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Normalization system for the Mu2e Experiment - The Stopping-Target Monitor

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The Mu2e experiment, a search for Charged-Lepton Flavor Violation (CLFV), aims to measure the rate of neutrinoless muon-to-electron conversion in the coulomb field of an aluminum nucleus, $R_{\mu e} = \Gamma(\mu Al \rightarrow e Al) / \Gamma_{\text{capture}}(\mu Al)$.

If CLFV is not observed, we will improve the current limit by a factor 10,000.

In order to reach our goal, we must measure the denominator of $R_{\mu e}$ to about the 10% level.

In Mu2e, muons will be stopped in a series of thin aluminum foils known as the Muon Stopping Target. As muons are captured in excited energy levels of aluminum atoms they promptly cascade down to the $1s$ state emitting characteristic X-rays. Captured muons also produce excited nuclei which emit gamma-rays with known energies and intensities.

One sub-system of the Mu2e experiment, the Stopping-Target Monitor, will measure the X- and gamma-rays using a high-purity germanium detector.

To overcome the extremely high background rates and avoid severe radiation damage we place the detector far downstream of the Muon Stopping Target, employ a dipole magnet to sweep away charged particles, a series of collimators to ensure the detector only views the Muon Stopping Target, and shielding from background radiation. We present a detailed description of the sub-system design, simulation results, and the normalization measurement technique.

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