



# *Physics 100 – Module 1*

## *Materials Science and Materials Analysis using a Particle Accelerator*

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Office Hours: MWF: 10:30<sup>am</sup> – 12:00<sup>pm</sup>, T/Th: 9:00<sup>am</sup> – 11:00<sup>am</sup> & by  
Appointment

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# My Background:

In the department for 13 years

7<sup>th</sup> time teaching Physics 100.

Teach primarily

Physics 110/111 (Physics for the Life Sciences)

Physics 120 (Physics for Majors and Engineers)

Physics 210 (Medical Physics)

Physics 220 (Introduction to Quantum Mechanics)

Physics 300 (Modern Experimental Techniques)

# Background continued...



- I am a theoretical physicist who was trained in waveguide theory

Production, propagation, and diffraction of x-rays (a type of electromagnetic wave) through glass capillary fibers.

Includes surface roughness and x-ray attenuation effects.

- I am also an experimental physicist who runs the particle accelerator.

Environmental pollution studies with aerosols/liquids

Environmental pollution near airports – Pb pollution

Medical and Health Physics issues – Hg in Fish/metal  
distribution in tissues

Soil contamination – Mud Samples

Art and Archeometry

At some point – Forensics/paleontology/medical applications

# My physics hobbies...

Fluid Mechanics  
Aerodynamics  
Flight and Flight Mechanics  
Aircraft Photography



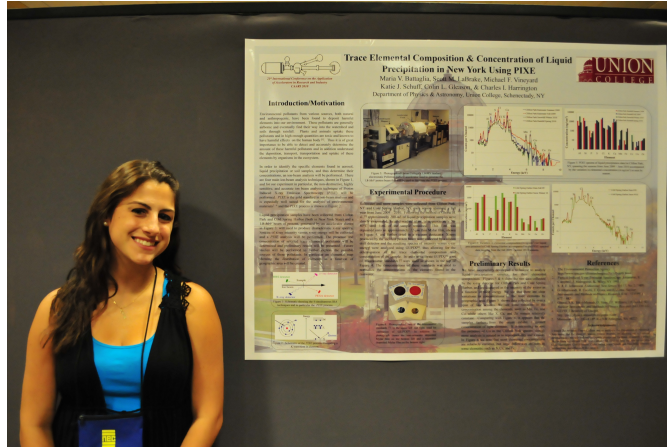
# Motion and Gravity



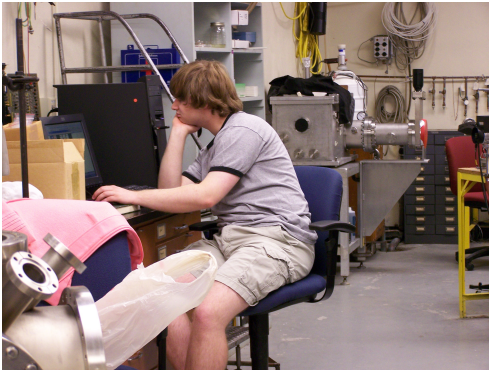
# The *Union College Ion Beam Analysis Laboratory*



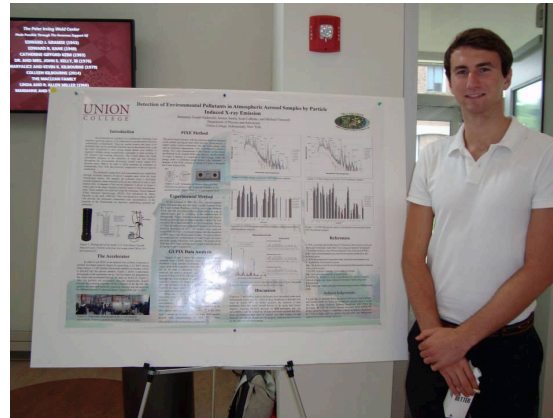
Chad & Colin are now graduate students (at SUNY Buffalo and University of South Carolina), who worked on the analysis of atmospheric aerosols by PIXE/PIGE/RBS/PESA.



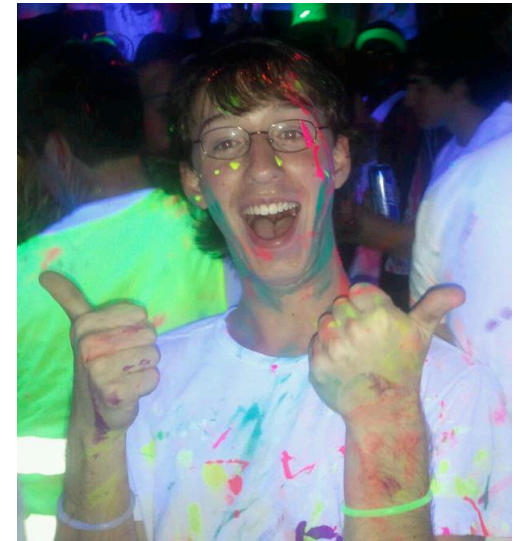
Maria is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical student who worked on liquid precipitation samples and on the development of a procedure for looking at the distribution of metals in animal (skate) tissues. Here she is at CAARI, an international accelerator conference in Fort Worth Texas



Colin is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year graduate student at Penn State who worked on the analysis of atmospheric aerosols by RBS/PESA.



Ben is a junior who is looking at lead pollution near airports.



Jeremy is a first year graduate student at Uconn (and former PHY100 student) who worked on his senior thesis on the accelerator studying lead emissions from small airplanes at Schenectady airport.

## Some past and present research students

# What does the *UCIBAL* study?



## Environmental Pollution

Solids – soils, trees, tissues

Liquids – water, wines, blood

Gas – atmospheric aerosols



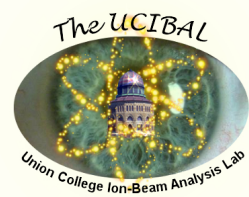
[http://www.conserve-energy-future.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Smoke\\_from\\_airplane.jpg](http://www.conserve-energy-future.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Smoke_from_airplane.jpg)



<http://www.offthehoof.co.uk/2013/03/how-to-avoid-environmental-pollution/>



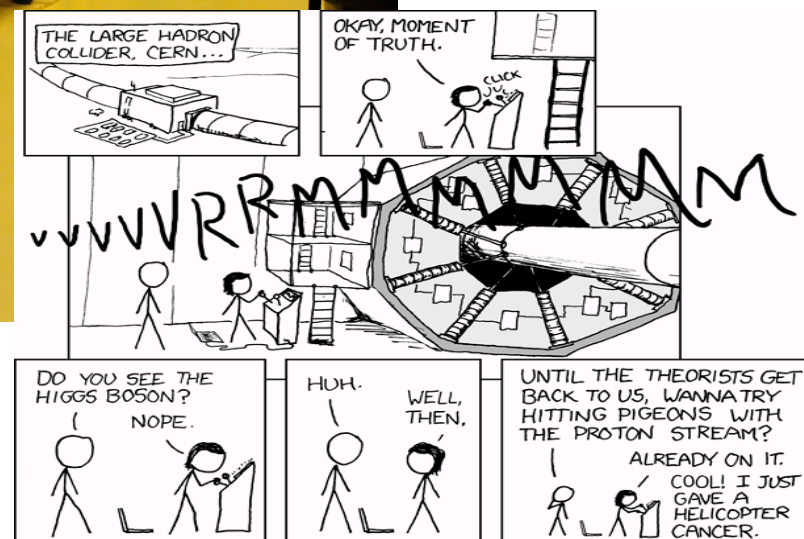
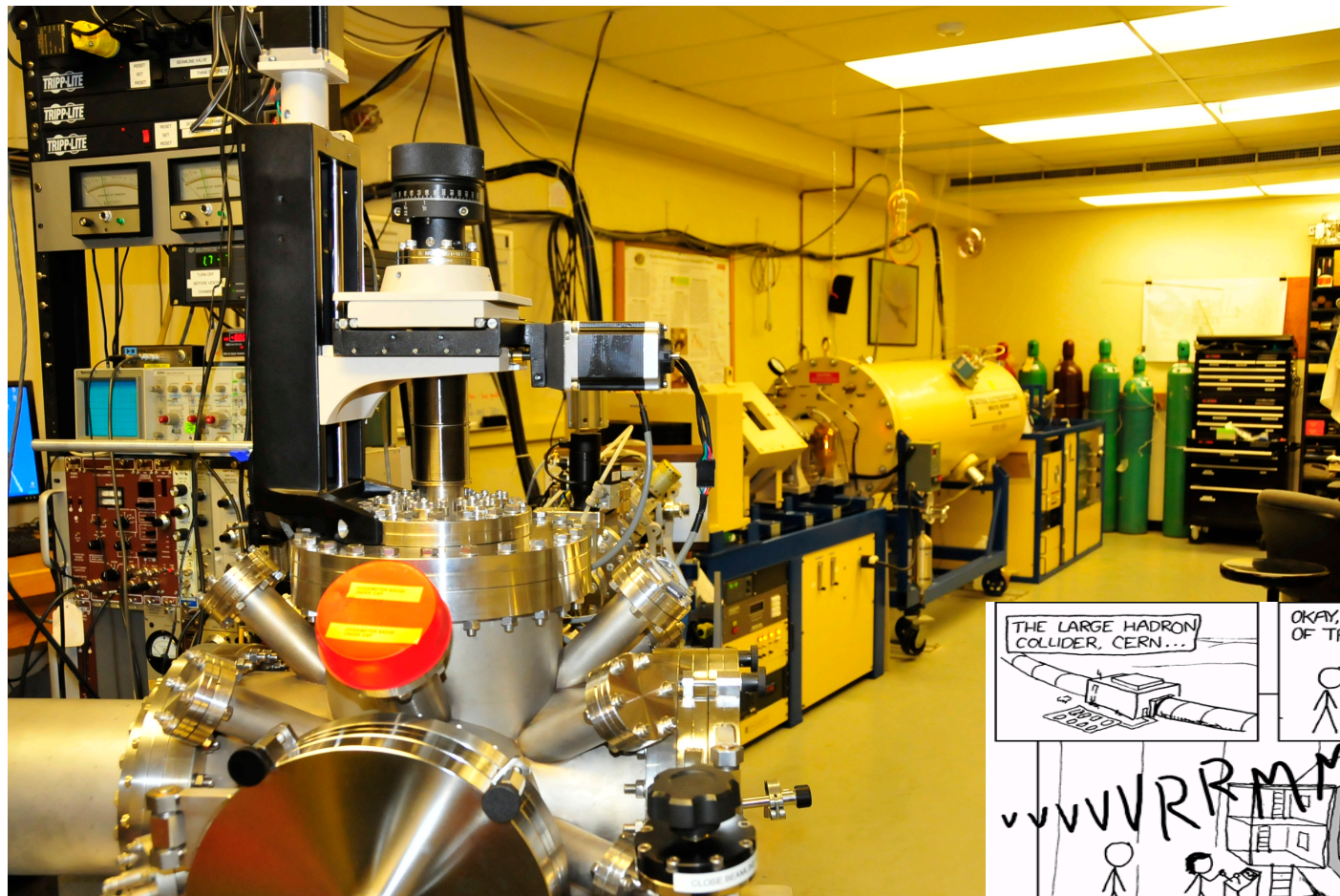
<http://ocean.nationalgeographic.com/ocean/critical-issues-marine-pollution/>



# Game Plan....

- We're going to use a what?
- Accelerator – What it is, What it does. Energy and velocity calculations.
- *PIXE* – Basics, Theory and Sample calculations.
- Modifications to the *PIXE* Theory.
- Materials Analysis of a sample using *PIXE* and the accelerator.

# We're going to use a what? A particle accelerator?





# *The Pelletron Particle Accelerator*



- Built by the National Electrostatics Corporation
- Acquired in 1991
- Replaced 450 kV Van-de-Graff accelerator
- In the process of writing a grant proposal for ~1.2 million dollars for a new accelerator which if funded would be installed in 2016.
- Our current accelerator has 4 main components

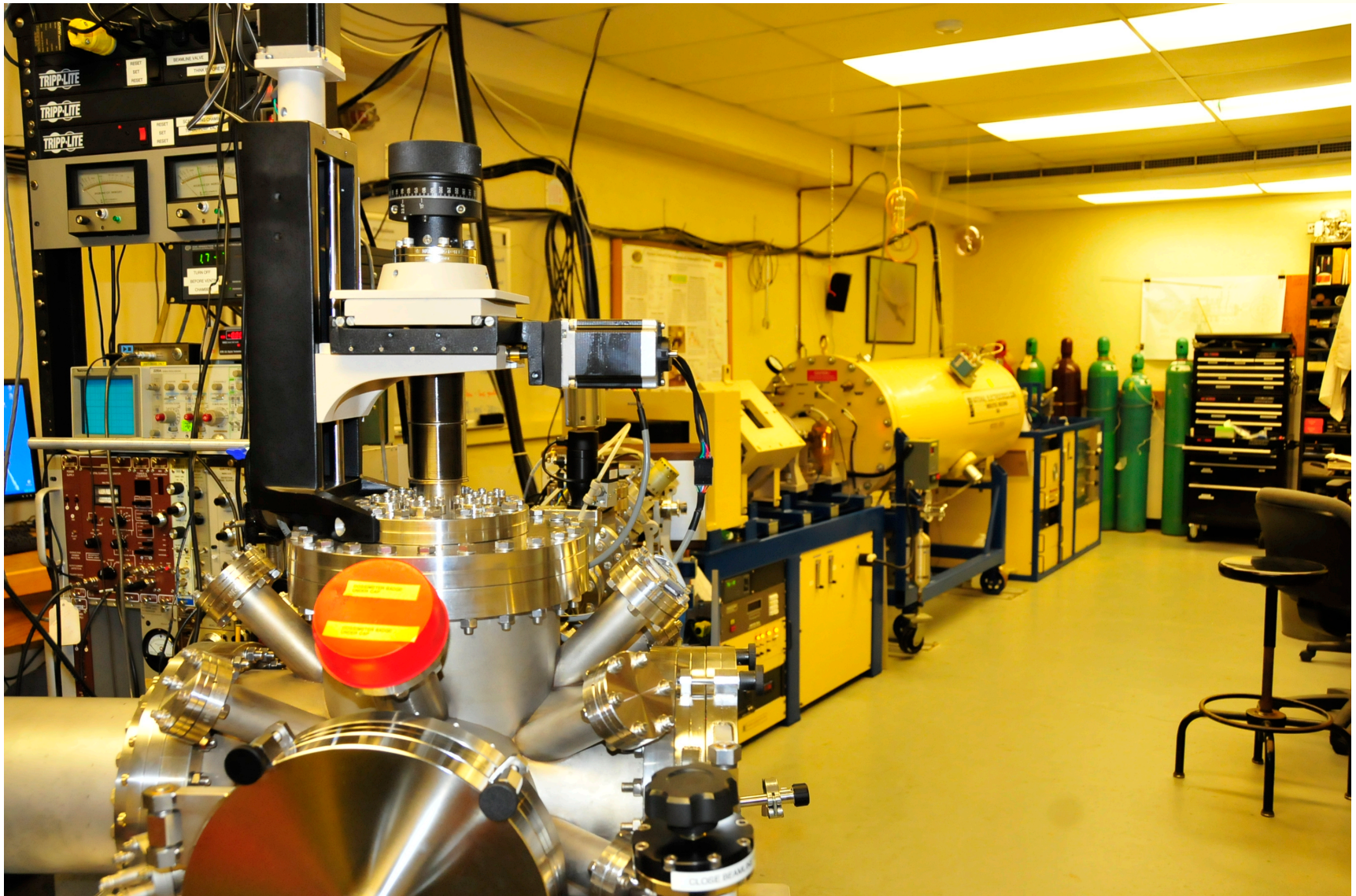
Ion production

Two-Stage (tandem) acceleration of ions

Steering of ions

Scattering chamber

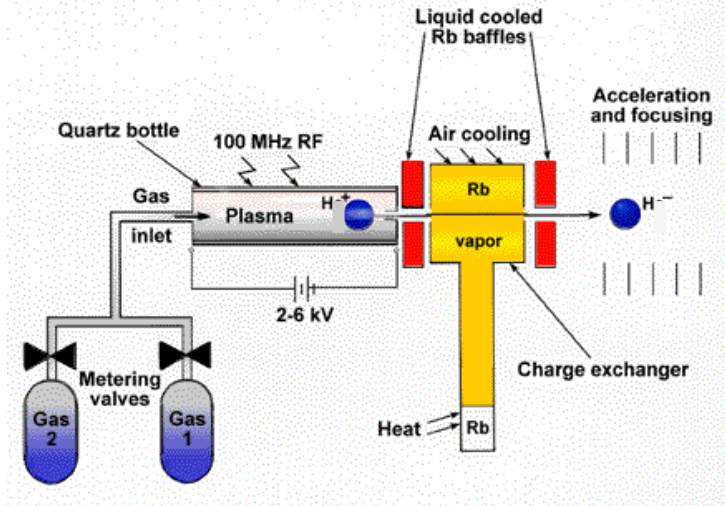
# *The Pelletron Particle Accelerator*



# The Source: Ion Production

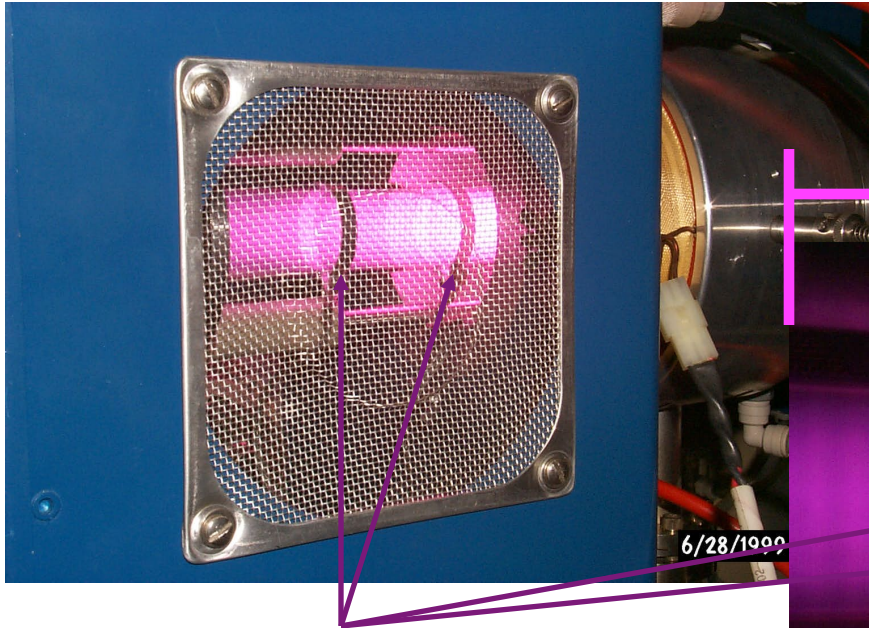


- H or He gas is bled into the gas inlet.
- 100MHz Radio Frequency (RF) electromagnetic energy is dumped into the quartz bottle which produces  $H^+$ ,  $He^+$ ,  $He^{++}$  and other ions.
- A potential difference of about 3.6kV for H or He is applied across the bottle.
- This accelerates the ions out into the charge exchanger.
- The  $H^+$  or  $He^+$  charges pass through a low density Rubidium (Rb) vapor and through charge-exchange collisions pick up extra negative charges.
- The  $H^-$  or  $He^-$  charges continue on into the accelerator.
- Of course there are other ions that are also accelerated ( $N^-$ ,  $O^-$ , ...)

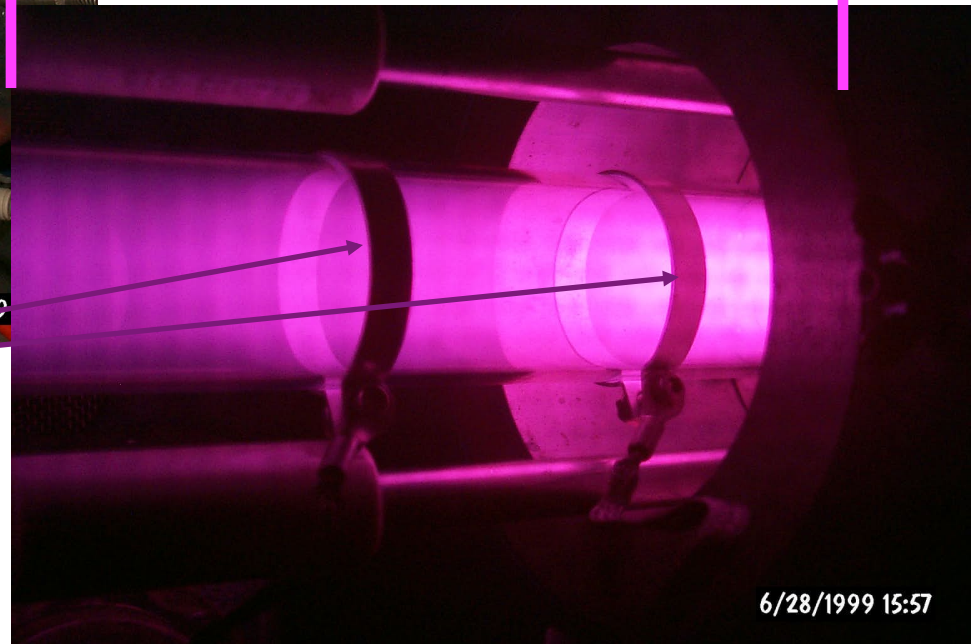


<http://www.pelletron.com>

# Ion Production and Plasma Source



DV = 3kV to 6kV



Looking into the back end bottle. The metal bands are what couples the RF source to the bottle.

Characteristic glow of a hydrogen plasma.

# The Low Energy End of the Accelerator

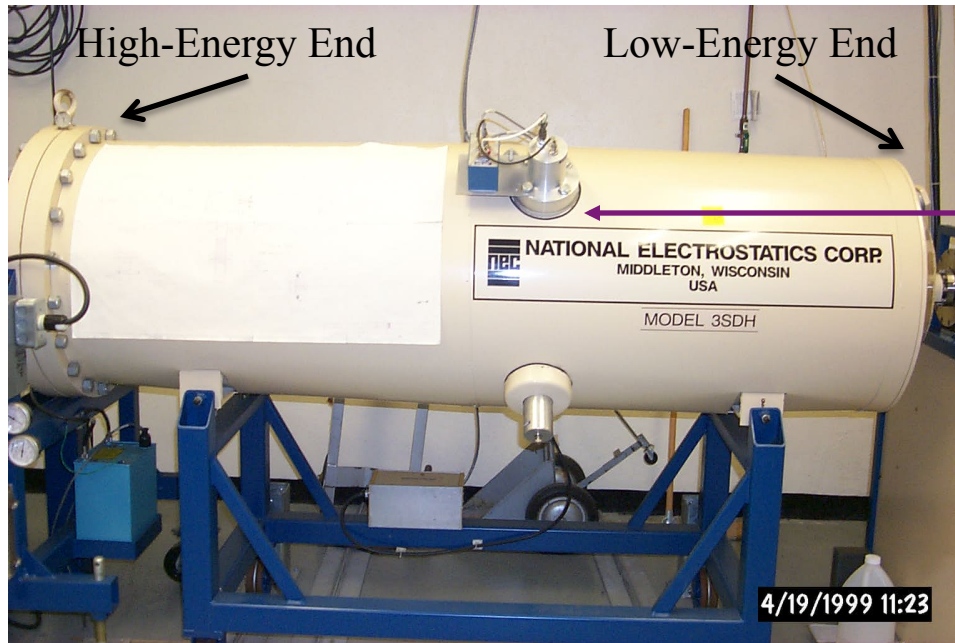


Ion Source or Low-Energy end of the accelerator showing the **Rubidium furnace** and cooling system. The  $H^+$  plasma is the faint pink glow.

Wide view of ion source. This also has a **Faraday cup** in view. The faraday cup is designed to count the number of charges and determine the beam current.



# The Accelerator

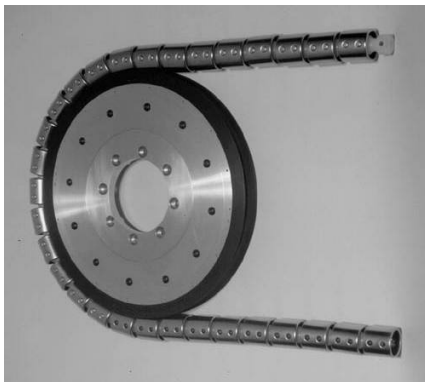


- The resultant positive particle is accelerated away from the terminal back down  $1.1MV$  towards the left edge and thus produces a tandem acceleration of the ion species.

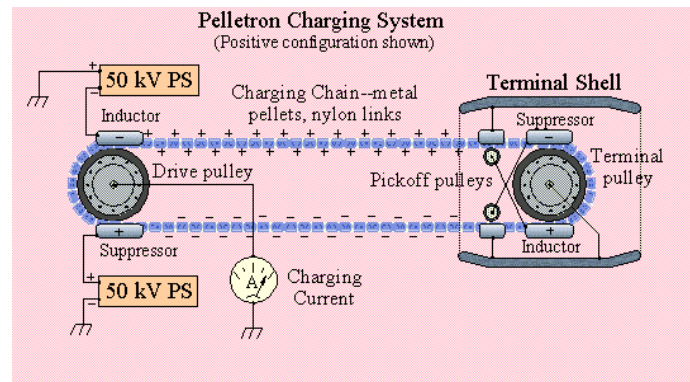
- The chain is housed inside of this tank.
- The terminal is in the center.
- From right edge of the photo (the low-energy end) to the terminal a  $1.1MV$  is applied.
- From the terminal to the high-energy end there is another  $1.1MV$  difference in potential.
- Nitrogen gas is bled from the left end of the photo to the terminal to pull off the added negative charges through another charge-exchange collision.

# Tandem acceleration of ions

- The negative ions are accelerated toward the center of the pressure tank by a 1.1 MV difference in potential between the low-energy end and the terminal.
- The center of the pressure tank (the terminal) is made positive with respect to the charge exchanger.
- The potential difference is developed by the Pelletron Charging system, which consists of metal pellets and insulating connectors.
- The terminal is charged by induction and is a very stable and reliable system.



Pelletron Chains



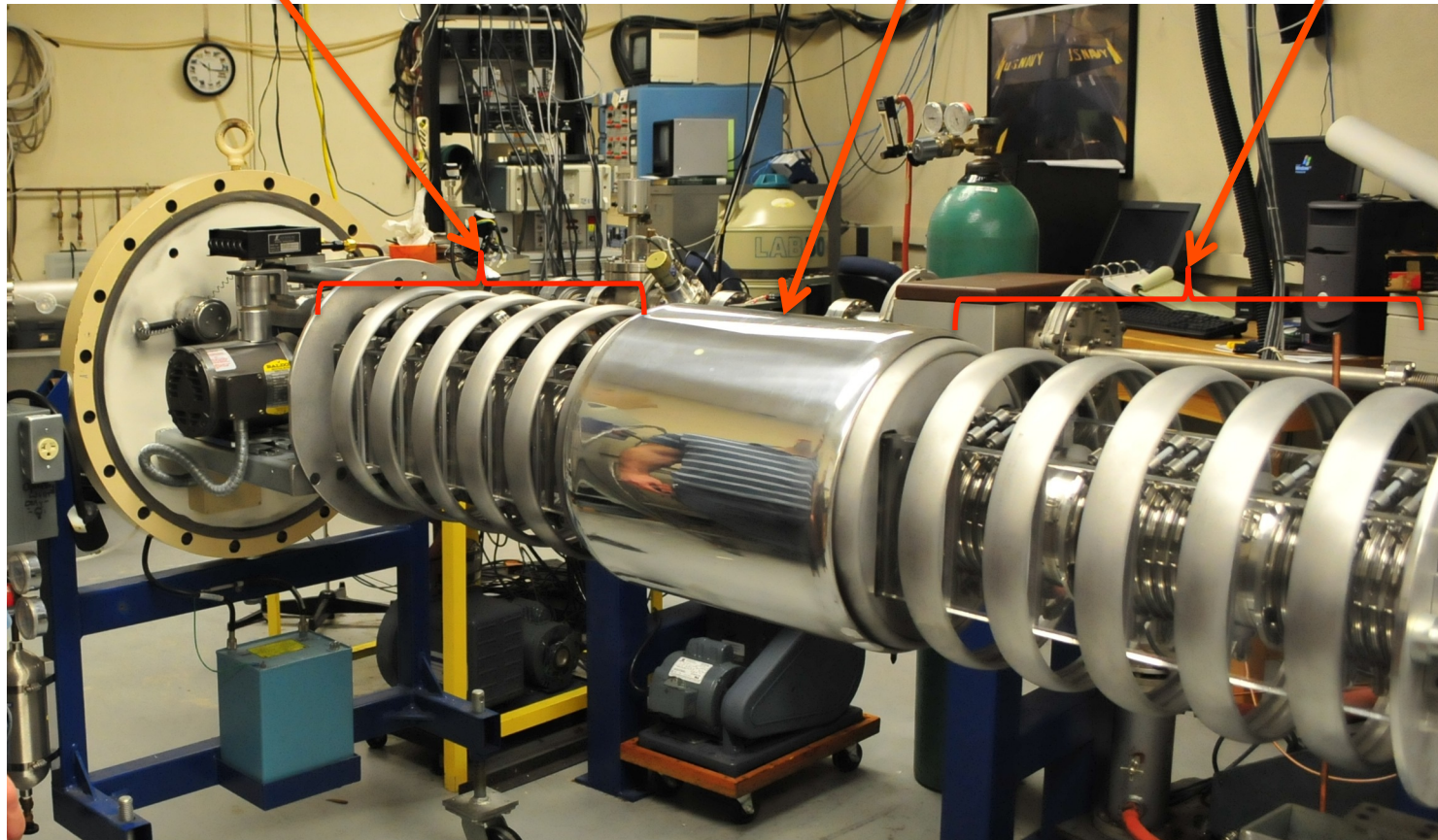
Pelletron Charging System by NEC

# The Accelerator – What's inside the tank...

High Energy Column

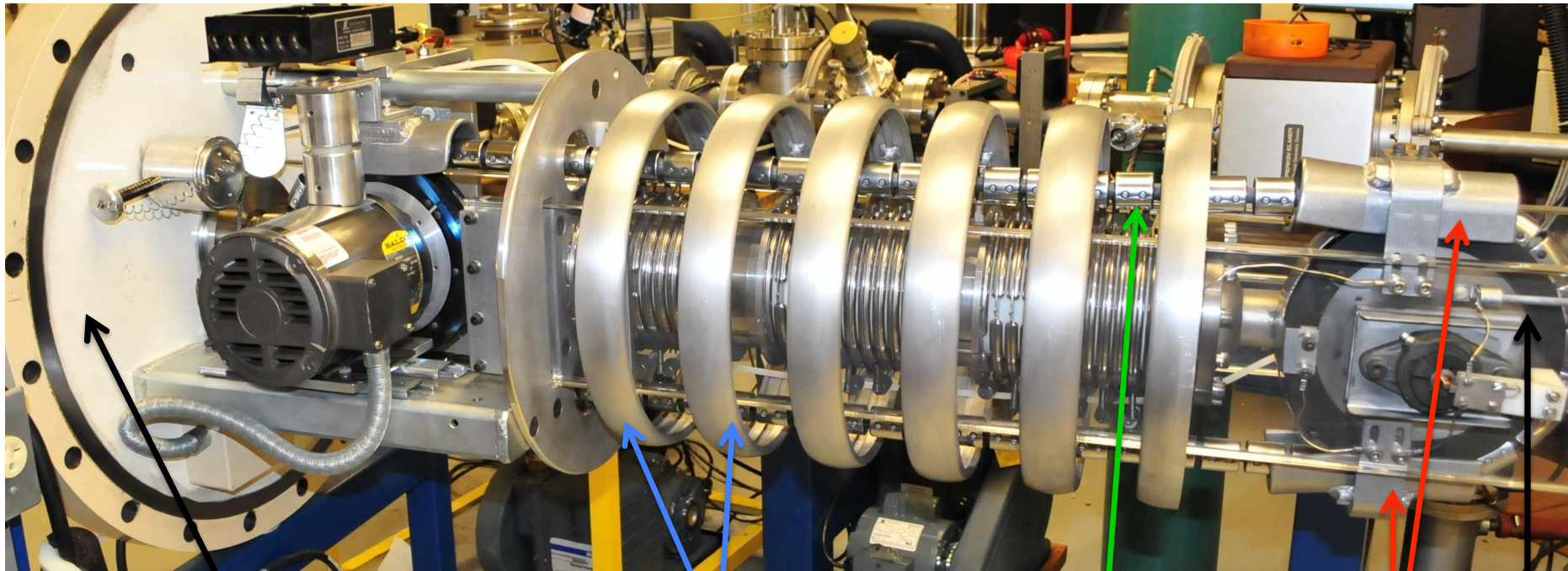
Terminal Shell

Low Energy Column





# The Accelerator – What's inside the tank...



High-energy end of  
accelerator

Accelerating Rings

A Pellet

Inductors

Terminal Shell

# Units:

Typically work is expressed in units of **kiloelectron volts (keV)** or **Megaelectron volts (MeV)**. What are these?

- **First let's consider accelerating a charged particle from rest to some speed  $v$ .**
- **The work done is a product of the charge and the accelerating potential that the charge passes through.**
- **It is like a ball rolling down a hill. There is a conversion of *potential energy* at the top of the hill to *kinetic energy* at the bottom of the hill. The ball starts from rest and at the bottom of the hill has a speed  $v$  and thus a *kinetic energy* associated with its motion. So too does the charge.**
- **It is repelled away from a like charge at the top of the potential hill and attracted to an opposite charge at the bottom of the potential hill**

$$\text{Work} = W = q\Delta V = (1e^-) \times (1\text{Volt}) = 1\text{electron} \times \text{Volt} = 1eV$$

# Units:

- Each elementary charge has  $1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  Coulombs worth of charge. Therefore the work done can also be written as:

$$\text{Work} = W = q\Delta V_{\text{accelerating}} = 1eV = 1e \times \frac{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ Coulombs}}{1e} \times 1 \text{ Volt} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ Joules}$$

- An electron-volt is a unit of energy
- And our conversion is that  $1eV = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$ .
- By the work-kinetic energy theorem, the work done accelerating the charge changes the kinetic energy from zero (the charge is initially at assumed to be at rest) to some speed  $v$  given by

$$\text{Work} = \Delta \text{Kinetic Energy} = \Delta KE = \frac{1}{2} m_{\text{ion}} v_{\text{ion}}^2$$

## A Couple of Quick Calculations

How fast is the proton traveling when it leaves the ion source?

$$W_i = q\Delta V = 1e \times 3.6kV = 3.6keV$$

$$W_i = \Delta KE$$

$$W_i = 3.6keV \times \frac{1.6 \times 10^{-19} J}{1eV} = 5.76 \times 10^{-16} J = KE_f - KE_i = KE_f$$

$$5.76 \times 10^{-16} J = \frac{1}{2} m_p v_p^2$$

$$\therefore v_p = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times 5.76 \times 10^{-16} J}{1.67 \times 10^{-27} kg}} = 8.31 \times 10^5 \frac{m}{s}$$

# A Couple of Quick Calculations



What is the kinetic energy of the proton after it leaves the accelerator?

$$W_{total} = \sum_{j=1}^N w_j = -\sum q\Delta V = w_{source} + w_{low-energy} + w_{high-energy}$$

$$W_{total} = -\left\{1e^+ \times (0kV - 3.6kV) + (-1e^-) \times (1.1MV - 0MV) + 1e^+ \times (0MV - 1.1MV)\right\}$$

$$W_{total} = KE_f = 3.6keV + 1.1MeV + 1.1MeV = 2.2036MeV \approx 2.2MeV$$

$$\therefore KE_f = 2.2MeV \times \frac{1.6 \times 10^{-19} J}{1eV} = 3.52 \times 10^{-13} J$$

What is the speed of the proton after it leaves the accelerator?

$$KE_f = \frac{1}{2} m_p v_p^2 \rightarrow v_p = \sqrt{\frac{2KE_f}{m_p}} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times 3.52 \times 10^{-13} J}{1.67 \times 10^{-27} kg}} = 2.05 \times 10^7 \frac{m}{s}$$

# A Couple of Quick Calculations



Comment:

Generally one needs to worry about the speeds of these particles and how they compare to the speed of light.

- Need to include Relativistic effects?
- In other words does the measured speed of the proton equal the theoretical speed of the proton?

This is hard to do... so, we set a limit... and we define a relativistic limit to be when the velocity of the object is less than *one-tenth* the speed of light ( $c \sim 3 \times 10^8$  m/s) then we do not have to worry about relativistic effects.

Here the velocity is  $2.05 \times 10^7$  m/s which is *0.069* times the speed of light, less than the limit, so no relativistic effects.