

DETECTORS FOR HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS

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Part 3

DESY Summer Student 2025

IV. CALORIMETERS

CALORIMETRY



CALORIMETRY: THE IDEA BEHIND IT

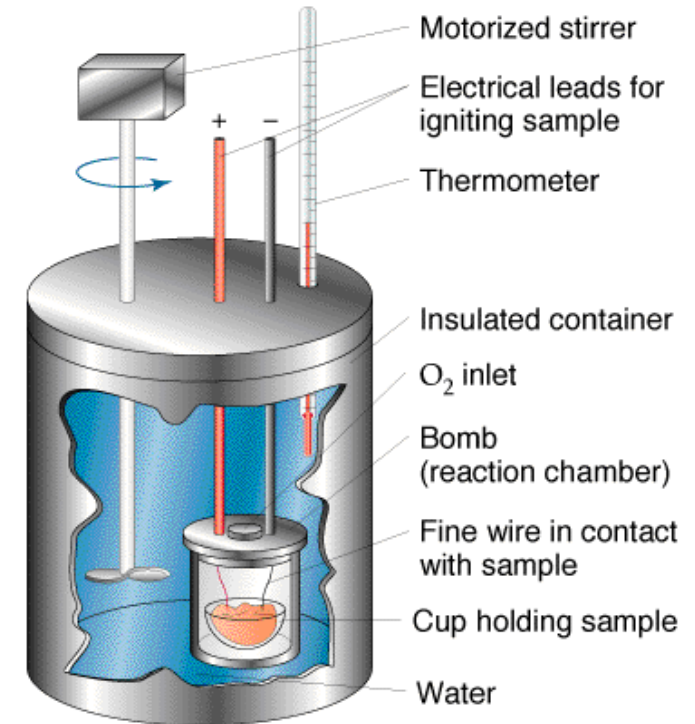


- Calorimetry originated in thermo-dynamics
- The total energy released within a chemical reaction can be measured by measuring the temperature difference

Ice-calorimeter from Antoine Lavoisier's 1789 *Elements of Chemistry*.

- What is the effect of a 1 GeV particle in 1 litre water (at 20°C)?

$$\Delta T = E / (c \cdot M_{\text{water}}) = 3.8 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{K} !$$

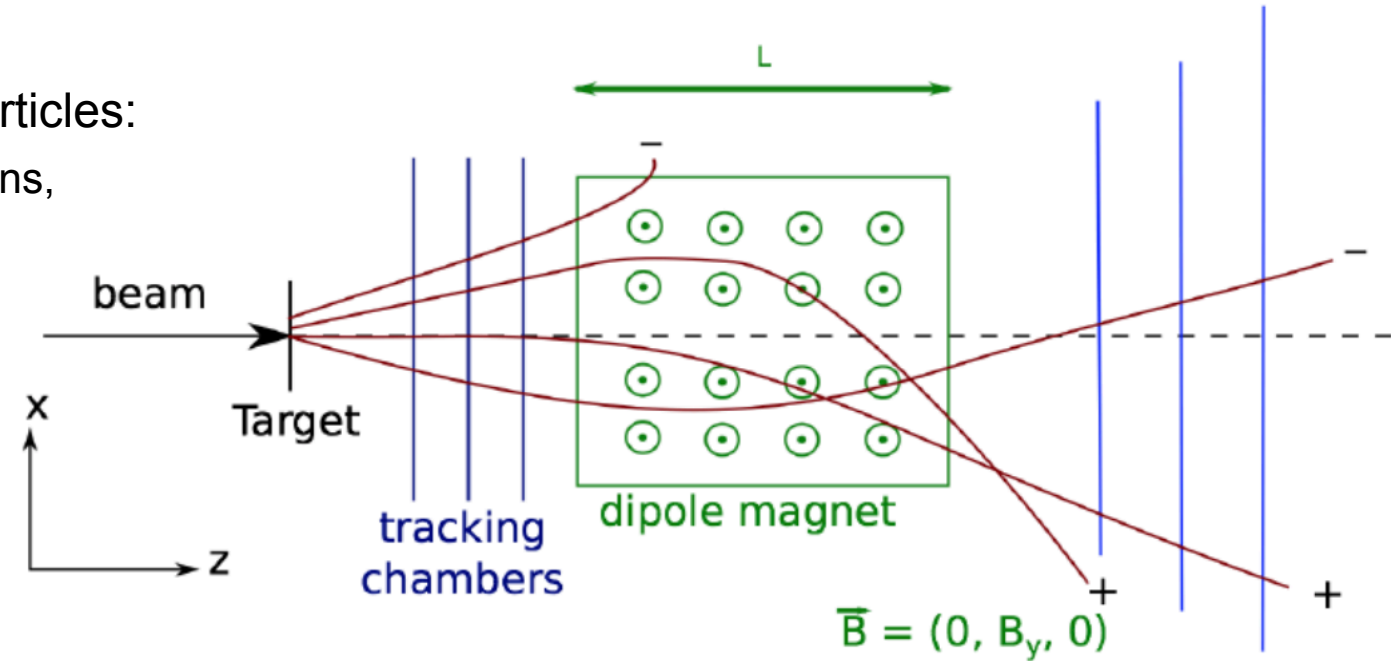
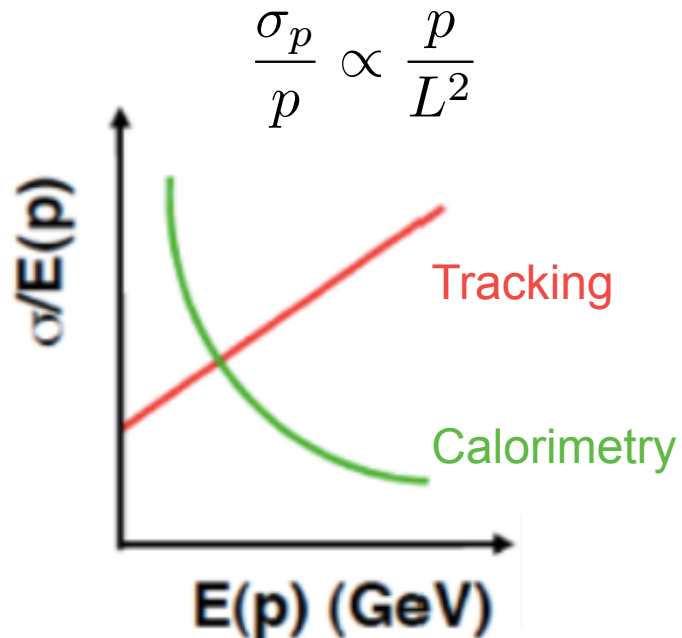


- In particle physics:
- Measurement of the energy of a particle by measuring the total absorption

Picture: Francois G. Amar

WHY CALORIMETERS ?

- Measurement of energy or momentum of particles:
 - Focus on high energy particles (hadrons, leptons, (photons))
- Magnetic spectrometer:
Momentum of charged particles measured in B-Field by tracking detectors



- Problematic: with increasing p (or E) the momentum resolution gets worse (or L huge)
- **Calorimeters** are the solution

CALORIMETRY: OVERVIEW

- Basic mechanism for calorimetry in particle physics:
 - formation of electromagnetic
 - or hadronic showers.
- The energy is converted into ionisation or excitation of the matter.



- Calorimetry is a “destructive” method. The energy and the particle get absorbed!
- Detector response $\propto E$
- Calorimetry works both for charged (e^\pm and hadrons) and neutral particles (n, γ) !



ELECTRONS: ENERGY LOSS

- **Critical energy:** the energy at which the losses due to ionisation and Bremsstrahlung are equal

$$\frac{dE}{dx}(E_c) = \frac{dE}{dx}(E_c)$$

For electrons approximately:

$$E_c^{\text{solid+liq}} = \frac{610 \text{ MeV}}{Z + 1.24} \quad E_c^{\text{gas}} = \frac{710 \text{ MeV}}{Z + 1.24}$$

For electrons

$$-\frac{dE}{dx} = 4\alpha N_A \frac{Z^2}{A} r_e^2 E \ln \frac{183}{Z^{1/3}}$$

$$-\frac{dE}{dx} = \frac{E}{X_0}$$

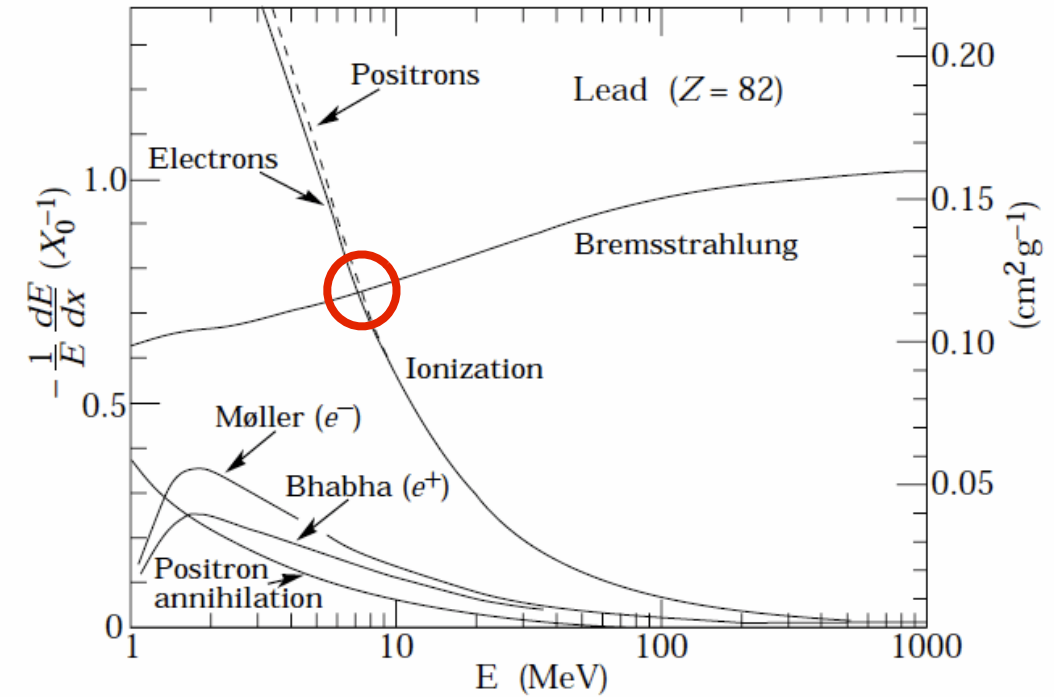
$$X_0 = \frac{A}{4\alpha N_A Z^2 r_e^2 \ln \frac{183}{Z^{1/3}}}$$



$$E = E_0 e^{-x/X_0}$$

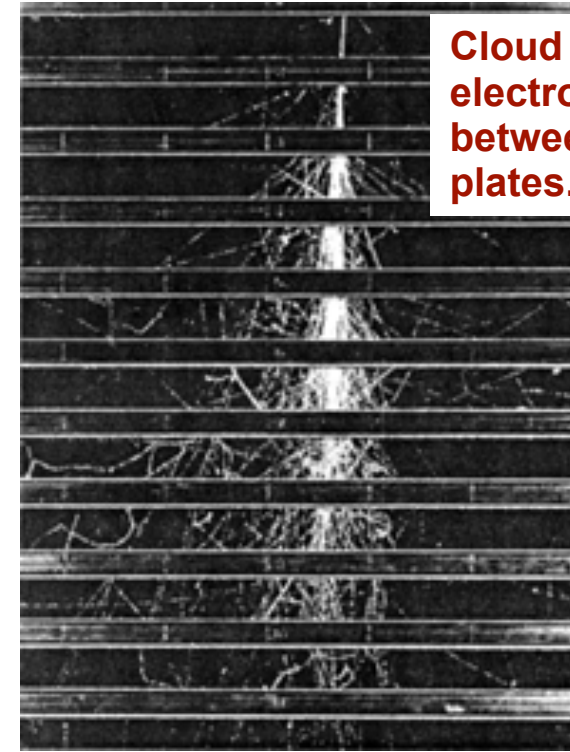
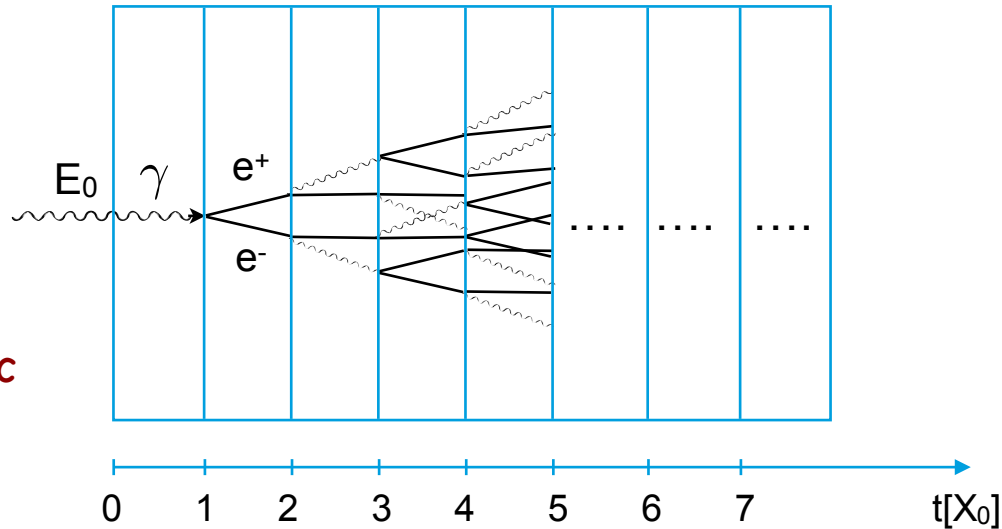
Parameters only depending on material the electron is passing through.

X_0 : Radiation length



ELECTROMAGNETIC SHOWERS

X_0 is the characteristic scale

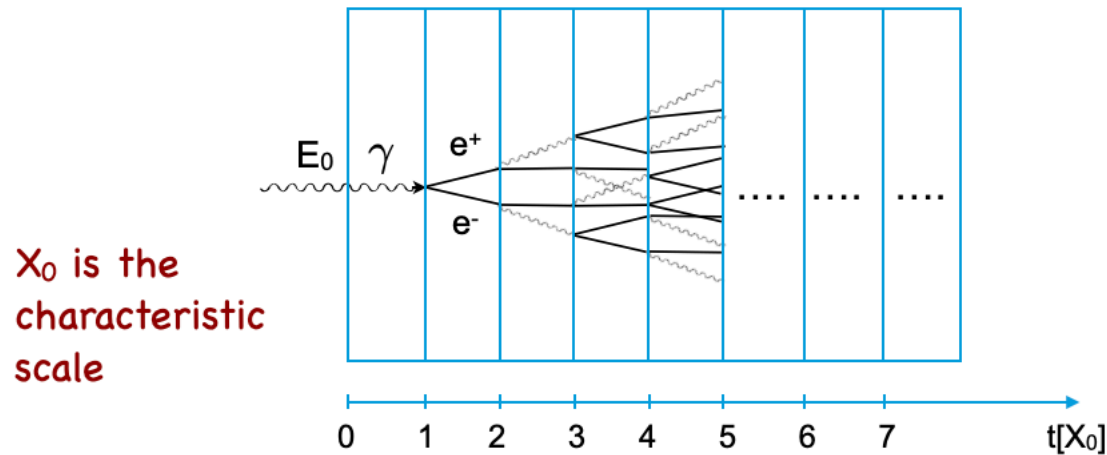


Cloud chamber photo of electromagnetic cascade between spaced lead plates.

Pic: MIT cosmic ray group

- High energetic particles: form shower if passing through (enough) matter.
- Alternating sequence of interactions leads to a cascade:
 - Primary γ with E_0 energy produces e^+e^- pair in layer X_0 thick
 - On average, each has $E_0/2$ energy
 - If $E_0/2 > E_c$, they lose energy by Bremsstrahlung
- Next layer X_0 , charged particle energy decreases to $E_0/(2e)$
- Bremsstrahlung with an average energy between $E_0/(2e)$ and $E_0/2$ is radiated
- Radiated γ s produce again pairs

ANALYTIC MODEL OF ELECTROMAGNETIC SHOWER



Electromagnetic shower is characterised by

- Number of particles in shower
- Location of shower maximum
- Longitudinal shower distribution
- Transverse shower distribution

- Introduce longitudinal variable $t = x/X_0$

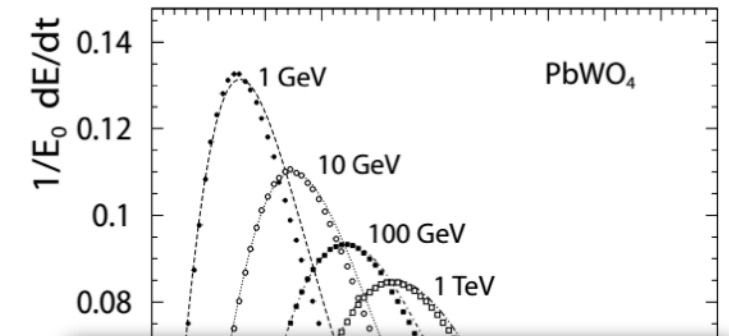
- The shower end approximately when $E \approx E_c$

$$E_c = E(t_{\max}) = \frac{E_0}{2^{t_{\max}}}$$

- Maximum shower depth: $t_{\max} = \ln \frac{E_0}{E_c} / \ln 2$

- Maximum number of particles in shower

$$N_{\max} = \exp(t_{\max} \ln 2) = \frac{E_0}{E_c}$$



Example:
1 GeV photon in CsI crystal:

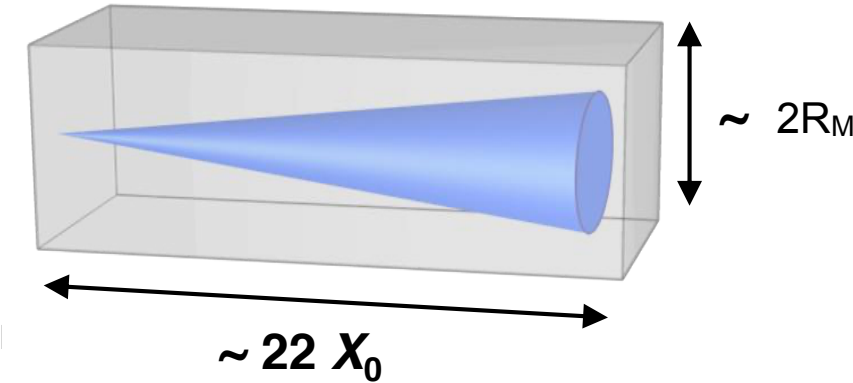
$$E_c \approx 10 \text{ MeV}$$

$$N_{\max} = E_0/E_c \approx 100$$

$$t_{\max} \approx 6.6 X_0$$

EM SHOWER PROPERTIES

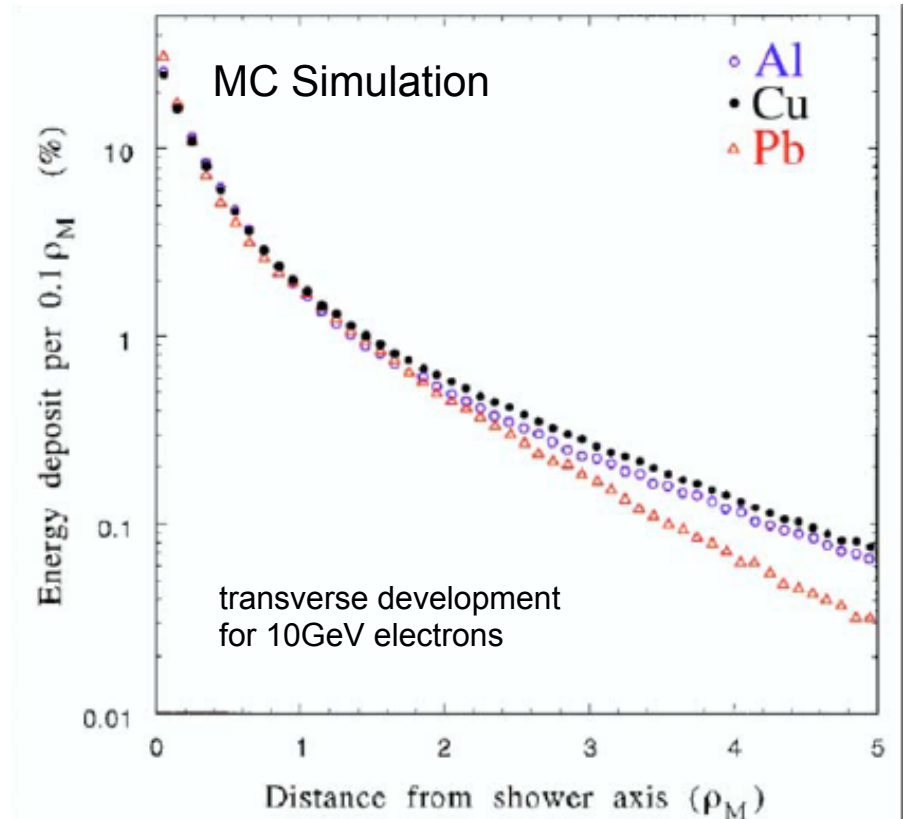
- Longitudinal development governed by the radiation length X_0 .
- Lateral spread due to electron undergoing multiple Coulomb scattering:
 - 95% of the shower cone is located in a cylinder with radius $2 R_M$
 - Beyond this point, electrons are increasingly affected by multiple scattering
- Lateral width scales with the **Molière radius R_M**
 - Important parameter for shower separation



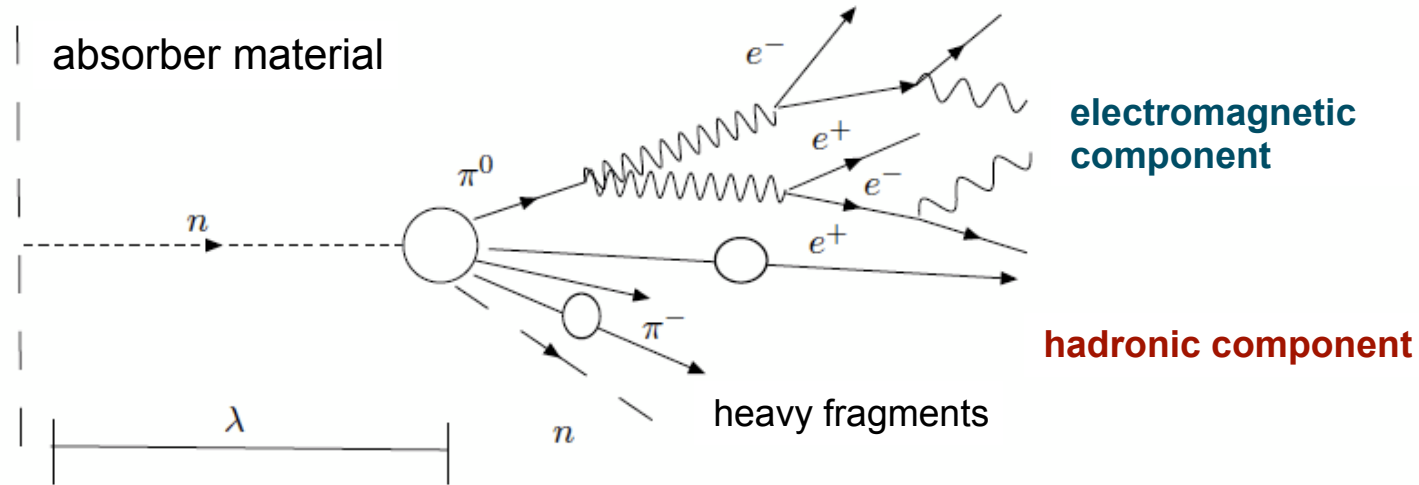
$$R_M = X_0 \frac{E_s}{E_c} = 21.2 \text{ MeV} * \frac{X_0}{E_c}$$

$$E_s = m_e c^2 \sqrt{4\pi/\alpha} = 21.2 \text{ MeV}$$

Example:
 $E_0 = 100 \text{ GeV}$
 in lead glass $E_c = 11.8 \text{ MeV}$
 $\rightarrow N_c \approx 13, t_{95\%} \approx 23$
 $X_0 \approx 2 \text{ cm}, R_M = 1.8 \cdot X_0 \approx 3.6 \text{ cm}$



HADRONIC CASCADE: THE DETAILS



Hadronic showers are way more complicated than em showers.

● Different processes are created by the impinging hadron:

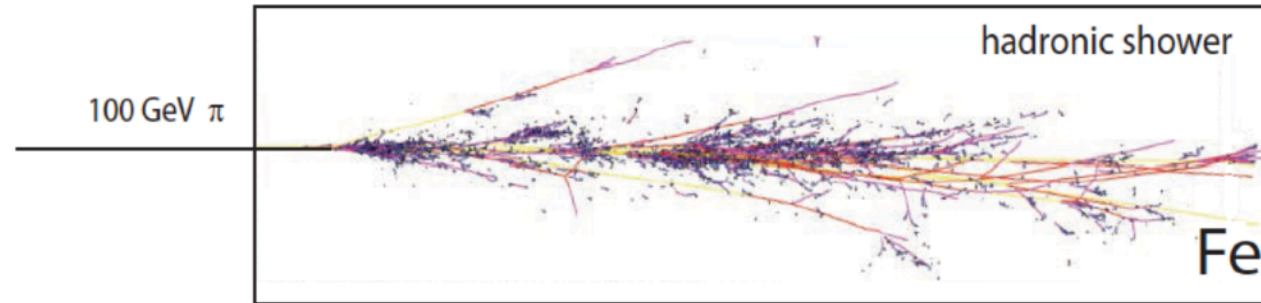
- high energetic secondary hadrons taking a significant part of the momentum of the primary particle [e.g. O(GeV)]
- a significant part of the total energy is transferred into nuclear processes: nuclear excitation, spallation, ... ➡ Particles in the MeV range
- neutral pions (1/3 of all pions), decay instantaneously into two photons ➡ start of em showers
- Breaking up of nuclei (binding energy) neutrons, neutrinos, soft γ 's, muons

EM fraction ~30%
Ionisation fraction up to 40%
Invisible fraction ~30%

invisible energy
-> large energy fluctuations
-> limited energy resolution

HADRONIC CASCADE

- Within the calorimeter material a hadronic cascade is build up: in inelastic nuclear processes more hadrons are created



The length scale of the shower is given in means of the nuclear reaction length λ_I

$$\lambda_I = \frac{A}{N_A \sigma_{total}}$$

↗

total cross section for
nuclear processes

Interaction length:

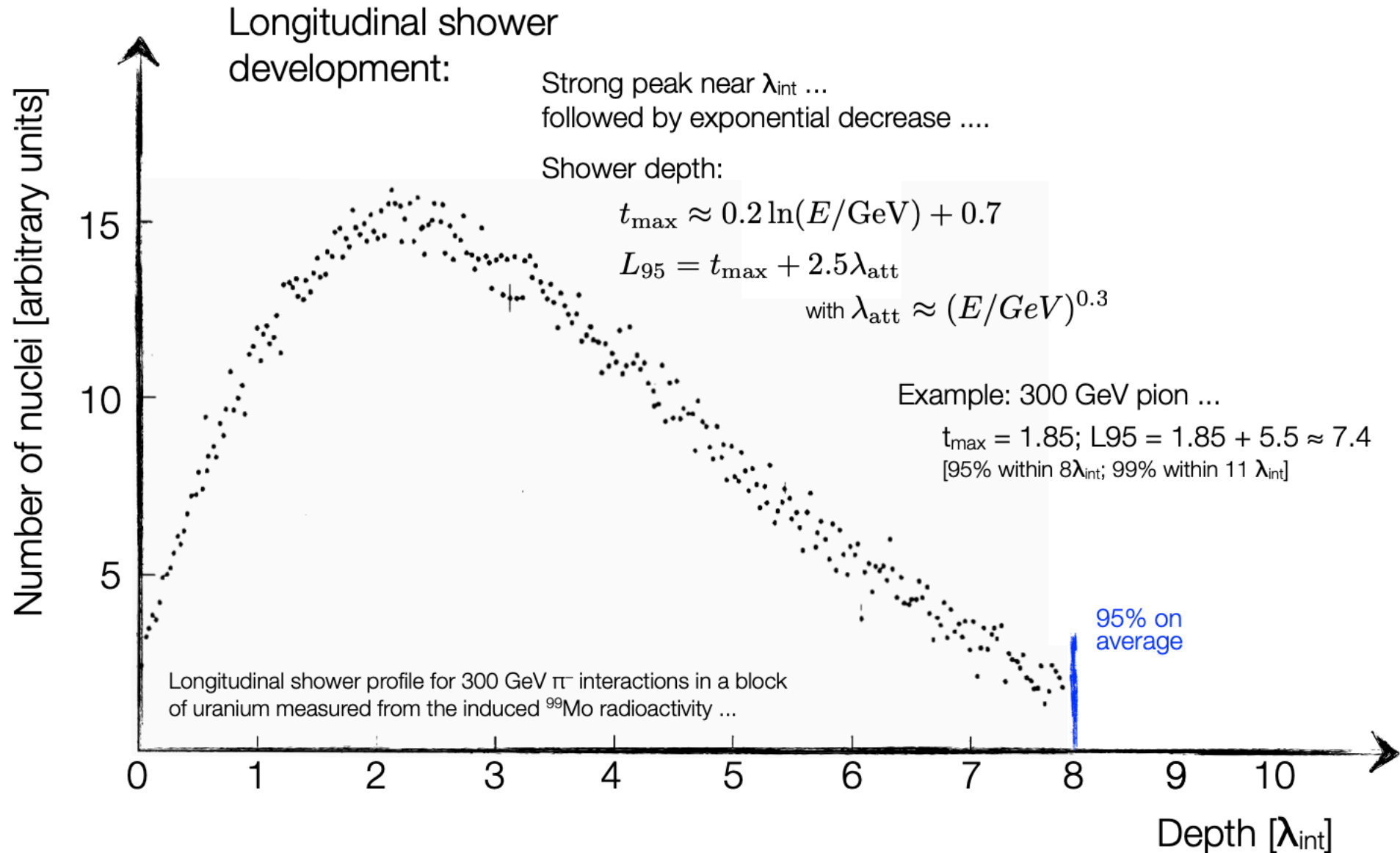
Probability that no hadronic reaction happens on the path x happened:

$$P = e^{-\frac{x}{\lambda_I}}$$

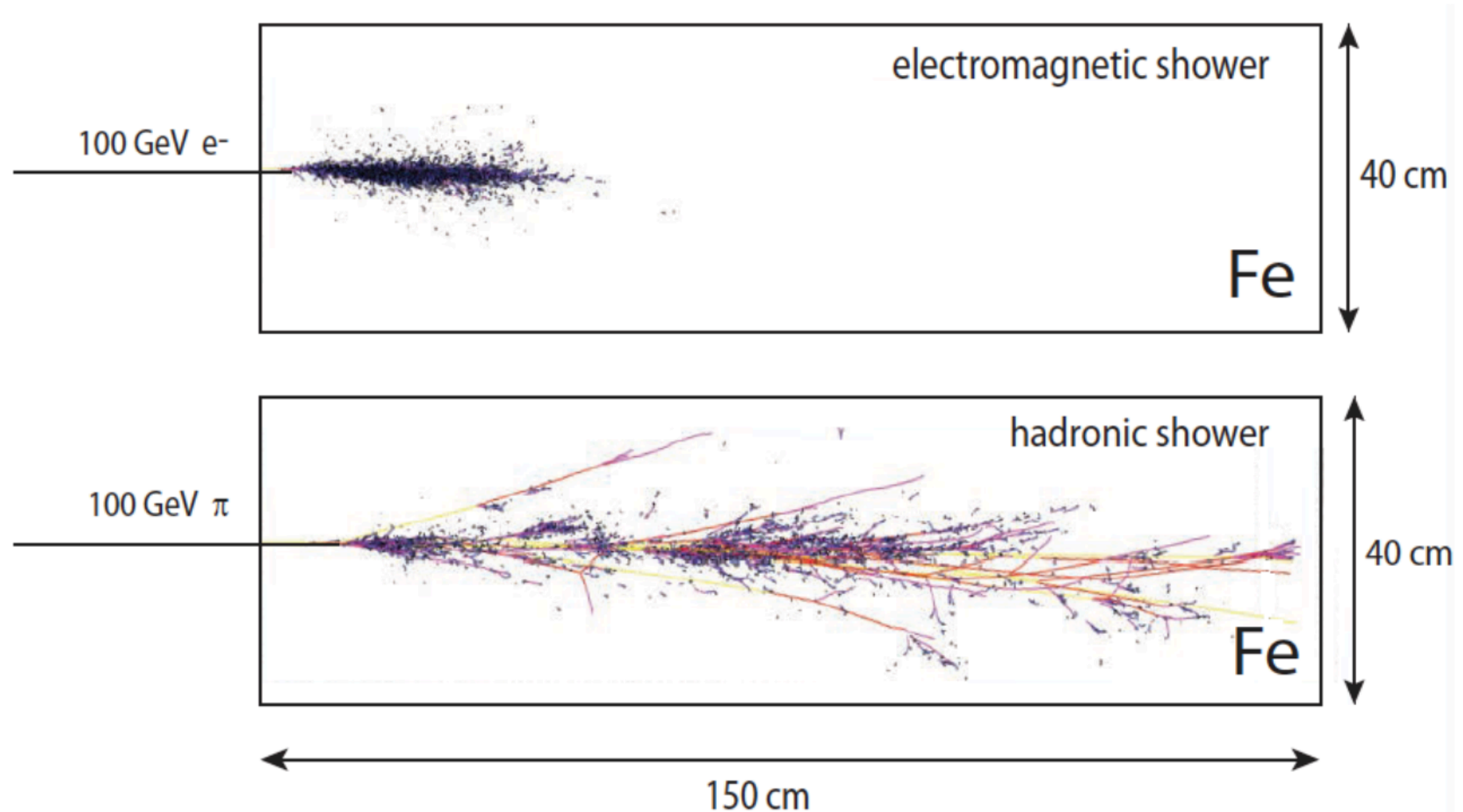
Compare X_0 for high-Z materials, we see that the size needed for hadron calorimeters is large compared to EM calorimeters.

	λ_I	X_0
Polystyren	81.7 cm	43.8 cm
PbWO	20.2 cm	0.9 cm
Fe	16.7 cm	1.8 cm
W	9.9 cm	0.35 cm

HADRONIC SHOWER DEVELOPMENT



HADRONIC VS. EM SHOWER



Only ionising particles are plotted.

ENERGY RESOLUTION

- The relative **energy resolution** of a calorimeter is parametrised:

Stochastic term c_s : resolution depends on intrinsic shower fluctuations, photoelectron statistics, dead material in front of calo, and sampling fluctuations

Constant term c_c : Energy independent term contributing to the resolution: due to inhomogeneities within the detector sensitivity, calibration uncertainties and radiation damage

$$\left(\frac{\Delta E}{E}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{c_s}{\sqrt{E}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{c_n}{E}\right)^2 + (c_c)^2$$

Noise term c_n : Electronic noise, radioactivity, i.e. effect is dependent of the energy

Losses of Resolution:

- **Shower not contained** in detector → fluctuation of leakage energy; longitudinal losses are worse than transverse leakage.
- **Statistical fluctuations** in number of photoelectrons observed in detector.
- **Sampling fluctuations** if the counter is layered with inactive absorber.
-

In literature also:

$$\frac{\sigma_E}{E} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{E}} \oplus \frac{b}{E} \oplus c$$



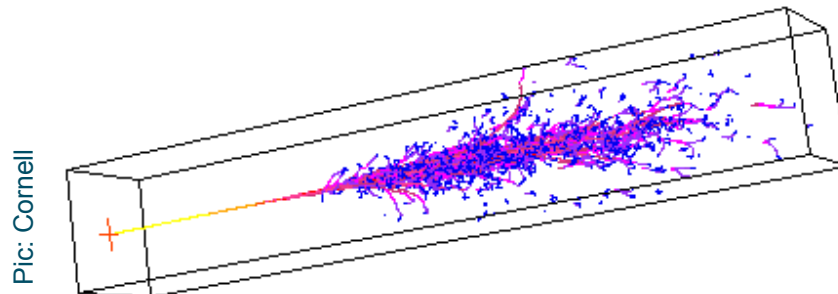
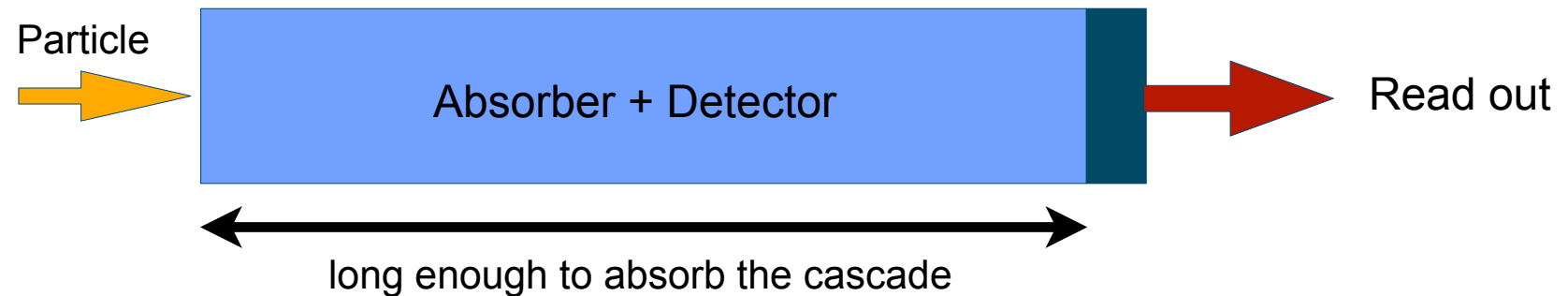
CALORIMETER TYPES

CALORIMETER TYPES

- Two different types of calorimeters are commonly used: Homogeneous and Sampling Calorimeter

● Homogeneous Calorimeter

- The absorber material is active; the overall deposited energy is converted into a detector signal
- Pro: very good energy resolution
- Contra: segmentation difficult, selection of material is limited, difficult to built compact calorimeters

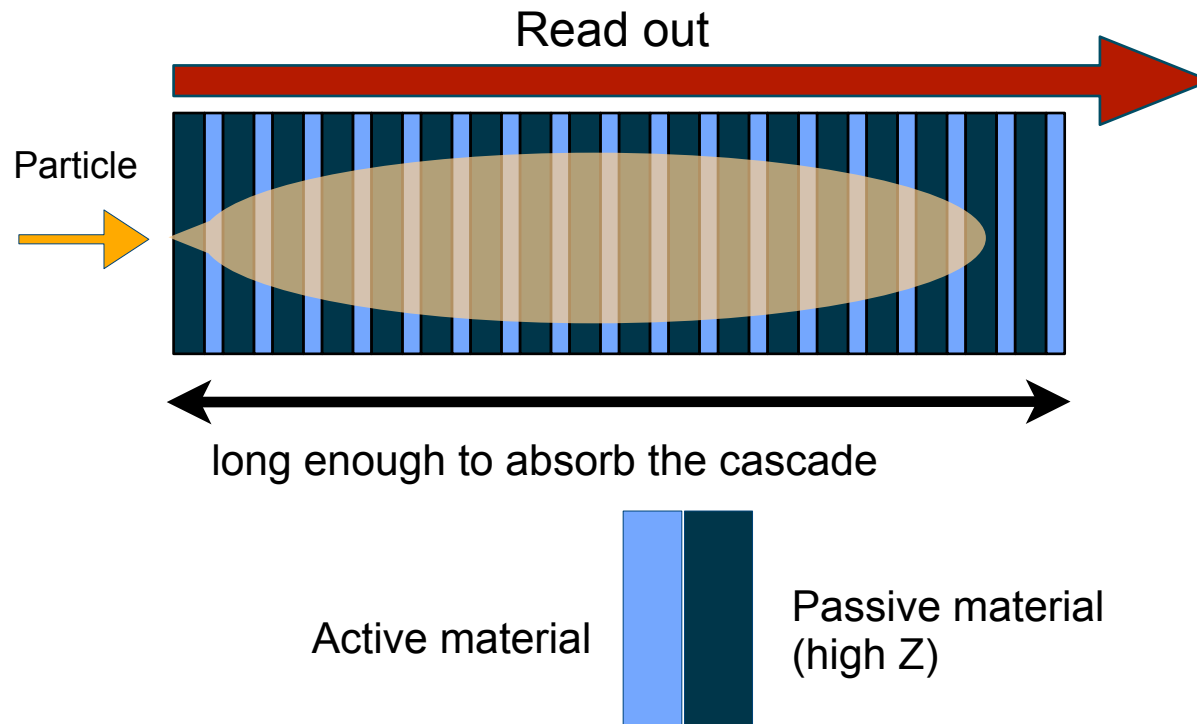


Example: Crystal calorimeter

SAMPLING CALORIMETER

Sampling Calorimeter

- A layer structure of passive material and an active detector material; only a fraction of the deposited energy is “registered”
- **Pro:** Segmentation (transversal and lateral), compact detectors by the usage of dense materials (tungsten, uranium,...)
- **Contra:** Energy resolution is limited by fluctuations



Important parameter:
Sampling Fraction

The fraction of the energy of a passing particle seen by the active material.

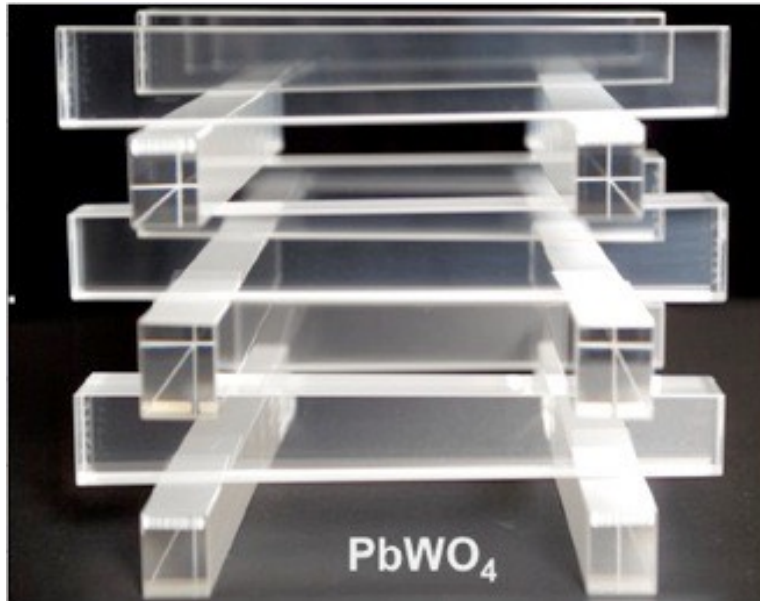
Typically in the percent range

Example: ZEUS Uranium Calorimeter

CALOS: ACTIVE MATERIAL

Active
material

- Detectors based on registration of excited atoms
- Emission of photons by excited atoms, typically UV to visible light.
 - Observed in noble gases (even liquid !)
 - Polycyclic Hydrocarbons (Naphtalen, Anthrazen, organic scintillators) -> Most important category.
 - Inorganic Crystals -> Substances with largest light yield. Used for precision measurement of energetic Photons.



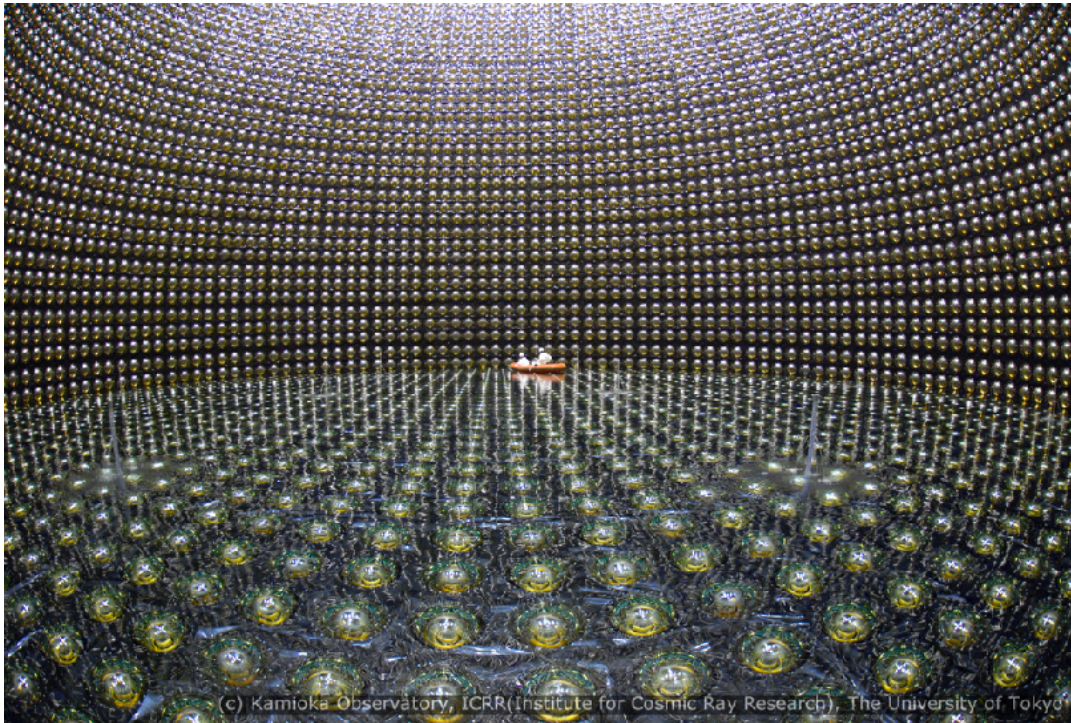
- PbWO_4 : Fast, dense scintillator,
 - Density $\sim 8.3 \text{ g/cm}^3$ (!)
 - ρ_M 2.2 cm, X_0 0.89 cm
 - low light yield: ~ 100 photons / MeV



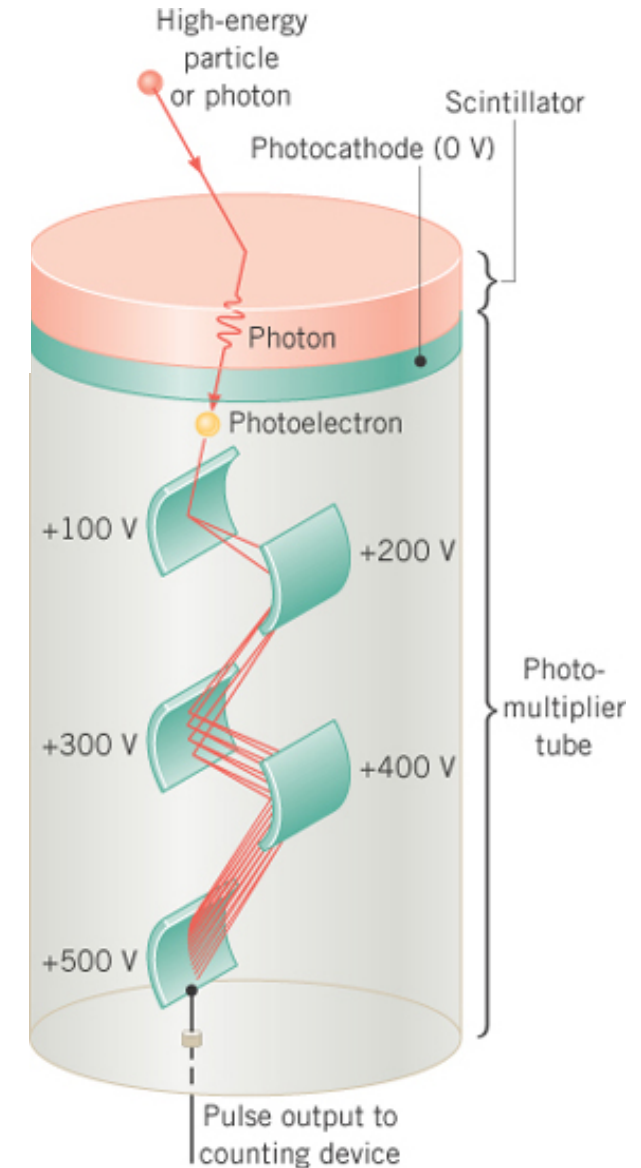
Picture: CDF@Fermilab

DETECTING THE LIGHT

- The classic method to detect photons are photomultipliers
 - Conversion of a photon into electrons via photo-electric effect when the photon
 - The following dynode system is used to amplify the electron signal
 - Usable for a large range of wave lengths (UV to IR)
 - good efficiencies, single photon detection possible
 - large active area possible (SuperKamiokande O 46cm)



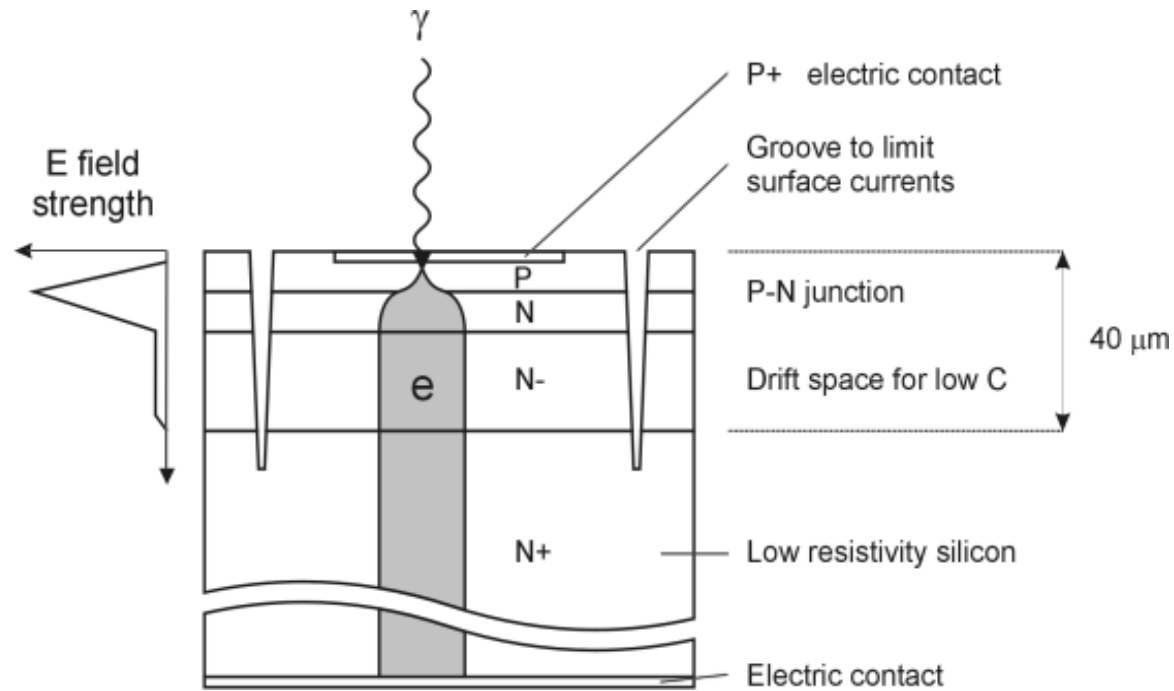
Pic: ICRR/University of Tokyo



Source: Cutnell and Johnson, 7th edition image gallery

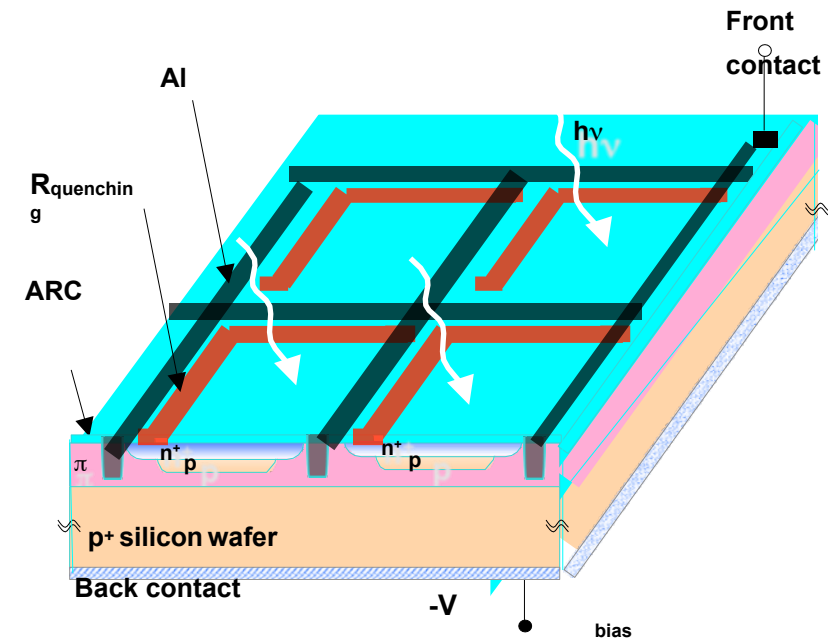
AVALANCHE PHOTO DIODES & SiPMs

- Standard Photomultipliers are bulky and expensive
- SiPM become more and more popular as replacement for standard photo multipliers.



D. Renker, Nucl. Instr. Methods A 571 (2007) 1-6

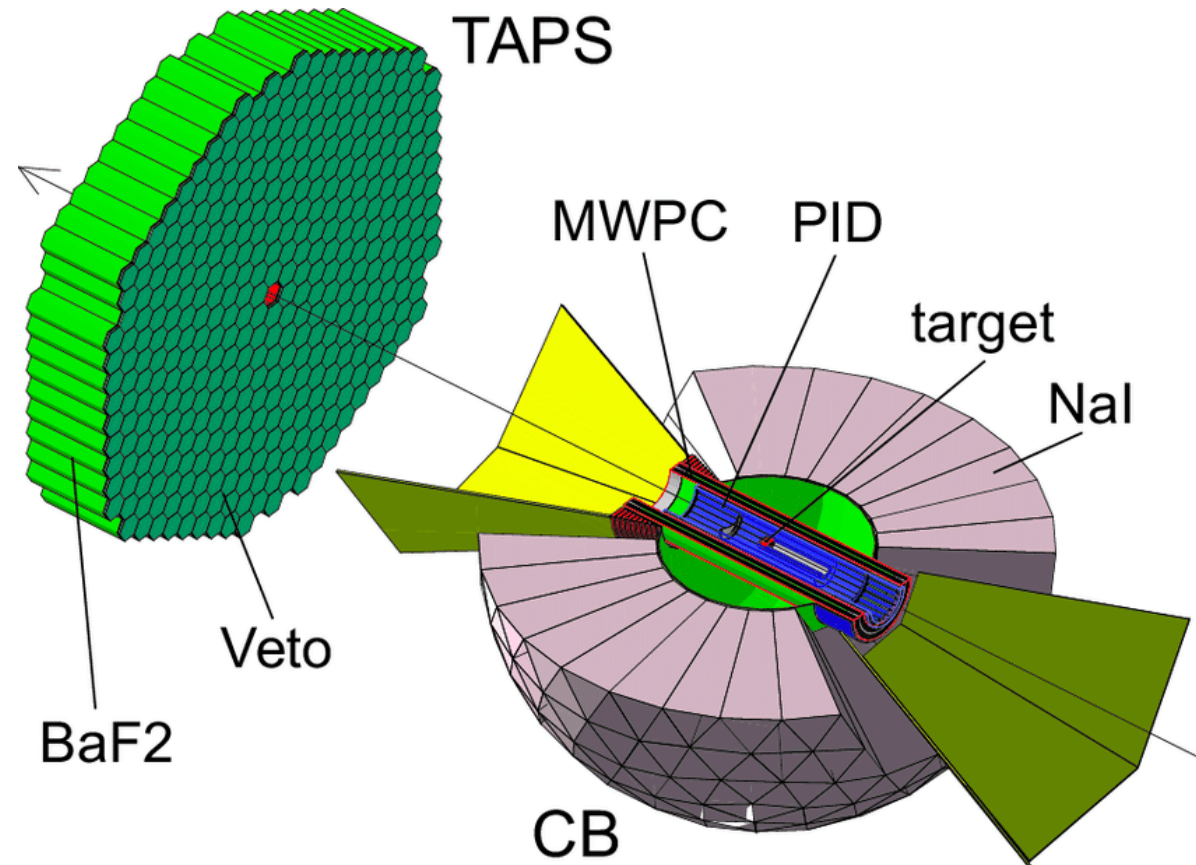
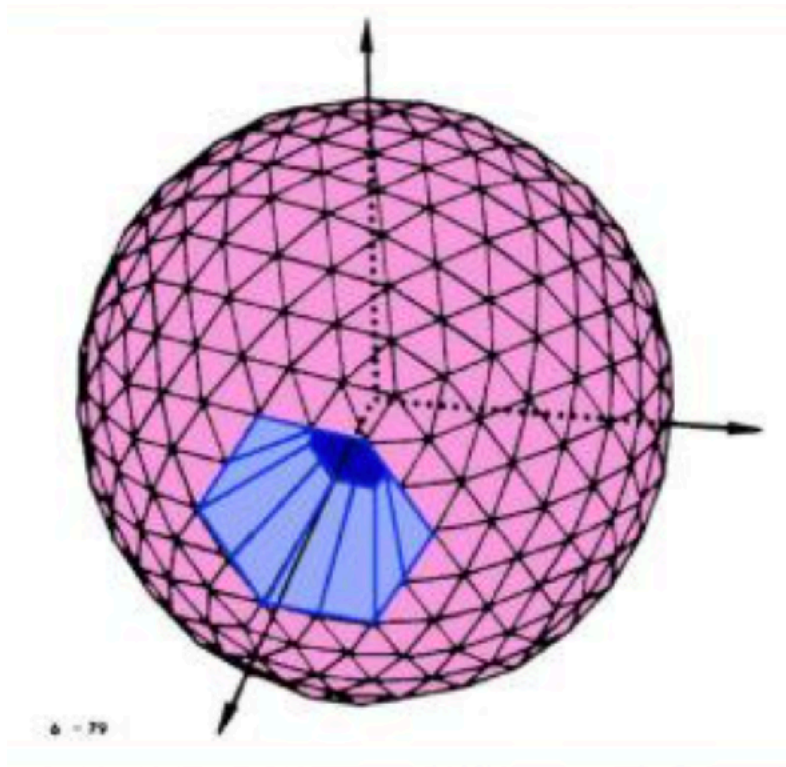
SiPM are matrices of APDs:



EXAMPLES OF CALORIMETER

CRYSTAL BALL CALORIMETER

- Thallium-doped NaI(Tl) crystals arranged in a sphere (“ball”) \Rightarrow excellent energy resolution
- (Almost) full 4π solid angle coverage
- Operated at electron-positron collider SPEAR at Stanford (now at Mainz!)
- Physics goal: Precise charmonium spectroscopy



OVERVIEW OF CALORIMETERS

ATLAS

- In order to maximise the sensitivity for $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ decays, the experiments need to have an excellent e/γ identification and resolution

CMS

CMS DETECTOR

Total weight : 14,000 tonnes
Overall diameter : 15.0 m
Overall length : 28.7 m
Magnetic field : 3.8 T

STEEL RETURN YOKE
12,500 tonnes

SILICON TRACKERS
Pixel (100x150 μm) ~16m² ~66M channels
Microstrips (80x180 μm) ~200m² ~9.6M channels

SUPERCONDUCTING SOLENOID
Niobium titanium coil carrying ~18,000A

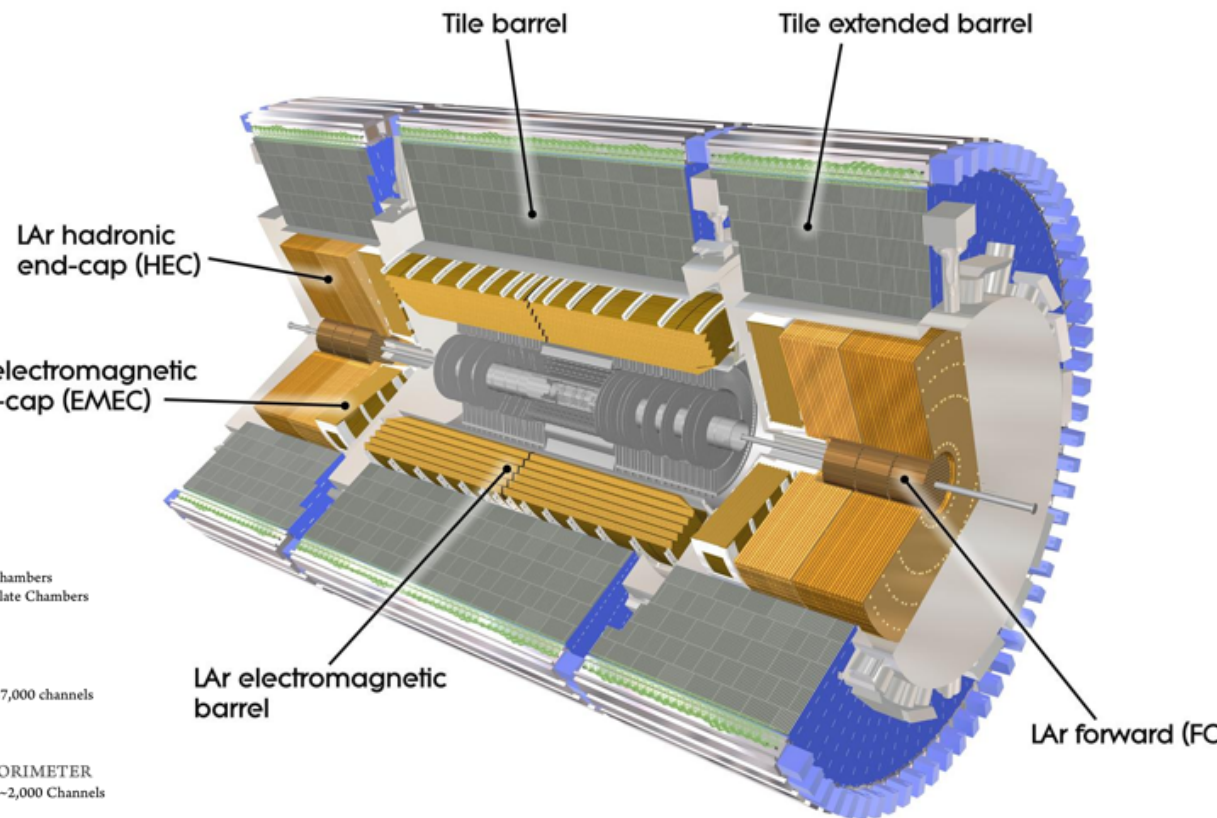
MUON CHAMBERS
Barrel: 250 Drift Tube, 480 Resistive Plate Chambers
Endcaps: 468 Cathode Strip, 432 Resistive Plate Chambers

PRESHOWER
Silicon strips ~16m² ~137,000 channels

FORWARD CALORIMETER
Steel + Quartz fibres ~2,000 Channels

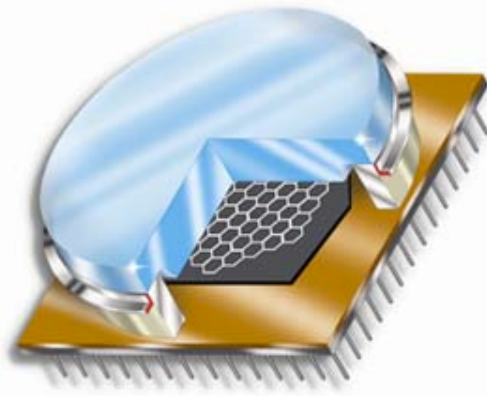
CRYSTAL ELECTROMAGNETIC CALORIMETER (ECAL)
~76,000 scintillating PbWO₄ crystals

HADRON CALORIMETER (HCAL)
Brass + Plastic scintillator ~7,000 channels

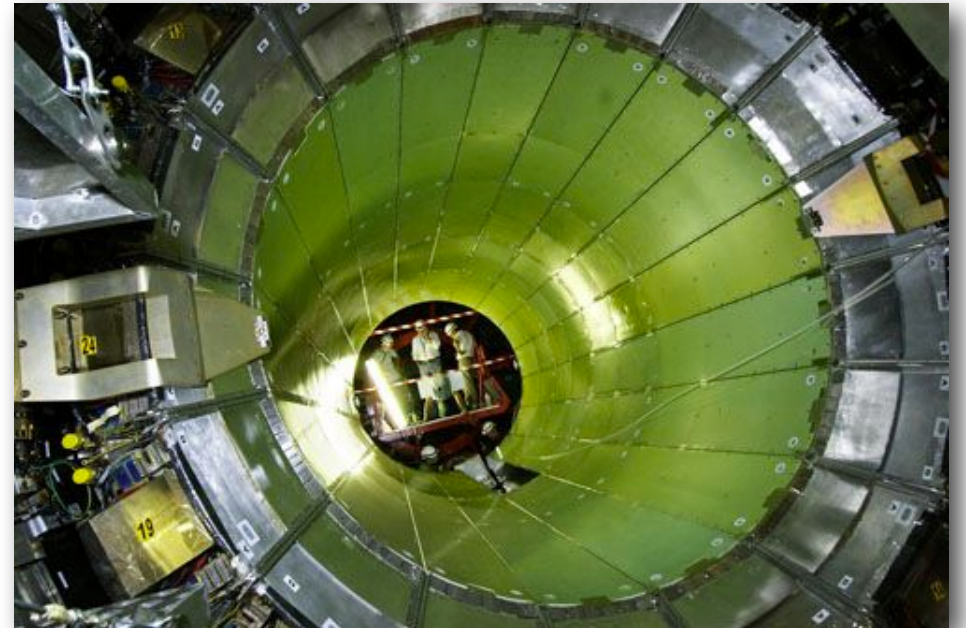


CMS CALORIMETER

- **ECAL:** homogeneous calo
 - high resolution Lead Tungsten crystal calorimeter -> **higher intrinsic resolution**
 - 80000 crystals each read out by a photodetector
 - constraints of magnet -> HCAL absorption length not sufficient
 - tail catcher added outside of yoke
- **HCAL:** sampling calo
 - 36 barrel “wedges”, each weighing 26 tonnes
 - brass or steel absorber
 - plastic scintillators
 - read out by hybrid photodetectors



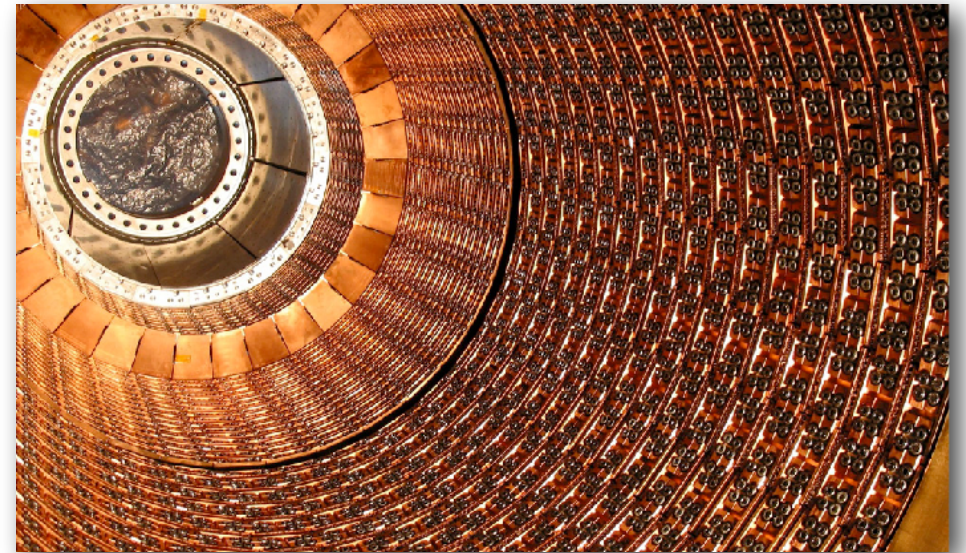
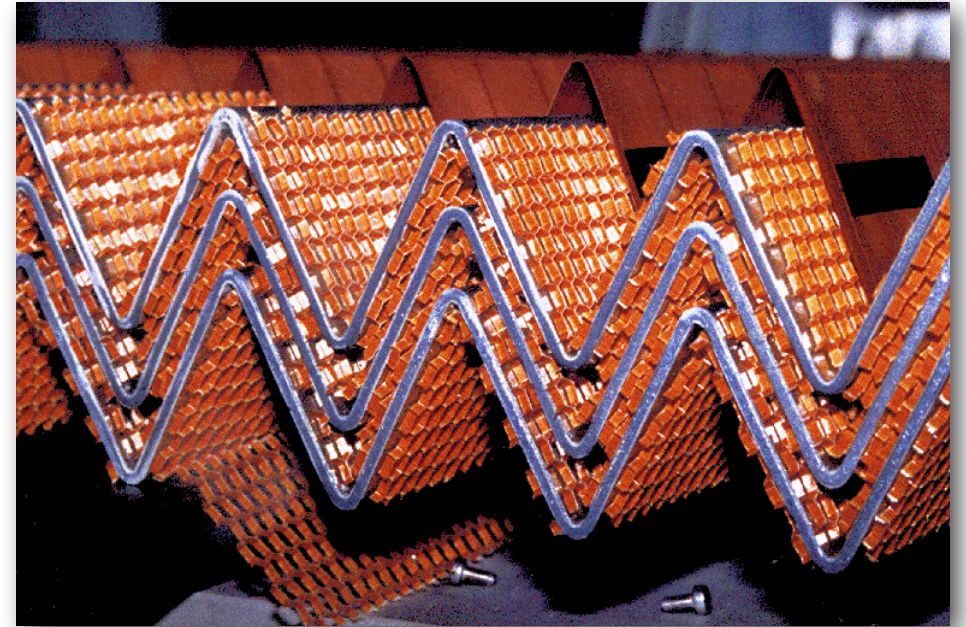
CMS Lead tungsten crystals, each 1.5kg (CERN)



CMS ECAL during installation (CERN)

ATLAS CALORIMETER

- **ECAL + HCAL:** sampling calo
 - Liquid argon LAr calorimeter > high granularity and longitudinally segmentation (better e/γ ID)
 - Electrical signals, high stability in calibration & radiation resistant (gas can be replaced)
 - Solenoid in front of ECAL -> a lot of material reducing energy resolution
 - Accordion structure chosen to ensure azimuthal uniformity (no cracks)
 - Liquid argon chosen for radiation hardness and speed
- Tile calorimeter: covering outer region
- “Conventional” steel absorber with plastic scintillators.

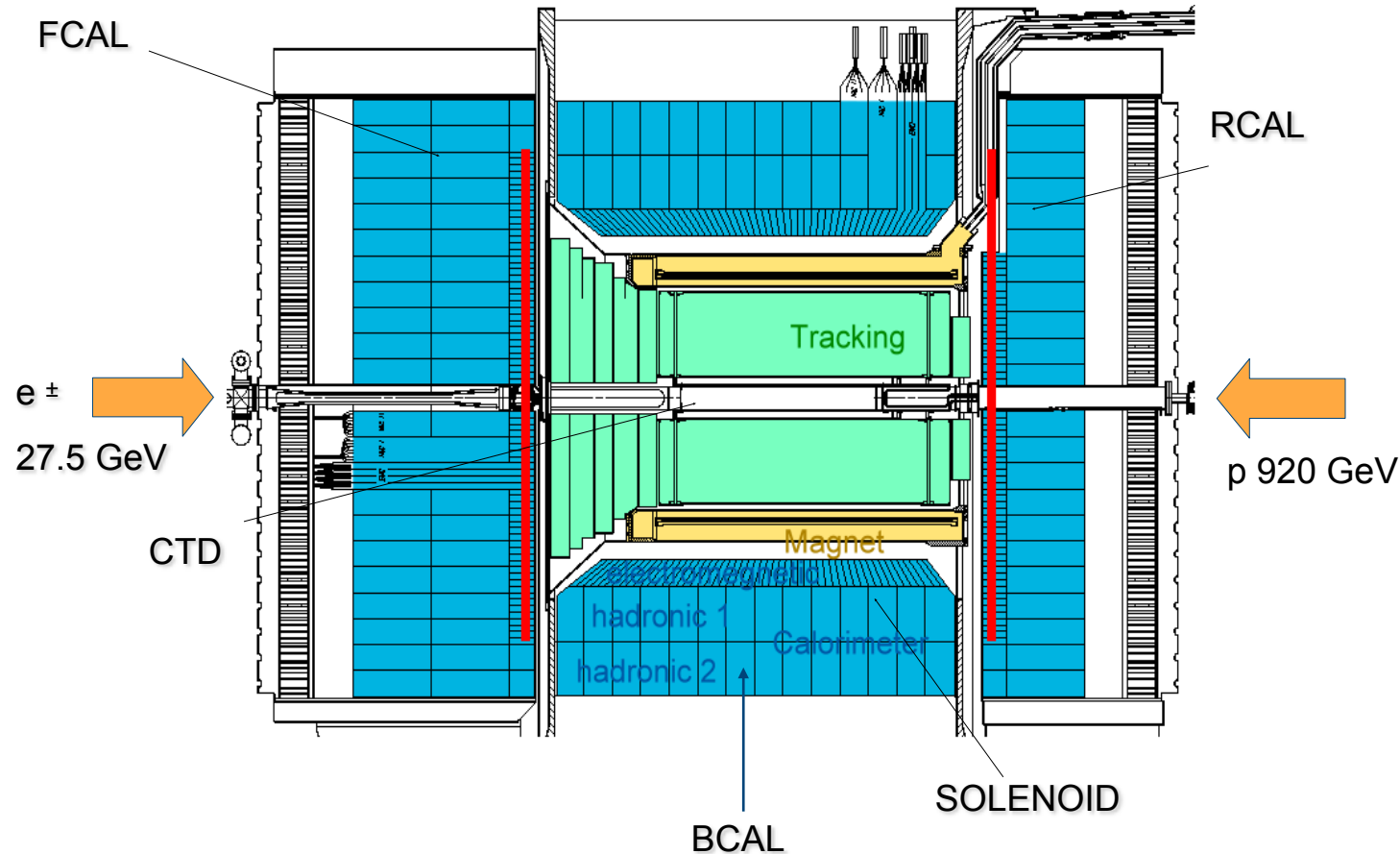


ATLAS Hadronic endcap Liquid Argon Calorimeter. (CERN)

THE ZEUS CALORIMETER - SOLUTION

Sampling Calorimeter

- Highly-segmented, uranium scintillator sandwich calorimeter read out with photomultiplier tubes (PMTs)



Uranium + Scintillator:

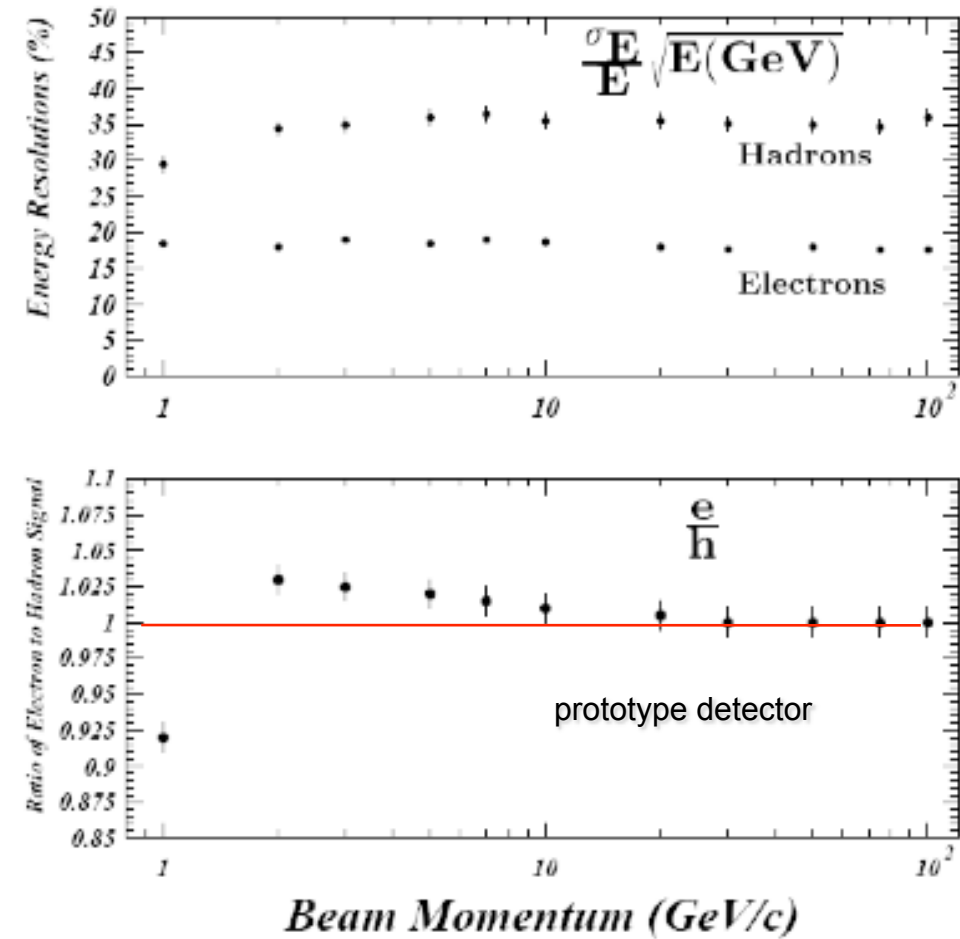
- compensation
- high Z material \rightarrow more compact size of calorimeter
- natural radioactivity provides means of calibration

- Very hermetic: covering up to $\eta < 4.2$ in the forward direction and $\eta < -3.8$ in the rear direction.
- Readout by 12,000 phototubes (PMTs)

TEST BEAM AT CERN



- Operation characteristics were determined in test beams at CERN (prototype detector)

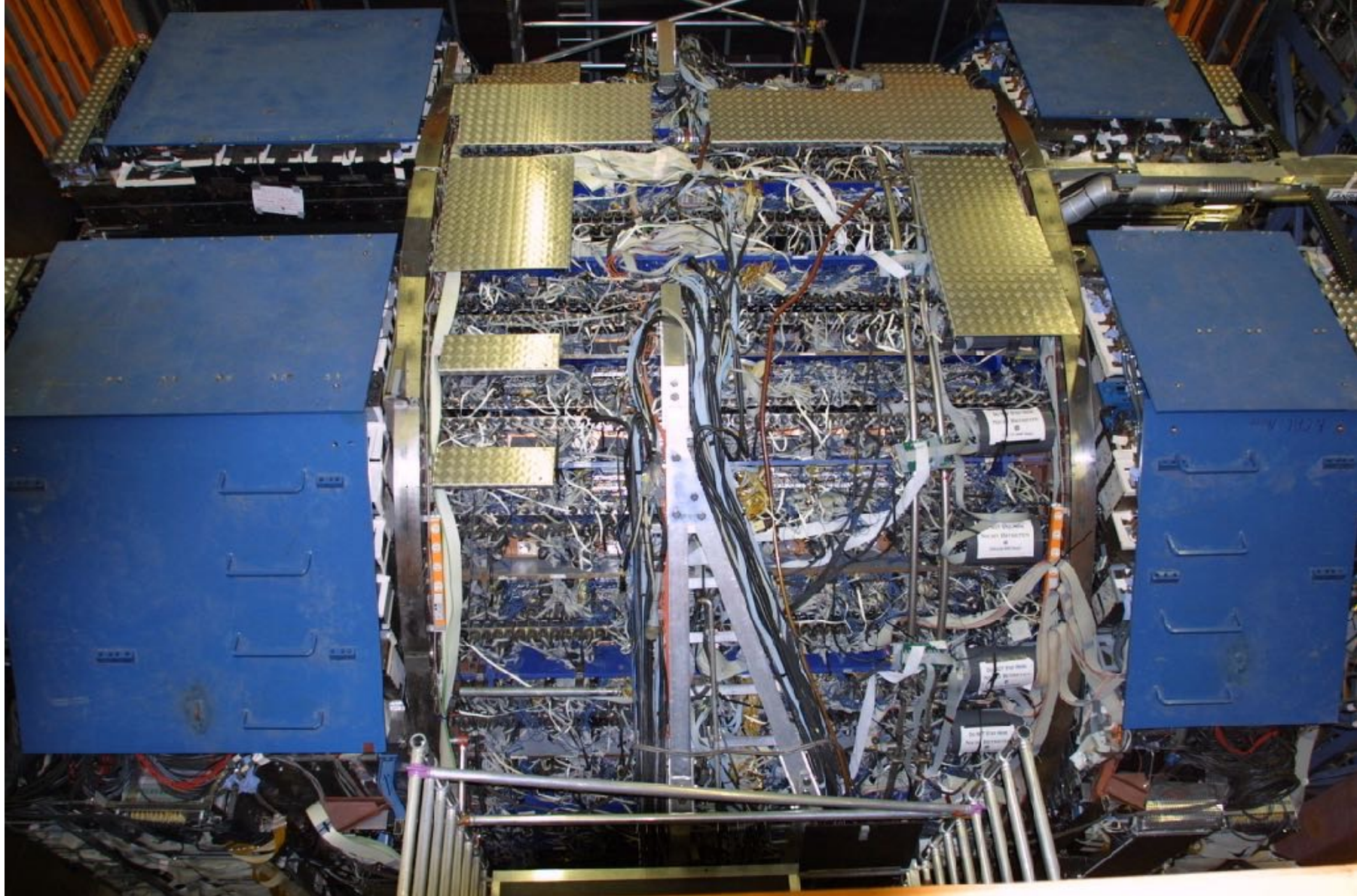


Electrons: $\frac{\sigma(E)}{E} = \frac{18\%}{\sqrt{E(\text{GeV})}}$

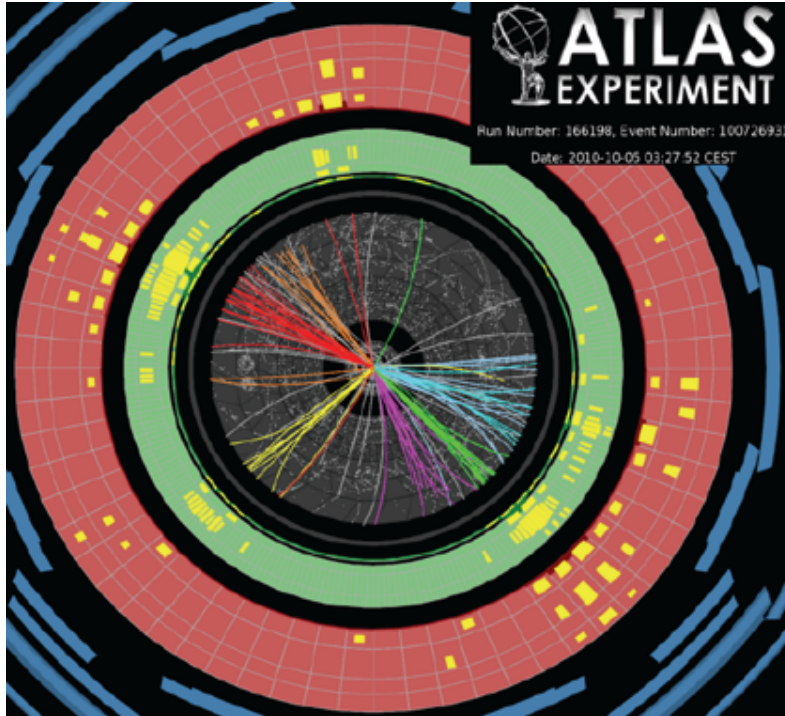
Hadrons: $\frac{\sigma(E)}{E} = \frac{35\%}{\sqrt{E(\text{GeV})}}$

Production modules were all calibrated at CERN

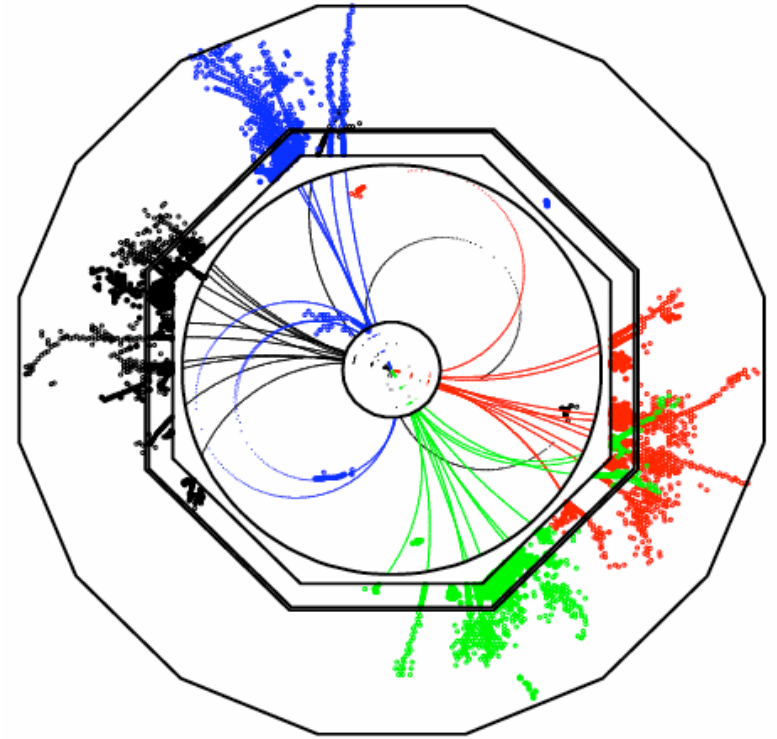
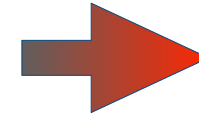
MEDUSA



CURRENT HADRON CALOS ... AND DREAMS

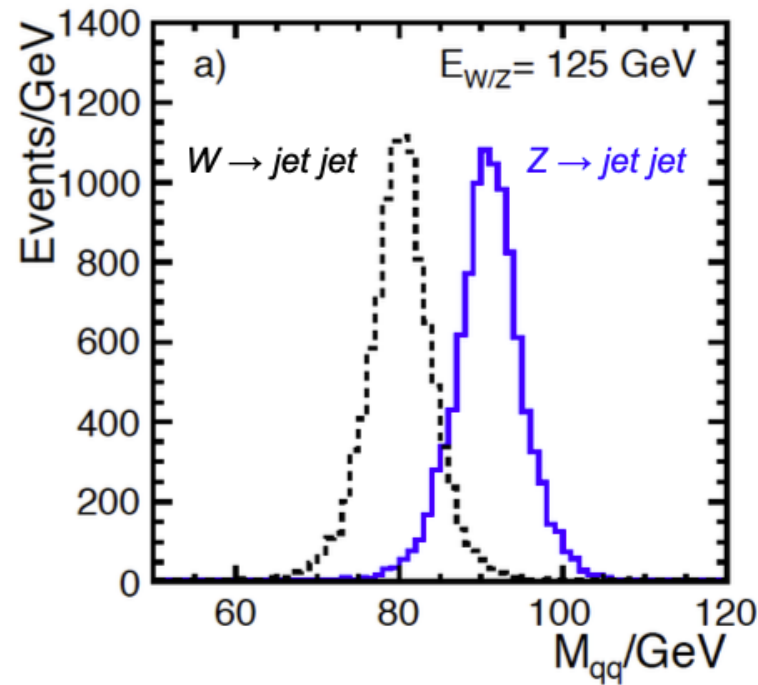
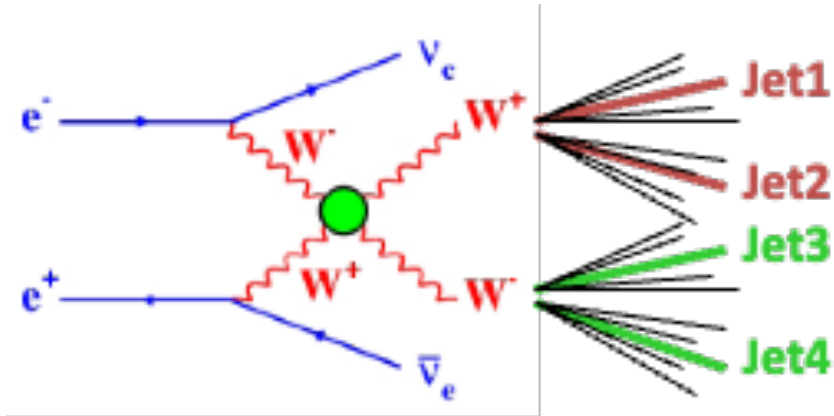


- Tower-wise readout: light from many layers of plastic scintillators is collected in one photon detector (typically PMT)
O(10k) channels for full detectors



- Extreme granularity to see shower substructure: small detector cells with individual readout for Particle Flow
O(10M) channels for full detectors

THE JET ENERGY CHALLENGE



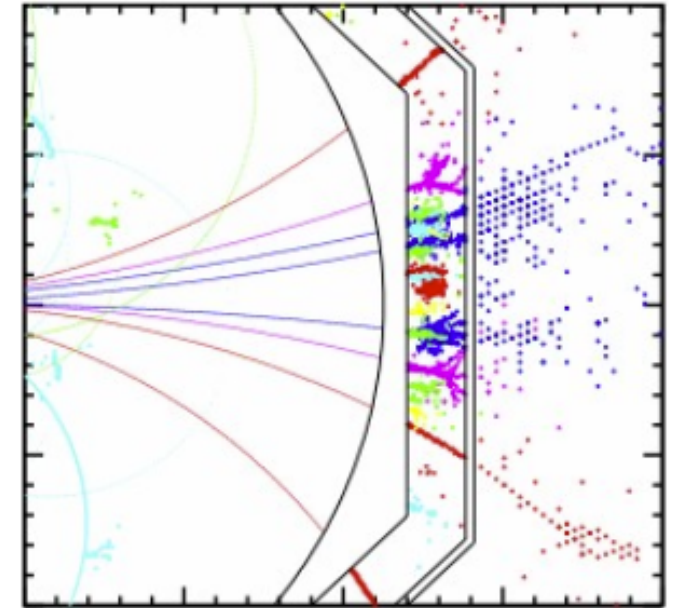
- Many interesting physics processes involve W or Z bosons predominantly decay into jets
- Goal: distinguish the decays $Z \rightarrow \text{jet jet}$ and $W \rightarrow \text{jet jet}$ by their reconstructed mass
- Required resolution: $\sigma(E_{\text{jet}})/E_{\text{jet}} \approx 3\text{-}4\%$ for $E_{\text{jet}} \approx 40$ to 500 GeV
- “typical” calorimeter:

$$\sigma(E_{\text{jet}})/E_{\text{jet}} \approx 60\%/\sqrt{E(\text{GeV})} \oplus 2\%$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma(E_{\text{jet}})/E_{\text{jet}} \approx 10\% \text{ at } E_{\text{jet}} = 50 \text{ GeV}$$
- promising solution:
Particle **F**low **A**lgorithms

PARTICLE FLOW CALORIMETER

- Attempt to measure the energy/momentum of **every** particle with the detector at best resolution
- Used in three main contexts:
 - “Energy flow” -> Use tracks to correct jet energies
 - “Particle flow/Full event reconstruction” e.g. CMS
 - > Aim to reconstruct particles not just energy deposits
 - “High granularity particle flow” e.g. ILC
 - > Technique applied to detector concept optimised for particle flow



● Need

- a calorimeter optimised for photons: separation into ECAL + HCAL
- to place the calorimeters inside the coil (to preserve resolution)
- to minimise the lateral size of showers with dense structures
- the highest possible segmentation of the readout
- to minimise thickness of the active layer and the depth of the HCAL

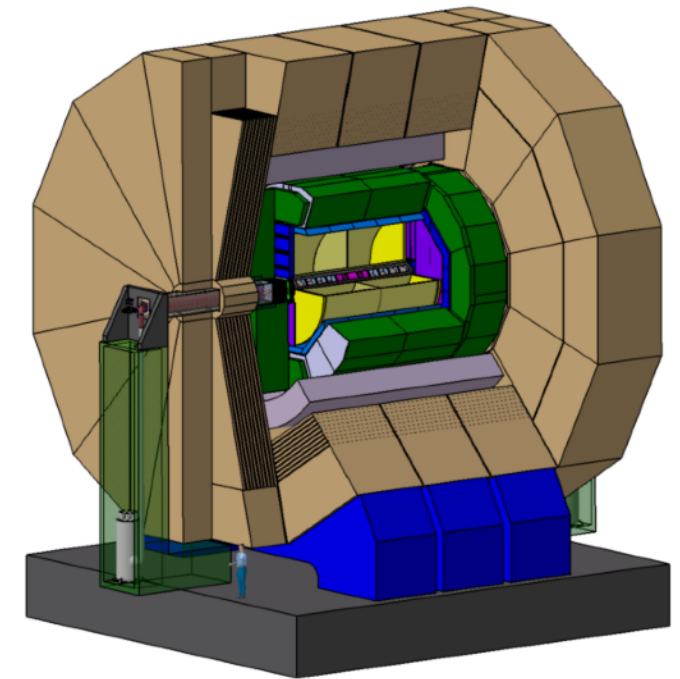
“Typical” jet:

- ~62% charged particles (mainly hadrons)
- ~27% photons
- ~10% neutral hadrons
- ~1% neutrinos

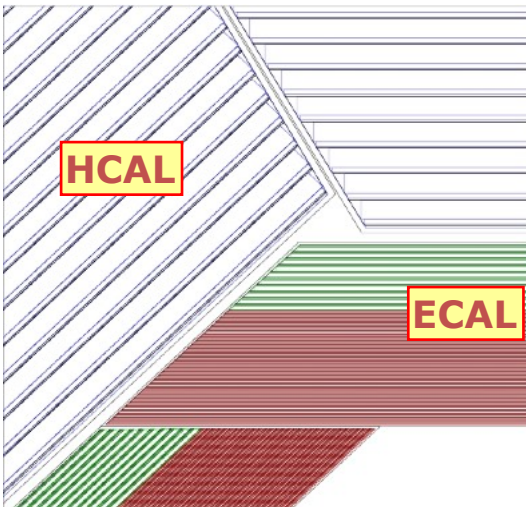
EXAMPLE: CALO DESIGN AT ILC

“no” material in front
large radius and length
large magnetic field
small Moliere radius
small granularity

- calorimeter inside the solenoid
- to better separate the particles
- to sweep out charged tracks
- to minimize shower overlap
- to separate overlapping showers



ILD: International Large Detector



ECAL:

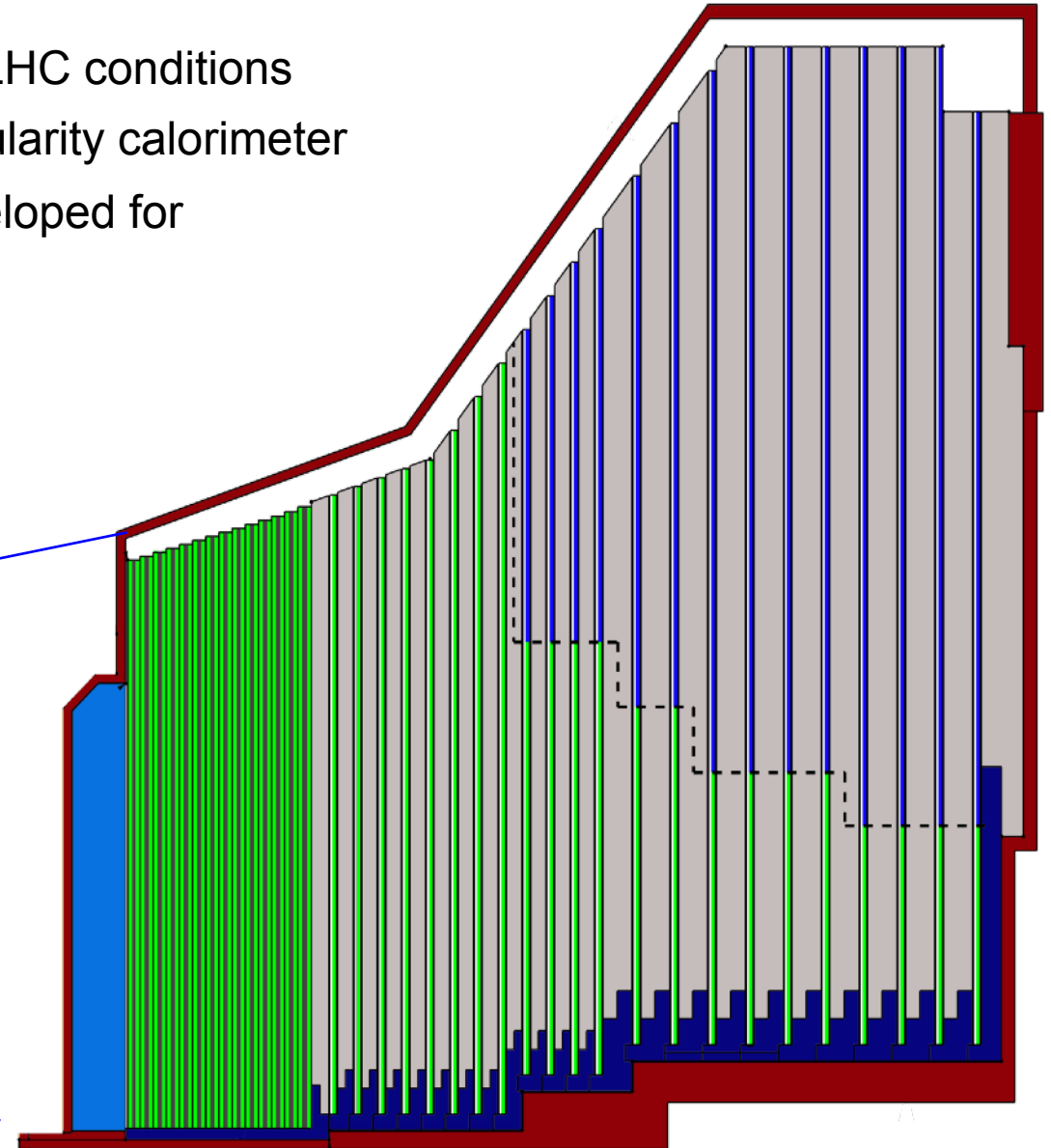
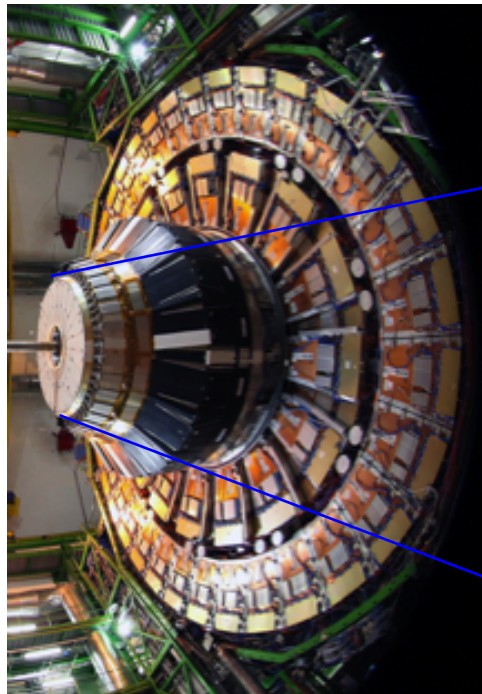
- SiW sampling calorimeter
- longitudinal segmentation: 30 layers
- transverse segmentation: 5x5 mm² pixels

HCAL:

- Steel-Scintillator tile sampling calorimeter
- longitudinal segmentation: 48 layers ($6 \lambda_I$)
- transverse segmentation: 3x3 cm² tiles

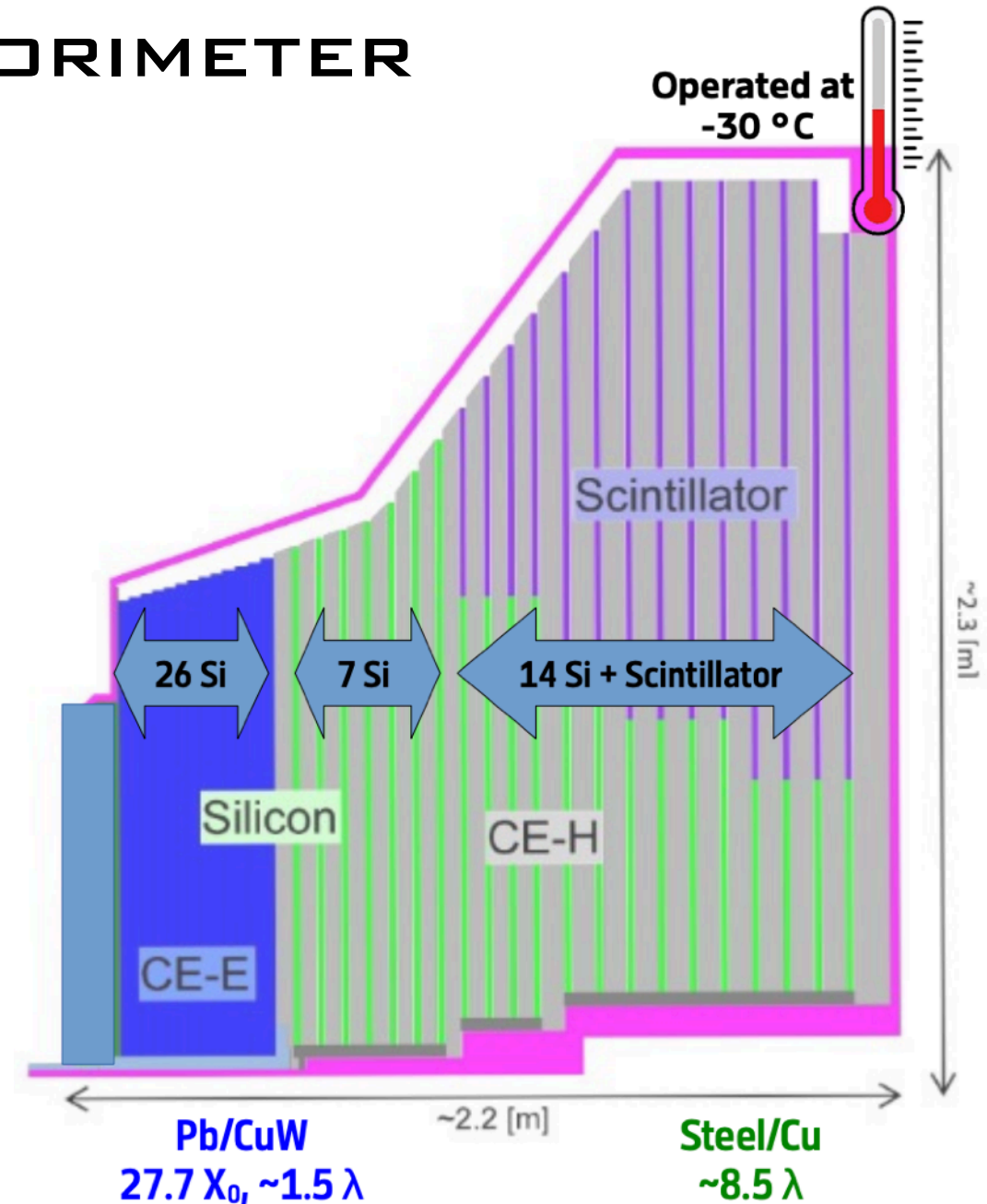
CMS HIGH GRANULARITY CALORIMETER ENDCAP

- Current CMS calorimeter endcap will not survive in HL-LHC conditions
- 2015, decided to replace it with silicon-based high-granularity calorimeter
- Synergy with high granularity calorimeter concepts developed for electron-positron colliders (CALICE)



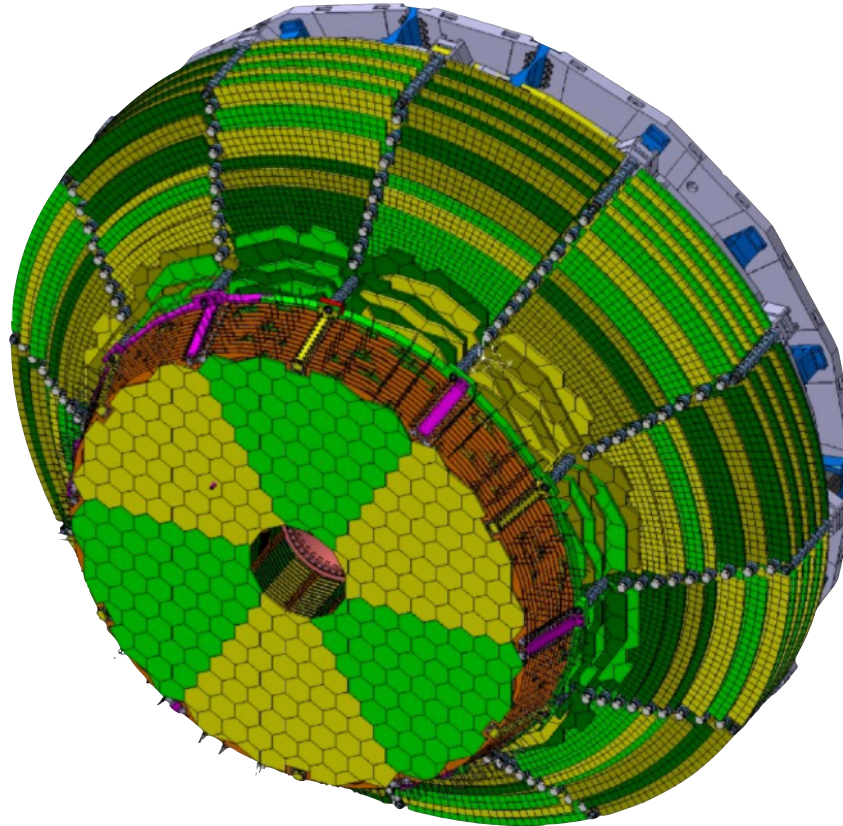
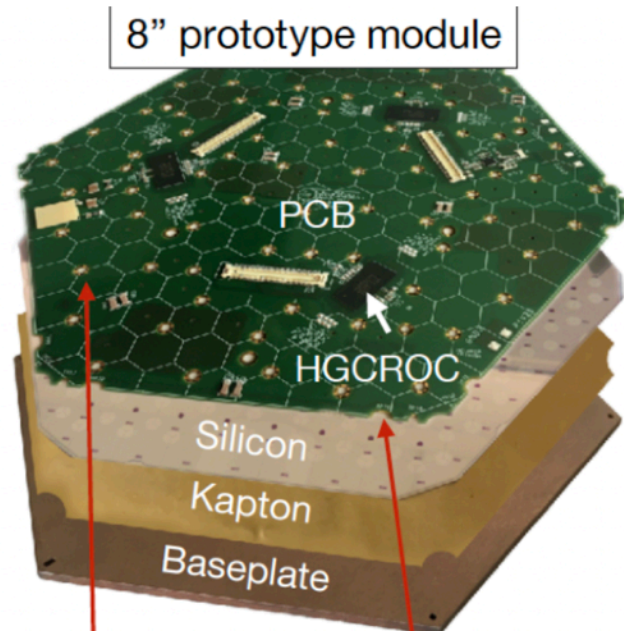
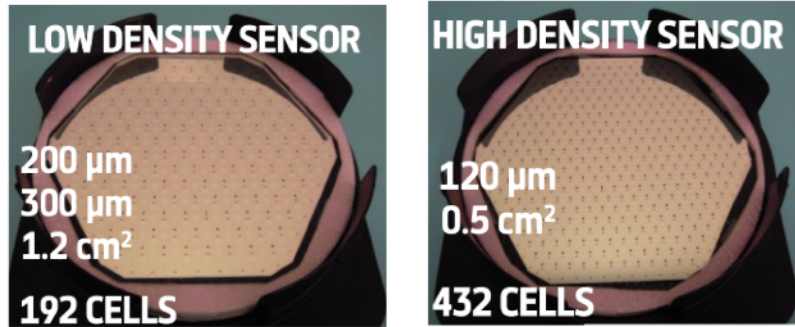
HGCAL - 5D IMAGING CALORIMETER

- 5D imaging calorimeter:
 - 3D spatial granularity, energy, timing information
 - Two separated sections in one single detector
- Active Materials**
 - Silicon Sensors (CE-E and CE-H)
 - Hexagonal 8" wafers • 6M pads (~620 m²)
 - Plastic Scintillators with SiPM readout (CE-H)
 - 240k scintillator tiles (~370 m²)
- Passive materials**
 - Lead absorber plates, copper cooling plates, and CuW baseplates • Compact and dense object → 225 T



ACTIVE MATERIAL

Silicon Modules for highest radiation level



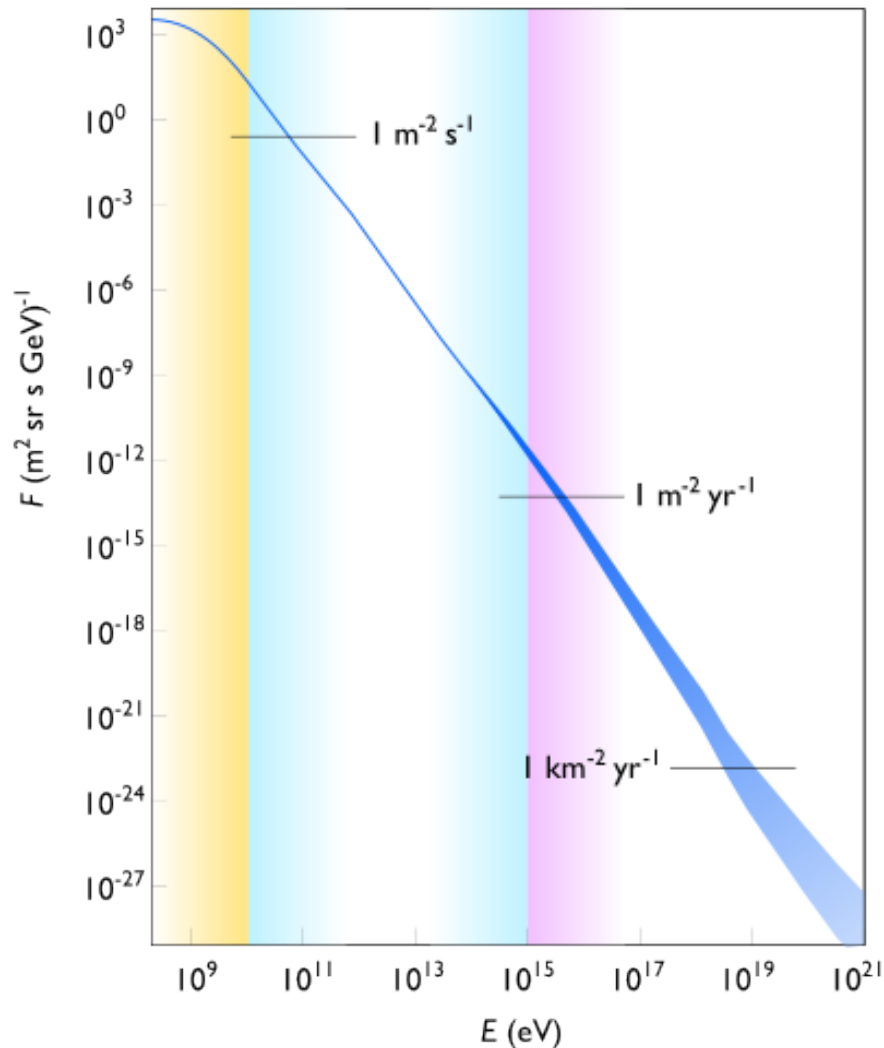
Plastic Scintillators with SiPM for medium radiation level



● Status of project

- Intense prototyping phase towards conclusion
- Pre-production start in 2024
- To be ready in 2027

CALOS: NOT ONLY AT ACCELERATORS!



Pic: Wikipedia

Requirements are different

- Search for extremely rare reactions
 - ▶ Large areas and volumina have to be covered
 - ▶ Background needs to be well suppressed
 - ▶ High efficiency: no event can be lost!
 - ▶ Data rate, radiation damage etc. are less of a problem
- The methods used in particle physics are more and more used in astro particle physics.

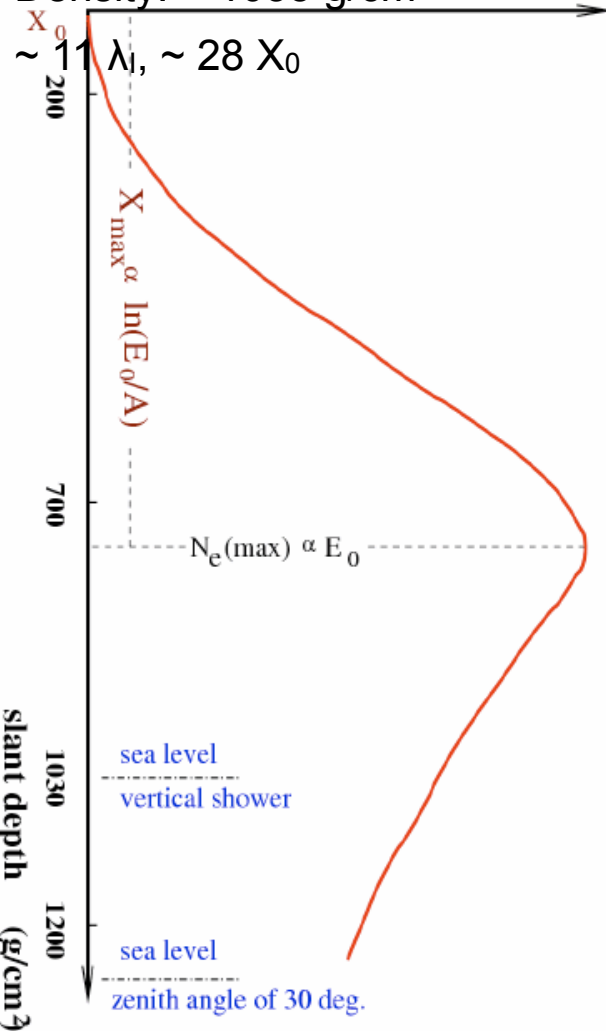
Flux of cosmic ray particles as a function of their energy.

AIR SHOWER

Nuclear reaction length $\lambda_l \sim 90 \text{ g/cm}^2$

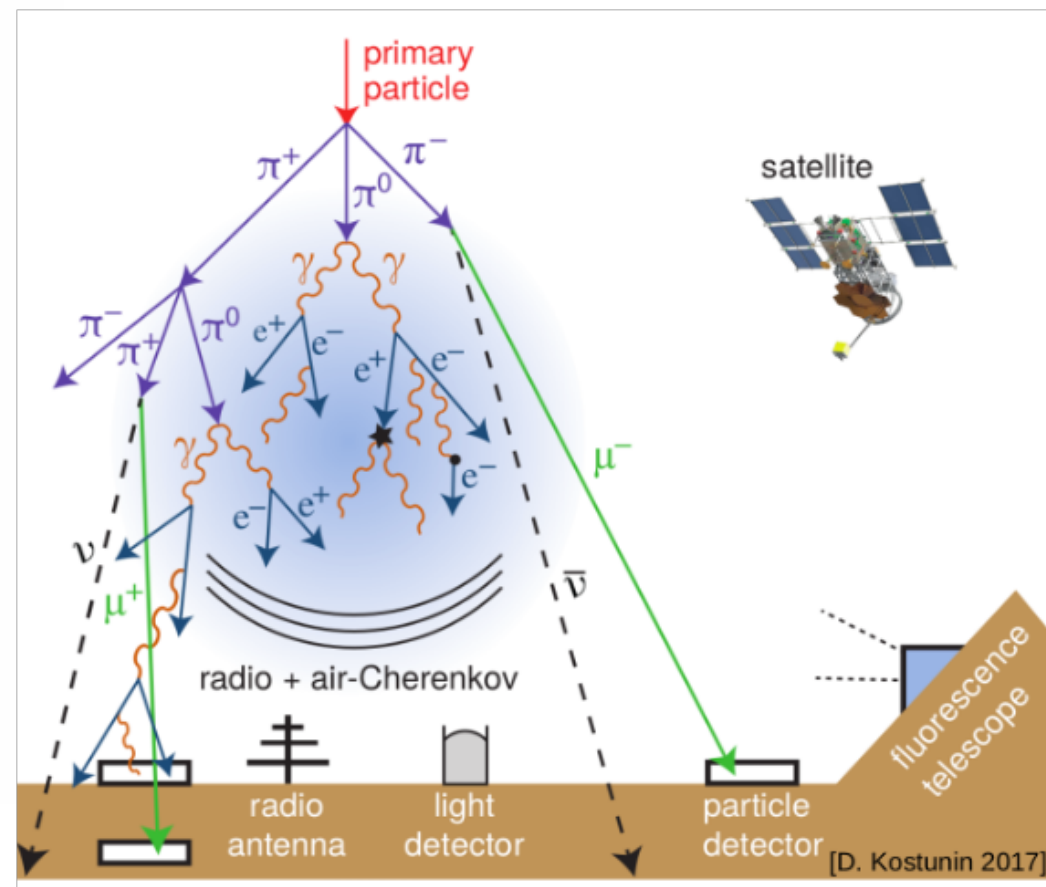
Radiation length $X_0 \sim 36.6 \text{ g/cm}^2$

Density: $\sim 1035 \text{ g/cm}^3$ shower size N_e



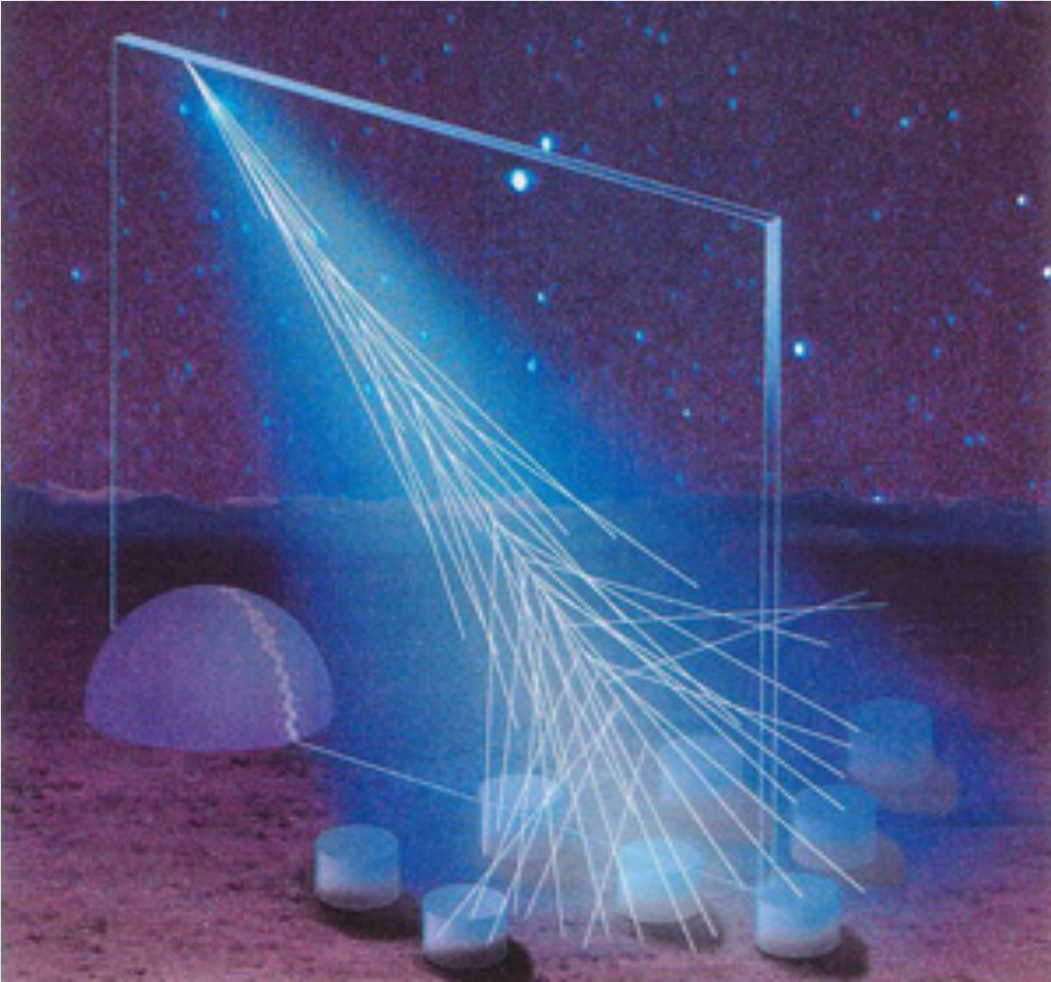
Use atmosphere as calorimeter

- Mainly electromagnetic: photons, electrons
- Shower maximum: $\sim \ln(E_0/A)$



TWO MAIN TECHNIQUES

Pic: Pierre Auger Observatory



- The atmosphere as homogeneous calorimeter:
 - Energy measurement by measuring the **fluorescence** light

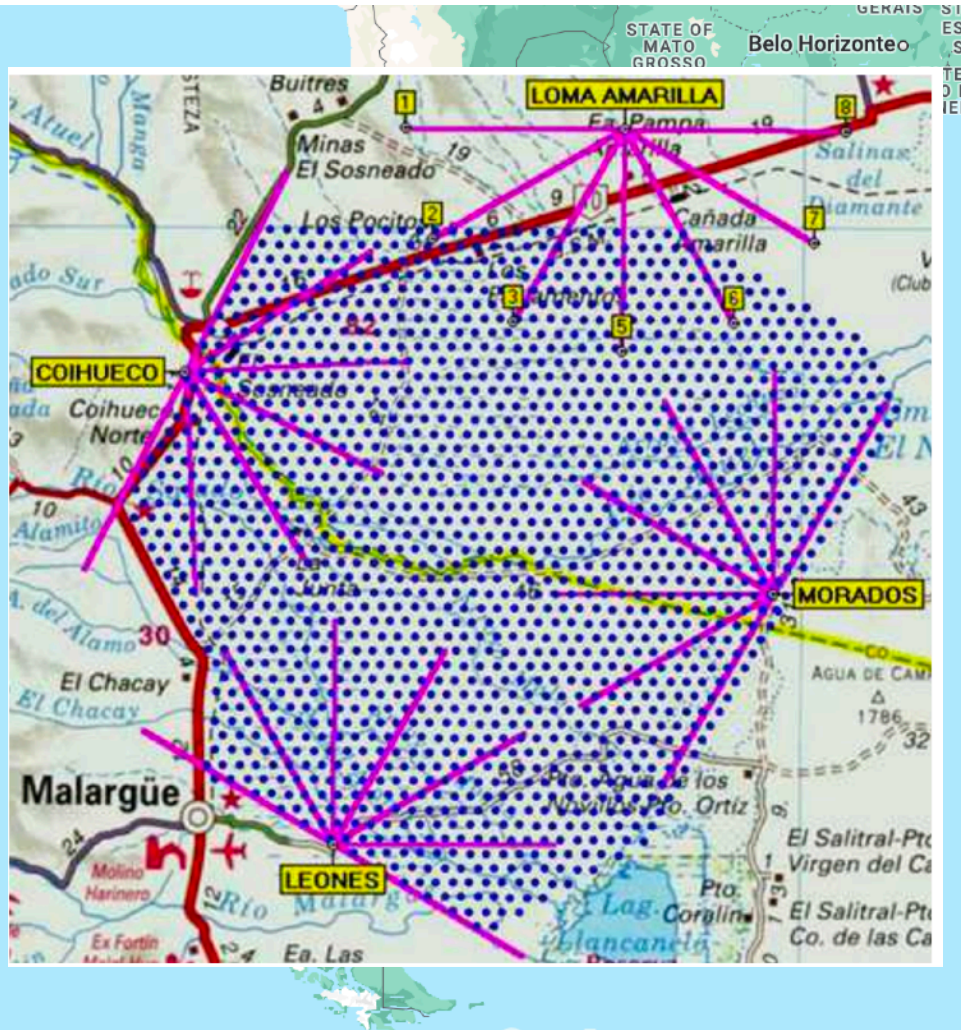
This is only possible with clear skies and darkness !

- A one-layer sampling calorimeter 11λ absorber
 - Energy measurement using particle multiplicity on the **surface**

Always possible but has large uncertainties !

AUGER-SOUTH: ARGENTINIAN PAMPA

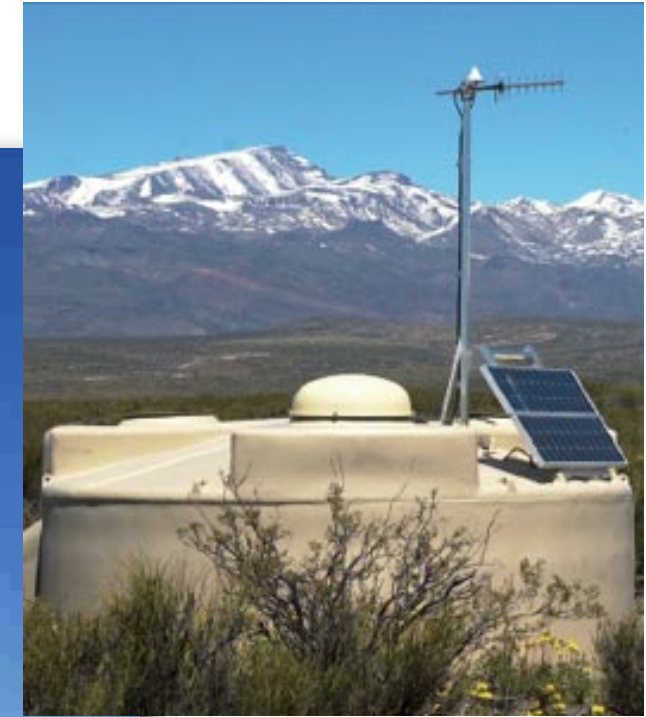
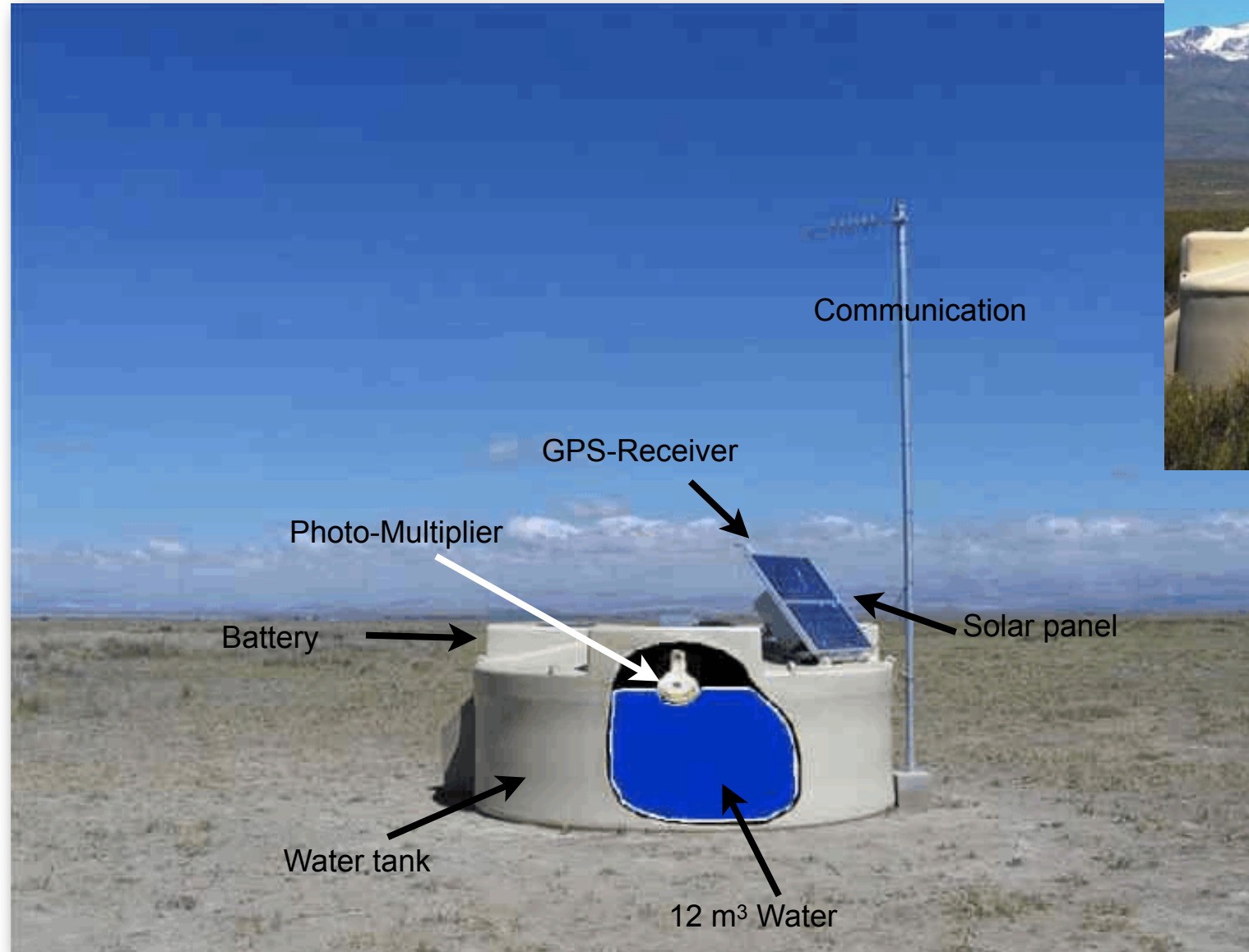
Pics: Pierre Auger Observatory



- Hybrid Installation
 - 1600 water-Cherenkov detectors on ground
 - 4 Fluorescence-stations with 6 telescopes
- Covered area:
3000 km² (30 x Paris)
- Designed to measure energies above 10¹⁸eV

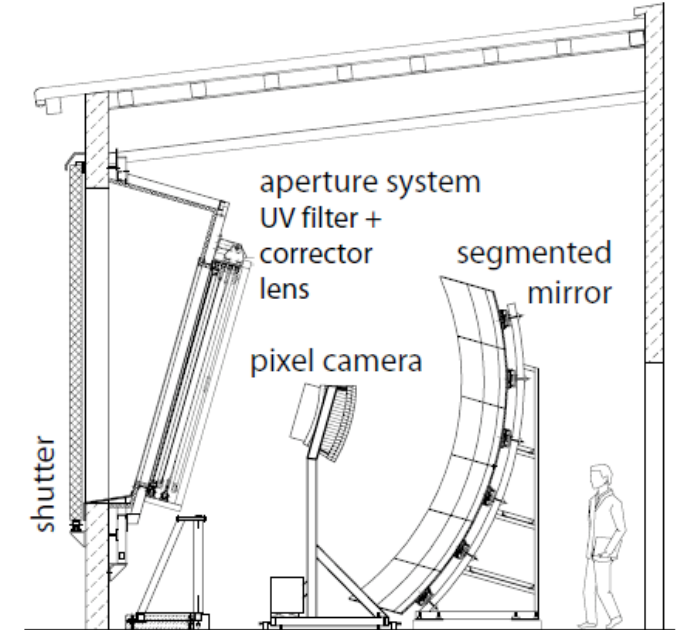
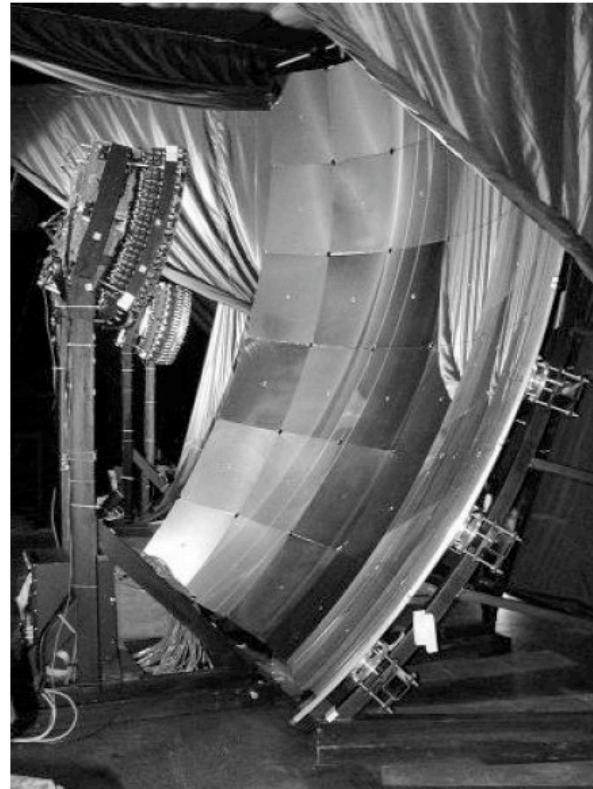
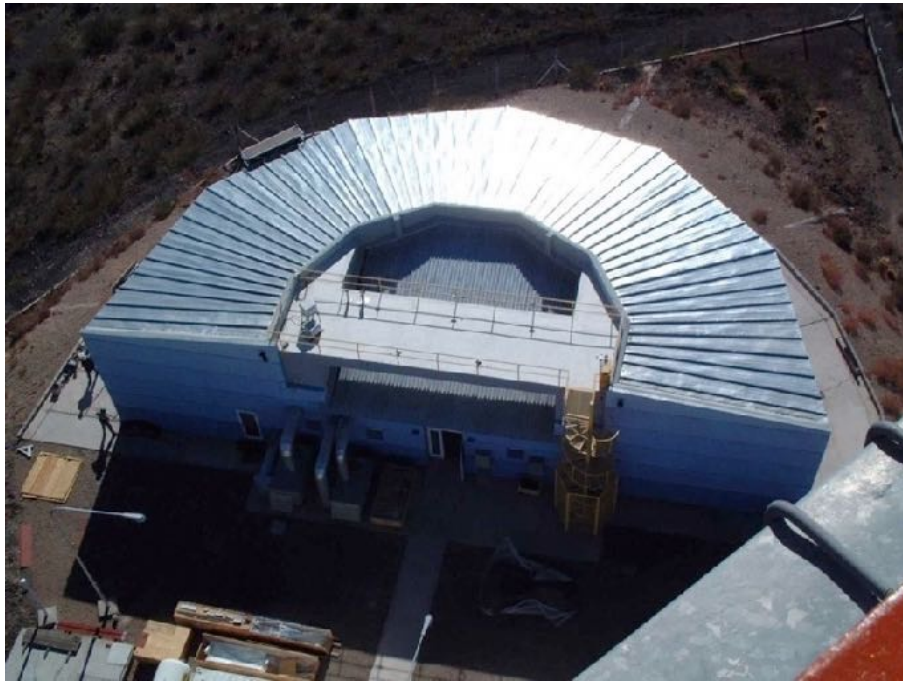
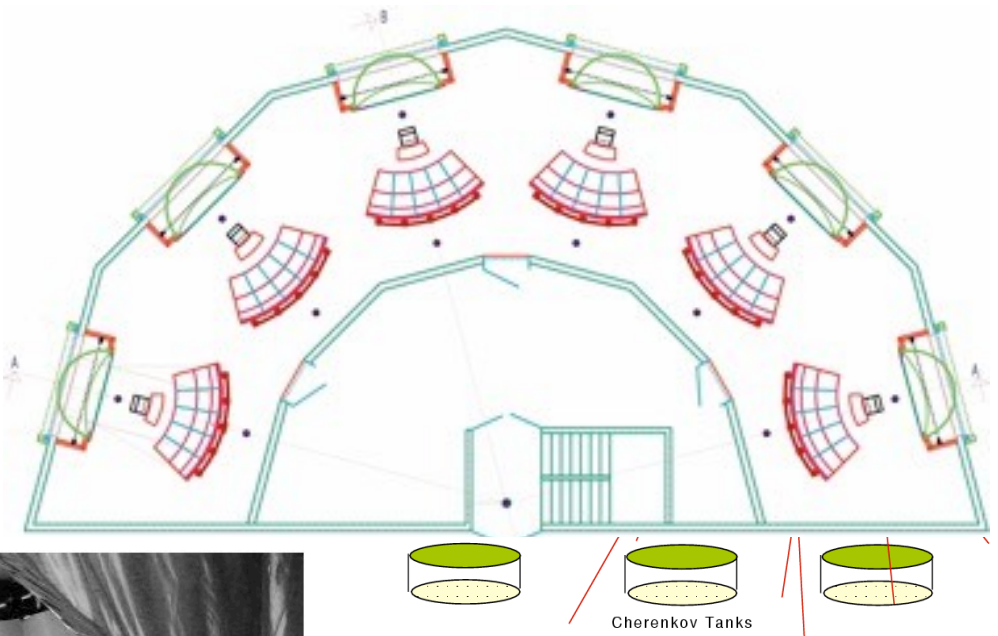


AUGER-DETEKTOR: SURFACE DETECTOR



AUGER HYBRID INSTALLATI

- Four fluorescence stations with each 6 telescopes
- Each telescope has a field of view of $30^\circ \times 30^\circ$.
- Mirror with an area of about 12m^2 focuses the fluorescence with an array of photomultipliers



SUMMARY CALORIMETERS

Calorimeters can be classified into:

Electromagnetic Calorimeters,

- to measure electrons and photons through their EM interactions.

Hadron Calorimeters,

- Used to measure hadrons through their strong and EM interactions.

The construction can be classified into:

Homogeneous Calorimeters,

- that are built of only one type of material that performs both tasks, energy degradation and signal generation.

Sampling Calorimeters,

- that consist of alternating layers of an absorber, a dense material used to degrade the energy of the incident particle, and an active medium that provides the detectable signal.

