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Actuation and alignment challenges of LHC collimators

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Summary

The LHC collimation system has the functions of beam cleaning and protection of the superconducting magnets from quenching due to particle losses.

Each collimator jaw has to be moved with a very high accuracy to place the active surface at the required position with respect to the proton beam; at the same time, the system must be adjustable and flexible to adapt to the uncertainties and variations in the beam tuning. This presentation illustrates the technical challenges of the actuation system and the solutions found to meet the specifications.

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