## **Generic Detector**

#### A detector cross-section, showing particle paths



Layers of Detector Systems around Collision Point

# Tracking Detectors

- Observe particle trajectories in space with as little disturbance as possible
  - use a thin  $(gm.cm^{-2})$  detector
  - $(\sigma: cm)$  Scintillators  $(\sigma: 150\mu)$
  - Scintillating fibres
  - Gas trackers
  - Solid state trackers
- $(\sigma: 150\mu)$  $(\sigma: 10\mu)$
- Gas Based Detectors
  - Multiwire proportional chamber
  - Drift Chamber
  - Time projection chamber
  - Gas microstrip
  - GEM (gas electron multiplier)



## **Multiwire Proportional Chamber**



Drift Chamber – measure arrival time of charge = spatial resolution

#### Schematic of Wire Chamber Cell



Repeat "n" times



•

3) In high E field region near wire, primary ionization electrons gain enough energy to start ionizing the gas

- Avalanche
- More charges
- Charge amplification  $\sim 10^7$
- Noise free amplifier

microvolt signal if no amplification



Distance from centre of wire

## **Behaviour as Voltage Increased**



- Collection Recombination dominated
- All charge collected
- Amplification by gas multiplication
  - Still proportional particle ident
- Saturation
- Breakdown Geiger/Mueller



## Diffusion

Ions & electrons diffuse in space
E field determines average direction

- Collisions limit velocity
- Maximum average velocity=Drift velocity

#### Diffusion

- Ions and electrons diffuse under influence of electric field
  - Maxwell velocity distribution

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{8kT}{\pi m}}$$

$$v_e: 10^6 cm.s^{-1}$$
  $v_{I^+}: 10^4 cm.s^{-1}$ 

• From Kinetic theory, after *t*, linear distribution due to diffusion

$$\frac{dN}{dx} = \frac{N_0}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \exp\left\{\frac{-x^2}{4Dt}\right\}$$
  
Diffusion coefficient

**RMS Spread** 

$$\sigma(r) = \sqrt{6Dt} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma(r) = \sqrt{6Dt} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma(r) = \sqrt{6Dt} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma(r) = \sqrt{6Dt} \quad \sigma$$

 $\sigma(x) = \sqrt{2Dt}$  2-d

about 1mm after 1 sec in air

## Mobility

• For a classical gas

$$\mu = \frac{2}{3\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{q}{p\sigma_0} \sqrt{\frac{kT}{m}} = \frac{u}{E} \underbrace{\frac{drift \ velocity}{electric \ field}}_{electric \ field}$$

- $\begin{array}{l} q,m \quad \text{ion charge and mass} \\ p \quad \text{gas pressure} \\ \sigma_0 \quad \text{ion scattering cross section} \quad & \\ & & \\ & & \\ \mu_e = 40 \frac{\mu m/ns}{kV/cm} \\ & & \\ & & \\ \mu_{I^+} = 0.1 \frac{\mu m/ns}{kV/cm} \\ \end{array}$
- In argon

#### **Diffusion and Drift Chamber Accuracy**

 $D = \frac{1}{3^{*}} v\lambda$  Diffusion coefficient from kinetic theory  $\lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{kT}{\sigma_0 p}$  Mean free path

$$D = \frac{2}{3\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{1}{\sigma_0 p} \sqrt{\frac{\left(kT\right)^3}{m}}$$

In argon 
$$D_e: 10\mu^2/ns$$

Diffusion gives limit on spatial accuracy drift chamber

- To reduce D
  - Lower temperature
  - Raise pressure (reduce mobility)

#### Working Gas

- Noble gases give multiplication at lowest electric field
  - Polyatomic gases have nonionization energy loss mechanisms
- Choose cheap noble gas with low ionization potential
  - Krypton X rare, expensive
  - Xenon X
  - Argon OK cheap welding etc

## Argon

- Cheap, safe, non-reactive
  - remove electro-negative contaminants  $O_2, CO_2, H_2O$
- Pure argon limited to gain  $\leq 10^3$
- Many excited ions produced during avalanche

$$Ar^{*+} \to Ar^{+} + \gamma (11.6 \, eV)$$

absorbed on cathode

$$\gamma + cathode \rightarrow e^{-} (photo - emission)$$

returns to anode - breakdown

• Absorb 🕅 - quenchers

#### Quenchers



### Polymerization

- Organic quenchers polymerize
- Deposits on cathodes
  - high resistance
  - ion buildup discharge
  - sparks, broken wires
- Add non-polymerizing agent water methylal

Typical gases  $\begin{array}{l} 80\% \ Ar + 20\% \ CH_4 \\ 90\% \ Ar + 10\% \ C_3H_8 \end{array} G: \ 10^6 \end{array}$ 

or add electronegative gas (a bit of poison)

 $X + (photo - electron) \rightarrow X^{-}$ 

Typical 90%  $Ar + 10\% CO_2$   $G: 10^7$ 

Magic Gas75% Ar $24.5\% (CH_3)_2 CH CH_3$ 0.5% Freontrace methylal $1\% H_2O$ 





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POTENTIAL

$$\phi(r) = \frac{CV_{o}}{2\pi\varepsilon_{o}} \ln\left(\frac{\Gamma}{a}\right)$$
  
 $w_{iRE}$   
RADIUS



- Electrons produced in avalanche close to anode wire
- Small dr small signal
- +ve ions drift across whole radius
- Large dr large signal

$$V_{ion} = +\frac{Q}{lCV_0} \int_{a+\lambda}^{b} \frac{d\phi(r)}{dr} dr = -\frac{Q}{2\pi\varepsilon_0 l} \ln \frac{b}{a+\lambda}$$

$$V_{electron} / V_{ion} = \ln \frac{a + \lambda}{a} / \ln \frac{b}{a + \lambda}$$

**Typically 1%** 

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#### **Time Development of Signal**





TYPICAL $\alpha = Up, b = 8mm$ C = 8pF/m $<math>\mu^{\dagger} = 1.7 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ a} \text{ f} \text{ m}^{-1}$  $V_0 = 3 \text{ kV}$ 

SIGNAL GROWS QUICKLY 50% IN 10-3 TN 700ms TERMINATE COUNTER WITH R T= RC

TOTAL DRIFT TIME  $T = \frac{t_o}{a^2} \left( b^2 - q^2 \right)$