Improving Resolution for the KATRIN Detector Prototype

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With special thanks to Keith Rielage, Peter Doe, Greg Harper, Sean McGee, Lesley Reece and the CENPA EWI Group

Basic Outline

• KATRIN

- Purpose
- Schematic

Equipment

- Silicon Detector
- Electron Gun
- Vacuum System

Resolution Techniques

- Dead Layer Determination
- Noise reduction
- Cooling Designs
 - Attempts
 - Future plans



KATRIN

(Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino Experiment)

- •Next generation tritium beta-decay neutrino experiment
- Direct measurement of neutrino mass
- •Collaboration in Karlsruhe, Germany
- •Projected start date in 2006



http://www-ik1.fzk.de/tritium/

High Resolution

tritium *B*-decay and the neutrino rest mass

$$^{3}\text{H} \rightarrow ^{3}\text{He}$$
 + e⁻ + $\overline{\nu}_{e}$

superallowed

half life : $t_{1/2}$ = 12.32 a β end point energy : E_0 = 18.57 keV



http://www-ik1.fzk.de/tritium/overview/index.html

Silicon Detectors

- Testing resolution refining techniques on less sophisticated technology first
- Initial Silicon Pin Diode
- Intermediate Silicon Drift Diode
- Final Segmented Pin Diode



Electron Gun and Vacuum System



Initial Measurements



8-Bit Bias



Scale Calibration



Dead Layer Measurement

- Small amount of energy lost on surface of the detector
- Correction needed
- Peak energy compared at multiple angles





Dead Layer Results $\Delta E = dE/dx * \Delta x_w * (1/cos\alpha - 1)$

- Can solve for the dead layer thickness
- $\Delta x_{W} = 123 \text{ nm}$
- Agrees well within error of previous measurement



Next Step: Cooling

- Try to significantly reduce amount of noise
- Clear precise peaks required
- Operating at low temperatures is a good way to do this
- Inexpensive and available devices:
 - Chiller
 - Peltier Device



Cooling Plan



Repeated Failure and Death



Current and Future Cooling Plans

- Scrapped Peltier plans till replacements available
- Go straight from cold rod to detector
- Look for better flexible connectors than braid
 - Multiple braids
 - Copper foil
 - Other possibilities?

