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Closing Lecture: 78 years of semiconductor nuclear detectors, and more to come

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The explanation of the photo-electric effect in 1905 literally shed light on the structure of matter. Nevertheless, it still took 38 more years before the first practical solid semiconducting devices exploited this understanding for detection of ionizing nuclear particles. From then on, a succession of innovations has led to widespread use of semiconductor nuclear detectors in physics, space exploration, materials analysis and medical imaging. The silicon-based micro-(now) nano-electronics technology continues to enable much of these semiconductor sensor developments.

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