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Volume 32

No. 5 June 1992

Micheline Falciola Advertising Manager CERN CH-1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland Tel.: +41 (22) 767 4103 Fax: +41 (22) 782 1906

Rest of the world

Yvette M. Perez Gordon and Breach Science Publishers Frankford Arsenal, Bldg 110 5301 Tacony Street, Box 330 Philadelphia, PA 19137 Tel.: +1 (215) 537 7262 Fax: +1 (215) 537 0711

Distributed to Member State governments, institutes and laboratories affiliated with CERN, and to their personnel.

General distribution

Jacques Dallemagne CERN, 1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland

In certain countries, copies are available on request from:

China

Dr. Qian Ke-Qin Institute of High Energy Physics P.O. Box 918, Beijing, People's Republic of China

Germany

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Italy

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USA/Canada

Cyndi Rathbun (B90904 at FNALVM) Fermilab, P.O. Box 500, Batavia Illinois 60510

CERN COURIER is published ten times yearly in English and French editions. The views expressed in the Journal are not necessarily those of the CERN management.

Printed by: Drukkerij Lannoo nv 8700 Tielt, Belgium

Published by:

European Laboratory for Particle Physics CERN, 1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland tel.: +41 (22) 767 61 11, telex: 419 000 CERN CH, telefax: +41 (22) 767 65 55

CERN COURIER only: tel. +41 (22) 767 41 03, telefax +41 (22) 782 19 06

USA: Controlled Circulation Postage paid at Batavia, Illinois

| | Covering current developments in high energy physics and related fields worldwide | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | <i>Editor:</i> Gordon Fraser (COURIER at CERNVM)* <i>French edition:</i> Henri-Luc Felder <i>Production and Advertisements:</i> Micheline Falciola (FAL at CERNVM)* | | | | | |
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Cover photograph: The Aleph experiment at CERN's LEP electron-positron collider. The 1992 run began at LEP in April.



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Picking out primordial seeds

NASA's COBE (Cosmic Background Explorer) satellite, in orbit since 1989, has picked up tiny variations in the cosmic microwave background radiation which could be the 'seeds' from which the present galactic structure of the Universe evolved.

On Friday 24 April, the world's press carried banner headlines of the type 'How the Universe began'. But from these brash stories it was difficult for scientists who had not been at the American Physical Society meeting in Washington the previous day to find out exactly what had been announced.

The fuss was because a team working with NASA's COBE (Cosmic Background Explorer) satellite has picked out tiny variations in the cosmic background radiation at a level of one part per 100,000. COBE, launched in November 1989, takes a long, close look at the faint microwave background rumble which is a relic of the mighty Big Bang, stretched out over 15 Gigayears.

These fluctuations – patches of sky with temperatures slightly higher or lower than surrounding areas – correspond to regions of the early Universe with slightly greater or lesser concentrations of matter and radiation. This pattern was a template for the subsequent cosmic evolution. Small as they are, the observed patches of enhanced density provided a gravitational 'valley' into which surrounding matter gradually collected.

About ten years ago, Big Bang cosmologists proposed how irregularities in the early Universe could have led to its subsequent evolution. Tiny quantum effects would have been amplified by cosmological inflation, the super-rapid expansion of the inflation phase taking these initial fluctuations out of the quantum domain and transforming them into the progenitors of the galaxy structure we now know.

Detailed simulations looked at what would happen to such random fluctuations in the aftermath of the Big Bang. They showed that these fluctuations, as well as seeding galaxies,



would leave their mark as tiny ripples in the microwave background radiation. (They could perhaps be looked for in the detailed evolution of galaxy clustering, but as galaxies are most likely only a tiny component of the whole Universe, this approach cannot be guaranteed. The microwave background provides a much more direct test.) In 1986, George Efstathiou, now at Oxford and one of the pioneers of this approach, said 'A positive detection of radiation anisotropies would revolutionize the study of galaxy formation and have profound implications for particle physics'.

Until now, instruments measuring the microwave background, including COBE, were unable to see any such effect. This dearth of measurable structure in the early Universe was beginning to make some Big Bang theorists nervous. How could the Universe have produced galaxies and other larger structures (clusters, superclusters) without there having being precursors? Previous studies

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had only succeeded in giving upper limits for such structure.

This changed dramatically at the American Physical Society April Meeting in Washington D.C., with the announcement by COBE scientists of the first observation of temperature variations in the microwave background. Previous COBE results (June 1991, page 1) showed that the radiation was totally in line with what would be expected from a perfect radiator ('black body') at 2.735K, smooth to one part per ten thousand. This was already heralded as a major astronomy result, providing substantial additional evidence for the Big Bang idea. The newly discovered fluctuations are faint indeed - roughly 30 degrees microkelvin, or one part per hundred thousand.

George Smoot of Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, the head of the team which operated the Differential Microwave Radiometer (DMR), one of three principal instruments on board COBE, reported at Washington that these results were based on the meticulous computer analysis of a year's worth of data. DMR studies the whole sky, making it an ideal instrument to search for these effects. The result is compatible with COBE's previous black body measurements, and with previous upper limits.

The results presented at Washington cover four major scientific papers, one on the actual data, one on the treatment of errors, one on the separation of cosmic background and galactic signals, and a fourth on the interpretation of the result in terms of gravitational fluctuations.

DMR makes precise maps of the microwave sky on angular scales larger than a few degrees and over a range of microwave frequencies. This way this results are sensitive to a wide range of possible initial fluctuation 'seeds'.

The analysis involved careful subtraction of competing microwave emissions from such nearby objects as the Earth and the Milky Way galaxy, and had to take into account the movement of the Earth and our galaxy through the rest of the Universe. This motion imposes a broad dipole shift on the pattern of temperature measurements across the sky. The irregularities are a hundred times smaller than this broad dipole effect. A critical issue is whether the anisotropy is due to galactic or extragalactic effects, or can be assigned directly to coşmic background radiation, although the former look to be unlikely. The COBE DMR results, covering a range of frequencies, facilitate the subtraction of angular galactic effects.

Smoot and his colleagues are confident about their measurements, but an enlarged data sample would greatly help to sharpen the primordial structure pattern. Now that the necessary analysis techniques are better understood, the interpretation of data could speed up, so that the several years of COBE data still to be analysed might soon make an appearance. A fourth year of COBE functioning has also been requested, if the instrument and spacecraft continue to function well.

US recommendations

The Superconducting Supercollider (SSC) will dominate the US high energy physics research towards the end of the decade. Less clear is how the US research scene will evolve in the meantime.

Some indications are given in a report by a subpanel chaired by Michael Witherell (Santa Barbara) with recommendations for the direction US high energy physics research should take over the period 1994-7. The report has now been approved by the High Energy Physics Advisory Panel (HEPAP) of the US Department of Energy.

As usual with these reports, the recommendations are grouped into three budget scenarios – 'middle' with level funding (constant dollars, adjusted for inflation), 'upper' with a modest 2.5% above inflation, and 'lower' with level funding (constant dollars not adjusted for inflation, assumed to be 3.5% per year).

In all these scenarios SSC construction is seen as having highest priority – 'absolutely essential for continued progress...into the 21st century'.

For the 'middle' budget, the report recommends that construction of the proposed Main Injector at Fermilab's Tevatron should be completed by 1997. The Main Injector (July/August 1990, page 4) would provide a new beam supply system for the superconducting Tevatron and has been acknowledged by previous HEPAP recommendations.

'B factory' electron-positron machines with asymmetric (unequal en-

The proposed new Main Injector Ring to feed Fermilab's superconducting Tevatron.is seen as one of the major US projects to be completed in the near future.

ergy) rings have been proposed at Cornell (July/August 1991, page 8) and at Stanford (June 1991, page 8). For the middle budget, the HEPAP report recommends construction of the Stanford plan (using the existing PEP tunnel) starting in 1996, funded out of a reduced local budget.

A new B factory at Cornell would be funded by another body, the National Science Foundation, but so far the indication from this direction has been that nothing could be considered before 1997. On the DoE front, the HEPAP report recommends that Cornell should upgrade its existing CESR collider to reach luminosities of 10³³ per sq cm per s.

Brookhaven's AGS synchrotron would continue with its own physics programme until 1997, when the AGS high energy physics programme would cease, and the new RHIC heavy ion collider, using the AGS as injector, comes into operation. (RHIC is funded from another budget, not addressed by HEPAP.)



The middle budget would also allow SLAC to continue with its R&D work in linacs and linear colliders, however particle physics research at the SLC collider should be terminated in 1993.



Across the board, support for university groups should increase, and the physics research staff at the SSC should increase steadily, with partial support from the base high energy physics programme.

While the middle budget could retain the vitality of many parts of the overall programme, it nevertheless confronted the panel with some hard choices.

For the optimistic budget, the panel recommended a selective increase in research activities, with the Fermilab Main Injector completed one year earlier (1996), and SLAC B-factory construction advanced to 1994-7. The US research programme would then be in good shape in 1997, allowing increased support for SSC physics.

A 'B factory' electron-positron collider with asymmetric (unequal energy) rings have been proposed at Stanford (SLAC). The latest US High Energy Physics Advisory Panel (HEPAP) report also recommends construction of this plan (using the existing PEP tunnel). The start date would depend on the amount of money available.

The pessimistic budget makes for dismal reading – 'damage to particle physics would be severe' – and the field would be poorly positioned for the next decade. Future productivity would be endangered by insufficient students and trained personnel. Specifically, Main Injector construction at Fermilab would be stretched out, with completion in 1998, the Stanford Bfactory would be shelved, and furthermore the SLAC accelerator complex would have to be closed in 1995.

The subpanel under Michael Witherell included Gerald Dugan,

Gary Feldman, Jerome Friedman, Mary K. Gaillard, Donald Hartill, David Leith, Hugh Montgomery, Piermaria Oddone, James Pilcher, Pierre Ramond, James Siegrist, Robert H. Siemann, A.J. Stewart Smith, Sam Trieman, T. Laurence Trueman and Stanley Wojcicki (ex officio, as HEPAP chairman). Earle Fowler was Executive Secretary and Pat Rapp his deputy.

The subpanel's charge was to address 'what emphasis should be placed on university-based research compared to the operation of accelerator facilities at DoE National Laboratories, and consider whether the construction of new or upgraded facilities should be initiated or pursued. The Subpanel should concentrate on the structure of the programme for the next five years. However it would be helpful also to discuss the major elements of the base programme of high energy physics research which includes an operating SSC.'

During January and February, the Subpanel visited the five major US particle physics Laboratories – Cornell, Brookhaven, the SSC, SLAC and Fermilab, in that order.

Accelerating with industry

At the end of March, Berlin was the scene of the third biennial European Particle Accelerator Conference (EPAC). It carried the usual news from the front-line machines in the high energy physics Laboratories and reports on progress with the latest technologies. But the organizers also decided 'to pay particular attention to developments in the field of synchrotron radiation sources, compact synchrotron radiation sources, as well as smaller accelerators and their applications'. As a result many sessions reemphasized how the mastery of charged particle beams is now commonplace in a multitude of disciplines and applications.

The conference, like its US counterpart, obviously had strong regional bias, reflected here, and underlining the vigour of this branch of science and technology in Europe, both in the Laboratories and in industrial support. Higher fields and higher energies

The opening talk covered the splendid progress in commissioning the HERA collider in the host country's DESY Laboratory. First collisions were achieved with modest luminosity towards the end of last year, detectors were moved into place during March and commissioning thereafter. The main tasks are to take the proton beam to its design energy of 820 GeV and to sustain the intensity of the proton beam as it accelerates through the injection system.

This brings particle physicists to the brink of experiments with the unique conditions of high energy electronproton collisions. The accelerator specialists, meanwhile, rejoice in several HERA achievements: no special problems have emerged while colliding electrons and protons, the huge cryoplant has operated for four years with complete reliability, and, most encouraging of all, superconducting magnets are now mastered to field levels of 5 T in machine operating conditions.

The major worry in the HERA proton ring had been that persistent currents would distort the low fields at injection; this worry has disappeared because their reproducibility makes compensation straightforward.

The industrial contribution to this achievement was considerable. Over two thousand superconducting magnets were required for HERA and from some 700 dipoles (the most difficult type) only five did not reach acceptable quality. It is interesting, however, that there are small but measurable differences in performance between the magnets, built to the same specification, from the German manufacturer and those from the Italian manufacturer. In machine operation, there are two reference

On Friday 15 May, protons in the superconducting ring of the HERA machine at DESY reached the design energy of 820 GeV. HERA now supplies the world's highest energy protons.

The opening talk at the European Particle Accelerator Conference in Berlin in March covered progress in commissioning the HERA electron-proton collider in the host country's DESY Laboratory.



magnets monitored by NMR, one from each manufacturer.

The push to higher fields continues at the SSC Supercollider Laboratory in the USA and at CERN for the LHC project. News from the SSC is that the increase to 50 cm aperture has been successfully incorporated in the design and the recent magnets built to that specification are performing better than the required 6.6 T (April, page 11). Five full-size magnets are on-site and are judged ready for the move to full-scale industrial production. A test of a complete 'string', consisting of ten dipoles and two quadrupoles, is scheduled before the end of this year.

Magnets for the LHC, adapted to the constraints imposed by going for the highest possible energy in the existing LEP tunnel, attack three novel challenges simultaneously – fields around 10 T, operation at 1.8 K, and two beam channels in a common yoke. The desired field has been reached in a magnet. More significantly, recent models have quenched only in the ends and splice areas and not in the body of the magnet; it has been shown that the twin-aperture configuration does not bring in new problems and moves from short models to full-scale magnets should not affect performance.

Recent LHC magnet designs look at several options, including separate collars for the coils around each beam to loosen the link between the fields in each aperture and to help in smoothing out magnet properties around each ring. Work continues to refine conductors, coils and collars. A half-cell, including five superconducting dipoles, will be tested next year.

While higher field superconducting magnets can retain higher energy beams in a given ring size, superconductivity also has its role to play in radiofrequency accelerating cavities to increase accelerating field gradients and reduce operating costs. Here again there is fairly steady progress towards higher fields for higher energy machines.

Since the first superconducting linac at Stanford HEPL twenty years ago (which incidentally is still working for Free Electron Laser research) gradients have climbed to 5 MV/m reliably achieved in industrially built cavities. The biggest operating system is the 32 five-cell system on the TRISTAN storage ring at the Japanese KEK Laboratory, soon to be overtaken by the rf system to double the energy on the LEP ring at CERN and the CEBAF linac in the USA (where 65 cavities have been tested giving an average gradient of 8.3 MV/m).

Though 5 MV/m may now be available 'off the shelf', field gradients in operating machines are significantly lower - for example 3.3 to 4.7 in TRISTAN, 3.5 to 4.25 in LEP. Happilv, these lower performances are not 'cavity-based' but due to external sources such as power supply limitations, degradation due to dirt contamination, and exposure to synchrotron radiation. They indicate, however, that superconducting cavities do need continued nursing after they have been installed in machines, much more so than conventional cavities.

For the future the push to higher gradients continues, led by 34MV/m achieved at Cornell.

Front-runners in colliding electron beams are the TRISTAN and LEP storage rings. TRISTAN is now in action for physics with energies of 29 GeV and a greatly increased lumi-

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Proposed layout of the Tau-Charm Factory under study, in collaboration with CERN, for Spain. Many such 'Factories' were discussed at the EPAC conference. Their goal is the detailed study of special particles to fill in gaps in understanding at lower masses and energy levels than those confronted by the front-line machines.



nosity following machine improvements during the last year (April, page 15). In a few years it is intended to convert the machine to a high brightness synchrotron light source. LEP has scoured the region of the Z mass with beam energies of around 50 GeV. LEP is aiming to do the same job at the W mass with beam energies around 90 GeV.

Beyond this energy, storage rings move out of the region of 'fiscal feasibility' and the biggest challenge in accelerator physics and technology at present is the attempt to achieve higher lepton collision energies via electron linear colliders.

One talk on this subject concluded with the comment that it was necessary to kiss this technological frog to transform it into the desired prince. To which the corridor reply was that it may be necessary to embrace an awful lot of frogs before the prince materializes.

Experience with the SLC Stanford Linear Collider has encouraged this work since it has demonstrated how to produce and handle beams of very small spot size. However, much higher luminosities (10³³ to 10³⁴) than at the SLC will be needed at 'do physics in the TeV range with linear colliders. Add to this the desire to keep machine sizes reasonable, say 20 to 30 km (requiring accelerating gradients of some 100 MV/m), and to keep power requirements acceptable (below 200 MW) using novel r.f. power systems, and the technological difficulties are obvious.

Four different methods are under development at Stanford (NLC), Japan (JLC), Russia (VLEPP) and CERN (CLIC). They each have test facilities in operation tackling one or more of the technological problems. Other Laboratories with linear accelerator traditions are also contributing to this work. A Workshop on electron linear colliders is being organized by the European Committee for Future Accelerators, ECFA, in July.

Another approach to electron linear colliders is back under study after being somewhat put aside in the early days of thinking of possible schemes because of the comparatively low accelerating gradients (25 MV/m maximum) which could be achieved. Under the name of TESLA (TeV Energy Superconducting Linear Accelerator) it accepts the costs of a longer length machine in the hope that they could be compensated by lower power demand (a factor of a hundred or more) and less stringent demands on spot size to reach the necessary luminosity (100 nm rather than 5 nm). Several laboratories in the US and Europe (April 1991, page 16) are collaborating in TESLA development.

The Factories

As the wave of front-line particle physics research surges on, it leaves in its wake a lot of incomplete knowledge and some fundamental problems which require detailed work with masses of data. Typical examples are the examination of rare decay modes and the long-standing mysteries of charge-parity (CP) violation. To do this work involves comparatively modest energy accelerators but they have their special technological challenges in yielding luminosities a hundred times higher than usual to give the required volume of data.

The machines are of a scale and cost which do not require extensive international collaboration and they have mushroomed in recent years so that a rare particle must feel neglected if there is not a proposal to give it its own 'factory'.

The general purpose Kaon Factory proposal at the TRIUMF laboratory in Canada leads a sinusoidal life of optimism and frustration; the latter phase predominates at the moment – hopefully temporarily. There are Tau-Charm Factory proposals in Russia and in Europe; the latter (July/August 1991, page 13) envisages a site in Spain and has been developed in collaboration with CERN. It has superimposed electron-positron rings of

Star of the EPAC show was the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility, in Grenoble, reporting impressive progress in commissioning its 6 GeV storage ring as the conference progressed. A stored beam of 10 mA was achieved during the week and the ESRF is the first large machine of its 'third generation' kind to come into action.

2.5 GeV. A Phi Factory, called Daphne, is to be built at Frascati in Italy; it will collide intense electronpositron beams at 500 MeV per beam. Other Phi Factory studies are at Novosibirsk with a 'butterfly' configuration of two superconducting rings, UCLA in the USA with a single superconducting ring, and KEK Japan with two conventional rings. There are no less than six proposals for Beauty Factories – all two asymmetric ring schemes.

Making light

Synchrotron radiation sources were a major theme of the conference and the statistics presented over fifty machines in operation, most of them for a broad range of research but about ten for specific applications like lithography or Free Electron Lasers.

Star of the show was undoubtedly the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility which was commissioning as the conference progressed. ESRF, supported by twelve European countries, is a 6 GeV machine fed by a full energy synchrotron booster. Electron beams are being used initially but they will probably be replaced by positrons in 1994. ESRF is of the third generation type, using undulator and wiggler insertion devices in the straight sections of the machine as the major sources of its intense radiation with well defined properties.

The ESRF has been built, on schedule and within budget, with impressive speed; ground breaking was only three years ago and the storage ring was installed within a year. The first stored beam was achieved on 1 March. As the conference opened, beam-lifetimes of an hour had been achieved and by the time the participants had dispersed 10 mA had been stored. It looks as if research at the



ESRF will open comfortably ahead of other equivalent machines elsewhere.

Of great topical interest is the start up of compact synchrotron radiation sources for X-ray lithography in the electronics industry. IBM produced chips with 0.5 micron line width using beams from the Brookhaven Light Source in 1988. Since then machines have been built or planned with the aim of reducing line width to 0.1 microns. Such compact sources are also to be used in the production of microstructures for the commercial market (using the LIGA method) and for K-edge angiography for heart scans.

There are fourteen such projects in all – eight in Japan, four in Europe and two in the USA. Front-runner is the Aurora model built by Sumitomo in Japan, which came into action in 1989. it uses a compact microtron for injection (and a novel resonance injection technique which is a sort of reverse slow ejection) and has stored 300 mA at 650 MeV in a 1 m diameter single superconducting magnet. COSY in Germany initially used conventional magnets and stored 100 mA at 50 MeV; the move to superconducting magnets has so far yielded only 1 mA at 550 MeV. Super ALIS in Japan has 200 mA at 600 MeV. Oxford Instruments in the UK have delivered a superconducting machine called Helios to IBM.

Free Electron Lasers also attract a lot of attention but more for what they potentially can deliver in radiation fluxes rather than what they have delivered. There are 41 projects in operation or building (15 in Europe, 14 in the USA, and 12 in Japan). 15 of them have 'lased' so far, five of them coming into action during the past year. It should not be long before their promise is realized.

Some of the uses of synchrotron radiation in biology were described by M. Kock from the European Molecular Biology Laboratory, who does research at DESY. Such research and related applications have recently been reviewed by EMBL in a book of 600 pages! Painting the alphabet with high energy heavy ion beams at Darmstadt using the raster scan technique. This excellent control of beams bodes well for the use of ions in three dimensional treatment of cancer tumours.



Other research fields and applications

Nuclear physics continues to benefit from advanced accelerators. Progress at the CEBAF project, with its two superconducting linacs, is looking good with cavity performance well above specification. The potential peak energy is under review with optimists predicting as high as 8 or 10 GeV rather than the design 4 GeV. The experience with the S-DALINAC recirculating superconducting linac at Darmstadt (May 1991, page 10) has yielded a lot of information to help the new projects. In Europe, nuclear physicists from several countries have been developing a

microtron-type scheme to go as high as 15 GeV via five passes through three 1 GeV linacs.

CERN Director General Carlo Rubbia gave a special evening talk on the concept of achieving inertial confinement fusion via pellet bombardment by accelerated ion beams. The concept has been around for some time but benefits from the tremendous progress in accelerator technology. It is now a serious alternative to magnetic or laser confinement schemes and thus worth pursuing in parallel. Such techniques of bringing matter to states of high temperature and density promise a new range of physics in addition.

A first step is opening up at the Darmstadt heavy ion complex, SIS/

ESR. In the past two years ions of neon, argon, krypton, xenon, dysprosium, gold and bismuth (the favoured ion in inertial confinement schemes) have been accelerated in the SIS.

The application of such beams for cancer radiotherapy has been investigated with the Darmstadt machine and remarkable control of raster scans with ion beams of small spot size has been demonstrated. Ions have some advantages over other particle species in such treatment because of their sharp 'Bragg peak' deposition of energy and their biological effect in more efficient cell destruction.

A 500 MeV neon ion synchrotron has been studied at Darmstadt but such ion machines are still technically too difficult for operation in hospital environments. Simpler proton and neutron facilities have been used in several countries and a major medical facility is coming into action at Loma Linda hospital in California using a proton synchrotron developed at Fermilab.

Ion beams are also in widespread use in materials research and applications for the analysis and modification of material surfaces. Ion implantation is used in the semiconductor industry and is coming into use on a largescale for implanting impurities to improve material properties. They generally require energies up to about 200 keV. Beams into the MeV region are needed for ion beam synthesis (where heavier doses of ions produce new compounds) and ion beam mixing or assisted deposition (where surface atoms are exchanged and inert atoms inserted). Electro-optical devices, improved mechanical properties of ceramics. better lubricants, filtration membranes with pores produced by parti-



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CERN Courier, June 1992

cles can all benefit from the growing use of higher energy accelerators in materials research.

The treatment of radioactive waste by high power accelerators is under study in the USA and Japan with the aim of chemical transformation of long-lived radioactive elements using intense fluxes of thermal neutrons (April, page 19). In Japan a very high power linac is being studied and Los Alamos have a scheme for a proton c.w. accelerator to deliver over 100 mA at 1 GeV. Though the schemes may be feasible, they need much more work before they are optimal.

Other high power machines are investigated in many countries (Germany, Russia, Poland, Sweden, etc.) to ease environmental problems. Electron beams can help in flue gas treatment, water purification and food irradiation. For example a research project in Poland uses an electron beam to remove 90% of sulphur and nitrogen oxides from flue gas.

Industrious approach

The ever-closer relationship between the European accelerator community and European industry was exceptionally noticeable at the conference. This has not happened overnight; it has been steadily developing for many years.

There are two obvious reasons for this. The first is that the technological abilities of industry have been transformed in the past two decades. For example, when the CERN PS and even ISR were being built almost all the technologically advanced design, prototype and assembly work had to be done 'inhouse'. The first sorties to place such work in industry failed. Now industry is a full partner beyond the stage of initial conception.

These abilities were very obvious in a splendid industry exhibition held in parallel with the conference. Such was the attraction of the displayed work being carried out in industry that this exhibition was frequented every bit as much as the poster sessions of the conference proper. 'Turnkey' accelerators can now be bought from industry for a variety of purposes. Among the hitech presentations were compact superconducting synchrotrons for X-ray lithography, cyclotrons for isotope production and proton cyclotrons for cancer therapy, all built in industry.

The second reason for the increased symbiosis is the sheer scale of the present projects in the high energy physics Laboratories. Whereas CERN could confront the assembly of the magnets for the PS or ISR there is no way without an unreasonable increase in Laboratory resources that giant rings such as LEP (27 kilometres) or the SSC (87 kilometres) can be equipped without considerable industrial participation.

A reflection of this came in a special session at the conference devoted to transmitting to industrial partners the needs of current European projects. The session opened by recounting the experience in building the ESRF; with a tiny group of only twenty Laboratory professionals the machine came together very rapidly with design and construction by industry. With the exception of the lattice calculations, the insertion devices and the beam monitoring system, everything was contracted out, with almost universal success.

Other projects presented for consideration by industry were BESSY-II in Germany, Daphne in Italy, the Tau-Charm Factory in Spain and the Large Hadron Collider at CERN. In each case a list of component requirements was presented; for the LHC a fat book of the machine components is already available for industry.

Overall the conference gave evidence of an accelerator community and a surrounding industry in a very good state of health.

By Brian Southworth

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Around the Laboratories

Antiprotons holding out against annihilation in helium. Top – a typical spectrum obtained at 6 atm. pressure, when some of the antiprotons survive for several microseconds before finally annihilating in the nucleus. The lower figure shows the dramatic difference when 400 ppm of hydrogen was added to the helium. Such results are routinely obtained in a few hours of parasitic running at CERN's LEAR low energy antiproton ring.

CERN Antiprotons resist annihilation

Ask any particle physicist what is the eventual fate of an antiproton in matter and he will likely tell you that 'it annihilates'. True as this answer is, it hides a number of fascinating questions about the actual 'route' followed by the antiproton into the nucleus where it finally stops before annihilating with a nuclear particle.

In the first stage of this route the antiproton is captured in a Bohr-like orbit, replacing an atomic electron, and forming an 'exotic atom'. It then has to cascade down through a series of atomic states before it can come within range of the annihilation force – the strong interaction of the nucleus.

As long ago as 1947, Fermi and Teller calculated the time required for the corresponding process involving a negative pion, and came up with a value of about 10⁻¹³ seconds for solid and liquid targets. A little later, A.S. Wightman did a more sophisticated calculation for hydrogen, and included the case of 'a hypothetical particle of mass 1837 times that of the electron' (the discovery of the antiproton being still eight years in the future). Wightman's result, and indeed nearly all subsequent calculations, supported the conclusion that the total time spent in the atomic cascade should be of the order of a fraction of a picosecond (ps).

With the advent of the bubble chamber some years later, indirect evidence showed that negative pions and kaons typically require more like 100 than 0.1 ps to reach the nucleus. Bubble chambers cannot of course provide time informa-



tion, but electronics experiments can, and an even greater surprise followed when a Tokyo group working at the Japanese KEK Laboratory published papers in 1989 and 1991 showing that about two percent of negative kaons stopped in liquid helium stay in their atomic orbits long enough to decay there instead of interacting with the nucleus, and that nearly four percent of the antiprotons fired into liquid helium survived several microseconds before annihilating.

Thus the hundred picosecond figure for negative pions and kaons is the average for a small fraction of exotic helium atoms which are in some way special, and a much larger fraction when nuclear interactions take place immediately after atomic capture, as expected from the theoretical studies. The special component reveals itself by allowing decay in orbit for pions and kaons, and by delaying the annihilation process in the case of antiprotons. In the trade jargon, the special exotic atoms are those in which the antiproton or negative kaon has been 'trapped' in a metastable state.

Discrepancies between theory and experiment of a factor of a hundred million are unusual to say the least, but just such an effect was predicted in 1964 by G.T. Condo at Oak Ridge, who suggested that the quantum numbers of some of the exotic helium atoms formed might not allow the remaining electron to be ejected immediately, as other authors had supposed was always the case. Its continued presence would then, by the Pauli principle, prevent penetrating collisions of the exotic atom with ordinary neighbouring helium atoms and it was just these collisions which were supposed to short-circuit the slow route of the 'intruder' into the nucleus via successive electromagnetic transitions.

The stable antiproton is evidently a much better tool for studying this phenomenon than the unstable negative kaon. It was also clear to the Tokyo group that the properties of the antiproton beam required for a thorough investigation of the effect make CERN's LEAR low energy antiproton ring the world's only conceivable machine for the job.

No time was lost in moving the experiment to CERN, now as a Tokyo/ Munich/CERN collaboration (Experiment PS205). Only eight months after the KEK result, a short test run produced similar effects at LEAR, this time in the gaseous phase and in helium-3 as well as helium-4.

Many questions remain to be answered. Is the Condo trapping mechanism the correct one? Is the effect unique to helium? Does the lifetime depend on the physical/ chemical state of the stopping substance, and are there potential applications in exotic atom chemistry?

Four further weeks of running are scheduled this year during which the collaboration plans to answer some of these questions by looking at these trapped antiproton states in solid, liquid and gaseous helium-3 and helium-4. Further projects are underway to detect visible light produced in the deexcitation process and to pump the metastable atoms with lasers, perhaps prolonging their lifetime even further and permitting high precision spectroscopy. It may even prove possible to catalyse antihydrogen production via chemical reactions of the metastable atoms with positrons or positronium.

Schooling

An important CERN contribution to education is its regular Physics Schools in Member States and further afield. These bring together postgraduate students and young research workers, creating valuable additional opportunities for young scientists.

The two-week School of Physics, established in 1962, is held in a different country each year. Since 1970 it has been organized in alternate years with the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR), Dubna, near Moscow, and located alternately in Eastern and Western Europe. The twelfth joint CERN-JINR School, held in Alushta in the Crimea last May, attracted about 100 students from 18 countries.

The organization of the School now has been modified following recent political evolution. From next year there will be an annual CERN European School of High Energy Physics. JINR will be represented on the Organizing Committee and the location will rotate among all European countries, including the Commonwealth of Independent States. In 1993, Poland will host the first such School.

This year's School takes place from 13-26 September in Monschau, near Aachen, Germany.

Also this year is the 4th Hellenic School of Elementary Particle Physics, to be held in Corfu from 2-20 September. It will be a basic course on the Standard Electroweak Model and Quantum Chromodynamics. The School Secretary is Ms. V. Veziri, Physics Department, National Technical University, 157 73 Zografou, tel/ fax (+30 1) 778 4541, telex 221682 NTUA GR.

BROOKHAVEN High energy gold

On April 24, Brookhaven's Alternating Gradient Synchrotron (AGS) started to deliver gold ions at 11.4 GeV per nucleon (2,000 GeV per ion) to experimenters who were delighted not only to receive the world's highest energy gold beam but also to receive it on schedule.

High energy gold beams mark the culmination of the development of the AGS into a fully functioning complex capable of delivering high energy heavy ions of almost any sort. It also promises well for the experimental programme at the RHIC high energy ion collider now under construction at Brookhaven, which will use the AGS as injector.

The beam starts in the Tandem Van de Graaff which every three seconds produces a pulse of 10⁹ gold ions of charge +33 and kinetic energy 1 MeV per nucleon. They are transported through a 550 metre transfer line to the new AGS Booster, which accelerates the ions to 0.75 GeV per nucleon by r.f. bunch coalescing. Initially, the very slow heavy ions are collected in the Booster ring in 48 r.f. bunches. During acceleration, as the ions approach a respectable speed, the 48 bunches go through four steps of coalescing two bunches into one (48, 24, 12, 6, 3), reducing the required swing in the r.f. frequency by a factor of 16.

 1.5×10^8 ions of gold 33+ are extracted from the Booster and stripped in a 0.05 mm copper foil to yield beams of highly stripped gold ions. Not everything ran smoothly. The AGS injection was initially set up on the fully stripped gold 79+ beam, but it was promptly shut down by a very rare April thunderstorm. In



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the recovery process, the injection was inadvertently set up for gold 78+. This beam was subsequently accelerated in the AGS and extracted to the experiments. When the error was discovered, it seemed best to leave well enough alone; so the program is operating, rather mysteriously to many, with gold 78+!

The AGS accelerates the nearly fully stripped gold from 0.75 GeV per nucleon to 11.4 GeV per nucleon and then delivers the beam of 10⁷ ions per pulse to a total of 11 experiments on four different beamlines. The experiments include four searches for quark gluon plasma or exotic matter using counter techniques and seven small experiments that use either emulsion or track detector stacks.

The gold beam presently being extracted from the AGS is essentially Brookhaven gold. After acceleration in the Alternating Gradient Synchrotron (AGS) Booster to 0.75 GeV/c per nucleon, the gold 33+ beam passes through a 50 micron thick copper stripping foil in the transfer line to the AGS. This shows the charge distribution of the gold beam after the stripping foil measured with a multiwire profile monitor downstream of two analyzing bending magnets.

the one which will be used in experiments for the next several years and which eventually will be injected into the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC), presently under construction. RHIC will accelerate the ions to 20 TeV per ion (100 GeV/nucleon) giving an ion collision energy of 40 TeV.

From Ed Bleser

FERMILAB Preparing to collide

Against the background of stringent Environment, Safety and Health (ES&H) regulations mandated by the US Department of Energy for all national Labs, Fermilab prepared to mount the next major Tevatron proton-antiproton collider run.

The Tevatron Collider was last in action in 1989, when a very successful one-year run exceeded all expectations for the number of protonantiproton collisions recorded. This time the big CDF detector is joined by D0 (March 1990, page 6), onethird the way round the four-mile Tevatron ring. For the first time, two major detectors will operate at the Collider.

The stakes are high as the big prize is the sixth ('top') quark, where data collected across the board suggest that the long-awaited final constituent of hadronic matter should finally be within reach. These indications – consistency arguments from Z decays at CERN's LEP electron-positron collider, supplemented by other data, notably neutrino experiments – are substantially reinforced by results from CDF, which have established that the top quark has to be heavier than 89 GeV.

The upgraded CDF detector employs improved triggering to exploit higher proton-antiproton collision rates, together with a silicon microvertex detector to pick up transient particles decaying near the collision point, improved central tracking and increased muon detection.

With a major physics discovery on the cards and with two detectors at work, each inverse nanobarn of Fermilab's integrated luminosity will be eagerly scanned.

The D0 detector, seen here in its assembly hall, is now in position for its first taste of proton-antiproton collisions at Fermilab's Tevatron.



Meanwhile all those having to work in the collider areas have undergone strict ES&H hazard awareness training. For the CDF detector alone, 400 people have completed the course and passed the final written examination. At D0, keys to the experimental pit are only given to those who have passed the test.

COLLIDERS Microvertex detectors

Increasingly, major experiments at colliders are being equipped with microvertex detectors to track the short-lived particles produced close to the beam pipe and which would otherwise be difficult to see before they decay.

In keeping with technology trends, these microvertex detectors make extensive use of silicon strips to achieve the required fine (several micron) resolution. The first collider experiment to be so equipped was Mark II for its run at Stanford's SLC linear collider in 1989. The SLD detector presently running at SLC uses a novel pixel microvertex detector based on CCD chips, developed in the UK (November 1988, page 37). For the coming proton-antiproton run at Fermilab (see previous story), the CDF detector is equipped with a microvertex detector containing 46,000 silicon strips.

At CERN's LEP electron-positron collider, three experiments – Aleph, Delphi and Opal – are so far equipped with silicon microvertex detectors (July/August 1990, page 7). Those at Aleph and Delphi were first used in 1990, while that at Opal produced its first events in June 1991. Now L3 is preparing to follow suit. However because of its size, the L3 microvertex detector will look somewhat different to its LEP companions.

Of the detector designs in use so far, only that for Aleph at LEP uses double-sided strip patterns, with one layer measuring along the beam direction, the other across. This approach was pioneered by the Pisa group, and is now being taken up by L3.

However the special L3 geometry requires a special mechanical structure 1 metre long to support the component 'ladders' of the microvertex detector, rather than the 35 cm or so employed in the other LEP experiments. This structure has been designed at CERN. The cylindrical arrangement is specially mounted inside the L3 Time Expansion Chamber and supported only at its ends. It uses 12 ladders inside and 12 outside, the latter being slightly tilted to



Artist's view of the silicon microvertex detector being built for the L3 experiment at CERN's LEP electron-positron collider. Of the detector designs in use so far, only that for Aleph at LEP uses double-sided strip patterns, with one layer measuring along the beam direction, the other across. This approach, pioneered by the Pisa group, is being taken up by L3.

obtain stereo reconstructions. Limiting resolution is about six microns.

Readout electronics uses the SVX chips originally developed at Berkeley for the CDF experiment at Fermilab, and all electronics are grouped at the ends of the ladders to facilitate cooling. Sophisticated finite element analysis calculations at Los Alamos have assisted this part of the design. On one sensor side (z-side), the electronics uses a specially lithographed kapton cable.

Meanwhile the Argus detector at the DORIS III electron-positron ring at DESY, Hamburg, has also been equipped with a silicon microvertex detector, built by the Max Planck Institute in Heidelberg in collaboration with DESY and the Swiss PSI Laboratory.

In contrast to the microvertex detectors at the big collider experiments, that at Argus has to fit into a very narrow space close to the beam pipe. The beampipe diameter is just 22 mm (compared to 120 at LEP and 60 mm at Stanford's SLC), while that of the surrounding microvertex detector is 39.4 mm. Readout uses MX3 chips via a 4 cm microadaptor to enable the chips to enjoy lower background radiation.

These microvertex detectors are technologically challenging projects, highlighting the increased collaboration between particle physics and specialist centres in other areas of research and in industry.

To fit around a slender beam pipe, the microvertex detector for the Argus experiment at the DORIS electron-positron ring at DESY, Hamburg, is less than 40 mm wide.





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The applications together with CV and other documents which the applicants wish to refer to should reach Uppsala University, Box 256, S-751 05 Uppsala not later than <u>August 15th 1992</u>.

The Programme Advisory Committee will assist the board of TSL to forward a proposal on a new Director to the university board.



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People and things

On people

Joachim Heintze of Heidelberg receives the Max Born Prize for his work in particle physics, particularly the investigation of the study of weak interactions and the development of precision measurement techniques.

The Max Born Prize is presented jointly.by the UK Institute of Physics and the Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft.

Rafel Carreras of CERN receives this year's popularization of science prize awarded by Geneva University and sponsored by the weekly 'Médecine et Hygiène'. His memorable weekly 'Science for all' and monthly 'Science today' sessions at CERN attract good audiences, from within CERN and from further afield.

Carl Ivar Bränden from Uppsala has joined the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility in Grenoble as Research Director, taking over from Andrew Miller.

10 Tesla magnet at Berkeley

A 5cm bore dipole magnet built at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory has reached a central field of 10.06 Tesla at 1.75K. It has cable identical to that used in the dipoles to be used for the Superconducting Supercollider (SSC), but a slightly different design. The SSC dipoles, operating at 4K liquid helium temperatures, provide 6.6 Tesla. Last year (December 1991, page 1), a twin aperture dipole of the type envisaged for CERN's LHC collider reached a field of 10.2 Tesla. estainin Blainin

Induction linac systems experiments

On 5 March, William Happer, Director of the Office of Energy Research of the US Department of Energy, approved a mission need statement for the Induction Linac Systems Experiments (ILSE).

The ILSE project is needed to advance the understanding of high-current, heavy-ion accelerator physics so that basic technical questions concerning the suitability of this approach for inertial fusion energy can be resolved on a timescale that meets the goals of the US National Energy Strategy.

Following this approval, N. Anne Davies of the Office of Fusion Energy authorized the Heavy Ion Fusion Accelerator Research Group at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory to undertake the conceptual design of ILSE. If the project is funded, construction of ILSE could begin as early as 1994. The Berkeley Group currently estimates the total project cost to be about \$70M. Accelerator Instrumentation Workshop

The dates for the forthcoming Accelerator Instrumentation Workshop at Berkeley have been fixed for 27-30 October. Jim Hinkson and Greg Stover are co-chairmen.

Meanwhile the deadline for nominations for the Bergoz Faraday Cup Award for innovative beam instrumentation (January/February, page 26) has been put back to 1 August.

European Physical Society

The 1992 Council Meeting of the European Physical Society in Athens in March drew record attendance. EPS President Maurice Jacob of CERN was re-elected for a second year, and former CERN Director General Herwig Schopper, now President of the Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft, was elected to the EPS Executive Committee.

Rafel Carreras of CERN – explaining science

The Council approved the admission of four new national societies, those of Albania, Croatia, Estonia and Lithuania. In a magnanimous gesture, several Western societies offered to subsidize the fees of some Central and Eastern European partners.

Meetings

An Antihydrogen Workshop will be held in Munich on 30-31 July to review the exciting physics possibilities with atoms of antimatter. Further information from John Eades at CERN, PPE Division, 1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland, fax +41 22 767 3500, or e-mail eades at vxcern.cern.ch quickly because the deadline is imminent.

The Second Workshop on Tau Lepton Physics will be held at Ohio State University (Columbus, Ohio) from 8-11 September. A sequel to the successful workshop at Orsay (December 1990, page 22), this workshop will examine current tau topics including lepton universality, hadronic decays. electroweak interactions, tau mass, tau neutrino mass and its implication for cosmology, and future prospects. This workshop is by invitation only, so please contact K.K. Gan or Chris White for further information (e-mail: TAU92@OHSTPY, fax:614-292-8261).

The Sixth International School of Physics in Bodrum (Turkey) will be held from 12-25 September under the title 'Particle Physics and Cosmology'. It is aimed primarily at students, and lecturers will include E.Kolb of Fermilab, A. Ali of DESY and M. Green, R. Voss and E. Wilson of CERN, while Ken Peach of Edinburgh is Course Director. Closing date for applications is 15 June. Application forms from Susannah Tracy /DG-A, CERN, 1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland, e-mail tracy at cernvm.cern.ch

The International Workshop on Polarized Ion Sources and Polarized Gas Targets will be held from 23-27 May 1993 at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, and sponsored by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP). The Workshop will cover the basic phenomena governing the production of polarized ion beams and polarized gas targets, as well as including reports on the design, construction and performance of polarized gas targets and ion sources for polarized particles.

Further information from L.W. Anderson or W. Haeberli, Department of Physics, University of Wisconsin, 150 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53706, USA, phone (608) 262-6555/8962, fax (608) 262 – 3598 or e-mail (bitnet) MADSPIN at wiscnuc

Gian Carlo Wick 1909-1992

Gian Carlo Wick, celebrated and prolific theorist, died in his home town of Turin on 20 April at the age of 82 after a remarkably long, productive career. After short spells with Heisenberg's group in Leipzig and Born's group in Göttingen, he moved to Rome in 1932 to begin physics with Enrico Fermi. Here he wrote his famous paper on the magnetic moment on the rotating hydrogen molecule, and went on to address a range of important topical questions, including the implications Gian Carlo Wick 1909-1992



of Fermi's picture of weak interactions for positron emission.

After Fermi left Italy for the United States in 1938, Wick was invited to take the vacant professorial chair at Rome, where he played a vital role in the developments leading up to the discovery of what eventually came to be known as the muon.

After the War, Wick went to the United States, eventually settling at Columbia in 1965. In the US he continued his prolific output, in 1950 producing the famous 'Wick Theorem', a vital part of quantum electrodynamics perturbation formalism. In 1959, with Maurice Jacob (later to come to CERN) he developed the famous helicity formalism for handling collision problems. Later, with T.D. Lee at Columbia, he developed the theory of pion condensates. In 1967 he was awarded the prestigious Dannie Heineman Prize of the American In-



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Further information about the positions in question can be obtained from Prof. V.Sœrgel.

stitute of Physics for his contributions to quantum field theory, for his investigation of the theory of scattering of particles with spin, and his deep analysis of physics symmetry principles. After retiring from Columbia in 1978, he returned to Italy to teach at Pisa.

Gerald Feinberg 1933-92

Theorist Gerald Feinberg of Columbia died on 28 April. In 1958, his theoretical paper on the apparent reluctance of the muon to decay into an electron and a photon stimulated thinking which eventually led to the 1962 discovery by his Columbia colleagues Leon Lederman, Mel Schwartz and Jack Steinberger that there are two distinct kinds of neutrinos. Feinberg was also the author of several books and worked enthusiastically to further the understanding of science in general and physics in particular.

Feza Gürsey 1921-92

The eminent Turkish theorist Feza Gürsey died on 7 April. He was best known for his development (with Luigi Radicati) of SU6 particle symmetry in 1964, one of the landmarks of modern theory.

After initial studies in statistical mechanics, electrodynamics and general relativity, he became interested in the underlying symmetries of basic physics. Although appointed to the Middle East Technical University in Ankara in 1961, he continued to be a frequent visitor to the United States. On one such visit, to Brookhaven in 1964, he and Radicati noticed how the SU3 (quark) symmetry very much in vogue at the time could be readily combined with spin angular momentum to make an appealing new SU6 picture of particle 'supermultiplets', with powerful new predictions.

In 1968 he moved to Yale, and in 1977 was appointed to the prestigious Gibbs chair. He retired from Yale last year. His later work was much concerned with basic symmetries, where he showed the power of the (exceptional Lie) groups E6, E7 and E8, and with applying mathematical approaches, such as quaternions and octonions, to basic problems.

He was influential in promoting Turkish physics, and it was natural that a high proportion of his students came from that country. He shared the Oppenheimer prize with Sheldon Glashow in 1977, and was awarded the Wigner medal in 1986.

From Louis Michel

Gerry O'Neill

In April, Gerry O'Neill of Princeton died. He played an important role on the US accelerator scene as it grew in strength in the 1950s and 1960s. In particular he pushed the development of colliding beam techniques, making major contributions to the first storage ring project in the US - the two-ring PRISTAN electron-electron collider built at Stanford (using the Mark III linear accelerator) by a Princeton-Stanford collaboration. He was also a strong supporter of the CERN Intersecting Storage Rings project, and never wavered in his belief that the machine would turn out to be a success.

Polarized beams at SLC

The SLC Stanford Linear Collider is colliding electrons and positrons using polarized electrons (about 20-30% polarization). The SLC beams follow installation of a new diode (as opposed to triode) gun early in April. More news next month.



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