



*Georges Charpak*

*8.3.1924-29.9.2010*



**NDIP** 2011

6th International Conference on  
**New Developments In Photodetection**

Lyon - France, July 4-8, 2011

## *A TRIBUTE TO GEORGES CHARPAK*

*Fabio Sauli*

*TERA Foundation and CERN, Geneva, Switzerland*

*Editor, Nuclear Instruments and Methods Sect. A*

**1957: CHARPAK'S EARLY WORKS  
ON GAS DISCHARGES**

*Journal de Physique et le Radium  
Lettres a la Rédaction*

**OPTICAL SPARK CHAMBERS:  
S. Fukui and S. Myamoto, A new type of  
particle detector: the discharge chamber,  
Nuovo Cimento 11 (1959) 113.**

N° 8-9

LETTRES A LA REDACTION

539

**PRINCIPE ET ESSAIS PRÉLIMINAIRES  
D'UN NOUVEAU DÉTECTEUR  
PERMETTANT DE PHOTOGRAPHIER  
LA TRAJECTOIRE DE PARTICULES IONISANTES  
DANS UN GAZ**

Par G. CHARPAK,  
Laboratoire de Physique et Chimie Nucléaires,  
Collège de France.

Considérons une particule ionisante qui traverse un gaz à la pression  $p$ , soumis à un champ électrique uniforme  $E$ , de durée  $T$ .

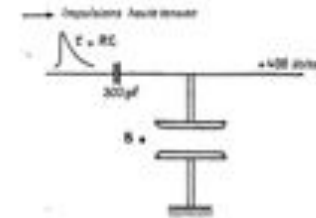


FIG. 1.

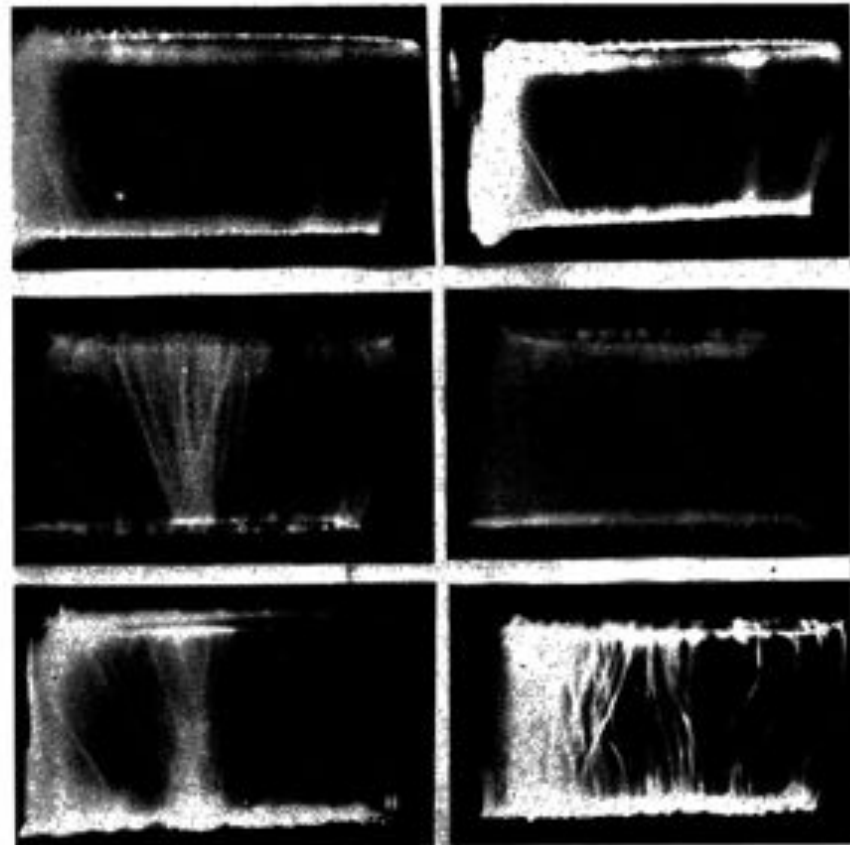


FIG. 2.

1968: MULTI-WIRE PROPORTIONAL CHAMBER (MWPC)

NUCLEAR INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS 62 (1968) 261-268; © NORTH-HOLLAND PUBLISHING CO.

THE USE OF MULTIWIRE PROPORTIONAL COUNTERS TO SELECT AND LOCALIZE CHARGED PARTICLES

G. CHARPAK, R. BOUCLIER, T. BRESSAN, J. FAVIER and C. ZUPANČIĆ

CERN, Geneva, Switzerland

Received 17 February 1968

Properties of chambers made of planes of independent wires placed between two plane electrodes have been investigated. A direct voltage is applied to the wires. It has been checked that such wire works as an independent proportional counter down to separations of 0.1 cm between wires.

Counting rates of 10<sup>7</sup>/wire are easily reached; time resolutions

of the order of 100 nsec have been obtained in some gases; it is possible to measure the position of the tracks between the wire using the time delay of the pulses; energy resolution comparable to the one obtained with the best cylindrical chambers is observed; the chambers operate in strong magnetic fields.

1. Introduction

Proportional counters with electrodes consisting of many parallel wires connected in parallel have been used for some years, for special applications. We have investigated the properties of chambers made up of a plane of independent wires placed between two plane electrodes. Our observations show that such chambers offer properties that can make them more advantageous than wire chambers or scintillation hodoscopes for many applications.

2. Construction

Wires of stainless steel,  $4 \times 10^{-3}$  cm in diameter, are stretched between two planes of stainless-steel mesh, made from wires of  $5 \times 10^{-2}$  cm diameter,  $5 \times 10^{-1}$  cm apart. The distance between the mesh and the wires is 0.75 cm. We studied the properties of chambers with wire separation  $a = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3$  and 1.0 cm. A strip of metal placed at 0.1 cm from the wires, at the same potential (Fig. 1), plays the same role as the guard rings

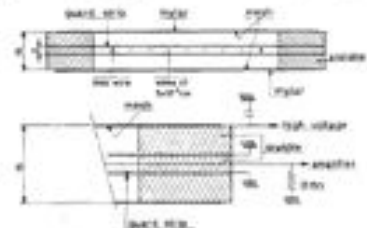


Fig. 1. Some details of the construction of the multiwire chambers.

A copper shield protects the wires at their output from the chamber and contains the solid state amplifiers.

in cylindrical proportional chambers. It protects the wires against breakdowns along the dielectrics. It is

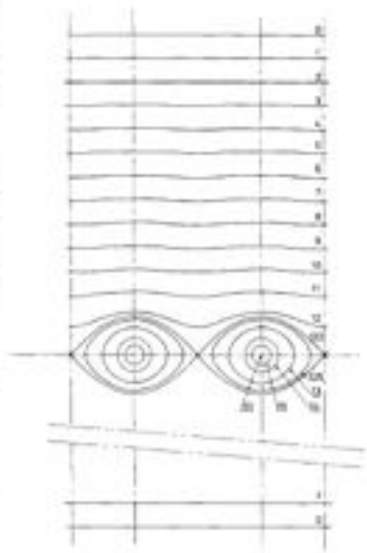
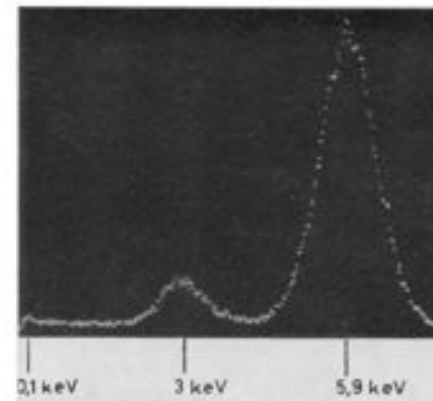


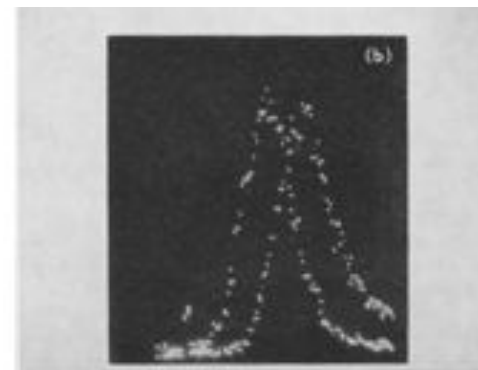
Fig. 2. Equipotentials in a chamber.

Wires of  $4 \times 10^{-3}$  cm diameter, 0.5 cm separation, and 1.5 cm total thickness. 20 V applied between the wires and the external mesh. Results from an analogic method.

ENERGY RESOLUTION ON 5.9 KeV

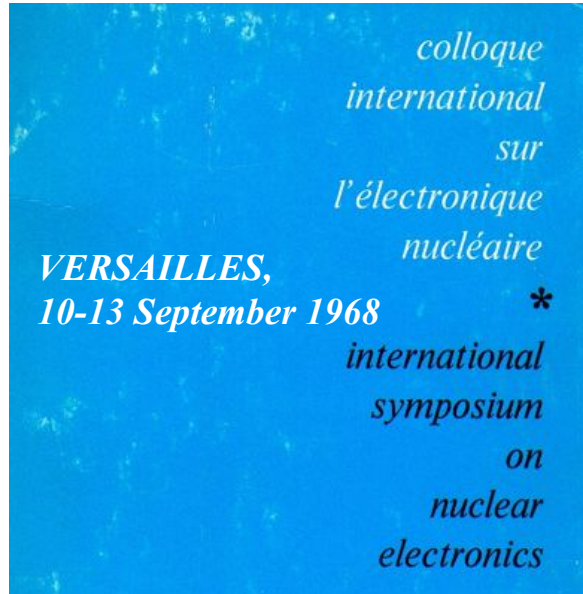


DEPENDENCE OF COLLECTION TIME FROM TRACK DISTANCE



G. Charpak, R. Bouclier, T. Bressan, J. Favier and C. Zupancic: The use of Multiwire Proportional Counters to select and localize Charged Particles, Nuc. Instr. and Meth. 62(1968)262

**FIRST PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF THE MWPC**



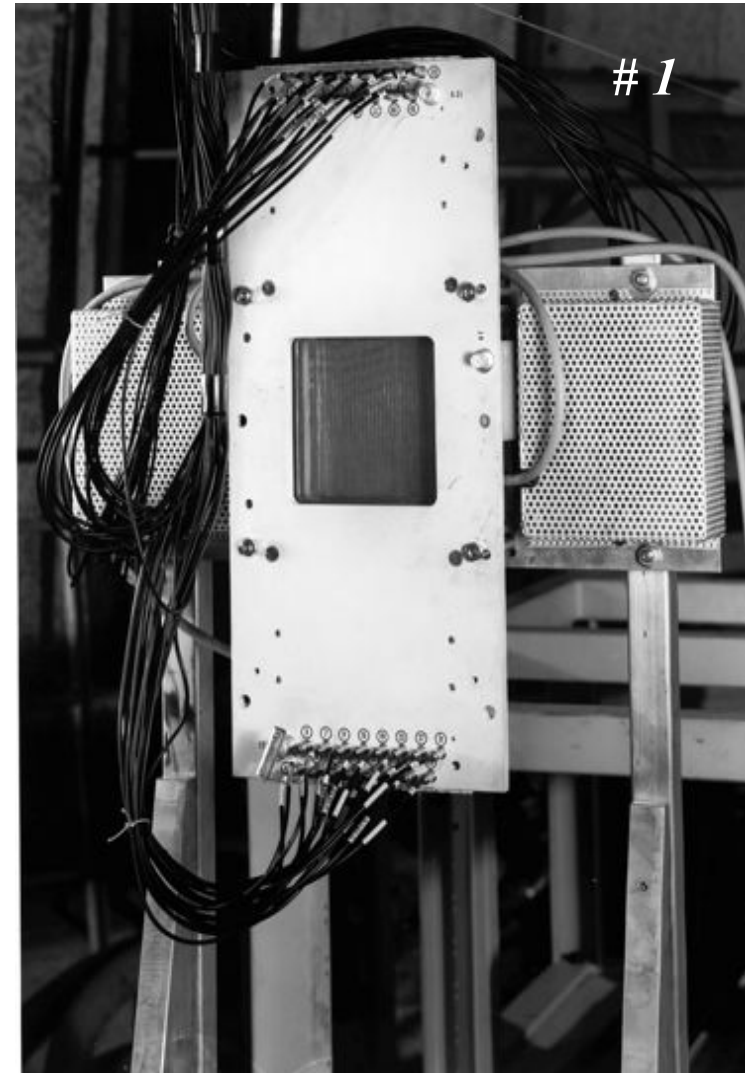
**Chambres à Etincelles**  
Spark chambers

Rapporteur  
Reporter

**M. CHARPAK**  
CERN - GENEVE (Suisse)

Secrétaire  
scientifique  
Scientific  
Secretary

**M. FEUVRAIS**  
Faculté des Sciences - Lyon  
(France)



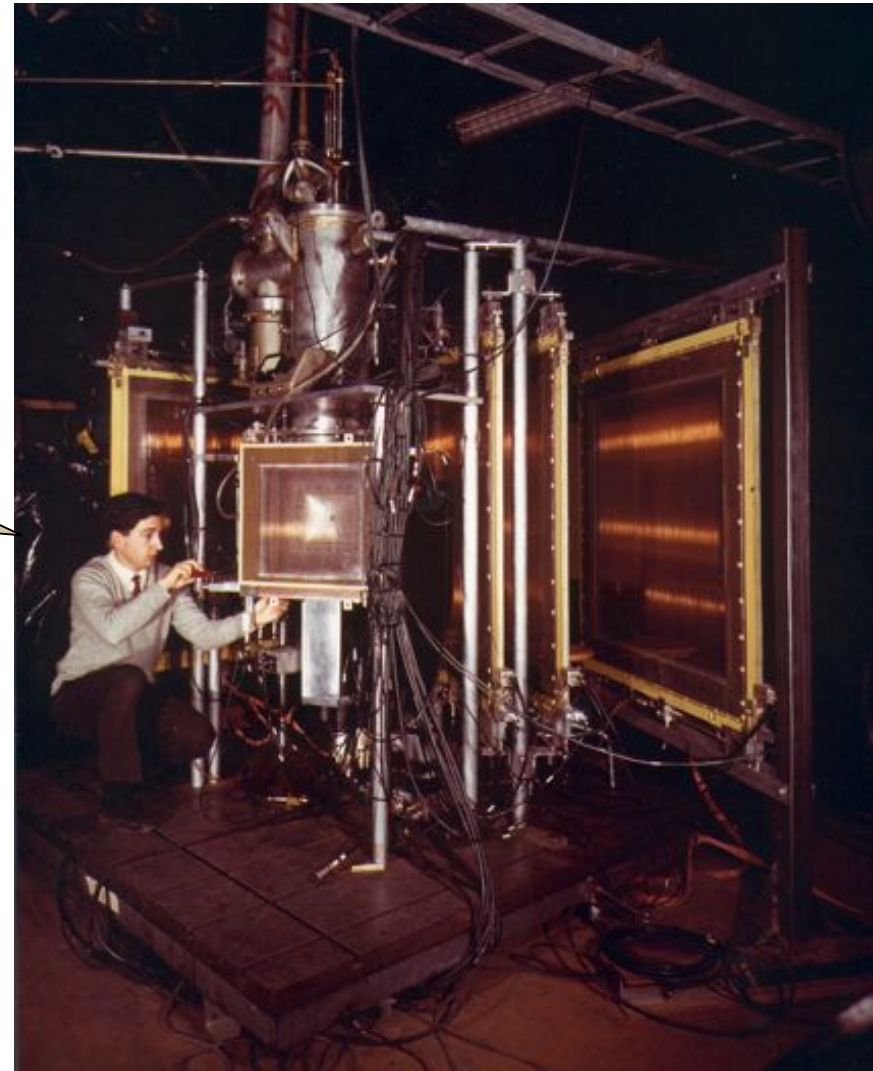
**VERSAILLES 1968: MY FIRST CONGRESS****WIRE SPARK CHAMBERS WITH  
MAGNETOSTRICTIVE READOUT**

USE OF WIRE SPARK CHAMBERS WITH MAGNETOSTRICTIVE READ-OUT  
IN A SCATTERING EXPERIMENT AT THE CERN PROTON SYNCHROTRON

F. Bradamante, S. Conetti, G. Fidecaro,  
M. Fidecaro, M. Giorgi, A. Penzo, L. Piemontese,  
F. Sauli and P. Schiavon  
University of Trieste High-Energy Group and CERN  
(presented by F. Sauli)

**SUMMARY**

The main features of the experimental set-up used in the measurement of the pion-deuteron elastic scattering at large momentum transfer are described; nine wire spark chambers with magnetostrictive read-out have been used to reconstruct the geometry of each event. The recording logic was able to handle a total of 34 coordinates, coming out of the 23 reading lines used. Precision and efficiency of this system are discussed.



***1971: LARGE SIZE MWPC***

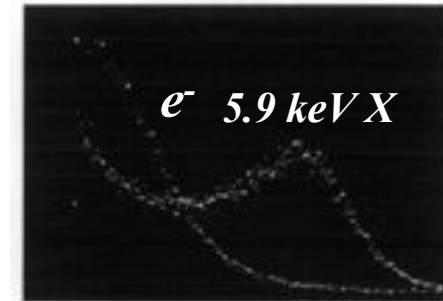


**THE PROBLEM OF FRONT-END ELECTRONICS: SMALL SIGNALS (mV)****SYSTEMATIC GAS FILLING STUDIES**

*R. Bouclier, G. Charpak, Z. Dimcovski, G. Fisher, F. Sauli, G. Coignet and G. Flügge: Investigation of some properties of Multiwire Proportional Chambers, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. 88(1970)149*

**THE MAGIC GAS:**

**ADDITION OF FREON  $CF_3Br$  TO ARGON-ISOBUTANE ALLOWS TO REACH VERY LARGE, SATURATED GAINS**

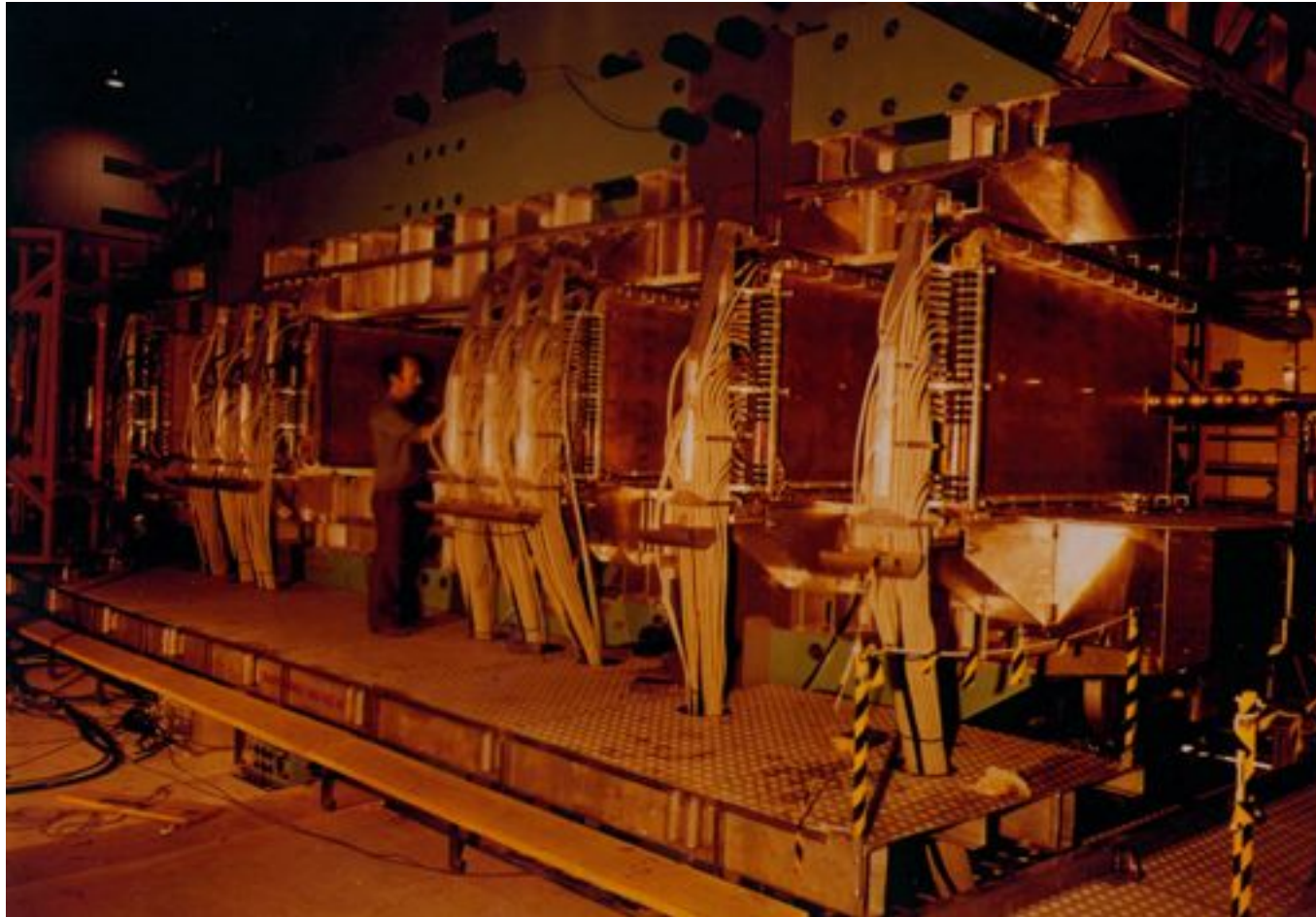


Increasing HV

Fig. 17. Pulse height spectra on a wire by fast electrons and 5.9 keV X-rays. Mixture: argon+isobutane+freon-13 B1 (66/31/0.45). Gap width of chamber 5 mm, wire spacing 2 mm. HV = 4100 V (a), 4300 V (b), 4500 V (c). At 4.5 kV the pulses saturate.



***1972-1983: SPLIT FIELD MAGNET DETECTOR  
40 LARGE AREA MWPCs AT CERN ISR***



***UNFORTUNATE CONSEQUENCES OF LARGE GAINS:  
LOCALIZED DISCHARGES AND AGING***



***FIRST OPTICAL IMAGING PROPORTIONAL CHAMBER?***

**1973: GEORGES WITH A SMALL HIGH ACCURACY DRIFT CHAMBER PROTOTYPE**

The Nobel Prize in Physics 1992

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awards the 1992 Nobel Prize in Physics to **Georges Charpak** for his invention and development of particle detectors, in particular the multiwire proportional chamber.

**Georges Charpak**  
CERN, Geneva, Switzerland

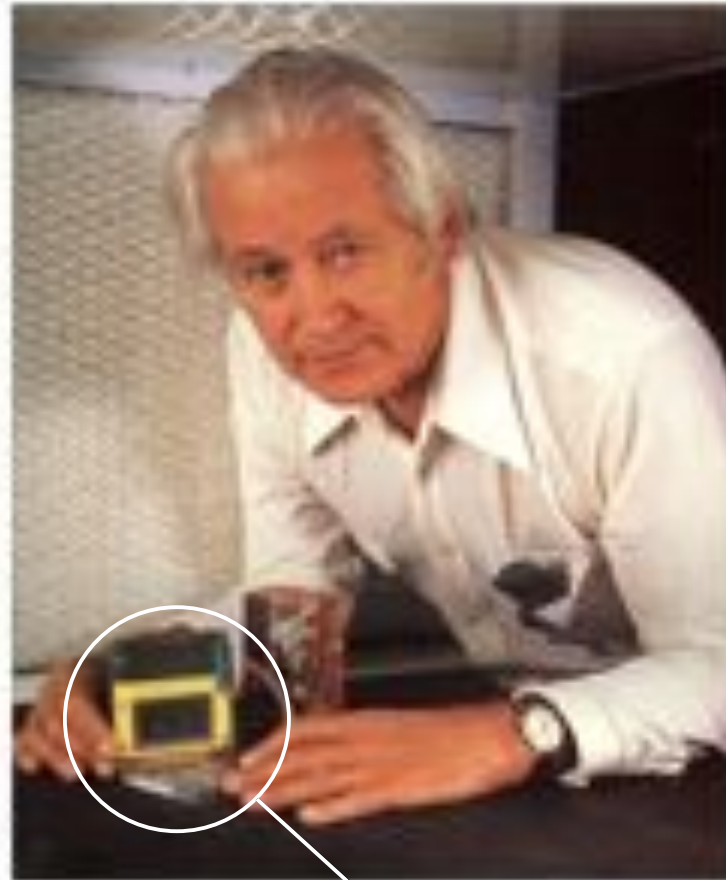
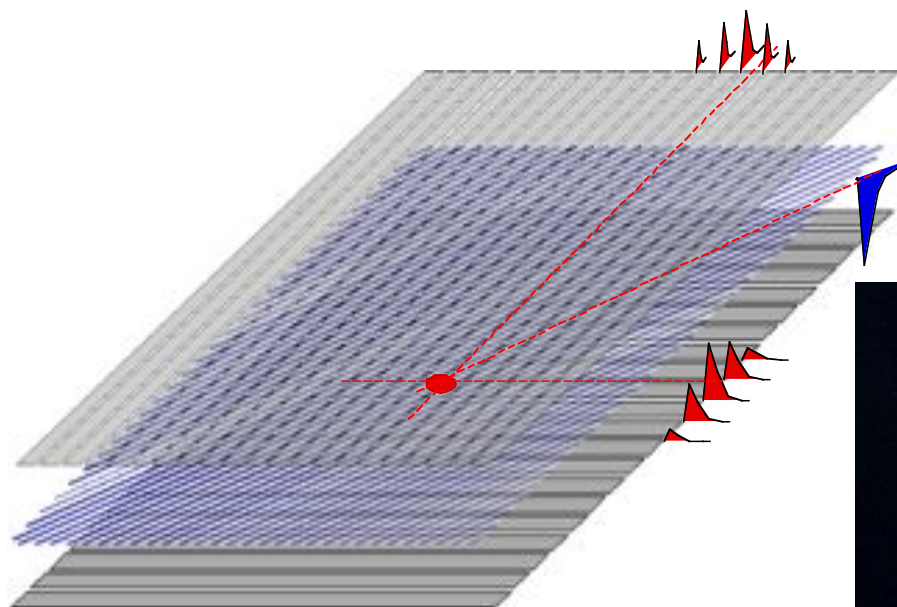


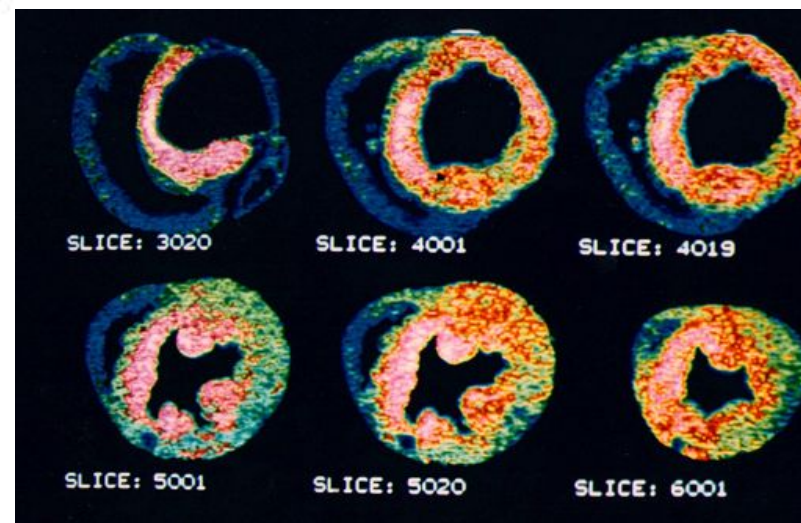
Photo: G. Pedroni, Science Photo Library Ltd.

*Small Prototype High Accuracy DC*

**1973: TWO-DIMENSIONAL MWPC READOUT  
CATHODE INDUCED CHARGE**



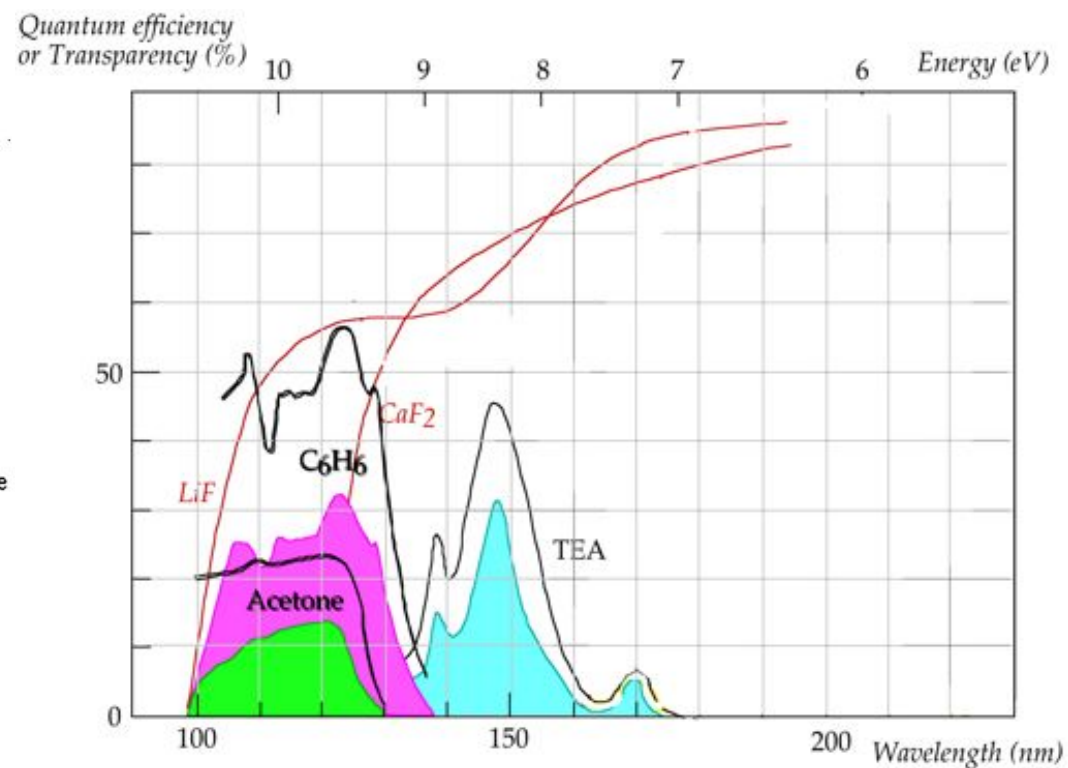
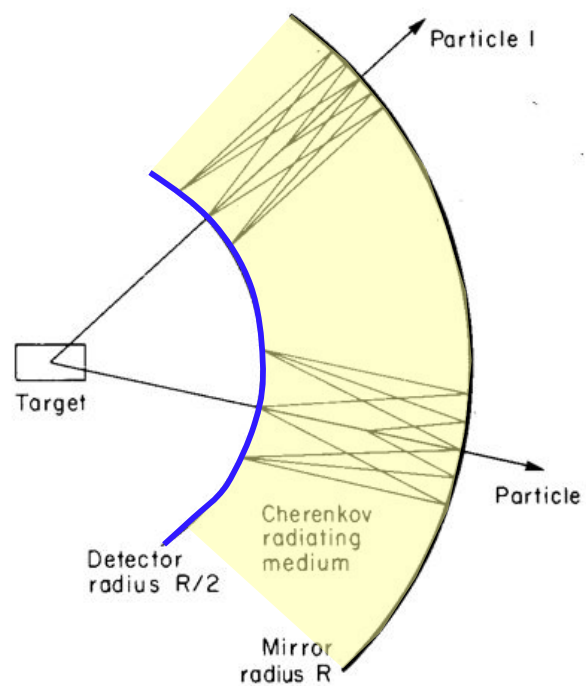
**APPLICATIONS:  
RADIOCHROMATOGRAPHY**



*F. Angelini et al, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A269(1988)430*

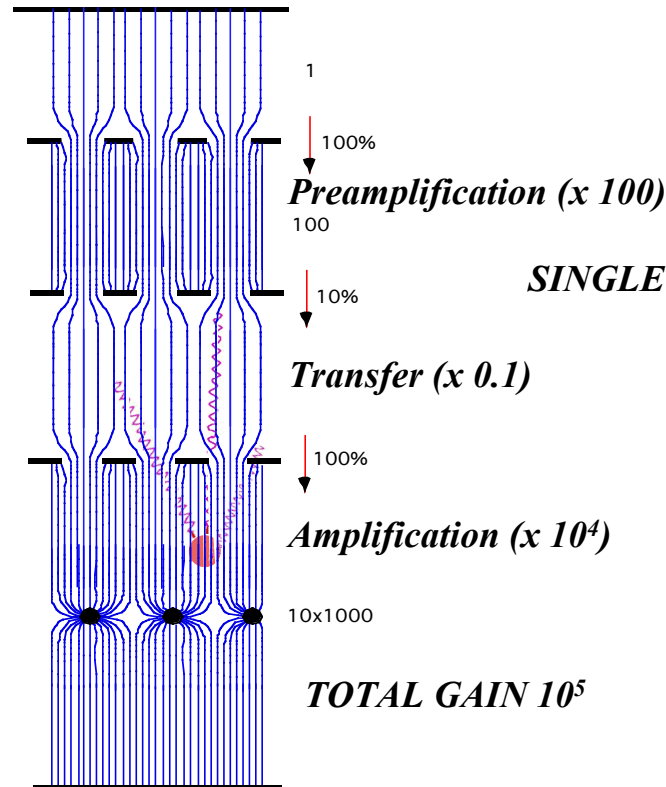
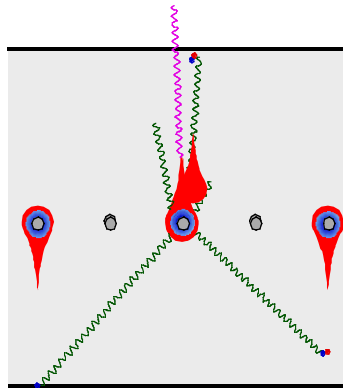
*G. Charpak and F. Sauli,  
High-Accuracy, Two-Dimensional Readout in Multiwire Proportional Chambers  
Nucl. Instr. and Meth. 113(1973)381*

## 1976-77: CHERENKOV RING IMAGING FOR PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION

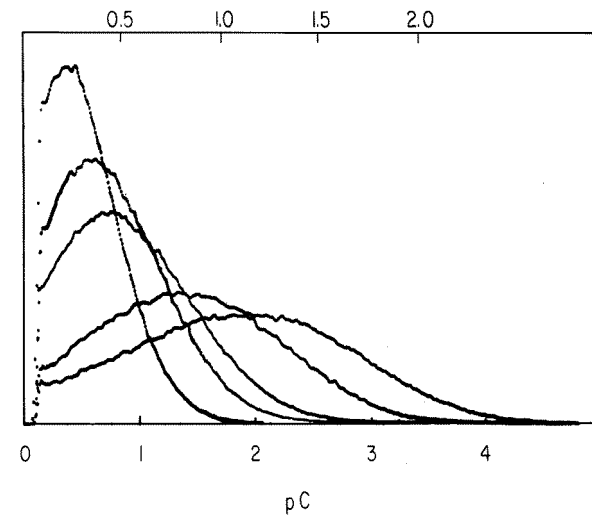


*J. Seguinot and T. Ypsilantis, Photo-ionization and Cherenkov Ring Imaging, Nucl. Instr. and Meth.142 (1977) 377*

**THE PROBLEM OF SINGLE ELECTRON DETECTION IN PHOTSENSITIVE GASES :**



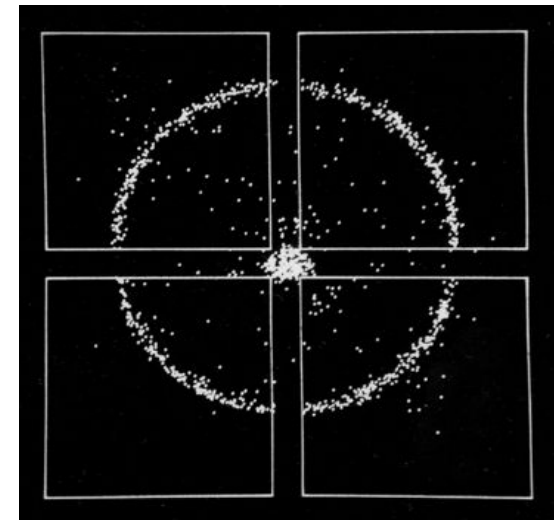
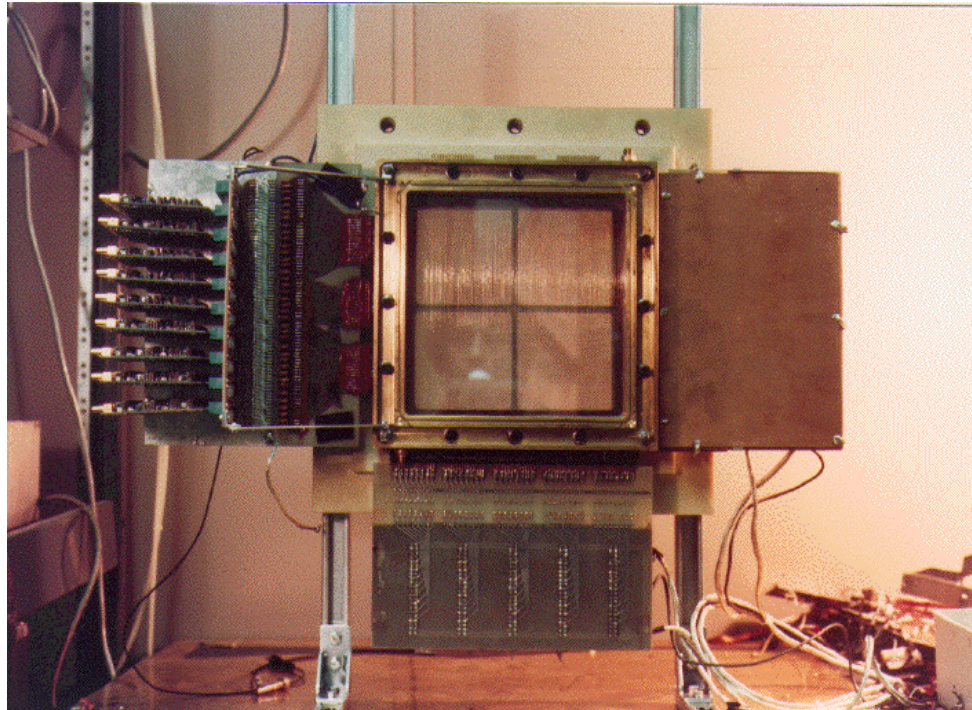
**SINGLE PHOTOELECTRON PH SPECTRA:**



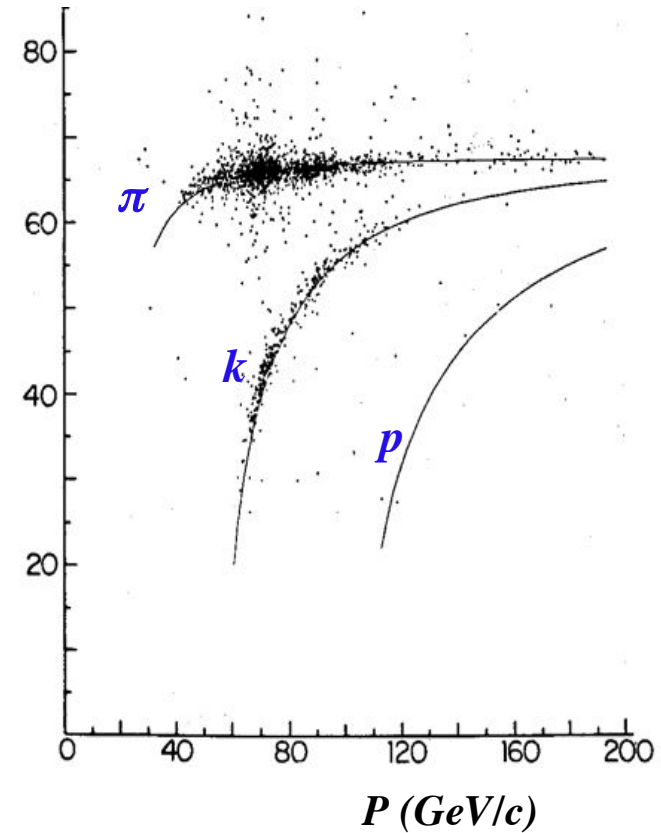
*G. Charpak and F. Sauli,  
 The Multistep Avalanche Chamber: a new high-rate, high-accuracy gaseous detector  
 Phys. Letters 78B(1978)523*

**1979: THE FIRST GAS RICH**

**TRIETHYLAMINE (TEA) PHOTSENSITIVE VAPORS -  $\text{CaF}_2$  WINDOWS - 2D MWPC**

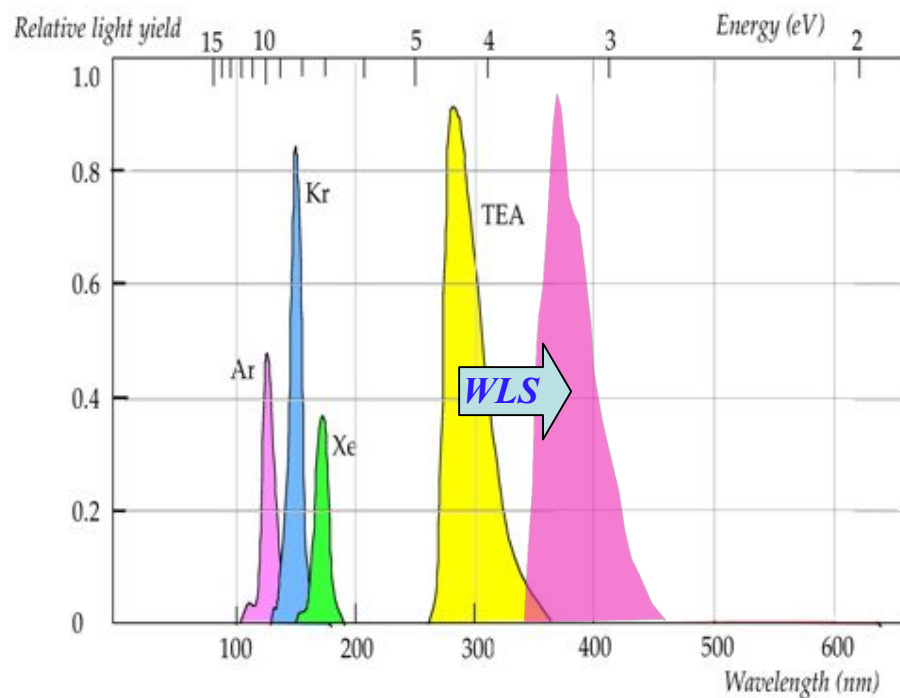
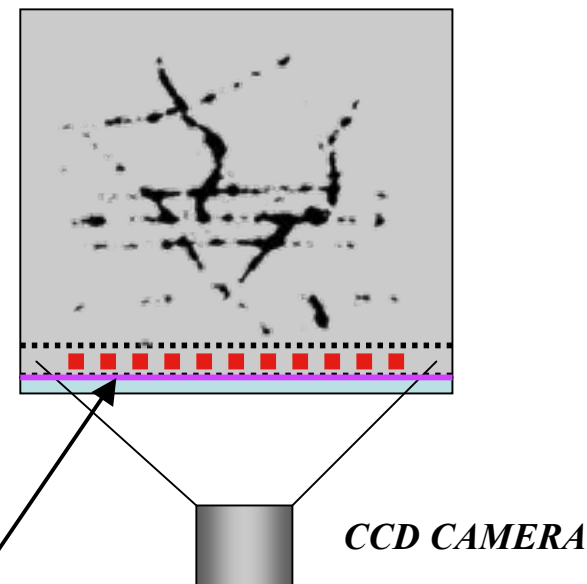


***G. Charpak, S. Majewski, G. Melchart, F. Sauli and T. Ypsilantis: Detection of Far-Ultraviolet Photons with the Multistep Avalanche Chamber, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. 164(1979)419***

**MULTISTEP RICH CHAMBERS FOR E605***CERN-Columbia Univ.-FNAL-KEK- Saclay-SUNY -Washington University***PARTICLE IDENTIFICATION:**

*R. McCarthy, M. Adams, C. Brown, G. Coutrakon, G. Charpak, D. Finley, H. Glass, J.R. Hubbard, D. Jaffe, A. Jonckheere, H. Jöstlein, J. Kirz, Ph. Mangeot, A. Peisert, J.C. Santiard and F. Sauli: Identification of large-transverse-momentum hadrons using a ring-imaging Cherenkov counter, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A248 (1986) 69*



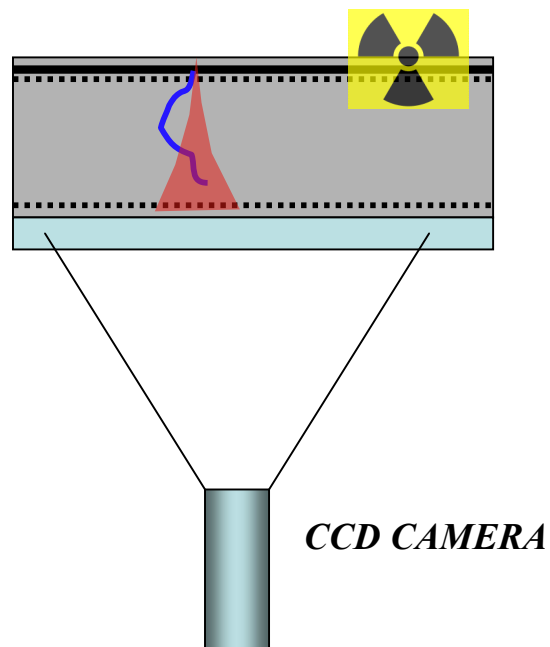
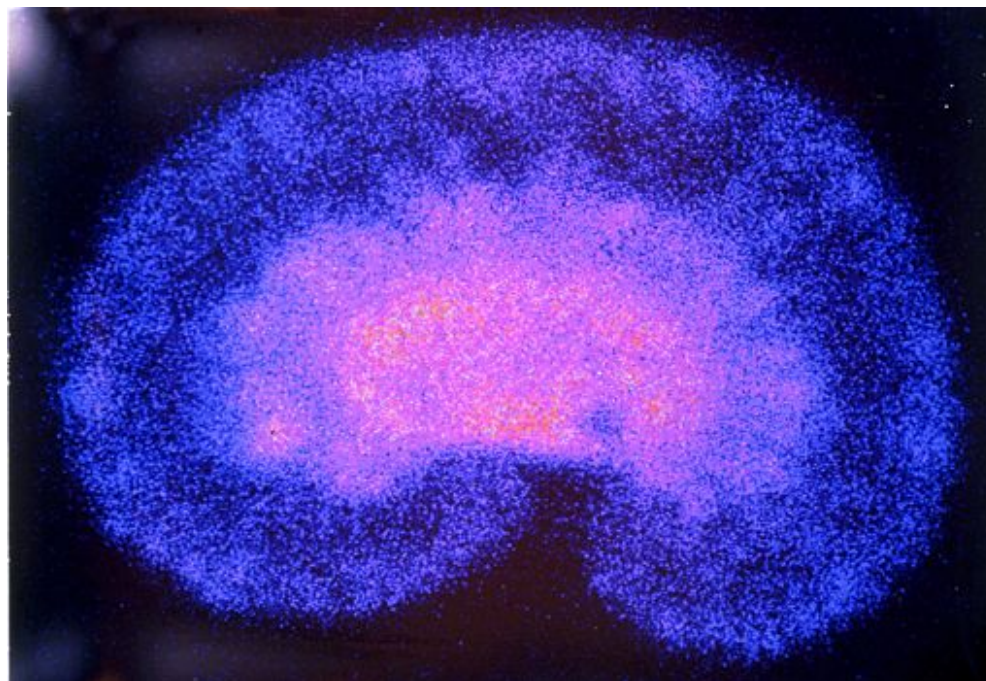
**1987: OPTICAL TRACKS DETECTION: THE IMAGING CHAMBER****EMISSION SPECTRA OF AVALANCHES IN GASES:****MWPC OR AVALANCHE CHAMBER****THIN-FOIL WAVELENGTH SHIFTER:**

*C. Aurouet, H. Blumenfeld, M. Bourdinaud, V. Jeanney, C. Lafond and C. Perrin: Recent developments in Wavelegh Shifters, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. 211(1983)309*

***COSMIC ACTIVITY RECORDED WITH THE OPTICAL AVALANCHE CHAMBER:***



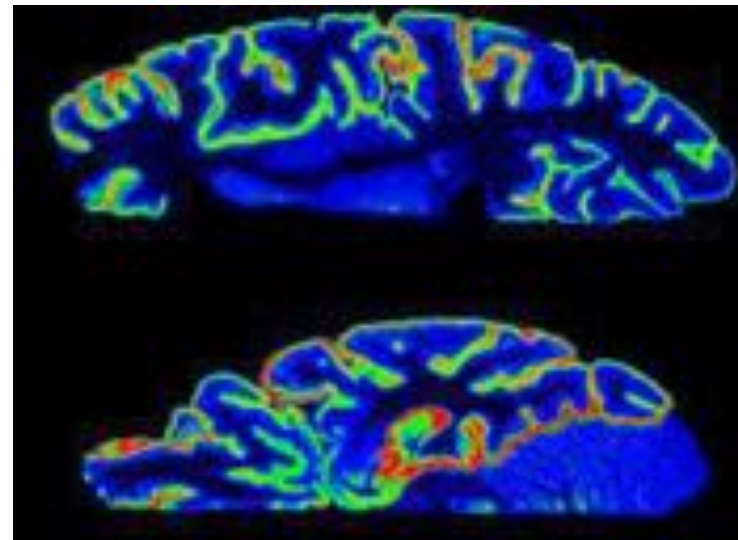
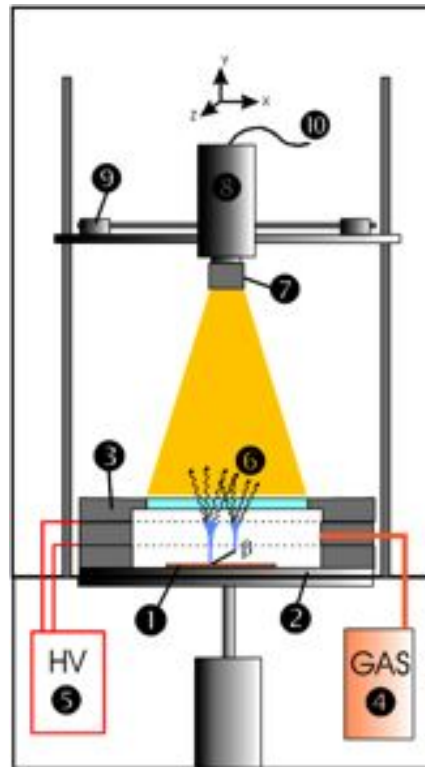
*G. Charpak, J.P. Fabre, F. Sauli, M. Suzuki and W. Dominik: An optical, proportional, continuously operating avalanche chamber, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A258(1987) 177*

**1989: RADIOCHROMATOGRAPHY WITH THE OPTICAL IMAGING CHAMBER****AVALANCHE CHAMBER****TRITIUM-LABELED RAT KIDNEY SLICE:**

*W. Dominik, N. Zaganidis, P. Astier, G. Charpak, J.C. Santiard, F. Sauli, E. Tribollet, A. Geissbüchler and D. Townsend, A gaseous detector for high-accuracy autoradiography of radioactive compounds with optical readout of avalanche positions, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A278(1989)779*

**BIOSPACE**

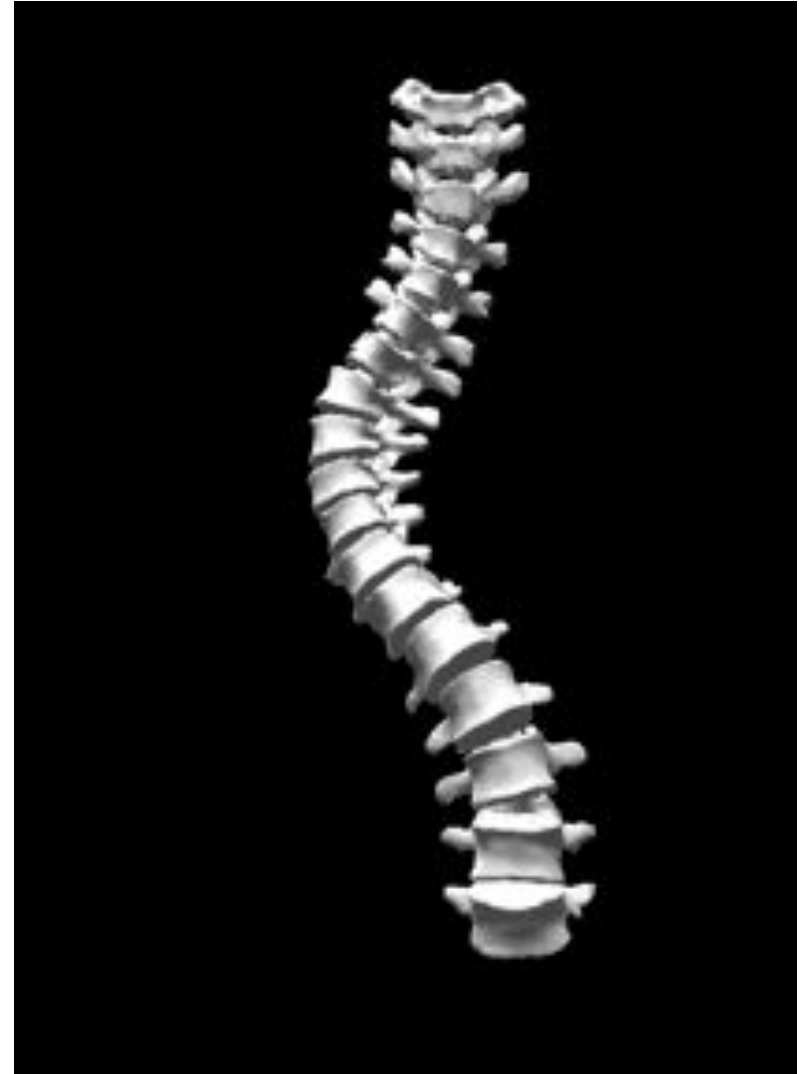
**COMMERCIAL AUTORADIOGRAPHY SYSTEMS WITH GASEOUS DETECTORS**

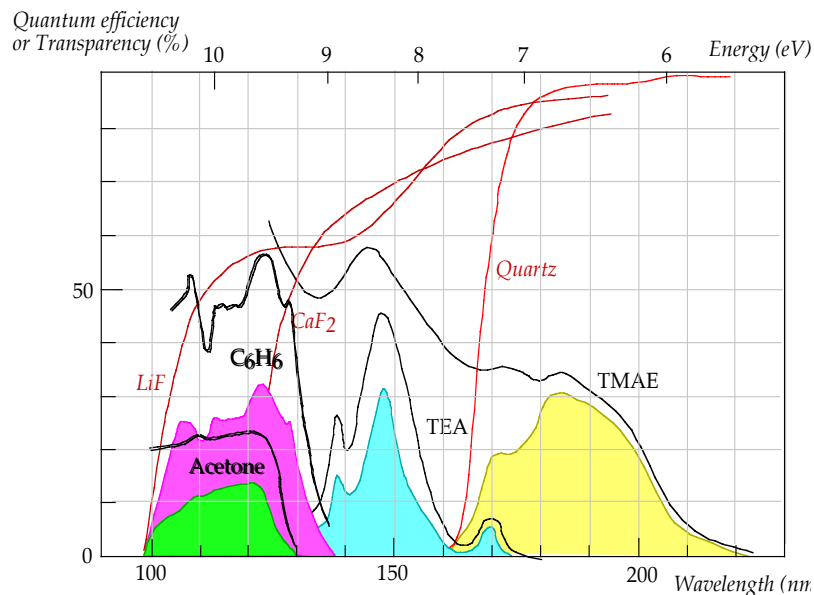
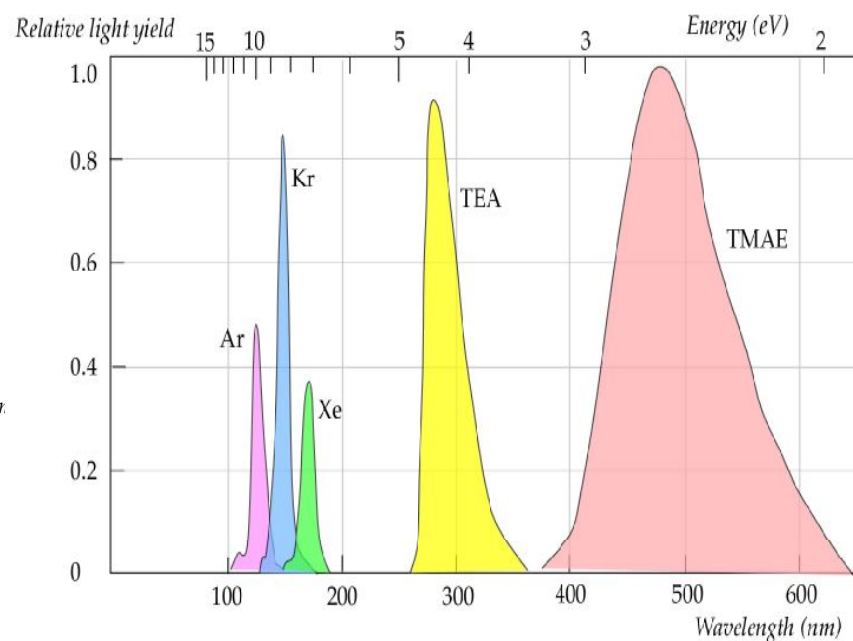


<http://www.biospacelab.com>

***BIOSPACE: COMPANY FOUNDED IN 1989 BY CHARPAK***

*~ 2000: LOW-DOSE 3D IMAGING*



**1980: TMAE - ULTRALOW PHOTOIONIZATION THRESHOLD VAPOR****(David Anderson)****PHOTON EMISSION OF TMAE: VISIBLE WL!**

**D.F. Anderson, R. Bouclier, G. Charpak, and S. Majewski**

**Coupling of a BF<sub>2</sub> scintillator to a TMAE photocathode and a low-pressure wire chamber, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. 217(1983) 217**

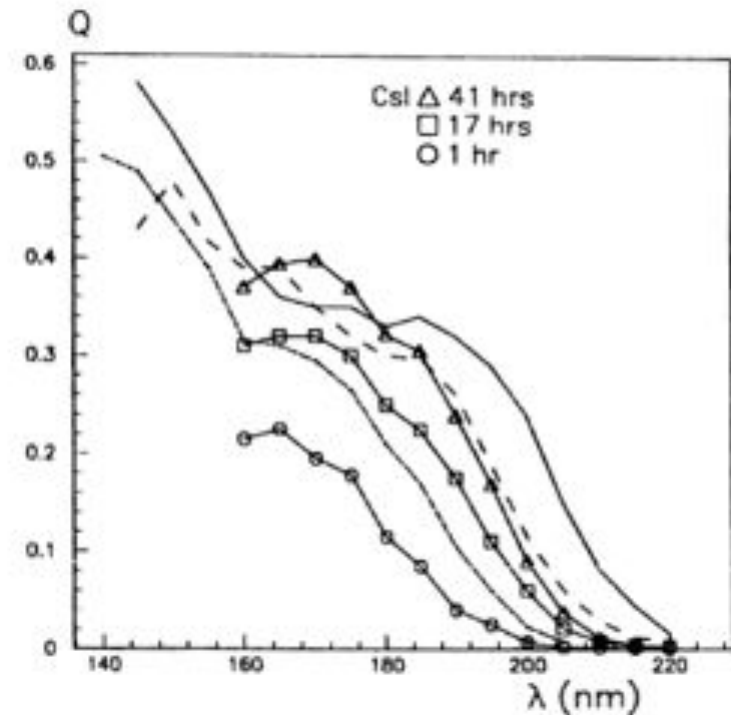
**CHARPAKTRON: A CONTINUOUSLY OPERATING IMAGING CHAMBER (CERN MICROCOSM EXHIBIT)**

**1990 - CONDENSED AND SOLID PHOTOCATHODES****SYSTEMATIC STUDY OF PHOTSENSITIVE THIN LAYERS:**

- **ADSORBED AND CONDENSED TMAE**
- **ETHYL FERROCENE**
- **CAESIUM IODIDE**

**CsI QUANTUM EFFICIENCY:**

- **BaF<sub>2</sub> CALORIMETRY**
- **FAST RICH**



*J. Séguinot, G. Charpak, Y. Giomataris, V. Peskov, J. Tischhauser and T. Ypsilantis:  
 Reflective UV photocathodes with gas-phase electron extraction: solid, liquid and adsorbed thin films,  
 Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A297(1990)133*

***GAS DETECTORS DEVELOPMENT GROUP (~1983)***





