



# GSI experience in ion therapy

Udo Weinrich, Archamps, 19.06.2018

# GSI experience with light ion therapy is very good



We developed a new and effective cancer treatment.

We healed patients on the GSI site using the GSI accelerators.

We built a working clinical therapy accelerator.

We transferred our knowledge to several therapy centers.

We continue to improve different treatment aspects.

Light ion therapy is a well known pillar of the GSI legacy.



Ion-Beam Radiotherapy  
in the Fight against Cancer

Tumor treatment at GSI

# Idea to explore potential of existing accelerators



Norbert Angert at GSI-FAIR Colloquium 15.05.2018 :

It was no secret that Hans Specht saw the future of relativistic heavy ion physics at CERN

But:

He saw potential for the application of energetic heavy ions at GSI on the following two fields:

- Heavy Ion Fusion
- Cancer Therapy

Heavy ion fusion, as indicated before, is a business with large linacs and rings, and low charge state ions.

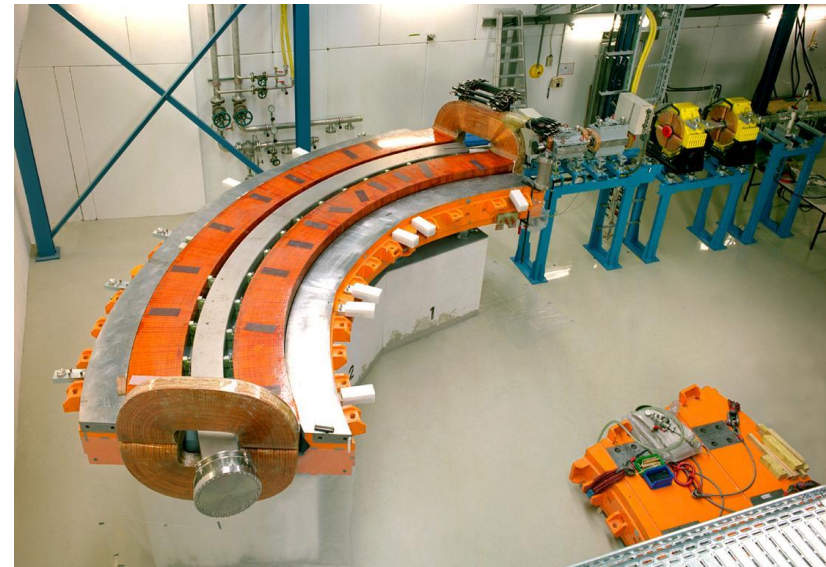
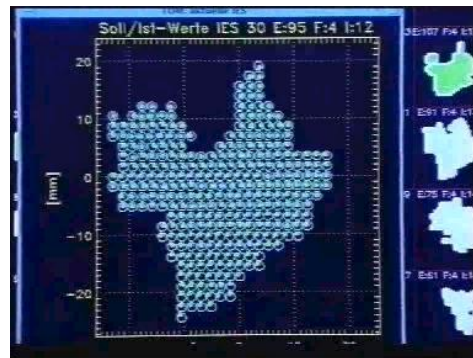
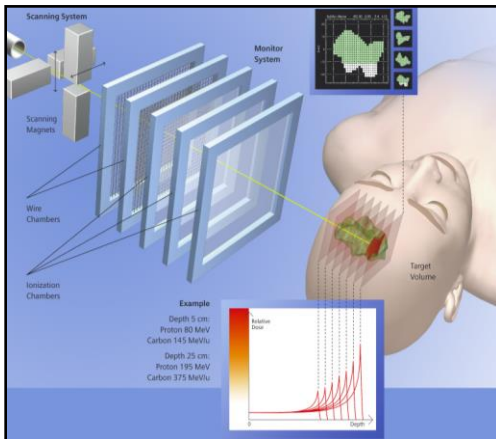
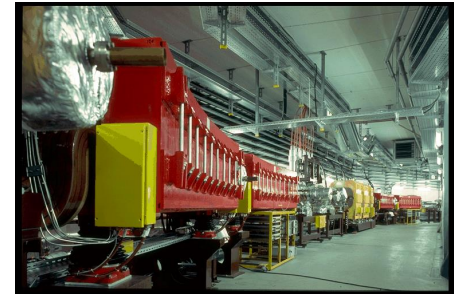
Cancer therapy calls in several respects for specific requirements to be fulfilled at an existing accelerator facility for fundamental research .

# Multidisciplinary study to master main issues

1991: Test of GSI developed raster scan method

1993: Pilot project started with partners GSI, University Hospital Heidelberg, DKFZ, HZDR

- Energy and intensity variation from SIS18 synchrotron
- Raster scanning beam delivery system
- Biologically oriented treatment planning software
- PET in-situ verification
- Design study of a gantry



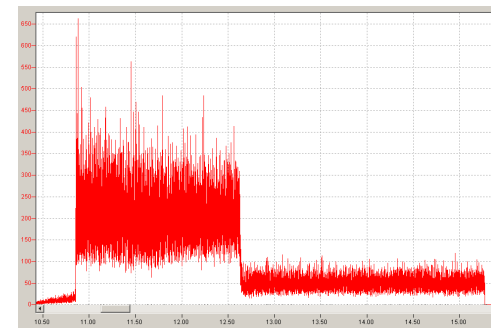


# Implementation on existing facility

Norbert Angert at GSI-FAIR Colloquium 15.05.2018 :

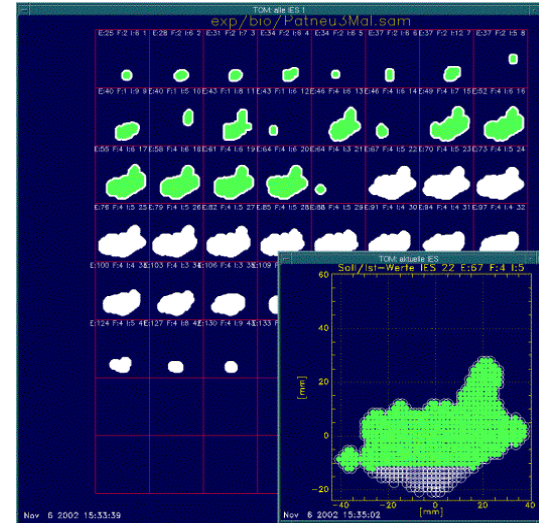
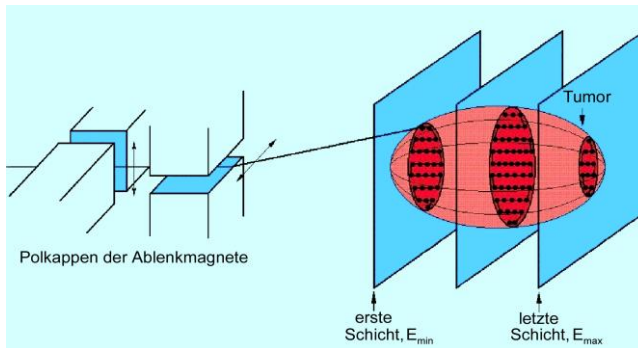
## Benefits from the upgrade of the accelerators for save therapy operation

- Reproducibility was a must, not only from shot to shot, but also from each irradiation session to the following
- Precision was a must
- That meant the way from the ECR ion source to cave M, the patient, had to be under full control
- Complete understanding of all changes on this way e. g. movements of shieldings, neighbouring magnet fields, was a must. All data had to be documented because of the special rules for patient treatment
- Improvement of the spill structure for slow synchrotron extraction (macro- and micro-structure) by special measures
- All these measures lead to a great improvement of performance for all
- **Story:**At the day of the first patient treatment GSI was a forbidden area for persons not involved. The IT-boss stopped the GSI internet connection



# Patient treatment on GSI site (1997 – 2008)

First carbon beam treatment in Europe  
More than 450 patients in total



## GSI beam parameter:

- 255 energy steps (88-423 MeV/u)
- 15 intensity steps ( $10^6$ - $10^8$  ions/pulss)
- 7 Fokii (ca. 4-10 mm FWHM)



# Design, construction and commissioning of HIT

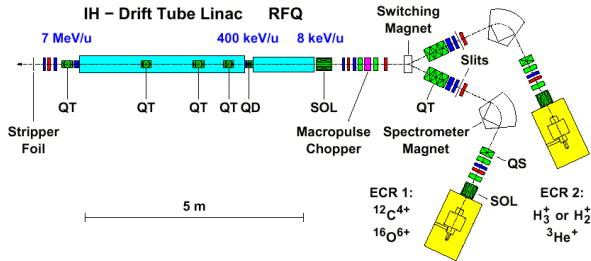


Partners:	University Hospital Heidelberg, GSI, DKFZ
09/1998	Proposal for a dedicated ion beam facility for cancer therapy
09/2000	Presentation of feasibility study
11/2001	Positive votum of Wissenschaftsrat of Germany
05/2004	Foundation stone ceremony
06/2005	Roofing ceremony
09/2006	Building finished
06/2008	Accelerator commissioned
11/2009	first patient treated

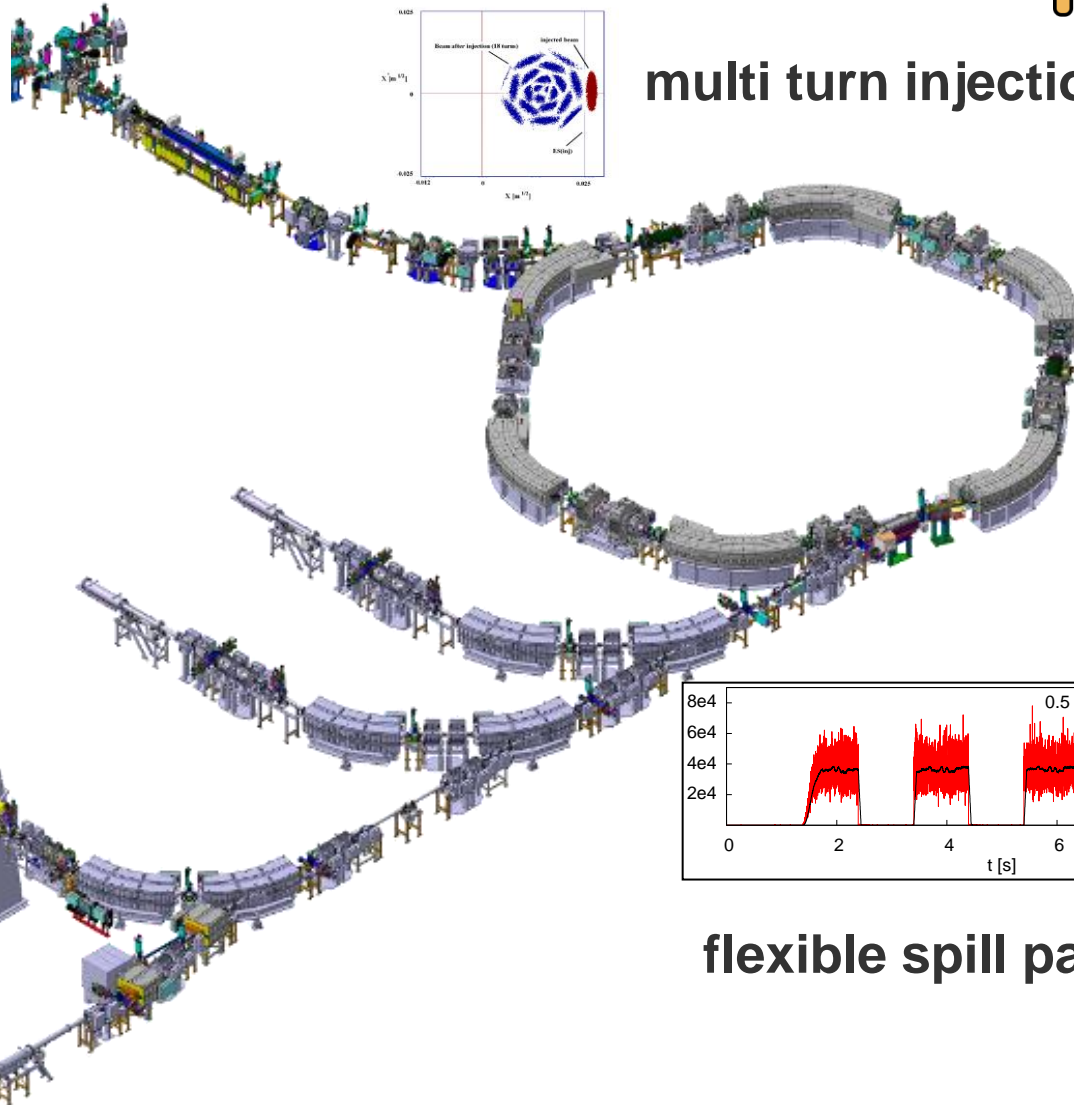
## Role of GSI:

- accelerator issues: conception and design, project lead, supply of beam instrumentation, integration and installation of accelerator components, commissioning
- patient environment : conception and design, project lead

# Fully dedicated heavy ion therapy accelerator design

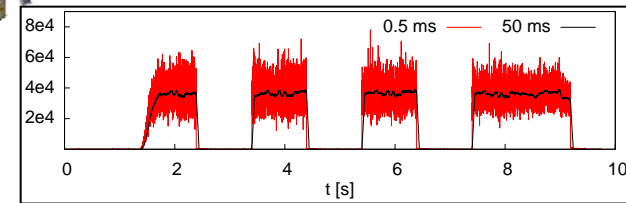


ECR, RFQ, IH set up



multi turn injection

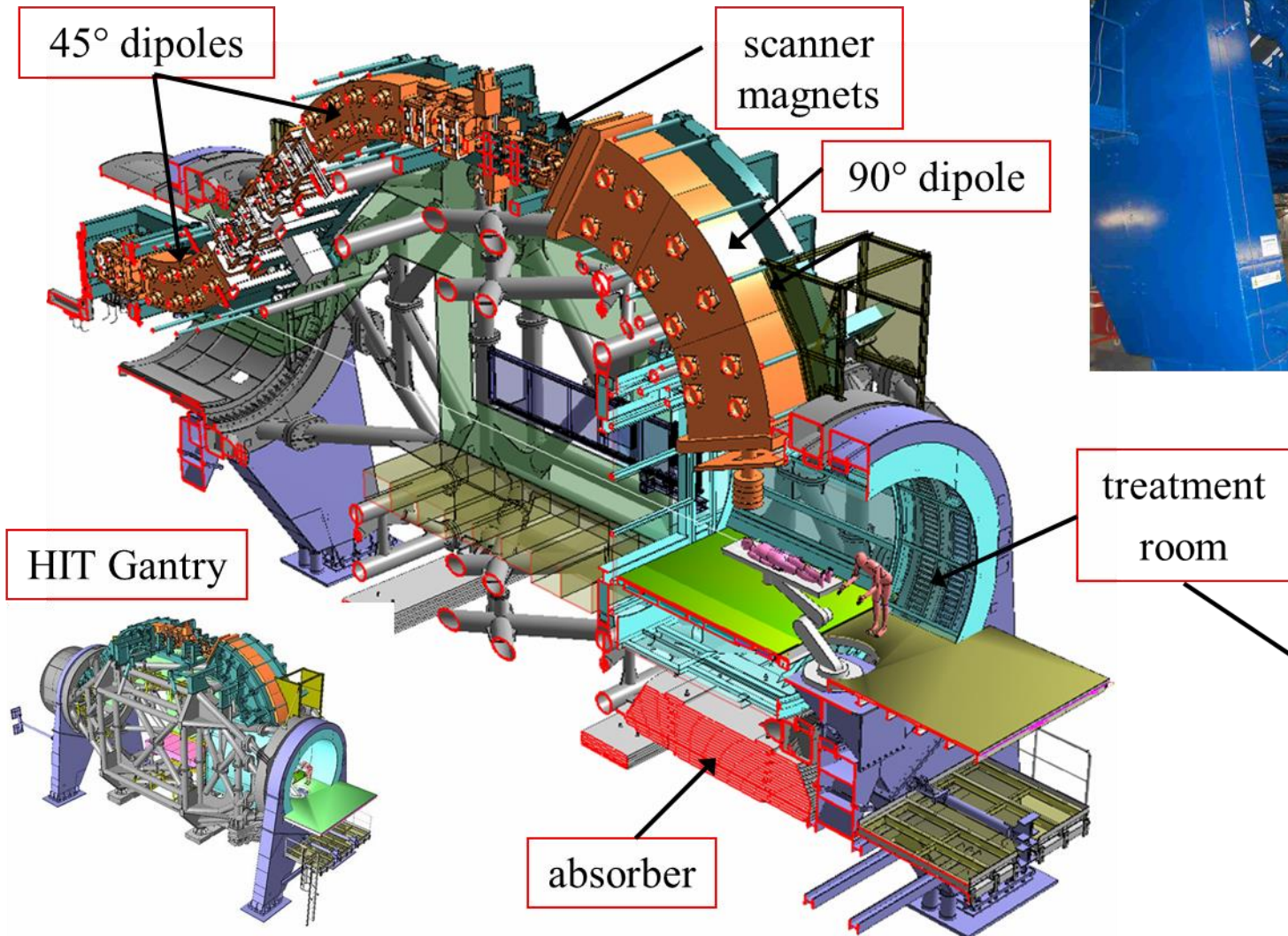
heavy ion gantry



flexible spill pattern



# First Heavy Ion Gantry of the world



# GSI knowledge was transferred

## To the HIT GmbH

- direct personnel transfer
- training of HIT personnel
- technical documentation and handbooks

## To Siemens Medical Solutions

- direct personnell transfer
- technical documentation
- participation to commissioning of Marburg center

## To CNAO

- in the LINAC environment

and very likely many issues outside my field of competence

**Three therapy accelerators in Heidelberg, Marburg and Shanghai are the direct outcome of GSI design work.**



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# Active Fields of Research



**Reference GSI Bio physics department:**

**<https://www.gsi.de/work/forschung/biophysik.htm>**

see also: presentation of C. Graeff on Wednesday

## **Radiobiological Modelling**

development and application of mathematical models describing and predicting biologic effects

## **Treatment Planning and Validation**

interaction of charged particle beams, in particular carbon ions, with matter on multiple scales

## **Medical Physics**

Clinical implementation of motion mitigation techniques

Treatment planning incorporation organ motion (4DTP)

Radiosurgery

New applications on ion therapy in noncancer diseases

## Reasons for Success



**Best quality of patient treatment at GSI and HIT was always the highest priority.**

**The direct implementation of patient treatment at the GSI accelerator complex resulted in a tremendous excitement of the multidisciplinary staff on the whole campus.**

**This positive momentum was used immediately to get the HICAT project (later HIT facility) funded and started.**

**All institutions of GSI (management, administration, boards, technical departments, etc.) backed up the HICAT project team to overcome the numerous technical, organisational and financial challenges until the successfully commissioned facility in Heidelberg.**