

Laser-driven Production of Particle Beams and their application to medical treatment



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Markus Roth

TU Darmstadt

- The Case

- Laser-driven electrons
 - Potential for Applications in Therapy
 - Use of secondary Radiation

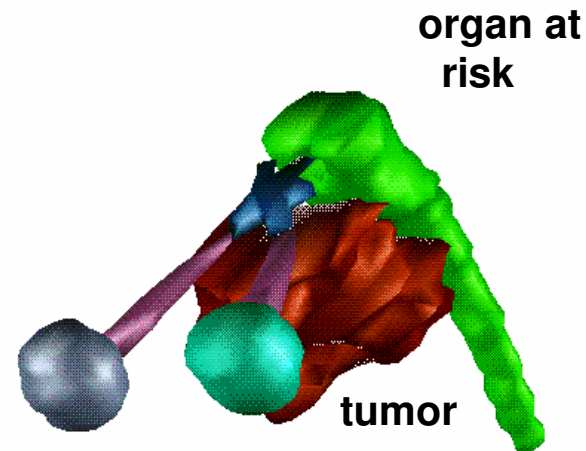
- Laser-driven Ion Beams
 - Properties and Mechanism
 - Damage reports...
 - Experiments

- Applications as Sources for Therapy
 - Transport of laser-accelerated protons

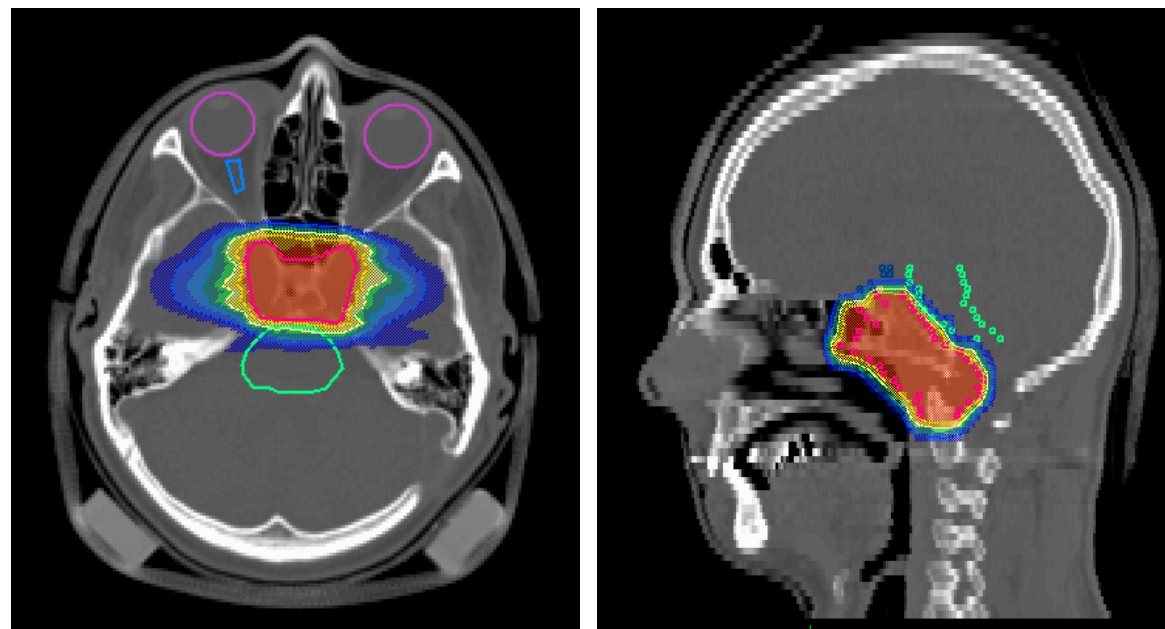
- Summary

SITUATION / INDICATIONS

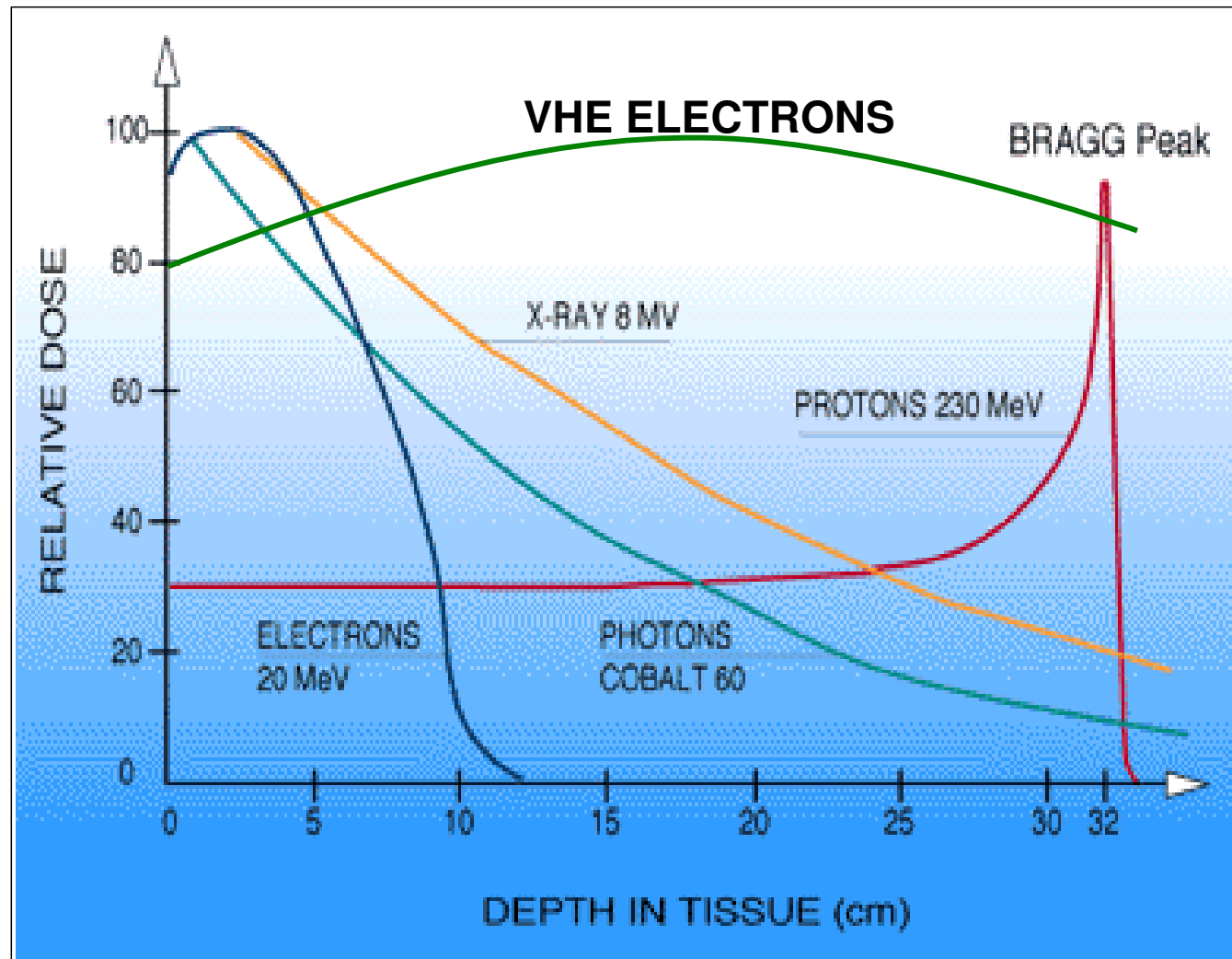
- Locations: brain and base of the skull, prostate, liver, lung
- Profile: deep-seated and radioresistant tumor close to organs at risk



**tumor-conformal
dose distribution**

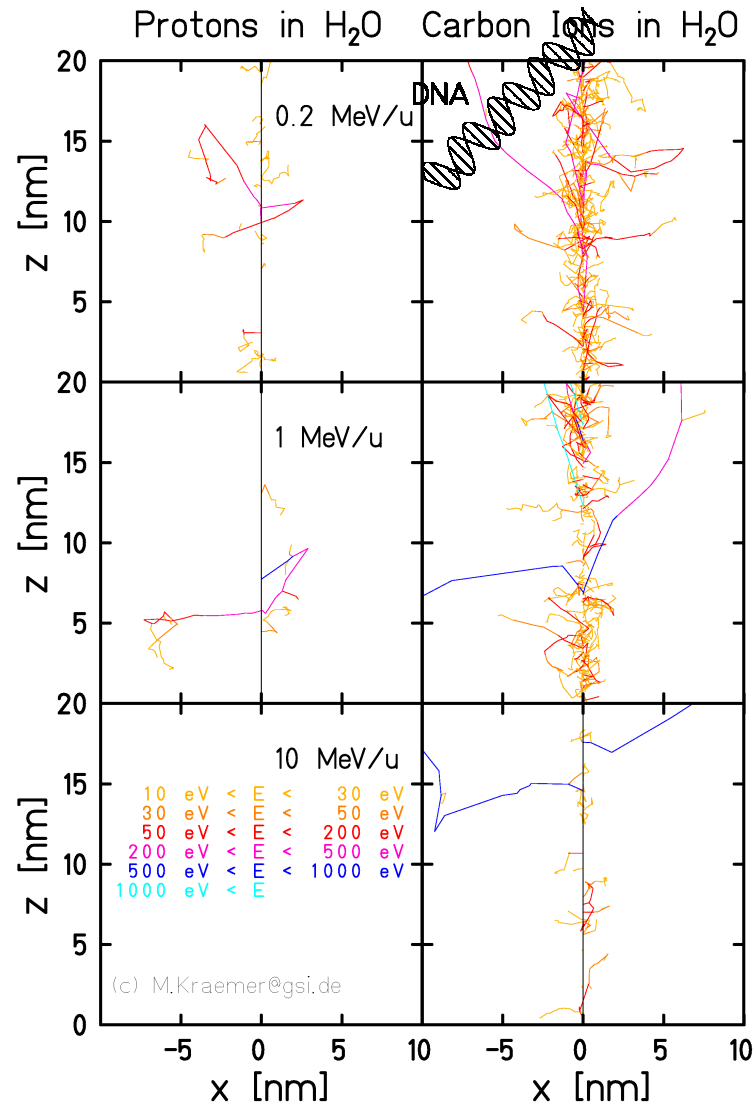


Dose deposition : Photon X, electrons VHE (very high energy) electrons, & ions





microscopic dose distributions

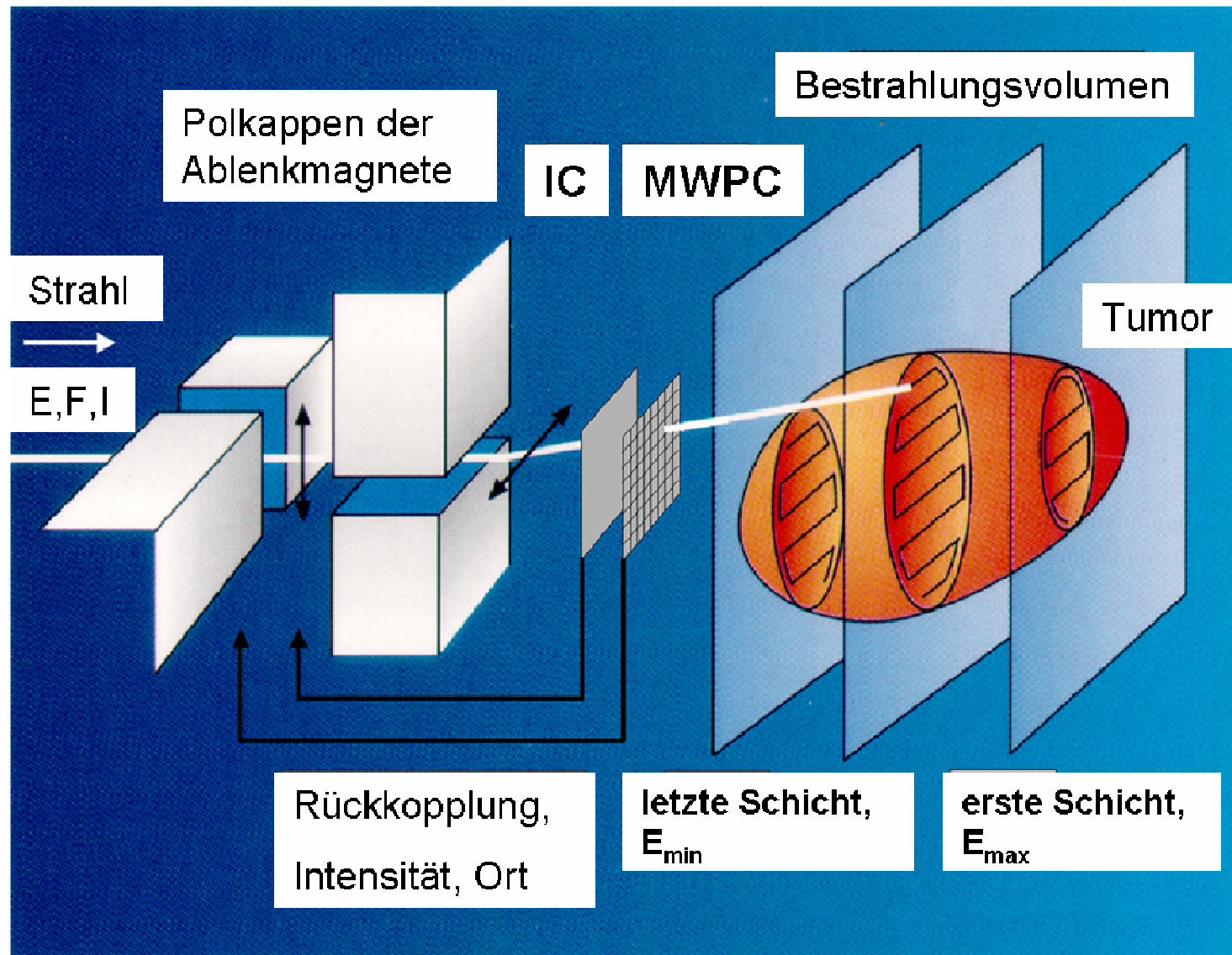


ADVANCED / BEAM SCANNING

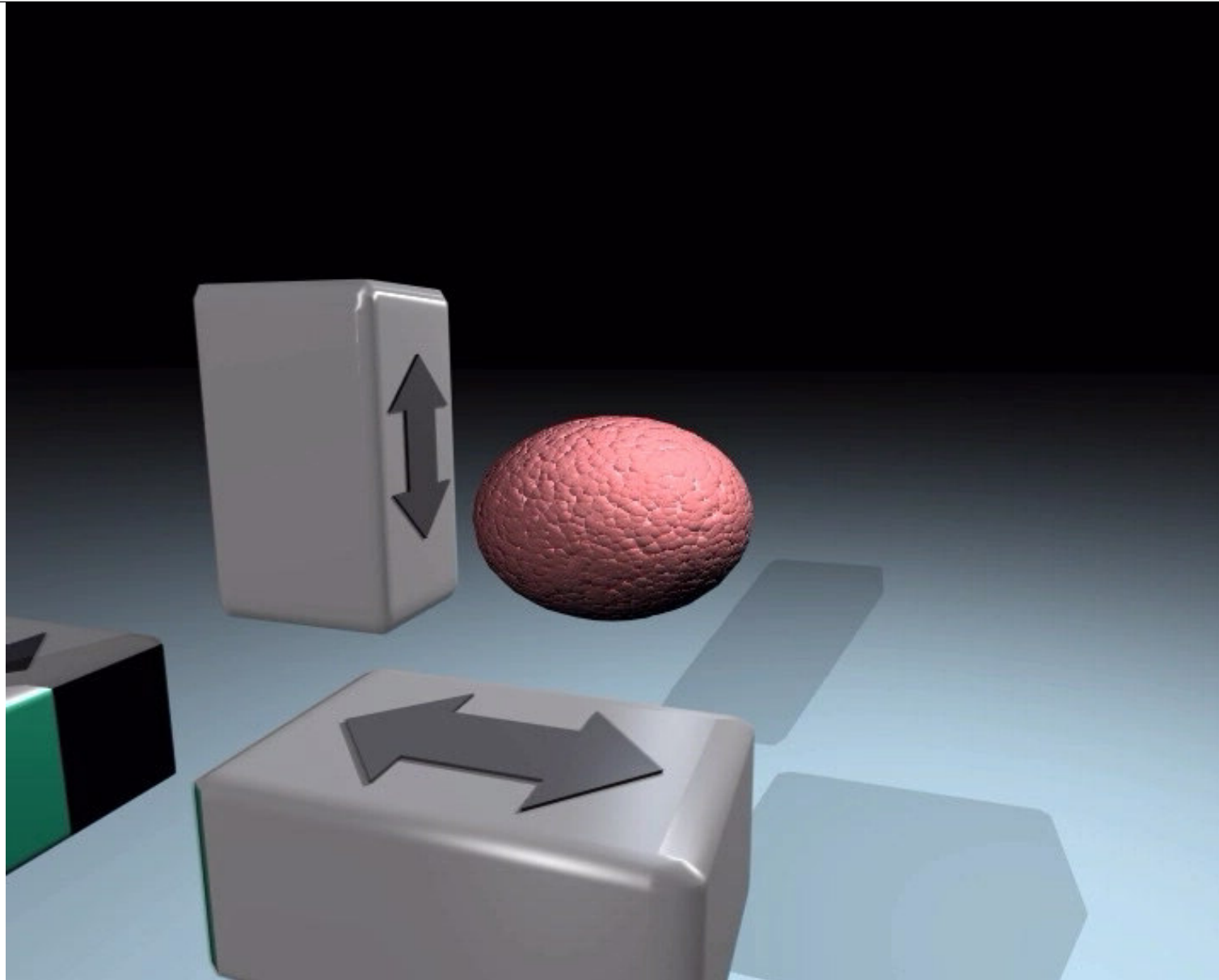
scanning of
focussed
ion beams
in fast
dipole magnets

active variation
of the energy,
focus and
intensity in the
accelerator and
beam lines

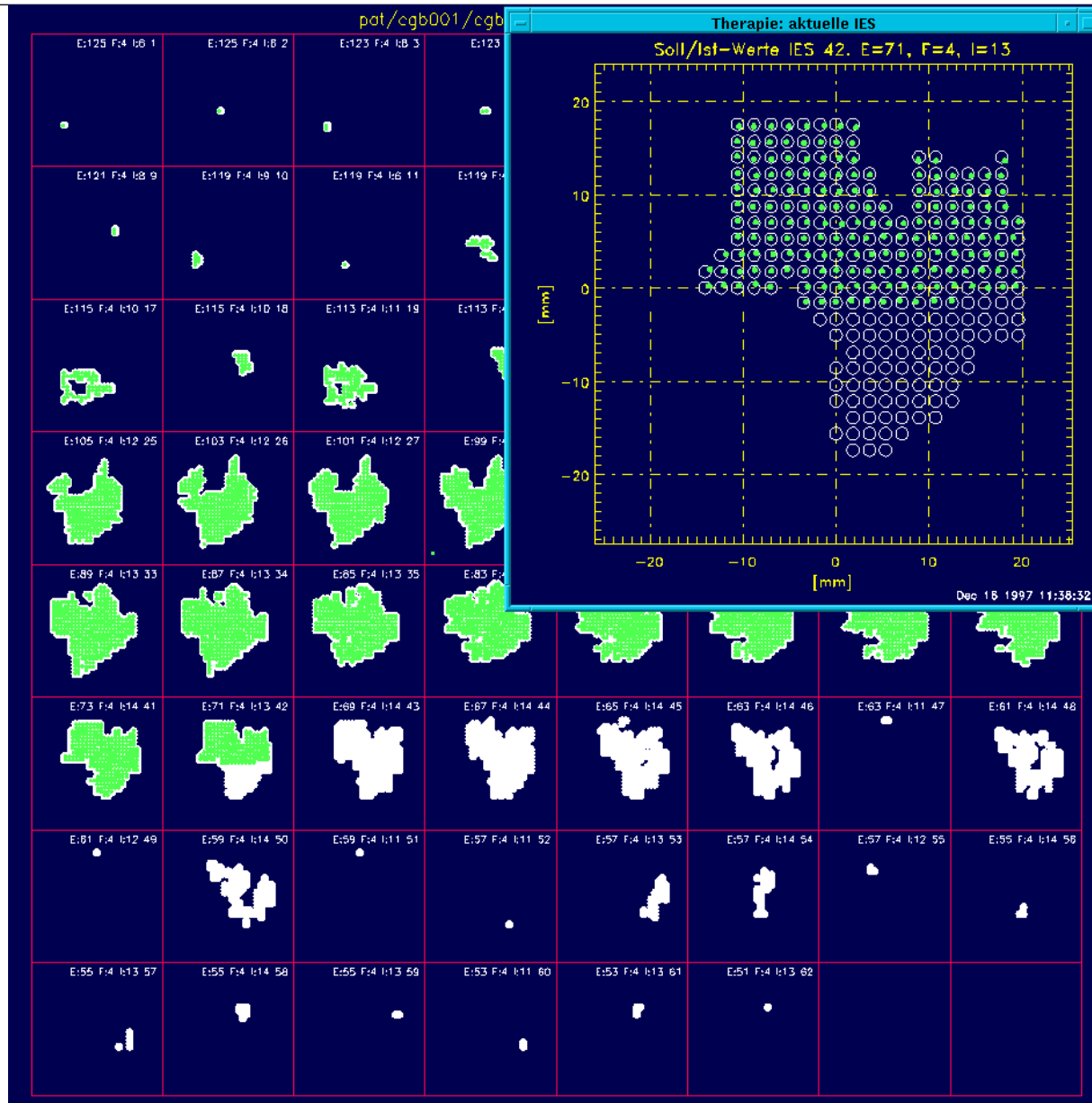
utmost precision
via active
position and
intensity feed
back loops



intensity-controlled rasterscan technique @ GSI

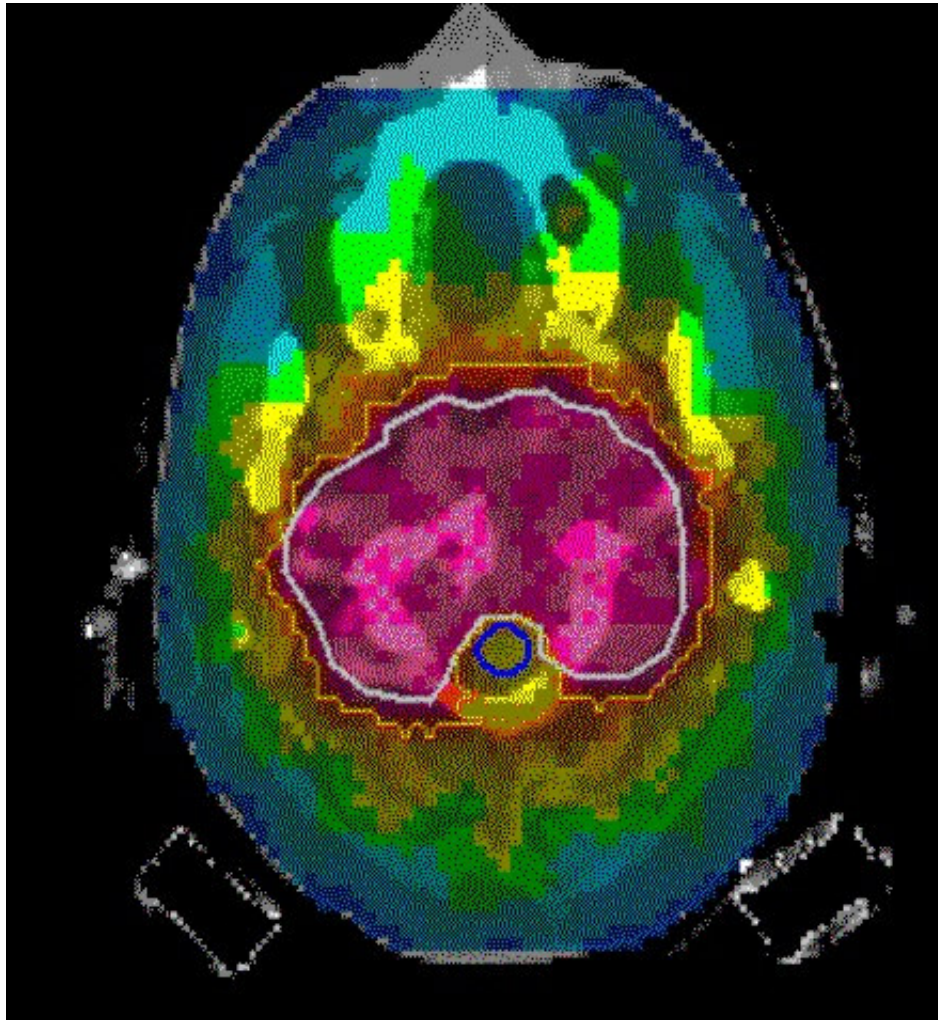


ADVANCED / TARGET VOLUME

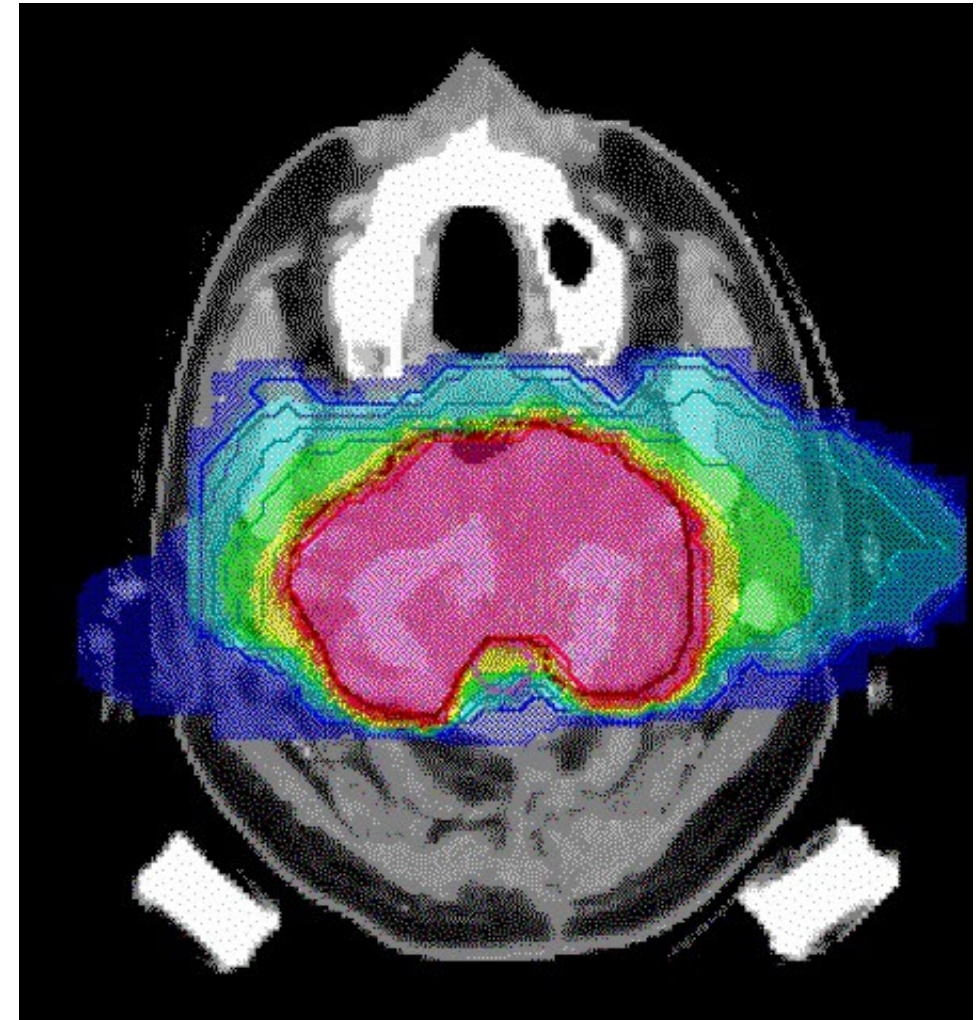


Slices of tumor
treated at GSI

IMRT 9 fields



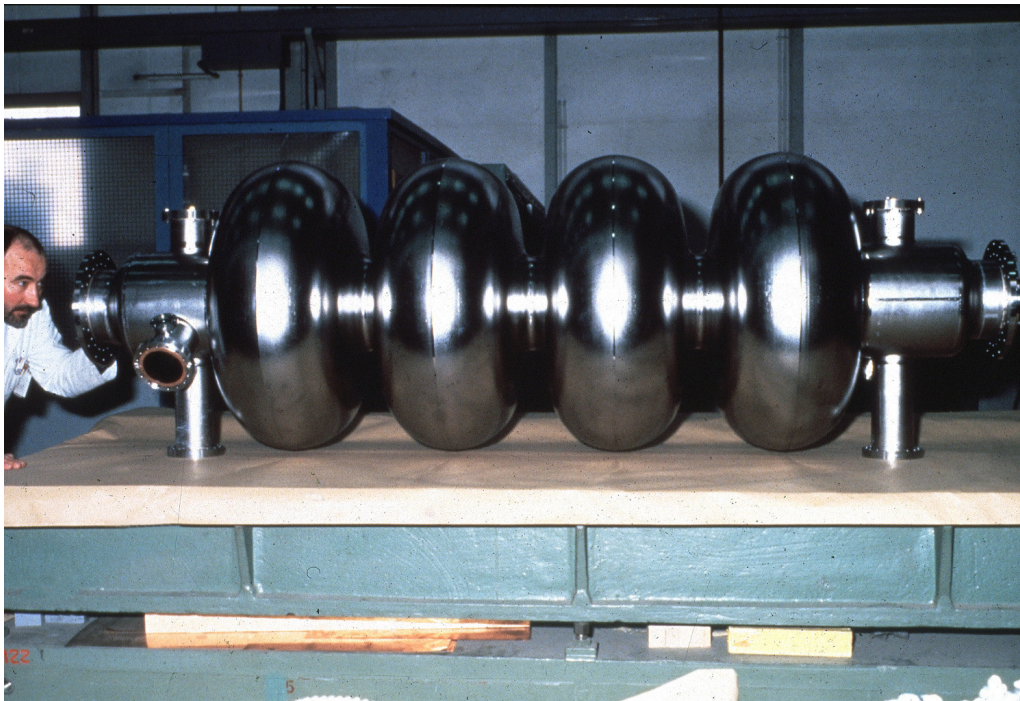
Carbon 2 fields



Ions vs. IMRT

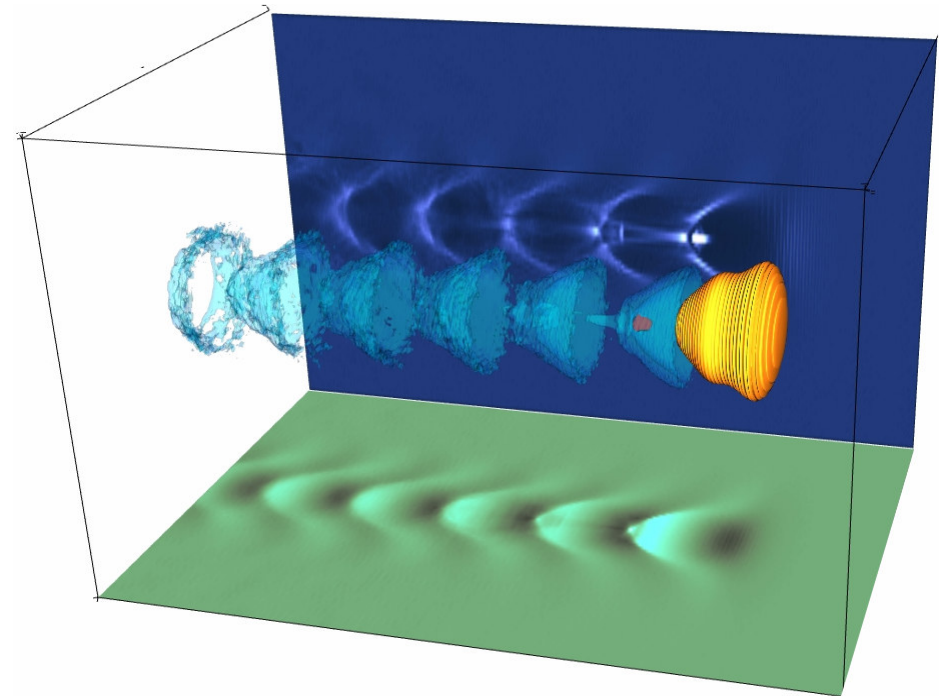
Efficient acceleration in plasmas = compact accelerator ?

RF cavity : 1 m



$E = 10-100 \text{ MeV/m}$

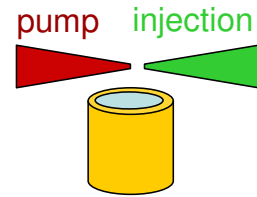
Plasma cavity : 1 mm



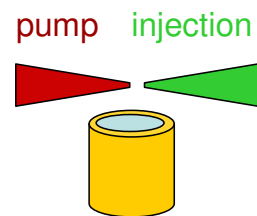
$E = 100-1000 \text{ GeV/m}$

courtesy of **V. Malka *et al.*, Science 2002**

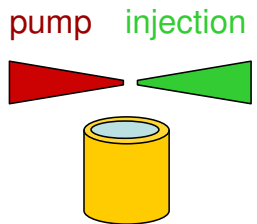
Use of a two laser scheme: Mono energetic e-beam :1% energy spread



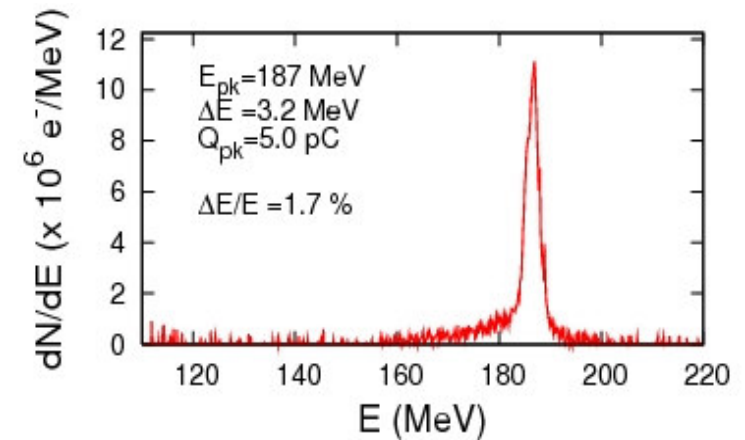
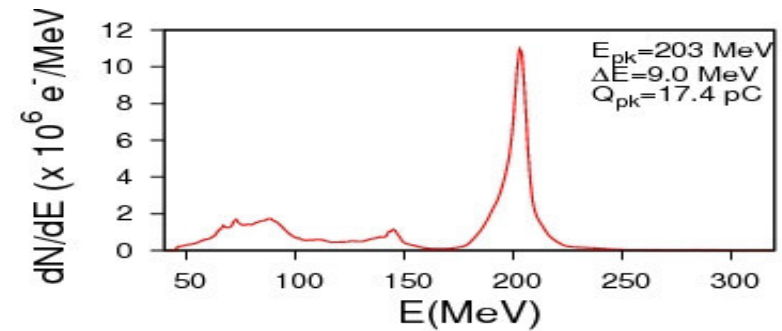
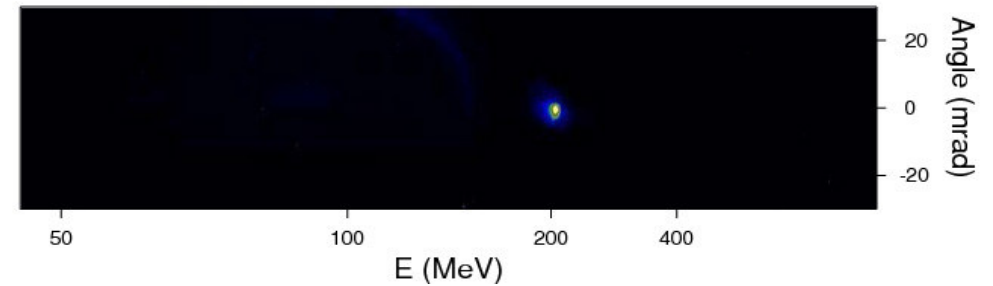
Late Injection



Injection at center



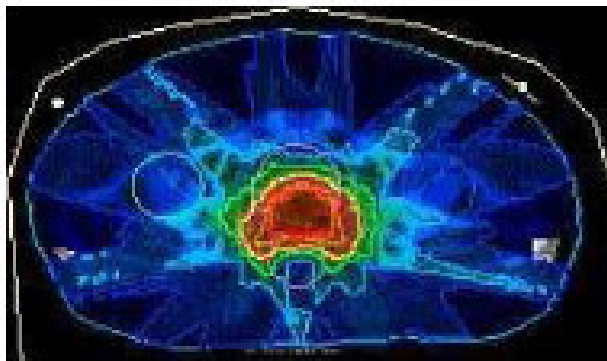
Early Injection



J. Faure et al., Nature 2006

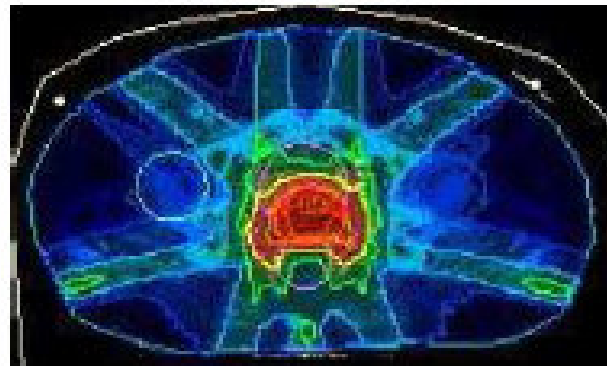
Application to radiotherapy: Improvement of some cancer treatments

A typical transversal dose distribution with 7 beams.



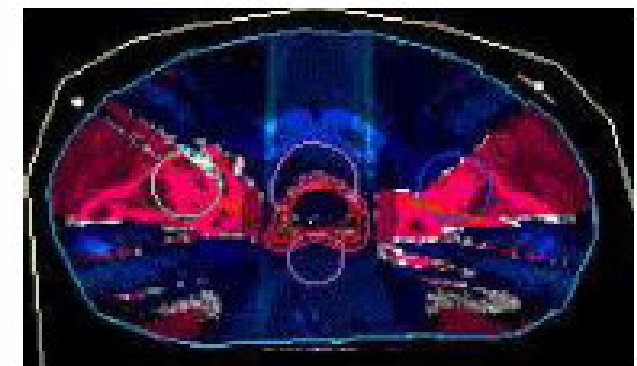
(a)

Electrons



(b)

Photons X



(c)

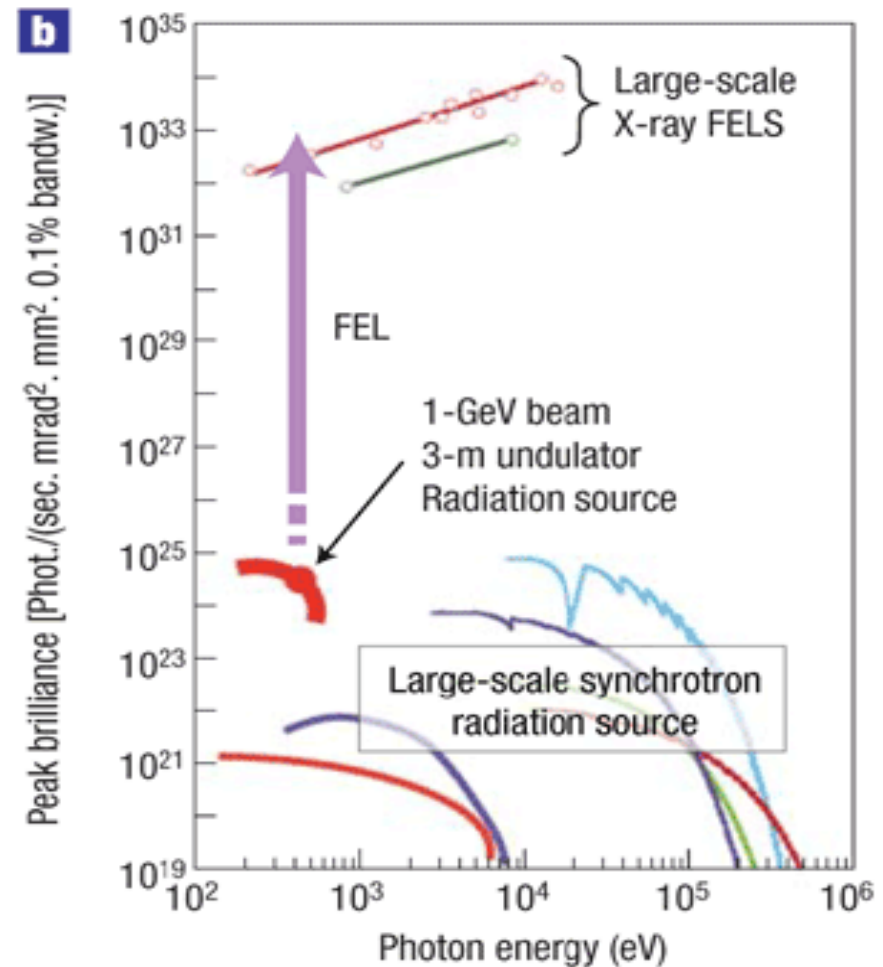
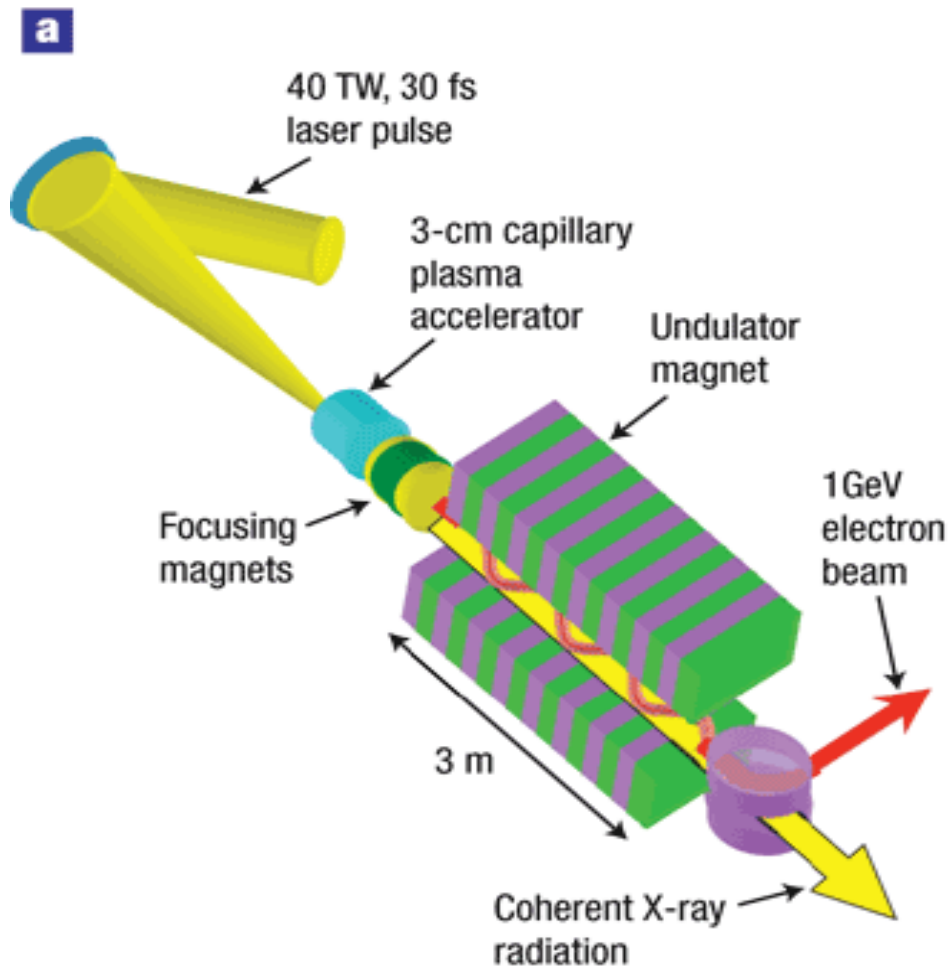
Différence

A comparison of dose deposition with 6 MeV X ray an improvement of the quality of a clinically approved prostate treatment plan. While the target coverage is the same or even slightly better for 250 MeV electrons compared to photons the dose sparing of sensitive structures is improved **up to 19%**.

**T. Fuchs, et al. soumis à Med Bio
En coll. Avec DKFZ**

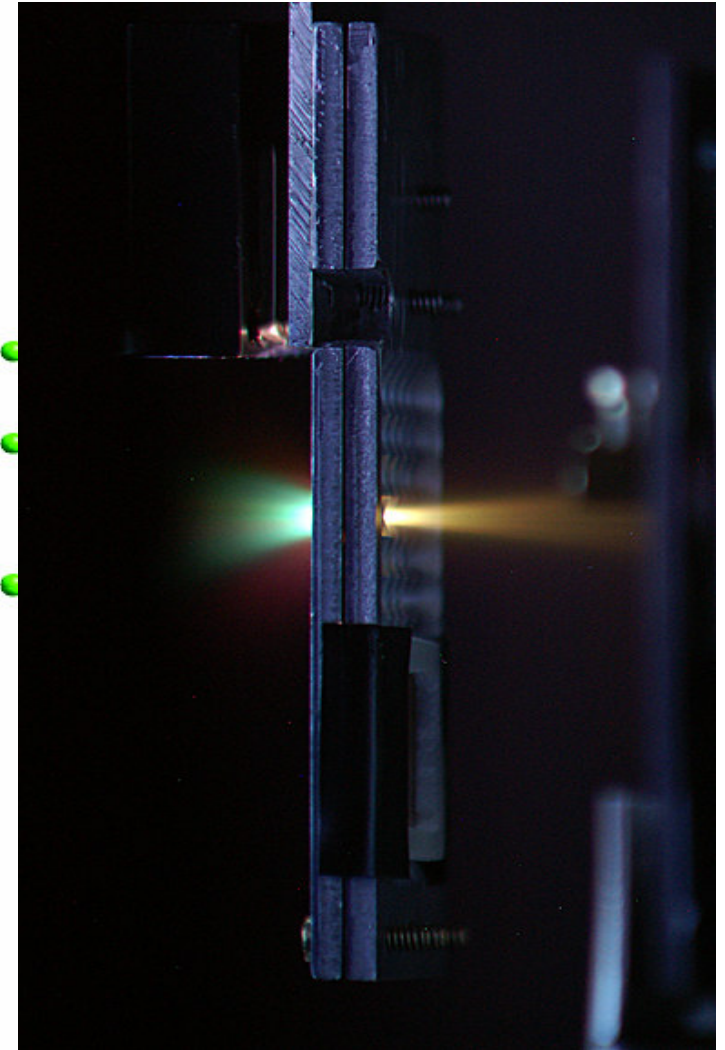
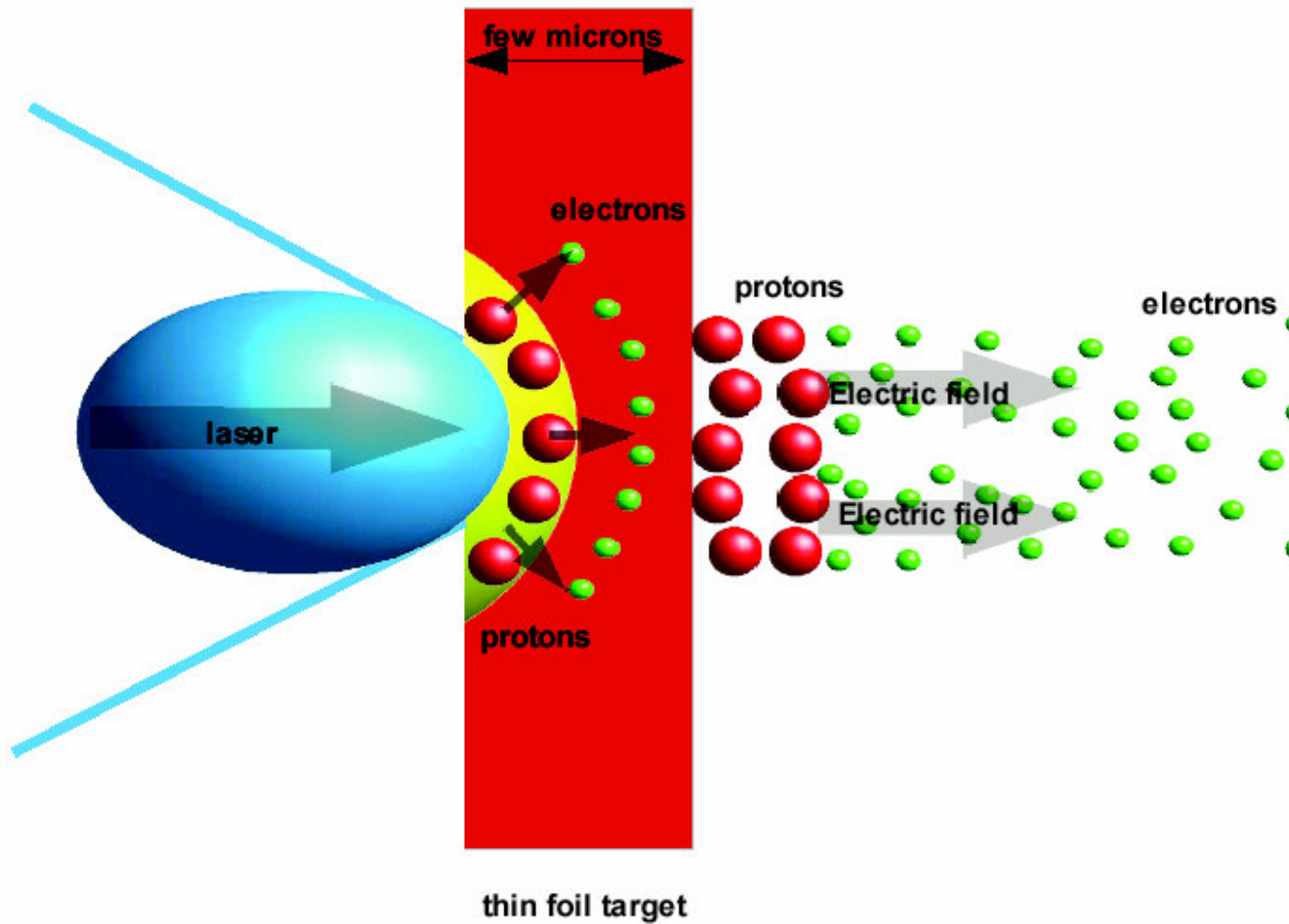
Use of secondary radiation

Compact, laser driven FEL's could lead to coherent x-ray radiation for phase contrast imaging

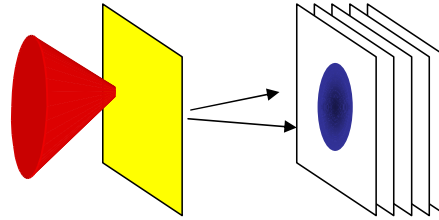


Kazuhisa Nakajima, *Nature Physics* 4, 92 - 93 (2008)

Proton acceleration with lasers : Static electric fields



Beam characteristics of laser-virtual cathode sheath accelerators



- **Transverse emittance:** $< 0.002 \pi$ mm-mrad (cf. RF Linacs $\sim 1 \pi$ mm-mrad)
- **Longitudinal emittance:** $< 10^{-6}$ eV-s
(velocity correlated; synchrotrons ~ 0.1 eV-s)
- **Energy spread:** 100%
- **Bunch charge:** $10^{11} - 10^{13}$ protons or ions
- **Source diameter:** $\sim 50 \mu\text{m}$ (fwhm)
- **Charge state purity:** $> 80\%$ He-like
- **Ion current:** ~ 10 kA (at source)
- **Rep-rate:** determined by laser driver
- **Laser-ion efficiency:** $> 1\%$ (4-20% observed)

Other proposed mechanisms

RPA for highest intensities

Light pressure drives the electrons forward and ions have to follow

Radiation Pressure Acceleration:

Circular Polarization may enable RPA at „moderate“ intensities ($>10^{20}$ W/cm²).

Radiation Pressure Acceleration with ultraintense lasers has been suggested as an effective ion acceleration mechanism at very high intensities (10^{23} - 10^{24} W/cm²):

1. JAERI, Japan: Highly Efficient Relativistic-Ion Generation in the Laser-Piston Regime. T. Esirkepov, et al., PRL, 92 (2004)

Circular Polarization enables Radiation Pressure Acceleration (RPA) or Phase Stable Acceleration (PSA) at todays intensities ($\sim 10^{20}$ - 10^{21} W/cm²):

2. SIOM, China: Efficient GeV ion generation by ultraintense circularly polarized laser pulse. Xiaomei Zhang, et al., PoP 14, 123108 (2007)

3. RAL, UK: Radiation pressure acceleration of thin foils with circularly polarized laser pulses, A. P. L. Robinson, et al., New Journal of Physics 10, 013021 (2008)

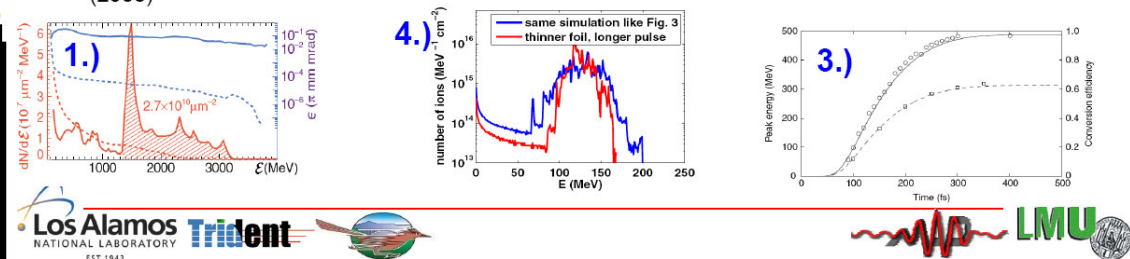
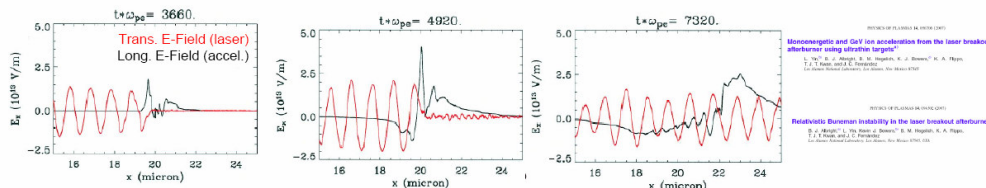
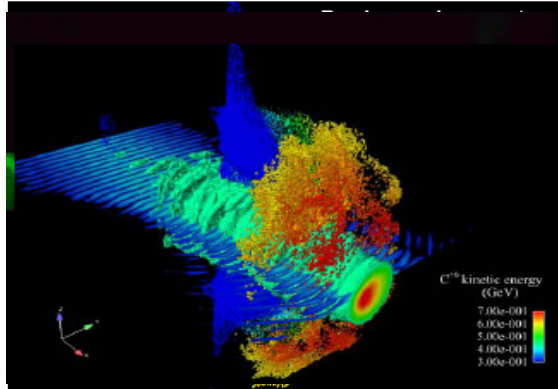
4. Czech Tech. Univ.: Monoenergetic ion beams from ultrathin foils irradiated by ultrahigh-contrast circularly polarized laser pulses, O. Klímo, et al., PRST-AB 11, 031301 (2008)

5. Peking Univ., China: Generating High-Current Monoenergetic Proton Beams by a Circularly Polarized Laser Pulse in the Phase-Stable Acceleration Regime, X.Q. Yan et al., PRL 100, 135003 (2008)

Break-Out Afterburner (BOA) acceleration

BOA proceeds in 3 stages: TNSA, Enhanced TNSA, Afterburner

1. Phase: Standard TNSA - a small fraction of electrons is promoted to 'hot' \Rightarrow modest acceleration
 2. Phase: Enhanced TNSA - all electrons are promoted to 'hot': \Rightarrow Field increases, skindepth increases beyond target thickness (breakout).
 3. Phase: Afterburner - laser penetrates the target, velocity difference in e- and ion distributions triggers kinetic instability \Rightarrow Electron transfer energy to ions, laser reheats electrons (afterburner).
- Largest ion energies emitted in an angle in plane orthogonal to polarization plane.
 - [Accelerating E-Field moves with the ions](#)

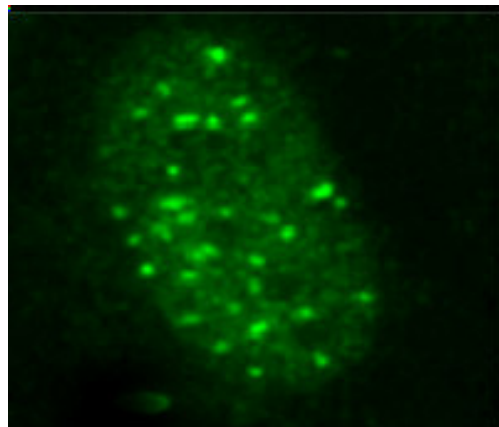


BOA mechanism
second boost of the hot electrons when
target becomes transparent

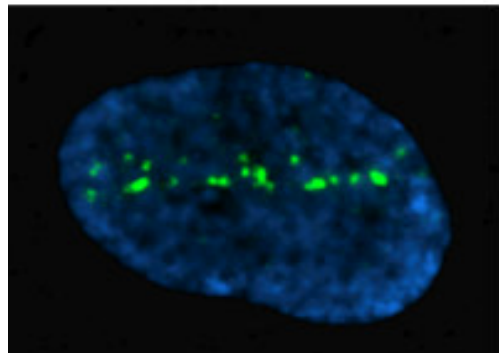
Kinematic Buneman instability

Slides from B.M. Hegelich (LANL)

DNA dsb visualized by immunofluorescence of γ -H2AX histone in human skin fibroblasts exposed to 2 Gy of ionizing radiation



γ -rays

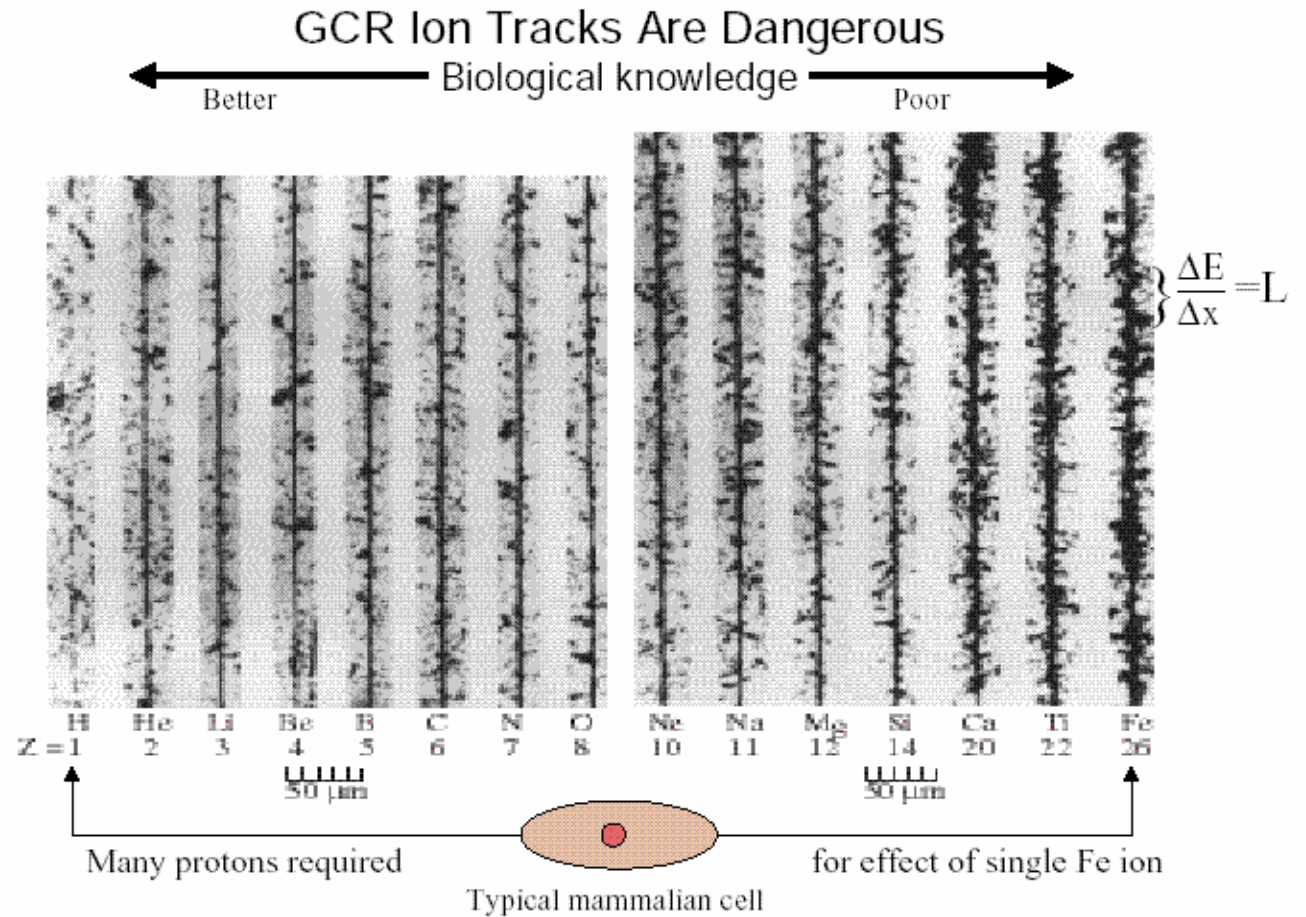


silicon



iron

Cucinotta and Durante, *Lancet Oncol.* 2006

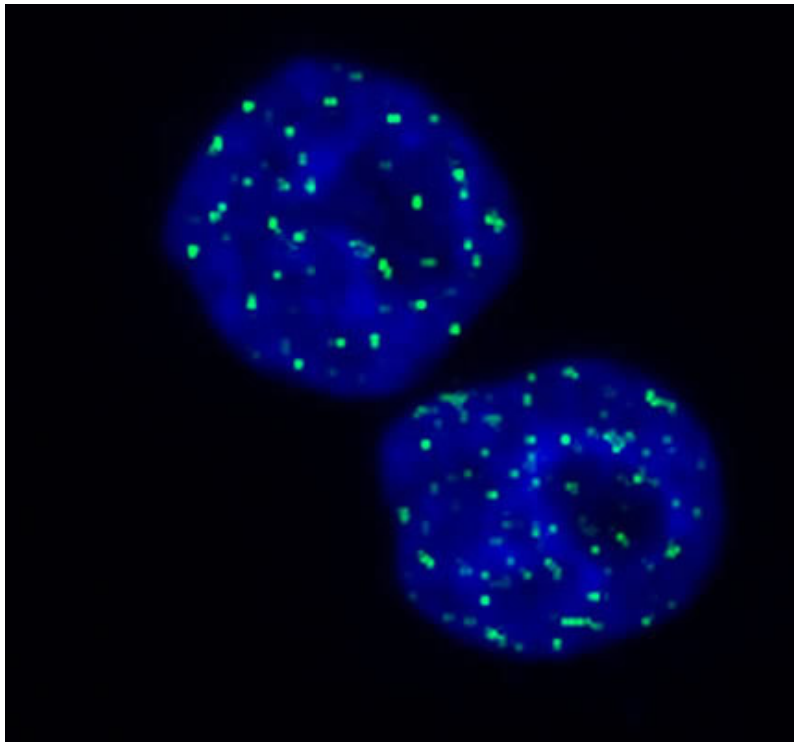


Effects on the molecular time scale



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- Chance to hit DNA a second time before first damage is repaired (critical flux $> 10^8$ p/cm²) and beyond.
- Induce free radicals by water radiolysis close to DNA damage



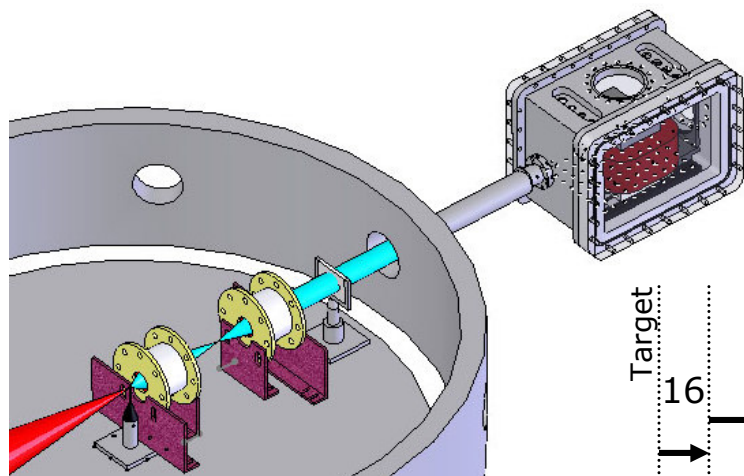
γ H2AX foci following exposure of human epithelial cells to protons. Each green spot correspond to a distinct DNA double-strand break.

Recent experiments

Proton beam collimating/focussing at PHELIX

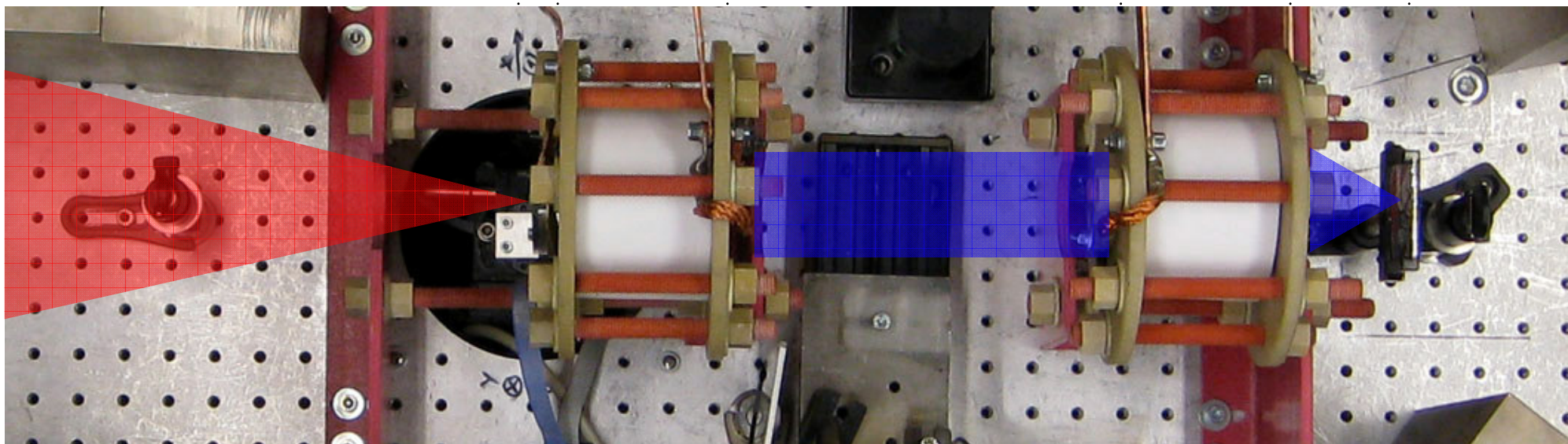
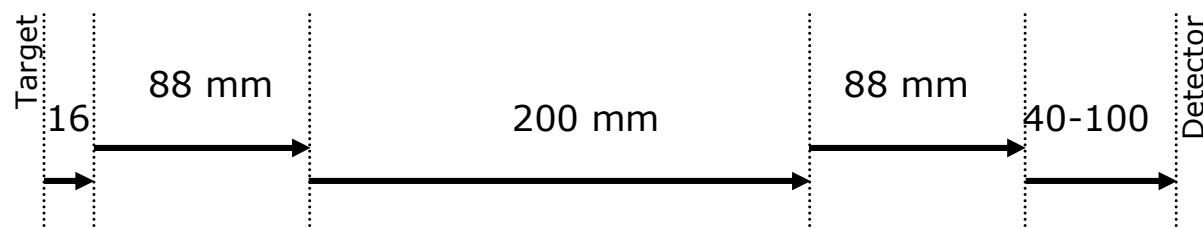


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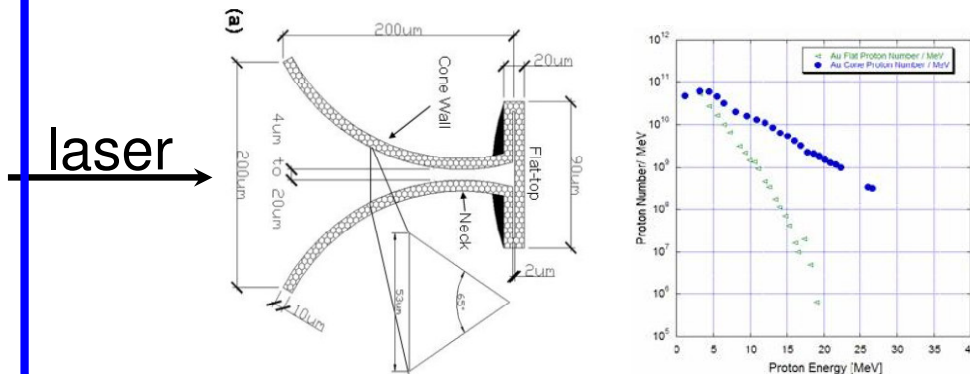
Advantage of combination of two solenoids:

- Energy selection
- Transport and focussing

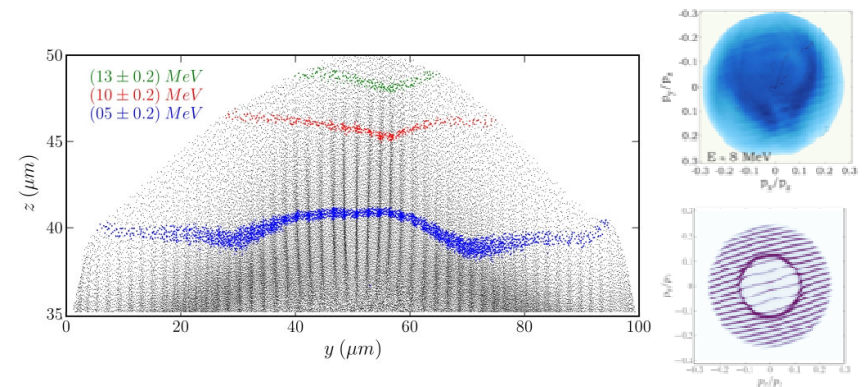


Experiments

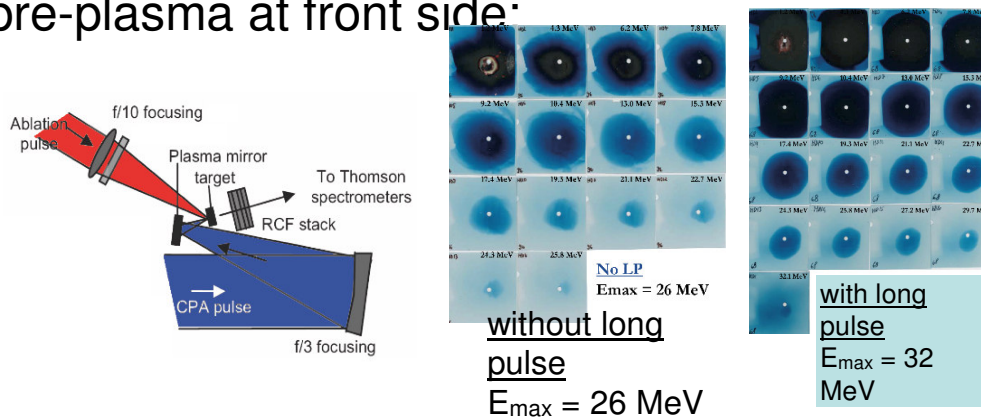
Proton flux increase by special cone target:



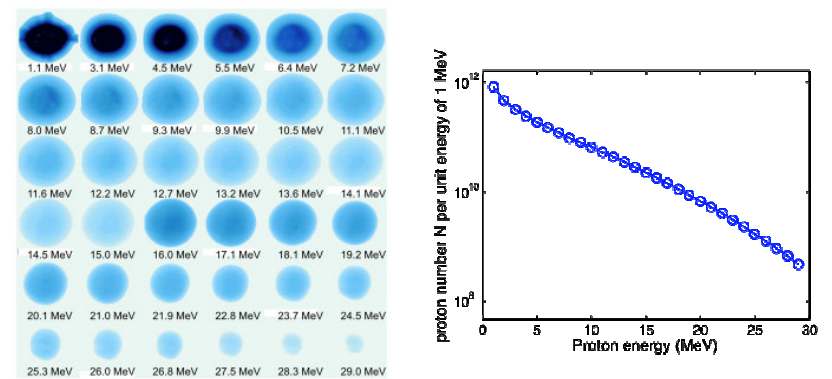
Expansion modeling and PIC-simulations:



Proton beam profile homogenization by contr. pre-plasma at front side:



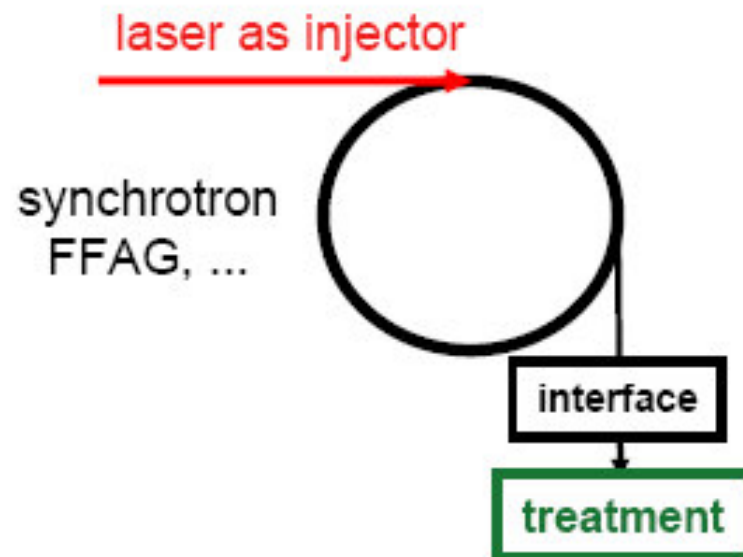
First proton-acceleration at PHELIX:



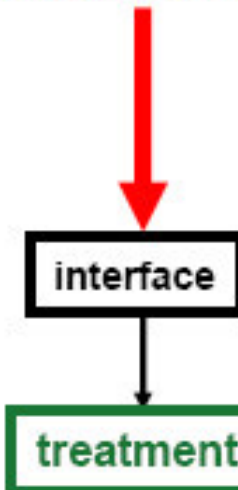
LAP for Therapy: Issues and Options



A. Laser acceleration
replacing "injector linac" +
conventional postaccelerator
(circular)



laser to final energy



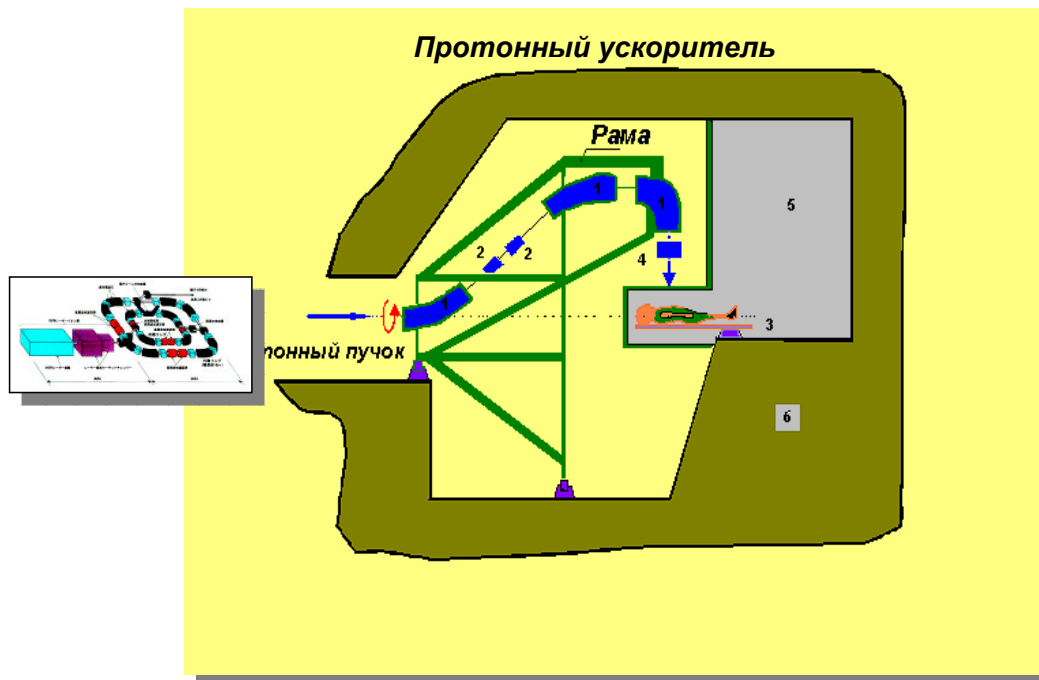
B. Full laser acceleration
→ p to 250 MeV or C to 350 MeV/u
→ transferred to patient

▪ ions	:	p	${}^3\text{He}^{2+}$	${}^{12}\text{C}^6$	${}^{16}\text{O}^{8+}$
▪ energies (MeV/u) (255 steps)	:	48 -220	72 -330	88 -430	102 -430
▪ beam spot size (4 steps)	:	4 - 10 mm (2d-gaussian)			
▪ treatment caves gantry)	:	3 (2 horizontal, 1 iso-centric)			
▪ QA and research	:	1 (1 horizontal)			

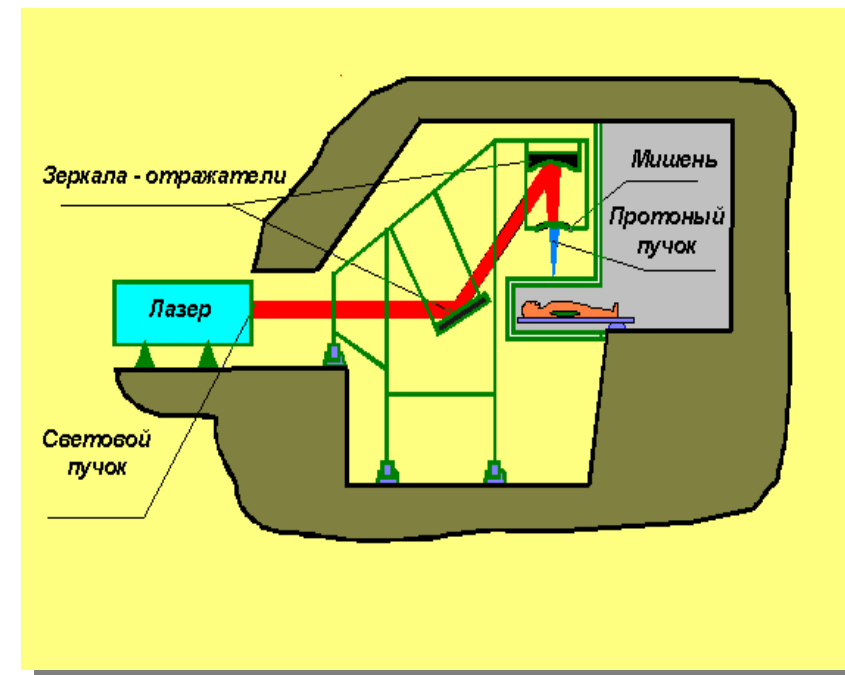
Russia: courtesy of Prof. S. Bulanov

Applications as Sources for Therapy

PRESENT-DAY SYSTEM



SUGGESTION



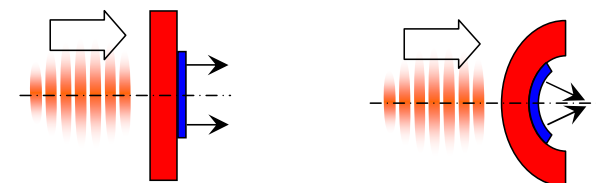
General scheme of the GANTRY:

1. bending magnets;
2. quadrupole lenses;
3. couch (positioner);
4. dose delivery and monitoring system;
5. procedure room;
6. concrete shielding.

Magneto-optic system must be precisely manufactured and capable of being rotated as a whole (~100 tons!).

GANTRY IS NOT REQUIRED

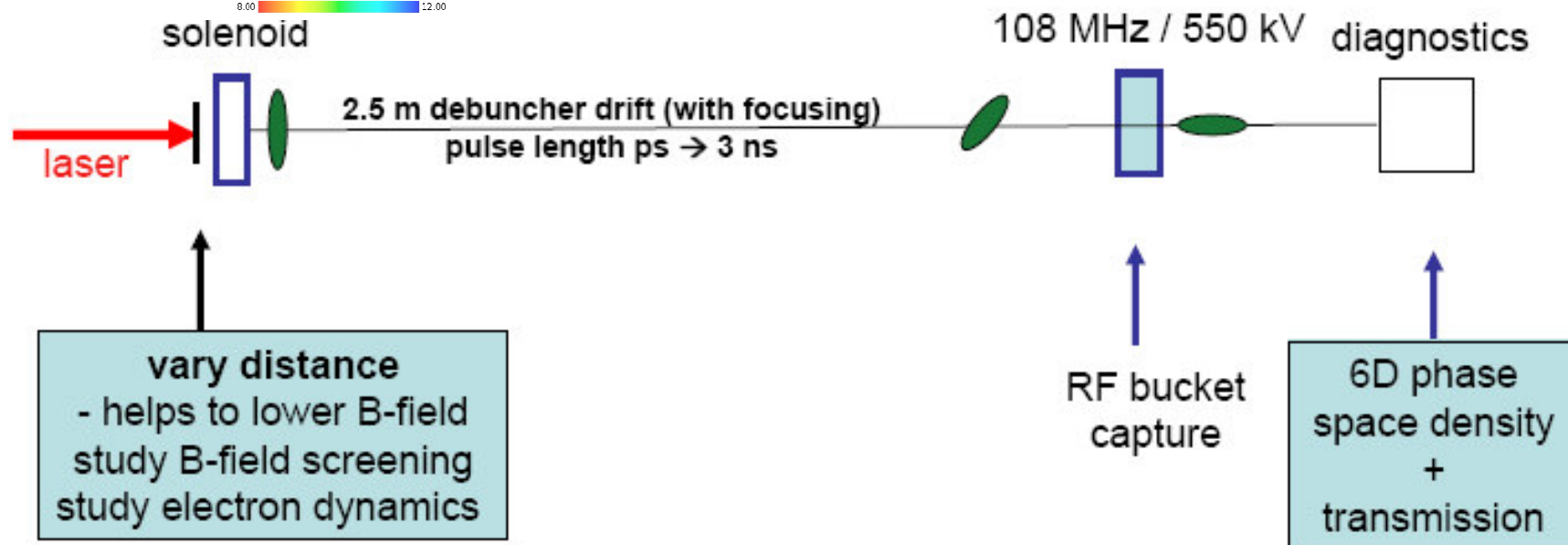
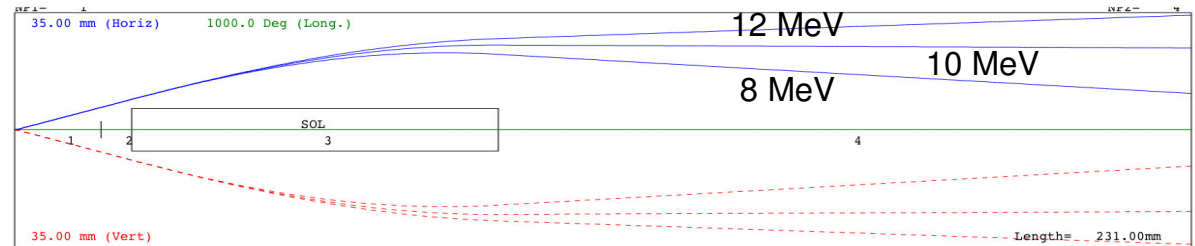
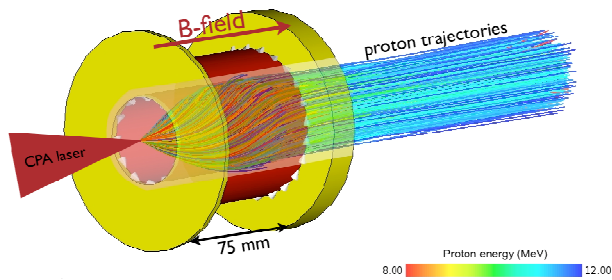
DOUBLE-LAYER TARGET



S. Bulanov, V. Khoroshkov, PPHR 5/2002

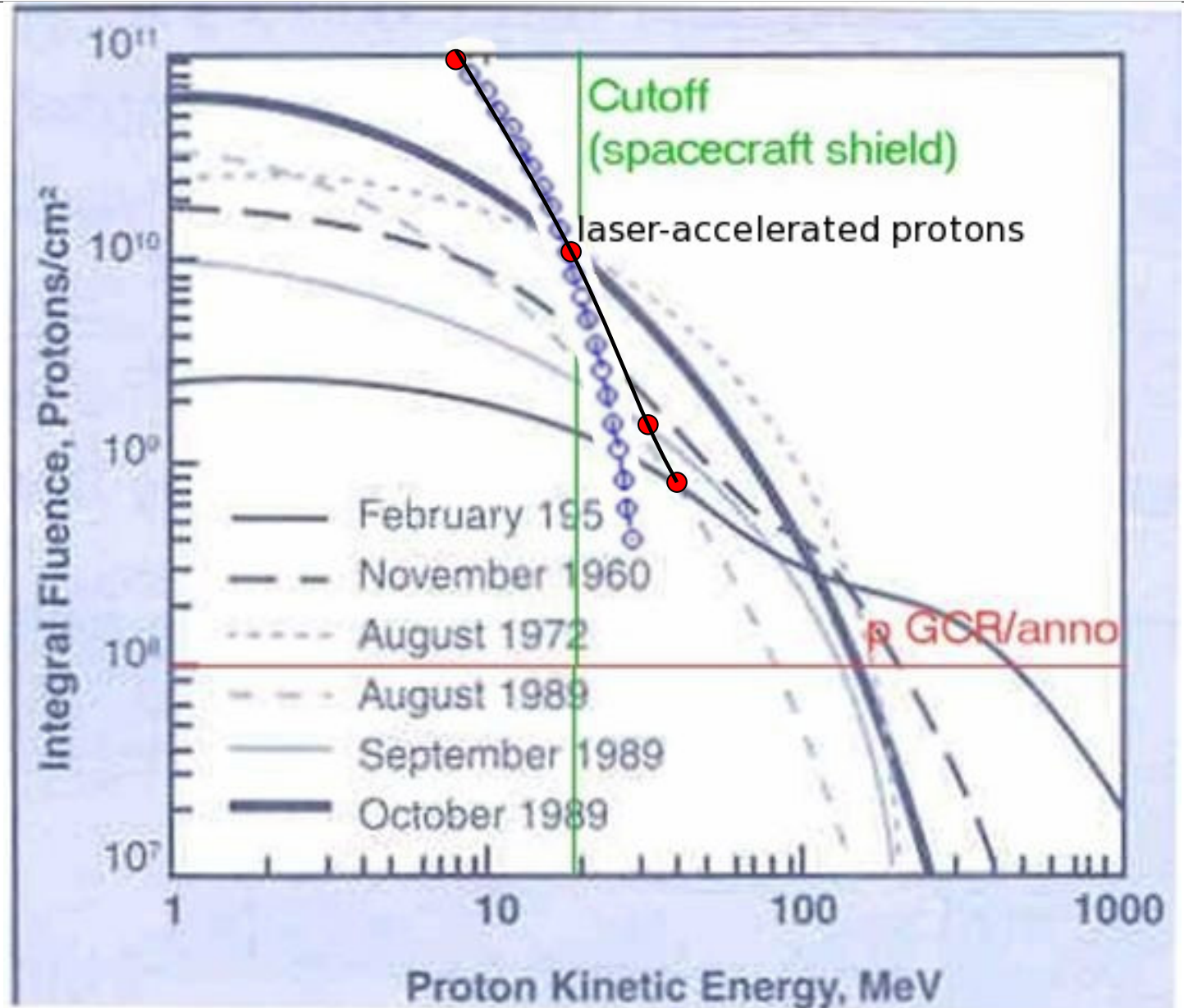
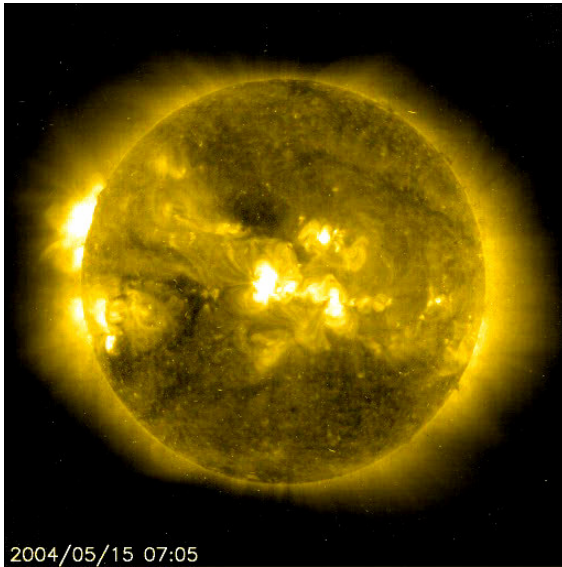


Planned Experiments at GSI



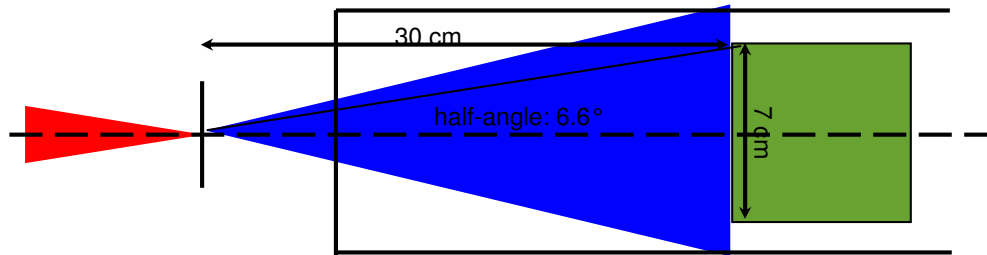
Partners:
 GSI
 TU Darmstadt (M. Roth project leader)
 Helmholtz Center Jena
 U Frankfurt IAP → 352 MHz CH post accelerator option)

Solar particle events

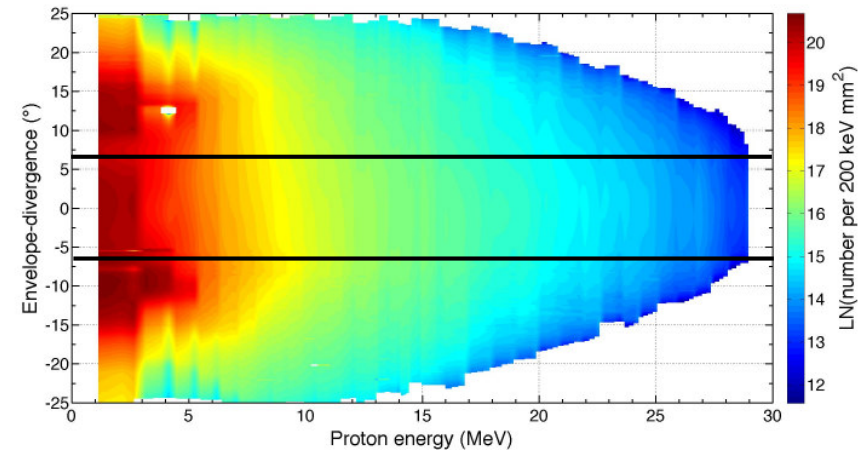


Cell irradiation experiment

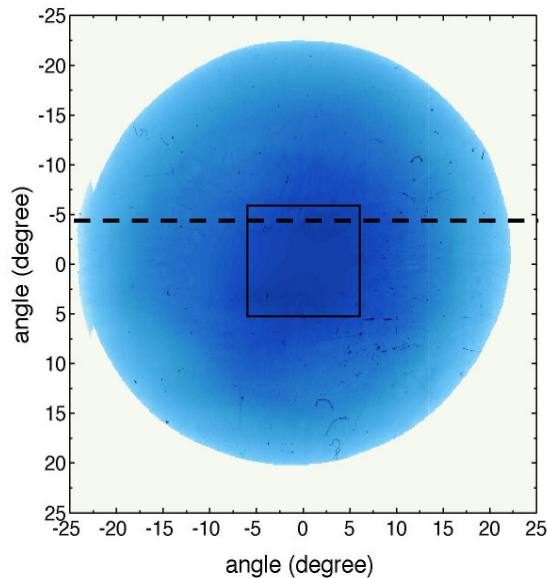
- target set-up:



- beam smoothness: 5% mean deviation



- 15 MeV protons:



5% inhomogeneity

particle number estimation (13 MeV):

2×10^{10} protons

half-angle divergence: 23 degree

distance of sample - target: 5-25
cm

beam radius: 2.1-25 cm

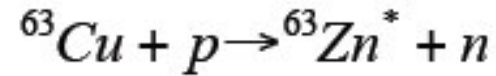
particles per square-micron: 0.5-
14

NAIS Nuclear Activation Imaging Spectroscopy



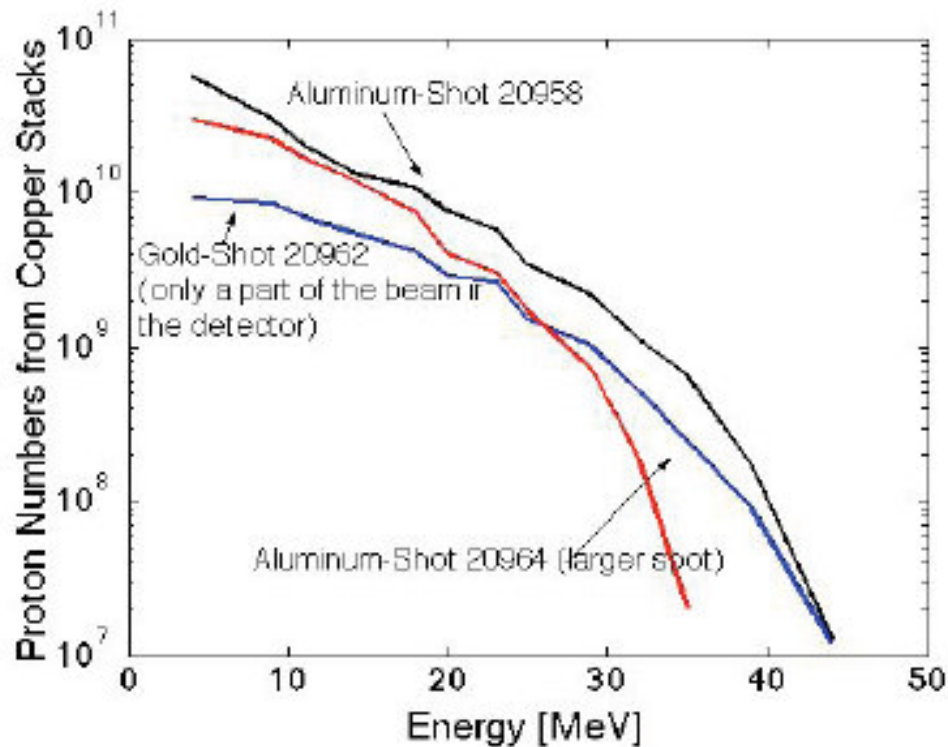
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Nuclear activation of copper:

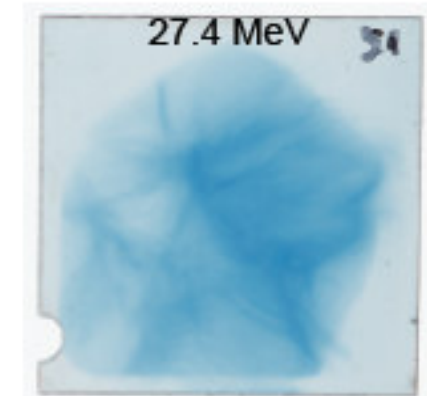
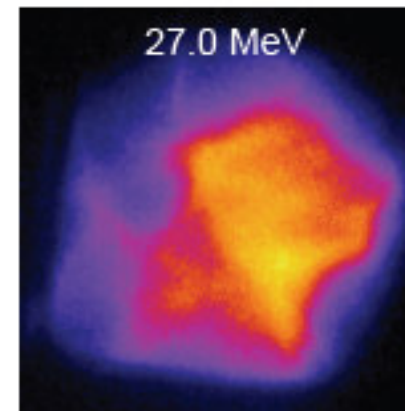


radioactive half time for ${}^{63}\text{Zn}^*$: 38 minutes

coincidence measurement:



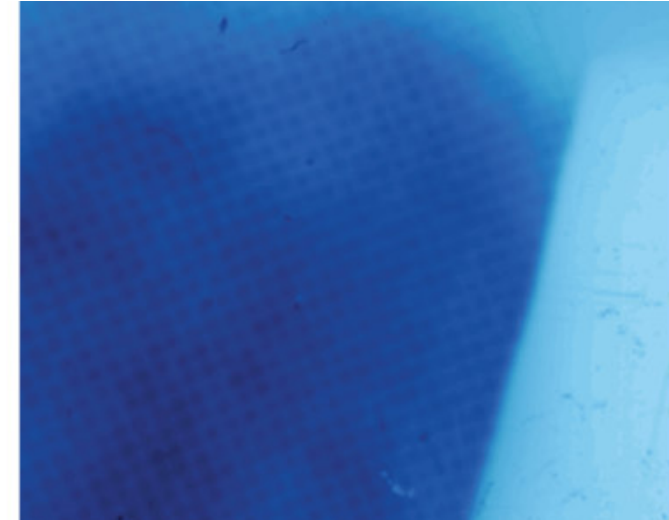
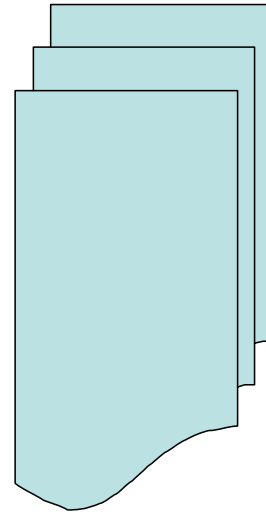
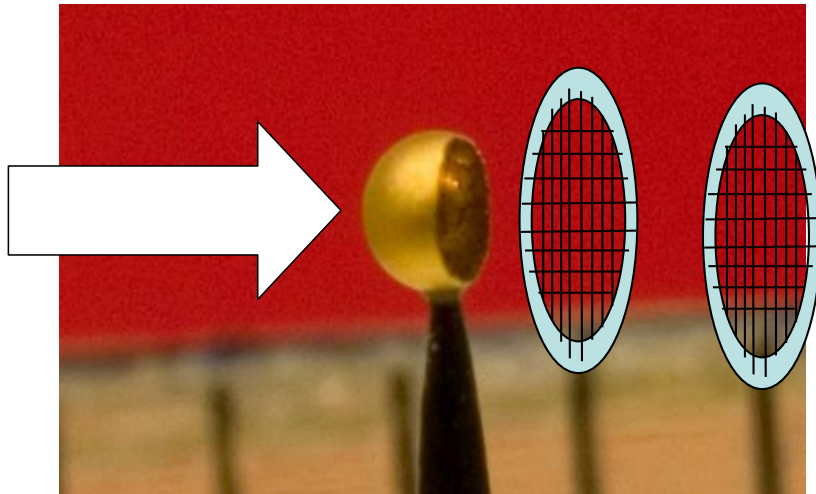
autoradiography:



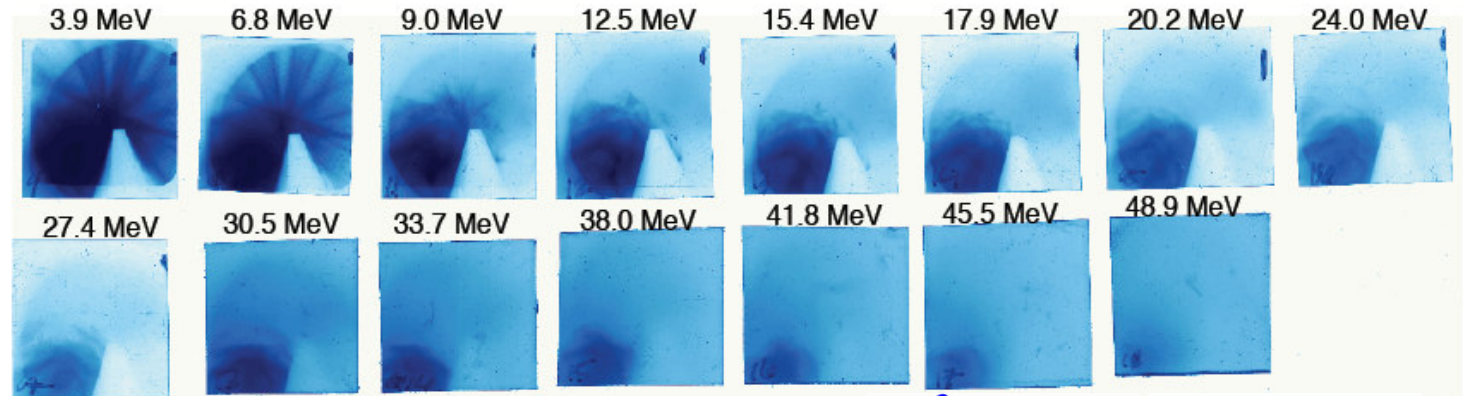
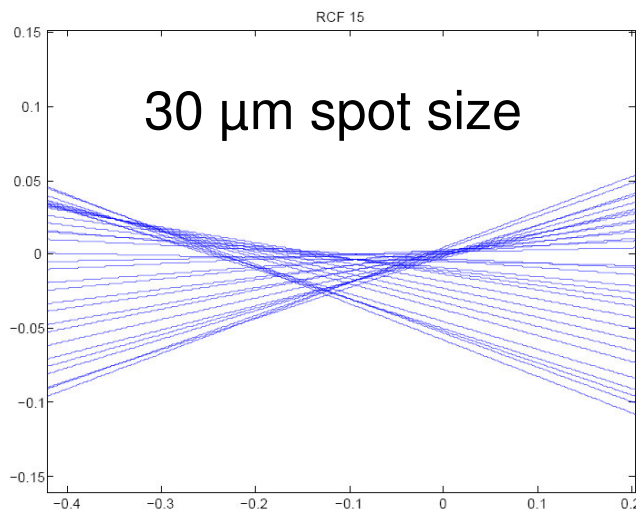
Proton focusing using Hemispherical Targets



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Hemisphere target - diameter: 750 μm

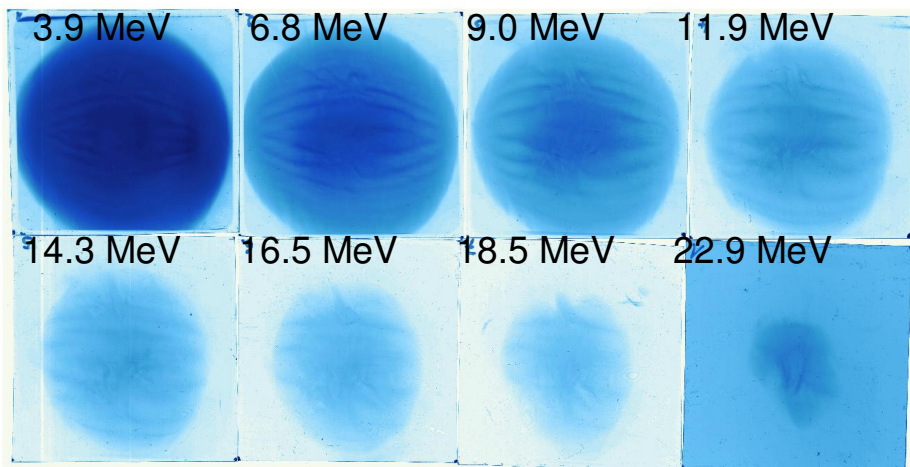


**50 μm spot instead of 10 μm \rightarrow
4% of Intensity on target
 \rightarrow 55 MeV instead of 40 MeV**

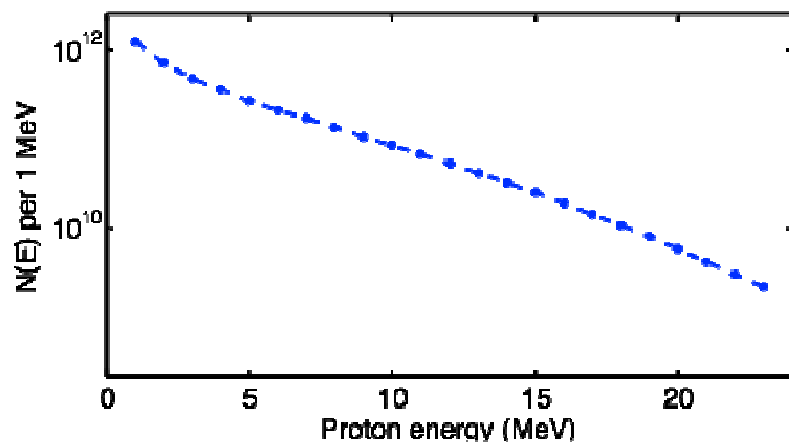


shot 5: 10 μ m flat foil / 96 J / defocus by 180 μ m

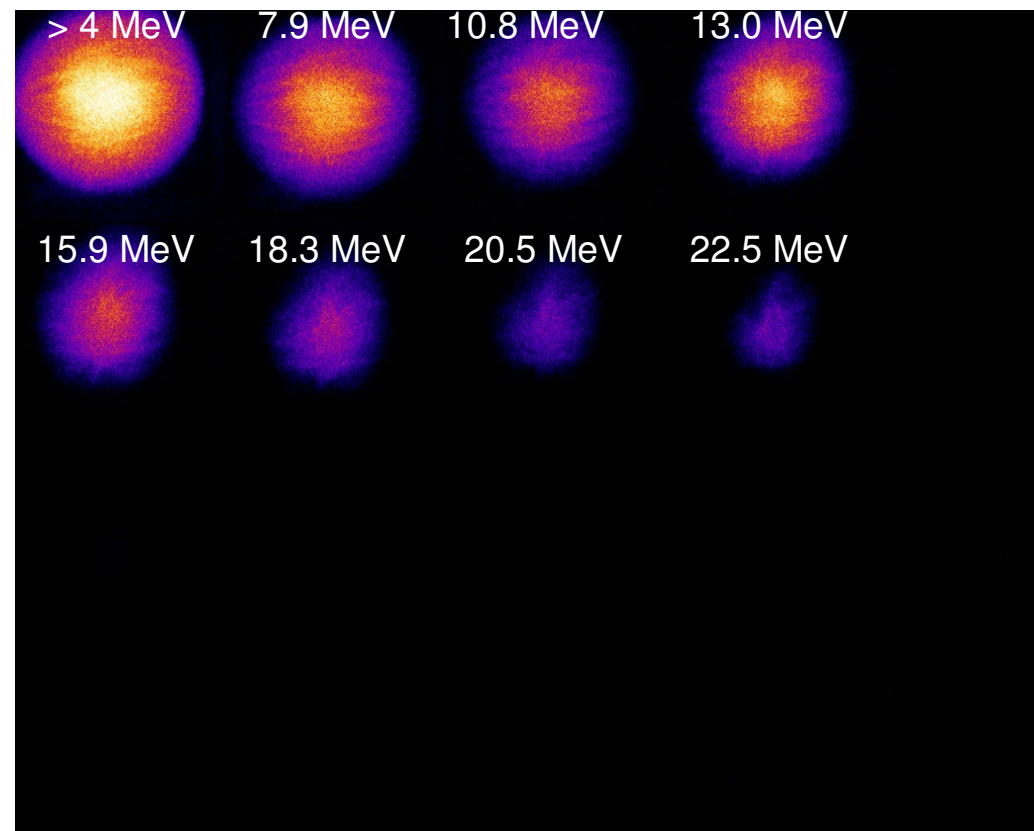
RCF



fit with $dN/dE = N_0/E \cdot \exp(-(E^2/\pi^2_{hot}))$, weighted with energy deposition
 $N_0 = 1.80e+12$
 $kT = -12.44$ MeV
 Conversion efficiency (> 4 MeV): 2.46

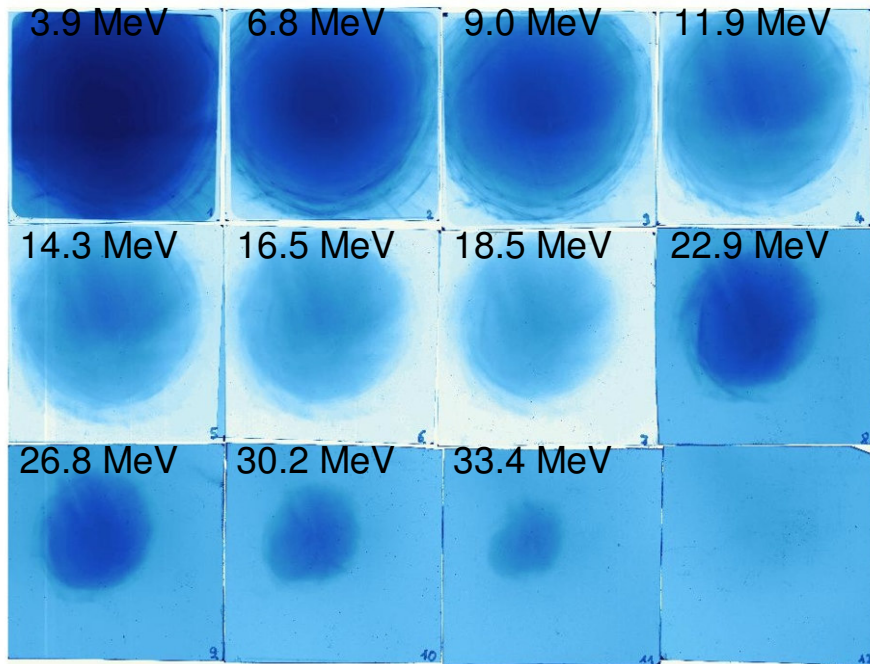


Copper autoradiography

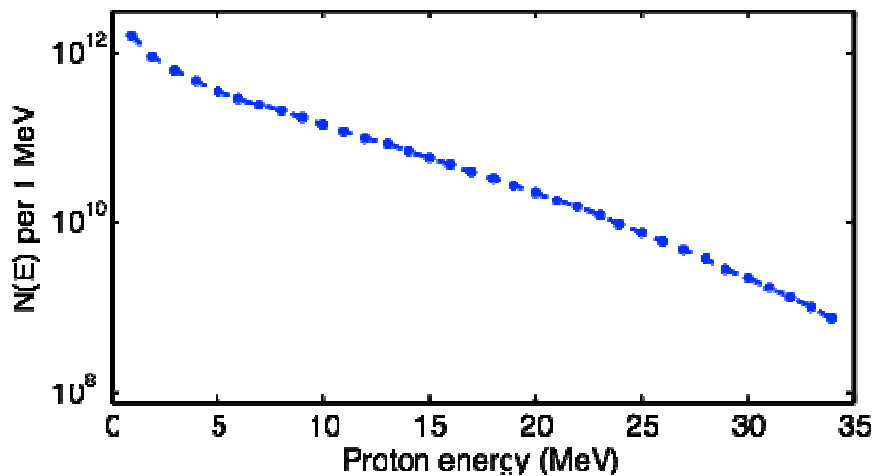
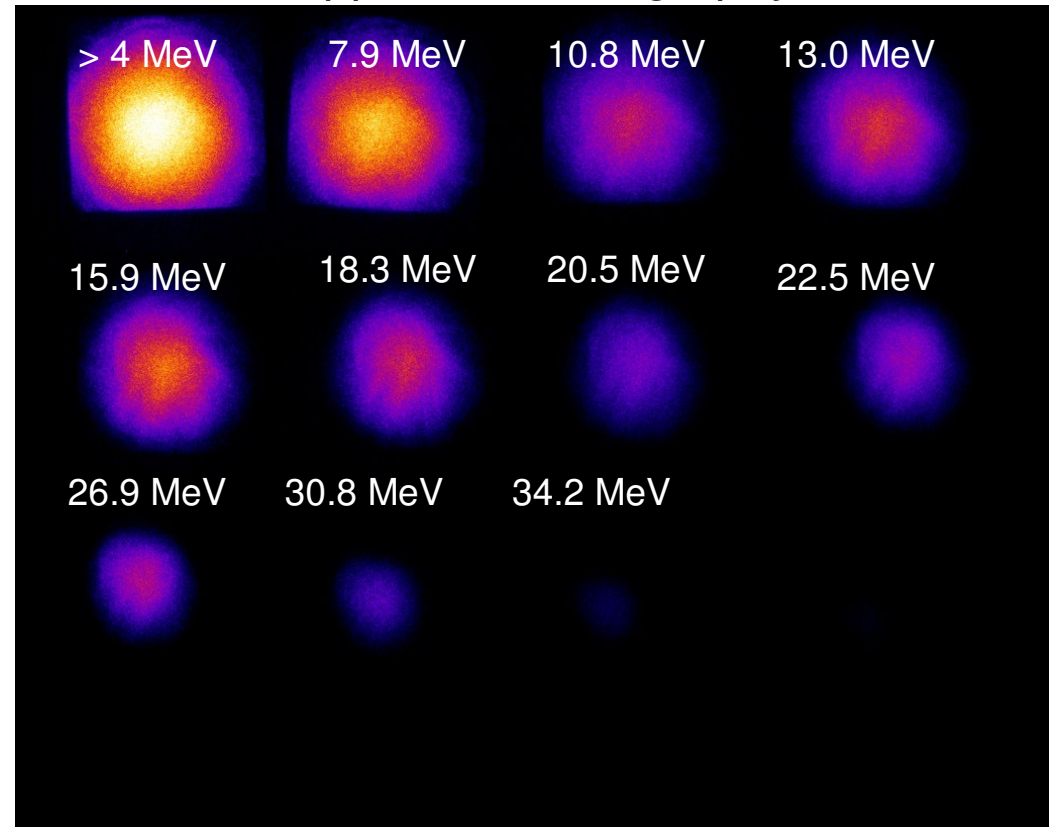


shot 3: Hemi / 116 J / defocus by 180 μ m

RCF



Copper autoradiography



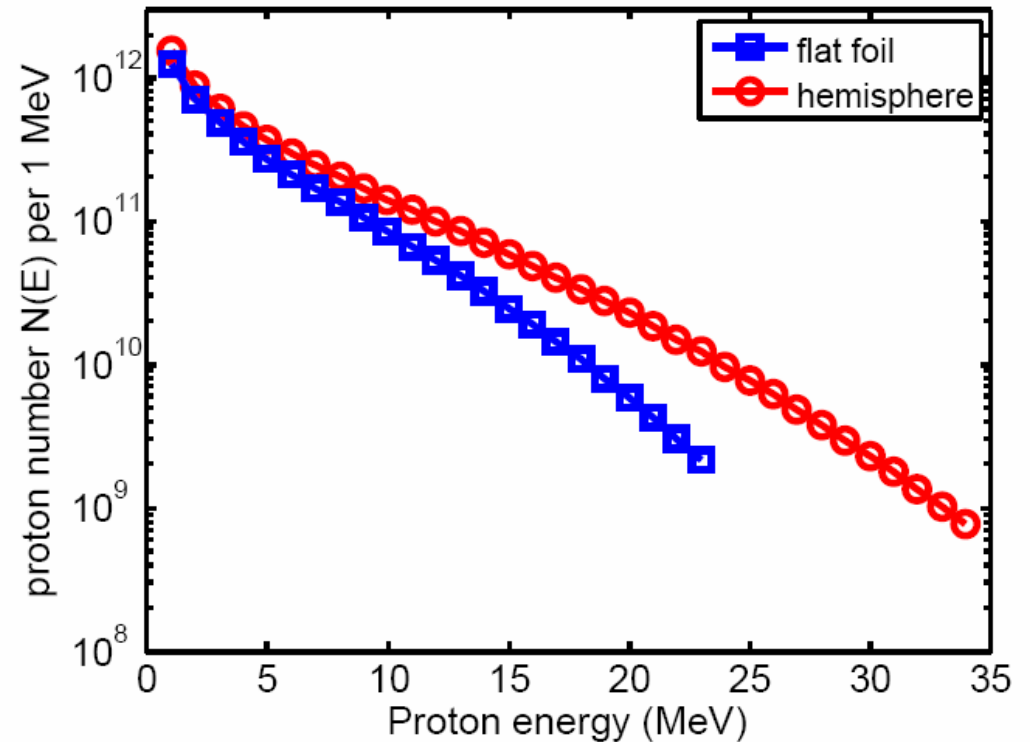
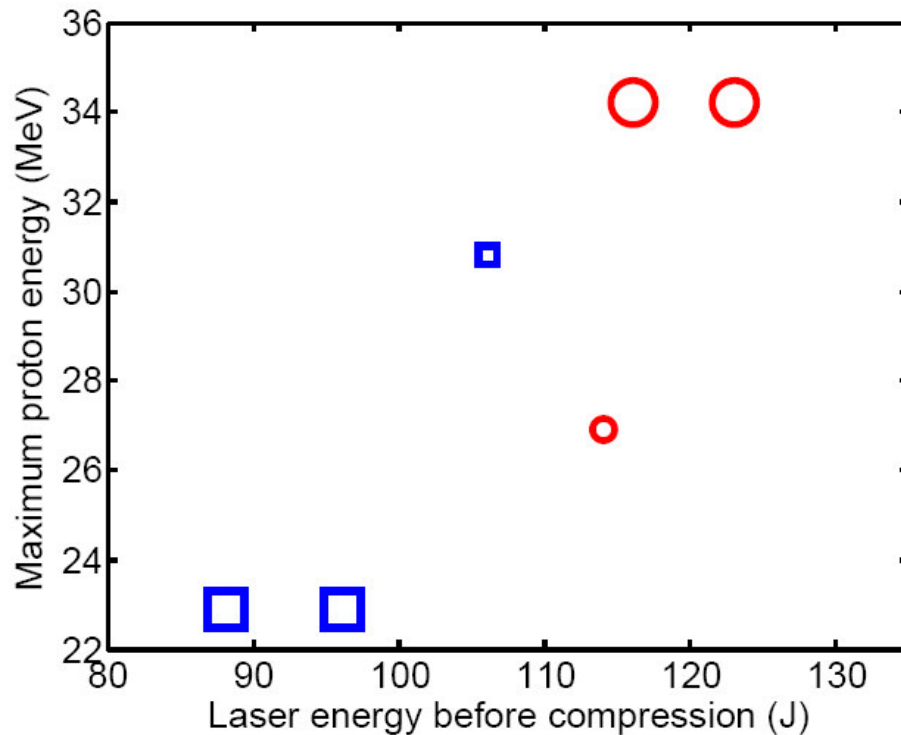
fit with $dN/dE = N_0/E^* \exp(-(E^2/\Gamma_{not}^2))$, weighted with energy deposition

$N_0 = 2.23e+12$

$kT = 18.38$ MeV

Conversion efficiency (> 4 MeV): 3.89

Proton spectra / Maximum proton energy



□ - flat foil
○ - hemisphere

- At an energy level of a few tens of Joules high-rep rate, DPSSL's are supposed to be available in a few years (Mercury, JAERI, POLARIS, LOA)
- „monochromatic“ ion beams have been observed for the first time
- Excellent beam emittance would allow for smaller apertures, higher gradients, smaller accelerators (PET Production, tumor therapy)
- the driving laser system could also be used for e-beam generation, PET-isotope production and coherent x-ray diagnostics at the same time

Vision for a UHI Laser in Medicine



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