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Joint  
Research  
Centre

**LOW-ENERGY ELECTRON  
ACCELERATORS**

**Applications in medicine and industry  
PART 3**

**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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**BEAM POWER = ENERGY x INTENSITY**

Energy

- < 10 MeV electrons
- < 5 MeV photons

~ penetration depth

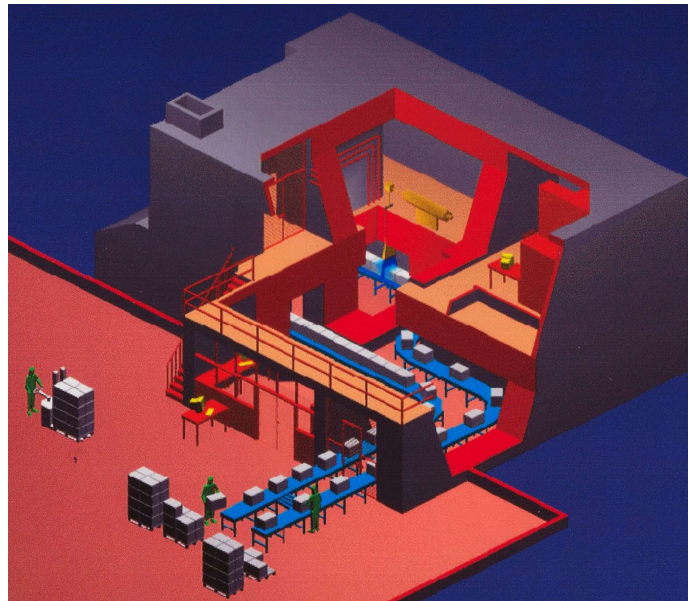
DOSE RATE



INTENSITY

150 KW

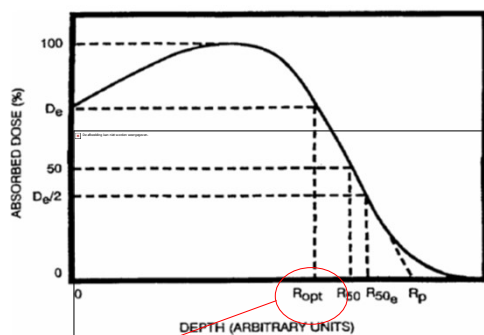
5 MeV / 30 mA  
0.5 MeV / 300 mA



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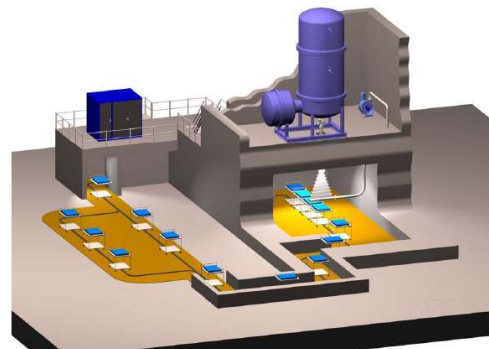
3

**Electron range in radiation processing**



$R_{opt}$  : exit dose equals entrance dose

$R_{opt}$  = optimal range in  $g/cm^2$   
 $V$  = energy of electrons in MeV



$$R_{opt} = 0,404V - 0,161$$

$$R_{opt}(cm) = R_{opt}(g/cm^2) / \rho(g/cm^3)$$

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## Throughput in radiation processing (electron and X-ray mode)

Mass throughput

$$\frac{M}{T} = F(e)F(i) \frac{P}{D(\text{ave})}$$

M = mass in kg

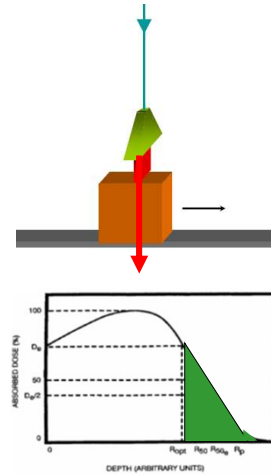
T = time in seconds

P = emitted radiation power in kW

D(ave) = average absorbed dose on kGy

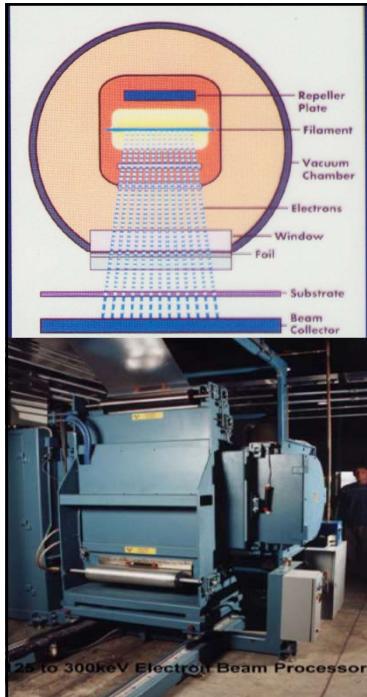
F(i) = fraction of emitted beam current intercepted by material

F(e) = fraction of incident electron energy absorbed by material



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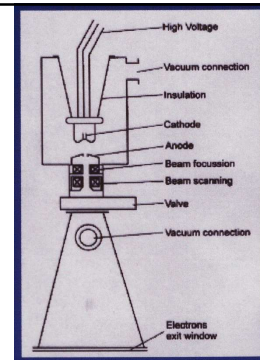
**BROAD BEAM**

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**Energy range 0.1 - 0.5 MeV**

**Single-stage machines**

- self-shielding
- low penetration capability
- integrated in production line
- beam widths ~ 2.5 m



**SCANNING TYPE**

**APPLICATIONS:**

- surface treatment
- irradiation of coatings, adhesives, inks
- e.g. thin film packaging
- printing industry

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## Energy range 0.5 - 5 MeV

### Multi-stage machines

- high penetration capability
- up to 300 kW
- beam widths ~ 2 m

### COCKROFT-WALTON

### INSULATED-CORE TRANSFORMER

### DYNAMITRON

### APPLICATIONS:

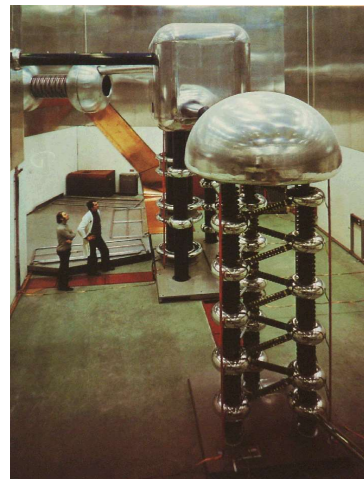
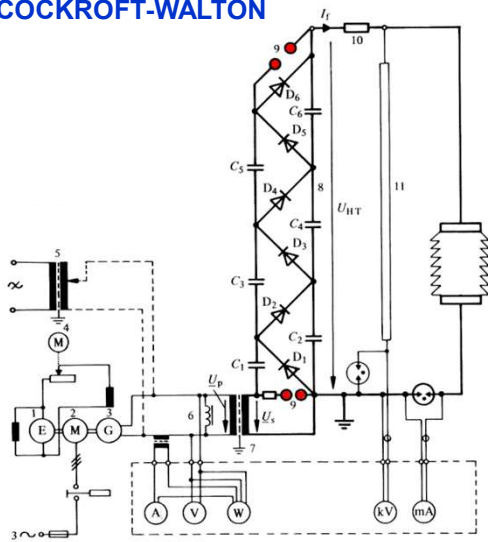
processing of thick sheets  
wires and cables  
tubes and pipes  
fiber composites  
tire components  
heat-shrinkable products  
foamed polyethylene

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## Energy range 0.5 - 5 MeV

### COCKROFT-WALTON



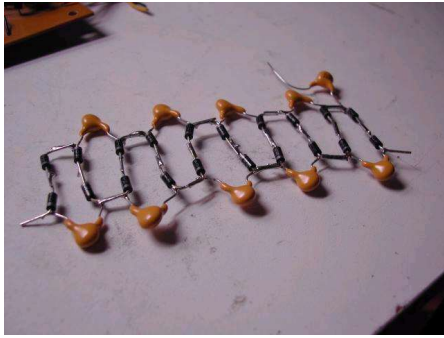
Greinacher cascade generator

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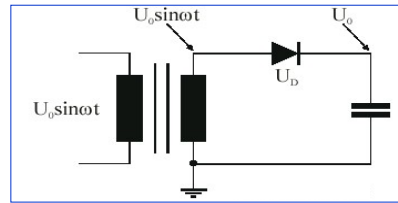
## COCKROFT-WALTON

Greinacher circuit or  
voltage multiplier

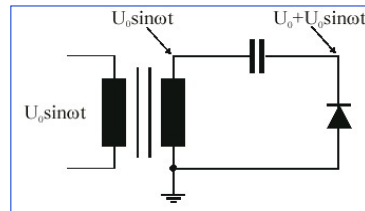


$$U_{\max} = 2nU - \frac{2\pi}{\omega C} \left( \frac{2}{3}n^3 + \frac{1}{4}n^2 + \frac{1}{12}n \right)$$

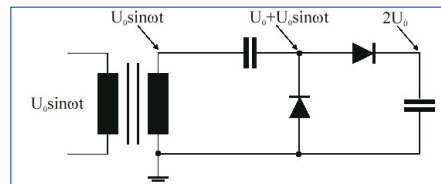
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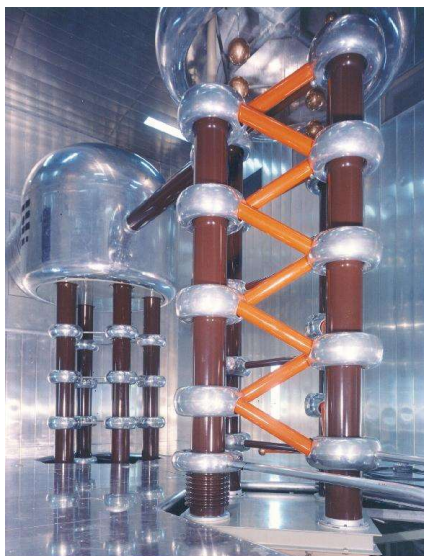
+



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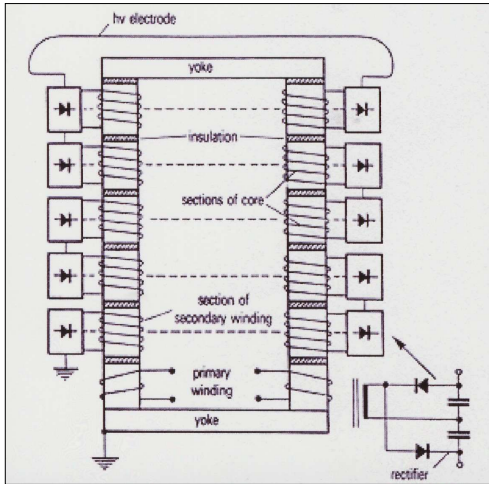


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Energy range 0.5 - 5 MeV

**INSULATED-CORE TRANSFORMER**

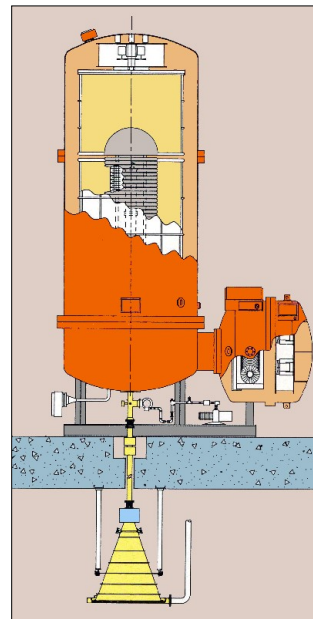
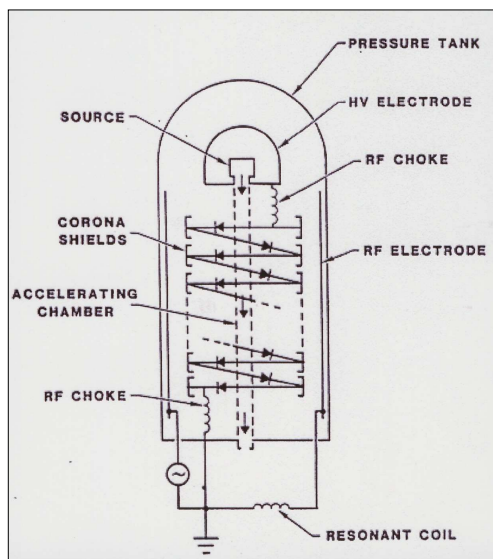


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Energy range 0.5 - 5 MeV

**DYNAMITRON**



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## DYNAMITRON



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## Energy range 5 - 10 MeV

RF linear accelerator	→	50 kW
RHODOTRON	→	200 kW up to 1 MW

**APPLICATIONS:** < 5 MeV applications  
medical sterilisation  
food processing  
polymer crosslinking, grafting, degradation

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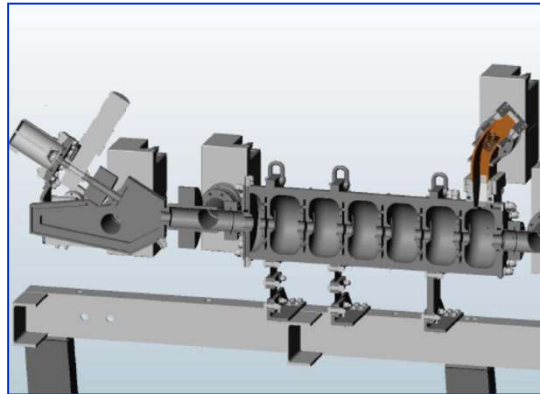
**Energy range 5 - 10 MeV**

$$V = \sqrt{(1 - e^{-2\tau})P_0 R_0 L}$$

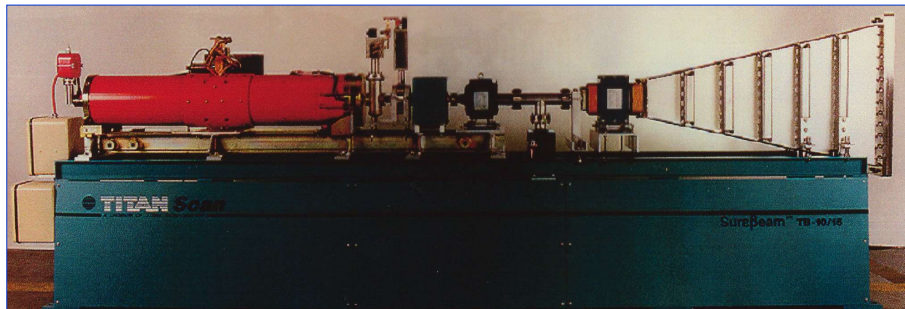
$$- \frac{R_0 LI}{2} \left[ 1 - 2\tau \frac{e^{-2\tau}}{1 - e^{-2\tau}} \right]$$

BEAM POWER : 50 kW

SHUNT IMPEDANCE ↑↑↑



**LINAC**



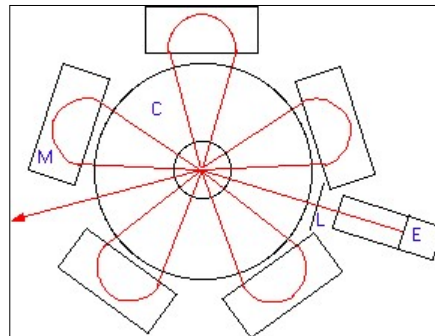
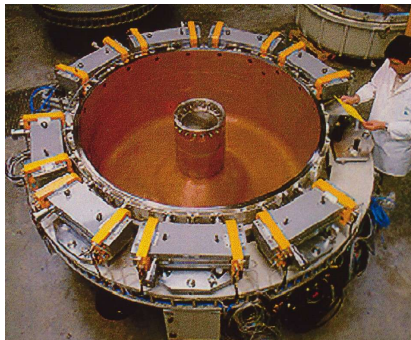
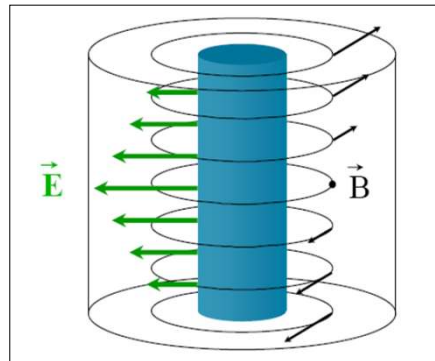
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**Energy range 5 - 10 MeV**

**RHODOTRON**

$$E = \frac{E_0}{r} \cos 2\pi \frac{z}{\lambda} \sin(\omega t + \varphi)$$

$$B = \frac{B_0}{r} \sin 2\pi \frac{z}{\lambda} \cos(\omega t + \varphi)$$

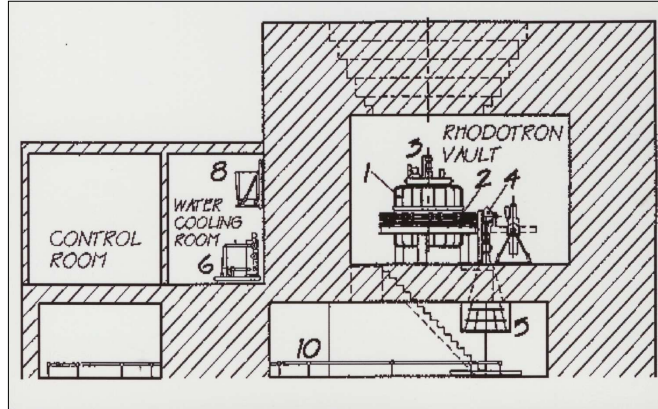
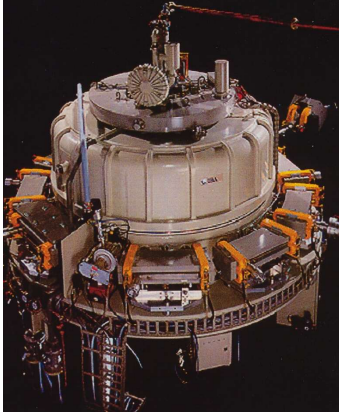


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Energy range 5 - 10 MeV

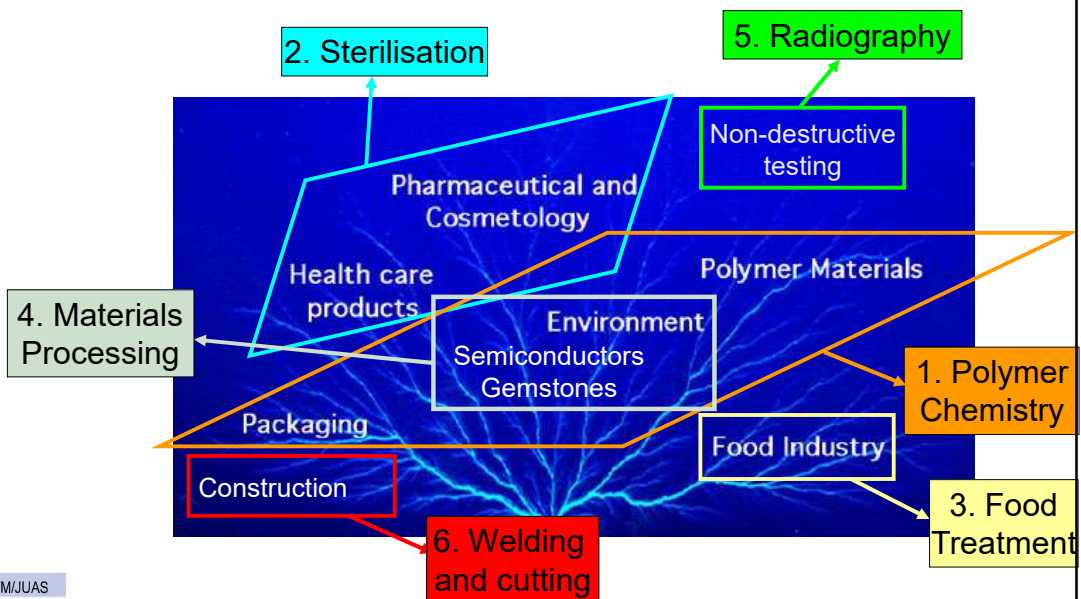
### RHODOTRON



High-power electron beams : up to 1 MW  
10 MeV / 100 mA

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### INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS of ELECTRONS and BREMSSTRAHLUNG



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## INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS of ELECTRONS and BREMSSTRAHLUNG

### 1. POLYMER CHEMISTRY

- 1.1 *crosslinking*
- 1.2 *grafting*
- 1.3 *curing*
- 1.4 *degradation*

2. STERILISATION

3. FOOD TREATMENT

4. MATERIALS PROCESSING

5. RADIOGRAPHY

6. WELDING AND CUTTING

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## 1. POLYMER CHEMISTRY



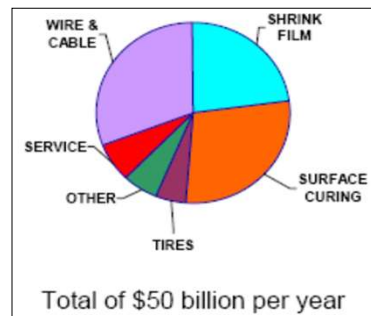
radiation → free radicals  
→ break bonds

NEW polymer structures  
with NEW properties

- crosslinking of cable insulation
- polymerisation of films
- curing of coatings

### ADVANTAGES

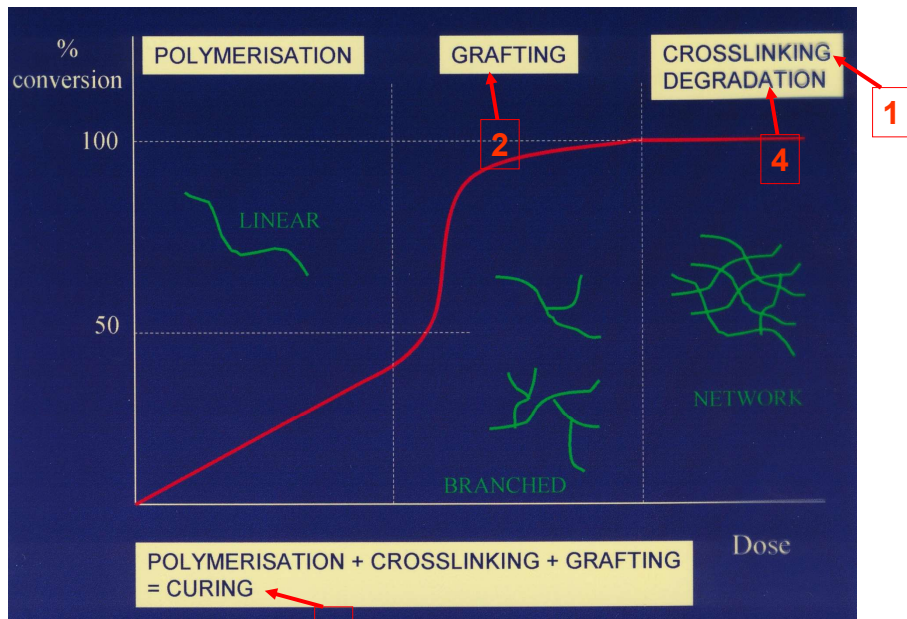
1. High reactivity of species
  - low temperature
  - no catalysts - high purity
  - no toxic or carcinogenic agents
2. Reaction rate ~ dose rate
3. Chemical binding of incompatible substances



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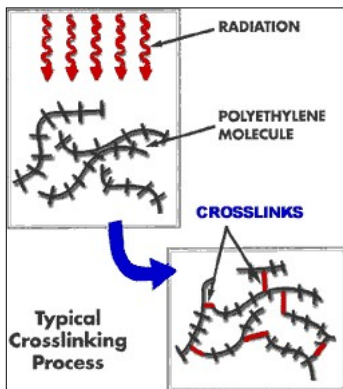
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# 1. POLYMER CHEMISTRY : irradiation of monomers



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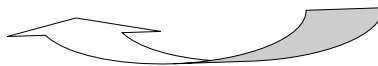
## 1.1 CROSSLINKING

Linear molecule → 3D structure  
e.g. polyethylene

≠ physical properties

- cable insulation
- tubes, pipes and mouldings
- heat-shrinkable films
- vulcanisation of rubber and tires
- synthesis of biomaterials

- heat resistance ↑↑
- insulation properties ↑
- mechanical strength ↑
- breakdown voltage ↑
- chemical resistance ↑
- creep ↑
- 'memory effect'

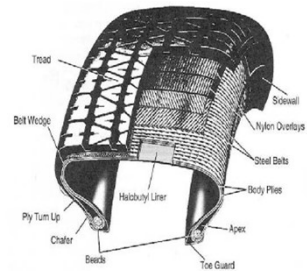


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## EXAMPLE : Pre-vulcanisation of tires

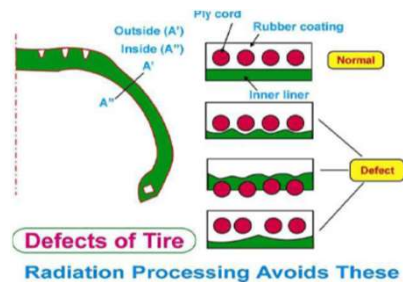
partial crosslinking before the tire is assembled:



- stabilizes thickness of sections during final thermal curing process
- prevents steel belt from migrating through its supporting rubber layer



- improves manufacturability
- better dimensional stability
- higher quality tire
- more uniform thickness
- better balance
- thinner thus generating less friction



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## EXAMPLE : Synthesis of biomaterials

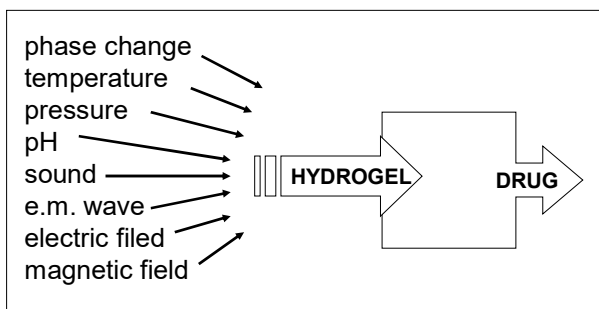
HYDROGELS =  
crosslinked macromolecular networks swollen in water

- rubbery structure
- substantial water content
- ~ soft living tissue → **BIOCOMPATIBLE**
- porous network → **BIOFUNCTIONAL**



- biodegradable polymers
- hydrogels for burn wounds
- porous polymeric hydrogels for advanced drug delivery systems

constant release  
signal responsive



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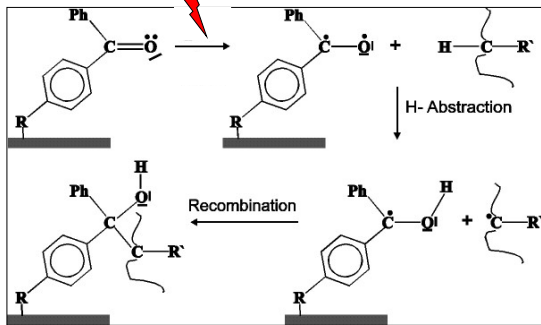
## 1.2 GRAFTING

Polymer backbone + monomer



≠ surface properties

- biocompatibility
- adhesion
- permeability
- wettability
- chemical resistance
- chemical compatibility
- printability
- hydrophilic / phobic quantities
- functionalisation
- mechanical properties



- finishing of textiles
- adhesion of polyethylene on aluminium
- weak hydrogels on polymeric support
- biofunctional groups on inactive supports



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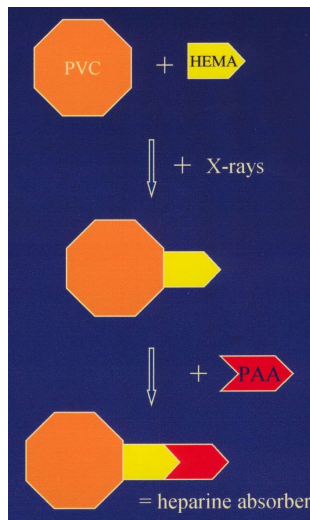
## EXAMPLE : Immobilisation of bioactive agents

Grafting of biofunctional groups on polymer supports

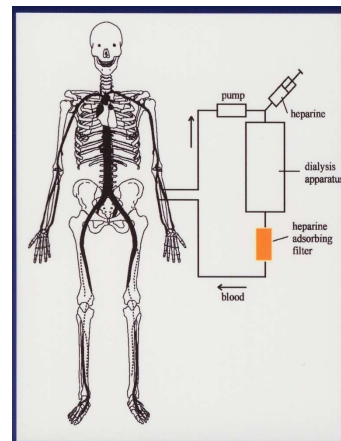
### • HEPARINE FILTER

Hemodialysis of uremic patients  
blood + artificial surfaces → coagulation

### heparine adsorbing filters

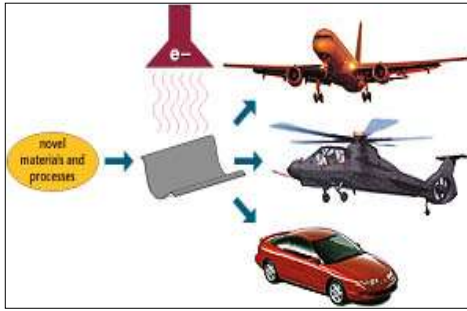


- FIXATION of HD CELL CULTURES  
→ natural skin  
→ pancreas cells



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### 1.3 CURING

Polymerisation + crosslinking + grafting

on SURFACES (mainly with electrons)

- antistatic films
- laminates (credits cards, telephone cards)
- offset printing
- door finishing
- parquet coating
- protective films....

in BULK MATERIAL (mainly bremsstrahlung)

- wood-polymer composites
- concrete-polymer composites
- advanced composites

e.g. carbon fiber reinforced epoxies

- automobiles
- aircraft
- ships
- space vehicles
- building materials
- sporting goods
- printed circuit boards



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### EXAMPLE : On-aircraft repair

Composite materials (carbon-reinforced epoxies): strength-to-weight ratio ↑

stiffness-to-weight ratio ↑

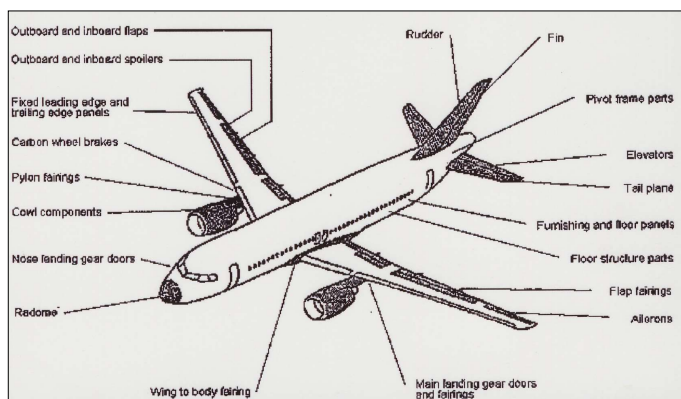
corrosion resistance

impact damage tolerance

wear properties



20 - 25 % of aircraft structural weight



AIR CANADA Airbus A320  
on aircraft repair with mobile accelerator



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## 1.4 DEGRADATION

### applications of accelerator beams for the environment

- degradation of pollutants
  - liquid effluents treatment: water, industrial or hospital waste, sewage sludge
  - flue gas treatment: SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> removal

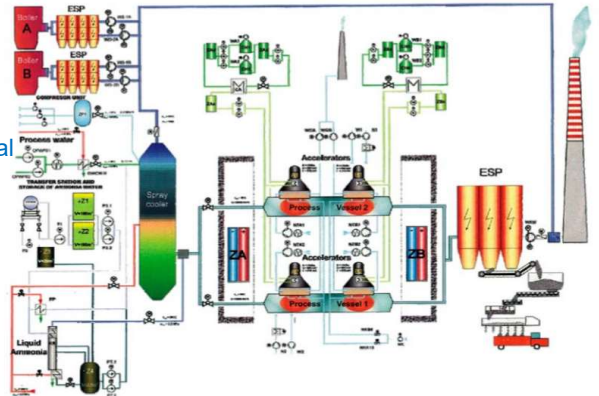
projects in Japan, USA, Germany, China and Poland

Pomorzany EPS, Poland

simultaneous SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> removal

4 electron accelerators:  
700 keV, 260 kW

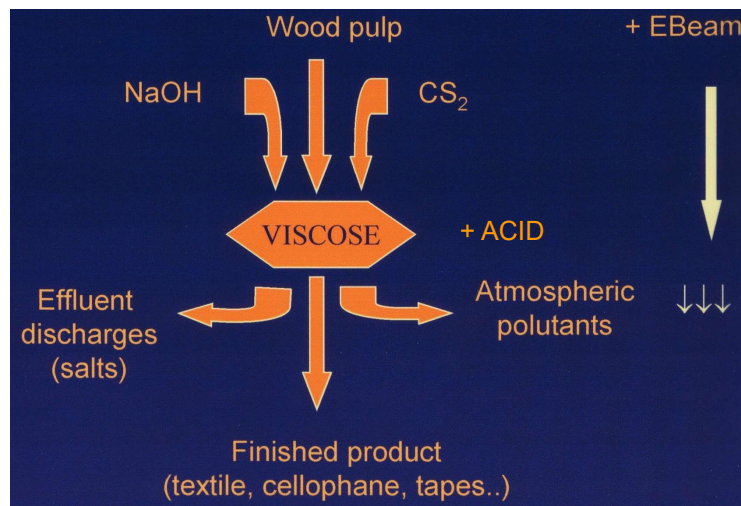
applied dose: 7–12 kGy



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### EXAMPLE : Cellulose in viscose industry



- powdered Teflon molecular weight ↓  
lubricants, high quality inks

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## INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS of ELECTRONS and BREMSSTRAHLUNG

### 1. POLYMER CHEMISTRY

- 1.1 *crosslinking*
- 1.2 *grafting*
- 1.3 *curing*
- 1.4 *degradation*

### 2. STERILISATION

### 3. FOOD TREATMENT

### 4. MATERIALS PROCESSING

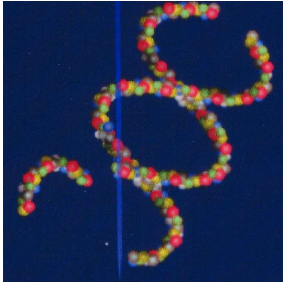
### 5. RADIOGRAPHY

### 6. WELDING AND CUTTING

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## 2. STERILISATION



### Radiation killing of pathogenic microorganisms

- energy-efficient
- low temperature
- no toxic residues
- total sterilisation
- no ozone depletion

(↔ heat)

(↔ heat)

(↔ EtO)

(↔ EtO)

(↔ Met.B.)



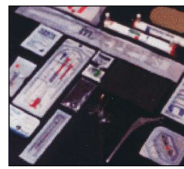
- medical disposables

*syringes, needles, surgical sutures  
wound and burn dressings  
gloves, masks, gowns  
Petri dishes and pipettes*



- medical implants

*artificial organs  
bone grafts  
human eyeballs*



- pharmaceuticals  
- cosmetics

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### 3. FOOD TREATMENT



#### Low Dose Applications (< 1 kGy)

- **Phytosanitary** Insect disinfection (grains, papayas, mangoes, avocados...)
- **Sprouting Inhibition** (potatoes, onions, garlic...)
- **Delaying of maturation, parasite disinfection**

#### Medium Dose Applications (1 to 10 kGy)

- **Control of foodborne pathogens** (beef, eggs, crab meat, oysters...)
- **Shelf-life extension** (chicken, pork, low fat fish, strawberries, mushrooms...)
- **Spice irradiation**

#### High Dose Applications (> 10 kGy)

- **Food sterilisation** (meat, poultry, seafood...)

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### INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS of ELECTRONS and BREMSSTRAHLUNG

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#### 5. RADIOGRAPHY

#### 6. WELDING AND CUTTING

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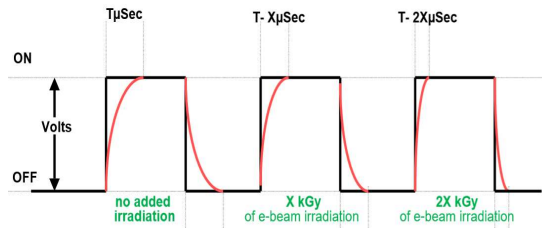
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## 4. MATERIALS PROCESSING

defects in crystals

### Improvement of switching speed in semiconductors

- fast recovery diodes, power diodes
- bipolar power transistors, power MOSFETs
- power rectifiers, IGBT's, thyristors silicon-controlled rectifiers



### Change of colors in gemstones

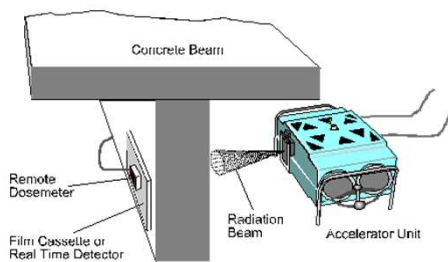
1 MGy



topaz

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## 5. RADIOGRAPHY

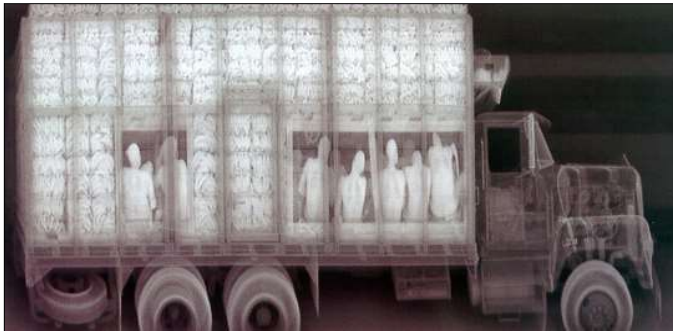
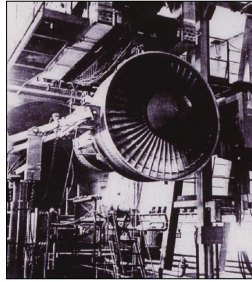


- dynamically inspecting jet engines
- X-ray screening of cargo containers
- inspecting concrete structure integrity
- inspecting castings
- reverse engineering CT studies
- nuclear waste inspection
- border control

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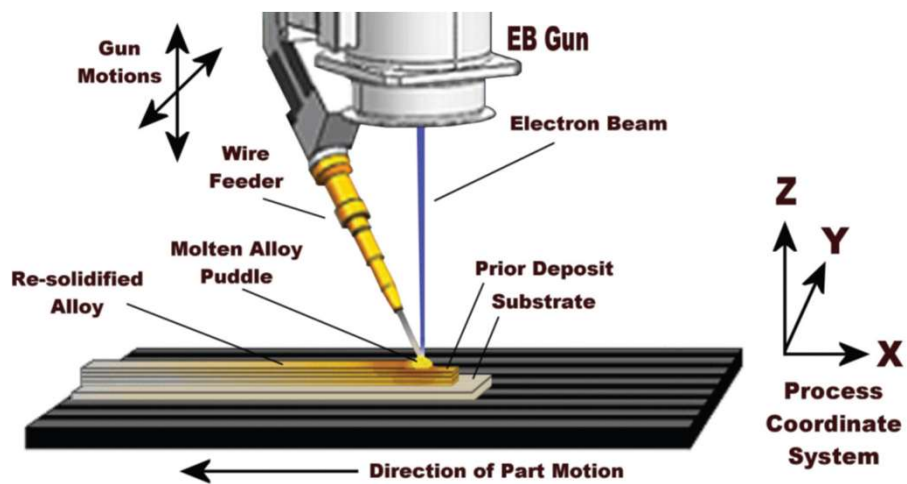
## 5. RADIOGRAPHY



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## 6. WELDING AND CUTTING



Not formation of reactive species is important, but well-defined electron beam heat deposition

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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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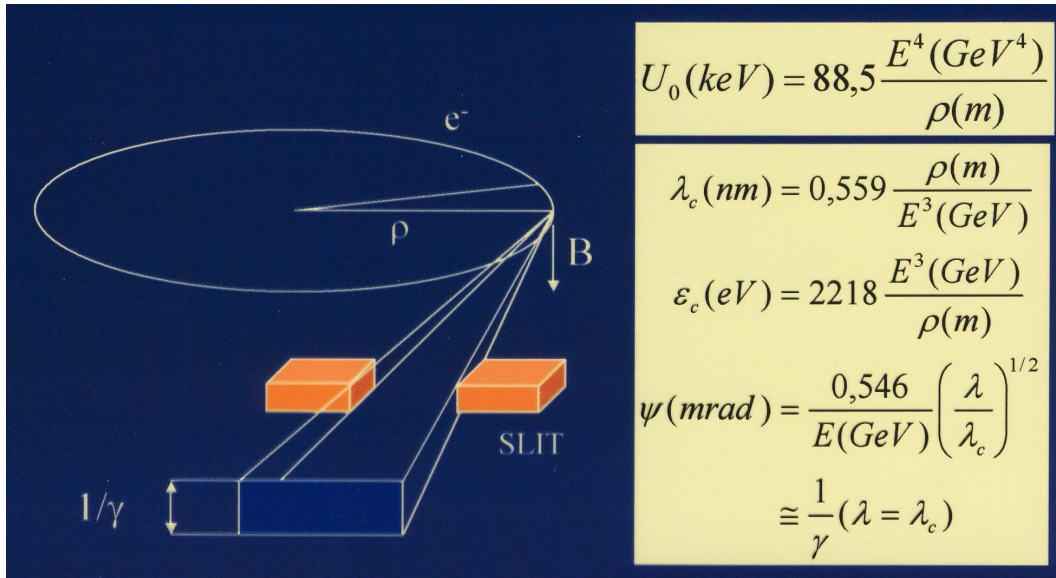
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## SYNCHROTRON RADIATION



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## SYNCHROTRON RADIATION

- continuous X-ray spectrum of high intensity
- strong concentration in the horizontal plane
- small source size and low divergence
- high degree of polarisation
- well defined time structure
- precisely calculable radiation characteristics



### INDUSTRIAL

- X-ray lithography for microelectronics
- deep X-ray lithography for micromachining

### MEDICAL

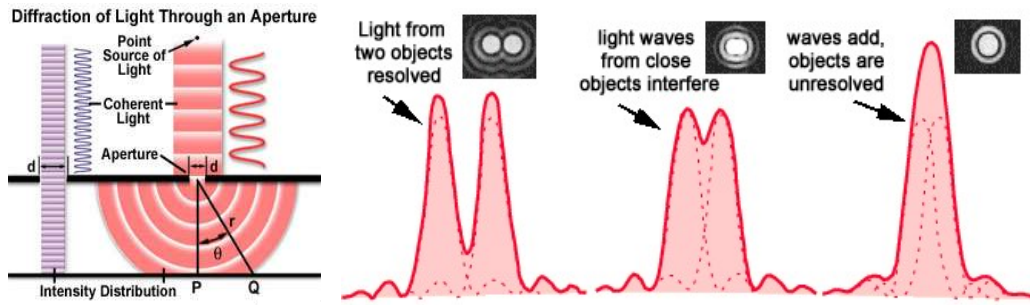
- digital subtraction angiography

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## Optical diffraction



photolithography: no well-defined pattern  
resolution limited to 500 nm

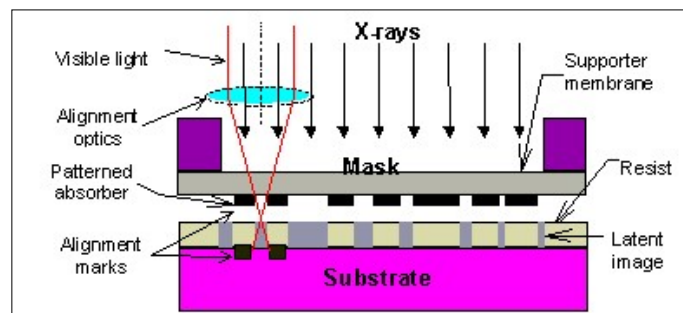
the **SMALLER** the wavelength the better the resolution

X-ray lithography: resolution better than 100 nm

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## X-ray lithography for microelectronics



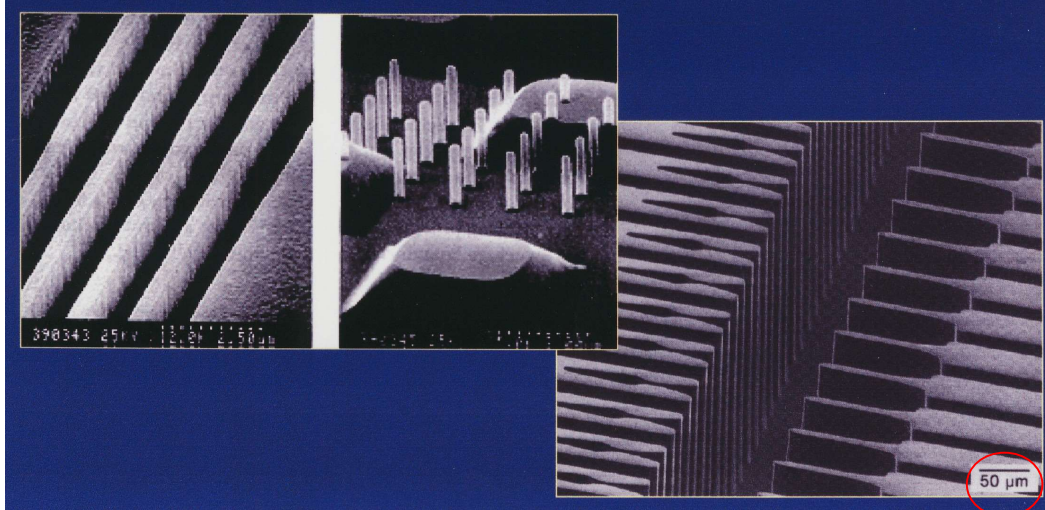
Mass production → short illumination times: intense X-ray beams

X-ray energy : 1 keV

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## X-ray lithography for microelectronics



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## Deep X-ray lithography for micromachining

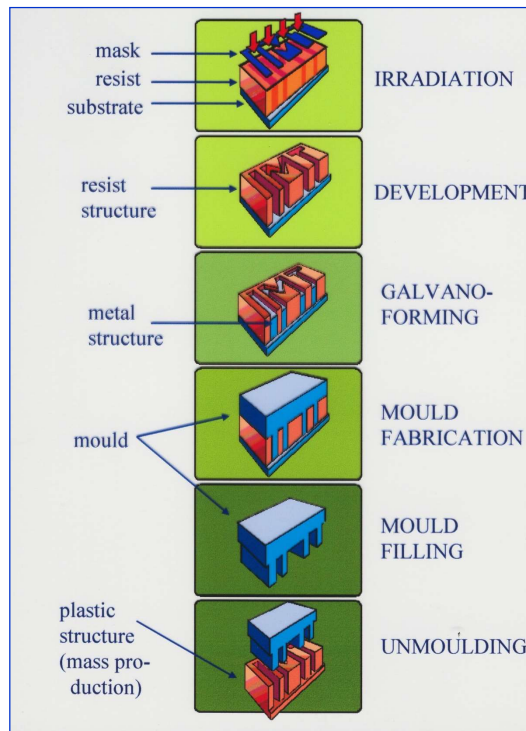
### LIGA process

Height / width ~ 100

Side wall accuracy ~ 1 μm

Penetration depth ~ 0.5 mm

X-ray energy : 5 keV

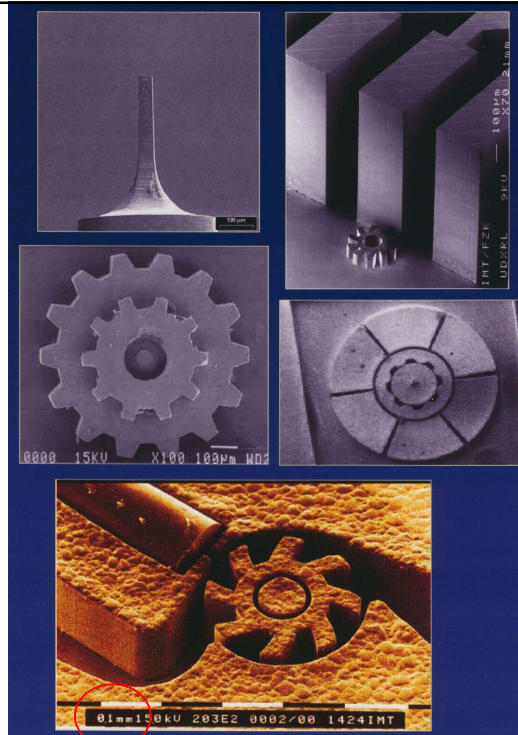


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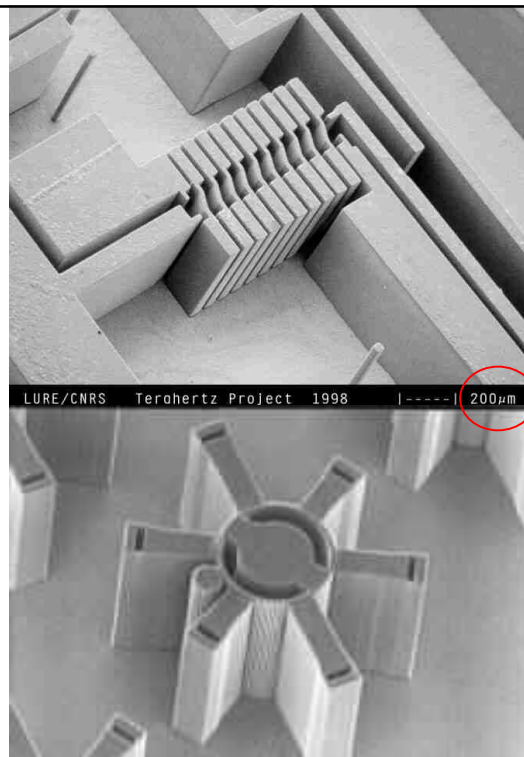


Deep X-ray lithography  
for micromachining



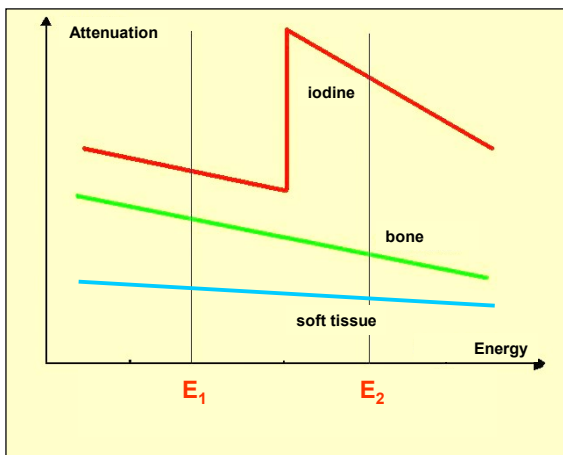
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Deep X-ray lithography  
for micromachining

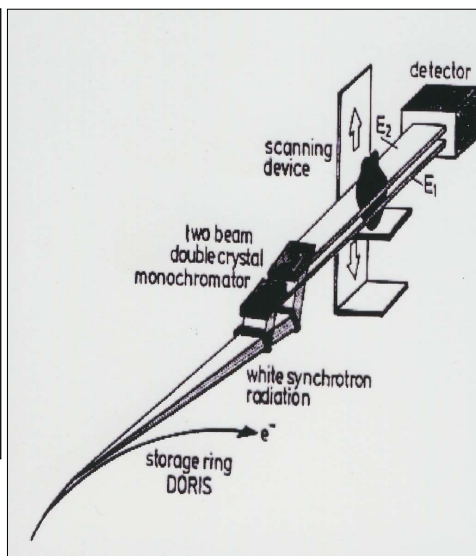


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### Digital subtraction angiography



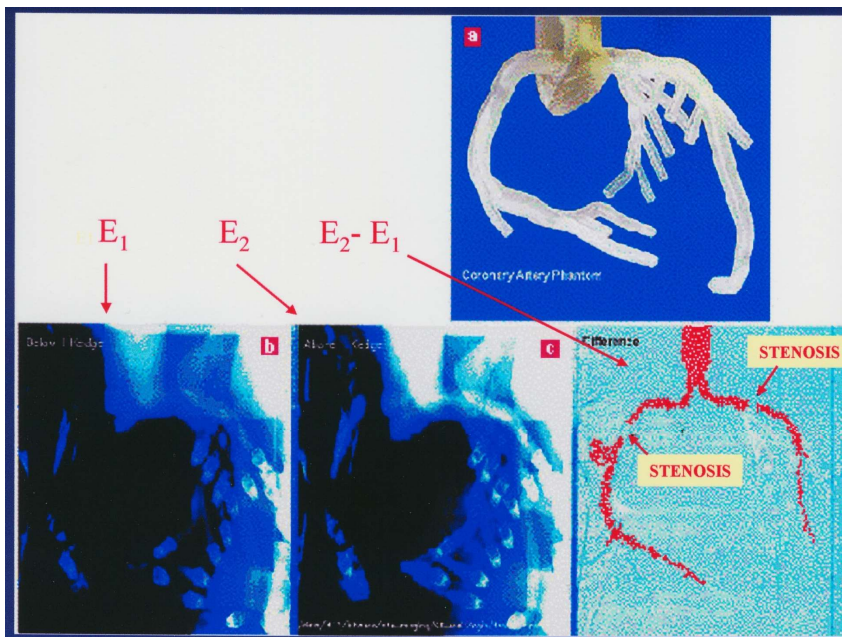
Monochromatic X-rays  
X-ray energy : 33 keV



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### Digital subtraction angiography



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## Basic design considerations

Critical wavelength:      1 nm              X-ray lithography  
   0,2 nm            deep X-ray lithography  
   0,0037 nm        digital subtraction angiography

Photon flux:               $2 \cdot 10^{11} - 2 \cdot 10^{12}$  ph/sec-mm<sup>2</sup>

Required radiation at the lowest price

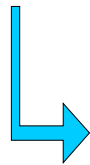


**COMPACT SR FACILITIES**



Research SR facilities

**2<sup>nd</sup> generation**



DESIGN CRITERIA

- 0.7 – 3 GeV range
- high photon flux
- small size
- low investment and operating cost
- not too complex
- easy to operate
- applications define ring parameters

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## DESIGN PROBLEMS



1. Normal-conducting ↔ superconducting magnets

2. Unusual magnet lattices

3. Injection of high current at low energies

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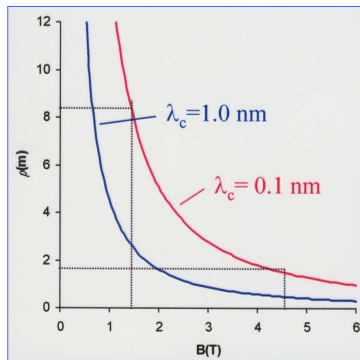
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# 1. MAGNETS

## COMPACTNESS

### Normal-conducting

- simplify existing storage ring design
- remove some quadrupoles
- dimensions ↓



### superconducting magnets ?

- unusual storage ring design
- new optical schemes
- dimensions ↓↓

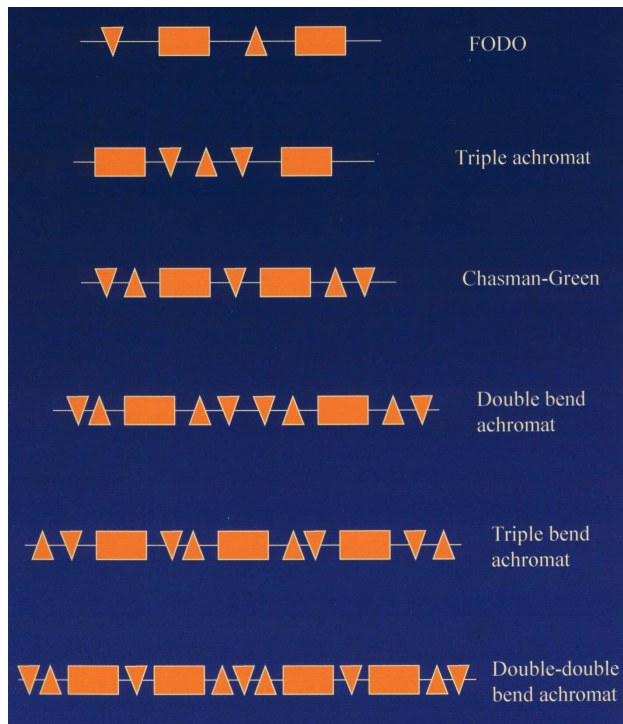
$$\lambda_c (\text{nm}) = \frac{20.7}{\rho^2 (\text{m}) B^3 (\text{T})}$$

Normal conducting	1,5 T	
Superconducting	4,5 T	$\rho/5$

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## 2. LATTICES

### IRON MAGNET LATTICES



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## ANKA

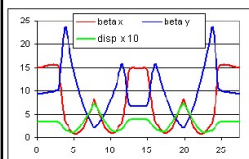


- Energy 2.5 GeV
- Stored current 400 mA
- Bending radius 5.56 m
- Magnets 8 normal conducting 22.5° 4 cells of 2 x DBA
- Critical wavelength 0.2 m
- Magnetic field 1.5 T
- Nb of beamports 11
- Diameter ring  $\varnothing$  35 m
- Injector 500 MeV booster synchrotron 53 MeV microtron

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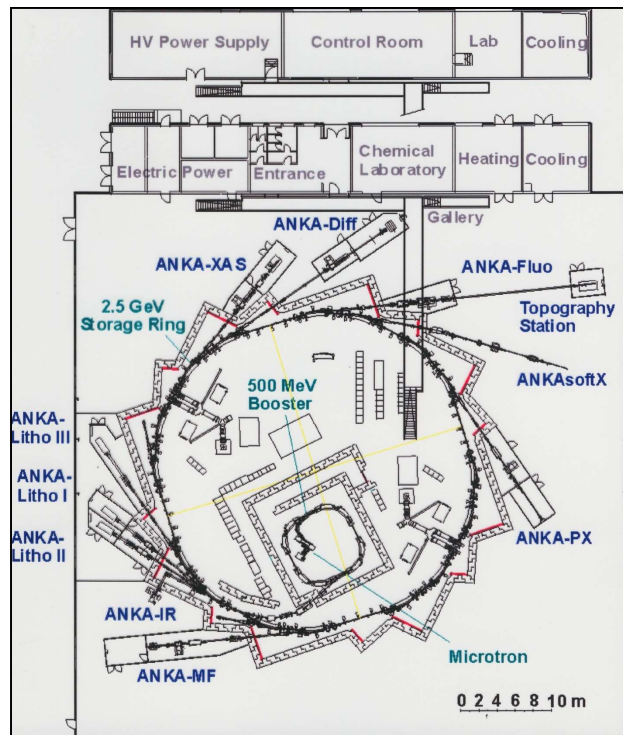
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## ANKA



**User Optics**

Energy: 2.5 GeV  
 Circumference: 110.4 m  
 Emittance: 50 nmrad  
 nat. Chroma. (h/v): -10 / -5  
 nat. Energy Spread: 0.001  
 Mom. Compaction: 0.009  
 Tune (h/v): 6.73 / 3.68



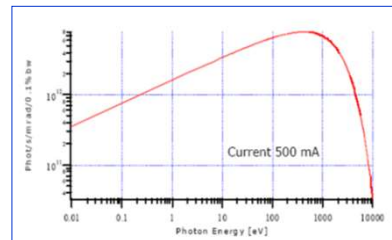
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## HELIOS

HELIOS 1 IBM East Fishkill  
HELIOS 2 Singapore



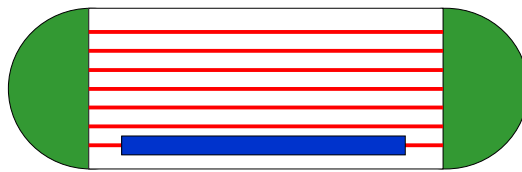
- Energy 700 MeV
- Stored current 620 mA
- Magnets 2 superconducting 180°
- Critical wavelength 0.84 m
- Nb of beamports 20
- Dimensions 6 m x 2m
- Injector 200 MeV linac (HELIOS 1)  
100 MeV microtron (HELIOS 2)



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## Stable motion in HELIOS ring



Stability condition in periodic rings:

$$-1 \leq \frac{1}{2} \text{trace}M \leq 1$$

period

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} m_{11} & m_{12} \\ m_{21} & m_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

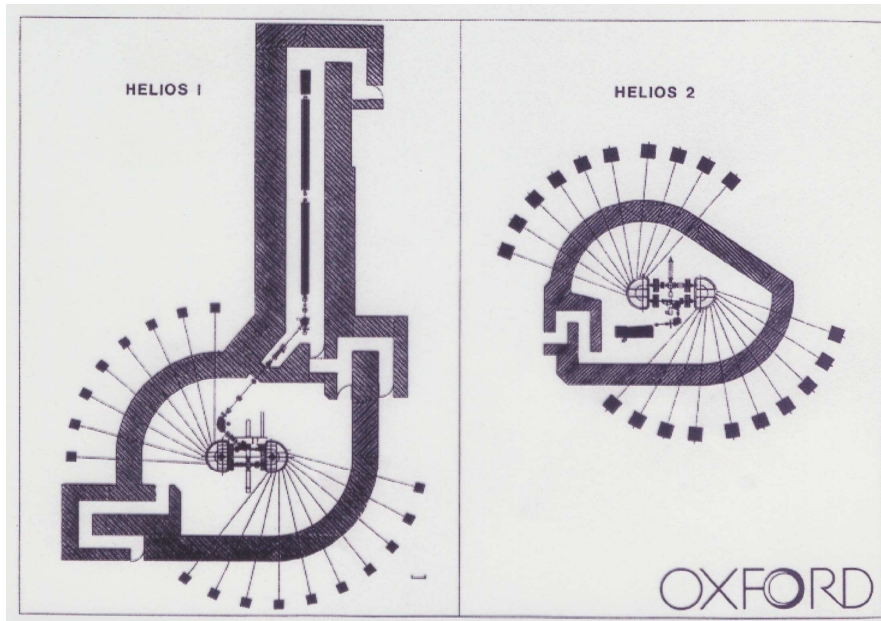
traceM = trace of matrix M, it is equal to the sum of the diagonal elements of matrix M

M is transfer matrix of one period in ring

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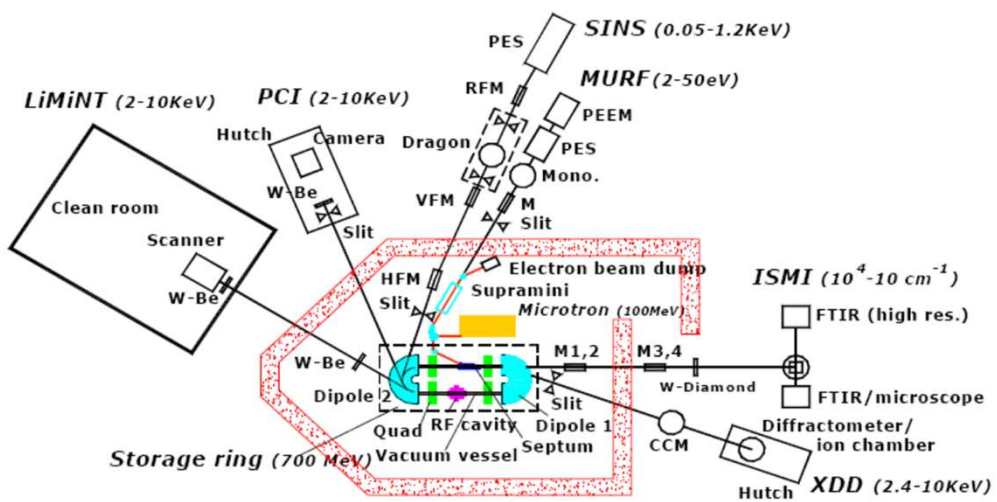
## HELIOS



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## HELIOS



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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
4. Electron accelerators in industry
5. Electron storage rings for medicine and industry