

2024/03/18

Dr. Yoshitaka Kuno  
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Dear Dr. Evgeny Yakushev, the Lab director

I am writing to offer my unwavering support for Dr. Zviadi Tsamalaidze and the COMET JINR group's request to extend their project for the next five years (2025 - 2029) with the necessary funding. As a Professor at Osaka University, Japan, and a founding member and spokesperson of the COMET (COherent Muon to Electron Transition) experiment, I have had the privilege of closely collaborating with the JINR team and witnessing their invaluable contributions to our research endeavors.

The COMET experiment, conducted at J-PARC, Japan, holds significant promise in the search for charged lepton flavor violation (CLFV) beyond the Standard Model (SM). The JINR team's involvement in various aspects of the experiment, particularly their contribution to the construction of the cosmic ray veto system, has been instrumental in advancing our understanding of particle physics.

The construction of the cosmic ray veto (CRV) system, under the adept leadership of the JINR team, is paramount in mitigating background contributions a critical factor in ensuring the accuracy and reliability of our experimental results. Despite facing challenges such as geopolitical issues, the JINR team has demonstrated remarkable resilience and dedication, as evidenced by their successful construction and delivery of the initial CRV module to KEK for testing. To ensure the success of the COMET experiment and prevent cosmic-ray induced backgrounds from limiting our experimental sensitivity, it is imperative to complete the CRV system with additional more modules before the commencement of our physics run.

Furthermore, the JINR team's responsibilities extend beyond the cosmic ray veto system to encompass essential components such as the straw tube tracker for COMET Phase-I and Phase-II and the electron calorimeter made of LYSO. Their pioneering work in developing straws with smaller diameter and thinner walls, essential for COMET underscores their technical expertise and commitment to pushing the boundaries of scientific innovation.

Given the delayed experimental schedule due to the pandemic and budgetary constraints in Japan, the proposed extension of the project from 2025 to 2029 aligns seamlessly



with our current timelines. This timeframe allows for comprehensive data collection and analysis, paving the way for groundbreaking physics outcomes.

In conclusion, the JINR team's contributions to the success of the COMET experiment have been nothing short of extraordinary. I wholeheartedly endorse their request for an extension of their project and urge you to prioritize the approval of their funding request. Their continued participation is not only vital for the success of the COMET experiment but also emblematic of the collaborative spirit and pursuit of scientific excellence that define our field.

Thank you for considering my strong endorsement of the JINR team's request. With your support, I am confident that they will continue to make invaluable contributions to the COMET experiment and advance our collective quest for knowledge and discovery in particle physics.

Sincerely,

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yoshitaka Kuno".

Prof. Dr. Yoshitaka Kuno  
Professor of Osaka University