

An aerial photograph of a cyclotron's two semi-circular electrodes, known as dees, which are painted a light blue color. The dees are arranged in a circular pattern, with particle paths visible as thin lines spiraling outwards from the center. The surrounding area is filled with complex industrial machinery, including metal structures, pipes, and electrical components, all set within a large, well-lit industrial facility.

Cyclotrons

Mike Seidel

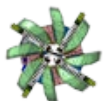
● Paul Scherrer Institute and EPFL, Switzerland
CERN Accelerator School – Introductory Course

September 30, 2024

Santa Susanna

Cyclotrons - Outline

- the classical cyclotron
 - history of the cyclotron, basic concepts and scalings, focusing, stepwidth, classification of cyclotron-like accelerators**
- synchro-cyclotrons
 - concept, synchronous phase, example**
- isochronous cyclotrons (→ sector cyclotrons)
 - isochronous condition, focusing in Thomas-cyclotrons, spiral angle, classical extraction: pattern/stepwidth, space charge**
- applications and examples of existing cyclotrons
 - TRIUMF, RIKEN SRC, PSI Ring, PSI medical cyclotron**
- discussion
 - classification of circular accelerators, Pro's and Con's of cyclotrons / FFA for different applications**



The Classical Cyclotron

two capacitive electrodes „Dees“, two gaps per turn

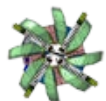
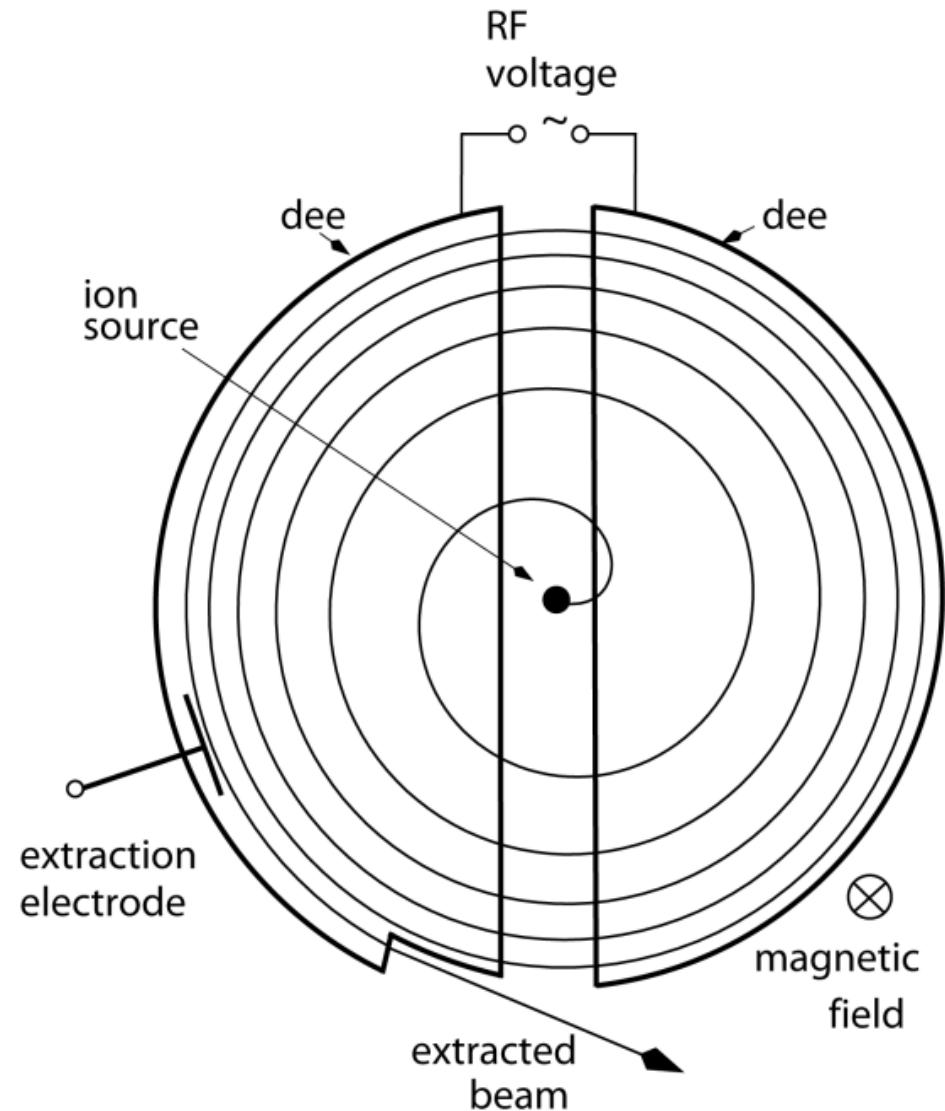
internal ion source

homogenous B field

works for low energy, $< \approx 20 \text{ MeV (p)}$

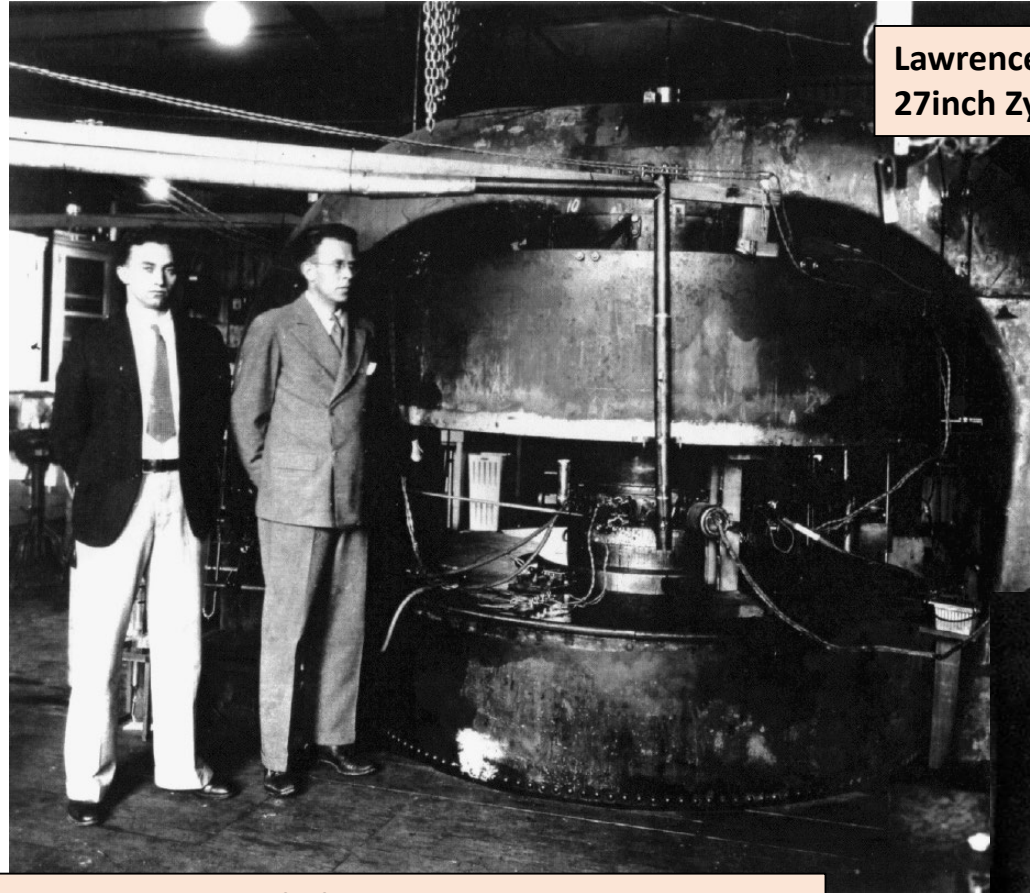
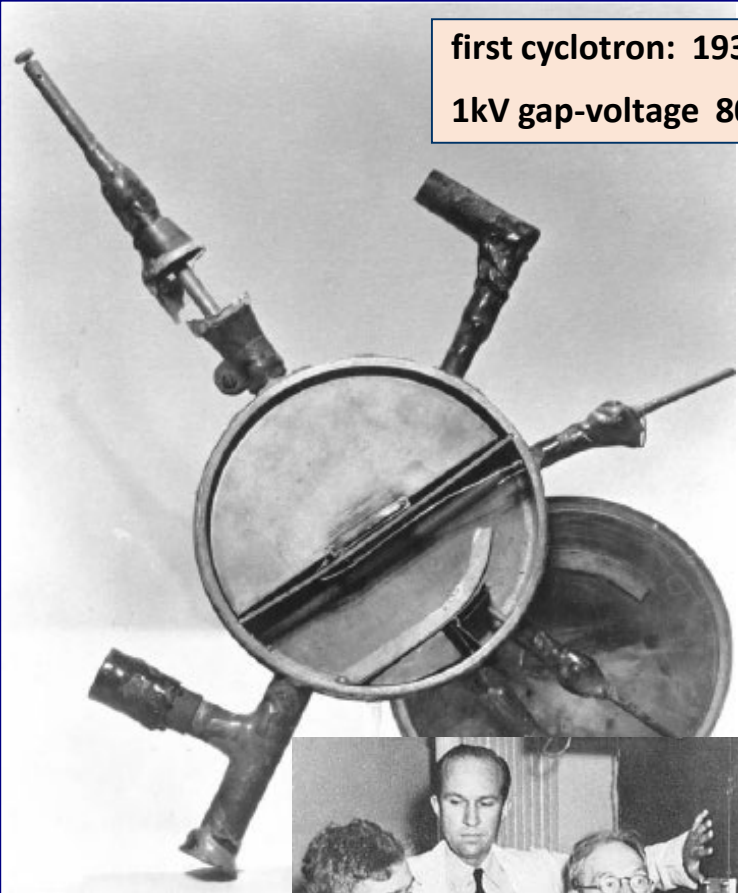
a powerful concept:

- **simplicity, compactness**
- **continuous injection/extraction**
- **multiple usage of accelerating voltage**



some History ...

first cyclotron: 1931, Berkeley
1kV gap-voltage 80keV Protons



Lawrence & Livingston,
27inch Zyklotron

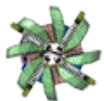


Ernest Lawrence, Nobel Prize 1939
*"for the invention and development of the cyclotron
and for results obtained with it, especially with
regard to artificial radioactive elements"*

John Lawrence (center), 1940'ies
*first medical applications: treating patients with
neutrons generated in the 60inch cyclotron*



[images: Lawrence Berkeley
National Laboratory]



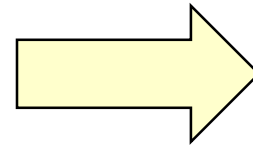
The Key to the Cyclotron?

$$\vec{F}_{\text{Lorentz}} = \vec{F}_{\text{centrifugal}}$$

$$q\omega RB = mR\omega^2, \quad \omega = v/R$$



R cancels R !



$$\omega_c = \frac{eB_z}{m}$$

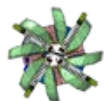
**circulation time is constant,
independent of energy or radius**

Lawrence's graduate student J. J. Brady later recalled his young supervisor's excitement following his eureka moment in early 1929:

He came bursting into the lab. . . , his eyes glowing with enthusiasm, and pulled me over to the blackboard. He drew the equations of motion in a magnetic field.

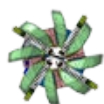
'Notice that R appears on both sides,' he said. 'Cancels out. R cancels R . Do you see what that means? The resonance condition is not dependent on the radius. . . *Any acceleration!*'. . . ' R cancels R ' he said again. 'Do you see?' . . . He left in a rush, I suppose to tell other people that R canceled R .

cited from Craddock, Symon, Reviews of Accelerator Science and Technology, 2008, p. 65





PSI Ring Cyclotron & Crew



cyclotron frequency and K value

- **cyclotron frequency** (homogeneous) B-field:
- **cyclotron K -value**: $\rightarrow K$ is the **energy reach** for protons (1/12 C) **from bending strength** in non-relativistic approximation:

$\rightarrow K$ can be used to rescale the energy reach of protons to other charge-to-mass ratios:

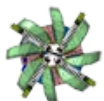
$\rightarrow K$ in [MeV] is often used for naming cyclotrons

examples: **K-130 cyclotron / Jyväskylä**
 cyclone C230 / IBA

$$\omega_c = \frac{eB}{\gamma m_0}$$

$$K = \frac{e^2}{2m_0} (B\rho)^2$$

$$\frac{E_k}{A} = K \left(\frac{Q}{A} \right)^2$$



cyclotron - isochronicity and scalings

continuous acceleration → revolution time should stay constant, though E_k , R vary

magnetic rigidity:

$$BR = \frac{p}{e} = \beta\gamma \frac{m_0 c}{e}$$

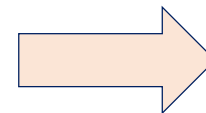
orbit radius from isochronicity:

$$R = \frac{c}{\omega_c} \beta = R_\infty \beta$$

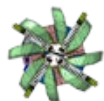
deduced scaling of B :

$$\longrightarrow B(R) \propto \gamma(R)$$

**to be isochronous, B must be raised $\propto \gamma(R)$
→ this contradicts the focusing requirements!**



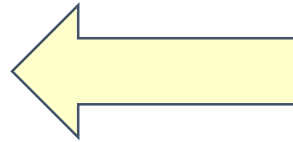
main difficulty to be overcome by cyclotron & FFA variants.



field index

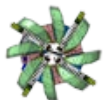
the field index describes the (normalized)
radial slope of the bending field:

$$\begin{aligned}k &= \frac{R}{B} \frac{dB}{dR} \\ &= \frac{\beta}{\gamma} \frac{d\gamma}{d\beta} \\ &= \gamma^2 - 1\end{aligned}$$



from isochronous condition:
 $B \propto \gamma$, $R \propto \beta$

→ thus $k > 0$ (positive slope of field) to keep beam isochronous!



focusing in a classical cyclotron

centrifugal force mv^2/r



Lorentz force $qv \times B$



$$m\ddot{r} = mr\dot{\theta}^2 - qr\dot{\theta}B_z$$

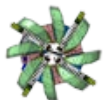
focusing: consider small deviations x from beam orbit R ($r = R+x$):

$$\ddot{x} + \frac{q}{m}vB_z(R+x) - \frac{v^2}{R+x} = 0,$$

$$\ddot{x} + \frac{q}{m}v \left(B_z(R) + \frac{dB_z}{dR}x \right) - \frac{v^2}{R} \left(1 - \frac{x}{R} \right) = 0,$$

$$\ddot{x} + \omega_c^2(1+k)x = 0.$$

using: $\omega_c = qB_z/m = v/R$, $r\dot{\theta} \approx v$, $k = \frac{R}{B} \frac{dB}{dR}$



betatron tunes in cyclotrons

thus in radial plane:

$$\omega_r = \omega_c \sqrt{1+k} = \omega_c \nu_r$$

$$\nu_r = \sqrt{1+k}$$

$$\approx \gamma$$

using isochronicity condition

note: simple case for $k = 0$:
 $\nu_r = 1$ (one circular orbit oscillates w.r.t the other)

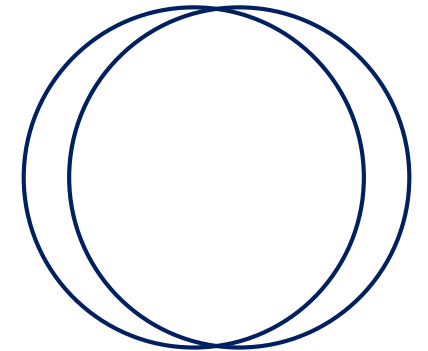
using Maxwell to relate B_z and B_R :

$$\text{rot } \vec{B} = \frac{dB_R}{dz} - \frac{dB_z}{dR} = 0$$

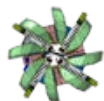
in vertical plane:

$$\nu_z = \sqrt{-k}$$

← $k < 0$ to obtain vertical focus.



thus: in classical cyclotron $k < 0$ required for vert. focus; however this violates isochronous condition $k = \gamma^2 - 1 > 0$



naming conventions of cyclotrons ...

1.) resonant acceleration

classical cyclotron

limit energy / ignore problem

synchro- cyclotron

frequency is varied

isochronous cyclotron

avg. field slope positive

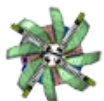
2.) transverse focusing

classical cyclotron

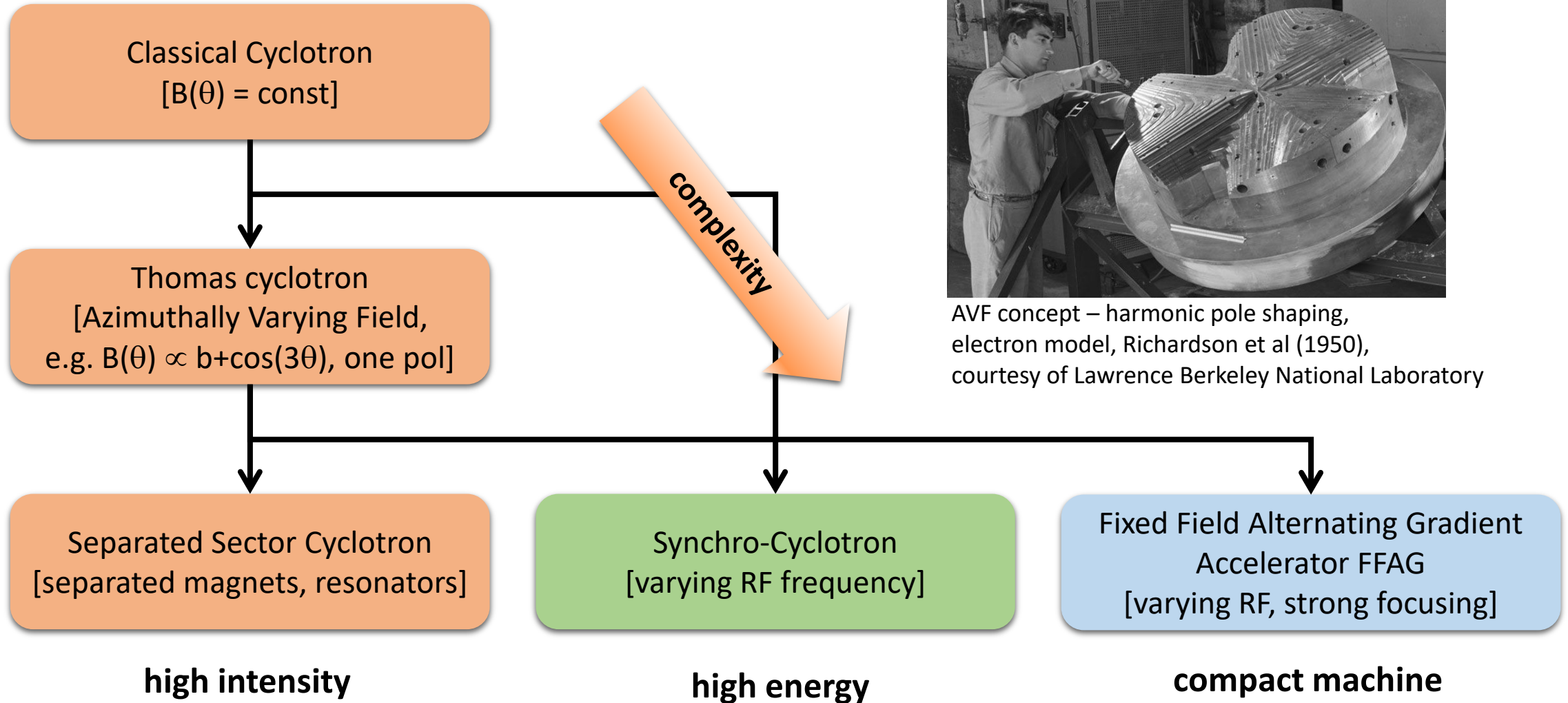
negative field slope

AVF-/Thomas-/sector cyclotron

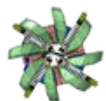
focusing by flutter, spiral angle



classification of cyclotron like accelerators

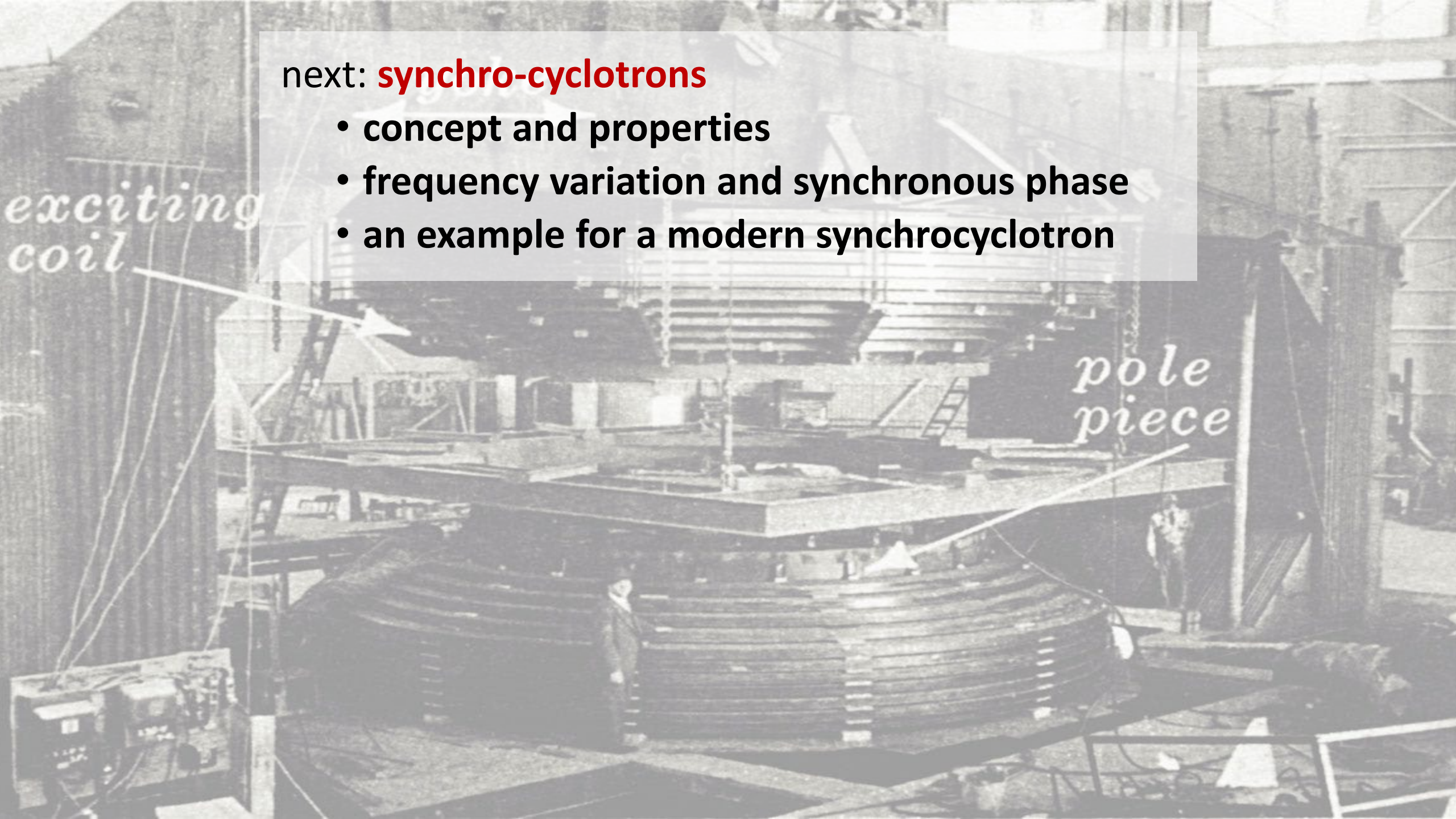


AVF concept – harmonic pole shaping, electron model, Richardson et al (1950), courtesy of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

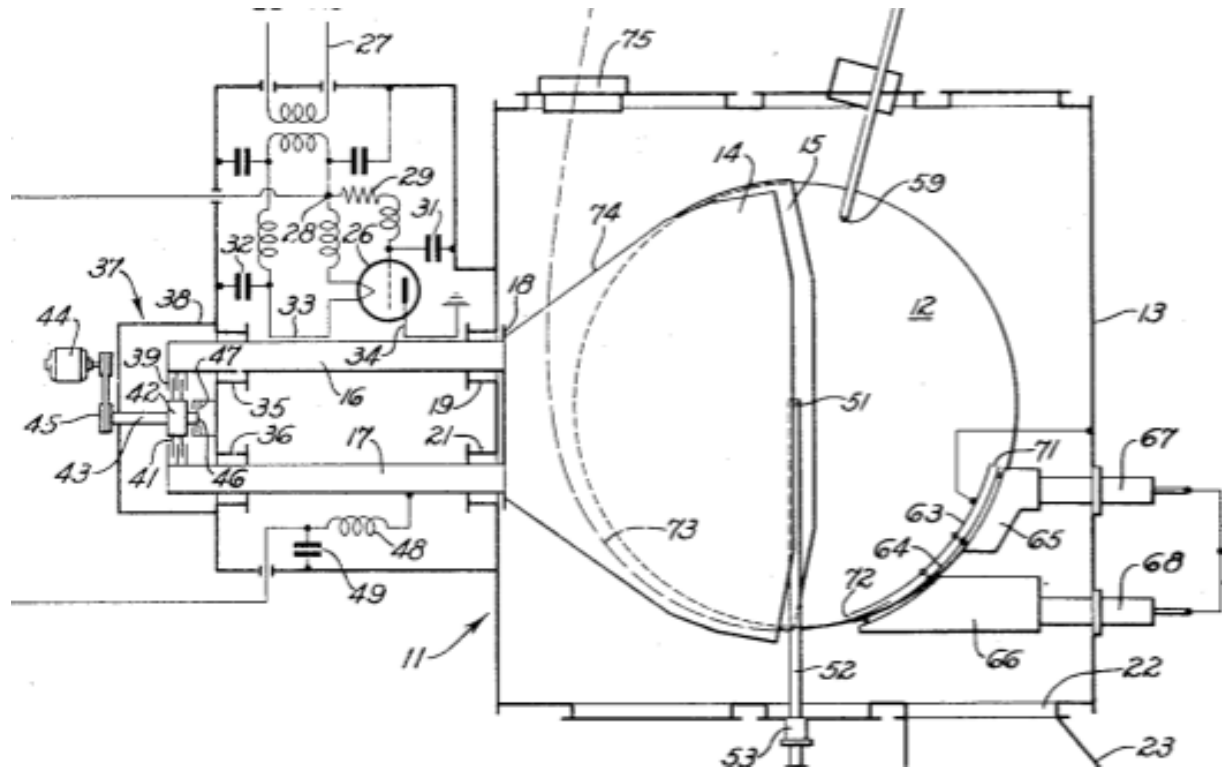


next: **synchro-cyclotrons**

- **concept and properties**
- **frequency variation and synchronous phase**
- **an example for a modern synchrocyclotron**

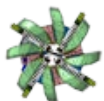


Synchrocyclotron -concept



first proposal by
Mc.Millan, Berkeley

- accelerating frequency is variable, is reduced during acceleration
- negative field index (= negative slope) ensures sufficient focusing
- operation is pulsed, thus avg. intensity is low
- bending field constant in time, thus rep. rate high, e.g. 1kHz



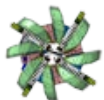
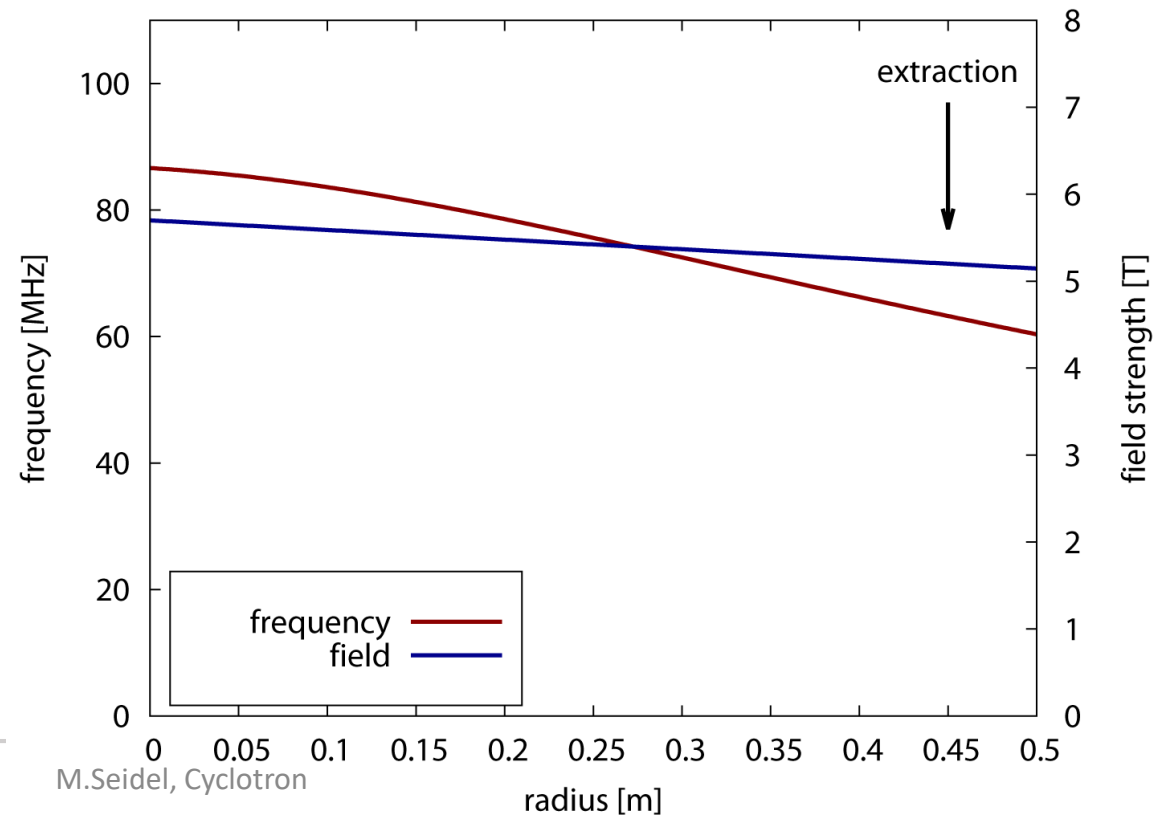
Synchrocyclotron continued

advantages	disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - high energies possible ($\geq 1\text{Gev}$) - focusing by field gradient, no flutter required \rightarrow thus compact magnet - only RF is cycled, fast repetition as compared to synchrotron 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - low intensity, at least factor 100 less than CW cyclotron - complicated RF control required - weak focusing, large beam

numerical example

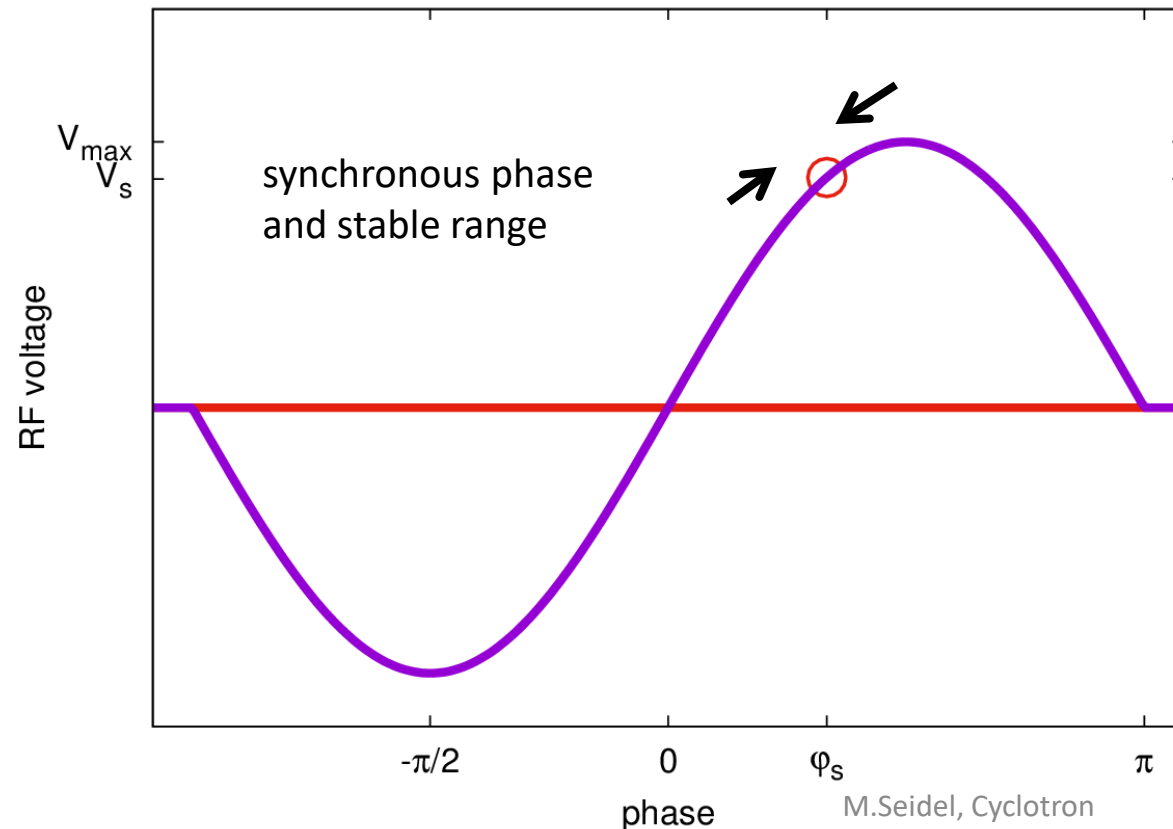
field and frequency vs. radius:

- 230MeV p, strong field
- RF curve must be programmed in some way



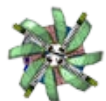
Synchrocyclotron and synchronous phase

- internal source generates continuous beam; only a fraction is captured by RF wave in a phase range around a synchronous particle
- compared to a synchrotron the “storage time” is short → in practice no synchrotron oscillations



relation of
energy gain per turn and
rate of frequency change

$$\frac{qU_0 N \cos \varphi_s}{E_k + E_0} = -\frac{2\pi}{\omega^2} \frac{d\omega}{dt}$$



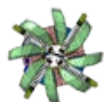
A modern synchrocyclotron for medical application – IBA S2C2

→ at the same energy synchrocyclotrons can be build more compact and with lower cost than sector cyclotrons; however, the achievable current is significantly lower

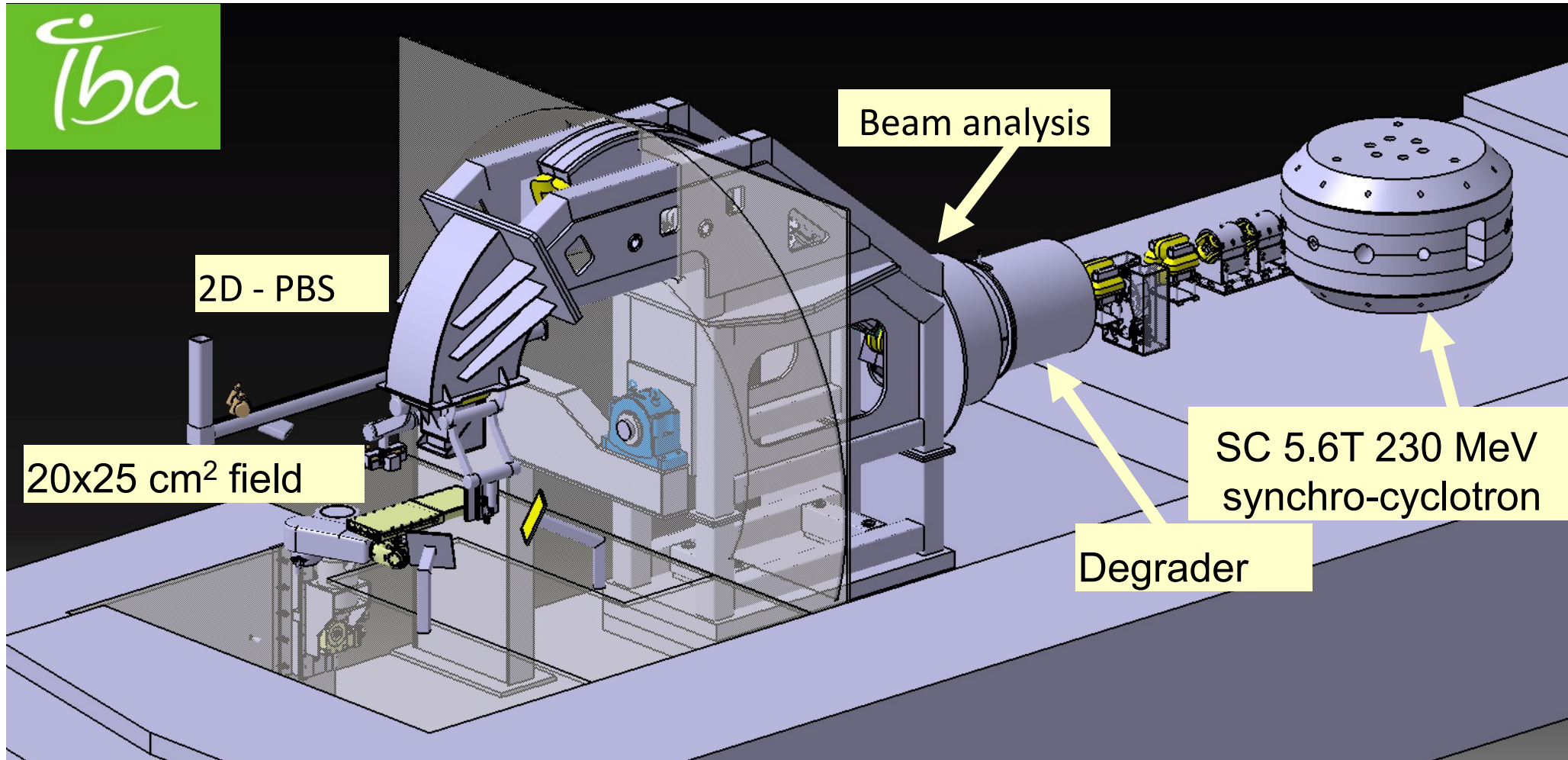
energy	230 MeV
current	130 nA
dimensions	Ø2.5 m x 2 m
weight	< 50 t
extraction radius	0.45 m
s.c. coil strength	5.6 Tesla
RF frequency	90...60 MHz
repetition rate	1 kHz



courtesy:
P.Verbruggen, IBA

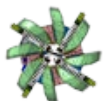


compact treatment facility using the high field synchro-cyclotron



- required area: 24x13.5m² (small)
- 2-dim pencil beam scanning

[image courtesy: IBA]





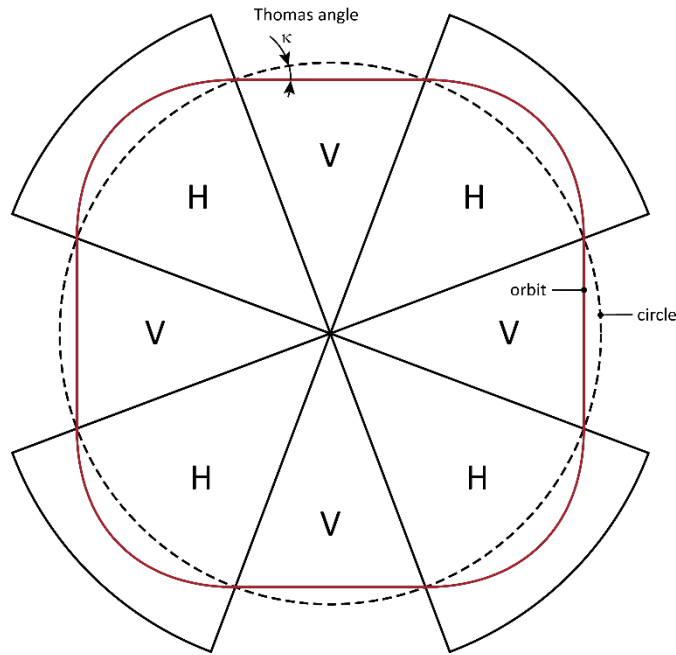
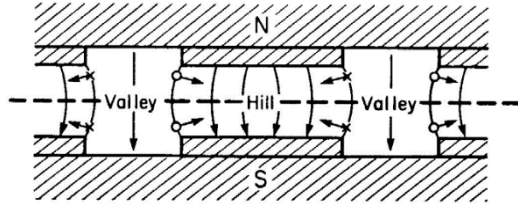
next: **isochronous- / sector cyclotrons**

- focusing and AVF vs. separated sector cyclotron
- how to keep isochronicity
- extraction: pattern/stepwidth
- RF acceleration
- transv./long. space charge

focusing in sector cyclotrons

hill / valley variation of magnetic field (Thomas focusing) makes it possible to design cyclotrons for higher energies

Illustration of focusing at edges



vertical lens at boundary:

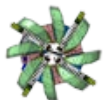
$$\frac{1}{f_z} = \frac{q}{\beta\gamma m_0 c} (B_H - B_V) \tan \kappa$$

resulting vertical tune:

$$\nu_z^2 = -\frac{R}{B_z} \frac{dB_z}{dR} + F$$

flutter factor describes modulation depth:

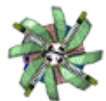
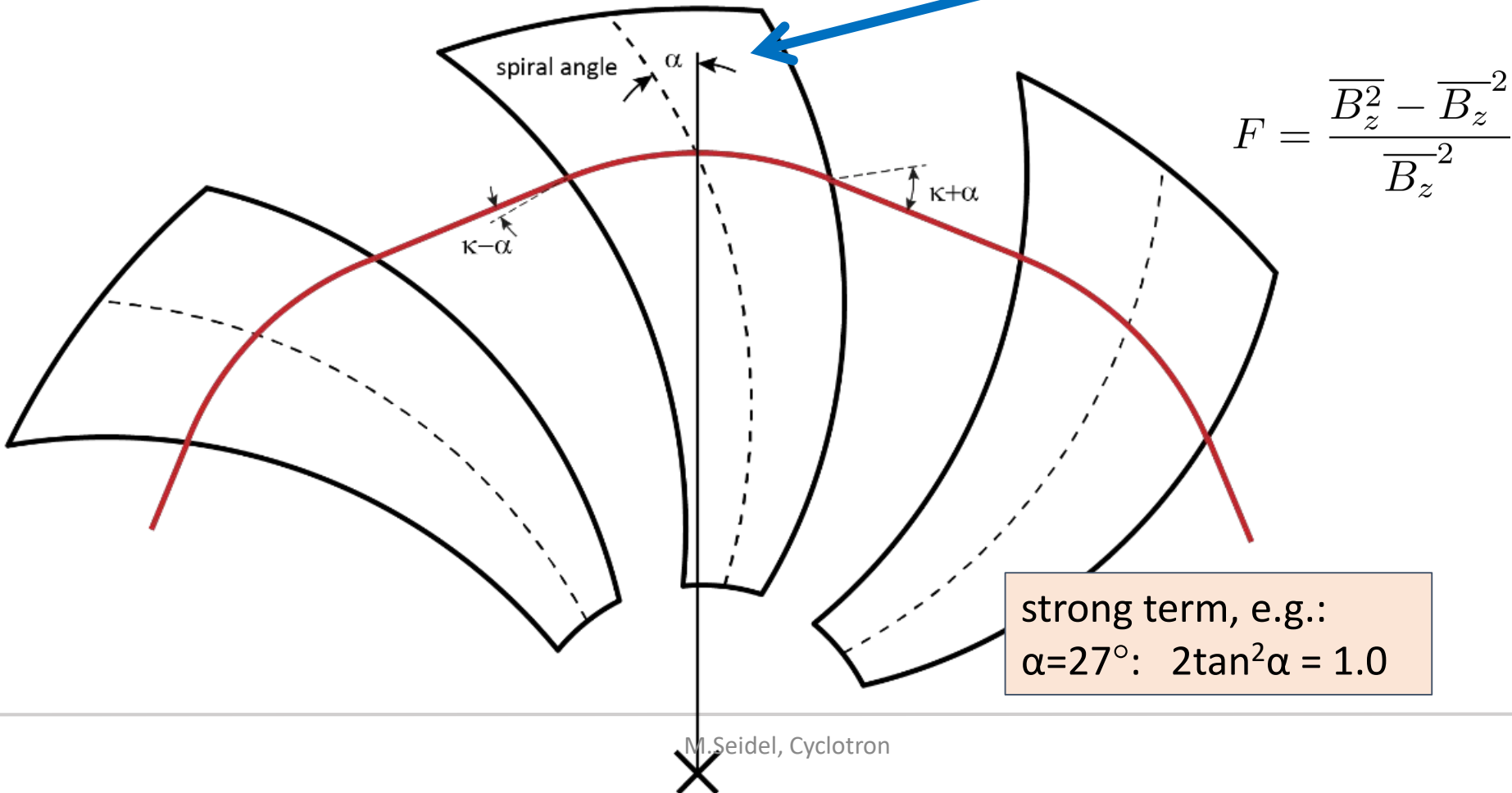
$$F = \frac{\overline{B_z^2} - \overline{B_z}^2}{\overline{B_z}^2}$$



adding a spiral angle

the spiral angle introduces additional focusing
with alternating contribution at entry and exit
of the sector fields:

$$\nu_z^2 = -\frac{R}{B_z} \frac{dB_z}{dR} + F(1 + 2 \tan^2 \alpha)$$

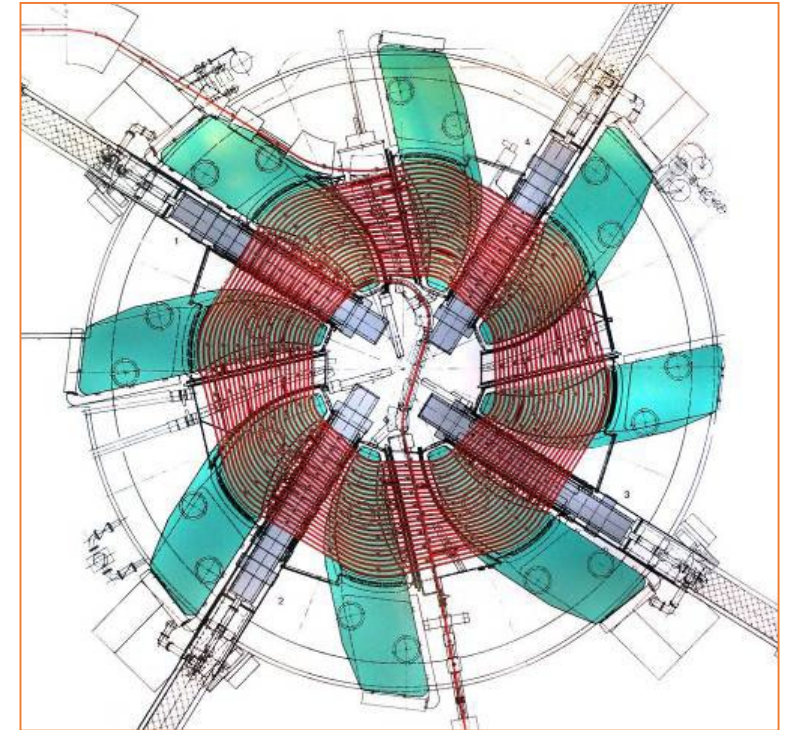


Azimuthally Varying Field vs. Separated Sector Cyclotrons



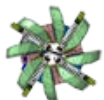
PSI/Varian comet: 250MeV sc. medical cyclotron

- **AVF = single pole with shaping, often spiral poles**
- **internal source** possible
- **D-type RF electrodes**, rel. low energy gain
- **compact**, cost effective
- depicted Varian cyclotron: 80% extraction efficiency;
not suited for high power



PSI Ring cyclotron

- **modular layout**, larger cyclotrons possible, sector magnets, box resonators, stronger focusing, injection/extraction in straight sections
- **external injection** required, i.e. pre-accelerator
- **box-resonators** (high voltage gain)
- high **extraction efficiency** possible: e.g. PSI: 99.98%



three methods to raise the average magnetic field with γ

remember:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rev.time} &: R \propto \beta \\ \text{momentum} &: BR \propto \beta\gamma \\ \text{thus} &: B \propto \gamma \end{aligned}$$

1.) broader hills (poles) with radius

2.) **decrease pole gap with radius**

3.) s.c. coil arrangement to enhance field at large radius (in addition to iron dominated field)

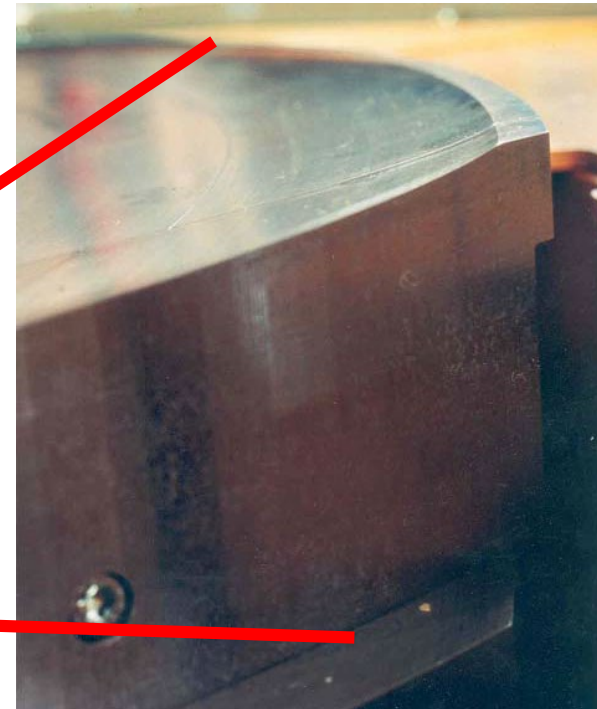
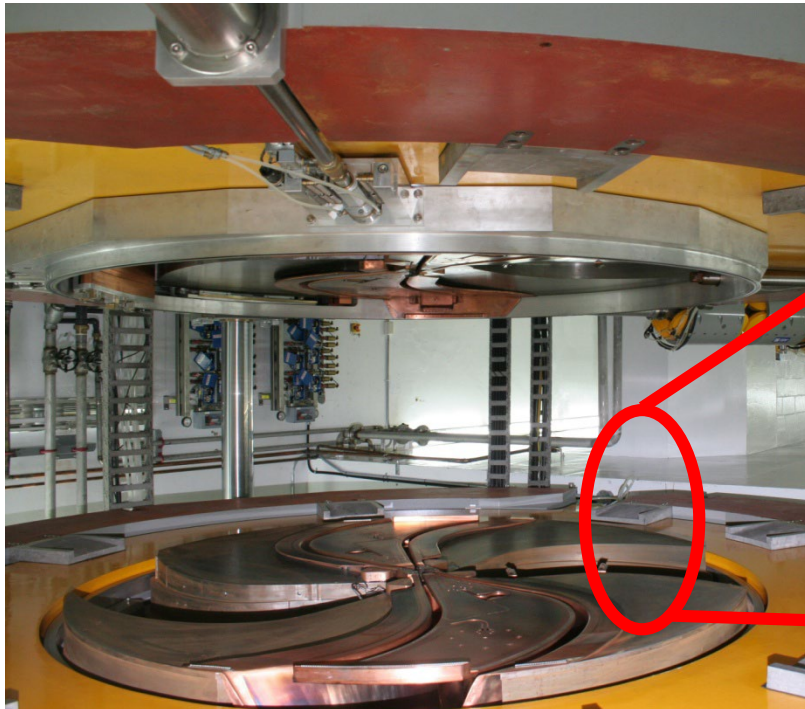
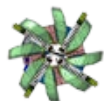


photo:
S. Zaremba, IBA



derivation of (relativistic) turn separation in a cyclotron

starting point: **bending strength**

→ compute total log.differential

→ use field index $k = R/B \cdot dB/dR$

$$BR = \sqrt{\gamma^2 - 1} \frac{m_0 c}{e}$$

$$\frac{dB}{B} + \frac{dR}{R} = \frac{\gamma d\gamma}{\gamma^2 - 1}$$

$$\frac{dR}{d\gamma} = \frac{\gamma R}{\gamma^2 - 1} \frac{1}{1 + k}$$

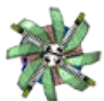
radius change
per turn

$$\frac{dR}{dn_t} = \frac{dR}{d\gamma} \frac{d\gamma}{dn_t}$$

$$= \frac{U_t}{m_0 c^2} \frac{\gamma R}{(\gamma^2 - 1)(1 + k)} \quad \left. \vphantom{\frac{dR}{dn_t}} \right\} \text{isochronicity not conserved (last turns)}$$

$$= \frac{U_t}{m_0 c^2} \frac{R}{(\gamma^2 - 1)\gamma} \quad \left. \vphantom{\frac{dR}{dn_t}} \right\} \text{isochronicity conserved (general scaling)}$$

[U_t = energy gain per turn]



turn separation - discussion

for clean extraction a large stepwidth (turn separation) is of utmost importance;
in the PSI Ring most efforts were directed towards maximizing the turn separation

general scaling at
extraction:

$$\Delta R(R_{\text{extr}}) = \frac{U_t}{m_0 c^2} \frac{R_{\text{extr}}}{(\gamma^2 - 1)\gamma}$$

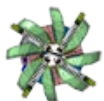
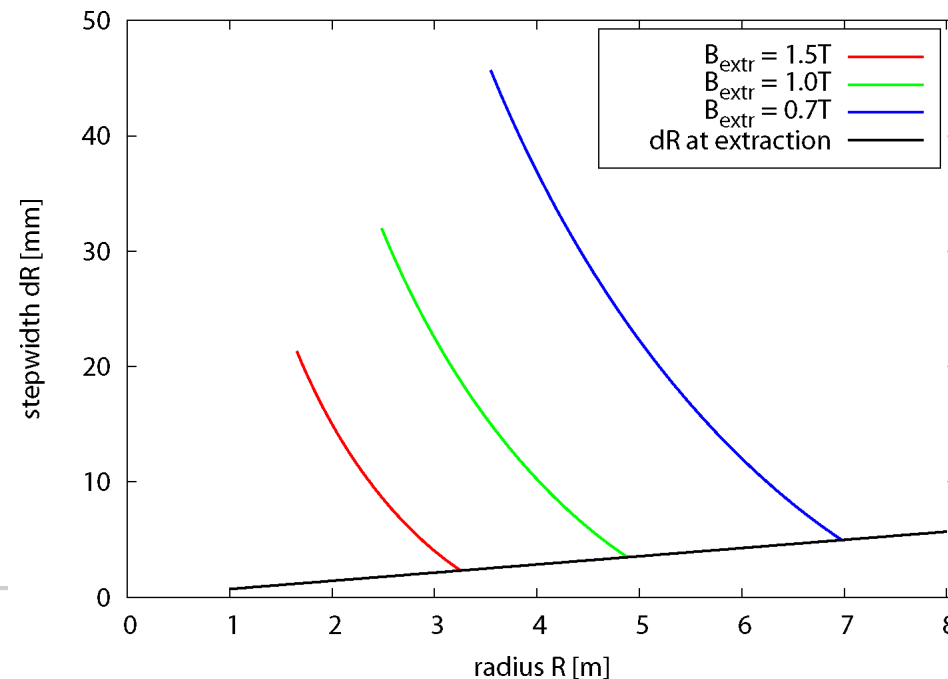
scaling during
acceleration:

$$\frac{dR}{dn_t} \approx \frac{U_t}{m_0 c^2} \frac{R}{\beta^2} \rightarrow \Delta R(R) \propto \frac{1}{R}$$

desirable:

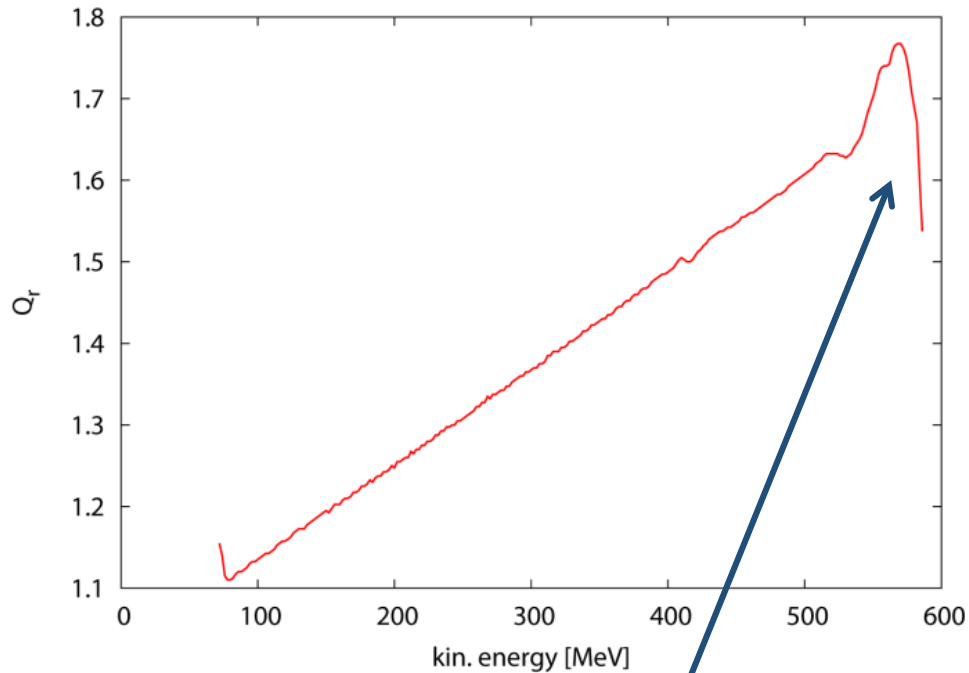
- limited energy (< 1GeV)
- large radius R_{extr}
- high energy gain U_t

illustration:
stepwidth vs. radius in cyclotrons
of different sizes but same energy;
100MeV inj \rightarrow 800MeV extr

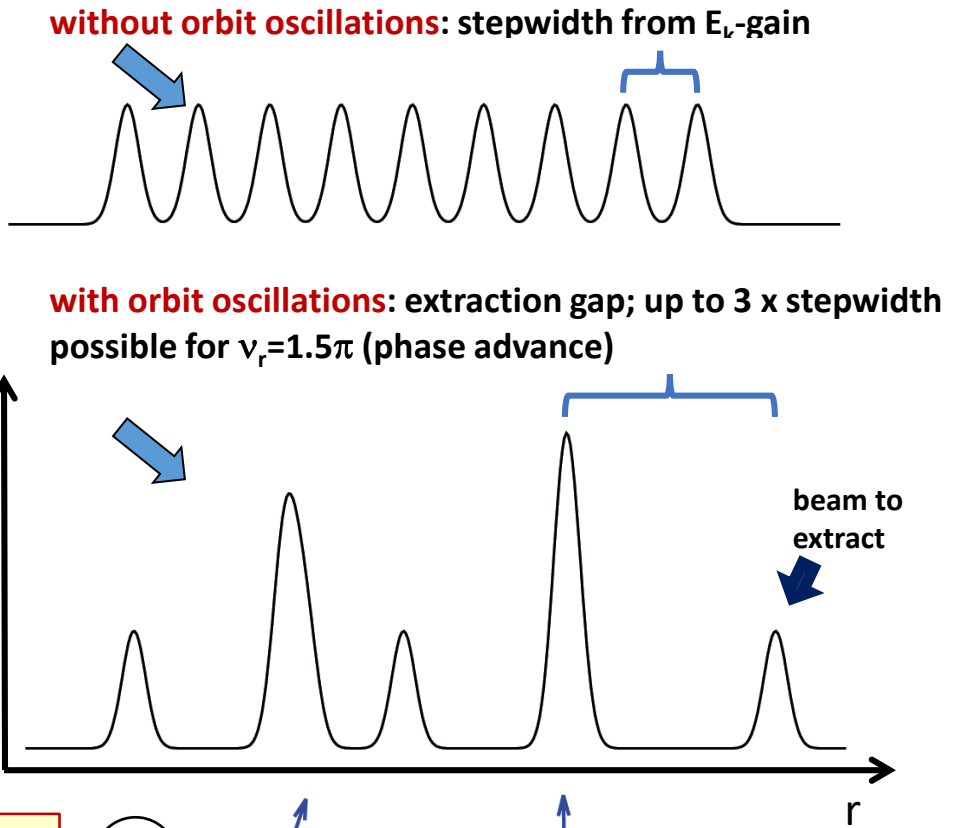


extraction with off-center orbits

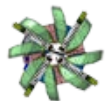
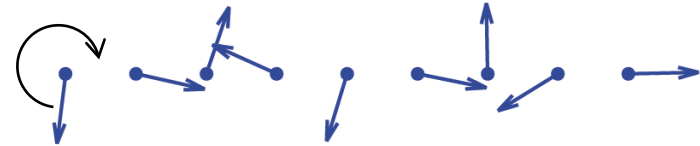
betatron oscillations around the “closed orbit” can be used to increase the radial stepwidth by a factor 3 !



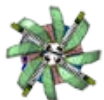
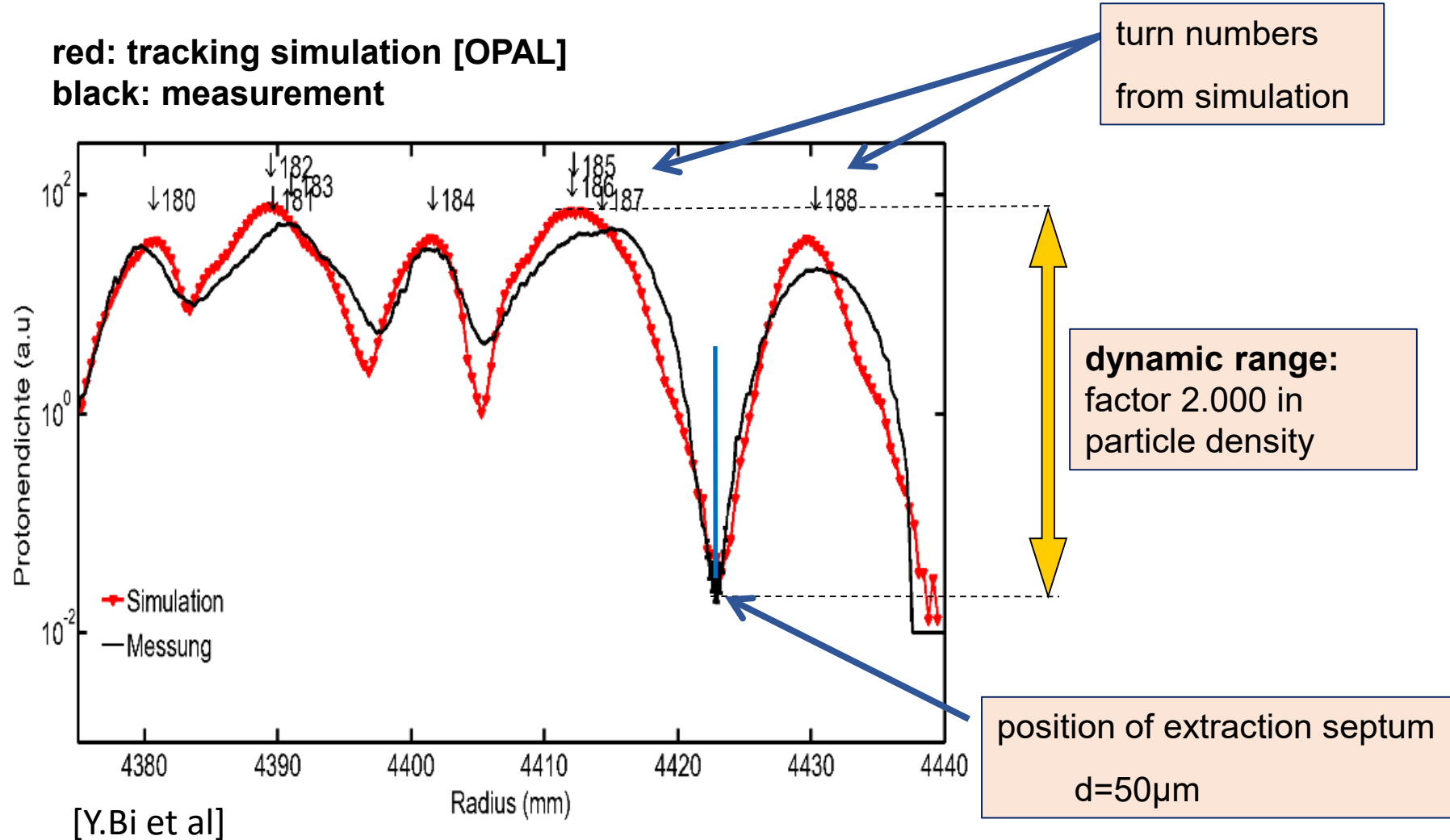
radial tune vs. energy (PSI Ring)
typically $\nu_r \approx \gamma$ during acceleration;
but decrease in outer fringe field



phase vector of orbit oscillations (r, r')



extraction profile measured at PSI Ring Cyclotron



longitudinal space charge

sector model (W.Joho, 1981):

→ accumulated energy spread transforms into transverse tails

- consider rotating uniform sectors of charge (overlapping turns)
- test particle “sees” only fraction of sector due to shielding of vacuum chamber with gap height $2w$

two factors are proportional to the number of turns:

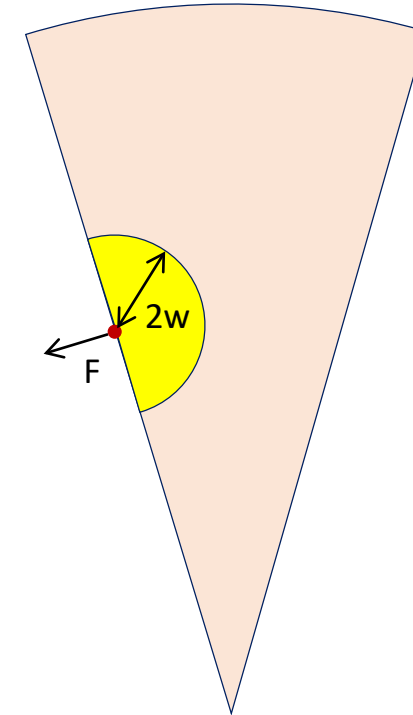
- 1) the charge density in the sector
- 2) the time span the force acts

$$\Delta U_{sc} = \frac{8}{3} e I_p Z_0 \ln \left(4 \frac{w}{a} \right) \cdot \frac{n_{\max}^2}{\beta_{\max}} \approx 2.800 \Omega \cdot e I_p \cdot \frac{n_{\max}^2}{\beta_{\max}}$$

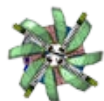
derivation see: [High Intensity Aspects of Cyclotrons, ECPM-2012, PSI](#)

in addition:

- 3) the inverse of turn separation at extraction: $\frac{1}{\Delta R_{\text{extr}}} \propto n_{\max}$



→ thus the attainable current at constant losses scales as n_{\max}^{-3}



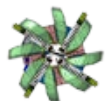
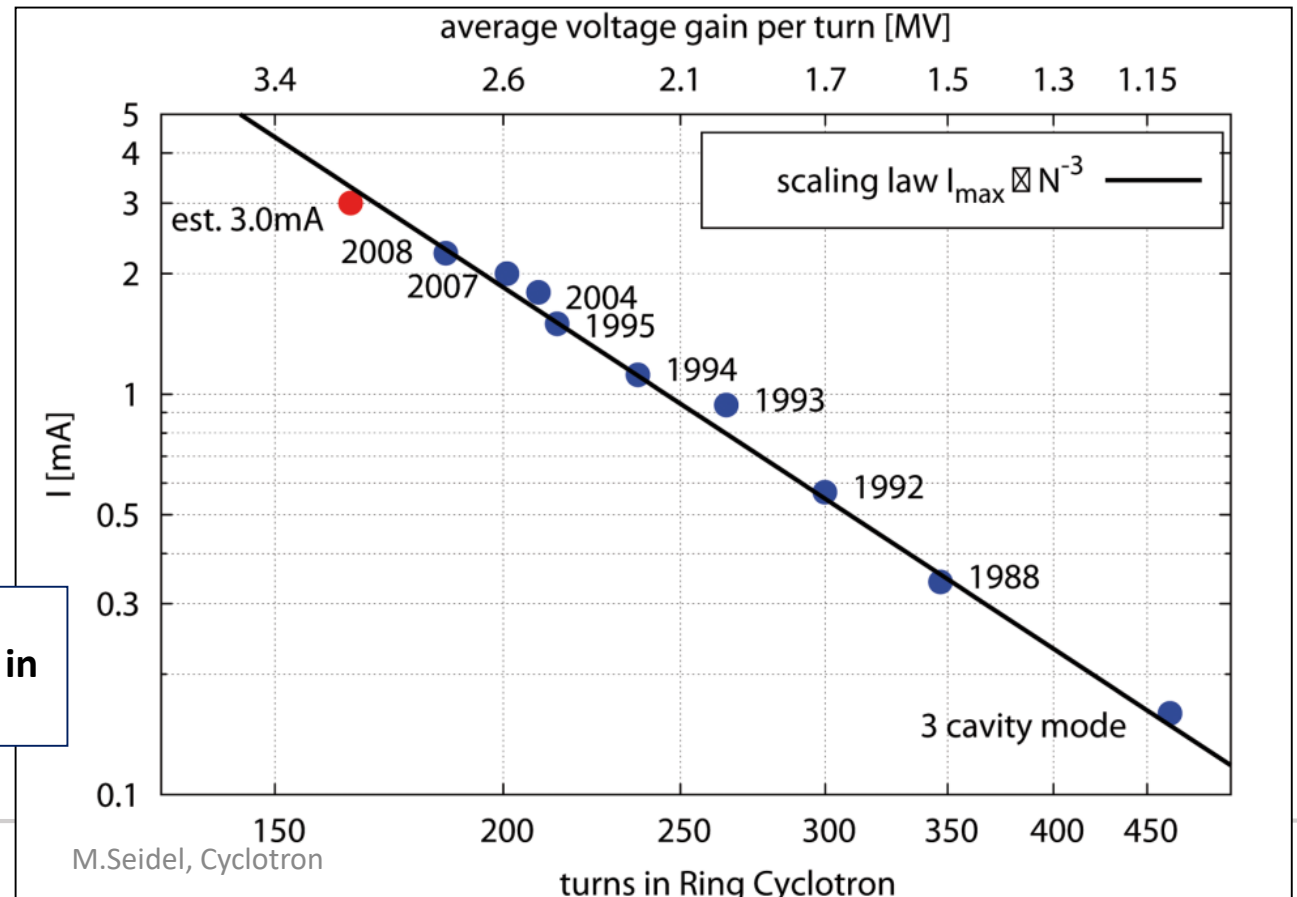
longitudinal space charge; evidence for third power law

- at PSI the maximum attainable current indeed scales with the third power of the turn number
- maximum energy gain per turn is of utmost importance in this type of high intensity cyclotron

→ with constant losses at the extraction electrode the maximum attainable current indeed scales as:

$$I_{\max} \propto n_t^{-3}$$

historical development of current and turn numbers in PSI Ring Cyclotron





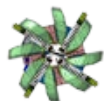
next: **cyclotron examples**

- compact cyclotrons
- TRIUMF, RIKEN SRC, PSI-Comet, PSI-HIPA

compact cyclotrons for Isotope production

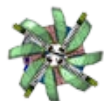


vertical setup



some cyclotrons

	TRIUMF	RIKEN SRC (supercond.)	PSI Ring	PSI medical (supercond.)
particles	H ⁻ → p	ions	p	p
K [MeV]	520	2600	592	250
magnets (poles)	(6)	6	8	(4)
peak field strength [T]	0.6	3.8	2.1	3.8
R _{inj} /R _{extr} [m]	0.25/3.8...7.9	3.6/5.4	2.4/4.5	-/0.8
P _{max} [kW]	110	1 (86Kr)	1300	0.25
extraction efficiency (tot. transmission)	0.9995 (0.70)	(0.63)	0.9998	0.80
extraction method	stripping foil	electrostatic deflector	electrostatic deflector	electrostatic deflector
comment	variable energy	ions, flexible	high intensity	compact



cyclotron examples: TRIUMF / Vancouver

- p, 520MeV, up to 110kW beam power
- diameter: 18m (largest n.c. cyclotron worldwide)
- extraction by stripping $H^- \rightarrow$ variable energy; multiple extraction points possible

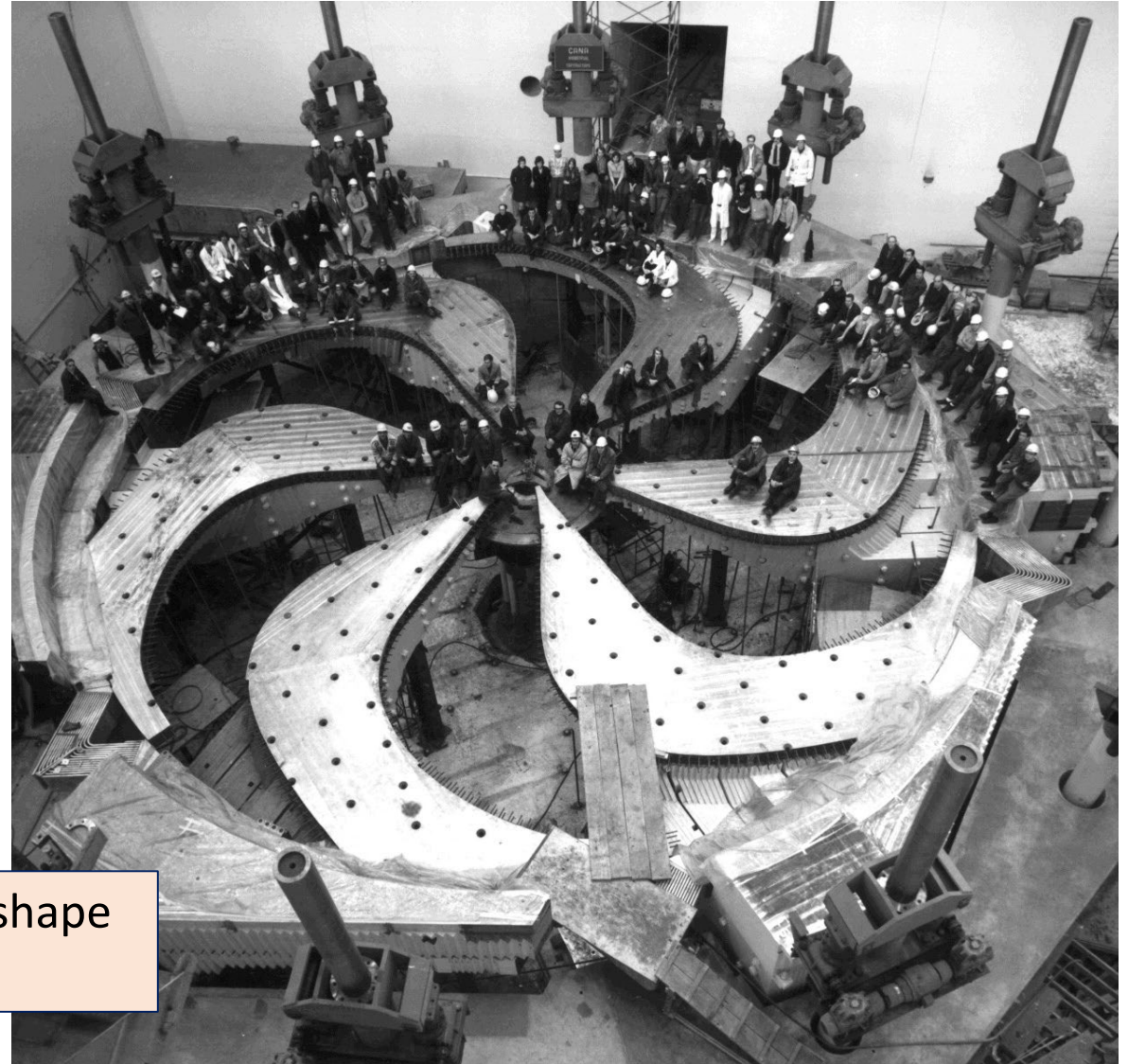
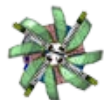


photo: iron poles with spiral shape
 $\delta_{\max} = 70\text{deg}$



example: RIKEN (Jp) superconducting cyclotron

K = 2,600 MeV

Max. Field: 3.8T (235 MJ)

RF frequency: 18-38 MHz

Weight: 8,300 tons

Diameter: 19m

Height: 8m

superconducting Sector Magnets :6

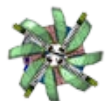
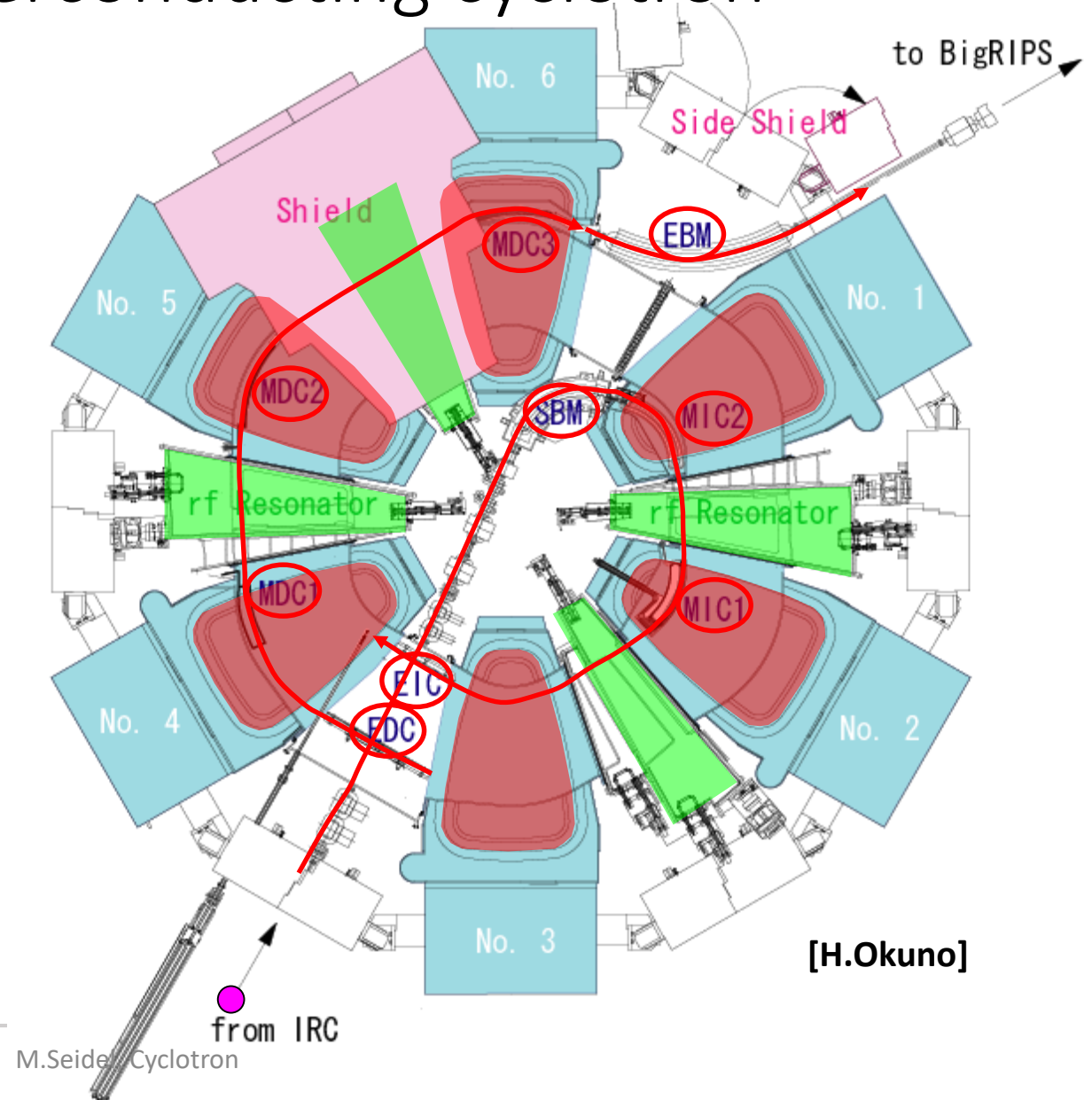
RF Resonator :4

Injection elements.

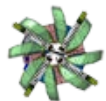
Extraction elements.

utilization:

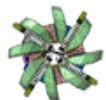
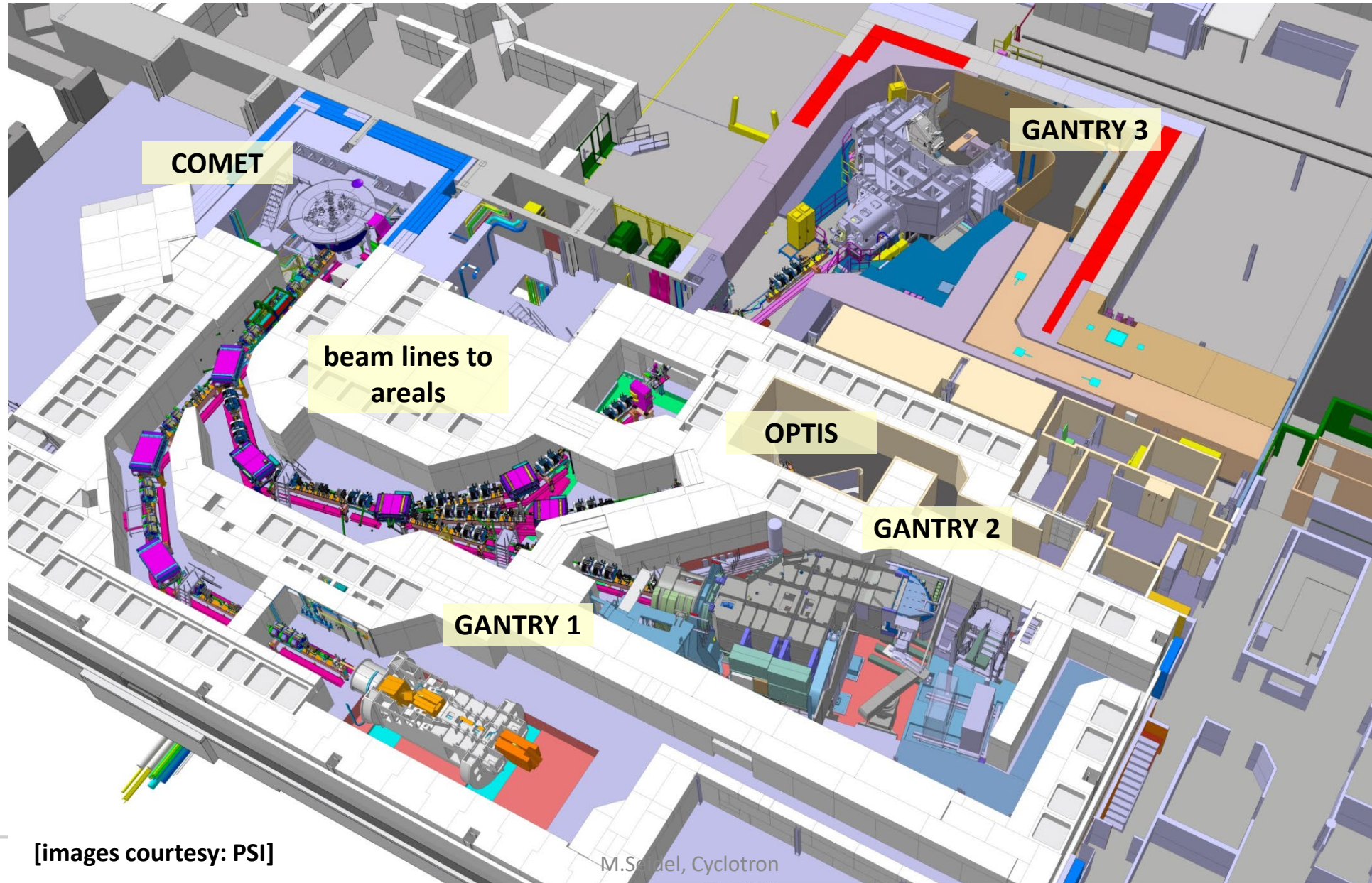
broad spectrum of ions up to Uranium



RIKEN SRC in the vault



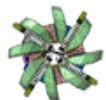
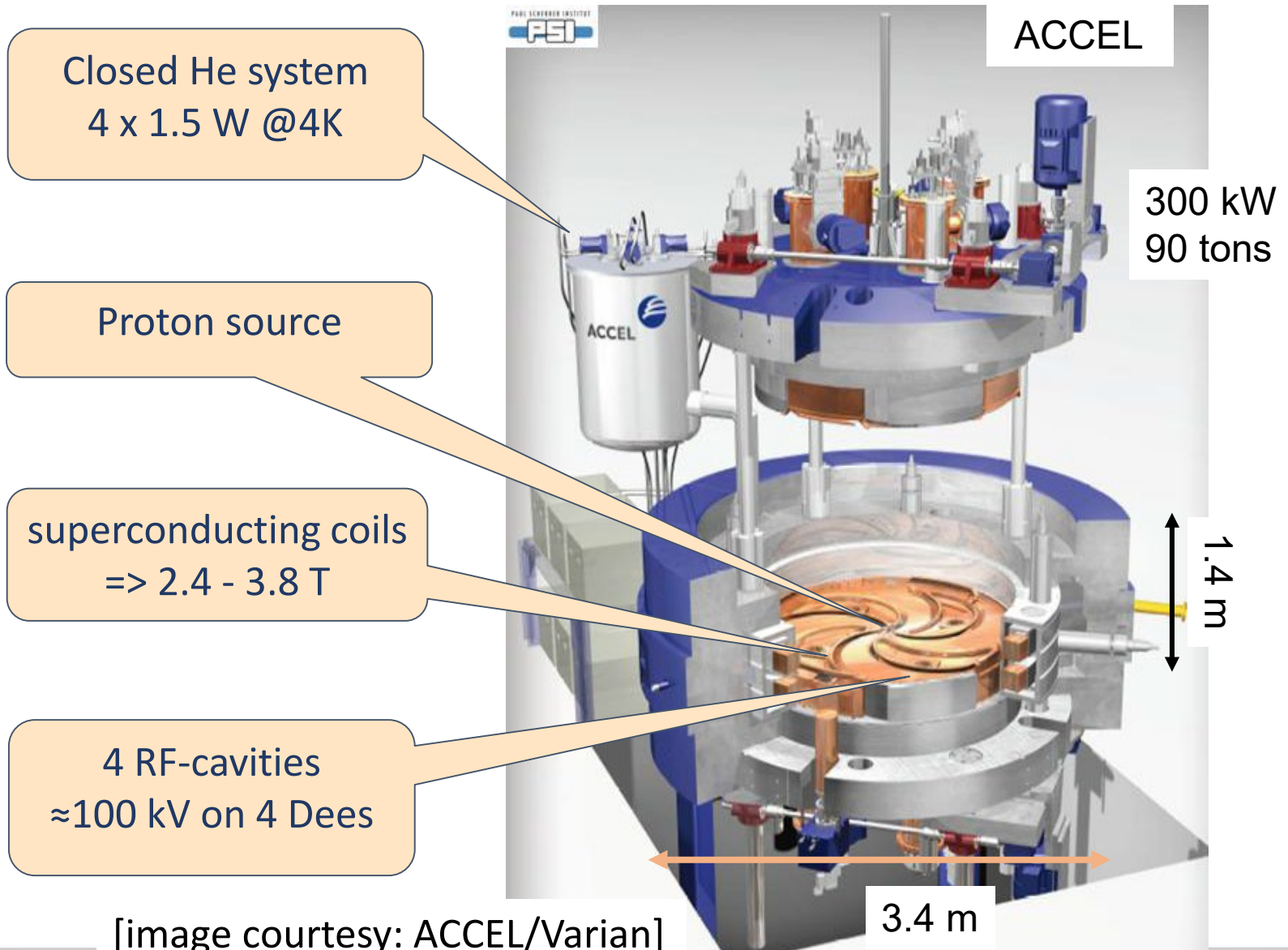
PSI Proton Therapy Facility



[images courtesy: PSI]

M. Schuel, Cyclotron

250 MeV isochronous proton cyclotron



examples: PSI High Intensity Proton Accelerator

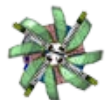
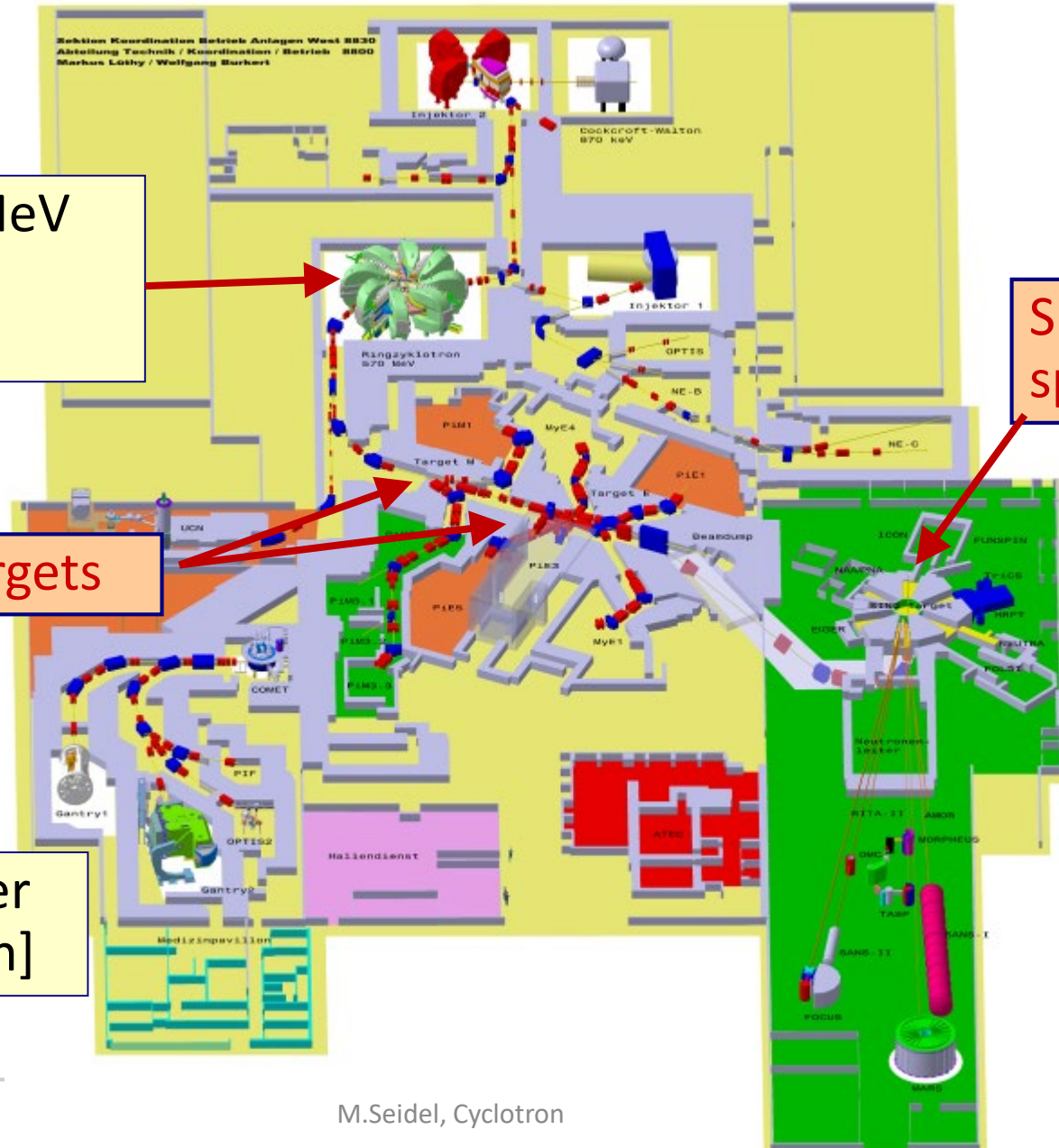
Ring Cyclotron 590 MeV
2.4mA / 1.4MW
diameter: 15m

meson production targets

proton therapie center
[250MeV sc. cyclotron]

SINQ
spallation source

dimensions:
120 x 220m²



pro and contra cyclotron / FFA

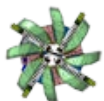
limitations of cyclotrons	typical utilization of cyclotrons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• energy $\leq 1\text{GeV}$ (relat. effects)• weak focusing: space charge, 10mA?• tuning difficult; limited diagnostics• wide vacuum vessel (radius variation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• medical applications; plenty intensity• acceleration of heavy ions (e.g. RIKEN)• very high intensity proton beams (PSI:1.4MW, TRIUMF: 100kW)

Fixed Focus Alternating Gradient Accelerator (FFA)

- strong focusing, compact magnets & chamber
- large acceptance, e.g. 10.000 mm mrad

but:

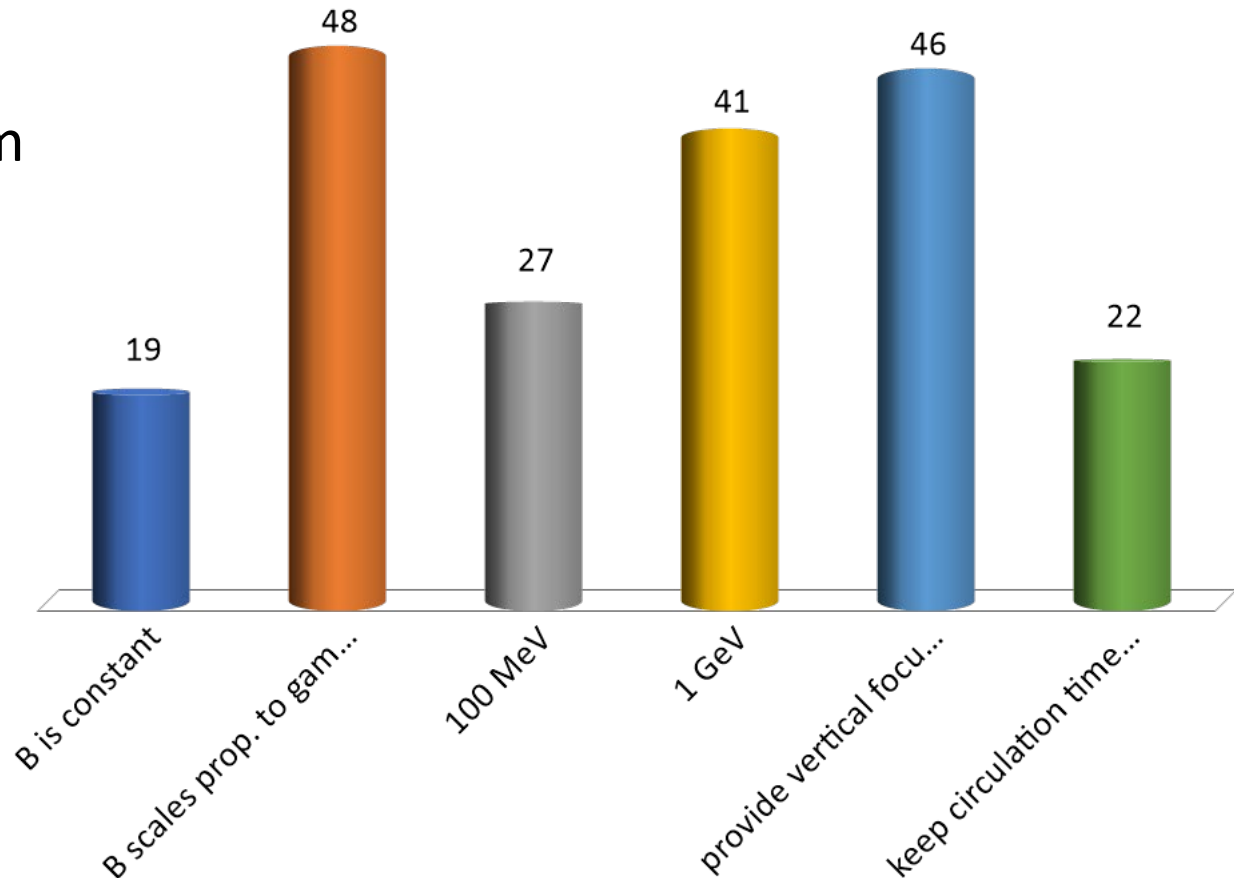
- high intensity difficult (no CW and extraction!), no demonstrator for high intensity after many years of discussion ...



open „ttpoll.eu“, session: „CAS24“

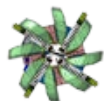
In an isochronous cyclotron, how is the B field scaled towards larger radii: A or B ?
Approximately what proton energy is reachable in an isochronous cyclotron: C or D?
Why do cyclotrons have spiral magnets: E or F?

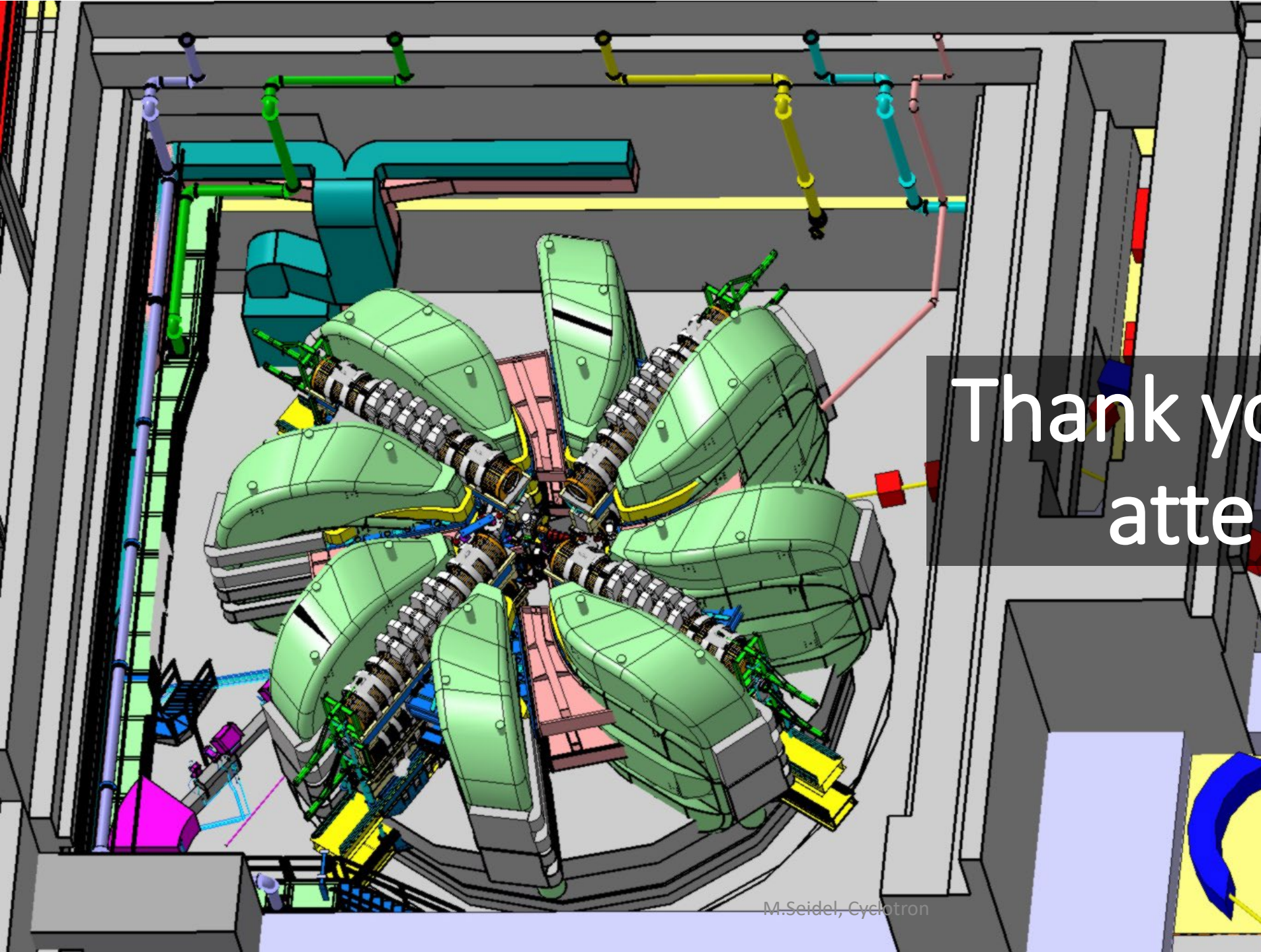
- A. B is constant
- ✓ B. B scales prop. to gamma of beam
- C. 100 MeV
- ✓ D. 1 GeV
- ✓ E. provide vertical focusing
- F. keep circulation time const



some literature w.r.t. cyclotrons & FFA

comprehensive overview on cyclotrons	L.M.Onishchenko, Cyclotrons: A Survey, Physics of Particles and Nuclei 39, 950 (2008) http://www.springerlink.com/content/k61mg262vng17411/fulltext.pdf
50 Years of Cyclotron Development	L. Calabretta, M. Seidel IEEE Transactions on Nuclear Science, Vol. 63, No. 2, 965 – 991(2016) http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?tp=&arnumber=7410111
space charge effects and scalings	W.Joho, High Intensity Problems in Cyclotrons, Proc. 5th intl. Conf. on Cyclotrons and their Applications, Caen, 337-347 (1981) http://accelconf.web.cern.ch/AccelConf/c81/papers/ei-03.pdf
ICFA BDN Nr 43	series of high level FFA articles (2007) https://www-bd.fnal.gov/icfabd/Newsletter43.pdf
FFA Optics	M. Craddock, FFA Optics (2011) https://www.cockcroft.ac.uk/events/ffag11/FFAG_talks/11/5.Craddock.pdf
comparison of cyclotron and FFA	M. Craddock, Was the Thomas cyclotron of 1938 a proto-FFAG? https://www.cockcroft.ac.uk/events/FFAG08/presentations/Craddock/Thomas-FFAG.pdf





Thank you for your attention !