The background of the slide is a vector field plot. It consists of numerous purple lines with arrows, representing the trajectories of charged particles in an electromagnetic field. The lines are curved and radiate from a central point, suggesting a magnetic field configuration. Two specific trajectories are highlighted: one in red and one in green. The red trajectory starts from the left and moves towards the center, while the green trajectory starts from the bottom left and moves towards the center. The text is overlaid on this background.

# Numerical integration of ordinary differential equations: motion of charged particles in electromagnetic fields

Nikolaj Roager Christensen

Student Colloquium in Physics and Astronomy, Aarhus University

March 2021

# Numerical integration of ordinary differential equations: motion of charged particles in electromagnetic fields

## Introduction

## Theory and physical background

## Euler's Method and the 4th order Runge-Kutta Method

- Euler's Method

- Higher order Runge-Kutta methods

- Demonstration, particles in a solenoid

## Introducing Adaptive step size

- Demonstration: magnetic dipole

- Dormand Prince 5 (4) method

## Conclusion

- Extra, the cyclotron

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- ▶ Simulations are not experiments!

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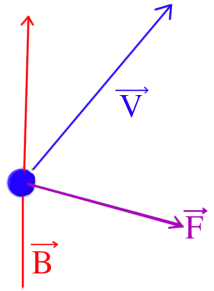
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$$\vec{F} = q(\vec{v} \times \vec{B} + \vec{E}).$$

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- ▶ Could use potentials  $\phi(\vec{r}, t)$   $\vec{A}(\vec{r}, t)$  and Hamiltonian.

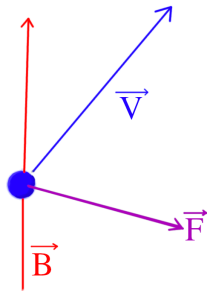
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$$dW_{\vec{B}} = \vec{F}_B \cdot d\vec{r} \propto (\vec{v} \times \vec{B}) \cdot \vec{v} = 0.$$



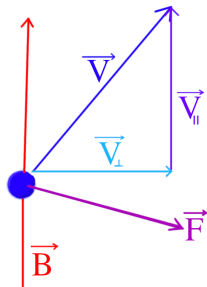
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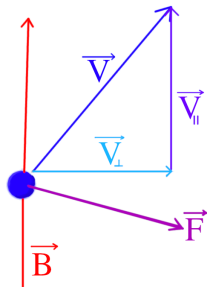
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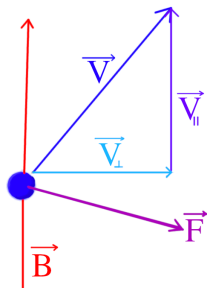
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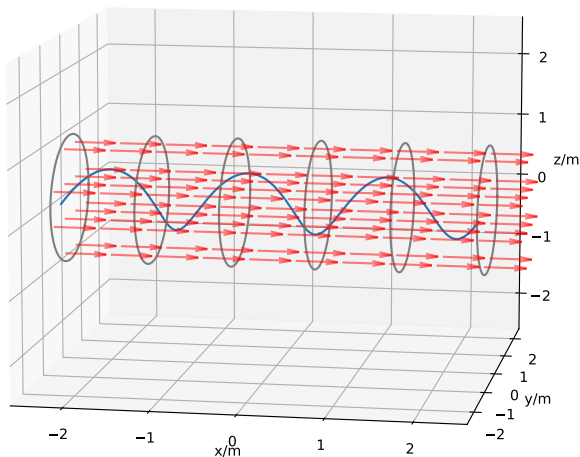
$$|\vec{F}_B| = |q(\vec{v} \times \vec{B})| = |qv_{\perp} B|.$$

- Same as Centripetal force:  
Cyclotron motion
- Cyclotron radius and  
frequency:

$$R = \frac{v_{\perp} m}{|q| B} \quad \omega_c = \frac{|q| B}{m}.$$



# What we expect to see



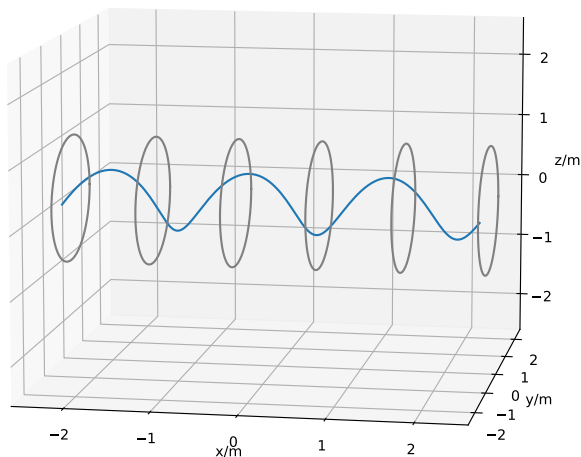
“Cyclotron motion”

Solenoid with  $N = 1000$  turns per  $m$ ,  $I = 5$  A,  $r = 1$  m,  $|\vec{B}| \approx 6$  mT.

Proton with  $E_{kin} = 1$  MeV/c<sup>2</sup> ( $|v| \approx 3.195 \times 10^5$  m/s)



# What we expect to see

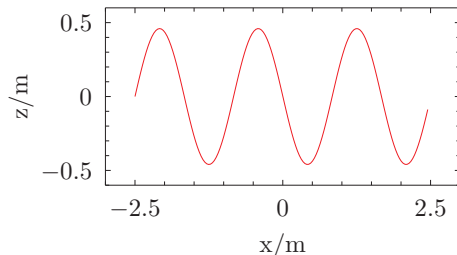


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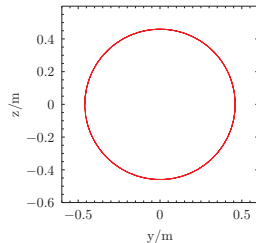
$$R \approx 0.5 \text{ m} \sin(\theta) \quad T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_c} \approx 10 \mu\text{s}$$

# What we expect to see

Analytical: proton in a solenoid, side/front-view



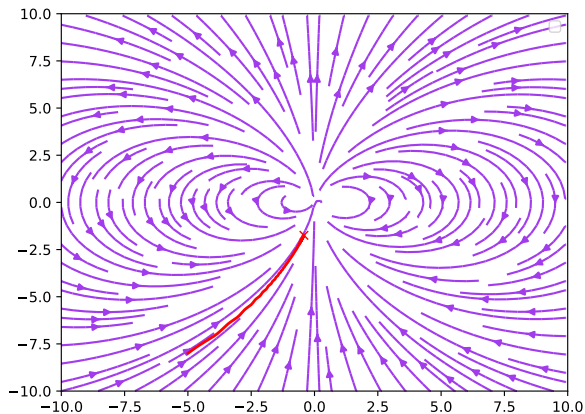
Analytical: proton in a solenoid, speed



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# What we expect to see



(Actually from my simulation)  
Particles “follow” magnetic fields.

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# Ordinary differential equation's.

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- Here:

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{r} \\ \dot{\vec{r}} \end{pmatrix} \quad f_{ode}(\vec{r}, t) = \begin{pmatrix} \dot{\vec{r}} \\ \frac{q}{m}(\dot{\vec{r}} \times \vec{B}(\vec{r}, t) + \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t)) \end{pmatrix}.$$

# The ODE to solve

```
auto ODE = [...](const state_type Data, state_type &
    dDatadt, const double t){
    //Extract position and velocity from data
    vec pos = vec(Data[0],Data[1],Data[2]);
    vec velocity = vec(Data[3],Data[4],Data[5]);

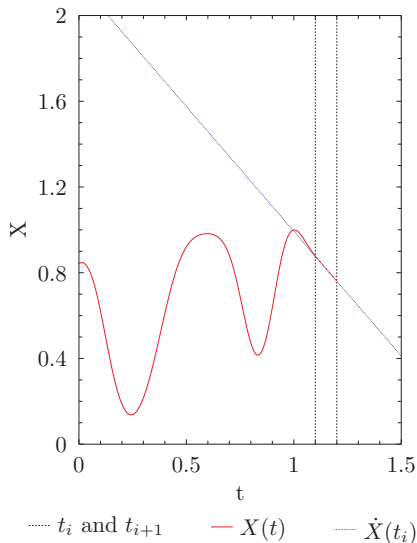
    //Lorentz+Newtons 2nd law
    vec F = Charge*(Fields.get_Efield(pos,t)+
        cross(velocity,Fields.get_Bfield(pos,t)));
    vec dVdt = F*Inv_mass;

    //Save derivative of data
    dDatadt[0]=velocity.x;
    ...
};
```



# Solving differential equations

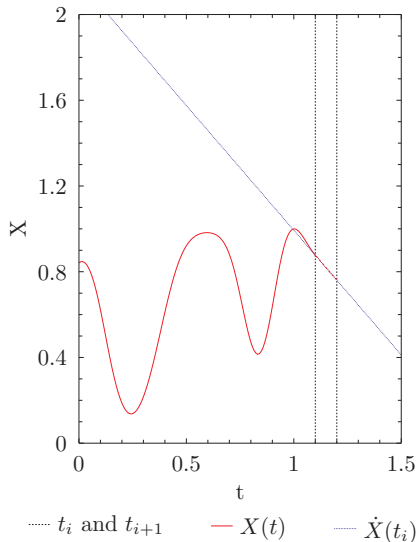
- We know only  $\mathbf{X}(t_0)$  and  $t_0$  and  $f_{ode}$ .



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# Solving differential equations

- We know only  $\mathbf{X}(t_0)$  and  $t_0$  and  $f_{ode}$ .
- Can we find  $\mathbf{X}(t_0 + h)$  for  $h > 0$ ?



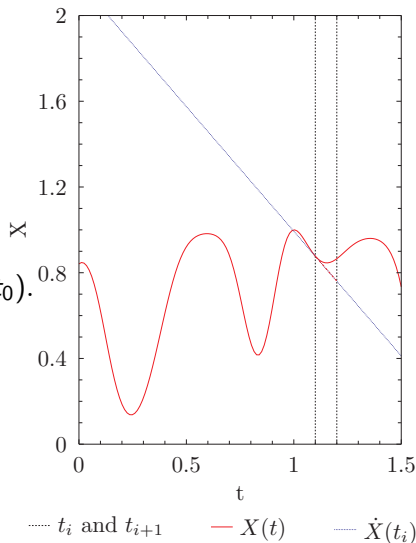
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- ▶ Can we find  $\mathbf{X}(t_0 + h)$  for  $h > 0$ ?
- ▶ (Explicit Forward) Euler's Method:

$$\mathbf{X}(t_0 + h) = \mathbf{X}(t_0) + hf_{ode}(\mathbf{X}(t_0), t_0).$$

- ▶ Multiple steps  
 $t_0, t_1 = t_0 + h, \dots, t_i, \dots$
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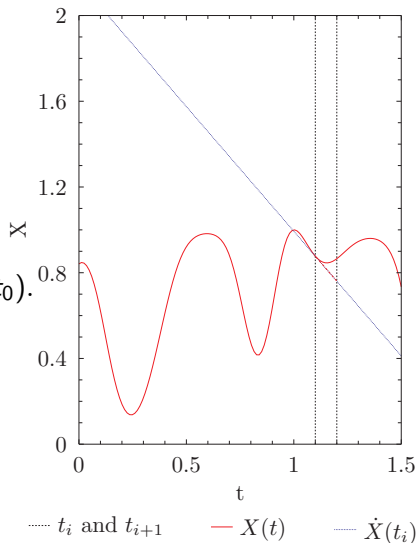


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- ▶ Can this be justified?
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- ▶ Argument suggests we need  $\dot{f}_{ode}, \ddot{f}_{ode}, \dots$



# The Runge Kutta steppers

- In general:

$$\mathbf{X}(t_{i+1}) - \mathbf{X}(t_i) = \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} \dot{\mathbf{X}}(t) dt.$$

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- ▶ Use  $f_{ode}(\mathbf{X}(t_i), t_i)$  to approximate  $\mathbf{X}(\tau_1)$ .
- ▶ L. Zheng, X. Zhang, Modeling and Analysis of Modern Fluid Problems, 2017, chapter 8:

# Runge Kutta methods

- More commonly written:

$$\mathbf{X}(t_{i+1}) - \mathbf{X}(t_i) = h \sum_{j=1}^m b_j \mathbf{K}_j$$

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$$\mathbf{K}_1 = f_{ode}(\mathbf{X}(t_i), t_i)$$

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- Taylor series analogy: error  $h^p$ .
- Martha L. Abell, James P. Braselton, Differential Equations with Mathematica (Fourth Edition), 2016:

# Higher order methods

- 2nd order (Heun's method):

$$\mathbf{X}(t_{i+1}) - \mathbf{X}(t_i) = \frac{h}{2}(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_1 = f_{ode}(\mathbf{X}(t_i), t_i)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_2 = f_{ode}(\mathbf{X}(t_i) + h\mathbf{k}_1, t_i + h)$$

## Higher order methods

- ▶ 4th order, often simply called the Runge Kutta method:

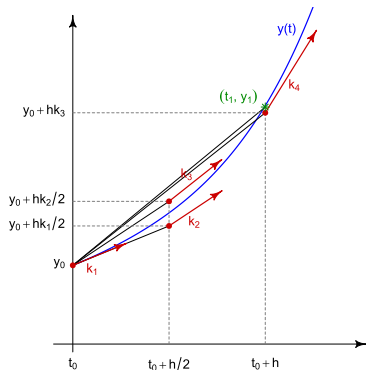
$$\mathbf{X}(t_{i+1}) - \mathbf{X}(t_i) = \frac{h}{6}(\mathbf{k}_1 + 2\mathbf{k}_2 + 2\mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_4)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_1 = f_{ode}(\mathbf{X}(t_i), t_i)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_2 = f_{ode}(\mathbf{X}(t_i) + \frac{h}{2}\mathbf{k}_1, t_i + \frac{h}{2})$$

$$\mathbf{k}_3 = f_{ode}(\mathbf{X}(t_i) + \frac{h}{2}\mathbf{k}_2, t_i + \frac{h}{2})$$

$$\mathbf{k}_4 = f_{ode}(\mathbf{X}(t_j) + h\mathbf{k}_3, t_j + h)$$



Wikipedia-user HilberTraum,  
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# The General explicit Runge Kutta method

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- ▶ General explicit, single step, fixed size, Runge Kutta method
- ▶ Expressed in Butcher tableau:

$c_1 = 0$			
$c_2$	$a_{21}$		
$c_3$	$a_{31}$	$a_{32}$	
$c_n$	$a_{n1}$	$a_{n2}$	$\dots$
<hr/>			
	$b_1$	$b_2$	$\dots$

# Euler Implementations

```
state_type Data = Data0;
state_type dDatadt;
size_t time_res = T/timestep;
for (size_t i = 1; i < time_res; ++i)
{
    double t=i*dt;
    ODE(Data,dDatadt,t);
    //Euler time evolution
    Data+=timestep*dDatadt;

    save_step( Data , i*timestep );
};
```

## RK4 Implementations (1/2)

```
state_type Data = Data0;
state_type temp=Data0;
state_type K1,K2,K3,K4;
size_t time_res = T/timestep;
for (size_t i = 1; i < time_res; ++i)
{
    double t=i*timestep;

    //substep 1
    ODE(Data,K1,t);

    //substep 2
    temp=Data+timestep*K1/2;
    ODE(temp,K2,t+timestep/2);
```



## RK4 Implementations (2/2)

```
//substep 3
```

```
temp=Data+timestep*K2/2;  
ODE(temp,K3,t+timestep/2);
```

```
//substep 4
```

```
temp=Data+timestep*K3;  
ODE(temp,K4,t+timestep);
```

```
//Read data
```

```
Data+=timestep*(K1+2.0*K2+2.0*K3+K4)/6.0;  
save_step( Data , i*timestep );
```

```
}
```

## “Correct” way

```
#include <boost/array.hpp>
#include <boost/numeric/odeint.hpp>
using namespace boost::numeric::odeint;
typedef boost::array< double, 6 > state_type;
...
size_t steps = integrate_const(
    runge_kutta4< state_type >(),
    ODE,      //Lorentz-force
    Data0 , //{pos0,v0}
    0.0 ,    //t0=0
    T ,      //max time
    timestep ,//length of each step
    save_step //User defined save data function
);
```

# Does it work

- ▶ Test, same proton in a solenoid use  $\theta = 60^\circ$  reference, had:

$$R \approx 0.5 \text{ m} \sin(\theta) \approx 0.45 \text{ m} \quad T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega_c} \approx 10 \mu\text{s}$$

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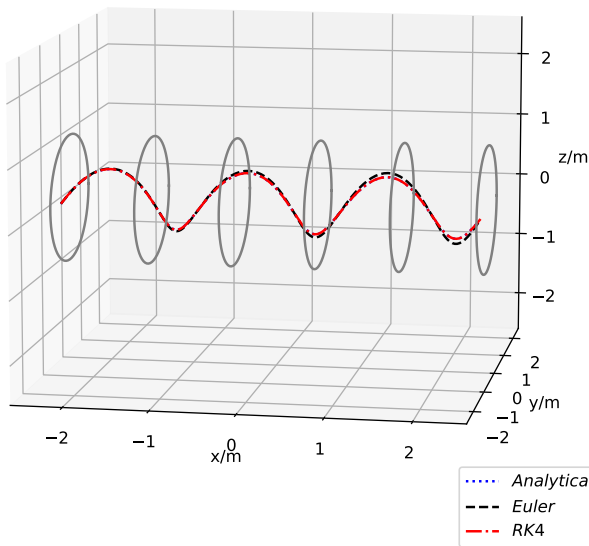
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- ▶ Compare Analytic, Euler, Runge-Kutta 4.
- ▶ Consider  $\theta = 60^\circ$  at different  $h$ .
- ▶ Check error on  $|\vec{v}|$ ,  $R = \sqrt{y^2 + z^2}$  and  $x(t)$ .

# At a glance, 3D view

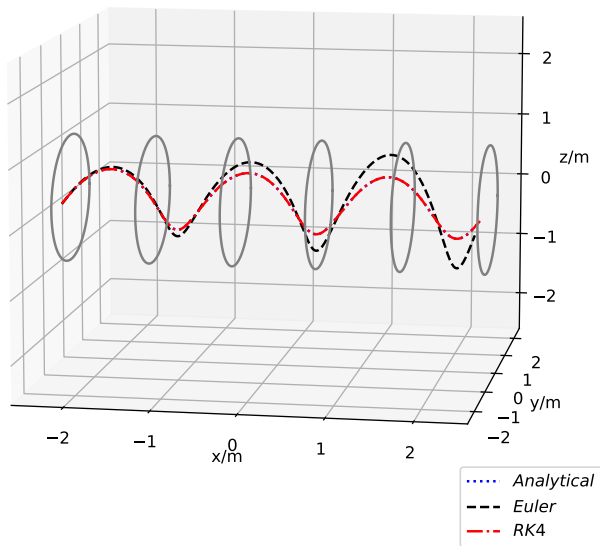
$$h = t_{i+1} - t_i = 0.01 \mu\text{s}$$



3129 steps

# At a glance, 3D view

$$h = t_{i+1} - t_i = 0.1 \mu\text{s}$$

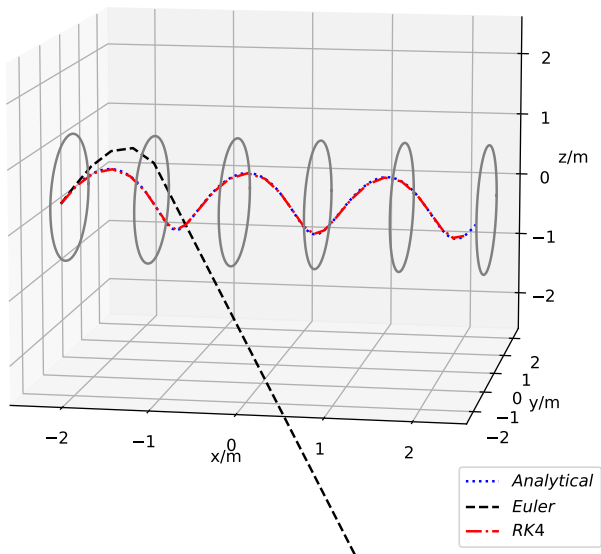


312 steps



# At a glance, 3D view

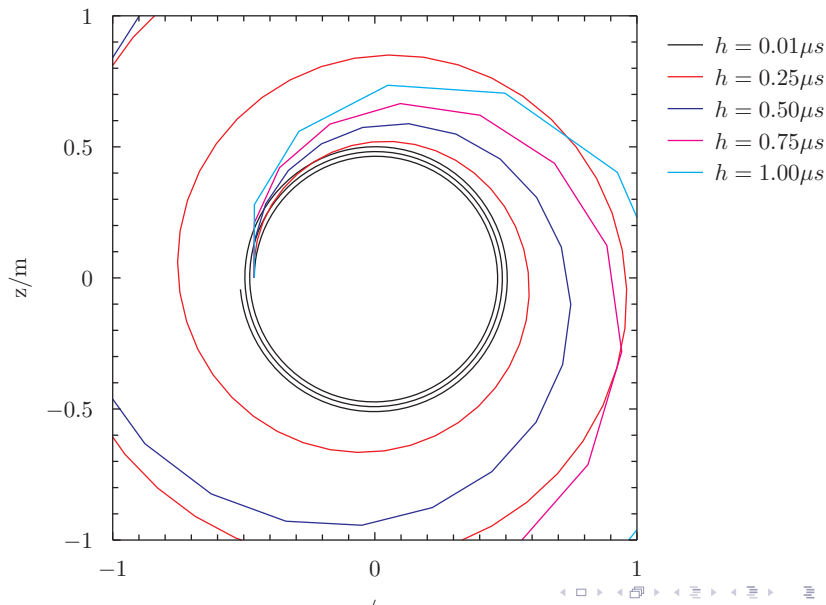
$$h = t_{i+1} - t_i = 1.0 \mu\text{s}$$



31 steps.

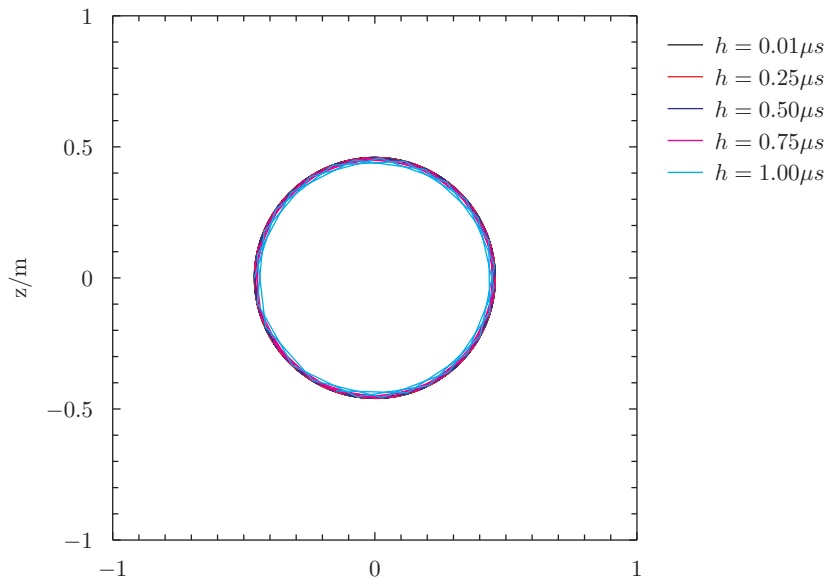
# At a glance, front view, no border

Euler method, front-view

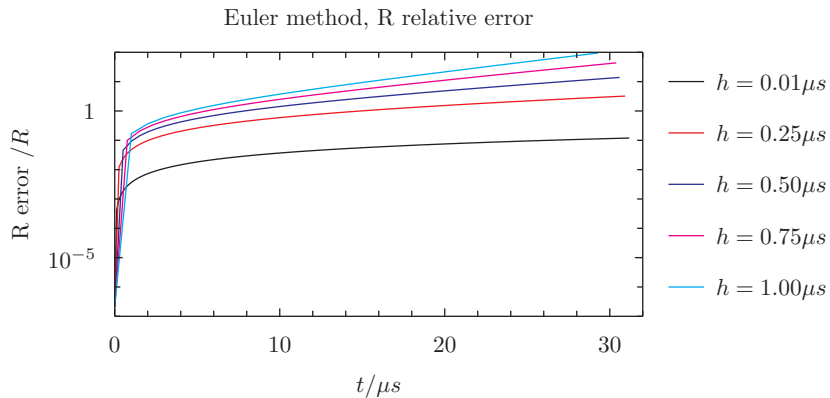


# At a glance, front view, no border

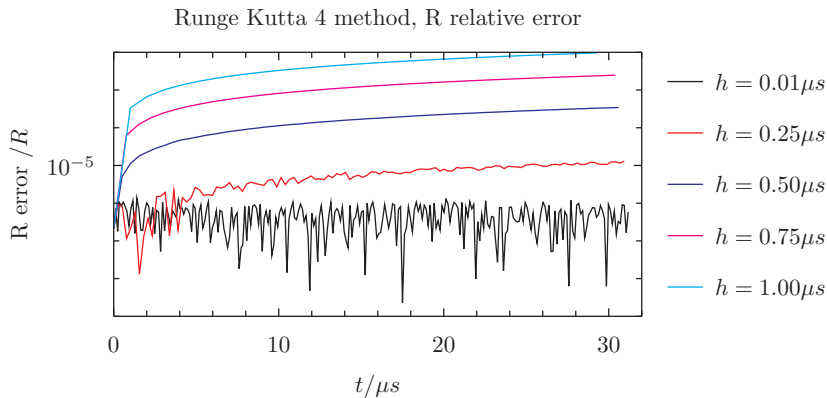
RK4, front-view



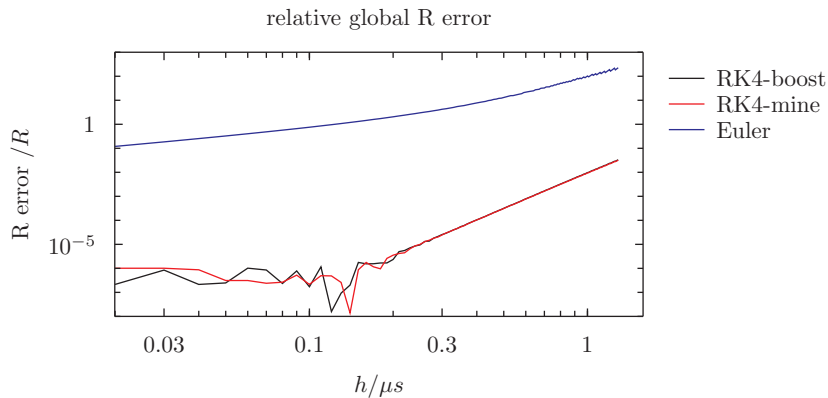
# Constant radius?



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# Error as function of $h$



# Adaptive step size, why

- ▶  $h$  must be small “enough”

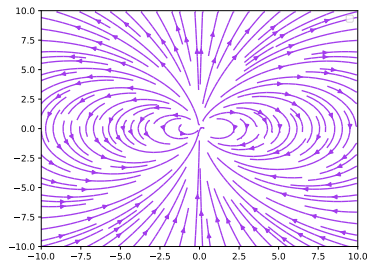
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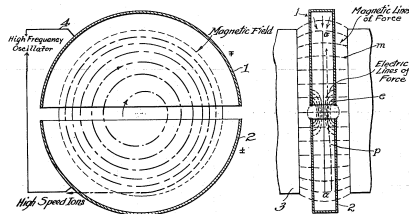
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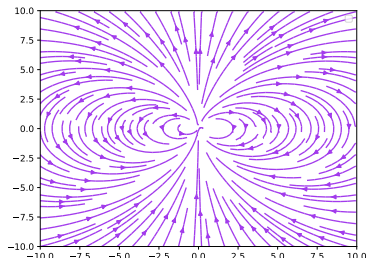
- ▶  $h$  must be small “enough”
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Ernest O. Lawrence, 1934, U.S. Patent 1,948,384; image in Public Domain.

# Adaptive step size, why

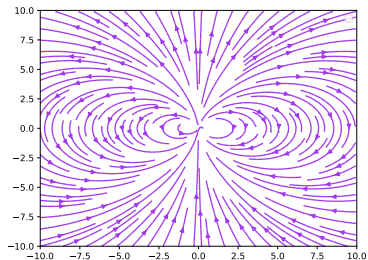
- ▶  $h$  must be small “enough”
- ▶ Hard to pick, and may change:
- ▶ Inhomogeneous fields (here, a true dipole)
- ▶ Time dependent fields (here the cyclotron, bad example)
- ▶ Let the computer pick  $h$ .



# Example, magnetic dipole

- True dipole:

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi r^3} \left[ 3\hat{r}(\vec{m} \cdot \hat{r}) - \vec{m} \right].$$

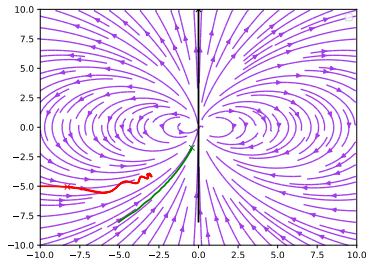


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Arbitrarily set

$$\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} |\vec{m}| = 0.155 \text{ T/m}^3.$$

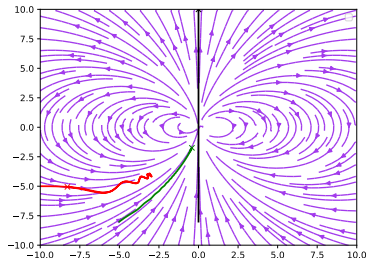
Protons with speed around  
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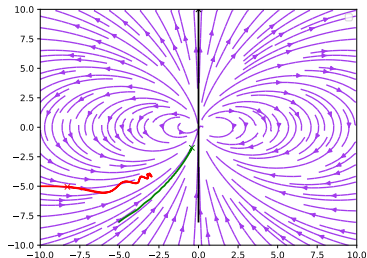
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- ▶ No analytical solution (afaik.)



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# Runge-Kutta Adaptive step size, how

- ▶ Reduce  $h$  until the “error” is small enough



# Runge-Kutta Adaptive step size, how

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- ▶ Use 2 different order methods,  $\mathbf{x}^{(p+1)}(t_{i+1})$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^{(p)}(t_{i+1})$ .

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- ▶ Approximate “Error” as  $\mathbf{E} = |\mathbf{x}^{(p+1)}(t_{i+1}) - \mathbf{x}^{(p)}(t_{i+1})|$ .
- ▶ Adjust step size to keep the error(s) small (Implementations differ!).

Dormand, J. R.; Prince, P. J. (1980), "A family of embedded Runge-Kutta formulae", Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics

(1)

# Runge-Kutta Dormand Prince 5 (4)

- ode45 in Matlab, `scipy.solve_ivp` in Python ,  
`RungeKutta_dopri5` in `boost::odeint`.

$$\mathbf{X}^{(5)}(t_{i+1}) - \mathbf{X}(t_i) = h \sum_{j=1}^m b_j^{(5)} \mathbf{k}_j$$

$$\mathbf{X}^{(4)}(t_{i+1}) - \mathbf{X}(t_i) = h \sum_{j=1}^m b_j^{(4)} \mathbf{k}_j.$$

$$\mathbf{k}_i = f_{ode}(\mathbf{X}(t_i) + h \sum_j^{i-1} a_{ki} \mathbf{k}_i, t_i + c_3 h).$$

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- ▶ 7  $\mathbf{k}_i$ 's (actually 6 by clever re-usage).  
Dormand, J. R.; Prince, P. J. (1980), "A family of embedded Runge-Kutta formulae", Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics

# Butcher Tableau of Dormand Prince (5) 4

$c_i$	$a_{ij}$	...						
0								
$\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{1}{5}$							
$\frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{3}{40}$	$\frac{9}{40}$						
$\frac{4}{5}$	$\frac{40}{45}$	$-\frac{56}{15}$	$-\frac{32}{9}$					
$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{19372}{6561}$	$-\frac{25360}{2187}$	$\frac{64448}{6561}$	$-\frac{212}{729}$				
$\frac{9}{8}$	$\frac{9017}{3168}$	$-\frac{355}{33}$	$\frac{46732}{5247}$	$\frac{49}{176}$	$-\frac{5103}{18656}$			
1	$\frac{35}{384}$	0	$\frac{500}{1113}$	$\frac{125}{192}$	$-\frac{2187}{6784}$	$\frac{11}{84}$		
$/b^{(5)}$	$\frac{35}{384}$	0	$\frac{500}{1113}$	$\frac{125}{192}$	$-\frac{2187}{6784}$	$\frac{11}{84}$	0	
$/b^{(4)}$	$\frac{5179}{57600}$	0	$\frac{7571}{16695}$		$\frac{393}{640}$	$-\frac{92097}{339200}$	$\frac{187}{2100}$	$\frac{1}{40}$

# Runge-Kutta Dormand Prince 5 (4)

- Step size correction (Dormand Prince):

$$h_{new} = 0.9h_{old} \left[ \frac{\delta}{||E||} \right]^{\frac{1}{p+1}}$$

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$$\delta_j = \min(\delta_{abs}, |\mathbf{X}_j(t_i)|\delta_{rel}) \sqrt{\frac{h_{old}}{T}}.$$



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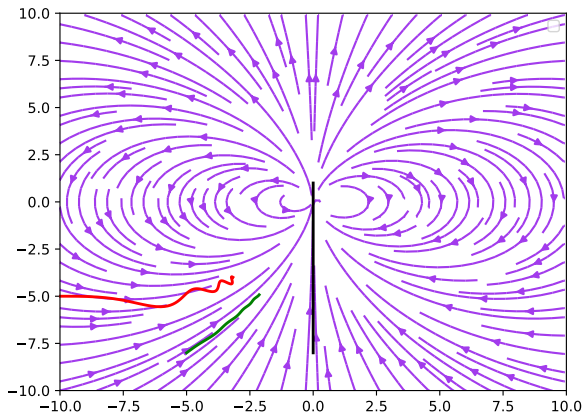
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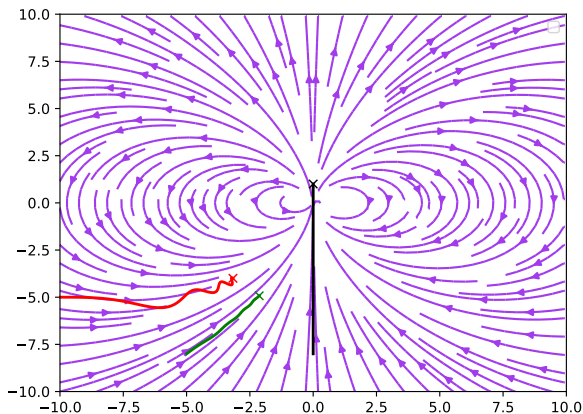
- Scale by step size  $\frac{h_{old}}{T}$ , "Fail safe"  $\sqrt{\dots}$ .  
Dormand, J. R.; Prince, P. J. (1980), "A family of embedded Runge-Kutta formulae", Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics

# Does it work?



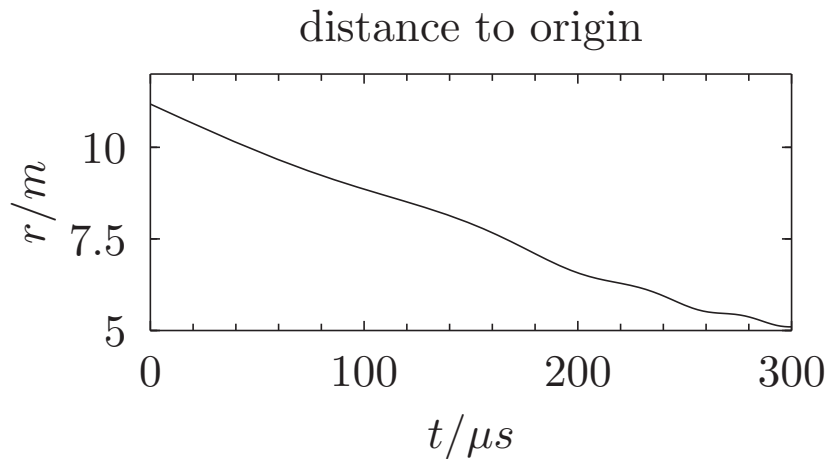
My version relative and absolute error  $10^{-6}$ . 94 steps (+ 14 rejected).

# Does it work?



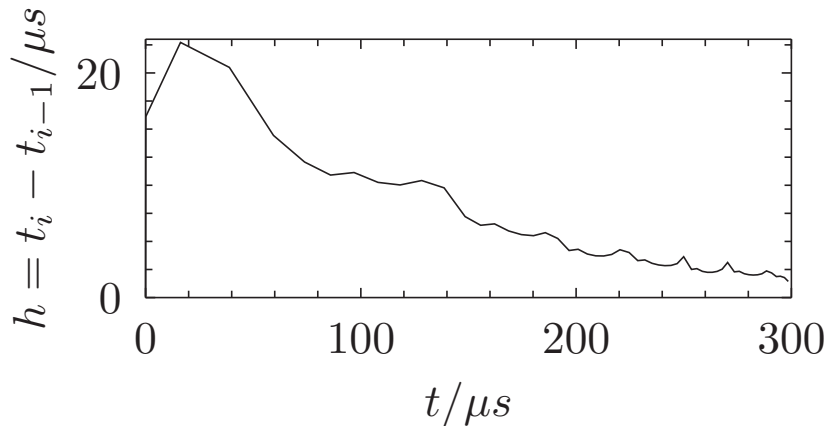
Odeint library relative and absolute error  $10^{-7}$ . 92 steps.

Does it work?



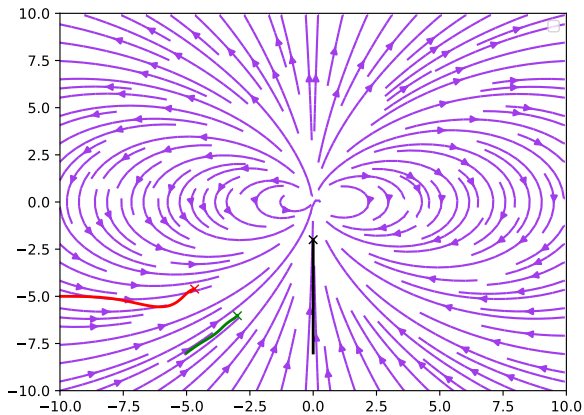
Does it work?

## Adaptive timesteps



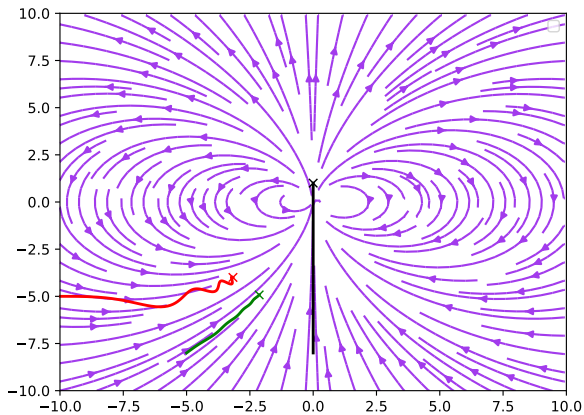
My version, adaptive step size.

## Another curious result



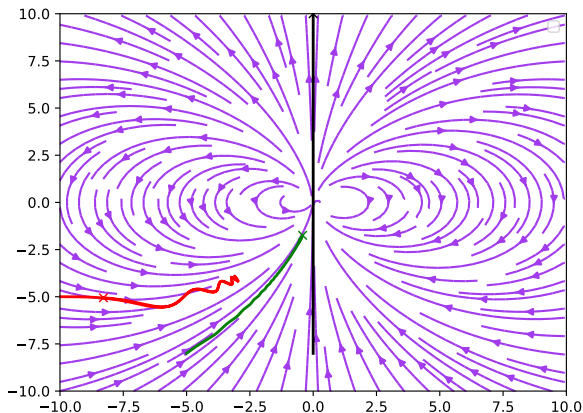
$T = 0.2 \text{ ms}$

## Another curious result



$T = 0.3 \text{ ms}$

## Another curious result

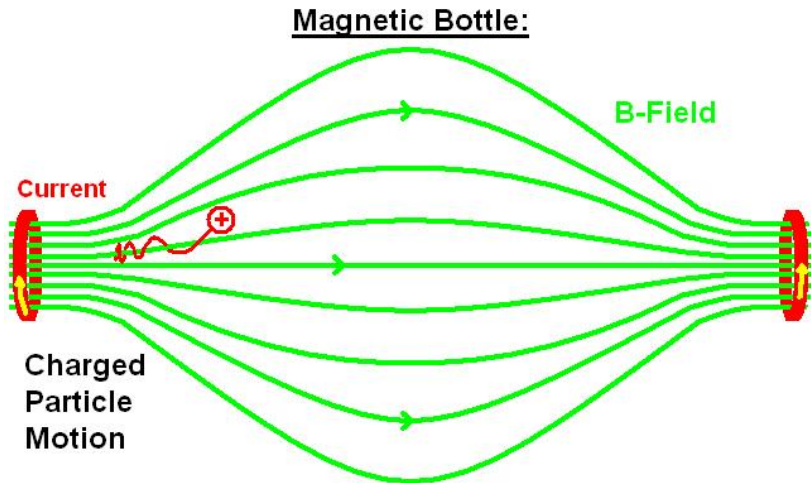


$$T = 0.6 \text{ ms}$$

Magnetic “mirror” or “bottle”.

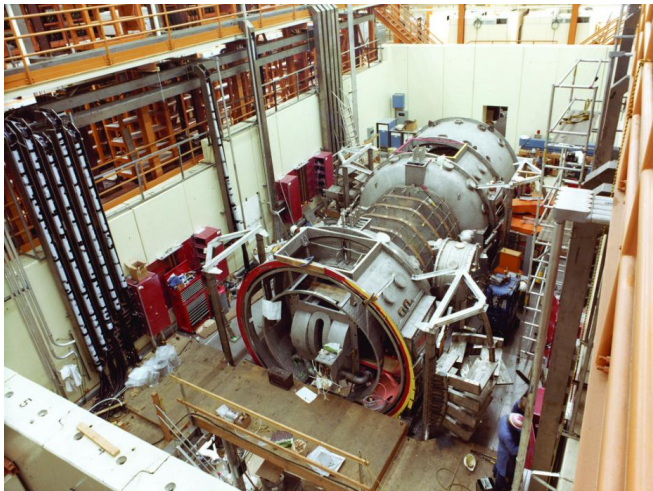


# Another curious result



Wikipedia user WikiHelper2134 , Public Domain.

## Another curious result



Tandem Mirror Experiment, The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, 1978.

# Conclusion

- ▶ Simulating particles in electric and magnetic fields.

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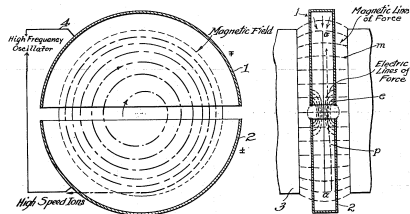
- ▶ Simulating particles in electric and magnetic fields.
- ▶ Numerically solving ordinary differential equations
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# Conclusion

- ▶ Simulating particles in electric and magnetic fields.
- ▶ Numerically solving ordinary differential equations
- ▶ Reasonable agreement with known results.
- ▶ Can easily be generalized to other systems.
- ▶ Limitation, simulations are not experiments.

# Example, cyclotron

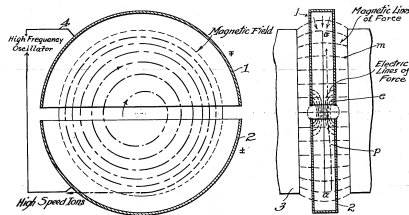
- Electric field accelerates, magnetic contains.



Ernest O. Lawrence, 1934, U.S.  
Patent 1,948,384; image in  
Public Domain.

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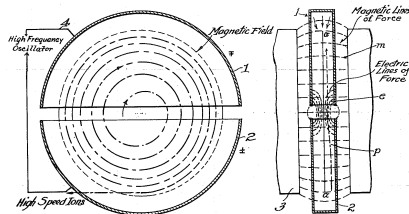
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Patent 1,948,384; image in  
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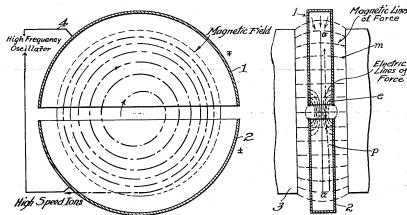
Ernest O. Lawrence, 1934, U.S.  
Patent 1,948,384; image in  
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# Example, cyclotron

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- ▶ Single gap, oscillating field.
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- ▶ Analytical final speed, in principle path.

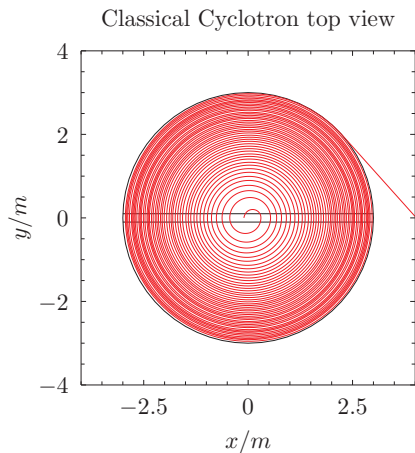
$$\frac{R|q|B}{m} = v_{\perp}$$



Ernest O. Lawrence, 1934, U.S. Patent 1,948,384; image in Public Domain.

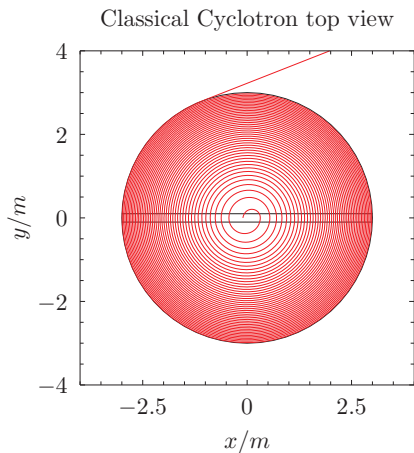
# can it be simulated

- ▶ with fixed step size, looks bad 4999 points



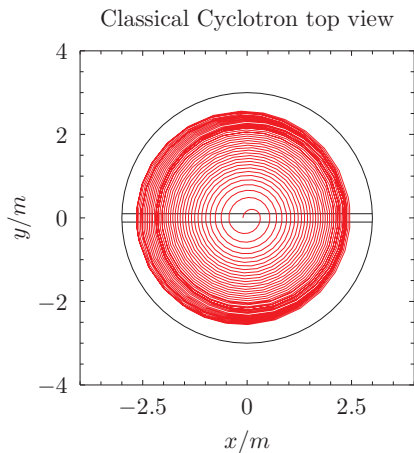
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