

# General Information

- **Individual Study Projects**
  - ◆ **Schedule of presentations**
- **Muon Lifetime Update**
  
- **Today's Agenda**
  - ◆ **Interaction of Particles with Matter**

# Interactions of Particles with Matter

## ■ Many good references available

- ◆ “Passage of Particles through Matter” section of the Particle Data Book
- ◆ Books by Leo and Gruppen
- ◆ We will follow the approach taken by W. Riegler for the CERN 2008 Summer Student Lecture and A. Weber in his lecture on particle interactions for Oxford graduate students

## Interaction of Particles with Matter

### Particle Detectors

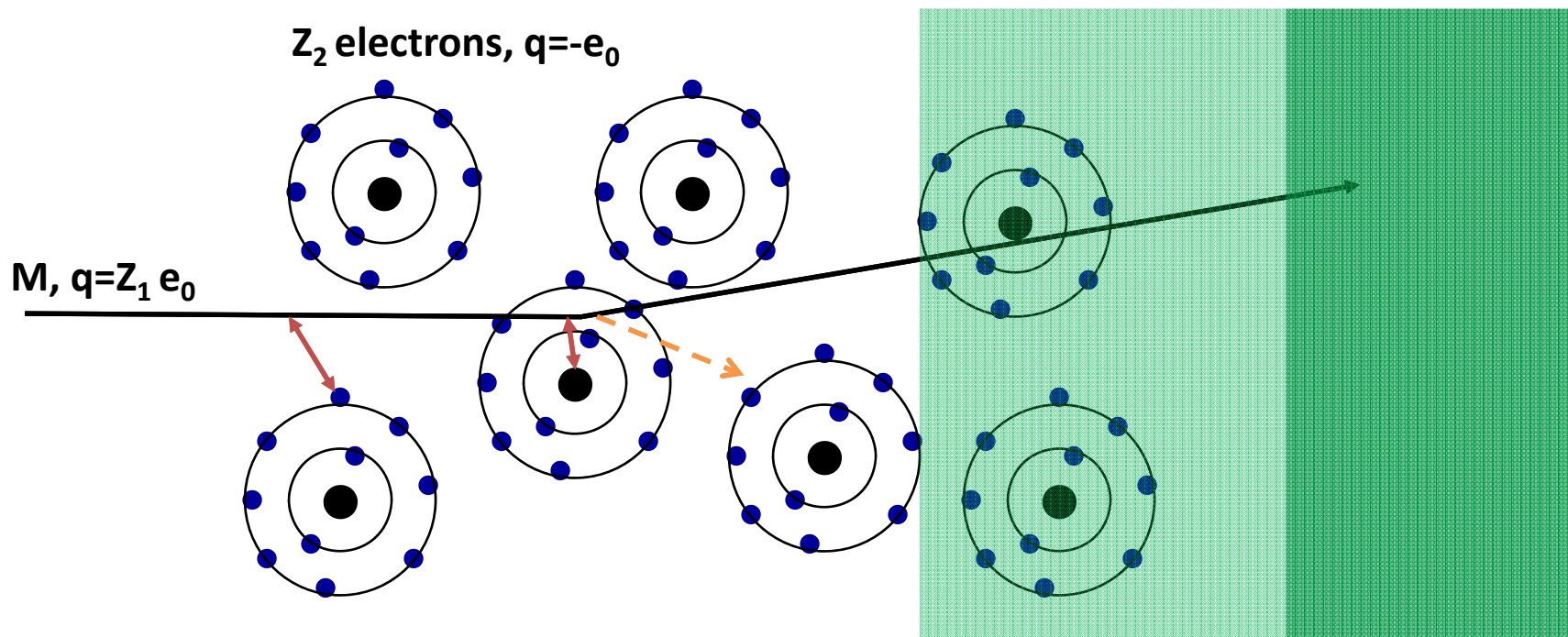
Summer Student Lectures 2008  
Werner Riegler, CERN, [werner.riegler@cern.ch](mailto:werner.riegler@cern.ch)

- ◆ History of Instrumentation ↔ History of Particle Physics
- ◆ The ‘Real’ World of Particles
- ◆ **Interaction of Particles with Matter**
- ◆ Tracking Detectors, Calorimeters, Particle Identification
- ◆ Detector Systems

- Alfons Weber
- CCLRC & University of Oxford Graduate Lecture 2004



# Electromagnetic Interaction of Particles with Matter



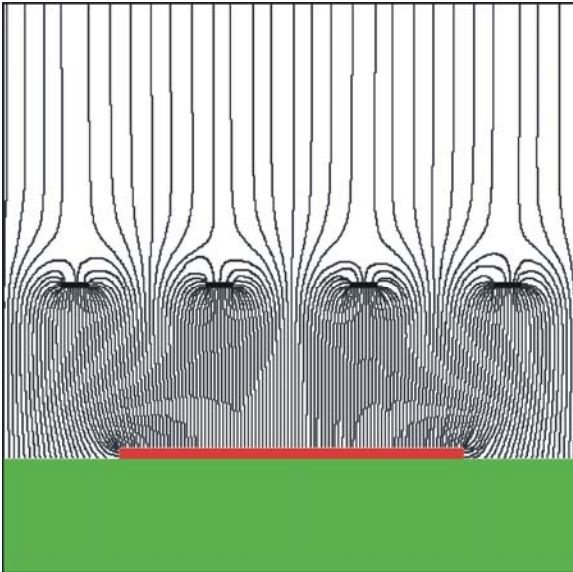
Interaction with the atomic electrons. The incoming particle loses energy and the atoms are excited or ionized.

Interaction with the atomic nucleus. The particle is deflected (scattered) resulting in multiple scattering of the particle in the material. During these scattering events a Bremsstrahlung photons can be emitted.

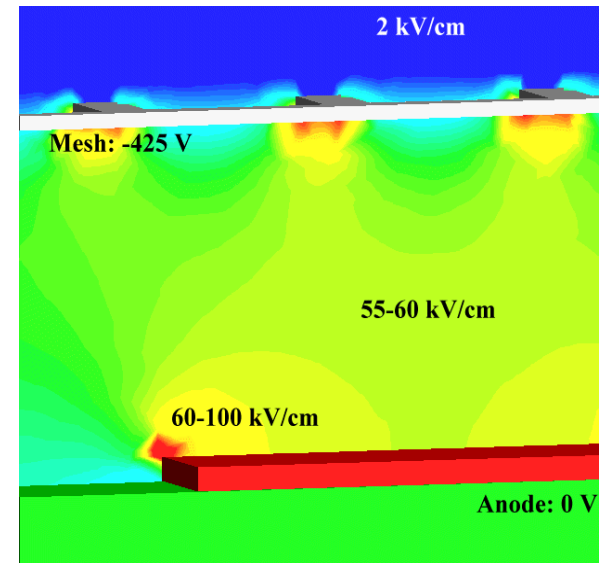
In case the particle's velocity is larger than the velocity of light in the medium, the resulting EM shockwave manifests itself as Cherenkov Radiation. When the particle crosses the boundary between two media, there is a probability of the order of 1% to produce an X ray photon, called Transition radiation.

# Particle Detector Simulation Examples

Electric Fields in a Micromega Detector



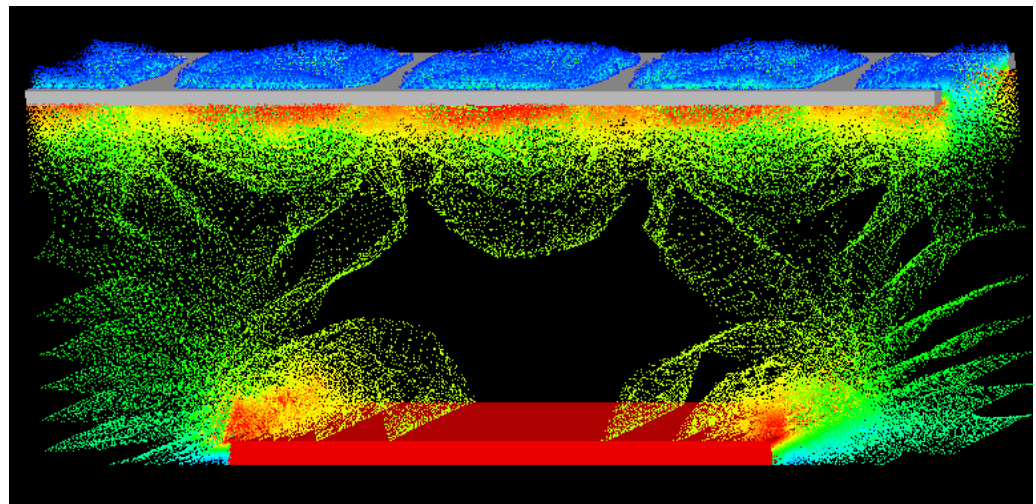
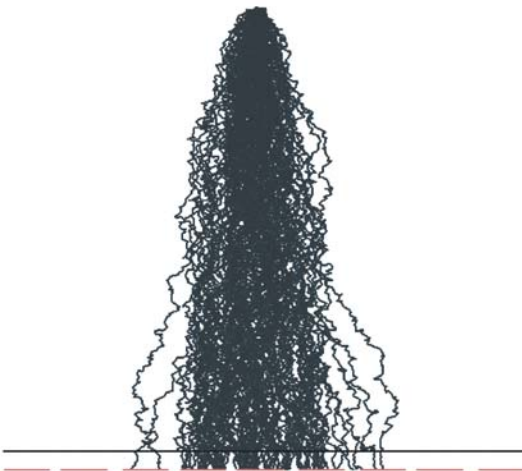
Electric Fields in a Micromega Detector



Very accurate simulations of particle detectors are possible due to availability of Finite Element simulation programs and computing power.

Follow every single electron by applying first principle laws of physics.

Electrons avalanche multiplication



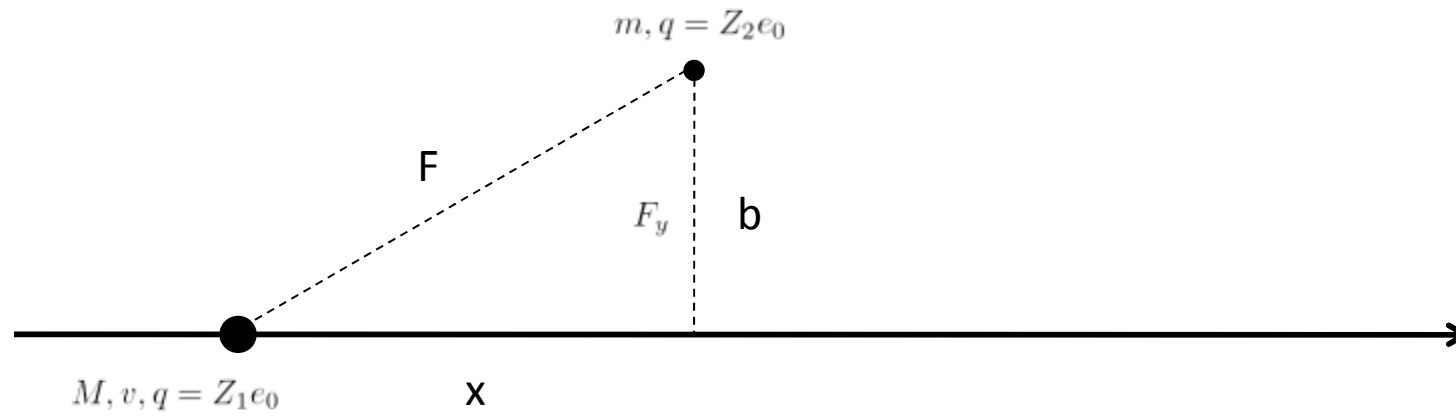


# Bethe-Bloch Formula

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- Describes how heavy particles ( $M \gg m_e$ ) lose energy when travelling through material
- Exact theoretical treatment difficult
  - Atomic excitations
  - Screening
  - Bulk effects
- Simplified semi-classical derivation gives (almost) the correct result
- Phenomenological description

# Interaction of Particles with Matter



While the charged particle is passing another charged particle, the Coulomb Force is acting, resulting in momentum transfer

$$F_y = \frac{Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \cos\theta = \frac{Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (b^2 + (\beta c)^2 t^2)} \frac{b}{\sqrt{b^2 + (\beta c)^2 t^2}} \quad \Delta p = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F_y(t) dt = \frac{2Z_1 Z_2 e_0^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 v b}$$

The relativistic form of the transverse electric field doesn't change the momentum transfer. The transverse field is stronger, but the time of action is shorter

The transferred energy is then

$$\Delta E = \frac{(\Delta p)^2}{2m} = \frac{Z_2^2}{m} \frac{2Z_1^2 e_0^4}{(4\pi\epsilon_0)^2 v^2 b^2}$$

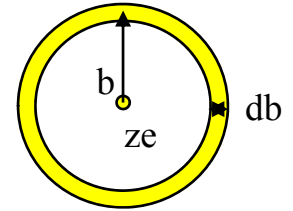
$$\Delta E(\text{electrons}) = Z_2 \frac{1}{m_e} \frac{2Z_1^2 e_0^4}{(4\pi\epsilon_0)^2 v^2 b^2} \quad \Delta E(\text{nucleus}) = \frac{Z_2^2}{2Z_2 m_p} \frac{2Z_1^2 e_0^4}{(4\pi\epsilon_0)^2 v^2 b^2} \quad \boxed{\frac{\Delta E(\text{electrons})}{\Delta E(\text{nucleus})} = \frac{2m_p}{m_e} \approx 4000}$$

→ The incoming particle transfer energy only (mostly) to the atomic electrons !

# Interaction of Particles with Matter

Target material: mass  $A$ ,  $Z_2$ , density  $\rho$  [g/cm<sup>3</sup>], Avogadro number  $N_A$

A gram  $\rightarrow N_A$  Atoms: **Number of atoms/cm<sup>3</sup>**  $n_a = N_A \rho / A$  [1/cm<sup>3</sup>]  
**Number of electrons/cm<sup>3</sup>**  $n_e = N_A \rho Z_2 / A$  [1/cm<sup>3</sup>]



$$\frac{dn}{db} = 2\pi b \times (\text{number of electrons / unit area})$$

$$= 2\pi b \times Z \frac{N_A}{A} \rho \Delta x$$

$$\Delta E(\text{electrons}) = \frac{2Z_2 Z_1^2 m_e c^2}{\beta^2 b^2} \frac{e_0^4}{(4\pi\epsilon_0 m_e c^2)^2} = \frac{2Z_2 Z_1^2 m_e c^2}{\beta^2 b^2} r_e^2$$

$$dE = \int_{b_{\min}}^{b_{\max}} \frac{dn}{db} \Delta E db = \frac{4\pi Z_2 Z_1^2 m_e c^2 r_e^2}{\beta^2} \frac{N_A \rho}{A} dx \int_{b_{\min}}^{b_{\max}} \frac{db}{b}$$

**Classical electron radius**

$$r_e = \frac{e^2}{(4\pi\epsilon_0 m_e c^2)} = 2.8 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$$

**With  $\Delta E(b) \rightarrow db/b = -1/2 dE/E \rightarrow E_{\max} = \Delta E(b_{\min})$   $E_{\min} = \Delta E(b_{\max})$**

$$\frac{dE}{dx} = -2\pi r_e^2 m_e^2 c^2 \frac{Z_1^2}{\beta^2} \frac{N_A Z_2 \rho}{A} \int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} \frac{dE}{E} = -2\pi r_e^2 m_e^2 c^2 \frac{Z_1^2}{\beta^2} \frac{N_A Z_2 \rho}{A} \ln \frac{E_{\max}}{E_{\min}}$$

There must be a limit for  $E_{\min}$  and  $E_{\max}$

All the physics and material dependence is in the calculation of these quantities

## Bethe-Bloch (6)

- Simple approximations for  $E_{\max}$  and  $E_{\min}$ 
  - From relativistic kinematics

$$E_{\max} = \frac{2\gamma^2 \beta^2 m_e c^2}{1 + 2\gamma \frac{m_e}{M} + \left(\frac{m_e}{M}\right)^2} \approx 2\gamma^2 \beta^2 m_e c^2$$

↖ If  $M \gg 2\gamma m_e$

- Inelastic collision

$$E_{\min} = I_0 \equiv \text{average ionisation energy}$$





## Bethe-Bloch (7)

- This was just a simplified derivation
  - Incomplete
  - Just to get an idea how it is done
- The (approximated) true answer is

$$-\frac{dE}{dx} = 4\pi N_A r_e^2 \frac{m_e c^2}{\beta^2} \frac{Zz^2}{A} \rho \left[ \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{2\gamma^2 \beta^2 m_e c^2 E_{\max}}{I_0^2} \right) - \beta^2 - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} - \frac{\delta(\beta\gamma)}{2} \right]$$

- with

- $\varepsilon$  screening correction of inner electrons
- $\delta$  density correction, because of polarisation in medium

## Bethe Bloch Formula, Specific Energy Loss

$$-\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{dE}{dx} = 4\pi N_A r_e^2 \frac{m_e c^2}{\beta^2} \frac{Zz^2}{A} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{2\gamma^2 \beta^2 m_e c^2 E_{\max}}{I_0^2} \right) - \beta^2 - \frac{\epsilon}{2} - \frac{\delta(\beta\gamma)}{2} \right] \quad \text{For } Z > 1, I \approx 16Z^{0.9} \text{ eV}$$

$1/\beta^2$  at low energies

Log. rise

Screening and density corrections

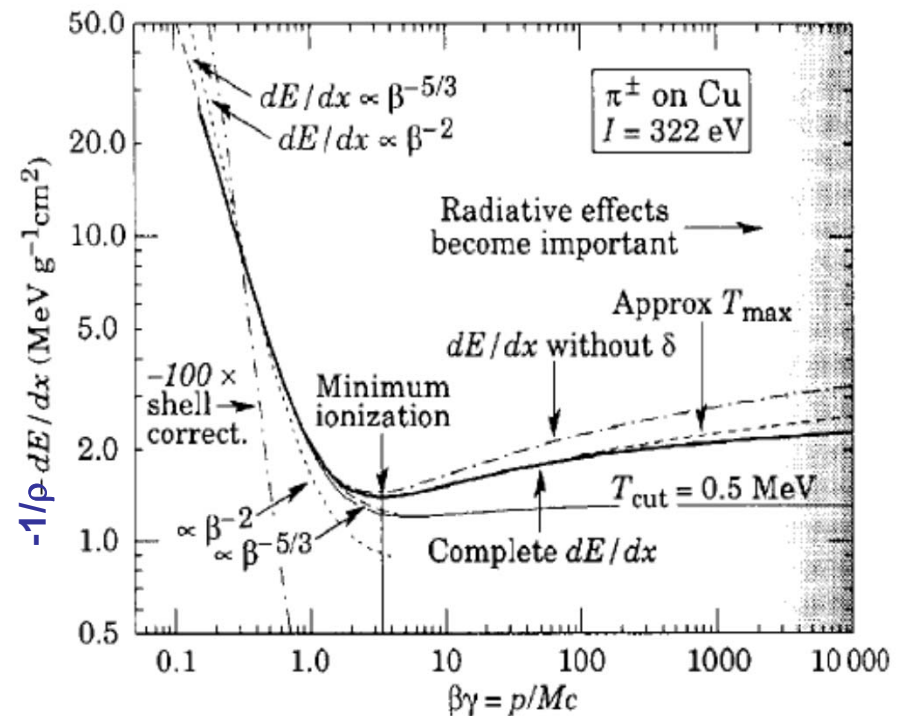
For large  $\beta\gamma$  the medium is being polarized by the strong transverse fields, which reduces the rise of the energy loss  $\rightarrow$  density effect

At large Energy Transfers (delta electrons) the knocked out electrons can leave the material. In reality,  $E_{\max}$  must be replaced by  $E_{\text{cut}}$  and the energy loss reaches a plateau (Fermi plateau).

Characteristics of the energy loss as a function of the particle velocity ( $\beta\gamma$ )

The specific Energy Loss  $1/\rho dE/dx$

- first decreases as  $1/\beta^2$
- increases with  $\ln \gamma$  for  $\beta = 1$
- is  $\approx$  independent of  $M$  ( $M \gg m_e$ )
- is proportional to  $z^2$  of the incoming particle.
- is  $\approx$  independent of the material ( $Z/A \approx \text{const}$ )
- shows a plateau at large  $\beta\gamma$  ( $\gg 100$ )
- Minimum Ionizing:  $dE/dx \approx 1-2 \times \rho$  [ $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ ] MeV/cm



# Bethe Bloch Formula

## Bethe Bloch Formula, a few Numbers:

For  $Z \approx 0.5 A$  (e.g. Fe)

$1/\rho \, dE/dx \approx 1.4 \text{ MeV cm}^2/\text{g}$  for  $\beta\gamma \approx 3$

### Example :

Iron: Thickness = 100 cm;  $\rho = 7.87 \text{ g/cm}^3$

$dE \approx 1.4 * 100 * 7.87 = 1102 \text{ MeV}$

→ A 1 GeV Muon can traverse 1m of Iron

Somewhat material dependent:

for a plastic scintillator

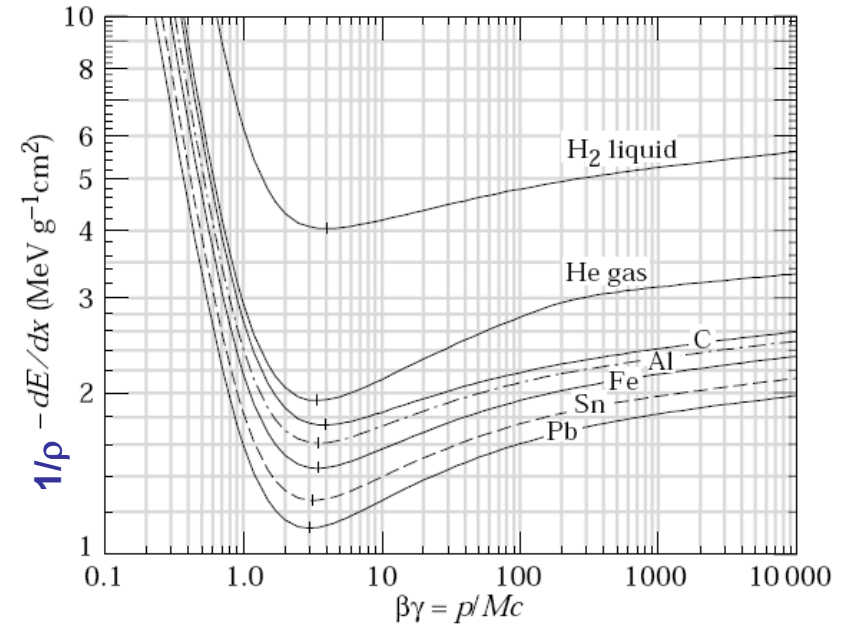
$(1/\rho \, dE/dx)_{\min} \approx 2 \text{ MeV cm}^2/\text{g}$

### Example :

Scintillator: Thickness = 1 cm;  $\rho = 1.0 \text{ g/cm}^3$

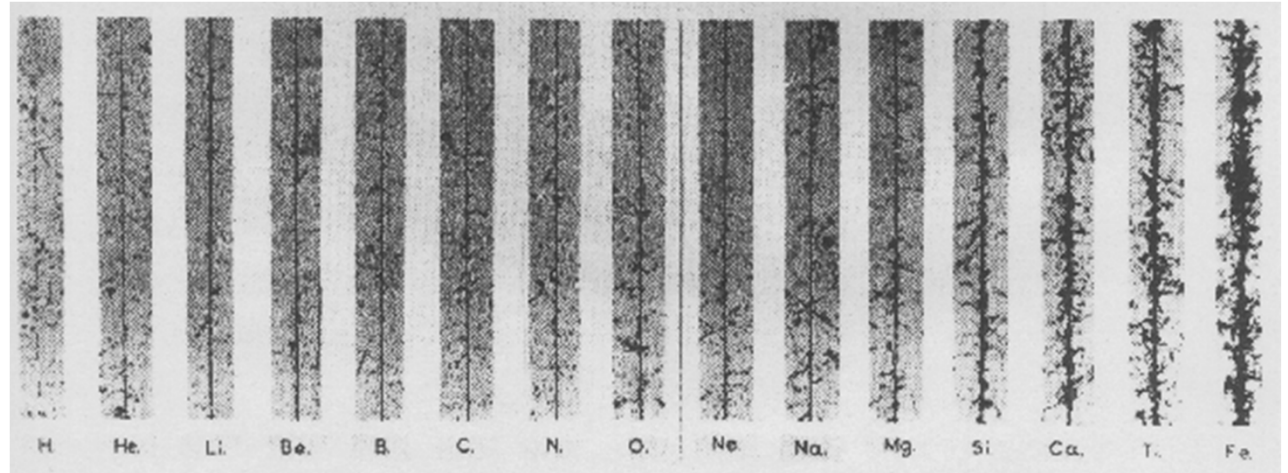
$dE \approx 2 * 1 * 1 = 2 \text{ MeV}$

See materials table in Particle Data Book

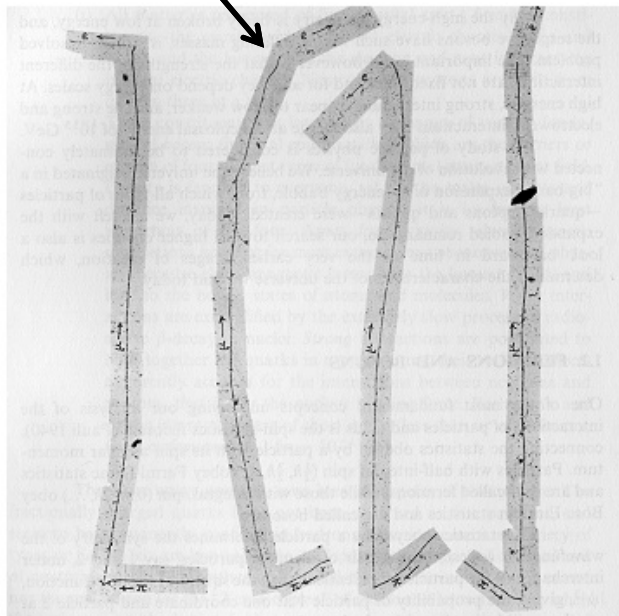


This number must be multiplied with  $\rho$  [ $\text{g/cm}^3$ ] of the Material →  $dE/dx$  [ $\text{MeV/cm}$ ]

**Cosmis rays:  $dE/dx \propto Z^2$**

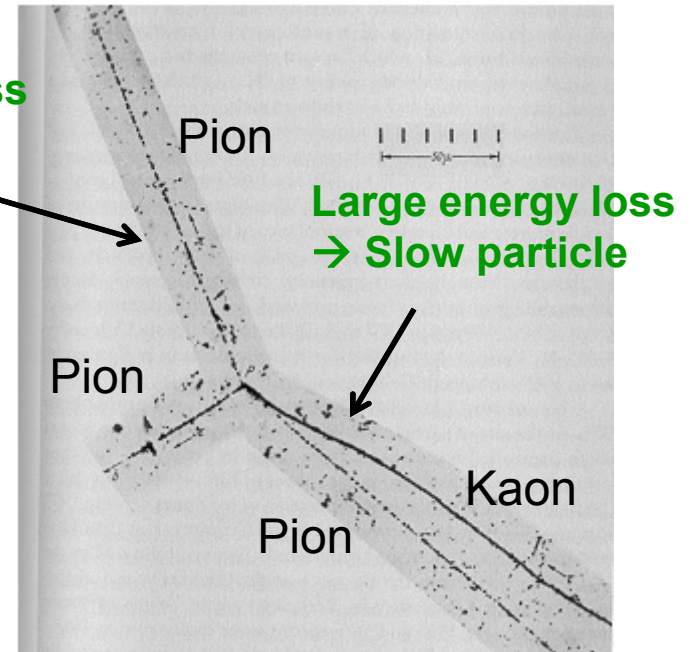


**Small energy loss  
→ Fast Particle**



**Discovery of muon and pion**

**Small energy loss  
→ Fast particle**



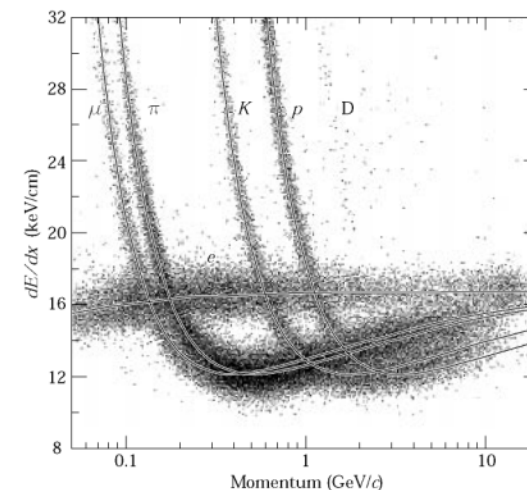
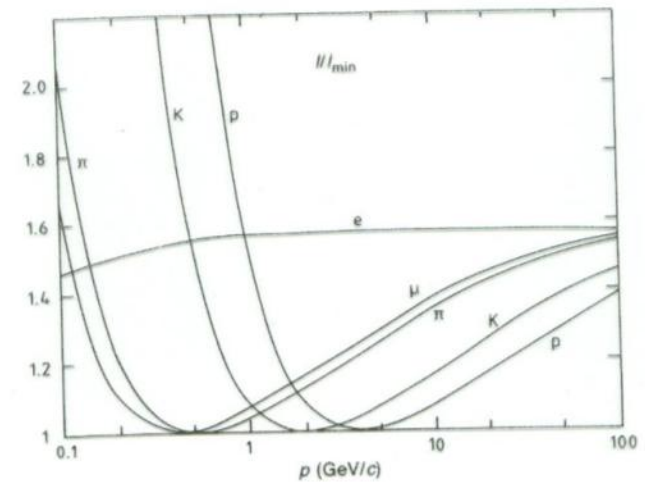
## Energy Loss as a Function of the Momentum

Energy loss depends on the velocity of the particle and is approximately independent of the particle's mass  $M$ .

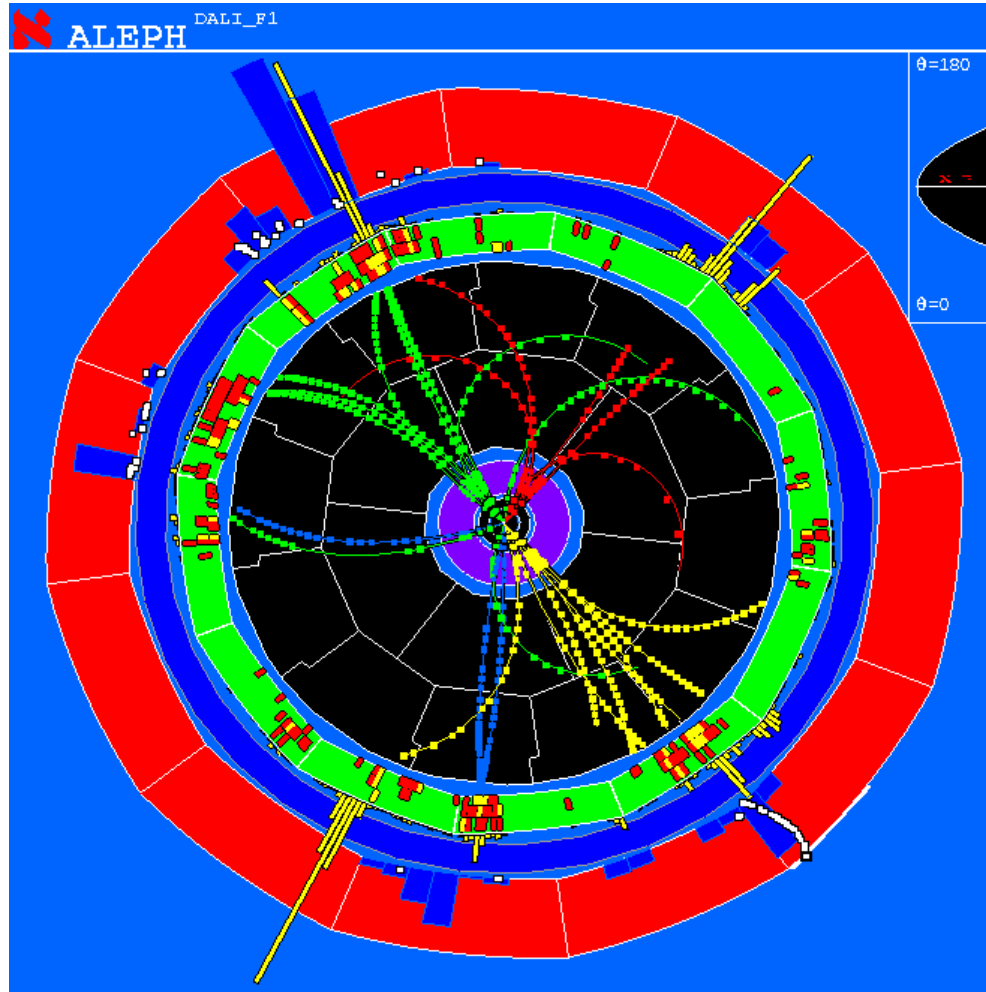
The energy loss as a function of particle Momentum  $p = Mc\beta\gamma$  however **IS** mass depending

By measuring the particle's momentum (deflection in a magnetic field) and with a measurement of the energy loss one can determine the mass of the particle.

→ Particle Identification !



## Energy Loss as a Function of the Momentum



Measure momentum by curvature of the particle track.

Find  $dE/dx$  by measuring the deposited charge along the track.

→ Particle ID

# Particle Range

A particle of mass  $M$  and kinetic Energy  $E_0$  enters matter and loses energy until it comes to rest at distance  $R$ .

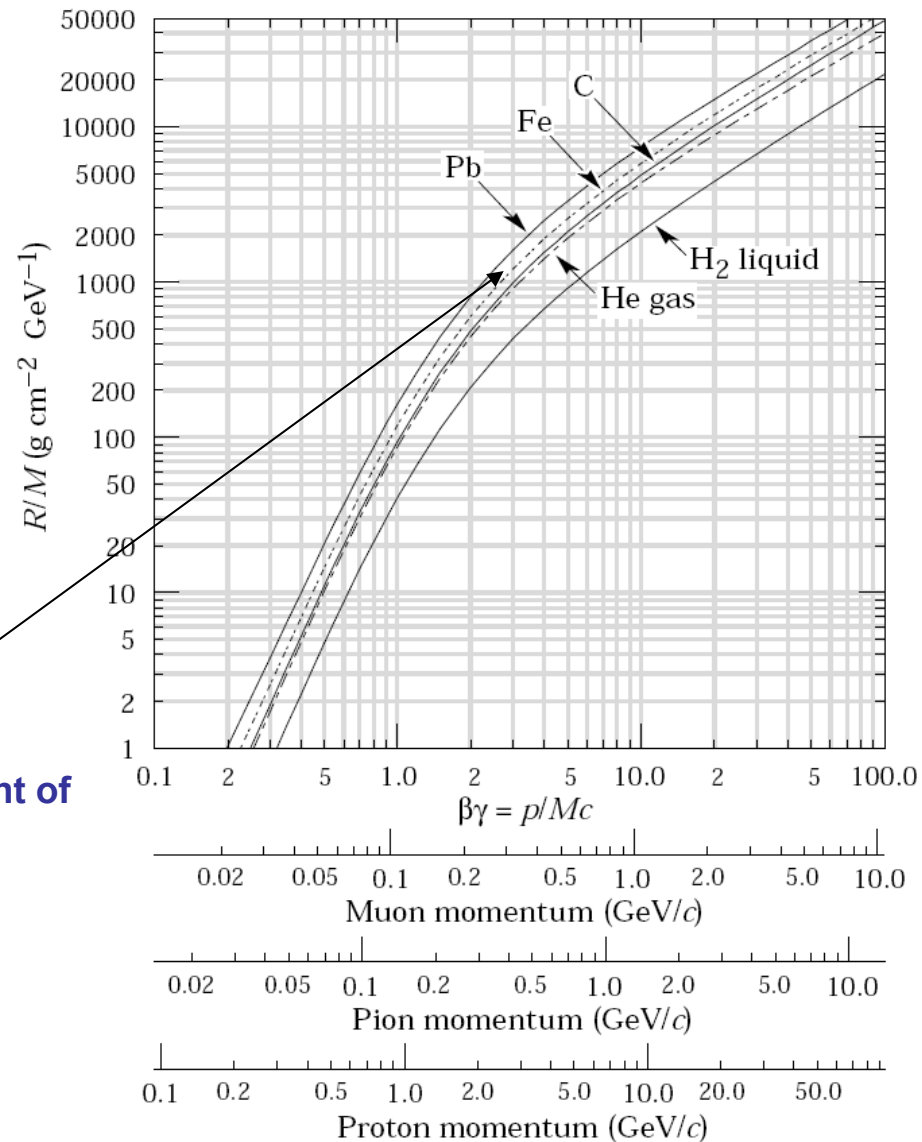
Integrate Bethe-Bloch energy loss:

$$R(E_0) = \int_{E_0}^0 \frac{-1}{dE/dx} dE$$

$$R(\beta_0 \gamma_0) = \frac{Mc^2}{\rho} \frac{1}{Z_1^2} \frac{A}{Z} f(\beta_0 \gamma_0)$$

$$\frac{\rho}{Mc^2} R(\beta_0 \gamma_0) = \frac{1}{Z_1^2} \frac{A}{Z} f(\beta_0 \gamma_0)$$

≈ Independent of the material





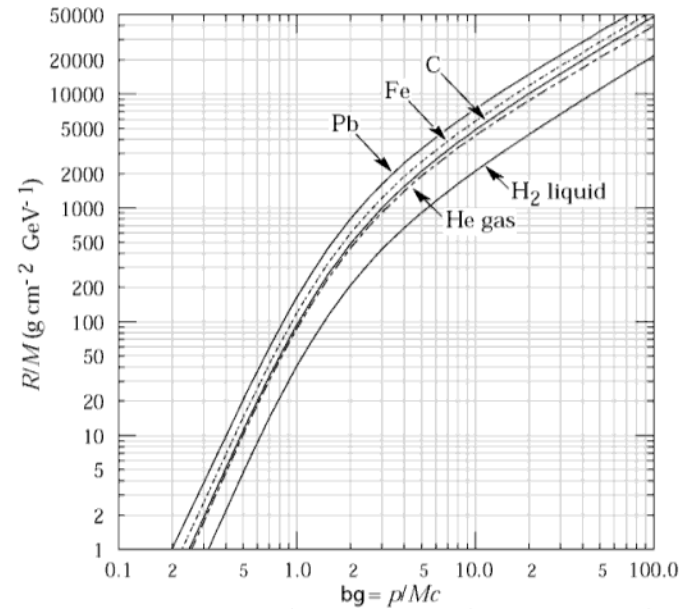
# Range of Particles in Matter

A particle of mass  $M$  and kinetic Energy  $E_0$  enters matter and loses energy until it comes to rest at distance  $R$ .

$$R(E_0) = \int_{E_0}^0 \frac{-1}{dE/dx} dE$$

$$R(\beta_0 \gamma_0) = \frac{Mc^2}{\rho} \frac{1}{Z_1^2} \frac{A}{Z} f(\beta_0 \gamma_0)$$

$$\frac{\rho}{Mc^2} R(\beta_0 \gamma_0) = \frac{1}{Z_1^2} \frac{A}{Z} f(\beta_0 \gamma_0) \quad \approx \text{Independent of the material}$$

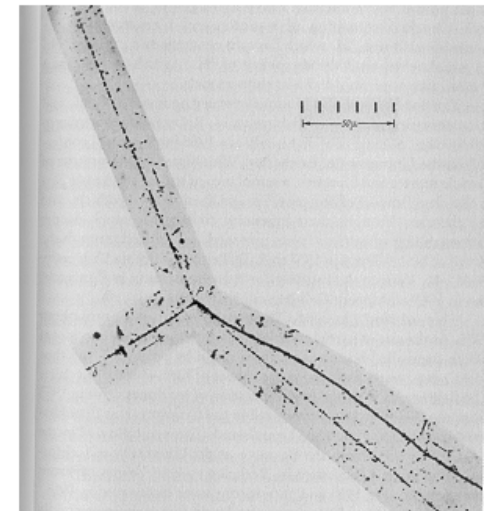
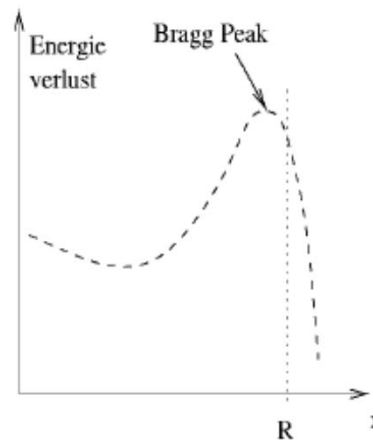


## Bragg Peak:

For  $\beta\gamma > 3$  the energy loss is  $\approx$  constant (Fermi Plateau)

If the energy of the particle falls below  $\beta\gamma = 3$  the energy loss rises as  $1/\beta^2$

Towards the end of the track the energy loss is largest  $\rightarrow$  Proton Cancer Therapy.





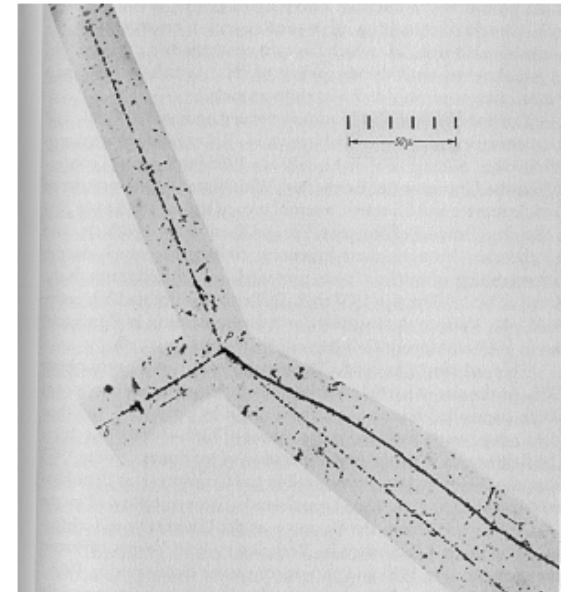
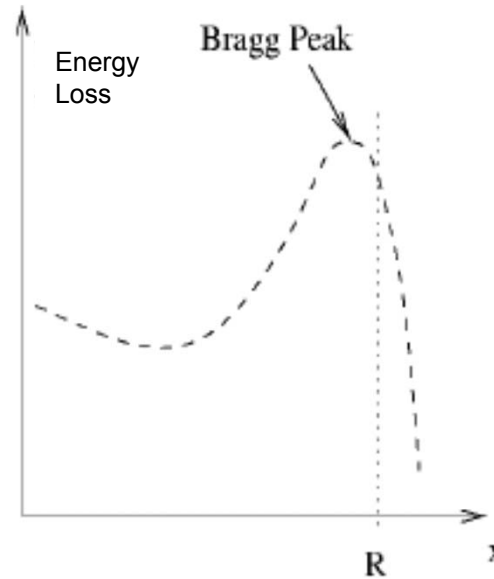
# Particle Range, Bragg Peak

## Bragg Peak:

For  $\beta\gamma > 3$  the energy loss is  $\approx$  constant (Fermi Plateau)

If the energy of the particle falls below  $\beta\gamma = 3$  the energy loss rises as  $1/\beta^2$

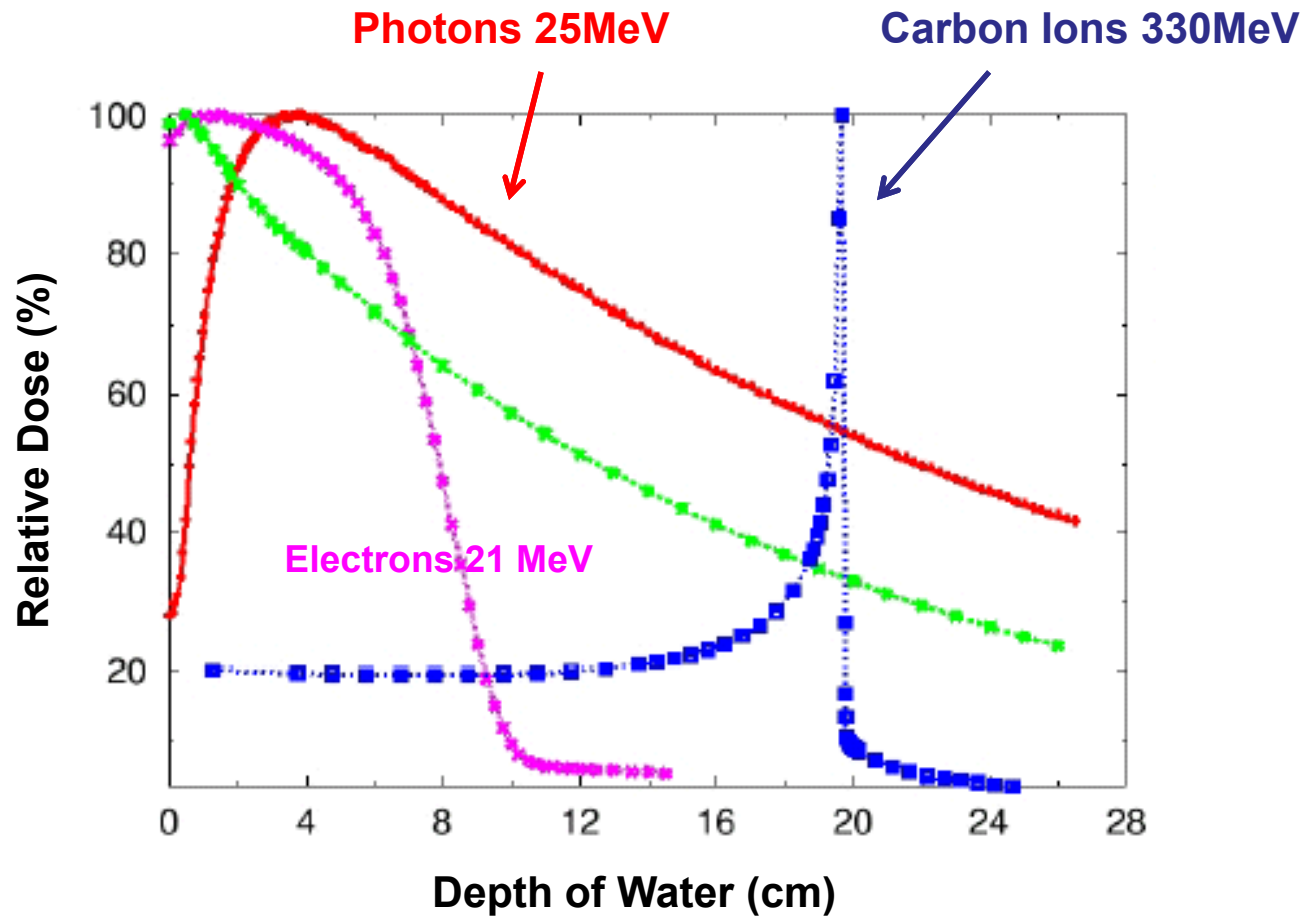
Towards the end of the track the energy loss is largest  $\rightarrow$  Proton Cancer Therapy.



## Range of Particles in Matter

### Average Range:

Towards the end of the track the energy loss is largest → Bragg Peak → Cancer Therapy



# Search for Hidden Chambers in the Pyramids

The structure of the Second Pyramid of Giza is determined by cosmic-ray absorption.

Luis W. Alvarez, Jared A. Anderson, F. El Bedwei, James Burkhard, Ahmed Fakhry, Adib Girgis, Amr Goneid, Fikhray Hassan, Dennis Iverson, Gerald Lynch, Zenab Miligy, Ali Hilmy Moussa, Mohammed-Sharkawi, Lauren Yazolino

Fig. 2 (bottom right). Cross sections of (a) the Great Pyramid of Cheops and (b) the Pyramid of Chephren, showing the known chambers: (A) Smooth limestone cap, (B) the Belzoni Chamber, (C) Belzoni's entrance, (D) Howard-Vyse's entrance, (E) descending passageway, (F) ascending passageway, (G) underground chamber, (H) Grand Gallery, (I) King's Chamber, (J) Queen's Chamber, (K) center line of the pyramid.

6 FEBRUARY 1970

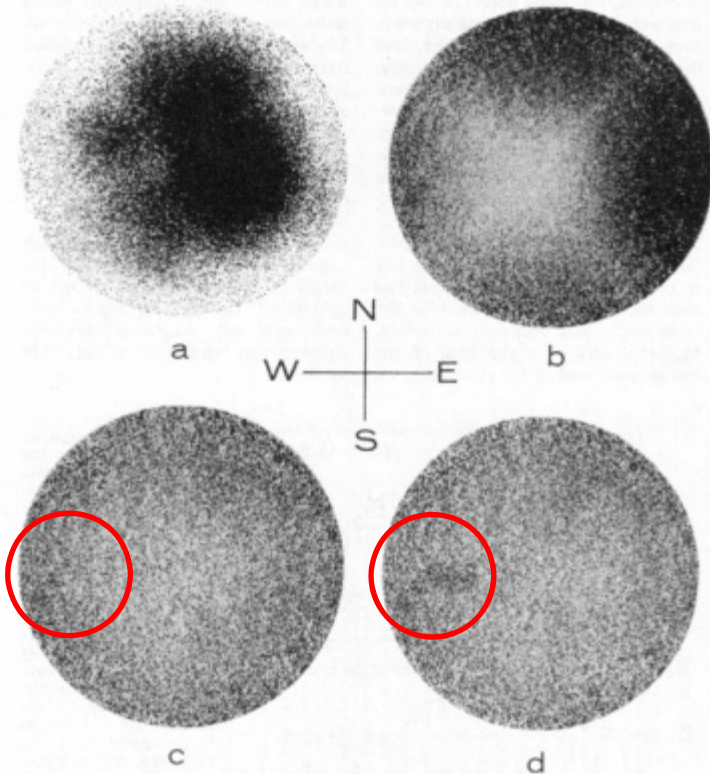
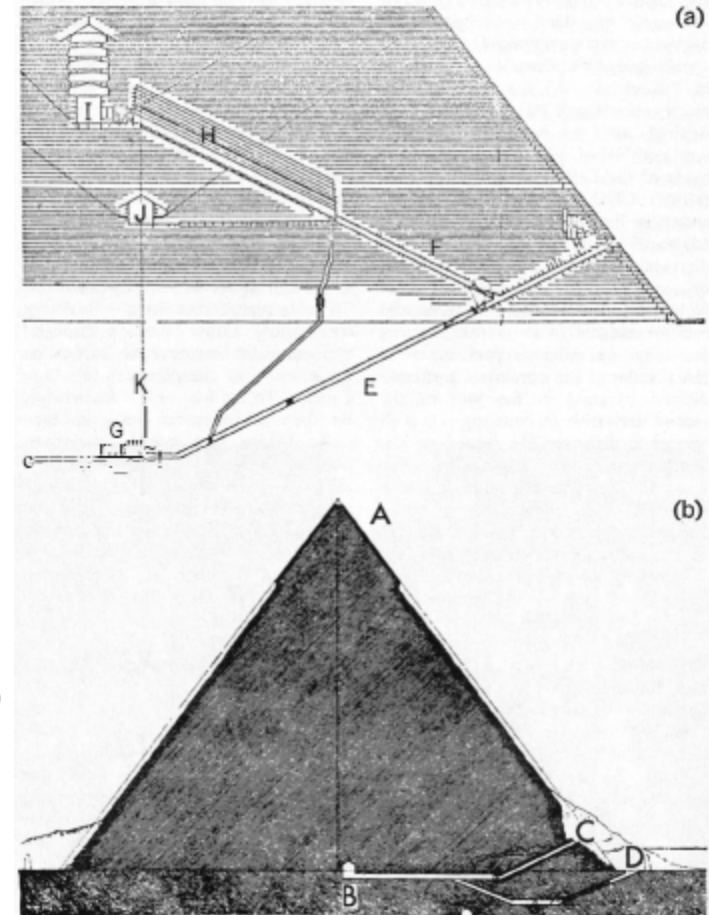


Fig. 13. Scatter plots showing the three stages in the combined analytic and visual analysis of the data and a plot with a simulated chamber. (a) Simulated "x-ray photograph" of uncorrected data. (b) Data corrected for the geometrical acceptance of the apparatus. (c) Data corrected for pyramid structure as well as geometrical acceptance. (d) Same as (c) but with simulated chamber, as in Fig. 12.

Luis Alvarez used the attenuation of muons to look for chambers in the Second Giza Pyramid → Muon Tomography

He proved that there are no chambers present.

Science, 167 (1970)



# Straggling

- So far we have energy loss
- Actual energy loss mean value
- Difficult to calculate
  - parameterization standalone software libraries
  - Form of distribution is important as energy loss distribution is often used for calibrating the detector

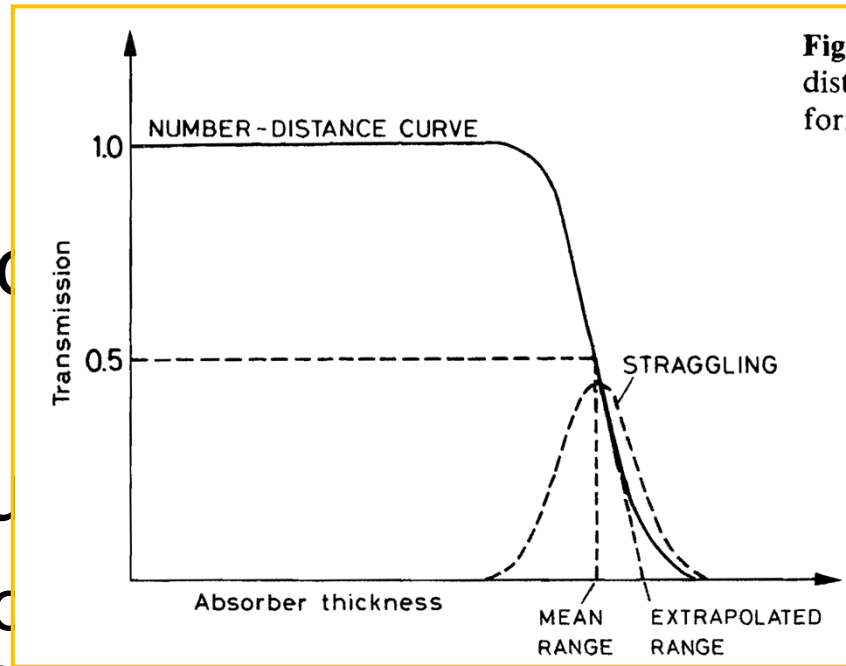


Fig. distr form

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# More Straggling: Landau dist.

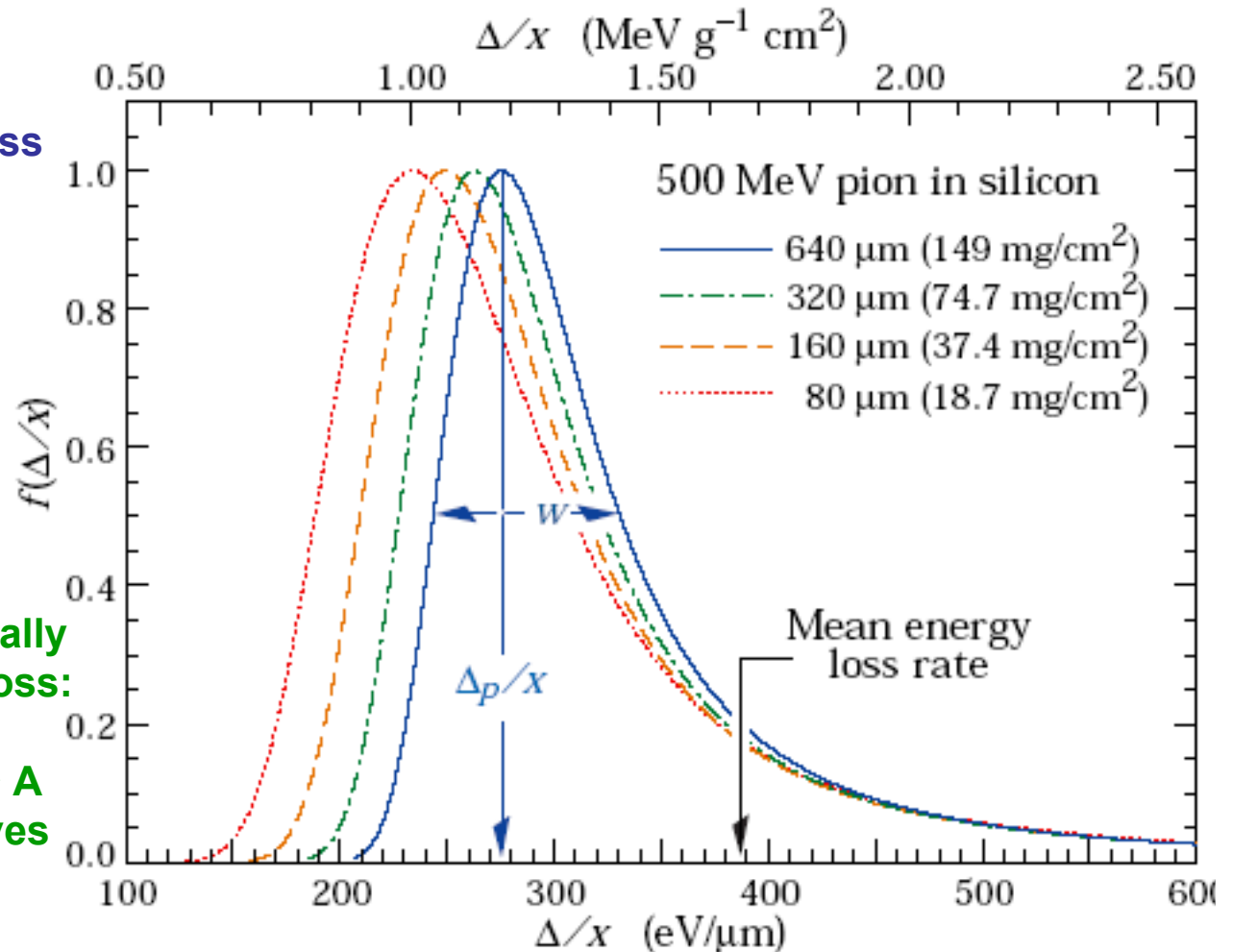
$P(\Delta)$ : Probability for energy loss  $\Delta$  in matter of thickness  $D$ .

Landau distribution is very asymmetric.

Average and most probable energy loss must be distinguished !

Measured Energy Loss is usually smaller than the real energy loss:

3 GeV Pion:  $E'_{\max} = 450\text{MeV} \rightarrow$  A 450 MeV Electron usually leaves the detector.



# Straggling (2)

- Simple parameterisation
  - Landau function

$$f(\lambda) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\lambda + e^{-\lambda})\right)$$

$$\text{with } \lambda = \frac{\Delta E - \overline{\Delta E}}{C \frac{m_e c^2}{\beta^2} \frac{Zz}{A} \rho \Delta x}$$

# $\delta$ -Rays

- Energy loss distribution is not Gaussian around mean.
- In rare cases a lot of energy is transferred to a single electron

$\delta$ -Ray

- If one excludes  $\delta$ -rays, the average energy loss changes
- Equivalent of changing  $E_{\max}$

# Restricted dE/dx

- Some detector only measure energy loss up to a certain upper limit  $E_{cut}$ 
  - Truncated mean measurement
  - $\delta$ -rays leaving the detector

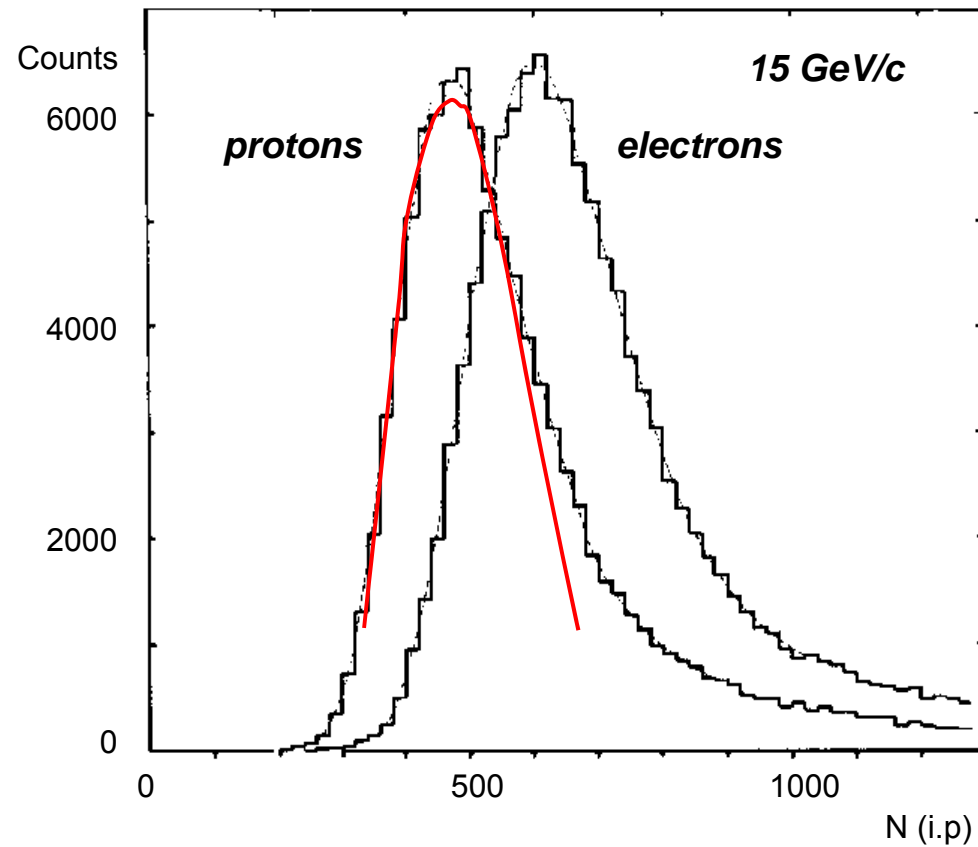
$$\left(\frac{\overline{\Delta E}}{\Delta x}\right)_{E < E_{cut}} = 2C \frac{m_e c^2}{\beta^2} \frac{Zz^2}{A} \rho \left[ \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{2\gamma^2 \beta^2 m_e c^2 E_{cut}}{I_0^2} \right) - \beta^2 \left( 1 + \frac{E_{cut}}{E_{max}} \right) - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} - \frac{\delta(\beta)}{2} \right]$$



# Particle Identification

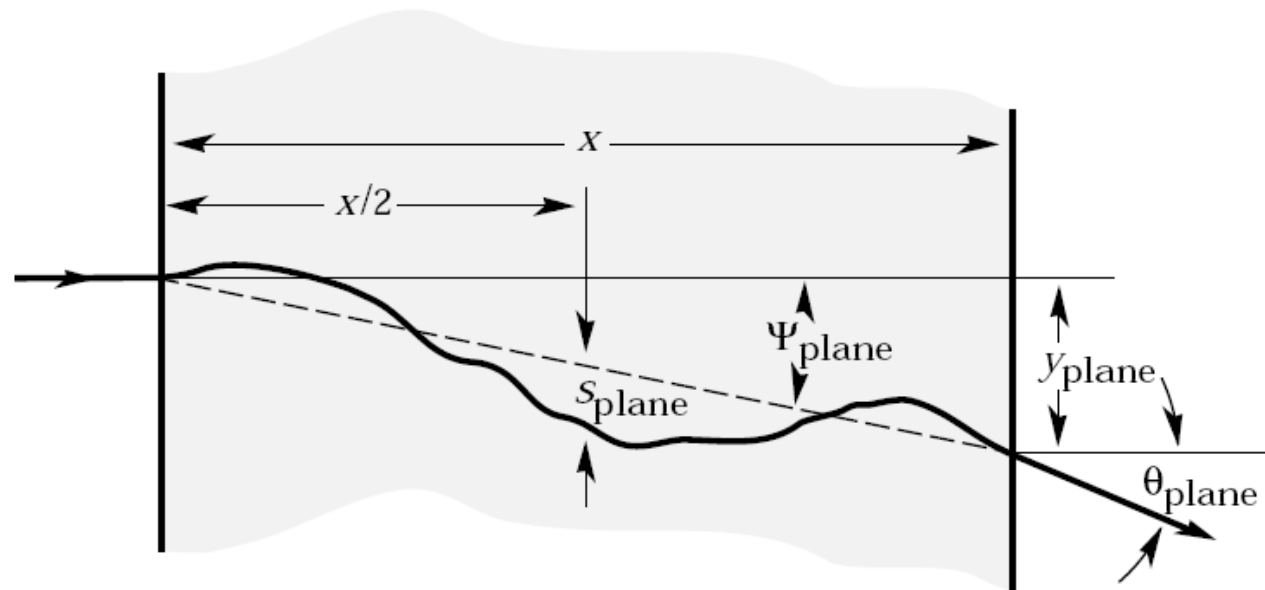
## PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION

Increase number of samples  
Remove outliers (large  $dE/dx$ )



# Multiple Scattering

Particles don't only lose energy ...



... they also change direction

**Statistical (quite complex) analysis of multiple collisions gives:**

Probability that a particle is deflected by an angle  $\theta$  after travelling a distance  $x$  in the material is given by a Gaussian distribution with a mean of 0 and a sigma of:

$X_0$  ... Radiation length of the material

$Z_1$  ... Charge of the particle

$p$  ... Momentum of the particle

$$\Theta_0 = \frac{0.0136}{\beta c p [\text{GeV}/c]} Z_1 \sqrt{\frac{x}{X_0}}$$

# Energy Loss of Electrons

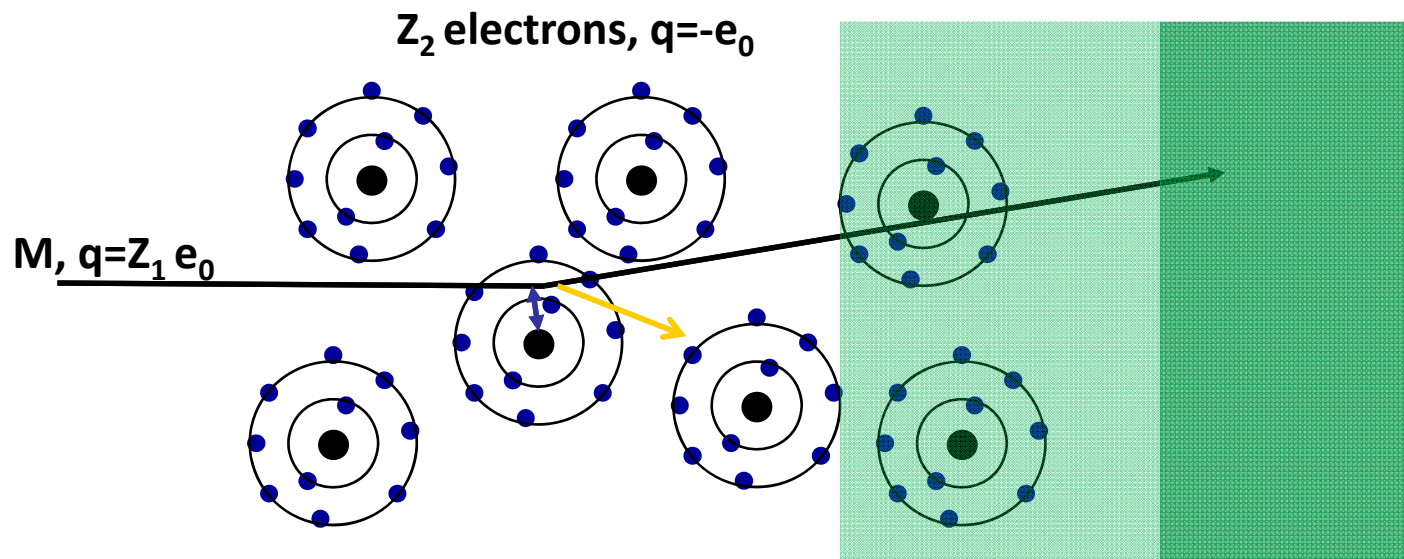
## Ionization

Similar to Bethe Bloch but some modifications because (a) electrons are light and (b) we now have collisions between identical particles.

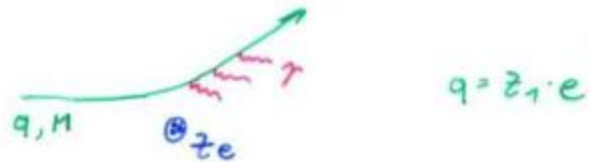
However, the same qualitative behavior

## Bremsstrahlung

A charged particle of mass  $M$  and charge  $q=Z_1e$  is deflected by a nucleus of charge  $Ze$  which is partially 'shielded' by the electrons. During this deflection the charge is 'accelerated' and it therefore radiated  $\rightarrow$  Bremsstrahlung.



# Bremsstrahlung, Classical



$$\frac{d\sigma'}{d\Omega} = \left( \frac{2Z_1Z_2e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 p \cdot v} \right)^2 \frac{1}{(2\sin(\frac{\theta}{2}))^4} \quad p = Mv\gamma$$

"Rutherford Scattering"

Written in Terms of Momentum Transfer  $Q^2 = 2p^2(1 - \cos\theta)$

$$\frac{d\sigma'}{dQ} = 8\pi \left( \frac{Z_1Z_2e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \beta c} \right)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{Q^3}$$



$$\lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{dI}{d\omega} \sim \frac{2}{3\pi} \frac{Z_1^2 e^2}{M^2 c^3} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} Q^2 \text{ Radiated Energy between } \omega, \omega + d\omega$$

*→ From Maxwell's Eq (Jackson)*

$$\frac{dE}{dx} = \frac{N_A g}{A} \cdot \int_0^{Q_{max}} \int_{Q_{min}} dQ \frac{dI}{d\omega} \cdot \frac{d\sigma'}{dQ} \quad , \quad Q_{max} = \frac{E}{\hbar}$$

$$\frac{dE}{dx} = \frac{N_A g}{A} \cdot \frac{16}{3} d \cdot Z^2 \cdot \left( \frac{Z_1^2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 M c^2} \right)^2 \cdot E \cdot \ln \frac{Q_{max}}{Q_{min}}$$

$$d = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \hbar c} \sim \frac{1}{137}$$

A charged particle of mass M and charge  $q=Z_1e$  is deflected by a nucleus of Charge Ze.

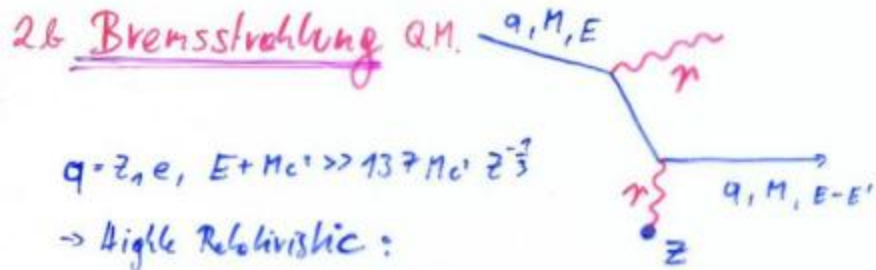
Because of the acceleration the particle radiated EM waves → energy loss.

Coulomb-Scattering (Rutherford Scattering) describes the deflection of the particle.

Maxwell's Equations describe the radiated energy for a given momentum transfer.

→  $dE/dx$

# Bremsstrahlung, QM



$$\frac{d\sigma(E, E')}{dE'} = 4 Z^2 Z_1^4 \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e^2}{Mc^2} \right)^2 \left( \frac{1}{E'} \right) F(E, E')$$

$$F(E, E') = \left[ 1 + \left( 1 - \frac{E'}{E + Mc^2} \right)^2 - \frac{2}{3} \left( 1 - \frac{E'}{E + Mc^2} \right) \right] \ln 183 Z^{-2/3} + \frac{1}{9} \left( 1 - \frac{E'}{E + Mc^2} \right)$$

$$\frac{dE}{dx} = - \frac{N_A g}{A} \int_0^E E' \frac{d\sigma}{dE'} dE' \approx 4 Z^2 Z_1^4 \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e^2}{Mc^2} \right)^2 E \left[ \ln 183 Z^{-2/3} + \frac{1}{18} \right]$$

$$\underline{\underline{\frac{dE}{dx} = - \frac{N_A g}{A} 4 Z^2 Z_1^4 \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e^2}{Mc^2} \right)^2 E \ln(183 Z^{-2/3})}}$$

$$E(x) = E_0 e^{-\frac{x}{X_0}} \quad X_0 = \frac{A}{4 Z^2 N_A g Z_1^4 \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e^2}{Mc^2} \right)^2 \ln 183 Z^{-2/3}}$$

$X_0$  ... Radiation length

Proportional to  $Z^2/A$  of the Material.

Proportional to  $Z_1^4$  of the incoming particle.

Proportional to  $\rho$  of the material.

Proportional  $1/M^2$  of the incoming particle.

$$dE/dx_{\text{Muon}} \sim 1/40000 dE/dx_{\text{Electron}}$$

Proportional to the Energy of the Incoming particle →

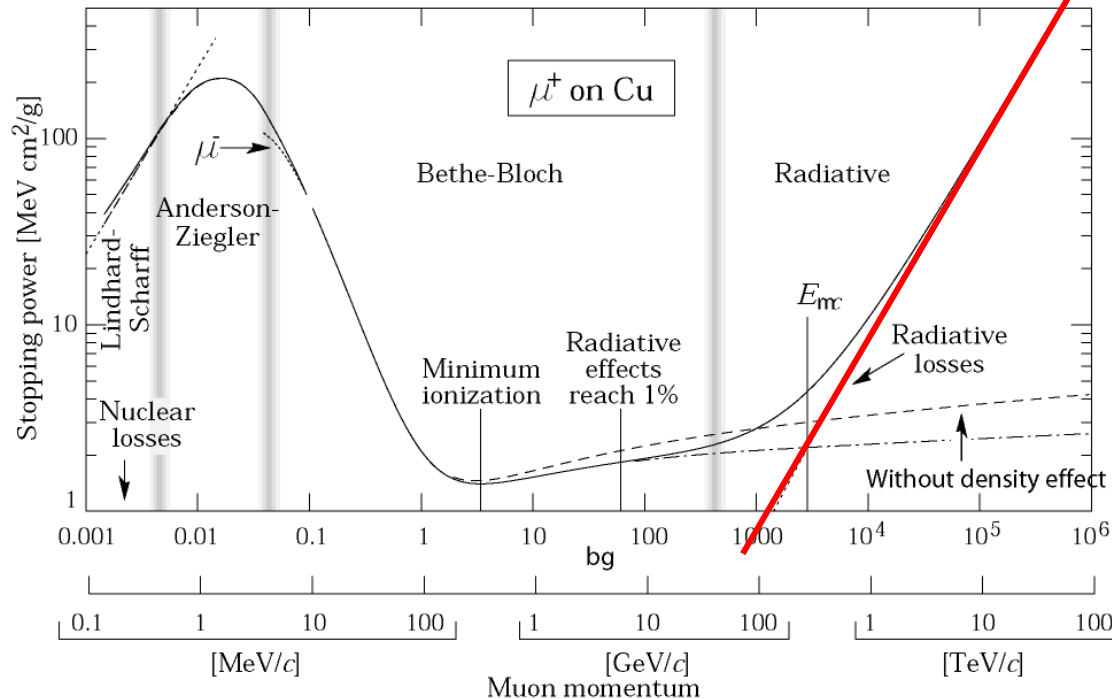
$E(x) = \text{Exp}(-x/X_0)$  – ‘Radiation Length’

$$X_0 \propto M^2 A / (\rho Z_1^4 Z^2)$$

$X_0$ : Distance where the Energy  $E_0$  of the incoming particle decreases  $E_0 \text{Exp}(-1) = 0.37 E_0$ .

# Critical Energy

such as copper to about 1% accuracy for energies between about 6 MeV and 6 GeV



For the muon, the second lightest particle after the electron, the critical energy is at 400 GeV.

The EM Bremsstrahlung is therefore only relevant for electrons at energies of past and present detectors.

**Critical Energy: If  $dE/dx$  (Ionization) =  $dE/dx$  (Bremsstrahlung)**

**Myon in Copper:  $p \approx 400 \text{ GeV}$**

**Electron in Copper:  $p \approx 25 \text{ MeV}$**

# References used today

- Particle Detectors, CERN Summer Student Lecture 2008, W. Riegler
- Material from the books by Leo and Gruppen
- Particle Data Book