

Particle physics: lecture 2
Particle detectors

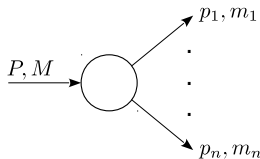
Biplab Dey

Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE)
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ELEMENTARY PARTICLE PROCESSES: DECAYS

Elementary processes are of two types: *decays* and *scattering*.

- Stable particles: proton, electron, neutrinos, photon
- All other hadrons and leptons, W^\pm/Z , and Higgs, *decay*, i.e., “break up” in various ways yielding ultimately stable particles.
- Quasi-stable final states, as far as particle detection goes: π^\pm, K^\pm, μ^\pm
- These show up as charged tracks in trackers, but left alone long enough, they will ultimately undergo weak decay.



Q: check what are the allowed decays for π^\pm, K^\pm, μ^\pm ?

LIFETIME

Typical life span of unstable particles:

- Half-life, $t_{\frac{1}{2}}$: time in which half of a large sample of unstable particles of some type decays. Proper lifetime, $\tau = t_{\frac{1}{2}} / \ln 2$

Empirically, decay rate (prob. of decay/unit time/particle) is t -independent

$$dP = \Gamma dt$$

dP : probability for a particle to decay over infinitesimal time interval dt

$\Gamma = \sum_i \Gamma_i$: *total decay width*, time-independent total decay rate

Γ_i : *partial decay width*, decay rate in channel i

Particles decay independently from each other, sample size $N(t)$ obeys

$$dN(t) = -\Gamma N(t)dt \Rightarrow N(t) = N(0)e^{-\Gamma t} = N(0)e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}, \quad \tau \equiv \Gamma^{-1}$$

Γ_i/Γ : *branching ratio* (or *fraction*) of channel i (relative probability that the decay will take place through channel i)

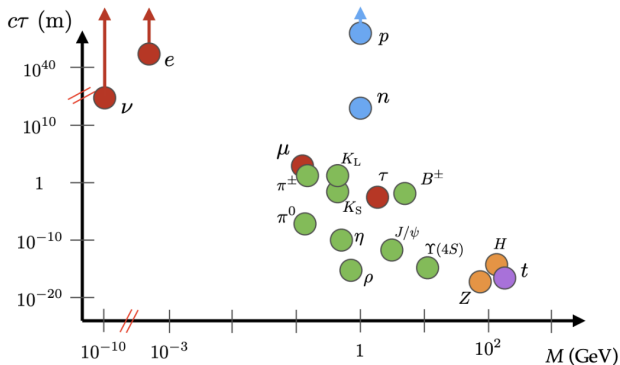
PARTIAL WIDTHS

- The Particle Data Group (PDG) lists the known decay modes and their partial widths.
- Shown below for the $\Lambda(1115)$ strange baryon ([link](#)):

| Decay Modes | | | | Expand all decays |
|-------------|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mode | | Fraction (Γ_i / Γ) | Scale Factor/ Conf. Level | P(MeV/c) |
| Γ_1 | $p\pi^-$ | $(64.1 \pm 0.5)\%$ | | 101 |
| Γ_2 | $n\pi^0$ | $(35.9 \pm 0.5)\%$ | | 104 |
| Γ_3 | $n\gamma$ | $(8.3 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-4}$ | | 162 |
| Γ_4 | $p\pi^-\gamma$ | ^[1] $(8.5 \pm 1.4) \times 10^{-4}$ | | 101 |
| Γ_5 | $pe^-\bar{\nu}_e$ | $(8.34 \pm 0.14) \times 10^{-4}$ | | 163 |
| Γ_6 | $p\mu^-\bar{\nu}_\mu$ | $(1.51 \pm 0.19) \times 10^{-4}$ | | 131 |

TYPICAL LIFETIMES

- Fundamental particles have a wide range of lifetimes. The proton lifetime is $>$ age of the universe!



- Note: only *proper* lifetime (τ) is really meaningful. That is, the lifetime in the particle's rest frame.

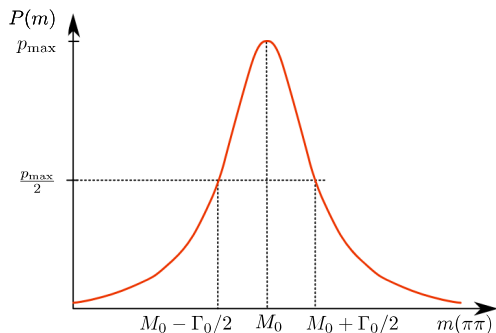
TYPICAL LIFETIMES (CNTD.)

| particle | main decay mode | lifetime |
|------------|---|------------------------|
| μ^- | $\mu^- \rightarrow e^- \nu_\mu \bar{\nu}_e$ | $2.2 \cdot 10^{-6} s$ |
| n | $n \rightarrow p e^- \bar{\nu}_e$ | $8.8 \cdot 10^2 s$ |
| p | ?? | > age of Universe |
| π^+ | $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$ | $2.6 \cdot 10^{-8} s$ |
| π^0 | $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ | $8.4 \cdot 10^{-17} s$ |
| Δ^0 | $\Delta^0 \rightarrow p\pi^-, n\pi^0$ | $5.6 \cdot 10^{-24} s$ |

- Long lifetimes: weak coupling or some sort of suppression (phase-space, Cabibbo, GIM).
- EM decays have intermediate lifetimes
- Strongly decaying particles have shortest lifetimes and therefore largest decay widths.

LINESHAPES

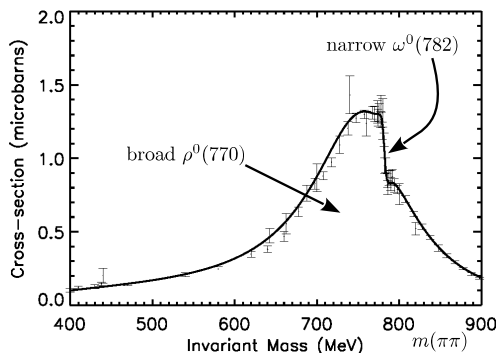
- Particles don't have a mass *per se*, but lineshapes.
- Uncertainty principle: lifetime $\propto 1/\text{decay-width}$



- Broad resonance: $\rho^0(770) \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$: $M_0 \sim 770$ MeV, $\Gamma_0 \sim 145$ MeV.

LINESHAPES (CONTD.)

- Experimentally, what we see are often much more complicated.

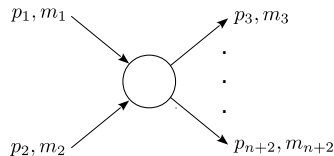


- Two hadronic resonances “mixing” while decaying to $\pi^+\pi^-$.
- Lineshapes reveal underlying dynamics.

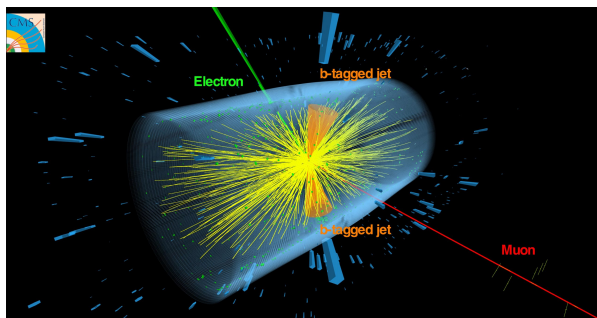
Q: check the properties of the ρ^0 and ω^0 mesons in PDG

ELEMENTARY PARTICLE PROCESSES: SCATTERING

- High energy collisions are our main tool to produce new heavy particles. Different colliders for different purposes.
- Highest energy collisions today are at the LHC: two proton beams at 7 TeV.
- Fixed-target and beam-dump experiments: high intensity photon/proton/pion/kaon beam on proton target
- SuperKEKB (Japan): e^+e^- collisions at precisely 10.58 GeV mass to produce only a B -meson pair. Clean environment.
- LBNF (Fermilab): protons on graphite \rightarrow pions \rightarrow muons + neutrinos. Intense neutrino beam!



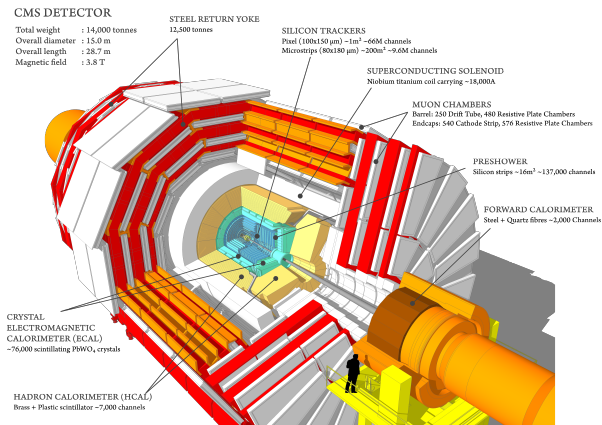
COLLISIONS TO PARTICLE DETECTORS



- Infer interesting physics from end products.
- Detector's job is to identify and measure energy/momentum of final state particles (stuff the detector “sees”): charged tracks (π^\pm , K^\pm , e^\pm , p^\pm , μ^\pm), photons and may be neutrons.
- Detector interaction will be non-invasive (charged trackers) or absorbing (neutral calorimeters)?

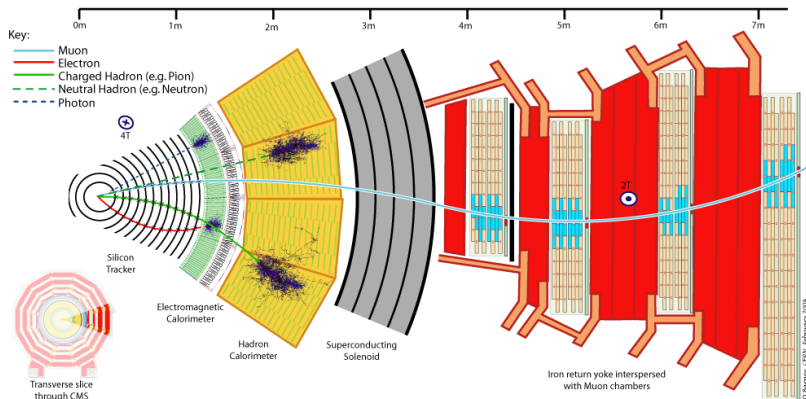
MODERN PARTICLE DETECTORS: “ONION LAYERS”

- Collision point cocooned inside layers of detectors.
- CMS detector at the LHC:



SLICING THE “ONION”

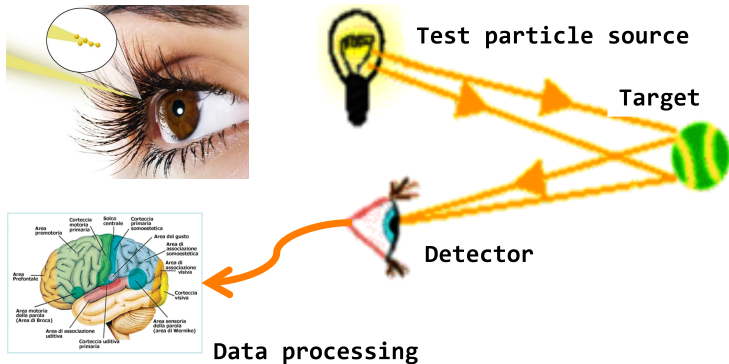
- Slice of the CMS detector at the LHC:



- Sequence of the onion shells have to be carefully planned: trackers come first...muon chambers last.

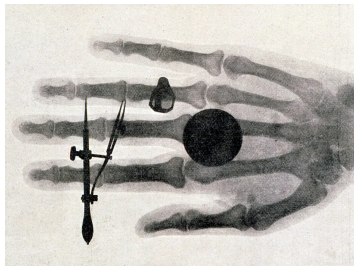
EARLY DETECTORS: HUMAN EYE

- The most obvious one. Sensitive and versatile photodetector.



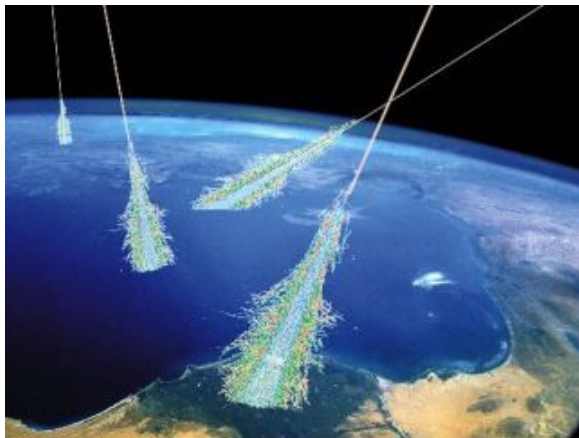
- Can't measure the energy and works only at low rates.

EARLY DETECTORS: PHOTO PLATES



- X-rays discovered by Roentgen in 1895.
 - $\text{AgBr}/\text{AgCl} + \text{energy} \Rightarrow \text{metallic (black) silver}$.
-
- Image era: photographs in cloud chambers, emulsions, bubble chambers. First 30 odd particles discovered this way.

COSMIC RAYS AS PARTICLE SOURCE

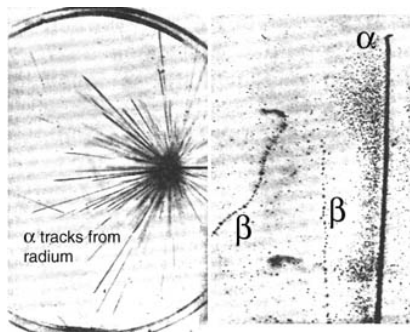
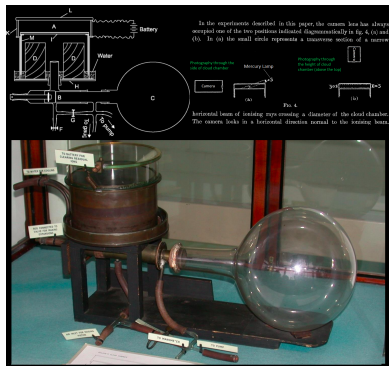


- How to produce new particles when we did not have accelerators? Cosmics are high; energetic particles showering through the atmosphere. Mostly muons at sea level.
- Extremely useful source of “free” muons even today.

COSMIC RAYS AS PARTICLE SOURCE (CNTD.)

| Particle | Source of radiation | Specific behaviour or measurement | Instrument used for detection |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| e^- Electron | Discharge tube | Ratio of e/m | Fluorescent screen, 1897 |
| n Neutron | Polonium (α) + Be | Mass determination from elastic collisions | Ionisations chambers, and confirmation with a Wilson cloud chamber, 1932 |
| e^+ Positron | Cosmic rays | Ratio of e/m | Wilson cloud chamber, 1933 |
| $\mu^+ \mu^-$ Muon | Cosmic rays | Absence of radiation loss in passage through Pb. (Also decay at rest) | Wilson cloud chamber, 1937 |
| $\pi^+ \pi^-$ Pion | Cosmic rays | $\pi \mu$ decay at rest | Nuclear emulsion, 1947 |
| π^0 Pion | Accelerator | Decay into γ -rays | Counters, 1950 |
| K^+ Kaon | Cosmic rays | Measurement of radius of curvature | Wilson cloud chamber, 1944 |
| K^- Kaon | Cosmic rays | $K_{\pi 3}$ decay | Nuclear emulsion, 1949 |
| K^0 Kaon | Cosmic rays | Decay into $\pi^+ + \pi^-$ at rest | Wilson cloud chamber, 1946 |
| Λ^0 Lambda | Cosmic rays | Decay in flight into $p^+ + \pi^-$ | Wilson cloud chamber, 1950 |
| Ξ^- Xi | Cosmic rays | Decay in flight into $p^+ + \Lambda^0$ | Wilson cloud chamber, 1954 |
| Σ^- Sigma | Accelerator | Decay in flight into $\pi^- + n$ | Diffusion chamber, 1954 |

WILSON' CLOUD CHAMBER



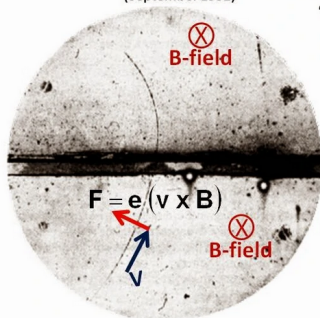
- Super-saturated water vapour. Charged particles traversing condense the vapour, leaving a trail.
- CTR Wilson discovered in 1911. Clean images led to many discoveries. Nobel Prize in 1927.

WILSON' CLOUD CHAMBER (CNTD.)

- First tracking detector: magnetic cloud chamber.
- Bending tells you the charge \Rightarrow discovery of antielectron.

Observation of positron tracks

(September 1932)



The 1936 Nobel Prize in Physics

Carl David Anderson (1905 – 1991)
"for his discovery of the positron".



- Hard to make larger detectors for more penetrating tracks.

GLASER'S BUBBLE CHAMBER (1952)

- Same idea, replace medium with superheated liquid (H_2 , D_2). Charged particles leave tracks of bubbles as liquid boils. Nobel prize in 1960.
- Larger volumes, sharper images and can be reset quickly.



- CERN bubble chamber, used to study weak decays in the '70's.
- Superconducting solenoidal magnet to bend tracks. Millions of photos!

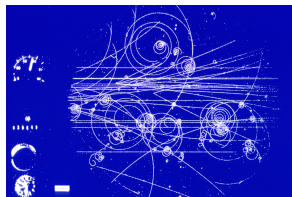
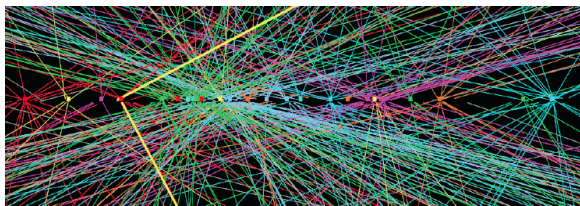


IMAGE ERA TO ELECTRONICS ERA: TRIGGERS

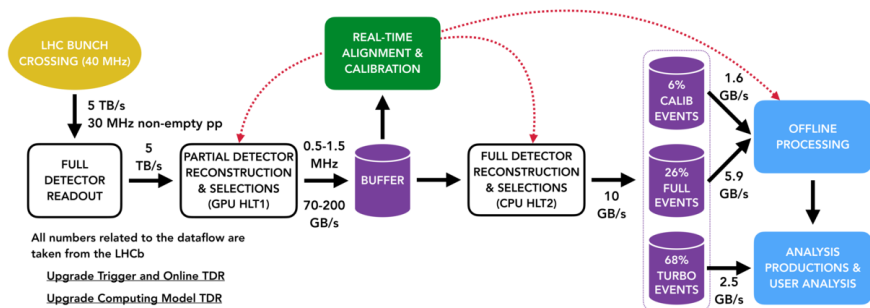
- Bubble chambers could provide $\sim 5\mu m$ track resolutions and full 4π hermetic acceptance. But impossibly slow rates (few Hz).
- No concept of trigger (selectively retain events) \Rightarrow mandatory at LHC rates ($> 10^9$ Hz).



- Need electronic trigger logic. Since '70's, Geiger counters, scintillators+photomultipliers, spark chambers...

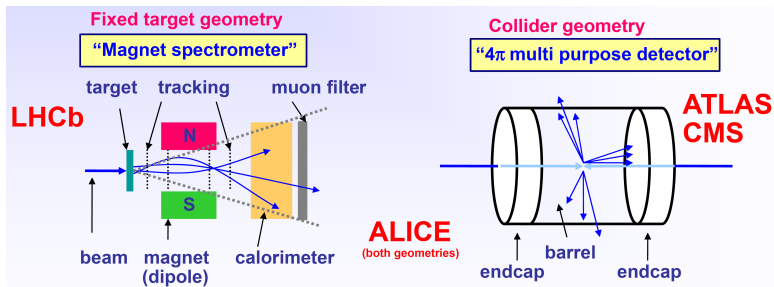
TRIGGER: PHYSICS IN A HEARTBEAT

- e^+e^- colliders (BaBar/Belle): every collision is clean signal. Detector records (almost) everything.
- Hadron colliders (LHC): huge rates, but mostly uninteresting events. Triggering is key. Need to decide which events to write out to tape...



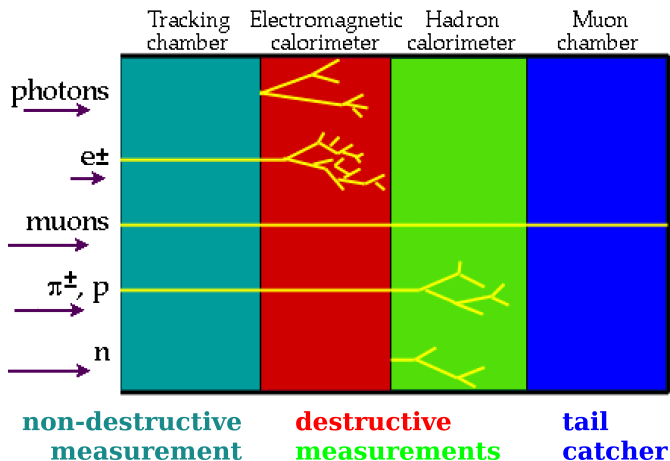
DETECTOR ACCEPTANCE

- Acceptance (or efficiency) = $N_{\text{reconstructed}}/N_{\text{incident}}$
- Uninstrumented regions (holes): invariably lead to loss of acceptance (c.f. bubble chambers).
- Can also be due to geometry (motivated by physics):



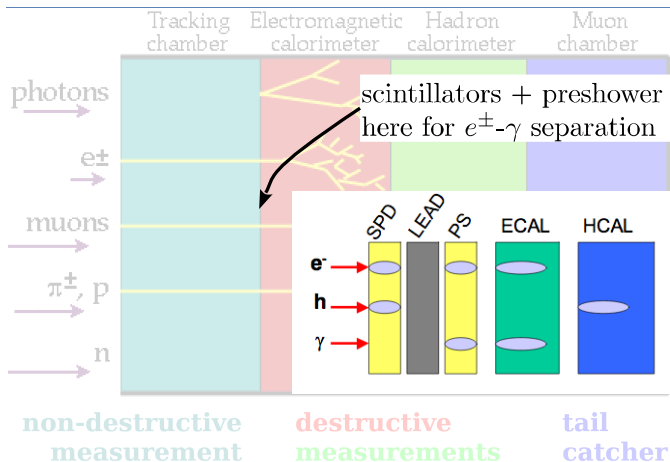
- Must recover back the full acceptance: simulation of the detector geometry/material + physics processes (**Geant4** toolkit) key.

TYPICAL SIGNATURES OF PARTICLES



- Neutrino \Rightarrow missing energy @ colliders.

TYPICAL SIGNATURES OF PARTICLES (CNTD.)



- Neutral photons leave no hits in the SPD (scintillating pad detector). Enables separation between EM clusters due to photons from electrons.

CHARGED PARTICLE INTERACTIONS

- (Multiple) elastic scattering in the detector material. Nuisance mostly – degrades resolutions.
- Ionisation of electrons inside material atoms producing minuscule currents that have to be amplified. Basis of tracking detectors (silicon, drift chambers).
- Photon emission:
 - Bremsstrahlung: fast particles (especially electrons) loses energy by radiation due to interaction with nuclei. Major problem for electron tracking, compared to muons.
 - Cherenkov radiation: charged particle travelling in dense medium a speeds greater that speed of light in the medium, emits cone of light. Used for $K/\pi/p$ separation.
 - Scintillation light: optical photons emitted (plastic or inorganic) that are read out and amplified. Fiber trackers, calorimeter readouts.

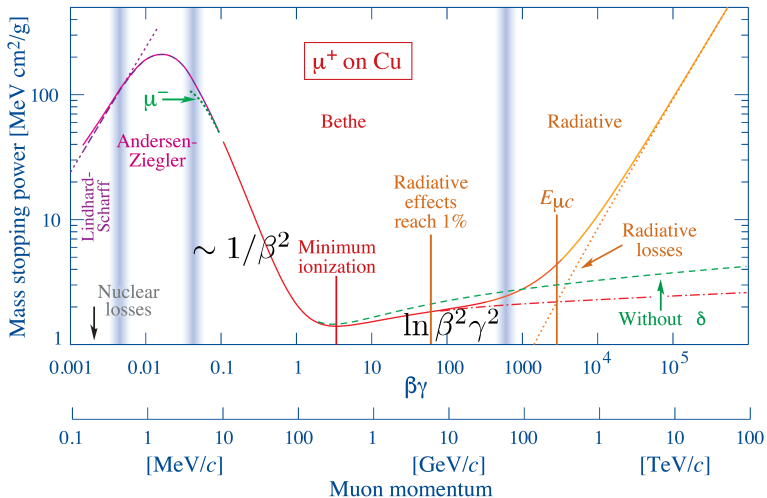
$\langle dE/dx \rangle$ AND BETHE-BLOCH

- Energy loss by ionisation for $m \geq m_\mu$ given by Bethe-Bloch:

$$-\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = K z^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 T_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta(\beta\gamma)}{2} \right]$$

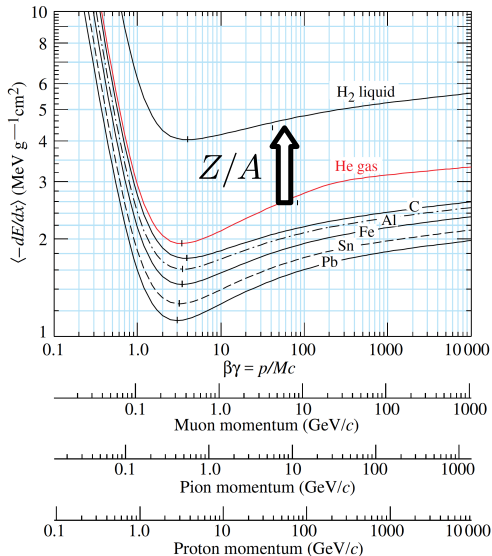
- Material effectively described by Z/A (Z is atomic number, A is atomic mass)
- Loss is $\propto 1/\beta^2$, $\beta = v/c$. If the momentum is known (from tracking), $\langle dE/dx \rangle$ gives the mass.
- PID: particle identification.

$\langle dE/dx \rangle$ DEPENDENCE ON MOMENTUM



- MIP: minimum ionising particle (relativistic).

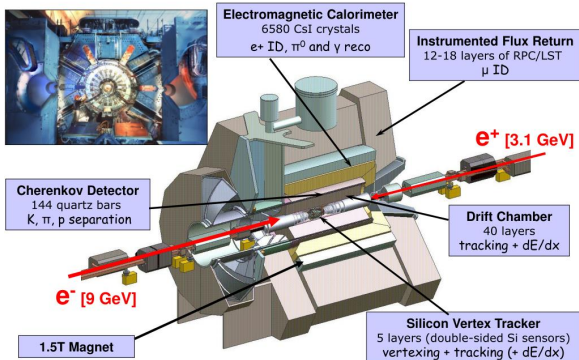
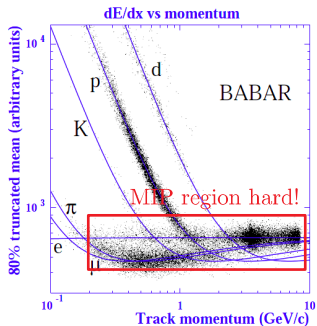
$\langle dE/dx \rangle$ DEPENDENCE ON Z/A



$\langle dE/dx \rangle$ FOR PID

- $\langle dE/dx \rangle$ measurements from the BaBar drift chambers

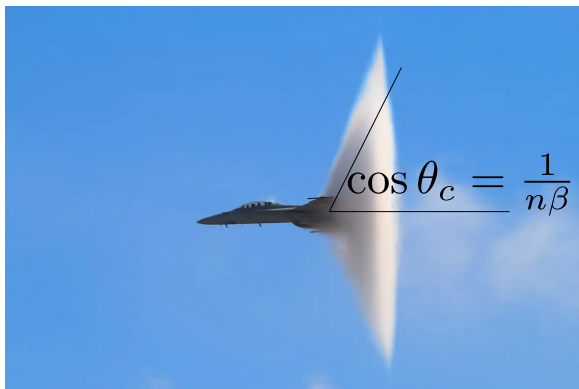
The BaBar Detector



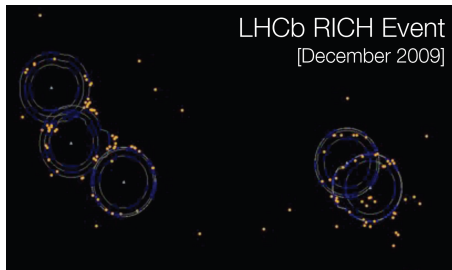
- Several sub-detectors contribute to multivariate PID discriminator. In particular, Cherenkov (RICH) detectors...

RING IMAGING CHERENKOV DETECTORS

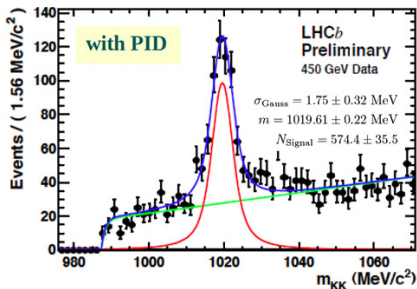
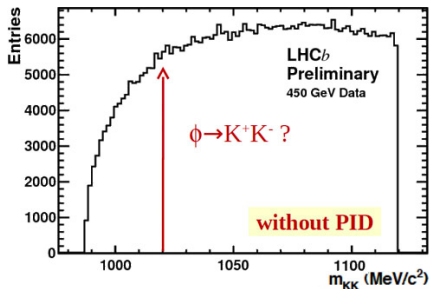
- Just like sonic boom. n is the refractive index of the medium.
- Cone angle produces rings, for different momenta.



RICH PID IN ACTION...



pions/kaons/protons produce distinguishable rings
critical to “flavor” physics

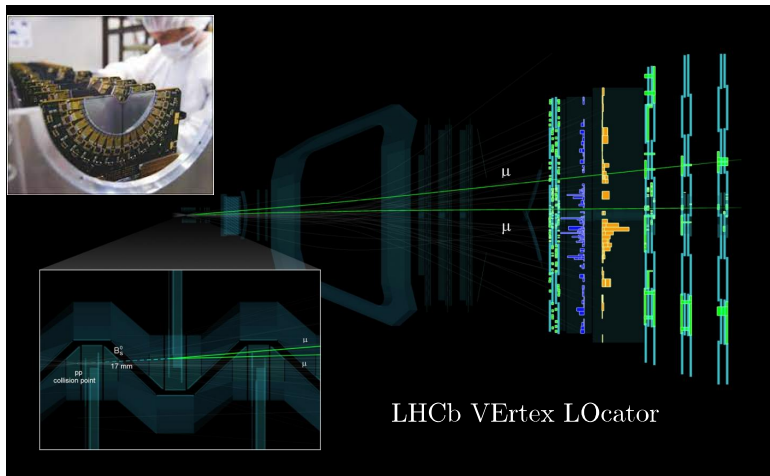


THE SILICON REVOLUTION

- Silicon trackers: Indispensable in almost any modern particle detector today.
- Huge improvements, closely tied to the semi-conductor industry
- Cost-effective, high granularity (pixels, microstrips), high resolution (μm), radiation-hard, low material budget: effectively the *only* solution close to the collision point.
- Cons: needs cooling (often $< -40^\circ \text{C}$), and gets expensive for very large areas. Large number of readout channels (10^7 at ATLAS/CMS Si trackers).

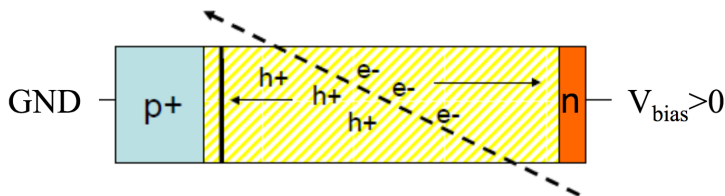
PRECISION VERTEXING

- VeLo sits just 7 mm away from the LHC beam! Femtosecond decay-time resolution



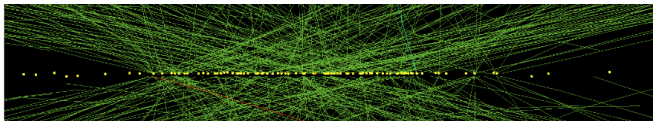
SILICON TECHNOLOGY

- Silicon is a semiconductor and can be doped. p -type and n -type. p - n junction is depleted of charge carriers.
- Reverse bias (p -type to $-$, and n -type to $+$) further increases this depletion region.
- Ionization due to charged particle creates $e^{-}h^{+}$ pairs and a current (3.6 eV/pair , $80 \text{ pairs}/\mu\text{m}$).

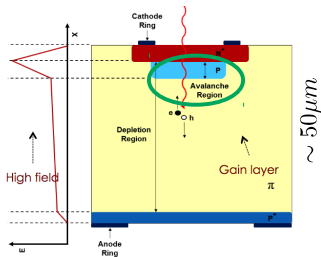
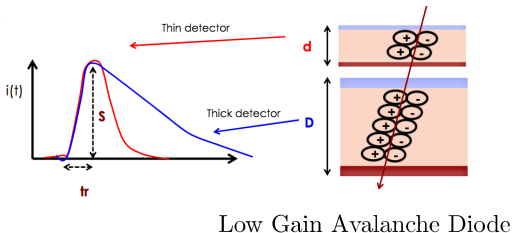


TOWARDS THE FUTURE: TIMING INFO (LGAD)

- High-luminosity LHC: pp bunch crossing every 25 ns. Pileup (interactions/bunch crossing) > 200 .



- Just high spatial granularity won't do: primary vertices (pp collision point) are also separated in time. Need $\mathcal{O}(20)$ ps res.



CALORIMETERS

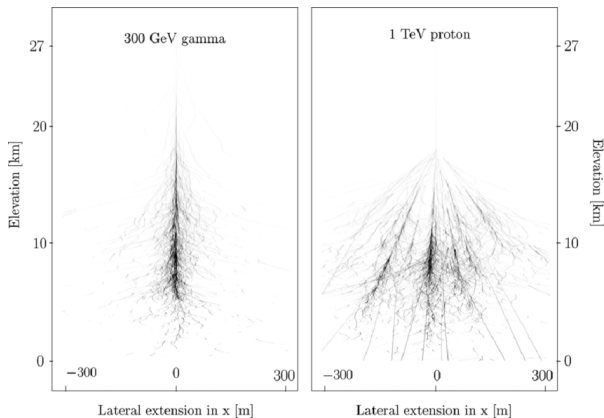
- Till now we wanted the detector material to be as less invasive as possible, to limit loss of resolution.
- Calorimeters: opposite. Ensure that all the energy is absorbed (and measured) inside detector. Resolution improves with energy.

$$\frac{\sigma_E}{E} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{E}} \otimes \frac{b}{E} \otimes c$$

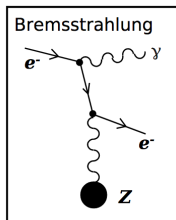
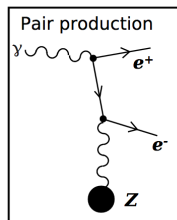
- a : $\frac{\sigma_E}{E} \sim 1/\sqrt{n} \sim 1/\sqrt{E}$. Stochastic term, intrinsic property. For sampling calorimeters, 5-20%.
- b : noise term. Electronic noise from readout chain $\sim 1\%$.
- c : constant term. Non-uniformities in the material/readout.
- Note: energy resolution (σ_E) improves with energy, unlike trackers where the momentum resolution is poorer at high momentum.

SHOWER PROPAGATION: ECAL AND HCAL

- Shower shape: photon/electron (EM, ECAL) vs proton/pion/kaon (nuclear, HCAL). Different calorimeters to “catch” the particles.



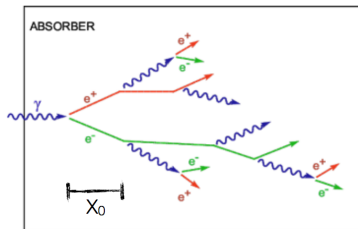
RADIATION LENGTH FOR EM SHOWERS



- Dominant processes at high energies. $\sigma_{\gamma}^{\text{pair}} = 7/9\sigma_e^{\text{brem}}$.

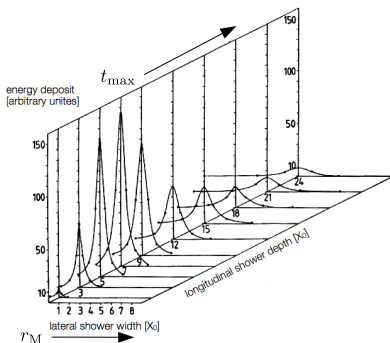
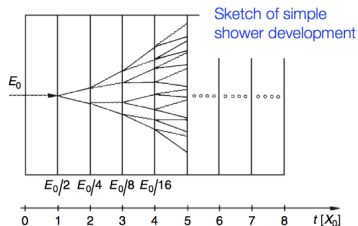
$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{\gamma}^{\text{pair}} &= 7/9\sigma_e^{\text{brem}} \\ &\approx \frac{7}{9}4\alpha r_e^2 Z^2 \ln \frac{183}{Z^{1/3}} = \frac{7}{9} \frac{A}{N_A X_0}\end{aligned}$$

- Brem energy loss: $E = E_0 e^{-x/X_0}$. $X_0 \sim 180A/Z^2$ [g/cm⁻²]
- High Z material for EM calorimetry. For Pb, $X_0 \sim 5.6$ mm.



- Critical energy E_c : brem + pair prod dominates $E > E_c$. Below, ionisation, Compton eff. and photo el. eff.
- $E_c = 610/(Z + 1.24)$ MeV. For Pb, $E_c = 7.3$ MeV.

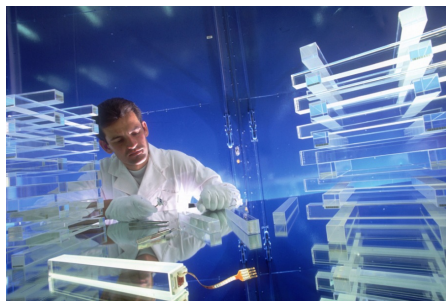
SHOWER PROPAGATION AND SHAPES



- Depth is in units of X_0
- Longitudinal: $t_{max} = \frac{\ln E_0/E_c}{\ln 2}$ where the profile peaks.
- Transverse size given by $R_M = \frac{21 MeV}{E_c} X_0$.
- Smaller R_M is preferred \Rightarrow compact showers
- Radial shower containment: 90%(95%) at $R_M(2R_M)$

EXAMPLES OF CALORIMETERS: HOMOGENOUS

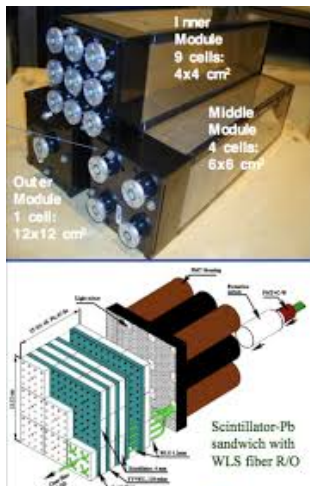
- Primarily two types: homogenous and sampling.
- Homogenous detector: single medium, both absorber and detector. Entire energy absorbed. Excellent resolutions.
- Liq. Ar/Xe/Kr. Dense crystals (PbWO_4 , $\text{CsI}(\text{TI})$), or organic scintillators.



CMS PbWO_4

- Almost entirely for ECal.
- 3-d shower profile not accessible (important for shower effective position).

EXAMPLES OF CALORIMETERS: SAMPLING TYPE



LHCb ECAL

- Sandwich absorbers (Pb/W/Cu) by active detectors like scintillators
- Poorer resolutions since only part of the full energy sampled.
- Used in both ECal and HCal.
- Rule of thumb: at least $25X_0$ thick absorbers needed.

NUCLEAR INTERACTION LENGTH

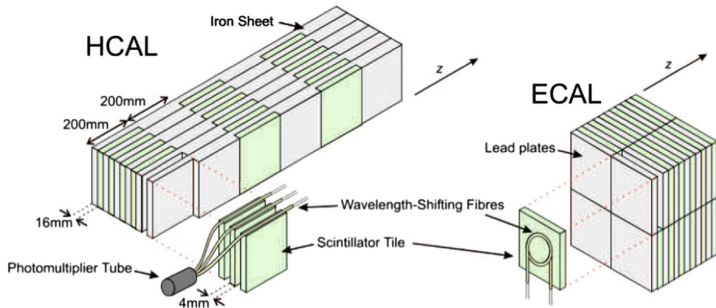
- Similar to X_0 , but for hadronic interactions, nuclear interaction length, $\lambda_n \sim A^{1/3}$.
- For the same material, $\lambda_n > 6X_0$. Therefore, hadronic showers start much later, than EM showers.

| | <i>Z</i> | <i>Density</i> | ϵ | X_0 | λ ← |
|----|----------|--------------------|------------|-------|-------------|
| | | g.cm^{-3} | MeV | cm | cm |
| Fe | 26 | 7.9 | 24 | 1.76 | 16.8 |
| Cu | 29 | 9.0 | 20 | 1.43 | 15.1 |
| W | 74 | 19.3 | 8 | 0.35 | 9.6 |
| Pb | 82 | 11.4 | 7 | 0.56 | 17.1 |
| U | 92 | 19.0 | 6 | 0.32 | 10.5 |

- Typically $> 9\lambda_n$ of material to fully contain the showers. HCal's are always sampling type.

LHCb ECal/HCAL COMPARISON

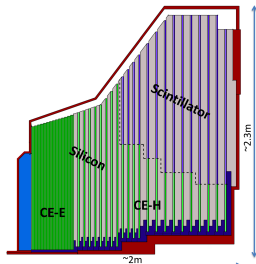
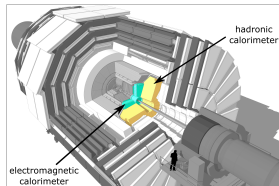
- Schematic comparison between ECal/HCAL at the LHCb experiment:



NEXT PARADIGM: 5D CALORIMETRY

- At HiLumi-LHC, tracker + calorimeter + timing: detailed jet reconstruction.

CMS HGCAL



Electromagnetic calorimeter (CE-E):

Si, Cu & CuW & Pb absorbers, 28 layers, $25 X_0$ & $\sim 1.3\lambda$.

Hadronic calorimeter (CE-H):

Si & scintillator, steel absorbers, 22 layers, $\sim 8.5\lambda$.

