

## Geometrical and kinematical Reconstruction of a Zero Prong Event in a Bubble Chamber\*

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This paper introduces a simplified routine for the geometrical reconstruction and the kinematical calculations of an individual track produced in a bubble chamber, to be used in small computers. It was applied to the neutral reactions  $n$ -D, as described in another paper to appear shortly. It can be applied also to events with several tracks if the constraint equations associated to the energy and momentum conservation are introduced. Since this routine is to be applied to zero prong events, one has to be careful with the energy calculation of the particle. The events with an error in the energy larger than a certain value, must be remeasured and reanalyzed, with the error limit depending on the particular reaction being studied.

Introduz-se uma rotina simplificada para a reconstrução geométrica e os cálculos cinemáticos de um traço individual produzido em uma câmara de bolhas, para ser usada em computadores de pequeno porte. Ela foi aplicada as reações neutras  $n$ -D, como descrito em outro artigo a aparecer brevemente. Pode também ser aplicado a eventos com muitos traços se forem introduzidas as equações de vínculo associadas à conservação de energia e quantidade de movimento. Como a rotina é para ser aplicada a eventos com um só traço, deve-se ter cuidado com o cálculo da energia da partícula. Eventos com um erro na energia maior que um certo valor devem ser remedidos e reanalisados, com o erro limite dependendo da reação particular que esteja sendo estudada.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

For definiteness, we consider a cylindrical bubble chamber with glasses in the bases. Its positioning relative to the photographic system lenses is shown in Fig. 1.

In this figure,  $AA'$  is the bubble chamber axis and  $B$  and  $B'$  the parallel glass surfaces. Light from a flash in  $A$  is focused in  $A'$ .

The reference for the coordinate system is made through several fiducial marks graved in the internal surfaces  $B$  and  $B'$ . Three of these marks,  $F_A$ ,  $F_B$  and  $F_C$  are situated in the vertices of an equilateral triangle in  $B'$ . The lenses from three photographic cameras are placed in the vertices  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$  and  $C_3$  of another equilateral triangle parallel to the glass. This system is then aligned in such a way that the centers of the two triangles lie on the line  $AA'$  and the direction  $C_1C_2$  is parallel to  $F_A F_B$ .

## 2. MEASUREMENTS

To measure one event we project on a measuring table one of the views of that event. After the plane coordinate measurements are completed, we project another view of the same event, taken by another camera, and so on.

Although one generally disposes of three or more different photographs for each event, two only are sufficient for the spatial reconstruction, the others being used in more complicated events. In this paper only two views are considered, those we called I and II taken by cameras  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ , respectively.

The measurements in each view are made over the fiducial marks  $F_A$  and  $F_B$ , in this order, and over four points along the track, starting from the interaction point (vertex) and dividing the track in three approximated equal intervals.

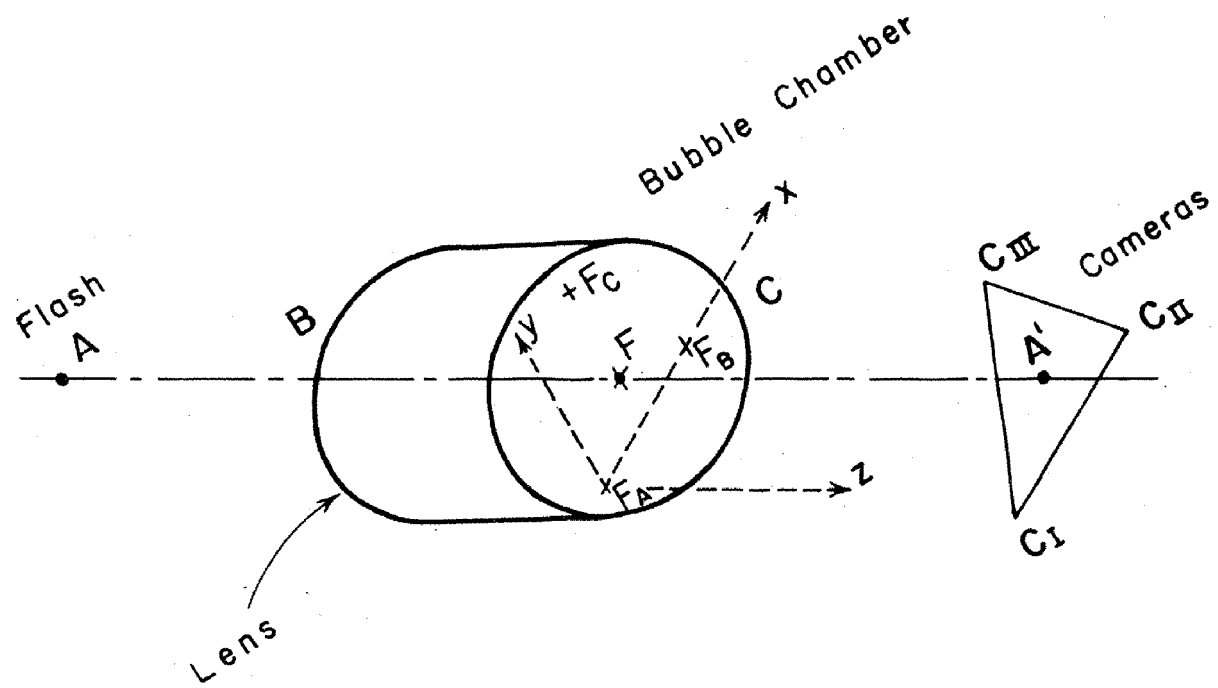


Fig. 1

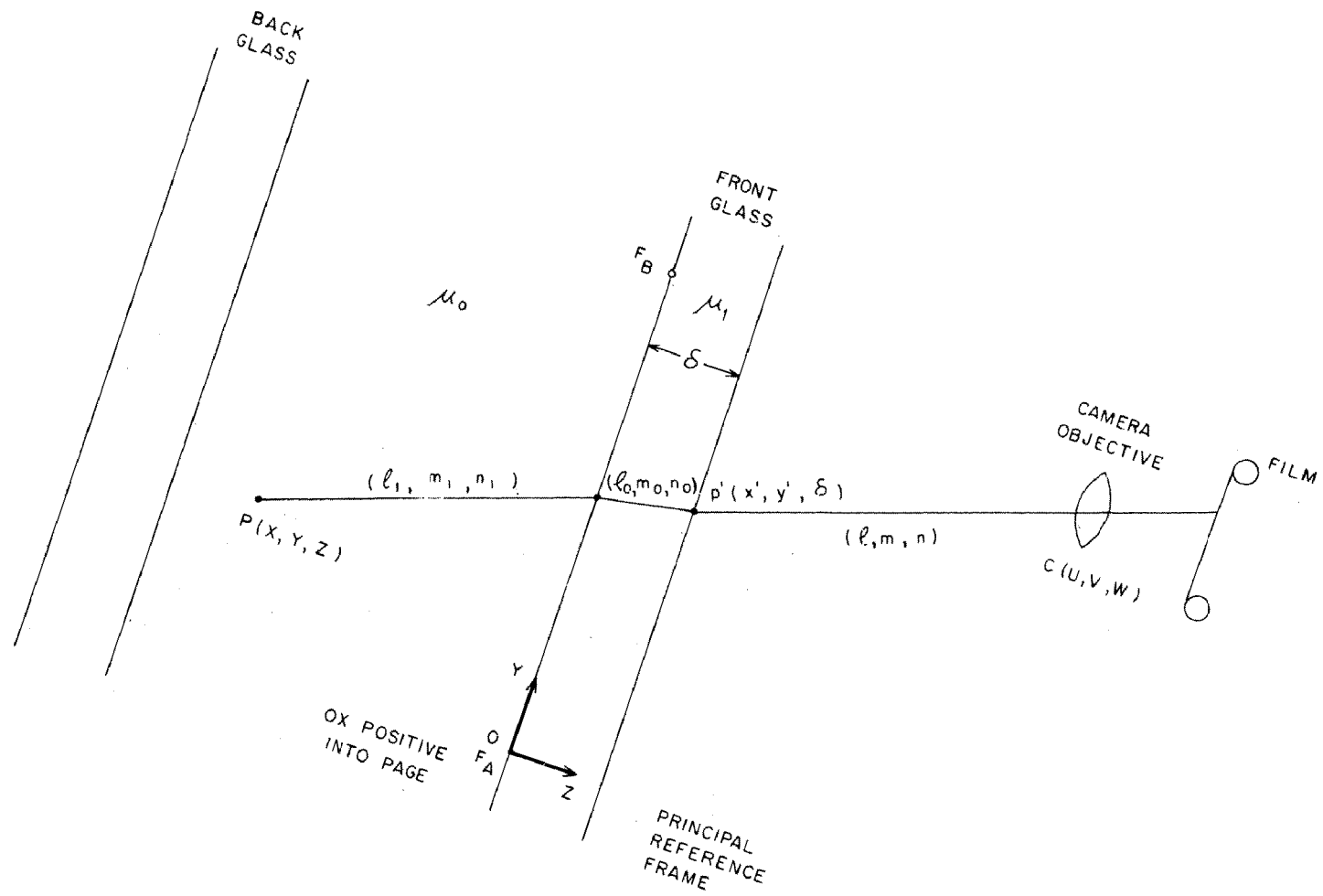


Fig. 2

The measurement over each point gives the X and Y coordinates of that point relative to the measuring table coordinate system.

### 3. REFERENCE FRAMES

Three reference systems are used in the analysis. *The principal three dimensional reference frame* (OXYZ) is defined such that its origin coincides with the fiducial mark  $F_A$ , the X and Y axes being parallel and perpendicular to the direction  $F_A F_B$ , respectively, and the positive Z-direction points from  $F_A$  to the cameras. *The fiducial two dimensional reference frame* is defined for each view projected on the measuring table, in such a way that its origin coincides with the fiducial mark image  $F_A$ , the X and Y-directions being parallel and perpendicular to the projection on the table of the line  $F_A F_B$ , respectively. *The measuring table two-dimensional reference frame* is the one fixed on the measuring table, whose coordinates are given by the two encoders.

### 4. RECONSTRUCTION EQUATIONS

Fig. 2 shows the principal frame OXYZ, the two fiducial marks  $F_A$  and  $F_B$  and the position of one photographic camera relative to the bubble chamber. The camera lens optical nodal point is at  $C(U, V, W)$  and the optical axis is parallel to Z.  $\mu_0$ ,  $\mu_1$  and 1 are the refractive indices of the liquid inside the bubble chamber, the frontal glass and the air between the frontal glass and the camera, respectively.  $\delta$  is the frontal glass thickness<sup>1,2</sup>.

The reconstruction line shown in Fig. 2 connecting the point  $P(X, Y, Z)$  inside the bubble chamber and the film, represents a light ray path crossing the external glass surface at the point  $P'(X', Y', \delta)$ . The relations among the coordinates of a point  $P(XYZ)$  inside the bubble chamber and its image  $P'(X', Y', \delta)$  in the plane  $Z=\delta$  are

(1.a)

$$Y' = \frac{m_1}{n_1} \delta + Y - \frac{m_0}{n_0} Z \quad , \quad (1.b)$$

where  $(l_1, m_1, n_1)$  and  $(l_0, m_0, n_0)$  are the direction cosines of the light ray inside the bubble chamber and inside the frontal glass, respectively.

Calling  $(l, m, n)$  the direction cosine of the line  $P'C$ , the above relations can be written as

$$X' = X - (U-X') \frac{Z}{v_0} + (U-X') \frac{6}{v_1} \quad , \quad (2.a)$$

$$Y' = Y - (V-Y') \frac{Z}{v_0} + (V-Y') \frac{\delta}{v_1} \quad , \quad (2.b)$$

where

$$v_0 = \{(\mu_0^2 - 1) [(U-X')^2 + (V-Y')^2] + \mu_0^2 (W-\delta)^2\}^{1/2} \quad , \quad (3.a)$$

$$v_1 = \{(\mu_1^2 - 1) [(U-X')^2 + (V-Y')^2] + \mu_1^2 (W-\delta)^2\}^{1/2} \quad . \quad (3.b)$$

The plane coordinates furnished by the measuring table of the points  $P_{ij}$  ( $i=1,2,3,4$  is the point measured on the track and  $j=1,2$  is the view) are transformed to the fiducial reference frame, after which we take care of the magnification factors. Due to refraction in the frontal glass, we have to transform all the coordinates to the principal frame, as required by equations 2a. and 2b. For this purpose, we must determine the positions of the fiducial mark images on the plane  $Z = 6$ .

Let us call  $(F_i, G_i, 0)$  the coordinates of the  $i^{th}$  fiducial mark relative to the principal frame and  $(\alpha_{ij}, \beta_{ij}, \delta)$  the coordinates of the intersection with the plane  $Z=\delta$  of the light ray that goes from that fiducial mark to the camera  $j$ . Omitting for simplicity the indices, equations 2.a and 2.b give

$$\alpha = F + (U - \alpha) \frac{\delta}{v_1} , \quad (4.a)$$

$$\beta = G + (V - \beta) \frac{\delta}{v_1} . \quad (4.b)$$

The parameter  $v_1$ , given by equation (3.b) is a function of  $a$  and  $B$  and so the system of equations (4) must be solved by iteration. Knowing  $(\alpha, \beta)$  for each view, we can transform the coordinates of the points measured on the track from the fiducial frame to the principal frame of reference.

## 5. CORRESPONDENT POINTS

The system of equations (2) can be applied only to coordinates in the two views that correspond to the same point inside the bubble chamber. This condition, however, is in principle satisfied by the fiducial marks and the vertex only. In consequence, one must find over one of the projections of the track the other three points correspondent to the three points measured in the other view. This determination is not so complicated because each point in the bubble chamber has the same  $Y$  coordinate in the two views. This results from the choice of the fiducial system, whose  $X$ -axis is parallel to the line  $C_1C_{11}$ . Using the interpolation method called spline we fit a curve connecting the four points of the largest image of the track. Over this curve, we determine the three correspondent points measured on the shortest image of the track. According to the spline method, the curve is described by a set of different third degree polynomials, each one describing the curve between two known points. The polynomials are adjusted by imposing that the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> derivatives must be continuous at each point. Performing two integrations, one determines the polynomial for each interval. The two integration constants are obtained by using the condition that the polynomial passes by the two known points<sup>3,4</sup>.

The interpolation in the set of values  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_m, Y_m)$  consists in

determining  $Y$  between the values  $Y_{k+1}$  and  $Y_k$  and then in calculating  $X$  by the formula

$$X = C_{1,k}(Y_{k+1} - 1) + C_{2,k}(Y - Y_k) + C_{3,k}(Y_{k+1} - Y) + C_{4,k}(Y - Y_k),$$

where the constants  $C_{i,k}$  are previously calculated and given by

$$C_{1,k} = \frac{D_k}{6d_k}, \quad C_{2,k} = \frac{D_{k+1}}{6d_k},$$

$$C_{3,k} = \frac{X_k}{d_k} - \frac{D_k d_k}{6}, \quad C_{4,k} = \frac{X_{k+1}}{d_k} - \frac{D_{k+1} d_k}{6},$$

with  $d_k = X_{k+1} - X_k$ ,

where  $D_k$  and  $D_{k+1}$  are the values of the second derivatives of the curve at the points  $(X_k, Y_k)$  and  $(X_{k+1}, Y_{k+1})$ , respectively.

## 6. SOLUTION FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION SYSTEM OF EQUATIONS

Once the correspondent points are determined these values can be used to obtain two pairs of equations (2), one for each view. The system is over determined since the values of  $Y'$  are the same.

Each pair of equations (1) define one straight line inside the bubble chamber. These two straight lines intercept a certain plane  $Z = \text{constant}$  inside the chamber at two points. By calculating and minimizing the distance  $d_i$  between these two points we get the best solution for the system. We then define a  $\chi_i^2$  through

$$\chi_i^2 = \sum_j d_{ij}^2 = \sum_j \left[ (X_i - X'_{ij} - G'_{ij} Z_i - A'_{ij})^2 + (Y_i - Y'_{ij} - G'_{ij} Z_i - A'_{ij})^2 \right],$$



where

$$G_{ij} = \frac{U_j - X'_{ij}}{(v_0)_{ij}} \quad , \quad A_{ij} = \frac{(U_j - X'_{ij})\delta}{(v_1)_{ij}}$$

$$G'_{ij} = \frac{V_j - Y'_{ij}}{(v_0)_{ij}} \quad , \quad A'_{ij} = \frac{(V_j - Y'_{ij})\delta}{(v_1)_{ij}}$$

We now write  $\partial\chi_i/\partial X_i = \partial\chi_i/\partial Y_i = \partial\chi_i/\partial Z_i = 0$  to get the best solution, which is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & -\sum_j G_{ij} \\ 0 & 2 & -\sum_j G'_{ij} \\ -\sum_j G_{ij} & -\sum_j G'_{ij} & \sum_j (G_{ij} + G'_{ij}) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X_i \\ Y_i \\ Z_i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sum_j (X''_{ij} + A_{ij}) \\ \sum_j (Y''_{ij} + A'_{ij}) \\ \sum_j (X''_{ij} + A_{ij})G_{ij} + \sum_j (Y''_{ij} + A'_{ij})G'_{ij} \end{pmatrix}$$

These equations give the values  $X_i, Y_i$  and  $Z_i$  we are looking for. Replacing these values in equation (5) we also determine  $\chi^2$  (not normalized) for each reconstructed point.

## 7. KINEMATICAL QUANTITIES

A particle with a kinetic energy  $T$  in the presence of a magnetic field  $B$  has a curvature whose radius is given by

$$r = \frac{P \cos \alpha}{0.3 B} \quad ,$$

where  $P$  is the momentum given by  $P = [T(T+2m)]^{1/2}$  in the system where  $c=1$ , and  $\alpha$  is the angle between the direction of motion and a plane normal to the magnetic field. This expression has to be corrected, however, to take care of the energy loss of the particle along its motion

in the liquid inside the bubble chamber. For this correction we adjust the known published curves for the energy of the particle,  $-(1/\rho)(dT/ds)$ , versus  $T$  in the medium under consideration, where  $s$  is the track length and  $\rho$  the density of the medium, with an equation of the form  $dT/ds = -K\rho T^{-n}$ , for instance, in an energy interval containing the interaction energy of the reaction being studied<sup>5</sup>. By the least square method we determine the constants  $K$  and  $n$ . Integrating the equation we get

$$T = \left[ \frac{T_s^{n+1}}{s} - (n+1)K\rho s \right]^{1/(n+1)}, \quad (7)$$

where  $T_s$  is the particle kinetic energy at a distance  $s$  from the interaction point.

Simulation in a computer of the curve correspondent to a  $\pi^-$  meson with a kinetic energy interval from 150 to 280 MeV has shown that the radius of the best circle adjusted to the projection of the four measured points on a plane perpendicular to the magnetic field, was the curvature radius of the track at its medium point. Once this radius is known, it is possible to calculate the component  $P_{XY}$  of the momentum parallel to the (XY) plane at that point,

The angle  $\alpha$  can approximately be given by

$$\alpha = \tan^{-1} \frac{Z_1 - Z_4}{L},$$

where  $L$  is the path length in the (X,Y) plane and  $Z_1$  and  $Z_4$  are the  $Z$  coordinates of the vertex and initial point ( $i=4$ ), respectively. Knowing  $\alpha$ , the transversal momentum is given by  $P_Z = P_{XY} \tan \alpha$ .  $\alpha$ , as given above, is not entirely correct, since there is a loss of energy associated to the component of the momentum in the direction of the magnetic field. This loss was not taken into consideration here because the length of the track in this direction is generally a very small fraction of the total length. The correspondent error is, however, taken into consideration later on.

## 8. ERRORS

The calculation of the error propagation in the energy takes into consideration (a) the errors in the adjustment by a circle of the curve passing through the four points projected in a  $Z = \text{constant}$  plane, (b) the applied magnetic field indetermination, (c) the error in the adjustment of the straight lines connecting adjacent projected points in the  $Z = \text{constant}$  plane, which gives an error in the track inclination angle  $\alpha$ .

As a consequence of these errors, it results an indetermination in the particle momentum at the middle of the path, given by

$$\Delta P = \Delta P_{XY} + \frac{ZP_{XY}}{s^2} (\Delta Z + Z\Delta s) ,$$

where the error  $\Delta P_{XY}$  of the component of the momentum normal to the magnetic field  $\vec{B}$  is given by

$$\Delta P_{XY} = 0.3 BR \left( \frac{\Delta B}{B} + \frac{\Delta R}{R} \right) ,$$

where  $R$  is the radius of the circle projected in the plane normal to  $\vec{B}$ ,  $s$  is the track length projected in this plane and  $Z$  is the  $Z$ -coordinate of the spatial points.

The kinetic energy error in the middle of the track is finally given by

$$\Delta T = \frac{\Delta P}{\left[ 1 + \frac{m^2}{P^2} \right]^{1/2}}$$

When  $\Delta T/T$  is larger than a certain previously chosen value, the track must be remeasured.

## 9. CONCLUSION

It was possible to use a simplified routine for the geometrical reconstruction of an individual track produced in a bubble chamber, without introducing appreciable error in the calculation of the energy of the particle. The routine can be applied to several values of energy and magnetic field, if the particle energy loss is described by an equation adjusted for the appropriate energy interval.

The calculations were simplified by the introduction of the "spline" interpolation method to calculate the correspondent points between the tracks viewed by different cameras, which allows the use of small computers for the calculations without loss of precision. This kind of analysis can be applied to an event with several tracks if the constraint equations associated to the energy and momentum conservation are taken into account. Also some trivial modifications should be done for long tracks or for particle energy losses larger than those considered here; in particular, more points should be measured along the tracks.

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