



Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council

# Introduction to FFA Accelerators

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ISIS, RAL, STFC

# What is an FFA?

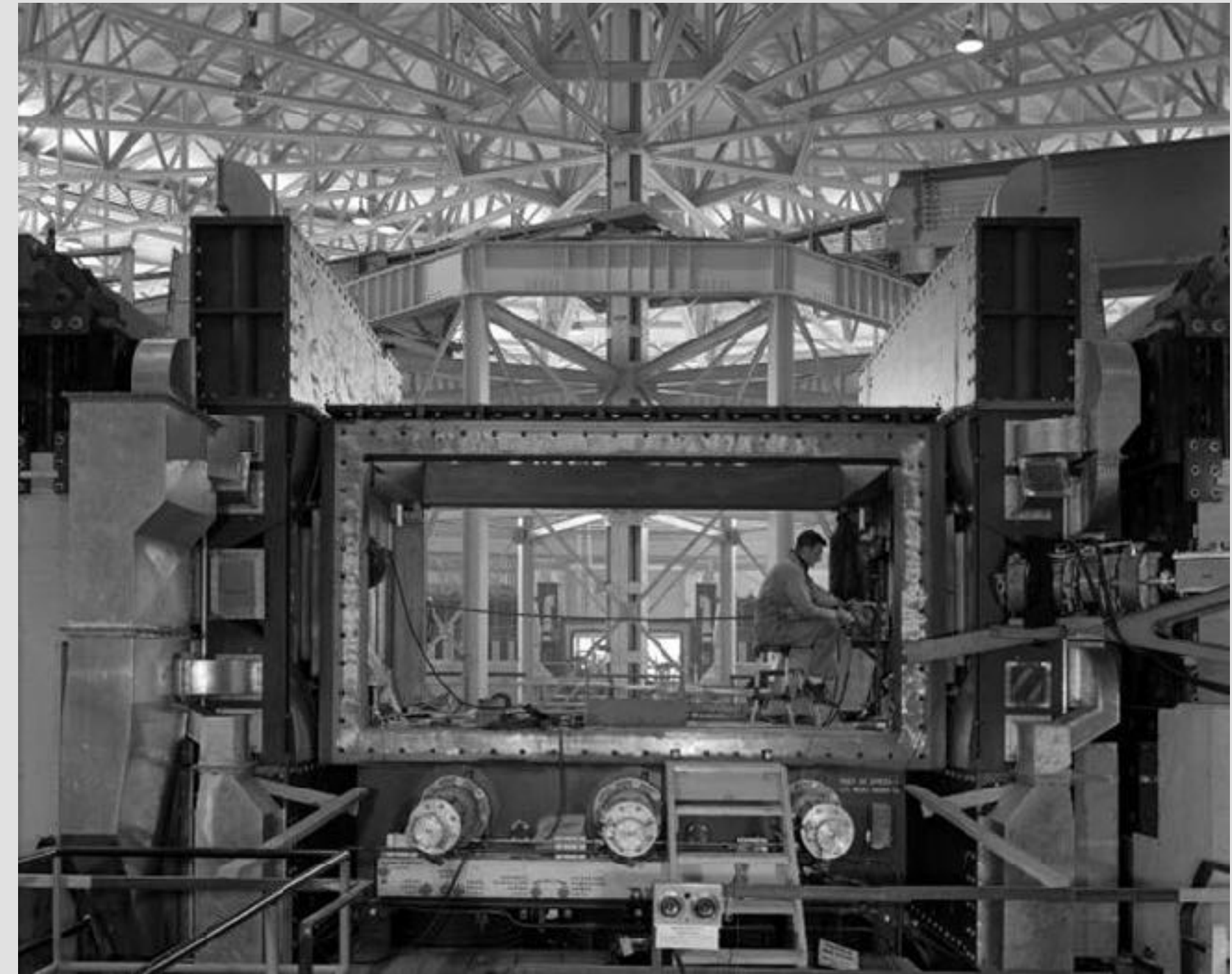
# Weak focusing

Weak focusing handles the beam **weakly**

$$\text{field index } n = -\frac{\rho}{B_y} \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial x}, \quad 0 < n < 1$$

focus in both transverse planes at the same time

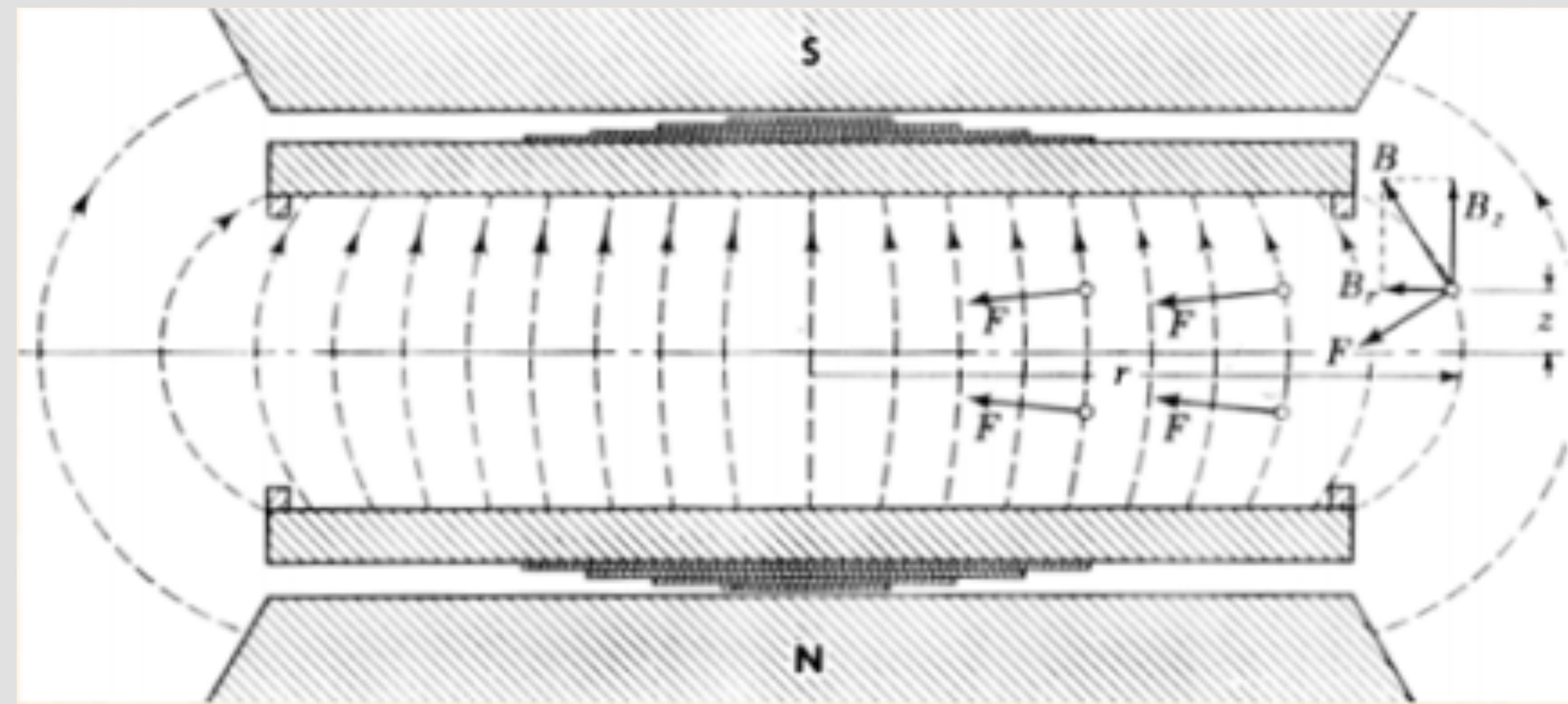
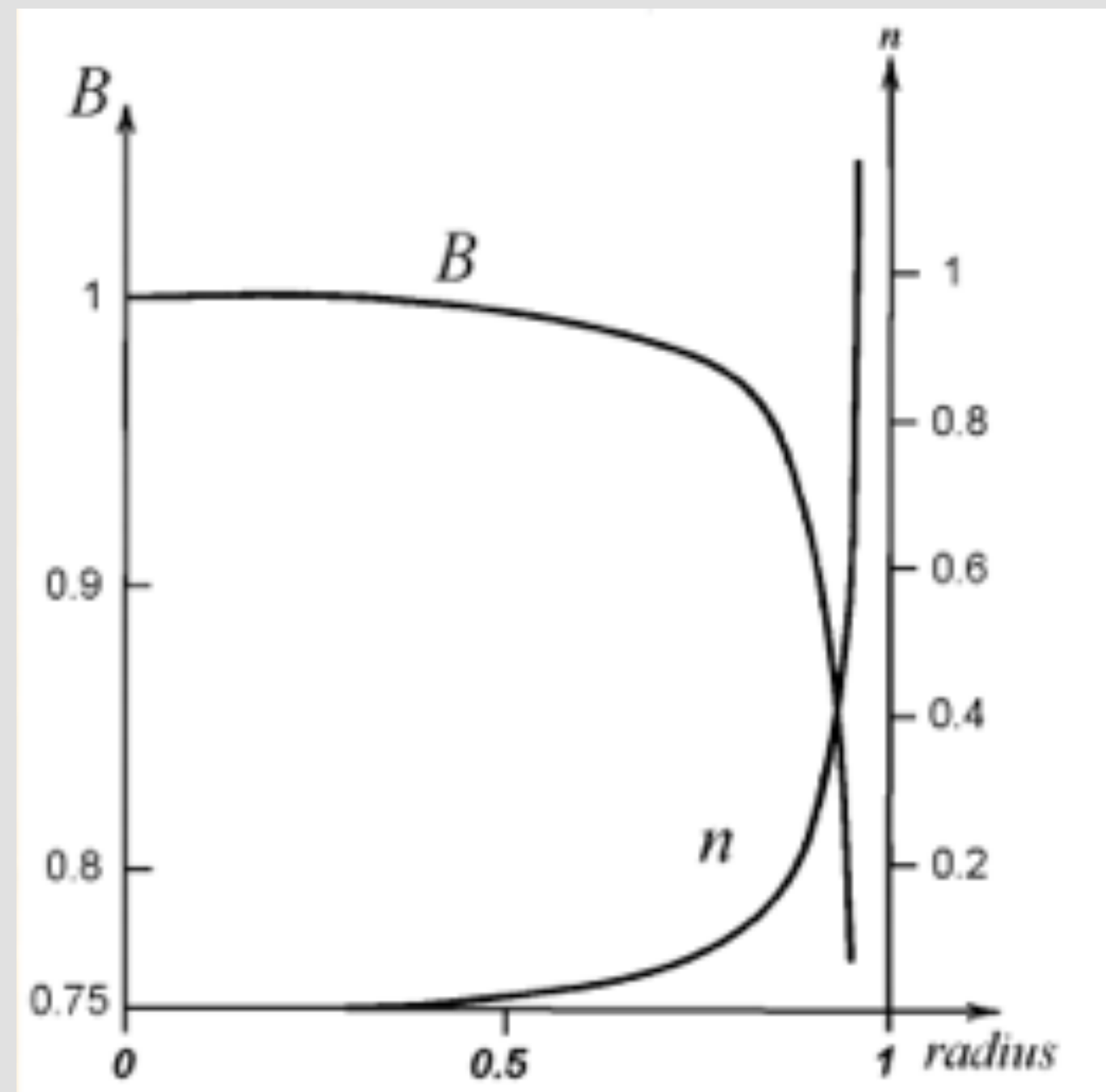
Big beam at high energy!



*Bevatron vacuum chamber  
6 GeV proton at Berkeley*

# Classical cyclotron

Weak focusing is still used nowadays!



$$\text{field index } n = -\frac{\rho}{B_y} \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial x}, \quad 0 < n < 1$$

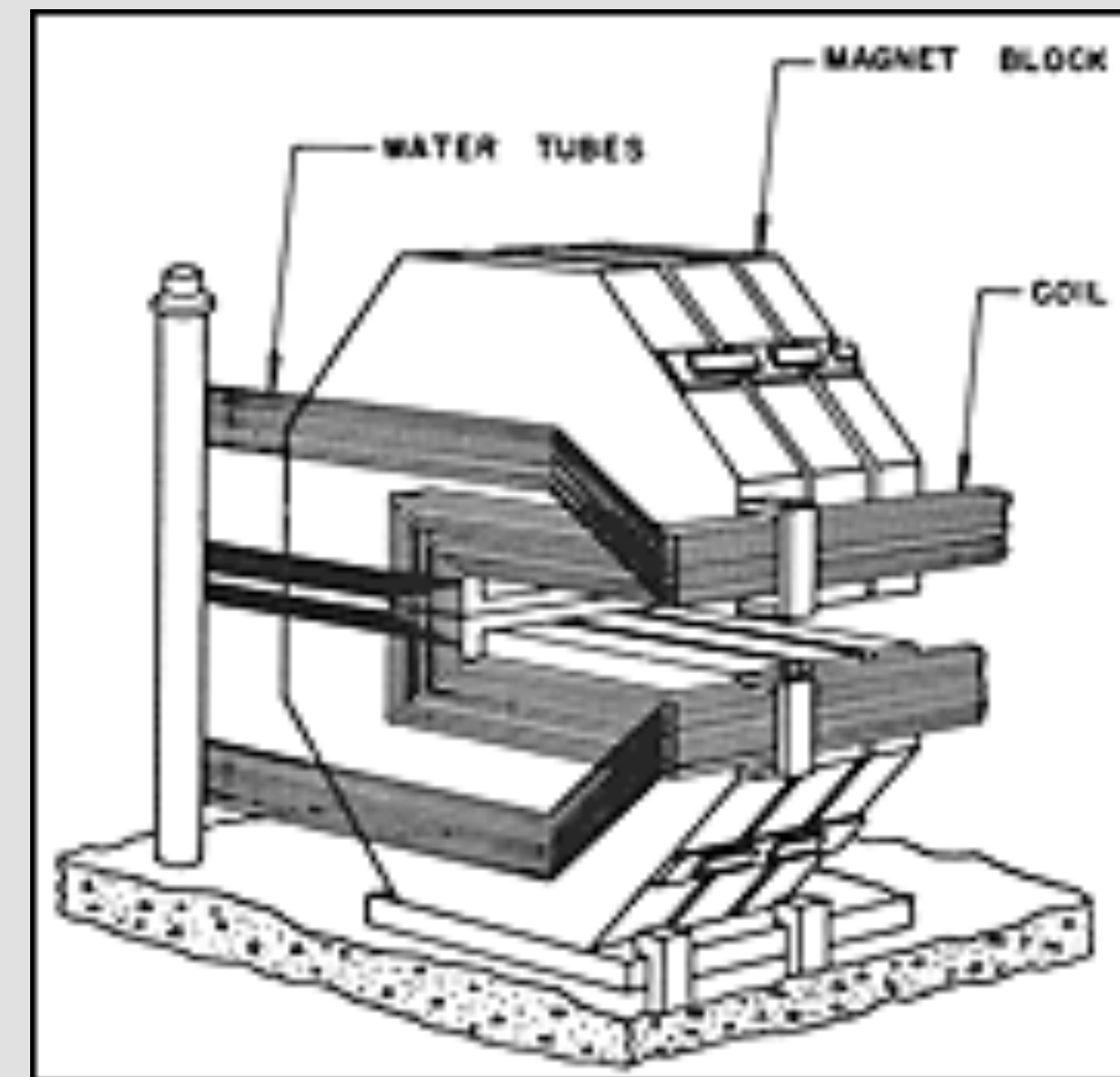


# Strong focusing

In 1952, Livingston, Courant and Snyder had the idea of flipping some of the C-shape magnets of the Cosmotron at BNL to remove the limitation of the field index.

Strong focusing was born\*.

\*N. Christophilos had invented it before



*C-shape magnet Cosmotron  
at Brookhaven*

# Definition of FFA (formerly FFAG)

**F**IXED **F**IELD ALTERNATING GRADIENT **A**CCELERATOR

Circular accelerator with

- fixed field (like cyclotrons),  
and
- strong focusing (like synchrotrons).



Independently invented in 1950s in  
Japan, USSR and USA.

# Advantages of FFAs

- Interesting for
  - high repetition rate (source of secondary particles, medical accelerators).
  - rapid acceleration (short-lived particles),
  - very high power machines (proton drivers, ADSR),
  - handling of big beams (muon machines, internal target),
  - reliable machines (ADSR, medical accelerators),
  - energy-efficient machines (ADSR).



# Transverse motion in particle accelerators

Linearised equations of motion:

$$\frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial s^2} + K_a(s)a = 0 \quad \begin{array}{l} a: \text{horizontal } (x) \\ \text{or vertical } (y) \end{array}$$

Periodic case: Hill's equations

→ General solution:  $a = \sqrt{\varepsilon} \sqrt{\beta(s)} \cos(\nu\phi(s) + \phi_0)$

Betatron oscillations: pseudo-harmonic oscillation of frequency  $\nu$  (tune) and varying amplitude  $\sqrt{\beta(s)}$ .



# Betatron resonances

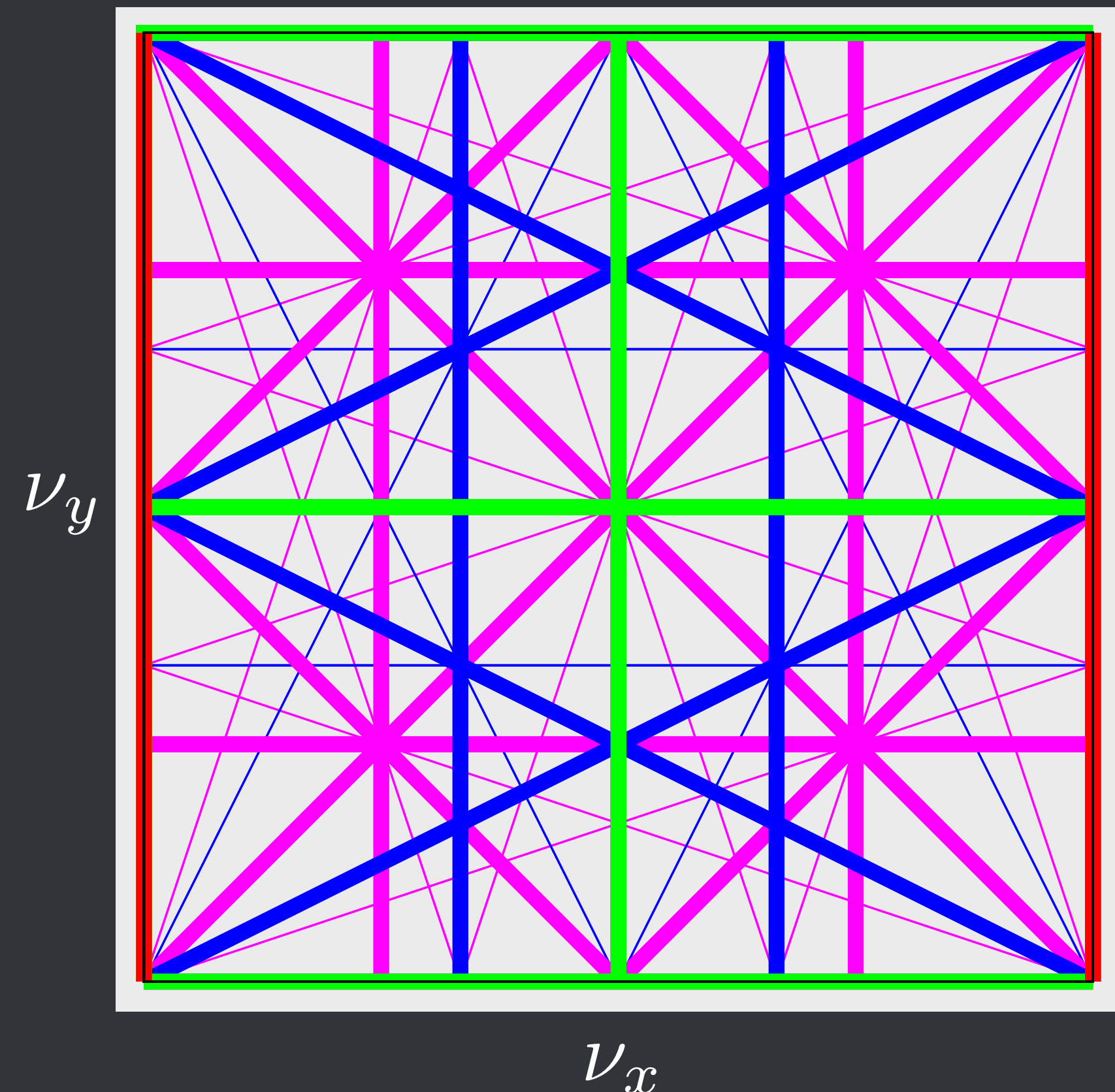
Non-linear components are considered as perturbations of the linear equations of motion.

Resonance conditions:

$$m_x \nu_x + m_y \nu_y = q$$

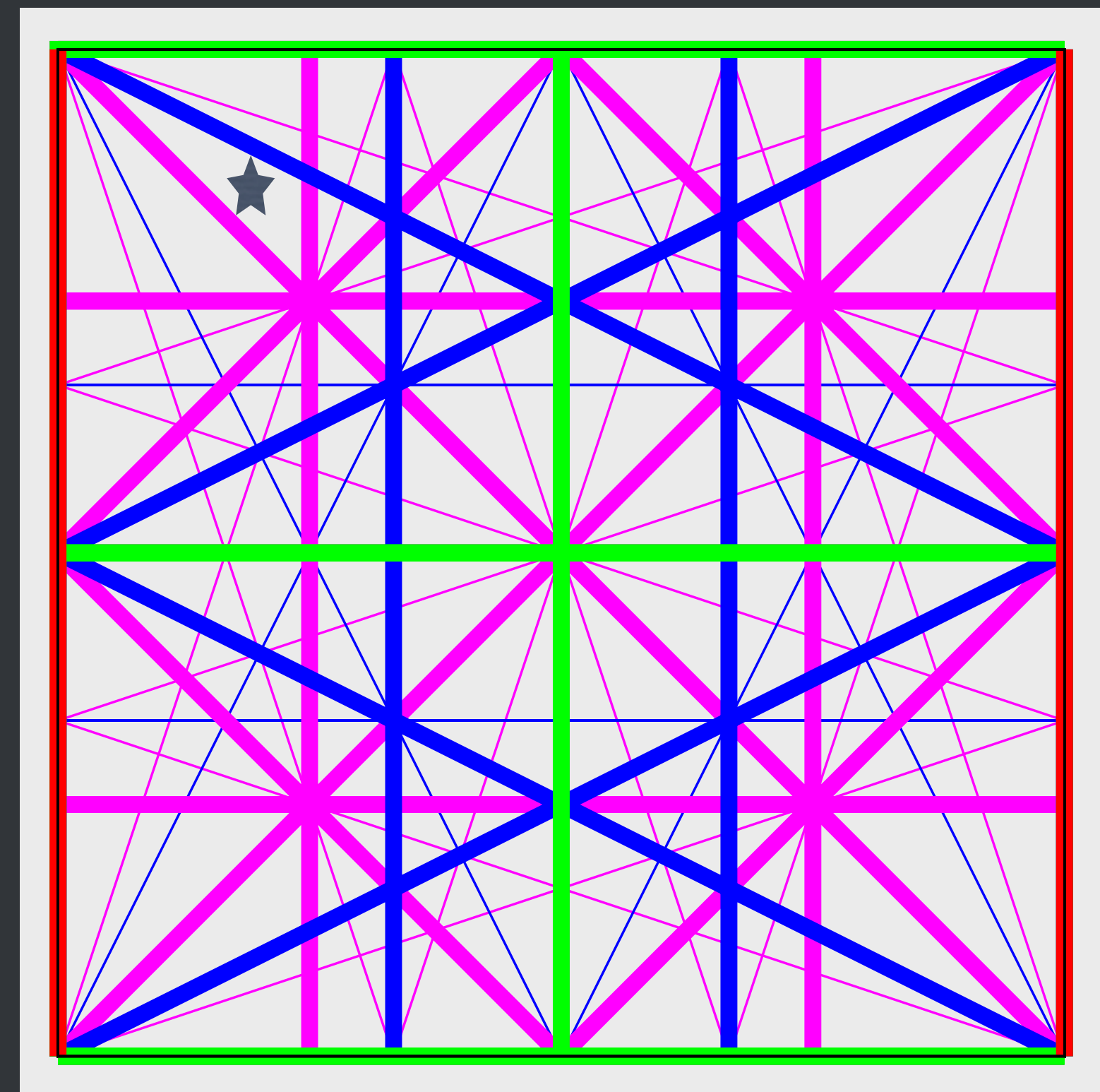
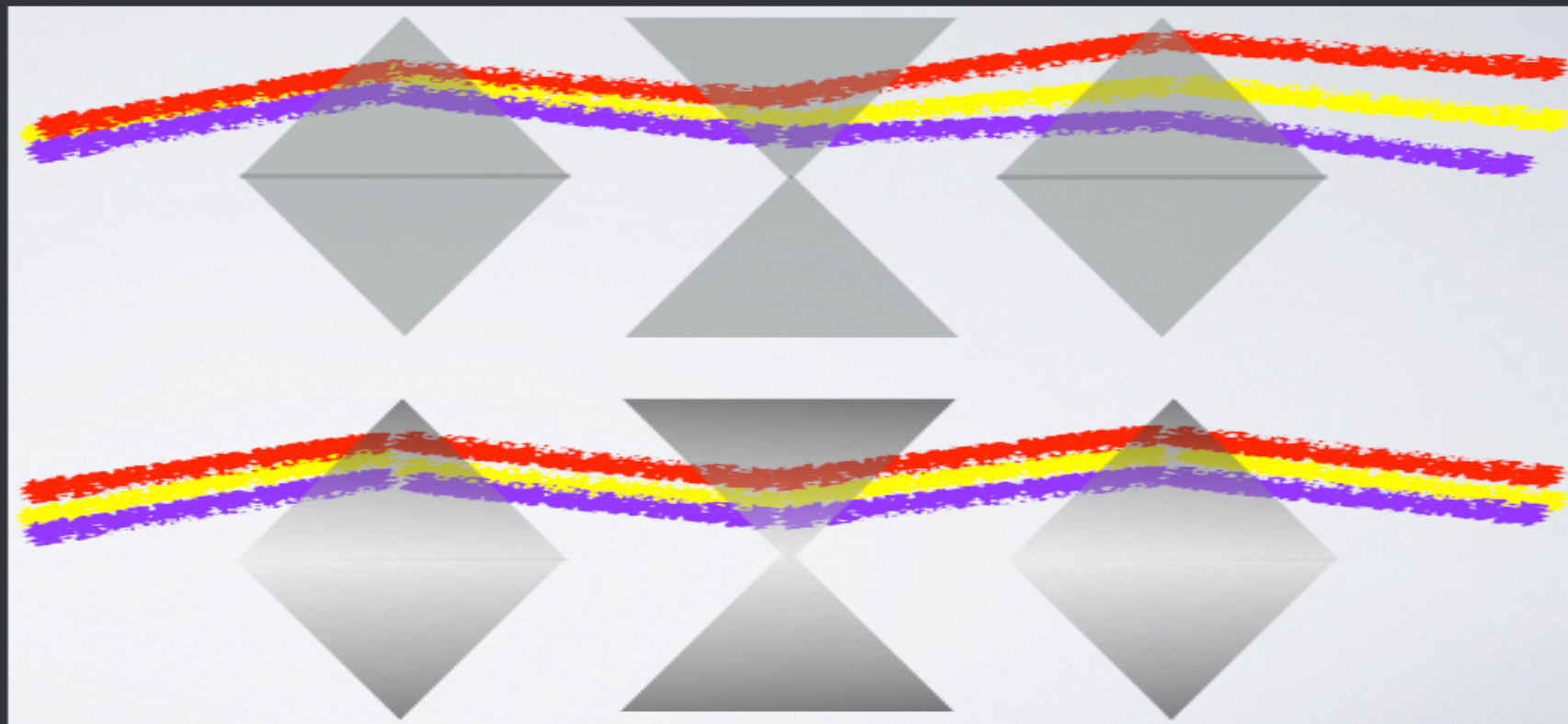
$(m_x, m_y, q)$  integer numbers

Working point  $(\nu_x, \nu_y)$   
positioned in the tune diagram.



# Chromaticity

Variation of tune with respect to particle energy.



$$\xi = \frac{\frac{\Delta\nu}{\nu}}{\frac{\Delta p}{p}} = -\frac{q}{4\pi\nu p} \int \beta(s) \frac{\partial B_y(s)}{\partial x} ds$$

# FFA classification

2 categories:

## ➡ Achromatic machines

- ➡ Scaling FFA
- ➡ Non-linear non-scaling FFA
  
- large momentum acceptance
- large transverse acceptance
- no beam loss during acceleration
- fast acceleration if desirable
- high repetition rate (up to 1kHz or even CW)
- possibly big machines

## ➡ Chromatic machines

- ➡ Isochronous cyclotrons
  - efficient acceleration
  - CW (Continuous Wave) acceleration
  - big machines
  - need to treat resonances one by one
  - limited energy
- ➡ Linear non-scaling FFA
  - very strong focusing
  - CW (Continuous Wave) acceleration
  - rapid acceleration necessary



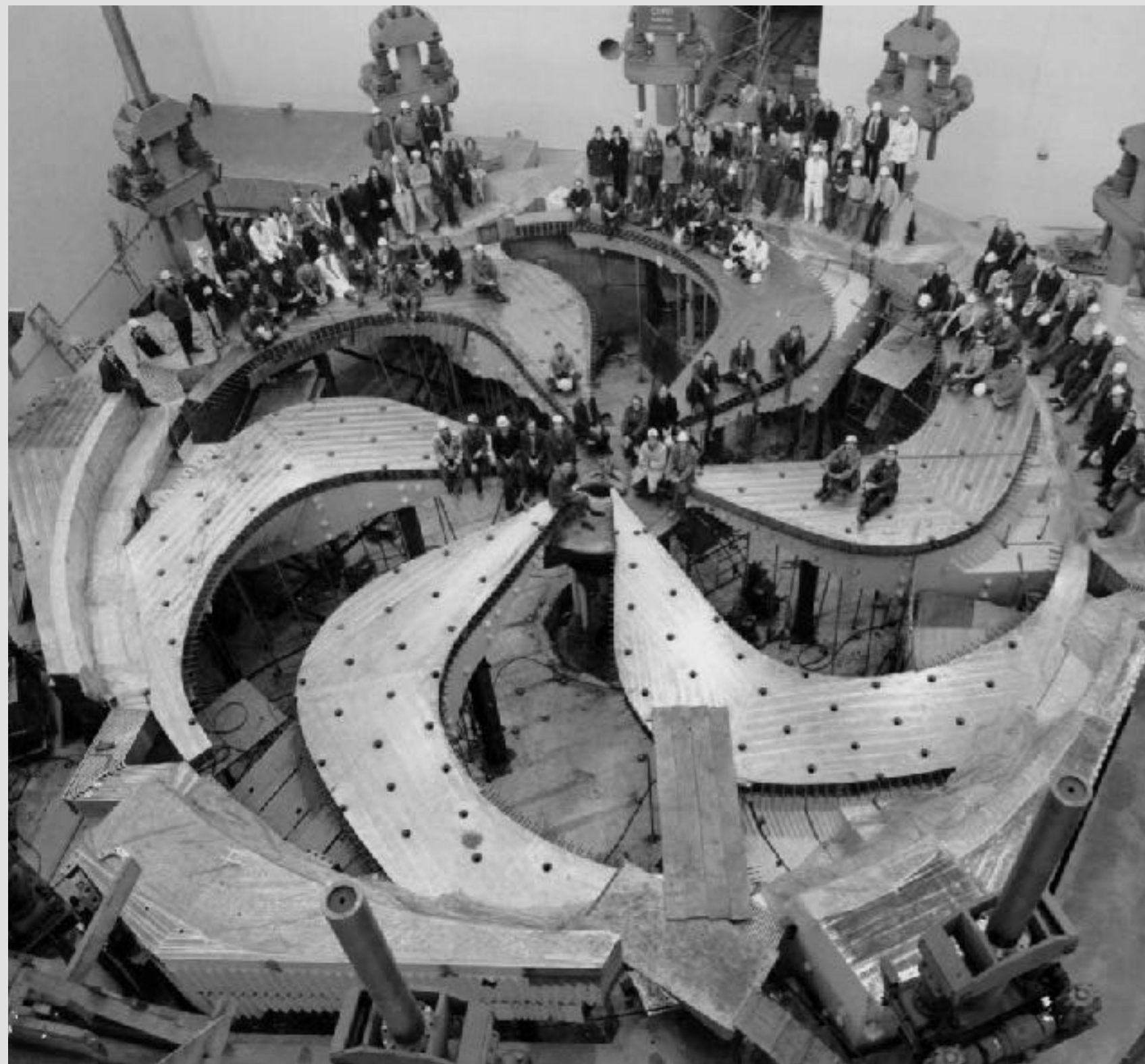
# FFAs covered here

- Isochronous cyclotrons
- Linear FFA
- Scaling FFA:
  - Horizontal scaling FFA
  - Straight scaling FFA
  - Vertical scaling FFA



# Isochronous cyclotrons

Cyclotrons benefitted from spiral sectors invented for FFAGs to go to higher energies.



*TRIUMF cyclotron 520 MeV H<sup>-</sup>*

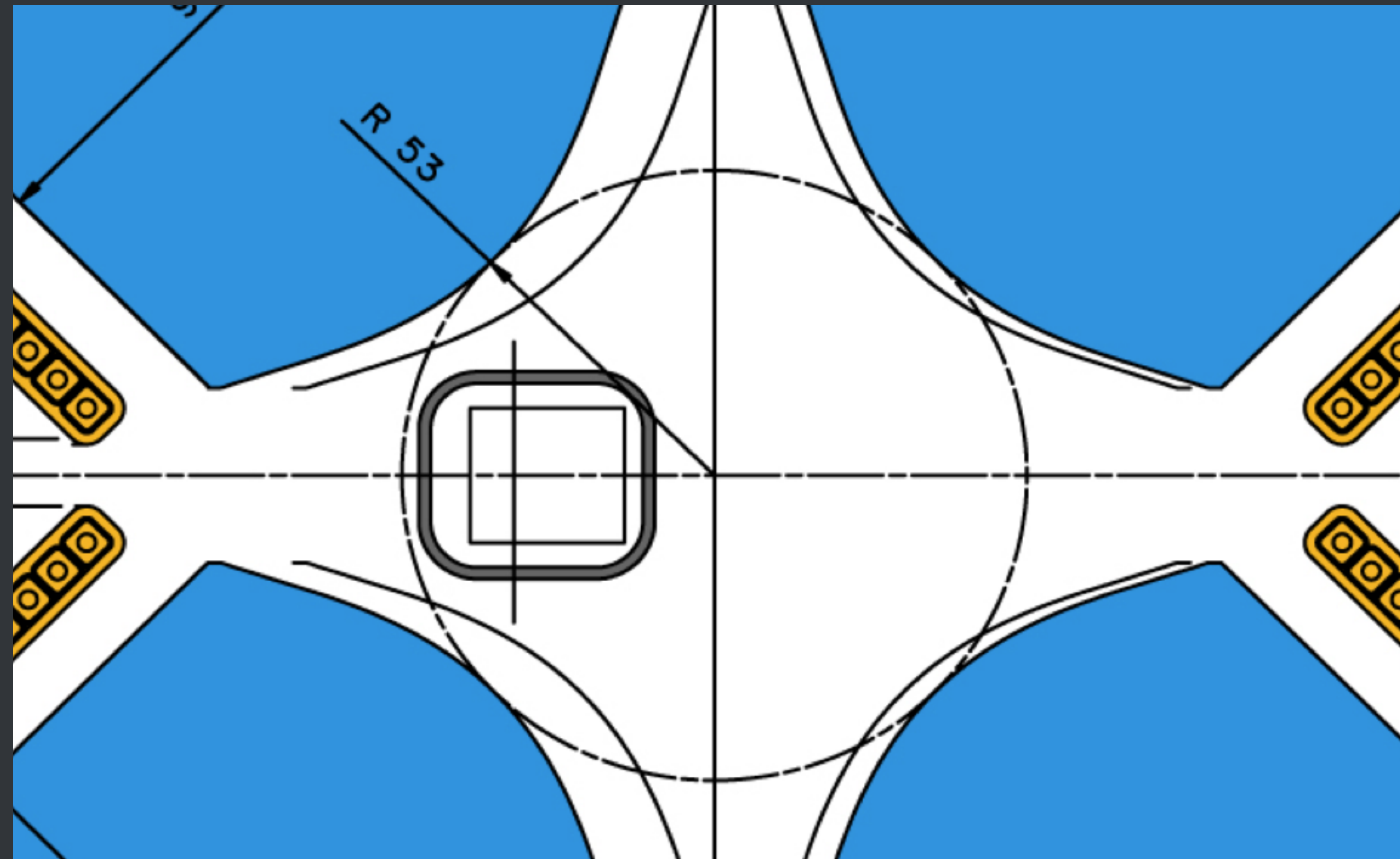


*PSI cyclotron 590 MeV proton*



# Linear focusing FFA

Use of offset quadrupoles to bend the beam:

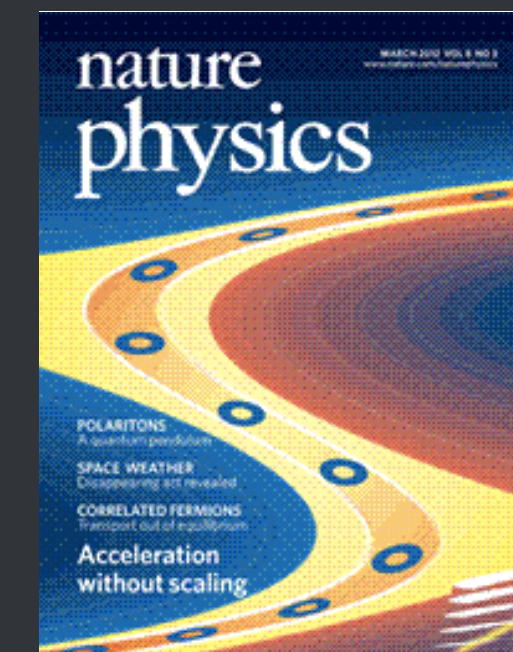
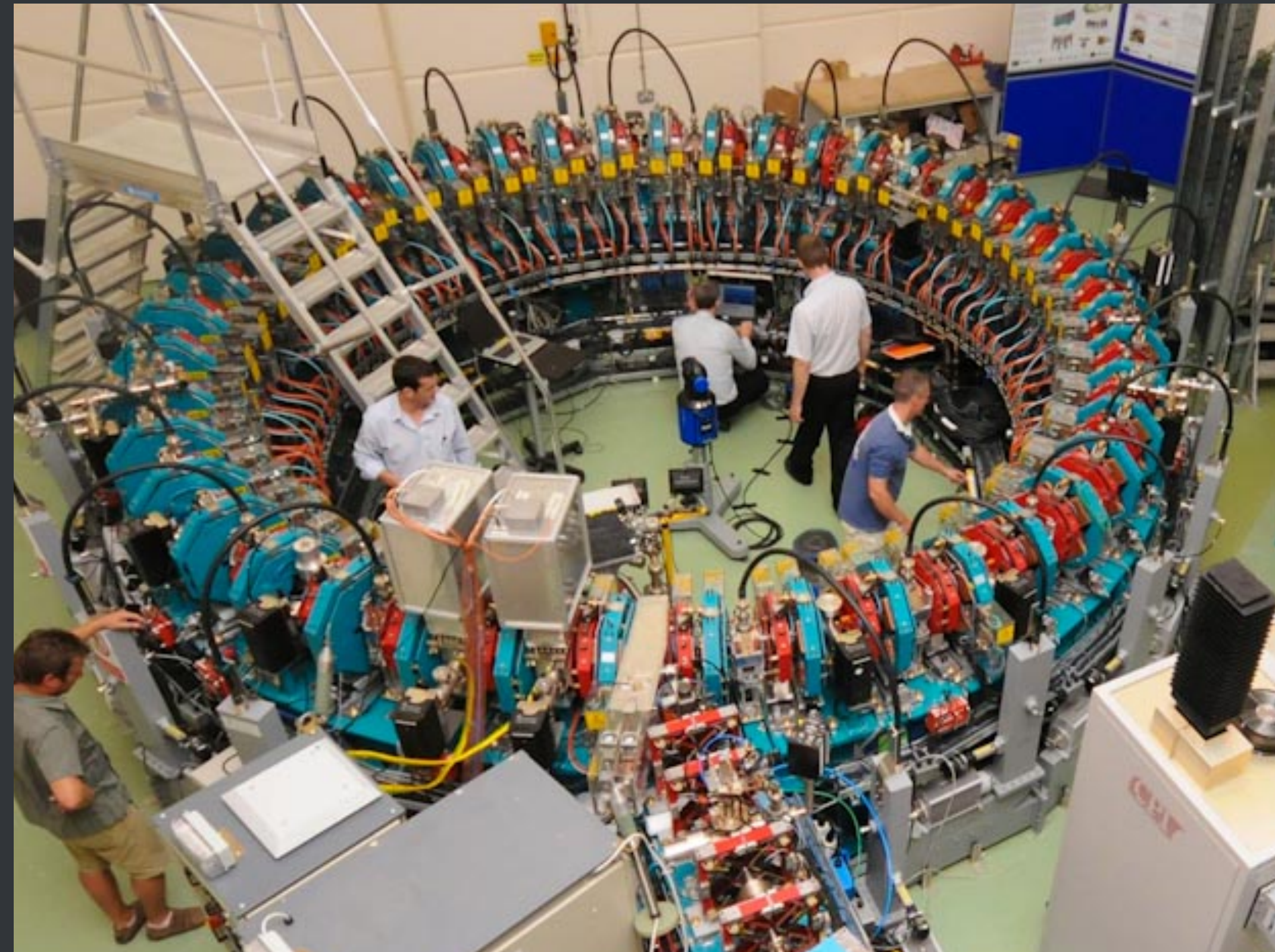


Behaves like a linear combined function magnet



# Linear focusing FFA

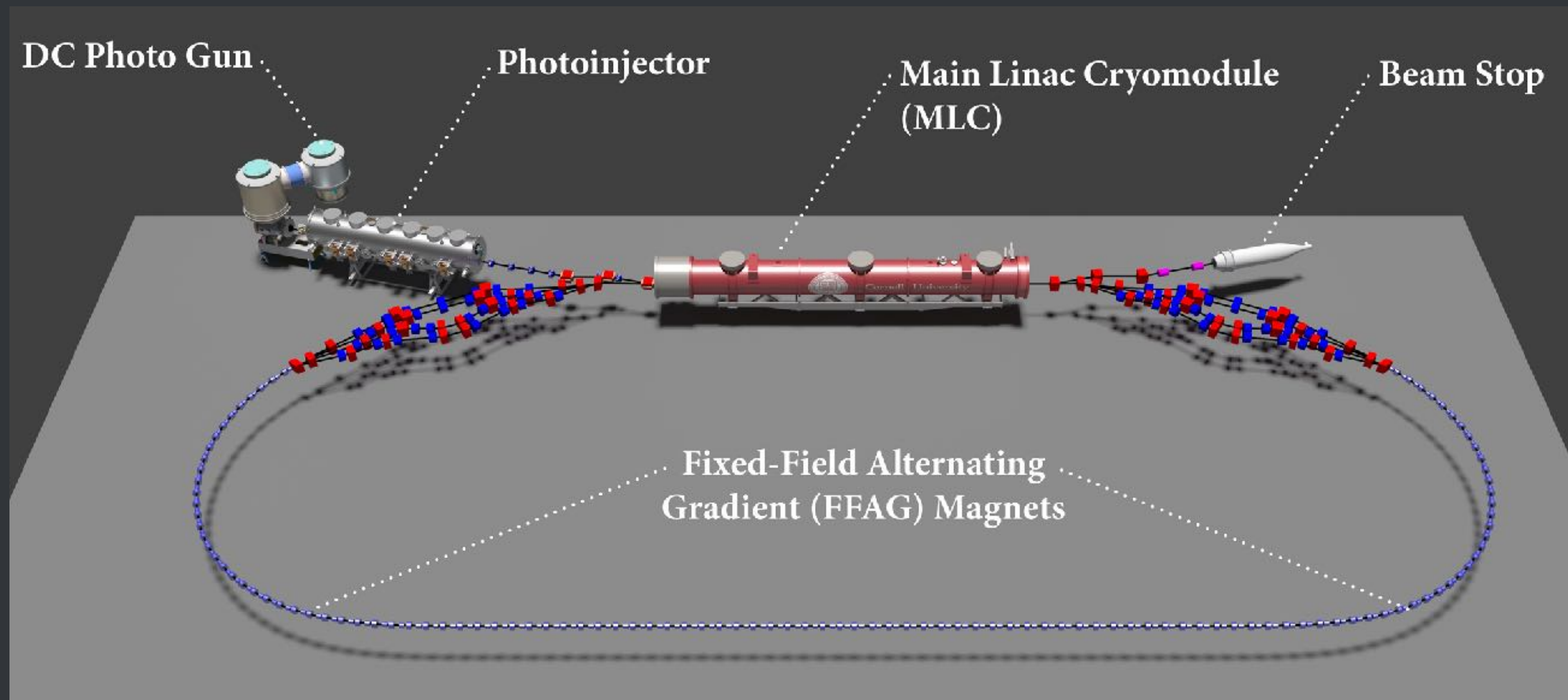
EMMA (Electron Model for Many Applications)  
at Daresbury Laboratory, UK.





# Linear FFA arcs for ERL

Cost effective arcs for Energy Recovery Linacs



*CBETA at Cornell University, USA*

# Scaling FFA

keep independent of momentum the transverse linearised equations of motion.

- Analytical solution
- Achromatic system for any momentum range

There are also numerical ways to keep the tune constant over a certain momentum range (“non-linear non-scaling” FFA).



# Circular scaling FFA

Linearised equations of motion around the closed orbit  
for a momentum  $p$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{d^2 x}{d\Theta^2} + \frac{R^2}{\rho^2} (1 - n)x = 0, \\ \frac{d^2 y}{d\Theta^2} - \frac{R^2}{\rho^2} ny = 0. \end{array} \right.$$

$(x, s, y)$ : curvilinear coordinates.  
New system of coordinates  $(x, \Theta, y)$   
 $\Theta = s/R$  with  $R = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint ds$   
 $n$ : field index  
 $\rho$ : curvature radius

Independent of momentum  $p$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left( \frac{\partial(R/\rho)}{\partial p} \right)_{\Theta} = 0, \quad \longrightarrow \text{Similarity of the reference trajectories.} \\ \left( \frac{\partial n}{\partial p} \right)_{\Theta} = 0. \quad \longrightarrow \text{Invariance of the focusing strength.} \end{array} \right.$$

# Circular scaling FFA

Invariance of the  
betatron oscillations

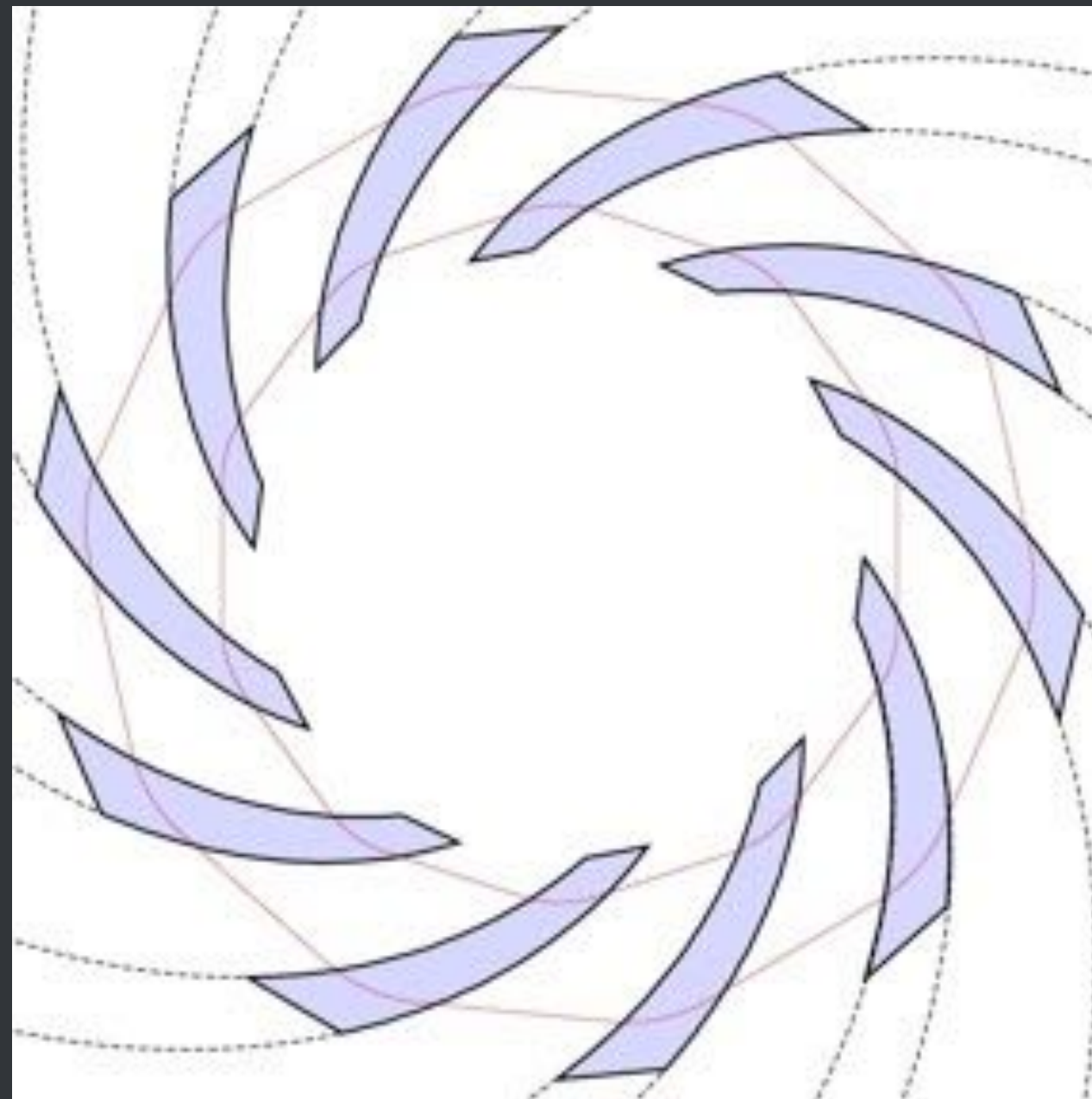


Similarity of the closed orbits  
and  
invariance of the field index

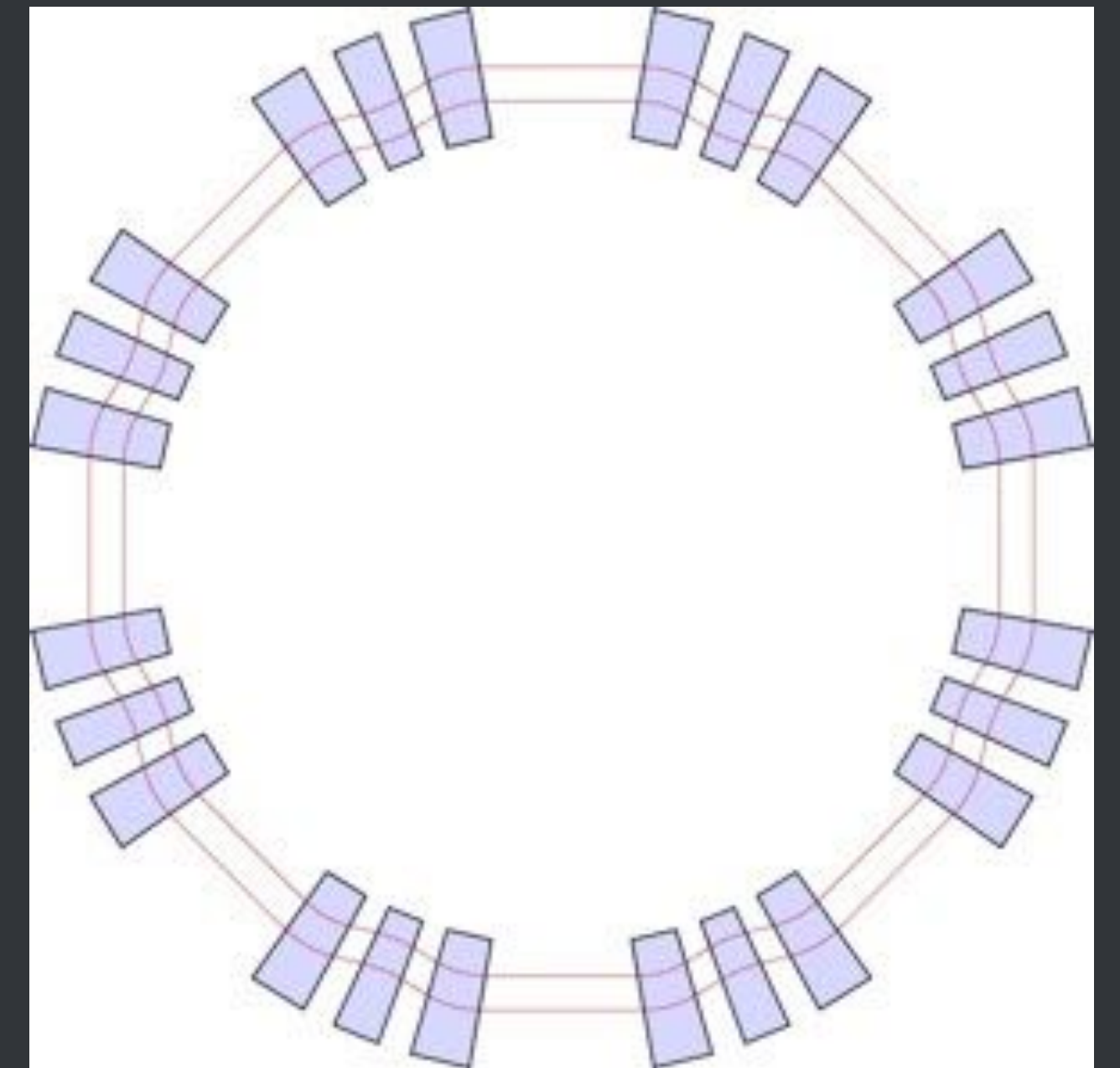
Constant geometrical field index:

$$k = \frac{R d\bar{B}}{\bar{B} dR}$$

$$B(r, \theta) = B_0 \left( \frac{r}{r_0} \right)^k \cdot \mathcal{F}\left(\theta - \tan \zeta \ln \frac{r}{r_0}\right)$$



Spiral sector:  $\zeta = \text{const.}$



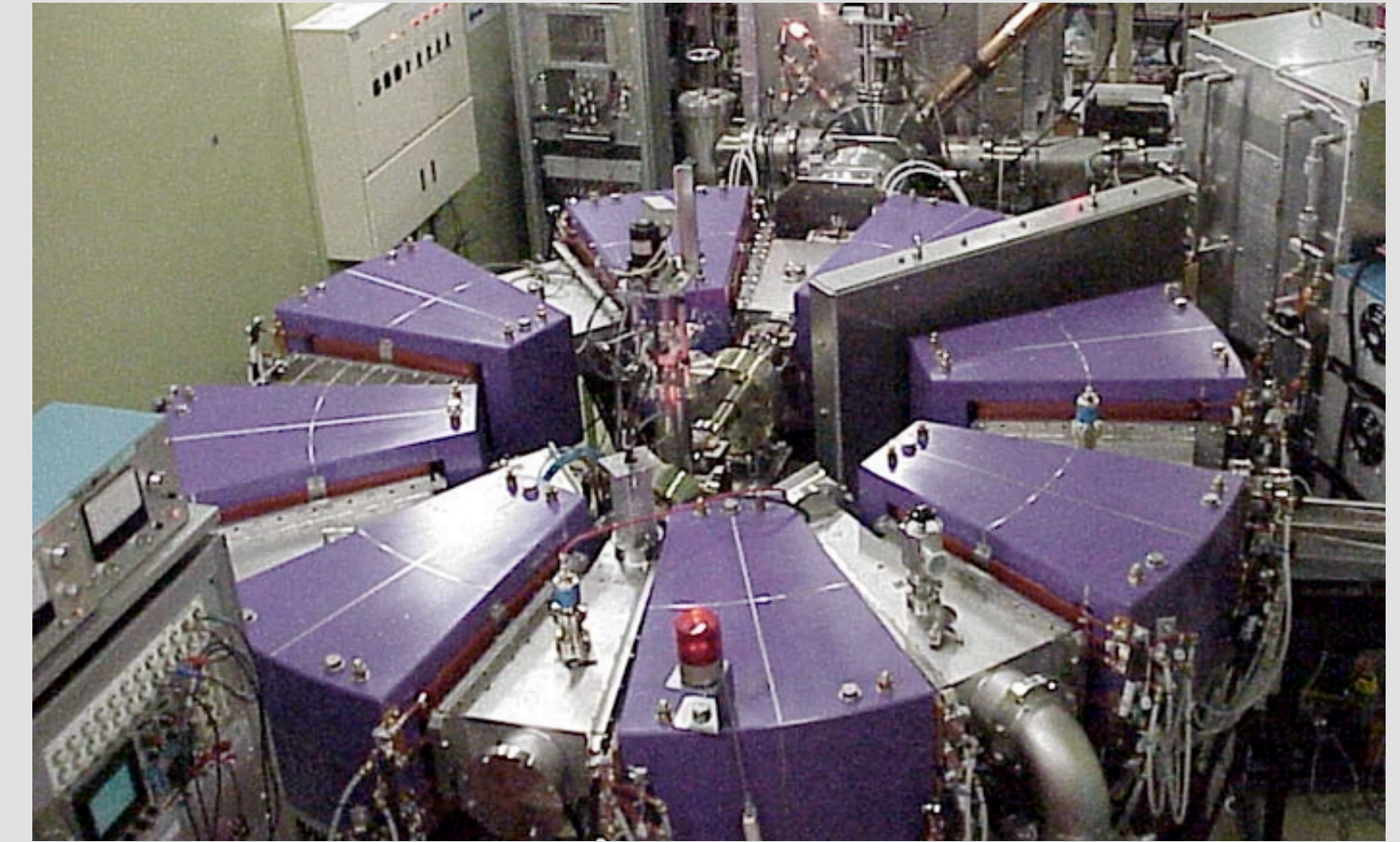
Radial sector:  $\zeta = 0$



# Horizontal scaling FFA



*Mark II at MURA*



*POP machine at KEK*



*Proton FFA complex at Kyoto University*



# Straight scaling FFA

Linearised equations of motion around the closed orbit  
for a momentum  $p$ :

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d^2 x}{ds^2} + \frac{(1-n)}{\rho^2} x = 0, \\ \frac{d^2 y}{ds^2} - \frac{n}{\rho^2} y = 0. \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} (x, s, y): \text{curvilinear coordinates} \\ n: \text{field index} \\ \rho: \text{curvature radius} \end{array}$$

Independent of momentum  $p$ :

$$\begin{cases} \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial p} \right)_s = 0, \\ \left( \frac{\partial n}{\partial p} \right)_s = 0. \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \text{Similarity of the reference trajectories.} \\ \rightarrow \text{Invariance of the focusing strength.} \end{array}$$

# Straight scaling FFA

Invariance of the betatron oscillations

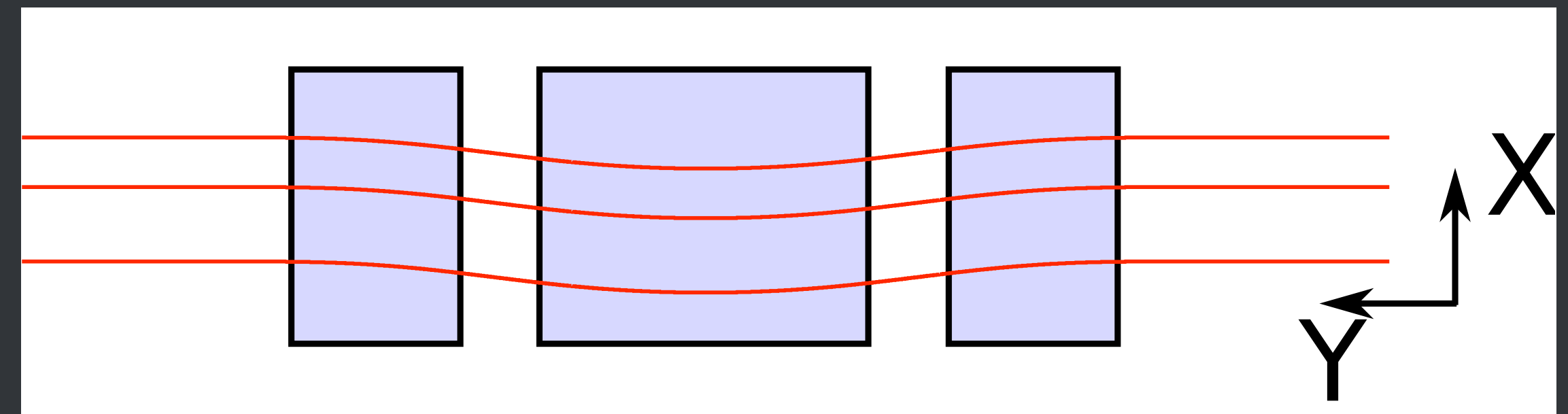


Similarity of the closed orbits and invariance of the field index

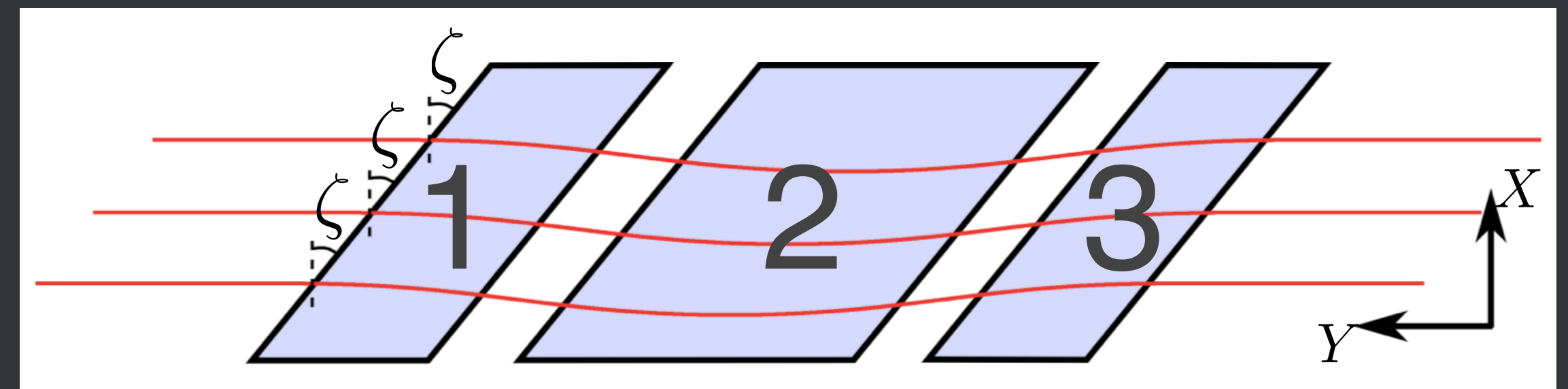
Constant normalised field gradient:

$$m = \frac{1}{B_y} \frac{dB_y}{dx}$$

$$B(X, Y) = B_0 e^{m(X-X_0)} \mathcal{F}(Y - (X - X_0) \tan \zeta)$$



Rectangular case:  $\zeta = 0$

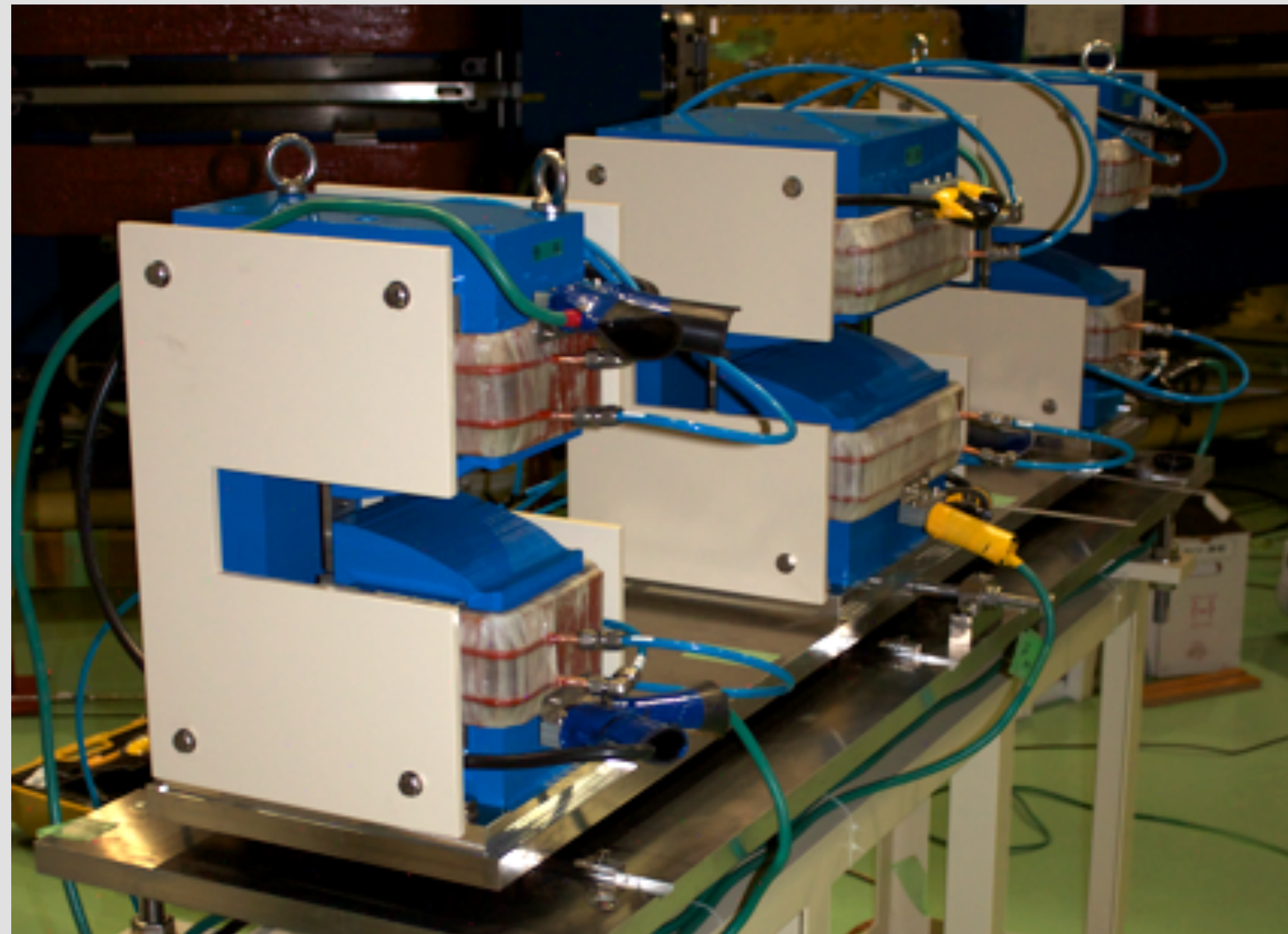


Tilted straight case:  $\zeta = \text{const.}$



# Straight scaling FFA

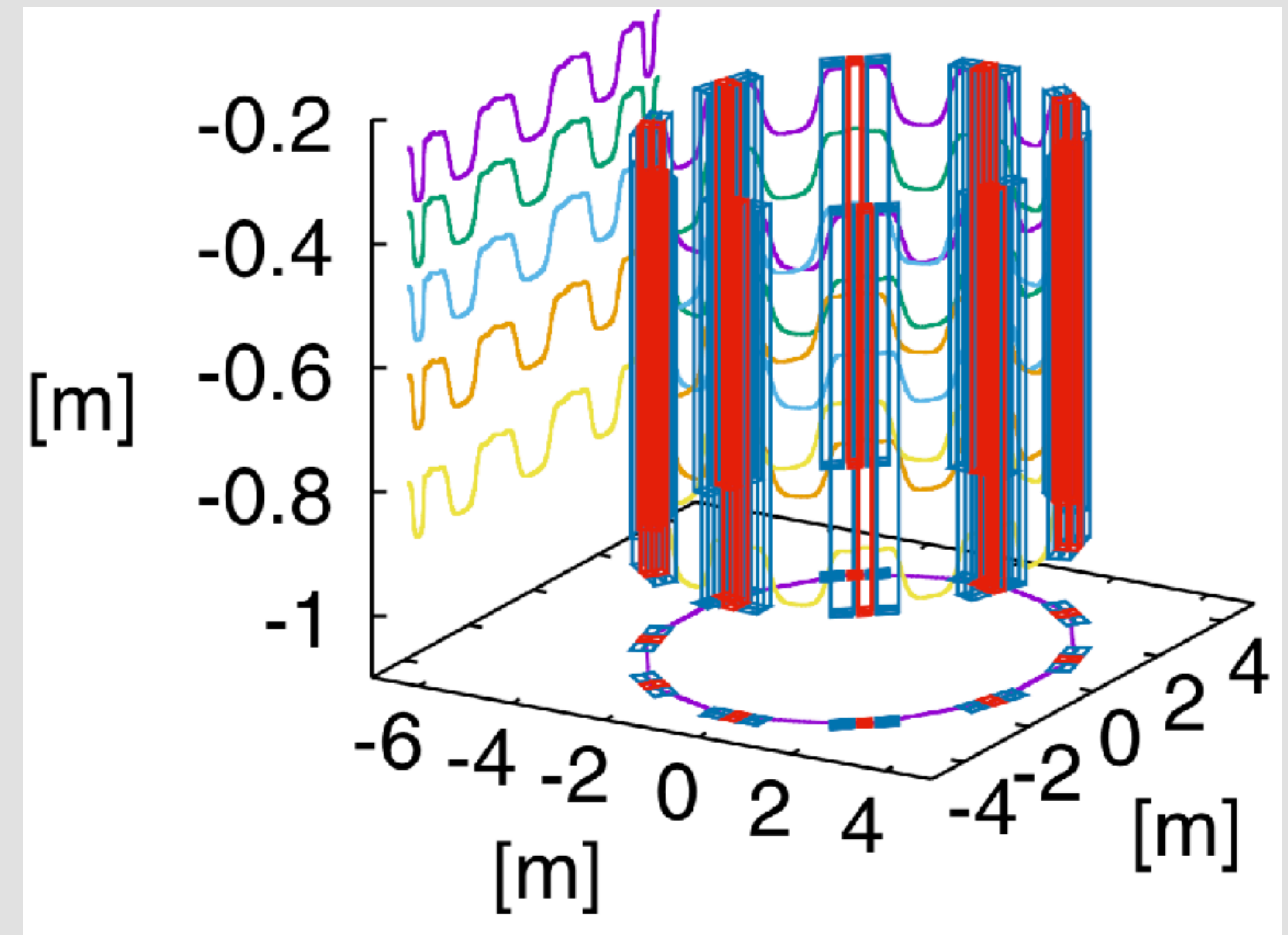
Achromatic FFA cell with no overall bend.



*Straight scaling FFA prototype at Kyoto University (2011)*

# Vertical FFA

- “Electron cyclotron”
- Beam orbit rises vertically.
- Circumference constant with beam energy.
- Magnetic field increases exponentially vertically.
- Zero-chromatic for any momentum range.





# Vertical scaling FFA

Linearised equations of motion around the closed orbit for a momentum  $p$ :

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d^2 x}{d\theta^2} + \frac{x}{\rho^2} - n_y y = 0, \\ \frac{d^2 y}{d\theta^2} + n_y x = 0. \end{cases}$$

⚠ vertical gradient, so coupling between horizontal and vertical plane.  
 $(x, s, y)$ : curvilinear coordinates.

New system of coordinates  $(x, \theta, y)$

$$\Theta = s/R \text{ with } R = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint ds$$

$\rho$ : curvature radius

$$n_y: \text{vertical field index } n_y = -\frac{\rho}{B_y} \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial y}$$

Independent of momentum  $p$ :

$$\begin{cases} \left( \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial p} \right)_s = 0, \\ \left( \frac{\partial n}{\partial p} \right)_s = 0. \end{cases}$$

➔ Similarity of the reference trajectories.

➔ Invariance of the focusing strength.

# Vertical scaling FFA

Invariance of the  
betatron oscillations

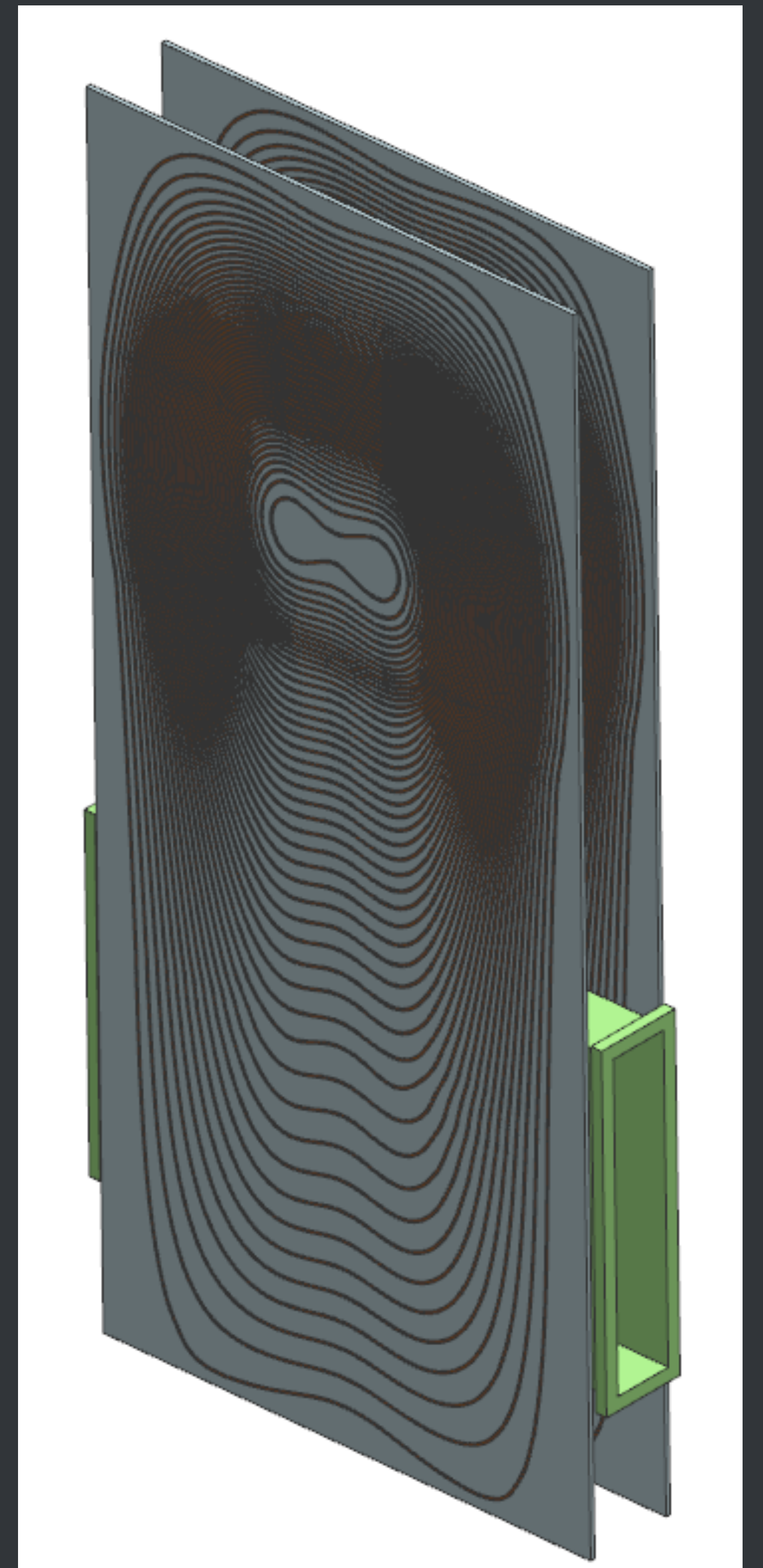


Similarity of the closed orbits  
and  
invariance of the field index

Constant normalised field gradient:

$$m_y = \frac{1}{B_y} \frac{dB_y}{dy}$$

$$B_y(y, \theta) = B_0 e^{m_y(y-y_0)} \mathcal{F}(\theta)$$





# Scaling FFA cells - Summary

	horizontal circular scaling	straight scaling	vertical scaling
Field law	$B_y = B_0 \left( \frac{r}{r_0} \right)^k$	$B_y = B_0 e^{m(x-x_0)}$	$B_y = B_0 e^{m_y(y-y_0)}$
Dispersion	$D_x = p_0 \left( \frac{\partial r_{co}}{\partial p} \right)_{p_0} = \frac{r}{k+1}$	$D = p_0 \left( \frac{\partial x_{co}}{\partial p} \right)_{p_0} = \frac{1}{m}$	$D_y = p_0 \left( \frac{\partial y_{co}}{\partial p} \right)_{p_0} = \frac{1}{m_y}$
momentum compaction factor	$\alpha = \frac{\Delta r_{co}/r_{co}}{\Delta p/p} = \frac{1}{k+1}$	$\alpha = \frac{\Delta x_{co}/x_{co}}{\Delta p/p} = 0$	$\alpha = \frac{\Delta r_{co}/r_{co}}{\Delta p/p} = 0$

# Conclusion

FFA at the boundary of cyclotrons and synchrotrons

- Pros: Very useful for specific applications

- high power machines,

- handling of big beams (muon, internal target),

- high repetition rate,

- Energy efficient and reliable.

- Cons:

- potentially big and complex magnets,

- difficult to adjust parameters once machine is built,

- Bigger machine circumference when reverse bend is used for vertical stability.