



## ***Hadrontherapy GEANT4 application: How Monte Carlo Helps Hadrontherapy***

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**on behalf of**

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*INFN Section of Genova (I)***

# TALK OUTLINE

## 1. WHY PROTON BEAM FOR RADIATION TREATMENT?

### 2. THE ITALIAN PROTON THERAPY FACILITY

### 3. THE USE OF MONTE CARLO IN PROTON THERAPY

1. Experimental data comparison

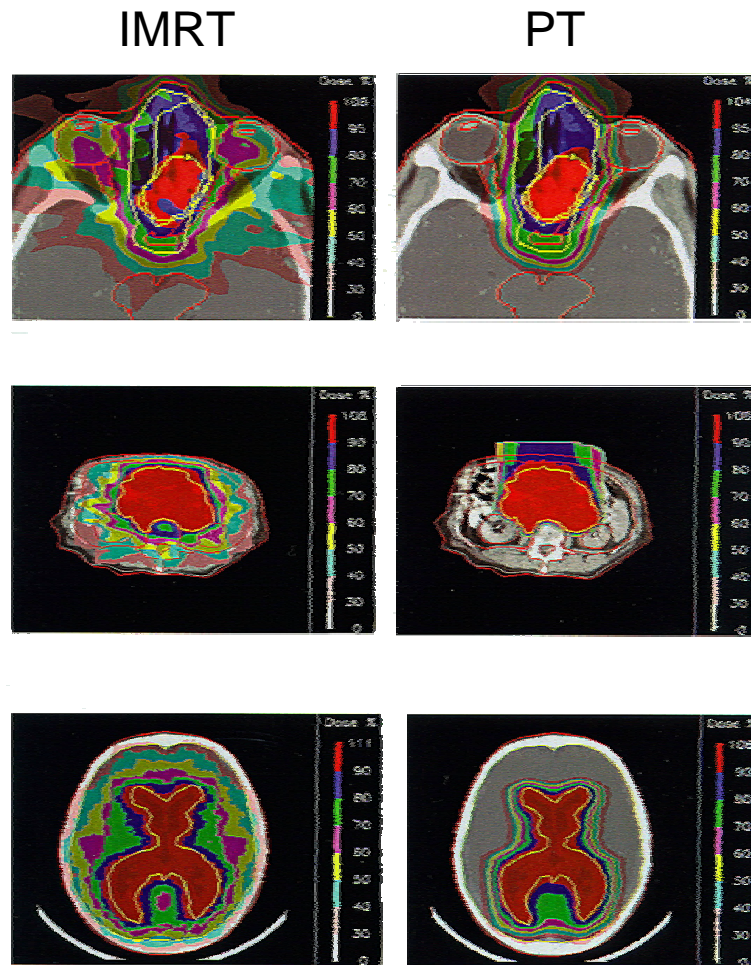
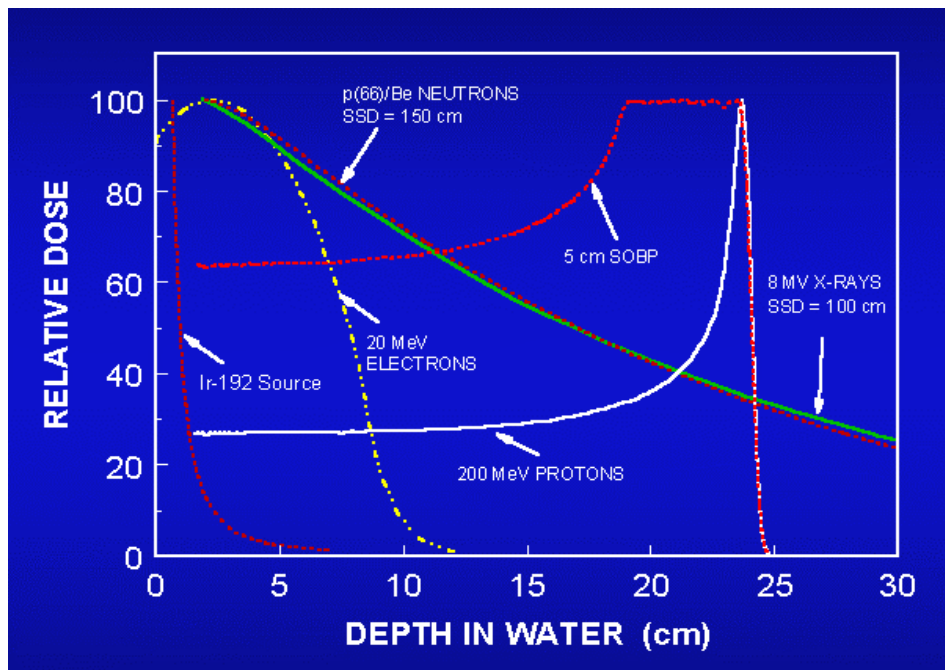
2. Limitation

### 4. GRID approach



# WHY PROTON BEAM FOR RADIATION TREATMENT?

Proton therapy is a growing radiation treatment technique (more 35 centers today)



## WHY PROTON BEAM FOR RADIATION TREATMENT?

- penetration depth is *well-defined* and *adjustable*
- most energy at *end-of -range*
- protons travel in *straight lines*
- dose to *normal tissue* minimized
- *dose* beyond target

PROTONS PERMIT TO DELIVER AN HIGH DOSE TO  
THE TUMOUR SPARING THE SOURROUNDING TISSUES



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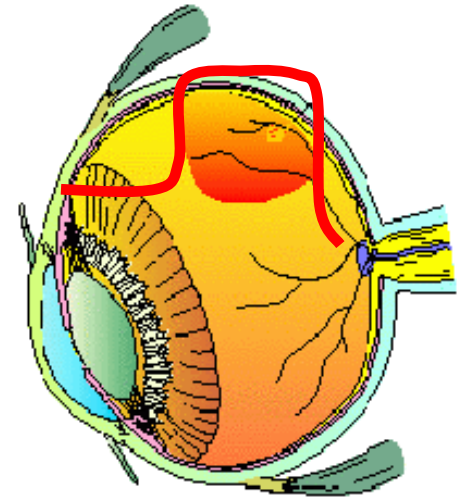
# THE ITALIAN PROTON THERAPY FACILITY



LNS Superconducting Cyclotron is the unique machine in Italy and South Europe used for protontherapy

Treatment of the choroidal and iris melanoma

In Italy about 300 new cases for year



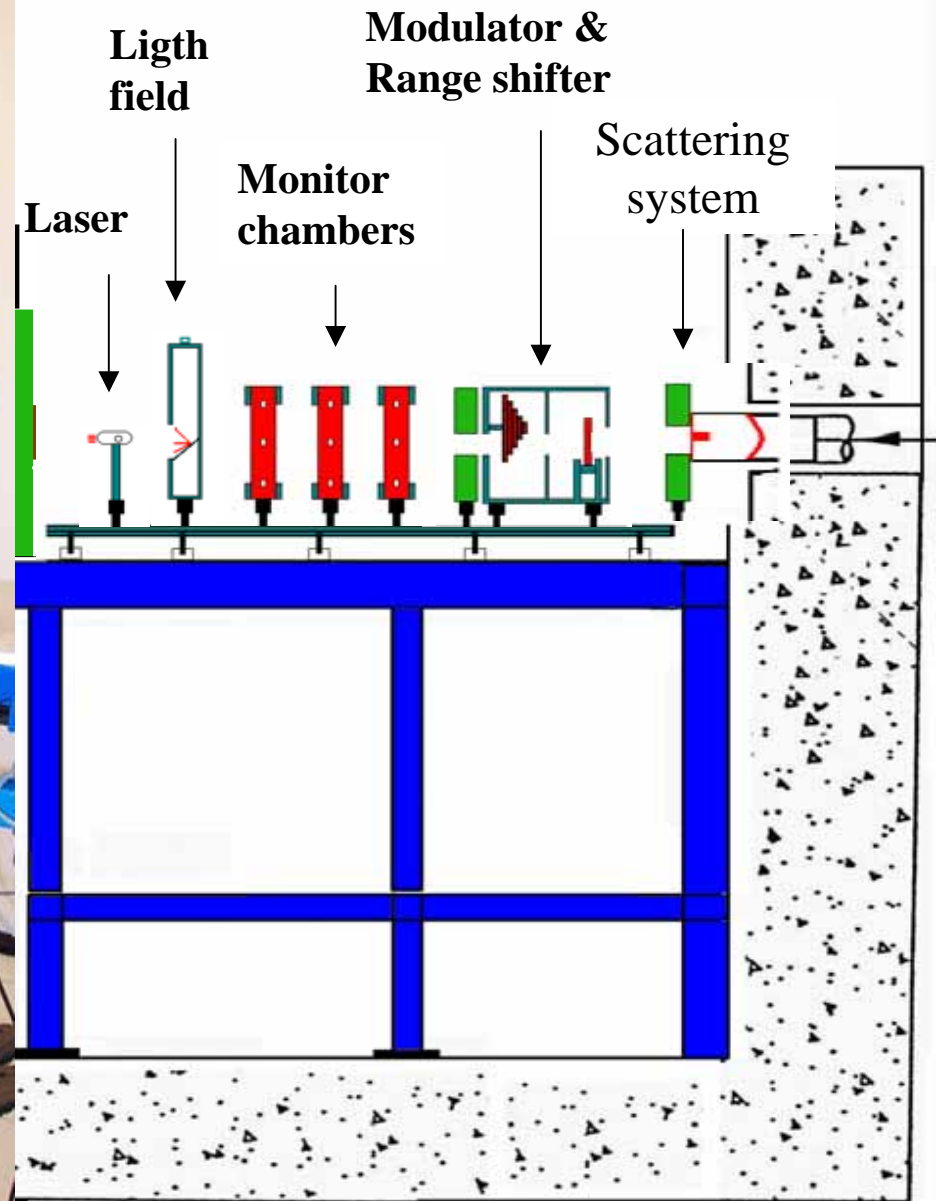
# Laboratori Nazionali del Sud – INFN Catania, Italy

Cyclotron  
Location

Treatment  
Room  
Location





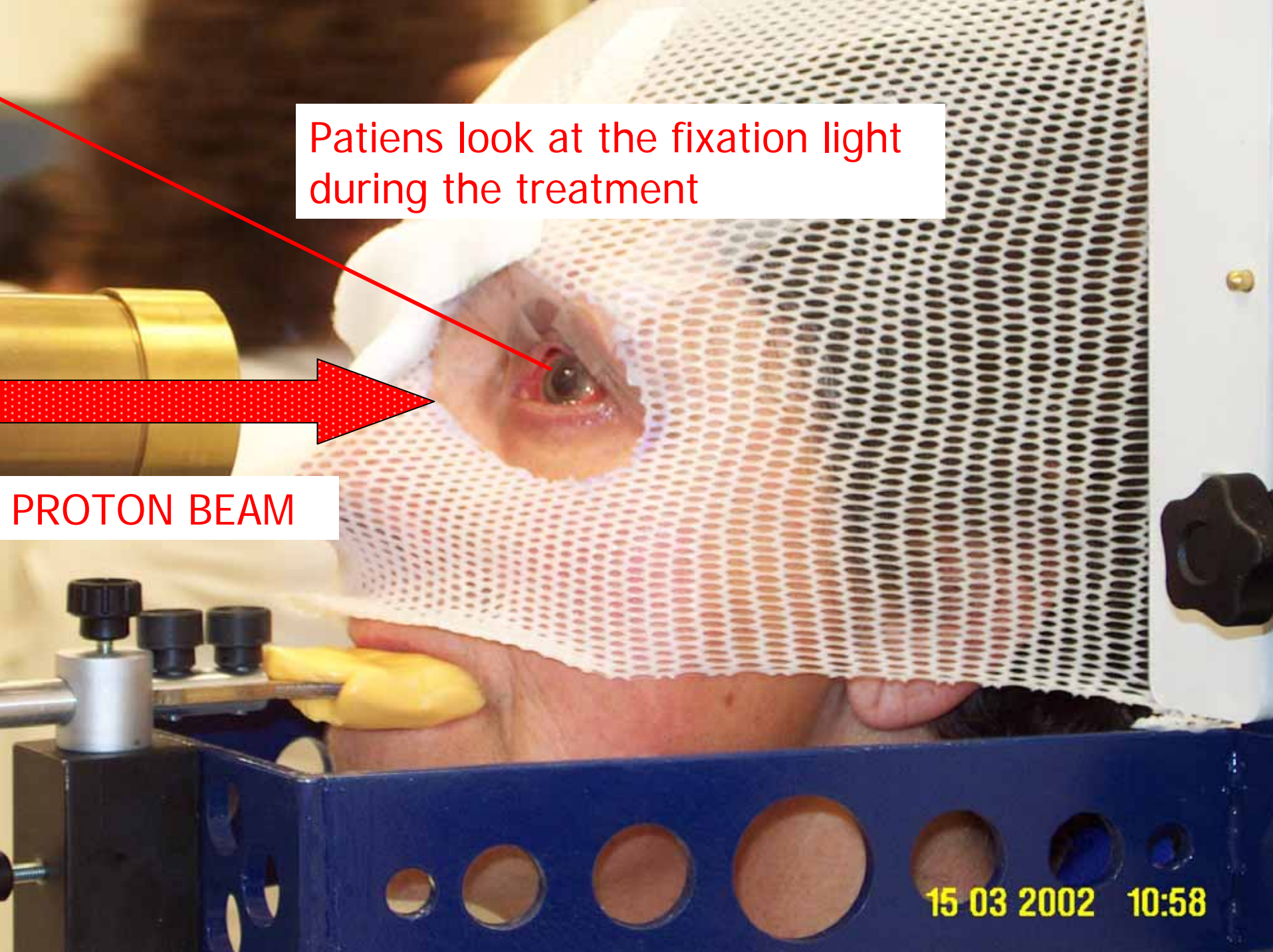




Patients look at the fixation light during the treatment



PROTON BEAM



15 03 2002 10:58

# Patient Distribution by Region

First patient:

March 2001

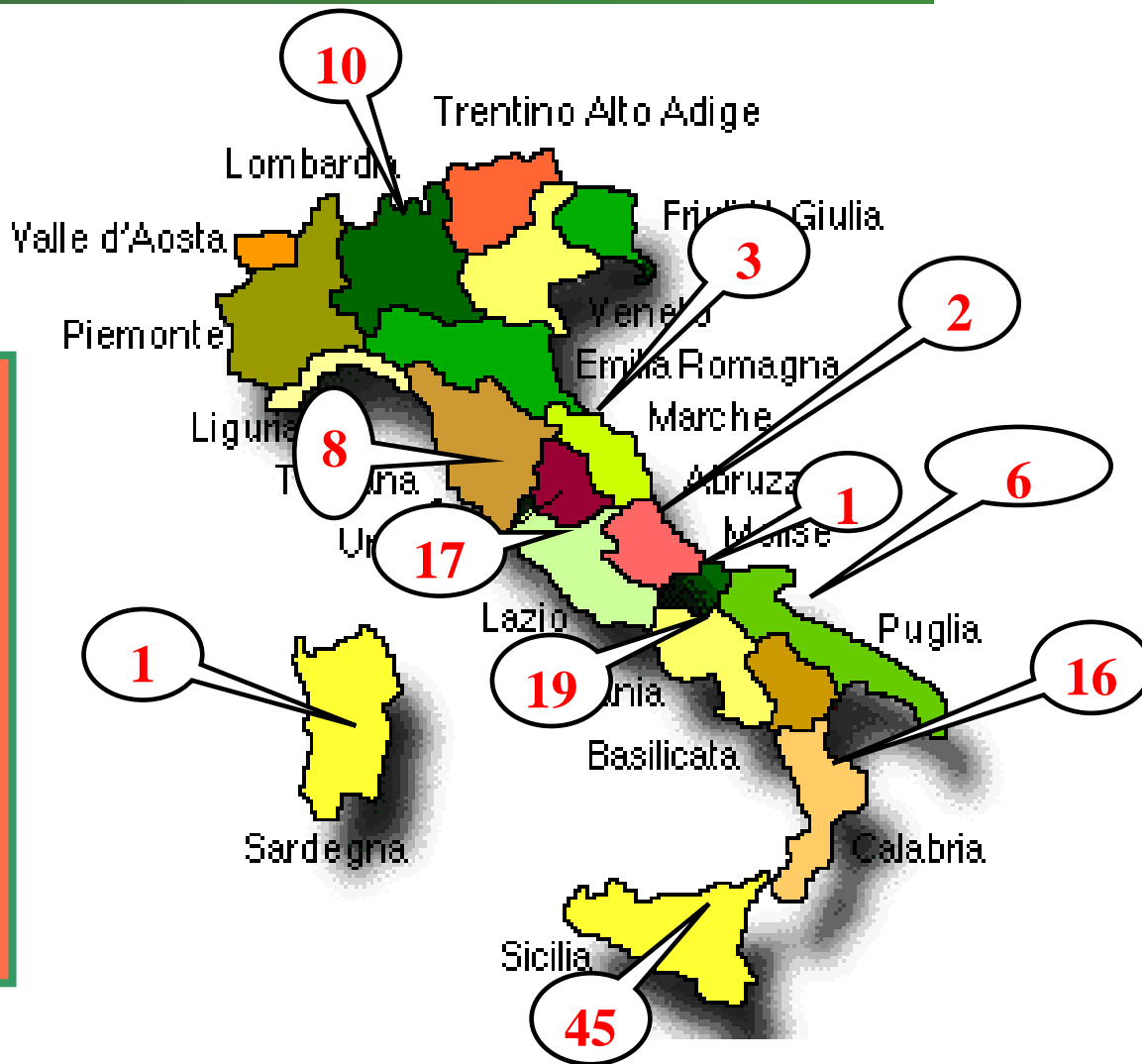
Total patients number

(February 2007) : 130

Employers: Radiologist 3

Oculists 3

Med. Physicist 3



## Patient Follow-Up (March 2002 – May 2006)

<b>Patients Total Number (April 2006)</b>		<b>130</b>	
<b>Patients with Follow up</b>		<b>100</b>	
<b>TUMORAL THICKNESS</b>		<b>ECOGRAPHIC REFLECTIVITY</b>	
Reduced	70 %	Increased	77 %
Stable	24 %	Stable	18 %
Increased	2 %	Not evaluable	5 %
Not evaluable	2 %		



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## Why to start a Simulation Work ?

So we start our simulation work using GEANT4:

- To simulate a generic hadron therapy beam line with all its elements and
- To reproduce all the dose distributions and
- To investigate the Monte Carlo capability for Treatment Planning

*It's impossible to conceive a modern detector w/o simulation*

Rossi and Greisen 1941, Rev. Mod. Phys. 13:240

**HADRONTHERAPY**: AN OFFICIALLY GEANT4 ADVANCED EXAMPLE  
FREELY AVAILABLE INSIDE THE DISTRIBUTION

[www.cern.ch/GEANT4](http://www.cern.ch/GEANT4)

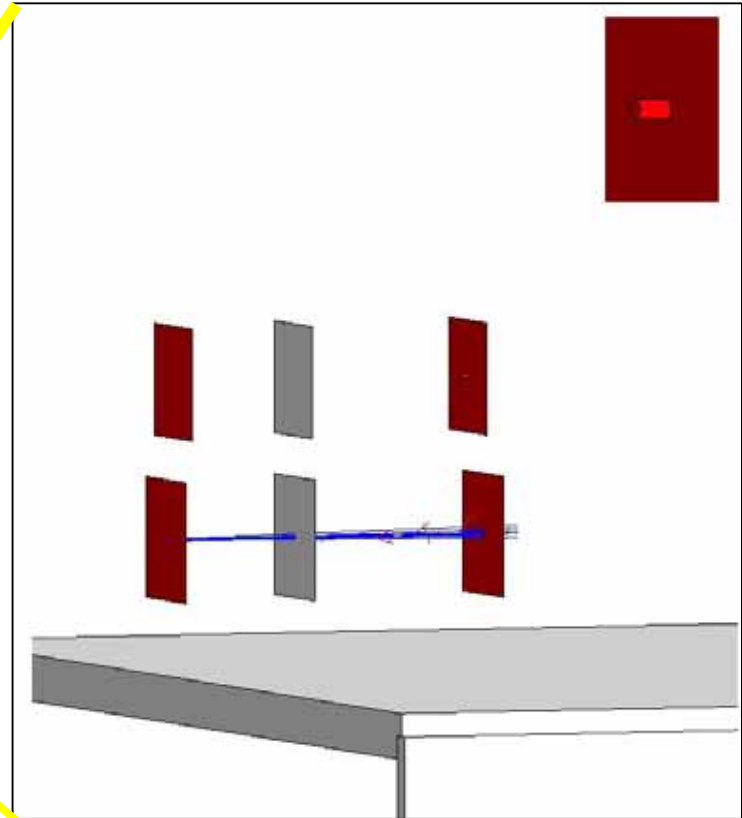
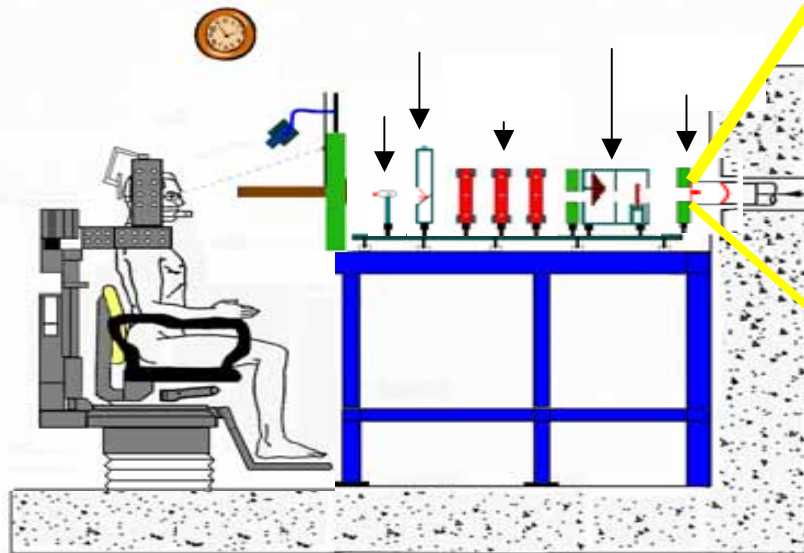
Complete simulation of CATANA  
hadron-therapy beam line with two doseimeters

- **Depth Dose Distribution in Water**  
( Bragg curve ): Markus type ionization chamber;
- **Lateral Dose Distribution:**  
Radiochromic film;



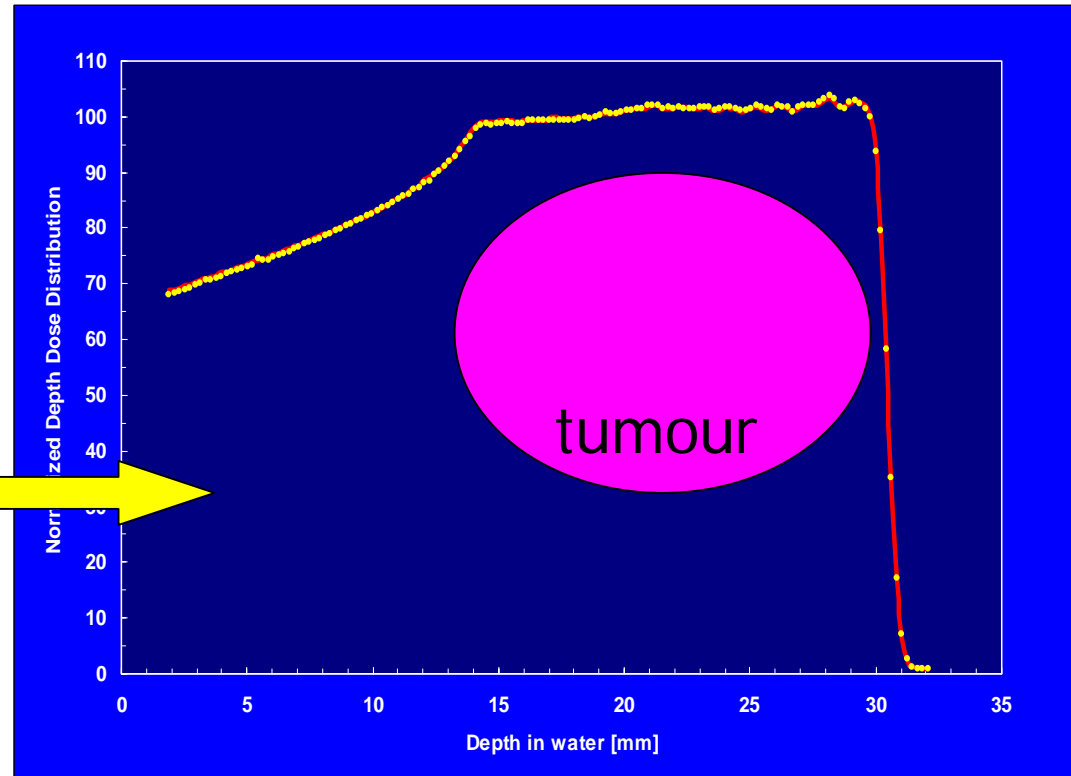
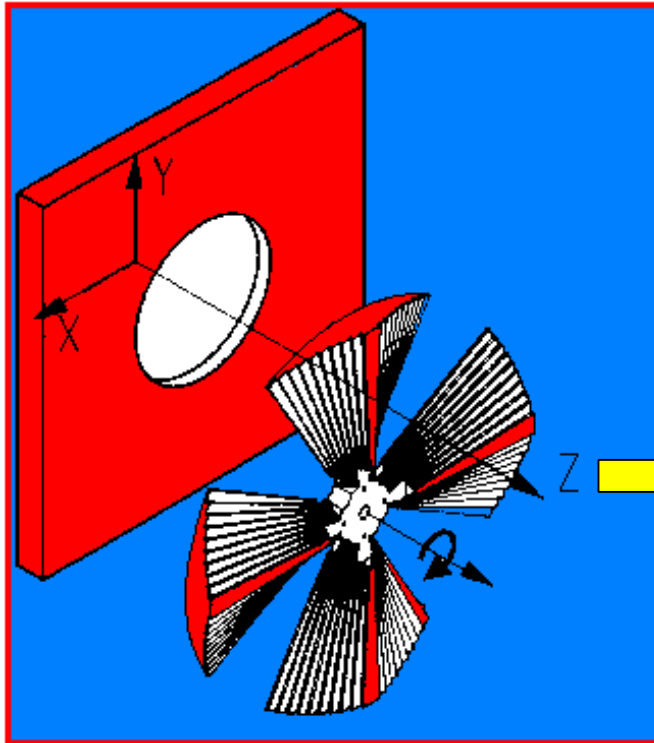
## DOUBLE SCATTERER FOIL WITH CENTRAL STOPPER

15  $\mu\text{m}$  + 25  $\mu\text{m}$  + 7 mm thick copper beam stopper



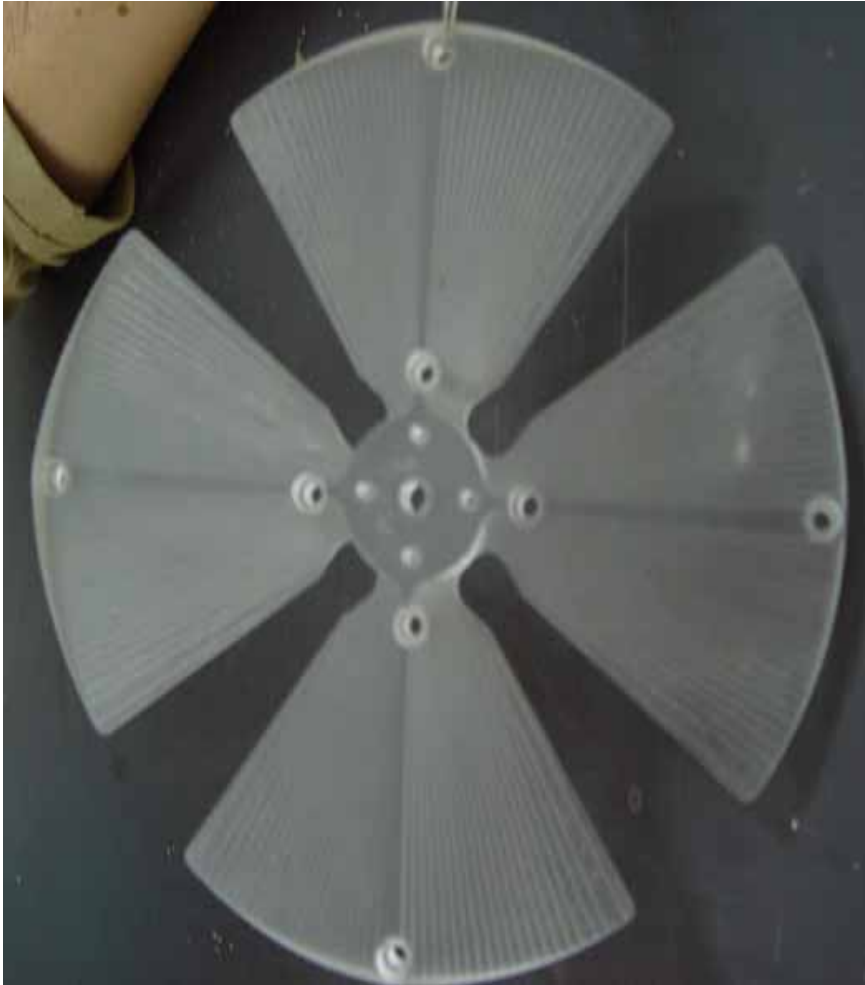
# The modulator wheel: time dependent simulation

## Modulator simulation for the SOBP reconstruction

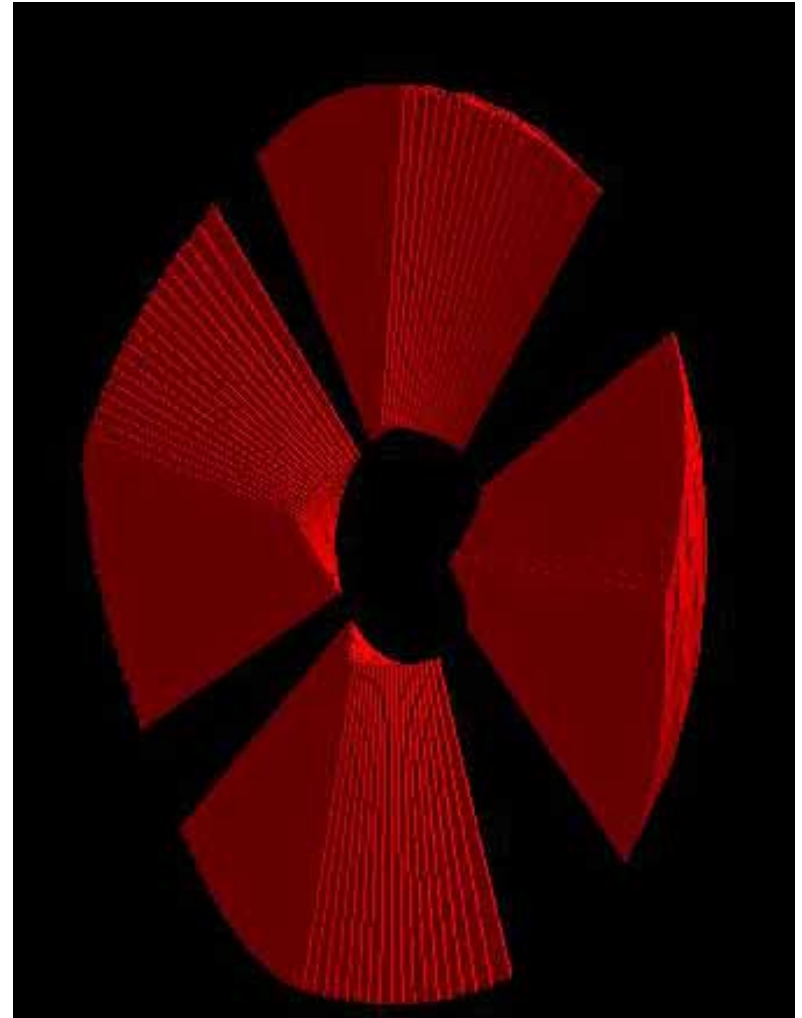


During the simulation the wheel rotates producing the flat dose distribution

## Real Modulator



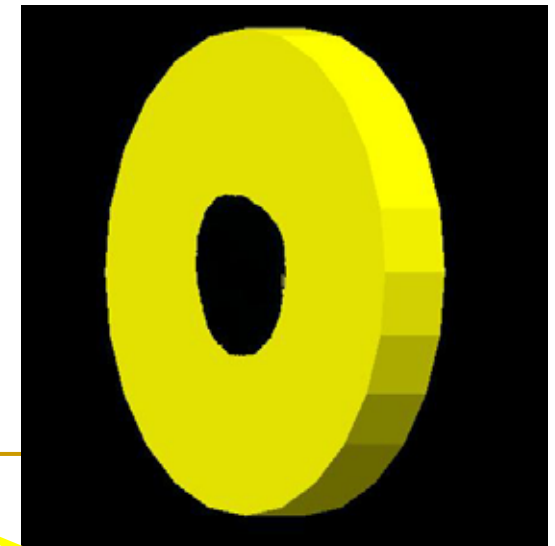
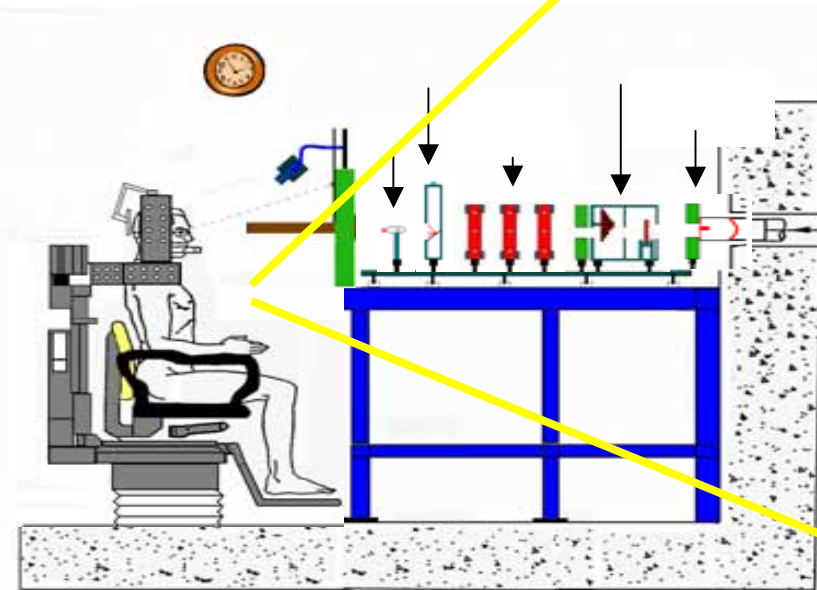
## Geant4 Modulator





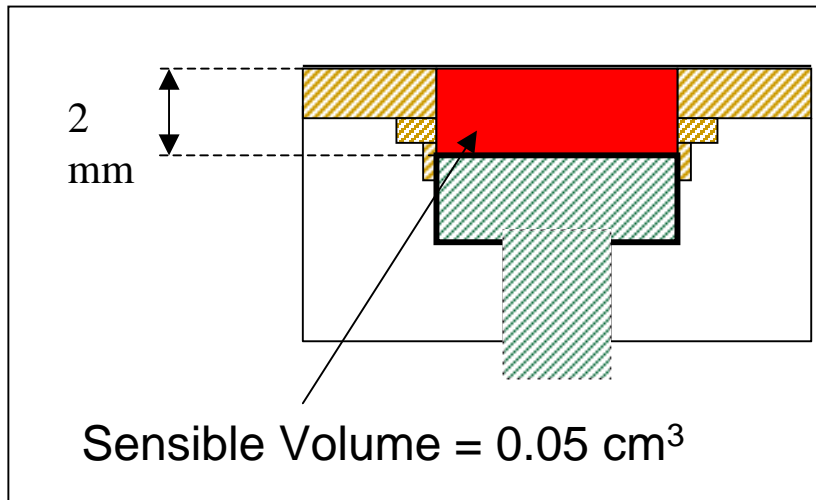
# The beam line simulation: the final collimator

Collimator with a shape depends on the particular tumour



## DEPTH DOSE DISTRIBUTION

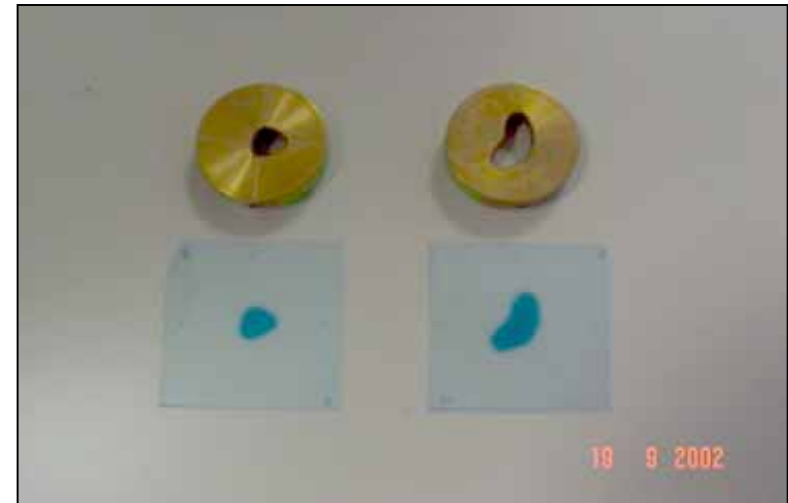
- Markus Ionization chamber



Markus Chamber layout

## LATERAL DOSE DISTRIBUTION

- GAF Chromic Film

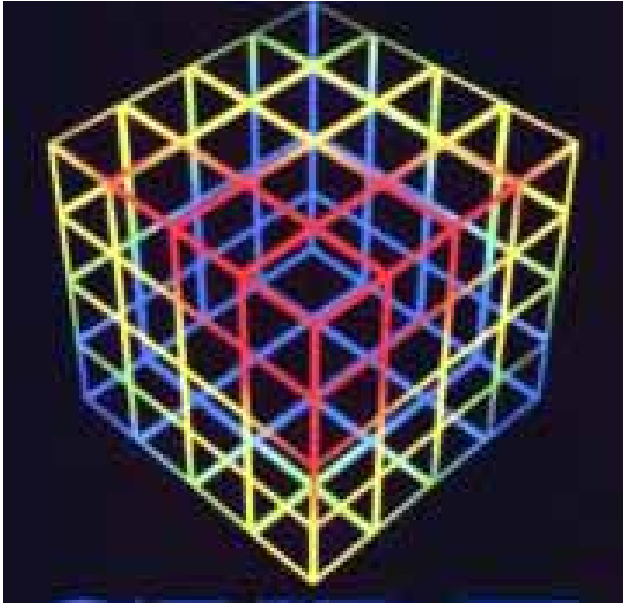


Irradiated GAF Chromic

Resolution 100  $\mu\text{m}$  for DDP and 200  $\mu\text{m}$  for LDP

Detector simulated as a 3D cube (RO Geometry Class)

Energy collected in each voxel at the end of a run

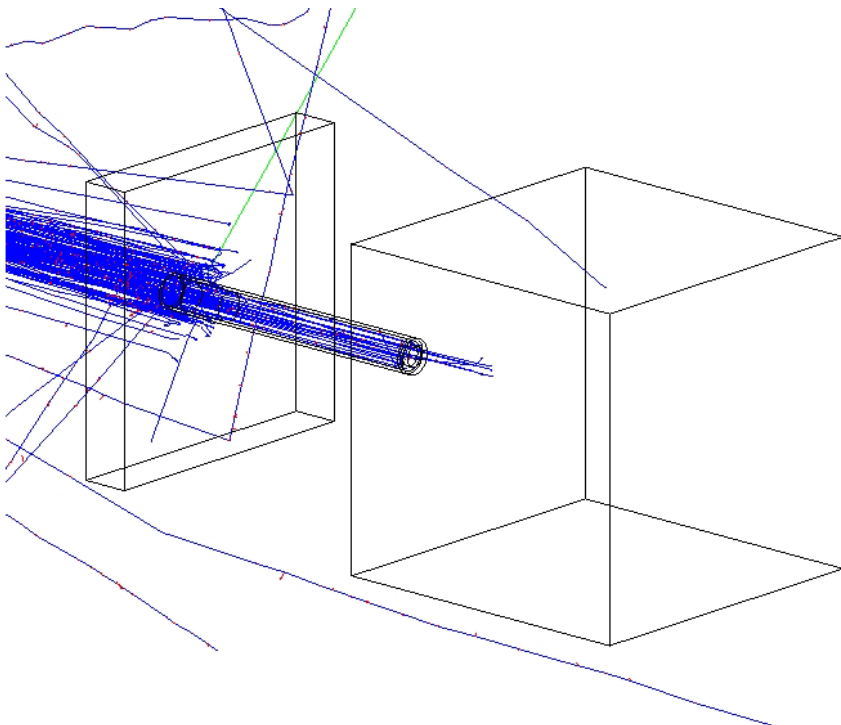
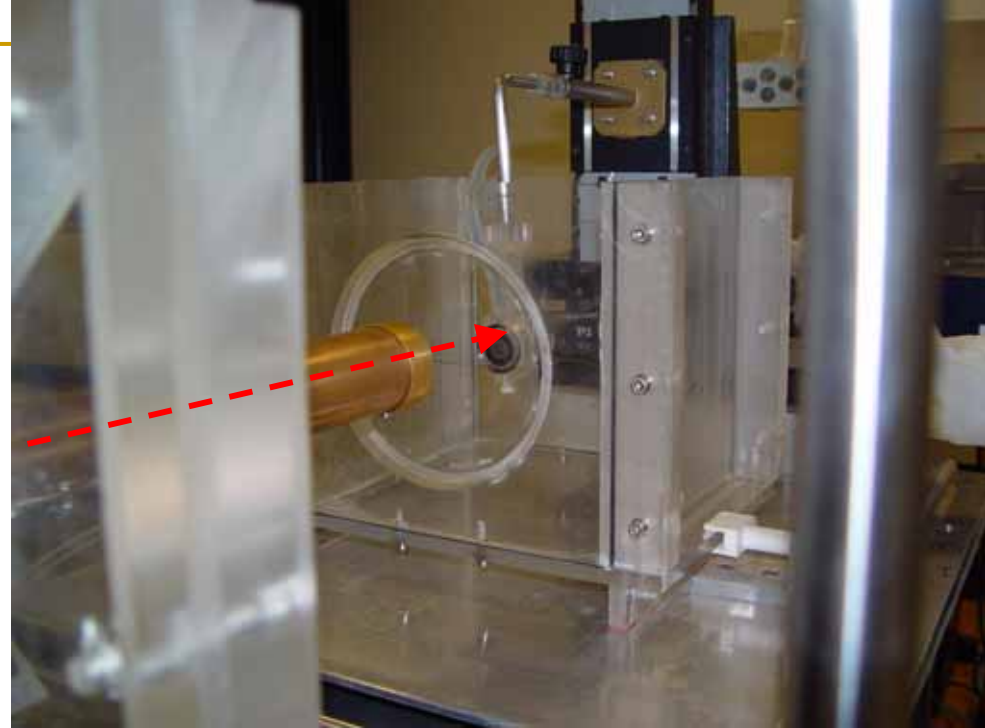


The cube shape can be changed:

- The whole cube if all the informations are needed
- A plane for the GAF simulation
- A small cylinder for the Markus simulation

## Bragg curve reconstruction

Water box with  
ionisation chamber



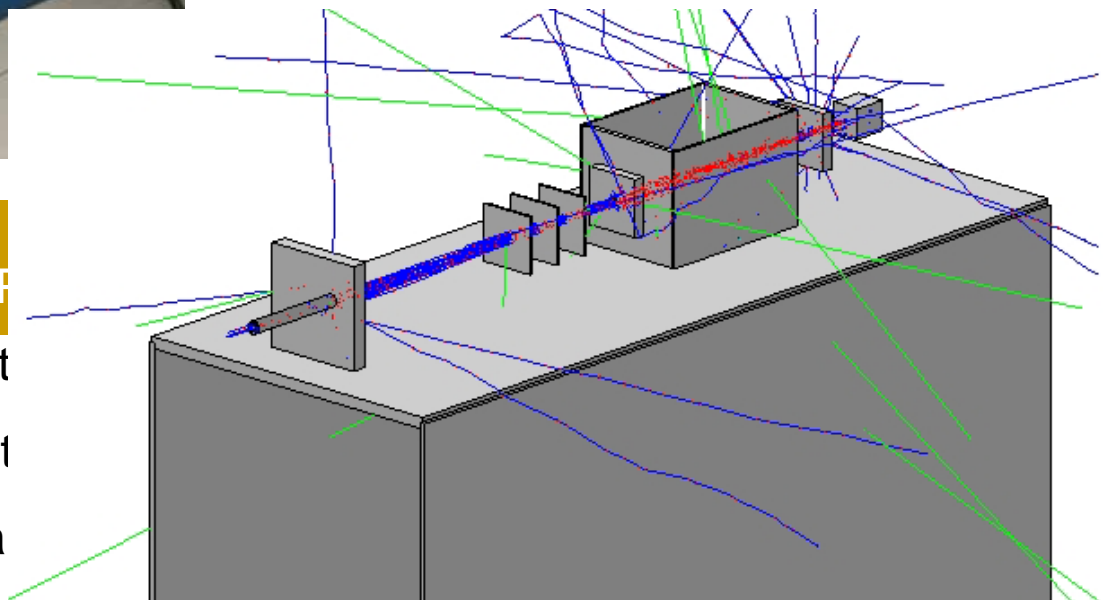
Water box + detector  
for Bragg curve as  
simulated





## Real hadron-therapy beam line

## GEANT4 simulation

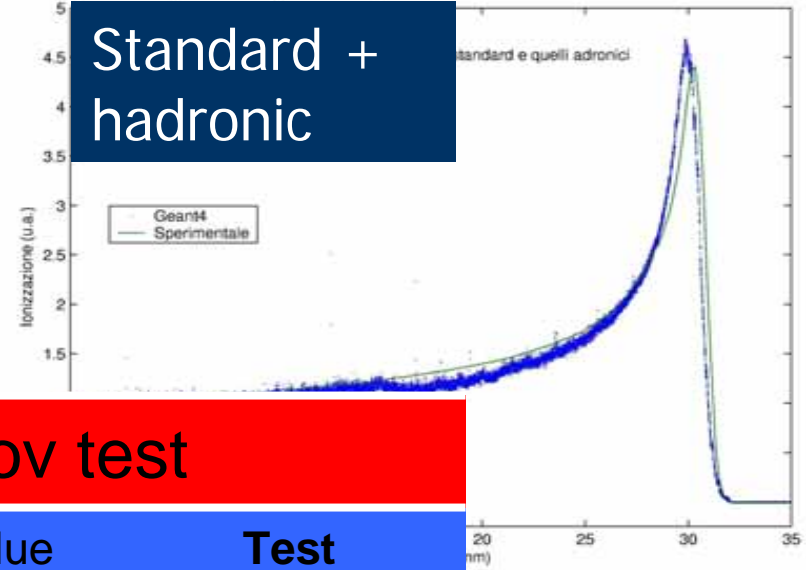
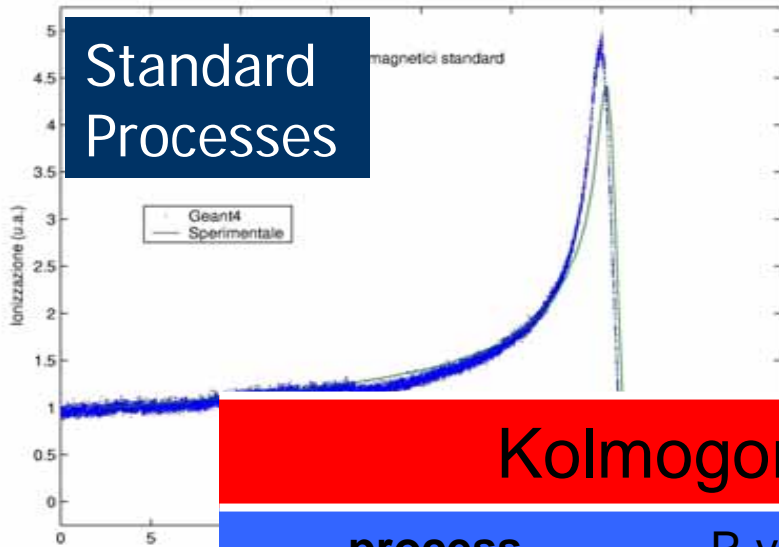


### OUR COMPONENTS

- GEANT4 MC t
- Electromagnet
- Elastic nucrea

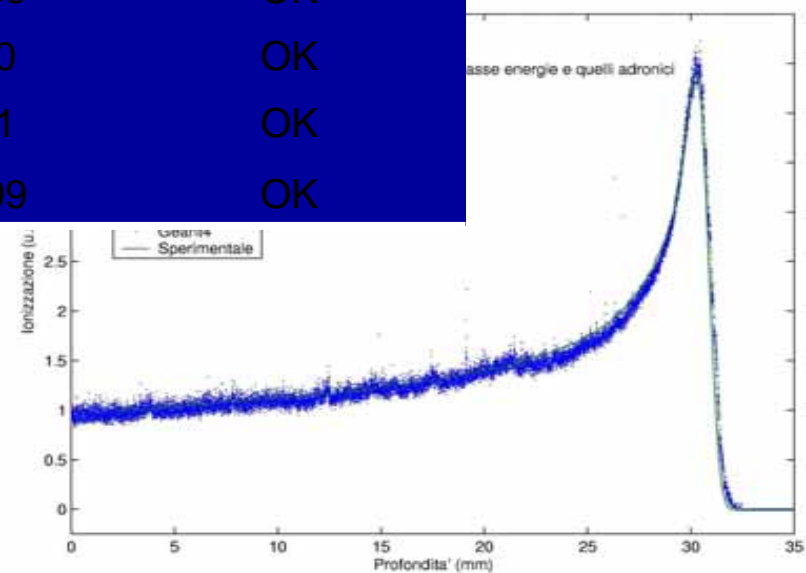
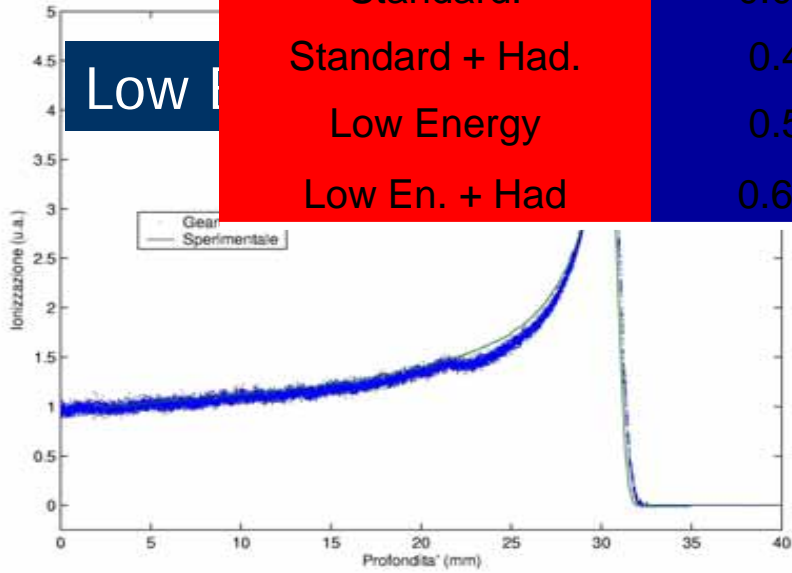
Each element of the line can be modified (in shape, material and position) and other kinds of dosimeters can be easily inserted

# Physic models: comparison vs experimental data

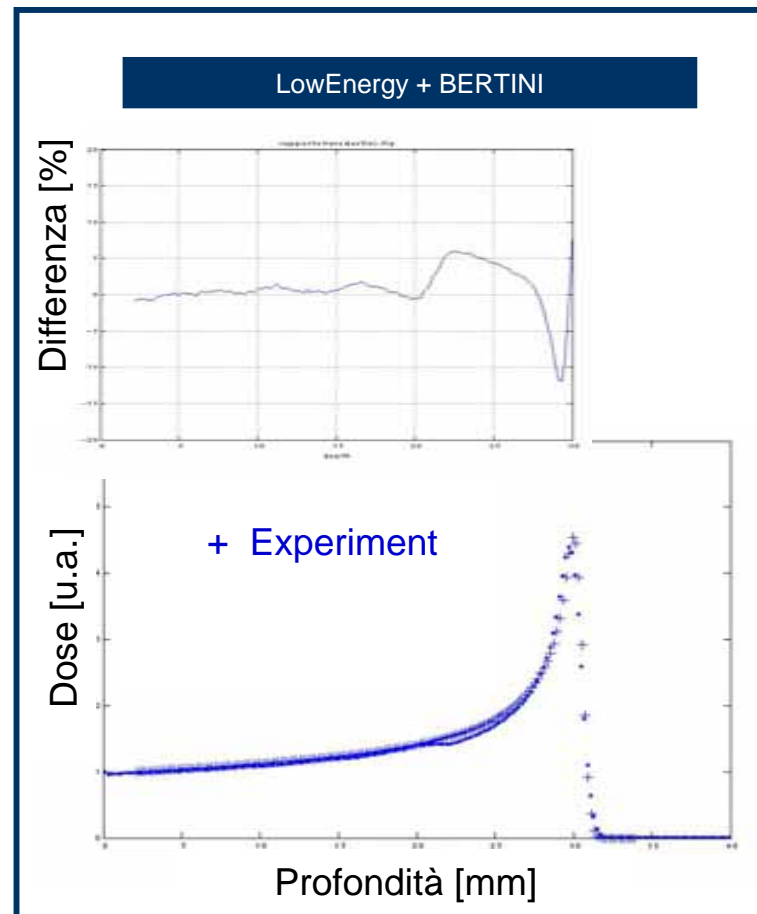
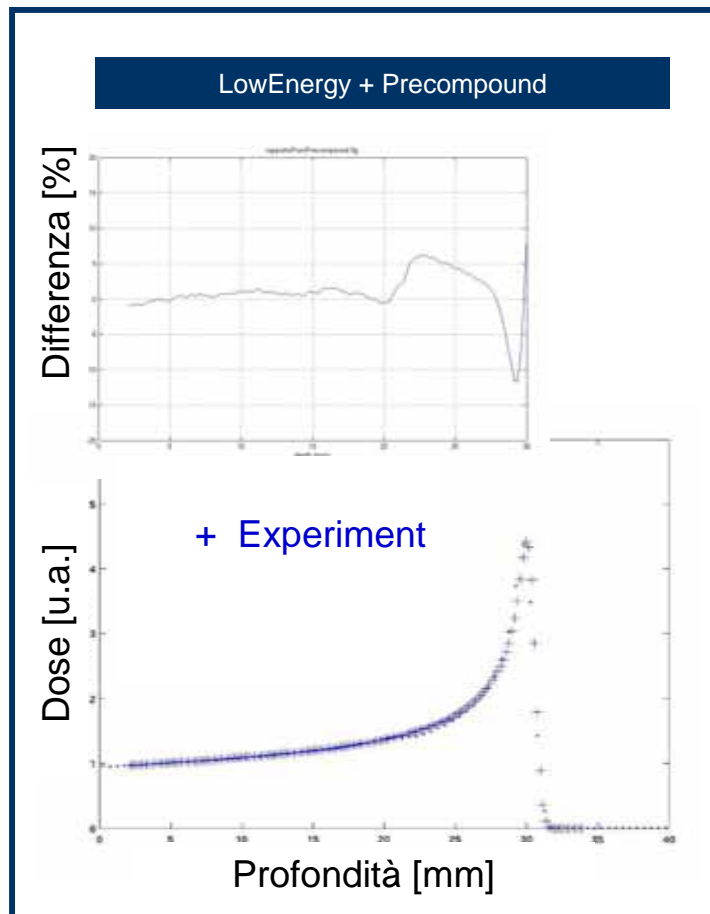


## Kolmogorov test

process	P-value	Test
Standard.	0.069	OK
Standard + Had.	0.40	OK
Low Energy	0.51	OK
Low En. + Had	0.699	OK

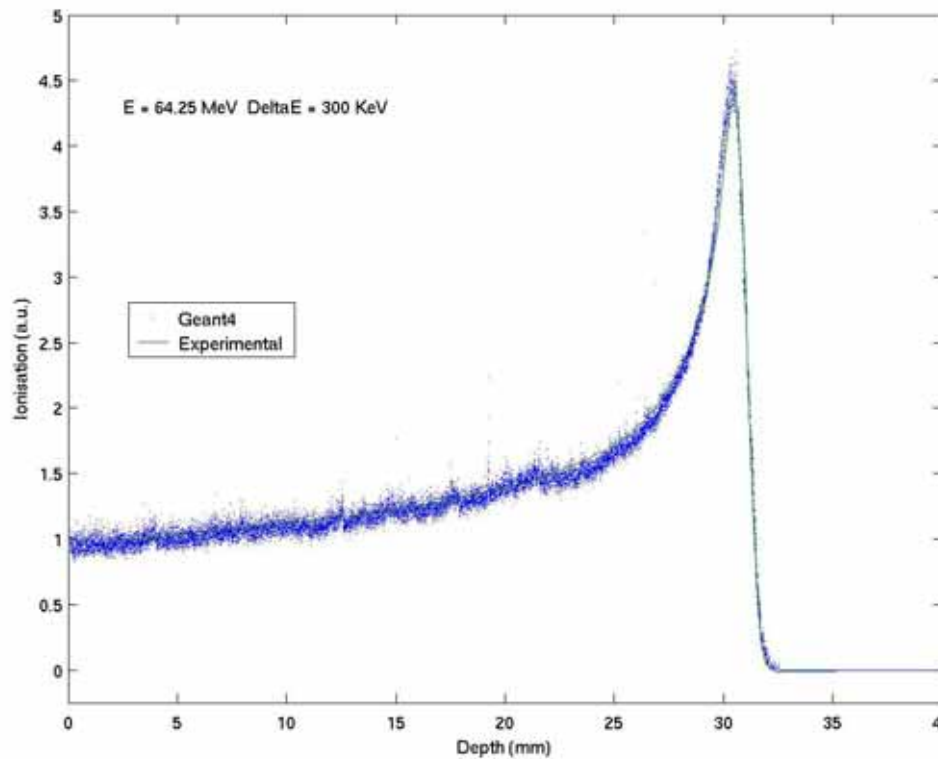


# Physic models: comparison vs experimental data

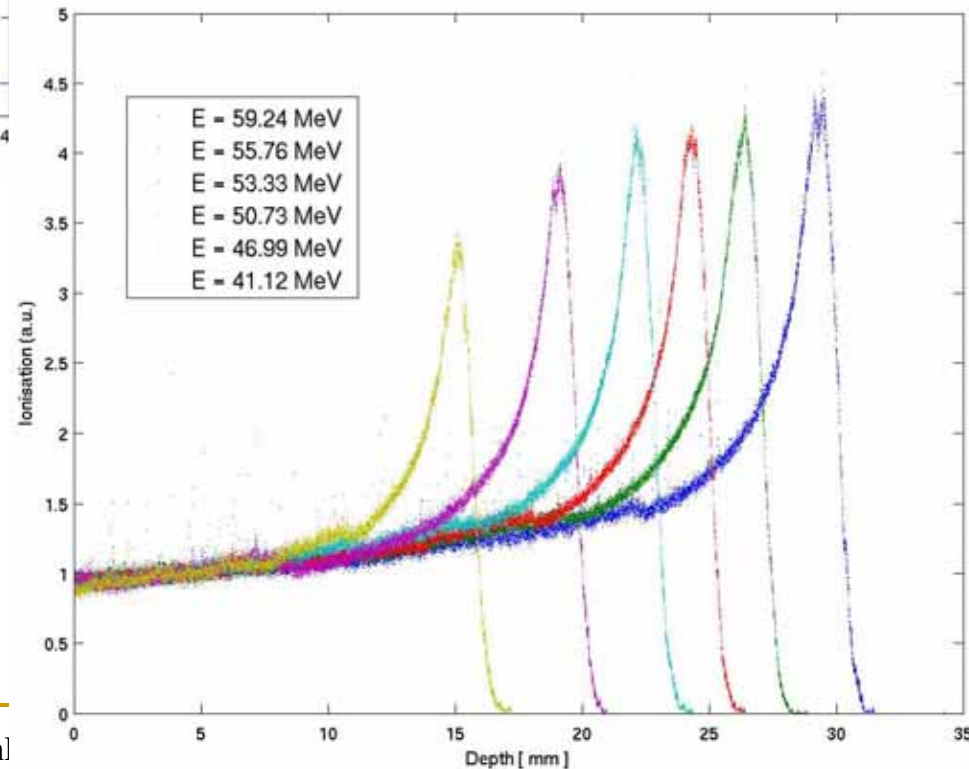


Parametri	Rapporto Picco-Plateau	FWHM [mm]	Range Pratico [mm]	Penombra90/10 [mm]
LowEn+Bertini	<b>4.39</b>	<b>3.34</b>	<b>31.21</b>	<b>1.10</b>
LowEn+Precompound	<b>4.54</b>	<b>3.35</b>	<b>31.12</b>	<b>1.05</b>
Sperimentale	<b>4.54</b>	<b>3.59</b>	<b>31.09</b>	<b>0.8</b>

*Low energy libraries and hadronic physics*

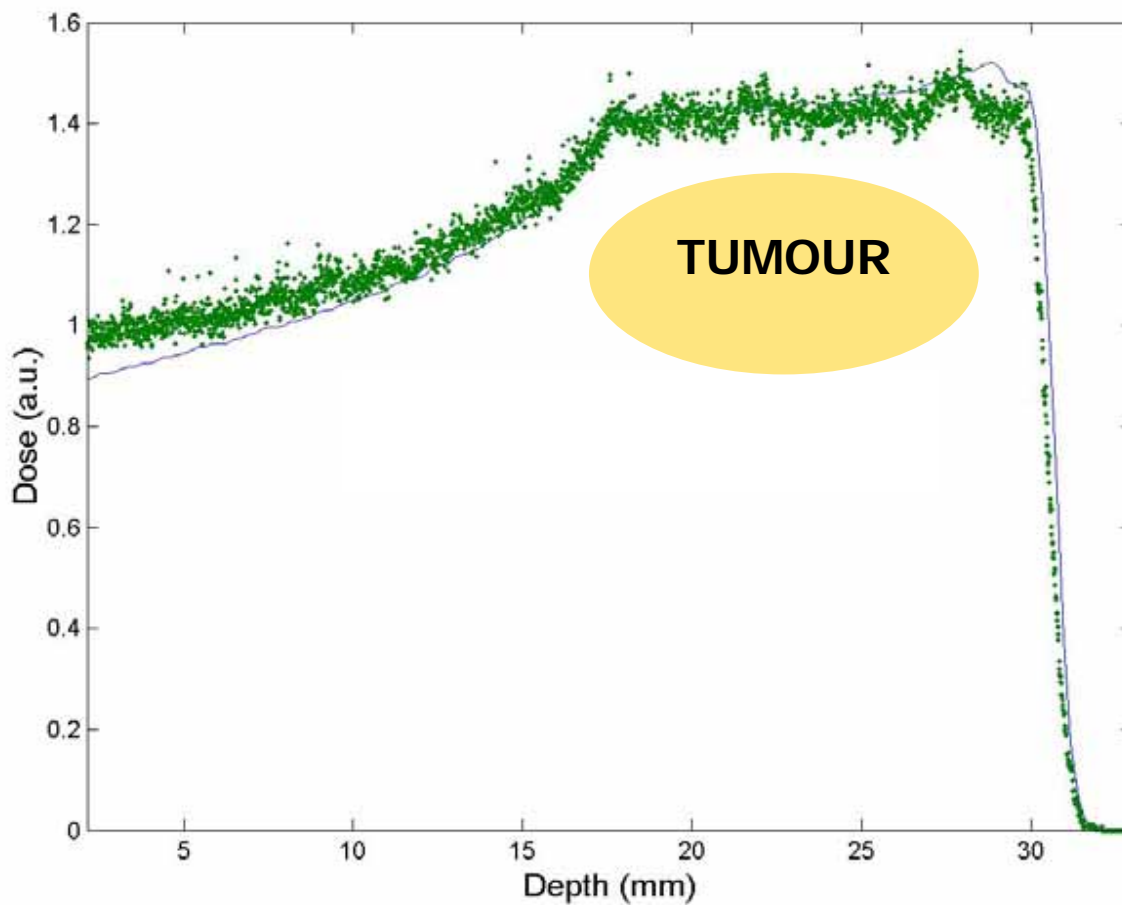


Bragg peaks at different energies

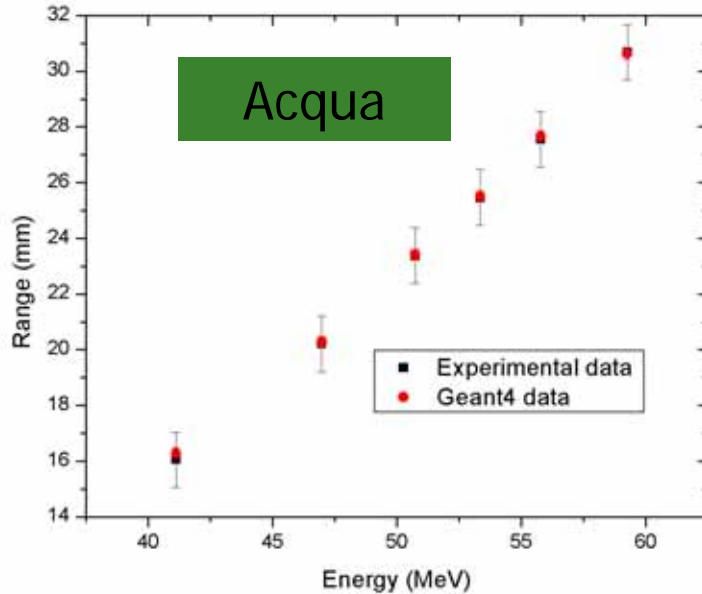




# Spread Out Bragg Peak: simulation vs experiment



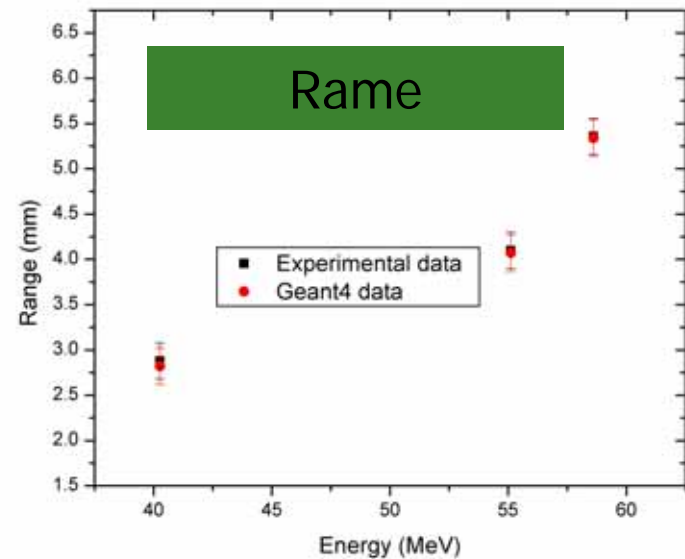
# Physic models: comparison vs experimental data



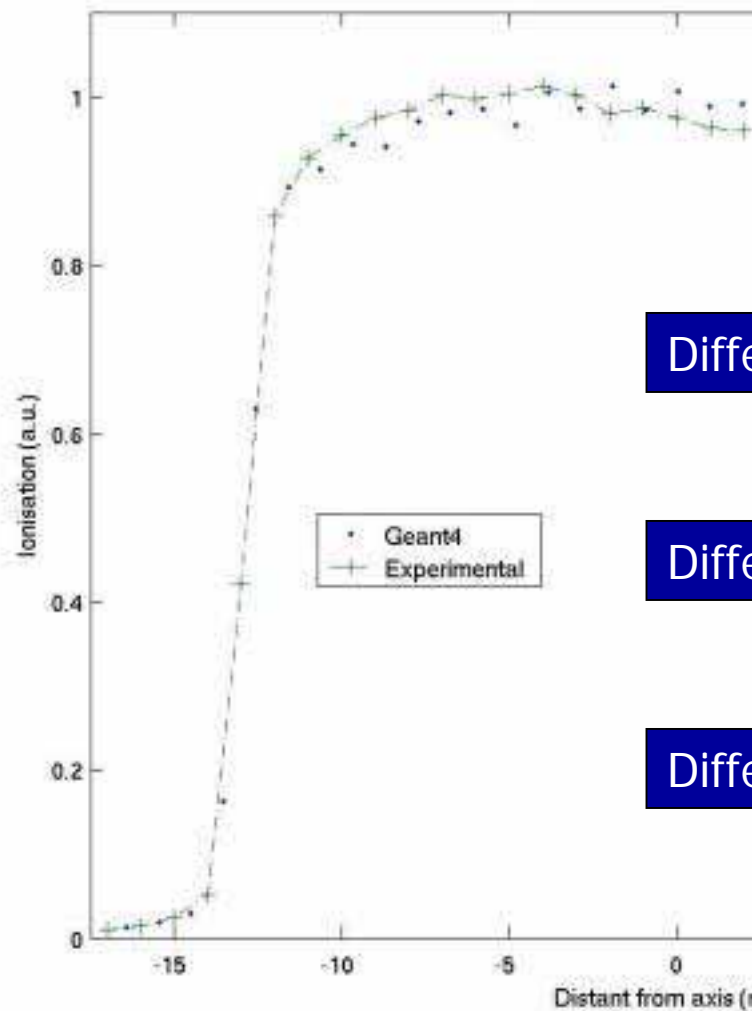
## Kolmogorov test

materiale	P-value	test
Acqua	0.9876	Accettato
Rame	0.999	Accettato

Simulated and experimental range in water and copper



# Lateral distributions: comparison vs experimental data



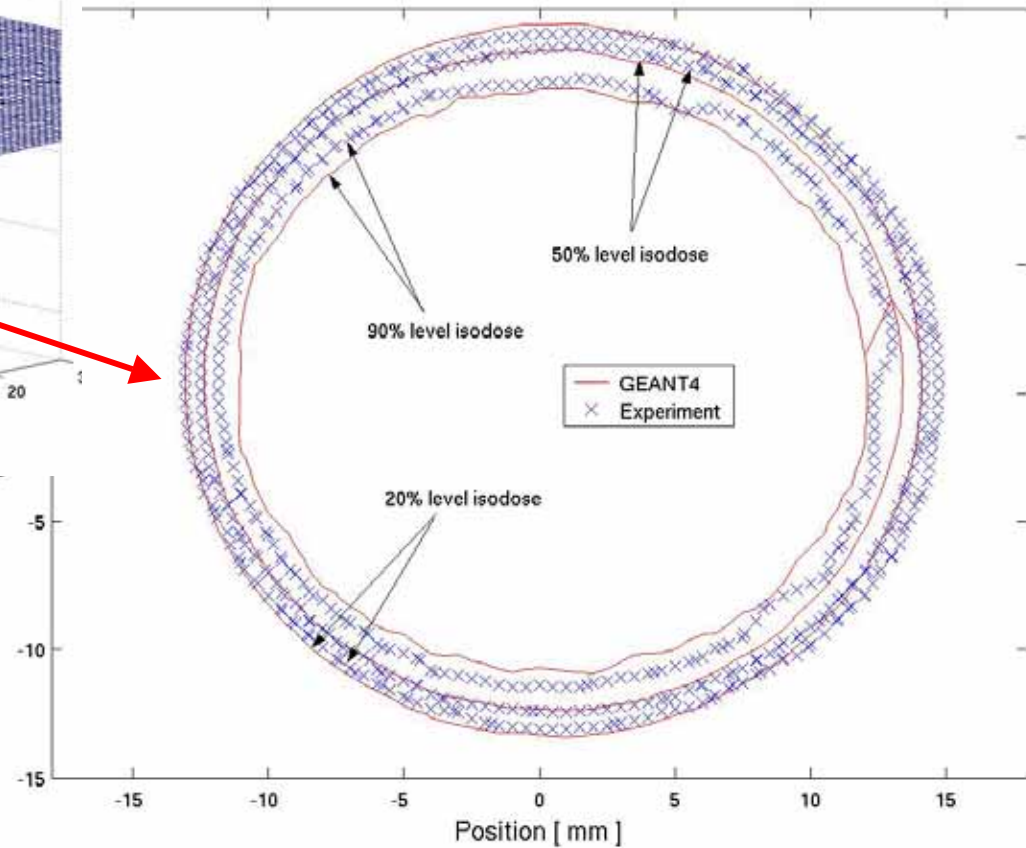
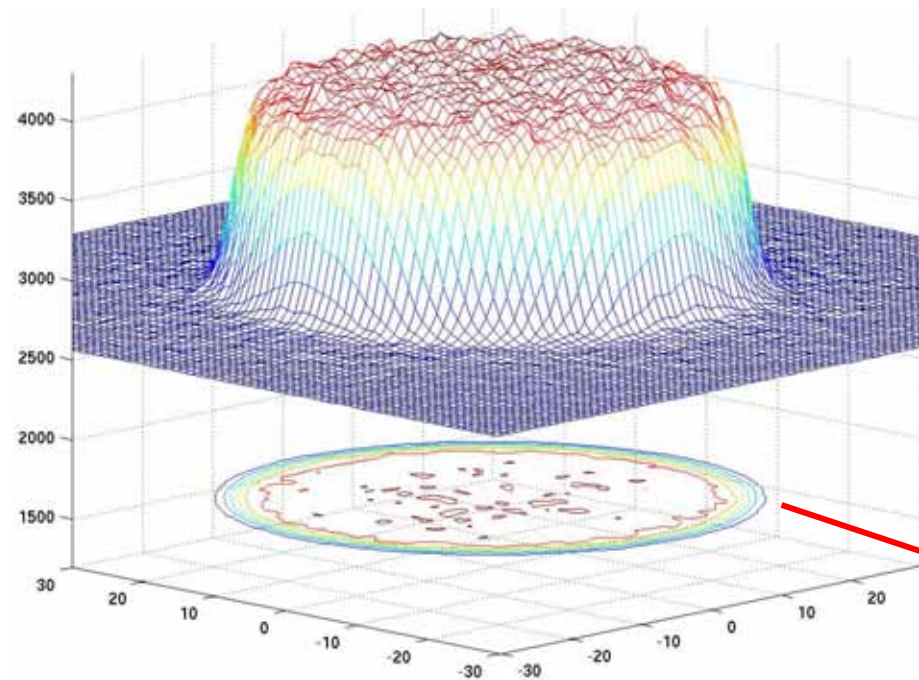
Difference in penumbra = 0.5 %

Difference in FWHM = 0.5 %

Difference Max in the homogeneity region = 2 %

Kolmogorov test:

$$\chi^2 = 0.011, p = 0.97, \nu = 2$$





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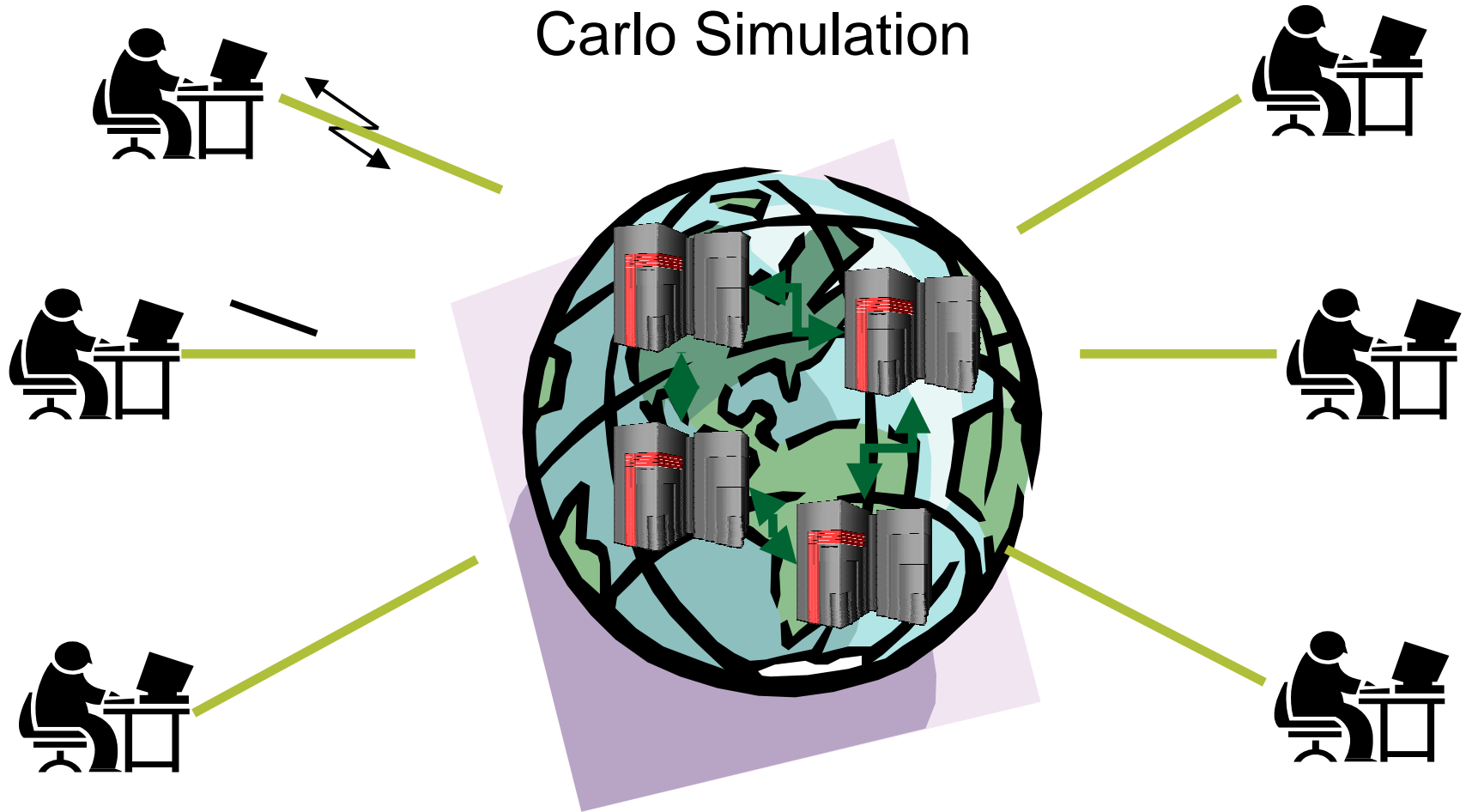
Monte Carlo in the clinical practice can be limited by the long calculation times

On the other hand *velocity* is mandatory for a medical physicist and a medical doctor when they are to plan a treatment

Now our application needs 12 hours to obtain a good information about dose distributions.

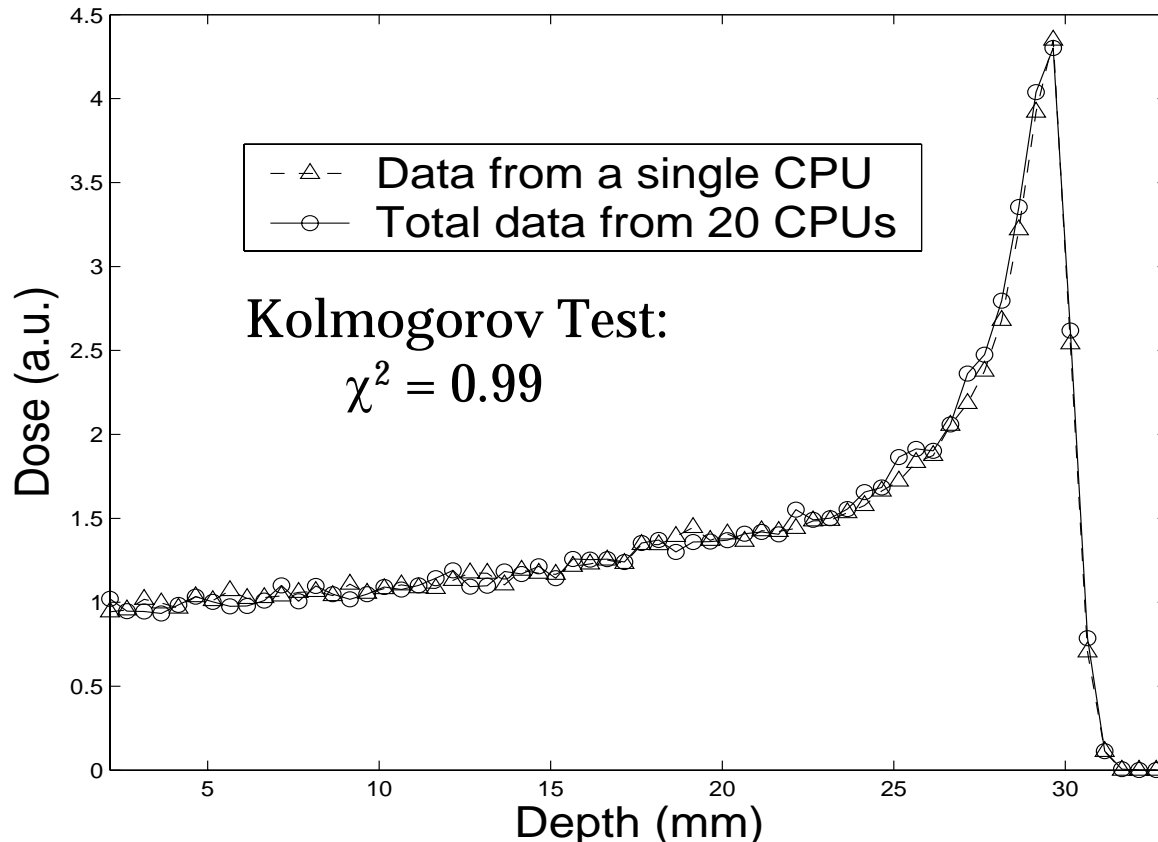
(Pentium 3 800 Mhz, 3 Mega protons simulated)

GRID should be a solution for time problem of a Monte Carlo Simulation



## GRID implementation

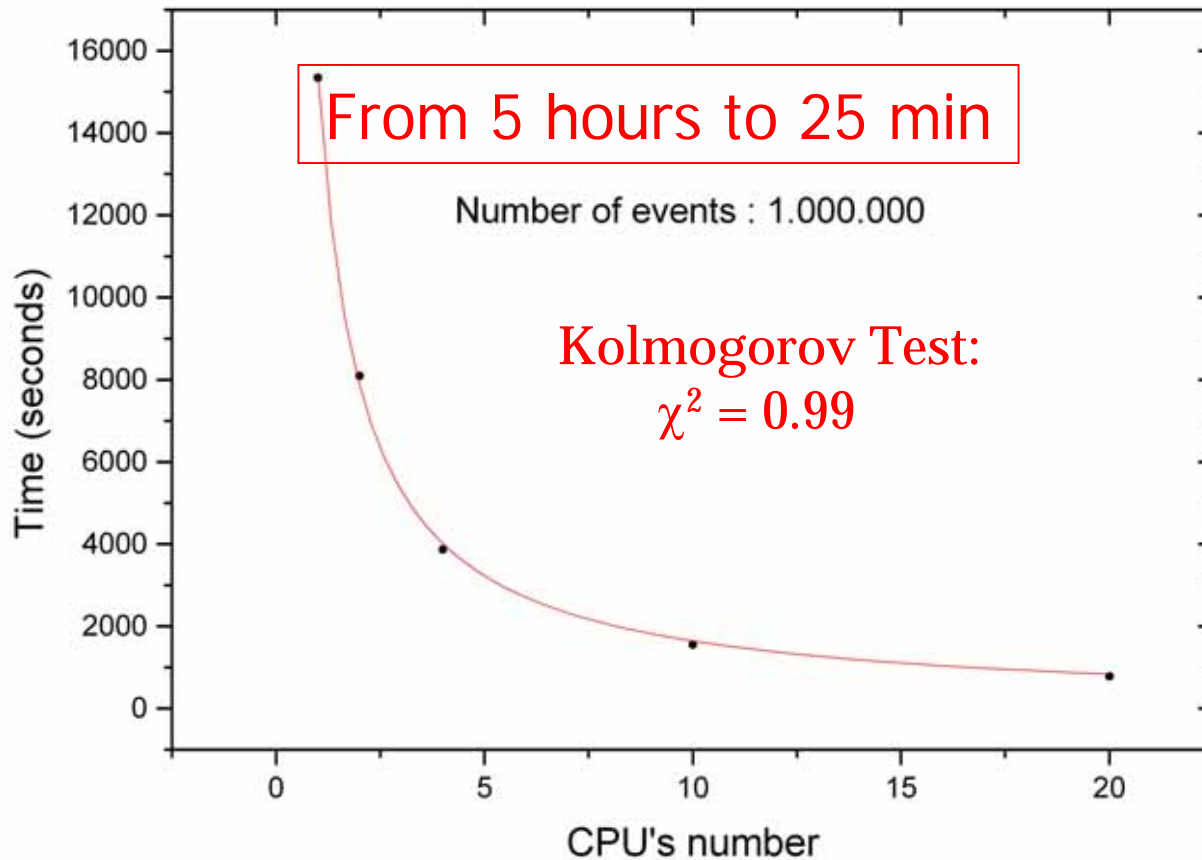
- RPM for a simpler installation on the GRID;
- No change of the specific application C++ code;
- FUTURE: investigation for the use of GEANT4 for a MC treatment planning system



Any GEANT4 application can run on the GRID in the same manner



# GRID implementation



Any GEANT4 application can run on the GRID in the same manner

## HADRON THERAPY CONFIGURATION PANEL

FILE NAME

 BEAM ENERGY  

DISTRIBUTION CHOSEN

 THICKNESS DEGRADER

- Bragg Peak
- Spread Out Bragg Peak
- Lateral Distribution

NUMBER OF EVENTS

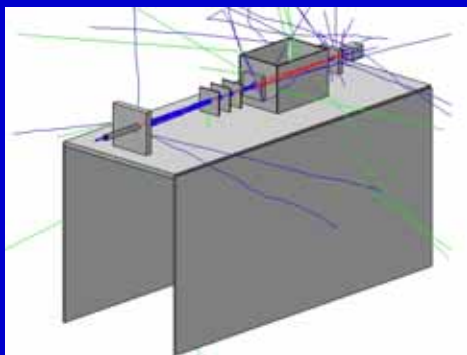
  

NUMBER OF JOBS

VISUALIZATION

## GRAPHICS OUTPUT



## **G4EMU**

The **Geant4** European Medical User Organization

<http://g4emu.wikispaces.com/>

We are planning to launch the group for the rapidly growing Geant4 medical user community of Europe.

The purpose of G4EMU is to bring Geant4 medical users together to share issues and practical advice, and to develop collaboration in Europe.

## **12th Geant4 Collaboration Workshop**

from **Thursday 13 September 2007 (09:00)**

to **Wednesday 19 September 2007 (18:00)**

**The first days open to the users**

# Supported by





Thank you for your attention

