ALabama Scintillator Outrigger (ALSO) Status and Outlook

Igor Ostrovskiy, 10 Sep 2024

MAPP-1 Outrigger Detector

 An additional MAPP-1 sub-detector to be placed in the Duct-4 on the side of UA83, roughly 120 m from IP8



MAPP-1 Outrigger Detector

 Aimed to extend sensitivity to mCP with higher masses, compared to MAPP-1 alone



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MAPP-1 Outrigger Detector

- Designed as a 4-layer scintillator array with a total of 80 scintillator slabs read out by PMTs
- Slabs arranged in a brick-like fashion to reduce "normally ionizing" backgrounds
- 1 m iron shielding on the tunnel side of the Duct to reduce beam backgrounds



Allocated resources

- Hardware:
 - Scintillator and PMTs for 60/80 units funded by an NSF award to the Alabama group. Scintillator for the rest loaned by the Alabama's EXO-200 group
 - Remaining 20/80 PMTs come as donation to Alberta
 - Electronics is the same as in MAPP-1, funded by MoEDAL M&O funds, Alberta's NSERC and DUP awards
 - Duct's shielding is provided by CERN
- Personnel
 - Alabama has 1 postdoc (S. Behera) permanently stationed at CERN, who will work on installation and serve as DEXSO, supported by the NSF award. Group's PI plans to spend the Spring 2025 semester at CERN. 1 GRA and 1 UG funds to support work on preparing components at home
 - Alberta's NSERC award supports mechanical and electronics engineers, and technical coordinator (R. Soluk) who will be working on installation and serve as EXSO. Jack Lindon will serve as DEXSO (30% on MoEDAL, full-time on-site)
 - We are coordinating with the Francois Butin on shielding matters

Preparations at Alabama

- Procured enough BC-408 plastic scintillator and 2-in Hamamatsu PMTs to instrument 60 scintillator units + 2 spares
- With the help of Dr. Soluk who visited the lab end of July, the slabs are cleaned, wrapped, and instrumented with calibration LEDs and PMTs glued in

Preparations at Alabama

R.Soluk



Alabama students: B. Davis A. Upreti

Meeting with referees

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A. Dandapat U. Ullah

Remaining tasks at Alabama

- Prepare a shipping crate
- Wrap PMTs
- Manufacture PMTs bases (divider+CW gen) once design is available



Towards the 4th layer

- Alberta has enough 3.5-in PMTs to instrument 20 more units needed to complete the 4th layer of the detector
- Alabama loaned to Alberta enough scintillator material (from ended EXO-200 experiment)
- Alberta is gearing to machine the plastic to shape using a dedicated tool
- The units for the 4th layer are expected to be completed by the end of the year



Towards the installation

- Assuming the Outrigger is approved sometime this Fall, the components will be shipped to CERN end of the year
- Installation is planned for early 2025 during the EYETS
- The installation (including shielding) should be complete in under two weeks. Commissioning with cosmics and LEDs to follow

ID	Name	2024						2025		
		Jul 2024	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Mar 2
1	Preparation of 60 scintillator units at Alabama									
2	Preparation of 20 scintillator units at Alberta									
3	Transport of scintillator units to CERN									
4	▼ PMT bases									
5	Board design	:								
6	Boards procurement									
7	 Installation 									
9	Rail							1		
8	Shielding									
10	Detectors									
11	Commisioning									
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Towards the installation

- The first elements to be installed in Duct-4 will be the support rails, the cable trays, and the iron shielding
- Once this has been completed, the scintillator units would be assembled into the installation subunits
 - A standard lifting table will be used to raise each subunit to the correct height to be slid onto the mounting rail
- These subunits would then be inserted along the rails into the Duct
- To facilitate the installation, the LHC machine site manager agreed to temporarily attribute 20 m² space in SBD 2855



Notes on Safety

- EXSO and at least one DEXSO will participate in the installation
- At least one DEXSO is full-time on MoEDAL-MAPP and permanently stationed at CERN; Second DEXSO is 30% MoEDAL-MAPP, full-time at CERN
- PMT are powered by LV, use CW to ramp up on board
- Placement inside concrete duct with iron shielding on one end reduces fire risk. Aluminum plates to close the other end
- Safety features foreseen
 - Smoke, temperature, voltage trip alarms; video monitoring