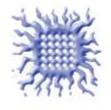


NICA Accelerator Complex

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NICA Days 2023 and XII Collaboration Meeting of the MPD Experiment at the NICA Facility organized by the Vinča Institute of Nuclear Sciences, SERBIA, *October 2-6, 2023*









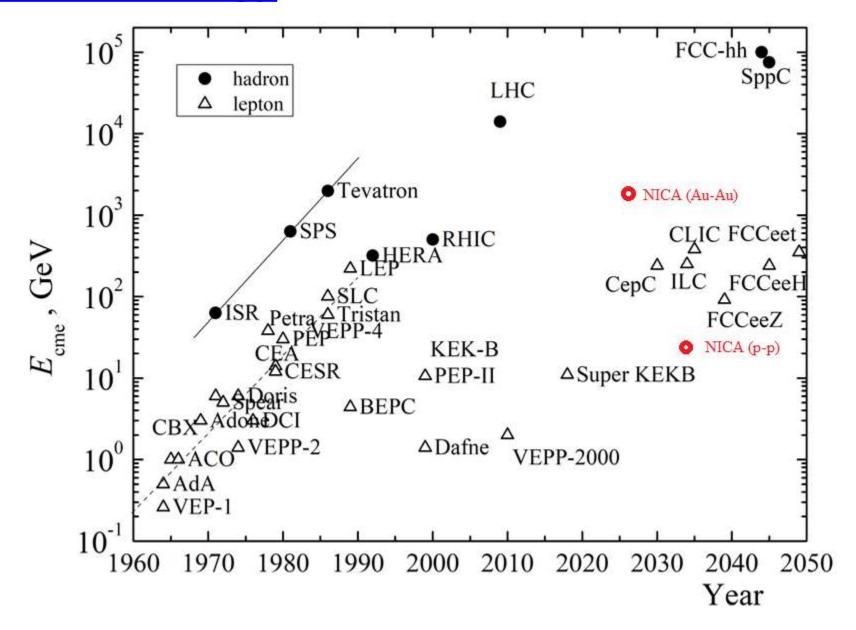
Colliders Landscape

- 59 years since 1st collisions
 - ♦ Spring 1964 AdA and VEP-1
- 31 operated since
- 7 in operations now
 - ◆ S-KEKB, VEPP-2000, VEPP-4M, BEPC, DAFNE
 - ◆ LHC, RHIC
- 1 under construction
 - **♦ NICA**
- One in a project phase
 - ♦ EIC
- Far plans
 - Higgs/Electroweak factories
 - ILC (?)
 - FCC: e⁺e⁻
 - ♦ Frontier (E >> E_{LHC})
 - FCC: pp (too far)

V. Shiltsev and F. Zimmermann: Modern and future colliders

	Species	E_b , GeV	C, m	\mathcal{L}_{peak}^{max}	Years
AdA	e^+e^-	0.25	4.1	10^{25}	1964
VEP-1	e^-e^-	0.16	2.7	5×10^{27}	1964-68
CBX	e^-e^-	0.5	11.8	2×10^{28}	1965-68
VEPP-2	e^+e^-	0.67	11.5	4×10^{28}	1966-70
ACO	e^+e^-	0.54	22	10^{29}	1967-72
ADONE	e^+e^-	1.5	105	6×10^{29}	1969-93
CEA	e^+e^-	3.0	226	0.8×10^{28}	1971-73
ISR	pp	31.4	943	1.4×10^{32}	1971-80
SPEAR	e^+e^-	4.2	234	1.2×10^{31}	1972-90
DORIS	e^+e^-	5.6	289	3.3×10^{31}	1973-93
VEPP-2M	e^+e^-	0.7	18	5×10^{30}	1974-2000
VEPP-3	e^+e^-	1.55	74	2×10^{27}	1974-75
DCI	e^+e^-	1.8	94.6	2×10^{30}	1977-84
PETRA	e^+e^-	23.4	2304	2.4×10^{31}	1978-86
CESR	e^+e^-	6	768	1.3×10^{33}	1979-2008
PEP	e^+e^-	15	2200	6×10^{31}	1980-90
$\mathrm{S}par{p}\mathrm{S}$	$par{p}$	455	6911	6×10^{30}	1981-90
TRISTAN	e^+e^-	32	3018	4×10^{31}	1987-95
Tevatron	$par{p}$	980	6283	4.3×10^{32}	1987-2011
SLC	e^+e^-	50	2920	2.5×10^{30}	1989-98
LEP	e^+e^-	104.6	26659	10^{32}	1989-2000
HERA	ep	30 + 920	6336	7.5×10^{31}	1992-2007
PEP-II	e^+e^-	3.1 + 9	2200	1.2×10^{34}	1999-2008
KEKB	e^+e^-	3.5 + 8.0	3016	2.1×10^{34}	1999-2010
VEPP-4M	e^+e^-	6	366	2×10^{31}	1979-
BEPC-I/II	e^+e^-	2.3	238	10^{33}	1989-
$DA\Phi NE$	e^+e^-	0.51	98	4.5×10^{32}	1997-
RHIC	p, i	255	3834	2.5×10^{32}	2000-
LHC	p, i	6500	26659	2.1×10^{34}	2009-
VEPP2000	e^+e^-	1.0	24	4×10^{31}	2010-
S-KEKB	e^+e^-	7+4	3016	$8 \times 10^{35} *$	2018-

Colliders: Energy



NICA: Low Energy Hadron Collider

- Two goals
 - Heavy ions "quark-gluon plasma" (γ < 5.8)
 - That is what sets our present priorities!!!
 - Polarized light ions (protons (γ <14.3), deuterons)
 - Presently relatively little effort on the collider site
 - Try to build good and solid program with slow extracted beam
 - We keep in mind that this is exclusively important for our future
- Major effects which determine the design choices and luminosity
 - Beam-beam and space charge
 - ♦ IBS
 - ♦ Cooling
 - Luminosity lifetime
 - ♦ Instabilities
 - Design of beam optics has to account all above effects and additionally non-linear effects coming from magnets
- Not-like other hadron colliders: low γ makes the collider
 - sensitive to the beam space charge in addition to the beam-beam
 - creates a possibility of electron cooling at the collision energy

Betatron Tune Shift due to Beam Space Charge

- Dependence of betatron tunes on the betatron amplitude results in that the tunes of some particles stay at non-linear resonances
 - ♦ Consequently, particle amplitudes grow resulting in the beam loss
 - ♦ SC effect is diminishing fast with beam energy

$$\begin{bmatrix} \delta v_{SC_{X}} \\ \delta v_{SCY} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{r_{p} Z^{2} N_{i}}{2\pi A \beta^{2} \gamma^{3}} \frac{C}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma_{s}} \left\langle \frac{1}{(\sigma_{x} + \sigma_{y})} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_{x} / \sigma_{x} \\ \beta_{y} / \sigma_{y} \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle, \quad \sigma_{x,y} = \sqrt{\beta_{x,y} \varepsilon_{x,y} + (D_{x,y} \sigma_{p})^{2}}$$

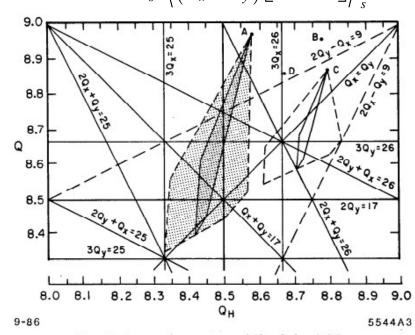


Fig. 3. Space charge tune shift of the AGS.

Beam magnetic field $\sim \beta^2$. That partially compensates electric field: $1-\beta^2=1/\gamma^2$

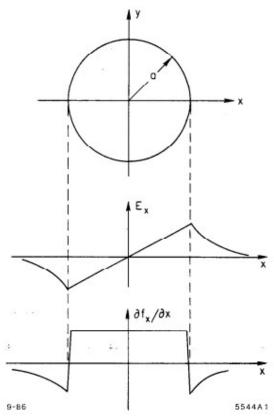


Fig. 1. Space Charge force of a uniform cylindrical beam.

Beam-beam Effects

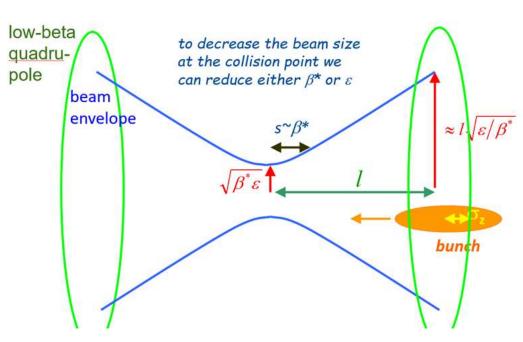
The beam-beam tune shift is similar to the space charge tune shift but is engaged in the IPs only. The tune shift per IP:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \delta v_{BB_x} \\ \delta v_{BBy} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{r_p Z^2 N_i}{4\pi A \beta^2 \gamma} \frac{1 + \beta^2}{\left(\sigma_x + \sigma_y\right)} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_x^* / \sigma_x \\ \beta_y^* / \sigma_y \end{bmatrix}, \quad \sigma_{x,y} = \sqrt{\beta_{x,y}^* \varepsilon_{x,y}^* + \left(D_{x,y}^* \sigma_p\right)^2}$$

For round beam

$$\delta v_{BB_X} = \frac{r_p Z^2 N_i}{8\pi A \beta^2 \gamma} \frac{1 + \beta^2}{\varepsilon}$$

- Magnetic field of counter rotating beam almost doubles force, $1+\beta^2$
- No dependance of δv_{BB} on bunch length
 - for large longitudinal displacement the tune shift increase due to larger beta-



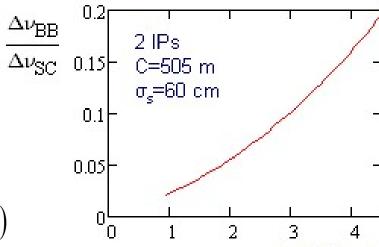
function is compensated by decrease of space charge field due to beam size increase

■ Smaller β yields larger β -function and beam size in quads

$$\beta(s) = \beta^* + s^2 / \beta^*$$

Possible Values of Tune Shifts

- Achieved values of tune shifts
 - Space charge
 - NAPM ~0.15 (strong el. cooling, 200000 turns)
 - Fermilab Booster ~0.3 (only ~2000 turns at low energy)
 - JPARK, PS Booster ~ 0.5-0.6 (high accuracy of super-periodicity)
 - Beam-beam
 - VEPP-2 ~0.2 (round beams)
 - Typical e⁺e⁻ ~0.05 (fast SR damping)
 - Typical hadron beams (Tevatron, LHC) ~0.01-0.015 per IP
 - Low energy RHIC ~0.1 (bad life time)
- $\frac{\delta v_{BB}}{\delta v_{SC}} = N_{IPs} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\sigma_s}{C} \gamma^2 \left(1 + \beta^2 \right)$ Ratio of tune shifts:
- For the present NICA parameters, the beam-beam tune shifts are smaller than the space charge ones and, in 1st approximation, can be neglected
- Note that for the same tune shift the beam-beam effect is more destructive than the space charge due to kick concentration near IPs
 - Phase averaging: $\sigma_s \sim \beta^*$
- For NICA we choose total $\Delta v = \Delta v_{SC} + 2\Delta v_{BB} \sim 0.05$; $\sigma_s = \beta = 60$ cm



E [GeV/a]

Luminosity Limitation due to Beam Space Charge

Luminosity of round beams $(\beta_x^* = \beta_y^*)$ & head-on collisions)

$$L = \frac{f_0 n_b N_i^2}{4\pi \beta^* \varepsilon} H_L(\sigma_s / \beta^*), \quad H_L(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty \frac{\exp(-y^2)}{1 + x^2 y^2} dx$$

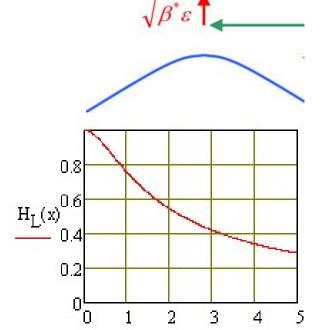


$$\delta v_{SC} \approx \frac{r_p Z^2 N_i}{4\pi A \beta^2 \gamma^3 \varepsilon} \frac{C}{\sqrt{2\pi \sigma_s}}$$

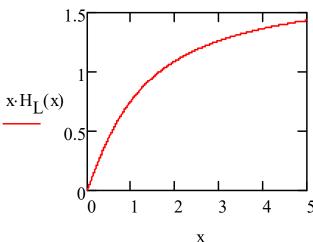
- ♦ Weak dependence of SC tune shifts on optics
- SC limits the beam longitudinal density, N_i/σ_s
- Combining the above equations, one obtains a luminosity limitation

$$L = \frac{\sqrt{2\pi} A \beta^{2} \gamma^{3}}{r_{p} Z^{2}} \frac{f_{0} N_{i}}{\left(C / n_{b}\right)} \left(\frac{\sigma_{s}}{\beta^{*}} H\left(\frac{\sigma_{s}}{\beta^{*}}\right)\right) \delta v_{SC}$$

- ullet Strong dependence of L on the beam energy
- ♦ Longer bunch => larger luminosity
 - Still collisions must be within detector
 - Luminosity distribution along IP has the rms length of $\sigma_s/\sqrt{2}$ ~42 cm
- $\varepsilon \propto N_i$ => larger luminosity -> larger acceptance



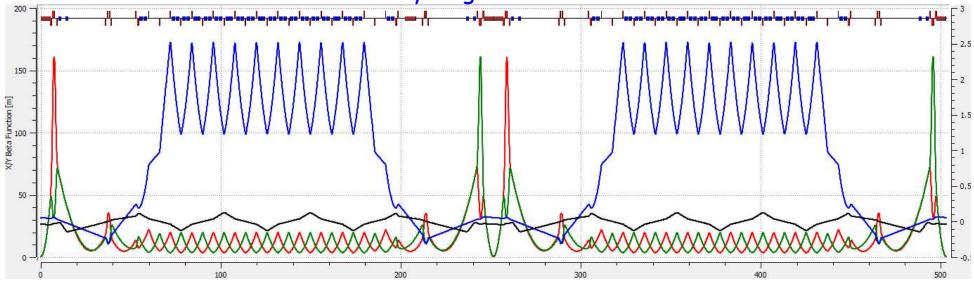
X



Comments on SC and BB

- Since both the space charge tune shift and the beam-beam effects diminish fast with energy, the beam injection at the collision energy is highly desirable
 - Rigidity of Nuclotron determines the maximum energy of 3.9 GeV/a
 Acceleration in the collider for operation at the top energy
- Note that for smooth focusing there are no emittance growth and beam loss
 - time dependence of the force leads to problems
 - larger variations larger problems

Collider has to have very large beta-function variations

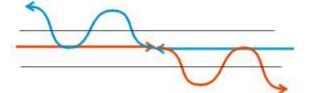


Intrabeam Scattering

- Intrabeam scattering is determined by two major mechanisms
 - ◆ Temperature exchange between degrees of freedom
 - Landau collision integral describes the temperature exchange:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = -\frac{2\pi e^4 n L_c}{m^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{v}_i} \int \left(f \frac{\partial f'}{\partial \mathbf{v}_j'} - f' \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{v}_j} \right) \frac{u^2 \delta_{ij} - u_i u_j}{u^3} d^3 \mathbf{v}', \quad \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}', \quad \int f d^3 \mathbf{v} = 1$$

- * Additional heating related to non-zero dispersion
 - Scattering with particle momentum change results in additional betatron oscillations due to instant change of reference orbit



$$\Delta x = D \frac{\Delta p}{p} \xrightarrow{approximation} \Delta \varepsilon_x = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta x^2}{\beta_x} = \frac{D^2}{2\beta_x} \left(\frac{\Delta p}{p}\right)^2$$

- Relatively simple equations in the smooth lattice approximation
 - Below transition there is an equilibrium state where no emittance growth
 - Particle mass changes "its sign" above the transition. That yields unlimited emittance growth (energy is taken from the beam energy)
- NICA with heavy ions operates in quasi-equilibrium: $T_{||}=T_{\perp}$

<u>Luminosity Lifetime</u>

- Sources of particle loss
 - ♦ Scattering at the residual gas
 - Rutherford scattering
 - Nuclear scattering
 - Capture of residual gas electrons
 - Multiple small-angle scattering leading to $d\varepsilon/dt$ in cooling absence
 - It may be more powerful mechanism than the single scattering in cooling absence
 - Nuclear and Rutherford scattering in the IPs
 - Noise in RF system (phase and amplitude)
 - ◆ Electron capture in the electron cooler (~1-5 hour)
 - Non-linear resonances due to space charge and beam-beam effects
 - Very powerful mechanism typically observed at the store beginning
 - Electron cooling rate grows fast with decrease of amplitude. That can lead to overcooling and particle loss increase with time
 - Observed in Fermilab Recycler

Scattering in IPs

■ The most principle irreducible mechanism

$$\tau^{-1} = \frac{L\sigma}{N}$$

- In the Tevatron Run II about 40% of particles were burned in luminosity
 - ◆ It should be the ultimate goal.
- Cross-sections of particle loss for Au-Au collisions

Nuclear, Au-Au,	7 barn
Electro-magnetic, θ > 12 mrad (6σ)	70 mbarn

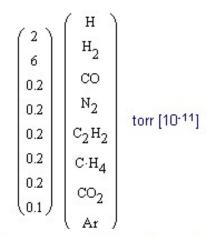
- ⇒ Intensity lifetime 360 hour for 2 IPs and L=7.1·10²⁷ cm⁻²s⁻¹
 - \circ Luminosity loss can be compensated by cooling (reduction of σ_{\perp})
- \Rightarrow Events per collision 3.6·10⁻³ (47 kHz)
- Long stores are possible (>24 h) if other sources of particle loss could be made insignificant!!!

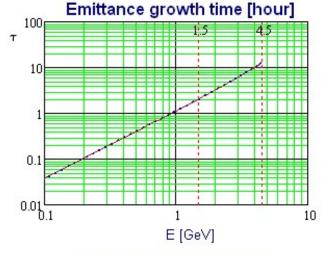
Scattering at Residual Gas

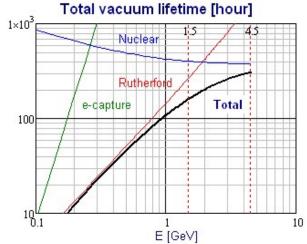
- Tevatron vacuum beam lifetime ~1000 hour
 - ♦ Store duration 16 hour
- At much lower energy we will have lower lifetime
 - ♦ Ultra-high vacuum is the must
- Good vacuum is assumed in below estimate Effective pressure:

 $\sum_{i} P_{i}Z_{i}(Z_{i}+1) = 1.7 \cdot 10^{-9}$ Torr atomic hydrogen equivalent

- Emittance growth compensated by cooling
- Nuclear scattering: τ > 400 hour
- Rutherford scattering is the main mechanism of the beam loss but does not represent a real problem if vacuum is sufficiently good
- Electron capture
 - There is no good & trusted model in the entire energy range.
 - ◆ An estimate shows that the capture starts to dominate below ~0.5 GeV;
 i.e. it is not a problem for the collider







Expected Store Duration

- Store duration will be determined by the following phenomena
 - How good vacuum will we achieve?
 - Will we be forced to use electron cooling at collisions?
 - If stochastic cooling will work, as it should, it will be the only cooling at energies above 2.5 - 3 GeV
- Thus, if we achieve the design vacuum and the design stochastic cooling performance the store duration will be more than 24 hours for energies above 2.5-3 GeV

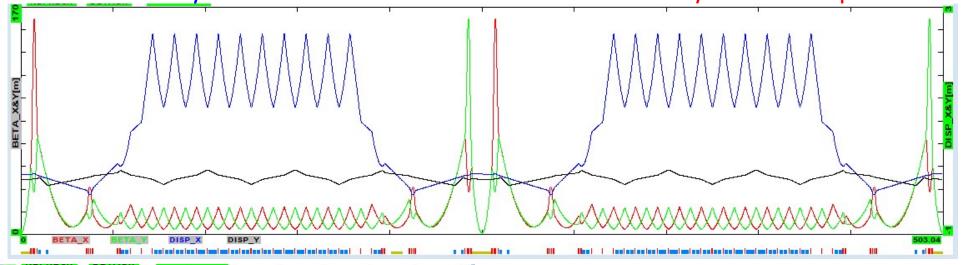
Design Choices for Optics

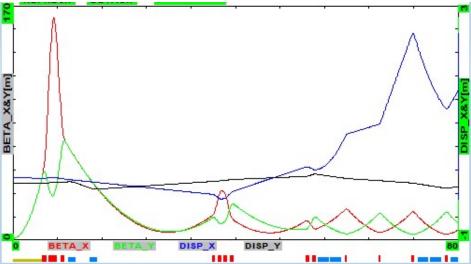
- Racetrack with 2 IPs
- ±5 m for particle detector
- Triplet focusing in IPs and straights
- FODO in arcs with phase advance per cell of 90 deg.
 - Cancelation of nonlinearity of sextupoles located at $\delta v = 180$ deg.
 - ♦ 4 families of sextupoles
 - 2nd order chromaticity correction which is excited by IR quads
- Dispersion zeroing in straight sections done with missed dipoles
- Large acceptance is limited by
 - Non-linearity of edge focusing in IR quads (large NICA acceptance)
 - Resonances excited by chromaticity correction sextupoles
- Type of magnets and circumference
 - ♦ There is considerable contribution to the circumference from straights
 - ◆ Therefore, superferric dipoles and quads (B<2 T) look as good choice
 - Cold vacuum chamber helps in obtaining good average vacuum
- Vertical beam separation
 - Small vertical dispersion is excited by one step orbit elevation
 - We plan to have both dispersions equal to zero in IPs.

Present NICA Optics

- Two superperiods
- FODO in arcs, triplet/doublet in straights
- All quads and dipoles are at the same 10 kA bus

Relatively small current additions/subtractions => very inflexible optics



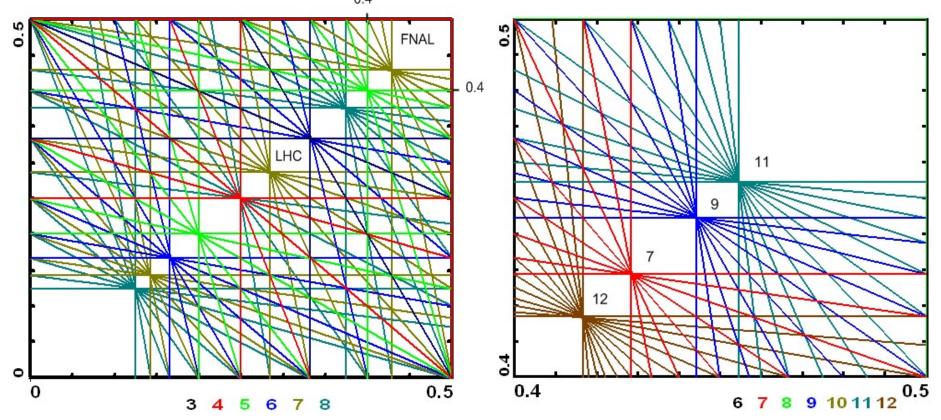


$$ε_x$$
=0.96 μm $σ^*$ =770 μm $ε_y$ =0.7 μm $β^*$ =62 cm $σ_p$ =1.7·10⁻³

■ We started to build new quads for the straight lines. They will have independent power supplies

Collider Betatron Tunes

- Stochastic cooling requires betatron tunes close to half-integer to avoid the Schottky band overlap
- Odd resonances are suppressed in the absence of parasitic collisions
- Tunes \sim [x.42, x.46] (same as Recycler)
 - ◆ Inversion of Tevatron tunes (~0.582 -> 0.418)
- Tevatron suffers from 7-th order (parasitic collisions) and 12-th order (will be suppressed by cooling in NICA)



Beam Cooling

Two systems of beam cooling will be present in NICA: electron cooling

and stochastic cooling

They are complimentary

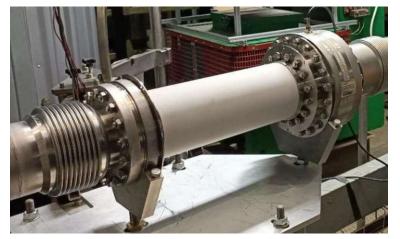
- Stochastic cooling
 - Initially was expected to be as the main and only cooling system
 - Lack of expertise strongly delayed its development
 - ♦ Still, we plan it be ready in ~2 years
 - Quite challenging system to cool a bunched beam. Very little margin for

errors for cooling at the collisions. Poor performance below 2.5 GeV

- Electron cooling
 - Good expertise accumulated in Novosibirsk for high energy cooling
 - 2 MeV system supplied to COSY, Julich, Germany
 - Very good cooling of small amplitudes. Much lower cooling rate at high amplitudes where help from stochastic cooling would be valuable
 - ◆ Poor beam lifetime due to capture of electrons

Stochastic Cooling

- New technology for pickup and kickers
 - Tested in Nuclotron
 - Non-vacuum pickup and kicker
 - Electrodes around ceramic vacuum
- 0.7 3.2 GHz band is split between 4 bands
 - ♦ 3D cooling required 12 systems
- Peak power per band $\leq 100 \text{ W}$
- Schottky power grows $\propto Z^2$
 - ⇒Good signal to noise ratio for a single pickup
- Two longitudinal high frequency bands require 2 kickers
 - ♦ 12 pickups
 - ♦ 16 kickers
- The band 2 is planned to be ready to the beginning of collider commissioning (in ~2 years)
 - Tests of pickups and kickers at Nuclotron



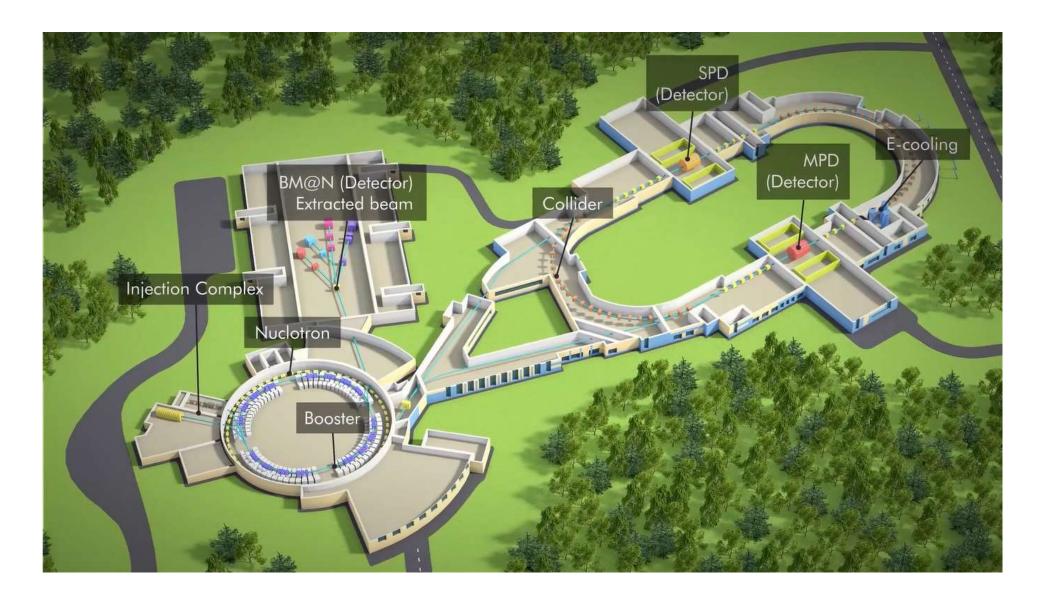


Main Collider Parameters*

	1 GeV/n	3 GeV/n	4.5 GeV/n	
Ring circumference, m	503			
Momentum compaction	0.0202			
Betatron tunes		9.44		
Number of bunches	22			
Particles per bunch	0.2·109	2.4·10 ⁹	2.3·10 ⁹	
Beam current, A	0.041	0.63	0.5	
Ring acceptance, mm mrad	40			
Ring long. acceptance, ∆p/p	±0.01			
RMS emittance, $\varepsilon_x/\varepsilon_y$	1.1/0.95	1.11/0.85	1.1/0.0.75	
RMS momentum spread	0.55.10-3	1.15·10 ⁻³	1.5·10 ⁻³	
IP beta-function, cm	60			
Bunch length, cm	60	60	60	
IBS growth time, s	160	460	1800	
Luminosity, cm ⁻² s ⁻¹	0.6·10 ²⁵	1·10 ²⁷	1·10 ²⁷	

■ These are relatively conservative numbers taken from the NICA design report. However, it will take years to get to them.

NICA Layout



Run IV of the Injection Complex (Sep. 2022 – Feb. 2023)

Goals

- ◆ Commissioning of the injection complex
 - Make hardware working,
 - orbit correction,
 - optics measurements,
 - test of instrumentation,
 - cryogenics
 - ...
- ◆ Delivering 2·10⁹ Xe ion events to BM@N
- Build a program of upgrades to achieve performance required by the collider

NICA Injection Complex

- Injection complex includes:
 - ♦ Ion source (KRION-6)
 - Linac(17 keV/u -> 3.2 MeV/u)
 - ♦ Booster
 - Nuclotron
- In the course of Run IV we Injection complex parameters (RuPAC-2021 with Au->Bi and accounted beam loss at stripping)) demonstrated an acceleration of ~5·10⁶ fully stripped Xe ions accelerated to the top energy of Nuclotron
 - ♦ 3 orders of magnitude higher than the previous run with Xe

However, that is about ~100 times smaller than required

Achieved Performance of the Injection Complex at Run 4

- Number of ions accelerated to the Nuclotron flat top (3.9 GeV/n)
 - ◆ At the best performance without e-cool, the injection complex delivered ~(5-8)·10⁶ Xe ions to the Nuclotron flat-top
 - In the number of nuclei it is about 100 times below the ion flux required by the collider design report (Design Report requires (5-20)·10⁸ Bi ions per cycle)
 - The number of ions can be smaller for the Bi ions which charge will be larger while capacity of the ion source expressed in the total ion charge is expected to be about same

Slow extraction

- The extraction was stable and had sufficiently small variations during spill
- ♦ However, the extraction efficiency of about 30% is low
- Inability of Nuclotron to stay at large magnetic field significantly reduced the number of ions delivered to BM@N experiment
 - At maximum energy 3.9 GeV/n (~18 kG) the flat top time was ~2 s

Beam Intensity through the Accelerating Complex

- From the ion source we extracted ~2.4 nC per pulse.
 - ♦ that corresponds to 1.5·10¹⁰ elem. charges or 5.3·10⁸ Xe⁺²⁸ ions
- We estimate that ~20% are the ions of targeted charge, i.e. the ion source produces ~108 Xe⁺²⁸ ions per pulse
 - \Rightarrow We lose ~95% of these ions in the course of beam acceleration and transfers (i.e. only ~5% of ions are accelerated to the top energy)
 - The goal is to reduce the loss to below ~30%
 - The major fraction of these 30% loss is expected to come from stripping occurring in Booster-Nuclotron transfers
 - ♦ In other words, we need to increase the acceleration efficiency from ~5% to 70%.
 - \bullet That should yield ~7·10⁷ ions per pulse still ~10 times below the required ion flux
 - ⇒ To address this lack of intensity, we plan an accumulation of ~10-20 ion source pulses at Booster injection
 - ⇒ Electron cooling is capable to support ~10 Hz injection to Booster

Number of lons through the Accelerator Complex

	Energy [MeV]	Rev. freq.	Number of
		[kHz]	ions [10 ⁶]
Ion source	0.0166	n/a	~100
Booster injection	3.203*	117.6	~50
Booster flat top	203.8*	812.58	~30
Nuclotron injection (1 st turn)	201.87*	679.21	~10
Nuclotron extraction	3.896	1169.30	~5

^{*} Measurement is based on the revolution frequency assuming the following circumferences: Booster – 210.96 m (design), Nuclotron – 251.52 m.

Major sources of poor acceleration efficiency (no e-cooling)

- Too long bunch coming out of the ion source ($\sim x0.6$)
- Insufficient RF voltage in Booster ($\sim x0.7$)
- Poor orbit correction through entire machine => small acceptances ($\sim \times 0.5$)
- Stripping efficiency ($\sim x0.8$)
- Longitudinal emittance growth in Booster acceleration ($\sim x0.5$)
- Insufficient RF voltage in Nuclotron (~×0.7) 0.6*0.7*0.5*0.8*0.5*0.7=0.059

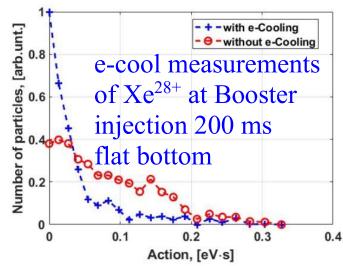
Run IV Achievements in Beam Operations

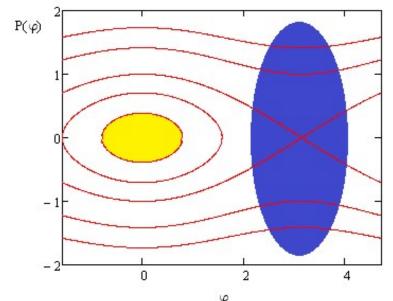
- Managed to operate the entire complex
- Some highlights
 - \bullet Understanding how to shorten the Krion-6 pulse from ~15-20 to 4 μs
 - ◆ Dynamic orbit correction in Booster
 - Orbit correction at Nuclotron at the injection energy
 - ♦ Restored knowledge on operation of slow extraction
 - ◆ Calibration of Booster RF voltage
 - ♦ Booster-to-Nuclotron bunch-to-bunch transfers
 - Measurements of particle loss through the accelerator chain
 - Operation of BPMs at very low intensity
 - ◆ Operation of Electron cooler required for Beam accumulation
- Most important: Built the concept of how to achieve the beam parameters required by the collider
- Now we have a long list of actions to be done for the next Run

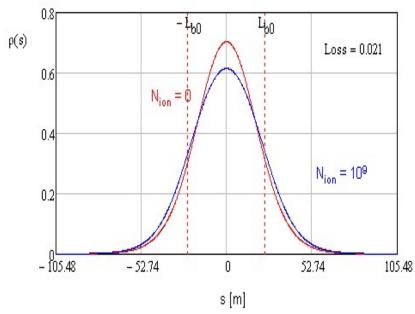
Path to the Injection Complex Intensity Increase

- How to get to the required intensity of injection complex
 - ♦ Beam Accumulation in Booster, x10
 - ♦ Reduction of beam loss, x10
- Beam accumulation in Booster
 - Revolution period of 8.2 μs is split into
 2 equal parts
 - 4 μs injection pulse + 4 μs stack
 - ♦ 200 V RF @ 1st harmonic

 - ♦ Cycle duration of 5.5 ms







Preparations for the Next Run

- Ion source: 10 pulses of 3 nC at 10 Hz are demonstrated
 - \bullet 4 µs pulse is in line
- Linac was not built to operate at 10 Hz
 - Hardware upgrades are expected to be finished by the year end
- Upgrades of cryogenics
- Upgrade of LLRF
 - + longitudinal feedback to improve stability of operations
- Upgrade of Nuclotron injection: E_{inj} of ~200 MeV/u -> ~500 MeV/u
- Instrumentation upgrades
 - Ionization profile monitor
 - Additional algorithm to Libera for BPMs
 - Nuclotron BPMs
- Software development
 - Finalization of orbit correction
 - Longitudinal beam tomography
- ...

Conclusions

- It is clear that the collider construction has considerable delay
 - ♦ Both internal and external reasons are present
- For now, our delay is still "not too outstanding" relative to the delays observed at other already bult colliders
- The delay in construction allows us to bring the injection complex to the parameters required for collider - the work which has to be done in any scenario
 - Note that for slow extraction we already achieved the particle flux required by BM@N experiment
 - However, for the collider operation we need a particle flux increase by about 2 orders of magnitude
- Present collider optics is rigid and we will have limited abilities to address not-anticipated issues
 - ◆ To address this problem, we started to rebuild the straight-line quads so that each quad could be powered independently
- There has not been a collider which operates exactly as it was designed
 - We will work to exceed the design luminosity, which happened with many other machines