Particle Physics School Munich Colloqium

### The GALATEA Test Facility

First HPGe Detector Surface Scans with Alpha Particles

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October 18th, 2013



- Outline

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- What are we interested in?
- Segmented n-type HPGe Detectors
- Pulses and Mirror Pulses
- What information can we obtain?
- Surface Effects
- Surface Scans Experimental Implementation
- <sup>241</sup>Am Spectrum
- Energy Balance and Pulse Shapes
- Summary and Conclusion



What are we interested in?

# **Characterisation of HPGe Detectors**

#### ... for low-BG experiments

- BG reduction through event recognition
  - $\mathbf{0}\nu\beta\beta$ : localized event
  - $\gamma$ : multiside event
- Segmentation of HPGe detectors



#### ... for further detector development

- Charge trapping
- Surface channel effect

-n-type coaxial Detectors

# n-type coaxial Detectors

- electron-hole pair creation
- **n-type**: the electric field pulls the **electrons** to the **core** and the **holes** to the **mantle**
- resulting pulses are sampled and digitized at a given frequency
- passivation layers
- end plates →
  contamination →
  creates BG if part of energy
  is seen



Segmented Germanium Detectors

# "Supersiegfried"

- Cylindrical true-coaxial n-type HPGe Detector
- 18 + 1 fold Segmentation (3z and  $3\phi$ )
- Additional top Segment
- Dimensions:
  - h = 70 mm
  - $r_{inner}\approx 5~mm$
  - $r_{outer} \approx 38 \text{ mm}$



Pulses and Mirror Pulses

## Example pulse seen by "SuSie" - one Event



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Pulses and Mirror Pulses

### **Pulses and Mirror Pulses**

Drift of charge carriers in a hitted segment induces mirror pulses in neighbouring segments





#### Real Pulse: charge "trajectory" ends at considered segment electrode

Mirror Pulse: charge "trajectory" <u>does not end</u> at considered segment electrode

Ref: Publication: "Pulse shape simulation for segmented true-coaxial HPGe detectors" by I. Abt, A. Caldwell, D. Lenz, J. Liu, B. Majorovits



Surface Channel Effect

## **Surface Channel Effect**



Figure adapted from: Ph.D. thesis by D. Lenz



Surface Channel Effect

Path of electrons and holes in a detector with an n-type surface channel

Electron-hole pairs created in the surface channel region

(a) close to the n-contact

(b) close to the p-contact



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Pulses and Mirror Pulses

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What Information can we achieve?

## What Information can we obtain?

- Segmentation for inference of event topologies and event positions
- Pulse shapes including mirros pulses give information about
  - The energy deposited
  - 2 The position of an event
    - $\bullet~{\sf RT}$  plus polarity of mirror pulses  $\to$  position in r
    - $\bullet~{\rm Relative~strength~of~mirror~pulses} \to {\rm position~in}~\phi$
  - $\textcircled{O} Proximity to end plates: long pulses \rightarrow surface channel effect$



- The Experimental Implementation

#### **Experimental Implementation - The Test Facility GALATEA**



Alpha Spectrum

# Alpha Spectrum



#### Scanning Positions x1, x2 and x6

**Core Spectra** 





Energy Balance

## **Energy Balance**



A Events above 45°  $\sum_i E_i > E_{Core}$ B Events in the 45° band  $\sum_i E_i = E_{Core}$ C Events below 45°  $\sum_i E_i < E_{Core}$ 

- D Surface Events
  - $\rightarrow$  event cloud
  - $ightarrow oldsymbol{lpha}$  -particles depositing
    - energies on the detector
  - ightarrow charge trapping



-Pulse Shape Event

### **Pulse Shape Event**





Energy Balance

# **Charge Trapping**



Segment Energy Sums of the top layer plus Segment 19

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# **Summary and Outlook**



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- Identify and characterize surface events



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  - A special 19-fold segmented HPGe detector
  - $\alpha$ -source
  - A test stand which allows a fully scan of the detector



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  - A test stand which allows a fully scan of the detector
- Where are we?
  - $\bullet\,$  First results of a surface scan with a  $^{241}Am$  source were shown
  - Charge trapping effects were seen
  - $\bullet \rightarrow$  Looking forward to full detector surface scans!

Back-Up Slides

## **Back-Up Slides**

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-Pulses and Mirror Pulses

### **Characteristics of Mirror Pulses**



Ref: Diploma Thesis: "Mirror pulses and position reconstruction in segmented HPGe detectors" by S.Hemmer



Alpha Spectrum

# Alpha Spectrum



#### Scanning Positions x<sub>1</sub>, x<sub>2</sub> and x<sub>6</sub>







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