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Gamma-ray imaging with a large micro-TPC and a scintillation camera

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Following the successful astronomical observation by COMPTEL onboard GRO, a Compton telescope with higher performance is required. With COMPTEL a direction of a recoil electron was not measured, so an origin of the incident photon could only be reconstructed to a cone. Measuring the direction of recoil electron reduces the Compton cone to a segment of the cone, and realizes the strong background rejection. To measure the direction of the recoil electron, we have developed a micro-time projection chamber (micro-TPC) based on a micro-pixel chamber (μ -PIC). The scattered gamma-ray is measured using 30 cm \times 30 cm NaI(Tl) scintillation camera. We developed a larger size micro-TPC (23 cm \times 28 cm \times 15 cm) than previous prototype (10 cm \times 10 cm \times 10 cm). In this presentation, we are reporting on the fundamental performances of the MeV gamma-ray camera.

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