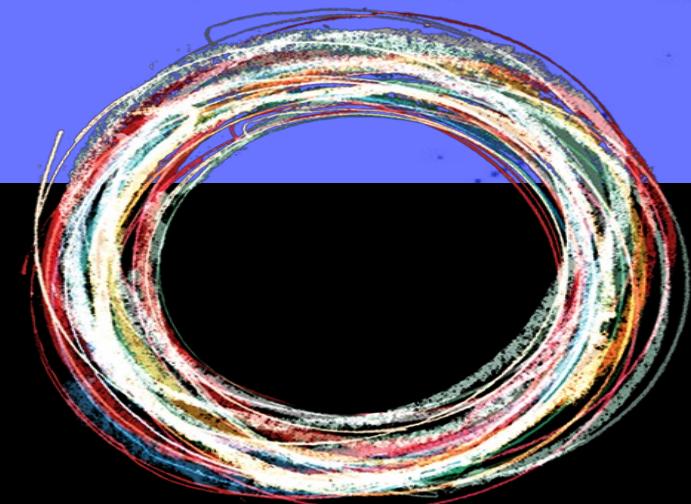


LECTURE 10

PARTICLE DETECTORS



Announcements

Quiz:

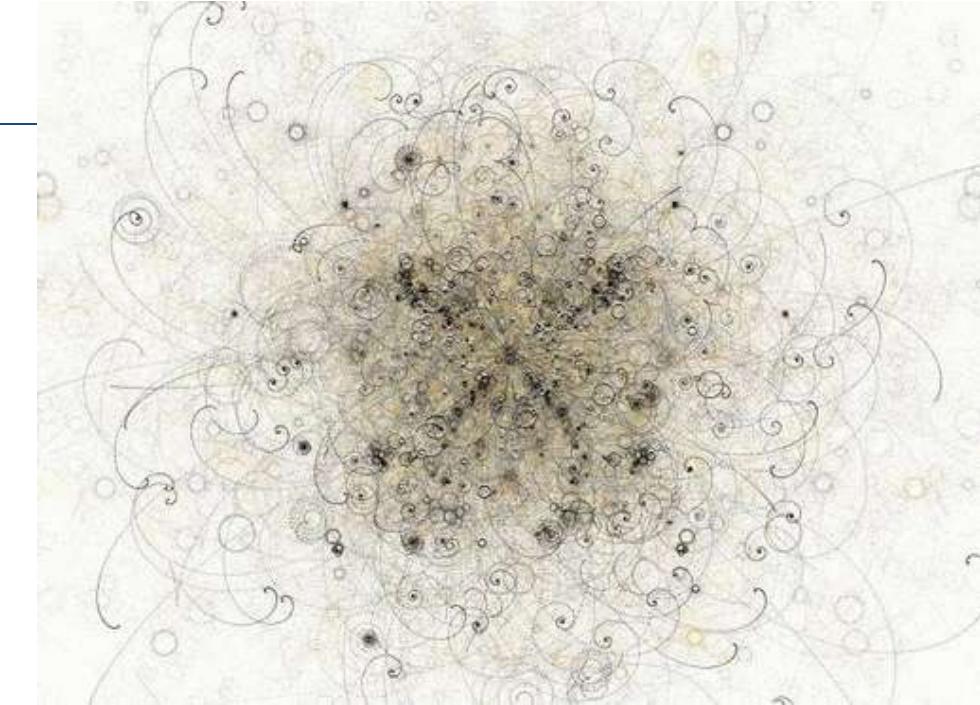
- Assorted quizzes from earlier weeks. Pick up after class.
- Next quiz today

Homework:

Fourth HW posted. Due date **March 24 at 3pm** on gradescope

Paper:

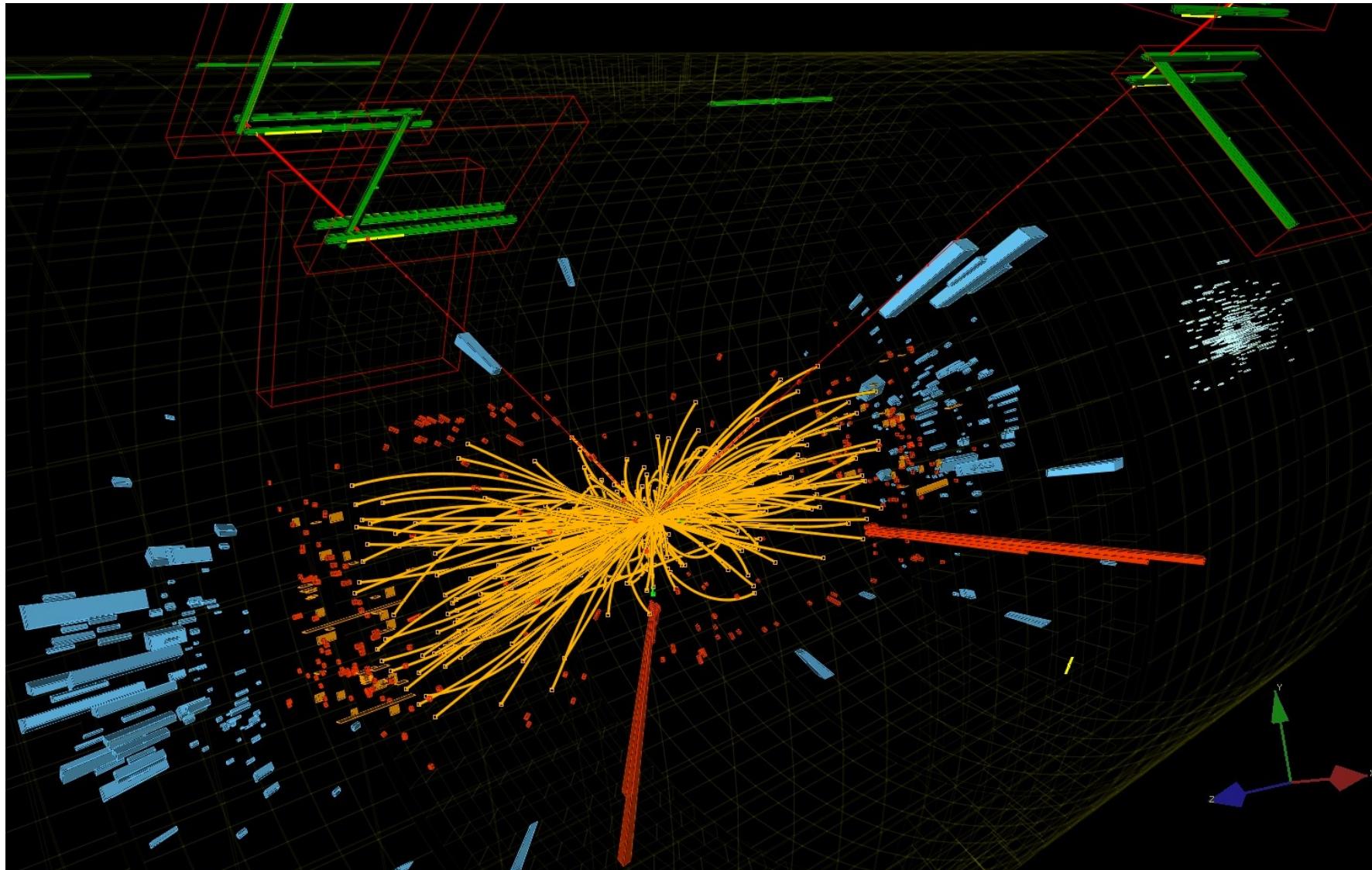
- Outlines returned on gradescope – please take a look; reach out if you have questions
- Draft deadlines:
 - **Optional**, 3/28 in class: bring a paper copy to me by this date if you want feedback
 - For credit, 4/11 at 3pm, on gradescope



Midterm:

- Pick up graded midterms after class
- Will be curved to add 10 points to the score at the top of the page
- Note: your grade is the sum of your best four questions on the exam, the fifth question is not extra credit. in P803 it is the sum of question 5 and your best other three questions

Measuring Particles

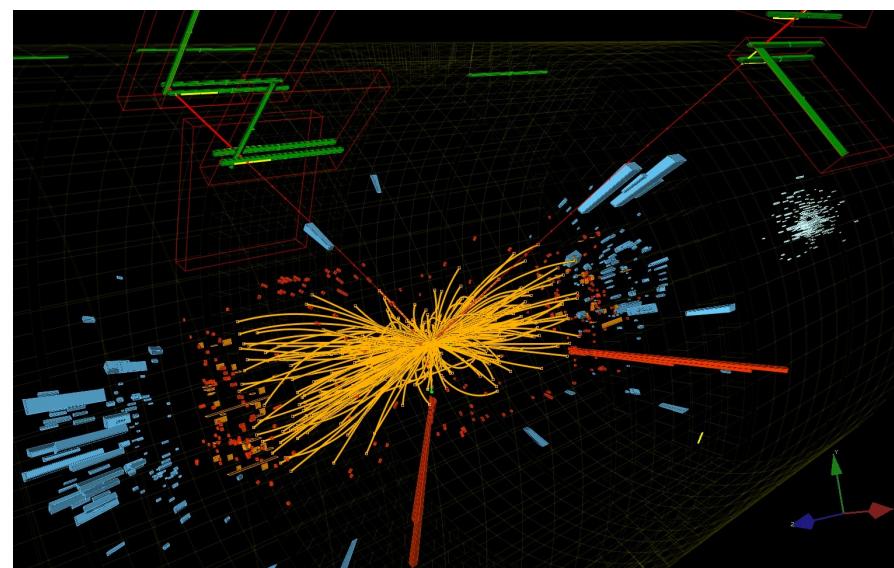
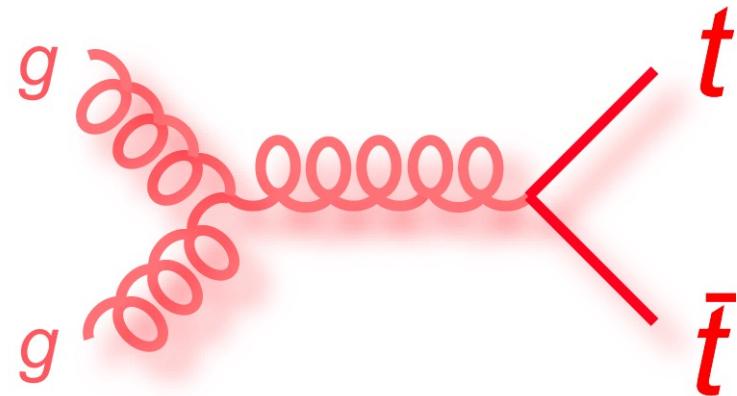


Particle detection

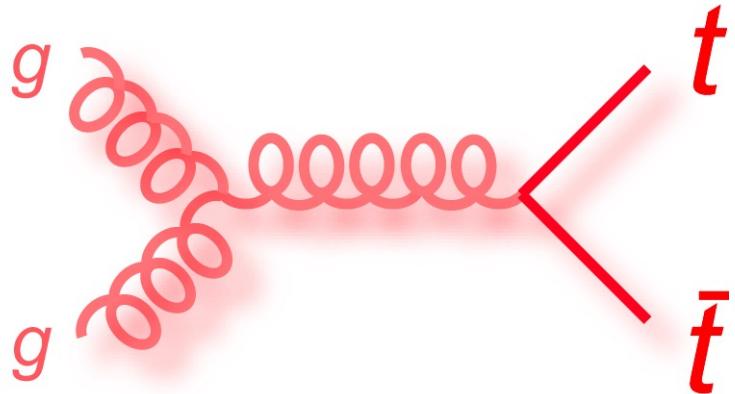
“Reconstruction” is the process of going from a signal in a detector to the particle properties

Would like to know:

- 1) How many particles were produced
- 2) The momentum of each particle
- 3) The energy of each particle
- 4) The charge of each particle
- 5) The mass of each particle
- 6) Spin & lifetime info also helpful



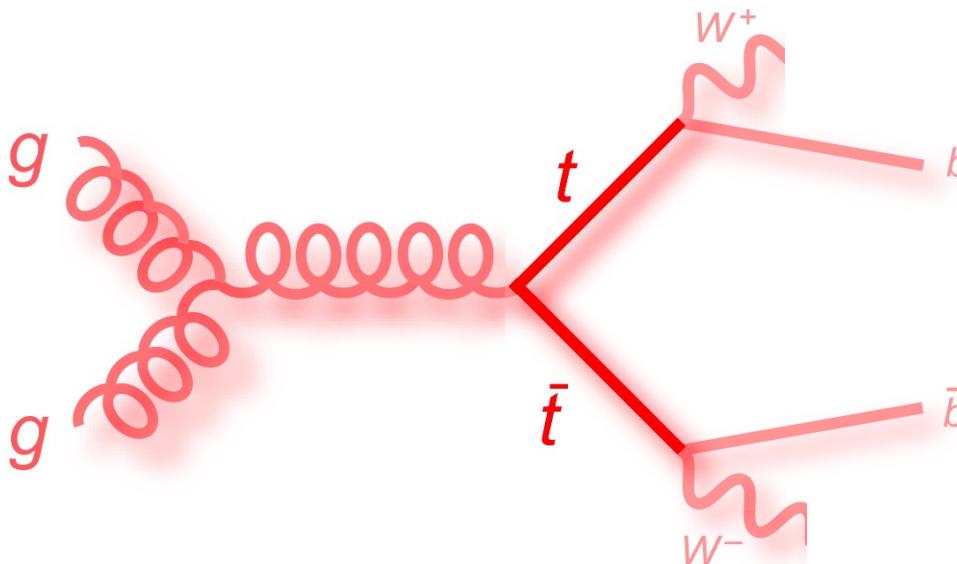
Typical interaction at the LHC



But:

- Top quarks decay
- Lifetime is too short for top quark to reach detector

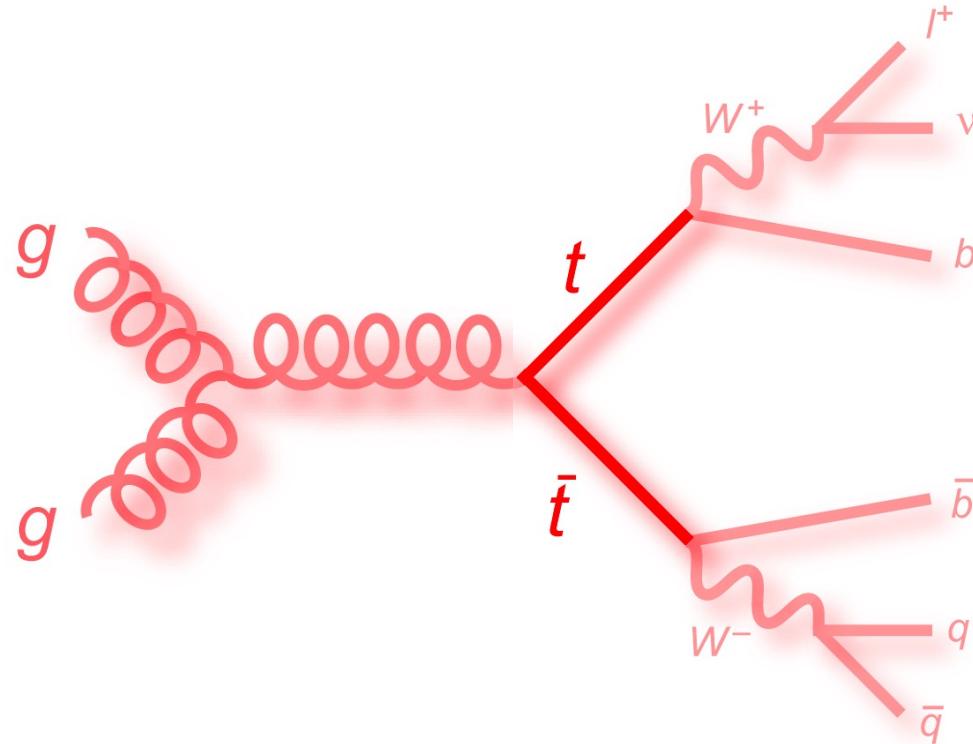
Typical interaction at the LHC



But:

- W bosons decay
 - Lifetime is too short for W bosons to reach detector
- B-quarks hadronize into B mesons and baryons
 - Their lifetime is often too short to reach detector, further decays
- Tau lepton decays, lifetime is too short to reach detector
- Neutrinos escape detection

Typical interaction at the LHC



What's left for the detectors to detect?

- Electrons (and photons)
- Muons
- Quark jets
 - Mesons and baryons
 - Identify b-quark jets indirectly through their secondary vertices
- Infer presence of neutrinos indirectly through momentum balance

Particle Detection & Identification

- There is no single detector that is best for every application.
- In practice, experimentalists use a number of different detectors

Gas

– gas ionization used to estimate position & energy
→ **tracking detectors**

Calorimeters

– intended to stop a particle & measure energy in the process
→ **energy & position measurement**

Spectrometers

– tracking detector in a magnetic field
→ **momentum & position measurement**

Scintillators

– excellent time resolution
→ **trigger of the system – timing information**

Solid-state

– employs the properties of semi-conductors
→ **excellent position & energy resolutions**

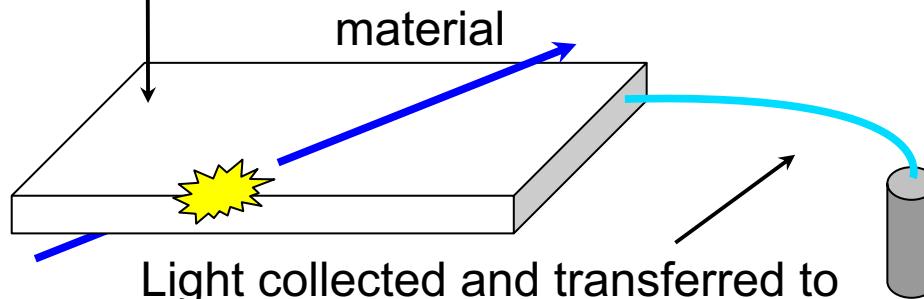
Cherenkov

– measure the velocity of a charged particle
→ **particle identification and timing information**

Particle Detection Basics

Scintillation light generated by excitation from particle charge

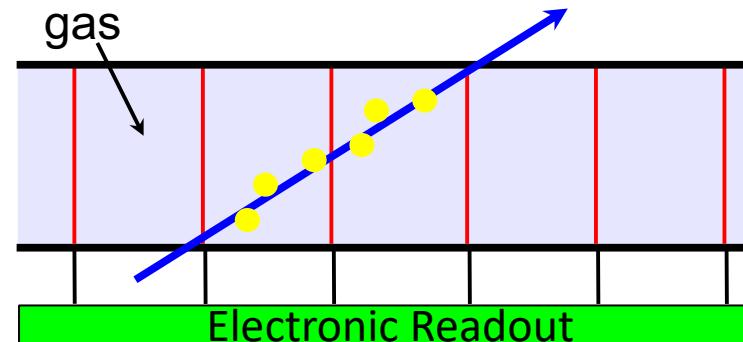
Plastic doped with scintillating molecules or crystal scintillating material



Light collected and transferred to photo-detector via fiber optics.

Gas ionization created by passing particle charge

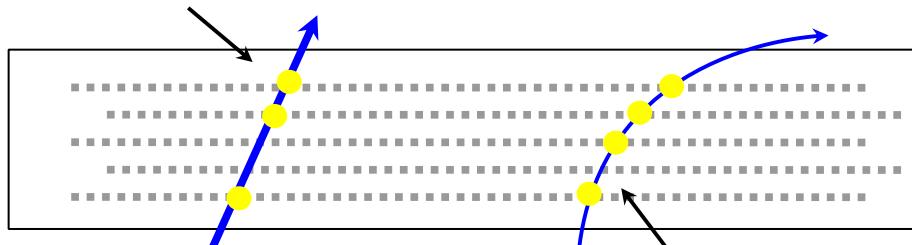
Pressurized gas



Ions are collected on anode wires (**red**) and signal recorded via electronic readout

Semiconductor ionization created by passing particle charge

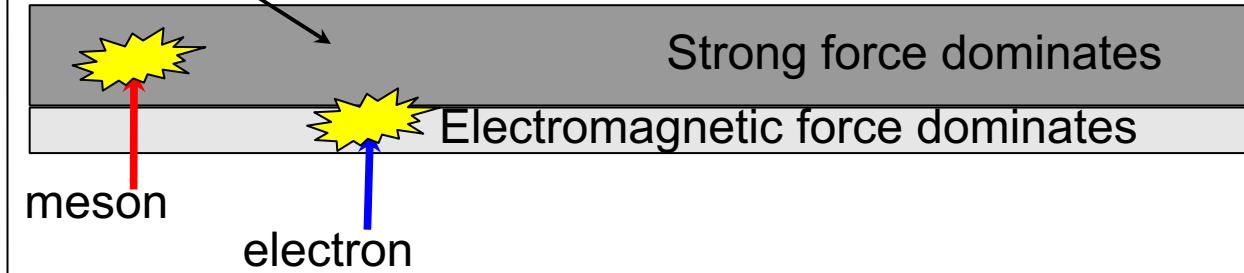
Particles ionize thin silicon layers and this charge can be collected to identify a “track”



By placing in a solenoidal magnetic field, Lorentz force on particle measures momentum

Energy measurement via calorimetry

Dense calorimeter material



Using dense materials sensitive to different interactions, stop particles and measure energy.

Particle Detection & Identification

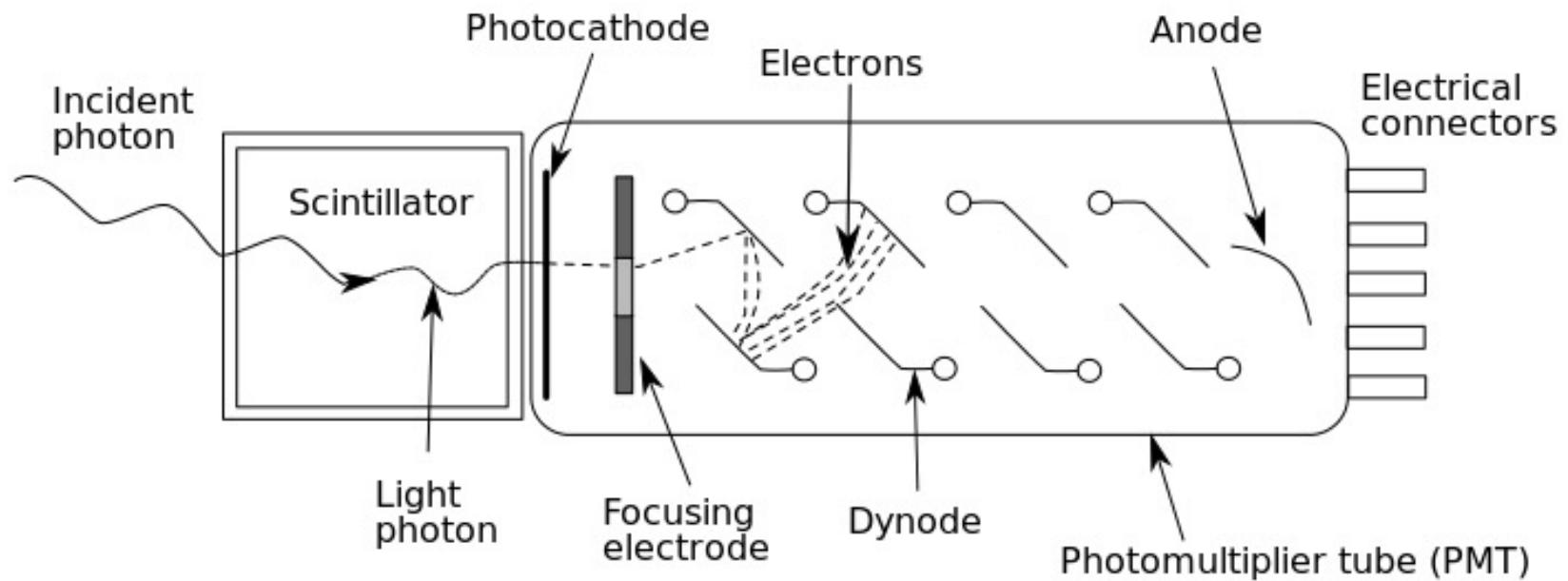
- There is no single detector that is best for every application.
- In practice, experimentalists use a number of different detectors

Light Detectors	Gas	– gas ionization used to estimate position & energy → tracking detectors
	Calorimeters	– intended to stop a particle & measure energy in the process → energy & position measurement
	Spectrometers	– tracking detector in a magnetic field → momentum & position measurement
	Scintillators	– excellent time resolution → trigger of the system – timing information
	Solid-state	– employs the properties of semi-conductors → excellent position & energy resolutions
	Cherenkov	– measure the velocity of a charged particle → particle identification and timing information

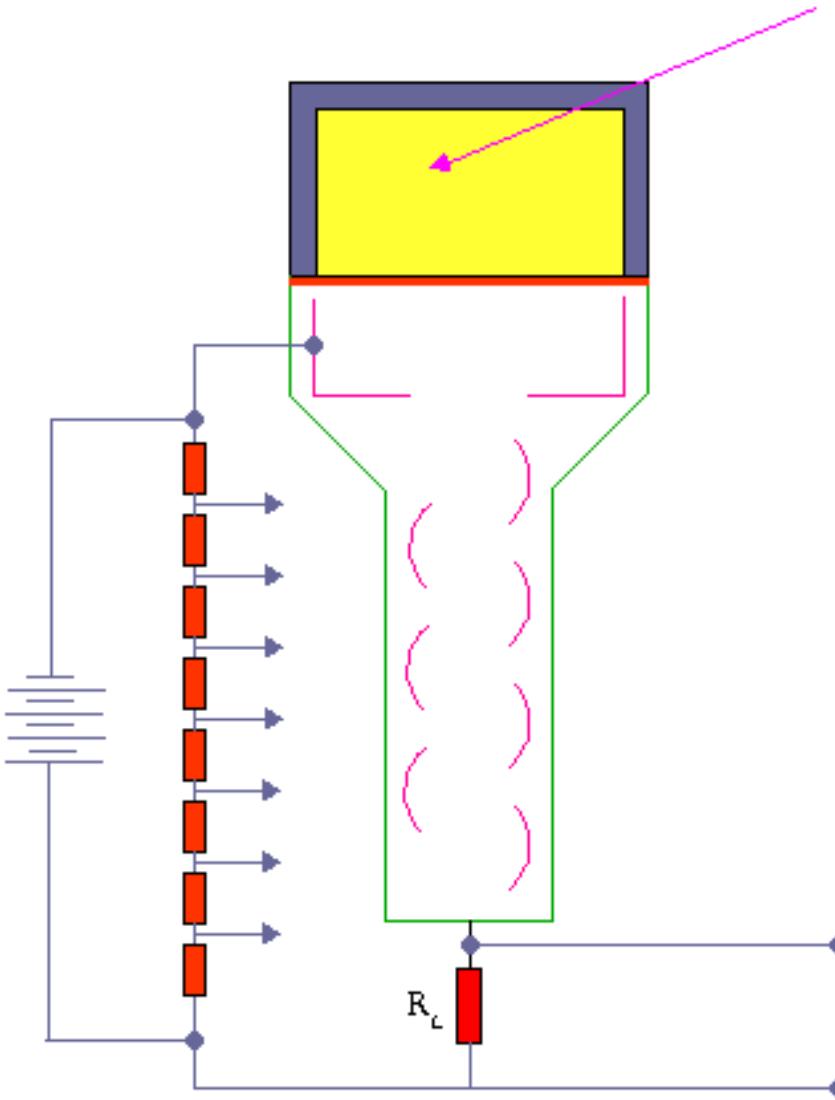
The Photomultiplier Tube

It's all in the name!

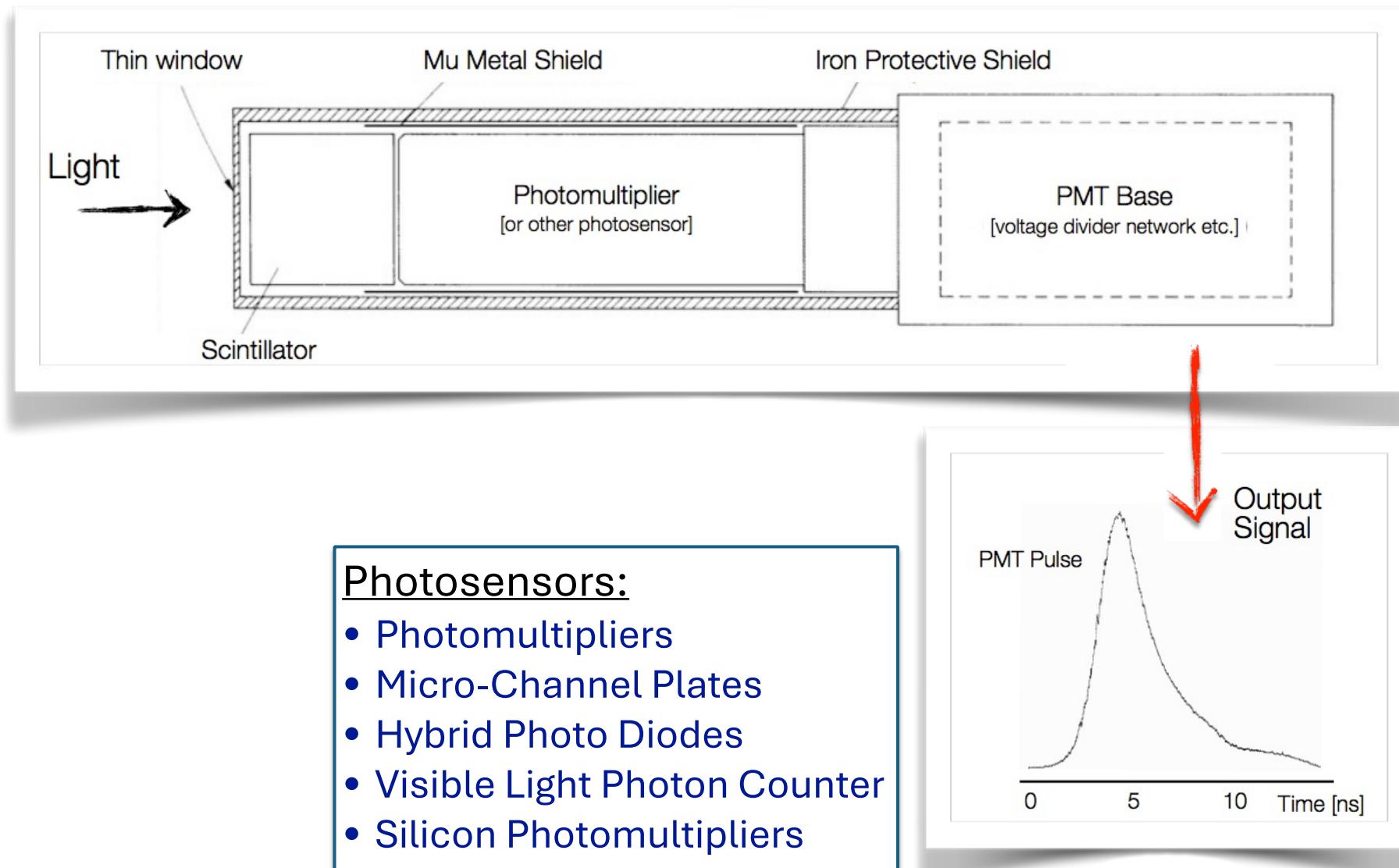
- The Photomultiplier Tube (PMT or Phototube) is designed to amplify the signal of a single photon
- Primary photon signal generated by the photo-electric effect
- "Gain" in signal is achieved by collecting electrons through a series of voltage drops between "Dynodes".



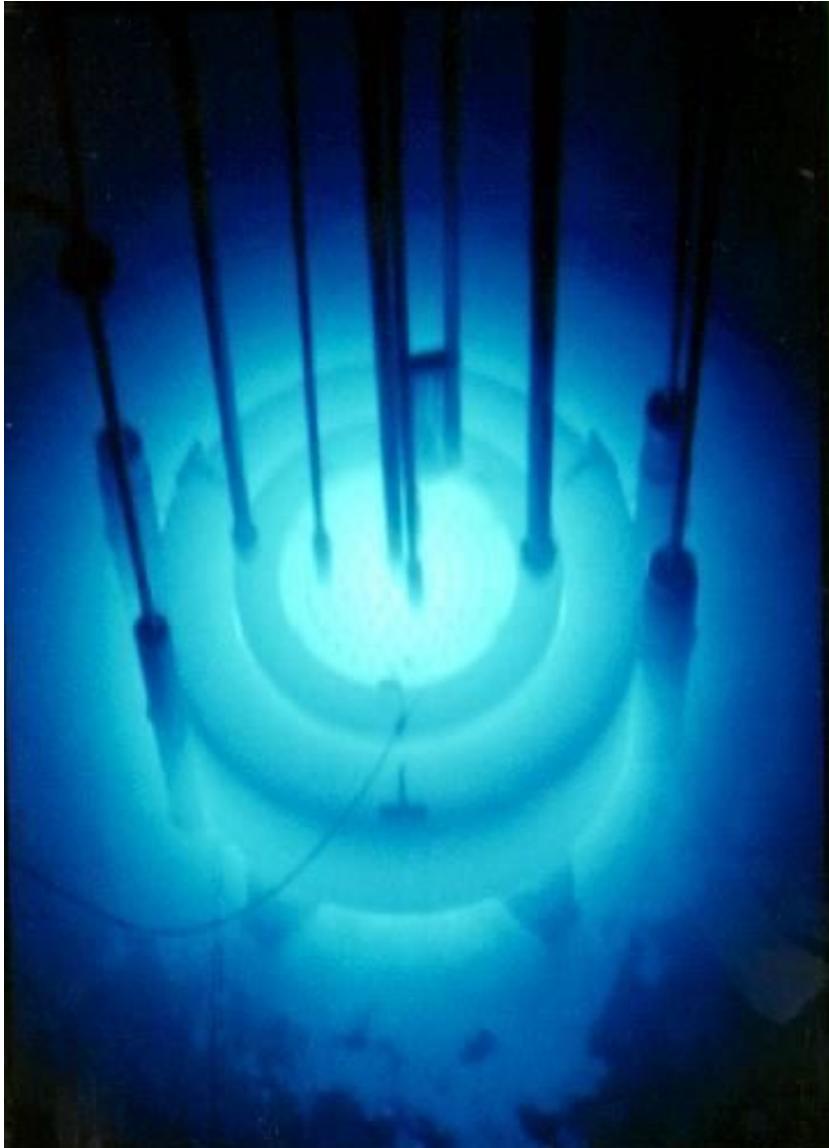
The Photomultiplier Tube



Basic Light Counter Setup



Cherenkov radiation



Cherenkov Radiation

- Cherenkov light is produced when charged particles have speed of:

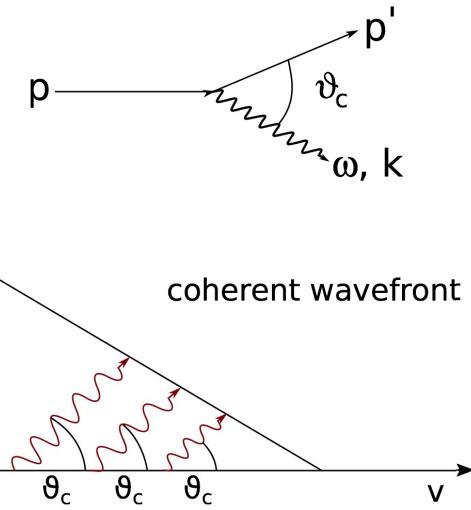
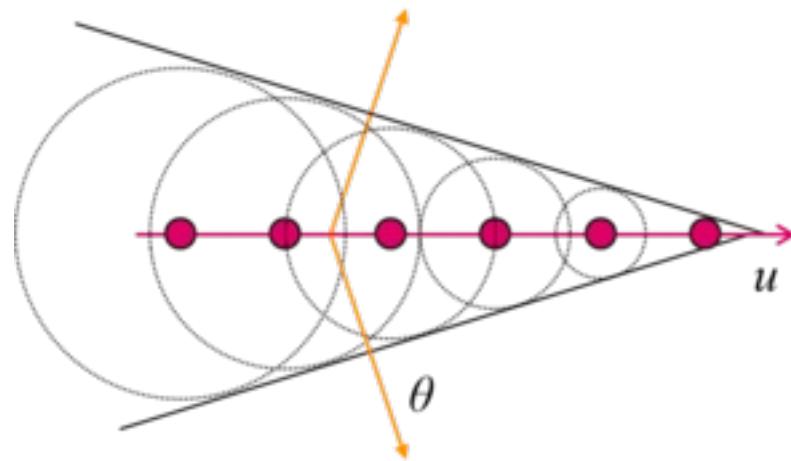
$$v > \frac{c}{n}$$

- Minimum momentum to produce Cherenkov light:
 - Called “Cherenkov threshold”
- Light is produced in a cone around trajectory of particle

$$p_{min} = \frac{mc}{\sqrt{n^2 - 1}}$$

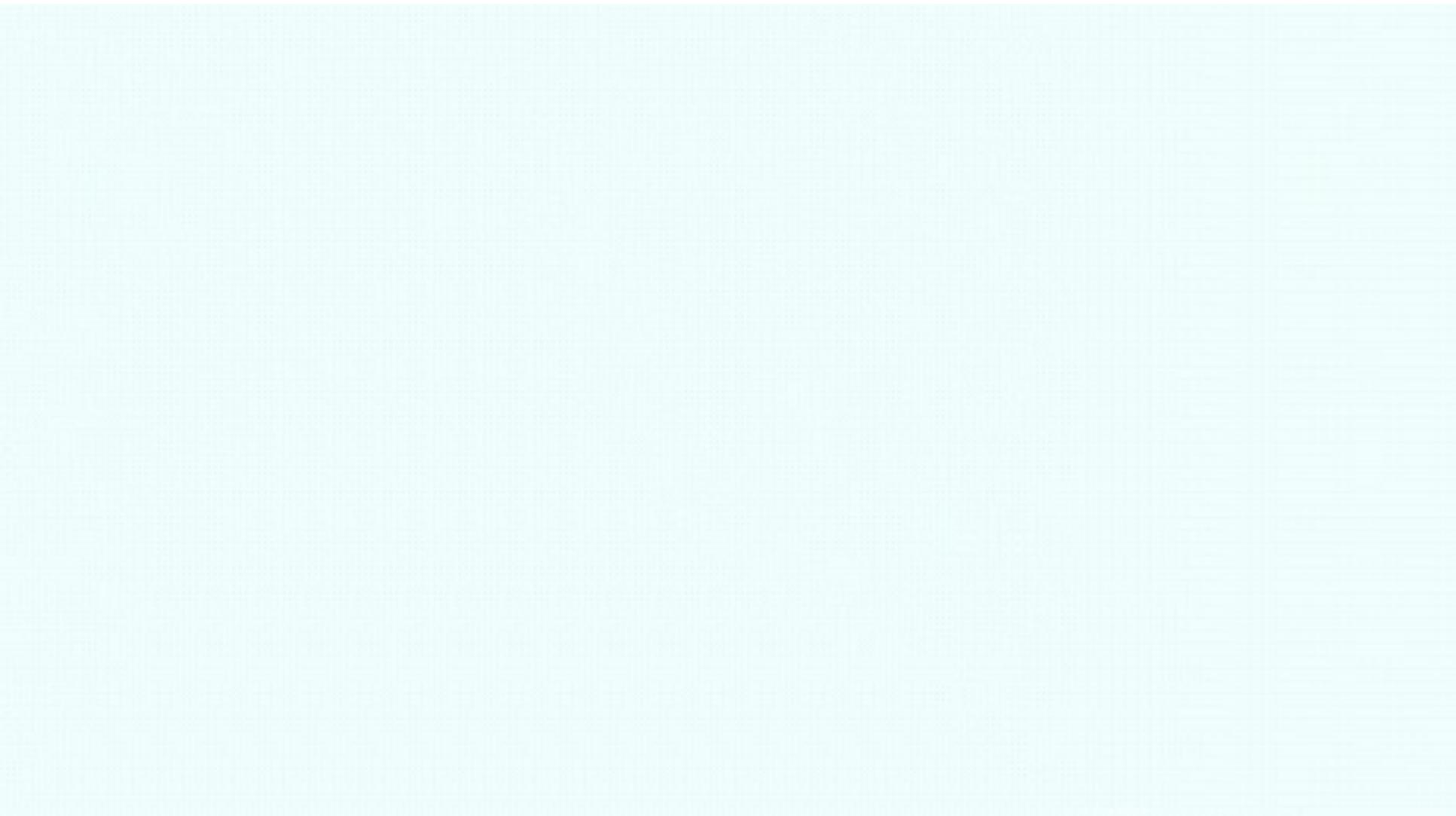
- The medium is a dielectric
- Index of refraction of the medium $n = \frac{c}{c_m}$, where c_m is the speed of light in the medium
 - Water: n=1.3

Cherenkov radiation



- Photons are emitted at characteristic angle θ_c
- Coherent wavefront of Cherenkov light
- Photons are soft, short wavelength $\omega \ll \gamma Mc^2$
- Energy loss is negligible compared to ionization

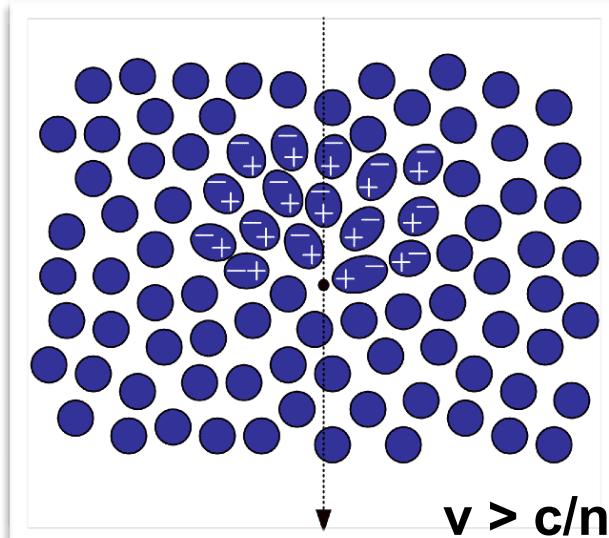
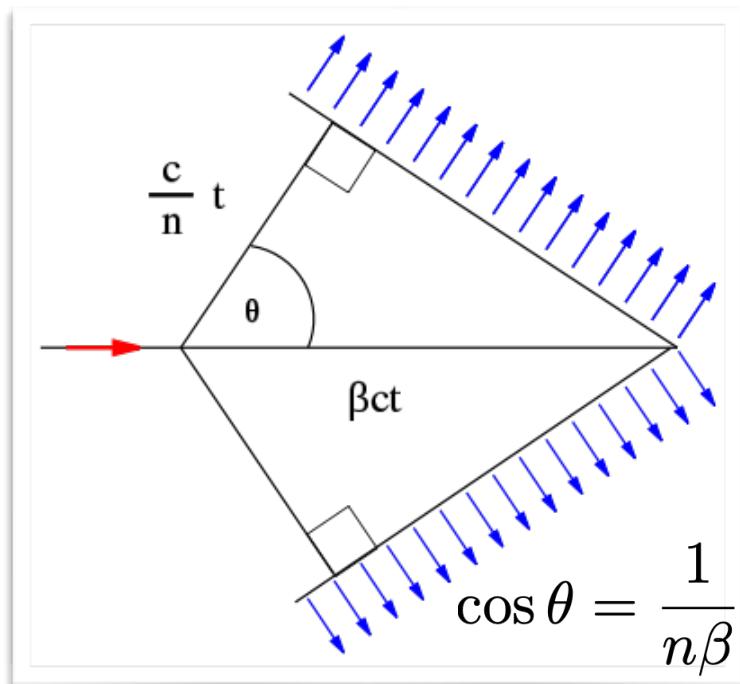
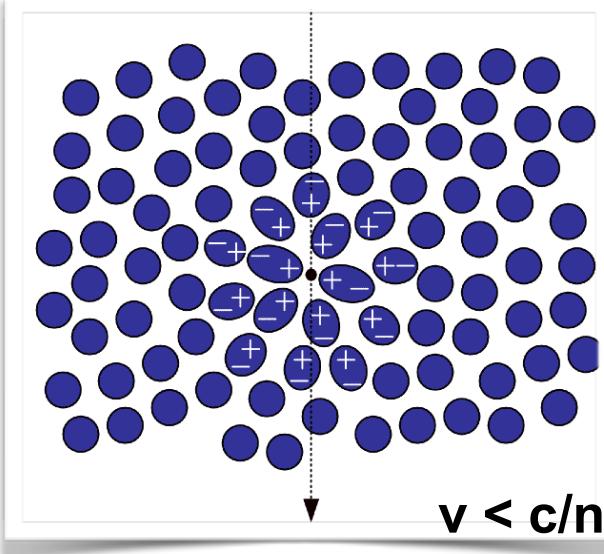
Cherenkov Radiation



Cherenkov Radiation

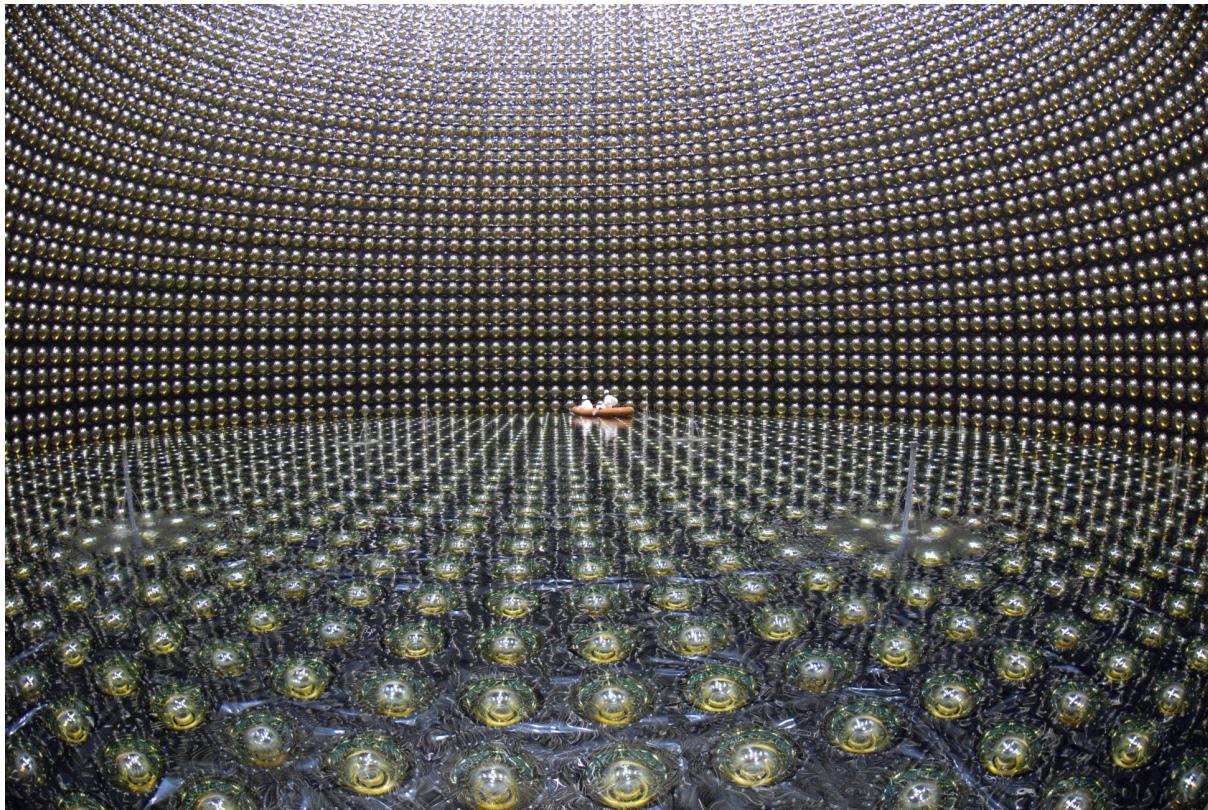
A polarization effect:

- Charged particles polarize the dielectric medium as they pass through
- For $v < c/n$, the polarization is symmetric and there is no coherent electric field induced at long distances.
- For $v > c/n$, the polarization is asymmetric and the collapse of the polarization state causes the atoms to emit Cherenkov radiation.

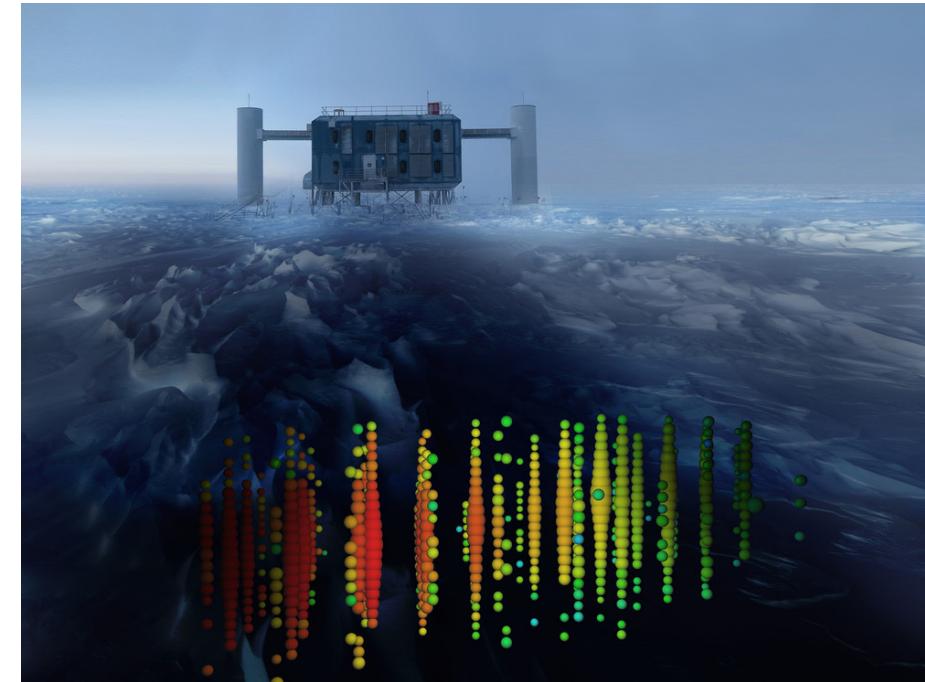


Cherenkov Detectors

Super Kamiokande

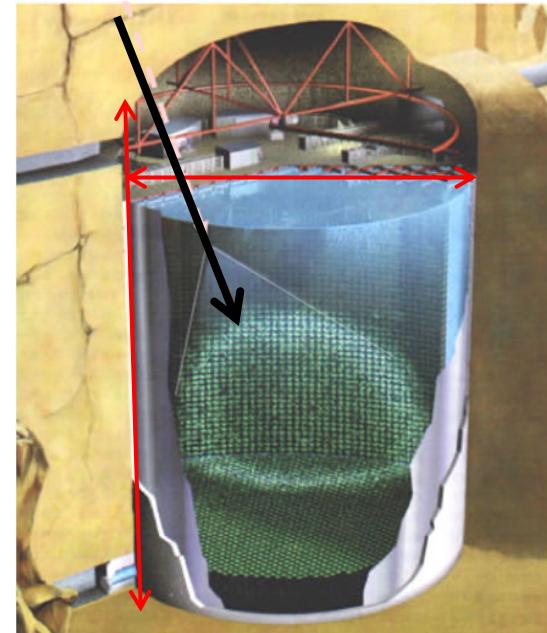


IceCube

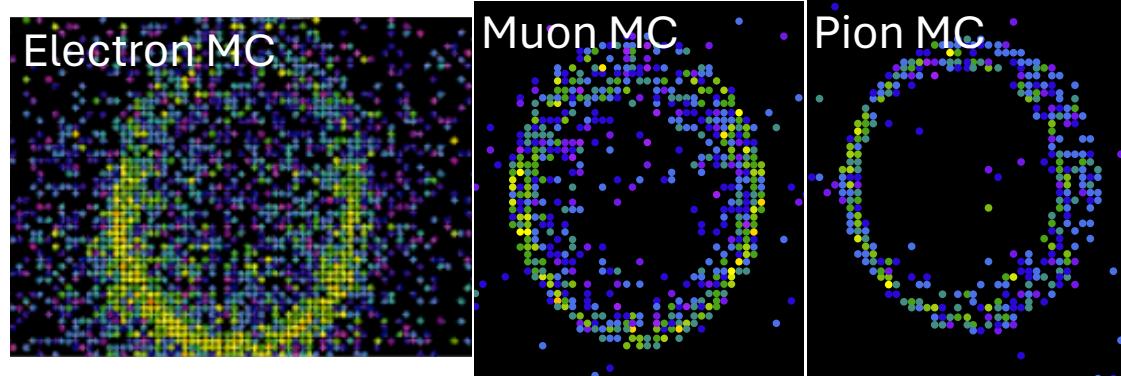
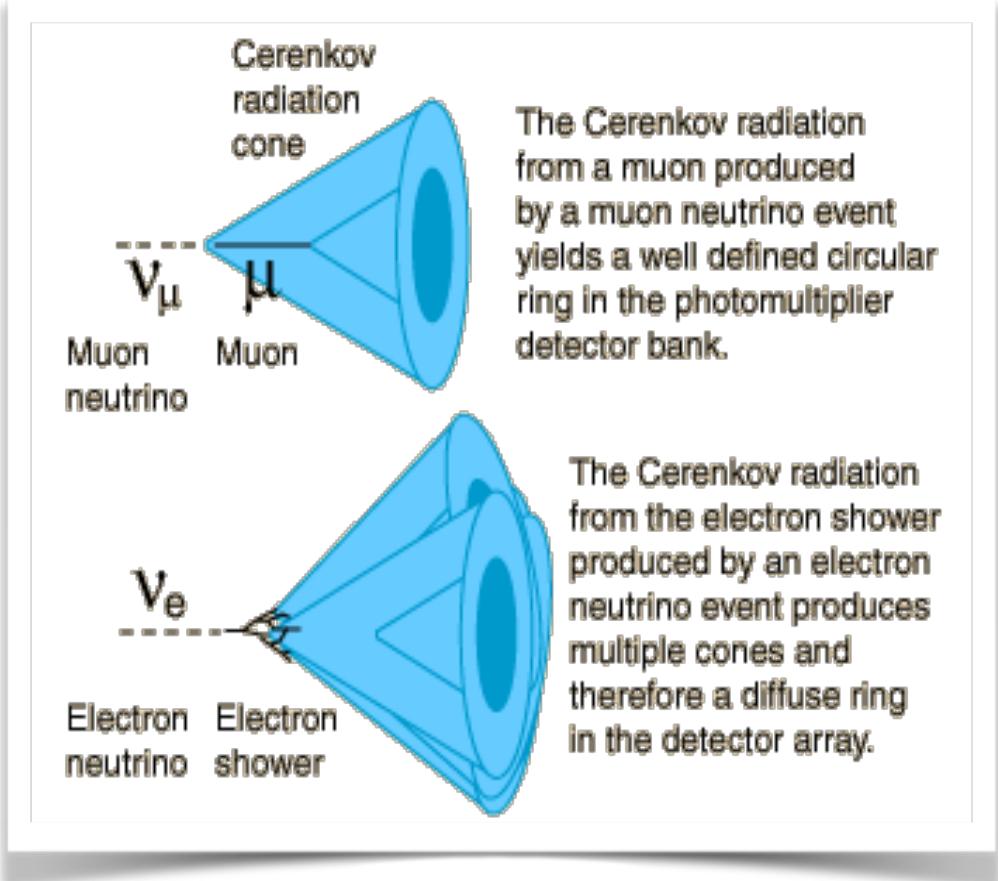


Example: Super-Kamiokande detector

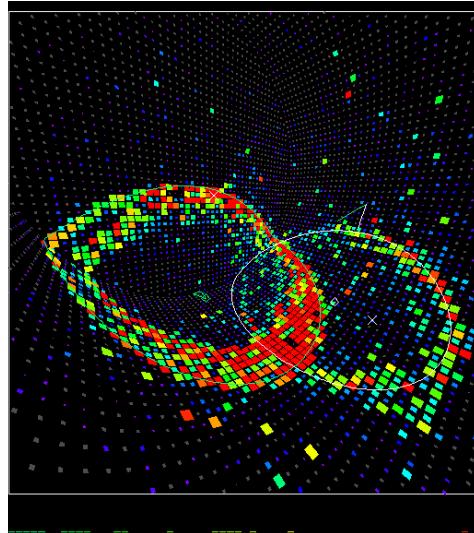
- Neutrino oscillation measurements and proton decay searches
- Super-K: 50,000 tons of water
- 13,000 photodetectors
- Recording Cherenkov radiation of charged particles produced in neutrino interactions in the detector



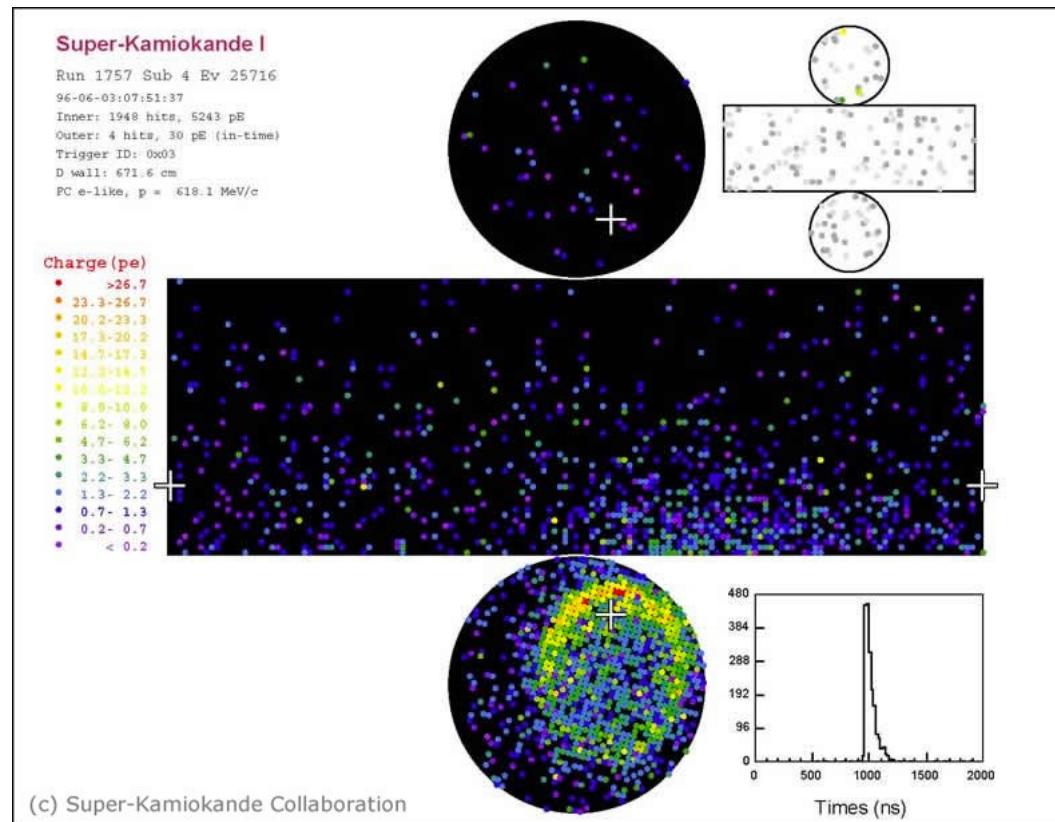
Cherenkov Detectors



Multi-Ring Events



Super-K event Example

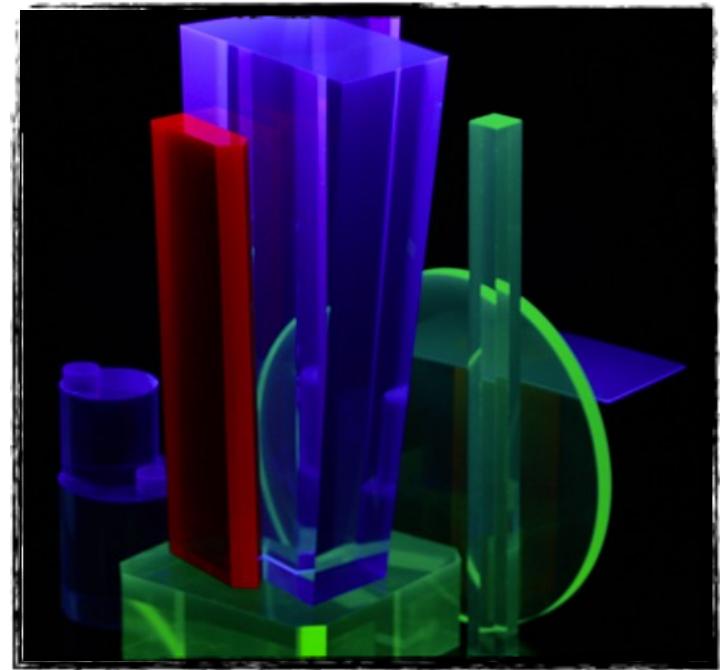


Live Event Display: <https://www-sk.icrr.u-tokyo.ac.jp/realtimemonitor/>

Scintillators

Principle:

- Charged particles lose energy in material
- Atomic excitation
- dE/dx converted into visible light via luminescence
- Detection via photosensor, [e.g. photomultiplier, human eye]
- ...



Main Features:

- Sensitivity to energy
- Fast time response
- Pulse shape discrimination

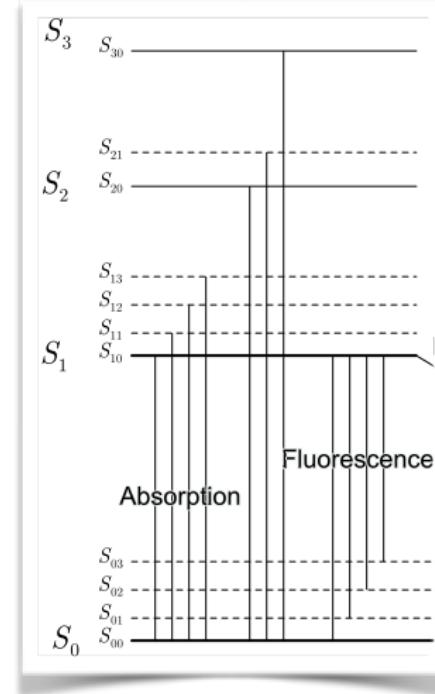
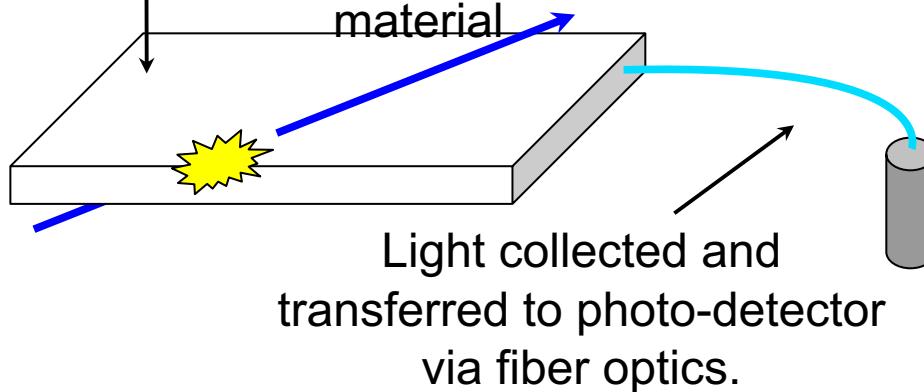
Requirements:

- High efficiency for conversion of excitation energy to fluorescent radiation
- Transparency to its fluorescent radiation to allow transmission of light
- Emission of light in a spectral range detectable for photosensors
- Short decay time to allow fast response

Scintillation Detectors

Scintillation light generated by excitation from particle charge

Plastic doped with scintillating molecules or crystal scintillating material



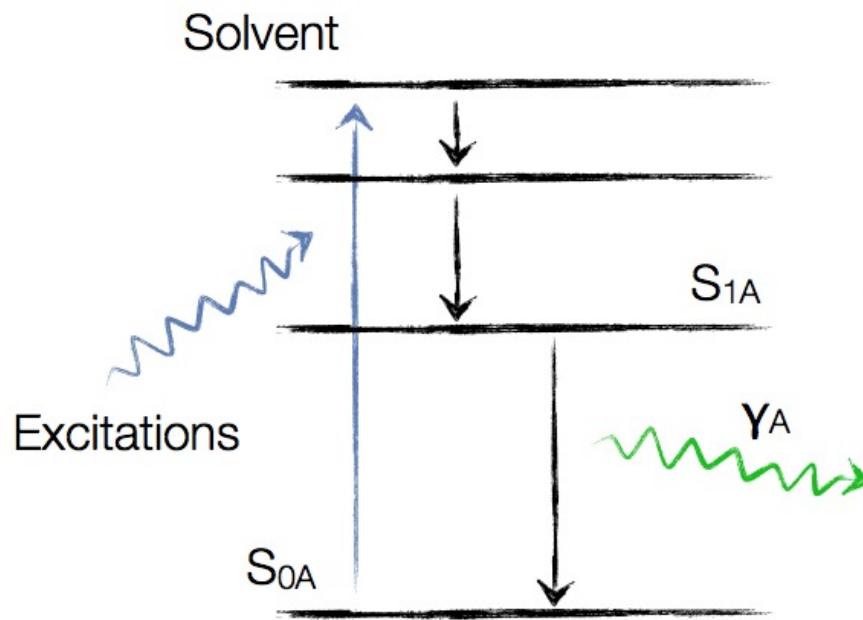
Scintillation detectors:

- The charged particles lose their energy due to excitation and ionization in the medium of the detector.
- In **scintillators** one can expect to obtain a small fraction of the excitation energy as **visible (or UV region) light**. Typically 50-300 eV per excitation.

Scintillator Example

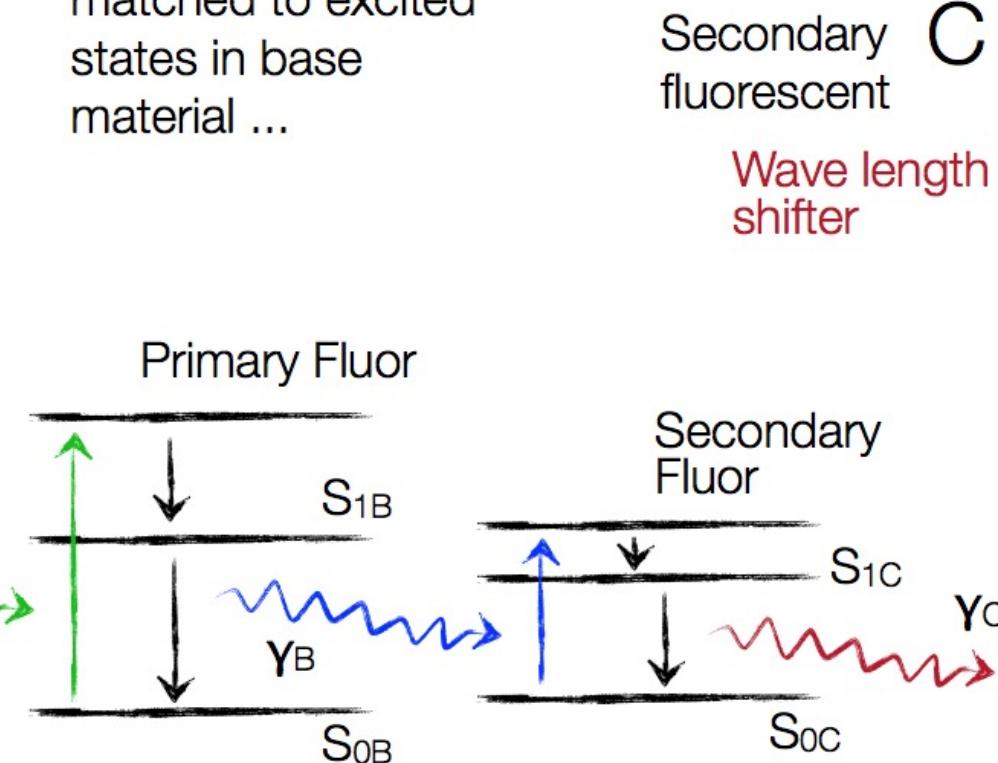
A

Energy deposit in base
material → excitation



Primary fluorescent
- Good light yield ...
- Absorption spectrum
matched to excited
states in base
material ...

B



Secondary
fluorescent
Wave length
shifter

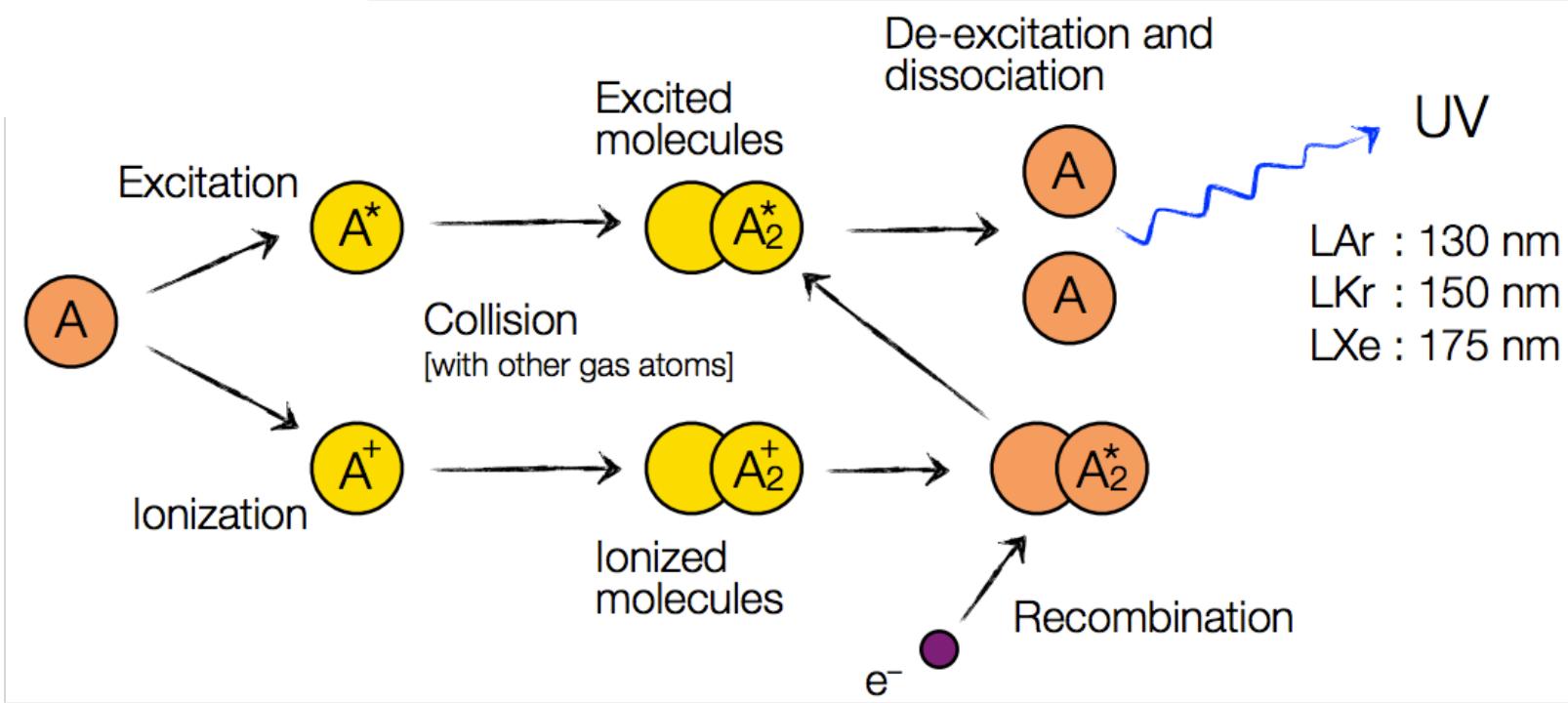
Scintillation in Nobel Gases

Materials:

- Helium (He)
- Liquid Argon (LAr)
- Liquid Xenon (LXe)
- ...

Decay time constants:

- Helium : $\tau_1 = .02 \mu\text{s}$, $\tau_2 = 3 \mu\text{s}$
- Argon : $\tau_1 \leq .02 \mu\text{s}$



Scintillator Examples

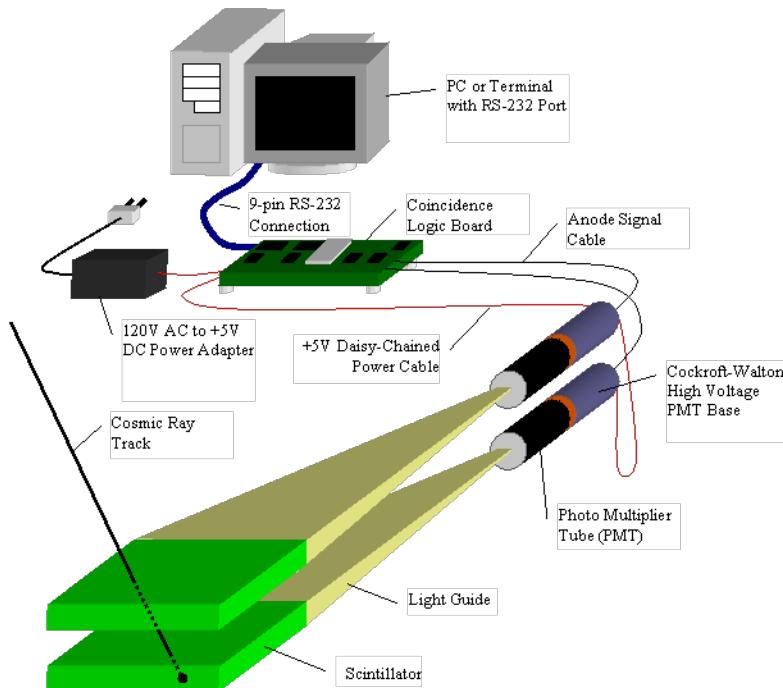
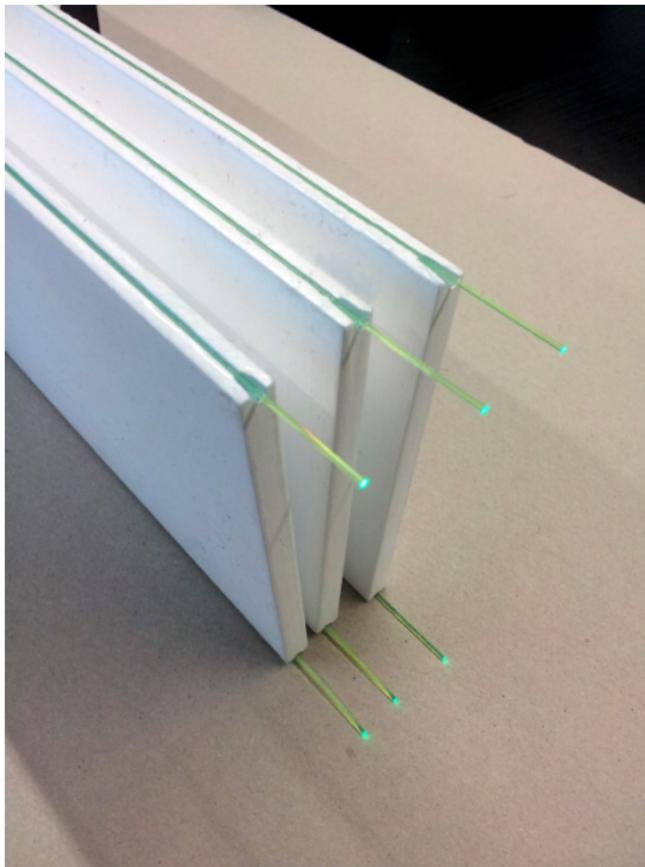
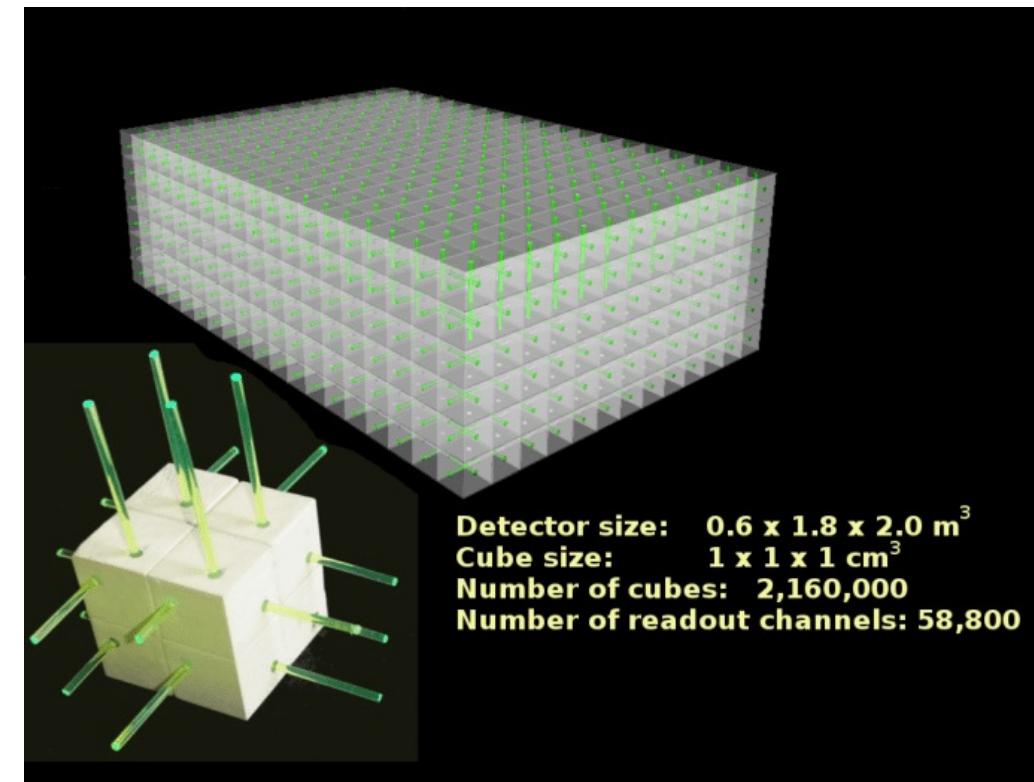


Figure 1. QuarkNet Cosmic Ray Detector System

MicroBooNE Cosmic Ray Tagger



T2K Super FGD



Inorganic Crystals

Materials:

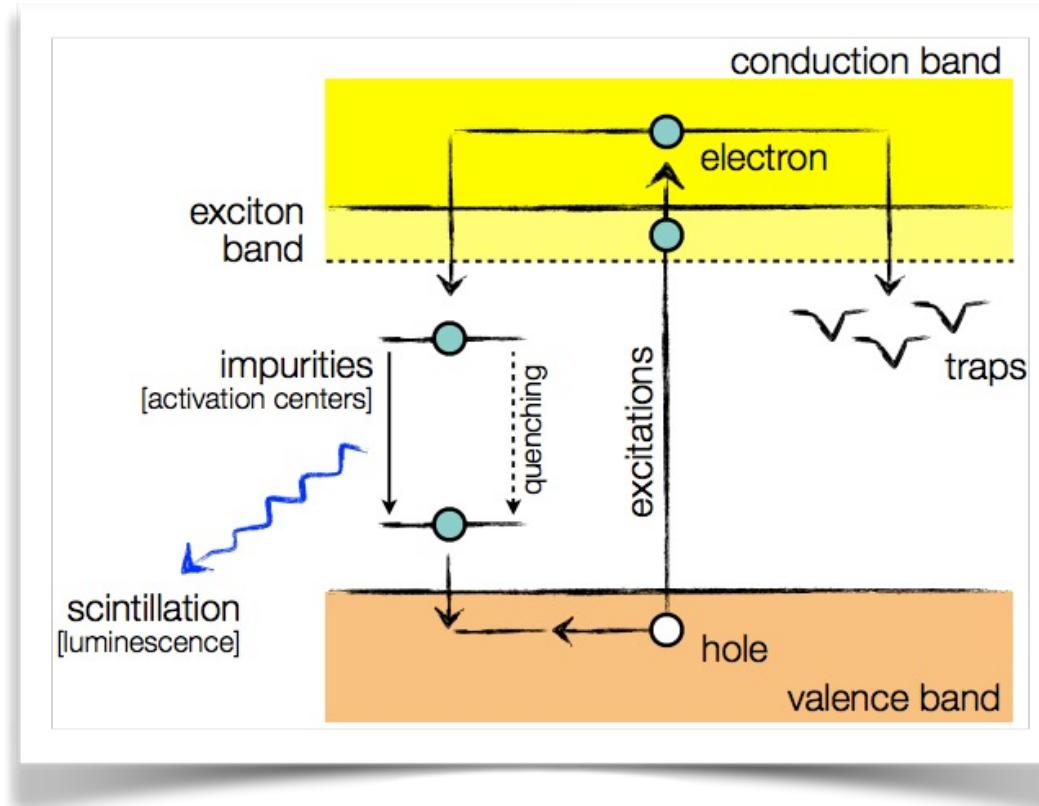
- Sodium iodide (NaI)
- Cesium iodide (CsI)
- Barium fluoride (BaF₂)
- ...

Mechanism:

- Energy deposition by ionization
- Energy transfer to impurities
- Radiation of scintillation photons

Time constants:

- Fast: recombination from activation centers [ns ... μ s]
- Slow: recombination due to trapping [ms ... s]



Energy bands in impurity activated crystal showing excitation, luminescence, quenching and trapping.

~200-300 eV per electron-hole pair