Tracking at the LHC

Lectures given at the University of Freiburg Markus Elsing, 12-13.April 2016





Introduction

•broad physics program covered by LHC experiments

- ⇒ 2 general purpose p-p experiments (ATLAS and CMS) cover: SM QCD/W/Z/top, Higgs, SUSY, Exotics, (b-physics) ...
- ➡ LHCb as dedicated b-physics experiment (forward physics)
- ➡ ALICE as a heavy ion experiment

• detectors designed to optimise physics performance

- → at design luminosities (10³⁴ cm⁻²s⁻¹) and pileup (~23 min.bias events)
- ➡ b-physics trigger (LHCb)
- → heavy ion "central" event multiplicities (ALICE, but as well the others)

• task of event reconstruction is to identify objects

- \Rightarrow e/µ/ τ leptons, photons, (b) jets, missing ET, exclusive hadronic states...
- ➡ input to physics analysis of complete event signature



Event Reconstruction



- → LHC experiments are giant "cameras" to take "pictures" of p-p collisions
 - taking a picture every 25 nsec (40 MHz) with 100 million channels
- → task of the reconstruction is the interpretation of the picture !
 - answer the question: which particles were produced ?



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CERN





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CERN

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In Reality ?

... a bit more complicated



Tracking at the LHC

object reconstruction to cover LHC physics program

- often requires combining information from tracking detector with calorimetric and muon spectrometer measurements
- → TRACKING is a central aspect of the event reconstruction and analysis

requirements on tracking detectors

- precision tracking at LHC luminosities (central heavy ion event multiplicities) with a hermitic detector
- usually Pixel/Strip Detector for precise primary/secondary vertex reconstruction and to provide excellent b-tagging in jets
- → provide particle identification, e.g.:
 - transition radiation in ATLAS TRT/ALICE TRD for electron identification
 - dE/dx in Pixels/Silicon or ALICE TPC, Cherenkov detectors (LHCb)
- reconstruction of electrons and converted photons
- tracking of muons combined with muon spectrometer to achieve good resolution over the full accessible momentum range
- ➡ enable (hadronic) tau, exclusive b- and c-hadron reconstruction
- particle flow using tracking to improve jet and missing energy reconstruction and primary vertex based pileup mitigation for jets and missing energy
- → not to forget: enable fast tracking to do this as well in (high level) trigger



Evolution of (Silicon Strip) Detectors

- LEP eg. DELPHI (1996)
 - 1.8 m² of silicon
 - 175k readout channels



- 6 m² of silicon
- 175k channels





- CMS tracker
 - full silicon tracker
 - 210 m² of silicon
 - 10.7 M channels



results from huge technology advancements to match requirements of every generation of experiments

Markus Elsing

Example for a LHC Tracking Detector

answer of ATLAS collaboration to match physics requirements

• ATLAS Run-1 Inner Detector:

- → 3 layer Pixel system, 3 endcap disks
 - 1744 pixel modules
 - 80.4 million channels
 - \bullet pitch 50 $\mu m \times 400 \ \mu m$
 - total of 1.8 m²
- → 4 layers of small angle stereo strips (SCT)
 - 4088 double sided modules
 - 6.3 million channels
 - pitch 80 µm, 40 mrad stereo angle
 - total of 60 m²
- ➡ transition radiation tracker (TRT)
 - typically 36 hits per track
 - transition radiation to identify electrons
 - total of 370K drift tubes







6.2m



6.2m

Outline of Lectures for the next 2 Days

part 1 ~ Passage of Particles through Matter

part 2 ~ Brief Overview of LHC Tracking Detectors

• part 3 ~ Concepts for Track Reconstruction

part 4 ~ Vertex Reconstruction and its Applications



Feedback welcome !

- •after years in this field
 - may take things for granted that in reality are technicalities that need to be explained
- will try to give a balanced overview on tracking and vertexing relevant for all LHC experiments
 - ➡ these lectures are written having a general audience of young PhD students in mind
- material is never the less biased towards ATLAS
 - → it's anyway interesting to look outside the box at times...



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CREDITS: tanks for help and material from... A.Salzburger, G.Herten, D.Froidevaux, M.Hauschild, P.Wells, W.Riegler, R.Mankel, T.Cornelissen, A.Poppleton, A.Strandli, R.Frühwirth, G.Piacquadio, A.Morley, R.Jansky, V.Innocente and several others I should mention here Markus Elsing

Tracking at the LHC (Part 1): Passage of Particles through Matter

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Passage of Particles through Matter

- any device that is to detect a particle must interact with it in some way, with all its consequences
 - ➡ well, almost...
 - ➡ in many experiments neutrinos are measured by missing transverse momentum



Claus Grupen, Particle Detectors, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge 1996 (455 pp. ISBN 0-521-55216-8)



Outline of Part 1

• overview of charged particle interactions with matter

provide not only the means to detect charged particles.

•aim to understand how they affect the tracking performance

- ➡ energy loss
- ➡ multiple scattering
- ➡ Bremsstrahlung
- ➡ hadronic interactions



particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials



particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials

energy loss by ionisation





particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials

energy loss by ionisation



not directly used for particle identification by ATLAS/CMS



particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials

energy loss by ionisation



particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials

energy loss by ionisation

Bremsstrahlung

due to interaction with Coulomb field of nucleus

dominant energy loss mechanism for electrons down to low momenta (~20 MeV)

initiates EM cascades (showers)



particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials

energy loss by ionisation

Bremsstrahlung



particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials

energy loss by ionisation

Bremsstrahlung

multiple scattering

charged particles traversing a medium are deflected by many successive small-angle scatters

angular distribution ~ Gaussian

 $\sigma_{\rm MS} \sim 1/p \, * \, (x/X_0)^{1/2}$

but also large angles from Rutherford scattering ~ $sin^{-4}(\theta/2)$

➡ complicates track fitting, limits momentum measurement



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Bremsstrahlung

multiple scattering



- particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials
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Bremsstrahlung

multiple scattering

radiation length

material thickness in detector is measured in terms of dominant energy loss reactions at high energies:

- Bremsstrahlung for electrons
- pair production for photons

definition:

- X₀ = length over which an electron loses all but 1/e of its energy by bremsstrahlung
 - = 7/9 of mean free path length of photon before pair production

describe material thickness in units of X_0



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describe material thickness in units of X_0

material	<i>X</i> ₀ [cm]
Be	35.3
Carbon-fibre	~ 25
Si	9.4
Fe	1.8
PbWO ₄	0.9
Pb	0.6
ATLAS LAr CMS ECAL absorber crystals	



- particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials
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particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials

- energy loss by ionisation
- radiation length

Bremsstrahlung – multiple scattering

Cherenkov radiation

a relativistic charge particle traversing a dielectric medium with refraction index $n > 1/\beta$ emits Cherenkov radiation in cone with angle θ_c around track: $\cos\theta_c = (n\beta)^{-1}$





- particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials
- energy loss by ionisation
- Bremsstrahlung
- multiple scattering

radiation length

Cherenkov radiation


Charged Particle Interactions with Matter

particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials

- energy loss by ionisation
- Bremsstrahlung

radiation length

- Cherenkov radiation
- multiple scattering
- transition radiation

photon radiation when charged ultrarelativistic particles traverse the boundary of two different dielectric media (foil & air)



and > 100 boundaries



Charged Particle Interactions with Matter

particles are detected through their interaction with the active detector materials

- energy loss by ionisation
- Bremsstrahlung
- multiple scattering

radiation length

- Cherenkov radiation
- transition radiation





Effects are visible by Eye...



• give rise to beautiful old bubble-chamber photos

 \Rightarrow energy loss by ionisation, δ -electrons, pair production, ...



... as well in modern Detectors





History of Energy Loss Calculations: dE/dx

1915: Niels Bohr, classical formula, Nobel prize 1922.1930: non-relativistic formula found by Hans Bethe1932: relativistic formula by Hans Bethe

Bethe's calculation is leading order in perturbation theory, thus only z^2 terms are included.

additional corrections:

- z³ corrections calculated by Barkas+Andersen
- correction calculated by Felix Bloch (Nobel prize 1952, for nuclear magnetic resonance). Although the formula is called Bethe-Bloch formula the z⁴ term is usually not included.



Hans Bethe 1906-2005

Born in Strasbourg, emigrated to US in 1933. Professor at Cornell U. Nobel prize 1967 for theory of nuclear processes in stars.

• shell corrections: atomic electrons are not stationary



 density corrections: by Enrico Fermi (Nobel prize 1938, for discovery of nuclear reaction induced by slow neutrons)

The Bethe-Bloch Formula

$$-\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx}\right\rangle = Kz^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[\frac{1}{2}\ln\frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 T_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta(\beta\gamma)}{2}\right]$$

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

➡ with

- z ~ charge of incident particle
- Z ~ atomic number of absorber
- A ~ atomic mass of absorber

$$\frac{K}{A} = 4\pi N_A r_e^2 m_e c^2 / A = 0.307075 \text{ MeV g}^{-1} \text{cm}^2, \text{ for } A = 1 \text{g mol}^{-1}$$

- I ~ mean excitation energy of absorber
- T_{max} ~ maximum energy transfer in a single collision

 $T_{max} = \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2}{1 + 2\gamma m_e / M + (m_e / M)^2}$

• $\delta(\beta\gamma) \sim density effect correction to ionisation loss$





The Bethe-Bloch Formula



Bethe-Bloch formula:



Particle Identification using dE/dx

energy loss depends on particle velocity

- \Rightarrow ~ independent of particle mass M
- as a function of particle momentum
 - \Rightarrow p = Mc $\beta\gamma$ depends on particle mass !

application in an experiment:

- measure momentum from curvature of particle track in magnetic field
- → measure ionisation along the track







Fluctuations in Energy Loss





particle trace in bubble chamber

Multiple Scattering

a particle which traverses a medium is deflected

- → by small angle Coulomb scattering in field of nuclei
- ➡ for hadronic particles as well the strong interaction contributes



•angular deflection after traversing a distance x

- → described by the Molière theory
 - angle has roughly a Gaussian distribution, but with larger tails due to Coulomb scattering
- Gaussian approximation

$$\Delta \Theta = \frac{13.6 \text{ MeV}}{\beta cp} \ z \ \sqrt{x/X_0} \Big[1 + 0.038 \ln(x/X_0) \Big]$$

- $x/X_0 \sim$ thickness of material in units of radiation length
- z ~ charge of the particle





Illustration of Multiple Scattering Effect

toy simulation

- → simulation of single particle traversing a set of individual thin material layers
 - single scattering steps accumulate





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- → repeat N times:
 - central limit theorem predicts gaussian distribution





Illustration of Multiple Scattering Effect

toy simulation

- → simulation of single particle traversing a set of individual thin material layers
 - single scattering steps accumulate
- ➡ repeat N times:
 - central limit theorem predicts gaussian distribution

sometimes we experience the effect







Effect on Momentum Resolution

magnetic spectrometer

→ charged particle describes a circle in a magnetic field

$$p_T[\text{GeV/c}] = 0.3 \cdot B[T_2 s R[m]]^2$$



 $\vec{B} \otimes$



$$R = \frac{p_T[GeV/c]}{R} = \frac{q_23}{8s}$$
$$R = \frac{1}{8s} + \frac{1}{2} \approx \frac{1}{8s}$$

Sagitta uncertainly from N points, each with resolution $\sigma_{R\phi}$

$$\sigma_{s} = \sqrt{\frac{A_{N}}{N+4}} \frac{\sigma_{R\phi}}{8}$$

Statistical factor A_N = 720: (Gluckstern)

• put R in upper equation results in $p_T = p_T(s)$

→ relative error on momentum equals relative error on sagitta

$$\frac{\sigma_{p_T}}{p_T} = \frac{8p_T}{0.3BL^2}\sigma_s$$

- hence relative momentum uncertainty is proportional to momentum p_T times sagitta uncertainty σ_s
- → as well, one wants large B-field and long path length L



Effect on Momentum Resolution

 multiple scattering contribution to momentum uncertainty

$$\frac{\sigma_{PT}}{P_T} = \frac{\Delta\Theta}{\Theta} \cong \frac{0.05}{BL} \sqrt{\frac{x}{p_T}}$$

putting things together gives

$$\frac{\sigma_{PT}}{P_T} = \frac{8p_T \sigma_S}{0.3BL^2} \oplus \frac{0.05}{BL} \sqrt{\frac{x}{X_0}} \approx a \, p_T \oplus b$$

a ~ resolution term dominating at high p_T (term is proportional to 1/L² and σ_{RΦ})
 b ~ multiple scattering term limiting at low p_T



d/(d)√



\bullet uncertainty on the transverse impact parameter d_0

- → depends on the radii and space point precision
- → simplified formula for straight line and just two layers

$$\sigma_{d_0}^2 = \frac{r_2^2 \sigma_1^2 + r_1^2 \sigma_2^2}{(r_2 - r_1)^2}$$

→ best performance: small r_1 , large r_2 , small σ_1 and σ_2





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$$\sigma_{d_0} \approx \sqrt{\frac{r_2^2 \sigma_1^2 + r_1^2 \sigma_2^2}{(r_2 - r_1)^2}} \oplus \frac{r}{p \sin^{3/2} \theta} 13.6 \text{MeV} \sqrt{\frac{x}{x_0}}$$
$$\sigma_{d_0} \approx \alpha \oplus \frac{b}{p_T \sin^{1/2} \theta}$$

- constant term describing resolution
- \rightarrow multiple scattering term decreasing with p_T



 $x/sin\Theta$

Θ

Х



detector material



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similarly momentum resolution term becomes:

$$\frac{\sigma_{\rho_T}}{\rho_T} \approx a \cdot p_T \oplus \frac{b}{\sin^{1/2} \theta}$$



 $x/sin\Theta$

(-)

Х



detector material

Bremsstrahlung

charged particle is deflected by field of nucleus

- → deflecting a charged particle means "acceleration"
- → therefore radiates a photon → Bremsstrahlung
- → effect is strong for light particles (electrons), as acceleration is large for given force
- ➡ for heavier particles (muons), bremsstrahlung only important at energies of a few hundred GeV (important for ATLAS/CMS at the LHC!)
- → presence of a nucleus is required to restore energy-momentum conservation



mm

q,M,E-E'

q,M,E

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Bremsstrahlung proportional to

- Z^2/A and ρ of the material
- q⁴ and 1/M² of incoming particle
- ➡ energy lost ~ proportional to energy of particle:

$$E(x) \approx E_0 e^{-x/X_0} \qquad X_0 \propto \frac{M^2 A}{q^4 \rho Z^2}$$

- radiation length X₀ ~ characteristic amount of material traversed before it looses 1/e of its energy
- Bremsstrahlung of electrons in tracker material is limiting reconstruction efficiency !



important above critical energy E_c



q,M,E eus Z,A

Pair-Production



VVVV

e

e

e

• $\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ conversion process in field of nucleus

- described by diagram similar to Bremsstrahlung
- ➡ conversion probability:

$$P(x) \propto e^{-\frac{7}{9}\frac{x}{X_0}}$$

- ➡ radiation length X₀ is 7/9 of mean free path for pair production by a high energy photon
- → pair production in tracker material main source of inefficiency for photons



Pair-Production



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with Bremsstrahlung gives rise to electromagnetic showers

processes contributing to showers, detection in EM calorimeters





e

Hadronic Interactions

nuclear interaction length λ : *mean free path of hadrons between strong collisions*

material	λ [cm]
Si	45.5
Fe	16.8
Pb	17.1

interactions with nuclei lead to hadronic (HAD) showers

- $\lambda > X[X_0]$, can separate EM (close) from HAD (far) showers
- detection of HAD showers in hadronic calorimeters



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a hadronic shower consists of:

- EM energy (e.g., $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$) O(50%)
- non-EM energy (e.g., dE/dx from $\pi^{\pm}, \mu^{\pm}, K^{\pm}$) O(25%)
- invisible energy (nuclear fission/excitation, neutrons) O(25%)
- escaped energy (*e.g.* neutrinos) O(2%)

hadronic shower in material of tracking detector is main source of inefficiency for pions, kaons and protons !



Effect on Expected Performance

 ATLAS/CMS tracking resolution and efficiency mostly driven by interactions in detector material





Let's Summarise...

 discussed the most relevant physics processes for particles passing through (detector) material

• discussed some of the consequences:

- provide the means to detect charged particles and to identify them
 measuring the ionisation of charged particles in a medium (gas, silicon...)
 - detecting transition and Cherenkov radiation
- → as well, limiting factor for the performance of a detector
 - e.g. multiple scattering effects or effects from hadronic interactions...

•next is to talk about LHC tracking detectors

