



Workshop on picosecond photon sensors

13<sup>th</sup> March 2014

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UniversityHospital Heidelberg

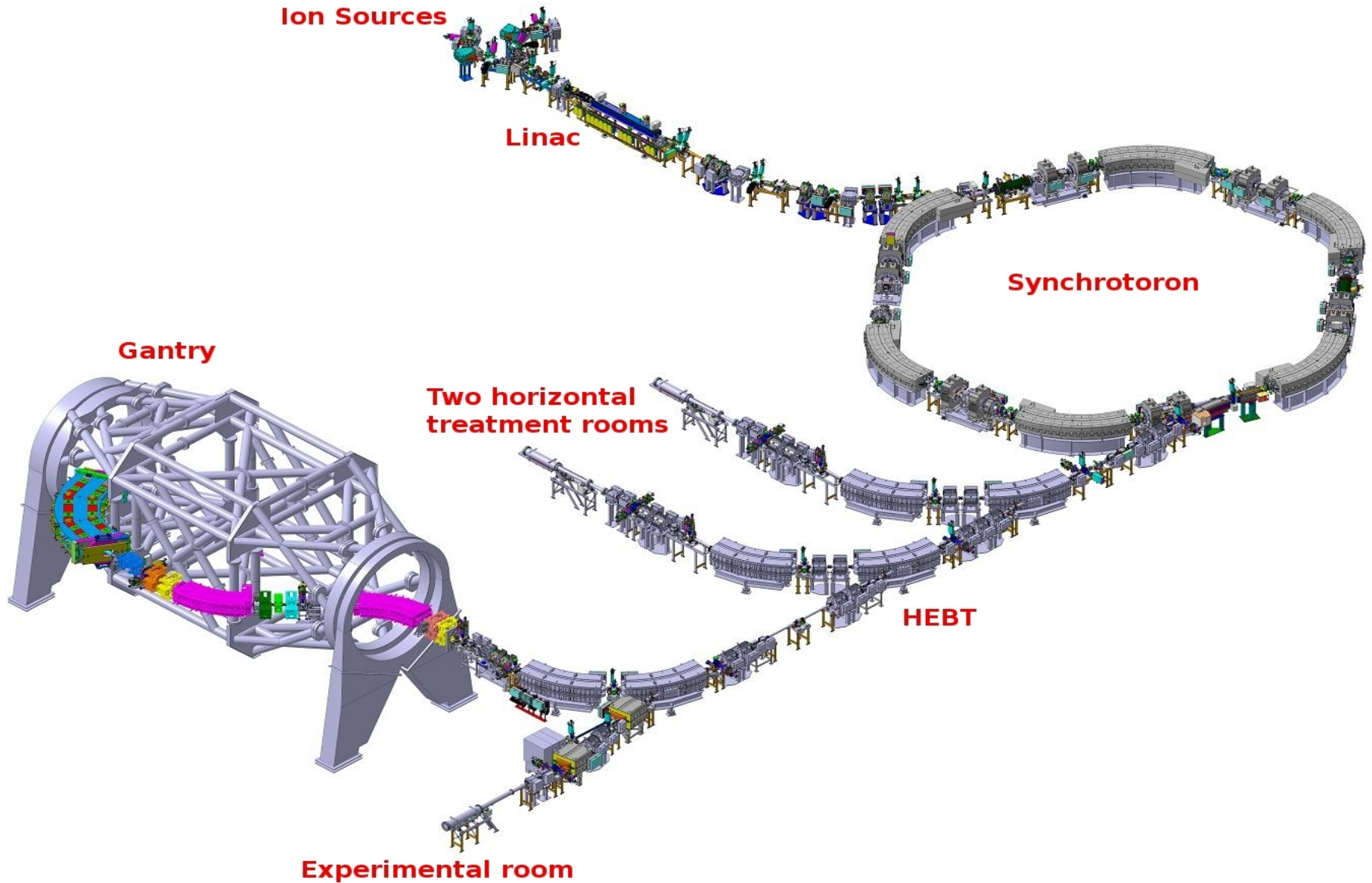
# **Timing in imaging applications for ion beam therapy**

**Ilaria Rinaldi**

**Heidelberg University Hospital  
and  
Ludwig Maximilians University Munich**

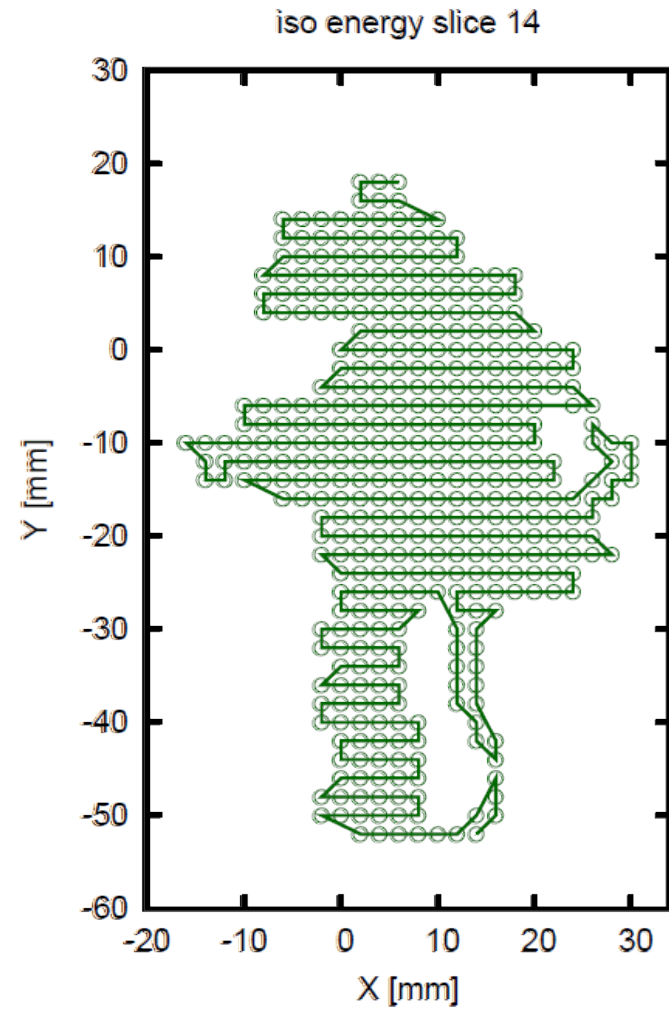
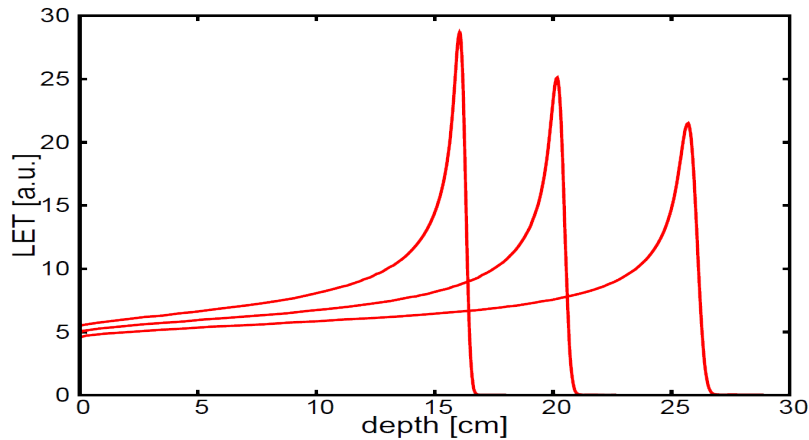
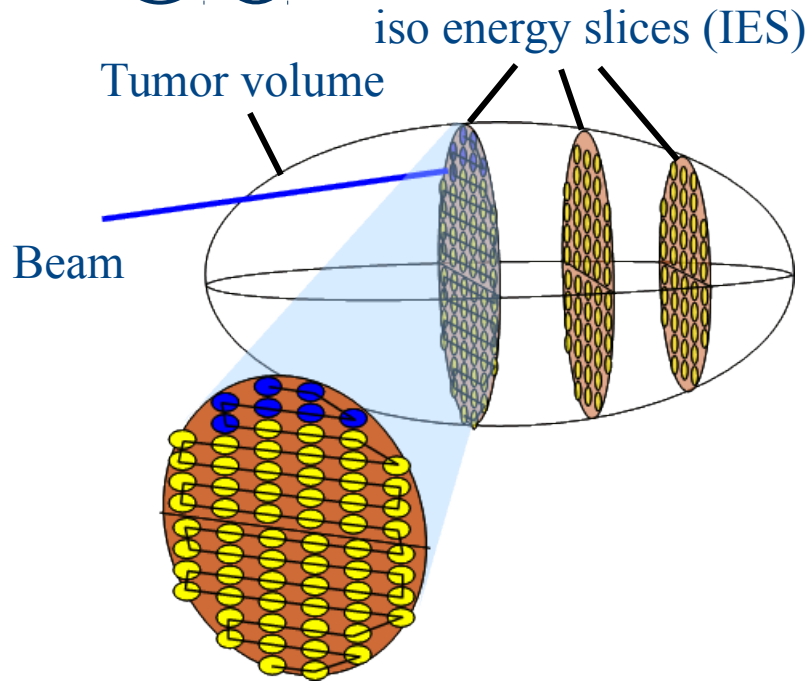


# The Heidelberg Ion Therapy center





# Active Raster scanning technique

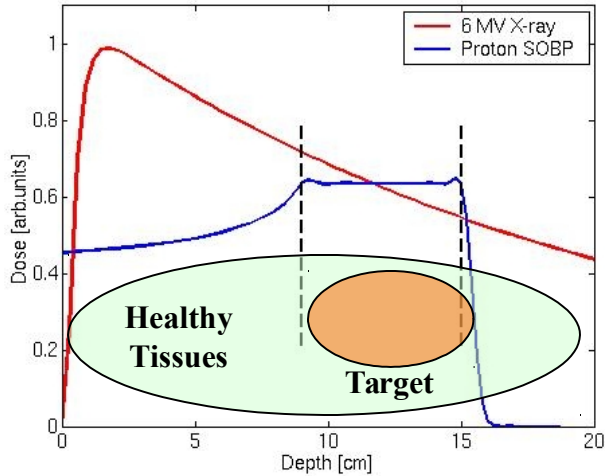




# Rationale for ion therapy and range verification

## Present

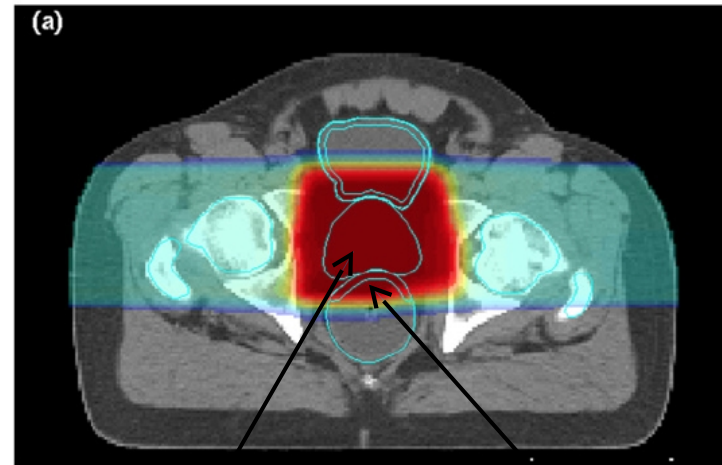
- Reduced integral dose (factor ~3)



*Paganetti AAPM 2012*

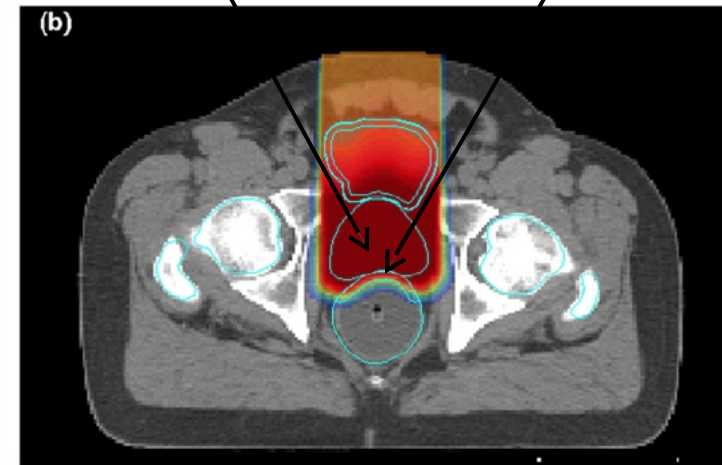
## Future

- Reduction of safety margins (dose escalations; higher cure rate)
- Use of new irradiation fields (use of sharp distal penumbra of Bragg-peaks)



Tumor volume

Organ at risk

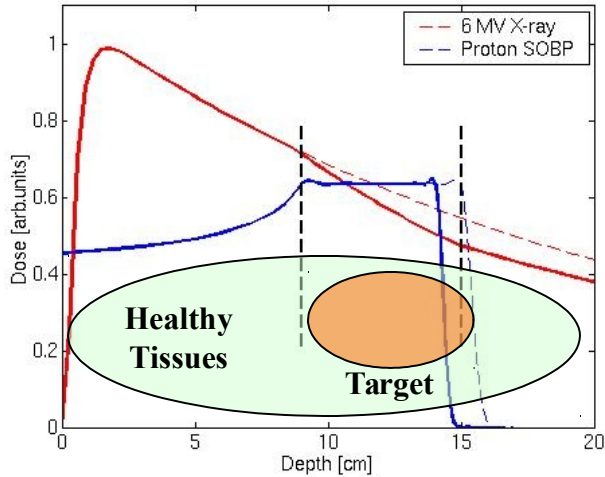




# Rationale for ion therapy and range verification

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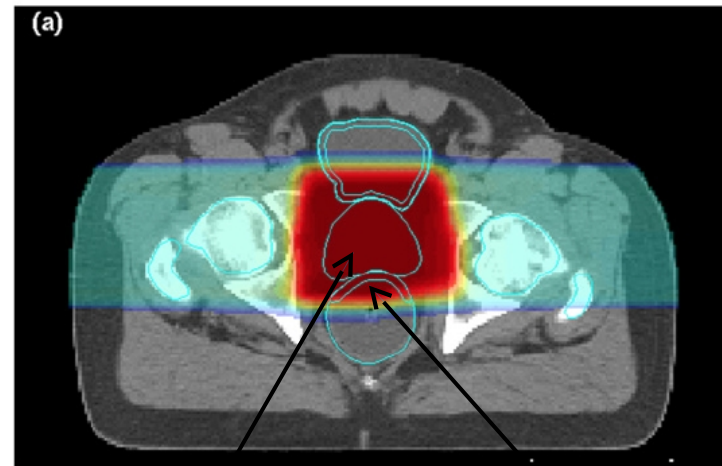
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Paganetti AAPM 2012

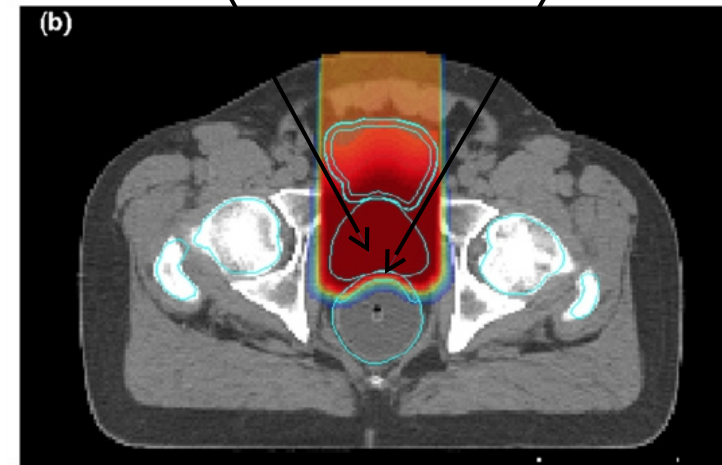
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Tang et. al. Med.Phys. 2012

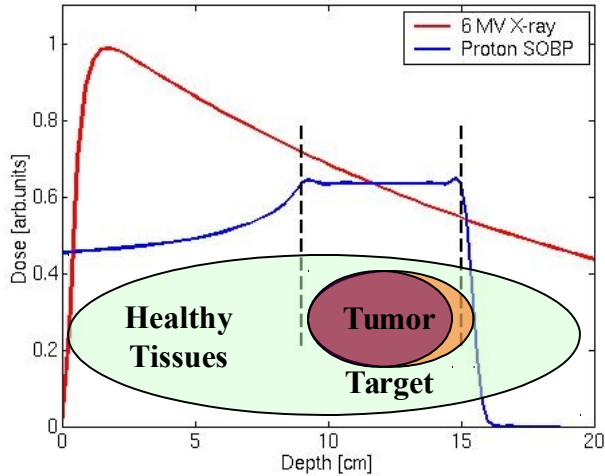




# Rationale for ion therapy and range verification

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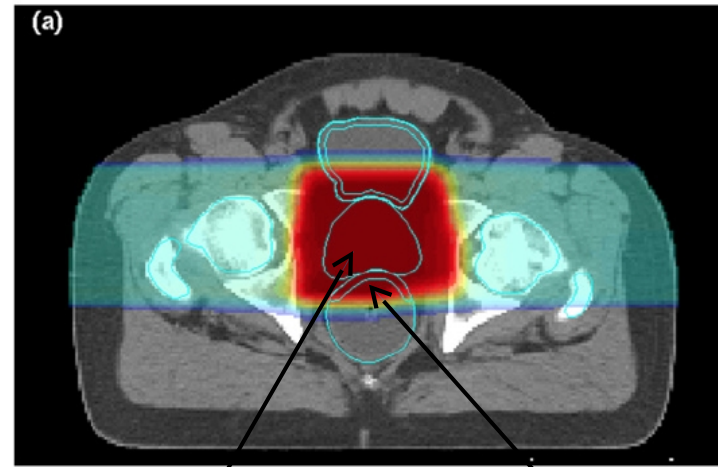
- Reduced integral dose (factor ~3)



Paganetti AAPM 2012

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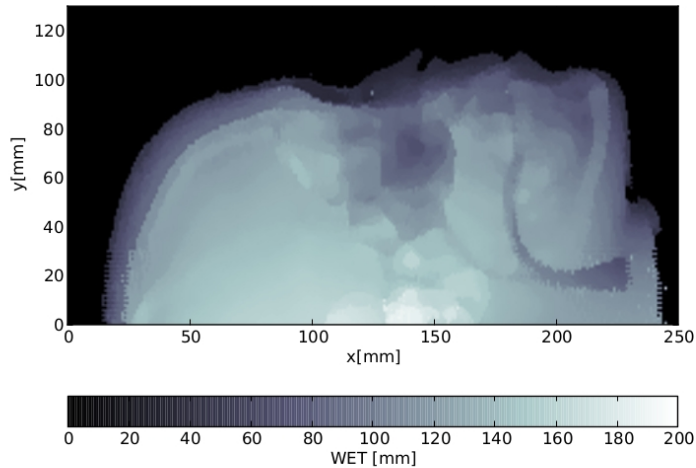
Tang et. al. Med.Phys. 2012



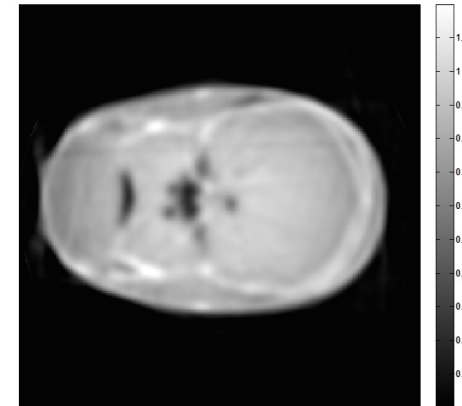
# How do we reduce range uncertainties?

- Increasing accuracy in range prediction

**Ion radiography**

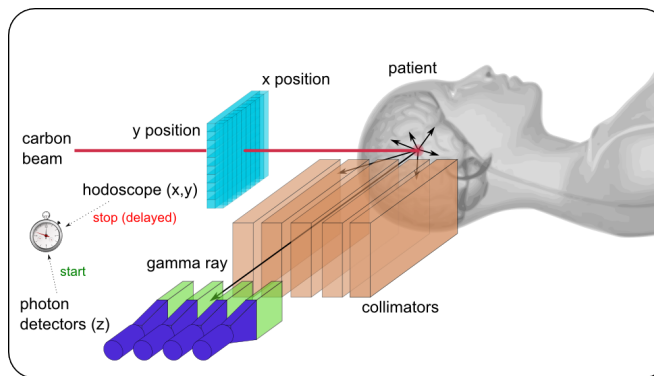


**Ion CT**



- In-vivo range verification

**Prompt gamma cameras**

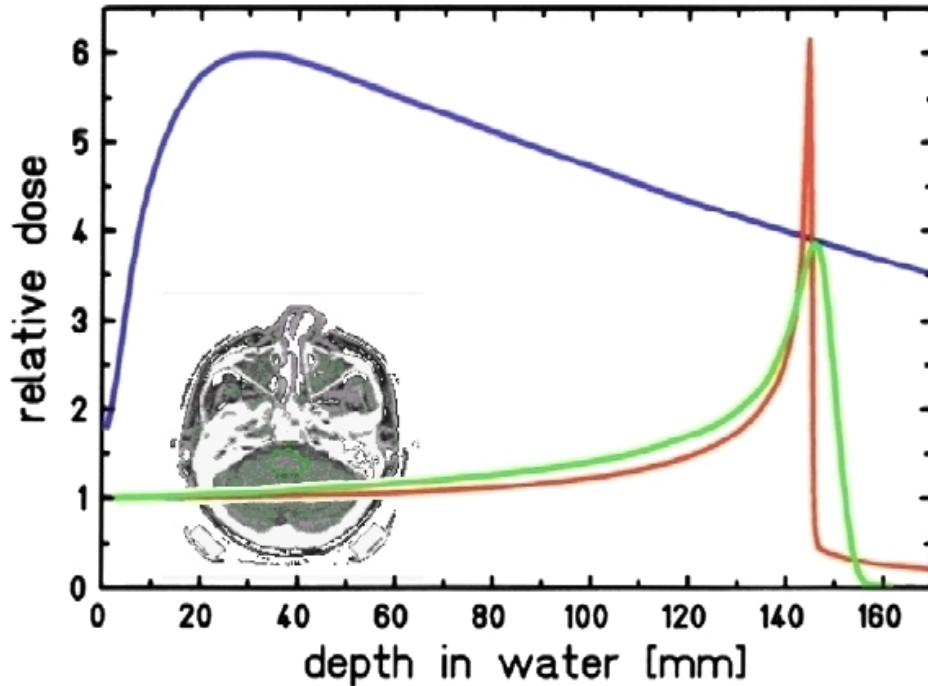


**PET**



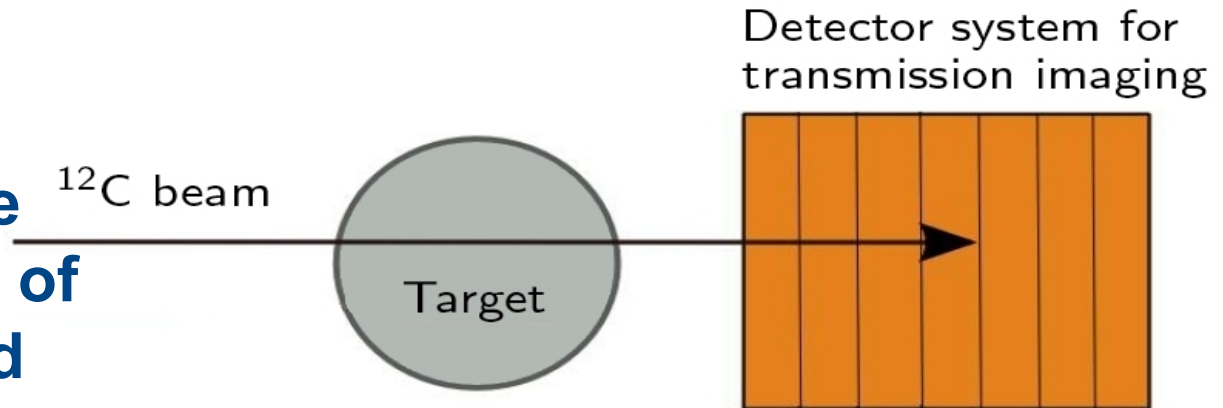


# • Ion radiography and tomography: the idea



- Use of energetic ion beams prior to or even in-between the treatment low dose to the patient

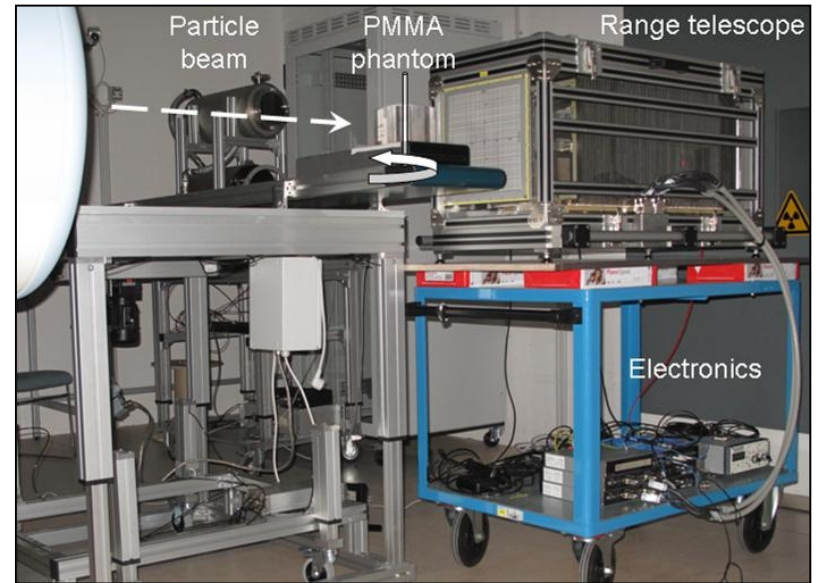
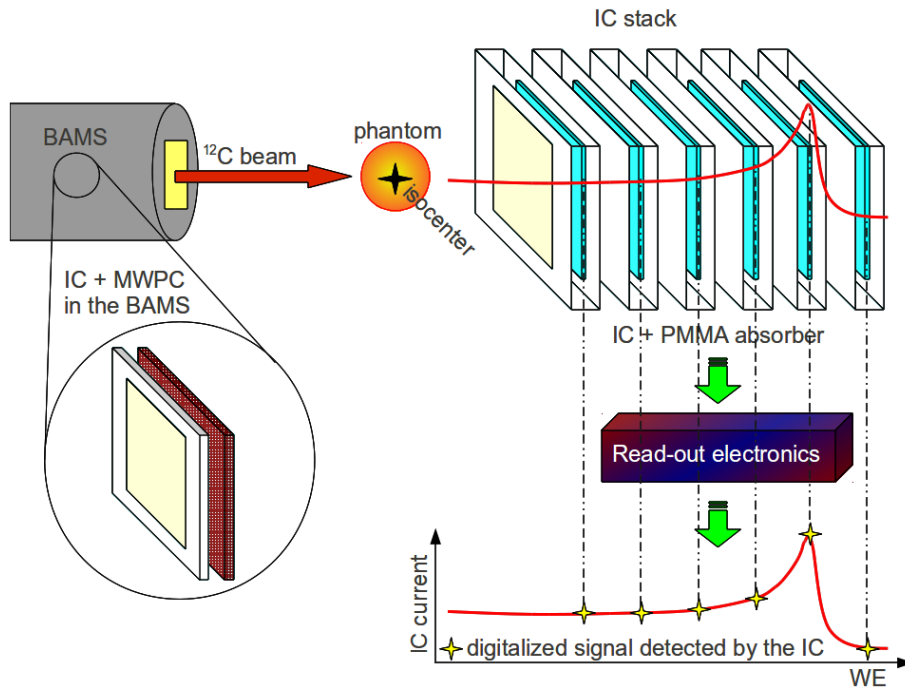
- position of the
- Bragg peak
- depends on the
- characteristics of
- the transversed
- materials







# Detector development: Ion tomography



- 61 PPIC 30x30 cm<sup>2</sup>
- 3mm PMMA absorber slabs
- 2 Modules of I3200 Thirty two-channel Electrometer+A500 Real Time Controller
  - Active scanning beam delivery system

Rinaldi et al., PMB 58 (2013), 413, Highlights of 2013

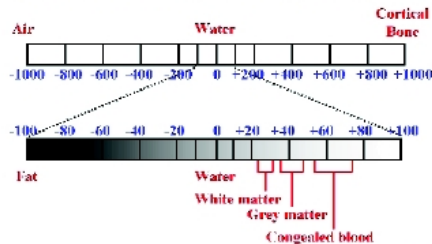
Rinaldi et al., PMB (2014a,2014b), submitted

# Ion radiography and tomography

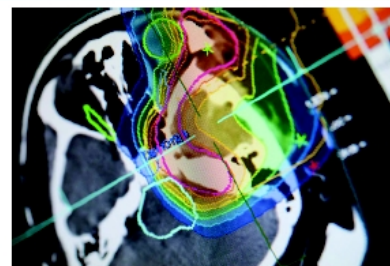
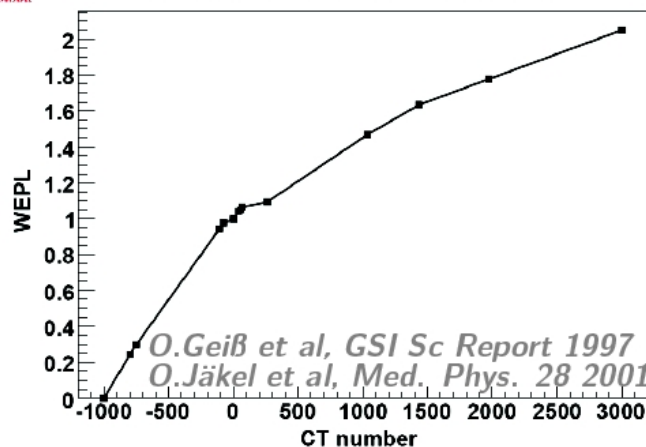
## X-ray planning CT



## Ion treatment



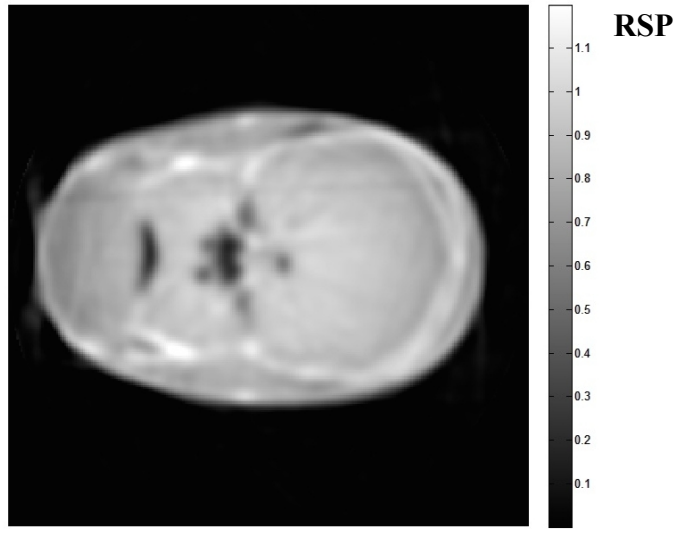
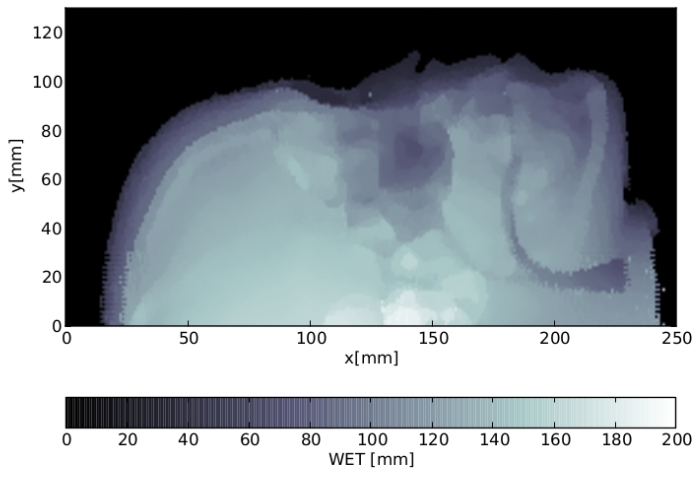
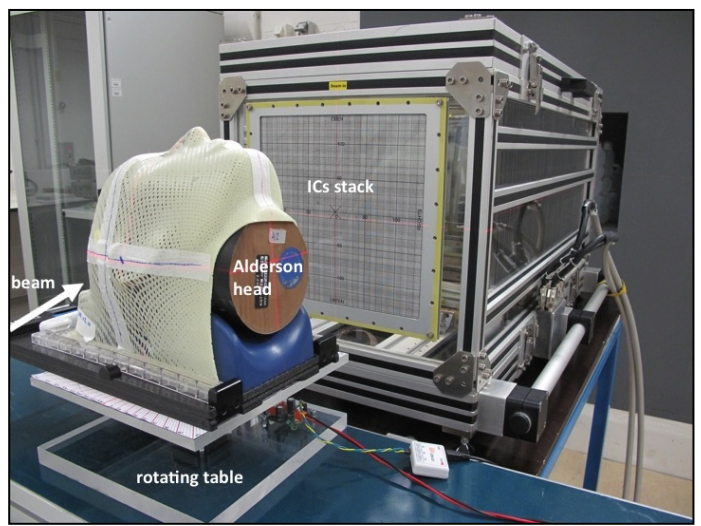
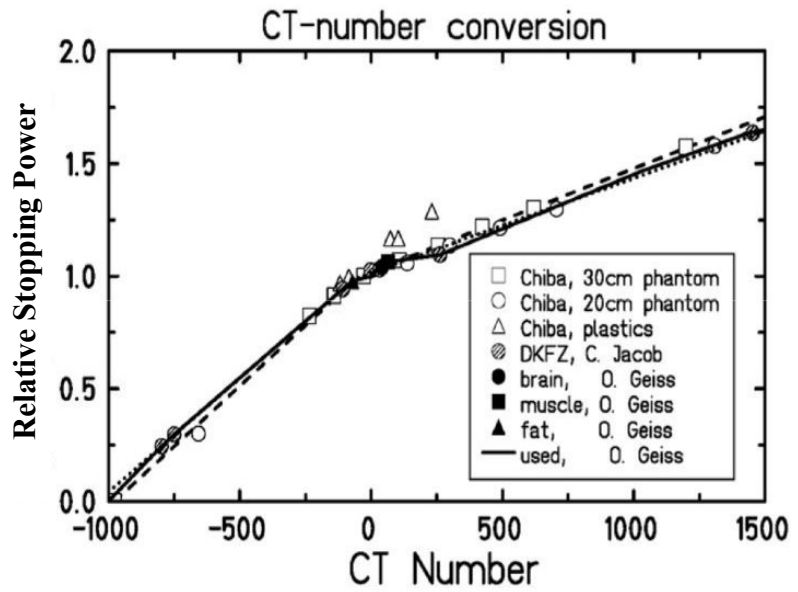
## Experimental calibration curves



⇒ **1-3% range uncertainties**

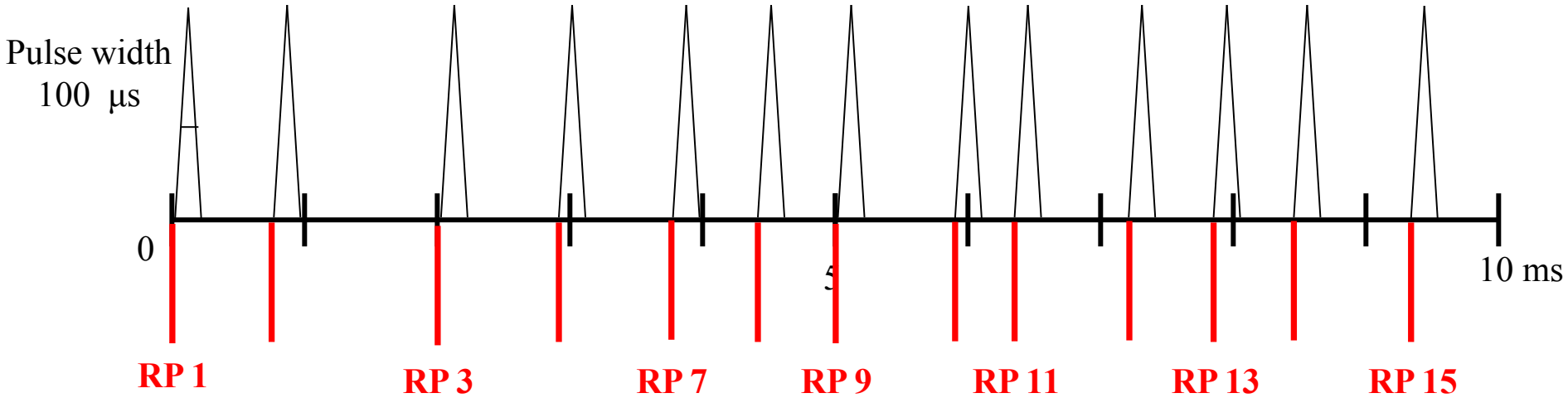
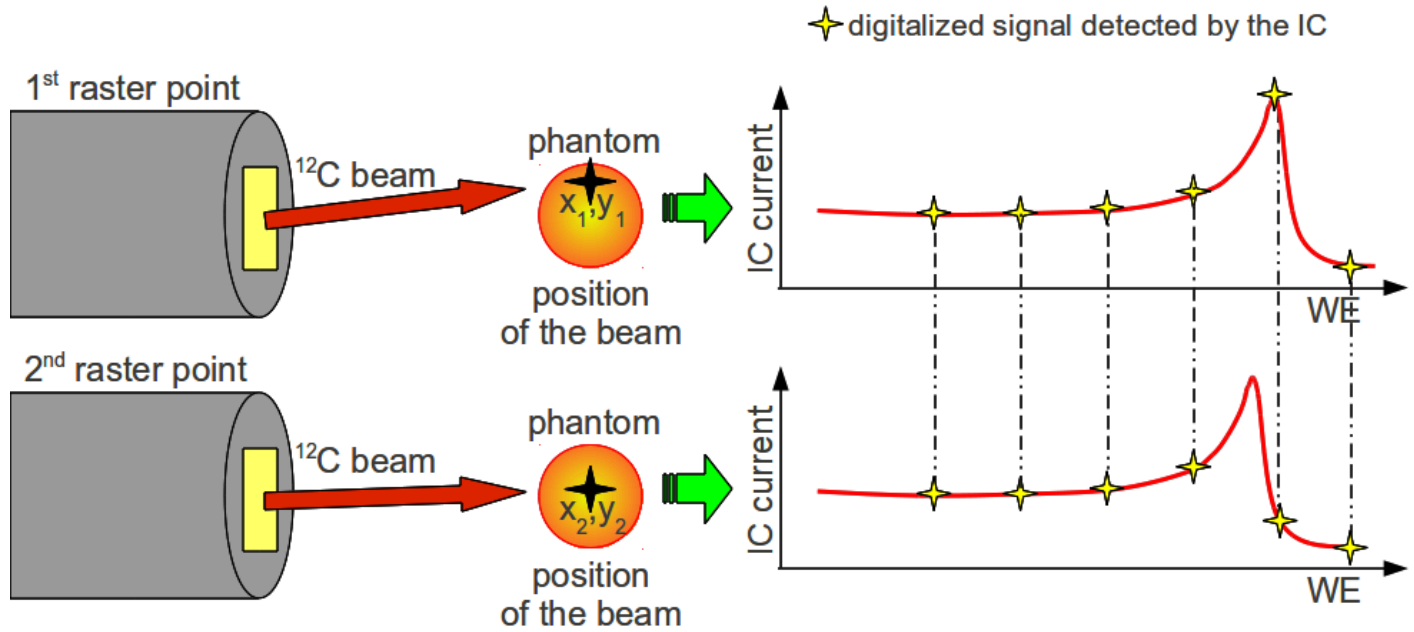


# Ion radiography and tomography





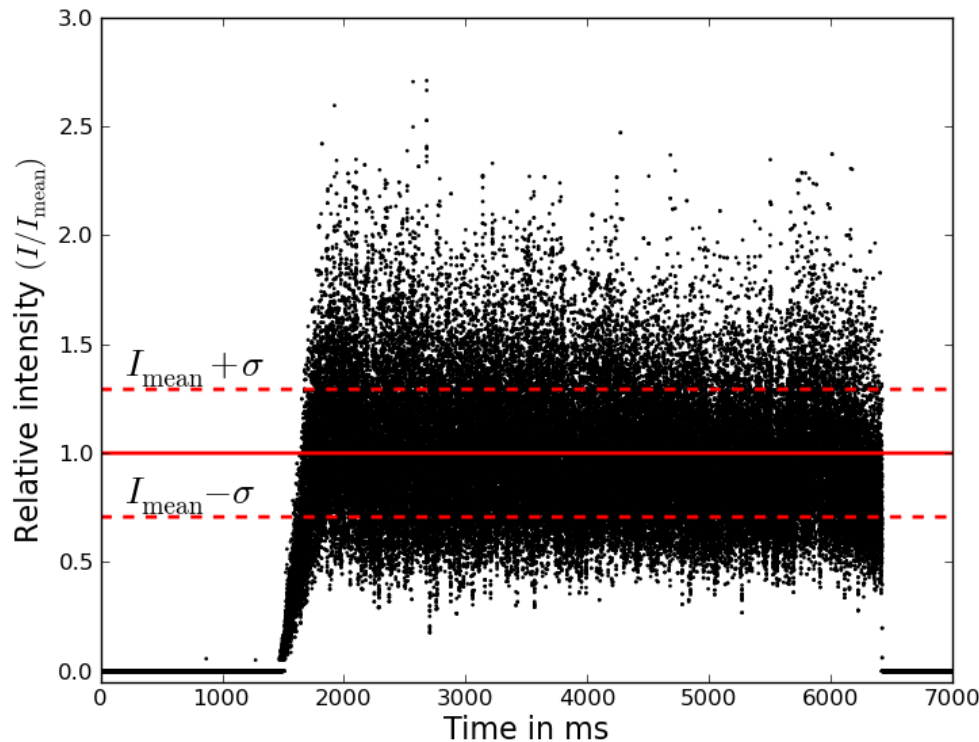
# Ion radiography and tomography





# Ion radiography and tomography

The beam resides at a given raster point (RP) for a certain time and then slews to the next one. The residence time at a given raster point ( $t_{RP}$ ) is not known in advance and can vary depending on the number of particles delivered in a raster point (NRP) and the beam intensity ( $I$ ). In fact,  $t_{RP} = NRP/I$



Typical RP duration is 0.8 to 1.0 ms  
but they will be as short as 100  $\mu$ s

Intensity fluctuations of 30%

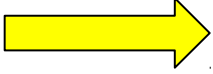
To reduce the dose delivered to the patient we have to reduce the NRP





# Ion radiography and tomography

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Old  2 Modules of I3200 Thirty two-channel Electrometer  
+  
A500 Real Time Controller

New  I128 Ionization Chamber Controller

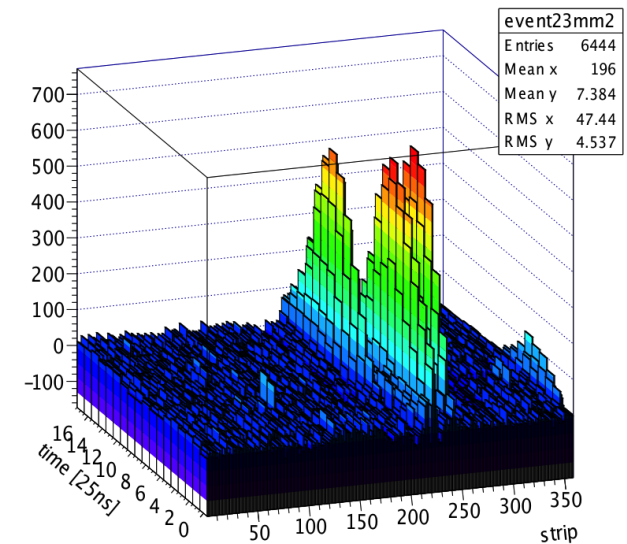
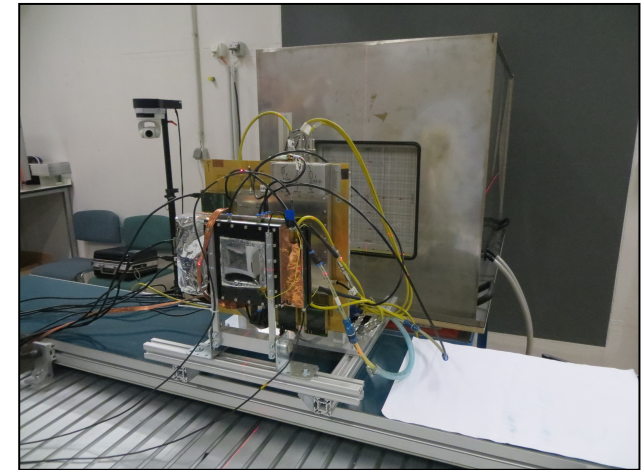
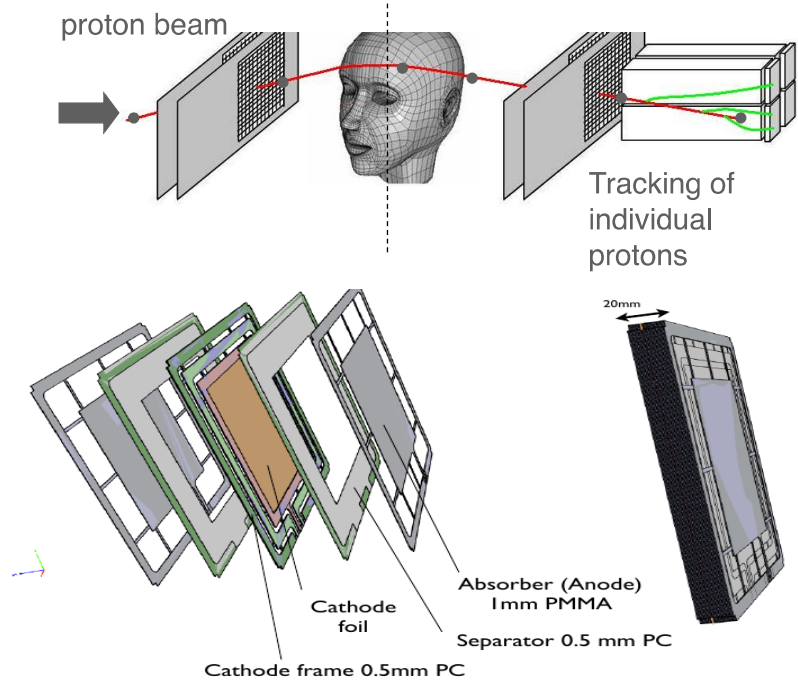
We confirmed that the unit could acquire 50000 contiguous readings at 120  $\mu$ sec integration without buffer overflow, provided that the host rate was increased from 20 to 200 Hz.

## **Recommendations for the I128**

The most valuable single change will be to introduce an adaptive integration mode, where integrations are numerically averaged while the “beam on spot” gate is high, and only the final average is put in the buffer. This should give improved signal to noise without the need for post-processing, and will considerably increase the number of spots that can be acquired without overflowing the buffer.



# Ion radiography and tomography

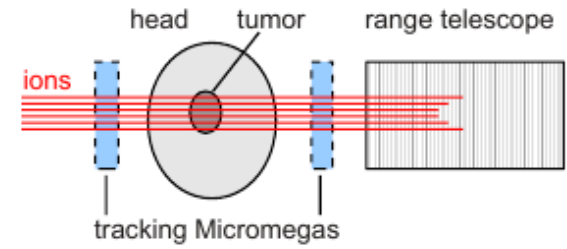
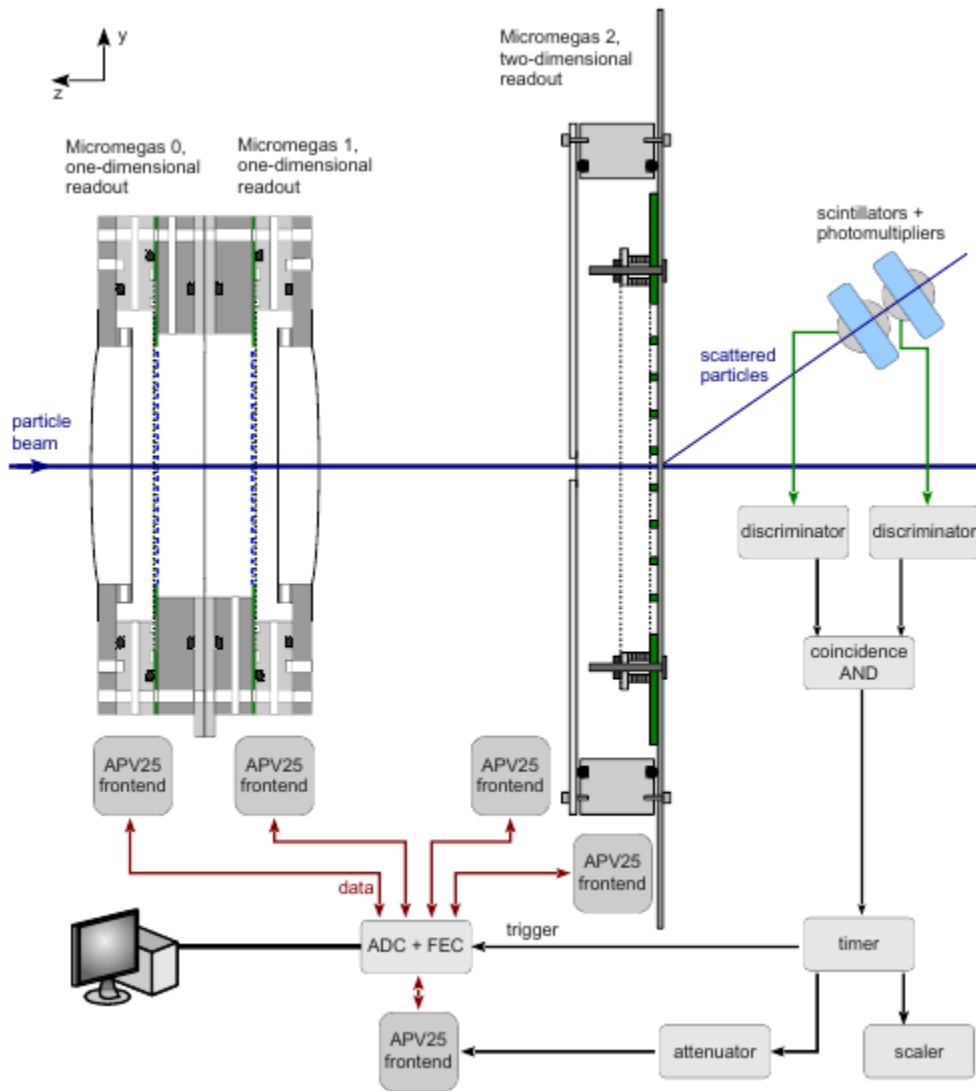


- Improvement of the spatial resolution
- Position sensitive detectors
- Integration in clinical workflow and facilities

*Bortfeldt, Rinaldi et al., PMB (2014), in preparation*



# Ion radiography and tomography



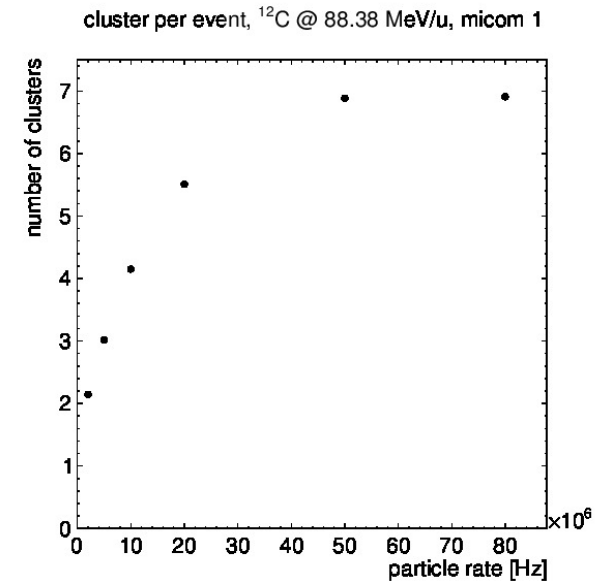
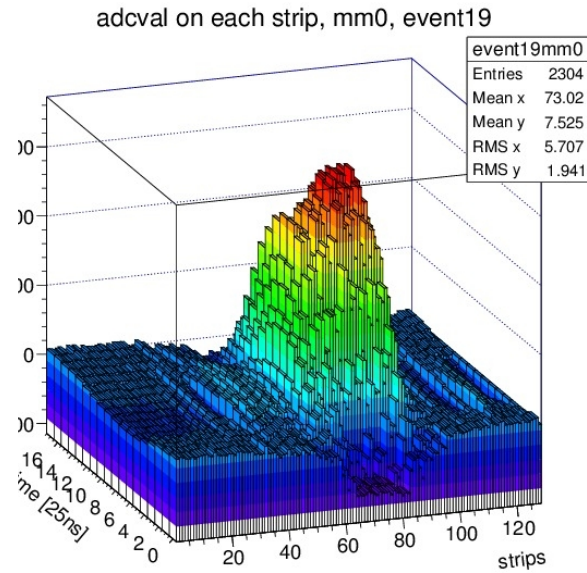
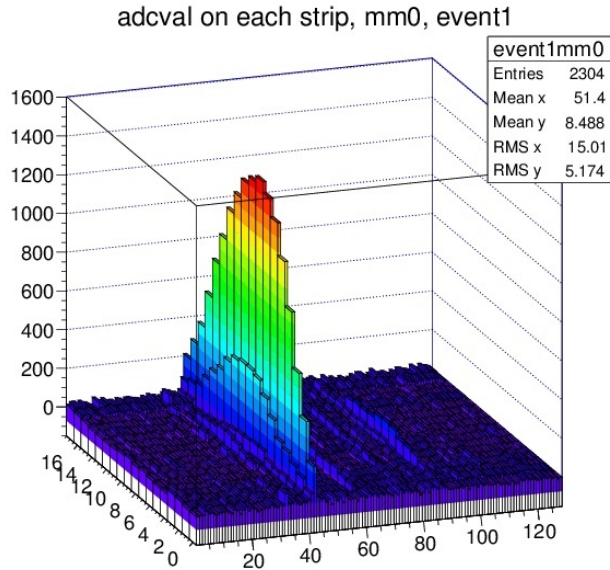
- Micromegas doublet with  $6.4 \times 6.4 \text{ cm}^2$  active area and 128 readout strips per layer
- resistive strip Micromegas with two perpendicular strip planes are read out using APV25 front-end boards, interfaced by the Scalable Readout System
- trigger on scattered particles, creating coincident hits in two scintillators.



# Ion radiography and tomography

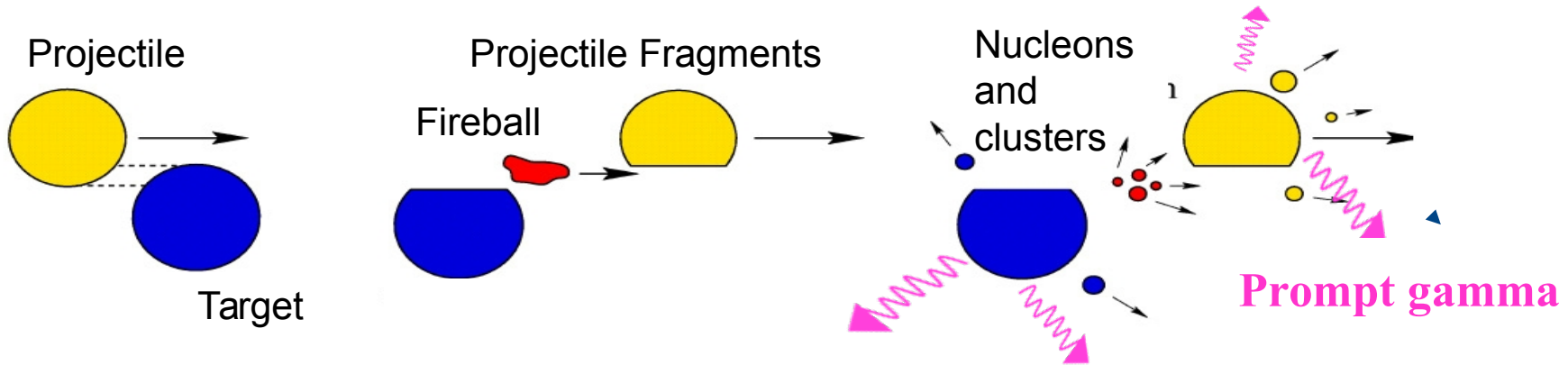
Measurements with:

- protons with energies between 48 MeV/u and 221 MeV/u and particle rates of 80 MHz to 9 GHz
- carbon ions with energies between 88 MeV/u and 430 MeV/u particle rates of 2 MHz to 80 MHz

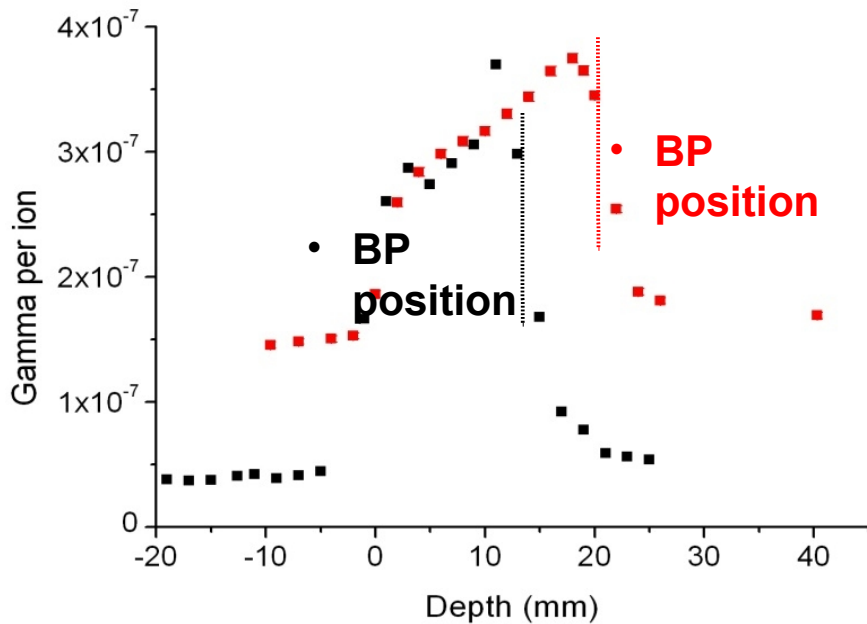




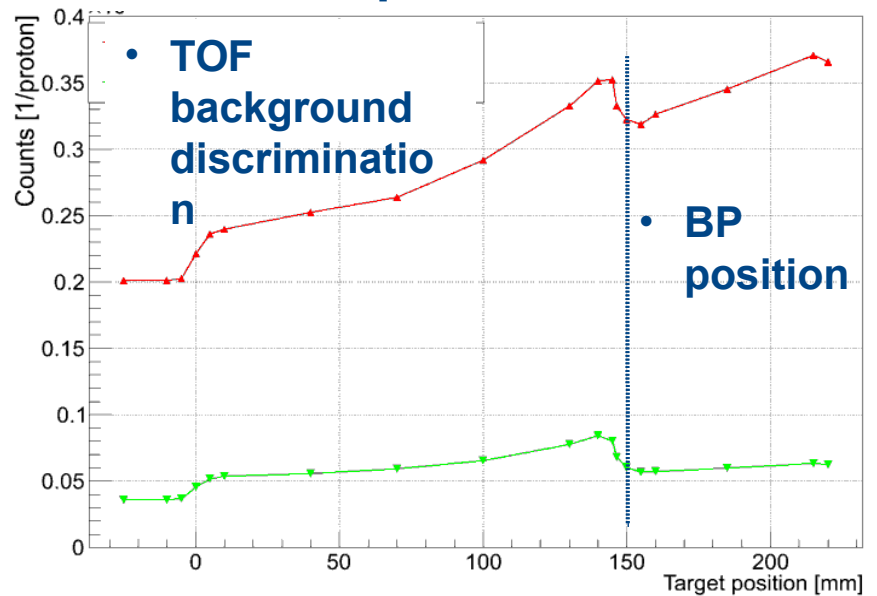
# Prompt gamma based range verification



## 75, 95 MeV/u 12C ions on PMMA



## 160 MeV protons on PMMA



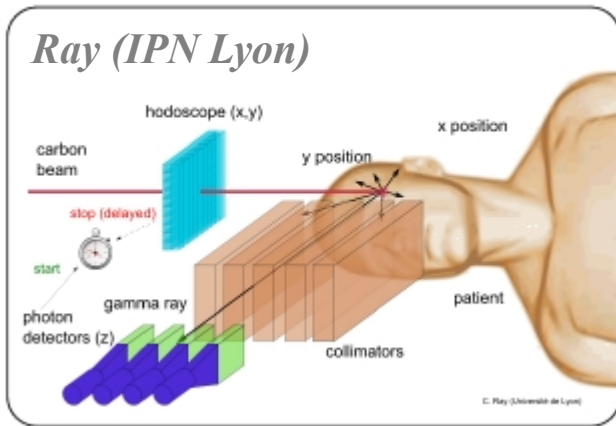
ENVISION collaboration: Dauvergne et al (IPNL Lyon), Prieels et al (IBA)



# How to measure prompt gamma

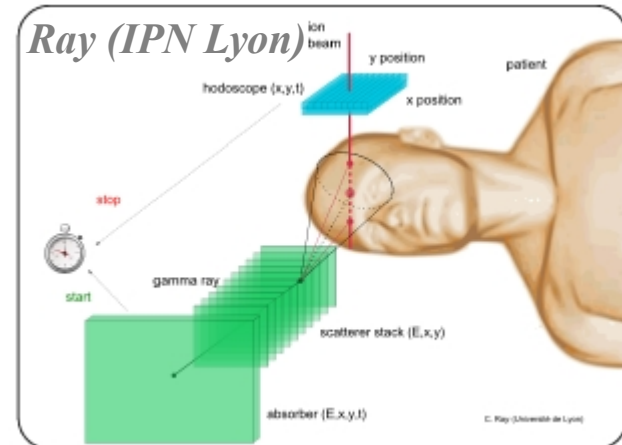
## Collimated camera

→ single and multislit



## Compton camera

→ electronic collimation

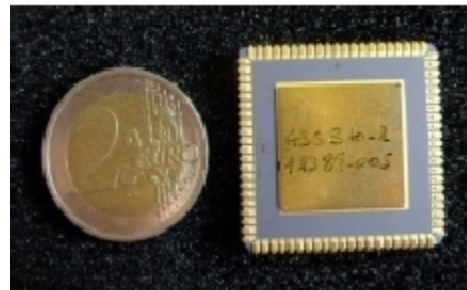


## Common device: Hodoscope



### Hardware

- array of scintillating fibres (1x1 mm<sup>2</sup>)
- 2 prototypes: 2x32 and 2x128 fibres
- time resolution  $\leq 1$  ns
- goal: count rates up to  $10^8$  1/s



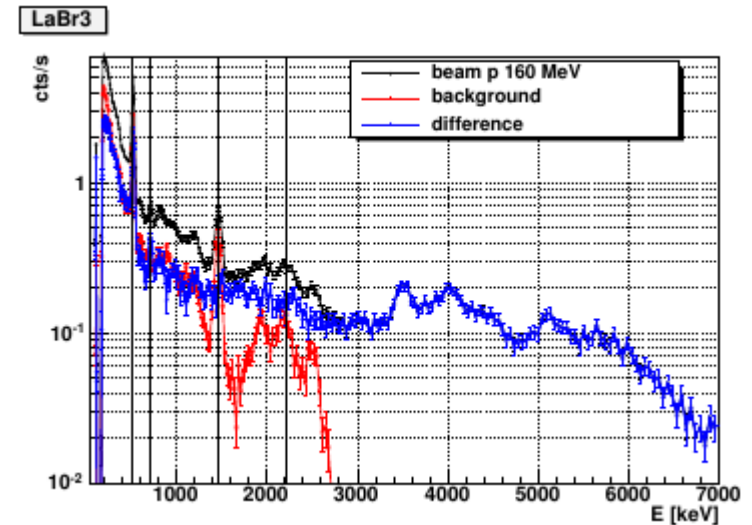
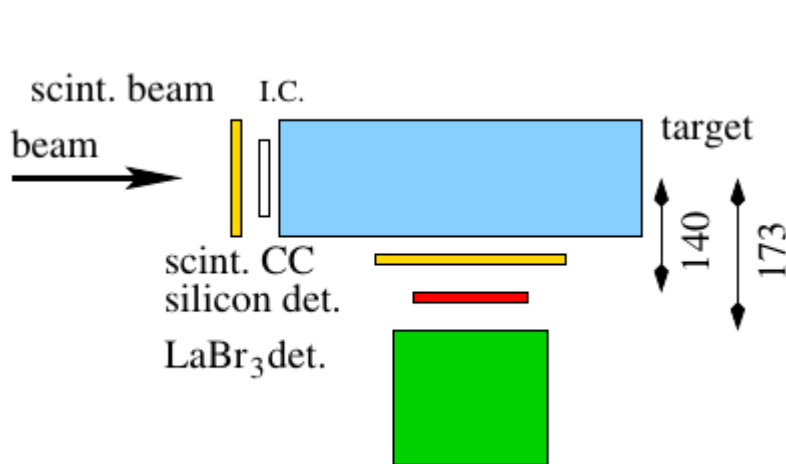
### Electronics

- development of ASIC
- new version with DLL
- ⇒ timing

IPN Lyon



# Test measurements: HIT with carbon ions



## Single rates

- silicon detector:  $2.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$  cts/ion (scaler, thres. 350 keV)
- absorber:  $4.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$  cts/ion (scaler, thresh 180 keV)

## Coincidence rates

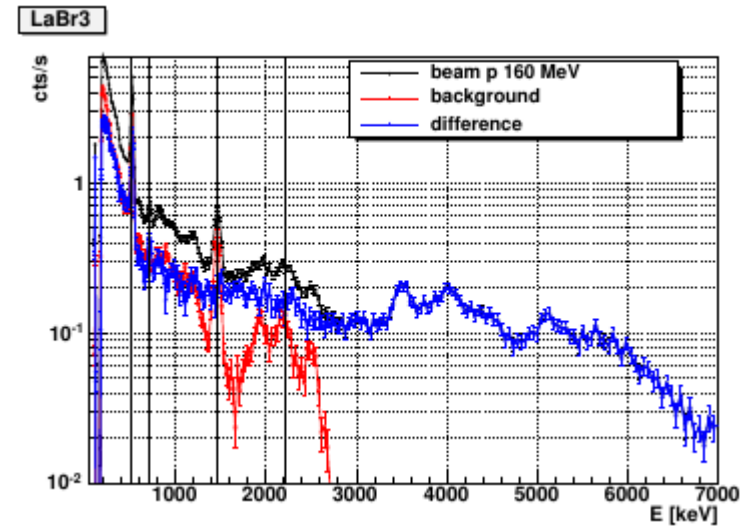
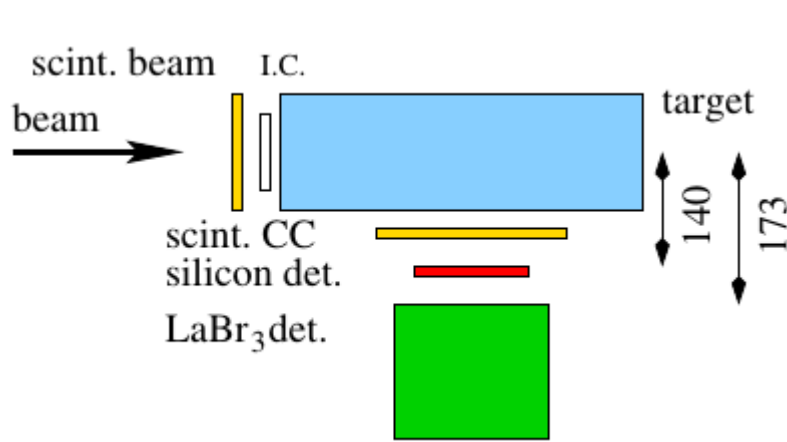
- all events:  $2.6 \cdot 10^{-5}$  cts/ion (scaler)
- uncharged:  $2.9 \cdot 10^{-6}$  cts/ion (software cuts)

## Extrapolation to prototype dimensions

- silicon det.:  $1.4 \cdot 10^{-2}$  cts/ion single
- absorber:  $6.6 \cdot 10^{-2}$  cts/ion single



# Test measurements: HIT with protons



## Single rates

- silicon detector:  $8.9 \cdot 10^{-6}$  cts/ion (scaler, thres. 350 keV)
- absorber:  $4.3 \cdot 10^{-4}$  cts/ion (scaler, thresh 180 keV)

## Coincidence rates

- all events:  $1.7 \cdot 10^{-7}$  cts/ion (scaler)
- uncharged:  $9.2 \cdot 10^{-8}$  cts/ion (software cuts)

## Extrapolation to prototype dimensions

- silicon det.:  $5 \cdot 10^{-4}$  cts/ion single
- absorber:  $6.3 \cdot 10^{-3}$  cts/ion single

## For proton therapy conditions (1010 p/s)

absorber needs to be segmented

IPN Lyon



**Thank you**

# Acknowledgements

... to Prof. Dr. Katia Parodi and Prof. Dr. O. Jäkel for the financial support

... to my colleagues from the working group “MC modeling and in-vivo imaging” of HIT

... to all the members of the IPNL Lyon group: D. Dauvergne, E. Testa, J. Krimmer,

... to B. Voss of GSI in Darmstadt for the detector support

... to M. Testa, H. Paganetti and Hsiao-Ming Lu of MGH Boston

... to the FLUKA collaboration

... to the DFG for the financial support