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# Calorimeters in HEP, I

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# Aims

- To give a broad appreciation of the physical processes in calorimetry.
- To discuss the energy and position resolution of calorimeters in fundamental terms.
- To describe a variety of techniques for constructing practical calorimeters.
- To examine a few real calorimeter systems.

# Information sources

Six good sources of information on ECAL and HCAL (there are many others)

1. T Ferbel “Experimental techniques in high-energy nuclear and particle physics” Addison-Wesley, 1987
2. T Ferbel ed. “Techniques and Concepts of High Energy Physics X” NATO Science Series Vol 534, 1988
3. G Gratta, H Newman, RH Zhu, *Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci.* **14** (1994) 453-500
4. R Wigmans “Calorimetry: Energy Measurement in Particle Physics”, Clarendon Press, 2000
5. ATLAS, CMS, BaBar, LHCb, D0 etc. TDR reports (various dates)
6. F Sefkow et al, “Experimental Tests of Particle Flow Calorimetry” arXiv:1507.05893v2 [physics.ins-det] 17 Sep 2015

# Why calorimeters

- Calorimeter
  - A device to measure *Energy*
- Current and future collider based experiments are based on an “onion” like arrangement of tracking (mass-less) and energy measuring (massive) detector systems.
  - Momenta of charged particles are determined by hits in silicon (or gaseous) detectors in a high magnetic field region.
  - Particle energies are measured by calorimeters (they also measure position)
  - Muons and neutrinos penetrate through with minimal interaction.

# Calorimetry

- Neutral and charged particles when incident on a block of material deposit energy through creation and absorption processes.
- The deposited energy can be determined in a variety of ways:
  - ionisation, scintillation, Cerenkov light, bolometry
- The dense medium may be **active** or **passive**
  - **Homogeneous calorimeters**, e.g. CsI(Tl), BGO, Pb-glass, PWO, Xe(liq) etc,
  - **Sampling calorimeters**, e.g. Pb-scintillator or Pb-Ar(liq) etc.

# Why are calorimeters important?

- Energies of neutral and charged particles
- Relative energy resolution *improves* with energy as

$$\sigma / E \propto 1 / \sqrt{n} \propto 1 / \sqrt{E}$$

Where  $n$  is the number of secondary cascade particles and is proportional to the incident energy  $E$

Contrast this with the *decreasing* momentum resolution from tracking systems with *increasing* particle momentum.

# Features

- Longitudinal depth to contain the cascades increases **logarithmically** with energy.
- Jet energies can be measured.
- Missing transverse energy,  $E_T$ , can be measured (if hermetic coverage). This can be a signature of neutrinos or other weakly interacting particles.
- Longitudinal and lateral development of electromagnetic cascades is different for electrons, photons, hadrons and muons.
- Calorimeters are intrinsically fast.
- If the calorimeter has good lateral and longitudinal segmentation then **efficient triggering** on  $e/\gamma$ , jets and missing  $E_T$  is possible.

# Electromagnetic cascade

- A high energy electron or photon incident on a thick absorber produces a cascade of secondary electrons and photons via bremsstrahlung and pair production.
- As the depth increases the number of secondary particles **increases**, but their mean energy **decreases**.
- When the energies fall below the *critical energy*  $\varepsilon$  the multiplication process ceases and energy is now dissipated via the processes of ionisation and excitation.



# Simple model

- $\varepsilon$  is defined as the energy when the ionisation loss and radiation are equal. It can be calculated approximately as  $560/Z$  (in MeV)
- Radiation length,  $X_0$ , is the distance in which, on average, an electron loses  $1-1/e$  of its energy. It is also the length in which a photon has a pair conversion probability of  $7/9$ .  $X_0$  can be approximated as  $180A/Z^2$  g.cm<sup>2</sup>.
- Define two scaled variables

$$t = \frac{x}{X_0} \quad y = \frac{E}{\varepsilon}$$

Taking  $1 X_0$  as the generation length then the particle energy  $e(t)$  and the number of particles  $n(t)$  are given by

$$e(t) = \frac{E}{2^t} \quad n(t) = 2^t$$

At shower maximum

$$n(t_{\max}) = y \quad t_{\max} = \ln y$$

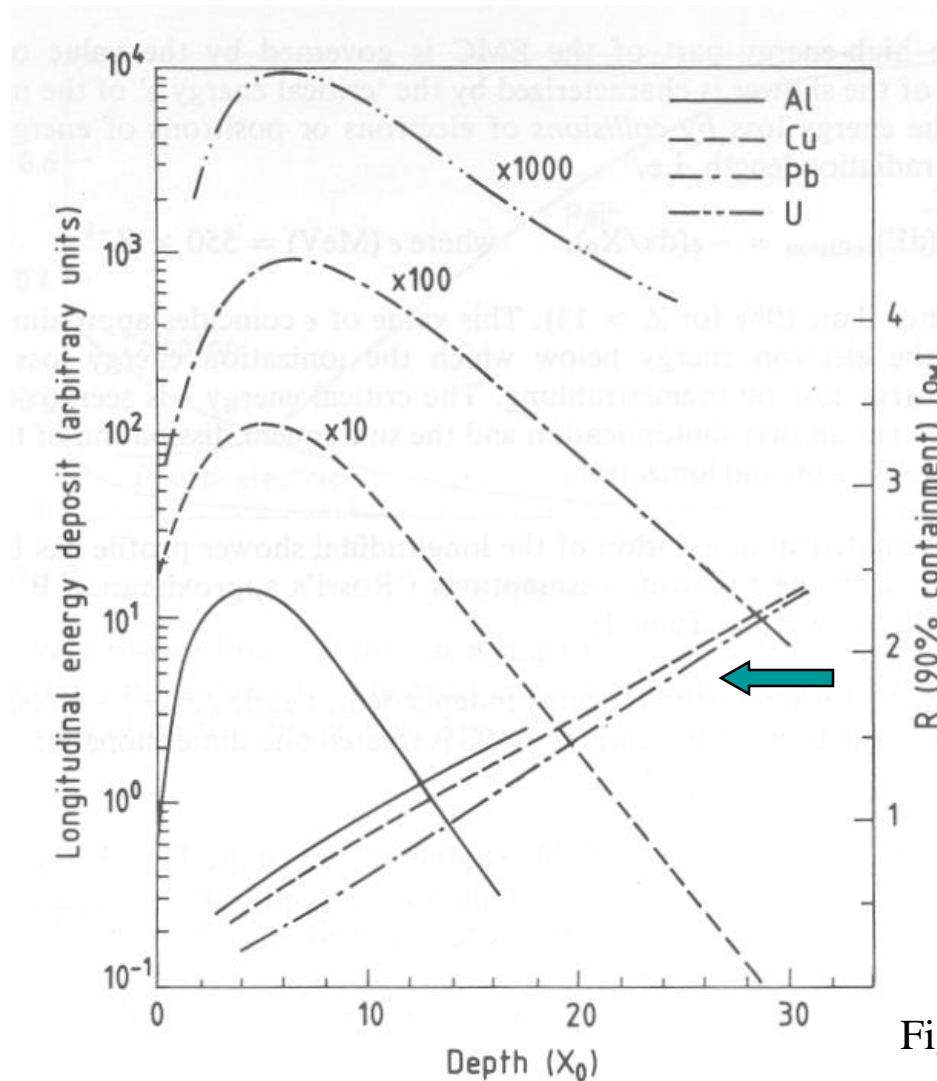
# Properties of some dense elements

	<i>Z</i>	<i>Density</i>	$\varepsilon$	$X_0$	$\lambda$
		g.cm <sup>-3</sup>	MeV	cm	cm
Fe	26	7.9	24	1.76	16.8
Cu	29	9.0	20	1.43	15.1
W	74	19.3	8	0.35	9.6
Pb	82	11.4	7	0.56	17.1
U	92	19.0	6	0.32	10.5

Note:  
 $\lambda$  is the *hadronic*  
interaction length

# Shower containment

Longitudinal  
containment



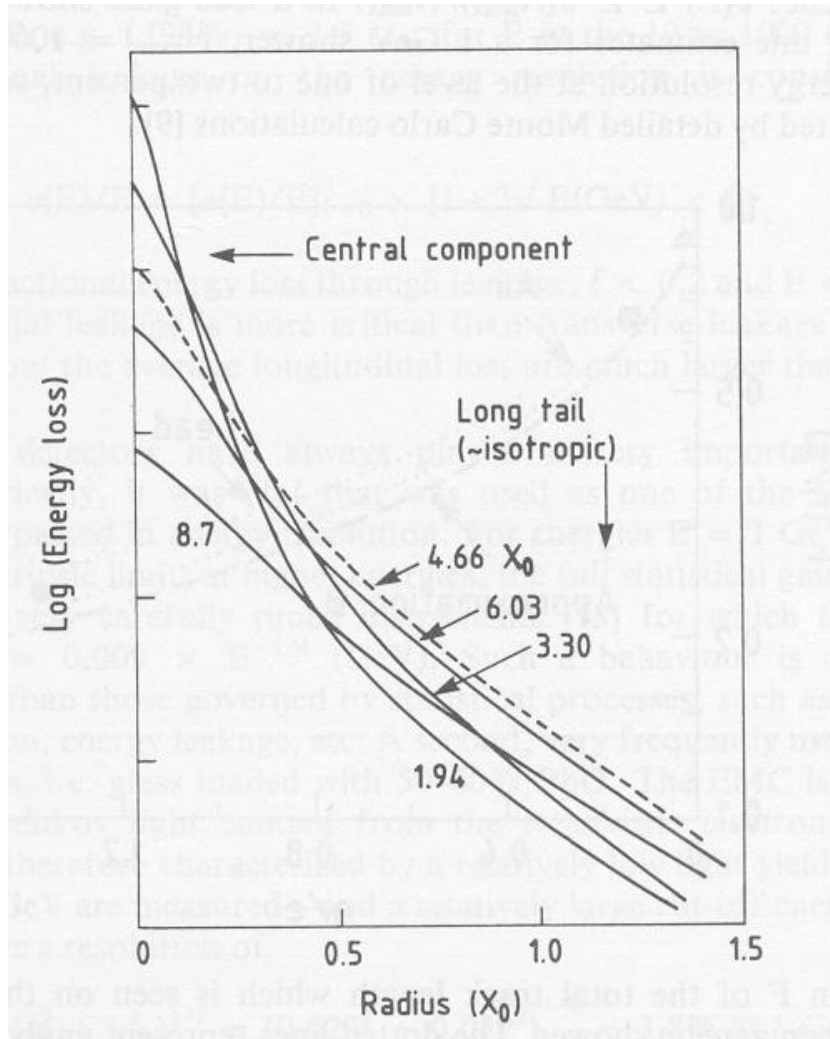
Lateral  
containment

Figure 3 from Fabjan C in Ferbel 1987

# Lateral shower development

- As the shower develops it broadens laterally due to multiple scattering of electrons and low energy photons.
- This can be characterised by the *Moliere radius*,  $R_m$ .
- $R_m$  is approximately  $7A/Z$  g.cm<sup>-2</sup>
- The shower starts (and persists) with a narrow core surrounded by a soft halo of scattering particles. An infinite cylinder of radius  $1 R_m$  contains 90% of the shower energy.

# Lateral shower development

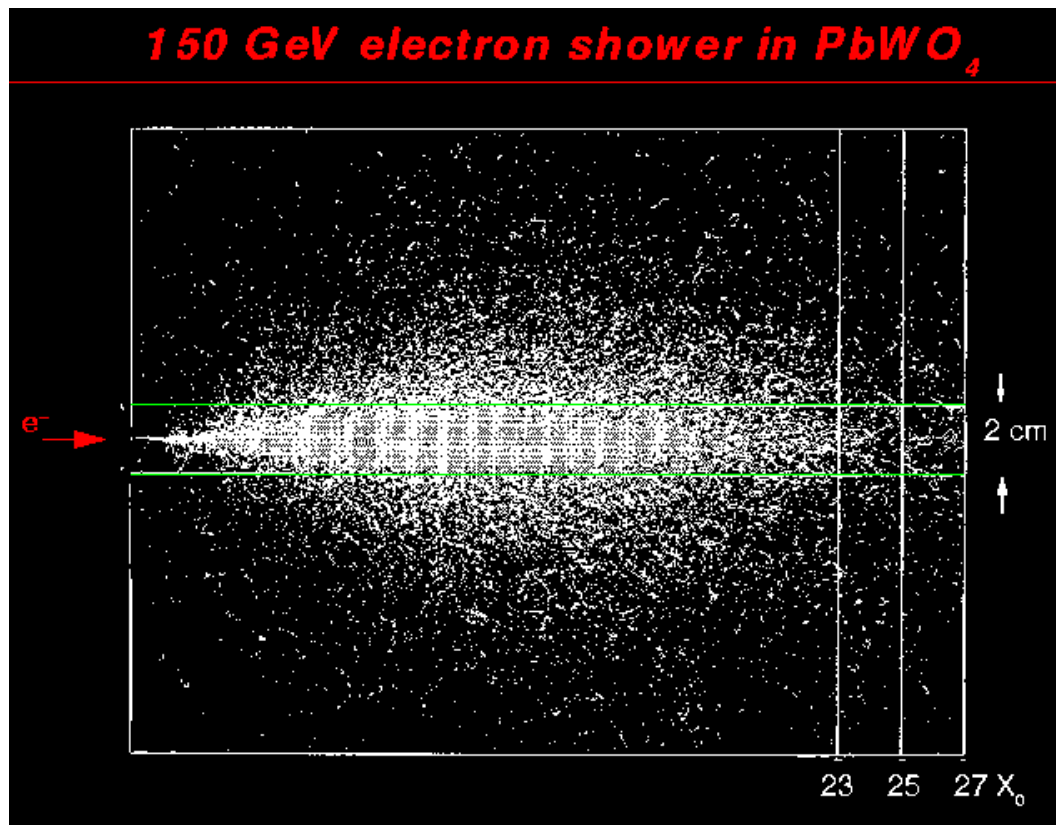


Calorimeter cells are typically one Moliere radius in size. Some lateral shower sharing between cells improves the position resolution.

Figure 4 from Fabjan C in Ferbel 1987

# EM Simulation

- <https://www.mppmu.mpg.de/~menke/elss/home.shtml>



← CMS Homogeneous ECAL. The green lines show the approximate location of a single crystal.

# Hadronic calorimetry

- High energy hadrons interact with nuclei resulting in the production of secondary hadrons (pions, kaons).
- The hadronic analogue of  $X_0$  is the **interaction length**  $\lambda$  which varies as  $A^{1/3}$ .
- The strong interaction results in a developing shower of particles. There are two distinct components
  - Electromagnetic arising mainly from  $\pi^0$  production
  - Hadronic
- Multiplication continues until the pion production threshold is reached. The average number of secondary hadrons grows like  $\ln(E)$ . Their transverse momentum is fairly low (of order 300 MeV)

- Using scaled variables  $\nu = \frac{x}{\lambda} \quad E_{th} \approx 2m_{\pi} = 0.28 \text{ GeV}$
- The energy and number of the secondary particles can be modelled as

$$e(\nu) = \frac{E}{\langle n \rangle^{\nu}}$$

$$e(\nu_{\max}) = E_{th}$$

$$n^{\nu_{\max}} = \frac{E}{E_{th}} \Rightarrow \nu_{\max} = \frac{\ln(E/E_{th})}{\ln \langle n \rangle}$$

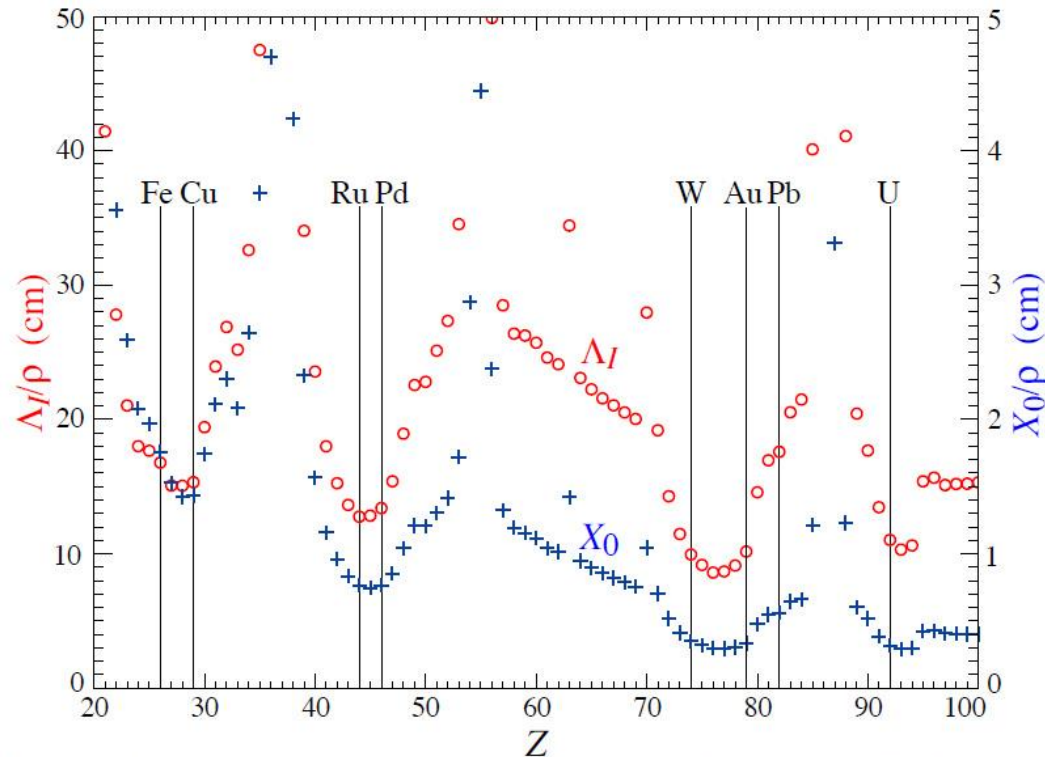
Note that the number of independent particles is smaller than in an EM shower by the ratio  $E_{th}/\epsilon$ . Thus the intrinsic energy resolution will be poorer by about a factor of 6 in most materials



# Shower containment

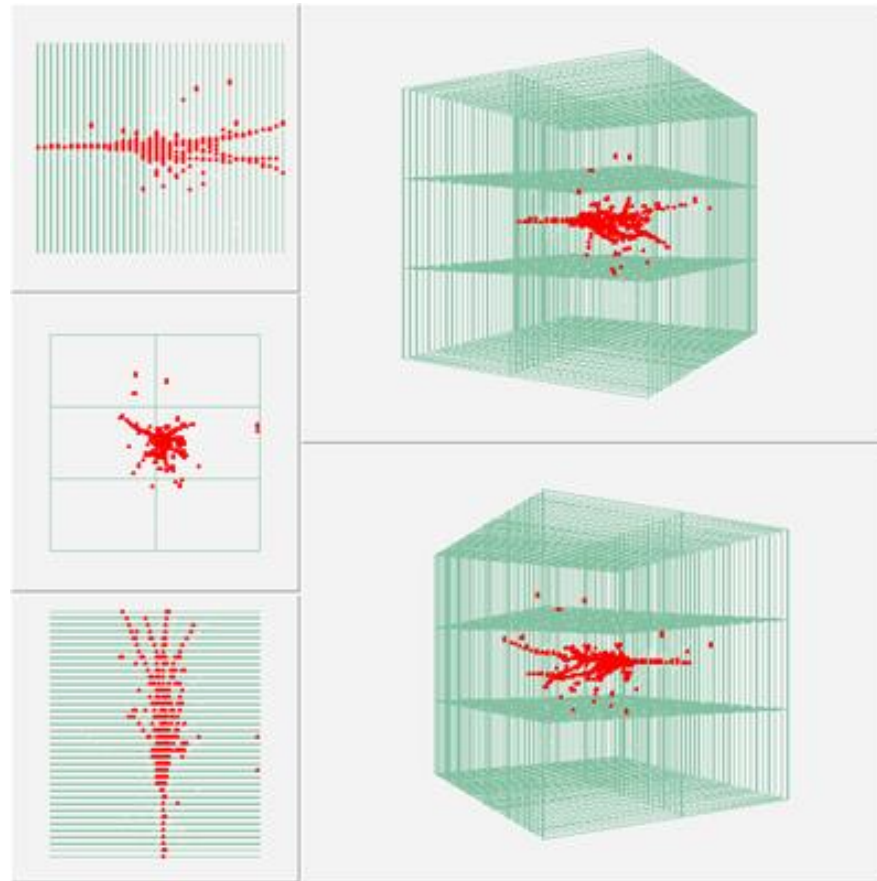
- About  $9\lambda$  are required for longitudinal containment
- Lateral development
  - Secondary hadron  $p_T$  is about 300 MeV
  - This is comparable to energy lost in  $1\lambda$  in most materials
  - At shower maximum (where the characteristic particle energy = 280 MeV) the radial extent will have a characteristic scale of  $1\lambda$
  - High energy showers have a pronounced core surrounded by an exponentially decreasing halo

# Nuclear Interaction Length



**Figure 28.21:** Nuclear interaction length  $\lambda_I/\rho$  (circles) and radiation length  $X_0/\rho$  (+’s) in cm for the chemical elements with  $Z > 20$  and  $\lambda_I < 50$  cm.

# Hadron shower simulations



32 GeV pions in the CALICE “digital”HCal (1 m<sup>3</sup>, 8000 channels)

- <http://www.ast.leeds.ac.uk/~fs/showerimages.html>