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Normalization of the Mu2e Charged Lepton FlavorViolation Experiment

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The Mu2e experiment will search for Beyond-the-Standard-Model, Charged Lepton Flavor Violation (CLFV) in muon capture $\mu^- + Al \rightarrow e^- + Al$, with a single event sensitivity surpassing the current world's best limit by 10,000 times. To report a reliable result, the number of stopped muons will be normalized to 10\% precision utilizing a combination of two γ -ray and one x-ray transitions. The first, directly proportional to the CLFV signal is the 1808.7 keV γ -ray emitted promptly in the muon capture process,

$$\mu \xrightarrow{i} +^{27} \text{Al} \rightarrow V_{\mu} +^{26} \text{Mg}^* + n$$

 $^{26}\mathrm{Mg}^* \rightarrow ^{26}\mathrm{Mg} + \gamma$

The second, is the 346.8 keV x-ray emitted promptly from the $2p\rightarrow$ 1s muonic atomic transition in Al, from muon stops in the target. The third, is the 844 keV γ -ray from the β -decay

 27 Mg \rightarrow^{27} Al + β^{-1} + $\bar{v_e}$ + γ

where ²⁷Mg is produced in the muon capture process, and decays with a lifetime of 9.5 minutes.

The stopped-muon rate measurement will use two complementary photon counting detectors. One of them, the LaBr₃ detector, is capable of high rate operation up to and above 800 kcps, with 0.7 % energy resolution. The other, the HPGe detector is capable of energy resolution of 0.1%, however, its rate capability is limited to an estimated \sim 100 kcps.

Are you are a member of the APS Division of Particles and Fields?

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