



# Dual energy CT for proton therapy

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J. Bauer<sup>3</sup>, C. Thieke<sup>4</sup>, I. Almeida<sup>5</sup>, F. Verhaegen<sup>5</sup>, W. H. Sommer<sup>2</sup>, C. Belka<sup>4</sup>, K.  
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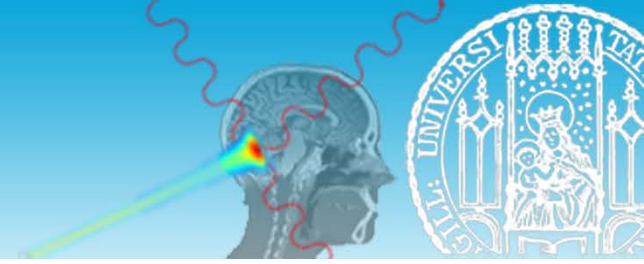
<sup>2</sup>Department of Radiology, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, DE

<sup>3</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, Heidelberg University Hospital, DE

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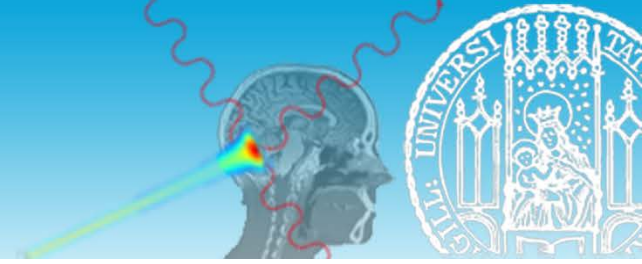
<sup>5</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, MAASTRO clinic, NL

# Outline



- **Motivation for DECT in proton therapy**
- **Stopping power and range in proton therapy treatment planning**
- **Tissue determination in proton therapy**

# Motivation



- X-ray CT measures **photon attenuation coefficient**

$$CT \# = \frac{\mu - \mu_{water}}{\mu_{water}} \cdot 1000$$

- $\mu \propto C_{Compton}(E)\rho_e + C_{PE}(E)Z^3$

# Motivation



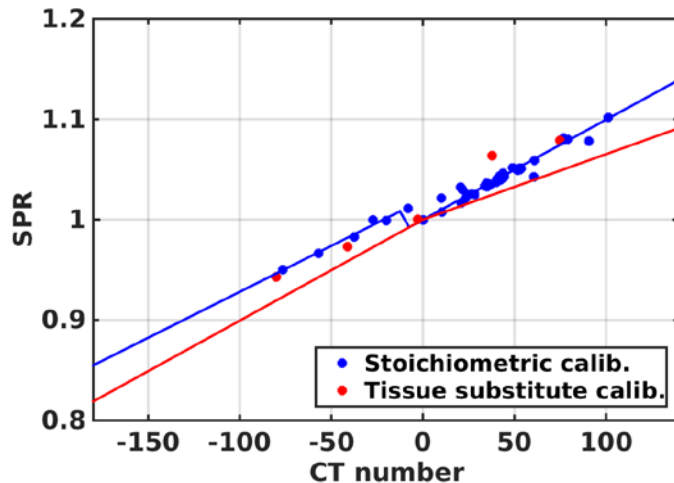
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$$SPR \propto \rho_e \frac{\ln\left(\frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2}{I(1-\beta^2)}\right) - \beta^2}{\ln\left(\frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2}{I_{water}(1-\beta^2)}\right) - \beta^2}$$



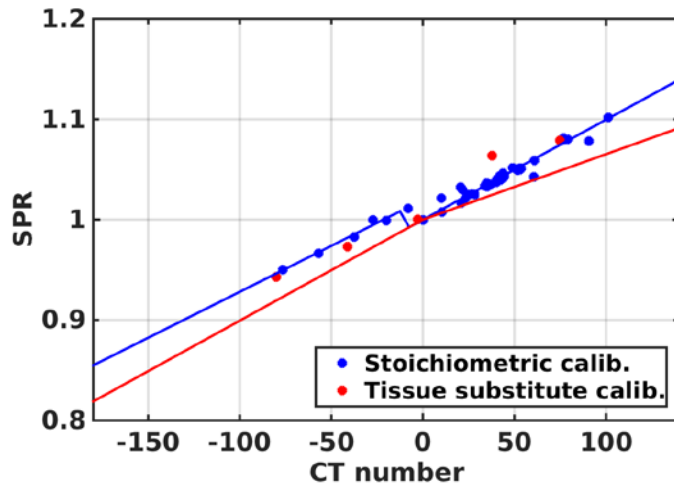
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- **SPR uncertainty** from single energy CT (SECT) conversion is often stated as **3.5% (95<sup>th</sup> percentile)**

Yang et al. Med Phys 57 (2012) 4095

# Motivation



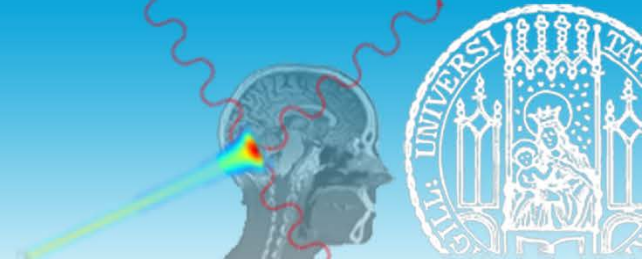
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**2 equations, 2 unknowns**



<http://www.healthcare.siemens.com/computed-tomography/dual-source-ct/somatom-force/technical-specifications>

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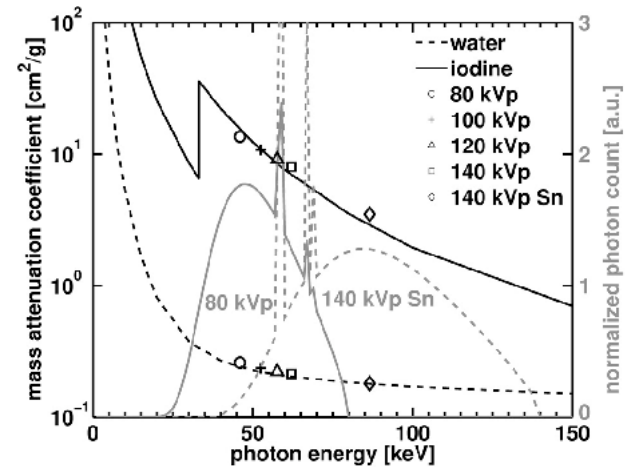


$$\mu \propto C_{\text{Compton}}(E)\rho_e + C_{\text{PE}}(E)Z^3$$

2 equations, 2 unknowns

- Dual energy CT allows to solve for  $\rho_e$  and  $Z_{\text{eff}}$

Bazalova et al. Phys Med Biol 53 (2008) 2439

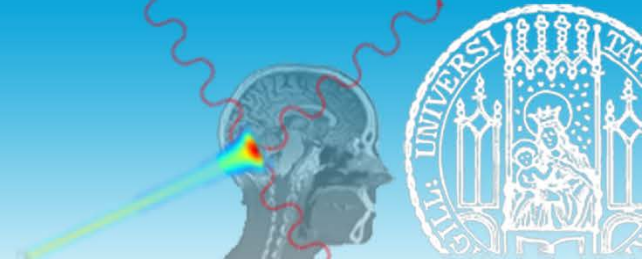


Van Elmpt, Landry et al. Radiother Oncol 119 (2016) 137

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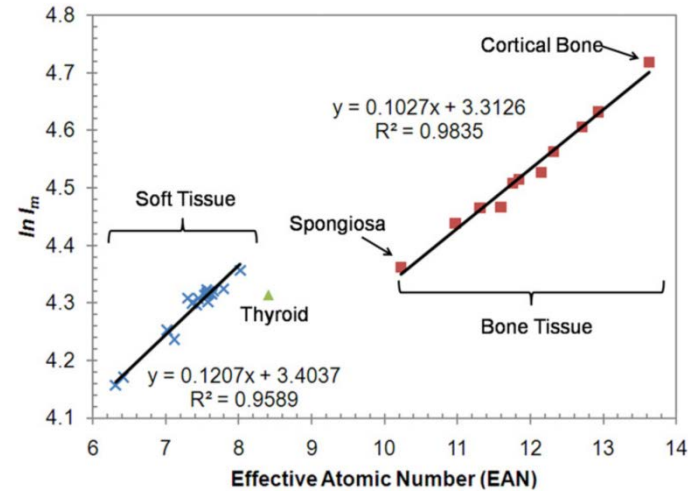
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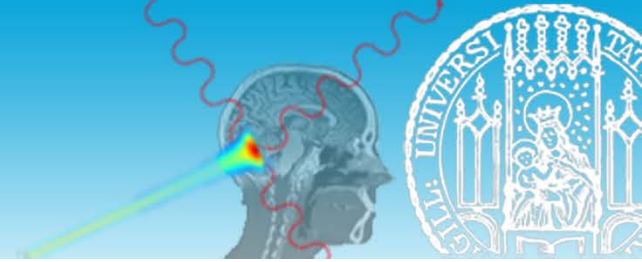
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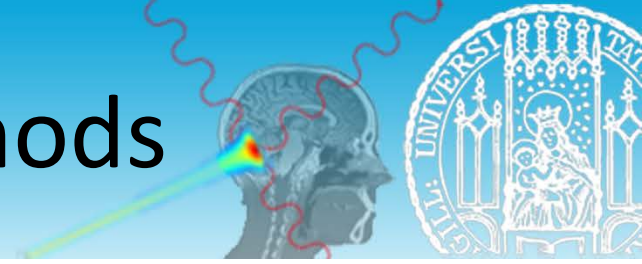
Yang et al. Phys Med Biol 55 (2010) 1343



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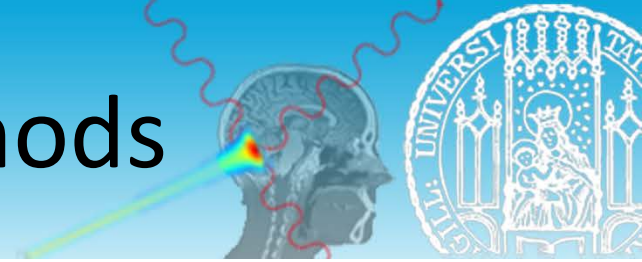


## Scanner

- **SOMATOM Force  
Klinikum Grosshadern**



- **90 kVp and 150 kVp/Sn**
  - Including merged 120 kVp equivalent
  - ADMIRE recon
  - $CTDI_{vol}$  20 mGy



## Scanner

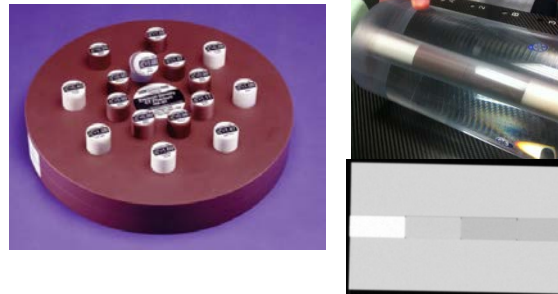
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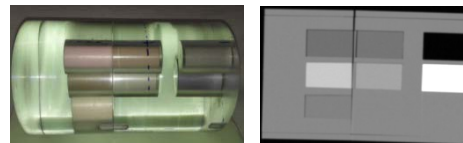
## Phantoms

- **Calibration phantom**

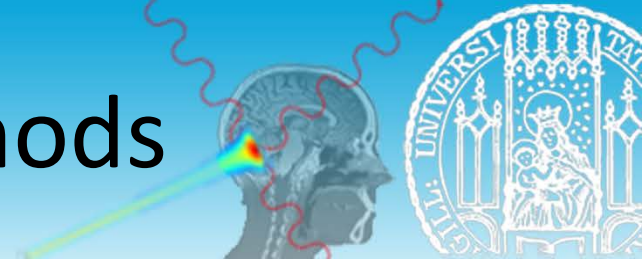


17 Gammex inserts

- **Evaluation phantom**



7 CIRS inserts



## Scanner

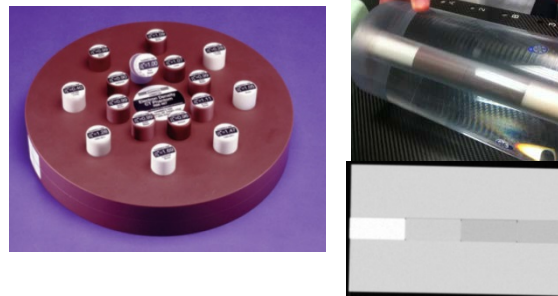
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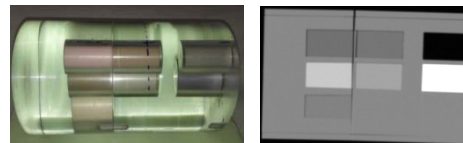
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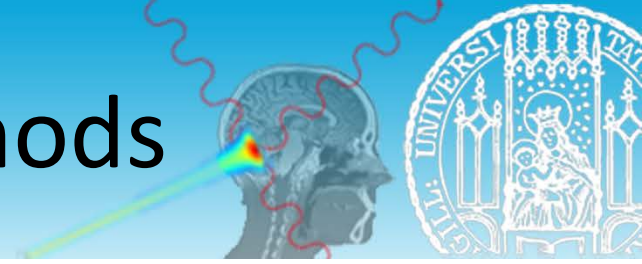
## Patients

- **5 trauma patients**

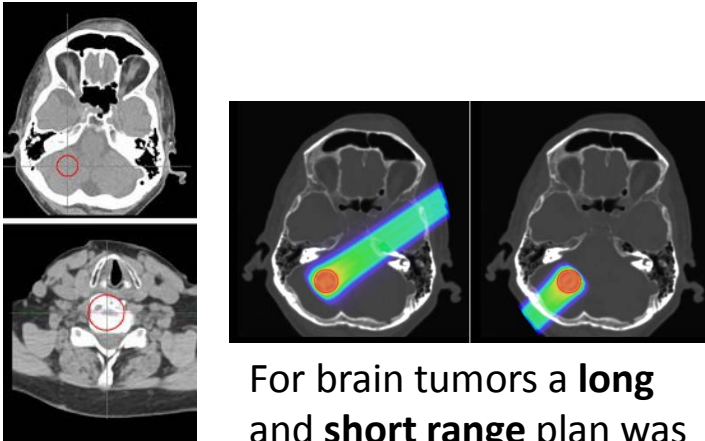


Head and neck scans

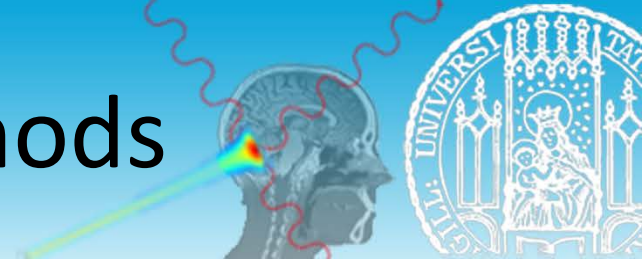
- **Merged image used for clinical routine**
- **Virtual tumors delineated by RO**



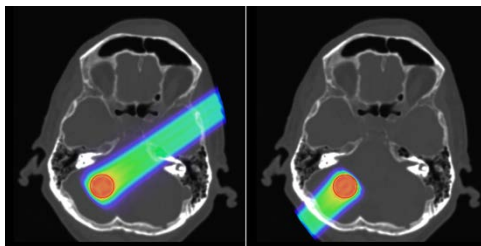
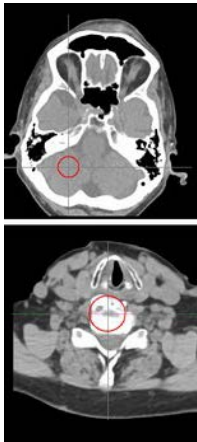
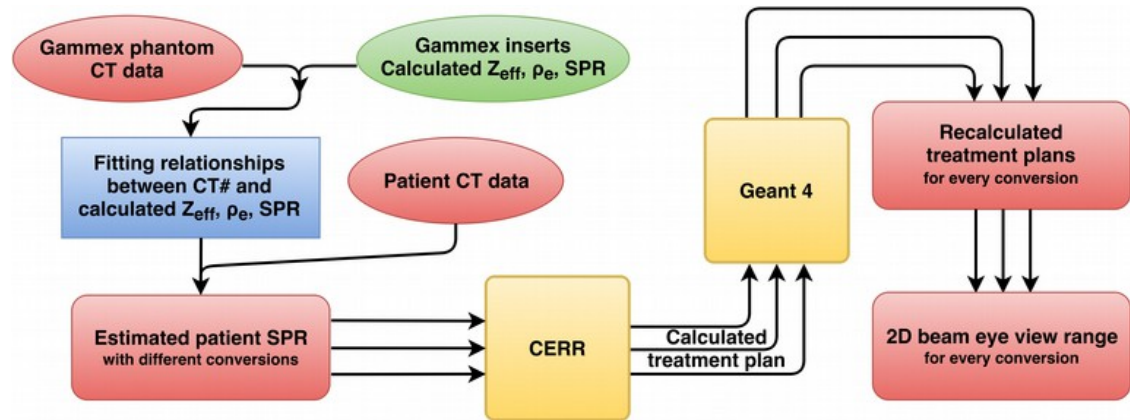
- **DECT based treatment plans**
  - Research TPS with pencil beam algorithm
- Simulated **brain tumors**



For brain tumors a **long** and **short range** plan was made

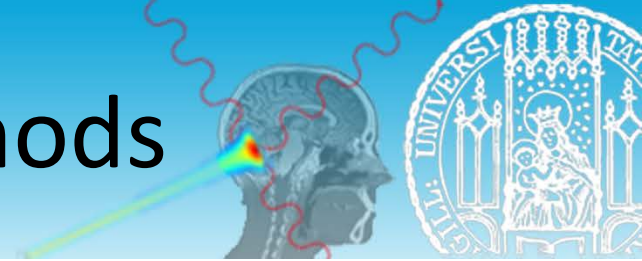


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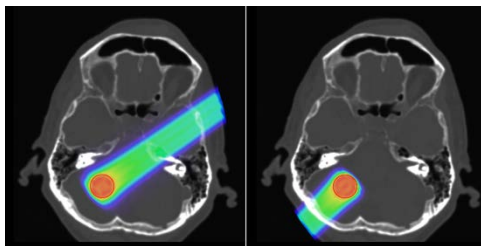
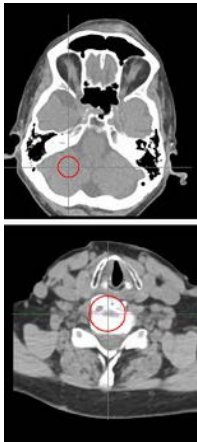
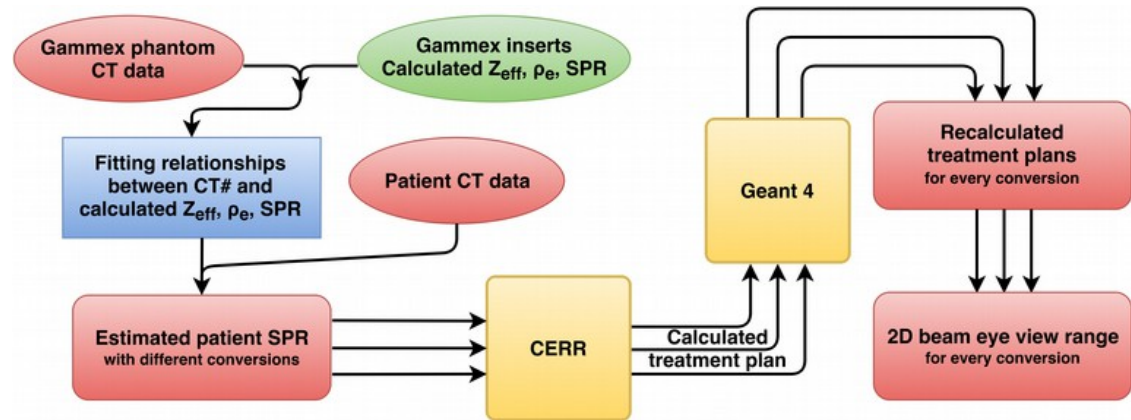


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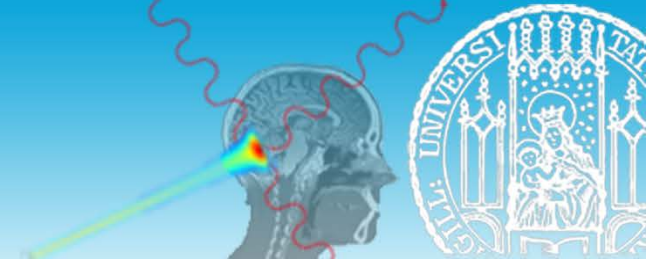


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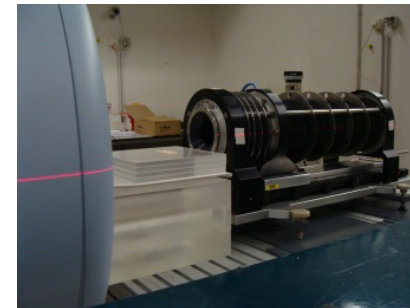
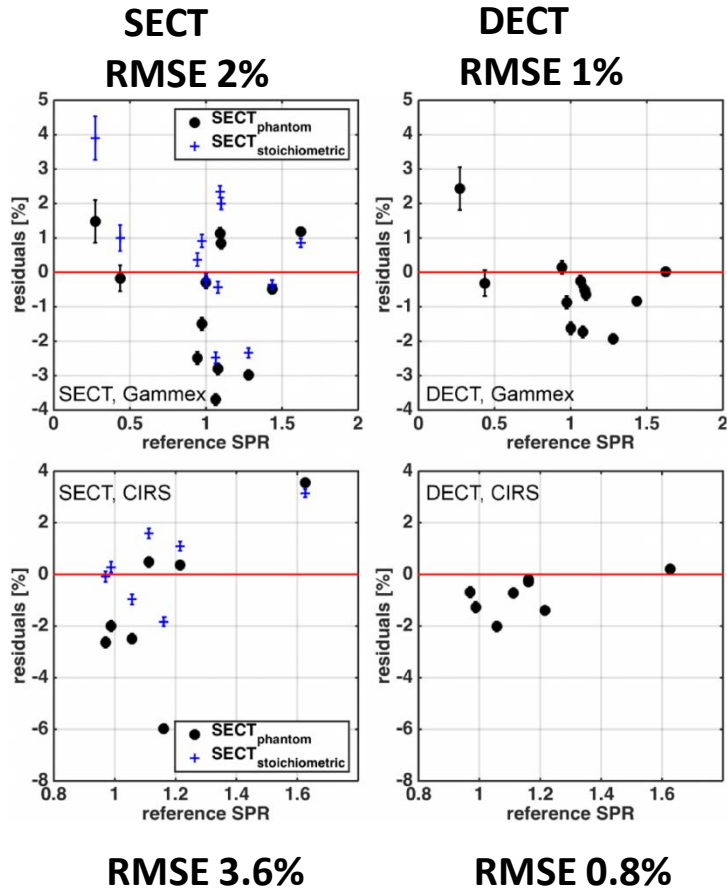


For brain tumors a **long** and **short range** plan was made

- **DECT** and **SECT** treatment plans were compared for **relative range differences**
- We used a **Monte Carlo recalculation** tool with a **single evaluation geometry** for all plans of a patient



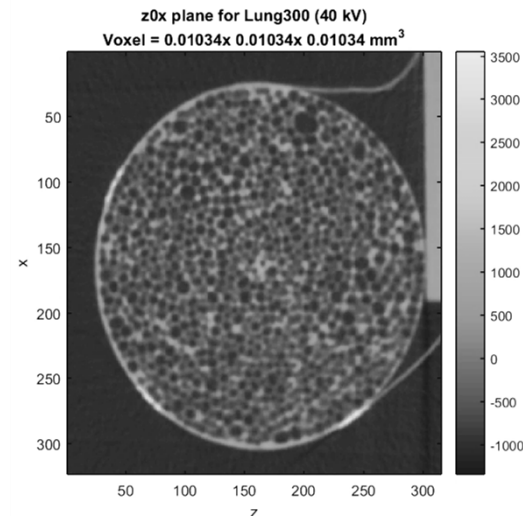
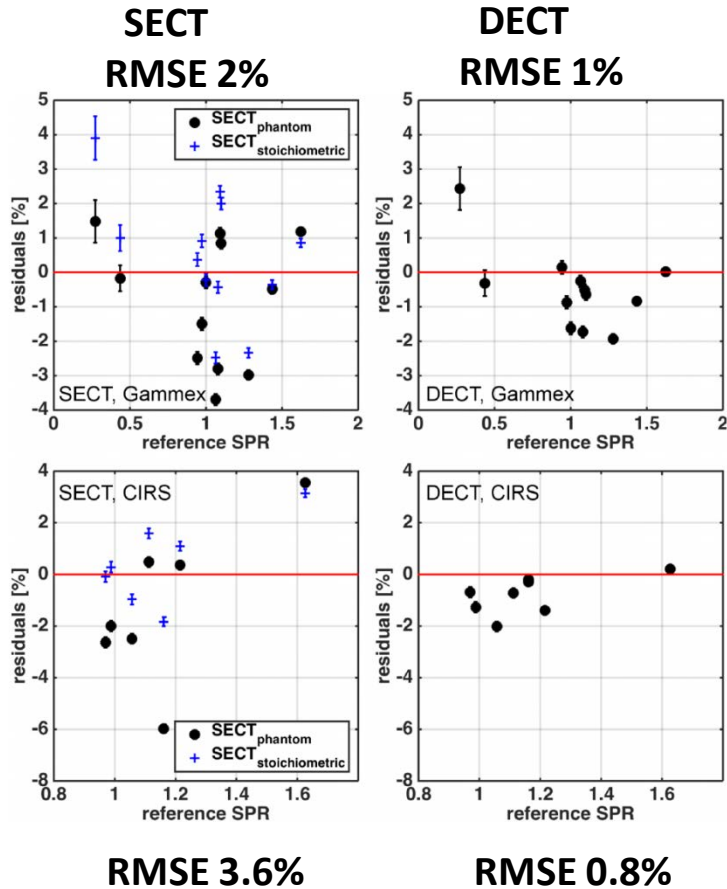
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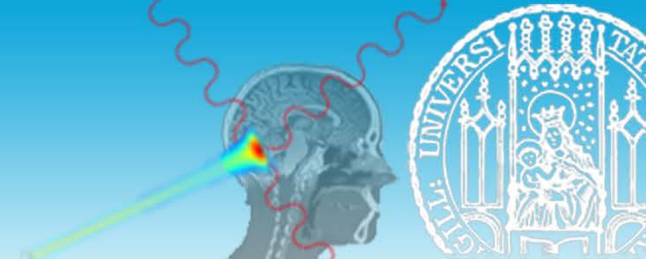
Reference SPR  
measured @ HIT



## Phantoms

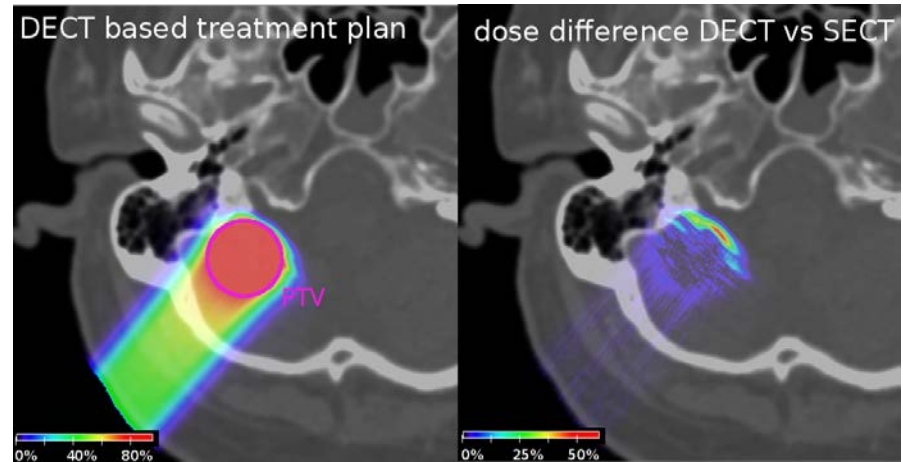
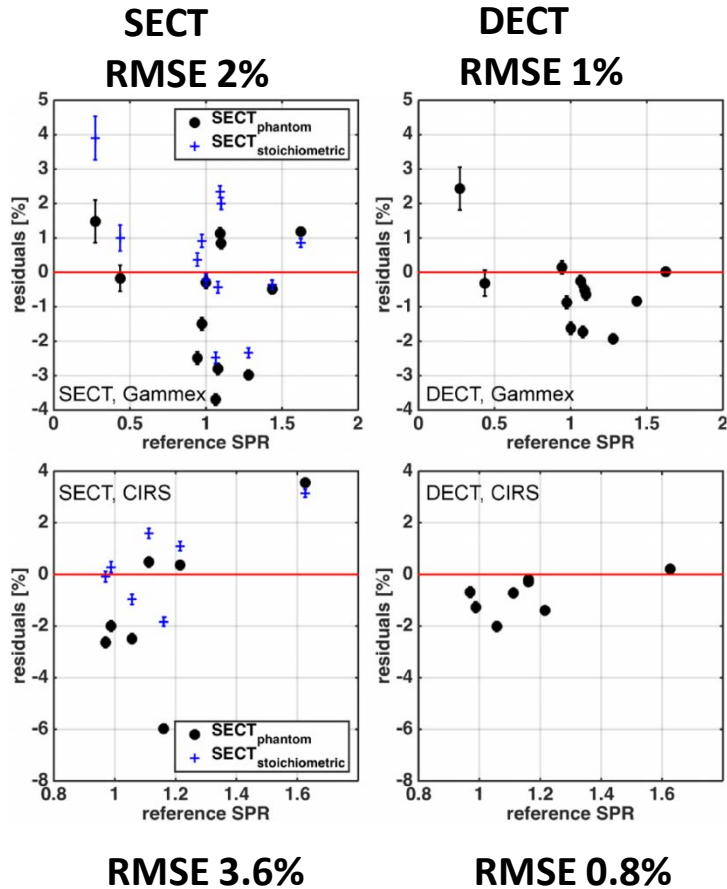


**Lung insert @ small animal CBCT**  
Courtesy L. Schyns and I. Almeida,  
MAASTRO clinic

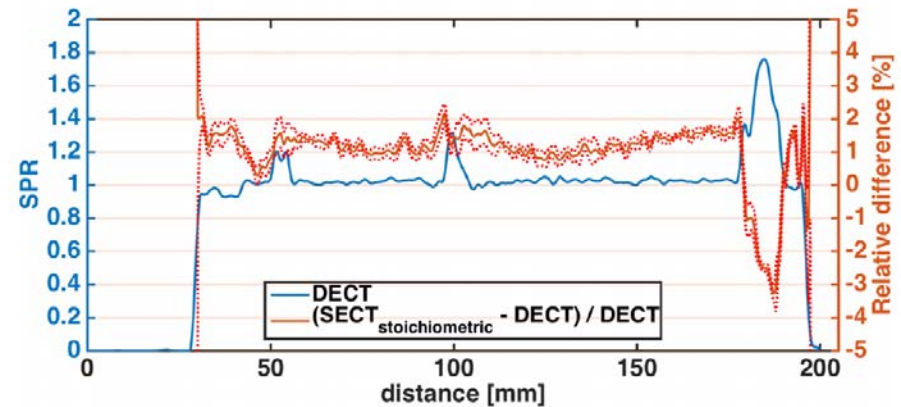


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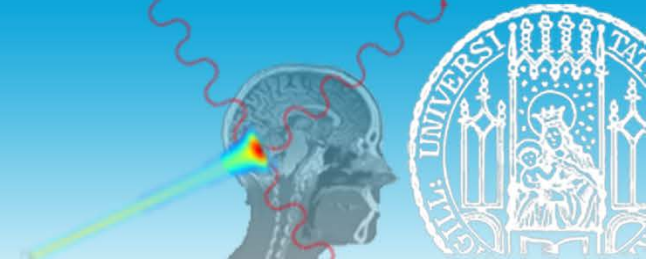
## Patients



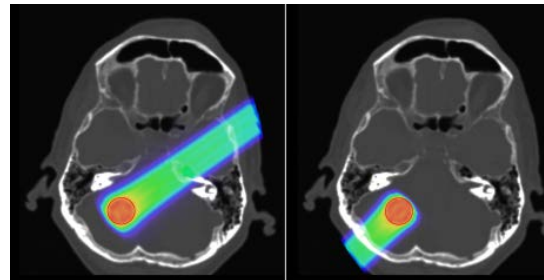
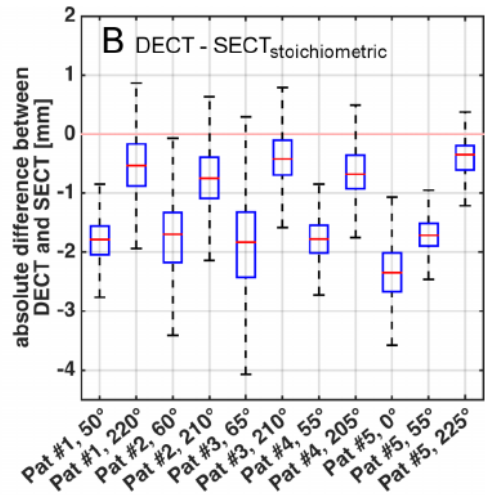
Van Elmpt, Landry et al. Radiother Oncol **119** 20016 137







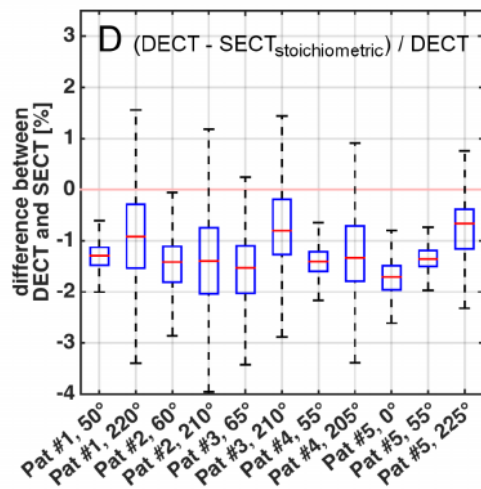
## brain tumors range differences

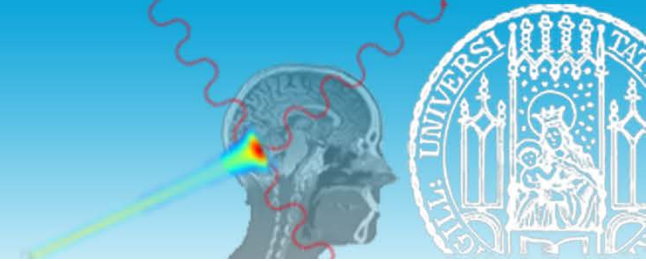


50°

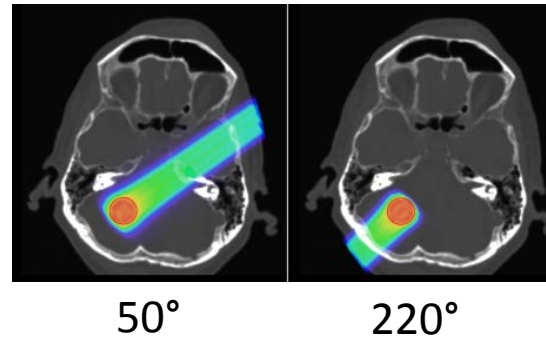
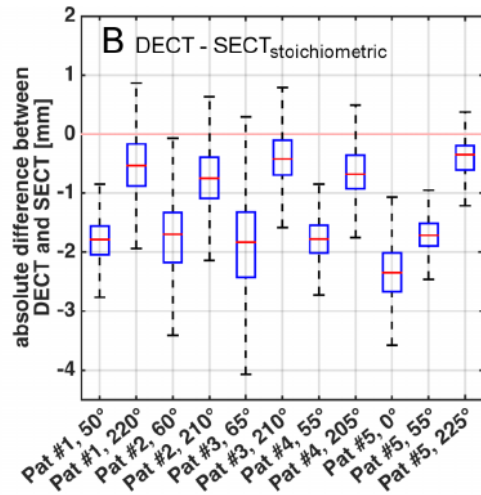
220°

- Up to 2 mm median shift

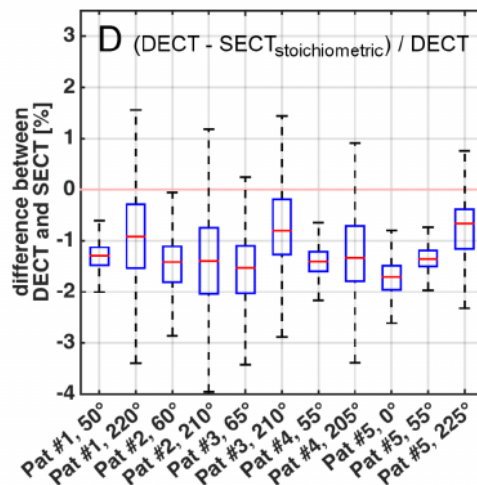




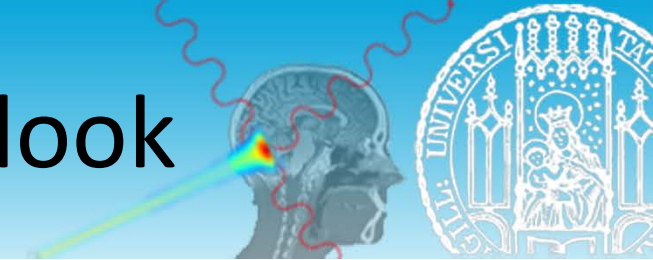
## brain tumors range differences



- Up to **2 mm** median shift
- Corresponds to about **1.5%** of the **range**
- CT image axial **pixels size 0.4 mm**

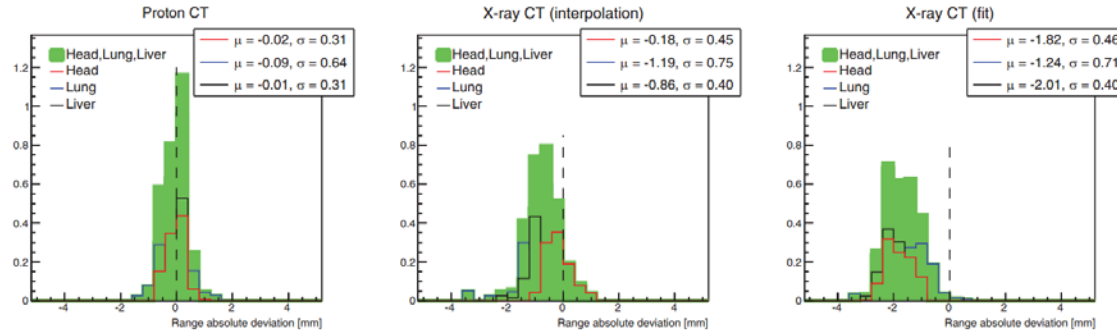






## Discussion

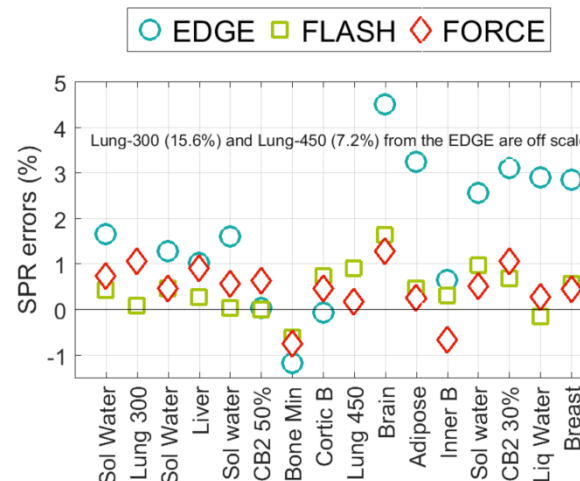
- Range differences between SECT and DECT of 1.5% consistent with RMSE error levels (2-3% vs 1%)
- SECT protocol using 150kVp/Sn is ideal for  $\rho_e$ 
  - High mean energy
  - Hard spectrum with little beam hardening



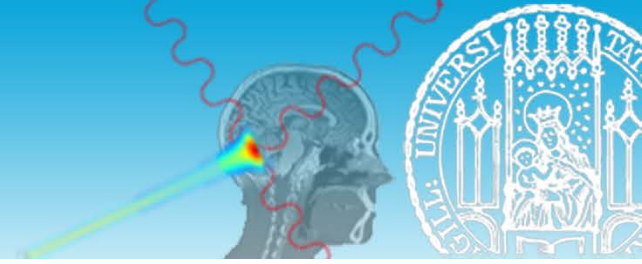
Arbor et al. Phys Med Biol 60 (2015) 7585

## Outlook

- Main issue Force FOV (~36 cm)
- Siemens EDGE has large FOV



**See Poster:**  
I Almeida  
**Preliminary**  
**EDGE: split beam**



## Clinical implementation

### Requirements

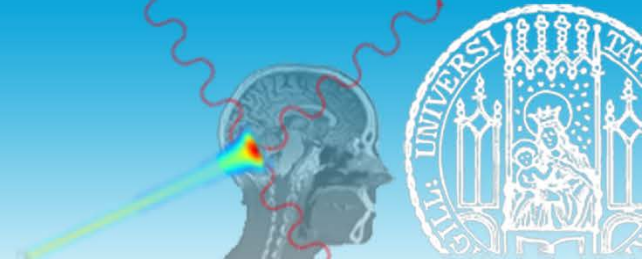
- DECT compatible **TPS**
- DECT **scanner in clinic**
- DECT scanner with sufficient **FOV** for all sites

## Validation

- We suffer from **lack of ground truth** in biological tissues
- We need a **convincing test** showing improved range control with DECT

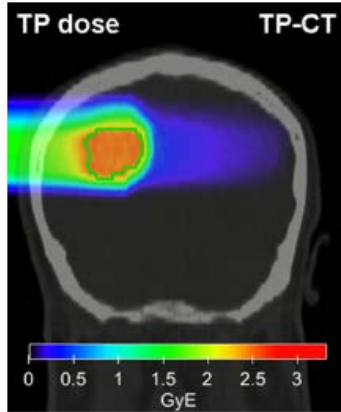
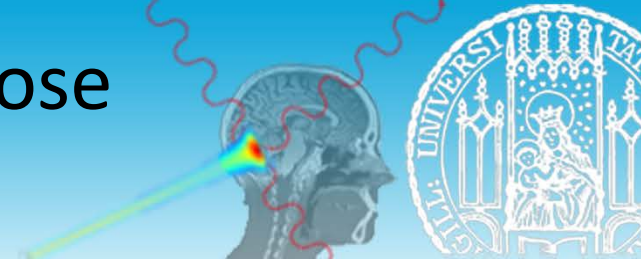
**TU-FG-BRB-01, Xie, Y, ..., Teo, B, Medical Physics, 43, 3756-3756 (2016)**

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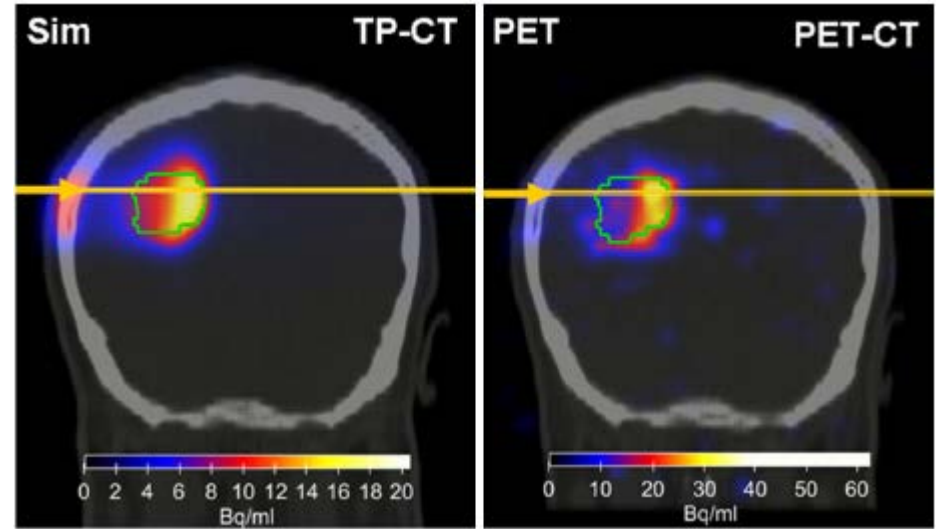
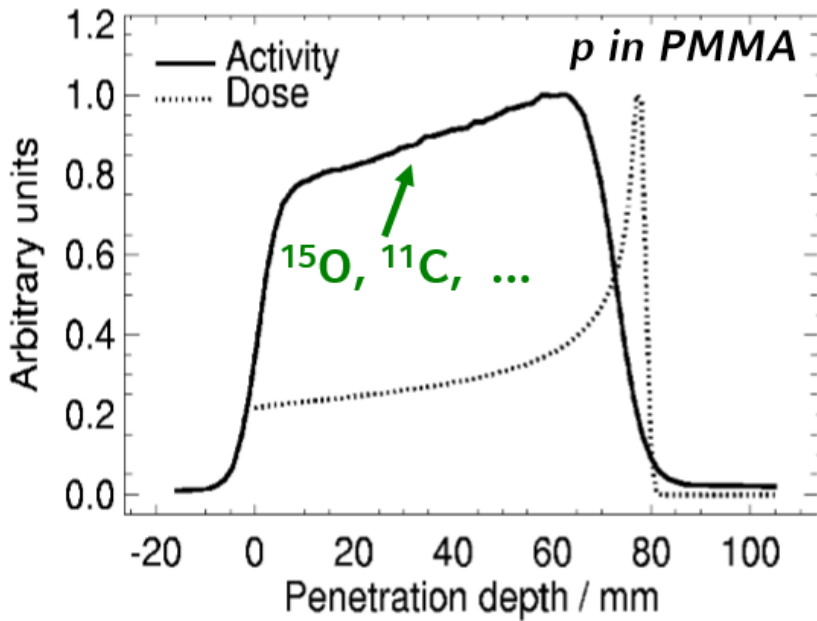
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# PET activity to verify dose delivery



*Proton dose distribution from TPS*

- Measured PET activity can be compared to MC prediction



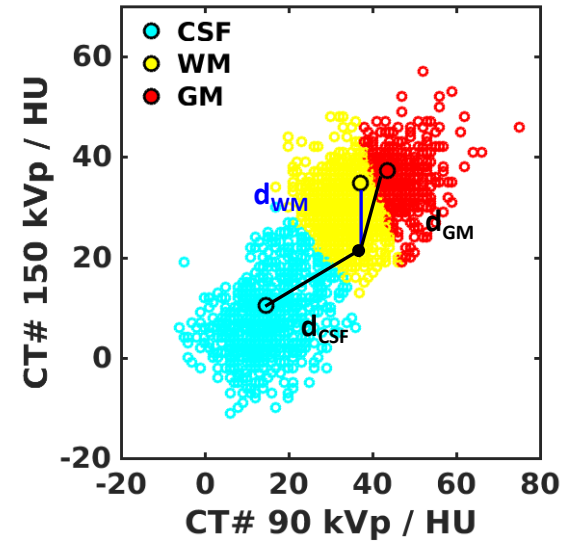
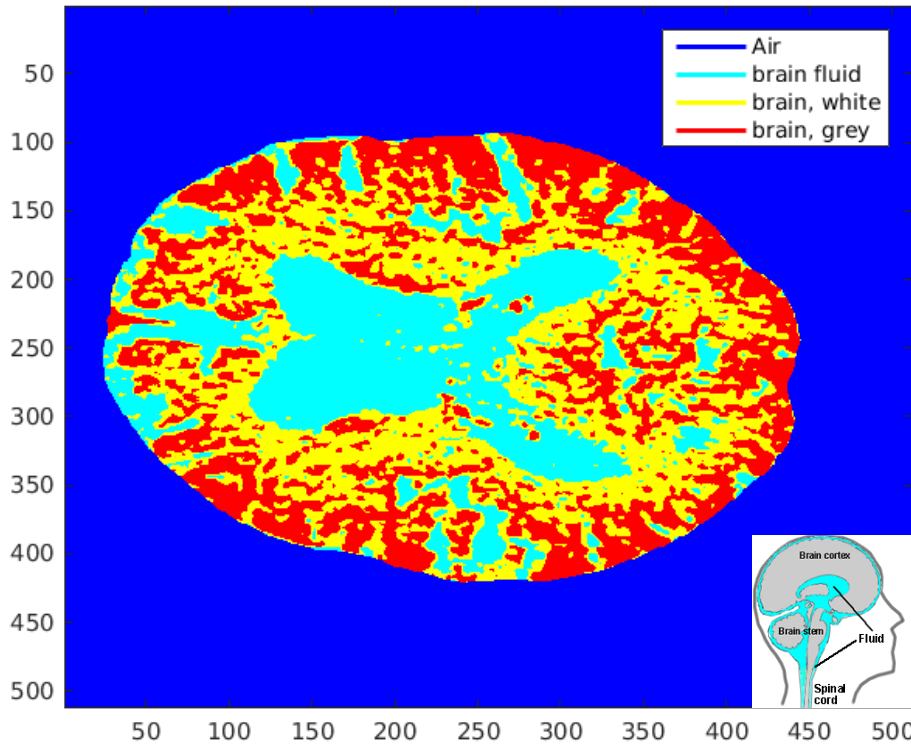
Julia Bauer, et al, Radiother and Oncol, 107 (2) 2013 pp 218-226

# Euclidean distance approach for brain tissue segmentation

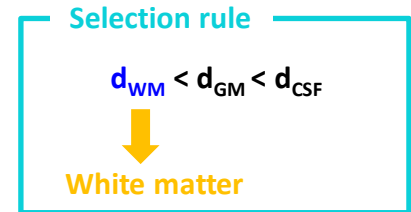
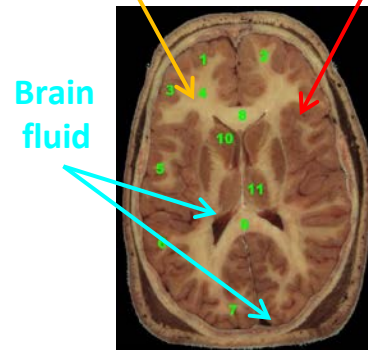


## Tissue assignment:

Minimal Euclidean distance between data points in DECT space and reference values



White matter Grey matter

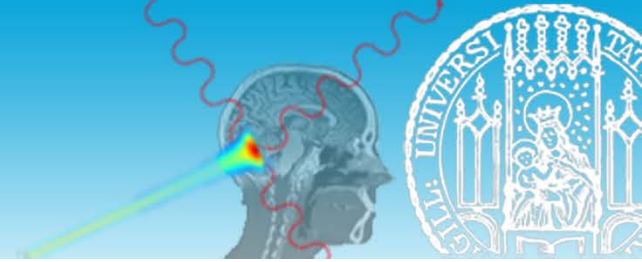




## Conclusion 1

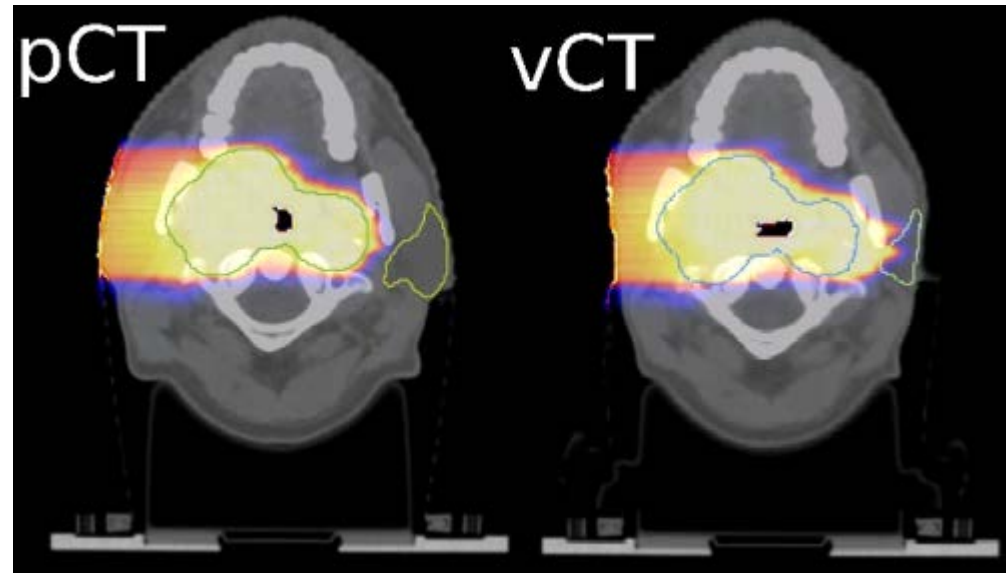
- The **SPR accuracy** of **DECT** is **superior** to SECT
  - 1% vs 3.5%
- This **accuracy** is probably at the **level we need**
- This should be sufficient to **warrant clinical implementation**





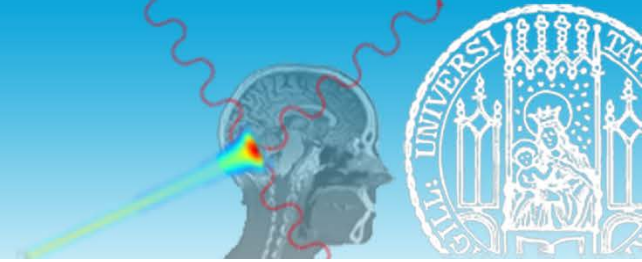
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Landry et al. Med Phys 2015

# Conclusion



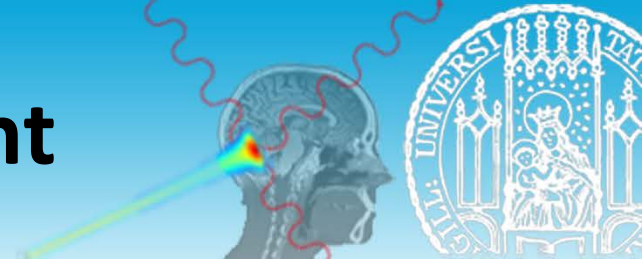
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## Conclusion 2

- For **specific applications** **DECT tissue segmentation** may be **beneficial**
- **PET** range verification example
- **Prompt gamma?**

# Acknowledgement



- **Many thanks to**
- **Siemens:**
  - Dr. Bernhard Schmidt
- **Formerly LMU Radiology**
  - Prof. Dr. Thorsten Johnson
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  - Sebastian Meyer (LMU)
  - Lorena Magallanes (LMU/Heidelberg)
- **CIRS insert composition**
  - Vladimir Varchena
- **MAASTRO clinic, Maastricht:**
  - Wouter Van Elmpt
- **Maastricht University Hospital:**
  - Prof. Dr. Joachim E Wildberger
  - Dr. Marco Das
- **TUM Munich for research TPS**
  - Prof. J Wilkens (TUM Munich)
  - Dr. Florian Kamp (LMU, formerly TUM)

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