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Joint Research Centre

## LOW-ENERGY ELECTRON ACCELERATORS

### Applications in medicine and industry PART 2

**Wim Mondelaers**

**Ghent University**  
and  
**Joint Research Centre**  
the European Commission's  
in-house science service

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## Low-energy electron machines

1. Basic principles of X-ray production
  - *bremsstrahlung*
  - *synchrotron radiation*
2. Physical, chemical and biological aspects of the application of electrons and bremsstrahlung photons
3. Electron accelerators in medicine **Gy - range**
4. Electron accelerators in industry **kGy - range**
5. Electron storage rings for medicine and industry

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## Radiation field requirements

### BEAM

- well defined
- variable in size
- moveable in three dimensions
- variable energy
- variable intensity
- X-ray  $\leftrightarrow$  electron mode
- pure and well-confined

### TREATMENT UNIT

- reliable and reproducible
- easy maneuverable
- simple and fail-safe
- very compact

### DOSE RATE

- high
- irradiation time  $\sim$  1/2 minute
- accurately monitored
- fail-safe feedback to accelerator

### DOSE DISTRIBUTION

- uniform or
- non-uniform in predefined way
- controllable
- reproducible
- stable

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## Machine requirements

• energy range	4 - 25 MeV
• intensity range	0.5 - 50 $\mu$ A
• dose rates	1 - 4 Gy / min
• number of electron energies	5
• number of X-ray energies	2
• homogeneity of X-ray fields	5 % over 40 x 40 cm <sup>2</sup>
• homogeneity of electron fields	5 % over 25 x 25 cm <sup>2</sup>
• leakage doses	below 10 <sup>-3</sup> at 1 m
• gantry rotation	360°
• isocentre definition	1 mm
• degrees of freedom	15 (rotation and translation)
• good definition at target	energy, position, direction
• volume	5 x 3 x 3 m <sup>3</sup>

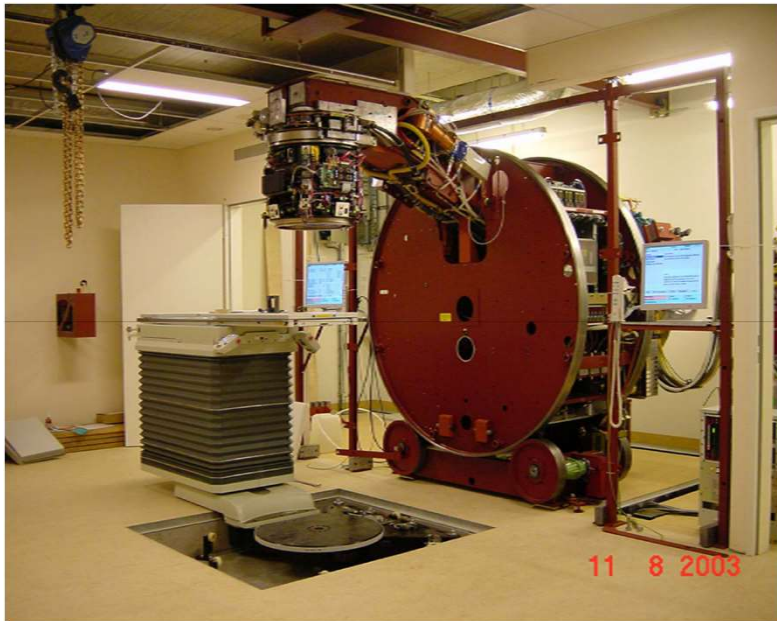
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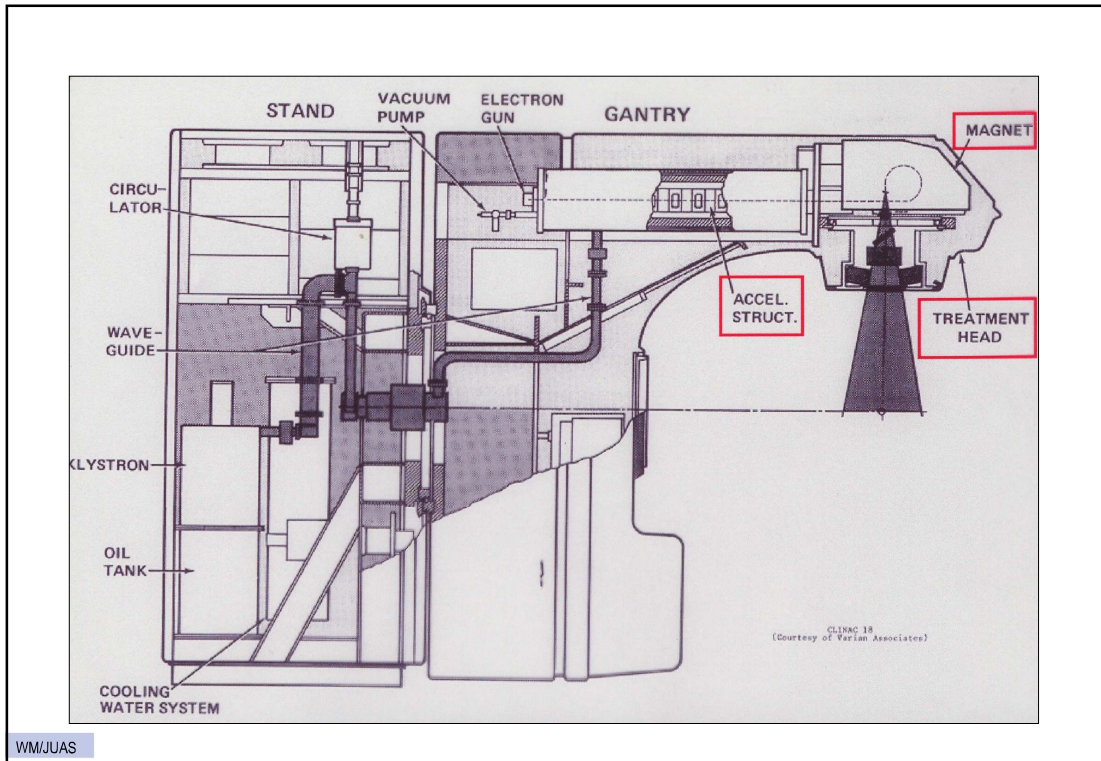
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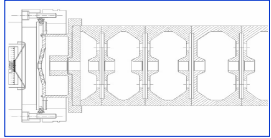
### Accelerating structures



Energy: 4 - 25 MeV

Length: ~ 1 m

HF power: 2 - 5 MW<sub>p</sub>  
5 - 20 MW<sub>p</sub>



magnetron  
klystron

Disc-loaded waveguides

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### Energy of the electron accelerator

$$V = \sqrt{(1 - e^{-2\tau})P_0 R_0 L} - \frac{R_0 L I}{2} \left[ 1 - 2\tau \frac{e^{-2\tau}}{1 - e^{-2\tau}} \right]$$

- V = energy of accelerator section in MeV
- L = length accelerator structure in meters
- P<sub>0</sub> = high-frequency peak power in MW
- R<sub>0</sub> = shunt impedance in MΩ/m
- τ = attenuation constant
- I = accelerated peak current in Amperes

Shunt impedance ↑↑

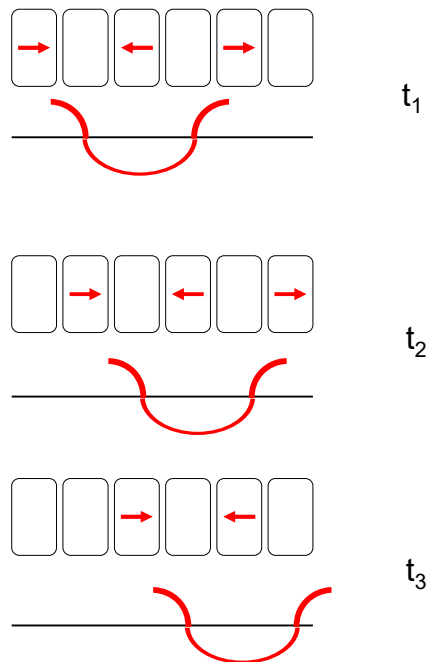
$$R_0 = -\frac{E_0^2}{\frac{dP}{dz}}$$

- travelling wave structure
- standing wave structure →
  - biperiodic structure
  - side-coupled structure

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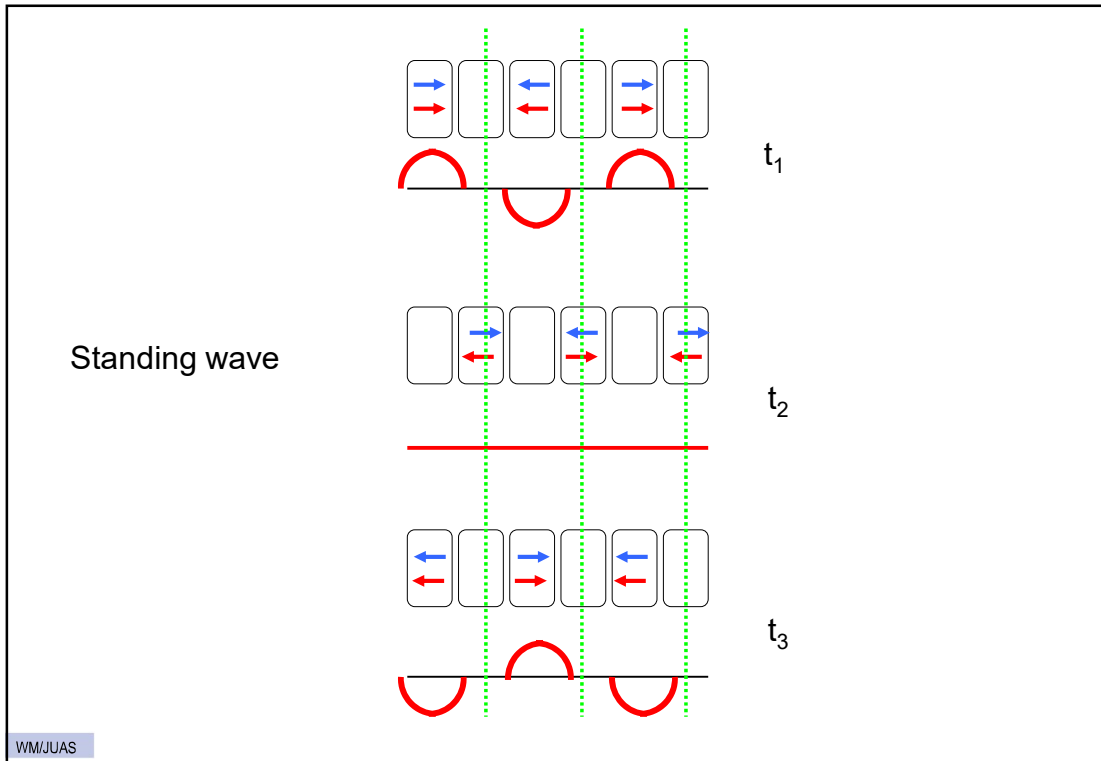
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Travelling wave

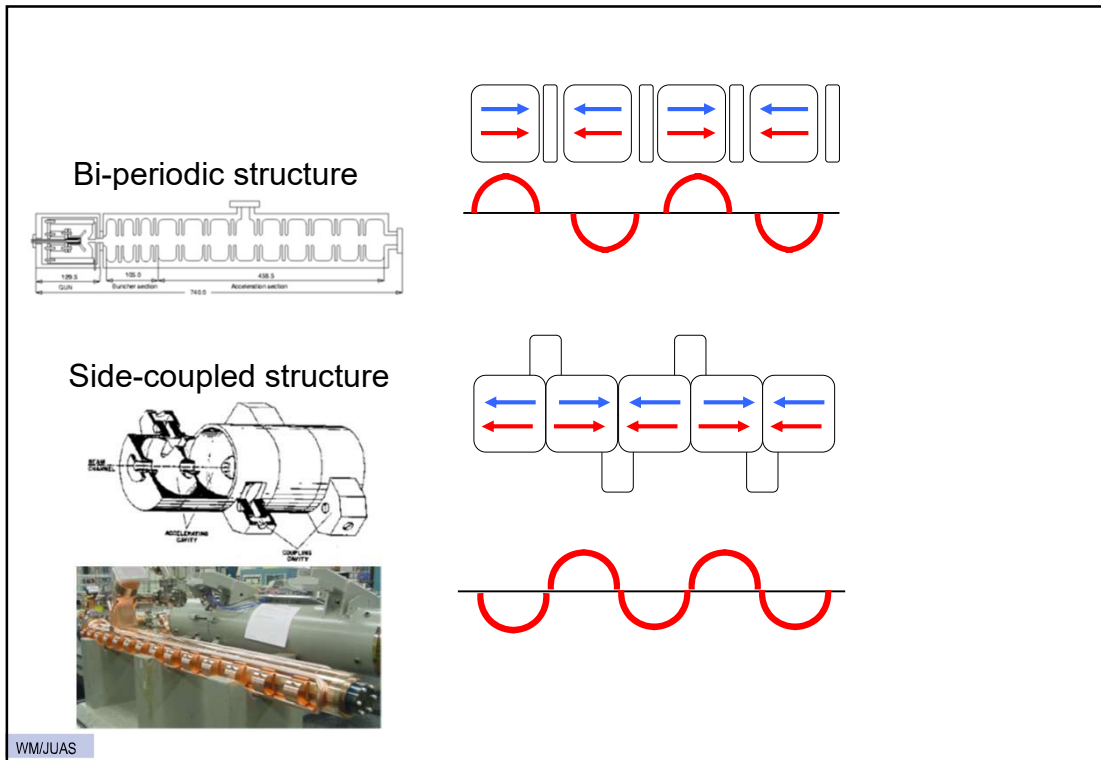


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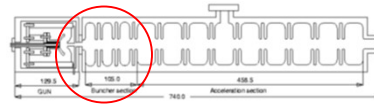


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## Energy variation

1. Variation of input power  $P_0$  or accelerated current  $I$

$$V = \sqrt{(1 - e^{-2\tau}) P_0 R_0 L} - \frac{R_0 L I}{2} \left[ 1 - 2\tau \frac{e^{-2\tau}}{1 - e^{-2\tau}} \right] \quad \text{BEAM LOADING}$$



2. Variation of RF frequency

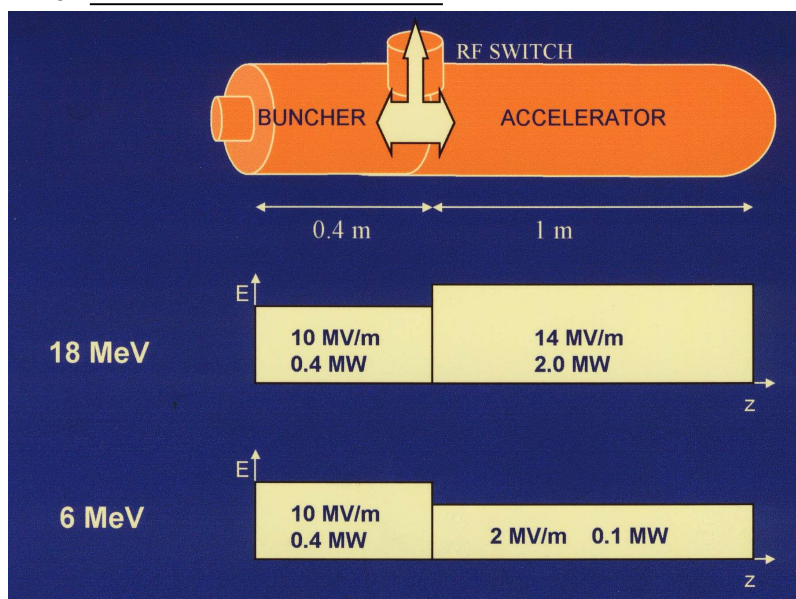
Variation of phase velocity fixed by design

Variation of  $e^-$  velocity  
 ~ accelerating gradient  
 ~ power  $P_0$

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## Energy variation

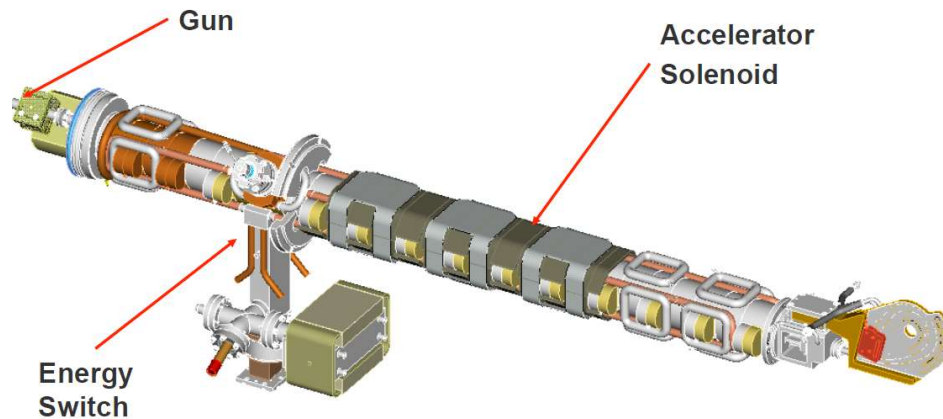
3. Buncher + accelerator section



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## Energy variation

### 3. Buncher + accelerator section



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## Electrons in bending magnet systems

$$\text{Magnetic rigidity} \quad \chi_b = B\rho = \frac{1}{299.79} \sqrt{V(V+1.022)}$$

- V = energy of electrons in MeV
- B = magnetic field induction in Tesla
- $\rho$  = bending radius in meters

$$\text{Excitation of room-temperature magnet} \quad NI \approx \frac{B}{\mu_0} g$$

- NI = number of Ampere-turns
- B = magnetic field induction in Tesla
- g = gap between magnet poles in meters
- $\mu_0 = 4\pi \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ Tm/A}$

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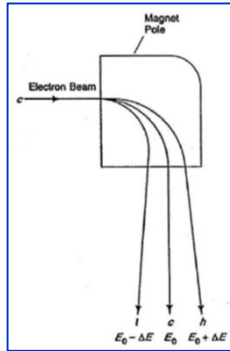
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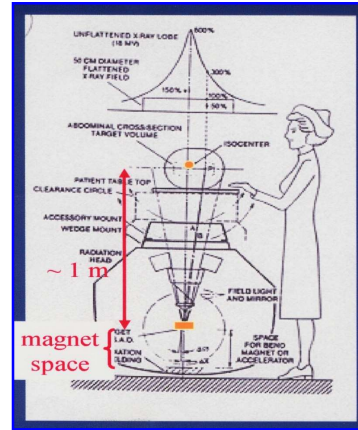
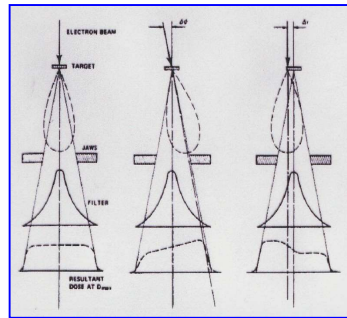
## Bending magnet systems

$$x_1 = m_{11}x_0 + m_{12}x'_0 + m_{13}\frac{\Delta p}{p}$$

$$x'_1 = m_{21}x_0 + m_{22}x'_0 + m_{23}\frac{\Delta p}{p}$$



Energy spread  
 medical ~ 10 %  
 research < 1 %



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## Bending magnet systems

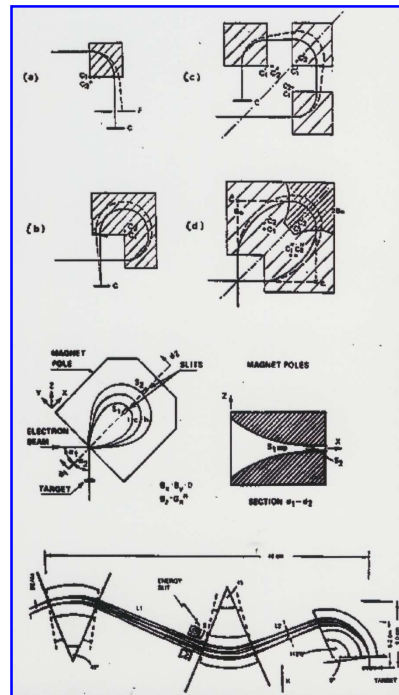
### TRANSPORT calculations

Drift pieces

Homogeneous bending magnets

Weak focusing bending magnets

Homogeneous bending magnets with rotated pole shoe edges



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## Bending magnet systems

## TRANSPORT calculations

### DRIFT PIECE

Length  $L$

$$M_H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & L & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M_V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & L \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

### HOMOGENEOUS BENDING MAGNET

Length  $L$

Bending angle  $\alpha$

Bending radius  $\rho$

$$M_H = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\alpha & \rho\sin\alpha & \rho(1-\cos\alpha) \\ -\frac{\sin\alpha}{\rho} & \cos\alpha & \sin\alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M_V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \rho\alpha \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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## Bending magnet systems

## TRANSPORT calculations

### WEAK FOCUSING BENDING MAGNET

Field index  $0 < n < 1$

Length  $L$

Bending angle  $\alpha$

Bending radius  $\rho$

$$M_H = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\sqrt{1-n}\alpha & \frac{\rho\sin\sqrt{1-n}\alpha}{\sqrt{1-n}} & \frac{\rho(1-\cos\sqrt{1-n}\alpha)}{1-n} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{1-n}\sin\sqrt{1-n}\alpha}{\rho} & \cos\sqrt{1-n}\alpha & \frac{\sin\sqrt{1-n}\alpha}{\sqrt{1-n}} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M_V = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\sqrt{n}\alpha & \frac{\rho\sin\sqrt{n}\alpha}{\sqrt{n}} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{n}\sin\sqrt{n}\alpha}{\rho} & \cos\sqrt{n}\alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

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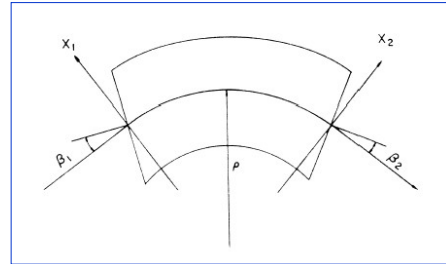
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## HOMOGENEOUS BENDING MAGNET with ROTATED POLE SHOE EDGES

Length  $L$  Bending angle  $\alpha$  Bending radius  $\rho$

$\beta_1$  angle of pole edge rotation at entrance

$\beta_2$  angle of pole shoe rotation at exit



$$M_H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \tan\beta_2 & 1 & 0 \\ \rho & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\alpha & \rho\sin\alpha & \rho(1-\cos\alpha) \\ -\frac{\sin\alpha}{\rho} & \cos\alpha & \sin\alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \tan\beta_1 & 1 & 0 \\ \rho & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M_V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{\tan\beta_2}{\rho} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \rho\alpha \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{\tan\beta_1}{\rho} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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### Bending magnet systems

electrons from accelerating waveguide

acromatic bending magnet 270 degree

energy filters

tight distribution of electron energy and direction

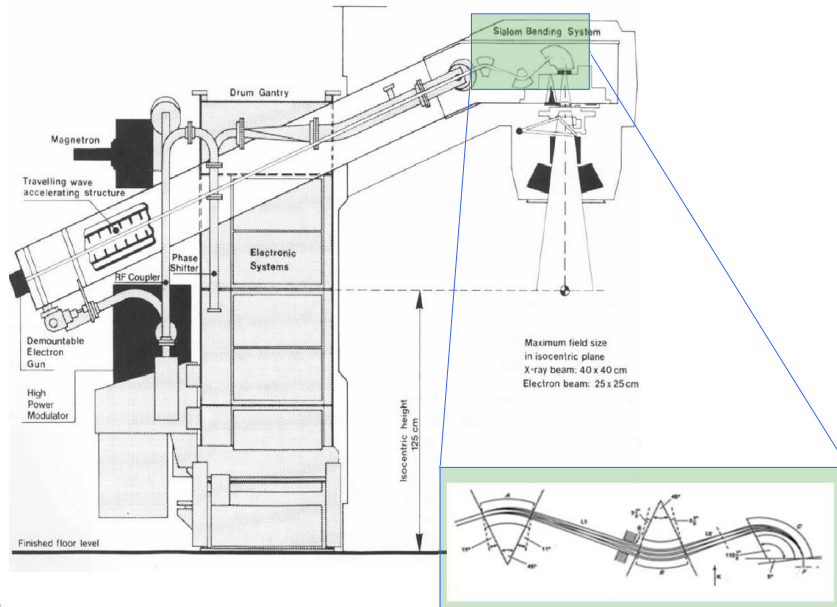
focus of electron beam source

target

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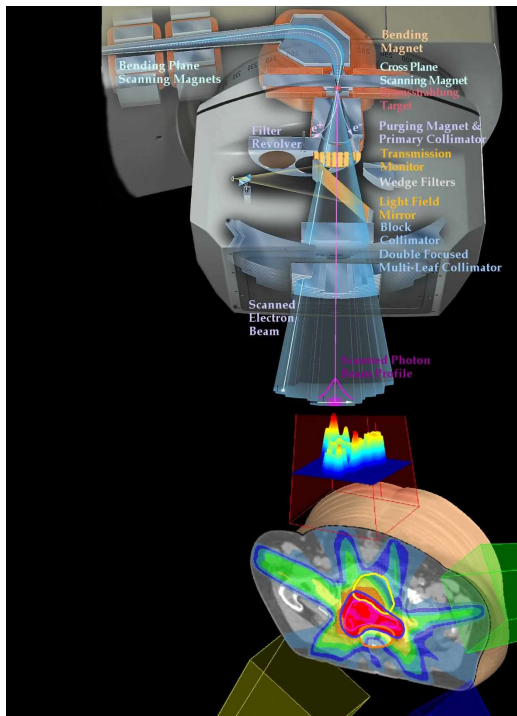
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## Bending magnet systems



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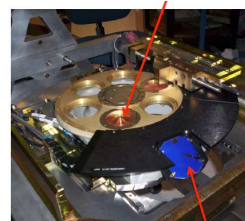
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## Treatment head



Multileaf collimator

Carrousel with flattening filter



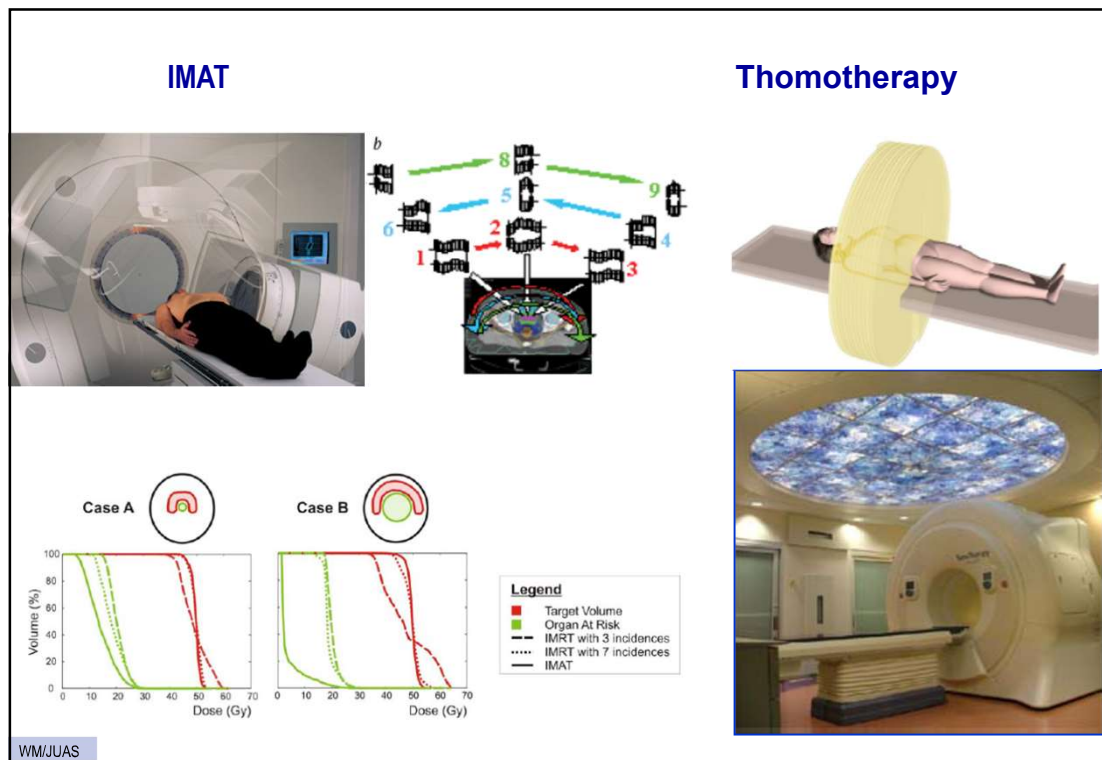
Optical mirror

## Modern trends

- intensity-modulated arc radiotherapy
- thomotherapy
- image-guided radiotherapy
- stereotactic radiosurgery
- intra-operative radiotherapy

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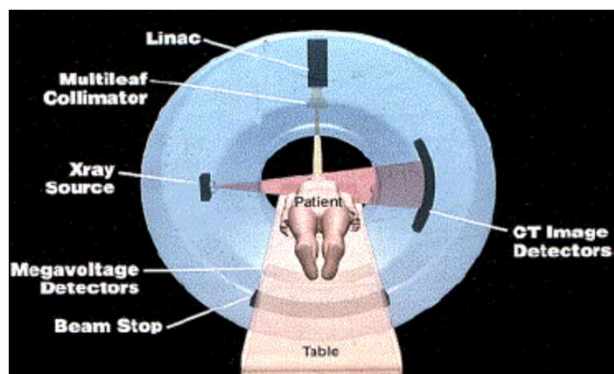


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## Image-guided radiotherapy

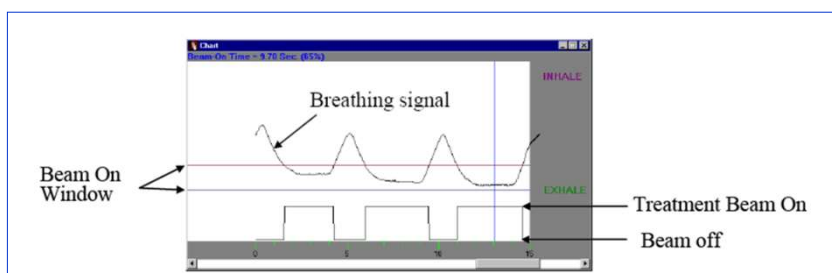


## CT scan and linac in one



Positional changes:

- during irradiation
- between fractions
- shrinkage of tumour



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## Stereotactic radiosurgery



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Linac on a robotic arm

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## Intra-operative radiotherapy



intracorporal

extracorporal



**Extracorporal bone  
tumours therapy**

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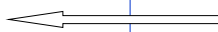
## Intraoperative extracorporal irradiation in primary bone tumours therapy

One operative session:

- excission of bone
- extracorporal irradiation 300 Gy
- reimplantation

### Homogeneous photon irradiation field

- homogeneity  $\pm 2 \%$
- diameter 20 cm
- dose rate 3 Gy / s

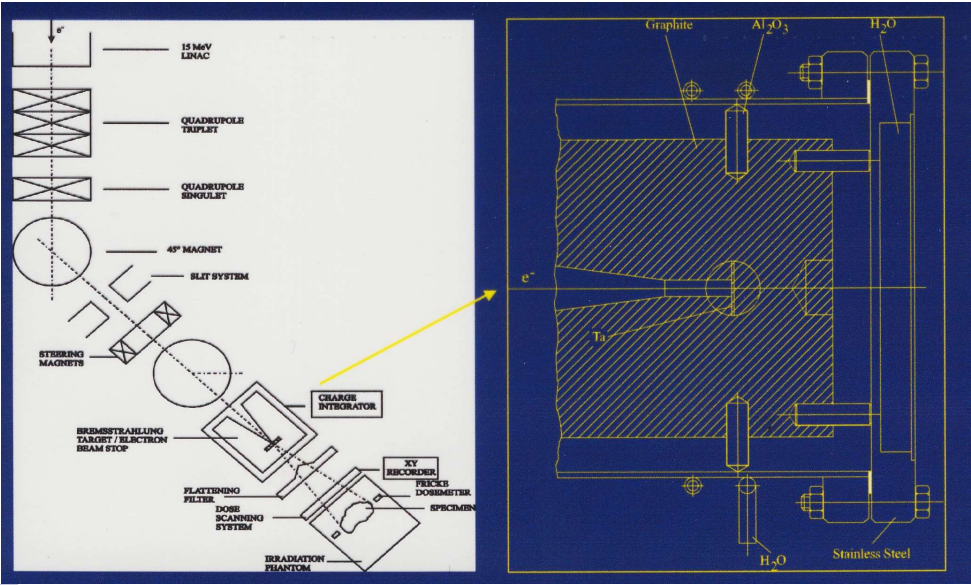


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Extracorporeal bone tumours irradiation

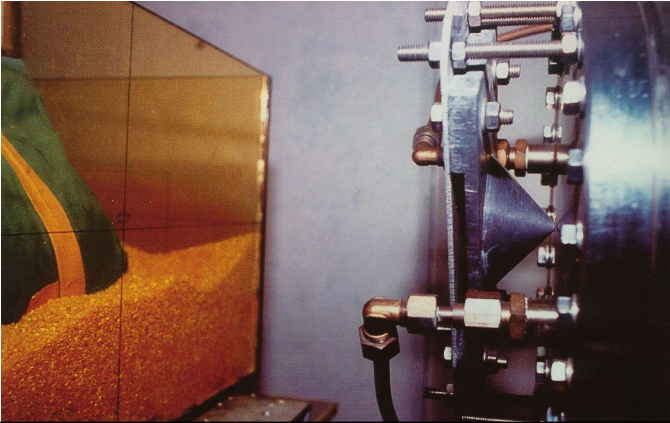
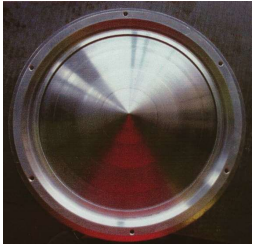
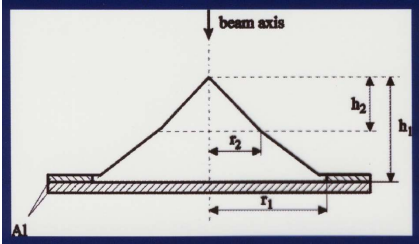
Dose rate: 3 Gy / s



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Extracorporeal bone tumours irradiation

Homogeneity < 2 %



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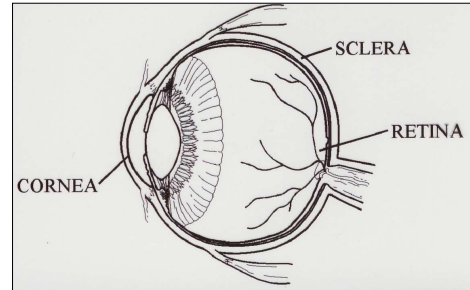


## Radiation treatment of human grafts and artificial implants

- **sclerae of the human eye**

prosthesis → inflammation  
rejection

⇒ 'packed' in human sclerae  
- less reactions  
- synchronous movement



lyophilisation → sterilisation 25 kGy → tissue bank

- **bone fragments:** maxillo-facial reconstruction
- **human implants:** cardiological stents, polymeric implants, hydrogels
- **blood products:** lymphocytes 40 Gy (graft-versus-host disease)

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## Electron accelerators in medicine

- Radiotherapy



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## Medical radioisotope production

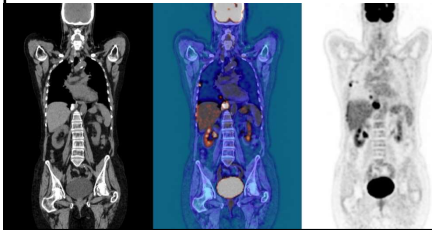
### Diagnostic imaging

- SPECT
- PET

### Radiotherapy

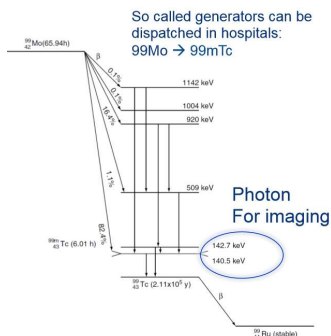
- $\beta^-$  emitters
- $\alpha$  emitters

Medical Isotope	Life-time $T_{1/2}$	Use	Nuclear Reaction	Target Abundance (%)	Energy Range (MeV)	Production Yield (mCi @ sat)	Typical Dose (mCi)
$^{11}\text{C}$	20.4m	PET	$^{11}\text{B}(p,n)$	80.3	8 - 20	40/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{11}\text{C}$	20.4m	PET	$^{14}\text{N}(p,\alpha)$	99.6	12	100/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{11}\text{C}$	20.4m	PET	$^{10}\text{B}(d,n)$	19.7	7	10/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{13}\text{N}$	9.96m	PET	$^{13}\text{C}(p,n)$	1.1	5 - 10	115/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{13}\text{N}$	9.96m	PET	$^{12}\text{C}(d,n)$	98.9	2 - 6	50/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{13}\text{N}$	9.96m	PET	$^{16}\text{O}(p,\alpha)$	99.8	8 - 18	65/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{15}\text{O}$	2m	PET	$^{15}\text{N}(p,n)$	0.36	10 - 15	47/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{15}\text{O}$	2m	PET	$^{16}\text{O}(p,pn)$	99.8	>26	25/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{15}\text{O}$	2m	PET	$^{14}\text{N}(d,n)$	99.6	8 - 6	27/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{18}\text{F}$	109.8m	PET	$^{18}\text{O}(p,n)$	0.20	8 - 17	180/ $\mu\text{A}$	5 - 20
$^{18}\text{F}$	109.8m	PET	$^{20}\text{Ne}(d,\alpha)$	90.5		82/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{64}\text{Cu}$	12.7h	SPECT	$^{64}\text{Ni}(p,n)$	0.93	5 - 20	5/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{67}\text{Cu}$	61.9h	SPECT	$^{68}\text{Zn}(p,2p)$	19.0	>40	0.02/ $\mu\text{A}$	
$^{67}\text{Ga}$	78.3h	SPECT	$^{68}\text{Zn}(p,2n)$	19.0	20 - 40	4.5/ $\mu\text{A}$	10
$^{82}\text{Sr}/^{82\text{m}}\text{Rb}$	25d/5m	PET	$^{81}\text{Rb}(p,4n)^{82}\text{Sr}$ Production: $\text{Rb}$	72.2	50 - 70	0.18 / $\mu\text{Ah}$	
$^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$	6h	SPECT	$^{100}\text{Mo}(p,2n)$	9.7	19	14/ $\mu\text{Ah}$	20
$^{101}\text{Pd}$	17.5d	Therapy	$^{102}\text{Rh}(p,n)$	100	16 - 15	0.52/ $\mu\text{Ah}$	
$^{111}\text{In}$	67.2h	SPECT	$^{112}\text{Cd}(p,2n)$	24.1	18 - 30	6/ $\mu\text{Ah}$	3
$^{123}\text{I}$	13.2h	SPECT	$^{124}\text{Xe}(p,2n)^{123}\text{Cs}$ $^{123}\text{Xe} \rightarrow ^{123}\text{I}$	0.10	25 - 35	27/ $\mu\text{Ah}$	
$^{123}\text{I}$	13.2h	SPECT	$^{122}\text{Te}(d,2n)^{123}\text{I}$	0.89	10 - 15	20/ $\mu\text{Ah}$	
$^{124}\text{I}$	4.1d	PET	$^{124}\text{Te}(p,n)$	4.7	10 - 18	0.1/ $\mu\text{Ah}$	
$^{124}\text{I}$	4.1d	PET	$^{124}\text{Te}(d,2n)$	4.7	>20	0.15/ $\mu\text{Ah}$	
$^{186}\text{Re}$	90.6h	Therapy /SPECT	$^{186}\text{W}(p,n)$	28.4	18		
$^{201}\text{Tl}$	73.5h	SPECT	$^{203}\text{Tl}(p,3n)^{201}\text{Pb}$ $\rightarrow ^{201}\text{Tl}$	29.5	27 - 35	0.7/ $\mu\text{Ah}$	4
$^{211}\text{At}$	7.2h	Therapy	$^{209}\text{Bi}(\alpha,n)$	100	28	1/ $\mu\text{Ah}$	0.05-.01

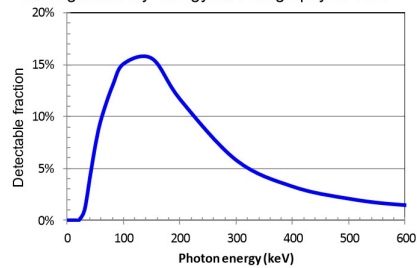


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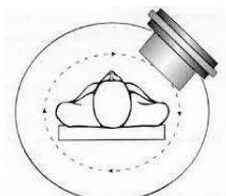
## $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ is the most widely used isotope in nuclear medicine



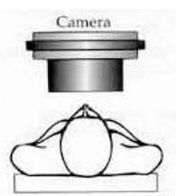
Ideal gamma ray energy for scintigraphy/SPECT



10 cm soft tissue, 0.2 cm aluminium (detector encapsulation), 1 cm NaI

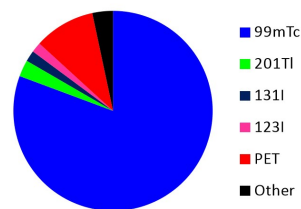


3D: SPECT: Single Photon Emission Computer Tomography



2D: planar scan (Gamma camera)

Cumulative use of diagnostic isotopes in Europe

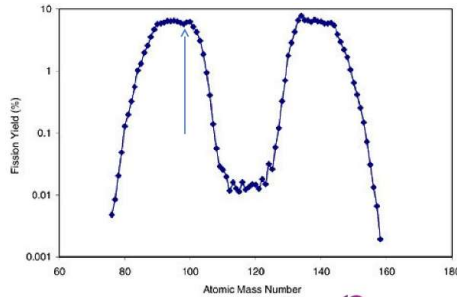


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## Current <sup>99</sup>Mo reactor-based production processes

### REACTORS

- Fission of HEU



- Neutron capture



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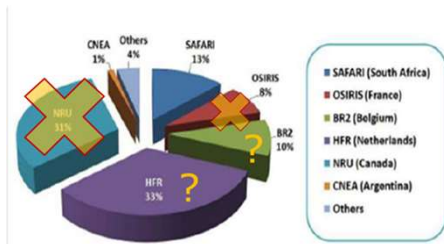
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Press Release

The European Commission and the Nuclear Medicine Industry have jointly created a European Observatory on the Supply of Medical Radioisotopes.

' Following the **shortages of medical radioisotopes** across the globe between 2008 and 2010 due to **unplanned reactor shutdowns**, the Council of the EU issued Council Conclusions "Towards the Secure Supply of Radioisotopes for Medical Use in the EU", asking the European Commission to define a European solution for **ensuring** mid and long term **security of supply of radioisotopes within the EU.**'



#### Radioisotopes: The medical testing crisis

With a serious shortage of medical isotopes looming, innovative companies are exploring ways to make them without nuclear reactors.

Richard Van Noorden

11 December 2013

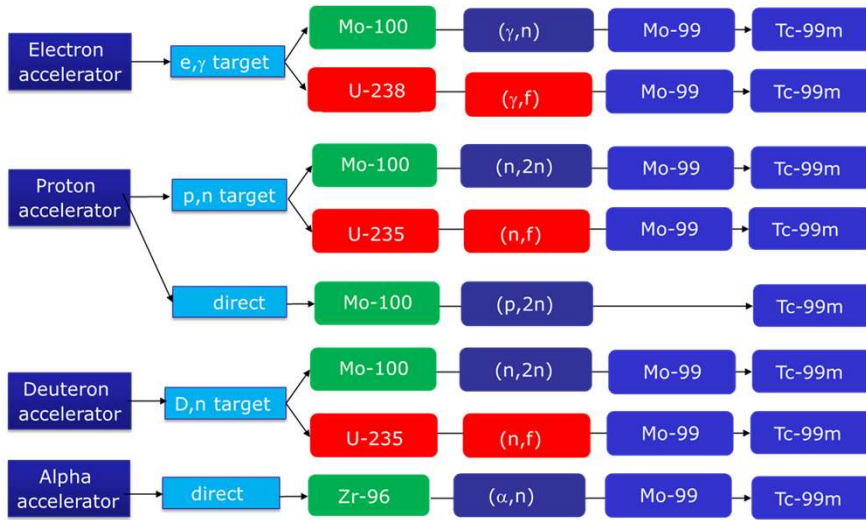
- Major reactors: few and old
  - safety, licensing and decommissioning
- Current production uses highly-enriched <sup>235</sup>U
  - nuclear proliferation
  - high-level nuclear waste

**ACCELERATORS**

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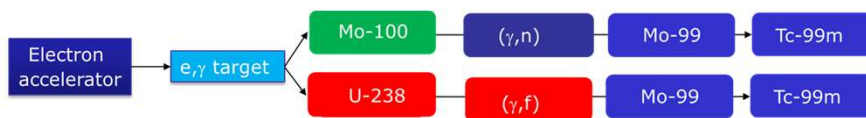
## Accelerator-based alternatives for <sup>99</sup>Mo production



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## Accelerator-based alternatives for <sup>99</sup>Mo production



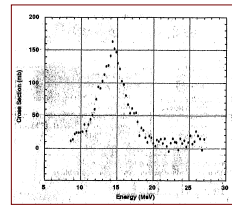
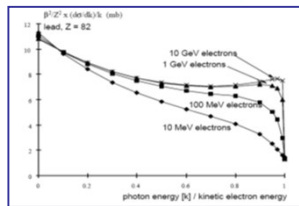
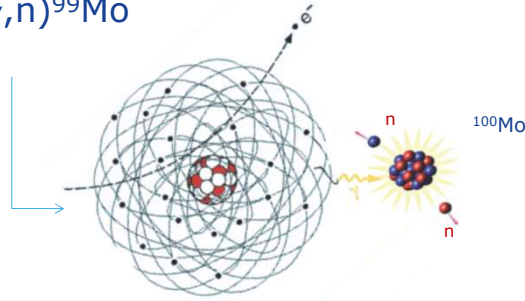
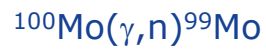
### ELECTRON ACCELERATORS

- Photo-neutron  $^{100}\text{Mo}(\gamma, n)^{99}\text{Mo}$
- Photo-fission  $^{238}\text{U}(\gamma, F)^{99}\text{Mo}$

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## Bremsstrahlung target and $^{99}\text{Mo}$ production



→ Target : disk of high-Z material  
high melting point solid e.g. W or U

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