

**Machine Protection**

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CAS Accelerator School  
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**DRAFT**

- Beam losses
- Continuous beam losses and Collimation
- Accidental beam losses and Machine Protection

**Protection from Energy and Power**

- Risks come from Energy stored in a system (Joule), and Power when operating a system (Watt)
  - “Very powerful accelerator” ... the power flow needs to be controlled
- An uncontrolled release of the energy, or an uncontrolled power flow can lead to unwanted consequences
  - Loss of time for operation or damage of equipment
  - For particle beams, activation of equipment
- This is true for all systems, in particular for complex systems such as accelerators
  - For the RF system, power converters, magnet system ...
  - For the particle beams

**Lecture on Machine Protection for preventing damage caused by particle beams**

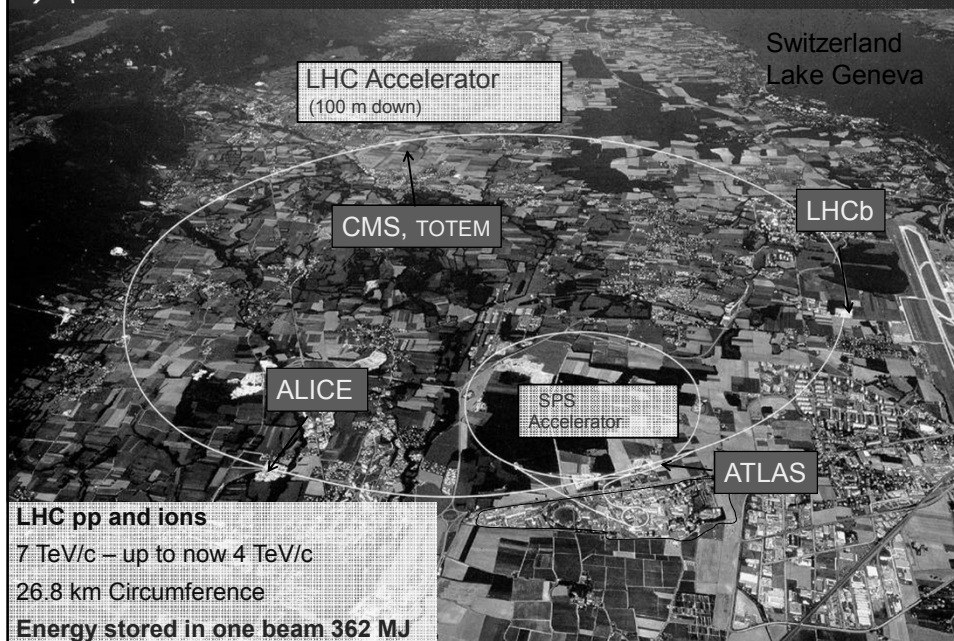
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- Different accelerator concepts: examples for LHC and ESS
- Hazards and Risks
- Accidental beam losses and consequences
- Accidental beam losses and probability
- Machine Protection
- Examples
- Outlook



## Proton collider LHC – 362 MJ stored in one beam



Proton collider LHC – 362 MJ stored in one beam

Switzerland  
Lake Geneva

LHC Accelerator  
(100 m down)

If something goes wrong, the beam energy has to be safely deposited

ALICE

SPS Accelerator

ATLAS

LHC pp and ions  
7 TeV/c – up to now 4 TeV/c  
26.8 km Circumference  
Energy stored in one beam 362 MJ

ESS Lund / Sweden – 5 MW beam power

Source	LEBT	RFQ	MEBT	DTL	Spokes	Medium $\beta$	High $\beta$	HEBT & Upgrade	Target
	2.4 m	4.0 m	3.6 m	32.4 m	58.5 m	113.9 m	227.9 m		
	75 keV	3 MeV		78 MeV	200 MeV	628 MeV	2500 MeV		
	Low energy beam transport	RFQ 352.2 MHz	Medium energy beam transport	Drift tube linac with 4 tanks	Super-conducting cavities		High energy beam transport	Power of 5000 kW	

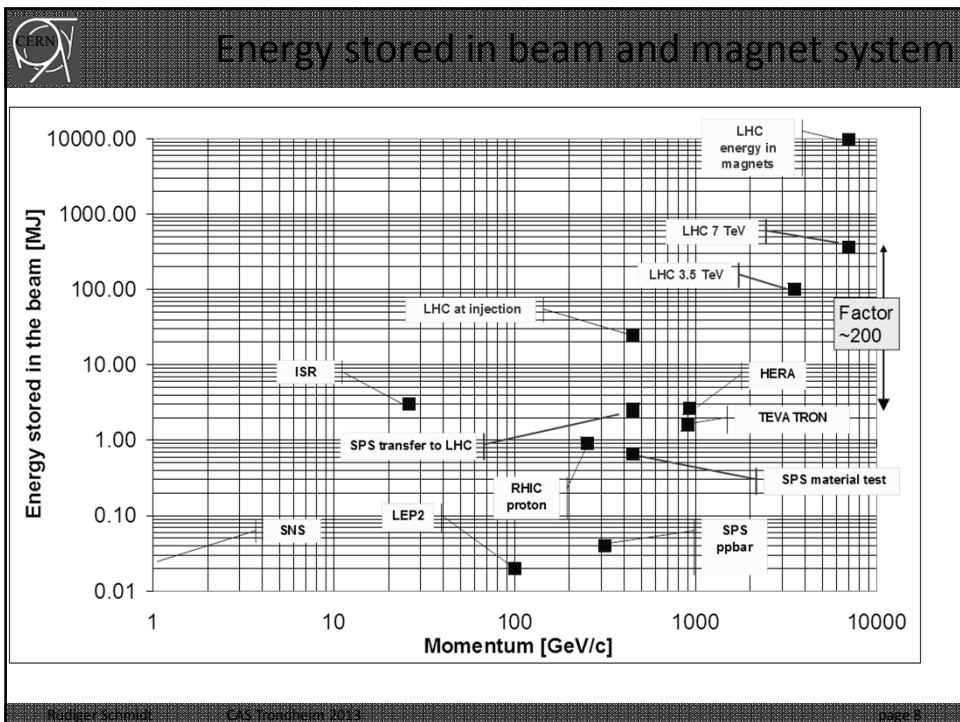
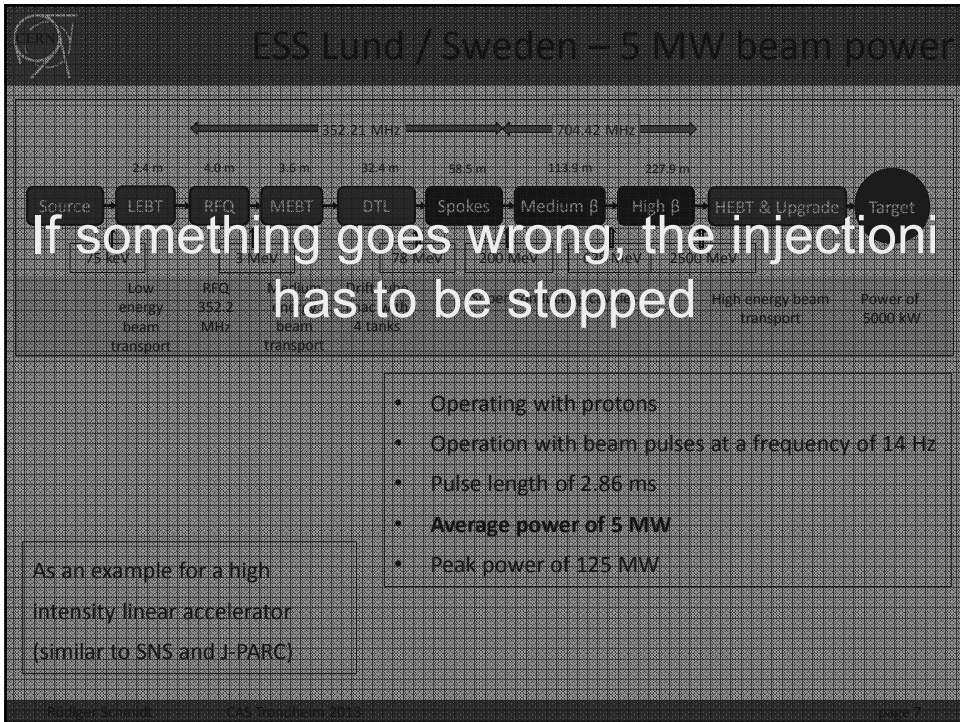
352.21 MHz

704.42 MHz

- Operating with protons
- Operation with beam pulses at a frequency of 14 Hz
- Pulse length of 2.86 ms
- **Average power of 5 MW**
- Peak power of 125 MW

As an example for a high intensity linear accelerator (similar to SNS and J-PARC)

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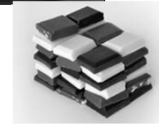
## What does it mean ..... MJoule ?

The energy of an 200 m long fast train at 155 km/hour corresponds to the energy of 360 MJoule stored in one LHC beam.



**360 MJoule:** the energy stored in one LHC beam corresponds approximately to...

- 90 kg of TNT
- 8 litres of gasoline
- 15 kg of chocolate



It's how ease the energy is released that matters most !!

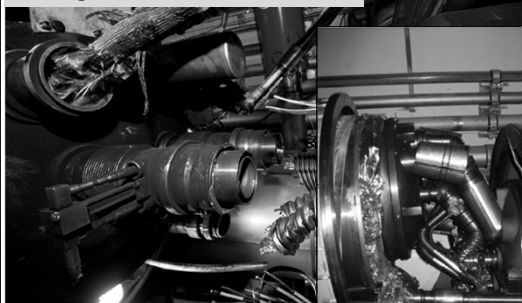


## Consequences of a release of 600 MJ at LHC

**The 2008 LHC accident happened during test runs without beam.**

An interconnect was not ok and opened. An electrical arc provoked a He pressure wave damaging ~700 m of LHC, polluting the beam vacuum over more than 2 km.

Arcing in the interconnection



Magnet displacement



53 magnets had to be repaired

Over-pressure





## Machine Protection related to beams

Many accelerators operate with high beam intensity and/or energy

- For synchrotrons and storage rings, the energy stored in the beam increased with time (from ISR to LHC)
- For linear accelerators and fast cycling machines, the beam power increases

The emittance becomes smaller (down to a beam size of nanometer)

- This is important today, and even more relevant for future projects, with increased beam power / energy density ( $\text{W}/\text{mm}^2$  or  $\text{J}/\text{mm}^2$ ) and increasingly complex machines



## Hazards and Risks



## Hazard and Risk for accelerators

- **Hazard:** a situation that poses a level of threat to the accelerator. Hazards are dormant or potential, with only a theoretical risk of damage. Once a hazard becomes "active": **incident**. **Hazard** and **possibility** interact together to create **RISK**, can be quantified:

$$\text{RISK} = \text{Consequences} \cdot \text{Probability}$$

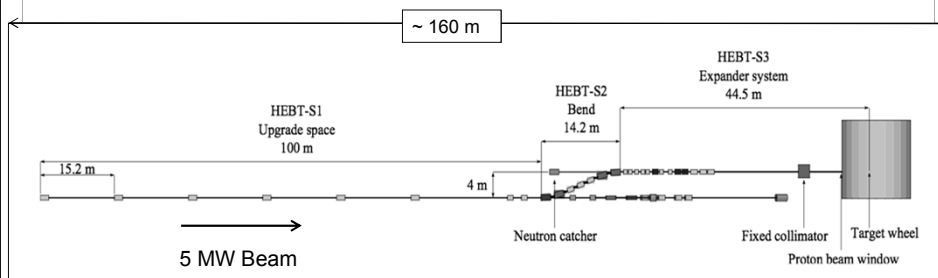
Related to accelerators

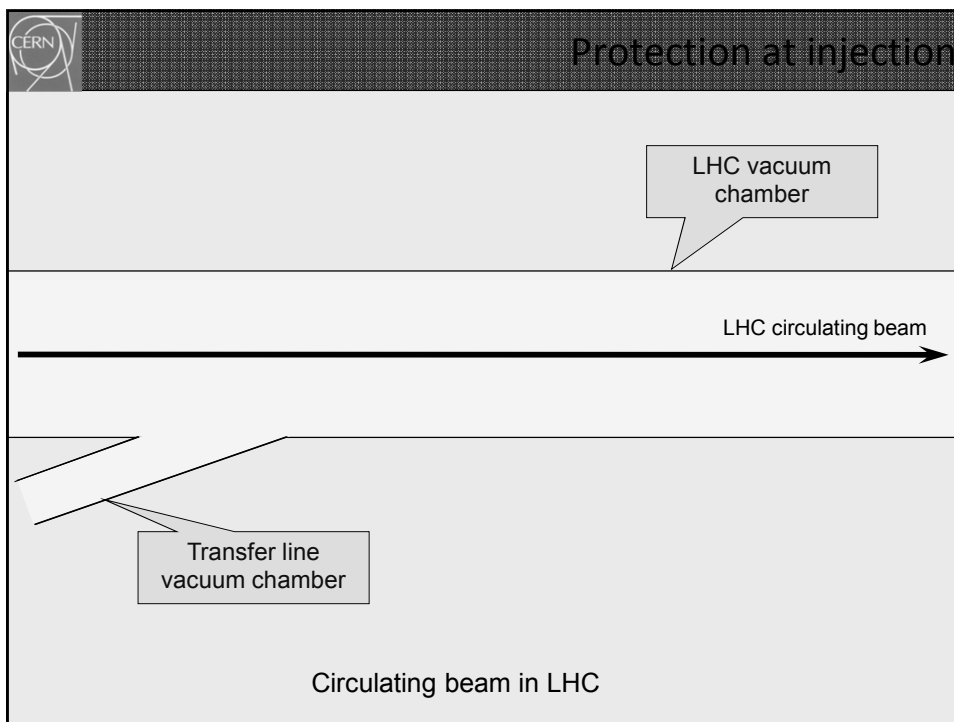
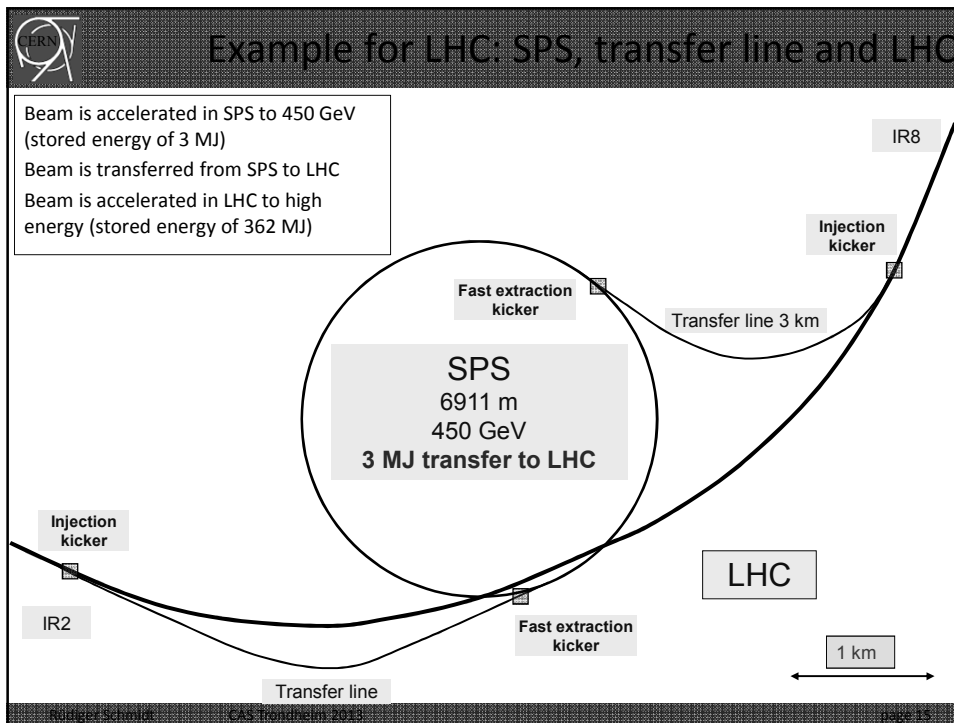
- Consequences of an uncontrolled beam loss
- Probability of an uncontrolled beam loss
- The higher the **RISK**, the more **Protection** is required



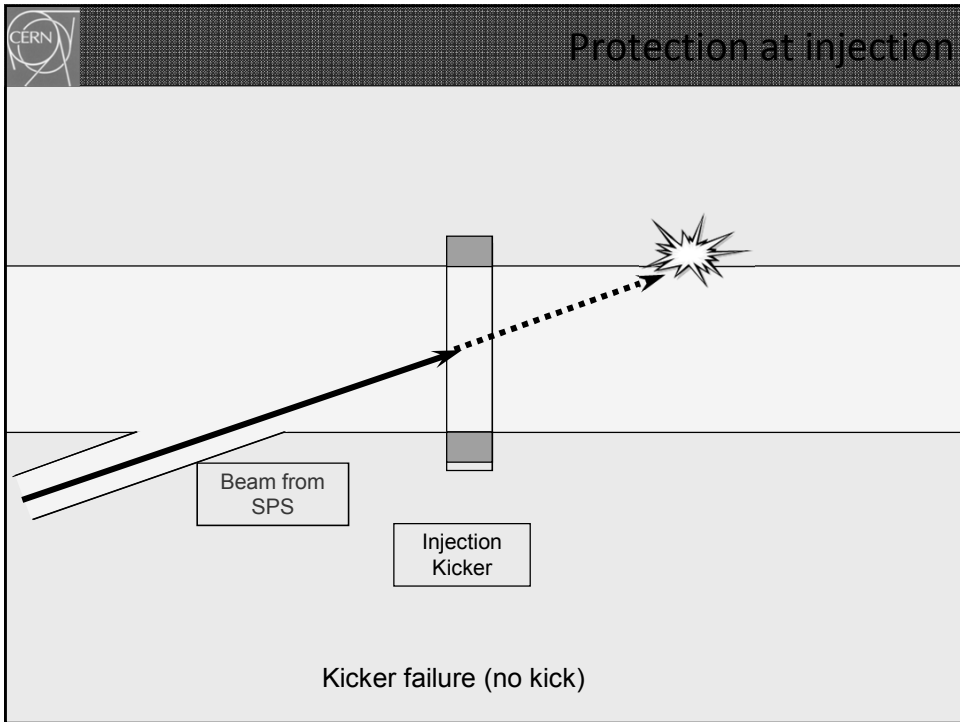
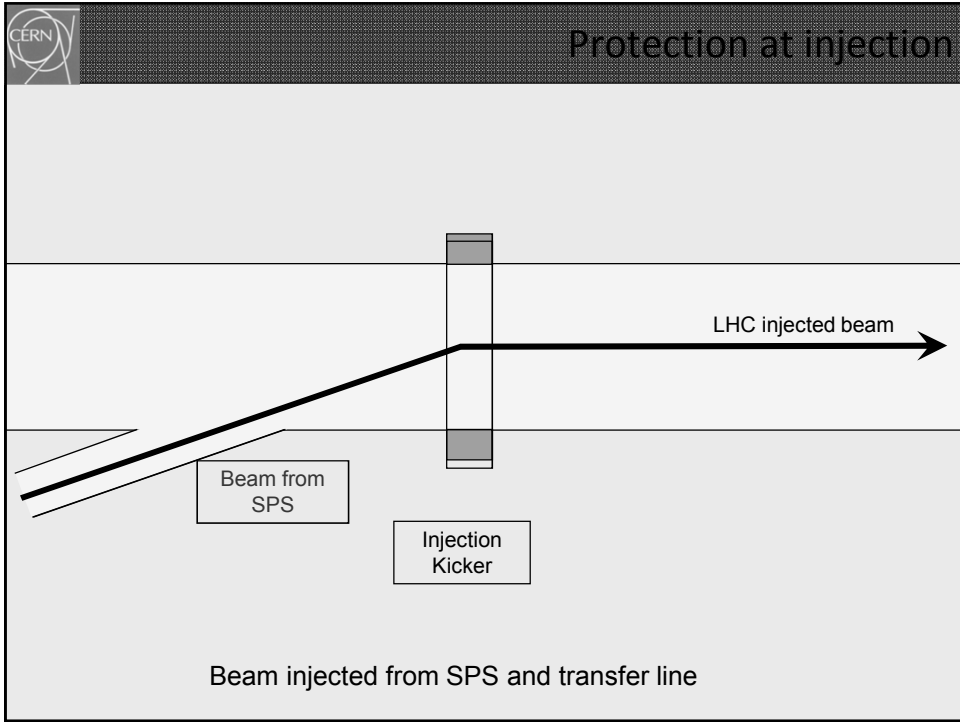
## Example for ESS

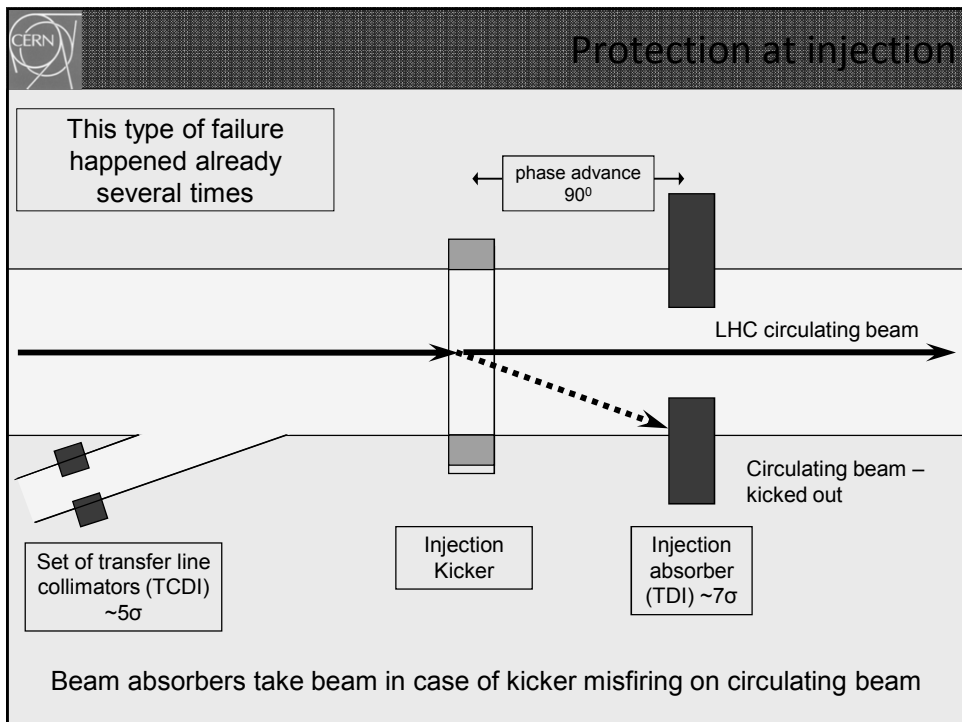
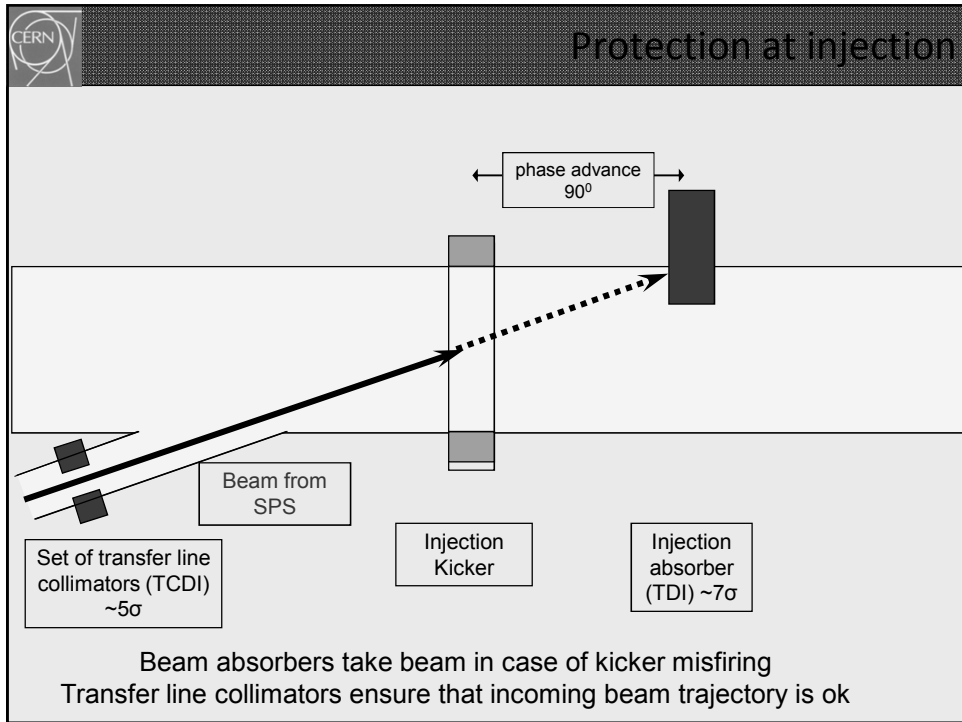
- Bending magnet in an accelerator deflecting the beam
- Assume that the power supply fails and the magnets stops deflecting the beam
  - Probability: good MTBF for power supply is 100000 hours = 15 years
- The beam is not deflected and hits the vacuum chamber
  - Consequences: what is expected to happen?











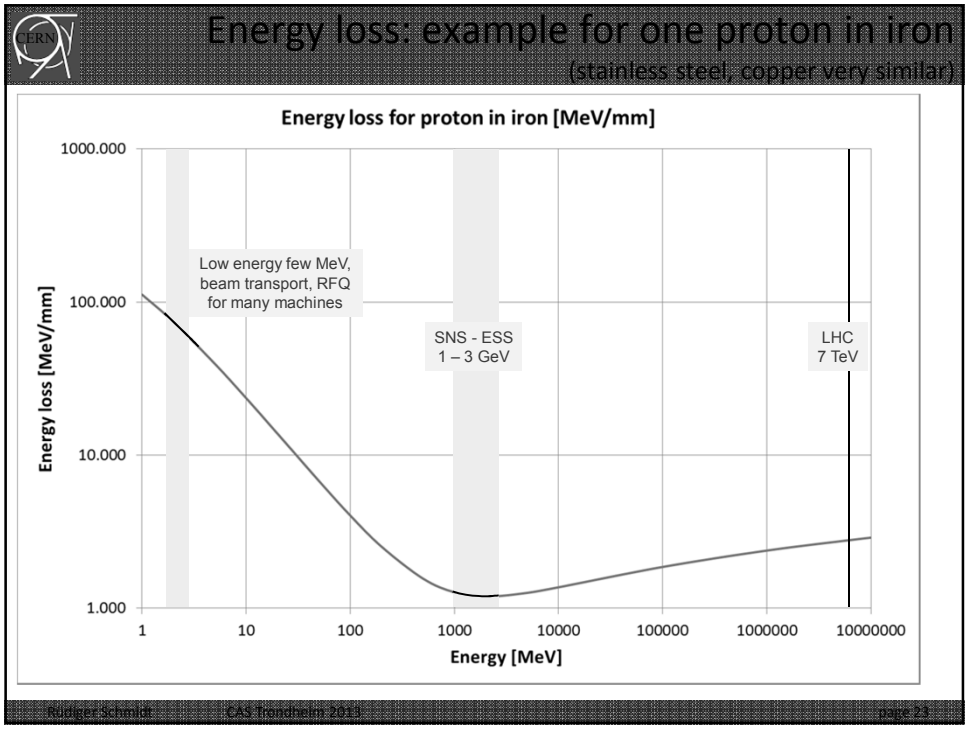


# Consequences of (accidental) beam loss



## Beam losses and consequences

- Charged particles moving through matter interact with the electrons of atoms in the material, exciting or ionizing the atoms => energy loss of traveling particle described by **Bethe-Bloch formula**.
- If the particle energy is high enough, particle losses lead to particle cascades in materials, increasing the deposited energy
  - the maximum energy deposition can be deep in the material at the maximum of the hadron / electromagnetic shower
- The energy deposition leads to a temperature increase
  - material can vaporise, melt, deform or lose its mechanical properties
  - risk to damage sensitive equipment for some 10 kJ, risk for damage of any structure for some MJoule (depends on beam size)
  - superconducting magnets could quench (beam loss of ~mJ to J)
  - superconducting cavities performance degradation by some 10 J
  - activation of material, risk for hand-on-maintenance



**Beam losses and consequences**

- Proton beam travels through a thin window of thickness  $d$
- Assume a beam area of  $4 \sigma_x \times \sigma_y$ , with  $\sigma_x, \sigma_y$  rms beam sizes (Gaussian beams)
- Assume a homogenous beam distribution
- The energy deposition can be calculated, mass and specific heat are known
- The temperature can be calculated (rather good approximation), assuming a fast loss and no cooling

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## Heating of material with low energy protons

$$\text{Temperature increase in the material: } dT_{\text{Fe}} := \frac{N_p \cdot dEdx_{\text{Fe}}}{c_{\text{Fe\_spec}} \cdot F_{\text{beam}} \cdot \rho_{\text{Fe}}}$$

### Temperature increase for a proton beam impacting on a Fe target:

Beam size:  $\sigma_h = 1.00 \cdot \text{mm}$  and  $\sigma_v = 1.00 \cdot \text{mm}$

Iron specific heat:  $c_{\text{Fe\_spec}} = 440 \cdot \frac{\text{J}}{\text{kg} \cdot \text{K}}$

Iron specific weight:  $\rho_{\text{Fe}} = 7860 \cdot \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3}$

Energy loss per proton/mm:  $dEdx_{\text{Fe}} = 56.696 \cdot \frac{\text{MeV}}{\text{mm}}$

Number of protons:  $N_p = 1.16 \times 10^{12}$

Energy of the proton:  $E_p = 0.003 \cdot \text{GeV}$

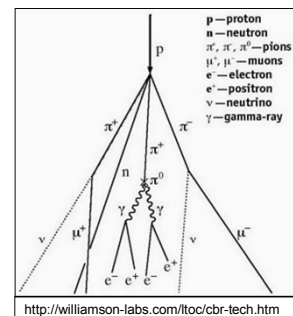
Temperature increase:  $dT_{\text{Fe}} = 763 \text{ K}$



## Heating of material with high energy protons

### Nuclear inelastic interactions (hadronic shower)

- Creation of pions when going through matter
- Causes electromagnetic shower through decays of pions
- Exponential increase in number of created particles
- Final energy deposition to large fraction done by large number of electromagnetic particles
- Scales roughly with total energy of incident particle
- Energy deposition maximum deep in the material
- Energy deposition is a function of the particle type, its momentum and parameters of the material (atomic number, density, specific heat)
- No straightforward expression to calculate energy deposition
- Calculation by codes, such as FLUKA, GEANT or MARS
- Other programs are used to calculate the response of the material (deformation, melting, ...) to beam impact (mechanical codes such as ANSYS, hydrodynamic codes such as BIG2 and others)



**Damage of a pencil 7 TeV proton beam (LHC)**

copper

Maximum energy deposition in the proton cascade (one proton)  $E_{\max\_Cu} := 1.5 \cdot 10^{-5} \frac{J}{kg}$

Specific heat of copper is  $c_{Cu\_spec} = 384.5600 \frac{1}{kg} \frac{J}{K}$

To heat 1 kg copper by, say, by  $\Delta T := 500K$ , one needs:  $c_{Cu\_spec} \cdot \Delta T \cdot 1kg = 1.92 \times 10^5 J$

Number of protons to deposit this energy is:  $\frac{c_{Cu\_spec} \cdot \Delta T}{E_{\max\_Cu}} = 1.28 \times 10^{10}$  Copper

---

graphite

Maximum energy deposition in the proton cascade (one proton)  $E_{\max\_C} := 2.0 \cdot 10^{-6} \frac{J}{kg}$

Specific heat of graphite is  $c_{C\_spec} = 710.6000 \frac{1}{kg} \frac{J}{K}$

To heat 1 kg graphite by, say, by  $\Delta T := 1500K$ , one needs  $c_{C\_spec} \cdot \Delta T \cdot 1kg = 1.07 \times 10^6 J$

Number of protons to deposit this energy is:  $\frac{c_{C\_spec} \cdot \Delta T}{E_{\max\_C}} = 5.33 \times 10^{11}$  graphite

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**Beam losses and consequences**

- Beams at very low energy have less power.... however, the energy deposition is very high, and can lead to (limited) damage in case of beam impact
  - issue at the initial stage of an accelerator, after the source, low energy beam transport and RFQ
  - limited impact (e.g. damaging the RFQ) might lead to long downtime, depending on spare situation
  
- Beams at very high energy can have a tremendous damage potential
  - for LHC, damage of metals with beam loss in the order of a few  $10^{10}$  protons
  - one LHC bunch has about  $1.5 \cdot 10^{11}$  protons, in total up to 2808 bunches
  - in case of catastrophic beam loss, damage beyond repair

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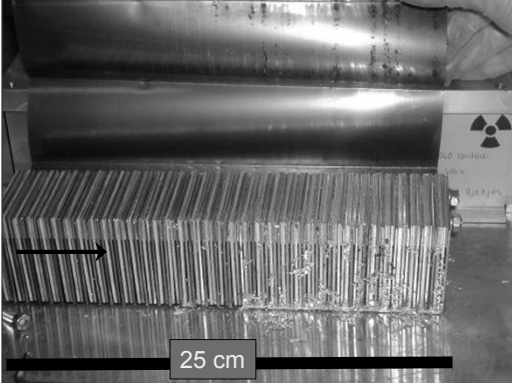
**SPS experiment: Beam damage with 450 GeV protons**

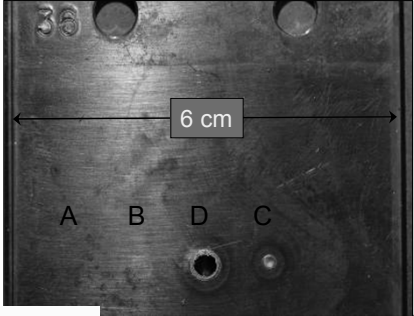
Controlled SPS experiment

- $8 \cdot 10^{12}$  protons clear damage
- beam size  $\sigma_{x/y} = 1.1\text{mm}/0.6\text{mm}$

stainless steel no damage

- $2 \cdot 10^{12}$  protons



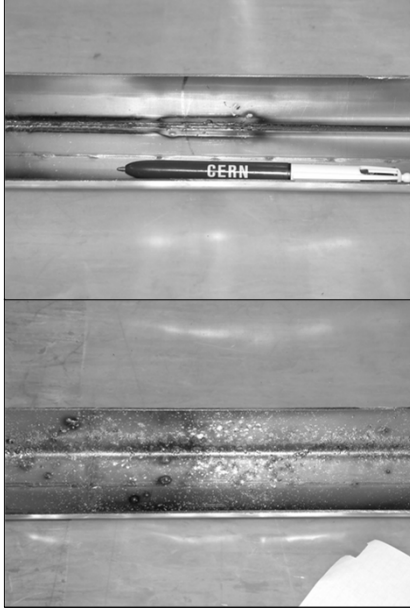


- 0.1 % of the full LHC 7 TeV beams
- factor of three below the energy in a bunch train injected into LHC
- damage limit ~200 kJoule

V.Kain et al    CAS Trondheim 2013    page 29

**Vacuum chamber in SPS extraction line incident**

- 450 GeV protons, 2 MJ beam in 2004
- Failure of a septum magnet
- Cut of 25 cm length, groove of 70 cm
- Condensed drops of steel on other side of the vacuum chamber
- Vacuum chamber and magnet needed to be replaced

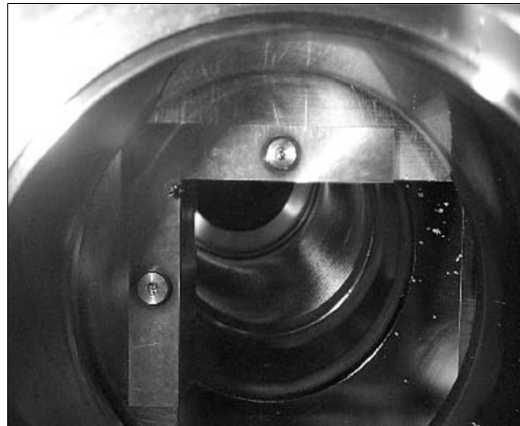


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## Collimator in Tevatron after an incident in 2003

- A Roman pot (movable device) moved into the beam
- Particle showers from the Roman pot quenched superconducting magnets
- The beam moved by 0.005 mm/turn, and touched a collimator jaw surface after about 300 turns
- The entire beam was lost, mostly on the collimator



Observation of HERA tungsten collimators: grooves on the surface when opening the vacuum chamber were observed. No impact on operation.

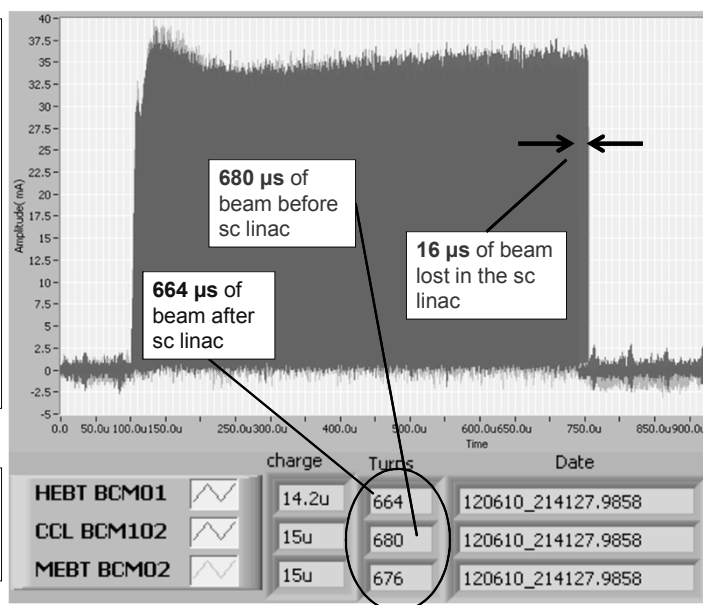


## Beam losses in SNS linac

Beam Current Monitors (BCM) measure current pulse at different locations along the linac.

About 16  $\mu\text{sec}$  of beam lost in the superconducting part of linac

Beam energy in 16  $\mu\text{sec}$   
 End of DTL = 30 J  
 End of CCL = 66 J  
 End of SCL = 350 J







## Beam loss with low energy deposition

- Beam might hit surface of HV system (RFQ, kicker magnets, cavities)
- Surfaces with HV, after beam loss performance degradation might appear (not possible to operate at the same voltage, increased probability of arcing, ...)
- SNS: errant beam losses led to a degradation of the performance of superconducting cavity
  - Beam losses likely to be caused by problems in ion source, low energy beam transfer and normal conducting linac
  - Cavity gradient needs to be lowered, conditioning after warm-up helps in most cases
  - Energy of beam losses is about 100 J
  - Damage mechanisms not fully understood, it is assumed that some beam hitting the cavity desorbs gas or particulates (=small particles) creating an environment for arcing



## Accidental beam loss and probability



## Beam losses mechanisms

In accelerators, particles are lost due to a variety of reasons: beam gas interaction, losses from collisions, losses of the beam halo, ...

- Continuous beam losses are inherent during the operation of accelerators
  - Taken into account during the design of the accelerator
- Accidental beam losses are due to a multitude of failures mechanisms
- The number of possible failures leading to accidental beam losses is (nearly) infinite



## Beam losses, machine protection and collimation

Continuous beam losses: **Collimation** prevents too high beam losses around the accelerator (beam cleaning)

A collimation system is a (very complex) system with (massive) material blocks installed in an accelerator to capture halo particles

Such system is also called (beam) Cleaning System



Accidental beam losses: **“Machine Protection”** protects equipment from damage, activation and downtime

Machine protection includes a large variety of systems, including collimators (or beam absorbers) to capture mis-steered beam



## Regular and irregular operation

### Regular operation

Many accelerator systems  
Continuous beam losses  
Collimators for beam cleaning  
Collimators for halo scraping  
Collimators to prevent ion-induced desorption

### Failures during operation

Beam losses due to failures, timescale from nanoseconds to seconds  
Machine protection systems  
Collimators  
Beam absorbers



## Continuous beam losses: Collimation

### Continuous beam with a power of 1 MW (SNS, JPARC, ESS)

- a loss of 1% corresponds to 10 kW – not to be lost along the beam line to avoid activation of material, heating, quenching, ...
- assume a length of 200 m: 50 W/m, not acceptable
- Ideas for accelerators of 5 MW, 10 MW and more

### Limitation of beam losses is in order of 1 W/m to avoid activation and still allow hands-on maintenance

- avoid beam losses – as far as possible
- define the aperture by collimators
- capture continuous particle losses with collimators at specific locations

### LHC stored beam with an energy of 360 MJ

- Assume lifetime of 10 minutes corresponds to beam loss of 500 kW, not to be lost in superconducting magnets
- Reduce losses by four orders of magnitude

....but also: capture fast accidental beam losses



## Accidental beam losses: Machine Protection

### Single-passage beam loss in the accelerator complex (ns - $\mu$ s)

- transfer lines between accelerators or from an accelerator to a target station (target for secondary particle production, beam dump block)
- failures of kicker magnets (injection, extraction, special kicker magnets, for example for diagnostics)
- failures in linear accelerators, in particular due to RF systems
- too small beam size at a target station

### Very fast beam loss (ms)

- e.g. multi turn beam losses in circular accelerators
- due to a large number of possible failures, mostly in the magnet powering system, with a typical time constant of  $\sim 1$  ms to many seconds

### Fast beam loss (some 10 ms to seconds)

### Slow beam loss (many seconds)

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## Classification of failures

### • Type of the failure

- hardware failure (power converter trip, magnet quench, AC distribution failure such as thunderstorm, object in vacuum chamber, vacuum leak, RF trip, kicker magnet misfires, ....)
- controls failure (wrong data, wrong magnet current function, trigger problem, timing system, feedback failure, ..)
- operational failure (chromaticity / tune / orbit wrong values, ...)
- beam instability (due to too high beam / bunch current / e-clouds)

### • Parameters for the failure

- time constant for beam loss
  - probability for the failure
  - damage potential
- } defined as risk

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## Probability of a failure leading to beam loss

- Experience from LHC (the most complex accelerator)
  - When the beam are colliding, the optimum length of a store is in the order of 10-15 hours, then ended by operation
  - Most fills (~70 %) are ended by failures, the machine protection systems dump the beams
  - **MTBF of about 6 h**
- Other large accelerators (SNS, plans for ESS, synchrotron light sources)
  - **MTBF between 20 h and up to several 100 h**  
(.... more accurate numbers are appreciated)
- At high power accelerators, most failures would lead to damage if not mitigated = > the machine protection system is an essential part of the accelerator

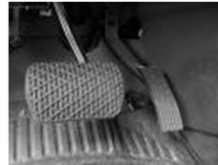


# Machine Protection



## Example for Active Protection - Traffic

- A monitor detects a dangerous situation
- An action is triggered
- The energy stored in the system is safely dissipated



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## Example for Passive Protection

- The monitor fails to detect a dangerous situation
- The reaction time is too short
- Active protection not possible – passive protection by bumper, air bag, safety belts



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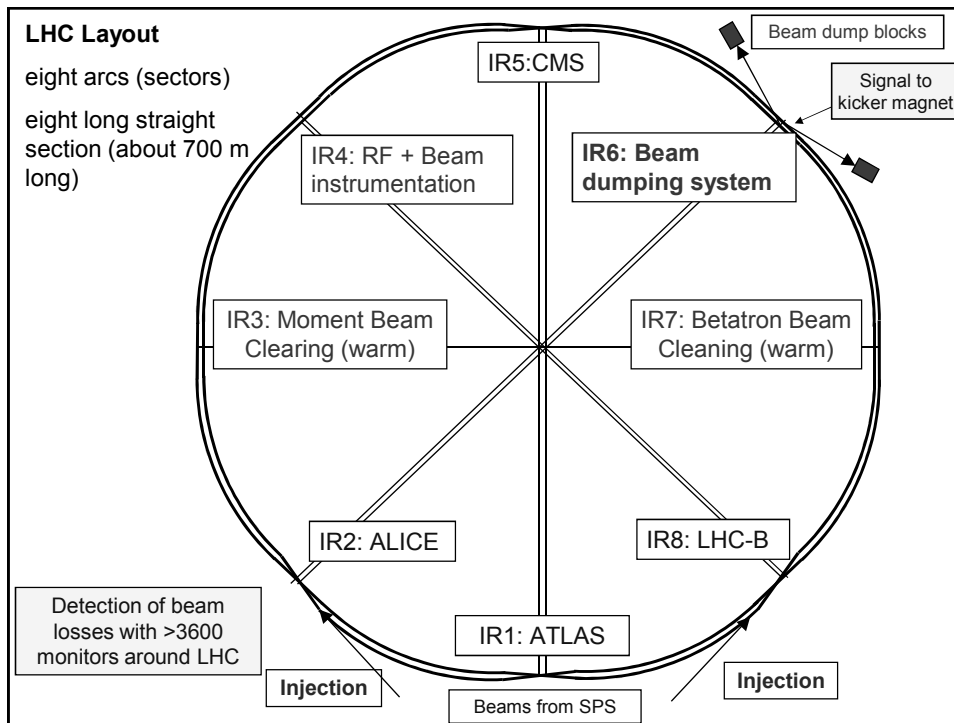
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## Strategy for protection and related systems

- Avoid that a specific failure can happen
- Detect failure at hardware level and stop beam operation
- Detect initial consequences of failure with beam instrumentation ...before it is too late...
- Stop beam operation
  - inhibit injection
  - extract beam into beam dump block
  - stop beam by beam absorber / collimator
- Elements in the protection systems
  - equipment monitoring and beam monitoring
  - beam dump (fast kicker magnet and absorber block)
  - chopper to stop the beam in the low energy part
  - collimators and beam absorbers
  - beam interlock systems linking different systems





**Beam instrumentation for machine protection**

- **Beam Loss Monitors**
  - stop beam operation in case of too high beam losses
  - monitor beam losses around the accelerator (full coverage?)
  - could be fast and/or slow (LHC down to 40  $\mu$ s)
- **Beam Position Monitors**
  - ensuring that the beam has the correct position
  - in general, the beam should be centred in the aperture
  - for extraction: monitor extraction bump using BPMs (redundant to magnet current)
- **Beam Current Transformers**
  - if the transmission between two locations of the accelerator is too low (=beam lost somewhere): stop beam operation
  - if the beam lifetime is too short: dump beam
- **Beam Size Monitors**
  - if beam size is too small could be dangerous for windows, targets, ...

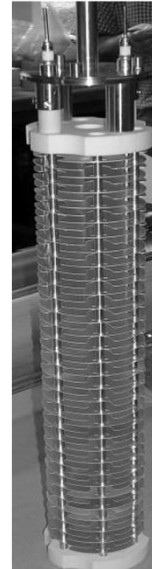
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# Beam Loss Monitors

- Ionization chambers to detect beam losses:
  - Reaction time  $\sim \frac{1}{2}$  turn ( $40 \mu\text{s}$ )
  - Very large dynamic range ( $> 10^6$ )
- There are  $\sim 3600$  chambers distributed over the ring to detect abnormal beam losses and if necessary trigger a beam abort !



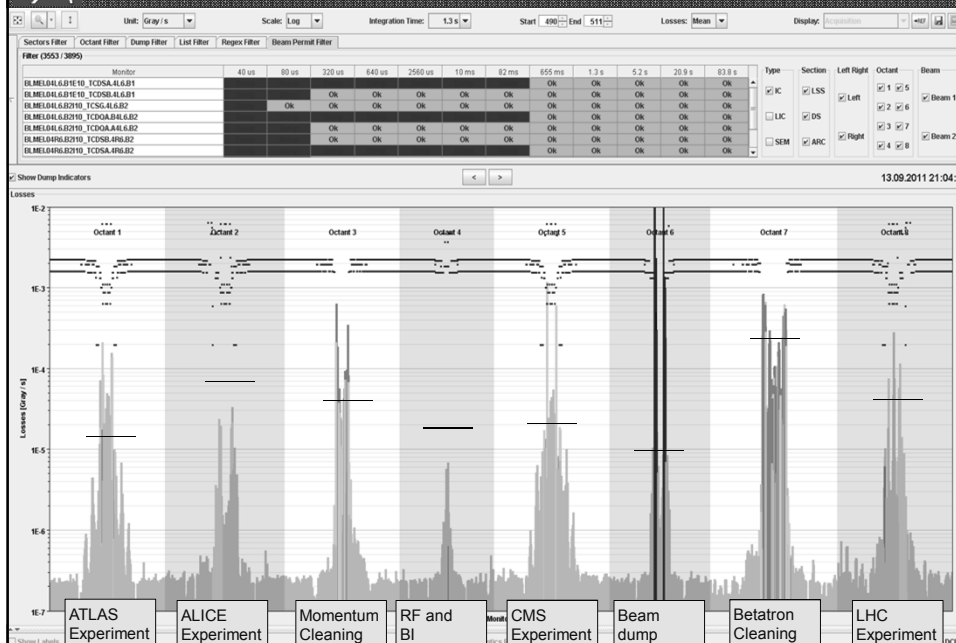
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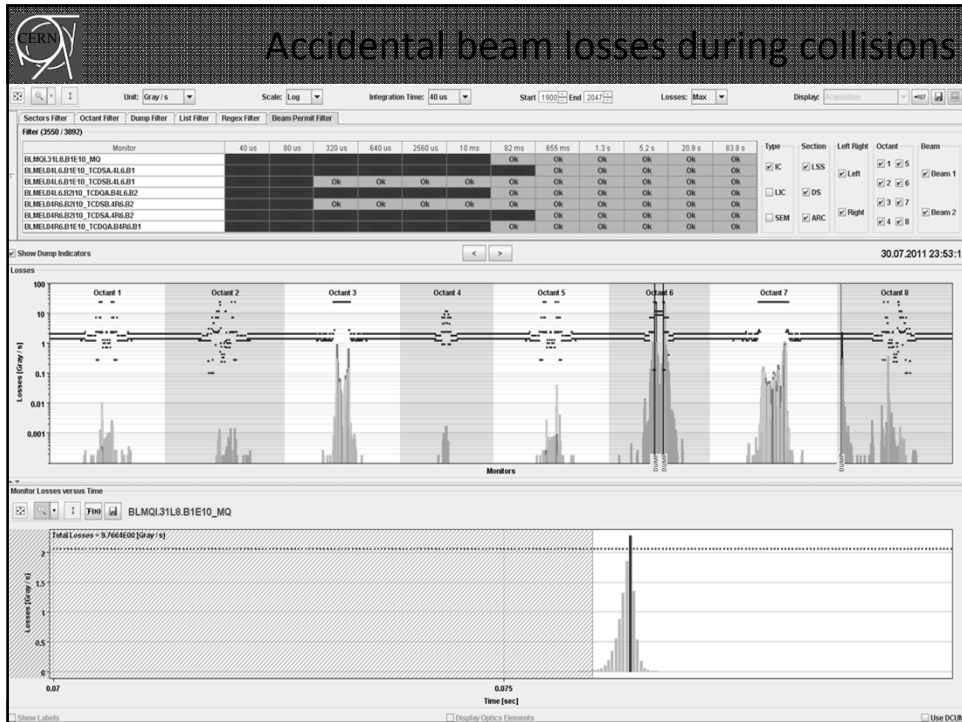
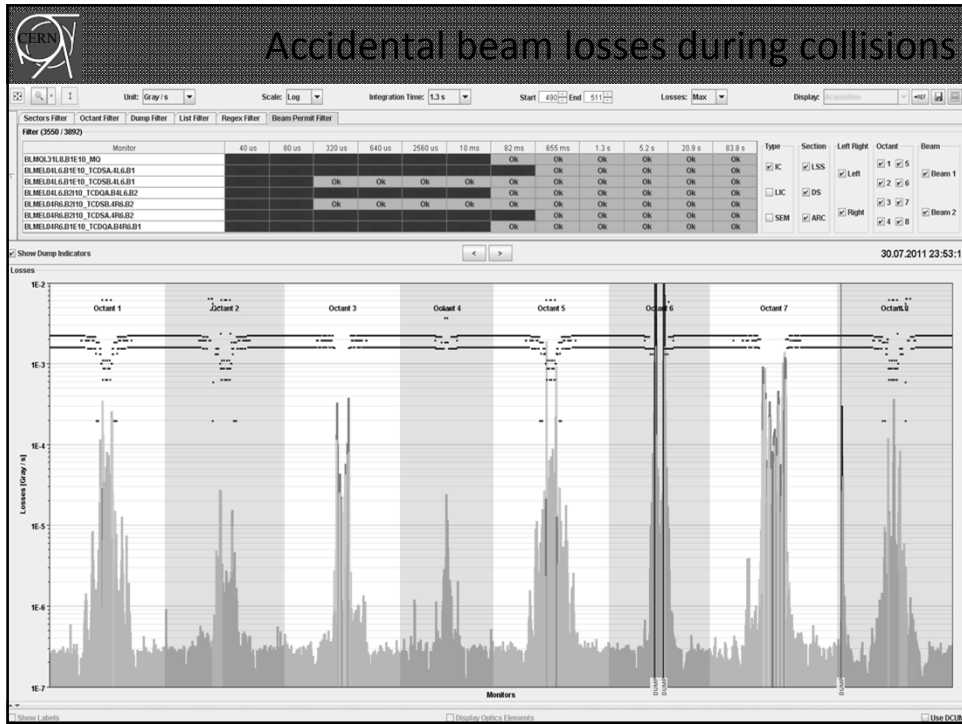
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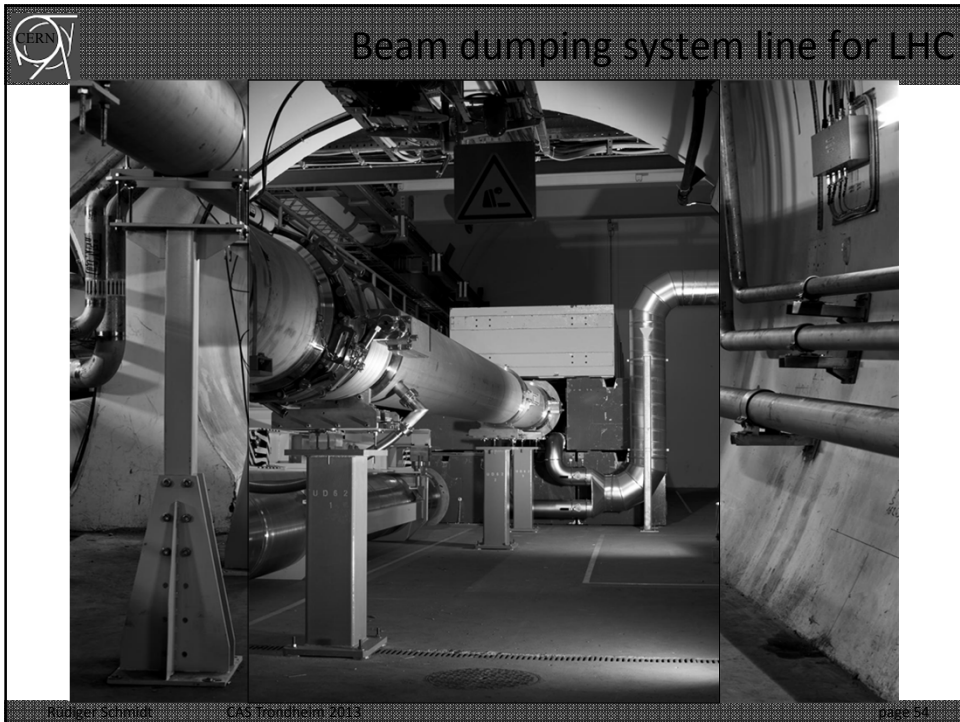
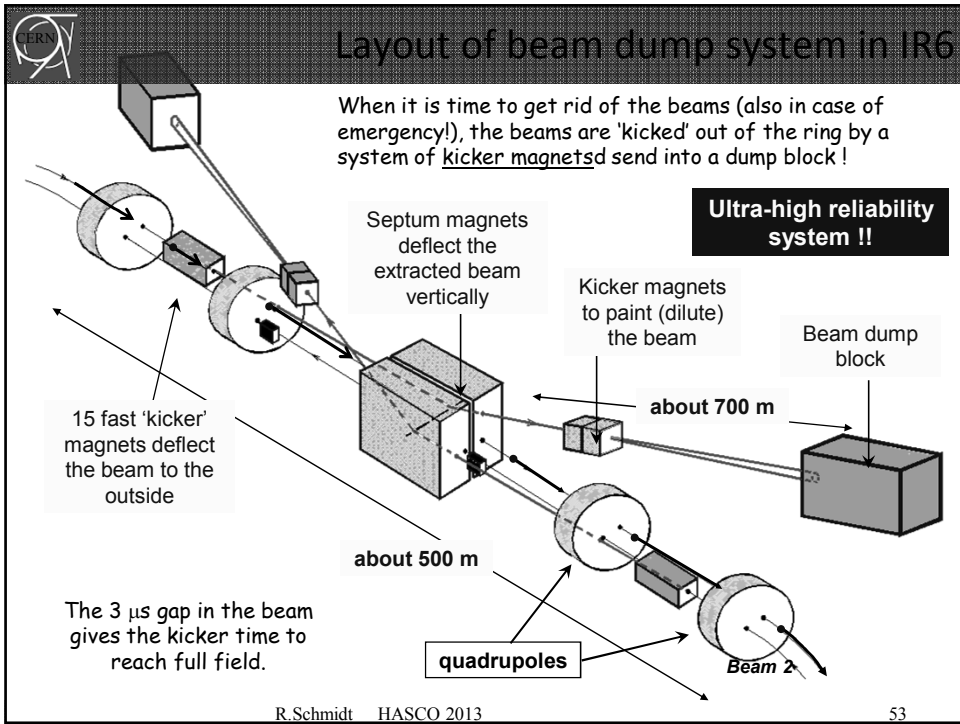
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# Continuous beam losses during collisions







**Beam dump**

**BTVDD**

- Screen in front of the beam dump block
- Each light dot shows the passage of one proton bunch traversing the screen
- Each proton bunch has a different trajectory, to better distribute the energy across a large volume

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**View of a two sided collimator for LHC**

about 100 collimators are installed in LHC

RF contacts for guiding image currents

Beam spot

2 mm

length about 120 cm

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## High power accelerators ...

- Operate with beam power of 1 MW and more
- SNS – 1 MW, PSI cyclotron – 1.3 MW, ESS – planned for 5 MW, FRIB (ions) – planned for 0.4 MW
- ESS (4 % duty cycle): in case of an uncontrolled beam loss during 1 ms, the deposited energy is up to 130 kJ, for 1 s it is up to 5 MJ
- It is required to inhibit the beam after detecting uncontrolled beam loss – how fast?
- The delay between detection and “beam off” to be considered

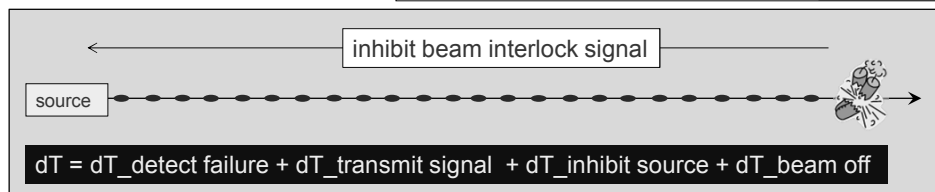
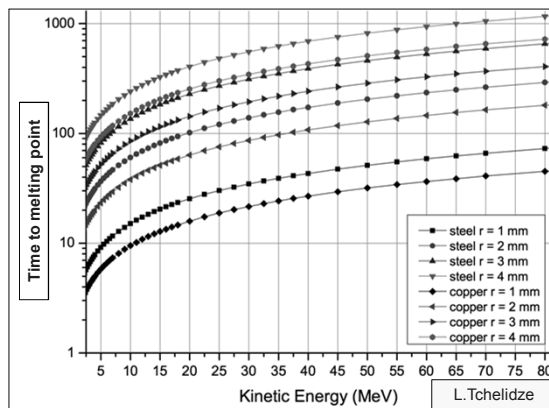


## Example for ESS

Example:

After the DTL normal conducting linac, the proton energy is 78 MeV. In case of a beam size of 2 mm radius, melting would start after about 200  $\mu$ s.

Inhibiting beam should be in about 10% of this time.





## Some design principles for protection systems

- **Failsafe design**
  - detect internal faults
  - possibility for remote testing, for example between two runs
  - if the protection system does not work, better stop operation rather than damage equipment
- **Critical equipment should be redundant (possibly diverse)**
- **Critical processes not by software (no operating system)**
  - no remote changes of most critical parameters
- **Demonstrate safety / availability / reliability**
  - use established methods to analyse critical systems and to predict failure rate
- **Managing interlocks**
  - disabling of interlocks is common practice (**keep track !**)
  - LHC: masking of some interlocks possible for low intensity / low energy beams

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## Accelerators that require protection systems I

- **Hadron synchrotrons with large stored energy in the beam**
  - Colliders using protons / antiprotons (TEVATRON, HERA, LHC)
  - Synchrotrons accelerating beams for fixed target experiments (SPS)
- **High power accelerators (e.g. spallation sources) with beam power of some 10 kW to above 1 MW**
  - Risk of damage and activation
  - Spallation sources, up to (and above) 1 MW quasi-continuous beam power (SNS, ISIS, PSI cyclotron, JPARC, and in the future ESS, MYRRHA and IFMIF)
- **Synchrotron light sources with high intensity beams and secondary photon beams**
- **Energy recovery linacs**
  - Example of Daresbury prototype: one bunch train cannot damage equipment, but in case of beam loss next train must not leave the (injector) station

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## Accelerators that require protection systems II

- Linear colliders / accelerators with very high beam power densities due to small beam size
  - High average power in linear accelerators: FLASH 90 kW, European XFEL 600 kW, SNS 1.4 MW, JLab FEL 1.5 MW, ILC 11 MW
  - One beam pulse can lead already to damage
  - “any time interval large enough to allow a substantial change in the beam trajectory of component alignment (~fraction of a second), pilot beam must be used to prove the integrity” from NLC paper 1999
- Medical accelerators: prevent too high dose to patient
  - Low intensity, but techniques for protection are similar
- Very short high current bunches: beam induces image currents that can damage the environment (bellows, beam instruments, cavities, ...)



## For future high intensity machines

Machine protection should always start during the design phase of an accelerators

- Particle tracking
  - to establish loss distribution with realistic failure modes
  - accurate aperture model required
- Calculations of the particle shower (FLUKA, GEANT, ...)
  - energy deposition in materials
  - activation of materials
  - accurate 3-d description of accelerator components (and possibly tunnel) required
- Coupling between particle tracking and shower calculations
- From the design, provide 3-d model of all components

### Machine protection

- is not equal to equipment protection
- requires the understanding of many different type of failures that could lead to beam loss
- requires comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the accelerator (accelerator physics, operation, equipment, instrumentation, functional safety)
- touches many aspects of accelerator construction and operation
- includes many systems
- is becoming increasingly important for future projects, with increased beam power / energy density ( $\text{W}/\text{mm}^2$  or  $\text{J}/\text{mm}^2$ ) and increasingly complex machines

Thank you very much for your  
attention

