



# Transport and energy setting of particle beams

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PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUT

- Stability of position, size, transmission
- Reproducibility of position, size, transmission
- Efficient beam transport; not too many, **but known**, losses
- Energy selection system
- Dispersion free (=energy independent) beam transport
- Unique on-line verifications of essential parameters
- Fast reaction: low switching time
- Apply the right dose at correct position

accelerator

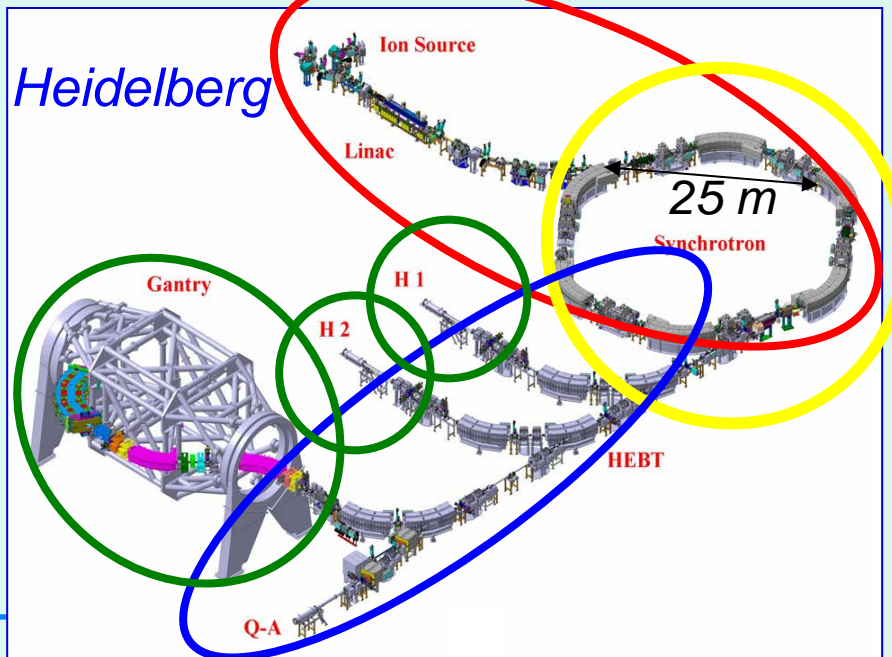
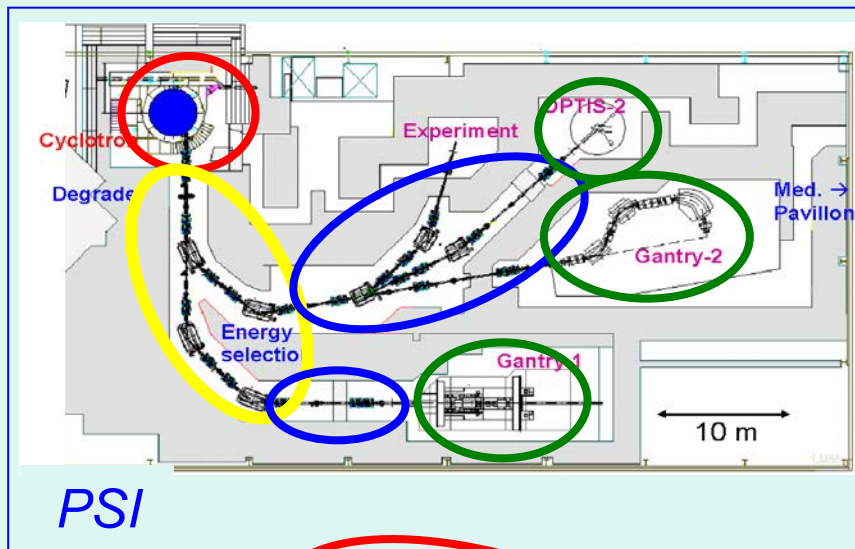
energy selection

beam transport

gantry / fixed hor. line

## Control systems:

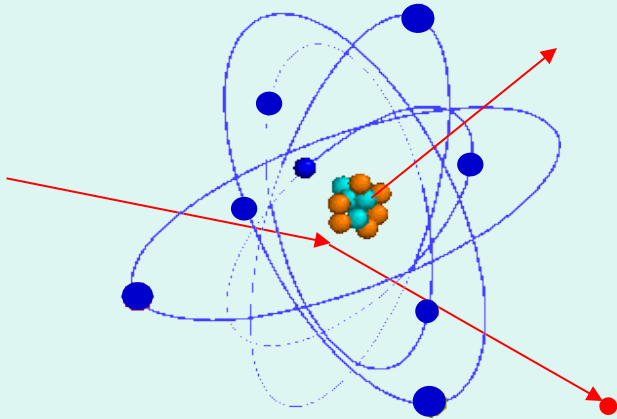
- accelerator + beam transport
- treatment delivery + verification
- Interlock + safety systems



# Contents of lecture

- Processes in dose delivery
- Beam transport
- Beam energy
- Gantry and scanning

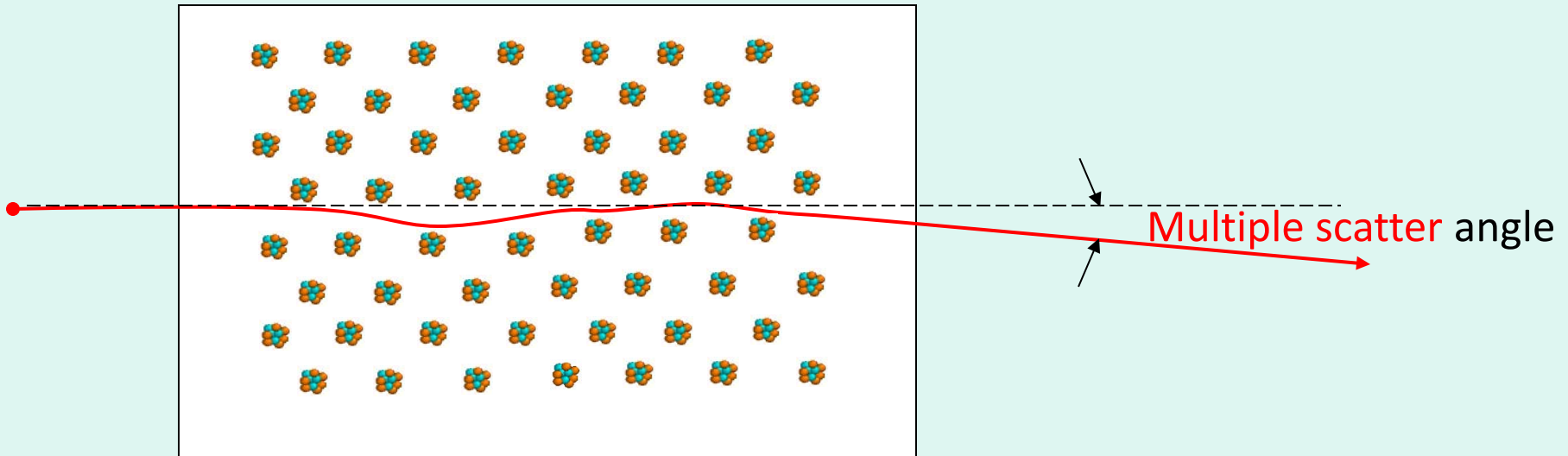
## Nuclear Coulomb scattering



Nucleus is several times heavier as a proton

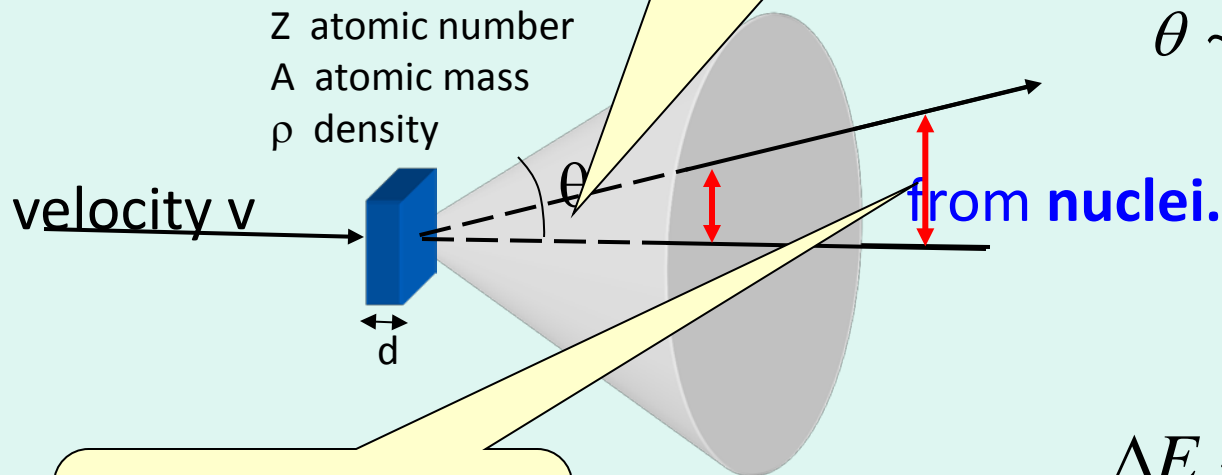
→ Almost no energy loss („elastic“)

→ Much larger deflection than from electrons



## Multiple Scattering

Cone includes 68% of scattered particles



$$\theta \sim \frac{\sqrt{d}}{v^2} \left( \frac{Z}{\sqrt{A}} \right)$$

$$\Delta E \sim d \frac{\rho}{v^2} \left( \frac{Z}{A} \right)$$

Note: Scattering becomes **effective** at some **distance**

Energy loss: slow down by electrons.

Energy loss

Scattering

(Z; A)  
 ↙ ↘  
 Water (8 ; 16)  
 Tungsten (74 ; 184):

$$\frac{dE}{dx} \sim \frac{Z}{A}$$

0.5

0.4

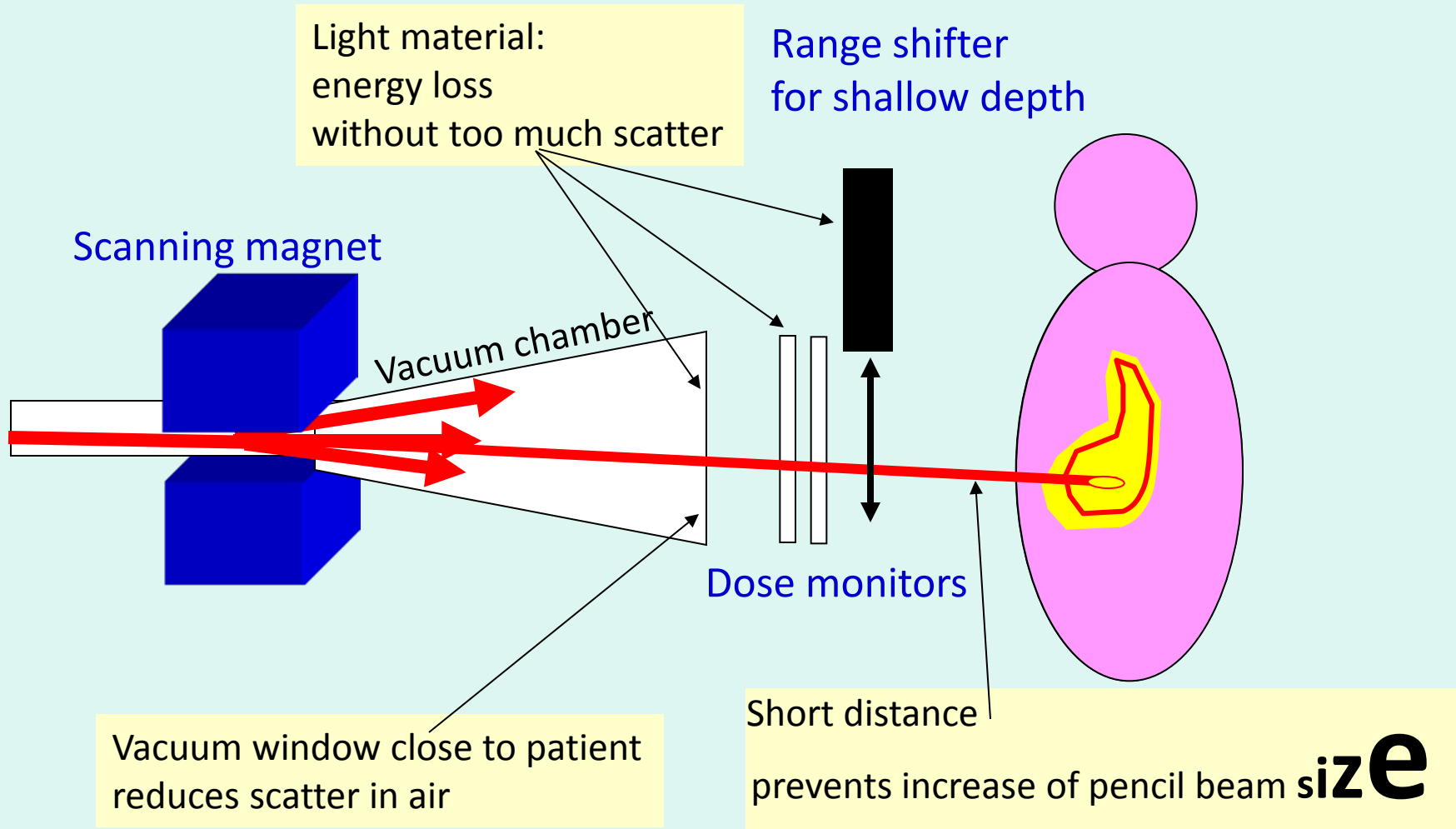
$$\theta \sim \frac{Z}{\sqrt{A}}$$

2

5.4

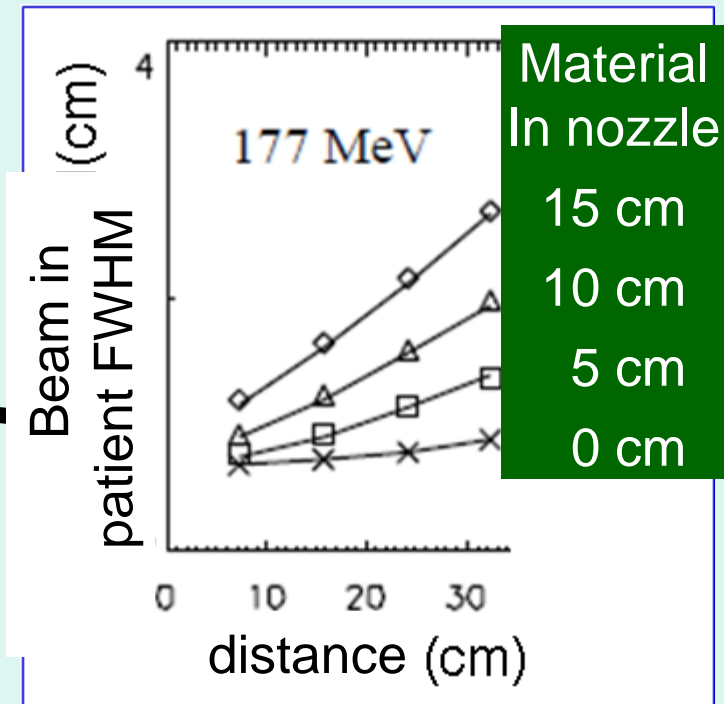
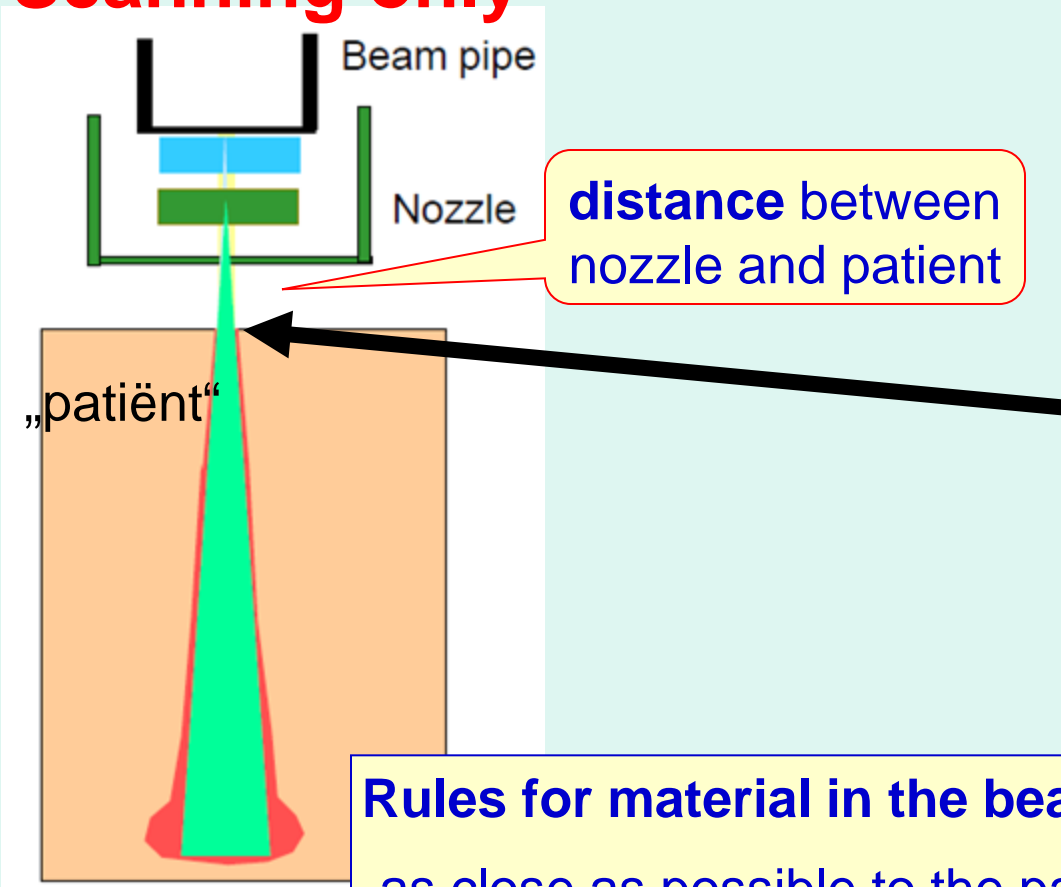
**=> More scatter at heavy materials**

	250 MeV p:	<u>1 cm H<sub>2</sub>O</u>	1 mm W
Energy loss:	$\Delta E =$	<b>4 MeV</b>	<b>4 MeV</b>
Scattering angle:	$\theta =$	<b>5 mrad</b>	<b>16 mrad</b>





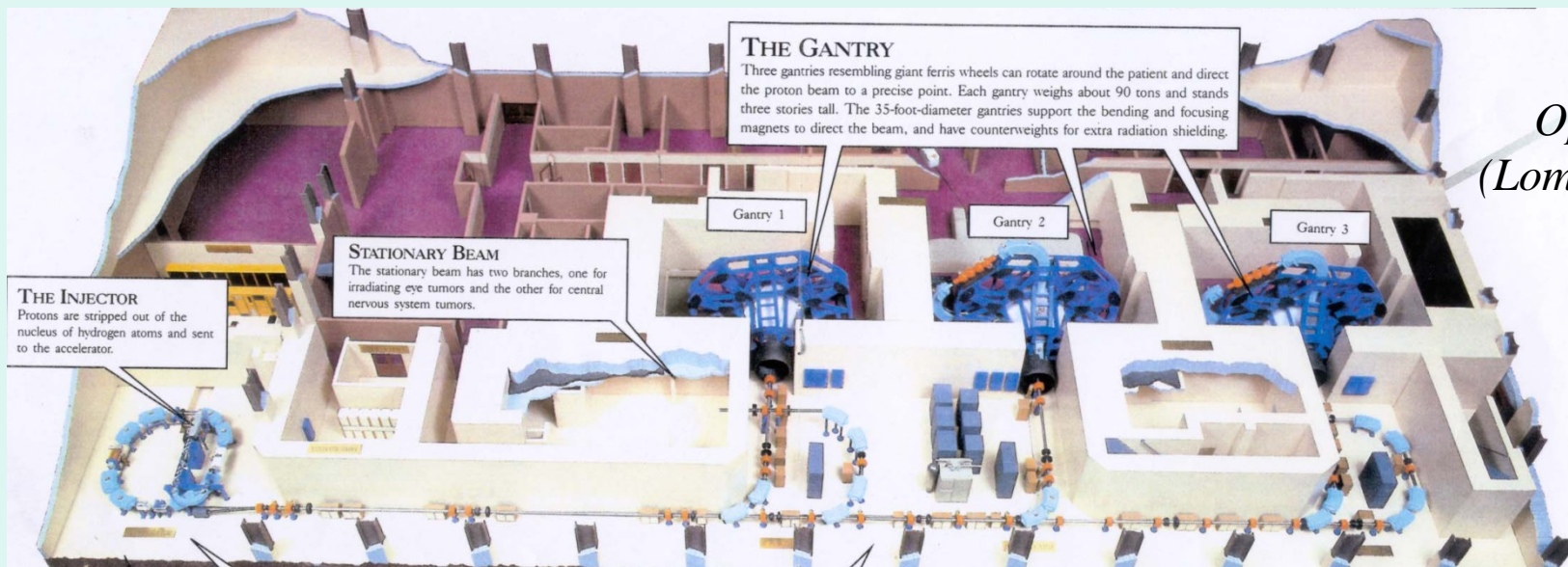
## Scanning only



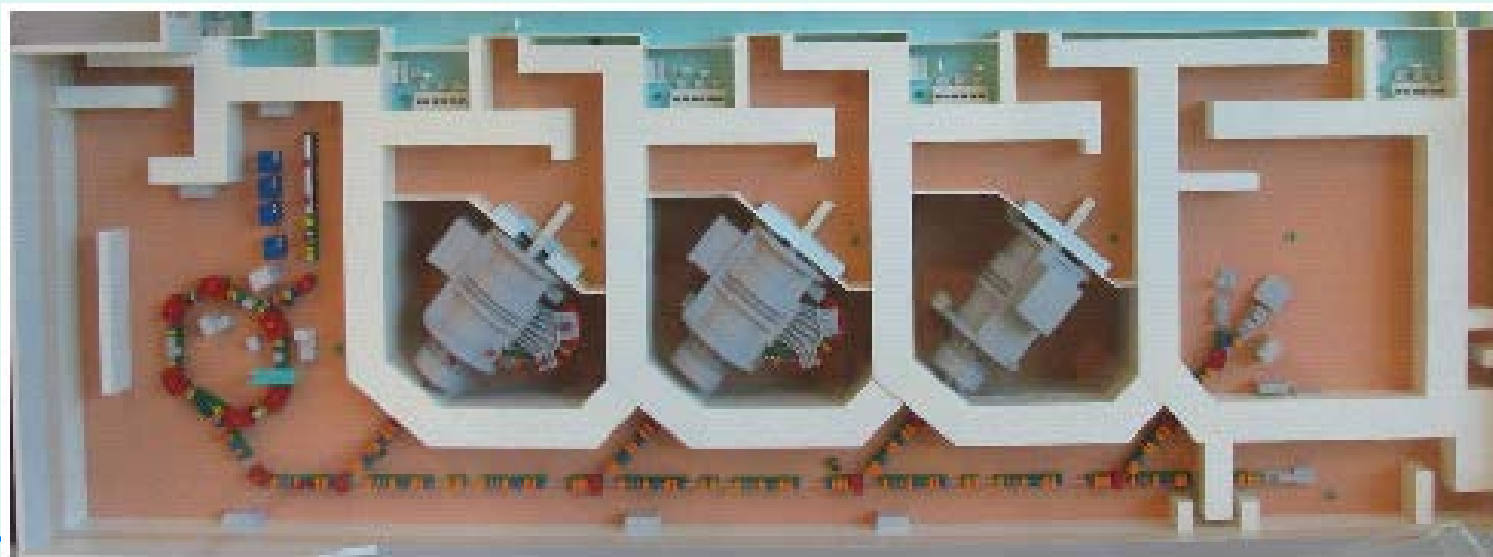
### Rules for material in the beam (compensator, monitor...):

- as close as possible to the patient → Small distances
- Or very far up stream → Clean up and losses
- Intermediate solution: → Worst option

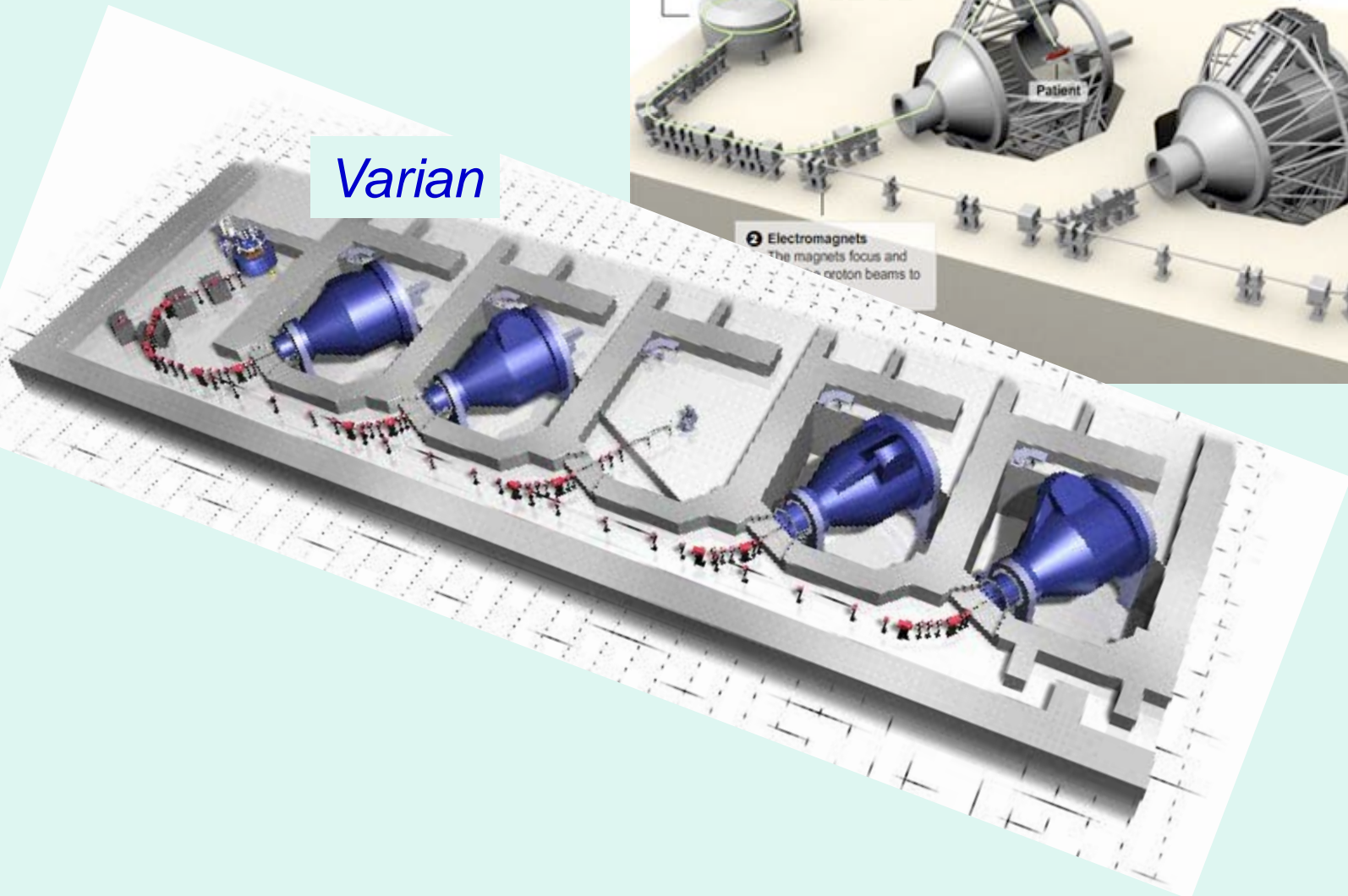
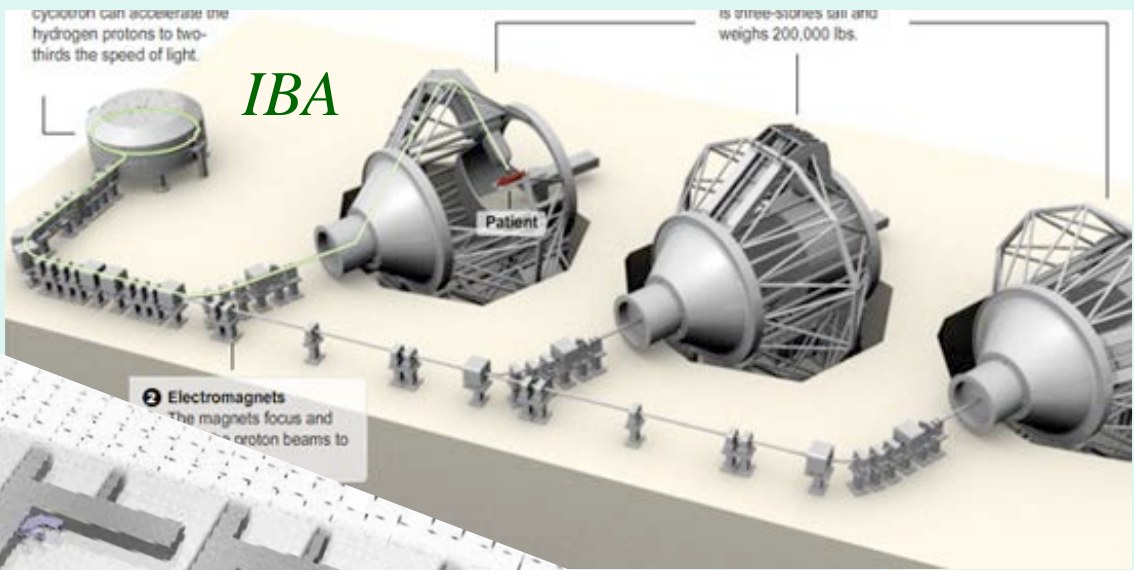
# Beam Transport

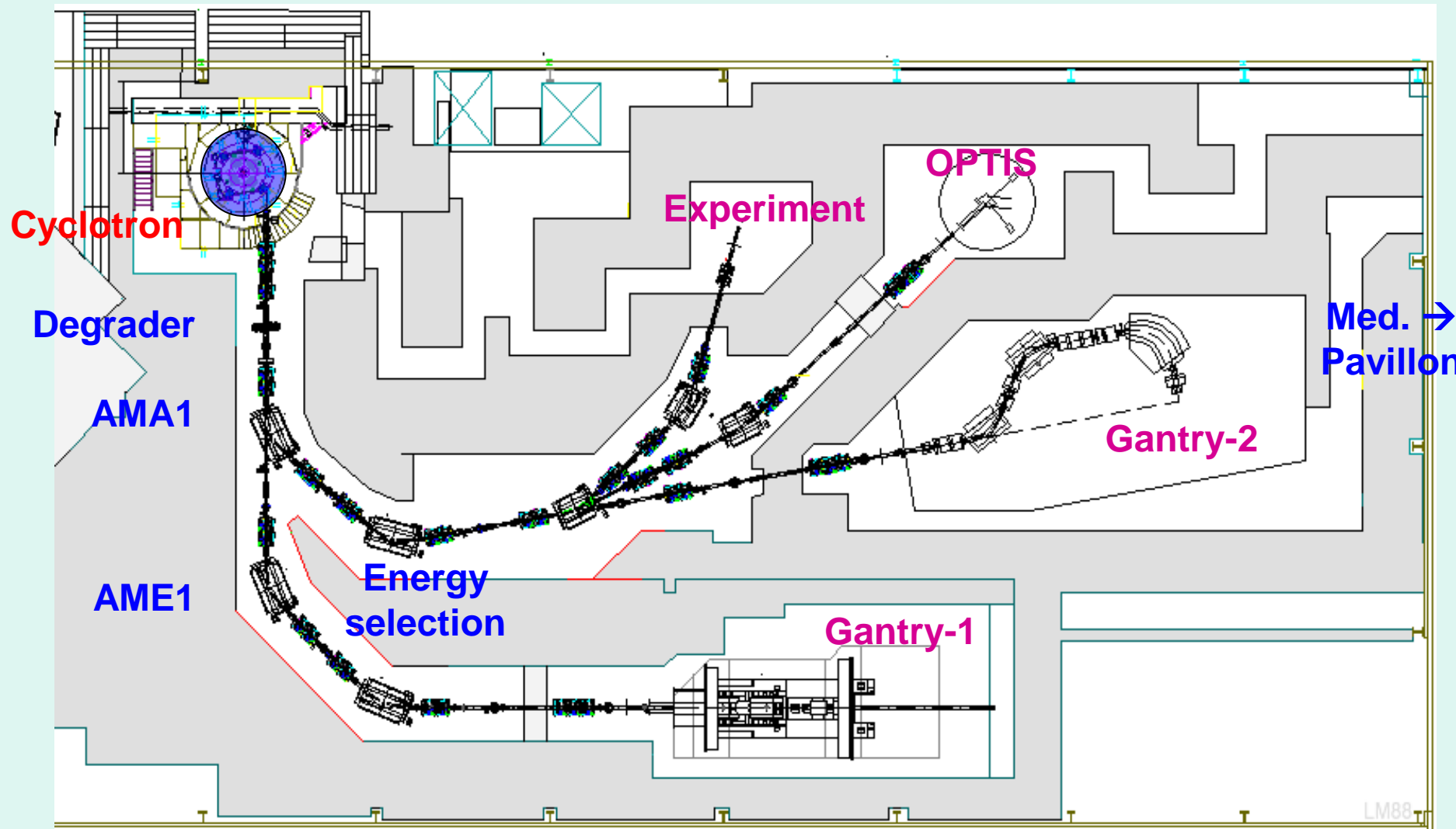


*Optivus  
(Loma Linda)*

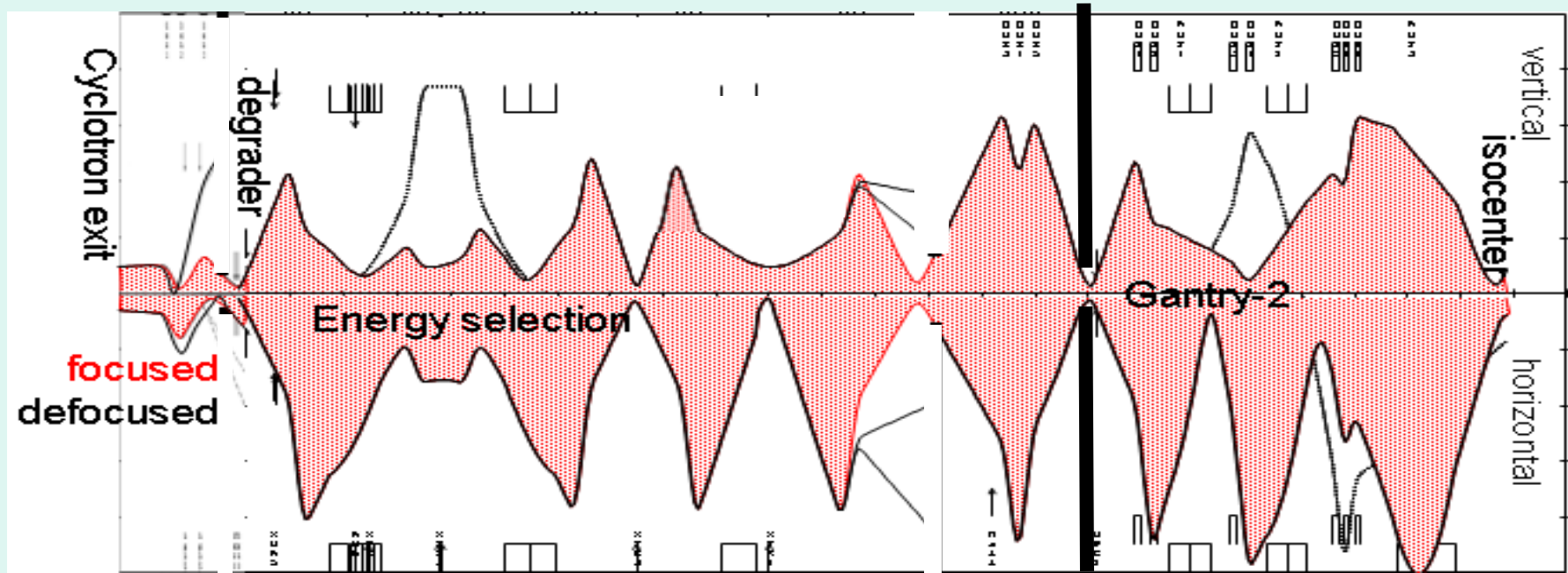


*Hitachi  
(Houston)*





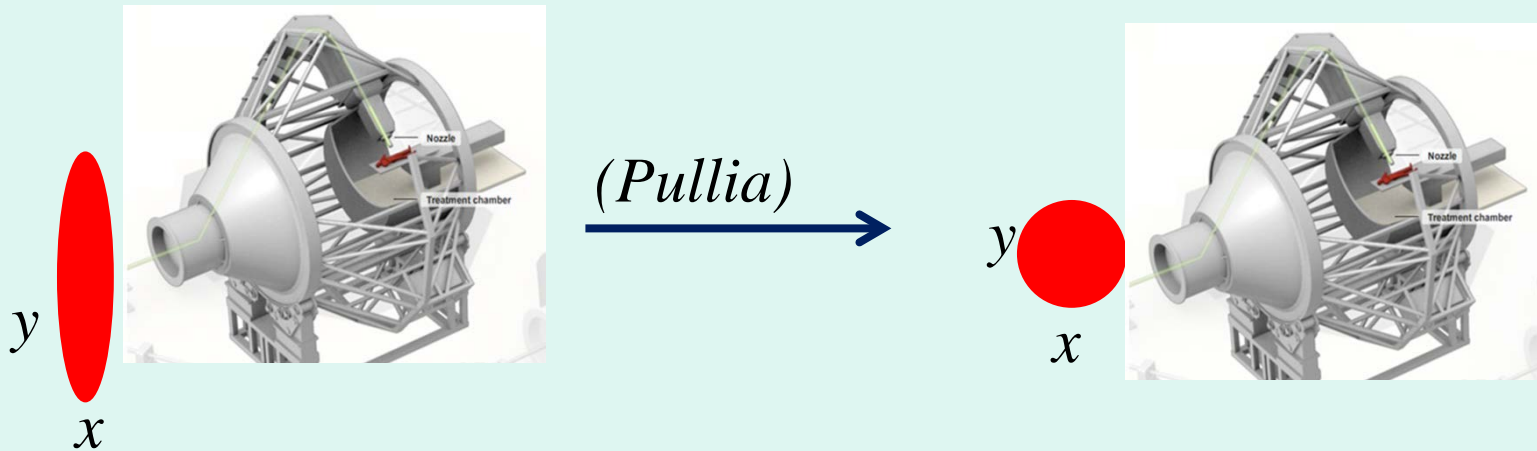
## the PROSCAN facility, PSI



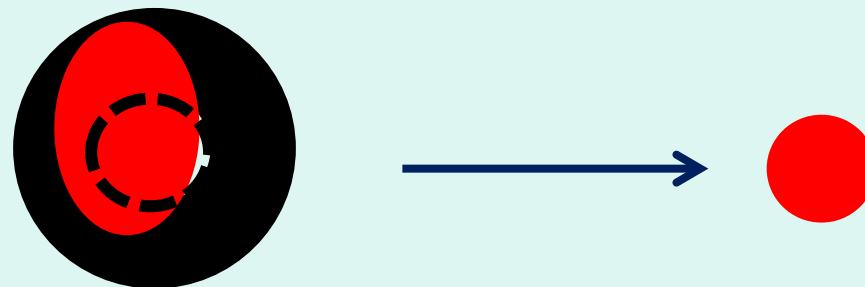
## Robust optics:

- intermediate images
- separation of functions
- Matching to gantry

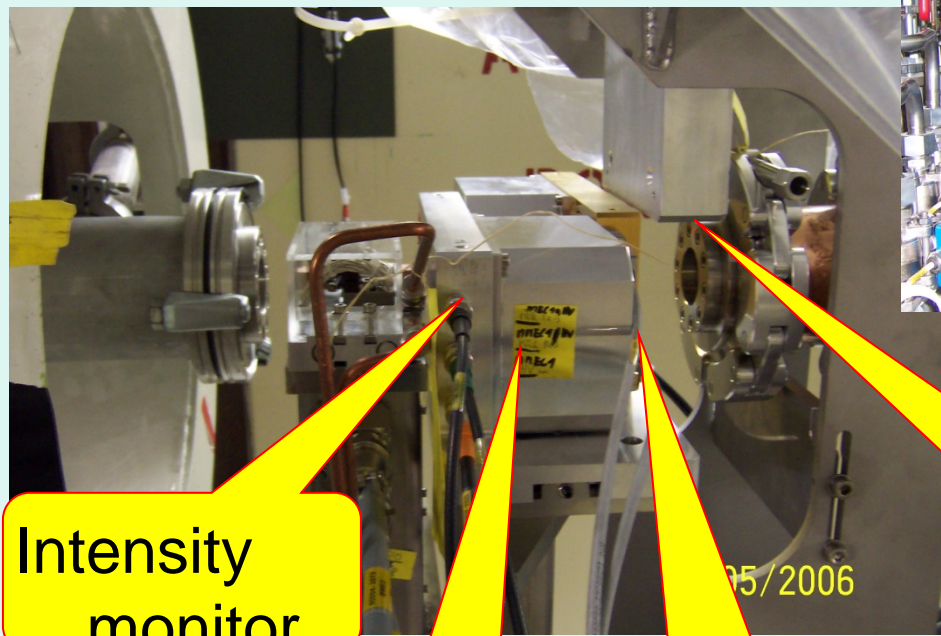
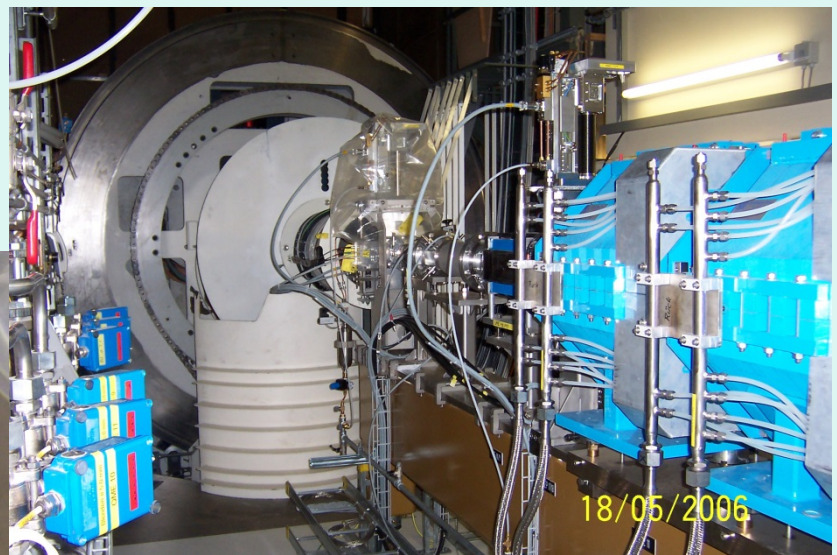
- Match the emittance



- Collimator at gantry coupling



measurements at Check point



Intensity monitor

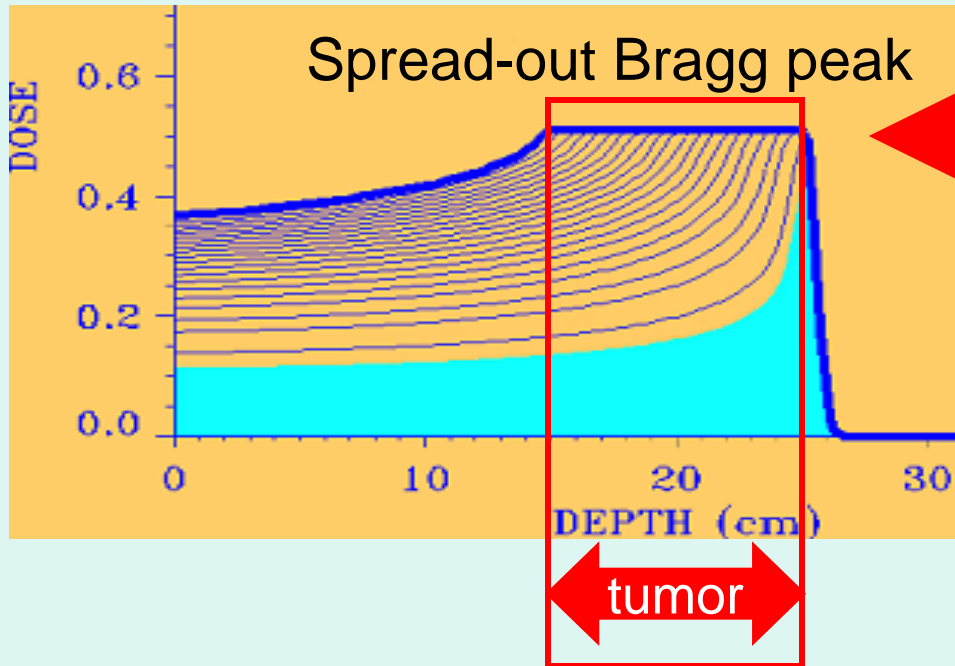
Profile monitor

collimator

Halo monitor



# - Beam energy



Tumor **distal edge**

→ Range

→ Maximum Energy

per field → „slow“ (sec)

Tumor **thickness**

→ spread-out Bragg peak

→ energy modulation

During trmt → „**fast**“ (<0.1 sec)

**Methods:**

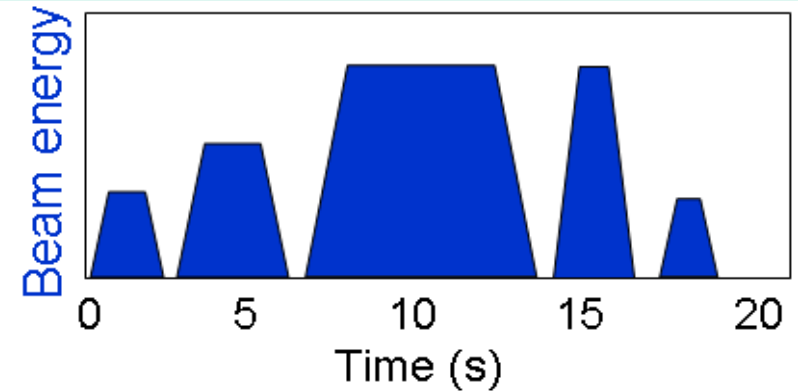
1) at accelerator

2) just before patient (in “nozzle”)

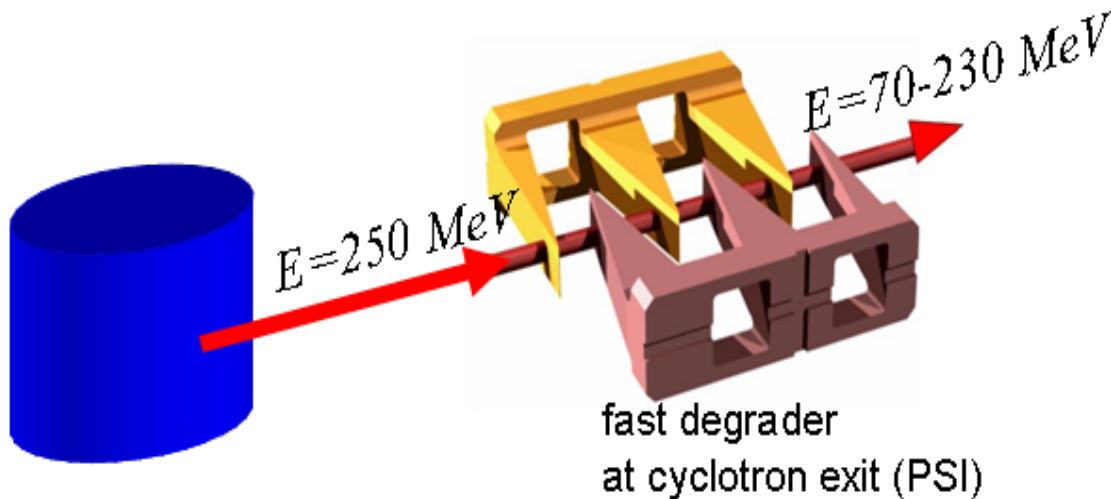
## Vary energy at accelerator

**Synchrotron: Set energy at each spill:**

- Sets range only
- energy modulation in nozzle

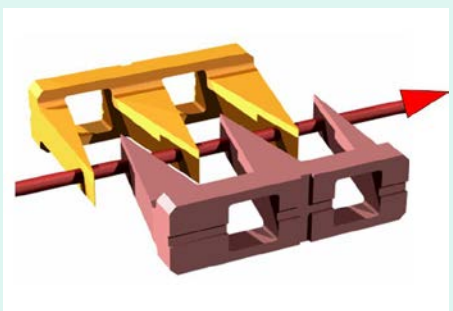


**Cyclotron has fixed energy => slow down (degrade) to desired energy**

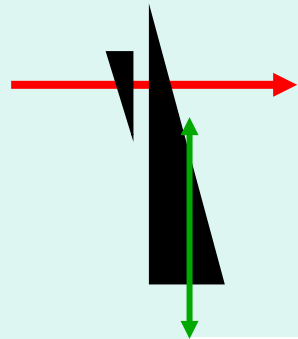


- Sets range
- And, if fast enough + fast magnets:**
- also energy modulation

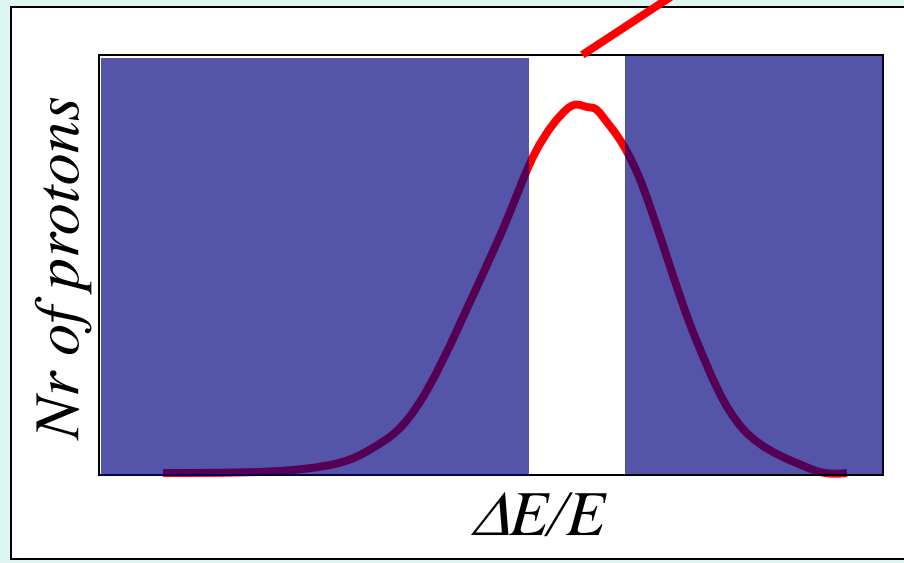
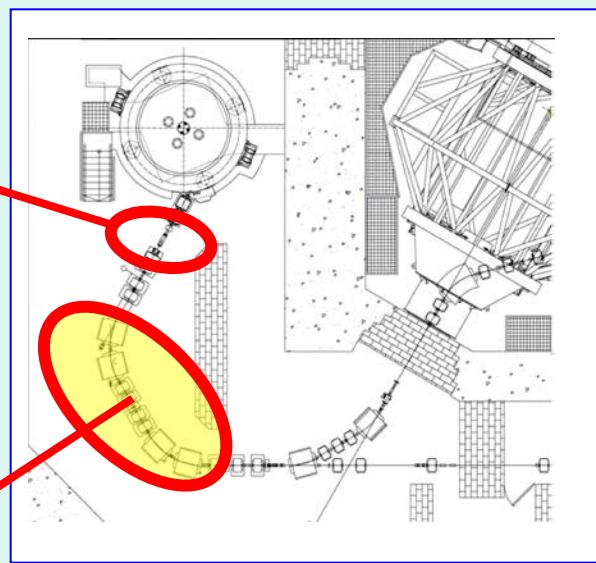
# Energy selection system



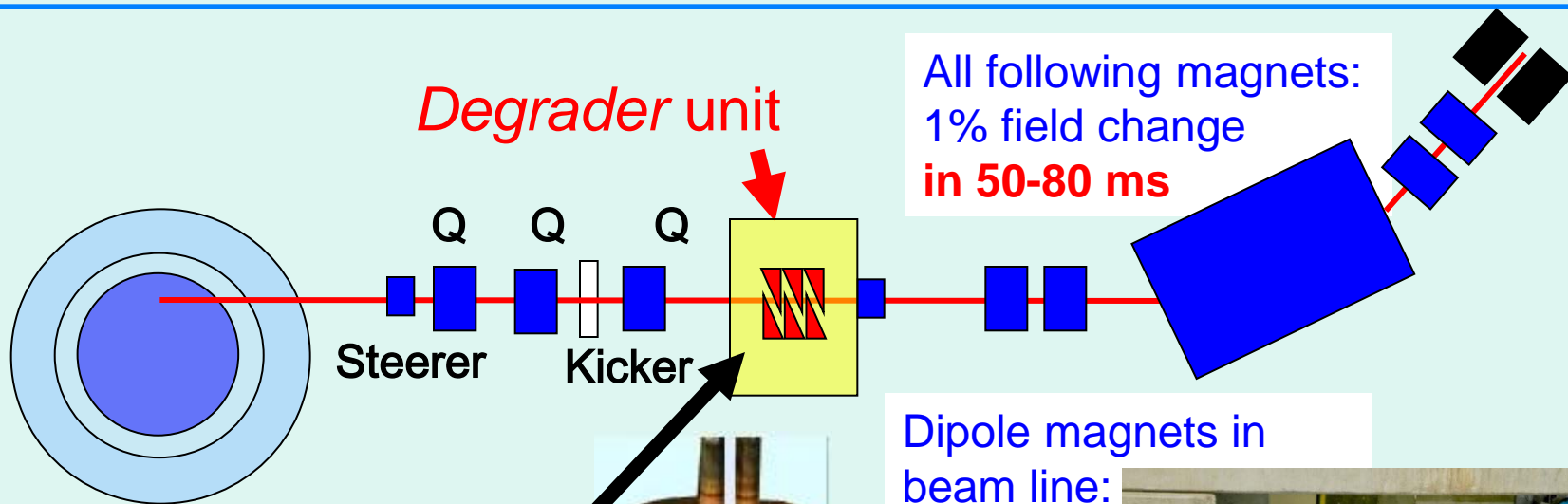
multi-wedge  
235-67 MeV (PSI)



Rolled-up wedge  
220-70 MeV (IBA)

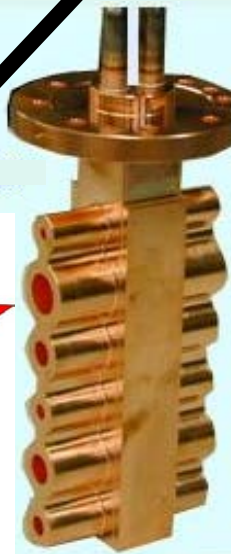
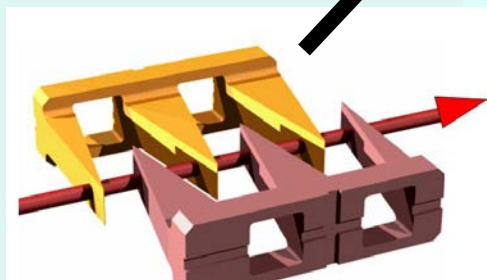


Beam analysis:  
energy  
selection

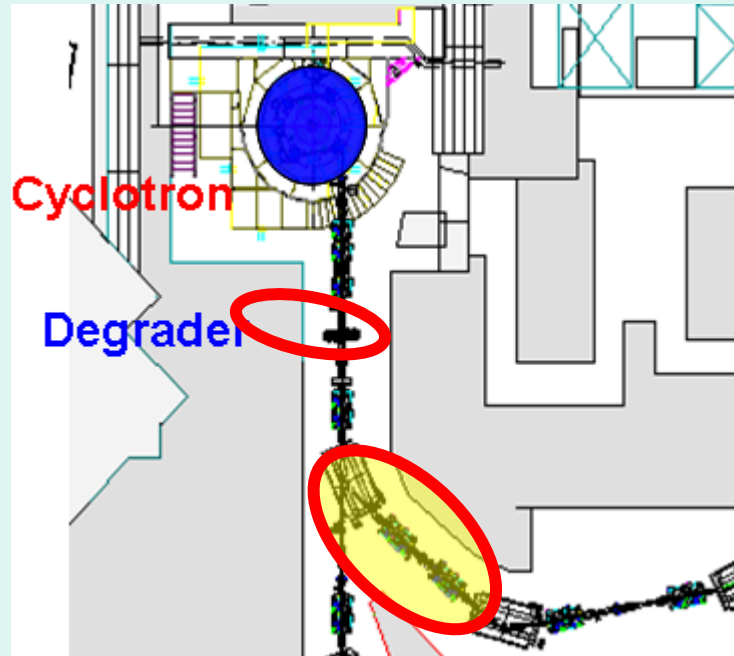


All following magnets:  
1% field change  
in 50-80 ms

Dipole magnets in  
beam line:  
1.1 T  
190 A  
100 A/s  
(1-1.4 H)



Carbon wedge degrader  
238-70 MeV  
**5 mm  $\Delta$ Range in 50 ms**

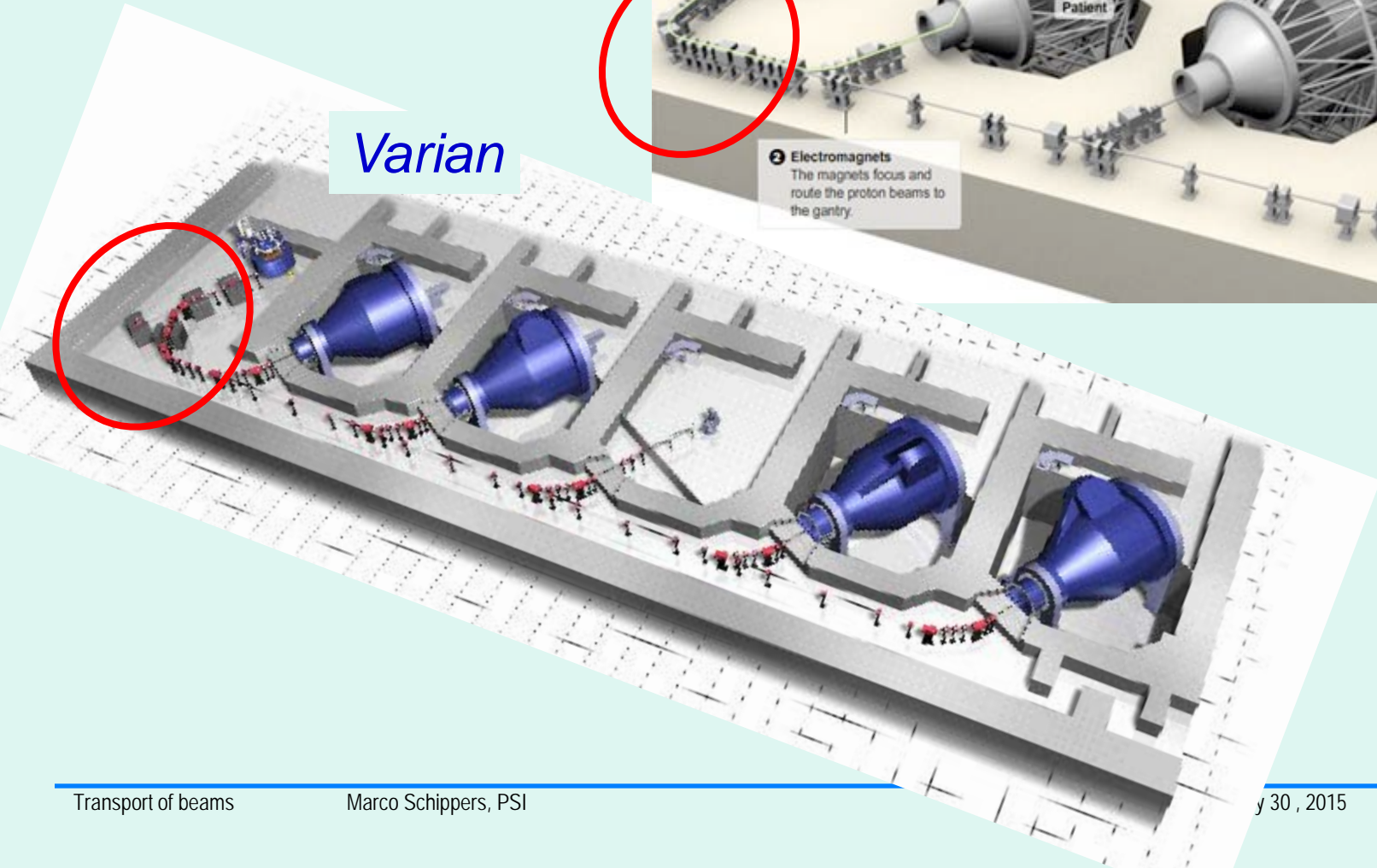
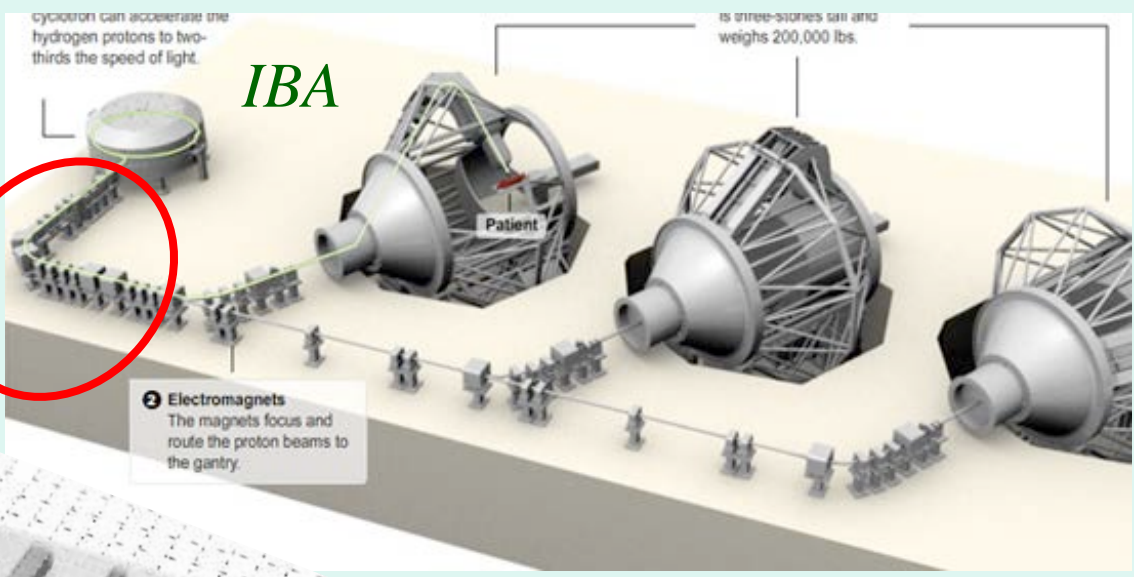


Beam analysis:  
energy selection

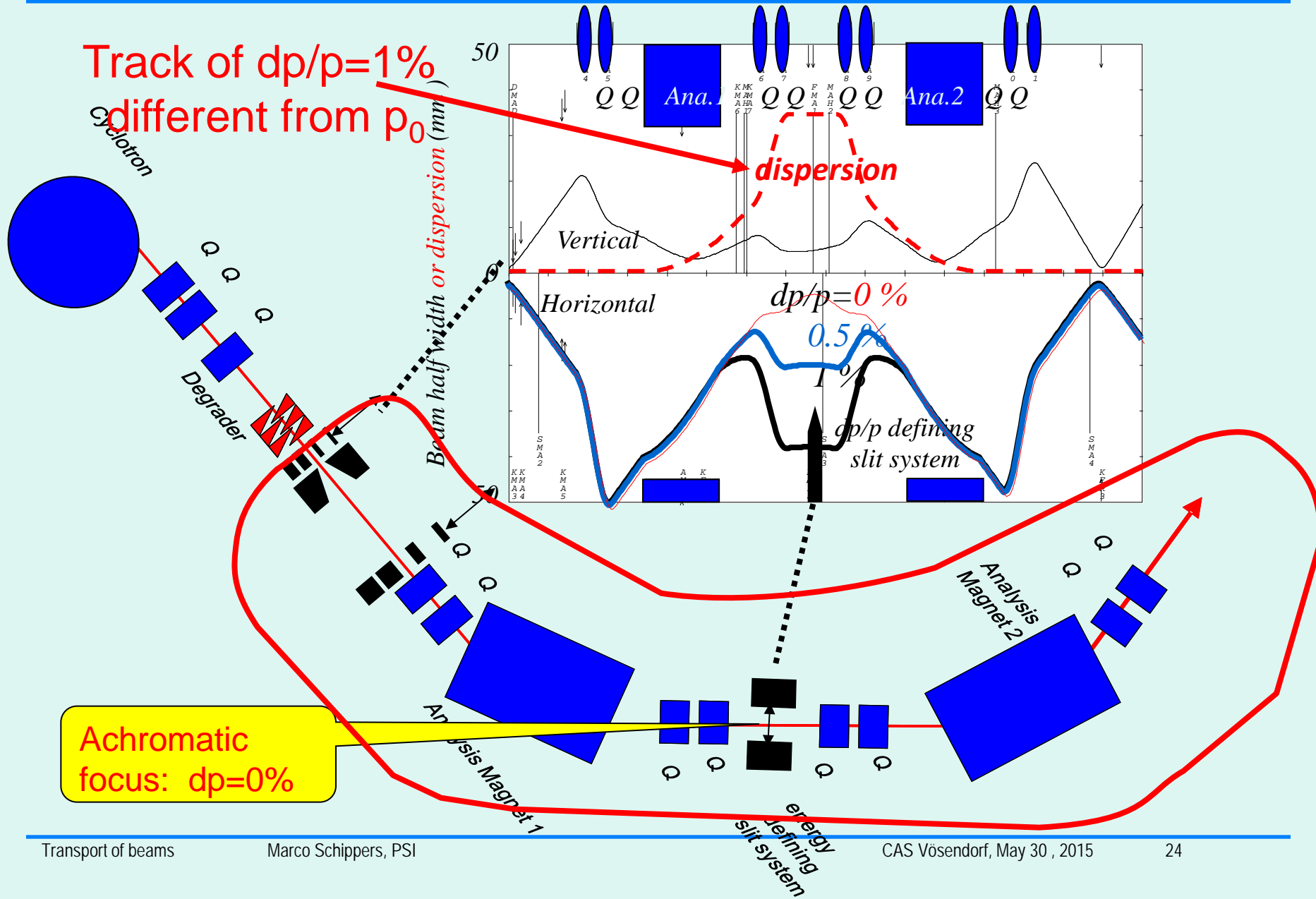
$$dp/p < \pm 1\%$$

or:  $dE/E < \pm 2\%$

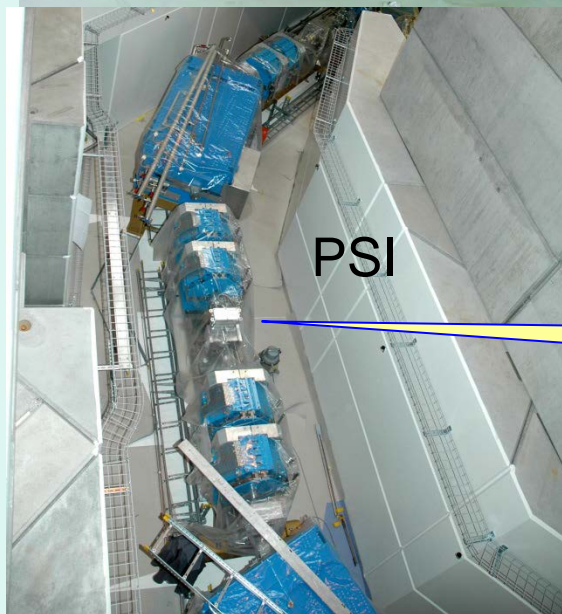
# ESS in cyclotron facilities



Track of  $dp/p=1\%$  different from  $p_0$

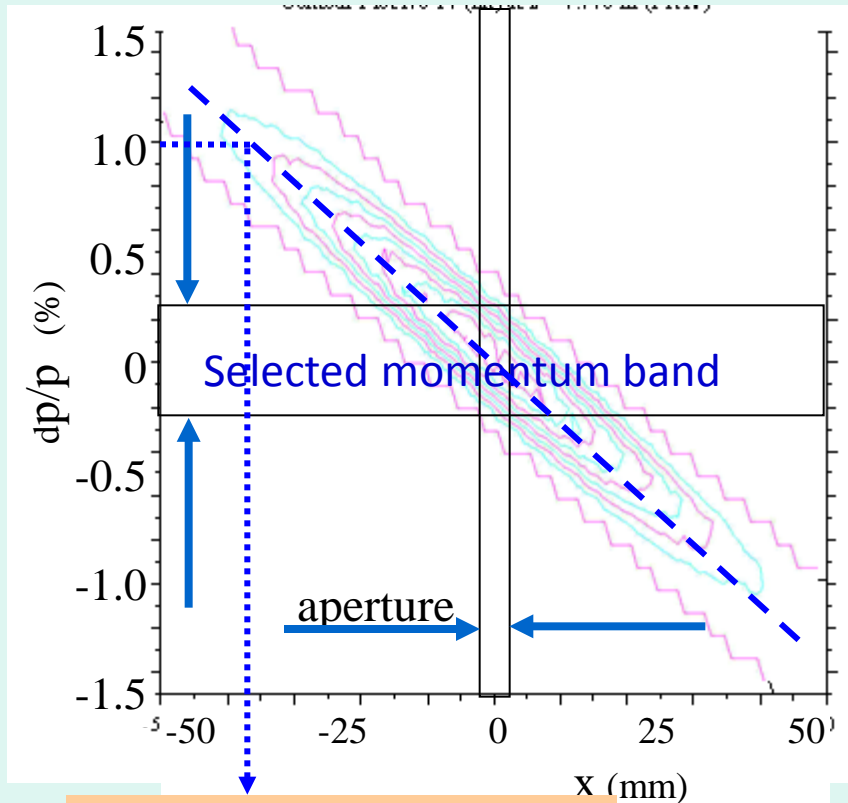




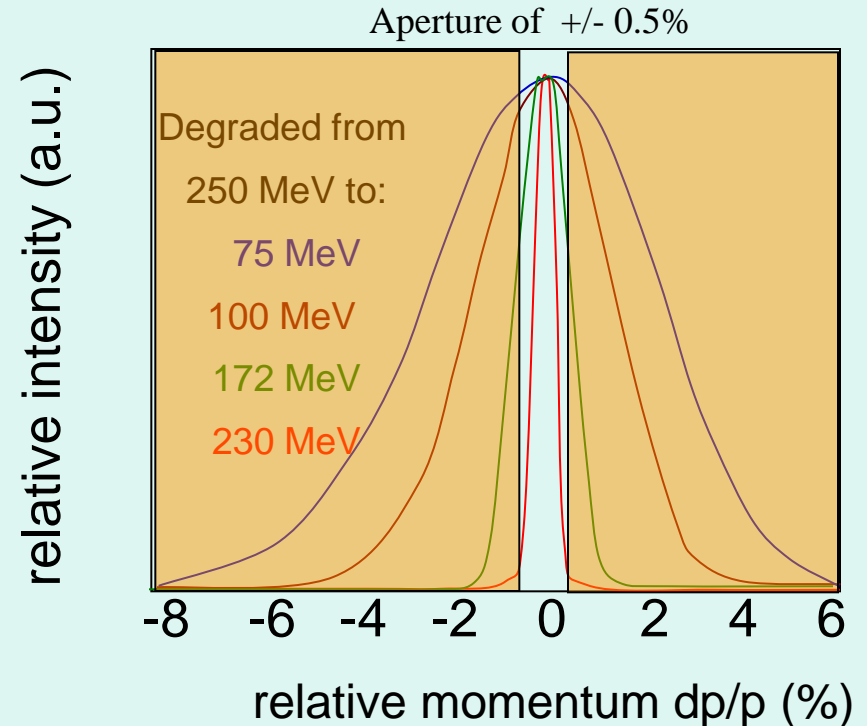


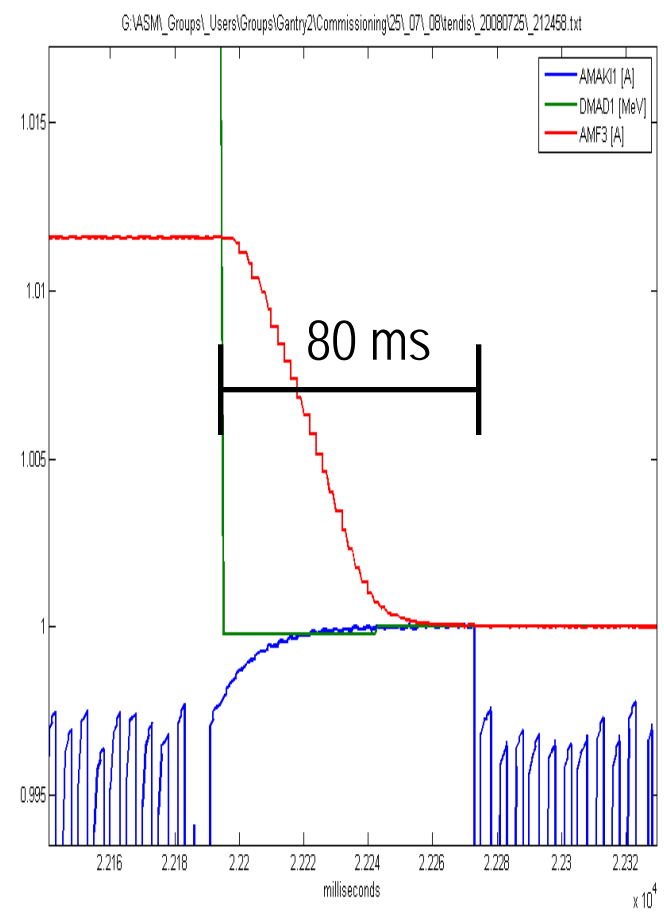
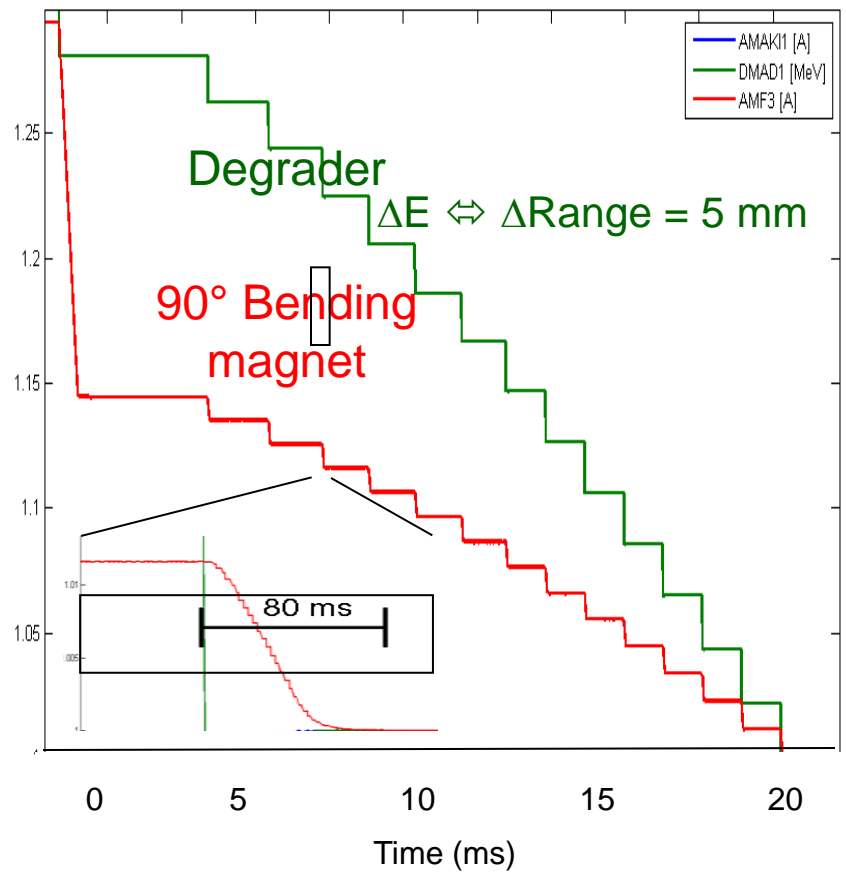
Energy selection slit at dispersive focus

At dispersive focus: **strong correlation** between  $dp/p$  and hor. position  
 => With **slits** an **energy selection** can be made

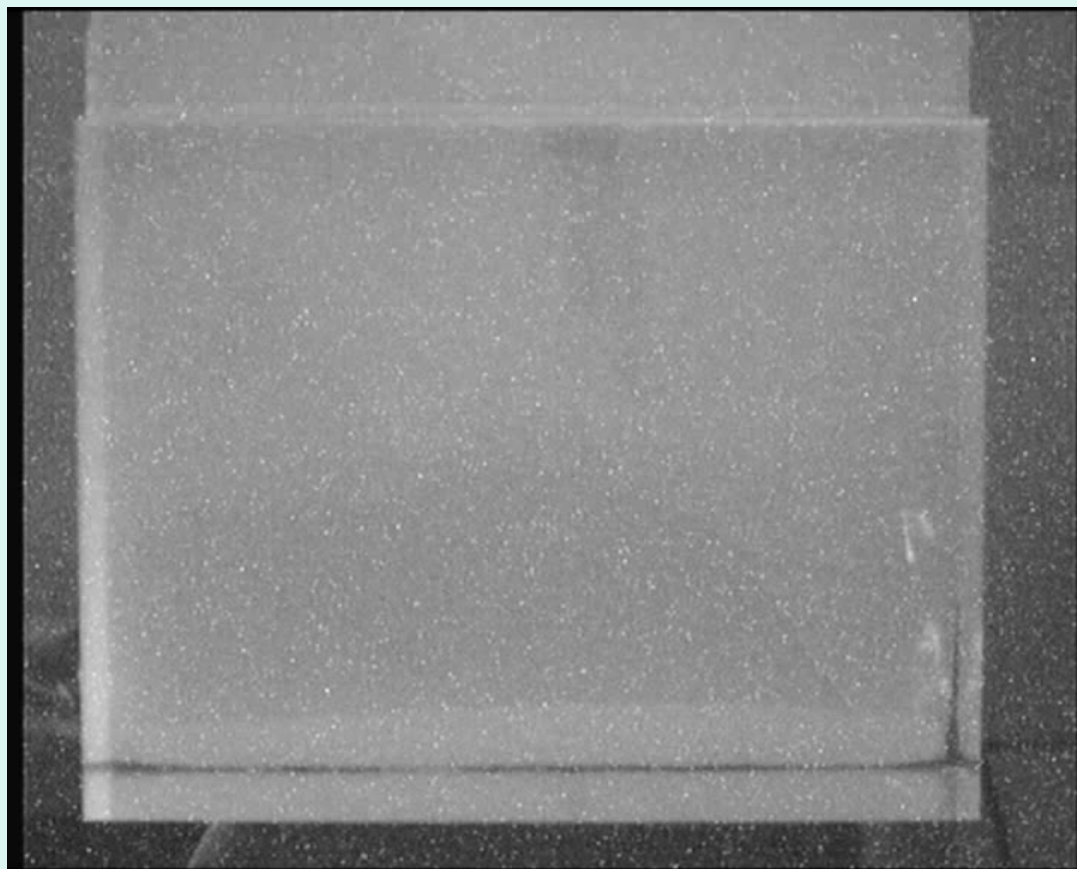
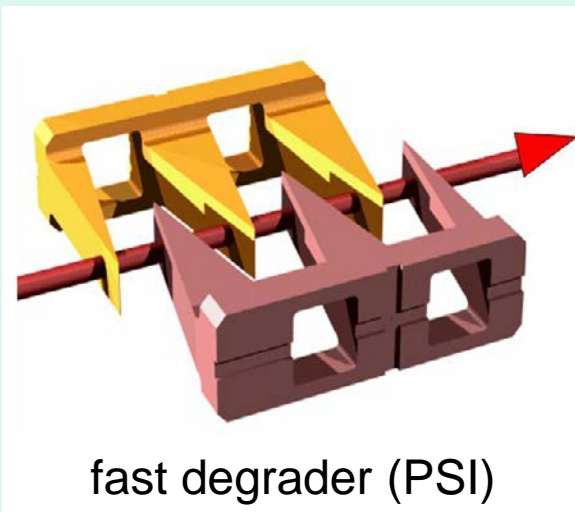


Dispersion = 37 mm/%



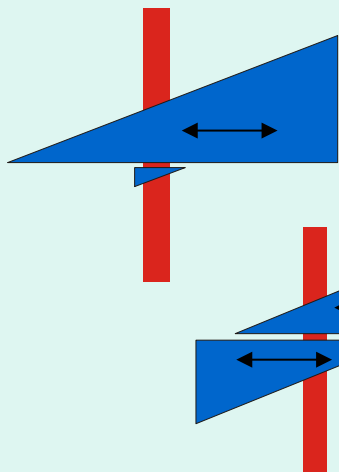


**Fast change of penetration depth:  
5 mm in 80-50 msec**



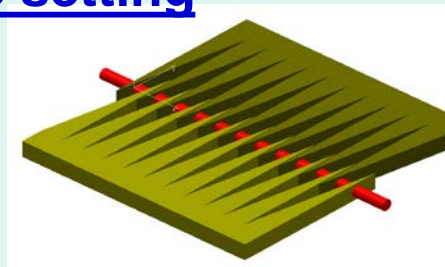
**1 liter volume in 7 s :**  
Target **repainting:**  
15-30 scans / 2 min.

## Continuous Range setting



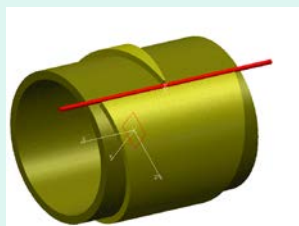
single wedge

Dual wedge

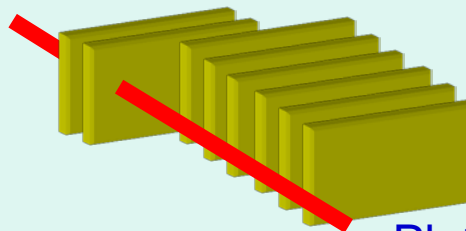


multi wedge

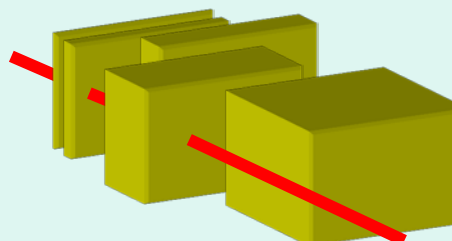
## Discrete steps:



single wedge  
rolled on a cylinder



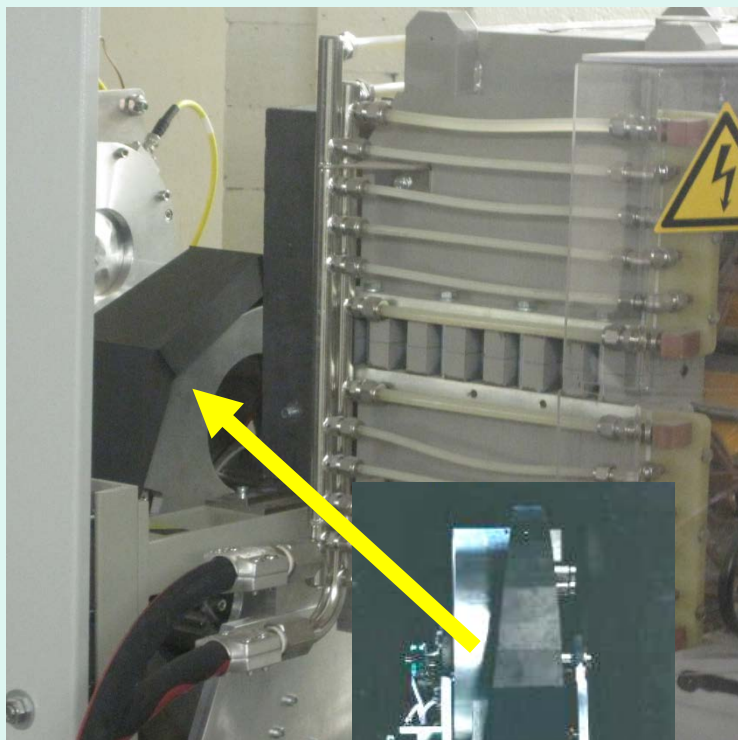
Plates equal thickness



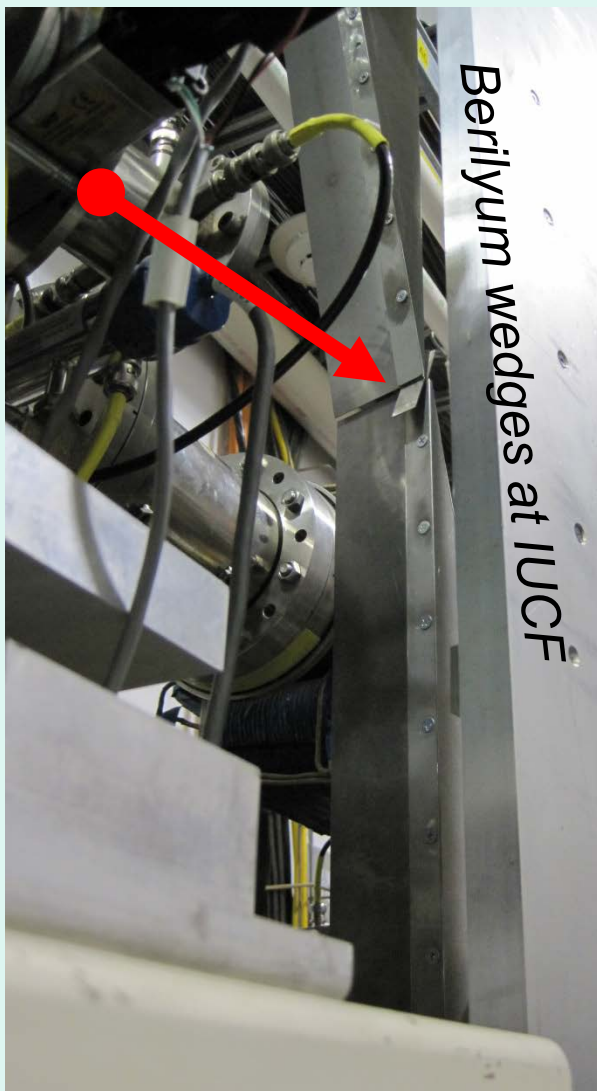
Plates with „binary“ thicknesses

### **Important specs:**

- accuracy:  $\Delta R$
- speed
- step size
- distance to collimator

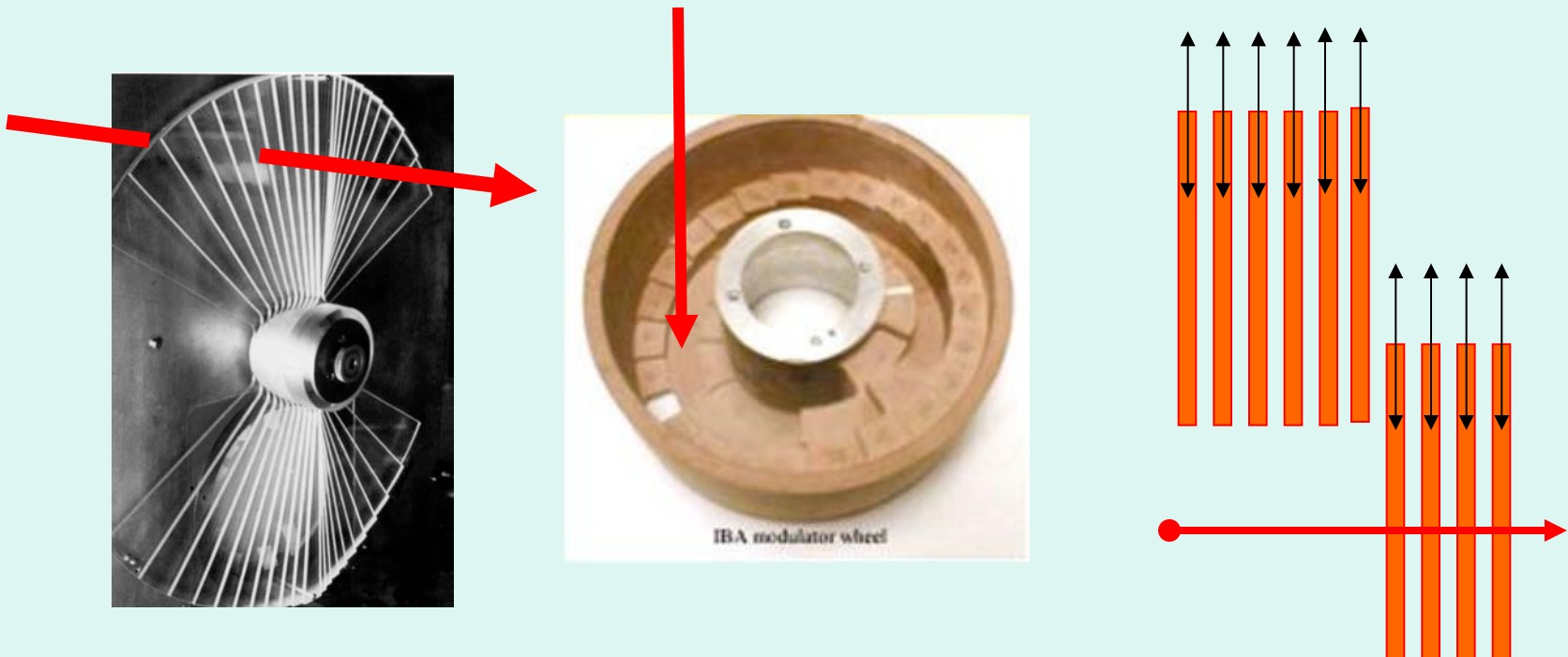


*IBA degrader*



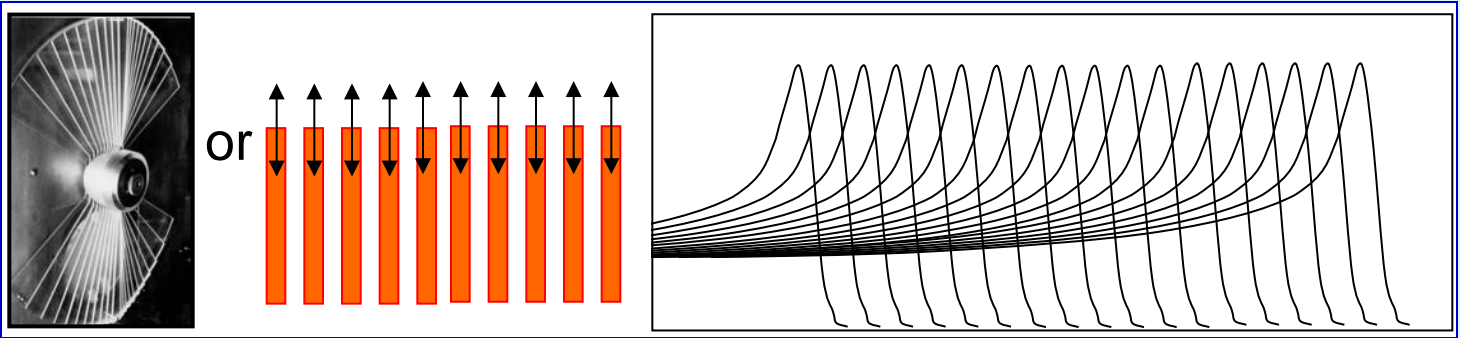
## Vary energy in nozzle (**cyclotron and synchrotron**)

**Energy modulation:** rotating wheel or insertable plates

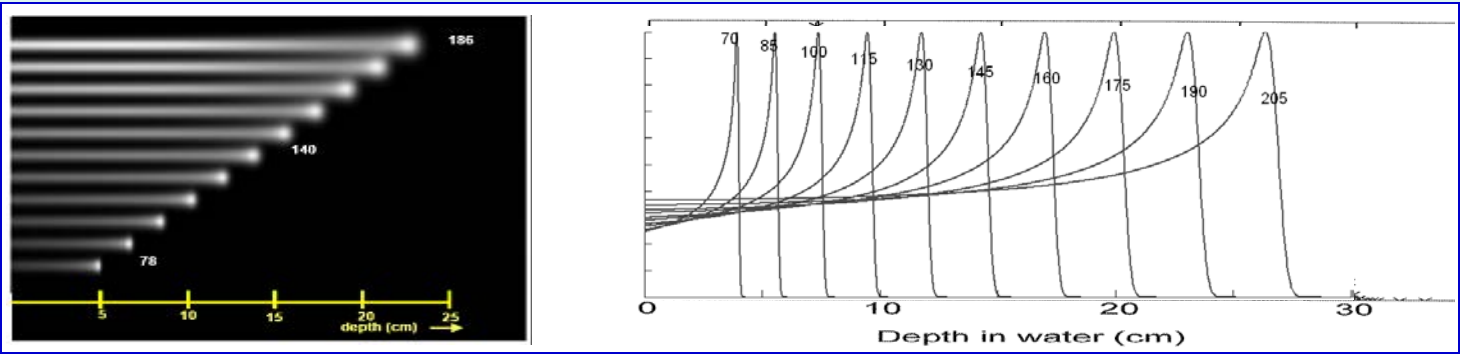


**But:** material in front of patient  
- increases scatter → unsharp edges of dose distr.

## Energy modulation in nozzle: no beam analysis



## Energy modulation upstream: includes beam analysis





Range in water:  $R \approx a \cdot E^{1.77}$  :  $\frac{dR}{R} = 1.77 \frac{dE}{E}$   
 ( $a=2.2 \times 10^{-3}$ )

With dependence on Momentum (or magnetic field in Analyser):

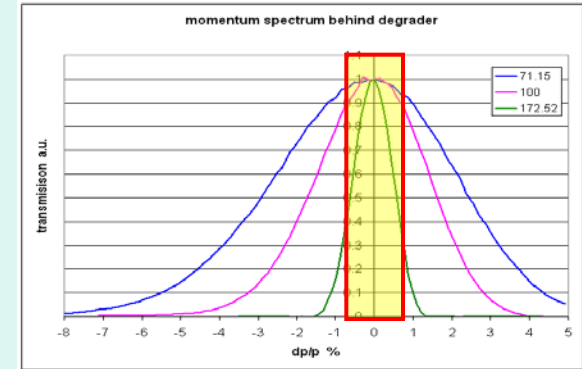
$$\frac{dE}{E} = 1.8 \frac{dp}{p} = 1.8 \frac{dB}{B} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{dR}{R} = 3.2 \frac{dB}{B}$$

(not **2** due to relativity)

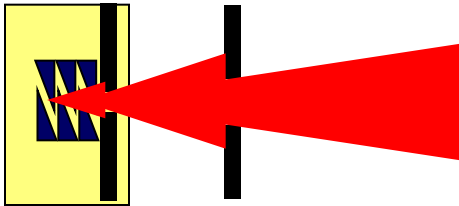
So, given **1% error in magnet setting** of analysing magnet  
**→ 3.2 % error in Range = 6.4 mm (at R=200 mm)**

Degrader purpose: **decrease energy**

however: - **energy spread (%)** increases with amount of degradation



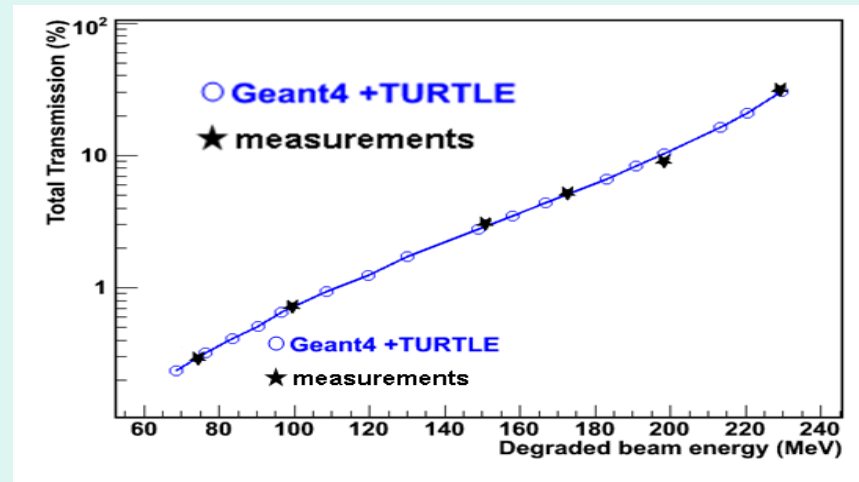
degrader system



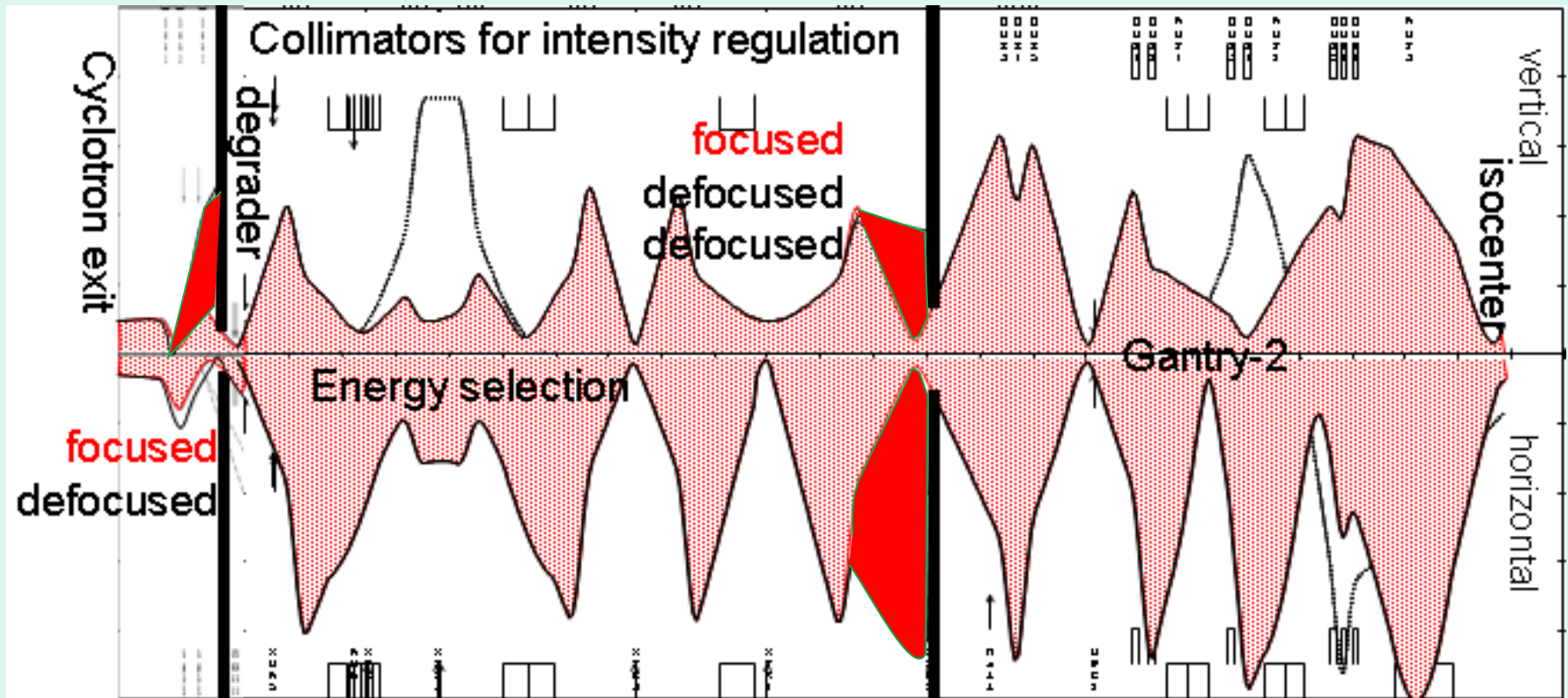
Collimators define transmitted beam size

- **beam size** increases due to multiple scattering
- **beam loss** due to nuclear reactions in degrader

→ **Beam intensity from cyclotron must be high enough**



Van Goethem et al., Phys. Med. Biol. 54 (2009)5831



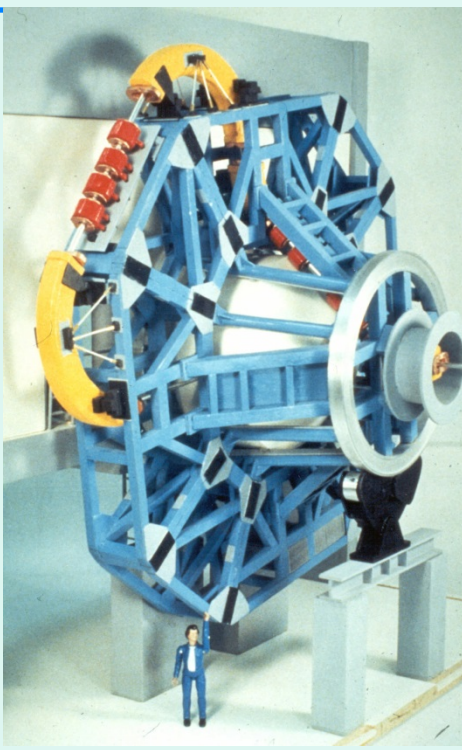
Low E → low Intensity → focused beam → high transmission

High E → high Intensity → defocused beam → low transmission

- Typical gantries.....
- Scanning

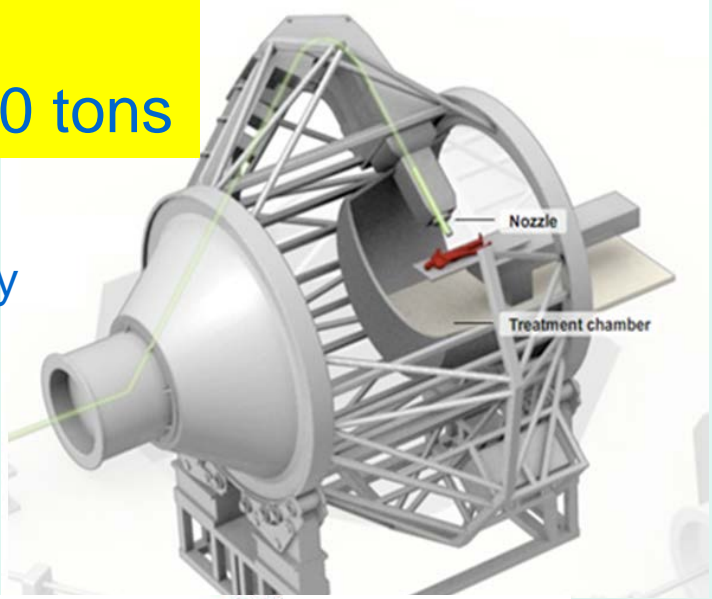
# Gantry types

Proton gantries:  
6-11 m Ø; 100-200 tons

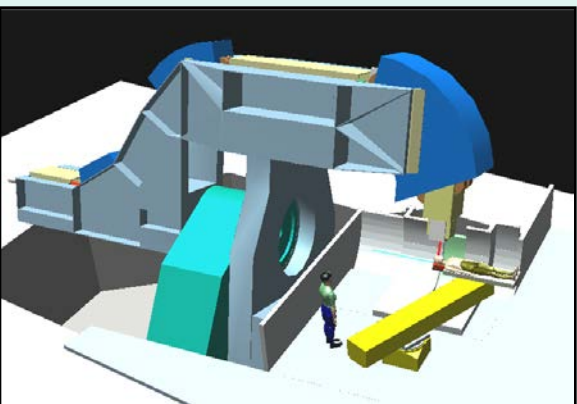
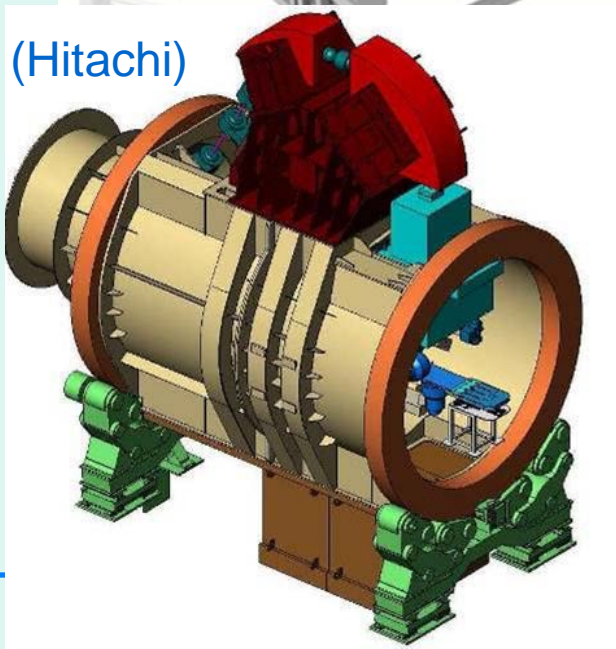


“Corck screw” at  
Loma Linda (Optivus)

IBA gantry



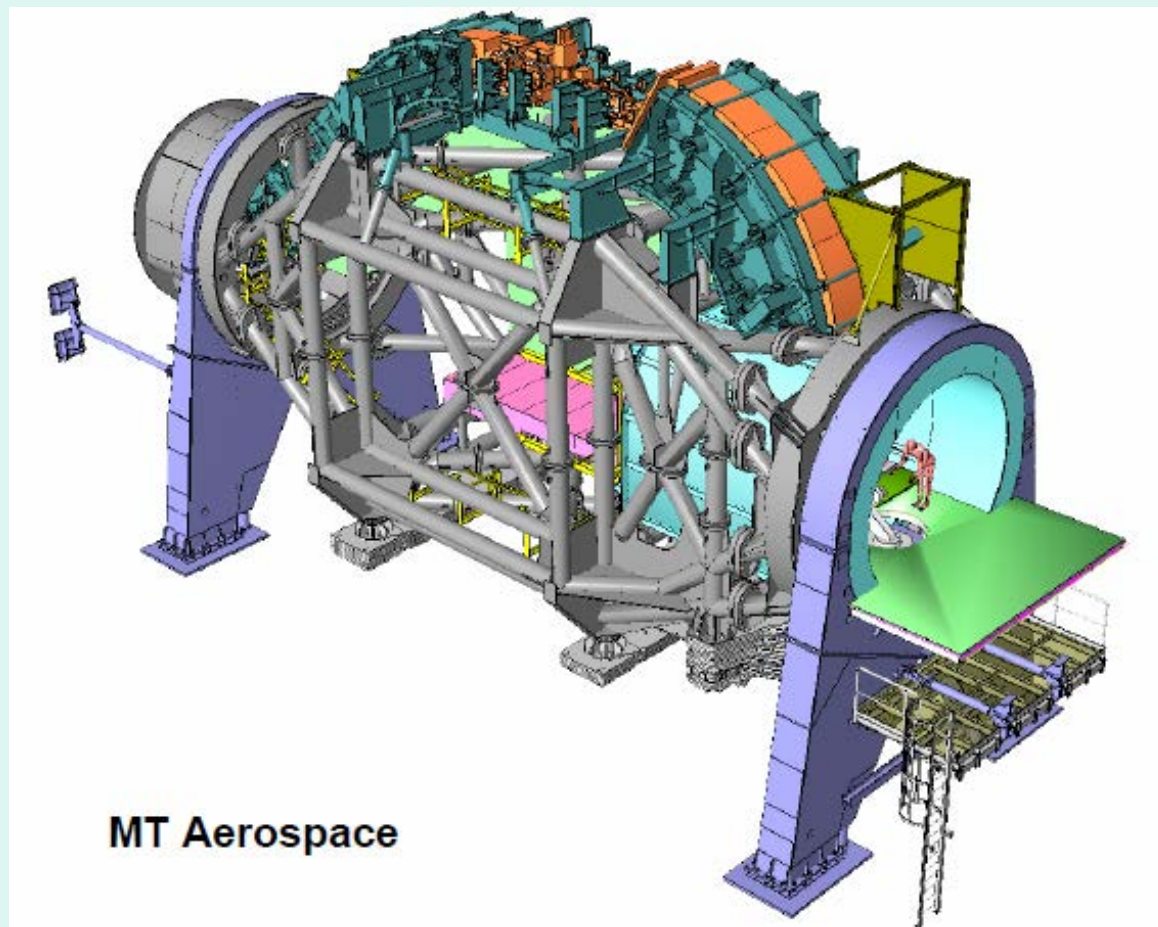
Tsukuba (Hitachi)

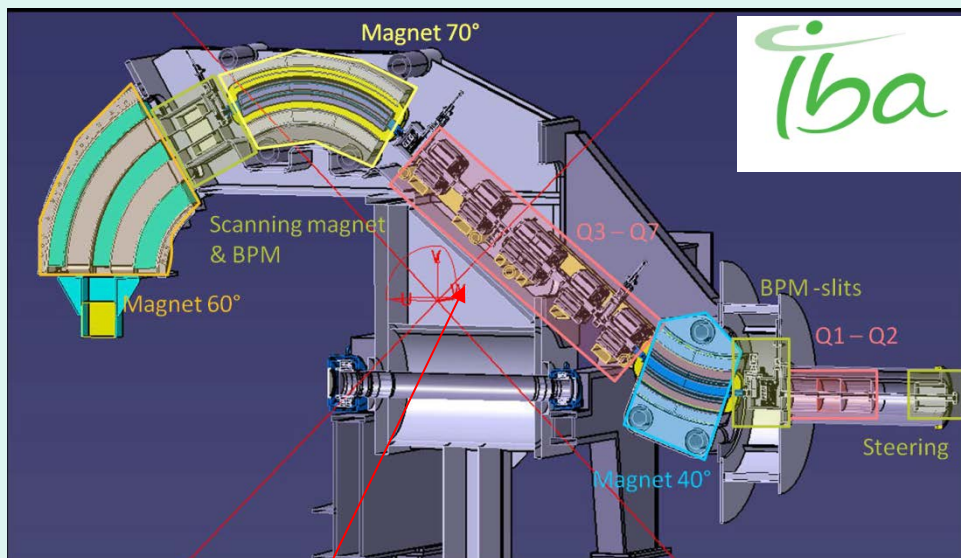


Gantry2 at PSI

## Gantry for carbon ions at HIT Heidelberg

13 m diameter  
600 tons

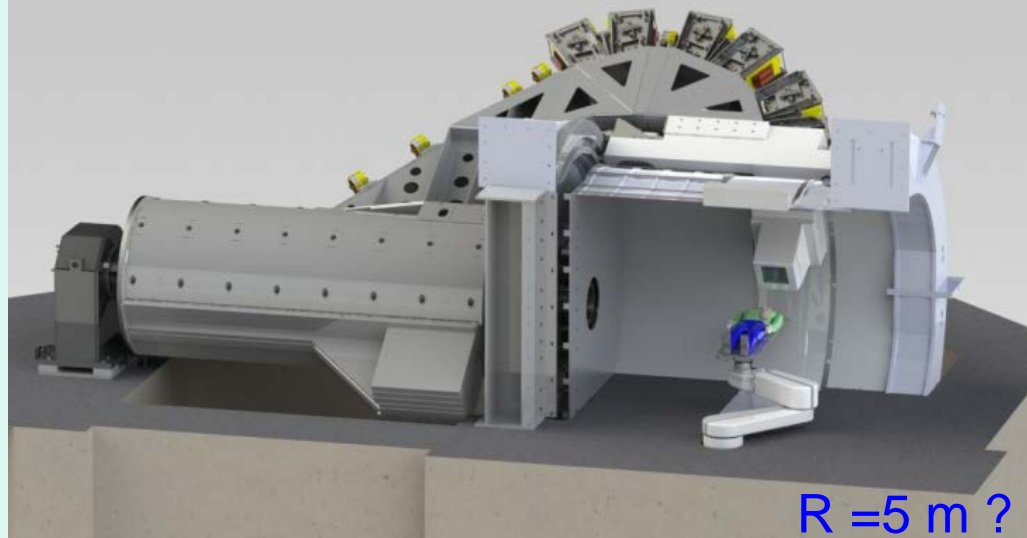




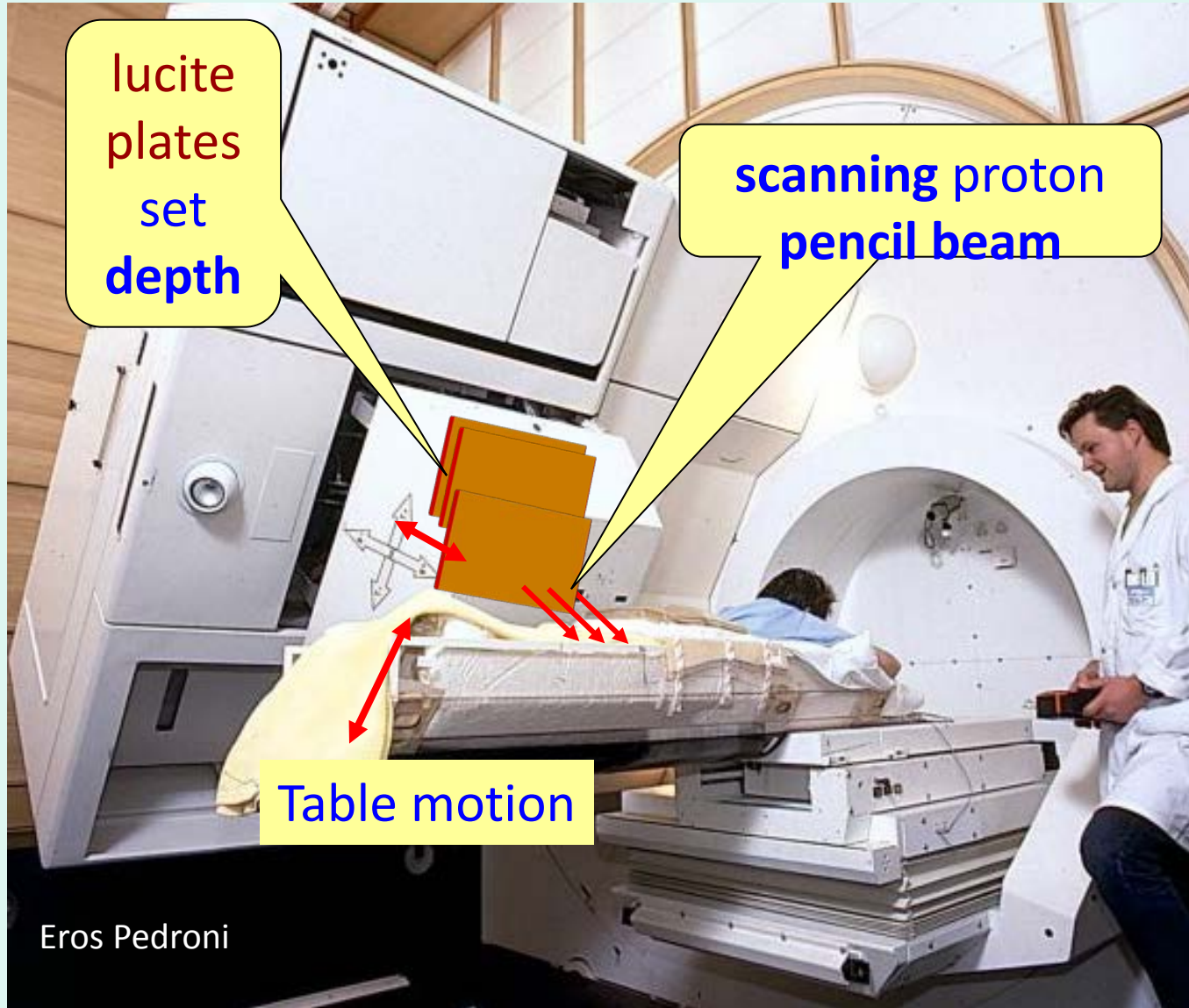
$R = 3.5 \text{ m}$

Energy selection slits

Many small  
identical bending magnets



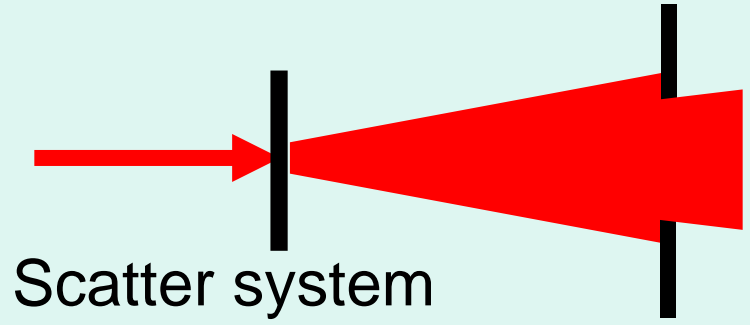
$R = 5 \text{ m ?}$



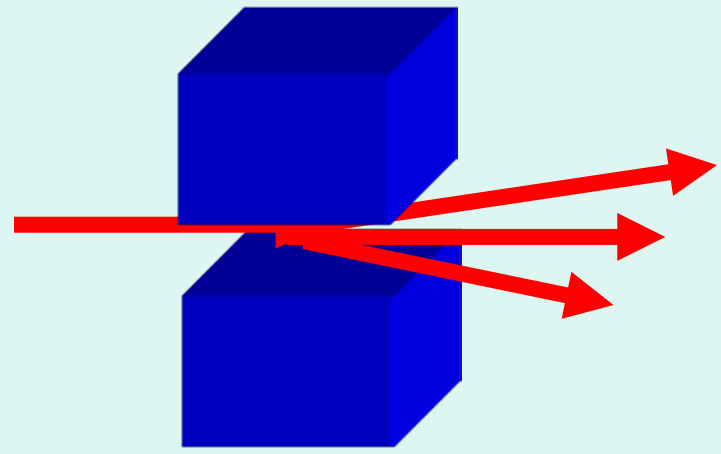
Eros Pedroni



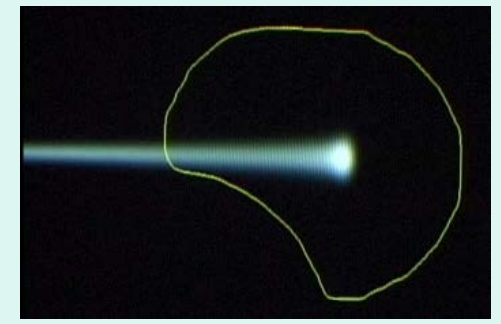
## Scatter technique



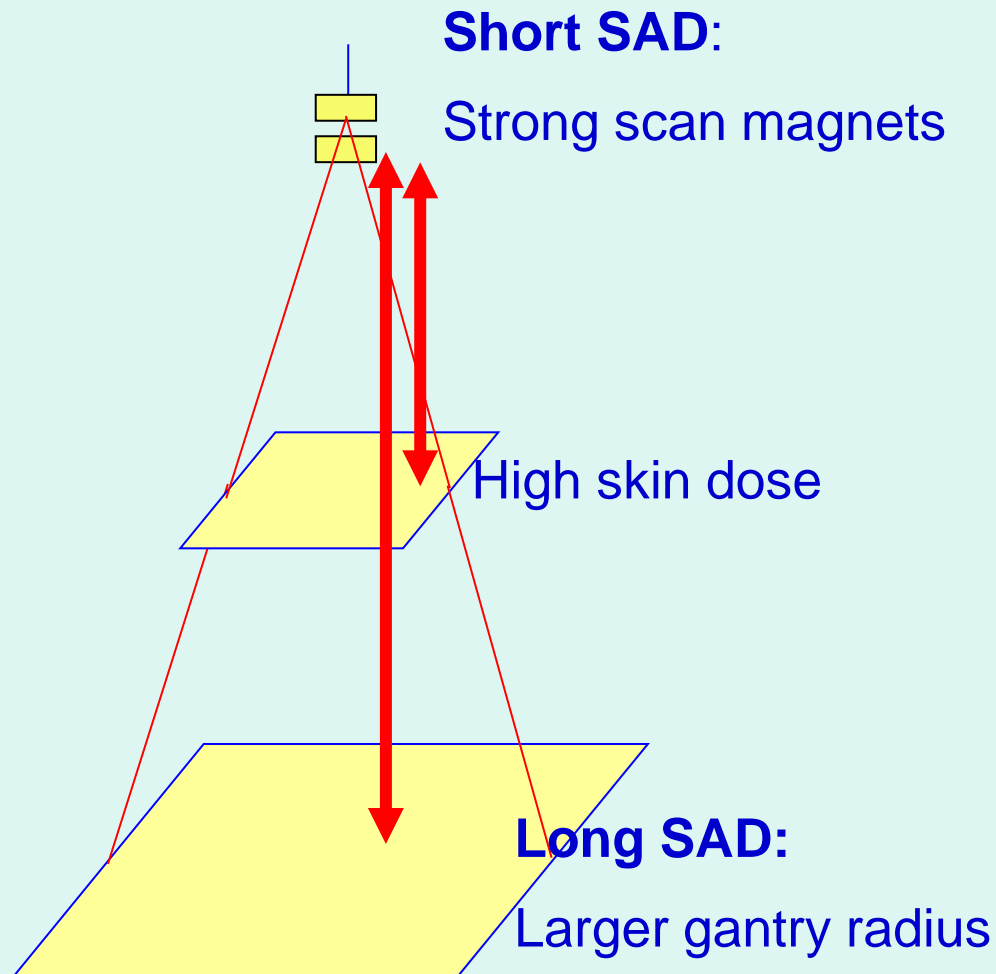
## *Best dose distribution* pencil-beam scanning



Patient  
specific  
Collimator

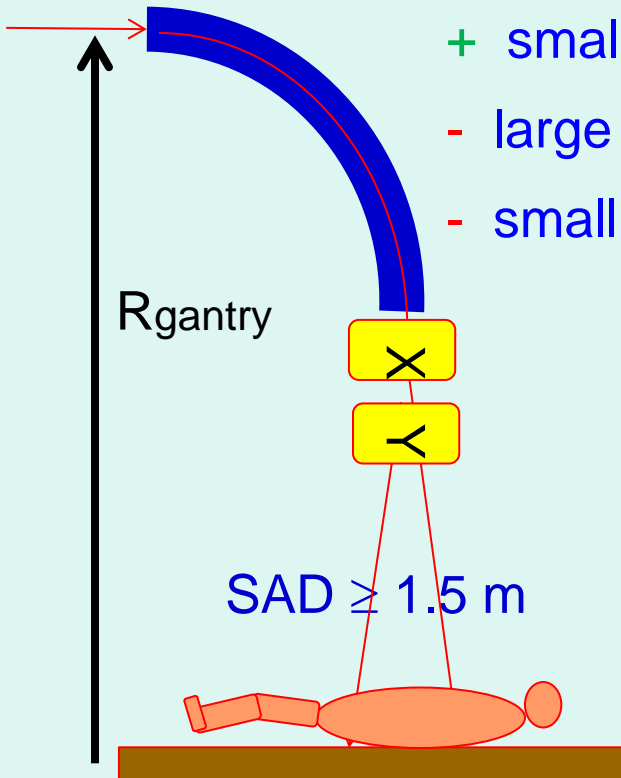


Location scan magnets; SAD (Source-Axis Distance)



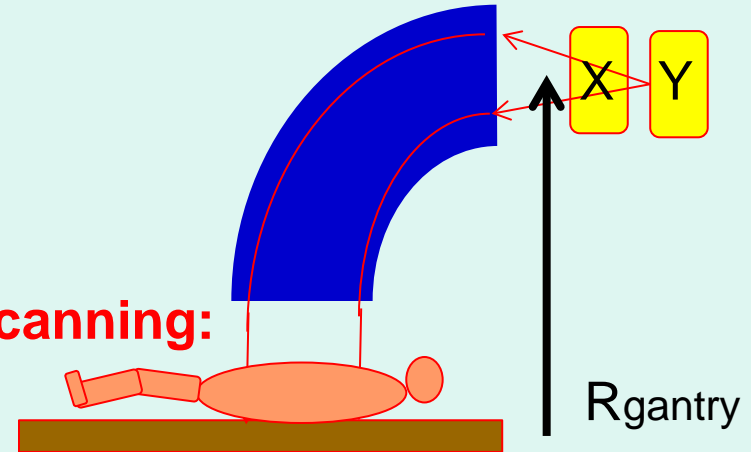
## Down-stream scanning:

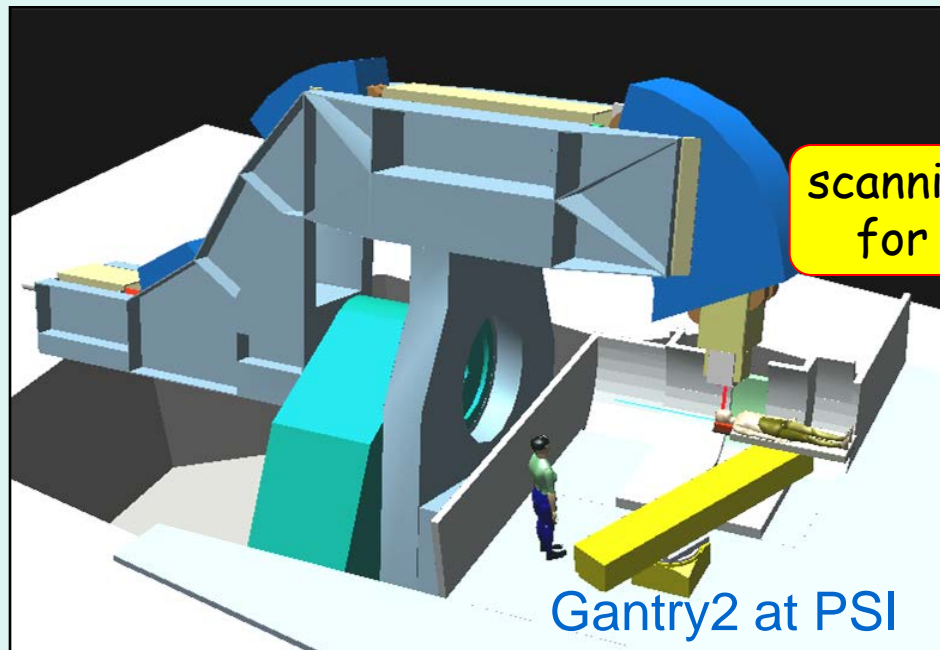
- + small aperture,
- large radius because of SAD
- small spots difficult



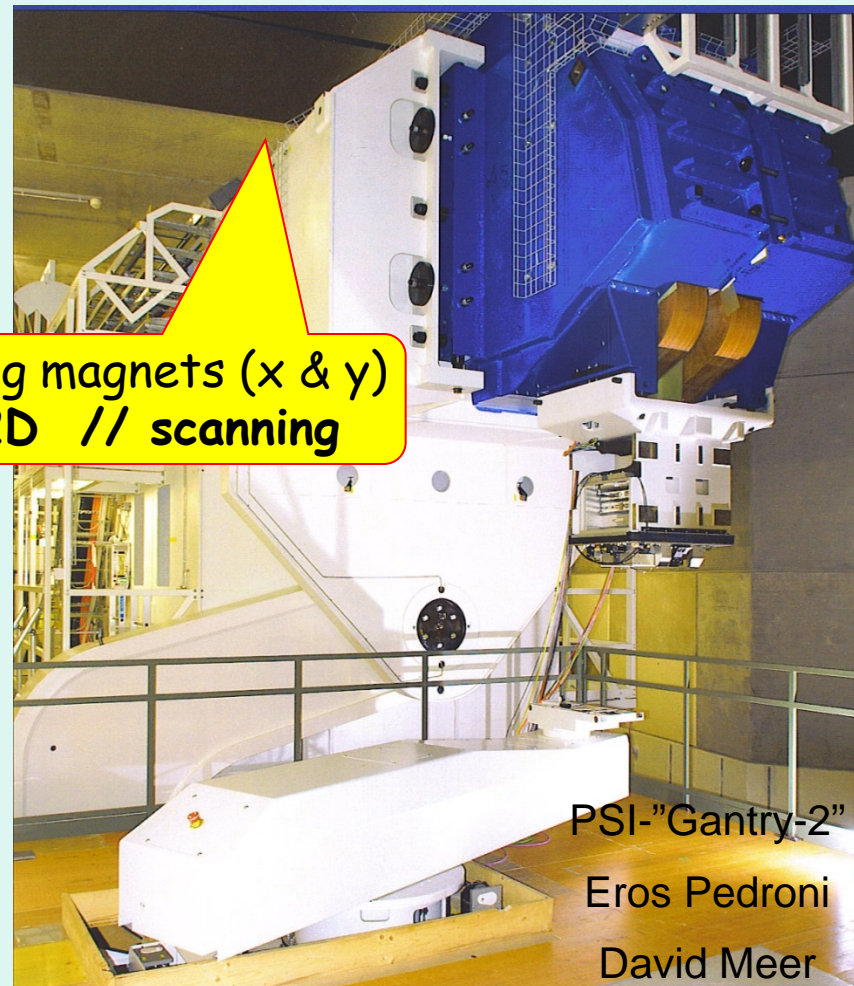
## Up-stream scanning:

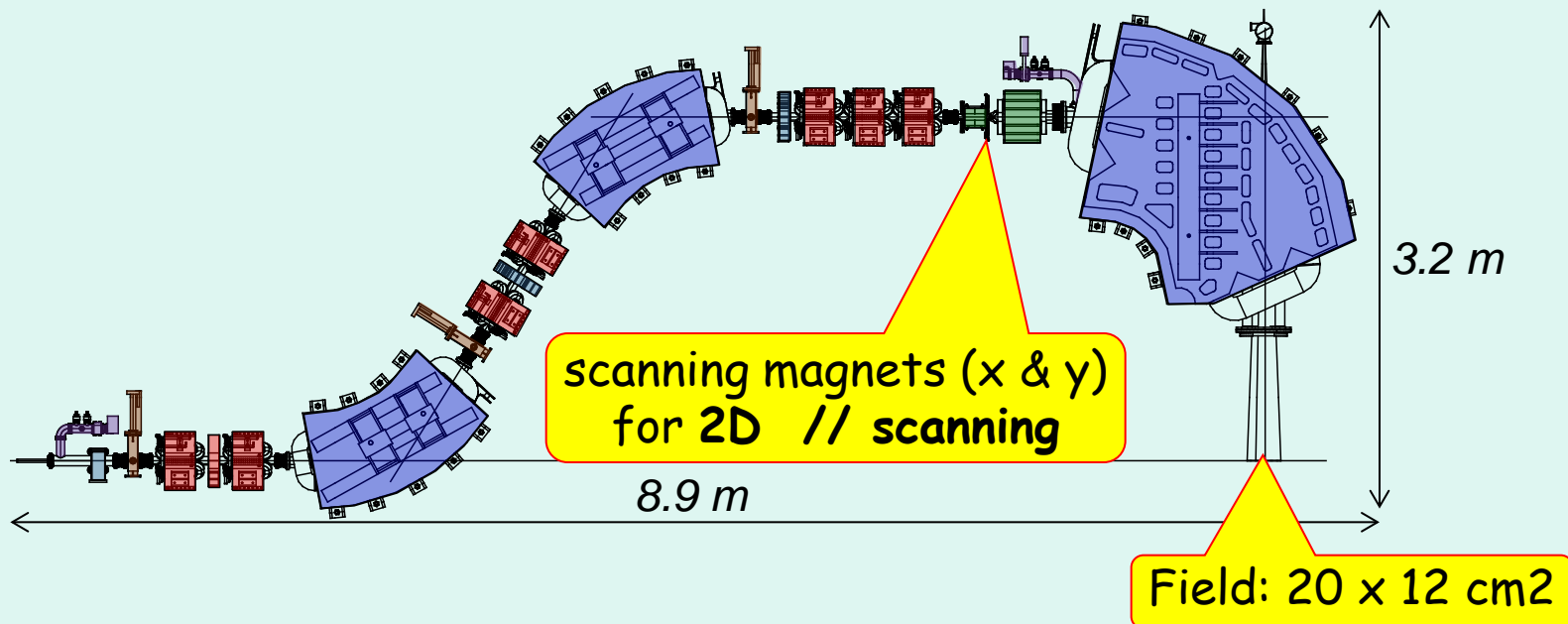
- + parallel
- + small gantry radius
- + small spots possible
- wide aperture SC magnet



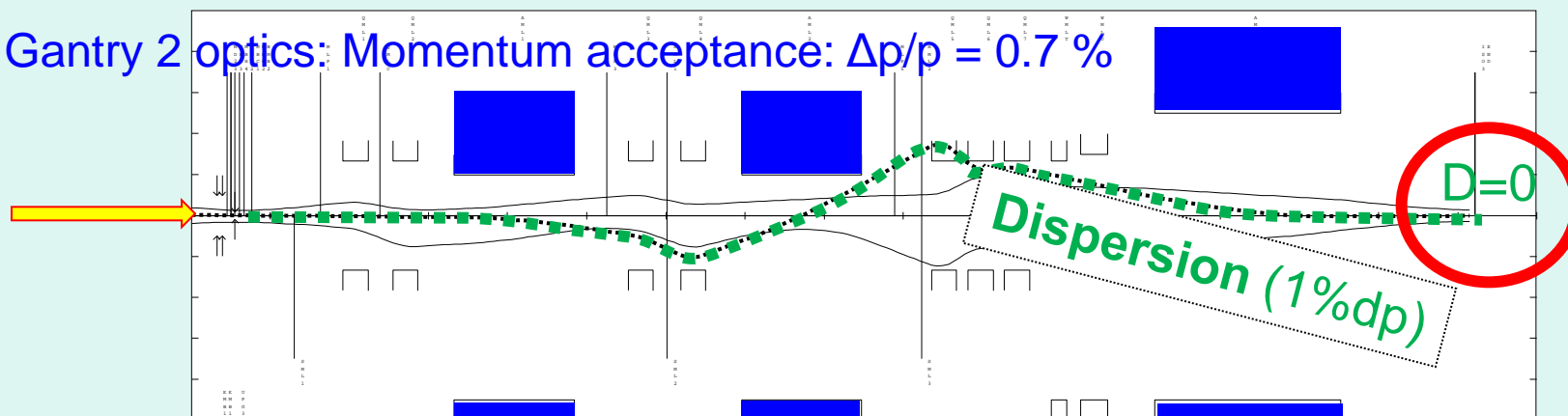


scanning magnets (x & y)  
for 2D // scanning

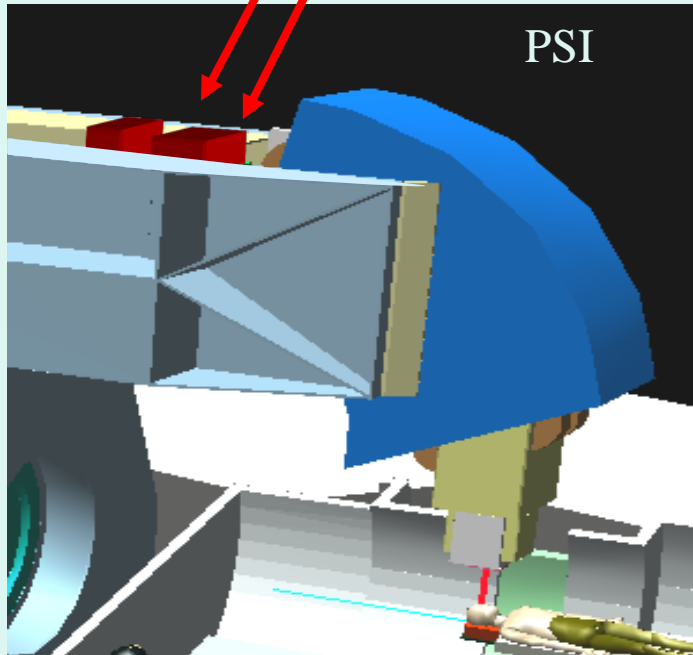




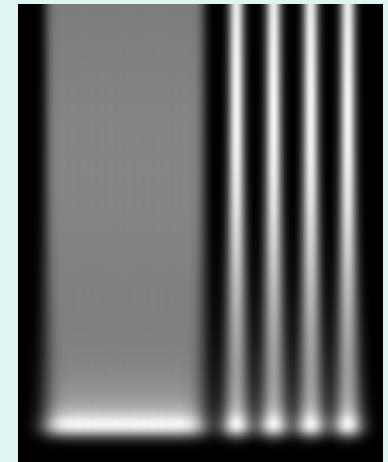
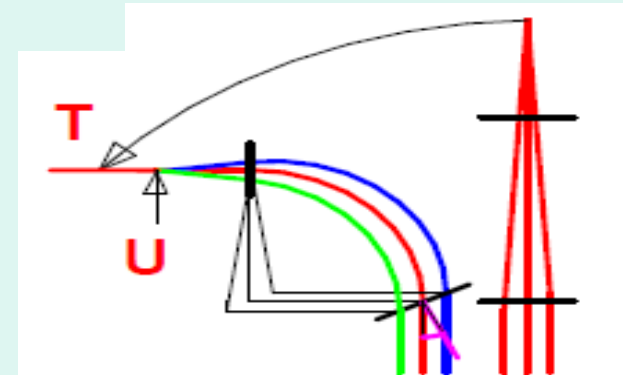
Gantry 2 optics: Momentum acceptance:  $\Delta p/p = 0.7\%$



Scan magnets



Figures from: Eros Pedroni, PSI

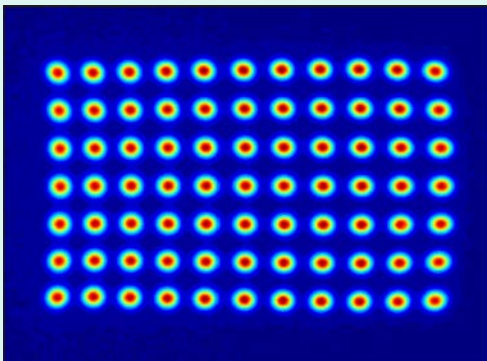


In PSI Gantry2:  
parallel pencil beam movement

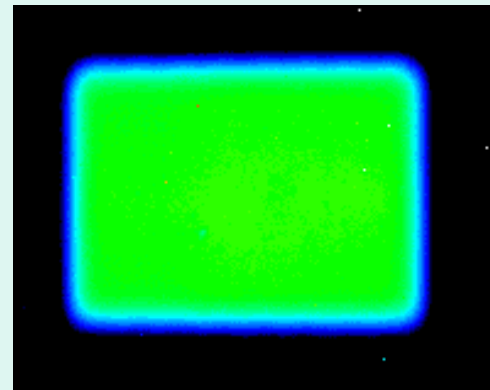
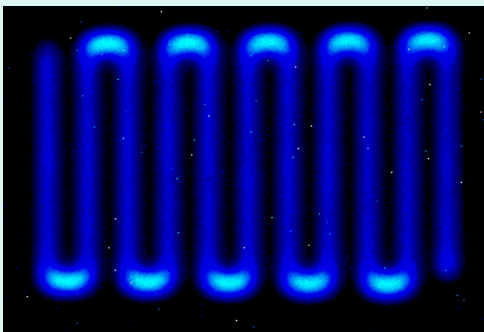
$SAD = \infty$

optics with “point  $\rightarrow$  parallel imaging”

# PSI Gantry-2: fast 3D scanning

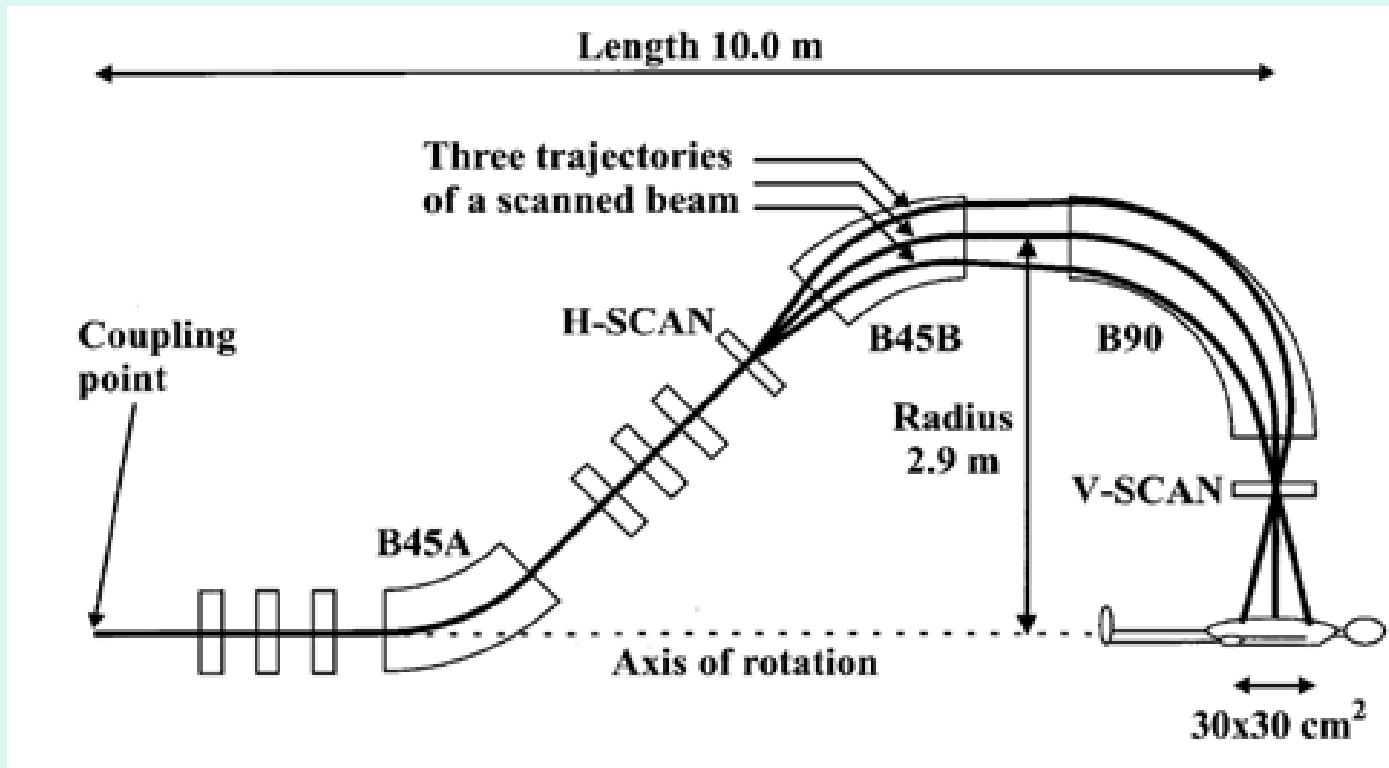


$\sigma = 3-4.5$  mm  
230-100 MeV



## Upstream+Down-stream scanning:

- + small aperture,
- Not too small radius because of SAD



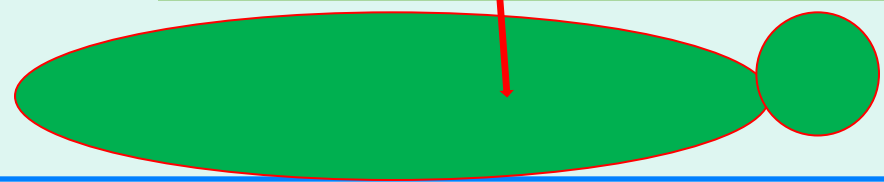
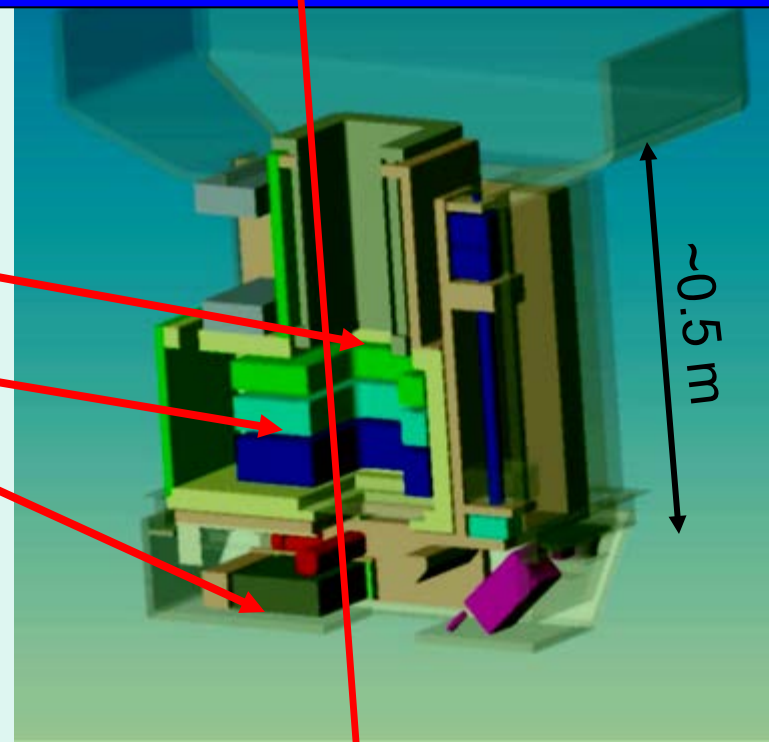
*H.Vrenken et al., NIM A 426 (1999) 618-624*

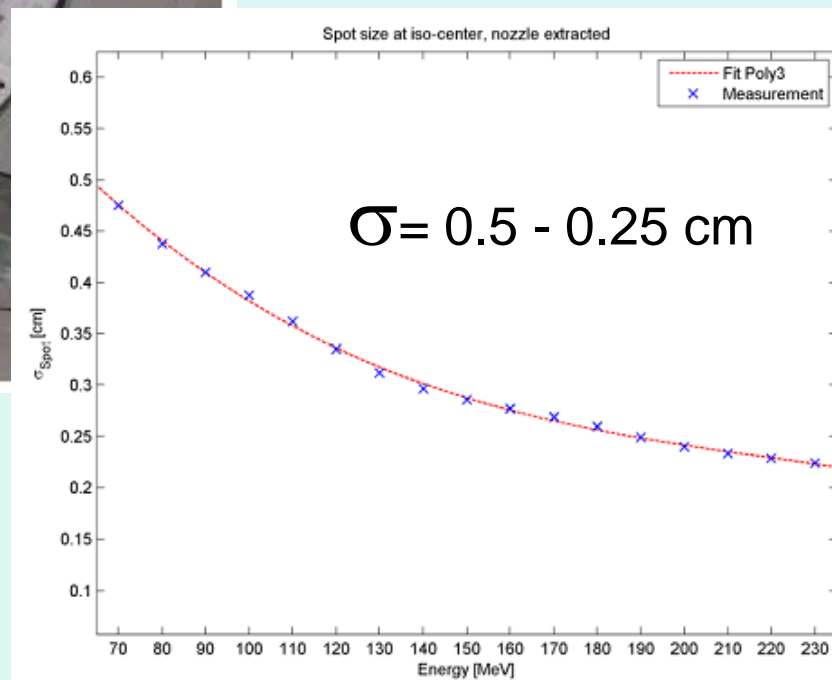
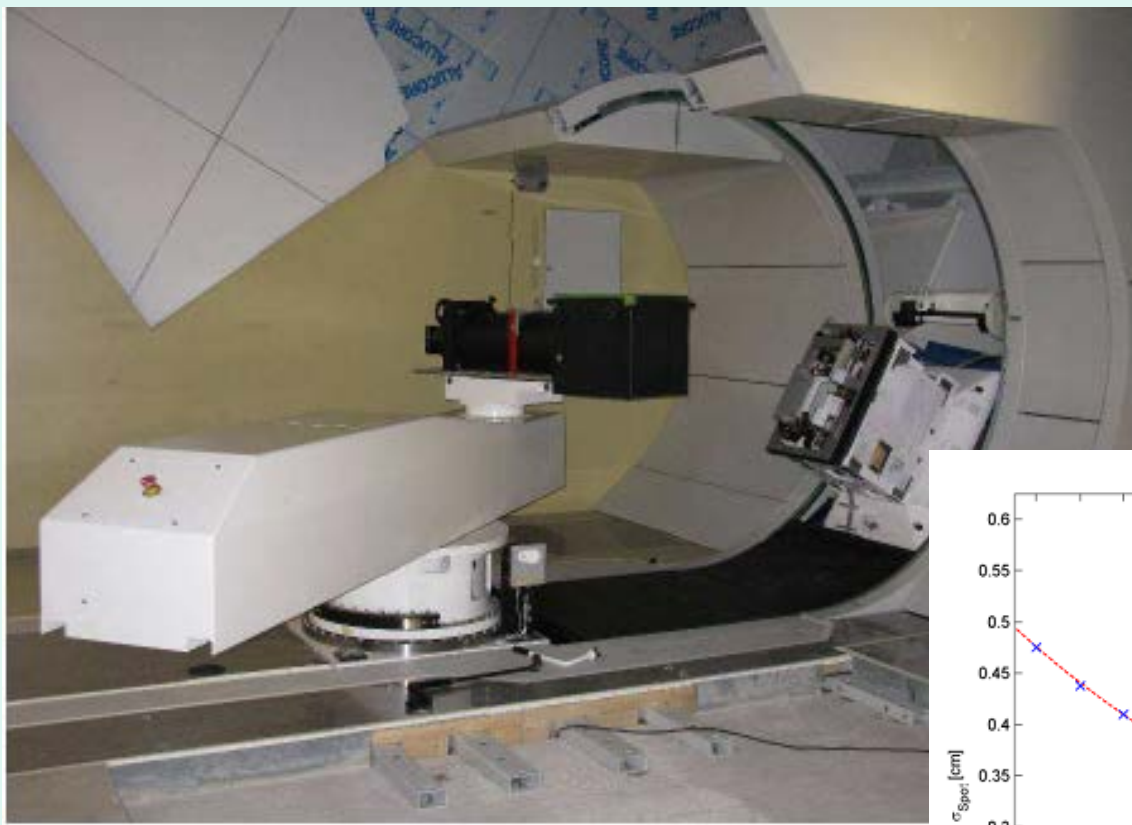


90 degr. magnet exit

## Practical realization at PSI's Gantry-2:

- Vacuum as close as possible to the patient
- Two monitors and a strip monitor
- Removable pre-absorber (for  $R < 10$  cm)
- Longitudinal motion of nozzle





*Eros Pedroni, David Meer*

