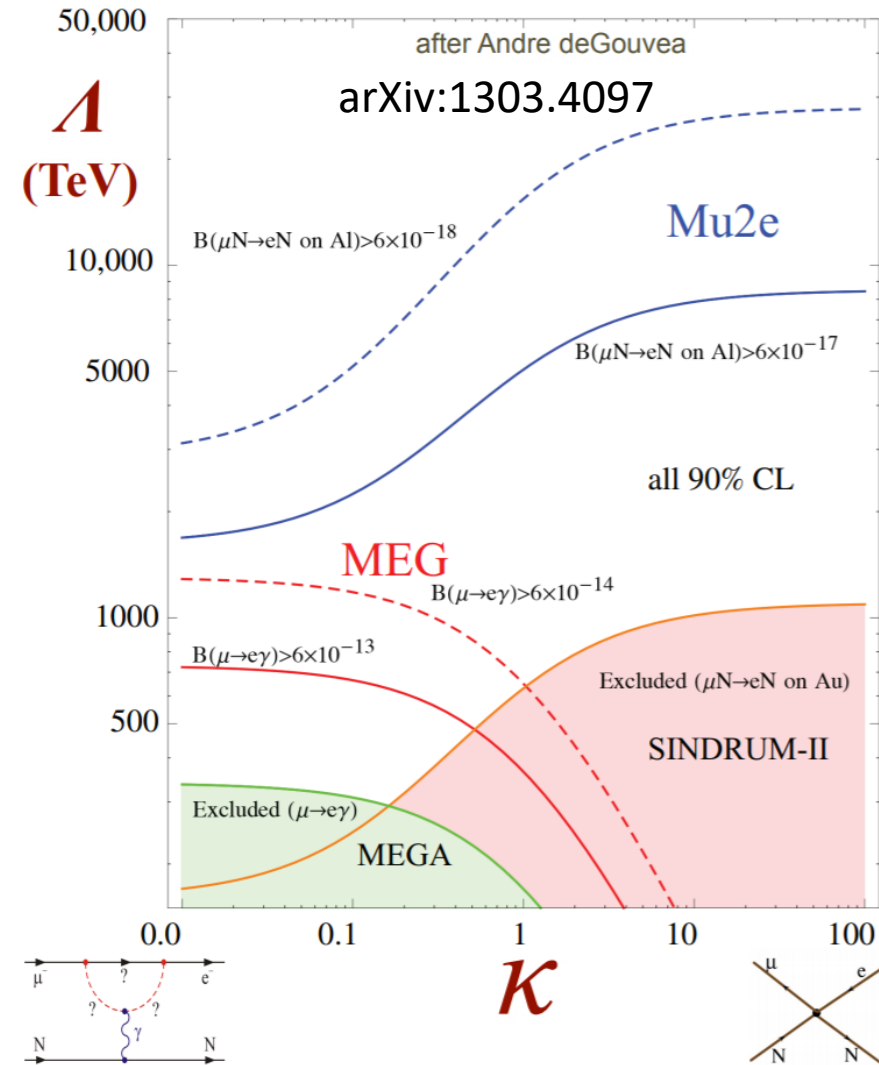
High-intensity/-precision frontier

- Experiments search for cLFV:

- Mu2e (Fermilab) $\mu^- + \text{Al} \rightarrow e^- + \text{Al}$
- COMET (J-PARC)
- MEG (PSI) $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$
- Mu3e (PSI) $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+$

- Precision measurements of muon properties:

- MuLan & FAST at PSI: Muon lifetime.
- MuCap in PSI: Muon capture coupling constant.
- MuSun: Muon Electroweak interactions and muon polarization.
- TWIST at TRIUMF: Muon decay Michel parameters.
- Fermi lab muon g-2 and J-PARC muon g-2.
- MUSEUM: Muonium hyperfine structure.



Low-energy cLFV experiments complement high-energy frontier

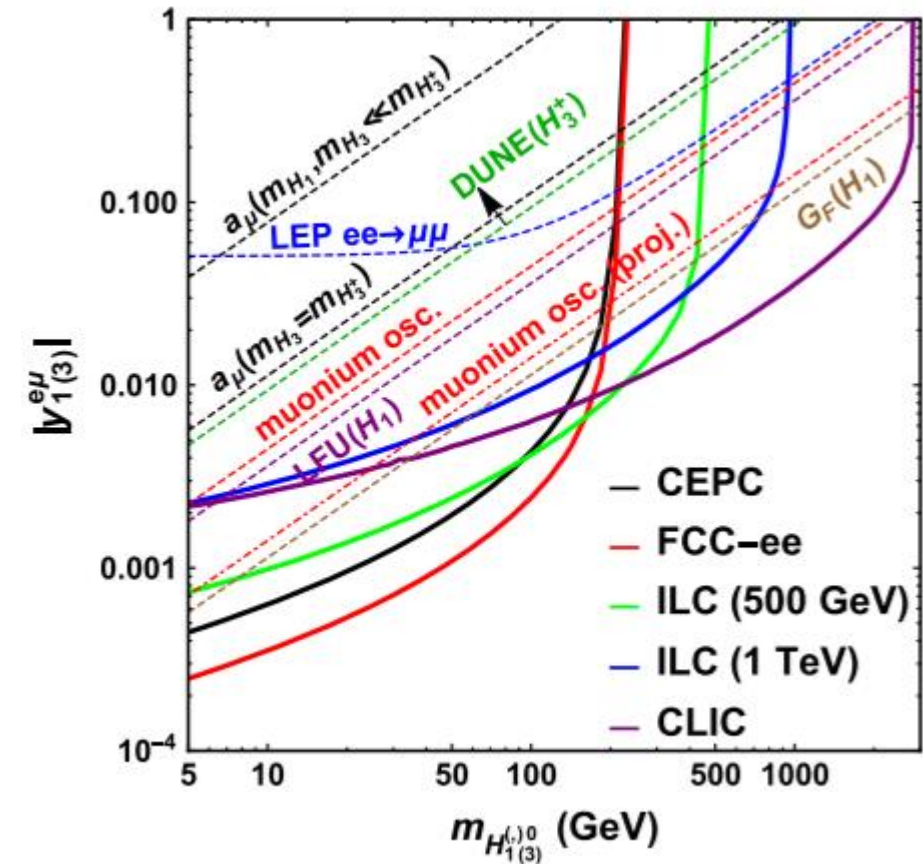
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REF: Tong Li, Michael A. Schmidt. *Phys.Rev.D* 100 (2019) 11, 115007

- Low-energy cLFV experiments complement high-energy frontier
- cLFV complement neutrino physics

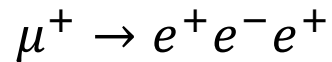
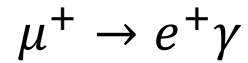
High-intensity/-precision frontier

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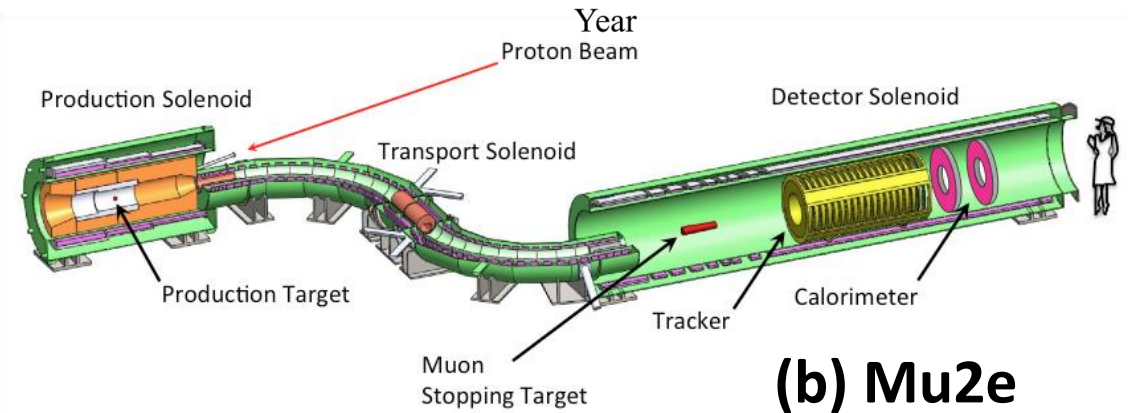
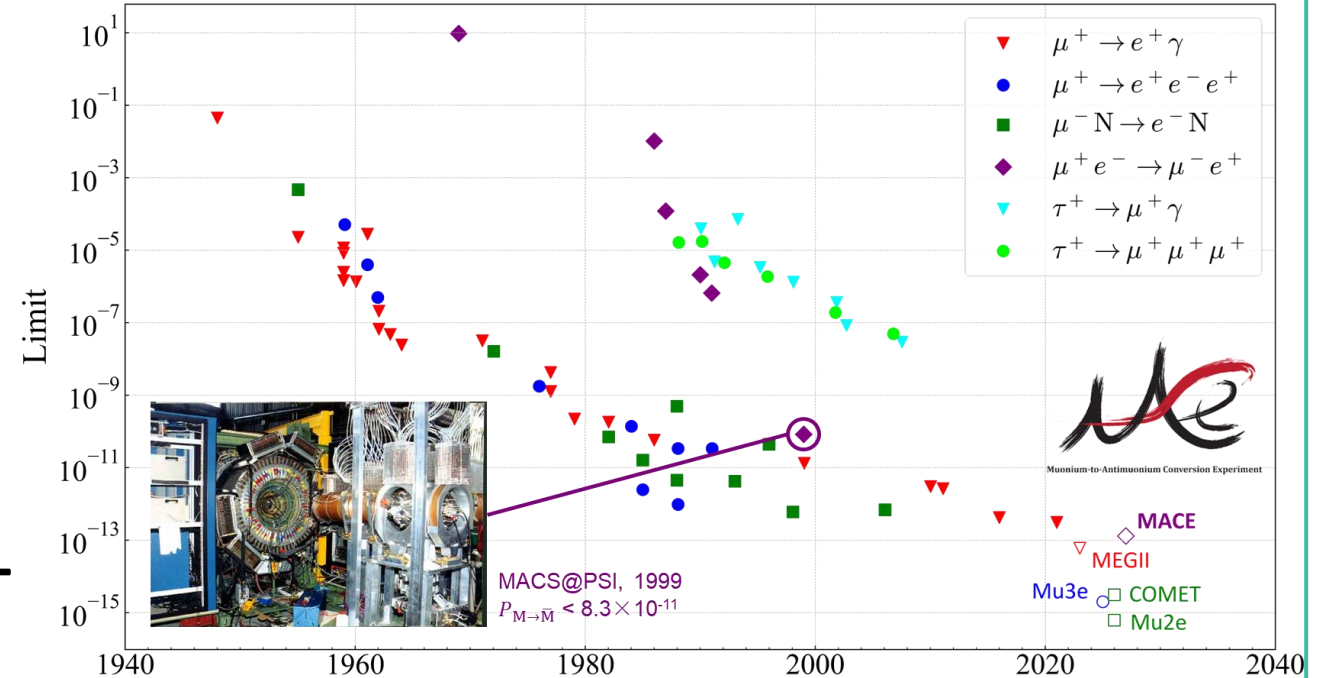
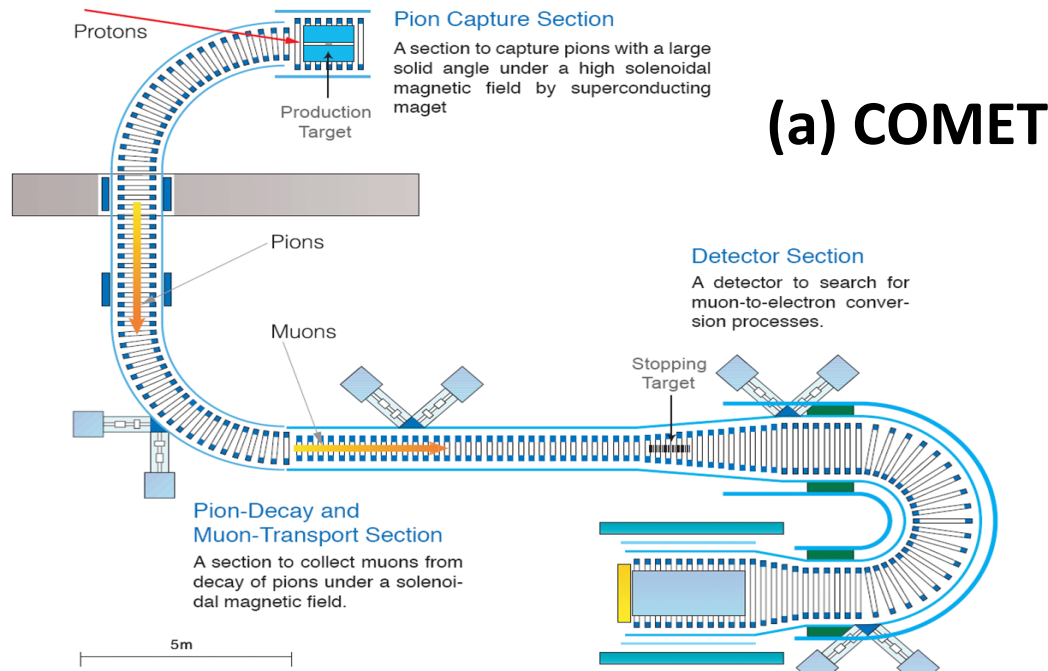


➤ COMET (J-PARC)



➤ MEG (PSI)

➤ Mu3e (PSI)



High-intensity/-precision frontier

Experiments search for cLFV:

➤ Mu2e (Fermi lab)

➤ COMET (J-PARC)

➤ MEG (PSI)

➤ Mu3e (PSI)

$$\mu^- + Al \rightarrow e^- + Al$$

$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$$

$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+$$

New electronics:
Wavedream

~9000
channels
at 5GSPS

COBRA
superconducting magnet

Liquid xenon photon detector
(LXe)

Better uniformity w/
12x12 VUV SiPM

x2 Resolution
everywhere

x2 Beam Intensity

Updated and
new Calibration
methods
Quasi mono-
chromatic
positron beam

Radiative decay counter
(RDC)
Background rejection

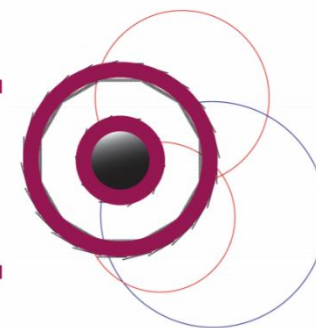
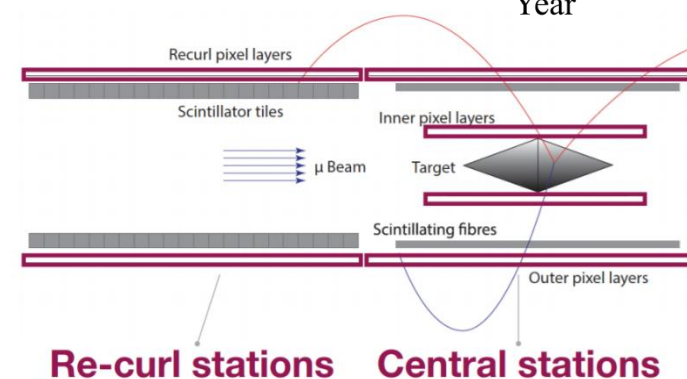
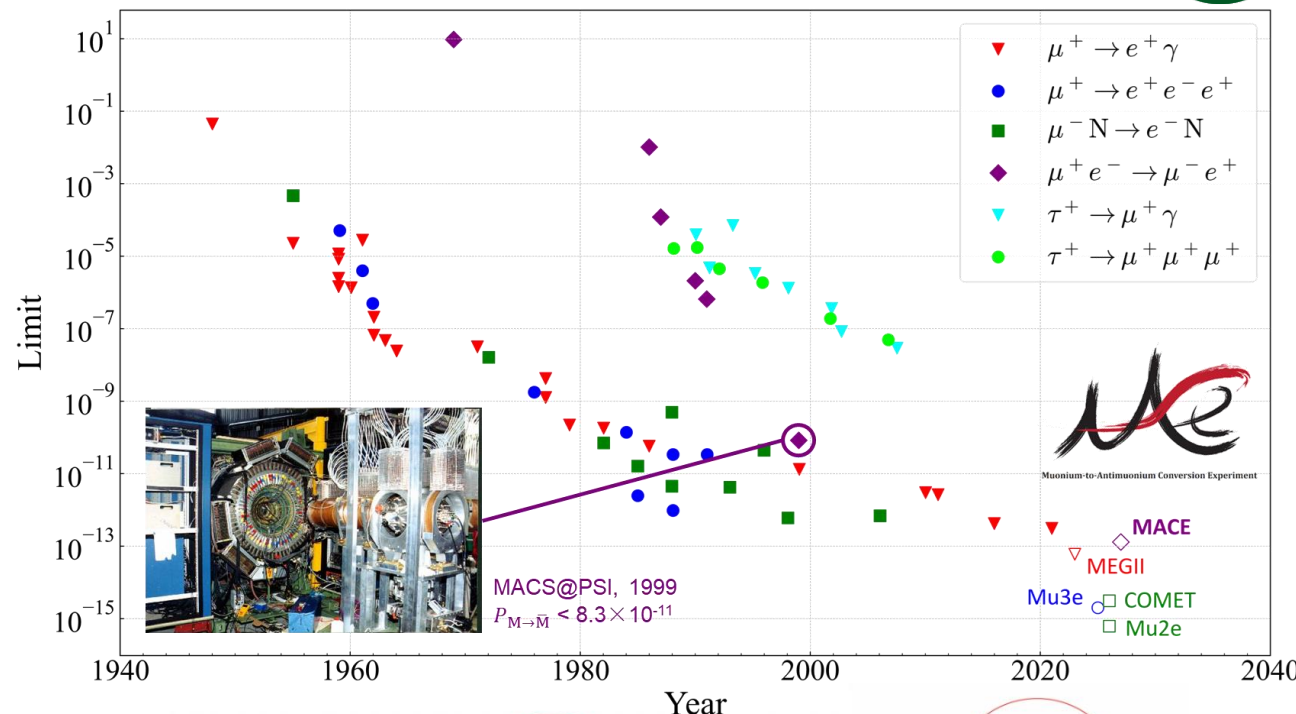
Cylindrical drift chamber
(CDCH)
Single
volume
He:IC₄H₁₀

Pixelated timing counter
(pTC) 35 ps resolution
w/ multiple hits

Muon stopping target

Full available
stopped beam
intensity
7 x 10⁷

MEGII

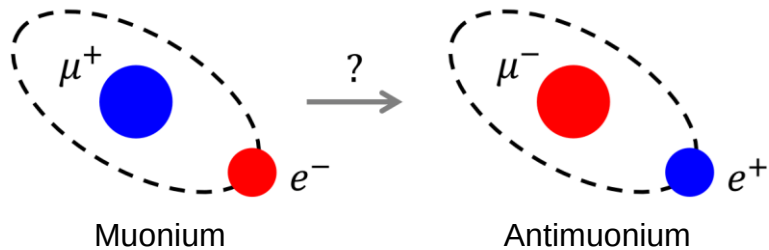


Mu3e

Muonium conversion: a cLFV process

- Muonium ($M = \mu^+ e^-$): a leptonic hydrogen isotope.

- M-to- $\bar{M}$ conversion:** $M \rightarrow \bar{M}$ ($\mu^+ e^- \rightarrow \mu^- e^+$)



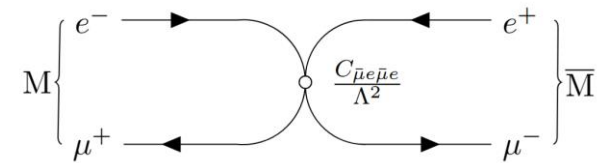
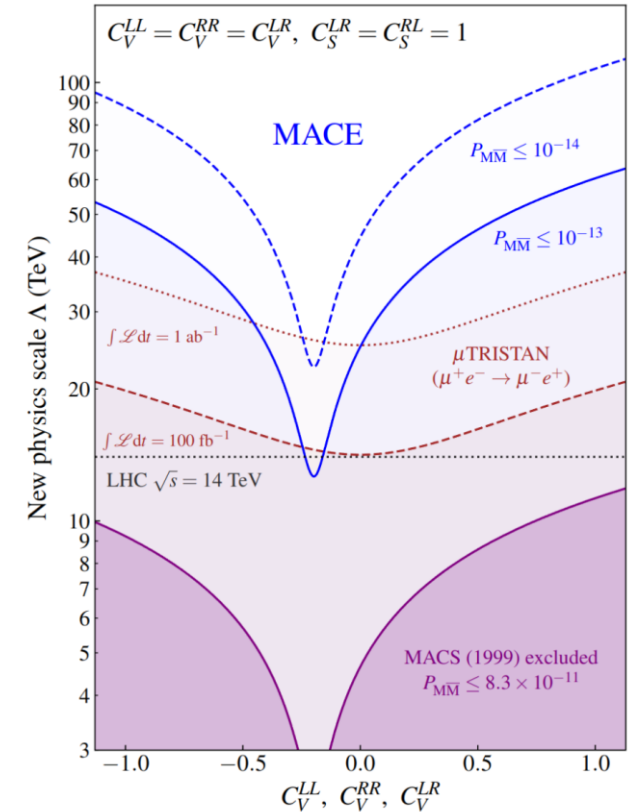
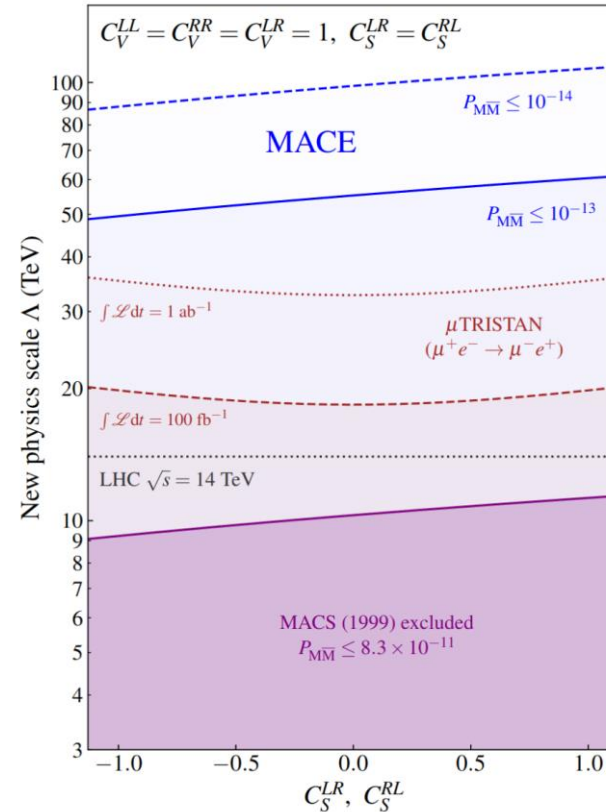
Current bound:
 $P_{M \rightarrow \bar{M}} < 8.3 \times 10^{-11}$
 (in 0.1T field, 90% C.L.)

L. Willmann et al.,
Phys. Rev. Lett. 82 (1999), 49-52.

- $M \rightarrow \bar{M}$: an $\Delta L_\mu = -\Delta L_e = 2$ process.**

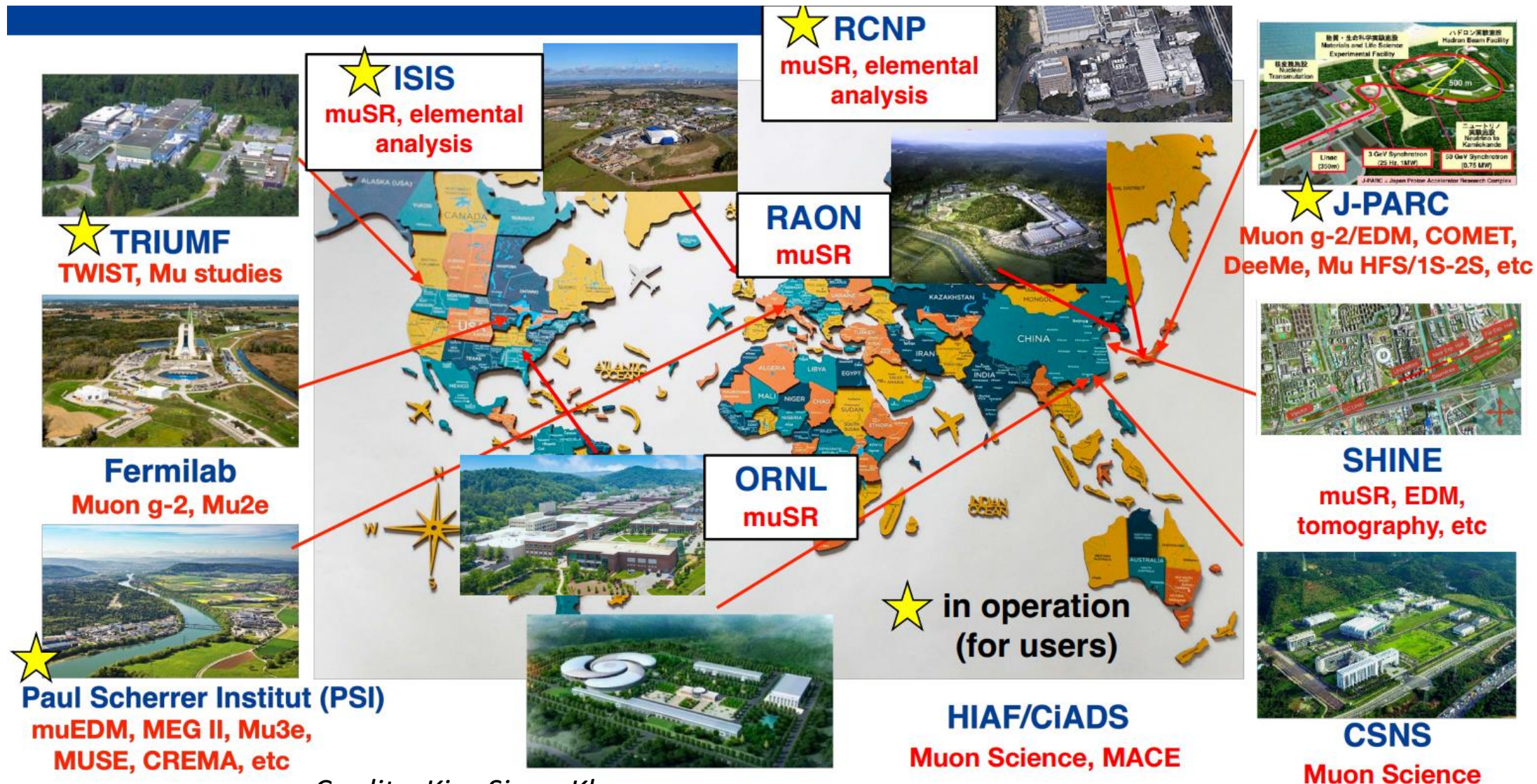
- ✓ Different EFT operators from $\Delta L_\mu = -\Delta L_e = 1$ proc. ($\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$, $\mu \rightarrow eee$, $\mu N \rightarrow eN$).
- ✓ $\Delta L_\mu = -\Delta L_e = 2$ can be possible even if $\Delta L_\mu = -\Delta L_e = 1$ is suppressed or not exist.
- ✓ Complementary to $\Delta L_\mu = -\Delta L_e = 1$ process searches.

Julian Heeck and Mikheil Sokhashvili. Lepton flavor violation by two units. *Phys. Lett. B*, 852:138621, 2024.



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_{n \geq 4} \frac{1}{\Lambda^{n-4}} \sum_i C_i^{(n)} Q_i^{(n)}$$

Worldwide accelerator muon sources

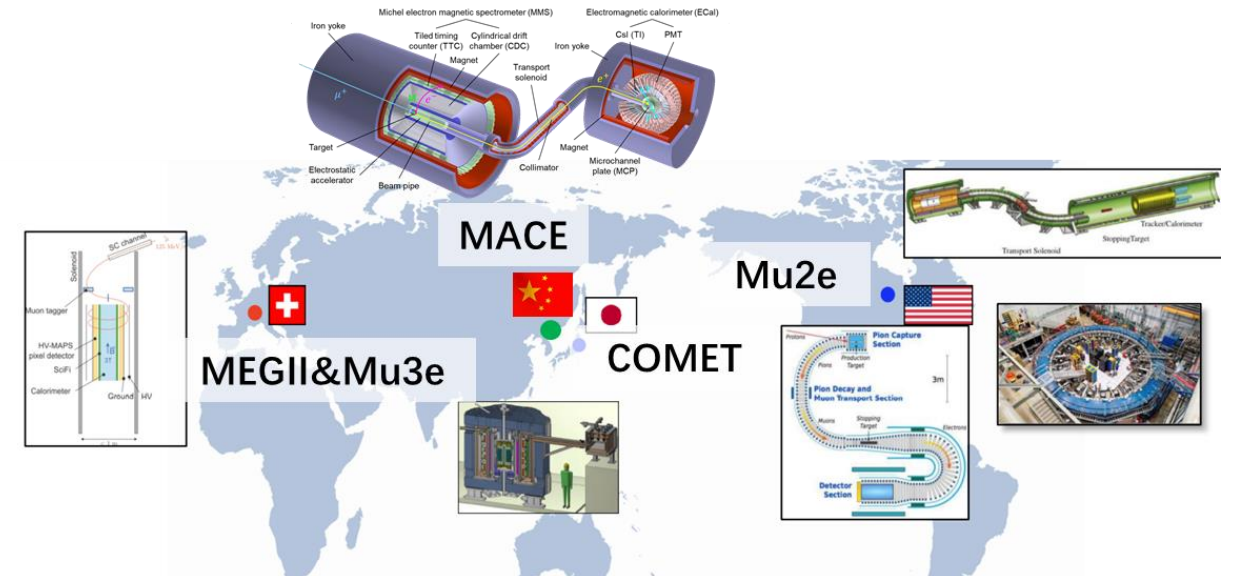


Credits: Kim-Siang Khaw

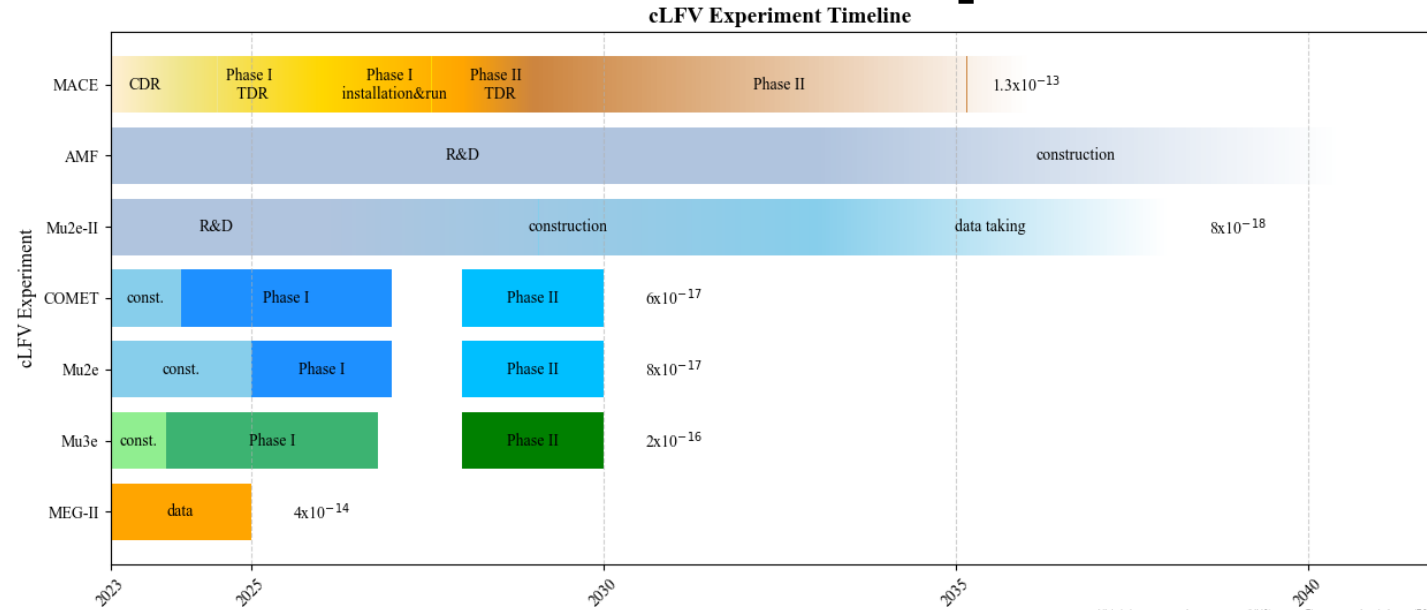
Worldwide cLFV experiments

Experiment	Facility	Process	Progress
MEGII	PSI (Switzerland)	$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$	Data taking
Mu2e	Fermilab (US)	$\mu^- \text{Al} \rightarrow e^- \text{Al}$	Construction
COMET	J-PARC (Japan)	$\mu^- \text{Al} \rightarrow e^- \text{Al}$	Construction
Mu3e	PSI (Switzerland)	$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+$	Commissioning
MACS	PSI (Switzerland)	$M \rightarrow \bar{M}$	Finished (1999)

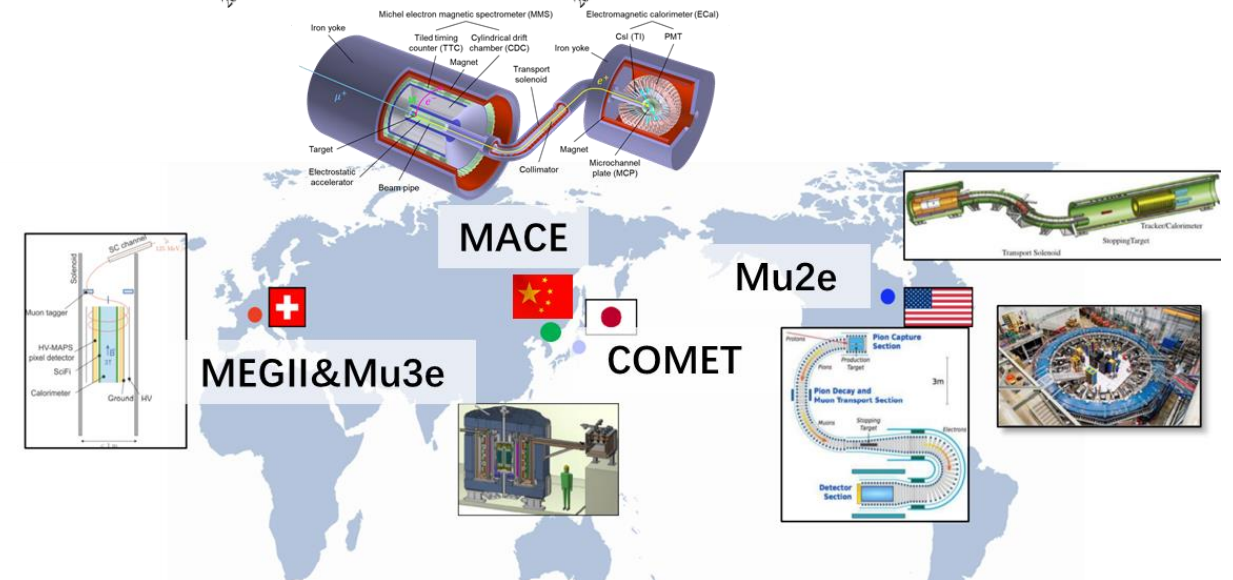
- Muonium conversion is a key cLFV process.
- After PSI set the bound $P < 8.3 \times 10^{-11}$ in 1999, no new experiments were proposed for >20 years.
- With enhanced beam intensity and advances in detector technology, breakthroughs in this field are anticipated.



Worldwide cLFV experiments

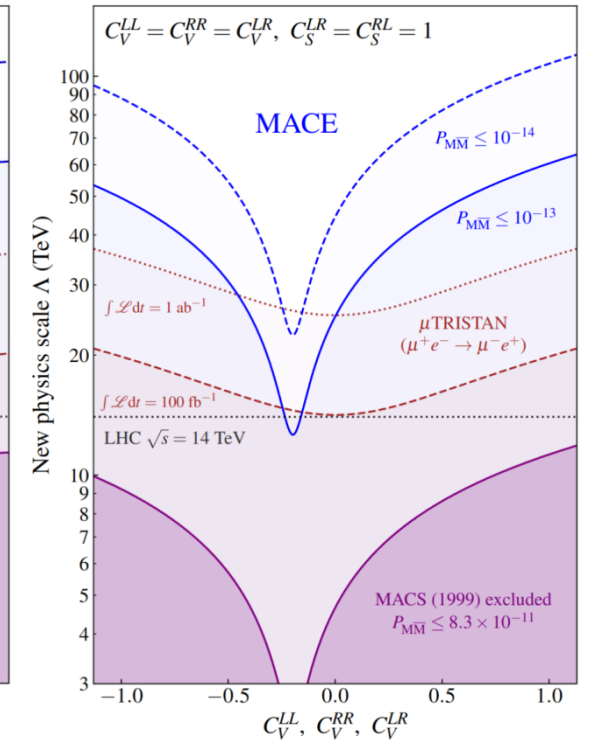
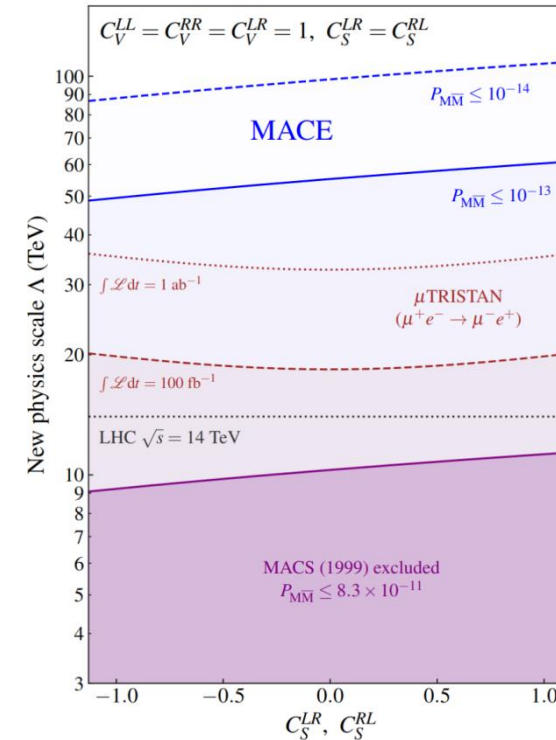


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Motivations of MACE

- Neutrinos are in oscillation; charged leptons?
- Demand for cutting-edge research:
 - cLFV selects neutrino mass generation mechanism.
 - Charged leptons and neutrinos share Yukawa couplings, $\rightarrow$ cLFV complementing neutrino physics.
 - Lepton cLFV $\leftrightarrow$ quark flavor physics.
 - Low-energy cLFV experiments $\rightarrow$ high-energy frontiers.
 - Muonium conversion experiments have stalled for decades, $\rightarrow$ both opportunities and challenges.
- Opportunities in China initiative accelerator facilities:
 - China is set to build several high-intensity muon sources.
 - What type of muon physics deserves further exploration?
 - An innovative approach: MACE!



Snowmass2021 - Letter of Interest



- Experiments search for cLFV:

➤ Mu2e (Fermilab)

$$\mu^- + \text{Al} \rightarrow e^- + \text{Al}$$

➤ COMET (J-PARC)

$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$$

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➤ MUSEUM: Muonium hyperfine structure.

Snowmass2021 - Letter of Interest

RF5-RF0-126

Search for Muonium to Antimuonium Conversion

RF Topical Groups: (check all that apply ☐/■)

- ☐ (RF1) Weak decays of b and c quarks
- ☐ (RF2) Weak decays of strange and light quarks
- ☐ (RF3) Fundamental Physics in Small Experiments
- ☐ (RF4) Baryon and Lepton Number Violating Processes
- ☒ (RF5) Charged Lepton Flavor Violation (electrons, muons and taus)
- ☐ (RF6) Dark Sector Studies at High Intensities
- ☐ (RF7) Hadron Spectroscopy
- ☐ (Other) [Please specify frontier/topical group(s)]



Contact Information: (authors listed after the text)

Name and Institution: Jian Tang/Sun Yat-sen University

Collaboration: MACE working group

Contact Email: tangjian5@mail.sysu.edu.cn

Abstract: It is puzzling whether there is any charged lepton flavor violation phenomenon beyond standard model. The upcoming Muonium (bound state of μ^+e^-) to Antimuonium (μ^-e^+) Conversion Experiment (MACE) will serve as a complementary experiment to search for charged lepton flavor violation processes, compared with other on-going experiments like Mu3e ($\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+e^-e^-$), MEG-II ($\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+\gamma$) and Mu2e/COMET ($\mu^-N \rightarrow e^-N$). MACE aims at a sensitivity of $P(\mu^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^-e^+) \sim \mathcal{O}(10^{-13})$, about three orders of magnitude better than the best limit published two decades ago. It is desirable to optimize the slow and ultra-pure μ^+ beam, select high-efficiency muonium formation materials, develop Monte-Carlo simulation tools and design a new magnetic spectrometer to increase S/B.

Yu Chen, Yu-Zhe Mao, Jian Tang, School of Physics, Sun Yat-sen University, China.

Yu Bao, Yu-Kai Chen, Rui-Rui Fan, Zhi-Long Hou, Han-Tao Jing, Hai-Bo Li, Yang Li, Han Miao, Ying-Peng Song, Jing-Yu Tang, Nikolaos Vassilopoulos, Tian-Yu Xing, Ye Yuan, Yao Zhang, Guang Zhao, Luping Zhou, Institute of High-Energy Physics, Beijing, China.

Chen Wu, Research Center of Nuclear Physics (RCNP), Osaka University, Japan.

Probing the doubly charged Higgs boson with a muonium to antimuonium conversion experiment

Chengcheng Han,¹ Da Huang^{2,3,4,*} Jian Tang^{5,1,†} and Yu Zhang^{5,6}

¹School of Physics, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou 510275, China

²National Astronomical Observatories, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100012, China

³School of Fundamental Physics and Mathematical Sciences, Hangzhou Institute for Advanced Study, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Hangzhou 310024, China

⁴International Center for Theoretical Physics Asia-Pacific, Beijing/Hangzhou 10010, China

⁵Institutes of Physical Science and Information Technology, Anhui University, Hefei 230601, China

⁶School of Physics and Materials Science, Anhui University, Hefei 230601, China

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **103**, 055023 (2021)

Snowmass2021 whitepaper



March 23, 2022

arXiv: 2203.11406

Muonium to antimuonium conversion: Contributed paper for Snowmass 21

Ai-Yu Bai,¹ Yu Chen,¹ Yukai Chen,² Rui-Rui Fan,² Zhilong Hou,² Han-Tao Jing,² Hai-Bo Li,² Yang Li,² Han Miao,^{2,3} Huaxing Peng,^{2,3} Alexey A. Petrov (Coordinator),⁴ Ying-Peng Song,² Jian Tang (Coordinator),¹ Jing-Yu Tang,² Nikolaos Vassilopoulos,² Sampsa Vihonen,¹ Chen Wu,⁵ Tian-Yu Xing,² Yu Xu,¹ Ye Yuan,² Yao Zhang,² Guang Zhao,² Shi-Han Zhao,¹ and Luping Zhou²

¹*School of Physics, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou 510275, China*

²*Institute of High Energy Physics, Beijing 100049, China*

³*University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, People's Republic of China*

⁴*Department of Physics and Astronomy Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan 48201, USA*

⁵*Research Center of Nuclear Physics (RCNP), Osaka University, Japan*

The spontaneous muonium to antimuonium conversion is one of the interesting charged lepton flavor violation processes. It serves as a clear indication of new physics and plays an important role in constraining the parameter space beyond Standard Model. MACE is a proposed experiment to probe such a phenomenon and expected to enhance the sensitivity to the conversion probability by more than two orders of magnitude from the current best upper constraint obtained by the PSI experiment two decades ago. Recent developments in the theoretical and experimental aspects to search for such a rare process are summarized.

Feedbacks after Snowmass LOI

A New Charged Lepton Flavor Violation Program at Fermilab

Bertrand Echenard – Caltech

with Robert Bernstein (FNAL) and Jaroslav Pasternak (ICL/RAL SCTF)

Potential Fermilab Muon Campus & Storage Ring Experiments Workshop
May 2021



Snowmass process and contributed papers

Frontier for Rare Processes and Precision Measurements

Alexey A. Petrov
Wayne State University

This effort is part of a global muon program under study within Snowmass

- Muon decays (MEG and Mu3e)
- Muon conversion (Mu2e / COMET and Mu2e II)
- $\Delta L=2$ processes $\mu^- N \rightarrow e^+ N$
- Muonium – antimuonium (MACE)
- General Low Energy Muon Facility (FNAL)
- Light new physics in muon decays (MEG-Fwd)

Bertrand lists MACE as a key next-generation cLFV experiment proposal

A large community committed to muon physics at FNAL and around the world

- Theoretical Letter of Intent

Physics of muonium and muonium oscillations

Alexey A. Petrov¹

¹Department of Physics and Astronomy
Wayne State University, Detroit, MI 48201, USA

Precision studies of a muonium, the bound state of a muon and an electron, provide access to physics beyond the Standard Model. We propose that extensive theoretical and experimental studies of atomic physics of a muonium, its decays and muonium-antimuonium oscillations could provide an impact on indirect searches for new physics.

Search for Muonium to Antimuonium Conversion

RF Topical Groups: (check all that apply) ☐ ☒

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- ☐ (RF2) Weak decays of strange and light quarks
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Feedbacks after Snowmass LOI

Detectors and concepts for future CLFV experiments

Bertrand Echenard
 Caltech

NuFact 2021
 Cagliari - September 2021



MACE at EMuS

EMuS – new muon facility in China

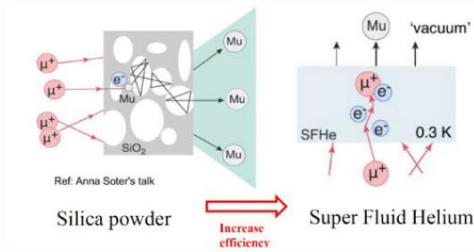
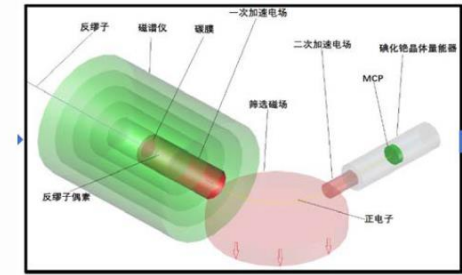


	Proton driver [MW]	Surface muons			Decay muons		
		Intensity [1E6/s]	Polarization [%]	Spread [%]	energy [MeV/c]	Intensity [1E6/s]	Spread [%]
PSI	1.3	420	90	10	85-125	240	3
ISIS	0.16	1.5	95	<15	20-120	0.4	10
RIKEN/RAL	0.16	0.8	95	<15	65-120	1	10
JPARC	1	100	95	15	33-250	10	15
TRIUMF	0.075	1.4	90	7	20-100	0.0014	10
EMuS	0.005	83	50	10	50-450	16	10
Baby EMuS	0.005	1.2	95	10			

×5 CSNS-II upgrade

Jian Tang
 (Snowmass 2021 RPP meeting)

MACE concept



On-going physics studies and detector R&D

Feedbacks after Snowmass LOI

Progress of Muonium-to-Antimuonium Conversion Experiment (MACE)

Workshop on a Future Muon Program at Fermilab



2023-03-28

Shihan Zhao

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Muonium-to-Antimuonium Conversion Experiment

MACE working group: Ai-Yu Bai,¹ Yu Chen,¹ Yukai Chen,² Rui-Rui Fan,² Zhilong Hou,² Han-Tao Jing,² Hai-Bo Li,² Yang Li,² Han Miao,² Huaxing Peng,² Ying-Peng Song,² Jian Tang,¹ Jing-Yu Tang,² Nikolaos Vassilopoulos,² Chen Wu,³ Tian-Yu Xing,² Yu Xu,¹ Ye Yuan,² Yao Zhang,² Guang Zhao,² Shihan Zhao,¹ and Luping Zhou²

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³Research Center of Nuclear Physics, Osaka University, Japan

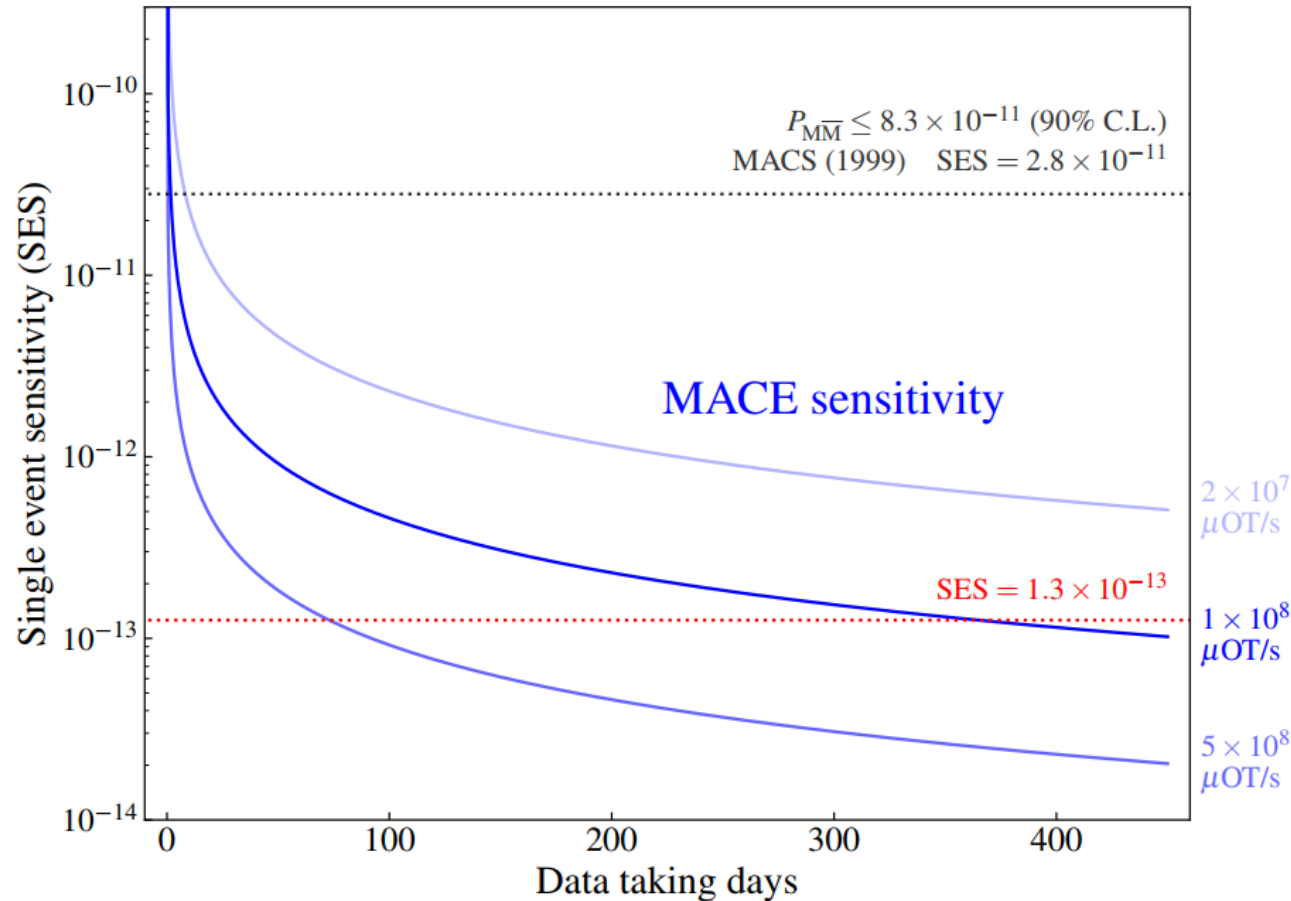
Reference: Snowmass2021 Whitepaper: Muonium to antimuonium conversion, arXiv:2203.11406

- Invited talks at ICHEP and Fermilab workshop, see also conference proceedings <https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.05933>
- International Advisory Committee at NuFact



Plenary talk at CLFV2023, Heidelberg University

Breakthrough in fundamental science?



- The latest result was obtained by MACS in 1999, with a muon flux of $8 \times 10^6 \mu^+/\text{s}$.
- Requirement: China domestic accelerator muon source to provide $10^8 \mu^+/\text{s}$, surface muon.
- Over 20 years, significant advances in detector technology.
- China's accelerator and particle detection technology have made great strides.
- Currently, there are no ongoing muonium conversion experiments internationally.
- The new generation of experiments is expected to improve sensitivity by over two orders of magnitude compared to the 1999 PSI results!
- MACE is expected to be at the forefront of global research!

MACE: Muonium to Antimuonium Conversion Experiment.



MACE conceptual design report

Conceptual Design of the Muonium-to-Antimuonium Conversion

Experiment (MACE)

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(Dated: October 25, 2024)

<https://indico.impcas.ac.cn/event/63/overview>

CDR review - 8/26

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<https://arxiv.org/abs/2410.18817>

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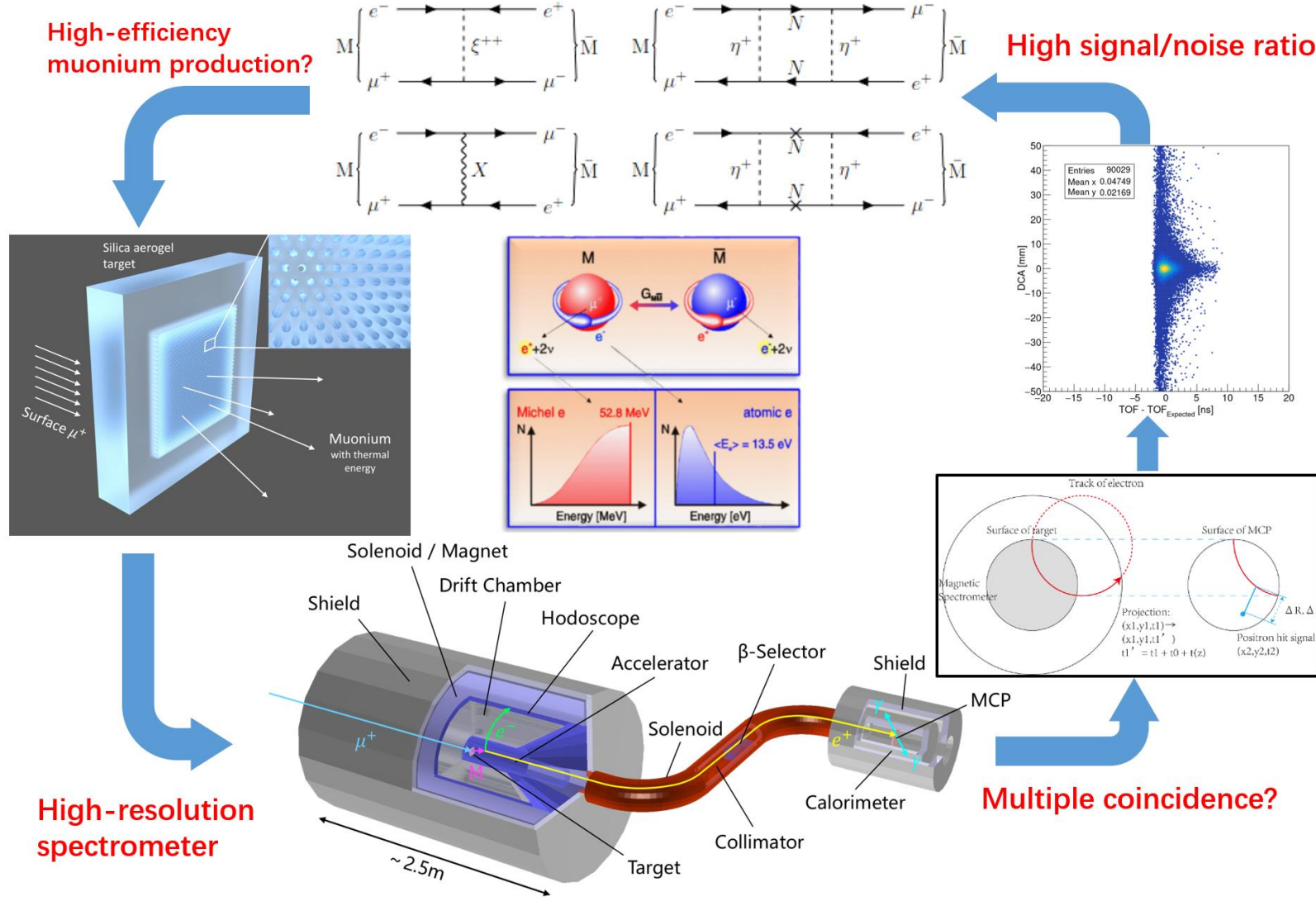


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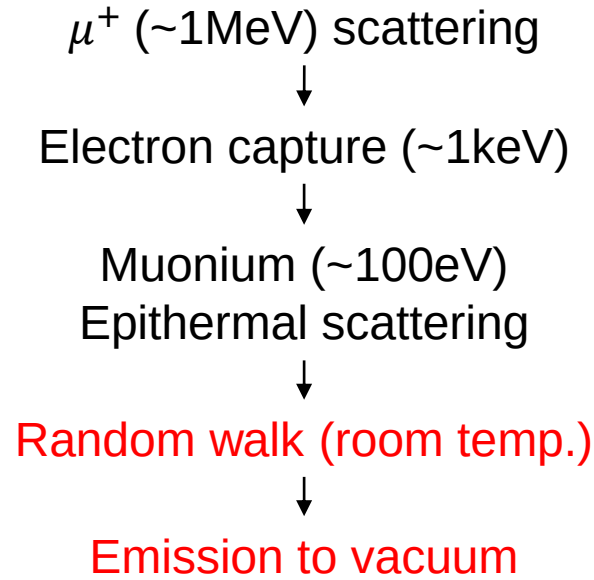
- Review of the past experience
- Motivations for muon physics
- **Conceptual design of MACE**
- Local laboratory: SMOOTH

Challenges and solutions for MACE

Muonium-to-Antimuonium Conversion Experiment

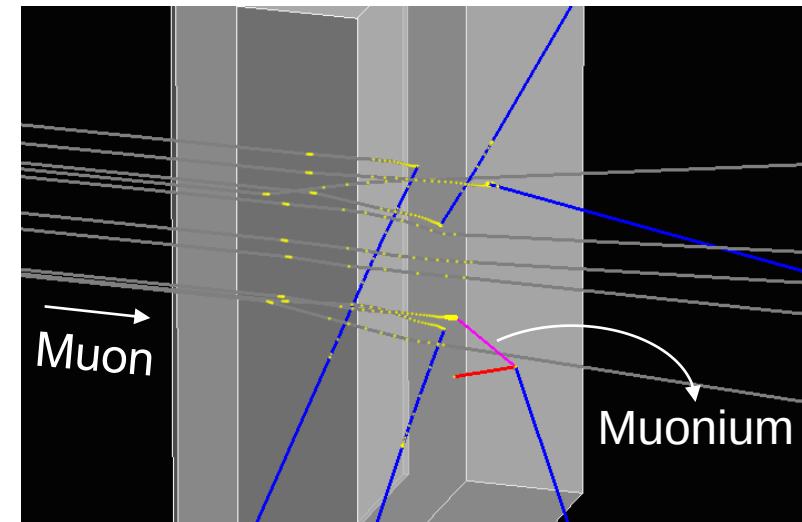
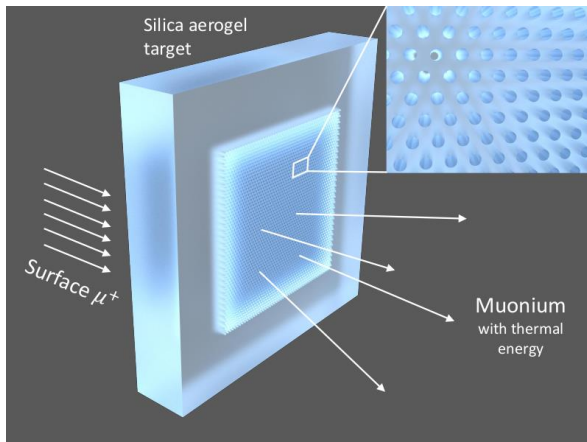
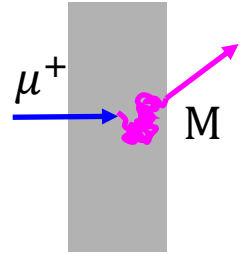


Muonium production in silica aerogel



MC simulation for muonium transport has been developed under the MACE offline software framework.

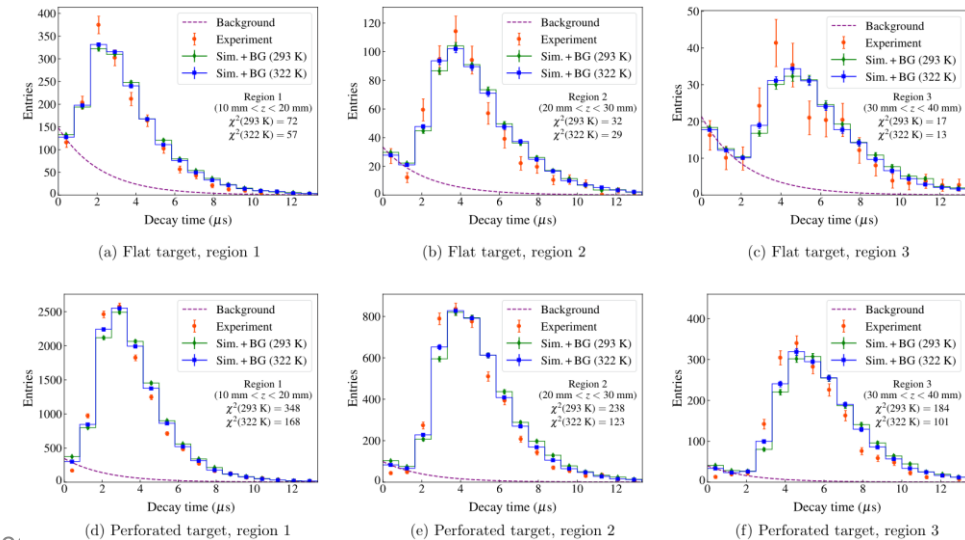
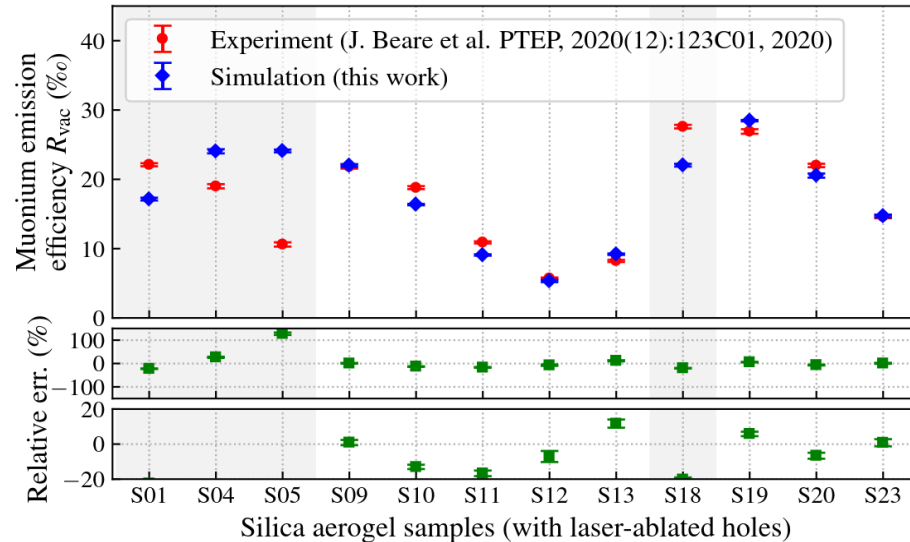
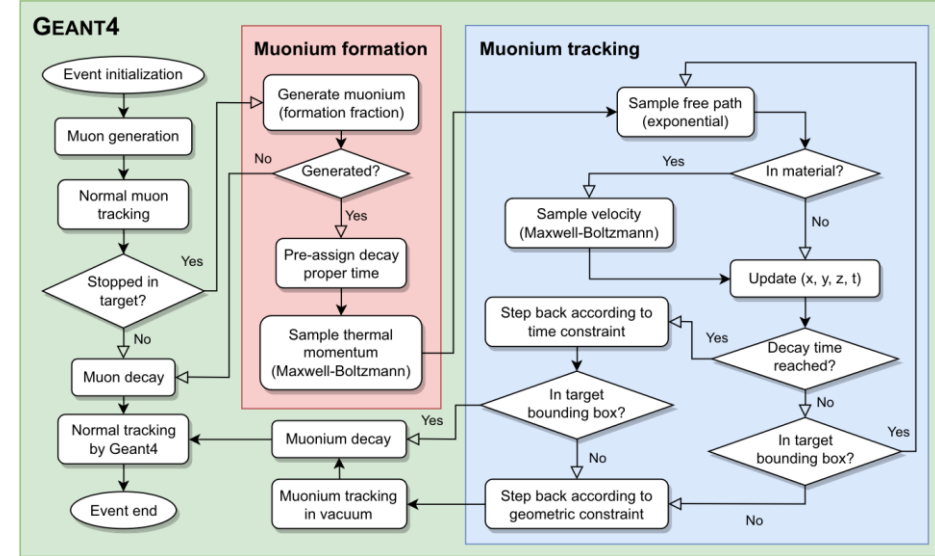
- ① Geant4 low-energy EM process.
- ② Geant4 AtRest process, modeled phenomenologically.
- ③ Random walk approach to thermal muonium tracking.



Optimization of muonium yield in perforated silica aerogel

- Intensity of in-vacuum muonium source: $I_M^{\text{vac}} = I_{\text{beam}} Y_{\mu \rightarrow M}$
- $Y_{\mu \rightarrow M}$ can be improved by utilizing porous materials, ideally perforated silica aerogel.
- An simulation method is developed to accurately simulate muonium production and diffusion.
- The simulation is validated by muonium yield data measured in TRIUMF and J-PARC.

Shihan Zhao and Jian Tang, Optimization of muonium yield in perforated silica aerogel, *Phys. Rev. D* 109, 072012. arXiv 2401.00222



Optimization of muonium yield in perforated silica aerogel

- A novel multi-layer design is expected considerably increase muonium yields in a vacuum (Ce Zhang et al.).
- The simulation result achieves
 - ✓ $Y_{\mu \rightarrow M} = N_M^{\text{vac}} / N_{\mu}^{\text{total}} = 4.08\%$
 - ✓ Nearly an order of magnitude improvement on $N_M^{\text{vac}} / N_{\mu}^{\text{total}}$.
 - Still room for further optimization.
- Multi-layer target + intensive muon beam → intensive in-vacuum muonium source:

✓ $I_M^{\text{vac}} = I_{\text{beam}} Y_{\mu \rightarrow M} = 4 \times 10^6 / \text{s}$, assuming $I_{\text{beam}} = 10^8 / \text{s}$

➤ For comparsion, MACS 1990s: $I_M^{\text{vac}} = 4 \times 10^4 / \text{s}$

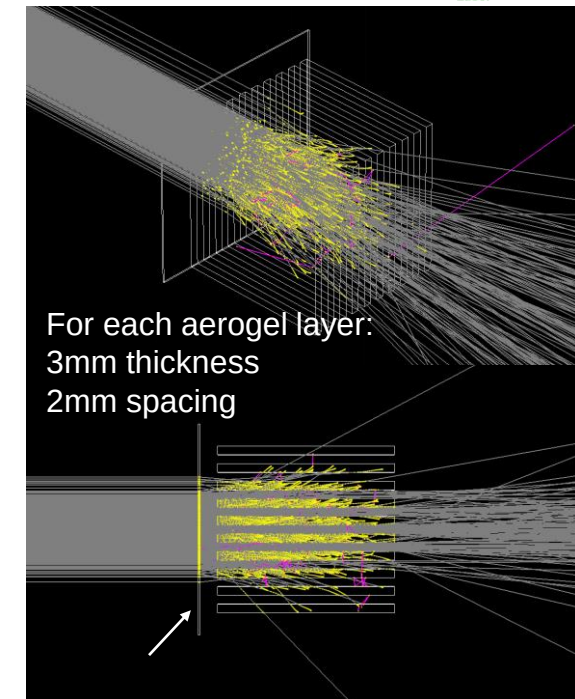
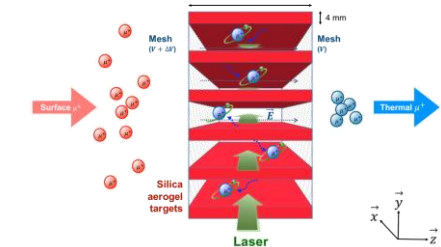
- Expected two orders of magnitude improvements in in-vacuum muonium source intensity!

Shihan Zhao and Jian Tang, Optimization of muonium yield in perforated silica aerogel, **Phys. Rev. D** 109, 072012



Modeling the diffusion of muonium in silica aerogel and its application to a novel design of multi-layer target for thermal muon generation

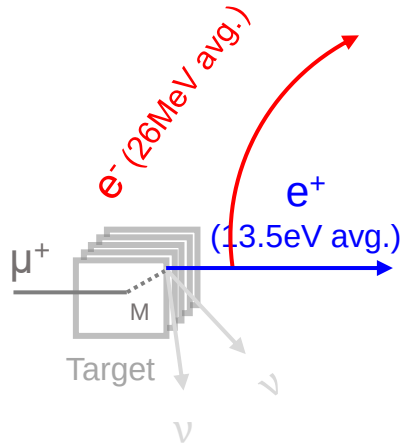
C. Zhang ^{a,*}, T. Hiraki ^b, K. Ishida ^c, S. Kamal ^d, S. Kamioka ^e, T. Mibe ^e, A. Olin ^{g,f}, N. Saito ^e, K. Suzuki ^{h,i}, S. Uetake ^b, Y. Mao ^a



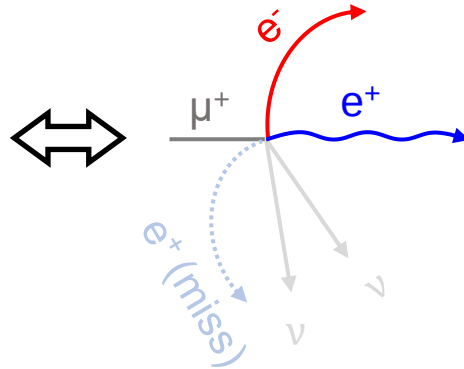
MACE signal and background

Signal:

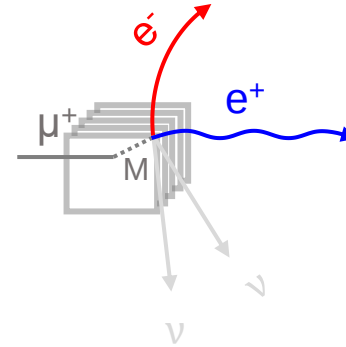
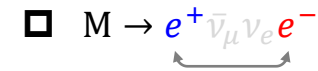
fast e^- + slow e^+



1. Internal conv. (IC) decay

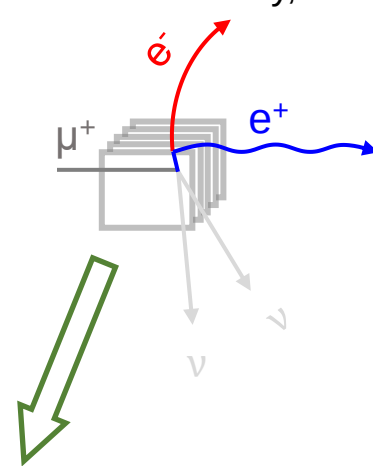


2. Final state scattering



3. Accidental bkg.

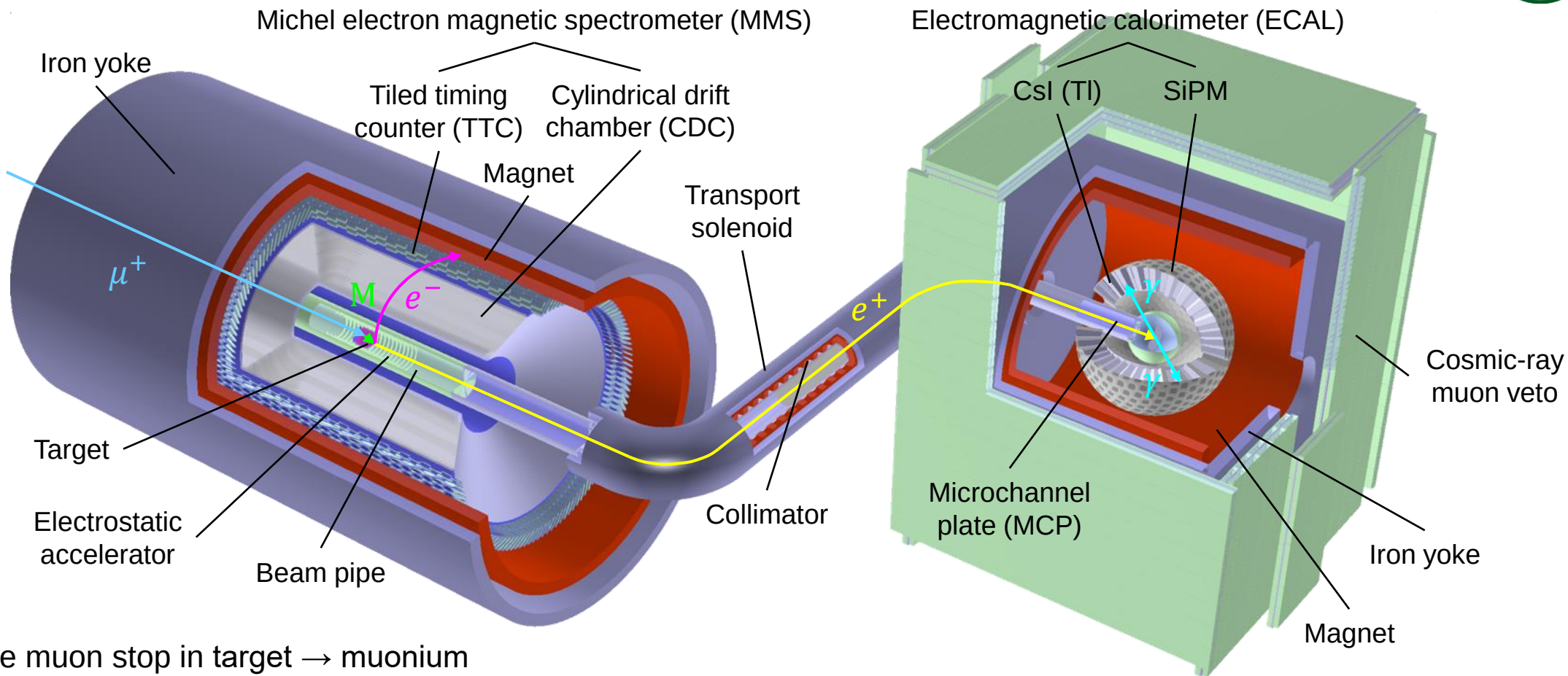
- ❑ Scattering/conv. e^-
- ❑ Misreconstruction
- ❑ Cosmic ray, etc.



- Coincidence of a fast e^- and a slow e^+
- Common vertex (by selecting e^+/e^- track DCA)
 - ✓ Select p_{xy} of e^+
 - ✓ Reject accidental e^-
- Time coincidence (by selecting e^+ TOF)
 - ✓ Select p_z of e^+
 - ✓ Reject e^+ from IC decay or Bhabha scattering
- Charge identification (by e^- track & e^+ annihilation)

- A "clean" data taking duration
 - ❑ Pulsed muon beam
- Excellent vertex resolution
 - ❑ e^+/e^- spatial resolution
 - ❑ Precise e^+ transport in EM field
- Excellent time resolution
 - ❑ e^+/e^- time resolution

MACE baseline design v1



- I. Surface muon stop in target $\rightarrow$ muonium
- II. M diffuse into vacuum & convert to $\bar{M}$
- III. Decay in a vacuum: $\bar{M} \rightarrow e^+ e^- \nu_\mu \bar{\nu}_e$
- IV. CDC detects Michel e^- track
- V. Transport atomic e^+ to MCP (conserving transverse position)
- VI. MCP detects e^+ position
- VII. e^+ annihilates on MCP
- VIII. ECAL detects 2 back-to-back annihilation γ

Triple coincidence:
 $\triangleright$ **MMS + MCP + ECAL**
 $\downarrow$
 Michel e^- Atomic e^+

MACE baseline design v1

Muonium target:

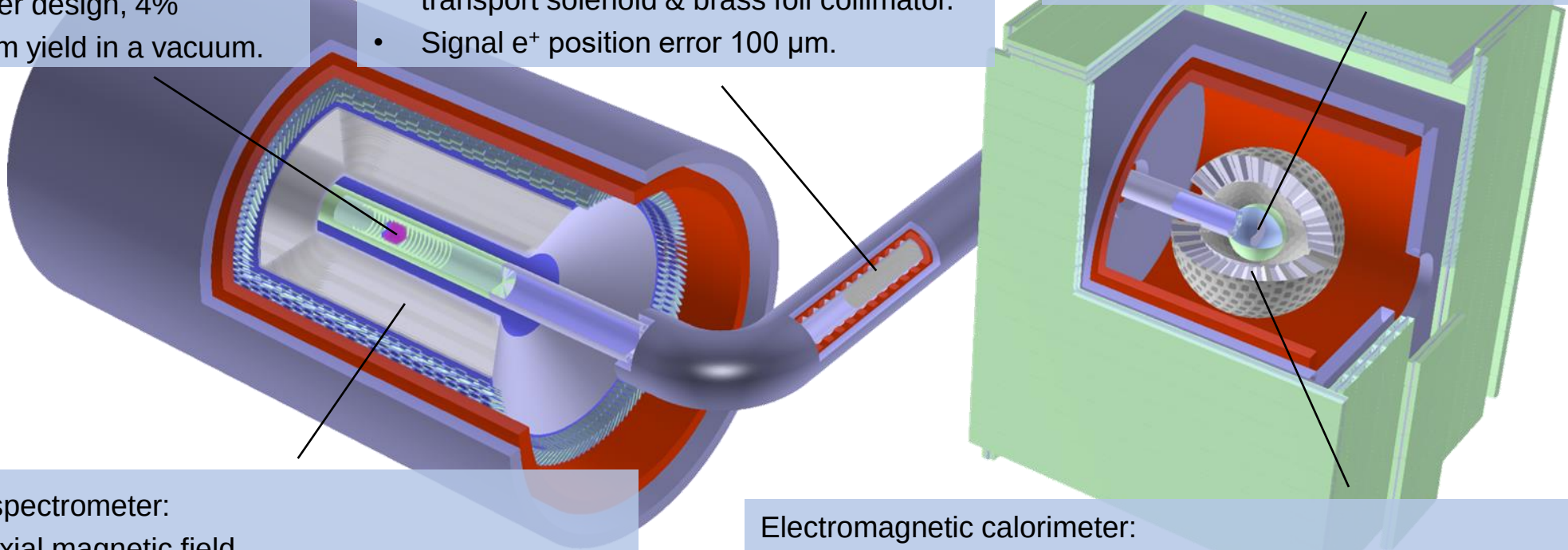
- Silica aerogel with perforation surface.
- Multilayer design, 4% muonium yield in a vacuum.

Positron transport system:

- 500 V electrostatic accelerator & 0.1 T transport solenoid & brass foil collimator.
- Signal e^+ position error 100 μm .

Microchannel plate (MCP) specifications:

- Signal (e^+ 500 eV) efficiency > 0.6
- $\Delta t \sim 500$ ps, $\Delta x \sim 100$ μm .



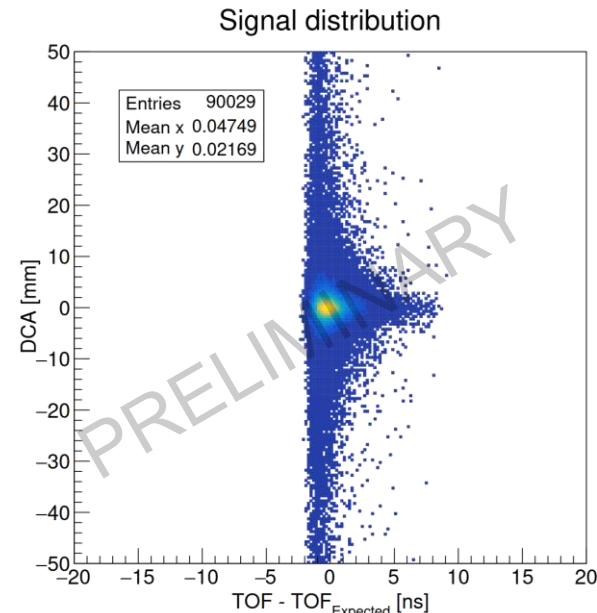
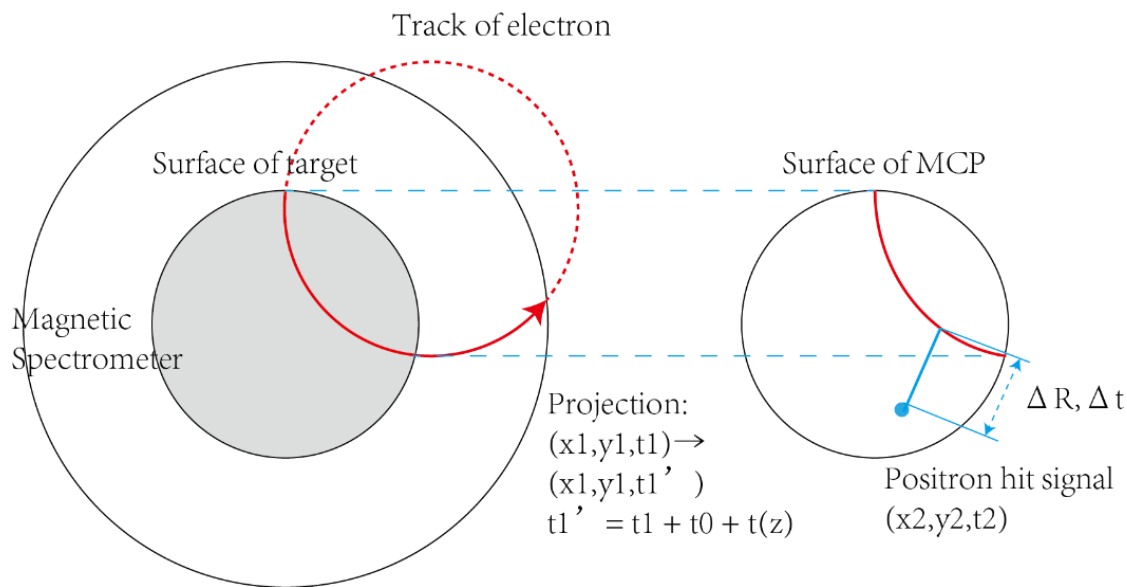
Magnetic spectrometer:

- 0.1 T axial magnetic field.
- CDC: $\text{He}(\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10})$ gas, 21 layers, 3540 cells. 89% geometry acceptance, $\Delta p \approx 500$ keV.
- TTC: 5124 fast scintillators with SiPM readout, slant 46 deg, $\Delta t \sim 100$ ps.

Electromagnetic calorimeter:

- Geometry: Class-I GP(8,0) Goldberg polyhedron.
- 622 CsI(Tl) crystals with 10 cm length, SiPM readout.
- 93.6% geometry acceptance, $\Delta E/E = 10\%$ (signal 2γ event), 78.3% signal efficiency.

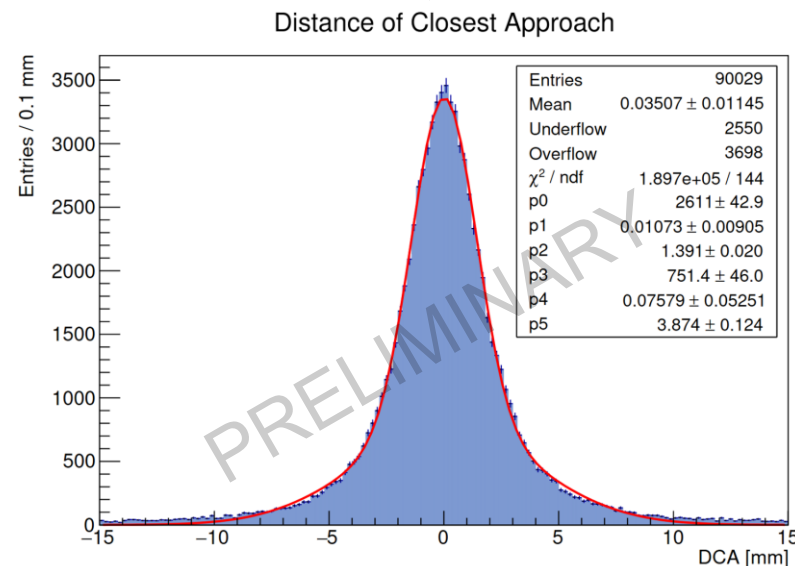
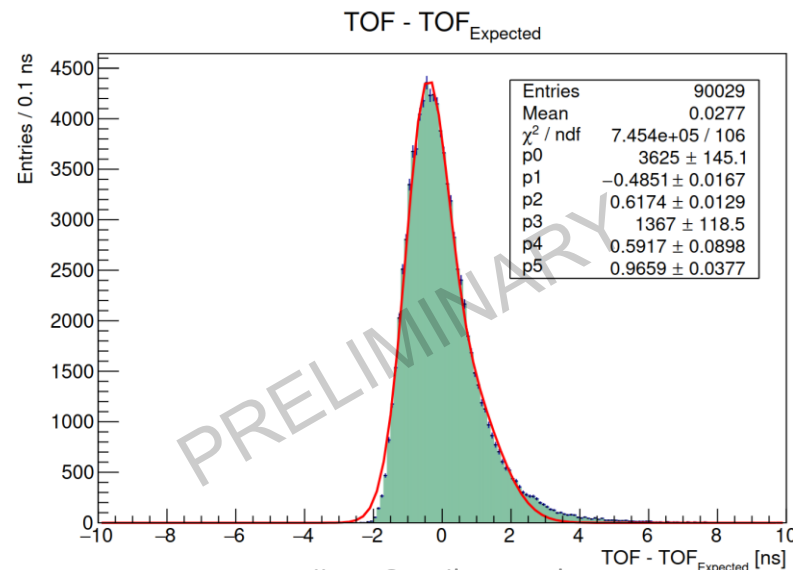
Simulation: muonium conversion signal



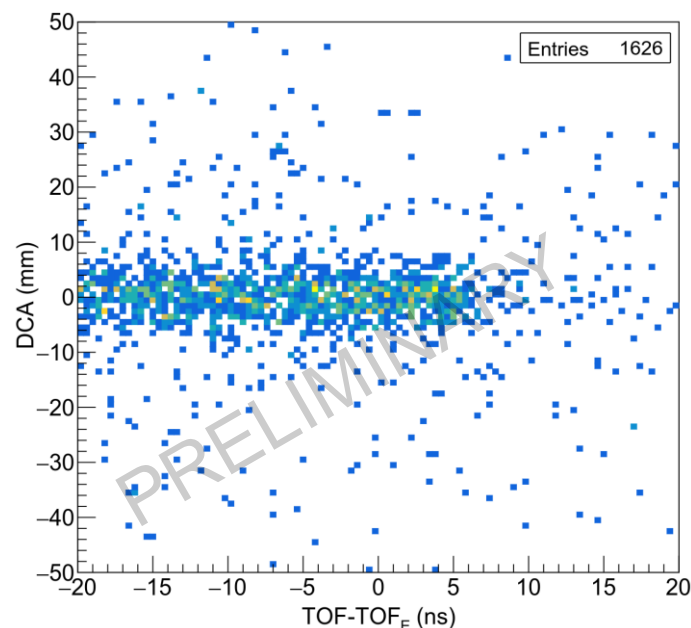
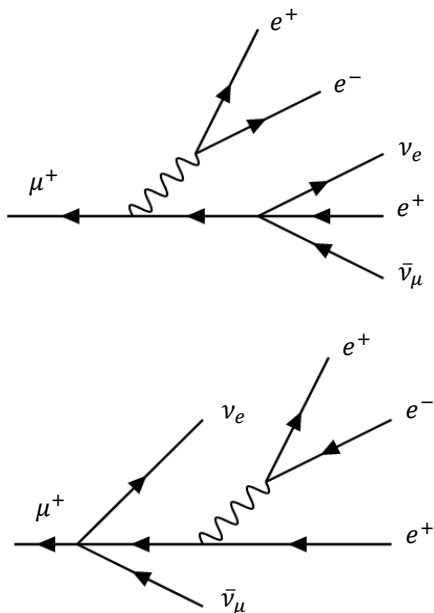
- Elliptical 3σ signal region:

$$\left(\frac{\text{TOF} - \text{TOF}_E}{3\sigma_{\text{TOF}}} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\text{DCA}}{3\sigma_{\text{DCA}}} \right)^2 < 1$$

- $\epsilon_{\text{signal region cut}} = 0.987$

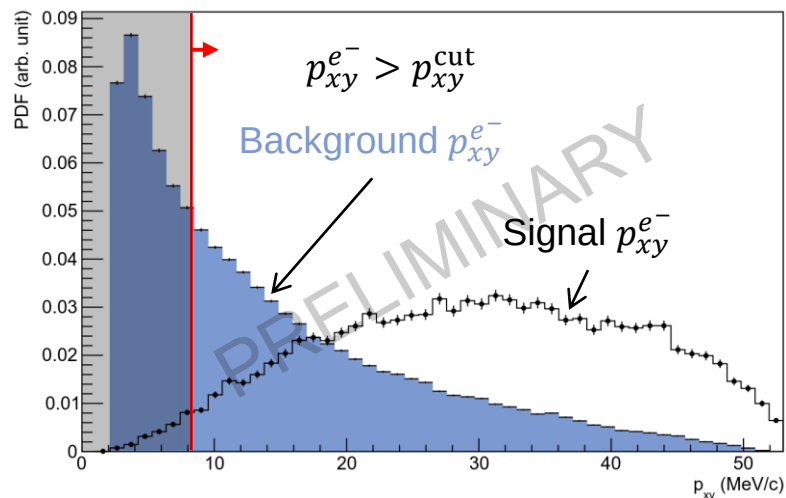


Simulation: muon internal conversion decay

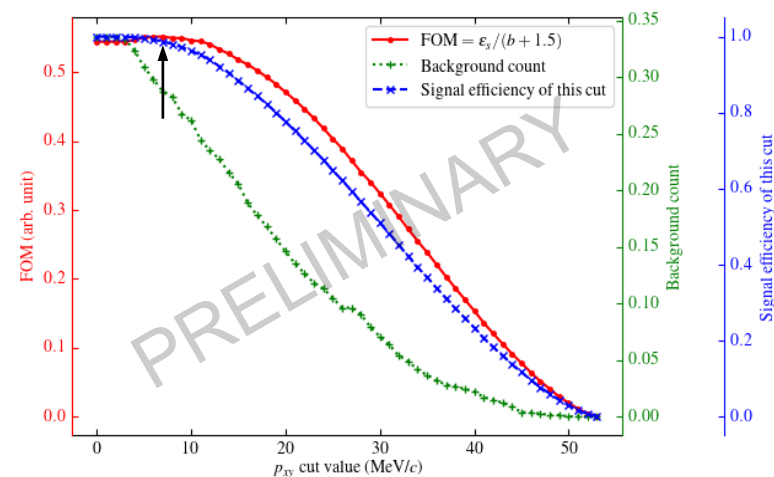


$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+ \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_e$ simulation:

- Event selection:
 - 3σ signal region cut
 - $p_{xy} > 7 \text{ MeV}/c$
- $\varepsilon_{\text{pxy cut}} = 0.926$
- $\varepsilon_{\text{all cut}} = 0.914$
- $N_{\text{bkg}} = 0.287 \pm 0.020$
(in $10^8 \mu/\text{s} \times 365 \text{ d}$)



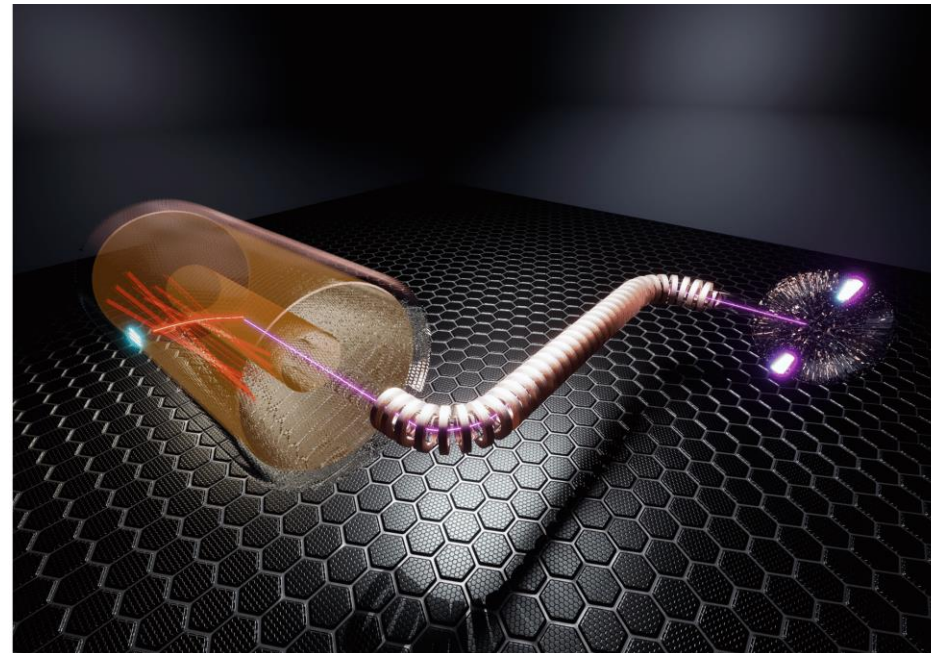
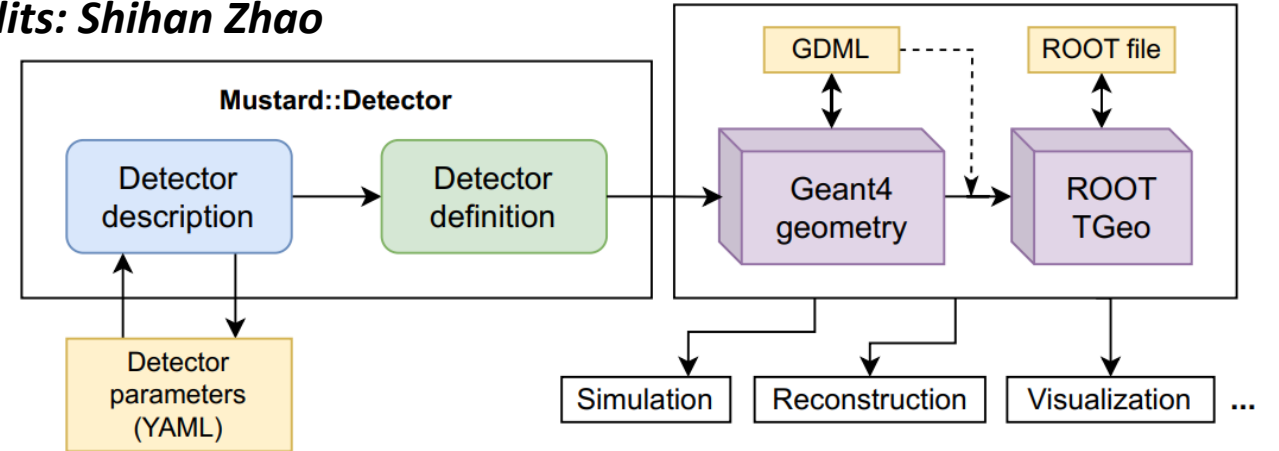
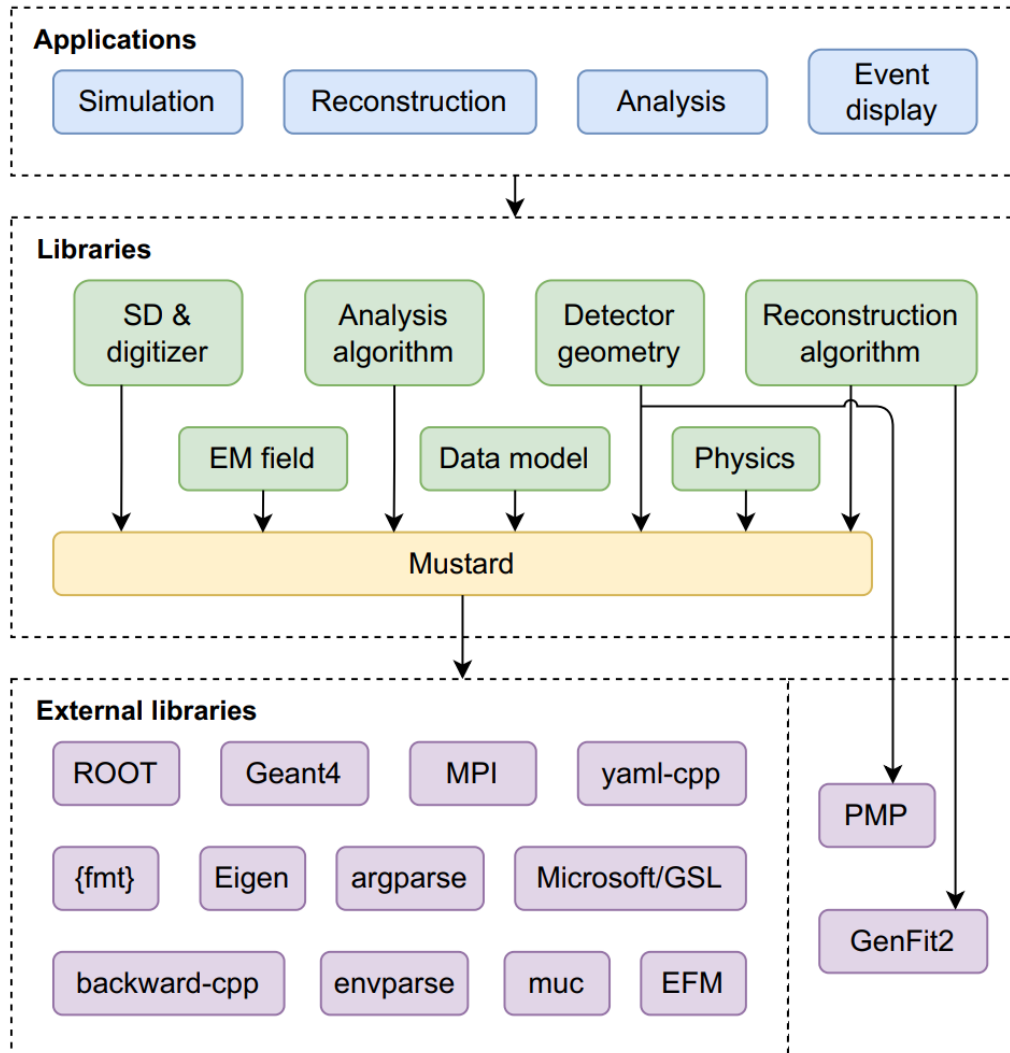
$$\text{FOM} = \frac{\varepsilon_s}{b + 1.5}$$



MACE offline software

<https://github.com/zhao-shihan/Mustard>

Credits: Shihan Zhao



*Credits:
Weizhi Xiong*

MACE sensitivity

- Summary of current full simulation results:

Background		count / ($10^8 \mu/s \times 365 \text{ d}$)
$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^- e^+ \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_e$		0.287 ± 0.020
Accidental	Beam positron	< 0.07
	Cosmic ray (w/ veto)	< 0.1
Total		< 1

- ✓ $O(10^{-13})$ single event sensitivity is expected:

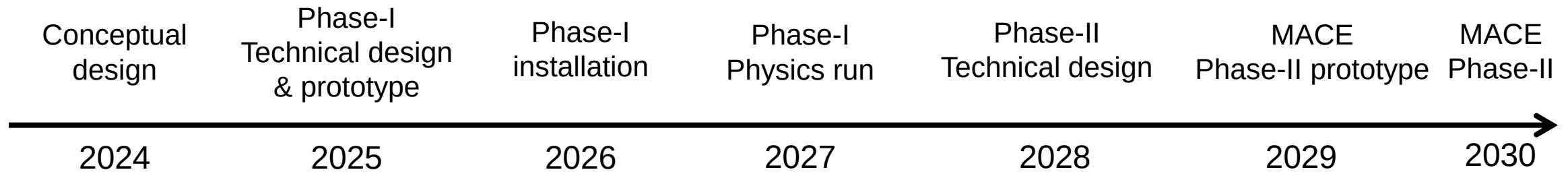
$$SES = \frac{1}{\epsilon_{MMS}^{geom} \epsilon_{MMS}^{recon} \epsilon_{PTS} \epsilon_{MCP} \epsilon_{ECAL}^{In} \epsilon_{ECAL}^{Geom} \epsilon_{ECAL}^{Recon} \epsilon_{Cut} N_M^{vac}} = 1.3 \times 10^{-13}$$

- More **staging** scenarios to match the muon beamlines!
- More simulations and refined data analyses to be **validated with prototypes**!

Detector, component or analysis	Efficiency type	Efficiency value
Magnetic spectrometer (MMS)	Geometric efficiency (ϵ_{MMS}^{geom})	84.6%
	Reconstruction efficiency (ϵ_{MMS}^{recon})	$\sim 80\%$
Positron transport system (PTS)	Transmission efficiency (ϵ_{PTS})	65.8%
Microchannel plate (MCP)	Detection efficiency (ϵ_{MCP})	32.6%
Electromagnetic calorimeter (ECAL)	Incident efficiency ϵ_{ECAL}^{In}	63.4%
	Geometric efficiency ϵ_{ECAL}^{Geom}	95.3%
	Reconstruction efficiency ϵ_{ECAL}^{Recon}	94.0%
Total detection efficiency		8.25%
Analysis	Signal efficiency (ϵ_{Cut})	$\sim 80\%$
Total signal efficiency		6.6%

Credits: Shihan Zhao

Plan and timeline



➤ Phase-I: $O(10^{-11})$ sensitivity for muon(ium) rare decay (e.g. $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma\gamma$ & $M \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$)

- Data taking duration: 1 year

- Beam specifications:

- ❑ Surface muon, $10^6 \sim 10^7 \mu^+ \text{ OT /s}$
- ❑ Pulsed or CW beam
- ❑ Momentum spreading: $\Delta p/p \sim 10\%$
- ❑ Beam spot size $\sim 50 \text{ mm}$

➤ Phase-II: $O(10^{-13})$ sensitivity for muonium conversion

- Data taking duration: 1 year

- Beam specifications:

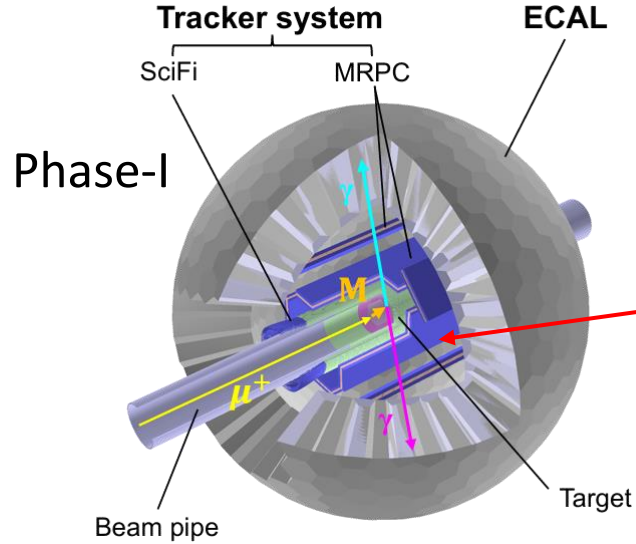
- ❑ Surface muon, $10^8 \mu^+ \text{ OT /s}$
- ❑ Pulsed beam, repetition rate $20 \sim 50 \text{ kHz}$
- ❑ Momentum spreading: $\Delta p/p \sim 10\%$
- ❑ Beam spot size $\sim 50 \text{ mm}$

- Matched with domestic muon beams in the near future: [Melody](#), [CiADS](#), [HIAF](#), [SHINE](#)

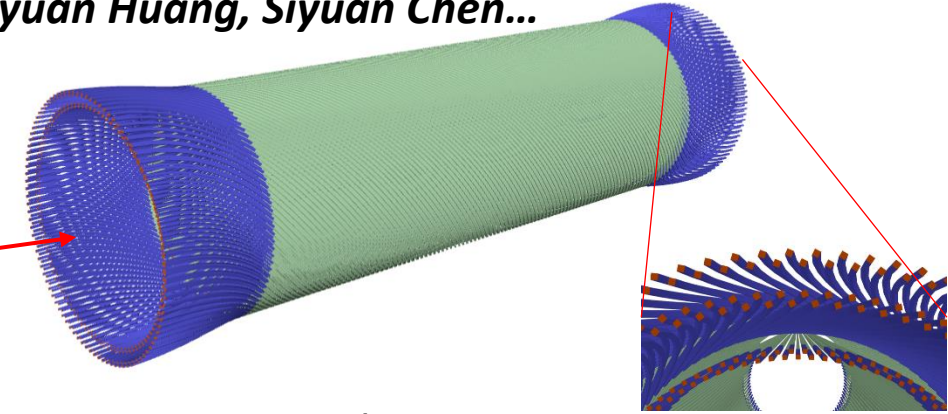
MACE Phase-I: SciFi tracker

Goals:

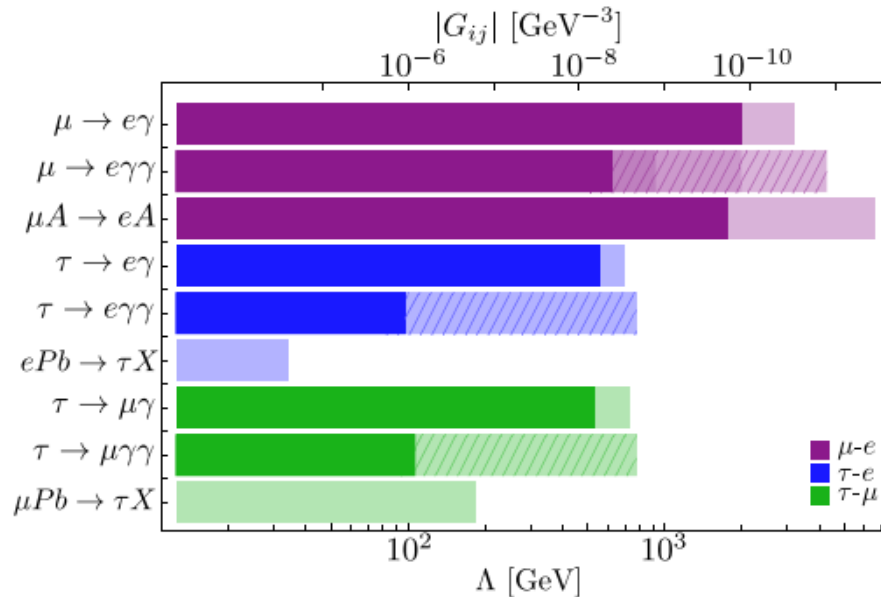
- $\mu^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+\gamma\gamma$



Credits: Yinyuan Huang, Siyuan Chen...



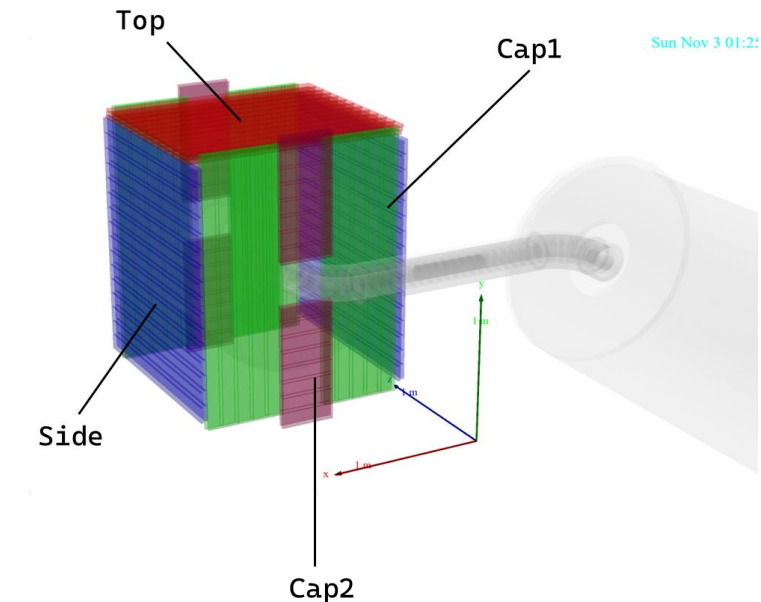
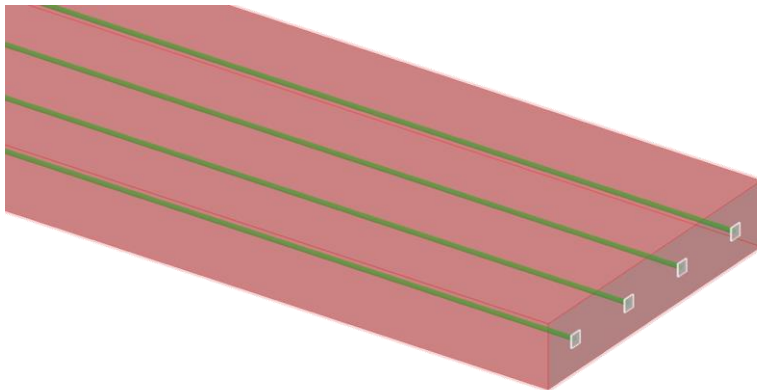
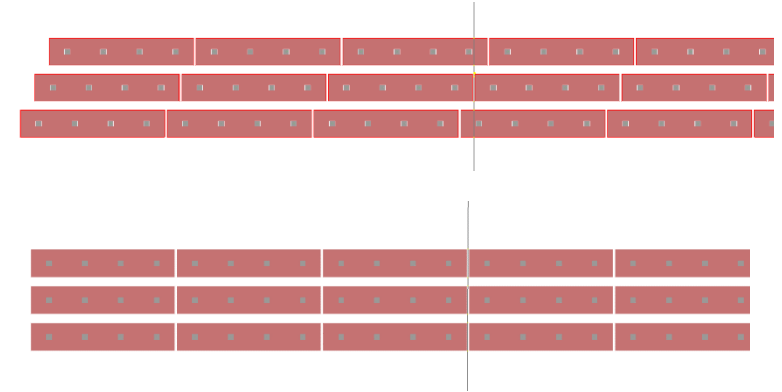
- SciFi tracker:
 - Plastic Scintillation Fiber (Green)
 - Light guide (Blue)
 - SiPM (Red)
- Design:
 - 3 layers with twisting
- Simulation results:
 - Signal efficiency: 94%
 - Spatial resolution 1 mm
 - Time resolution 0.85 ns



Cosmic ray veto (CRV)

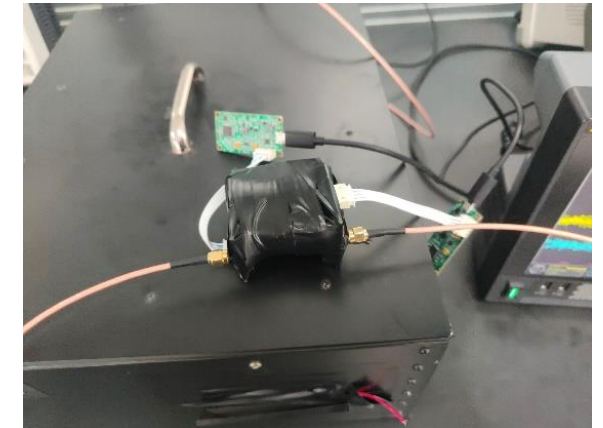
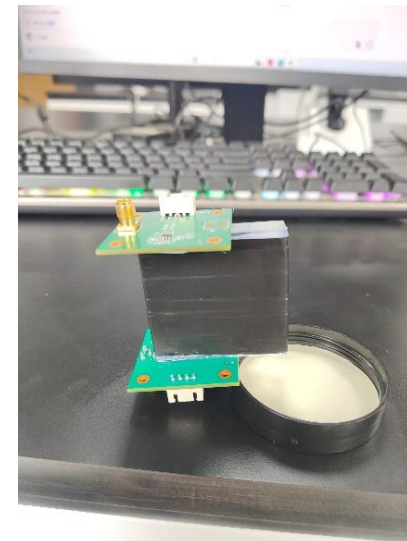
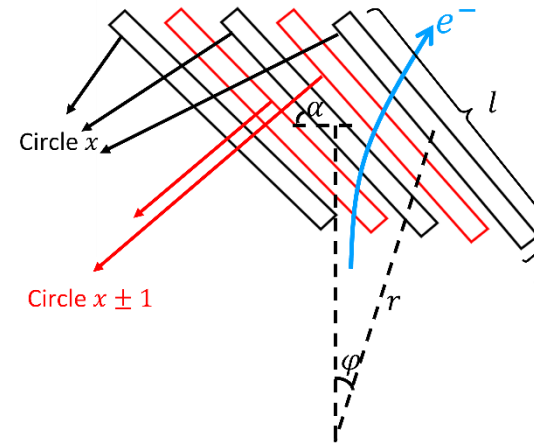
- Purpose
 - Veto cosmic-ray-induced accidental background
- Goals
 - Efficiency $\geq 99.5\%$
 - Time resolution < 5 ns
- Design
 - Wavelength-shifting (WLS) fiber-embedded plastic strip scintillator
 - Stepped staggered stacking of 2--3 layers of strips

Credits: Zhichao Wang



Tiled timing counter (TTC)

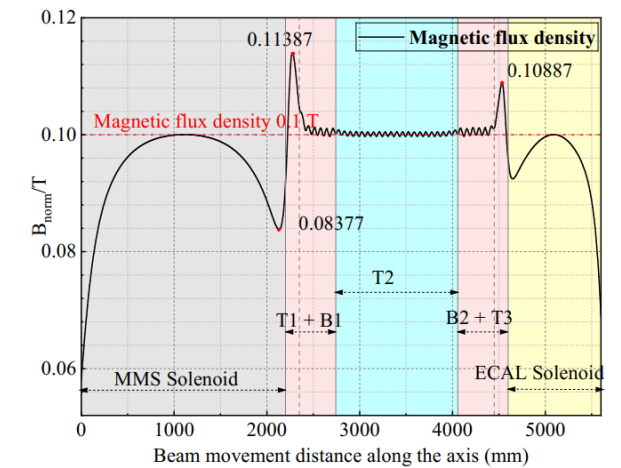
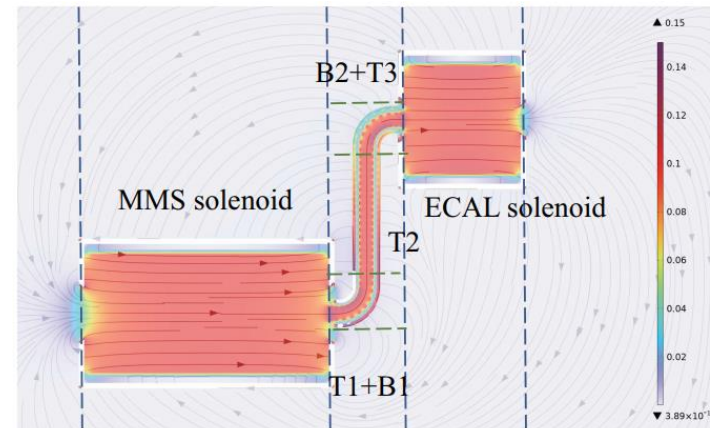
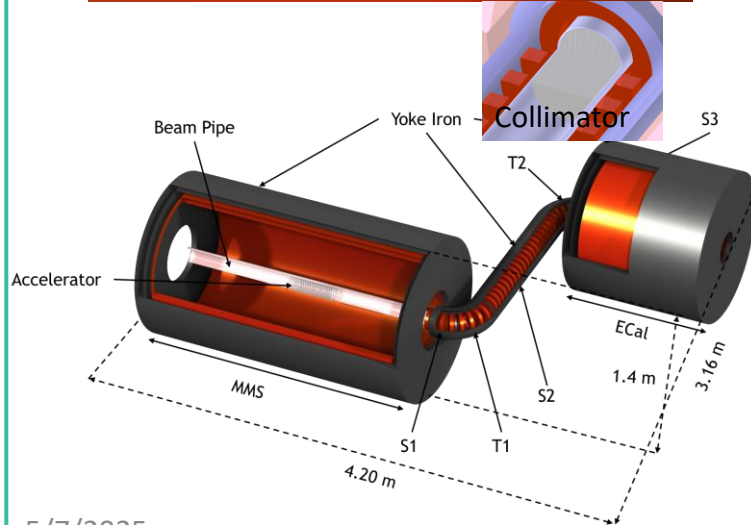
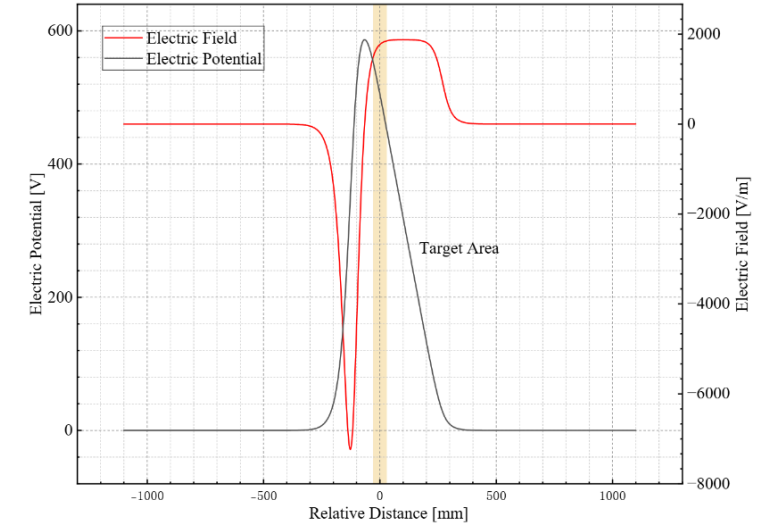
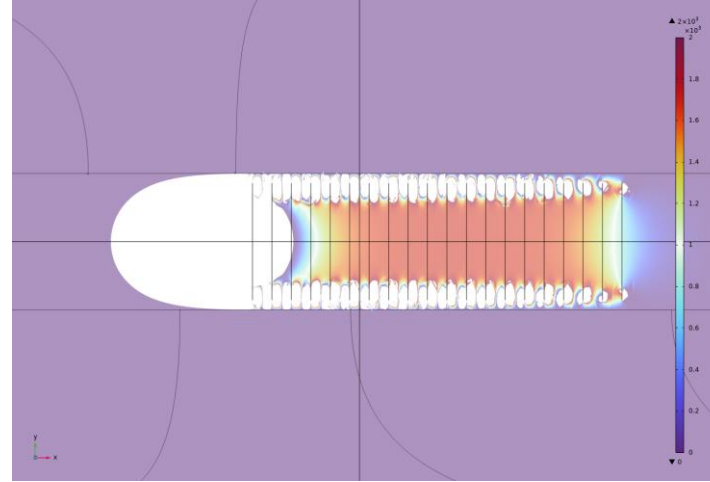
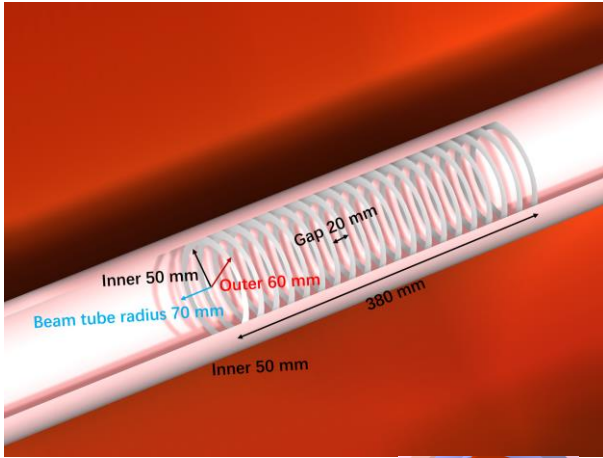
- TTC objective:
 - Event rate: $\sim 10^4$ / tile / s
 - Time resolution ~ 100 ps
 - 50 mm spatial resolution
- TTC design
 - Plastic scintillator array
 - $122 (\varphi) \times 42 (z) = 5124$ tiles
 - Center radius: 480 mm
 - $\varphi = 2.95^\circ, \alpha = 46^\circ$
- Features:
 - ✓ Two tile coincidence
 - ✓ 88.2% acceptance
 - ✓ Scintillator width 3--5 mm



Positron transport system

See [Guihao Lu's poster \(MIP2024\)](#)

- Near-stationary signal positron should be accelerated and transport to MCP with transverse position preserved.
- Components: electrostatic accelerator & solenoid.



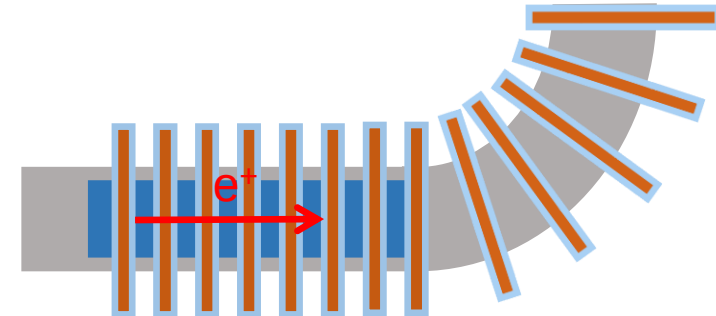
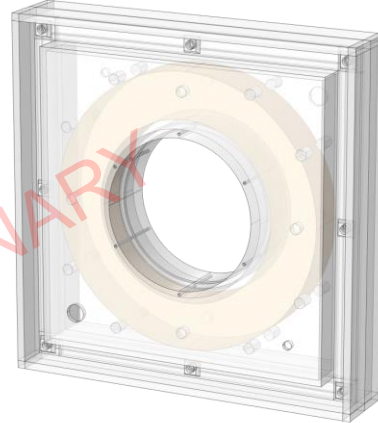
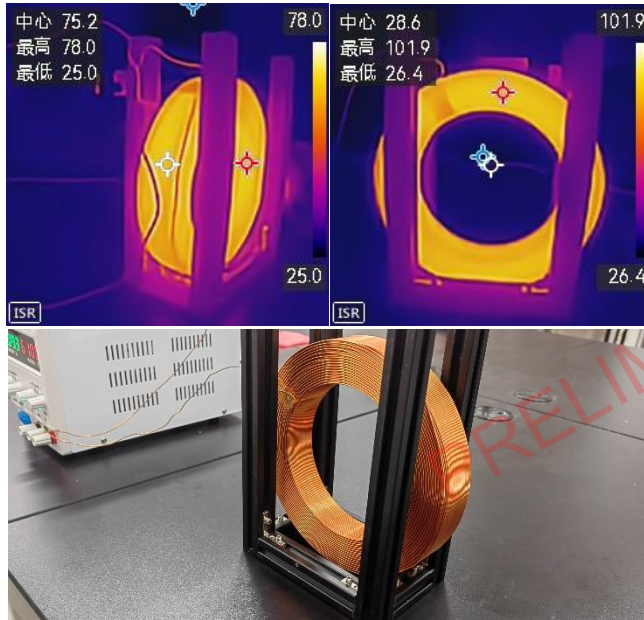
Positron transport system: prototype

- Accelerator module prototype
 - Multi-layer PCB
 - High voltage > 2 kV
- TS solenoid coil
 - Validate its field distribution and feasibility.

Credits: Guihao Lu



- PTS validation
 - Testing with TS solenoids and accelerator module



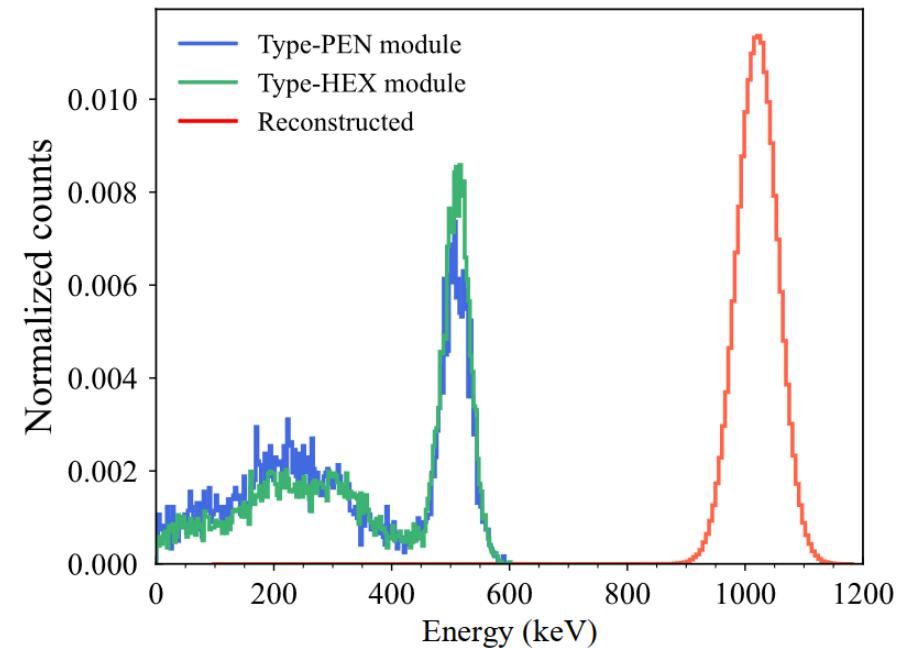
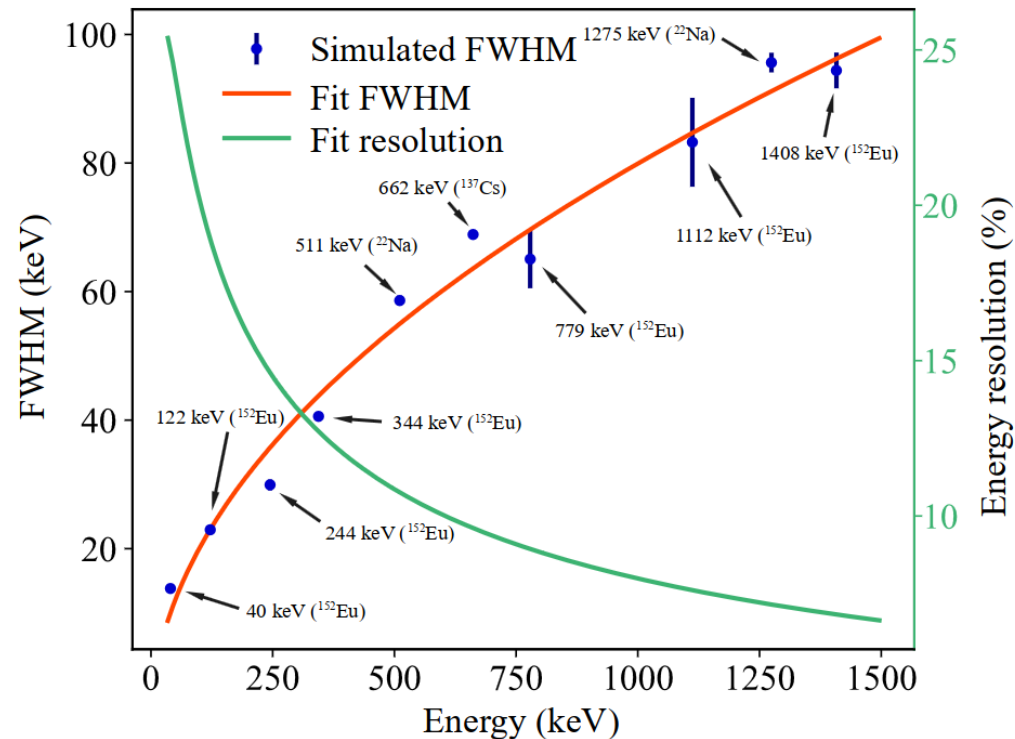
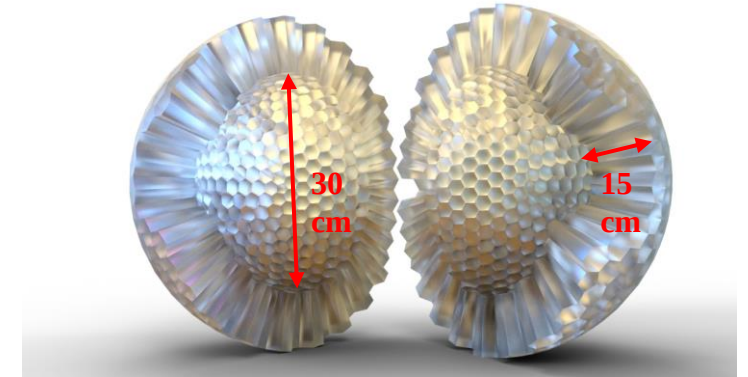
Design of calorimeter

• Signal and Background

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2408.17114> *Frontier of Physics* 20 (2025), 035202.

Credits: Siyuan Chen

- Energy resolution: 10.8% at 0.511 MeV
- 78.3% signal efficiency

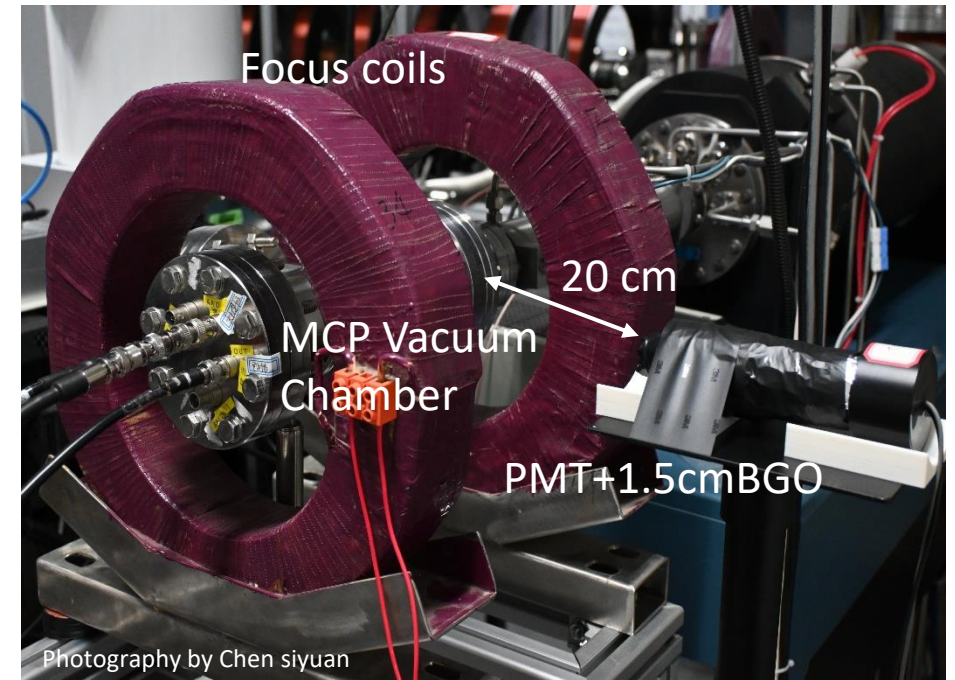


MCP+ECal: prototype tests with a positron beam



- Beam source:
 - IHEP slow e^+ beam
 - Positron in CW/Pulse
 - $3 \times 10^4 e^+/s$
- Currently MCP efficiency 25 ~ 30%
 - Can reach 50% efficiency through MgO/C thin layer

Credits: Siyuan Chen



- Data analysis in progress...

Acknowledgement: Baoyi Wang, Peng Zhang, Xiaotian Yu, and all IHEP slow e^+ beam colleagues.

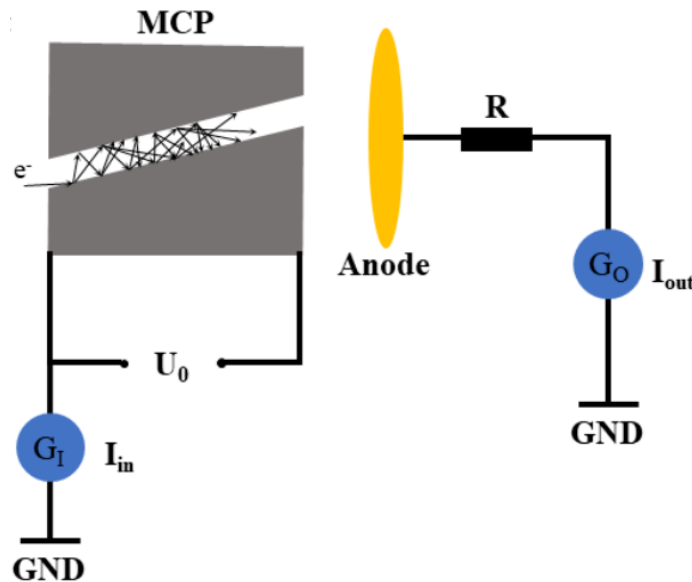




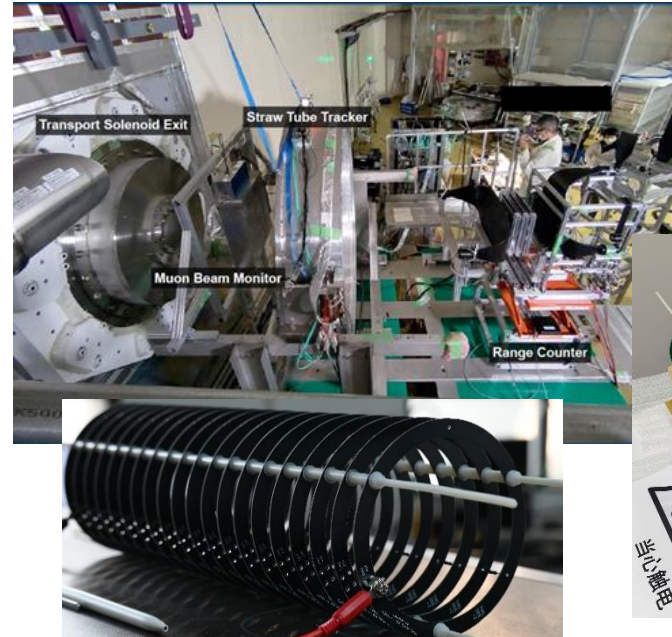
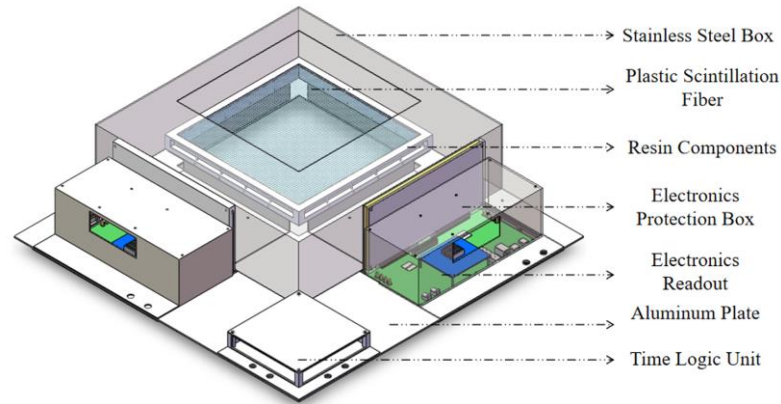
Table of contents

- Review of the past experience
- Motivations for muon physics
- Conceptual design of MACE
- Local laboratory: SMOOTH

Gallery of the local lab

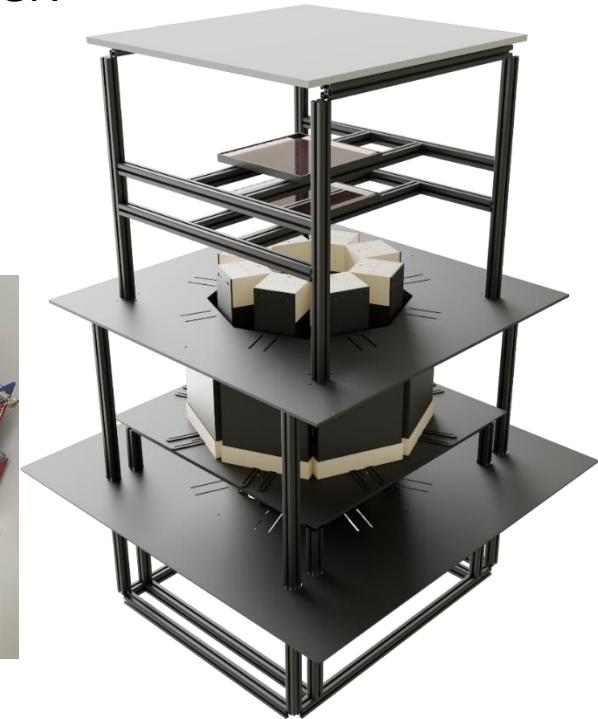
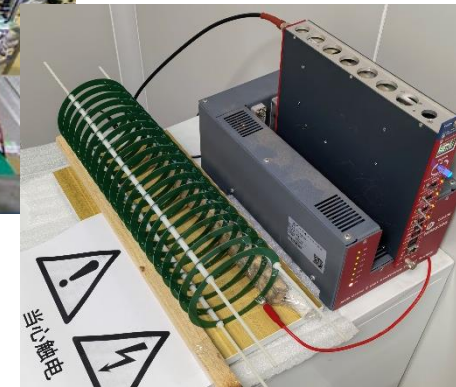
COMET muon beam monitor

[Yu Xu et al, Nucl.Sci.Tech. 35 \(2024\) 4, 79](#)

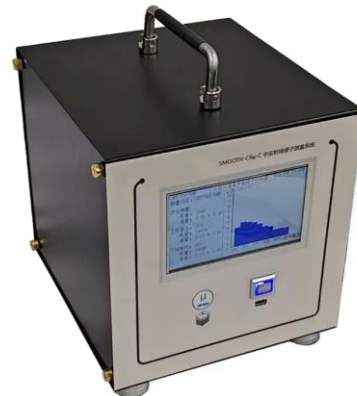
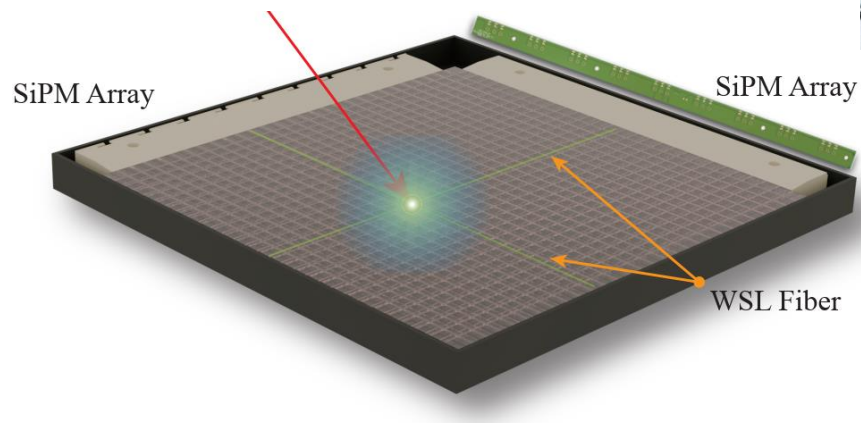


Cosmic-ray muSR (CRmuSR)

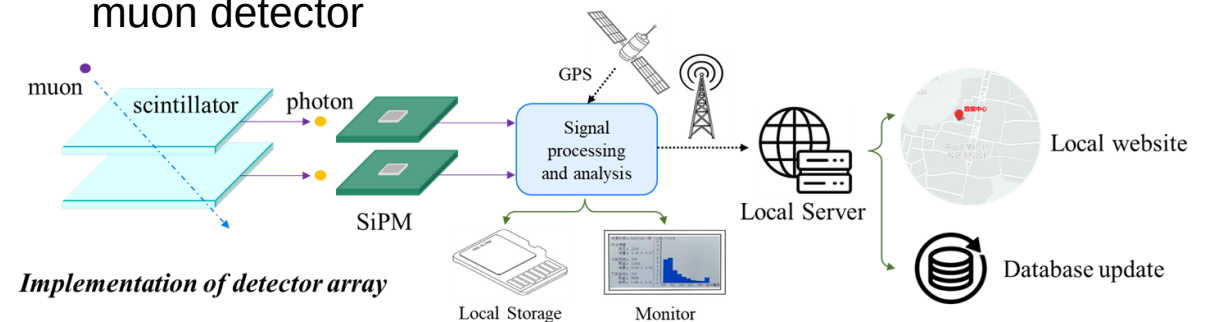
[M.-C. Sun, HHIF2024](#)



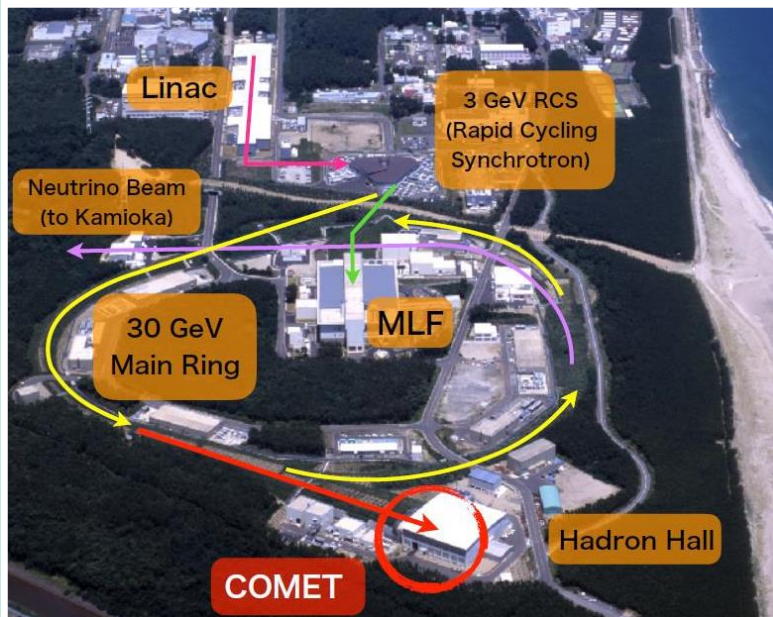
MuGrid-v2 for muography



Portable cosmic-ray muon detector

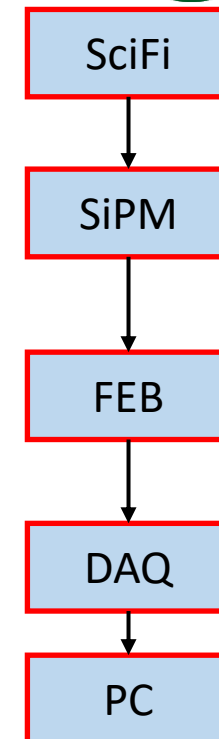
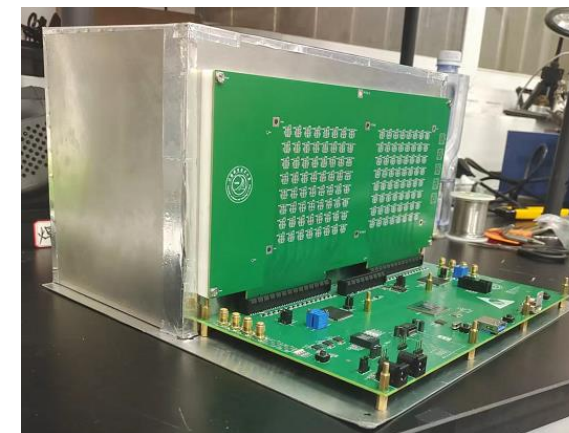
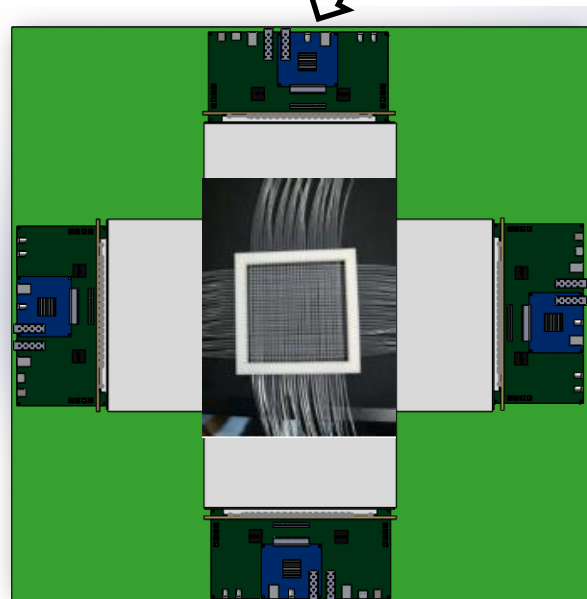
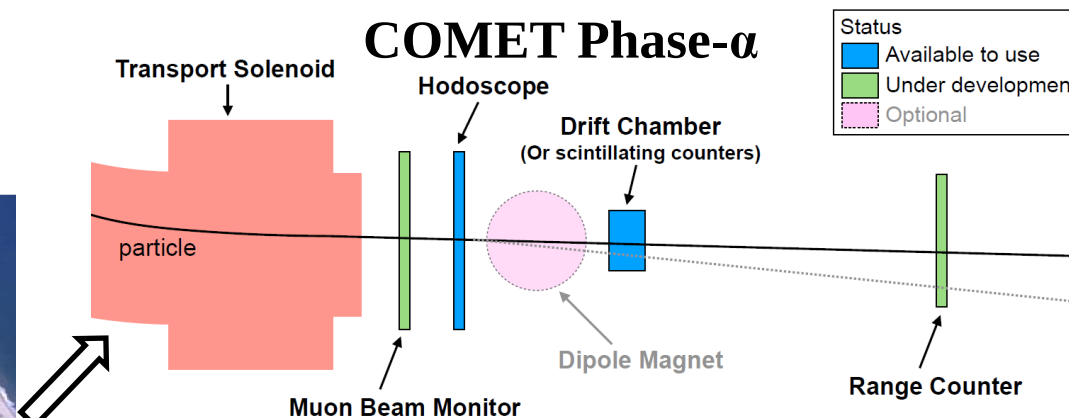


Muon beam monitor for COMET



e-Print: [2308.15253](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.15253) [physics.ins-det]

Nuclear Science and Techniques 35 (2024) 4, 79



Credits: SMOOTH lab
 USTC electronics group led by Chang-Qin Feng
 JINST 19 (2024) 10, P10022

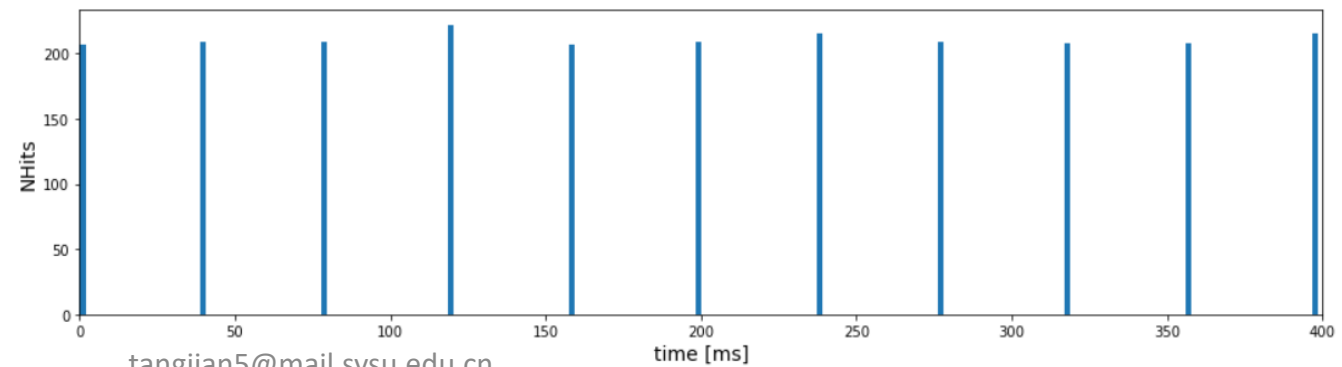
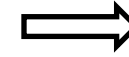
Muon beam monitor for COMET

- CSNS proton beam time: 2022/7/20
- Beam window:
 - 1cm×1cm
 - Energy: 30 MeV, 35 MeV, 40 MeV, 45 MeV, 50 MeV, 55 MeV, 60 MeV
 - Time: 90s per point
 - Beam rate: 1.7×10^7 protons/s/cm²



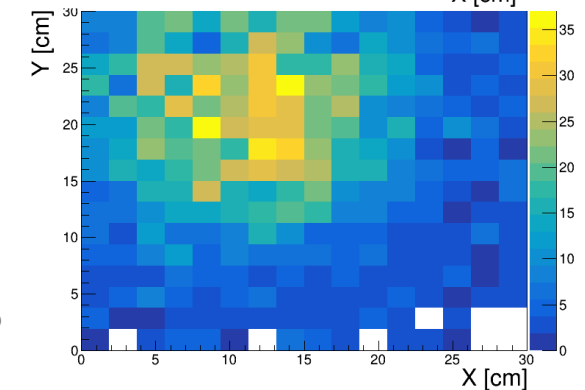
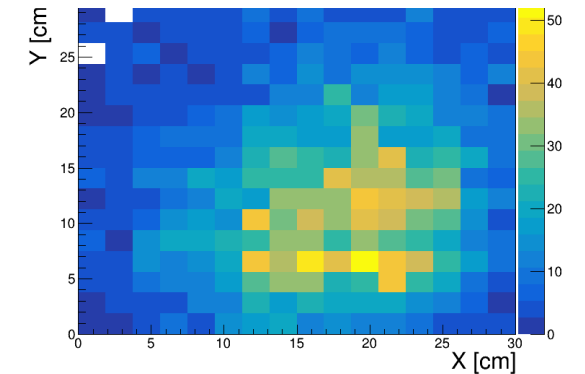
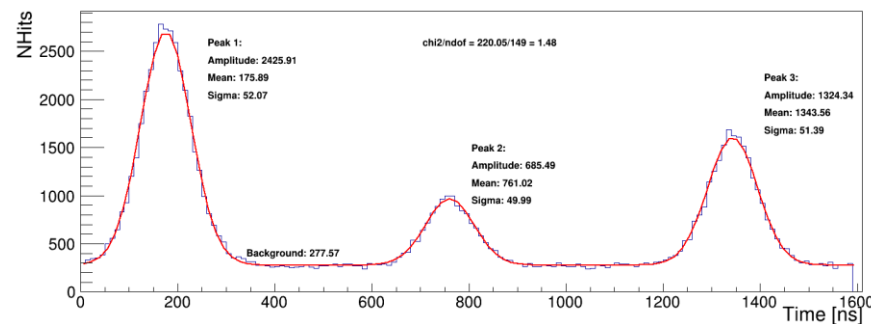
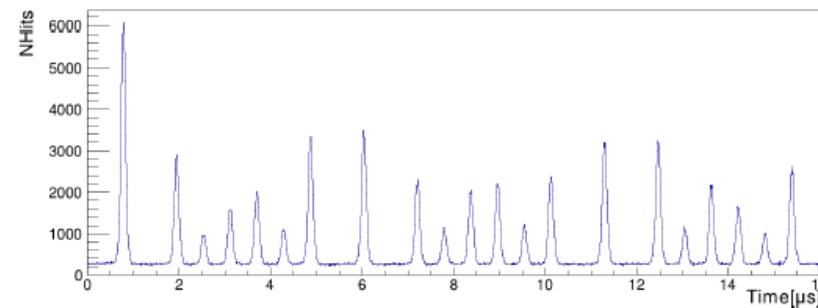
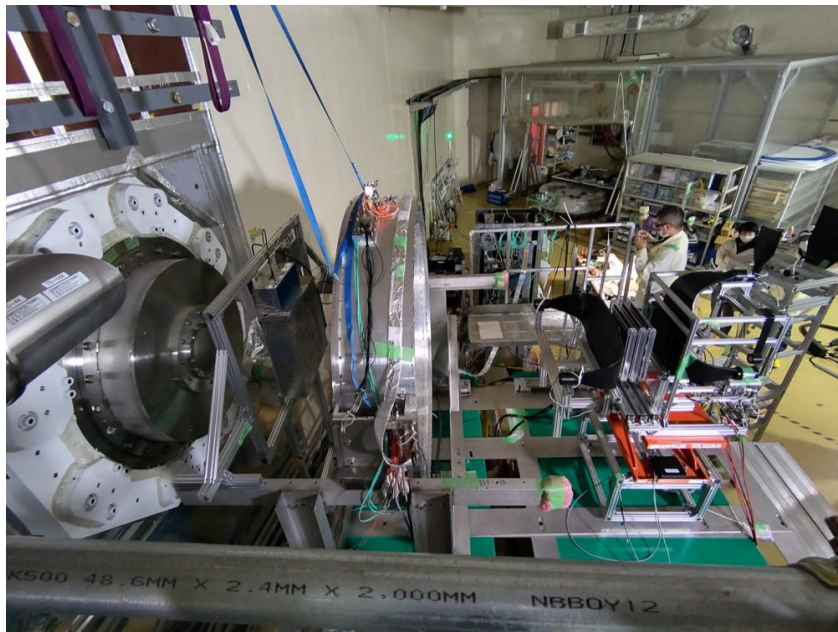
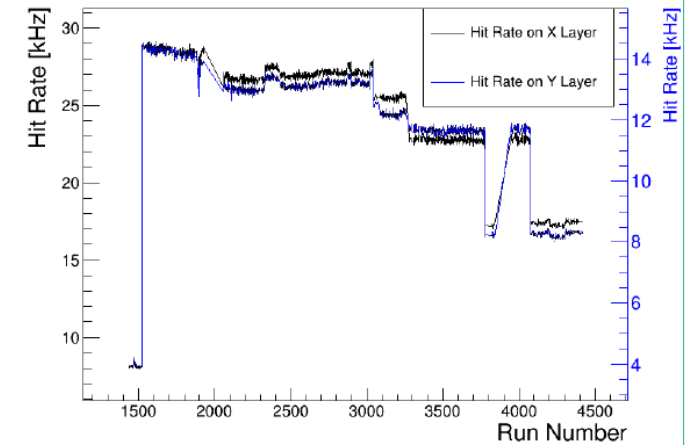
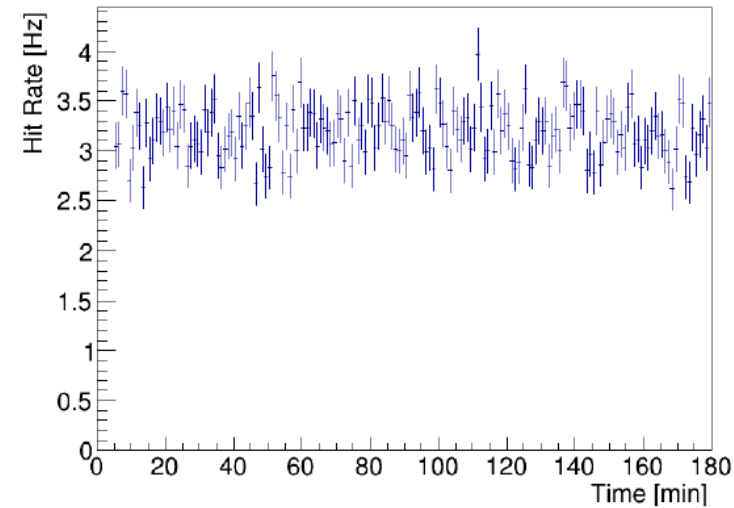
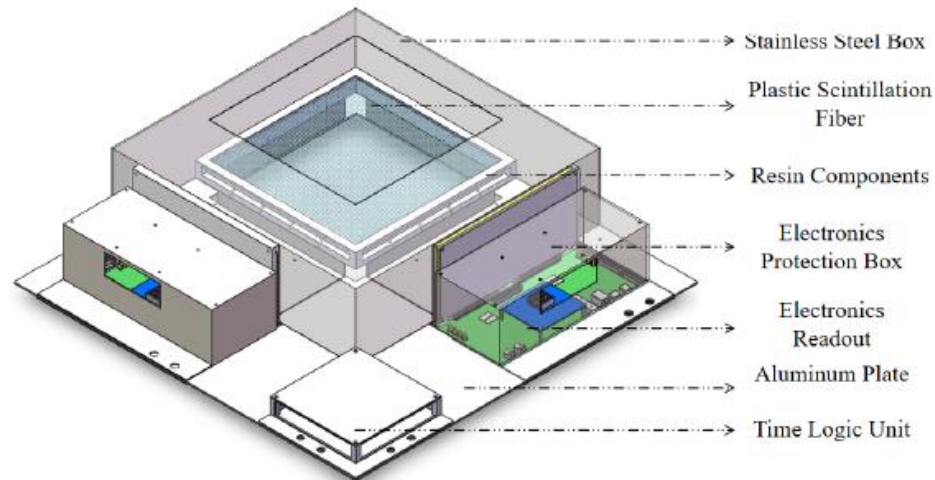
Acknowledgment: CSNS proton beamline

5/7/2025



tangjian5@mail.sysu.edu.cn

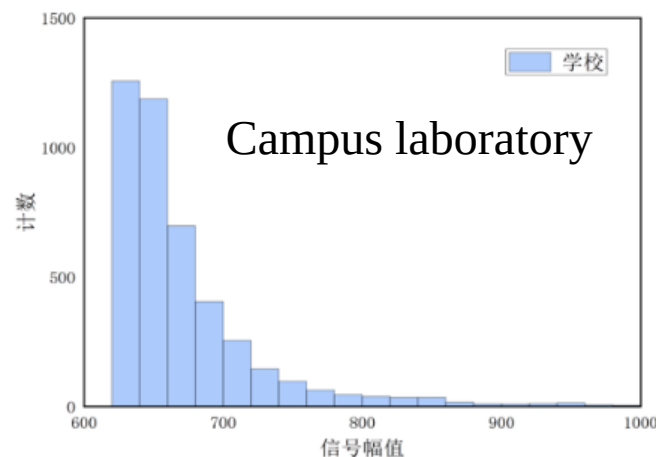
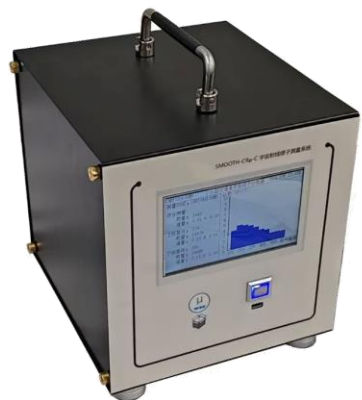
Muon beam monitor for COMET



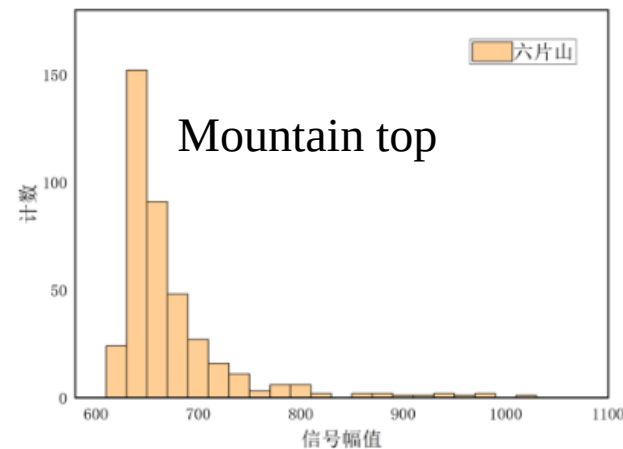
CRμ: educational kit and its application



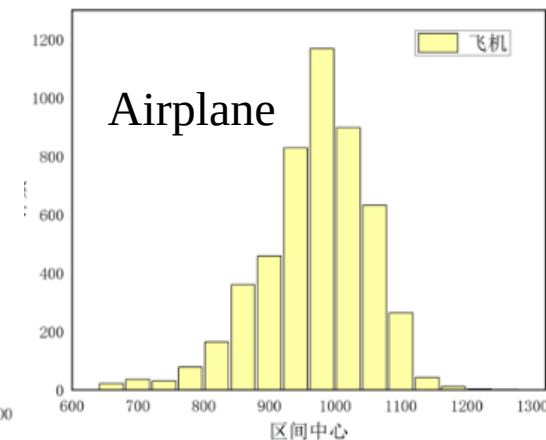
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2503.18800>



23年-24年



22年秋



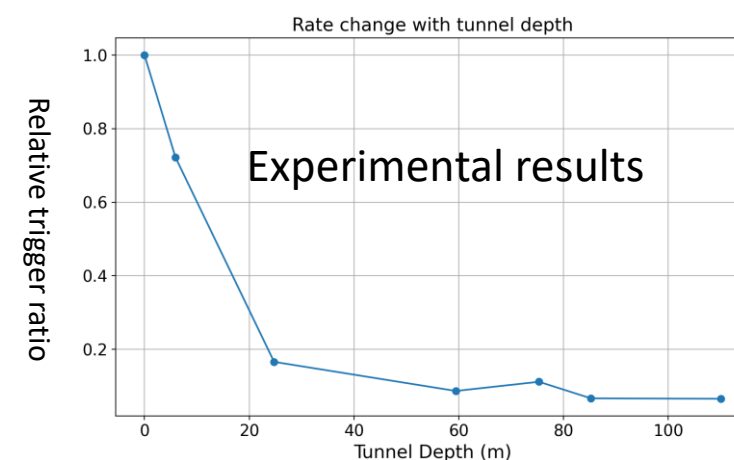
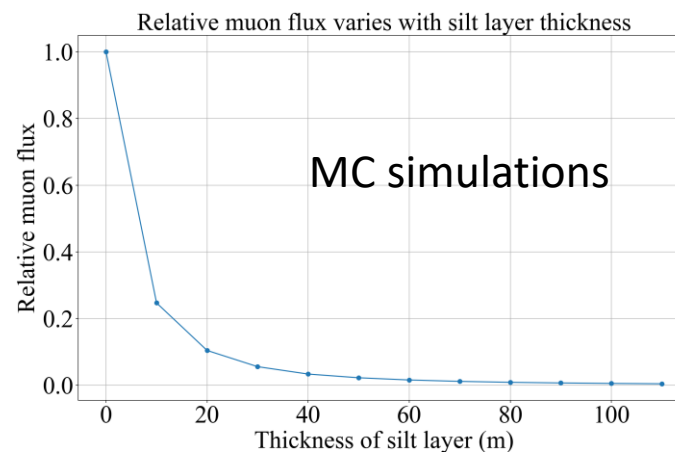
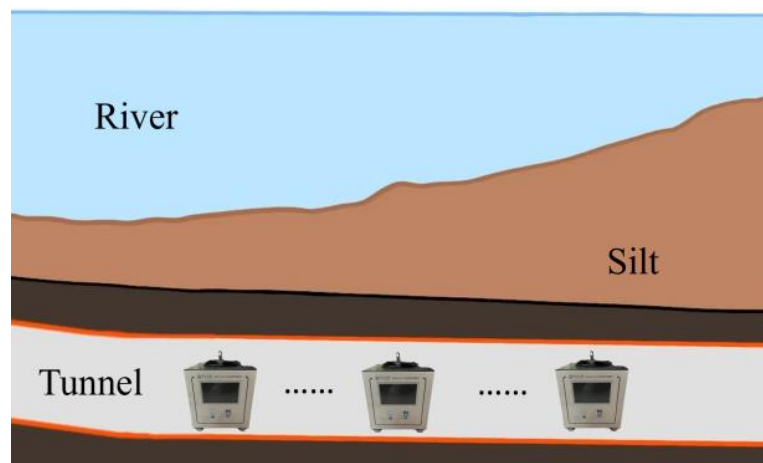
23年6月

Height

0 m

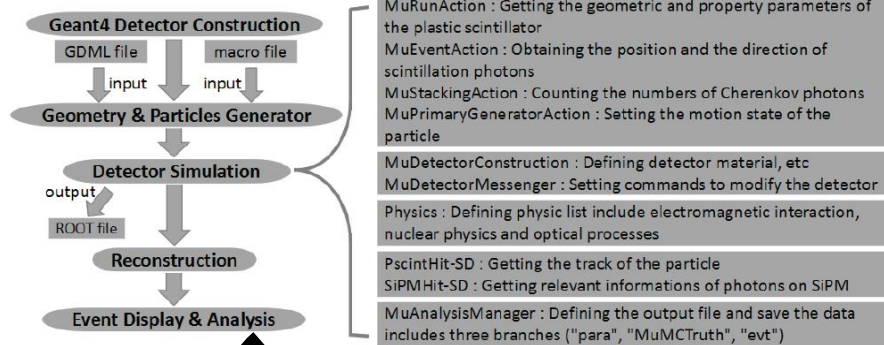
250 m

8000 m

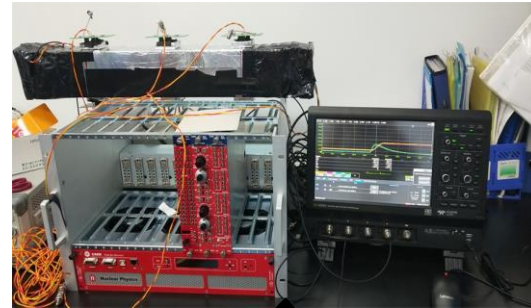
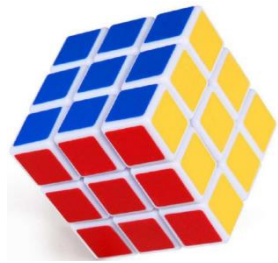


Detector R&D with cosmic muons: MuGrid-v1

MC

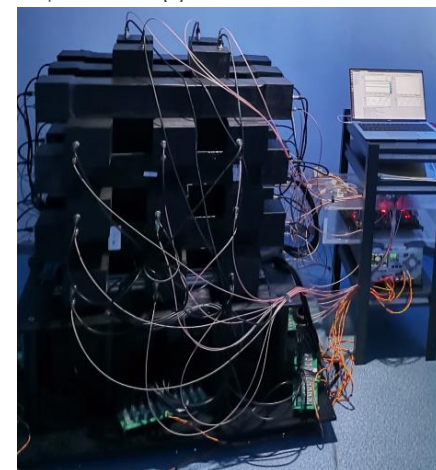
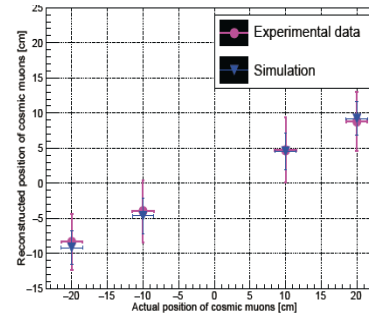


Module test

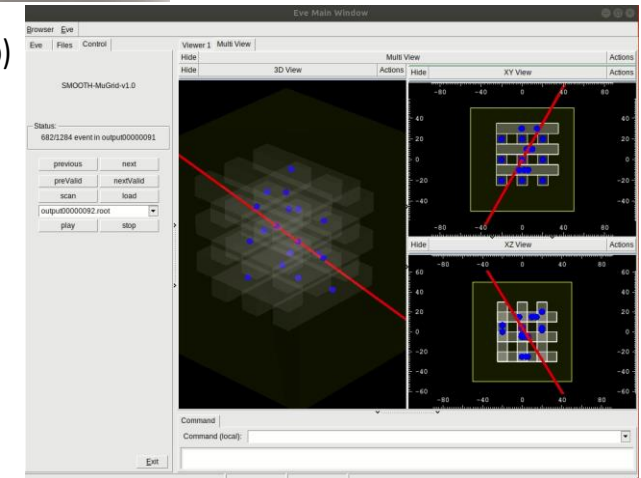


(a)

Online monitor



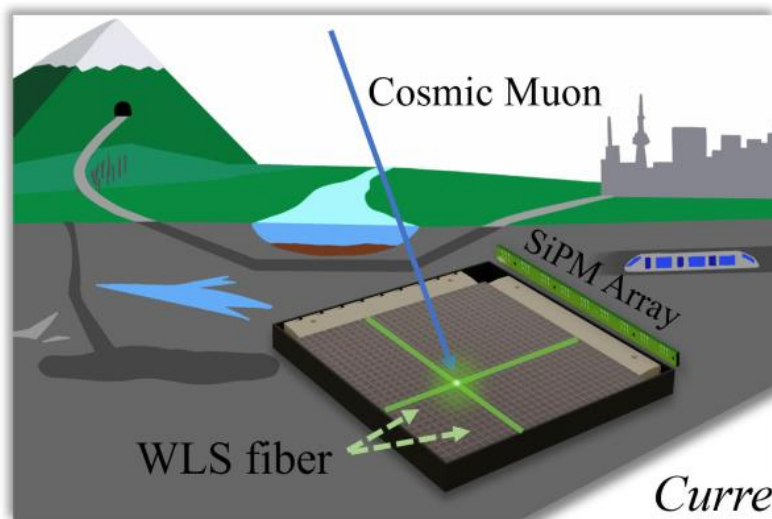
(b)



Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A1042 (2022) 167402

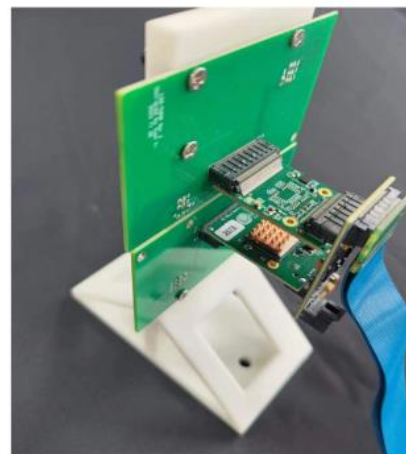
5/7/2025

Upgrade: MuGrid-v2



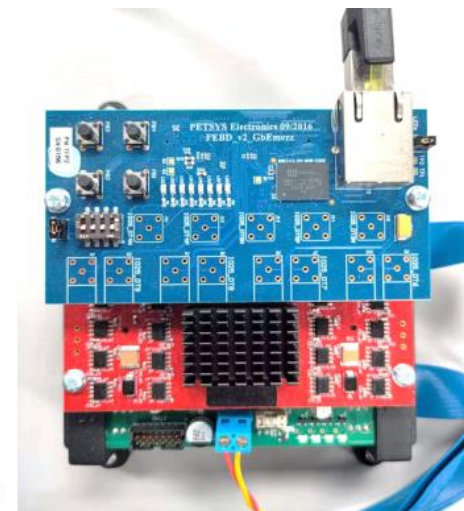
MuGrid detector

Current signal



FEB module & TOFPET2 ASIC

Digital signal



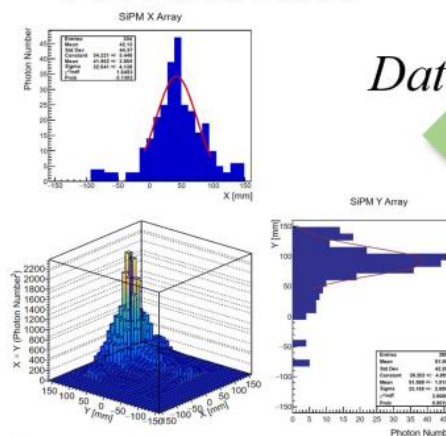
Mother board

Gigabit Ethernet



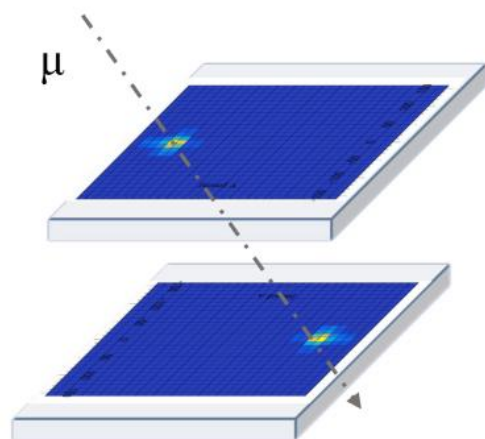
Upper computer

Data acquisition



Hit position reconstruction

Analysis

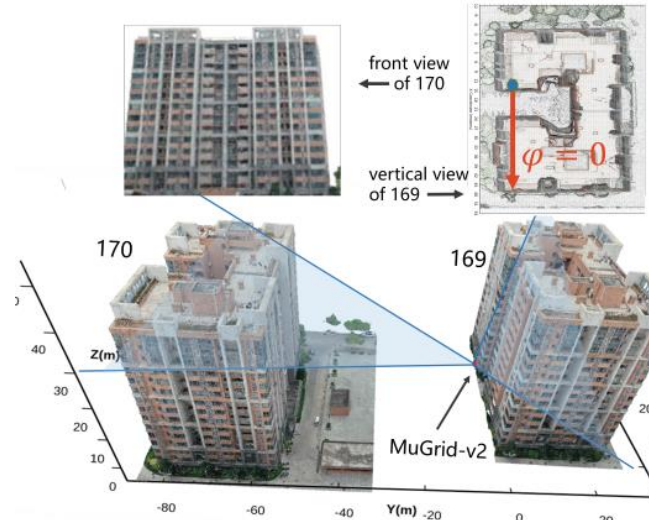


Track reconstruction

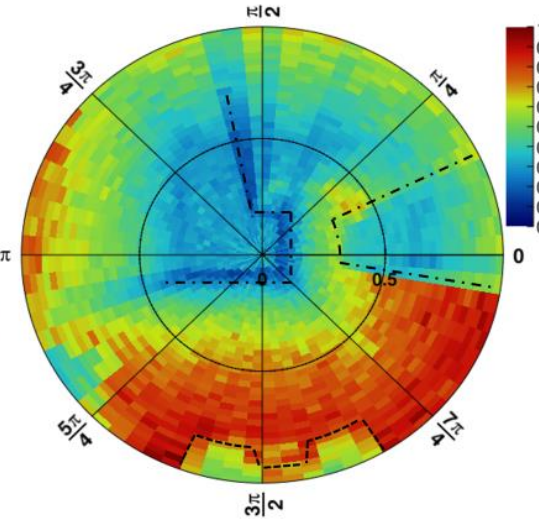
Upgrade: MuGrid-v2



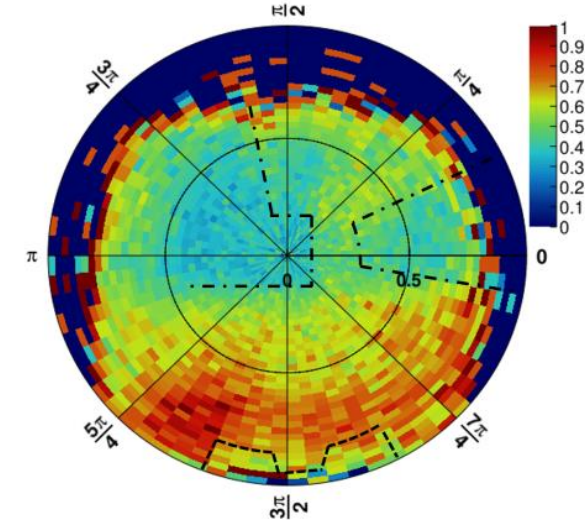
Credits: Tao Yu, Songran Qi, Shihan Zhao...



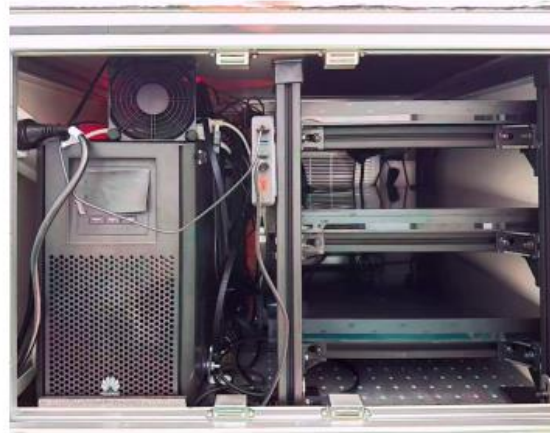
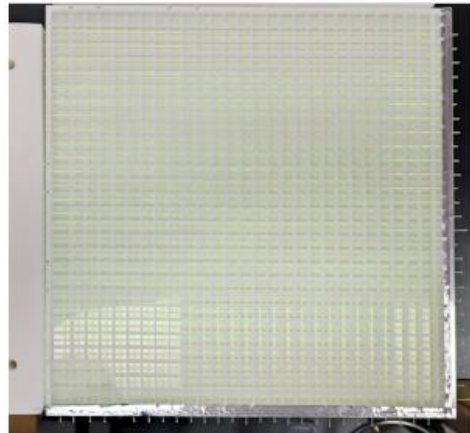
(a) An illustration of experimental setup.



(b) Muon survival ratio in simulation.



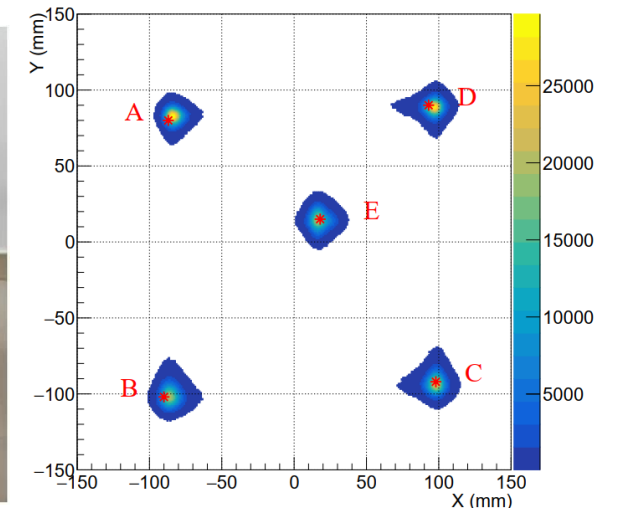
(c) Muon survival ratio in experiment.



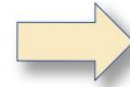
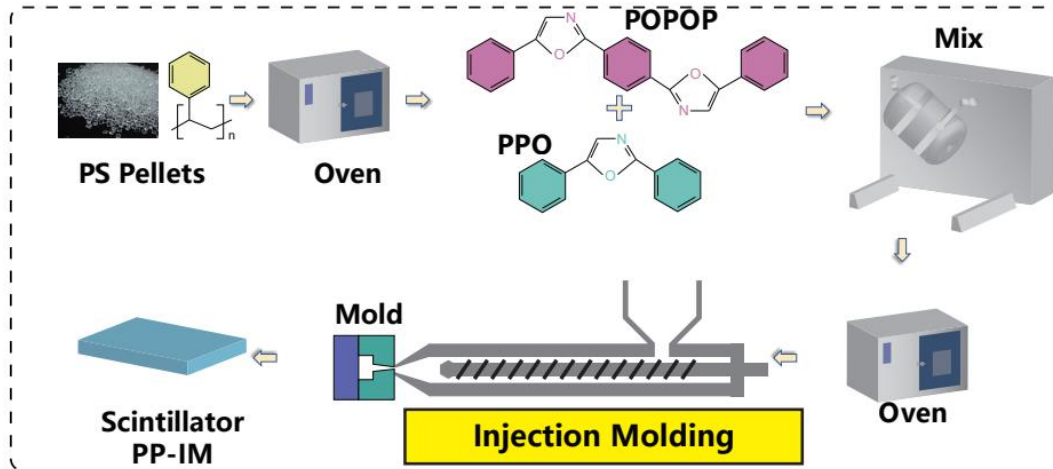
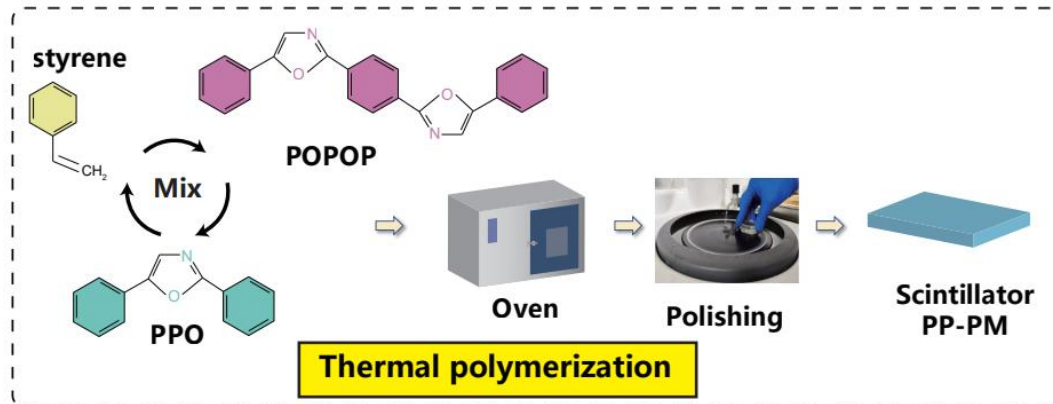
The detector MuGrid-v2 after assembly.



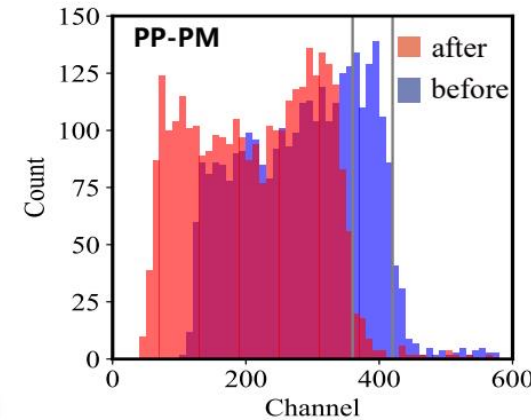
Calibrations with the energy and timestamp information. 56



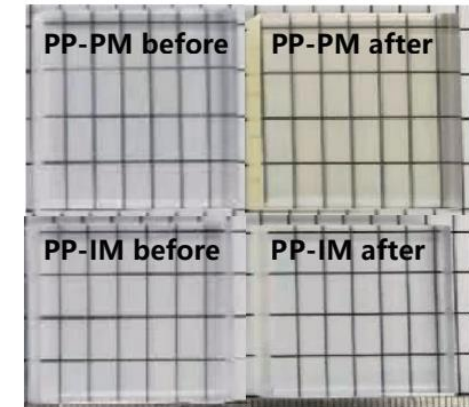
R&D of new plastic scintillators for muon detections



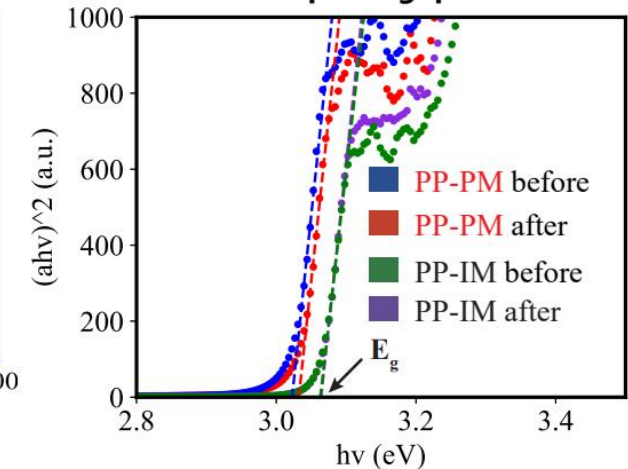
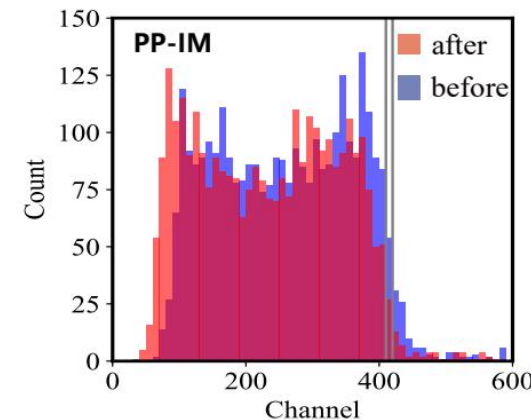
Light Yield



Appearance



Optical gap

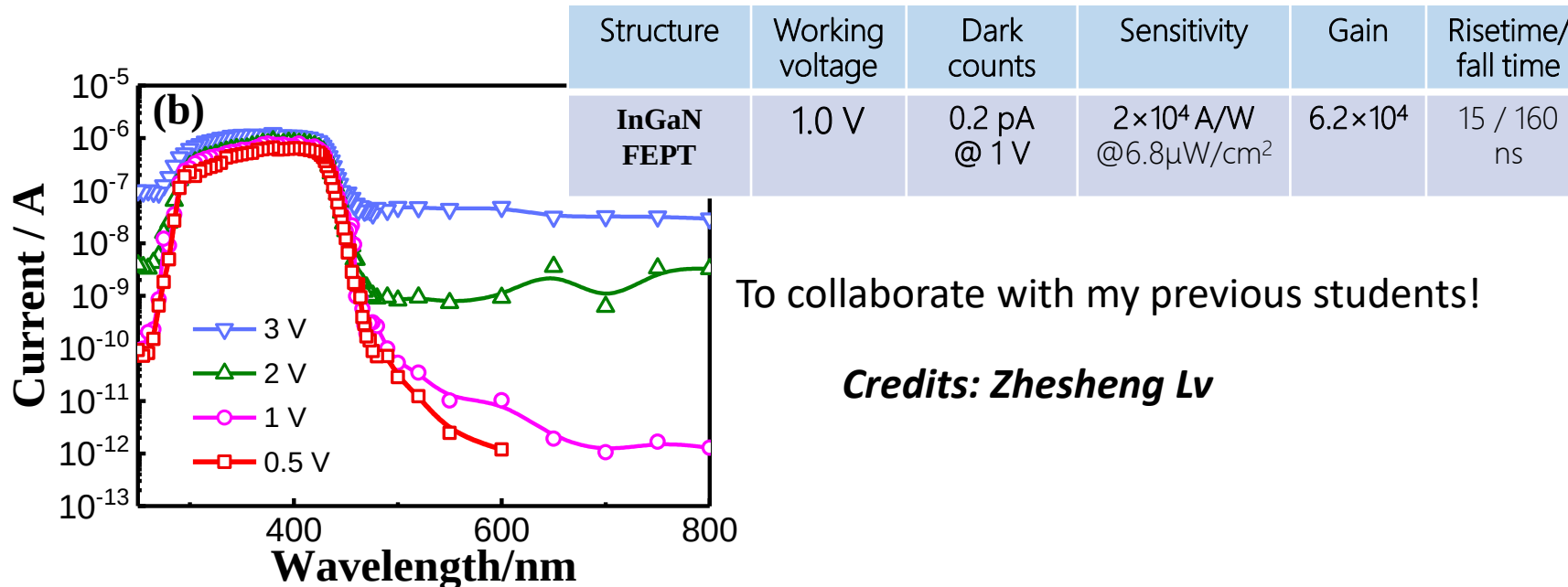
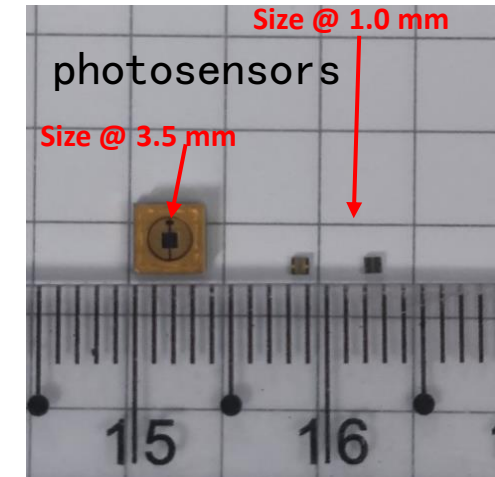
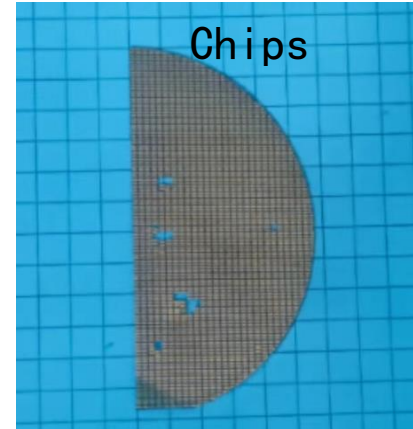
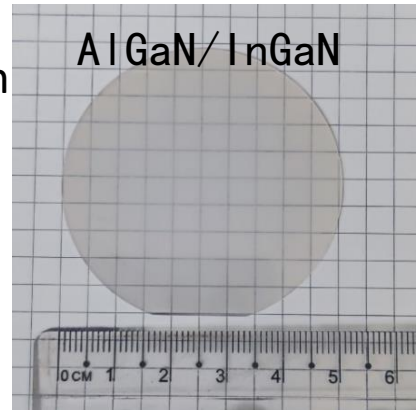


Enhancing plastic scintillator performance through advanced injection molding techniques

Credits: Jiahao Zhong, Nouman, Jian Zhou, **Jian Tang**
Radiation Physics and Chemistry 226 (2025) 112193

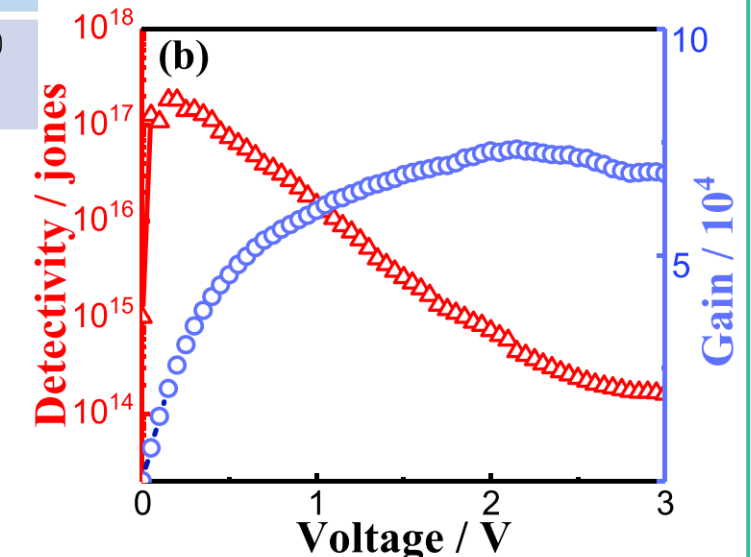
R&D of new photosensors for muon detections

- Wavelength: 280~450 nm
- Low cost, low power consumption
- To replace SiPM/MPPC?



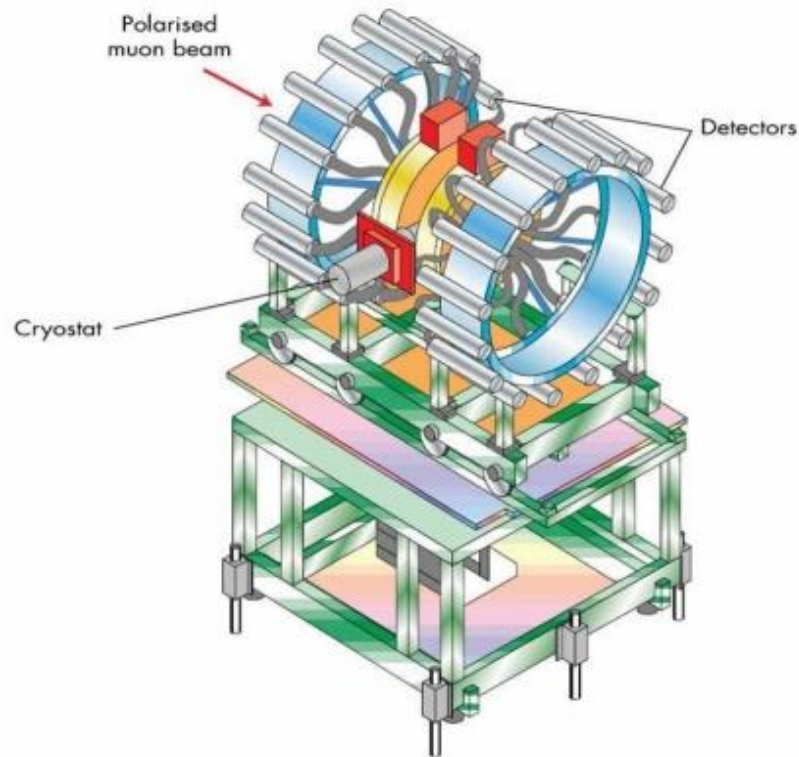
To collaborate with my previous students!

Credits: Zhesheng Lv



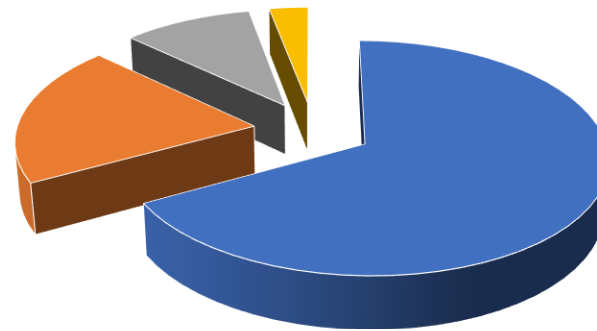
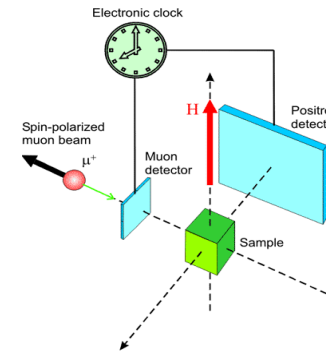
[Appl. Phys. Lett. 125, 191104 \(2024\);](#) [Appl. Phys. Lett. 123, 051103 \(2023\)](#)

Muon Spin Relaxation, Rotation and Resonance (μ SR)



The μ SR spectrometer

Nature Materials 16, 467–473 (2017)



■ Physics

Magnetism
Superconductivity
Surface physics
Fundamental physics

■ Chemistry

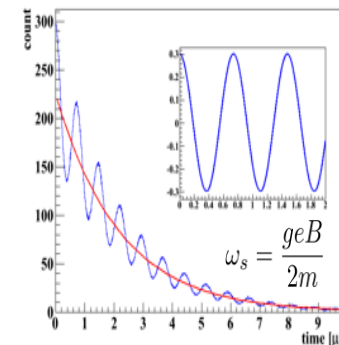
Molecular dynamics
Oxides
Muonium in materials

■ Materials

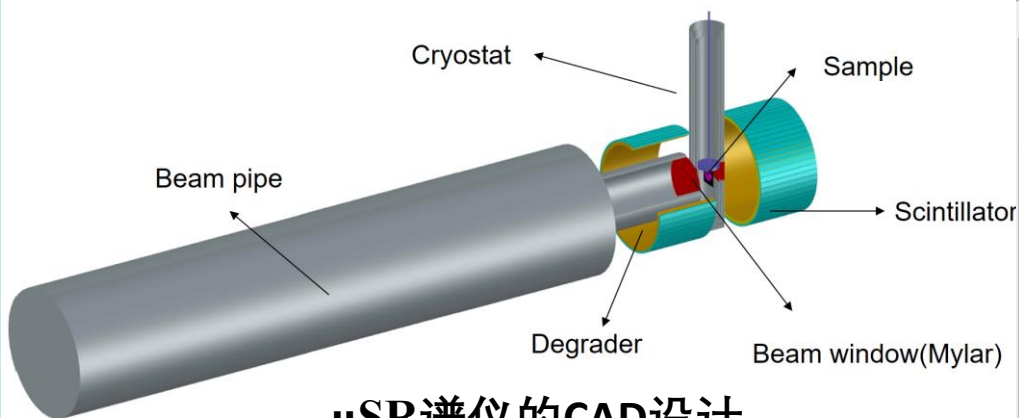
Polymers
Semiconductors
Hydrogen storage material

■ Biology

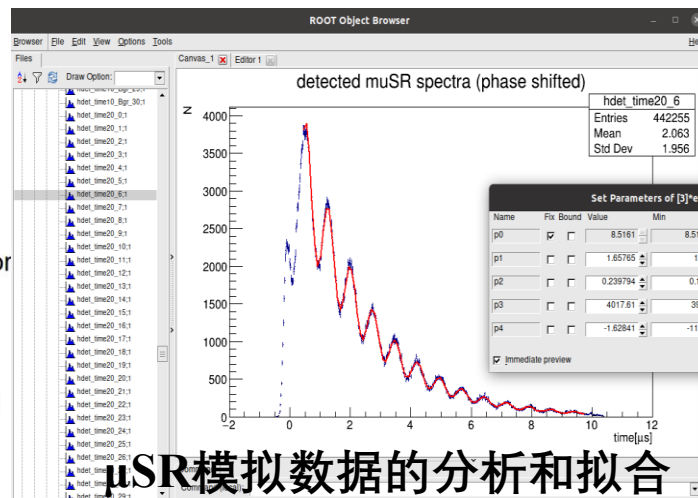
proteins
DNA



R&D of μ SR prototype: CR μ SR



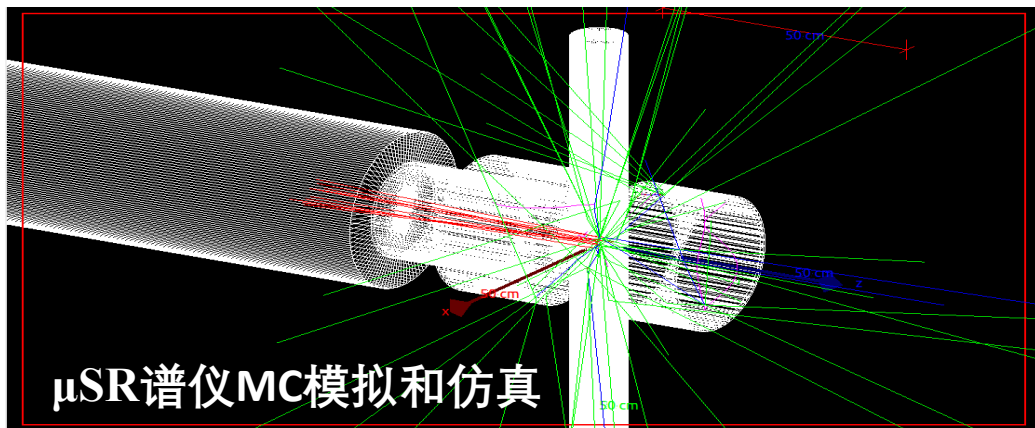
μ SR谱仪的CAD设计



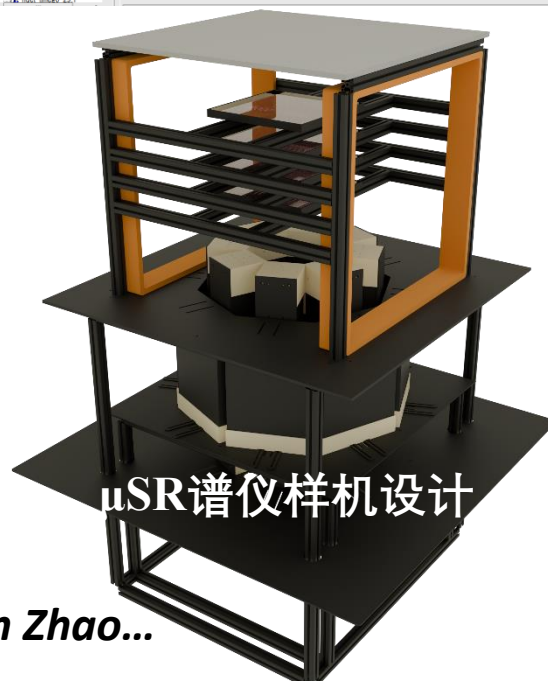
μ SR模拟数据的分析和拟合



μ SR谱仪样机安装



μ SR谱仪MC模拟和仿真



μ SR谱仪样机设计



μ SR谱仪样机测试

Credits: Mingchen Sun, Tao Yu, Yunsong Ning, Shihan Zhao...

CRμSR to facilitate atmospheric neutrino physics

宇生缪子物理信息可用于大气中微子模拟优化

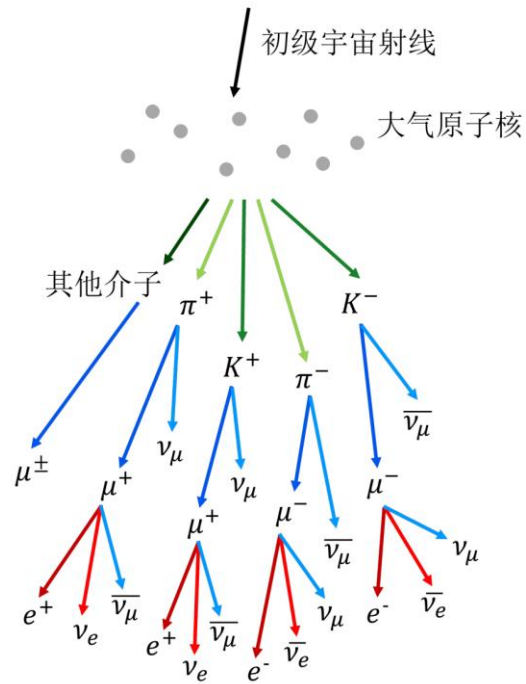
- 通量、能量、角分布、**极化**

μ 自旋极化 $\rightarrow \pi K \rightarrow \nu$

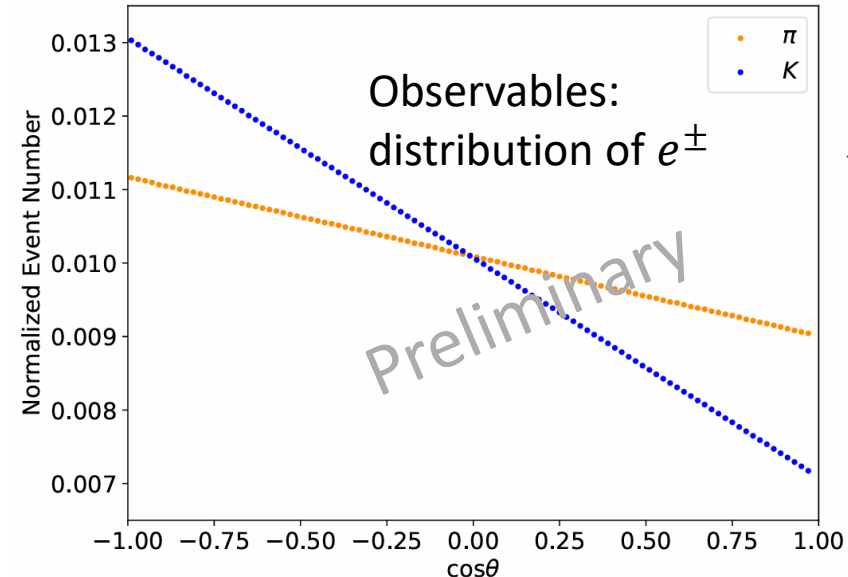
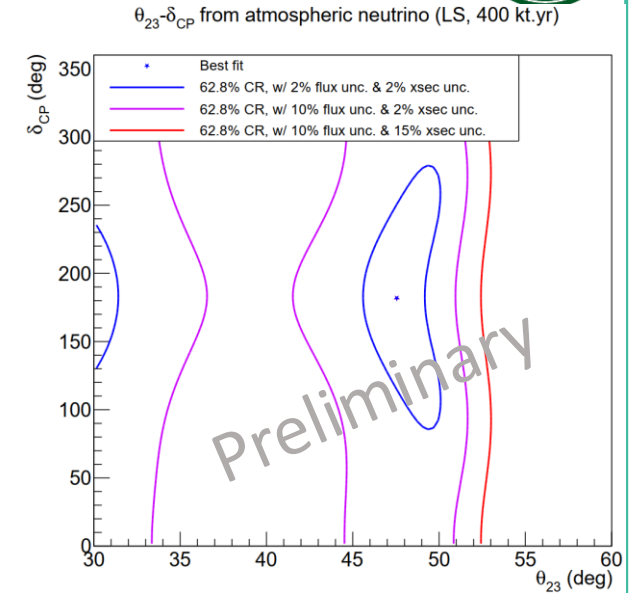
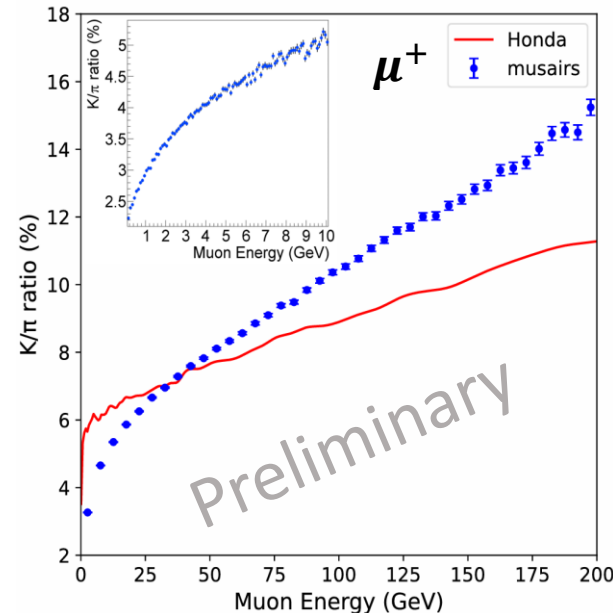
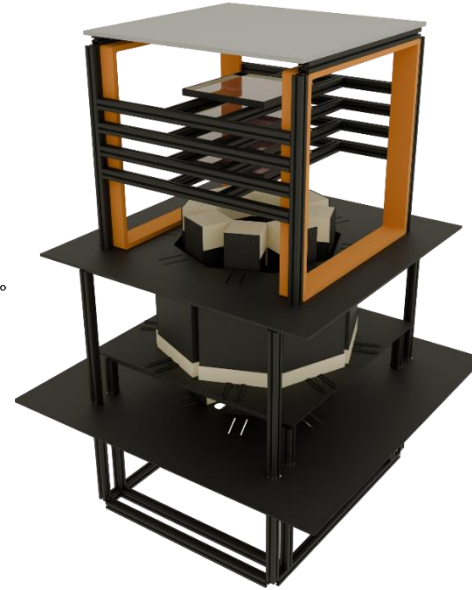
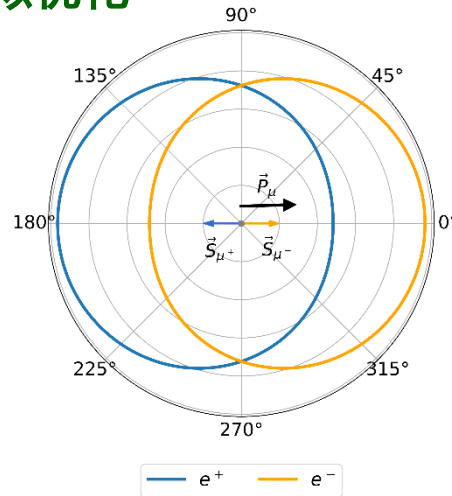
$$\pi^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm + \nu_\mu(\bar{\nu}_\mu)$$

$$K^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm + \nu_\mu(\bar{\nu}_\mu)$$

$$\mu^\pm \rightarrow e^\pm + \nu_e(\bar{\nu}_e) + \bar{\nu}_\mu(\nu_\mu)$$



$$e \leftrightarrow \mu \leftrightarrow \pi K \leftrightarrow \nu$$



Observables:
distribution of $e^\pm$

Summary

- Muon physics is a hot topic, enabling precise tests of QED theory and probe of new physics beyond SM.
- MACE experiment will make a breakthrough in muon physics.
- Significant progress has been made in experiment design, muonium target design, and offline software development.
- Ongoing development of sub-detectors (MBM, EMCal, etc.) and reconstruction algorithms.
- Local muon lab SMOOTH: cosmic muon detector, muon beam monitoring detector, μ SR prototype
- MACE Conceptual Design Report completed; Cutting-edge science will drive technological applications; looking forward to multidisciplinary applications after a development of SMOOTH- μ SR prototype.
- Great potential in muon physics — small sparks can ignite a bush fire!
- Welcome to joining MACE and looking forward to fruitful results!

Thanks!

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