

Introduction to Hadrontherapy

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European Network for
Light Ion Hadron Therapy



Why Cancer and Physics Technologies?

Cancer a large and a growing societal challenge:

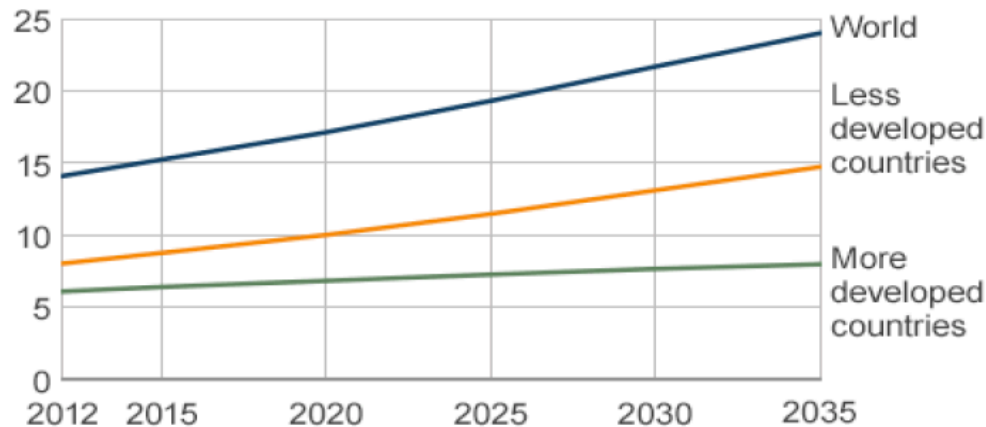
- More than 3 million new cancer cases in Europe
- Nearly 15 million globally in 2015
- This number will increase to 25 million in 2030
- Currently around 8 million deaths per year

GLOBOCAN 2012: Estimated Cancer Incidence, Mortality and Prevalence Worldwide in 2012



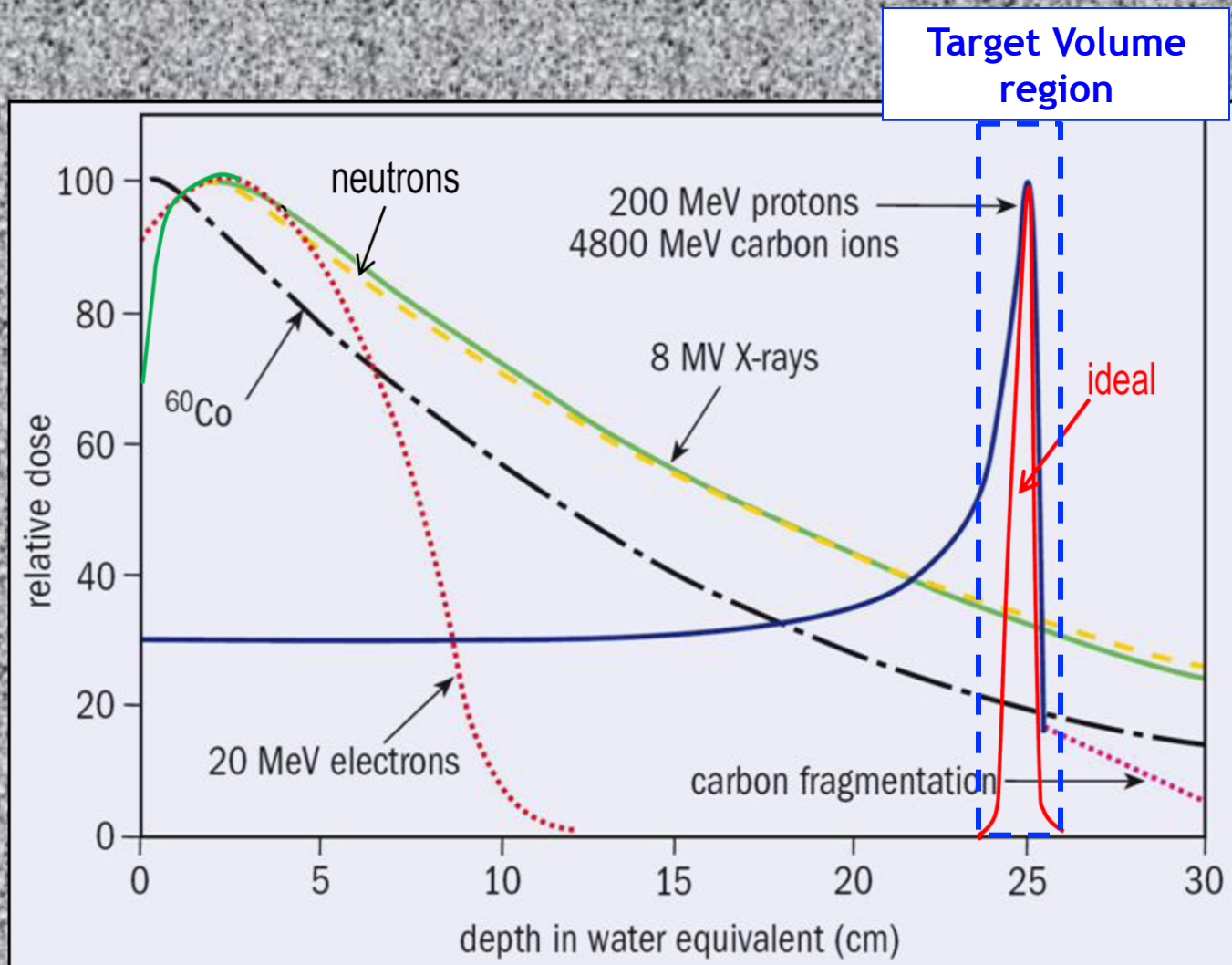
Predicted Global Cancer Cases

Cases (millions)



Source: WHO GloboCan

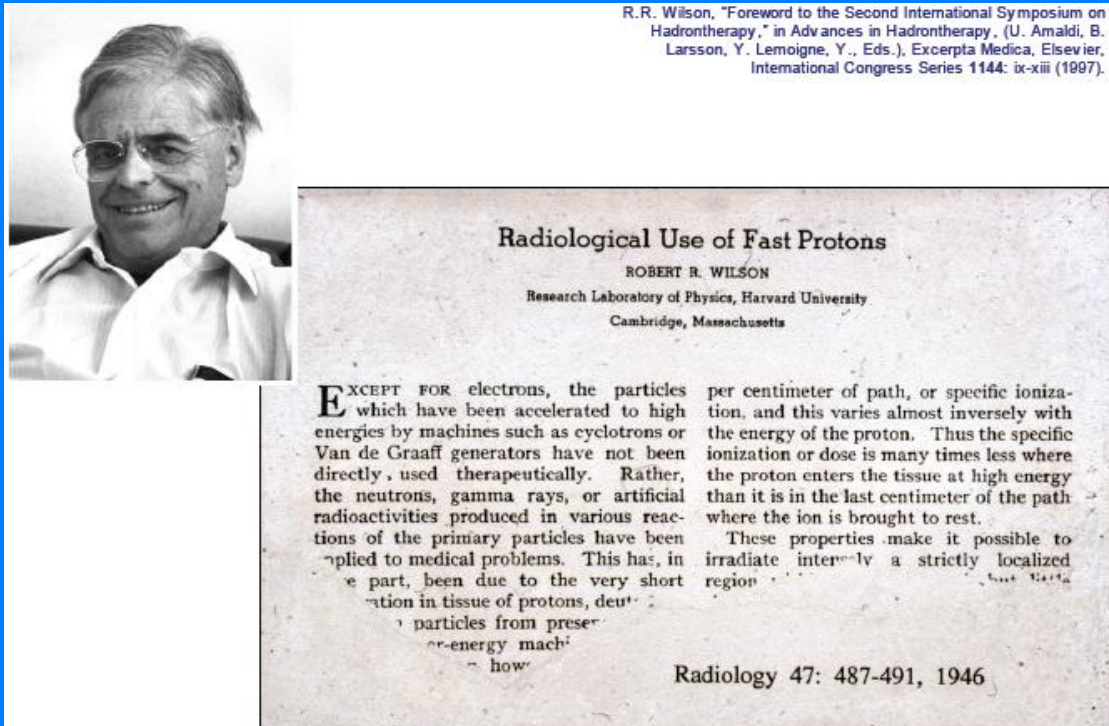
Motivation of Charged Particle Therapy



Direction of incident beam

History of Hadrontherapy: some milestones

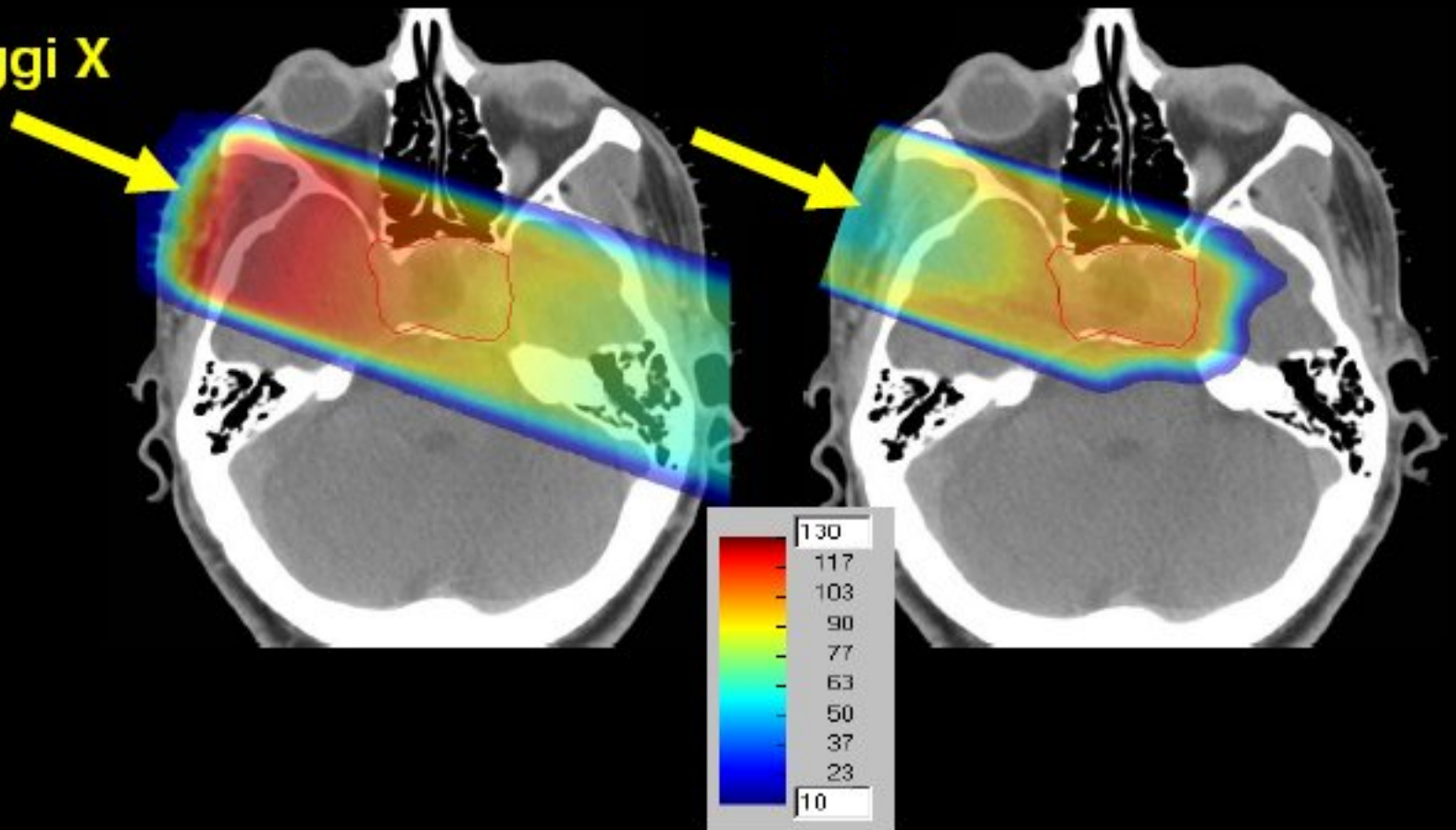
1945, R. Wilson: first proposal to use hadrons for radiotherapy



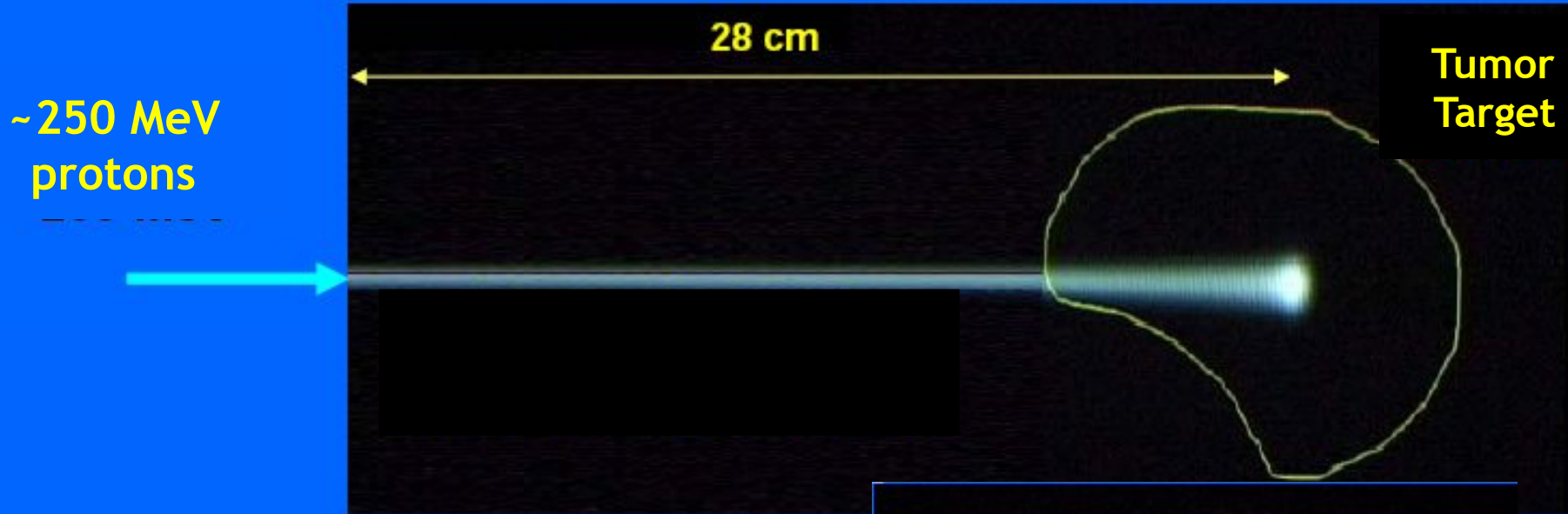
- 1954 - Berkeley treats the first patient and begins extensive studies with various ions
- 1957 - first patient treated with protons in Europe at Uppsala
- 1961 - collaboration between Harvard Cyclotron Lab. and Massachusetts General Hospital
- 1993 - patients treated at the first hospital-based facility at Loma Linda
- 1994 - first facility dedicated to carbon ions operational at HIMAC, Japan
- 2009 - first European proton-carbon ion facility starts treatment in Heidelberg

protoni

raggi X

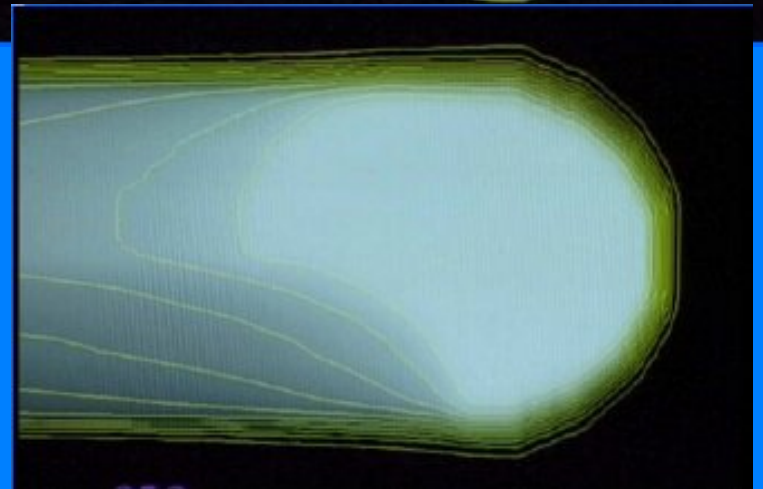


Conformation capability



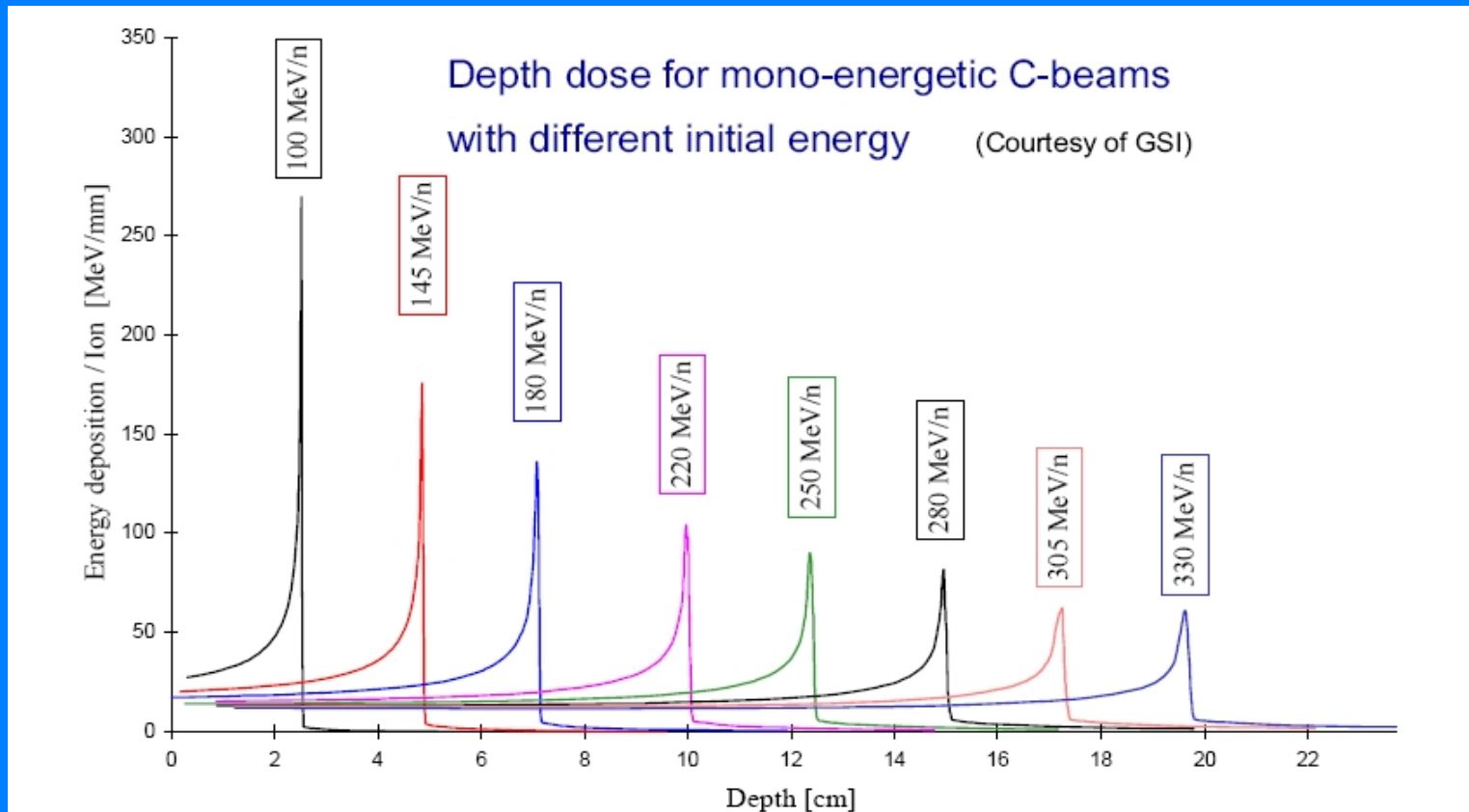
muovendo il fascio in **X,Y** e
variandone l'**energia** (profondità raggiunta)

tutto il bersaglio puo' essere efficacemente
irradiato

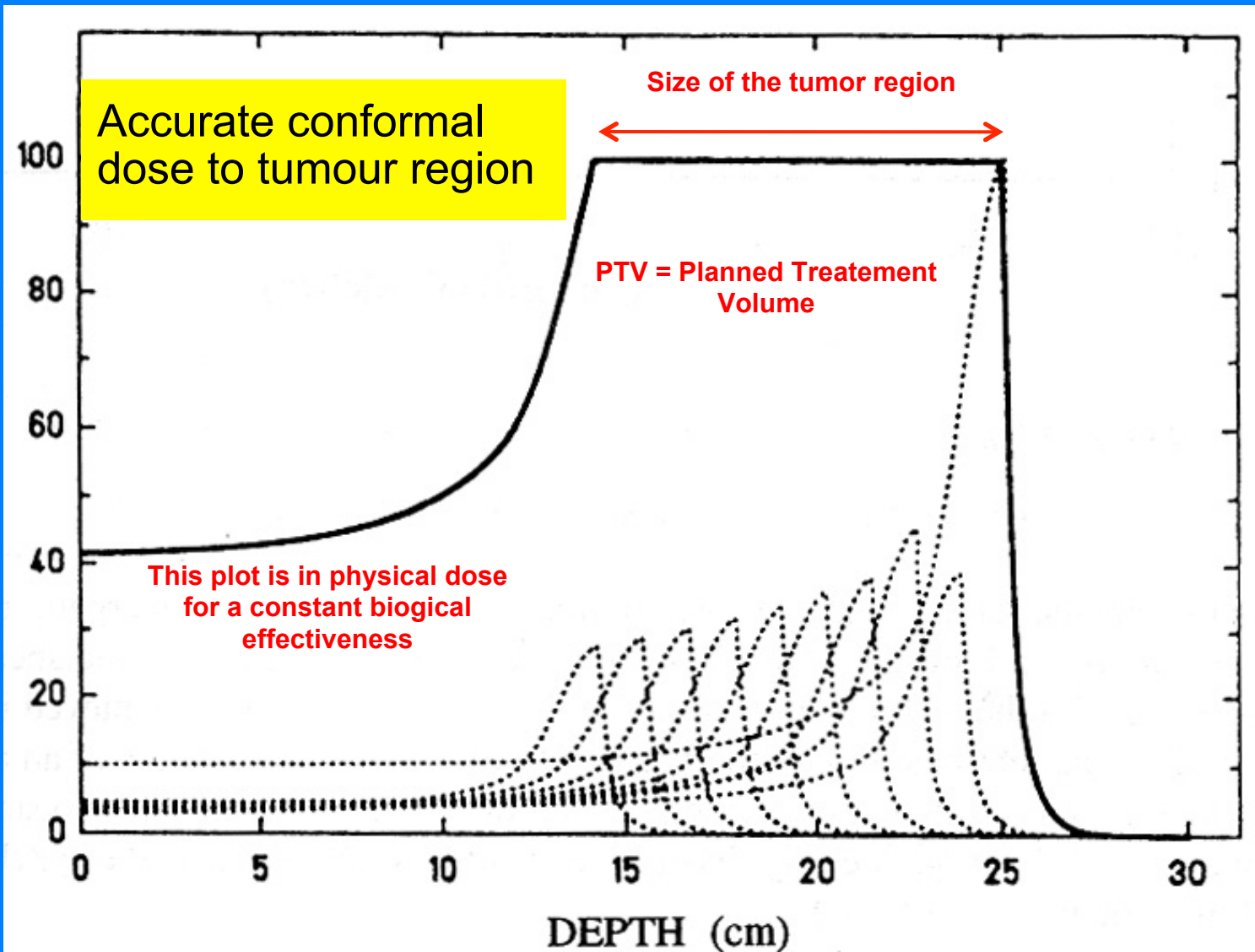


Energy – Depth Correlation

Beams with Different Energy deposit energy at Different Depths
→ dose modulated along the beam direction

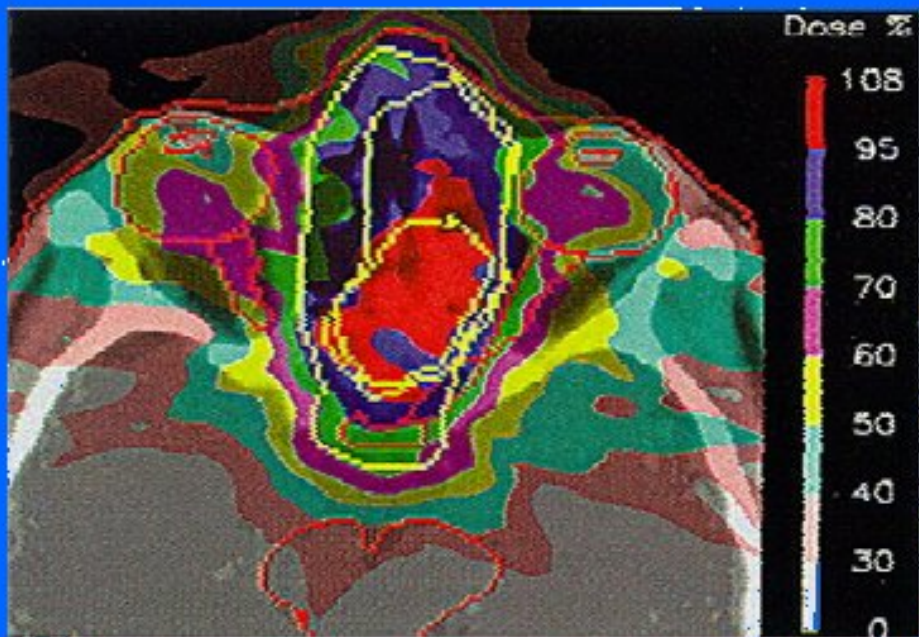


Conformation: the concept of Spread Out Bragg Peak (SOBP)

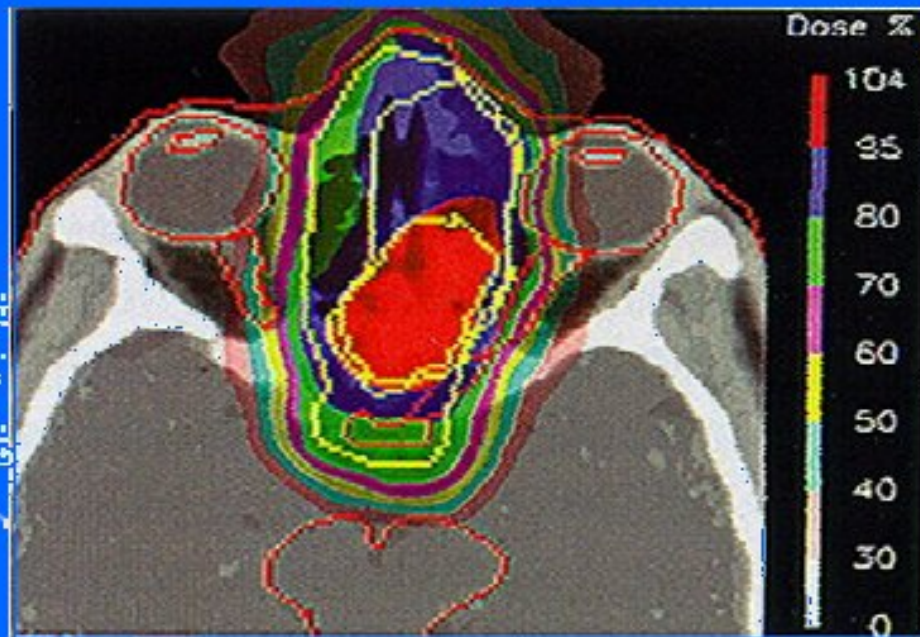


Comparing photon and proton therapy

9 X-ray beams

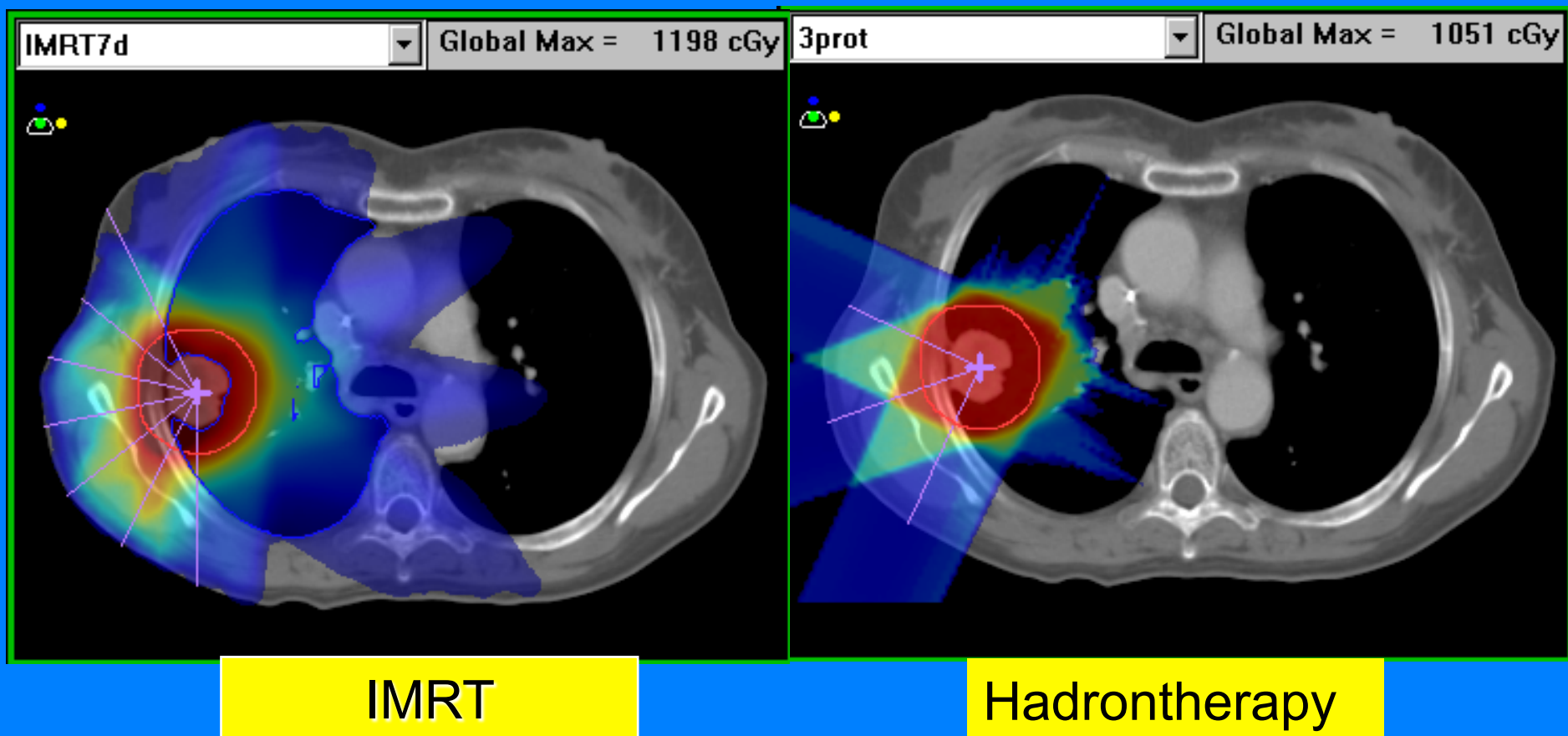


a single proton beam



(Courtesy of Prof. U.Amaldi)

Comparing photon and proton therapy

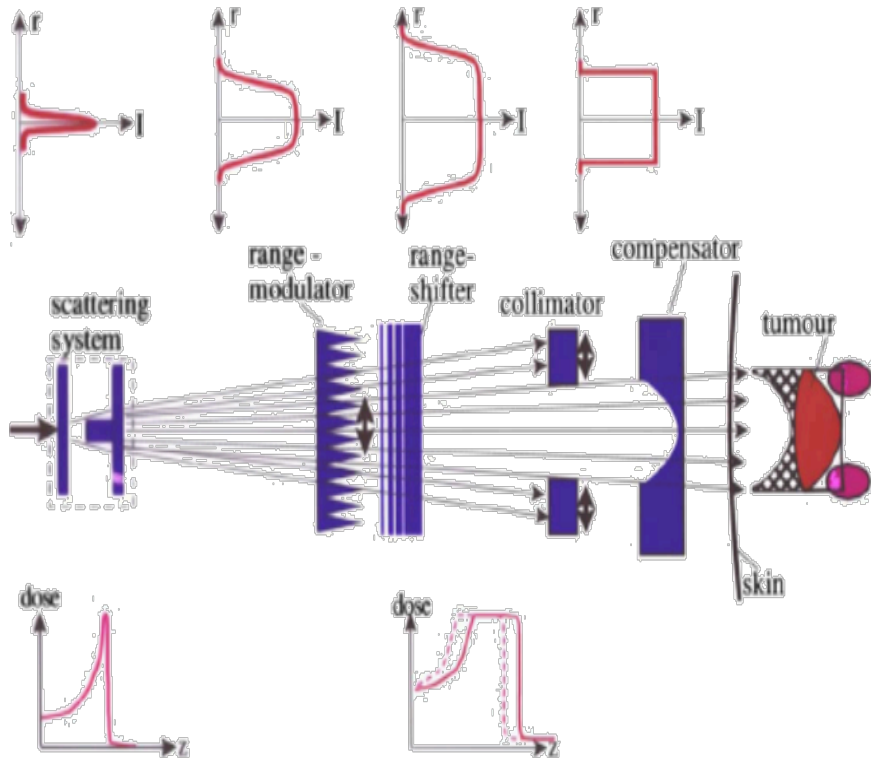


Advantage of hadrontherapy stays mostly in selectivity power:

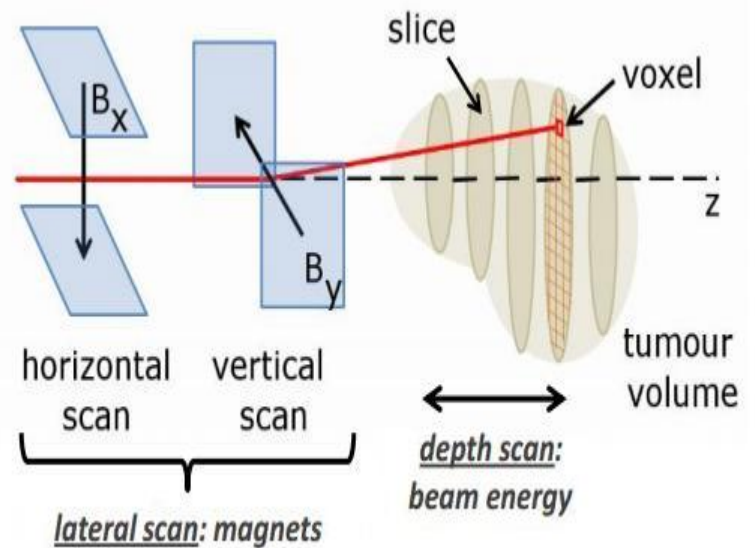
- better capability to spare Healthy Tissues and Organs at Risk, for the same dose.
- Not necessarily there is a clear advantage in the Tumor Control Probability (for the same dose)

Treatment Delivery

Passive delivery



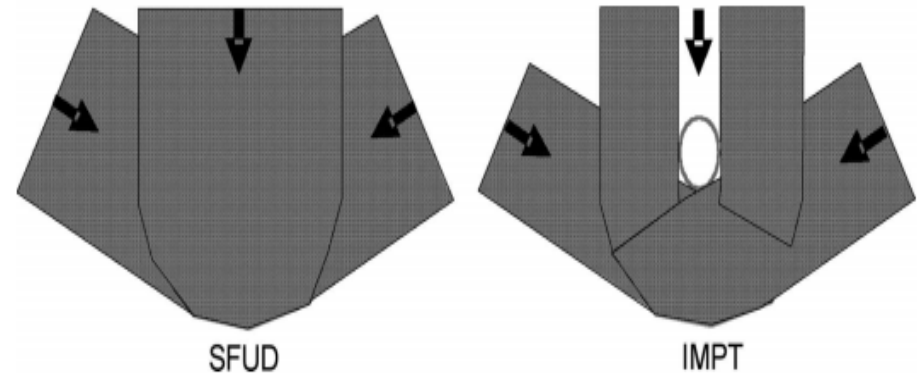
Active delivery



Proton Therapy: Scanning Beams

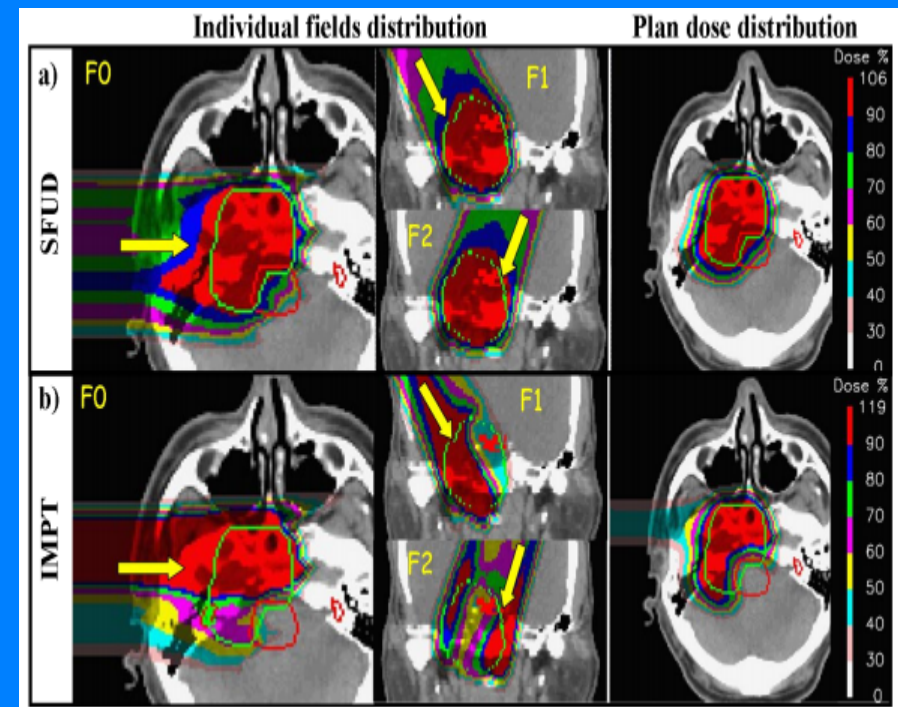
Single Field Uniform Dose (SFUD)

Combination of individually optimised fields, each of which deliver a homogenous dose across the target



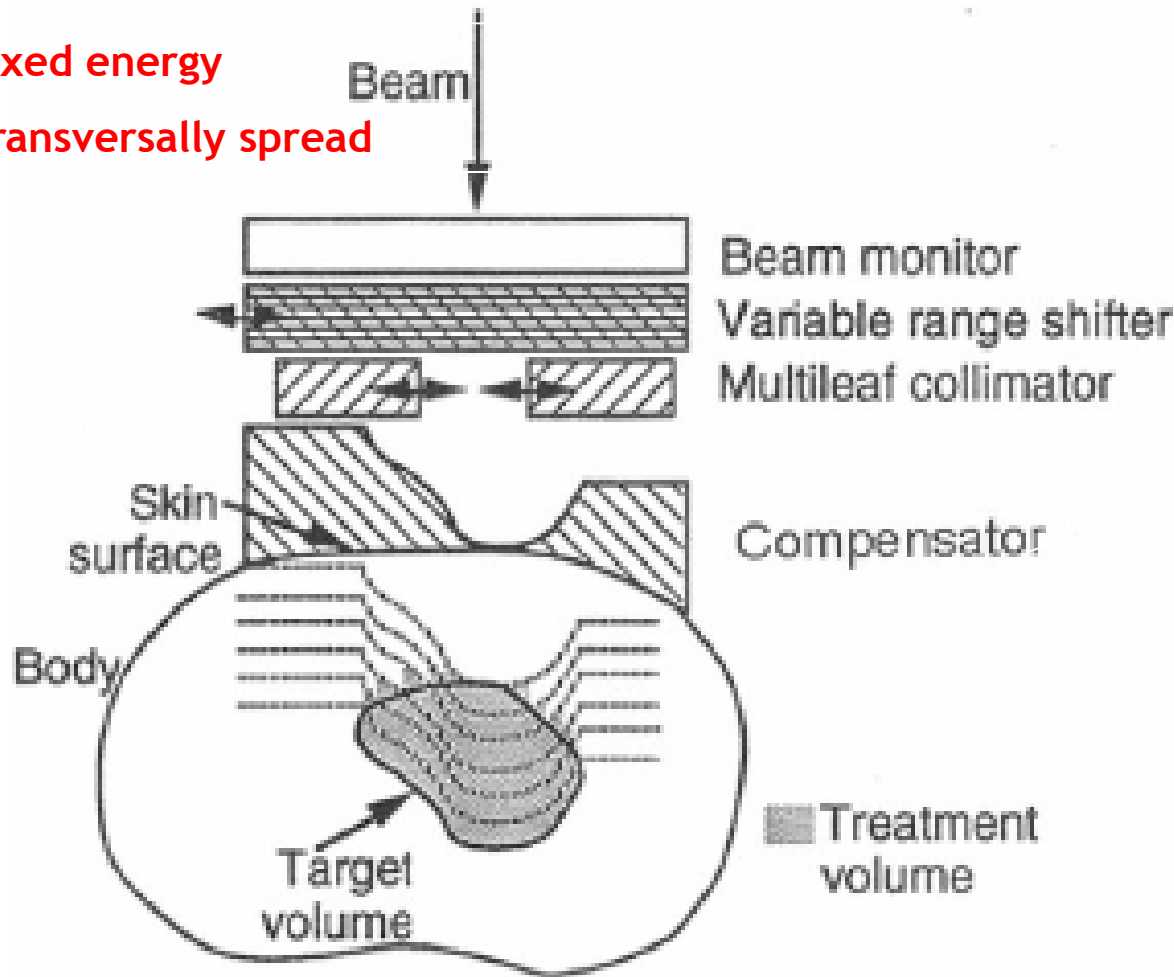
Multi Field Optimisation (MFO) or Intensity Modulated Proton Therapy (IMPT)

Simultaneous optimisation of all Bragg peaks from all fields: the sum of the beams covers the target uniformly with dose. It provides more degree of freedom and better normal tissue sparing, especially for OARs on the proximal side of the target.

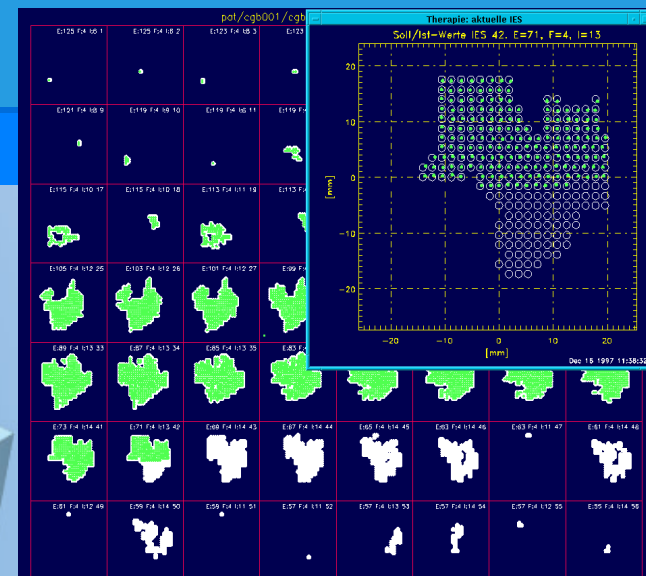
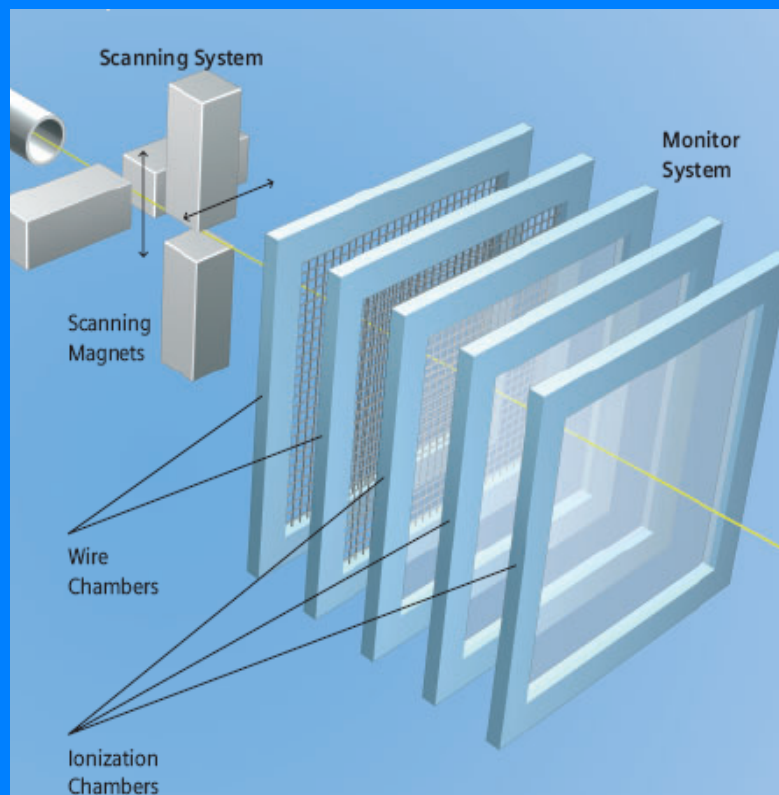


Passive Treatment Modality

fixed energy
transversally spread



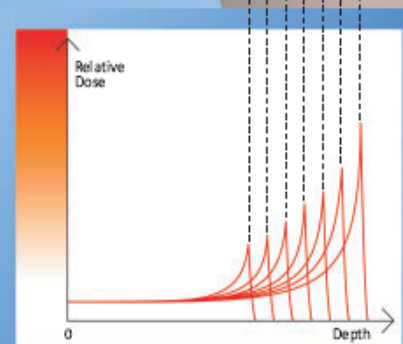
Active Raster Scanning



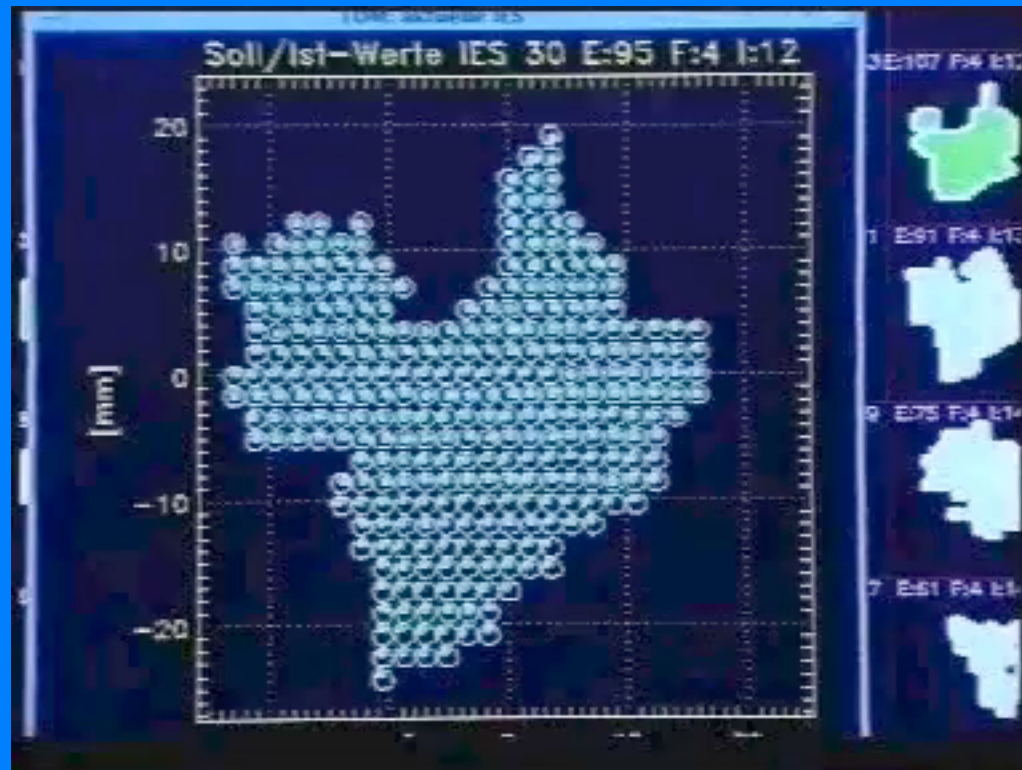
Example:

Depth 5 cm:
Proton 80 MeV
Carbon 150 MeV/u

Depth 25 cm:
Proton 195 MeV
Carbon 380 MeV/u



Active Raster Scanning



Physics of Bragg Peak

important at Low Energy dE/dx :

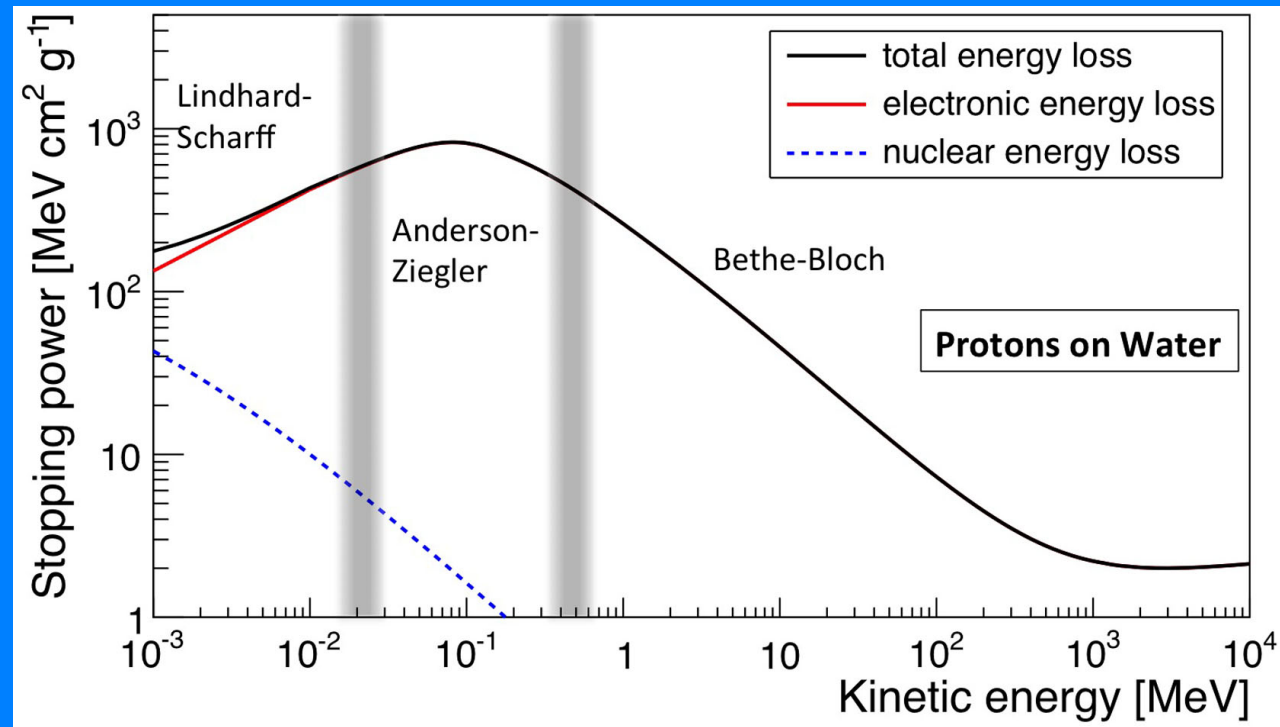
- Shell Corrections

High order corrections

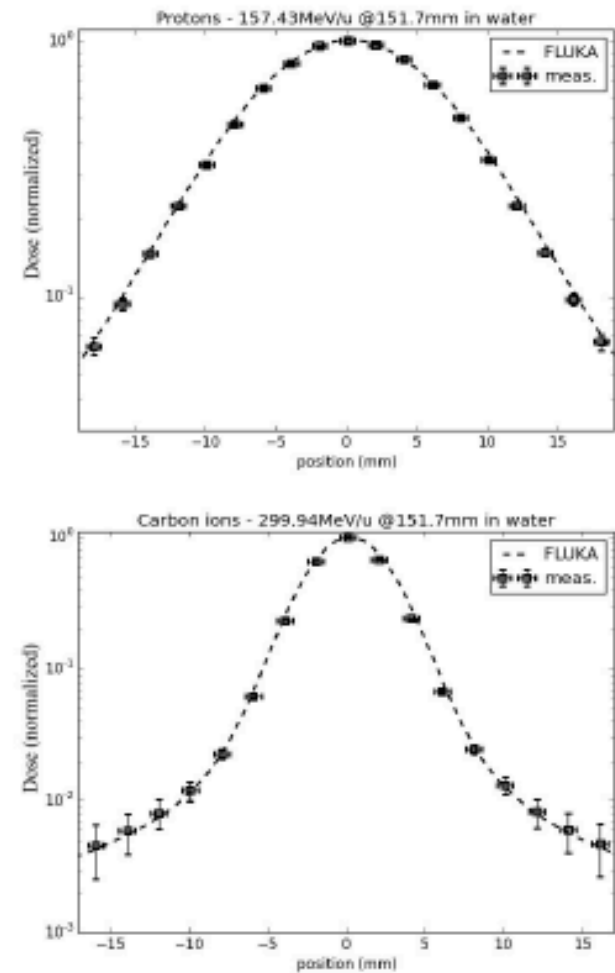
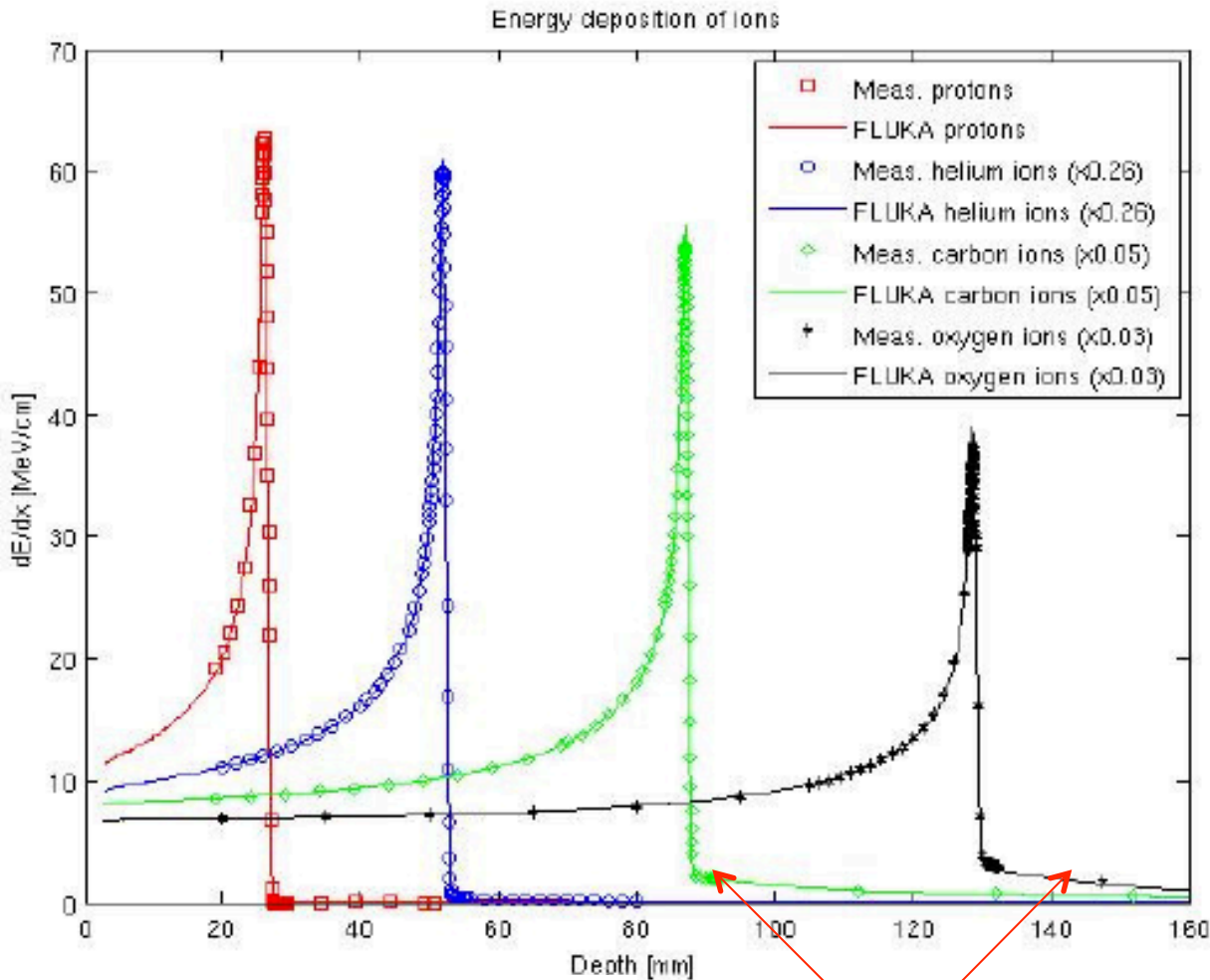
- Barkas correction ($\propto z^3$)
- Bloch correction ($\propto z^4$)
- Mott corrections

dominated by
interaction with electrons

**MCS, Energy loss fluctuations
and nuclear interactions
do affect the shape!**



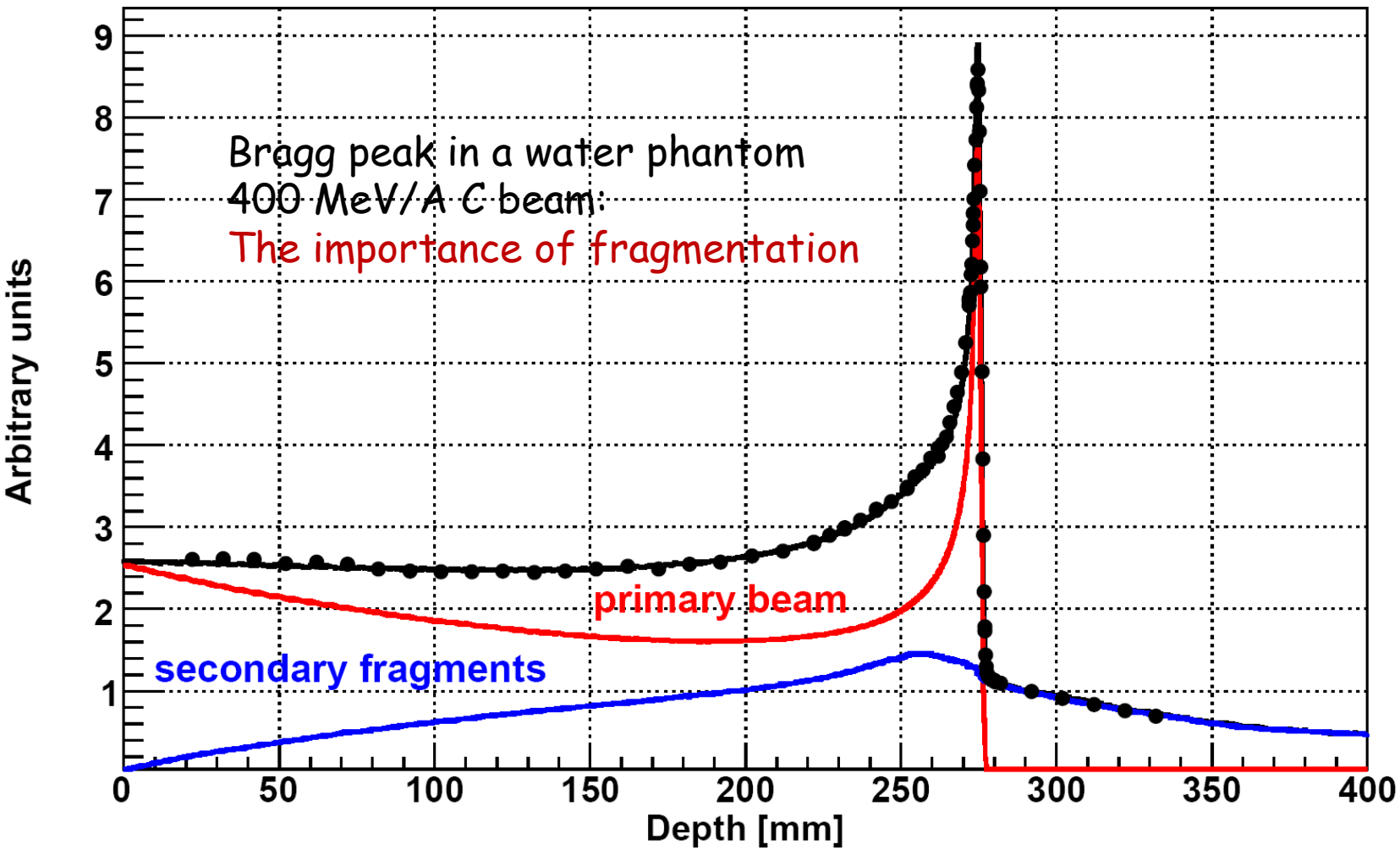
Bragg Peak Physics



Some apparently trivial parameter is not well known. For example: $\langle l \rangle$

Tail beyond the Peak due to nuclear fragmentation of Projectile

Hadrontherapy with nuclei: Ion Therapy



Exp. Data (points) from Haettner et al, Rad. Prot. Dos. 2006
Simulation: A. Mairani PhD Thesis, 2007, Nuovo Cimento C, 31, 2008

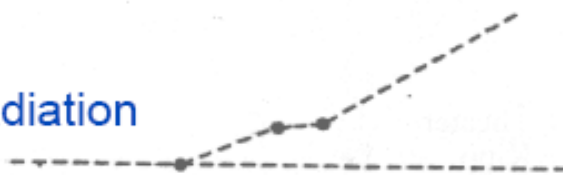
Interdisciplinary aspects: Physics and Biology

Ionisation tracks

LET



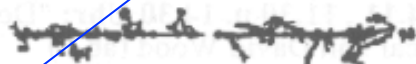
Gamma radiation



1MeV Protons



1MeV/u alphas.



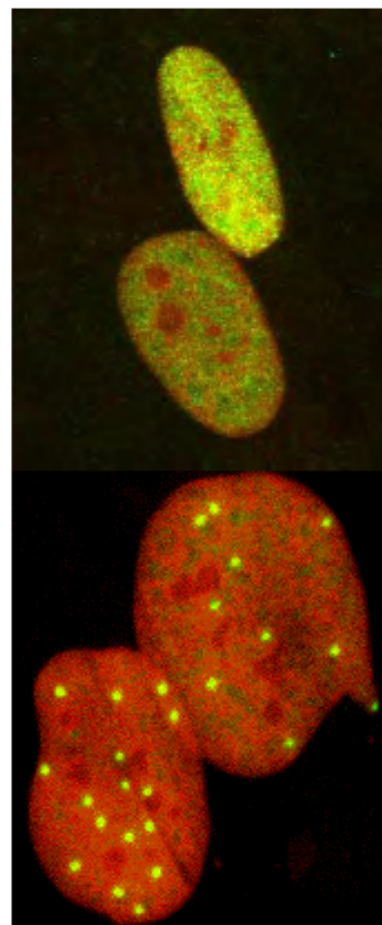
1MeV/u C-12 ions



p on the Bragg peak
when $R_{res} \sim 0.2$ mm
 $E \sim 4$ MeV
 $LET \sim 10$ keV/ μ m
 $\langle d \rangle \sim 4$ nm

^{12}C on the Bragg peak
when $R_{res} \sim 1$ mm
 $E \sim 17$ MeV/u
 $LET \sim 140$ keV/ μ m
 $\langle d \rangle \sim 0.3$ nm

Damage in nucleus



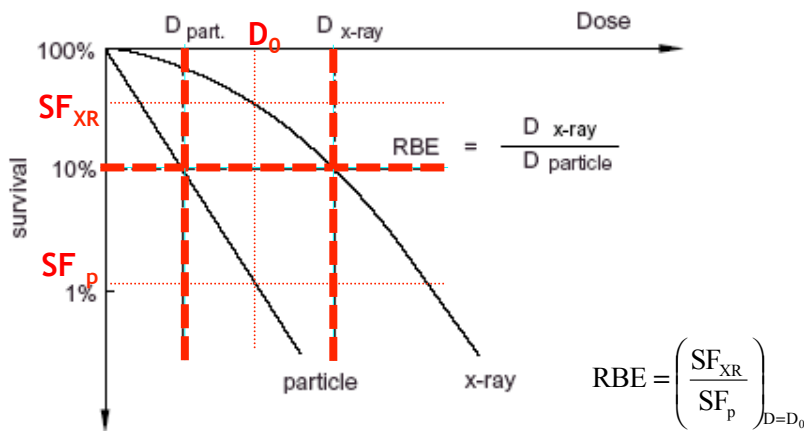
Low LET

Homogeneous
deposition of dose

High LET

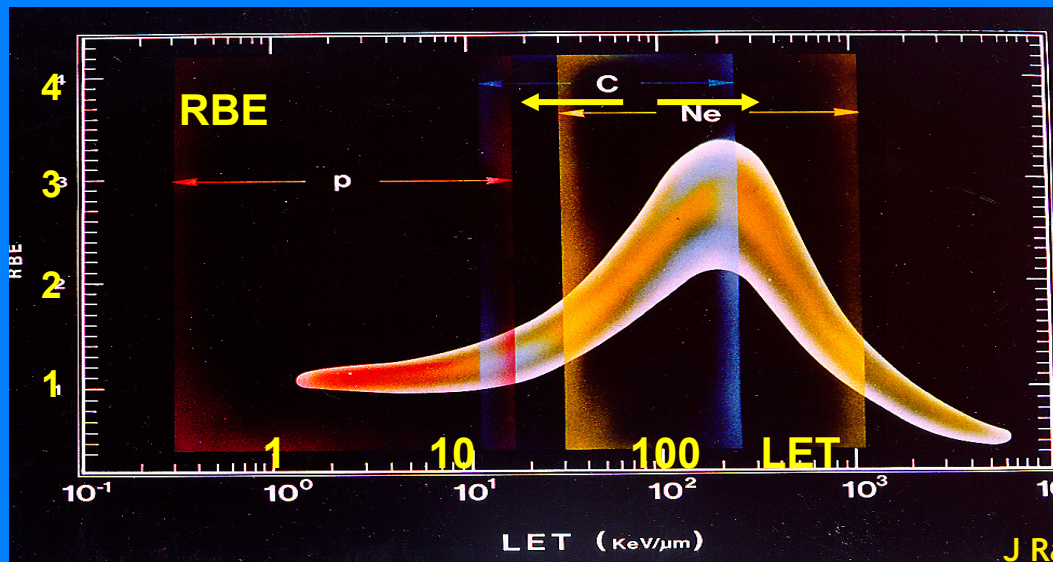
Local deposition of
high doses

Radio Biological Effectiveness (RBE) and Oxygen Enhancement Ratio (OER)



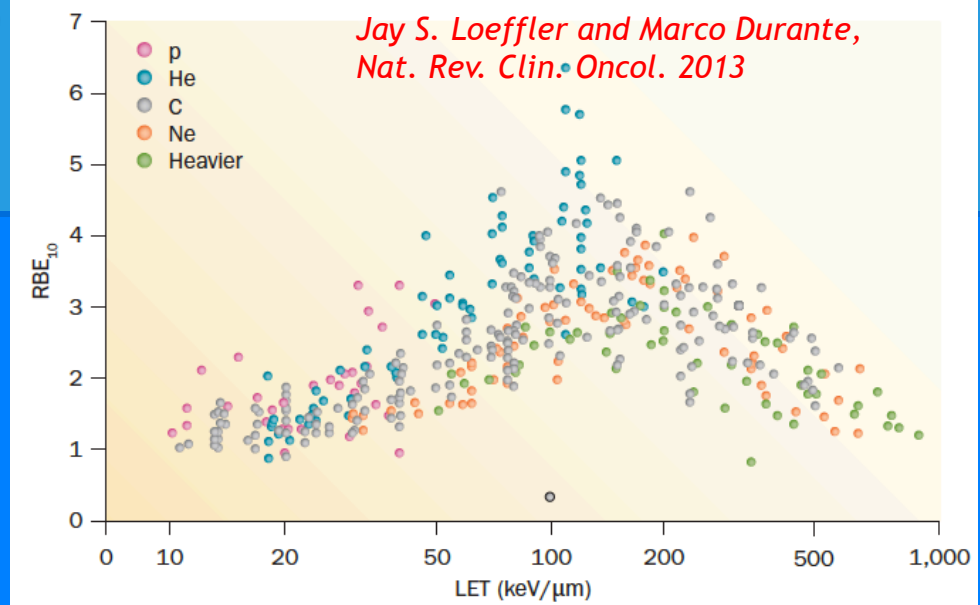
$$R.B.E. = \left(\frac{D_{RX}}{D_r} \right)_{SF=SF_0}$$

for a given type of biological endpoint and its level of expression.
For example:
Survival Fraction of 10%

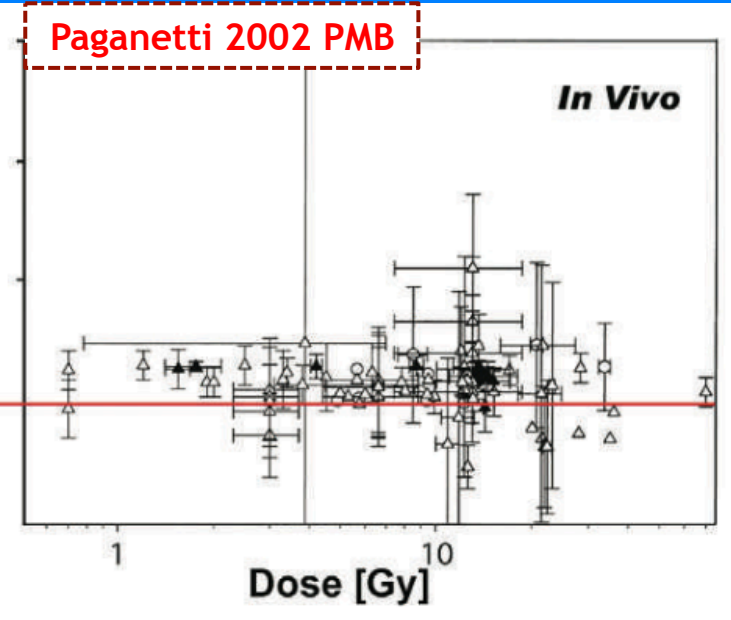
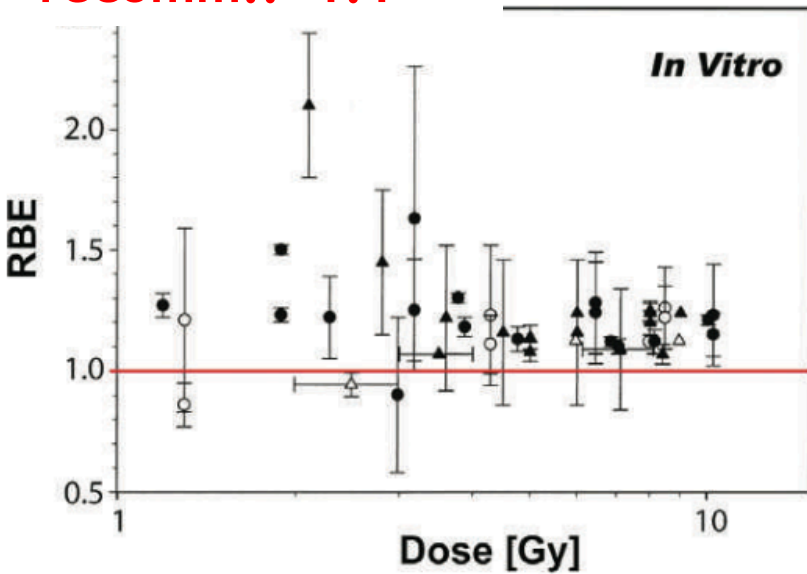


Radiobiology and its uncertainties

RBE versus LET from published experiments on *in vitro* cell lines. RBE is calculated at 10% survival.



**RBE of protons
recomm.: 1.1**



Paganetti 2002 PMB

New Paradigm for Proton Radiobiology
(Girdhani 2013 Radiat Res)

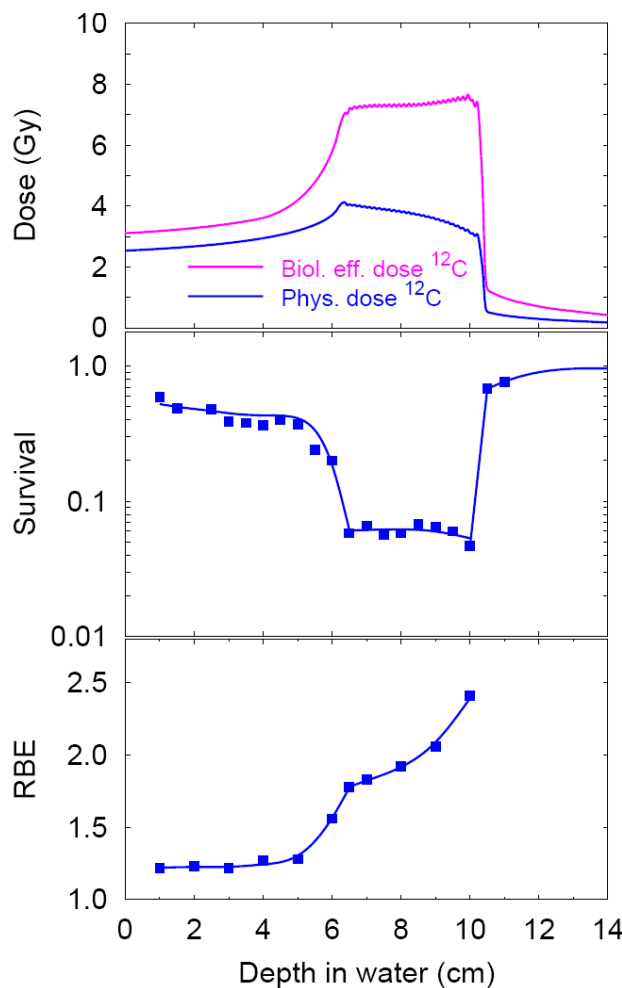


Protons and photons present distinct physics and biological properties at Sub-Cellular, Cellular and Tissue level

Nuclear projectiles in Particle Therapy today

protons: 50-250 MeV

Relative Biological Effectiveness (RBE) ~ 1.1 (*under discussion...*)
accelerated by cyclotrons or synchrotrons



¹²C: 60-400 MeV/u

Higher RBE → well suited for radio-resistant tumors

reduced no. of fractions

reduced lateral spread with respect to protons

However:

variable RBE vs energy, LET, ...

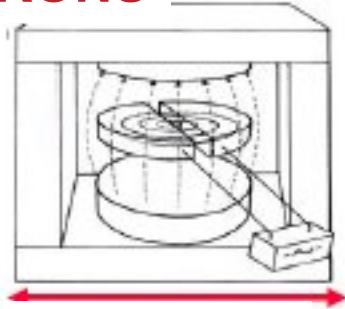
accelerated by larger machines

Nuclear Fragmentation (→ complex RBE)

heavier gantries and magnets...

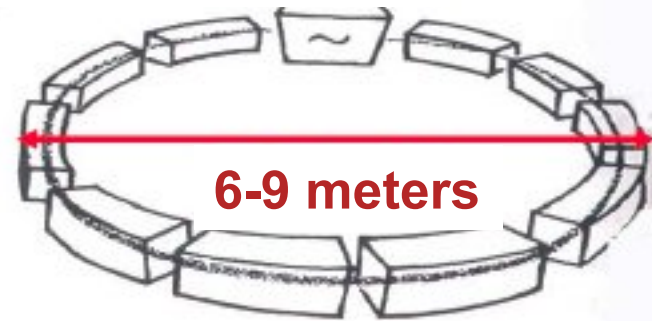
Cyclotrons or Synchrotrons

CICLOTRONS



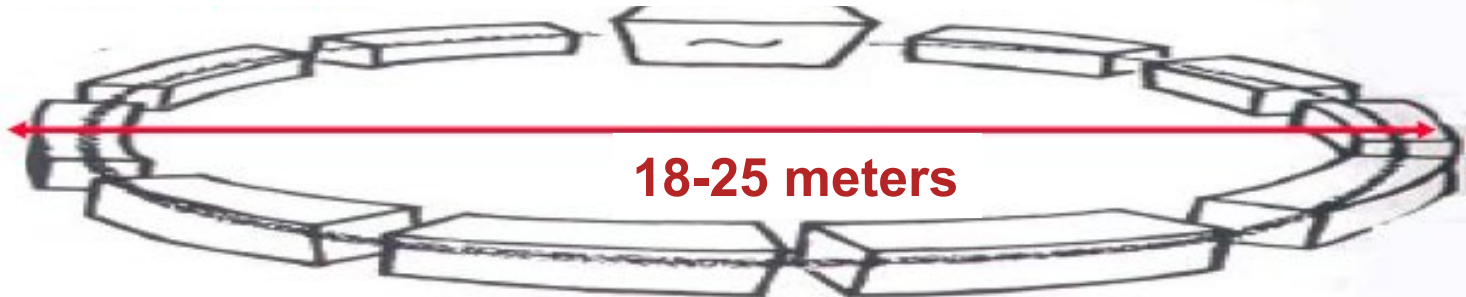
4-5 meters

PROTON SYNCHROTRONS

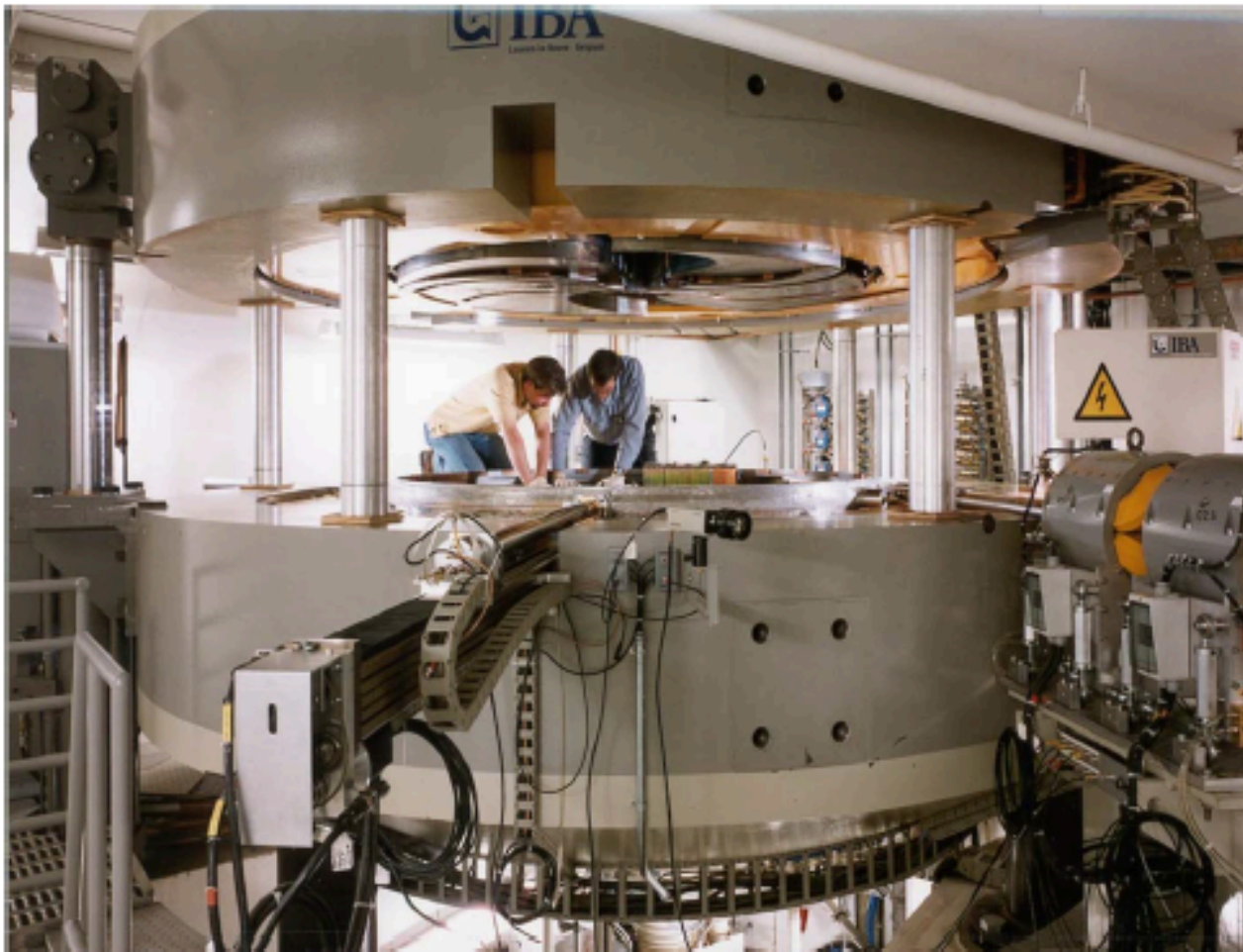


6-9 meters

CARBON ION SYNCHROTRONS



18-25 meters



**IBA
Varian
Sumitomo
ProNova
Etc...**

**The IBA 235 MeV
Room temperature
Cyclotron (230 tons)**



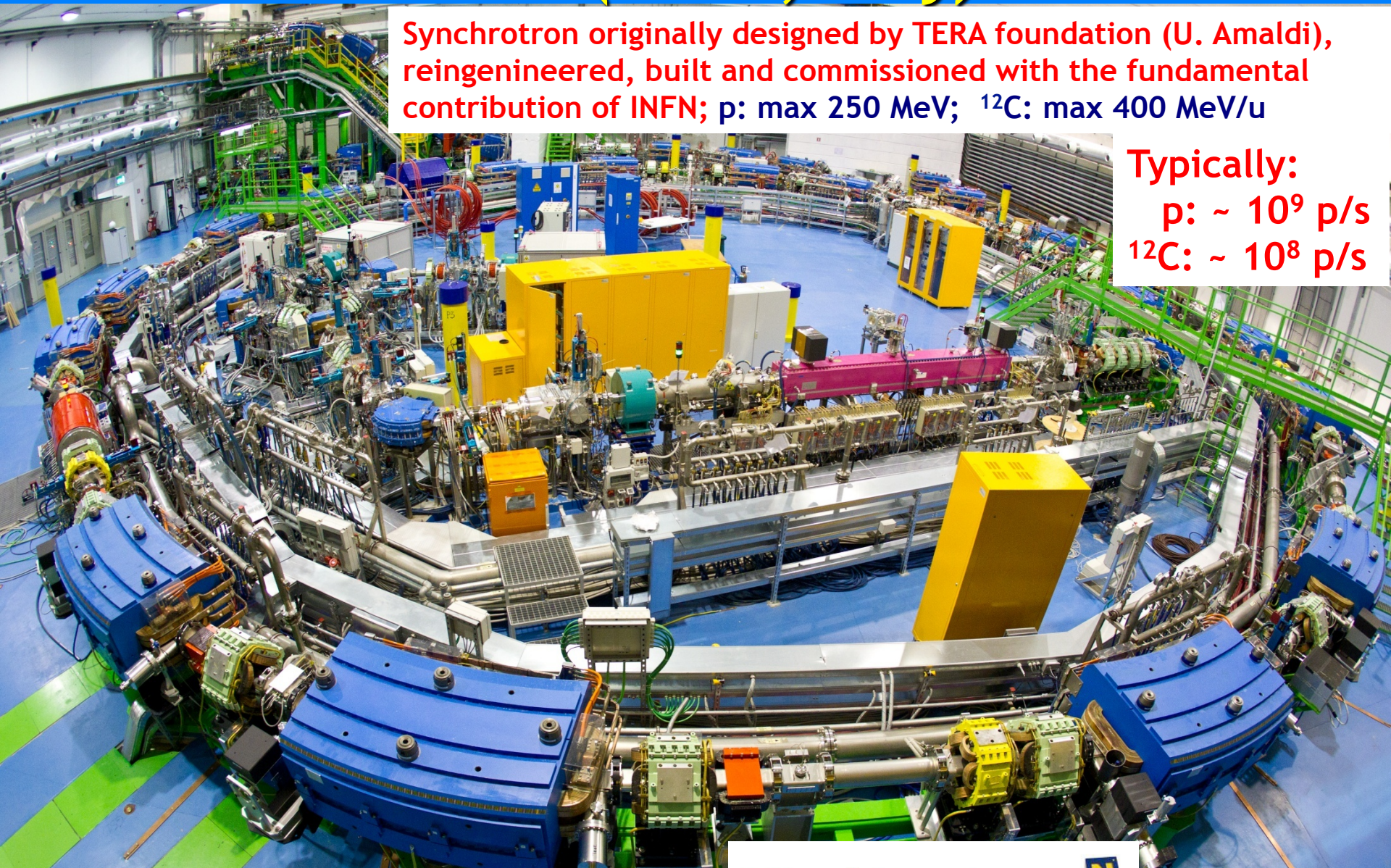
CNAO (Pavia, Italy)

Synchrotron originally designed by TERA foundation (U. Amaldi), reingenieered, built and commissioned with the fundamental contribution of INFN; p: max 250 MeV; ^{12}C : max 400 MeV/u

Typically:

p: $\sim 10^9$ p/s

^{12}C : $\sim 10^8$ p/s

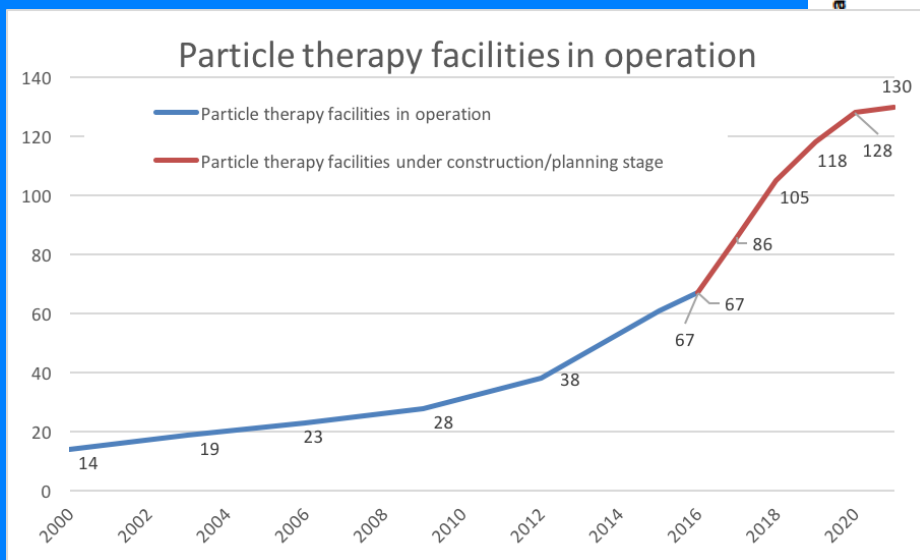
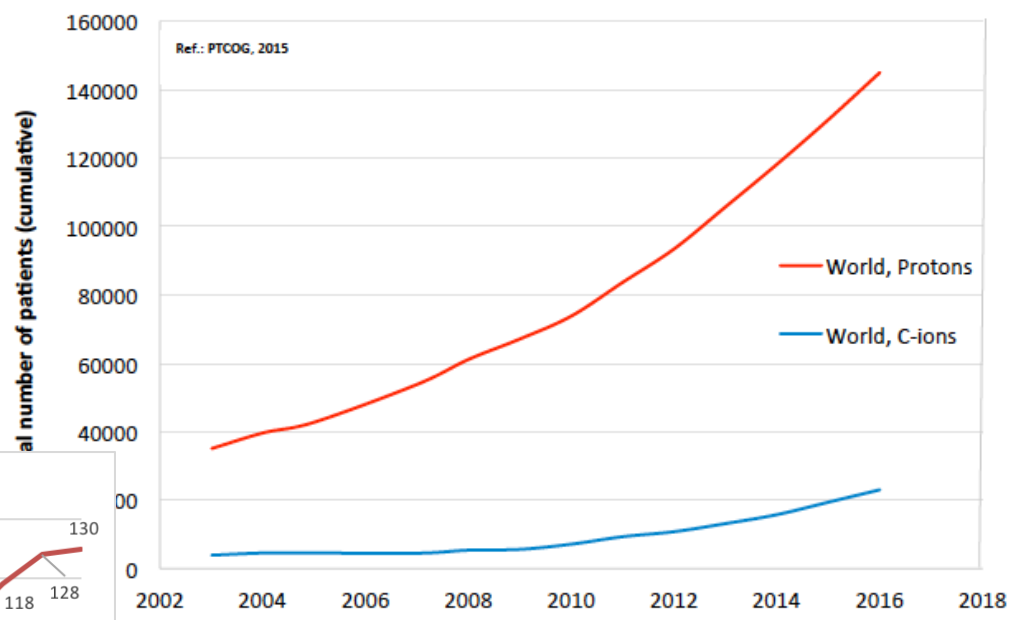


Similar machine is being commissioned in Austria:

MedAustron 

Patient Statistics 2016 (www.ptcog.ch)

He	2054	1957-1992
Pions	1100	1974-1994
C-ions	21580	1994-2016
Other ions	433	1975-1992
Protons	149345	1954-2016
Grand Total	174512	1954-2016

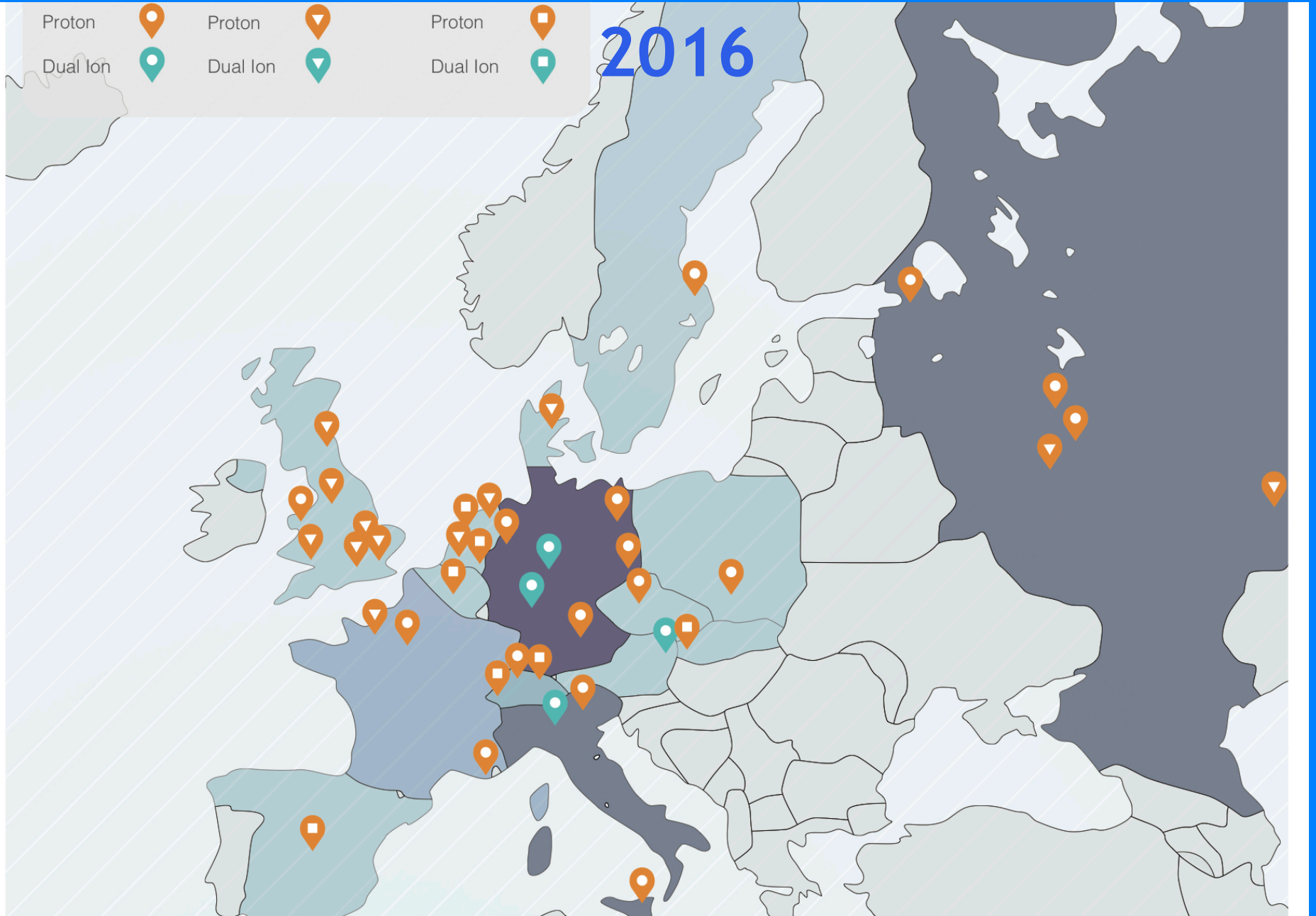


In 2014, about 10% of patients were pediatric and another 10% were treated for ocular melanomas.

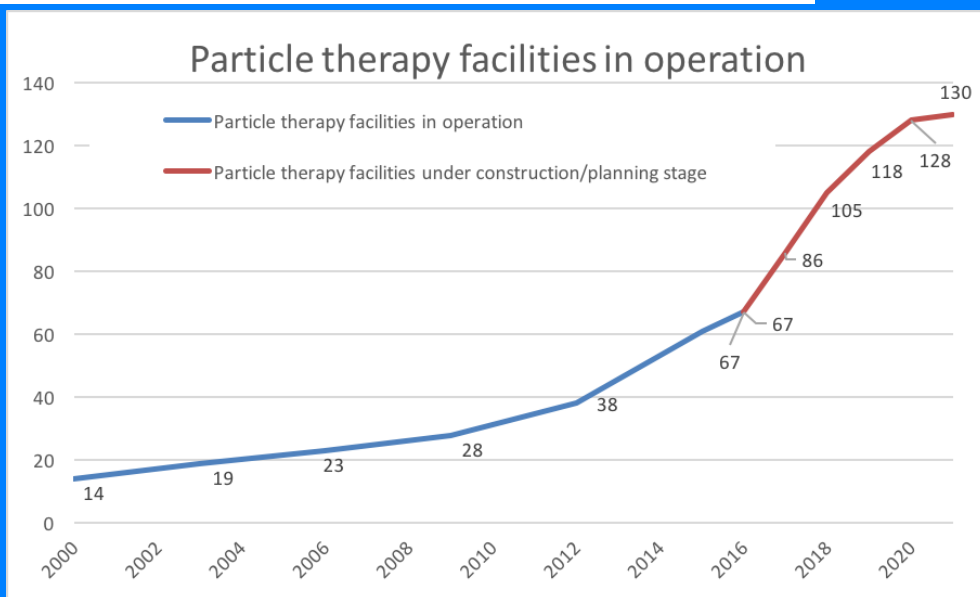
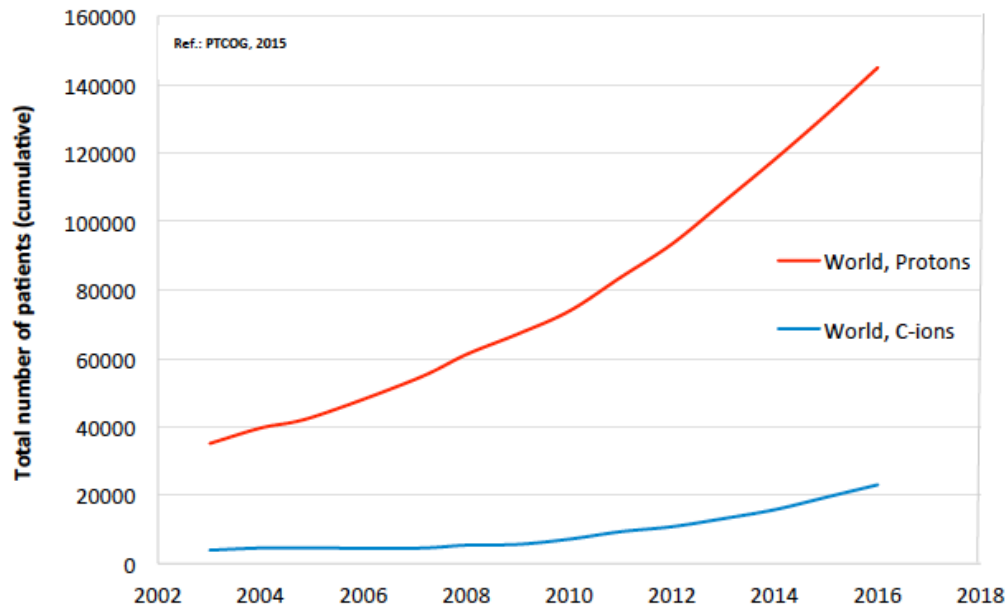
Particle therapy centres in Europe - 2002



Particle therapy centres in Europe -

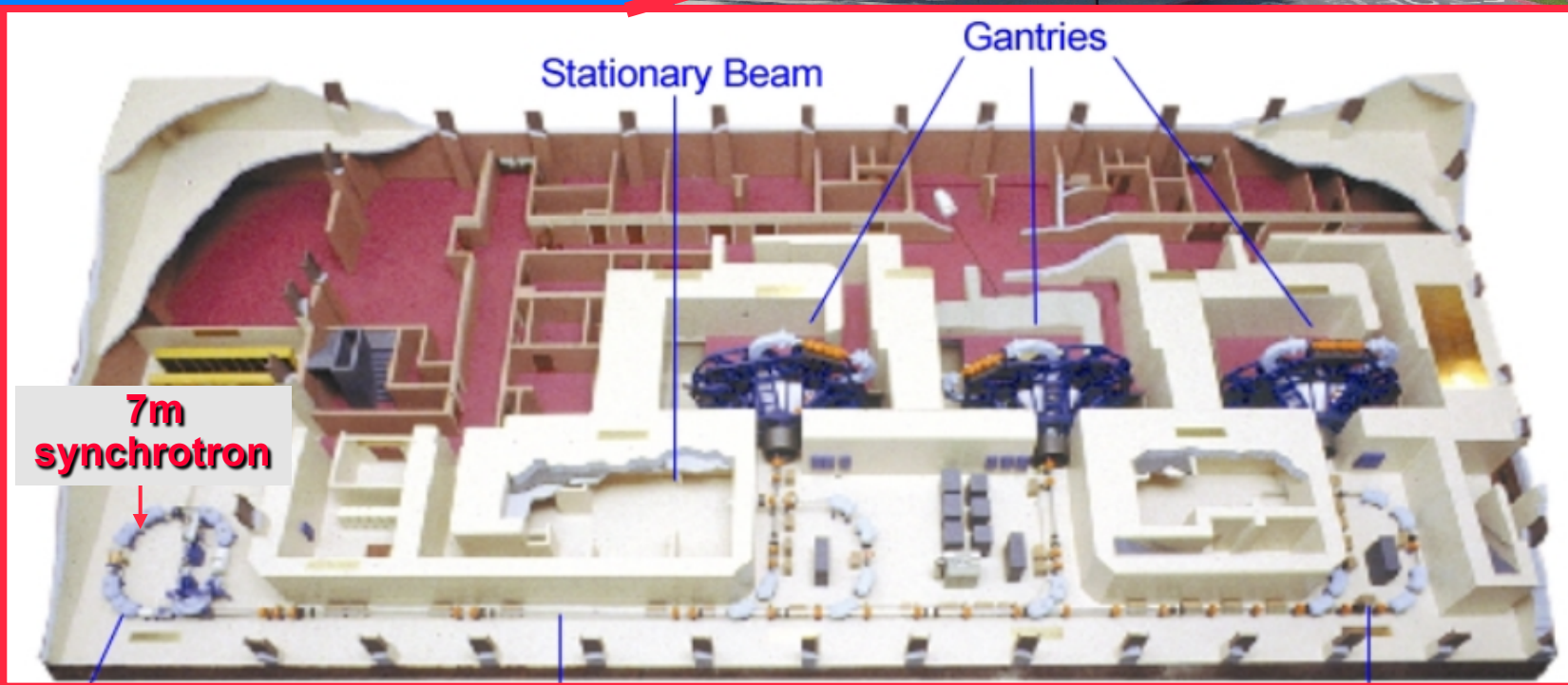


Currently huge momentum in particle therapy



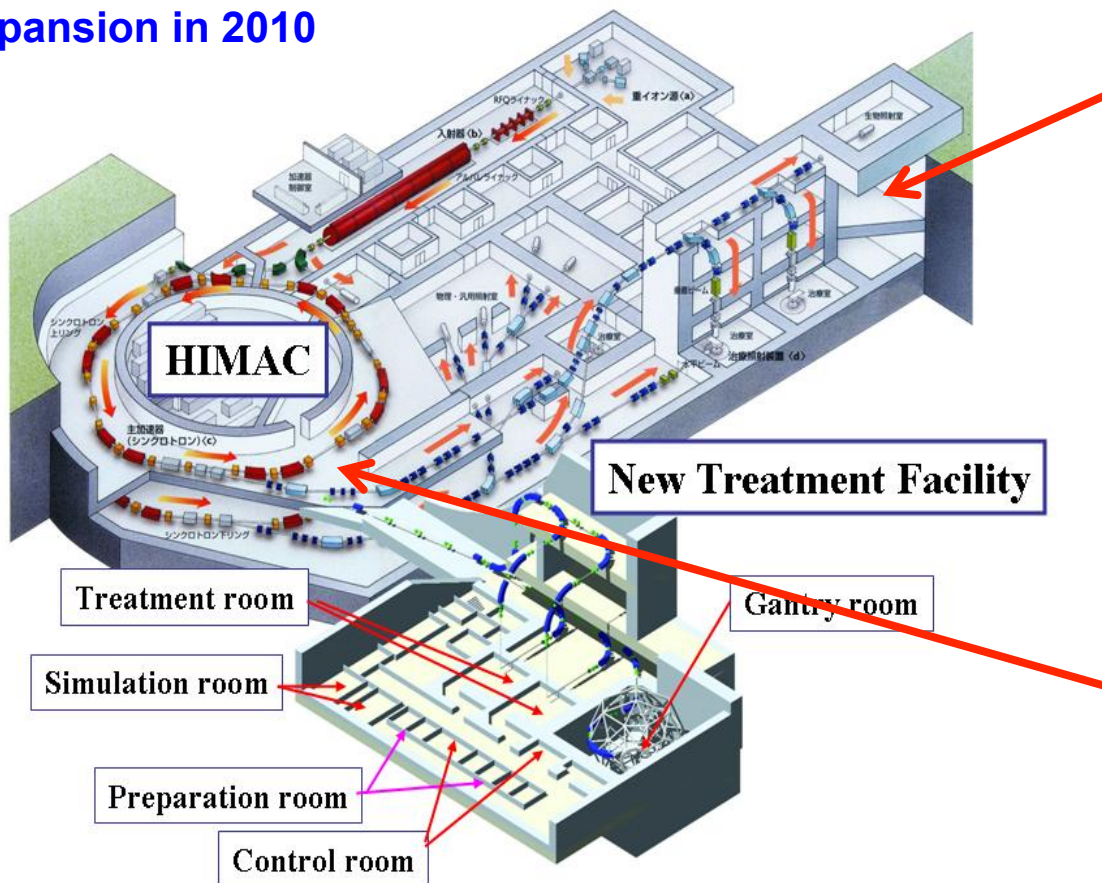
Loma Linda University Medical Center

160 session/day



Carbon Ion facilities: HIMAC (Heavy Ion Medical Accelerator in Chiba)

Expansion in 2010



3 treatment rooms
1 experimental room

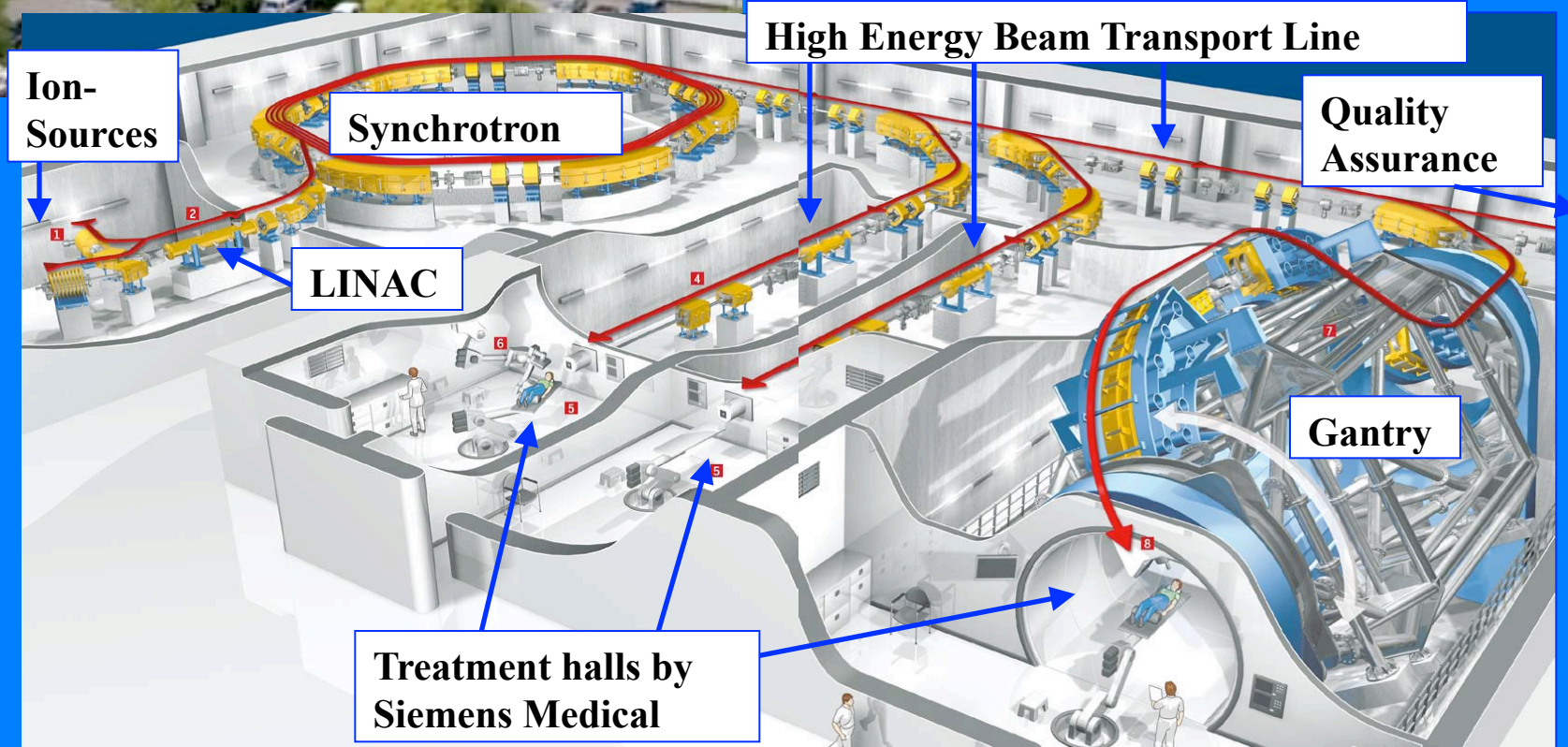
2 synchrotrons
800 MeV/u,
therapy and
nuclear physics

HIT - Heidelberg



First patient: end 2009

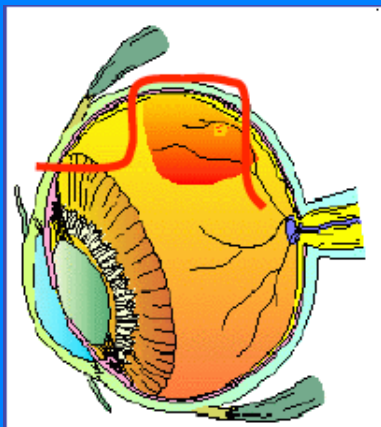
So far >2.700 patients



Hadron Therapy in Italy

CATANA @INFN-LNS

➤ >350 patients since 2002

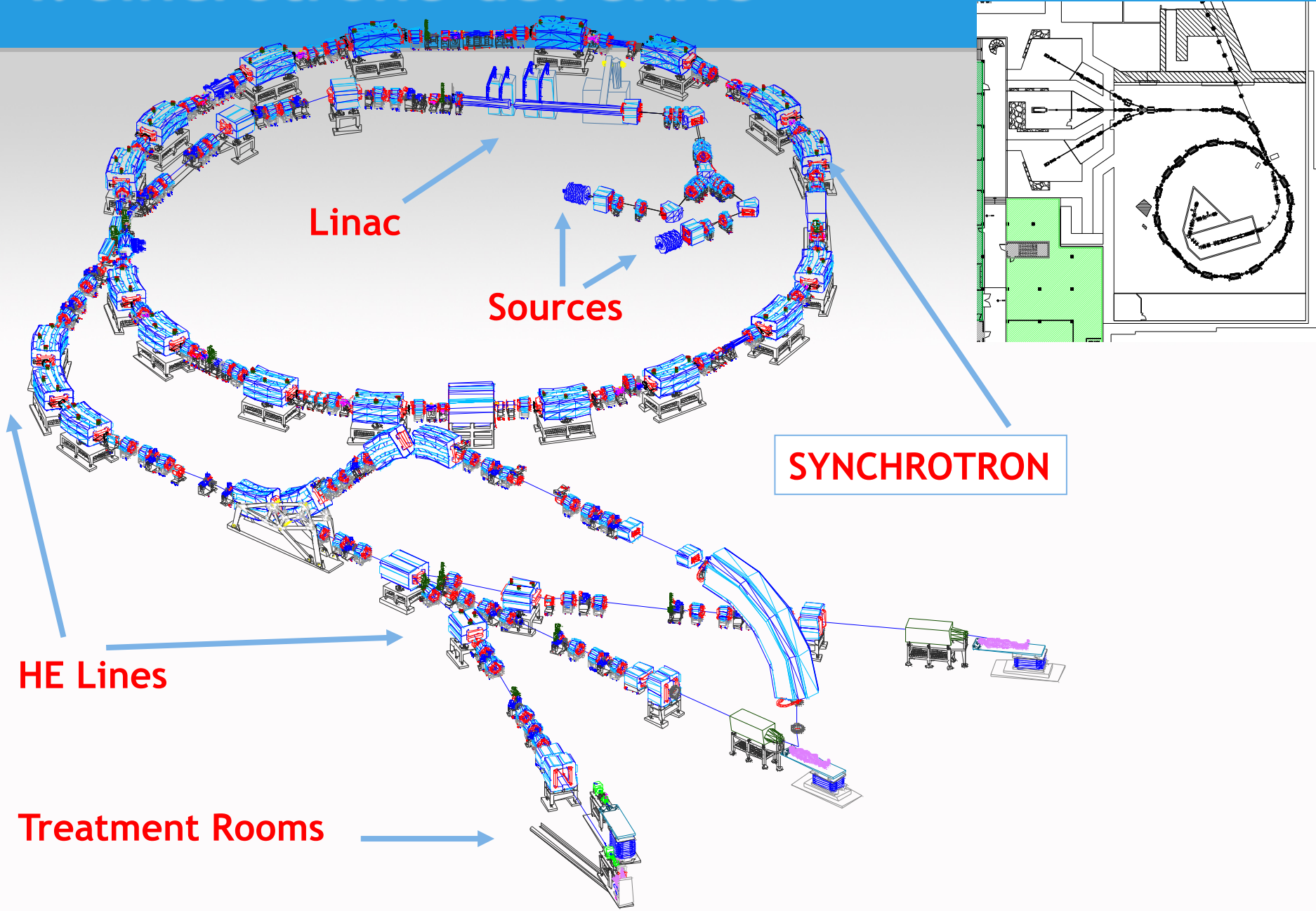


Treatment of the choroidal and iris melanoma (In Italy about 300 new cases for year)

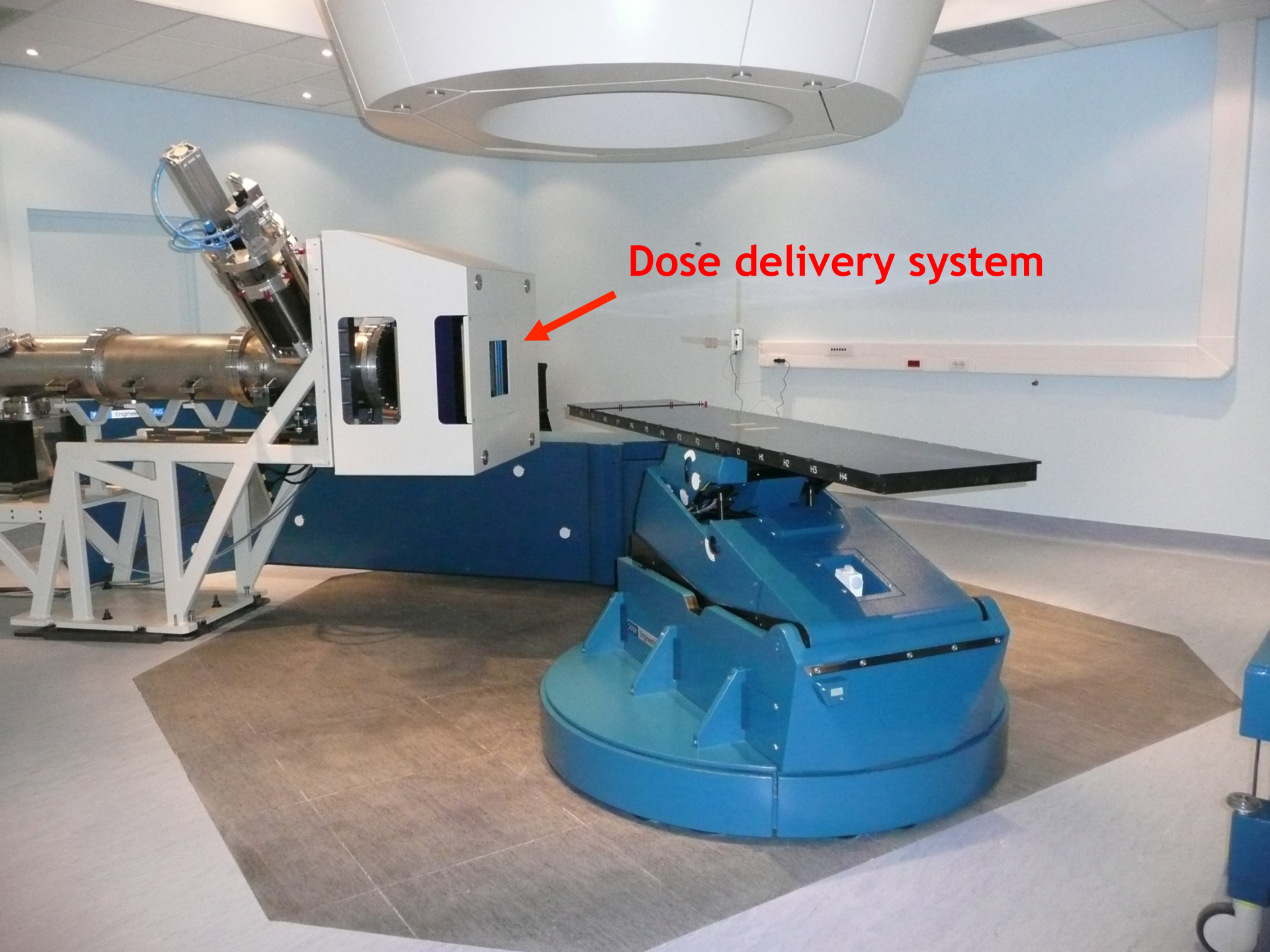
Eye retention rate 95 %
Survival 98 %
Local Control 95 %



Il sincrotrone del CNAO



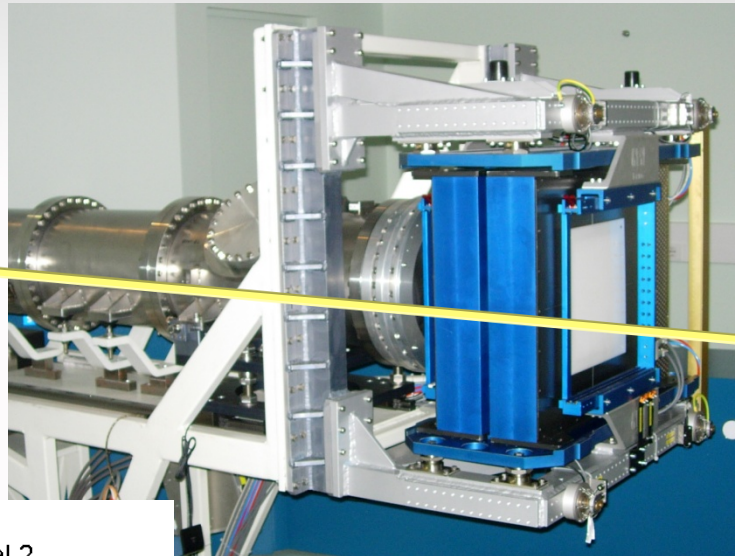
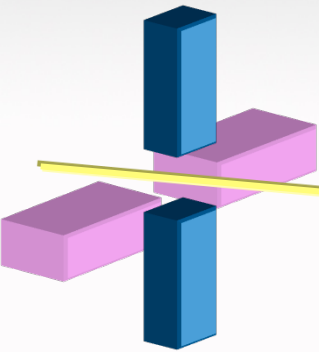
Dose delivery system



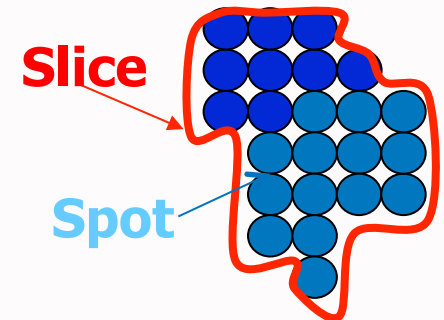
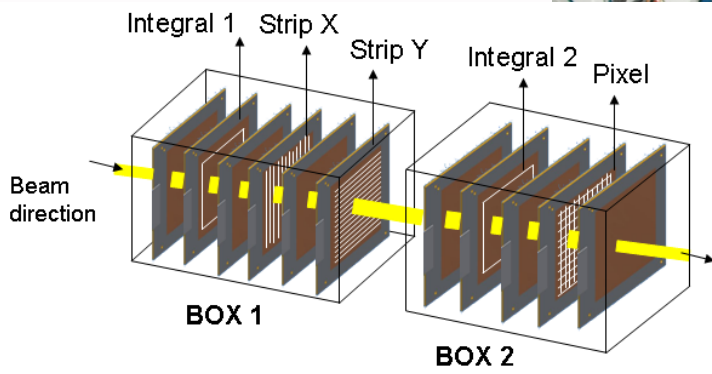
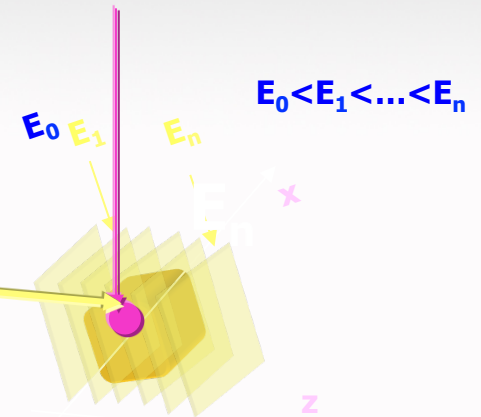
Beam/Dose Delivery system in CNAO

Nozzle and monitor system

Scanning magnets

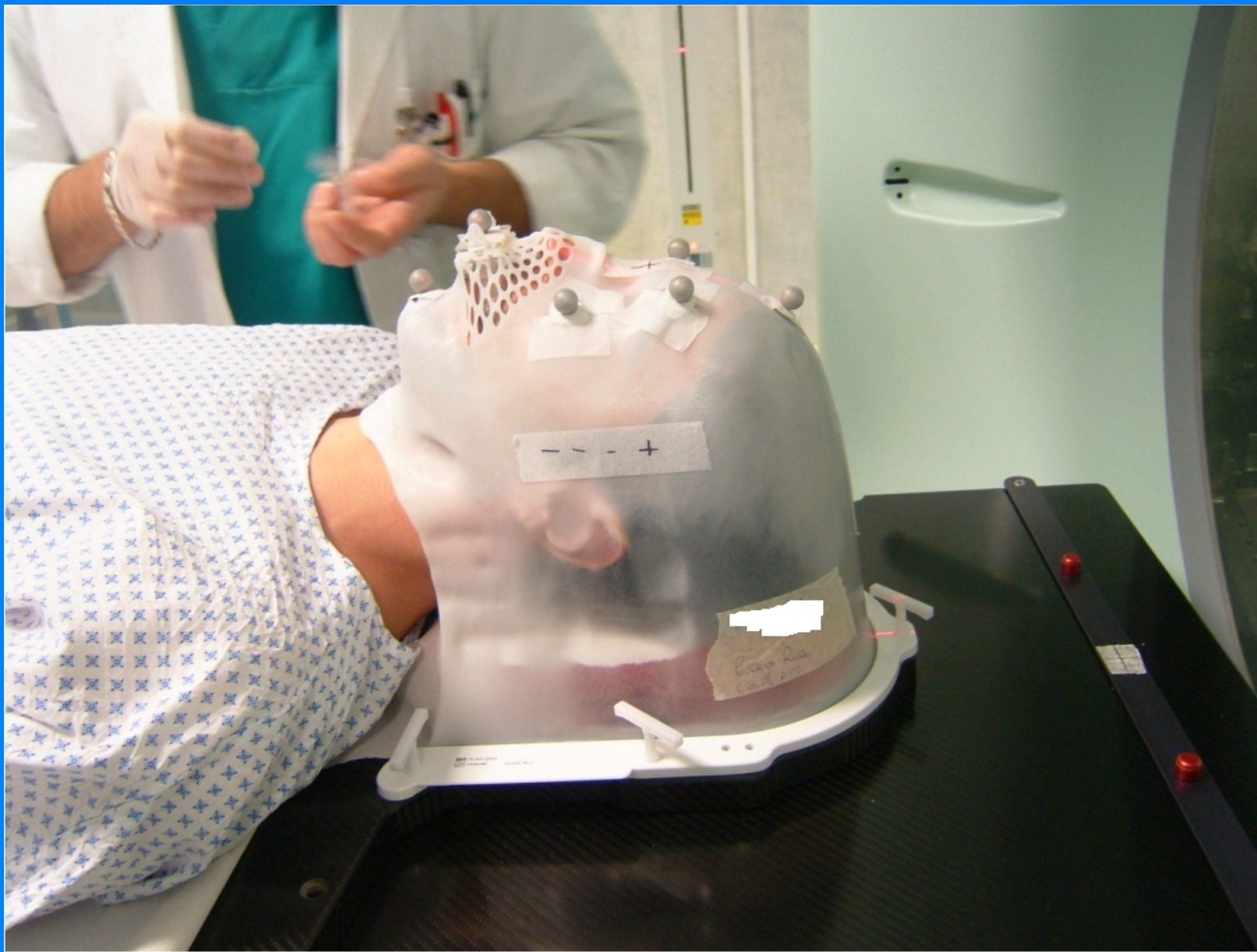


Isocentro



22 September 2011

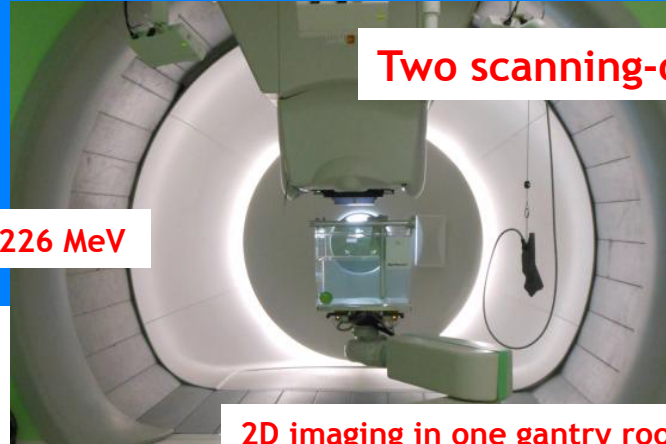
First treatment session at CNAO (protons)



Proton Therapy in Trento (Italy)



Energies at isocentre from 70 to 226 MeV



Two scanning-only 360° gantries



2D imaging in one gantry room
Ct on rail being installed in the second gantry room

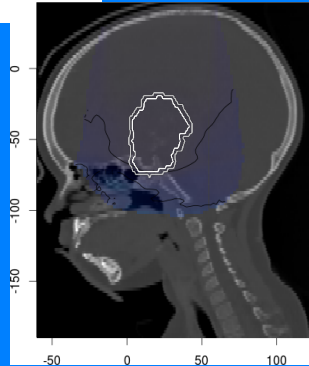
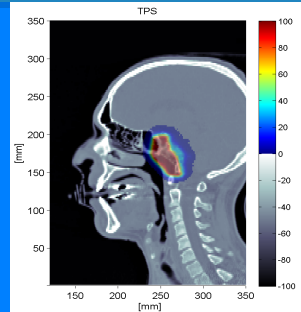
Funded by the local government
Run by the public health system
(APSS)

First patient treated on 22 Oct. 2014



Software: Treatment Planning

(Effective) Dose Optimization



Imaging:
CT scan
and/or PET-CT)

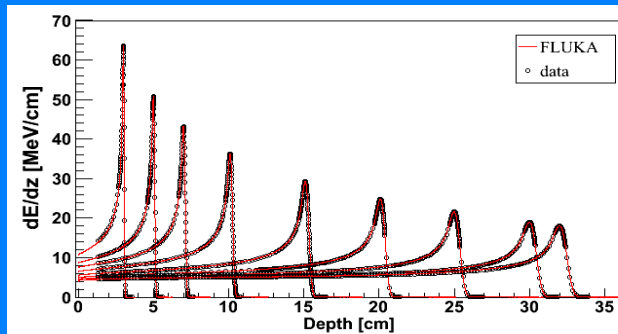
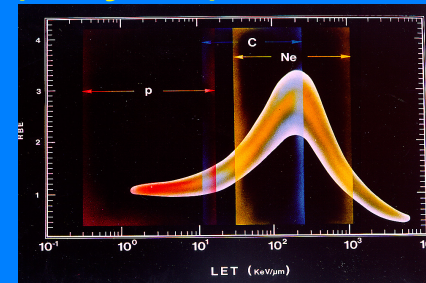
Electron density

Radiotherapist:
identification of Target Volume
and of Organs at Risk

Nuclear Physics:
Dose vs Depth
hadron/nucleus scattering:
fragments etc.

**Treatment
Planning System**

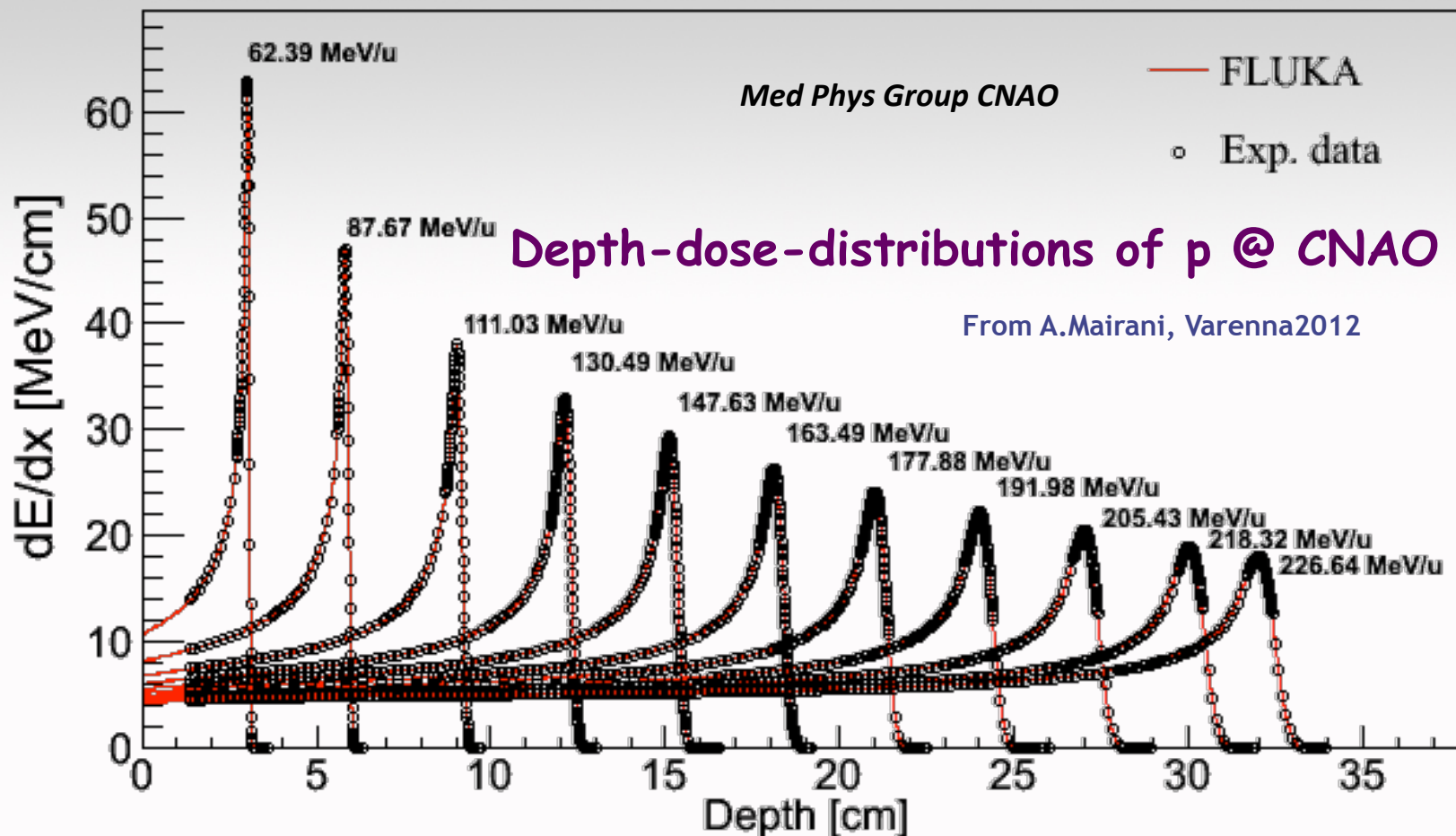
Radiobiology:
RBE parameters
OER (not yet...)



**Intensity, position and energies
to be delivered
to patient**

Generation of TPS databases: HIT, CNAO, ...

Used for generating p, ^{12}C dose vs depth databases then used for TP



Experimental verification in water wo/with RiFi for the 147 energies in the initial phase of the operation

Tx Course 0

- Image Sets
- Volumes
- Reference Points
- Tx Plans
 - Patch_Pro...eff
 - Carbon eff
 - Beam1
 - Beam2
 - Plan_Proton eff
 - FxSeq1
 - FxSeq1-REP...
- Vx Plans

TX-PLANNING

Optimization

Review & Compare

1 **Review** eff

Carbon

Beam Dose Selection

Beam1

Image Set

Schädel nativ 3.0 H40s

Advanced Settings

2 **Comparison** abs

Carbon

Beam Dose Selection

Beam1

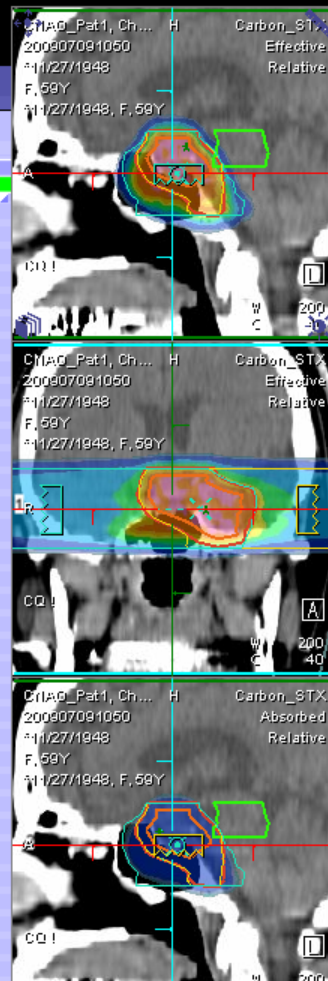
Image Set

Schädel nativ 3.0 H40s

Advanced Settings

1+2 **Combination**

Image Set



CNAO_Pat1, Chordom 200907091050 F, 59Y 11/27/1948, F, 59Y

Carbon_STX Effective Relative

CNAO_Pat1, Chordom 200907091050 F, 59Y 11/27/1948, F, 59Y

Carbon_STX Absorbed Relative

Radioonkologie Heidelberg Ref.: Allg. Ambulanz Klin. Rad. Sensation 4 VA47C Carbon_STX Effective Relative

100% = 20.00 GyE
* Loc = 21.26 GyE
* Glob = 21.84 GyE

W 200 C 40

Radioonkologie Heidelberg Ref.: Allg. Ambulanz Klin. Rad. Sensation 4 VA47C Carbon_STX Absorbed Relative

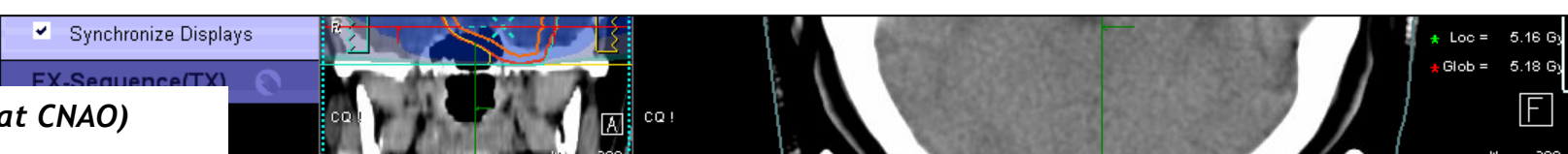
W 200 C 40

TPS is directly related to scanning modality and RBE evaluation model

Need to include management of moving organs and integration of in-room imaging

Synchronize Displays

FX-Sequence(TX)

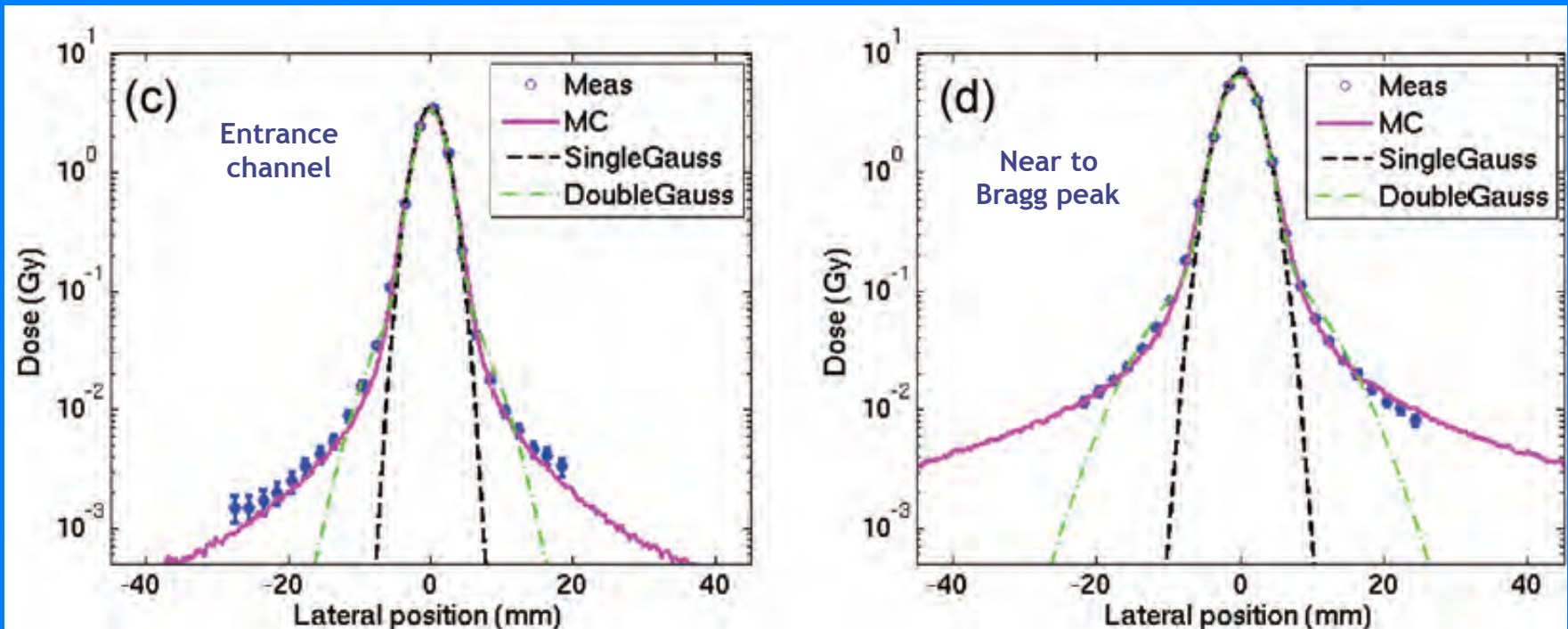


(TPS used at CNAO)

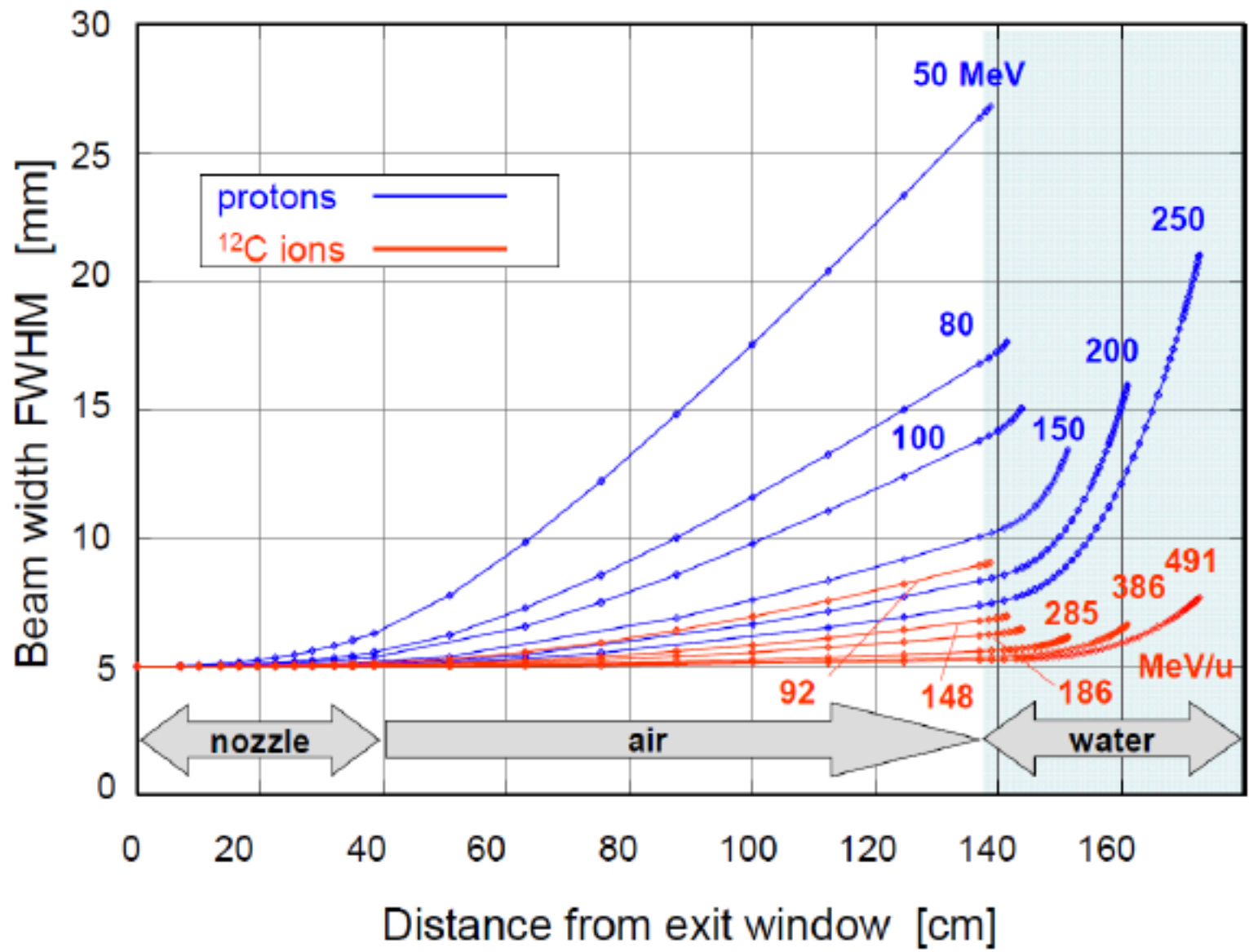
Ion Therapy: the lateral scattering

^{12}C @ 299.94 MeV/u

K. Parodi et al Journal of Radiation Research, 2013, 54, i91–i96



Measured lateral distributions with corresponding MC simulations (normalized to the data) for carbon ion 299.94 MeV/u beams in water, sampled at a depth of ~ 1.5 cm in the entrance channel (left, c) and of ~ 16.5 cm shortly before the Bragg peak (right, d). The double Gauss fit of the experimental data is also shown in comparison to the single Gauss approximation.



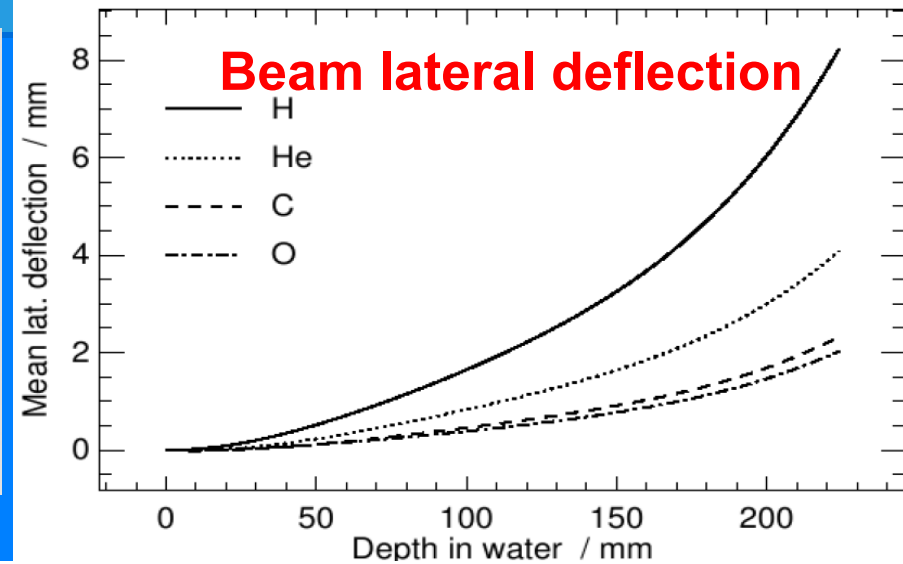
New ion beams proposed for therapy



Fröhlic⁴He
Weihnacht!

16O

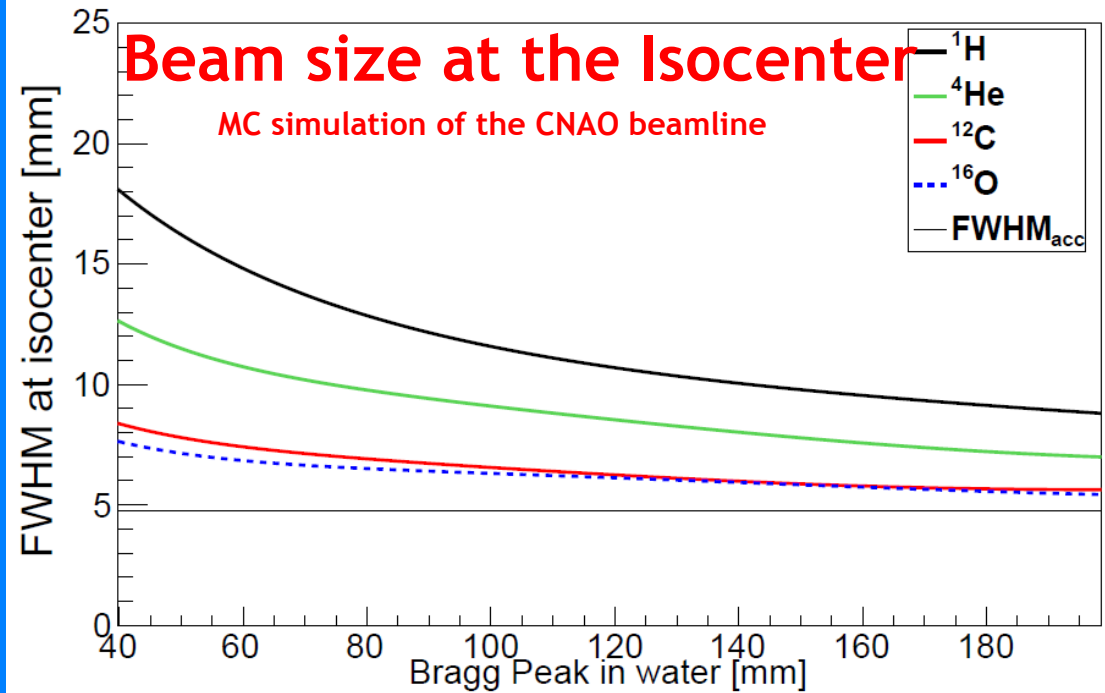
HIT, 10.12.2010

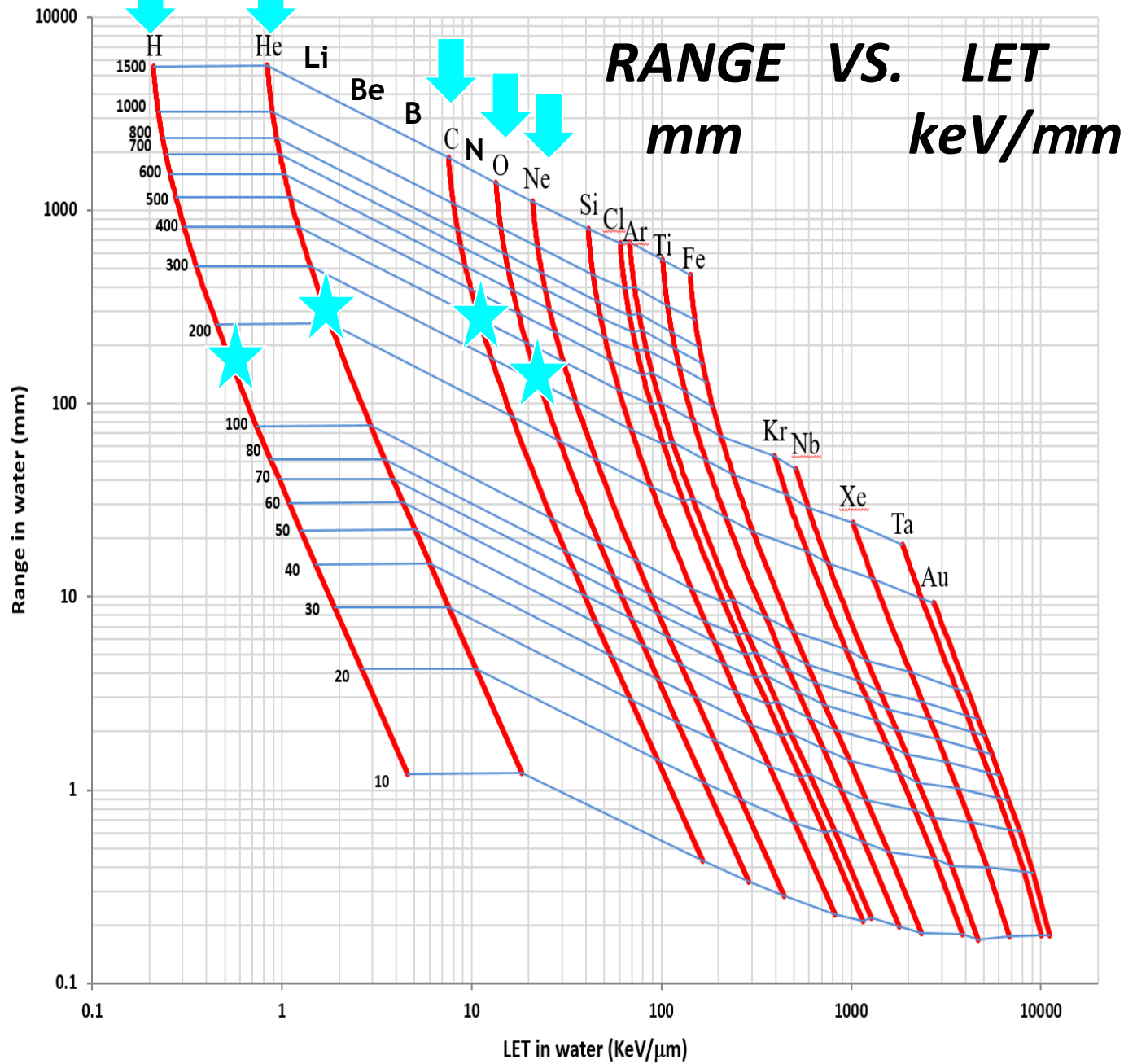


⁴He (50-300 MeV/u):
negligible fragmentation,
higher RBE than protons, but
more limited lateral scattering

¹⁶O (100-500 MeV/u):
to be used in particular case
where high-LET is needed
hypoxical tumors

*For a discussion of New Ions in
therapy: F. Tommasino, E. Scifoni,
and M. Durante, Int. J. Particle
Ther. 2015 2:3, 428-438*





NSRL BEAMS
 Brookhaven
 National
 Laboratory

Adam Rusek
 2015

The contribute of physics to particle therapy development

There is still a significant fraction of people in the clinical community who consider hadrontherapy (ion therapy) too complicate, too expensive, not able to reach in practice the expected high level of precision, not yet in the realm of evidence-based medicine

Nuclear Physics European Collaboration Committee (NuPECC)

Nuclear Physics for Medicine

paradigmatic case of a topic in between research and actual clinical practice, where the contribution coming from physicists remains fundamental

A case for research: Range Uncertainties

Stochastic

Systematic

- Energy uncertainty
- Patient positioning
- Moving target

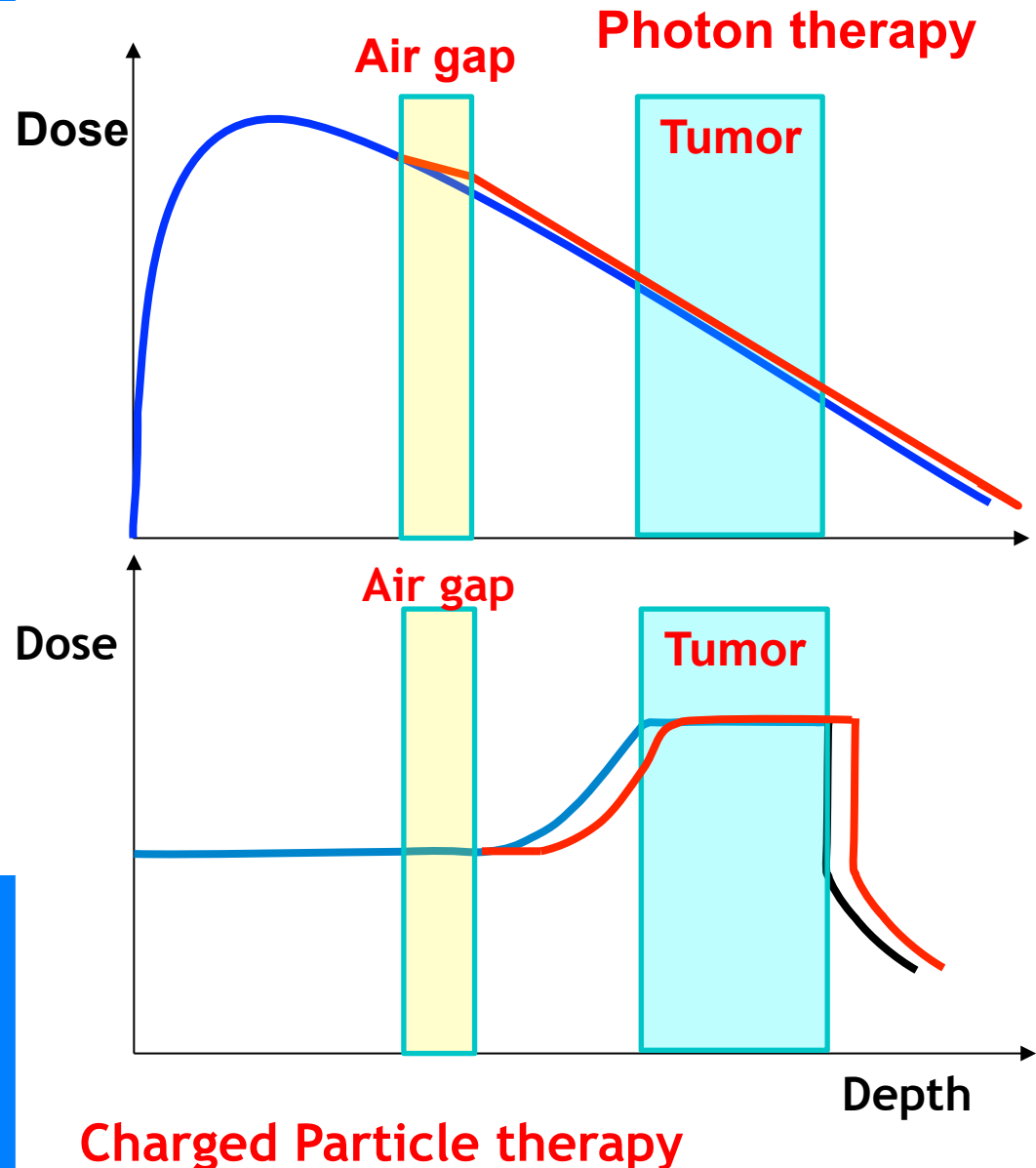
• **Anatomical changes**

- CT scan calibration
- CT artefacts
- RBE changes

Planning uncertainty > 5 mm (typical margin of 3.5% + 2 mm)

Range Uncertainties and Anatomical Changes

- Limitations of CT data (beam hardening, noise, resolution etc)
- **Uncertainty in energy dependent RBE**
- **Calibration of CT to stopping power**
- CT artifacts
- **Variations in patient anatomy**
- **In-homogeneity along the beam path**
- Variations in ion beam energy
- Variations in patient positioning

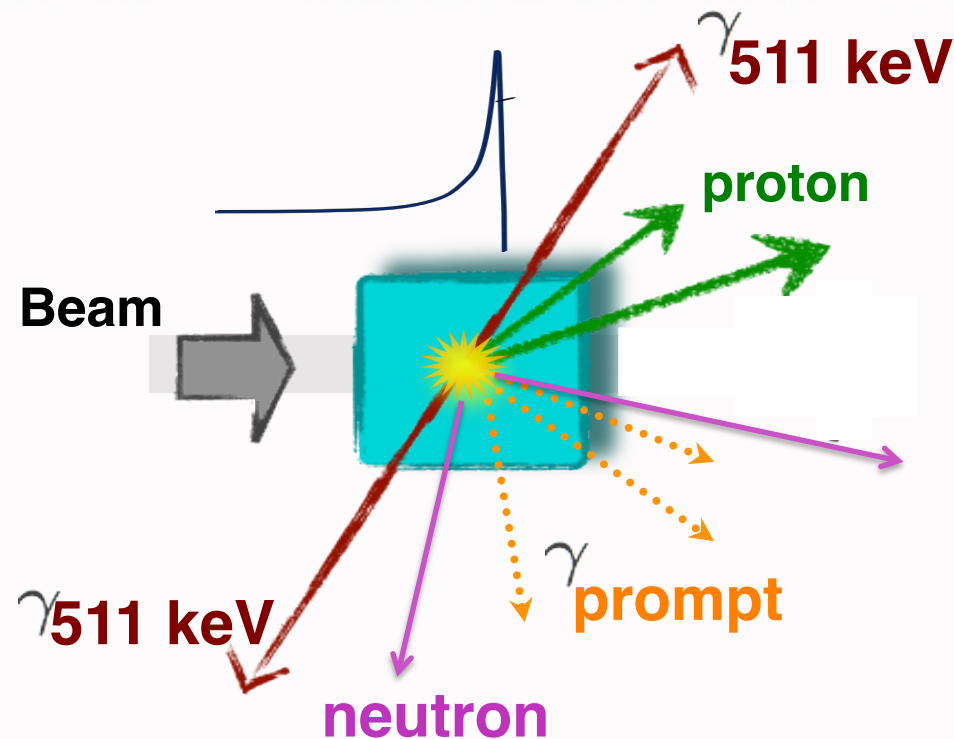


Help from Nuclear Physics: exploiting secondary products

The therapeutic beam is absorbed inside the patient: a monitor device can rely on secondaries, generated by the beam coming out from the patient. The p, ^{12}C beams generate a huge amount of secondaries: **prompt γ s**, **PET- γ s**, **neutrons** and **charged particles/fragments**

Activity of β^+ emitters is the baseline approach

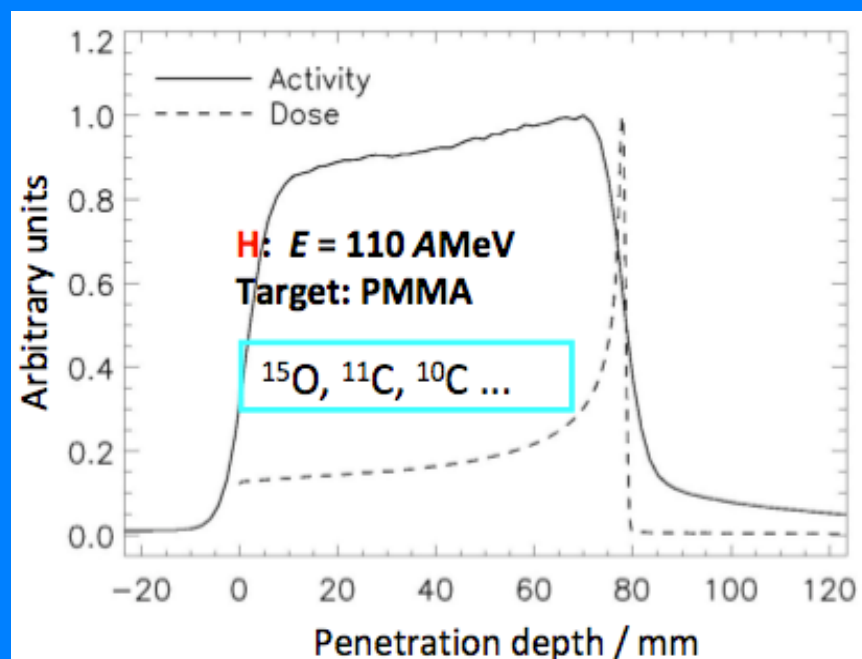
- Isotopes of short lifetime ^{11}C (20 min), ^{15}O (2 min), ^{10}C (20 s) with respect to conventional PET (hours)
- Low activity asks for quite a long acquisition time (some minutes at minimum) with difficult in-beam feedback
- Metabolic wash-out, the β^+ emitters are blurred by the patient metabolism



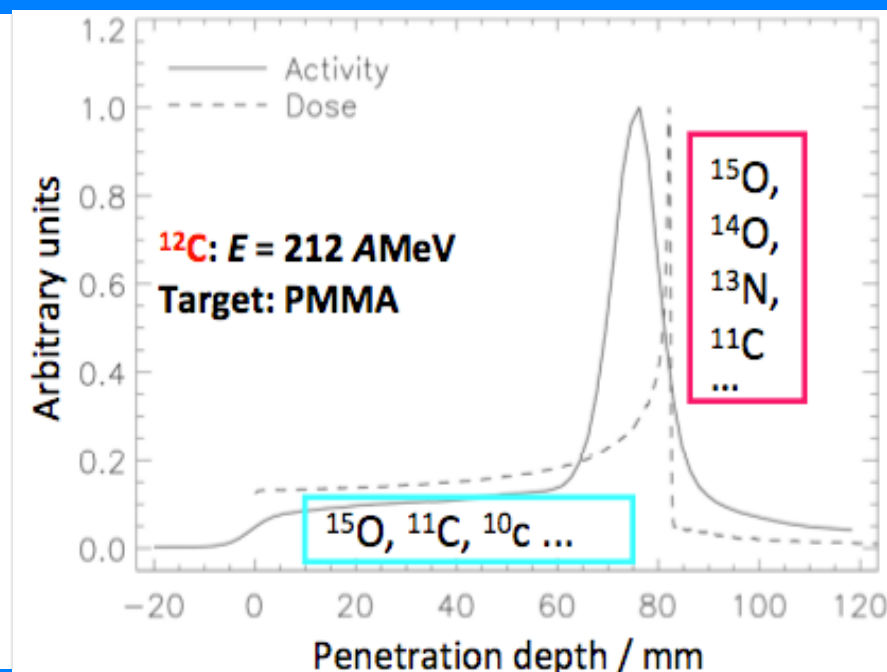
Main example: correlation between β^+ activity and dose profile

Therapy beam	^1H	^3He	^7Li	^{12}C	^{16}O	Nuclear medicine
Activity density / $\text{Bq cm}^{-3} \text{ Gy}^{-1}$	6600	5300	3060	1600	1030	$10^4 - 10^5 \text{ Bq cm}^{-3}$

Target fragmentation

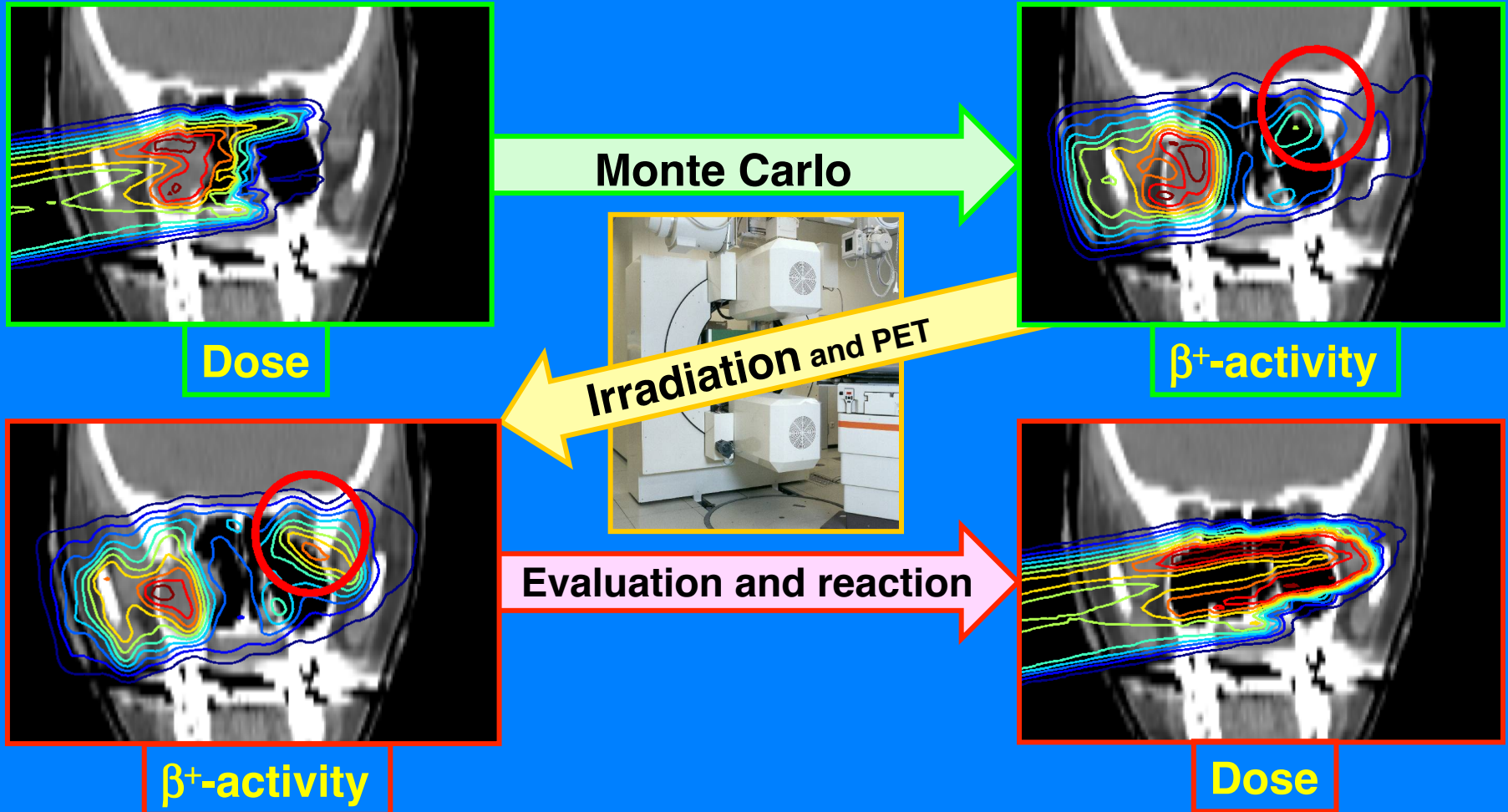


Projectiles & target fragmentation



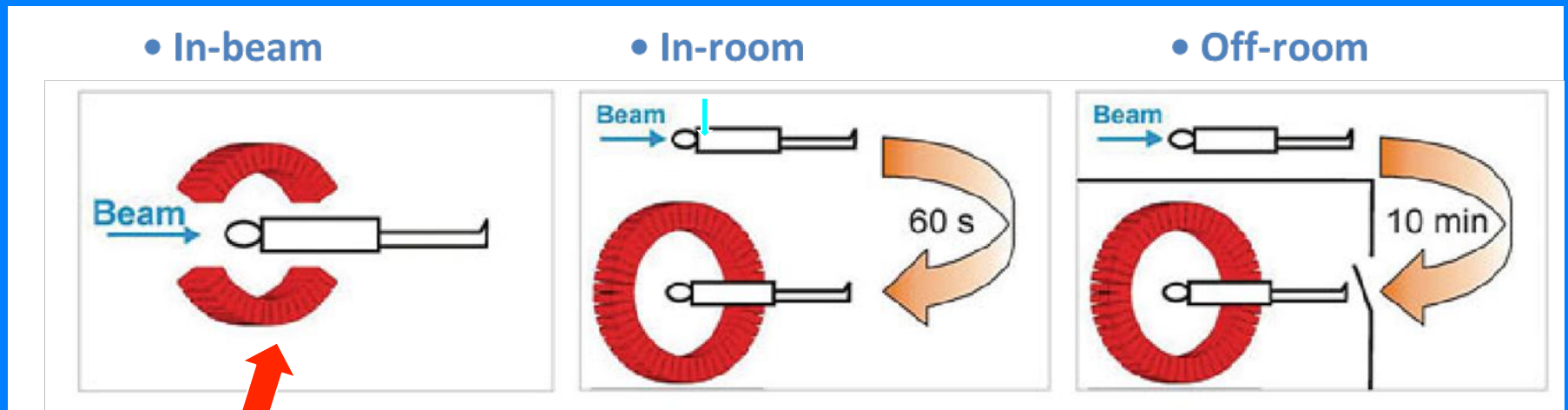
In-Vivo range measurement with PET: workflow and potential

W. Enghardt et al.: Radiother. Oncol. 73 (2004) S96



Problem to solve: Metabolic Washout! In-beam measurement is really necessary, but difficult. Trade-off: in-room or off-room measurement after irradiation (Heidelberg for example)

Towards real in-beam measurement



Ambition

practice
@Heidelberg

Monte Carlo codes: the need for exp. data

MC are becoming more and more fundamental for:

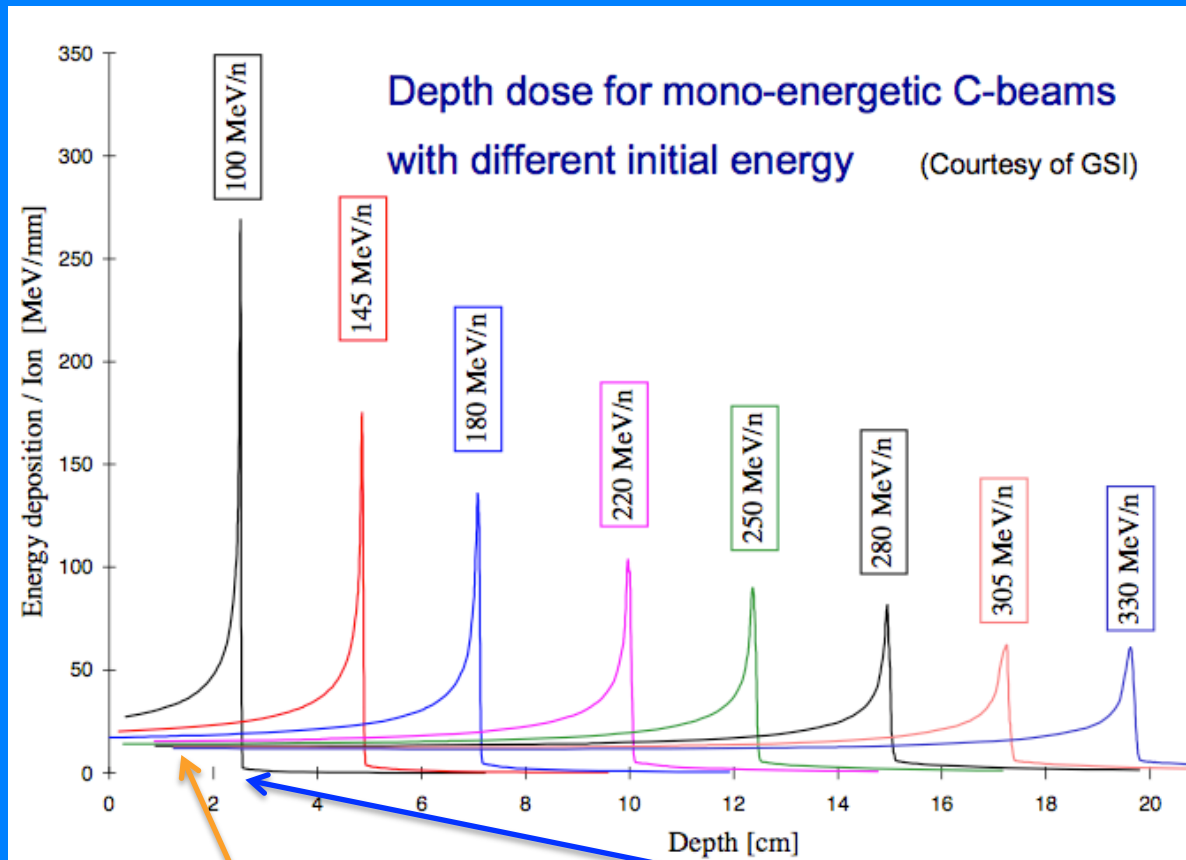
- **startup and commissioning of new facilities and beam line stuides**
- **database generation for Treatment Planning System commissioning**
- **Treatment Planning verification (and correction)**
- **Prediction and analysis of secondary production by hadron beams for monitoring purposes**
- **Study of detector response**

Main important features

- **Physics**
- **Overcoming Water Equivalent Path Length approximations**
- **Accurate 3D tracking**
- **Detailed description of actual patient geometry: → CT images directly read as input**

Main Challenges: **Nuclear physics models and exp cross sections for validation, Coupling with Radiobiological models, Computing time...**

Recent thin target, Double Diff Cross Section C-C measurements



The community is exploring the interesting region for therapeutic application, in particular for the ^{12}C beam.

Yet there is a lot of energy range to explore in the range 150-350 AMeV (i.e. 5-17 cm of range...)

LNS 62A MeV C beam
(2009)

GANIL 95A MeV C beam -
E600 collaboration (2011)

GANIL 50A MeV C beam

What clinicians ask today to Particle Therapy

- High quality clinical data for high level evidence
- Health economic assessments; global epidemiological assessments
- Improved clinical research structures, including IT
- Radiobiological core data (e.g. RBE)
- Integration into precision medicine era (e.g. biomarkers, combined modality effects)
- Range uncertainty reduced
- Control of organ motion, of anatomic changes during treatment, of biological changes during treatment
- Full image guided adaptive RT equipment
- Lower cost



M. Baumann



Taking full advantage of particle therapy in terms of physics requires:

- ✓ Full image guidance (real time)
- ✓ Reduced range uncertainties (real time beam imaging)
- ✓ In vivo dosimetry
- ✓ Highest level treatment planning
- ✓ Adaptive algorithms including all items above
- ✓ Very rapid and exact dose delivery (repainting, tracking)
- ✓ Reliable simulation tools (and fast !!)
- ✓ ...

Hardware + Software

Some research issues to be addressed with the help of Physicists

- Biologically oriented Treatment Planning
- Fast MC (including MC treatment planning)
- Ultrafast treatments -> Higher intensity beams
- Treatment of moving organs
- Hypofractionation, Radiosurgery (single fractions for cancer and non-cancer diseases)  Range check mandatory
- Image-guided hadrontherapy
- Fully assessed Range Monitoring techniques
- Dose verification methods
- Accelerator developments and cost reduction
 - New components
 - Compact acceleration systems
 - Future: new acceleration techniques towards more compact structures  Laser driven Plasma acceleration ?



Thank you for the attention

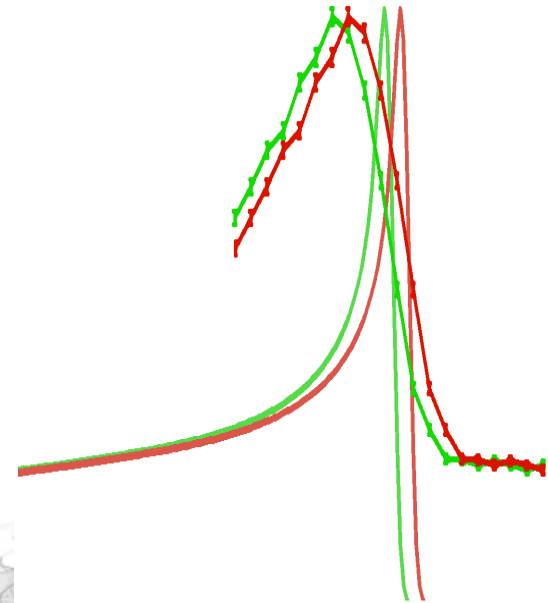
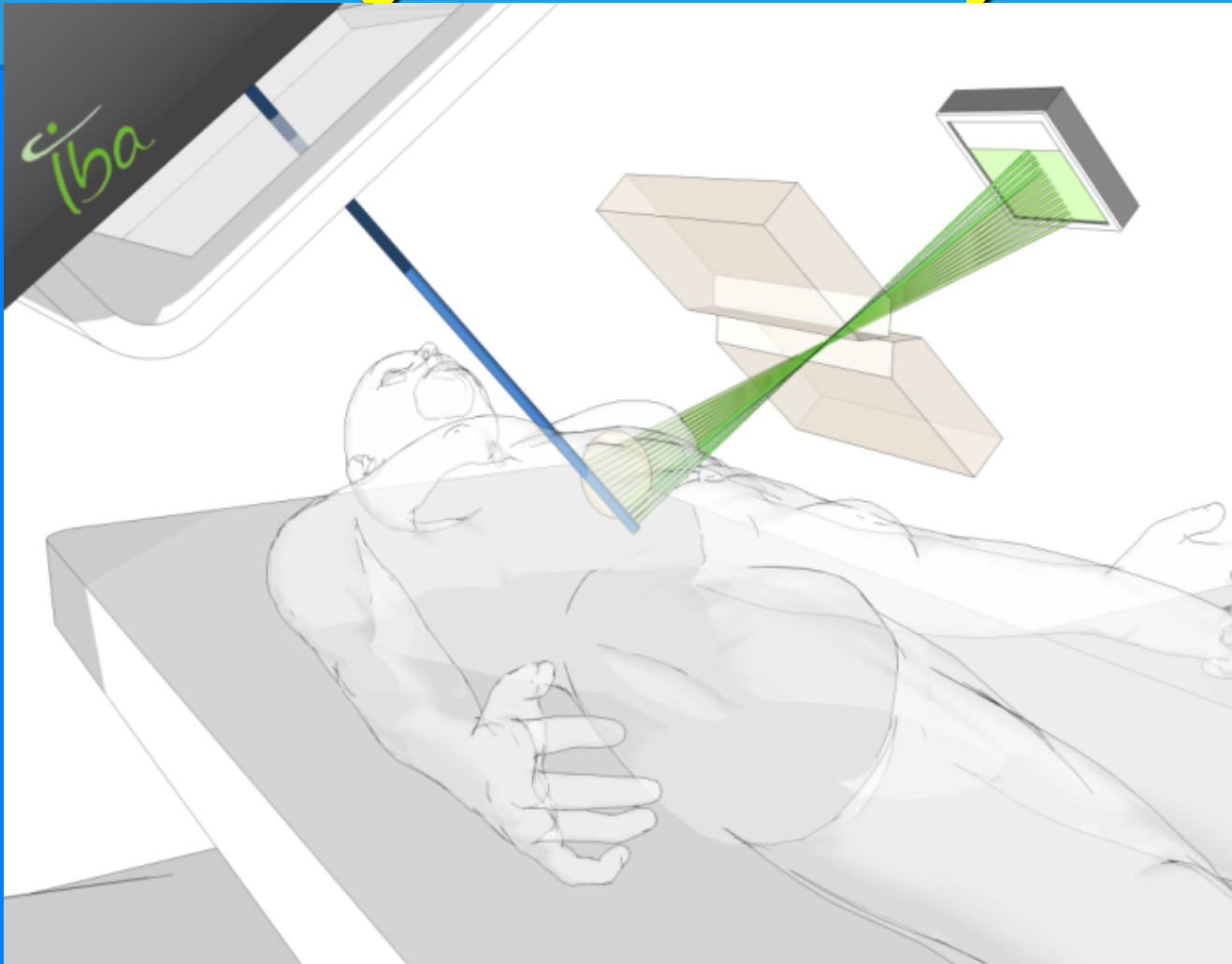
Acknowledgements:

V. Patera (INFN, UniRm1, Centro Fermi),

A. Mairani, M. Pullia, S. Rossi (CNAO), M. Schwarz (APSS, Trento),

I. Mattei, S. Valle (INFN-Mi), S. Muraro (INFN-Pi)

Knife-edge-slit camera by IBA



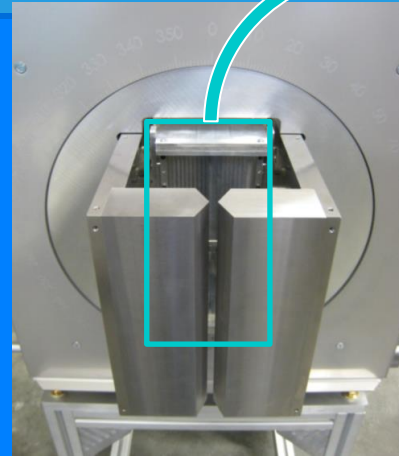
Collimator, software
and project PI



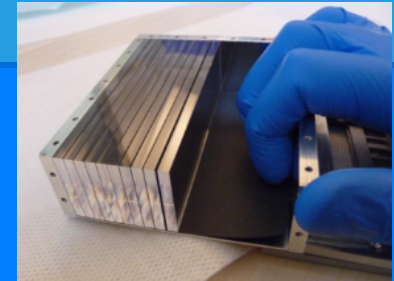
The Gamma camera: detector and electronics



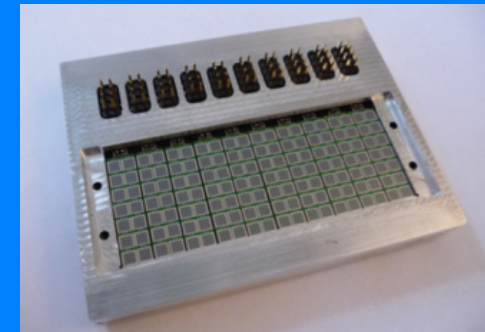
Detector and Electronics



53 kg W collimator for a 10 cm FOV



500 cm³ LYSO distributed in 2 rows of 20 slabs

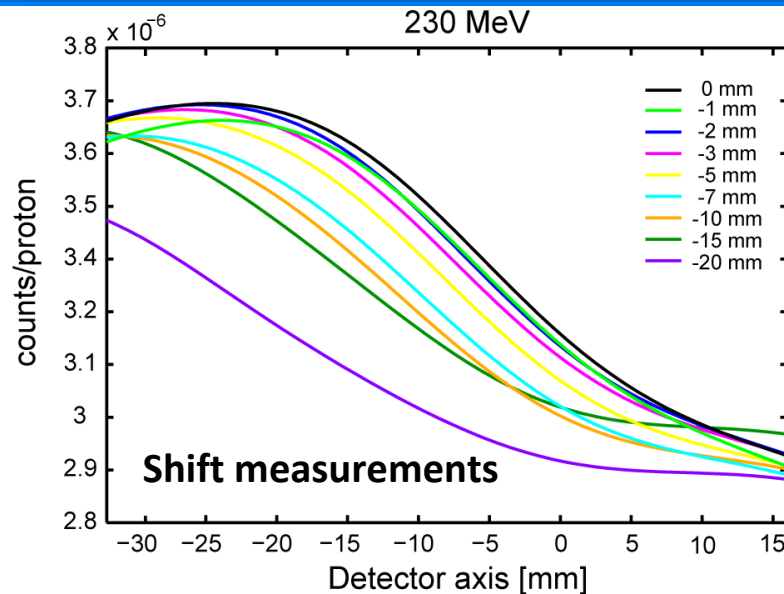


Light readout of one extremity of each LYSO slab by a row of 7 SiPM



40 independent acquisition channels operating in two modes (slow calibration and fast counting)

Experimental Validation



Clinical partner

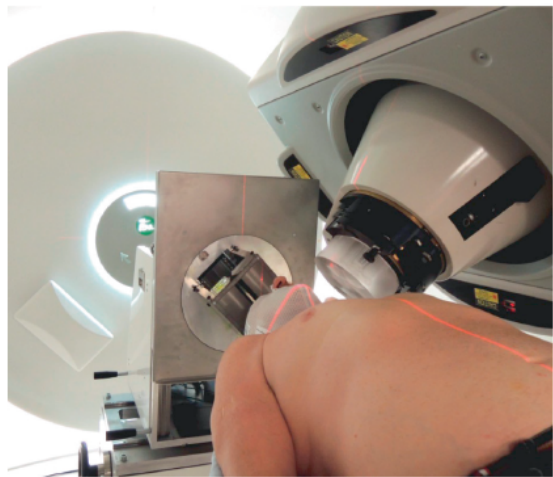


Fig. 1. PGI slit camera trolley (upper row) and its application during patient treatment (lower row).



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Original article

First clinical application of a prompt gamma based *in vivo* proton range verification system

Christian Richter^{a,b,c,d,e,*}, Guntram Pausch^{a,b,c}, Steffen Barczyk^{a,b}, Marlen Priegnitz^c, Isabell Keitz^a, Julia Thiele^b, Julien Smeets^f, Francois Vander Stappen^f, Luca Bombelli^g, Carlo Fiorini^h, Lucian Hotoiu^f, Irene Perali^h, Damien Prieels^f, Wolfgang Enghardt^{a,b,c,d,e}, Michael Baumann^{a,b,c,d,e}

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