Restoring Contaminated Wires, Removing Gas Contaminants and Aging Studies of Drift Tube Chambers

> Tom Marshall, for the D0 Collaboration Aging Workshop at DESY Oct. 2, 2001

## OUTLINE

- Problem
  - Sheath of crud covering the D0 Muon chamber wires.
- Solution
  - by Herman Haggerty and Tom Marshall
- Gas Filtering
  - by Kurt Krempetz and John Krider
- Aging Studies
  - by Vladimir Malyshev, J.I.N.R., Dubna



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### Start of Run I

- Operating Blind
  - Sped up electronics and shortened signal pulses
  - Added shielding to reduce halos from MR and Tevatron.
- Ugly Truth Revealed
  - Although all chambers share one recirculating gas system, many are dead, some are half dead and half good, and a few are fine.



### Extract and Replace Wire

- Bad News
  - Wire coated with crud.
- Good News
  - No deposits on cathodes or walls
  - New wire restores original gain
- Really Bad News
  - Must clean wires in situ. Several hours to change 1 wire, 50% of wires inaccessible.

# **Crud Properties**

- Scrapes off easily
- Dissolves in Ammonia and water
- Argonne Lab Analysis
  - perhaps CASAMITE, a urea-formaldehyde based powdered resin glue
  - recently, we found that styrene fumes could form the crud
- Source of Crud
  - the Glas-Steel polyester-epoxy resin from the cathode pad

## Crud Properties Continued

- Easy to Make
  - grind up some Glas-Steel
  - pass chamber gas over powder vapor and into test chamber
  - adjust HV on wire to draw a current of about 1 microamp/inch. Crud will form in a few hours, independent of the % of CF4 in the gas.
  - 10 microamps/inch on a dirty wire cleans it after several days; not practical, but interesting

### Crud Removal Attempts

#### • Ammonia

- No good; just formed a beautiful copper patina
- Water
  - No good; Cell walls became coated with Aluminum Oxide
- High Current
  - No, but when trying to speed up effect we got
    LUCKY

## Flash Cleaning (ZAPPING)

• If the wire is heated quickly to a temperature close to the melting point of Gold, the crud BLOWS AWAY!

- Less than 2 milliseconds is "quickly"





• Stored Energy: 9.5 J - 31 J

# **Other ZAPPING Properties**

- Heating Too Slow
  - crud forms a tough coating that is hard to remove and is no longer soluble
- Heat Too Hot
  - Gold melts and beads up (wire still works)
- Heat Just Right
  - Gold can change color (depends on wire vender) (orange, green, white tints seen)
- Multiple ZAPPING is OK







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# Gas Cleaning

- Cold Trap for Run I
  - recirculating gas passed through a refrigerator set to a few degrees above the temperature of dry ice
  - recontamination 9X slower, but still seen in highest radiation areas
- Activated Carbon for Run II
  - doubled the gas flow rate through chambers
  - using 300 pounds A. C. for 300 CFH flow rate

# Aging in Forward Drift Chambers

#### • Run I

- 1" diameter stainless steel tubes with 90% CH4, 10% CH4 gas, 50 micron (W-Au) anode wire
- no aging seen
- Run II
  - I arocci-type mini-drift tubes (MDTs) with 1 cm
    by 1 cm cells up to 583 cm in length
  - also 90/10 gas, 50 micron wire

# Mini-Drift Tube (MDT) Aging Test

- Spare FAMUS module used for test
- ~1 cm of wire is exposed to Sr 90 source
- ~25 ml/min of FAMUS MDT exhaust gas flows through test module
- Accumulated charge of current from source at 3.2 kV is measured
- Prelim. result: no aging to within +/- 10% is observed after charge accumulation of 2.5 C/cm



### CONCLUSIONS

- ZAPPING is a simple way to clean 1000's of wires in situ (we have zapped 15,000)
- Only works on a select type of crud
- Ionization + chemicals can produce some strange chemistry
- Only use well tested materials