



Physics 531: Radiation Detection Techniques

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This course is aimed at graduate students (and advanced undergraduates) interested in radiation detectors used in experimental particle, nuclear and medical physics, and other applications such as space physics and condensed matter (e.g. MuSR). It will cover the basics of the interactions with matter of charged particles, gamma rays, and neutrons and the methods used to detect these particles. Scintillators, (inorganic crystals, plastics, fibers), optical sensors (phototubes, apds, MPPCs, etc.), solid state detectors and devices (e.g. Si strips, Ge diodes), gas and liquid tracking detectors (e.g. MWPCs, GEMs, Micro-megas, liquid argon and xenon TPCs), calorimeters, Cerenkov and transition radiation detectors are among the topics to be addressed. Applications in high energy, nuclear, and medical physics (e.g. SPECT, PET) will be emphasized. Students will prepare reports and present seminars on topics of interest in their research and on advanced detector developments.

Tentative List of Topics

1. Charged Particle Interactions with matter

- Kinematics and Scattering
 - Energy loss
 - Bremsstrahlung
 - Ionization
 - Multiple Coulomb scattering
 - Cerenkov radiation
 - Transition radiation
2. Photon Interactions with matter
 - Photoelectric effect
 - Compton Scattering
 - Pair Production
 - Attenuation/absorption
 3. Drift and diffusion in gases
 4. Ionization detectors
 5. Proportional chambers
 - Proportional gain
 - Energy resolution
 - Penning effect and Fano factor
 - Geiger mode, streamer mode
 6. MWPC, GEM, Micromegas, Micropattern Gas Detectors
 7. Drift Chambers, TPCs
 8. Scintillators and photo-sensors
 - Inorganic scintillators and crystals
 - Plastic scintillators
 - Scintillating fibers
 - Liquids, cryogenic liquids
 - PMT's and other photo sensors
 - Anger Cameras
 9. Solid state detectors
 10. Calorimetry
 11. Particle ID
 12. Tracking
 13. Neutron Detection
 14. Neutrino Detection
 15. Dark Matter Detection
 16. Applications
 - Detectors for Particle and Nuclear Physics
 - Detectors in Medical Physics
 - Other Applications

There will not be an official text. The following references may be useful.

References:

C. Grupen (1996) Particle Detectors (Cambridge U. P.)
K. Kleinnkecht (1998) Detectors of part. radiation (C. U. P.)
R. Fernow (1989) Intro. to Exp. Part. Phys. (C. U. P.)
C. Leroy, G. Rancoita (2009), Principles of Interactions of Matter and Detection. (W.S.)
G. Knoll, Radiation Detection and Measurement, 3rd Edition, 2000
W. R. Leo, Techniques for Nuclear and Particle Physics Experiments, 2nd edition, Springer, 1994
R.S. Gilmore, Single particle detection and measurement, Taylor&Francis, 1992
W. Blum, L. Rolandi, Particle Detection with Drift Chambers, Springer, 1994

D. M. Ritson (1961) Tech. of HEP
T. Ferbel Exp. Tech. HEP (1991W.S.)
F. Sauli (1992) Instr. in HEP (W.S.)
A. Ereditano (1991) Calorimetry in HEP (W.S.)
S. Sze (1981) Physics of Semi-conductors (Wiley)

Literature on particle detectors

Particle Data Book

<http://www.cern.ch/Physics/ParticleDetector/BriefBook/>

Proceedings of detector conferences (Vienna VCI, Elba, IEEE)