A brief view of a biased selection of particle-detecting methods

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 - Basic recipe of a particle detector
- 2. Gaseous Ionization Chambers
- 3. Semiconductor detectors
- 4. Calorimeters
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Timeline of Particle Physics and Instrumentation



1st EIROForum School on Instrumentation – History of Instrumentation Michael Hauschild- CERN, 11-May-2009, page 2

Some time ago you just needed a balloon



- Elesctroscope: ionisation detector
- Photographic plates
- Cosmic ray discovery (1911)

Some time ago you just needed a balloon



Cloud Chambers



- Supersaturated vapour (alcohol or water)
- Charged, energetic particles
- ionise gas and leave a trail,
- vapour condenses around the ions
- Need to record images (positron - 1932)

Some time ago you just needed a balloon



- Superheated transparent liquid
- charged particles leave a trail of ions,
- vapour forms around the ions
- Large volume
- resolution of few µm
- weak neutral currents 1973



Bubble Chambers - 1952



Basic recipe of a particle detector

- Particles
- radioactive source
- cosmic rays
- nuclear reactors/accelerators





Basic recipe of a particle detector

- Particles
- Material that will interact with the particle
- Charged particles: ionisation,bremsstrahlung,Cherenkov
 multiple interactions
- Photons: photoelectric/Compton effect, pair production
 - \rightarrow single interaction
- Hadrons: nuclear interactions
 multiple interactions
- ► Neutrinos: weak interaction → good luck with that

The difference in mass, charge and type of interaction is key when trying to identify them!



Basic recipe of a particle detector

- Particles
- Material that will interact with the particle
- Signal
 - be able to recognise the interaction
 - and record it!
 - The development of the electronics is key (i.e. silicon detectors and ASICs)

(Don't forget the magnetic field)

Charged particles are deflected in a magnetic field

$$\overrightarrow{F} = q \overrightarrow{v} imes \overrightarrow{B}$$





(Don't forget the magnetic field)

Charged particles are deflected in a magnetic field

$$\overrightarrow{F} = \overrightarrow{v} \times \overrightarrow{B}$$





- If $m \sim 0$, for constant \overrightarrow{B} ,
- ► then | p | is constant (assumption: no energy loss in the detector)
- helical trajectory

• Measure 3 points

$$\rightarrow \sigma_s = \sqrt{3/2}\sigma_y$$

$$rac{\sigma_{
m PT}}{
m p_T}\sim rac{\sigma_y
m
ho_T}{
m n_{hits}}$$

Combine different technologies to measure the path and energy of the particles



Combine different technologies to measure the path and energy of the particles



The tracker and muon spectrometer measure the momentum of passing charged particles - not modify particle's path and energy

Combine different technologies to measure the path and energy of the particles



The calorimeters try to *stop* the particle to measure it's energy - destructive measurement

Combine different technologies to measure the path and energy of the particles



Types of detectors



Basic principle:

- A charged particle transverses a carefully chosen gas/gas mixture
- enclosed within en electric field \vec{E}
- gas is ionised by the particle
- generated charges drift towards cathode/anode
- measure current!



Gas Detectors

Geiger-Muller

- Main (well known) use: detect presence of radiation
- \blacktriangleright ~ 0.1 atm gas
- $\blacktriangleright\,$ High V, several hundred volts \rightarrow high electric field
- gas multiplication (scattered e⁻ and UV photons)
- Gives one pulse per incident particle
- ▶ No energy measurement \rightarrow no particle ID

Ionization Chambers

- No multiplication (only direct ionisation)
- Small current signal: $\sim 10^{-12} 10^{-15}$ A
- Can measure total ionisation
- Achieve spatial resolution through smart design/placement of electrodes
- MicroMegas, Gas Electron Multiplier, Resistive Plate Chambers





 $\sigma \sim 100 \mu {
m m}$

Proportional Counters

- Pulse height
 x radiation absorbed by the detector
- Gas mixture of inert gas (to be ionised) and quenching gas (to terminate the pulse)
- ► Relatively low *E*: no recombination, avalanche only close to electrode → single avalanche per generated ion



Particle position deduced from the wire position and time of the pulse

- Many of these detectors used currently in LHC experiments: TRT, MDT,RPC,CTC,TGC
- Most of these have $\sigma \sim 100 \mu m$

Semiconductor Detectors

It is, basically, the same idea as before, but a lot more expensive...

 A charged particle transverses a semiconductor material



Semiconductor Detectors

It is, basically, the same idea as before, but a lot more expensive...

- A charged particle transverses a semiconductor material Semiconductor:
 - A crystal, like silicon, diamond, germanium
 - different *dopings* control the conductivity
 - n-type: excess of electrons p-type: excess of holes
 - n-p junctions \rightarrow transistors/diodes
 - light emission
 - ... basically, the basis of a new technological era



Semiconductor Detectors

It is, basically, the same idea as before, but a lot more expensive...

- A charged particle transverses a semiconductor material
- Placed between electrodes, so that the electrons/holes generated drift due to the electric field
- A pulse can be measured -Shockley-Ramo theorem

 $i = E_v q v$

The number of e/h pairs created is proportional to the intensity of the incident radiation; the E necessary per pair is well known (eg 3.6 eV in silicon)



Price noticeably decreased throughout the years, combined with enough R&D, allowed to export this technology to *the real world* (medical imaging)



Silicon Detectors



- Example n-on-p silicon detector
- Inversely polarised by a bias voltage \rightarrow creates a depleted volume
- A charged particle crossing the sensor will create e/h pairs, which travel towards the electrodes
- N(e/h) pairs depends on the type and energy of incident particle, and the thickness of the sensor
- Excellent spatial resolution

Pixel / Strips



- The resolution is given by the layout of electrodes
- 2D vs 3D tracking
- Pixels:
 - small area: low C, good S/N
 - small vol: low leakage current



Provide high precision tracking (vertex reconstruction) and momentum spectroscopy in large areas

- Semiconductor → silicon: active material, incident particle (usually photons) are converted into electrons
- oxide: insulator
- metal: voltage applied, collects the charge

Charged-Coupled Device - CCD

- biased before exposure to create a deep depletion region
- incoming particle generates e/h pairs charging the capacitor
- By applying potentials in a sequential way, the collected charge is moved to the end of the array
- At the end a charge amplifier collects the charge and transmits a voltage signal

 → the contents of the array are converted into a sequence of voltages





- Cooled CCDs are the most sensitive detectors for photons (single molecules, astrophysics), peak in 500-600 nm
- CMOS: commercial version, lower image quality

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		Resolution	Dead
Detector Type	Accuracy (rms)	Time	Time
Bubble chamber	10–150 $\mu {\rm m}$	$1 \mathrm{ms}$	50 ms^a
Streamer chamber	$300~\mu{ m m}$	$2 \ \mu s$	$100 \mathrm{ms}$
Proportional chamber	$50-300 \ \mu m^{b,c,d}$	2 ns	200 ns
Drift chamber	50–300 $\mu { m m}$	2 ns^e	100 ns
Scintillator		100 ps/n^{J}	10 ns
Emulsion	$1~\mu{ m m}$		
Liquid Argon Drift [Ref. 6]	${\sim}175{-}450~\mu{\rm m}$	$\sim 200~{\rm ns}$	$\sim 2~\mu { m s}$
Gas Micro Strip [Ref. 7]	$3040~\mu\mathrm{m}$	< 10 ns	
Resistive Plate chamber [Ref. 8]	$\lesssim 10 \ \mu { m m}$	$1{-}2$ ns	
Silicon strip	pitch/ $(3 \text{ to } 7)^g$	h	h
Silicon pixel	$2 \; \mu \mathrm{m}^i$	h	h
 ^a Multiple pulsing time. ^b 300 µm is for 1 mm pitch. ^c Delay line cathode readout can give ±150 µm parallel to anode wire. ^d wirespacing/√12. ^e For two chambers. ^f n = index of refrection. ^g The highest resolution ("7") is obtained for small-pitch detectors (≤25 µm) with pulse-height-weighted center finding. ^h Limited by the readout electronics [9]. (Time resolution of ≤ 25 ns is planned for the ATLAS SCT.) ⁱ Analog readout of 34 µm pitch, monolithic pixel detectors. 			

*the readout electronics can limit the performance!

Tracker and Calorimeter

So far we've seen detectors that measure the *passage* of a particle.. But only for **charged particles**



Combining many of the previous detectors we form a **track**, the path of the particle through the detector

Tracker and Calorimeter

So far we've seen detectors that measure the *passage* of a particle.. But only for **charged particles**



But what if we want to measure *everything*? (or at least decently interacting charged and neutral particles)

EM shower

- ► An EM shower develops within de calorimeter, the energy of the incident particle is transferred to the generated e^{+/−} and γ
- The number of cascade particles generated is proportional to the energy deposited by the incident particle
- it continues until $E < E_c$ (depends on the material)
- ▶ Radiation length (X^0) distance after which the incident e^- has irradiated 63% of its energy



- Idea from thermodynamics:
 - 'adiabatic volume' (not loose energy)
 - > Aim to collect all the energy of the particle (charged and neutral)
 - destructive measurement: no particles come out, except neutrinos and muons
 - $\blacktriangleright\,$ fun fact: the sensitivity required is $\sim 10^9$ times larger than to measure a 1 °C shift in 1g of water

Types of particles

- Electromagnetic
- Hadronic

Types of calorimeters

- Homogeneous
- Sampling

Homogeneous/Sampling

Homogeneous



Sampling



- All the energy is deposited in the active medium
- So the same material needs to stop the particle and generate a signal
- Heavy active material: lead tungstate PbWO (CMS calorimeter)
- Excellent energy resolution
- No longitudinal segmentation

Homogeneous/Sampling

Homogeneous



Sampling



- Heavy stopper/absorber material (Cu, Pb, Fe)
- Sampled by an active material (scintillator plastic, semiconductor, gas)
- Limited energy resolution
- But gives information of the longitudinal deposition of the energy

EM and Hadronic calorimeters

Different concepts for different particles:

- EM : LAr as active material, Pb/Steel absorber, thin electrodes collect the signal
- TileCal: scintillator plastic as active material, F_e absorber. WS fibres take light towards PMTs
- Calibration: necessary to have a beam of known particles.
- Response to the EM and non-EM part of the shower is different, e/h degree of non-compensation



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- Not very exhaustive basics of particle detectors¹
 - Skipped Cherenkov detectors, photomultipliers, and many other topics
 - Mostly biased towards LHC experiments...
- But we got the basics:
 - key elements in a particle detector
 - some gaseous detectors
 - some solid state detectors
- Now lets hear your talks!

¹Disclaimer: lots of material and pictures taken from Wikipedia, I. Winteger's CERN summer school lectures, papers, etc...