

A High-Granularity Digital Tracking Calorimeter Optimized for Proton CT

Ákos Sudár (Wigner RCP, BME)
Mónika Varga-Kőfaragó, Gergely Gábor Barnaföldi (Wigner RCP)
and Róbert Kovács (BME, Wigner RCP)

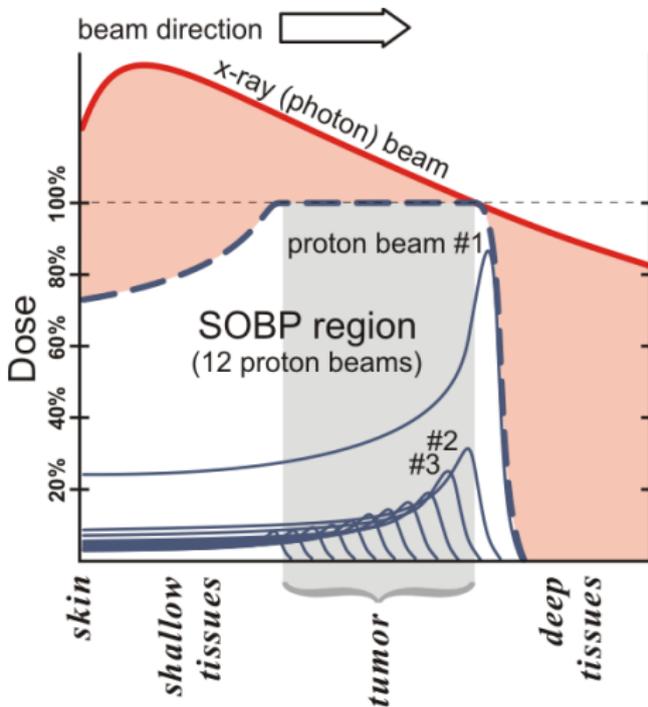
on behalf of Bergen proton CT collaboration
([full collaboration list](#))

Ref: [Front. in Phys. Med. Phys. Im. ID: 568243](#), [Phys. in Med. & Bio. ID: 110623.R3](#), [NIM A 860 \(2017\) 51–6152](#), [Phys. Med. 63 \(2019\) 87–97](#)

Zimányi School Winter Workshop 2020, 9. December 2020.

Advantages of proton therapy

- Original idea by Wilson in 1946
- Widespread in the last 20 years
- More advantageous dose distribution due to Bragg-peak
⇒ less side effect



Relative stopping power distribution

Patient



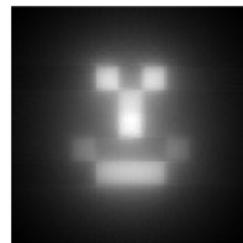
Image

Relative stopping power distribution

Patient



Image



Relative stopping power distribution

Patient



Image



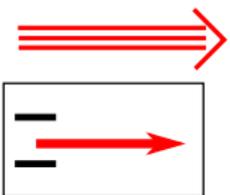
Bergen pCT Collaboration



General design

of the digital tracking calorimeter

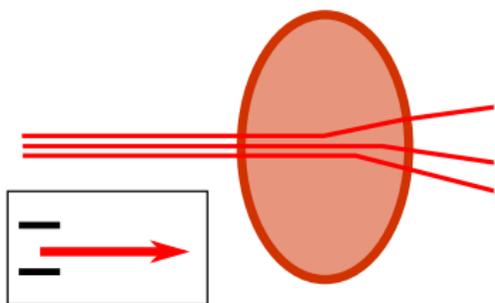
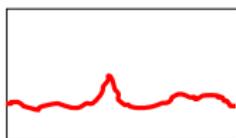
General pCT concept



Incoming vector
and energy

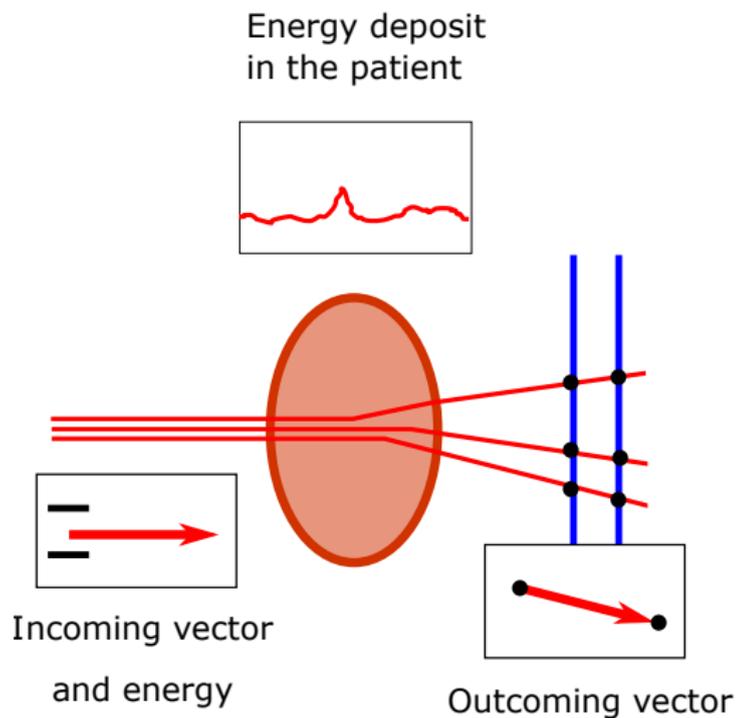
General pCT concept

Energy deposit
in the patient

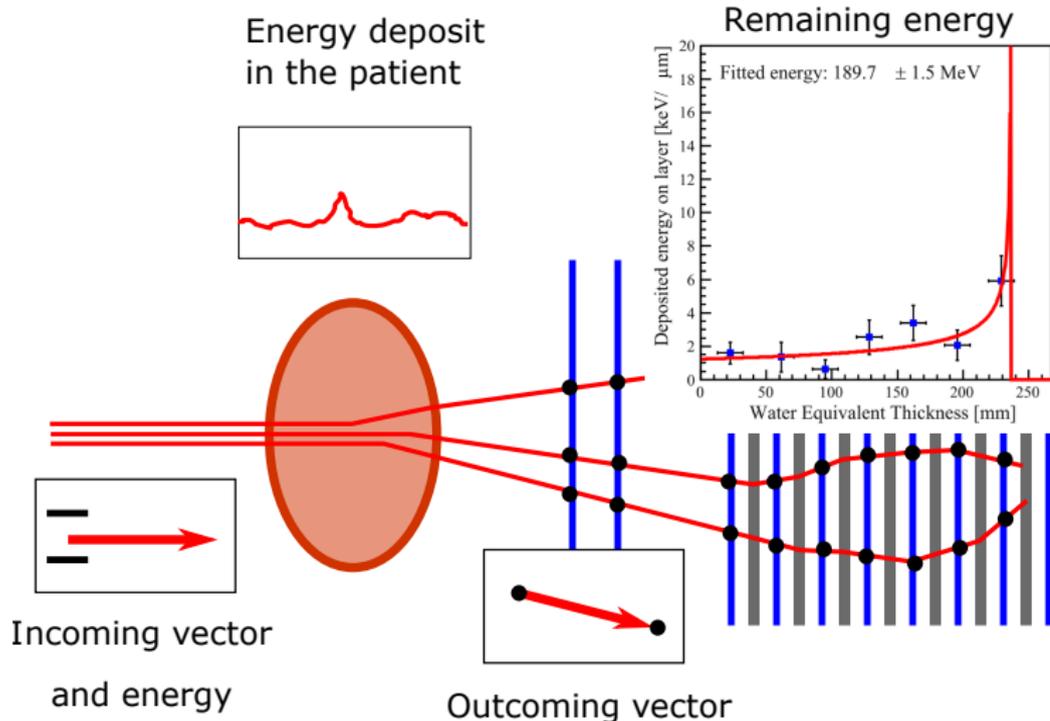


Incoming vector
and energy

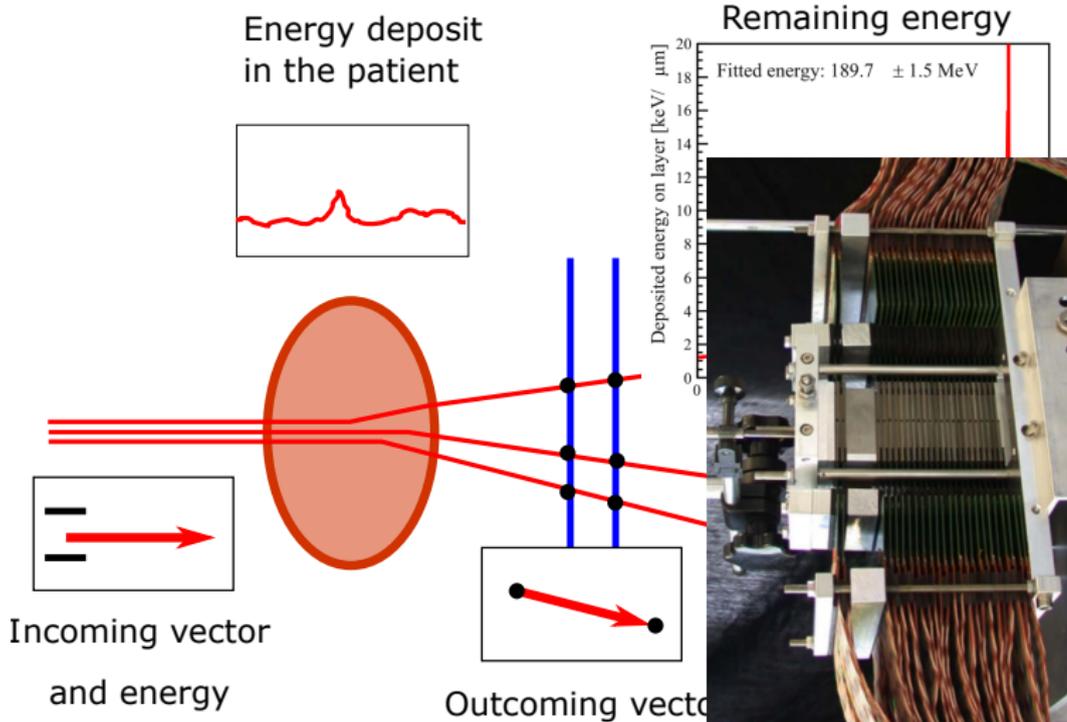
General pCT concept



General pCT concept

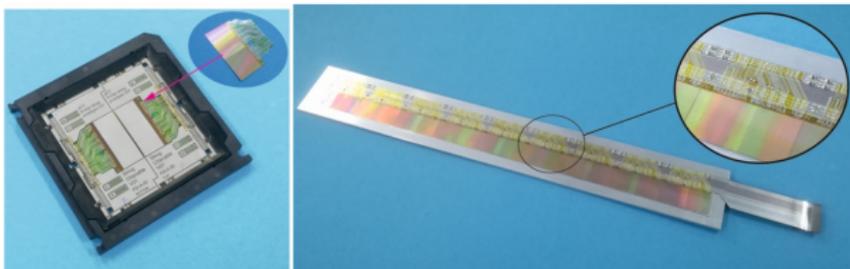


General pCT concept



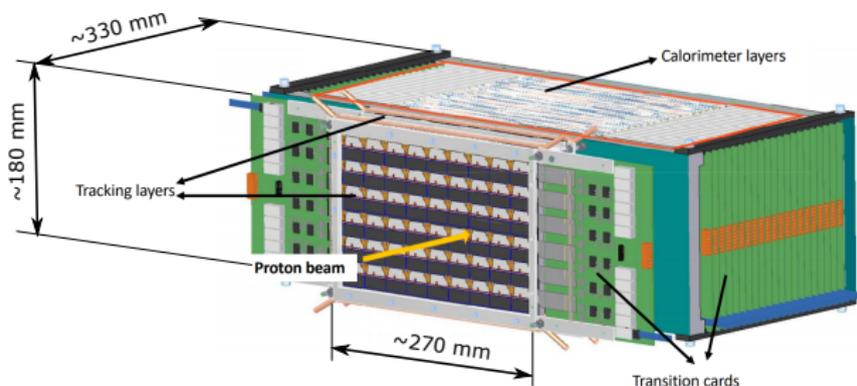
General pCT concept – Tracker layers

- **10^7 proton/s** and $5\mu\text{s}$ frame time must be handled
⇒ ALPIDE silicon pixel detector developed by ALICE, CERN
- Trigger less readout architecture ⇒ fixed frame time
- **Accurate** path reconstruction
⇒ carbon-composite support layer
⇒ 50 mm between the tracker layers
- **Radiation** must not damage nor critically interfere with the operation of the detector
- **Minimize the noise and uncertainties**



General pCT concept – Calorimeter layers

- **Tracker detectors in calorimeter layers**
⇒ fast and use the same readout electronics
- **Absorber and support layer with minimal scattering**
⇒ Aluminum: low scattering and good support material
- To avoid oscillation error 3.5 mm absorber thickness
- 41 absorber layer to stop a 230 MeV/u proton beam



Clinically-oriented investigations & results

(Test beam setup and clinical Monte Carlo studies)

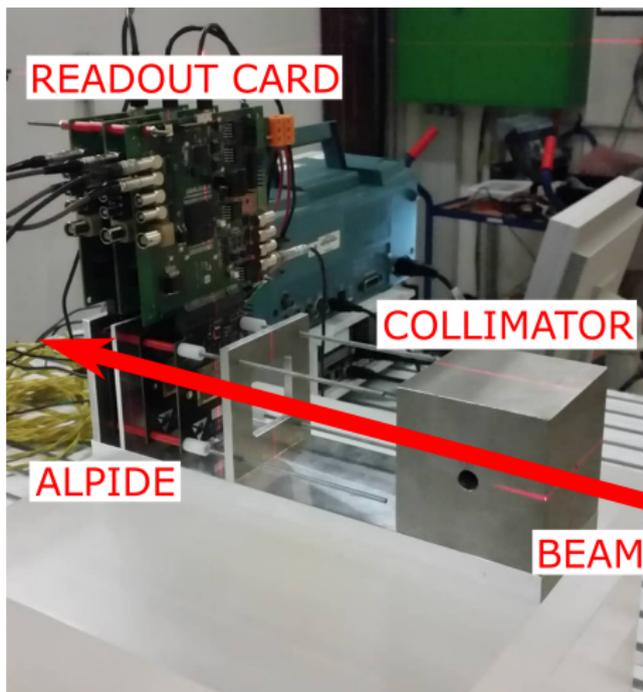
Test beam setup

Parameters:

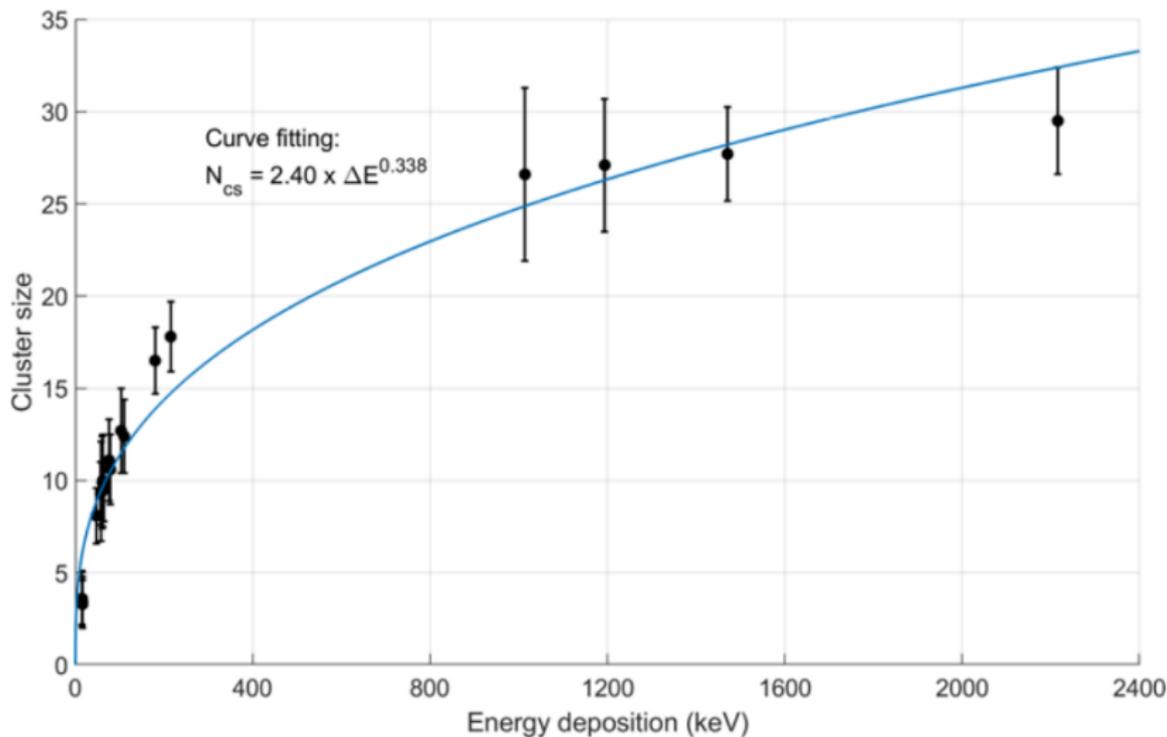
- Energies 50-220 MeV/u
- Particle rate 15-145 kHz
- Beams: p , α^{2+} , c^{6+}

Measurements:

- Cluster evolution
- Cluster size – energy deposit
- Tracking efficiency
- Cluster size – different cluster occupancy
- Discriminate different type of particles



Cluster size and the deposited energy

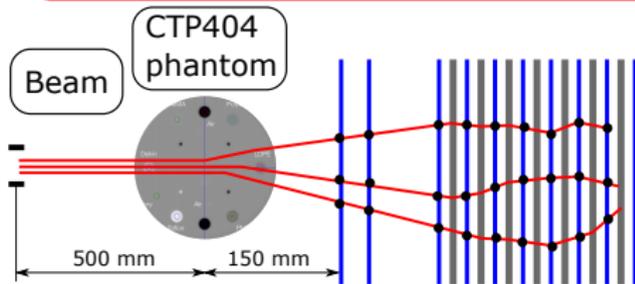


Monte Carlo model

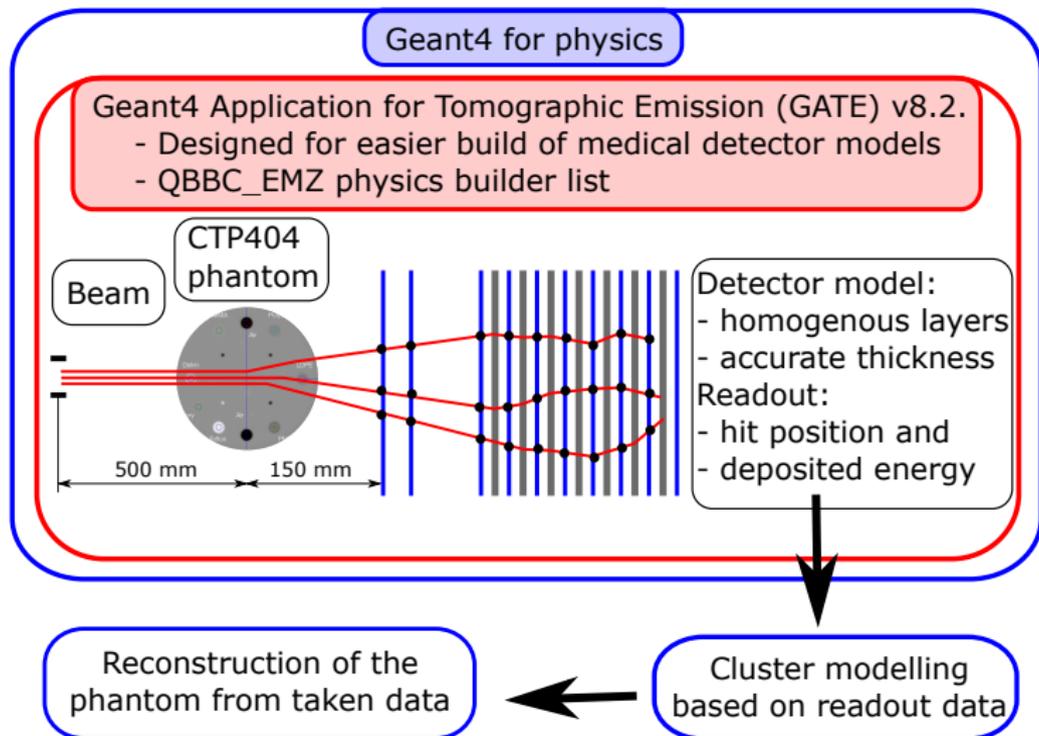
Geant4 for physics

Geant4 Application for Tomographic Emission (GATE) v8.2.

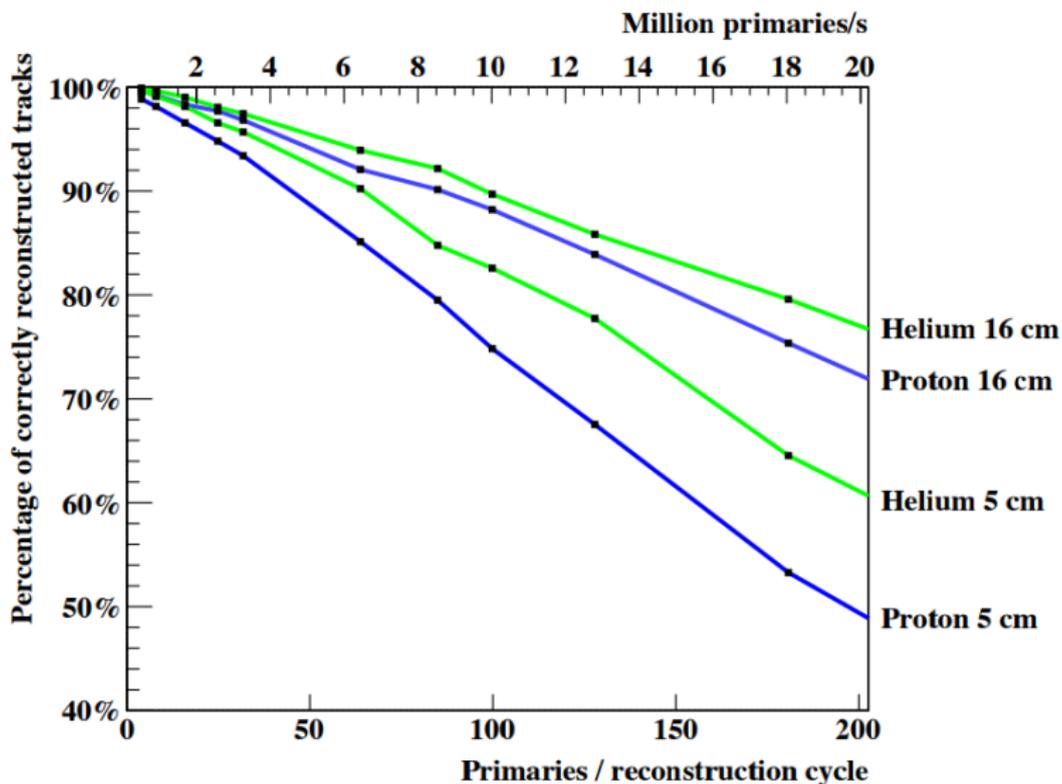
- Designed for easier build of medical detector models
- QBBC_EMZ physics builder list



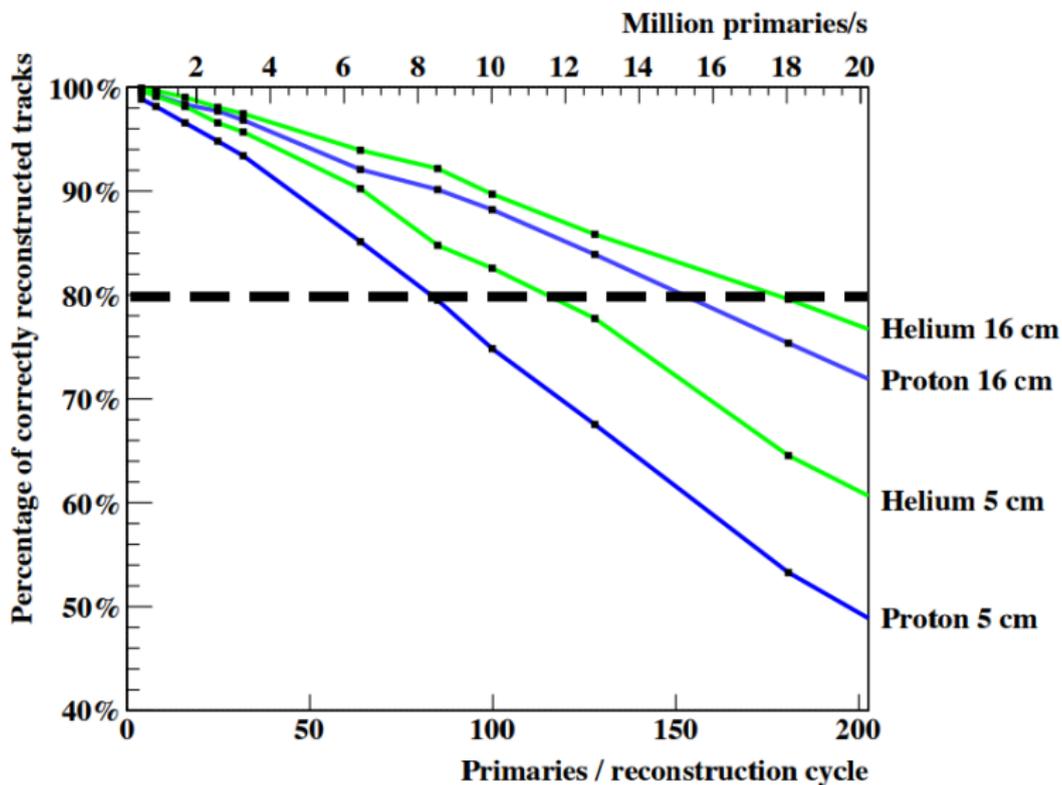
Monte Carlo model



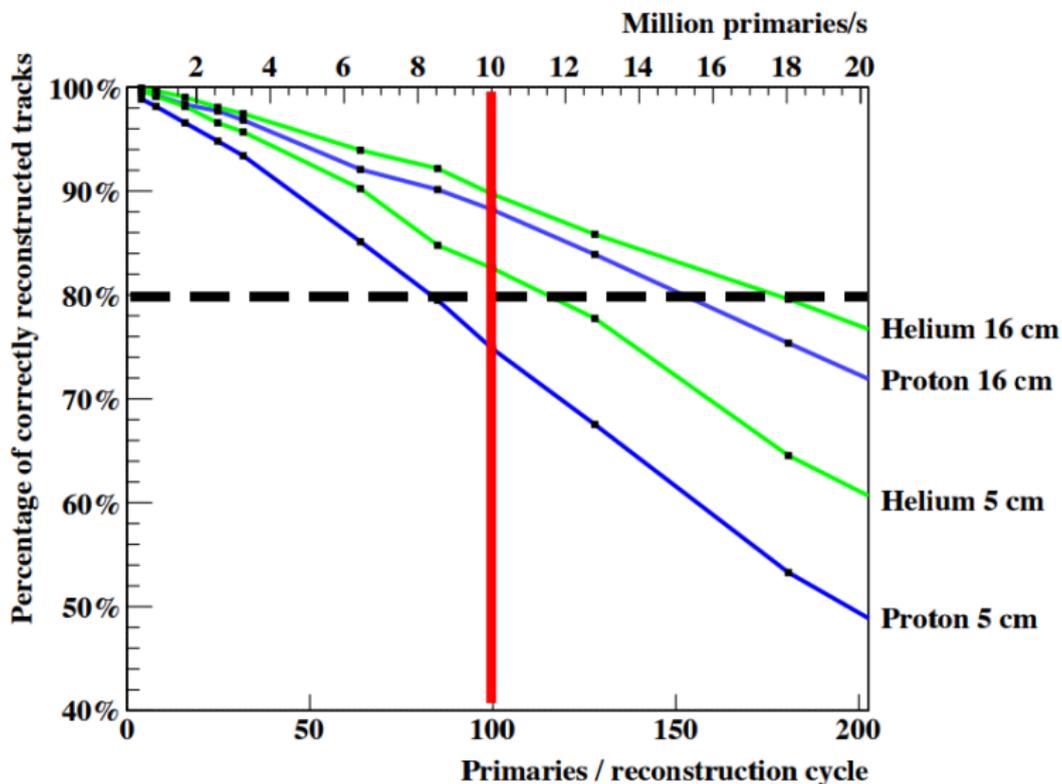
Rate of correctly reconstructed tracks



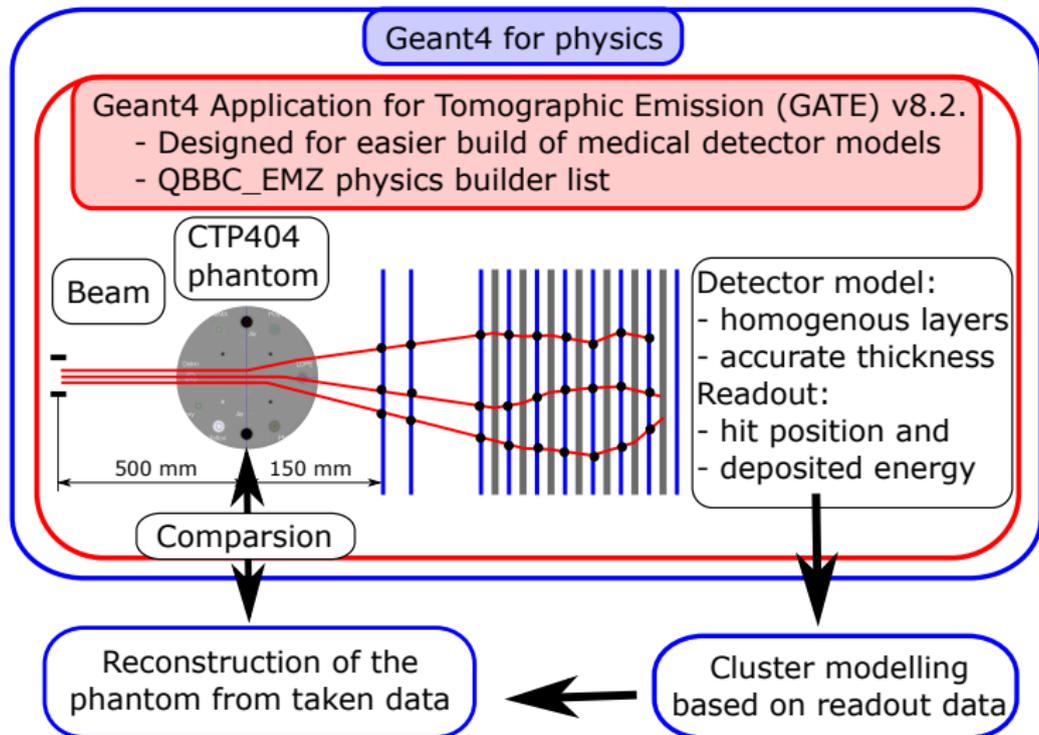
Rate of correctly reconstructed tracks



Rate of correctly reconstructed tracks

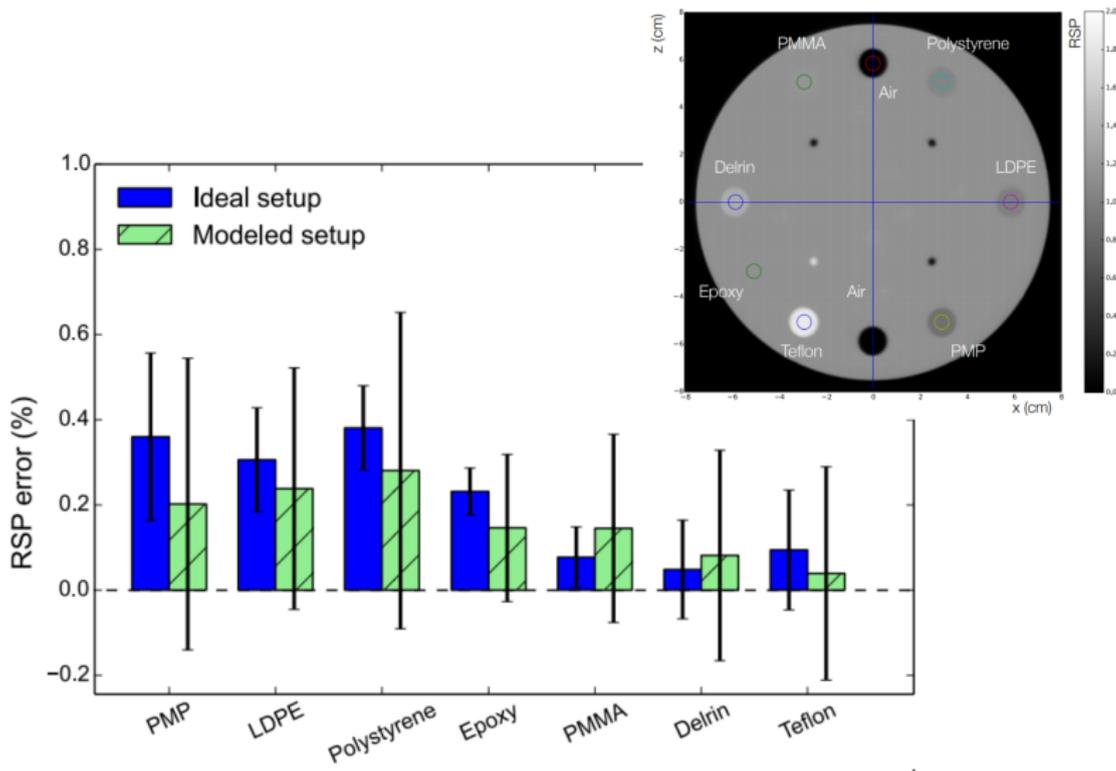


Monte Carlo model

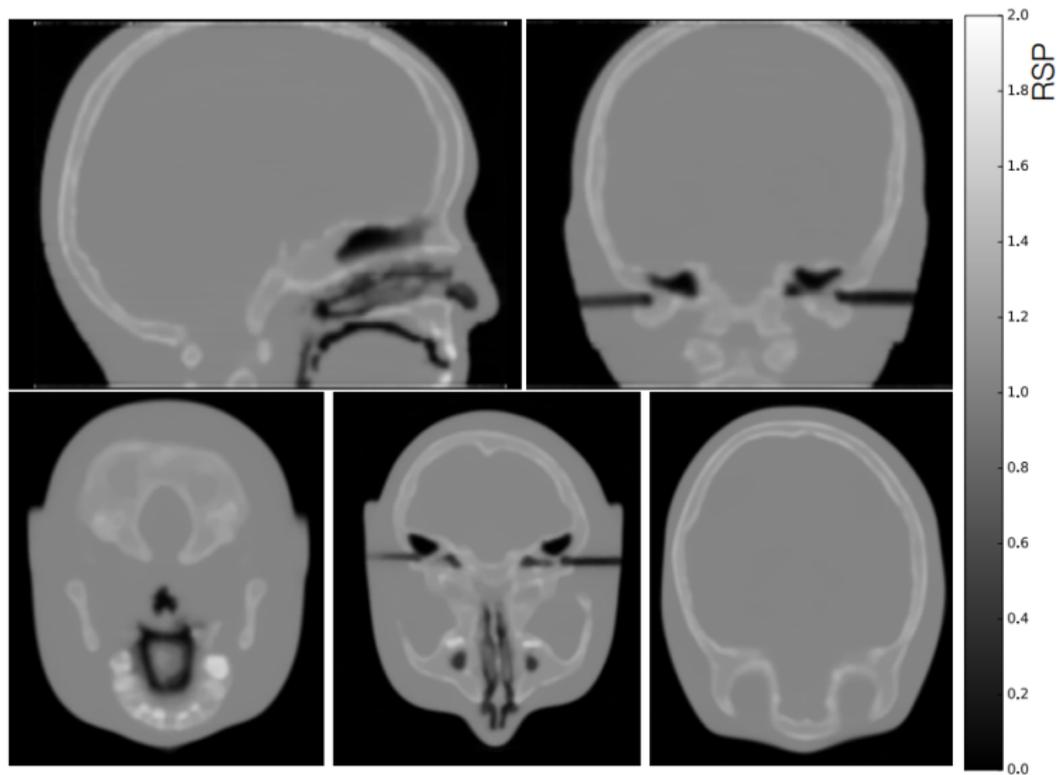


MC – Error of the Relative Stopping Power

CTP404 phantom: seven materials for RSP error investigations



MC head imaging



Summary and outlook

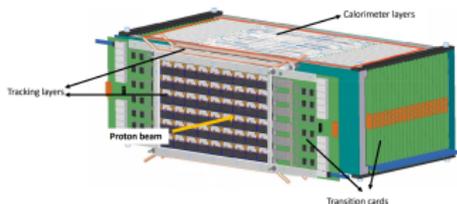
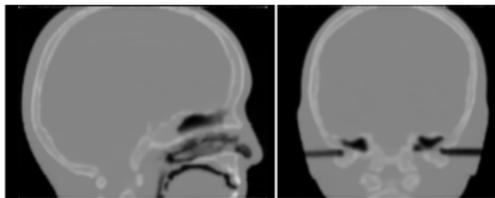
Summary – Accuracy and performance

- **Accurate relative stopping power:**
0.4% (MC simulation) < required 1%

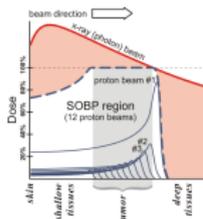


- **10^7 proton/s** (MC simulation)
⇒ pCT image in less than a minute
⇒ maybe clinical testing will be possible

- **Clear image**
- **Free of artifacts**

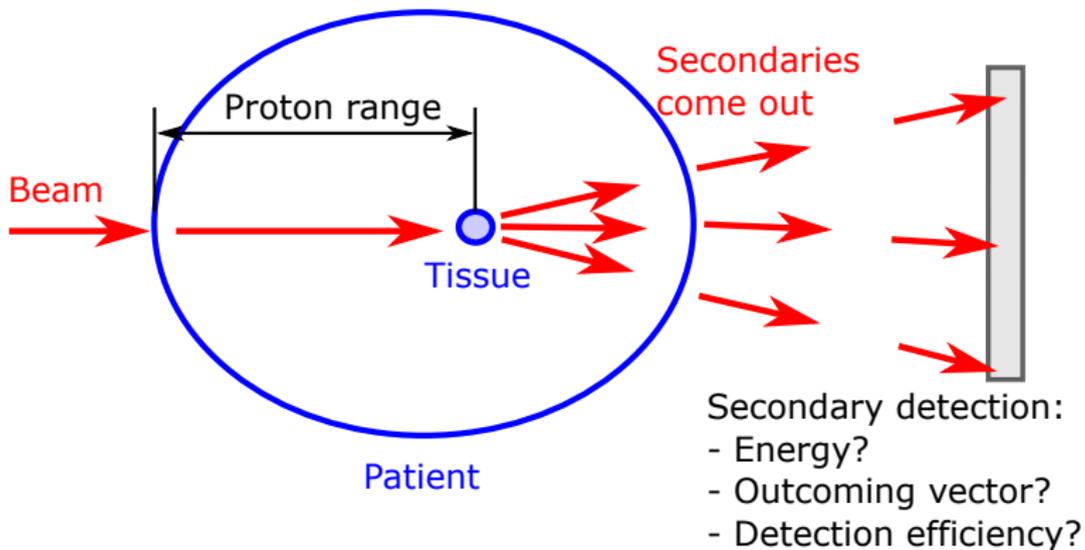


- **Under construction**, tests within 2 years
- Ongoing component tests



Outlook – In vivo dosimetry

Goal: measuring the proton range



Thank you for your attention!

Members of the Bergen pCT collaboration: University of Bergen, Norway; Helse Bergen, Norway; Western Norway University of Applied Science, Bergen, Norway; Wigner Research Center for Physics, Budapest, Hungary; DKFZ Heidelberg, Germany; Heidelberg Ion-Beam Therapy Center (HIT), Germany; Utrecht University, The Netherlands; RPE LTU, Kharkiv, Ukraine; Suranaree University of Technology, Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand; China Three Gorges University, Yichang, China; University of Applied Sciences Worms, Germany; University of Oslo, Norway; Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary

This work would not be possible without the support of the Research Council of Norway (Norges forskningsråd), grant number 859 250858; the Trond Mohn Foundation, grant number BFS2017TMT07; NKFIH/OTKA K120660 and K135515, Hungarian Scientific Research Fund – OTKA.

Backup slides

Imaging for the treatment plan of a proton therapy

- Hounsfield Unit (HU): linear attenuation coefficients in a scale which assigns 0 to water and -1000 to air
- Relative Stopping Power (RSP):
the stopping power compared with water
- RSP map is necessary for treatment planning
- Nowadays:
X-ray CT → measures HU unit → RSP distribution
1.7-11% RSP error ⇒ bigger safety zone
⇒ less advantages proton Therapy
- More accurate option:
Proton CT → direct measurement of RSP distribution
0.5-1% RSP error ⇒ reduced safety zone
⇒ more advantages proton Therapy

Previous prototype of the group – Concept

Sandwich structure:

- MIMOSA23 sensors
(developed in ALICE-FoCal)
2 kHz readout speed
- 3.3 mm tungsten absorber

Layer length: 32 mm WET

WET: Water Equivalent Thickness

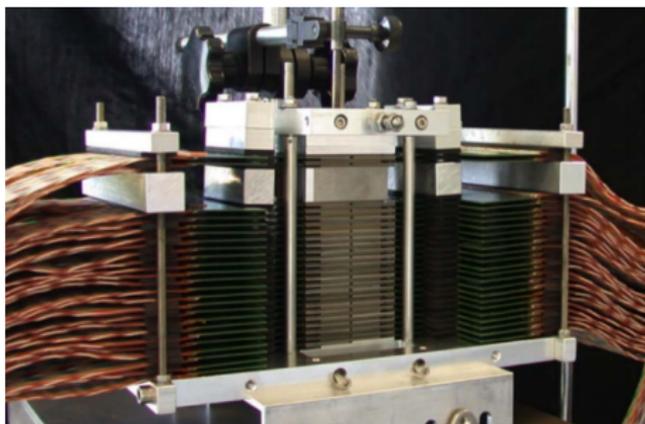
Originally designed for other purpose

⇒ 24 layers but just 7 useful

$38.5 \cdot 38.3 \text{ mm}^2$ sensitive area

New prototype:

- MIMOSA23 → ALPIDE
- Optimized absorber



Previous prototype of the group – Results

- 4% range resolution caused by the too thick absorber goal is 1% for prototype pCTs
- 1 MHz effective proton frequency high end of the prototype pCTs

