Particle Detectors

A brief introduction with emphasis on high energy physics applications

TRIUMF Summer Institute 2006 July 10-21 2006

Lecture I

- measurement of ionization and position
- Lecture II
 - scintillation and photo detection
 - calorimetry
- Lecture III
 - particle identification
 - detector systems



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Lecture III

- Particle Identification
 - dE/dx measurement
 - Time of flight
 - Cherenkov detectors
 - Transition radiation detectors
- Detector systems

Particle ID with *dE/dx*

Particle ID using a TPC

- measure dE/dx many times along tracks
- measure momentum from curvature in B field



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multihadron events in e⁺e⁻ collisions.

muons from pion decays are separated at low momentum.

pions and kaons are separated almost in the whole momentum range

electrons reach Fermi plateau at 1.4 MIP

protons and deuterons come from hadron nucleus collisions in materials such as the beam pipe

Particle ID with *dE/dx*

Particle ID using a silicon detector
 DELPHI microvertex detector (3 × 300 µm Si)



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Consider the TOF difference for two particles at a given momentum

$$\Delta t = t_1 - t_2 = \frac{L}{c} \left[\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{m_1 c}{p}\right)^2} - \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{m_2 c}{p}\right)^2} \right] \xrightarrow{p \gg mc} \frac{Lc}{2p^2} \left(m_1^2 - m_2^2\right)$$

Particle ID with time of flight

Example: CERN NA49 heavy ion experiment



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Particle ID with Cherenkov radiation

Cherenkov radiation

charged particle travels faster than light in medium



number of photons emitted

• energy loss small (~1%) compared to ionization

$$\frac{d^2 N}{dE_{\gamma} dx} = \frac{\alpha z^2}{\hbar c} \sin^2 \theta_c$$

$$\approx 370 \sin^2 \theta_c \left(E_{\gamma} \right) \, \text{eV}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$$

.0012/ 2.89 0.941

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Particle ID with Cherenkov radiation

Threshold detector





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Transition radiation detector

Transition radiation

 energy radiated when a z charged particle crosses the boundary between vacuum and a dielectric layer

 $W = \frac{1}{3} \alpha \hbar \omega_p \gamma \propto \gamma$ only high energy e^{\pm} will emit transition radiation $\hbar \omega_p \approx 20 \text{ eV}$ for plastic radiators, ω_p is the plasma frequency

number of photons emitted per boundary is small

$$N_{\gamma} \left(\hbar \omega > \frac{1}{10} \gamma \hbar \omega_p \right) = 0.59\% z^2$$

need many boundaries! For example you can build a stack with many foils with gas gaps

- photons are emitted close to the track $\theta \approx \frac{1}{\gamma}$
- typical energy is in the keV range

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Transition radiation detector

Transition radiation radiators

- low Z material preferred to keep re-absorption small (∞Z^5)
 - stacks of CH₂ foils
 - hydrocarbon foam and fibre materials
- Transition radiation X-ray detectors
 - should be sensitive for $3 \le E_{\gamma} \le 30 \text{ keV}$
 - MWPC, drift chamber, straw tubes, etc.
 - gas with high Z to increase photoelectric effect (∞Z^5) – for example Xe (Z = 54)

Transition radiation detector





ATLAS Transition radiation Tracker using about 400 000 straw tubes detectors with Xe based gas

Discrimination by threshold



Detector systems

Magnetic field configurations



Large homogeneous field inside the coil Week opposite field in the return yoke Cost limits the size Relatively high material budget Examples:

- DELPHI (SC, 1.2T)
- L3 (NC, 0.5T)
- CMS (SC, 4T)

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Relatively large fields over large volume

Relatively low material budget

Non-uniform field

Complex structure

Example:

• ATLAS (Barrel air toroid, SC, 0.6T)

Detector systems

Typical detector components



Need good e/y, e/jet, y/jet separation

Detector systems

Typical arrangement

ATLAS and CMS require high precision tracking also for high energetic muons:

> large muon systems with high spatial resolution behind calorimeters.



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Event Triggering

- Much more difficult at LHC than at e⁺e⁻ machines
- interaction rate ~ 10⁹ events/s
- acquisition capacity ~ 100 events/s @ ~1MByte/event
- trigger rejection factor or ~ 10⁷
- trigger decision time ~ 1 μ s >> 25 ns
- need to store large amount of data in pipelines while the trigger performs calculations





CMS Detector Compact Muon Solenoid



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III/19

ATLAS and CMS

	ATLAS	CMS
MAGNET (S)	Air-core toroids + solenoid in inner cavity Calorimeters outside field 4 magnets	Solenoid Calorimeters inside field 1 magnet
TRACKER	Si pixels+ strips TRD \rightarrow particle identification B=2T $\sigma/p_T \sim 5x10^4 p_T \oplus 0.01$	Si pixels + strips No particle identification B=4T $\sigma/p_T \sim 1.5 \times 10^4 p_T \oplus 0.005$
EM CALO	Pb-liquid argon σ/E ~ 10%/√E uniform longitudinal segmentation	PbWO ₄ crystals σ/E ~ 2-5%/√E no longitudinal segm.
HAD CALO	Fe-scint. + Cu-liquid argon (10 λ) $\sigma/E \sim 50\%/\sqrt{E \oplus 0.03}$	Cu-scint. (> 5.8 λ +catcher) $\sigma/E \sim 70\%/\sqrt{E \oplus 0.05}$
MUON	Air $\rightarrow \sigma/p_T \sim 7 \%$ at 1 TeV standalone	Fe $\rightarrow \sigma/p_T \sim 5\%$ at 1 TeV combining with tracker

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ATLAS web cam



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ATLAS Detector Components



ATLAS barrel cryostat, containing the solenoid and the electromagnetic barrel calorimeter, being lowered in the pit

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ATLAS Detector Components



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Lecture III: Questions

Question III.1

• Obtain the result for the error on the mass given on slide III/5.

Question III.2

 Consider the separation of two particles using a time of flight detector. With a flight path of 1.0 m and a timing resolution of 200 ps, up to which momentum can you separate a π⁺ from a K⁺?

Acknowledements

Christian Joram (CERN)

- I have taken a lot of material from his very fine CERN summer Student Lectures 2003
- Steinar Stapnes
 - For his help with lecture material
- TSI06 organizing committee and TRIUMF hosts!