Detectors in Particle Physics





- Interaction of radiation with matter
- Tracking detectors
 - Wire chambers
 - Silicon Detectors
- Calorimeters
 - Electromagnetic
 - calorimeters
 - Hadron calorimeters





Interaction of radiation with matter

- Any high energy particle passing through neutral matter will cause the matter to be ionized and/or "excited"
 - Primary mechanism by which particle detectors work
 - To first approximation independent of particle type MIP = minimum ionizing particle
 - Energy loss due to ionization is relatively small

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Electromagnetic interactions with matter

 If a charged particle undergoes a hard electromagnetic interaction with a nucleus – Brehmstrahlung results:

$$e + Z \to e + \gamma + Z$$

charcterized by radiation length 1rl = 0.35 cm of W 1rl = 1.76 cm of Fe 1rl = 304 m of airChernkov and transition radiation also possible

• High energy γ rays can "pair produce"

$$\gamma + Z \to e^+ e^- Z$$

• Compton scattering is also possible

$$\gamma + e \to \gamma + e$$

Hadronic Interactions with matter

• Hadrons (such as π^{\pm} , K_{long}^{0} , n, p) can interact via the strong force with the nucleus, e.g.

$$\pi^+ + N \to N + \pi^+ + \pi^0$$

• Characterized by "interaction length" (mean free path between inelastic collisions)

> $\lambda_I = 17 \text{ cm of Fe}$ $\lambda_I = 9.5 \text{cm of W}$

Tracking Chambers

- Wire
 - Ionization (electrons) drifted in an electric field to wires
 - High field at wires cause an avalanche (gain 10^4 to 10^6)
 - Two-fold ambiguity for each "hit"
 - Spatial resolution \sim 100 μm
- Silicon
 - Uses electron-hole pairs formed in
 - Spatial resolution \sim 10 μm

OPAL Jet Chamber





Quark Net 2003





Silicon Detectors

- $\bullet \sim$ 24,000 electron hole pairs are produced by a MIP
- Electrons drift to anode and are detected by low-noise amplifier
- Holes are collected at cathod
- Complicated geometry is needed for double-sided readout







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Electromagnetic and hadronic calorimeters

- Calorimeters are designed to completely stop particles and measure all of their energy This causes electromagnetic and hadronic showers
- Detector of finite size \Rightarrow use dense materials
- There are two main types:
 - Sampling
 - Crystal













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Try your hand at identifying events on your own at

http://www.hep.man.ac.uk/u/wyatt/events/home.html

which was produced by Terry Wyatt at Manchester University

(May not work well with internet explorer)