



Rare Pion Decay Workshop

UC Santa Cruz, Oct. 6-8 2022

Workshop Introduction and Meeting Goals

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Purpose of this meeting: a mostly “in person” event!

- Articulate the Science cases for a RPD measurement program
 - LFUV, π -beta and V_{ud} , exotic searches, ... BSM motivations ...
 - THANK YOU to our many theory friends who will present and who have helped launch this program!
- Review experiences from experts on recent RPD experiments
 - Lessons learned and how to overcome pitfalls.
 - PIENU and PEN have an enormous vault of experiences. We must first **LEARN**
- Launching PIONEER to the next level with 1st in-person meeting of most of the participants
 - A lot has been done remotely, virtually, and so on
 - It's time to interact and discuss as a real collaboration does – in person as much as possible (we know, it's not totally possible)

Beyond these more obvious comments, what would we *really* like to accomplish or get out of this Workshop?

- On the experimental physics side:
 - Identify Key Performance Parameters (KPPs)* and begin to assign values
 - Beam: dP/P; pi purity; intensity; spot size
 - Stopping target: (x,y,z) “resolution”; Energy dynamic range; Timing response;
 - Practical stuff: allowed cabling thicknesses for various phases; cross talk acceptance;
 - Calorimeter options: resolution needed; pileup / rate capability; triggering options
 - Practical stuff: supports, thicknesses of wrappings; #channels; calibration method
 - Triggering, Digitization; DAQ:
 - digitization speed and depth for Calo and ATAR; triggering options for tail triggers and others
 - Practical stuff: #channels; platform choices (too soon?); building up test stands for groups to use
 - Cylindrical Tracker: (z,phi) resolution; speed of response; thickness maximum;
 - Practical stuff: footprint to surround ATAR but avoid Calo

* This language is not accidental. We will have to use it in funding proposals and in general reports on progress

KPPs ... example expanded (from nEDM collaboration)

Performance Parameters:

KPP (Key) = Threshold KPP

NPP (Nominal) = Objective KPP

UPP (Ultimate) = Ultimate KPP

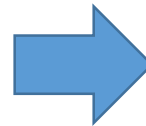
DO NOT WORRY ABOUT THESE ENTRY NAMES OR VALUES; IT IS ONLY THE SPIRIT OF THIS EXERCISE THAT WE SHOULD EXAMINE

Their “design goals” ... much like our Proposal goals

Now, map to RANGES of achievable values

Table 1. Experimental design goals for the key parameters that influence the statistical uncertainty.

Quantity	Definition	Value
P_{UCN}	UCN production rate	0.31 UCN/cc/s
N_0	Number of UCNs in each cell at t=0	4.5×10^5
V_{cell}	Measurement cell volume	3000 cc
τ_β	β -decay lifetime	880 s
τ_3	UCN- ^3He absorption time	500 s
τ_{cell}	UCN-wall absorption time	2000 s
$ E $	Electric field	75 kV/cm
T_m	Measurement time	1000 s
T_f	Cold neutron fill time	1000 s
T_d	Dead time between cycles	400 s
P_3	^3He initial polarization	0.98
P_n	UCN initial polarization	0.98
τ_p	^3He & UCN depolarization time	20,000 s
ϵ_3	Detection efficiency for UCN- ^3He capture	0.93
ϵ_β	Detection efficiency for β -decay	0.5
\dot{N}_B	Non β -decay background rate	5 Hz



Description of Scope	KPP	NPP	UPP
Magnetic Field Gradient $\langle \partial B_i / \partial x_j \rangle_{vol}$ [$\mu\text{G}/\text{cm}$] ^A	0.5	0.25	0.1
Magnetic Shielding Factor at 0.01 Hz ^A	1×10^4	5×10^4	7.5×10^4
UCN Wall Loss Time ^B	100	1000	2000
$\langle \text{Photoelectrons} \rangle$ per n- ^3He Capture ^C	6	20	20
SQUID Noise [$\text{fT} / \sqrt{\text{Hz}}$] ^D	20	10	1
Electric Field [kV/cm] ^E	10	40	75
^3He ABS Flux [s^{-1}] Signal-to-Noise Ratio ^F	1×10^{14} 20	1×10^{14} 50	1×10^{14} 100
^3He Injection Volume Temperature [mK] ^G	350	320	300
8.9 Å Neutron Flux [$\text{n}/\text{\AA}/\text{cm}^2/\text{s}/\text{MW}$] ^H	2×10^6	6×10^6	6×10^6
8.9 Å Neutron Polarization [%] ^H	80	90	98
Estimated Sensitivity [10^{28} e-cm] ^I	[REDACTED]		



This last line that I am hiding is experimental sensitivity given achieving all the values above in each column

The nEDM folks then did a fantastic exercise of developing analytical expressions for how the final sensitivity would depend on any combination of achieved KPP values. What matters most

PIONEER examples (Phase 1) ... let's just have 2 steps

	KPP (lowest)	UPP (Ultimate)
Beam flux @ 65 MeV/c	200 k/s	300 k/s
dP/P (%)	2.5	<2
$\Delta X \times \Delta Y$ (FHWM, mm ²)		10 x 10
$\Delta X' \times \Delta Y'$		$\pm 10^\circ$
Muon contamination		
Electron contamination		
ATAR parameters		
X,Y pitch		
Z thickness		
Timing resolution (ns)		
Energy dynamic range		
CALO parameters		
Resolution at 69 MeV		

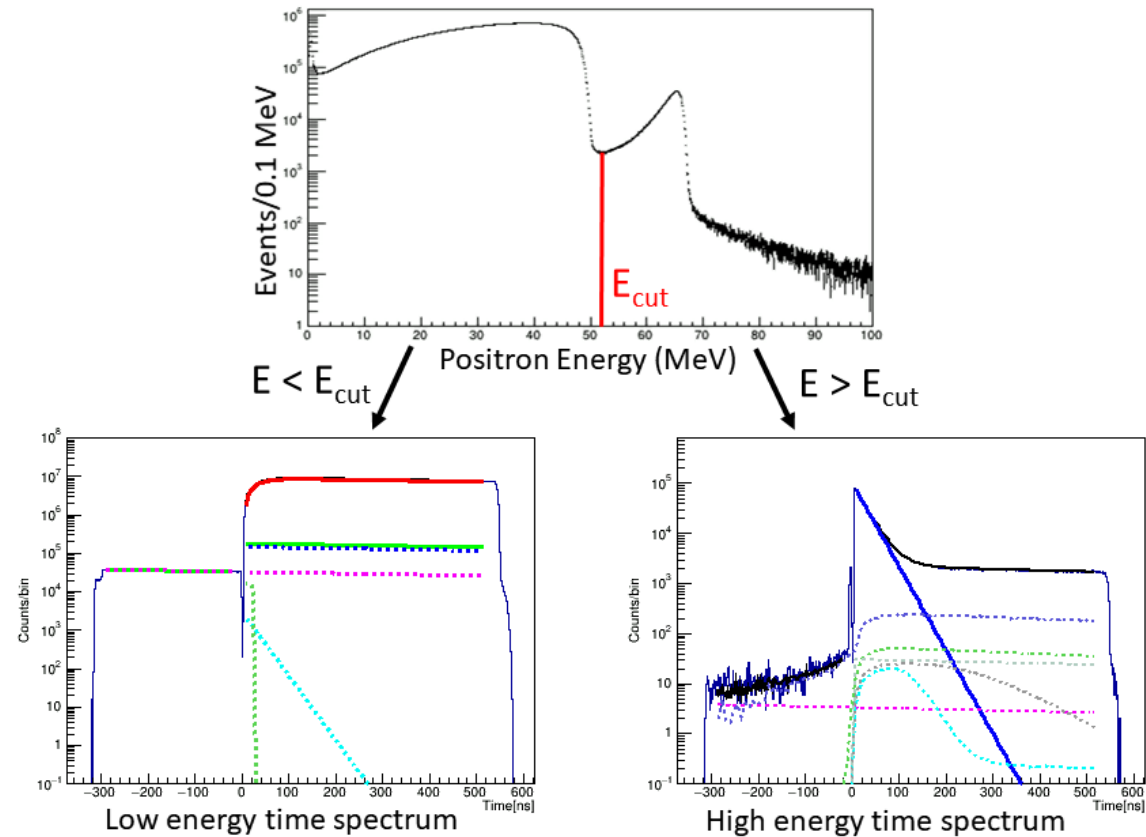
AND SO ON ... TO BE FILLED IN

This week, we will hear reports on individual system progress... no coupling yet, nor implications on the final result sensitivity

- 1st beam tests at PSI
- Many ATAR development efforts and measurements
- How to go from MEG II LXe experience to a PIONEER-ready design and needed R&D
- Crystal calorimeter options, using PEN CsI in a hybrid configuration
- Next-gen electronics platform ideas for digitization, triggering, and DAQ
- Simulation platforms to guide designs

How do we assess these given the interplay between all parameters?

- We need to do a pseudo analysis, following PIENU and PEN efforts
- Sim group will discuss plans, run a simulation Bootcamp and establish target dates for realistic productions



Back to practical

- Let's learn
- Let's encourage discussion
- Let's use the breaks to brainstorm
- Let's formalize our Collaboration



*"I have no trouble getting on high horses.
Getting off has always been my problem."*

Key dates coming ...

- December: -- Sim team will talk about external input “due”
- January:
 - Report to PSI
 - Beam time 2023 request (if we want it; discuss after talks)
 - Possible pre-proposal for R&D to NSF (discuss Saturday)
 - Launch major Simulation of events (discuss later)
- Feb – April
 - Submission of ...