

PHYS101

Week 5

Momentum

- Trick Question: If you sit in your car at rest at a red light, what would you “prefer” to rear-end you:
 - A Mini-Cooper going at 10 miles/hour?
 - A Hummer going at 10 miles/hour?
 - A Mini-Cooper going at 60 miles/hour?
 - A Hummer going at 60 miles/hour?
- A new way to characterize the “impact”: **momentum** and **impulse**.
- Momentum of an object: $\vec{p} = m \vec{v}$
- Impulse transferred in a collision: $\vec{J} = \Delta\vec{p}$
(change in momentum)

Newton's 2nd Law - again

- If mass doesn't change:
 $\Sigma \mathbf{F} = m \mathbf{a} = m \Delta \mathbf{v} / \Delta t = \Delta(m \mathbf{v}) / \Delta t = \Delta \mathbf{p} / \Delta t \Rightarrow$
- Any change in momentum must be due to a force acting on object
- Change is proportional to amount of force and duration of its presence:
 - Constant force \Rightarrow
 $\Delta \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{p}_2 - \mathbf{p}_1 = \Sigma \mathbf{F} \cdot \Delta t$
 - Average Force:
 $\Sigma \mathbf{F}_{\text{ave}} = \Delta \mathbf{p} / \Delta t$
 - Change of momentum = Impulse \mathbf{J}
 $\mathbf{J} = \Delta \mathbf{p} = \Sigma \mathbf{F}_{\text{ave}} \Delta t$
 - LARGE FORCE x short time = small force x LLLOOOONNNNG TIME
 - Examples: Hammer hitting nail, foot hitting soccer ball, car crashing into wall, egg hitting sheet, ball bouncing, collision with a moving object, shuttle docking to space station, gravitational sling shot...

Newton's 3rd Law - again

- If object A transfers an impulse \mathbf{J} to object B, then object B transfers impulse $-\mathbf{J}$ to object A
- Bouncing collision \Rightarrow LARGER Impulse (greater change in momentum) than “sticking collision”

Conservation of momentum

- Define system of objects (particles)
 - Example: System made of 2 particles with masses m_1 and m_2
- Internal forces: Acting only **between** particles in the system (one particle acting on another)
 - Example: Particle 1 bouncing off Particle 2
- **No** other (**external**) forces (all forces are due to interactions between particles **in** the system)
- \Rightarrow Total momentum $\Sigma \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{p}_1 + \mathbf{p}_2 + \dots$
of the system is conserved (impulse is just passed around)
 - Example: $m_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + m_2 \mathbf{v}_2 = \text{const.}$; even if velocities change size and direction after each bounce. **Why? Newton's 3rd Law!**

Momentum conservation

Examples:

- Ice skaters giving each other “ high five”
- Rifle recoil
- Rocket propulsion
- Ball hitting brick wall vs. styrofoam
- Cars crashing into each other:
 - Elastically
 - Inelastically
 - At right angles

Collisions

- Two bodies colliding => force between them may be
 - conservative (total energy conserved) => **elastic** collision
 - dissipative (energy lost to thermal motion or internal excitation) => **inelastic** collision
- Either way, total momentum is conserved (as long as no **external** force is present)
- Motion along straight line: once we know both initial velocities and **one** final one, we can calculate the other:

$$m_1 v_{1i} + m_2 v_{2i} = m_1 v_{1f} + m_2 v_{2f} \Rightarrow$$

$$v_{2f} = (-m_1 v_{1f} + m_1 v_{1i} + m_2 v_{2i}) / m_2$$

Completely Inelastic Collisions

- Inelastic collision: some energy is lost (dissipated).
Examples: Traffic accidents, “flat” ball, putty... really ALL collisions (bouncing ball loses height)
- **Completely** inelastic collisions: Both partners “stick together” afterwards
 - Gives one more equation to be satisfied:
$$v_{2f} = v_{1f}$$
 - Can predict outcome even if only **initial** momenta are known. \Rightarrow
 - $m_1 v_{1i} + m_2 v_{2i} = (m_1 + m_2) v_f$
 - Example 1: Moving glider bumps into glider at rest
 - Example 2: SUV bumps into compact car with equal speed but at right angle
 - Example 3: Coal dropping into rail car

Completely Elastic Collisions

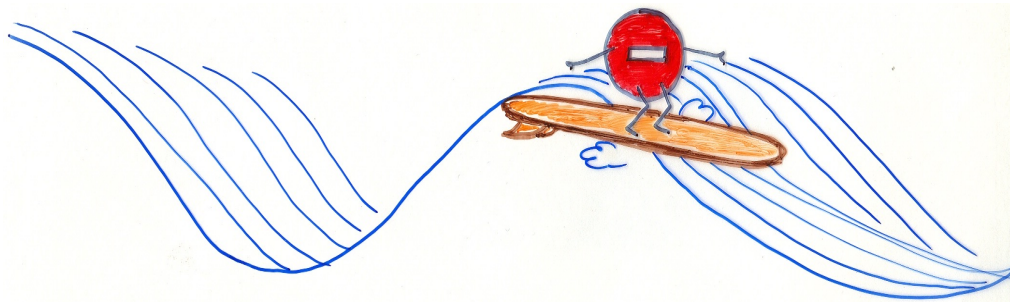
- Total energy (K.E.) is conserved during collision (hard spheres, springs, ...)

Eliminates **one** unknown

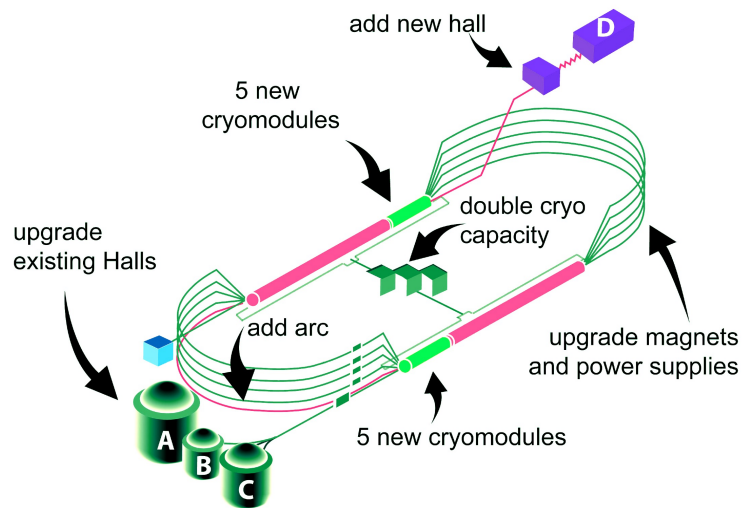
- Purely linear motion: initial momenta ($p_{\text{tot } i} = p_{1i} + p_{2i}$):
 $p^2 = 2m \text{ K.E.} \Rightarrow p_{2f}^2 = 2m_2 \text{ K.E.}_i - p_{1f}^2 / 2m_1 = \text{K.E.}_i - (p_{\text{tot } i} - p_{2f})^2 / 2m_1$
- Motion in a plane: need to know initial momenta and one angle of final velocities
- 3D motion: Can always reduce to motion in a plane!

- Examples: Moving glider bouncing off second one; Newton's cradle; "stack of balls" bounce; billiards.
- If initial 2 momenta add up to zero (Center-of-Mass system):
 - inelastic collision -> particles are at rest
 - elastic collision -> particles continue with same speed, but different direction

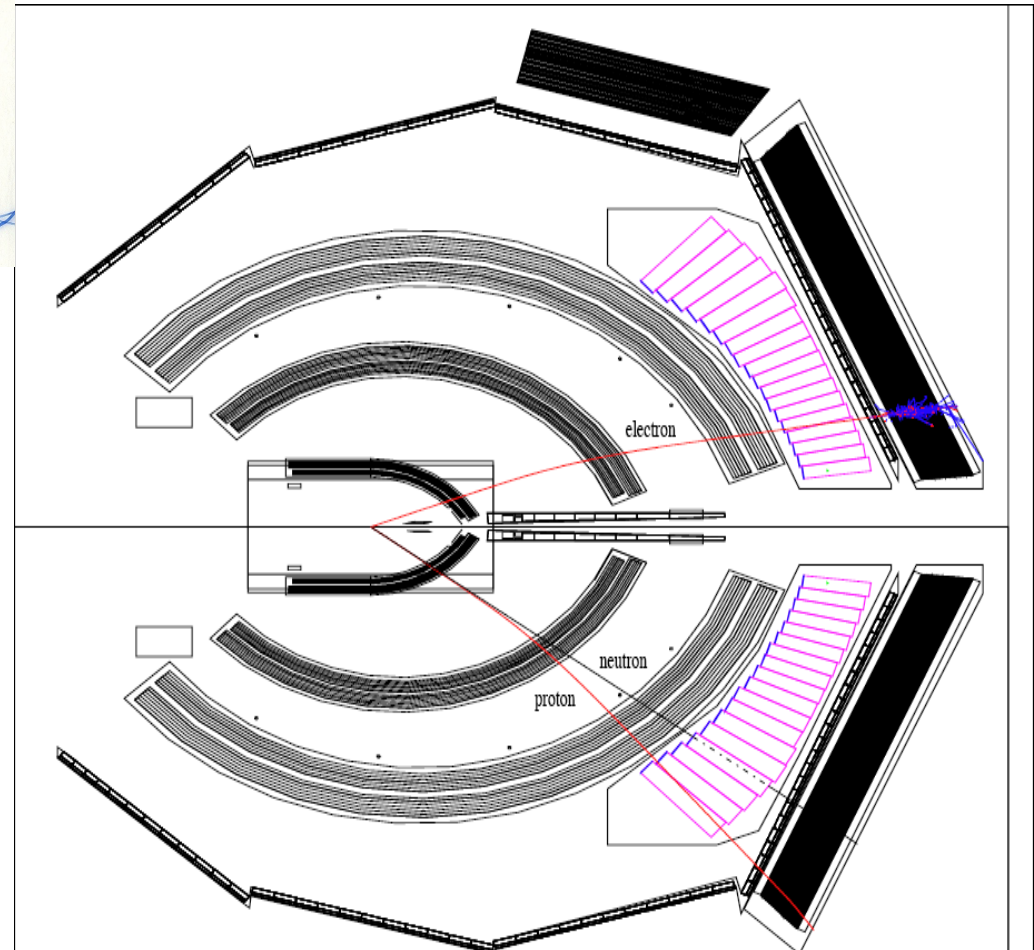
Electron scattering from nuclear target



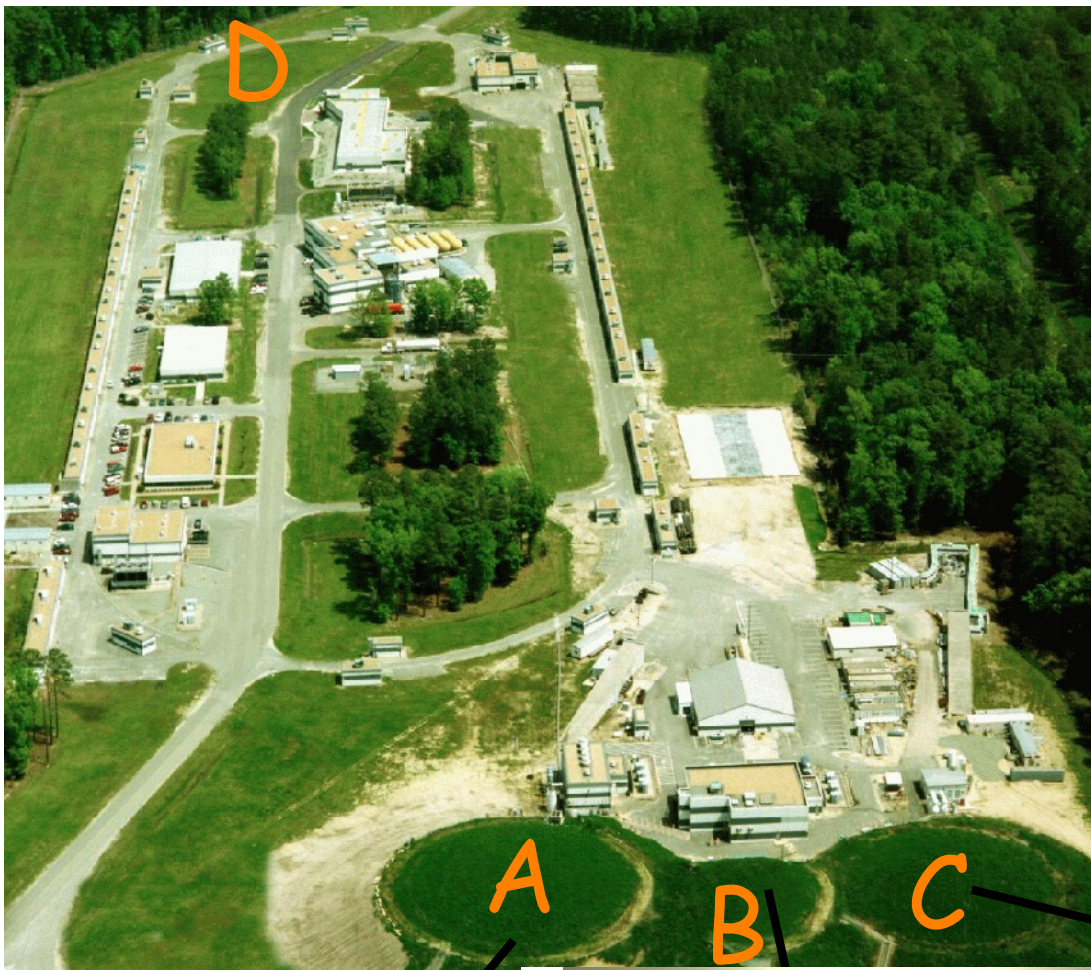
High-energy Accelerators...



...smash electrons into a target...



...and detectors measure the outgoing particles.

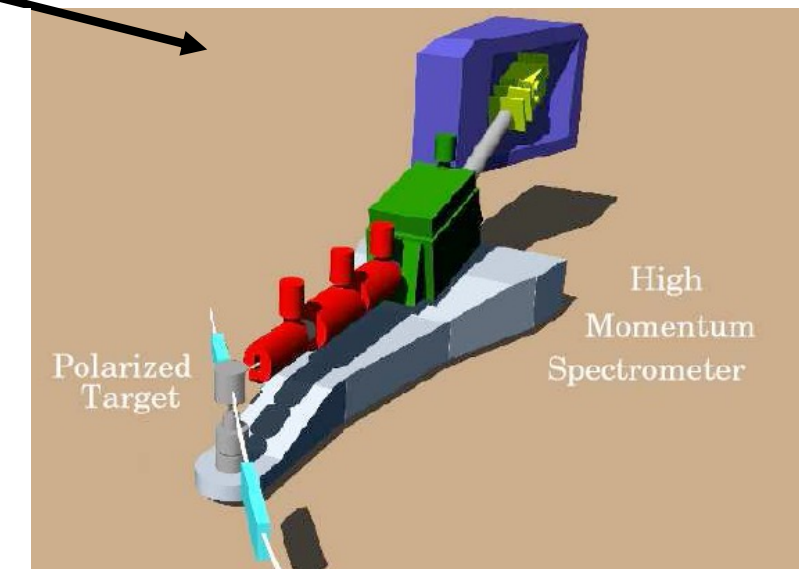
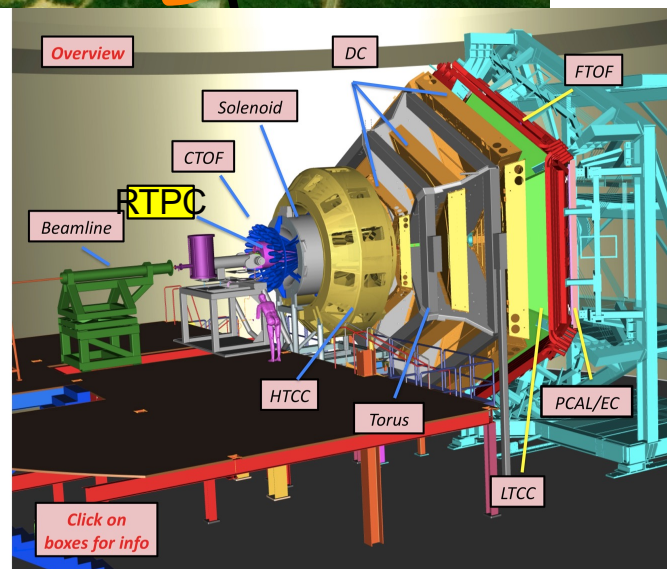
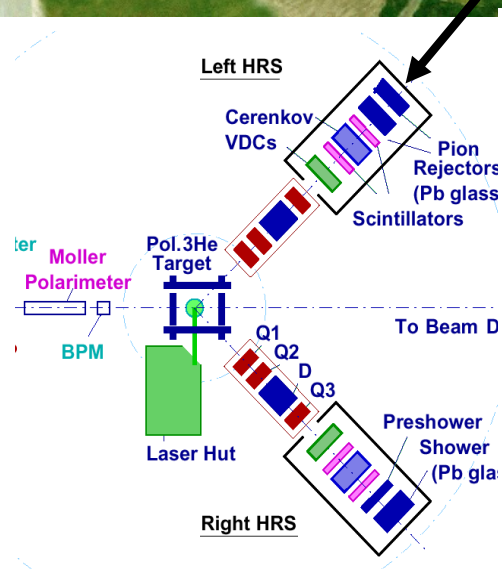


Jefferson Lab

≤ 12 GeV electron beam

Longitudinal polarization up to 85%

Beam current from < 1 nA to > 50 μ A



We build some of this equipment at ODU:

- Bonus (small radial TPC)
- Polarized H and D frozen ammonia targets
- BAND
- LAD
- CLAS12 Region 2 Drift Chambers

BoNuS RTPC detector

