



# The cyclotron and its applications

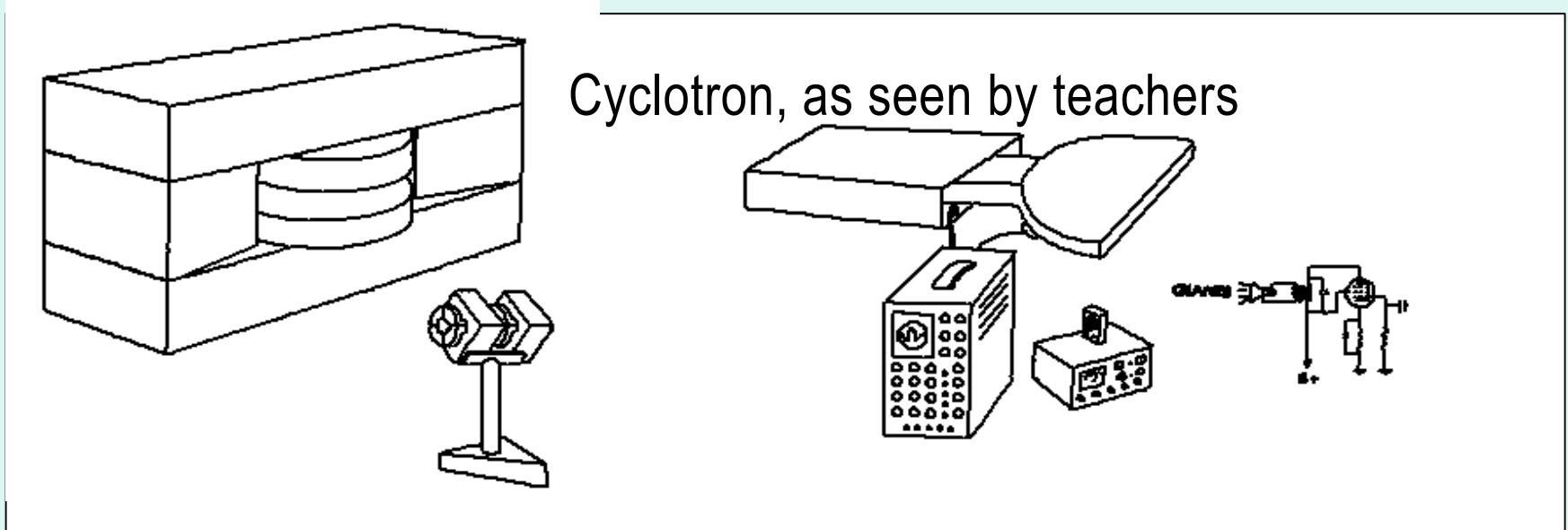
Marco Schippers



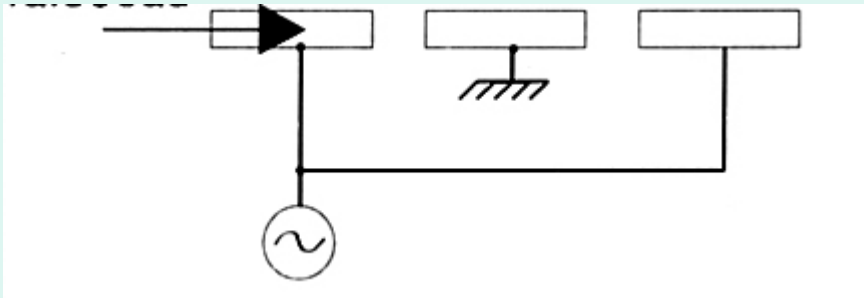
*Slides contain material and images from many colleagues at PSI and various companies*



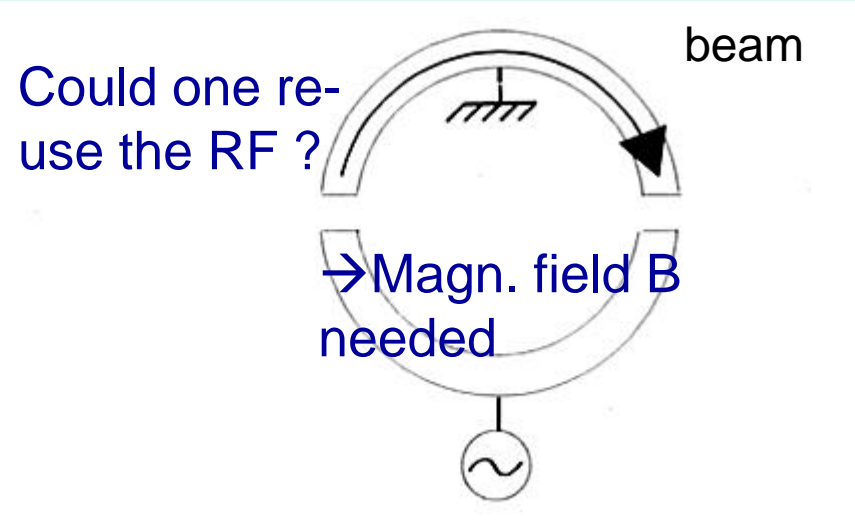
## Contents:



- How has the cyclotron **evolved**?
- **Isochronicity**: a basic operation principle
- Ion source, Acceleration, Intensity, Extraction



Wideroe's linear accelerator  
(1927)



Centrifugal force

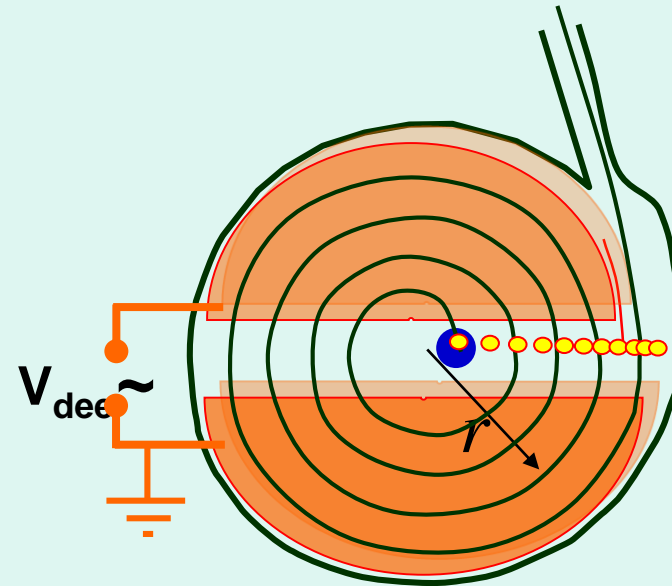
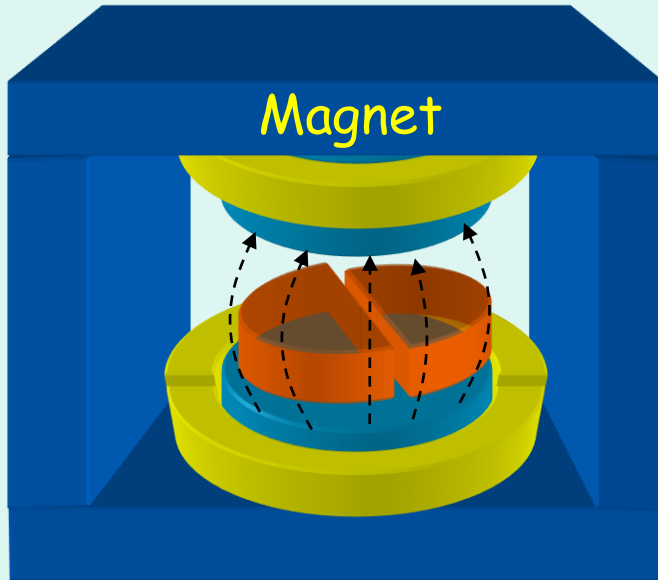
= Lorentz force

$$\frac{mv^2}{r} = Bqv \quad T_{circle} = \frac{2\pi r}{v} = \frac{2\pi m r \cancel{\kappa}}{Bq \cancel{\kappa}} = \frac{2\pi \cdot m}{Bq}$$

*„r cancels r.... don't you see what this means?"*

***T does neither depend on radius nor on Energy!"***

(Ernest Lawrence to his PhD student, while bursting into his lab, 1931)



**Only particles** that cross gap at right moment **are accelerated**

At electrode slit crossing: **Energy gain**  $\Delta E = q \cdot V_{dee}$

Larger  $E \rightarrow$  larger  $R \rightarrow$  orbit=spiral

$$E_{max} \sim N \cdot \Delta E \quad \Rightarrow \quad E/A = K \cdot (q/A)^2$$

e.g.  $K=600$ :  $^{12}\text{C}^{6+}$  :  $600 \cdot (36/144) = 150 \text{ MeV/nucl}$

$$K = \frac{(\epsilon B r_{max})^2}{2m_a}$$

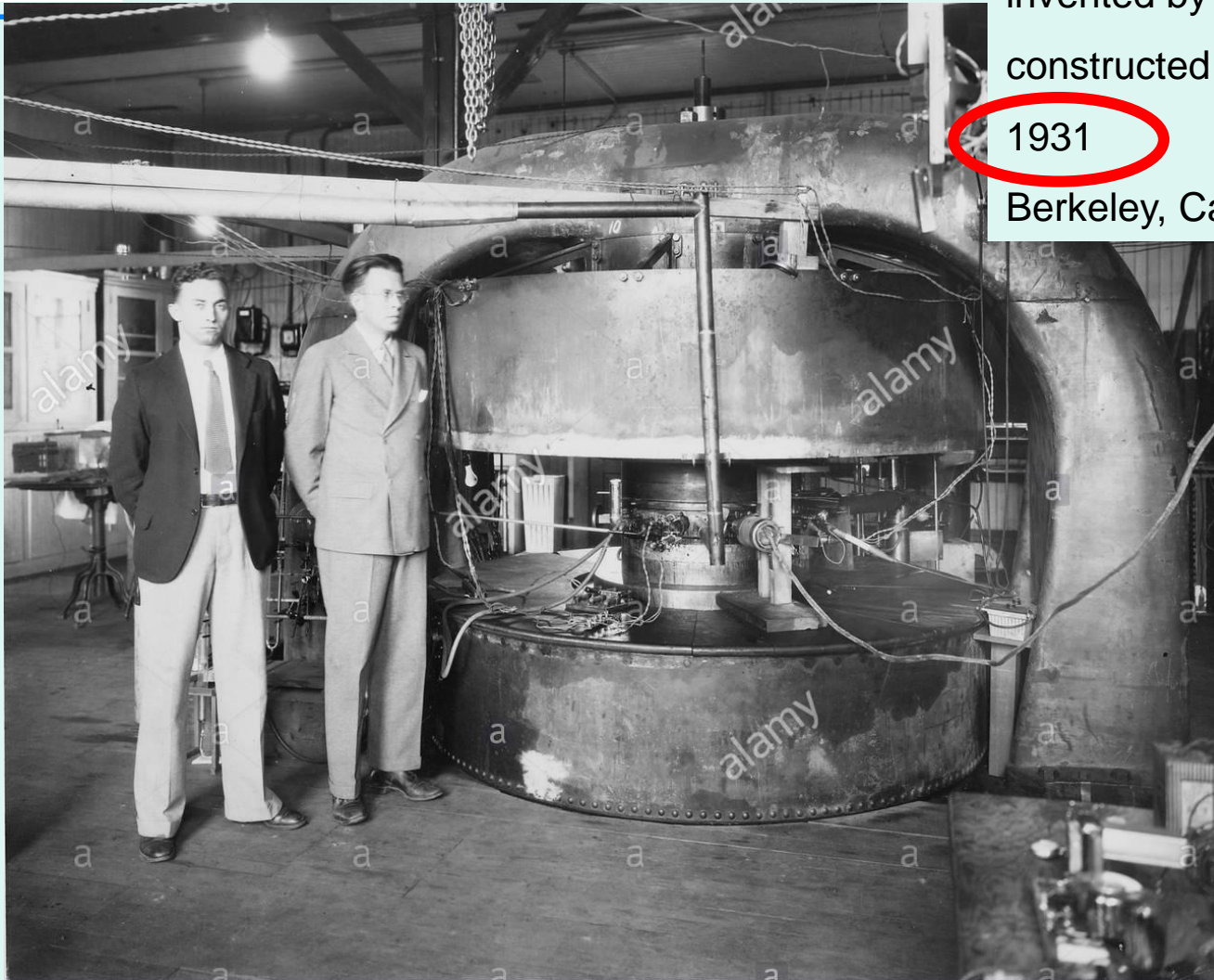


# the first Cyclotron

invented by Lawrence,  
constructed by Livingston

1931

Berkeley, California



Stanley Livingston (L) and Ernest Lawrence in front of  
27-inch cyclotron (several MeV), Berkeley, 1934.

credit:  
Lawrence Berkeley Nat'l Lab



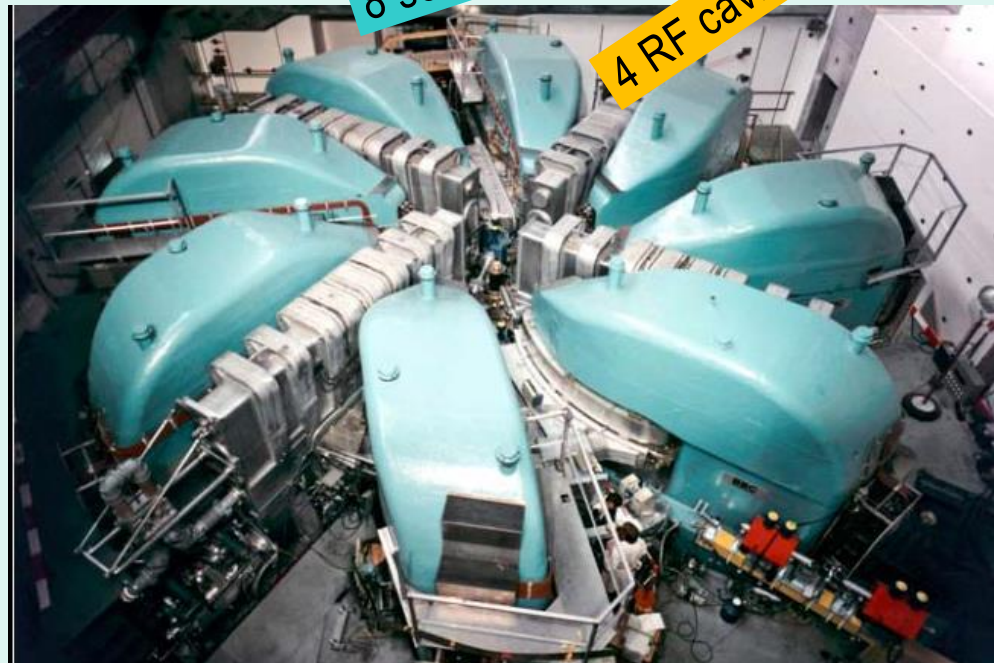
single magnet

→ sector magnets



UCL 1946:

- Magnet: 184-inch 4300-tons
- Dees at 1 or 2 MV



590-MeV RING cyclotron

(PSI, 1974)

# compact cyclotrons: for isotope production: 10-30 MeV



**CYCLONE 30 (IBA) : H<sup>-</sup> 15 à 30 MeV**

Vertical orientation



IBA (1996),  
SHI

250 Tons

**Isochronous  
Cyclotron**

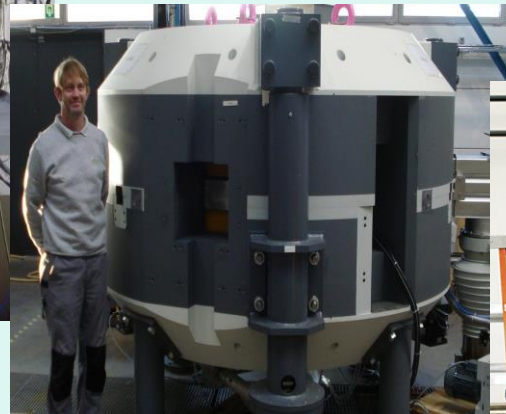


Varian (2005)

90 Tons

**Isochronous  
Cyclotron**

Superconducting Coils



IBA (2018)

60 Tons

**Synchrocyclotron**



MEVION (2013)

17 Tons

**Synchrocyclotron**





## Cyclotrons for 30-1000 MeV:

Isochronicity = be on time



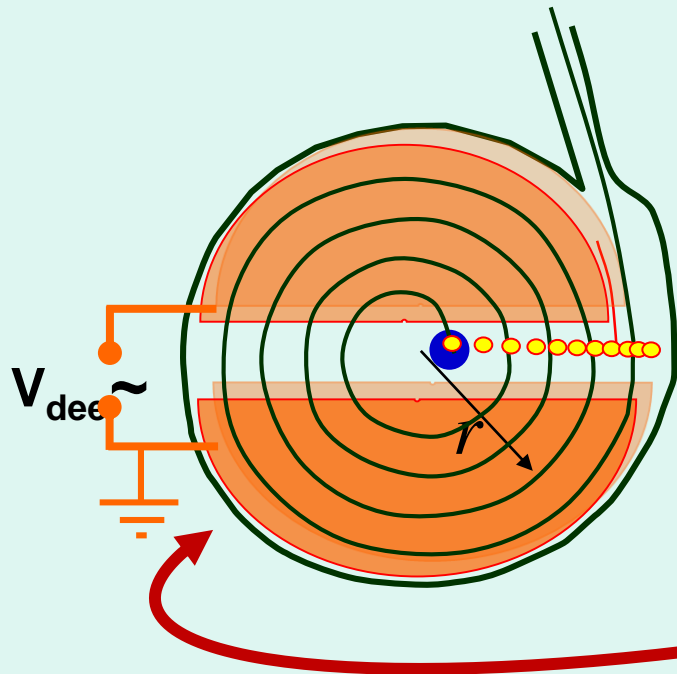
B → (almost) circular orbits:

$$T_{circle} = \frac{2\pi \cdot r}{v} = \frac{2\pi \cdot m}{Bq}$$

⇒ at B=2.4T:  $T_{circle} \approx 30$  ns

**oscillating voltage at**

**RF freq =  $1/T_{circle} = 33$  MHz**



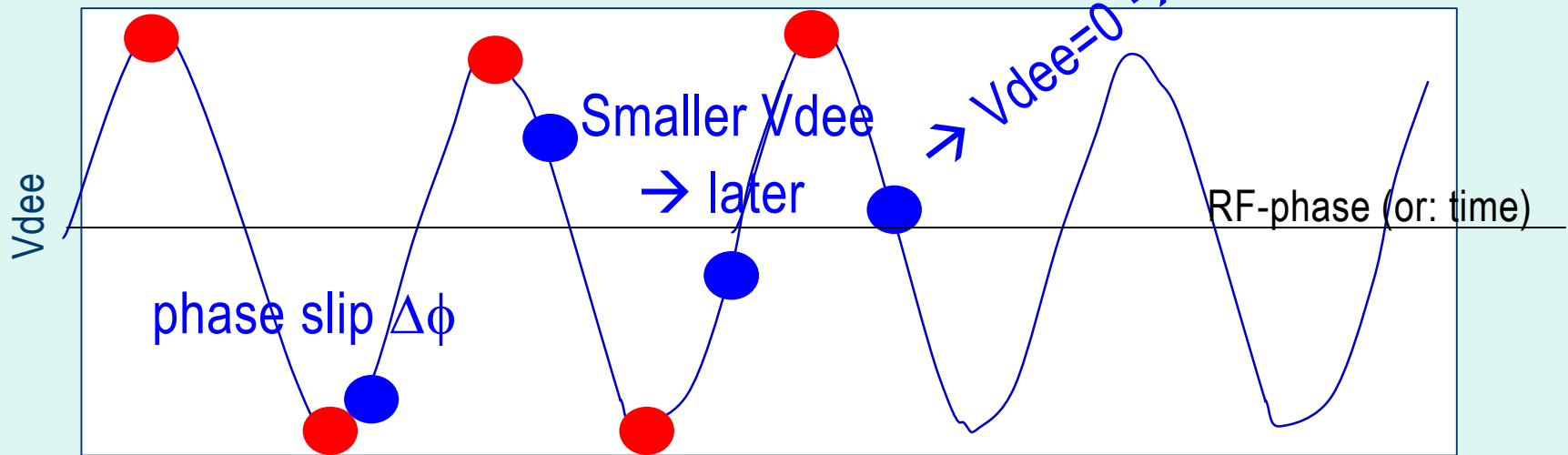


$$T_{circle} = \frac{2\pi \cdot m}{Bq}$$

If **B**-field is too low:

→  $T_{circle}$  too long

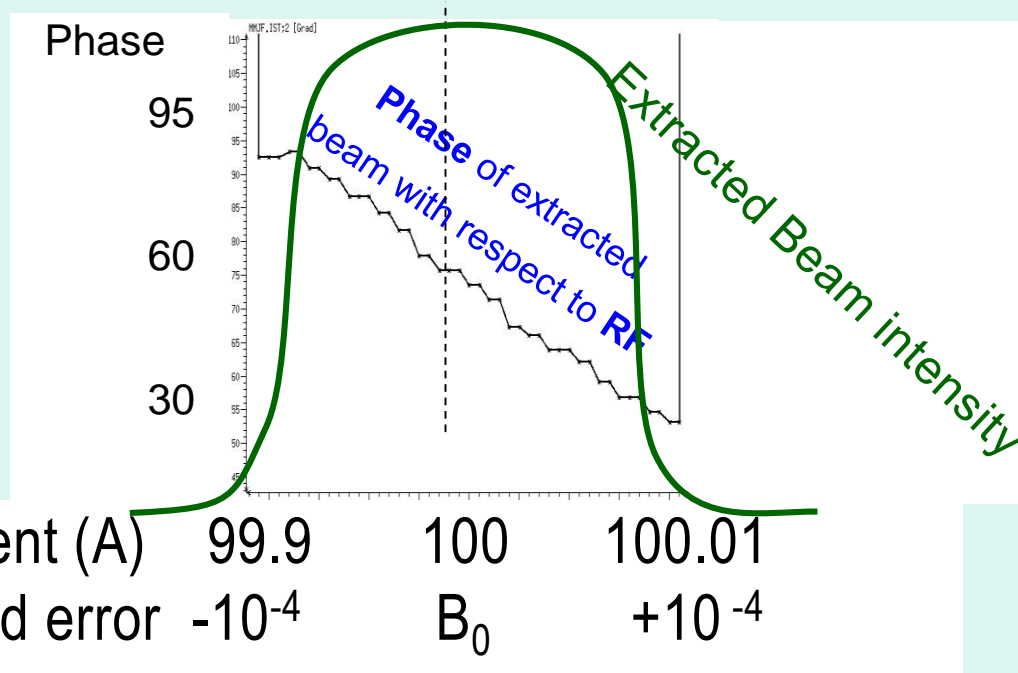
→ phase slip  $\Delta\phi$



Acceleration stops when  $\phi = \pi/2$  is reached after  $n \times$  phase slip of  $\Delta\phi$



Given  $f_{RF} \rightarrow B$  must be correct within  $10^{-4}$   
 $\rightarrow$  particles cross the gap at right phase



Resonance curve (Smith Garren, 1963)



**Cyclotron works while:**  $T_{circle}$  independent from radius:  
(particles move in pace with  $V_{dee}$ )

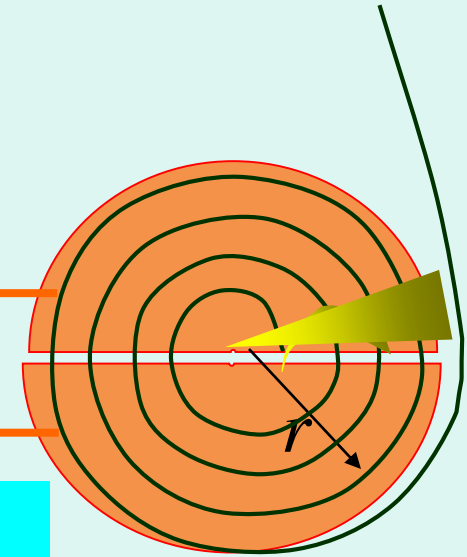
BUT....  $m = \gamma m_0$   $\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}$

At high energy  $m$  increases

$$T_{circle} = \frac{2\pi \cdot m}{q \cdot B}$$

$$Freq = 1/T_{circle}$$

$$V_{dee} \sim$$



10 MeV p:	$v/c=0.14$	$\Rightarrow m=1.01 m_0$
250 MeV p:	$v/c=0.61$	$\Rightarrow m=1.27 m_0$
590 MeV p:	$v/c=0.79$	$\Rightarrow m=1.63 m_0$



# Remedy 1:

# Synchro-cyclotron



So: Problem =  $T_{circle}$  increases with radius.

## REMEDY 1:

Decrease  $f_{RF}$  with  $1/T_{circle}$  in time, synchronous to mass:

$$\omega_{rf}(t) = \frac{qB}{m(t)}$$

..... and extract

Repeat 300-1000 x per sec



So: Problem =  $T_{circle}$  increases with radius.

### REMEDY 1:

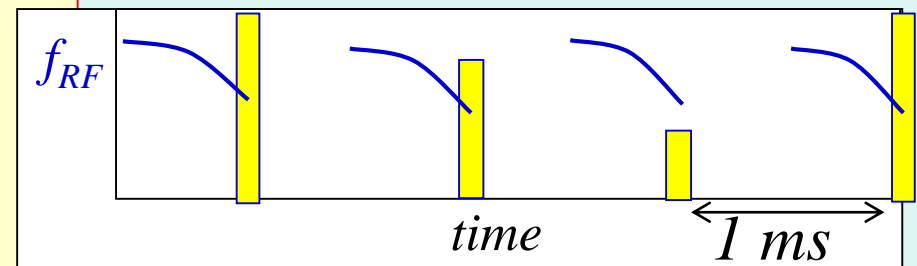
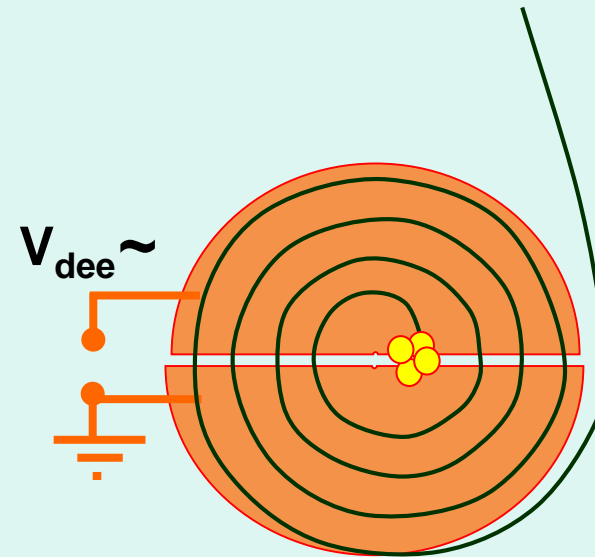
Decrease  $f_{RF}$  with  $1/T_{circle}$  in time,  
synchronous to mass increase:

$$\omega_{rf}(t) = \frac{qB}{m(t)}$$

..... and extract

Repeat 300-1000 x per sec

→ Pulsed beam 300-1000 Hz

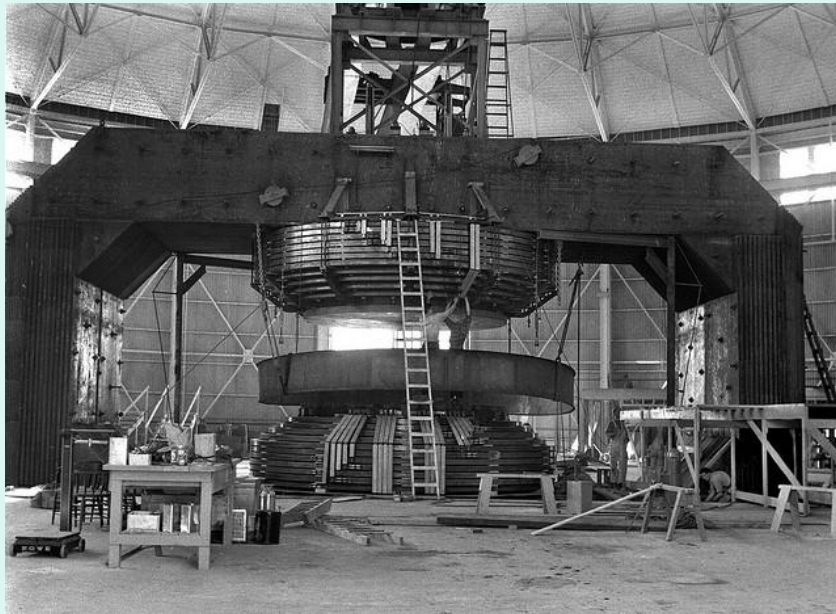






synchro-cyclotron: High energies ...1000 MeV

Fields of 1.5-2 T => large magnet poles



4.7 m $\varnothing$  (4300 tons) Cyclotron (in 1942)

380 MeV , 1957: 720 MeV

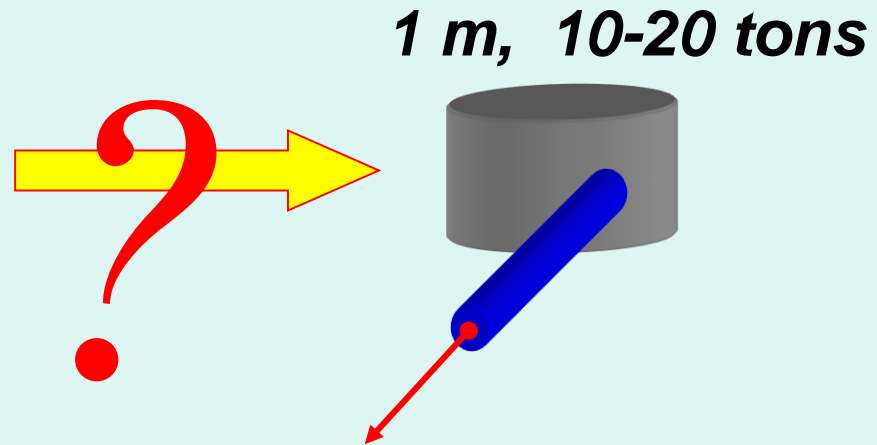
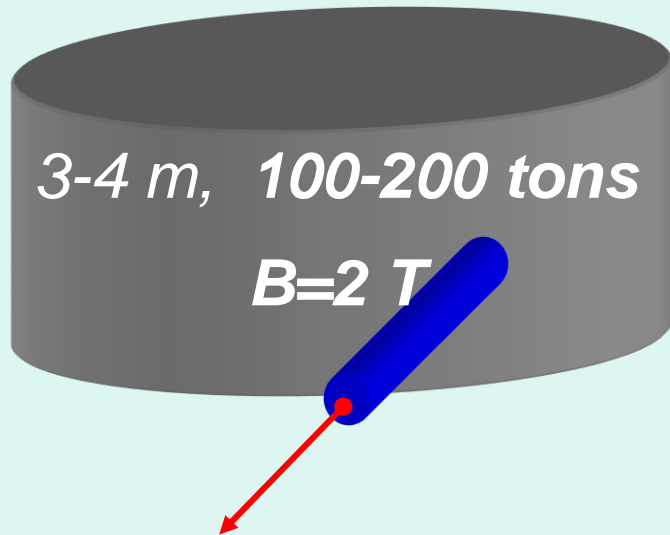
UCL Lawrence Berkeley Nat'l Lab



CERN: 600 MeV proton Synchro-Cyclotron

1957-1991.

# Small cyclotron

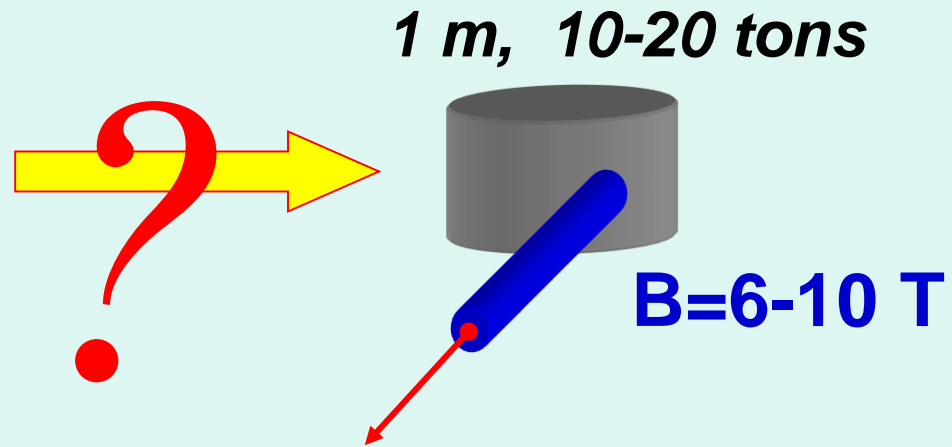
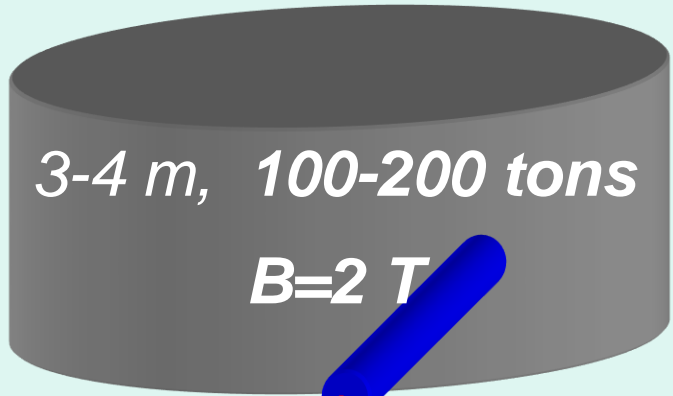


**Solution:**

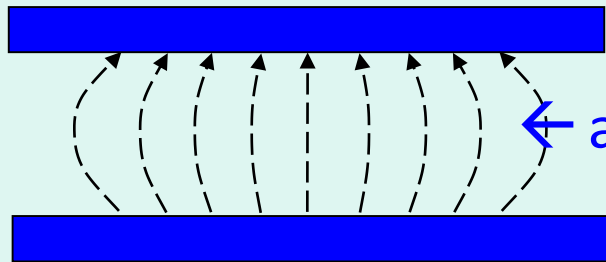
*Increase magnetic field:  $B=6-10\text{ T}$*

*=> Smaller orbit radius*

# Small cyclotron



However: at very strong magnetic fields:



← at magnet edge weaker B-field

$$T_{circle} = \frac{2\pi \cdot m}{B\gamma}$$

$T_{circle}$  increases with radius.

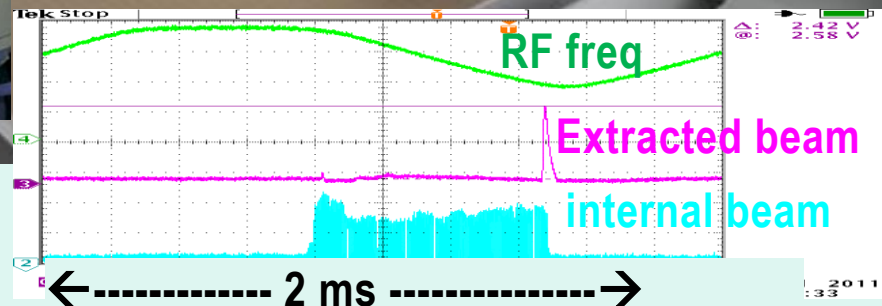
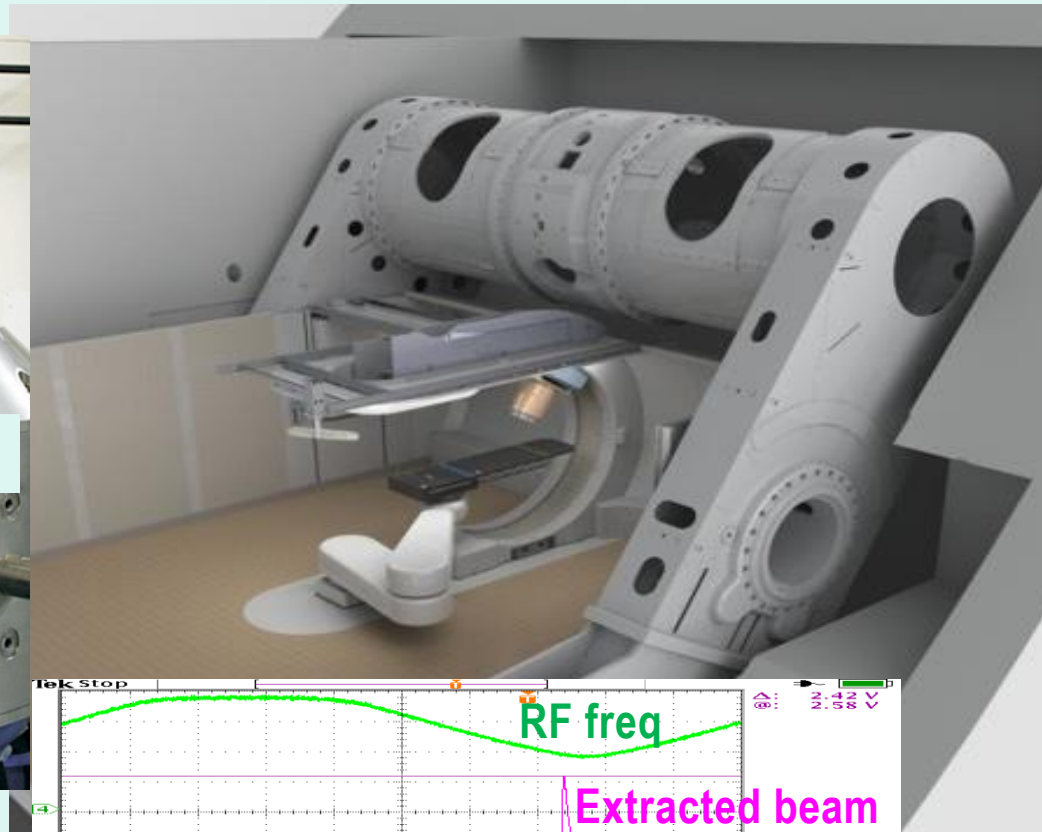
→ Similar effect as mass increase! → decrease  $f_{RF}$  with radius and extract



2013: 250 MeV Synchro-cyclotron on a gantry



8.5 T, 250 MeV, 500 Hz





## REMEDY 2:

Correct with B-field:

**Increase B** with radius, ( $= r \sim m$ ):

$$B(r) = \gamma(r) \cdot B_0$$

$$T_{circle} = \frac{2\pi \cdot m}{q \cdot B}$$

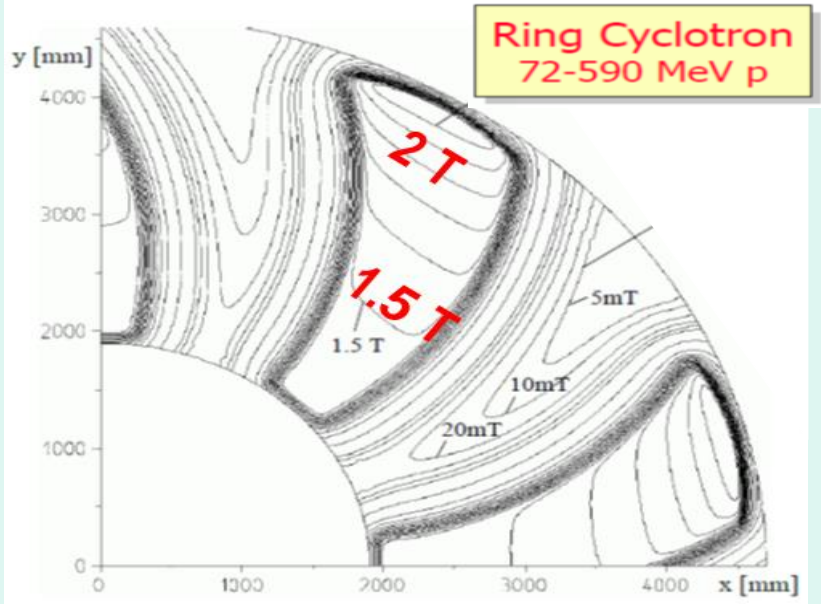
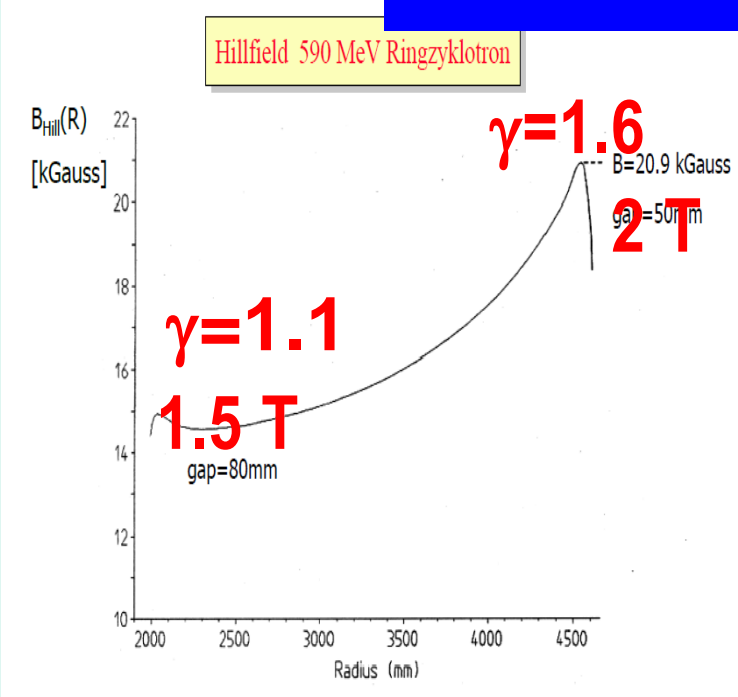
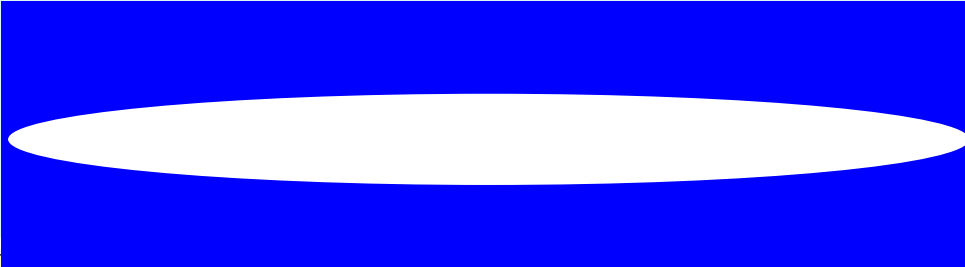


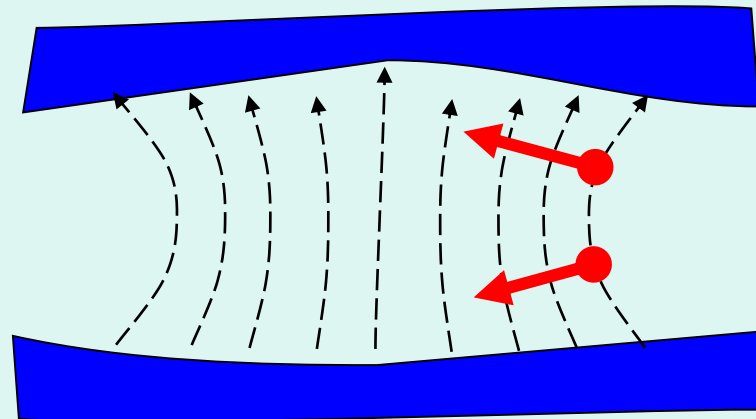
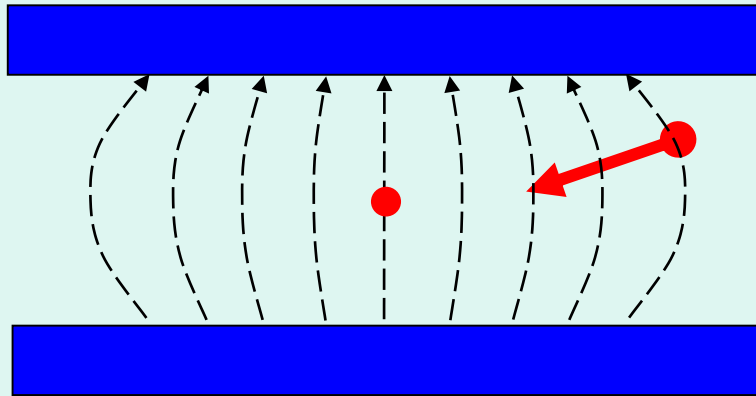
# isochronous cyclotron



# decrease pole gap + use trim coils

**Increase the field strength with radius  
→ Decrease Pole gap with r**





Inhom. field: field index  $n \neq 0$ :

$$n(r) = - \frac{dB(r)}{dr} \frac{r}{B(r)}$$

When B **decreases** with radius:  $n > 0$

=> Automatic **vertical stability**

vertical betatron freq. =  $\nu_z = \sqrt{n}$

When B **increases** with radius:

.....

$n < 0$  => no **vertical stability**

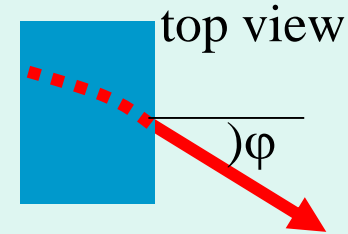
( $\nu_z = \sqrt{n} = \sqrt{\text{neg. nr}} = \text{imaginary}$ )



# Vert.focusing by Varying Field: AVF

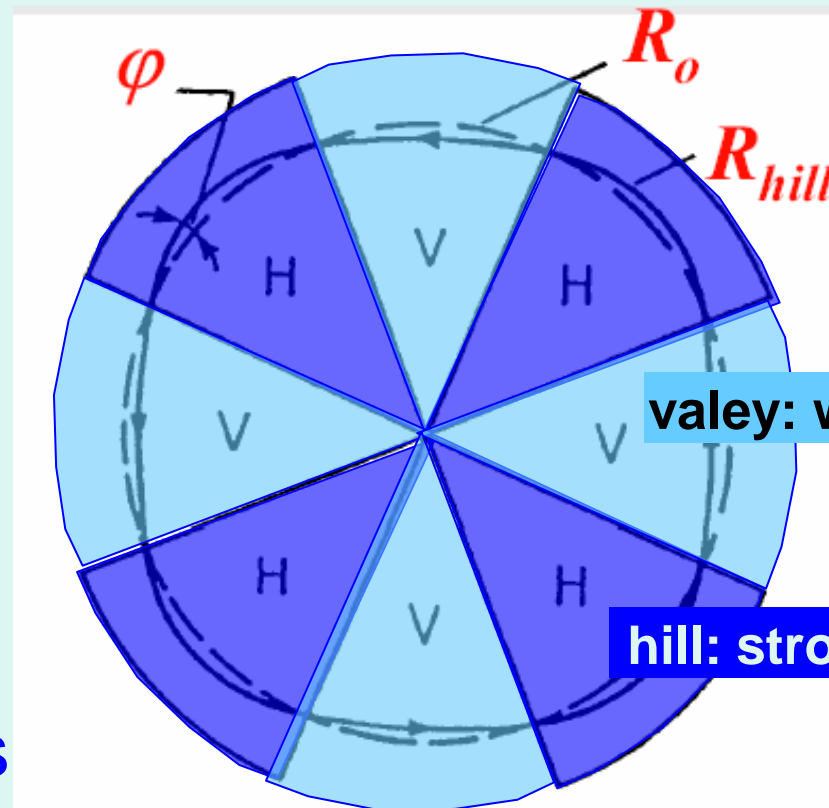


If B-step is not crossed  $\perp$  :  
=> vertical force



**AVF** = Azimuthally  
Varying Field  $\rightarrow$

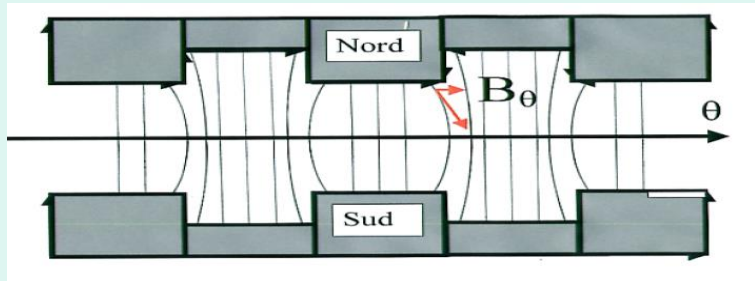
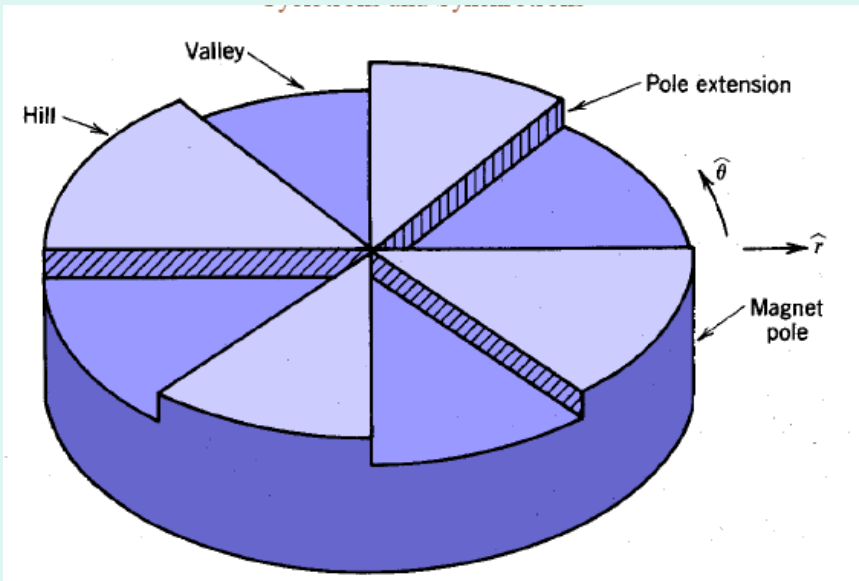
Vertical focusing  
at hill-valey  
boundaries



valey: weak field

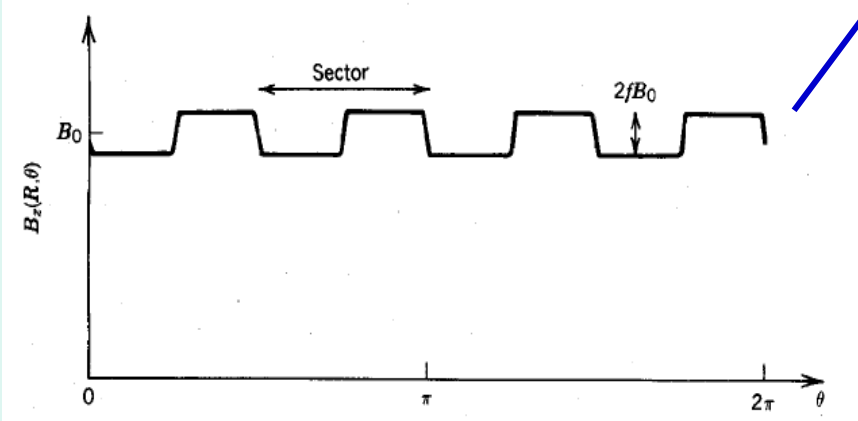
hill: strong field

# Vertical focusing: Azimuthally Varying Field



## Flutter function:

$$F(r) = \left( \frac{B(r, \theta) - \overline{B(r)}}{\overline{B(r)}} \right)^2$$



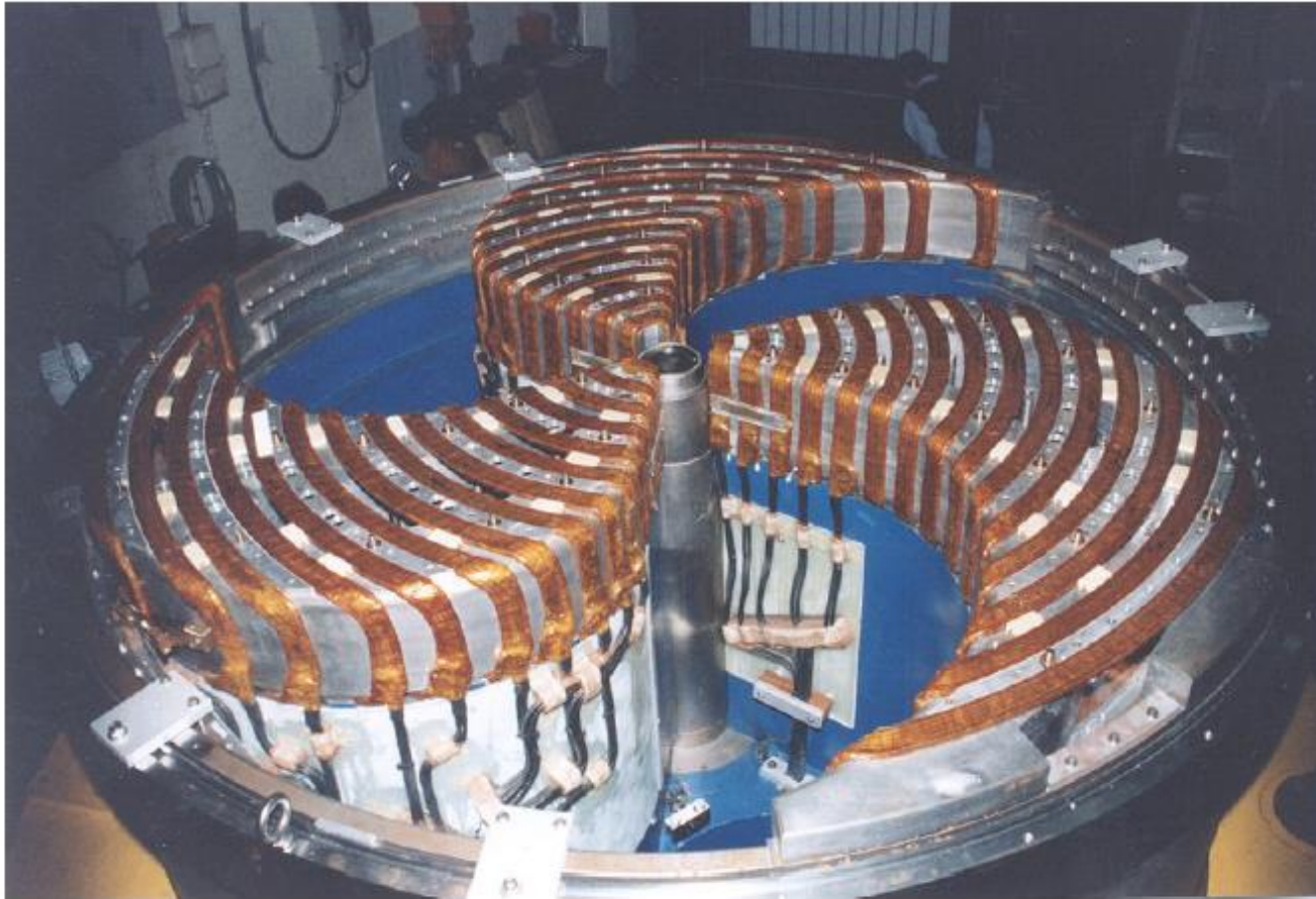
## Thomas focusing:

$$v_z^2(R) = n(R) + F(R)$$

< 0!



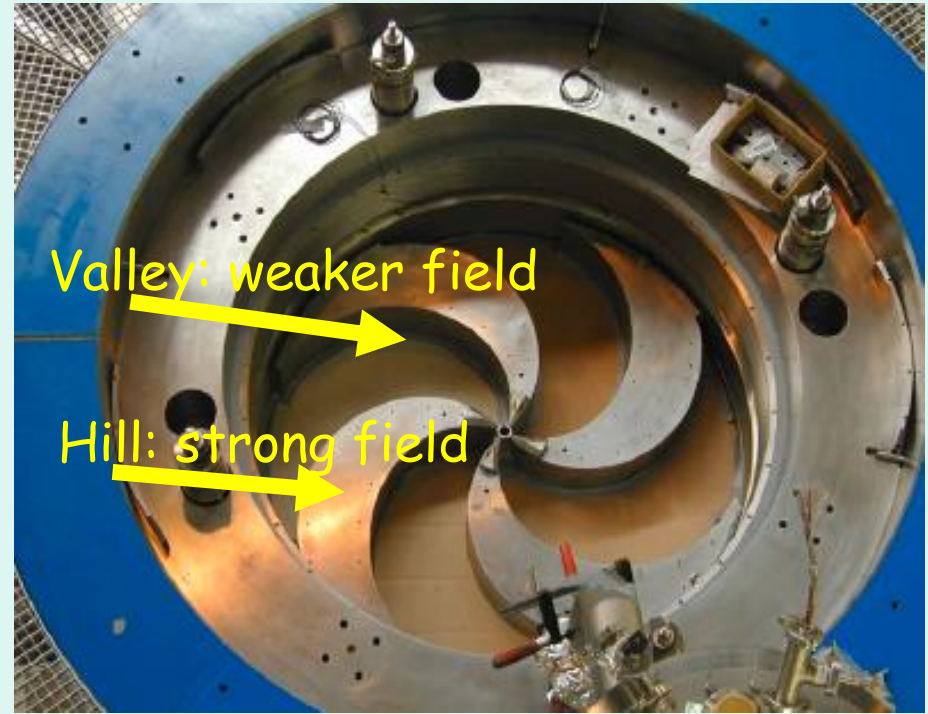
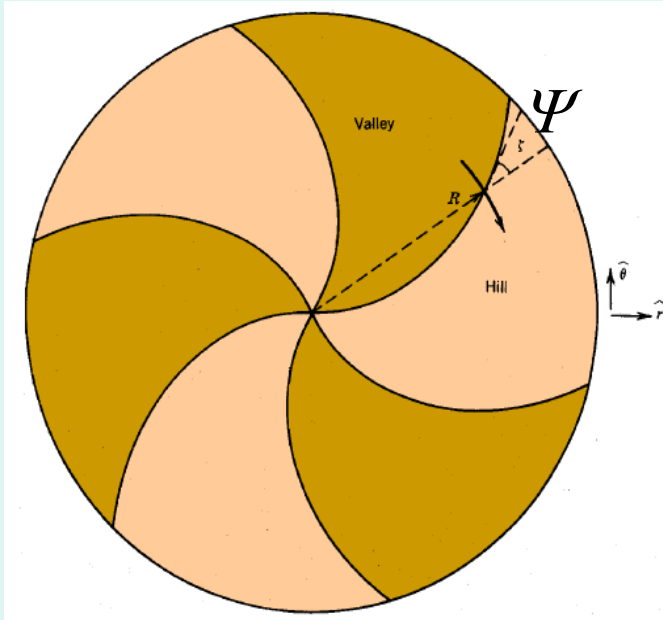
## Pole of AGOR cyclotron





# Azimuthally Varying Field

## Azimuthally Varying Field cyclotron



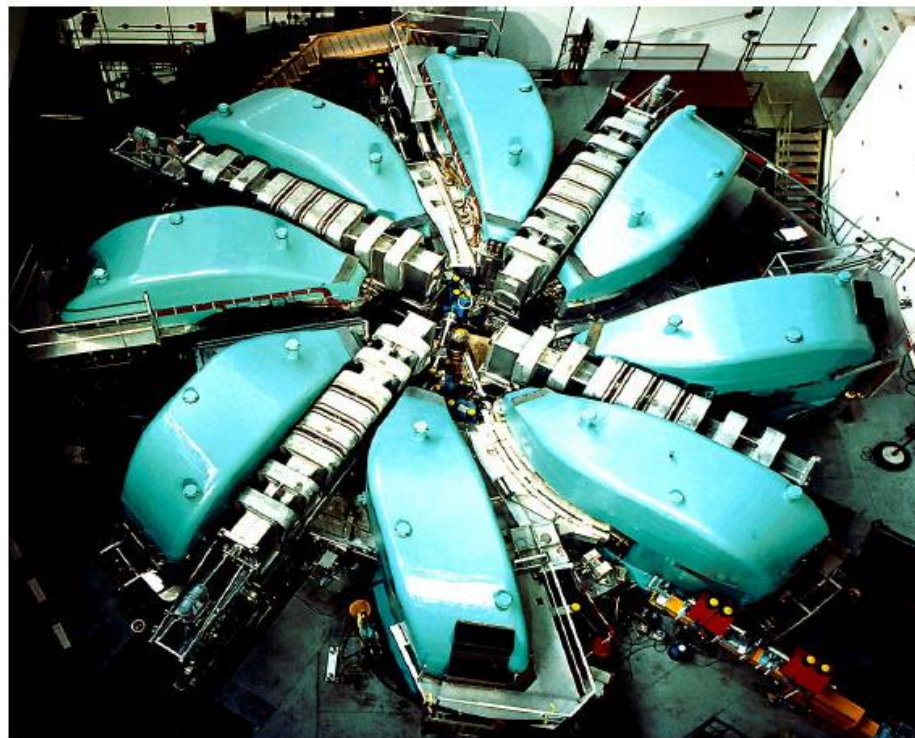
$$v_z^2(R) = n(R) + F(R) \cdot (1 + 2 \tan(\psi(R)))$$

to **compensate** :higher energy  
 => increase angle  $\Psi$  with radius => **spiral shape**



## Extreme AVF: separated sector cyclotron

- 4 Sector Magnets       $\sim 0.36$  T
- 2 cavities 50 MHz:    450 kVp
- beam energy:        72 MeV
- number of turns:    81
- max. beam current: **2.7 mA**



### Ringcyclotron

- 590 MeV Protons
- 1.3 MW Beam Power  
(world record!)
- 8 Magnet à 250 Tons
- 4 Cavities à 700 kV  
(upgraded to 1MV  
in 2008)
- Extraction  $\approx 99.97$  %



**Remedies** when  $T_{circle}$  increases with radius:

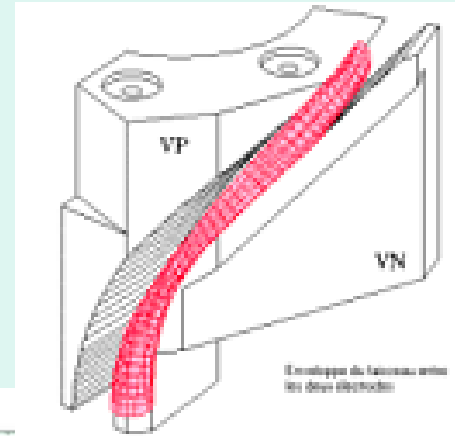
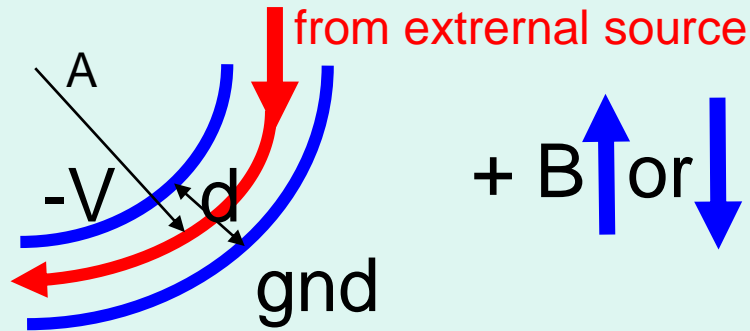
- 1) decrease  $f_{RF}$  with radius. (**synchro-cyclotron**)
- 2) increase  $B$  with radius (**Isochronous Cyclotron**)  
... but vertical focusing must be added



Central region:

Either -injection of externally coming beam

Or: -ion source



Inflector:

$$V/d = 2E / (qA)$$

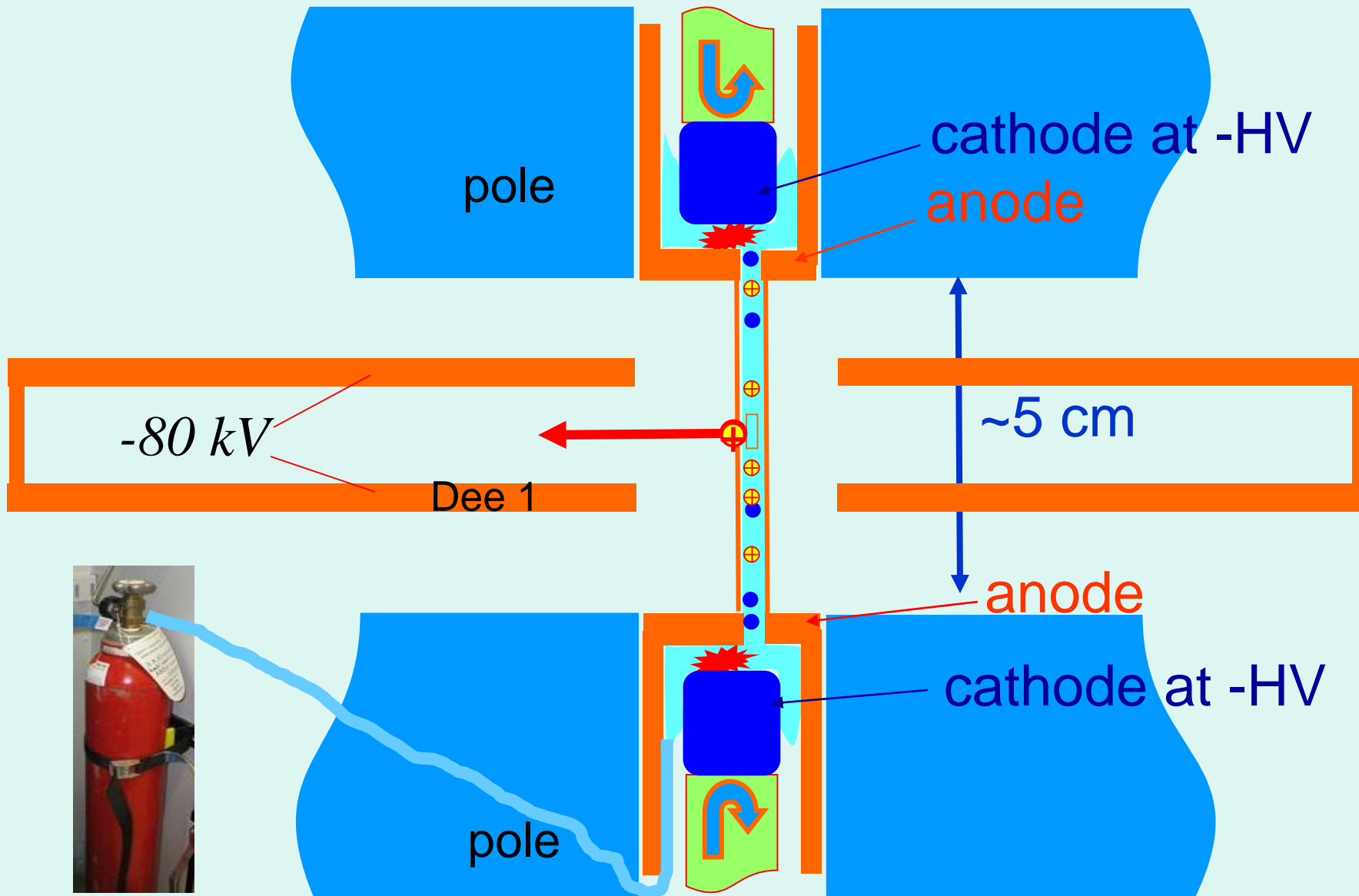






# Internal ion source: (usually protons, He)

# Internal ion source





# RF cavities

## Important parameters:

Voltage amplitude on Dee : 30-80 kV

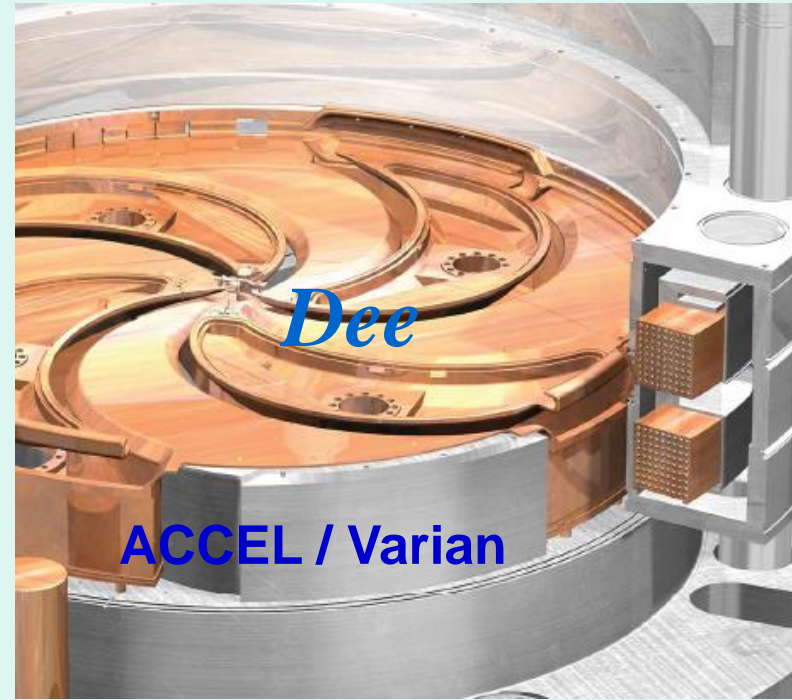
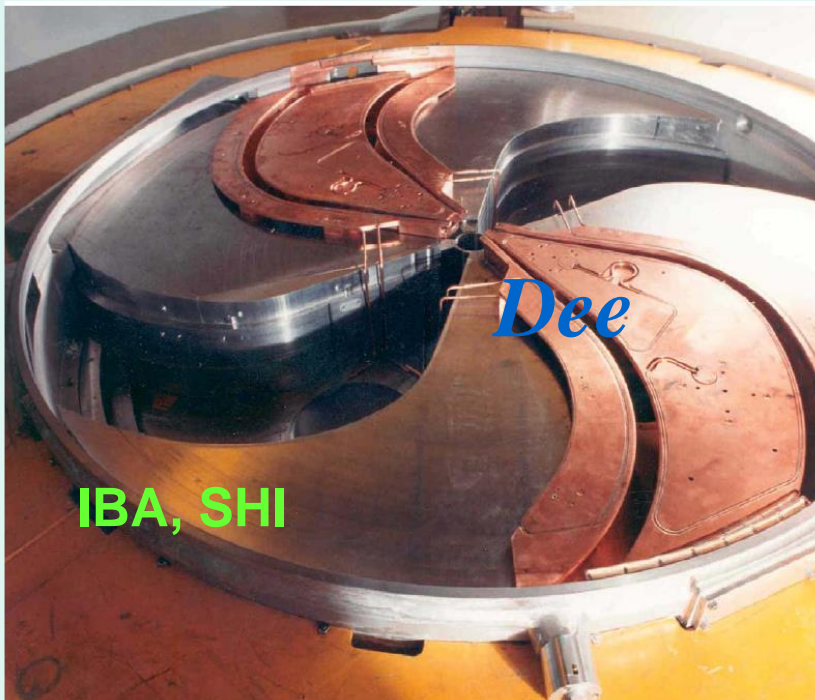
Number of Dee's: 1,2,3,4

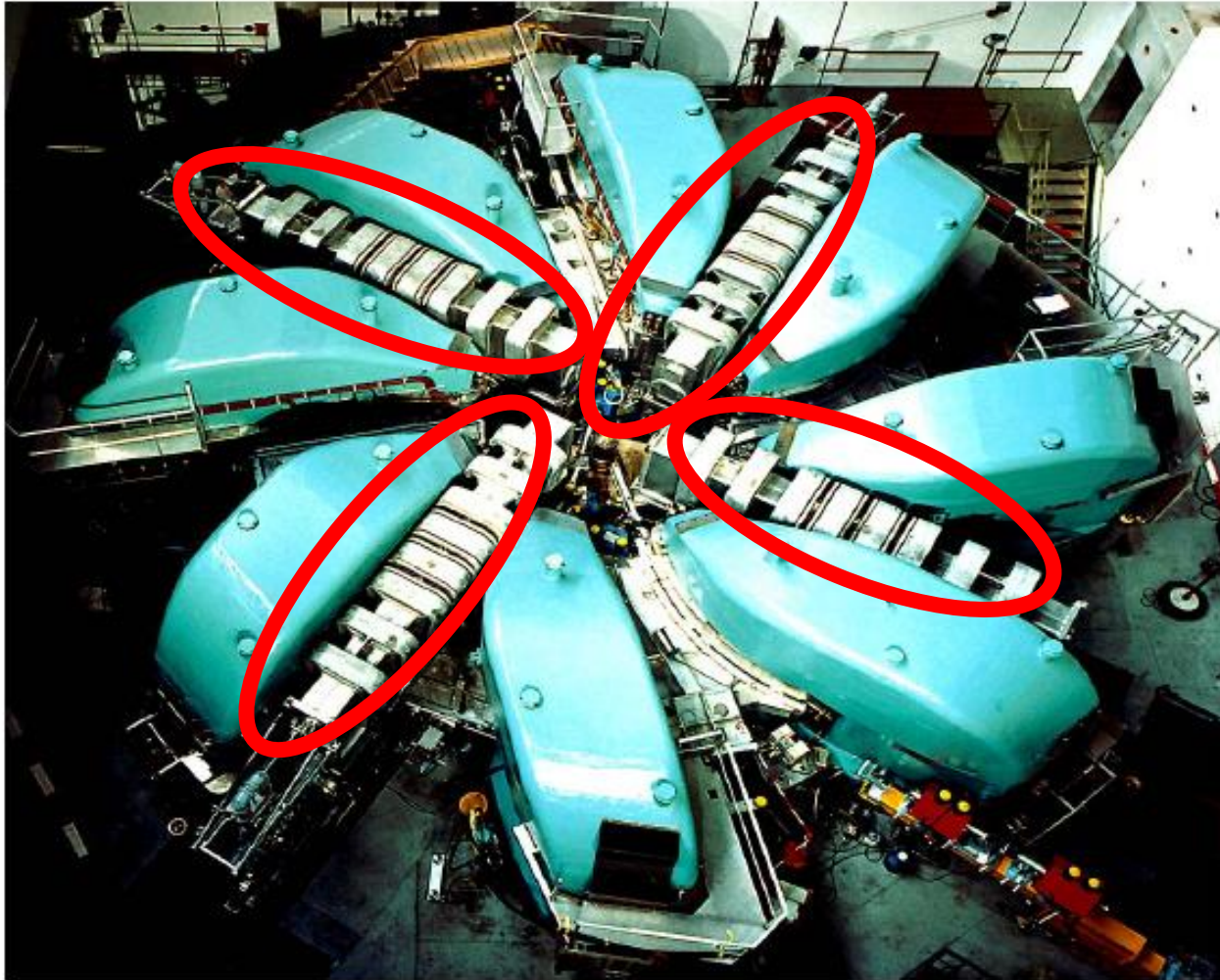
⇒ Energy gain per turn

⇒ Orbit separation

⇒ Extraction efficiency

# Dual gap: Dee





## Ringcyclotron

590 MeV Protons

1.3 MW Beam Power  
(world record!)

8 Magnet à 250 Tons

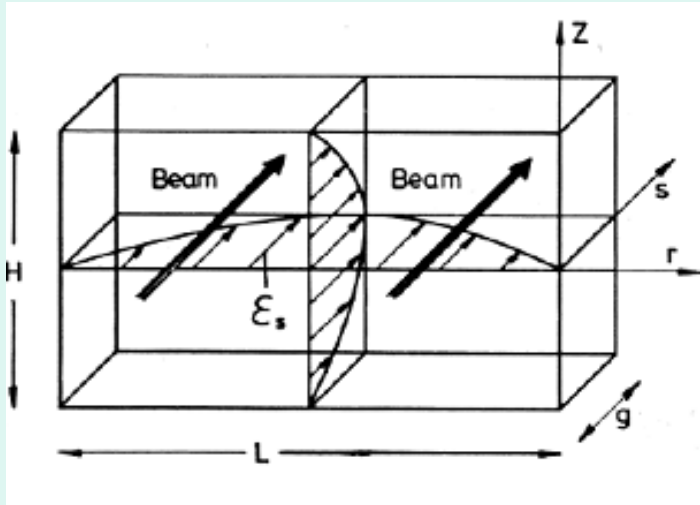
4 Cavities à 700 kV  
(upgraded to 1MV  
in 2009)

Extraction  $\approx$  99.97 %

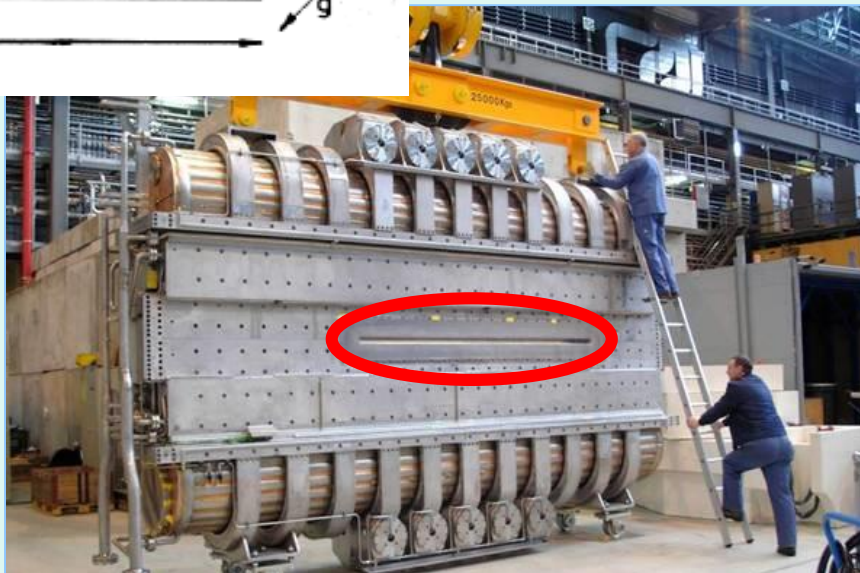
# Single gap cavities (ring cyclotrons)



## Ring Cyclotron 590 MeV , 50.7 MHz

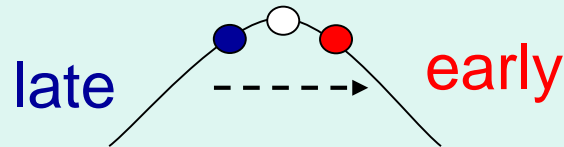


copper ,  $V = 1$  MV  
 400 kW power loss  
 160 turns , current limit  $> 3$  mA ?

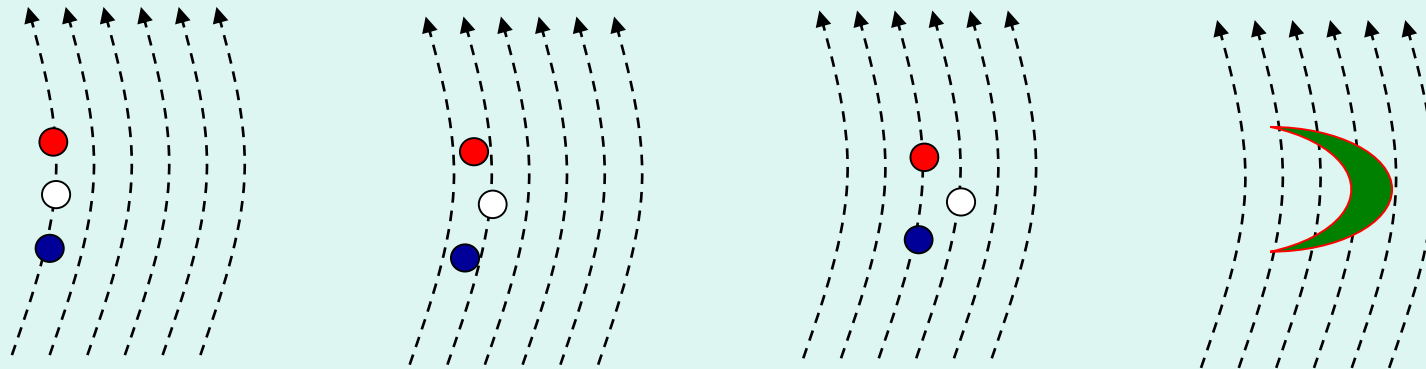




Let's look at one bunch, accelerated on the RF-top:



Both **late** and **early** get less energy



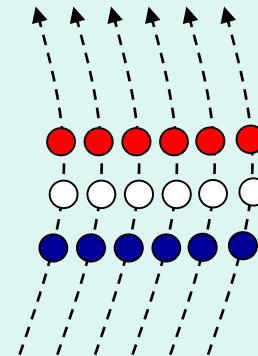
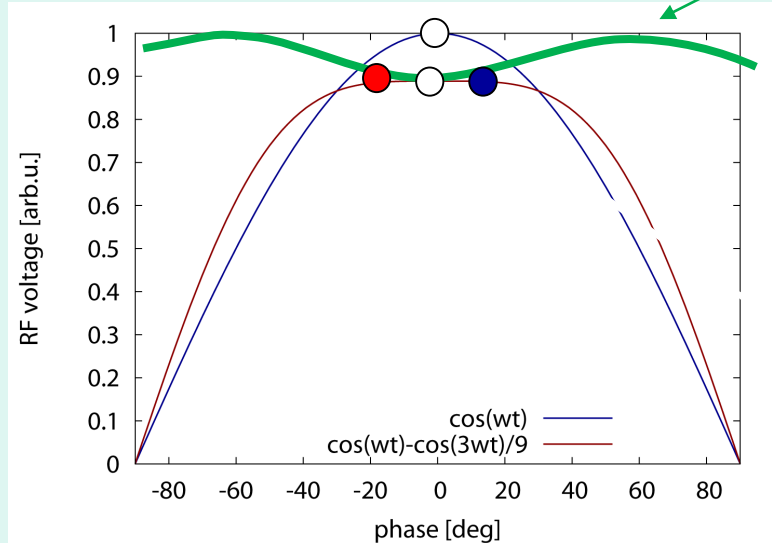
→ Large phase width → broad beam

→ **Small phase width** needed at RF-top

# Flattop resonator



- variation of accelerating voltage over the bunch length **increases energy spread**
- thus a third harmonic flattop resonator is used to **compensate the curvature** of the resonator voltage w.r.t. time
- optimum condition:  $U_{\text{tot}} = U_0 \left( \cos \omega t - \frac{1}{9} \cos 3\omega t \right)$



broader flat region for bunch:  
 → no energy spread  
 →  $\Delta E/\text{turn}$  reduced  
 → Reduced turn overlapping



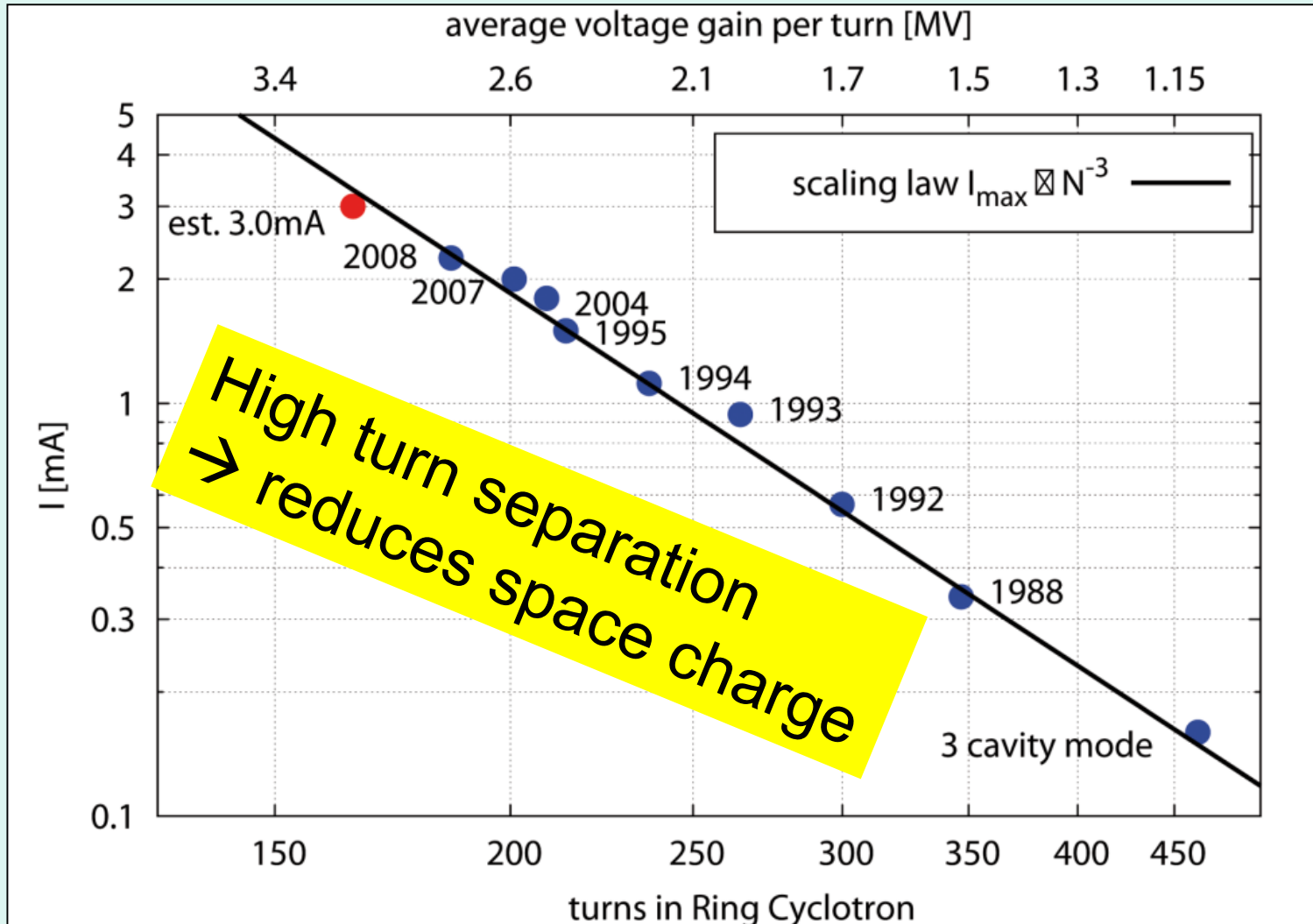


high intensity+ high energy:  
=>high **beam power**

$$I_{beam}(\mu A) \times E(MeV) = P(W)$$

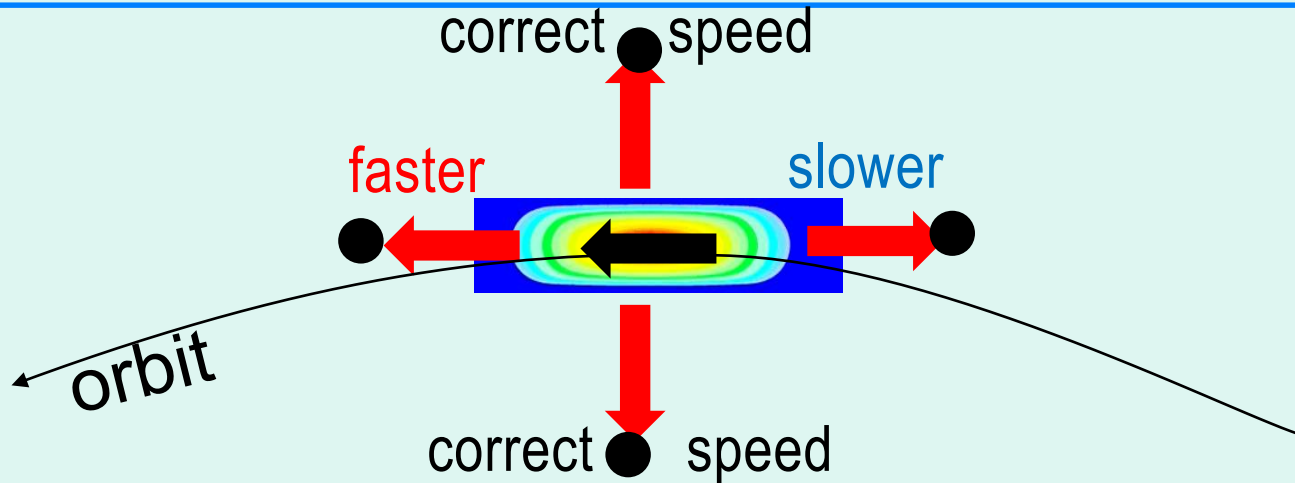
$$\text{At PSI: } 2000 \mu A \times 590 MeV = 1.18 MW$$

# high intensity needs high $\Delta E/\text{turn}$

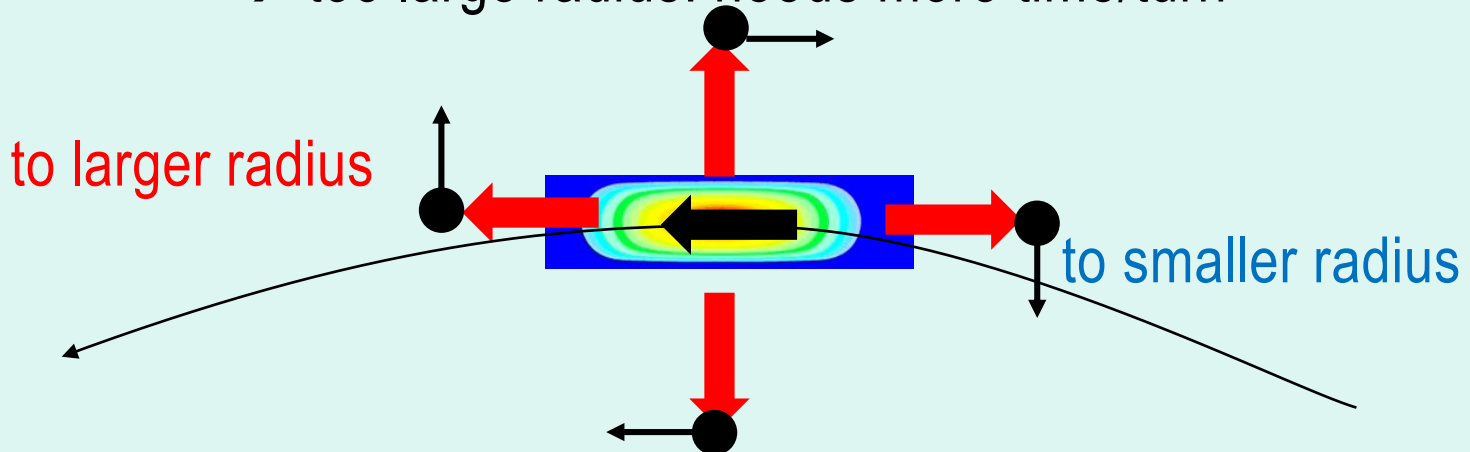


W. Joho, Cyclotron Conference Caen 1981

# Vortex or Spagetti effect



→ too large radius: needs more time/turn

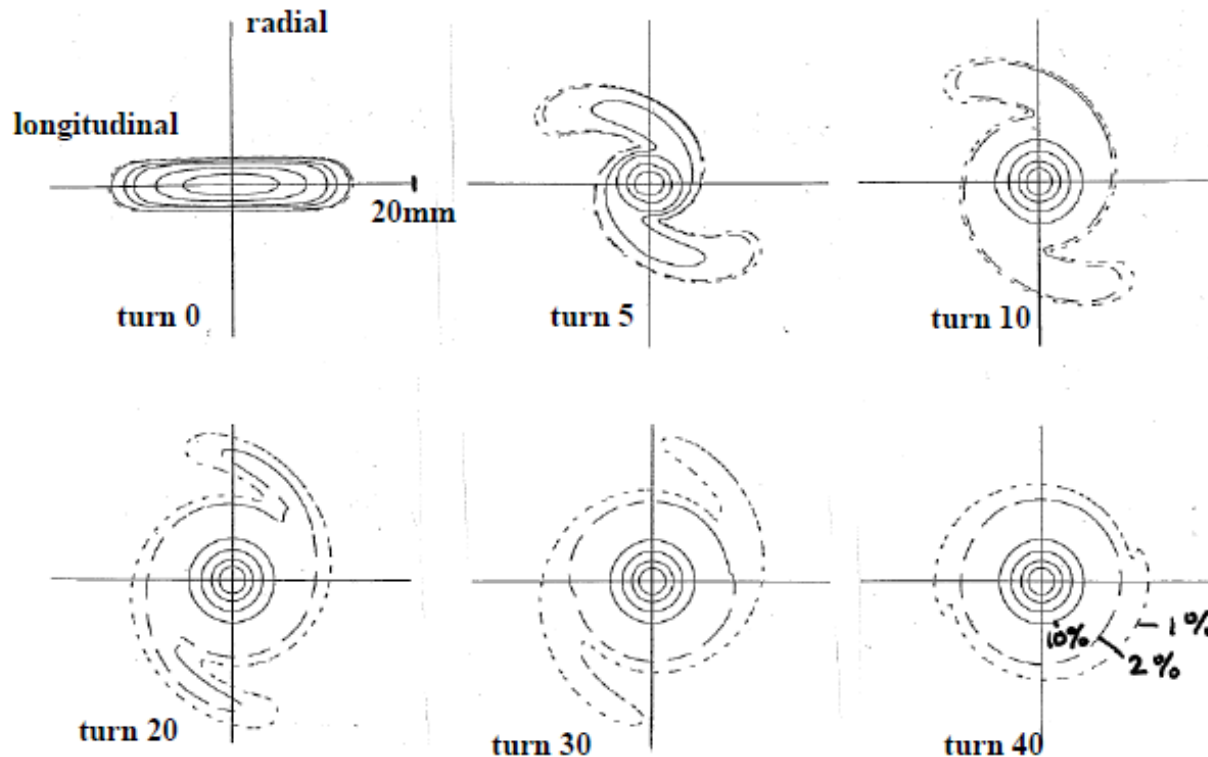


→ too small radius: needs less time/turn

# Vortex or Spagetti effect



## Longitudinal Space Charge in Cyclotron



Simulation of a 1mA beam, circulating in Injector II at 3 MeV for 40 turns without acceleration.

The core stabilizes faster than the halos (calculations by Stefan Adam)

→ Automatic space charge compensation!



# Extraction:

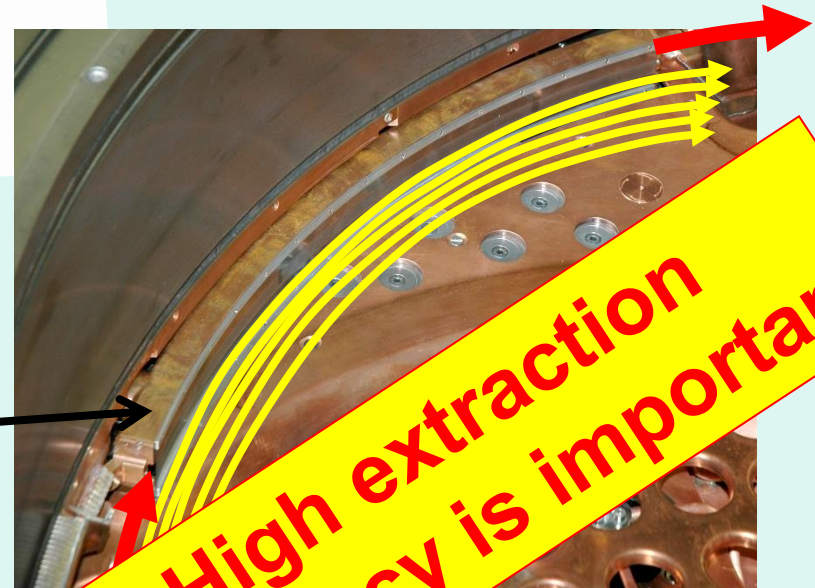
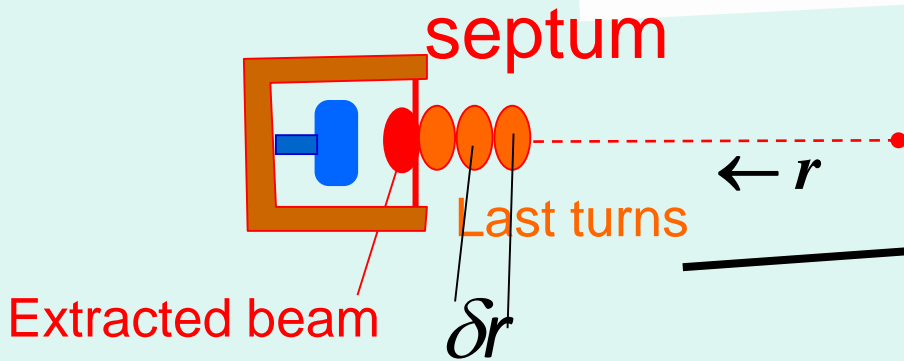
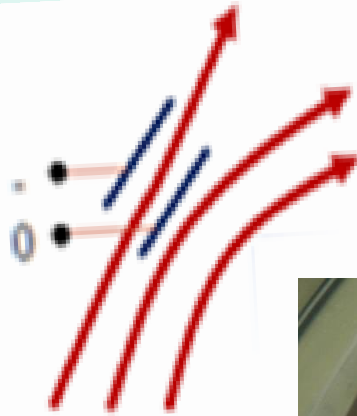
# How to get out?

# Extraction from cyclotron



Extraction using  
 septum and HV:

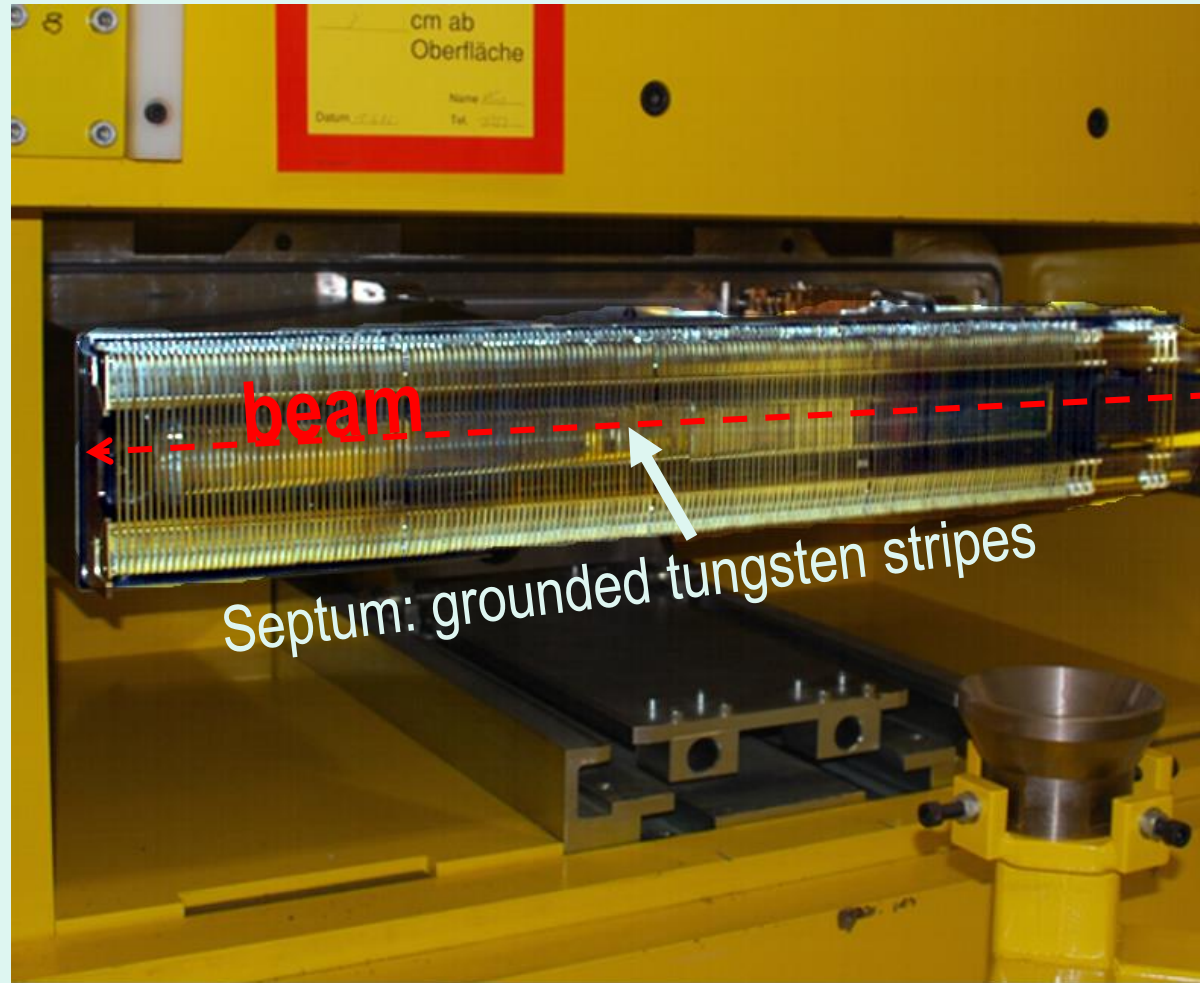
HV:



**High extraction  
 Efficiency is important**



Extraction Channel 2 mA 590 MeV p at PSI: 145 kV



# Turn separation



250 MeV cyclotron proton therapy:

energy gain = 0.5 MeV per turn

But:  $B \cdot r = p/q$   
 $\Rightarrow r$  scales with  $p$ :  
 $p \sim \sqrt{E} \rightarrow \Delta r \sim 1/r$

$\Delta r = 13 \text{ mm}$

at  $R = 0.8 \text{ m}$ :  
 $E = 250 \text{ MeV}$

$\Delta r = 0.9 \text{ mm}$





At extraction the turn separation  $dr/dn$  should be as large as possible

$$\frac{dr}{dn} \approx \frac{E_k \cdot r}{\gamma(\gamma + 1)} qZV_{Dee}$$

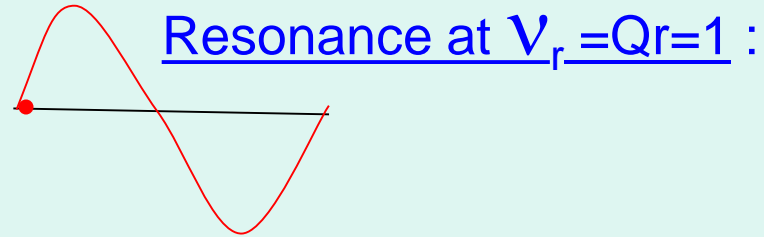
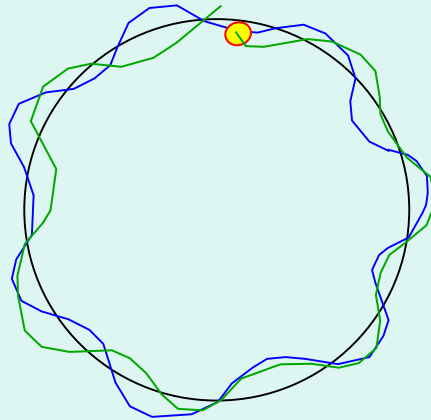
## What will help:

- High  $V_{dee}$  → **high  $\Delta E$  / turn**
- **Large cyclotron radius  $r$**  (→ not too **strong field  $B$** )
- **High  $E_k$**  but **keep  $\gamma < 2$**  → heavy ions with **low speed**  
 → protons:  **$E_{max} \sim 1$  GeV**

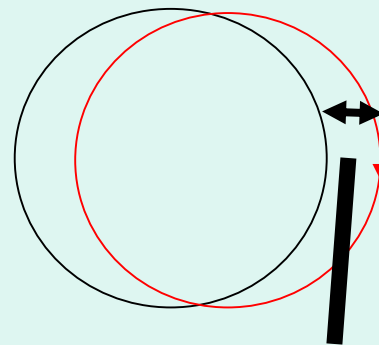
## How to make larger orbit separation $\Delta r$ ?



Important betatron oscillation in cyclotrons:



→ increase of turn separation



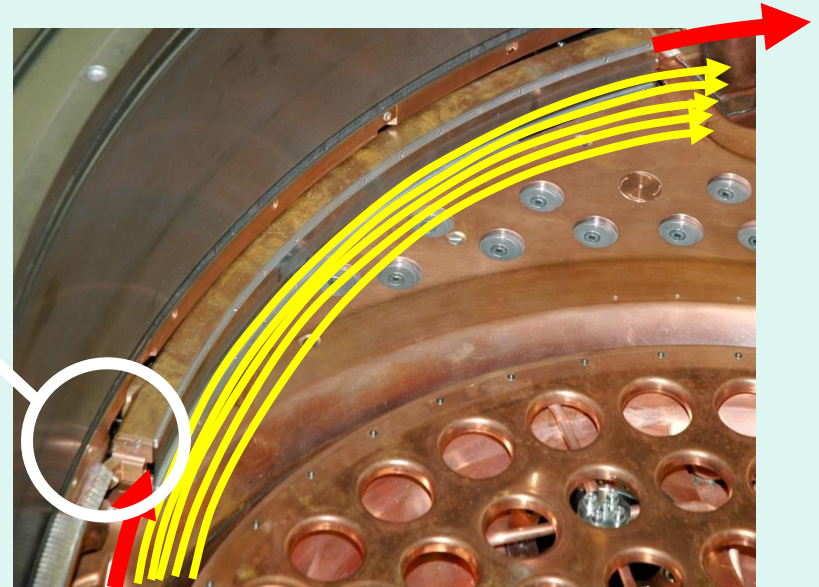
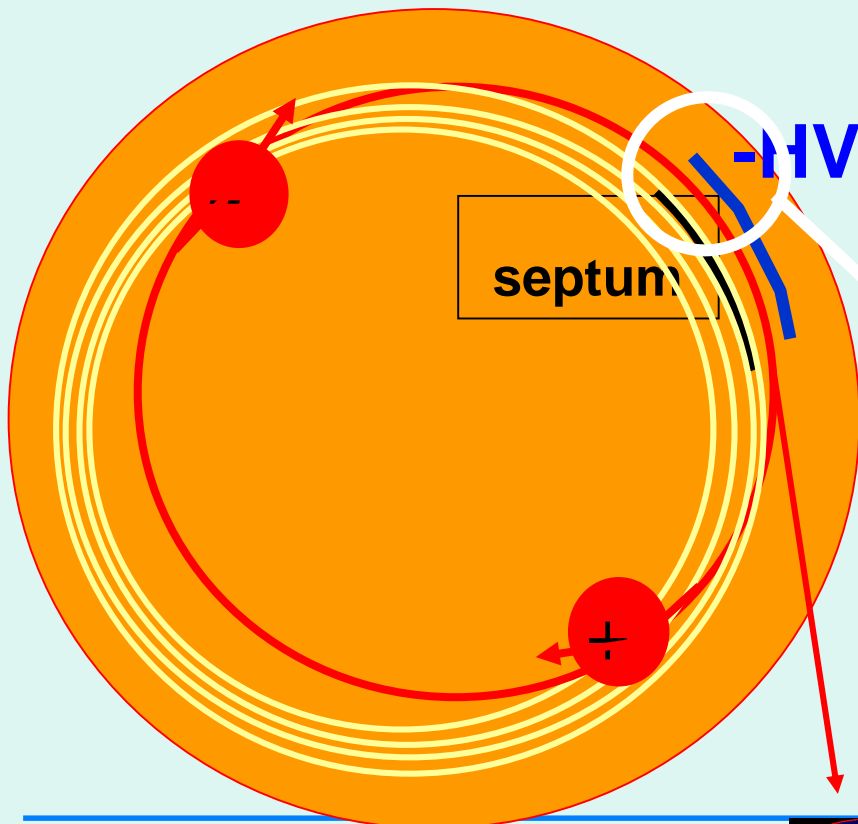
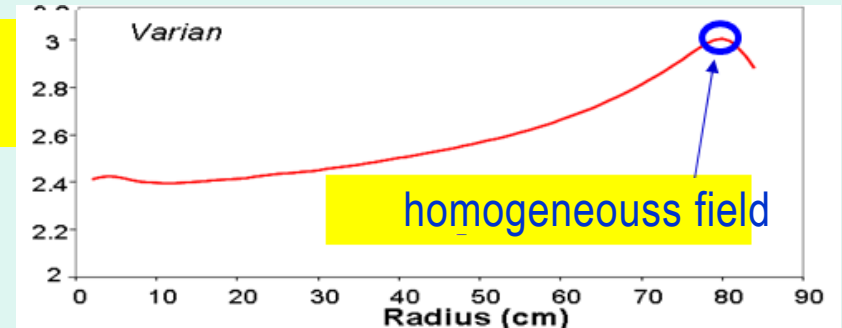
=effectively  
an orbit shift

Extraction septum



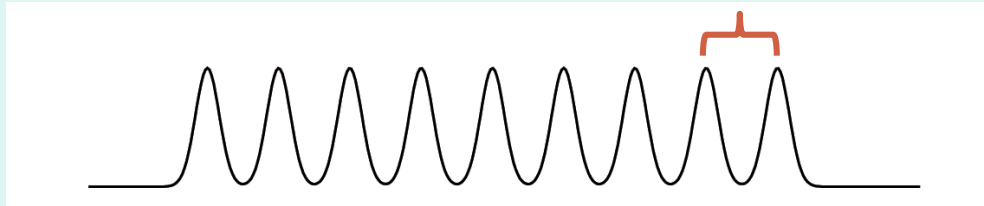
Uses the homogeneous field !  $V_r = 1$

→ Local field changes  
(bumps) shift the ebeam:





PSI: **without** oscillations:  $\Delta r$  from  $E_k$ -gain: **6 mm**

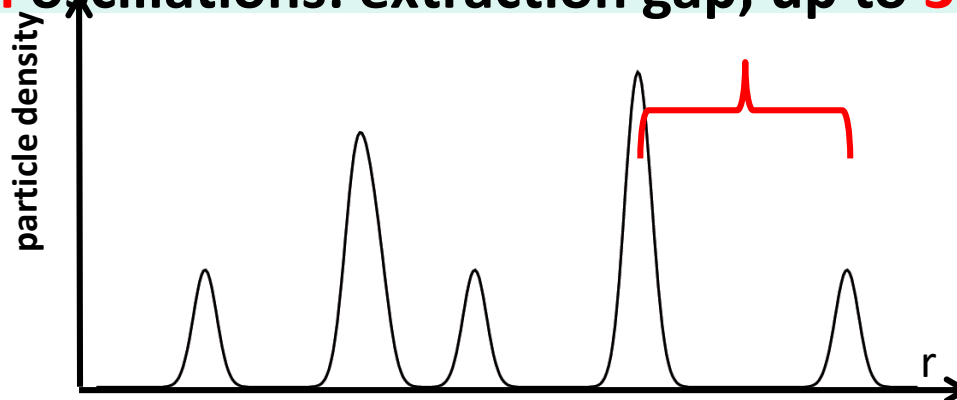


**Betatron oscillation is excited:**

→ adds precession to orbits

→ **increases the radial turn separation by a factor 3 !**

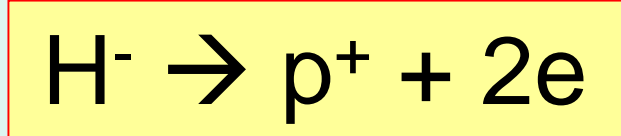
**with** oscillations: extraction gap; up to **3 x  $\Delta r$  : 18 mm**



**Extr eff >99.98%**

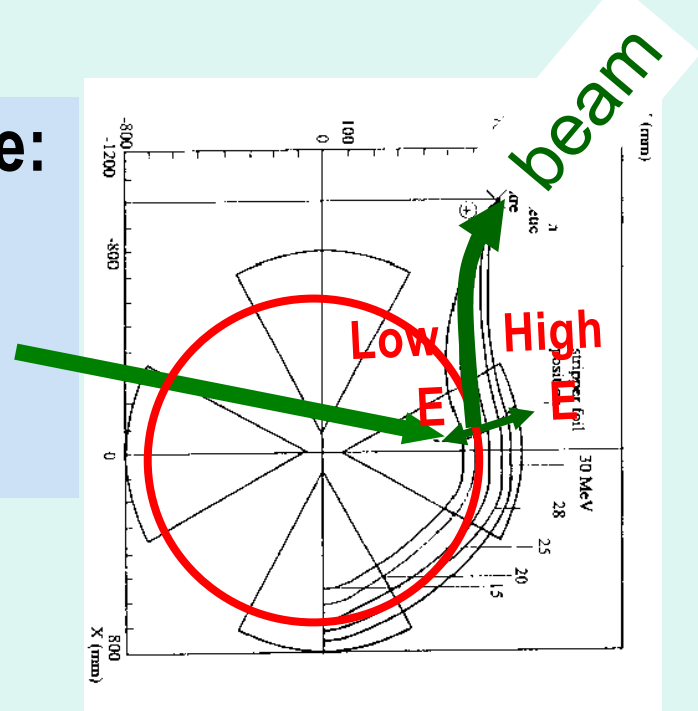


Accelerate  $H^-$   
Extraction by charge exchange  
flips Lorentz Force.



## Advantages of charge exchange:

- Almost 100% efficiency
- Radial position of stripper foil sets extracted beam energy



Limit in magn.field:  
Lorentz stripping.

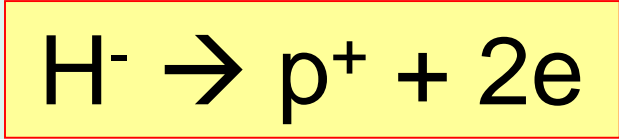
$$B < \frac{11}{\sqrt{E}} \quad [T]$$

+ losses due to stripping by residual gas

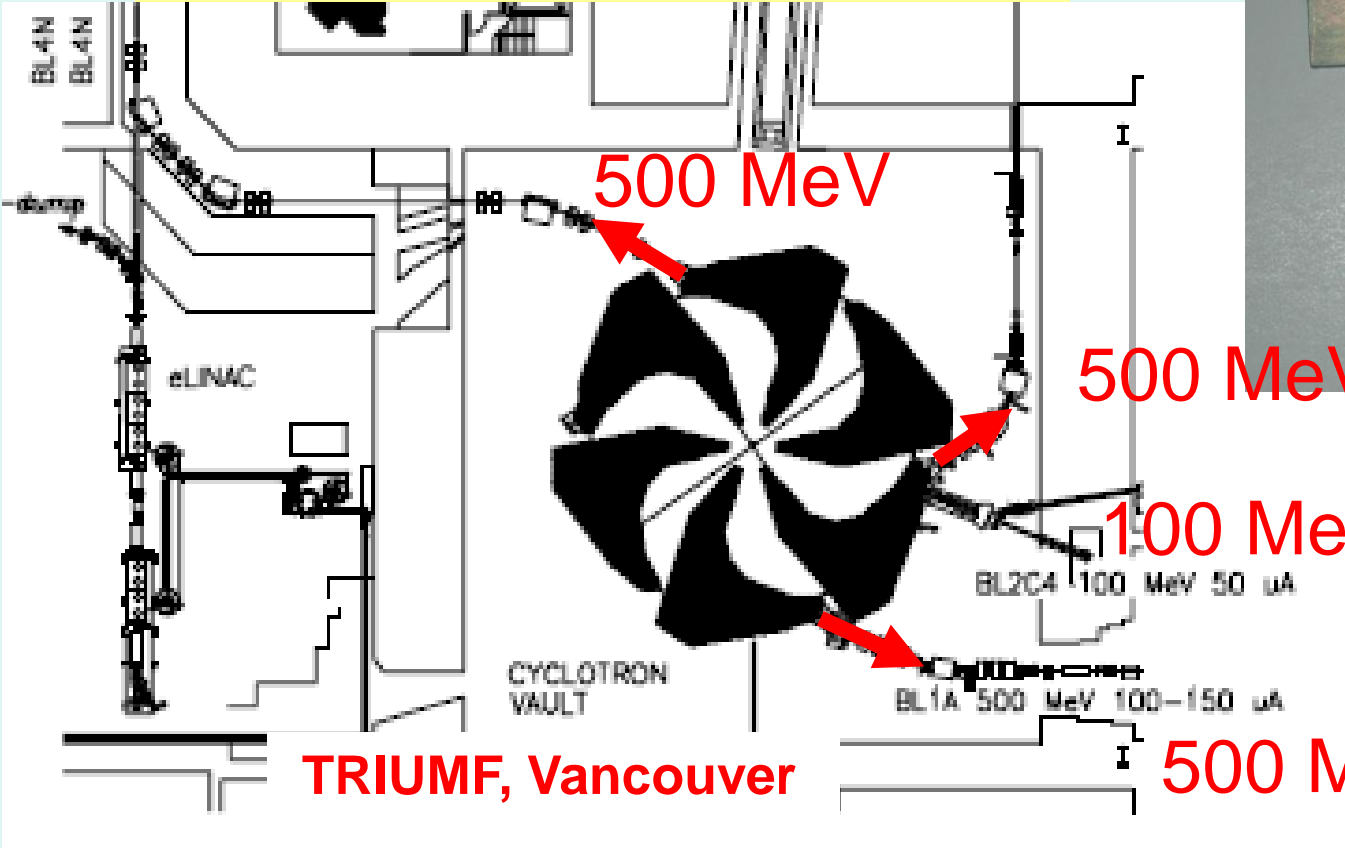




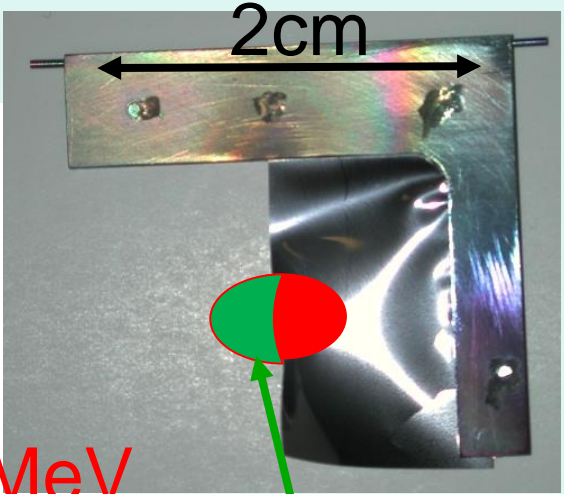
# Extraction by stripping



Simultaneous extraction!



TRIUMF, Vancouver



Used at other foil



<u>Application</u>	<u>typ E(MeV/A)</u>	<u>typ Intens</u>
physics (p+ions)	50-200	nA- $\mu$ A
make beams of n, $\pi$	>30n 500 $\pi$	$\mu$ A-mA
isotope production	30	1-100 $\mu$ A
particle therapy	70, <250	<1 $\mu$ A

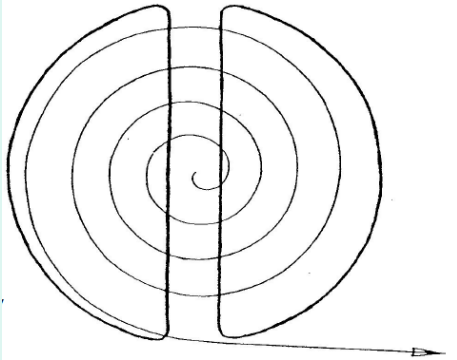


## Advantages of a cyclotron

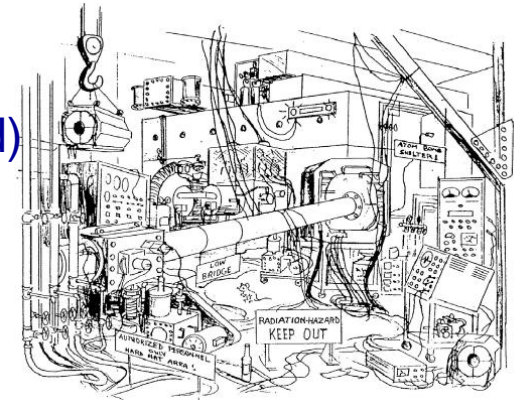
### A cyclotron provides:

- continuous beam (Synchr.Cycl: pulsed)
- intensity nA-mA (Synchr.Cycl:  $\ll \mu\text{A}$ )
- great reliability (few components)
- protons with energy up to 1 GeV
- ions up to 500 MeV/nucl.

The Cyclotron as seen by the **Inventor**



The Cyclotron as seen by the **Visitor**



The Cyclotron as seen by the **student**

$$r = r_0 \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{fr\omega}{c} \right) \cos(3\theta + \delta_2 + \delta_1 r) + \left( \frac{fr\omega}{c} \right)^2 \cos(5\theta + \delta_3 - \delta_2 r^2) + \left( \frac{fr\omega}{c} \right)^3 \cos(7\theta + \delta_4 - \delta_3 r^3) + \dots \right] \times \left\{ \frac{e^{2\pi r^2 \ln Z}}{1 + (\frac{r}{r_0})^2} \right\}$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \left[ \sin(\omega t - \theta) \sin \theta - \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{fr\omega}{c} \right)^2 \cos \theta \right] \frac{e v_0}{2\pi \omega}$$





The End