

# The Basics of Particle Detection

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### Outline



- Lecture 1 Interaction of charged particles
- Lecture 2 Gaseous and solid state tracking detectors
- Lecture 3 Calorimetry, scintillation and photodetection
  - Calorimetry
    - electromagnetic cascades
    - hadronic interactions
    - neutrons and neutrinos
    - hadronic cascades
  - Scintillation
  - Photodetection



# Electromagnetic cascades (showers)





### Simple qualitative model



Shower can be initiated by photon **OR** by electron.

Electron shower in a cloud chamber with lead absorbers

• Consider only Bremsstrahlung and (symmetric) pair production.

• Assume: 
$$X_0 \sim \lambda_{pair}$$

$$N(t) = 2^t$$
  $E(t) / \text{particle} = E_0 \cdot 2^{-t}$ 

Process continues until  $E(t) < E_c$ 

$$N^{total} = \sum_{t=0}^{t_{\text{max}}} 2^{t} = 2^{(t_{\text{max}}+1)} - 1 \approx 2 \cdot 2^{t_{\text{max}}} = 2\frac{E_{0}}{E_{c}}$$
$$t_{\text{max}} = \frac{\ln E_{0}/E_{c}}{\ln 2}$$

After  $t = t_{max}$  the dominating processes are ionization, Compton effect and photo effect  $\rightarrow$  absorption of energy.

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### Electromagnetic calorimeters





Longitudinal profile

 $\frac{dE}{dt} \propto t^{\alpha} e^{-t}$ 

Shower maximum at

$$\max = \ln \frac{E_0}{E_c} \frac{1}{\ln 2}$$

95% containment

 $t_{95\%} \approx t_{\rm max} + 0.08Z + 9.6$ 

Size of a calorimeter grows only logarithmically with  $E_0$ 



• Transverse shower development: 95% of the shower cone is located in a cylinder with radius 2  $R_M$ 

$$R_M = \frac{21 \,\text{MeV}}{E_c} X_0 \quad [g/cm^2] \qquad \begin{array}{l} \text{Molière} \\ \text{radius} \end{array}$$

Example:  $E_0 = 100 \text{ GeV}$  in lead glass  $E_c = 11.8 \text{ MeV} \rightarrow t_{max} \approx 13, t_{95\%} \approx 23$ 

$$X_0 \approx 2 \text{ cm}, R_M = 1.8 \cdot X_0 \approx 3.6 \text{ cm}$$



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### **Energy resolution of a calorimeter**





### Homogeneous calorimeter





High E-resolution, no longitudinal shower information. High cost.

Sampling calorimeter

Absorber and active detector layers.





## **Nuclear Interactions**





For high energies (>1 GeV) the cross-sections depend only little on the energy and on the type of the incident particle ( $\pi$ , p, K...).

$$\sigma_{inel} \approx \sigma_0 A^{0.7} \quad \sigma_0 \approx 35 \ mb$$

In analogy to X<sub>0</sub> a hadronic absorption length can be defined

$$\lambda_a = \frac{A}{N_A \sigma_{inel}} \propto A^{\frac{1}{4}}$$
 because  $\sigma_{inel} \approx \sigma_0 A^{0.7}$ 

similarly a hadronic interaction length

$$\lambda_{I} = \frac{A}{N_{A}\sigma_{total}} \quad \propto A^{\frac{1}{3}} \qquad \lambda_{I} < \lambda_{a}$$

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## Interaction of charged particles

Material	Ζ	А	$\rho [g/cm^3] X_0 [g/cm^2]$		$\lambda_{I}[g/cm^{2}]$	
Hydrogen (gas)	1	1.01	0.0899 (g/l)	63	50.8	
Helium (gas)	2	4.00	0.1786 (g/l)	94	65.1	
Beryllium	4	9.01	1.848	65.19	75.2	
Carbon	6	12.01	2.265	43	86.3	
Nitrogen (gas)	7	14.01	1.25 (g/l)	38	87.8	
Oxygen (gas)	8	16.00	1.428 (g/l)	34	91.0	
Aluminium	13	26.98	2.7	24	106.4	
Silicon	14	28.09	2.33	22	106.0	
Iron	26	55.85	7.87	13.9	131.9	
Copper	29	63.55	8.96	12.9	134.9	
Tungsten	74	183.85	19.3	6.8	185.0	
Lead	82	207.19	11.35	6.4	194.0	
Uranium	92	238.03	18.95	6.0	199.0	

For Z > 6:  $\lambda_{I} > X_{0}$ 



 $X_0, \lambda_I \text{ [cm]}$ 





### Interaction of neutrons

Neutrons have no charge, i.e. their interaction is based only on strong (and weak) nuclear force. To detect neutrons, we have to create charged particles. Use neutron conversion and elastic reactions ...





### Interaction of neutrinos

Neutrinos interact only weakly  $\rightarrow$  tiny cross-sections. For their detection we need again first a charged particle. Possible detection reactions:

 $-\begin{array}{c} \nu_{\ell}+n \rightarrow \ell^{-}+p & \ell=e,\,\mu,\,\tau\\ \nu_{\ell}+p \rightarrow \ell^{+}+n & \ell=e,\,\mu,\,\tau \end{array}$ 

The cross-section for the reaction  $v_e + n \rightarrow e^- + p$  is of the order of 10<sup>-43</sup> cm<sup>2</sup> (per nucleon,  $E_v \approx$  few MeV).

 $\rightarrow \text{detection efficiency} \quad \varepsilon_{det} = \sigma \cdot N_a = \sigma \cdot \rho \frac{N_A}{A} d \qquad (N_a : \text{area density} \neq N_A : \text{Avogadro's number})$   $1 \text{ m Iron:} \quad \varepsilon_{det} \approx 5 \cdot 10^{-17} \text{ m lron:} \quad \varepsilon_{det} \approx 6 \cdot 10^{-15}$ 

Neutrino detection requires big and massive detectors (ktons - Mtons) and very high neutrino fluxes (e.g.  $10^{20} v / yr$ ).

In collider experiments fully hermetic detectors allow to detect neutrinos indirectly:

- sum up all visible energy and momentum.
- attribute missing energy and momentum to neutrino.



### Interaction of neutrons and neutrinos



#### Direct neutrino detection



#### Indirect neutrino detection

 $e^+e^-$  ( $\sqrt{s}=181 \text{ GeV}$ )  $\rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow qq\mu\nu_{\mu}$  $\rightarrow 2$  hadronic jets +  $\mu$  + missing momentum





### Hadronic cascades

Lots of processes involved: Strong, e.m. and weak interactions.

Much more complex and larger than electromagnetic cascades.  $(\lambda_1 > X_0)$ 

A hadronic shower has two components:

hadronic ↓

- charged hadrons  $p, \pi^{\pm}, K^{\pm,}$
- nuclear fragmets ....
- breaking up of nuclei (binding energy)
- neutrons, neutrinos, soft γ's, muons

(Grupen)

### electromagnetic

neutral pions  $\pi^0 \rightarrow 2\gamma$   $\rightarrow$  electromagnetic cascades  $n(\pi^0) \approx \ln E(GeV) - 4.6$ 

example E = 100 GeV:  $n(\pi^0) \approx 18$ 

• invisible energy  $\rightarrow$  large fluctuations of visible energy

 $\rightarrow$  Modest energy resolution of hadronic calorimeters.





### Organic scintillation mechanism

The organic scintillation mechanism is based on the pi-electrons (molecular orbitals) of the benzene ring  $(C_6H_6)$ .







#### Organic scintillation mechanism



e.g. polyvinlyltoluene (a) or polystyrene (b)





#### Often they consist of a solvent + activator and a secondary fluor as wavelength shifter.







#### Abs. and emission spectra







# Some examples of commercial plastic scintillators. There are just two main suppliers: (Saint Gobain, FR/US) or ELJEN (US) which deliver rather comparable products.

Physical Constants of SGC Plastic Scintillators												
	Light Output	Wavelength of Maximum	Decay Constant. Main	Bulk Light Attenuation	Refractive		Loading Element		Softening			
Scintillator	% Anthracene	Emission, nm	Component, ns	Length, cm	Index	H:C Ratio	% by weight	Density	Point °C			
BC-400	65	423	2.4	250	1.58	1.103		1.032	70			
BC-404	68	<sup>408</sup> b	ue <sup>1.8</sup>	160	1.58	1.107		1.032	70			
BC-408	64	425	2.1	380	1.58	1.104		1.032	70			
BC-412	60	434	3.3	400	1.58	1.104		1.032	70			
BC-414	68	392	1.8	100	1.58	1.110		1.032	70			
BC-416	38	434	4.0	400	1.58	1.110		1.032	70			
BC-418	67	391	1.4	100	1.58	1.100		1.032	70			
BC-420	64	391	1.5	110	1.58	1.102		1.032	70			
BC-422	55	370	1.6	8	1.58	1.102		1.032	70			
BC-422Q	11	370	0.7	<8	1.58	1.102	Benzephenone,0.5%*	1.032	70			
BC-428	36	480	12.5	150	1.58	1.103		1.032	70			
BC-430	45	580	16.8	NA	1.58	1.108		1.032	70			

≈8000 photons / MeV





#### Readout has to be adapted to geometry, granularity and emission spectrum of scintillator.

Geometrical adaptation:

• Light guides: transfer by total internal reflection

(+outer reflector)







- Large volume liquid or solid detectors
- neutron detection
- underground experiments
- sampling calorimeters (HCAL in CMS or ATLAS, etc.),
- trigger counters,
- TOF counters,
- Fibre tracking (see below)



Plastic scintillators in various shapes (Saint Gobain)



Michigan University: 'neutron wall'. The flat-sided glass tubes contain liquid scintillator.



Scintillating tiles of CMS HCAL.







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Exception: Liquefied noble gases scintillate, Based on band structure of a crystal. Does not work for liquids or gases. too. Different process.



Band gap  $E_q$  should be large (>3 eV) to ensure that crystal is transparent.

Warning: sometimes  $\geq$  2 time constants:

fast recombination (ns-µs) from activation centers

Not treated here.

delayed recombination due to trapping (µs-ms)













The Basics of Particle Detection

Please wake up

# **New topic: Photodetection**

(Detection of light in the optical domain)



### The classical domains of application

### ❑ Calorimetry

 Readout of organic and inorganic scintillators, lead glass, scint. or quartz fibres → Blue/VIS, usually 10s – 10000s of photons

### Particle Identification

- Detection of Cherenkov light  $\rightarrow$ UV/blue, single photons
- Time Of Flight → Usually readout of organic scintillators (not competitive at high momenta) or Cherenkov radiators

### Tracking

• Readout of scintillating fibres  $\rightarrow$  blue/VIS, few photons







#### Purpose:

Convert light into detectable electronic signal

(we are not covering photographic emulsions!)

#### **Principle:**

Use photoelectric effect to 'convert' photons ( $\gamma$ ) to photoelectrons (pe)



Details depend on the type of the photosensitive material (see below).

Photon detection involves often materials like K, Na, Rb, Cs (alkali metals). They have the smallest electronegativity  $\rightarrow$  highest tendency to release electrons.











#### **Requirements on photodetectors**

• High sensitivity, usually expressed as: <u>quantum efficiency</u>  $QE(\%) = \frac{N_{pe}}{N}$ 

or radiant sensitivity 
$$S$$
 (mA/W), with  $QE(\%) \approx 124 \cdot \frac{S(mA/W)}{\lambda(nm)}$ 

QE can be >100% (for high energetic photons) !

- Good Linearity: Output signal ~ light intensity, over a large dynamic range (critical e.g. in calorimetry (energy measurement).
- Fast Time response: Signal is produced instantaneously (within ns), low jitter (<ns), no afterpulses</p>
- Low intrinsic noise. A noise-free detector doesn't exist. Thermally created photoelectrons represent the lower limit for the noise rate ~ A<sub>o</sub>T<sup>2</sup>exp(-eW<sub>ph</sub>/kT). In many detector types, noise is dominated by other sources.
- + many more (size, fill factor, radiation hardness, cost, tolerance/immunity to B-fields...)







Cut-off limits of window materials

The Basics of Particle Detection

Exception: Silicon, Csl.









### **Photo-multiplier tubes (PMT's)**



Basic principle:

- Photo-emission from photo-cathode
- Secondary emission from N dynodes:
- dynode gain  $g \approx 3-50$  (function of incoming electron energy E);
- total gain M:

$$M = \prod_{i=1}^{N} g_i$$

Example:

- 10 dynodes with g = 4
- $M = 4^{10} \approx 10^6$

Very sensitive to magnetic fields, even to earth magnetic field (30-60  $\mu$ T = 0.3-0.6 Gauss).  $\rightarrow$  Shielding required (mu-metal).





### Gain fluctuations of PMT's

- Mainly determined by the fluctuations of the number of secondary electrons  $m_i$  emitted from the dynodes;
- Poisson distribution:



• Standard deviation:



 $\Rightarrow$  fluctuations dominated by 1<sup>st</sup> dynode gain  $m_1 = \delta_1$ 













(T. Matsumoto et al., NIMA 521 (2004) 367)

#### Multi-anode PMT (Hamamatsu)

- Up to  $8 \times 8$  channels ( $2 \times 2 \text{ mm}^2 \text{ each}$ );
- Size: 28 × 28 mm<sup>2</sup>;
- Bialkali PC: QE  $\approx 25$  45% @  $\lambda_{max}$  = 400 nm;
- Gain  $\approx 3 \ 10^5$ ;
- Gain uniformity typ. 1 : 2.5;
- Cross-talk typ. 2%

### Flat-panel (Hamamatsu H8500):

- 8 x 8 channels (5.8 x 5.8 mm2 each)
- Excellent surface coverage (89%)









MCPs are usually based on glass disks, with lots of aligned pores. The surface of the pores are metal coated.

Gain stage and detection are decoupled  $\rightarrow$  lots of potential and freedom for MA-PMTs: Anode can be easily segmented in application specific way.



- Typical secondary yield is 2
- For 40:1 L:D there are typically 10 strikes (2<sup>10</sup> ~ 10<sup>3</sup> gain per single plate)
- Pore sizes range from <10 to 25 μm.</li>
- Small distances → small TTS and good immunity to B-field

#### PHOTONIS





## **Light absorption in Silicon**







### (Si) – Photodiodes (PIN diode)

- P(I)N type
- p layer very thin (<1 μm), as visible light is rapidly absorbed by silicon
- High QE (80% @ λ ≈ 700nm)
- Gain = 1

### Avalanche photodiode (APD)

- High reverse bias voltage: typ. few 100 V
- Special doping profile → high internal field (>10<sup>5</sup> V/cm) → <u>e and h</u> avalanche multiplication
- Avalanche must stop due to statistical fluctuations.
- Gain: typ. O(100)
- Rel. high gain fluctuations (excess noise from the avalanche). CMS ECAL APD: ENF = 2 @G=50.
- Very high sensitivity on temp. and bias voltage  $\Delta G$  = 3.1%/V and -2.4 %/K





### Solid-state ... Geiger mode Avalanche Photodiode (G-APD)



How to obtain higher gain (= single photon detection) without suffering from excessive noise ?

Operate APD cell in Geiger mode (= full discharge), however with (passive) quenching.

Photon conversion + avalanche short-circuits the diode.







### Solid-state ... Geiger mode Avalanche Photodiode (G-APD)







### Multi pixel G-APD, called G-APD, MPPC, SiPM, ...





Quasi-analog detector allows photon counting with a clearly quantized signal





the market. Continuous

### You cannot get "something for nothing"

- G-APD show dark noise rate in the O(100 kHz MHz / mm<sup>2</sup>) range. ~10 producers are now in
- The gain is temperature dependent  $O(<5\% / ^{\circ}K)$
- The signal linearity is limited
- The price is (still too) high





### SiPM designs (just examples)



SensL (http://sensl.com/)

 $20x20\mu m^2$ ,  $35x35\mu m^2$ ,  $50x50\mu m^2$ ,  $100x100\mu m^2$  pixel size





3.16x3.16mm<sup>2</sup> 4x4 channels



3.16x3.16mm<sup>2</sup> 4x4 channels



6 x 6 cm<sup>2</sup> 16x16 channels



### Gaseous photodetectors: A few implementations...



#### **Proven technology:**

Cherenkov detectors in ALICE, HADES, COMPASS, J-LAB.... Many m<sup>2</sup> of CsI photocathodes





Micro Pattern Structures (GEM) + CsI HBD (RICH) of PHENIX.





Csl on multi-GEM structure

#### **R&D**:

Thick GEM structures Visible PC (bialkali) Sealed gaseous devices







Sealed gaseous photodetector with bialkali PC. (Weizmann Inst., Israel)





### BACK-UP SLIDES



### Dark counts due to ...



- <u>Thermal/tunneling</u> : thermal/ tunneling carrier generation in the bulk or in the surface depleted region around the junction
- <u>After-pulses</u>: carriers trapped during the avalanche discharging and then released triggering a new avalanche during a period of several 100 ns after the breakdown
- Optical cross-talk: 10<sup>5</sup> carriers in an avalanche plasma emit on average 3 photons with an energy higher than 1.14 eV (A. Lacaita et al. IEEE TED 1993). These photons can trigger an avalanche in an adjacent µcell.

### → Limit gain, increase threshold

### $\rightarrow$ add trenches btw µcells





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Implementation of SiPMs in a CMOS process allows adding lots of functionality...



Different from analog SiPMs: Upon the detection of a photon, the avalanche is actively <u>quenched</u> using a dedicated transistor, and a <u>different transistor is used to quickly recharge</u> the diode back to its sensitive state.



### **Digital SiPM**



Compared to the analog technology, the digital one (offered by Philips) has a number of

#### advantages

- + Integration of bias supply, amp, TDC, counter...
- + Fast active quenching  $\rightarrow$  no afterpulses
- + Possibility to de-activate noisy cells → potentially lower dark noise
- + Reduced sensitivity to voltage and temperature variations
- + Compactness
- + Possibility to add local intelligence

#### ... problems shared with analog



38.5 mm<sup>2</sup> Front and back sides of a 64 channel digital tile (DPC6400-22-



Philips

- High dark noise (a discharging cell doesn't know whether it is digital or analog)
- Signal saturation (limited number of cells)

#### ... and also has some drawbacks

- The local electronics is a source of heat  $\rightarrow$  cooling advisable
- The readout functionality is designed into the sensor. In case of mismatch with the needs, relatively expensive modifications of the sensor/FPGA may be required.



# Hybrid Photon Detectors (HPD's)



### Basic principle:

- Combination of vacuum photon detectors and solidstate technology;
- Optical window, (semitransparent) photo-cathode;
- Electron optics (optional: demagnification)
- Charge Gain: achieved *in one step* by energy dissipation of keV pe's in solid-state detector anode; this results in low gain fluctuations;
- Encapsulation of Si-sensor in the tube implies:
  - compatibility with high vacuum technology (low outgassing, high T° bake-out cycles);
  - internal (for speed and fine segmentation) or external connectivity to read-out electronics;
  - heat dissipation issues;



$$M = \frac{e(\Delta V - Vth)}{W_{Si}} \qquad \begin{array}{l} \Delta V = 20 \text{ kV} \\ \Rightarrow M \sim 5000 \end{array}$$
$$\sigma_M = \sqrt{F \times M} \qquad F = \text{Fano factor} \\ F_{Si} \sim 0.1 \end{array}$$





10-inch prototype HPD (CERN) for Air Shower Telescope CLUE.



pulse height (ADC counts)

Photon counting. Continuum due to electron back scattering.

![](_page_48_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **Pixel-HPD's for LHCb RICH detectors**

![](_page_48_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_3.jpeg)

Cross-focused electron optics

![](_page_48_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_6.jpeg)

Pixel-HPD anode

•50mm

- pixel array sensor bump-bonded to binary electronic chip, developed at CERN
- 8192 pixels of 50  $\times$  400  $\mu m.$
- specially developed high T° bump-bonding;
- Flip-chip assembly, tube encapsulation (multialkali PC) performed in industry (VTT, Photonis/DEP)

![](_page_48_Picture_12.jpeg)

During commissioning: illumination of 144 tubes by beamer. In total : 484 tubes.

![](_page_49_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_2.jpeg)

Principle: (A) Ionize photosensitive molecules, admixed to the counter gas (TMAE, TEA);

or (B) release photoelectron from a solid photocathode (CsI, bialkali...); Then use free photoelectron to trigger a Townsend avalanche  $\rightarrow$  Gain

![](_page_49_Figure_5.jpeg)

TEA, TMAE, CsI work only in deep UV region.

Bialkali works in visible domain, however requires VERY clean gases.

Long term operation in a real detector not yet demonstrated.

![](_page_49_Figure_9.jpeg)

e.g. CH<sub>4</sub> + TEA

Thin CsI coating on cathode pads

Usual issues: How to achieve high gain (10<sup>5</sup>) ? How to control ion feedback and light emisson from avalanche? How to purify gas and keep it clean? How to control aging ?

![](_page_50_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_2.jpeg)

Bremsstrahlung plays an important role in accelerators, but essentially only in circular e<sup>±</sup> machines. Here it is called 'Synchrotron radiation'

![](_page_50_Figure_4.jpeg)

Magnetic field forces particles on a circle  $\rightarrow$  permanent acceleration towards the centre of the circle.

#### Radiated power:

$$P_r = \frac{e^2 c}{6\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{1}{m^4} \frac{E^4}{R^2}$$

$$\frac{P_{r,e}}{P_{r,p}} = \frac{m_e^4}{m_p^4} \approx 1836^4 = 1.1 \cdot 10^{13}$$

Negative aspect: The radiated energy per turn can eat up the gained energy by acceleration and so limit the achievable energy. Famous example: LEP (e<sup>+</sup>e<sup>-</sup> collider).

$$\Delta E_{turn} = \oint P_r dt = P_r \frac{2\pi R}{c}$$
  

$$E_{LEP} \sim 100 \text{ GeV. } R_{LEP} \sim 4300 \text{ m} \Rightarrow \Delta E_{turn} \sim 2 \text{ GeV}$$

Positive aspect: The radiated energy is extremely forward peaked (Lorentz transformed) and can be used as very bright and intense photon source, e.g. for material studies. See e.g. ESRF (www.esrf.eu)

![](_page_50_Figure_12.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_2.jpeg)

Muons interact electromagnetically (like the  $e^+$ , $e^-$ , but due to its high mass, direct Bremsstrahlung ( $\sim E/m^2$ ) is strongly suppressed.

![](_page_51_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_52_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_52_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_52_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **Basics of photon detection**

![](_page_53_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Figure_3.jpeg)

Semitransparent photocathode

![](_page_53_Figure_5.jpeg)

Light absorption in photocathode

![](_page_53_Figure_7.jpeg)

→ Make semitransparent photocathode just as thick as necessary!