# "Development of the SpiRIT TPC for probing the symmetry energy"

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June 13, 2016

#### 千里之行, 始於足下

A journey of a thousand mile begins with a single step

#### WiFi

- •Network: Physics-5G (or Physics-2G)
- Password: Tsinghua

### How can we study neutron stars?



There are some limits to what we can explore firsthand

Image - @KawikaSingsonPhotography

#### Heavy ion collisions

- Heavy ion collisions provide a short lived, dense environment to study
- Rare isotopes provide systems with high asymmetry
- Heavy ion collisions

   + rare isotopes
   = neutron star laboratory



Danielewicz, P. et al. Science. 298 pp. 1592-1596 (2002)

# Time Projection Chamber – our camera for collisions

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# Time Projection Chamber – our camera for collisions

- Time projection chamber is ideally suited for identifying particles in magnetic field
- Products from reaction ionize detector gas inside a detection volume, called the field cage
- 2-D path traced out on pad plane
- The time at which the electrons hit the pads provides the third dimension



# SpiRIT TPC- Design

 Design work split between NSCL and Texas A&M





# Undergraduate involvement

- Design work split between NSCL and Texas A&M
- High level of undergraduate involvement in design and construction



















# Pad plane layout

- Plan out pad plane (12,096 channels)
- How to arrange pad-to-electronics connections?
- Produce a pattern that can be used for two types of electronics:
  - STAR: 32 channel
  - GET: 256 channel
- Have to demonstrate ideas to collaborators





Initial ideas were done by making patterns in Excel.

# Pad plane layout

- 3D designs are necessary:
  - Demonstrate that electronics fit in allocated space
  - Much better presentation value
  - 3D files are very useful as we get more and more parts coming together



Later work was done with Autodesk Inventor Professional

# A frame to hold everything



# And putting it together







Field cage creates electron drift region





#### **Front End Electronics**



#### **Front End Electronics**



#### SAMURAI Spectrometer

 Magnetic field separates particles by m/q ratio



#### SAMURAI Spectrometer



| SAMURAI magnet parameters           |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| B <sub>typ</sub> , B <sub>max</sub> | 0.5T, 3T |
| R, pole face                        | 1 m      |
| Gap                                 | 80 cm    |
| Usable gap                          | 75 cm    |



#### SAMURAI Spectrometer









#### We start to get parts...



# Ready for the pad plane!



# Prototype – a small sample

Problems!



• Prove your design



"Unit Cell" pad plane – 1/192 of actual pad plane

小钱仔细,大钱挥霍;省小钱花大钱 Don't be penny wise, pound foolish!

# Prototype – a small sample

- Prove your design
- Prove the manufacturer



"Unit Cell" pad plane – Bad channels indicated with marker

# When the circuit boards fit just right

- Glued on in 4 sections
- Vacuum table to ensure flatness



## Add some wire planes...

- Wire planes for amplification of charge
- Three separate wire planes
- Over 3000 tiny wires to solder





# Some assembly required



# Let's go!



Custom built shipping crate – designed by MSU packaging department



Breathing allowed through filters (pressure equilibrium)





Breathing allowed through filters (pressure equilibrium)



"Phase-change" material – transition between solid and liquid requires massive energy





• Travel by plane 10,000 km



- Travel by plane 10,000 km
- Arrives at RIKEN by truck



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# Upgrades

- Generic Electronics for TPC (GET)
- New electronics =
  - New capabilities
  - New challenges



#### Parasitic beam run

• Proving functionality





#### SπRIT Commissioning run October 2015

- Functionality proven
- Useful data for calibrating TPC
- Useful for development of tracking software





4000

### Installation



### Running experiment

• Experimenters at work



#### Experiment over



# Cleanup completed



#### Pions detected

• Analysis has just begun!



# Thank you!



# Acknowledgements

#### **SPiRIT TPC Collaboration:**

**United States:** C. Anderson, J. Barney, Z. Chajecki, G. Cerizza, P. Danielewicz, J. Estee, M. Famiano, U. Garg, W. Lynch, A. McIntosh, P. Morfouace, C. Santamaria, H. Setiawan, R. Shane, M. B. Tsang, T. Tsang, S. Tangwancharoen, G. Westfall, S. Yennello, M. Youngs

Japan: H. Baba, K. leki, T. Isobe, M. Kaneko, T. Murakami, J. Murata, Y. Nakai, N. Nakatsuka, M. Nishimura, S. Nishimura, A. Ono, H. Otsu, H. Sakurai, A. Taketani

China: F. Lu, R. Wang, Z. Xiao, Y. Zhang

United Kingdom: M. Chartier, R. Lemmon, W. Powell

France: E. Pollacco

Italy: G. Verde

Korea: B. Hong, G. Jhang, Y. J. Kim, H. S. Lee, J. W. Lee

Poland: P. Lasko, J. Lukasik, P. Pawlowski, K. Pelczar



# Wire planes



#### Even mistakes provide new opportunities



Dissection of pad plane



Testing the fit using an improperly manufactured board

#### Constant temperature when shipping

 Phase change material requires a large amount of energy to change temperature



#### **Bimetal Strip** Two Metals Bonded Together with Different Coefficients of Expansion



# Triggering

- Want to maximize central events
- Event ID: 25 (Gain calibrated) Top view (uuu) x z (mm)

Event ID: 25 (Gain calibrated) - Beam right view



IIIIIIIIIIIIIII

Magnetic field: Electrons spiral around the electric, magnetic field lines No magnetic field: Electrons drift in unpredictable way due to collisions



# Lab Observables

Laboratory observables for symmetry energy:

• Masses

- Isobaric Analog States (IAS) (Brown, Zhang)
- Electric dipole polarizability (a<sub>D</sub>)
- Diffusion of neutrons and protons between nuclei of differing N/Z ratios in peripheral collisions HIC (Sn+Sn)

• Transverse flow HIC (RIB)



### Lab Observables

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We need to constrain higher density behavior of the symmetry energy!



Adapted from ICNT 2013 Summary report Horowitz, et al.

#### First Tasks - Design

• Based on the EOS TPC

