# Introduction to accelerators for teachers



## Mariusz Sapiński

(mariusz.sapinski@cern.ch)
CERN, Beams Department
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## Definition (Britannica)

### Particle accelerator:

A device producing a beam of particles (ions or subatomic particles) Macroparticle accelerator

- production of particles (sources)
- forming a beam (by acceleration and focusing)

Aspects related to LHC:

- storage of beam (circular accelerator)
- collisions of beams (collider)

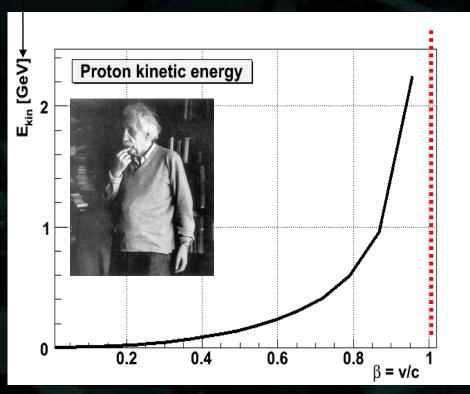
### There exist beams without accelerators

For instance beams of alpha radiation are often obtained by collimation of radiation produced by radioactive isotopes.

## Limits of speed

(special relativity)

(eV – kinetic energy gained by a particle with elementary charge in electric potential of 1 V)



So we speak about accelerating to ENERGY, not speed.

# nothing can move faster than light ... well

In LEP electrons traveled with: 99.9999999987499999% c. In LHC protons travel with: 99.99999910155322747% c. Electrons in LEP traveled by about 10 km/h faster than protons in LHC!

Acceleration in LHC is by about 3000 km/h i.e. 1 km/s.

(speed of light 300000 km/s!)

# What kind of beams are needed at CERN?

### Particle physicists need beams:

- clean one particle type (protons)
- monoenergetic (7 TeV)
- high intensity (10<sup>14</sup> particles)
- small transverse beam size (0.1 0.02 mm)
- well controlled

(stability, reduce risk of machine damage)

We can produce a beam of any ion/isotope and beams of muons, neutrinos, neutrons, high-energy photos... (secondary beams)

## Outlook

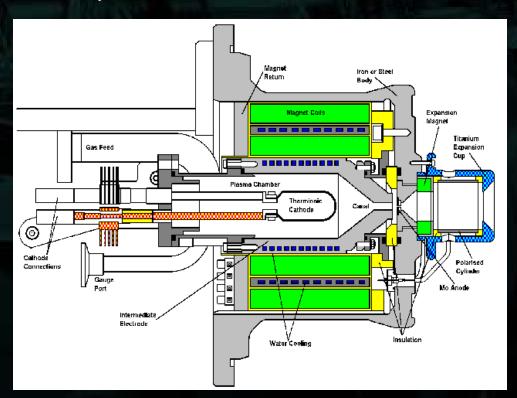
- Particle sources
- Electrostatic acceleration
- Resonant cavities.
- Standing and traveling wave acceleration.
- Synchronism
- Cosmic acceleration, wakefield acceleration
- Circular accelerators: cyclotron
- Synchrotron: dipoles and focusing magnets
- Colliders: luminosity. LHC beam.
- Future of accelerators

## Particle sources

Electrons: thermionic emission (emission of electrons from hot surface, as in old TV sets) or laser-driven emission.

lons/protons: separation of ions from electrons in plasma

- duoplasmotron



Early stages after source:

- 1. collimation
- 2. bunching
- 3. initial acceleration and focusing (RF quadrupole)

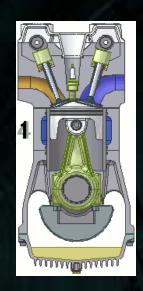
## How to accelerate?

Transform some kind of energy into kinetic energy

- Vehicle: chemical thermal kinetic
   Complicated mechanism not suited to elementary particles need to use elementary fields
- Gravity:  $\alpha_G = Gm_e^2/hc = 1.8 \cdot 10^{-14}$
- Magnetic field: F=q (v × B)

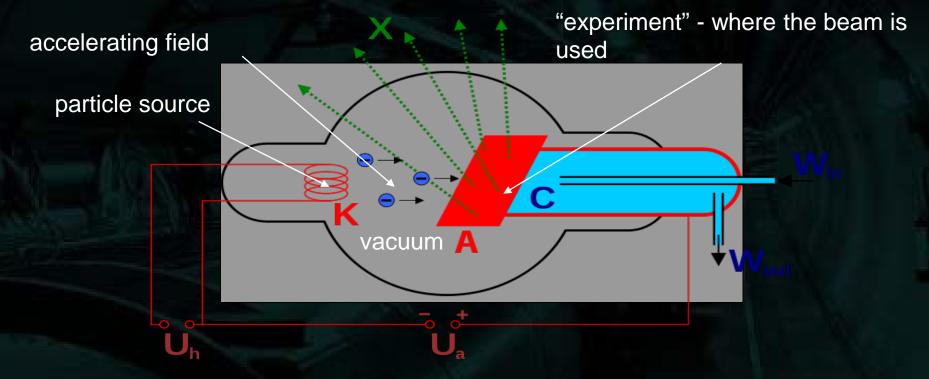
Static magnetic field acts perpendicularly to direction of movement – cannot be used to accelerate particles.

• Electric field:  $\alpha_{EM} = e^2/4\pi hc\epsilon_0 = 7.3 \cdot 10^{-3}$ 



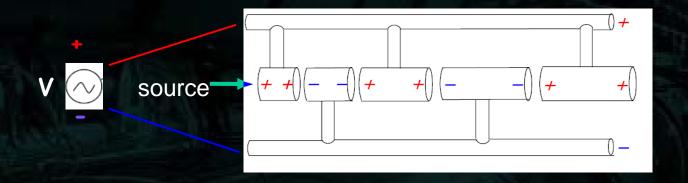


# The simplest electrostatic accelerator (XIX century)



- X-ray tube: E ~ 10<sup>5</sup> eV (100 kV)
- main limit: ability to generate high electrostatic voltage (electric discharge)
- vacuum crucial element of every accelerator

# How to go beyond the limit of electrostatic voltage?



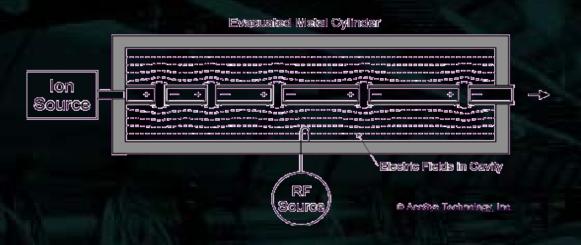
Wideroe

First system:

1928

- Particles are accelerated in between the drift tubes
- New element, not present in x-ray tube: bunches
- Limit: radiation losses
  - the system is a big antenna (>10 MHz)

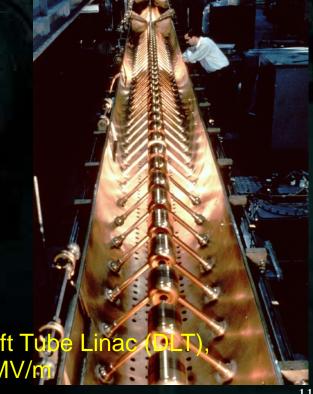
## Improvement: Alvarez system



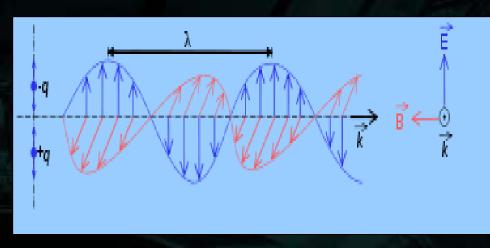
1947, following the evolution of radar technology (klystron)

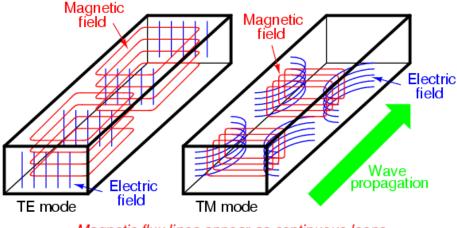


- Enclose everything in a RESONANT CAVITY, such that resonant frequency equal to the one needed for acceleration
- In such cavity a standing wave is created with electric field in the direction of particle movement
- Wave is generated by klystron
- Wave frequency up to: 200 MHz
- This system is used also today (Linac2, Linac4)



## Electromagnetic wave





Magnetic flux lines appear as continuous loops Electric flux lines appear with beginning and end points

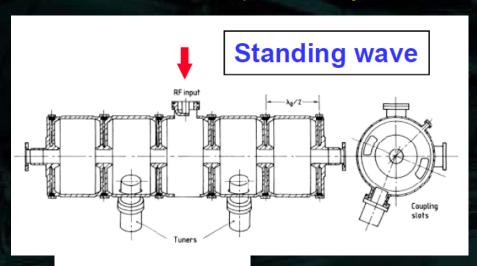
Empty space

Wave-guide (metal box)

We want to use electromagnetic wave to accelerate relativistic particles.

## Standing and traveling waves

(two ways to drive the particles)



Traveling wave

from RF
Source

load

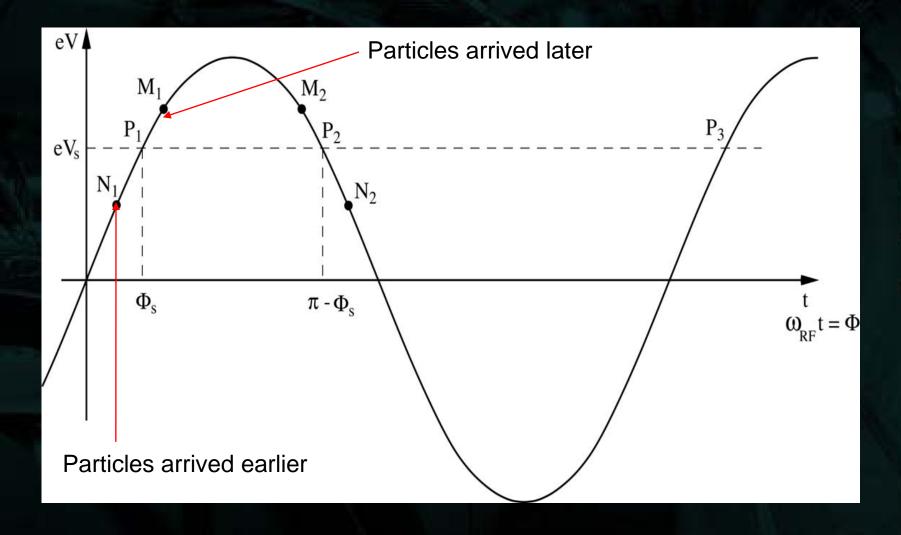
Output
coupler



Accelerating gradient up to 20 -30 MV/m (superconducting cavities)

Accelerating gradient: up to. 5 MV/m

# Stability: synchronism



# How high energy cosmic rays are generated?

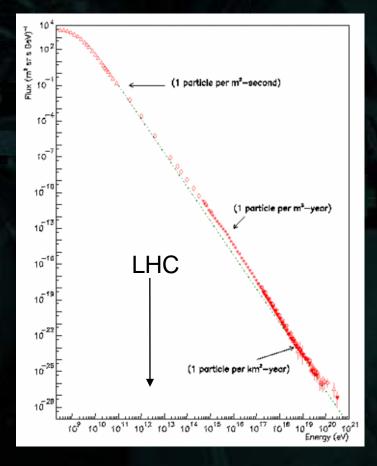
• Ultra-high energies: 10<sup>20</sup> eV, LHC: 7-10<sup>12</sup> eV

(Oh-my-God particle: 50 joules!)

 Ultra-high energy cosmic rays are produced via Fermi acceleration: magnetic shock wave after supernova explosion

#### Not useful for us:

- large space required,
- acceleration is isotropic



## New ideas: plasma acceleration

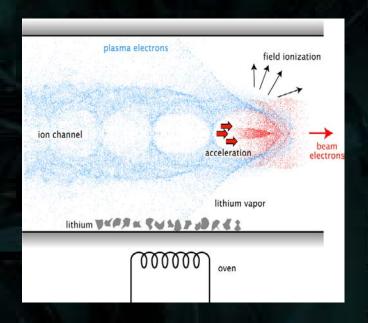
• Electric field of a laser pulse creates a zone of separation electrons from ions. It looks like a bubble of positive charge (cleared from electrons) moving through plasma at close to the speed of light. Just after this positively charged bubble electrons fall back creating negatively charged zone. In between a very high field gradient is formed.

#### **Gradients:**

Resonant cavity: 30 MV/m

Gas plasma: 100 GV/m

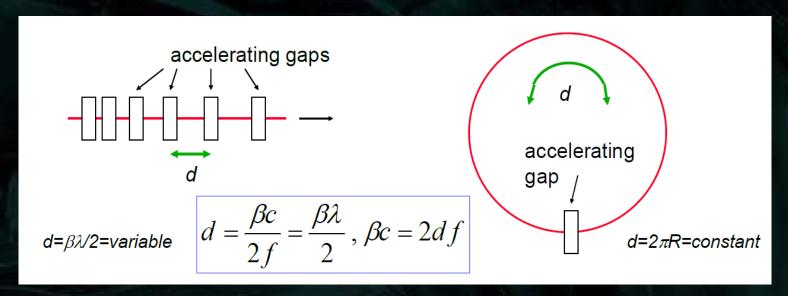
femtosecond synchronization



acceleration record: 42 GeV on 85 cm (Nature 445)!

for comparison: GeV – 3 km! SLAC

## Linear and circular accelerators



#### Linear:

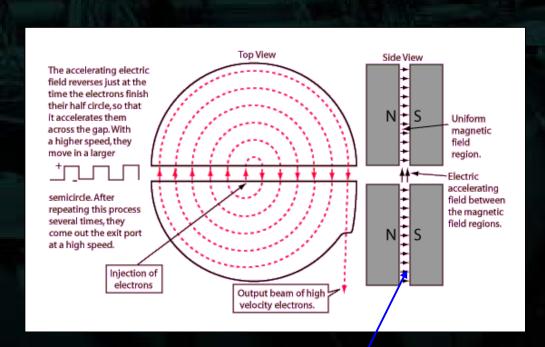
- Every accelerating element is used only once,
- Distance between accelerating elements must change according to particles speed (before reaching relativistic regime)

#### Circular:

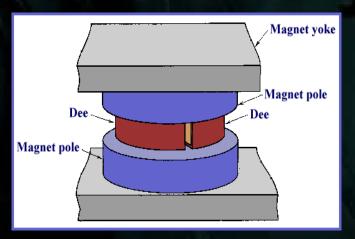
- Accelerating element is reused every turn,
- In collider the same particle bunches are reused every turn
- Bρ = p/e during acceleration B or
   ρ changes

### Cyclotron

- Constant magnetic field bends particles, between the two "D" electrodes (dees) alternating voltage is applied
- Largest in TRIUMF (Canada): 18 meter diameter



Lawrence, Nobel 1939 (but also Widroe!)



vacuum chamber: large narrow gap between 2 poles

# Cyclotron in PSI

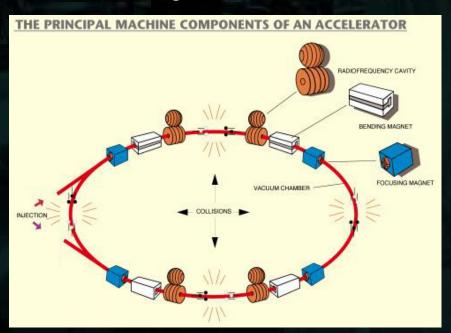


Accelerating protons from 72 MeV to 590 MeV, 1.3 MW beam power

# **Synchrotrons**

M. Oliphant - idea E. McMillan - construction

- Instead of changing the orbit of the particles, the magnetic field increases (synchronously with particle energy)
- Electric field gradient in cavities also changes
- Main elements:
  - Bending magnets
  - Focusing magnets
  - Resonant cavities

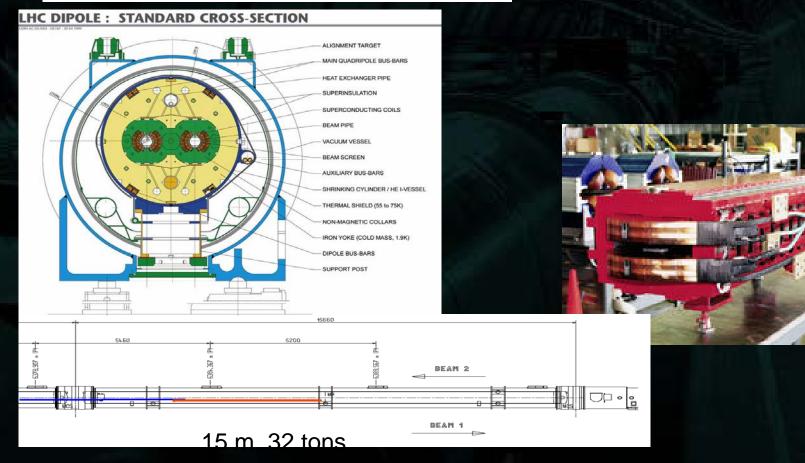


First synchrotron: 1950s, 3 GeV, Berkeley Lab

## Bending magnets

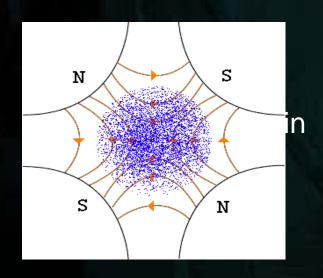
$$\frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = Q * (\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B})$$
Lorenz force

 Dipoles (vertical field) bend beam in horizontal direction

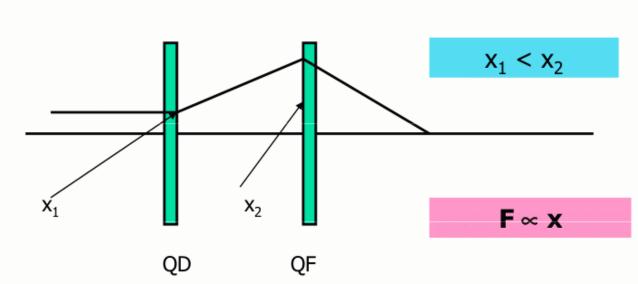


## Beam stability

- Perfect synchrotron needs only dipoles
- But the world is not perfect beam particles suffer from:
  - gravity
  - radiative energy losses
  - interactions between particles
  - interactions with accelerator (mirror fields etc)
- As a result beam is defocused
- To keep it focused: quadrupoles
- Analogy to optical lens, one plane only

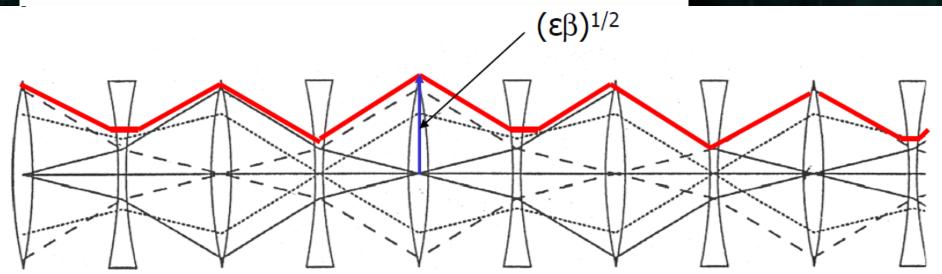


# FODO structure



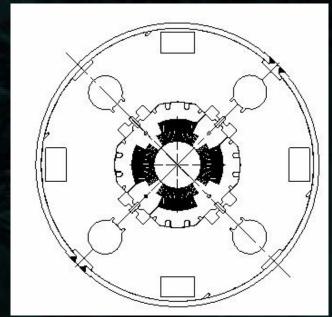
FODO cell

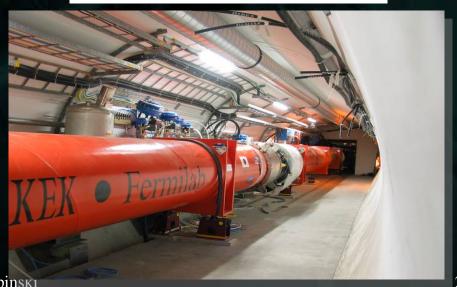
Beta function



# LHC quadrupole

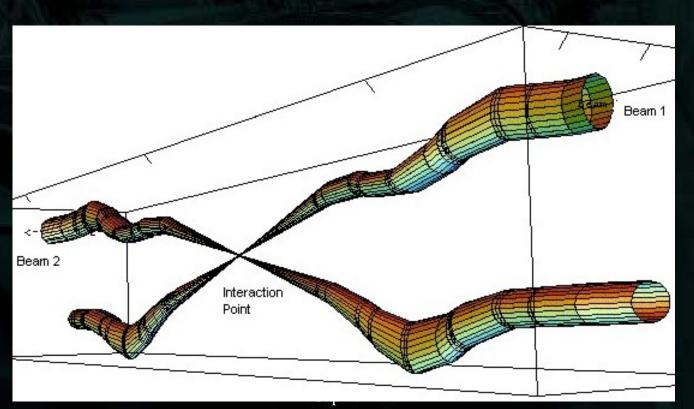
- Superconducting
- Length about 3.5 m
- Many types
- Special type in the interaction points
- Other correctors: sextupoles, octupoles, decatupoles





## Interaction point

- Beams focused from 0.1 mm to 0.02 mm, (human hair 0.05 mm)
- Millions of collisions per second (f)
- Luminosity: L=f/σ
- Integrated luminosity: What is inverse femtobarn?
  - 1 barn =  $10^{-24}$  cm<sup>2</sup>



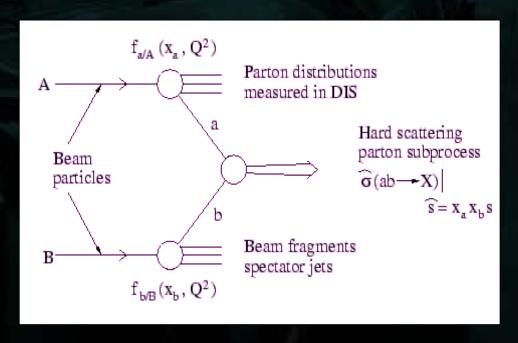
## LHC beam

- 10<sup>14</sup> protons with kinetic energy 7 TeV on common orbit (within 0.1 mm)
- Total kinetic energy in both beams: 362 MJ
- Compare with: 10<sup>13</sup> protons, 450 GeV fault extraction from SPS, October 2004, magnet damaged



## Future of accelerators

- Light sources for structural and material research
- Hadron therapy
- Accelerator-driven fusion
- Next fundamental physics tool:
   CLIC or NLC linear, colliding electrons



## Summary

- Accelerators produce beams of high energy charged particles
- Particle sources thermionic emission or plasma
- Acceleration methods: electrostatic, on electromagnetic wave (standing or traveling – resonant cavities), plasma acceleration, Fermi mechanism
- Linear and circular accelerators

bunches

- Cyclotron: increase orbit radius with particle energy
- Synchrotron: increase magnetic field with particle energy
- Bending magnets (dipoles) and focusing magnets (quads)
- Collision point luminosity
- After LHC: linear electron collider

beam optics