



# CERN

## from particle physics to healthcare

**Manjit Dosanjh**  
**Advisor for Life Sciences**





# CERN.....

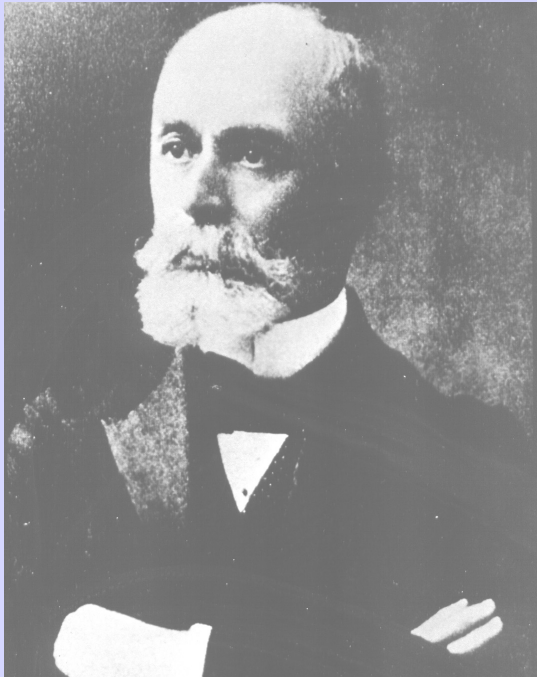
- answers questions about how the Universe works
- stimulates advances in technology
- trains tomorrow's scientists and engineers
- brings nations together through science

Manjit Dosanjh, CERN

Physics Teachers

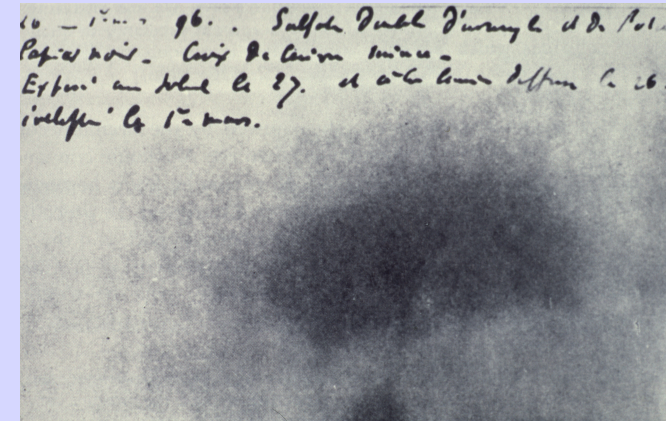


# .....beginning of medical physics

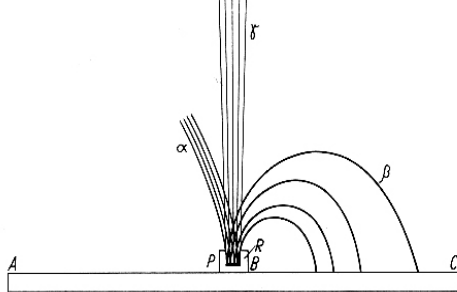


Henri Becquerel

1896:  
Discovery of natural  
radioactivity

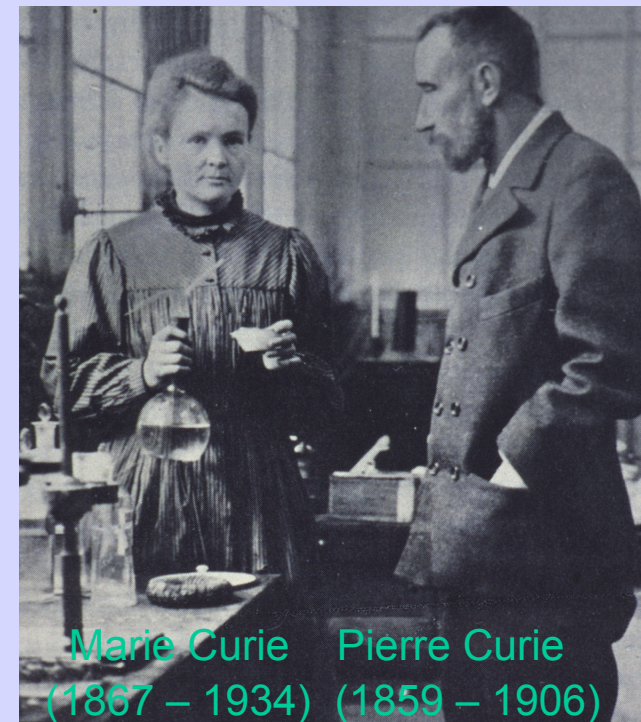


Thesis of Mme. Curie – 1904  
 $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  in magnetic field



**1898: Discovery of  
radium**

**used immediately  
for “Brachytherapy”**



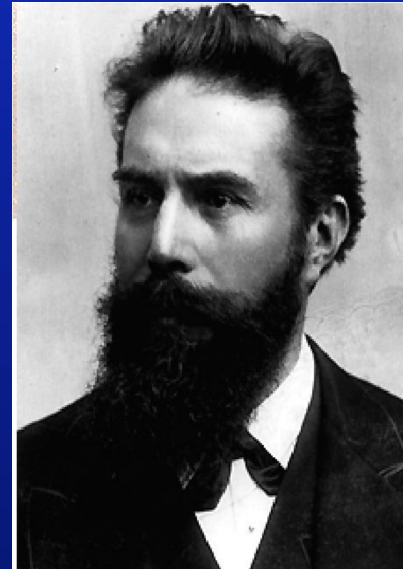
Marie Curie (1867 – 1934) Pierre Curie (1859 – 1906)



## X-Rays, the fastest technology transfer example



- On November 8, 1895 Röntgen discovered X-Rays
- On November 22, 1895 he takes the first image of his wife's hand

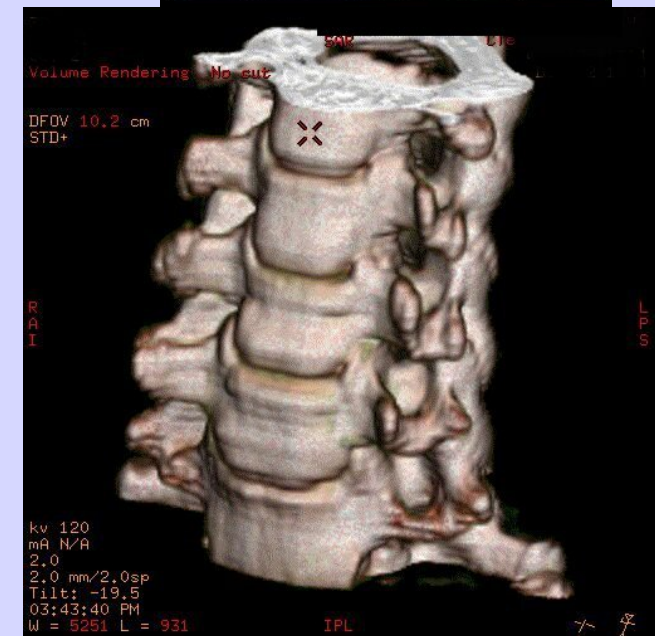
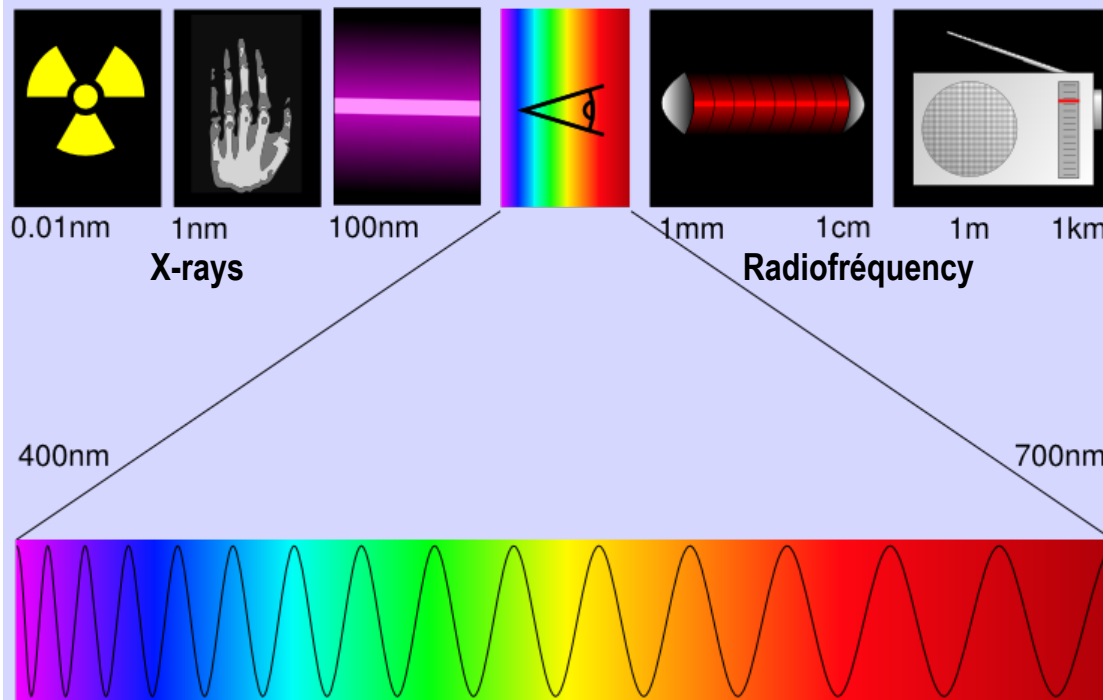
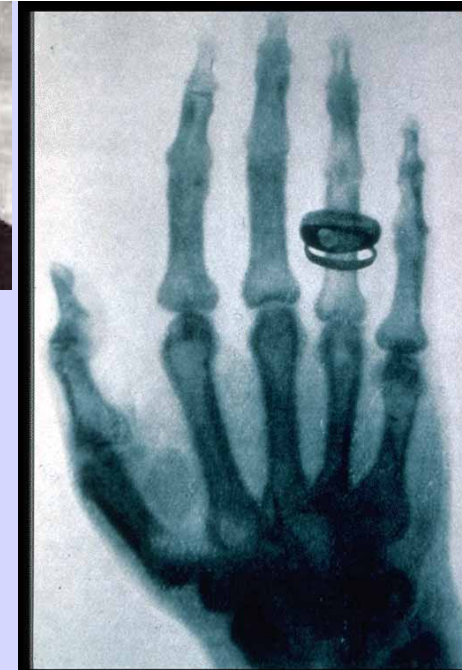


Röntgen received the first Nobel prize in physics in 1901



# History: Discovery of X-rays

- Since 1895, inventor Wilhelm Röntgen
- EM wave, with energy range: 30 -100 keV
- From film to digital devices



# MRI, Magnetic Resonance Imaging



Felix Bloch  
Physicist Stanford

## The Nobel Prize in Physics 1952



Edward M. Purcell  
Physicist Harvard

## The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2003



Sir Peter **Mansfield**  
Physicist Nottingham

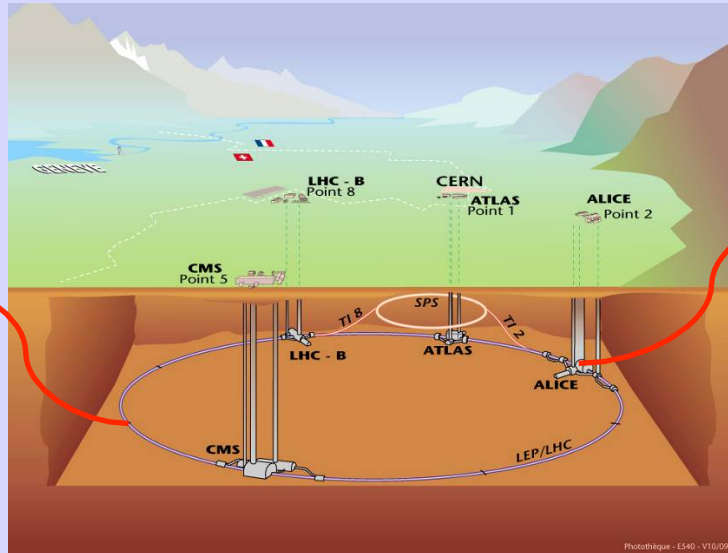


Paul C.  
**Lauterbur**  
Chemist Uni.  
Illinois

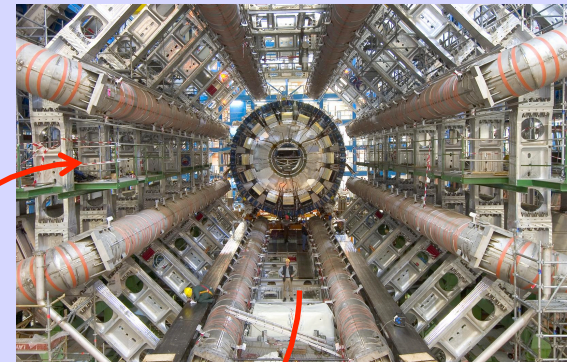


# The tools of the trade .....

## Accelerators



## Detectors



## Computers

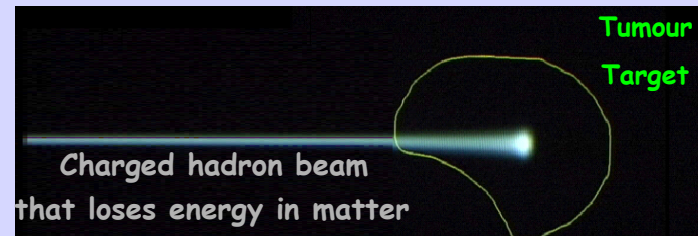
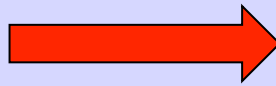
## Brain behind the web

Physics Teachers

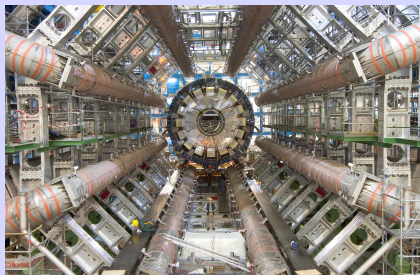


# Medical Applications

Particle beams for **cancer treatment**



Particle detector technologies for **medical imaging**



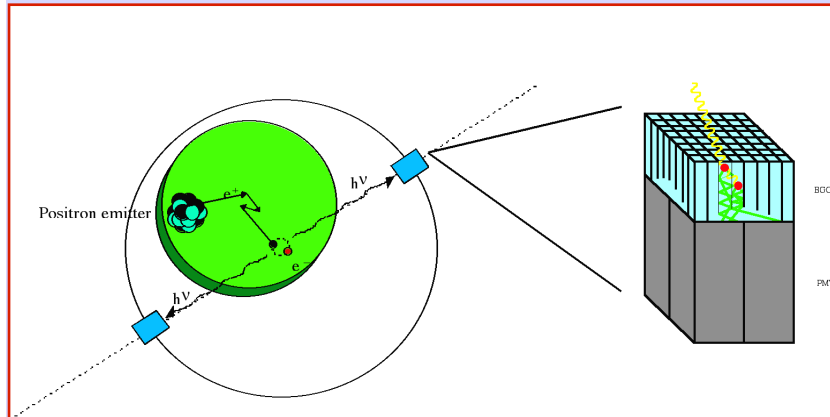
Grid computing for **medical data management and analysis**



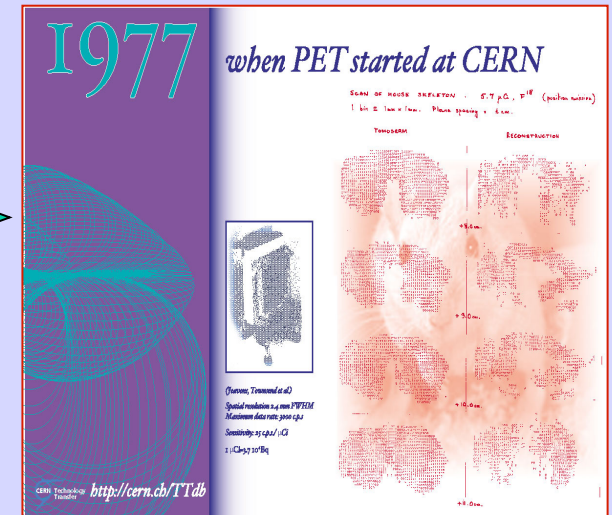
Physics Teachers



# Physics to medicine



**Idea of PET**

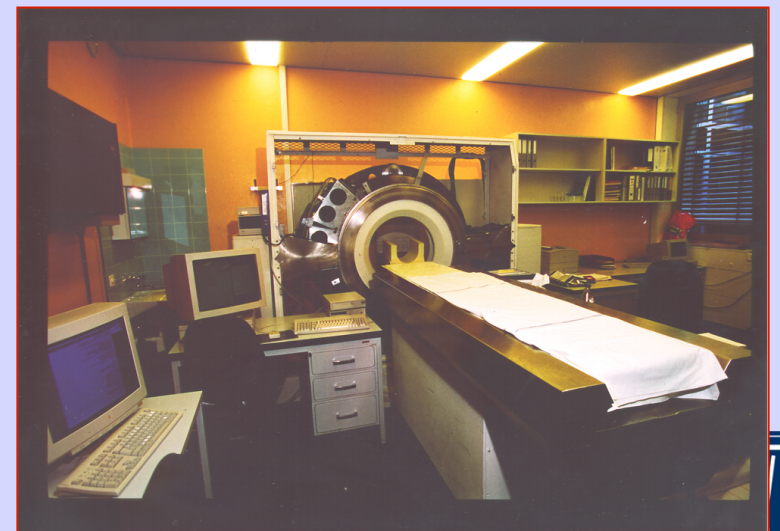


**Photon detection used for calorimetry**

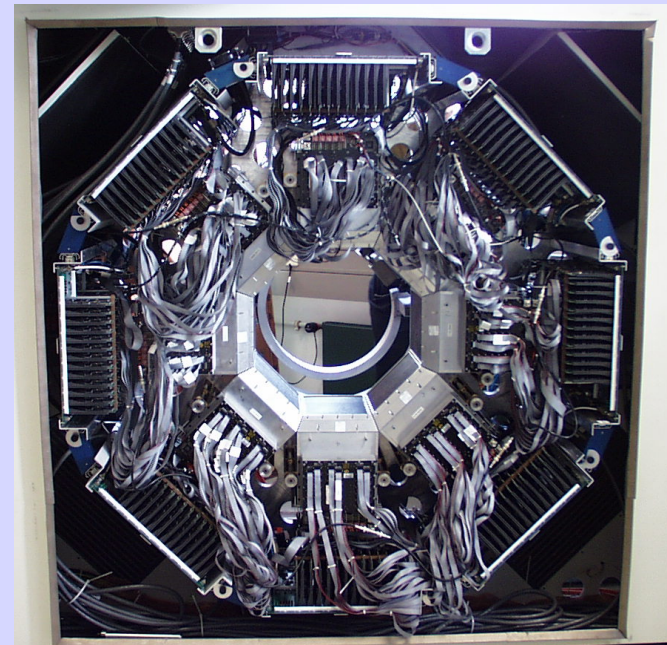


**CMS calorimeter** Physics Teachers

**PET  
today**



# Similar challenges detectors





## Similar challenges for PET and HEP detectors

- New scintillating crystals and detection materials
- Compact photo-detectors
- Highly integrated and low noise electronics
- High level of parallelism and event filtering algorithms in DAQ
- Modern and modular simulation software using worldwide recognized standards (GATE)

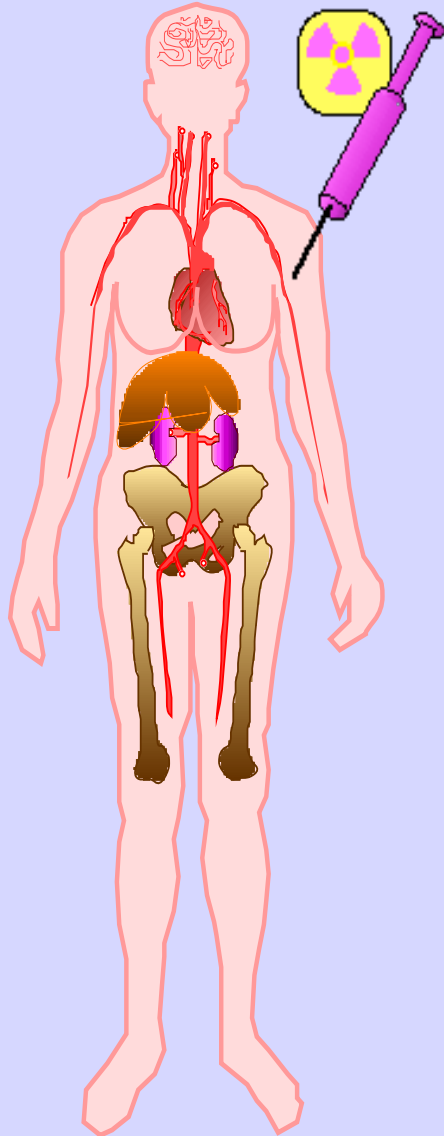


HEP Calorimeter



PET Camera

# Inject Patient with Radioactive Drug

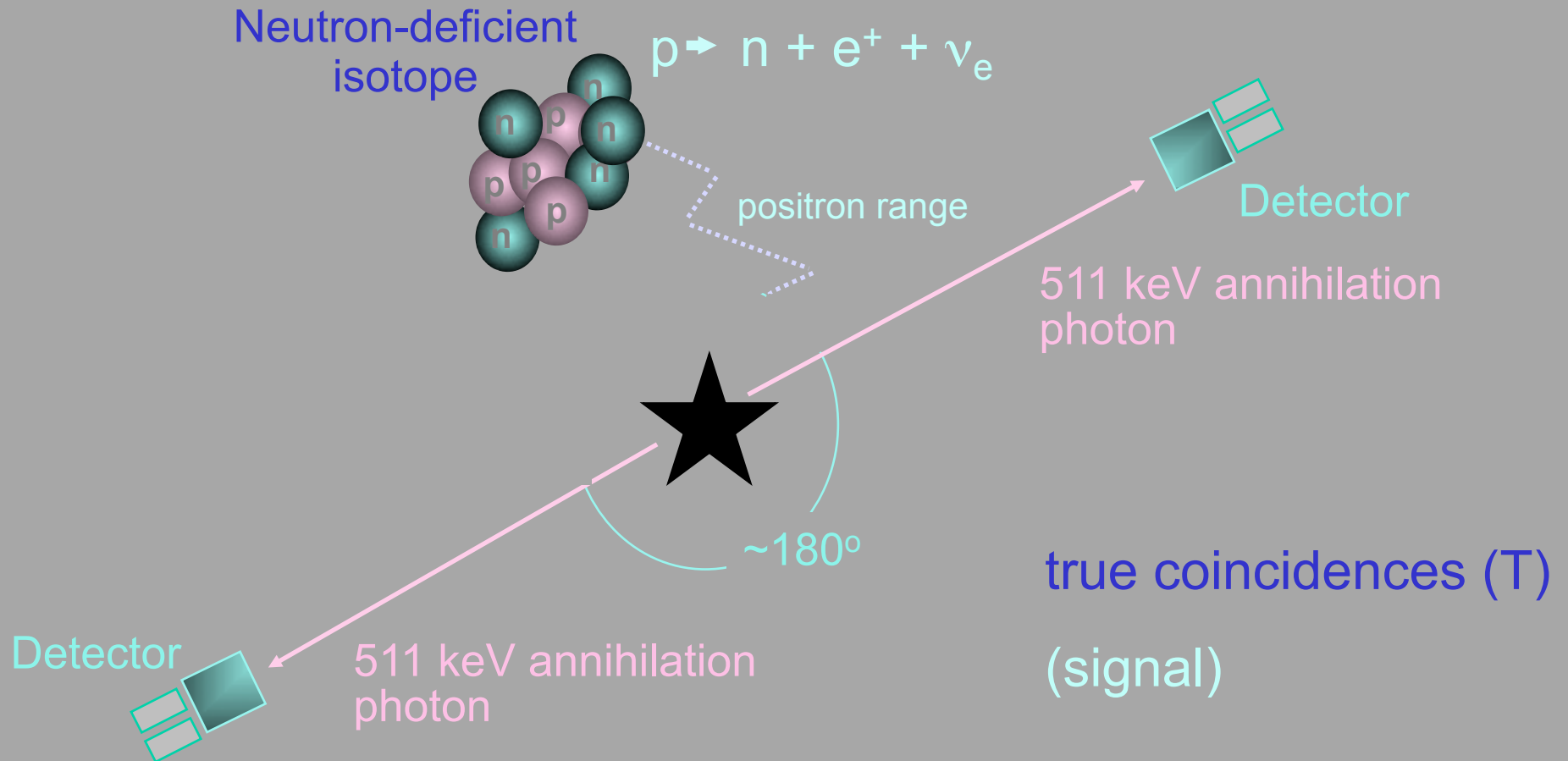


- Drug is labeled with positron ( $\beta^+$ ) emitting radionuclide.
- Drug localizes in patient according to metabolic properties of that drug.
- Trace (pico-molar) quantities of drug are sufficient.
- Radiation dose fairly small ( $<1$  rem).

Drug Distributes in Body



# PET: true events



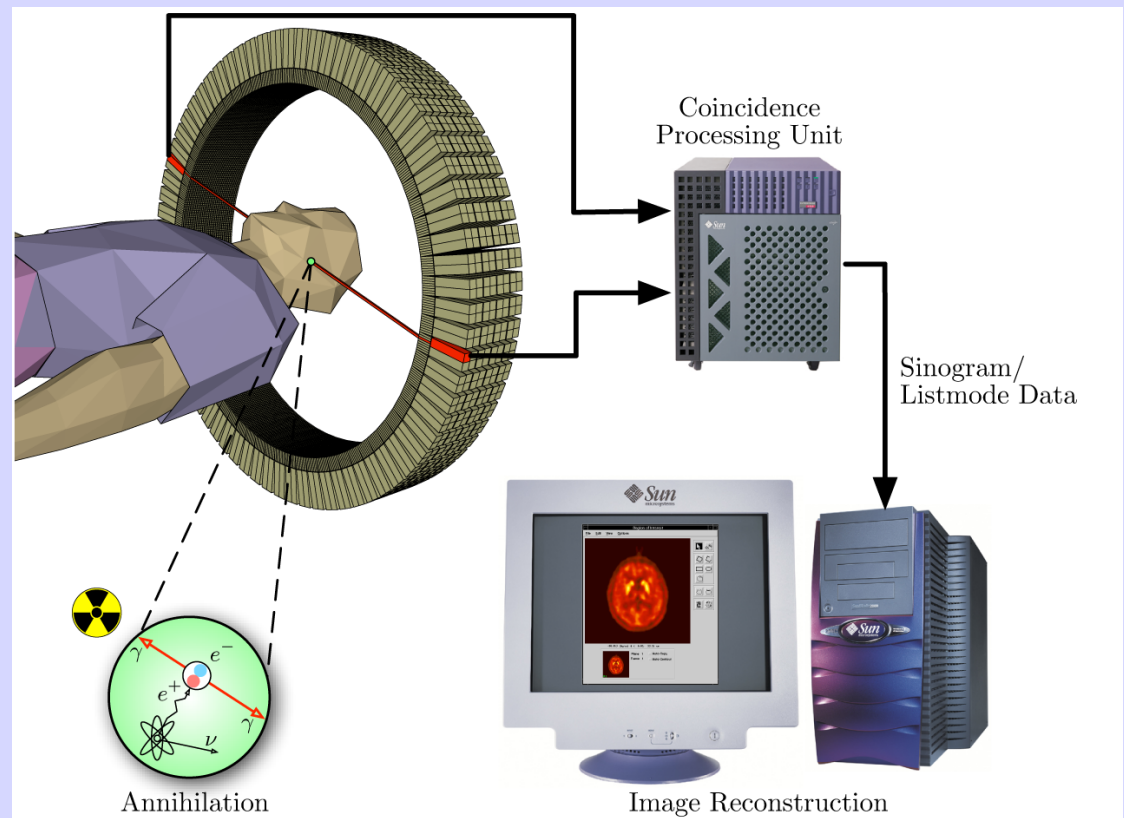
# Medical Imaging - PET (Positron Emission Tomography)

## Functional Analysis

The system detects pairs of gamma rays emitted indirectly by a positron-emitting radionuclide (tracer), which is introduced into the body on a biologically active molecule.

Images of tracer concentration in 3-dimensional space within the body are then reconstructed by computer analysis.

Crystals developed for LHC detectors are used in PET Scanners.



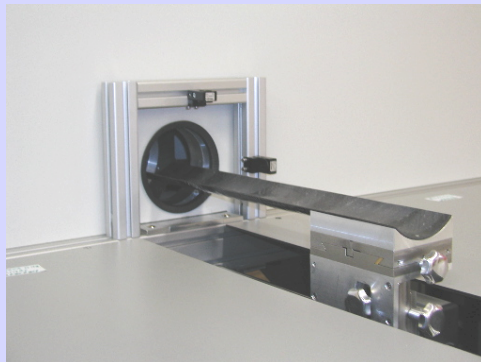




## Crystal Clear Collaboration

- New scintillators :
  - LuAP, phoswich LuAP-LSO (CERN patent)
  - other crystals
- new photodetectors (Avalanche PhotoDiodes)
- new low noise front end electronics
- new intelligent DAQ systems with pipeline and parallelized architecture
- better simulation GEANT 4
- better reconstruction algorithms

**The ClearPET™**  
**LYSO/LuYAP Phoswich Scanner**  
**A high Performance Small Animal PET System**  
Higher efficiency and better spatial resolution



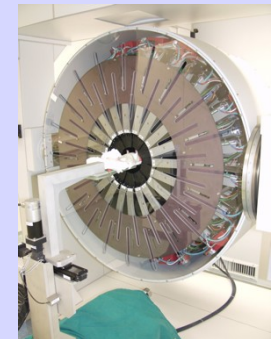
### The Design

- 20 detector cassettes on the ring
- each cassette has 4 PM in line
- each PM has 64 photocathodes
- each photocathode reads 1 phoswich
- each phoswich has 2 crystals LYSO and LuYAP
- each crystal is 2 x 2 x 10mm<sup>3</sup>
- open gantry diameter adjustable 120 - 240mm
- rotation 360 degree

$T_{\cosine}$  resolution 2 ns FWHN

Spatial resolution 1.5 mm at centre

Peak sensitivity >4%



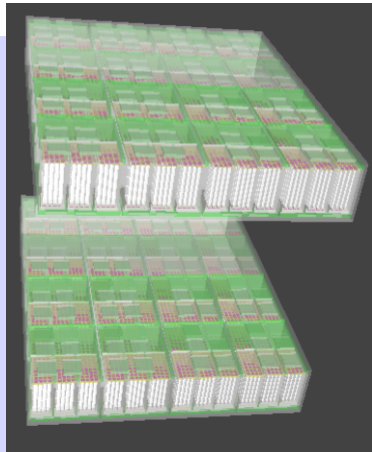
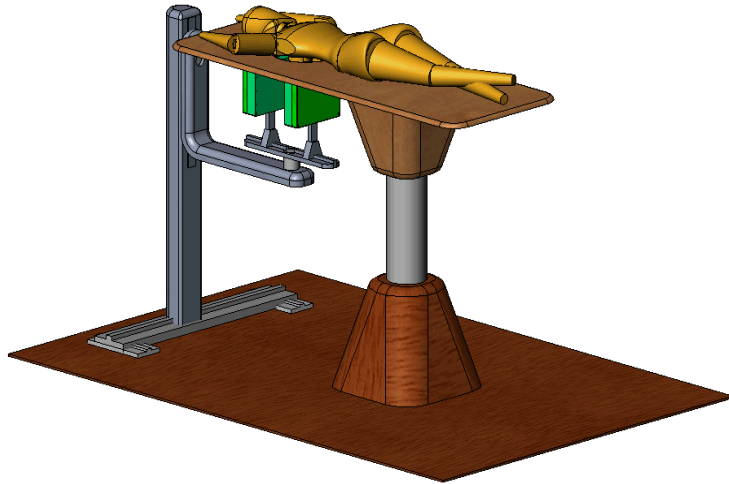
Physics Teachers By Courtesy of Raytest, Germany





# Positron Emission Mammography CRYSTAL CLEAR Collaboration

Model of the PEM detector



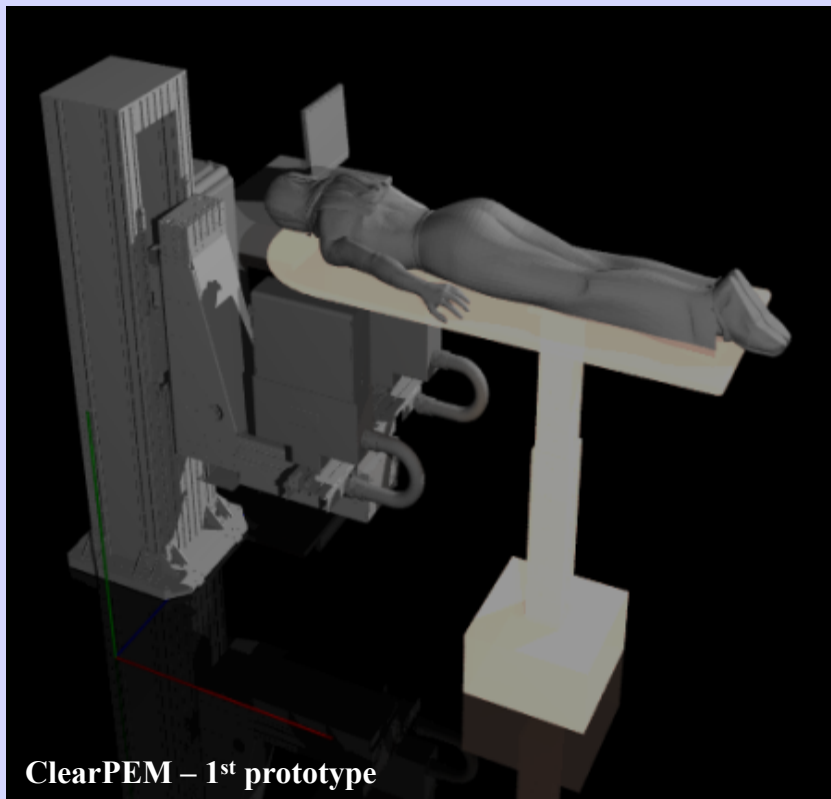
**Dedicated breast PET detector allowing high sensitivity to the small tumor detection**

- Spatial resolution 1-2 mm
- High counting sensitivity
- Short PET exams
- Compatible X-Ray mammography
- Compatible stereotactic biopsy

## **Technical characteristics:**

- 6000 crystals 2x2x20 mm
- Avalanche Photodiodes (APD)
- Low noise electronics
- High rate data acquisition
- Spatial resolution 1-2 mm
- Breast and axilla region

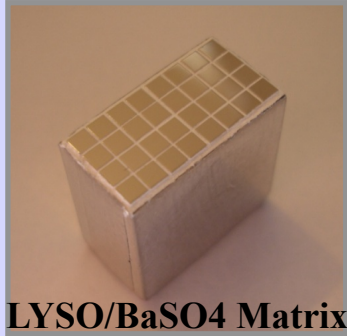
# ClearPEM: The Project



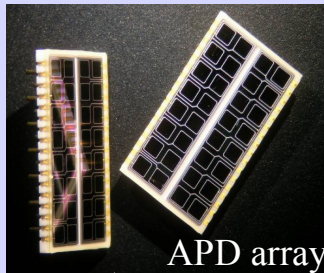
- ◆ **A dedicated mammography PET (Positron Emission Tomograph):**
  - Breast exams with the patient in prone position
  - The plates rotate around the breast
  - PEM plates can be rotated for axillary exams
  
- ◆ **Good spatial resolution : 1.4mm (FWHM)**
  - Fine crystal segmentation (2x2 mm)
  - Reduced parallax effect by optimised depth of interaction resolution: 2 mm
  
- ◆ **High Sensitivity:**
  - Solid angle coverage as large as possible
  - High photon interaction probability (20 mm long crystals)
  - High efficiency due to good energy resolution at 511 keV: 15.9%
  
- ◆ **Excellent Time Resolution:**
  - Single photon time resolution 1.5 ns (RMS)
  - Coincidence window: 5.2 ns



# ClearPEM: The Machine



LYSO/BaSO<sub>4</sub> Matrix

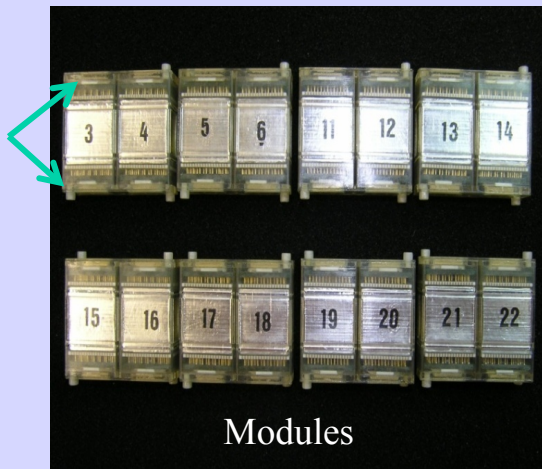


APD array

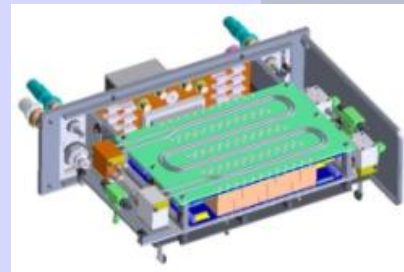
- ◆ 6144 LYSO:Ce crystals in 192 matrices
- ◆ APD readout on both sides of the crystal
- ◆ Fast Front-End readout with dedicated ASICs
- ◆ Two detector plates

→ 0.8MHz acquisition rate

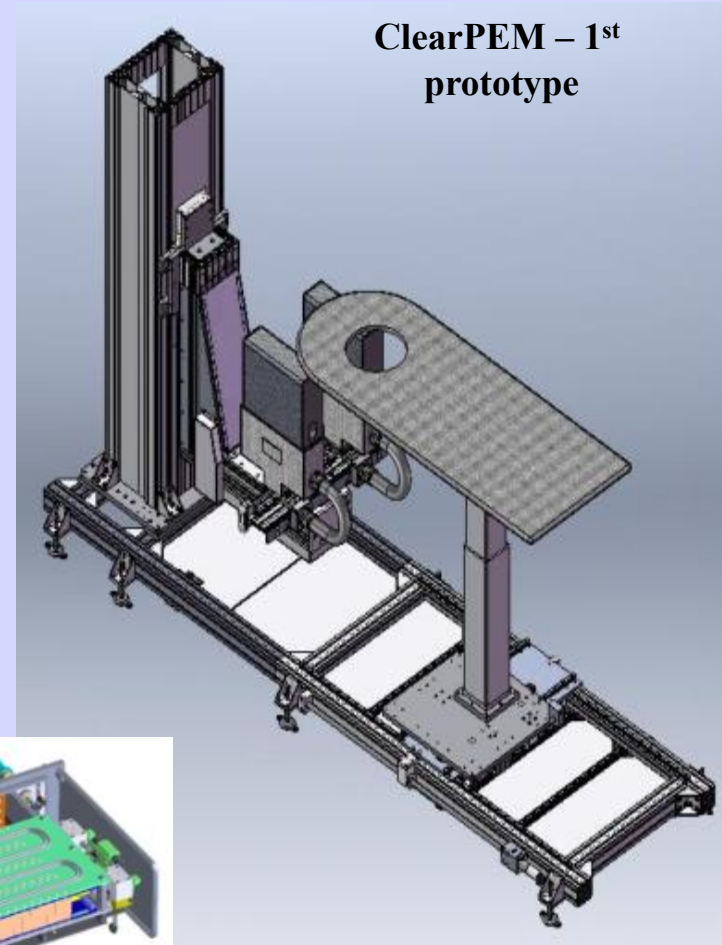
Front-back readout



Modules

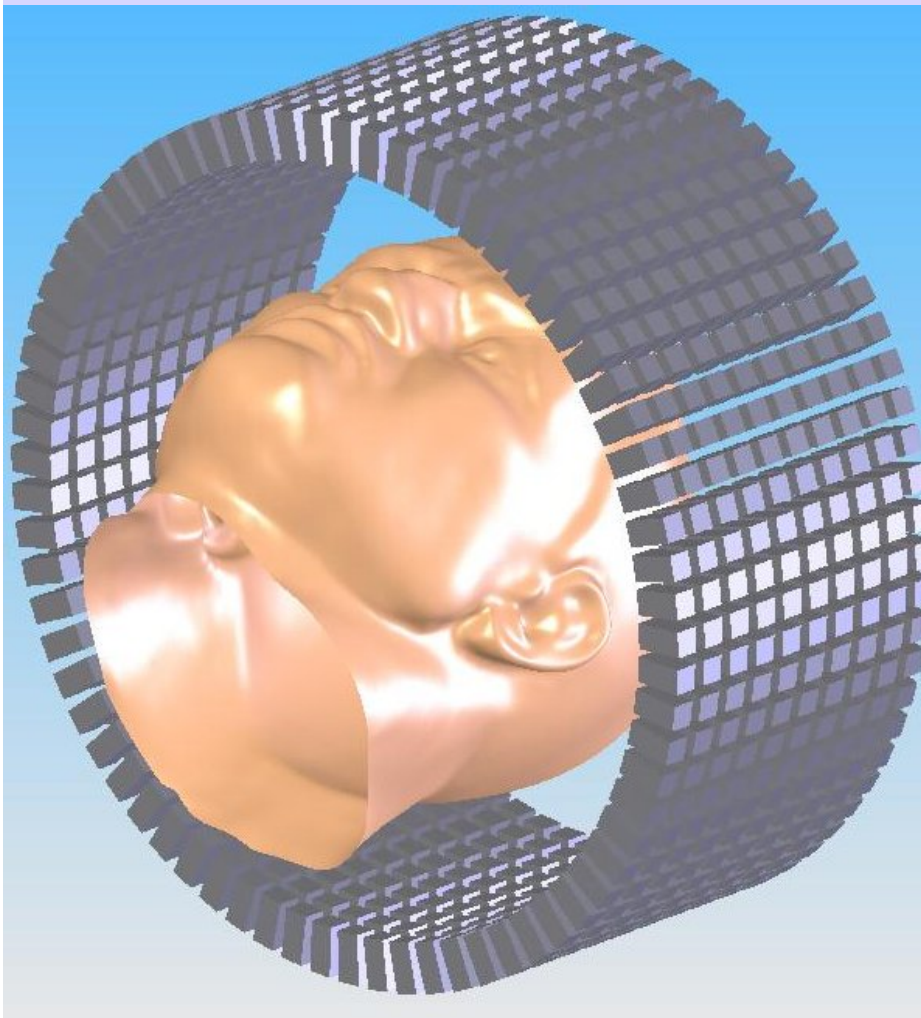


Detector Plate



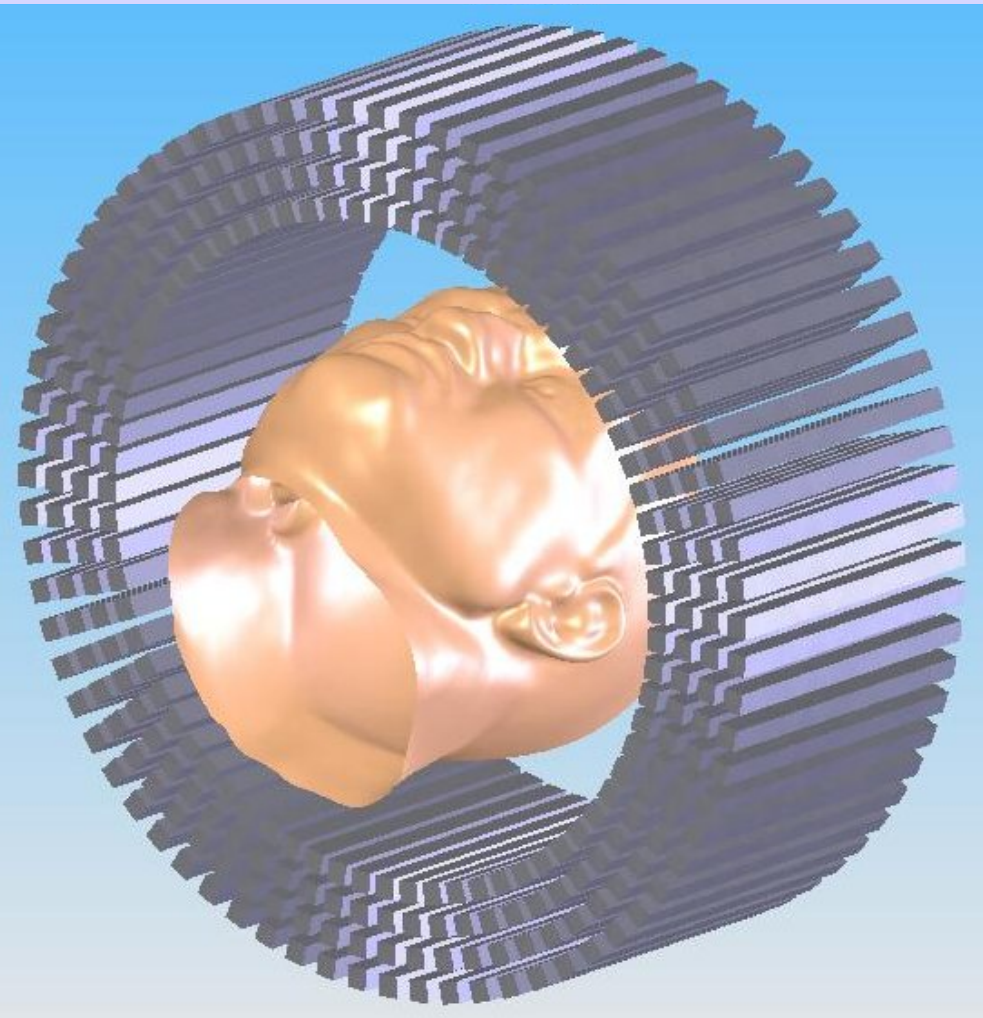
ClearPEM – 1<sup>st</sup> prototype

## The AX-PET (axial brain PET) concept



From short radially oriented,  
block readout crystals ...

Physics For Health in  
Europe



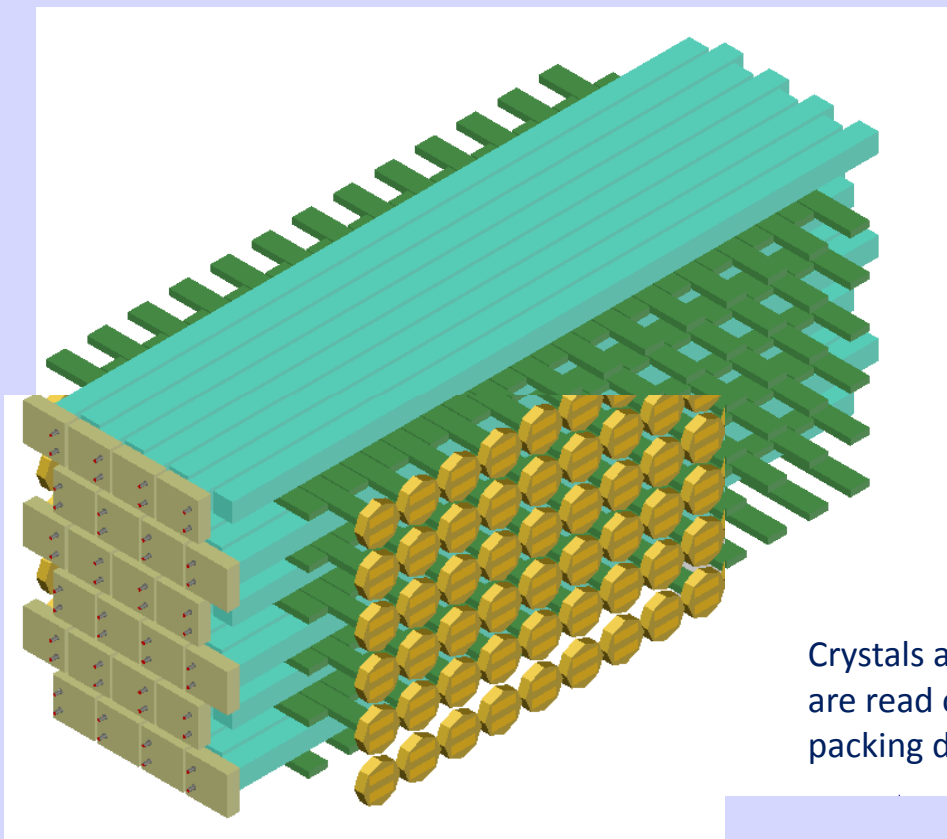
... to long, axially oriented,  
individually readout crystals

C. Joram

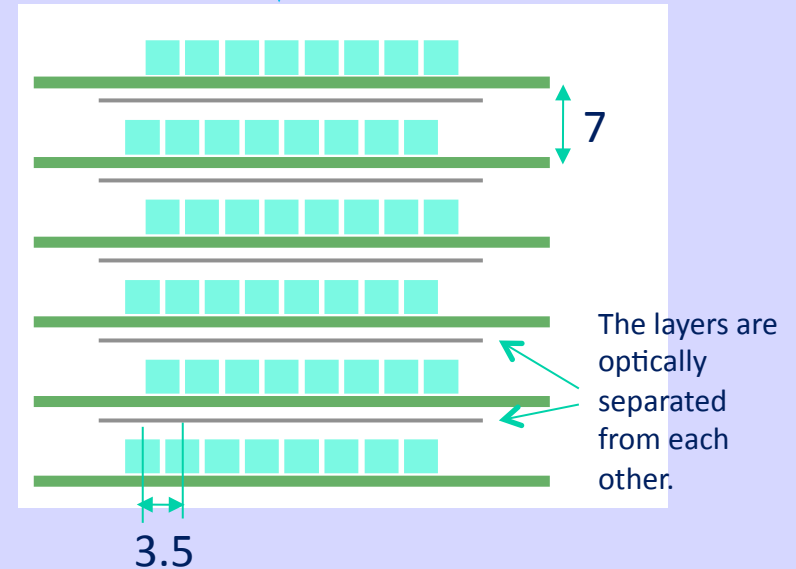


## AX-PET module geometry

- 48 crystals (6 layers x 8 crystals) 2 modules
- 156 WLS strips (6 layers x 26 strips) 4 modules



Crystals are staggered by 2 mm. Crystals and WLS strips are read out on alternate sides to allow maximum packing density.

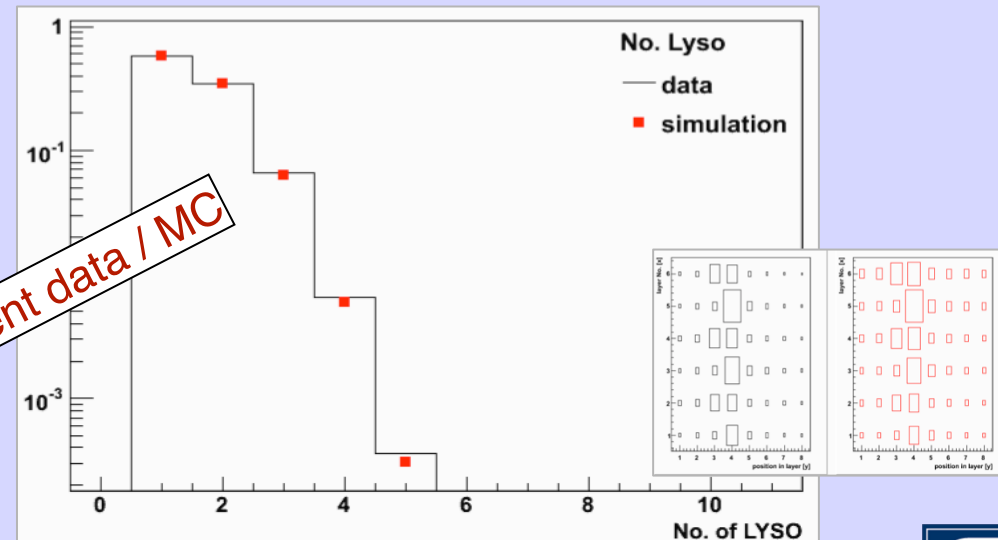
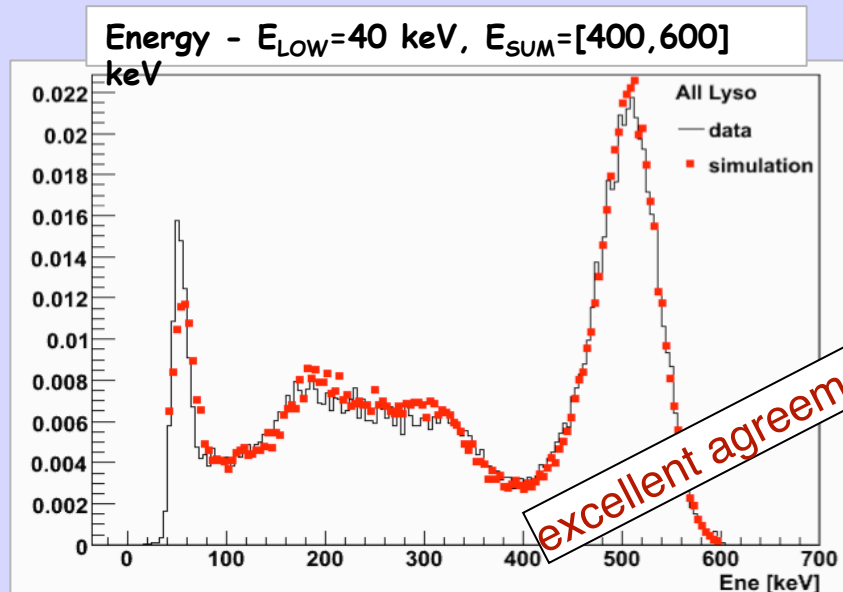
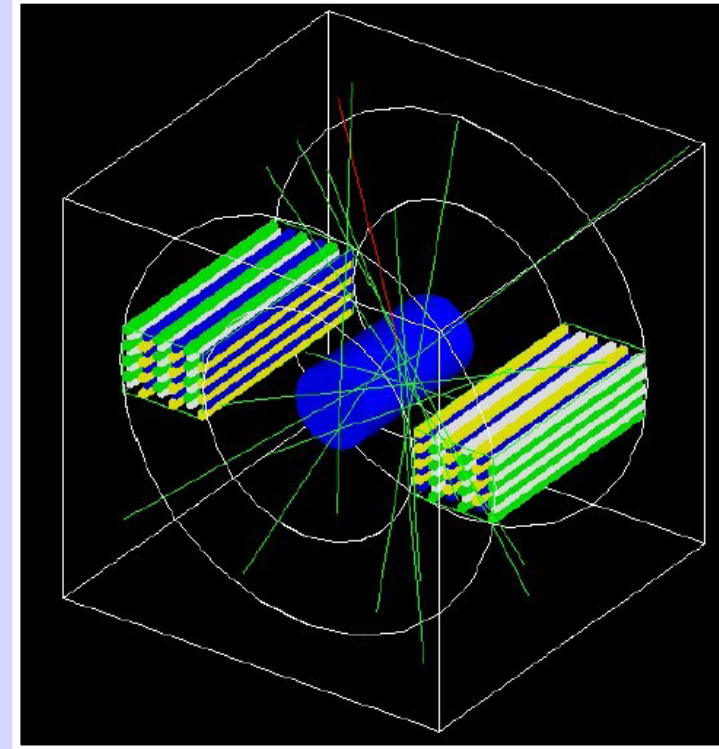


# AX-PET main features

- parallax-free 3D localization of photons.
- Spatial resolution (crystal and WLS strip dimensions) and sensitivity (additional layers) can be optimized independently. Physical limits in reach.
- The 3D capability should allow to identify a significant fraction of Compton interactions (Inter Crystal Scatter). ICS events can either be discarded (resolution fully maintained) or reconstructed (increased sensitivity).
- AX-PET concept can be scaled in size and number of layers to match specific needs.
  - small animal PET
  - brain PET
  - full body PET
  - PEM (mammography)
- Concept and components are in principle MRI compatible and TOF extendable.

# AX-PET simulation

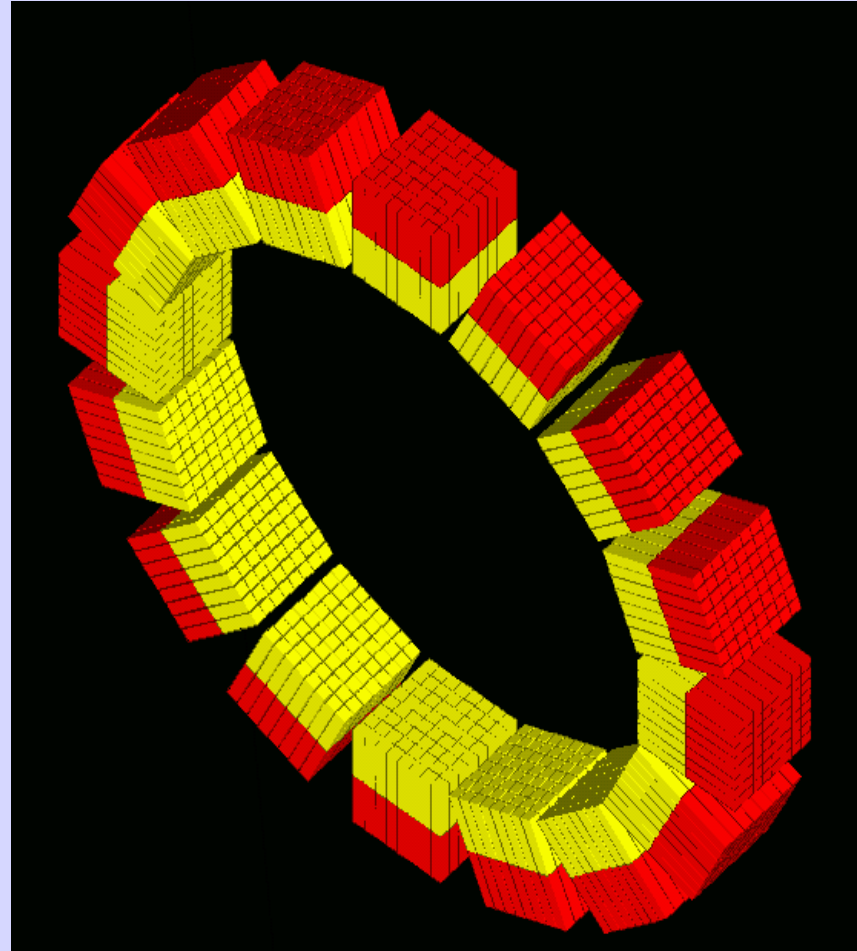
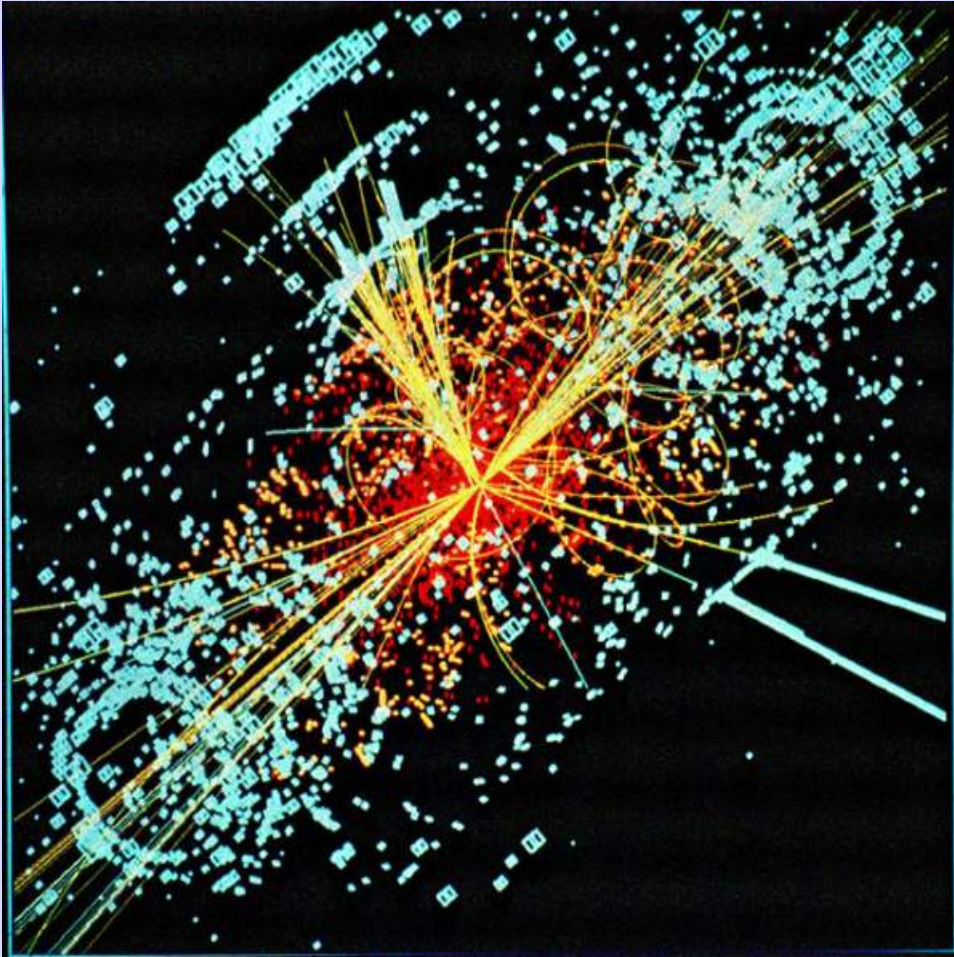
- **Geant4** (multi-purpose Monte Carlo tool, optical transport, dedicated geometry)
- **GATE** (PET dedicated MC, including time dependent phenomena, scanner rotation, source/phantoms...)





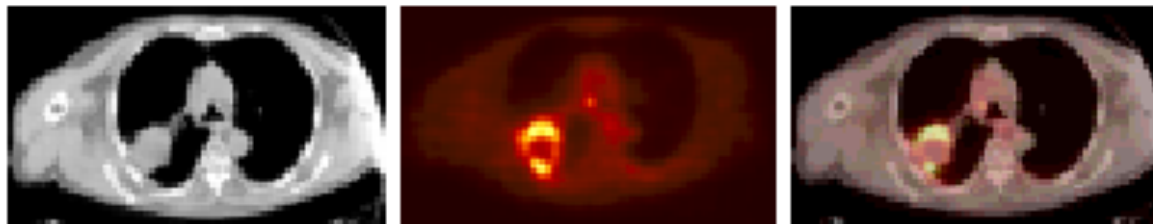
# Simulation

Higgs event at LHC (CMS) with Geant4    ClearPET with GATE: Geant4 Application for Tomographic Emission

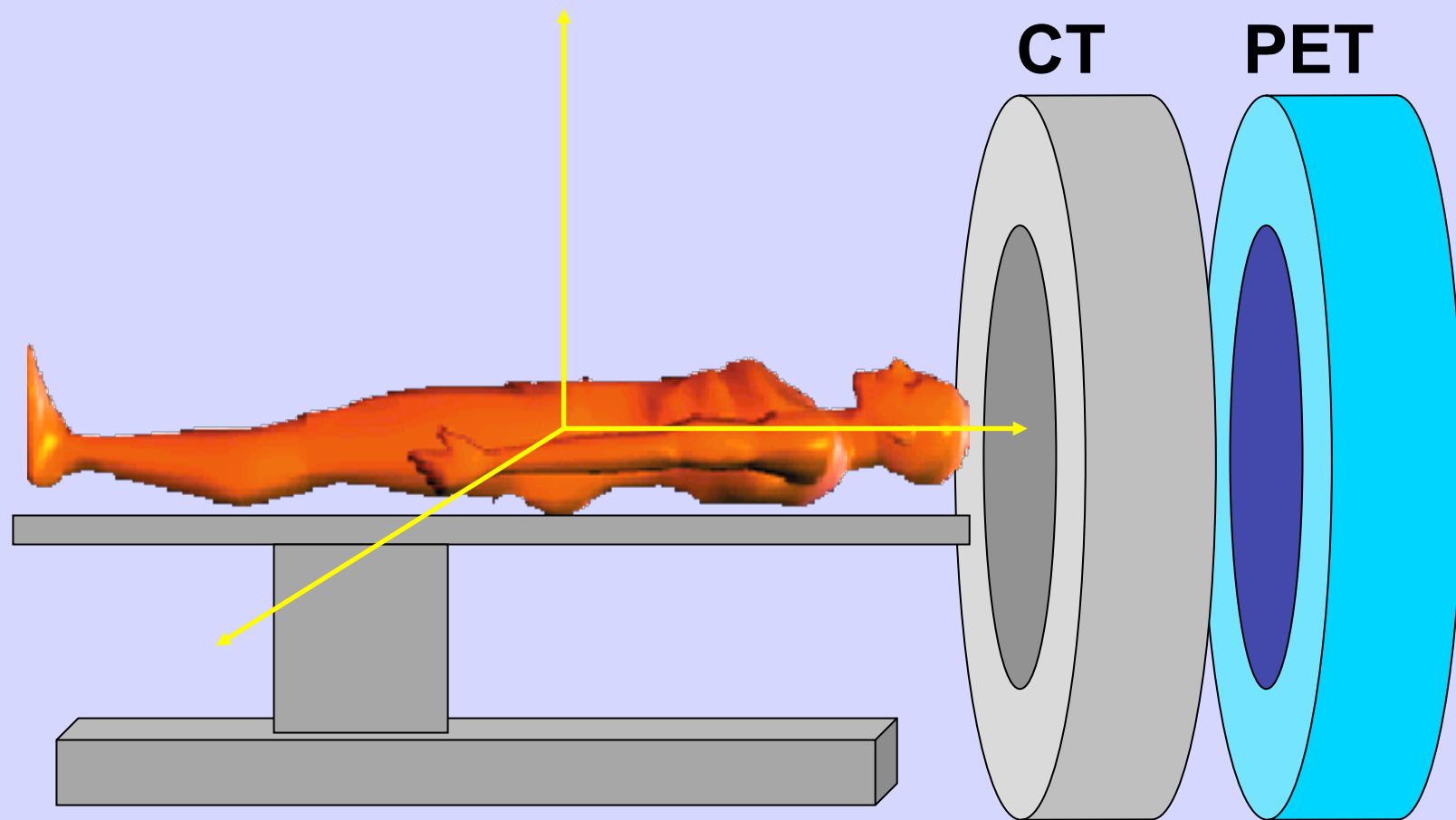


# Multi-modality imaging

Primary lung cancer imaged with the Dual/Commercial scanner. A large lung tumor, which appears on CT as a uniformly attenuating hypodense mass, has a rim of FDG activity and a necrotic center revealed by PET.



# PET/CT





# A changing tide: digital imaging

## Current

- Limited contrast
- High dose
  - Restricted screening
  - Limited access to preventive health care

## Digital

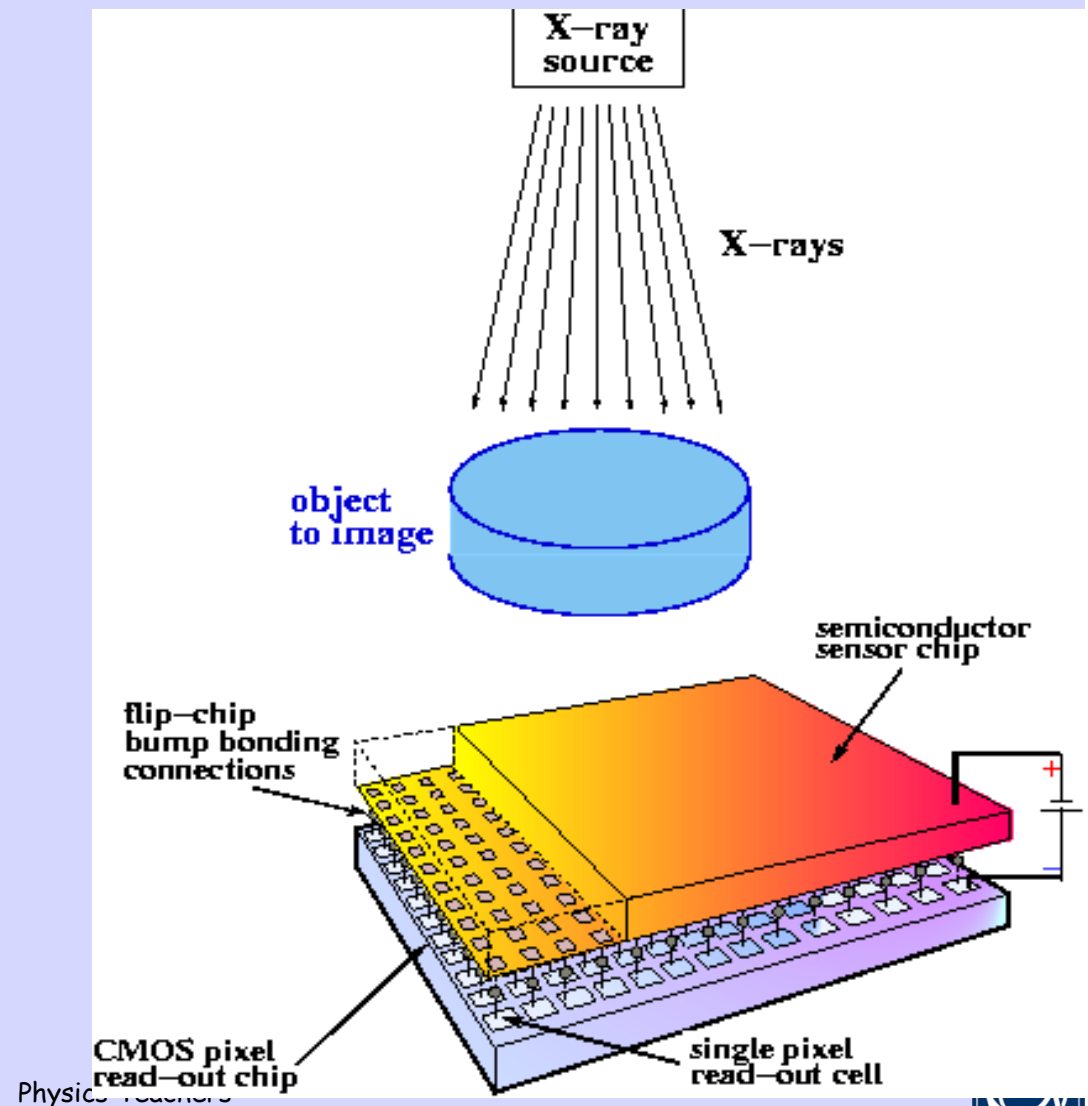
- High contrast
- Lower dose
  - Opportunity for screening
  - Access to preventive health care

# What is Medipix?

The Medipix is an electronic chip similar to the electronic imaging chip in a digital camera. One difference is that the Medipix chip is sensitive to x-rays instead of visible light. What is unique about the Medipix chip is that it can create the first true colour images with x-rays. Thus, it permits us to move from black and white x-ray images to full colour x-ray images. The chip also can be read out very rapidly. This allows the use the chip for colour x-ray digital movies or for fast colour x-ray CT scans

**MEDIPIX**: Allows counting of single photons in contrast to traditional charge integrating devices like film or CCD

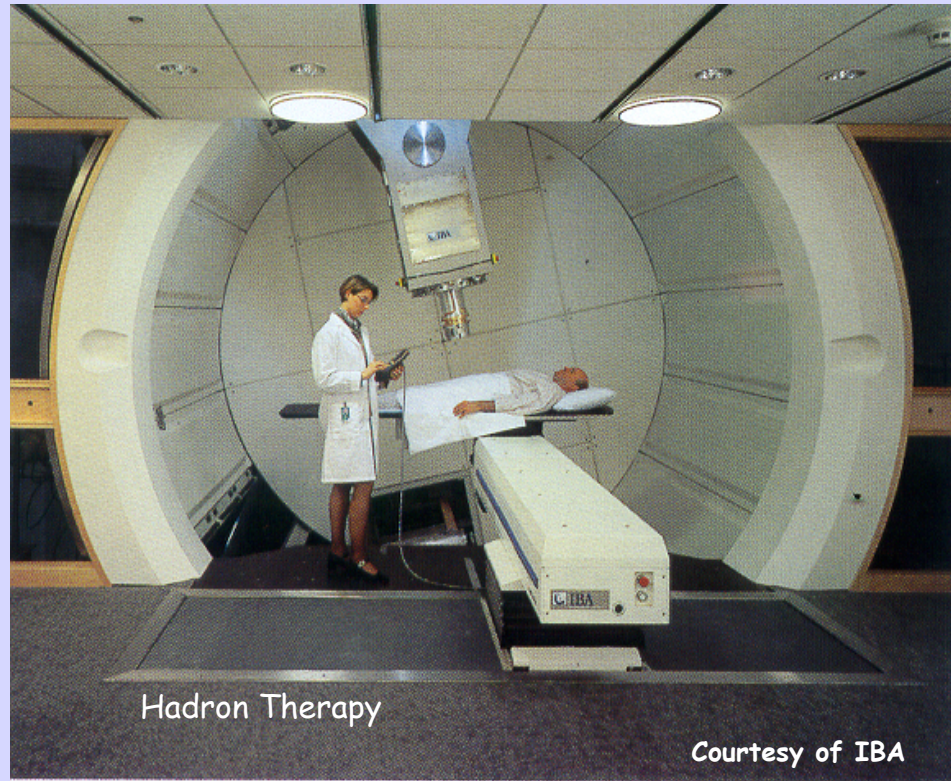
- High Energy Physics original development: Particle track detectors
- Main properties:
  - Fully digital device
  - Very high space resolution
  - Very fast photon counting
  - Good conversion efficiency of low energy X-rays





# Use of Accelerators for cancer treatment

# Accelerators: developed in physics labs are used in hospitals

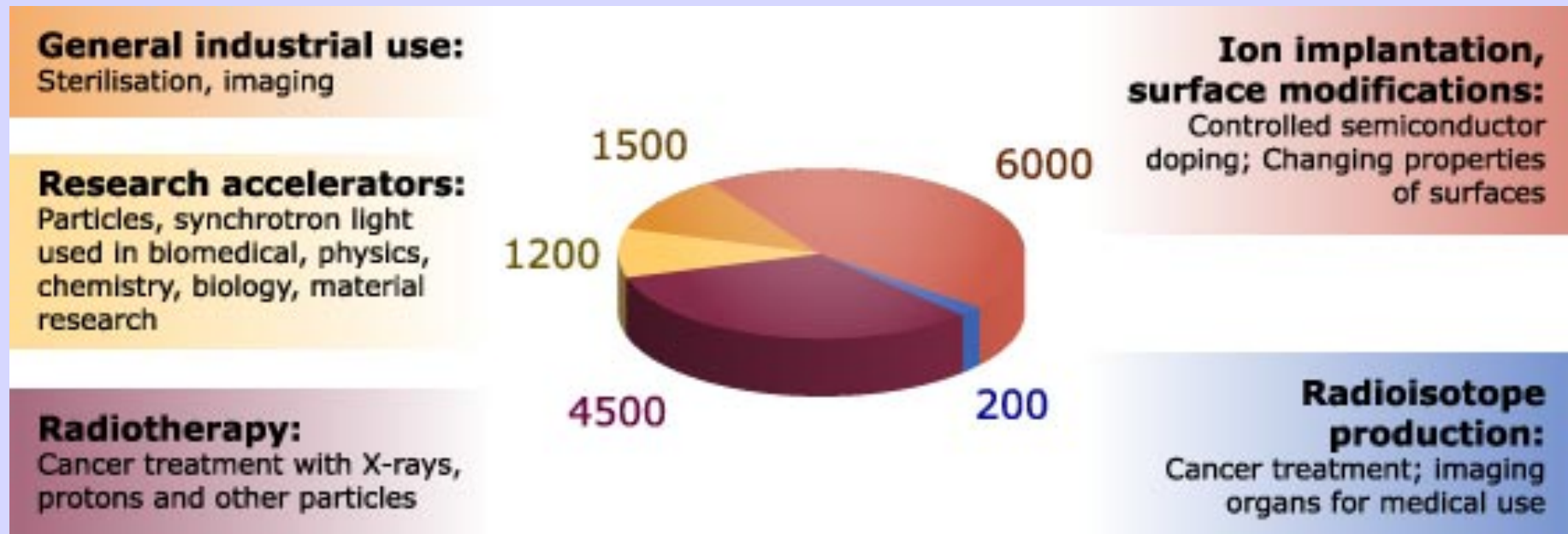


Around 9000 of the 17000 accelerators operating in the  
World today are used for medicine.

Physics Teachers



# Use of Accelerators Today





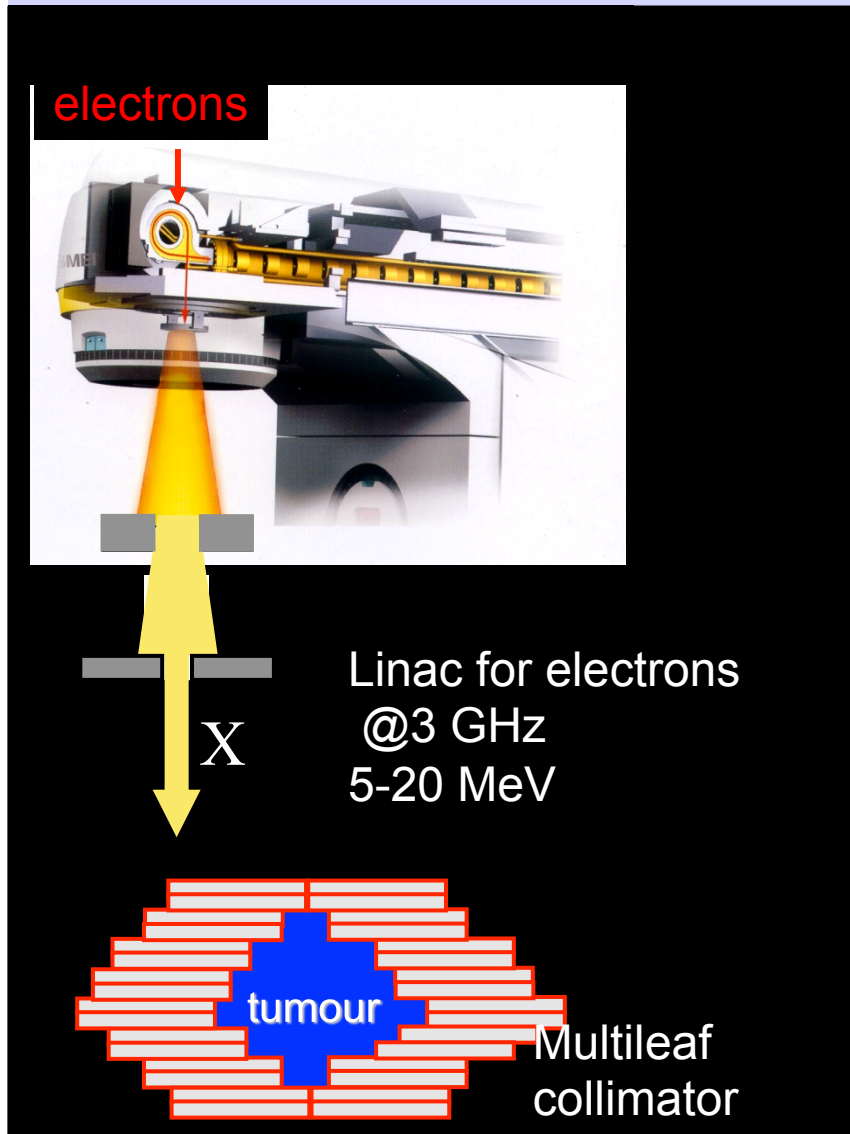
# The Problem

## Cancer Incidence

- Every year about 2 million new cases in Europe
- The rate of patients treated with RT will likely increase in the years to come
- The main cause of death between the ages of 45 and 65. Second most common cause of death

## 'Conventional' radiotherapy: linear accelerators dominate

Courtesy of Elekta



20 000 patients per year every  
10 million inhabitants  
1 linac every <250,000 inhabitants

# Cancer and Radiotherapy in 21st Century

- RT is, nowadays, the least expensive cancer treatment method (around 5% of cost)
- Good cure rate (30-40%)
- Conservative (non-invasive, fewer side effects)
- There is no substitute for RT in the near future

Present Limitation of RT: 30% of patients still fail locally after RT

*(Acta Oncol, Suppl:6-7, 1996)*

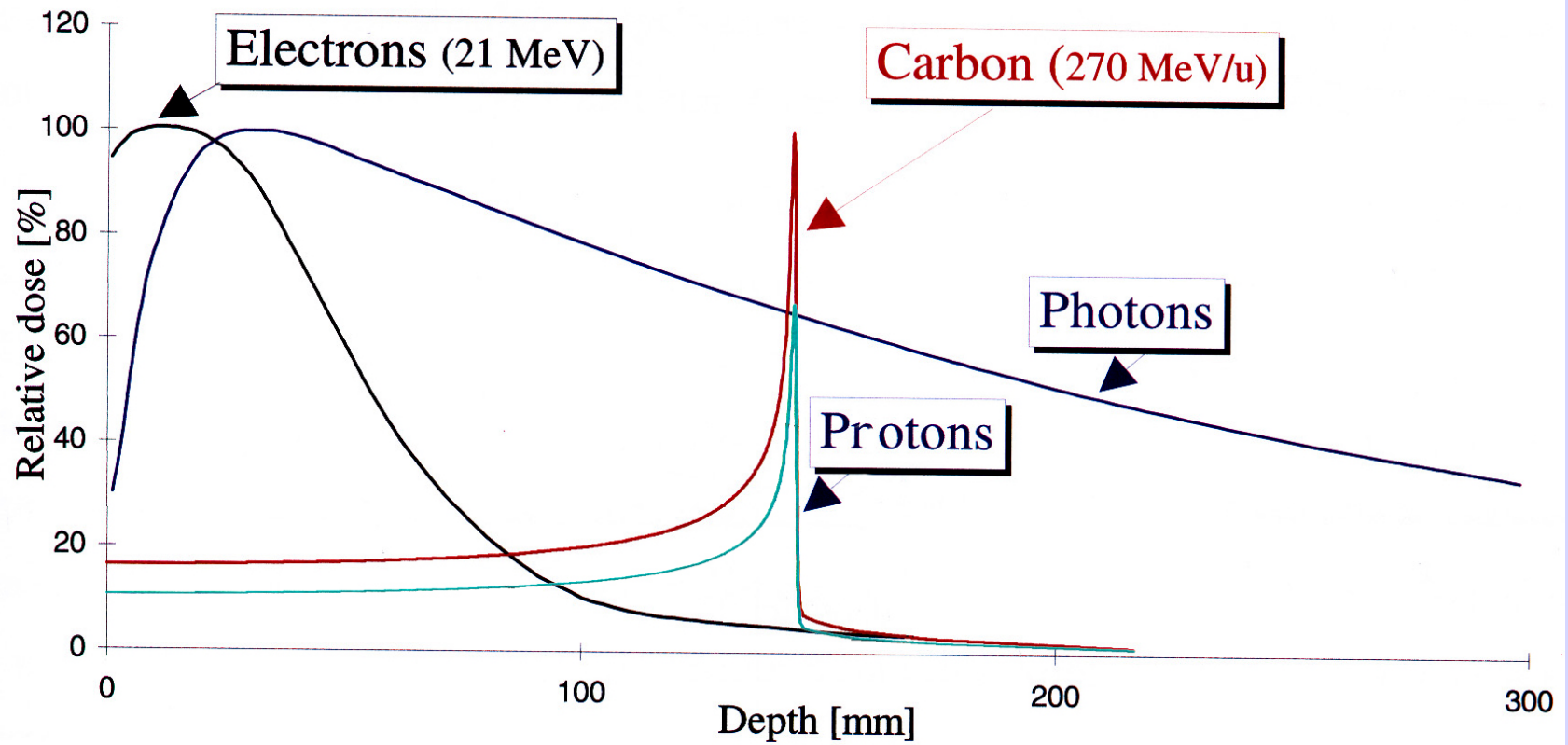


## How to overcome failures?

- Physics & treatment technology: dose escalation
- Imaging: MRI, PET, image registration
- Biology: altered fractionation, radiosensitization

Raymond Miralbell, HUG





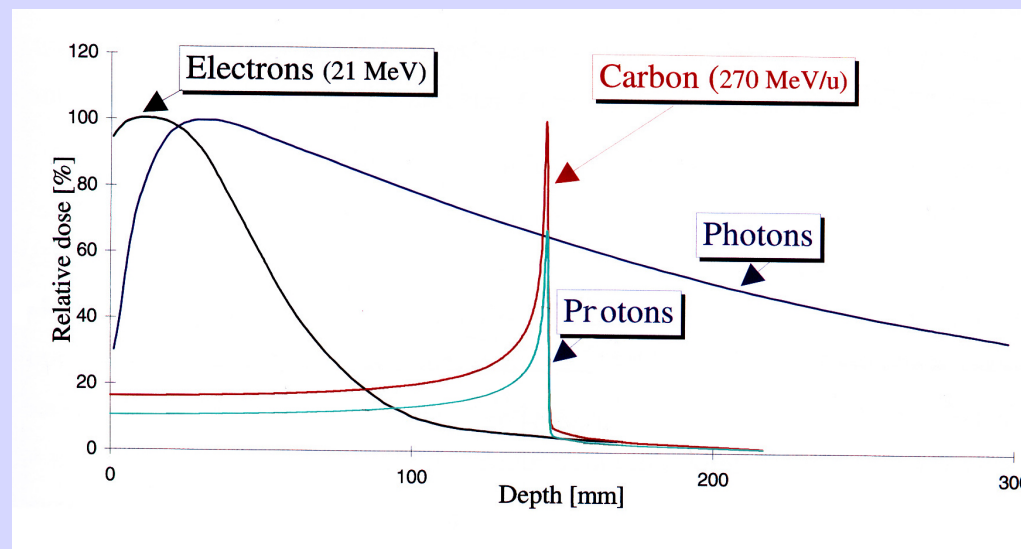


Founder and first director  
of Fermilab

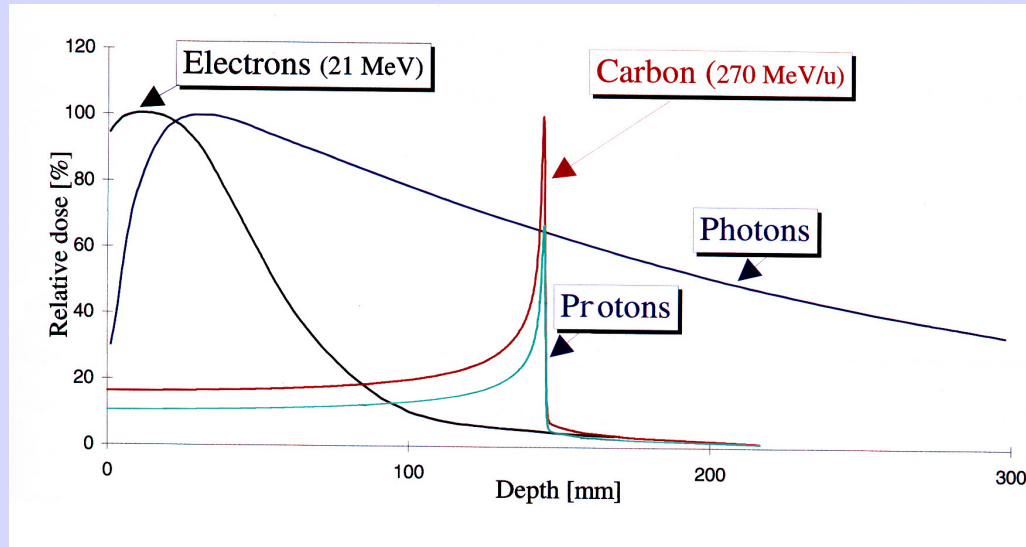
## Hadrontherapy: all started in 1946

In 1946 Robert Wilson:

- Protons can be used clinically
- Accelerators are available
- Maximum radiation dose can be placed into the tumour
- Proton therapy provides sparing of normal tissues



# Hadrontherapy vs. radiotherapy



- Tumours close to critical organs
- Tumours in children
- Radio-resistant tumours

## Photons and Electrons

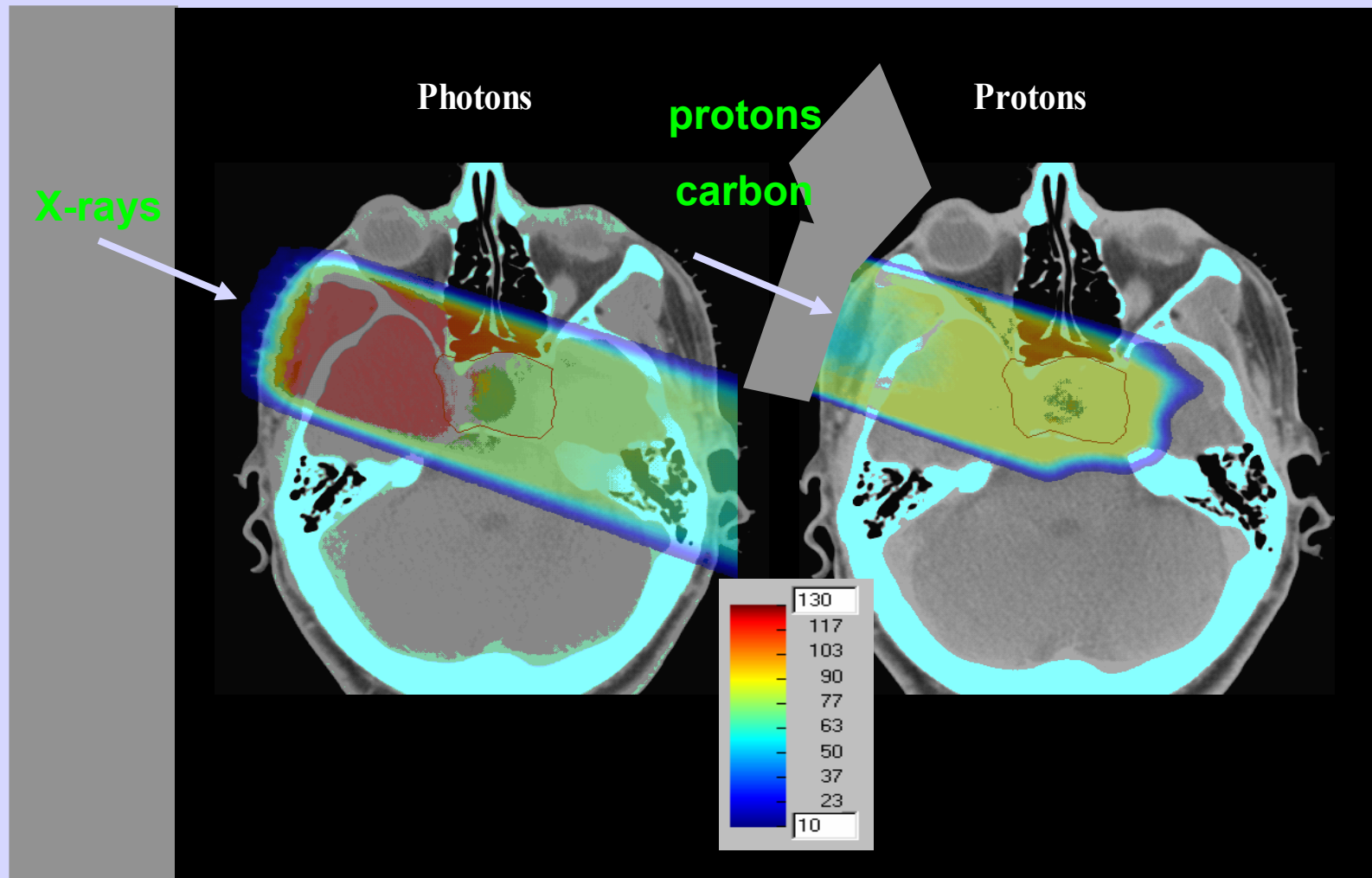
- Physical dose high near surface
- DNA damage easily repaired
- Biological effect lower
- Need presence of oxygen
- Effect not localised

vs.

## Hadrons

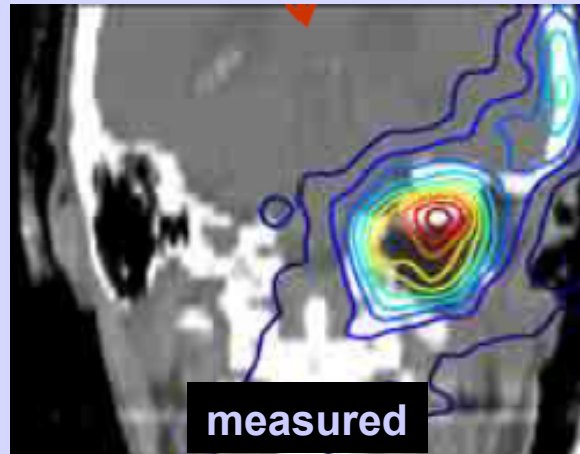
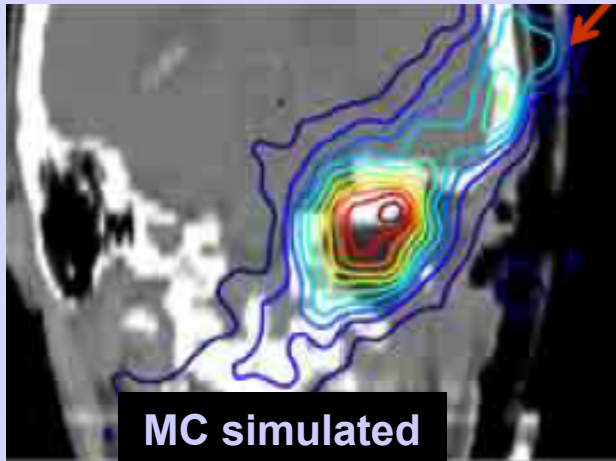
- Dose highest at Bragg Peak
- DNA damage not repaired
- Biological effect high
- Do not need oxygen
- Effect is localised

# Advantage of hadrontherapy





# In-beam-PET for Quality Assurance of treatments



On-line determination of the dose delivered  
First time in 110 years!

Modelling of beta<sup>+</sup> emitters:

Cross section

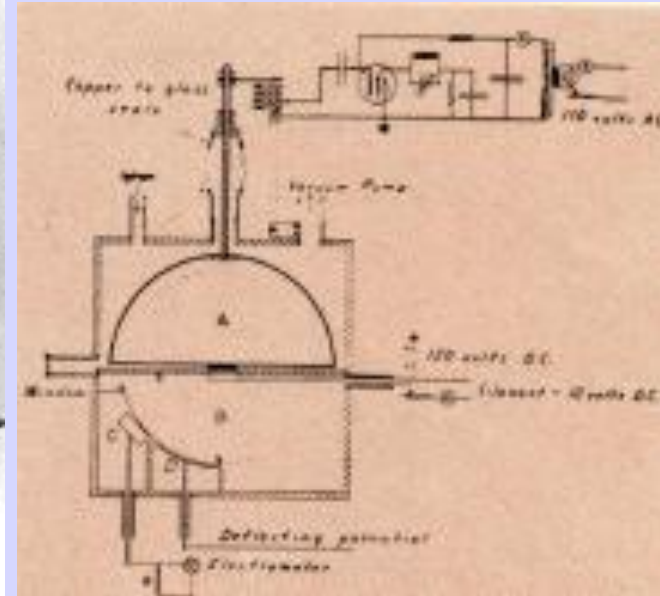
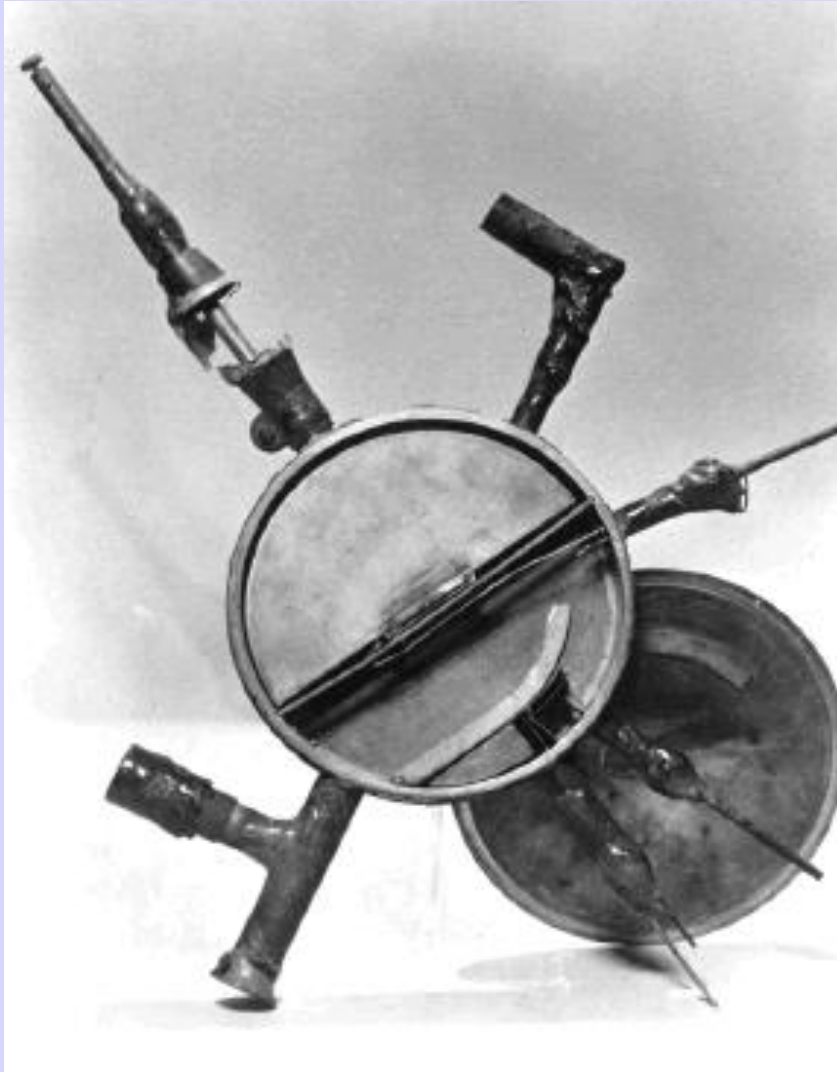
Fragmentation cross section

Prompt photon imaging

Advance Monte Carlo codes



# *The First Successful Cyclotron.....*



*The first successful  
cyclotron constructed  
by Lawrence and M. S.  
Livingston (1930).*

*12 cm in diameter.*

# *184-Inch Cyclotron*



*1945*

*The first beam,  
November 1, 1947.*



# Grids and e-health



# The GRID

The Aim of the GRID is to give access,

again easily and transparently,

Not only to simple information,

But also to all of the computing resources and storage distributed around the world



# LHC data challenge

- 40 million collisions per second
- After filtering, 100 collisions of interest per second
- $10^{10}$  collisions recorded each year

~10 Petabytes/year of data

~10 000 times the world annual book production,

~20km CD stack



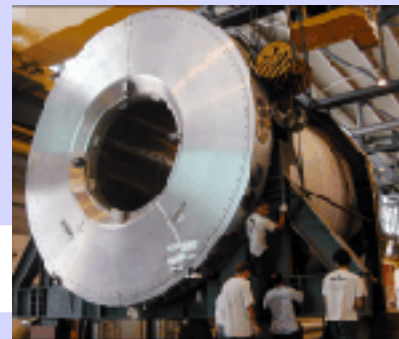
**CMS**



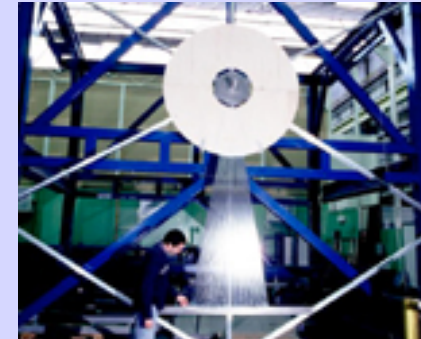
**LHCb**



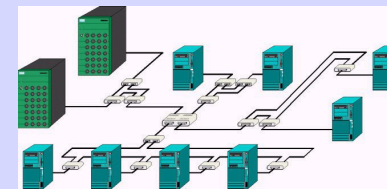
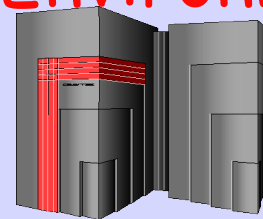
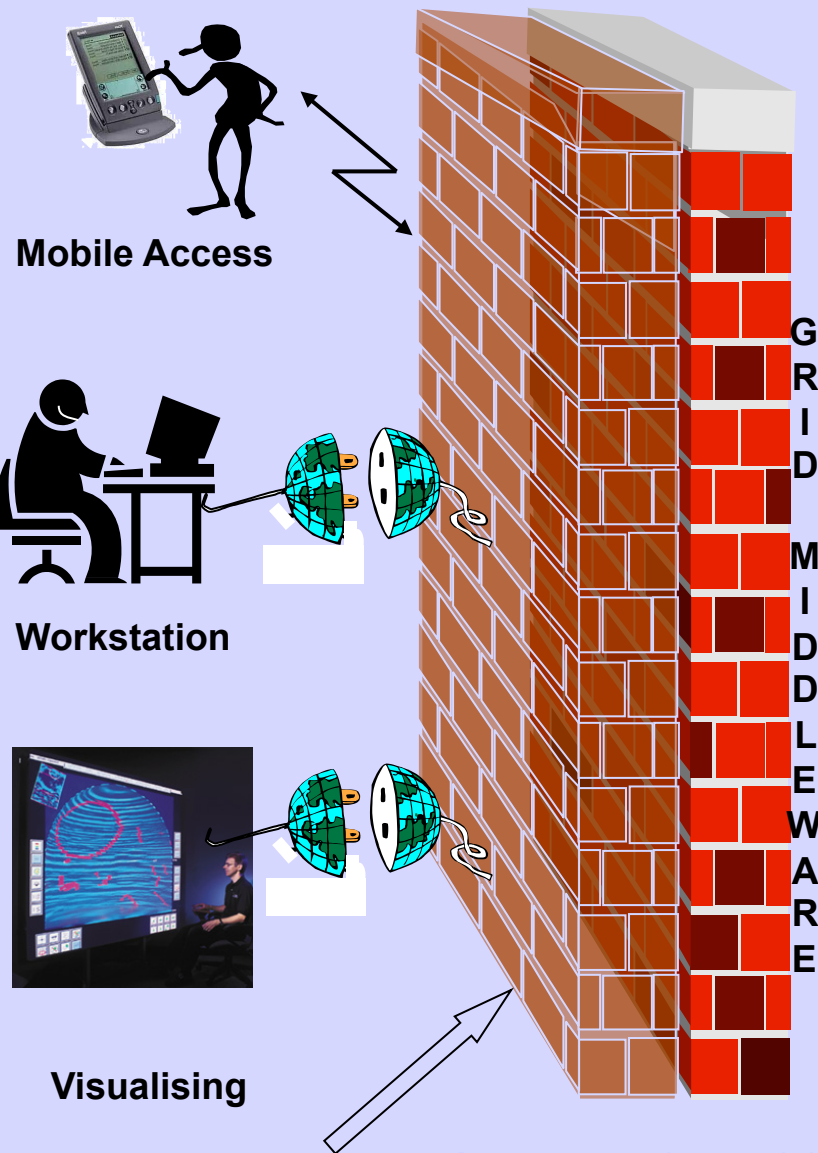
**ATLAS**



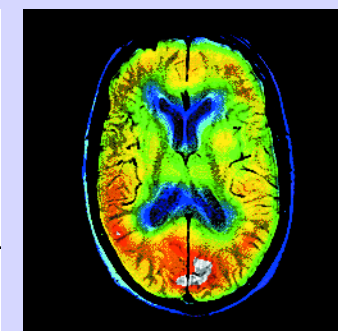
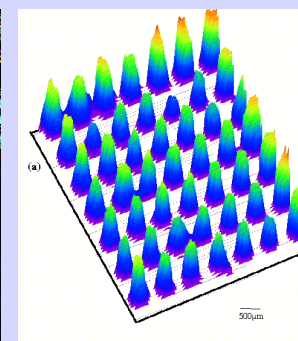
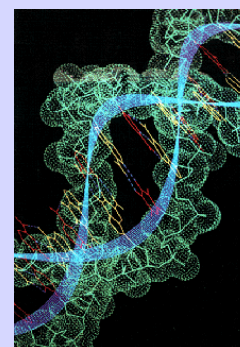
**ALICE**



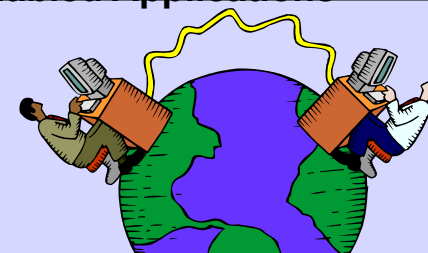
# The User connects to his "Virtual Laboratory" or "Workbench Environment"



**Supercomputer, PC-Cluster**



**Data-storage, Sensors, Experiments, Grid enabled Applications**



**Internet, networks**

Hoffmann, Putzer

Integrating framework middleware

Physics Teachers

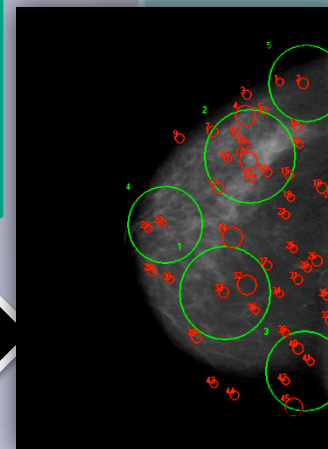


# Early example of health application on the grid



## *Mammogrid* *A Grid-powered Mammography Database*

- Second Opinion
- Cancer Screening
- Education and Training
- Reference Database / Repository



### Oncology

- Breast Cancer (micro-
- Invasions and masses)



From: David MANSET, CEO MAAT France, [www.maat-g.com](http://www.maat-g.com)

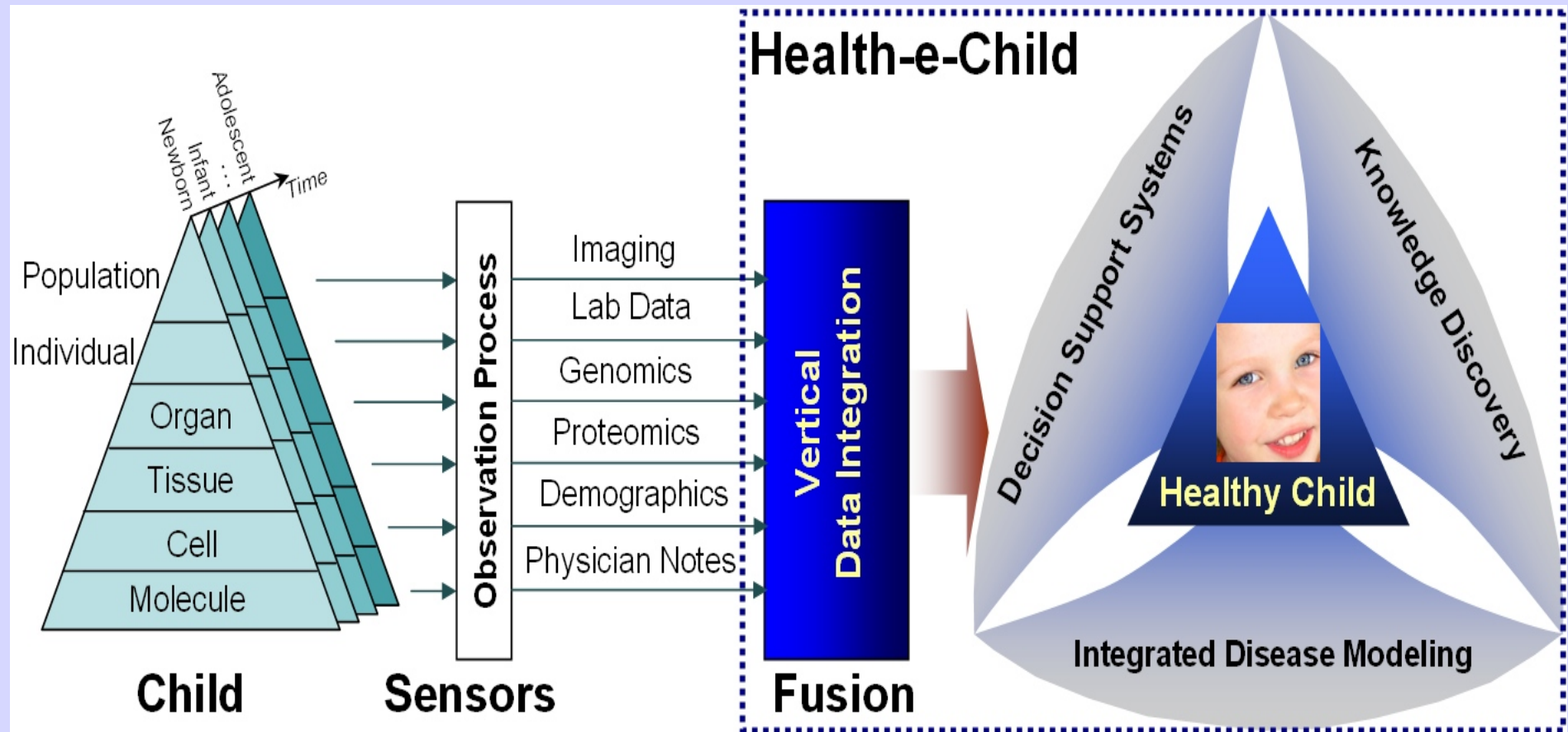




# MammoGrid Project

- To manage health care information for screening
- Acquisition of **large sample** of mammograms
- **Standardization** of mammograms
- **Distributed** data management system, cross-institute, cross-country queries
- **Sharing of computing resources** for the purpose of optimizing data storage and execution of computing-intensive algorithms\
- To assist health operators in their work environment and exchange data and practices

# Health-e-Child on a slide



# References

- [cern.ch/crystalclear](http://cern.ch/crystalclear)
- [cern.ch/enlight](http://cern.ch/enlight)
- [cern.ch/medipix](http://cern.ch/medipix)
- [cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AXIALPET](http://cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AXIALPET)
- [cern.ch/medausttron](http://cern.ch/medausttron)
- [cern.ch/fluka/heart/rh.html](http://cern.ch/fluka/heart/rh.html)
- [www.fluka.org/fluka.php](http://www.fluka.org/fluka.php)
- [cern.ch/wwwasd/geant](http://cern.ch/wwwasd/geant)
- [cern.ch/wwwasd/geant/tutorial/tutstart.html](http://cern.ch/wwwasd/geant/tutorial/tutstart.html)