

# Gaseous Detectors

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XIV ICFA School on Instrumentation in Elementary Particle Physics

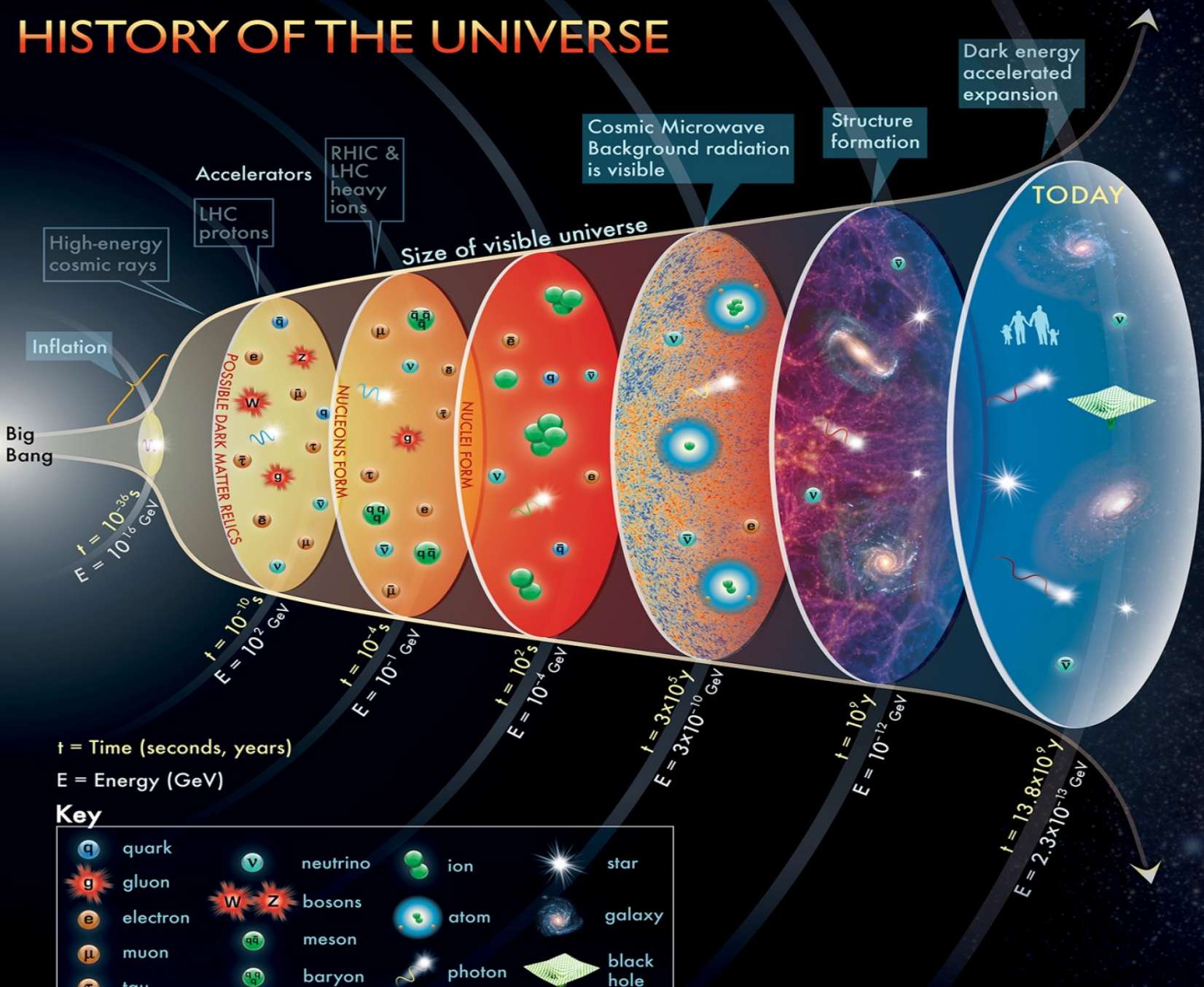
**LA HABANA**

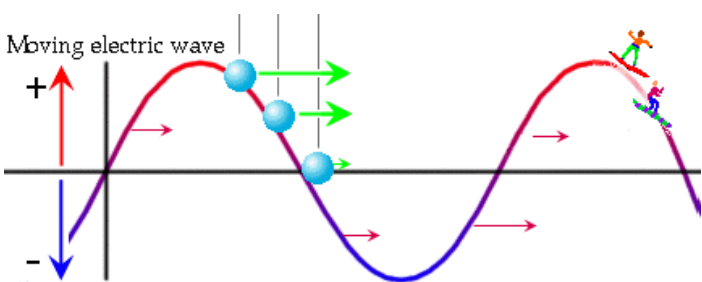
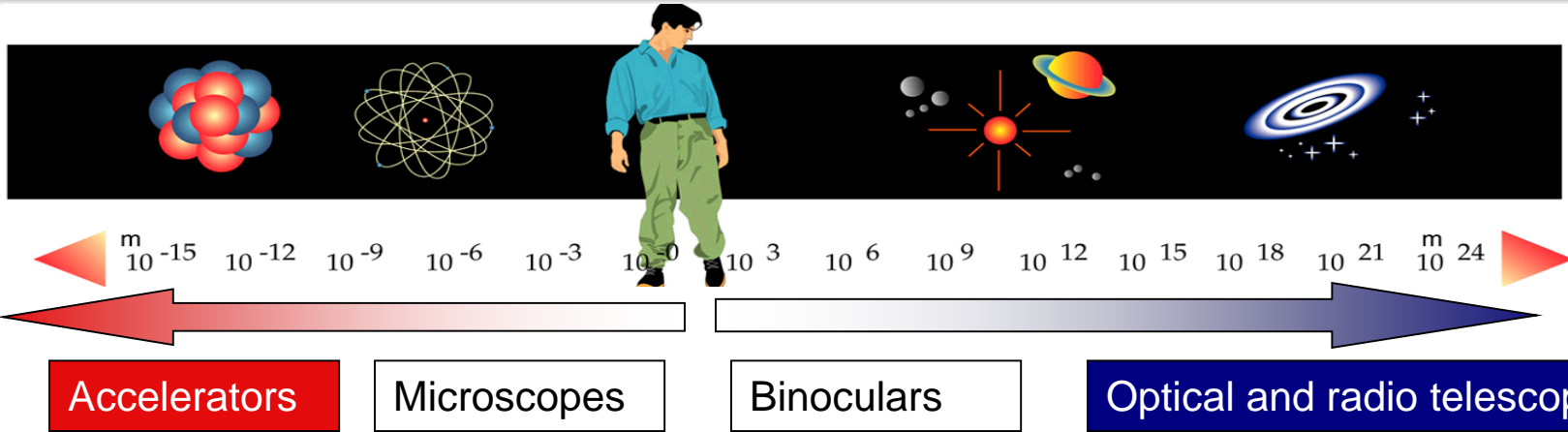
27 November - 8 December, 2017

1. Introduction
2. Interactions of charged particles with matter
3. Drift and diffusion of charges in gases
4. Avalanche multiplication of charge
5. Signal formation and processing
6. Ionization and proportional gaseous detectors
7. Position and momentum measurement / track reconstruction

# 1 Introduction

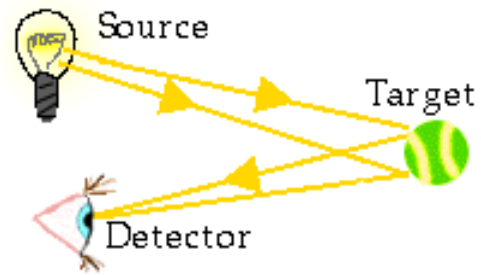
# HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSE



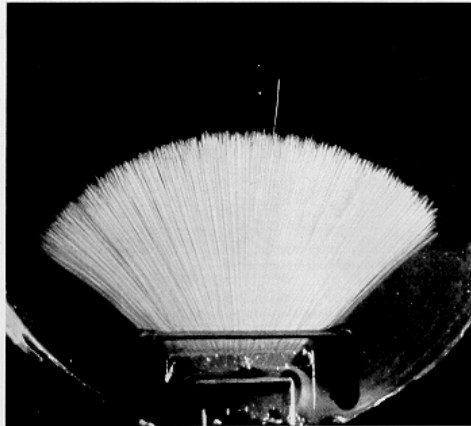


Resolution:  $\Delta x \cdot \Delta p \simeq \hbar$

$$\Delta x \sim \frac{\lambda}{\sin \theta}$$

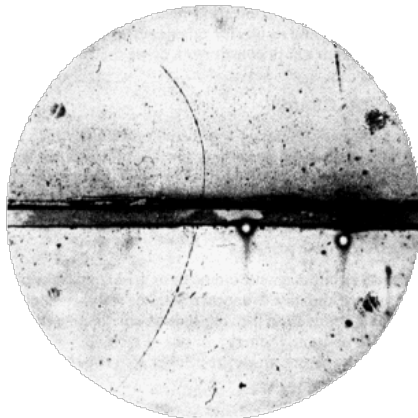


**C.T.R. Wilson (1910):** Charges act as condensation nuclei in supersaturated water vapor (later: alcohol vapor  $\Rightarrow$  diffusion cloud chamber)

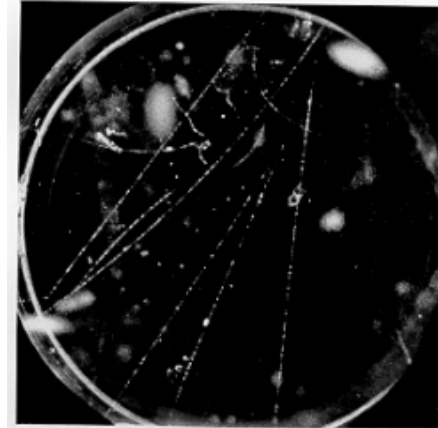


*Fig. 13. K. PHILIPP, Naturwiss. 14, 1203 (1926).*

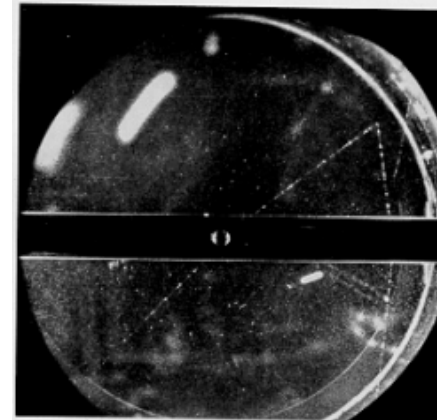
**Alphas, Philipp 1926**



**Positron discovery, Carl Andersen 1933**



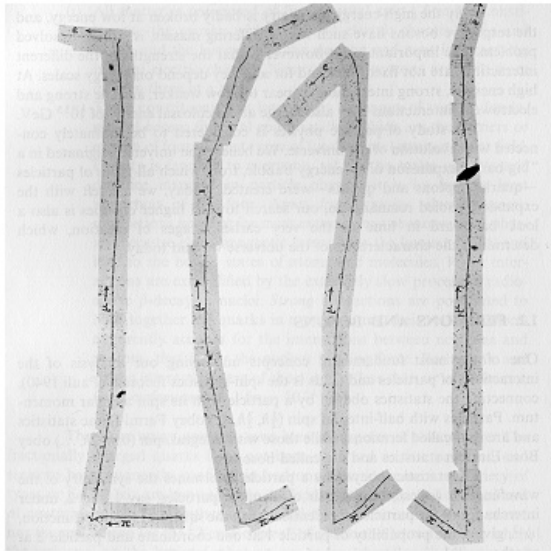
*Plate 115*



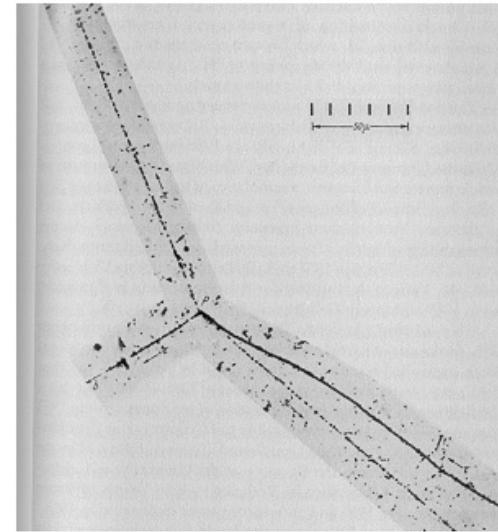
*Plate 116*

**V-particles, Rochester and Wilson, 1940ies**

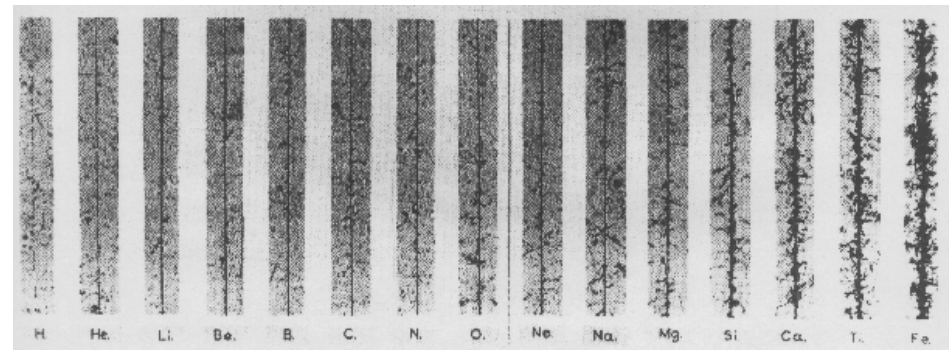
**M. Blau (1930s):** Charges initiate a chemical reaction that blackens the emulsion (film made of Ag-halide, e.g. AgBr)



**C. Powell, Discovery of muon and pion, 1947**

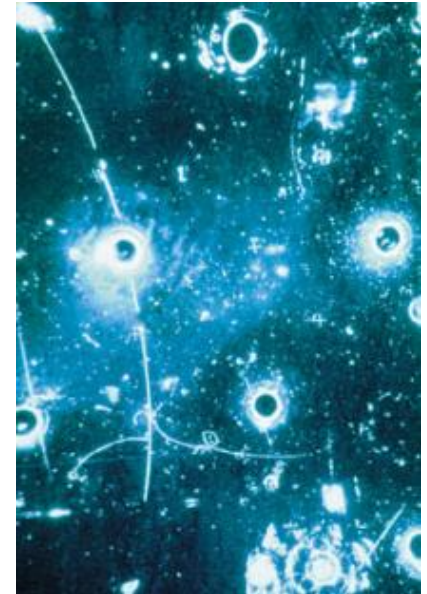
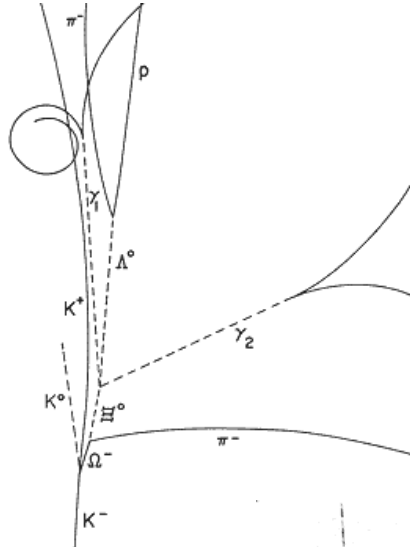
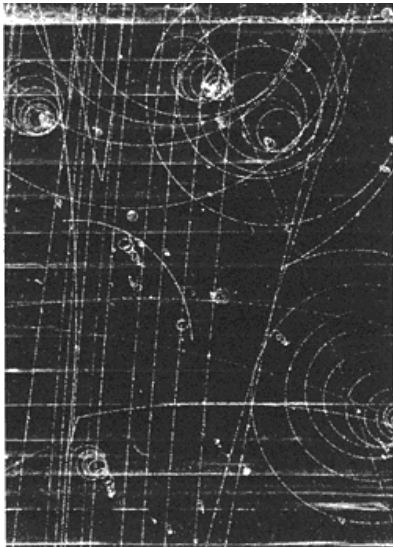


**Kaon Decay into 3 pions, 1949**



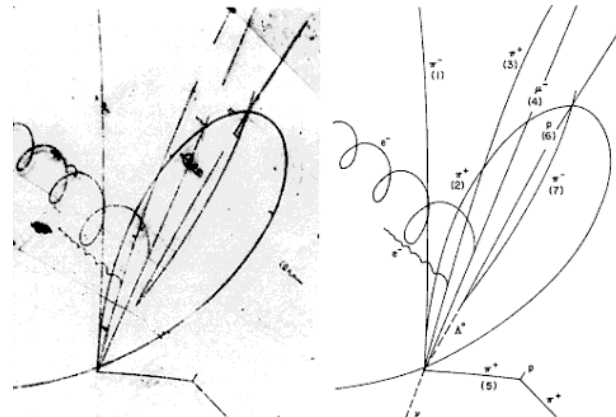
**Cosmic Ray Composition**

**D. Glaser (1952):** Charges create bubbles in superheated liquid, e.g. propane or Hydrogen (Alvarez)



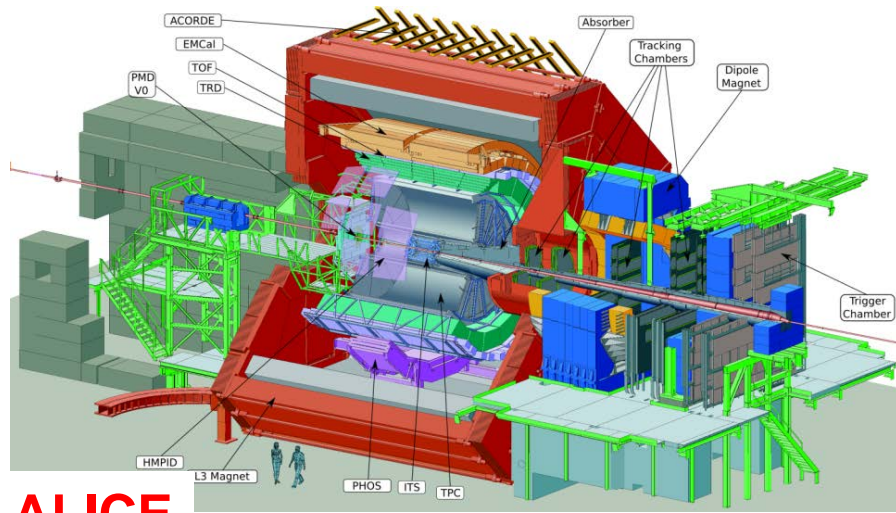
**Neutral Currents 1973**

**Discovery of the  $\Omega^-$  in 1964**



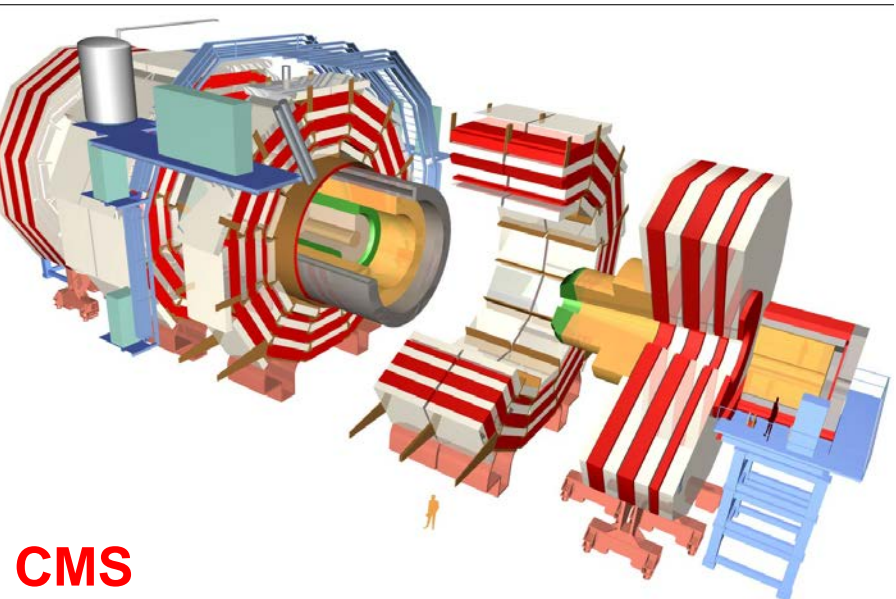
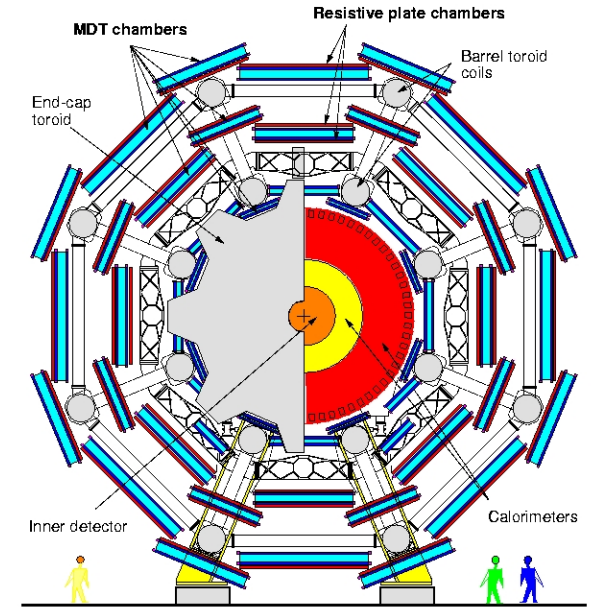
**Charmed Baryon, 1975**



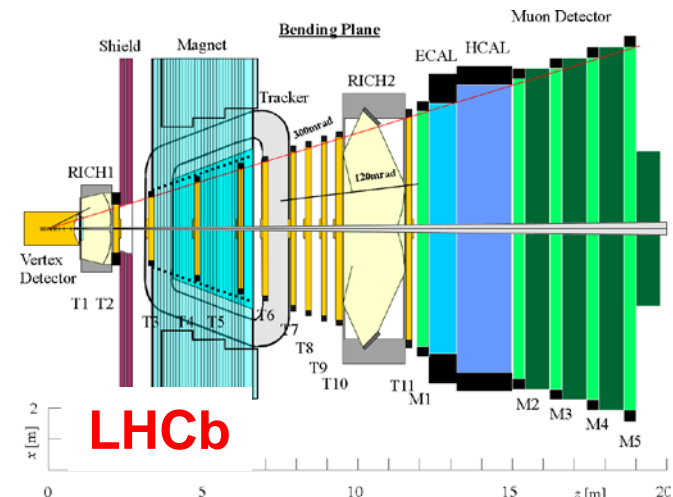


**ALICE**

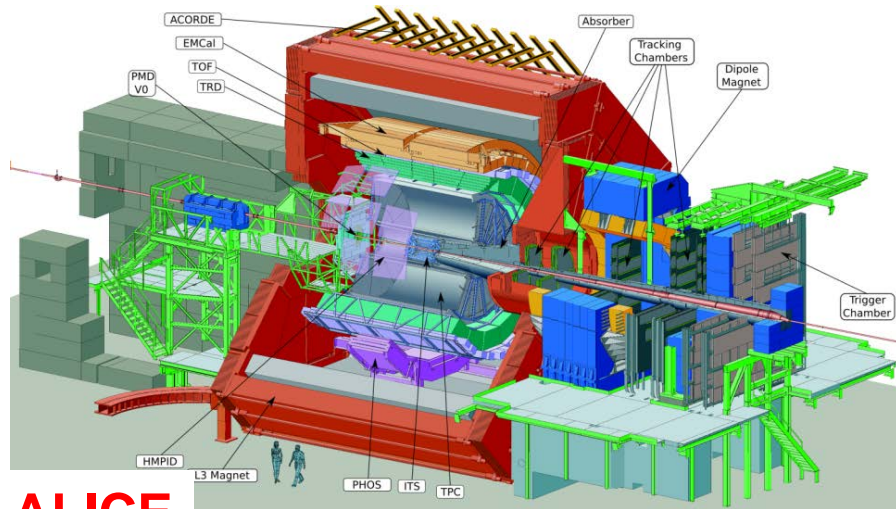
**ATLAS**



**CMS**

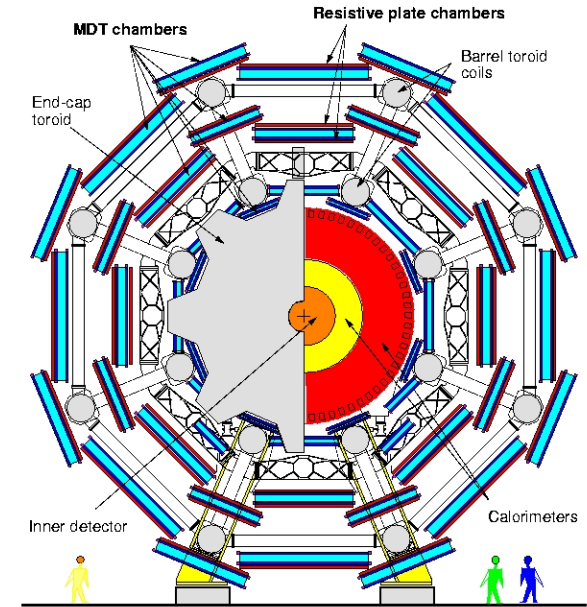


**LHCb**



**ALICE**

**ATLAS**

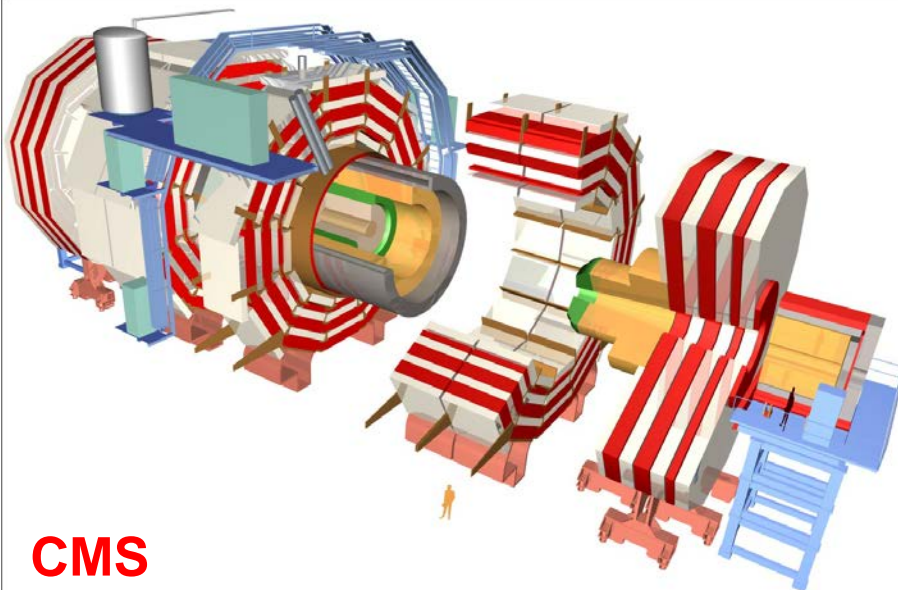


## Very Large Structures

- Engineering, Services, Cooling
- Electronics

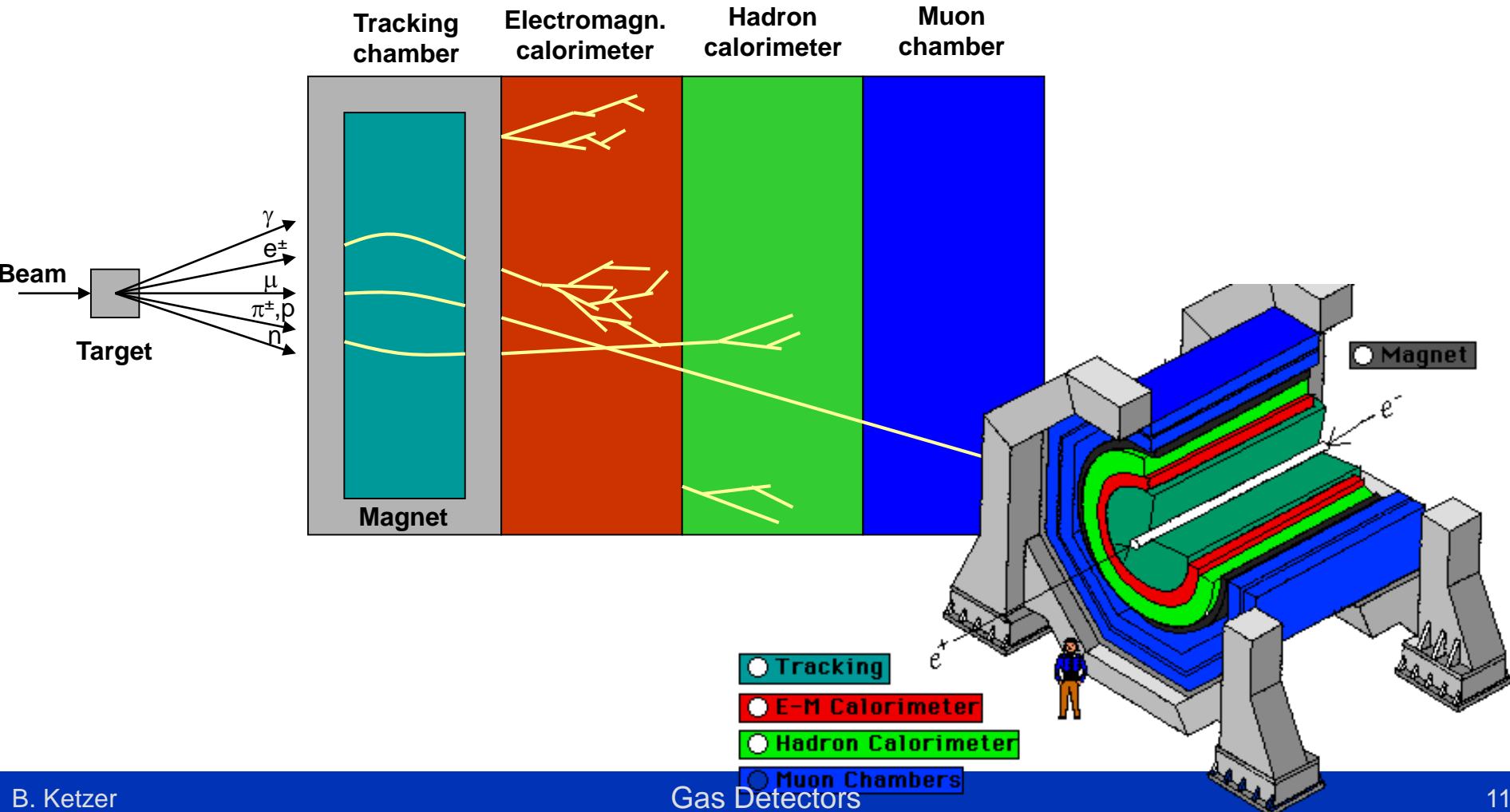
## But in the end:

resolution limits are still defined by the fundamental detector physics processes ..

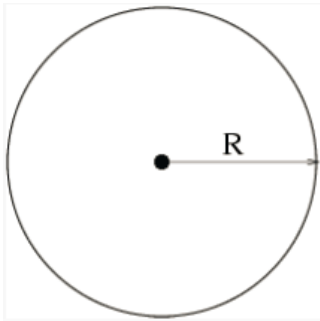


**CMS**

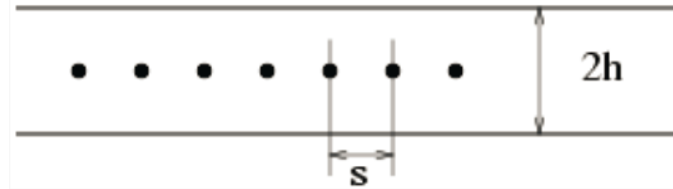
Different **components**, measuring different **aspects** of reaction products:  
 track, charge, energy, momentum, particle type, ...



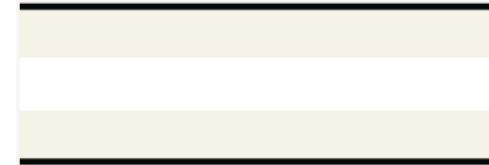
Geiger-Müller (1908), 1928  
Drift Tube (1968)



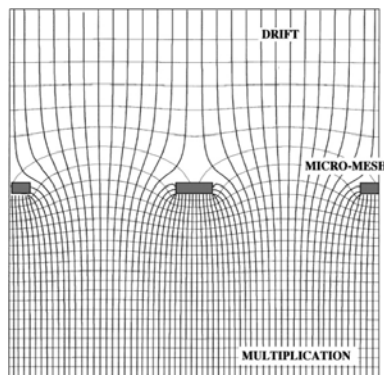
G. Charpak, 1968  
Multiwire Proportional Chamber



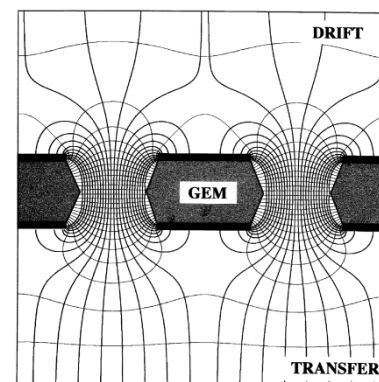
R. Santonico, 1980  
Resistive Plate Chamber



G. Giomataris, 1996  
Micromesh Gaseous Structure



F. Sauli, 1997  
Gas Electron Multiplier



1. What is the general relation between energy and momentum?
2. Which approximations can be used?
3. What are  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ ? How are they calculated from  $E, p, m$ ?
4. How large are the fluctuations in radioactive decay?
5. What is a cross section?
6. What are typical values of cross sections?
7. How is the cross section related to luminosity?
8. How do charged particles interact with matter?

## **2 Electromagnetic Interactions of Charged Particles with Matter**

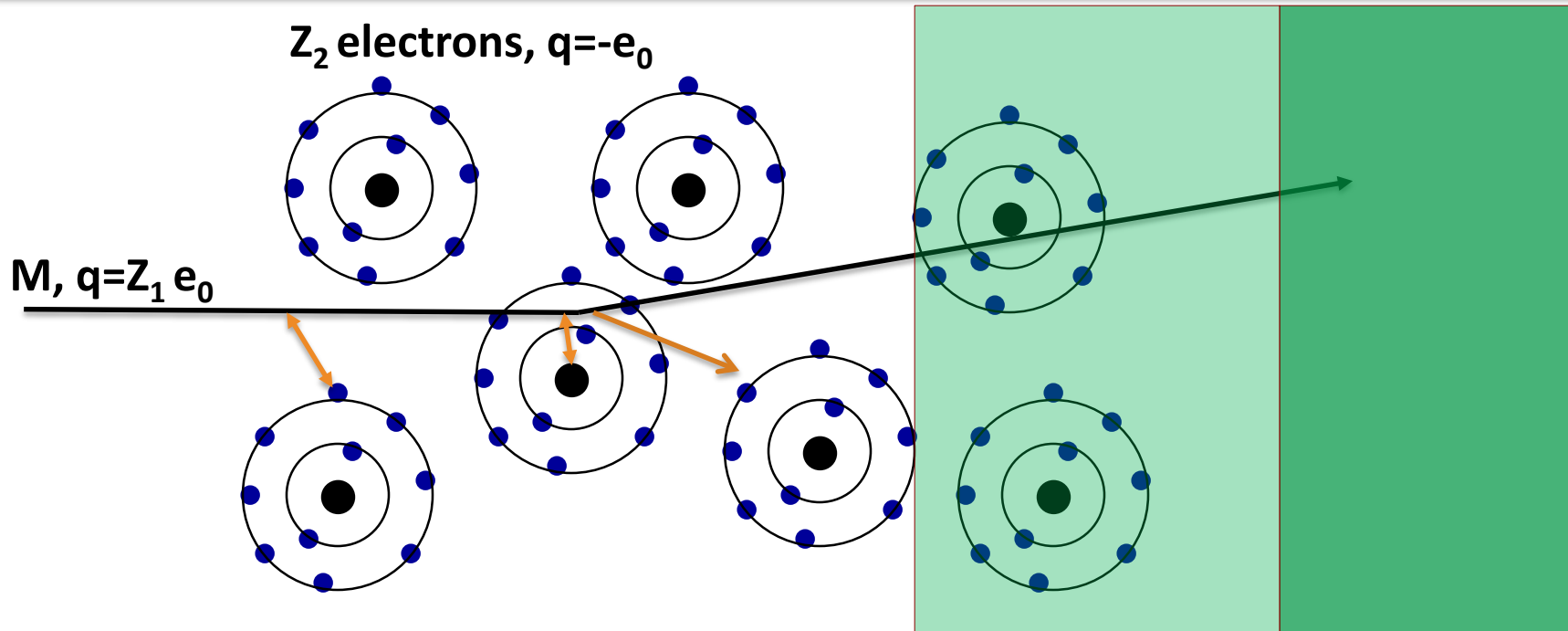
2.1 Ionizing collisions

2.2 Mean energy loss

2.3 Fluctuations of energy loss

2.4 Measurement of energy loss

2.5 Multiple Scattering



Interaction with the atomic electrons. The incoming particle loses energy and the atoms are excited or ionized.

Interaction with the atomic nucleus. The particle is deflected (scattered) causing multiple scattering of the particle in the material. During this scattering a Bremsstrahlung photon can be emitted.

In case the particle's velocity is larger than the velocity of light in the medium, the resulting EM shockwave manifests itself as Cherenkov Radiation. When the particle crosses the boundary between two media, there is a probability of the order of 1% to produce an X ray photon, called Transition radiation.

Slide courtesy of W. Riegler

Interactions of a fast charged particle with speed  $\beta = v/c$  and momentum  $p = Mc\beta\gamma$  with matter

⇒ Occurrence of random individual collisions

⇒ In each collision the particle loses a random amount of energy  $E$

Characterization by mean free path  $\lambda$  and collision cross section  $\sigma$ :

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{n_e \sigma} = \frac{1}{n_p}$$

$n_e$  number density of electrons  
 $n_p$  number of (primary) collisions per unit length

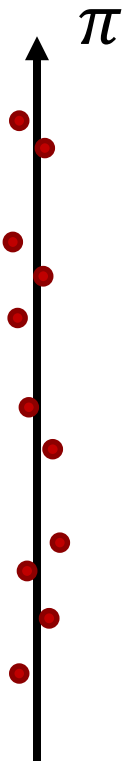
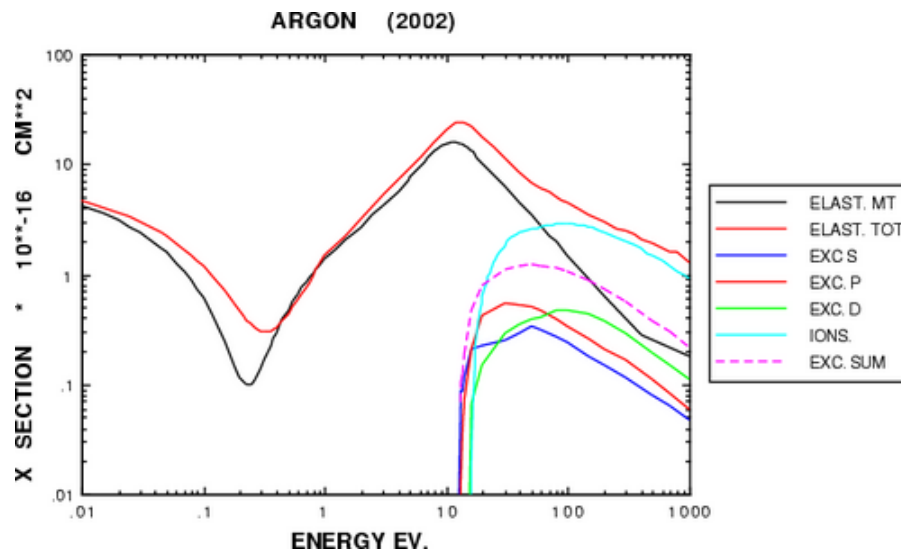
Number of encounters in length  $L$  described by **Poisson distribution**

$$P(k; \mu) = \frac{\mu^k}{k!} e^{-\mu} \quad \mu = \frac{L}{\lambda} = L n_p$$



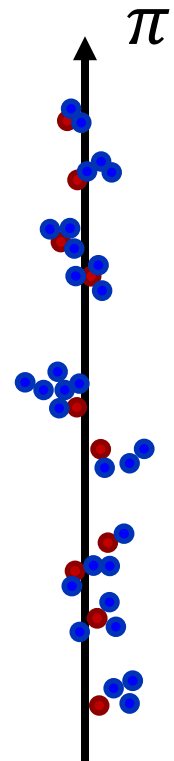
Distinguish between primary and secondary ionization:

1. Primary ionization: created by incident fast particle, e.g.  $\pi$ 
  - Cross section  $\sim 10^{-17} \text{ cm}^2$
  - Energy threshold for ionization



## Distinguish between primary and secondary ionization:

1. Primary ionization: created by incident fast particle, e.g.  $\pi$ 
  - Cross section  $\sim 10^{-17} \text{ cm}^2$
  - Energy threshold for ionization
  
2. Secondary ionization: electrons are ejected from atoms not encountered by fast particle
  - collision of ionization  $e^-$  with atoms ( $\delta$  electrons)
  - through intermediate excited states, e.g. Penning effect, Jesse effect
  - through creation of excimers



$$\frac{n_t}{n_p} \approx 2 - 3 \text{ "ionization cluster"} \Rightarrow \text{most of the total charge!}$$

- Only a certain fraction of all the energy lost is spent in ionization
- Total amount of ionization (number of electrons)  $n_t$  characterized by energy  $W$  which is spent on average on the creation of one free electron

$$W n_t = \langle \Delta E \rangle \cong L \left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle$$

$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle$  average energy loss per unit pathlength  
 “stopping power“ or “specific energy loss“

## Caution:

- Collisions are a statistical process, i.e. there will be fluctuations
- The definition of an average requires that the fluctuations are not too large!

$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = \frac{4\pi}{(4\pi\epsilon_0)^2} \frac{z^2 e^4 n_e}{mc^2 \beta^2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2mc^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 T_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta}{2} \right]$$

with

- $ze$  charge of incoming particle
- $n_e$  electron number density of material
- $m$  electron mass
- $\beta=v/c$  velocity of incoming particle
- $\gamma$  relativistic factor
- $T_{\max}$  maximum kinetic energy imparted to electron in single collision

“Bethe equation”

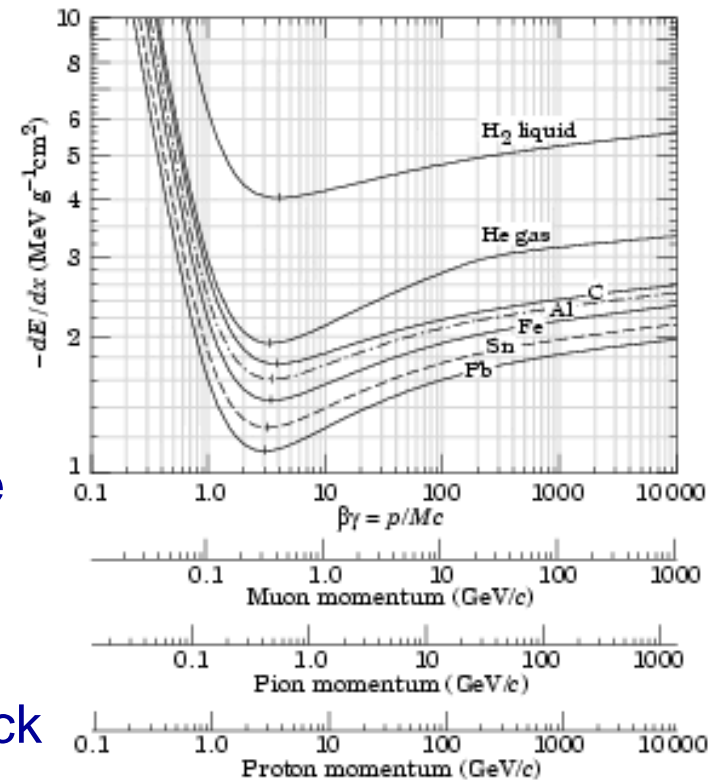
$$n_e = \frac{Z}{A} N_A \rho$$

$$T_{\max} = \frac{2\gamma^2 \beta^2 mc^2}{1 + 2\gamma(m/M) + (m/M)^2} \underset{M \gg 2m\gamma}{\simeq} 2mv^2 \gamma^2$$

- $I$  mean excitation energy
- $\delta$  density effect correction

$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = \frac{4\pi}{(4\pi\epsilon_0)^2} \frac{z^2 e^4 n_e}{mc^2 \beta^2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2mc^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 T_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta}{2} \right]$$

- independent of mass of incident particle
- depends only on velocity of inc. particle and on  $I \Rightarrow$  main parameter
- low energies  $\Rightarrow \langle -dE/dx \rangle \propto 1/\beta^2$
- minimum at  $\beta\gamma \approx 3$  : “MIP”
- high energies  $\Rightarrow \langle -dE/dx \rangle \propto \ln \beta^2 \gamma^2$  : relativistic rise
- mass stopping power:  $\langle -dE/\rho dx \rangle \propto z^2 (Z/A) \cdot f(\beta, I)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  almost independent of material
- density effect: polarization of atoms along track  
 $\Rightarrow$  partly compensates relativistic rise



Quantum picture: energy loss caused by a number of discrete collisions per unit length, each with energy transfer  $E$

$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = \int_0^\infty E' f(E') dE'$$

$f(E) dE$  probability of energy loss per unit path length between  $E$  and  $E+dE$

and with  $f(E) = n_e d\sigma(E, \beta)/dE$

$n_e$  electron density

$E$  energy transfer in single collision

$d\sigma/dE$  collision cross section differential in transferred energy

$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = n_e \int_0^\infty E' \frac{d\sigma}{dE'} dE'$$

Mean free path:  $n_p = \frac{1}{\lambda} = \int_0^\infty f(E') dE'$

$n_p$  number of primary collisions per unit path length

Spectrum of energy transfer  $F(E)dE = \frac{f(E)dE}{n_p}$  probability of energy loss in  $[E, E + dE]$  per collision

⇒ need a model for collision cross section!

[H. Bichsel, NIM A 562, 154 (2006)]

Simplest ansatz: hard collisions

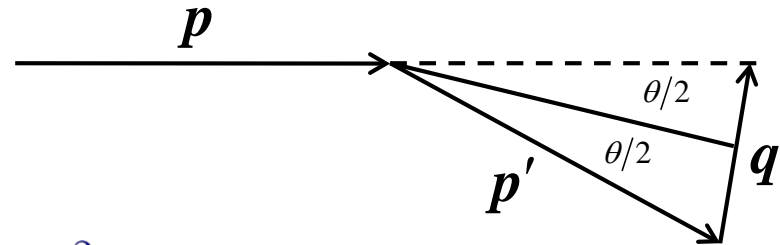
- Coulomb scattering of projectile with charge  $ze$  off free electrons
- only valid for energy transfers  $\gg$  typical atomic binding energies  $I$
- in rest frame of projectile: electron scattering off heavy particle at rest

⇒ Mott cross section:

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{Mott}}^* = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{Rutherford}} \cdot \left(1 - \beta^2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}\right)$$

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{Rutherford}} = \left(\frac{z\alpha\hbar c}{2|\mathbf{p}||\mathbf{v}|}\right)^2 \frac{1}{\sin^4 \frac{\theta}{2}} \quad \text{for static potential (no recoil)}$$

With  $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}'$  ,  $\sin \frac{\theta}{2} = \frac{|\mathbf{q}|}{2|\mathbf{p}|}$  ,  $\mathbf{p} = \gamma m \mathbf{v}$



follows the cross section

differential in transferred energy  $E = \frac{|\mathbf{q}|^2}{2m}$

$$\left( \frac{d\sigma}{dE} \right)_{\text{Mott}}^* = \frac{2\pi}{m} \left( \frac{z\alpha\hbar}{E\beta} \right)^2 \left[ 1 - \frac{E}{2mc^2} (1 - \beta^2) \right]$$

Exercise: show this...



Evaluation of integral  $\int_{T_{\min}}^{T_{\max}} E' \left( \frac{d\sigma(E', \beta)}{dE'} \right)_{\text{Mott}} dE'$

Validity range of Mott CCS:  $T_{\min} < E < T_{\max}$

$$T_{\max} = \frac{2\gamma^2 \beta^2 m c^2}{1 + 2\gamma(m/M) + (m/M)^2} \underset{M \gg 2m\gamma}{\simeq} 2mv^2 \gamma^2$$

$$T_{\min} = \epsilon \gg I$$

$I$ : mean excitation energy

Therefore we arrive at

$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle_{\text{R}} = n_e \cdot \frac{2\pi}{m} \cdot \left( \frac{z\alpha\hbar}{\beta} \right)^2 \left[ \ln \frac{2mv^2 \gamma^2}{\epsilon} - \beta^2 \right]$$

Yields Bethe equation, except

- Factor 2
- $\epsilon$  instead of  $I$

Contribution from  
hard scattering!

Bethe, 1930:

[H. Bethe, Ann. Phys. 5, 325 (1930)]

- drop assumption of free electrons
- derive expression for cross section double-differential in energy loss  $E$  and momentum transfer  $q$  for inelastic scattering on free atoms
- use first Born approximation

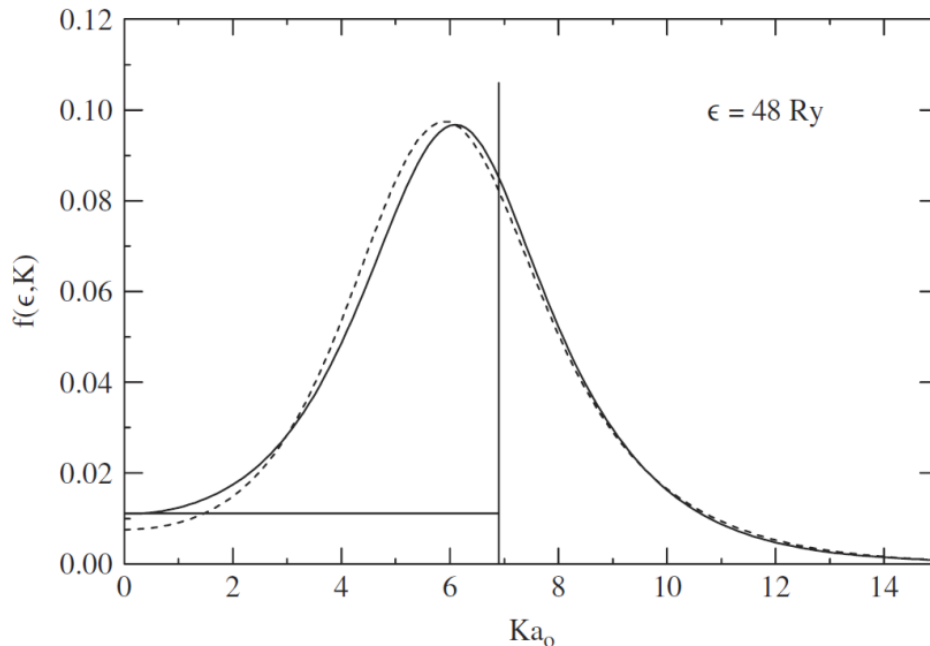
$$\frac{d\sigma(E, Q)}{dEdQ} = \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dE} \right)_{\text{Mott}}^* \cdot \frac{E^2}{Q^2} \cdot |F(\mathbf{q})|^2 \quad Q = \frac{q^2}{2m}$$

$$\text{with } \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dE} \right)_{\text{Mott}}^* = \frac{2\pi}{m} \left( \frac{z\alpha\hbar}{E\beta} \right)^2 \left[ 1 - \beta^2 \frac{E}{T_{\text{max}}} \right]$$

Fano, 1963:

[U. Fano, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Sci. 13, 1 (1963)]

- extend method for solids
- no calculations exist for gases



$$f_n(E, k) = \frac{E}{Q} \cdot |F_n(k)|^2$$

Generalized oscillator strength

Form factor for excitation of state  $|n\rangle$

Fig. 4. Generalized oscillator strength (GOS) for Si for an energy transfer  $\epsilon = 48Ry$  ( $Ry = 13.6\text{eV}$ ) to the 2p-shell electrons [18]. Solid line: calculated with Herman–Skilman potential, dashed line: hydrogenic approximation. The horizontal and vertical line define the FVP approximation (Section 2.3).

[H. Bichsel, NIM A 562, 154 (2006)]

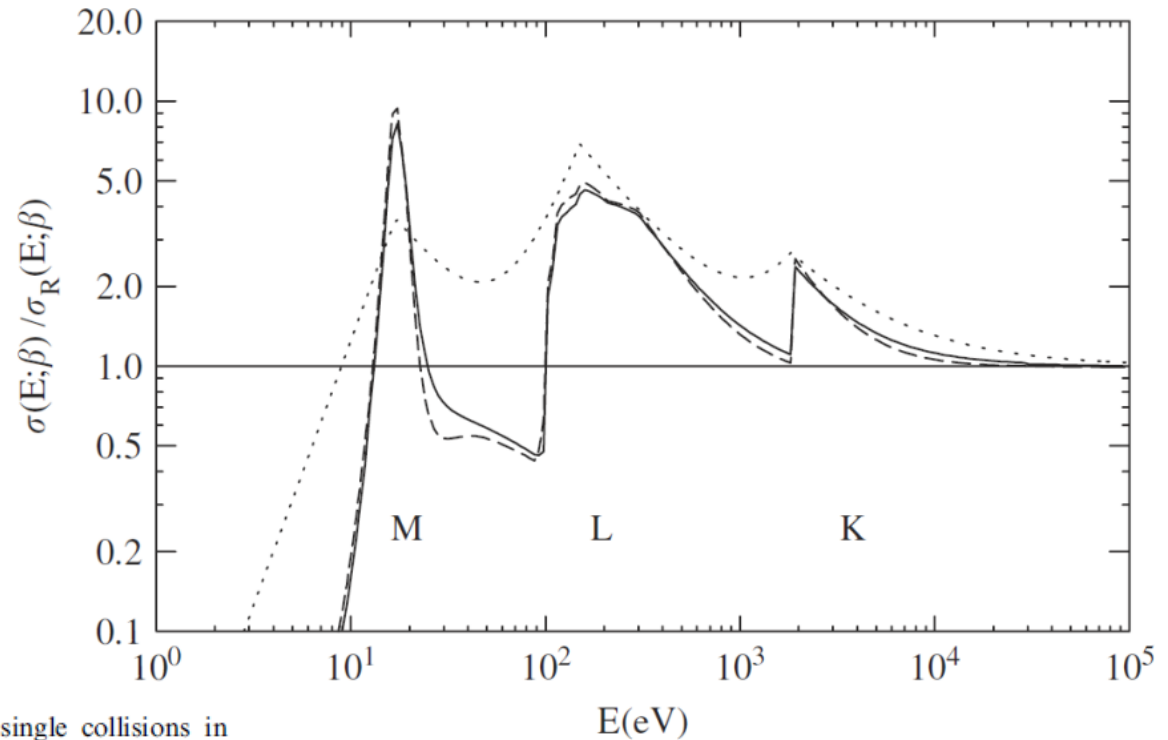


Fig. 5. Inelastic collision cross-sections  $\sigma(E; \beta)$  for single collisions in silicon by particles with  $\beta\gamma = 4$ , calculated with different theories. In order to show the structure of the functions clearly, the ordinate is  $\sigma(E; \beta) / \sigma_R(E; \beta)$ . The abscissa is the energy loss  $E$  in a single collision. The Rutherford cross-section Eq. (1) is represented by the horizontal line at 1.0. The solid line was obtained with the relativistic version of Eq. (5) of the Bethe–Fano theory [18]. The cross-section calculated with FVP (Eq. (7)) is shown by the dotted line. The dashed line is calculated with a binary encounter approximation [35,36]. The functions all extend to  $E_{\max} \sim 16$  MeV; see Eq. (1). The moments (Section 3) are  $M_0 = 4$  collisions/ $\mu\text{m}$  and  $M_1 = 386$  eV/ $\mu\text{m}$ . The atomic shells are indicated by the letters M, L, K.

[H. Bichsel, NIM A 562, 154 (2006)]

## Total energy loss: Bethe-Bloch formula

$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = \underbrace{\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle_{T>\varepsilon}}_{\text{Hard: Mott}} + \underbrace{\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle_{T<\varepsilon}}_{\text{Soft}} = n_e \frac{4\pi}{m} \left( \frac{z\alpha\hbar}{\beta} \right)^2 \left[ \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2mc^2\beta^2\gamma^2 T_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 \right]$$

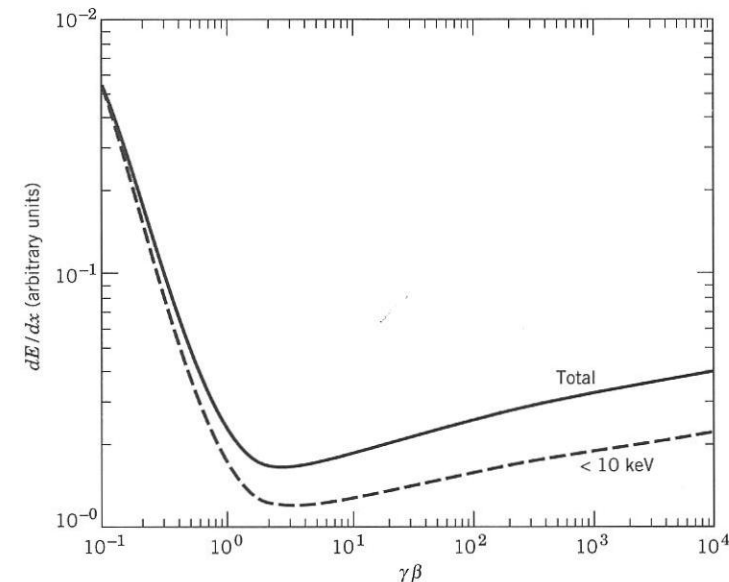
$$n_e = \frac{Z}{A} \cdot N_A \cdot \rho$$

independent of  $\varepsilon$

with

$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle_{T>\varepsilon} = n_e \frac{2\pi}{m} \left( \frac{z\alpha\hbar}{\beta} \right)^2 \left[ \ln \frac{T_{\max}}{\varepsilon} - \beta^2 \right]$$

$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle_{T<\varepsilon} = n_e \frac{2\pi}{m} \left( \frac{z\alpha\hbar}{\beta} \right)^2 \left[ \ln \frac{2mc^2\beta^2\gamma^2\varepsilon}{I^2} - \beta^2 \right]$$



In principle, mean excitation energy  $I$  can be calculated from atomic theory:

$$Z \cdot \ln(I) \propto \sum_n f_n \ln(\hbar\omega_n)$$

- ⇒ models needed for all but lightest atoms
- ⇒ often used in practice:  $I$  as phenomenological constant

Goal: Simplify cross section expression based on **measured photo-absorption cross sections**

- ⇒ Photoabsorption Ionization Model
  - ... also called Fermi virtual photon (FVP) model

**Idea:** Calculate  $\langle dE/dx \rangle$  of a moving charged particle (other than  $e^\pm$ )  
in a **polarizable medium**

⇒ classical calculation: medium treated as continuum with  $\epsilon = \epsilon_1 + i\epsilon_2$

⇒ later: quantum mechanical interpretation

$\langle dE/dx \rangle \Leftrightarrow$  longitudinal component of electric field  $E(\mathbf{r}, t)$  generated  
by the moving particle in the medium at its own position  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{v}t$

$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = eE_{\text{long}}$$

[L. Landau, E.M. Lifshitz, Electrodynamics of continuous media, 1960]

[W.W.M Allison, J.H. Cobb, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 30, 253 (1980)]

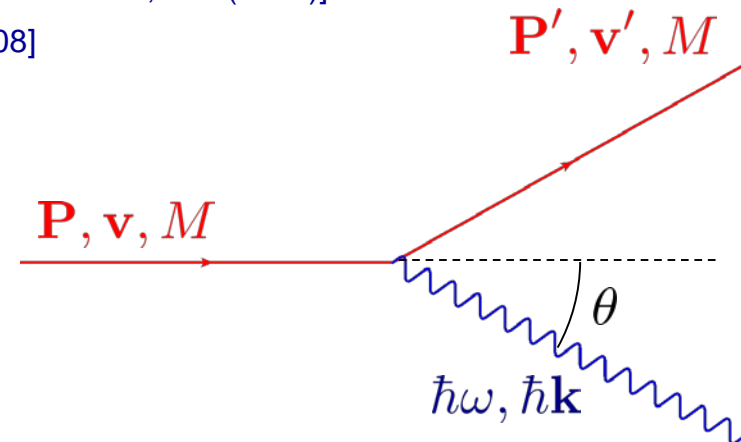
[W. Blum, W. Riegler, L. Rolandi, Springer 2008]

⇒  $\epsilon(k, \omega)$  needed

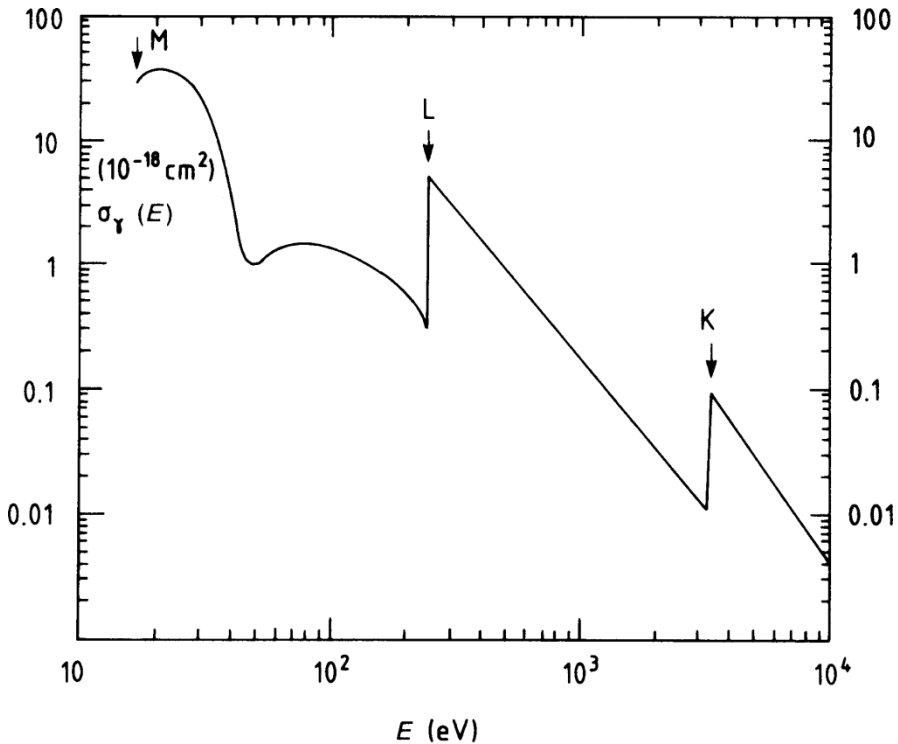
⇒ only known for real photons:  $\sigma_\gamma(\omega)$

⇒ model for virtual photons needed:

**Photo-absorption ionization model**

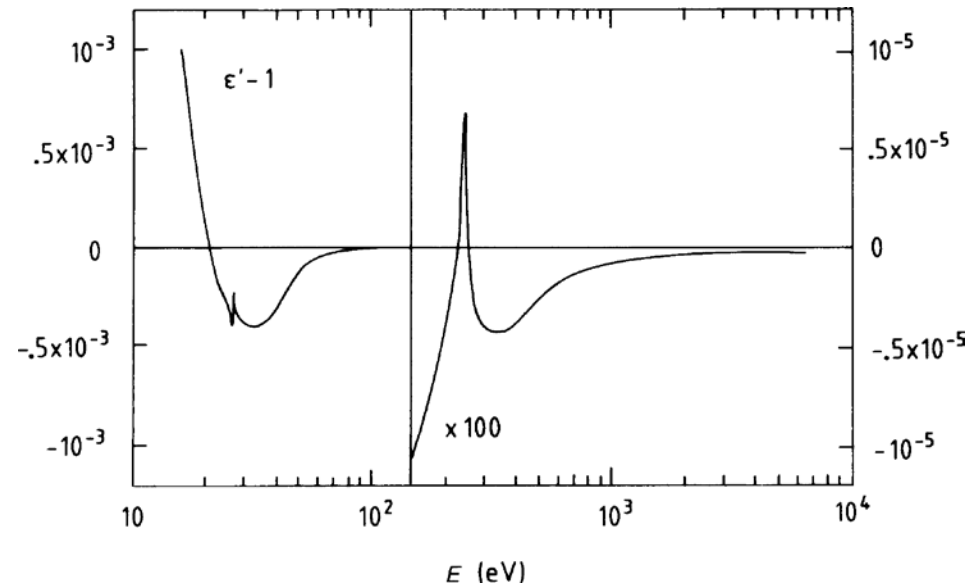


## Example: Argon



Total photo-absorption cross section

[G.V. Marr, J.B. West, At. Data and Nucl. Data Tables 18, 497 (1976)]



Real part of  $\epsilon$ , calculated from  $\sigma_\gamma$  using Kramers-Kronig relation

[F. Lapique et al., Nucl. Instr. Meth. 175, 297 (1978)]



**Experiment:**  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_1 + i\varepsilon_2$  known only for free photons, i.e. on  $q_{\text{fy}}$  line

**PAI model:** extend into the kinematic domain of virtual photons

- Below free-electron line  $q_{\text{fe}}$  (resonance region): dipole approximation

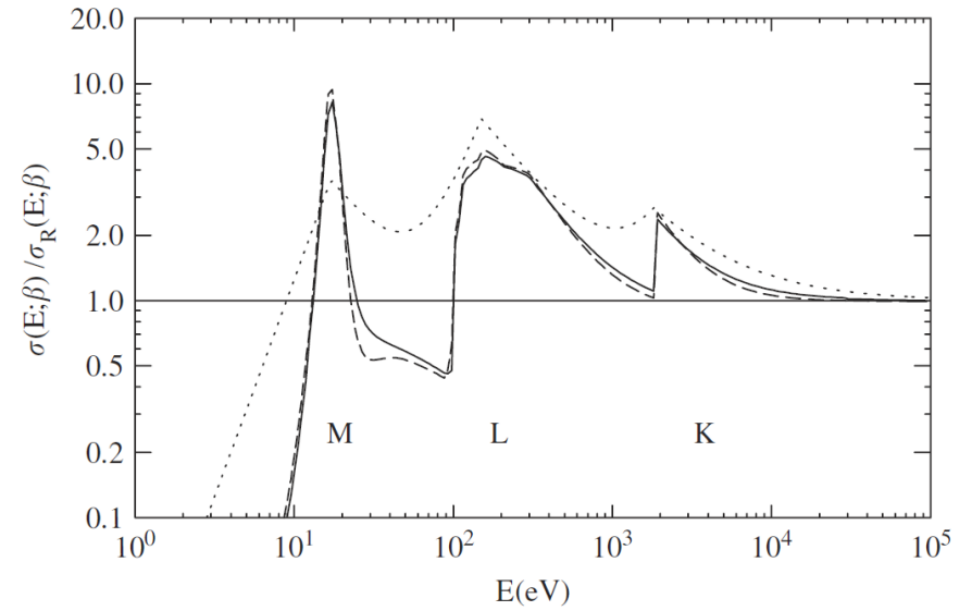
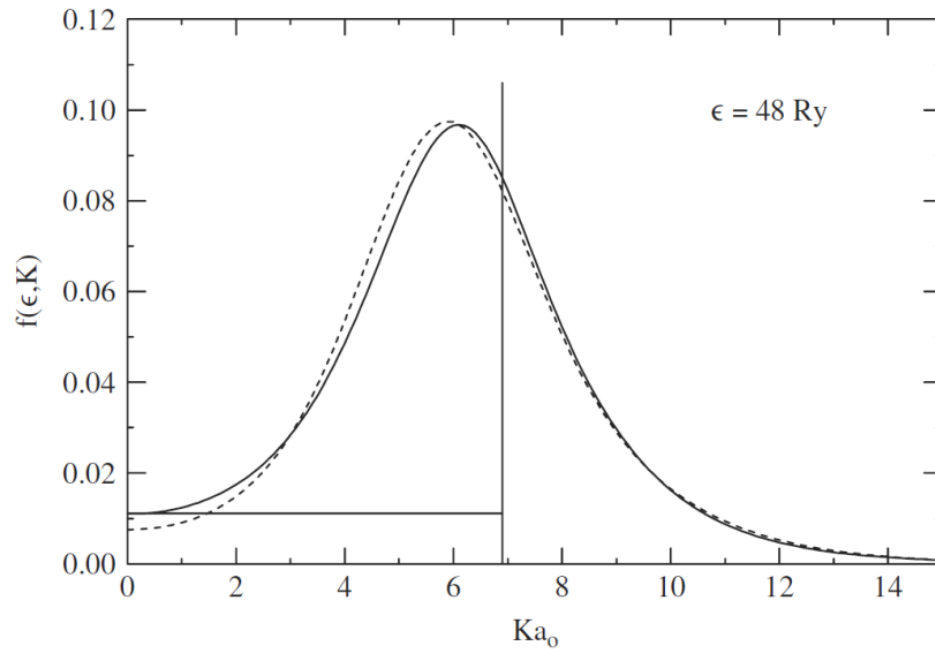
$$\varepsilon(k, \omega) = \varepsilon(\omega) \quad \text{independent of } k, \text{ as for free photons}$$

- On free-electron line  $q_{\text{fe}}$ :

$$\varepsilon_2(k, \omega) = C \delta(\omega - \hbar k^2 / (2m)), \quad \varepsilon_1 = 1$$

Normalization  $C$  chosen such that total coupling strength satisfies

$$\int_0^{\infty} f(k, \omega) d\omega = 1, \quad \varepsilon_2(k, \omega) = \frac{\pi N e^2}{2\varepsilon_0 m \omega} f(k, \omega) \quad \text{Bethe sum rule}$$



[H. Bichsel, NIM A 562, 154 (2006)]

## Optical dipole oscillator strength

$$\lim_{\mathbf{q} \rightarrow 0} f_n(E, k) = f_n(E)$$

$$f_n(E) = \frac{E}{Q} \left| \langle n | \sum_{i=1}^Z \mathbf{r}_i | 0 \rangle \right|^2$$

Result of **classical calculation**:

$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\beta^2c^2\pi} \int_0^\infty d\omega \left[ \frac{Nc}{Z} \sigma_\gamma(\omega) \ln \left[ (1 - \beta^2\epsilon_1)^2 + \beta^4\epsilon_2^2 \right]^{-1/2} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{Nc}{Z} \sigma_\gamma(\omega) \ln \left( \frac{2mc^2\beta^2}{\hbar\omega} \right) + \frac{Nc}{Z\omega} \int_0^\omega \sigma_\gamma(\omega') d\omega' + \omega \left( \beta^2 - \frac{\epsilon_1}{|\epsilon|^2} \right) \Theta \right]$$

Energy loss per unit path length obtained in the framework of electrodynamics of a continuous medium, using a model for  $\epsilon(k, \omega)$  inspired by a picture of photon collision and absorption.

$N$  electron density

$E = \hbar\omega$  energy transfer in single collision

$q = \hbar k$

$\Theta = \arg(1 - \epsilon_1\beta^2 + i\epsilon_2\beta^2)$

**Quantum picture:** energy loss caused by a number of discrete collisions per unit length, each with energy transfer  $E = \hbar\omega$  (single photon exchange)

$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = - \int_0^{\infty} E f(E) dE$$

$f(E) dE$  probability of energy transfer per unit path between  $E$  and  $E+dE$

and with  $f(E) = N d\sigma/dE$

$$\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = - \int_0^{\infty} EN \frac{d\sigma}{dE} \hbar d\omega$$

$N$  electron density

$E = \hbar\omega$  energy transfer in single collision

$q = \hbar k$

Therefore: differential cross section per electron

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dE} = \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2 \pi} \frac{\sigma_\gamma(E)}{EZ} \ln \left[ (1 - \beta^2 \varepsilon_1)^2 + \beta^4 \varepsilon_2^2 \right]^{-1/2}$$

$$+ \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2 \pi} \frac{\sigma_\gamma(E)}{EZ} \ln \left( \frac{2mc^2 \beta^2}{E} \right)$$

$$+ \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2 \pi} \frac{1}{E^2 Z} \int_0^E \sigma_\gamma(E') dE'$$

$$+ \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2 \pi} \frac{1}{N \hbar c} \left( \beta^2 - \frac{\varepsilon_1}{|\varepsilon|^2} \right) \Theta$$

Energy loss by ionization

Rutherford scattering (for  $E \gg E_K$ )  
 $\Rightarrow \delta$  electrons

- Optical region:  $\sigma_\gamma = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Cherenkov radiation
- Transition radiation for thin radiators

with  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2$ : real and imaginary part of dielectric constant (for real photons)

$\Theta = \arg(1 - \varepsilon_1 \beta^2 + i \varepsilon_2 \beta^2)$  angle in pointer representation of complex number

$\sigma_\gamma$ : atomic cross section of medium for absorption of photon with energy  $E$

$N$ : electron density in the medium

Described by first three terms of  $\frac{d\sigma}{dE}$

- Large energy transfers  $E \gg E_K \Rightarrow$  only third term survives ( $\sigma_\gamma(E)$  small)

$$\frac{\alpha}{\beta^2 \pi} \frac{1}{E^2} \int_0^E \frac{\sigma_\gamma(E')}{Z} dE' \xrightarrow{E \gg E_K} \left( \frac{d\sigma}{dE} \right)_R = \frac{2\pi r_e^2 mc^2}{\beta^2 E^2}, \quad r_e = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 mc^2}$$

Bethe sum rule

**Rutherford** cross section: elastic scattering on free electron

- $\Rightarrow$  extremely long tail of energy loss distribution due to  $\delta$  electrons
- $\Rightarrow$  ill-defined average energy loss! (log. divergence)
- $\Rightarrow$  better: most probable value
- $\Rightarrow$  in practice: upper limit for  $E$  depending on detector: restricted energy loss

- Remaining two terms:

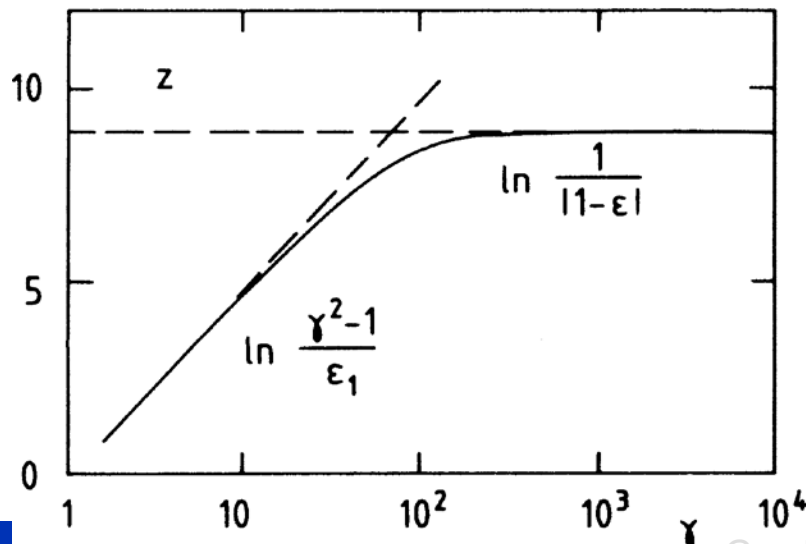
$$a, b = f(E, \sigma_\gamma)$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dE} = \frac{a}{\beta^2} \left[ b + \ln \frac{\beta^2}{\left[ (1 - \beta^2 \varepsilon_1)^2 + \beta^4 \varepsilon_2^2 \right]^{1/2}} \right]$$

– small  $\beta$ : factor  $\frac{1}{\beta^2}$  dominates

–  $\beta \rightarrow 1$ : logarithmic term dominates  $\rightarrow$

$$\begin{cases} \ln \frac{\gamma^2 - 1}{\varepsilon_1} & \text{for } \gamma^2 \ll 1/|1 - \varepsilon| \\ & \text{relativistic rise} \\ \ln \frac{1}{|1 - \varepsilon|} & \text{for } \gamma^2 \gg 1/|1 - \varepsilon| \\ & \text{plateau} \end{cases}$$



Plateau due to density of medium!

$$\varepsilon_1 - 1, \varepsilon_2 \propto N \quad \text{e}^- \text{ density}$$

$$\Rightarrow \varepsilon_1 = 1, \varepsilon_2 = 0 \quad \text{for } N \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d\sigma}{dE} \quad \text{continues to rise for } N \rightarrow 0!$$

Term  $\frac{\alpha}{\beta^2 \pi} \frac{1}{N \hbar c} \left( \beta^2 - \frac{\epsilon_1}{|\epsilon|^2} \right) \Theta$ ,  $\Theta = \arg(1 - \epsilon_1 \beta^2 + i \epsilon_2 \beta^2)$

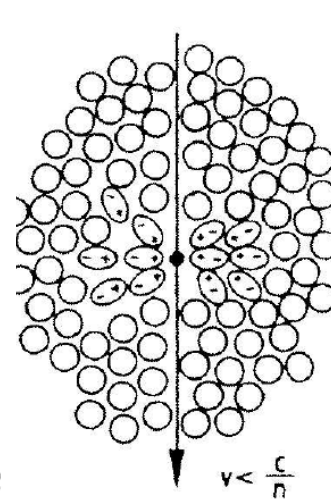
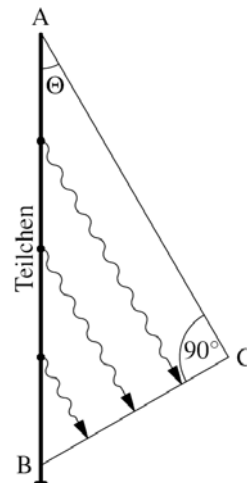
- Only remaining term for photon energies below excitation energy of atom (optical region), where  $\sigma_\gamma = 0, \epsilon_2 = 0, \epsilon = \epsilon_1$
- $\Theta = \arg(1 - \epsilon_1 \beta^2)$  jumps from 0 to  $\pi$  at  $\beta_0^2 = \frac{1}{\epsilon_1}$  **Cherenkov threshold**

⇒ Emission of radiation if

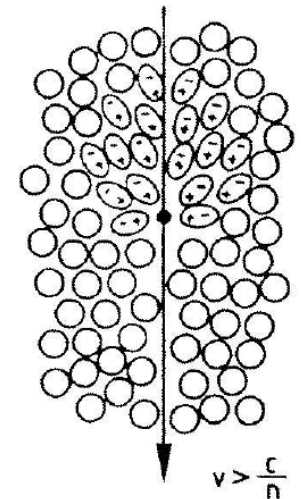
$$\epsilon \beta^2 > 1 \Leftrightarrow v > \frac{c}{n}, \quad n = \sqrt{\epsilon}$$

Emission angle:

$$\cos \theta = \frac{1}{\beta n}$$



destructive



constructive



$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = n_e \int_0^\infty E' \frac{d\sigma}{dE'} dE'$$

Models:

- Rutherford – Mott

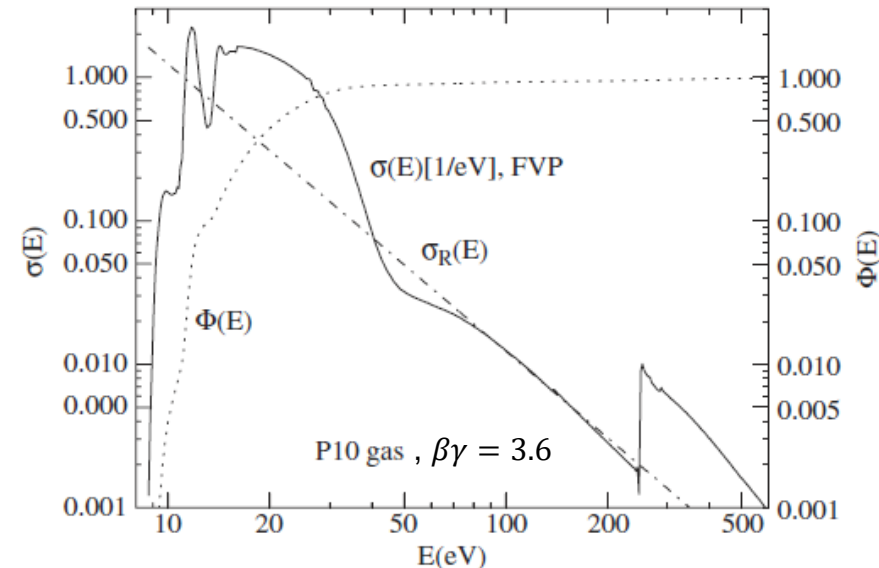
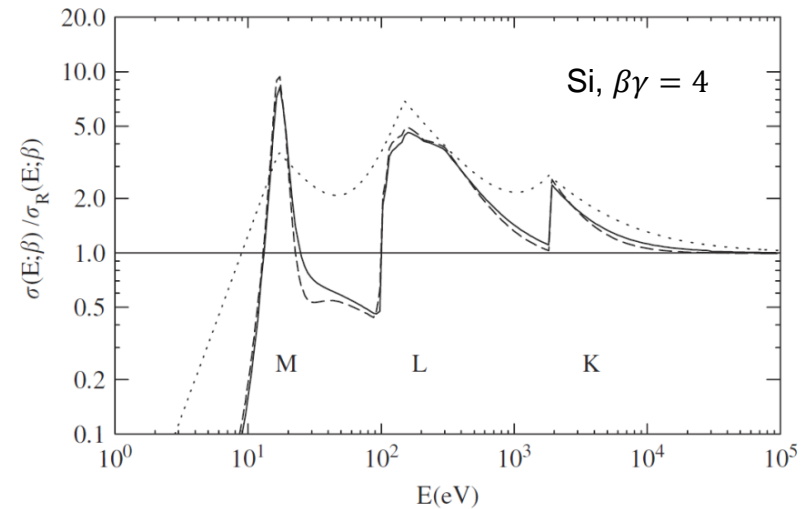
$$\left( \frac{d\sigma}{dE} \right)_{\text{Mott}}^* = \frac{2\pi}{m} \left( \frac{z\alpha\hbar}{E\beta} \right)^2 \left[ 1 - \frac{E}{2mc^2} (1 - \beta^2) \right]$$

- Bethe – Fano

$$\frac{d\sigma(E, Q)}{dE dQ} = \left( \frac{d\sigma(E; v)}{dE} \right)_{\text{Mott}}^* \cdot \frac{E}{Q} \cdot f(k, \omega)$$

- PAI (FVP)

[H. Bichsel, NIM A 562, 154 (2006)]



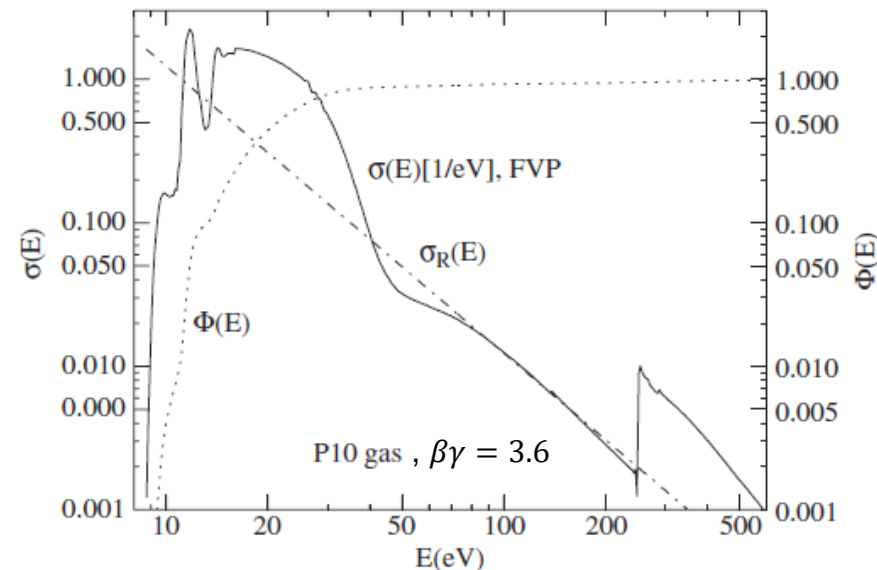
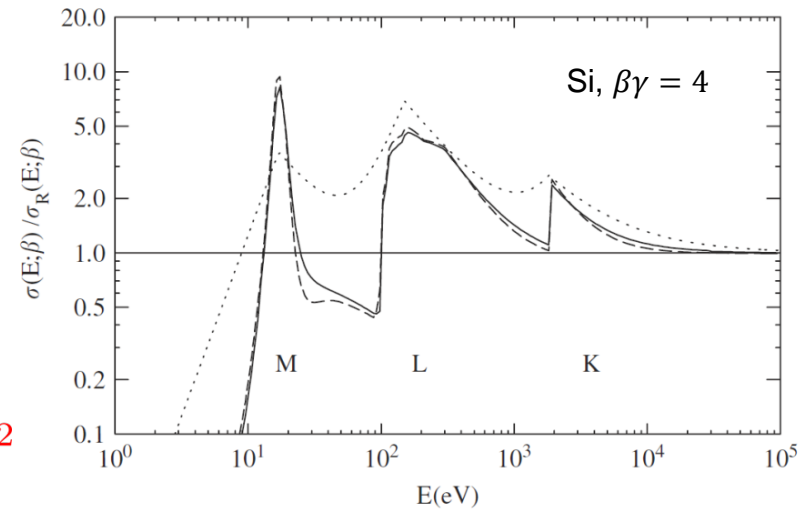
$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = n_e \int_0^\infty E' \frac{d\sigma}{dE'} dE'$$

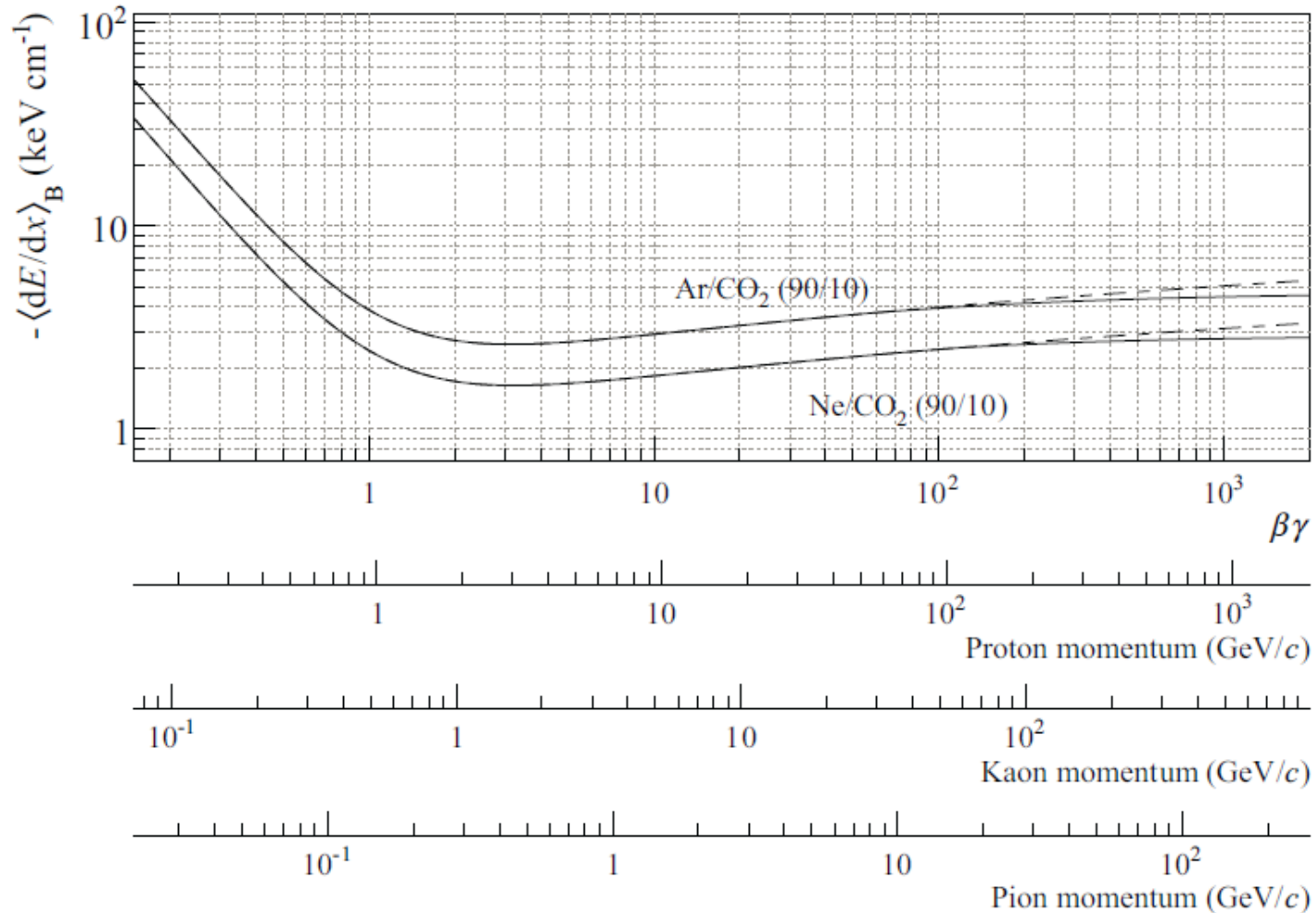
Models:

- PAI (FVP)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\sigma}{dE} = & \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2 \pi} \frac{\sigma_\gamma(E)}{EZ} \ln \left[ (1 - \beta^2 \varepsilon_1)^2 + \beta^4 \varepsilon_2^2 \right]^{-1/2} \\ & + \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2 \pi} \frac{\sigma_\gamma(E)}{EZ} \ln \left( \frac{2mc^2 \beta^2}{E} \right) \\ & + \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2 \pi} \frac{1}{E^2 Z} \int_0^E \sigma_\gamma(E') dE' \\ & + \frac{\alpha}{\beta^2 \pi} \frac{1}{N \hbar c} \left( \beta^2 - \frac{\varepsilon_1}{|\varepsilon|^2} \right) \Theta \end{aligned}$$

[H. Bichsel, NIM A 562, 154 (2006)]





[F. Böhmer, PhD thesis, TUM]