

Electrostatic lens sizing

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Patrick Lindecker

Maisons-Alfort (France)

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Revision C1: complete rewriting.

Revision C2: Multiplasma V1.19 in §1 and introduction to the quality of convergence of lenses in §3 and in Appendix A

Abstract

The goal of this presentation is to give some information about the sizing of electrostatic lenses, mainly the focal length. These lenses are used to focus particles beams. It is proposed a small program and formulas taking account different parameters (voltages and configuration) in a relative simple way. A “freeware” program can, possibly, help the reader to more precisely design lenses.

This presentation relies on a personal simulator. A physical explanation of the focusing principle is proposed. It is afterwards explained why a negative potential will also focus an ions beam, even it seems counter-intuitive. It is also shown that the quality of convergence increases with the thickness of the lens.

Moreover, it is described the expected behavior of lenses in presence of a strong space charge, or in presence of two different types of plasma (hot ions/cold electrons plasma and fusion neutral plasma).

1. Goal, presentation and notations used

The goal of this presentation is to give some additional information about the sizing of electrostatic lenses (i.e. focal length), used to focus particles beams.

The first goal is to rapidly size simple lenses, because the different documents found from Internet did not enter in details and did not permit to size the lenses according to the different parameters (voltages and configuration) in a relative simple way. The second need is to understand how lenses physically work.

This presentation relies on the Multiplasma simulator program version 1.19 developed by the author and used for the simulation of electrostatic lenses (among other functions).

Note: for information, the Multiplasma version 1.19 limited to electrostatic lenses is proposed to download in “freeware”, from this direct link:

http://f6cte.free.fr/MULTIPLASMA_V_1_19_lenses_setup.exe

The program is to be used as it is, as there is no online help.

First read the “**Quick start-up of the Multiplasma V.1.19 program in its limited version for electrostatic lenses**” document in the “Multiplasma_for_lenses_start_up.pdf” file, before using this program.

In short, this paper will permit to rapidly size an electrostatic lens by giving an order of magnitude of the focal length. For a more precise design, the Multiplasma 1.19 program can, possibly, be used.

Notations

- The simple product is indicated with « x » or « . ».
- “<<” for “very inferior” and “>>” for “very superior”.
- |x|, absolute value of x.
- The sign “~” is worth for “proportional”.
- A vector (as the electric field **E**) is in bold but its components in a cylindrical coordinate system (Er, Eφ, Ez for example) are scalar so in light. Note that, due to the azimuthal symmetry, the azimuth coordinate (Eφ) does not need to be considered.

The author uses SI units or sub-multiple: the unit of length taken here is the “mm” which is more convenient than the “m” for lenses.

Note: breakdown problem between electrodes is not addressed.

Hypothesis:

- The relativity is not considered, the particle speed being supposed far inferior to the speed of light.
- The lens is supposed installed in the middle on a straight pipe which length is at least twice the focal length.
- It is supposed that the initial particle trajectory is horizontal. However due to the not nil beam emittance, the beam is normally more or less divergent, so with a non nil radial speed. However, this one is not considered in this paper.

- About space charge

It is supposed that the space charge can be neglected. Note that if the space charge is large, its effect is predominant and the lens is without any use.

The maximum “divergent” space charge radial electric field Ec (V/m) can be determined for a current I (A) of particles beam of radius R (m) and speed v

(m/s), by the formula:
$$E_c = \frac{I}{2 \times \pi \times \epsilon_0 \times v \times R}$$
 with $\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12}$ F/m

This value of Ec must be very inferior to the “convergent” radial electric field Er generated by the lens. A very rough estimation would be based on a U0 equal to UI/2 (see figure 2). So the rough mean radial Er along the radius would be equal to UI/(2*Rint).

If $E_c \ll E_r$ the lens will make converge the beam towards the axis and the proposed formulas will be of some use. Otherwise the trajectory of the beam will be influenced by the space charge and the proposed formulas are not applicable. The reference [1] can be of interest to take into account space charge.

In figure 1, two typical trajectories are given:

- The standard one in black, without space charge. Note that this trajectory is conventional, because the real trajectory looks like the one shown in figure 5.
- The trajectory in red, with space charge. The ion cannot reach the axis because the space charge electric field opposes a force to the particle.

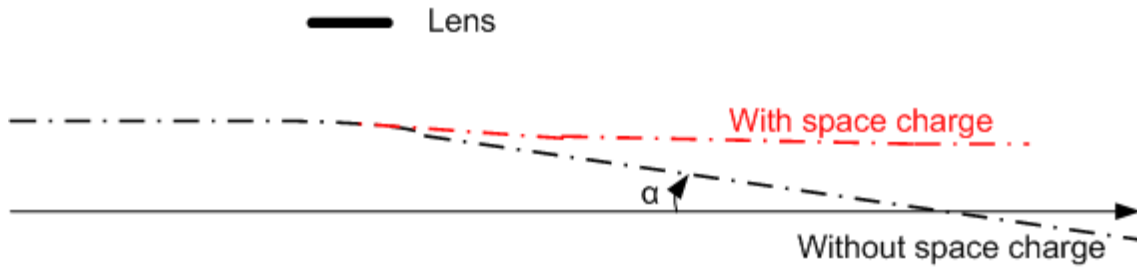


Figure 1: typical trajectory with and without space charge

2. Description of the simple lens

The goal of the lens is to focus a beam. Due to the interest of the author, it will be supposed that the particles are ions with one charge (D^+ or T^+). But it could be electrons with opposed voltages. Below the figure 2 shows the different notations. The simple lens is in fact a single electrode, in form of washer. This type of lens can also be called "Wehnet".

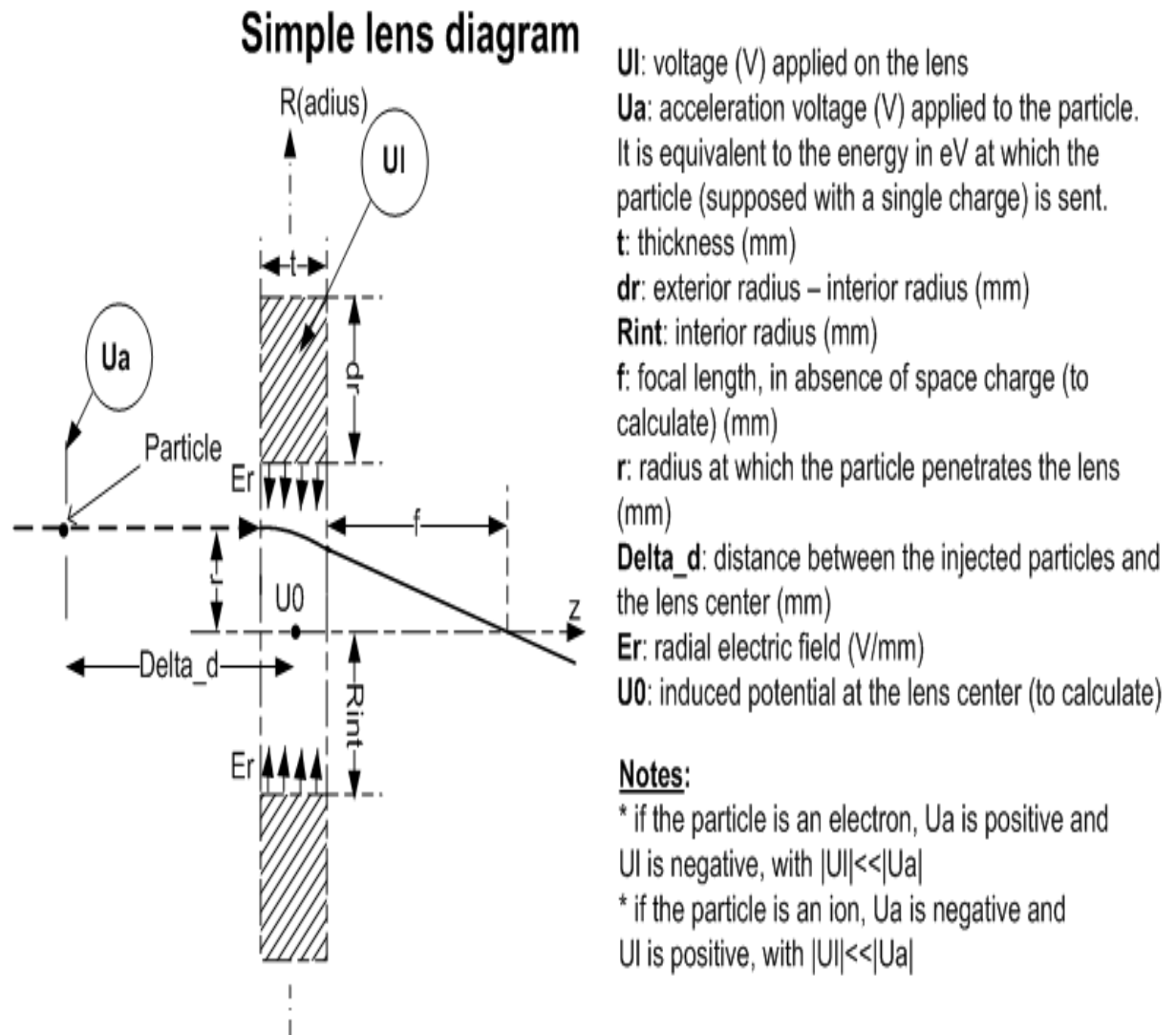


Figure 2: simple lens diagram

3. Simple lens sizing

3.1 Theoretical and experimental approaches

It will be, first, determined a simplified theoretical formula for the focal length, with the first following hypothesis:

- As yet said, the lens has a cylindrical symmetry, so the azimuthal behavior is not taken into account.
- The initial trajectory of the particle is horizontal (along and above the z axis),
- The distance “r” to the axis is very small compared to the lens radius (Gaussian hypothesis). r is positive by agreement, the axis R carrying “r” being upwards. With this Gaussian hypothesis, the focal length will not depend on “r”. In the reality r must be, roughly, inferior or equal to the half of the lens radius. Beyond, the beam converges with different focus lengths (causing aberrations).

It can be demonstrated that the trajectory of the ion obeys, at a given point i, to:

$$\left(\frac{d^2r}{dz^2}\right)_i = \frac{-q}{m \times vzi^2} \times \left[\frac{\delta V}{\delta r} - \frac{\delta V}{\delta z} \times \left(\frac{dr}{dz}\right)_i \right]$$

With r the radius, z the axial distance along the z axis, q the charge in Coulomb, m the mass in kg, vzi, the axial speed vz at the point i, V the potential (which depends on r, z and U). For details, look at the reference [1], page 15.

To simplify, it will be done the hypothesis that dr/dz (i.e. the angle of the trajectory) will be always very small so as to neglect the second term. This supposes that U/Ua will be small.

So the expression can be simplified in: $\left(\frac{d^2r}{dz^2}\right)_i = \frac{-q}{m \times vzi^2} \times \frac{\delta V}{\delta r}$

Note that: $\frac{\delta V}{\delta r} = -Er$ (Er the radial electric field, depending on r, z and U)

In a general way, it is reminded that the electric field **E** (vector) is the reverse of the potential (scalar) gradient, i.e. **E** =-grad(V).

In addition, it can be demonstrated via the divergence theorem (i.e. div(**E**)=-ΔV=0, “=0” because the space charge is negligible, as supposed) that:

$$\frac{\delta V}{\delta r} = 0.5 \times \frac{\delta Ez}{\delta z} \times r$$

With Ez the electric field along z (Ez depending on r, z and U). For details, look at the reference [1], page 17.

Moreover, $m \times vzi^2 = 2 \times Eki(J)$ (Eki being the kinetic energy in J at the point i).

Eki can be expressed in eV rather than in Joule, with $Eki(eV) = \frac{Eki(J)}{q}$

with the charge q=1.602E-19 C (for an ion D+ or T+).

It follows: $\frac{m \times vzi^2}{q} = 2 \times Eki(eV)$ So $\frac{q}{m \times vzi^2} = \frac{1}{2 \times Eki(eV)}$

Now, look at the induced potential in V on the Figure 3. It appears clearly that, circulating from left to right along z (horizontal axis), the potential induced by the lens increases from 0 to U_0 at the center of the lens and then decreases down to 0. Consequently, the electric longitudinal field E_z is always negative before the lens (E_z called E_{z1}), and positive after the lens (E_z called E_{z2}), with $E_{z2} = -E_{z1}$, E_z changing of sign at the center of lens: $\leftarrow \text{---}E_{z1}\text{---} \text{Lens (center)} \text{---}E_{z2}\text{---} \rightarrow$
 Note that E_{z1} slows down ions and E_{z2} speeds up ions.

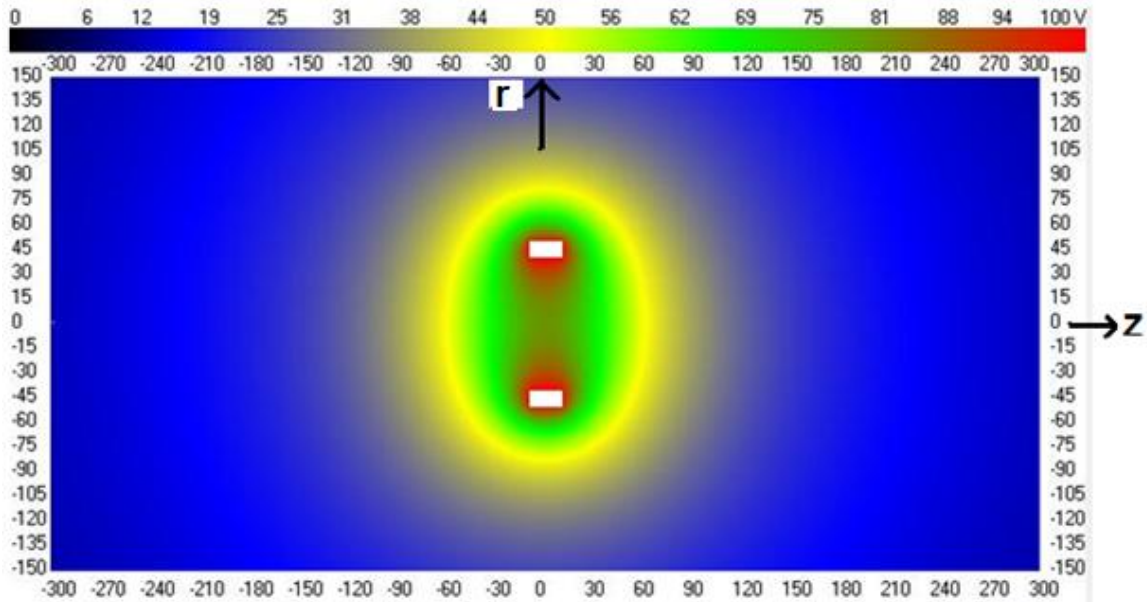


Figure 3: snapshot of an equipotentials display of a simple lens

Below, on the figure 4 are given typical evolutions of the induced voltage U , the radial and axial electric fields (E_r and E_z) for a simple lens, obtained for a trajectory along and above the z axis. The radial and axial electric field sharing the same unity, note that $E_z \gg E_r$. Note also that $E_z=0$ for $z=0$, which is logical due to the lens symmetry. The positive maximum of E_z (E_{zmax}) is obtained at z_1 . By symmetry the negative maximum ($-E_{zmax}$) is obtained at $-z_1$. E_{z1} represents E_z before $z=0$ and E_{z2} represents E_z after $z=0$.

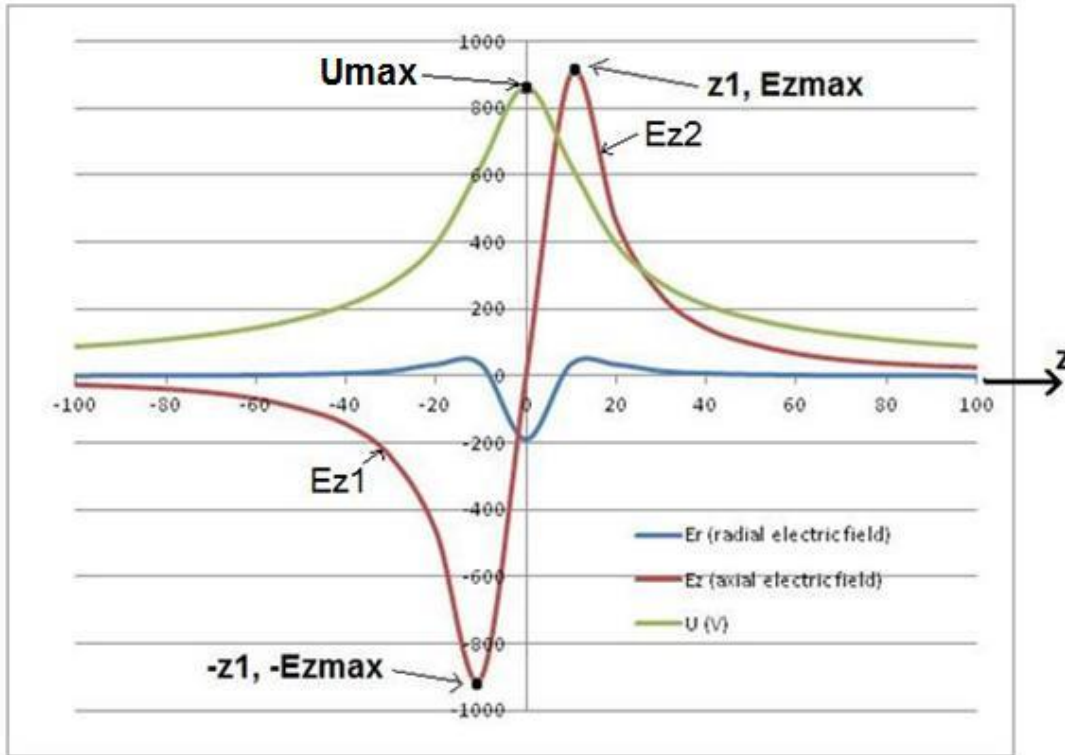


Figure 4: typical evolutions of U , E_r and E_z for a trajectory along and above the z axis

So an ion accelerated by an electrode at U_a will be decelerated by E_{z1} until reaching $z=0$. Afterwards, it will be accelerated by E_{z2} . If the induced voltage at the point i is equal to U_i (U_i depending on r , z and U), the ion energy at point i will be equal to $E_{ki}(J) = q \times (U_a - U_i)(V)$ or $E_{ki}(eV) = (U_a - U_i)(V)$

So with all these considerations, it can be written:

$$\left(\frac{d^2r}{dz^2}\right)_i = \frac{-0.5 \times r}{2 \times (U_a - U_i)} \times \frac{\delta E_z}{\delta z} = \frac{-r}{4 \times (U_a - U_i)} \times \frac{\delta E_z}{\delta z}$$

As $\frac{dr}{dz}$ is obviously nil when $z \rightarrow -\infty$ knowing the exact value of U and E_z in any point,

a precise calculation of the trajectory at any point would consist to integrate $\frac{d^2r}{dz^2}$

twice between $-\infty$ and the point i , to get $\left(\frac{dr}{dz}\right)_i$ and r , and finally the focal length f and all the parameters of the trajectory. Of course, such calculations might be done numerically on a computer.

As an example, below are given, on the figure 5, typical evolutions of the radius r from the initial position of the ion, its radial speed (v_r) and its axial speed (v_z).

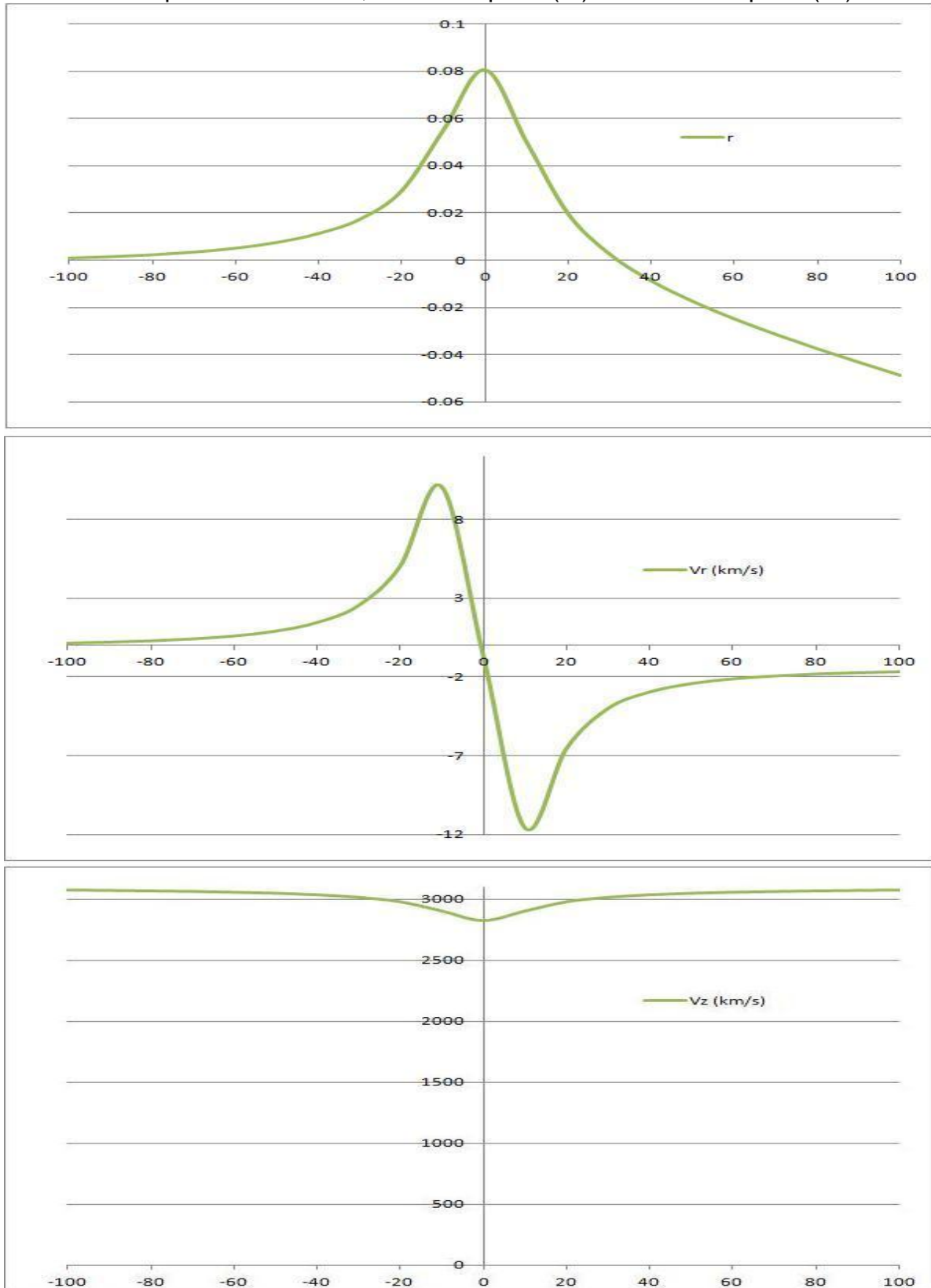


Figure 5: typical ion trajectory defined by its radius position r (top), its radial speed v_r and its axial speed v_z (bottom) for $U_I > 0$

An approximate solution for the focal length f is given in reference [2] page 116:

$$f = \frac{4 \times Ua^2}{Ez \times Ul}$$

Here "Ez" is a characteristic value of the axial electric field. It must be determined for such simple lens.

Now, as Ez is proportional to Ul, it follows that f is proportional to $\left(\frac{Ua}{Ul}\right)^2$.

Ez is not known but it can be determined experimentally. Moreover for a given lens, $U0=K.Ul$ (K determined experimentally according to t , $Rint$ and dr).

About Ez, experimentally, at $D1 = \left[2 \times \left(Rint + \left(\frac{2}{3} \times dr\right)\right)\right] + \left(\frac{1}{2} \times t\right)$ from the lens center, the induced voltage is relatively constant around $0.416 \times U0$ for the considered lenses. This gives a reference $Ez0 = \frac{0.584 \times U0}{D1}$.

For an Ez different from Ez0, it depends mostly on the distance Δ_d . It is equal to $Ez = K2 \times Ez0$, it remains to determine the constant K2 experimentally (according to Δ_d , $Rint$ and dr).

$$\text{Finally, } f(mm) = \frac{4 \times Ua^2 \times D1 \times K^2}{K2 \times 0.584 \times U0^2}$$

In the program the constant $\frac{4 \times K^2}{K2 \times 0.584}$ is replaced by the constant $3.36 \times K1$, so

$$f(mm) = \frac{3.36 \times K1 \times Ua^2 \times D1}{U0^2},$$

but it comes to the same. K1 is determined to match, at best, the simulations (supposed to exactly correspond to the reality) with the calculated f .

The complete calculation with the experimental formulas for $U0$ and $K1$ is given in the Pascal (Delphi 6) procedure in Appendix B.

So given Ul, Ua, $Rint$, dr , t and Δ_d , it will be given the probable focal length (f) with an estimated dispersion (compared to simulations) from 1/2 to 2 times the result.

An example is given in the program in Appendix B.

The limits of validation are the following:

- Δ_d between 1 and 10 times the lens exterior diameter. Note that the influence of the acceleration electrode at the voltage Ua is not taken into account (neglected),
- dr inferior or equal to $Rint$
- t inferior or equal to $2 \times Rint$
- $Ul \leq 0.4 \times Ua$

3.2 Physical explanation of the proportionality of f with $(Ua/UI)^2$

3.2.1 Introduction, hypothesis and explanation

It is reminded that only ions are implicitly considered.

Intuitively, it seemed natural, for the author, to think that the focal length f be proportional to Ua/UI for the following (bad) reason:

E_r (the radial electric field at lens level, convergent so negative) is proportional to $UI - U_0$ and finally to UI (U_0 being proportional to UI).

So the radial speed $V_r = K \times E_r \times cd$ with "cd" for "crossing duration".

$cd = \frac{t}{v_z}$ (t: thickness and v_z : axial speed along z). Hence $vr \sim \frac{Ul}{v_z}$

The angle $\alpha = \frac{vr}{v_z} \sim \frac{Ul}{v_z^2} \sim \frac{Ul}{Ua}$ (because $v_z \sim \sqrt{Ua}$)

And finally $f = \left| \frac{r}{\alpha} \right| \sim \frac{Ua}{Ul}$

But it is not true, because f is really proportional to $\left(\frac{Ua}{Ul} \right)^2$

Looking at the evolution of the radial electric field E_r along the trajectory in figure 3, it can be noted that for the most part of the trajectory the electric field is low and positive (divergent), whereas at the lens level, the radial electric field (E_r) is high and negative (convergent).

On the figure 6 of the next page, it is displayed the simplified shapes of the electric field E_r , its integration along the trajectory $U = \sum E_r \cdot dz$ and the radial speed vr (simplified, compared to vr in figure 5).

Hypothesis

- The ion is supposed to initially move axially on a radius r_0 . The variation of r when the ion crosses the lens is very small. So $r(z=0) \approx r_0$.
- In a general way, if the induced voltage at the point i is equal to U_i , the ion energy at point i will be equal to $E_{ki}(J) = q \times (Ua - U_i)(V) = \frac{m \times v_i^2}{2}$
With v_i the ion speed. As the radial speed v_{ri} is very small compared to v_i , the axial speed v_{zi} can be assimilated to v_i . So: $v_{zi} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times q}{m}} \times \sqrt{(Ua - U_i)}$
- In a general way from the elementary formulas, $vr = \gamma \times t$ and $Fr = q \times E_r = m \times \gamma$ with q the ion charge, m the ion mass, F_r the radial force, γ the radial acceleration and t the elapsed time, it can be deduced that:
 $\gamma = \frac{q}{m} \times E_r$ and $vr = \frac{q}{m} \times E_r \times t$

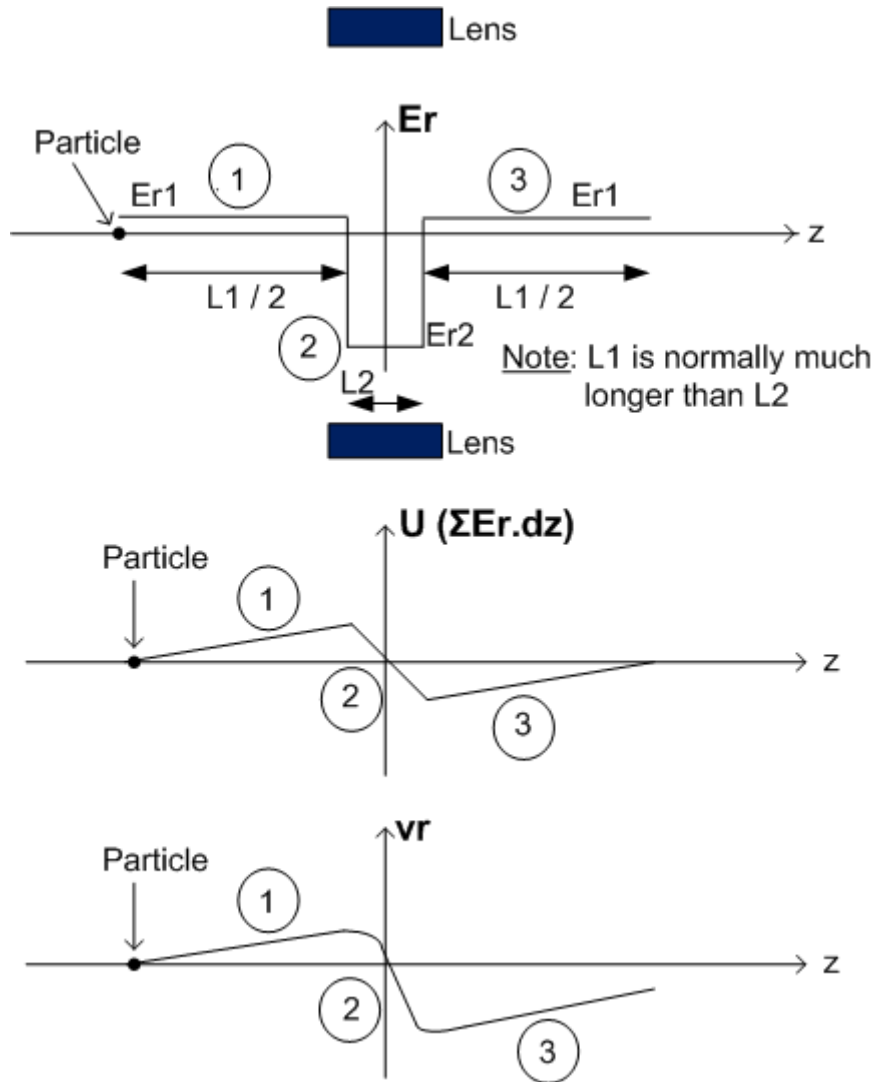


Figure 6: simplified radial electric E_r (top), integration of E_r along z (called U) and radial speed V_r (bottom)

It can be noted that:

$$\sum E_{r1} \times dz = - \sum E_{r2} \times dz \text{ so } E_{r1} \times L1 = -E_{r2} \times L2 \text{ or } E_{r2} = \frac{-E_{r1} \times L1}{L2}$$

The parts 1 and 3 ($E_{r1} > 0$) are crossed by the particle at the mean speed v_{z1} along z :

$$v_{z1} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times q}{m}} \times \sqrt{(U_a - U_{mean})}$$

U_{mean} is a priori unknown but it is of course inferior to U_{z0} , U_{z0} being the induced voltage at $z=0$, $r \approx r_0$.

So the time t_1 to cross the parts 1 and 3 is equal to $t_1 \sim \frac{L1}{v_{z1}}$.

The total positive speed v_{r1} (upwards) got by the particle when it crosses the parts 1 and 3 is equal to $v_{r1} = \frac{q}{m} \times E_{r1} \times t_1 = \frac{q}{m} \times E_{r1} \times \frac{L1}{v_{z1}}$

The part 2 ($E_r < 0$) is crossed by the particle at the approximate mean speed v_{z2}

along z: $v_{z2} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times q}{m}} \times \sqrt{(U_a - U_{z0})}$ with $U_0 < U_{z0} < U_l$.

So the time t_2 to cross the part 2 is equal to $t_2 \sim \frac{L_2}{v_{z2}}$.

The total negative speed v_{r2} (downwards) got by the particle when it crosses the part

2 is equal to $v_{r2} = \frac{q}{m} \times E_{r2} \times t_2 = \frac{q}{m} \times E_{r2} \times \frac{L_2}{v_{z2}}$

So $v_{r2} = -\frac{q}{m} \times \left(\frac{E_{r1} \times L_1}{L_2}\right) \times \frac{L_2}{v_{z2}} = -\frac{q}{m} \times E_{r1} \times \frac{L_1}{v_{z2}}$

The final radial speed (after the part 3) v_{r_final} is such that:

$$\begin{aligned} v_{r_final} &= v_{r1} + v_{r2} = \frac{q}{m} \times E_{r1} \times L_1 \times \left(\frac{1}{v_{z1}} - \frac{1}{v_{z2}}\right) \\ &= \frac{q}{m} \times E_{r1} \times L_1 \times \left(\frac{v_{z2} - v_{z1}}{v_{z2} \times v_{z1}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Noting that U_{z0} and $U_{mean} \ll U_a$ and so using $\sqrt{(1 - \epsilonpsilon)} = 1 - \frac{\epsilonpsilon}{2}$, it comes after several calculations, neglecting U_{mean} and U_{z0} in front of U_a :

$$v_{r_final} = \sqrt{\frac{q}{m}} \times \frac{E_{r1} \times L_1}{2 \times \sqrt{2}} \times \frac{(U_{mean} - U_{z0})}{U_a^{1.5}}$$

$E_{r1} > 0$ and $(U_{mean} - U_{z0}) < 0$ so v_{r_final} is negative and the beam is convergent (towards the axis).

The angle α of the particle trajectory is equal to:

$$\alpha = \frac{v_{r_final}}{v_{z_final}} \text{ with } v_{z_final} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times q}{m}} \times \sqrt{U_a}$$

$$\text{So } \alpha = E_{r1} \times L_1 \times \frac{(U_{mean} - U_{z0})}{4 \times U_a^2} = -E_{r2} \times L_2 \times \frac{(U_{mean} - U_{z0})}{4 \times U_a^2} \text{ (formula 1)}$$

$E_{r1} \sim U_0$ or U_l .

Now U_{mean} and $U_{z0} \sim U_0$ or U_l , but $(U_{mean} - U_{z0}) < 0$ so:

$$(U_{mean} - U_{z0}) \sim -U_0 \text{ or } -U_l$$

$$\text{Finally } \alpha \sim -\left(\frac{U_0}{U_a}\right)^2 \sim -\left(\frac{U_l}{U_a}\right)^2$$

So f (focal length) = $|r/\alpha|$ is proportional to $\left(\frac{U_a}{U_l}\right)^2$ or $\left(\frac{U_a}{U_0}\right)^2$, as expected.

3.2.2 Focusing principle

From the previous considerations, it appears that the focusing is due to the variation of axial speed v_z along z (see figure 6). Thanks to the strong deceleration at lens level (part 2 of figure 6), the convergent radial speed is applied for an increased time whereas the divergent radial speed (on parts 1 and 3 of figure 6) is also applied for an increased time by the deceleration but not as strongly as at lens level.

Consequently, the amplitude of the convergent radial speed ($v_r < 0$) due to $E_r > 0$ at lens level is superior to the amplitude of the divergent radial speed ($v_r > 0$) due to $E_r < 0$ outside the lens, so the global effect is a convergent radial speed ($v_r < 0$).

This is illustrated with the v_r evolution on figure 6.

3.2.3 Effect of a lens carried to a negative voltage UI

Let's study the effect of a negative voltage UI instead a positive one.

From the previous result above, it can also be deduced that:

$$\alpha = Er1 \times L1 \times \frac{(U_{mean} - Uz0)}{4 \times Ua^2}$$

but in this case $Er1 < 0$ instead $Er1 > 0$ and $(U_{mean} - Uz0) > 0$ instead $(U_{mean} - Uz0) < 0$. But α will stay negative and so the beam will stay convergent. Even if it seems counter-intuitive, a lens carried to a negative potential will make converge a beam of ions (confirmed by [2]).

As an example, on the next page are given, on the figure 7, typical evolutions of the radius r from the initial position of the ion, its radial speed (v_r) and its axial speed (v_z) for $UI < 0$.

As this UI has a value just reverse from the one used in figure 5 (-10 kV versus 10 kV), these 2 figures can be compared.

Now several simulations done by the author show that a potential $UI < 0$ on a lens seems less efficient than a potential $UI > 0$.

Consequently, for any non nil voltage (negative or positive), and for any particle with charge (electrons or ions), no matter the axial direction (from left to right or reversely), the lens will make converge the beam.

For a beam accelerated up to Ua , this convergence will increase with the voltage UI applied on the lens, according to the law $\alpha \sim - \left(\frac{UI}{Ua} \right)^2$

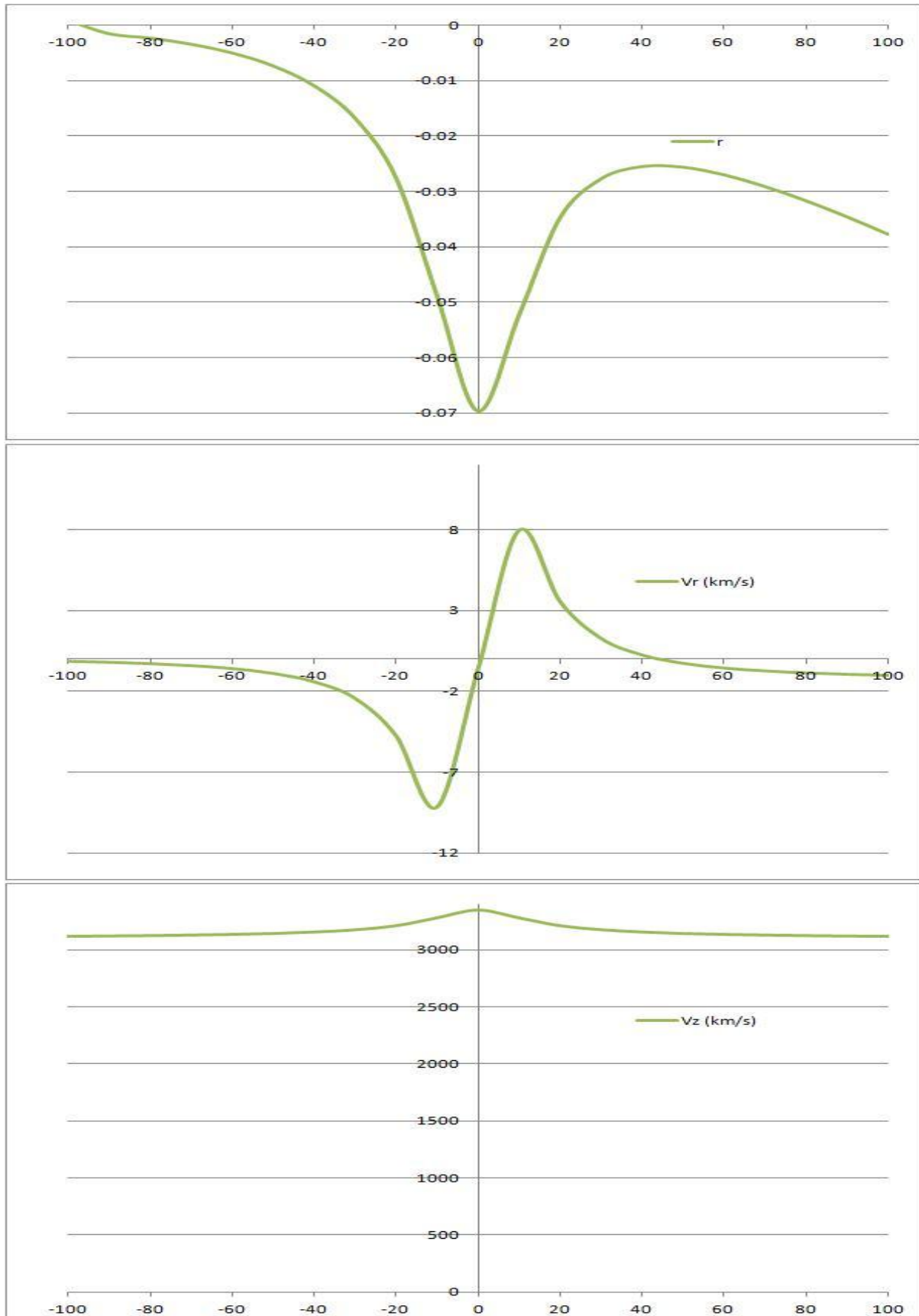


Figure 7: typical ion trajectory defined by its radius position r (top), its radial speed v_r and its axial speed v_z (bottom) for $UI < 0$

3.3 About the lens thickness and the quality of convergence

As shown in Appendix A, the effect of lenses is a boundary effect. So lenses must not be too much narrow. Indeed, it is shown in Appendix A that the quality of convergence increases when the thickness increases, i.e. at best, all the trajectories converge to a sole point as shown below, on Figure 8.

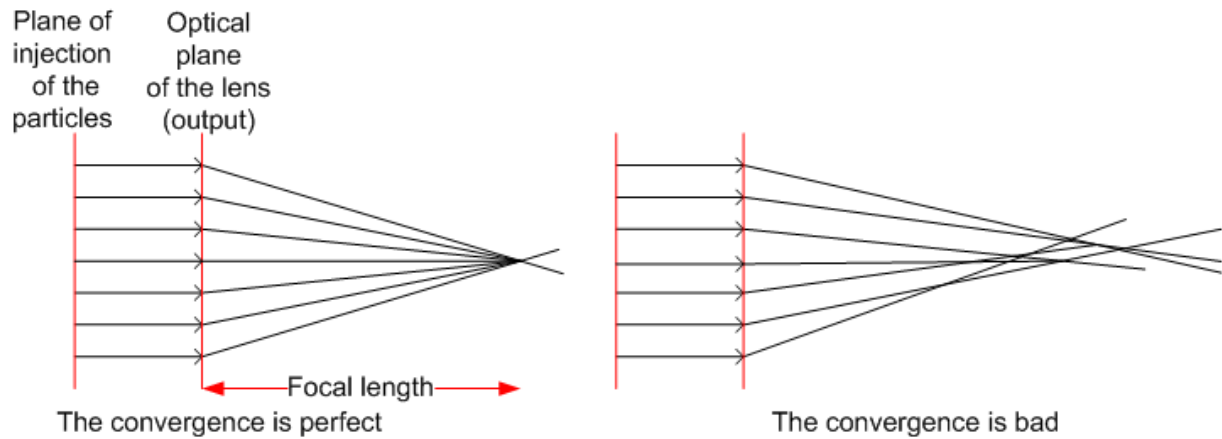


Figure 8: quality of convergence of an electrostatic lens

4. About lenses with 0V symmetrical electrodes

It can be simpler to force the electric field with two electrodes at 0 V, symmetrically disposed. The number of parameters being high, it will not be proposed a sizing, but two examples (type 1 and type 2).

The big advantage of that type of lens (called "Einzel" lens) is that it does not depend much on the distance between the injected particles position and the lens center (Δd), contrary to the single lens. It is almost an isolated system.

On figure 10, on the next page, it will be found the diagram of these two examples of lenses.

Below, on figure 9, is an example of equipotentials for such lenses (in term of induced potential in V). It is obvious, compared to the previous one for a simple lens (figure 3) that the electric field is clearly limited by the two symmetrical electrodes at 0 V.

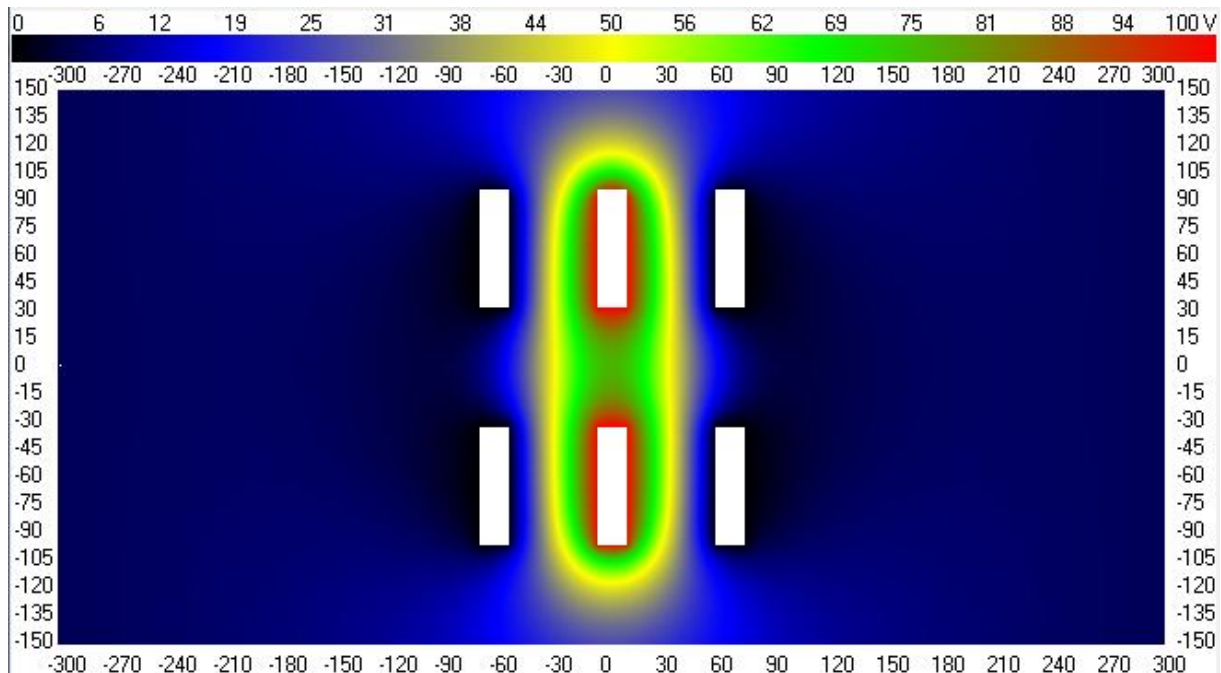
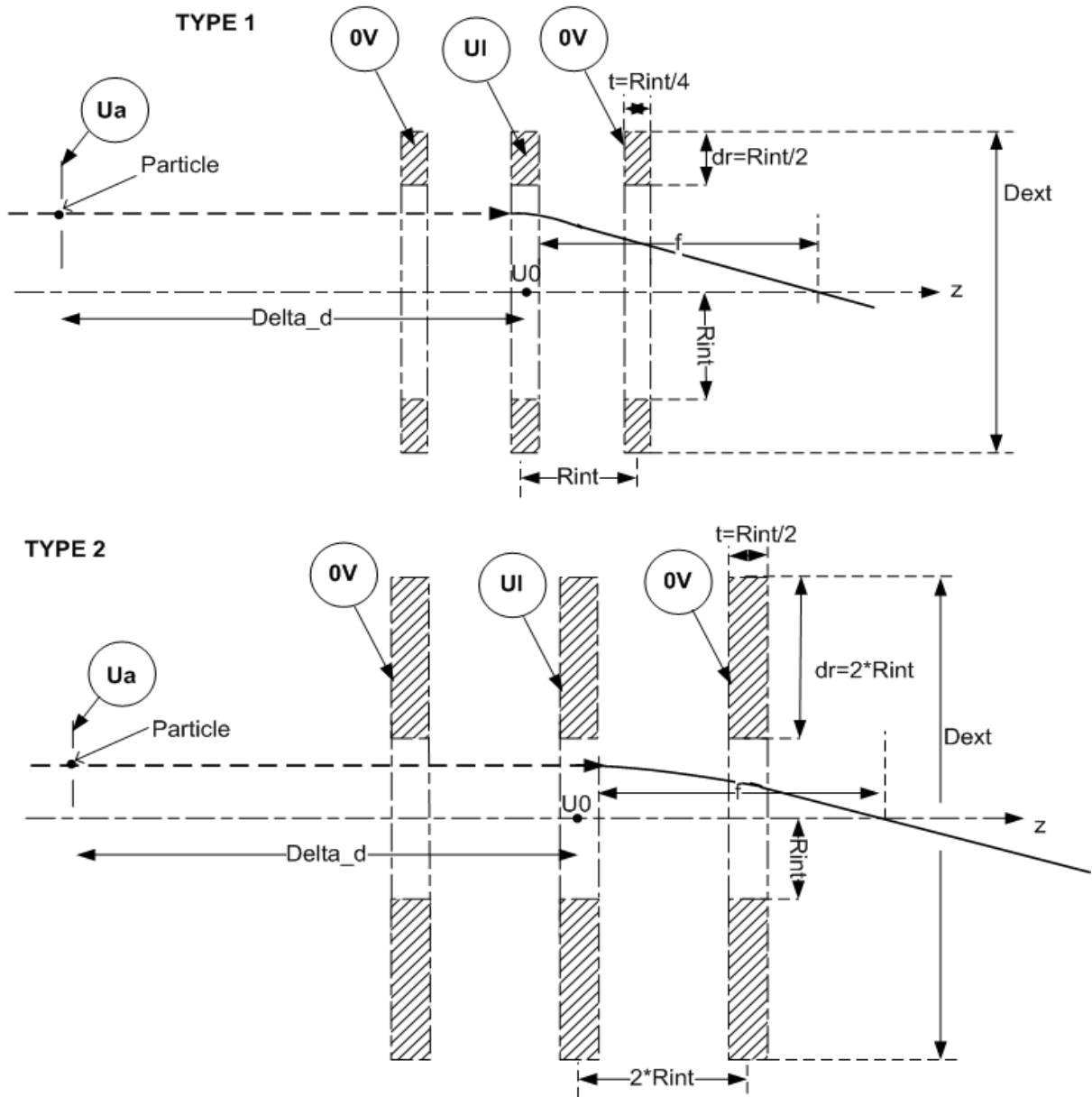


Figure 9: snapshot of an equipotentials display of a lens with 0V symmetrical electrodes

Two examples of lenses with symmetrical 0 V electrodes



UI: voltage (V) applied on the lens
Ua: acceleration voltage (V) applied to the particle.
 It is equivalent to the energy in eV at which the particle (supposed with a single charge) is sent.
t: thickness (mm)
dr: exterior radius – interior radius (mm)
Rint: interior radius (mm)
Dext: lens external diameter (mm)
f: focal length, in absence of space charge (to calculate) (mm)
Delta_d: distance between the injected particles and the lens center (mm)
U0: induced potential at the lens center (V)

Notes:

- * if the particle is an electron, Ua is positive and UI is negative, with $|UI| \ll |Ua|$
- * if the particle is an ion, Ua is negative and UI is positive, with $|UI| \ll |Ua|$

Figure 10: lenses with 0V symmetrical electrodes

The focal length f_1 for the type 1 is given by this experimental formula:

$$f_1 \text{ (mm)} = 147 \times \left(\frac{R_{int}}{8}\right) \times \left(\left(\frac{\Delta_d}{3 \times D_{ext}}\right)^{0.1}\right) \times \left(\frac{Ua}{Ul}\right)^2$$

As it can be seen, due to the small 0.1 power factor, the influence of Δ_d is weak (but still monotone).

The focal length f_2 for the type 2 is given by this experimental formula:

$$f_2 \text{ (mm)} = 40 \times \left(\frac{R_{int}}{4}\right) \times \left(\frac{Ua}{Ul}\right)^2$$

As it can be seen, the influence of Δ_d is not taken into account because it is weak (< to 15%) and, overall, not monotone.

5. Lenses used for different types of plasma

5.1 Plasma composed of “hot” ions and “cold” electrons

The plasma is supposed composed of a beam of ions at high energy moving axially in a “sea” of “cold” electrons (i.e. of very small energy), in an almost neutral plasma. A way to focus the ions beam is to use a magnetic field to insulate electrons. In that case, the lens is called an “electrostatic plasma lens”. The magnetic lines of force and the electrostatic equipotentials must have the same shape. It is not used a simple lens but an “Einzel” lens with much more than 3 electrodes.

Effect of an “electrostatic plasma lens”

For the effect of such lens, see [4] for a review article about this equipment, which shows that the compression factor can be very interesting.

5.2 Fusion neutral plasma

A fusion plasma is composed of electrons, D⁺ and T⁺ ions. It is neutral as there are as many electrons as ions, the global charge being nil. Thanks to collisions between particles, electrons and ions are in thermal equilibrium at about the same mean energy E (with in general about E=15 Kev per particle).

Particles are thermalized, i.e. their speeds follow a Maxwell Boltzmann isotropic distribution. 2/3 of their energy is radial and 1/3 is axial. So the mean arithmetic speed of both ions and electrons beams is nil whereas the mean quadratic speed in each direction is not nil. It means that particles will move on the circuit in one direction or the other, randomly.

The plasma is confined in the main circuit thanks to a powerful magnetic axial field B, with B about 4 T in a modern reactor (Tokamak or Stellarator).

Note that lenses are not used on the main circuit of these fusion reactors.

Effect of a lens on a fusion neutral plasma

Due to the very weak electrostatic pressure compared to the magnetic pressure, the sole lens is, in any case, unable to confine a fusion plasma. So the lens is supposed used, with the normal axial magnetic field.

A simulation has been done on such plasma with a simple lens carried on positive and negative voltages, the magnetic field being axial.

According to this simulation, it appears that there is not the same focusing effect as the one described in §3. Indeed, it is not possible to focus electrons and ions in the same time, but only one species (i.e. electrons or ions). For example, a positive voltage will focus ions and un-focus electrons, and reversely.

This can be explained in the following way.

One hypothesis taken for §2 to §4 is that the initial direction of the particle is axial.

Now, in case of a thermalized particle, the mean speed on each direction is nil. This

seems to a Brownian motion where the particles move randomly around a mean position. The particles, as almost immobile charges, are simply attracted by the opposite polarity of the lens or repelled by the same polarity. For example, a positive voltage will repel (so focus) ions and attract (so un-focus) electrons, and reversely.

Very close to the lens wall, it is formed a “Debye sheath layer” (see [3] or Wikipedia). So a positive potential will create an electrons sheath layer with more electrons lost than ions lost. Reversely, a negative potential will create an ions sheath layer with more ions lost than electrons lost.

To conclude, this effect could be used as a possible control of the particles lost and therefore as a control of the electrons/ions densities, but not for a focusing of all particles.

6. Conclusion

In §2 and §3, a simple lens has been studied. The focal length estimate (f) of the single lens, in absence of space charge, is proposed in Appendix B.

Moreover in §3 is given a physical interpretation of the focusing.

The focal lengths of the type 1 and type 2 lenses with 0 V symmetrical electrodes are proposed in §4.

The dispersion of the result (compared to a simulation which has also a certain margin of error) is estimated to be between 1/2 and 2 times the result.

Moreover, in §1 it is given the type of effect on the particle trajectory due to a strong space charge, whereas in §5 is analyzed the behavior of lenses for two different types of plasma.

In Appendix A, it is shown that the quality of convergence increases with the thickness of the lens.

7. References

[1] « Etude théorique et expérimentale de la focalisation des ions afin d’améliorer la brillance du faisceau ionique par suppression des causes d’aberrations » by Jean Faure

[2] « Sur une nouvelle méthode de focalisation des faisceaux d’ions rapides. Application à la spectrographie de masse » by Louis Cartan

[3] Book « Plasmas collisionnels » by Michel Moisan and Jacques Pelletier, edited by EDP sciences, 2014

[4] “Invited Review Article: The electrostatic plasma lens”
Rev. Sci. Instrum. 84, 021101 (2013); <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.4789314>

Appendix A

Thickness of electrostatic lenses and quality of convergence

In this appendix, it will be chosen a ring as lens, as it is the easiest way to make a lens. The term "thickness" will refer here to the size of the ring along the horizontal ring axis (the Z axis on figure A1), i.e. the dimension "t" on figure 2 and not the wall thickness (which is fixed for a ring and equal to 1 pixel=1 mm). The other dimension of the ring is its exterior diameter. Now, it must be reminded some generalities:

- If the metallic surface of a closed hollow volume (a hollow sphere for example) is carried to any potential, the electric field will remain nil inside the volume (Faraday cage). This can be seen on the Figure A1 on the next page: the potential remains fixed (in red) inside the ring, but not on its extremities, the ring being open at each end.
- For a metallic object carried to a certain potential, the potential electric field between this object and the 0 V (ad infinitum), defined at a given position distant from the object, depends on the charge on this object. Now, at the equilibrium state, charges fix their positions on the surface of the object. So the magnitude of an electric field depends on the surface of the object. To observe this, compare the figures A2 and A3. It is clear that the effect, i.e. variation of the potential (and so variation of the picture colors) around the ring is dependent on the object surface: it is important on the figure A2 and weak on the figure A3.

- At the level of principles, an electrostatic lens is similar to an optical lens. The focal length ("F_l") is the distance between the optical center (at a position around the output of the ring on its axis) and the position when the particle crosses the axis ("cross-over" on the Figure A0 below). Also on Figure A0, look at the radius "R_i" at which the particle is horizontally injected. Note also "l_r" the distance between the injection position of the particle and the input position of the ring.

In what follows, it will be supposed that particles are injected from any radius R_i between R_i=0 and R_i=R_{imax}, with R_{imax} a bit inferior to the interior radius of the ring.

The main quality of a lens (optical or electrostatic) is that whatever the initial radius of injection (R_i), the focal length be the same. In other words all the trajectories must ideally converge to the same point (called "cross-over"), exactly as a magnifying glass make converge sun's rays on a point. If it is not the case (i.e. the focal length varies according to R_i), the lens is subjected to a spherical aberration. Note that it is not the sole aberration, but the main. Unfortunately, all electrostatic lenses have more or less this aberration. The goal is that this aberration be the lowest possible, a lens being considered as of good "quality" if this aberration is low.

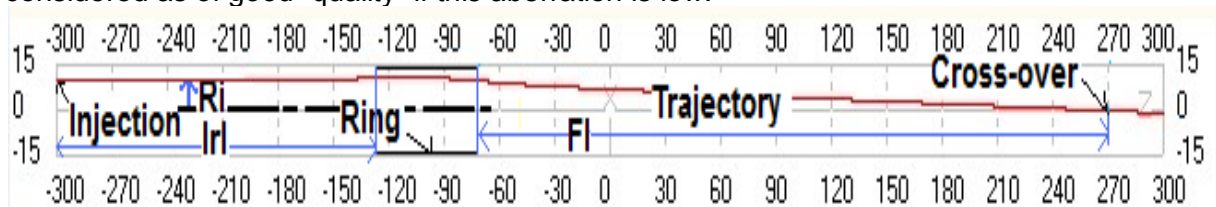


Figure A0: focal length (F_l) and initial radial position of injection (R_i) for a trajectory

The necessary radial electric field of a lens is a boundary effect. To see this, let's observe the figure A1 on the next page. This large ring has a diameter of 50 mm and a thickness of 300 mm. Look at the text below the snapshot showing the potentials along the vertical X axis (X=0 at the center of the snapshot). It can be seen that the potentials don't vary much from 100 V between X=-24 to X=24 (interior of the ring), which means that the radial electric field is almost nil inside the ring, as explained on the first note above. Reversely, it can be observed a regular variation of the potential (clear curved frontier between the red and the green on the Figure A1) on both extremities of the ring. It can be expected that such ring is a good quality lens. However this ring is rather wide for a lens

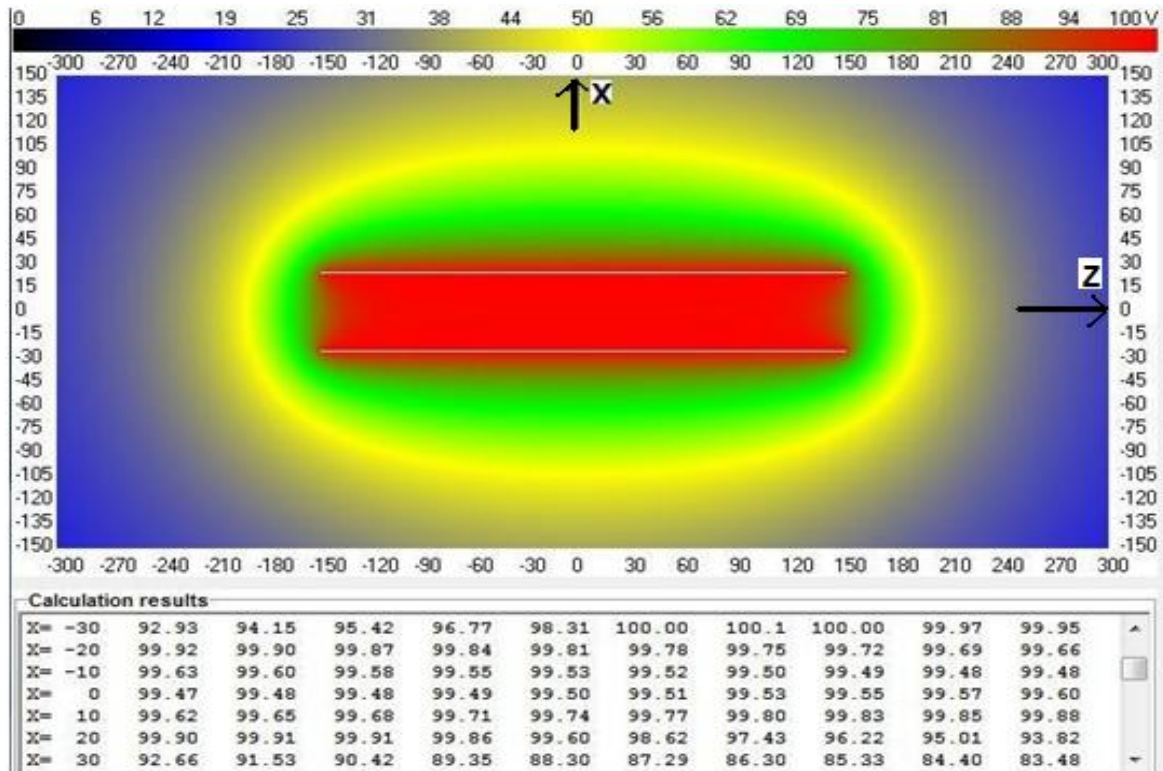


Figure A1 Equipotentials for a wide ring (D=50 mm, Thickness=300 mm)

Reversely in the figure A2 below, the ring has still a diameter of 50 mm but a thickness of 20 mm. It can be seen that the potentials vary from 83.08 V at X=0 to 100 V at X=-25 or X=25, which means that the radial electric field is noticeable. The boundary effect is clear on this ring. However the variation of potential does not seem regular, which means that the quality of the lens will not be very good.

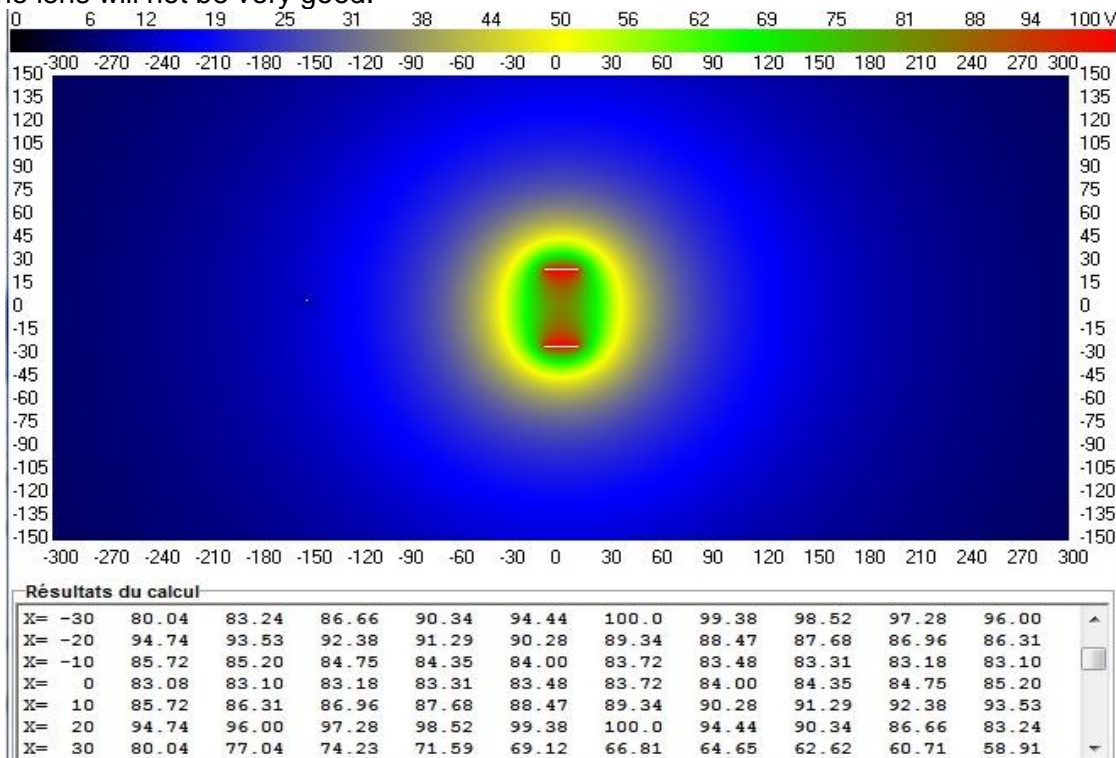


Figure A2 Equipotentials for a narrow ring (D=50 mm, Thickness=20 mm)

Now if the ring has a thickness of only 5 mm (Figure A3 below), the gradient of potential is clearly concentrated in the metal vicinity. The lens will be efficient only for particles injected close to the ring metal radius (Rimax). Its quality as lens will be very bad.

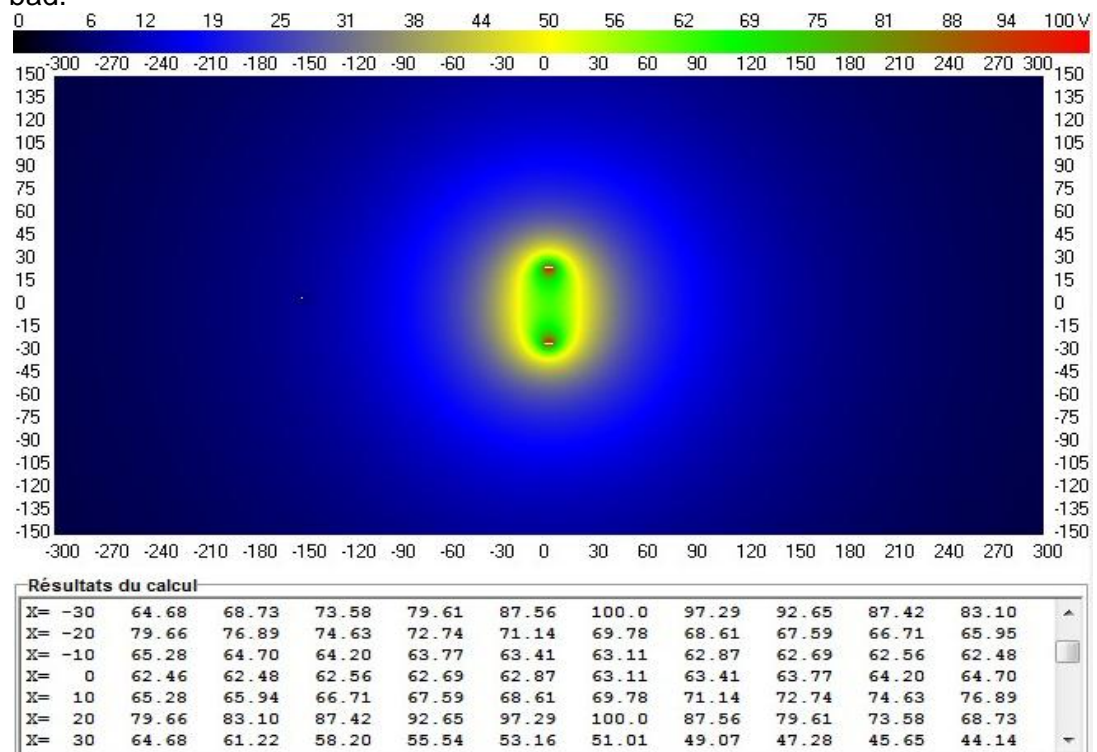


Figure A3 Equipotentials for a very narrow ring (D=50 mm, Thickness=5 mm)

Now the ring has a thickness of 50 mm (Figure A4). It can be seen that the potentials vary from 96.23 V at X=0 to 100 V at X=-25 or X=25, which means that the radial electric field is weak at the center. However the variation of potential is rather regular on the boundaries. It is clear that this lens will be of better quality than the one on figure A2 and close to the quality of the lens on figure A1.

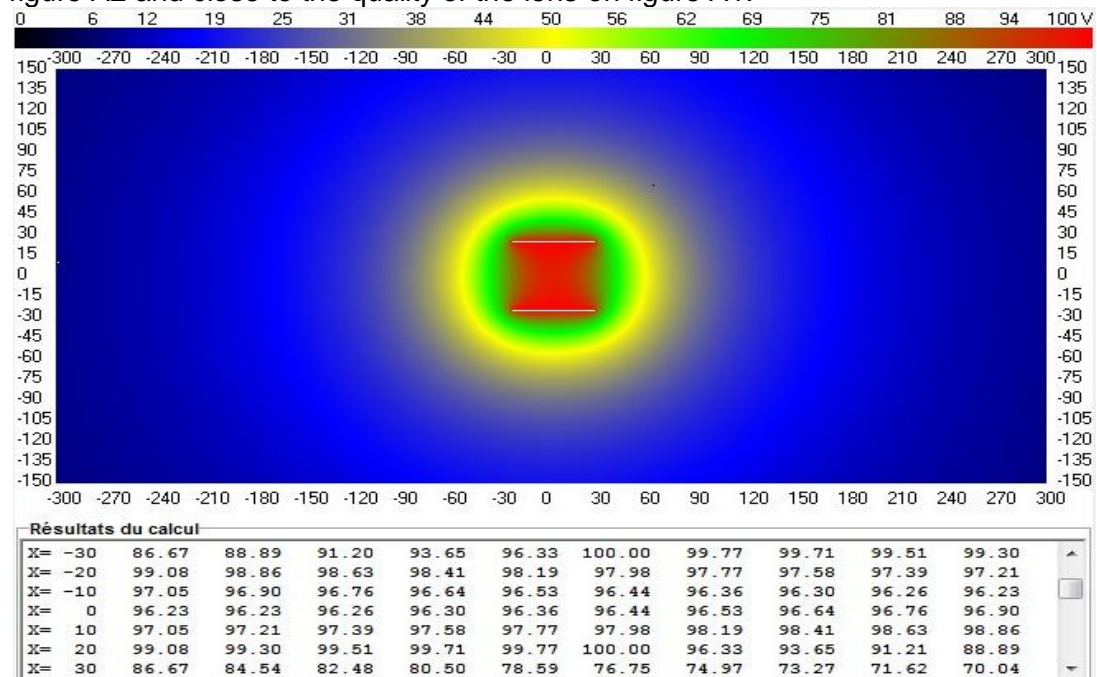


Figure A4 Equipotentials for a mid-size ring (D=50 mm, Thickness=50 mm)

To measure the quality of different lenses, a certain number of lenses have been compared relatively to their measured focal distance Fl .

An H^+ ion has been horizontally injected at 50 keV from a radius of injection Ri between 2 and 10 mm. The radius of the ring is 14 mm and it has been carried to 30 keV. The distance l_{rl} between injection and ring (Figure A0) is fixed and equal to 100 mm (with 1 pixel=1mm here). The thickness of the ring (called "Th") is a variable parameter, together with the radius of injection Ri which will be a multiple or a sub-multiple of the ring radius (14 mm).

Note that for $Ri=12$ mm, the particle collides with the ring, in all cases.

	Th=7 mm	Th=14 mm	Th=28 mm	Th=56 mm	Th=84 mm	Th=112 mm
Ri=10 mm	218	200	218	261	297	326
Ri=8 mm	302	244	245	282	309	331
Ri=6 mm	376	283	262	289	312	328
Ri=4 mm	439	318	281	303	322	337
Ri=2 mm	463	334	287	308	325	339

Table A1: focal distances (in mm) found with Multiplasma V.1.19, according to 5 radiuses of injection Ri and the 6 thicknesses, the ring having a 28 mm exterior diameter

It is obvious that the dispersion on focal distances decreases with the thickness.

To be more precise, it will be calculated, for each lens:

- the mean focal distance (Fl_{mean}),
- the dispersion in % relatively to Fl_{mean} : $Dispersion(\%) = 100 \times \frac{(Fl_{max} - Fl_{min})}{Fl_{mean}}$

	Th=7 mm	Th=14 mm	Th=28 mm	Th=56 mm	Th=84 mm	Th=112 mm
Fl_{mean}	360 mm	276 mm	259	289	313	332
Dispersion	68 %	49%	27%	16%	9%	4%

Table A2: mean focal distance and dispersion of the focal distances for the 6 thicknesses

It is clear that the dispersion decreases when the thickness (Th) increases.

Conclusion

For a ring, its quality as a lens increases when its thickness increases. A thickness equal to the ring diameter (Th=28 mm in the example above) is the minimum for a not too bad quality of convergence (dispersion equal to 27% in the example above).

This small study has been done for a ring. It could be done with other shapes, as for example (with Multiplasma V.1.19) a "pipe" (i.e. a ring which wall thickness is superior to 1 mm as in figure 3) or a "complement of cone". It could also be tested several rings or "pipes", as in figures 9 and 10.

Appendix B

```

PROCEDURE SIMPLE_LENS_SIZING_FOR_IONS;
VAR t:SINGLE;{"t" for "thickness of the lens" in mm}
VAR U1:SINGLE;{voltage (in V) applied on the lens (positive for ions and negative for electrons)}
VAR Ua:SINGLE;{accelerator voltage (in V) applied on the particles (negative for ions and positive for electrons)}
VAR Rint:SINGLE;{interior radius in mm}
VAR Dext:SINGLE;{exterior diameter in mm}
VAR dR:SINGLE;{exterior radius - interior radius in mm}
VAR U0:SINGLE; {induced potential at the lens center (to calculate)}
VAR Delta_U:SINGLE;{|U1-U0| in V}
VAR D1:SINGLE;{standard distance compared to the lens center in mm}
VAR Delta_d:SINGLE;{distance between the injected particles and the lens center in mm}
VAR K1:SINGLE;{coefficient to take into account Delta_d, for the Ez estimation}
VAR f:SINGLE;{focal length to calculate in mm}
BEGIN
  {set of hypothesis, for ions}
  Delta_d:=99;
  U1:=40000;
  Ua:=-100000;
  dR:=2;
  Rint:=9;
  t:=4;

  {not permitted}
  IF (U1<0) OR (Ua>0) THEN EXIT;
  IF ABS(U1)>ABS(Ua) THEN EXIT;

  {calculation}
  Delta_U:=U1*0.2479*Power(2.25*t/Rint,-0.2863-(t/Rint)*0.4657)*Power(4.5*dR/Rint,-0.2852-(dR/Rint)*0.0891);
  U0:=U1-Delta_U;
  Dext:=2*(Rint+dR);
  D1:=2*(Rint+2/3*dR)+t/2;
  IF Delta_d<=3*Dext THEN K1:=Power(Delta_d/(3*Dext),0.6-(Delta_d-3*Dext)/(6*Dext))
  ELSE K1:=Power(Delta_d/(3*Dext),0.34);
  f:=3.36*K1*D1*SQR(Ua/U0);

  {display of f}
  //For the previous set of hypothesis, the result is f=966 mm;
  WRITELN('f=',f:4:0,' mm');
END;

```