

Why Accelerators? Introduction to Accelerator Physics

by

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Why accelerators?

Accelerators are instruments that increase the energy of particles to study smaller and smaller structures and create heavy short-lived objects in collision with

$$E = m \cdot c^2$$

Wavelength of probe radiation needs to be smaller than object to be resolved

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h \cdot c}{E}$$



Object	size	Radiation energy
Atom	10^{-10} m	0.00001 GeV
Nucleus	10^{-14} m	0.01 GeV
Nucleon	10^{-15} m	0.1 GeV
Quarks	-	> 1 GeV

The units we are using...

Energy: in units of eV:

corresponds to the energy gained by charge of a single electron moved across a potential difference of one volt.

$$1 \text{ eV} = 1.602176565(35) \times 10^{-19} \times 1 \text{ J}$$

This comes from electrostatic particle accelerators.

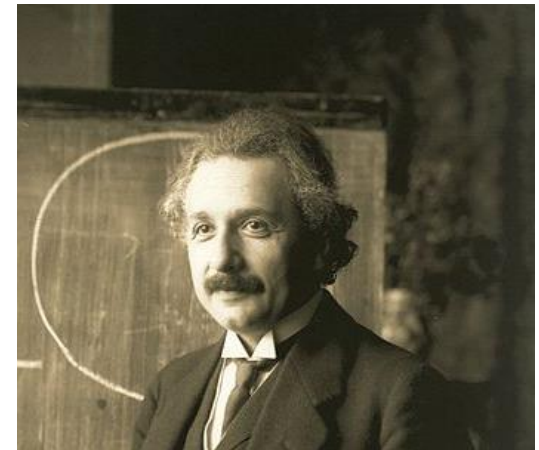
Unit of mass m : we use $E = mc^2$

→ Unit of mass is eV/c²

Unit of momentum p :

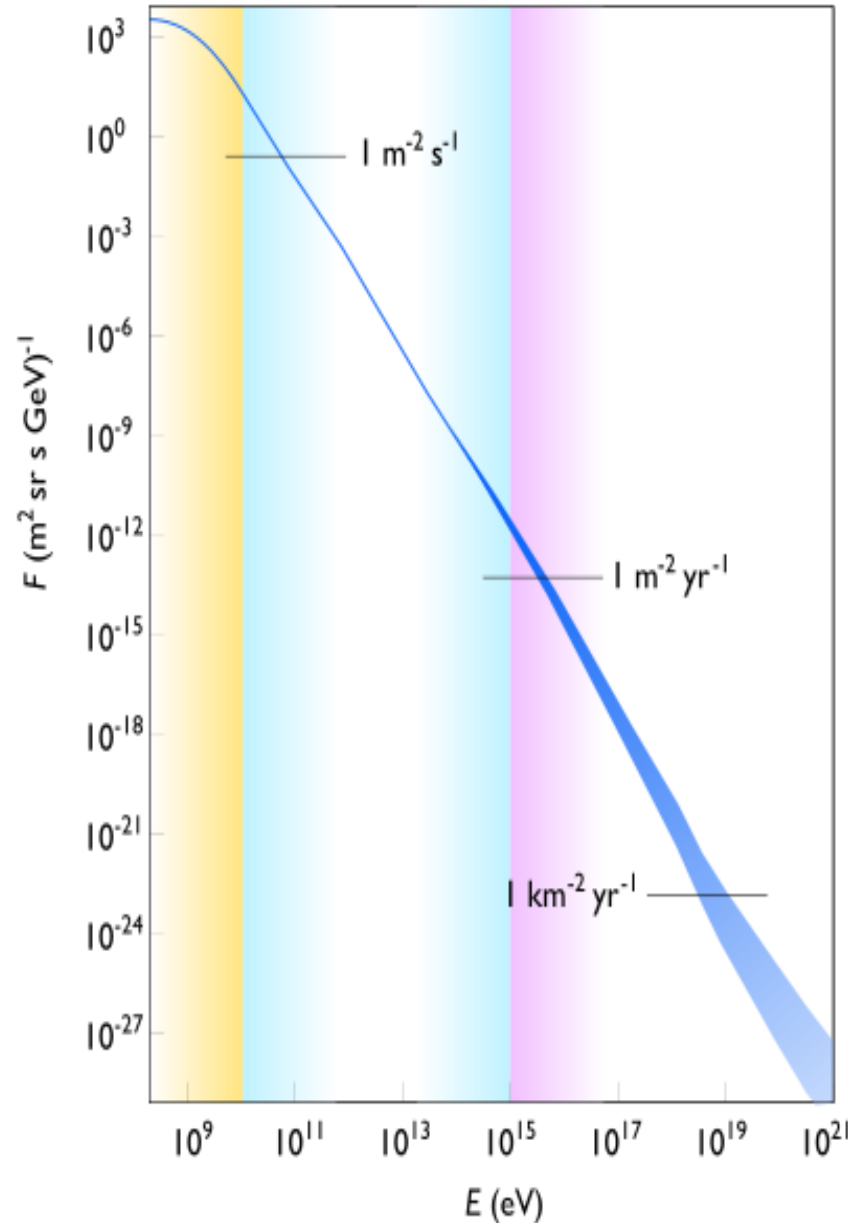
$$\text{with } E^2 = (mc^2)^2 + p^2c^2$$

→ Unit of momentum is eV/c



Natural Accelerators

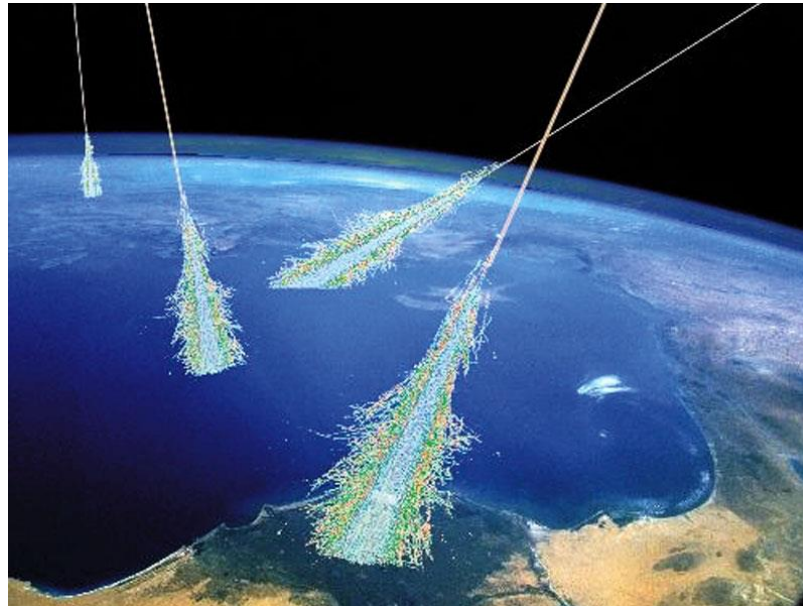
- Radioactive Accelerators
 - Rutherford experiment 1911
 - Used α particles tunneling through the Coulomb barrier of Ra and Th to investigate the inner structure of atoms
 - Existence of positively charged nucleus, $d \sim 10^{-13}$ m
 - α particle kinetic energy ~ 6 MeV
- Cosmic rays
 - Energies up to 3×10^{20} eV for heavy elements have been measured. $\sim 40 \times 10^6$ times what the LHC can do.
 - “Ultra high energy” cosmic rays are rare...



Why accelerators then....?

“Our” accelerators have the advantage:

High energies, high fluxes of a given particle species, controlled energies at a specific location where a detector can be installed.



How can we increase the energy of a particle?

Use electro-magnetic fields. Can increase the energy of CHARGED particles

- Increase energy

$$dE = \int_{\vec{r}_1}^{\vec{r}_2} \vec{F} d\vec{r} = q \int_{\vec{r}_1}^{\vec{r}_2} (\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}) d\vec{r}$$

- The particle trajectory direction $d\vec{r}$ parallel to \vec{v}

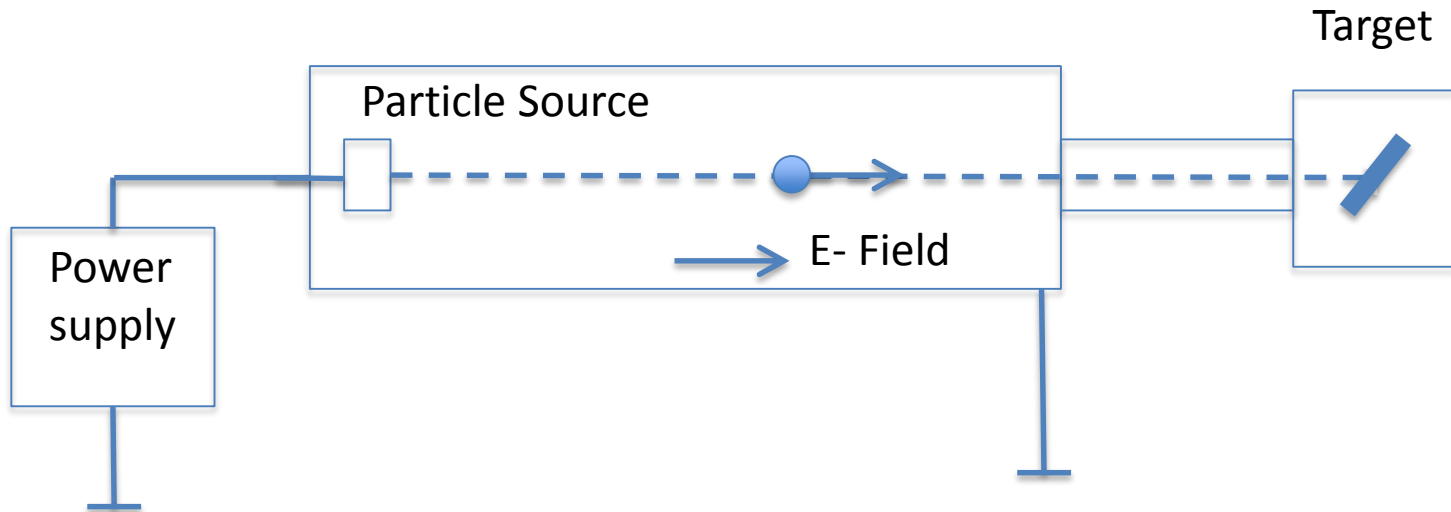
$$dE = \int_{\vec{r}_1}^{\vec{r}_2} \vec{F} d\vec{r} = q \int_{\vec{r}_1}^{\vec{r}_2} \vec{E} d\vec{r} = qU$$

- ...increase of energy with electric fields
- (Magnetic fields are needed for control of trajectories.)

The basic accelerator

Electrostatic accelerator:

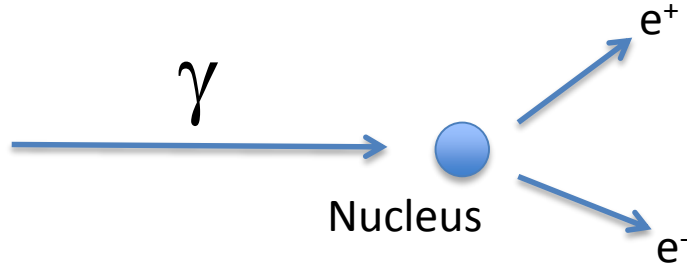
Charged particles go through the accelerating voltage gap **once** and then hit the target.



Limited by the maximum reachable voltage: ~ 10 MV

Why collisions?

- Conservation laws: e.g. momentum and energy conservation



Photon into e^+, e^- only in proximity of nucleus. Nucleus takes part of momentum (and part of available energy...)

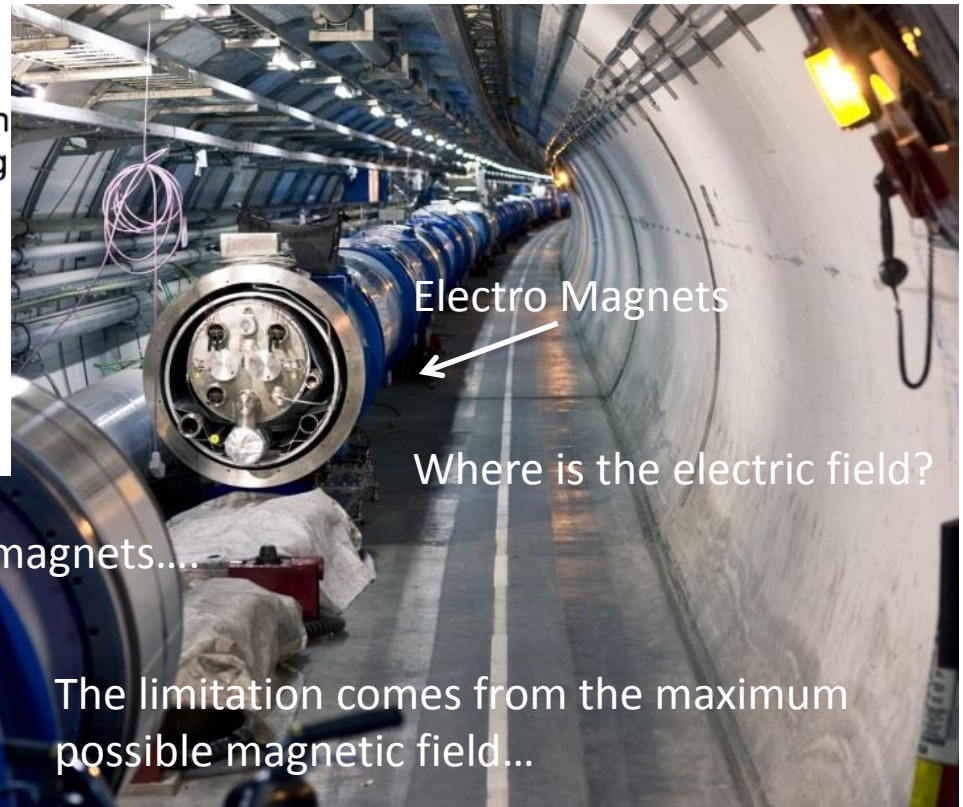
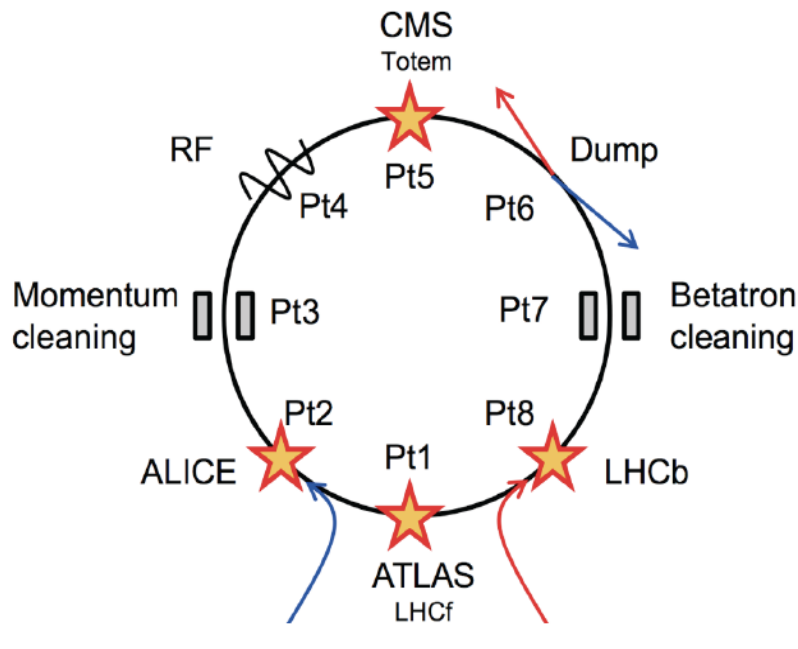
- Center-of-mass Frame and Center-of-mass Energy (E_{CM})
 - Center-of-mass frame defined where: $\dot{\vec{p}}_i = \vec{0}$
 - The energy available for creation of particles corresponds to E_{CM}

The Large Hadron Collider

It is a circular 2-beam accelerator. No targets. Collider.

Passing through accelerating gap of same voltage over and over again.

LHC protons are accelerated to 7000000 MeV



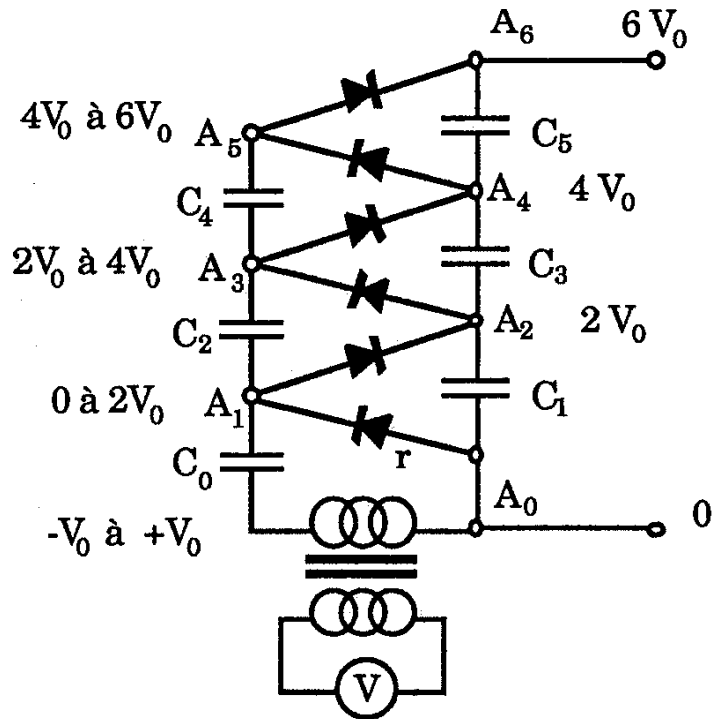
The Key Concepts for High Energy Accelerators

- RF Resonant Acceleration
- Strong Focusing – alternating gradient focusing
 - Keep the beam size under control

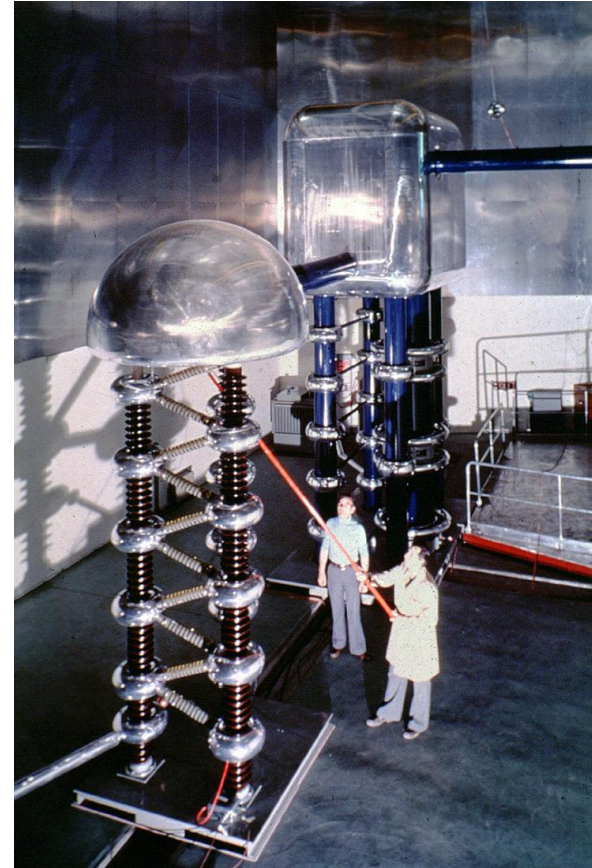
HISTORY OF ACCELERATORS

Electrostatic Accelerators – 1930s

- Cockcroft-Walton electrostatic accelerator
 - High voltage source by using high voltage rectifier units
 - High voltage limited due to sparking in air. Limit ~ 1 MV

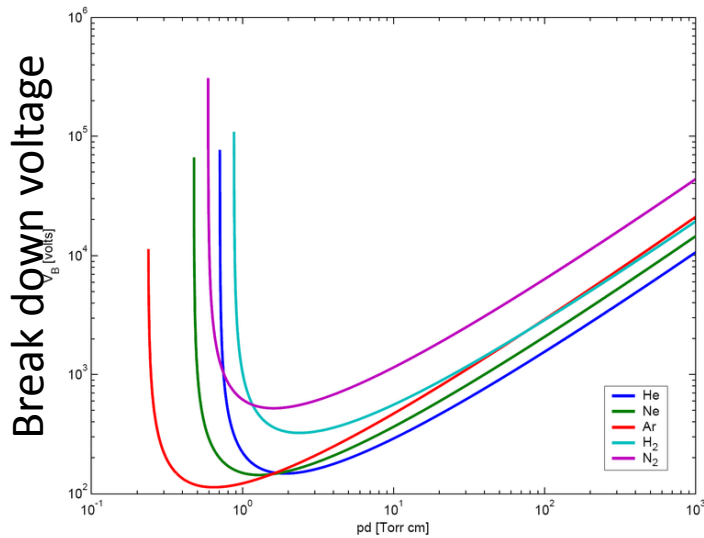


CERN used until 1993 as ion-source: 750 kV



Electrostatic Accelerators

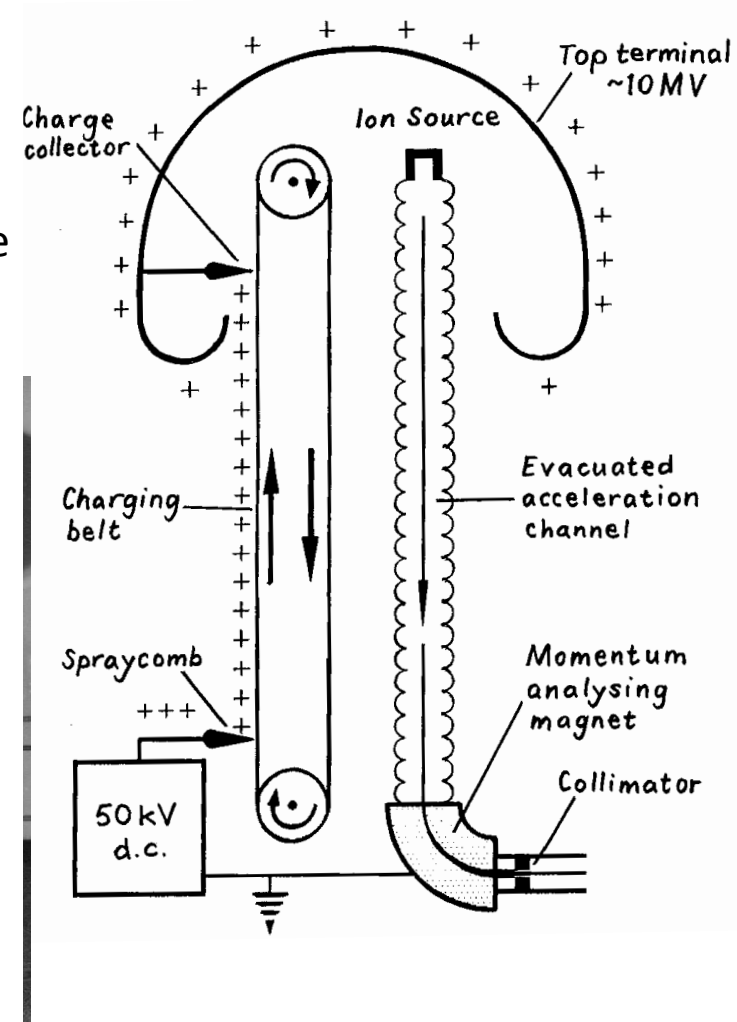
- Limit of 1 MV overcome: placing the electrodes under high pressure gas. Paschen's law



Break down voltage depends on gas pressure and gap between electrodes.

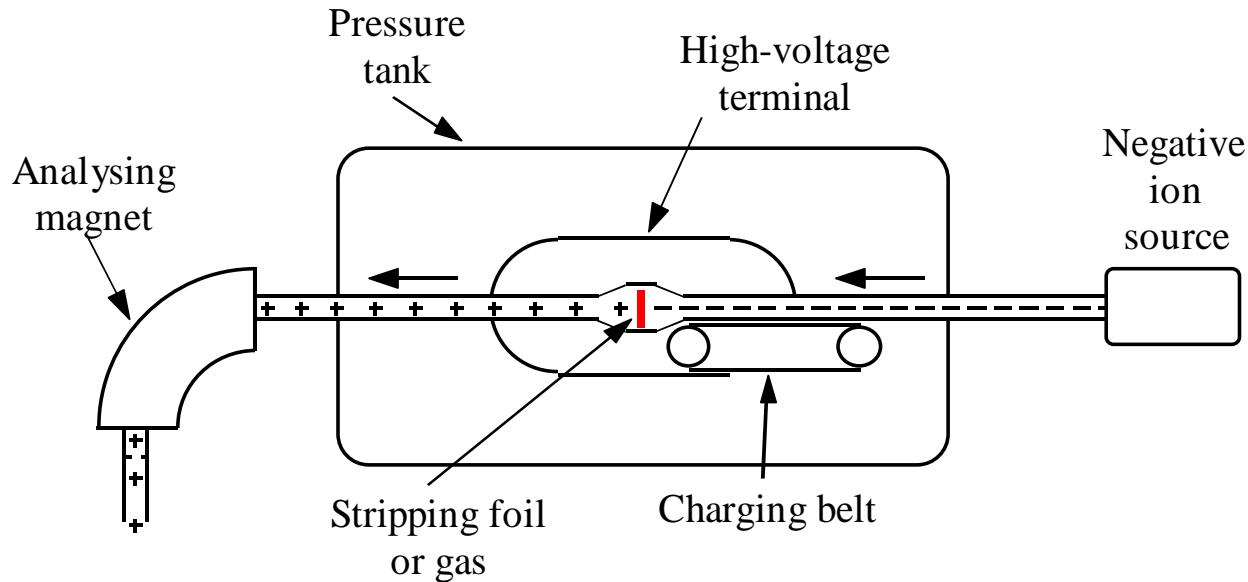
Product of pressure x gap

- → Van De Graaf generator
 - 1 – 10 MV



Tandem Van de Graaf Generator

- ...use the accelerating voltage twice

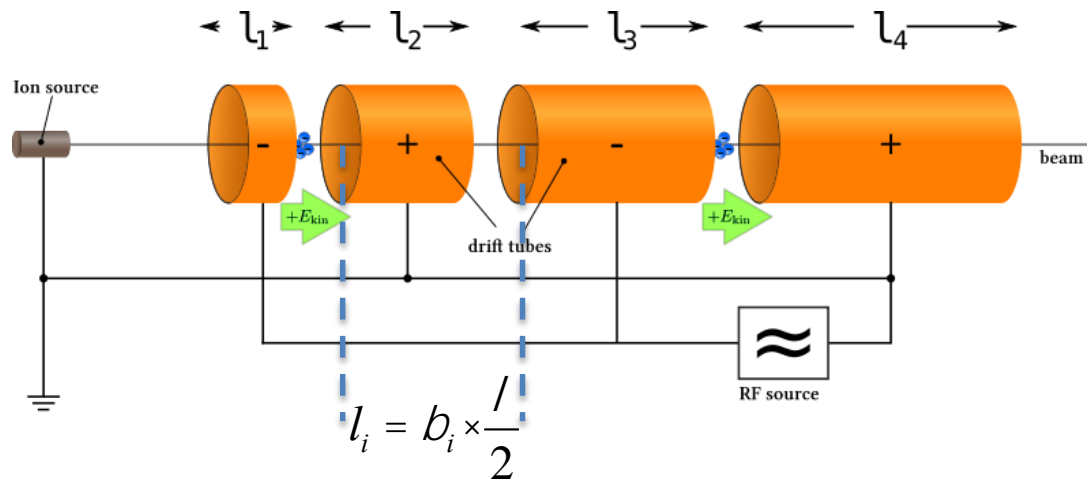


- Up to 25 MV
- Advantages of Van de Graaf:
 - Great variety of ion beams
 - Very good energy precision, small energy spread
- Applications in nuclear physics, accelerator mass spectroscopy,...

RF Acceleration – the Revolution

Electrostatic accelerator limitation: maximum voltage before sparking for acceleration over single gap

- ➔ pass through acceleration gap of same voltage many times (Ising)
- 1928 Wideroe: first working RF accelerator



Energy gain per gap:

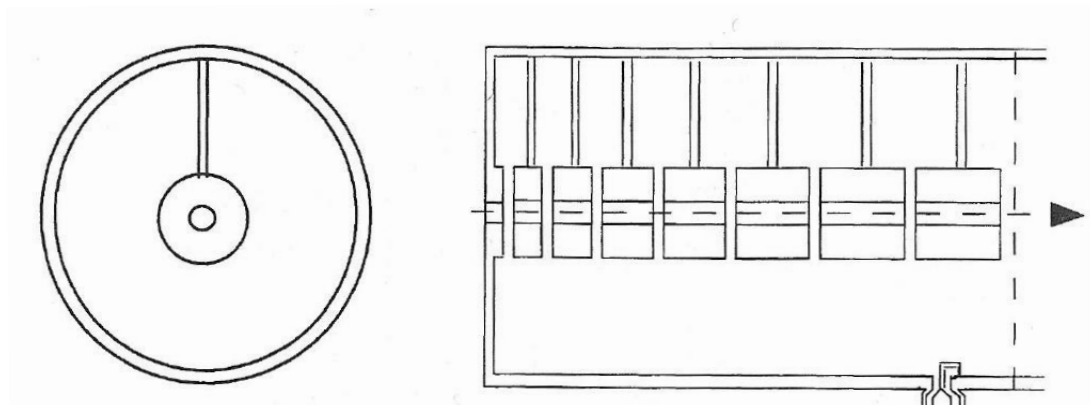
$$E = q V_{RF} \sin(\phi_s)$$

Φ_s ...phase wrt to RF field

- Particle synchronous with field. In shielding tube when field has opposite sign. Voltage across each cell the same.
- Remark: tubes have to become longer and longer, as particles become faster and faster
- or higher frequency $\lambda = c/f_{RF}$
- But radiation power loss: $P = \omega_{RF} C V_{RF}^2$, C gap capacitance

Alvarez Linac or Drift Tube Linac

- Eliminate power loss: drift tube placed in cavity
 - Electromagnetic field oscillating in cavity. Standing wave, TM mode (longitudinal E-Field, transverse B-Field)
 - Resonant frequency of cavity = accelerating field frequency
 - Reduce power loss
 - Exploit Faraday's law: $\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{B}$



Circular Accelerators

- Linear accelerators can in principle accelerate to arbitrarily high energies.
-but become longer and longer
- → Particles on circular paths to pass accelerating gap over and over again
- → Cyclotron proposed by E.O. Lawrence in 1929 and built by Livingston in 1931.

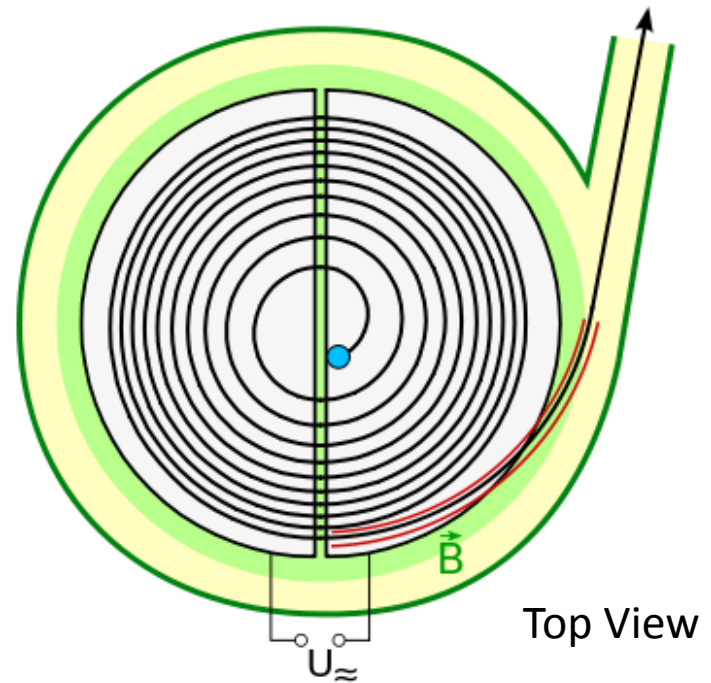
Cyclotron

Particle Source in the middle

Between the two “Dees” acceleration gap
connected to RF source. $\omega_{RF} = \omega_{cyclotron}$

Vertical magnetic field to guide the particles in
the horizontal plane. The radius of particle
trajectory becomes larger and larger with larger
energy

Particles extracted with a deflector magnet or
an electrode.



$$\vec{F} = q(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}) \longrightarrow F_L = q v B \longrightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Vertical B} \\ \text{No E} \end{array}$$

$$F_c = m \frac{v^2}{r} \longrightarrow \text{centrifugal force}$$

$$F_L = F_c \longrightarrow \omega = \frac{v}{r} = \frac{qB}{m} \longrightarrow \text{revolution period}$$

Cyclotron Limitation

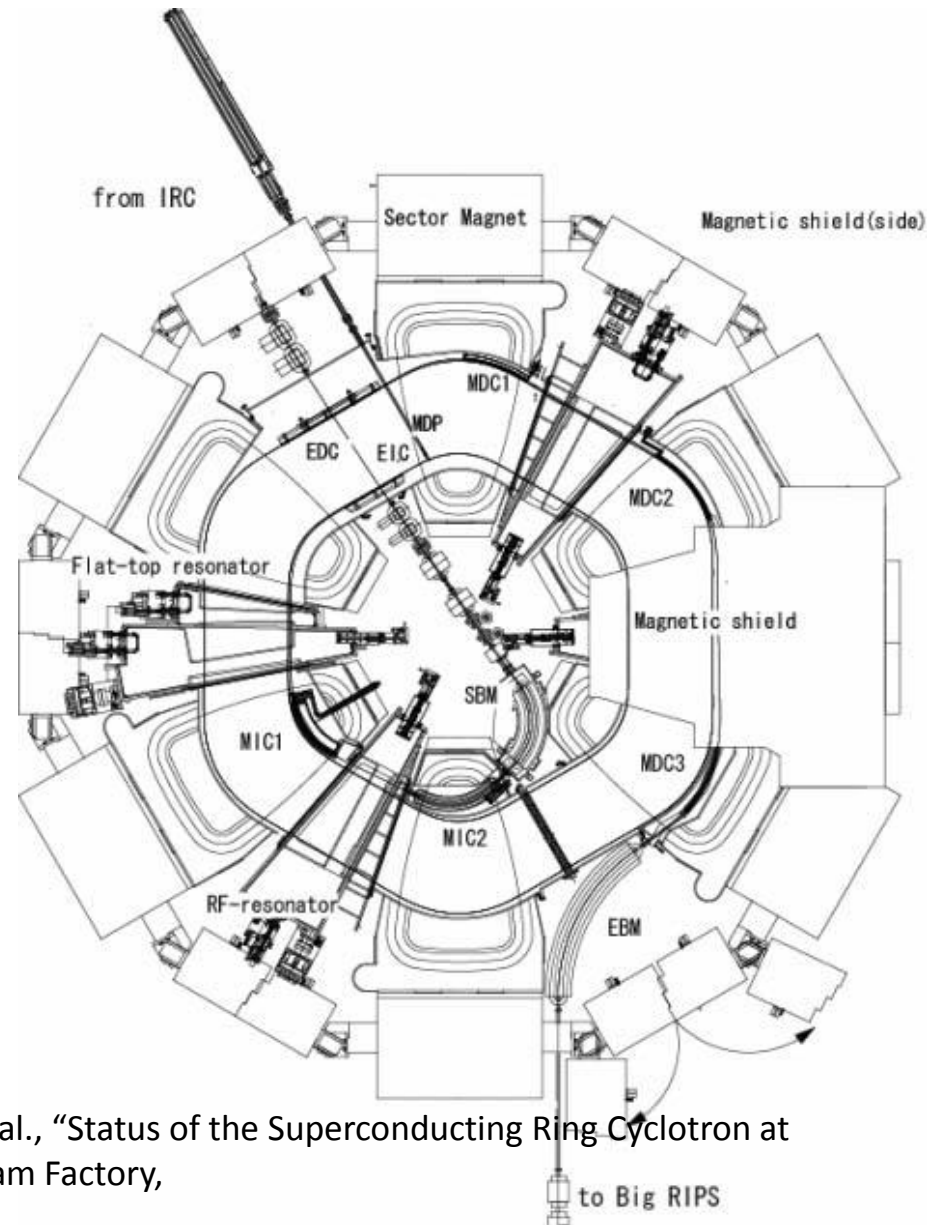
- Cyclotron frequency is constant for constant mass
- For relativistic particles mass is not constant

$$\omega = \frac{v}{r} = \frac{Bq}{m} = \frac{Bq}{m(E)}$$

- The classical cyclotron only valid for particles up to few % of speed of light
 - Not useful for electrons...already relativistic at 500 keV
- Possibilities: synchrocyclotrons (change frequency (and magnetic field) with energy) or isochronous cyclotrons (increase magnetic field with r , frequency constant)
- Modern cyclotrons can reach > 500 MeV (PSI, TRIUMF, RIKEN)

Biggest Cyclotron in the world

- RIKEN, Japan
- 19 m diameter, 8 m high
- 6 superconducting sector magnets, 3.8 T
- Heavy ion acceleration
- Uranium ions accelerated up to 345 MeV/u



K. Yamada et al., "Status of the Superconducting Ring Cyclotron at RIKEN RI Beam Factory, EPAC 2008

PSI cyclotron

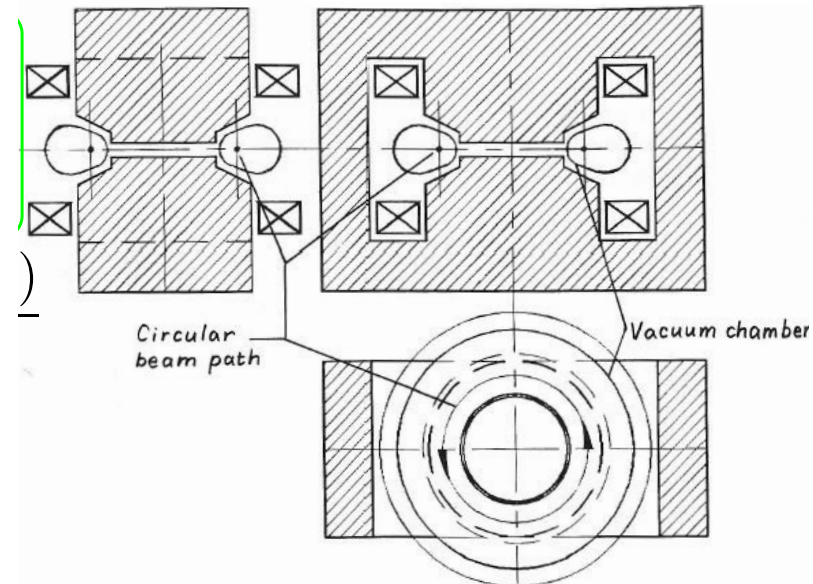


High intensity $P_{\max} = 1300 \text{ kW}$

Betatron - 1940



- Another early circular accelerator
- Idea by Wideroe in 1923. Kerst builds the first working betatron in 1940.
- Difference: constant radius and magnetic field changing with time to keep radius constant.
- Accelerating E-field generated through induction, no external E-field
- e^- accelerated to 2.3 MeV
- “Betatron” for beta rays (e^-)



Synchrotron

- Higher and higher energies – larger and larger radii, limited B fields – cannot stay compact
- Fix trajectory → $R = \text{constant}$; R can be large
- Dipole magnets with field only where the beam is
 - “small” magnets
- $R = \text{constant}$ → B field increases **synchronously** with beam energy
- Synchrotron - all big modern machines are synchrotrons

Cosmotron – BNL – 1952 – 3 GeV

3 GeV p⁺ synchrotron

Particle rigidity: $B\rho = \frac{p}{e}$

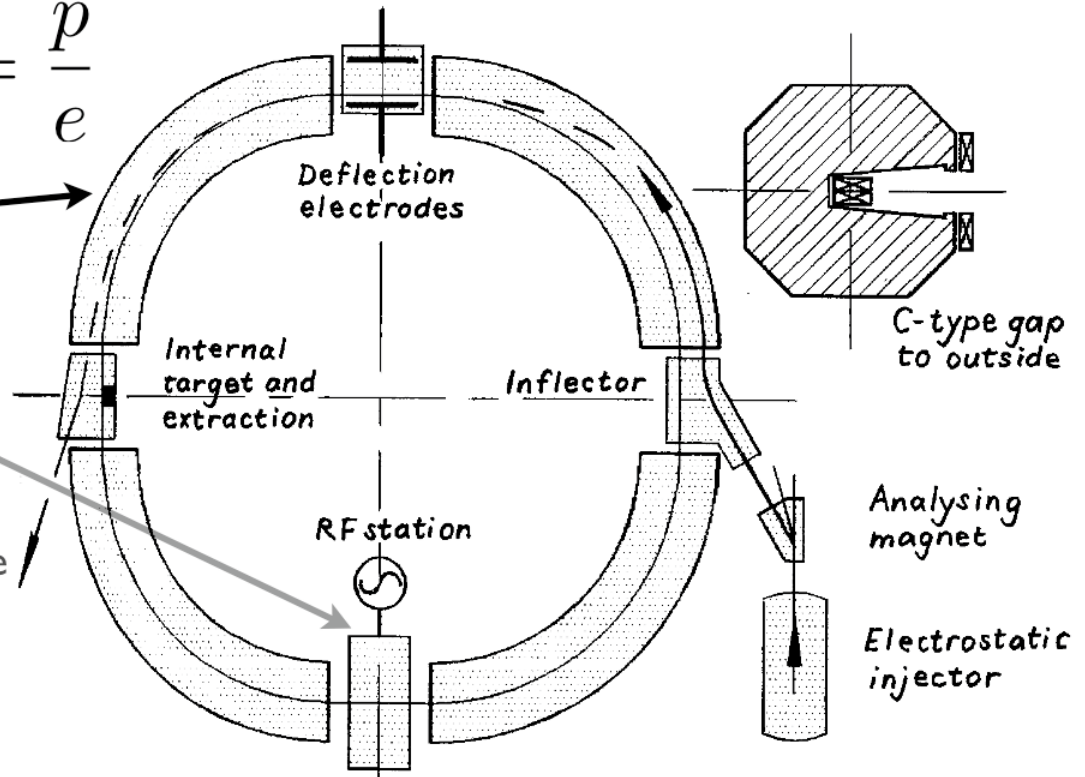
B = B(t) magnetic field from the bending magnets

p = p(t) particle momentum varies by the RF cavity

e electric charge

ρ constant radius of curvature

New magnetic elements for injection and extraction.



Particles do many 1000 turns – trajectories have a angular spread → divergence

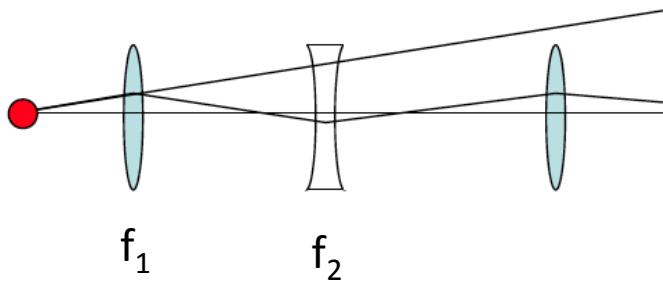
Need focusing elements. Cosmotron **weak focusing** machine

Strong Focusing

Idea by E. Courant, M. Livingston, H. Snyder in 1952 and earlier by Christofilos

Alternating gradient focusing

- Analogous to geometrical optics: a series of alternating focusing and defocusing lenses will focus.



$$\frac{1}{F} = \frac{1}{f_1} + \frac{1}{f_2} - \frac{d}{f_1 f_2}$$

Consider $f_1=f$, $f_2 = -f \rightarrow F = f^2/d > 0$

In our case the lenses will be magnets with alternating gradients
QUADRUPOLES

The first alternating gradient synchrotrons

Alternating gradient focusing was quickly adopted by synchrotrons and transfer lines.

- 1954: Cornell University, e^- accelerated to 1.5 GeV (Wilson et al.)

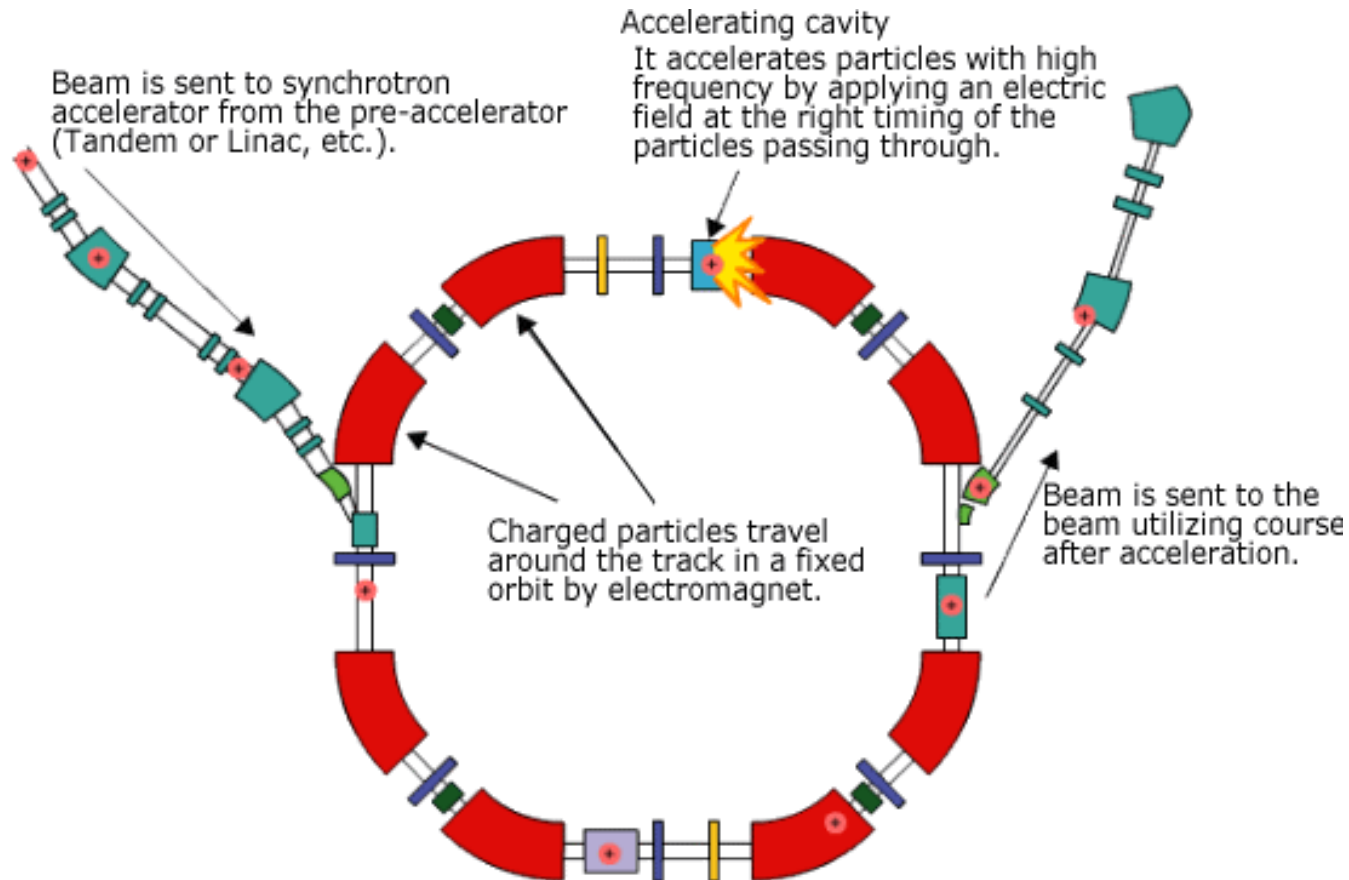
The following two machines are still in operation.

They use combined function magnets.

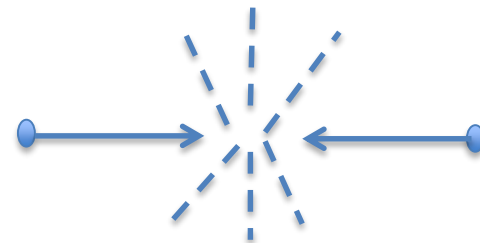
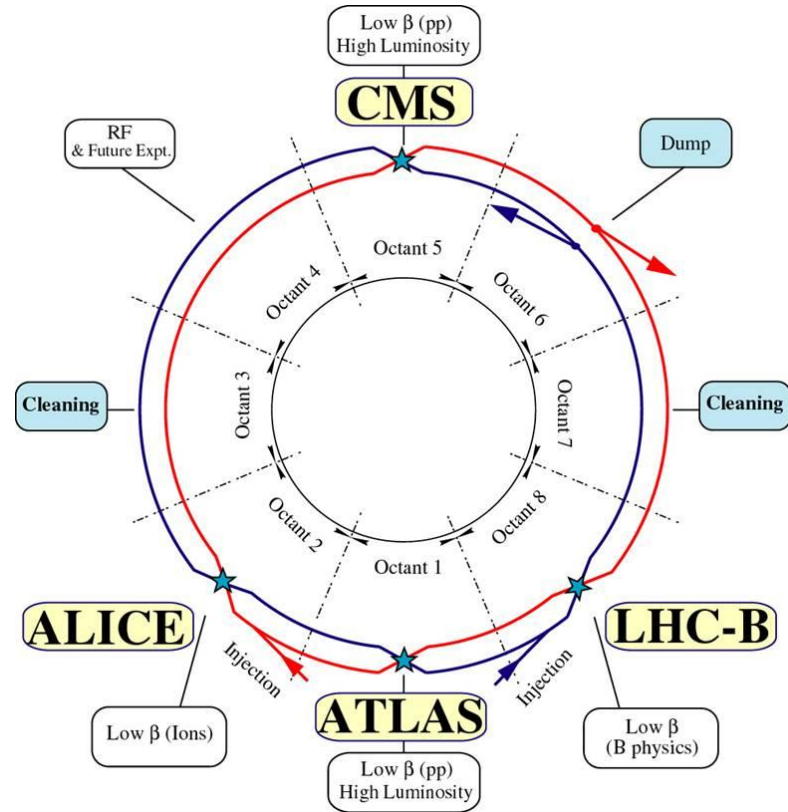
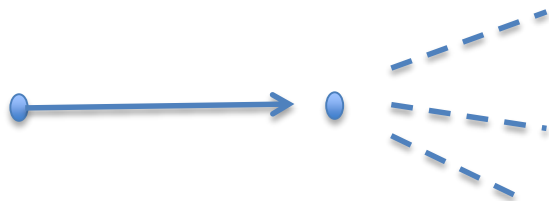
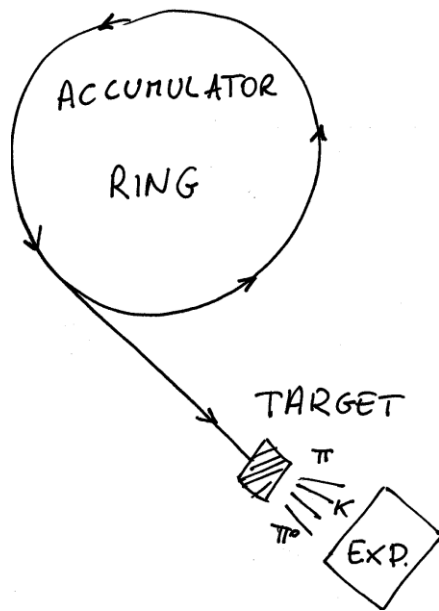
- 1959: CERN Proton Synchrotron (PS) accelerated protons to 28 GeV

- 1960: Brookhaven Alternating Gradient Synchrotron (AGS) accelerated protons to 33 GeV

The basic Layout of a Alternating Gradient Synchrotron



Fixed target vs. Colliders



Fixed target vs. Colliders – Center-of-mass Energy

- Center-of-mass Frame and Center-of-mass Energy (E_{CM})
 - Center-of-mass frame defined where: $\dot{\vec{p}}_i = \vec{0}$
 - The energy available for creation of particles corresponds to E_{CM}

Center-of-Mass Energy

Transformation to center-of-mass frame: Lorentz transformation

$$p^\mu = (E/c, \vec{p}) \quad \text{4-momentum}$$

$$p^\mu p_\mu = \frac{E^2}{c^2} - \vec{p}^2$$

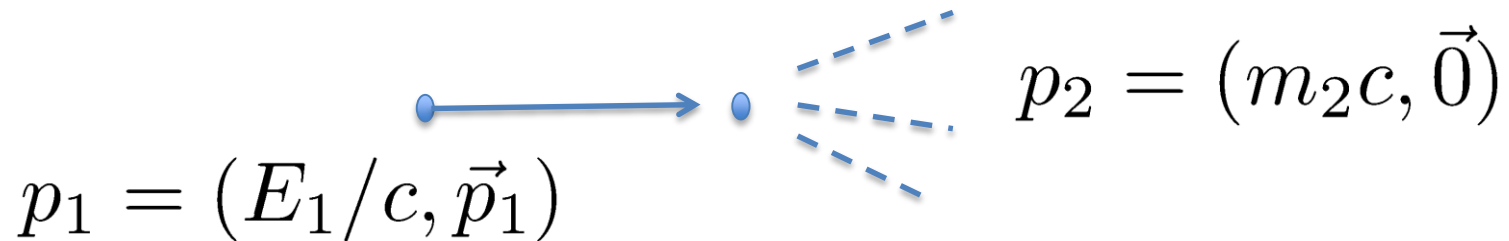
$$p'^\mu = L^\nu_\mu p^\nu \quad \text{Lorentz Transformation}$$

$$p^\mu p_\mu = p'^\mu p'_\mu \quad \text{The norm: is Lorentz invariant}$$

$$\frac{E_{CM}^2}{c^2} - \vec{0}^2 = \frac{E_{tot}^2}{c^2} - \vec{p}_{tot}^2$$

$$\frac{E_{CM}^2}{c^2} = \frac{E_{tot}^2}{c^2} - \vec{p}_{tot}^2$$

E_{CM} in Fixed Target Experiment



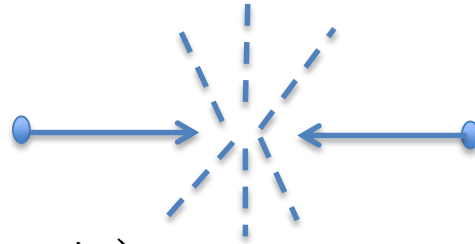
$$p_{tot} = (E_1/c + m_2c, \vec{p}_1)$$

$$E_{CM}^2 = (m_1^2 + m_2^2)c^4 + 2E_1m_2c^2$$

$$E_{CM} \propto \sqrt{E_1}$$

E_{CM} in Collider Experiment

Laboratory Frame = CM Frame



$$p_1 = (E_1/c, \vec{p}_1)$$

$$p_2 = (E_2/c, -\vec{p}_1)$$

$$E_{CM} = E_1 + E_2$$

➔ Collider more energy efficient;

But also more complex: two beams to be accelerated and to be brought into collision

The next step: storage ring colliders

Make use of all the particles' energy. 2-beam synchrotrons.

The first one: Ada (Frascati), 1961-64, e^+,e^- , 250 MeV, 3m circumference

Many examples to come at DESY, SLAC, KEK, Fermilab with the Tevatron (980 GeV), BNL with RHIC

1971-1984: ISR (CERN), p^+,p^+ , 31.5 GeV, 948 m circumference

1981-1991: SPS running as SpS, p^+, p^- , 270 – 315 GeV, 6.9 km circumference; discovery of W and Z Bosons

1989-2000: LEP highest energy electron synchrotron, e^+,e^- , 104 GeV, 27 km circumference; three generations of quarks, gluons and leptons

2008 - : LHC highest energy proton synchrotron, p^+,p^+ , heavy ions, 6.5 TeV (2.76 TeV per nucleon for $^{208}\text{Pb}^{82+}$); Discovery of Higgs

THE MAIN MAGNETS

How can we keep the particles on a circular trajectory?

- Usually use only magnetic fields for transverse control

$$\boxed{\vec{F} = q \cdot (\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B})} \quad \text{Lorentz Force}$$

- What is the equivalent E field of $B = 1 \text{ T}$?
 - Ultra-relativistic: $|\vec{v}| \approx c \approx 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

$$\begin{aligned} F &= q \cdot 3 \cdot 10^8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \cdot 1 \text{ T} \\ &= q \cdot 3 \cdot 10^8 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}} \cdot \frac{\text{Vs}}{\text{m}^2} \\ &= q \cdot 300 \frac{\text{MV}}{\text{m}} \end{aligned}$$

Equivalent electric field!!:

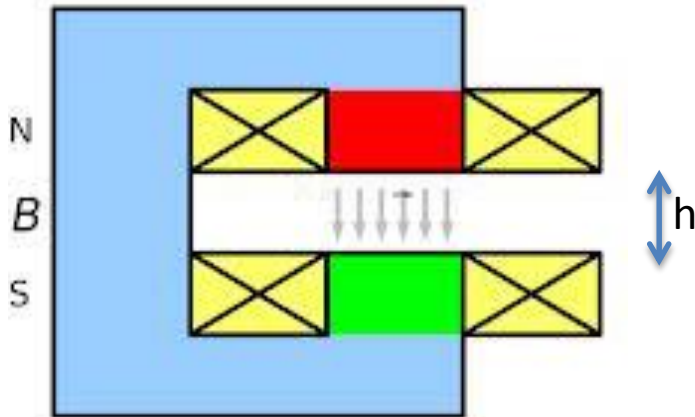
$$|\vec{E}| = 300 \frac{\text{MV}}{\text{m}}$$

- ➔ To guide the particles we use magnetic fields from electro-magnets.

Dipole magnets: guiding magnets

- Vertical magnetic field to bend in the horizontal plane
- Dipole electro-magnets:

$$\vec{F} = q \cdot \vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$



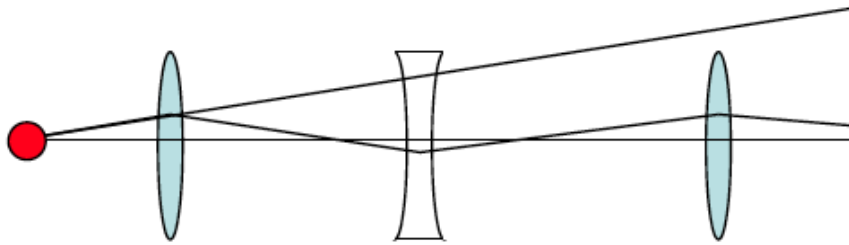
$$B = \frac{\mu_0 n I}{h}$$



Focusing is mandatory for stability

Define **design trajectory** with dipole magnets

Trajectories of particles in beam will deviate from design trajectory



- → Focusing
 - Particles should feel restoring force when deviating from design trajectory horizontally or vertically



Focusing with Quadrupole Magnets

- Requirement: Lorentz force increases as a function of distance from design trajectory

- E.g. in the horizontal plane

$$F(x) = q \cdot v \cdot B(x)$$

- We want a magnetic field that

$$B_y = g \cdot x \quad B_x = g \cdot y$$

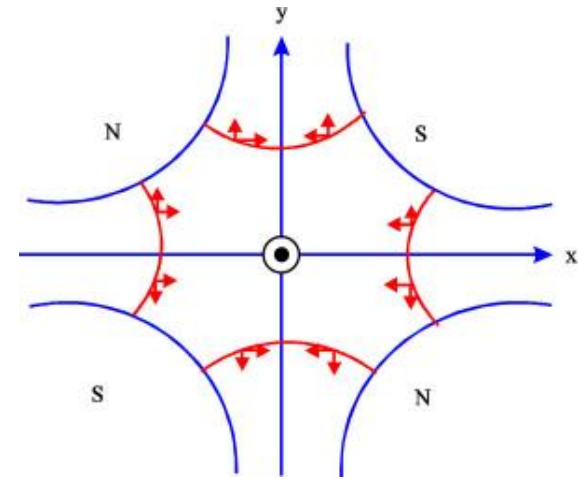
→ Quadrupole magnet

- **Gradient** of quadrupole

$$g = \frac{2\mu_0 n I}{r^2} \left[\frac{T}{m} \right]$$

Normalized gradient, focusing strength

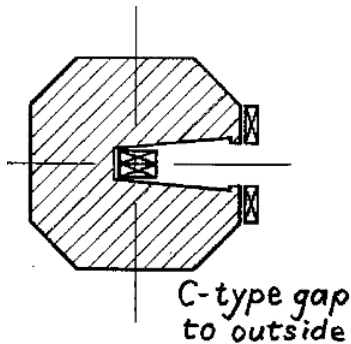
$$k = \frac{g}{p/e} [m^{-2}]$$



The red arrows show the direction of the force on the particle

Strong focusing

- Initially weak focusing or constant-gradient focusing.
- In early cyclotrons needed to introduce magnet shims to distort the guide field such that it was decreasing with R . A gradient.



Example: bending magnets in the Cosmotron, the first synchrotron.

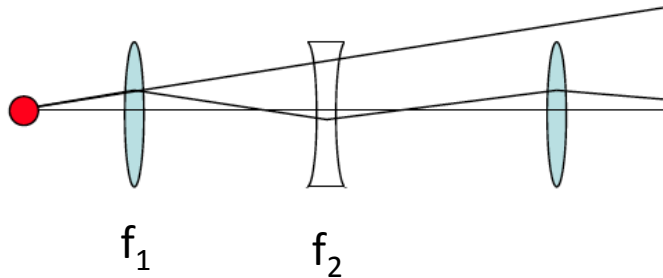
Apertures very large.

Energy limit was believed to be 10 GeV.

- The new idea: instead of constant-gradient: alternating gradient
- allowed for smaller apertures and much, much higher energies.
- Analogous to geometrical optics with light lenses.

Strong focusing

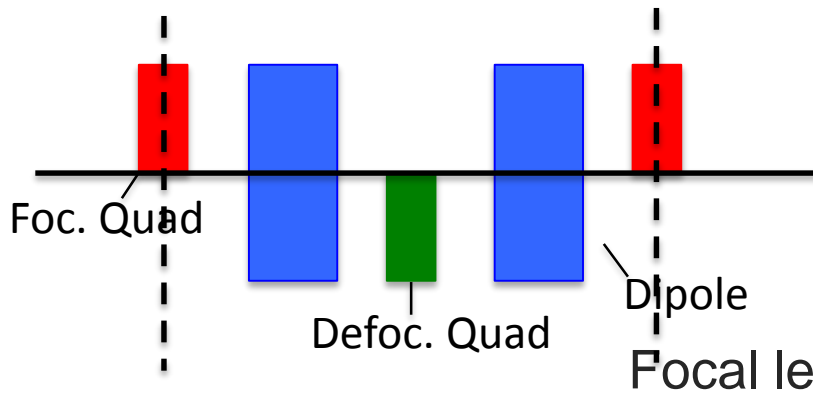
- Light lenses:



$$\frac{1}{F} = \frac{1}{f_1} + \frac{1}{f_2} - \frac{d}{f_1 f_2}$$

Consider $f_1 = f$, $f_2 = -f \rightarrow F = f^2/d > 0$

- In a synchrotron: the lenses are the quadrupoles

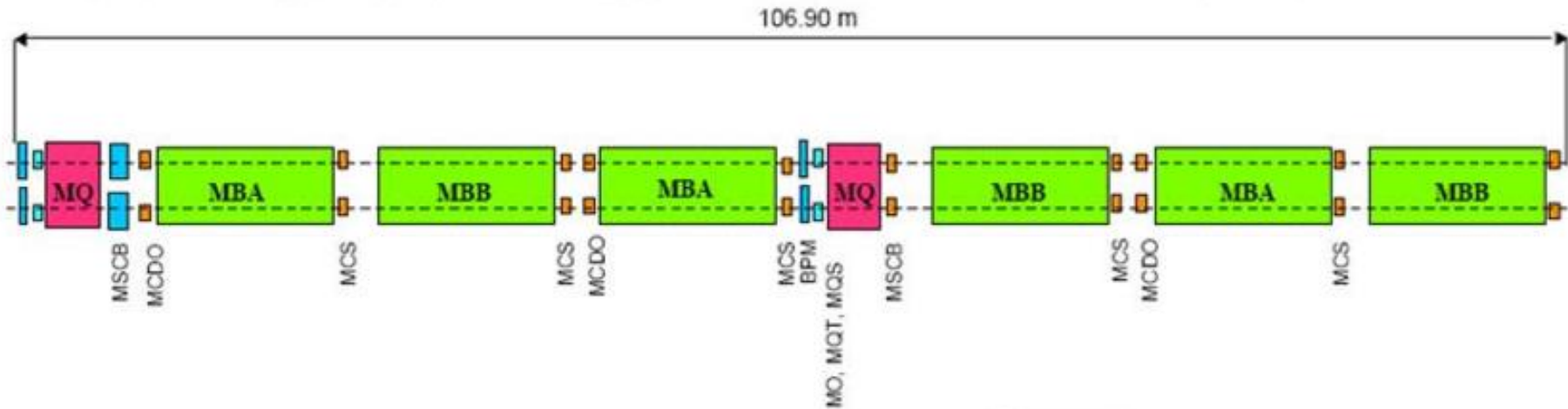


FODO Cell: F = Focusing, 0=nothing (bend, RF,..),
D = Defocusing

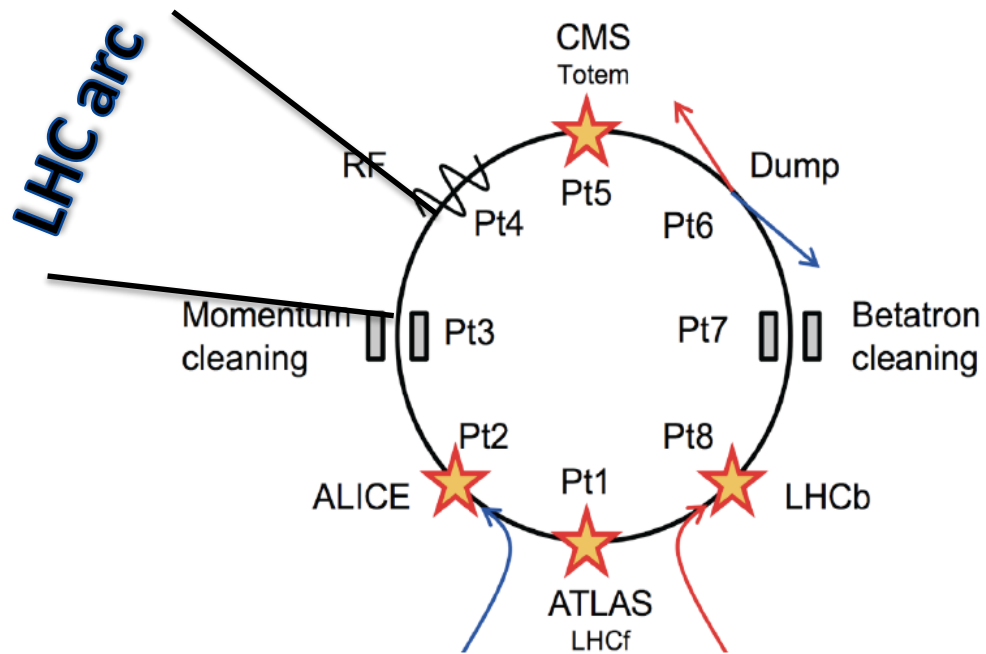
Focal length of quadrupole

$$f = \frac{1}{k \cdot l_Q}$$

The LHC FODO cell

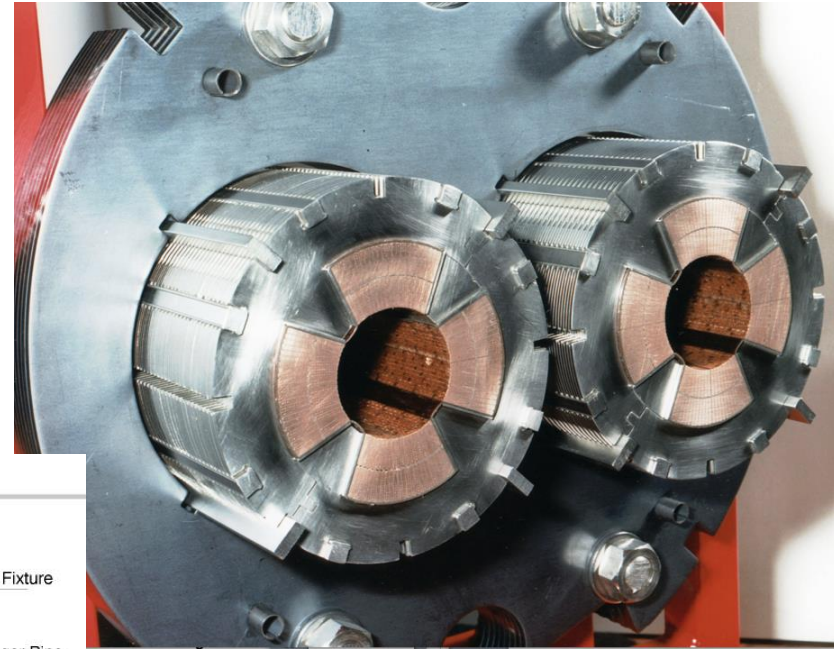


- Each LHC arc consists of
- 23 FODO cells

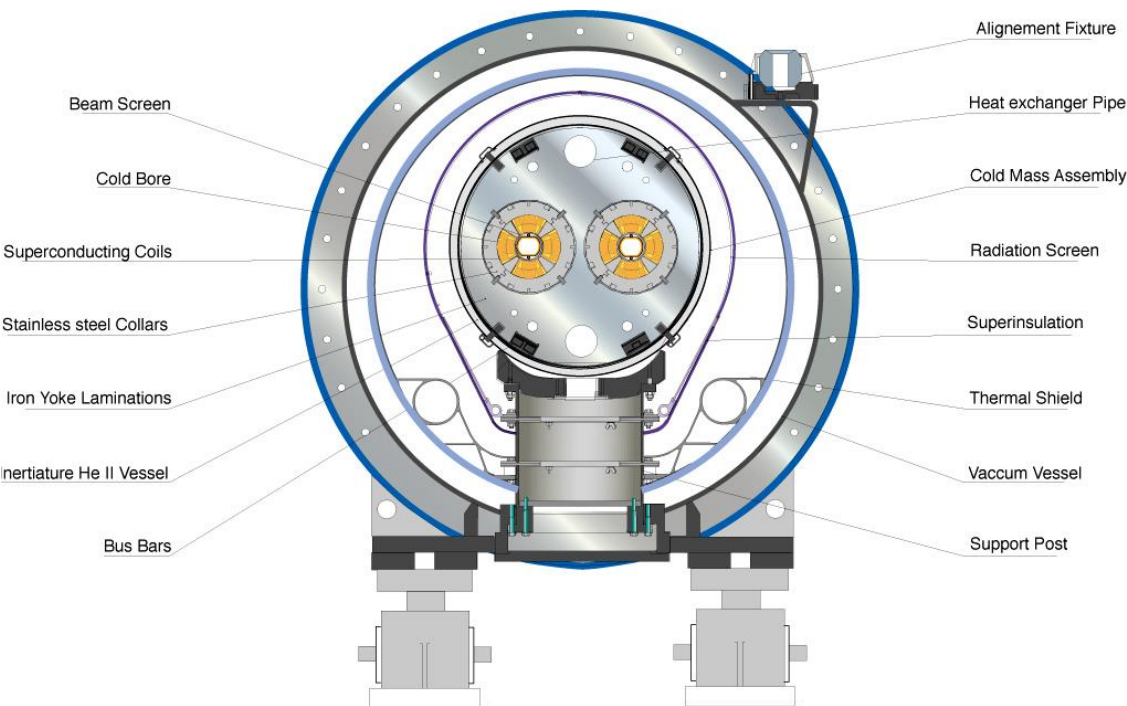


The LHC main quadrupole magnet

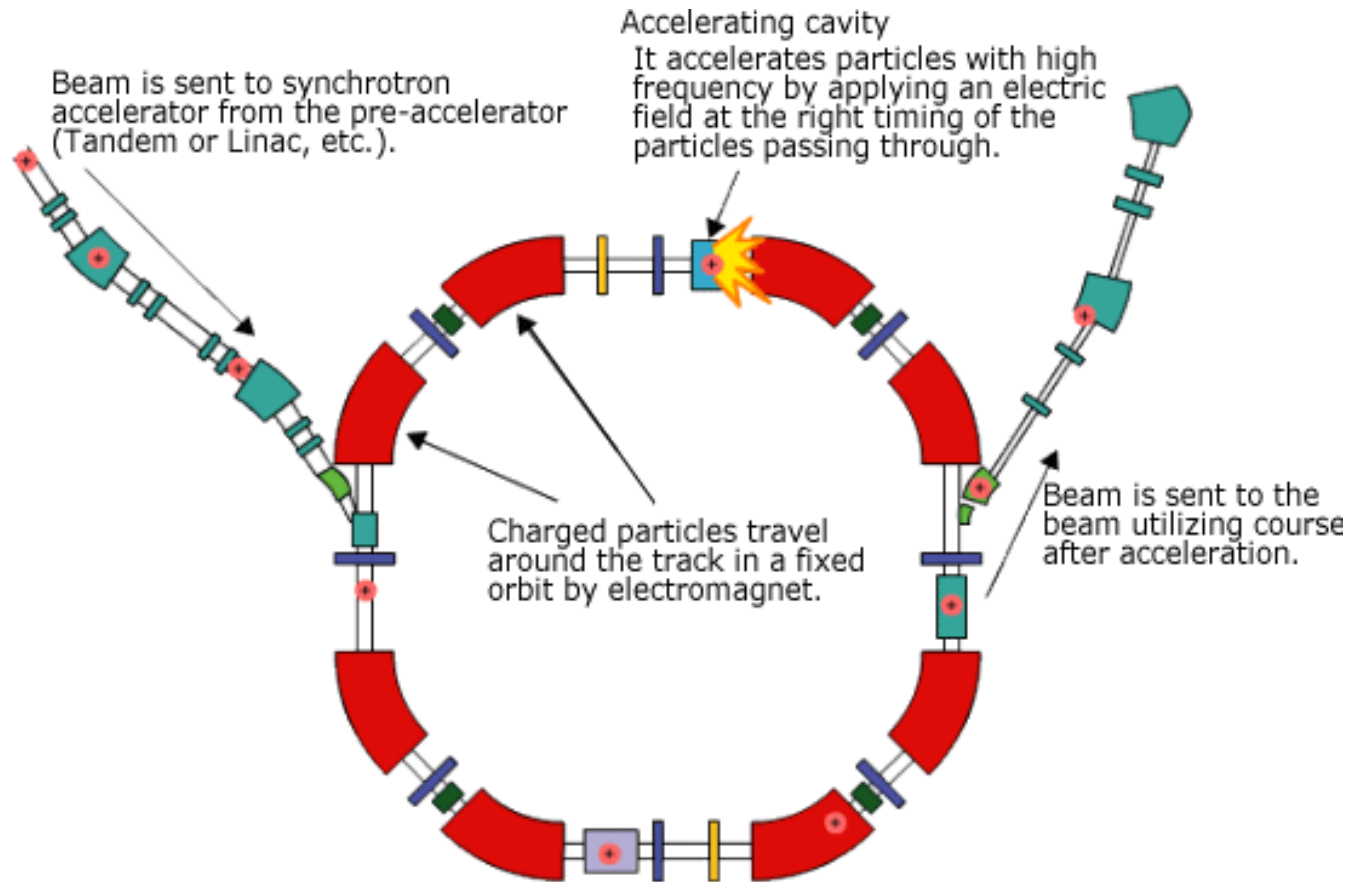
- Length = 3.2 m
- Gradient = 223 T/m
- Peak field 6.83 T
- Total number in LHC: 392



LHC quadrupole cross section



Synchrotron



ACCELERATION

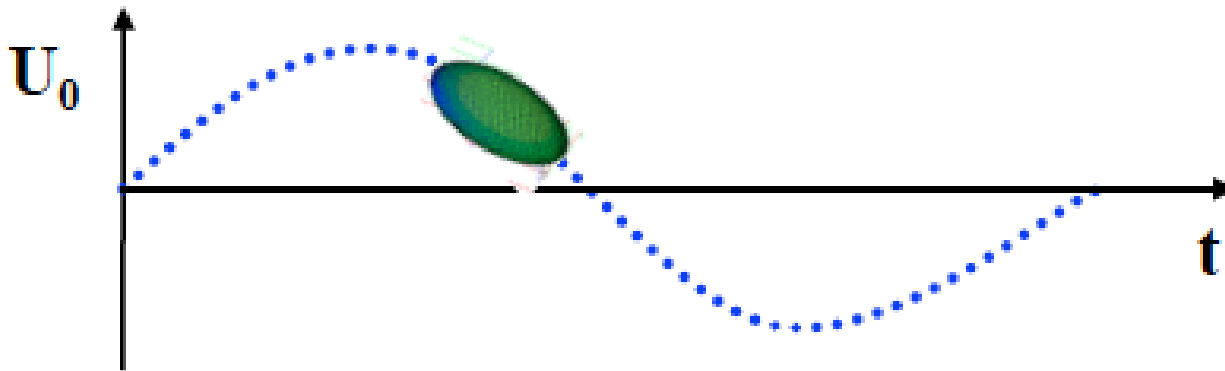
LHC superconducting cavities

- 8 cavities per beam in 2 cryo-modules per beam.
- Can deliver 2 MV per cavity. Accelerating field 5 MV/m
- RF frequency: 400 MHz.



Acceleration

- Using RF acceleration: multiple application of the same accelerating voltage.
- Brilliant idea to gain higher energies
- ...but accelerating voltage is changing with time while particles are going through the RF system.
- → Longitudinal dynamics



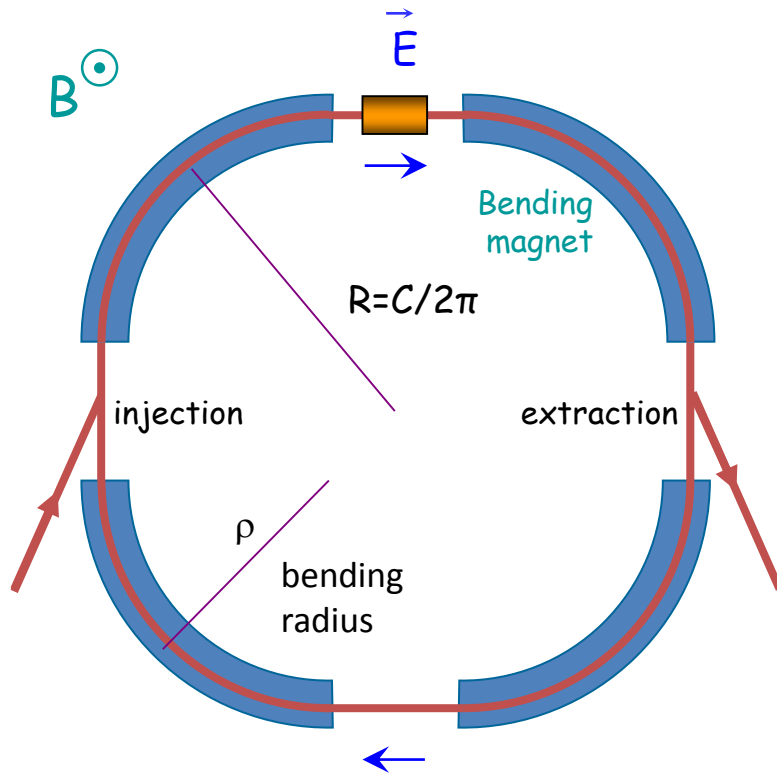
Not all particles arrive at the same time.

Not all particles will receive the same energy gain.

Not all particles will have the same energy.

Acceleration in a Synchrotron

- Synchrotron: there is a synchronous RF phase of the RF field for which the energy gain fits the increase of the magnetic field



Energy gain per turn

$$eV \sin \phi = eV \sin \omega_{RF} t$$

Reference particle,
synchronous particle

$$\phi = \phi_s = const$$

RF synchronism: the RF frequency must be locked to the revolution frequency

$$\omega_{RF} = h\omega_{rev}$$

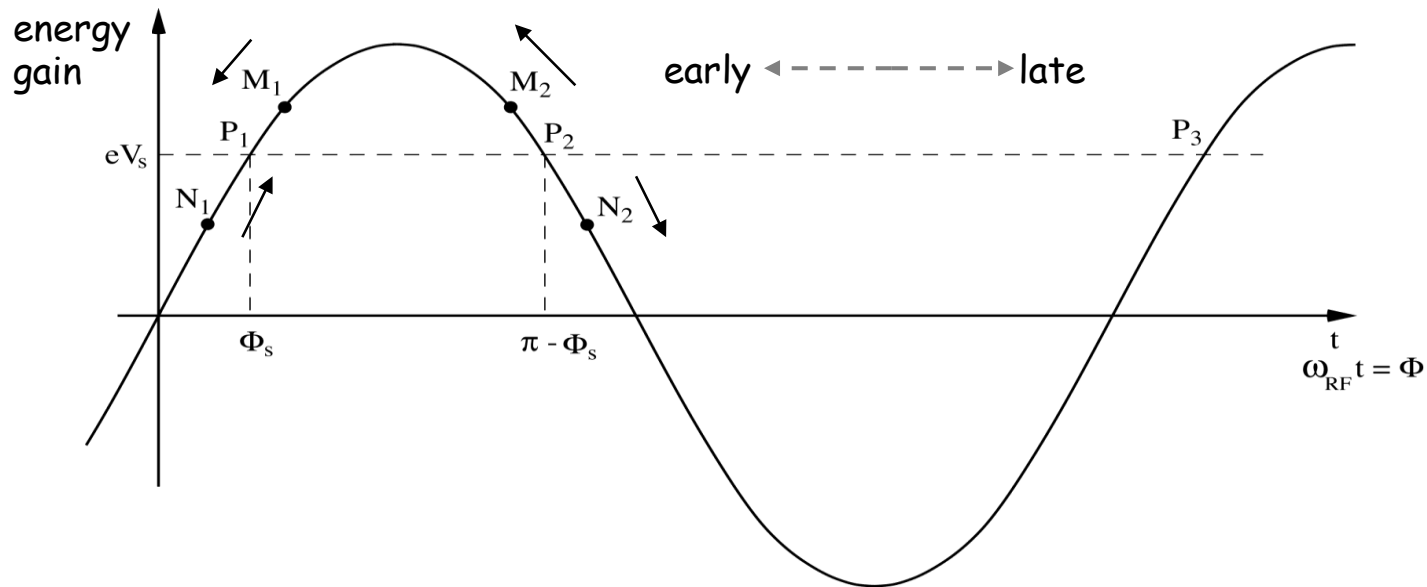
h...harmonic number

constant orbit, bending radius

variable magnetic field

Principle of Phase Stability

- Assume the situation where energy increase is transferred into a velocity increase
- Particles P_1 , P_2 have the synchronous phase.



M_1 & N_1 will move towards P_1 => **stable**

M_2 & N_2 will go away from P_2 => **unstable** (and finally be lost)