- Particle Detectors & How They Work
 - physics goals & experiment types
 - specialized detectors
 - basic particle-matter interactions
 - tracking, velocity, energy, time
- Designing & Optimizing Detectors
 - how to do mini-studies
 - optimizing performance
 - trade-offs you may have to make
 - mistakes you can avoid!

Importance of Detectors

- Technological advances in particle detection instrumentation is one of two factors underlying the considerable progress in nuclear and hadronic physics of the last 50 years; the other being the development and extension of theoretical techniques.
- Fifty years ago, particles were detected in small table-top size devices at rates of a few per second.
- Today, detectors the size of auditoriums are filled with instruments comprising hundreds of thousands of signal channels with overall event rates in the tens of thousands per second.

Seeing Tracks using Ionization

Bubble Chamber Photo

'super-critical' liquid near boiling boiling begins along ion trail time-consuming to analyze low data rate excellent imaging quality

Don Glaser: -inventor of the bubble chamber 1960 Nobel Prize









The predecessors of the bubble chamber

• Charles Thomson Rees Wilson in 1927 "for his method of making the paths of electrically charged particles visible by condensation of vapour".



The Nobel Prize in Physics **1948** was awarded to **Patrick M.S. Blackett** "for his development of the
Wilson cloud chamber
method, and his discoveries
therewith in the fields of
nuclear physics and cosmic radiation".

Bubble Chamber Photograph:

- Measure trajectory (in B-field)
- correlate tracks with vertices (particle decay)
- ionization density & curvature: measure P, b
- 'vee's **à** see neutrals
- constrained fitting
- Modern detector:
- specialized detectors



Particle Experiments: Physics Goals

| Туре | Beam/ Target | Physics Goal | Comments | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Colliding beams | e+ e- | study quarkonia, hadronization, search | good for specific searches, spectroscopy (when masses are ~known) | |
| | <i>e</i> + <i>e</i> - (asymm.) | weak decays | asymm. Lorentz boost à asymm. detector | |
| | $pp, p\overline{p}$ | hadronization, search | good for general search (e.g. Higgs) | |
| | AA | QGP, hadronization | very high particle multiplicity | |
| Fixed Target September 30, 20 | ер | GPD's, SIDIS, exclusive | polarized beam, target possible; very high | |
| | ₎₁₃ gp | glueballs, hybrid states, spec trascopy ecto | luminosity, good for production experiments | |

Experiment Set-ups

| Туре | Projectiles | Detector Type |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Colliding beams | e+e-, e+e- (asymm.) PP, PP, AA | Solenoid; perhaps with asymmetric end-caps |
| Fived Target | oD oD oD DD | small-aperture, focussing spectrometer |
| Fixed Target | er, yr, pr, rr | large-acceptance magnetic spectrometer |

Typical Solenoid Detector - Central Part -







"End-cap" forward-going charged and neutral particles

... muon counters on outside



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Atlas detector at the LHC



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Realities of an Experimentalist's Life



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a detector for weak decays

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Fixed Target Experiments

- Lower center-of-mass energy than colliding beams
- Typically higher luminosity (high particle density in a target !)
- Good for studying target (e.g. proton) structure
- Good for studying production mechanisms, polarization variables

Fixed Target Detectors



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A (typical?) fixed-target detector



CLAS12 detector at Jlab



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Specialized Detector Types by Measurement Goal

- 1. Tracking chambers for charged particles
 - trajectory through magnetic field
 - momentum, angle of charged track
- 2. Timing counters
 - determine elapsed time-of-flight
 - path length, momentum à b, mass
- 3. Velocity detectors
 - use 'Cerenkov' light for direct b measurement
- 4. Energy deposition
 - 'calorimeter' measures energy of neutral particles

Primary Particle Interactions

Useful Formulas

Energy loss = 2 MeV/g/cm (for minimum ionizing) ~1 interaction / 300 mm in gas ~100 electrons / cm in gas

$$N_{photons} \sim 2 * 10^4$$
 / cm transparency very important

Threshold: $V_{particle} / V_{light} > 1$

$$tanq_c = \sqrt{b^2 n^2 - 1}$$

$$\frac{d^2N}{dx\,dl} = \frac{2}{3}$$

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Sub-Detector Fabrication

- Tracking chambers
 - Liquid: Bubble Chambers
 - Gaseous: Wire Chambers, GEM's, Micromegas
 - Solid-state: Silicon
- Timing counters
 - scintillator 'paddles' with PMT readout
- Velocity detectors
 - 'Cerenkov' light: threshold or imaging
- Energy deposition
 - 'shower counters', radiator + scintillator stack

Types of Tracking Chambers

- Wire Chambers (Geiger tubes to drift chambers)
 - gas amplification **à** signal
 - electron 'avalanche' in high-field near small-diameter wire
 - use 'time of arrival' to estimate 'distance of closest approach'
- Micro-pattern gas amplification devices
 - gas amplification \mathbf{a} signal
 - lithography techniques $\mathbf{\dot{a}}$ amplification and pick-up features
 - 'GEM's and 'Micromegas'
- Solid-State Detectors
 - etched and micro-fabricated Silicon structure
 - collect primary ions; no intrinsic amplification

'Geiger' tube



"drifting" of the electrons



the "avalanche" wire Radius at which E = i / mfpi ~ 20 eV close-up $mfp \sim 4 mm$ of wire Ecrit ~ 50 kV/cmevery mfp the number of electrons doubles rule of thumb: ~ 15 doublings gain doubles every for gain of $5 * 10^4$ 75 or 100 Volts

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Ernest Marsden

"drifting" of the electrons

wire at positive voltage



electrons drift to the wire
strike a molecule every 4 mm
velocity ~ 50 mm / ns

•New Idea - increase the accuracy of the tube by measuring the time difference between the wire signal and another prompt signal

à name 'drift chamber'

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Nobel Prize Winner

Georges Charpak:

-inventor of the multi-wire proportional chamber 1992 Nobel Prize

-in a key 1968 paper, he also pointed the way to using drift time to improve measurement accuracy



"all-wire" drift chamber

wires in layers "brick-wall" fashion



how tracking works



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drift velocity calibration necessary



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CLAS12 DC Design Decisions

| solenoidal shield | necessary for 10 ³⁵ |
|--------------------------|--|
| fwd./bck. separation | fwd. trks.; magnet interactions |
| high ∫B·dl torus | good dp/p for fwd. tracks |
| 6x6 layers | robust track-finding |
| +/- 6º stereo | better f resolution; more ambigs. |
| planar; self-supporting | identical cells, easy to calibrate, |
| | survey, repair |
| 112 wires/layer | cell-size; cost |
| 30 mm sense wire | faster, linear xvst, strong, more reliable |
| 92/08 Ar:CO ₂ | stringing |
| on-chamber amplifiers | long cable runs |
| re-use hv, lv, ADB, TDC | lots of spares; cost |

Use Lithography to Replace Wires!

Micro-pattern gas detectors

- No wires to break, accurate patterns, fast ion clearing, anode at ground
- Ideal for TPC's; not as uniform as wires
- Less multiple scattering than Silicon
- Multi-GEM's -> less ion feedback
 - more stable at same gain
- shape of dielectric important
- Micromegas w/ resistive anodes -> competitive with GEM's
- Flexible readout schemes !

$G_{as}E_{lectron}M_{ultiplier} \, Detector$



Drift region: low field: few thousand V/cm High field in hole

- avalanche occurs in hole
- charge current induced on electrodes

MicroMeshGas Detector



Silicon Strip Detector



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How to measure x,y,z with straight stips (and read out in the back?)



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Tracking Detectors: a Comparison

| Detector Type | Basic measurement type | Principle of signal generation | Resolution | Remarks |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| Wire chamber | Proportional Counter | | cell width/ $\sqrt{12}$ | fast response |
| | Drift Chamber Electric field; gas | | 100 – 300 mm | inexpensive, detailed calibration |
| Micro- pattern gas Mi | GEM | amplification by 'avalanche' | ~100 mm | complicated system |
| | MicroMegas | | ~100 mm | can spark |
| Solid- state | Silicon, diamond | Ion (or hole) drift; no internal amplification | ~20 – 50 mm | expensive; large mult. scattering; low noise critical |

Detector Purpose

- Tracking chambers
 - trajectory through magnetic field
 - momentum, angle of charged track
- Timing counters
 - determine elapsed time-of-flight
 - path length, momentum **à** b, mass
- Velocity detectors
 - use 'Cerenkov' light for direct b measurement
- Energy deposition
 - 'calorimetry' measure energy of neutral particles

Time of Flight test set-up



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... how Photo-Multiplier Tubes work

- photon strikes cathode
- releases one or more electrons
- electric fields push electrons to first dynode
- 1 electrons releases 2
- go to next dynode
- • • •
- $gain = 2^n$



How to Measure Particle Mass?

$$p = m\gamma\beta \quad \rightarrow \quad m = \frac{p}{\gamma\beta}$$

Measure (p) and track length (D)with a tracking chamber Measure elapsed (time) with a scintillator counter,

$$\beta = \frac{D}{time} ; \quad \gamma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{1 - \beta^2}}$$
$$m = \frac{p}{\gamma\beta}$$

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Particle Separation by TOF

Good particle identification

- good time resolution
- long flight-path
- here's an example from the CLAS detector: ~200 ps resolution, ~ 5m path length
- p/k/P separation to ~2GeV/c

$$p = m\gamma\beta \quad \rightarrow \quad m = \frac{p}{\gamma\beta}$$

$$\left(\frac{\delta m}{m}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{dp}{p}\right)^2 + \gamma^4 \left(\frac{\delta\beta}{\beta}\right)^2$$



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Cerenkov Light Detectors



Pavel Cerenkov Discoverer of 'Cerenkov' radiation 1958 Nobel Prize



b-dependence: Cerenkov Light



Angle of emission becomes larger More light emitted; proportional to length of light-front Measure b-dependence !

Two Kinds of Cerenkov Counters

- Threshold counter
 - less massive particle produces light
 - heavier particle above threshold
- "RICH" Ring Imaging Cherenkov





RICH Detector

Measure circle of photons



Detector Purpose

- Tracking chambers
 - trajectory through magnetic field
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- Energy deposition
 'calorimetry' measure energy of neutral particles

Electromagnetic Calorimeters

- ... also known as `shower counters'
 - entering particles initiate an electromagnetic shower (lead plates)
 - ionization à scintillator or Cerenkov light
 - measure light **à** energy deposited
- Determine 'cluster' position
- Energy and position of neutral shower

... how to build a shower counter



... building a shower counter, cont.

- stack layers of scintillator
- lead sheets interleaved
- add readouts on 3 sides
- à cluster position and energy



Particle Detectors: a Comparison

| Detector Type | Measurement Type | Signal Generation | Remarks |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Tracking (gas) | Spatial position | Ionization, gas amplification | Positive ions drift slowly, local "dead time" for wire chamber |
| Tracking (solid state) | Spatial position | Ionization, charge collection | No internal amplification; good S/N essential |
| TOF | Flight time | scintillation | More light, less jitter |
| Cerenkov | Particle velocity | Coherent light emission | Since speed of light is frequency dependent, so is emission angle |
| Calorimeter | Energy deposition | Shower -> scintillation | "Dead" material can hide fluctuations |

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backups

Example: CMS detector



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LHCb: beauty physics

asymmetric detector: optimized for detached vertices



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HERMES detector at DESY



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CLAS12 Central Detector

- 3 double-layers Silicon
- 3 double-layers MicroMeGas
- 1 layer TOF with double readout
- 3 layers
 Neutron
 Detector



examples of tracking, TOF, shower counter

Tracking Detectors: Wire Chambers

What is the purpose?

- to measure particle trajectories to determine the momentum

What is measured?

spatial positions along a trajectory
What provides the primary signal?
ionization of gas molecules

Electric Field Pattern & Strength





Small 'aspect ratio' for electronics

Mechanical issues important: attachments, survey holes, gas lines, cables, electronics boards





Designers have the coolest drawing packages: here we see a tricky docking maneuver between our vertex tracker and our first collection of drift chambers



Monolithic pixel detectors

Two-dimensional Readout Concepts



Other Types of Silicon Trackers



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Optimizing Resolution



Tracking Technology

Advantages / Disadvantages

| Wire Chambers | Spatial resolution: ~300 microns Low mass – low multiple scattering Inexpensive for large area coverage Sensitive to magnetic fields, hard to calibrate |
|---|---|
| Micro-Pattern Gas (GEM, Micromegas) | Better resolution; ~ $50 - 100$ microns Low mass – low multiples scattering Many output channels \rightarrow fairly expensive Sensitive to magnetic fields |
| Silicon Detectors | Good resolution; ~ 10 – 50 microns High multiple scattering – low-momentum Expensive for large areal coverage Needs careful attention to electronic noise |

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Energy deposited in scintillator

