# THE IMPACT OF FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS ON MEDICINE

Ugo Amaldi



# The beginnings of fundamental Physics and medical Physics



Wilhelm C. Röntgen

9 November 1895 Discovery of X rays



**Discovery of radium** 



Marie Slodowska - Pierre Curie



# First medical use of an accelerator



### Announcement: December 28, 1985

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# First uses of X rays and radium in diagnostics and therapy







Emile Grubbe (Chicago) 4 hour irradiation of a breast cancer January 27,1896

Robert Jones and Oliver Lodge (Liverpool) Radiography of a bullet in a hand February 7, 1896

Henri Danlos (Paris) Lupus treatment with radium 1901



# 120 years of fundamental (beautiful) and medical (useful) physics





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# 1912: Victor Hess discovers 'cosmic rays'



**100 YEARS AGO** 

Hess brought precision equipment in ten balloon ascents and discovered that radiation at 5 km altitude is twice larger than at see level.



# Thirty years later the mechanism of cosmic rays was understood and marked the beginning of particle physics



### muons are 'heavy electrons' with a mass that is 200 times larger



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### Fractionation in Radiotherapy

1912 - Paris <u>Claudius Regaud</u>: The same dose is more effective if subdivided

Institut du Radium

1930 - Claudius Regaud and <u>Henri Coutard</u>: Standard at 200 keV = 0,2 MeV: 2 grays per session 5 sessions per week treatment in 5-6 weeks





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# A breakthrough



### UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE, OF SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

TUNGSTEN AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME FOR USE AS FILAMENTS OF INCANDESCENT ELECTRIC LAMPS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

1,082,933.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented

Patented Dec. 30, 1913.

Application filed June 19, 1912. Serial No. 704,580.



# Today every CT Scan uses a Coolidge tube







# 120 years of fundamental (beautiful) and medical (useful) physics





# 1929: invention of the "cyclotron"

### Ernest Lawrence -



### Spiral trajectory of an accelerated particle



= 0.001 GeV



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# Spiral tajectory of an accelerated particle



### Modern 30 MeV cyclotron for radioisotope production

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1 MeV = 1 million electronvolts = 0.001 GeV

TERA

# Cyclotrons in diagnostics and therapy



### **1936: Radio-sodium to study metabolism 1936: Radio-phosphorus to treat leukaemia**



# Cyclotrons in diagnostics and therapy



1939: The 60-inch cyclotron was financed for medical purposes and later used to treat patients with neutron beams





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عgamma 2<sup>µ</sup>gamma 2

# PET centre with a 15 MeV cyclotron

### Most used substance Sugar FDG with Fluorine -18











# Combination of CT with PET : CT-PET

### morphology metabolisme



# 120 years of fundamental (beautiful) and medical (useful) Physics









1959: Veksler visits McMillan at Berkeley







#### Sigmur Varian

# The first electron linac above 1 MeV



# William W. Hansen

### **1939**

### Invention of the klystron



# The first electron linac above 1 MeV



### **1939**

Sigmur Varian

Invention of the klystron



### 1947 linac for electrons 1.5 MeV at 3 GHz



# **'Conventional' radiotherapy: linear accelerators dominate**





# 'Conventional' radiotherapy: linear accelerators dominate





X



1 treatment in 30 sessions



In the world radiation oncologists use 20 000 electron linacs 50% of all the existing accelerators



# 70 years later VARIAN is still the market leader







# 120 years of fundamental (beautiful) and medical (useful) physics





# Following the black yarn: particle physics at CERN



# **30** years ago: creation of CERN



Felix Bloch Physics Nobel Prize in 1952 First CERN Director General 1954-1955



### **Edoardo Amaldi**

Secretary General of provisional CERN 1952-1954

### Pierre Auger Science Director of UNESCO



**CERN** aerial view with the Geneva Airport



## CERN accelerators are synchrotrons used as "colliders"







# LHC in 2012 Large Hadron Collider 4 000 + 4 000 GeV



To focus only on the most important discovery made with CERN accelerators we most go back to 'cosmic rays'



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# To focus only on the most important discovery made with CERN accelerators we most go back to 'cosmic rays'



### muons are 'heavy electrons' with a mass that is 200 times larger



# From cosmic rays to the' Higgs particle'

100 years

CERN – 2012 Fabiola Gianotti Peter Higgs



### 1912 Victor Hess


### From cosmic rays to the' Higgs particle'

### CERN – 2012 Fabiola Gianotti Peter Higgs



### 1912 Victor Hess





### 2013: the Nobel prize winners



### **François Englert**

### Peter Higgs



### Fabiola Gianotti

Peter Higgs

# Following the red yarn



### 120 years of fundamental (beautiful) and medical (useful) Physics





# Hadrontherapy (particle therapy)



### 1946 : « Bob » Wilson proposes to use protons, helium and <u>carbon ions</u>



Lawrence PhD student



Founder and first Director of FERMILAB (Chicago) 1967-1978



protons: 230 MeV C ions : 5000 MeV



1. Healthy tissues are spared by protons and carbon ions



protons: 230 MeV C ions : 5000 MeV



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1. Healthy tissues are spared by protons and carbon ions



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protons: 230 MeV C ions : 5000 MeV



1. Healthy tissues are spared by protons and carbon ions



2. Carbon ions have charge = 6 and produce in the DNA clustered unrepairable damages thus killing at the end of the range the cells which are radioresistant to both X rays and protons.



### 60 years ago: first proton treatment at Berkeley





### Cyclotron solution for protons by IBA - Belgium





If proton accelerators were 'small' and 'cheap', no radiation oncologist would use X rays.



### Superconducting cyclotron solution by Varian



### HIMAC in Chiba is the pioner of carbon therapy









# The GSI pilot project : 1997-2003

450 patients treated with carbon ions





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450 patients treated with carbon ions



# GSI designed HIT (Heidelberg Ion Therapy centre) where 1800 patients have been treated since 2009



#### Eye and Orbit

- Choroidal Melanoma
- Retinoblastoma
- Choroidal Metastases
- Orbical Rhabdomyosarcoma.
- Lacrimal Gland Carcinoma.
- Choroidal Hemangiomas

#### Abdomen

- Paraspinal Tumors
  Soft Tissue
  - Sarcomas, Low Grade Chondrosarcomo Chordomas

#### Central Nervous Syste

- Adult Low Grade Gliomas
- Pediatric Glomas
- Acoustic Neuroma Recurrent or Unresectable
- Pituitary Adenoma Recurrent or Unresectable
- Meningioma Recurrent or Unresoctable
- Craniopharyngioma
- Chordomas and Low Grade Chondrosarcoma Clivus and Cervical Spine
- Brain Metastases
- Optic Glioma
- Arteriovenous Malformations

#### Head and Neck Tumors

- Locally Advanced Oropharynx
- Locally Advanced Nasopharanx
- Seft Tissue Sarcoma Recurrent or Unresectable
- Misc. Unresectable or Recurrent Carcinomas

#### Chest

- Non Small Cell Lung Carcinoma
  Early Stage—Medically Inoperable
- Paraspinal Tumors Soft Tissue Sarcomas, Low Grade Chondrosarcomas, Chordomas

### The site treated with hadrons

### In the world protons: 100'000 patients (8% per year)

#### Pelvis

- \* Early Stage Prostate Carcinoma
- Locally Advanced Prostate Carcinoma
- \* Locally Advanced Cervix Carcinoma
- Sacral Chordoma
- Recurrent or Unresectable
  - Rectal Carcinoma
- Recurrent or Unresectable Pelvic Masses

### carbon ions 10'000 patients (most at HIMAC)



### Numbers of potential patients by European Network for Light Ion Therapy

X-ray therapy

for 1 million inhabitants:

2'000 pts/year

**Protontherapy** 

12% of X-ray patients

240 pts/year

<u>Therapy with carbon ions for radio-resistant tumour</u> (comparisons with proton therapy are needed to define sites and protocols)

3% of X-ray patients

60 pts/year

TOTAL for 1 M

300 pts/year

### **ENLIGHT coordinator: Manjit Dosanjh**





### Two programmes :

 Synchrotron for C ions (and protons): CNAO in Pavia

Linacs for protons and carbon ions : A.D.A.M.





### CNAO = Centro Nazionale di Adroterapia Oncologica in Pavia







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# CNAO at Pavia





# The synchrotron











### January 2014: 200 patients treated



### MedAustron promoted and participated in PIMMS





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### Construction completed in Wiener Neustadt:

three days ago the protons have circulated in the synchrotron



To conclude: in 2014 a further step has been made







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**CERN** 

# **CNAO** at Pavia

PHYSICS IS BEAUTIFUL AND USEFUL Physik ist schön und nützlich La Physique est belle et utile La Fisica è bella e utile

# The importance of the Higgs "field"





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ATLAS: event Higgs —> 4 electrons

# Two large 'detectors' at LHC





# Event in ATLAS: production of 4 muons=heavy electrons










The Higgs particle is the 37<sup>th</sup> field but it is the most ....important one because...

### the Higgs 'field' is a continous medium that fills the space since one hundredth of a billionth of a second (10<sup>-11</sup> s) after the Big Bang



The Higgs particle is the 37<sup>th</sup> particle but it is the most important one because...

#### the Higgs 'field' is a continous medium that fills the space since one hundredth of a billionth of a second (10<sup>-11</sup> s) after the Big Bang

the particles interact differently with the Higgs field and thus they have different masses



#### Metaphor of the two twins practicing Nordic sky on a flat snow "field"





#### Metaphor of the two twins practicing Nordic sky on a flat snow "field"

# ...but if the snow 'field' is not seen he is slower because has a larger mass



#### 2013: the Nobel prize winners



#### **François Englert**

#### **Peter Higgs**



#### Fabiola Gianotti

Peter Higgs

## TERA novel accelerators for cancer therapy: proton linacs



#### Prototype of CCL built and beam tested by TERA-CERN-INFN: 2003

**Mario Weiss** 



### Commercial prototype built and power tested by A.D.A.M.: 2011



#### First Unit of LIGHT Linac for Image Guided Hadron Therapy

A.D.A.M. = Applications of Detectors and Accelerators to Medicine



# Inauguration by the CERN DG



## Centre offered by A.D.A.M. - CERN spin-off Company acquired by Advanced Oncotherapy in 2013





# Linac for Image Guided Hadron Therapy



#### Linac for Image Guided Hadron Therapy



#### It is clear to anybody who visits a hospital that Physics applications are everywhere. Medical doctors use Physics when they measure a blood pressure, when they perform an ultrasound scan to determine the sex of an unborn child, when they take radiography or a CT scan. In particular fundamental physics, which aims at understanding how particles and forces act in the subatomic world and are organized to form everything we observe around us, has numerous medical applications.

Everything started in 1895 with the discovery of X-rays by Roentgen, who was using the best particle accelerator of the time. In the lecture the theme of the title will be exposed by following the 120 years long story of particle accelerators used to cure tumours. The time is well chosen because the year 2014 marks the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CERN, the largest particle physics laboratory in the world, and of the first cancer treatment with protons done at Berkeley.

