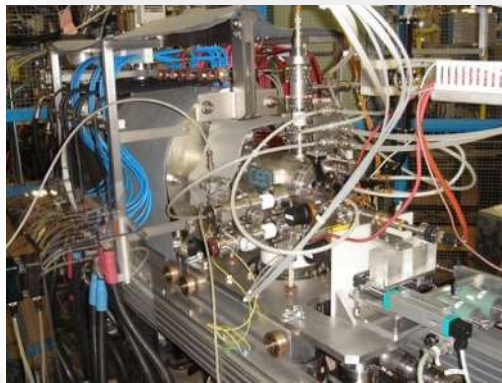


# Ion sources for radioactive beams and cancer therapy

Promed-MEDICIS summer school, CNAO 2017

F. Wenander



Sources for H and C



Radioactive ion sources



Charge breeding



Some basic ion source theory

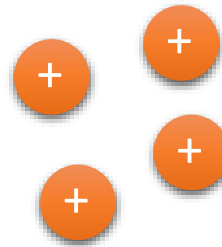
# Ion source – what's the point?

- Electric field E – accelerate, steer, focus and defocus particle beams
- Magnetic field B – steer, focus and defocus particle beams

$$\vec{F} = (q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} + q\vec{E})$$

An ion source is a device to create a **charged** particle beam

- ionizes the particles
- shapes a beam



Determines:

- \* charge state
- \* beam shape and emittance
- \* beam intensity
- \* time structure (continuous or pulsed)

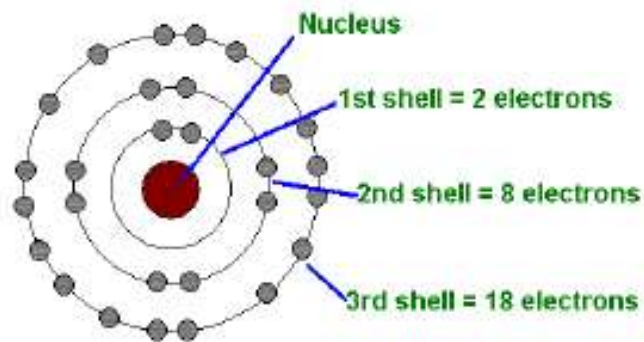
– all influences the layout of consecutive accelerator

# Electrons in an atom

Electrons orbit the atomic nucleus in orbits of fixed energy

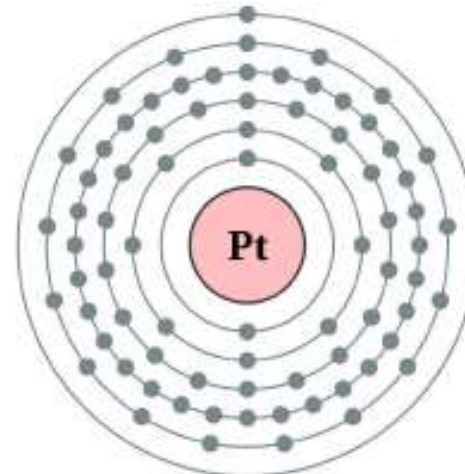
The energy of each electron shell/orbit is determined mostly by attraction of the nucleus and to a smaller degree by the repulsion of other electrons

Quantum mechanics is behind the existence of shells and the number of electrons in each shell



78: Platinum

2,8,18,32,17,1



# Minimal atomic physics

Ignore

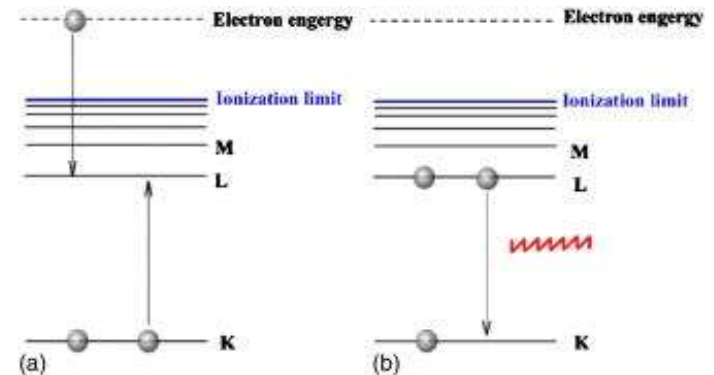
Charge exchange

Radiative recombination

Di-electronic recombination

Electron heating

Elastic collisions e-e,  
e-i, i-e + residual gas



# Physical quantities and units

- Kinetic energy of charged particles is measured in *electron volts* (eV)



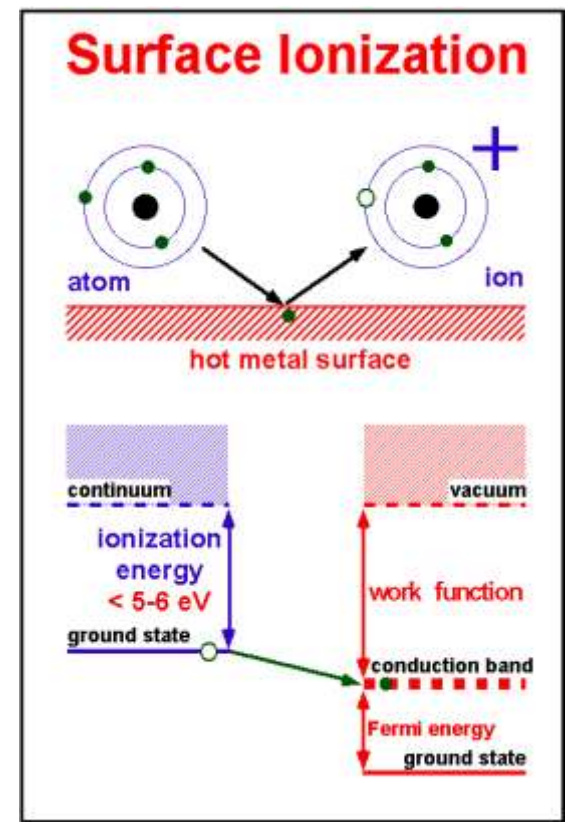
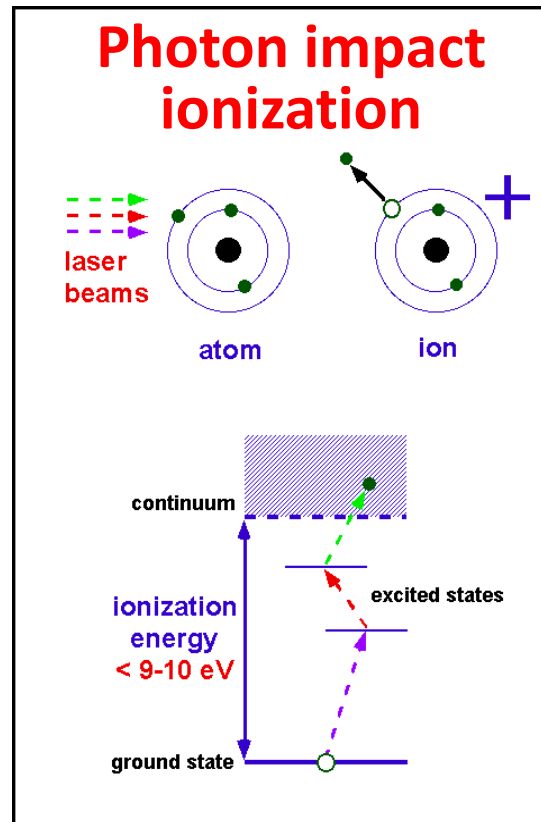
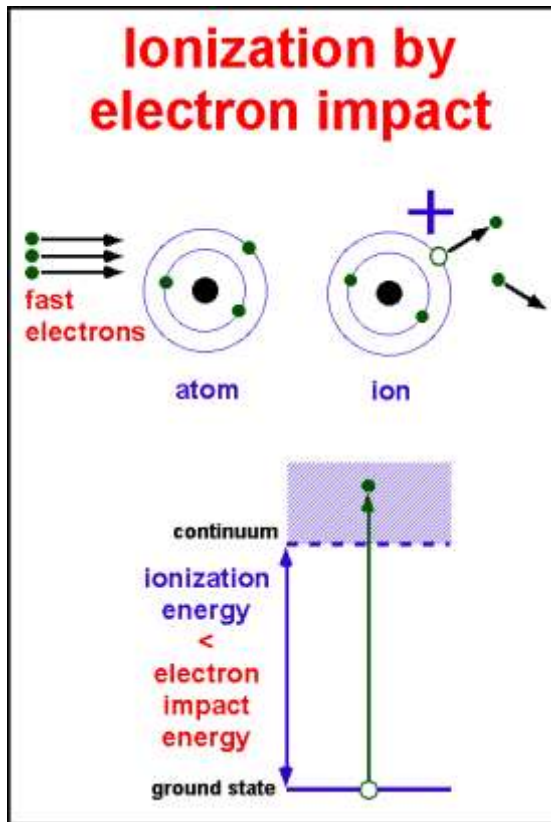
- Elementary charge of a particle is  $e = 1.6022 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ C}$  (or  $\text{A}\cdot\text{s}$ )
- $1 \text{ eV} = e \cdot 1 \text{ Volt} = 1.6022 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J}$
- $1 \text{ eV} = \text{thermal energy } kT \text{ at } 11600 \text{ K}$
- Mass of electron:  $m_e = 9.109 \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
- Mass of proton:  $m_p = 1.672 \cdot 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
- Atomic mass unit =  $1/12 \text{ }^{12}\text{C}$  mass:  $1 \text{ u} = 1.6606 \cdot 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
- Boltzmann's constant  $k = 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$

$20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} = ?? \text{ eV}$



# The only slide worth paying attention to

Three different paths (not the only ones) to atom ionization



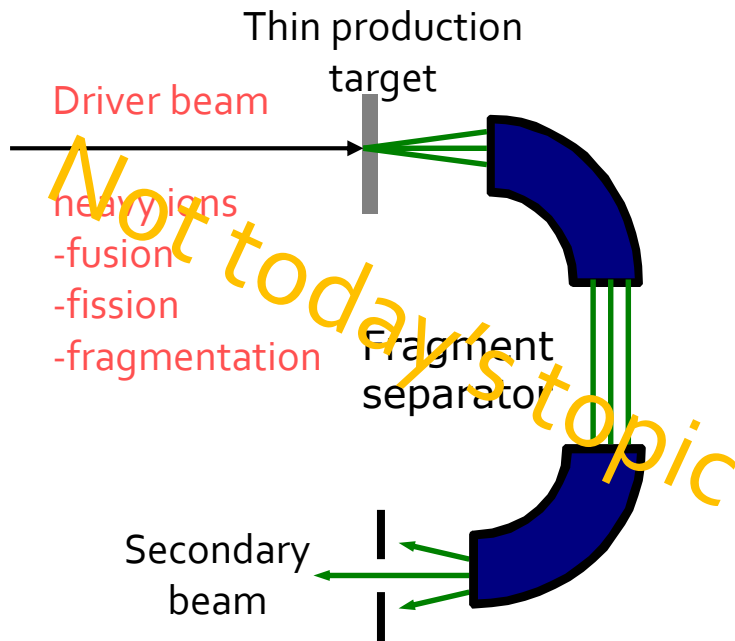
The Isotope On-Line production process



ISOL

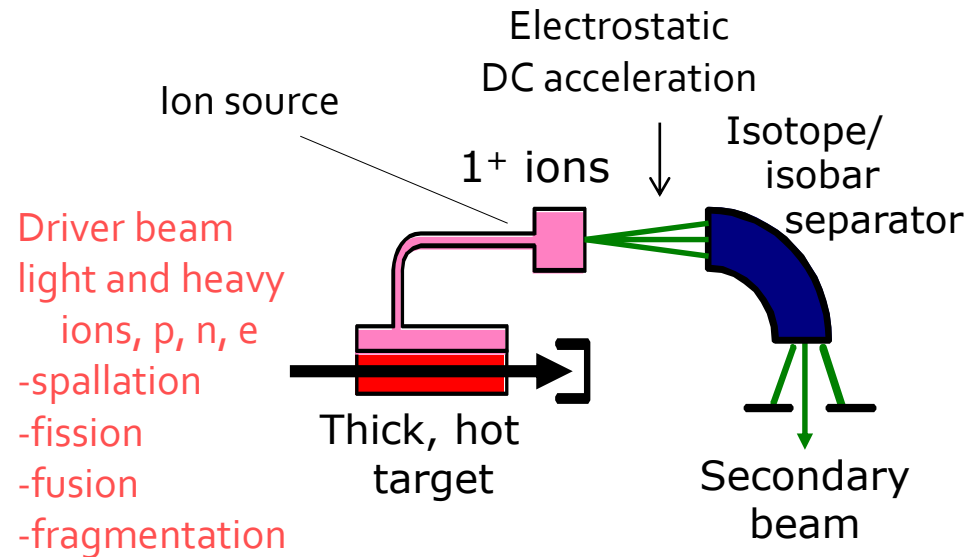
# RIB production techniques

## IF (In-Flight fragment separator)



Down to us lifetimes  
Large transverse emittance  
Large energy spread  
GeV beam energy

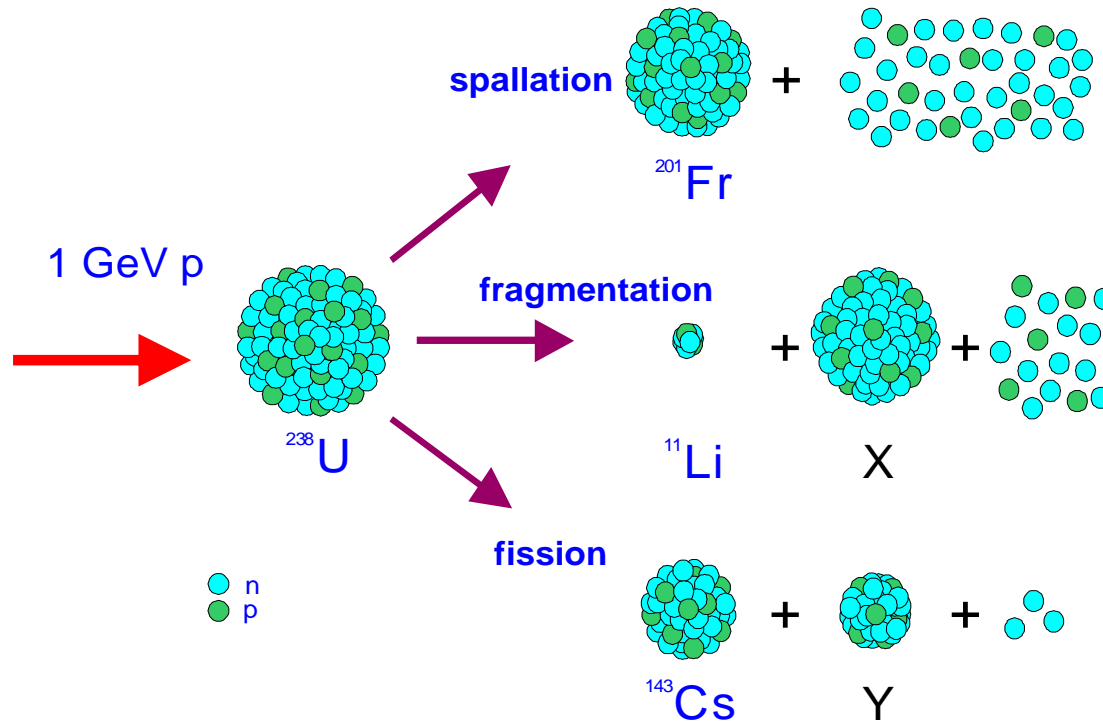
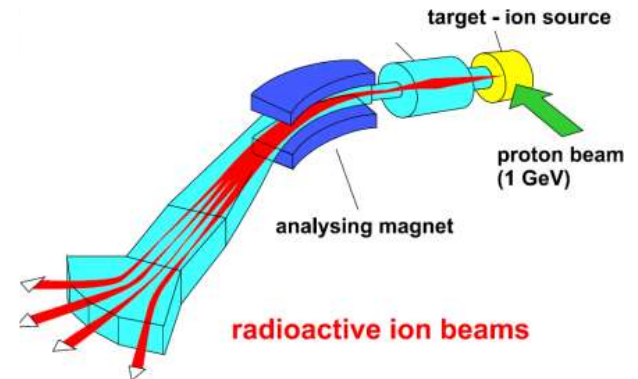
## Isotope Separation Online (ISOL)



Pencil-like beams  
Chemistry involved  
Higher beam intensities than IF  
Lifetimes  $> 10$  ms  
 $W_{total} < 100$  keV



# The nuclear reactions

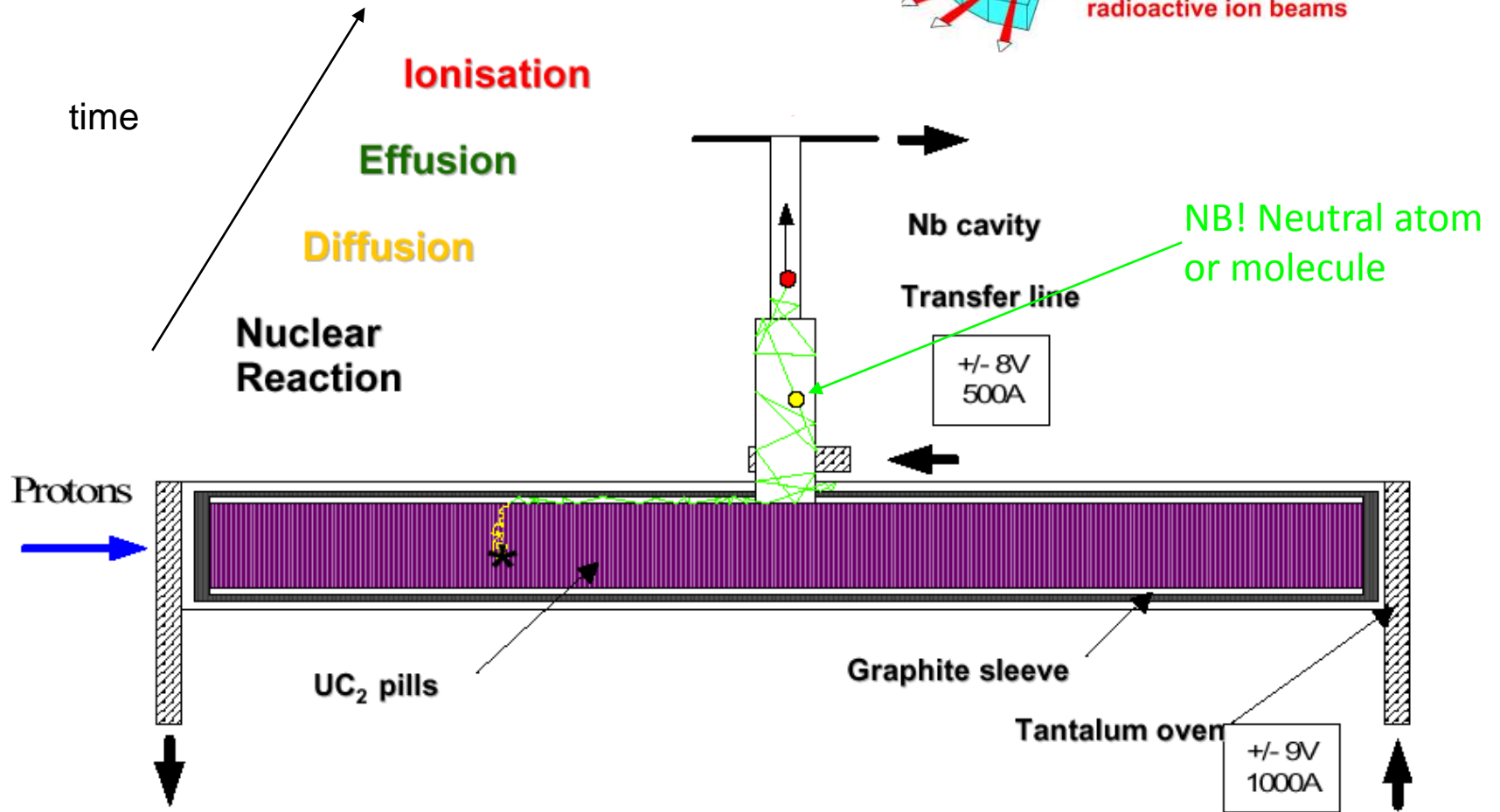
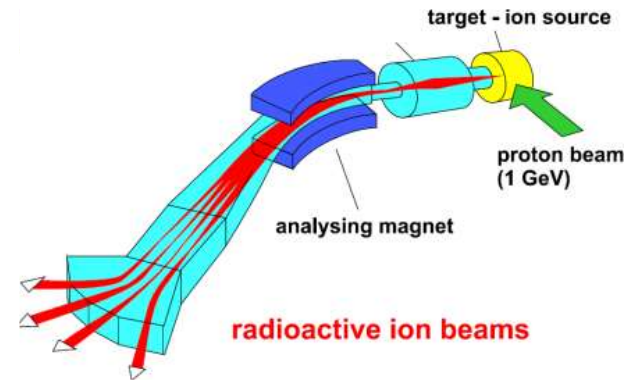


Projectiles  
p, deuterons, He,...

Energies  
tens of MeV to GeV

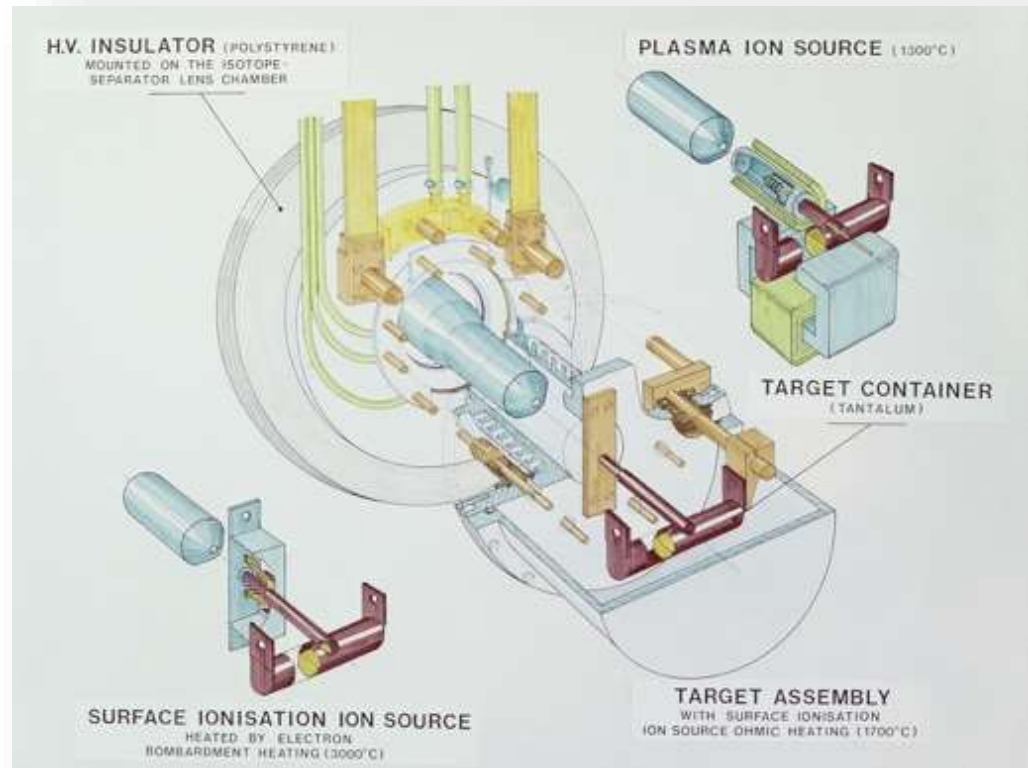
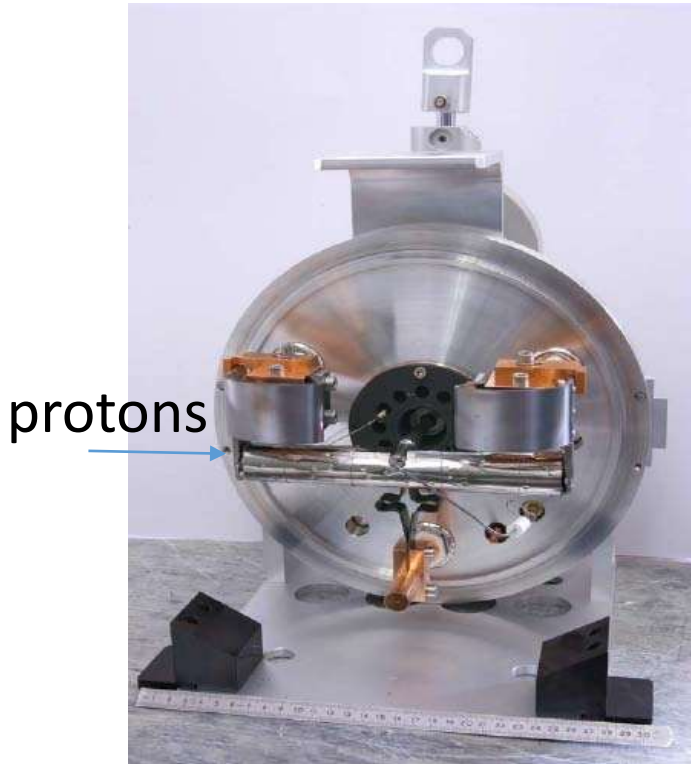
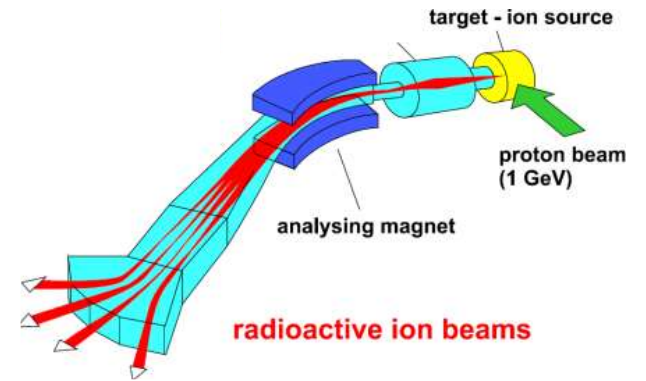
Targets  
CaO, Hg, Ta, UC<sub>x</sub>...

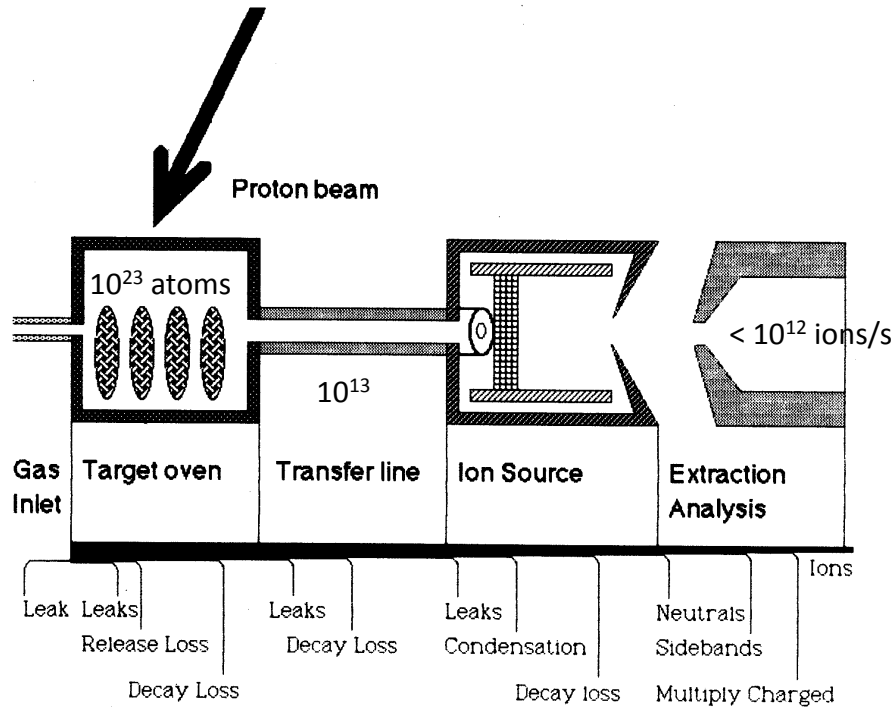
# Diffusion - effusion



# Target and ion source assembly

The ion source is often combined with the target





# Target and ion source

Target and ion source are combined in order to optimise:

1.  $T_{\text{release}}$  of the ions from the target

**NB! Not an issue for all/most cancer treatment ions**

2. Efficiency

3. Chemistry of the ion in the target and the ion source



Universality - advantage and drawback

Selectivity - suppress isobaric contaminants

# What beams to expect?

<b>Ion mass</b>	4 to > 250	He to U
<b>Intensity</b>	few to > 1E11 ions/s	Large dynamic range
<b>Charge</b>	1+ (or 1-)	Some (undesired) 2 <sup>+</sup> , 3 <sup>+</sup> ,...
<b>Energy</b>	several tens keV	
<b>Energy spread</b>	< few eV	
<b>Temporal structure</b>	cw or quasi-cw	Driver beam – cw or pulsed

No universal target / ion source!

Need to have different options and choose the optimal one depending on the requested case and priorities for the beam characteristics.

# Zoo of sources

Bayard-Alpert type ion source  
Electron bombardment ion source  
Hollow Cathode ion source  
Reflex Discharge Multicusp source  
Cold- & Hot-Cathode PIG  
Electron Cyclotron Resonance ion source (ECRIS)  
Electron Beam Ion Source (EBIS)  
Surface contact ion source  
Cryogenic anode ion source  
Metal Vapor Vacuum Arc ion source (MEVVA)  
Sputtering-type negative ion source



Plasma surface conversion negative ion source  
Electron heated vaporization ion source  
Hollow cathode von Ardenne ion source  
Forrester PorusPlate ion source  
Multipole confinement ion source  
EHD-driven Liquid ion source  
Surface Ionization ion source  
Charge exchange ion source  
Inverse magnetron ion source  
Microwave ion source  
XUV-driven ion source  
Arc plasma ion source  
Capillary arc ion source  
Von Ardenne ion source  
Capillaritron ion source  
Canal ray ion source  
Pulsed spark ion source  
Field emission ion source  
Atomic beam ion source  
Field ionization ion source  
Arc discharge ion source  
Multifilament ion source



Duopigatron  
Penning ion source  
Laser ion source  
Monocusp ion source  
Bucket ion source  
Metal ion source  
Multicusp ion source  
Kaufman ion source  
Flashover ion source  
Calutron ion source  
CHORDIS



RF plasma ion source  
Freeman ion source  
Liquid metal ion source  
Beam plasma ion source  
Resonant ionization laser ion source  
Magnetron ion source  
Nier ion source  
Bernas ion source  
Nielsen ion source  
Wilson ion source  
Recoil ion source  
Zinnion source  
Duoplasmatron

**We will discuss:**

**Surface ionization ion source**

**Resonant ionization laser ion source**

**Electron bombardment ion source**

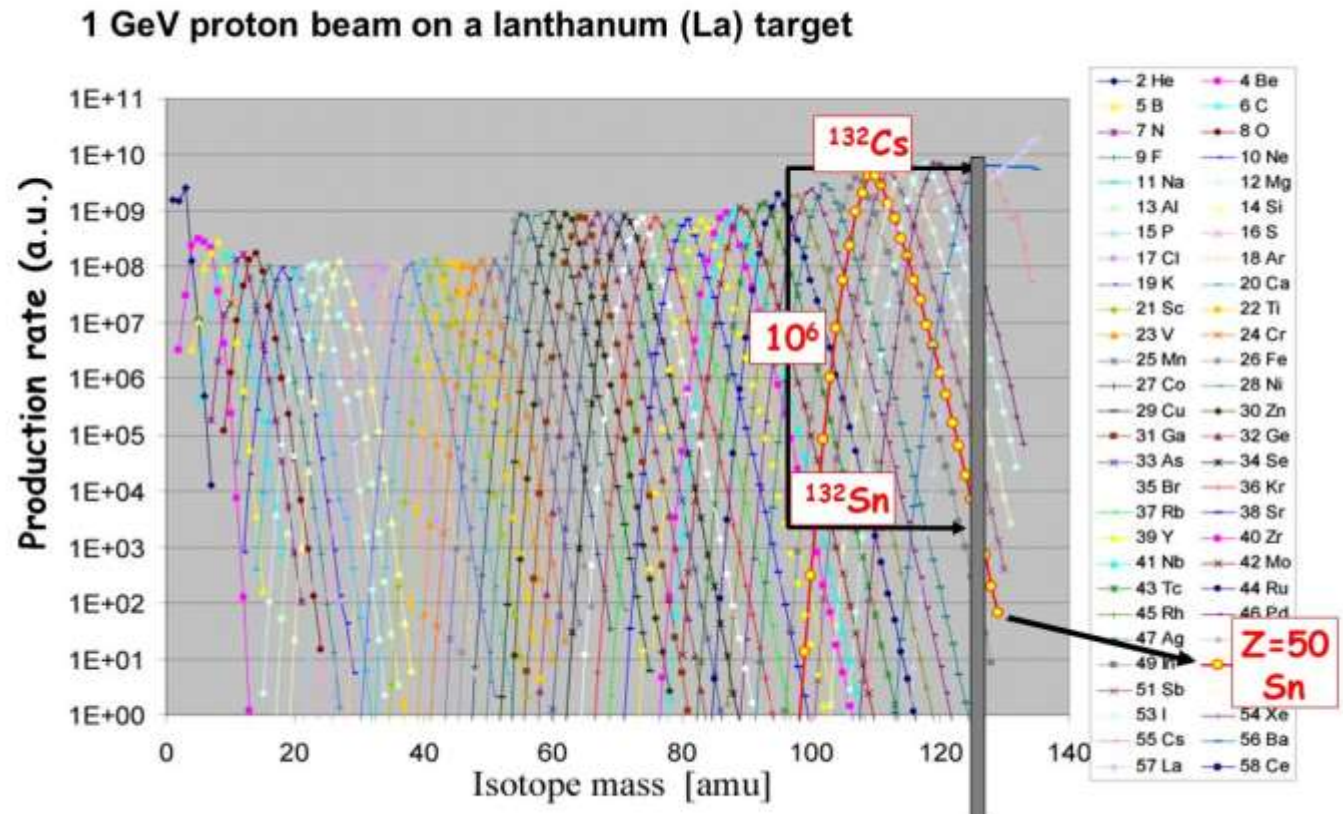
**Electron Cyclotron Resonance ion source**



# Beam contamination

A whole range of elements and isotopes are produced in a single target

Can't see the trees for the forest

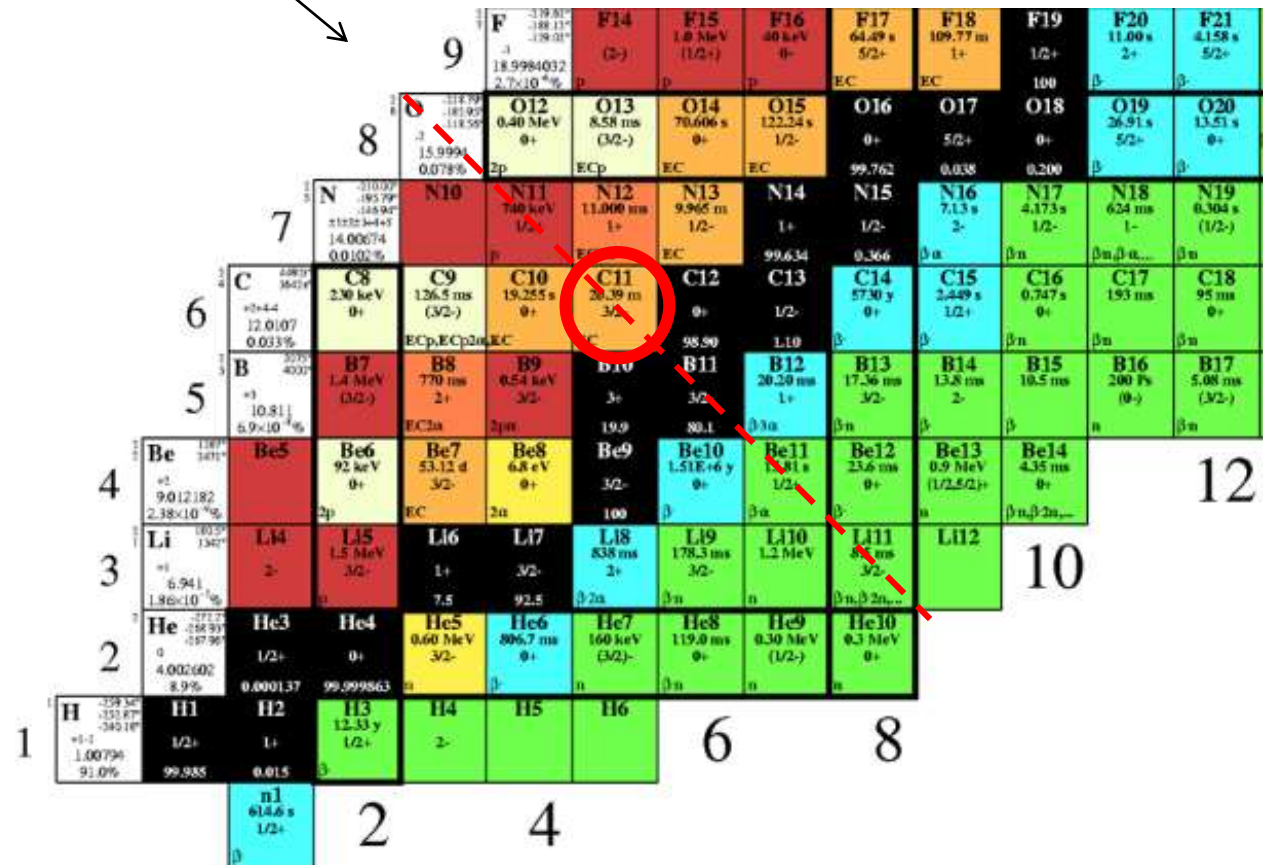


J. Lettry, V. Fedoseev (CERN)

# Beam contamination

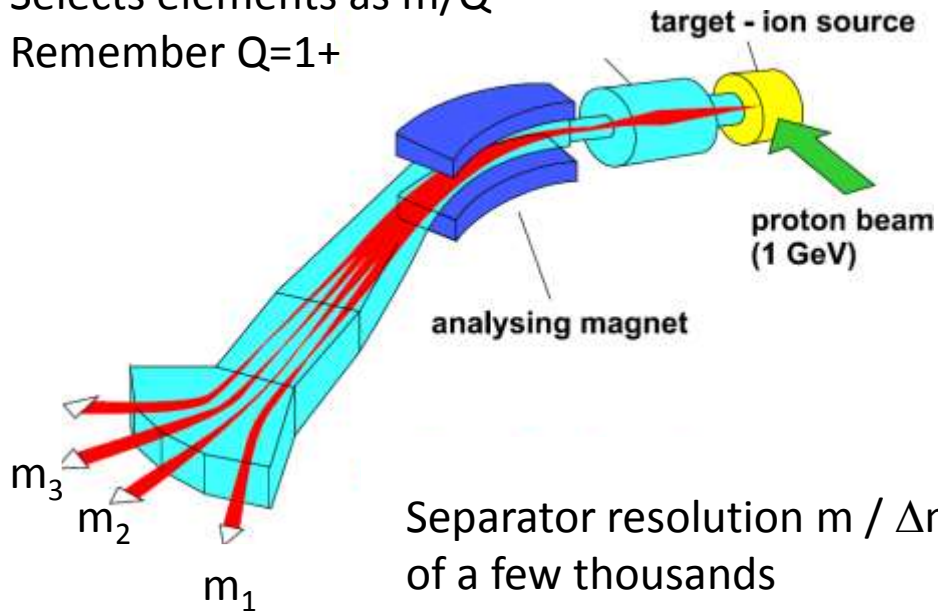
Can't see the trees for the forest

Also isobaric contaminations along A=11





Selects elements as  $m/Q$   
Remember  $Q=1+$



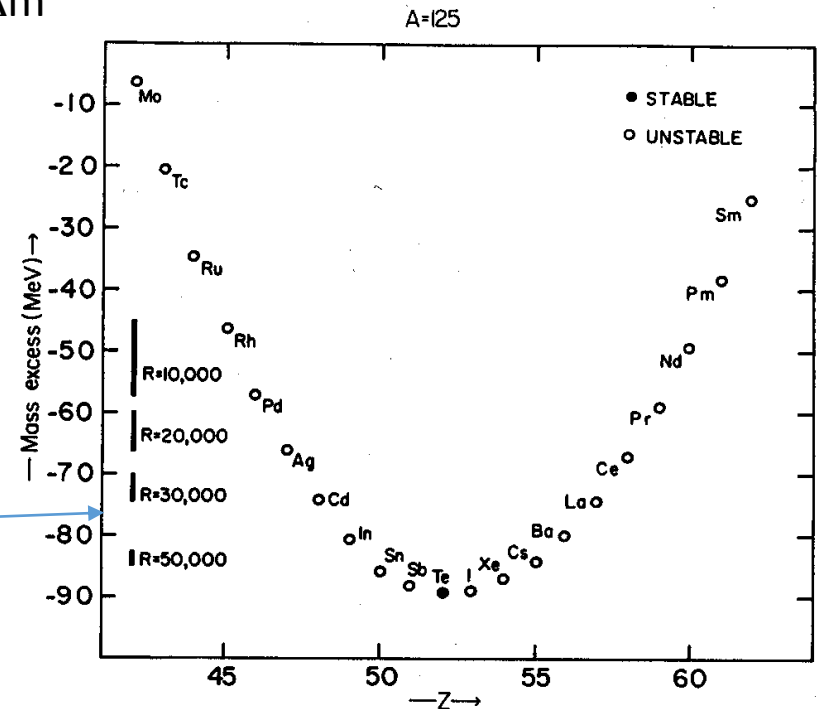
## Beam contamination

Isobaric contaminants leaving the source ionised can only be removed from the beam with high resolution mass separators

- \* expensive
- \* elaborate in use
- \* get strongly contaminated

Resolution required to separate:

Neighbouring mass:	$R=250$
Molecular ions (e.g. CO from $N_2$ ):	$R=500-1000$
Isobars (e.g. $^{96}\text{Sr}$ from $^{96}\text{Rb}$ ):	$R=5000-50000$



# Suppression of isobaric contaminants

1. Choice of the project energy  
(e.g. neutron induced fission for actinide targets)

2. Choice of target material, geometry and thickness

3. Target-to-ion source transport  
thermo-chromatography  
chemical suppression

4. Selection of ion source  
e.g. work function  $\phi$

5. Molecular beams

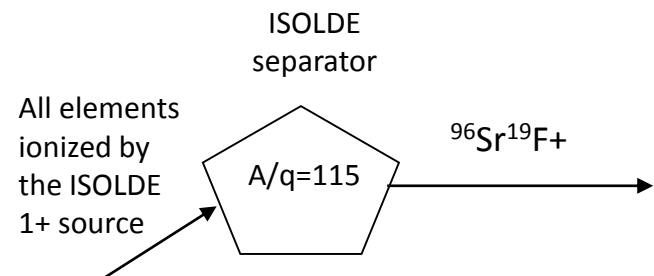
ease extraction,  
e.g. for C as CO<sup>+</sup>

separate isobars, e.g.  
<sup>96</sup>Sr from <sup>96</sup>Rb

Talk later this week



Rb doesn't bind to F, while Sr does



Wake-up



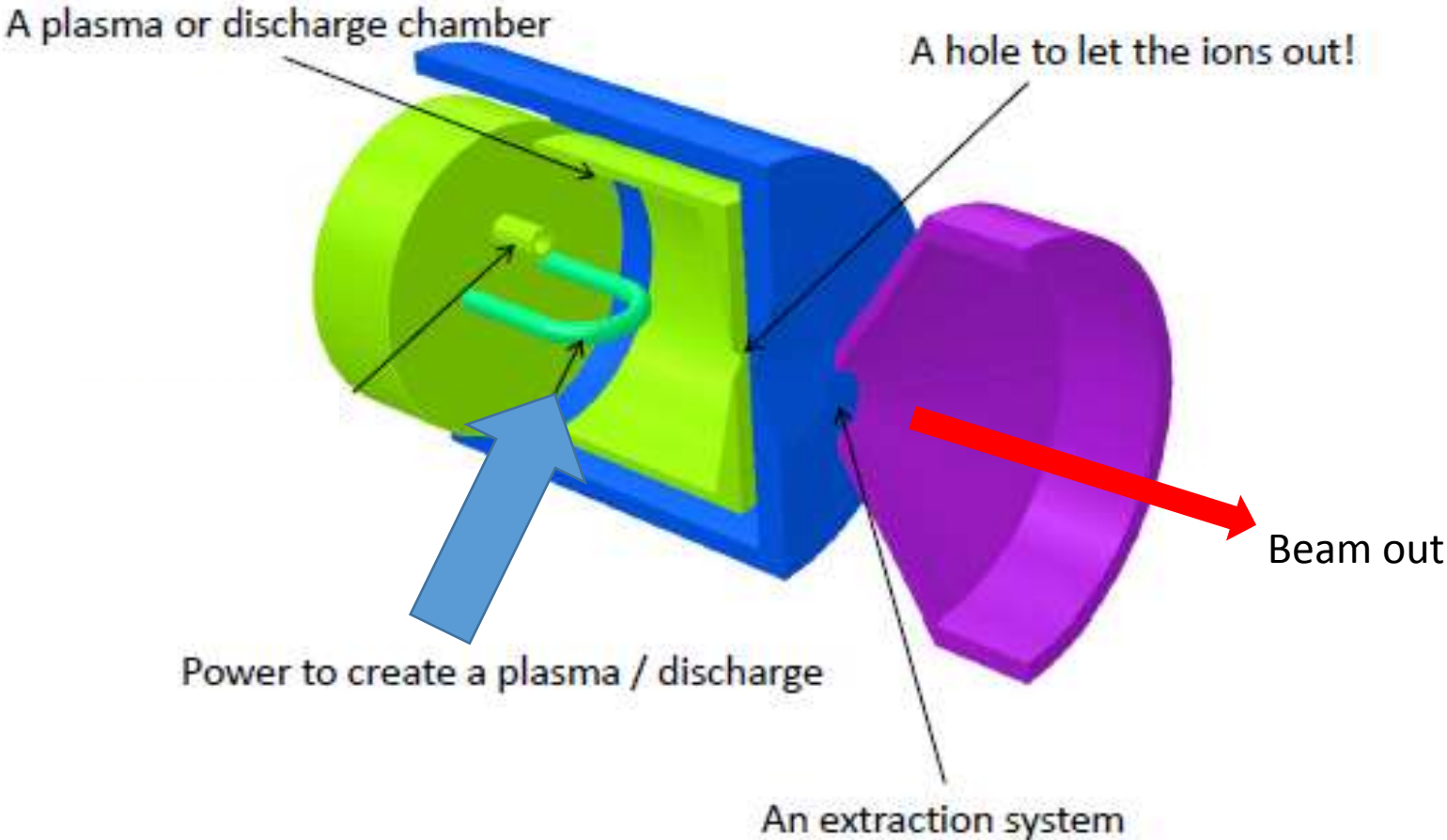
What's the rarest element in the Earth's crust  
(that isn't a transuranic element)?

How much of it can be found?

Astatine ... [is] miserable to make and hell to work with.  
*P Durbin, Human Radiation Studies: Remembering the Early  
Years, 1995*

Ion source & beam characteristics

# Source layout

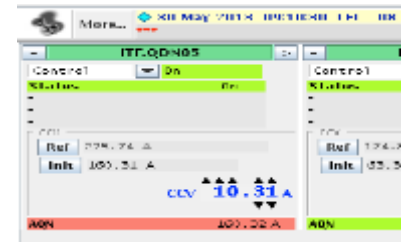


# What else is needed?

Power Source  
Power Supplies / RF / Laser



Vacuum Pumping



Control system

Cooling



Plasma diagnostics

Beam diagnostics



Interlocking +  
Safety Systems

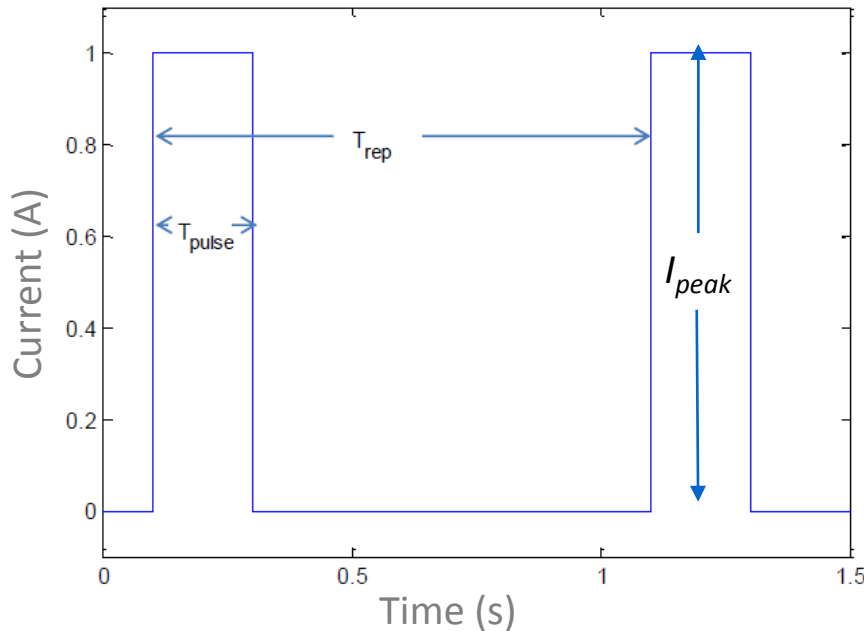


User interface

Don't underestimate the development effort – use existing devices/designs!

# Beam current

$$\text{Duty factor} = \frac{T_{\text{pulse}}}{T_{\text{rep}}}$$



Differ between *electrical* current:

$$I_{\text{electric\_current}} = \frac{QeN_{\text{ions}}}{T}$$

and *particle* current:

$$I_{\text{particle\_current}} = \frac{I_{\text{electrical\_current}}}{Q}$$

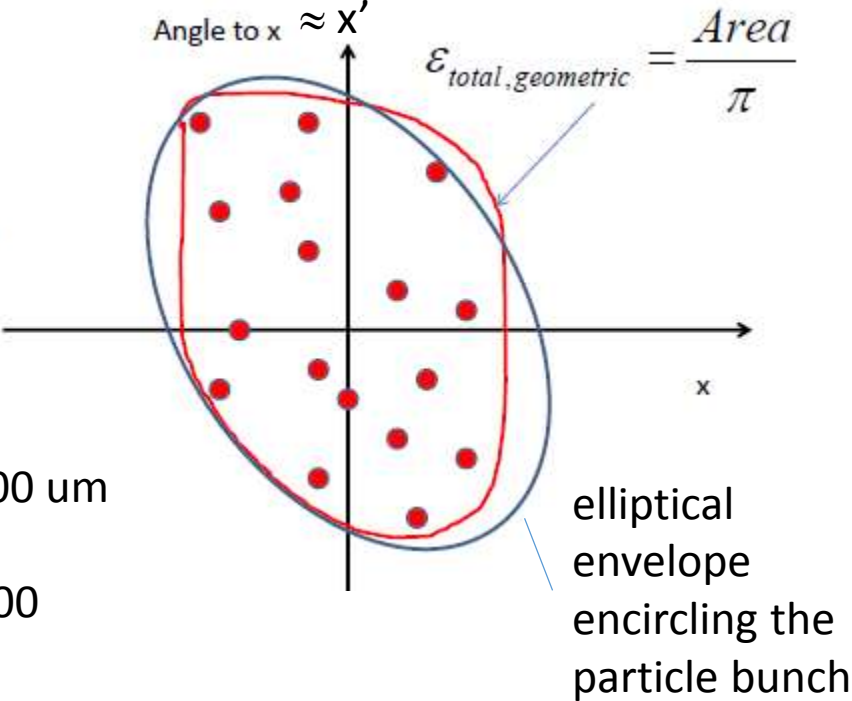
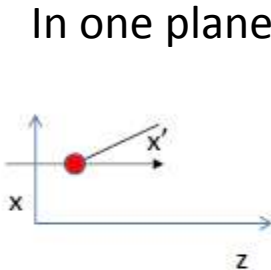
What is T?

$T_{\text{pulse}}$  or  $T_{\text{rep}} \Rightarrow I_{\text{peak}}$  or  $I_{\text{average}}$

NB! When injecting into a synchrotron, the beam is only useful for a fraction of the synchrotron cycle (< 100 us)

# Emittance

The emittance is defined as the 6-dimensional volume limited by a contour, of particle density in the  $(x, p_x, y, p_y, z, p_z)$  phase space.



Kill the  $\pi$ !

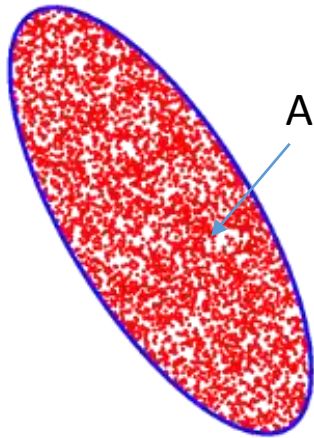
$100 \pi \text{ mm.mrad} = 100 \text{ mm.mrad} = 100 \text{ um}$

Area is  $100 \pi$ , and the emittance is 100

## Why bother about emittance?

- $\epsilon$  determines the distance and diameter beam transport elements need to have
- $\epsilon$  has to be small for injection into charge breeders
- $\epsilon$  determines *the size of the final focus at a certain focal length* from the focusing device





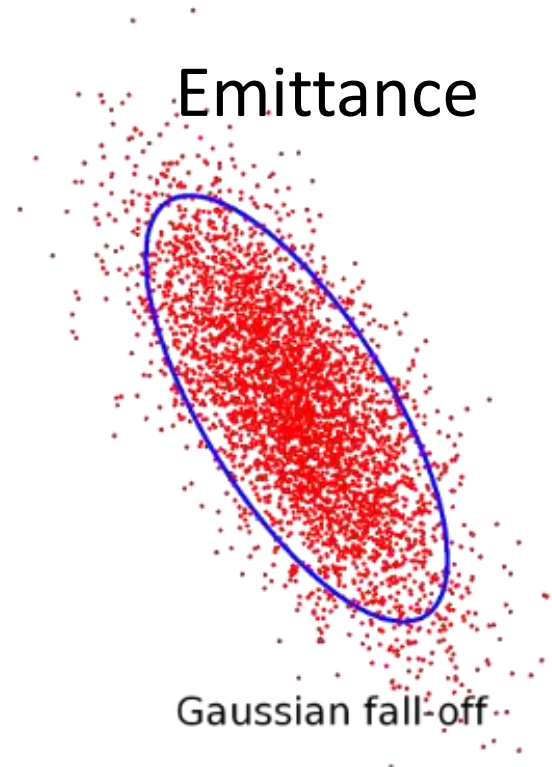
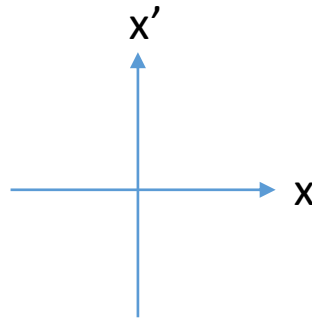
Uniform density

Geometrical emittance

$$\epsilon_{x,geometric,100\%} = A/\pi$$

$$\epsilon_{normalised} = \beta\gamma\epsilon_{geometric}$$

normalized emittance  
conserved with acceleration



Gaussian fall-off

RMS emittance

$$\epsilon_{x,rms,100\%} =$$

$$\frac{1}{N} \left( \sum x^2 \sum x'^2 - (\sum xx')^2 \right)^{1/2}; \quad \bar{x} = \bar{x}' = 0$$

$N$ : Total number of particles

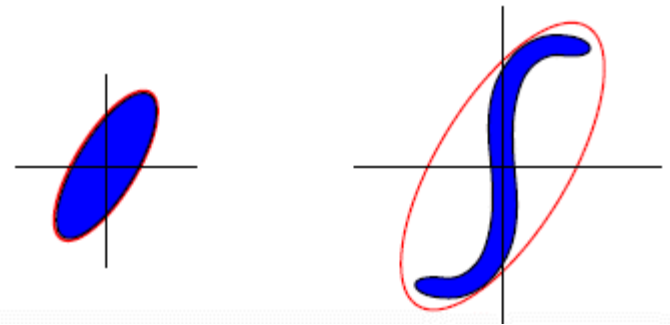


What is  $\beta$ ?

Extra

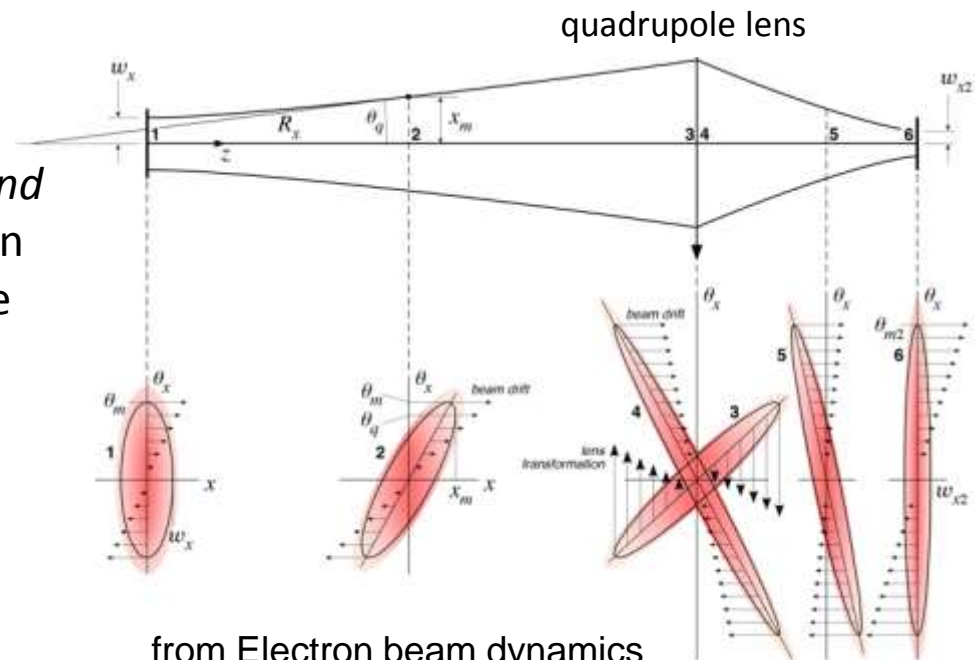
# Emittance

The *phase space volume (blue)* obeys the Liouville theorem and is constant in *conservative fields*.



The area of the *elliptical envelope*, and *RMS emittance*, are only conserved in case of linear forces (e.g. quadrupole elements)

But it changes the shape!



from Electron beam dynamics  
Eric B Szarmes

# Emittance estimation

The minimum emittance of a plasma source is limited by the aperture ( $r$ ), and the ion temperature in the plasma ( $T_i$ ).

$$e_{x, \text{rms}, n} = 0.0164r \sqrt{\frac{kT_i}{M_i}}$$

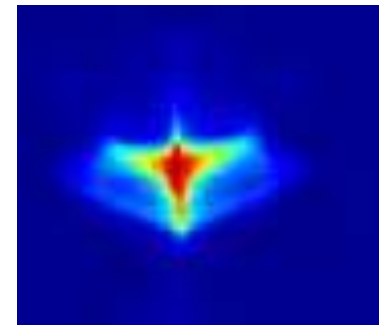
$\varepsilon$  – temperature dependent normalized rms emittance

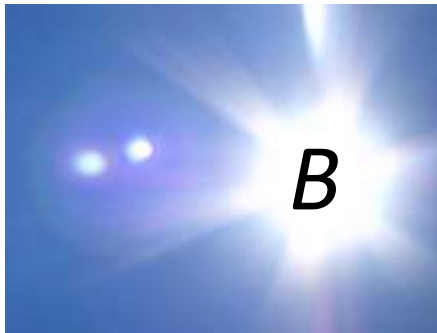
$r$  – radius of the extraction aperture (in mm),  $kT_i$  – ion temperature (in eV)

$M_i$  – ion mass (in amu)

*Small apertures and low ion temperature plasmas are good*

Reality not so easy!





## Beam brightness

Brightness is usually defined as current density per unit solid angle

$$B = \frac{J}{d\Omega} = \frac{dI}{dSd\Omega}$$

Or in terms of the transversal projections

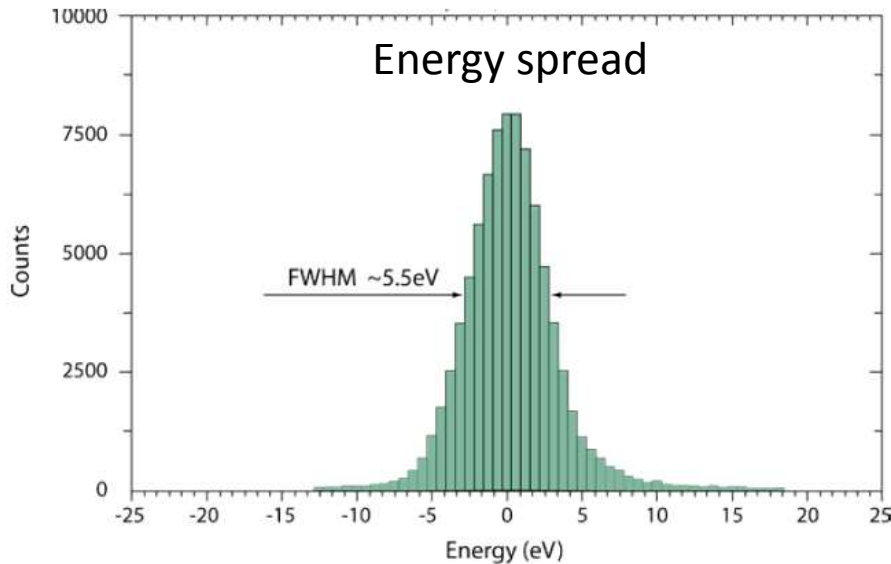
$$B = \frac{2I}{\pi^2 \epsilon_x \epsilon_y} \quad \left[ \frac{A}{m^2 \cdot rad^2} \right]$$

$$B_n = \frac{B}{\beta^2 \gamma^2} \quad B_{90\%} = \frac{2 \cdot 0.9 \cdot I}{\pi^2 \epsilon_{x-90\%} \epsilon_{y-90\%}}$$

Watch out for inconsistency in pre-factors!

# Beam energy

e.g.  $^{11}\text{C}^{6+}$ , 50 kV



Total ion energy after extraction

$$W_{kin} = QeV_{extraction} \quad 300 \text{ keV}$$

Energy per nucleon

$$W_{kin}/nucleon = QeV_{extraction}/A \quad 27.44 \text{ keV/u}$$

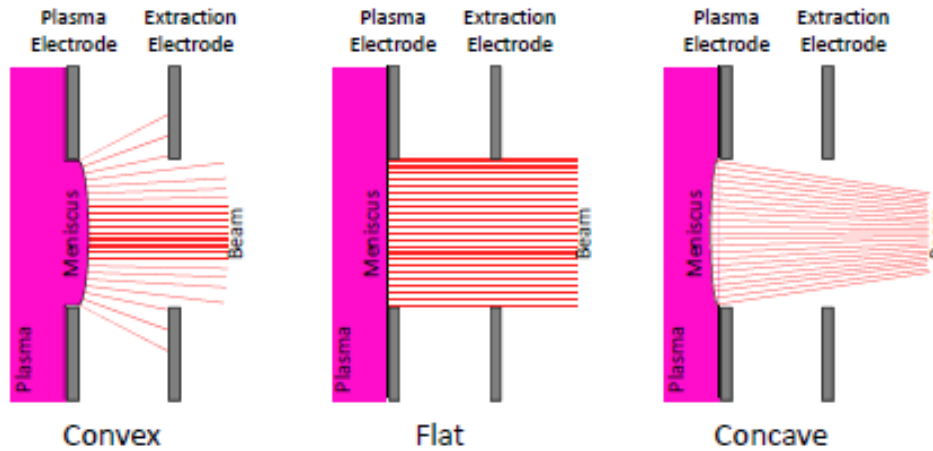
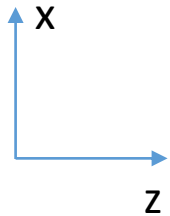
+ high beam energy

- Space charge reduced → higher beam currents possible
- Reduces the geometrical emittance => smaller apertures
- Higher velocity makes it easier to inject into an RF accelerator (e.g. DTL).

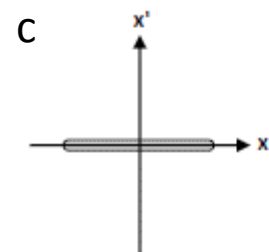
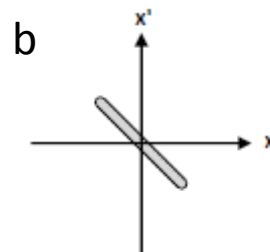
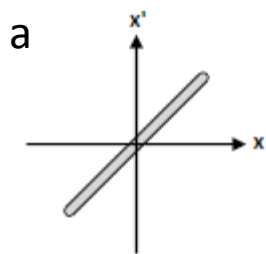
- high beam energy

- Technically difficult, higher fields for beam devices, higher risk of sparking
- Longer RFQ (input cells become longer)
- Higher Energy = Higher Beam Power => consequences for beam intercepting devices.

# Which goes to which?



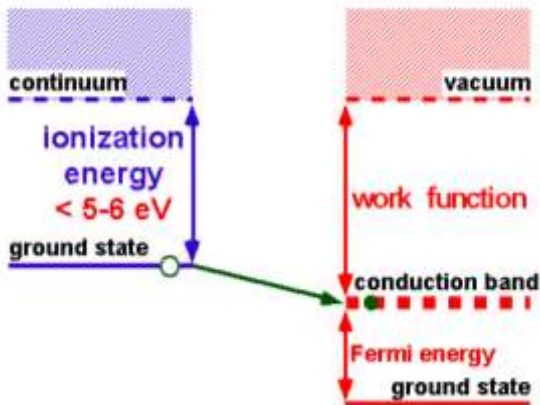
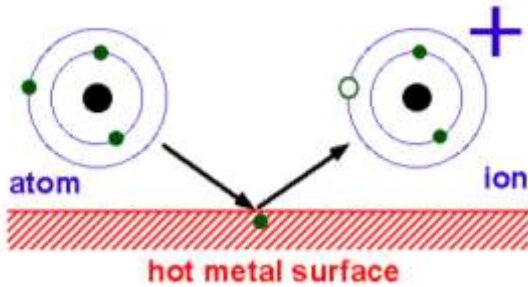
Not including space charge effects



# Surface ionization

# Surface ionization

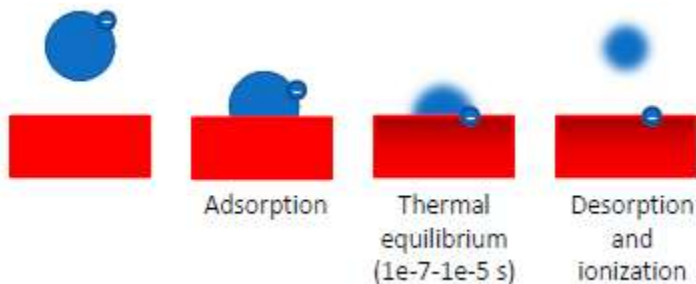
Ionization by contact with a (metal) surface



Requirements:

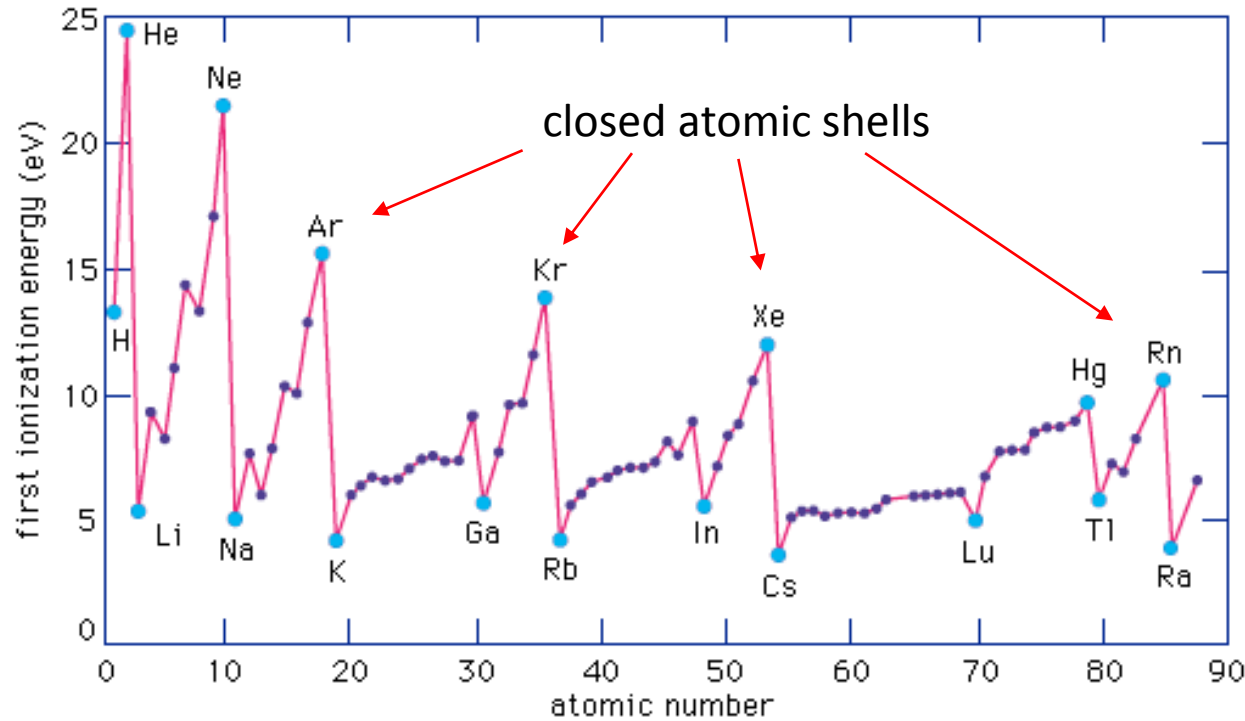
1. Atom sticks (is adsorbed) to the surface long enough to reach thermodynamic equilibrium => atom valence electron is "broadened" and can move between atom and surface

2. Surface is hot enough to desorb particles





# Ionisation energy and work function



$I_e$  = energy required to remove the most loosely bound electron in a *free atom*

© 2007 Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.

Material work function  $\phi$  = minimal energy required for an electron to escape the material surface

$\phi$  is highly dependent on other properties of the material such as crystal structure and surface characteristics

**Extra**

$\phi$  for elements follows a trend similar to ionization energy

# Surface ionization

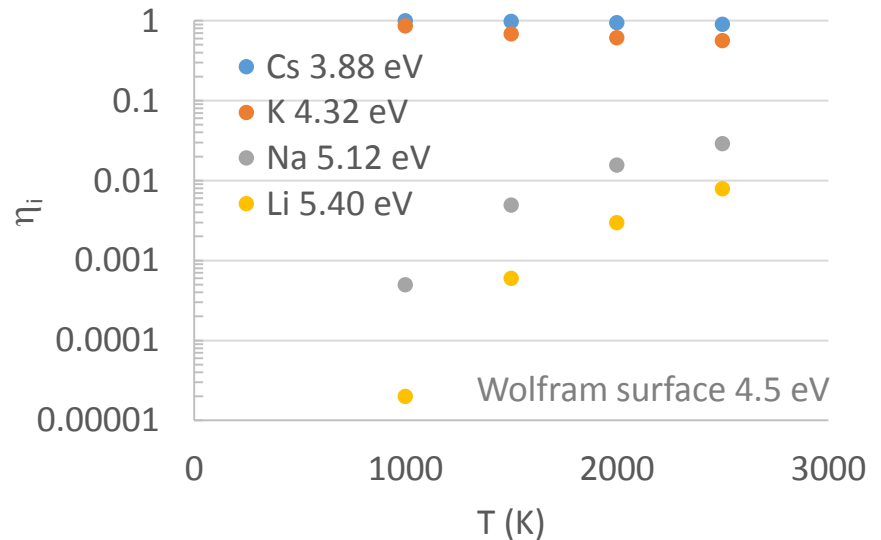
Degree of positive surface ionization given by *Saha-Langmuir* equation

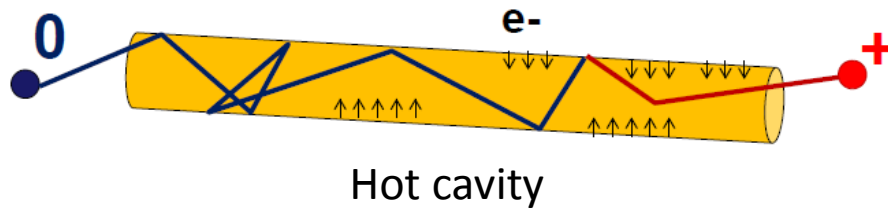
$$\eta_i = \frac{\textit{ions}}{\textit{atoms} + \textit{ions}} = \frac{1}{1 + G \exp\left(\frac{I_e - \phi}{kT}\right)}$$

Constant describing atom properties (points to  $G$ )  
 Atom ionization energy (points to  $I_e$ )  
 Material work function (points to  $\phi$ )  
 Boltzmann's constant (points to  $k$ )  
 Material temperature (points to  $T$ )

$O(G)=1$

Positive ionization of atoms with **low ionization potential** on heated metal surfaces with a **high work function**

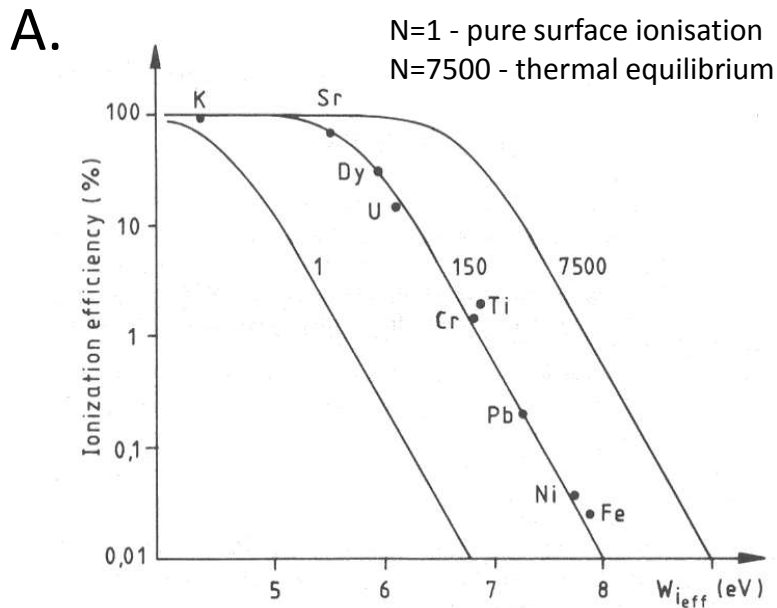




# Hot cavity effects

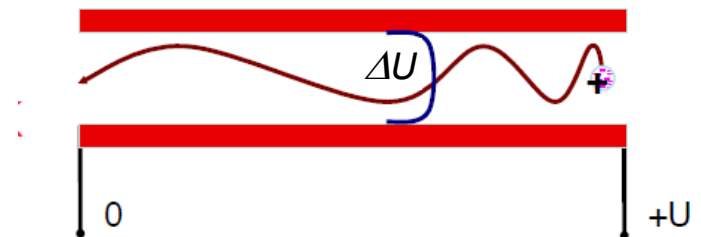
Amplification factor N inside a hot cavity, since:

- A. multi-fold chance of being surface ionised
- B. trapping in plasma after thermalization



**B.** Plasma sheath caused by thermionic electron emission

$$\Delta U = \frac{kT}{e} \ln \left( \frac{A_0 T^2}{en^+} \left( \frac{kT}{2\pi m_e} \right)^{1/2} \right) - \frac{\phi}{e} \sim 2 \text{ eV}$$



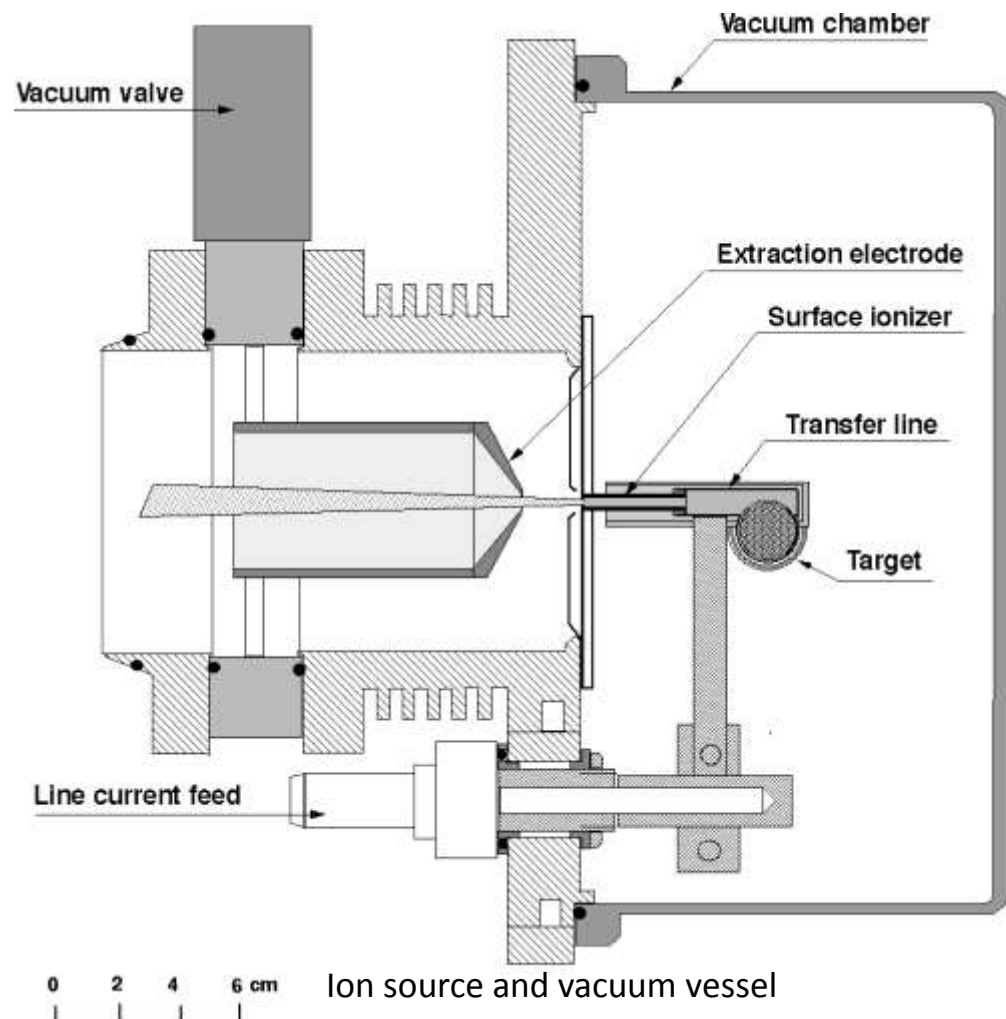
# Mechanical design

material	$\Phi_0$ [eV]	operation temperature T [°C]	
Re	5.0	2200	For 1+ ions
W	4.5	2200	
Ta	4.3	2150	
Nb	4.0	2000	

T=1200-2500 °C

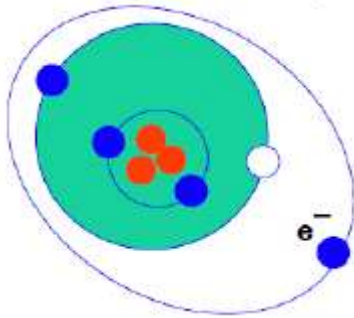
Tube: L= 1-5 cm, diam=1-8 mm,  
extr. hole: 0.5-3mm

Heating: usually ohmic



# Surface ioniser properties

- \* Ionisation efficiency 100% for  $I_e < 5$  eV, few % for  $I_e = 6.5$  eV
- \* Used for alkalines, alkaline earths, rare earths, Ga, In and Tl  
also molecules as BaF and SrF
- \* 10-1000 nA, max current  $1 \mu\text{A}/\text{mm}^2$
- \* Emittance  $\sim 10$  mm mrad (60 kV, 95%)
- \* Energy spread  $< 2$  eV
- \* Short delay time (half-lives as short as 10 ms)  
small ionisation volume



## Negative ion sources

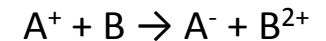
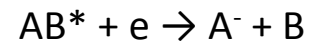
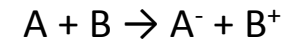
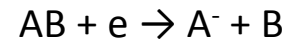
Ripping electrons off is easy!  
It is much harder to add them on....

...but some atoms with an open shell configuration can attract an extra electron and form a stable ion with a net charge of  $-e$

\* Volume – through ... , e-capture and molecular ... , negative ions can be

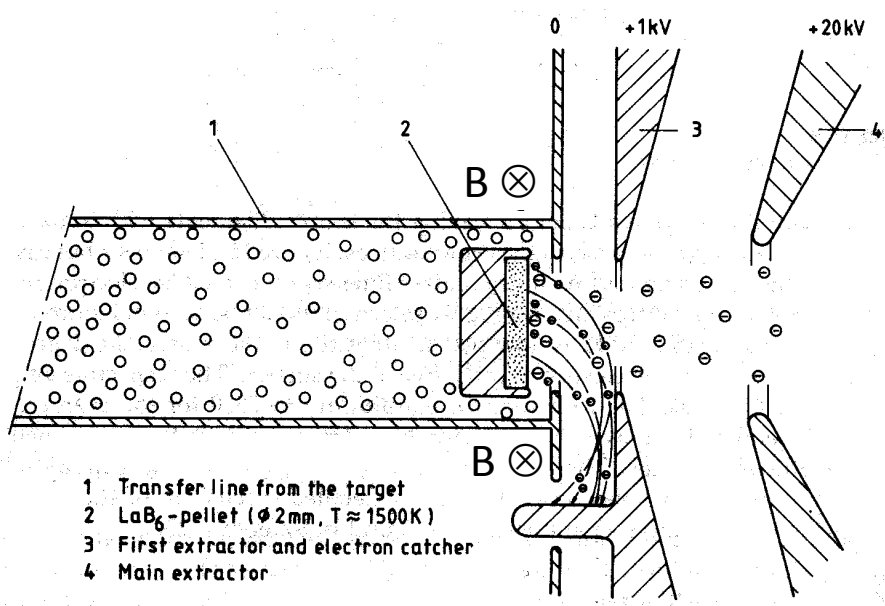
*Not covered here*

\* Surface – an atom on a surface can be desorbed with an extra electron (whose wave-function overlapped the atom)





# Negative surface ion source



$$\eta_i = \frac{1}{1 + G \exp\left(\frac{\phi - A_E}{kT}\right)} \quad O(G)=1$$

- 1 Transfer line from the target
- 2 LaB<sub>6</sub>-pellet (ϕ 2mm, T ≈ 1500K)
- 3 First extractor and electron catcher
- 4 Main extractor

material	operation temperature	
	Φ <sub>0</sub> [eV]	T [°C]
LaB <sub>6</sub>	2.4-3.3	1200
GdB <sub>6</sub>	1.5	1500
Ir <sub>5</sub> Ce	2.6	1600
BaOSrO	1.0	1100

For 1-ions

Looking for low work function material

Surface ionisation efficiencies >10% for Cl, Br and I

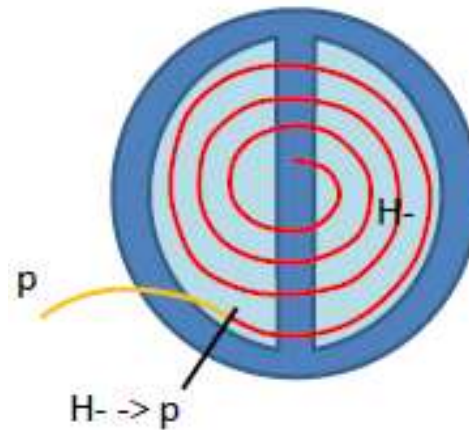


# Why negative ions?



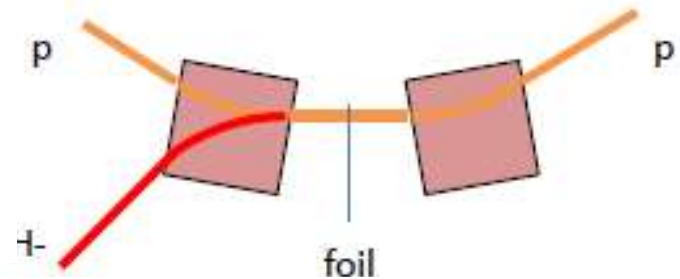
Extraction (from cyclotrons)

\* Change the charge in a foil, and the positive ion leaves



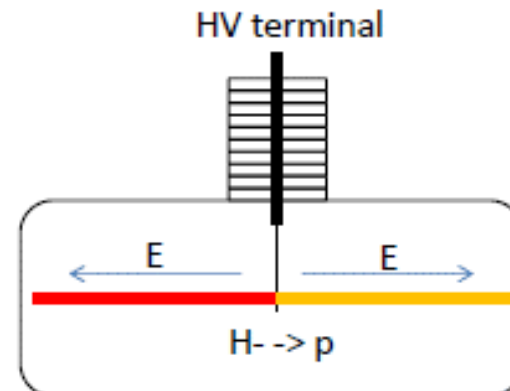
Charge exchange injection (to synchrotrons)

\* Overlap the negative and (circulating) positive ions, then strip to positive → overcome Louville!



Tandem

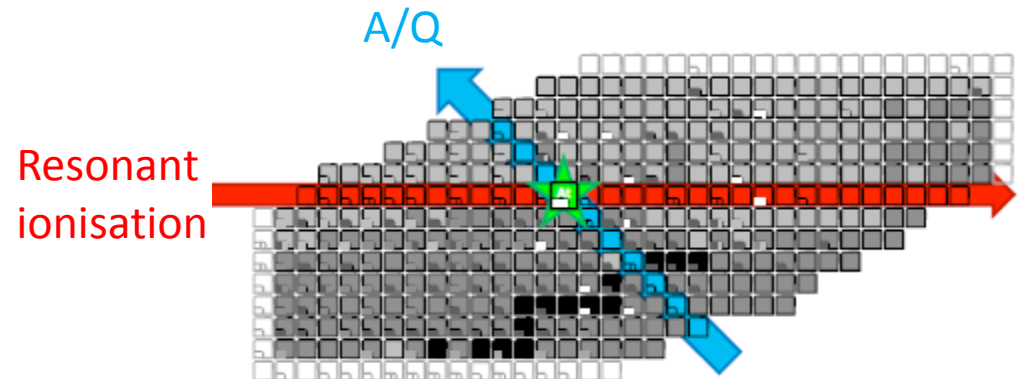
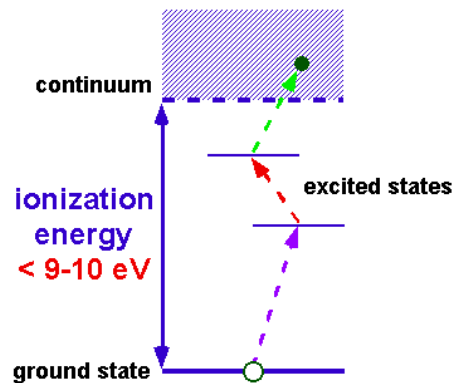
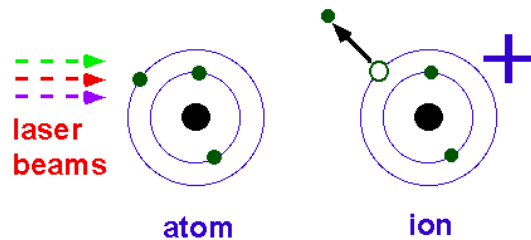
\* Negative accelerated to foil, positive ion back to ground



# Resonant photon impact ionization

# Resonant ionization by photons

- \* The atomic line spectra is an element's fingerprint
- \* Stepwise resonant laser ionisation via one or more intermediate levels
  - > chemically (element) selective
  - > isobar free beams
- \* 2-3 ionization steps to ensure selectivity

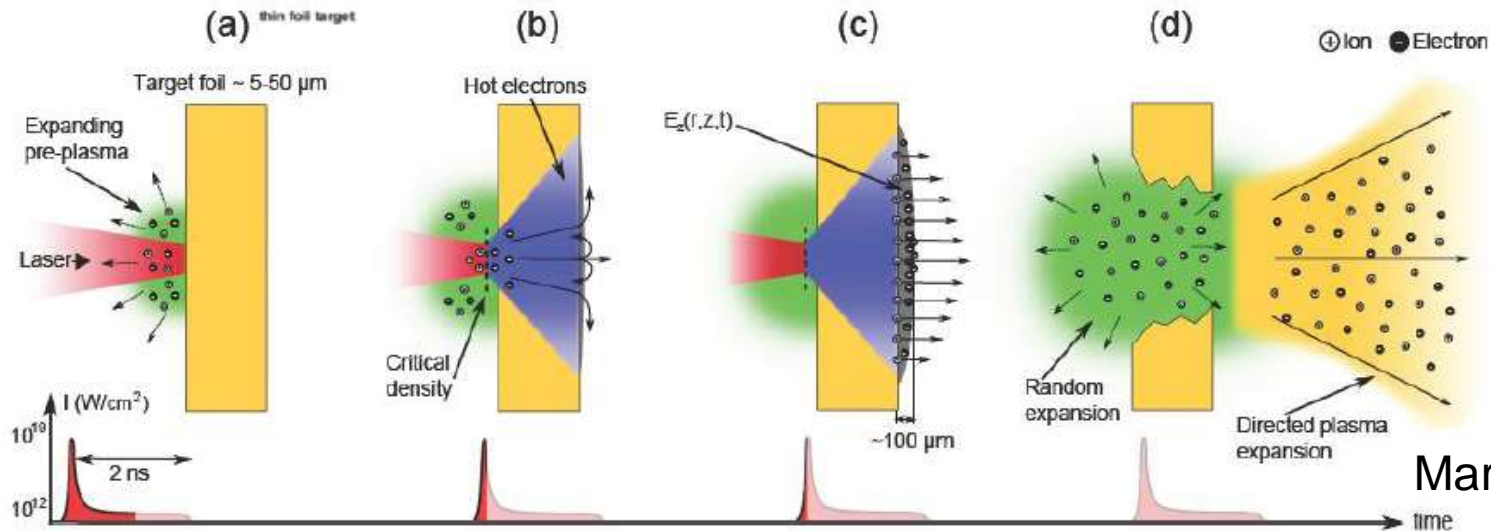
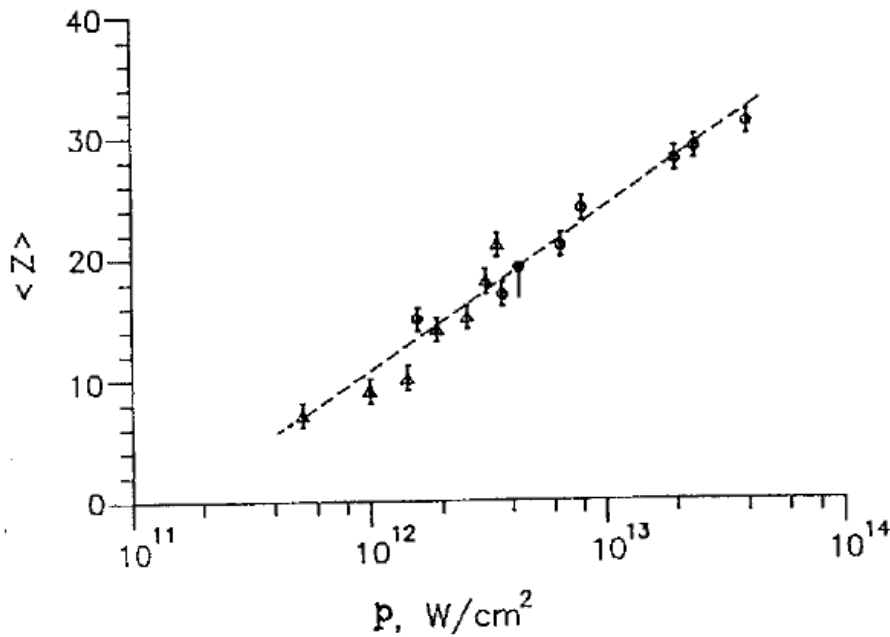


# Not talking about...

...high-power non-resonant ionisation for production of highly charged ions

A high power laser ( $10^{20}$  to  $10^{22}$ /cm<sup>2</sup>) is focused on a thin foil target or gas jet

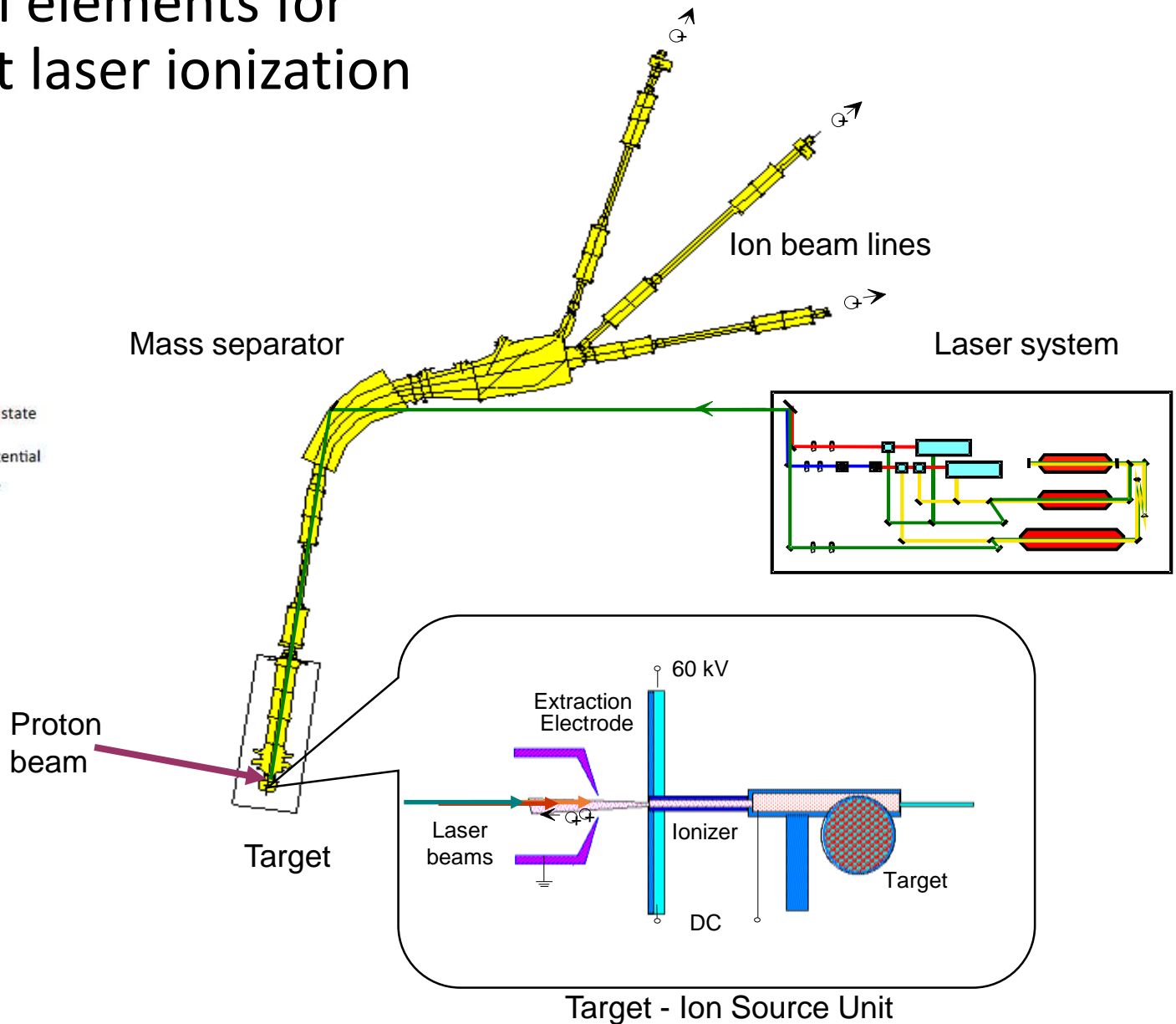
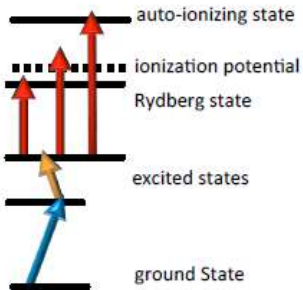
Ions are formed in the expanding plasma and accelerated to 10s to 100s of MeV energies directly



Marcus Roth

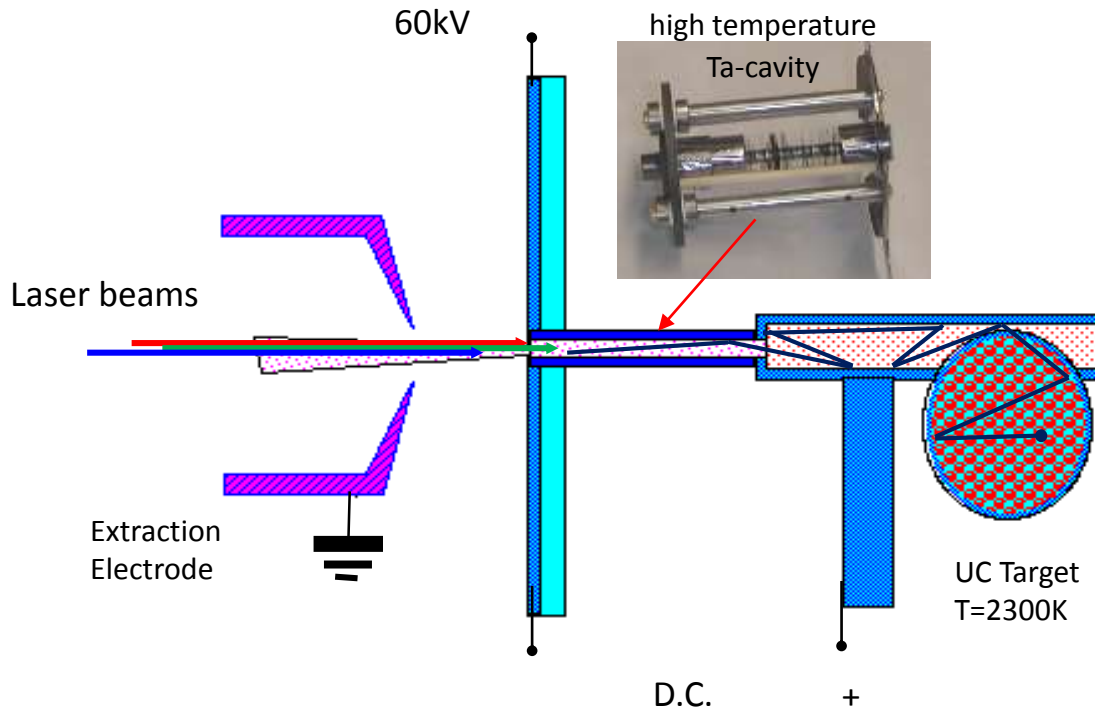
# Essential elements for resonant laser ionization

Correct excitation scheme



One wants:

- \* cavity that confines the atoms until laser impingement
- \* electron emission for potential well
- \* hot surface to avoid long sticking times
- \* low work-function to reduce surface ionization



## The hot cavity

Efficiency:

$$\eta = \frac{P_{\text{ionisation}}}{P_{\text{ionisation}} + P_{\text{Effusion}}}$$

$$\eta = \frac{v_{\text{rep}} \epsilon_{\text{ion}}}{v_{\text{rep}} \epsilon_{\text{ion}} + \frac{2dv}{3L^2}}$$

=> high laser pulse repetition rate  $v_{\text{rep}}=11.000$  Hz

=> long cavity L

$$\eta_{\text{laser}} = 2\% - 30\%$$

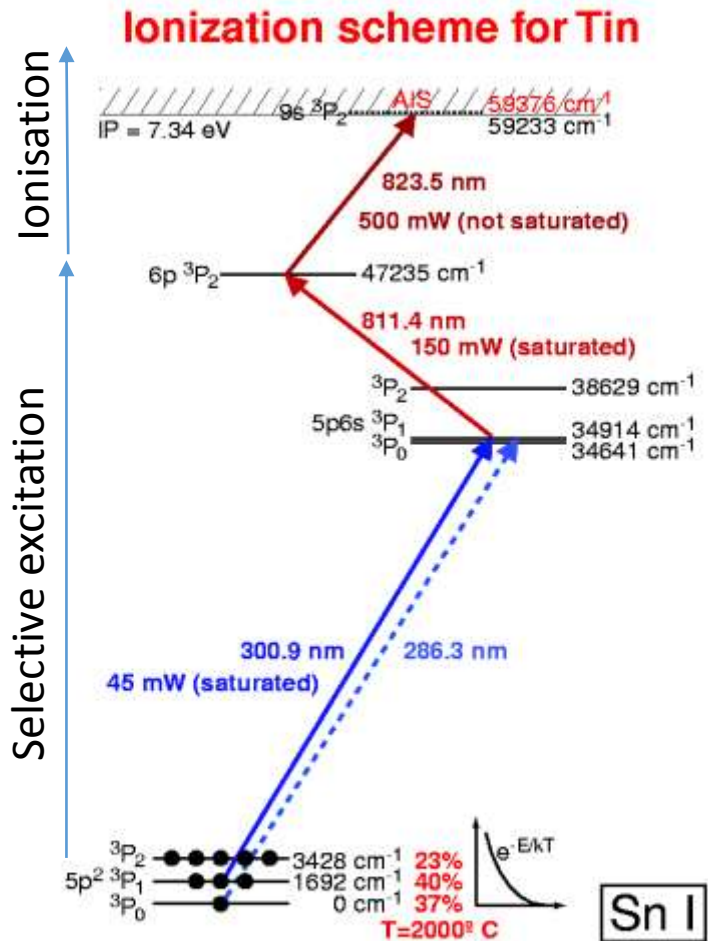
$$\eta_{\text{surface}} \begin{cases} > 5\% & \text{- alkalis} \\ = 0.1\% - 2\% & \text{- In, Ga, Ba, lanthanides} \\ < 0.1\% & \text{- others} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Selectivity} = \frac{\text{Laser Ionization Efficiency}}{\text{Surface Ionization Efficiency}}$$

=> depends on

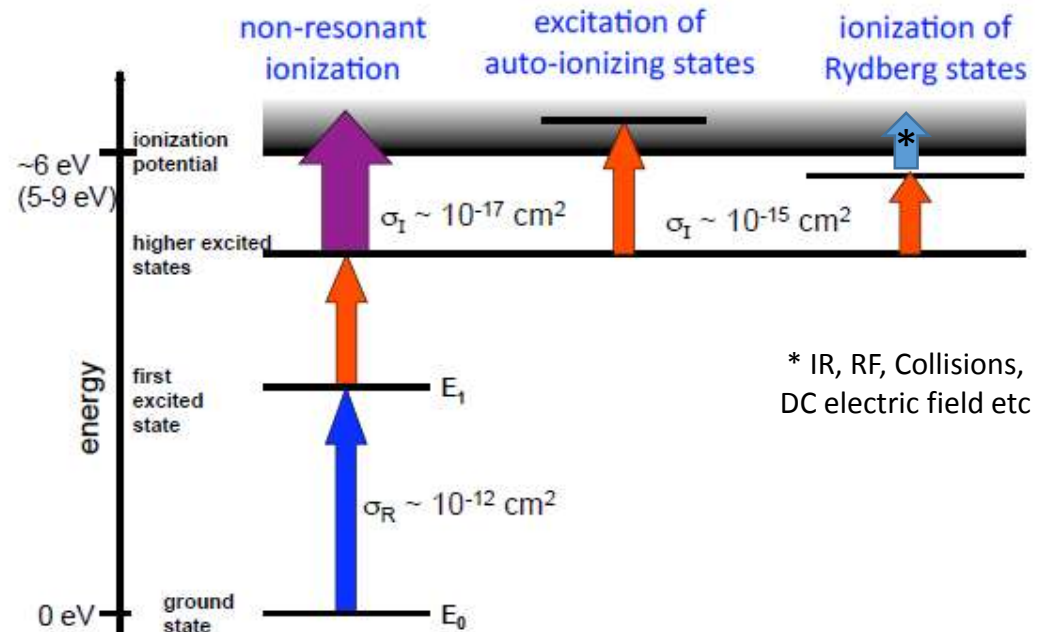
- the ionization potentials of isobar atoms
- cavity material

# The stepwise ionization



Three fine structure components of the ground state are thermally populated, but only one can be excited at a time. A second UV laser (dotted line) could roughly double the efficiency.

Transition into continuum, to auto-ionising states, to Rydberg states



$$N_{\text{event}} = N_{\text{incident}} \cdot n_{\text{target}} \cdot d_{\text{target}} \cdot \sigma$$

atoms/cm<sup>2</sup>

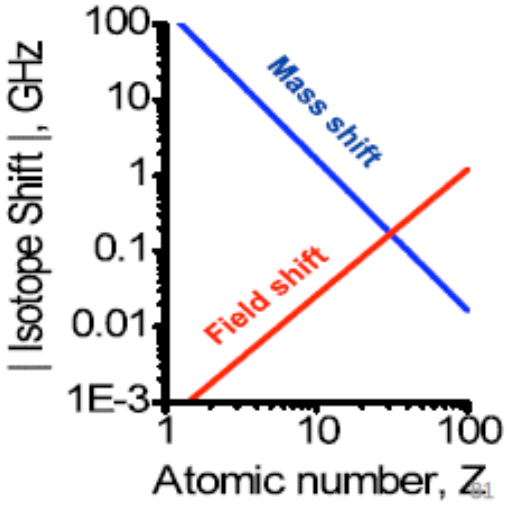
Extra

# Isotope shift & auto-ionizing states

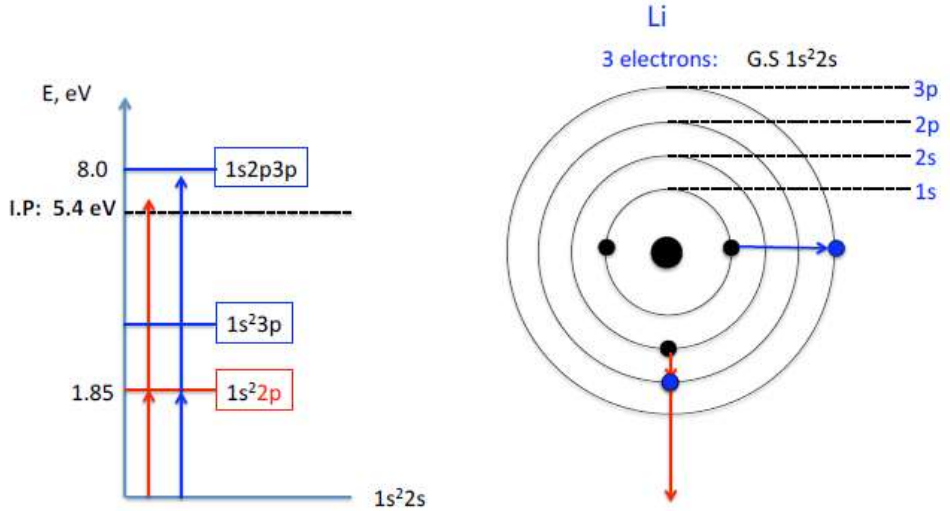


CAUSED BY these properties:

- Finite nuclear mass **MASS SHIFT**
- Nuclear Volume (not point-like) **FIELD SHIFT**



“Atoms and ions may be excited in various processes to states which in turn spontaneously decay by electron emission. Such a radiationless transition mechanism is called autoionization. An autoionizing state lies energetically above the lowest ionization threshold, embedded in the electron-continuum.”



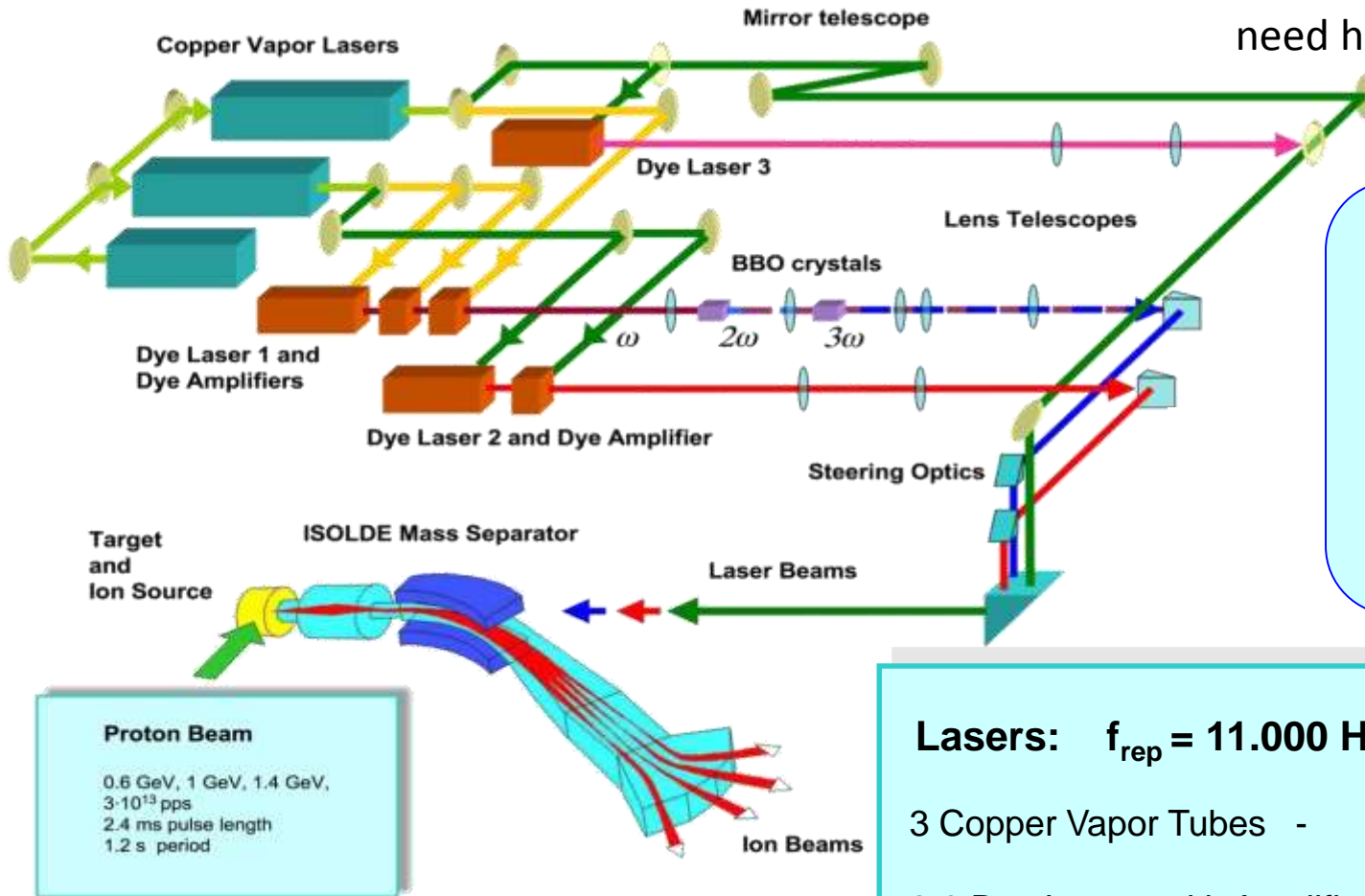
Decay from the AIS is either by photon emission or by electron-electron energy transfer via the coulomb interaction: more likely if the 2 electrons share similar shaped orbits (temporal overlap) and if the energy transfer does not have to be to a discrete state - *continuum*

Extra loss channel → reduced lifetime of state → broader resonance



# (Old) laser set-up for 3-step resonance ionization

NB! Lasers are pulsed - > need high repetition rate



Wavelength tuning range:

Fundamental ( $\omega$ )  
 530 - 850 nm  
 2nd harmonic ( $2\omega$ )  
 265 - 425 nm  
 3rd harmonic ( $3\omega$ )  
 213 - 265 nm

**Lasers:**  $f_{\text{rep}} = 11.000 \text{ Hz}$ ,  $t_{\text{pulse}} = 15 \text{ ns}$

3 Copper Vapor Tubes -

$$P_{\text{Cu}}^{\text{total}} \leq 80 \text{ W}$$

2-3 Dye Lasers with Amplifiers -

$$P_{\text{dye}} \leq 8 \text{ W}$$

Nonlinear Crystals BBO -

$$P_{2\omega} \leq 2 \text{ W}$$

$$P_{3\omega} \leq 0.2 \text{ W}$$

## Proton Beam

0.6 GeV, 1 GeV, 1.4 GeV,  
 $3 \cdot 10^{13}$  pps  
 2.4 ms pulse length  
 1.2 s period

# Elements and general data

- $I_e$  4 to 9 eV
- 2-30% ionisation efficiency
- Energy spread  $< 2$  eV
- Selectivity a function of cavity material  $10 - 10^5$
- Several nA

H																			He
Li	Be											B	C	N	O	F			Ne
Na	Mg											Al	Si	P	S	Cl			Ar
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br			Kr
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I			Xe
Cs	Ba		Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At			Rn
Fr	Ra		Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Uut	Uuq	Uup	Uuh	Uus			Uuo
	La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu				
	Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr				

Feasible

Dye schemes tested

Ti:Sa schemes tested

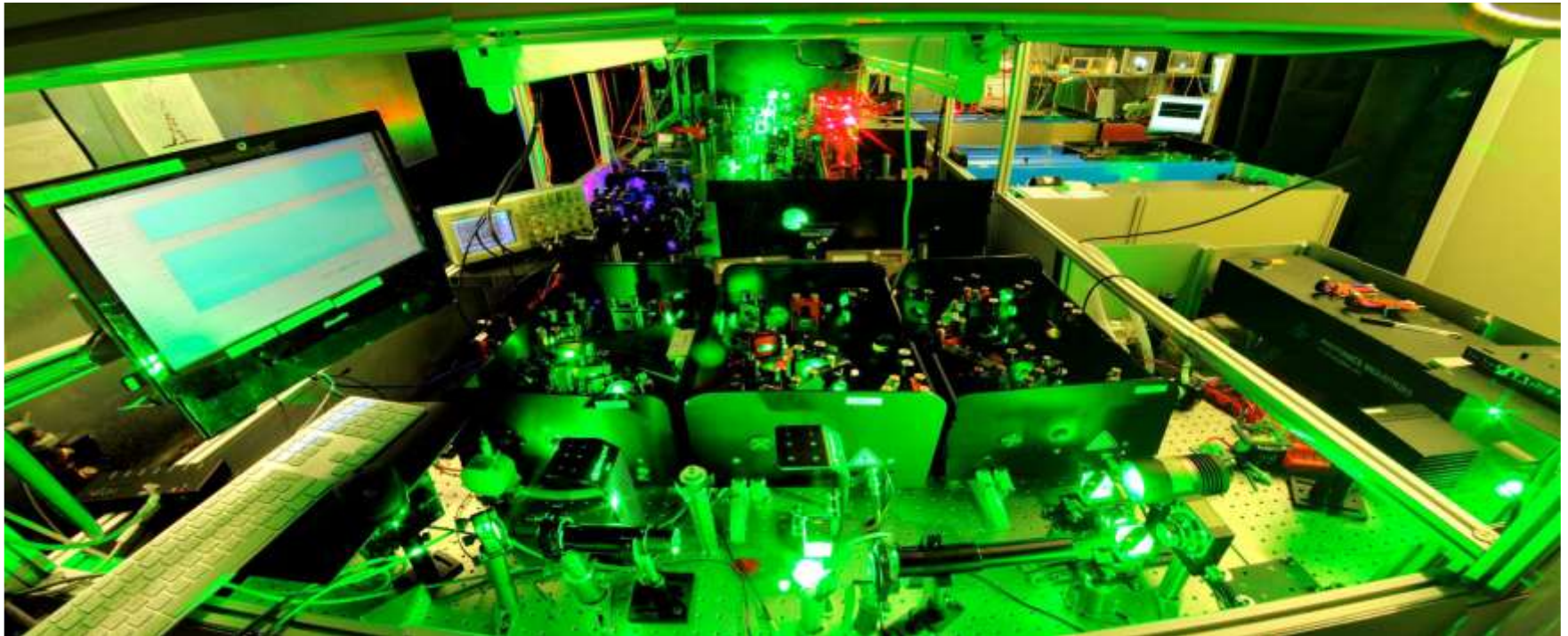
Dye and Ti:Sa schemes tested

# ISOLDE resonant laser ion source

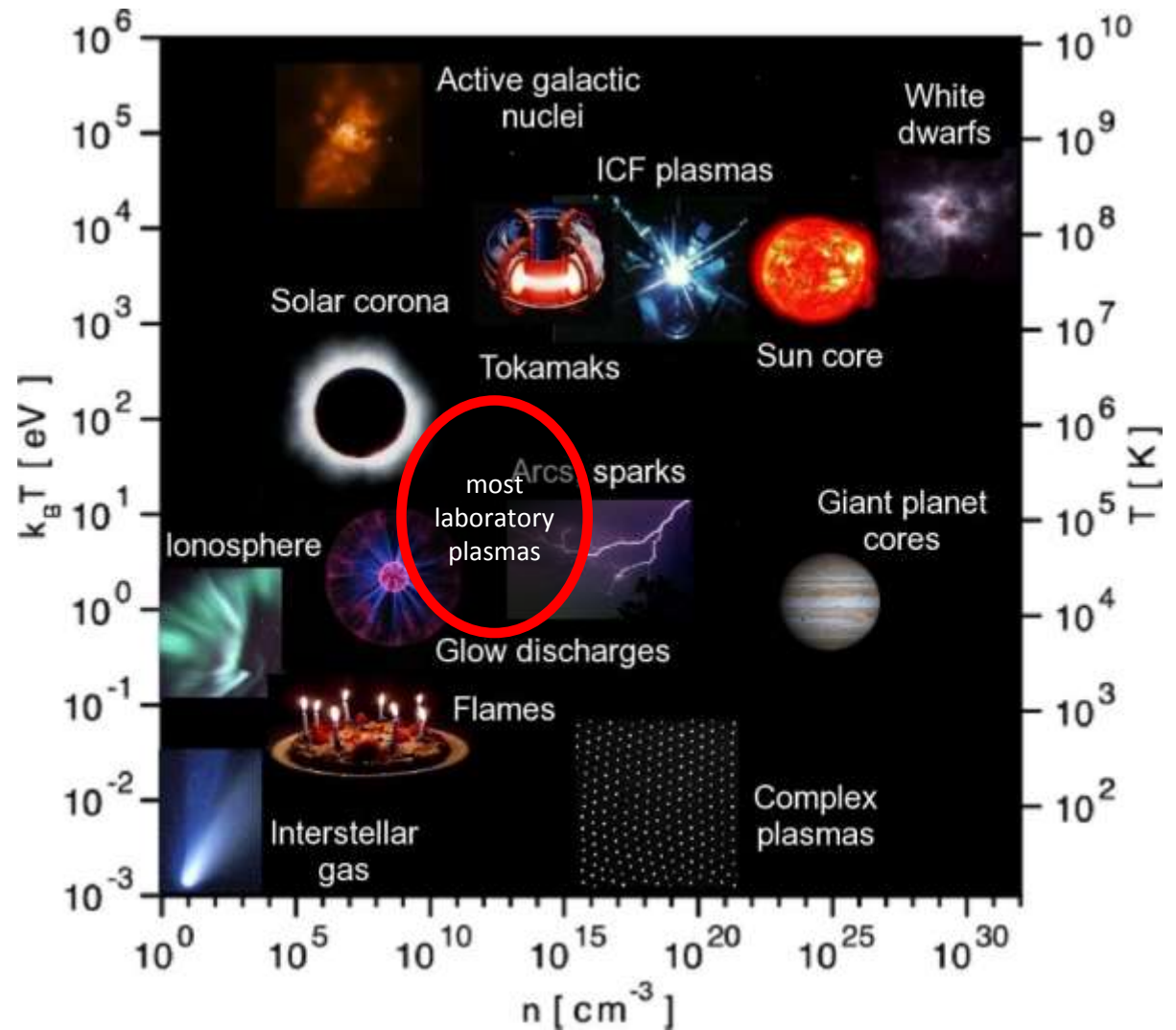


What did DG Fabiola Gianotti say?

- Red is my favourite colour.
- ISOLDE is a cornerstone in the diversified physics programme of CERN.
- Italy, Italy, Italy. Everyone just talks about Italy.



# Plasma map



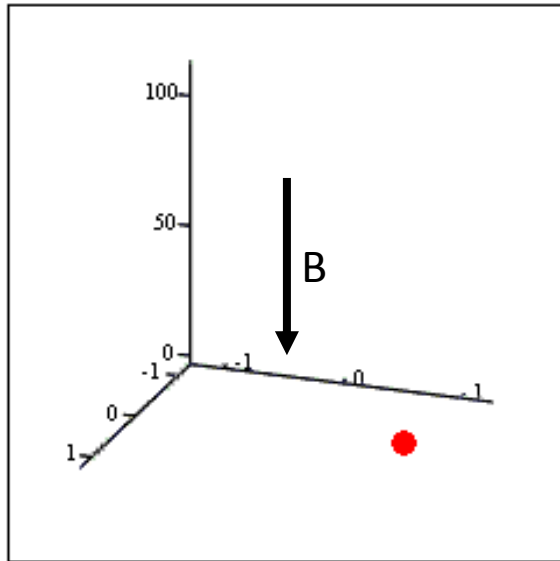
Plasmas exist in a wide range of densities and temperatures

$$\vec{F} = qe(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B})$$

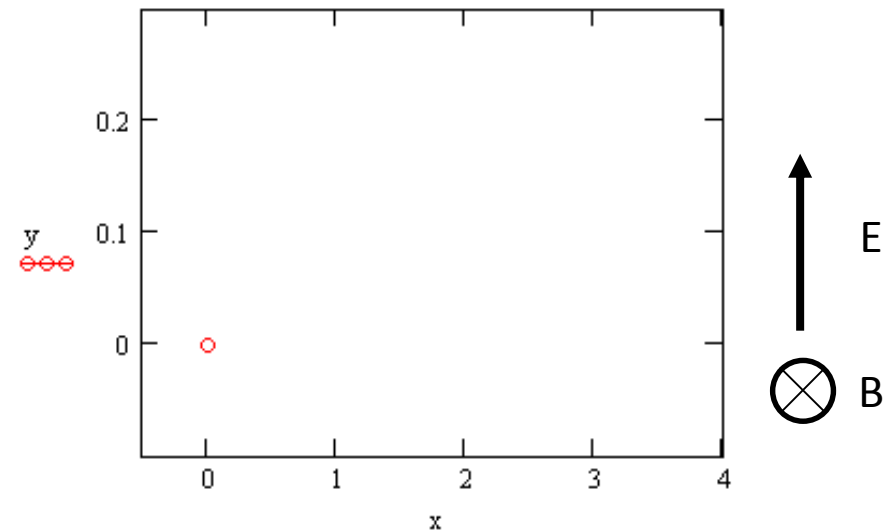
# Particle motions

## Charged particles in a magnetic field

$$\rho_{ce}[cm] = 0.00033 \frac{\sqrt{T_e[eV]}}{B[T]} \quad \rho_{ci}[cm] = 0.0014 \frac{\sqrt{AT_i[eV]}}{qB[T]}$$



## E cross B drift



$$\rho_c = \frac{\sqrt{2mW_{kin,\perp}}}{qeB}, \quad \omega_c = \frac{qeB}{m}$$

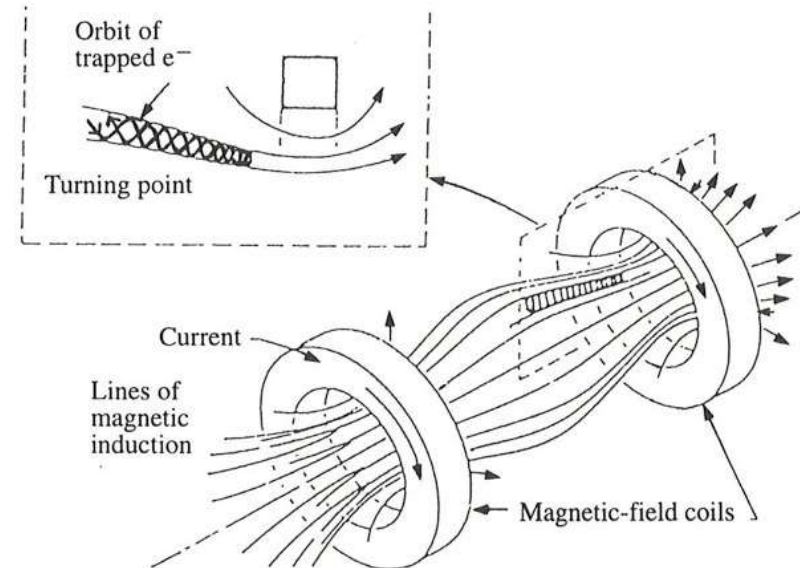
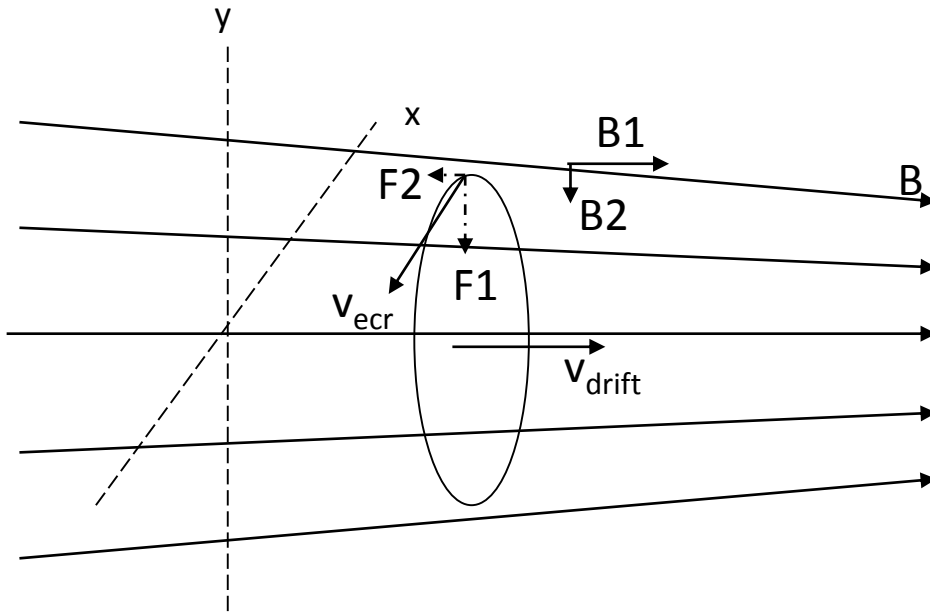
$$v_{drift} = \frac{\vec{E} \times \vec{B}}{B^2}$$

# Magnetic mirror

Increasing B-field =>

A force acts in the opposite direction to the increasing B-field

Energy is transferred from  $v_{drift}$  to  $v_{ecr}$



$$v_{drift} = \left\{ \frac{2}{m} (W_{kin} - \mu B) \right\}^{1/2}$$

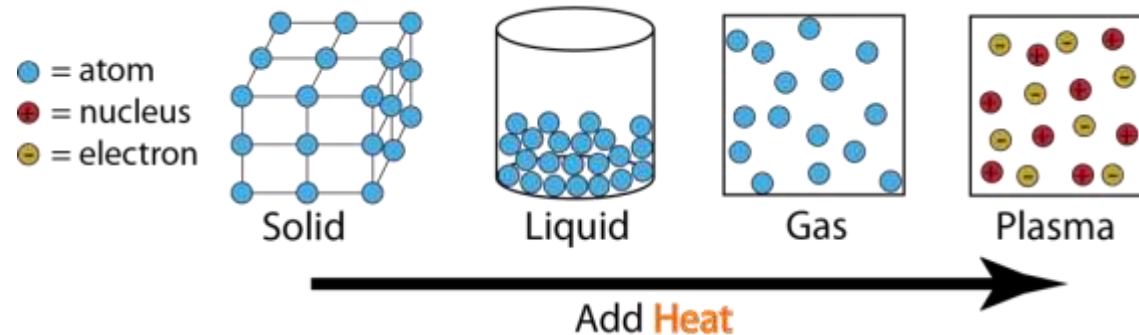
$$\mu = \frac{mv_{\perp}^2}{2B}$$

$\mu$  = magnetic moment conserved

$W_{kin}$  = total kinetic energy

# What is a plasma?

A plasma is a **quasi neutral** gas of charged and neutral particles



Overall charge neutrality is preserved

$$\sum_i q_i n_i = n_e$$

Otherwise large electrical fields

In a fully ionized plasma the collisions are **Coulomb collisions**

There are **elastic** (energy transfer) and **inelastic** collisions (atomic processes)

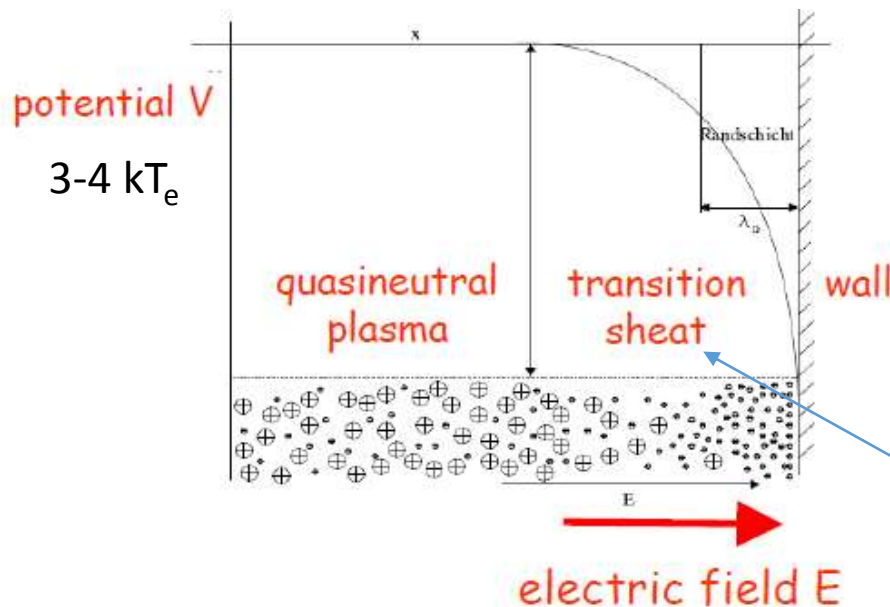
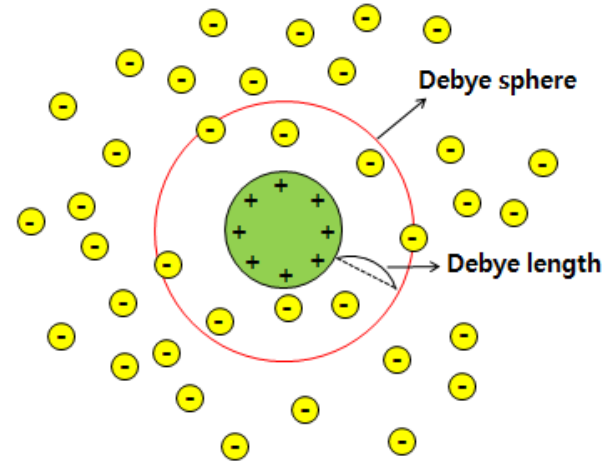
Collisions are described by **collision frequency** (typical time scale) and **mean free path** (typical length scale)

The Debye length defines the sphere in which the electric fields have an influence. Outside this sphere the electric charges are shielded.

$$l_D = \left( \frac{e_0 k T_e}{n_e e^2} \right)^{1/2} \quad \text{mm to 0.01 mm}$$

$$l_D [\text{cm}] = 743 \left( T_e [\text{eV}] / n_e [\text{cm}^{-3}] \right)^{1/2}$$

## Debye length



electrons move faster ->

higher loss rate than ions ->

plasma charges up to maintain neutrality

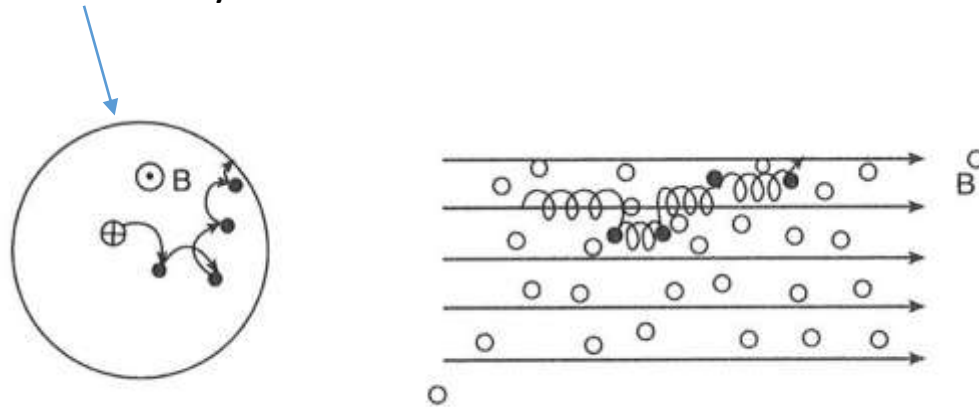
plasma sheath



# Plasma confinement

- Electrons are mainly lost along B-field lines //
- Ions mainly lost transversally to B-field lines due to collisions  $\perp$

Collisional Drift



A plasma needs heating and confinement

e.g. magnetic bottle (minimum-B mirror)

or gravity in a star



Extra

# Plasma frequency

Macroscopically the plasma is charge neutral, microscopically the imbalance leads to micro instabilities, fluctuations and oscillations

$$E = \frac{e}{\epsilon_0} nx$$

$$F = eE = \frac{e^2}{\epsilon_0} nx = m_e \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2}$$

- Electric field by a local charge separation along a distance  $x$
- The charge unbalance leads to a restoring force
- Equation of an harmonic oscillator with eigen-frequency  $\omega$



$$\omega_e = \sqrt{\frac{e^2 n_e}{\epsilon_0 m_e}}$$

Plasma frequency  
in GHz range

$$\omega_i = \sqrt{\frac{e^2 n_e}{\epsilon_0 m_i}}$$

Plasma frequency  
in MHz range

Ion extraction

# Ion extraction

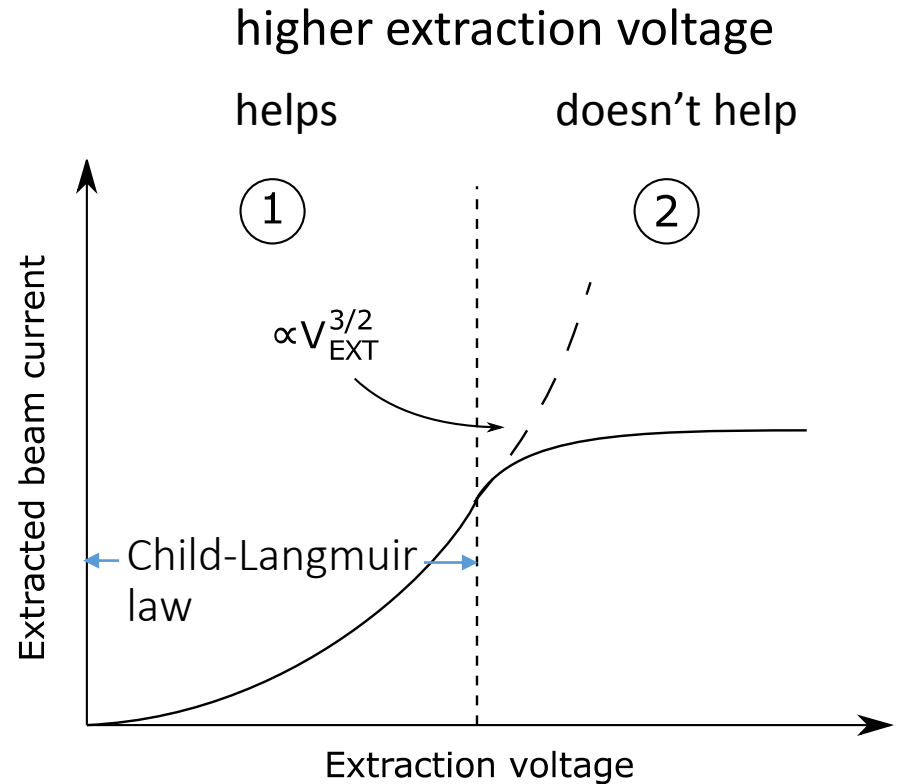
Two cases:

1. space charge limited  
(space-charge cloud in front of the extraction system)

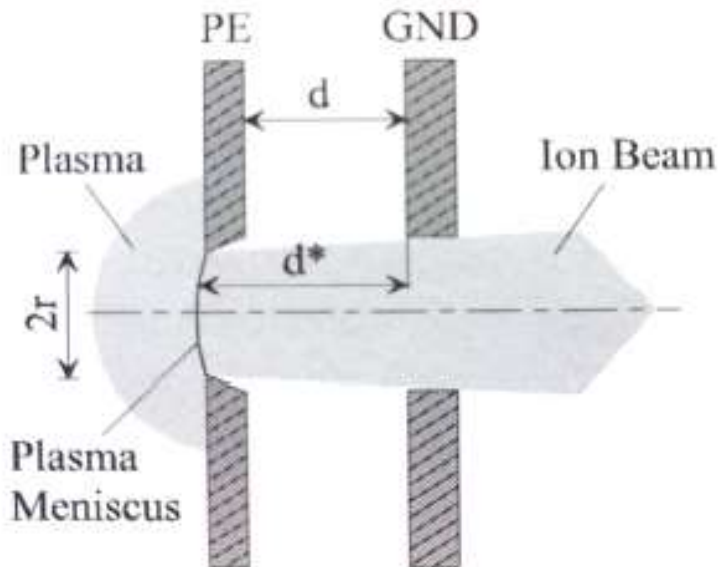
e.g. stable beams for cancer treatment

2. emission limited  
(plasma / source can not deliver 'enough' particles)

e.g. most radioactive beams



# Ion extraction



Child-Langmuir defines the maximal extractable emission current density

$$j = \frac{4e_0}{9} \sqrt{\frac{2q}{m}} \frac{U^{3/2}}{d^2}$$

$q$  – ion charge state  
 $m$  – ion mass  
 $U$  – extraction voltage  
 $d$  – extraction gap  
 $j$  – A/m<sup>2</sup>

conditions

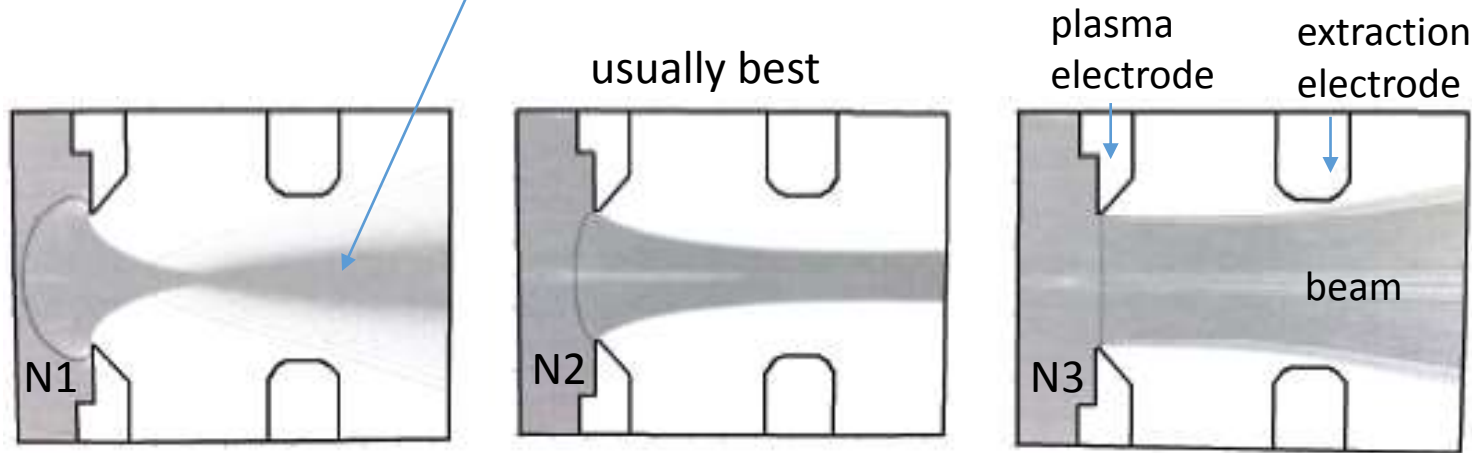
- planar and indefinite emission area
- particles have zero initial longitudinal energy

$d^*$  is self-adjusting so the electrical field at the meniscus becomes zero

# Ion extraction

Poisson equation + current continuity + energy conservation

$$\nabla^2 \phi = \frac{d^2 \phi}{dz^2} = -\frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \quad j_z = \rho \dot{z} = \text{const} \quad \frac{m}{2} \dot{z}^2 = -q\phi(z)$$



Same extraction voltage for different plasma densities  $N1 < N2 < N3$

The emissive surface of the plasma is often referred to as [plasma meniscus\\*](#)

The dynamic equilibrium between the plasma and the extracted particles creates the meniscus

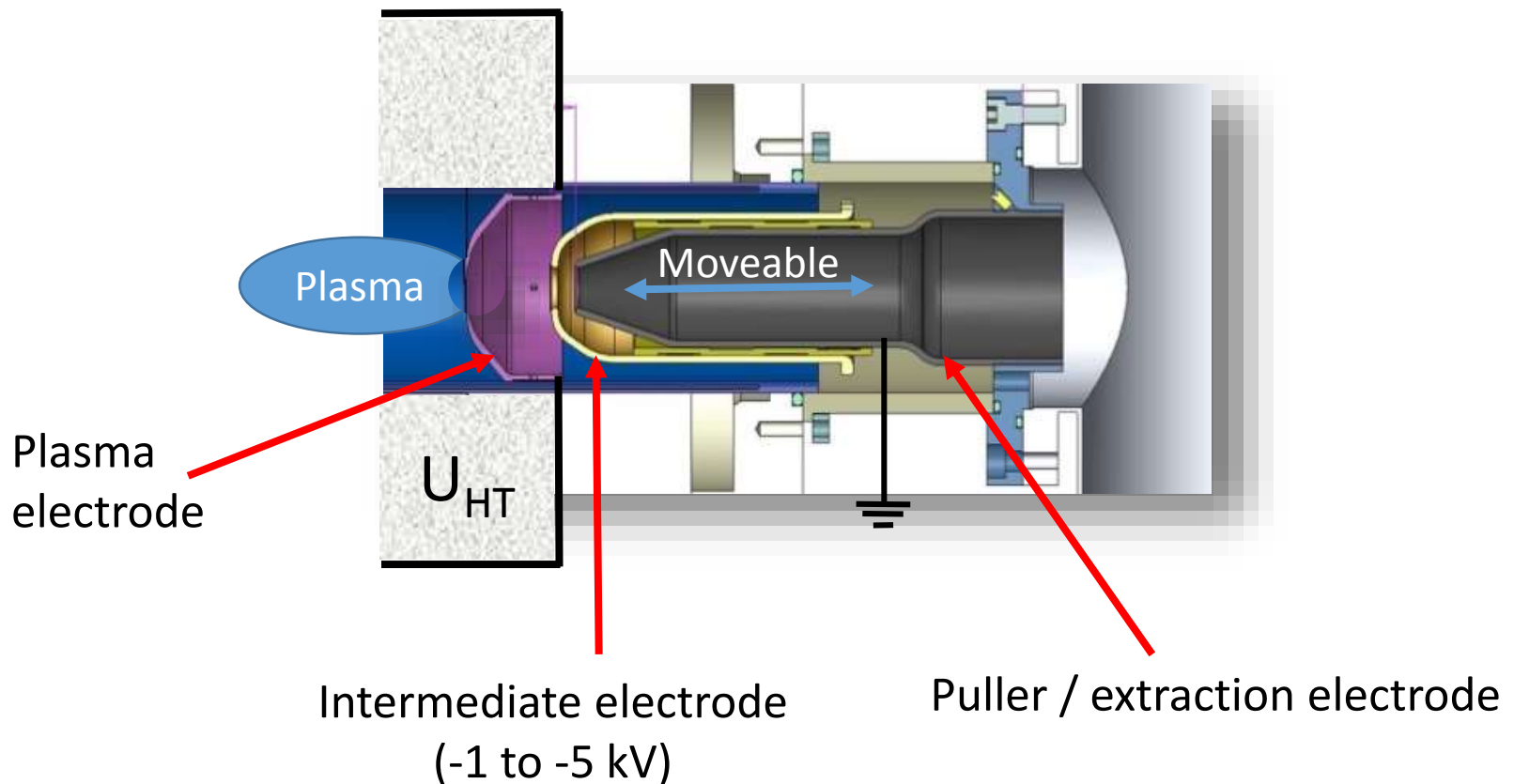
Shaping the extraction system electrodes can give a focusing force to compensate for the transverse space-charge forces

plasma meniscus is not actually a surface because of the Debye length it has a thickness

# Extraction system

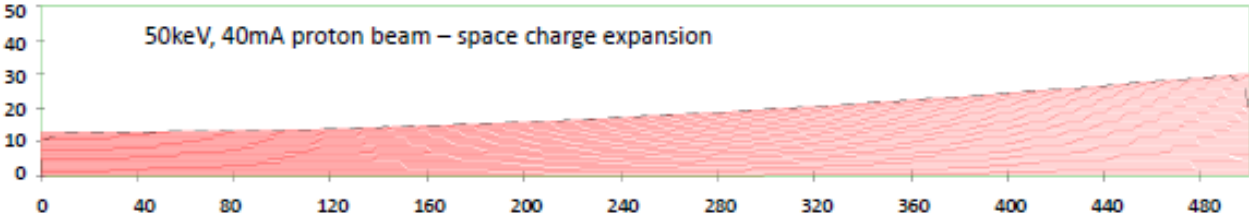
The extraction system consists of two or more electrodes

- in general the source body is on high voltage and the beam line on ground potential
- additional electrodes can serve for electron suppression or beam shaping

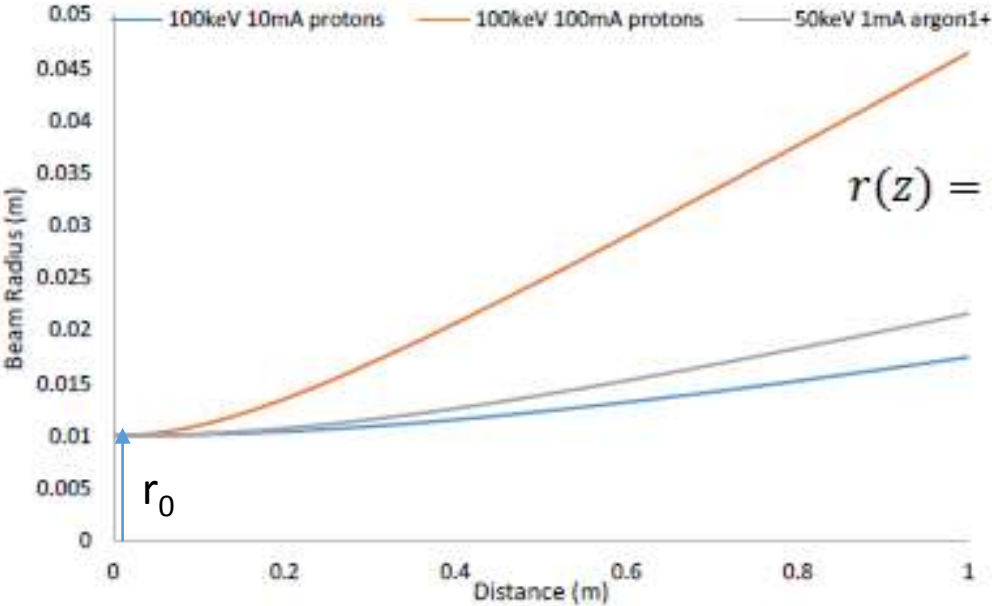


# Space charge

The beam is repulsed by its own space charge



Direct space charge becomes very strong at low energy (non-relativistic beams)



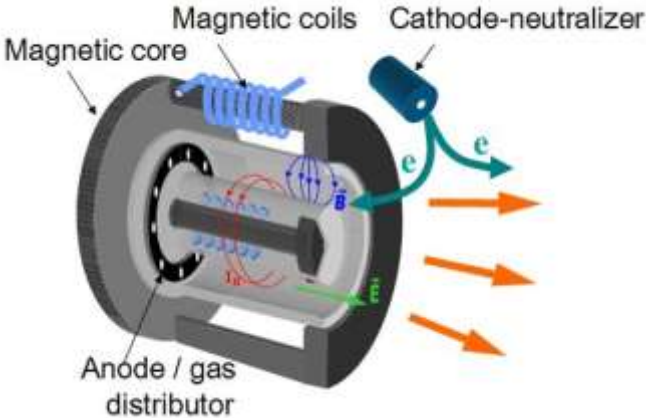
$$r(z) = r_0 \sqrt{1 + \frac{qI_0 z^2}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r_0^2 m v^3}}$$

No worry for radioactive beams as current so low

Estimation (uniform density cylindrical beam, non-relativistic)



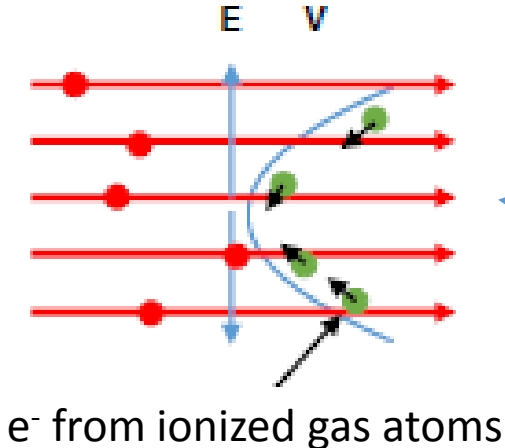
# Space charge compensation



Electrons!

Extra

# Space charge compensation

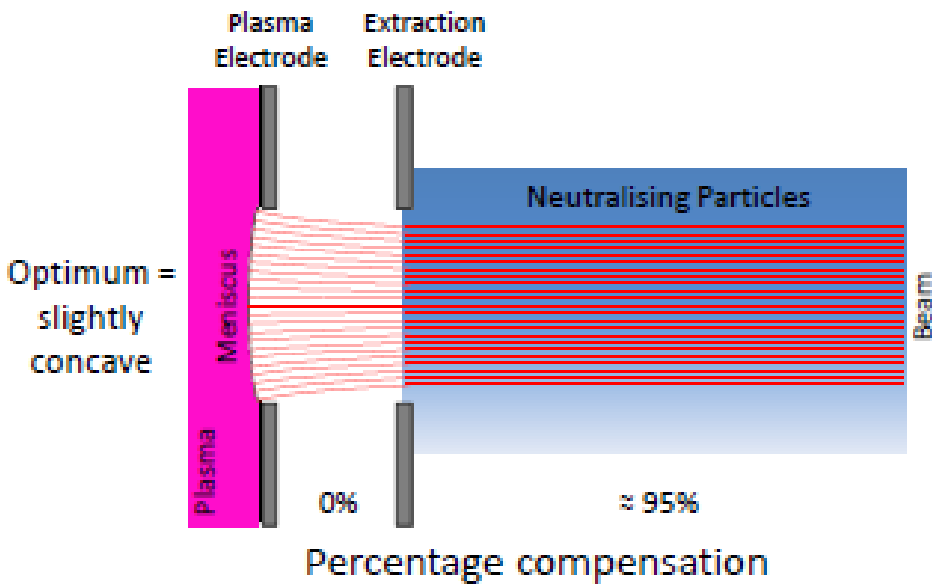


Nature is for once kind:

- \* The particle beams can ionize the residual gas left in the beam line

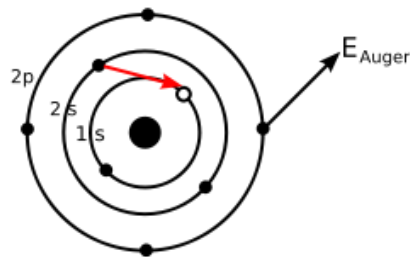
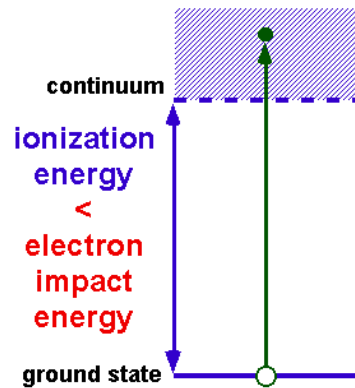
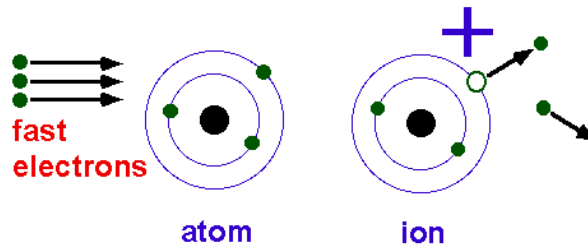
- \* The resulting electrons are contained by the potential of the beam

- \* The trapped particles suppress the beams own self-induced electric field, allowing it to be more easily transported



Electron bombardment ion source

# Ionization by electron impact

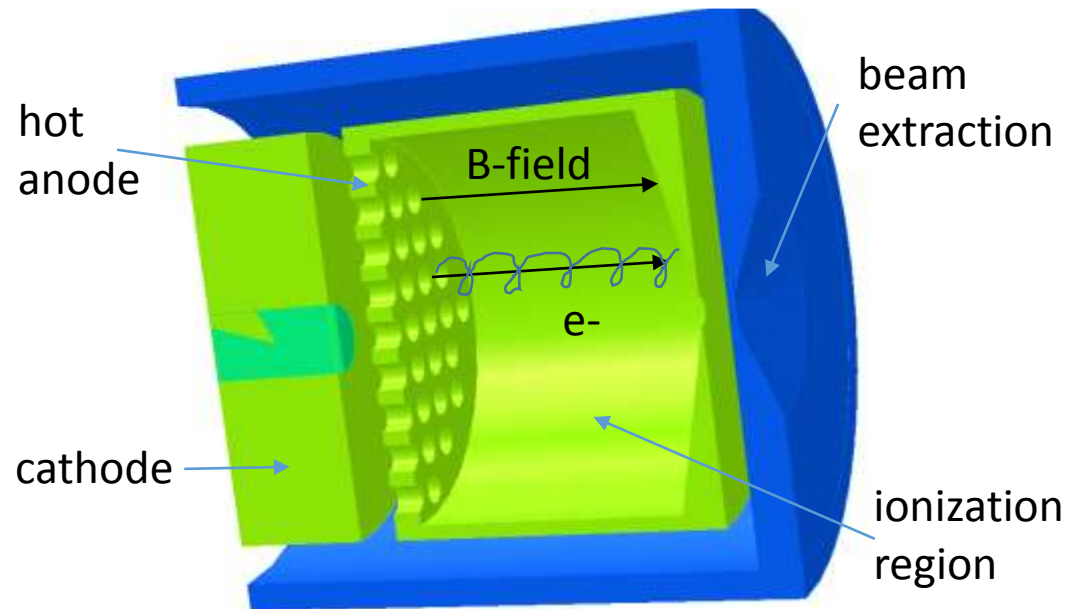


Auger electron emission

# Electron bombardment ion source

Processes involved

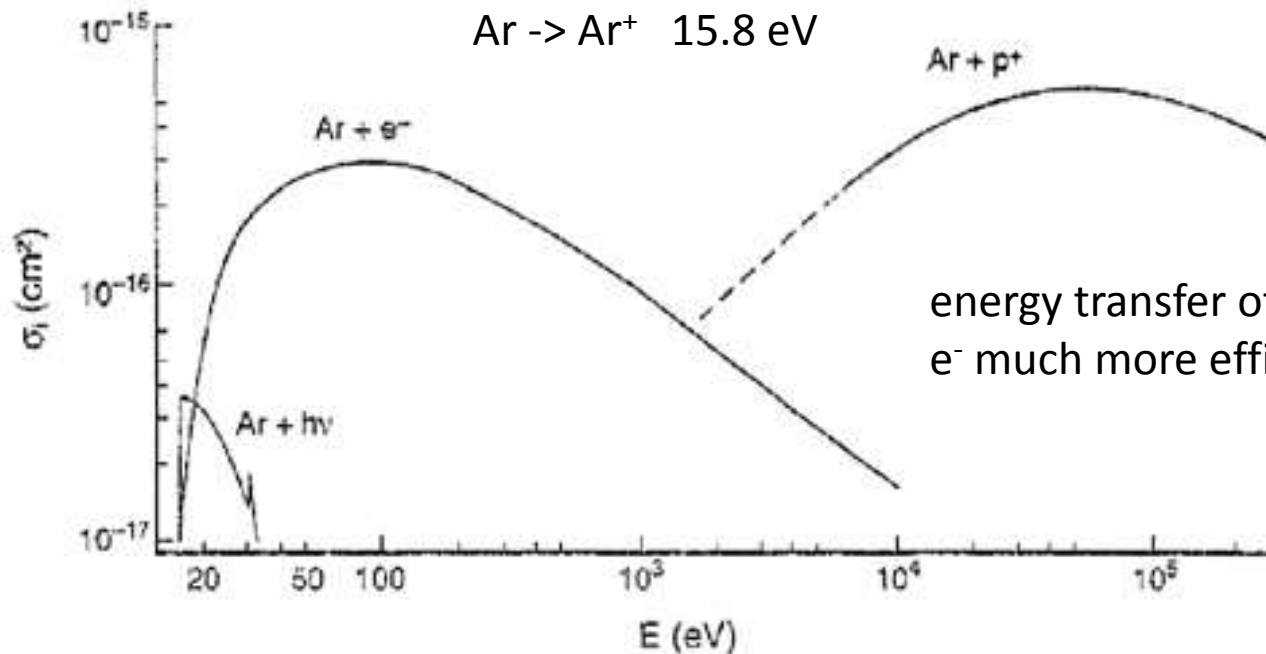
- Direct knockout ionization
- Indirect processes (based on inner-shell excitation and subsequent auto-ionization); more important for heavier atoms



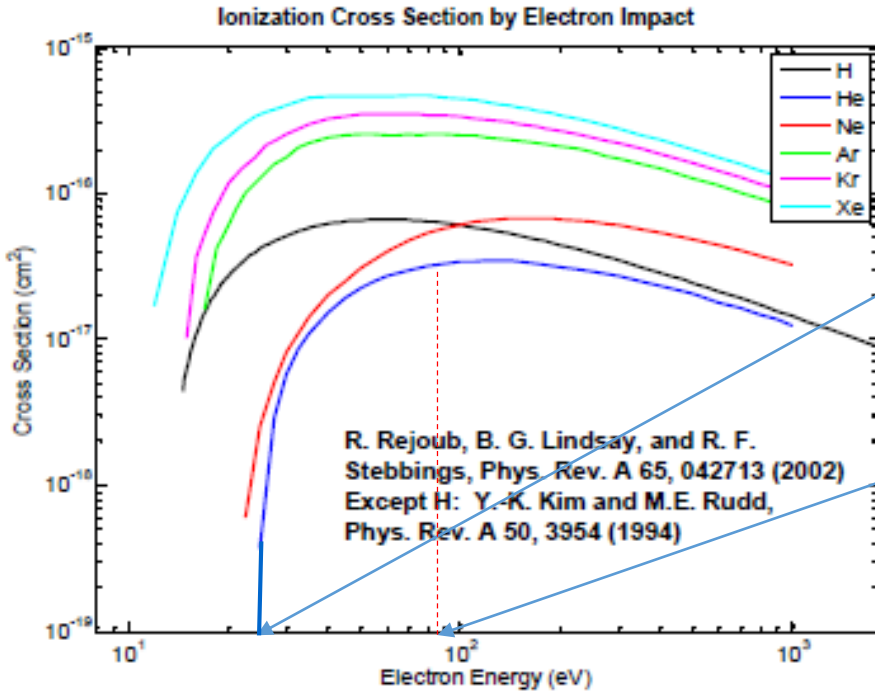
# Ionization by particle impact

Ionization cross sections for Ar vs energy of ionizing collisions with:

- \* Photons
- \* Electrons
- \* Protons



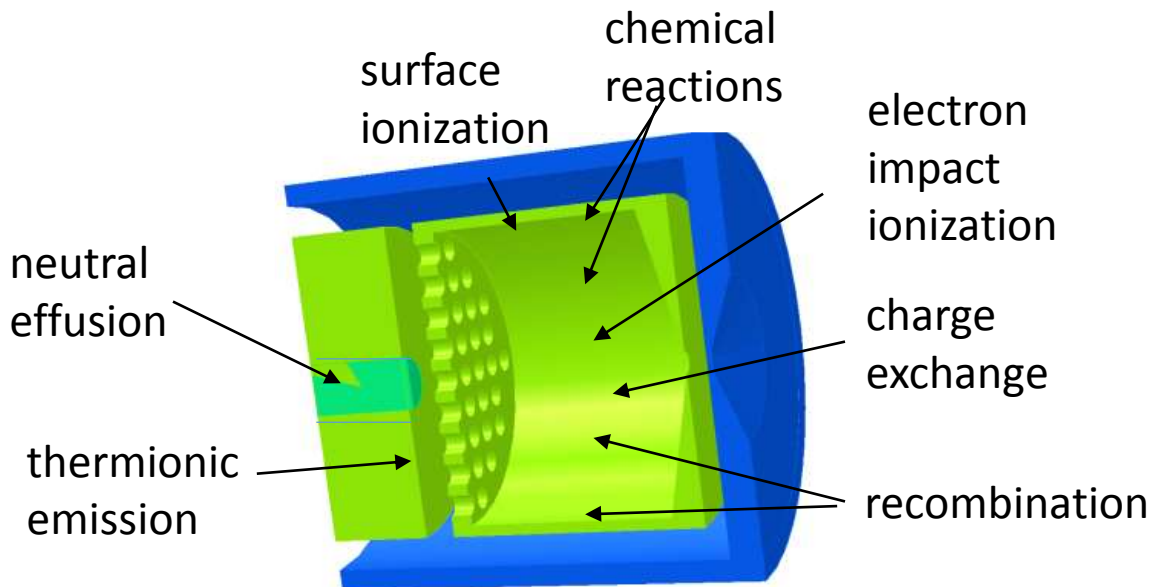
# Atomic processes



\* Ionization starts at the ionization threshold  $E_i$ .

\* Optimal energy for ionization is nearly **3 times** the ionization energy of the weakest bound electron, i. e. the ionization energy.

Some cross section data available in:  
<http://physics.nist.gov/PhysRefData/Ionization/Xsection.html>



\* The source can run with and without (noble) support gases

\* Plasma or not plasma?

See L. Penescu's PhD work, CERN

# Forced Electron Bombardment Induced Arc Discharge FEBIAD

## Mechanical design

### Materials

Cathode: Ta

Anode: Mo, C

Insulators: BN, BeO

Grid: (Ta) C

Heat screens: Mo

Transfer lines: Ta

$$V_{\text{anode}} = 10-300 \text{ V}$$

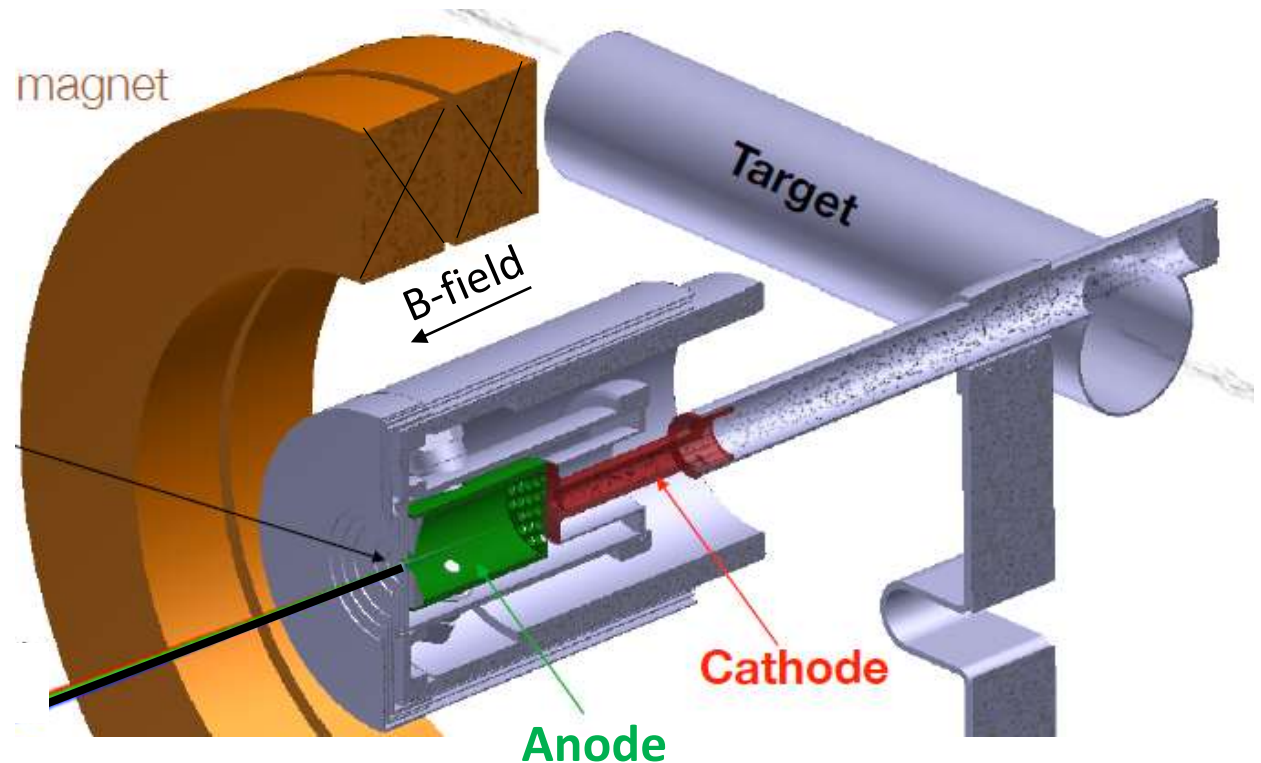
$$I_{\text{anode}} < 200 \text{ mA}$$

### Cavity

extr. hole: 0.5-3 mm

length= 2-3 cm

diam=1-2 cm



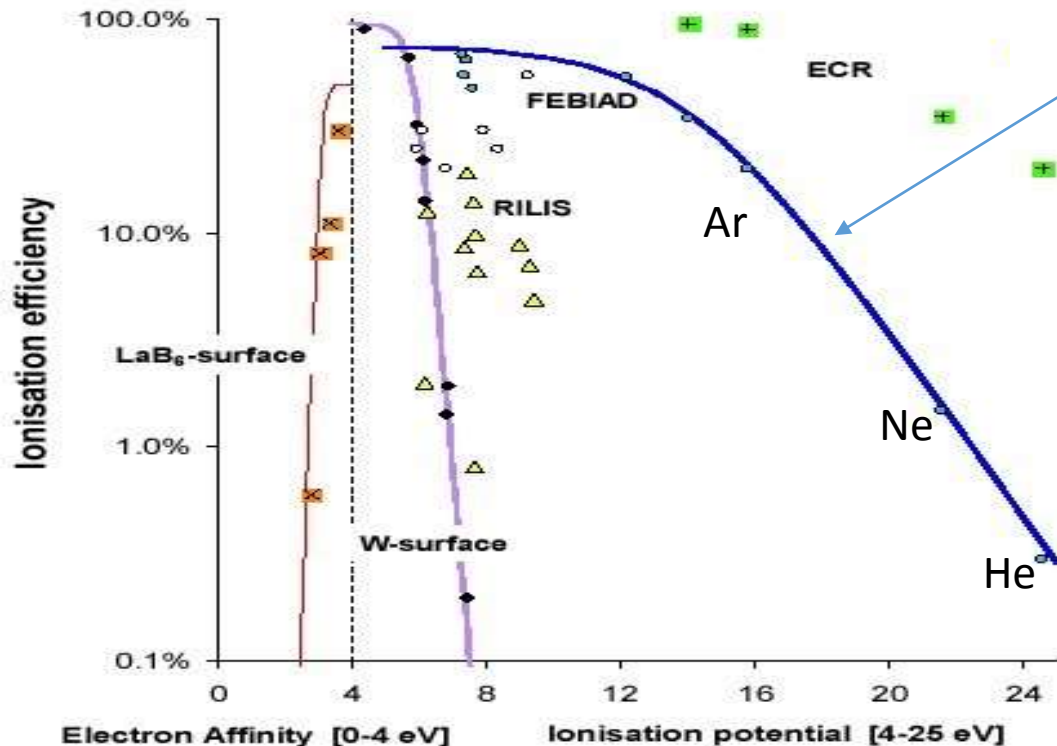
$T = 1500-2300^{\circ}\text{C}$

Pressures  $5 \cdot 10^{-4}$  to  $3 \cdot 10^{-5}$  mbar

Cathode Heating:  
Ohmic or e- bomb.  
100-1000W

# FEBIAD properties

- + stable operation with little support gas
- + low ion current density 1-20  $\mu\text{A}/\text{mm}^2$ , up to 100  $\mu\text{A}$  total
- + emittance 15-20 mm mrad (30 kV, 95%)
- + volume as small as 1.3  $\text{cm}^3$  (only 6 ms intrinsic delay)



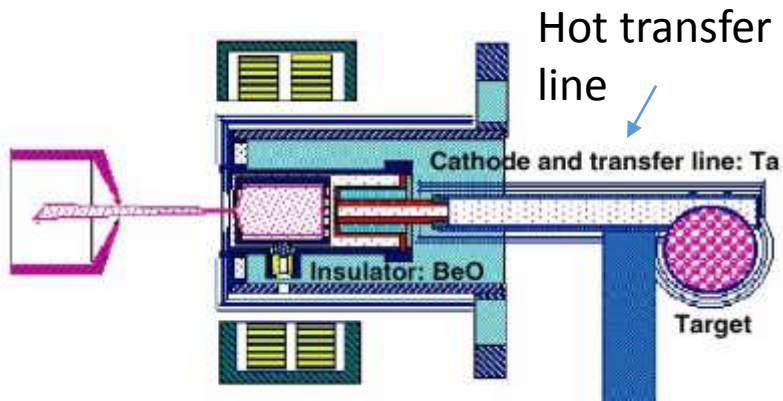
Very efficient, even for elements with high ionisation potentials



Why is there a mass trend?

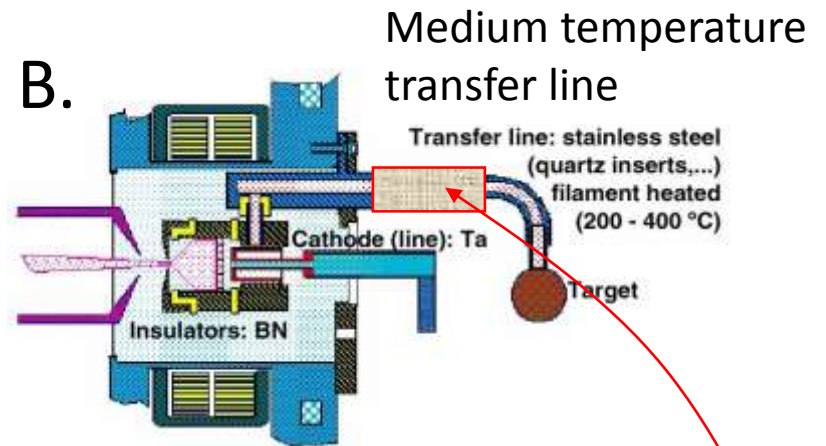
$$\text{Effusion velocity} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{A}}$$



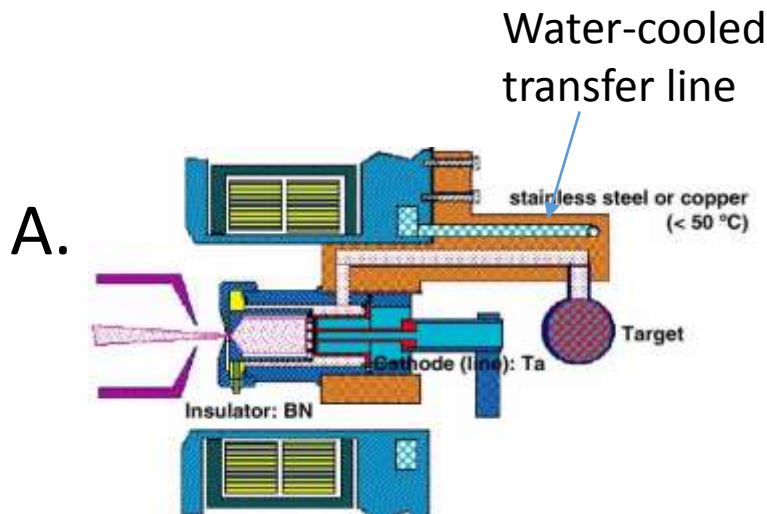


MK5 1900 °C  
elements with low vapour pressure

## Selectivity in a FEBIAD



MK6 1400 °C, intermediate to low  
vapour pressure elements



MK7 < 500 °C  
noble gases, N<sub>2</sub>, etc

### Selectivity

A. Use thermo-chromographic selection

B. Use chemical selection e.g. **quartz**  
transfer tube. Adsorbs e.g. Ga and lets  
Zn pass.

# Electron Cyclotron Resonance Ion Source

# Microwave Ion Sources

## Off resonance

= Microwave discharge ion sources

Not discussed here

## On resonance

= Electron Cyclotron Resonance (ECR) sources



Pantechnik source  
permanent magnets

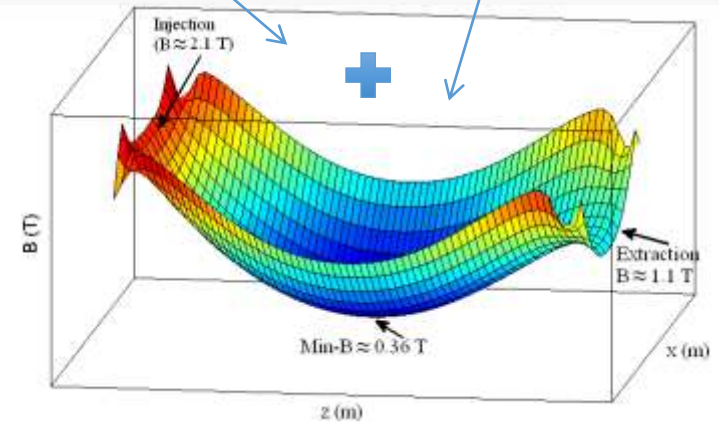
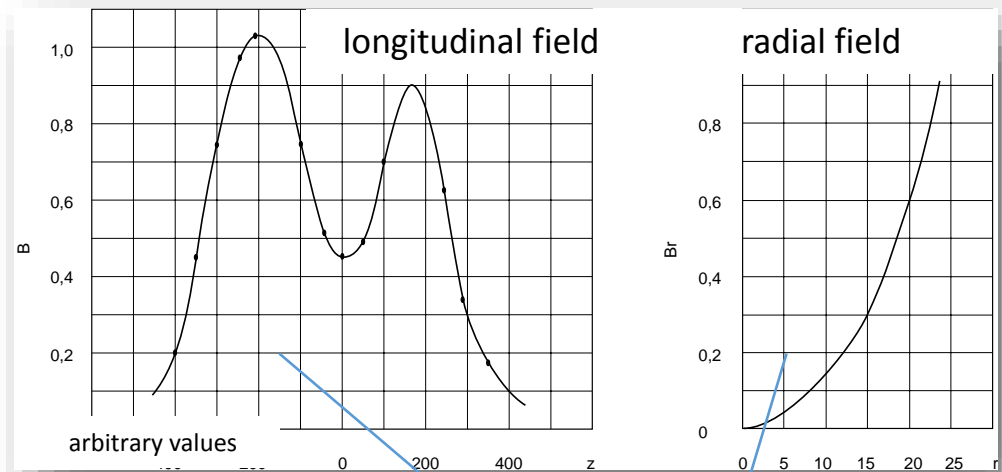
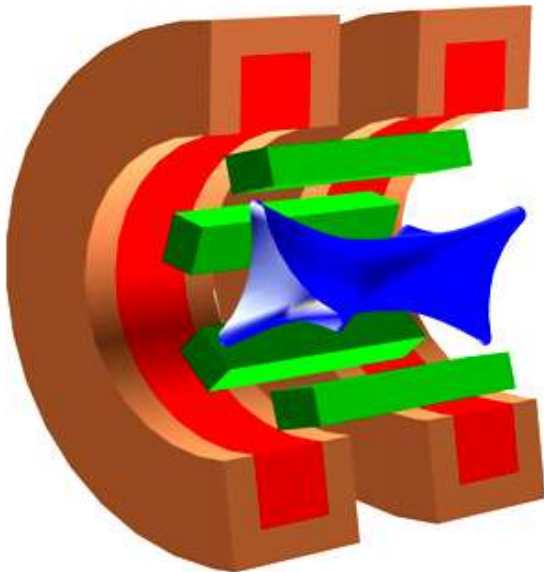
To be used for:

- \* Traditional cancer therapy centres
  - stable {  $H^+$ ,  $H_2^+$ ,  $H_3^+$  production
  - $C^{4+}$  production
- \*  $1^+$  radioactive ion beams
- \* Not to be used for charge breeders 😊

## 'Magnetic bottle' confinement of plasma

- \* Longitudinally by Helmholtz coils
- \* Radially by powerful permanent multipole  
=> min-B field – increases in all directions

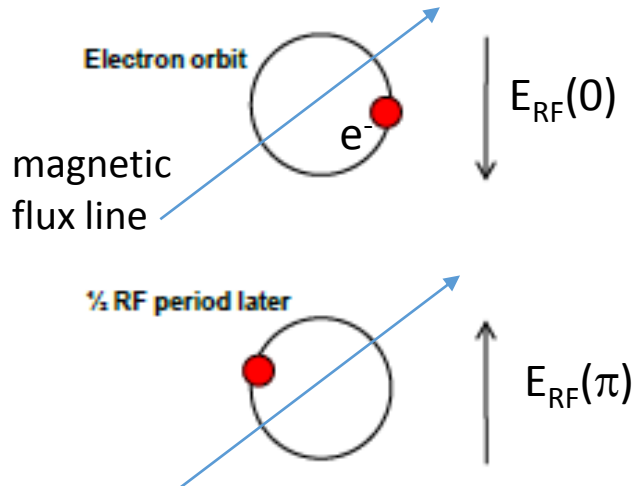
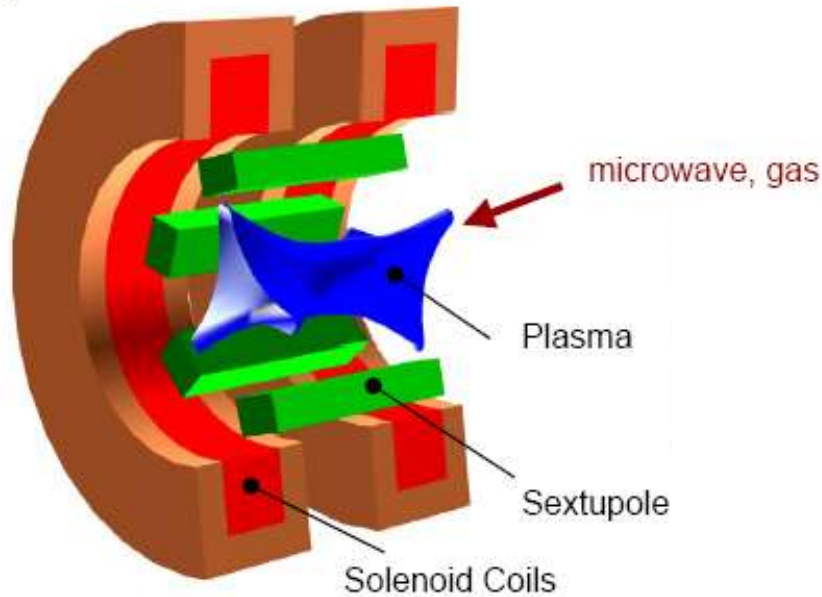
## ECRIS



$$\omega_e = \frac{e \cdot B}{m} = \omega_{rf}$$

Plasma is resonantly heated with microwaves

# ECRIS physics



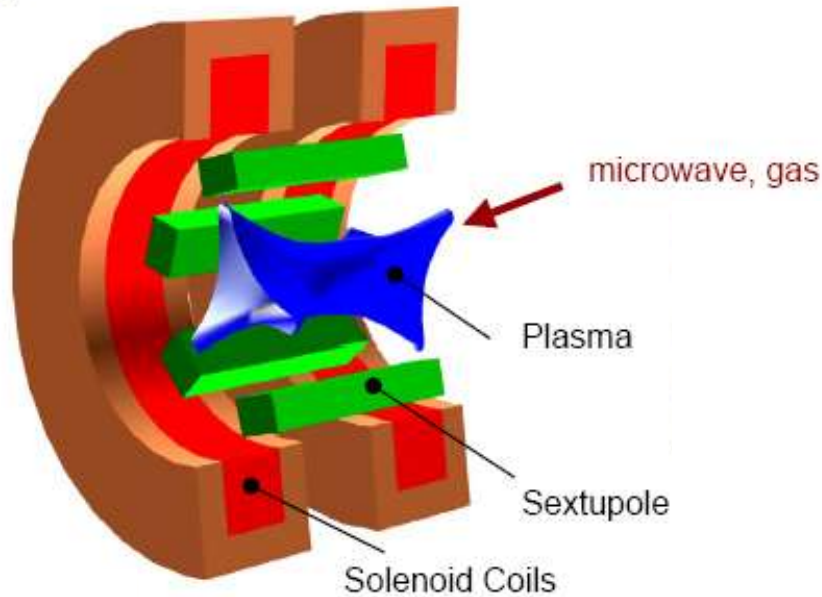
On a surface within the source, there is a magnetic field at which the revolution frequency of the non-relativistic electrons agrees with applied RF

The plasma electrons will absorb energy at this frequency

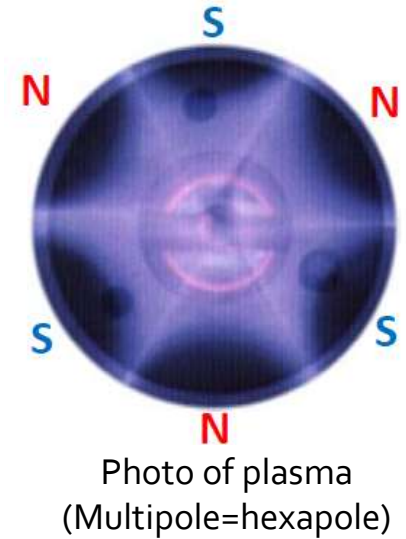
Stochastic process

$$\omega_e = \frac{e \cdot B}{m} = \omega_{rf}$$

Plasma is resonantly heated with microwaves



# ECRIS physics



$e^-$  temperature distributions

Cold <200 eV: lowest confinement time

Warm < 100 keV: ionization process

Hot > 100 keV: highly confined

=> ionisation by electron-atom collisions

$$f_{ce} \text{ [GHz]} = 2.8 \times B \text{ [kG]}$$



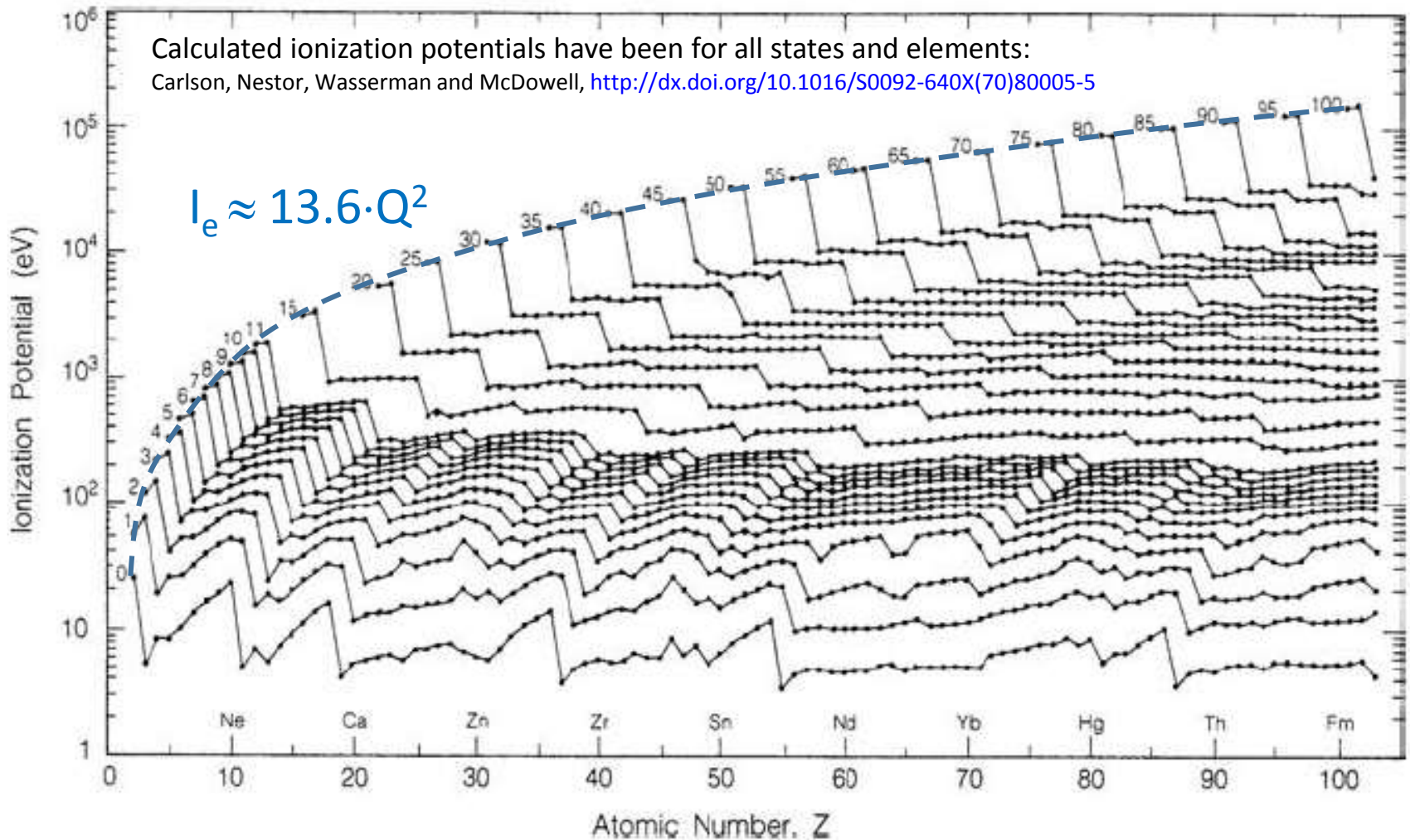
What's the ionization potential of  ${}_{100}\text{Fm}^{99+}$ ?

( $I_e$  for H is 13.6 eV)

# Higher charge states

To produce highly charged ions one needs:

1. high energy electrons





# Higher charge states

To produce highly charge ions one needs:

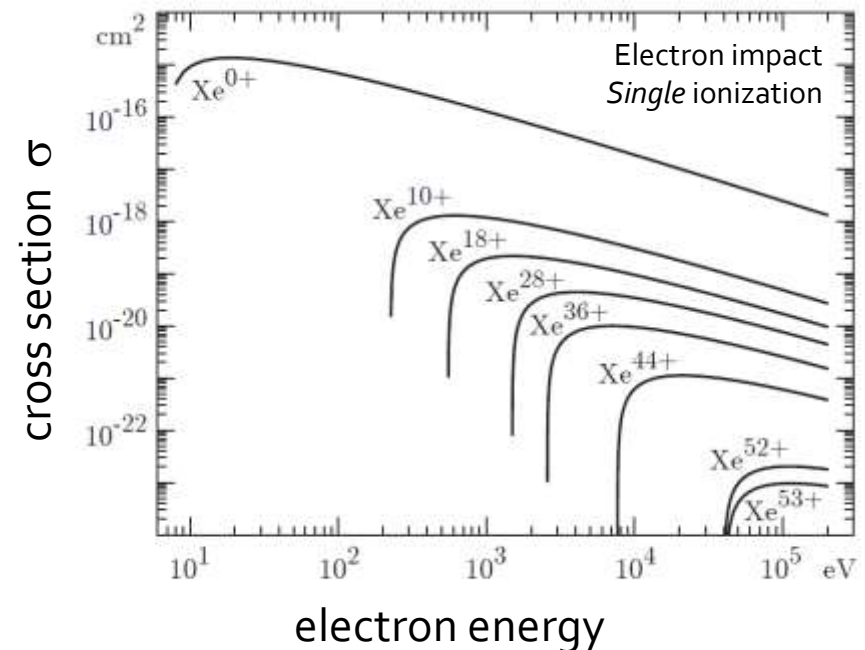
1. high energy electrons
2. the ions to be confined for sufficient time

*Stepwise ionization!*

$0 \rightarrow 1^+ \rightarrow 2^+ \rightarrow 3^+ \dots$

Average time to reach the charge state  $q$  with multistep ionization for electrons with *defined kinetic energy*:

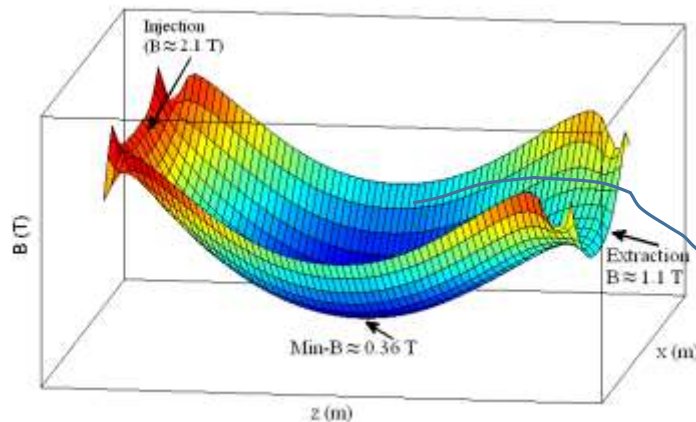
$$\bar{\tau}_q = \sum_{i=1}^{q-1} \bar{\tau}_{i \rightarrow i+1} = \frac{e}{j_e} \sum_{i=1}^{q-1} \frac{1}{\sigma_{i \rightarrow i+1}}$$



To produce highly charge ions one needs:

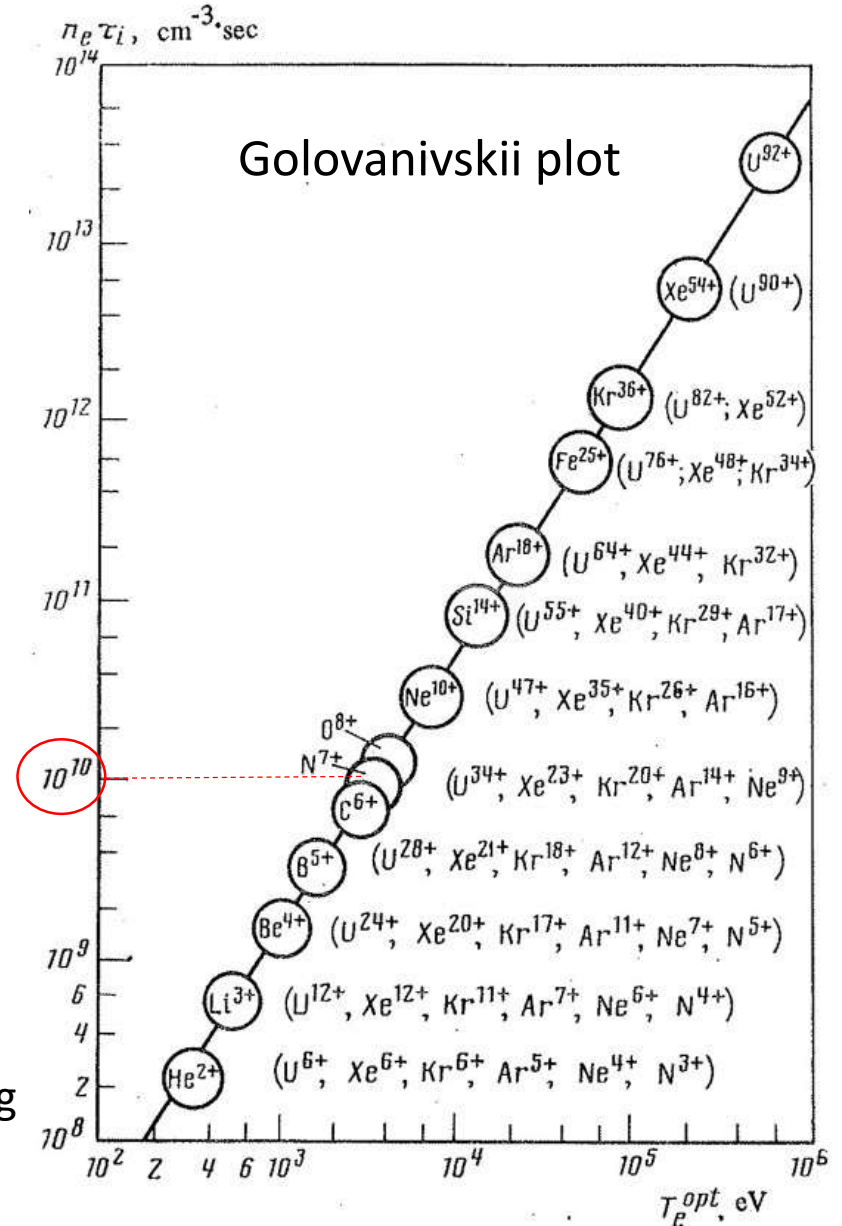
1. high energy electrons
2. the ions to be confined for sufficient time

The ion confinement time  $\tau_c$  and the electron density  $n_e$  are influencing the maximum charge state that could be reached.



Leaking ions

# Higher charge states



Extra

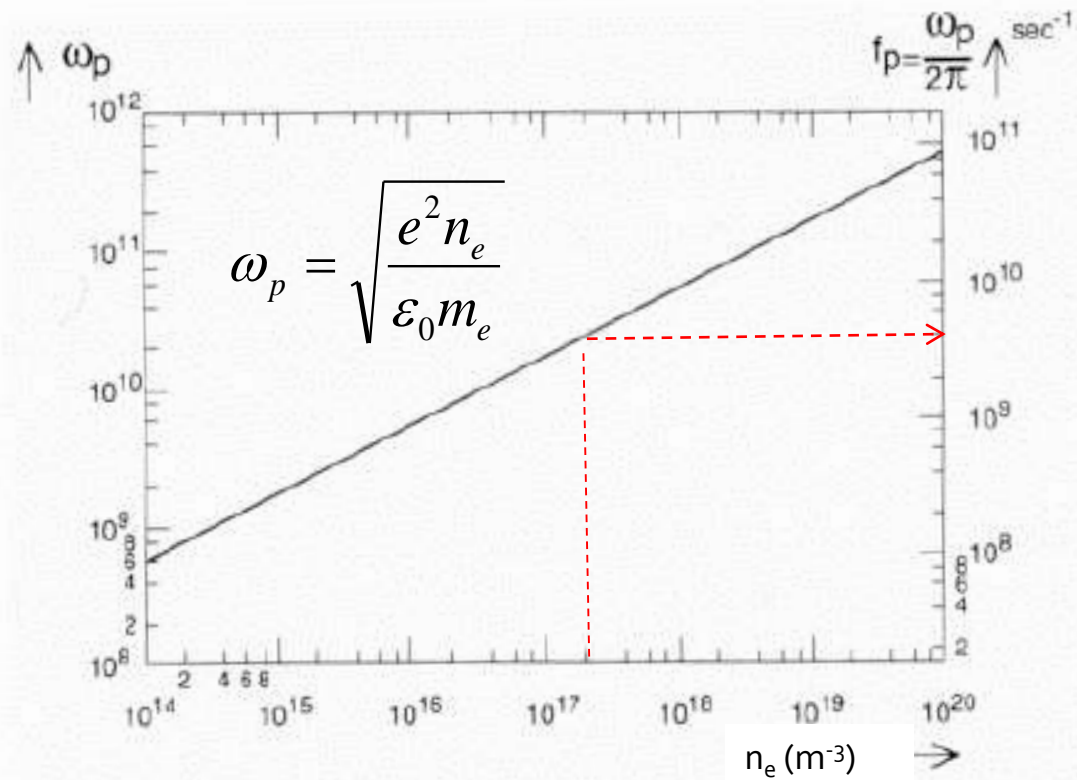
## What RF is needed?

1. Assume the ions stay around 50 ms inside the plasma => need  $10^{10} / 0.05 = 2 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ e / cm}^{-3} = 2 \cdot 10^{17} \text{ e / m}^{-3}$

2.  $f_{\text{RF}}$  needs to be higher than the plasma frequency  $f_p$  (cut-off frequency)

> 4 GHz

rule  $n_e < 1.2 \cdot 10^{10} f_{\text{RF}}^2 \text{ cm}^{-3}$   
[ $f_{\text{RF}}$ ] = GHz



*Plasma frequency versus plasma density*

# Mechanical design

\* RF 2.45 GHz

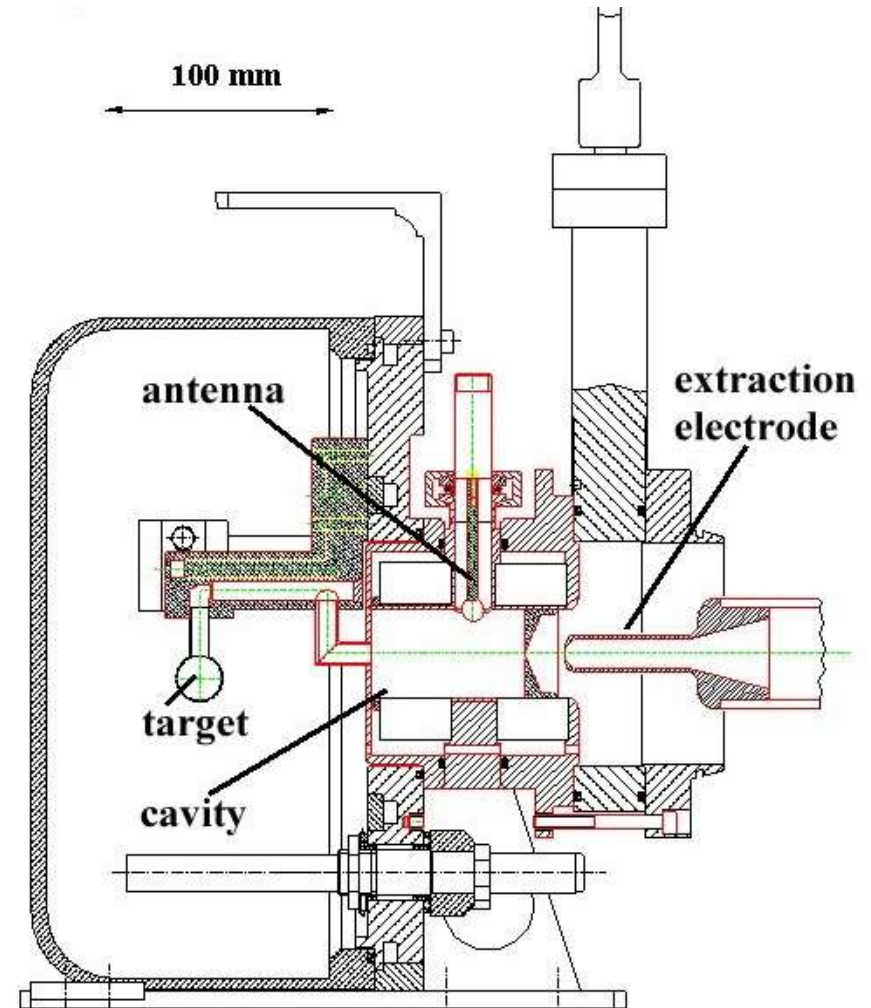
\* Ionisation efficiency He, Ne  
He<sup>+</sup> >20%, Ne<sup>+</sup> >35%

\* Total extracted current < 1 mA  
(>> 10 uA He<sup>+</sup> / Ne<sup>+</sup>)

Cold surfaces -> no reaction with CO

$$\eta_{\text{ionisation}} = 14.4\% \text{ for } ^{13}\text{C}^{16}\text{O}^+$$

PhD thesis H. Franberg 2008



MINIMONO

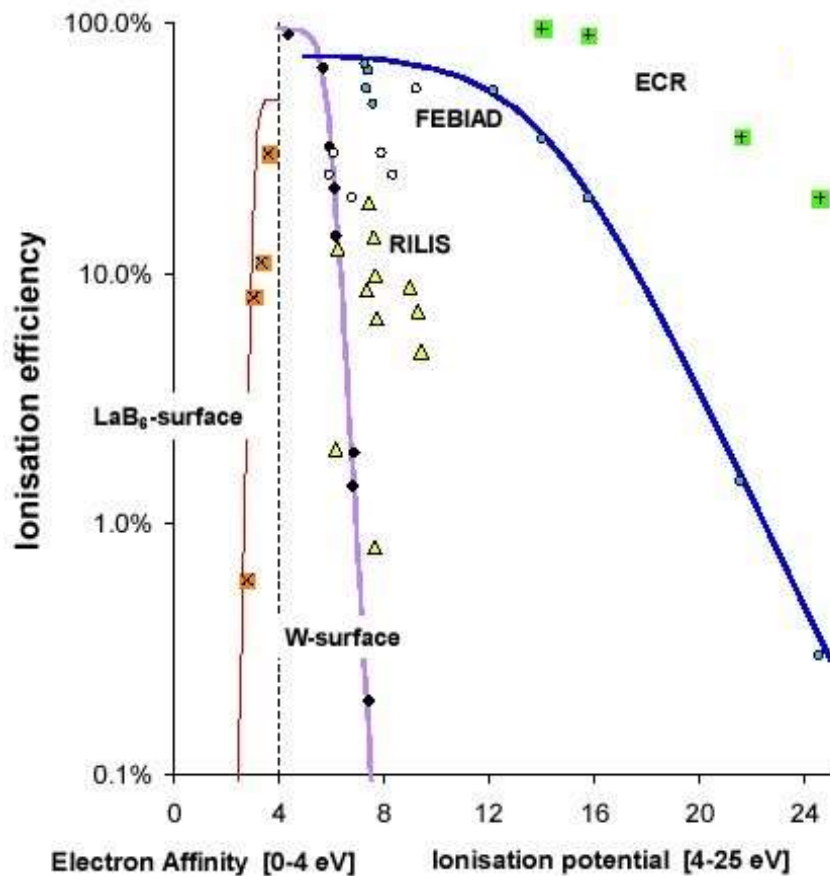
1<sup>+</sup> ECR ion source

# ECRIS summary

Singly, multiply and highly charged ions can be produced by these sources - although the source construction will influence this

RF 2.45 GHz -28 GHz

Not easy to summarize ECR ion sources  
– too broad spectrum



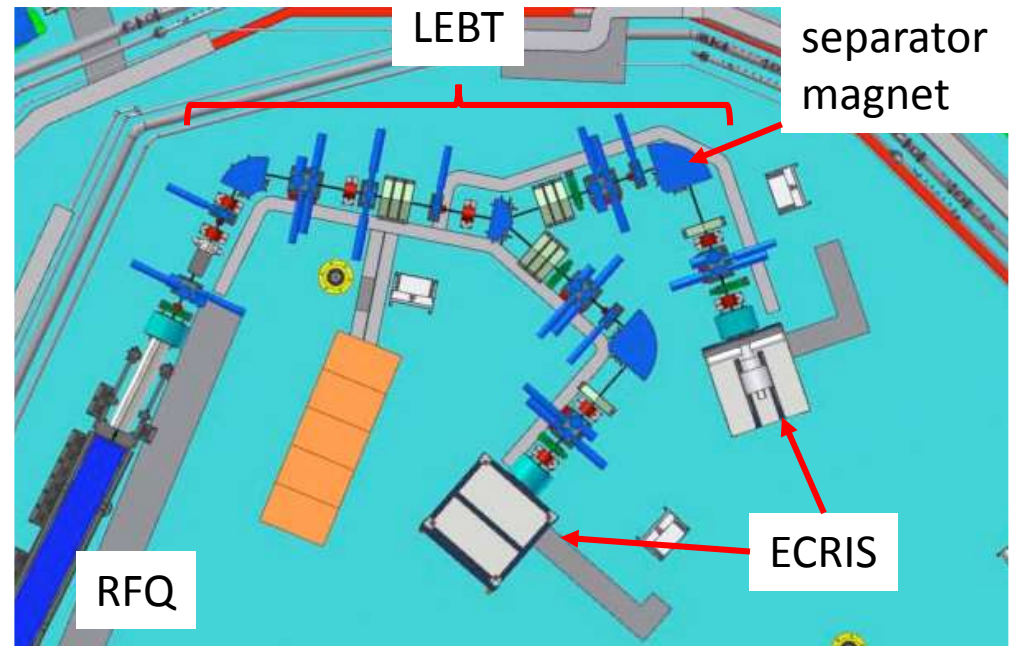
- + Suited for volatile elements (gases)
- + High ionization efficiency
- + Long-term stability and reliability
- + High intensities ( $\mu\text{A}$  to  $\text{mA}$  are available)
- + Low  $\Delta E=10^{-4}$
- Large emittance 30 to  $>150$  mm mrad (30 kV, 95%)
- Shortest pulse extraction  $> 1$  ms
- No possibility of ion storage
- Difficult to produce fully stripped ions

# Ion sources for cancer therapy



## SUPERNANOION

- \* 14.5GHz ECR ion source
- \* both the axial and radial magnetic fields generated by permanent magnets  
=> less power required



Layout of CNAO injection section with two identical ECR ion sources – for sake of redundancy

# Beam specification and acceptance tests

## Specification

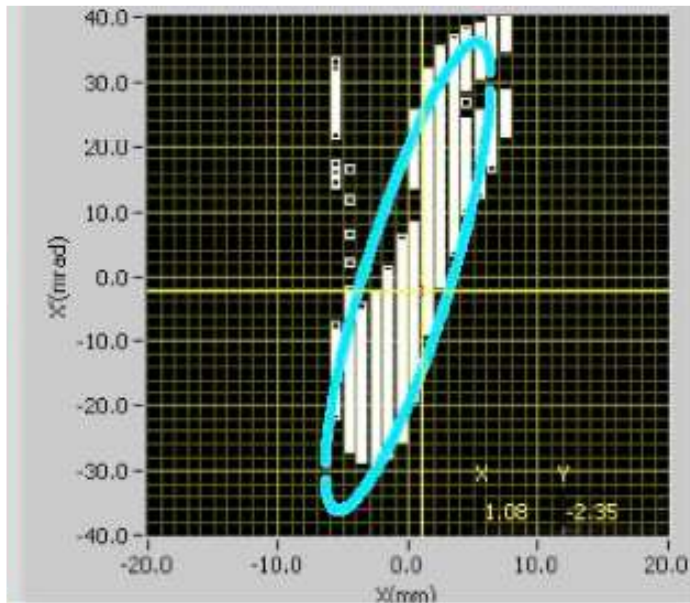
$^{12}\text{C}^{4+} > 160 \mu\text{A}$

$\text{H}_3^+ > 700 \mu\text{A}$

same charge-to-mass ratio 1/3 in the beam line

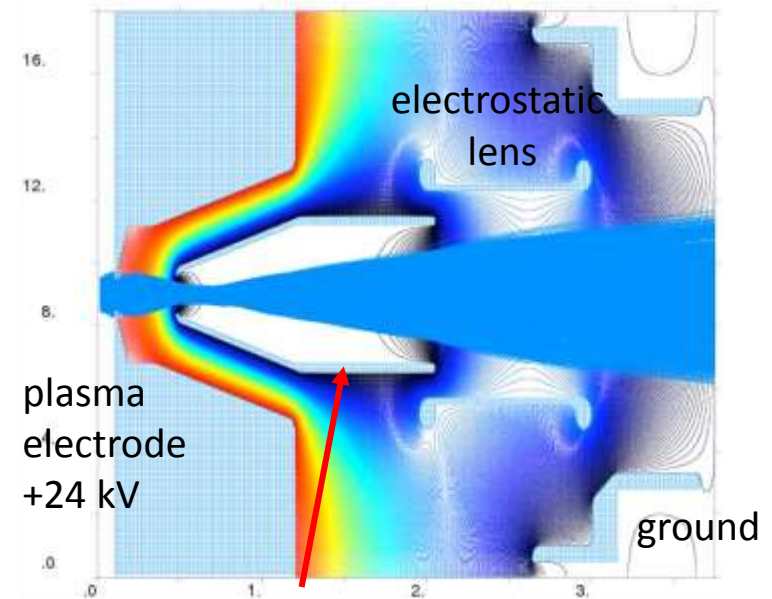
Alternatively  $\text{H}_2^+$ , reached 1 mA

## CNAO



Measured emittance for 250  $\mu\text{A}$  beam of  $\text{C}^{4+}$ : the **rms-normalized, 100% emittance** value is 0.52 mm mrad

## Improved extraction system



plasma  
electrode  
+24 kV

electrostatic  
lens

ground

screening electrode  
(to avoid backstreaming of  $e^-$  to the ECR ion source)

Simulation program Kobra 3D

# Beam specification and commissioning

## MEDAUSTRON

### Some specifications

Repetition rate 0.5 to 1 Hz

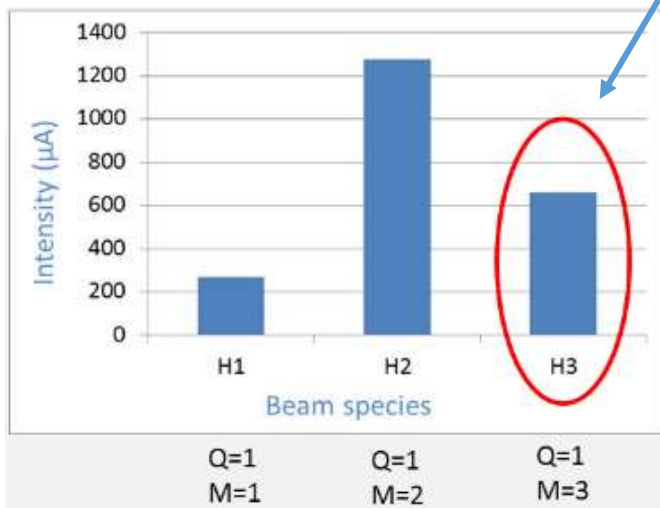
Injection time < 100 us

Emittance (30 kV, 95%) < 180 mm mrad

Intensity and emittance stability < 4%  
(peak-to-peak)

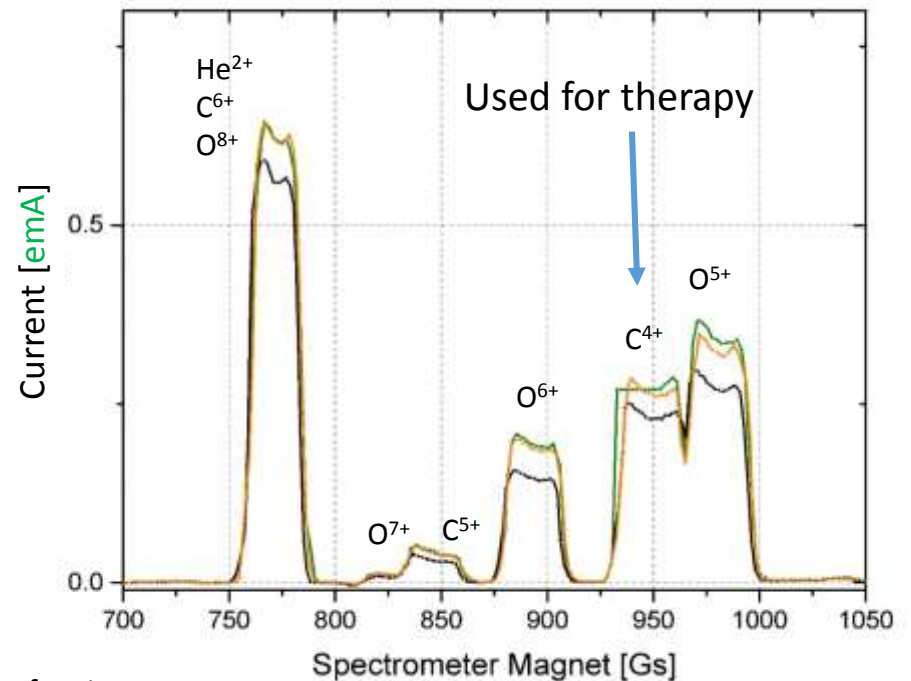
When injecting H<sub>2</sub> gas

Used for therapy



### Charge state distribution

When injecting CO<sub>2</sub> + support gas He (2:3)



Courtesy of J. Pitters



# General design considerations

# Design criteria

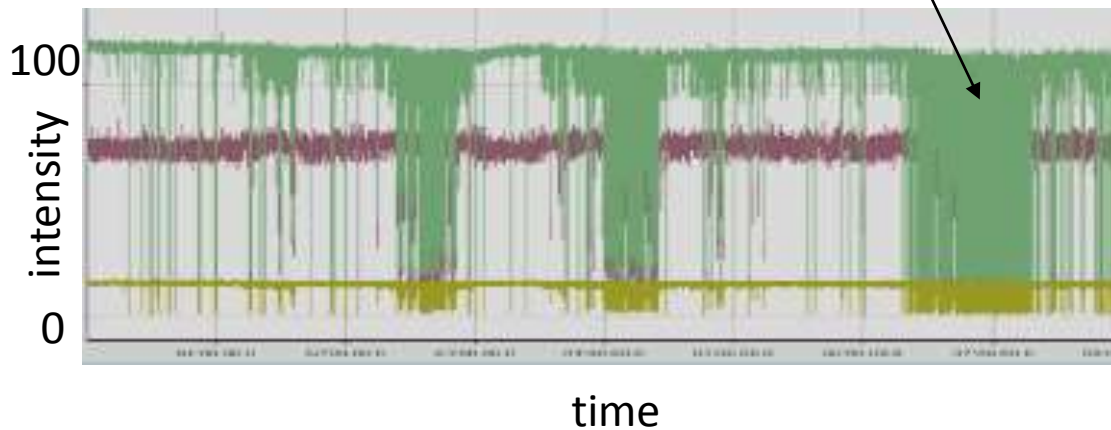
Apart from already discussed efficiency, current, emittance, energy spread, contaminations...

## Reliability

- Operational sources should deliver >98% availability
- Service interval compatible with operating schedule

## Stability

- What is should *not* look like



# Design criteria

## Material Choices

1. Sources usually employ a wide *range of materials* in their construction.
2. A whole range of *material properties* are used for ion source engineering:
  - Electrical insulators and conductors
  - Thermal conductivity
  - Magnetic properties
  - Melting and boiling points
  - Thermal expansion
  - Mechanical strength, embrittlement, creep
  - Secondary electron yield
  - Work function (affects electron emission)
  - Thermal emissivity
  - Sputtering rate
  - Outgassing rate
  - Ease of construction – welding – brazing – surface finish



Check list!

# Design criteria

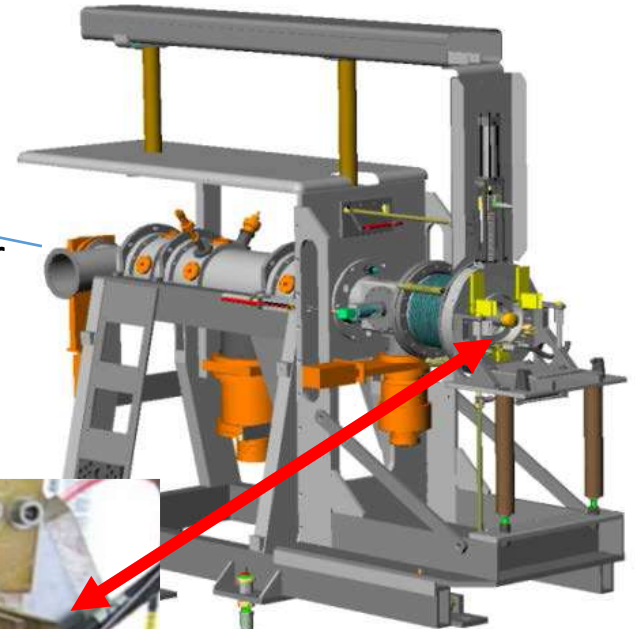
radioactive ion beam sources

Weight limitation

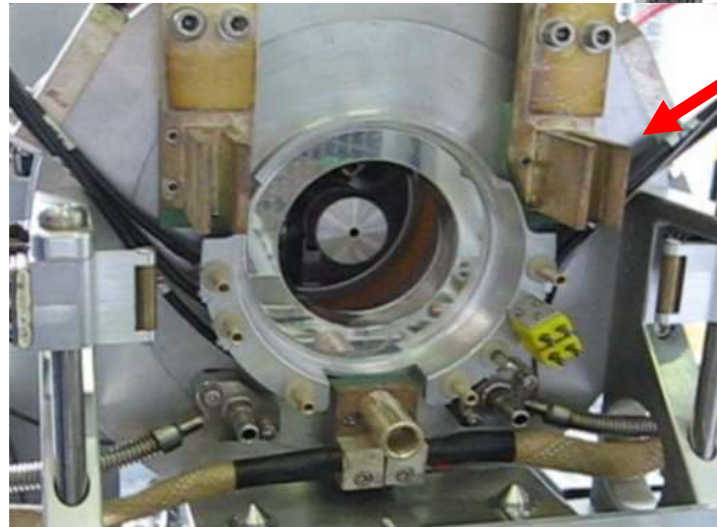


Space limitations

towards  
separator



Handled by robots



Target coupling /  
interface

ISOLDE frontend

# Design criteria

## Radioactive ion beam sources

Should withstand 1 MGy

Radiation hardness for radioactive ion sources

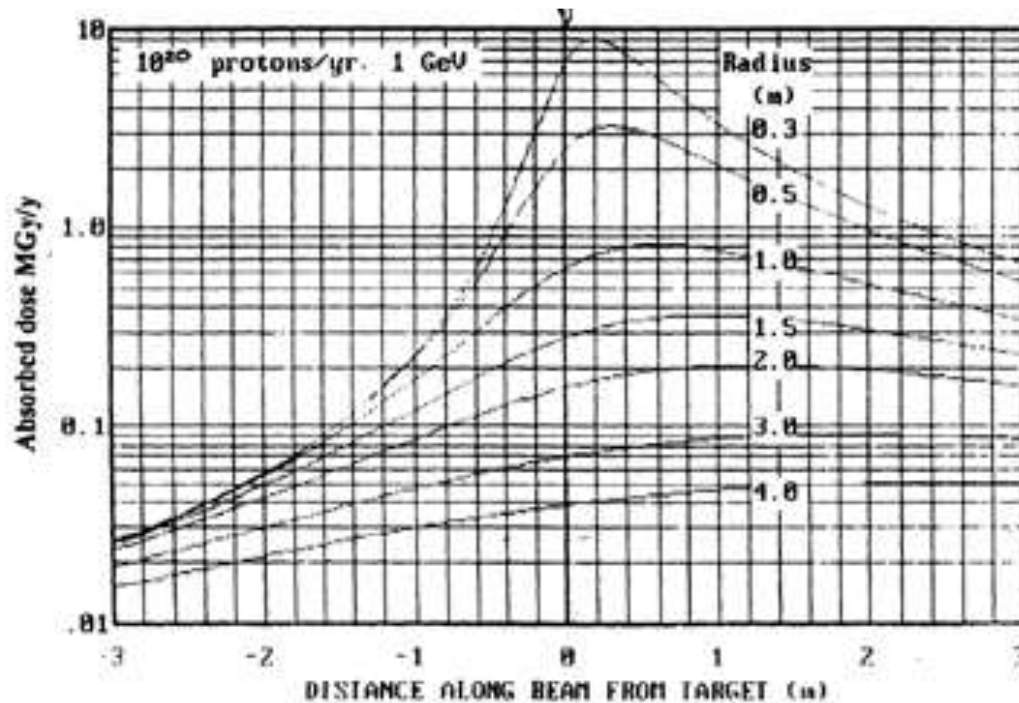


Figure 6. Contours of absorbed dose to an object near a one interaction length target after one years irradiation ( $10^{20}$  protons).

# Design criteria

## Radioactive ion beam sources



Typical curative therapy dose for a solid epithelial tumor?

Ranges from 60 to 80 Gy

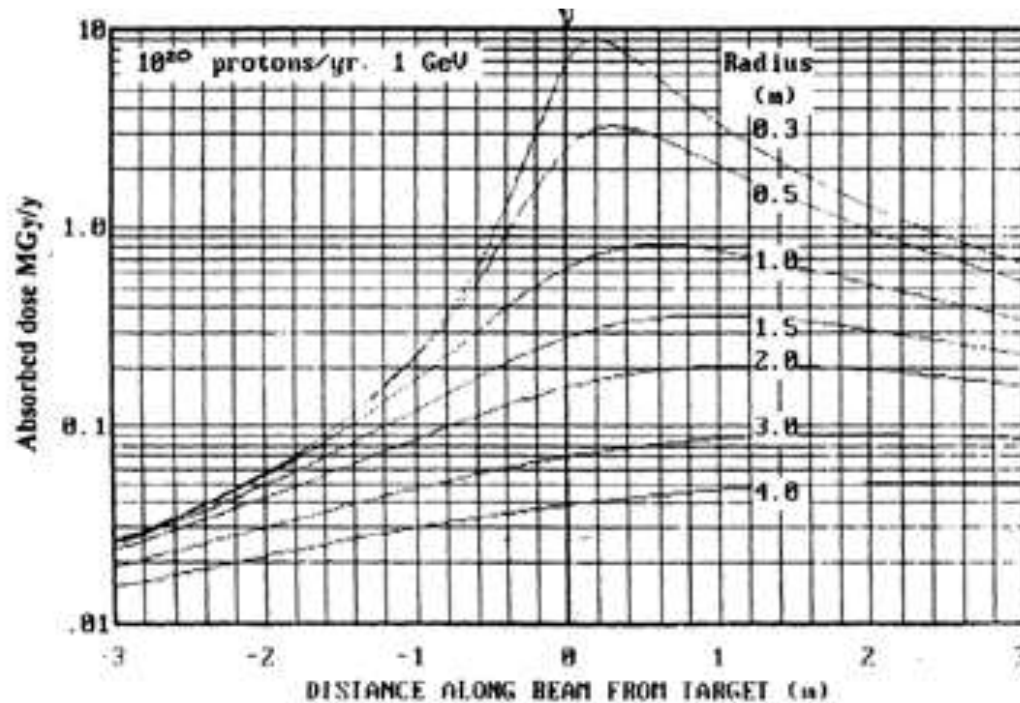
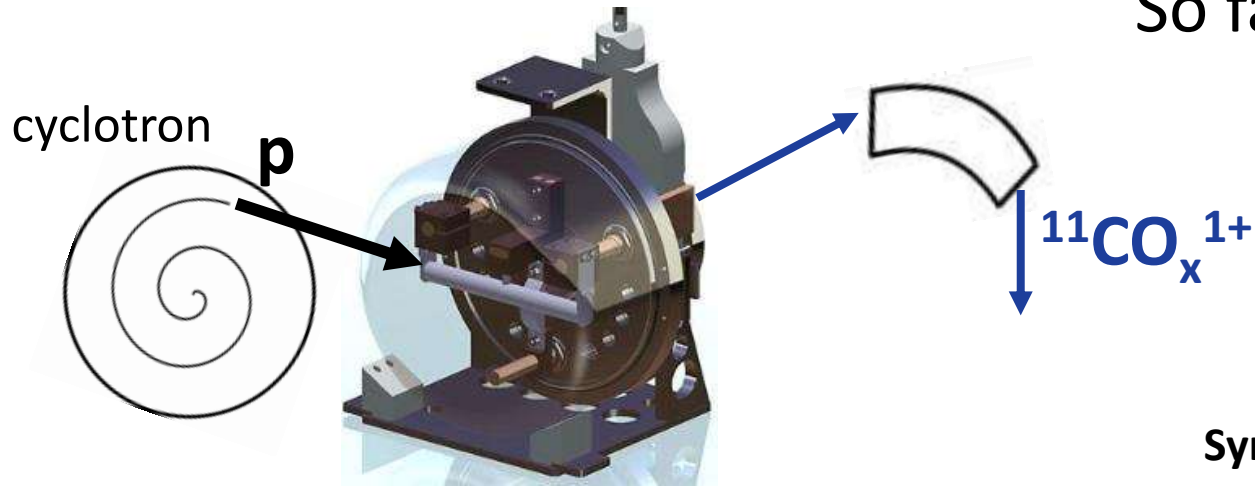


Figure 6. Contours of absorbed dose to an object near a one interaction length target after one years irradiation ( $10^{20}$  protons).

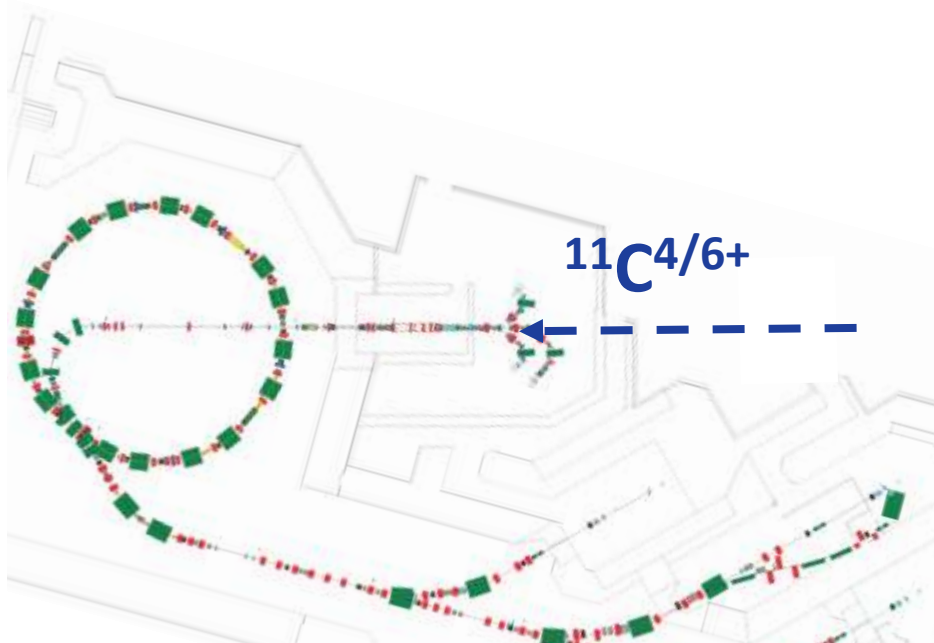
Charge breeding

So far so good



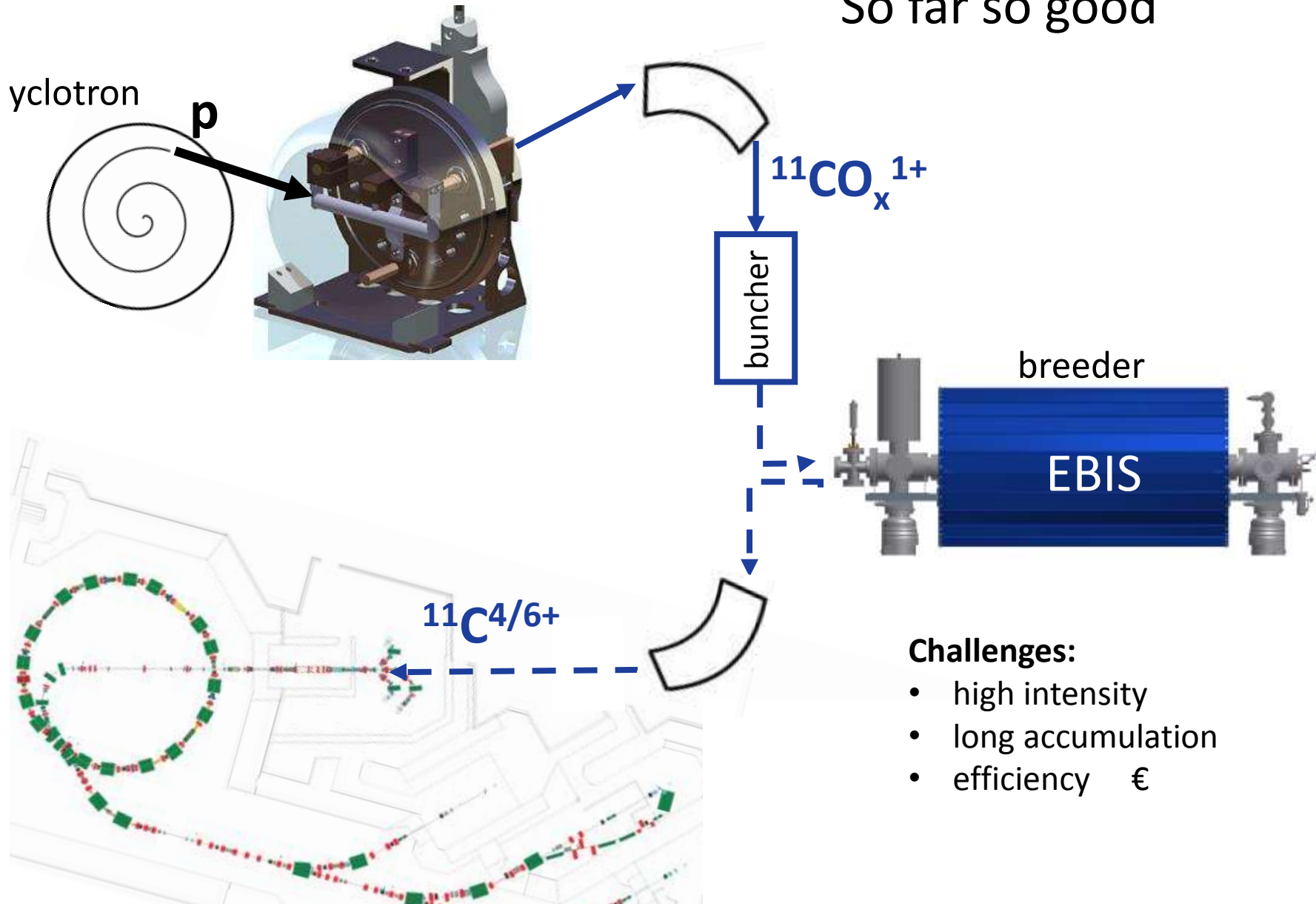
### Synchrotron

- \* Low repetition rate < 1 Hz
- \*  $T_{\text{injection}} \sim$  tens of us
- \*  $10^9$  ions/bunch
- \* Pre-acceleration in linac
- \*  $6^+$  ions





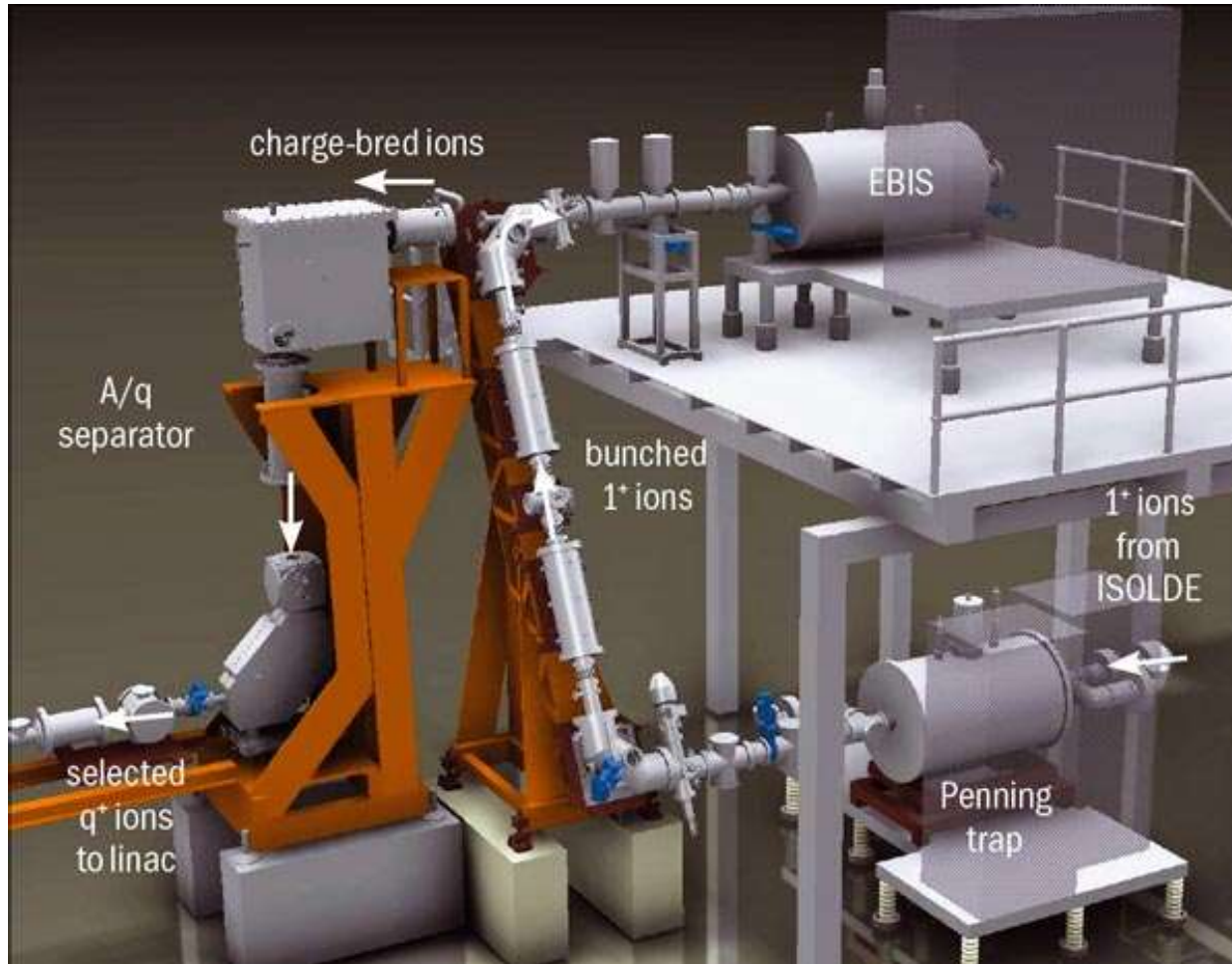
So far so good



**Challenges:**

- high intensity
- long accumulation
- efficiency €

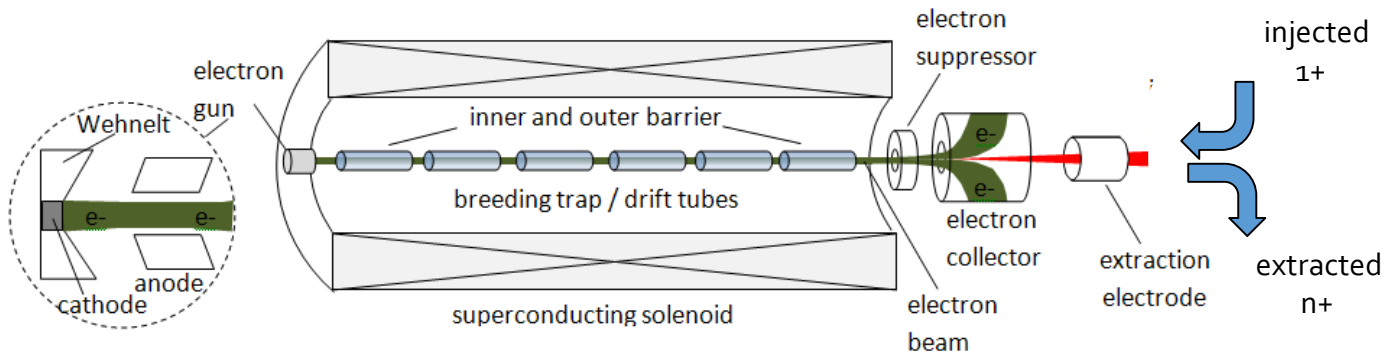
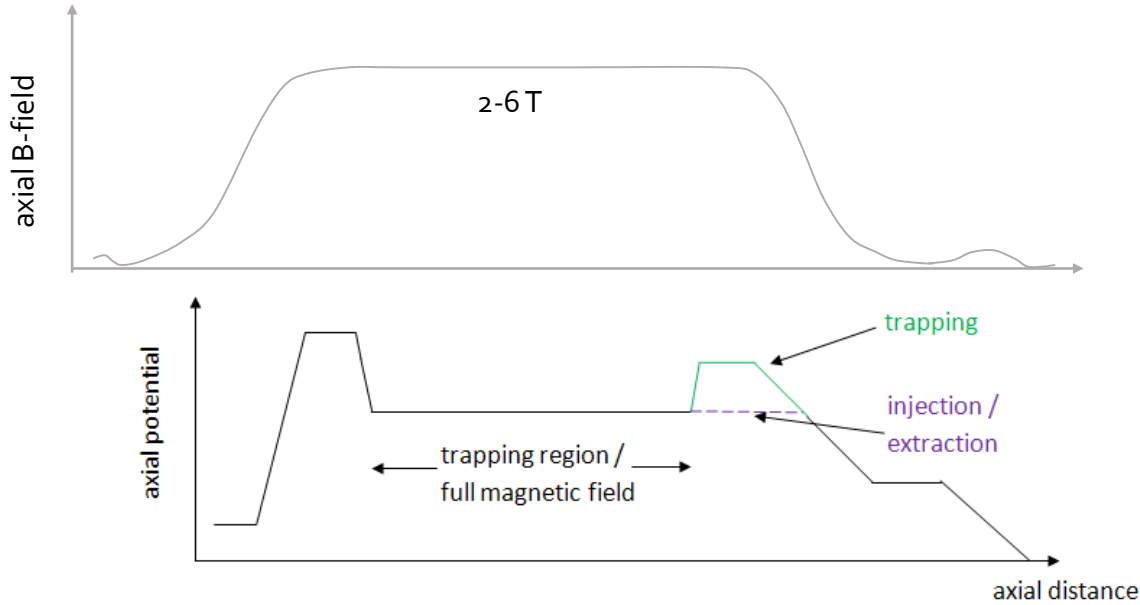
# The cumbersome pioneer



REX-ISOLDE charge breeding system

# Electron Beam Ion Source

- $e^-$  beam compressed by solenoid B-field
- Ions are trapped in a magneto-electrostatic trap
- Ionisation by  $e^-$  bombardment from a fast, dense mono-energetic  $e^-$  beam



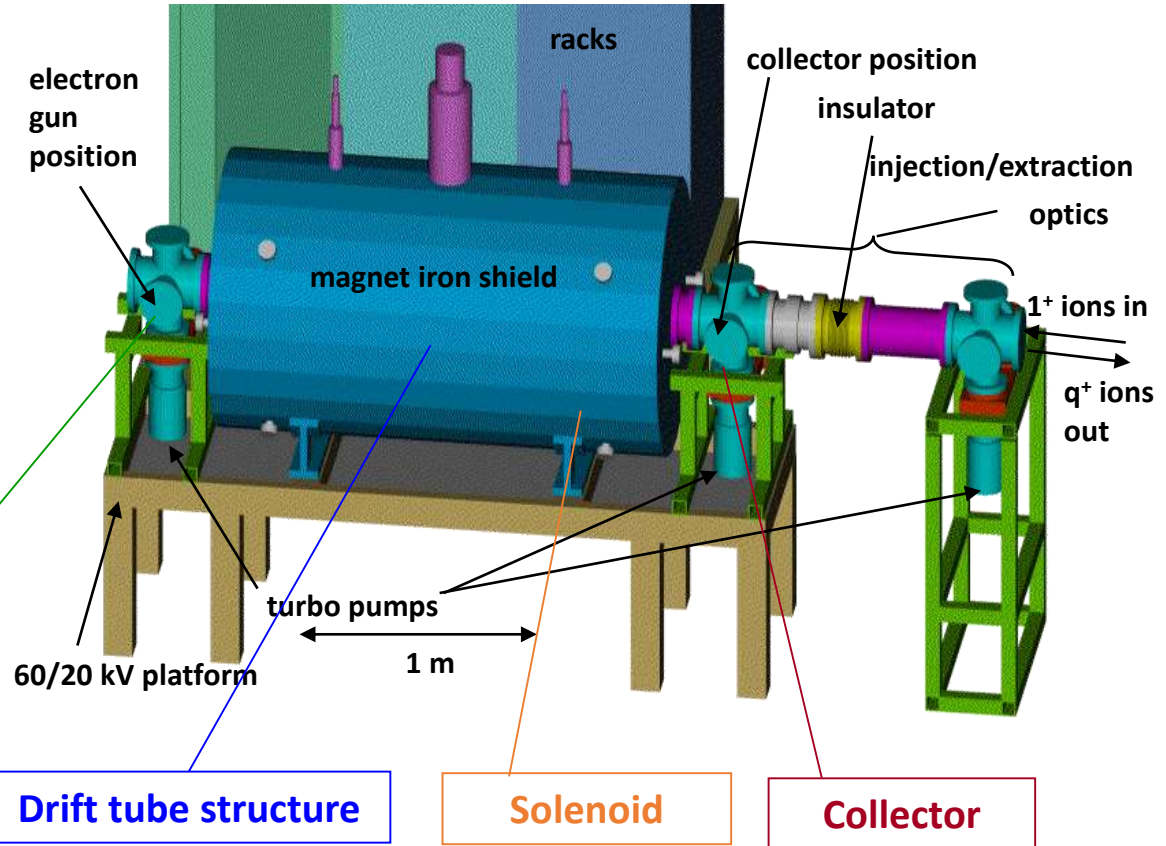


# REXEBIS at ISOLDE



Who built this EBIS?

- Super conducting solenoid, 2 T
- Trap length < 0.8 m
- Electron beam < 0.3 A and 3-6 keV
- Electron current density < 150 A/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Breeding time 3 to > 300 ms
- Trapping vacuum few 10<sup>-11</sup> mbar
- Total capacity < 3·10<sup>10</sup> charges



Electron gun

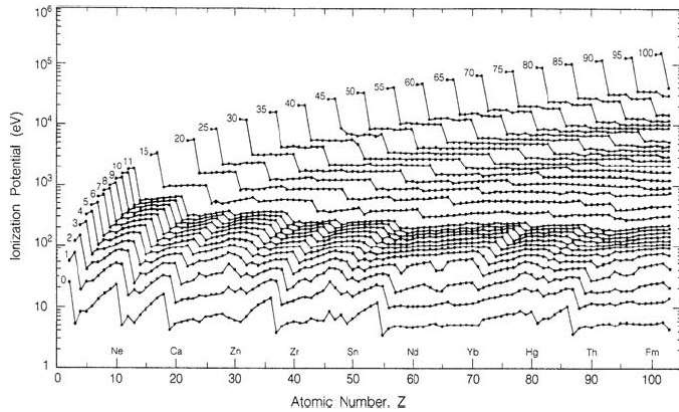
Drift tube structure

Solenoid

Collector

## Remember ionisation potentials

A



## Remember stepwise ionization!

B

$$\bar{\tau}_q = \sum_{i=1}^{q-1} \bar{\tau}_{i \rightarrow i+1} = \frac{1}{j_e} \sum_{i=1}^{q-1} \frac{e}{\sigma_{i \rightarrow i+1}}$$

$\sigma$  – single ionization cross-section  $\text{cm}^2$

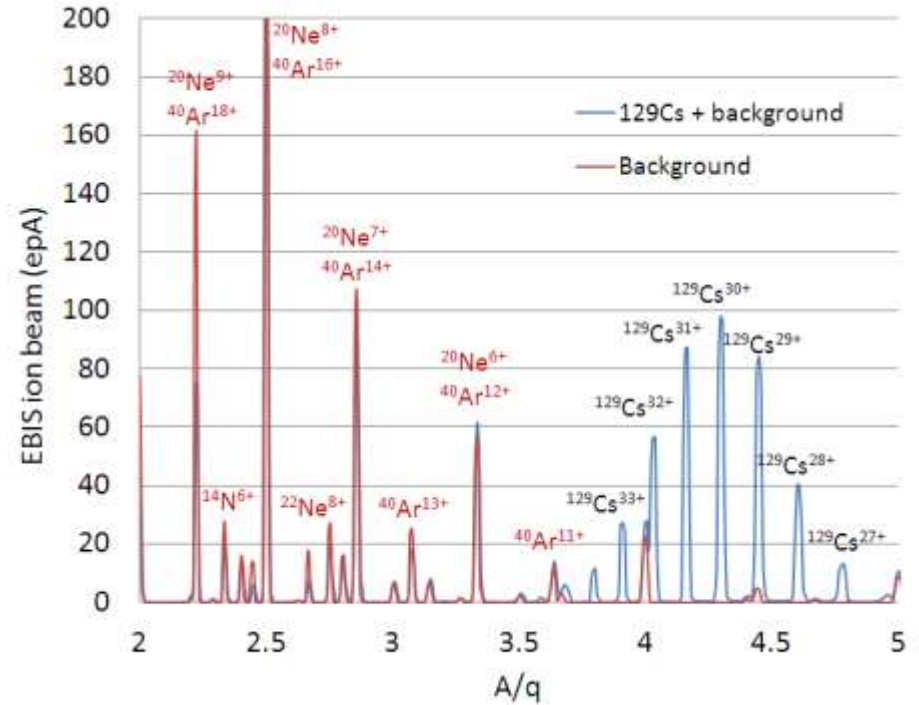
$j_e$  – electron current density  $\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$

valid for mono-energetic electrons

C

Excellent vacuum

## EBIS characteristics



# Ion capacity...

# ...and extraction

$$N^- = 1.05 \cdot 10^{13} \frac{kL_{trap} I_e}{\sqrt{U_e}}$$

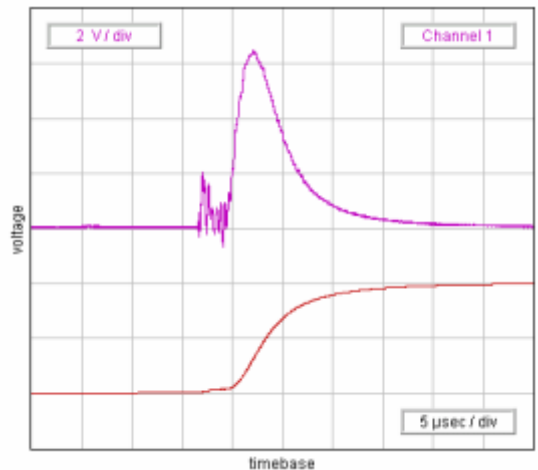
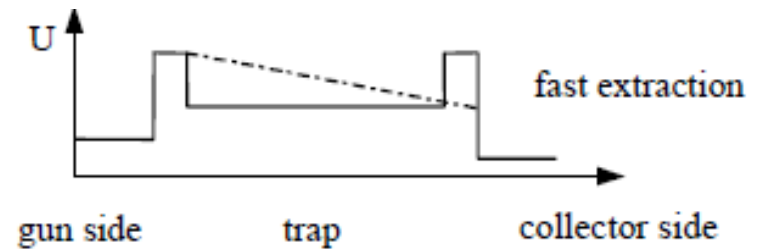
$N^-$  = number of elementary charges

$I_e$  and  $U_e$  = electron beam current and energy

$k$  = attainable space charge compensation degree

$L_{trap}$  = trap length

Speed up extraction for multi-turn injection into synchrotron <10 us

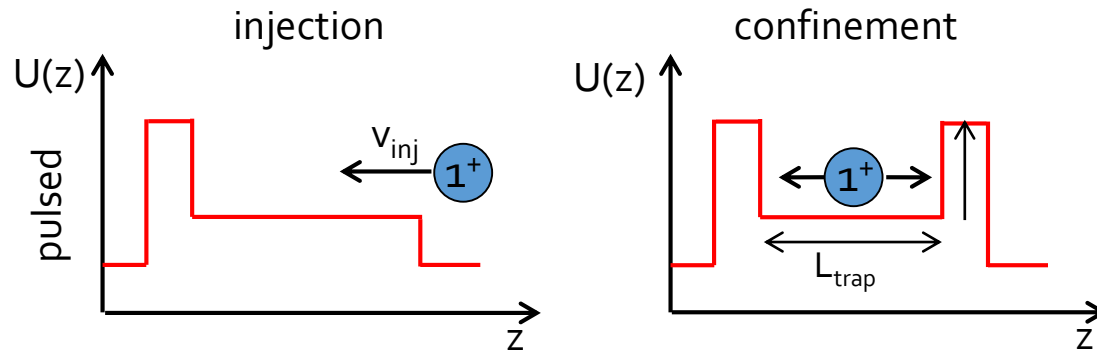


TestEBIS BNL

$N_e$

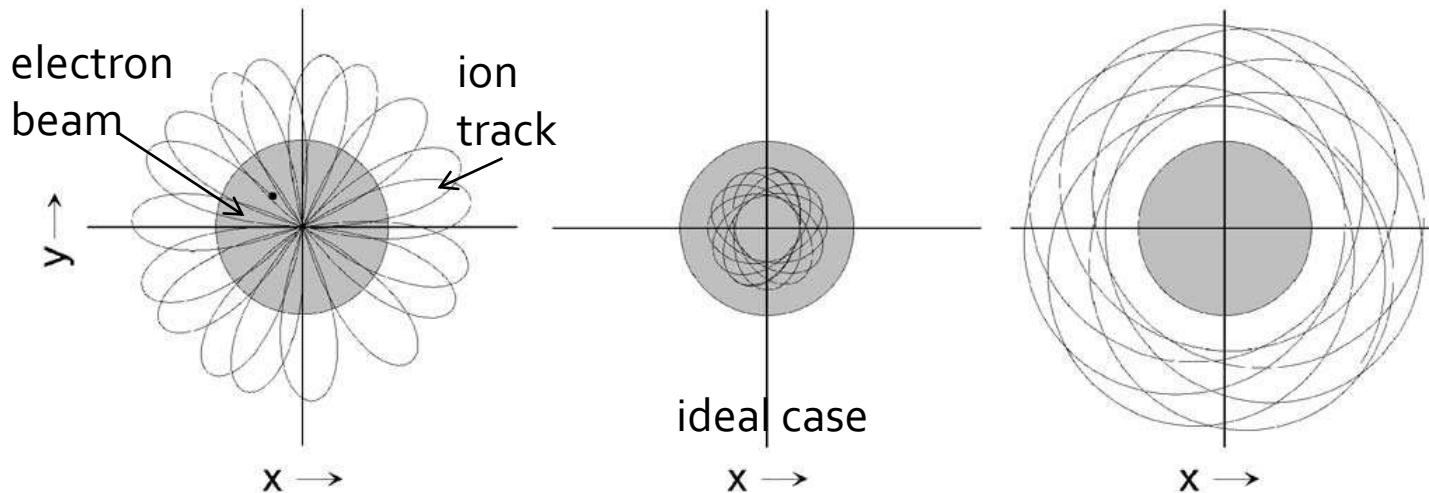
$2.4 \cdot 10^{11}$  charges/pulse

# Ion injection into EBIS



Desired: overlap between injected ion beam and electron beam

If injection outside electron beam => effective  $j_e$  low => increased  $T_{\text{breed}}$

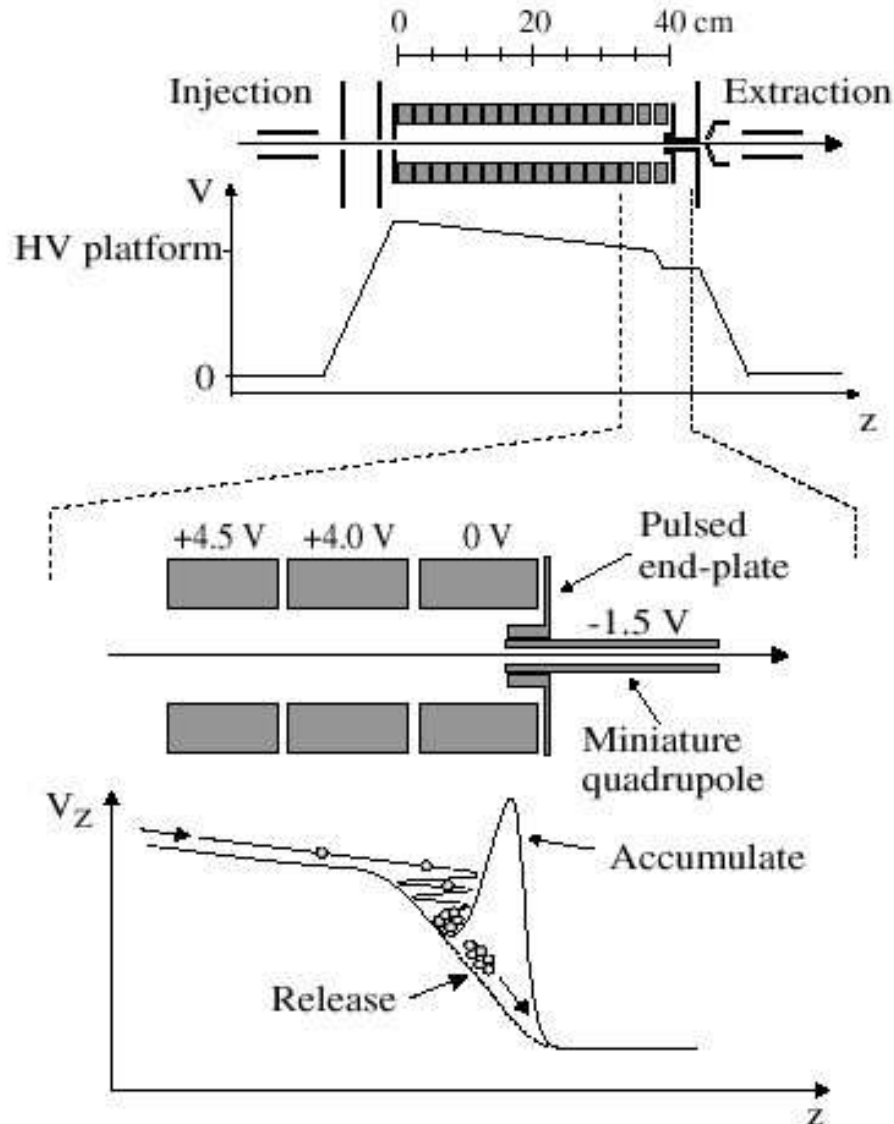


**Small**  $\rightarrow$

$$\alpha_{\text{max}} = \pi \frac{r_{\text{ebeam}}}{\sqrt{2U_{\text{ext}}}} \cdot \left( Br_{\text{ebeam}} \sqrt{\frac{q}{m}} + \sqrt{\frac{qB^2 r_{\text{ebeam}}^2}{4m} + \frac{\rho_l}{2\pi\epsilon_0}} \right)$$

see CERN-OPEN-2000-320

# RFQ cooler



Gas filled trap with quadrupolar RF field superimposed with low axial field

\* Accepts large emittance beams

\* Accumulation time  $\sim 1$  s

\* Capacity

bunched mode some  $10^8$  ions  
DC  $> 10$  nA

\* Energy spread  $<$  few eV

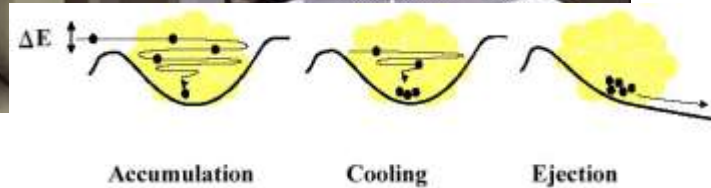
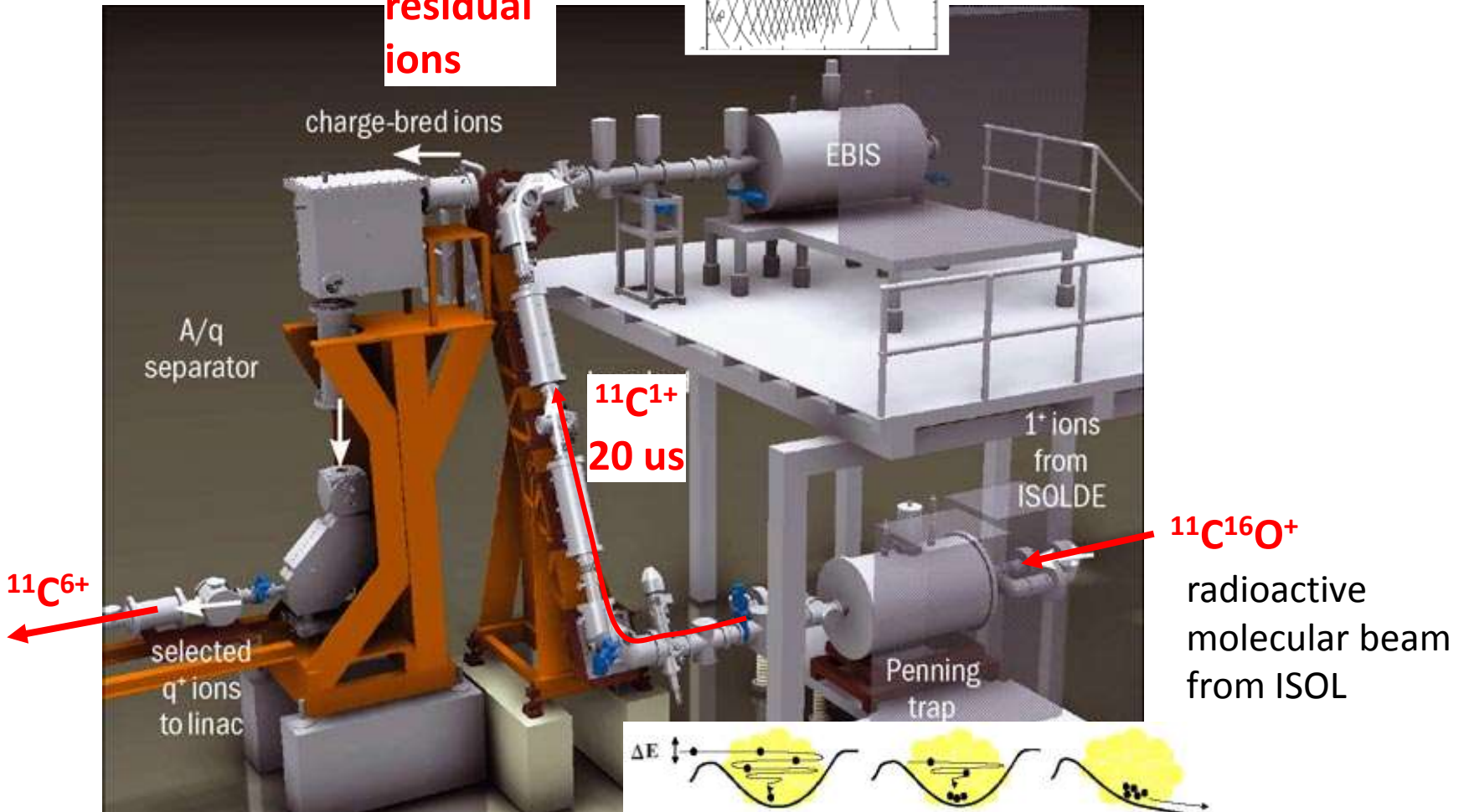
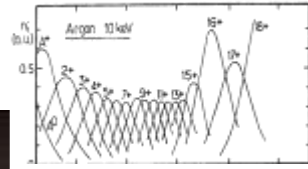
\*  $\epsilon < 10$  mm mrad (30 keV, 95%)

\* Bunch width 5-20  $\mu$ s (FWHM)



# The cumbersome pioneer

$^{11}\text{C}^{x+}$  and residual ions



# Ion sources for future cancer therapy

**MEDeGUN**



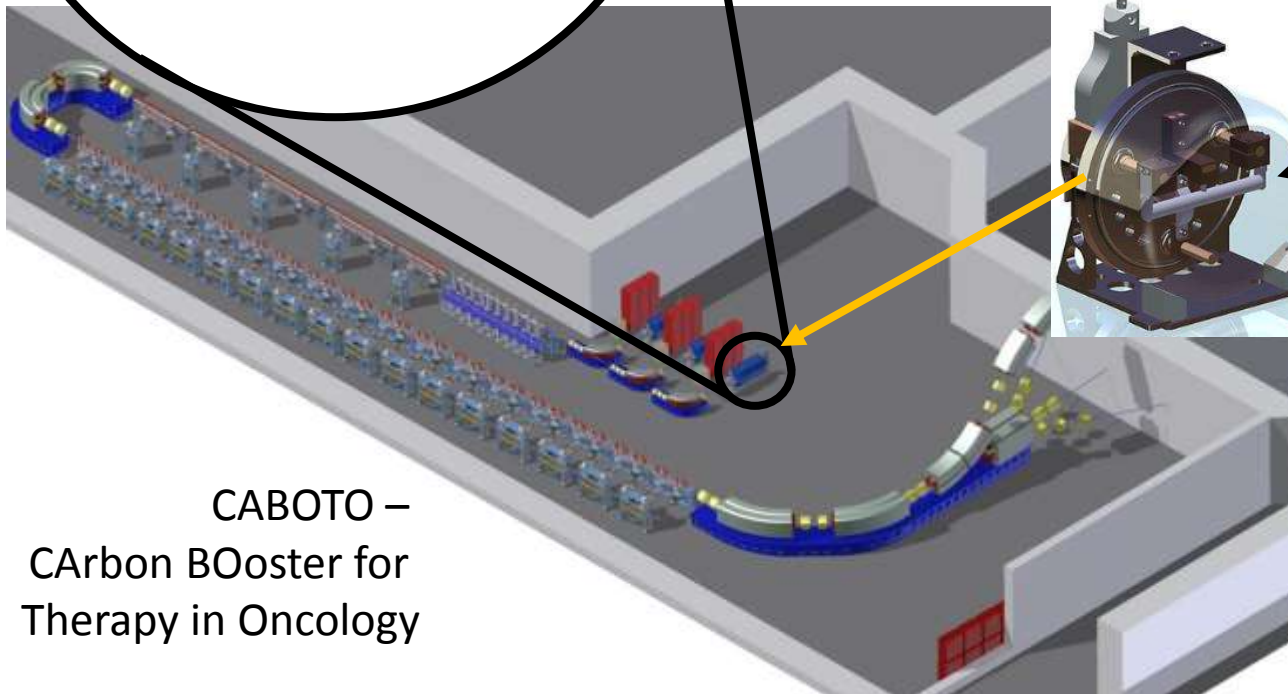
Speak to Johanna Pitters

Concept also valid for other light ions  
e.g. He, Li, Be, B,  
N, O, Ne, ...

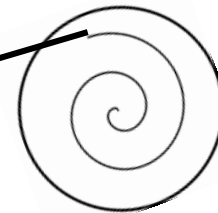
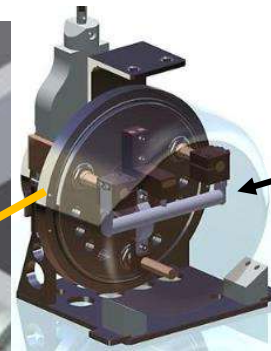
HF-linac requirements:

- **300 – 400 Hz**
- **<5  $\mu$ s pulses**
- **$10^8$   $^{12}\text{C}^{6+}$  ions per pulse**

-> **EBIS** could do this



**CABOTO –  
Carbon BOoster for  
Therapy in Oncology**



Shornikov et al. 2016 – Advanced  
Electron Beam Ion Sources (EBIS)  
for 2-nd generation carbon  
radiotherapy

# Confession

The people I stole from...

Magda Kowalska

Detlef Küchler

Richard Scrivens

Valentin Fedosseev

Bruce Marsh

Daniela Leitner

Thierry Stora

...who probably stole from someone else

# Bibliography



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- Electron Cyclotron Resonance ion Source and ECR Plasmas, R Geller, IOP 1996
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- Theory and Design of Charged Particle Beams, M. Reiser
- The Physics of Multiply and Highly Charged Ions Volume 1. F. J. Currell: Sources, Applications and Fundamental Processes, 2004, Kluwer

## Surface ion sources:

- B. Vosicki et al., NIM186 (1981), 307.
- R. Kirchner, NIM186 (1981), 275; NIMA292 (1990) 203.
- S. Ichikawa et al., NIMB187 (2002) 548.

## FEBIAD ion sources:

- S. Sundell et al., NIMB70 (1992) 160.
- R. Kirchner, NIMB204 (2003) 179.
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