

The Potential of EIC Machines for Fixed Target Experiments

Chuyu Liu

Collider-Accelerator Department, BNL

Exploring a Fixed-Target Program at the EIC workshop, Stony Brook
University, USA, Sep 29-30, 2025

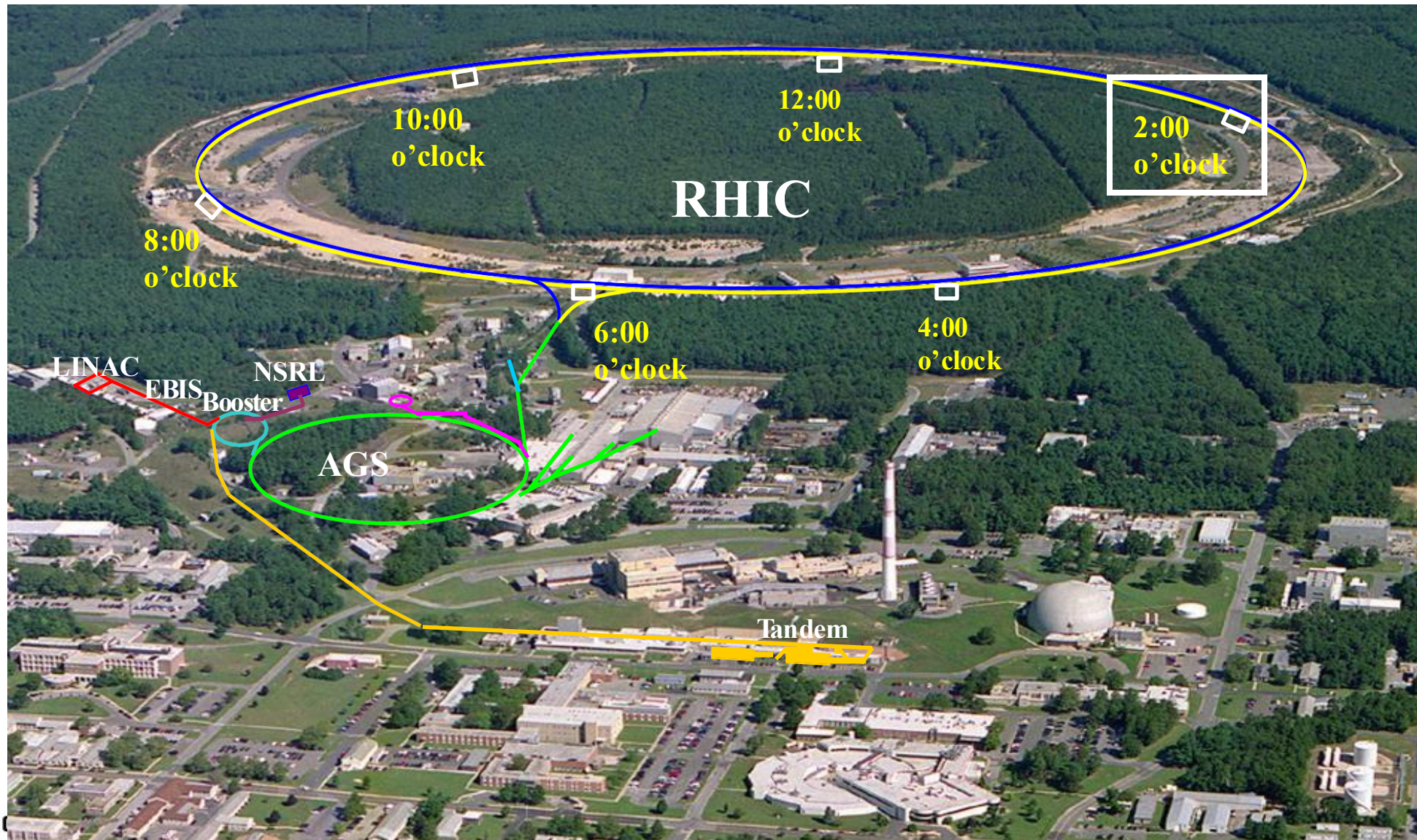


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Outline

- RHIC Facility Overview
- RHIC STAR FXT Experience
- Electron-Ion Collider (EIC) Overview
- Hadron Beam Parameters
- Electron Beam Parameters
- Summary

Aerial view of the RHIC facility



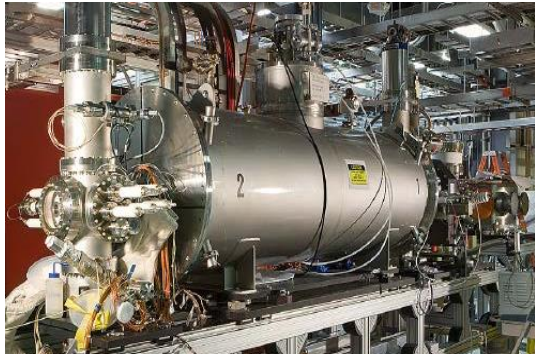
Hadron Preinjector at BNL

Linac (1970)



Ion: H^- , H^+
E: 10 -200 MeV
 I_{ave} : 200uA,
RR: 10 Hz
User: **BLIP**, NSRL,
RHIC

EBIS injector (2010)



H-U
2 MeV/u
 ~ 150 nA
5 Hz
NSRL, RHIC

Tandem (1970)



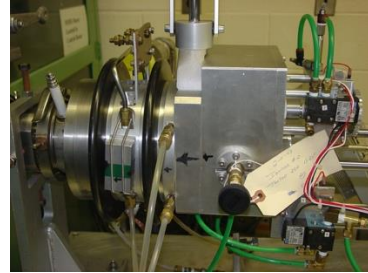
H-U
14 MV(1+q)
 ~ 10 μ A
dc/pulsed
SEU, NSRL
RHIC,

EBIS (Heavy Ion Linac)



H- U,

Cs sputter (Tandem)



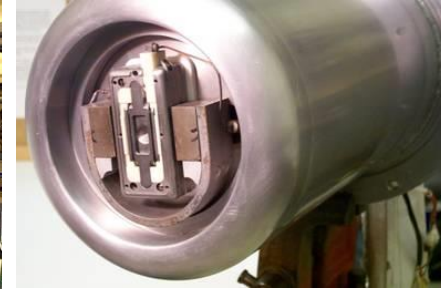
H-Au

OPPIS (Linac)



\bar{H}^-

Magnetron (Linac)



H-



Single Event Upset



Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider



NASA Space Radiation Lab



Brookhaven Linac Isotope Producer

BNL LINAC Beam Parameters

Frequency	201.25 MHz
Injection Energy	0.750 MeV
Final Energy	10-200 MeV
Peak Current	~60 mA/ ~ .5 mA P^
Pulse Length	600 μ s
Repetition Rate	6.67 Hz
Number of cavities	9
Length	144.8 m
Total Peak RF Power	22 MW

RHIC Program

Energy: 200 MeV ,
Intensity: ~400 μ A ,
Pulse length: 300 μ s
Pol: 85%
goals: max. pol. & min. emit.

BLIP Program

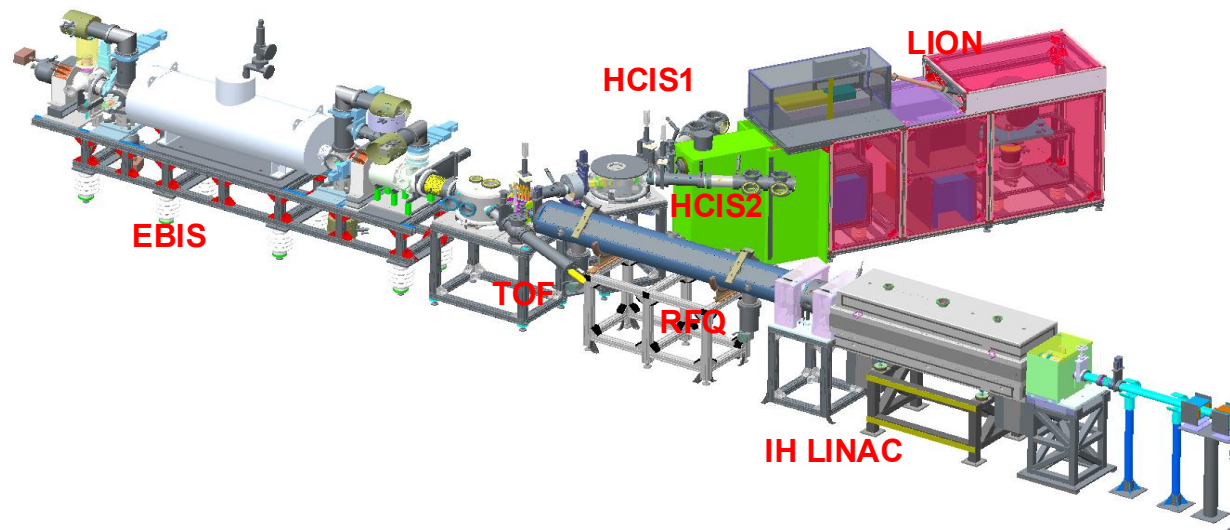
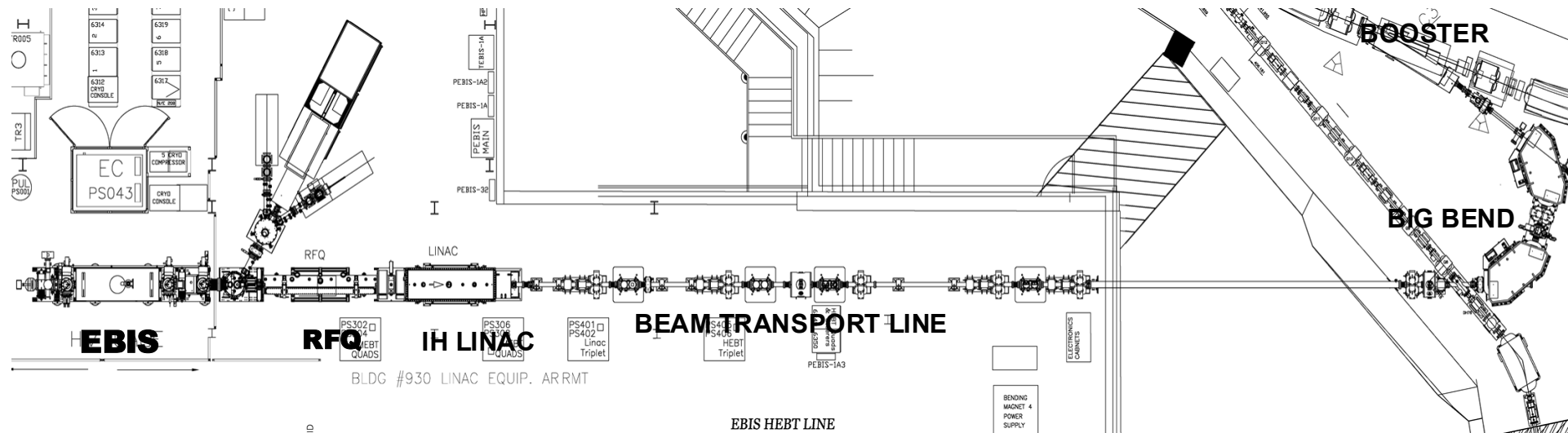
Energy: 66–200 MeV
Pulse length :~600 μ s
Intensity 60 mA
Goals: uniform beam & min. losses.

NSRL Program:

Energy : 200 MeV
Intensity: ~350 μ A ,
Pulse length: 300 μ s
Goal: schedule

**Can be serve all programs
simultaneously**

EBIS Preinjector (2 MeV/u)



Ions	H - U
Q / m	$\geq 1/6$
Current	$> 1.5 \text{ emA (20 } \mu\text{s)}$
Pulse length	$10\text{-}40 \text{ } \mu\text{s}$
Rep rate	5 Hz
Output energy	2 MeV / u
Time to switch species	1 second

100 *Journal of Management Inquiry* 20(1)

1 second switching between species (2, or more), alternating
<30 second switching among almost any 10, if loaded into external sources

Tandem Van de Graff Facility

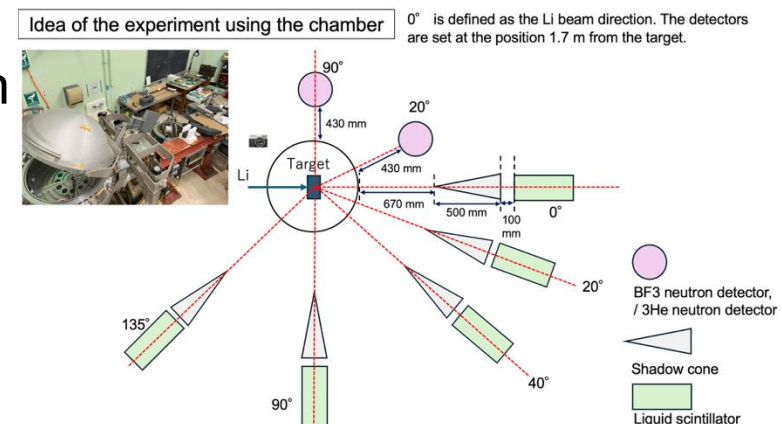


ION: H-U
E: 14MV(1+Q)
I (Ave): ~ 10uA
RR. : Dc/Pulse

Neutron production experiment at Tandem

Masahiro, Toshiro, Madhawa, Antonino, Takeshi, Shunsuke, Dannie, Benedikt (Germany), Phillip (Germany)

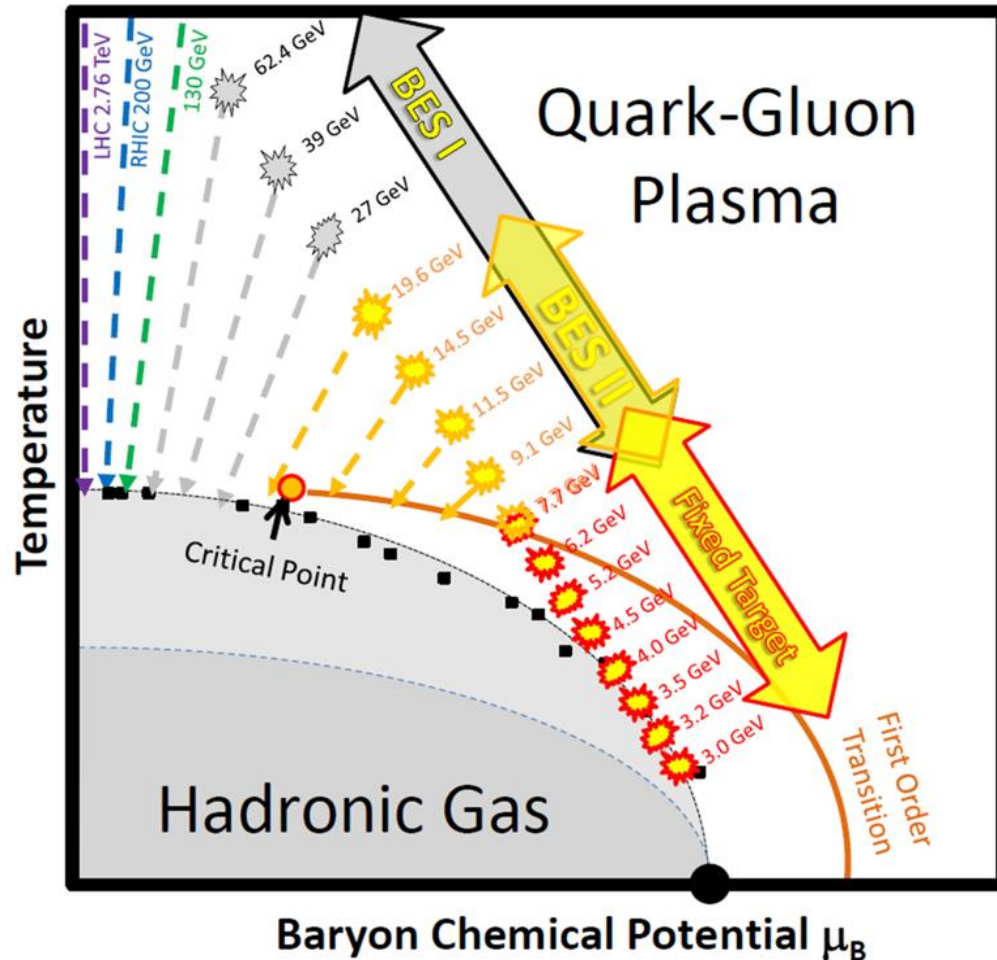
- Radiation Effects testing and Calibration
- Single Event Upset Test facility
- Ion irradiation/implantation
- Radiobiology Research Facility
- Also, backup for EBIS



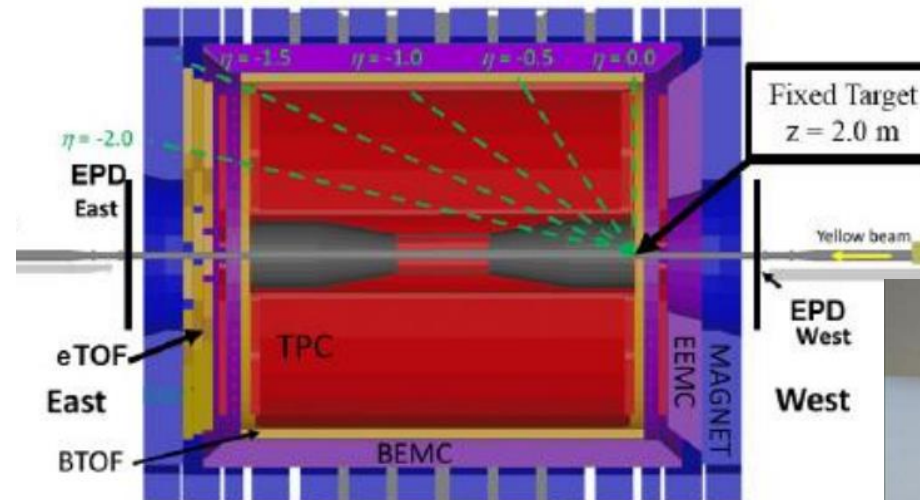
Very high directivity was confirmed using Shadow Cone technique

RHIC STAR Halo-on-Target FXT Experiment Experience

STAR FXT setup



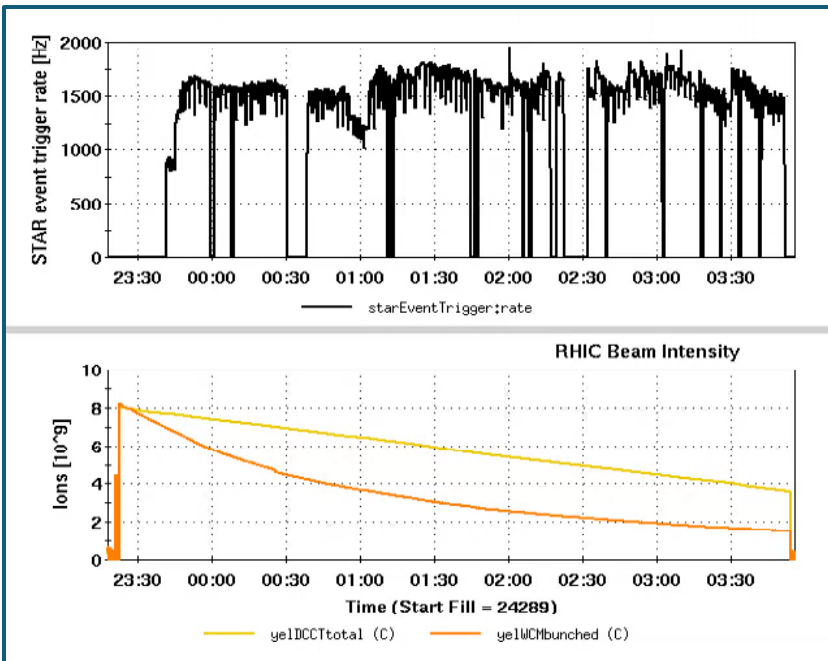
The beam energy scan I (BES-I) was completed during 2007-2014. However, the transition between QGP and hadronic gas has not been understood yet. The BES-I program offered limited statistics because the RHIC luminosity decreases steeply at lower energies. Therefore, the beam energy Scan II (BES-II) was performed with the luminosity improved by a factor of ~ 4 at multiple beam energies (3.85, 4.55, 5.75, 7.3 and 9.8 GeV/nucleon). In addition, FXT experiments were carried out to extend the energy reach out of the nominal beam energy range.



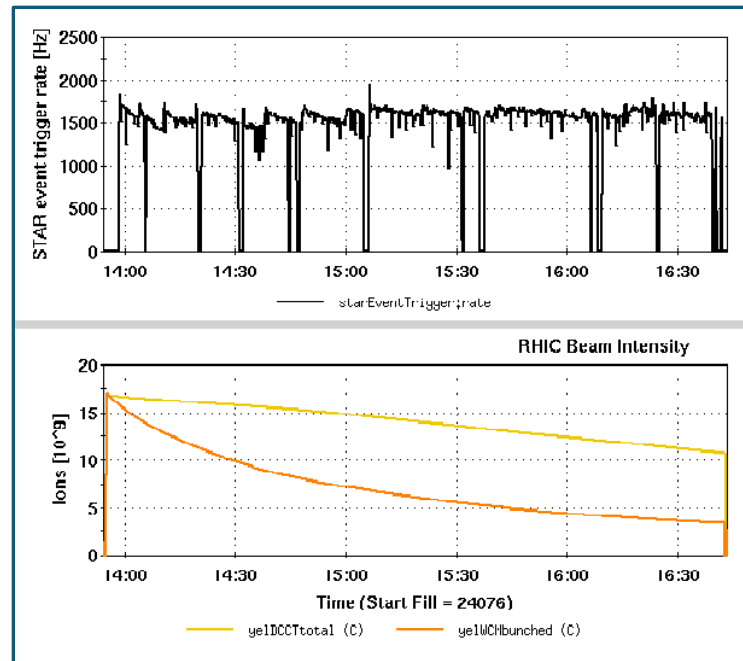
Au target ¹¹

FXT Operations in 2019

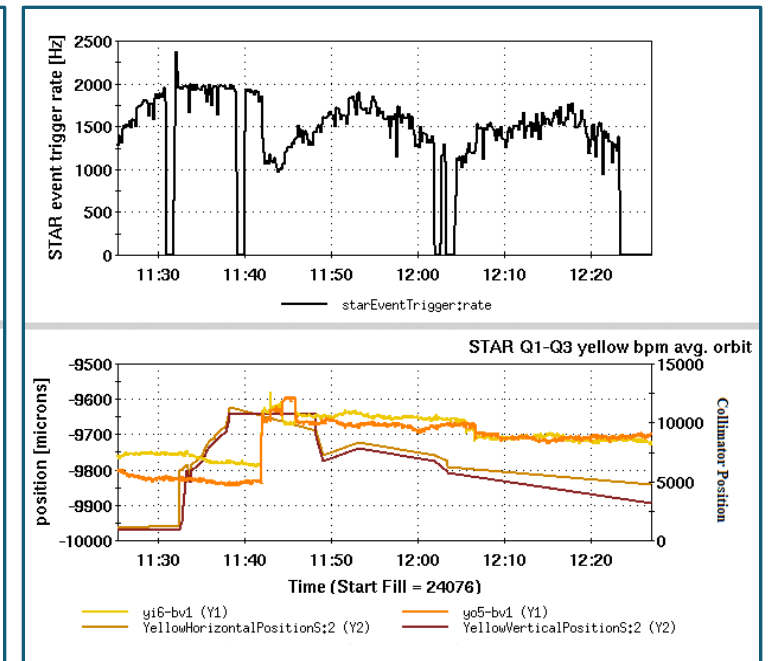
rate 4.59 GeV/nucleon



7.3 GeV/nucleon

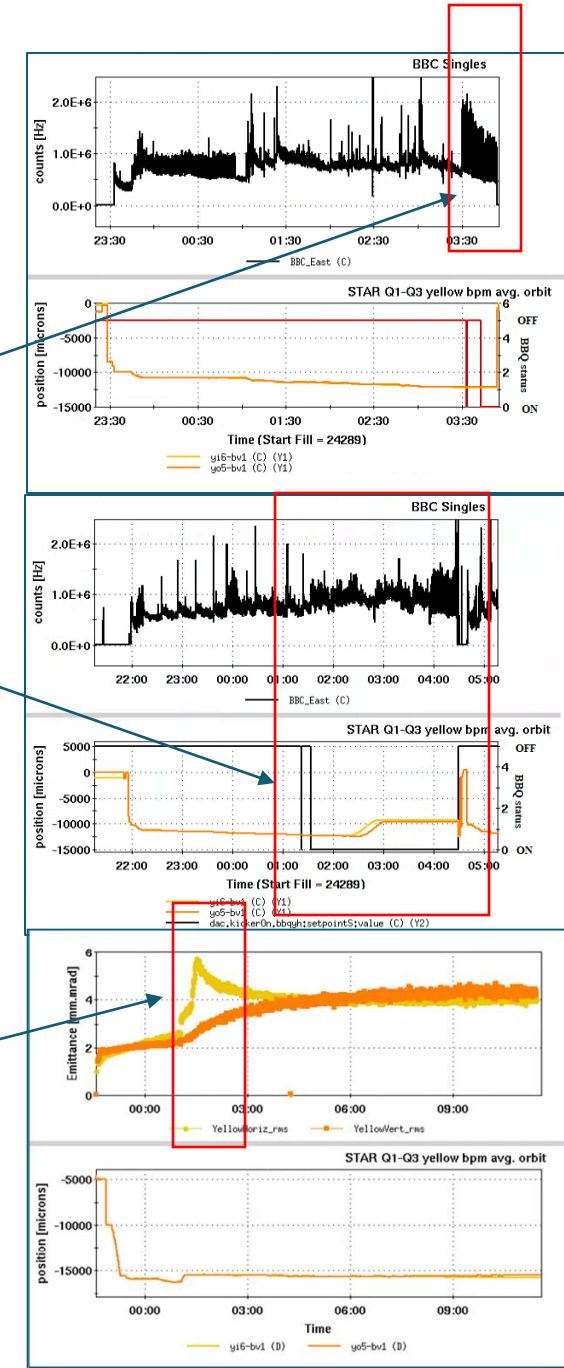


31.2 GeV/nucleon



FXT Operations in 2019 (cant.)

- Tune meter kicker was turned on towards the end of the 4.59 GeV/nucleon store to replenish beam halo therefore maintain the rates
- For the later half of the 7.3 GeV/nucleon store, the tune meter kicker was on to sustain the rate.
- The event rate at 31.2 GeV/nucleon was extremely sensitive to the beam position once the beam halo is scraping on the target. It was found that the BBQ kickers were not strong enough to blow up beam emittance in a reasonable amount of time. A desirable event rate was only achieved when the horizontal emittance was diluted by instability with a close to zero chromaticity.



FXT Operations in 2020

Table 1: Summary table for the fixed target experiments at RHIC in 2020

Beam Energy (GeV/n)	CoM (GeV)	Tunes	β^* (m)	Store Length (hrs)	Number of stores	Total Events (M)
5.75	3.5	0.233/0.230	10	6	4	114
7.3	3.9	0.235/0.222	10	5	6	115
9.8	4.5	0.234/0.228	10	4	8	109
13.5	5.2	0.234/0.228	10	15	2	103
19.5	6.2	0.234/0.228	10	21	1	119
31.2	7.7	0.236/0.228	5	13.5	2	114

Summary table for FXT during BES-II

Beam Total Energy (GeV/u)	3.85	4.59	5.75	7.3	9.8	13.5	19.5	26.5	31.2	44.5	70	100
Species	Au	Au	Au	Au	Au	Au	Au	Au	Au	Au	Au	Au
# of Bunches	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Ions/bunch	1.7E9	0.65E9	1.0E9	1.0E9	1.25E9	1.0E9	1.0E9	0.2E9	1.5E9	1.5E9	1.5E9	1.3E9
β^* (m)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	5	5	5	5	5
Rms emit. (mm*mrad)	1.1	1.25	2	1.4	2.0	2.4	1.5	1.5	3	NA	NA	15
Rate control	Orbit control, controlled emittance blow-up with BBQ	Orbit control, controlled emittance blow-up with BBQ at the end of store	Orbit control	Orbit control	Orbit control	Orbit control	Orbit control	Orbit control , parallel to CeC	Orbit control with 50 um step, emit increase with small chrom during acceleration	Orbit control	Orbit control	17 mm orbit bump, injection mismatch, emit increase with small chrom, controlled emittance blow-up with BBQ

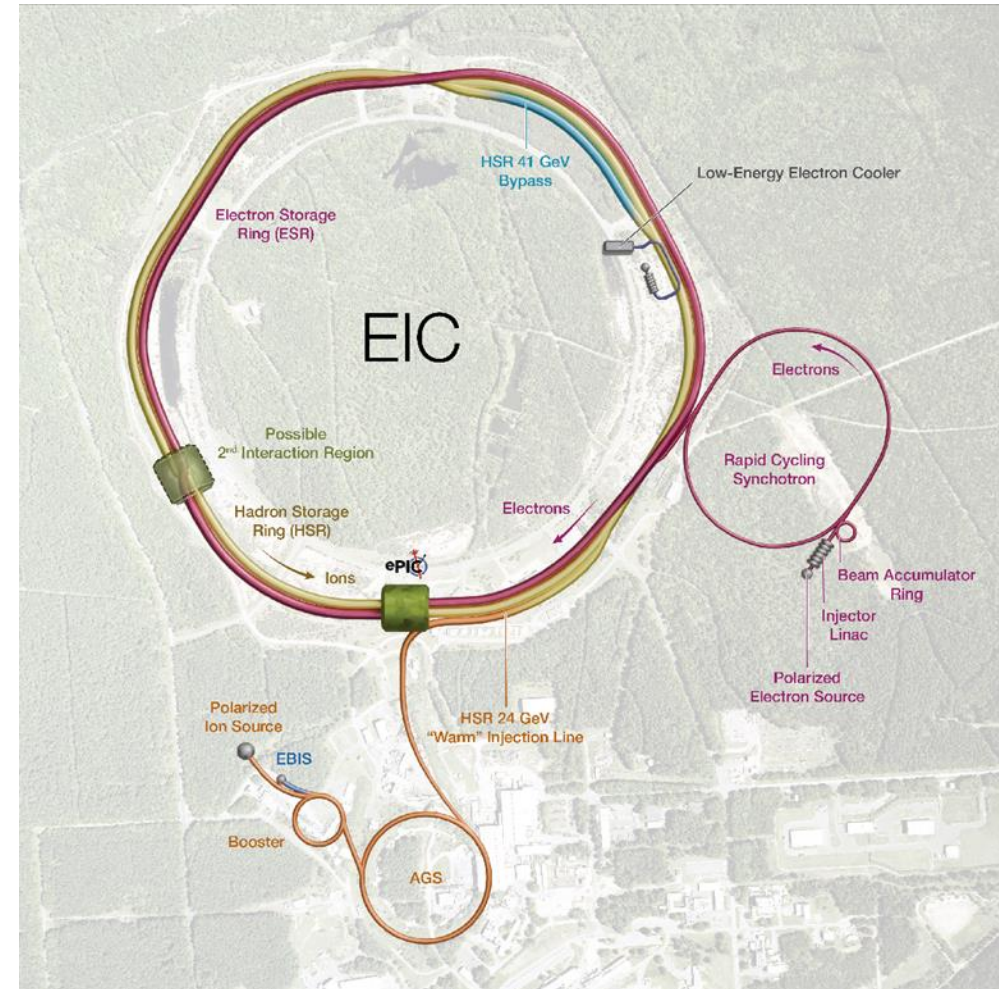
Reasons that we liked FXT

- Easy to establish beam conditions required for FXT experiment.
- Substantial luminosity can be achieved for Halo-on-Target with very little beam intensity ($1\text{E}9$ ions) in the machine.
- FXT does not care much deteriorating beam conditions which are unfavorable for colliding beam
 - Rate can be maintained with decreasing beam intensity by measures mentioned in previous slides
 - Increasing beam size makes rate more controllable
 - The typically detrimental effects, such as intra-beam scattering and space charge, can actually aid in populating the beam halo.
- Background was not difficult to manage with collimators.

Electron-Ion Collider Overview

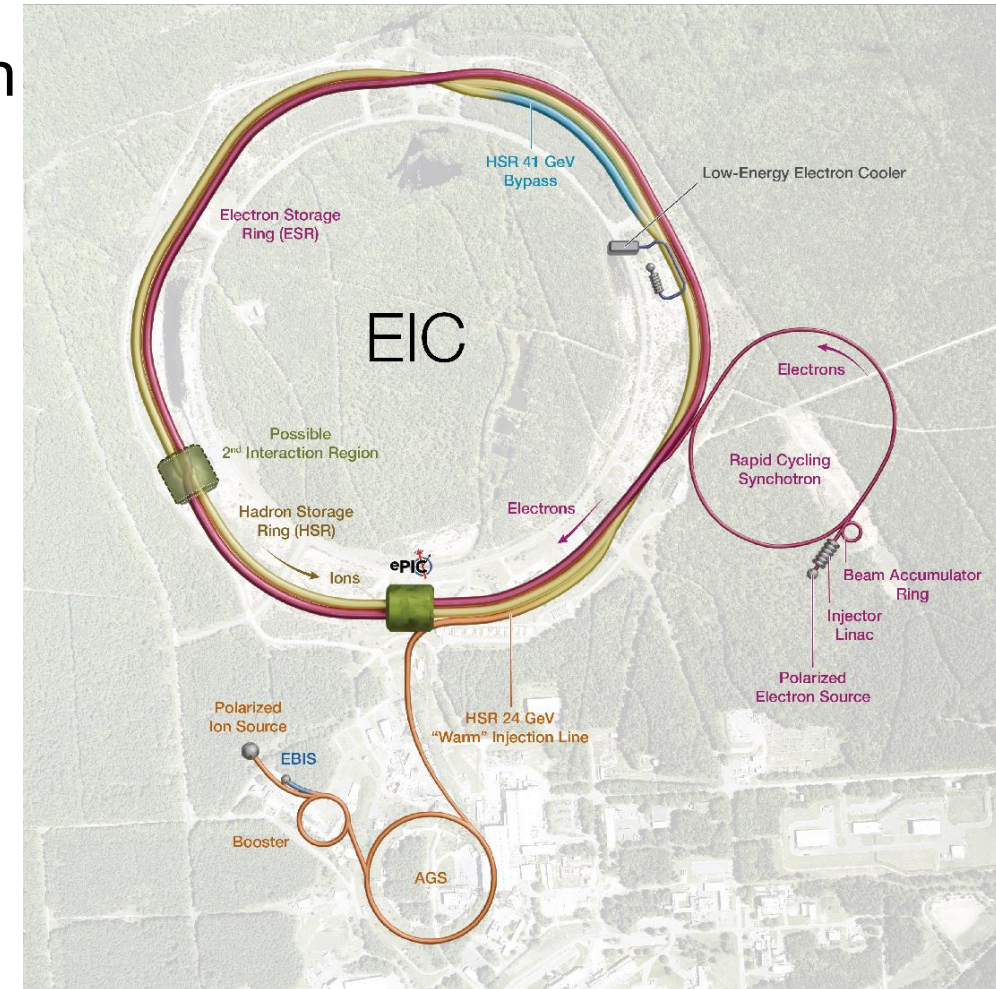
Electron-Ion Collider

- **Hadron Storage Ring (HSR) 10-275 GeV**
 - Superconducting magnets (existing)
 - 1160 bunches, 1A beam current (3x RHIC)
 - Flat beam (11:1 ratio)
 - Beam cooling
- **Electron Storage Ring (ESR) 5 – 18 GeV**
 - large beam current, 2.5 A → 9 MW S.R. power
 - S.C. RF cavities
 - Need to inject polarized bunches
- **Electron Rapid Cycling Synchrotron (RCS) 750 MeV- 18GeV**
 - 1 Hz
 - Spin transparent due to high periodicity
- **Electron Injector**
 - Warm Linac, 30 Hz
 - Beam Accumulation Ring, 1 Hz



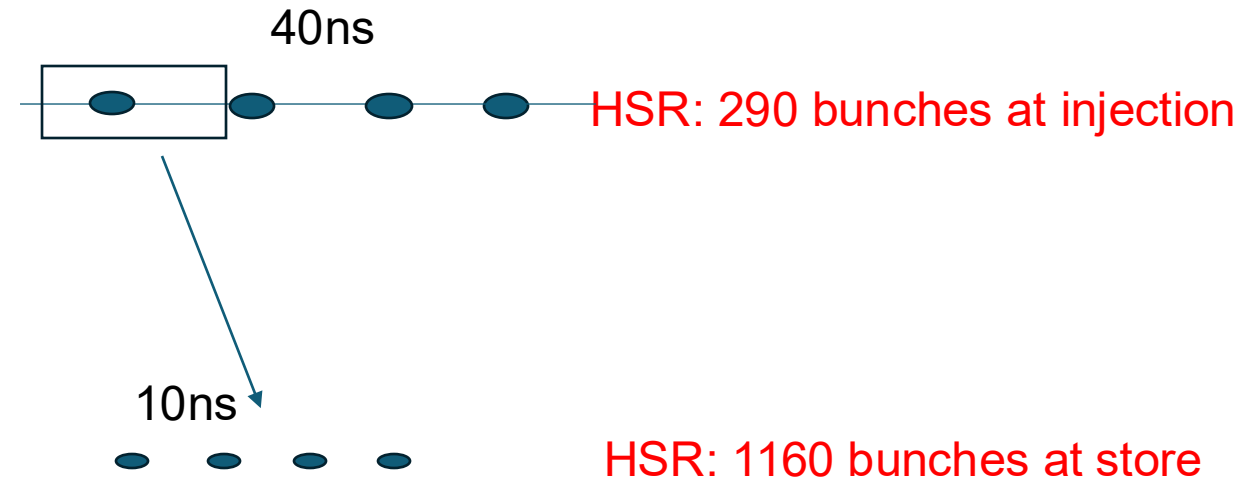
HSR Machine

- Design is based on the existing RHIC Complex in BNL.
- HSR will be composed of Yellow ring only and new IR6.
- HSR warm injection line bring beams from AGS to HSR IR4, where the septum and injection kickers are located.
- Low Energy Cooler is located at IR2.
- 41 GeV bypass will be added between IR12 and IR2.

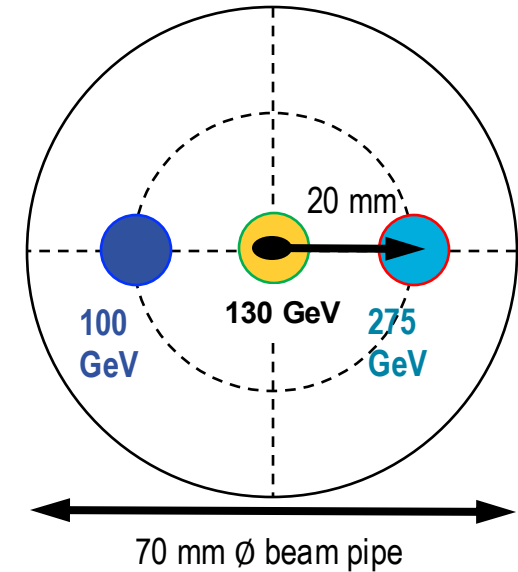
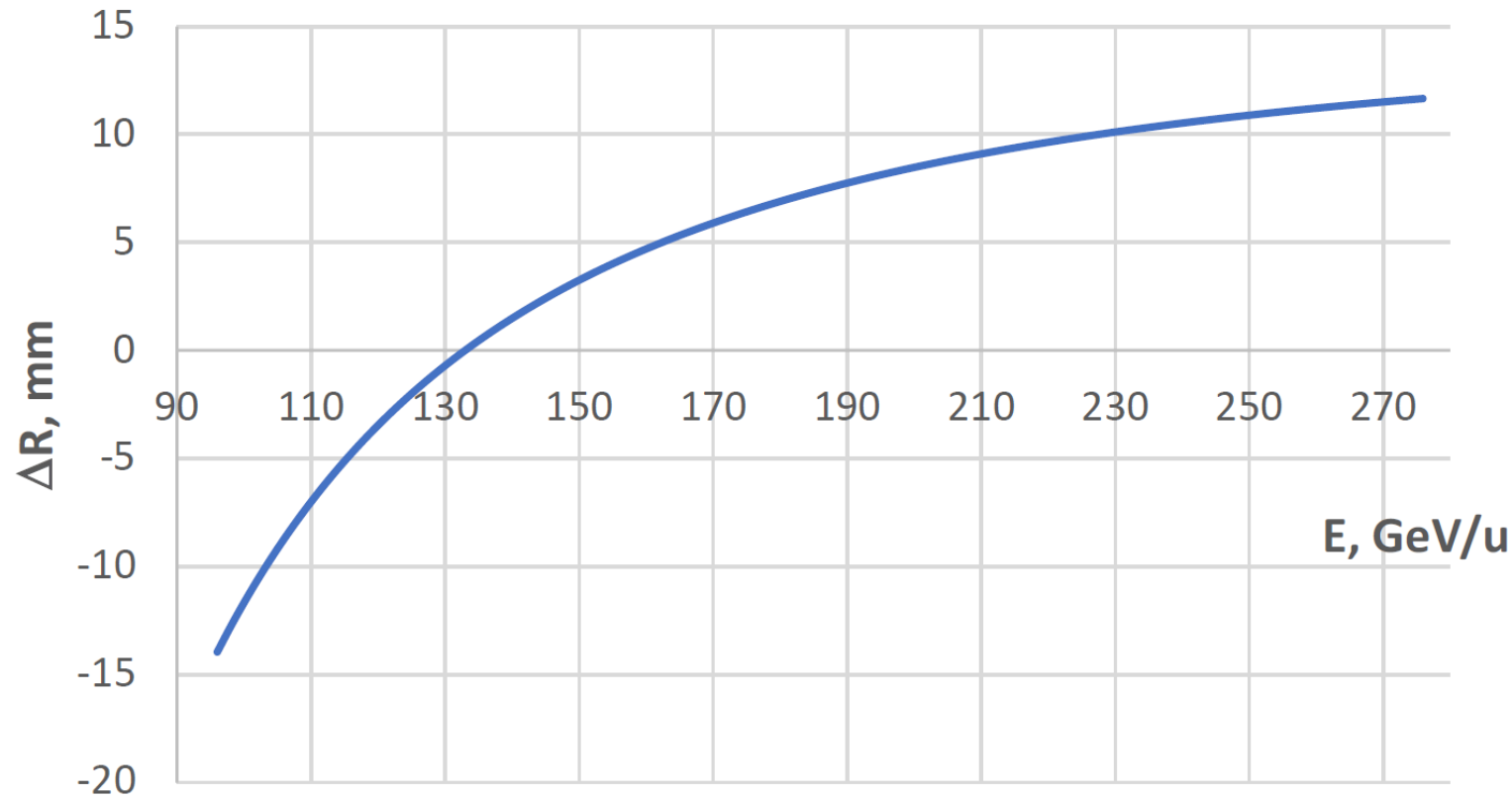


HSR Machine (cont'd)

- Several upgrades must be realized in order to satisfy advanced requirements for EIC hadron beams, higher energy, higher current, high polarization, more bunches...
- Hadron beams include:
 - Polarized protons
 - Polarized ^3He ions
 - Unpolarized ion species up to Uranium
- Number of bunches and bunch pattern (at injection) can be flexible for FXT operation.
- At injection, a fully configurable bunch-by-bunch spin pattern is available, for experiments.



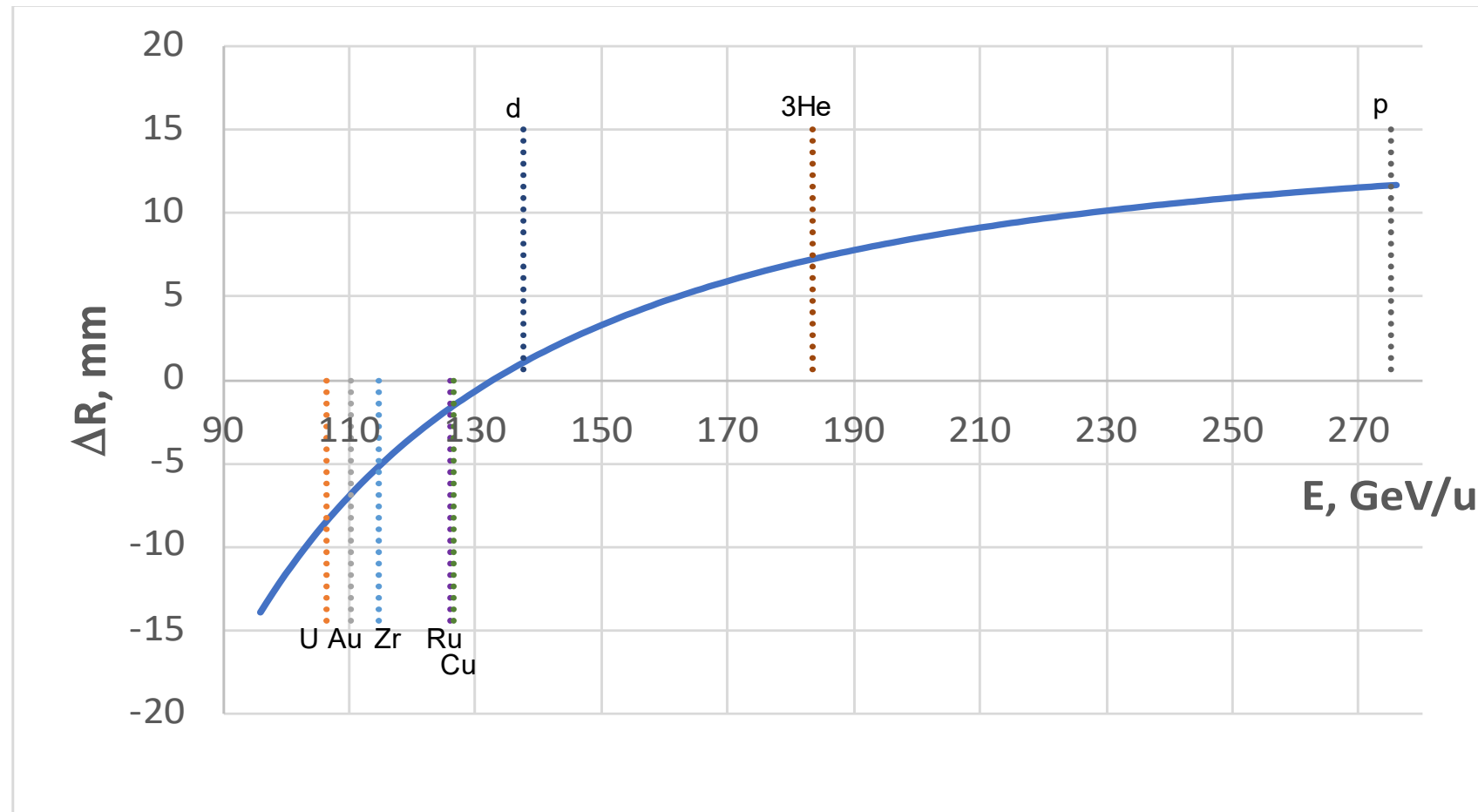
Beam Energy and Average Orbit Radius in the HSR



Since the electron revolution frequency is fixed, the hadron orbit must be adjusted with energy to keep the collisions in sync.

Courtesy of V. Ptitsyn

Energy and average orbit radius for different ion species at HSR maximum beam rigidity (917 T*m)



Energy gaps for longitudinal spin

Spin Flipping at the Vary
September 26, 2025 updates

Update 9/26/2025, Rotator Updates

- 2025 lattice has the V2H rotator moved from -17 mrad to -35.28 mrad.
- This move results in twice the dead-spots.
- 35.28 mrad cannot support 250/255 GeV.

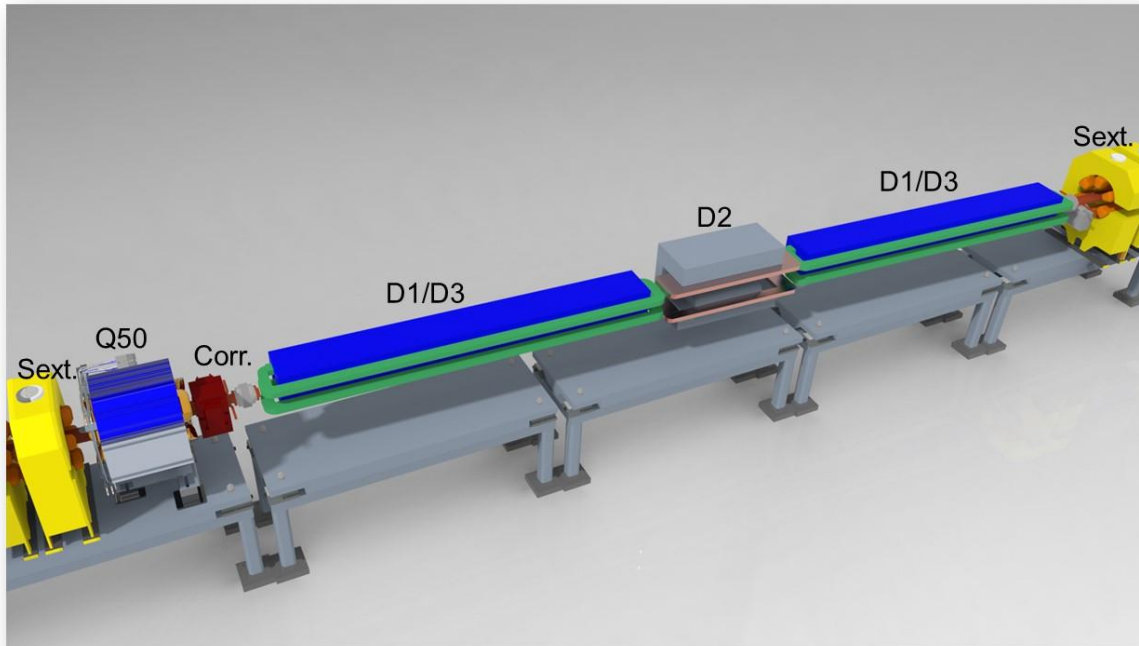
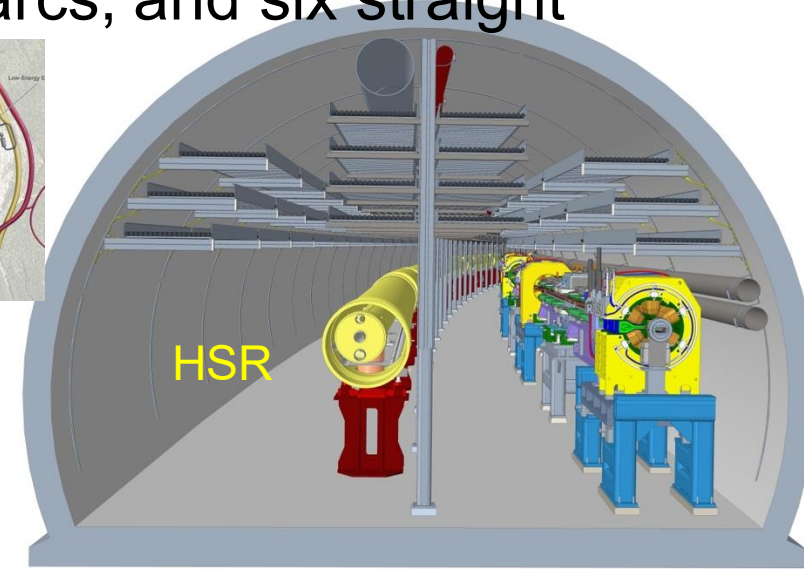
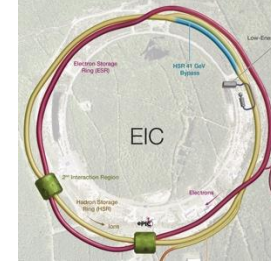
Current dead spots exist at:

V2H (35.28)	H2V (61.35)
62.8-78.5 GeV	62.8-71.7 GeV
154.4-170.1 GeV	116.2-125.1 GeV
246.0-261.7 GeV	169.6-178.5 GeV
	222.9-231.8 GeV

Courtesy of K. Hock

EIC Electron Storage Ring

- Electron Storage Ring (ESR) consists of six **FODO**-cell arcs, and six straight sections (IRs)
- High-intensity (28 nC), short (7 mm) bunches
- Swap-out injection
- Circulating beam current ~ 2.5 A and the synchrotron radiation power of ~ 10 MW

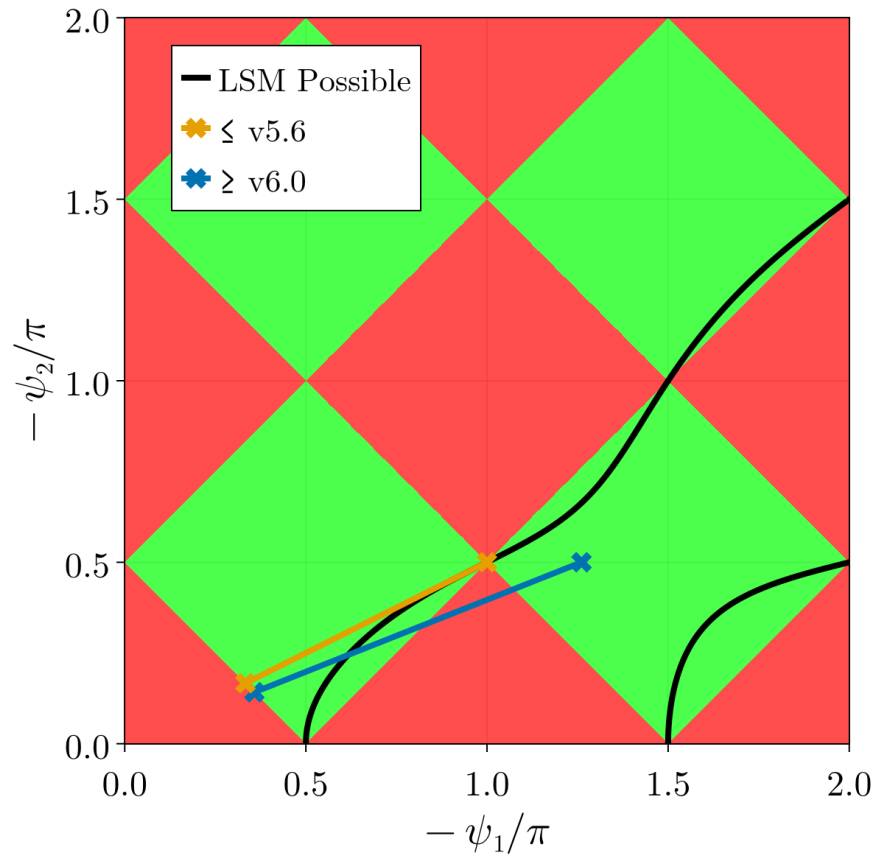


EIC needs **nearly constant (20 to 24 nm) emittance from 5 to 18 GeV for optimum luminosity**, but equilibrium emittance in an electron storage ring depends on beam energy.

‘Super bends’ (reverse bends) for emittance control below 10 GeV. Optimized for 5 GeV, compatible with 3 GeV. It reduces damping time therefore allowing for larger beam-beam.

Courtesy of C. Montag

Longitudinal spin energy gap



The ψ s correspond to the bend module spin precession, and the ϕ s the solenoid modules. In a bend $\psi = -\theta \cdot a \cdot \gamma$, where θ is the bend angle. So for some $\psi_2/\psi_1 = \theta_2/\theta_1$ the geometry is fixed.

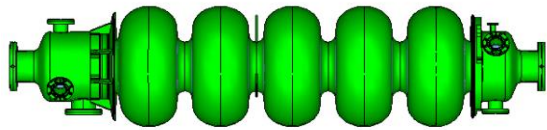
The energy exclusion range is 11.7275 - 15.2024 GeV

Courtesy of M. Signorelli

Electron Injector

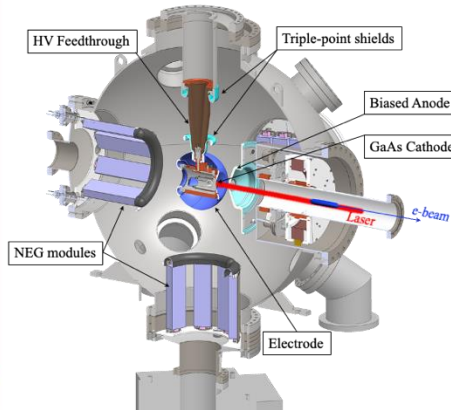
Concept modeled after the ANL APS-U injector

Function: Deliver electron bunches of up to 28 nC at a 1 Hz repetition rate for injection into the ESR at various energies of 5 – 18 GeV.

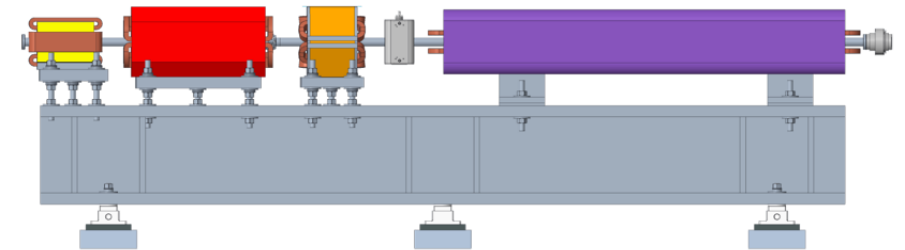


RCS SRF Cavity, 591 MHz

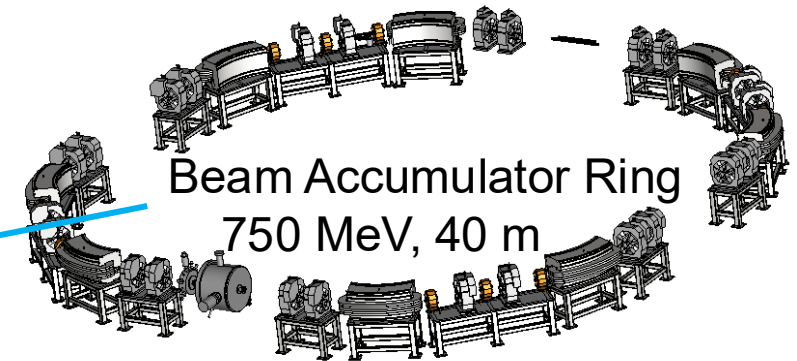
RESEARCH ARTICLE | JUNE 17 2024
High-intensity polarized electron gun featuring distributed Bragg reflector GaAs photocathode ✓
Erdong Wang ; Omer Rahman ; Jyoti Biswas ; John Skarika ; Patrick Inacker ; Wei Liu ; Ronald Napoli; Matthew Paniccia
<https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0216694>



Polarized Electron Gun
1-nC, 30 Hz



RCS magnet assembly
Vacuum chamber: stainless steel, copper coated (50 μm)



Beam Accumulator Ring
750 MeV, 40 m

S-band linac, 750 MeV, 30 Hz, 1 nC single bunch

EIC beam parameters

EIC beam parameter table for one of the collider operation modes

- Hadron beam and electron beam operate at a few discrete energies in collider mode, while it is not a constraint for FXT.
- The bunch charge and beam currents are constrained by injector capability, beam-beam and synchrotron radiation in the collider. The assumption is that FXT would not need higher current than that in colliding mode.
- Emittance, beta star and beam size at IP are designed to have 11:1 aspect ratio in collider mode, which is no longer true in FXT mode.

Table 1.1b Main collision related parameters for electron-proton collisions in the High Divergence operation mode, at the EIC Full Capability.

Parameter	Units	p+	e-	p+	e-	p+	e-	p+	e-	p+	e-
Energy	GeV	275	18	275	10	100	10	100	5	41	5
Gamma	-	294	35226	294	19570	108	19570	108	9786	45	9786
CM energy	GeV	140.70		104.90		63.20		44.70		28.60	
Bunch intensity	(10 ¹⁰)/(nC)	19.1\30.6	6.2\9.9	6.9\11.1	17.2\27.6	6.9\11.1	17.2\27.6	4.8\7.7	17.2\27.6	2.6\4.2	13.3\21.3
Number of bunches	-	290.00		1160.00		1160.00		1160.00		1160.00	
Average beam current	A	0.69	0.23	1.00	2.50	1.00	2.50	0.69	2.50	0.38	1.93
Normalized emittance	H	μm rms	5.2	845	3.3	391	3.2	391	2.7	196	1.9
	V		0.47	71	0.3	26	0.29	26	0.25	18	0.45
Unnormalised emittance	H	nm rms	18	24.0	11.3	20	30	20	26	20	44
	V		1.6	2.0	1.0	1.3	2.7	1.3	2.3	1.8	10
Beta	H	cm	80	59	80	45	63	96	61	78	90
	V		7.1	5.7	7.2	5.6	5.7	12	5.5	7.1	7.1
IP RMS beam size	H	μm	119		9.5		138		125		198
	V		11		8.5		12		11		27
Kx	-	11.10		11.10		11.10		11.10		7.30	
Divergence	H	μrad rms	150	202	119	211	220	145	206	160	220
	V		150	187	119	252	220	105	206	160	380
BB parameter	H	10 ³	3	93	12	72	12	72	14	100	15
	V		3	100	12	100	12	100	14	100	9
Longitudinal emittance	10 ⁻³ eV.s rms	36	-	36	-	21	-	21	-	11	53\42
90% longitudinal bunch area	eV.s	0.216	-	0.216	-	0.126	-	0.126	-	0.066	0.32\0.25
Bunch length	cm rms	6.0	0.9	6.0	0.7	7.0	0.7	7.0	0.7	7.5	0.7
Relative momentum spread σ_p/p	10 ⁻⁴ rms	6.8	10.9	6.8	5.8	9.7	5.8	9.7	6.8	10.3	6.8
Maximum space charge	-	0.0	Neg	0.0	Neg	0.0	Neg	0.0	Neg	0.1	Neg
Piwiński angle	rad	6.3	2.1	7.9	2.4	6.3	1.8	7.0	2.0	4.2	1.1
Longitudinal IBS time	hrs	2.0	-	2.9	-	2.5	-	3.1	-	3.8	-
Transverse IBS time	H	hrs	2	-	2	-	2.0	-	2.0	-	3.4
	V		Lrg.	-	Lrg.	-	4.0	-	4.0	-	2.1
Hourglass factor H	-	0.91		0.94		0.90		0.88		0.93	
Luminosity	10 ³³ cm ⁻² s ⁻¹	1.54		10.00		4.48		3.68		0.44	

H=Horizontal, V=Vertical, Lrg= Large enough to not require cooling, neg= Negligible.

HSR beam parameters for FXT experiment

Parameters	Value	Notes
Beam species	Polarized p, He, unpolarized species up to U	Use Au as a representative for the rest of beam parameters
Beam Energy	3.85 to 110 GeV/nucleon	The updated IR6 might be aperture bottleneck for energies below 9.8 GeV. Near transition energy is not available.
Beam Rigidity	31 to 916 T-m	
No. Bunches	12 to 1160	Bunch split or not?
Average current	Up to 1 A	Lower if below injection
Normalized emittance	H: ~ 2 μm , V: 0.25 to 2 μm	One can always blowup emittance, except for low energies when aperture is limited.
Bunch length	6 cm	Longer is better for lifetime
Beta star	H: 80 cm to 10 m, V: 7.1 cm to 90 cm	Preference?
Crab cavity	No need	
Radial shift	No need	
Low energy bypass	No need	

ESR beam parameters for FXT experiment

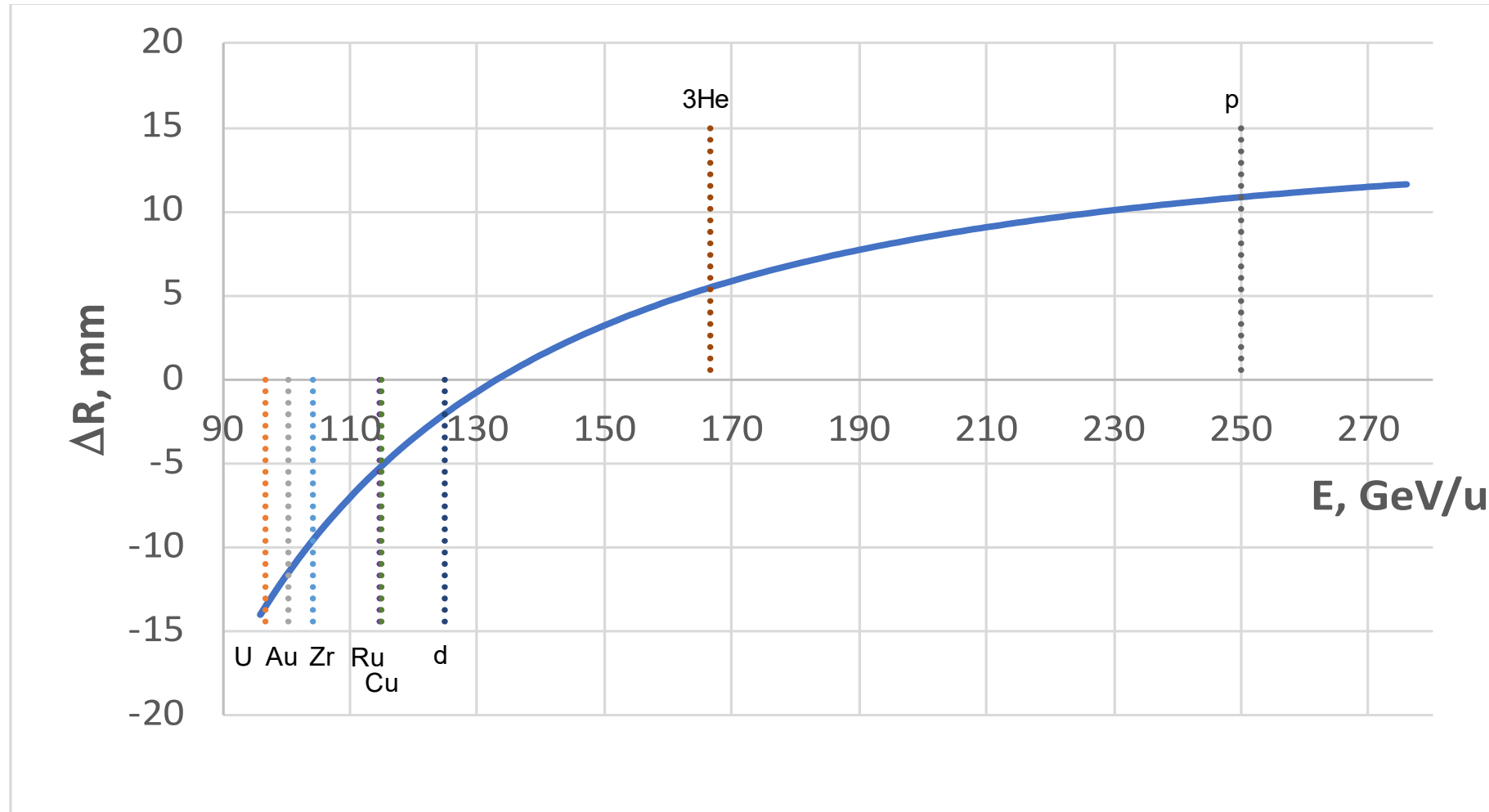
Parameters	Value	Notes
Beam species	e	
Beam Energy	3 – 18 GeV	Any energy in the range, energy below 5 GeV, 11.7-15.2 GeV w/o longitudinal polarization
Spin direction	Longitudinal, vertical	
No. Bunches	1 to 1160	Bunch split or not?
Average current	Up to 2.5 A	0.2 A @18 GeV
Normalized emittance	H: 196 – 845 μm V: 18 – 70 μm	Emittance is tunable with super-bend and external excitation, vertical orbit bumps (bagels technique)
Bunch length	0.7 cm	Longer is better for lifetime
Beta star	H: 103 to 306 cm, V: 9.2 to 30 cm	
Crab cavity	No need	

Summary

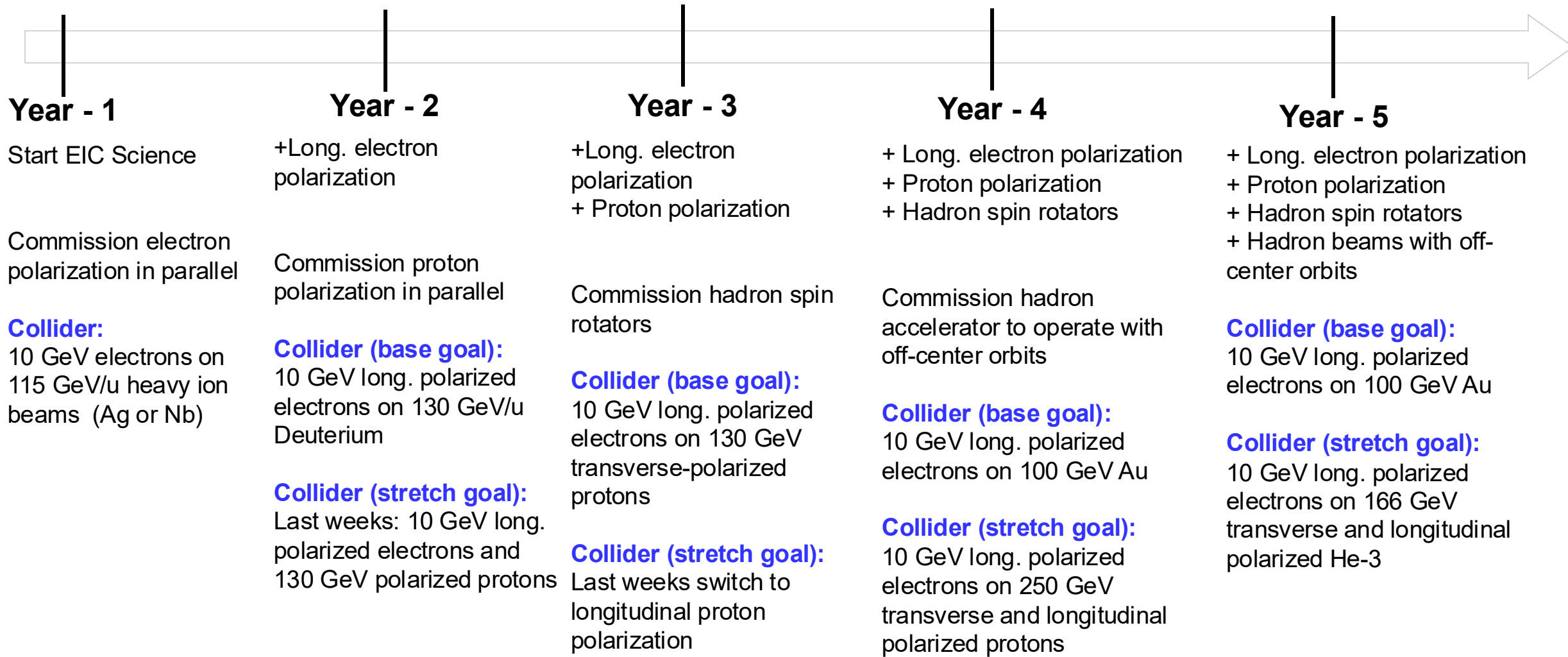
- The operational conditions for fixed-target (FXT) experiments at the EIC are generally less demanding, as they do not require crab cavities, radial shifts, or beam-beam collisions.
- The relevant beam parameters for the HSR and ESR in FXT mode are summarized. Detailed beam requirements will need to be revisited once the target specifications are further defined.
- The hadron beam exhibits a well-defined Gaussian-like transverse distribution with a gradually evolving halo primarily driven by physical processes such as intra-beam scattering. In contrast, the electron beam develops a rapidly replenished halo due to quantum excitation effects.
- Although both beams can be delivered over a wide range of energies, certain gaps exist where longitudinal polarization cannot be achieved.
- Extraction of RCS beam for FXT experiment is possible in principle however costly. In addition, operation of EIC at 18 GeV would require non-stop operation of the RCS (1Hz).

Additional slides

Energy and average orbit radius for different ion species at RHIC maximum beam rigidity (833 T*m)



Proposal for EIC Science Program in the First Years



Time to construct the ELR subproject

Overall Run Status (2018)

Energy	Start	Finish	First Run	Last Run	HLTgood	Target
3.85 FXT	May 31 st	June 4 th	19151029	19155022	258 M	100 M
26.5 FXT	June 5 th	June 18 th	19156034	19169017	155 M	none
27 GeV	May 10 th	June 17 th	19139960	19168040	558 M	1000 M

Summary tables provided by D. Cebra

Overall Run Status (2019)

Energy	Start	Finish	First Run	Last Run	HLTgood	Target
19.6	Feb 25 th	April 3 rd	20056032	20093036	582 M	400 M
14.6	April 4 th	June 3 rd	20094048	20154013	324 M	310 M
3.85 FXT	June 9 th	June 9 th	20160024	20160027	3.7 M	5 M
7.3 FXT	June 18 th	June 18 th	20169029	20169055	52.7 M	50 M
7.7	June 3 rd	June 27 th	20154047	20178014	2.9 M	4 M
4.59 FXT	June 28 th	July 2 nd	20179040	20183025	200.6 M	200 M
9.2	June 28 th	July 8 th	20179016	20189017	1.0 M	none
31.2 FXT	July 8 th	July 9 th	20190006	20190024	50.6 M	50 M
200	July 11 th	July 12 th	20192001	20193026	138 M	140 M

Overall Run Status (2020)

Energy	Start	Finish	First Run	Last Run	HLTgood	Target
11.5 GeV	Dec 10 th	Feb 24 th	20056032	21055017	235 M	230 M
31.2 FXT	Jan 28 th	Jan 29 th	21028011	21029037	112.5 M	100 M
9.8 FXT	Jan 29 th	Feb 1 st	21029051	21032016	108 M	100 M
19.5 FXT	Feb 1 st	Feb 2 nd	21032049	21033017	118 M	100 M
13.5 FXT	Feb 2 nd	Feb 3 rd	21033026	21034013	103 M	100 M
7.3 FXT	Feb 4 th	Feb 5 th	21035003	21036013	117 M	100 M
5.75 FXT	Feb 13 th	Feb 14 th	21044023	21045011	115.6 M	100 M
9.2 GeV	Feb 24 th	Sep 1 st	21055032	21245010	161.8 M	160 M
26.5 FXT	July 29 th	Sep 14 th	21211028	21258004	316.9 M	none
7.7 GeV	Sep 2 nd	Sep 11 th	21246012	21255021	3.2 M	none

FXT with eTOF (2020 and 2021)

Energy	Percent w/ eTOF	HLTgood total	Target w/ eTOF	
31.2 FXT	90.4 %	101.7 M	100 M	2020
19.5 FXT	68.1 %	80.4 M	80 M	
13.5 FXT	86.3 %	88.9 M	70 M	
9.8 FXT	67.3 %	72.7 M	65 M	
7.3 FXT	90.9 %	106.4M	50 M	
5.75 FXT	86.0 %	99.4 M	70 M	
26.5 FXT	94.3 %	298.7 M	none	2021
3.85 FXT	98.8 %	305.3 M	300 M	
44.5 FXT	93.3 %	50.3 M	50 M	
70 FXT	97.5 %	50.4 M	50 M	
100 FXT	99.8 %	50.6 M	50 M	
3.85 FXT				

Overall Run Status (2021)

Energy	Start	Finish	First Run	Last Run	HLTgood	Target
7.7 GeV	Jan 31 st	May 1 st	22031042	22121018	100.9 M	100 M
3.0 FXT	May 1 st	May 5 th	22121036	22125011	306.6 M	300 M
9.2 FXT	May 6 th	May 6 th	22126010	22126029	53.9 M	50 M
11.5FXT	May 7 th	May 7 th	22126045	22127018	51.7 M	50 M
13.7 FXT	May 8 th	May 8 th	22128001	22128011	50.7 M	50 M
O+O 200	May 11 th	Min Bias	22131011	22136010	403.9 M	400 M
O+O 200	May 16 th	Central	22136011	22141016	212.4 M	200 M
O+O 200	May 21 st	Flip Field	22141039	22144006	125.0 M	100 M
17.3 GeV	May 25 th	June 7 th	22145017	22158019	256.1 M	250 M
3.0 FXT	June 7 th	June 28 th	22159051	22179022	1796 M	1.7 B
d+Au 200	June 28 th	July 7 th	22180043	22188007	216.9 M	200 M
7.2 FXT	June 3 rd	July 3 rd	22154936	22184019	88.6 M	none