Short introduction to the GF activities

- CERN, December the 11th, 2023
- Mieczyslaw Witold Krasny

Gamma Factory group leader LPNHE, CNRS and University Paris Sorbonne and CERN, BE-ABP



CERN experimental programme with proton and ion beams



The Gamma Factory proposal for CERN[†]

[†] An Executive Summary of the proposal addressed to the CERN management.

Mieczyslaw Witold Krasny* LPNHE, Universités Paris VI et VII and CNRS–IN2P3, Paris, France

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Gamma Factory goal:

extension of the CERN programme with beams of improved quality and intensity + unique GF research programme – both with "minor" accelerator infrastructure investment!

"Gamma Factory"

~100 physicists form 40 institutions have contributed so far to the Gamma Factory studies

A. Abramov¹, A. Afanasev³⁷, S.E. Alden¹, R. Alemany Fernandez², P.S. Antsiferov³, A. Apyan⁴,
G. Arduini², D. Balabanski³⁴, R. Balkin³², H. Bartosik², J. Berengut⁵, E.G. Bessonov⁶, N. Biancacci²,
J. Bieroń⁷, A. Bogacz⁸, A. Bosco¹, T. Brydges³⁶, R. Bruce², D. Budker^{9,10}, M. Bussmann³⁸, P. Constantin³⁴,
K. Cassou¹¹, F. Castelli¹², I. Chaikovska¹¹, C. Curatolo¹³, C. Curceanu³⁵, P. Czodrowski², A. Derevianko¹⁴,
K. Dupraz¹¹, Y. Dutheil², K. Dzierżęga⁷, V. Fedosseev², V. Flambaum²⁵, S. Fritzsche¹⁷, N. Fuster
Martinez², S.M. Gibson¹, B. Goddard², M. Gorshteyn²⁰, A. Gorzawski^{15,2}, M.E. Granados², R. Hajima²⁶,
T. Hayakawa²⁶, S. Hirlander², J. Jin³³, J.M. Jowett², F. Karbstein³⁹, R. Kersevan², M. Kowalska²,
M.W. Krasny^{16,2}, F. Kroeger¹⁷, D. Kuchler², M. Lamont², T. Lefevre², T. Ma³², D. Manglunki², B. Marsh²,
A. Martens¹², C. Michel⁴⁰ S. Miyamoto³¹ J. Molson², D. Nichita³⁴, D. Nutarelli¹¹, L.J. Nevay¹, V. Pascalutsa²⁸,
Y. Papaphilippou², A. Petrenko^{18,2}, V. Petrillo¹², L. Pinard⁴⁰ W. Płaczek⁷, R.L. Ramjiawan², S. Redaelli²,
Y. Peinaud¹¹, S. Pustelny⁷, S. Rochester¹⁹, M. Safronova^{29,30}, D. Samoilenko¹⁷, M. Sapinski²⁰, M. Schaumann²,
R. Scrivens², L. Serafini¹², V.P. Shevelko⁶, Y. Soreq³², T. Stoehlker¹⁷, A. Surzhykov²¹, I. Tolstikhina⁶,
F. Velotti², A. Viatkina⁹ A.V. Volotka¹⁷, G. Weber¹⁷, W. Weiqiang²⁷ D. Winters²⁰, Y.K. Wu²², C. Yin-Vallgren², M. Zanetti^{23,13}, F. Zimmermann², M.S. Zolotorev²⁴ and F. Zomer¹¹

Gamma Factory studies are supported by the CERN Physics Beyond Colliders (PBC) framework.

More info on all the GF group activities:

https://indico.cern.ch/category/10874

We acknowledge the crucial role of the CERN PBC support in bringing our accelerator tests, GF-PoP experiment design and software development to their present stage!

Gamma Factory status



Gamma Factory accelerator and beam-storage requirements:

- 1. Modification of the ion stripping scheme
- 2. Storage of atomic beams in the LHC

Requisite TT2 stripper system installed

Stripping of Pb+54 ions in the TT2 PS- \rightarrow SPS transfer line



Charge-State Distributions of Highly Charged Lead Ions at Relativistic Collision Energies

Felix M. Kröger,* Günter Weber, Simon Hirlaender, Reyes Alemany-Fernandez, Mieczyslaw W. Krasny, Thomas Stöhlker, Inga Yu. Tolstikhina, and Viacheslav P. Shevelko





R. Alemany-Fernandez (BE.OP), E. Grenier-Boley and D. Baillard (SY.STI)

The two tanks of the new stripper system were installed during YETS 2021-2022 and YETS 2022-2023. Four stripper foil mechanisms operating at ~Hz frequency.

Stable storage of atomic beams in the LHC demonstrated

(Hydrogen-like Lead)

8.0

Initial Intensity [109 charges]







PSI (H-like Pb) beam is a natural next step...

Fabry-Pérot (FP) resonators and their integration in the electron storage rings

Fabry-Pérot resonator mirror mirror ~10¹⁶ ph/pulse Laser pulses 400 59(2020)11 Stacked power (kW) 002 001 001 et al., Applied Optics 10 20 30 40 0 Amoudry L. Input power (W) GF requirement: < 5mJ pulses @ 40MHz, (200kW photon beam)

HERA storage ring





KEK – ATF ring





Proof-of-Principle experiment at SPS

Gamma Factory Proof-of-Principle (PoP) SPS experiment





The purpose of the GF SPS PoP experiment

Demonstrate that an adequate laser system (5mJ@40MHz) can be (remotely) operated in the high radiation field of the SPS.

Demonstrate that very high rates of photons are produced : almost all PSI's are excited in single collision of the PSI bunch with the laser pulse

Demonstrate stable and repeatable operation

Confront data and simulations

3

5

Demonstrate ion beam cooling: longitudinal and then transverse

Atomic physics measurements

PoP experiment status

September 25, 2019

Gamma Factory Proof-of-Principle Experiment

LETTER OF INTENT



Gamma Factory Study Group

Contact persons:

M. W. Krasny, krasny@lpnhe.in2p3.fr, krasny@mail.cern.ch – Gamma Factory team leader A. Martens, martens@lal.in2p3.fr – Gamma Factory PoP experiment spokesperson Y. Dutheil, yann.dutheil@cern.ch – Gamma Factory PoP study – CERN coordinator As received from the SPSC referees:

« The <u>SPSC recognizes the Gamma Factory's potential</u> to create a novel research tool, which may open the prospects for <u>new research</u> <u>opportunities in a broad domain of basic and applied science</u> at the LHC. »

Integration and operation model of the PoP experiment finalized

- Design of the laser light transport line finalized
- *"Menhir Photonics" laser delivered on the 2nd November 2023*



Power test experiment with this laser, R&D amplifier, and new R&D mirrors at IJCLab (Orsay) ongoing



Vibration tests in the SPS tunnel -- YETS 2024/2025

Experiment installation – LS3 - 2026-2027

Gamma Factory research programme

GF studies: recently published papers (INSPIRE)



Special issue of "Annalen der Physik" -- devoted to the GF physics highlights -- published in March 2022.

Examples of potential applications domains of the *Gamma Factory* research tools

- particle physics (precision QED and EW studies, vacuum birefringence, Higgs physics in γγ collision mode, rare muon decays, precision neutrino physics, QCD-confinement studies, ...);
- *nuclear physics* (*nuclear spectroscopy, cross-talk of nuclear and atomic processes, GDR, nuclear photo-physics, photo-fission research, gamma polarimetry, physics of rare radioactive nuclides,...);*
- atomic physics (highly charged atoms, electronic and muonic atoms, pionic and kaonic atoms);
- astrophysics (dark matter searches, gravitational waves detection, gravitational effects of cold particle beams, ¹⁶O(γ,α)¹²C reaction and S-factors...);
- **fundamental physics** (studies of the basic symmetries of the universe, atomic interferometry, ...);
- accelerator physics (beam cooling techniques, low emittance hadronic beams, plasma wake field acceleration, high intensity polarised positron and muon sources, beams of radioactive ions and neutrons, very narrow band, and flavour-tagged neutrino beams, neutron sources...);
- **applied physics** (**accelerator driven energy sources**, fusion research, medical isotopes and isomers production).

Long term vision

A potential place of the Gamma Factory (GF) in the future CERN research programme

- The next CERN high-energy frontier project (if ever constructed) may take long time to be approved, built and become operational, ... unlikely before 2050-ties
- The present LHC research programme will certainly reach earlier (late 2030-ties?) its discovery saturation (L_{int} ~ 0.5L_{goal}) -- little physics gain by a simple extending its pp/pA/AA running time
- A strong need will certainly arise for a novel multidisciplinary programme which could re-use ("couse") the existing CERN facilities (including LHC) in ways and at levels that were not necessarily thought of when the machines were designed

The Gamma Factory research programme could fulfil such a role. It can exploit **the existing world unique opportunities** offered by the CERN accelerator complex and CERN's scientific infrastructure (**not available elsewhere**) to conduct new, diverse, and vibrant research in particle, nuclear, atomic, fundamental and applied physics with novel research tools and methods

A vision of the LHC operation in the post-HL-LHC phase

