



# Introduction to Practical Exercises: Magnetic Measurements

Objectives, activities, and safety aspects

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CAS course on “Normal- and Superconducting Magnets”, 19.11–02.12.2023 St. Pölten, Austria

# Acknowledgement

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## HTL St. Pölten

Special thanks to Direktor Pfeffel and all technical staff who helped us set up the material.

# Part I

# Magnetic Measurement Exercises

Objectives and activities

# Our goal

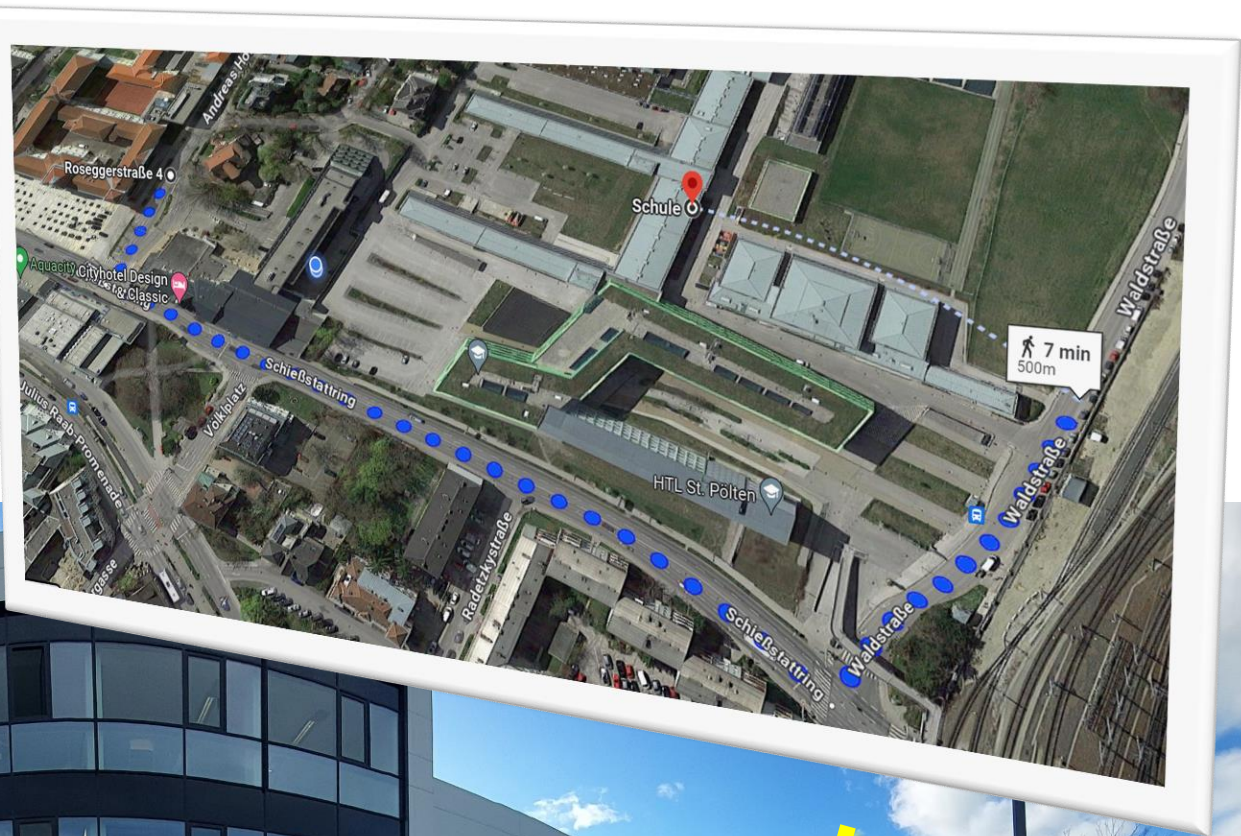
To give you all, as magnet designers, makers and users:

- A taste of hands-on experience with some of the most useful magnetic measurement techniques
- A feel for practical capabilities and limits of magnetic field instrumentation

# Where ?

Facilities kindly made available by HTL St. Pölten,  
Elektrotechnik School

Courtesy Direktor M. Pfeffel

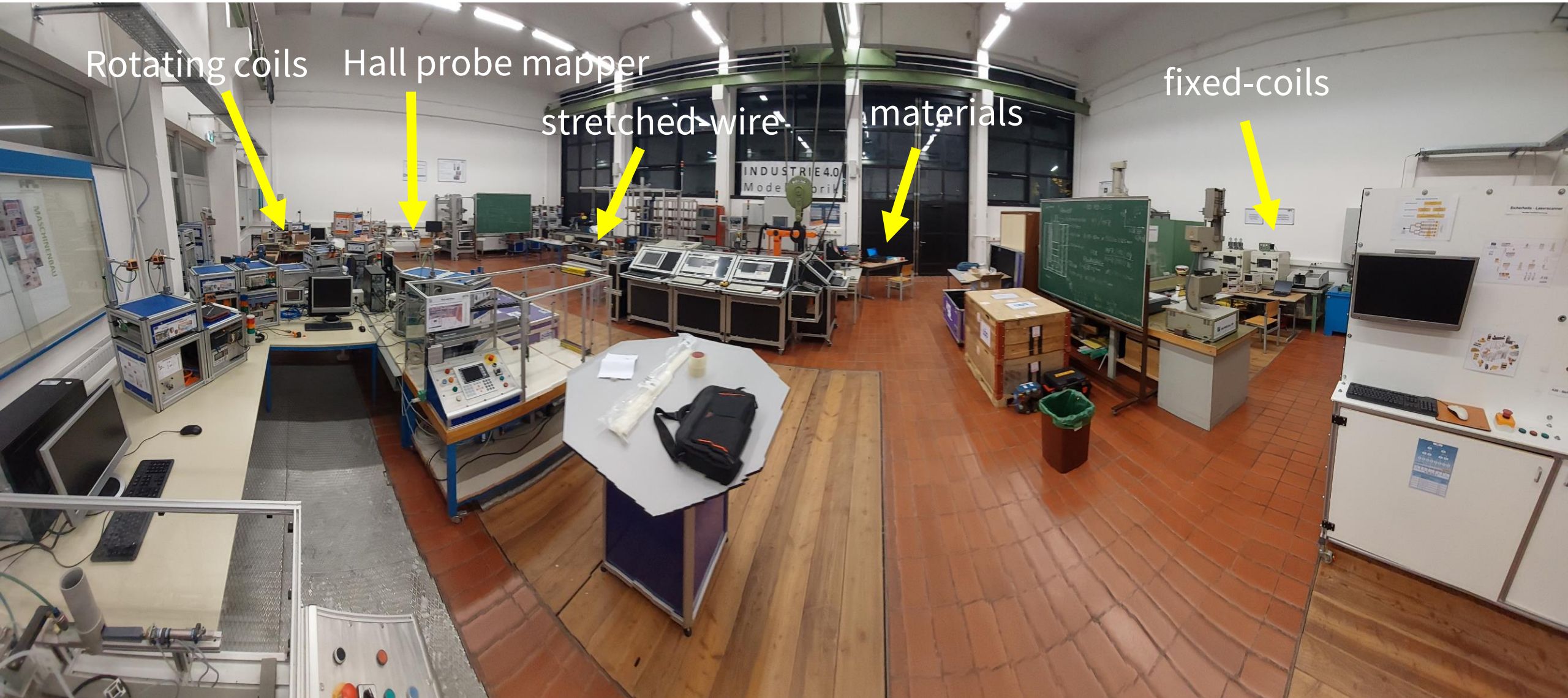


# How to reach us



the path will be marked by direction signs

# Room V039-1



Rotating coils

Hall probe mapper

stretched-wire

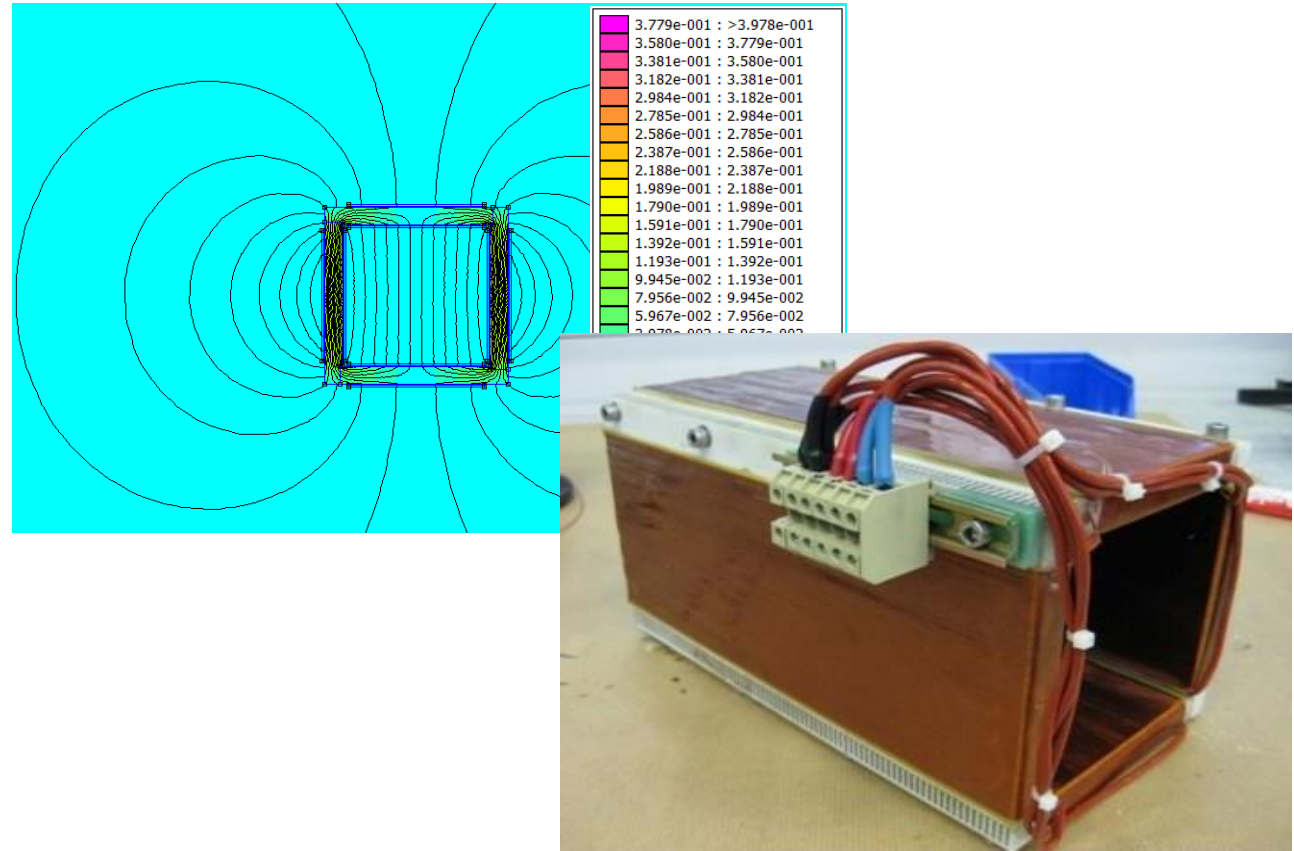
materials

fixed-coils

# Test magnets

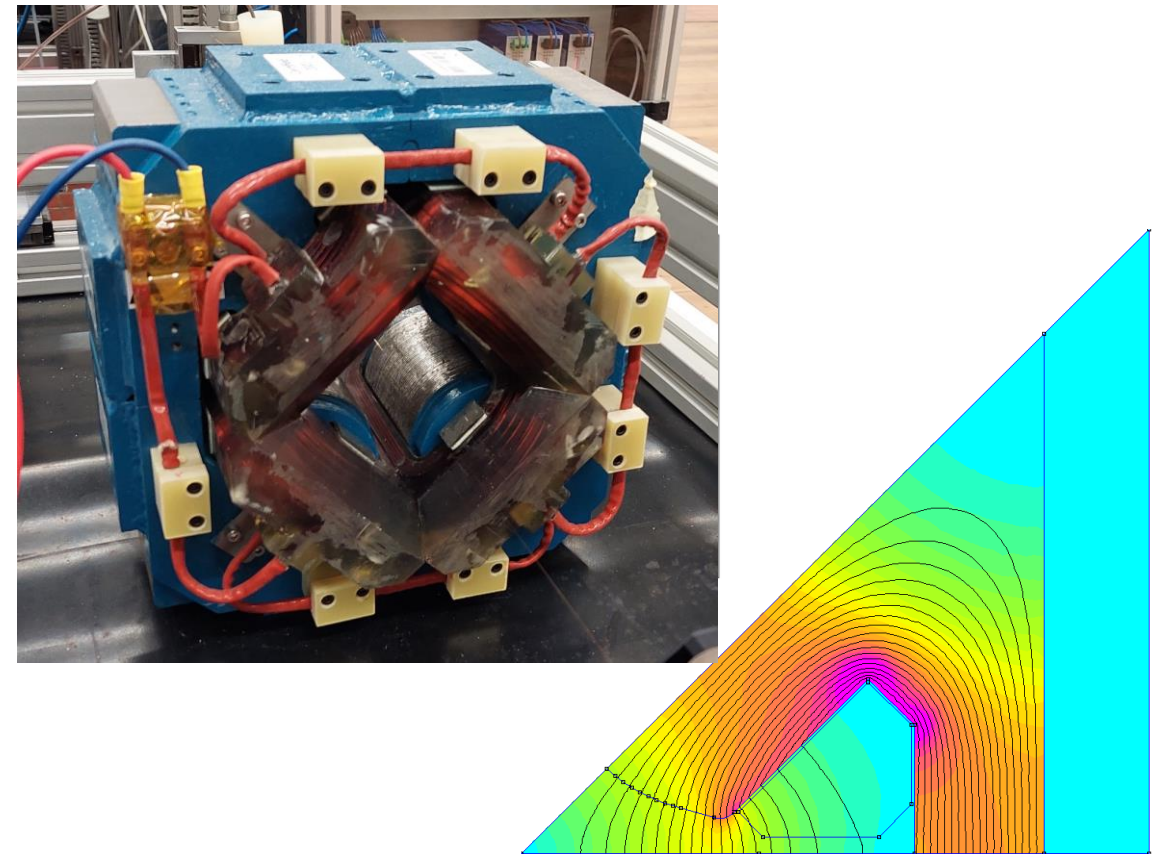
## XY dipole corrector PXMCCATWAP

- 2D FEMM Model: 13.9 mT @ 12 A  
(Courtesy Antony Newborough, CERN)
- “Ugly quad” config possible



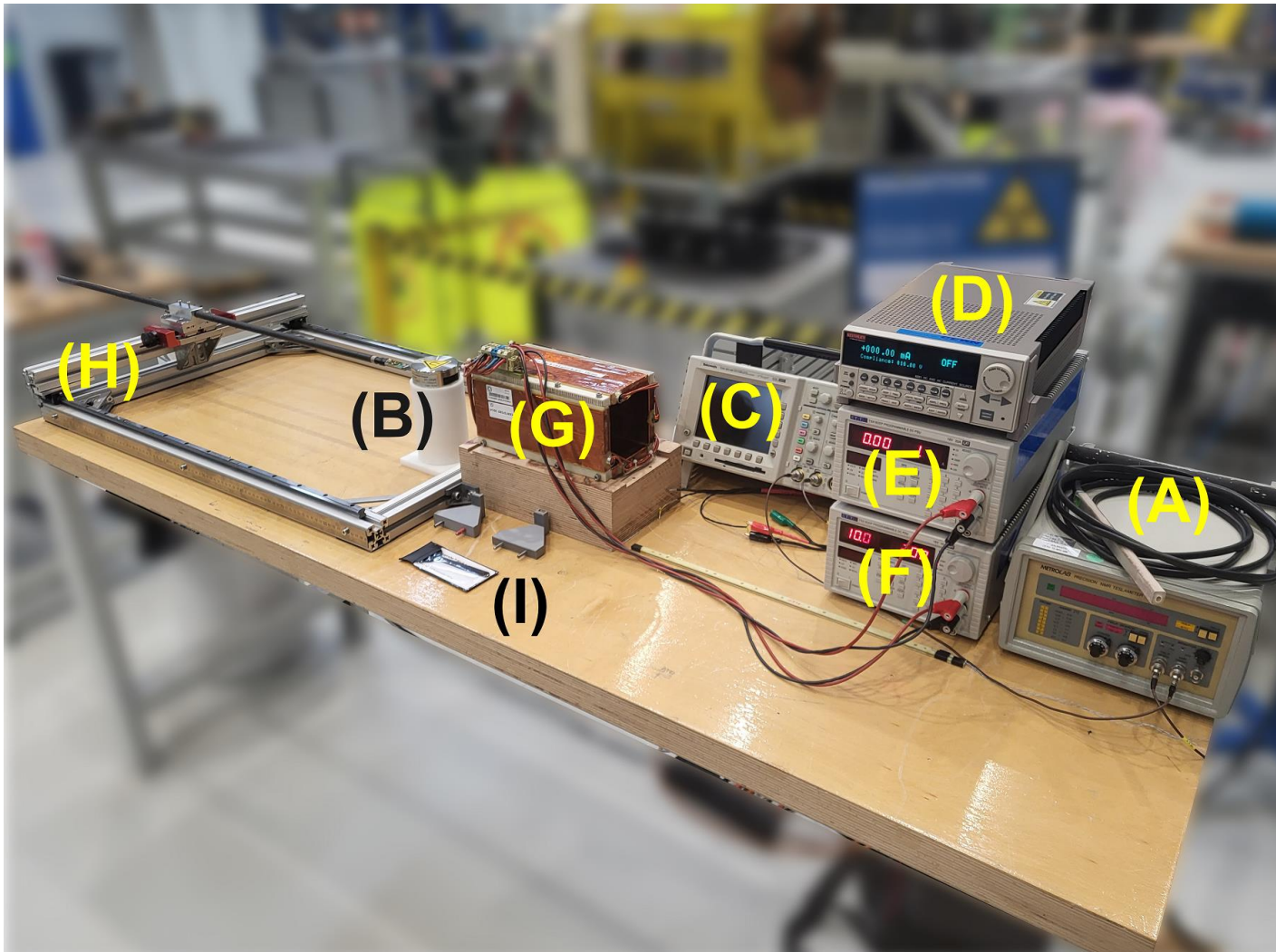
## Quadrupole PXMCCATWAP

- 2D FEMM Model: 2.5 T/m @ 10 A  
(Courtesy Attilio Milanese, CERN)
- 3 nominally identical units installed

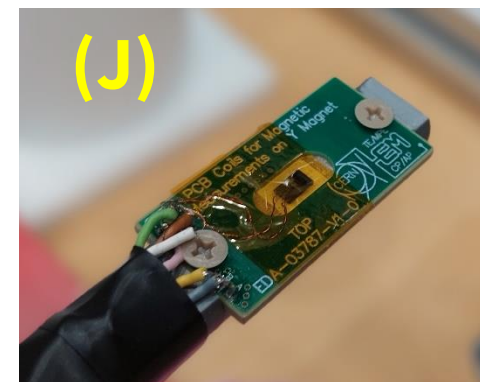




# Table 1 –Hall Probes (Melvin Liebsch)



- (A) NMR teslameter and probe (0.17 – 0.52 T)
- (B) Calibration permanent magnet (0.290 T)
- (C) Digital oscilloscope
- (D) Keithley 6221 current source
- (E) TSX unipolar power supply (for vertical field)
- (F) TSX unipolar power supply (for horizontal field)
- (G) Dipole corrector magnet (PXMCCATWAP)
- (H) Mapper stage (50 x 700 mm stroke)
- (I) Compass
- (J) Uniaxial Hall sensor HE244 (0.2 V/T @ 2 mA)



# Table 1 –Hall Probes

## Goals

- Hall sensor calibration (sensitivity, zero field offset voltage)
- Polarity measurement
- Working principle of XY dipole correctors
- Determine the Sensor orientation with respect to the horizontal and vertical fields
- Mapping of XY dipole corrector (fringe field, ugly quad config)
- Basic usage and working principle of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) measurements

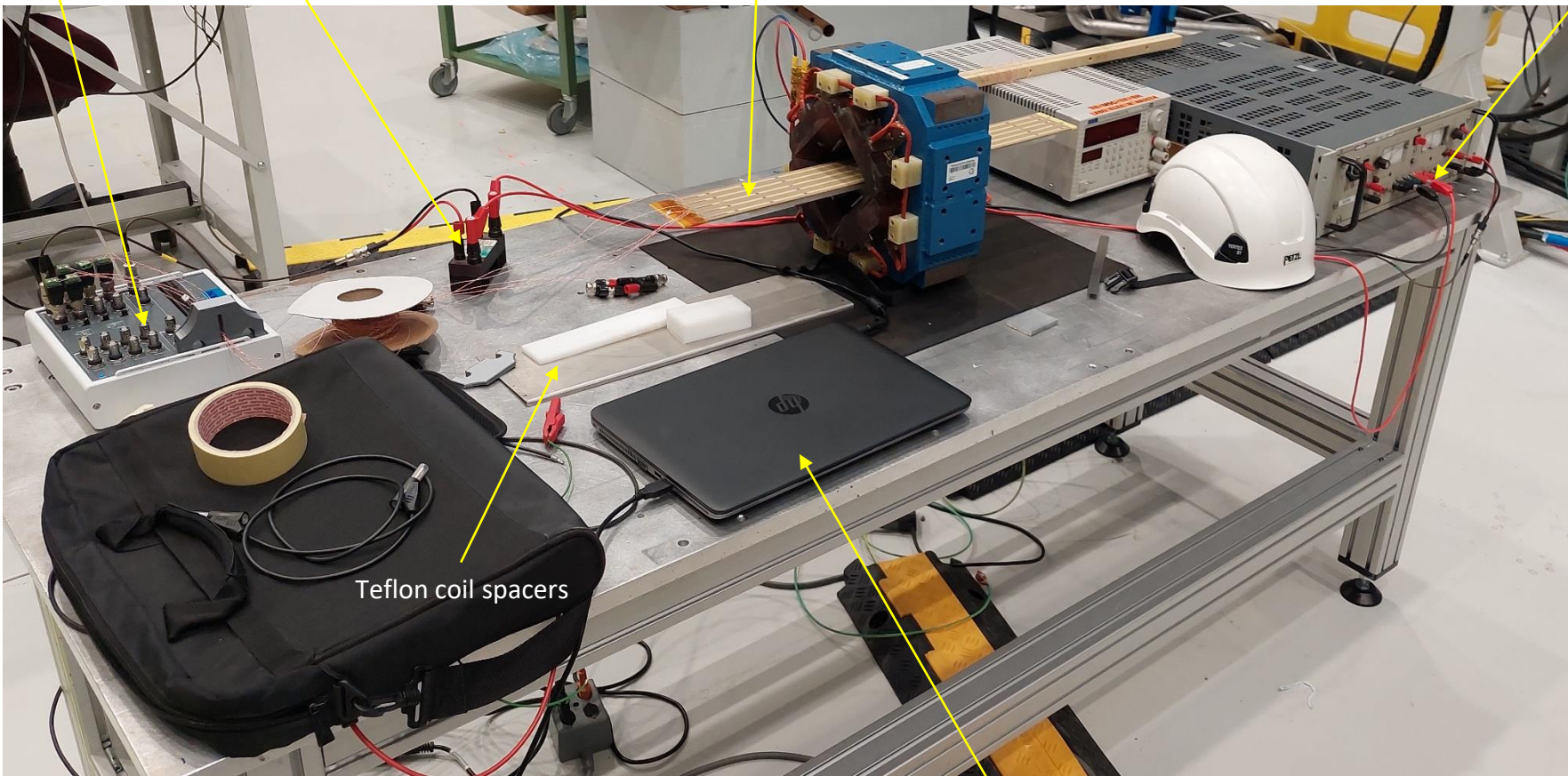
# Table 2 – Fixed Induction Coils (Matthias Bonora)

High-precision 5 mΩ shunt for current measurement

NI 6366 USB DAQ, 8 ch., 16-bit 2 Ms/s

5 × 16-turn, 24-layer, 2.3 m<sup>2</sup> XXX mm × XX mm PCB coil array

Kepeco 6 A, 70 V voltage-controlled amplifier



Teflon coil spacers

Python scripts



# Table 2 –Fixed Induction Coils

## Goals

- Fixed PCB coil array integral measurement: gradient, centering, magnetic length, harmonics
- Dynamic effects: measurement of transfer function, AC eddy currents at different frequencies
- Degaussing, remanent field measurement
- Comparisons (to other instruments/teams)

# Table 3 – Rotating Coil (Lucio Fiscarelli)

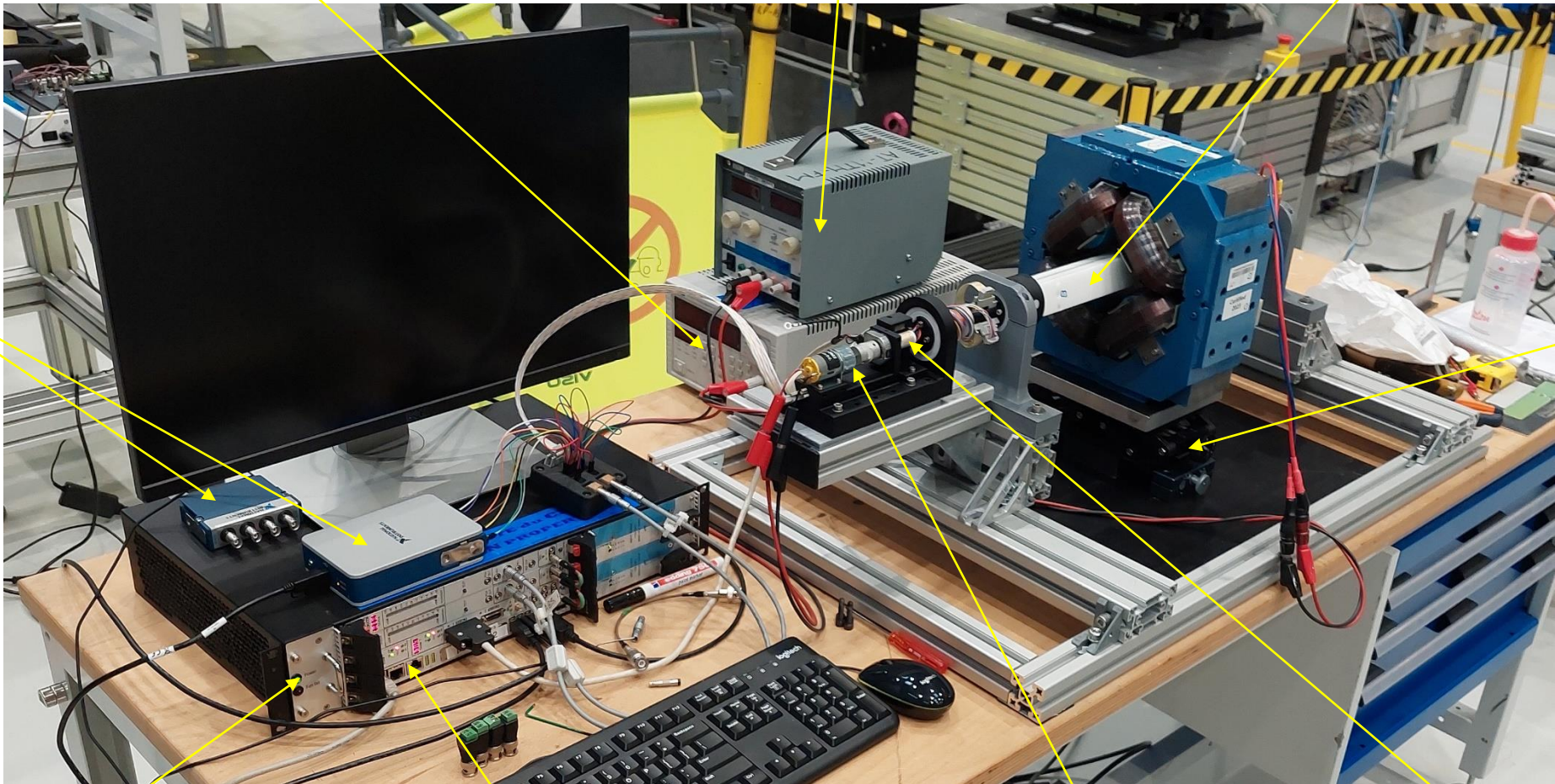
DC power supply TTI TSX1820P 18V/20A

DC power supply TTI PL330P 32V/3A

60-turn coils 2 x 200 mm x 35 mm

NI cDAQ 4 channels for diagnostics

Manual-operated X-Y adjustable support ~100 mm stroke



PXI crate with 2 Fast Digital Integrators 3.0

PC controller running FFMM

DC motor 12 V c.c., 1,31 W, 66 tr/min

Slip rings 10 contacts



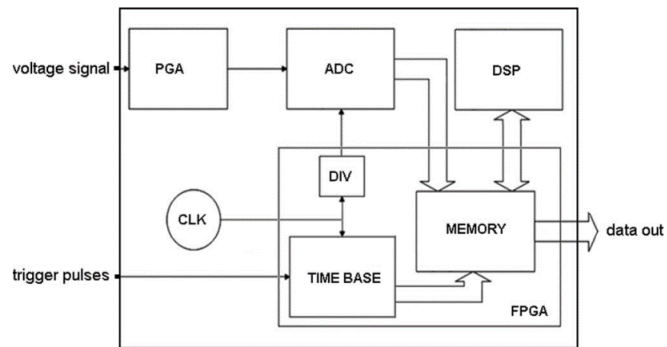
# Table 3 – Rotating Coil

## Fast Digital Integrator (FDI)

- 18-bit ADC at 500 kS/s
- Time base 50 ns
- Programmable gain from 0.1 to 100
- PXI bus interface

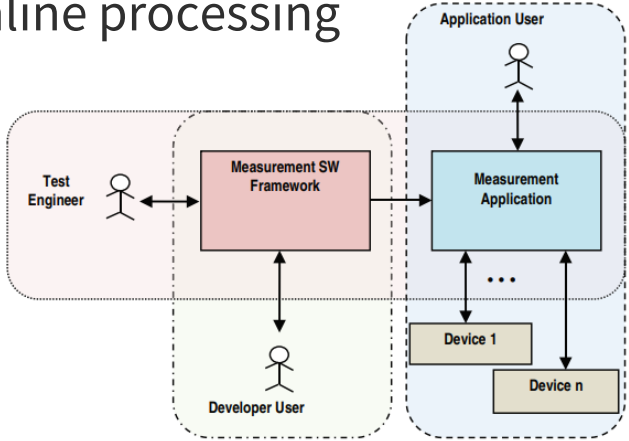


P. Arpaia, L. Bottura, L. Fiscarelli, L. Walckiers; Performance of a fast digital integrator in on-field magnetic measurements for particle accelerators. Rev. Sci. Instrum. 1 February 2012; 83 (2): 024702. <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.3673000>

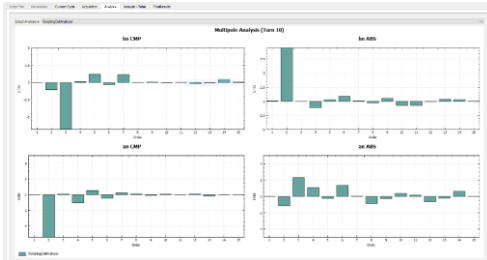
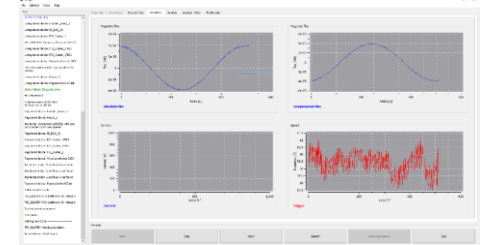
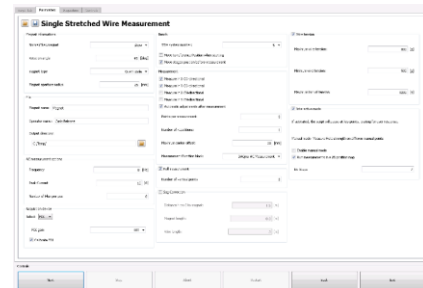


## Flexible Framework for Magnetic Measurements (FFMM)

- Open software framework
- C++
- Based on free libraries (PoCo, Qt, ...)
- Motion control, acquisition, and online processing



Pasquale Arpaia, Marco Buzio, Lucio Fiscarelli, Vitaliano Inglese; A software framework for developing measurement applications under variable requirements. Rev. Sci. Instrum. 1 November 2012; 83 (11): 115103. <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.4764664>



# Table 3 – Rotating Coil

## Goals

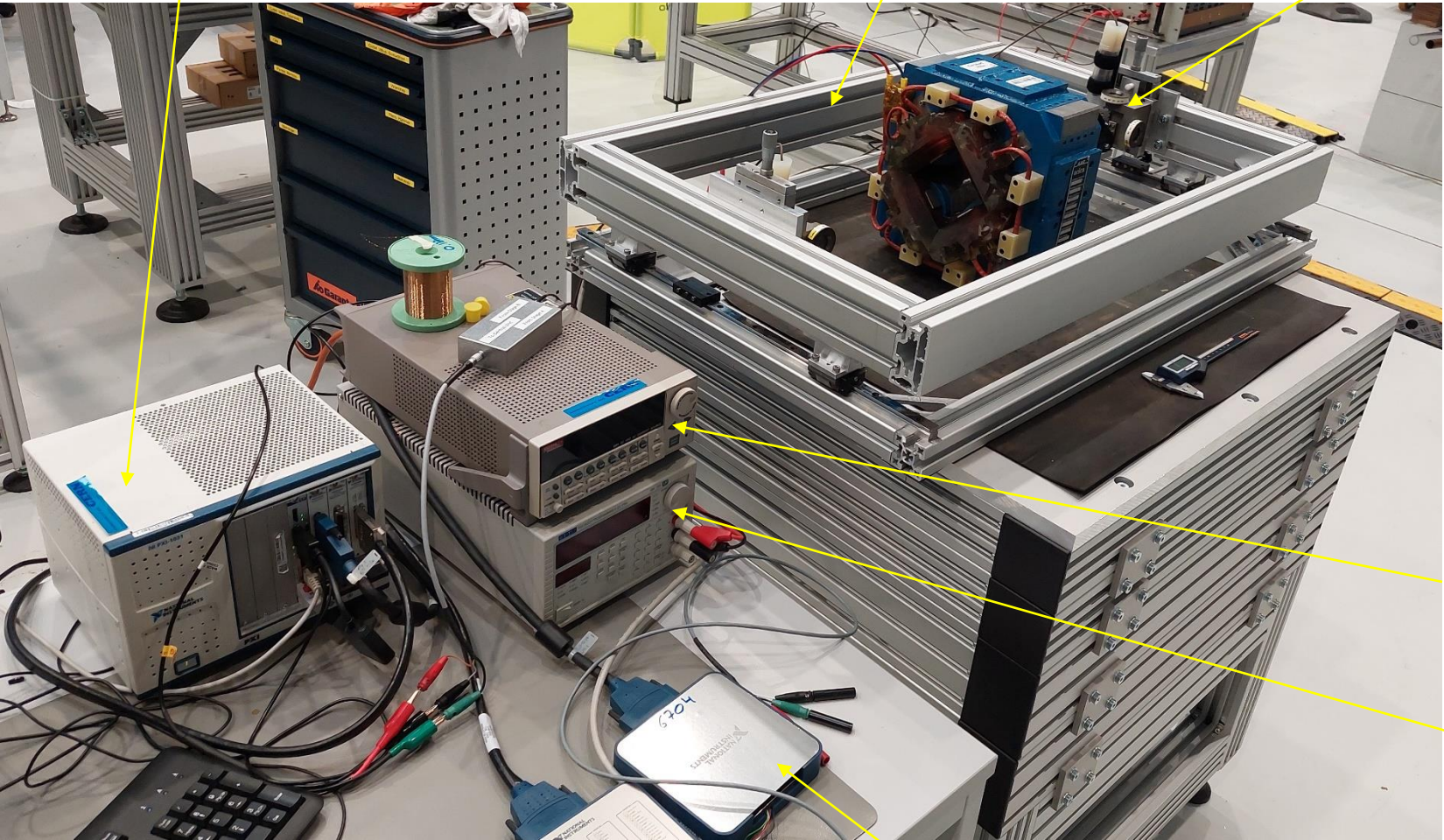
- Basics of a rotating-coil system (search coil, encoder, integrator)
- Calculation of coil sensitivity, post-processing of the acquired signals
- Standard measurement (gradient, centering, harmonics)
- Measurement at different currents (comparison with dynamic measurement)
- Harmonic feed-down (move coil transversally)
- Impact of rotation speed, effect of integration, effect of signal bucking
- Impact of magnetic perturbations (harmonics and symmetries)
- Comparisons (to other instruments/teams)

# Table 4 – Stretched Wire (Carlo Petrone)

NI PXI express crate with analog control and acquisition modules  
PXI-6123 8 ch. × 16-Bit @ 500 kS/s/ch.

Stretched wire support frame

micrometric XY wire end supports



manual wire translation tracked by ..... (XXX μm precision)

Keythley 6221 AC current source for vibrating wire

TT TSX 1820P 18 V, 20 A programmable power supply

NI DAQ screw-terminal interfaces





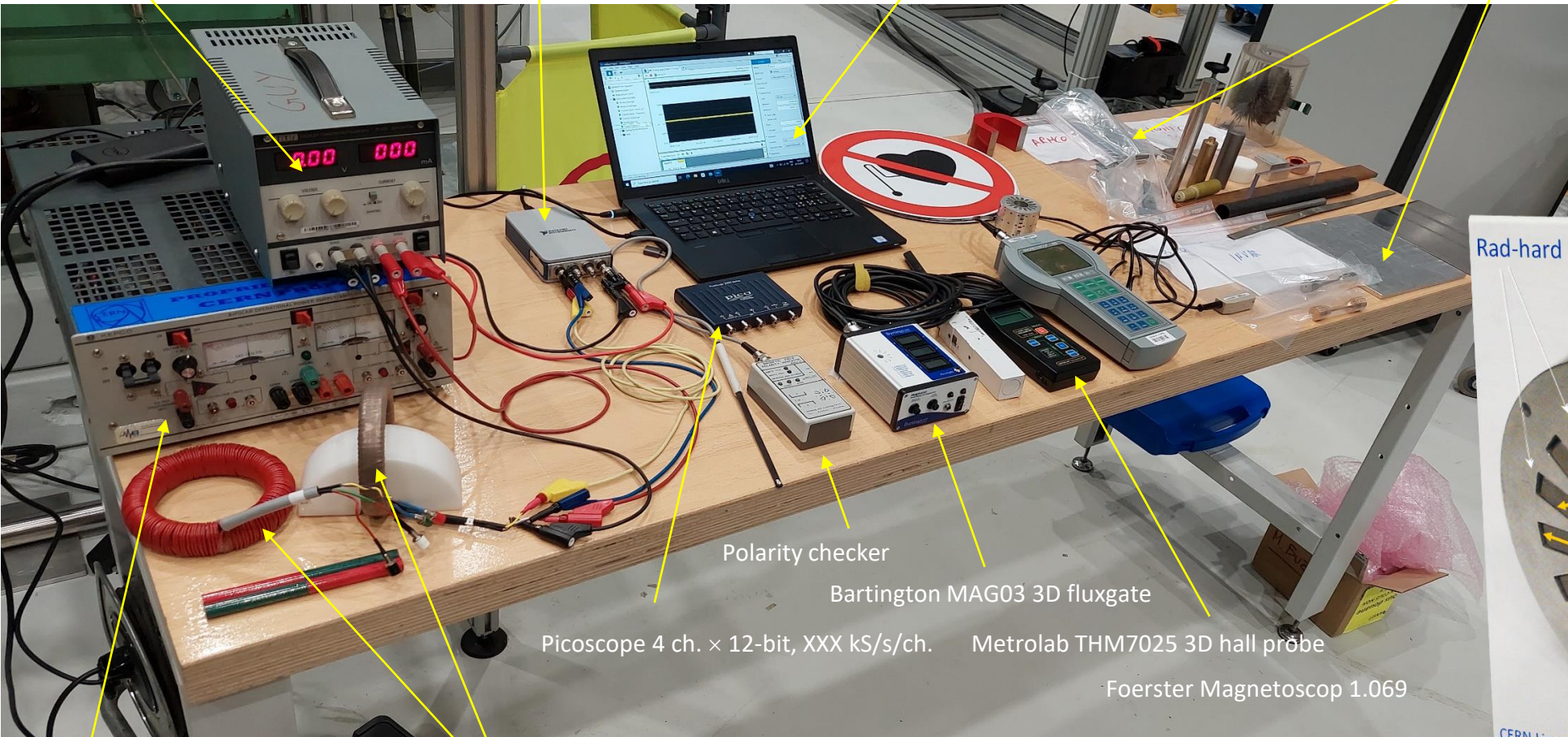
# Table 4 – Stretched Wire

## Goals

- Working principle of the single stretched wire SSW measurement technique
- Integrator drift correction
- Determine the magnetic center and gradient using the SSW technique
- Working principle of the oscillating wire technique
- Validate the central position by the oscillating wire
- Comparisons (to other instruments/teams)

# Table 5 – Magnetic materials (Marco Buzio)

TT 32 V, 2A power supply      NI USB DAQ 4 ch. × 24-bit, 50 kS/s/ch.      Matlab post-processing scripts      Magnetic and non-magnetic material samples



Kepeco ±40V, ±6 A power amplifier

ARMCO and mumetal permeameter ring samples

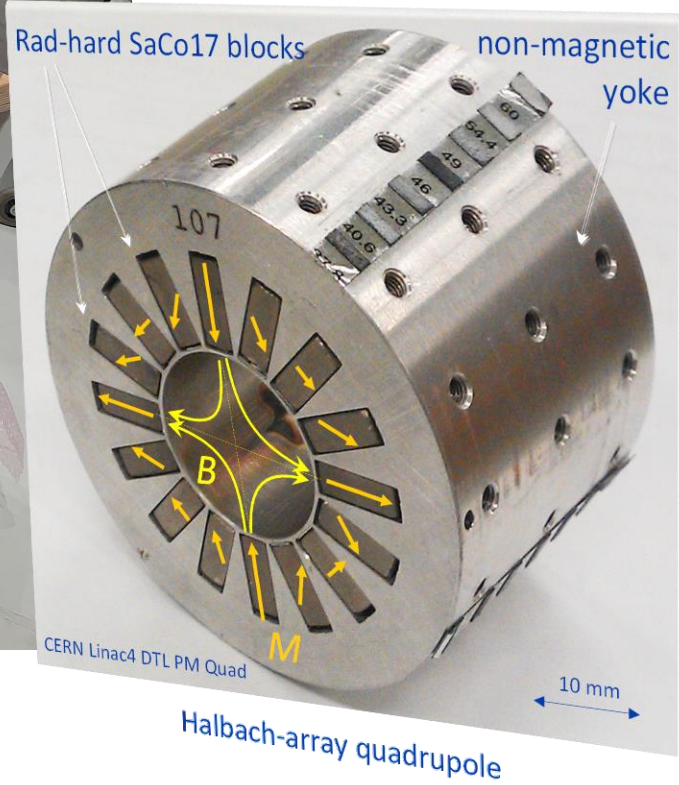
Polarity checker

Bartington MAG03 3D fluxgate

Picoscope 4 ch. × 12-bit, XXX kS/s/ch.

Metrolab THM7025 3D hall probe

Foerster Magnetoscop 1.069



# Table 5 – Magnetic materials

## Goals

- Identify various kinds of magnetic and non-magnetic materials with the help of permanent magnets, Foerster permeameter
- Measure the impact of welds, cold work ...
- Measure Permanent Magnet samples (Hall probe)
- Measure hysteresis loop of ring steel samples with fluxmetric method (magnetization curves, degaussing ...)
- Measure effectiveness of magnetic shields with a Hall probe/Fluxgate

# Part II

## Safety aspects

- Electrical hazards
- Magnetic hazard
- Mechanical hazards

# Electrical hazards

# Electrical hazards

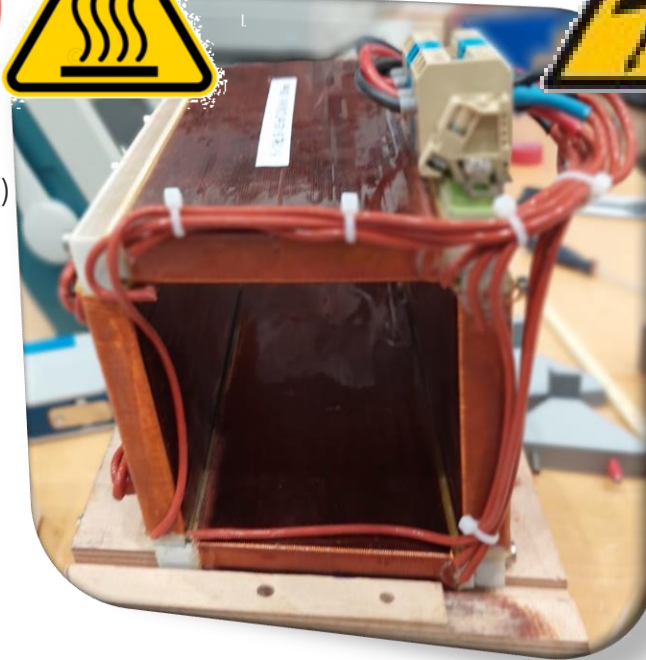


- All equipment CE standard, grounded
- Max. ratings of power supplies: 76 V or 32 A or 432 W
- Operational levels: 50 V (ELV range) 10 A or 200 W

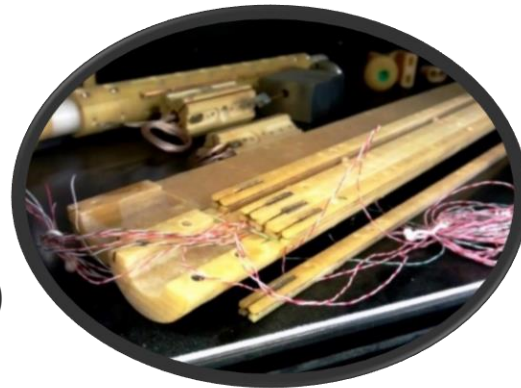
NO SPECIFIC RISK



$T \leq 40^\circ \text{C}$  in normal use  
(but no thermal switches !)



IP20 contacts (finger; no water)  
additional Kapton protection.



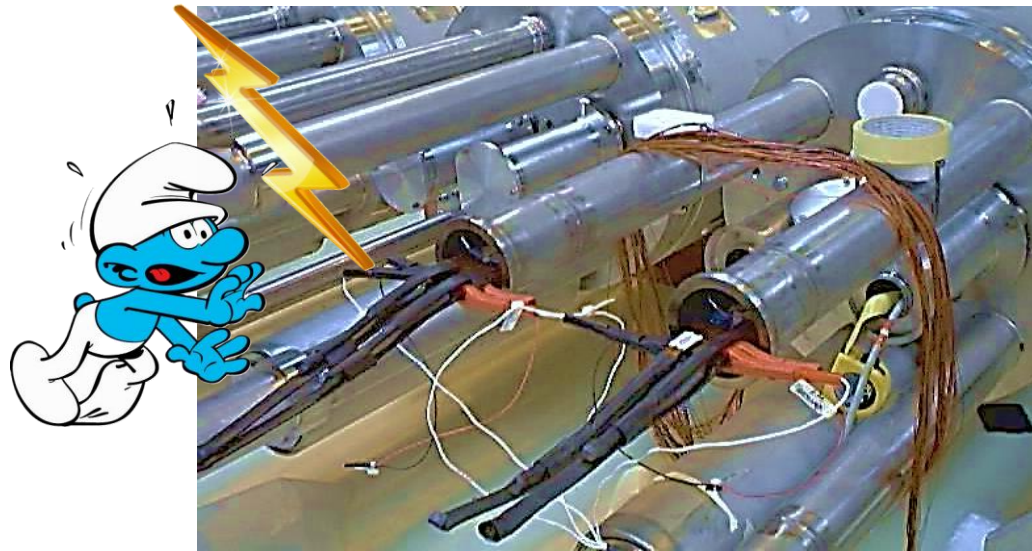
Our own induction coils  
are voltage generators (<10 V)  
(transformer secondary)

# Electrical hazard – circuit break examples

- In case of sudden lead disconnection energy stored in the inductor  $E = \frac{1}{2} LI^2$  is released quickly
- Overvoltage → risk of electrical arc, irreversible insulation damage

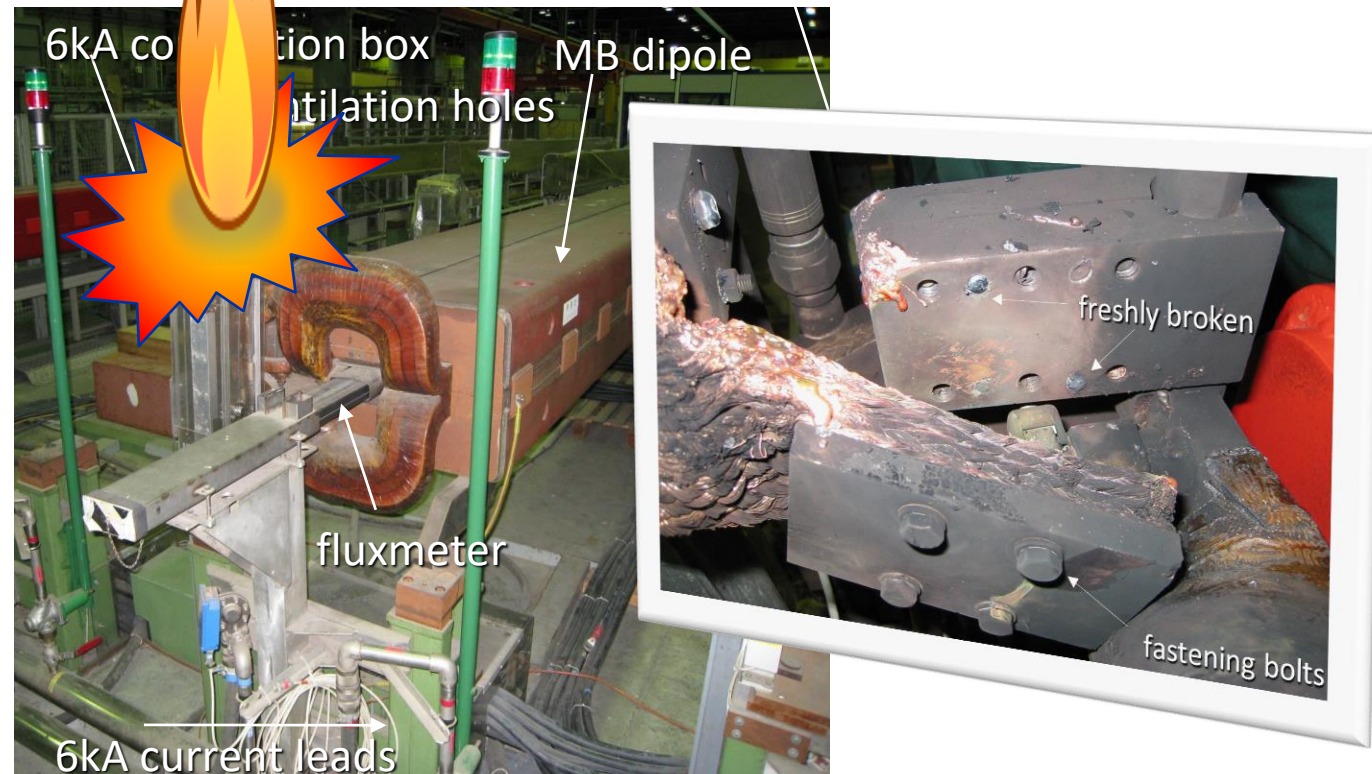
## LHC main NbTi quadrupole

- $L=11.2$  mH
- Warm test  $I=2$  A,  $E=0.02$  J
- No damage !



## SPS main dipole

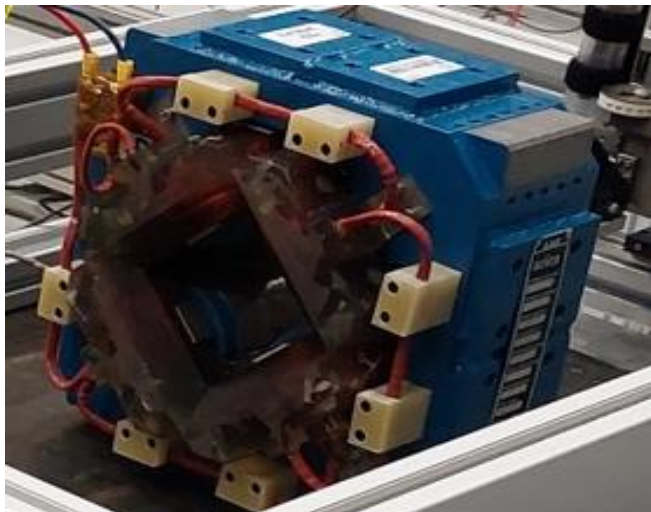
- $L=7.9$  mH,  $I=6$  kA,  $E=140$  kJ
- Incident occurred during nominal ramp



# Electrical hazard – CAS exercises

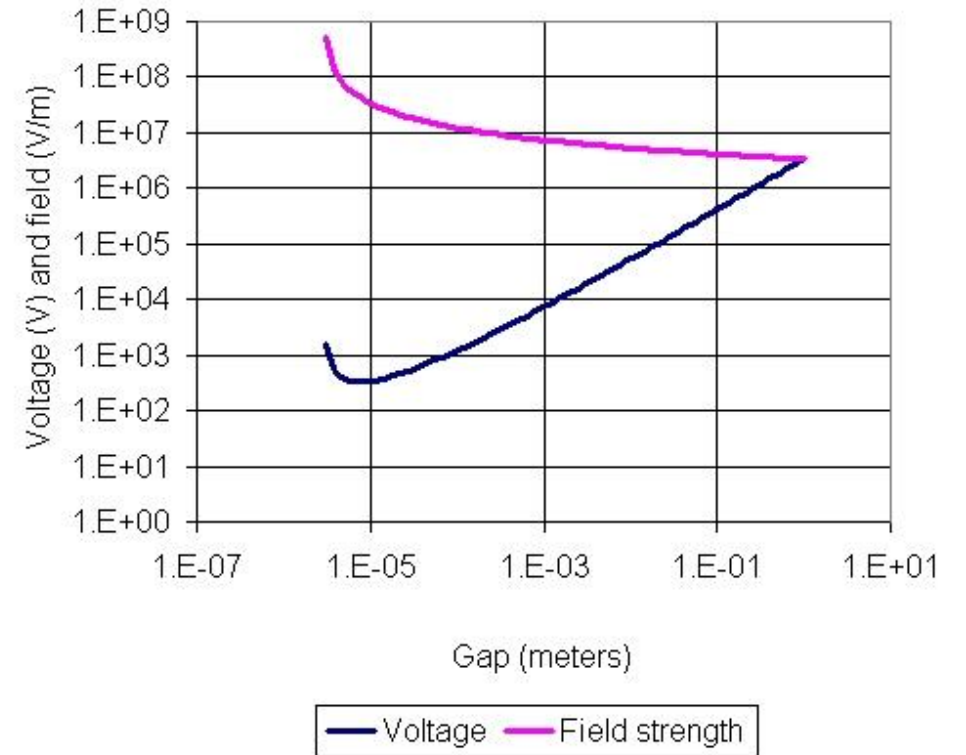


$L=4\text{ mH}$ ,  $I=10\text{ A}$ ,  $E=0.2\text{ J}$



$L=32\text{ mH}$ ,  $I=10\text{ A}$ ,  $E=1.6\text{ J}$

Paschen's Law  
Breakdown voltage and field at one atmosphere

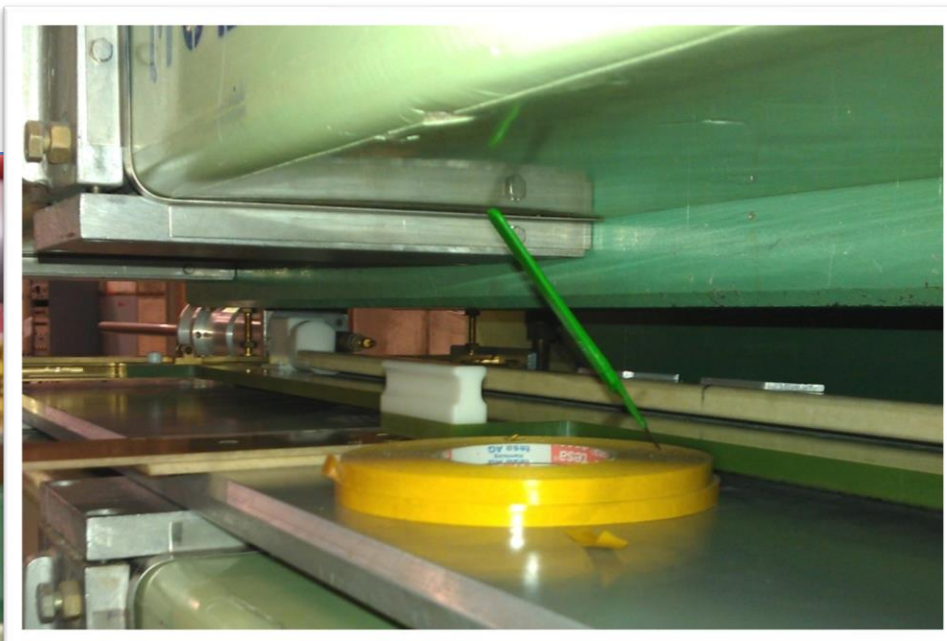


Overvoltage difficult to predict  
general safe distance in air @ 1 bar = 0.5 m

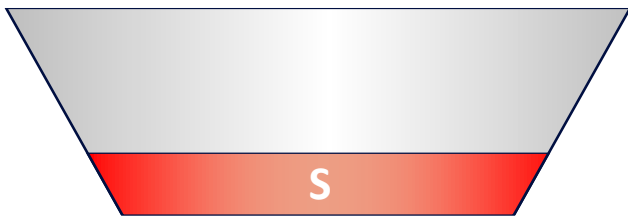


# Magnetic field hazards

# Collision hazard example

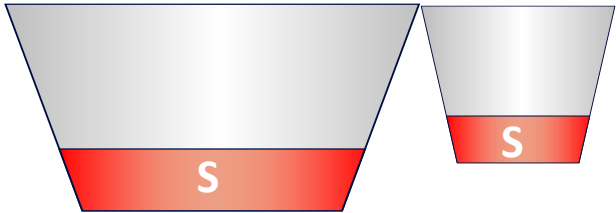


# Magnetic forces on ferromagnetic objects



elongated object  $N \approx 0, \mu_r \rightarrow \infty$  magnetized along easy axis

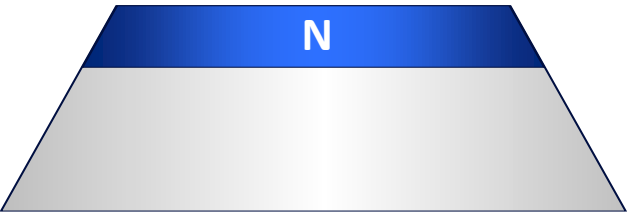
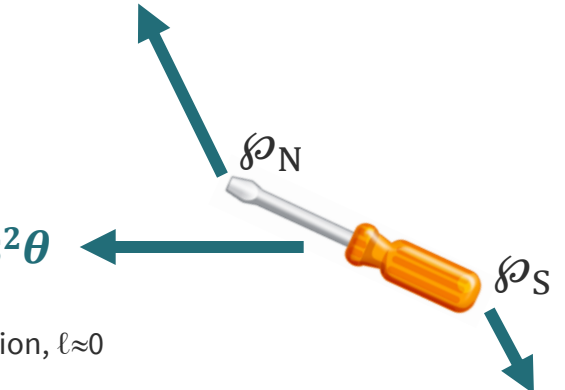
$$M = \frac{\mu_r - 1}{1 + N(\mu_r - 1)} H_{\parallel} \approx \frac{1}{N} H \cos \theta$$



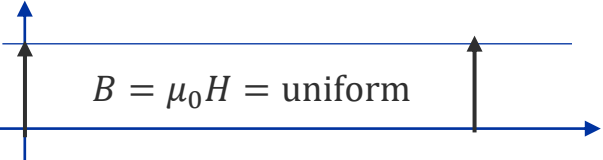
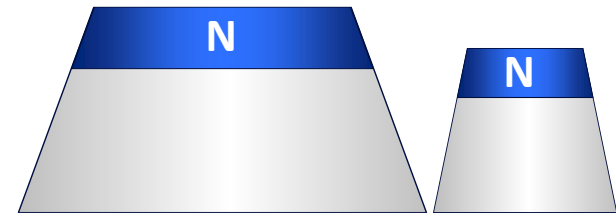
$F = \mu_0 \delta \rho H$  magnetic pole formulation,  $l \rightarrow \infty$   
 $m = MV = \delta \rho l$   
 $T = \frac{1}{N} \frac{B^2 \mathcal{V}}{\mu_0} \cos \theta \sin \theta$

$$F = m \nabla B = \frac{1}{N} \frac{B \nabla B \mathcal{V}}{\mu_0} \cos^2 \theta$$

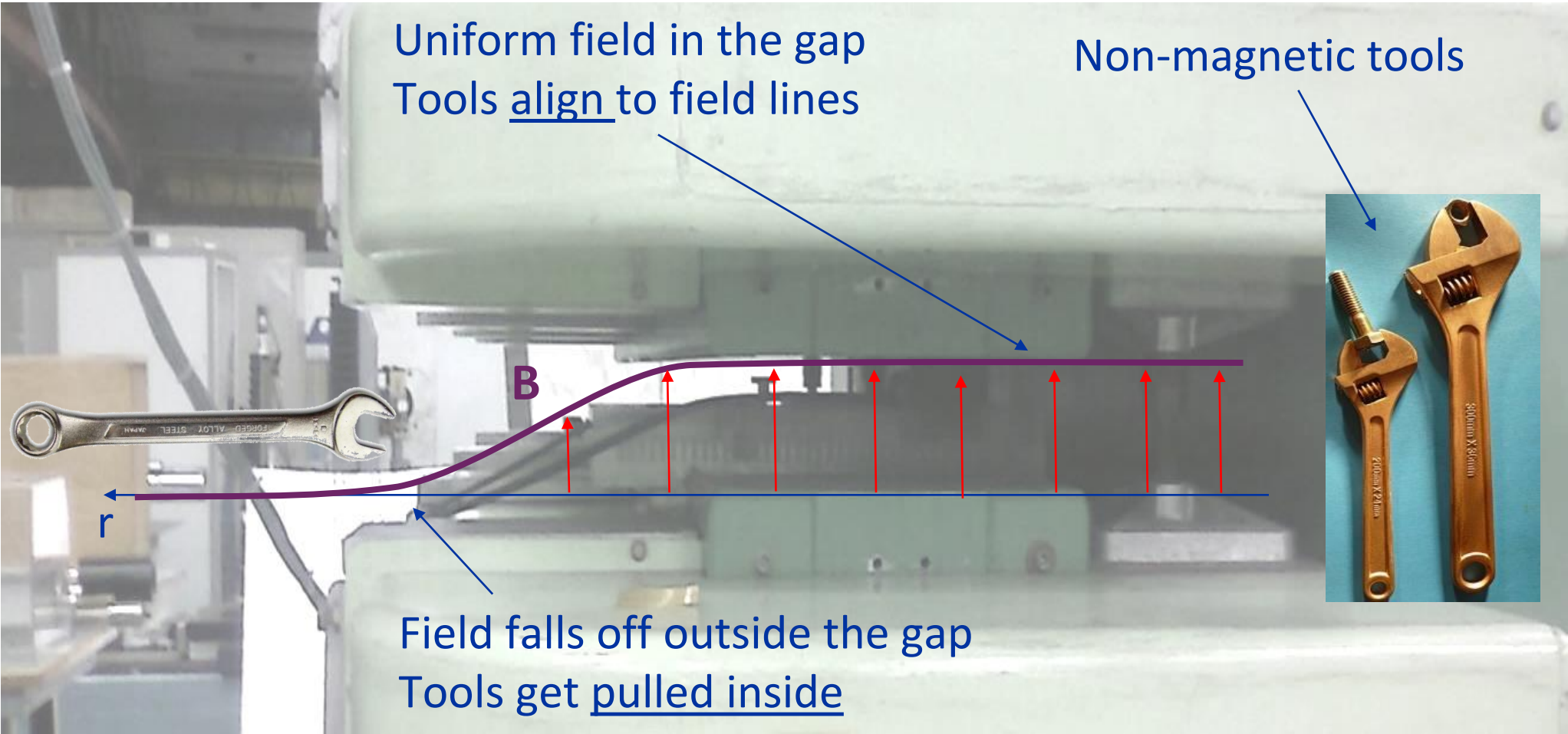
Elementary dipole moment approximation,  $l \approx 0$



ferromagnetic bodies align to the field, are attracted towards stronger field



# Ferromagnetic objects and large magnets

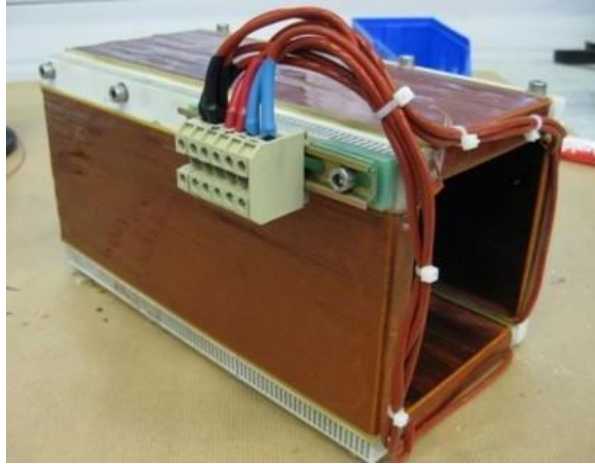


Recommended safety limit for standard tools:

Action level **B**  $\geq 3$  mT if generated by a source  $\geq 100$  mT (*Directive 2013/35/EU*)



# Magnetic field sources – CAS exercises



$B \leq 10 \text{ mT} @ 10 \text{ A}$



$B \leq 73 \text{ mT}$



$B = 290 \text{ mT}$

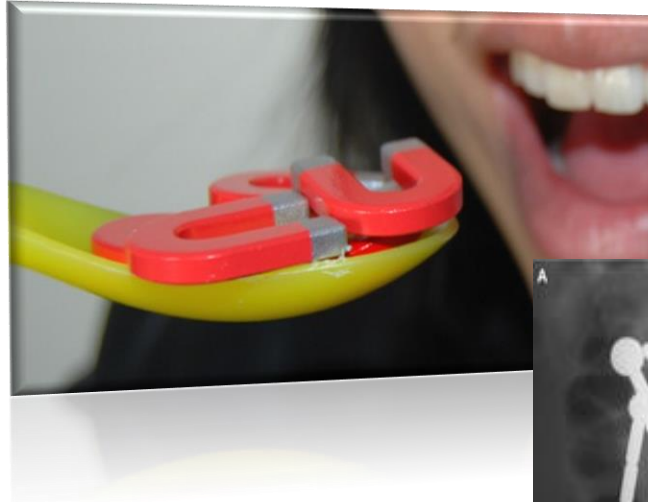
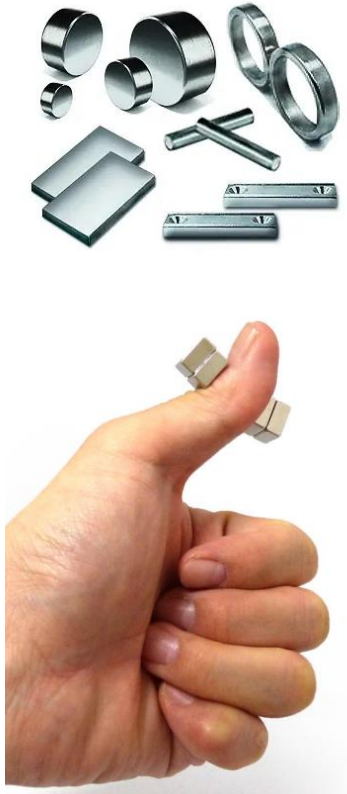


$B = 400 \text{ mT}$

- Electromagnets not a relevant projectile effect risk
- Permanent magnets: 3 mT threshold exceeded closer < 50 mm.  
Gap is very small, *however* please do not approach with ferromagnetic objects

# Permanent magnets hazards

- Assorted NdFeB magnets will be handed out to test magnetic materials, up to 0.4 T on-contact
- Keep away from credit cards, mechanical watches, mobile phones ... and especially each other !
- Store in the boxes supplied when not in use



## Description

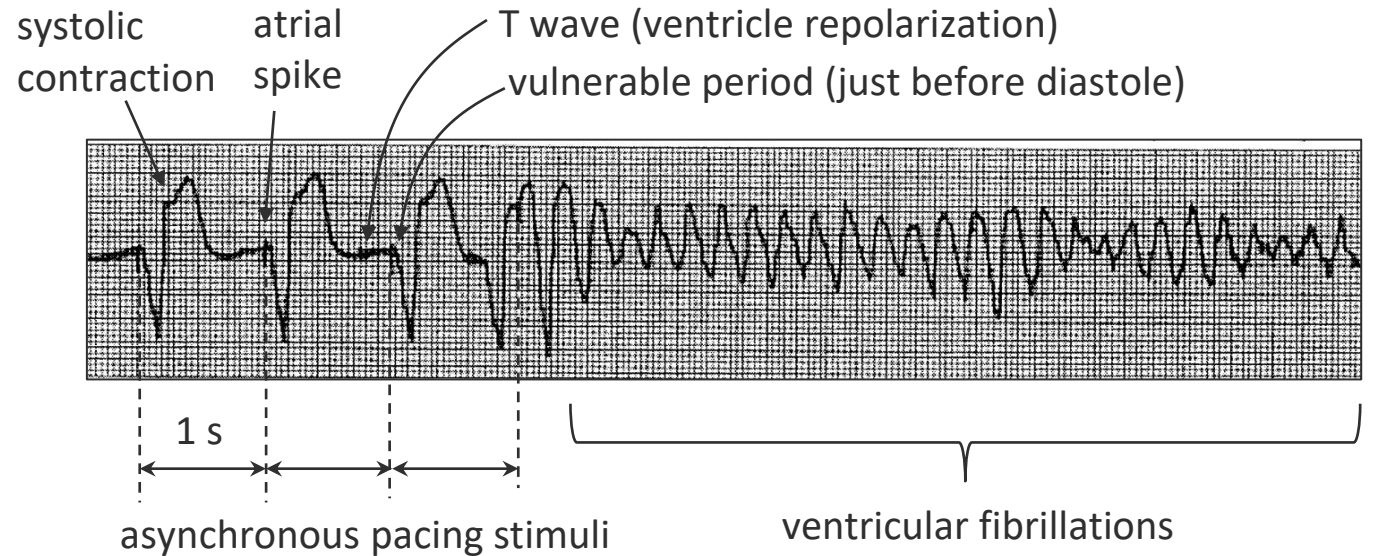
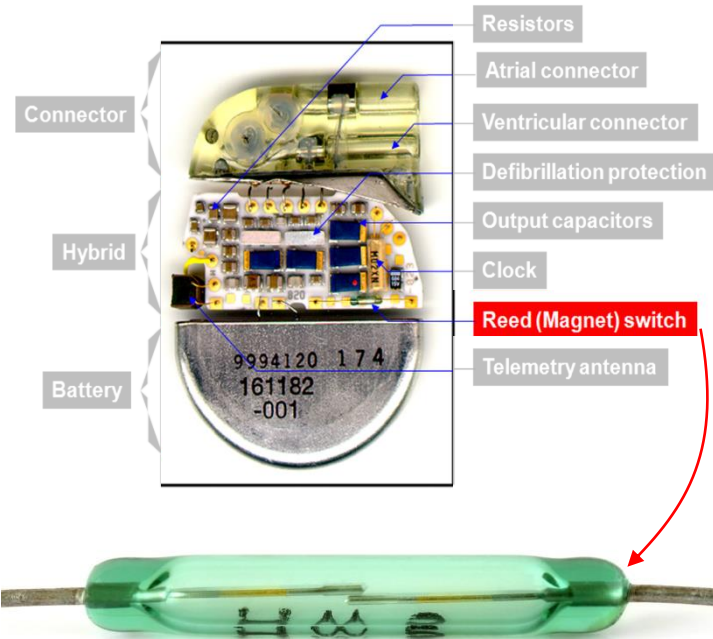
We call this magnet with reverence **THE DEATH MAGNET**.  
We have no idea what you could reasonably do with this magnet

Item number	Q-51-51-25-N	Price and rebate
Strength	approx. 100 kg	1 pc. 68,09 EUR ea.
Displacement force	approx. 20 kg	from 3 pcs. 61,69 EUR ea.
Unit of Sale	1 piece	from 10 pcs. 55,98 EUR ea.
		from 20 pcs. 53,20 EUR ea.

CERN staff only

# Pacemakers

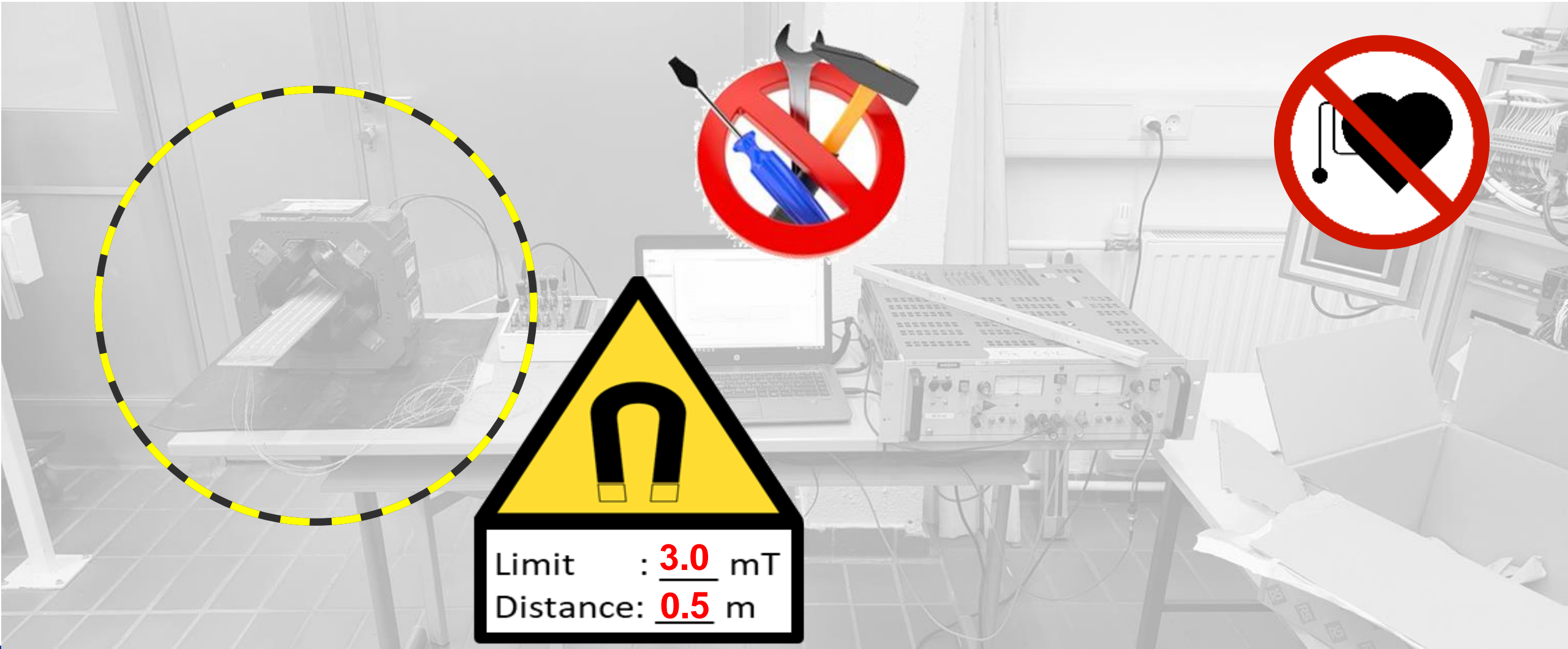
- Most cardiovascular implants switch into programming/diagnostic mode by applying an external field 1~10 mT:
  - ICV (Implantable Cardioverters/Defibrillators) → deactivate
  - PM (Pacemakers) → asynchronous (fixed) pacing mode
- Recent devices with Hall/GMR sensors can be locked out → “MRI-conditional”, safe up to 3 T
- But most PM have still *reed switches* with thresholds  $\geq 0.7$  mT
- ~16 fatalities (all MRI-related) reported before 2001



**exposure to  $B > 0.5$  mT is absolutely forbidden**



# Magnetic field hazard – legal obligations



**Limit : 3.0 mT**  
**Distance: 0.5 m**



# Mechanical hazards

# Mechanical hazards



Some exercises feature motorized moving parts.  
Please do not touch them !



Floor is relatively uncluttered, still ....  
~ 190 000 tripping work accidents/year in EU

# Summary - safety rules

- Please let instructors make/unmake connections
- Bearers of **pacemakers, defibrillators, or any other kind of active implant** are **forbidden** to enter the exercise area
- Respect the min. distance of 0.5 m between any magnet and ferromagnetic objects
- Keep the permanent magnets you'll be given 0.5 m away from any other magnet, ferromagnetic object, and potentially sensitive personal items (telephone, watches, credit cards ...)
- Watch your feet !

... and then have safe fun while training with magnets !