
Interaction particle-matter at high energy. An example

IDPASC School
LPNHE, Paris, 8-21 February, 2015

Patrick Puzo
Laboratoire de l'Accélérateur Linéaire, Université Paris-Sud
puzo@lal.in2p3.fr

-
- Detectors played a key role in physics since 1900
 - Four detectors have been distinguished:
 - Cloud chamber (C. Wilson, Nobel prize in 1927 and Patrick Blackett, Nobel prize in 1948)
 - Bubble chamber (D. Glaser, Nobel prize in 1960)
 - Wire chamber (G. Charpak, Nobel prize in 1992)
 - CCD (Willard Boyle and George Smith, Nobel prize in 2009)
 - Implies nuclear physics, thermodynamics, condensed matter, chemistry, optics, ...

Sources and references

- « Particle Detectors », C. Grupen and B. Schwartz, 1996
- CERN Summer Student Lectures
 - In particular « Particule Detectors », C. Joram (2002)

Typical numbers

- Distances:
 - In 1 ns, a particle with $v = c$ moves by 30 cm
 - In 1 μ s, an ionization electron moves 5 cm in a gaz
 - In 1 ms, a proton runs 11 times around LHC ($11 \times 27 \approx 300$ km) and an ion moves 5 cm in a gaseous detector

- Lifetime / distance:

	Muon	Pion	Méson B
Lifetime	2,2 μ s	26 ns	1 ps
Distance	660 m	7,8 m	300 μ m

- Within a detector, muons are stable, B mesons will not be seen before their decay

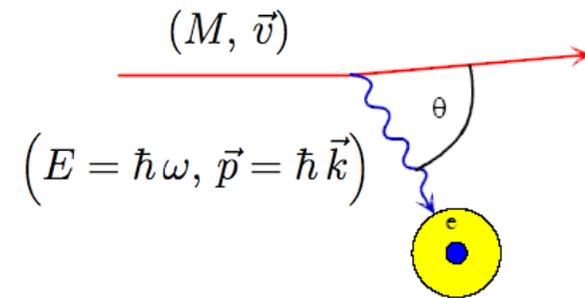
Plan

I. Interaction particle-matter

- 1) Heavy charged particles
- 2) Light charged particles
- 3) Photons
- 4) Neutrinos

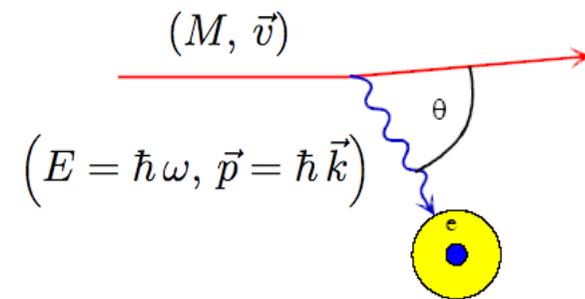
II. An example: charged tracks reconstruction

- We consider here heavy particles with $m > m_\mu \approx 200 m_e$ (ie everything but electrons) : $\mu^\pm, \pi^\pm, \alpha, p, \dots$



- At low energy, heavy particles lose energy in matter via collisions with the atomic electrons of the target by **photon exchange**:
 - **Excitation** of the atom
 - If $\hbar\omega$ is large enough, **ionization** can occur
 - Ionization electrons have sometimes enough energy to ionize other atoms (**δ electrons**)
 - In some cases, the photon can escape instead of ionizing (**Cherenkov effect** and **transition radiation**)

- Collisions with the nucleus are negligible ($m_e \ll m_{Noy}$) as long as the energy is not too high



- « collision » is to be taken with quantum mechanics meaning and not classical one
 - Nothing to do with collision of two cars but has to be seen as an **interaction**
- The relevant parameter to characterize the collision is the **impact parameter** (minimum distance between two particles)

- Cross section is very small ($\sigma \approx 10^{-16}-10^{-17} \text{ cm}^2$) but the number of atoms is very high ($N_A \approx 10^{23} \text{ atoms/cm}^3$)
 - A 10 MeV proton loses all its energy in 250 μm of copper

- The number of interaction is controlled by statistics:
 - \Rightarrow relative fluctuations very small
 - In practice, we observe a continuous decrease of the energy down to the thermal kinetic energy
 - We use the **mean energy loss per unit length**:

$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle$$

-
- Relativistic quantum mechanics gives the **Bethe-Bloch formula** which describe the average energy loss by ionization:

$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = -4\pi N_A r_e^2 m_e c^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{z^2}{\beta^2} \left[\ln \left(\frac{2 m_e c^2 \gamma^2 \beta^2}{I^2} \right) - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta}{2} - \frac{C}{Z} \right]$$

- Validity domain:
 - As soon as the speed of the incoming particle is > speed of the atomic electrons $\beta_{min} = \frac{v}{c} \approx 0.01$
 - As long as the **Bremsstrahlung** (see later) does not dominate:
 - For muons, it means $E < 1 \text{ TeV}$

$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = -4\pi N_A r_e^2 m_e c^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{z^2}{\beta^2} \left[\ln \left(\frac{2 m_e c^2 \gamma^2 \beta^2}{I^2} \right) - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta}{2} - \frac{C}{Z} \right]$$

- Constants: N_A, r_e, m_e, Z, A

Avogadro

Classical radius
and mass of the e-

Charge and atomic
mass of the target

$$N_A \approx 6,02 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1} \quad r_e = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 m_e c^2} \approx 2,8 \text{ fm} = 2,8 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ m}$$

- Dependences:
 - Does not depend on the mass of the incoming particle but only on its charge z and its velocity β !
 - Depend upon the target via Z, A, I, δ et C (constants)
- N_A is expressed in mol^{-1} , r_e in cm , $m_e c^2$ in MeV , A in g/mol

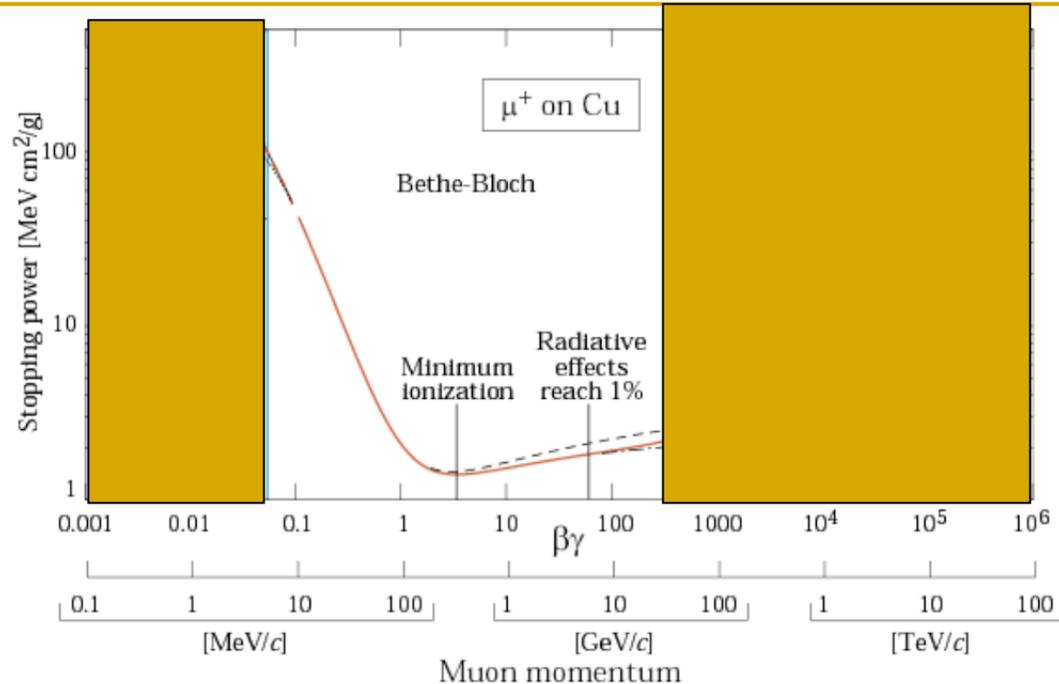
$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle \Rightarrow \text{expressed in MeV g}^{-1} \text{ cm}^2$$

$$K = 4\pi N_A r_e^2 m_e c^2 \approx 0,307 \text{ MeV g}^{-1} \text{ cm}^2$$

- We set:

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

- Precision of several % from several MeV ($\beta \approx 0,1$) up to several tens of GeV
- $dx = \rho dl$ is the surface density (ρ : density in g/cm^3)
- From now on, we will write $\frac{dE}{dx}$ and no longer $\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle$

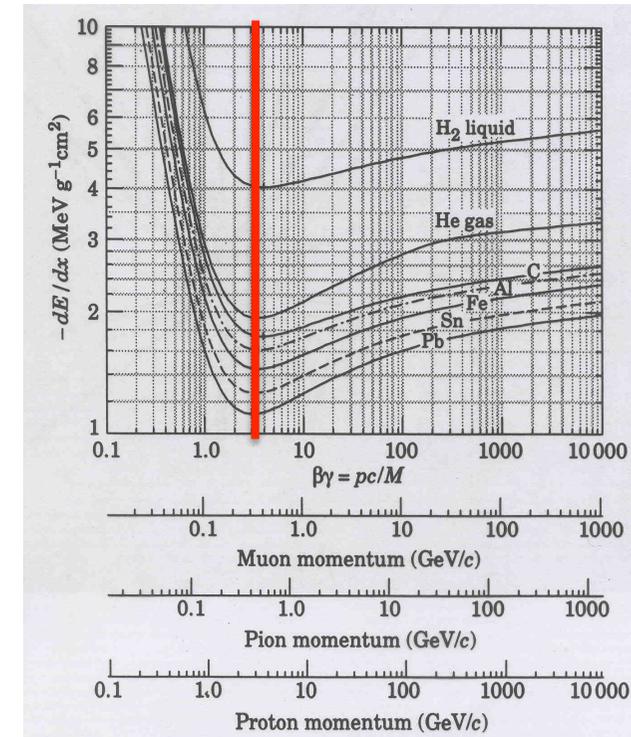


Energy deposited by muons
in copper as function of $\beta\gamma$

- dE/dx decreases like $\beta^{-5/3}$ for $\beta\gamma < 3$
- dE/dx has a minimum for $\beta\gamma \approx 3,5$ (**M**inimum **I**onizing **P**article or **MIP**) for which $\langle dE/dX \rangle \approx 1 - 2 \text{ MeVg}^{-1}\text{cm}^2$
- After the minimum, $\langle dE/dx \rangle$ increases as $\ln(\gamma^2)$

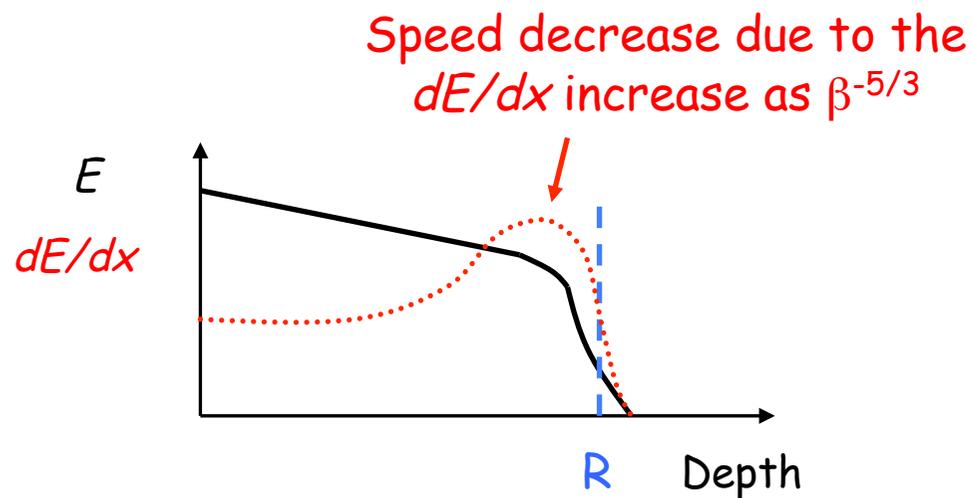
MIP

- Position and value of the minimum do not depend upon the particle
 - $dE/dx \approx 1 - 2 \text{ MeV g}^{-1} \text{ cm}^2$
- Curves are different for various particles because of the β variation (for p constant)
- Real detectors do not measure dE/dx but deposited energy ΔE in width Δx

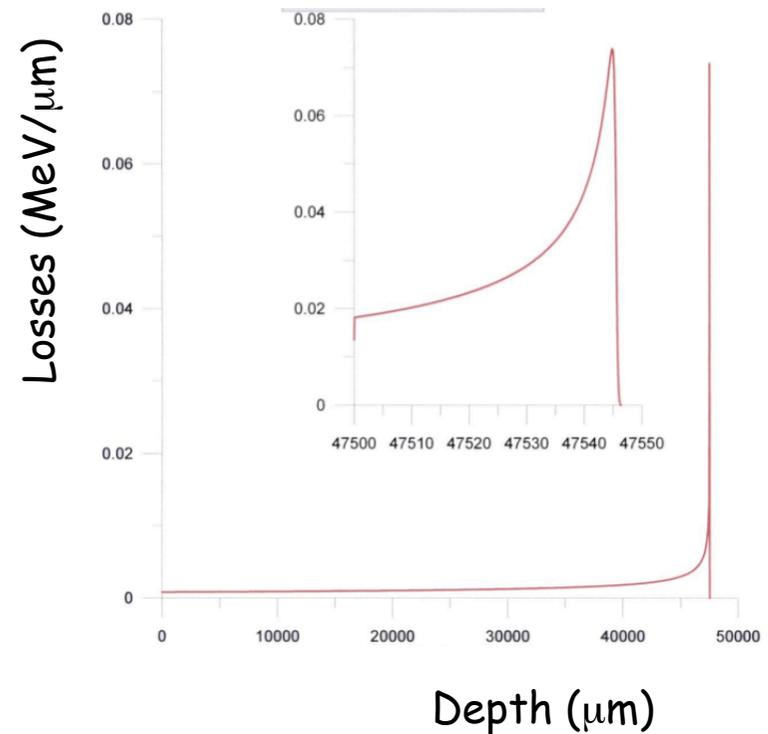


Energy deposited by muons
in several media as function
of $\beta\gamma$

- Typical **Bragg curve** (relation between distance in the material and dE/dx)



- Used in hadron therapy or proton therapy



Bragg curve for 70 MeV protons
in water

Plan

I. Interaction particle-matter

- 1) Heavy charged particles
- 2) Light charged particles
- 3) Photons
- 4) Neutrinos

II. An example: charged tracks reconstruction

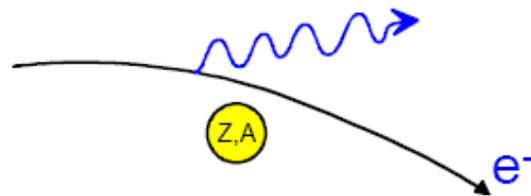
-
- Electrons or positrons first
 - Bethe-Bloch formula must be modified because the incoming particle is the same one as the target

$$\frac{dE}{dx} = -K \frac{Z}{A \beta^2} \left[\ln \left(\frac{m_e c^2 T \sqrt{T+2}}{I \sqrt{2}} \right) + \frac{f(T)}{2} - \frac{\delta}{2} \right]$$

- where T is the incoming particle kinetic energy (in units of $m_e c^2$) and $f(T)$ another function (not the same one for electrons and positrons)

A new mechanism

- A light particle will radiate a real photon in the field of a nucleus



Bremsstrahlung

- Only apply for e^\pm (and μ with energy > 1 TeV)
- For e^\pm :

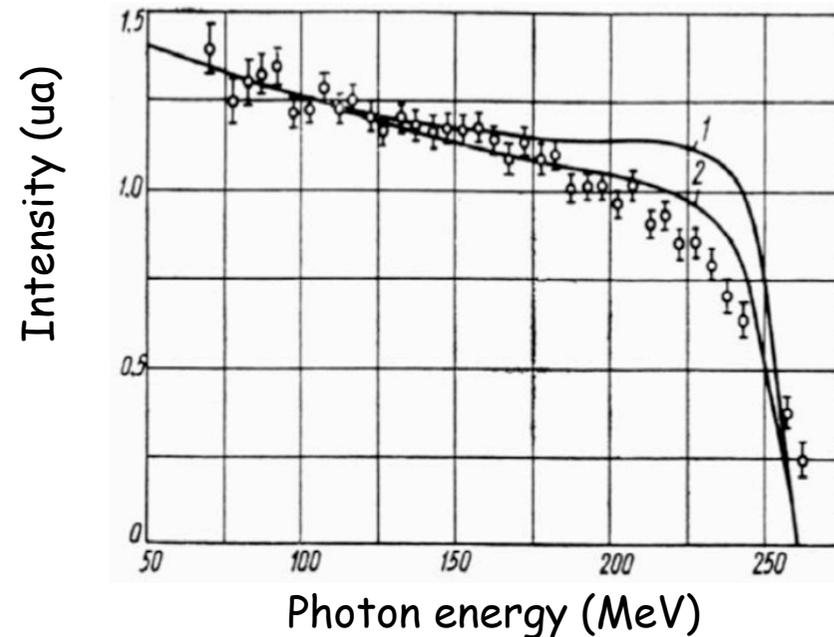
$$\frac{dE}{dx} = -\frac{E}{X_0} \quad X_0 = \frac{A}{4 \alpha N_A Z^2 r_e^2 \ln \left(\frac{138}{Z^{1/3}} \right)}$$

- Proportional to E : dominates at high energy
- Introduced **radiation length** X_0 (g/cm²)
- Relationship between radiation lengths in g/cm² and in cm is:

$$X_0 [g/cm^2] = \rho [g/cm^3] X_0 [cm]$$

An example

Bremsstrahlung spectrum for
260 MeV electrons on 0.5 mm
tungsten



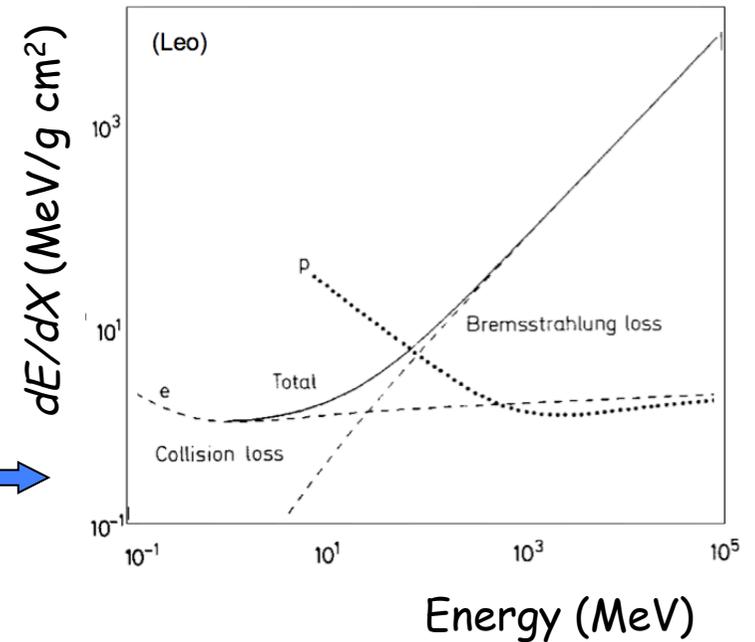
- A large part of the energy (up to $\approx 100\%$!) can be taken by bremsstrahlung photons
 - \Rightarrow huge fluctuation on the path in matter

Total losses

- Finally:

$$\left. \frac{dE}{dx} \right|_{Total} = \left. \frac{dE}{dx} \right|_{Ionisation} + \left. \frac{dE}{dx} \right|_{Bremsstrahlung}$$

Energie loss by e^\pm and p in copper



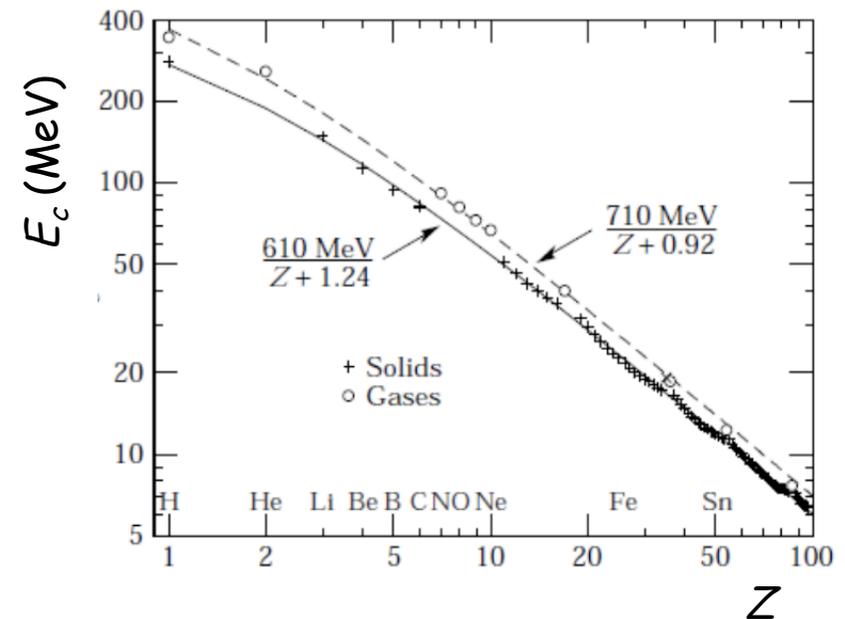
Critical energy

- By definition, **critical energy** is the energy where ionization and bremsstrahlung losses are equal
- For e^\pm :

$$E_c^{Sol+Liq} \approx \frac{610 \text{ MeV}}{Z + 1,24}$$

$$E_c^{Gaz} \approx \frac{710 \text{ MeV}}{Z + 1,24}$$

↑
Density effect in
 dE/dx (ionization)



Bremsstrahlung for heavy particles

- Incoming particle with mass m and charge ze :

$$\left. \frac{dE}{dx} \right|_{\text{Rayonnement}}(m, z) = \left(\frac{m_e}{m} \right)^2 z^2 \left. \frac{dE}{dx} \right|_{\text{Rayonnement}}(e^-)$$

- For μ^\pm , this translates into:

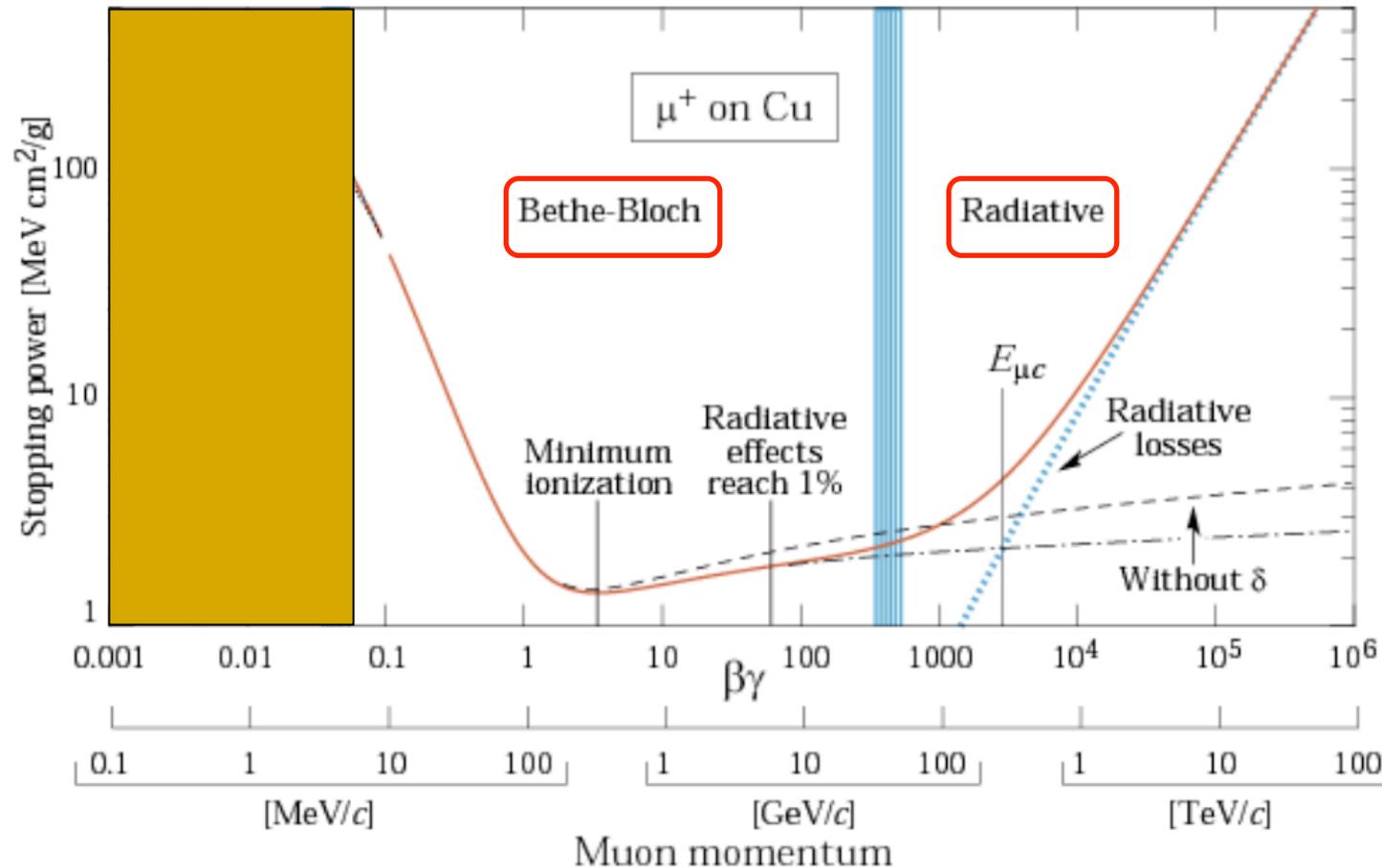
$$E_c \approx E_c^{\text{Electron}} \left(\frac{m_\mu}{m_e} \right)^2$$

- Example for iron ($Z = 26$):

$$E_c(e^-) = 22,4 \text{ MeV} \quad \text{et} \quad E_c(\mu) = 1 \text{ TeV}$$

We now understand fully the dE/dx curve

Energy deposited by muons in copper



Plan

I. Interaction particle-matter

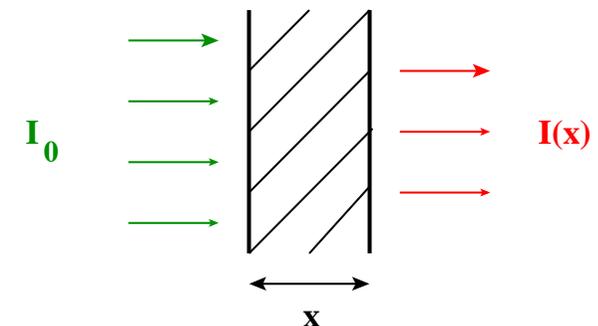
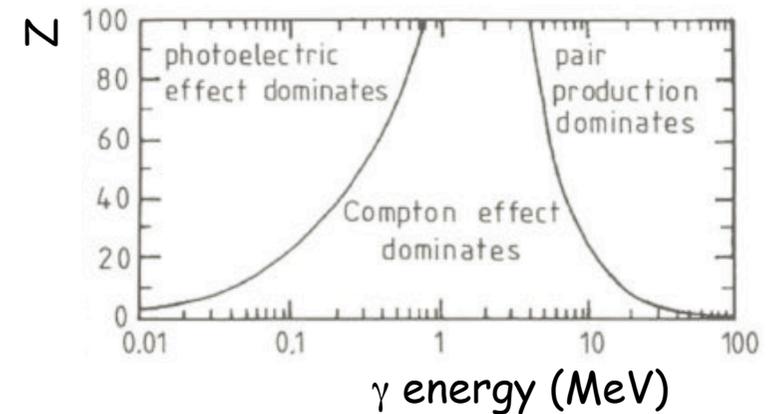
- 1) Heavy charged particles
- 2) Light charged particles
- 3) Photons
- 4) Neutrinos

II. An example: charged tracks reconstruction

Interaction of photons with matter

- To be detected, a γ must create charged particles or transfer energy to a charged particle. Several possible effects:
 - **Photoelectric effect** (dominant for $E_\gamma < 100$ keV)
 - **Compton diffusion** (dominant for $E_\gamma \approx 1$ MeV)
 - **Pair production** (dominant for $E_\gamma > 1$ MeV)
- In each case, the γ is absorbed or elastically scattered. **They keep their energy but the beam intensity decreases**
- **Attenuation** μ is defined by:

$$I(x) = I_0 \exp(-\mu x)$$



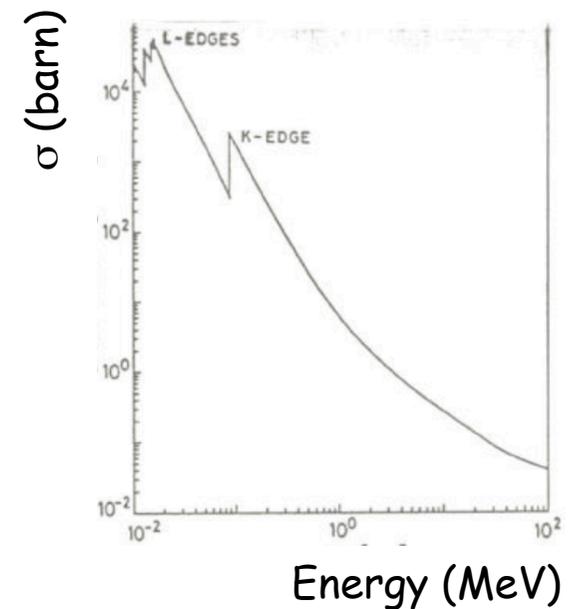
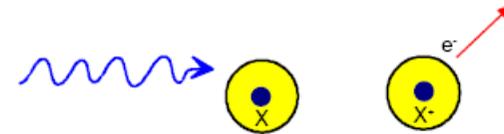
Photoelectric effect

- Mechanism: $\gamma + \text{atom} \rightarrow \text{atom}^+ + e^-$
- Deal with K shell e^-
- Cross section

$$\sigma_{Photo} \approx 4\sqrt{2}\alpha^4 Z^5 \left(\frac{m_e c^2}{E_\gamma}\right)^{7/2} \sigma_{Th}$$

Thomson cross
section

$$\sigma_{Th} = \frac{8}{3}\pi r_e^2 \approx 665 \text{ mb}$$



- Remember: $1 \text{ mb} = 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2$

Compton diffusion

- Mechanism: $\gamma + e \rightarrow \gamma' + e'$
 - Scattering of a photon on a quasi free electron

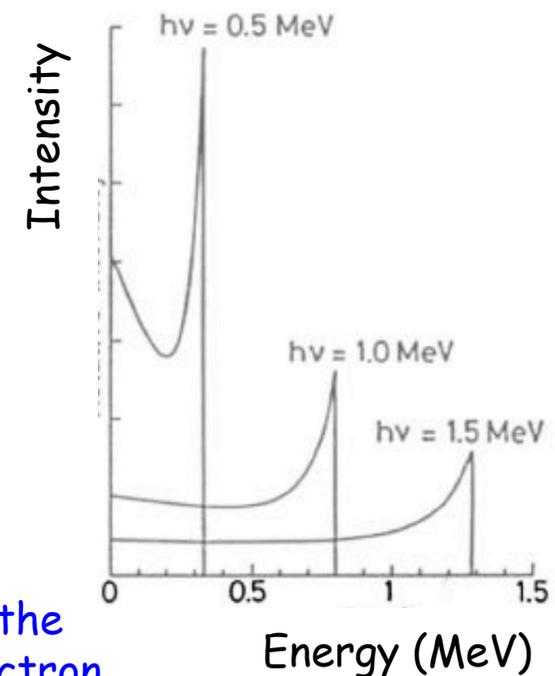
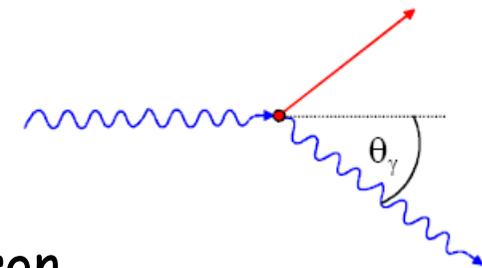
- Energy:

$$E'_{\gamma} = \frac{E_{\gamma}}{1 + \epsilon (1 - \cos(\theta_{\gamma}))} \quad \epsilon = \frac{E_{\gamma}}{m_e c^2}$$

- Cross section:

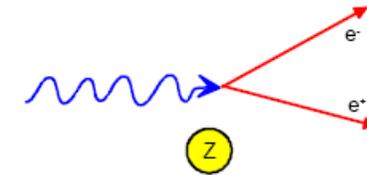
$$\sigma_c^e \approx \frac{\ln(\epsilon)}{\epsilon} \quad \text{et} \quad \sigma_c^{\text{atome}} \approx Z \sigma_c^e$$

- Decrease when photon energy increase



Pair creation

- Mechanism: $\gamma + \text{nucleus} \rightarrow e^- + e^+ + \text{nucleus}$



- Occur in the field of a nucleus only if

$$E_\gamma > 2m_e c^2 \approx 1 \text{ MeV}$$

- Cross section at high energy (cm^2/atom):

$$\sigma_{\text{Paire}} \approx \frac{7}{9} \frac{A}{N_A} \frac{1}{X_0}$$

← Independent of the energy !!

- One introduces λ_{Paire} :

$$\lambda_{\text{Paire}} = \frac{9}{7} X_0$$

- On average, a high energy γ converts into e^+e^- pair after 1 X_0

Total effect

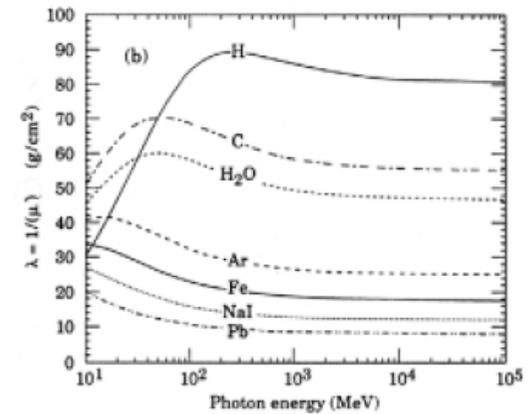
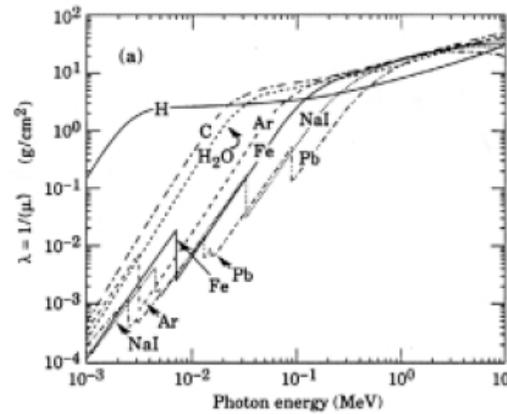
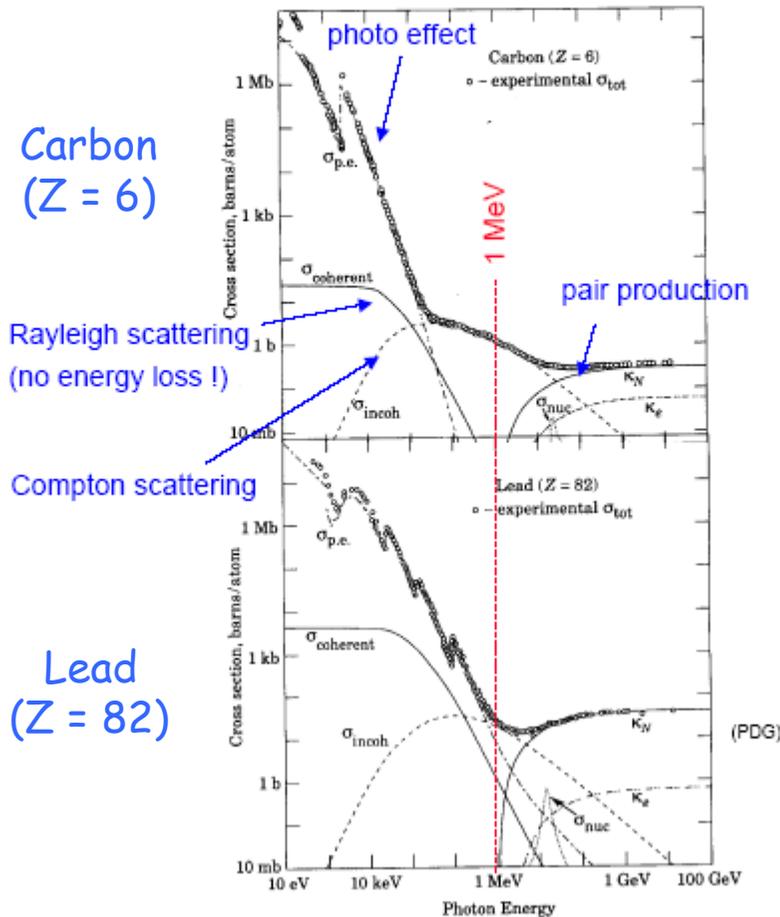
Thickness (g/cm²)

Finally, one has:

$$I(x) = I_0 e^{-\mu x} \quad \text{avec} \quad \mu = \mu_{photo} + \mu_{Compton} + \mu_{paire} +$$

Attenuation coefficient (cm²/g)

$$\mu_i = \frac{N_A}{A} \sigma_i$$



Variation of 1/μ as fonction of the energy

Plan

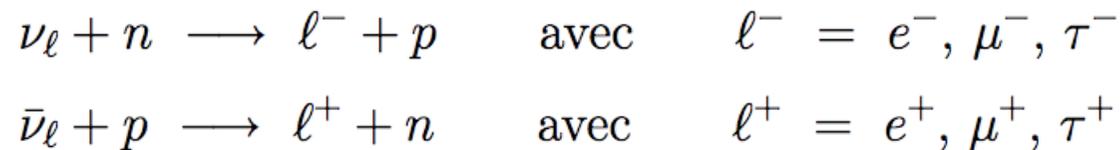
I. Interaction particle-matter

- 1) Heavy charged particles
- 2) Light charged particles
- 3) Photons
- 4) Neutrinos

II. An example: charged tracks reconstruction

- Neutrinos are only sensitive to weak interaction
 - Very small cross sections

- To detect them, they have to interact:



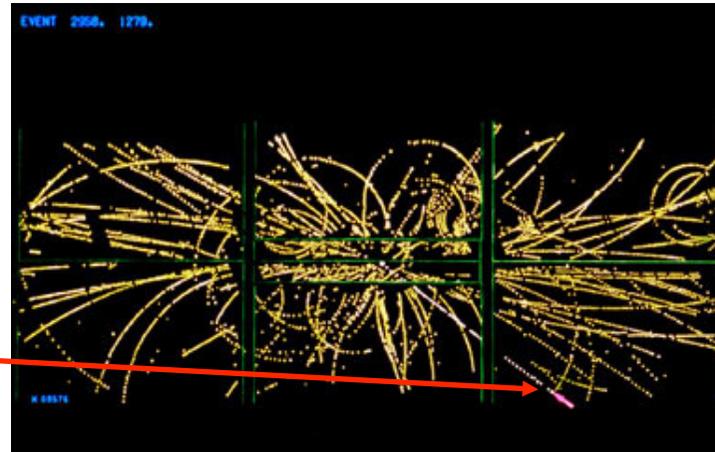
- Typically, detection efficiencies are of the order of 10^{-17} in 1 m of iron
 - Neutrino detectors are enormous and have to deal with very high fluxes

Example: UA1

- On colliders, missing energy and momentum are tagged to neutrino(s)
- Allow UA1 to reconstruct the neutrino in:

$$W^+ \longrightarrow e^+ + \nu_e$$

The positron !



- One need a very strong commitment to theory to say this..

Plan

- I. Interaction particle-matter

- II. **An example: charged tracks reconstruction**
 - 1) **Generalities**
 - 2) Ionization detectors
 - 3) Scintillation detectors
 - 4) Semiconductors

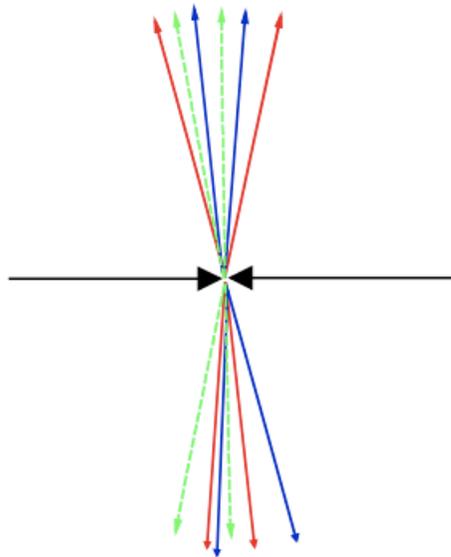
Why doing this ?

— $q > 0$

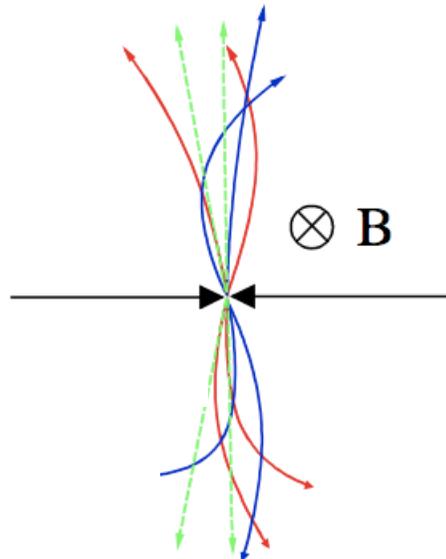
— $q = 0$

— $q < 0$

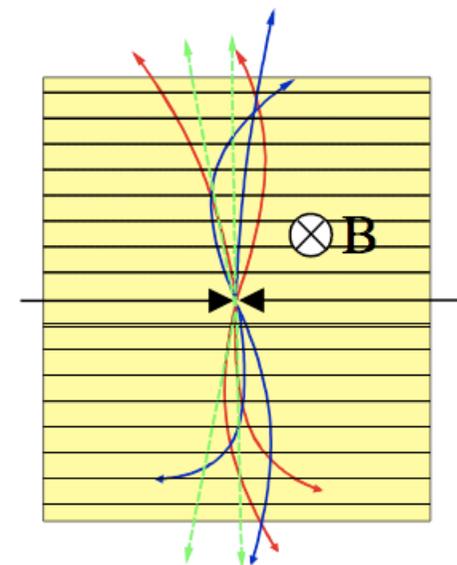
$$\vec{F}_m = q \vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$



Without B



With B



With B and a detector

⇒ The sign of the charge is given by the curvature in B field

Momentum measurements in B field

- Trajectory measurement in B field allows to measure p_T :

$$p_{T[GeV/c]} = 0,3 B_{[T]} \rho_{[m]}$$

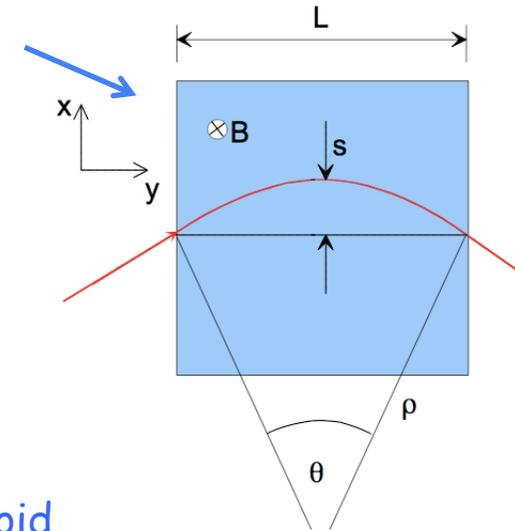
- Sign of curvature gives the charge

- In a solenoid, one has:

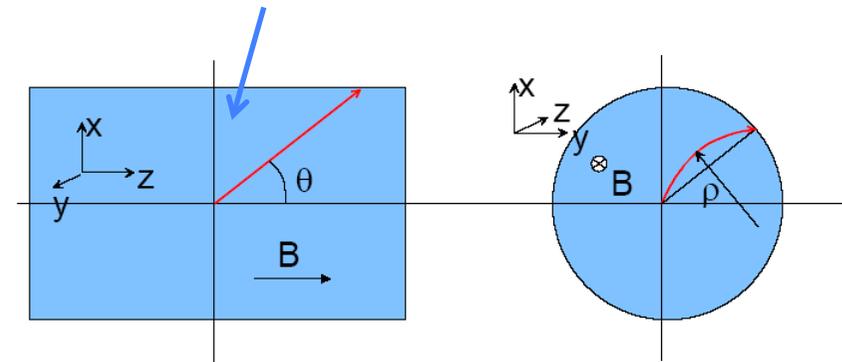
$$\left. \frac{\sigma(p)}{p} \right|_{Exp} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \frac{\sigma(x) p}{B L^2}$$

⇒ **Increase N** (number of measurement points) **and decrease $\sigma(x)$** (position resolution)

Dipole



Solenoid



$$p_T = p \sin(\theta)$$

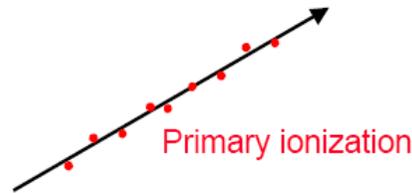
Plan

- I. Interaction particle-matter

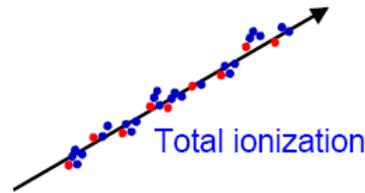
- II. **An example: charged tracks reconstruction**
 - 1) Generalities
 - 2) **Ionization detectors**
 - 3) Scintillation detectors
 - 4) Semiconductors

-
- They detect a charged particle by measuring to total charge (electron + ion) deposited in matter
 - Detector could be gas, liquid or solid
 - If one does not do anything, probability of recombination is very high.
 - To get ionization electron, we need to apply an electric field

Gas ionization



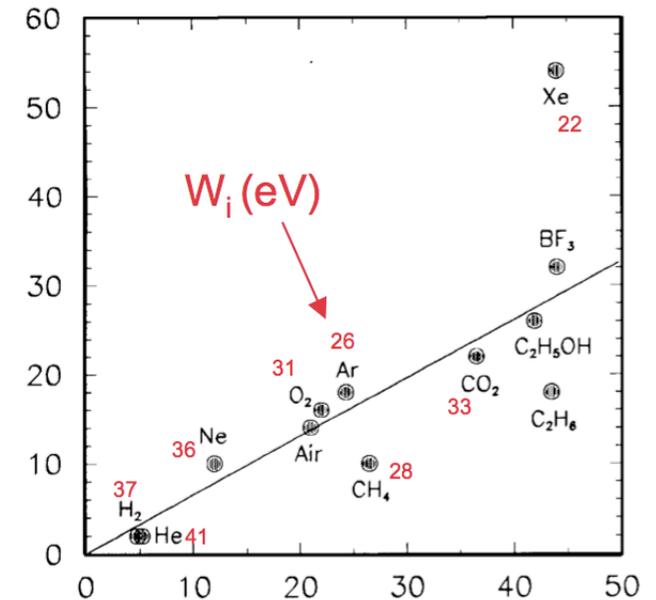
- Fast particles ionize a gas. Each primary electron can sometimes ionize himself other atoms: \Rightarrow **secondary ionization**



$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta E: \text{Total energy loss} \\ W_i: \text{Energy loss by each electron/ion pair} \\ \text{(typically 30 eV for a gas)} \end{array} \right.$

$$n_{total} = \frac{\Delta E}{W_i} = \frac{\frac{dE}{dx} \Delta x}{W_i} \approx 3 - 4 n_{primaire}$$

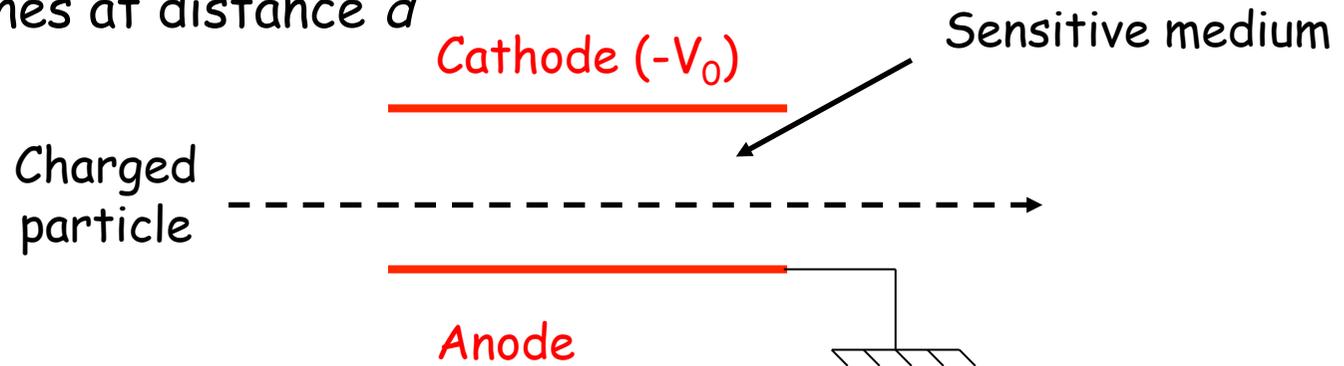
- Amplification is needed because ≈ 100 e-/ion pairs is a small charge !**



Number of initial e-/ion pairs in a gas

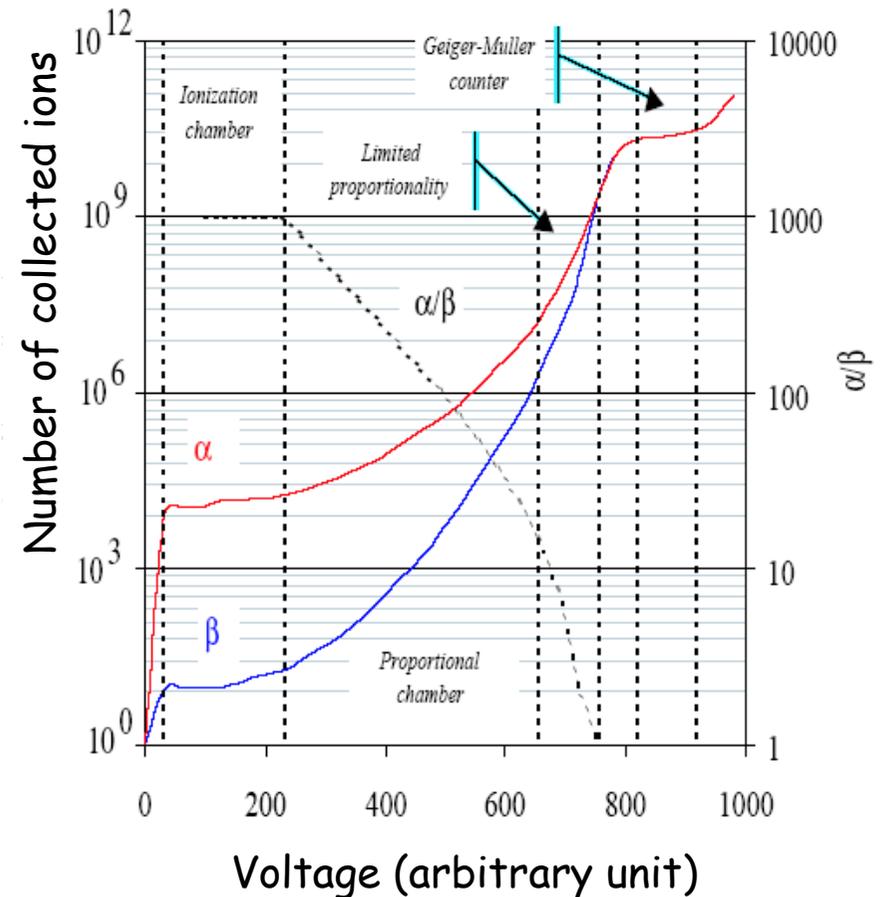
Simplest detector: ionization chamber

- 2 metallic planes at distance d



- Typical values: $d = 5 \text{ cm}$ and $E = 500 \text{ V/cm}$
 - $\Delta v^+ = 7,5 \text{ mm/ms}$ and $\Delta v^- = 5 \text{ mm}/\mu\text{s}$
- Signals are very small and require either a good electronics or a huge amplification
- Expectation: selection of gas should matter

- Several types of detectors based on their physical process:
 - Recombination (no interest)
 - **Ionization chamber**
 - All initial charge is collected without amplification
 - Gain ≈ 1
 - **Proportional counters**
 - Electric field is strong enough to initiate cascade
 - Gain $\approx 10^4$ - 10^5



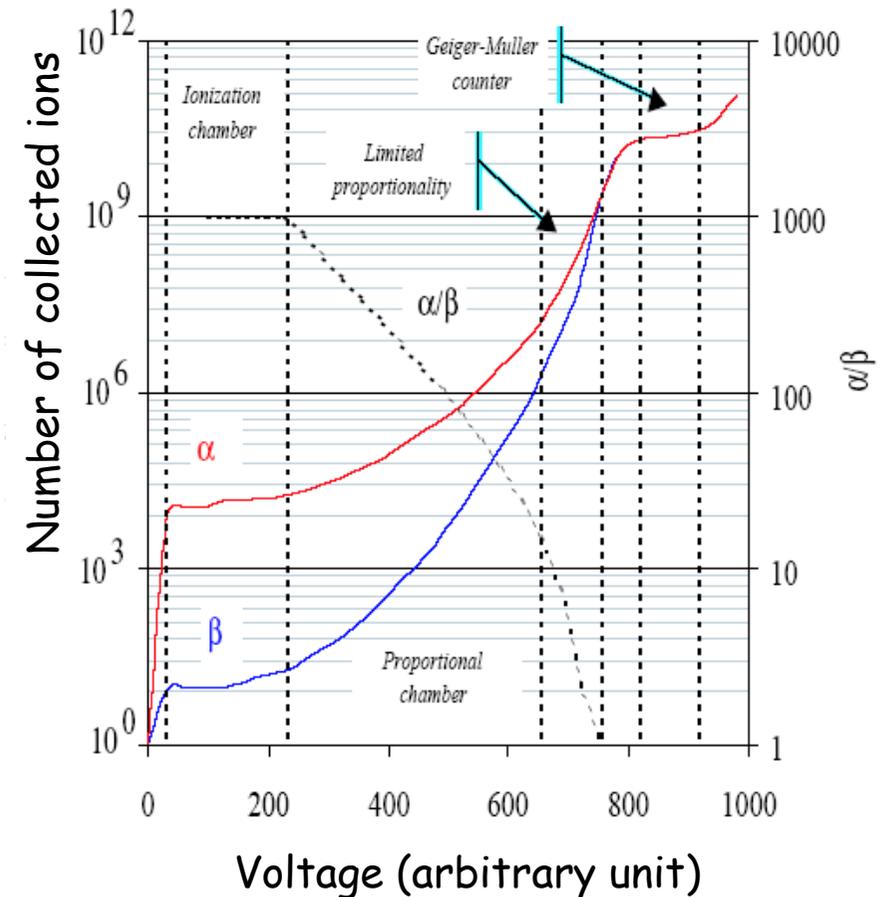
Number of collected ions for α and electrons

□ Saturated proportional counters

- E field even higher
- Pulsed HV
- Gain $\approx 10^8$ - 10^9

□ Geiger Muller counters

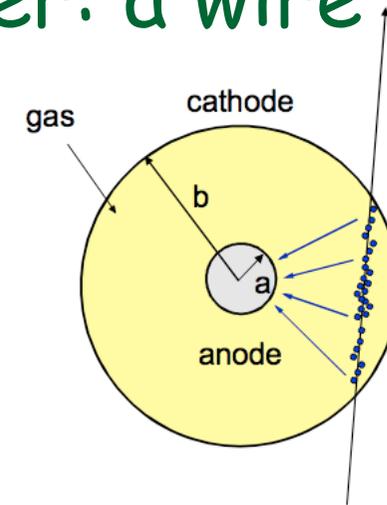
- All the anode wire is affected
- Only way to recover is to turn off the HV



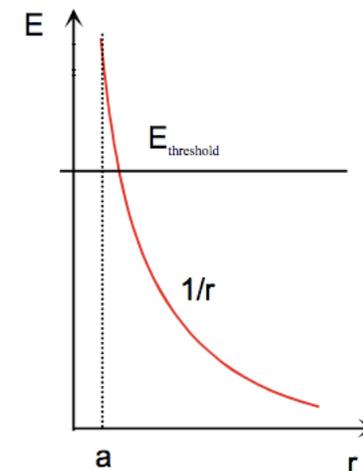
Number of collected ions for α and electrons

The simplest proportional counter: a wire

- Electrons drift towards anode wire. Field scale as $1/r$. Above a given value: **cascade** !
 - Typical gain: $10^4 - 10^5$
 - Amplification time is typically ns
 - Measurement in one direction only
- **Signal proportional to initial charge deposited:** dE/dx measurement
- Typically a hundred e^- /ion pair
 - Not easy to detect: electronics noise ≈ 10 times higher



$$E = \frac{C V_0}{2 \pi \epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r}$$



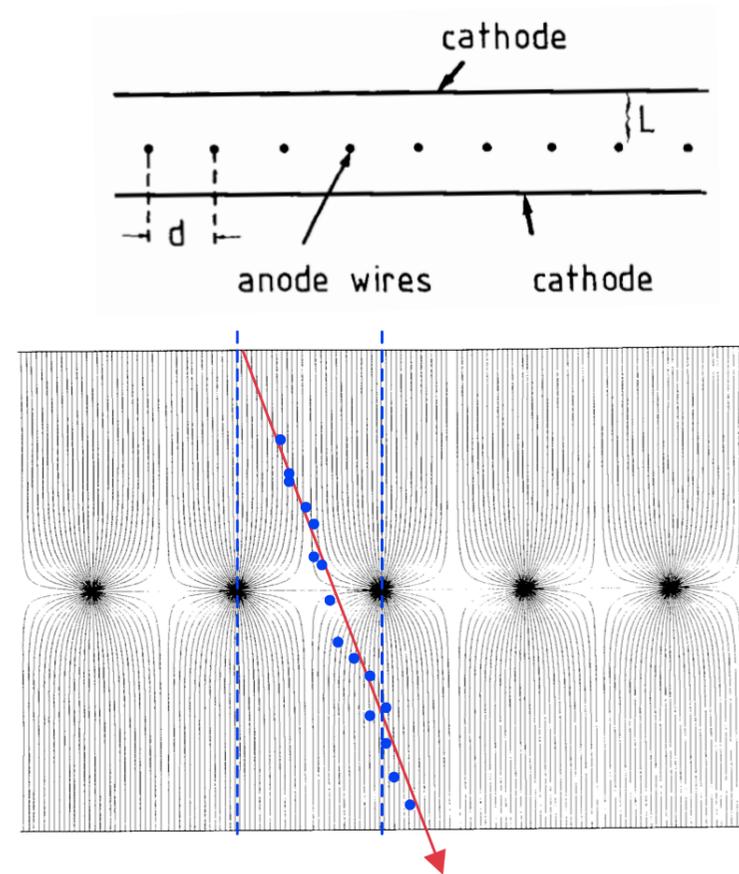
MWPC

- Extension of this idea by Charpak et al (1968)
 - **MWPC** \equiv **M**ulti **W**ire **P**roportional **C**hambers
 - Typically: $L=5$ mm, $d=1$ mm

- Resolution limited to

$$\sigma \approx \frac{d}{\sqrt{12}}$$

- ie $300 \mu\text{m}$ for $d=1$ mm



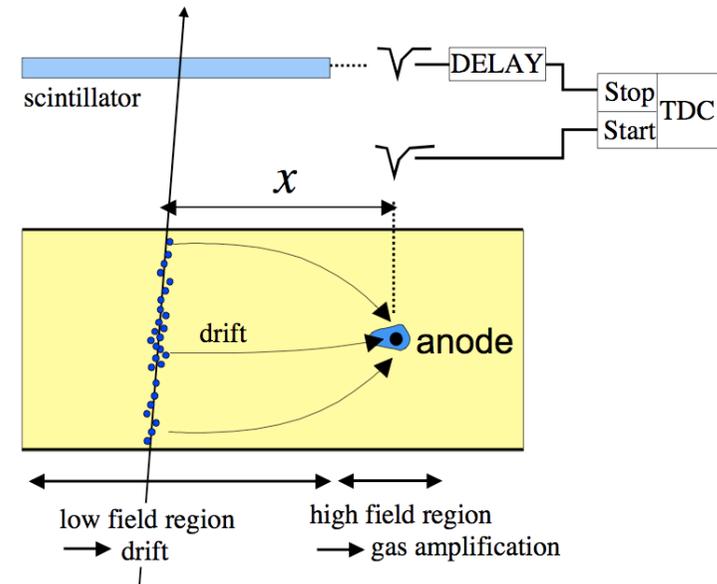
Field lines around the wires

Drift chambers

- Main drawback of MWPC: small detection volume
 - → drift chambers
- Time measurement allow to measure x coordinate

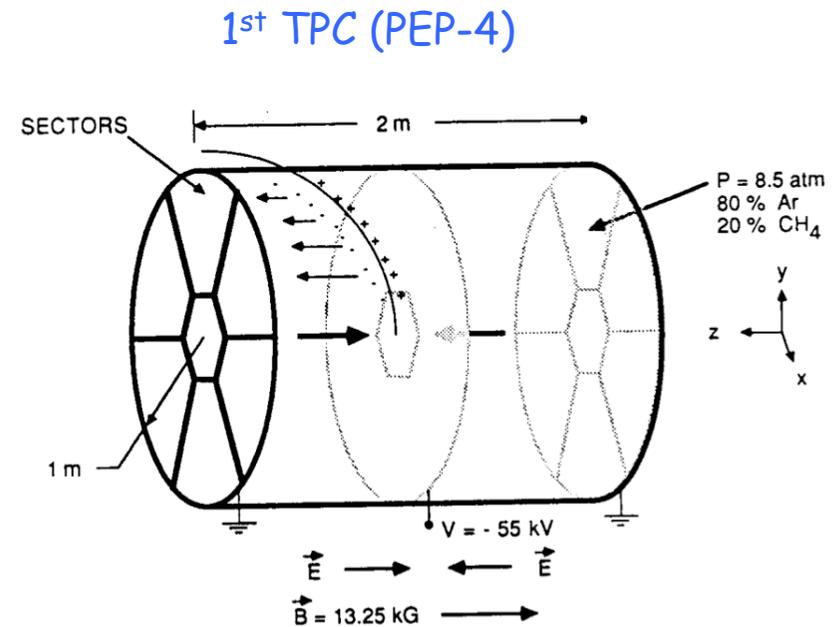
$$x = \int v_D(t) dt$$

- Drawback: control of the electron drift in the gas
 - Diffusion
 - Calibration
 - Slow detection:
 - Typical drift time: 5 cm/ μ s (e^-), 500 μ m/ μ s (ions)



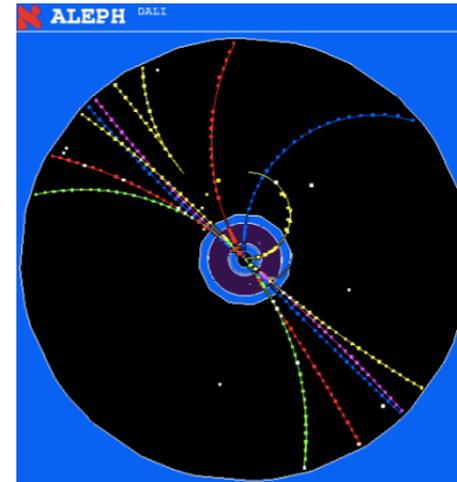
An example: TPC's

- **TPC** \equiv **T**ime **P**rojection **C**hamber
- $E // B$ (solenoid)
- Baseline of detectors for e^+e^- colliders
- Allow 3D reconstruction
 - x and y come from the wire and pad hit
 - z come from the time
- Calibration required to know E in the complete volume

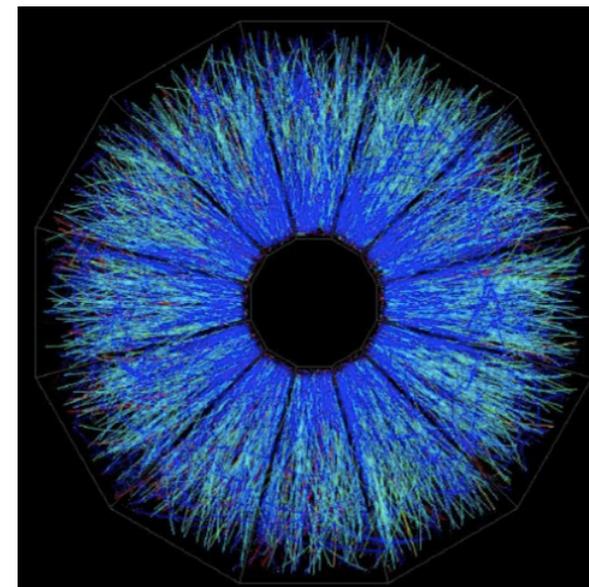
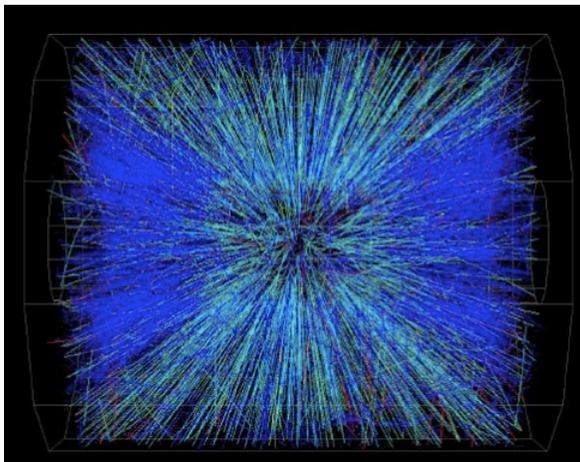


ALEPH and STAR TPC's

ALEPH : e^+e^-
(200 GeV)



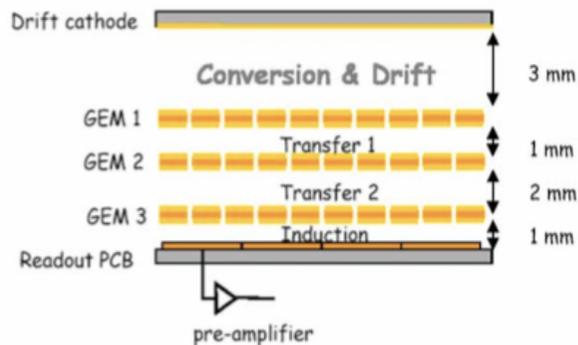
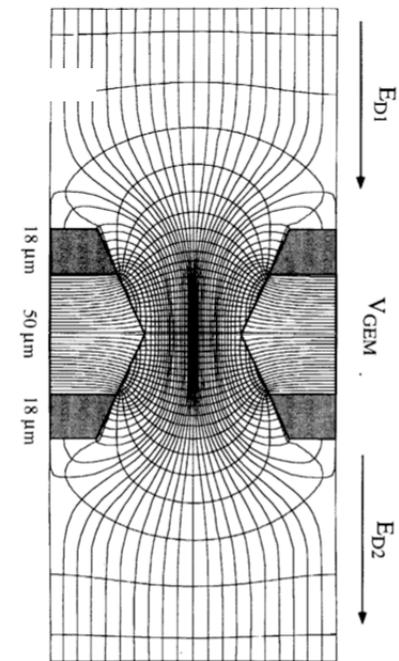
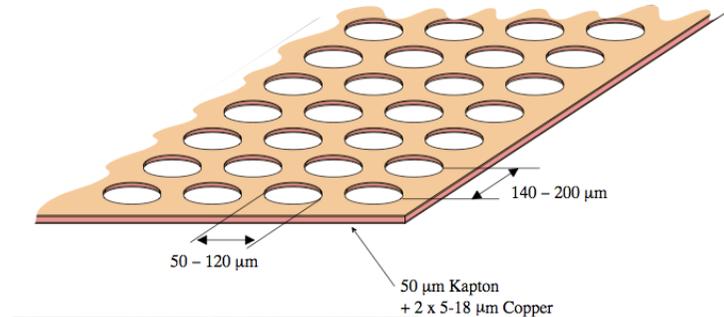
STAR : Au+Au (130 GeV/nucleus)
with 2000 tracks



Recent development: GEM

- **GEM** \equiv **G**as **E**lectron **M**ultiplier
 - Foil Cu-Kapton-Cu with holes
30-50 μm
 - 200 to 400 V between both faces
 - 100 to 1000 e^- from a unique e^- entering a hole
 - Large detector possible
 - Possibility to put several detectors in a row

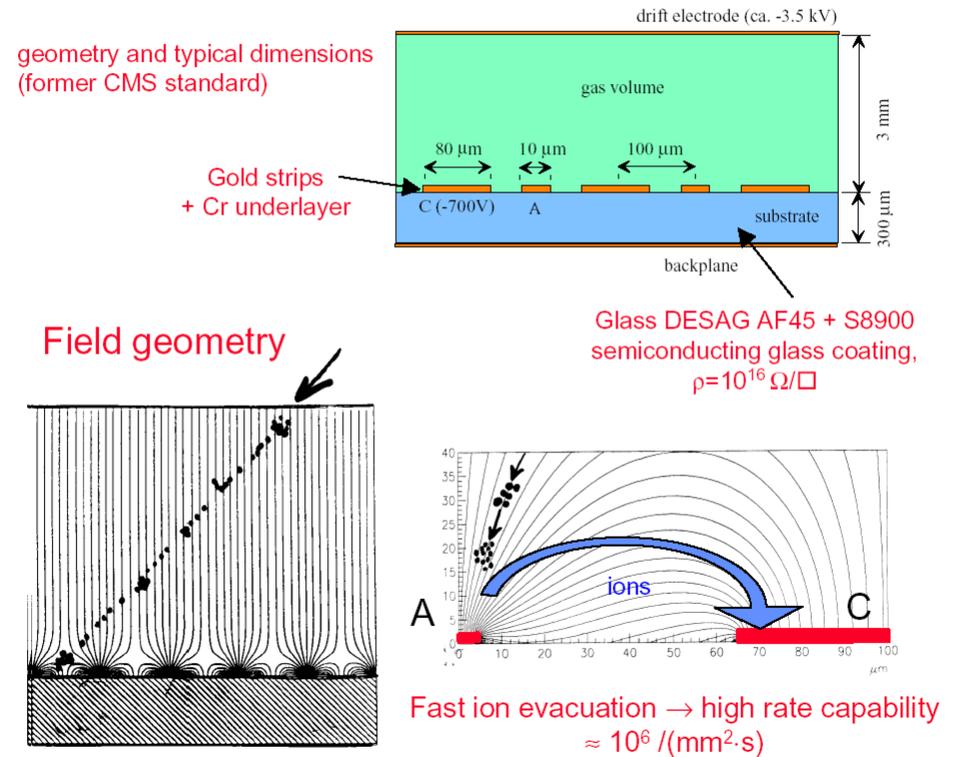
(R. Bouclier et al., NIM A 396 (1997) 50)



Muon detectors
of LHCb

Recent development: MSGC

- **MSGC** \equiv **M**icro **S**trip **G**as Chamber
- Small segmentation fine, small cellule ($\approx 3\text{-}5\text{ mm}$)
 - No longer fragile wires
 - Fast
 - Based on technologies coming from microelectronics
- Optimized for high fluxes

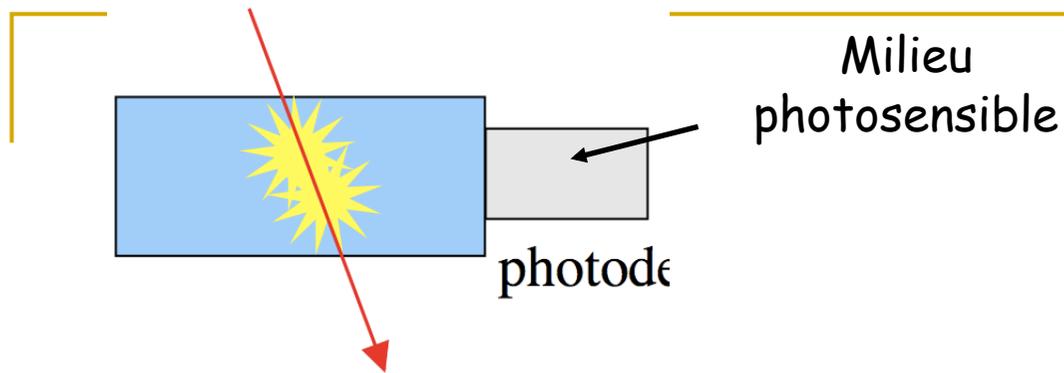


Initially foreseen for CMS tracker

Plan

- I. Interaction particle-matter

- II. **An example: charged tracks reconstruction**
 - 1) Generalities
 - 2) Ionization detectors
 - 3) **Scintillation detectors**
 - 4) Semiconductors

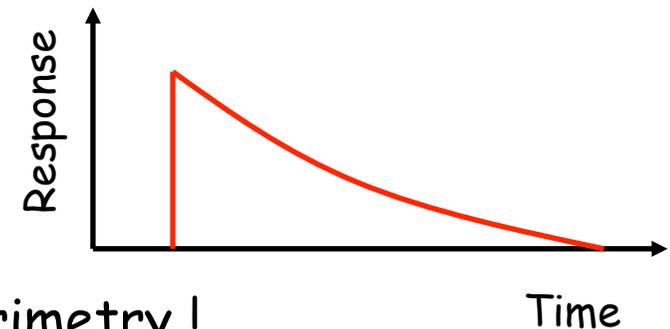


- Two types of scintillators:
 - **Inorganic scintillators**
 - Dense, high yield, quite slow
 - Ideal for charged particles and γ s
 - Expensive !

 - **Organic scintillators**
 - Light, low yield, quite fast
 - Low detection efficiency for γ s
 - Low cost !

- Rising time is very fast (1-2 ns) and much faster than ionization detectors
 - Used for trigger and time of flight systems

- Decrease of the signal is very slow (time constant $\approx 100\text{-}200$ ns)



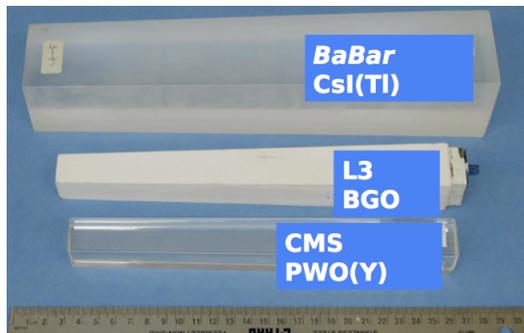
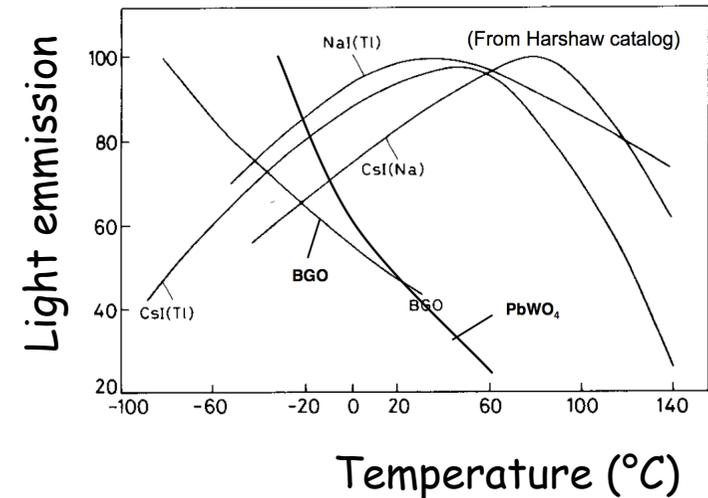
- Linear response (except low energy): calorimetry !
- Photons have to go through matter to arrive to the photon detection area. Number of transmitted photons is:

$$N(x) = N_0 \exp\left(-\frac{x}{\lambda}\right) \quad \lambda : \text{attenuation length}$$

- For large dimension detector, we need, $\lambda \approx 1$ m or higher

Inorganic scintillators

- Two types
 - **Cristals** (NaI, BaF₂, BGO, PbWO₄, ..)
 - Very often several time constants (from 1-2 ns to 100 ms) and not always the same wavelength (typically 200-500 nm)
 - Very high sensitivity to temperature
 - 10³-10⁴ photons/MeV, except for PbWO₄ (≈ 100)



BaBar: CsI(Tl) : 16 X₀

L3: BGO : 22 X₀

CMS: PWO(Y) : 25 X₀

« L » means « liquid »

- Noble liquids (LAr, LXe, LXr)
 - Several time constants (100 to 1000 ns), but same wavelength (120-170 nm)
 - $4 \cdot 10^4$ photons/MeV for LXe
 - drawback: cryogenics temperatures

- In both cases, fluorescence is due to intermediate states from impurities in matter

Organic scintillators

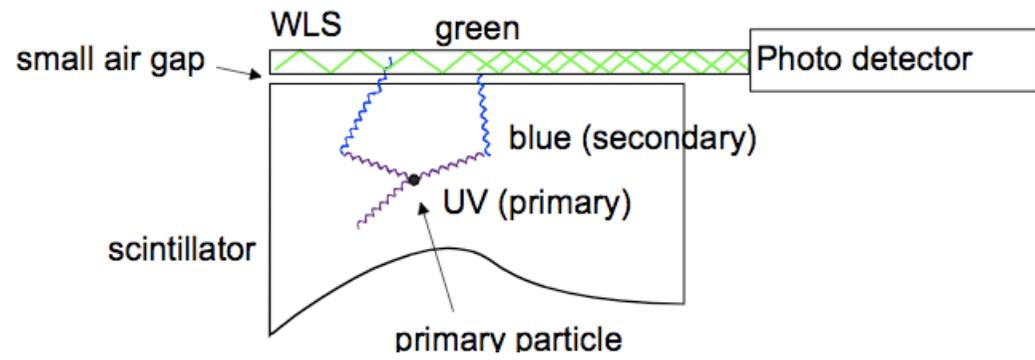
- Usually called scintillators (liquid or plastic)
 - Mix (delicate) of a main component with impurities whose role is to shift the radiation towards higher wavelengths: **Wave Length Shifting (WLS)**
 - Those impurities absorb scintillation photons and emit photons very quickly (≈ 1 ns) with a wavelength easier to detect (typically from 300 to 500 nm)

Some examples

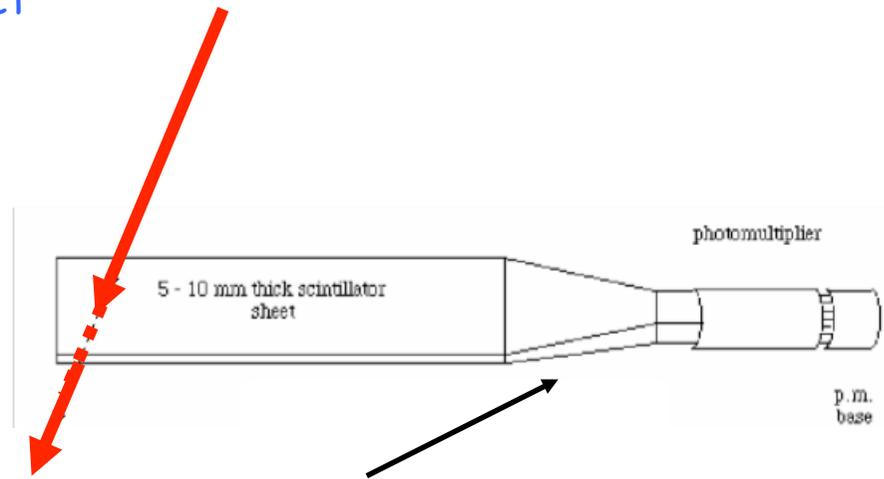
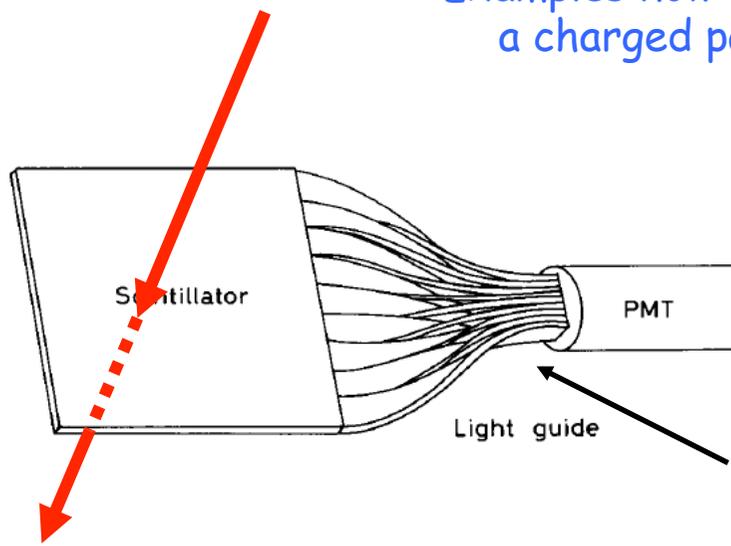
	solvent	secondary fluor	tertiary fluor
Liquid scintillators	Benzene Toluene Xylene	p-terphenyl DPO PBD	POPOP BBO BPO
Plastic scintillators	Polyvinylbenzene Polyvinyltoluene Polystyrene	p-terphenyl DPO PBD	POPOP TBP BBO DPS

- About 10^4 photons/MeV

- schematics:



Examples how to detect a charged particle

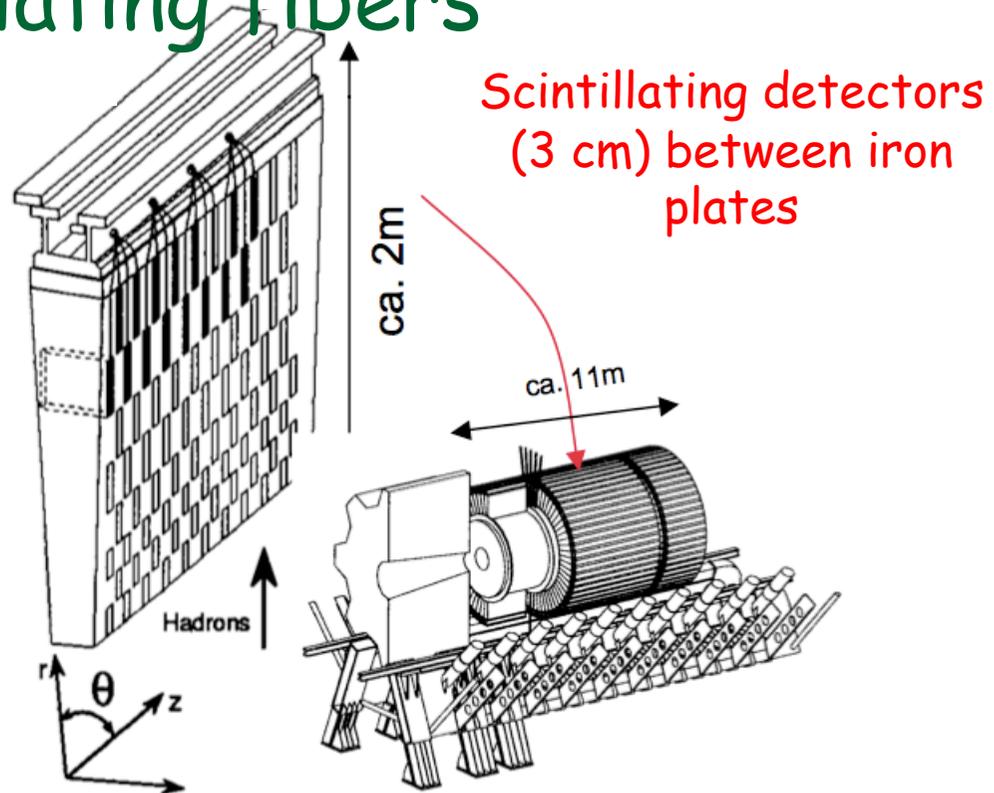


Efficiency \approx 20-30%

Application: scintillating fibers

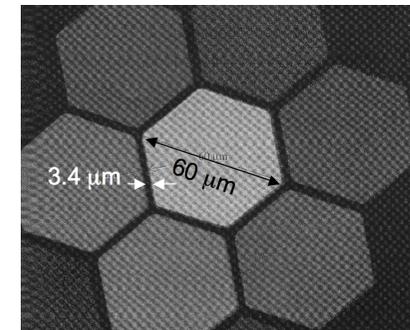
- Calorimetry:

ATLAS hadronic calorimeter



- Tracking:

- Round, square or hexagonal fibers, ...



Plan

- I. Interaction particle-matter

- II. **An example: charged tracks reconstruction**
 - 1) Generalities
 - 2) Ionization detectors
 - 3) Scintillation detectors
 - 4) **Semiconductors**

-
- Semiconductors are a special type of ionization detectors: instead of exciting (or ionizing), a charged particle created quasi free e-/holes pairs
 - Charged are collected by an electric field
 - One uses:
 - **silicon**: charged particles and photons
 - **germanium**: photons
 - **≈ 3 eV are needed to create a pair e-/hole (for Si and Ge), ≈ 30 eV for a ionization detector and ≈ 300 eV for a scintillator !!**

Conclusions

- Particle interaction with matter treated with Bethe-Block formalism is enough in most cases
- This is the root for all sensitive devices