

# Whitepaper on the DAE $\delta$ ALUS Experiment

*The DAE $\delta$ ALUS Collaboration, January 26, 2013*

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DAE $\delta$ ALUS (Decay-At-rest Experiment for  $\delta_{CP}$  studies At the Laboratory for Underground Science) is a phased program leading to a high-sensitivity search for  $CP$ -violation [1, 2]. The system is formed of sets of “modules” consisting of an ion source, an injector cyclotron, a superconducting ring cyclotron (SRC), and a target/dump. Modules are arranged at three sites near an underground, ultra-large detector with free protons.

The experiment uses  $\pi/\mu$  decay at rest to search for  $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$  with the atmospheric  $\Delta m^2$ . The  $\bar{\nu}_e$  will be detected, via the inverse beta decay interaction, in an ultra-large neutrino detector. The  $CP$ -violation signal is extracted by measuring the oscillation wave as a function of distance  $L$  that the neutrinos have travelled, with positions at  $L = 1.5$  km, 8 km, and 20 km. The final phase of the program leads to a unique  $CP$ -violation experiment, which is not subject to matter effects, and which has a sensitivity substantially beyond LBNE as it is presently reconfigured [3].

The program proceeds in four phases. Phase I, which is well underway, involves development and testing of an ion source and low-energy beam transport system. Phase II establishes the injector cyclotron, which is the same system used for the IsoDAR physics program [4], now in the proposal stage. Phase III will result in an SRC and target/dump, leading to the first full accelerator module. The module runs with a 13% duty factor, producing 0.8 MW average power on the dump/target. The SRC, which has many similarities to the existing RIKEN SRC [5], is the cost driver for the accelerator modules. The magnet [6] is estimated at \$60M, fully loaded. The physics case for the single “near accelerator” module is based on short-baseline searches for Beyond Standard Model physics [7, 8]. Phase IV introduces the modifications for high-power running needed at the mid and far sites for  $CP$ -violation studies.

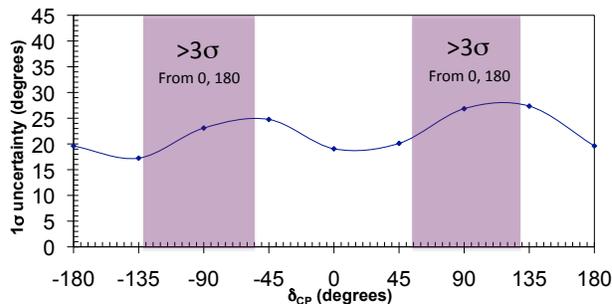


Figure 1: *The sensitivity of the  $CP$ -violation search when DAE $\delta$ ALUS is paired with LENA*

The program requires free proton targets, hence either oil or scintillator detectors. The original case was developed for a 300 kt Gd doped water detector at Homestake, in coordination with LBNE [9]. Subsequently, DAE $\delta$ ALUS was incorporated into LENA [10], and the sensitivity is shown in Fig. 1. However, a phased program in Japan, beginning with the existing Super-K detector (with Gd-doping) and followed by running with Hyper-K [11] is attractive, since it could come on line quickly. This program combines DAE $\delta$ ALUS with the JPARC beam (including its planned upgrades) [12]. The initial Super-K-based program would be the only experiment to cover 50% of the allowed  $\delta_{CP}$  space at  $> 3\sigma$  for  $\sin^2 2\theta \sim 0.1$  before 2030. Ten years of Hyper-K running provides 80% coverage of  $\delta_{CP}$  at  $> 5\sigma$ . Lastly, the pairing of a Gd-doped MEMPHYS, based in Sweden, with a short-baseline beam from the ESS [13] is appealing, as neither the DAE $\delta$ ALUS nor ESS baselines will suffer matter effects.

This program has been well received by the wider community. The NRC Committee to Assess the Science Proposed for a Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory wrote: “Proposals for new second generation experiments with water Cherenkov detectors include very imaginative possibilities, such as the DAE $\delta$ ALUS proposal to create neutrinos using a series of small nearby cyclotrons” [14].

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