



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

L'adroterapia e la ricerca in fisica medica a LNS

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Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare*

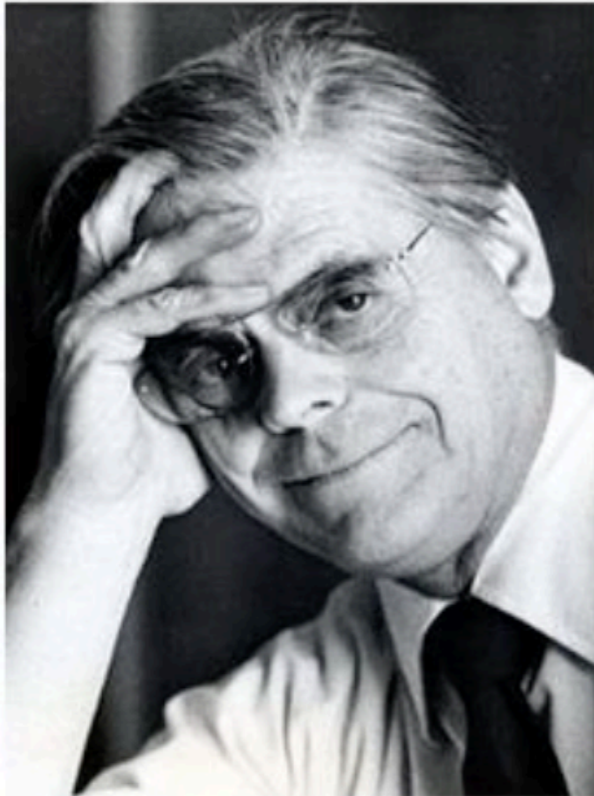
Indice

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- Gli albori dell'adroterapia
- La fisica e la biologia alla base dei trattamenti
- Catania per il trattamento del melanoma oculare
- La ricerca in fisica medica
- Il futuro dell'adroterapia

Un pò di storia

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Robert Rathbun Wilson

1946: R. Wilson propone per la prima volta l'utilizzo di fasci di protoni e ioni per applicazioni terapeutiche

R. Wilson, Radiological use of fast protons, Radiology 47, 487-491, 1946

Radiological Use of Fast Protons

ROBERT R. WILSON

Research Laboratory of Physics, Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

EXCEPT FOR electrons, the particles which have been accelerated to high energies by machines such as cyclotrons or Van de Graaff generators have not been directly used therapeutically. Rather, the neutrons, gamma rays, or artificial radioactivities produced in various reactions of the primary particles have been applied to medical problems. This has, in large part, been due to the very short

per centimeter of path, or specific ionization, and this varies almost inversely with the energy of the proton. Thus the specific ionization or dose is many times less where the proton enters the tissue at high energy than it is in the last centimeter of the path where the ion is brought to rest.

These properties make it possible to irradiate intensely a strictly localized region within the body, with but little



1954: Presso il Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory viene trattato il primo paziente

Un pò di storia

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I primi centri di adroterapia nascono nei grandi laboratori di fisica nucleare e particellare

- 1957: Uppsala (Sweden);
- 1961: Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Cyclotron Laboratory (USA);
- 1967: Dubna (Russia);
- 1979: Chiba (Japan);
- 1985: Villigen (Switzerland).

1990: the first hospital-based proton therapy facility at Loma Linda University Medical Center (LLUMC).

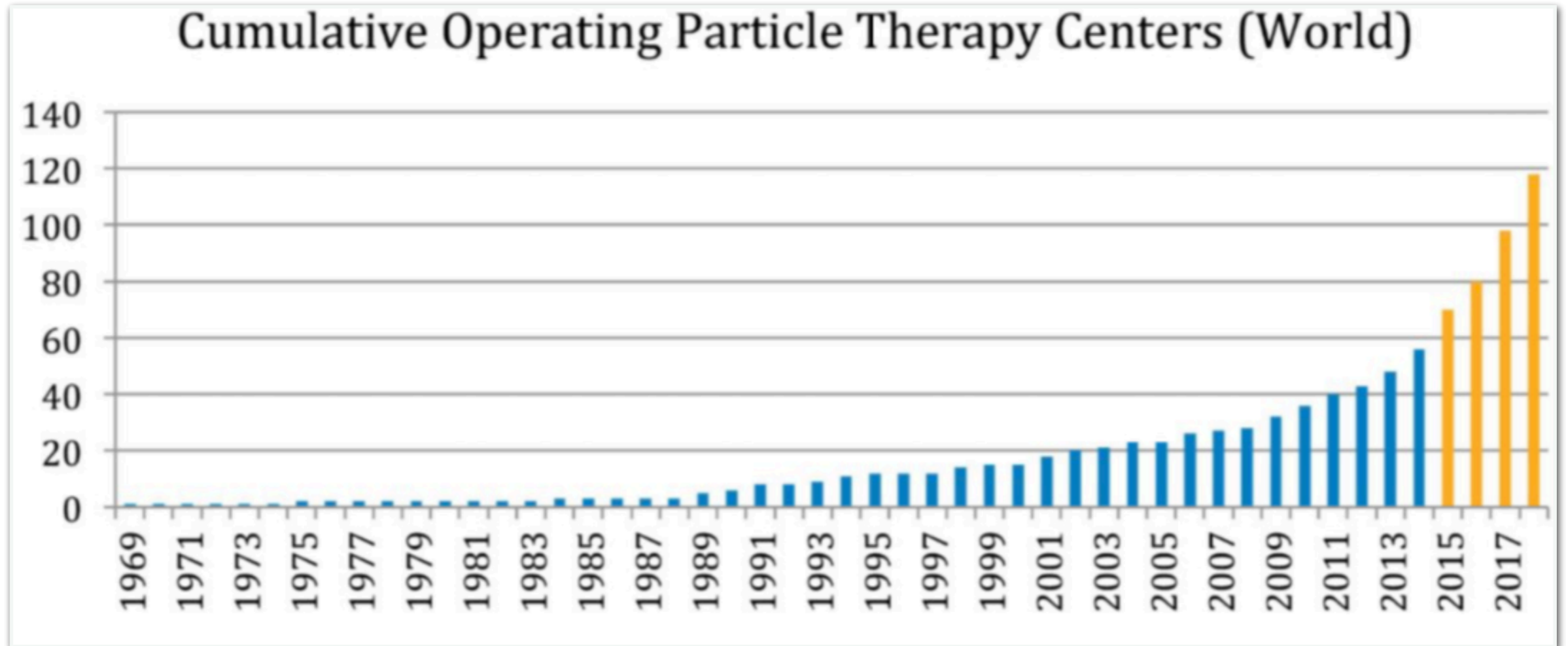


LLUMC (California, USA)

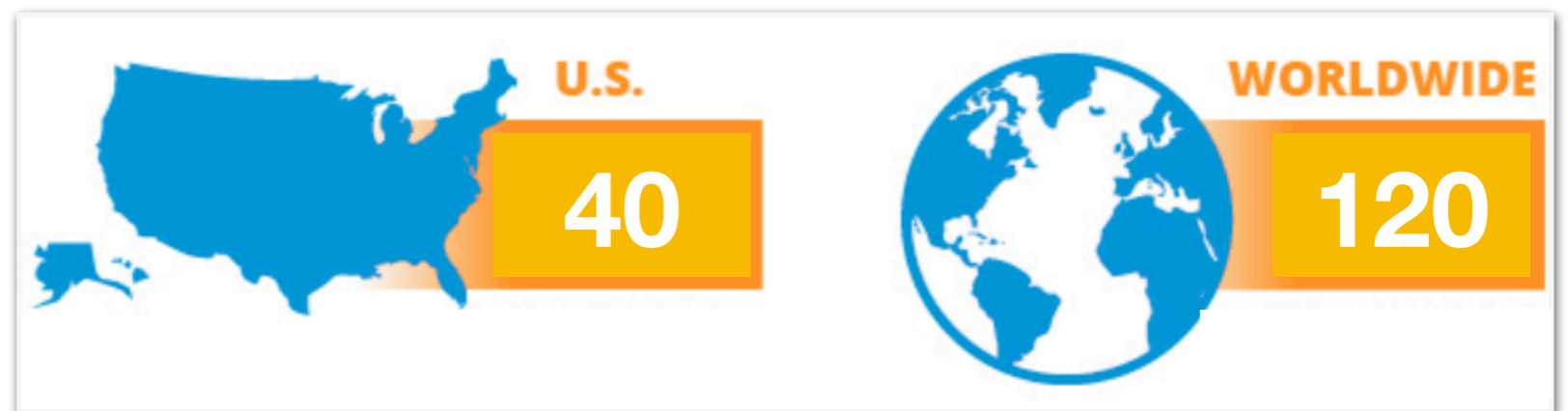


I centri di adroterapia nel mondo

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Particle Therapy
Co-Operative Group
(PTCOG)



Due aspetti importanti

- **La fisica: i meccanismi di rilascio energetico nei tessuti**
- **La biologia: il danneggiamento cellulare**

Interazione radiazione-materia: Beth-Block

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Il trasferimento di energia ai tessuti si basa essenzialmente su:

* Interazioni di tipo Coulombiano (Stopping)

i protoni interagiscono con gli elettroni appartenenti alle shell più esterne degli atomi che compongono i tessuti
→ **fenomeni di eccitazione e ionizzazione degli atomi**
→ **i protoni rallentano** → viene persa circa l'80%-90% dell'energia

- loss per interaction small -> **continuously slow down**
- secondary electrons have range < 1mm -> **dose absorbed locally**

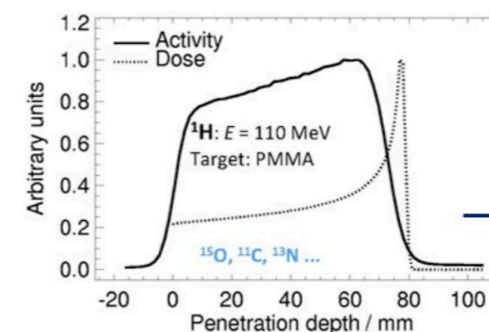
Energy loss is given by **Bethe-Bloch equation**:

$$-\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = K z^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 T_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta(\beta\gamma)}{2} \right]$$

* Reazioni Nucleari

interazioni non elastiche con i nuclei che compongono i tessuti (viene persa circa il 5-20% dell'energia) → vengono prodotte particelle secondarie

- protons, α , recoils nuclei, γ -rays (nuclei excitation), **neutrons** -> **radiation safety**
- **radioactive isotopes (tissue activation)**, es. ^{15}O , ^{11}C , ^{13}N (β^+ -emitters) -> from isotopes activity 3D **dose verification** with PET/CT



K. Parodi et al., IEEE MIC CR, 2002

→ Proton beam @ 110 MeV

Interazione radiazione-materia: Beth-Block

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[see e.g. PDG 2010]

$$-\left\langle \frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = K z^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 T_{\max}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta(\beta\gamma)}{2} \right] [\cdot \rho]$$

density

$$K = 4\pi N_A r_e^2 m_e c^2 = 0.307 \text{ MeV g}^{-1} \text{ cm}^2$$

$$N_A = 6.022 \cdot 10^{23}$$

$$T_{\max} = 2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 / (1 + 2\gamma m_e/M + (m_e/M)^2)$$

[Max. energy transfer in single collision]

[Avogadro's number]

$$r_e = e^2 / 4\pi\epsilon_0 m_e c^2 = 2.8 \text{ fm}$$

[Classical electron radius]

$$m_e = 511 \text{ keV}$$

[Electron mass]

z : Charge of incident particle

$$\beta = v/c$$

[Velocity]

M : Mass of incident particle

$$\gamma = (1 - \beta^2)^{-2}$$

[Lorentz factor]

Z : Charge number of medium

A : Atomic mass of medium

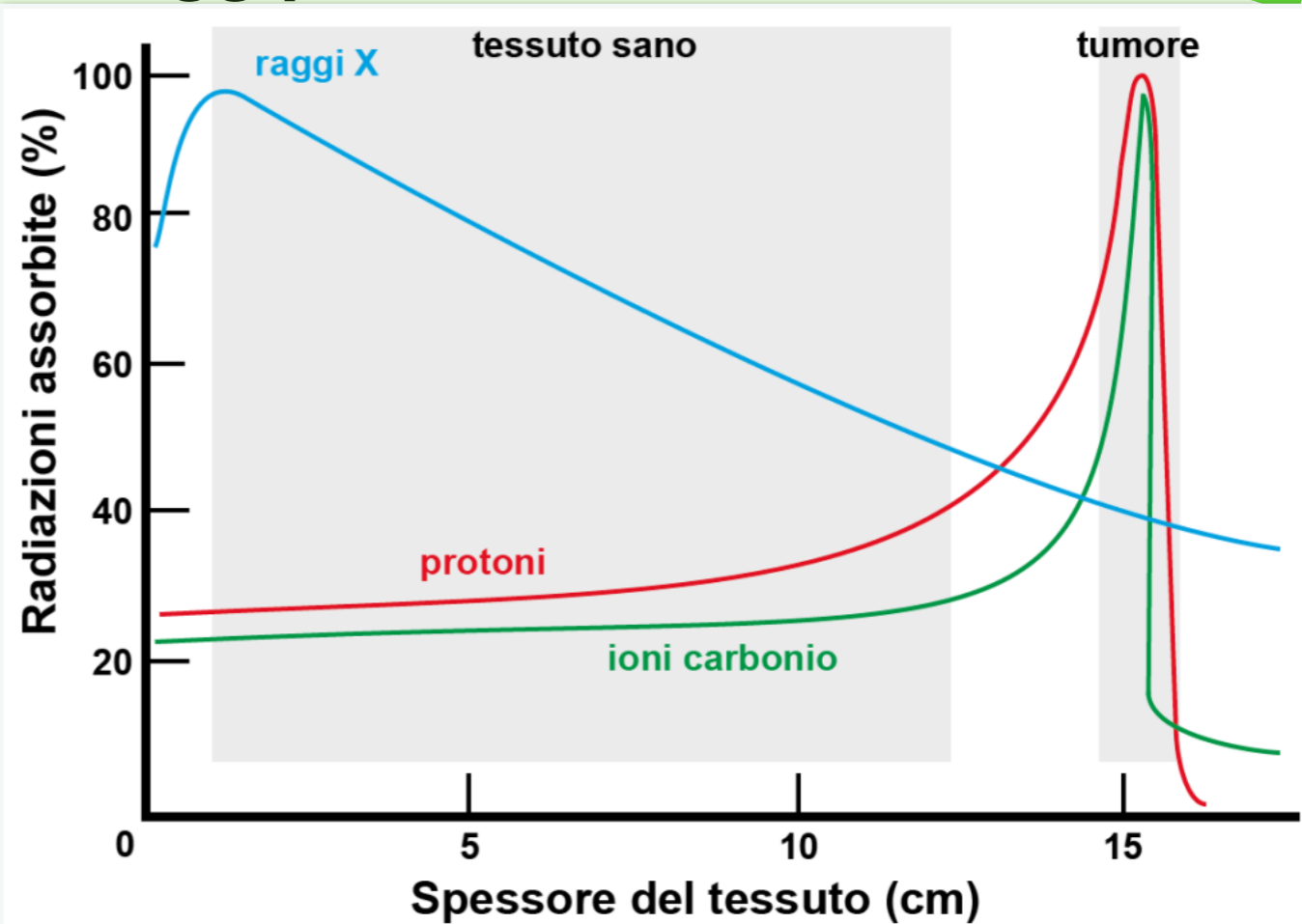
I : Mean excitation energy of medium

δ : Density correction [transv. extension of electric field]

Validity:
 $.05 < \beta\gamma < 500$
 $M > m_\mu$

Beth-Block Formula


Bragg peak



Una quantità importante: la dose

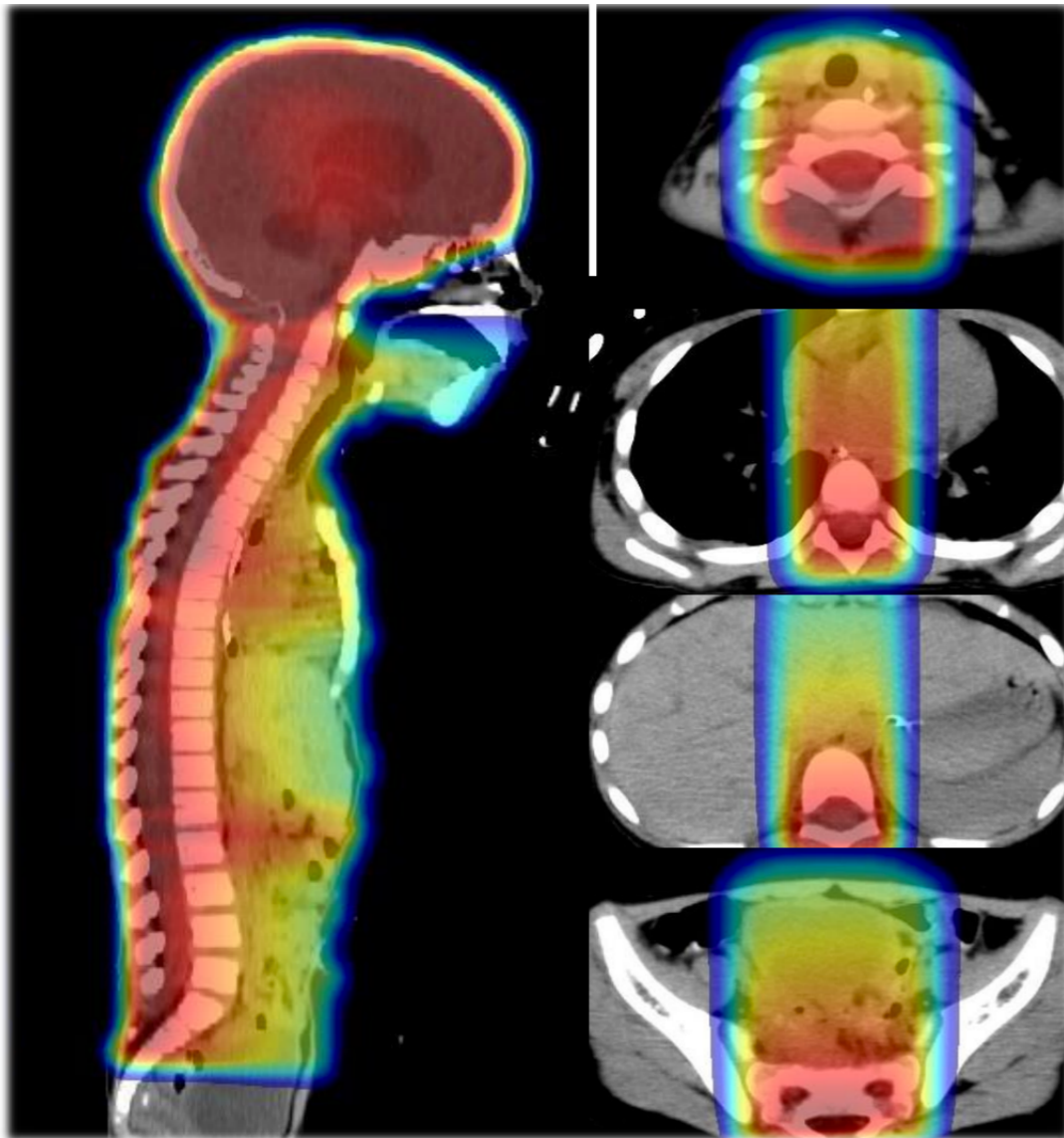
9

$$D = \frac{dE}{dm} \quad [Gy = J/Kg]$$

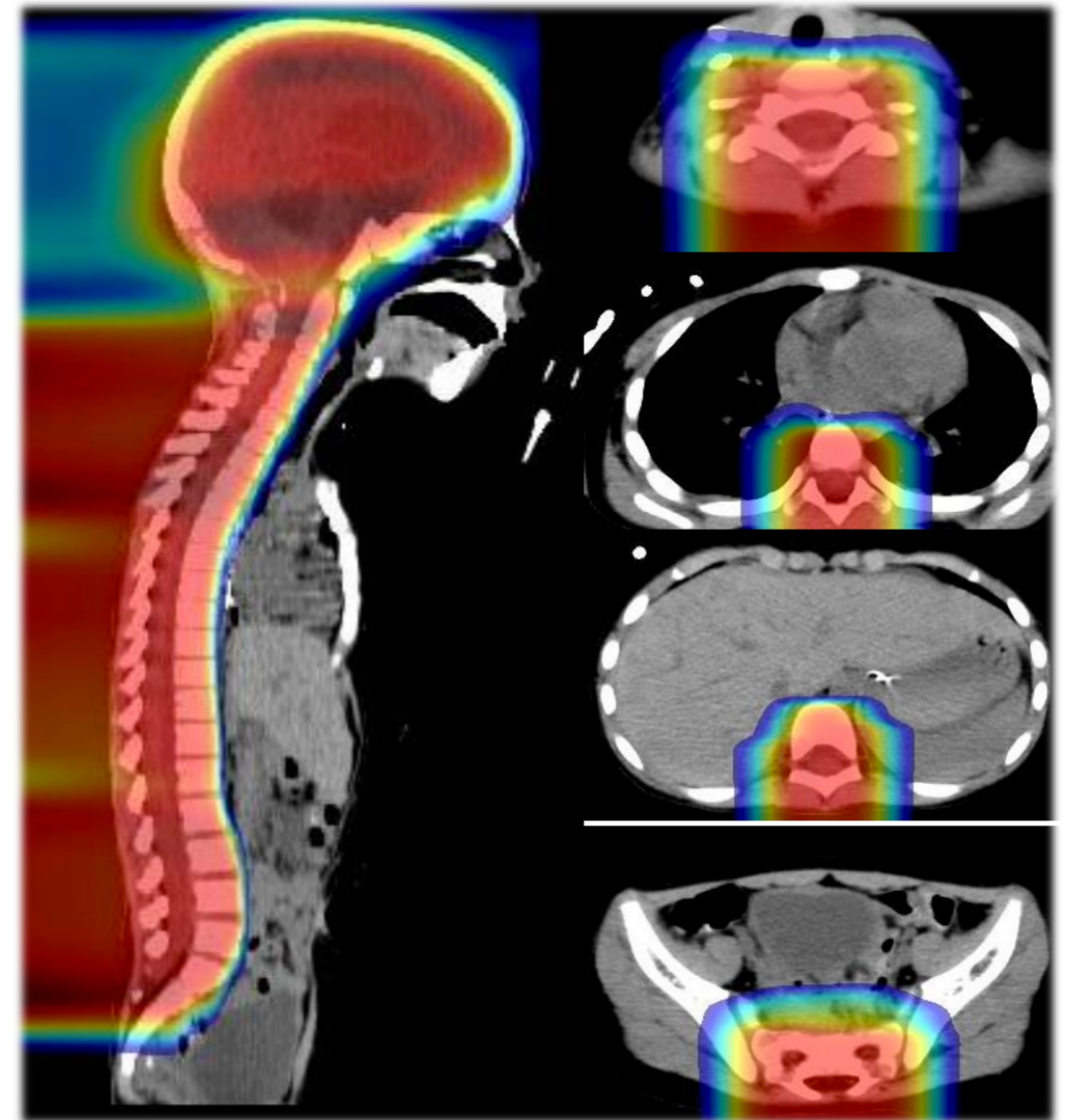
$$D_W(Gy) = \frac{1}{A} (S(E))_W \frac{Q}{e} 1.602 \cdot 10^{-10}$$


Radioterapia convenzionale Vs Protonterapia

10



x-Ray therapy



Protontherapy

Mirabell RA et al.

Potential reduction of the incidence of radiation-induced second cancers by using proton beams in the treatment of pediatric tumor,

Int. Jour. Rad. Onc. Phys. 2002, 54 (3) 824

Radioterapia convenzionale Vs Protonterapia

11

Vantaggi *fisici*:

- Range finito ed elevata densità di ionizzazione
- Basse dosi integrali

Vantaggi *clinici*:

- Trattamento di tumori in profondità posti in prossimità di organi a rischio
- Bassa probabilità di avere effetti collaterali
- Trattamento di elezione per i tumori pediatrici

Pediatric Medulloblastoma: The yearly risk of getting a secondary tumor was estimated to be 8 times greater with X-rays than with proton therapy²

Tumor Site	Proton Therapy	X-rays/IMRT
Stomach and esophagus	0%	11%
Colon	0%	7%
Breast	0%	0%
Lung	1%	7%
Thyroid	0%	6%
Bone and connective tissue	1%	2%
Leukemia	3%	5%
All Secondary Cancers	5%	43%

This chart compares the rates of secondary tumors for a pediatric patient treated for medulloblastoma.

Data shown are from a study that compared treatment plans.

IMRT= intensity modulated radiation therapy (a type of X-ray therapy)

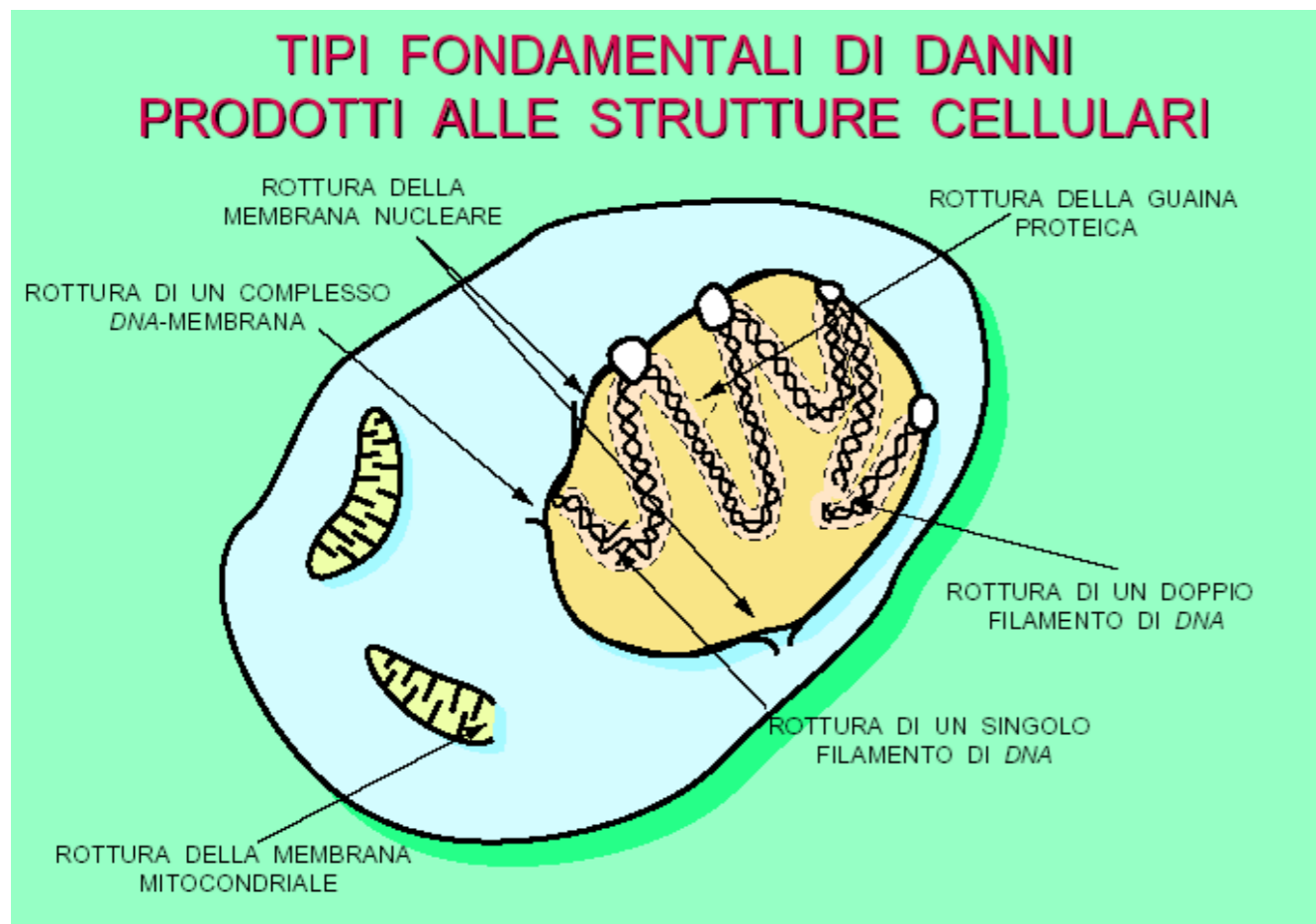
L'effetto biologico

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Le radiazioni ionizzanti possono danneggiare le cellule causandone talvolta la morte.

Esistono due tipi di danni:

- Stocastici (basse dosi/basso LET)
- Deterministici (alte dosi/alto LET)



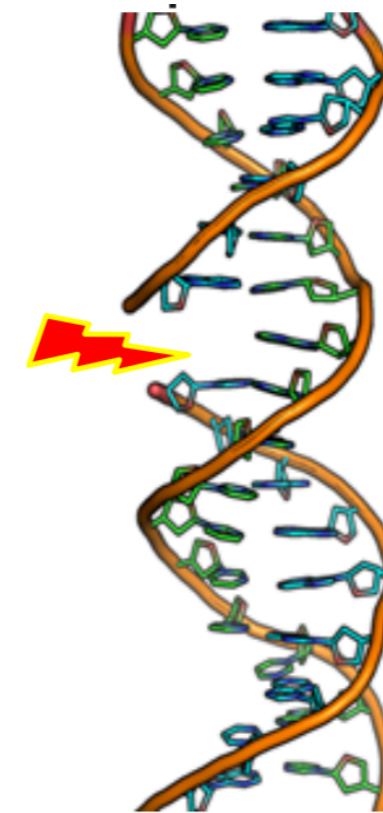
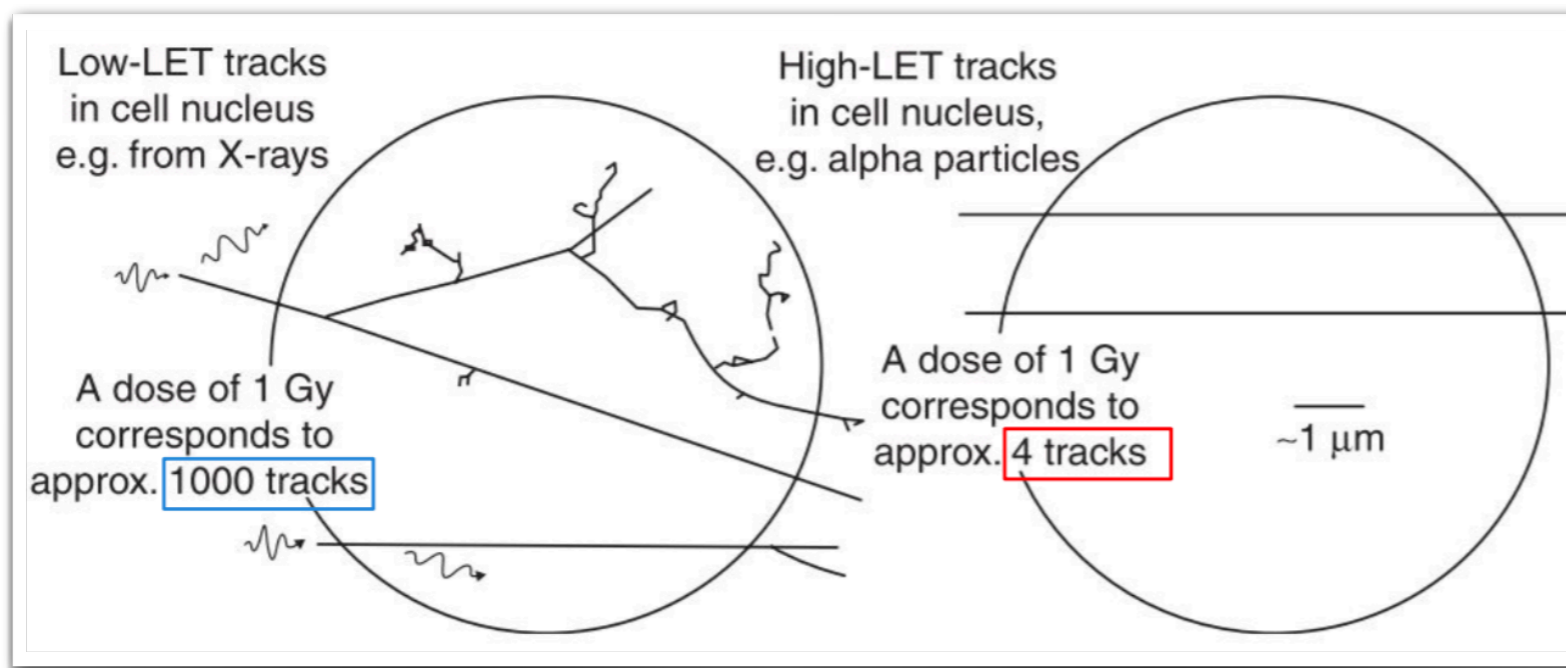
-10.0 sec
Fe_SIS_U2OS_NBS1_low angle_4

Il rilascio locale di energia

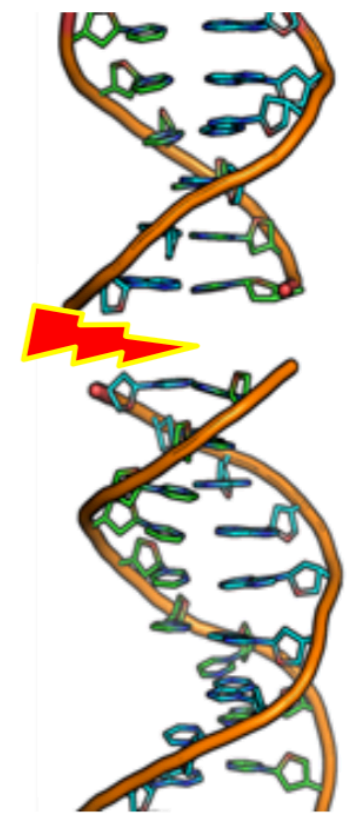
13

Linear Energy Transfer (LET)

$$LET = \frac{dE}{dl} \quad [\text{keV}/\mu\text{m}]$$



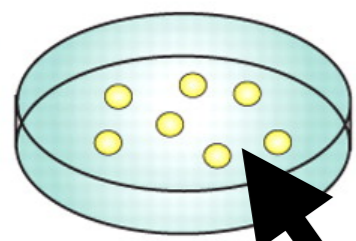
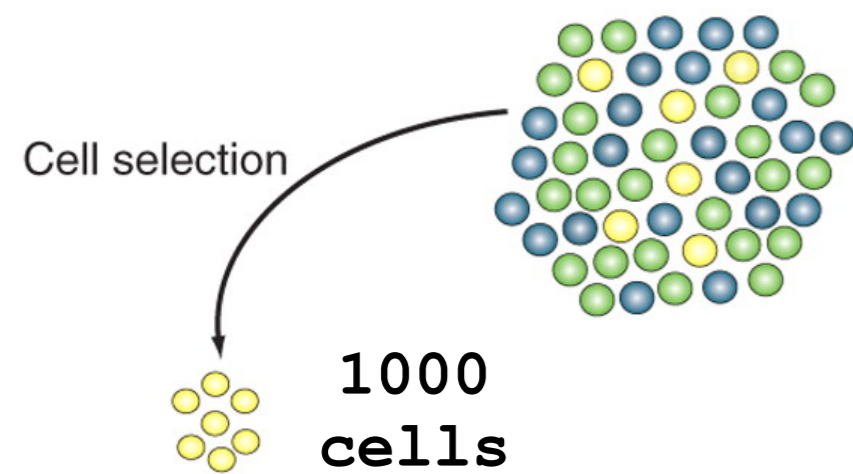
Basso LET



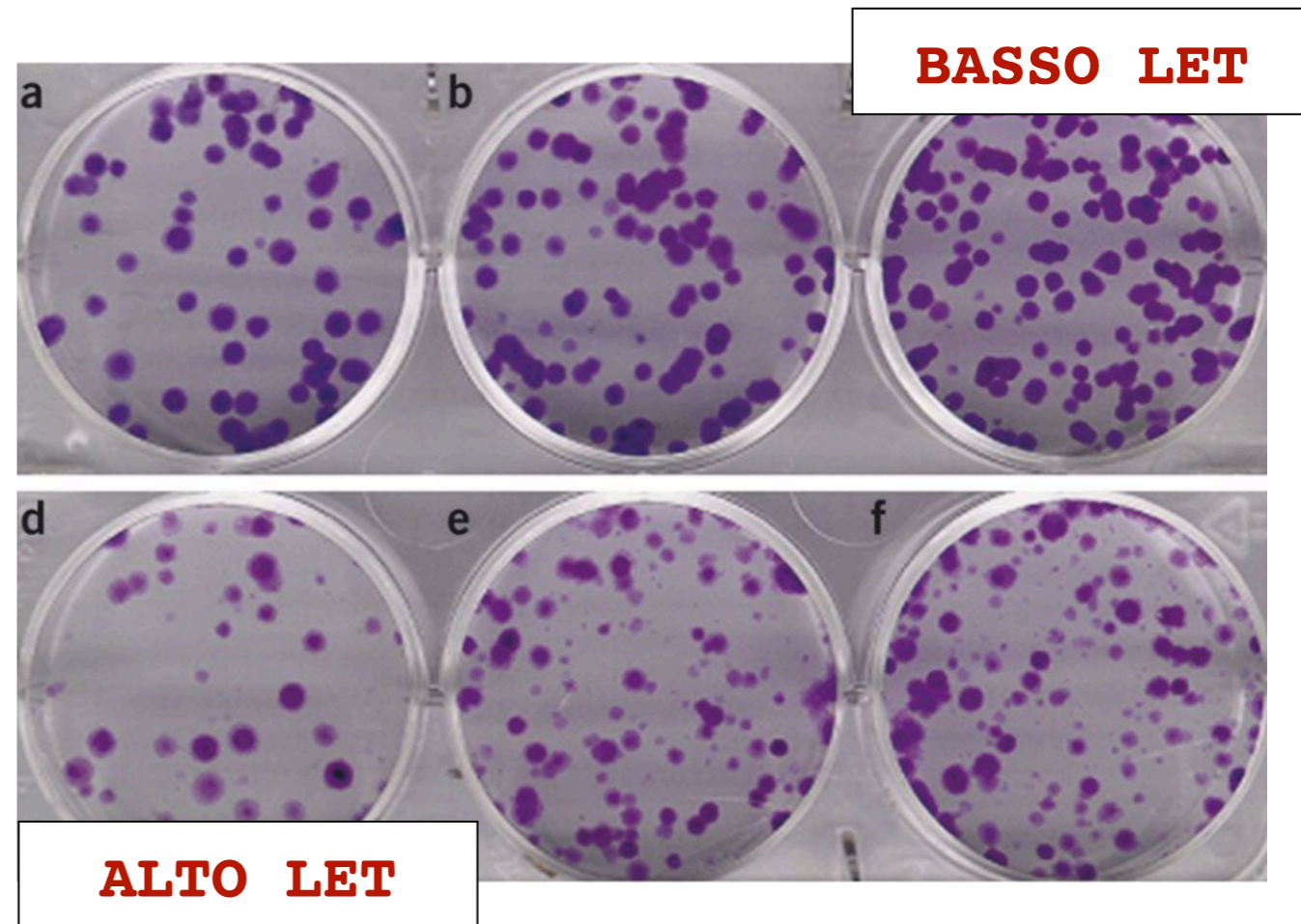
Alto LET

Il danneggiamento cellulare

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Ionizing radiations



Il modello lineare quadratico

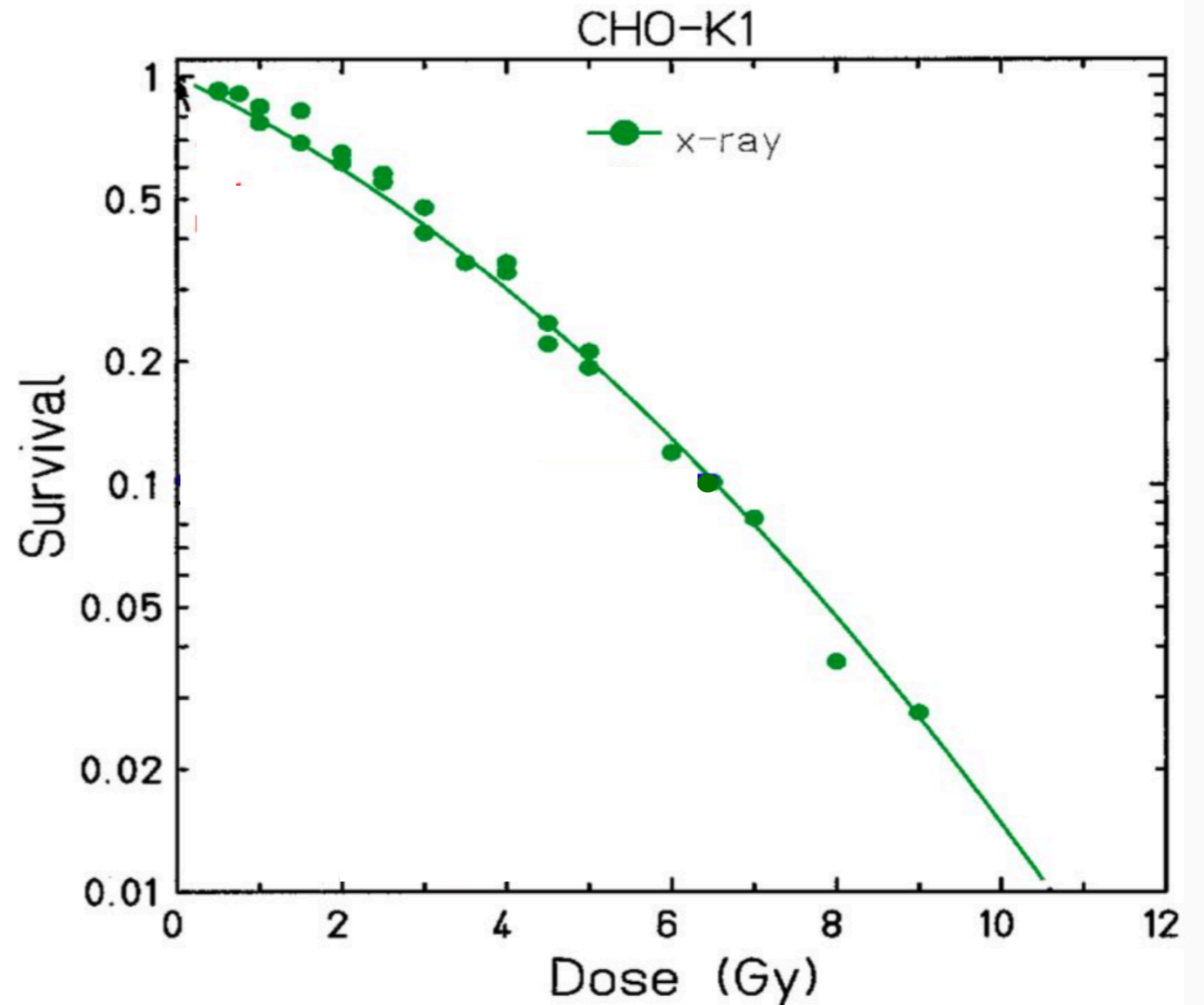
15

$$S = e^{(-\alpha \cdot D - \beta \cdot D^2)}$$

Survival Fraction

Parametro Lineare

Parametro Quadratico



L'RBE per quantificare il danno

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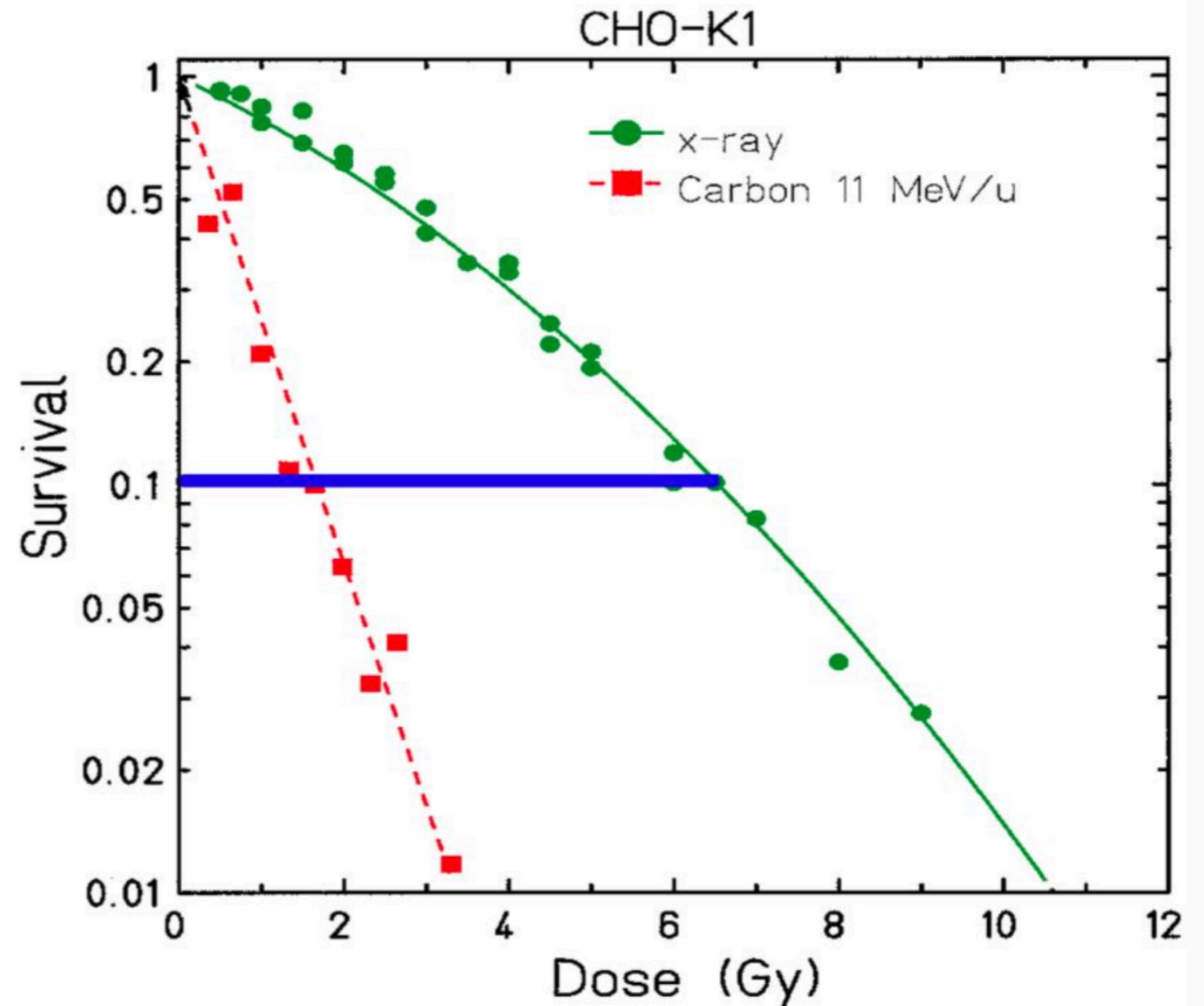
Relative Biological Effectiveness

$$RBE_n = \frac{D_X}{D_{lon}} \Big|_{S_X=S_{lon}=n}$$

RBE-Weighted Dose (RWD):
 $RWD = D \times RBE$

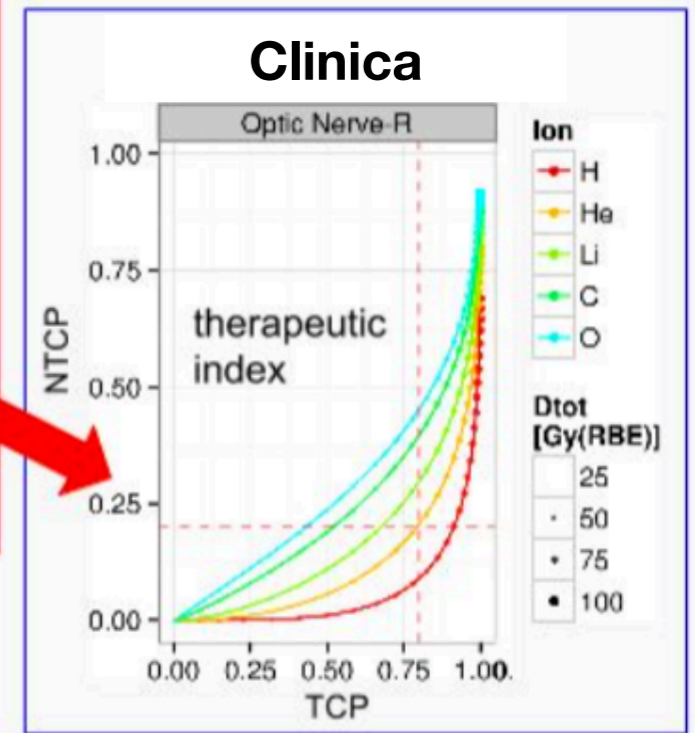
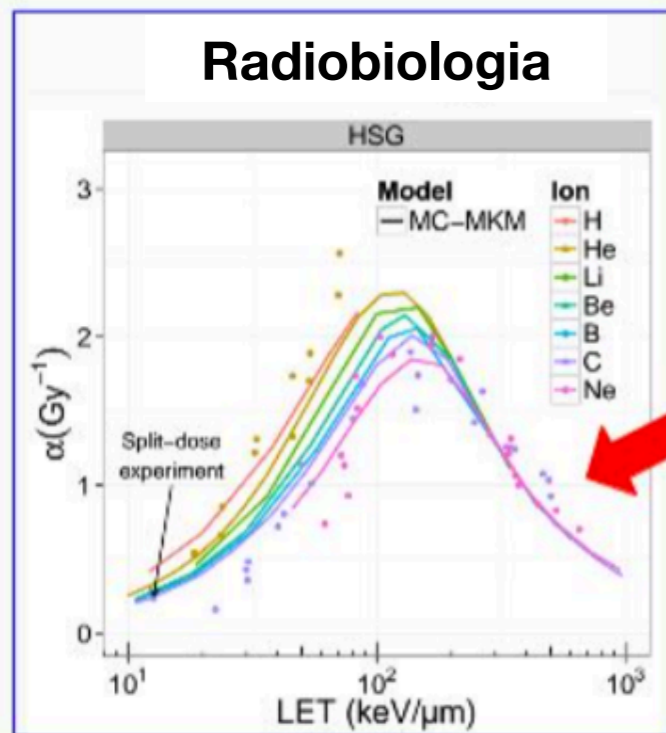
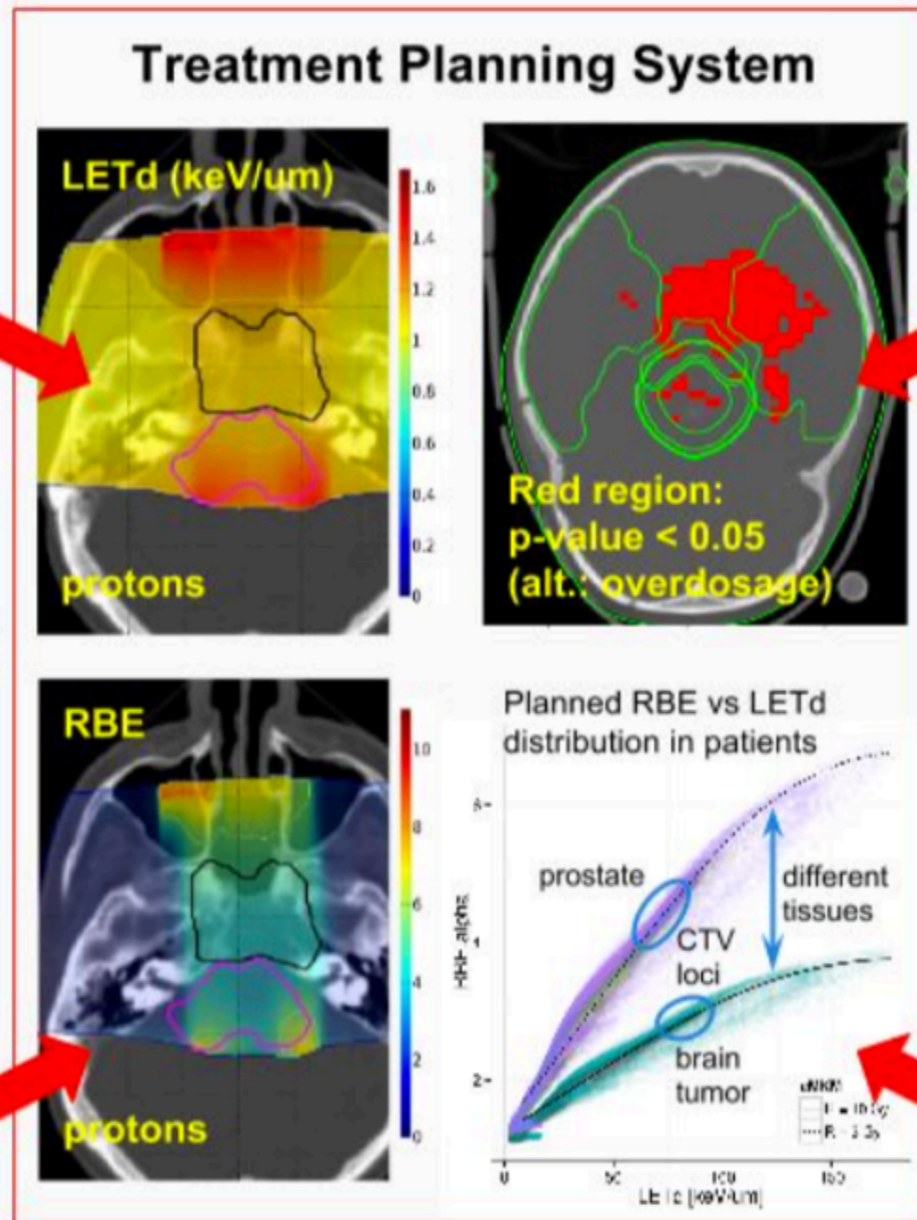
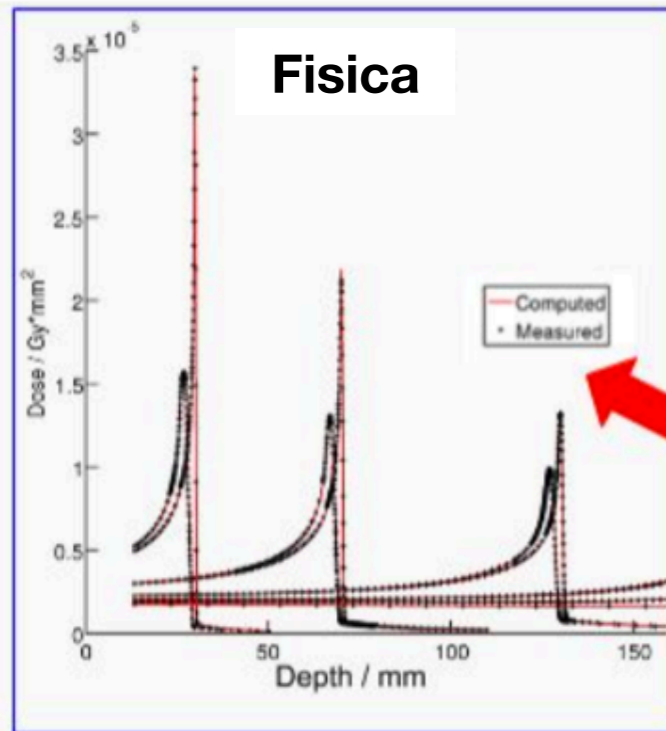
Protons:
 $RBE \sim 1.1$

Carbon Ions:
 $RBE > 1$



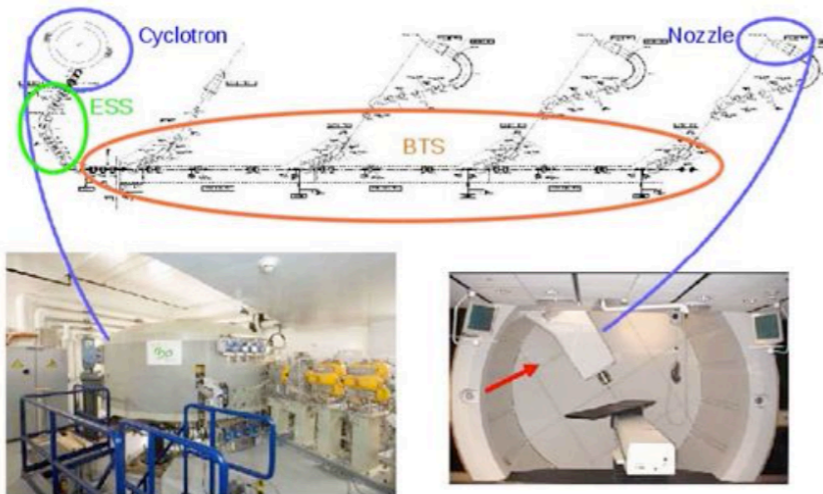
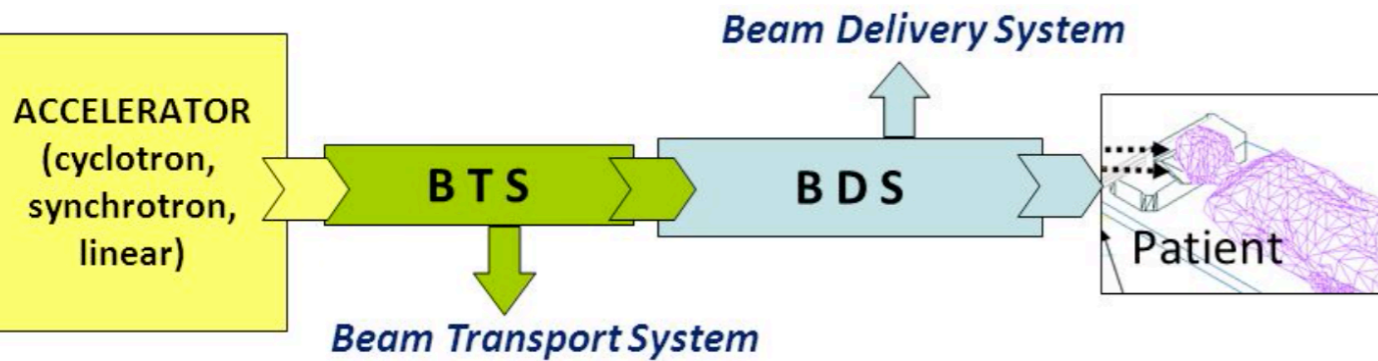
I piani di trattamento

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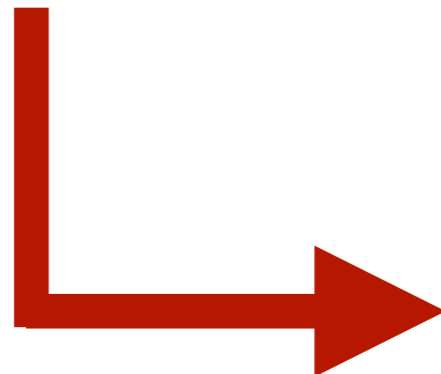
La parti principali di una facility di adroterapia

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Hadron therapy facility scheme – IBA (Belgium)

fondazione **CNAO**
Centro Nazionale di Adroterapia Oncologica per il trattamento dei tumori



L'adroterapia in italia

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fondazione **CNAO**
Centro Nazionale di Adroterapia Oncologica per il trattamento dei tumori



Sincrotrone

**protoni e ^{12}C fino a
250 AMeV**

Pazienti Trattati:
 ^{12}C 1044
p 565



*Azienda Provinciale
per i Servizi Sanitari
Provincia Autonoma di Trento*



Ciclotrone

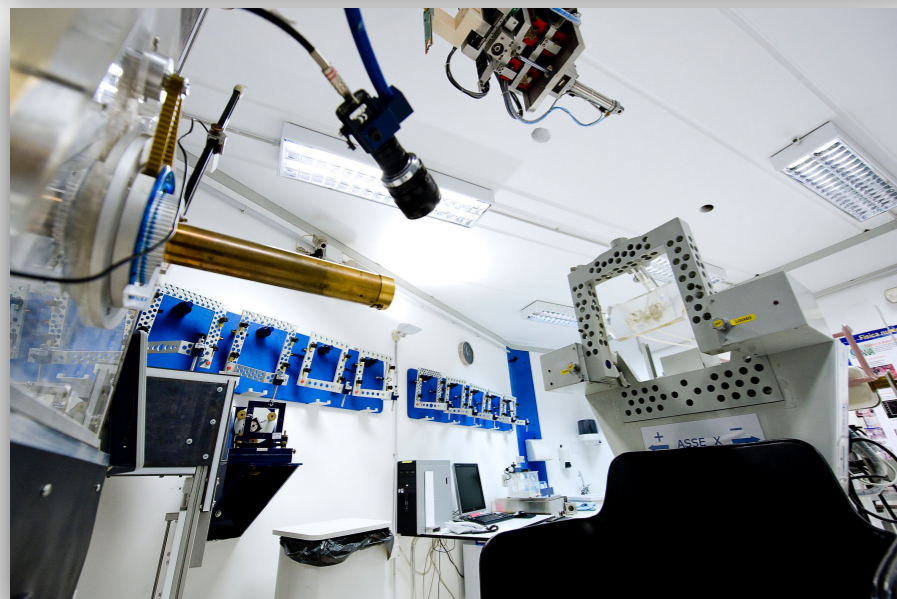
protoni fino a 250 AMeV
Pazienti Trattati: 600



Ciclotrone

protoni di 62 MeV
Pazienti trattati: 500

IL trattamento del
melanoma
oculare a LNS

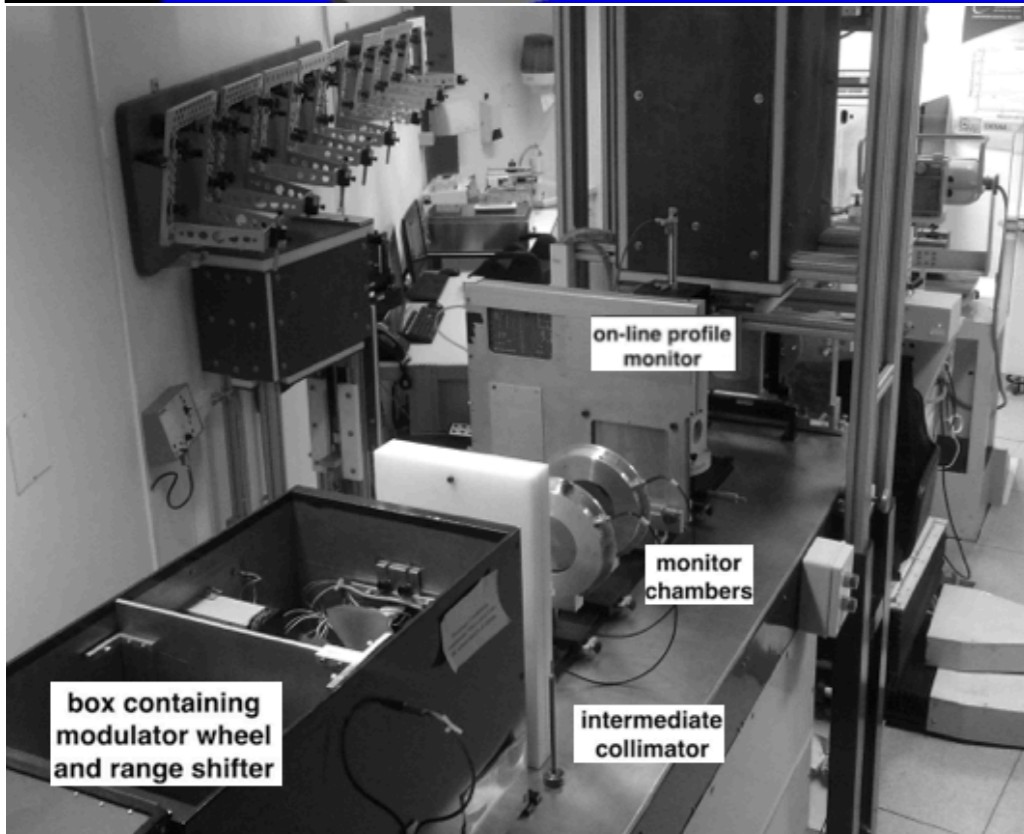
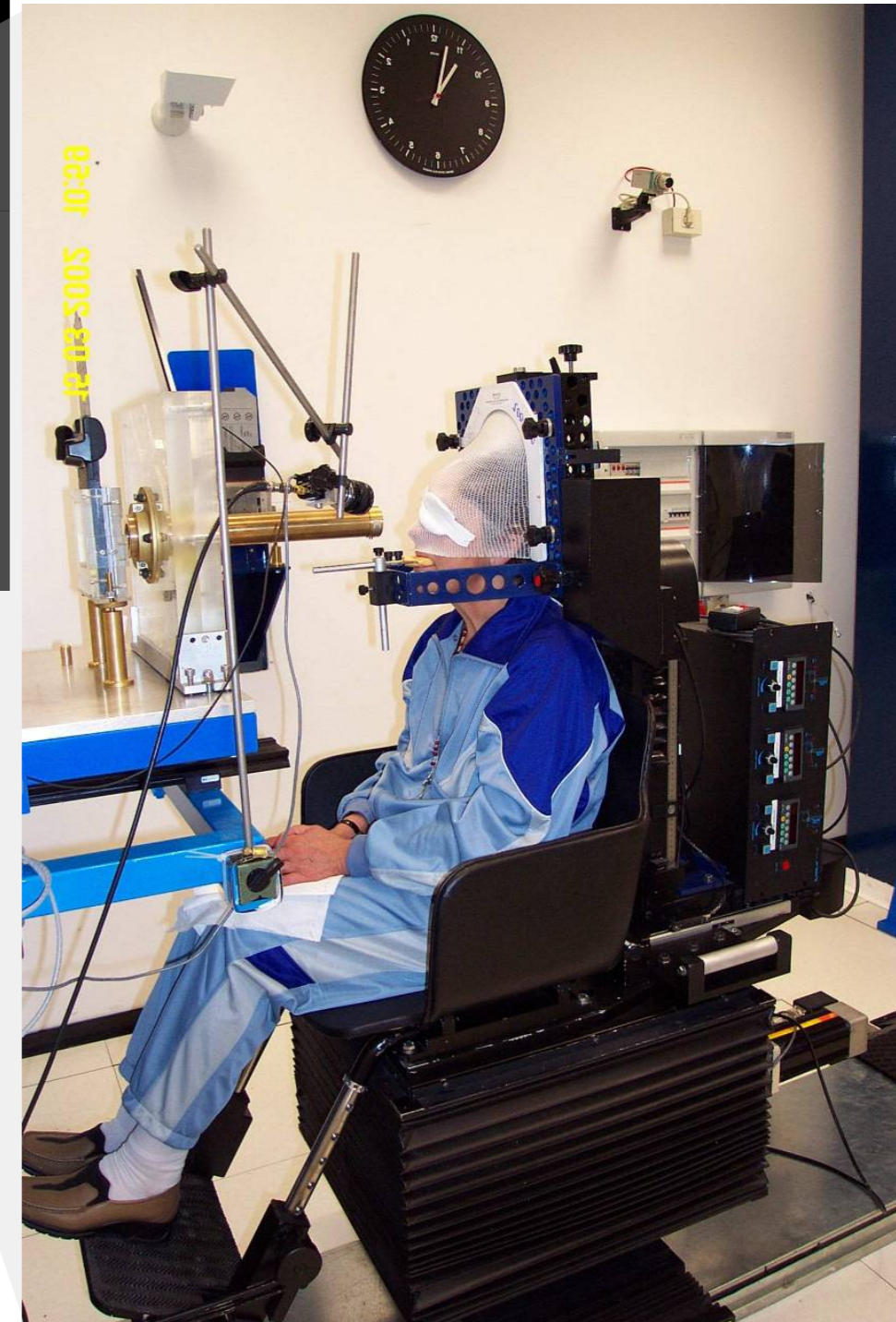
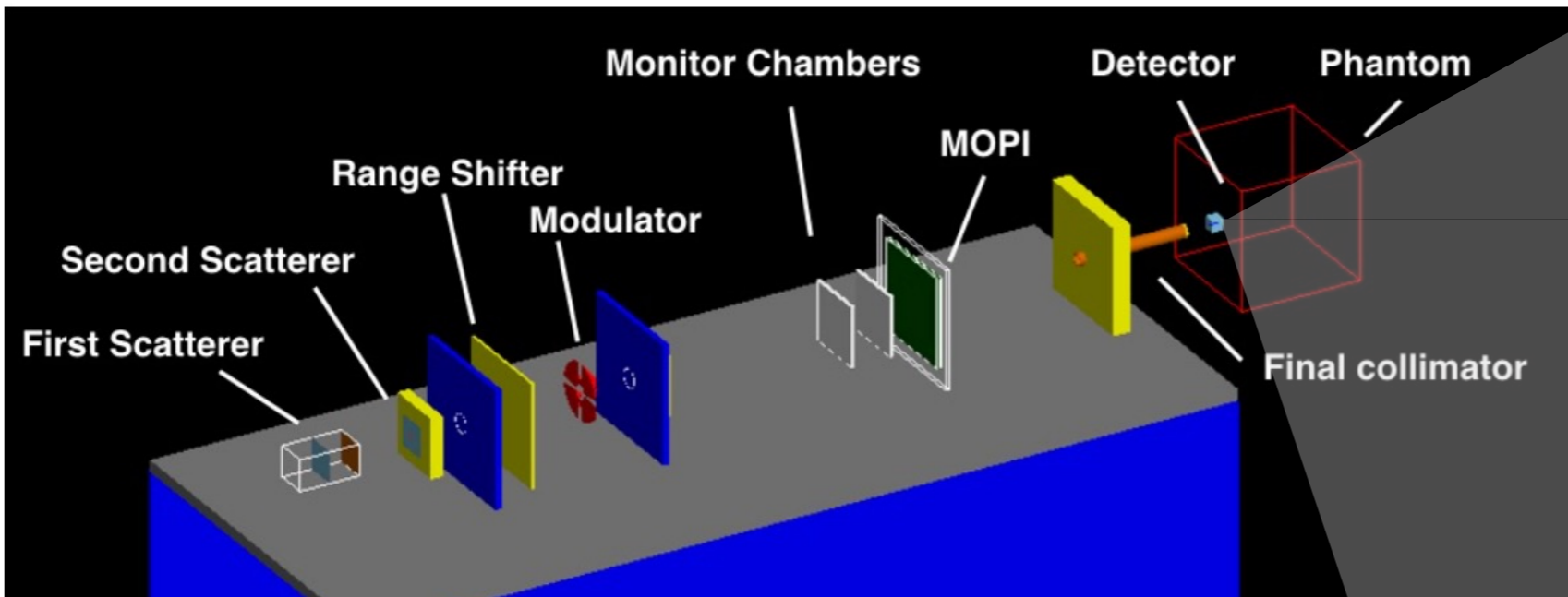


CATANA Centro di AdroTerapia ed Applicazioni Nucleari Avanzate

- Primo centro di protonterapia in Italia
- Marzo 2002: primo paziente trattato
- 500 pazienti trattati
- Linea passiva di protonterapia
- 62 MeV di energia

CATANA

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Dose: 15 CGE per fraction

Treatment time: 40-50 sec

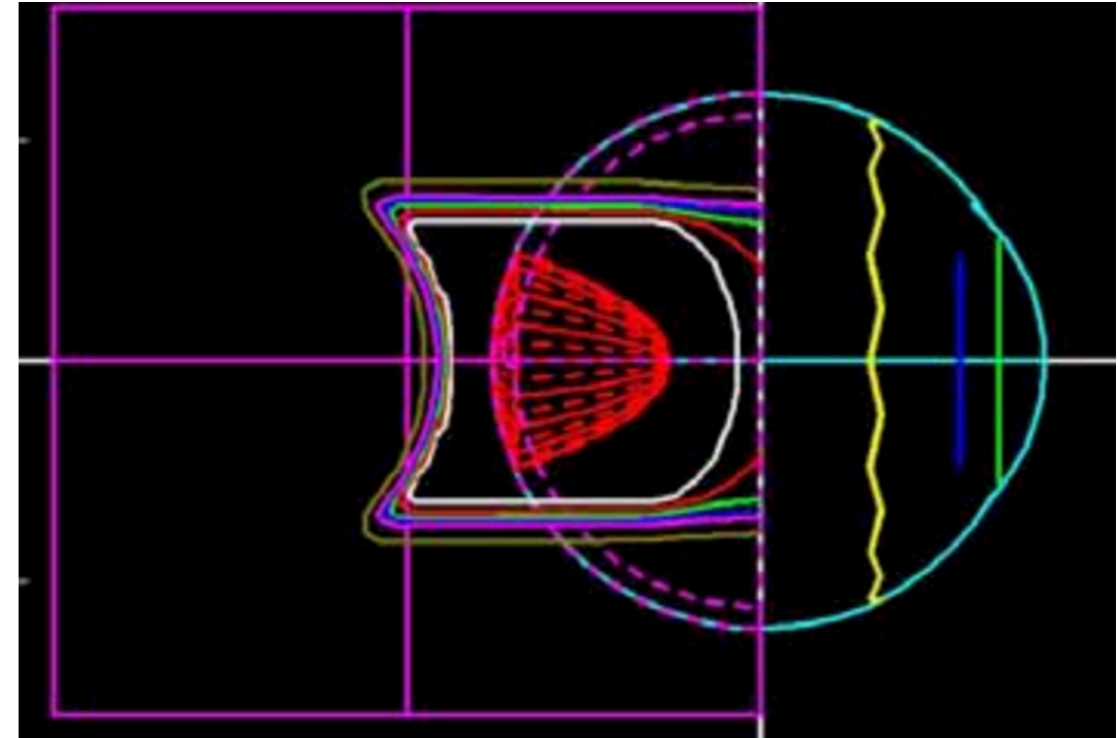
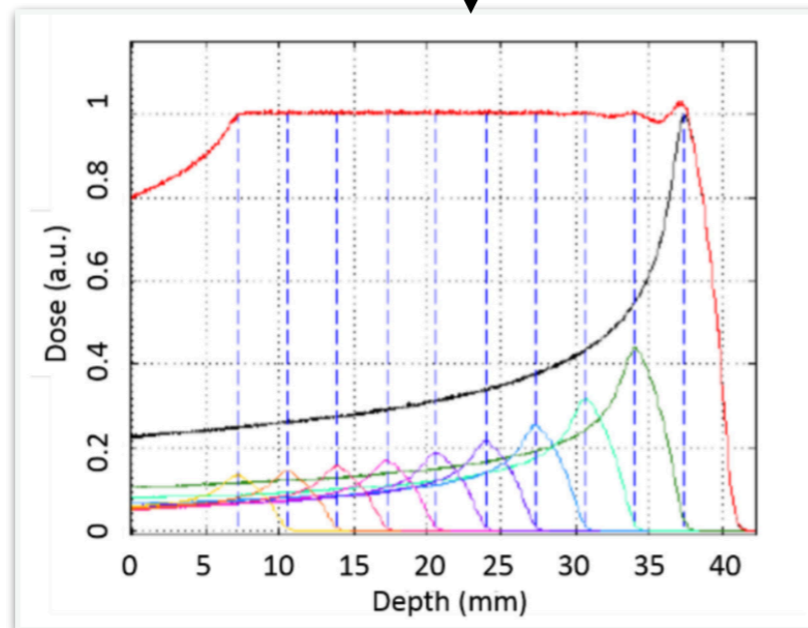
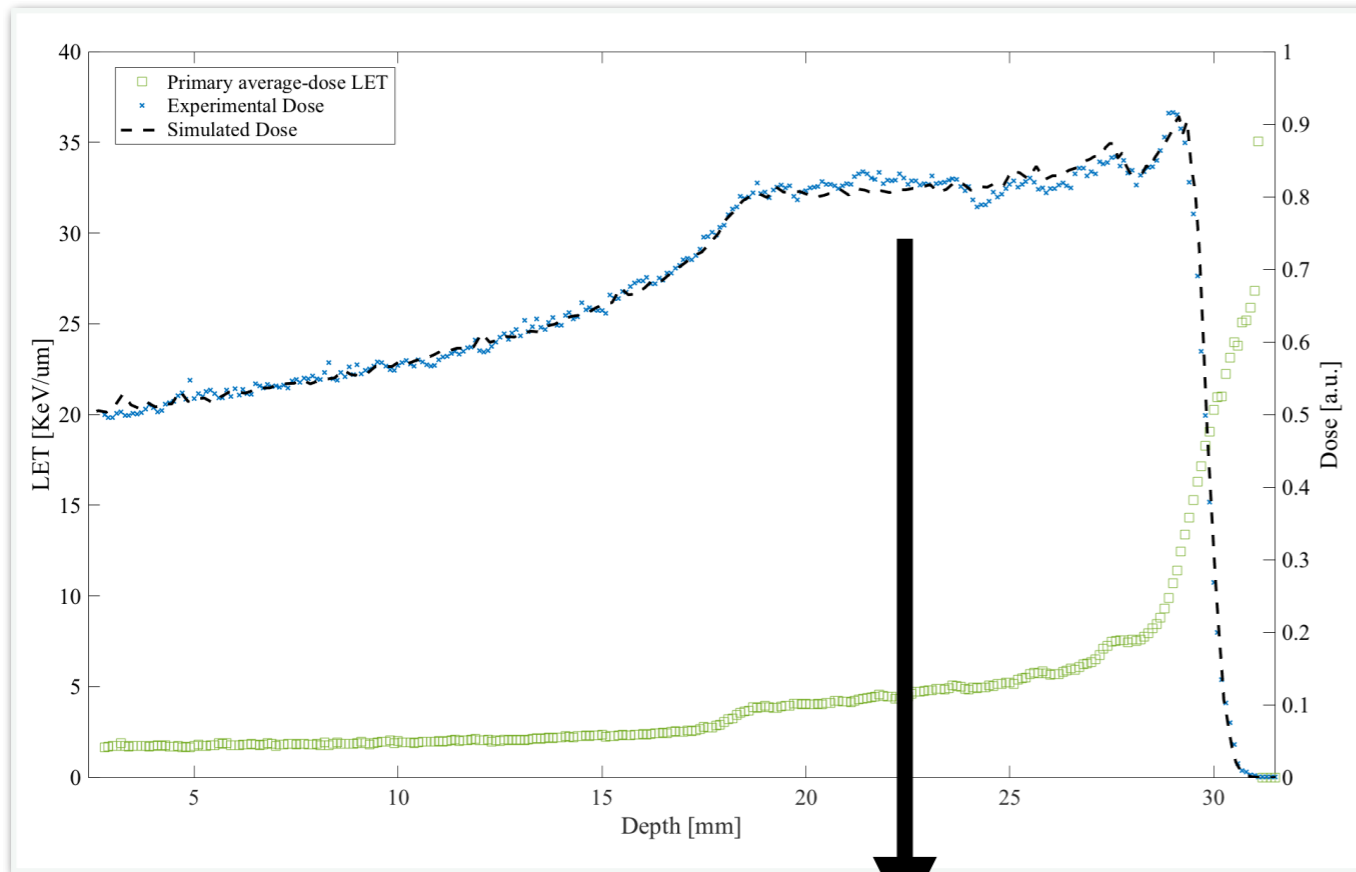
Total dose: 60 CGE

Fractions: 4

Ottimizzazione del trattamento

23

Depth-dose distribution



Dead patients	4	
	Metastasis	3
	Other	1
Eye retention rate	92,68 %	
TOTAL SURVIVAL	95 %	
LOCAL CONTROL	97 %	

La ricerca in fisica
medica (facciamo
qualche esempio)

- Algoritmi per prevedere il danno biologico e la distribuzione di dose in profondità
- Sviluppo di rivelatori per controllare il rilascio di dose
- Tecniche per aumentare l'efficacia biologica dei protoni
- Sviluppo di rivelatori per misurare il LET

Modellizzare il “danno”

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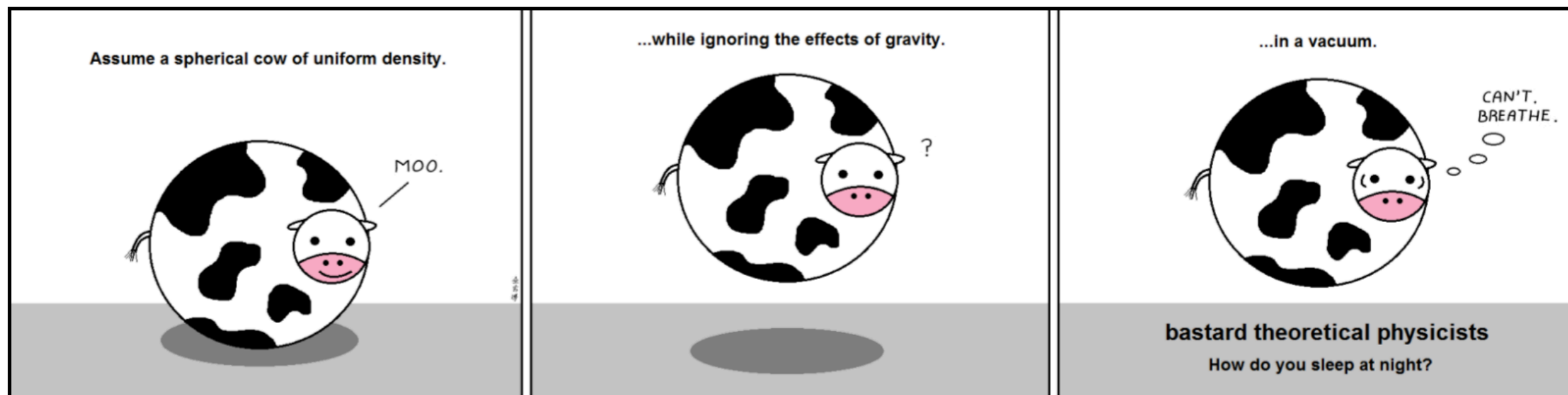
Parametri Fisici

- Dose
- Energia
- LET
- Tipo di Particella

Biological Parameters

- Tipologia di Tessuto
- Ossigenazione
- Capacità di Riparo
- Endpoint Biologico

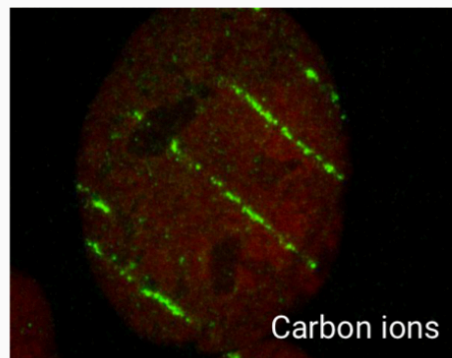
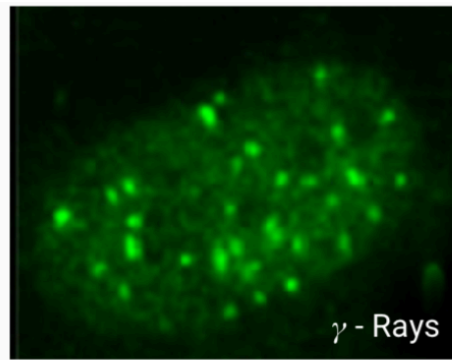
- “Linear” models (protons)
- Local Effect Model (**LEM**)
- Microdosimetric Kinetic Model (**MKM**)
- Repair-Misrepair-Fixation (**RMF**) Model



Modelling Biological Systems as a physicist

I modelli radiobiologici & il Monte Carlo

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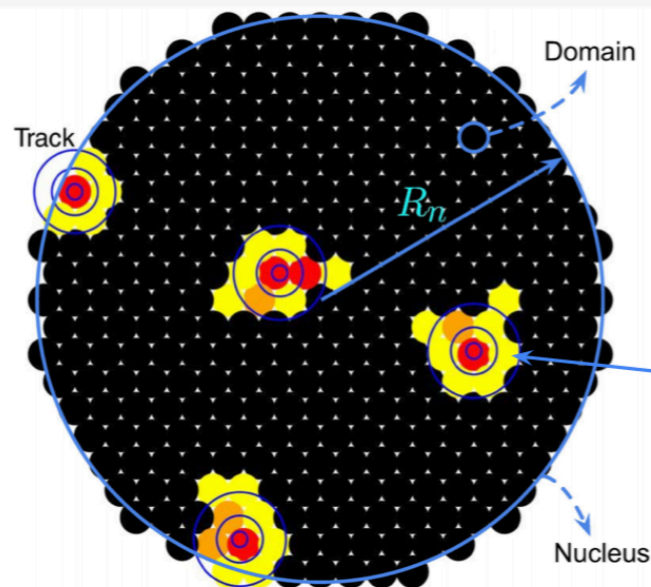
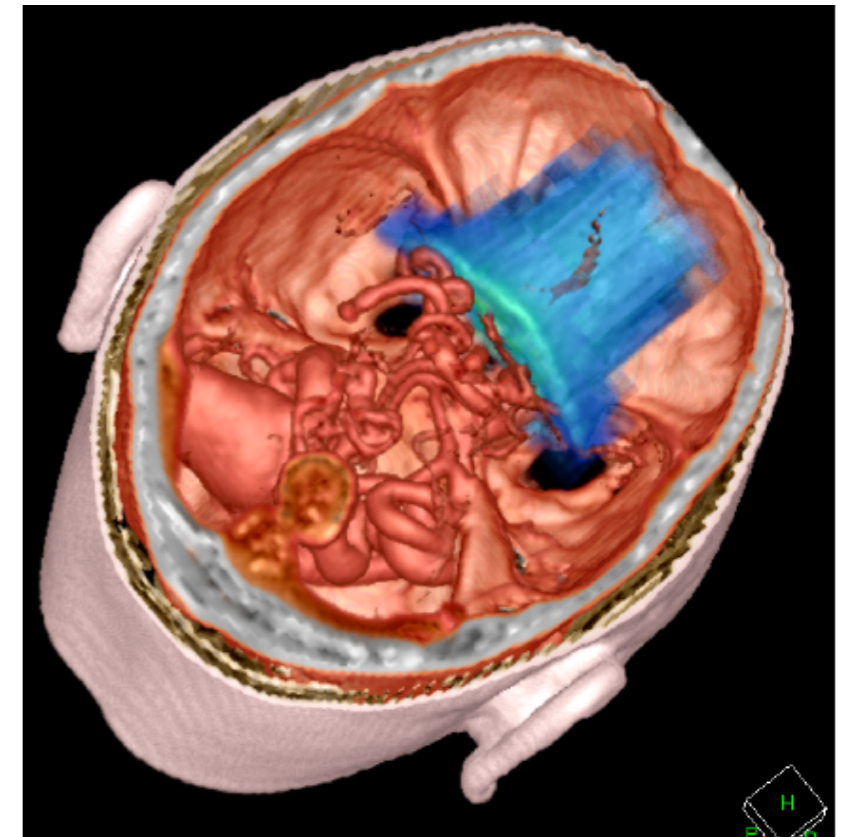
Clustering effect:
Increased biological effectiveness due to the smaller distance of the lesions.

Introduction of "Sites" or "Domains":

Microdosimetric Kinetic Model (MKM)

Complete Locality approximation:

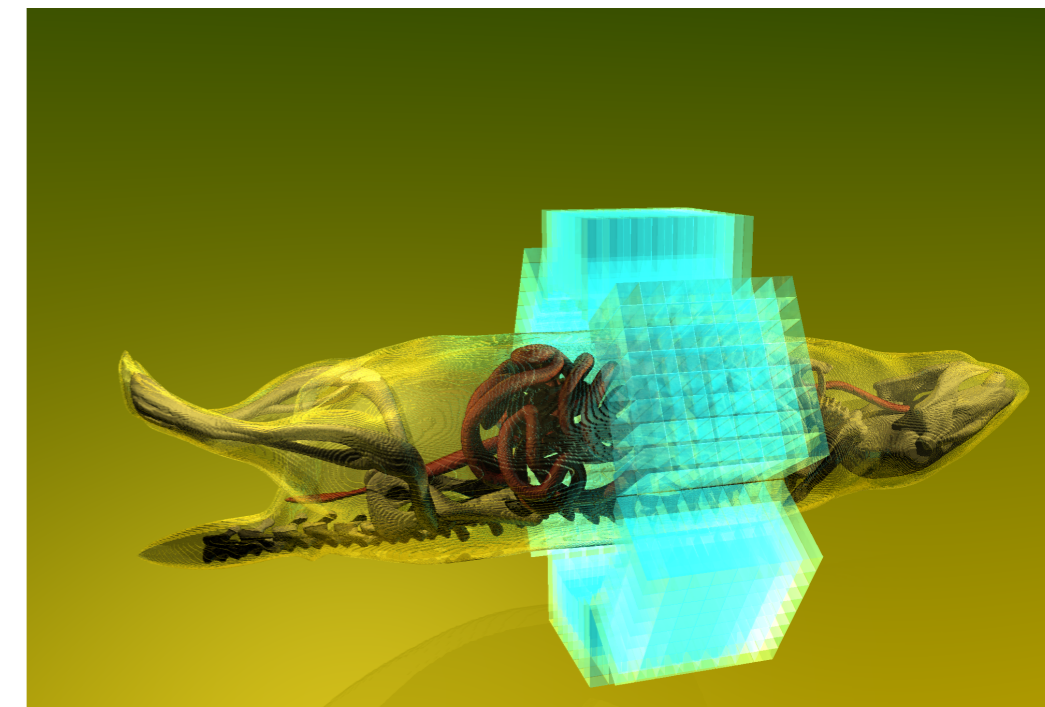
Local Effect Model (LEM)



$$\bar{N}_{leth} = \sum_d \left\{ \underbrace{(\alpha_0 + \beta_0 \bar{z}_{1d})}_{\alpha_P} D_d + \underbrace{\beta_0 D_d^2}_{\beta_P} \right\}$$

Particle energy spectrum

In principle, z_{1d} can be obtained from **microdosimetric measurements** of energy spectra, e.g. via a tissue-equivalent proportional counter (TEPC)



Hawkins, R. B. (1996). *International Journal of Radiation Biology*,
Kase, y., et al. (2006). *Radiation Research*

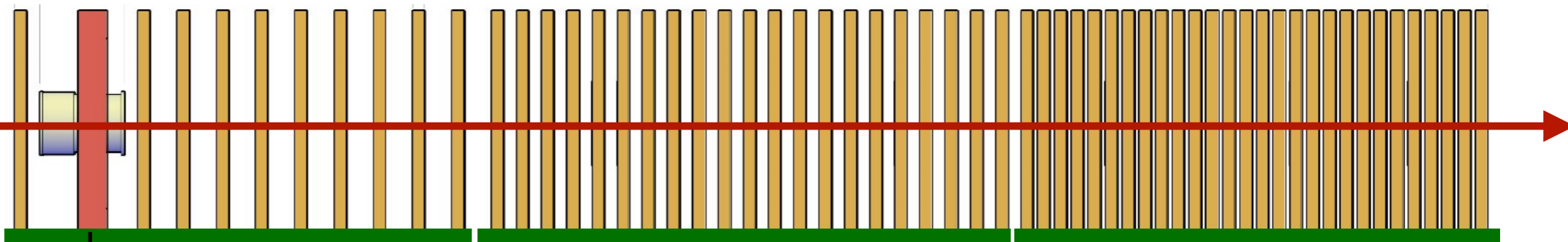
- Algoritmi per prevedere il danno biologico e la distribuzione di dose in profondità
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Misurare il picco di Bragg

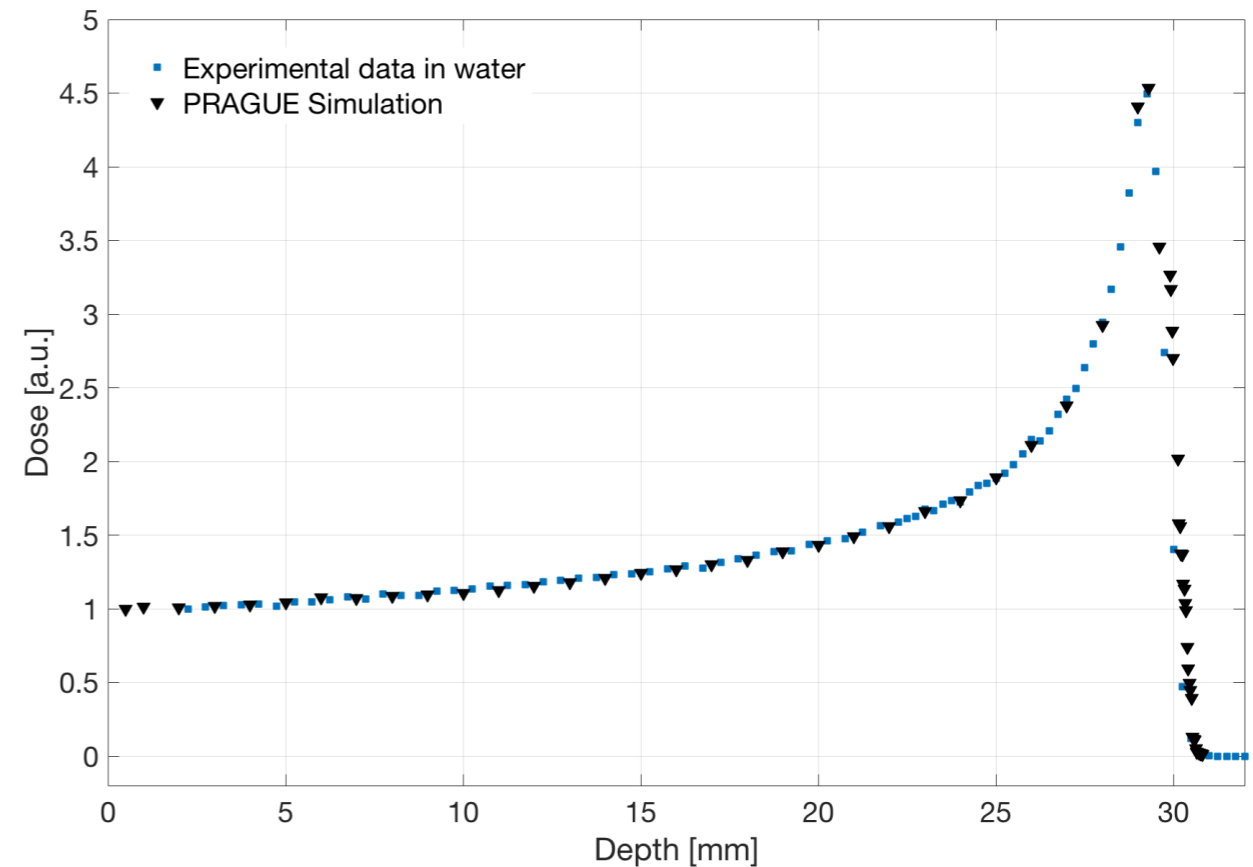
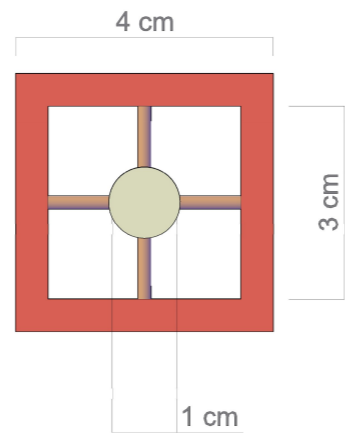
60 Silicon Carbide in stack configuration

Incident proton

30 up to 150 MeV



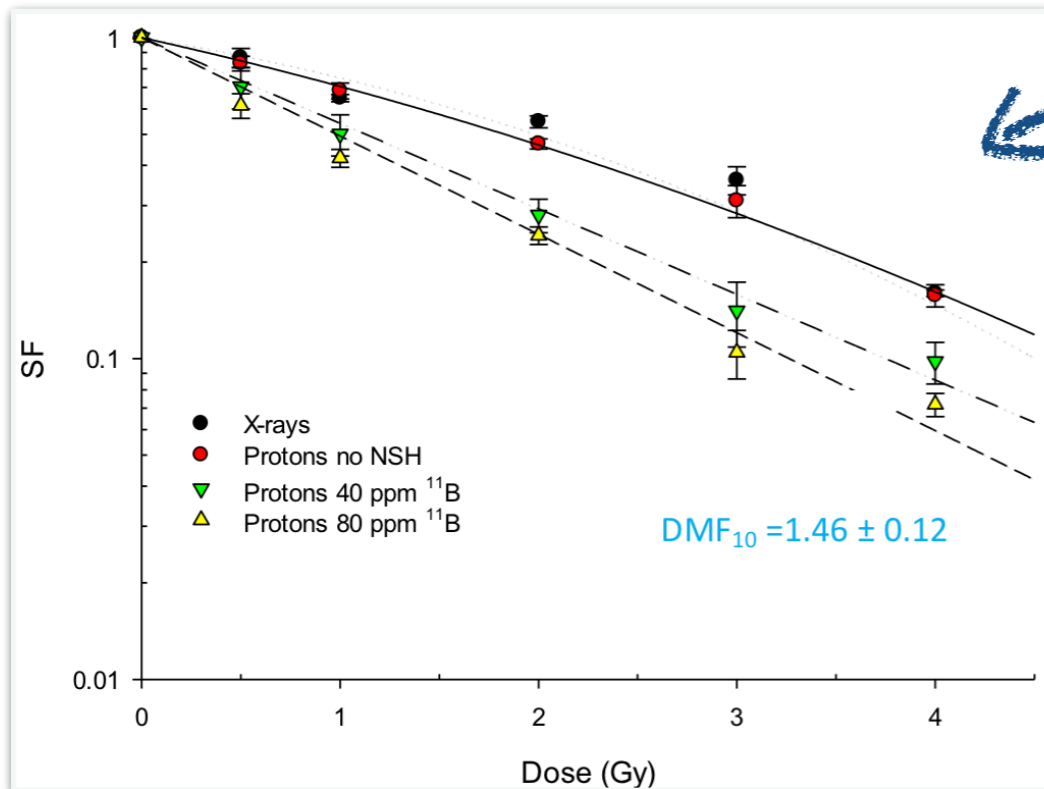
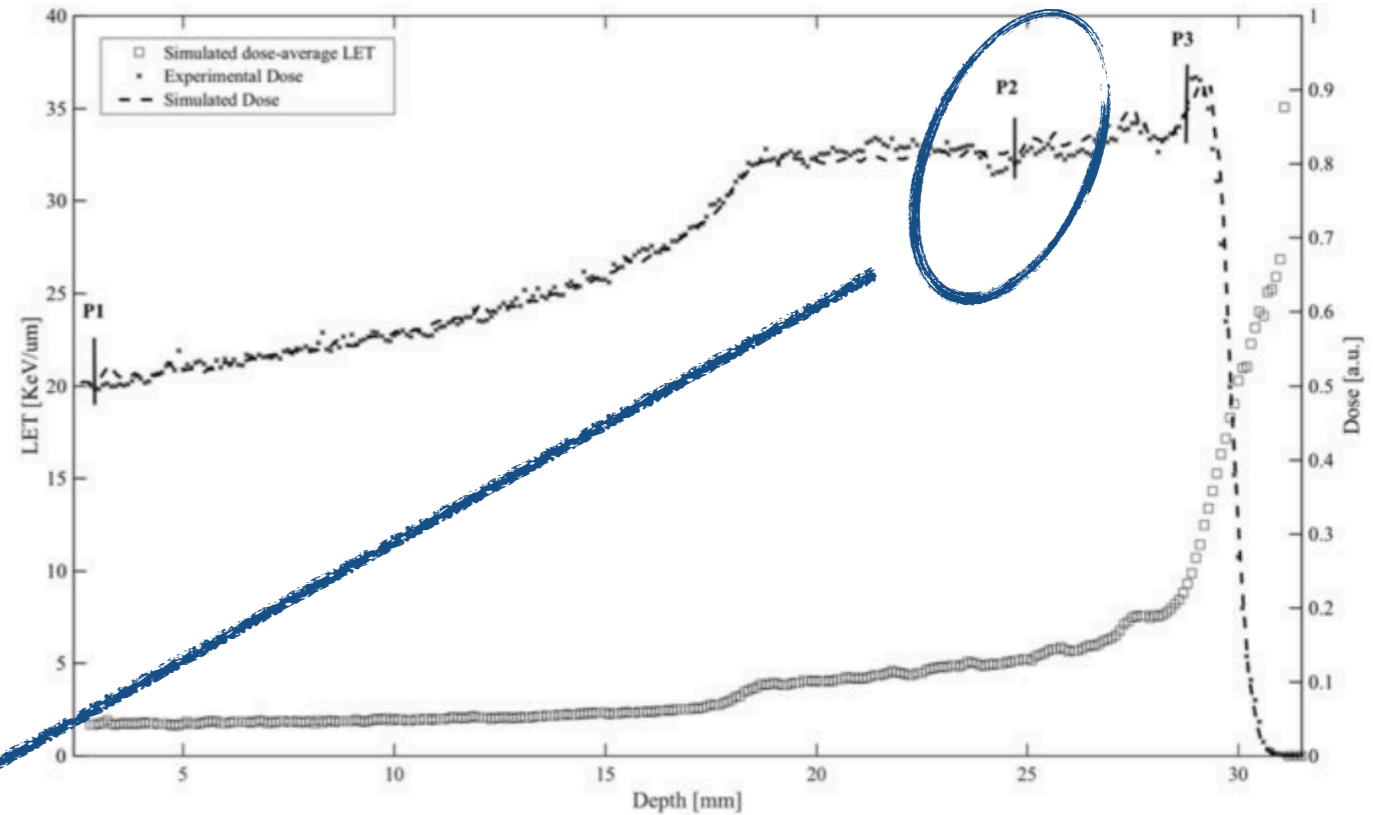
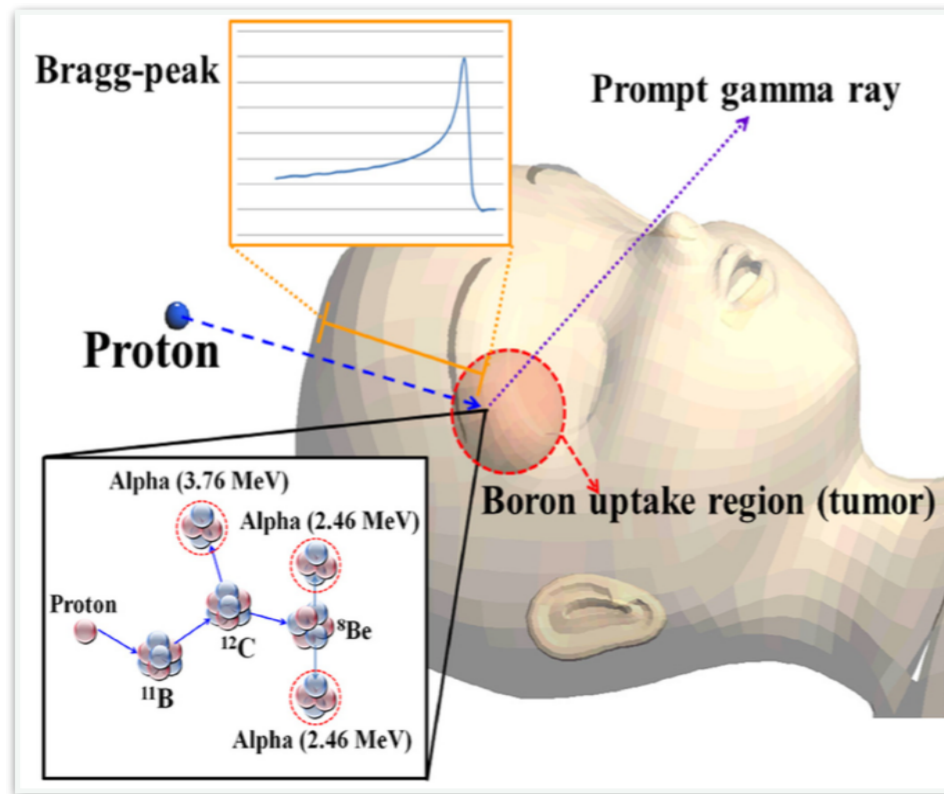
Holder for
Biological
Sample



- Algoritmi per prevedere il danno biologico e la distribuzione di dose in profondità
- Sviluppo di rivelatori per controllare il rilascio di dose
- **Tecniche per aumentare l'efficacia biologica dei protoni**
- Sviluppo di rivelatori per misurare il LET

Proton Boron Capture Therapy

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Irradiation @MID-SOBP

nature.com > scientific reports > articles > article

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

Article | OPEN | Published: 18 January 2018

First experimental proof of Proton Boron Capture Therapy (PBCT) to enhance protontherapy effectiveness

G. A. P. Cirrone, L. Manti, D. Margarone, G. Petringa, L. Giuffrida, A. Minopoli, A. Picciotto, G. Russo, F. Cammarata, P. Pisciotto, F. M. Perozziello, F. Romano, V. Marchese, G. Milluzzo, V. Scuderi, G. Cuttone & G. Korn

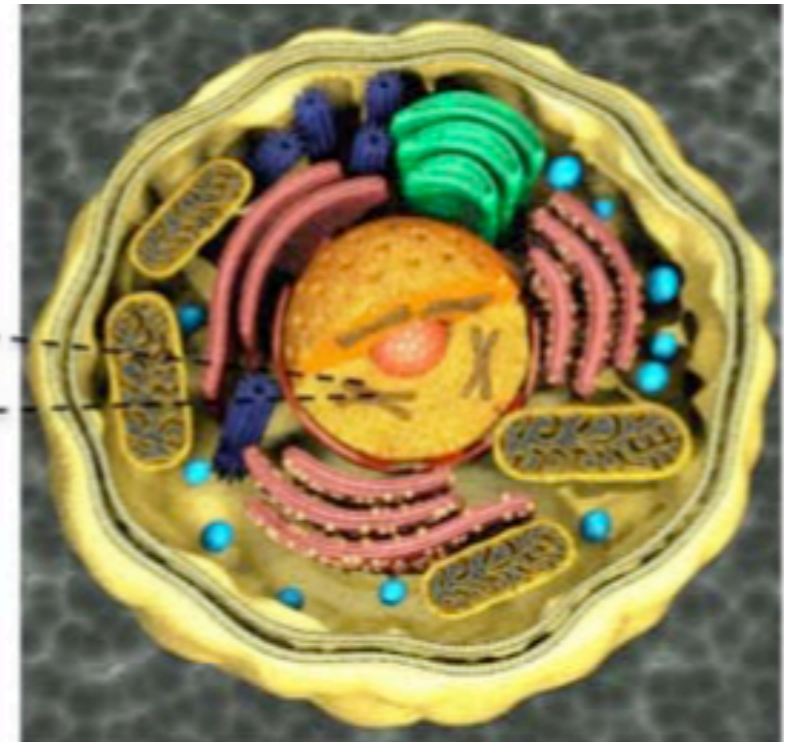
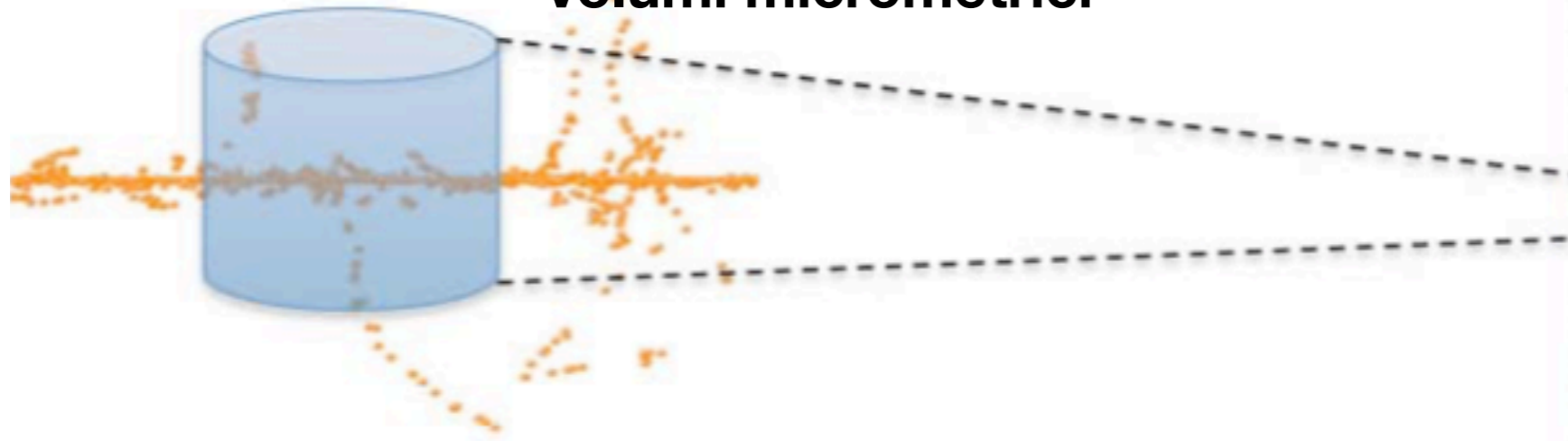
Scientific Reports 8, Article number: 1141 (2018) | Download Citation

- Algoritmi per prevedere il danno biologico e la distribuzione di dose in profondità
- Sviluppo di rivelatori per controllare il rilascio di dose
- Tecniche per aumentare l'efficacia biologica dei protoni
- **Sviluppo di rivelatori per misurare il LET**

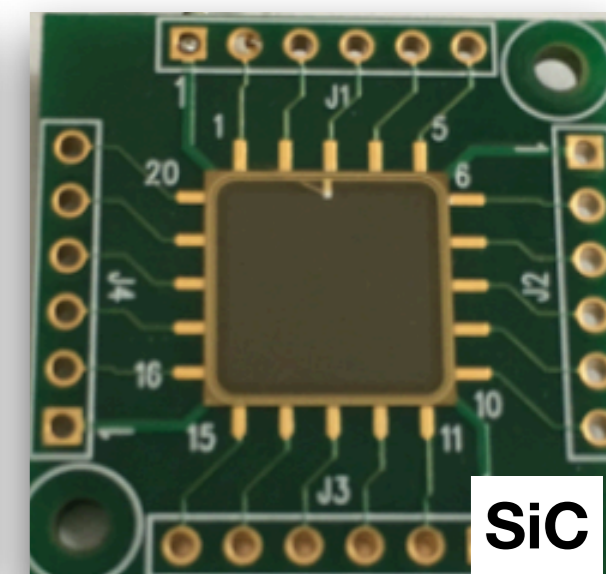
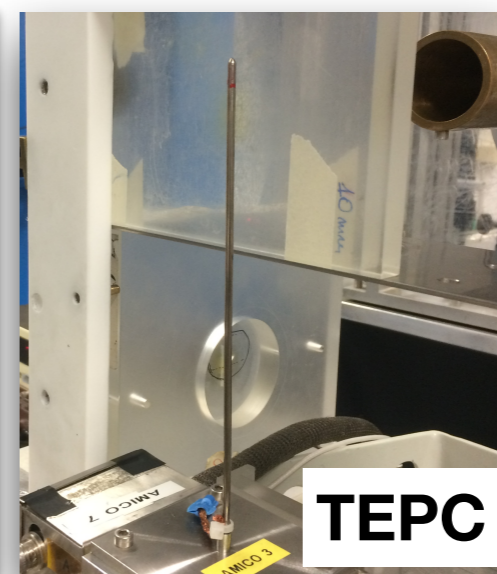
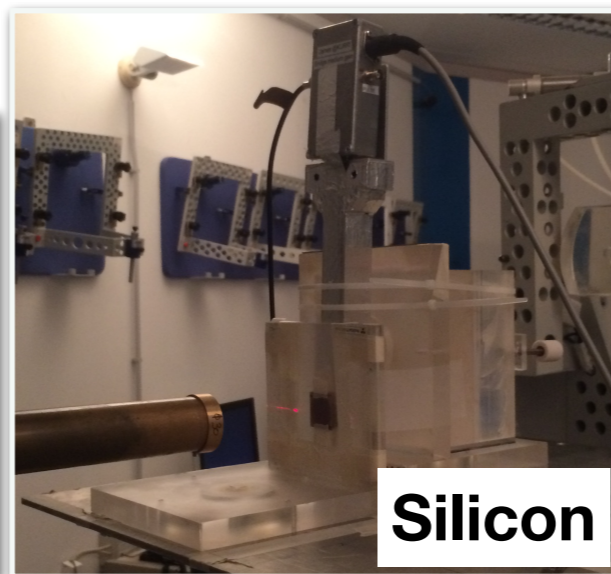
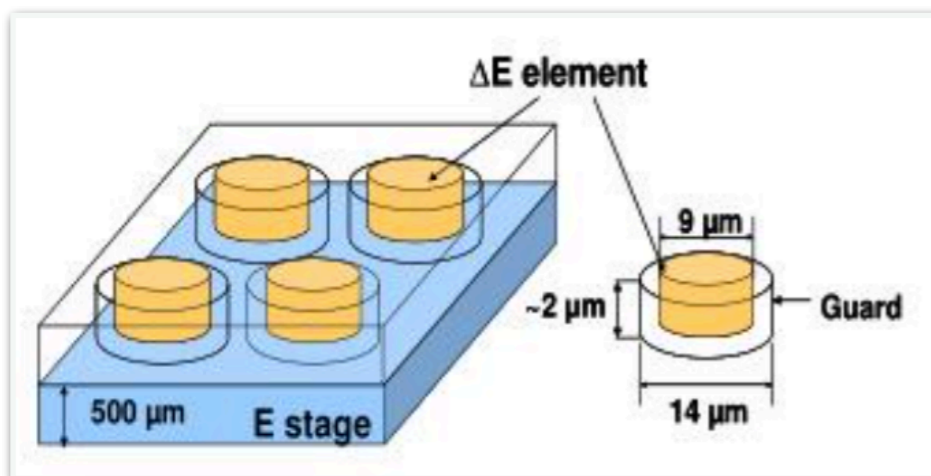
La misura del LET

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distribuzione energetica viene misurata su volumi micrometrici



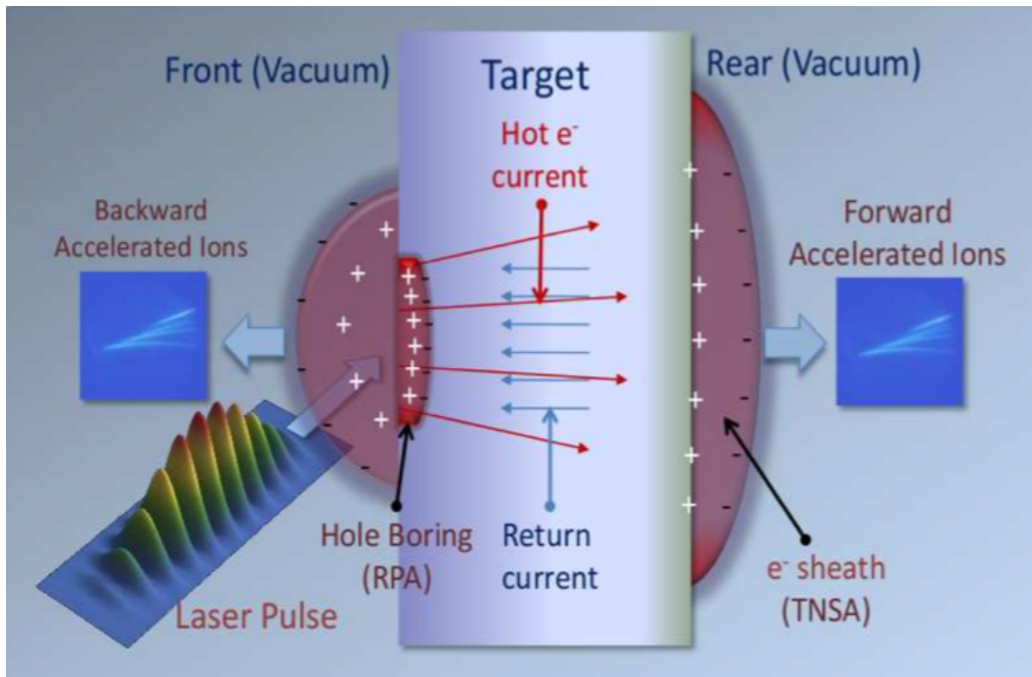
Si-Telescope



I protoni accelerati
da laser: il futuro
dell'adroterapia?

Le particelle accelerate con i laser

35



Volume 56, number 3

OPTICS COMMUNICATIONS

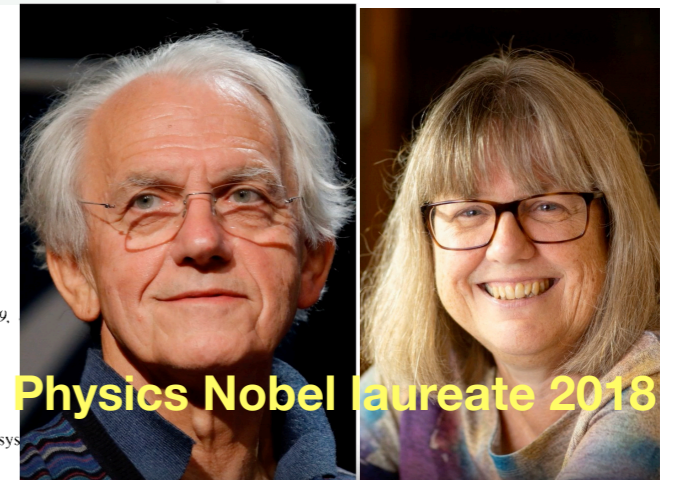
COMPRESSION OF AMPLIFIED CHIRPED OPTICAL PULSES [☆]

Donna STRICKLAND and Gerard MOUROU

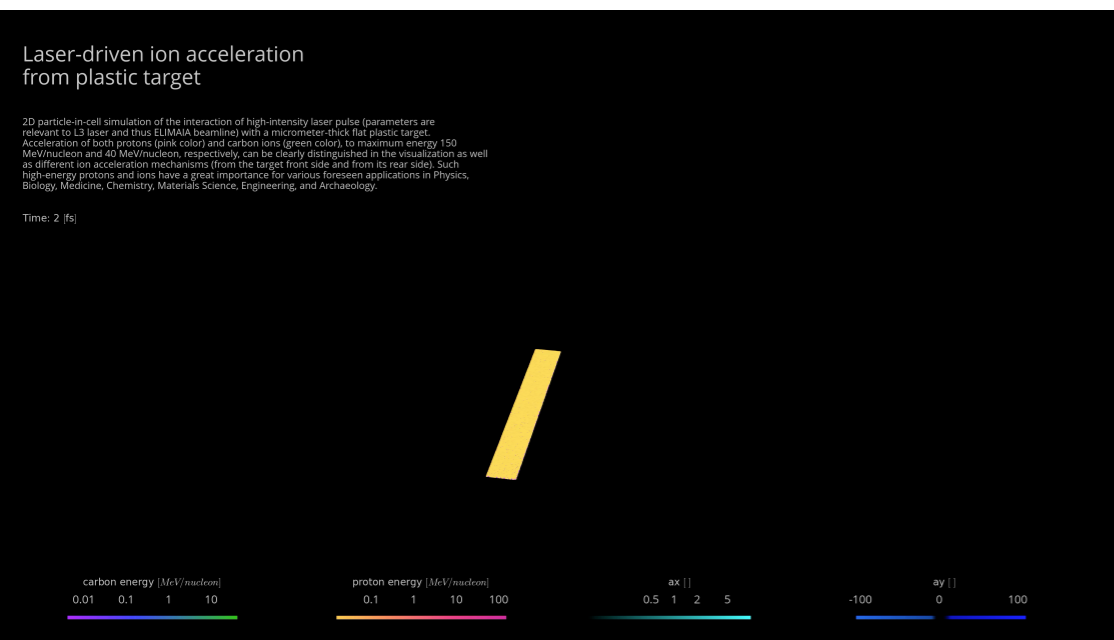
Laboratory for Laser Energetics, University of Rochester, 250 East River Road, Rochester, NY 14623-1299.

Received 5 July 1985

We have demonstrated the amplification and subsequent recompression of optical chirped pulses. A system of 1.06 μm laser pulses with pulse widths of 2 ps and energies at the millijoule level is presented.



Physics Nobel laureate 2018



How Much Pressure Does a PW Laser Exert?

1 PW/1 μm spot size corresponds to 10^{23} w/cm²

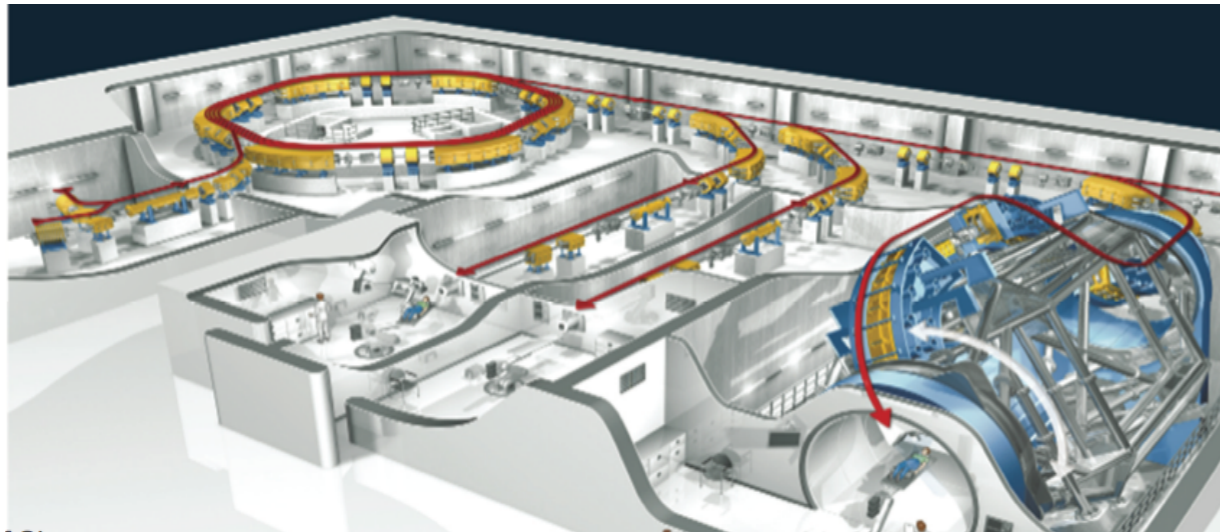
That is the equivalent of the pressure of 10 million Eiffel Towers on the tip of your finger!!

Seriously extreme!



I laser-driven per applicazioni mediche?

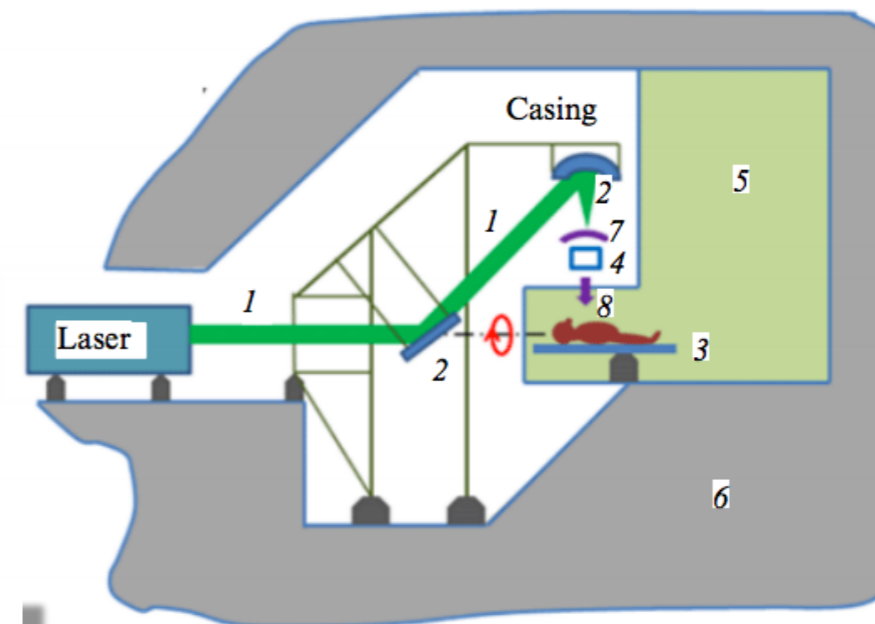
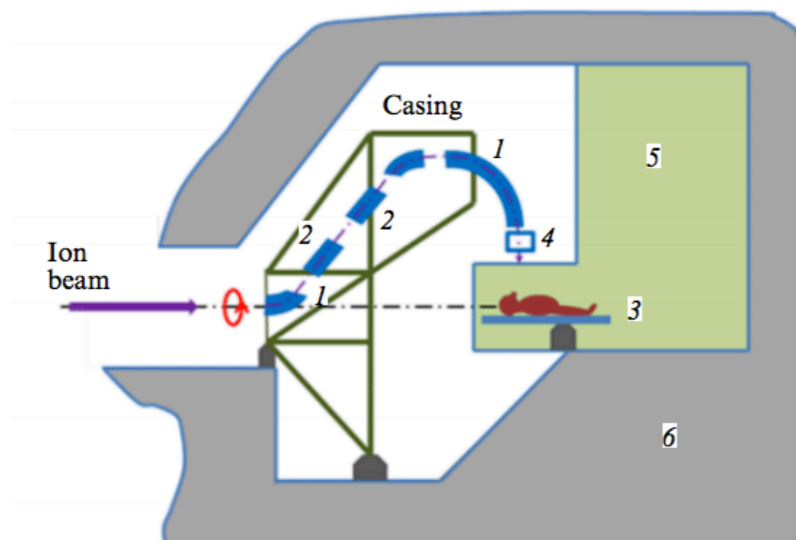
36



- Grandi macchine acceleratrici
- Sistemi sofisticati per il trasporto del fascio (gantry)
- Costi elevati
- Numero limitato di centri

"If 200 MeV proton accelerators would be as cheap and small as the 10 MeV electron linacs used in conventional radiotherapy, at least 90% of the patients would be treated with proton beams"

U. Amaldi et al., NIM A 2010.

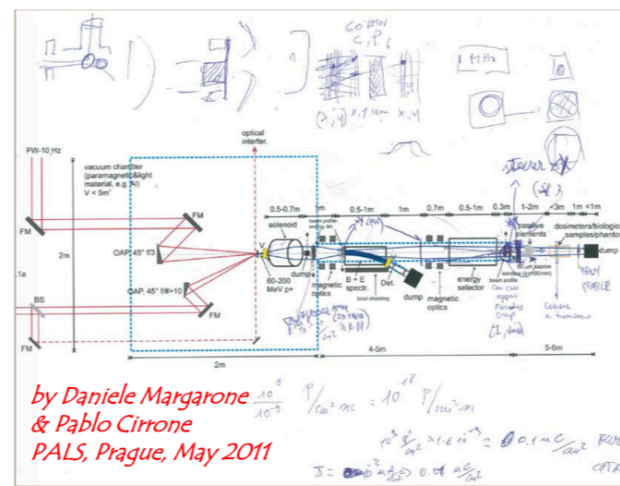
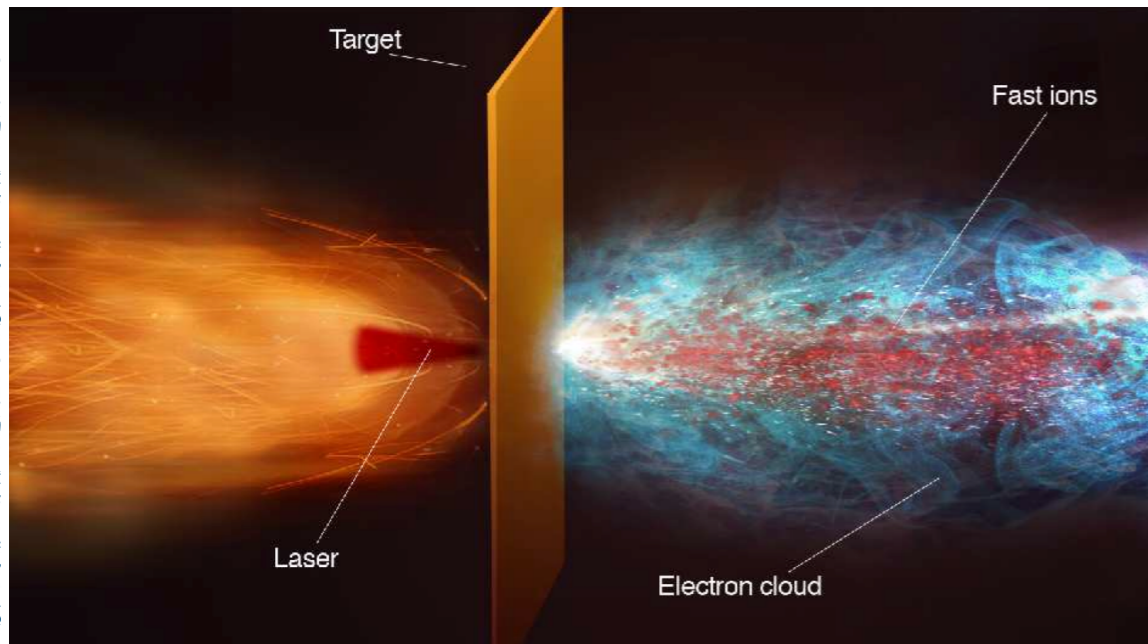


Multi-source machine to deliver different kinds of beams according to the specific requirements: γ , e^- , p , n , ions.

Il progetto ELIMED

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una nuova sorgente ...



2011

2012

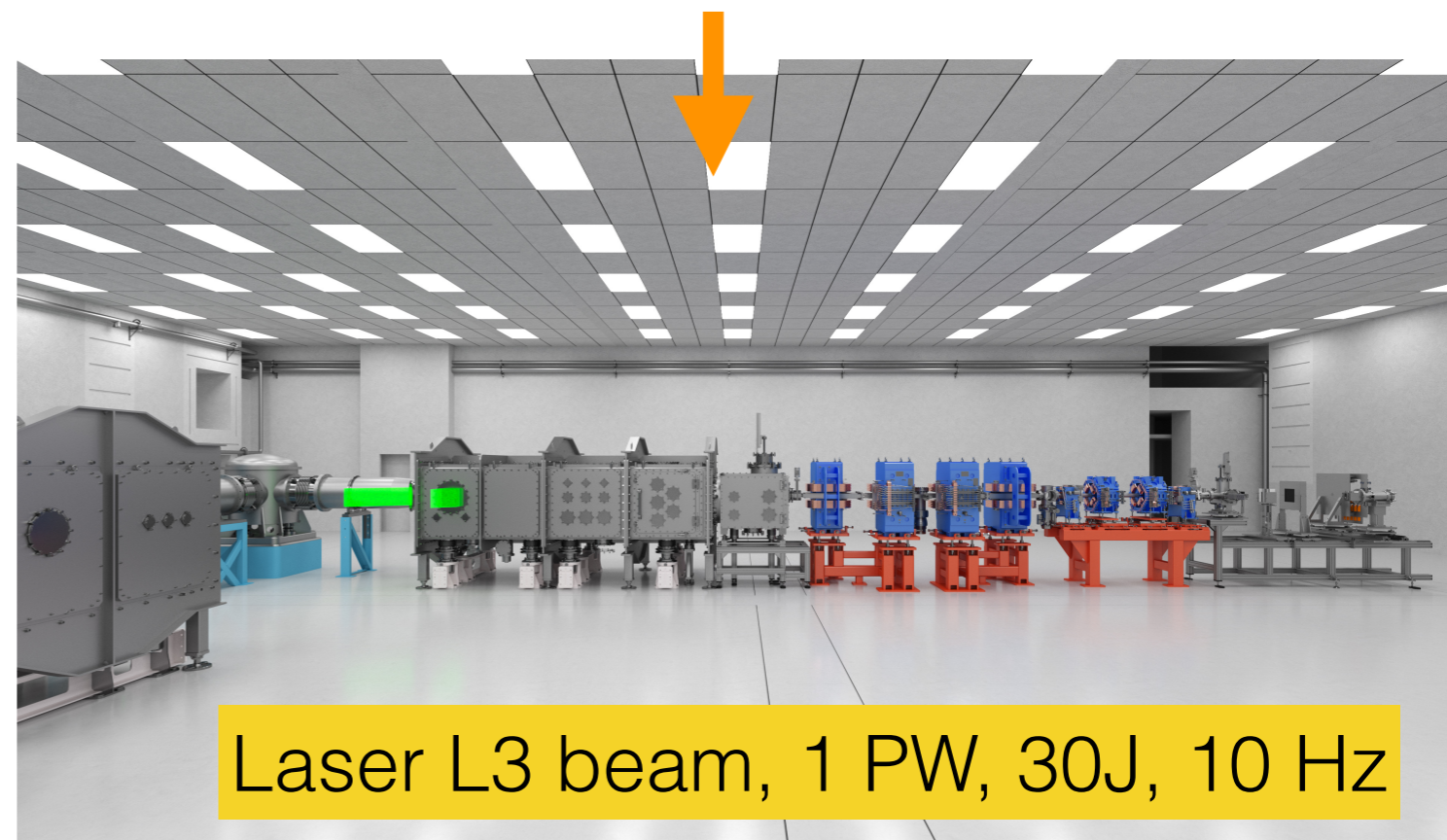
Fyzikální ústav
Akademie věd ČR, v.v.i.

Memorandum of Understanding for a scientific collaboration towards medical applications
Between the
Eli-Beamlines, Institute of Physics of AS CR, public research institution, Prague, Czech Republic
And
Laboratori Nazionali del Sud (LNS), of INFN, public research institution, Catania, Italy



2014

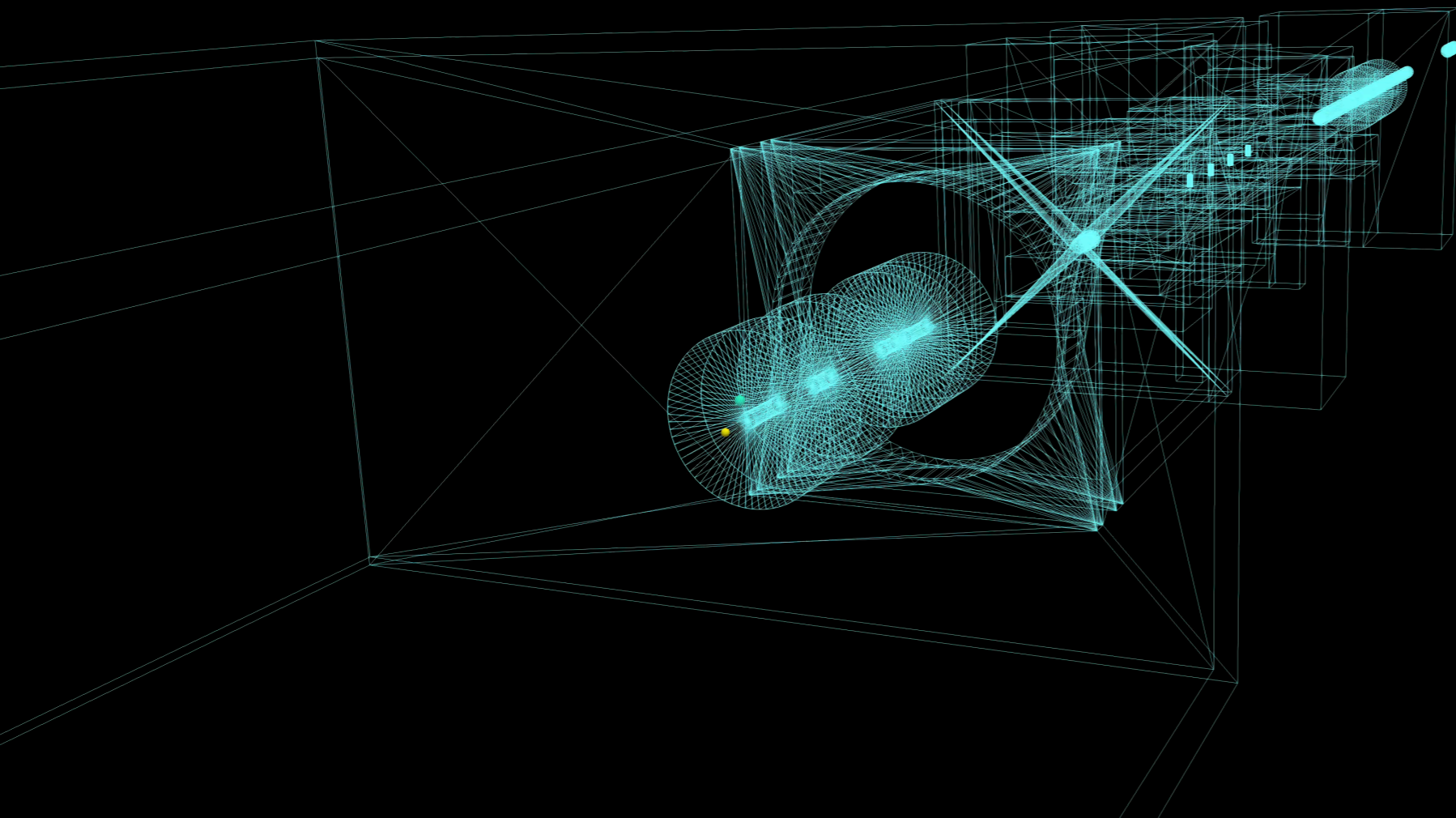
4. WORK SUBJECT-MATTER; WORK SCOPE
4.1. The Contract concerns the design, assembling, performance optimization, and delivering to the Client at the Client's Place of Business of a complete transport beamline and a number of dosimetric endpoints that will enable the users to apply...



ELI-Beamlines, Prague (CZ)



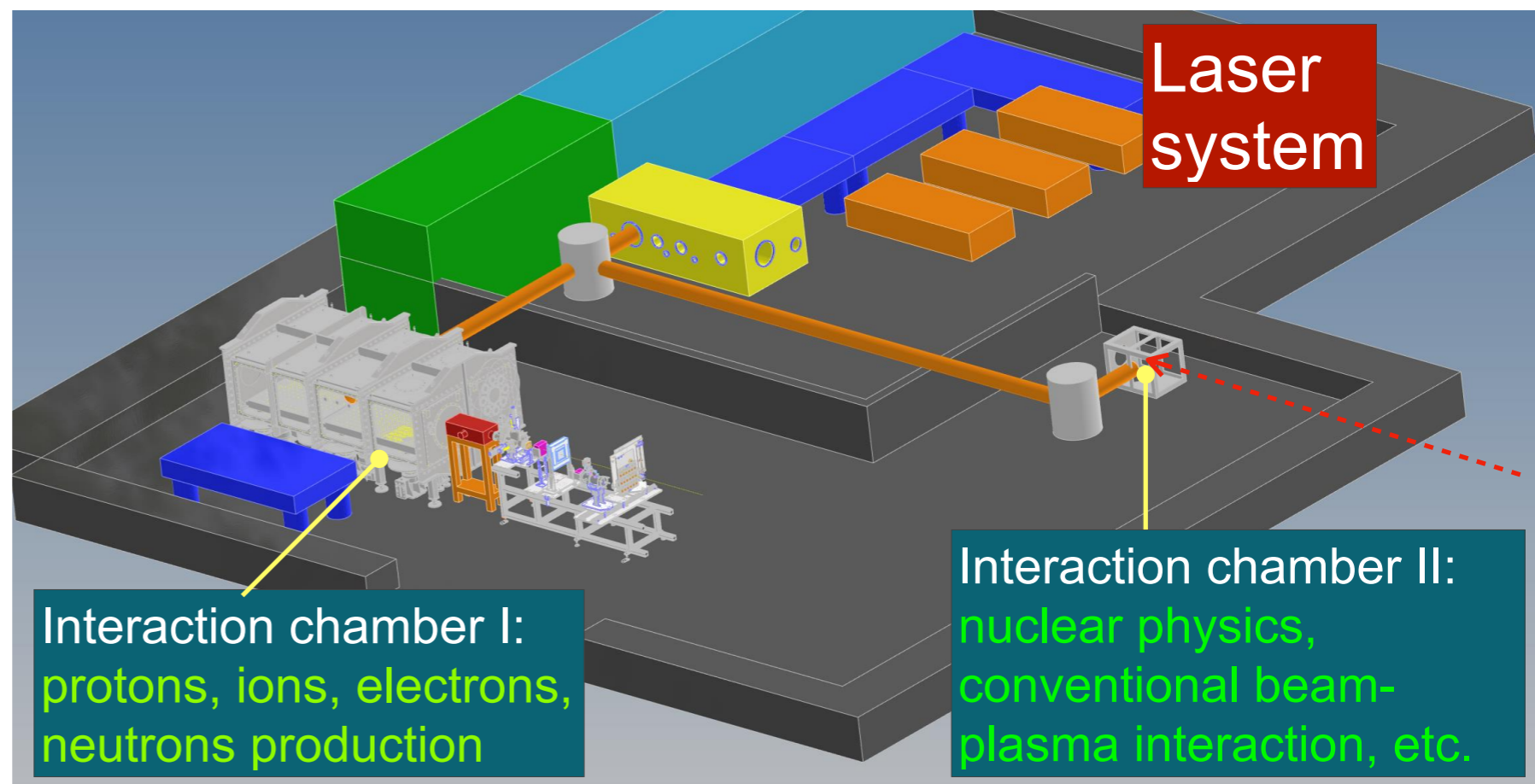
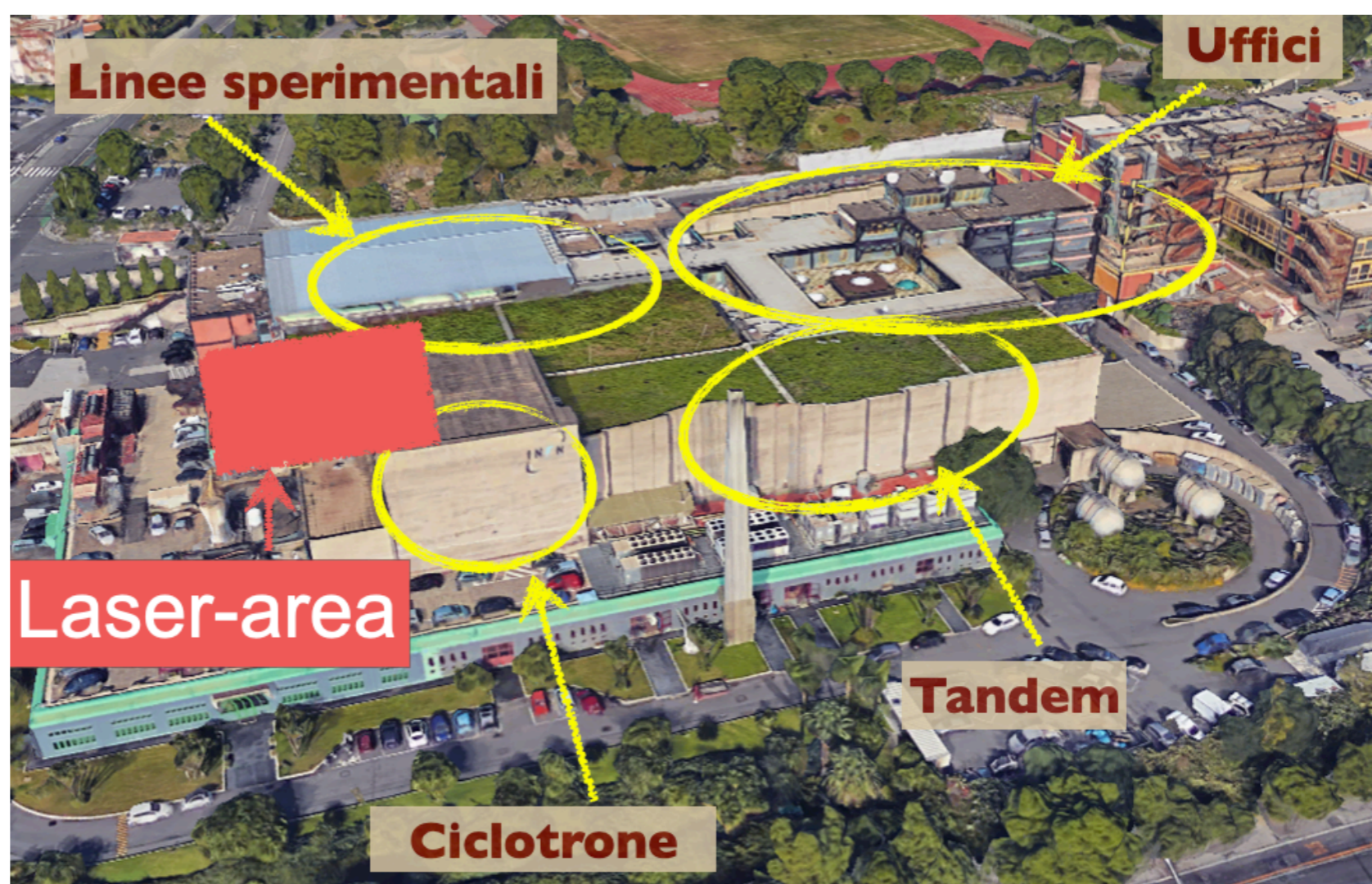
ELIMAIA Monte Carlo Simulation



- proton
- electron
- gamma
- neutron



**INFN - Laser indUCED
radiation production**



per
concludere...

Fisica Applicata

- Sviluppiamo rivelatori
- Studiamo algoritmi per stimare il danno biologico
- Simuliamo l'effetto delle radiazioni
- Studiamo tecniche per incrementare l'efficienza dei trattamenti
- Studiamo nuove tecniche per accelerare le particelle
- Collaboriamo con le aziende
- Lavoriamo in un team che non comprende soltanto "fisici"



Left to right:
Roberto Catalano, Giovanni Manno, Emilio Zappalà, Antonio Russo, Gustavo Messina, Pablo Cirrone, Milena Ficarra, Gaetano Savoca, Cristina Guarrera, Giusi Larosa, Antonino Amato, Giada Petringa, Giacomo Cuttone, Rhuani Khanna, Giuseppe Fustaino, Beatrice Cagni, Cinzia Gigliuto, Nello Salomone, Chidera Opara, Daniele Rizzo, Giuseppe Pastore, Salvo Tudisco, Nelly Puglia, Marco Calvaruso, Luigi Minafra, Giorgio Russo, Piero Lojacono

The INFN-LNS Medical Physics Group - Catania, March 20, 2019

Fisici

Tecnici (meccanici ed elettronici)

Biologi

Ingegneri

Le attività che
faremo insieme
nei prossimi giorni

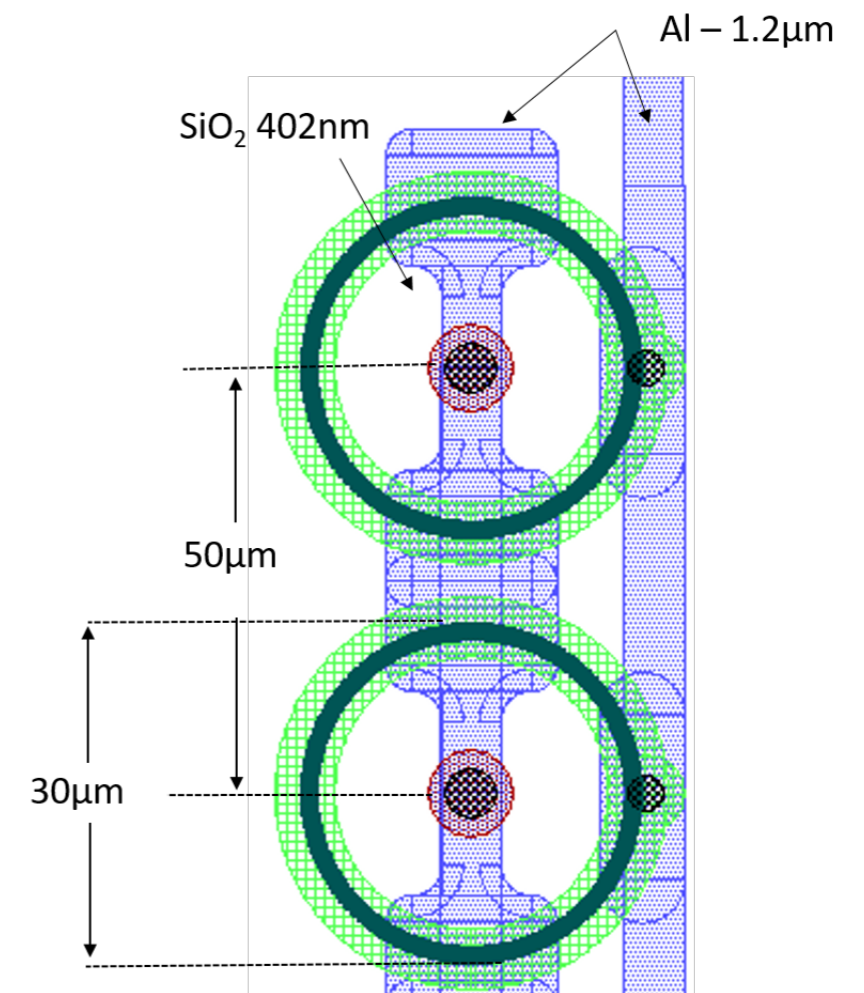
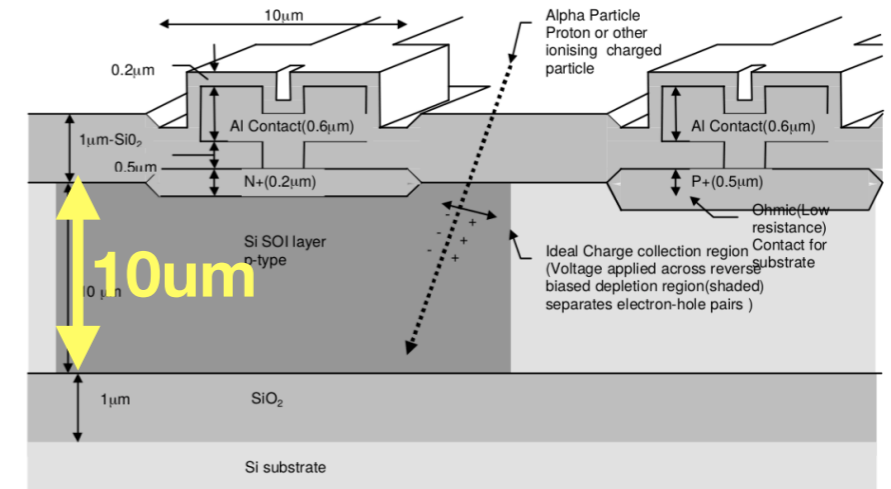
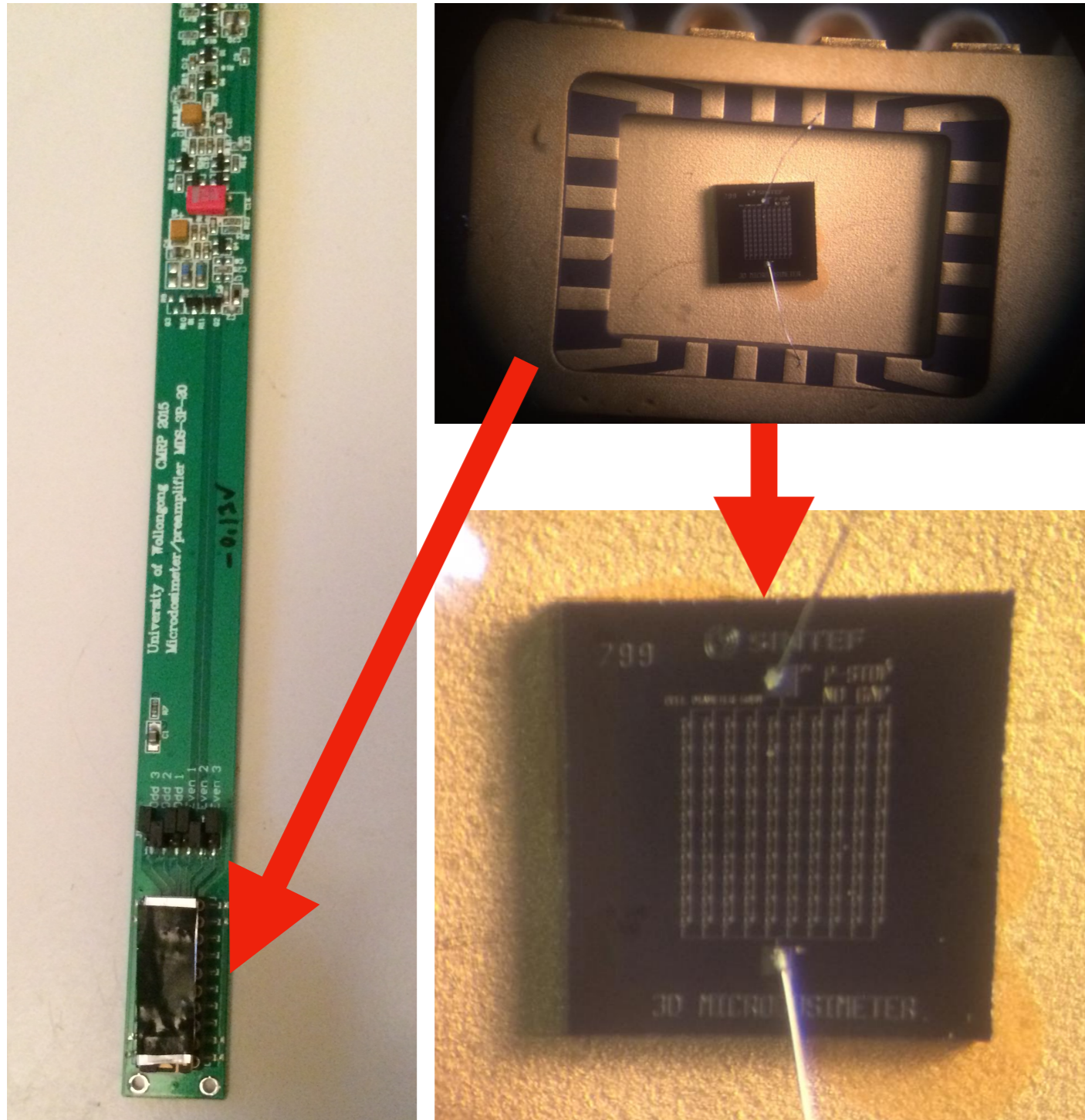
Le attività che faremo

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- Visita della sala CATANA**
- Misura del LET con una sorgente di particelle alpha**
- Lettura di un rivelatore a traccia di tipo CR39**
- Lettura di un rivelatore passivo di tipo RCF**

La misura del LET

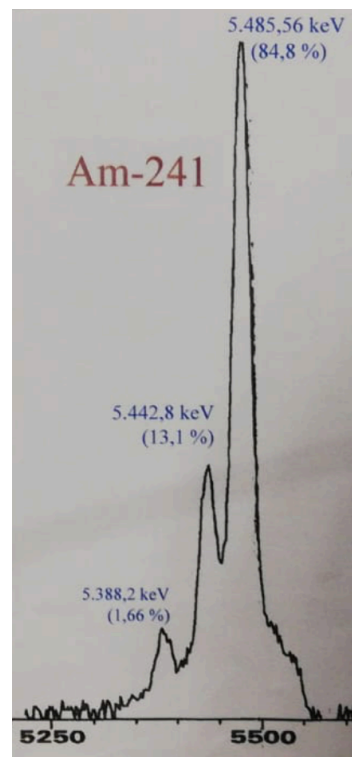
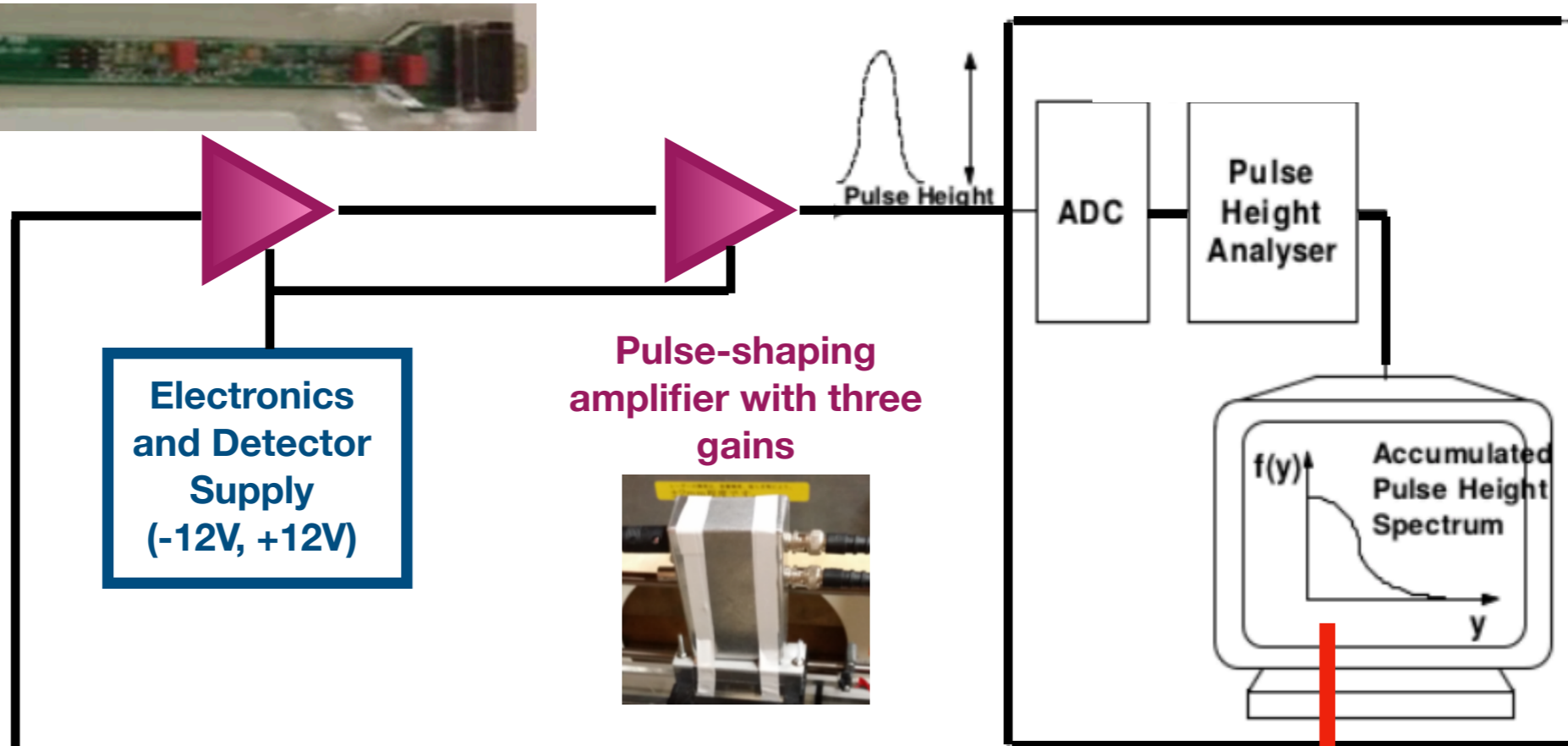
45



La misura del LET

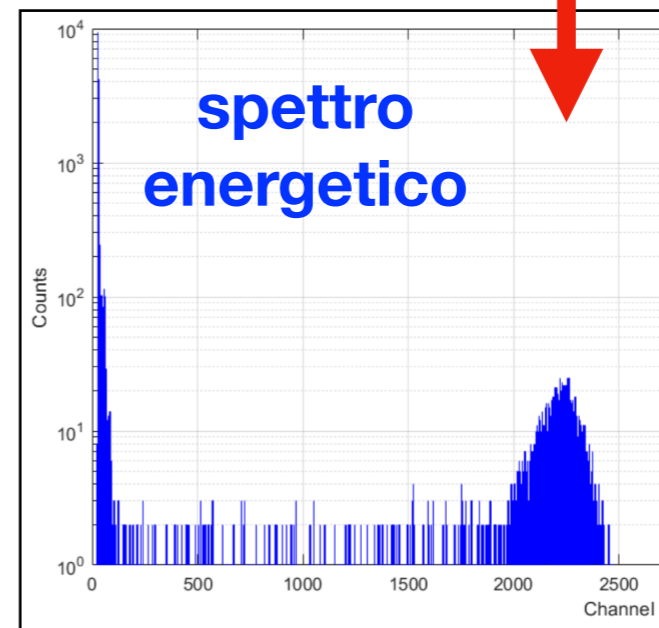
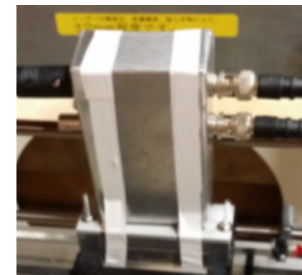
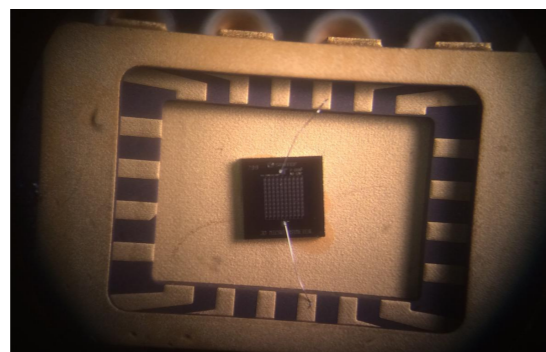
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Low noise front-end electronics
(Preamplifier integrated circuit)



sorgente

rivelatore

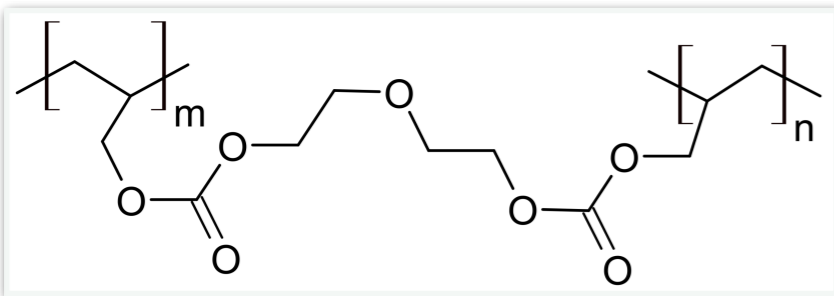
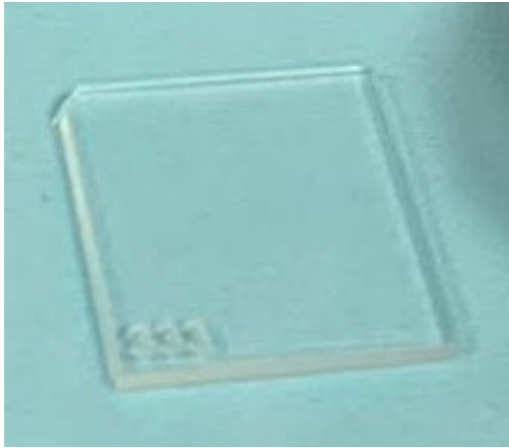


LET

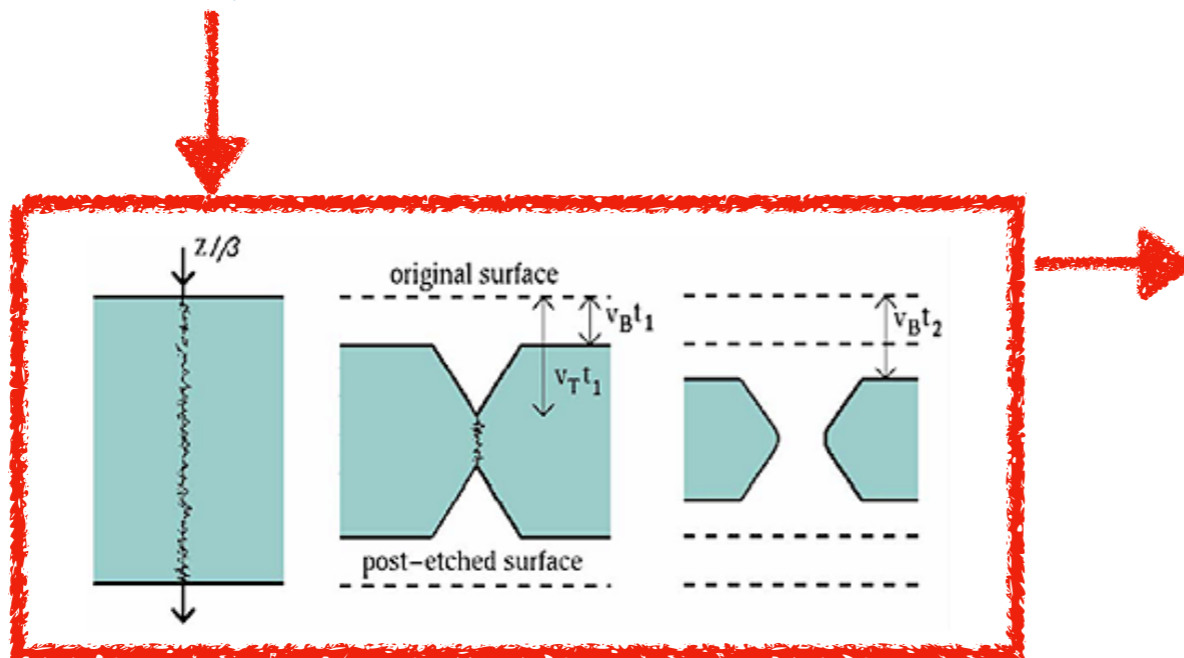
Lettura di un rivelatore di tipo CR39

47

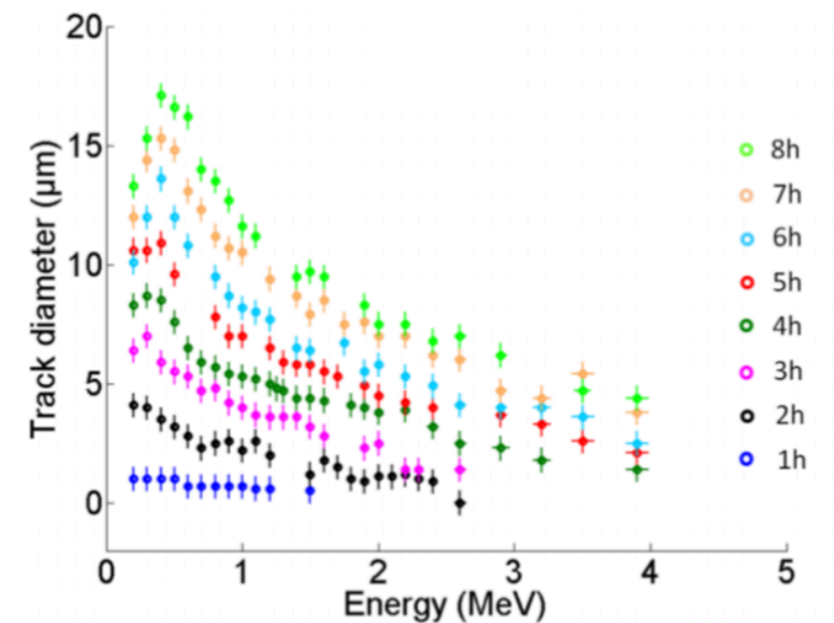
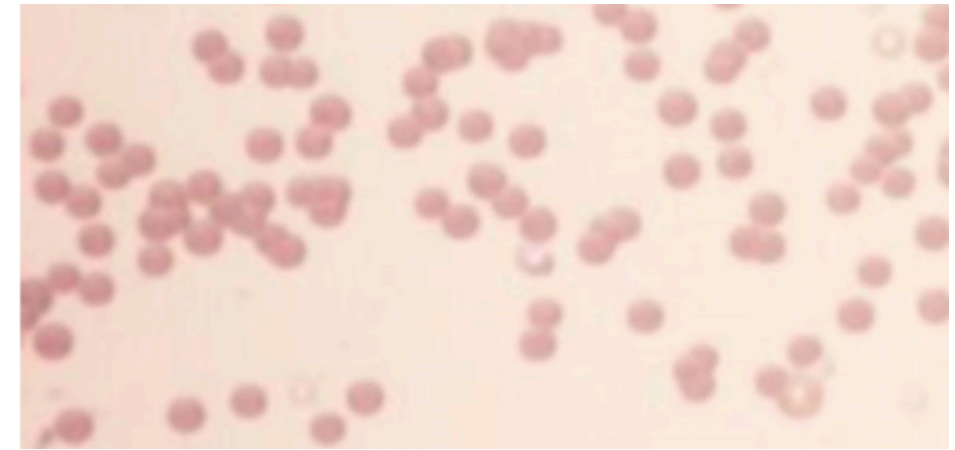
CR39



Etching
NaOH
70°

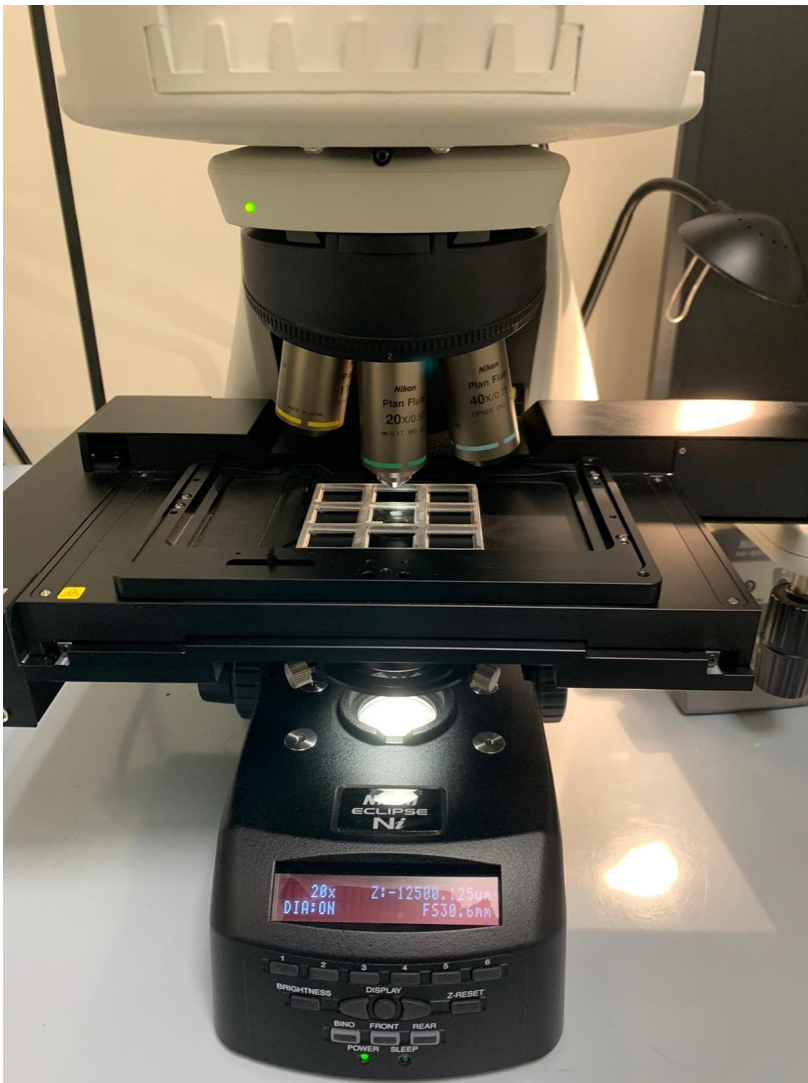


Dimensione tracce Vs Energia

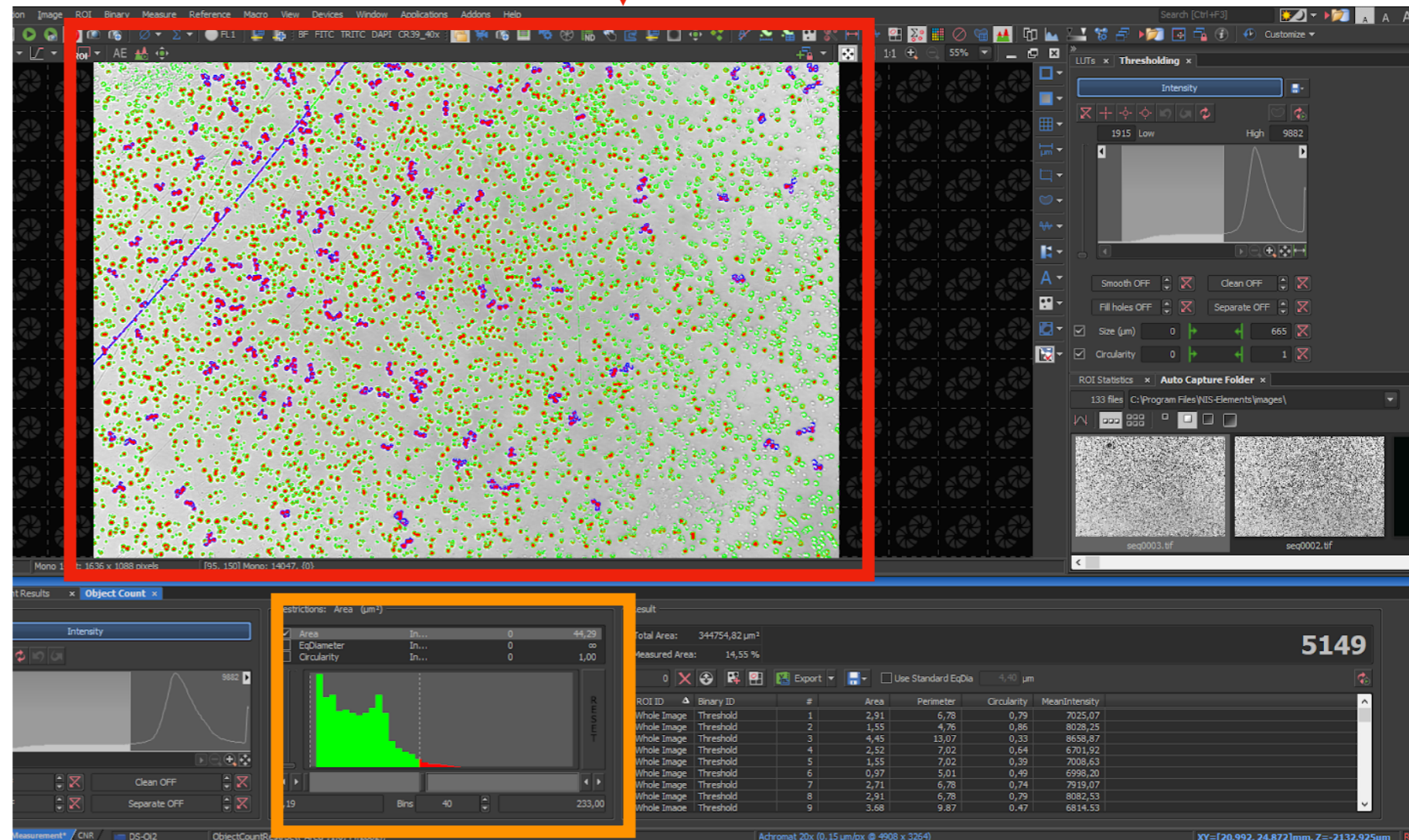


Lettura di un rivelatore di tipo CR39

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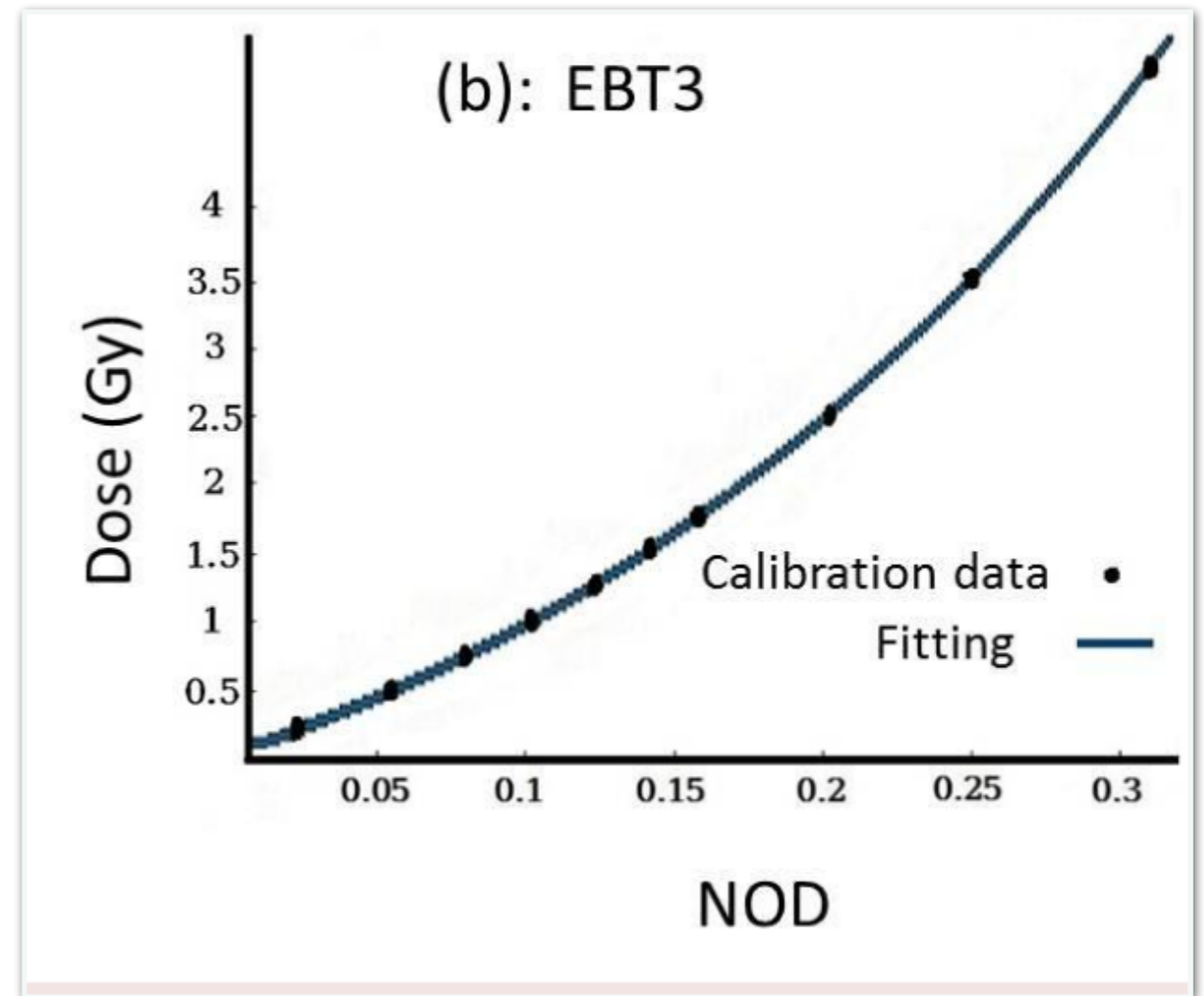
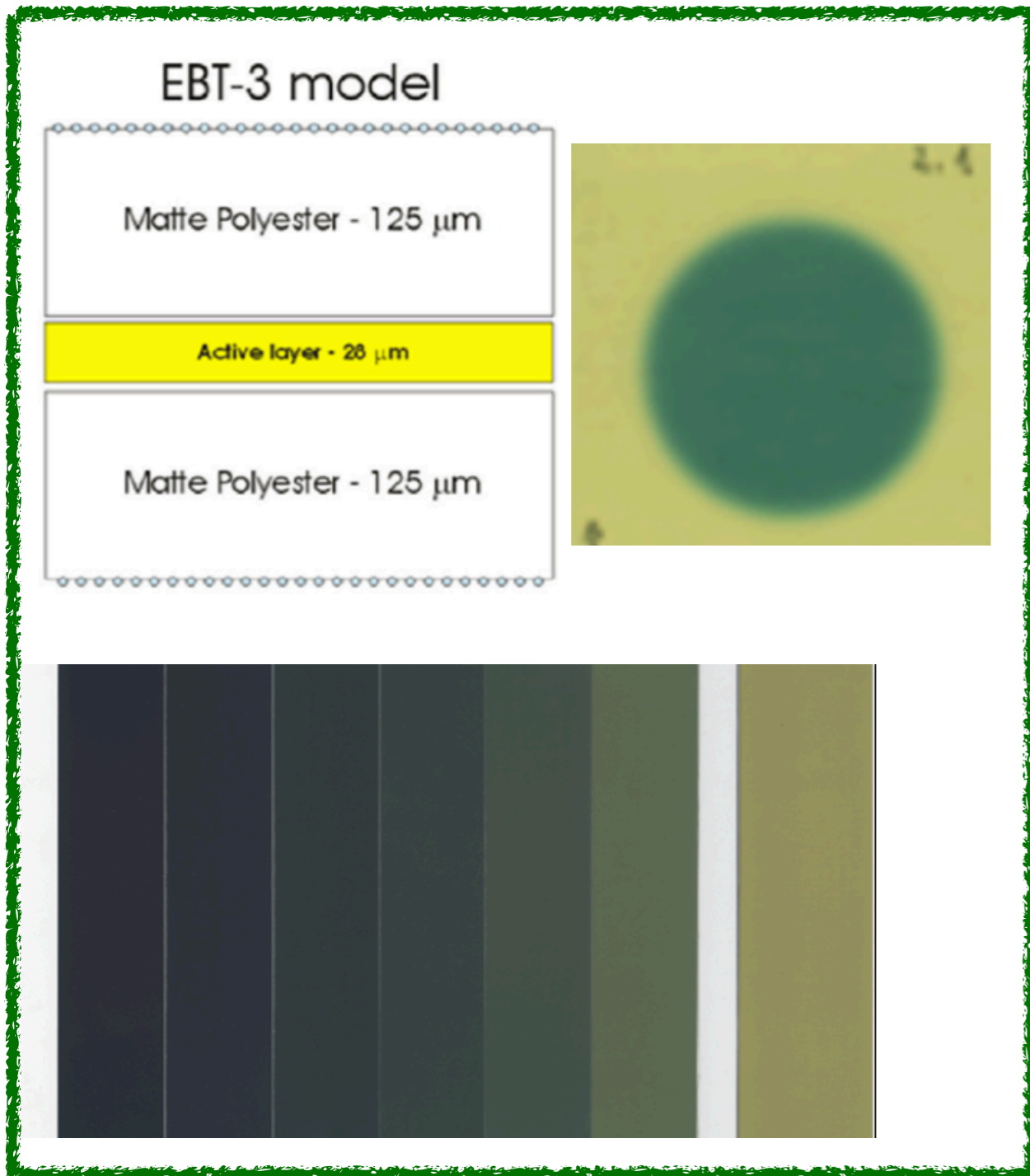
selezioniamo le tracce che ci interessano



distribuzione delle tracce

Lettura di un rivelatore di tipo RCF

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$$OD = \log_{10} T = \log_{10} \frac{I_0}{I}$$



Dose [Gy]

Grazie per
l'attenzione