

A Silicon Pixel Tracker for future μ SR Experiments

Enabling more precise and efficient investigation of **magnetic** and **superconducting** materials through **vertex reconstruction**

Muon Spin Rotation/Relaxation/Resonance (μ SR) is used to measure local magnetic fields within a sample material. Parity violation in muon decay results in an anisotropic positron emission that correlates with the muon's spin direction. Magnetic fields present in the material affect the muon's spin precession, which can be quantified by the positron emission rate.

μ SR - Method

400 MeV Proton beam → C/Be target → π^+ ($\tau_\pi = 26$ ns) → μ^+ (Spin polarized surface muons, $\tau_\mu = 2.2$ μ s, 30 MeV) → e^+ (Anisotropic decay positrons correlated with muon spin direction)

Positron rate:
$$N(t)/dt = B_0 + N_0 \cdot \exp(-t/\tau_\mu) \cdot [1 + A_0 G_\perp(t) \cos(\bar{\omega}_\mu t + \phi)]$$

Graph showing $N(t)/dt$ vs t [μ s] with curves for μ SR-Relaxation, μ SR-Rotation, and muon decay. Labels include: Background, Exponential muon decay, Intrinsic asymmetry parameter of weak decay, Relaxation function of temporal decrease of the polarization degree, Angle between positron and muon spin direction, Larmor frequency of muon spin precession: $\bar{\omega}_\mu = \gamma_\mu \cdot (B_{ext} + \langle B_{int} \rangle)$.

HV-MAPS

- High-Voltage Monolithic Active Pixel Sensor
- Embedded readout electronics in deep n-wells within substrate
- Reversely biased substrate for fast charge collection via drift

Mupix11 specifications:

- Active area: 20×20 mm²
- Pixel size: 80×80 μ m²
- Can be thinned down up to 50 μ m ($< 7 \times 10^{-4} X_0$)
- Ideal for low momentum particle tracking

Scintillator-Based Detector

Principle:

- Scintillators measure Time-of-Arrival of incoming muon & emitted positron
- temporal evolution of asymmetry between forward and backward signals

Disadvantages:

- No position information of muon decay
- Maximal 1 muon per time window of 10 μ s
- veto logic to filter out pile-up and non-decayed muons
- limited acceptance rate of ~ 18 kHz

Mupix11 Quad Module

- Module with large active sensor area for beam monitoring and μ SR detector prototype

Specifications:

- 2×2 grid of 50 μ m Mupix11 sensors
- 25 μ m Kapton foil for structural support
- Active area: 40×40 mm²
- Sensor spacing: 200 μ m

Production:

DAQ:

- Minimal, Mu3e compatible DAQ setup
- Optional scintillator input for improved timing

Pixel-Based Detector

Principle:

- Barrel of inner and outer pixel layer
- Incoming muons and outgoing positrons tracked by pixel sensors
- Trajectory → Stopping position → Time of arrival
- Optional scintillator tiles to improve time resolution

Advantages:

- Vertex reconstruction allows to differentiate between several simultaneous events and their origin
- Expected position uncertainty: Positron ≤ 1 mm (for 100 MeV muons) Muon ≤ 0.6 mm
- Increased muon rate by 10 – 100 times
- Several smaller samples possible at once
- Increased observation time of ~ 20 μ s

Goals:

- Prove of principle
- Detector characterization & cooling studies
- Resolve 1 mm structures
- Measure upper limit of muon rate increase

Detector Prototype

- 4 Quad Module layers:
 - 2 upstream – sample – 2 downstream
- Sensor cooling options:
 - Air-cooling via fan
 - Water-cooling of frame and backplate heatsinks

Upstream layers, Sample holder, Downstream layers

Layer distance: 14 mm, Variable sample distance: 7 – 36 mm



by Lukas Mandok¹
on behalf of the HD-HVMAPS group & the μ SR pixel collaboration²

¹ Physikalisches Institut, Universität Heidelberg - mandok@physi.uni-heidelberg.de

² Universität Heidelberg, Universität Mainz, Paul Scherrer Institut

