- Overview
- Activities at MP-9 since Feb 2004
 - Construction of polarity switches
 - Assembly of HV power supplies (180kV and 250 kV)
 - Construction of separator production facility (clean room, test cave,...)
 - Separator assembly
 - Conditioning at higher voltages
 - Electrode material R&D
- Plans for 2006

People Involved:

AD

<u>R. Moore</u>, D. Bollinger, B. Hanna, J. Johnstone, R. Meadowcroft, S. McCormick, T. Sen, V.Shiltsev, J. Walton

TD

<u>P. Limon</u>, L. Alsip, R. Bossert, M. Chlebek, D.Conolly, L.Elementi, G. Kobliska, A.Makarov, O. Prokofiev, G. Smith, D.Sorensen, J. Wittenkeller, J. Zweibohmer,

TeV Separator Spark history



Electrode length – 101.25" Electrode gap – 50 mm Maximum voltages – up to 120 kV / plate) Electrostatic separators used to put p-bars and protons on different orbits ("helices) to avoid beam interactions. 24 separators grouped into 13 stations around of ring.

Fermi news:

- ... Tev separator sparked and kicked out the last bunch...
- ... C17 separator started sparking...
- ... TeV vertical separator sparked 3 times...
- store 4078 quenched due to separator spark...
- separator sparks caused loss of luminosity and then...



Operational losses due to separator sparks in 2004-2005 are about 2 weeks (~10k\$/hr).

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Separator R&D Program

Motivating Higher Voltage Operation

Separation on ramp limited by voltage

Can B17H, C17V run @ 150 kV for few min with acceptable spark rate?

During HEP stores, IP separators run at ~100kV Running @ 120 kV seems to be a realistic goal 20% more voltage \Rightarrow 20% more separation

Can IP separators run @ 120 kV for many hours with acceptable spark rate?

Conditioning at higher voltages

Conditioned up to <u>150 kV</u> during original production Now conditioning spare separators at up to <u>180 kV</u> Obtaining nice data on spark rate vs voltage

Try new electrode material

Test separator reassembled with <u>electropolished</u> stainless steel electrodes Assembly separator with Ti electrodes

Goals

Improve separator performance and reliability Reach 1 spark/year at voltages 150 kV per plate (6.0 MV/m)

Conditioning Test Facility at MP-9



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Automatic Measurement Setup





Automatic setup was developed and constructed by D.Conolly and L.Elementi.

Measured parameters:

- polarity
- voltages, currents, sparks
- pressure, temperature
- radiation, hot spot position

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Conditioning Procedure

The high voltage was applied on 2 electrodes with following combination:

□ (-150kV, 0), (0, +150kV) \rightarrow change polarity \rightarrow (0, -150kV), (+150kV, 0)

□ (-150kV, +150kV) \rightarrow change polarity \rightarrow (+150kV, -150kV)

□ (-170kV, +170kV) \rightarrow change polarity \rightarrow (+170kV, -170kV)

□ (-180kV, +180kV) \rightarrow change polarity \rightarrow (+180kV, -180kV)

 $(-150kV, 0), (0, +150kV) \rightarrow$ change polarity $\rightarrow (0, -150kV), (+150kV, 0)$

# 27	
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Positive Polarity

Negative Polarity



Conditioning (Negative Polarity) at 150 - 180 kV (July 13, 2005)





- conditioning much more quickly (hours vs days)...
- ...at a cost damaged HV cables, 1 MOhm shunt, control unit, HV power supply, a polarity switch....



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Safety, Procedures, Travelers, Instructions



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Automatic Setup for Radiation Scan



The automatic scan significantly simplified the radiation scan procedure and improved a safety environment at MP-9. In the previous conditioning facilities to do X-ray scan the interlocks to the cave must be bypassed and a minimum of 3 people were needed for radiation survey (one person is outside of cave and adjusts voltages, the other two people are separator expert who will perform the scan and Radiation Safety person to monitor a situation).

Separator Opening and Cleaning (July 12, 2005)





Found silver plated metal chip ~ ¼" long

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A list of Separators conditioned at MP-9

- # 28, horizontal, hand-polish SS (Jan Feb, 2005)
- ➢ # 6, vertical, electro-polish SS (Apr Jun, 2005)
- ➤ # 27, vertical, electro-polish SS (Jul 05)
- ➤ # 4, horizontal, hand-polish SS (Jul 05)
- ➤ # 8, vertical, electro-polish SS (Aug-Nov, 2005)

29, hand polish titanium electrodes under construction



Roughness: 4 - 40 microinches (depends from abrasive grit number)

Mechanical polishing is an operation designed to prepare a metal surface for electropolishing or to satisfy non-critical surface roughness requirements. Mechanical polishing reduces all surface ridges, microprotrusions, pits and discrepancies to provide a homogeneous appearance and roughness.



Roughness: 2 - 5 microinches

Electropolishing (used since early 1950's) is the electrochemical removal of microscopic irregularities or diminution scratches, burns and unwanted harp edges from metal surfaces. Typical material removal is .0001"- .0004" per surface.

Smoothness of the metal surface is one of the primary and most advantageous effects of electropolishing.

Electropolishing should improve separator performance.

Conditioning at 150 kV: Spark Rate for # 6 and # 8



- #6 (electro-polished) : 0.25 +/- 0.15 per day
- #8 (hand-polished) : 1.2 +/- 0.3 per day

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Conditioning at 180 kV: Spark Rate for # 4 and # 27



Hand-polished electrodes

Spark Rate at 180 kV

- # 27 (electro-polished) : 1.0 +/- 0.3 per day
- # 4 (hand-polished) : 1.45 +/- 0.35 per day

Conditioning at 180 kV: Spark Rate for # 6 and # 28

Electro-polished electrodes 100 Positive polarity Total number of sparks End of 10 measurements Spark rate at 175 kV: - 0.8 +/- 0.35 sparks per day 1 5/12 5/14 5/16 5/20 5/22 5/24 5/18100 End of **Negative polarity** Total number of sparks measurement Spark rate at 175 kV: - 0.25 +/- 0.15 sparks per day 10 6/1 6/3 6/13 6/5 6/7 6/9 6/11 6/15



Hand-polished electrodes

Spark Rate at 175 kV

- # 6 (electro-polished): 0.35 +/- 0.15 per day
- # 28 (hand-polished) : 0.45 +/- 0.25 per day

Conditioning at 180 kV: Spark Rate Summary



Conditioning at higher voltages decreased spark rate (10 kV up \rightarrow spark rate down ~ 10 times)

Expected spark rate at 150 kV for separators conditioned at 180 kV will be less than 1 spark per year or about 3 order of magnitude less in comparing with separators conditioned just at 150 kV.

7.0

8.0

Summary of Dark Current Measurements

Electro-polished electrodes Dark Current Measurements (July 24, 2005) 10 #27 Minus (Neg) Plus (Neg) Minus (Pos) Plus (Pos) 1 Current, μA Expon. (Average) 0.1 Conditioning up to 180 kV Current measurements after week spark rate measurements (July 16 - July24, 2005) 0.01 90 110 130 150 170 190 Voltage, kV **#6** Conditioning up to 178 kV Current measurements after 100 Minus (Neg) Plus (Neg) Minus (Pos) 1 month spark rate measurements Plus (Pos) Current, µA 10 1 0.1 140 150 160 170 Voltage, kV

Hand-polished electrodes

#4



Dark current at 180 kV

- #6 and #27 (electro-polished) : ~1.0 μ A \triangleright
- # 4 and #28 (hand-polished) : \sim 10 20 μ A (neg. polarity) \triangleright

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It is generally agreed that a vacuum breakdown is a vapor arc, taking place in material evaporated from the electrodes. Evidence is the observation of localized light during breakdown and electrode material transferred across the gap.

Electron field emission mechanism for initiating the breakdown

According with this model, electrons are assumed to be field emitted from the tip of microprotrusion at an isolated site on the surface of broad-area cathode. Question: where is the metal vapor produced at the anode or cathode? Is it enough power to vaporize anode material by field emitted electrons bombarded anode or positive ions produced at the anode lead to rupture of the cathode or that resistive heating on the cathode causes them to melt and ultimately to vaporize. This mechanism dominates at gaps less than 2 mm.

Microparticle or "clump" model

Clump of loosely adhesive material is drawn across the gap by the electric field so as to strike the opposite electrode with enough energy to produce high local temperature in the electrode or clump material with melting and vaporizing. <u>Pre-operational electrode surface will be characterized by having a finite</u> <u>number of microscopic particles.</u> These will originate from various stages of mechanical polishing, and may be in the form of either impurity particle of polishing material or dust particles. Another source of microparticles are those originated from thermal instabilities at either the cathode or anode "hot" spot. For uniform gaps the breakdown voltage should vary as the square root of the gap spacing. The model is dominated at large gaps.

Ion exchange mechanism

This mechanism is assumed to be initiated by say random positive ion created in the gap that is than accelerated by the field to generate further negative ions on impact with cathode, which subsequently generate more positive ions on impact with the anode etc. Thus, if the ion multiplication factor > 1, the process will develop in the breakdown mode. It is very sensitive to chemicals contaminations.





The breakdown consists of many complicated and complex phenomena with no single process involved.

Any conditioning process is to safely quench as many as possible of the sources of breakdown current and "primary" microparticle events.

"Current" conditioning

The applied voltage is increased in small steps such that the prebreakdown current is allowed to stabilize at each steps before progressing.

Separators were conditioned at current limits about of ~100 μ A. Voltages increased step by step of 2 - 10 kV. Voltages applied in following combination:

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(-150kV, 0), (0, +150kV) → change polarity → (0, -150kV), (+150kV, 0)
(-150kV, +150kV) → change polarity → (+150kV, -150kV)
(-170kV, +170kV) → change polarity → (+170kV, -170kV)
(-180kV, +180kV) → change polarity → (+180kV, -180kV)
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"Gas" conditioning

The gas normally used for this process is He, Ar, N_2 , O_2 , H_2 and the phenomenon has been traditionally interpreted in terms of the blunting of metallic emitters by action of high energy gas ion.

In our case a residual gas was used for "gas" conditioning at pressure around 10⁻⁶ torr.

"Spark" conditioning

This technique is also known as "spot knocking" is to remove cathode emission sites or spots by arc erosion. It is also efficient in eliminating microdischarge and decreases the incidence of microparticle process.

Spark conditioning is effective way to decrease a separator dark current (hot spots).

Current Conditioning Effects





The disappearance of random charge transients or "microdischarges" from the predreakdown current during its stabilisation is frequently cited as evidence in support of the suppression of microparticle activity in the gap.

Current conditioning at higher voltages is effective way to eliminate microdischarges

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Summary of Conditioning Tests

- New process for conditioning at higher voltages was well defined and tested. A procedure became much more quickly (hours vs days).
- **5** beam separators # 4, 6, 8, 27 and 28 were conditioned at 180 kV
- A detailed data were obtained on dark current and spark rate dependence vs voltage Conditioning at 10 kV higher decrease spark rate roughly 10 times
- > A measured average spark rate:
 - at 180 kV \rightarrow 1.0 +/- 0.2 sparks/day
 - at 175 kV → 0.3 +/- 0.1 sparks/day
- Estimated spark rate at 150 kV for separators conditioned at 180 kV is ~ 0.6 spark/year. Is it completely meet to technical specs (1 spark/year) requested by AD.
- Parameter comparison for hand polish and electropolish separators shows:
 - no big difference in spark rate at 175-180 kV but for 150 kV spark rate for electropolish separator is better for few times
 - a total number of sparks is roughly the same for both hand polish and electropolish separators that indicates an equal number of primary microparticles
 - dark current for electropolish separator almost 10 times better in comparing with handpolish
- Conditioning separator # 29 with titanium plates is the next Assembly almost completed (waited for HV feedthrough) New HV power supply prepared for testing

 Prepare and install 5 separators conditioned at 180 kV during next long shutdown in March 2006

3 separators will replace old ones and 2 will be install at new location to improve a beam separation in the arc

Continue R&D on separators

Complete construction and testing a separator with titanium plates
Higher voltage conditioning up to 200kV (new 250 kV power supplies)
Long term studies of separator performance at 180 kV (deconditioning effect)
Reconditioning of 3 separators removed from Tevatron after shutdown
Keep 4 separators as spare to swap in for installed separators after 2006

Titanium Plate Production





Titanium, like all metals, is susceptible to certain welding defect and deformations. However, the range of possible defects for titanium is much more than for stainless steel. The surface preparation and adequate gas shielding is crucial for titanium welding.

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Technical specs:

- straightness → 80 mils for 92.6"
- flatness \rightarrow 20 mils for 3.0" square



The results of two titanium plate production with using hand weld are not good.

A plate deformation and porosity in weld metal is out of technical specs.

About 40%-60% of electrode length is out of straightness technical specs.

A sag correction is possible but may make damage (crack) electrode.

Electrode Gap Estimation





Effective electric field will be less from nominal for about 7.7% due to electrode deformation

This efforts is only R&D, future production should be done with more consideration of titanium manufacturing technology.

Long Term Measurements at 180 kV



Long term separator performance and reliability at 180 kV There is no any evidence of deconditioning / degradation effect.