

Accelerators are everywhere, perhaps closer than you think...

Particle accelerators

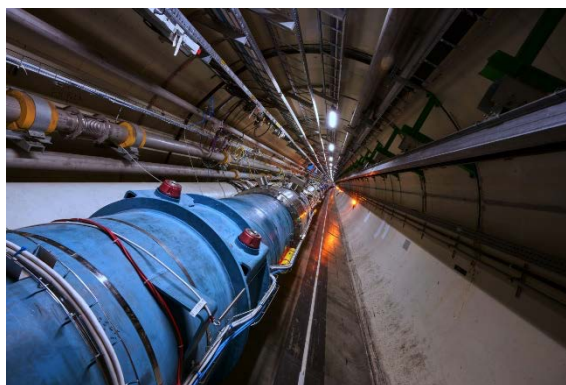
There are three main types of particle accelerator: linear accelerators (often called LINACS) or one of two types of circular accelerators – cyclotrons or synchrotrons.



Left: The European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF) in Grenoble. Right: The European XFEL linear particle accelerator in Hamburg.

Images: Left: © ESRF. Right © XFEL

The most powerful are the ones used in research to observe and describe the atomic and subatomic world and to understand the laws of the universe. Particle accelerators are the basis of one third of all Physics and Chemistry Nobel Prizes ever awarded. These are the ones most people think of when they think of particle accelerators.



The CERN Large Hadron Collider (LHC) in Geneva
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