Recent + future MEG results (and LFV implications) in the "SuperB" era



XVII SuperB Workshop and Kick-off Meeting

La Biodola (Isola d'Elba)

1 June 2011

Lepton flavor violation

• LFV decays in the SM is radiatively induced by neutrino masses and mixings at a negligible level



• All SM extensions enhance the rate through mixing in the high energy sector of the theory (other particles in the loop...)



- Clear evidence for physics beyond the SM
 - background-free
- Restrict parameter space of SM extensions



Many processes

• LFV is related to a "new" lepton-lepton coupling



- A wide field of research
 - LFV decays
 - Anomalous magnetic moment for the μ , τ
 - Muon-to-electron conversion
 - (LFV in B-meson decays)



NP

 $B \to \ell \bar{\ell}'$

 $B \to \ell \bar{\ell}' X_s$

Many processes

• LFV is related to a "new" lepton-lepton coupling





Ze

μ

 $y_{ij}\bar{\ell}_i F^{\mu\nu}\ell_j\sigma_{\mu\nu}$



μ,τ

NP e eee $\mu^- \mathcal{N} \to e^- \mathcal{N}$ NP $B \to \ell \bar{\ell}' X$

- A wide field of research
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 - (LFV in B-meson decays)



Barbieri *et al.,* Nucl. Phys B445 (1995) 225 Hisano *et al.,* Phys. Lett. B391 (1997) 341 Masiero *et al.,* Nucl. Phys. B649 (2003) 189 Calibbi *et al.,* Phys. Rev. D74 (2006) 116002 Isidori *et al.,* Phys. Rev. D75 (2007) 115019



Present limits





The MEG collaboration

PSI

IO

Tokyo U. Waseda U. KEK

INFN & U Pisa INFN & U Roma INFN & U Genova INFN & U Pavia INFN & U Lecce



JINR Dubna BINP Novosibirsk

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II

Time scale

- A $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ experiment at the Paul Scherrer Institut (PSI)
- The $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ decay
- The detector
 - Overview of sub-detectors
 - Calibration methods
- Analysis of 2009 run
- Status
 - Run 2010

Planning

1999

1998

• 2011 and Next year(s)

2000

2001

2002



Signal and Background



MEG experimental method

Easy signal selection with µ⁺ at rest

▼ e⁺

- μ: stopped beam of 3 x 10⁷ μ /sec in a 205 μm polyethylene target
 - PSI π E5 beam line
- e⁺ detection

magnetic spectrometer composed by solenoidal magnet and drift chambers for momentum plastic counters for timing

• γ detection

Liquid Xenon detector based on the scintillation light

- fast: 4 / 22 / 45 ns
- high LY: ~ 0.8 * Nal
- short X₀: 2.77 cm

Some detector pictures

DC system

LXe detector

Beam Line

The photon detector

- **γ** Energy, position, timing
- Homogeneous 0.8 m³ volume of liquid Xe
 - 10 % solid angle
 - 65 < r < 112 cm
 - $|\cos\theta| < 0.35$ $|\phi| < 60^{\circ}$
- Only scintillation light
- Read by 848 PMT
 - 2" photo-multiplier tubes
 - Maximum coverage FF (6.2 cm cell)
 - Immersed in liquid Xe
 - Low temperature (165 K)
 - Quartz window (178 nm)
- Thin entrance wall
- Singularly applied HV
- Waveform digitizing @2 GHz
 - Pileup rejection

Xe properties

- Liquid Xenon was chosen because of its unique properties among radiation detection active media
- Z=54, ρ =2.95 g/cm³ (X₀=2.7 cm), R_M=4.1 cm
- High light yield (similar to Nal)
 - 40.000 phe/MeV
- Fast response of the scintillation decay time
 - • $\tau_{singlet}$ = 4.2 ns
 - • $\tau_{triplet}$ = 22 ns
 - • τ_{recomb} = 45 ns
- Particle ID is possible
 - $\alpha \sim \text{singlet+triplet}, \gamma \sim \text{recombination}$
- Large refractive index n = 1.65
- No self-absorption $(\lambda_{Abs} = \infty)$

Calibrations

Y-energy scale calibration

- The precise knowledge of the calorimeter energy scale is crucial for the experiment
- constant check of Xe light yield and purity
 - trigger threshold
 - systematic error on energy scale
- Different calibrations have different time-scales

Process		Energy	Frequency
Charge exchange	$\pi^- p \to \pi^0 n \\ \pi^0 \to \gamma \gamma$	55, 83, 129 MeV	year - month
Proton accelerator	$^{7}\mathrm{Li}(p,\gamma_{17.6})^{8}\mathrm{Be}$	14.8, 17.6 MeV	week
Nuclear reaction	$^{58}\mathrm{Ni}(n,\gamma_9)^{59}\mathrm{Ni}$	9 MeV	daily
Radioactive source	⁶⁰ Co, AmBe	1.1 -4.4 MeV	daily

Energy

2009: efficient physics run

- 2008 run BR<2.8 x 10⁻¹¹ Nucl. Phys. B834, 1–12 (Apr. 2010)

January - October

- detector dismantling
- improvement (after run 2008) -DCH
 - -Electronic
- re installation
- LXe purification
- CW calibration
- another experiment in the area had "exciting results" (μp)

October

- π^{o} calibration

November – December

- MEG run

Running conditions MEG run period

- Live time ~84% of total time
- Total time ~ 7 weeks
- μ stop rate: $3 \times 10^7 \ \mu/s$
- Trigger rate 6.5 ev/s ;
- Total data taken: 93 TB

Analysis principle

• A $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ event is described by 5 kinematical variables

 $\vec{x_i} = (E_{\gamma}, E_e, t_{e\gamma}, \theta_{e\gamma}, \phi_{e\gamma})$

Likelihood function is built in terms of Signal, radiative Michel decay RMD and ulletbackground BG number of events and their probability density function PDFs

$$- \ln \mathcal{L} \left(N_{\text{sig}}, N_{\text{RMD}}, N_{\text{BG}} \right)$$

$$= N_{\text{exp}} - N_{\text{obs}} \ln \left(N_{\text{exp}} \right)$$

$$- \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{obs}}} \ln \left[\frac{N_{\text{sig}}}{N_{\text{exp}}} S(\vec{x_i}) + \frac{N_{\text{RMD}}}{N_{\text{exp}}} R(\vec{x_i}) + \frac{N_{\text{BG}}}{N_{\text{exp}}} B(\vec{x_i}) \right]$$

- Extended unbinned likelihood fit
 - fit $(N_{sig}, N_{RMD}, N_{BG})$ in a wide region
- **PDFs** taken from lacksquare
 - **d**ata

- $\begin{array}{ll} \bullet & 48 \leq E_{\gamma} \leq 58 \ MeV \\ \bullet & 50 \leq E_{e} \leq 56 \ MeV \\ \bullet & \mid T_{e\gamma} \mid \leq 0.7 \ ns \\ \bullet & \mid \varphi_{e\gamma} \mid, \mid \theta_{e\gamma} \mid \leq 50 \ mrad \end{array}$

- MC tuned on data

Analysis principle

- We adopt a blind-box likelihood analysis strategy
- The blinding variables are E_{γ} and $t_{e\gamma}$
 - Hidden until analysis is fixed
- Three independent analyses
 - different *pdf* implementation
 - Fit or input N_{RMD}, N_{BG}
 - Different statistical treatment (Freq. or Bayes)
- Use of the sidebands
 - our main background comes from accidental coincidences
 - RMD can be studied in the low E_{γ} sideband

Pdfs and resolutions

Number of events / (0.64 MeV) 600 $\pi^{\rm o}$ 500 400 300 200 100 0<u>"</u> 52 54 56 58 60 E_v (MeV) γ bck 200 50 52 54 56 58 48

E_Y

- Average upper tail for deep conversions
 - $\sigma_{\rm R} = (2.1 \pm 0.15) \%$
- Systematic uncertainty on energy scale < 0.6%

E_{e}^{+}

- Resolution functions of core and tail components
 - core = 390 keV (0.74%)
- Positron angle resolution measured using multi-loop tracks
 - $\sigma(\phi) = 7.1 \text{ mrad (core)}$
 - $\sigma(9) = 11.2 \text{ mrad}$

- Overall angular resolution combining
 - XEC+DCH+target
 - $\sigma(\phi) = 12.7 \text{ mrad} \text{ (core)}$
 - $\sigma(\theta) = 14.7 \text{ mrad}$

$t_{e\gamma}$

- 40 MeV < $E_{\rm Y}$ < 48 MeV
- σ_t is corrected for a small energydependence
 - (142 ± 15) ps
 - stable within 15 ps along the run
- MEGA had on RMD
 - 700 ps resolution

Normalization

• The normalization factor is obtained from the number of observed Michel positrons taken simultaneously (pre-scaled) with the $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ trigger

O(1)

- Cancel at first order
 - Absolute e⁺ efficiency and DCH instability
 - Instantaneous beam rate variations

B.R. = N_{sig} x (1.01 ± 0.08) × 10⁻¹²

Likelihood fit result

- $N_{sig} < 14.5 @ 90\%$ C.L., N_{sig} best-fit value = 3.0
- $N_{sig} = 0$ is in 90% confidence region
 - C.L @0: 40÷60% depending on the statistical approach

Fitting was done by three groups with different parametrization, analysis window and statistical approaches, and confirmed to be consistent (Nsig best fit = 3.0-4.5, UL = $1.2-1.5 \times 10^{-11}$) 25

Upper limit

• From the analysis of the 2009 data our limit on the BR is the following:

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(\mu^+ \to e^+ \gamma)}{\mathcal{B}(\mu^+ \to e^+ \nu \bar{\nu})} < 1.5 \times 10^{-11} \qquad \text{MEGPRELIMINARY}$$

at 90% C.L.

- cfr. MEGA limit BR < 1.2×10^{-11} @ 90% C.L.
- Sensitivity:
 - 6.1 x 10⁻¹² average 90% upper limit on null-signal toy experiments
 - BR < $(4 \div 6) \times 10^{-12}$ from the SideBands
- On going activity
 - better understanding of the spectrometer
 - reduction of systematics on back-to-back alignment
 - better usage of sideband information in the likelihood
- We plan to present a combined 2009/2010 analysis this summer

Event distibution

Event display

- Events in the signal region were checked carefully
- An event in the signal region

What's next?

- Data taking was restarted from Aug. 5 to Nov. 6 2010
 - π^{o} calibration from 23/8 to 9/9
 - accident to the beam transport solenoid on Nov. 6
 - ~ 2 x 2009 statistics
- An accident on Nov. 6 put a premature end to the 2010 run
- Analysis ongoing
 - 2009 & 2010 data together
- Run 2011 soon starting
 - physics data taking from June to December

Sensitivity prospect

- Data from the two months of stable data taking of the MEG experiment in 2009 give a result competitive with the previous limit
- Plans to reach its design sensitivity (few x 10⁻¹³) within 2013

Thank you

Back-up slides