

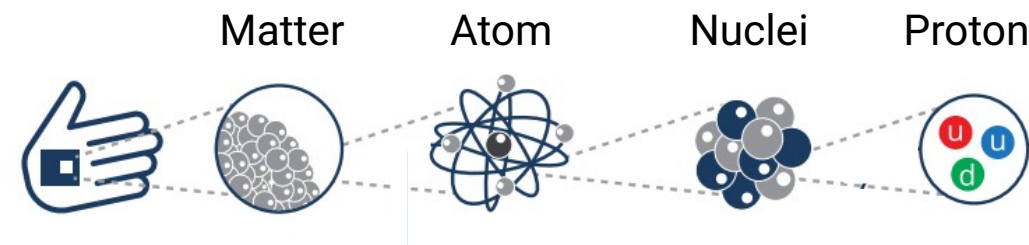
# Detectors

Alberto Blanco  
RPC R&D group Leader @ LIP



- What is a **particle**? What is a **particle detector**?
- **Principles of particle detection**. Detection medium, primary interaction and amplification mechanics.
- The case of the **Geiger Muller tube, Spark chamber and photo-multiplier tube**.
- **Case examples** @ LIP. HADES, AUGER, LZ, ATLAS and PET.

# What is a particle?



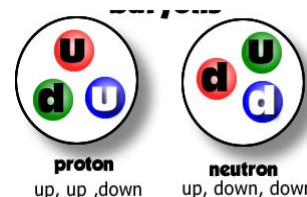
**Particles are the fundamental constituents of matter.**

Just as the chemical elements are organized in the periodic table, the Standard Model\* organizes the **fundamental particles** according to their properties, such as mass or electric charge.

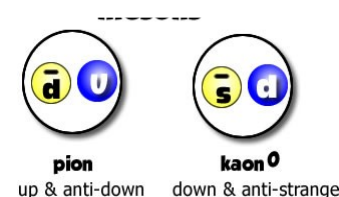
	I	II	III	
mass →	2.4 MeV	1.27 GeV	171.2 GeV	0
charge →	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	0
spin →	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
name →	u up	c charm	t top	$\gamma$ photon
Quarks	4.8 MeV $-\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ d down	104 MeV $-\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ s strange	4.2 GeV $-\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ b bottom	0 0 1 g gluon
	<2.2 eV 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\nu_e$ electron neutrino	<0.17 MeV 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\nu_\mu$ muon neutrino	<15.5 MeV 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\nu_\tau$ tau neutrino	91.2 GeV 0 1 Z <sup>0</sup> weak force
	0.511 MeV -1 $\frac{1}{2}$ e electron	105.7 MeV -1 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\mu$ muon	1.777 GeV -1 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\tau$ tau	80.4 GeV $\pm 1$ 1 W <sup>±</sup> weak force
Leptons				Bosons (Forces)



baryons



mesons



leptons

\* It is the most complete theory developed by particle physicists that explains the basis of (almost) everything that exists in the universe

# What does a particle detector do?

**A detector is a machine capable of recording particle properties** such as: **position, energy, time**, .... There are numerous types of detectors, using different technologies and measuring different properties of particles.

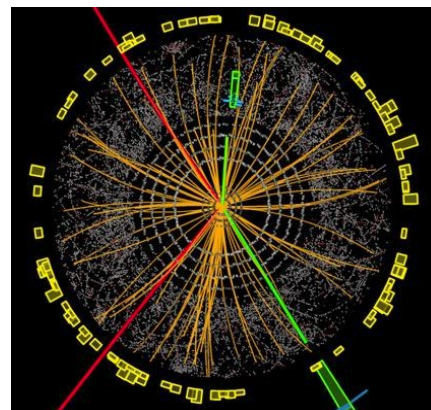


Image of a tooth

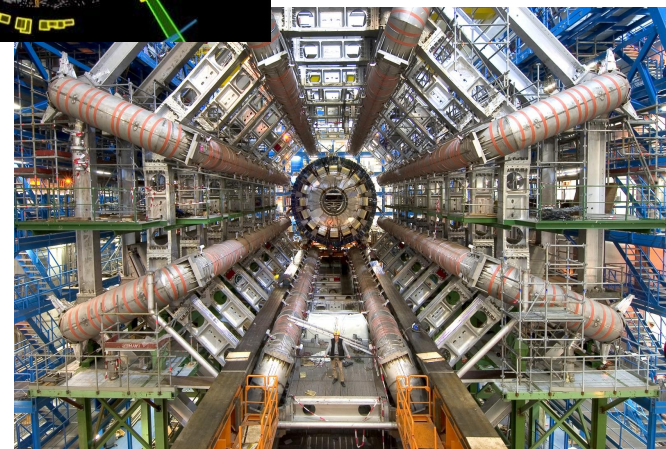


Dental X-ray machine + detector.  
Measures the quantity and  
position of X-rays

Image of the Higgs Boson



ATLAS measured in  
2012 the Higgs boson

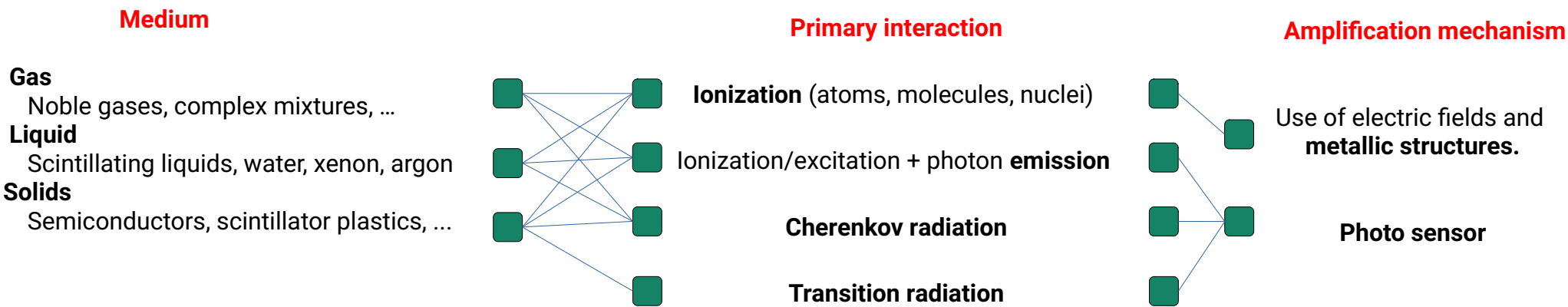


ATLAS detector under construction, LHC, CERN.



# Principles of particle detection.

The principle is always the same: to detect a particle, it has to interact with the **MEDIUM** it passes through (the detector) leaving part of its energy in it, **PRIMARY INTERACTION**, which is amplified by the detector through some **AMPLIFICATION MECHANISM**.



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**They are selected due their properties ..... chemical properties, density, photon emission, price, ....**

## Gases

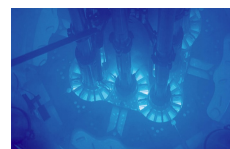
Noble gases, complex mixtures, ...

## Liquids

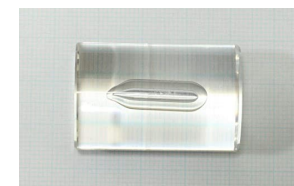
Scintillating liquids, water, Xenon, Argon,



Scintillating liquid



Water tank



Liquid Xenon



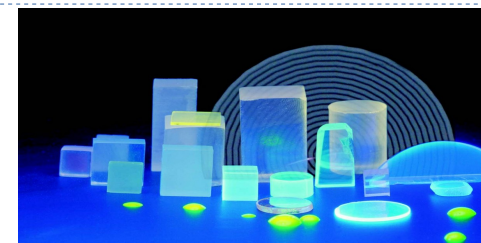
Liquid Argon

## Solids

Semiconductors, scintillator plastics, ...



Semiconductor detector



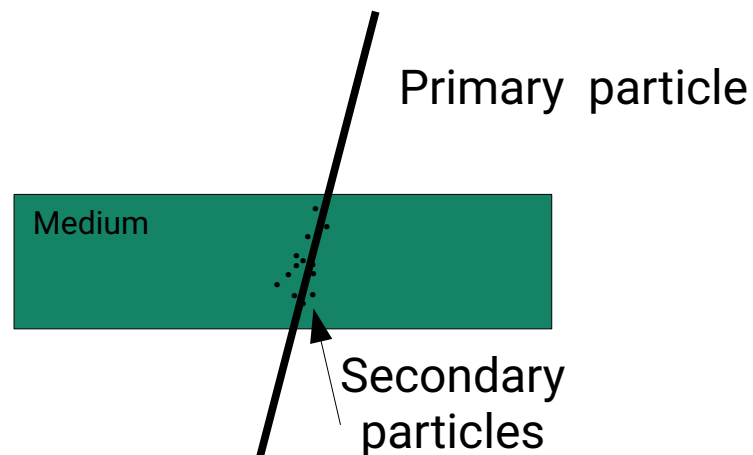
Scintillating plastics

# Principles of particle detection. Primary interaction.

The principle is always the same: to detect a particle, it has to interact with the **MEDIUM** it passes through (the detector) leaving part of its energy in it, **PRIMARY INTERACTION**, which is amplified by the detector through some **AMPLIFICATION MECHANISM**.

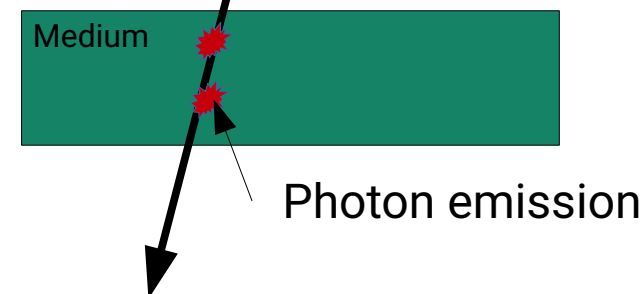
## Production of secondary charged particles

Ionization, nuclear reactions, ...



## Production of photons

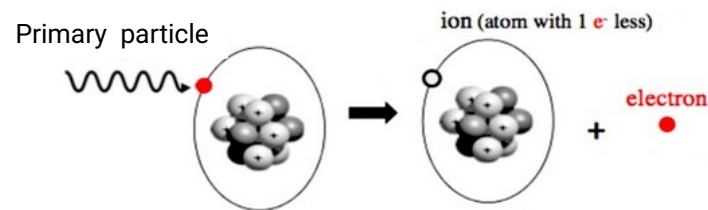
Scintillation, Cherenkov, Transition, ...



# Principles of particle detection. Primary interaction. Production of secondary charged particles.

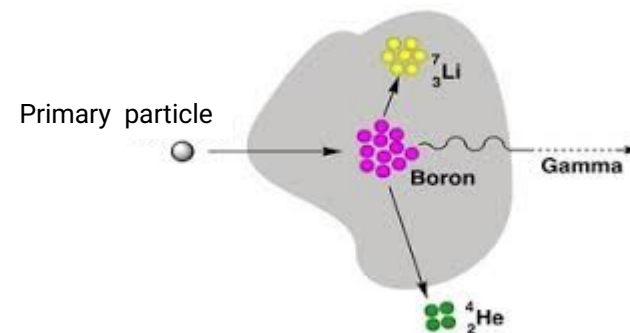
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## Ionization

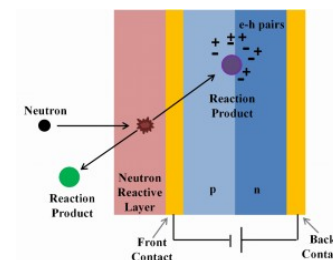
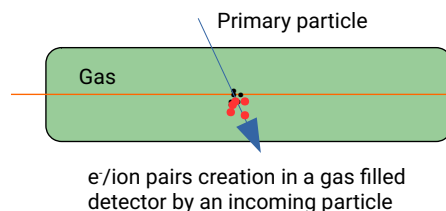


Particle extracts an electron from an atom

## Nuclear reaction



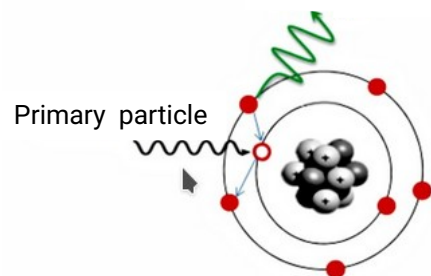
Particle extracts two charged fragments + gamma from a nuclear capture



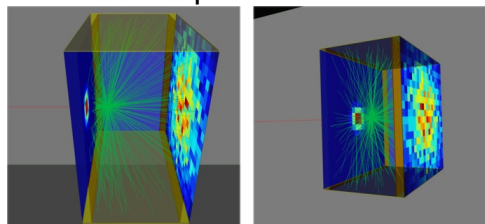
e<sup>-</sup>/ion pairs creation at a PN junction by the reaction products of a neutron capture in a boron reach layer

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## Scintillation

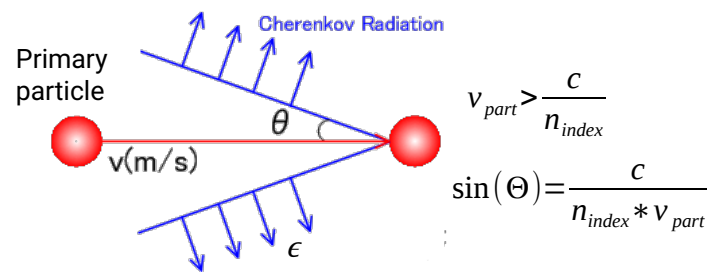


Photon emission from an atom/molecule after excitation by an incoming particle

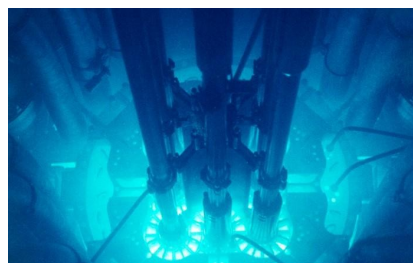


Simulation of photon production in a scintillator

## Cherenkov emission

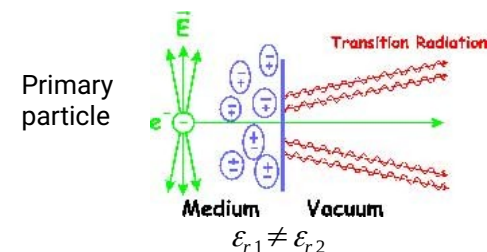


Cherenkov emission from a particle faster than light in a given medium

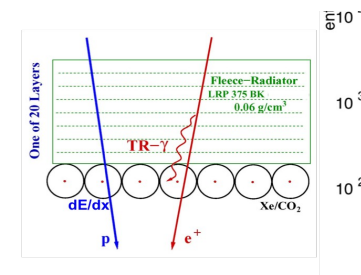


Nuclear reactor emitting Cherenkov light

## Transition radiation



Transition radiation emission from a particle traveling in an inhomogeneous media

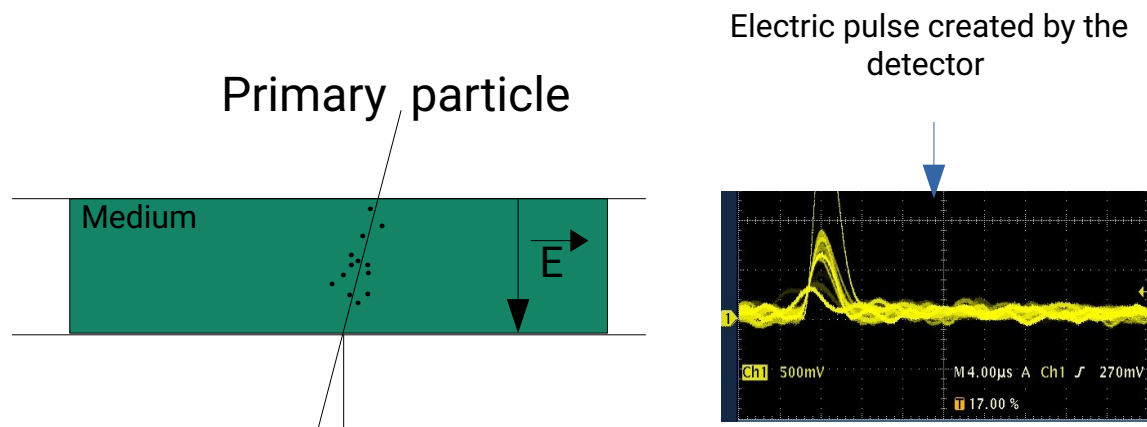


Transition radiation detector schematic

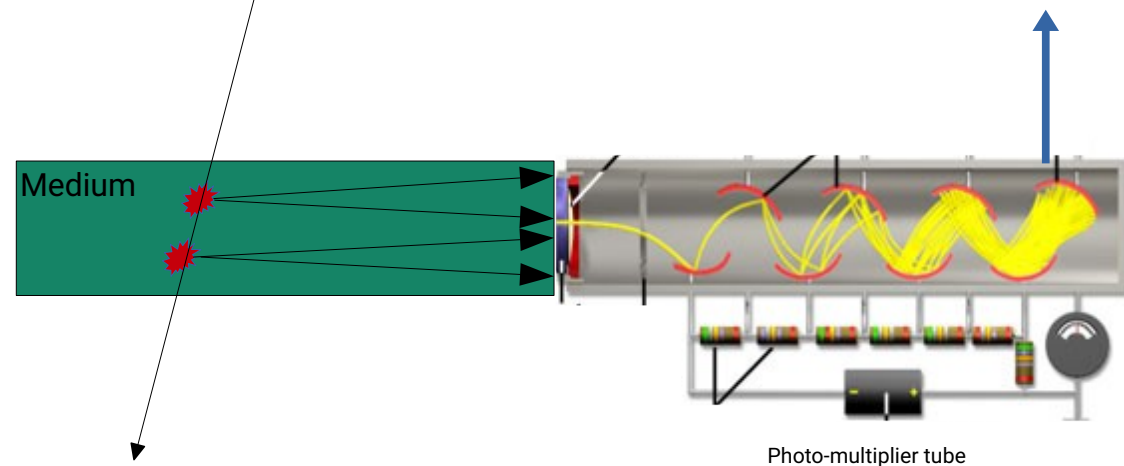
# Principles of particle detection. Amplification mechanism.

The principle is always the same: to detect a particle, it has to interact with the **MEDIUM** it passes through (the detector) leaving part of its energy in it, **PRIMARY INTERACTION**, which is amplified by the detector through some **AMPLIFICATION MECHANISM**.

Multiplication of secondary particles through the use of **electric fields and metallic structures**.



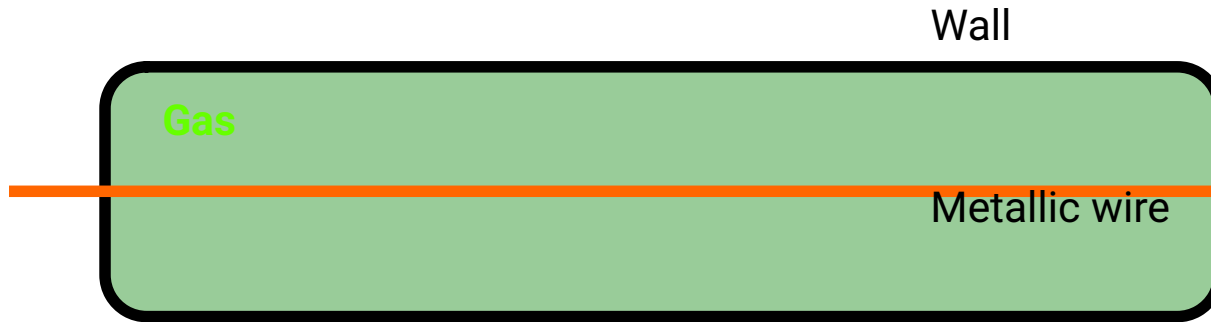
Multiplication of photons using a **photo-device**.





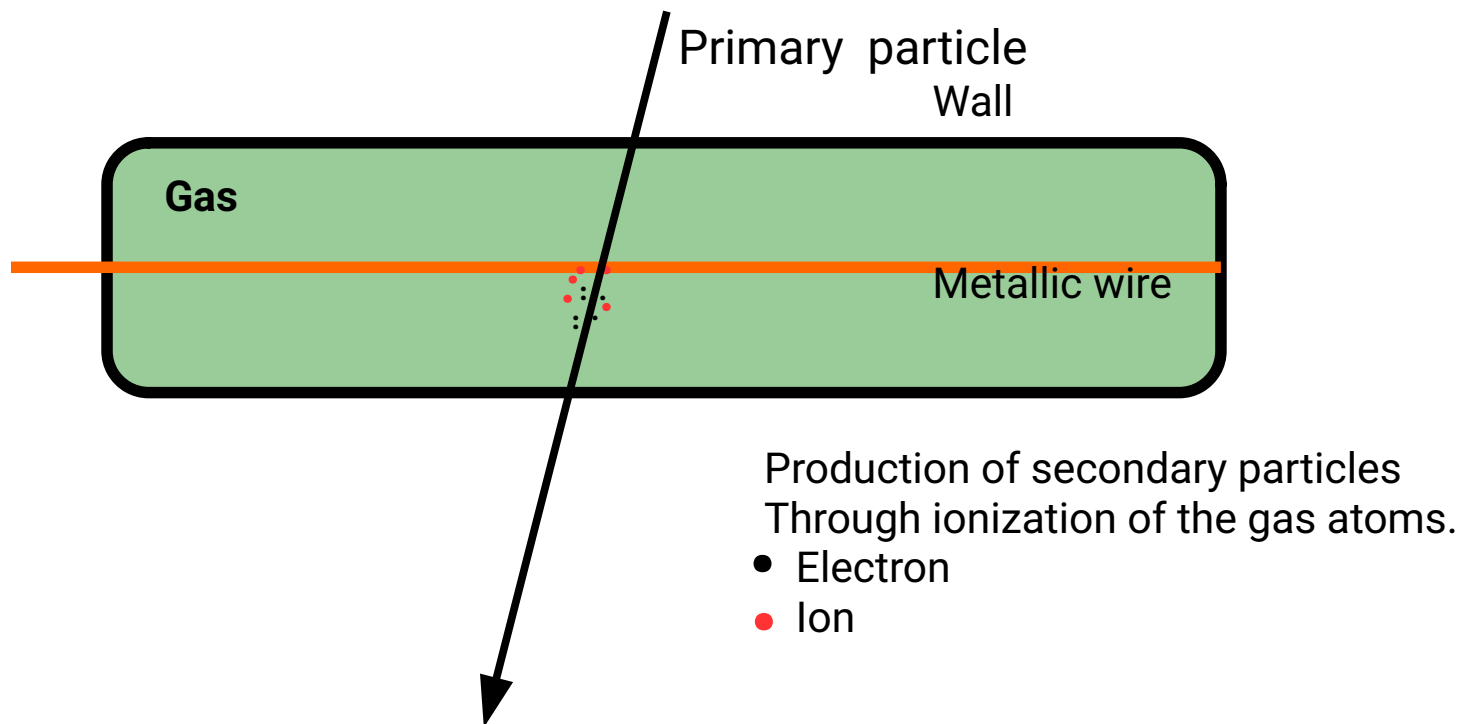


Geiger Muller detector (Cold war version)



Detection medium is a gas

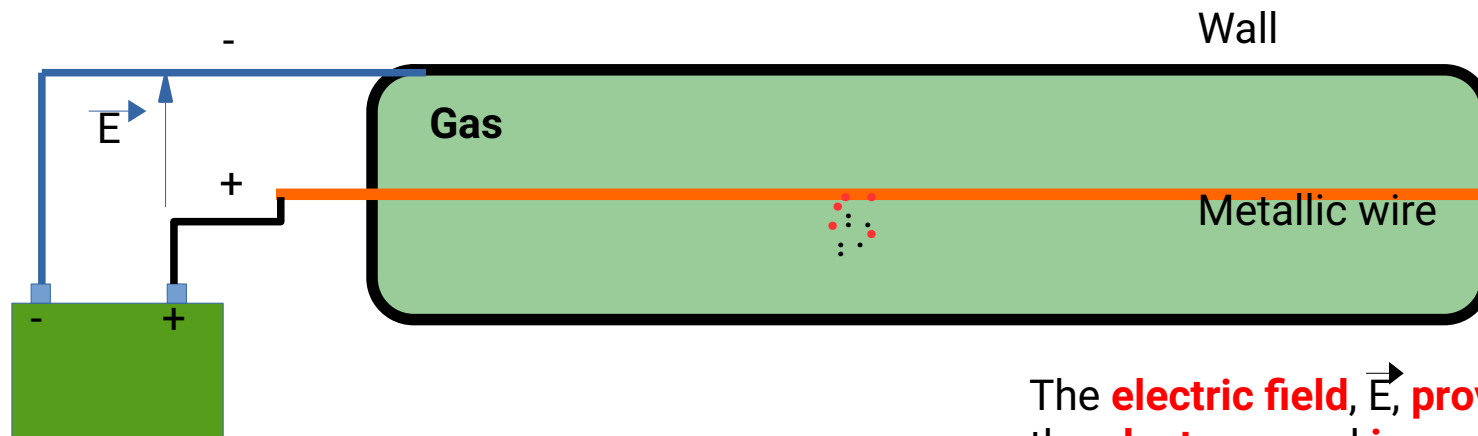
-Medium = **gas** (nobel gas, He, Ne, Ar)



## Primary interaction

-Medium = gas (nobel gas, He, Ne, Ar)

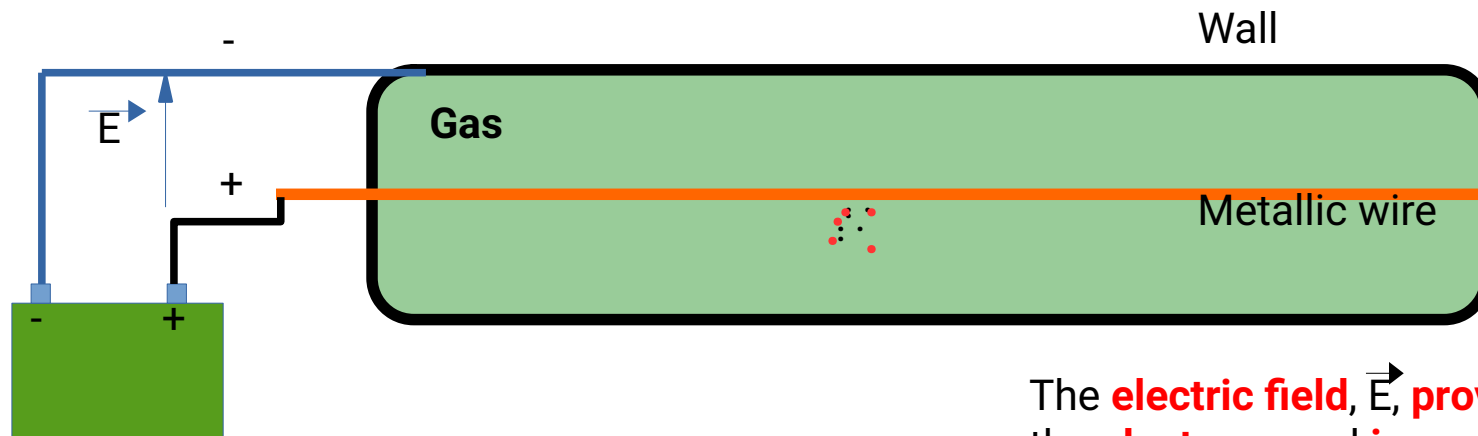
-Primary interaction = **production of secondary charged particles**



The **electric field**,  $\vec{E}$ , **provides energy** to the **electrons** and **ions** moving them towards the wire and the wall respectively.

## Amplification mechanism

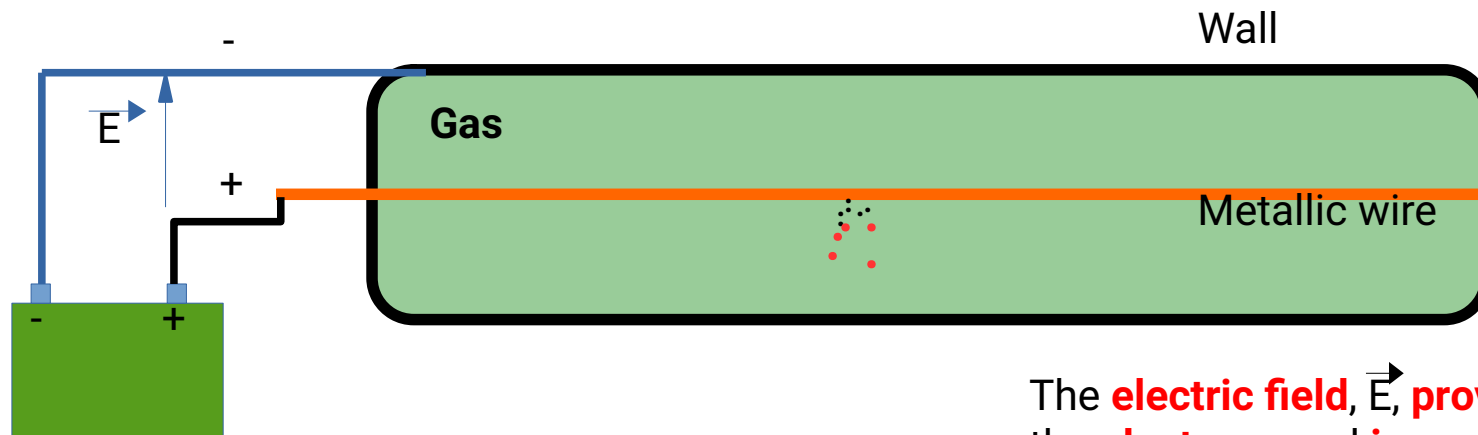
- Medium = **gas (noble gas, He, Ne, Ar)**
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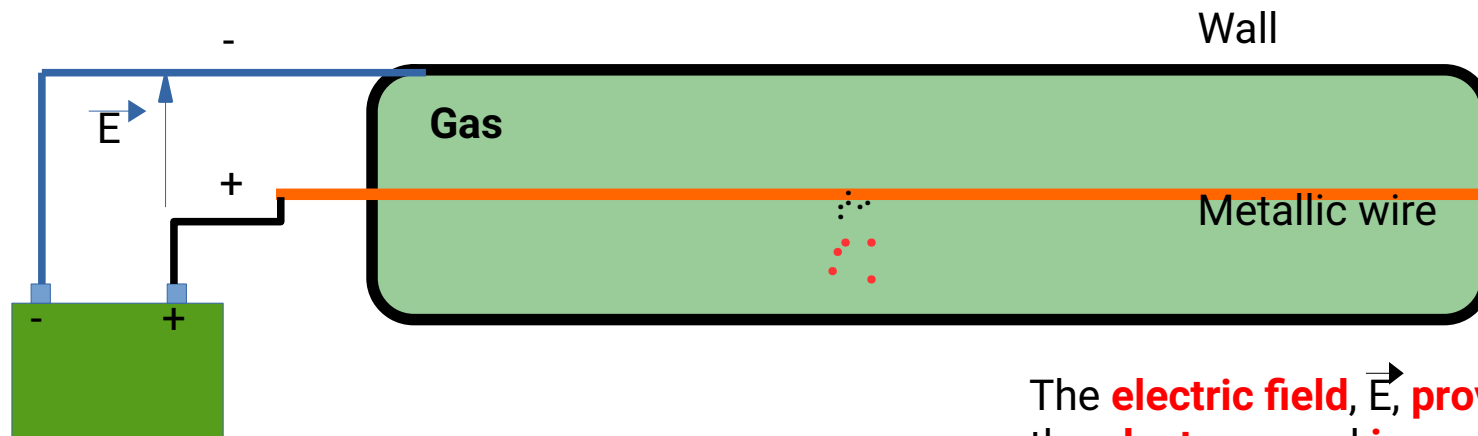


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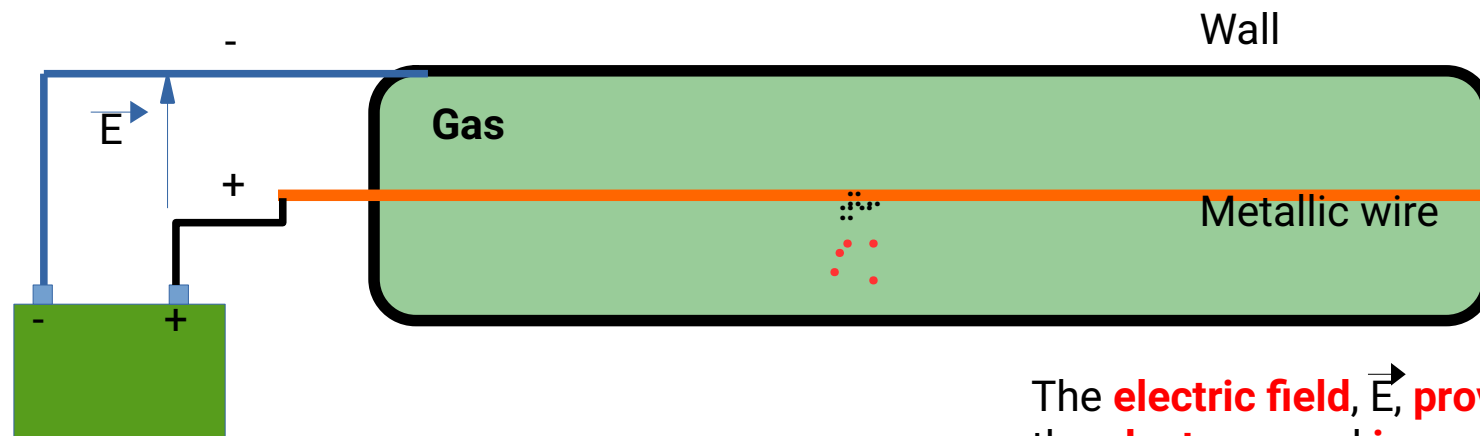




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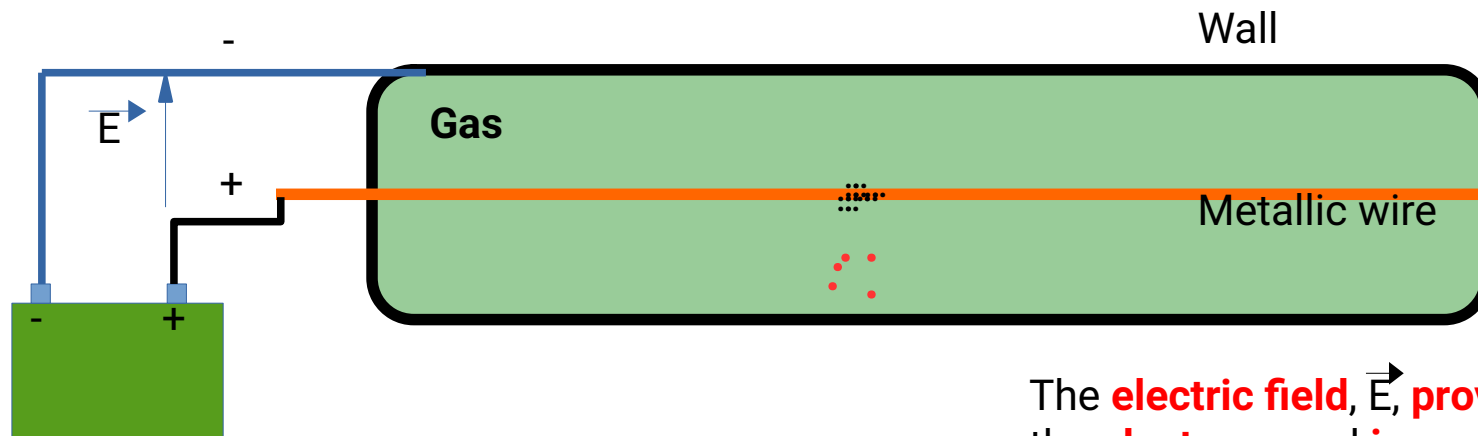
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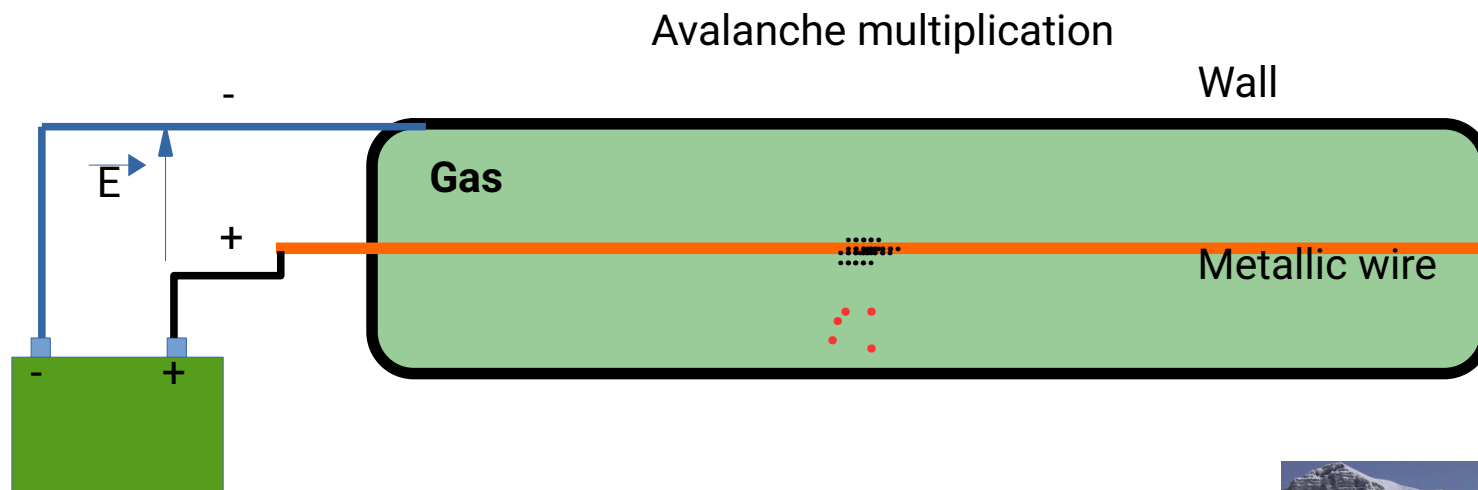
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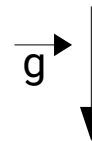
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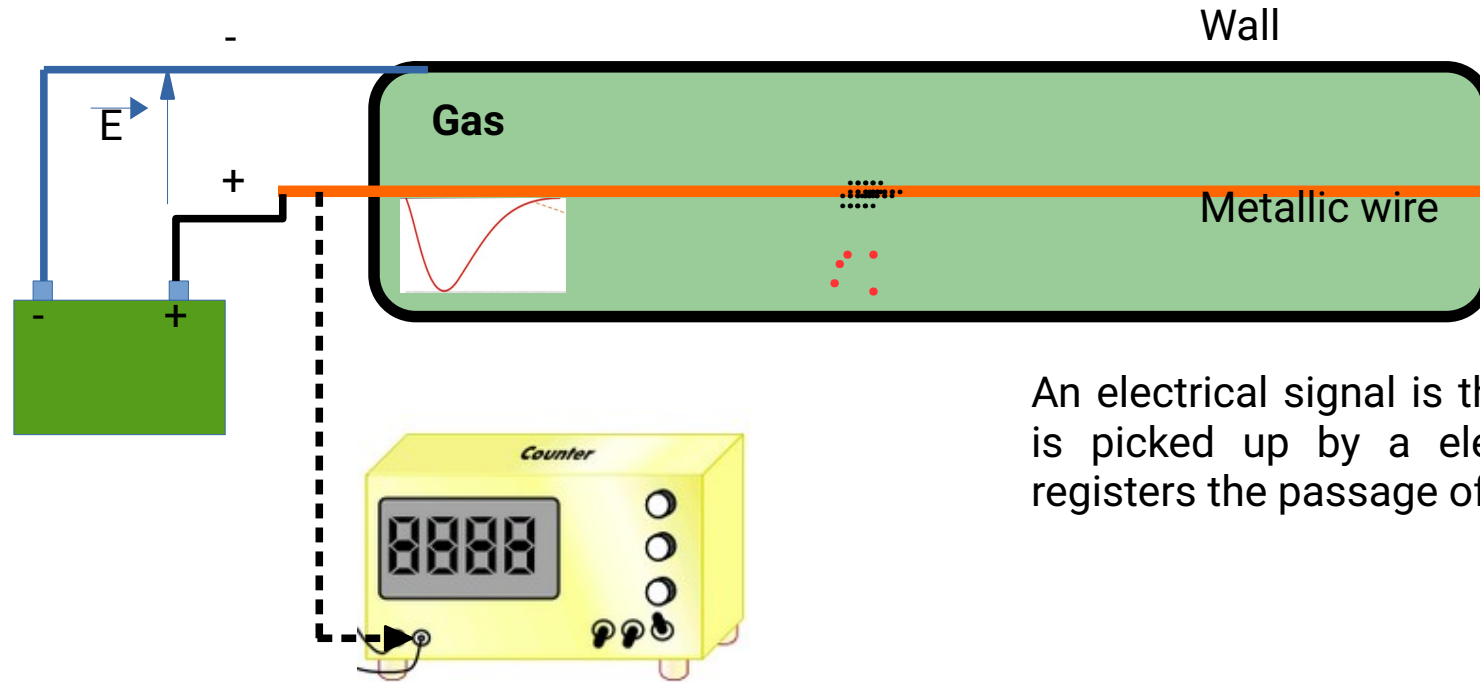
Similar phenomenon  
snow **avalanches** in the  
mountains



Snow

## Amplification mechanism

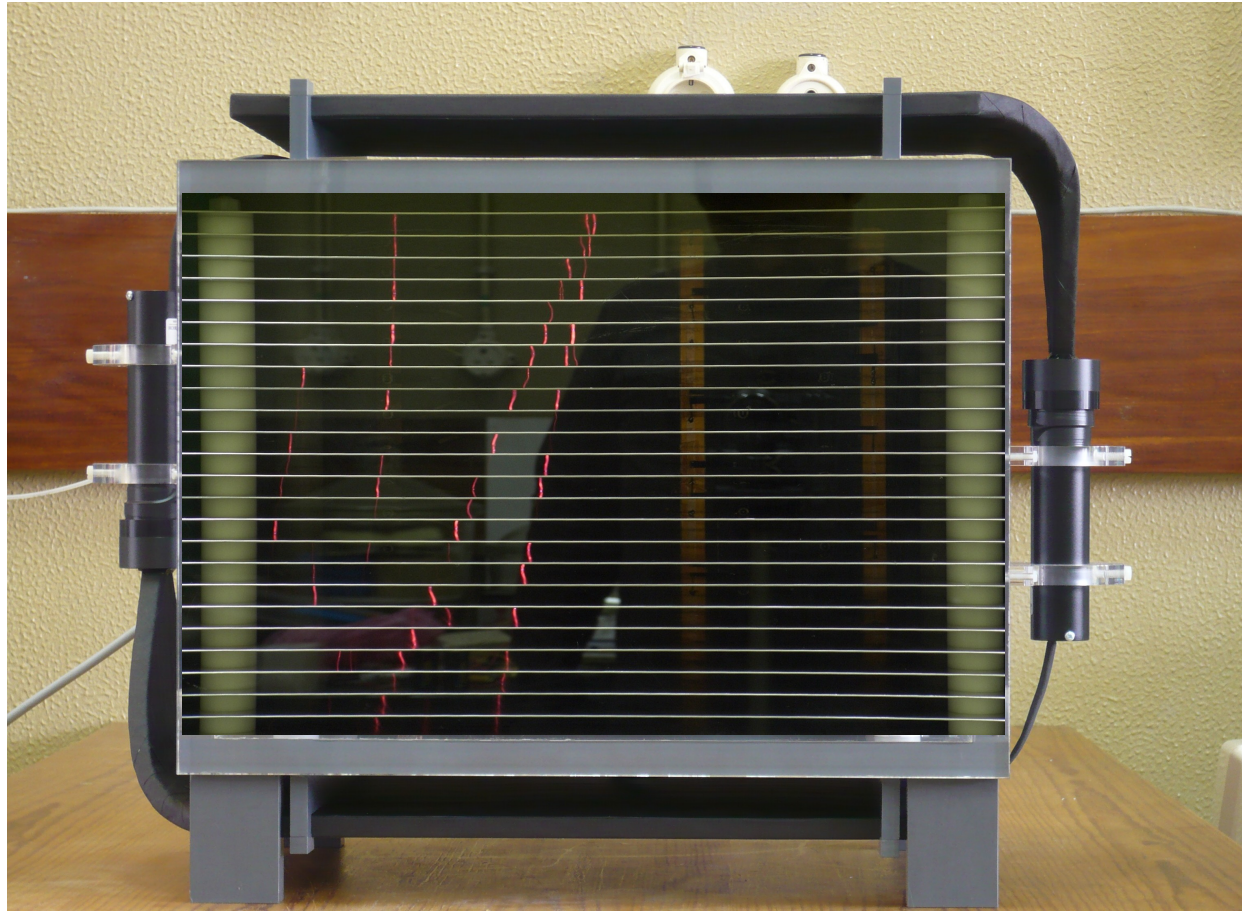
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An electrical signal is thus created which is picked up by a electronic unit that registers the passage of the particle.

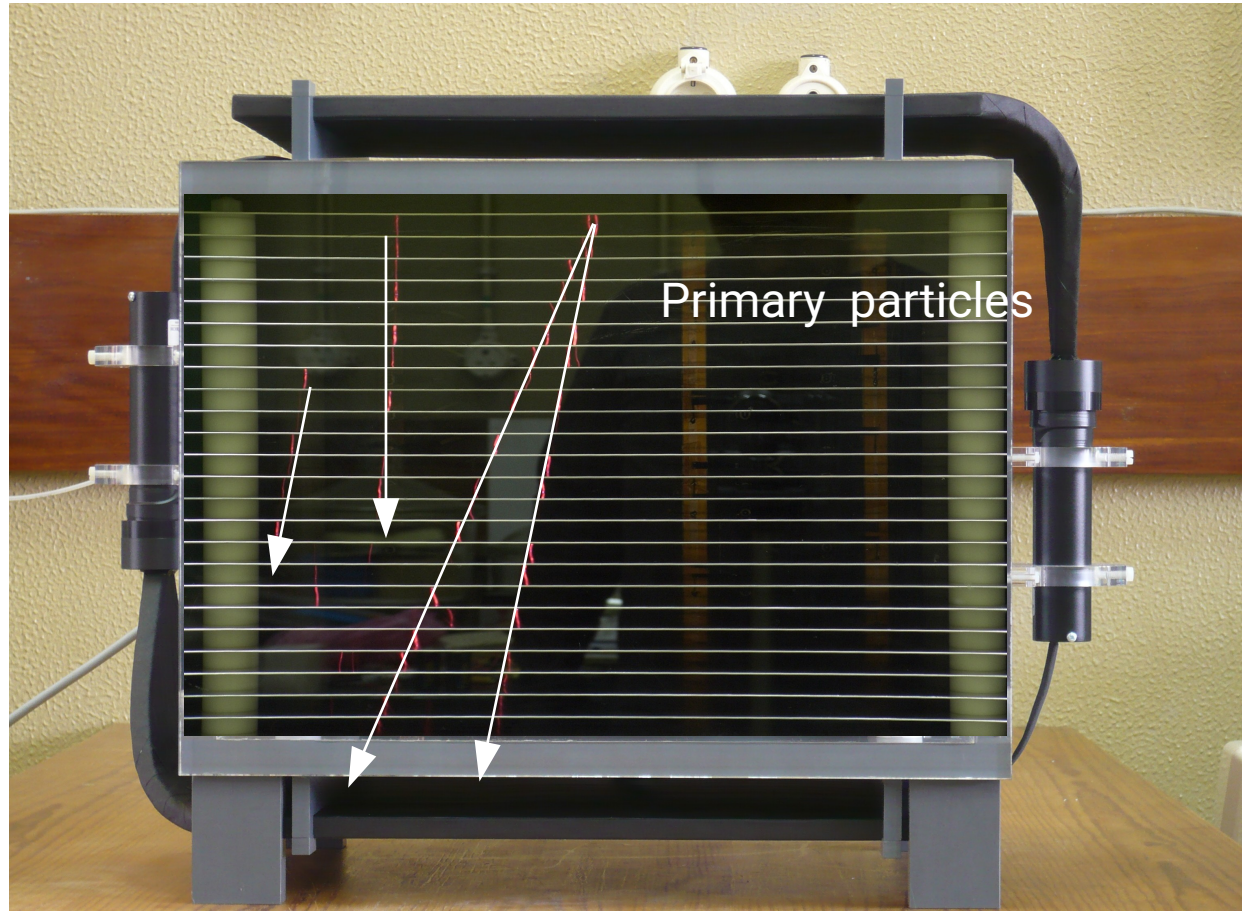
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A **spark chamber** is a device that **allows the visualization of the path taken by a particle** (cosmic ray) inside it.

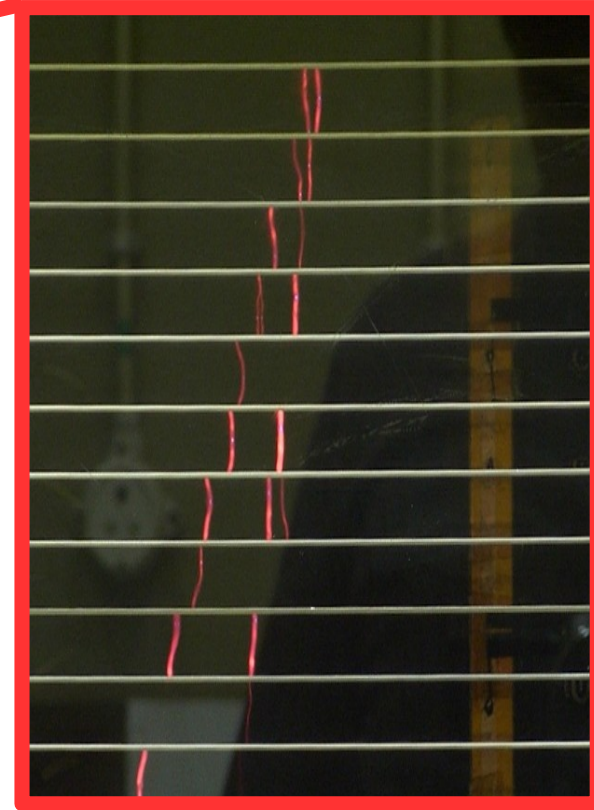
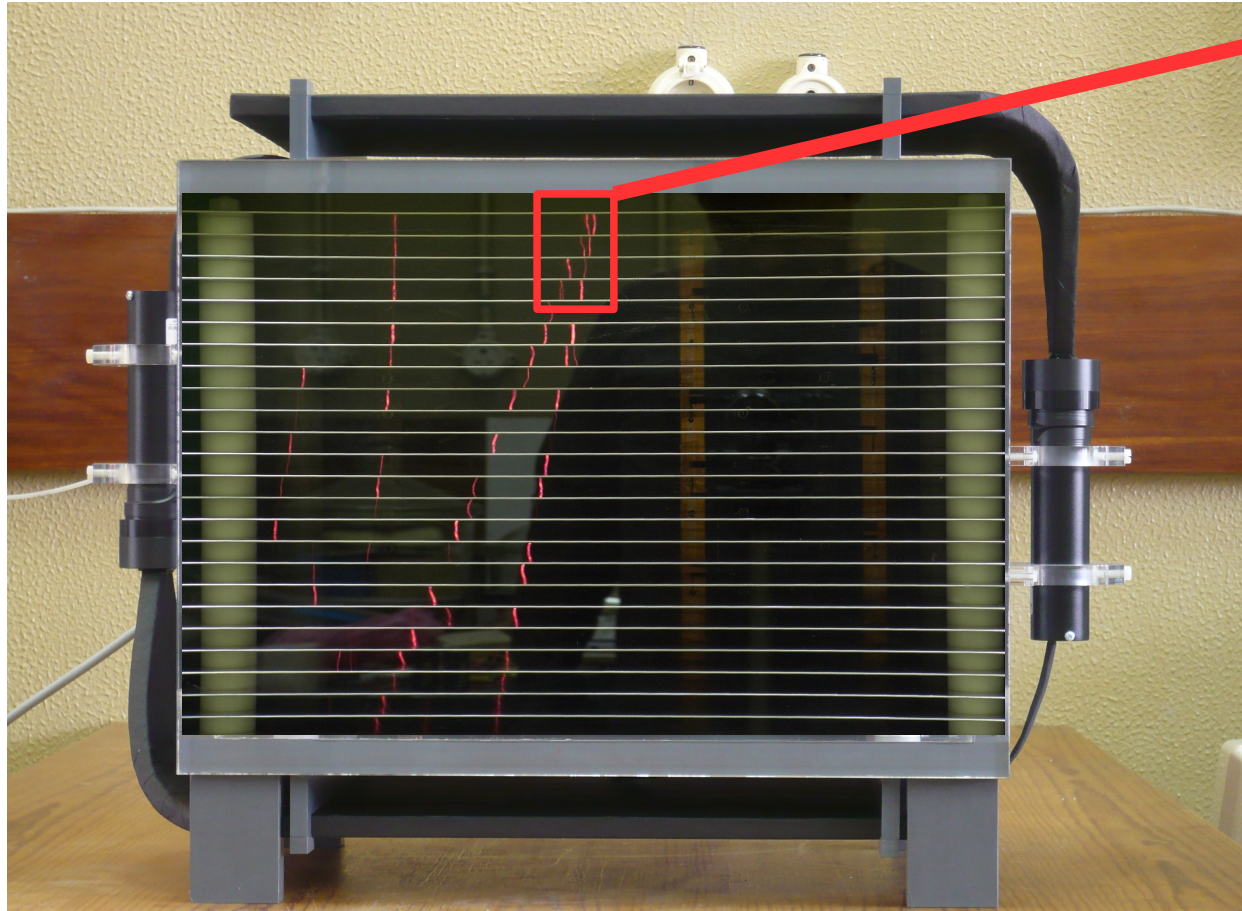




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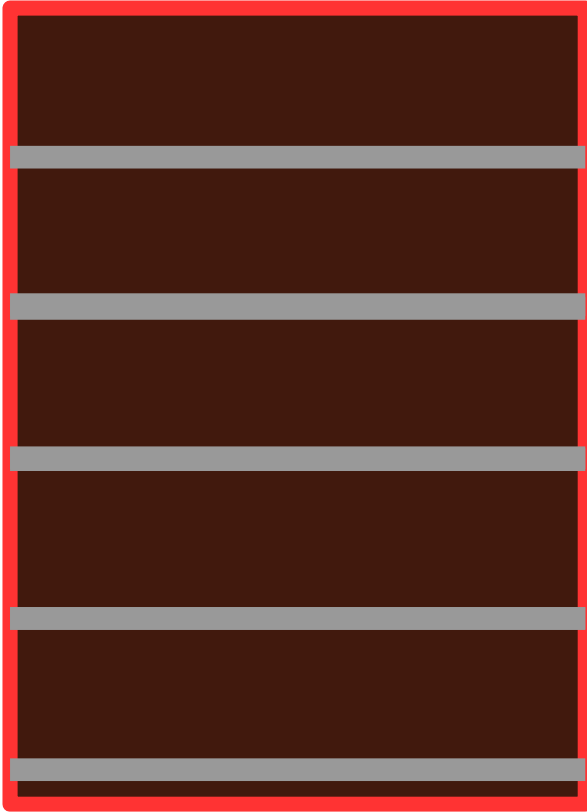


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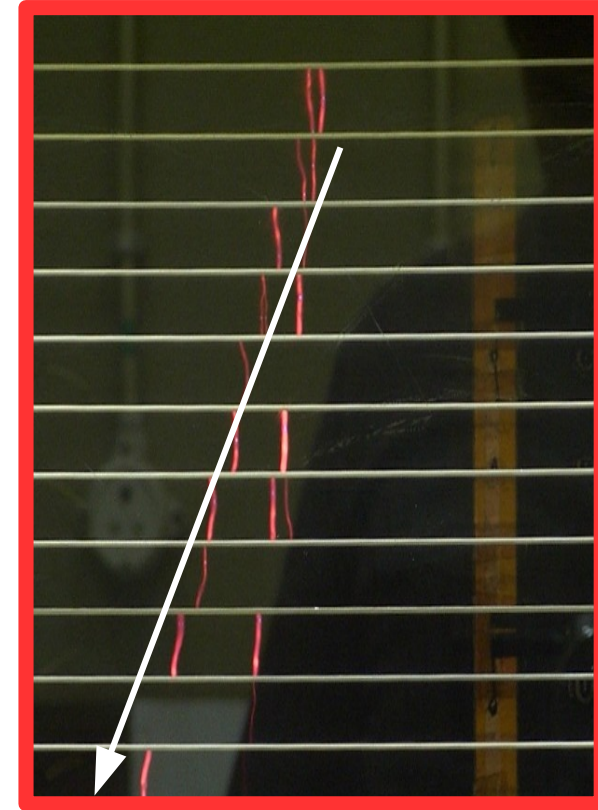




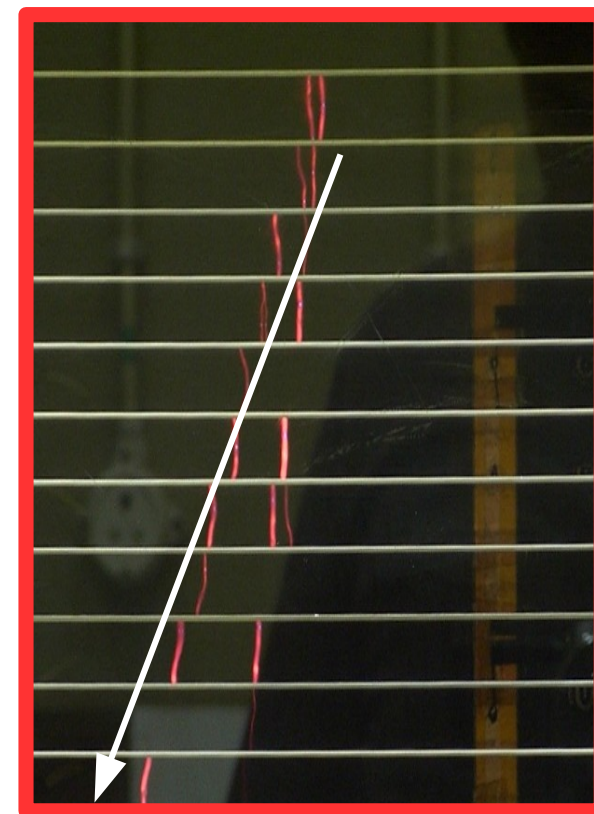
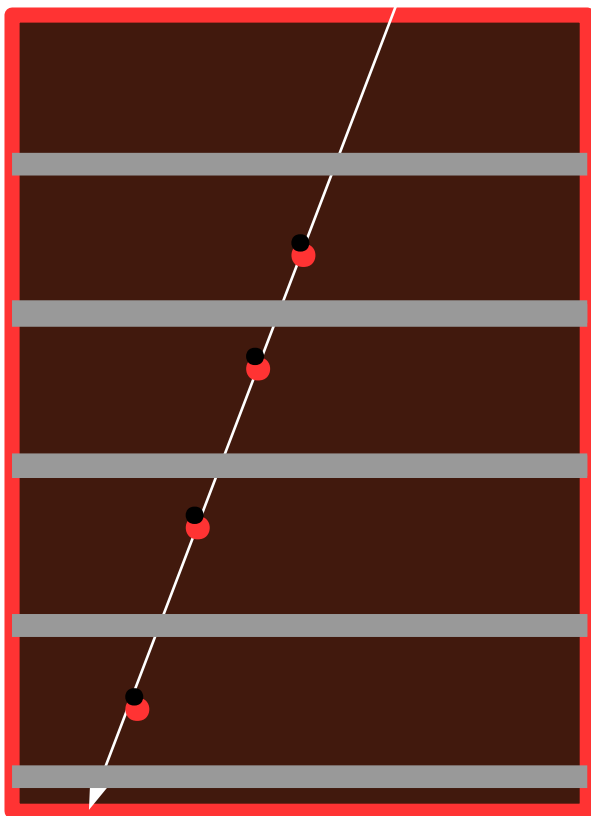
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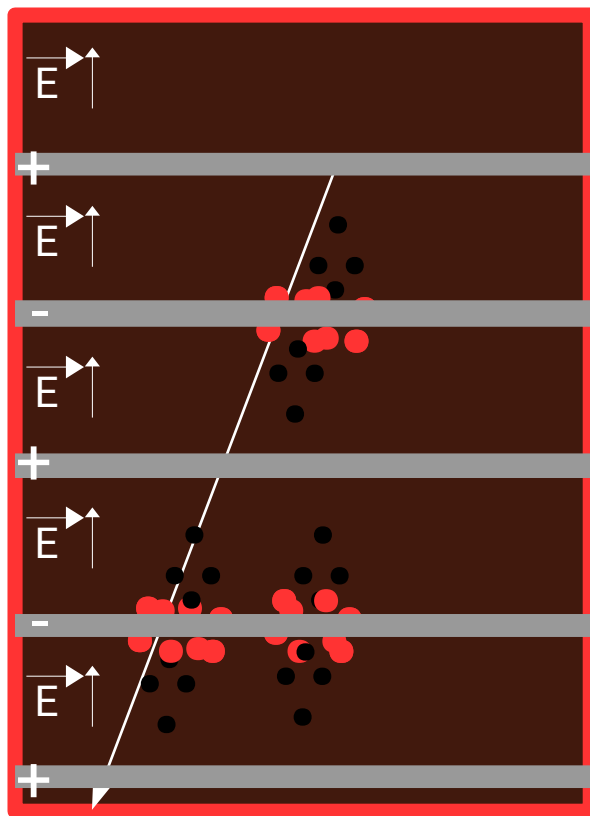
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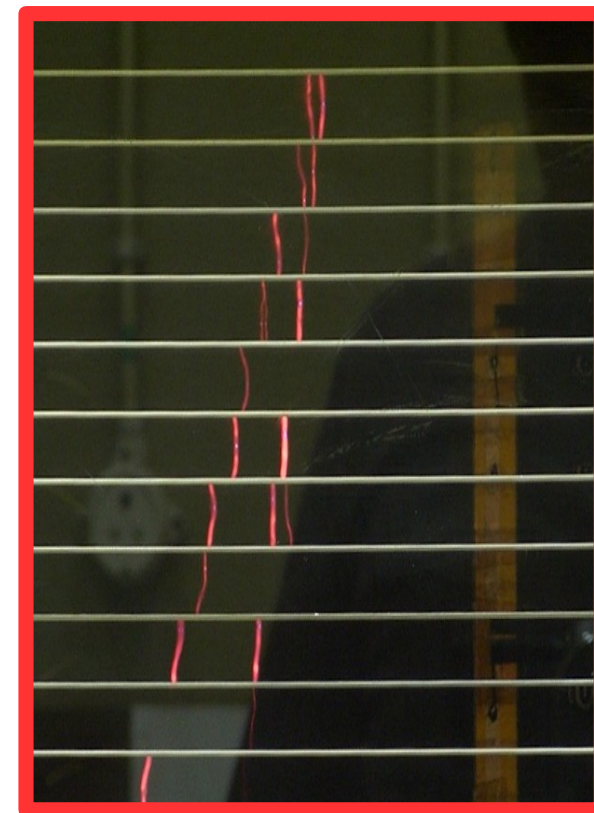
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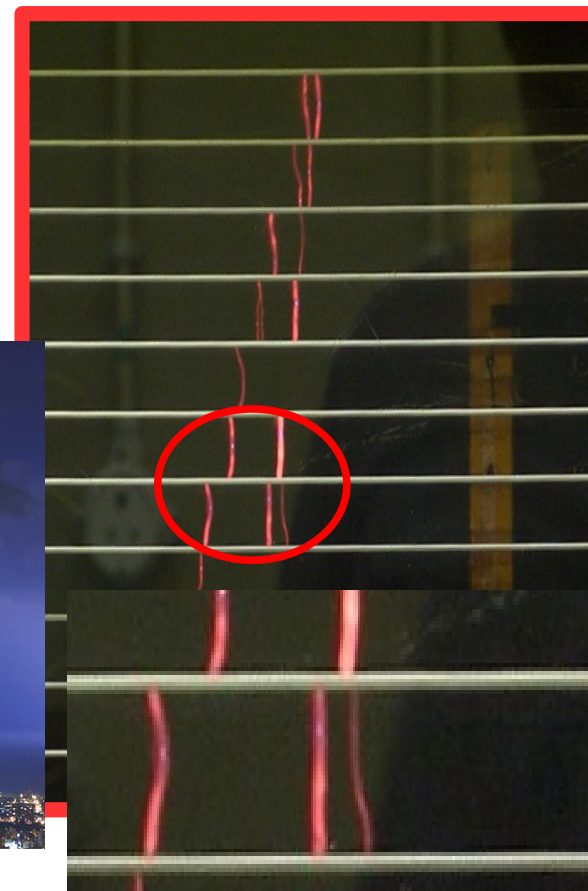
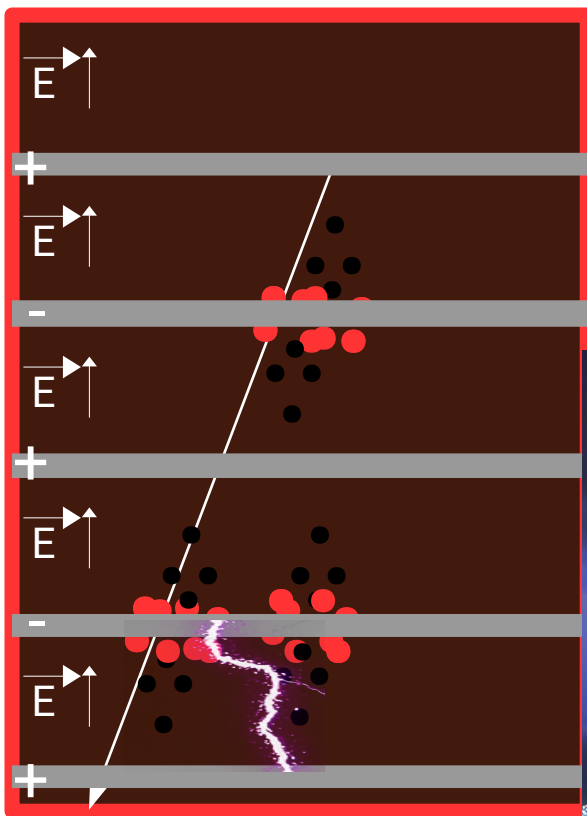


Avalanche  
multiplication



- Medium = **gas (noble gas, He, Ne, Ar)**
- Primary interaction = **production of secondary charged particles**
- Amplification = use of **electric fields and metallic structures.**

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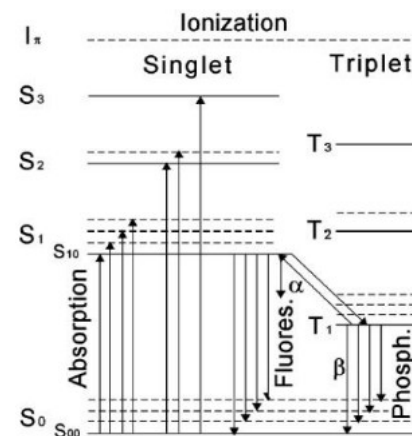
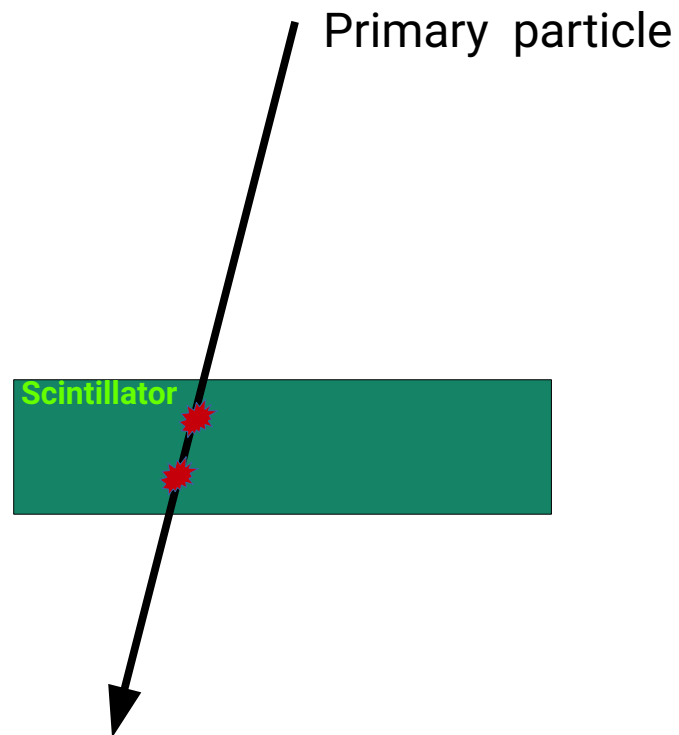




Scintillator

- Medium = **Solid. Plastic scintillator**

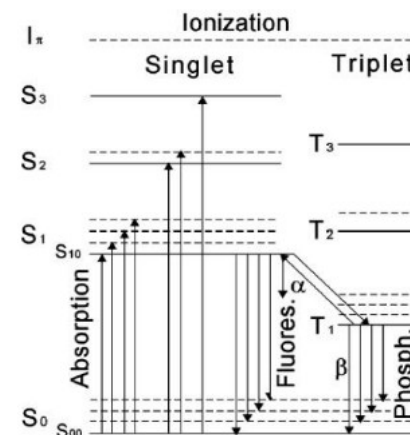
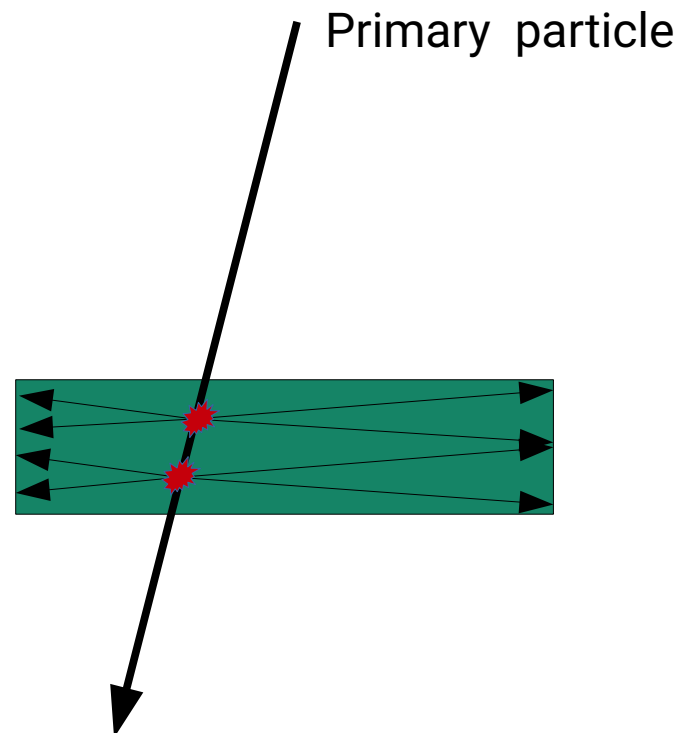
**Detection medium is a scintillator**



Charged particles deposit energy causing excitation of solvent and dopants molecules.  
Fast de-excitation by **fluorescence**.

Primary interaction

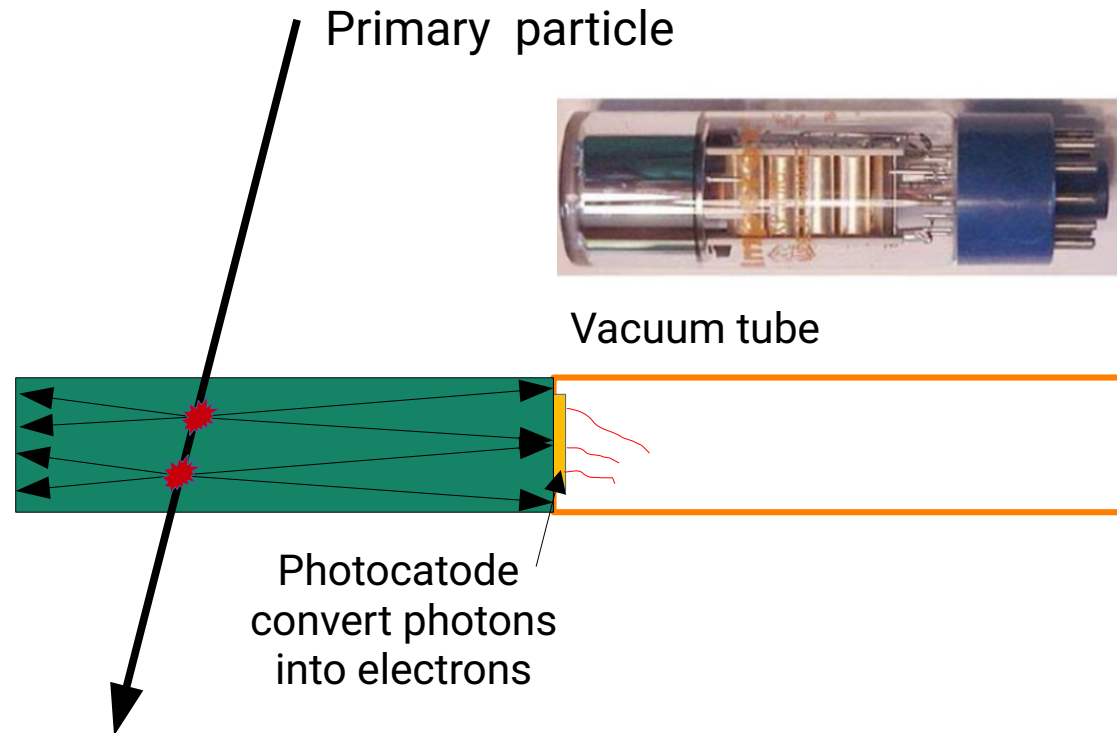
- Medium = **Solid. Plastic scintillator**
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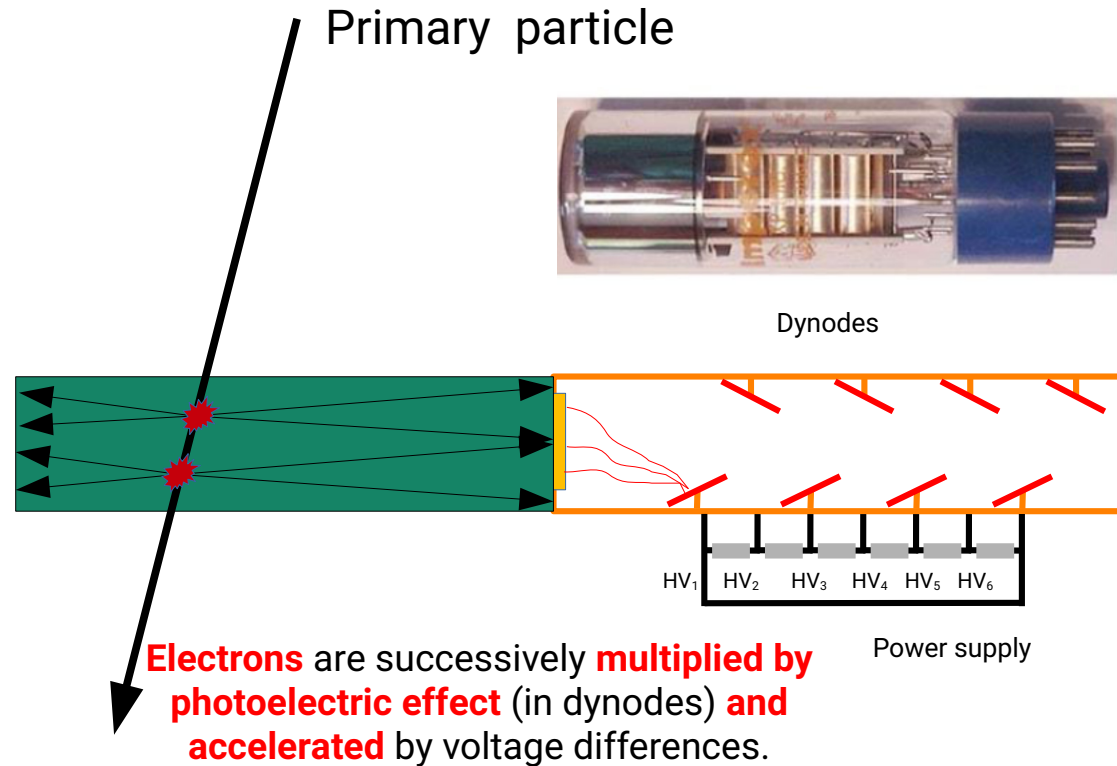
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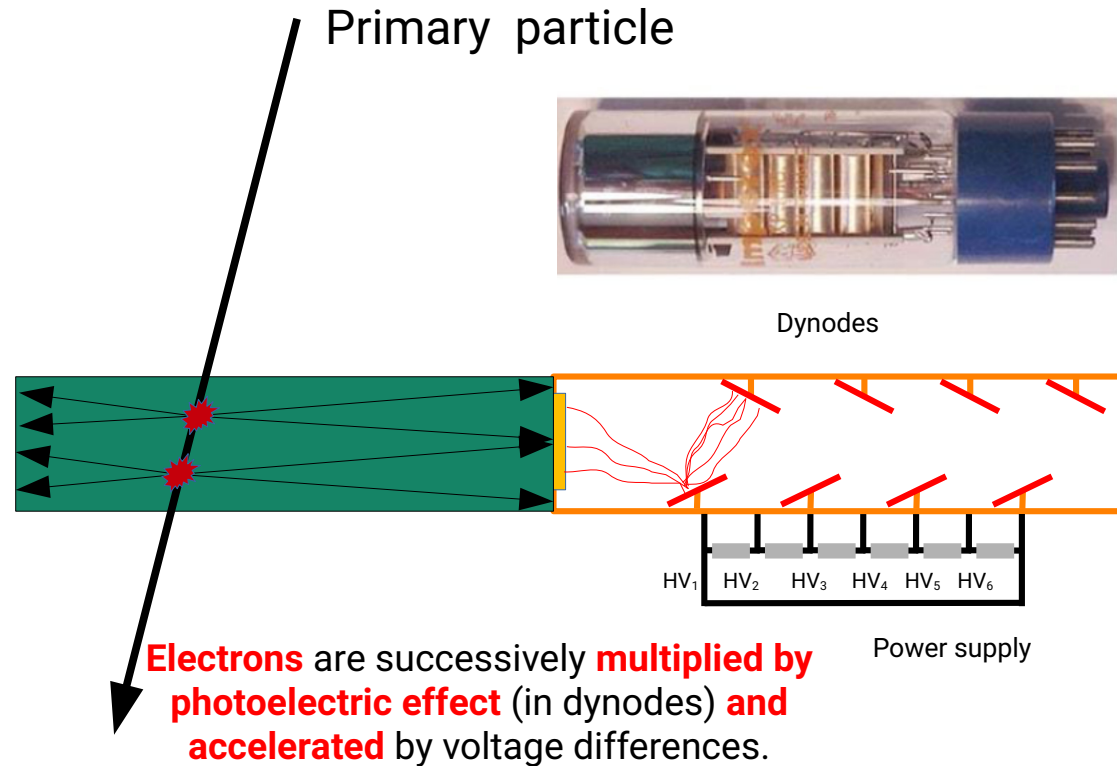
## Amplification mechanism

- Medium = **Solid. Plastic scintillator**
- Primary interaction = **production of photons**
- Amplification = use of **photo-multiplier**



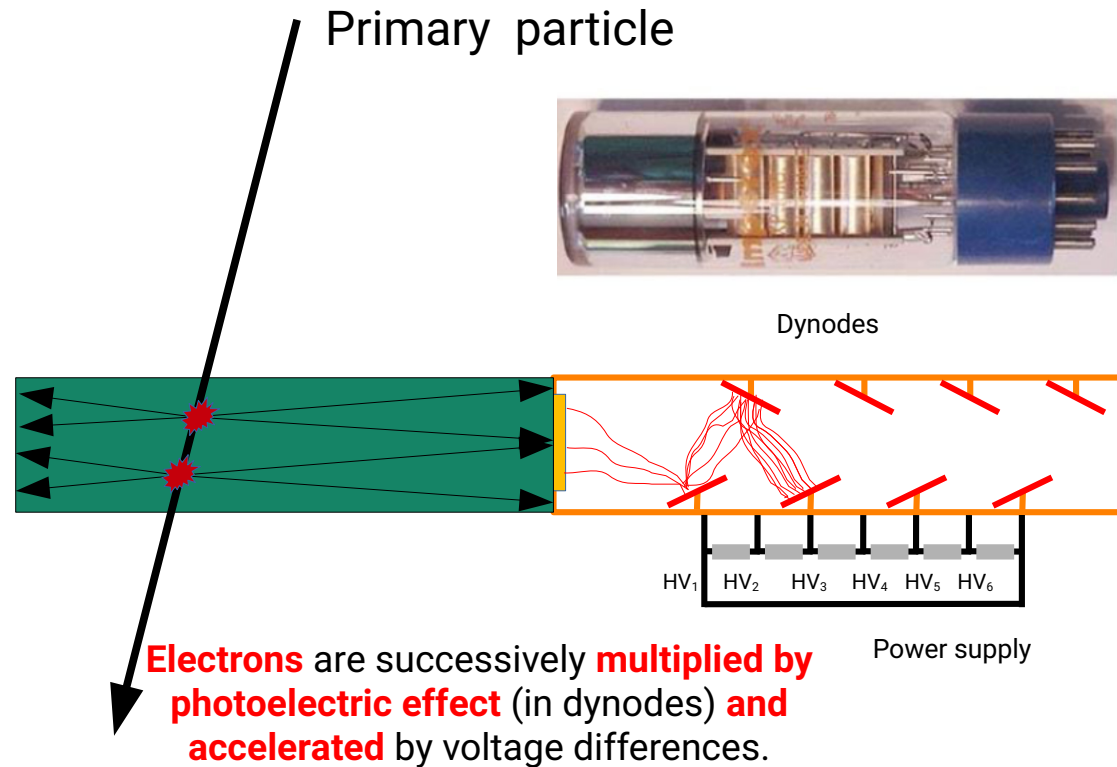
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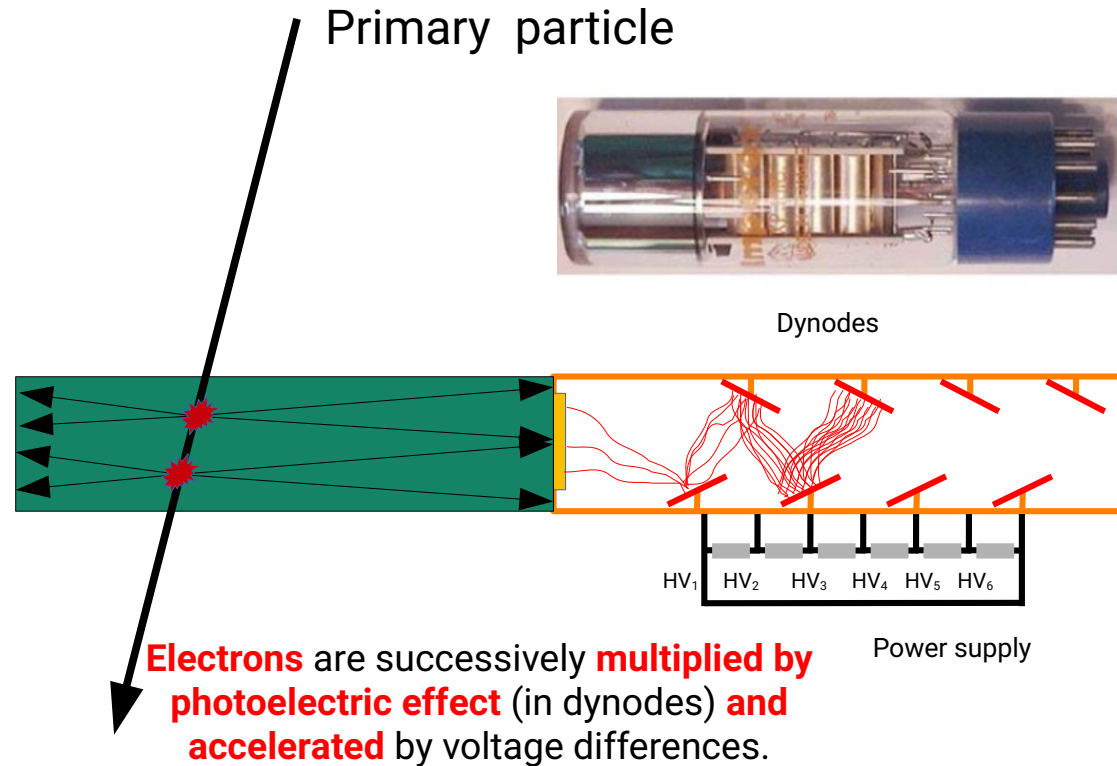
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## Amplification mechanism

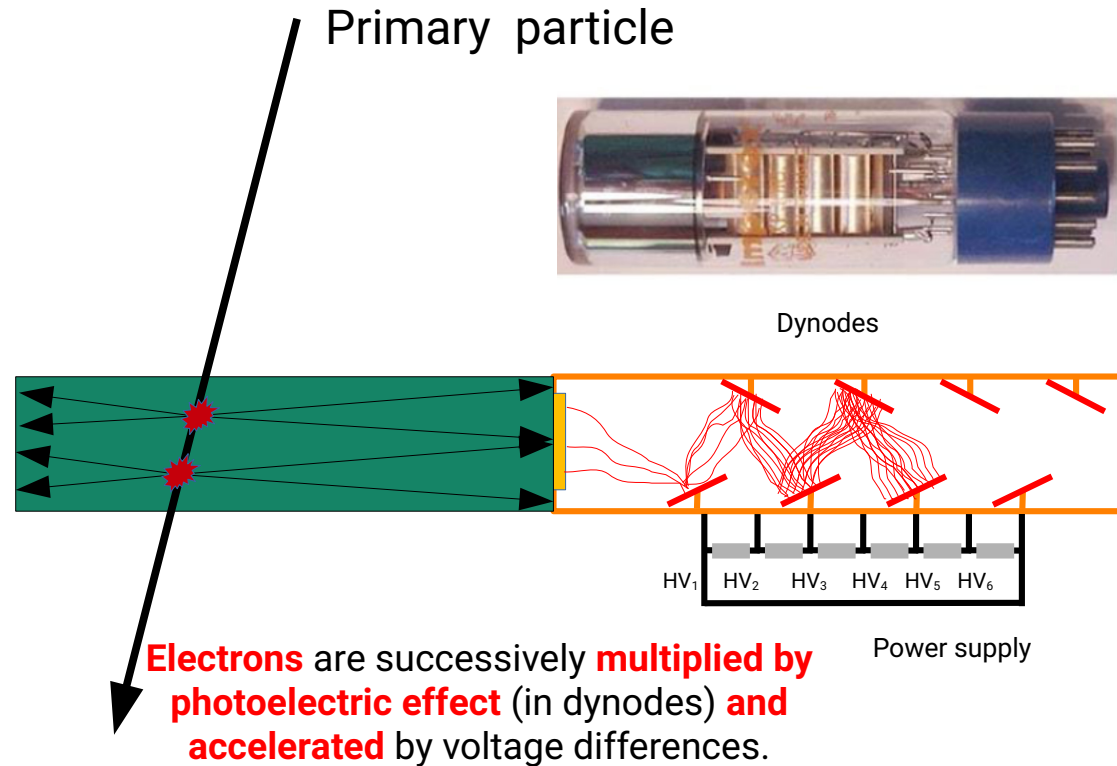
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## Amplification mechanism

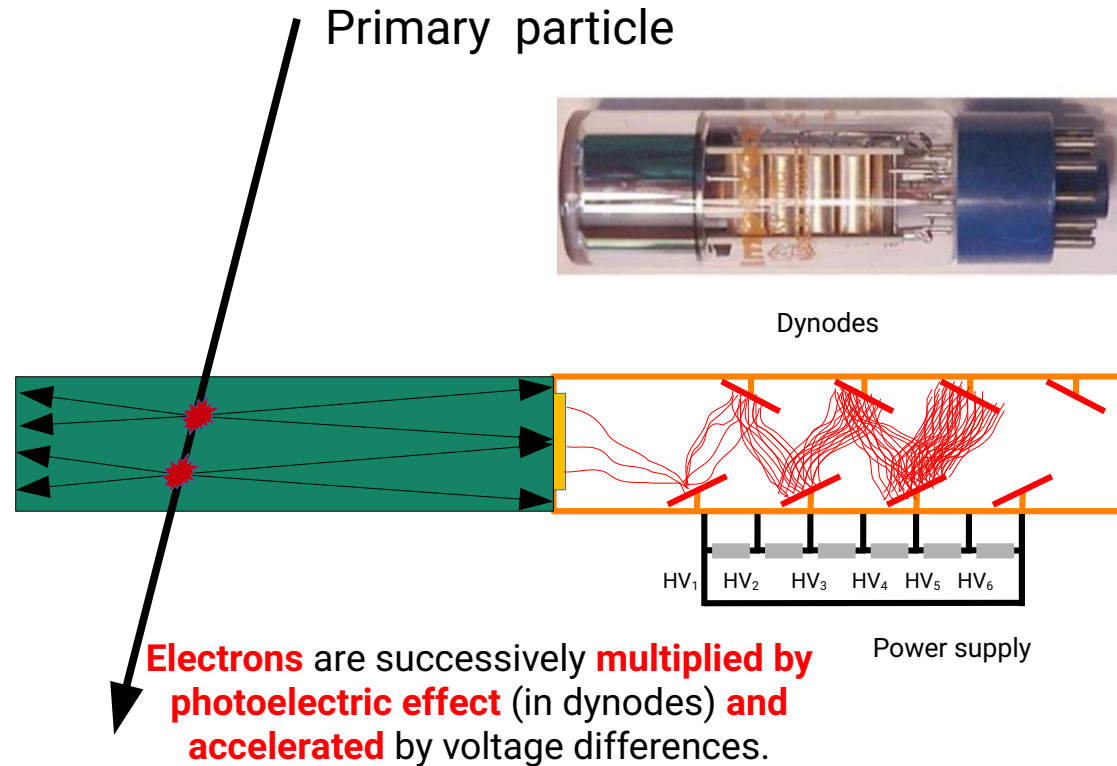
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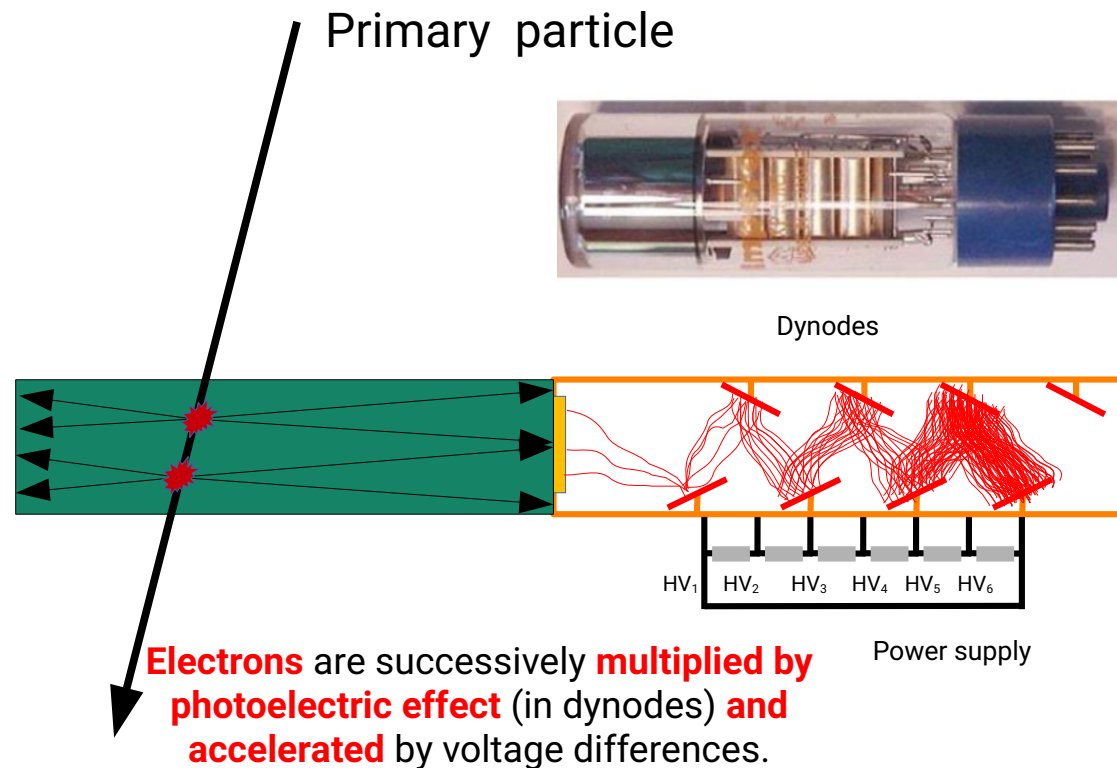
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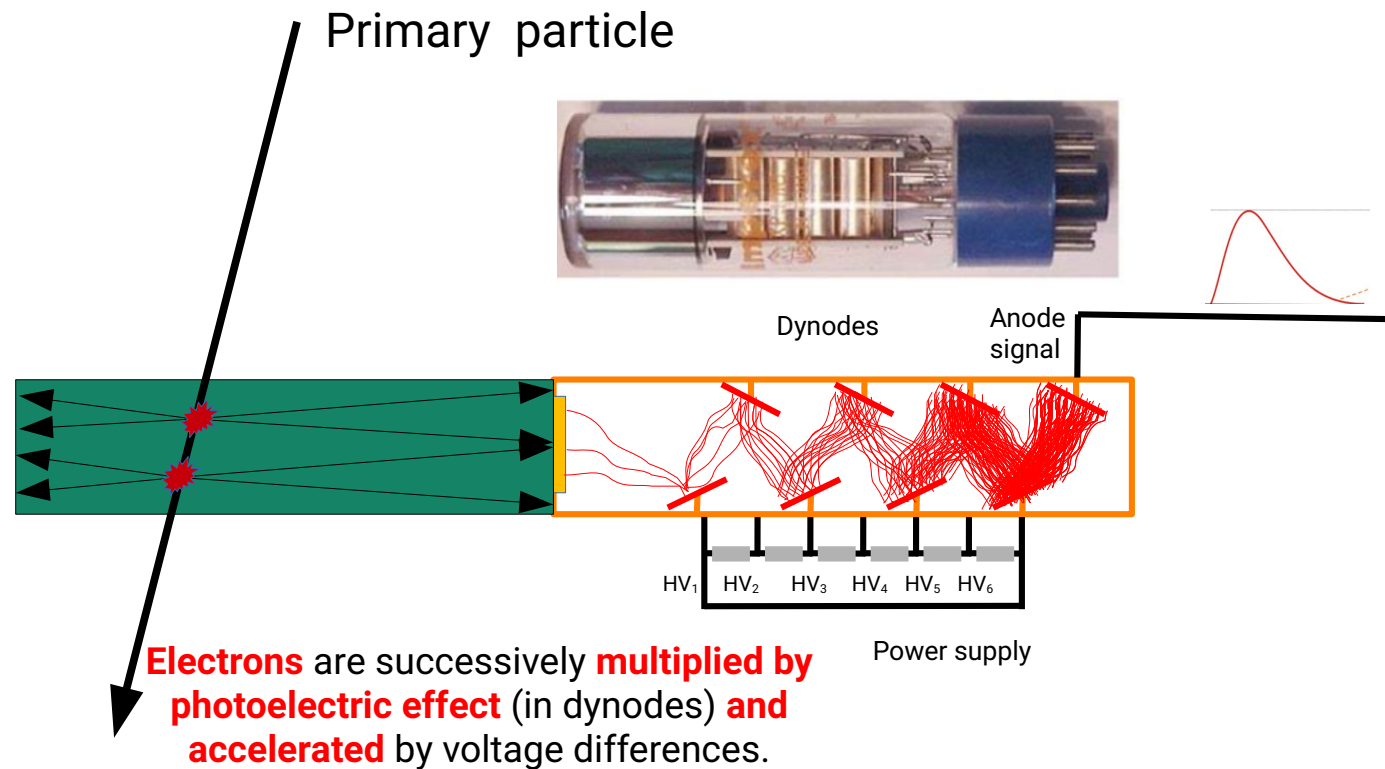
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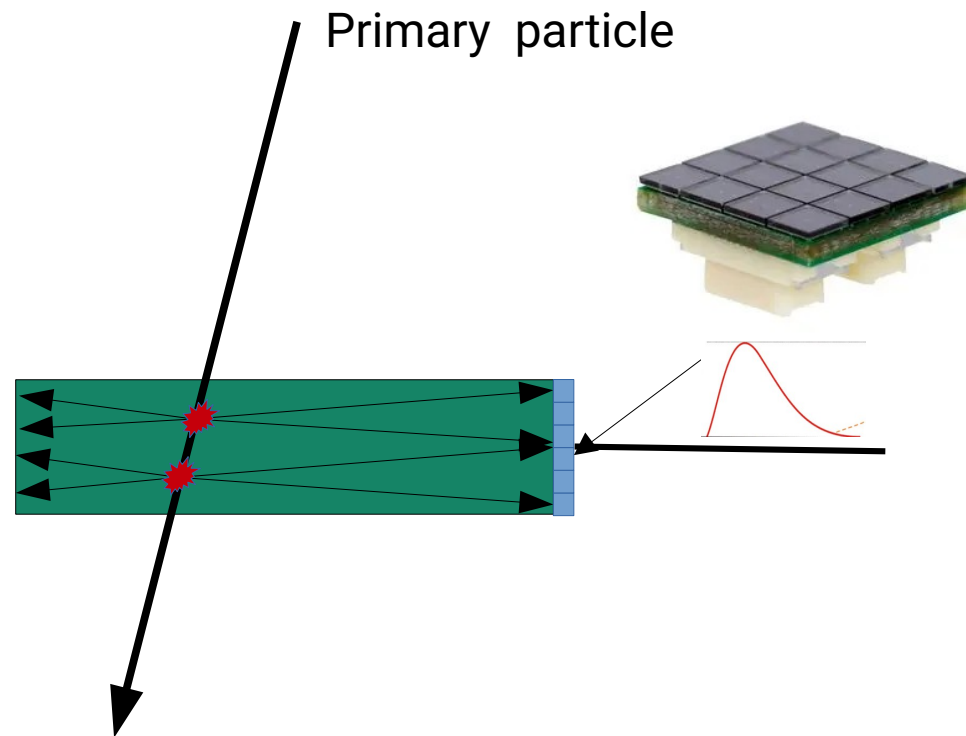
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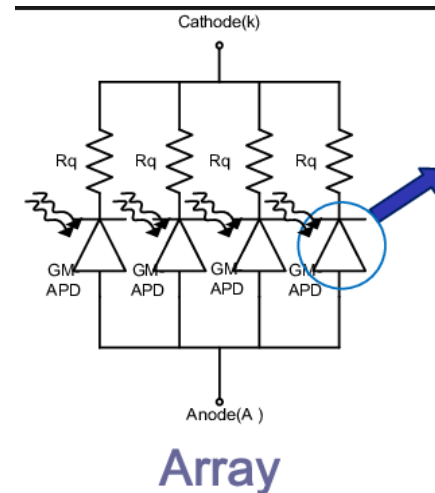


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- Medium = **Solid. Plastic scintillator**
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Internal structure of a SiPM



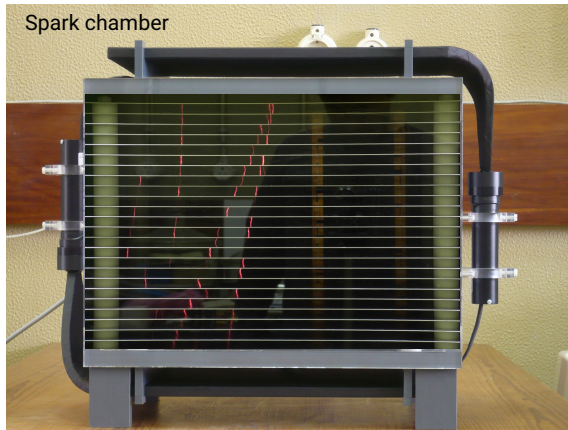
## Amplification mechanism

- Medium = **Solid. Plastic scintillator**
- Primary interaction = **production of photons**
- Amplification = use of **photo-multiplier**

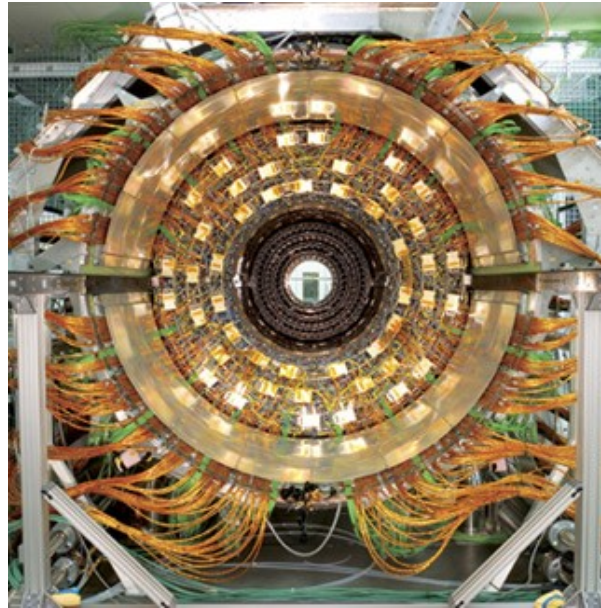
Same performance, cheaper, compact, ....



A particle detector also involves, apart from the detector, the **readout electronics and data acquisition (DAQ)** system.

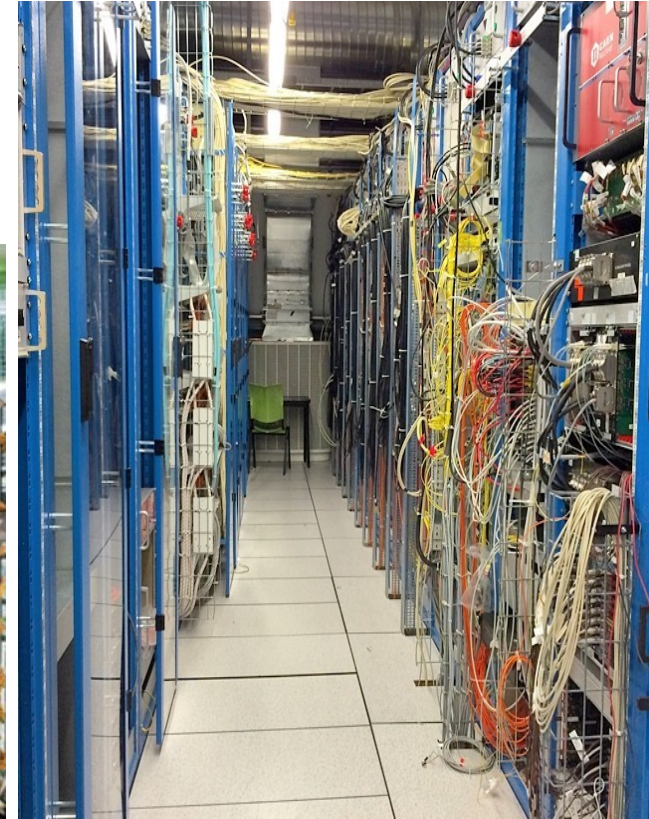


← ———— →  
No electronic detector      Electronic detectors



CMS Tracker, CERN

The amount of wiring on the CMS detector at CERN is equivalent to a small village of 10,000 inhabitants



One of the CMS acquisition system room



Bubble chamber and blubber chamber photograph

## Front End Electronic (FEE)

In charge to process/manipulate the signals generated by detector.

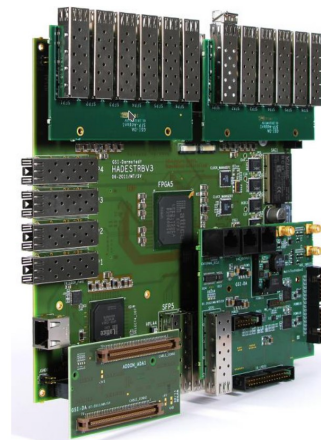
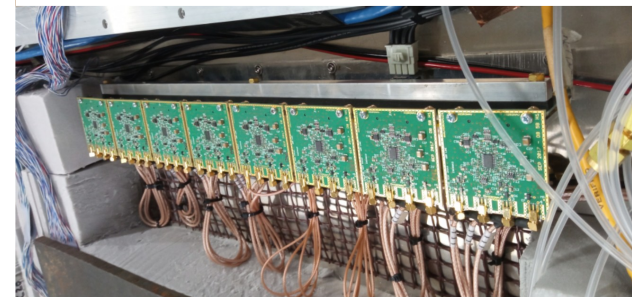
## Digitizers

Convert the electric signal into digital words

**ADCs**, => Analog to Digital Converter

**TDCs**, => time to Digital Converter

32 current amplifiers + comparator



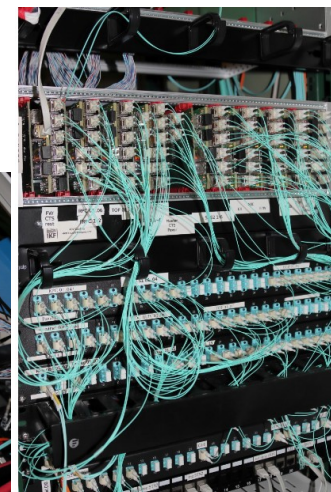
ADC/TDC platform

## Trigger system

Select interesting particles when it is not possible to measure all of them.

## Data Acquisition (DAQ) system

In charge of the government of all components



DAQ parts of HADES detector



# What are particle detectors used for?

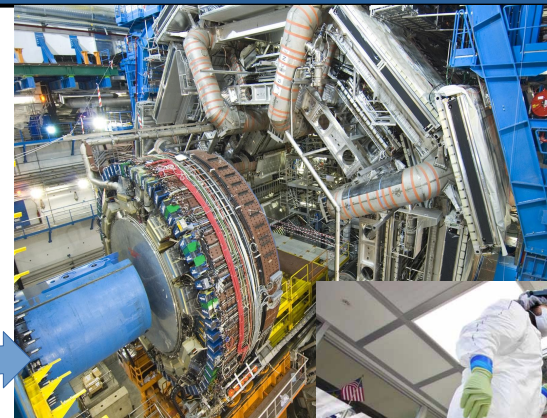
They are fundamentally used in:

- **Nuclear** and **particle physics** and also in **astro-physics** and the **search for dark matter**.

What are things made of? What goes inside a proton?  
What are neutrinos? What is dark matter?  
How was the universe created?

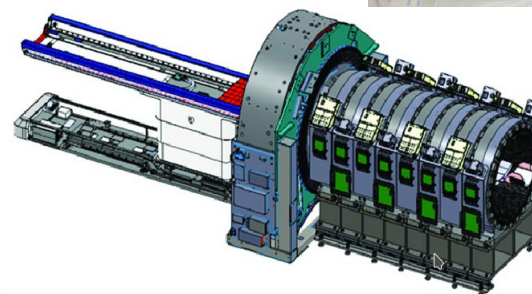
- **Medical Physics**

Imaging. X-rays, CT and PET scans.  
Dosimetry (measuring the amount of radiation administered to a patient).

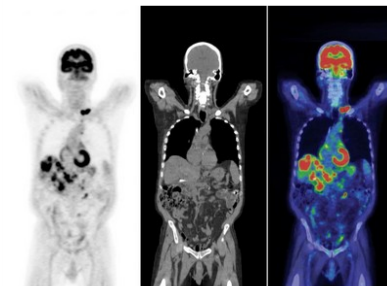


High Energy Particle  
experiment detector

Dark matter  
detector



Explorer PET/CT

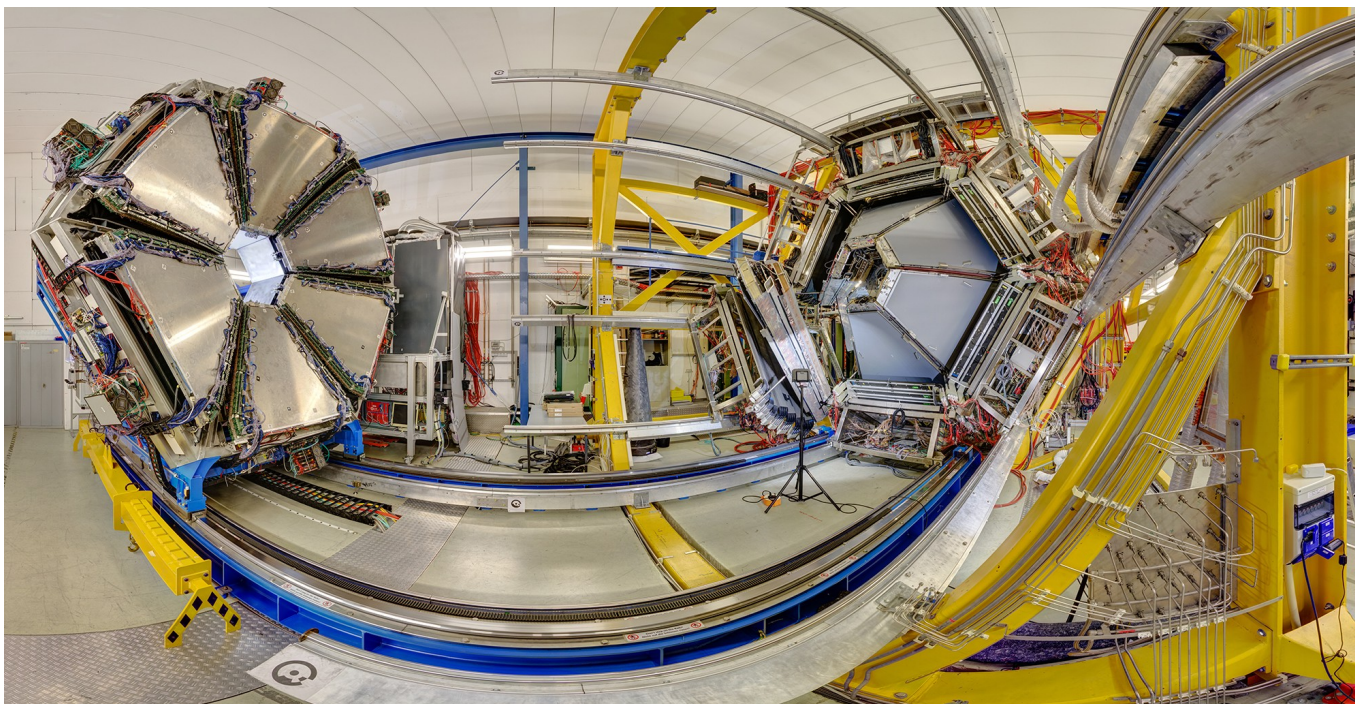




Study of **“emissivity”** and **hadron properties in dense and cold nuclear matter**, detected via  **$e^+ e^-$  pairs** (dielectrons) and **strange hadrons**, produced in **proton , pion** and heavy **ion** induced reactions in a **1-3.5 GeV**.

Spectrometer with high invariant mass resolution and high rate capability.

Installed at SIS18, GSI, Darmstadt. <http://www-hades.gsi.de/>



Project launched in late 1994  
6 years R&D and construction

First production run in 2002

International collaboration of 27  
institutions from 10 European  
countries.

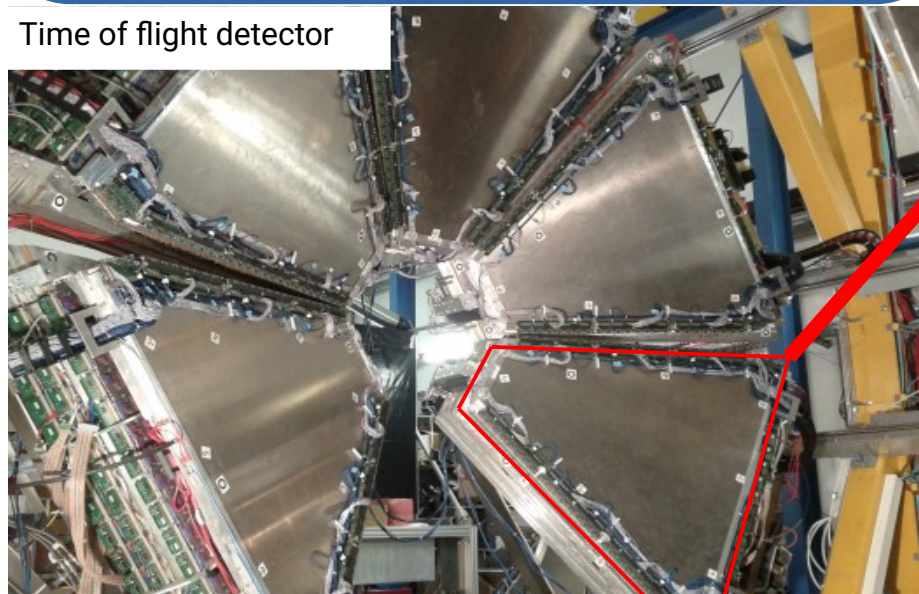
Cyprus, Czech Rep., France, Germany,  
Italy, Poland, Portugal, Russia,  
Slovakia, Spain.

## Identification card: HADES RPC-TOF

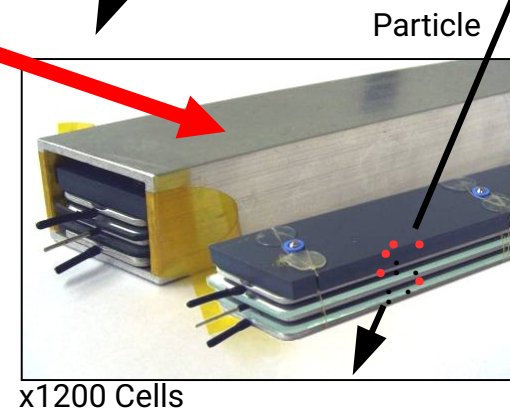
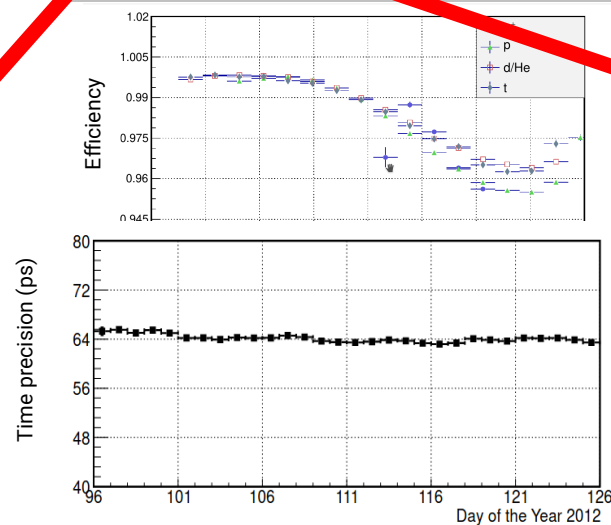
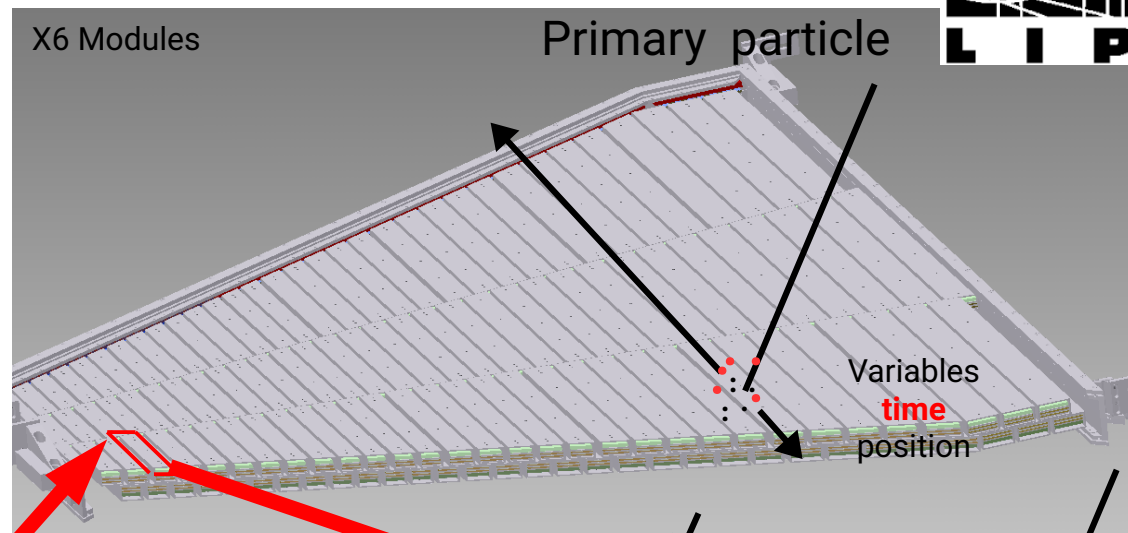


Medium	Gas mixture $C_2H_2F_4 + SF_6$
Primary interaction	Ionization of gas mixture
Amplification	Use of electric fields and strip structures.
Characteristics	High efficiency > 90 %, moderate spatial resolution $\sim 1$ cm and extraordinary timing resolution 60ps
Readout	x(2400 cells) current amplifiers + discriminator + TDC channels

Time of flight detector

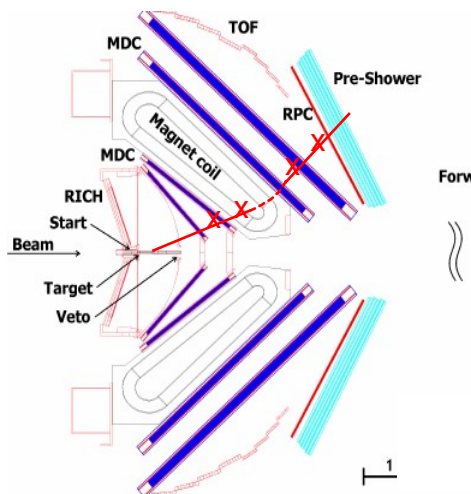


One sector can be visited in Coimbra Detector Laboratory





## Particle Identification using Time of Flight



**Tracking:** momentum (**p**) & track length determination (**L**)  
**TOF:** time-of-flight **t** measurement

$$t = \frac{L}{v} = \frac{L}{\beta c} = \frac{LE}{pc^2}; \quad E = \sqrt{p^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4}$$

$$t = L \frac{\sqrt{p^2 c^2 + (m_0 c^2)^2}}{pc^2} = \frac{L}{c} \sqrt{1 + \frac{m_0^2 c^2}{p^2}}$$

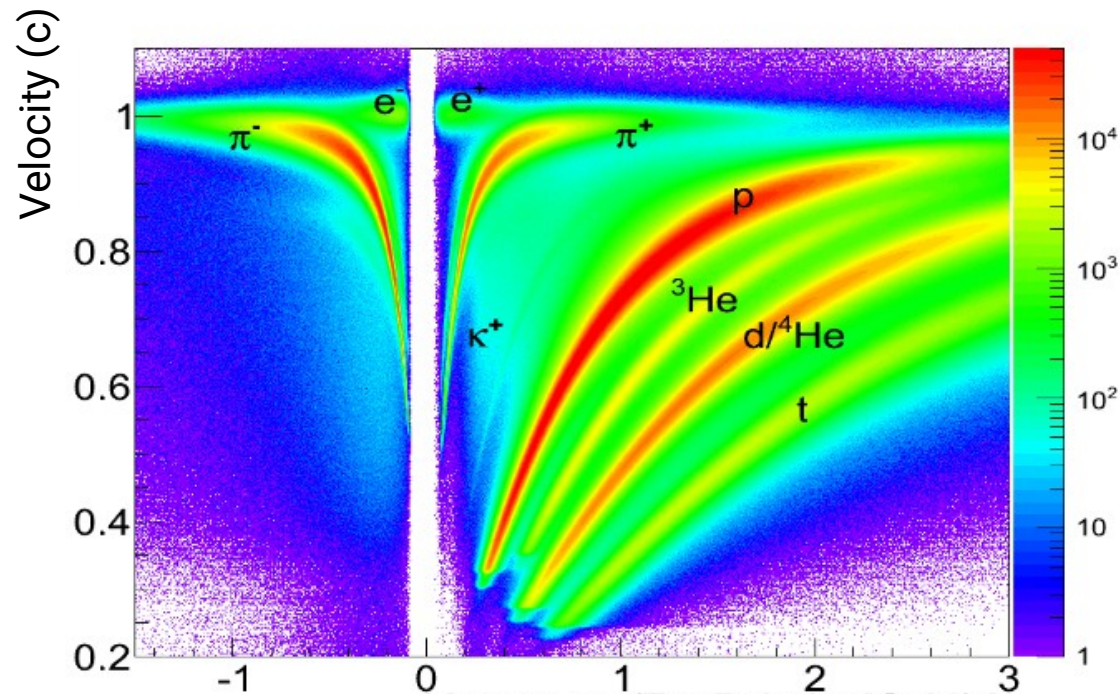
Mass of particle:

$$m_0 c^2 = pc \sqrt{\frac{t^2 c^2}{L^2} - 1} \Rightarrow \text{mass}$$

Particles separation power:

$$N_{\sigma} = \frac{\Delta t}{\sigma_{TOF}} = \frac{L}{c \sigma_{TOF}} \left( \sqrt{1 + \frac{m_1^2 c^2}{p^2}} - \sqrt{1 + \frac{m_2^2 c^2}{p^2}} \right)$$

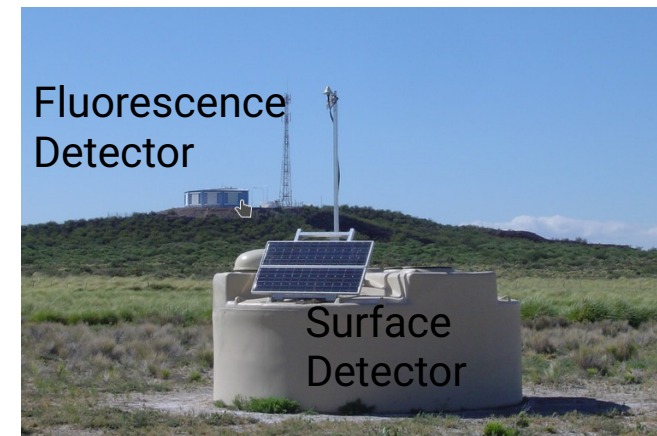
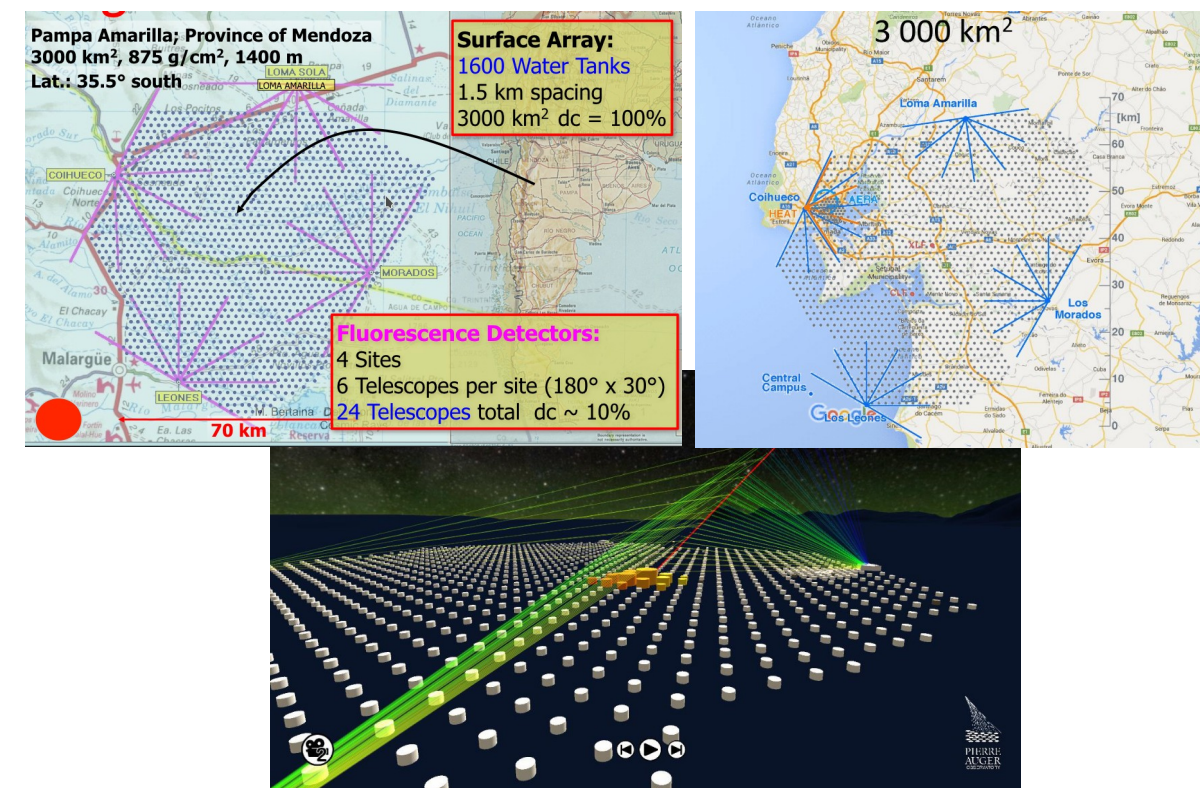
where is  $\sigma_{TOF}$  - time resolution of the TOF system.



Momentum / Z x Polarity (GeV/c)

Study and **determine the origin and identity of the high energy cosmic rays**

**Hybrid detector** composed by a **surface detector** (x1600 units 3000 km<sup>2</sup>, the size of Luxembourg) and x4 **fluorescence detector** installed in Pampa Argentina.



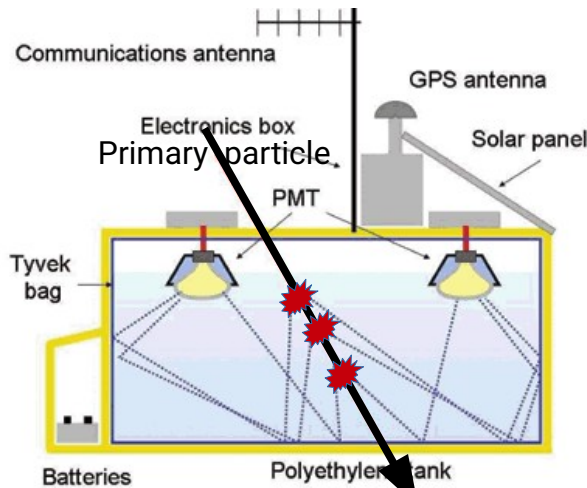
Construction started in 2000,  
taking data since 2005.

Collaboration of more than 500  
physicists and 100 institutions



## Study and determine the origin and identity of the high energy cosmic rays

**Hybrid detector** composed by a **surface detector** (x1600 units 3000 km<sup>2</sup>, the size of Luxembourg) and x4 **fluorescence detector** installed in Pampa Argentina.



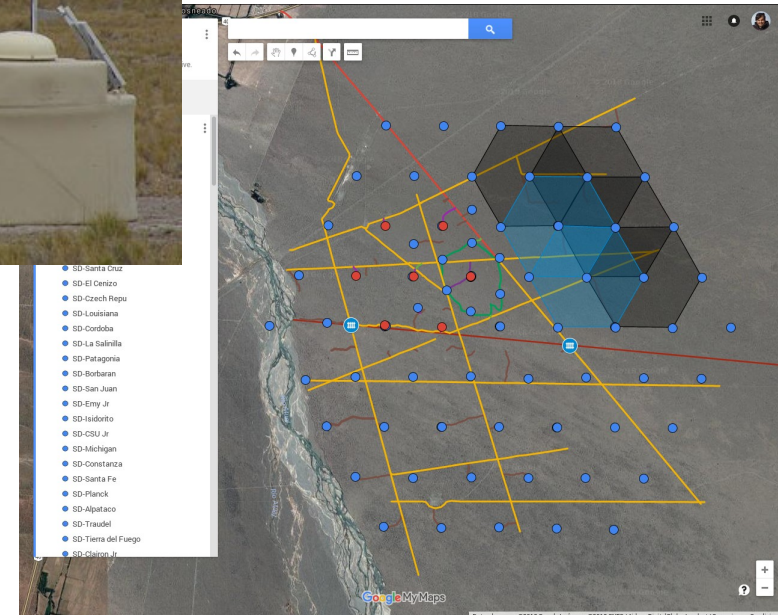
Variable:  
**energy** (number of particles)



### Identification card: AUGER surface detector

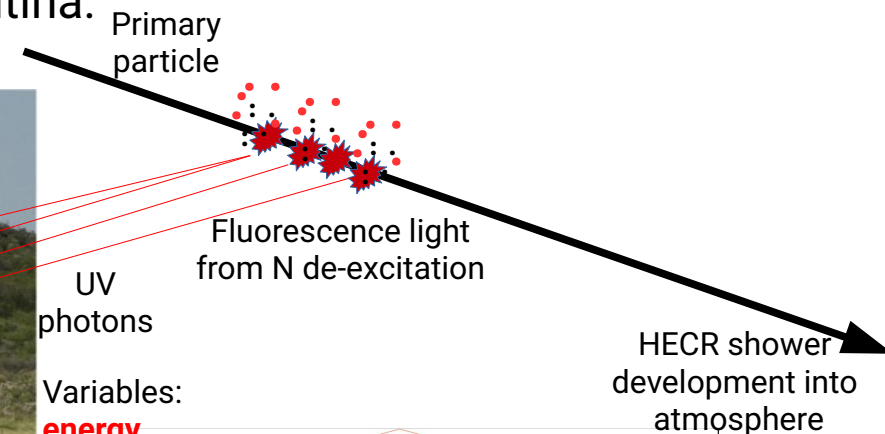
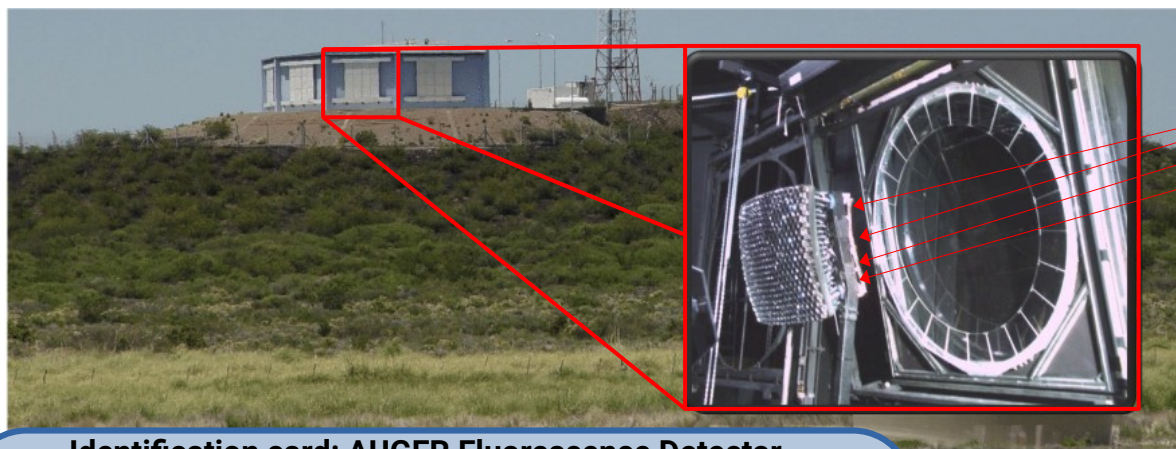


Medium	Liquid. Purified water
Primary interaction	Cherenkov light emission
Amplification	Photo-multiplier tube (PMT)
Characteristics	High efficiency, easy, simple to maintain, require little electronics
Readout	x(1600 tanks) x3 channels + digitizer



# Study and determine the origin and identity of the high energy cosmic rays

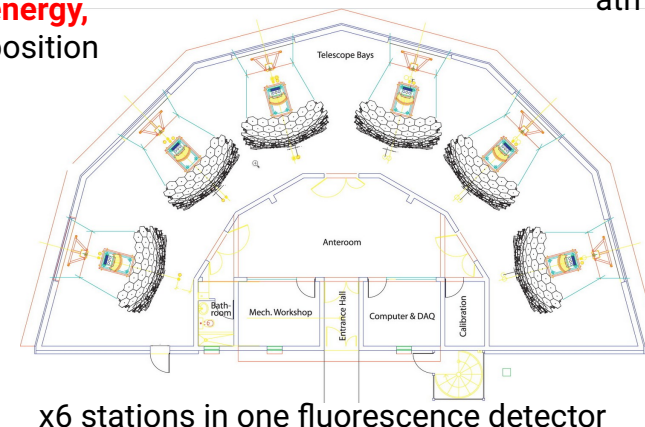
**Hybrid detector** composed by a **surface detector** (x1600 units 3000 km<sup>2</sup>, the size of Luxembourg) and x4 **fluorescence detector** installed in Pampa Argentina.



## Identification card: AUGER Fluorescence Detector



Medium	<b>Gas. Atmosphere</b>
Primary interaction	<b>Ionization/excitation + photon (UV) emission</b>
Amplification	<b>Photo-multiplier tube (PMT)</b>
Characteristics	Good energy response
Readout	x6 stations x4 detectors x 440 channels + digitizer



Is a **Weakly Interacting Massive Particle** (WIMP) **dark matter** candidate **detector**.

## The LZ Detector

7 tonne liquid xenon  
time-projection  
chamber

Liquid Xe  
heat  
exchanger

High voltage  
feedthrough

494 photomultiplier tubes (PMTs)

Additional 131 xenon "skin" PMTs

Instrumentation conduits

Existing  
water tank

Gadolinium-loaded  
liquid scintillator

120 outer  
detector  
PMTs

Neutron beampipes

Utilizes 7 tonnes of active **liquid xenon** in a **2-phase (liquid/gas) xenon time projection chamber** (TPC) surrounded by active veto detectors (background minimization).

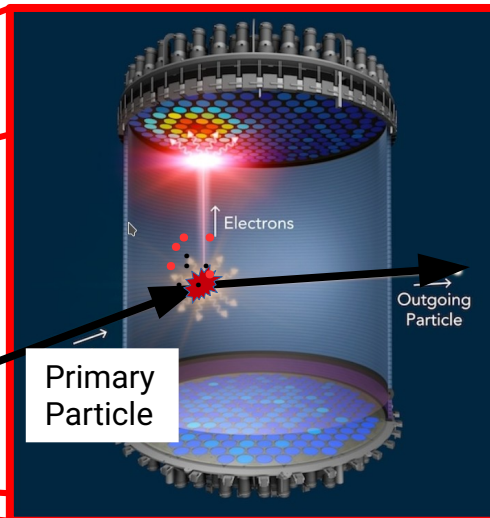
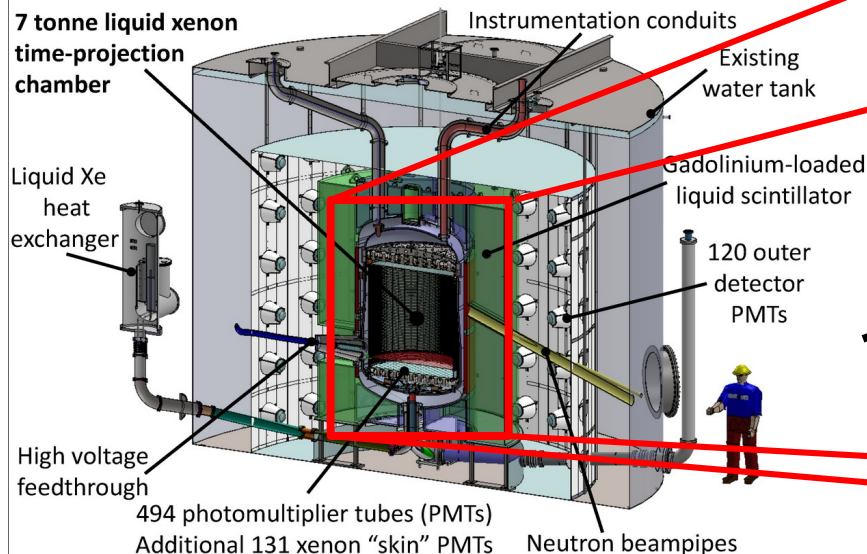
Construction started in 2020, first results expected in 2022.

Collaboration of more than 250 scientists and 35 institutions in UK, USA, Portugal and Korea.



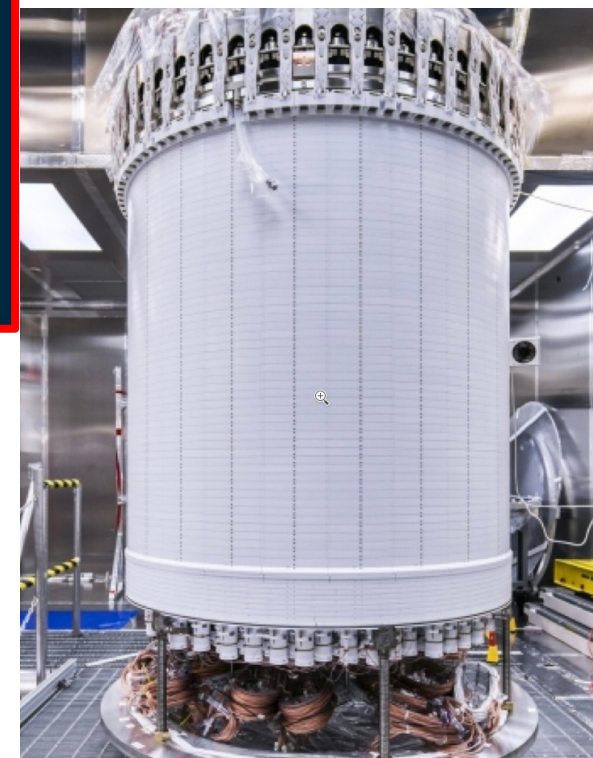
## 2-phase (liquid/gas) xenon time projection chamber (TPC)

### The LZ Detector




Variables:  
**position**  
time  
**energy**

WIMP (dark matter) will create a specific signature in the detector



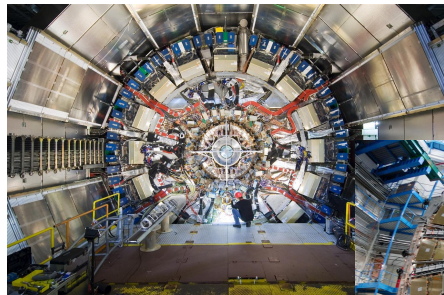
### Identification card: LZ

Medium	<b>Liquid. Xenon.</b>	
Primary interaction	<b>Nuclear recoil =&gt; ionization/excitation + photon emission</b>	
Amplification	<b>Photo-multipliers tube (PMT)</b>	
Characteristics	Good energy resolution, Robust and low cost.	
Readout	<b>494 + 131 + 120 (veto) channels + digitizer</b>	



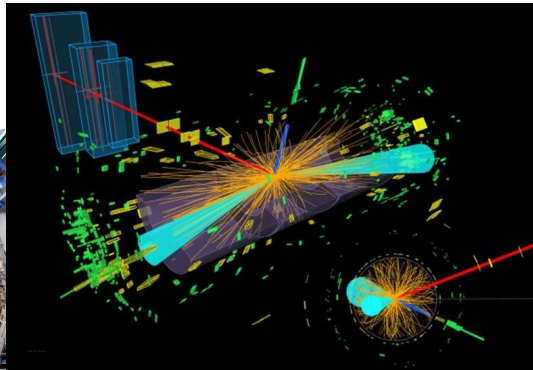
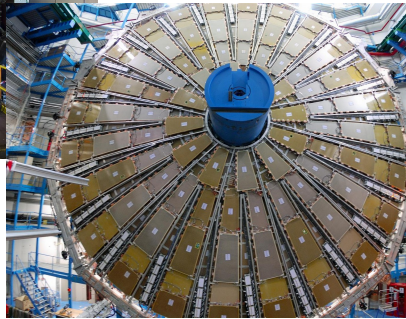
# High energy physics. ATLAS A Toroidal LHC Apparatus @ CERN, Switzerland.

Its purpose is to **detect the Higgs boson and super-symmetric particles (SUSY)** that are predicted by theory but have not yet been detected experimentally and **extensively test the Standard Model.**

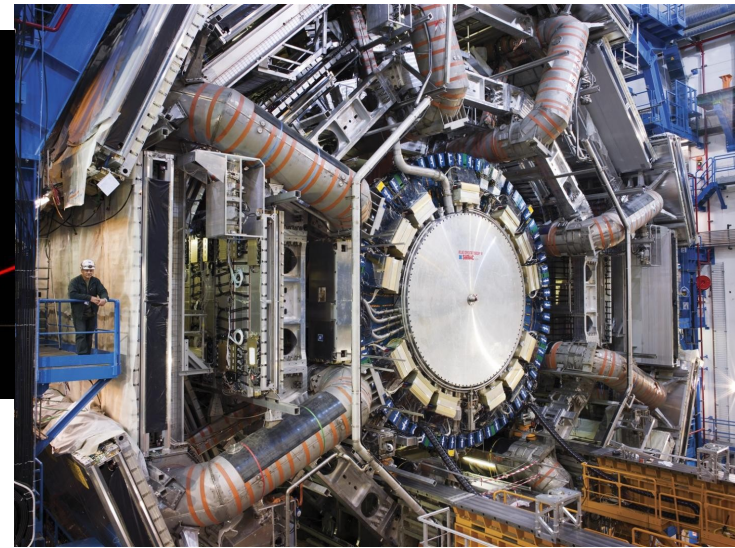


Inner detector

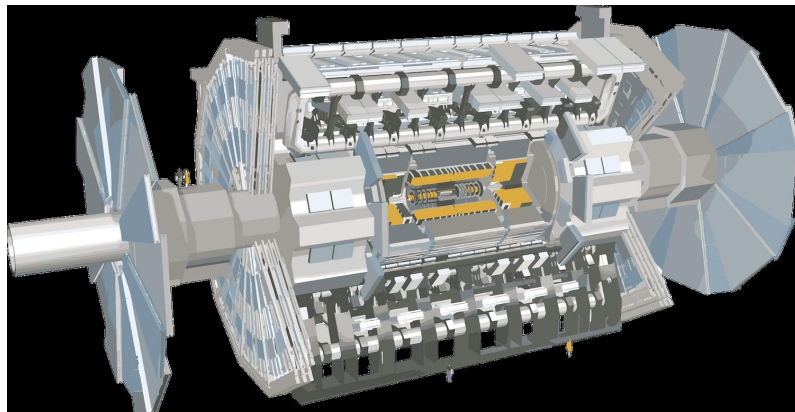
Muon detector



Interaction reconstruction

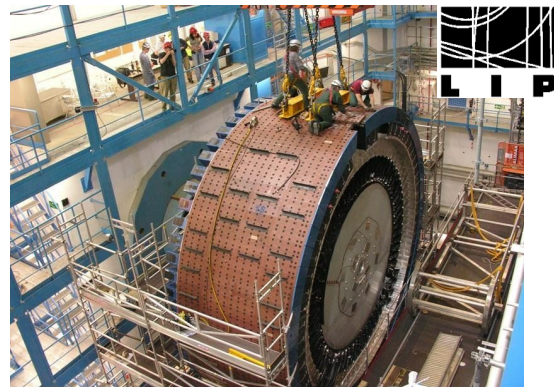


ATLAS detector open during technical stop



ATLAS technical design

Tile Calorimeter

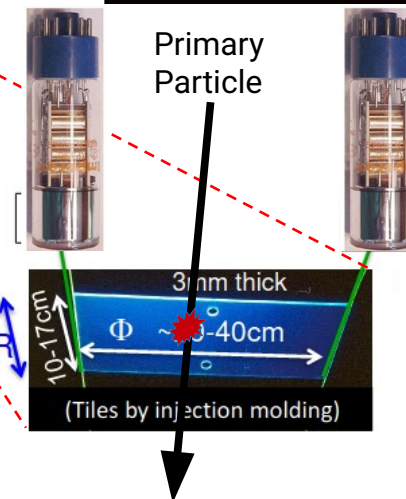
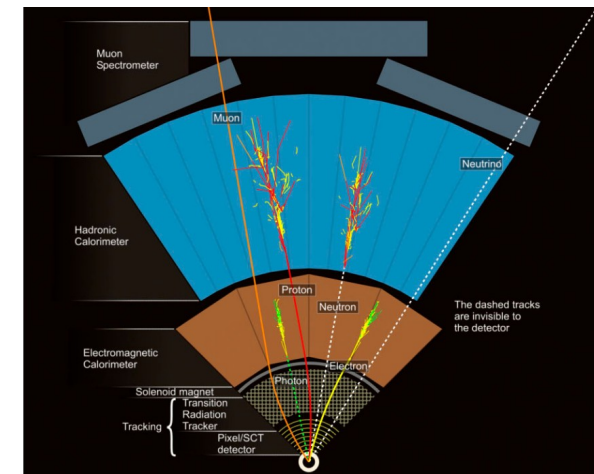
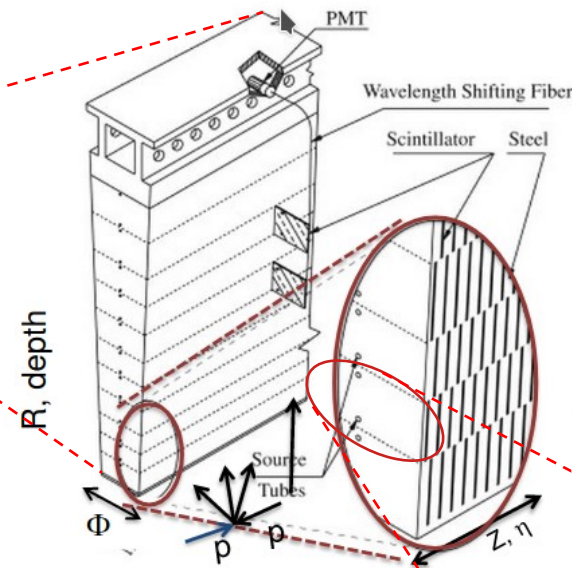
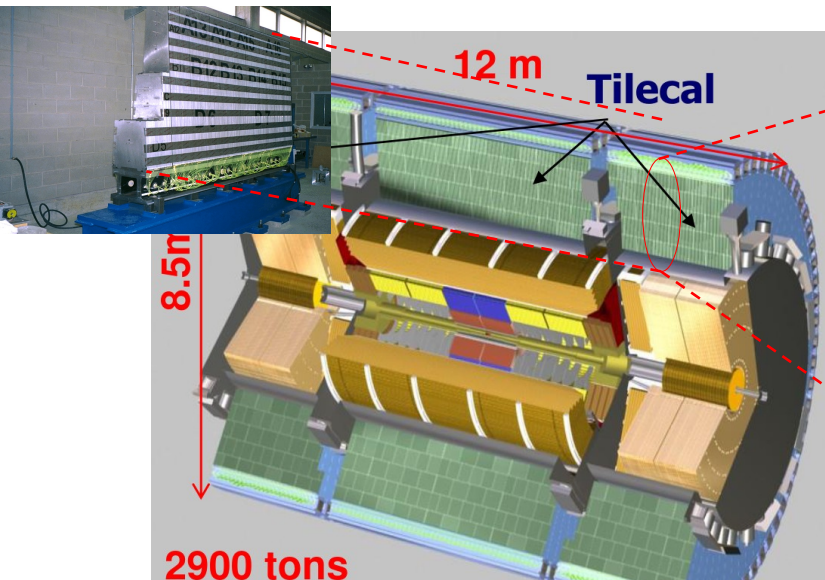


Construction completed in 2008

Collaboration of more than 3800  
physicists from 257 institutions  
and 42 countries

Its purpose is to **detect the Higgs boson and supersymmetric particles (SUSY)** that are predicted by theory but have not yet been detected experimentally and **extensively test the Standard Model**.

**Tile Cal is an hadron calorimeter** meant to measure the **energy of hadrons**



## Identification card: ATLAS TileCal



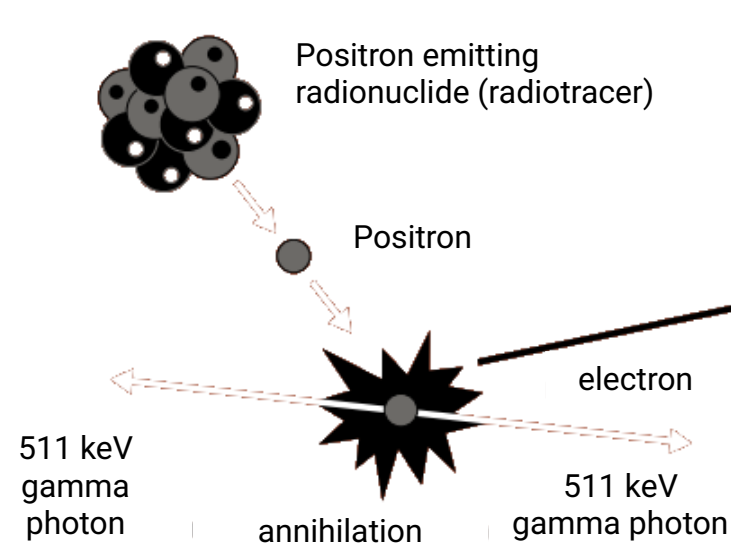
Medium	<b>Solid. Plastic Scintillator</b>
Primary interaction	<b>Ionization/excitation + photo emission</b>
Amplification	<b>Photo-multipliers tube (PMT)</b>
Characteristics	Good energy resolution, Robust and low cost.
Readout	<b>x(10000) channels + digitizer</b>

Variables:  
**energy**  
position  
time

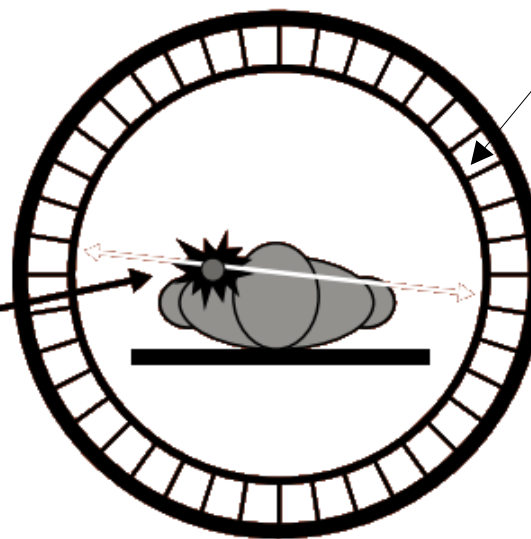


**Positron emission tomography (PET)** is a **functional imaging technique** that uses radioactive substances known as radiotracers to visualize and measure changes in metabolic processes, and in other physiological activities.

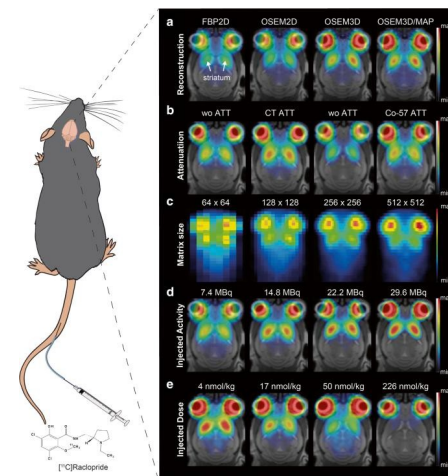
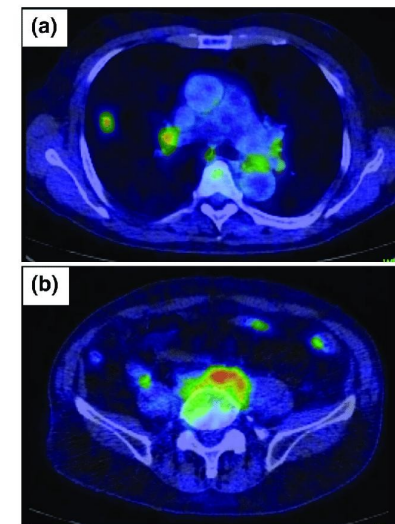
Positron emission  
and positron-electron annihilation



PET scanner



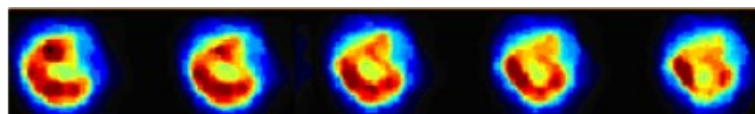
Gamma photon  
detector



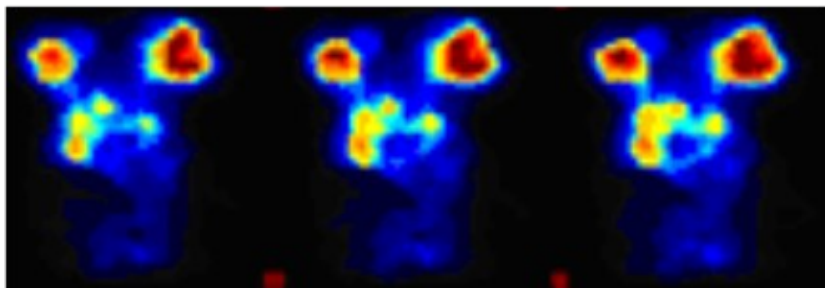
## Identification card: RPC-PET



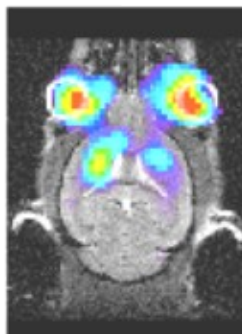
Medium	Gas mixture $C_2H_2F_4 + SF_6$
Primary interaction	Ionization of gas mixture
Amplification	Use of electric fields and strip structures.
Characteristics	Moderate efficiency, extraordinary spatial resolution $\sim 0.1$ cm and extraordinary timing resolution 100ps
Readout	x(400) amplifiers + digitizer



Heart of a mouse. Approximately 10 mm

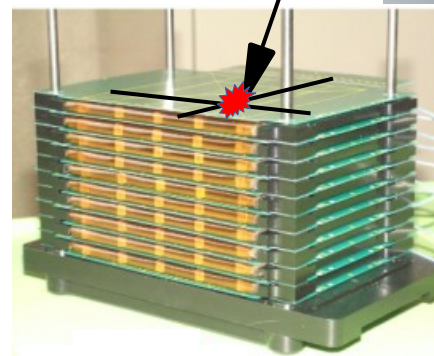


Head of a mouse



Co-registration  
with CT

Primary  
Particle



Variables:  
**position**  
time



Thank you for your attention !!