

# Treatment Planning System for Small Field Dosimetry

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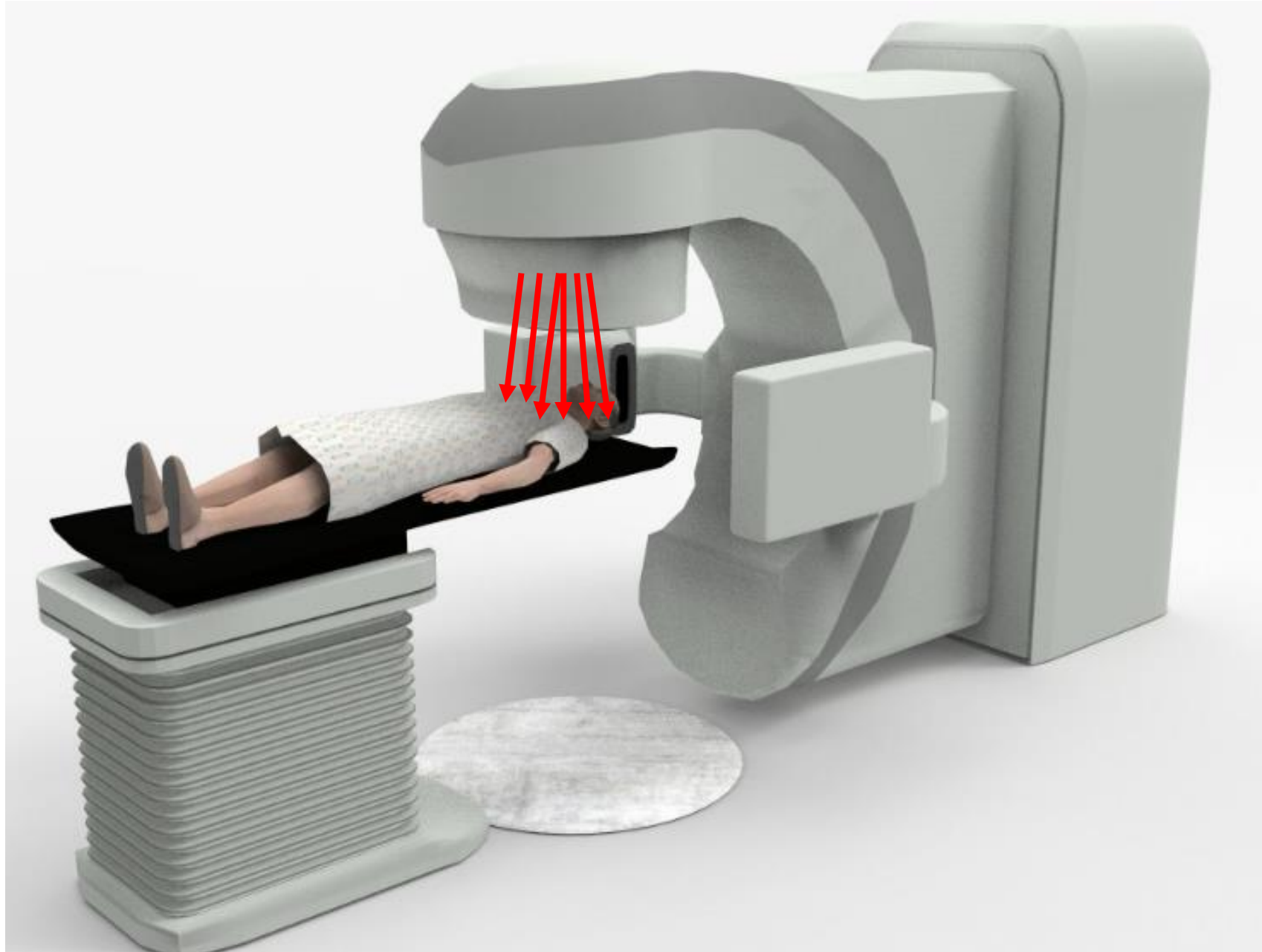
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Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital,  
Mahidol University

- I have no conflict of interest to disclose.

# Agenda

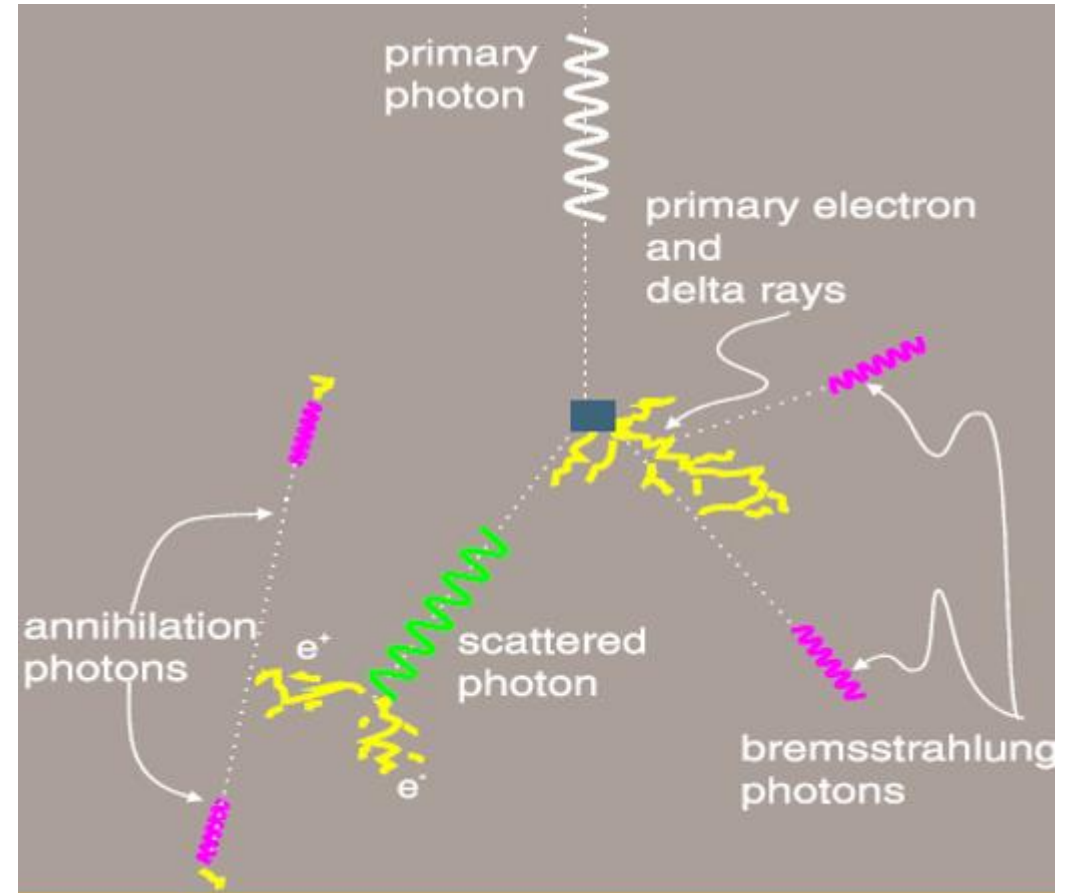
- Introduction of dose components of photon beams
- Types of algorithms
  - Correction-based, Model-based, Principle-based
- Why Principle-based is required for small field?
- Beam configuration of Monte Carlo simulation algorithm
- Conclusions

# Problem



# Physical Background

- Four main dose components for photon beams
  1. The primary dose (**primary photon**)
    - Dominates more than 70% of total dose
  2. The phantom scatter dose (**scattered photon**)
    - The second-largest contribution, represents 30% of total dose
  3. The head scatter dose (**scattered photon**)
    - Less importance, 5-10% of total dose
  4. The contaminant charged-particle energy deposition (**secondary electron**)
    - Large influence, especially for high-energy photon beams, but only at small depths (buildup region).



## Measurement based

Classical  
(Correction-based)

1

Equivalent depth and ratio of  
TAR (1D)

$$CF(d,r) = \frac{TAR(d',r)}{TAR(d,r)}$$

2

Power-law method (1D)

$$CF(d,r) = \frac{TAR(d_1,r)^{\rho_1 - \rho_2}}{TAR(d_2,r)^{1 - \rho_2}}$$

3

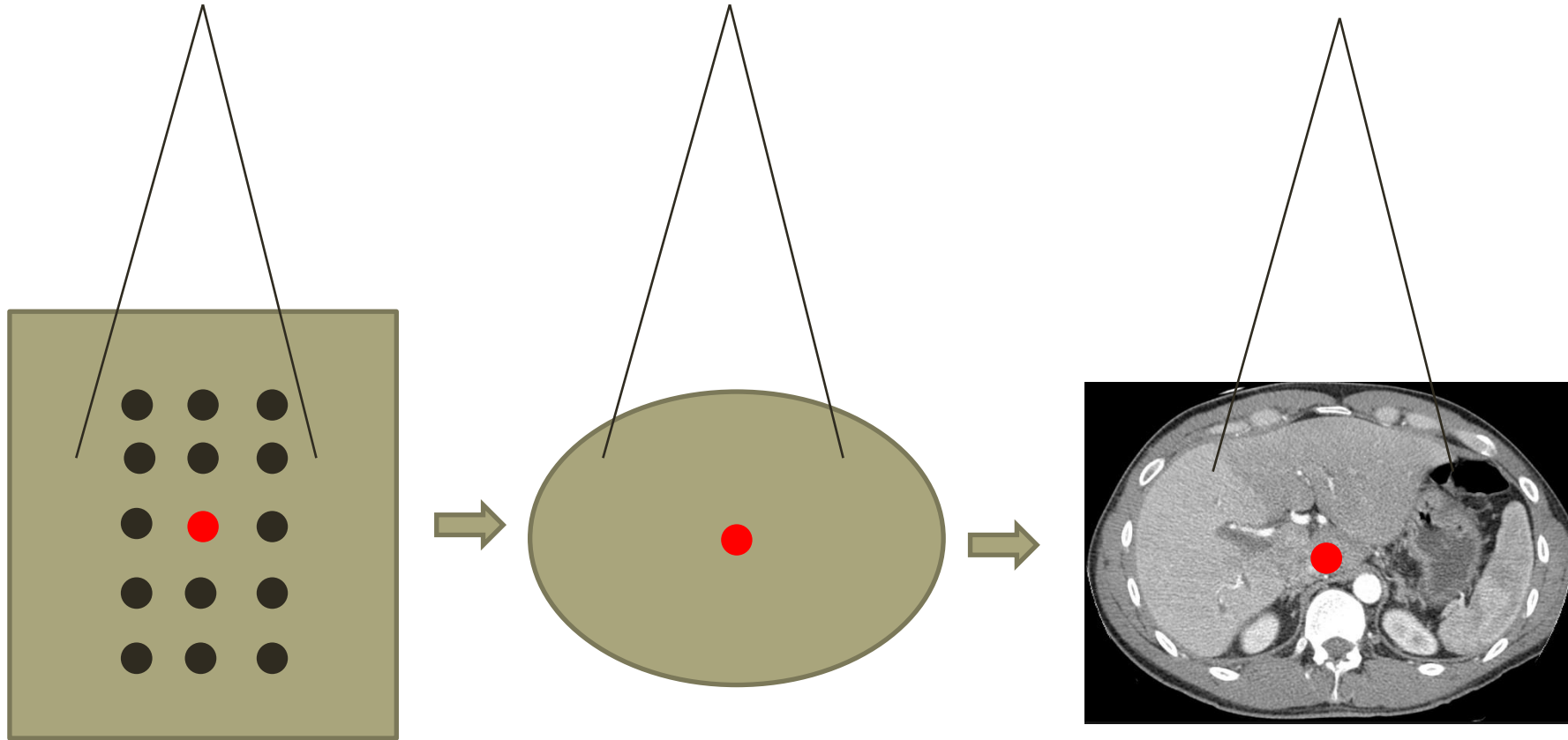
ETAR (3D)

$$CF(d,r) = TAR(d',\tilde{r})/TAR(d,r)$$

4

Fast Fourier transformations  
(2D)

# Correction based



Measurement  
PDD, o/p, profile

Calculation →  
SSD, depth, fs, etc

RTAR, Batho, ETAR

# Correction for Patient Shape and Inhomogeneities

## Patient Shape

- 1. Effective SSD method
- 2. Ratio of TAR or TPR method
- 3. Isodose shift method

## Inhomogeneities

- 1. Ratio of TAR (or TPR) Method
- 2. Power-Law Correction (Batho Correction)
- 3. Equivalent Tissue Air Ratio (ETAR) Correction

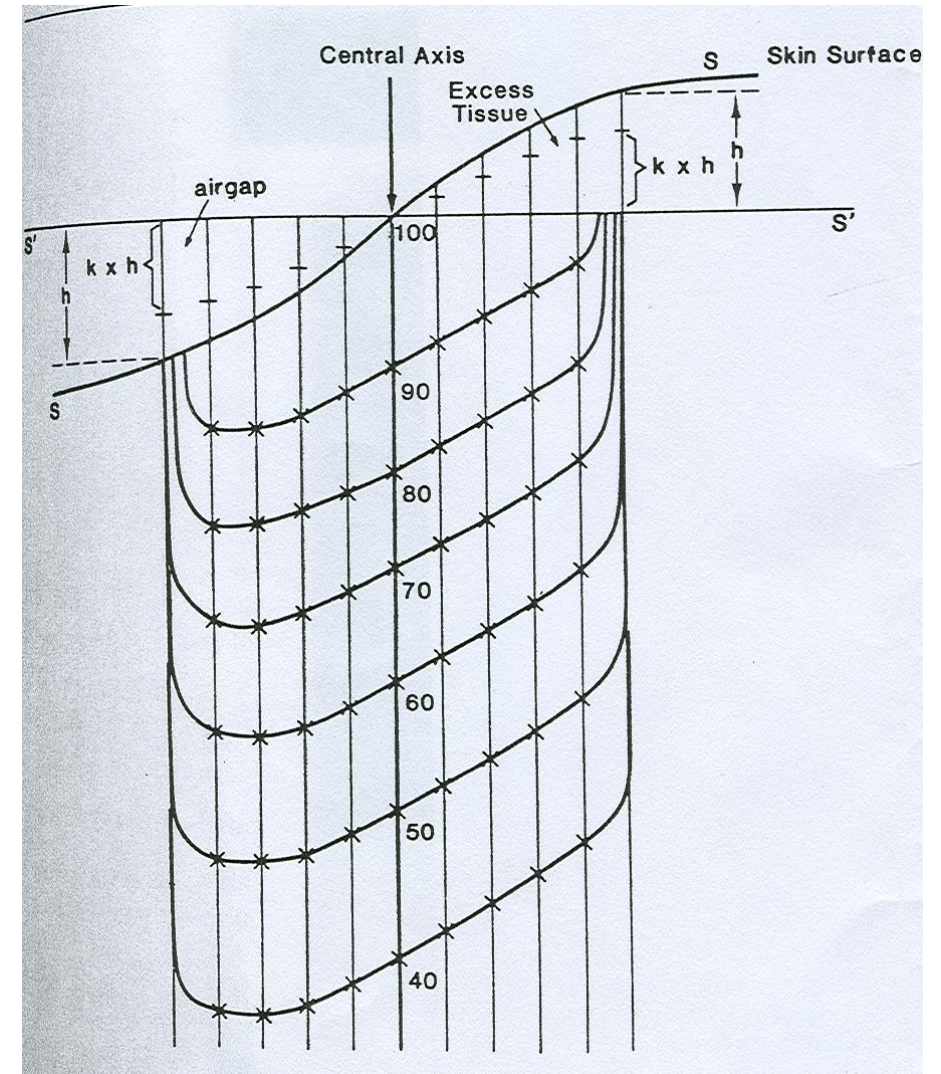


# Correction for Patient Shape

## Isodose shift method

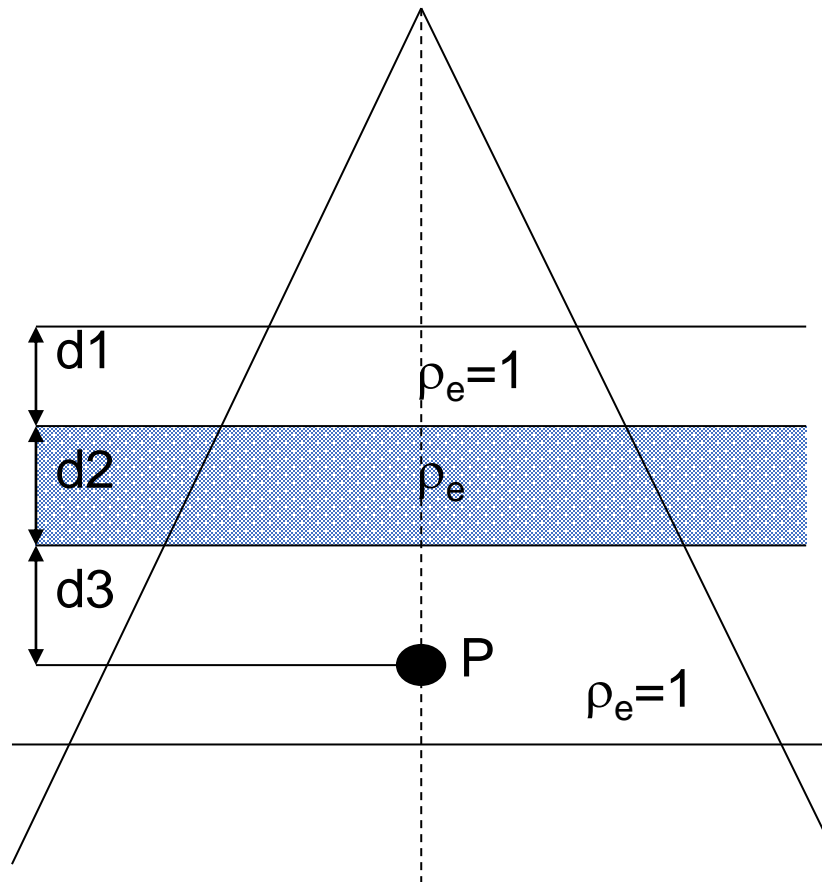
Parameter  $k$  used in the isodose shift method for correcting isodose distributions for an irregular surface

Photon energy (MV)	$k$ (approximate)
< 1	0.8
$^{60}\text{Co}$ - 5	0.7
5-15	0.6
15-30	0.5
>30	0.4



# Correction for Inhomogeneities

## Equivalent Tissue Air Ratio Method (ETAR)



- Considering the effect of scattering structures by the scaling of the field size parameter (**account for the 3D shape of the inhomogeneity**)

- $$CF = \frac{T(d', r')}{T(d, r)}$$

$d' = d \cdot \rho =$  water equivalent depth

$d =$  actual depth

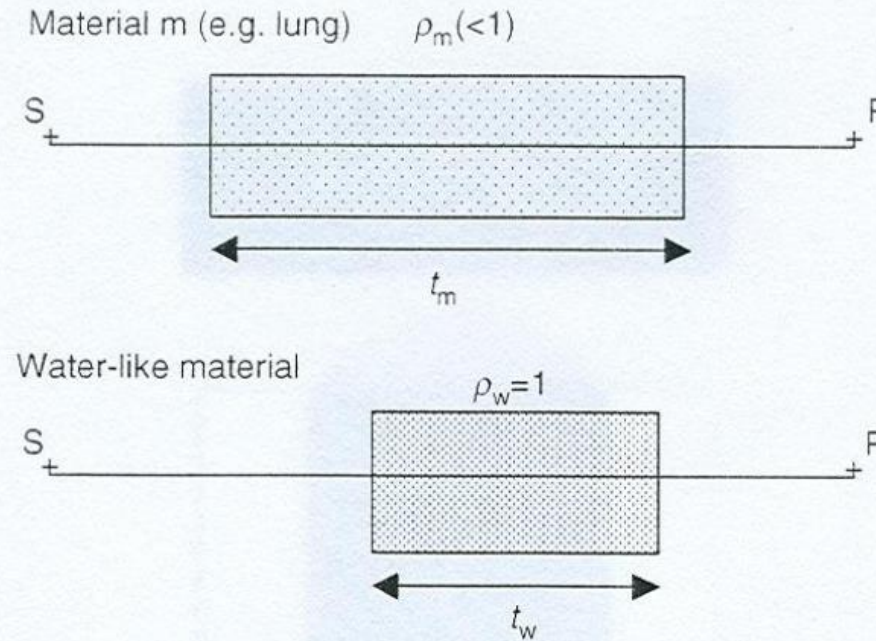
$r' = r \cdot \rho' =$  scaled field size dimension

$r =$  beam dimension at depth  $d$

$\rho'_{ijk} =$  weighted density of the irradiated volume (scatter elements)

- It is the first practical method for computerized treatment planning using CT data

# Equivalent Path Length (EPL)



**FIGURE 25.1**

Illustration of the equivalent path length method: the attenuation at point P for a thickness  $t_m$  of a material of electronic density relative to water  $\rho_m$  is assumed to be the same as for a *scaled* thickness  $t_w$  of water where  $t_w = t_m \cdot \rho_m$ . This is rigorous for primary photons when only Compton interactions with peripheral electrons are considered (same total number of electrons/cm<sup>2</sup> interposed between the source and point P).

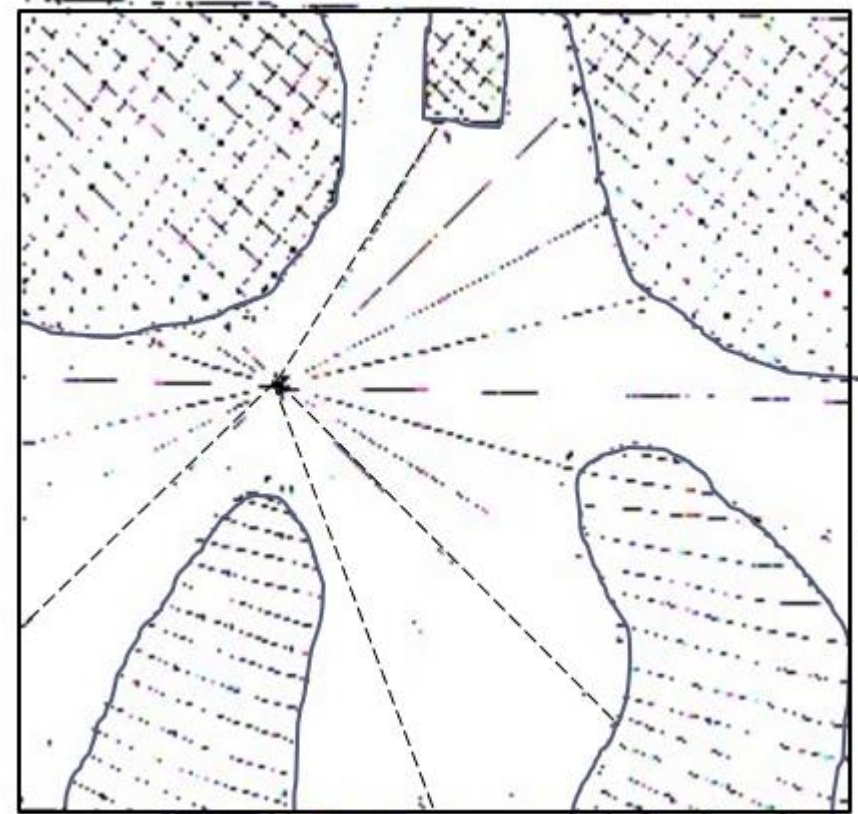
# Primary-Scatter separation

## ▶ Principle of the method

- ▶ This method developed to solve the problem of dose calculation in irregular fields such as **mantle fields** (Cunningham et al. 1972).
- ▶ This idea originated from **Clarkson's** scatter integration method.
- ▶ This method uses the **Scatter-Air Ratio (SAR)**, defined as the *ratio of the dose at a point due to the scattered radiation only to the dose in free space at the same point* (Cunningham 1972)

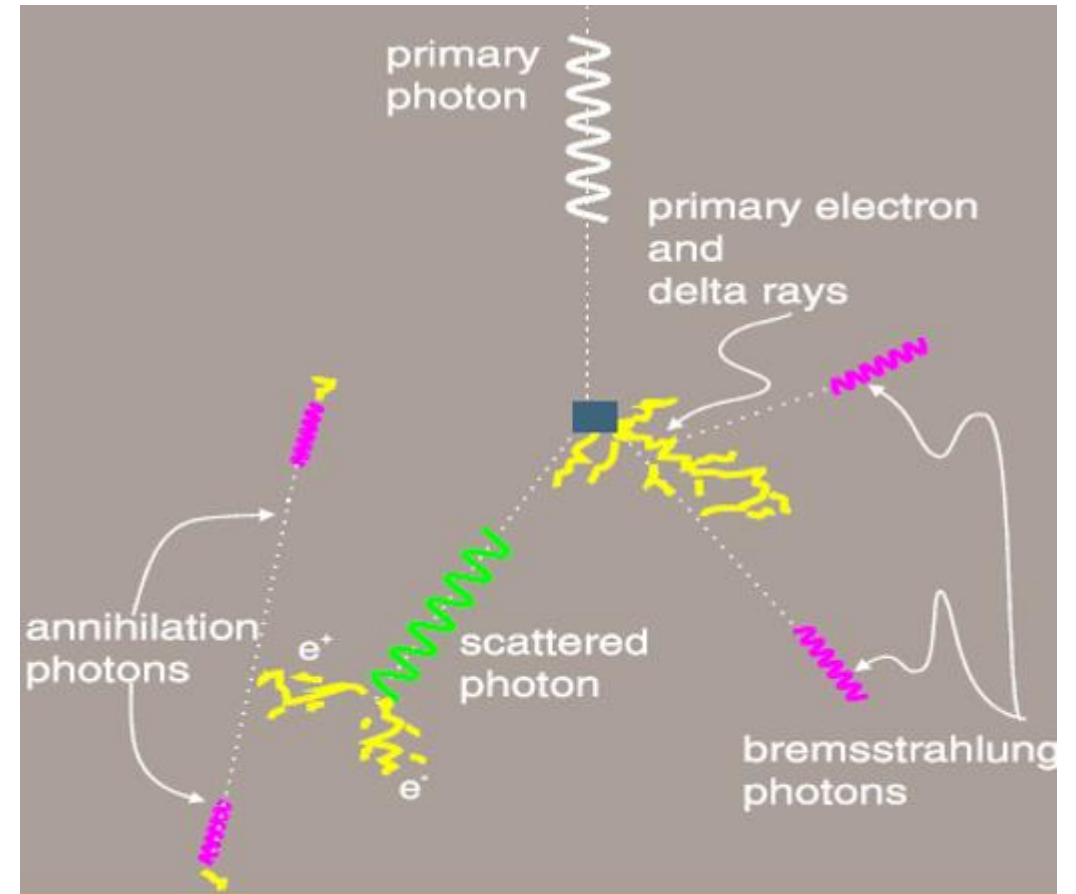
$$\square \quad \text{SAR}(z, A_z) = \text{TAR}(z, A_z) - \text{TAR}_0(z)$$

- $\text{TAR}(z, A_z)$  = tissue-air ratio at a depth  $z$  in the field of size  $A_z$
- $\text{TAR}_0(z)$  = tissue-air ratio at the same depth but in a field of zero area (to represent the primary radiation)

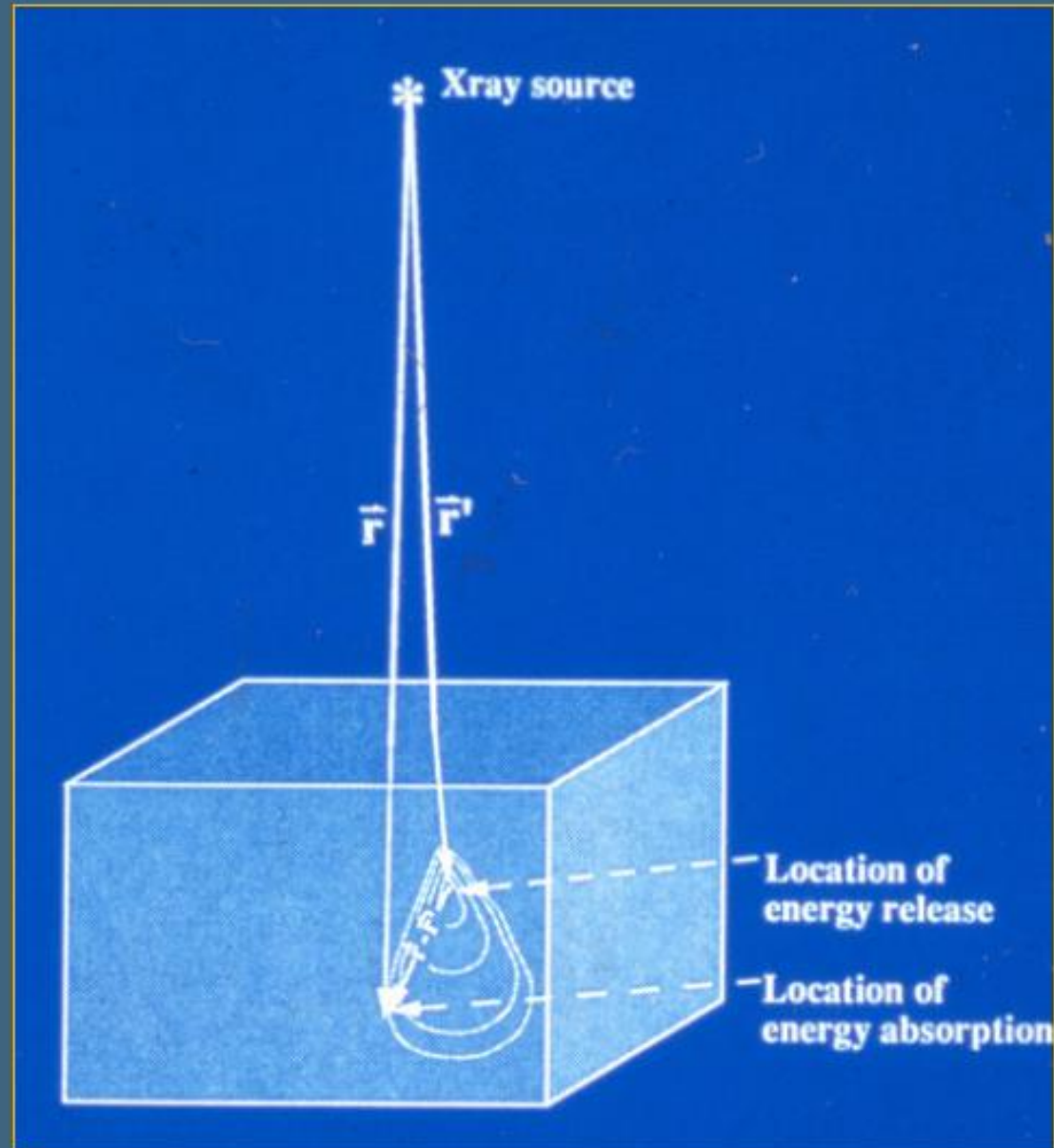
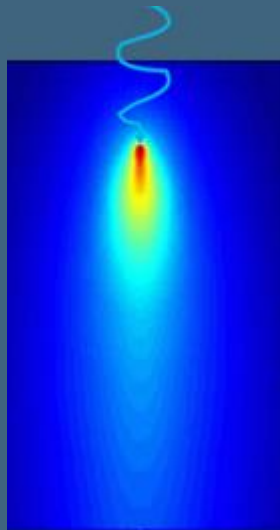


# Physical Background

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# Use of Point Kernels



## Point Kernels - Aliases

Dose Spread Array (DSA) - Mackie

Differential SAR ( $d^2$ SAR) - Cunningham

Dose Spread Function - Cunningham

Differential Pencil Beam - Mohan

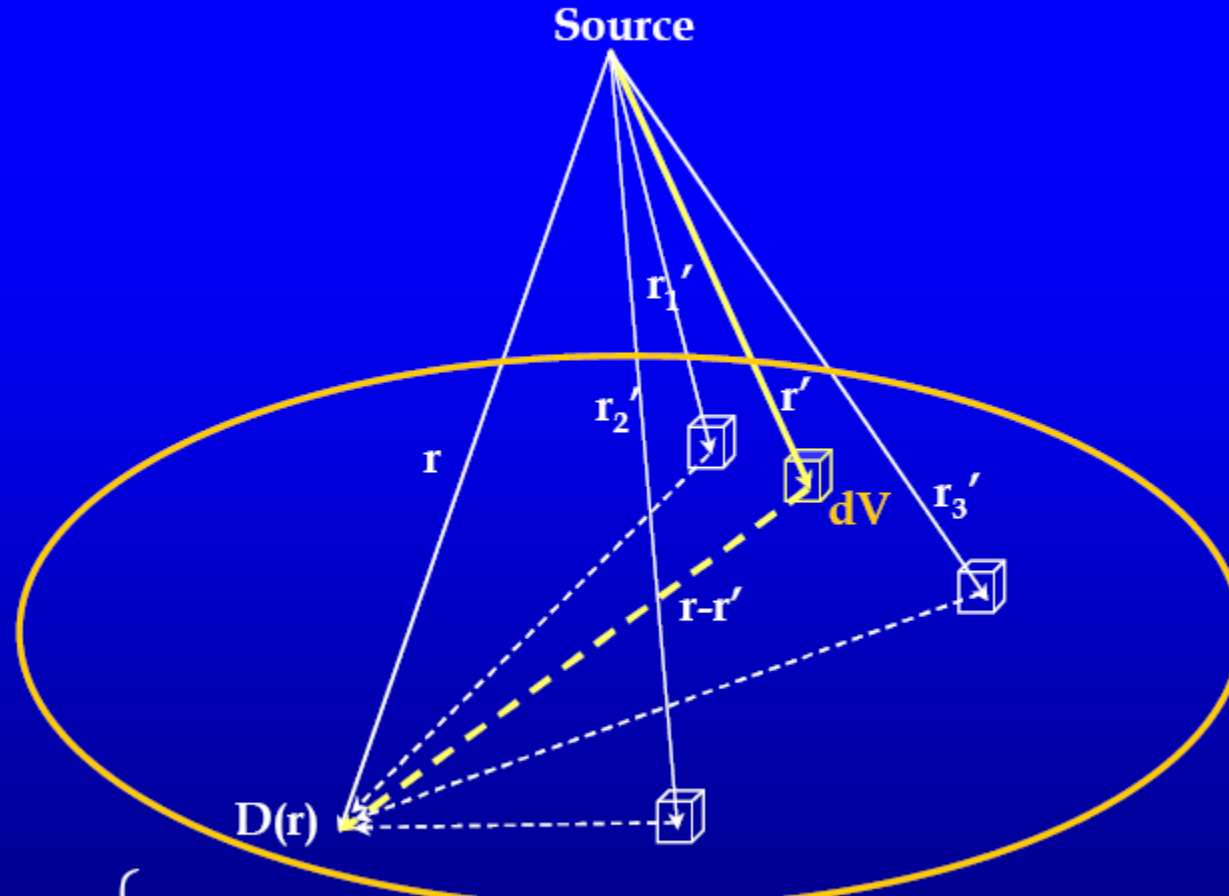
Point Spread Kernel - Ahnesjo/Brahme

Influence Function - Roesch

Iso-Scatter Function - J. Wong



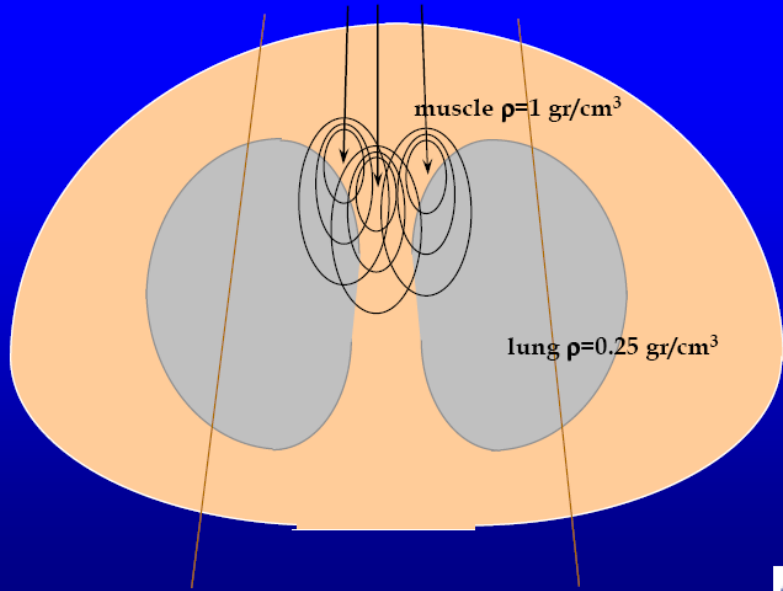
# Convolution Geometry



$$D(\vec{r}) = \sum \left\{ \frac{\mu}{\rho} (\vec{r}'_1) \Psi(\vec{r}'_1) K(\vec{r} - \vec{r}'_1) + \frac{\mu}{\rho} (\vec{r}'_2) \Psi(\vec{r}'_2) K(\vec{r} - \vec{r}'_2) + \dots \right\}$$

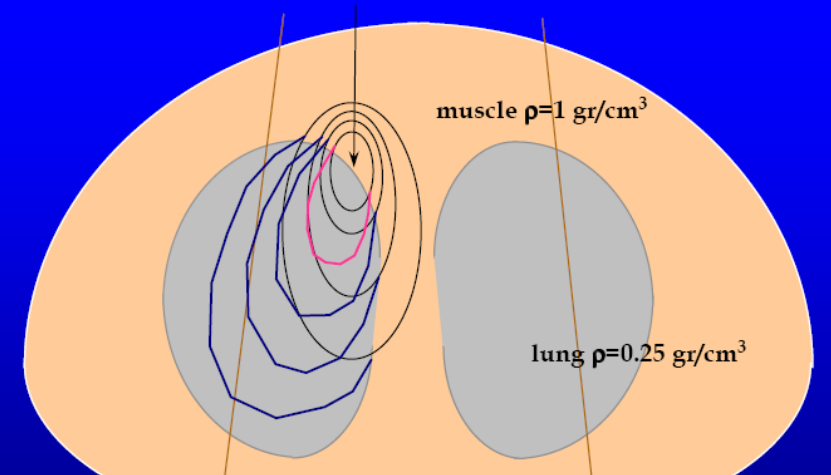


## Convolution: Dose Computation



Model-based (Type A)

## Convolution/Superposition: Heterogeneities



Scaled using EPL

Model-based (Type B)

## Physics based

3D calculation (Model-based)

**Type A**  
(Longitudinal  
scaling)

1. Convolution
2. 2D pencil  
beam  
kernel

**Type B**  
(Long & Lateral  
scaling)

1. Convolution  
/Superpositi  
on (CCC)
2. 3D pencil  
beam  
kernel  
(AAA)

# Scatter kernels of different dimensions (AAPM #85)

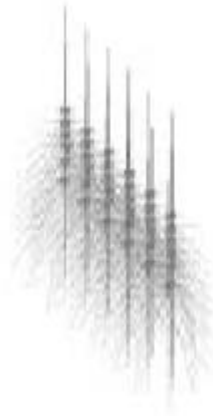
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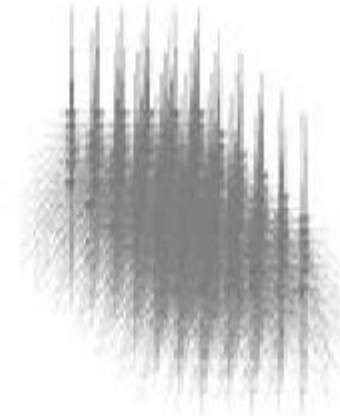
a) Point spread function



b) Pencil beam kernel



c) Planar spread function

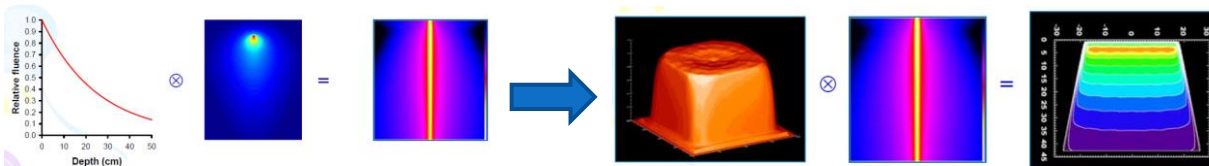


d) Multiple planar spread function

# Model-based (Type B)

## AAA

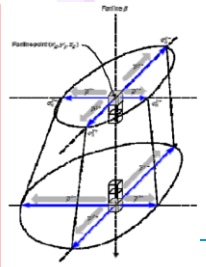
- ▶ Source parameters are pre-calculated by MC simulations and fitted to the measured data during the configuration process
- ▶ Cartesian coordinate system (x, y, z)



- => Pencil beams (PB)
- Superposition of pencil beams in 2D => Faster

Energy fluence  $\otimes$  Dose Deposition Kernel = Absorbed Dose

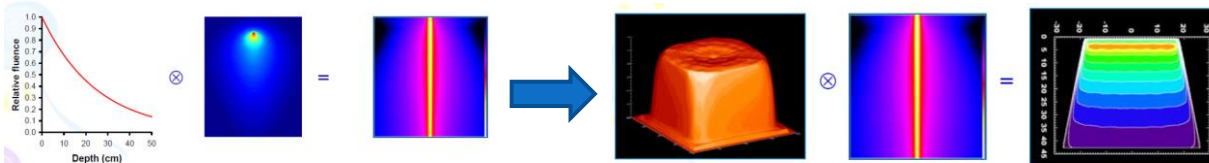
- Uses pencil beams extracted from measurements (SPB) or from Monte Carlo calculation (AAA)
- Heterogeneities handled via effective path length – longitudinal
- AAA adds a scaling of the spread of the pencil based on density – lateral
- AAA also have an extensive beam modelling



# Model-based (Type B)

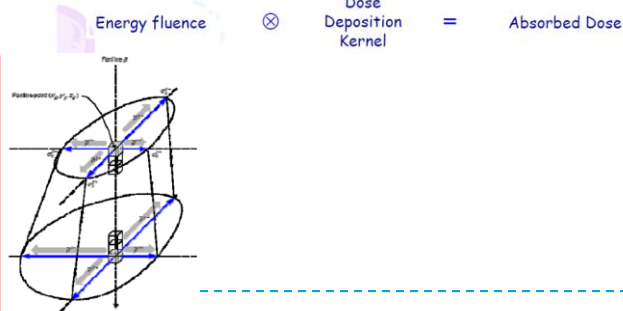
## AAA

- ▶ Source parameters are pre-calculated by MC simulations and fitted to the measured data during the configuration process
- ▶ Cartesian coordinate system (x, y, z)



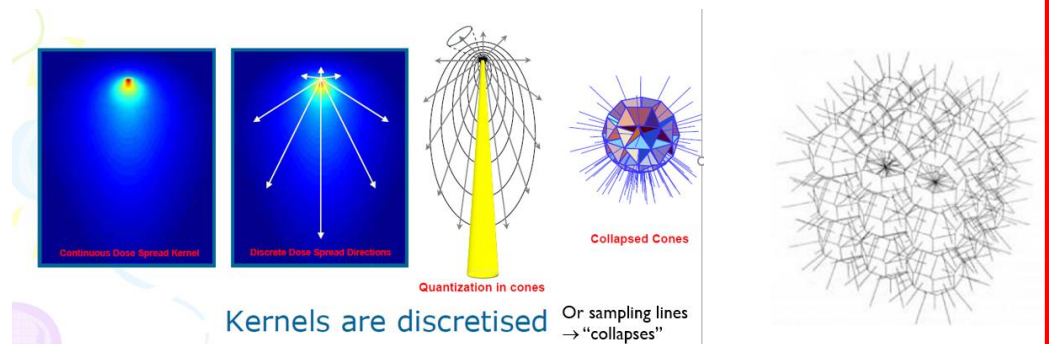
- => Pencil beams (PB)
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- Uses pencil beams extracted from measurements (SPB) or from Monte Carlo calculation (AAA)
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- AAA also have an extensive beam modelling



## CCC

Spherical coordinates:  $r, \theta, \phi$



**Collapsed cone convolution of radiant energy for photon dose calculation in heterogeneous media**

Anders Ahnesjö<sup>†</sup>  
 Department of Radiation Physics, Karolinska Institutet and University of Stockholm, Box 60211, S-104 01  
 Stockholm, Sweden  
 (Received 15 August 1988; accepted for publication 3 May 1989)

# Challenge Conditions

## ▶ Interface

▶ Build-up Build-down Backscatter

## ▶ Small field

▶ Fail CPE

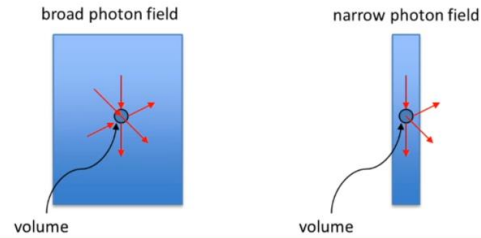
▶ Detector perturbation

## ▶ High energy photon

▶ Longer range of charged particle

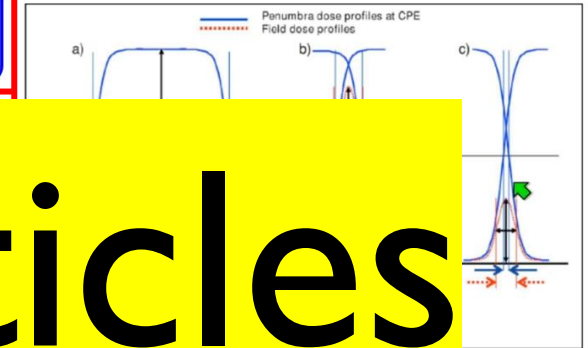
# Charged Particles

### Lateral charged particle loss



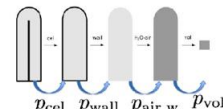
A small field can be defined as a field with size smaller than the "lateral range" of charged particles

### Source occlusion



### Detector composition

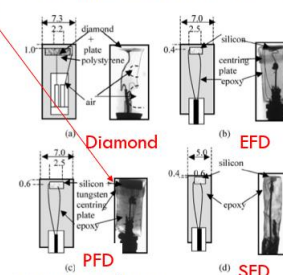
**Ionization chambers**  
wall, central electrode, air cavity



Crop et al (2009), PNB-54(9), 2951-2969, 2009

In recent years, Monte Carlo methods have been invaluable in analysing in detail various types of perturbation factors and from these deriving a total perturbation correction factor for ionisation chambers.

**Diodes**  
housing, shielding, sensitive volume



C. McKerracher, D.I. Thwaites / Radiotherapy and Oncology 79 (2006) 348-351



**Dosimetric validation of Acuros® XB with Monte Carlo methods for photon dose calculations**

K. Bush, I. M. Gagne, S. Zavgorodni, W. Ansbacher, and W. Beckham

Citation: [Medical Physics](#) **38**, 2208 (2011); doi: 10.1118/1.3567146

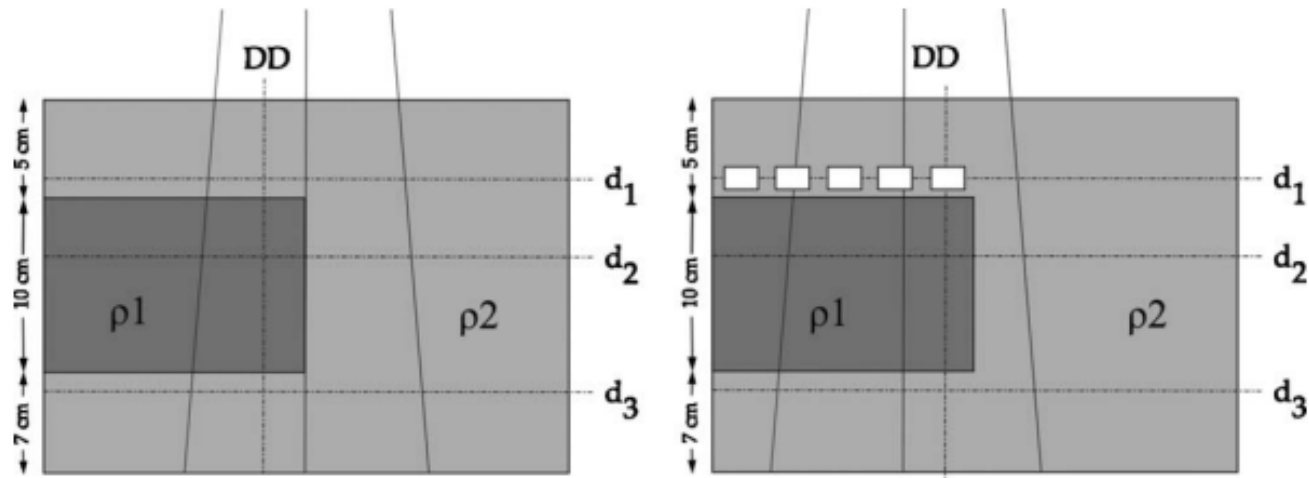


FIG. 2. Heterogeneous interface phantom (left) and bone/lung phantom (right) geometries. Locations of lateral dose profiles ( $d_1, d_2, d_3$ ) and DD profiles are indicated. In each case,  $\rho_2$  is assigned a density of  $1.0 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ .  $\rho_1$  is assigned a density of air ( $0.001 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ), low-density lung ( $0.1 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ), or lung ( $0.24 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ). Each bone structure (indicated in white) was assigned a uniform density of  $1.5 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ .

Heterogeneous phantom:

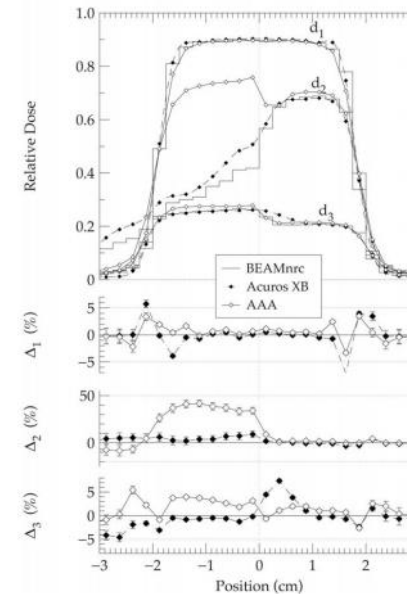
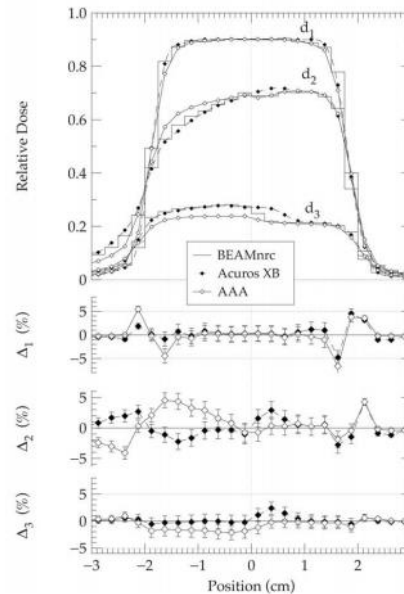
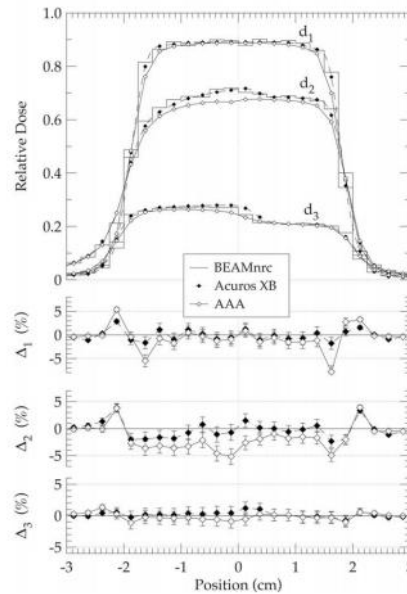
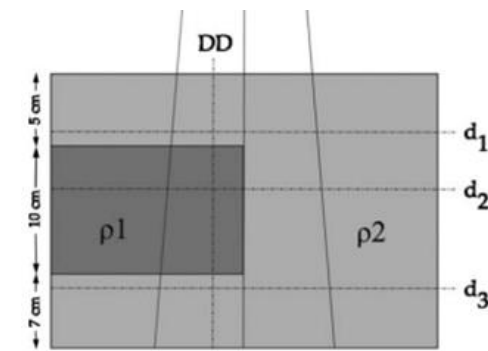
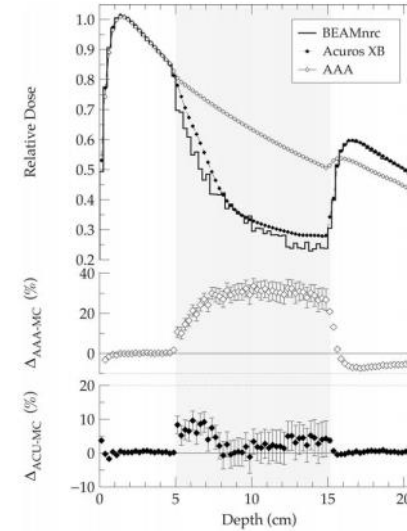
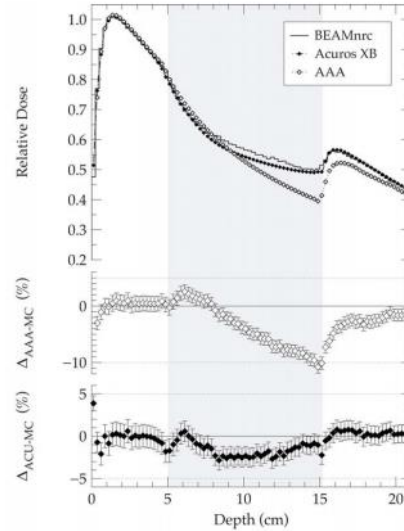
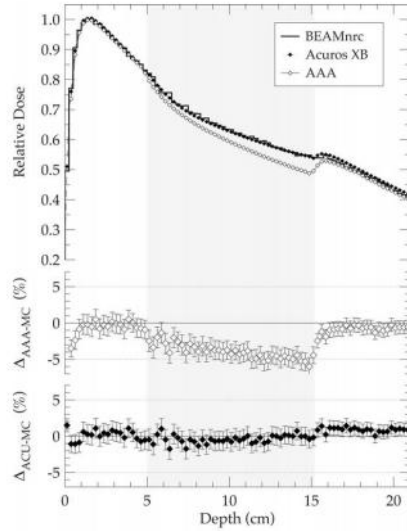
$$\rho_1 = 0.24, 0.1, 0.001 \text{ g/cm}^3$$

$$\rho_2 = 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$$

$$\text{Bone} = 1.5 \text{ g/cm}^3$$



# 4.0× 4.0 cm<sup>2</sup>, 6 MV photon beam



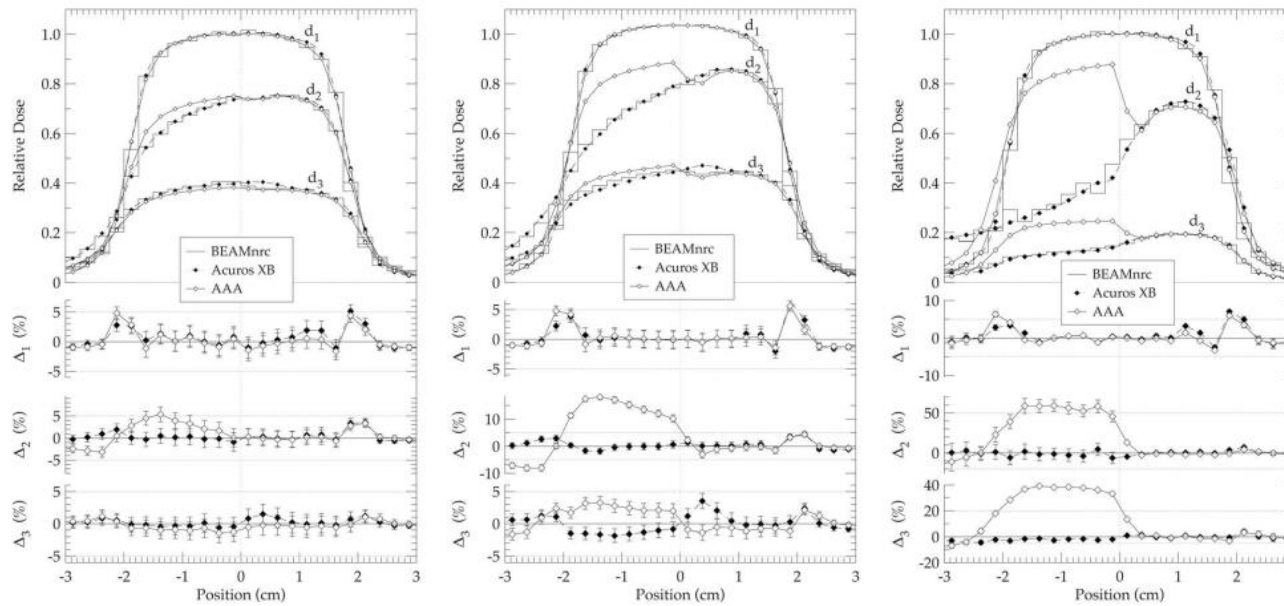
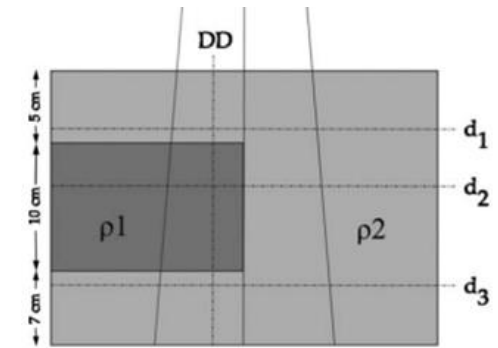
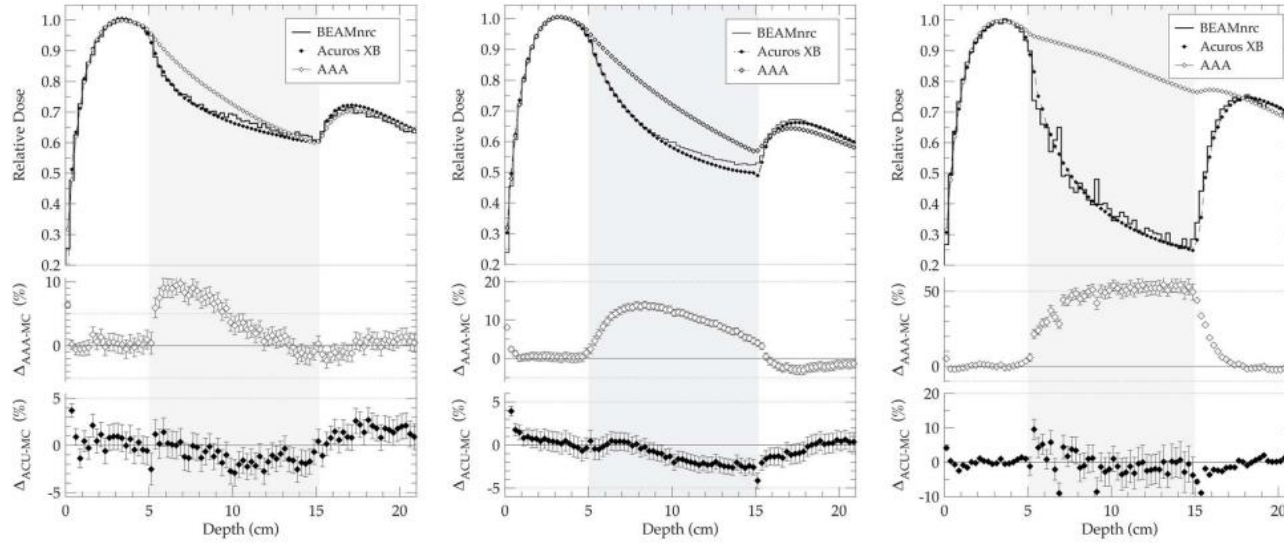
Build down  
in lung and  
then build up  
in water

Lung 0.24 g cm<sup>-3</sup>

low-density lung 0.1 g cm<sup>-3</sup>

air 0.001 g cm<sup>-3</sup>

# 4.0× 4.0 cm<sup>2</sup>, 18 MV photon beam



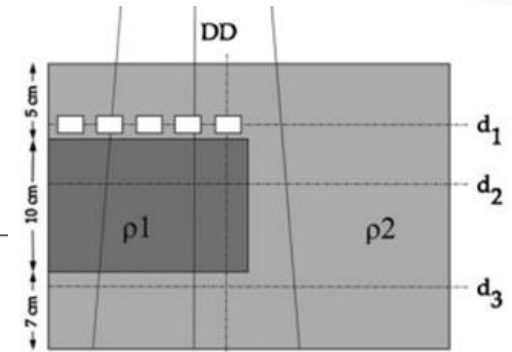
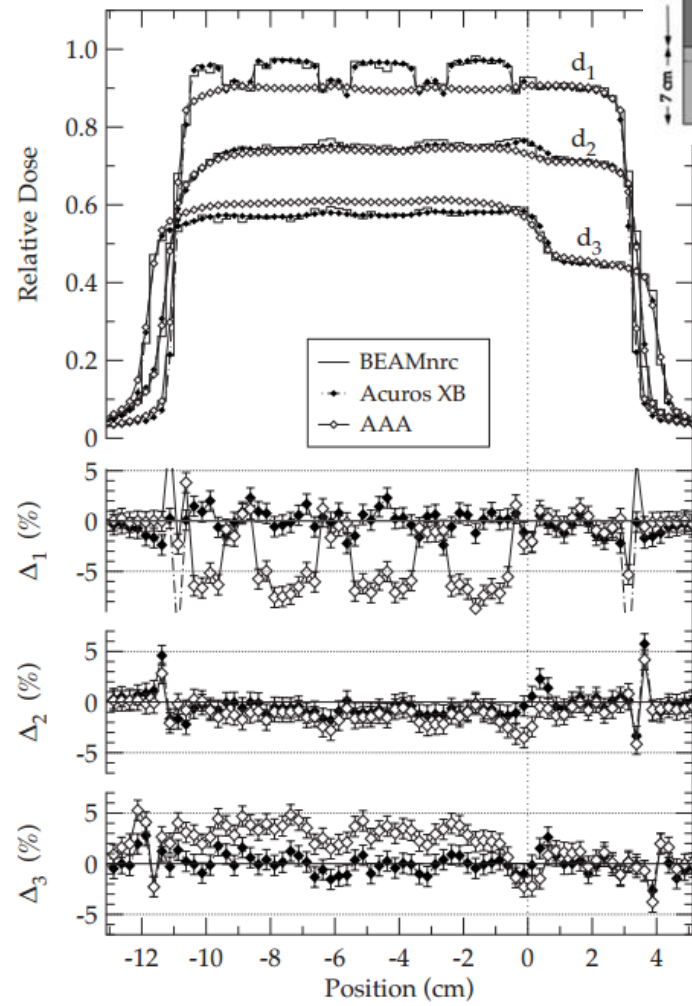
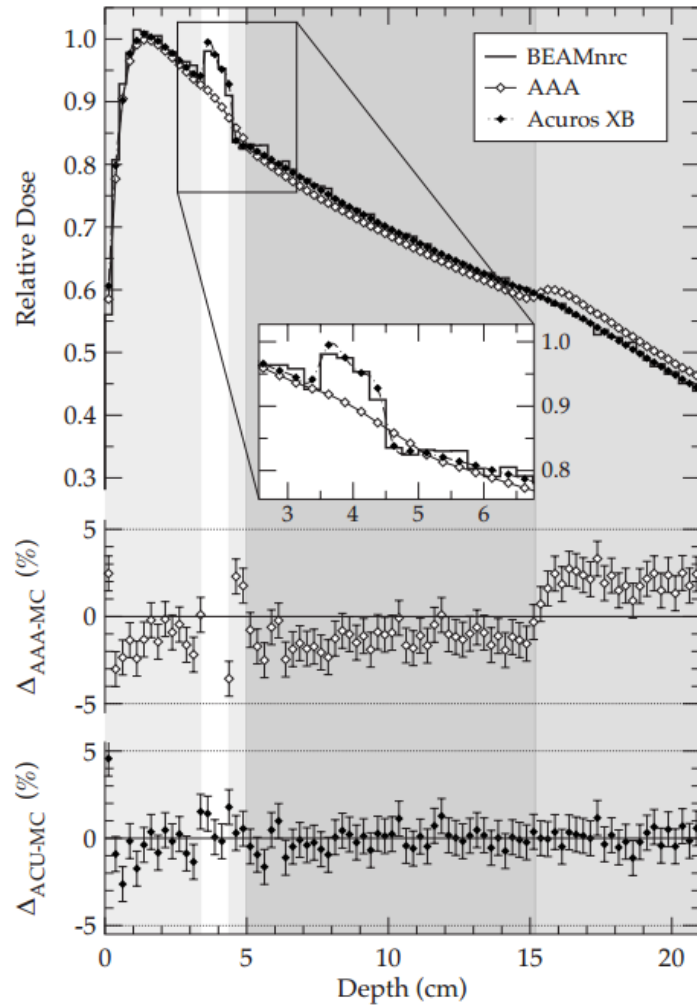
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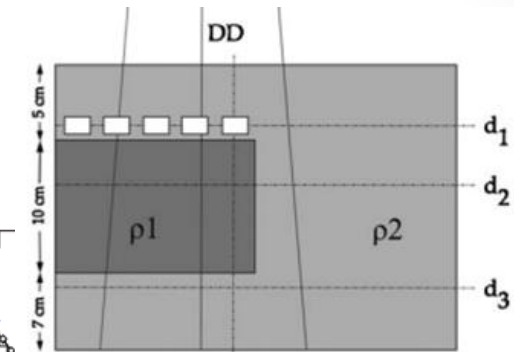
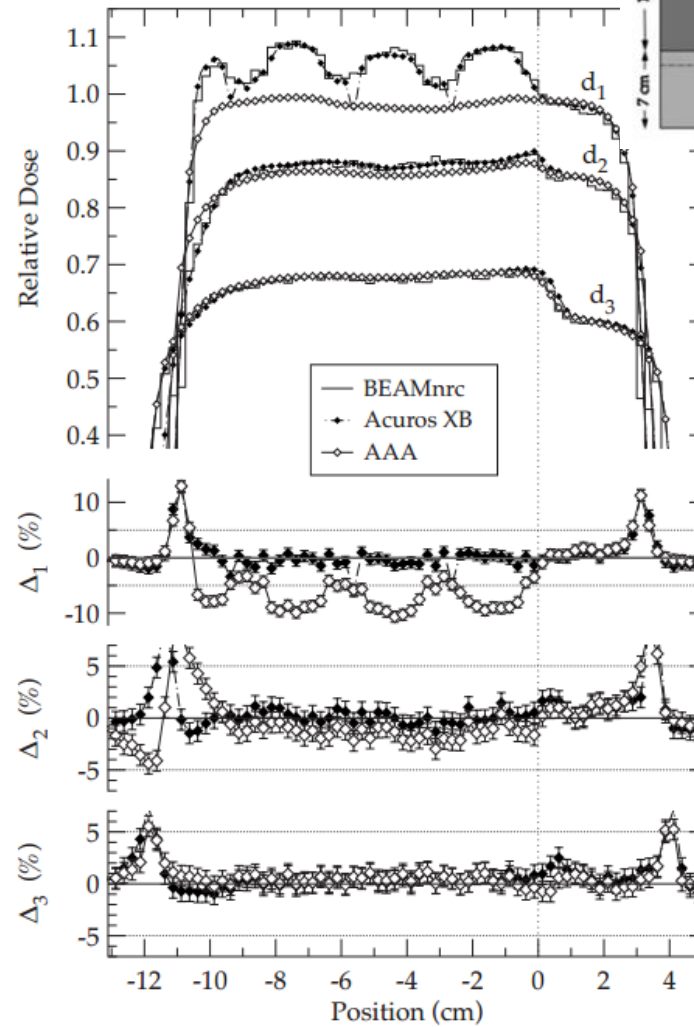
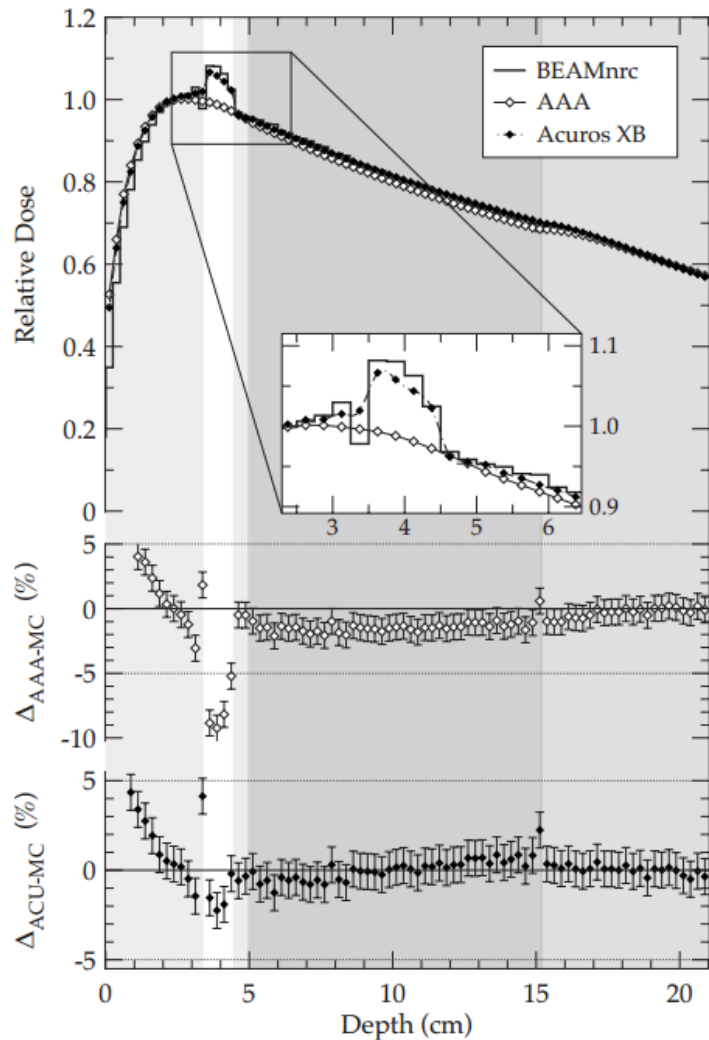
air 0.001 g cm<sup>-3</sup>

# 15 × 10 cm<sup>2</sup>, 6 MV photon beam



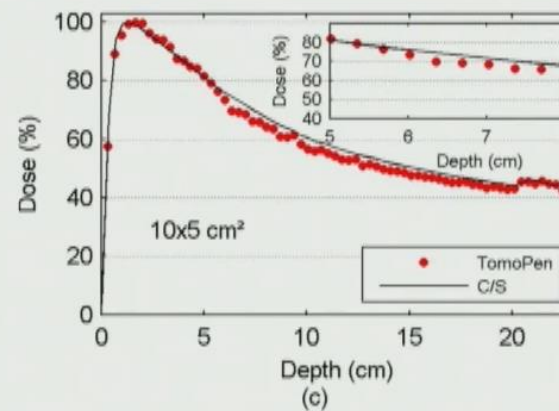
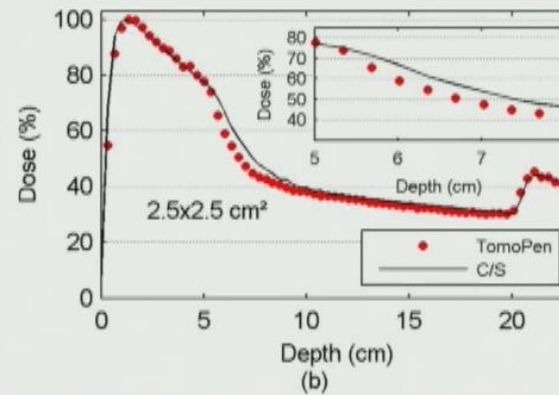
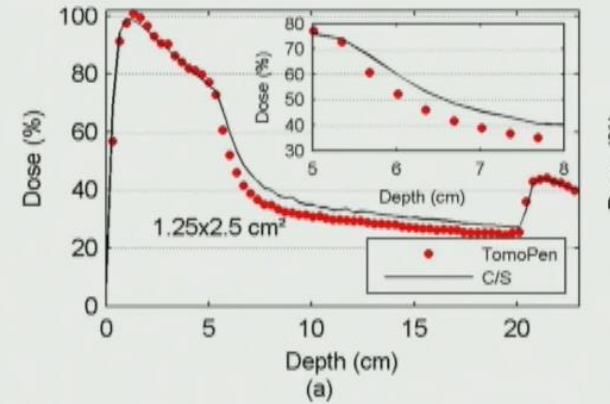
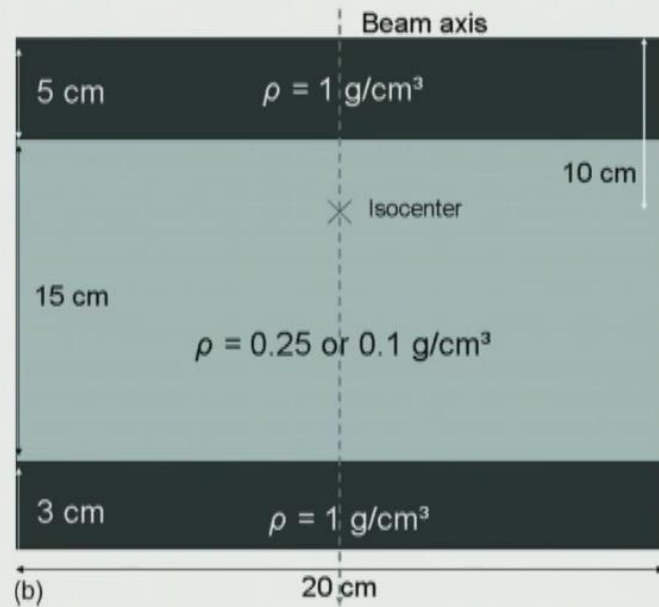
Bone = 1.5 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, Lung 0.24 g cm<sup>-3</sup>

# 15 × 10 cm<sup>2</sup>, 18 MV photon beam



Bone = 1.5 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, Lung 0.24 g cm<sup>-3</sup>

# Results for tomotherapy



For a density of  $0.1 \text{ g/cm}^3$



# Challenge Conditions

- **Interface**

- Build-

- **Small fi**

- Fail C

- **High energy photon**

- Longer range of charged particle

# Charged Particles

### Lateral charged particle loss

broad photon field      narrow photon field

volume      volume

*A small field can be defined as a field with size smaller than the "lateral range" of charged particles*

### Source occlusion

Penumbra dose profiles at CPE  
Field dose profiles

a)      b)      c)

m penumbras

### Detector composition

Smoked diode (PFD), the presence of the shielding (w), of which the main purpose is to absorb low energy photons.

**Ionization chambers**

wall, central electrode, air cavity

$P_{cel}$   $P_{wall}$   $P_{dir,w}$   $P_{vol}$

Crop et al (2009), PMB, 54(9), 2951-2969, 2009

**Diodes**

housing, shielding, sensitive volume

(a) Diamond      (b) EFD  
(c) PFD      (d) SFD

C. McKerracher, D.I. Thwaites / Radiotherapy and Oncology 79 (2006) 348-351

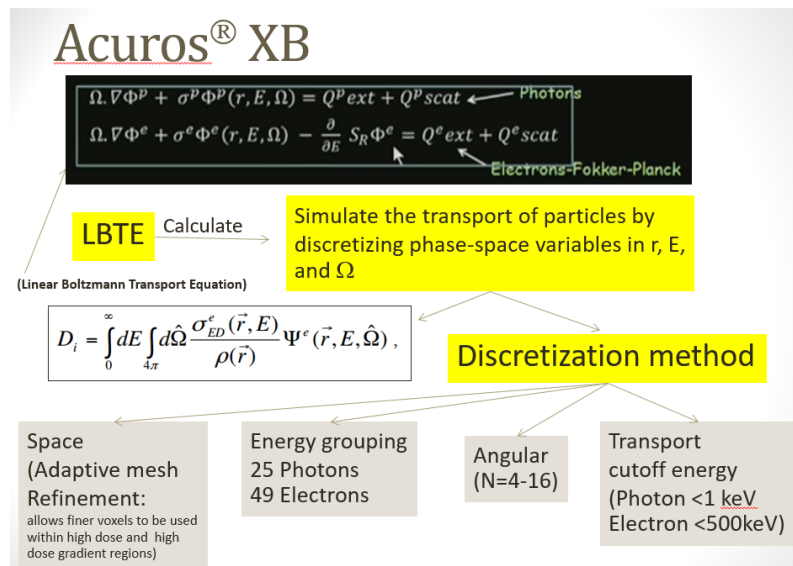
In recent years, Monte Carlo methods have been invaluable in analysing in detail various types of perturbation factors and from these deriving a total perturbation correction factor for ionisation chambers.

ESTRO<sup>7</sup>

# Principle based (Type C)

## Deterministic algorithm

- Finite
- Using LBTE



## Stochastic algorithm (Monte Carlo)

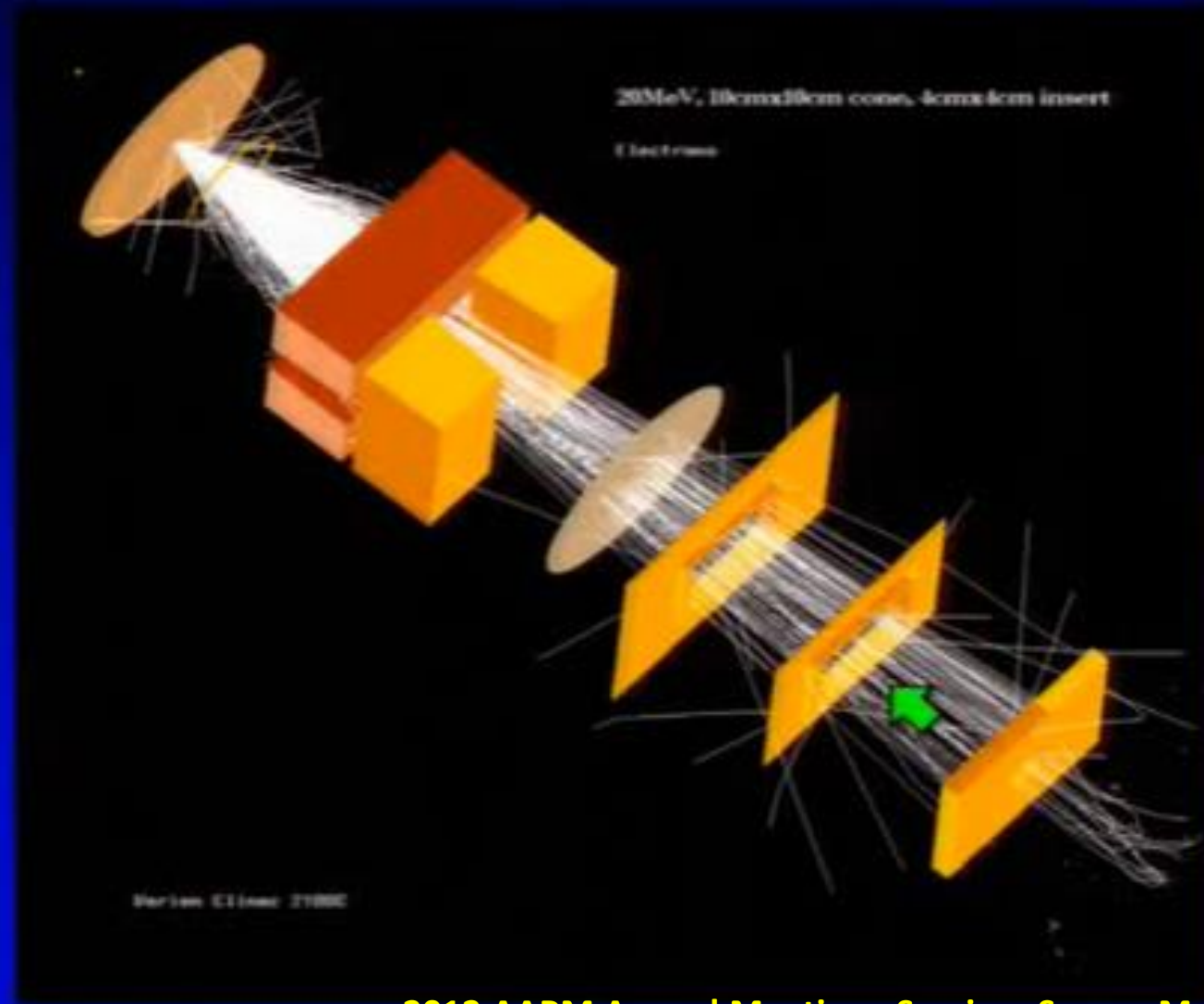
- Random
- Statistical uncertainty

### Monte-Carlo simulation

- Monte-Carlo simulation is based on **Random Numbers**
  - To generate a Uniform Random Variable  $U \sim \text{Uniform}(0,1)$  use Excel function “=rand()”.
- Step of MC simulation:
  1. Design an experiment. Random number should be used here.
  2. Replicate the experiment. Run the experiment many times
  3. Perform statistical analysis of performance measure(s). Such as compute confident interval.

Krzysztof Fleszar  
[https://youtu.be/wJsg9O6q\\_9Q](https://youtu.be/wJsg9O6q_9Q)

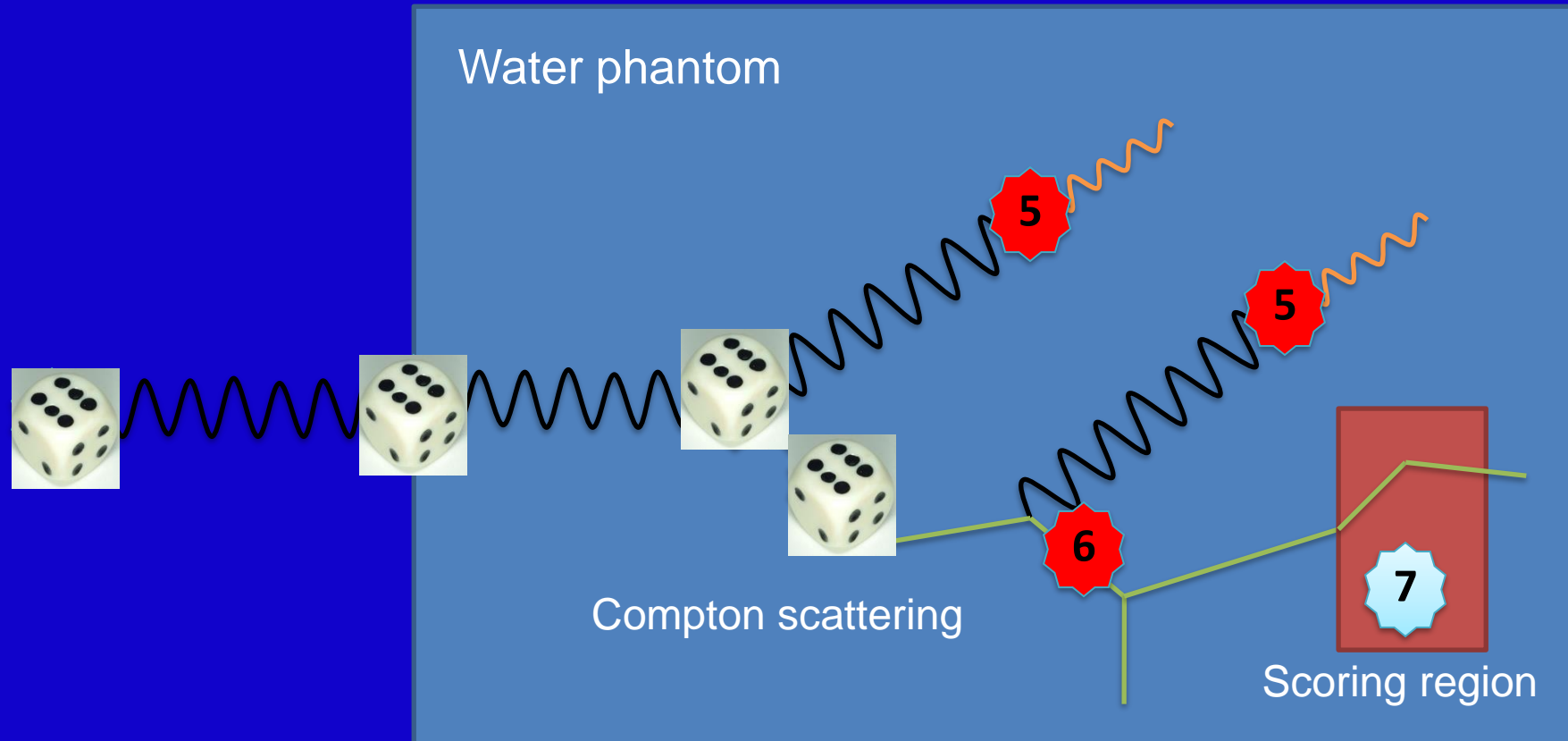
# Simulation of Clinical Accelerators



2012 AAPM Annual Meeting - Session: Source Modeling and Beam Commissioning for Clinical Monte Carlo

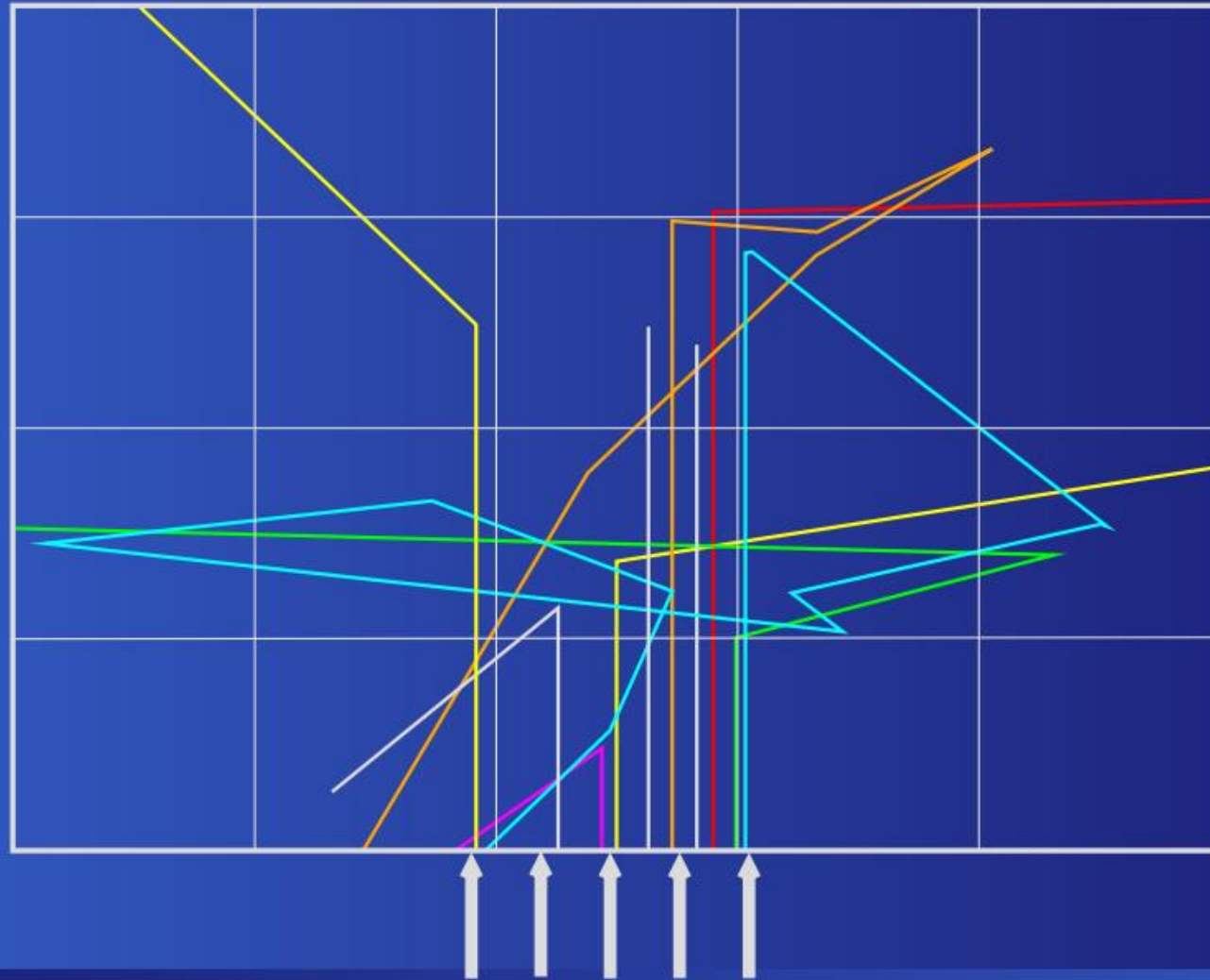


# A schematic illustration of a Monte Carlo Photon History



- 1 Sample energy, direction, and starting position
- 2 Sample distance to interaction
- 3 Sample type of interaction
- 4 Sample energy, direction, . . . of new particles

# Sample particle tracks



1 line represents 1 history or 1 event

# Beam modeling requires special attention in small fields (here the exemple of Monte Carlo)

## Classic approach

Tune electron source energy to match depth-dose and cross profiles

Tune electron source spot size and shape to match cross profiles and penumbras



For instance...

# MC simulate in patient's tissue

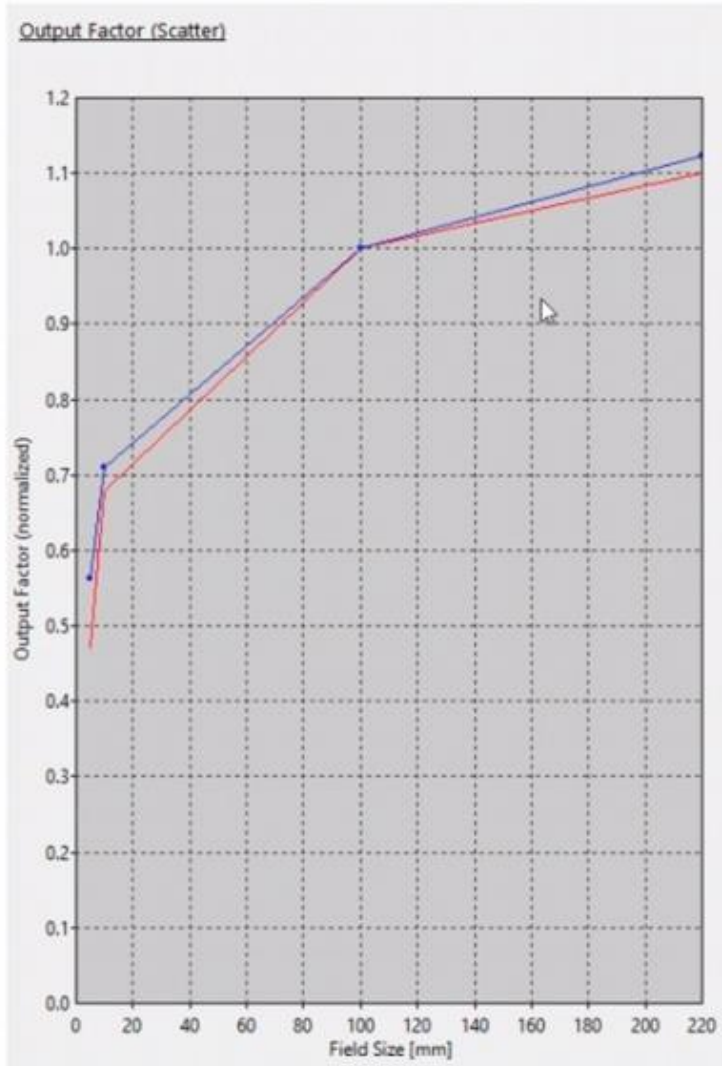
## Elements (Brainlab)

- **Reference beam model**
  - Pre-generated for different photon source sizes (corresponding to electron spot sizes in the bremsstrahlung target).
- User provide accurately measured output factors and cross profile penumbra widths of very small fields
- By comparing the calculated (from different photon source sizes) and measured parameters, then the Reference Beam Model shall be selected.

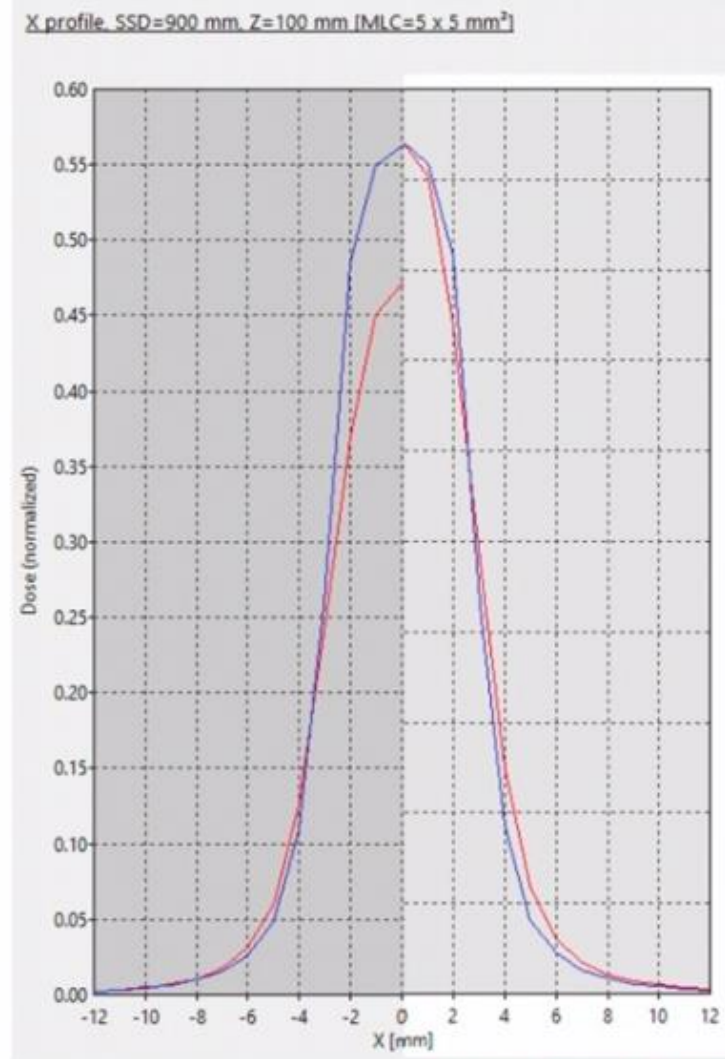
## 10.1 Beam Data for Varian 120 (Standard Irradiation and Flattening Filter Free Mode)

Task	No. of Measurements	Equipment	Done
Absolute dose in Gy per MU <i>MLC and jaw field size: 100 x 100;</i> SSD = 900; X = 0; Y = 0; Z = 100	1	Calibrated chamber	<input type="checkbox"/>
CAX PDDs in water <i>MLC (jaw) field sizes:</i> 5 x 10 (8 x 12), 100 x 100 (100 x 100); SSD = 900	2	Ionization chamber and high-resolution detector	<input type="checkbox"/>
X profiles in water <i>MLC (jaw) field sizes:</i> 5 x 10 (8 x 12), 10 x 10 (12 x 12), 100 x 100 (100 x 100), 300 x 300 (300 x 300); SSD = 900; Y = 0; Z = 100	4	High-resolution detector	<input type="checkbox"/>
Y profiles in water <i>MLC (jaw) field sizes:</i> 5 x 10 (8 x 12), 10 x 10 (12 x 12), 100 x 100 (100 x 100), 300 x 300 (300 x 300); SSD = 900; X = 0; Z = 100	4	High-resolution detector	<input type="checkbox"/>
Output factors in water <i>MLC (jaw) field sizes:</i> 5 x 10 (8 x 12) 10 x 10 (12 x 12), 100 x 100 (100 x 100), 300 x 300 (300 x 300); SSD = 900; X = 0; Y = 0, Z = 100	4	Ionization chamber and high-resolution detector	<input type="checkbox"/>

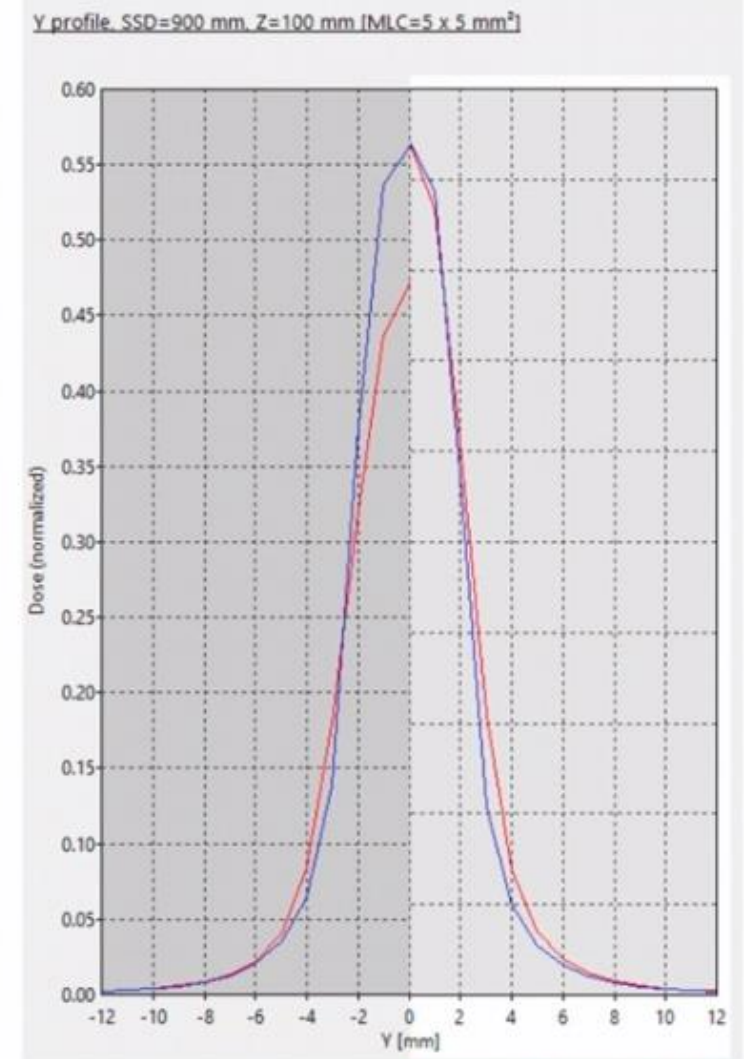
# Reference Beam Models (TrueBeam STx, 6x Std)



- Source Size 0.0 mm
- Source Size 1.0 mm



Right side of profile shows data normalized to same height to visualize Penumbra difference

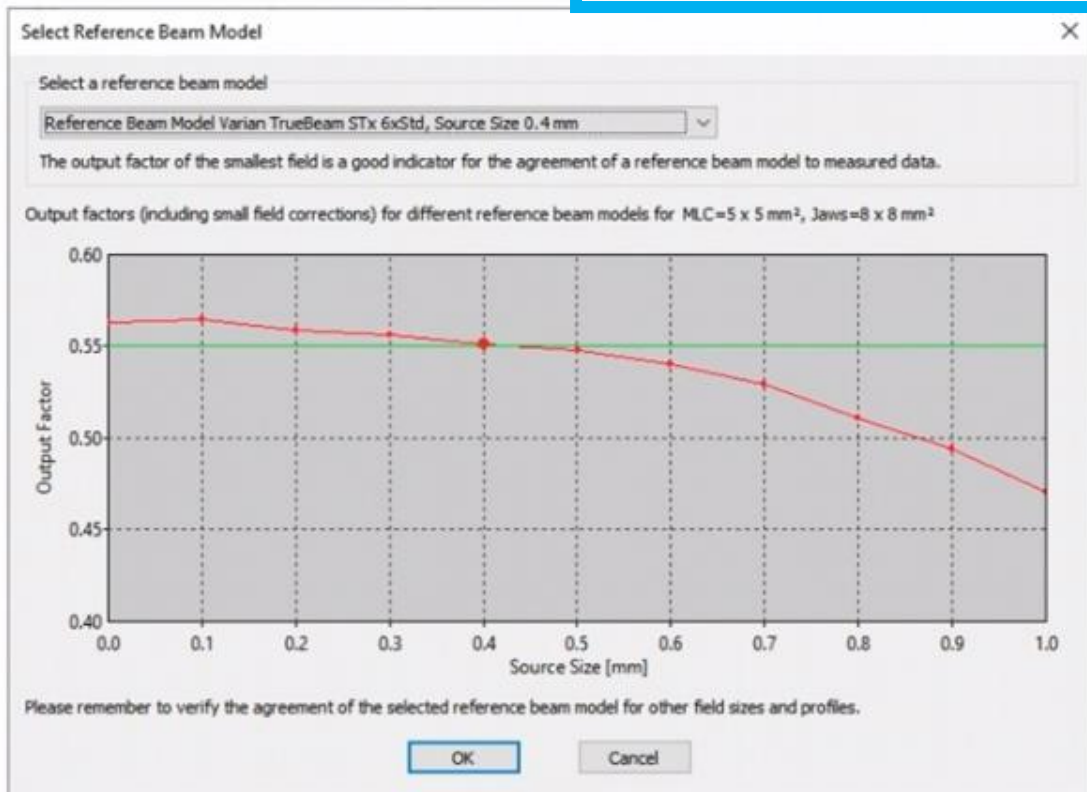


Right side of profile shows data normalized to same height to visualize Penumbra difference

# Reference Beam Model selection



In Physics Administration 6.0 the output factor of the smallest field is used for RBM selection:



Output Factors

Setup Conditions

The output factors need to be measured in the same setup conditions as the nominal linac output!

Source Surface Distance (SSD): 900 mm, measurement depth 100 mm

Small Field Corrections

Have output correction factors been applied for small fields, e.g. according to IAEA TRS #483?

Yes  No



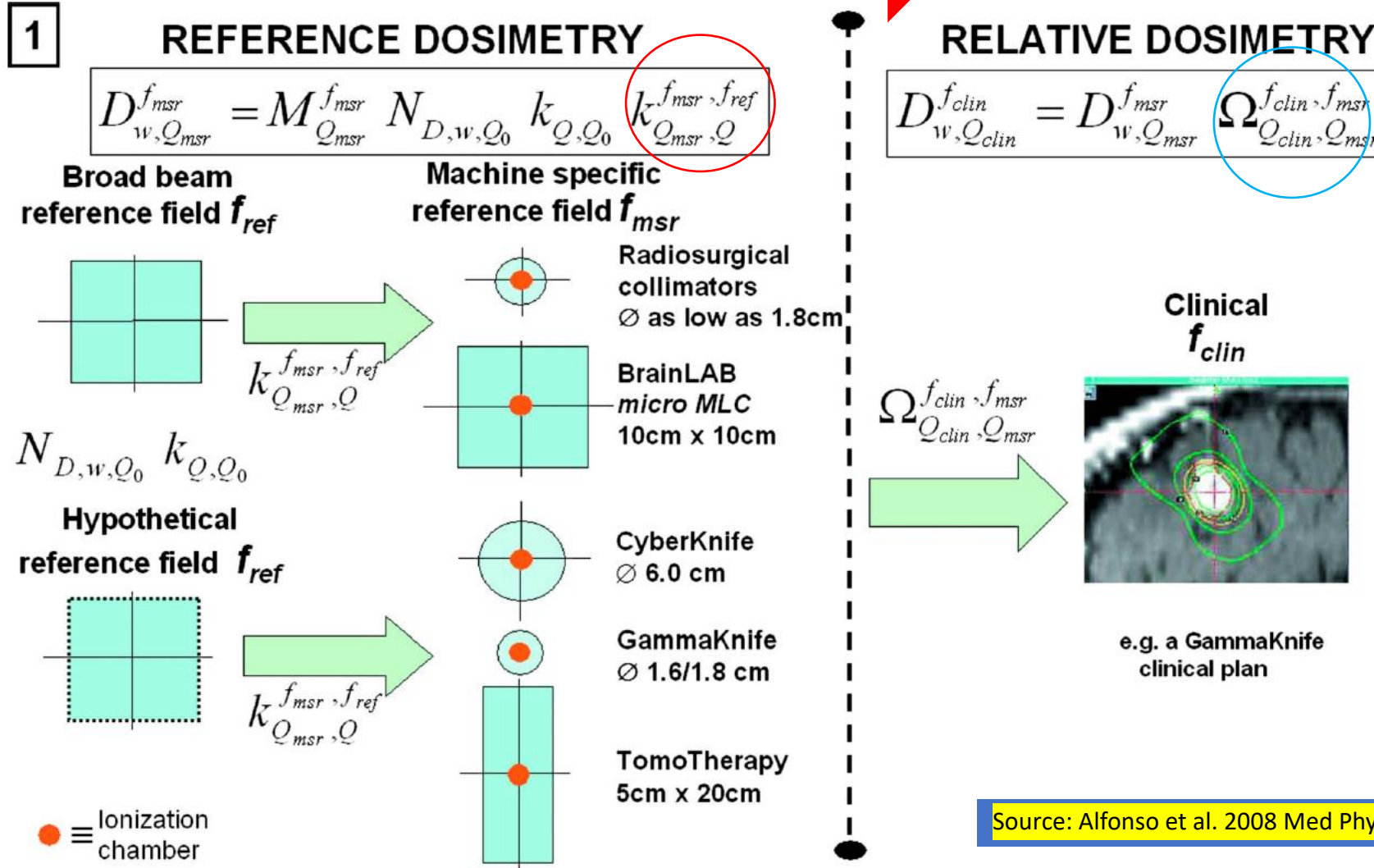
RBM output factors use small-field corrections (e. g. IAEA TRS 483)  
→ your output factor also need to be corrected for proper model selection



RBM selection utilizing penumbra width will be available with RT Elements 4.0.



# Route 1. Small static fields



# Determination of Field output factors

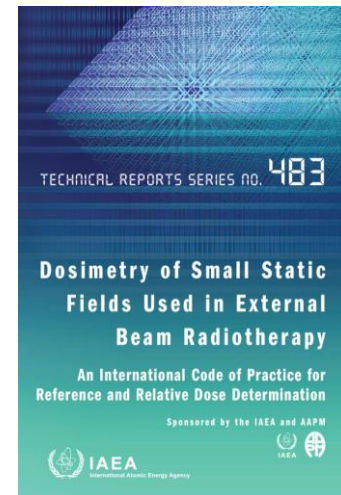
$$\Omega_{Q_{\text{clin}}, Q_{\text{msr}}}^{f_{\text{clin}}, f_{\text{msr}}} = \frac{D_{\text{w}, Q_{\text{clin}}}^{f_{\text{clin}}}}{D_{\text{w}, Q_{\text{msr}}}^{f_{\text{msr}}}}$$

Field output **correction** factor

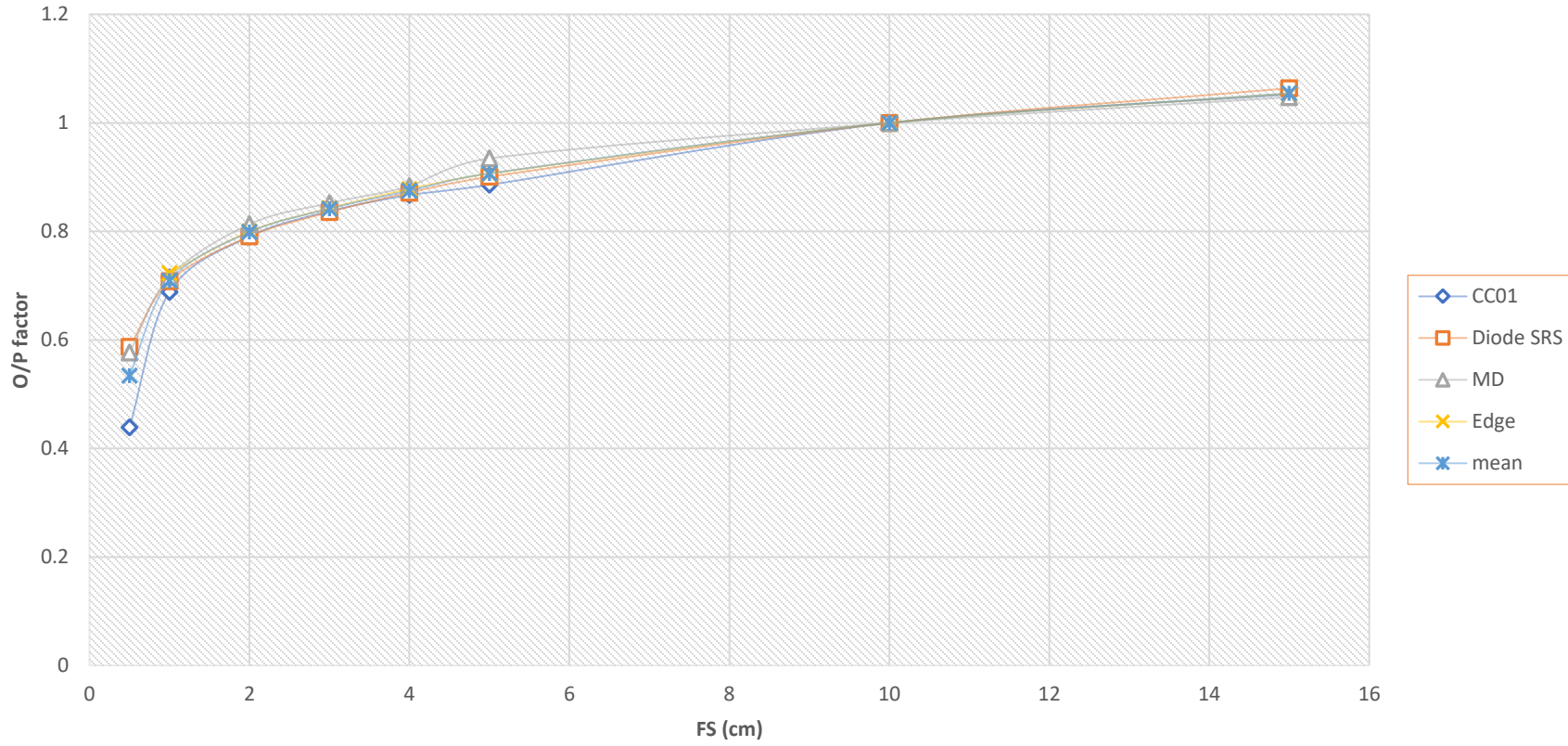
$$\Omega_{Q_{\text{clin}}, Q_{\text{msr}}}^{f_{\text{clin}}, f_{\text{msr}}} = \frac{M_{Q_{\text{clin}}}^{f_{\text{clin}}}}{M_{Q_{\text{msr}}}^{f_{\text{msr}}}} k_{Q_{\text{clin}}, Q_{\text{msr}}}^{f_{\text{clin}}, f_{\text{msr}}}$$

Correcting for perturbation factors

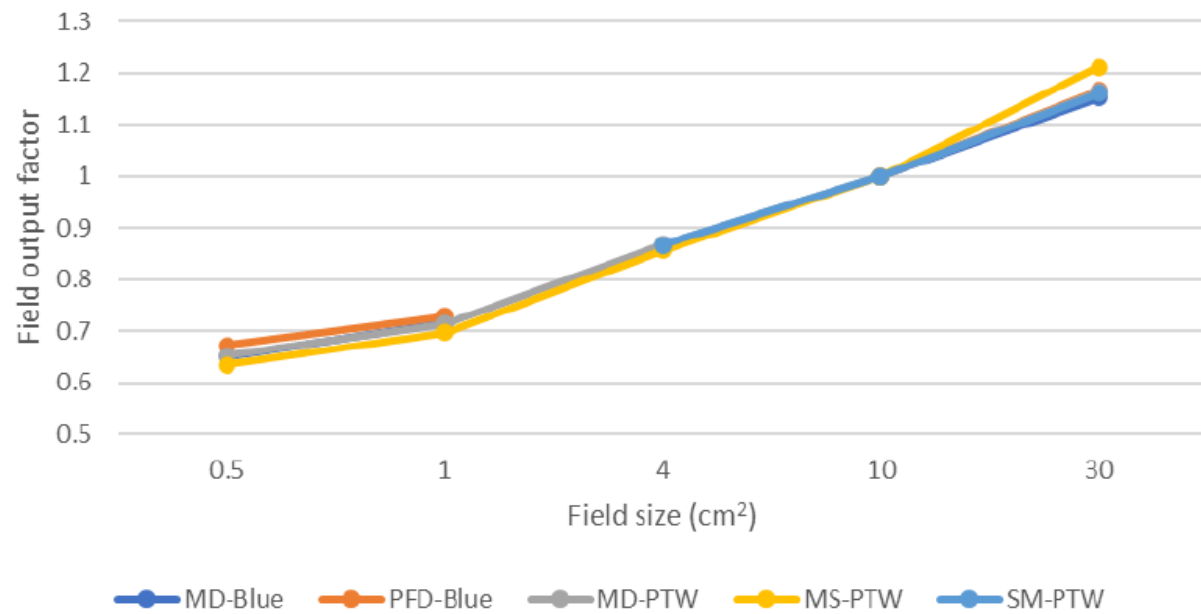
- Density
- Atomic composition
- Extracamerall components
- Volume



uncorrected o/p factor

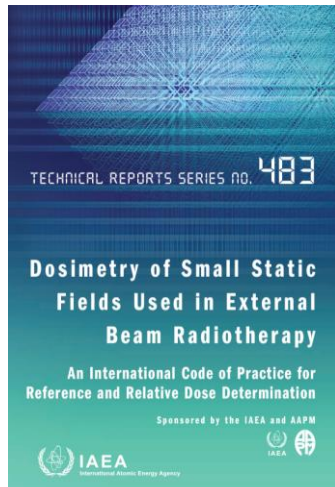
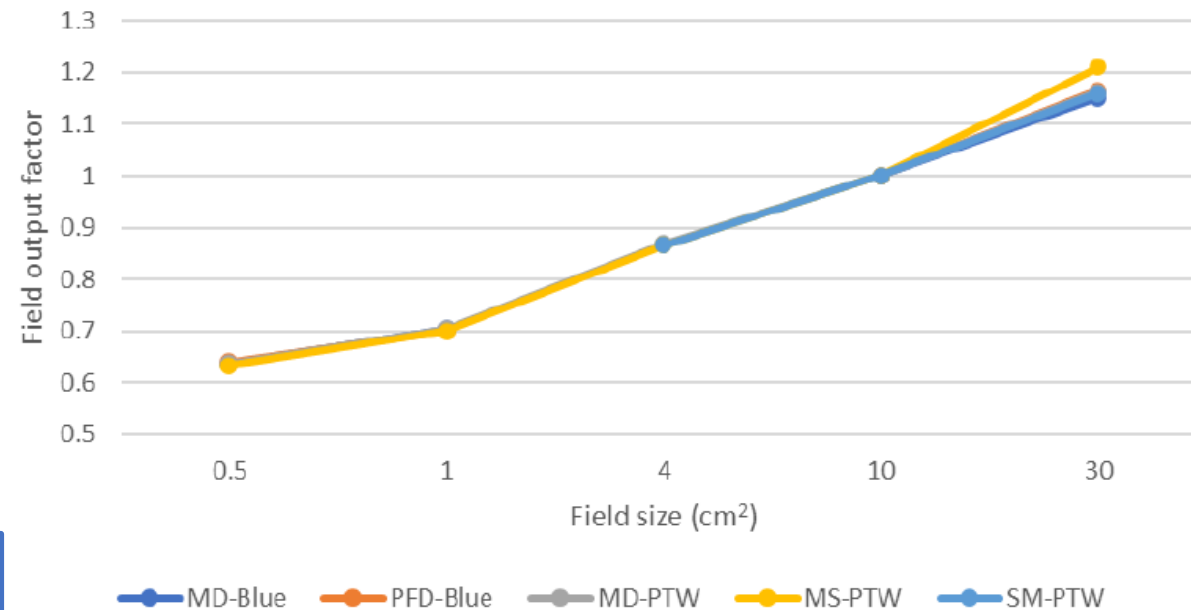


Graph 1. Uncorrected field output factor



MS.TONGRAK YIMPAK  
6436057 RAMP/M

Graph 2. Corrected field output factor



INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY  
VIENNA, 2017

TABLE 26. FIELD OUTPUT CORRECTION FACTORS  $k_{Q_{clin}^{f_{clin}}, f_{msr}}$  FOR FIELDS COLLIMATED BY AN MLC OR SCISSOR CONE AT 6 MV WFF AND FFF MACHINES, AS A FUNCTION OF THE EQUIVALENT SQUARE FIELD SIZE

Detector	Equivalent square field size, $S_{clin}$ (cm)												
	8.0	6.0	4.0	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4
<b>Ionization chambers</b>													
Exradin A14SL micro Shonka slimline	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.002	1.010	1.027	—	—	—	—	—
Exradin A16 micro	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.001	1.003	1.008	1.017	1.027	1.043	—	—	—
IBA/Wellhöfer CC01	1.002	1.004	1.007	1.008	1.008	1.009	1.011	1.013	1.018	1.027	1.047	—	—
IBA/Wellhöfer CC04	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.002	1.009	1.022	1.041	—	—	—	—
IBA/Wellhöfer CC13/IC10/IC15	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.001	1.002	1.009	1.030	—	—	—	—	—	—
PTW 31002 Flexible	1.000	1.000	1.001	1.004	1.009	1.023	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
PTW 31010 Semiflex	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.001	1.002	1.008	1.025	—	—	—	—	—	—
PTW 31014 PinPoint	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.002	1.004	1.009	1.023	1.041	—	—	—	—	—
PTW 31016 PinPoint 3D	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.001	1.001	1.004	1.013	1.025	1.039	—	—	—	—

TABLE 26. FIELD OUTPUT CORRECTION FACTORS  $k_{Q_{clin}^{f_{clin}}, f_{msr}}^{f_{clin}, f_{msr}}$  FOR FIELDS COLLIMATED BY AN MLC OR SR CONE AT 6 MV WFF AND FFF MACHINES, AS A FUNCTION OF THE EQUIVALENT SQUARE FIELD SIZE (cont.)

Detector	Equivalent square field size, $S_{clin}$ (cm)												
	8.0	6.0	4.0	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4
Real time solid state dosimeters													
IBA PFD3G shielded diode	1.000	1.000	0.998	0.995	0.992	0.986	0.976	0.968	0.961	0.952	—	—	—
IBA EFD3G unshielded diode	1.005	1.009	1.014	1.016	1.016	1.015	1.012	1.008	1.004	0.998	0.988	0.983	0.976
IBA SFD unshielded diode (stereotactic)	1.008	1.017	1.025	1.029	1.031	1.032	1.030	1.025	1.018	1.007	0.990	0.978	0.963
PTW 60008 shielded diode	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.998	0.995	0.990	0.977	0.962	—	—	—	—	—
PTW 60012 unshielded diode	1.005	1.010	1.015	1.017	1.017	1.016	1.010	1.003	0.996	0.985	0.970	0.960	—
PTW 60016 shielded diode	1.000	1.000	0.999	0.995	0.991	0.984	0.970	0.956	—	—	—	—	—
PTW 60017 unshielded diode	1.004	1.007	1.010	1.011	1.011	1.008	1.002	0.994	0.986	0.976	0.961	0.952	—
PTW 60018 unshielded diode (stereotactic)	1.004	1.007	1.010	1.011	1.009	1.006	0.998	0.990	0.983	0.973	0.960	0.952	—
PTW 60003 natural diamond	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.001	1.003	1.009	1.026	1.045	—
PTW 60019 CVD diamond	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.999	0.997	0.993	0.989	0.984	0.977	0.968	0.962	0.955

TABLE 26. FIELD OUTPUT CORRECTION FACTORS  $k_{Q_{\text{clin}}, Q_{\text{msr}}}^{f_{\text{clin}}, f_{\text{msr}}}$  FOR FIELDS COLLIMATED BY AN MLC OR SRS CONE AT 6 MV WFF AND FFF MACHINES, AS A FUNCTION OF THE EQUIVALENT SQUARE FIELD SIZE (cont.)

Detector	Equivalent square field size, $S_{\text{clin}}$ (cm)													
	8.0	6.0	4.0	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	
PTW 31018 liquid ion chamber	0.997	0.994	0.991	0.989	0.988	0.988	0.987	0.987	0.987	0.990	0.999	1.011	1.033	
Sun Nuclear EDGE Detector	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.999	0.998	0.994	0.986	0.976	0.966	0.951	—	—	—	
Standard Imaging W1 plastic scintillator	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	

**Note:** The reference depth is 10 cm.

MC simulate in patient's tissue

**TomoPen (TomoTherapy)**



# Monte Carlo beam model tuning

Ratio computed penumbra  
to measured penumbra

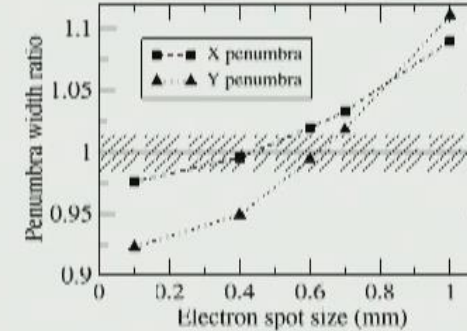
## Classic approach

Tune electron source energy to match  
depth-dose and cross profiles

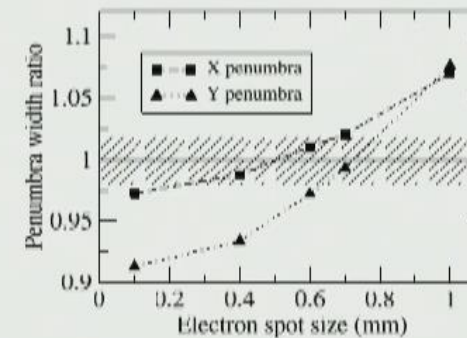
Tune electron source spot size and  
shape to match cross profiles and  
penumbras

- Penumbras sensitive to detector  
used
- Electron spot no so sensitive to  
change of penumbra width

Perpendicular orientation - 0.5 mm Voxels



Parallel orientation - 2 mm Voxels



## Monte Carlo modeling of small photon fields: Quantifying the impact of focal spot size on source occlusion and output factors, and exploring miniphantom design for small-field measurements

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**EDMOND STERPIN**  
**KU LEUVEN AND UCLouvain**

# Monte Carlo beam model tuning

## Classic approach

Tune electron source energy to match depth-dose and cross profiles

Tune electron source spot size and shape to match cross profiles and penumbras

- Penumbras sensitive to detector used
- Electron spot no so sensitive to change of penumbra width

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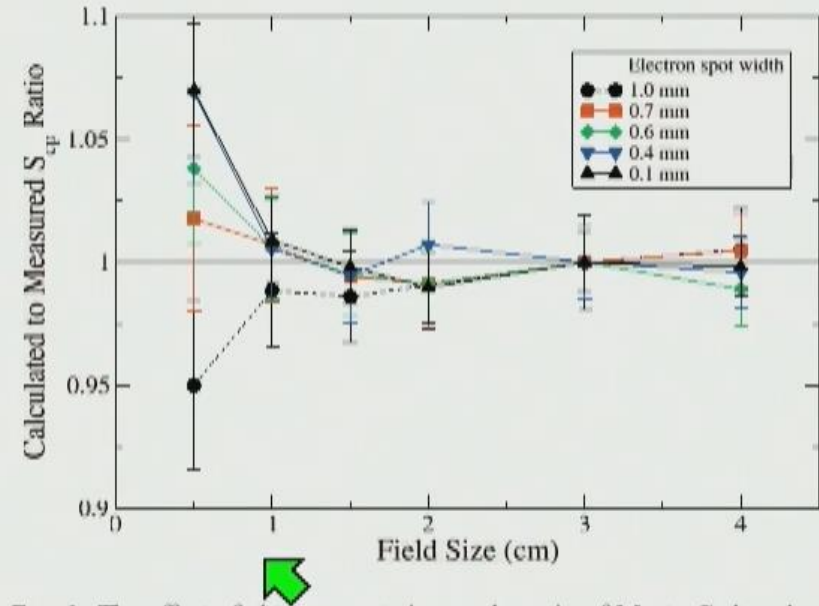


FIG. 6. The effect of electron spot size on the ratio of Monte Carlo calculated output factor to that measured with an unshielded diode [and corrected by a Monte Carlo calculated factor (Ref. 1)], plotted as a function of field size for a 15 MV photon beam. Error bars represent 2 s.d. uncertainty.

**Small field output factors is a more sensitive measurement!**



But also detector-sensitive...

# There are alternative solutions

## → TomoTherapy system

Radiotherapy and Oncology 94 (2010) 229–234

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 **Radiotherapy and Oncology** 

journal homepage: [www.thegreenjournal.com](http://www.thegreenjournal.com)


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Monte Carlo simulation

Monte Carlo-based analytical model for small and variable fields delivered by TomoTherapy

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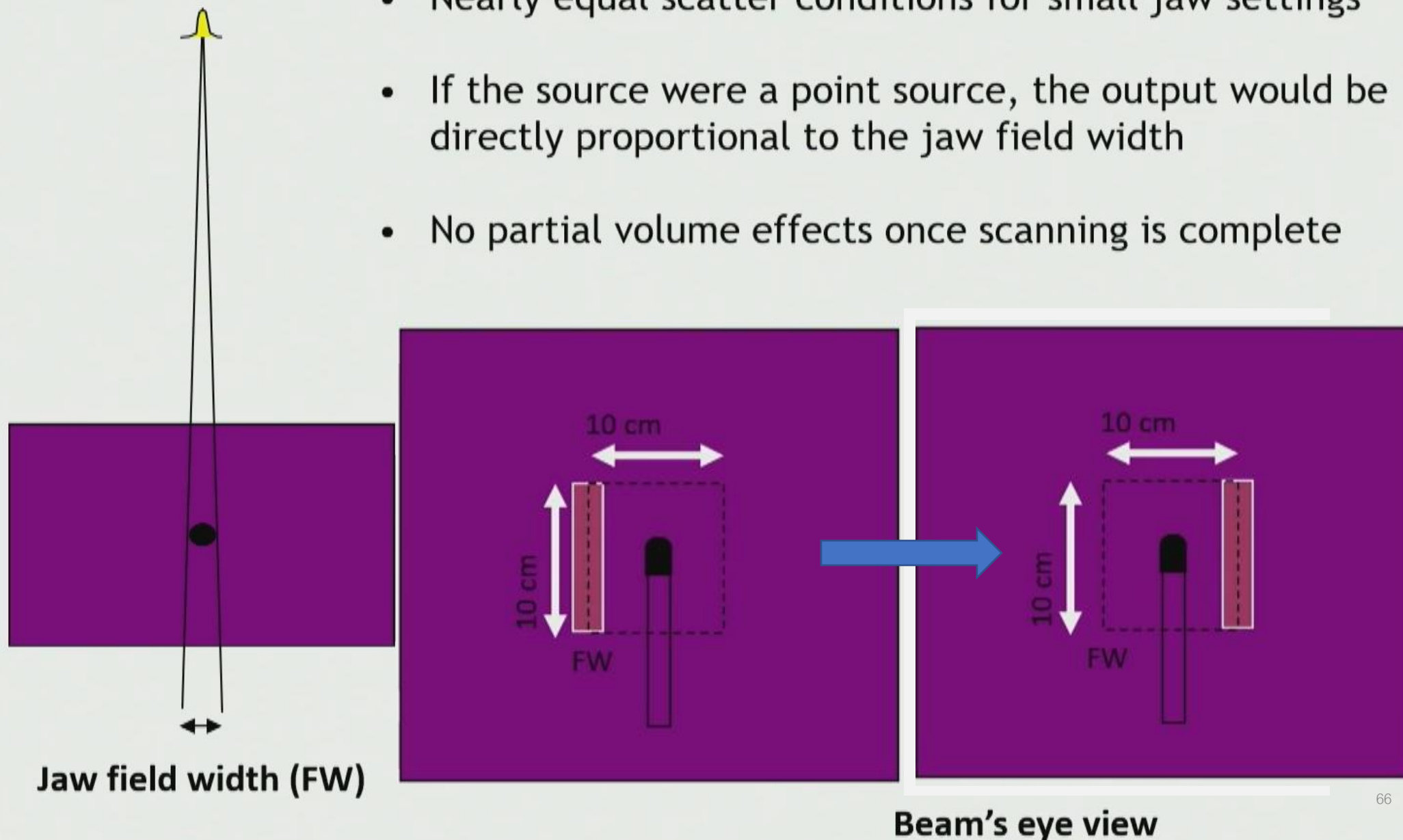
 **JUNE 7-12 2022** **AAPM SUMMER SCHOOL**

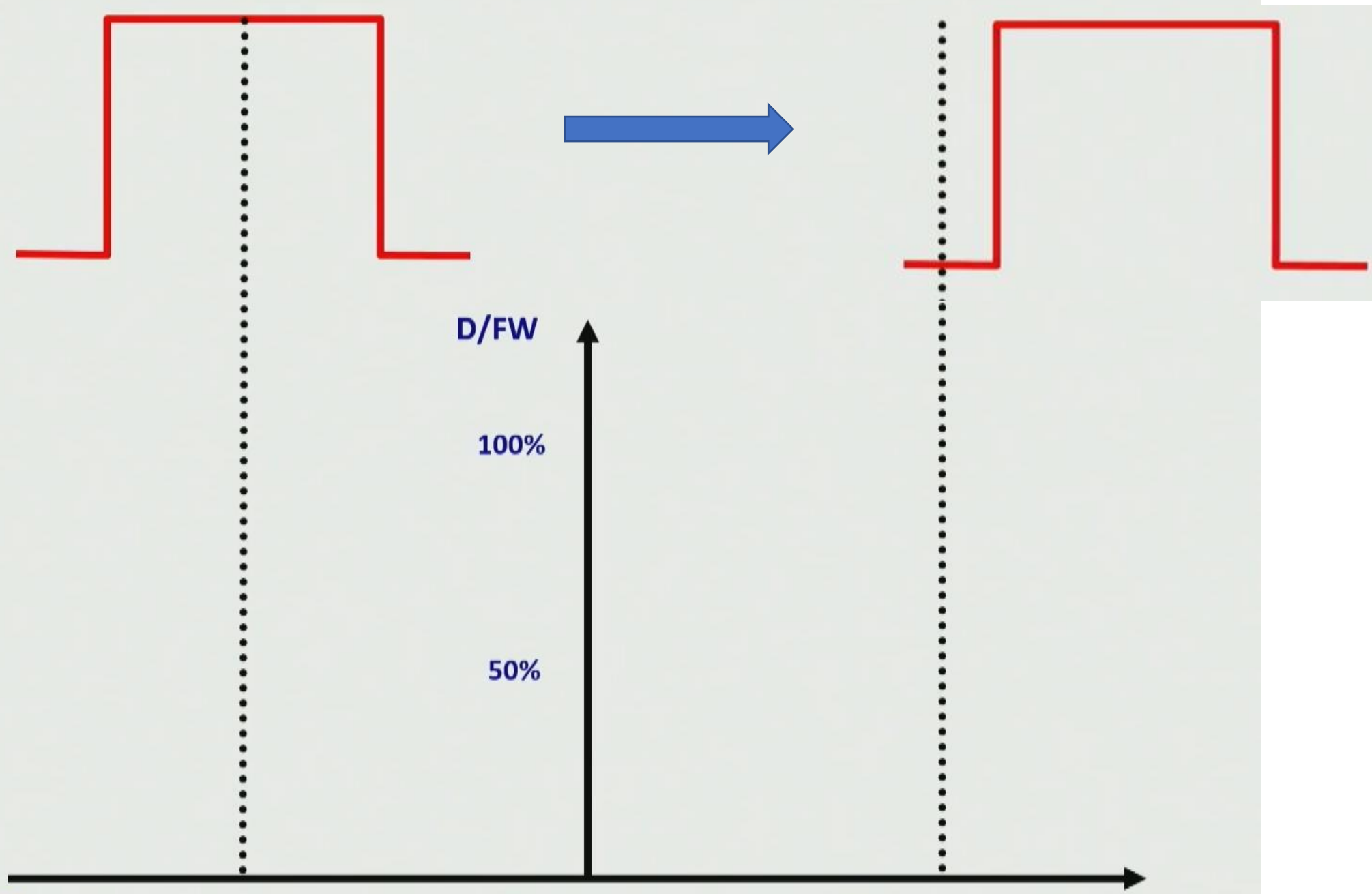
Small Field Dosimetry, Stereotactic Radiosurgery and Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy: *The Future is Here*

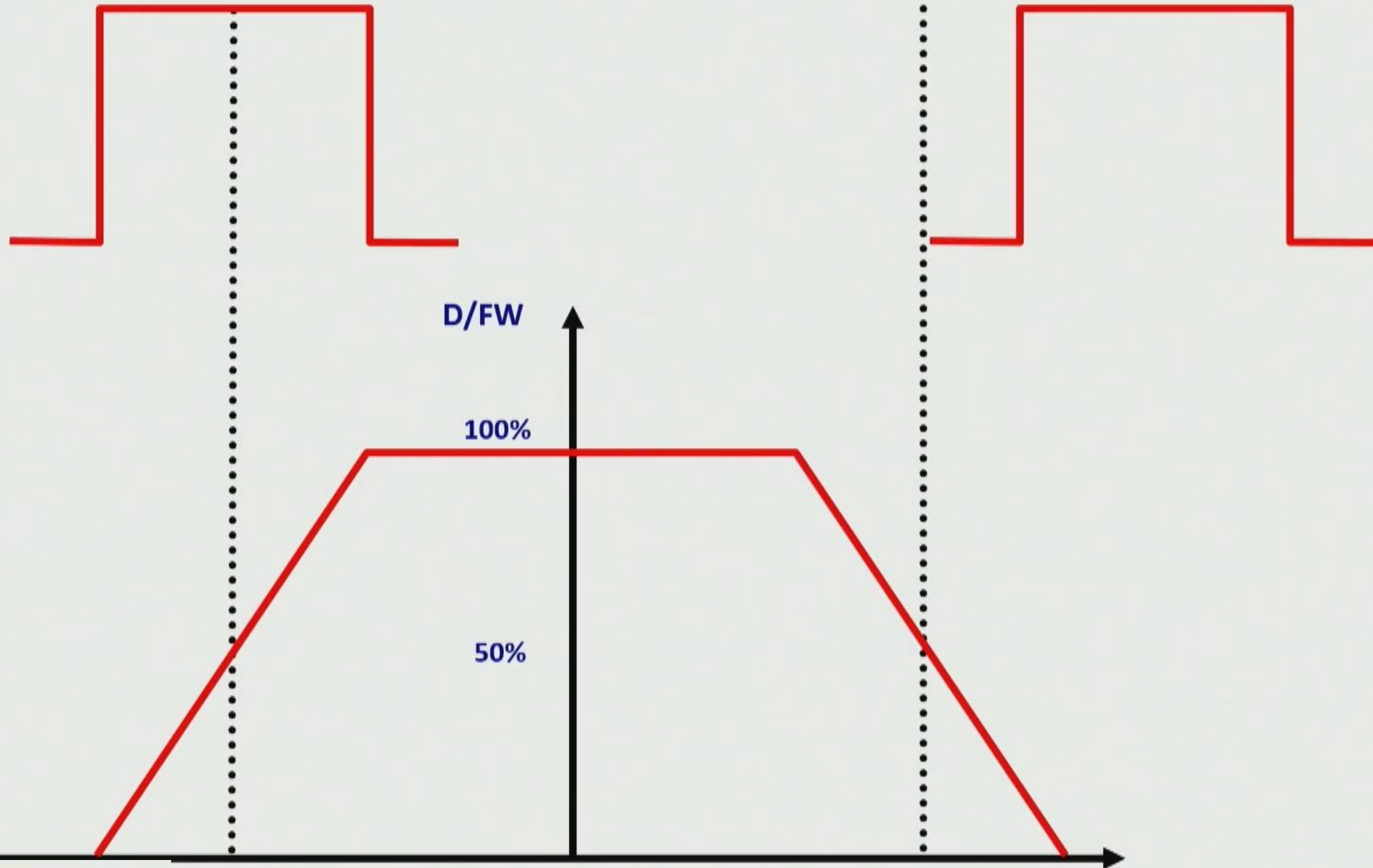
Southern Methodist University & UT Southwestern Medical Center  
Dallas, TX

# Scanning a Beam Across the Phantom

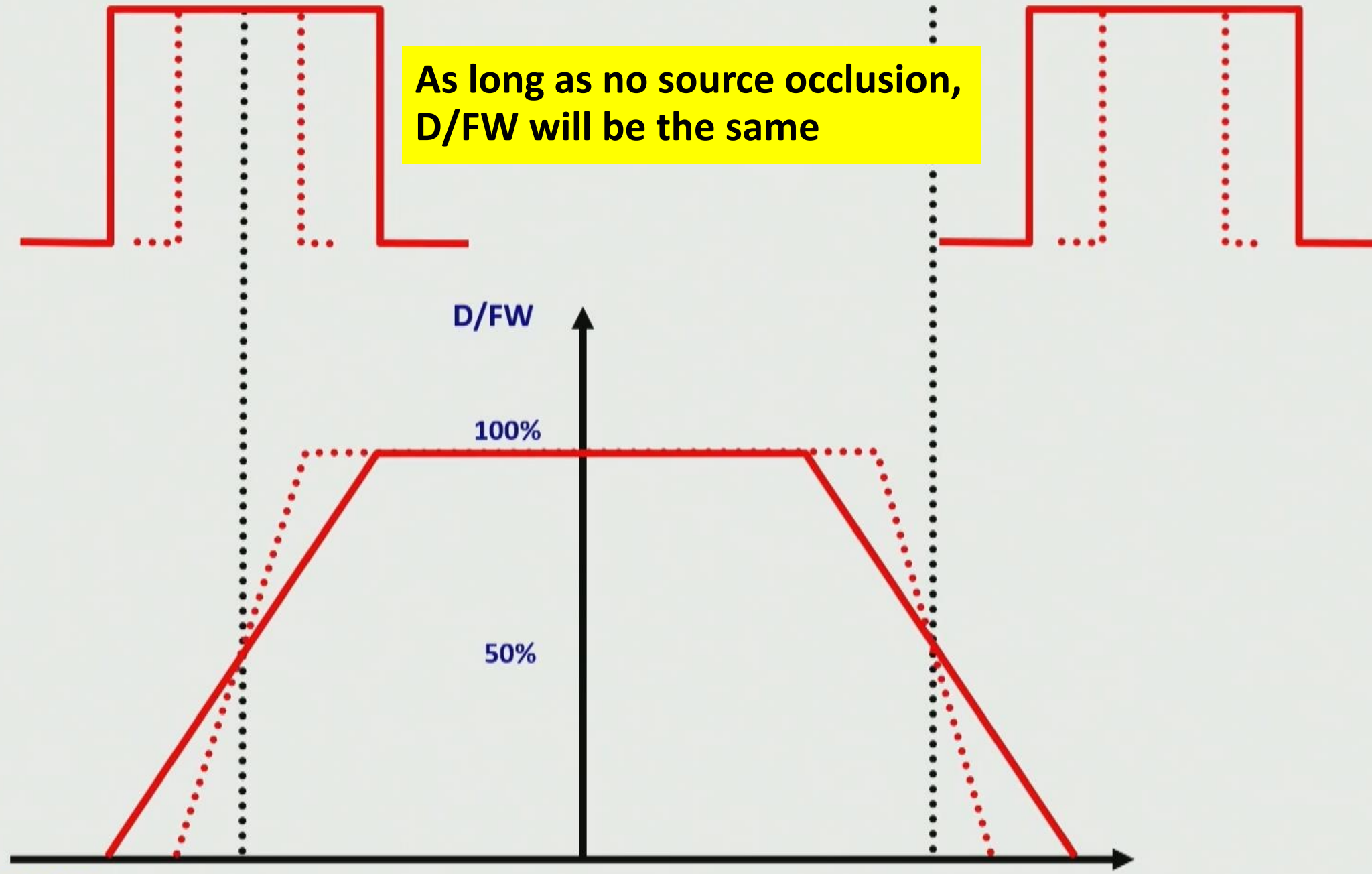
- Nearly equal scatter conditions for small jaw settings
- If the source were a point source, the output would be directly proportional to the jaw field width
- No partial volume effects once scanning is complete

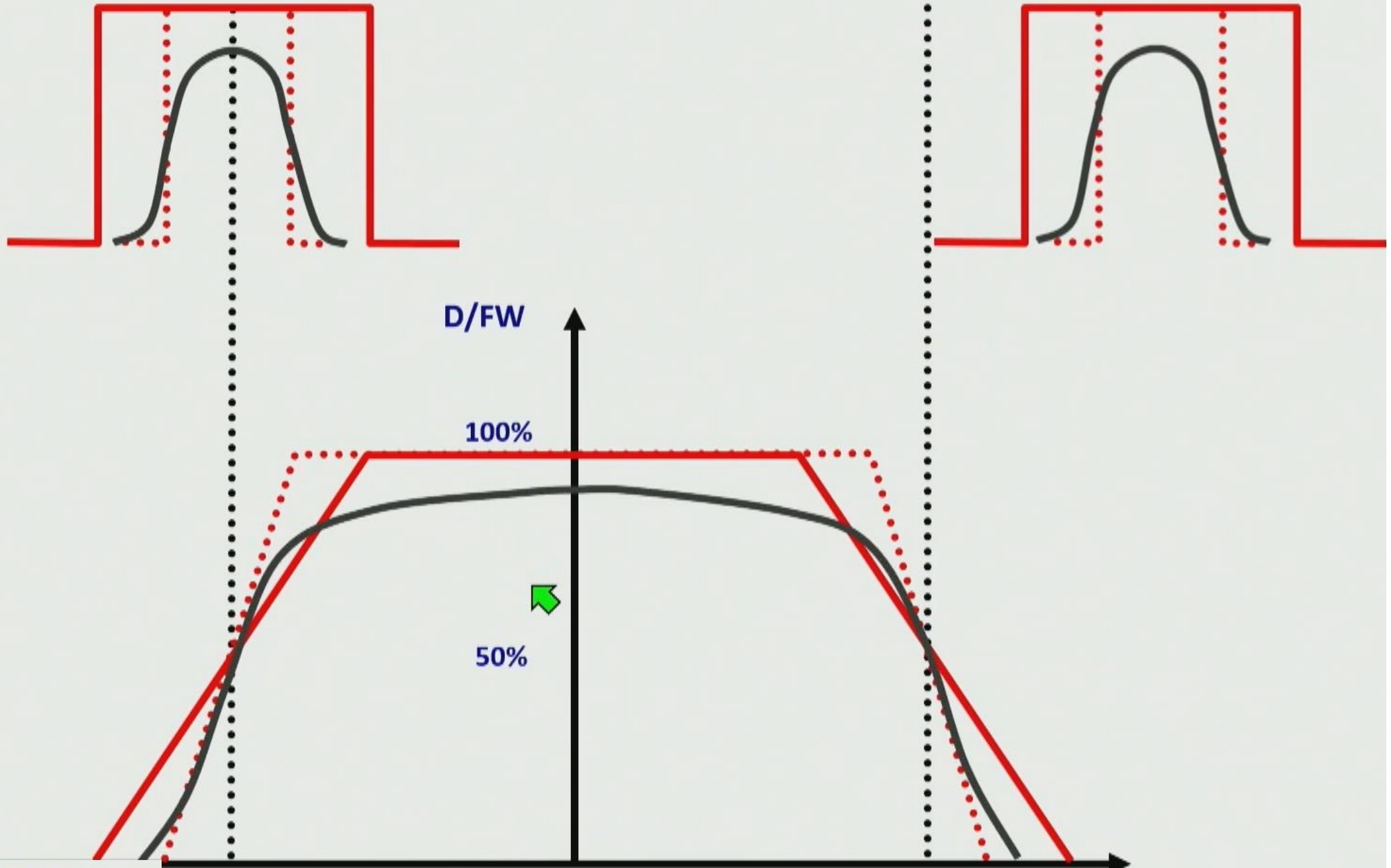






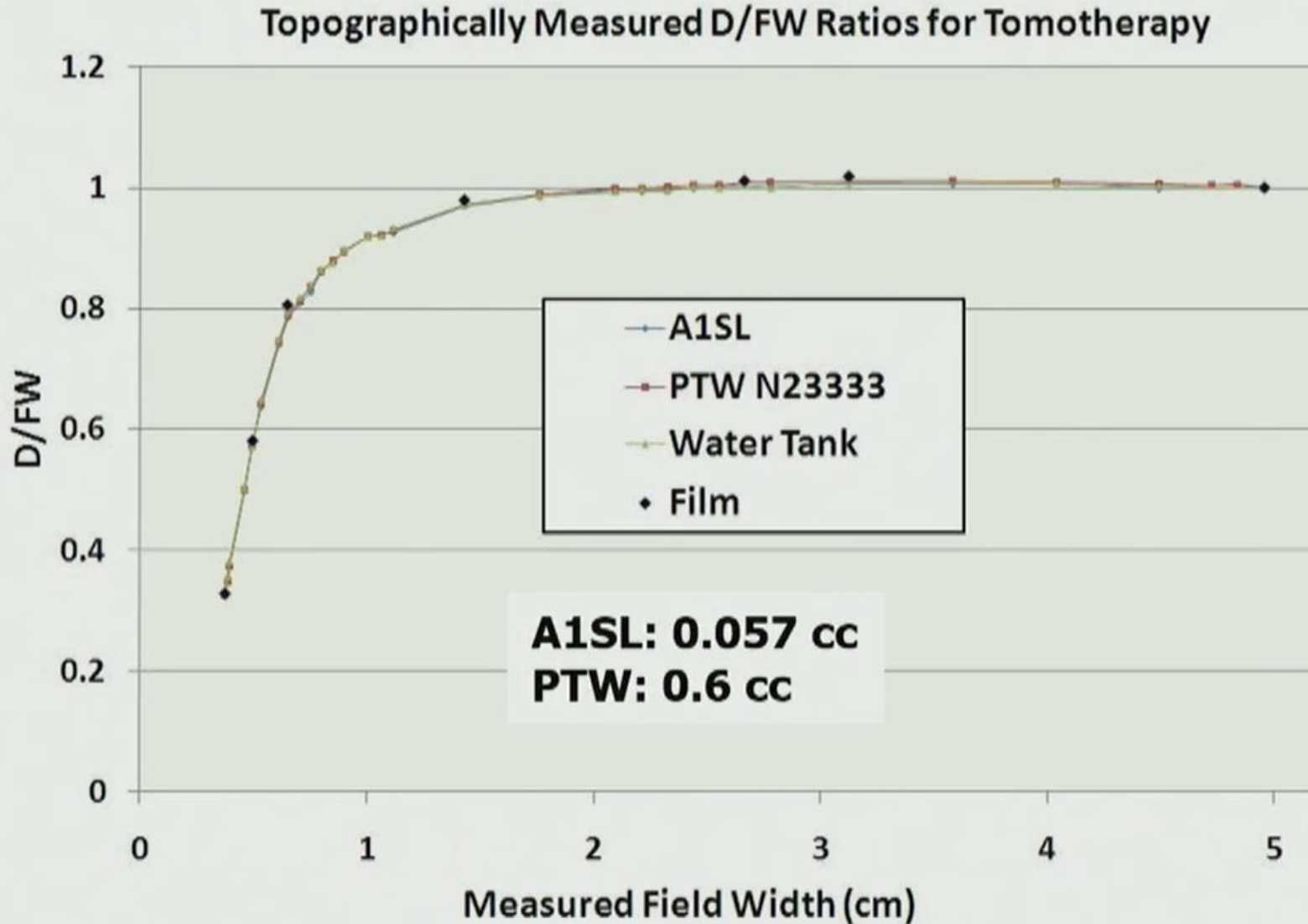
As long as no source occlusion,  
D/FW will be the same





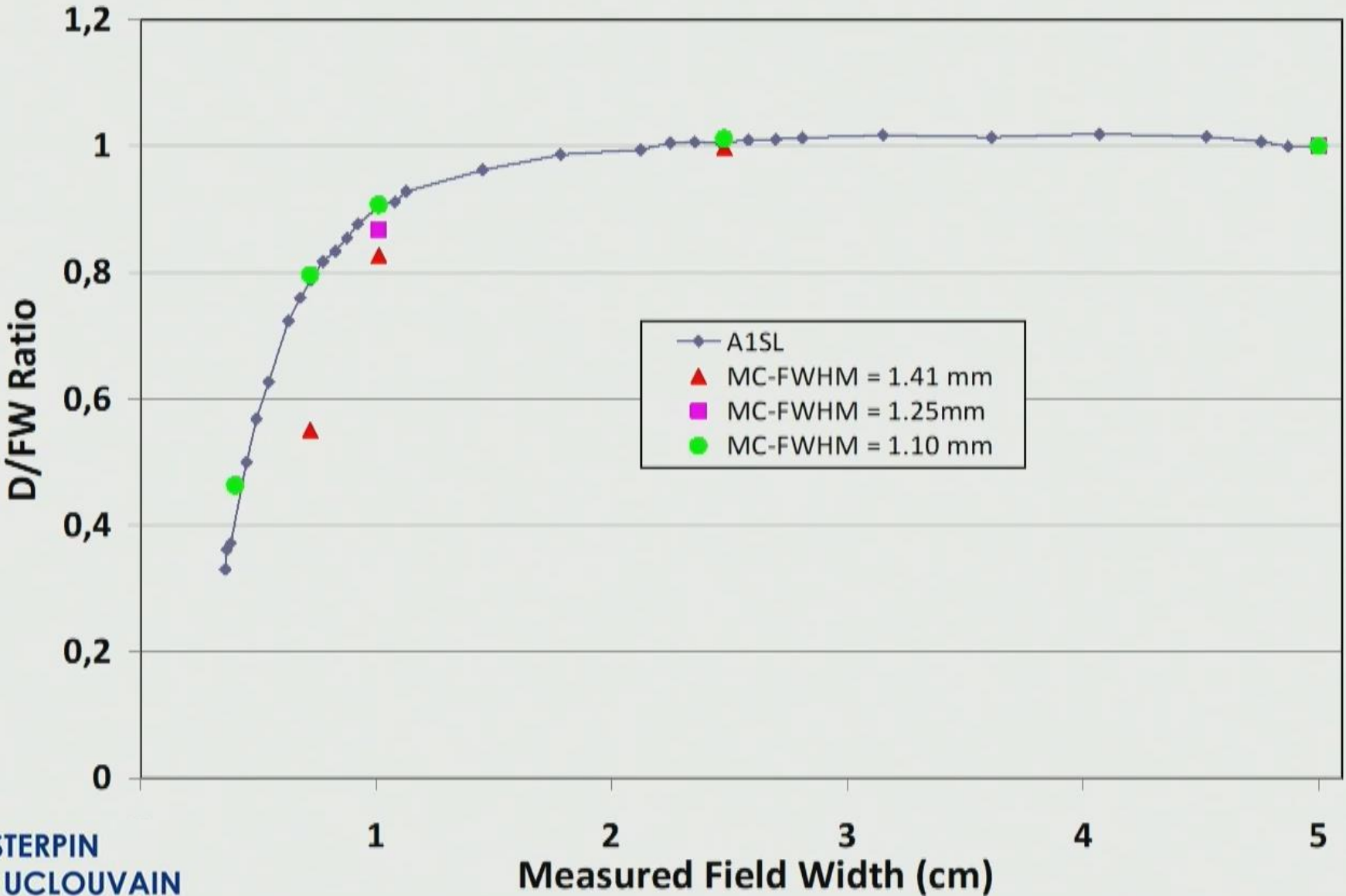


# Invariant with Resolution and Phantom Material



# Comparison with MC – Fine Tuning of the Electron Source Spot Size

Tomotherapy D/FW Ratios Measured in a Water Tank (85cm SSD)



# Conclusions

- Review dose calculation algorithms
  - Correction, Model, Principle-based

- Examples of beam configuration for MC simulation for **tuning electron source spot size**
  - Using field o/p factor and profile
  - Alternative → Using scanning beam to calculate dose/FW → independent to the detector's size

- All in all → Validation & Verification are required.

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MEDICAL PHYSICS

AAPM REPORTS & DOCUMENTS

## **AAPM MEDICAL PHYSICS PRACTICE GUIDELINE 5.b: Commissioning and QA of treatment planning dose calculations—Megavoltage photon and electron beams**

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Dimitris N. Mihailidis<sup>5</sup> | Jared D. Ohrt<sup>4</sup> | Timothy Ritter<sup>6</sup> | Jennifer B. Smilowitz<sup>2</sup> |  
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# Thank you!

