# MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL $C \text{ a n c e r } C \text{ e n t e r}^{\text{s}}$



# **Imaging Needs for Protons**

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# **Propositions**

- Imaging serves to ensure the correct fraction dose
  - ... and, in current practice, assumes geometry equals dosimetry.
    - True for  $\gamma$  Geometry does not affect dosimetry
    - False for p Geometry strongly affects dosimetry
  - Not all observables are image-based
  - DGRT: Dose-Guided RT
- p RT requires different implementations
  - $\cdot$  ... thus, equipment has different effectiveness between  $\gamma$  and p
- p physics offers novel capabilities
  - ... in-vivo, chemical, control-feedback at the delivery level
- Identify p-specific requirements & deployments
- Identify p workflow requirements





# **Active Goals in RT**

- Image-guided therapy for improved targeting
- Increase target to healthy tissue dose ratio
- Reduce treatment time and/or increase fraction size
- Reduce cost for patient, society, and caregiver

# **Requires**

- Registration Common reference of data
- Adaptive RT Adjust delivery pattern
- Motion tracking In-vivo
- Performance Computations, Feedback & Control
- Connectivity Data backbone & Logic

# Claim: p can outperform $\gamma$





# The p is an instrument

- A narrow p beam is a concise information package
  - E<sub>in</sub> E<sub>out</sub> dE/dX(x,y,z)
    Bragg peak localization (x,y,z)
    Charged lonizing, count, control / ion
    Nuclear interactions γ
    Highly redundant Effective use of prior knowledge
- Immediate control feedback
  - Parameters into the system (E,Q,x,y) are the ones observed
    - We also need 't'
    - Unlike IMRT where D = f(leaf position)
  - High-speed controls
    - Limited, typically, by E switching





# **PBS Control**



# **Challenge – IGRT**







# p IGRT: Dynamics / ART



## **Prior Knowledge**

- Pre-treatment imaging resolves the set of target positions
- Selective range imaging can rapidly "probe" the patient

# the PBS time structure is fast

- Energy is slowest (0.5 s ?)
- $Q(x,y,E) \rightarrow Q(x,y,E,t)$

#### S Mori & G Chen MGH





OncoRay – National Center for Radiation Research in Oncology, Dresden

# *In vivo* dosimetric verification of proton radiation therapy: Biomolecular understanding and application of hepatocytespecific functional MRI

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N Universitātskliniku Carl Gustav Carus







# **Eovist uptake mechanism**

#### **Gd-EOB-DTPA**

- Clinical available (Eovist = Primovist)
- 50 % actively taken up in healthy hepatocytes by Organic Anion Transporter Proteins (OATPs)

#### Influence of irradiation

- Irradiation induced release of proinflammatory cytokines (TNF-α, IL-1β, IL-6)
- Proinflammatory cytokines influence hepatocytic function







# **Eovist enhanced MRI post-pRT**

5 Gy 10 Gy 20 Gy 30 Gy 35 Gy 39 Gy

2,5 months after end of proton therapy 40 Gy in 5fx over 2 weeks



# **Response during treatment?**



🔵 5 Gy

10 Gy

#### Difference Image (Post 5fx - Post 3fx)



#### Dose-correlated changes visible about 7-12 days after start of treatment!



# A Detailed Comparison of proton vs. Carbon Ion Computed Tomography

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# Ion Tomography

- Stopping Power ratio conversion from HU based on population average has a systematic range error (~2%)
- Proton tomography originally proposed by Andy Koehler (1968, *Science*)
  - Experiment: A Cormack & A Koehler (1976, PMB)
- Issues:
  - Proton: Scatter in patient
  - Carbon: Dose in patient
- Use prior information

*Conventional*: min  $|| Ax - b ||^2$  subject to  $x_i > 0$ 

+*Prior CT*: min  $|| Ax - b ||^2 + \lambda || x - p ||^2$  subject to  $x_i > 0$ 

where **A** is the path to  $\Delta E$  functional, **x** reconstructed density, **b** energy loss, **p** prior CT converted to S





# Ion Tomography







# *In vivo* proton beam range verification using resolvable prompt gamma lines

Joost Verburg, Kent Riley PhD, Joao Seco PhD

Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital





# **Resolvable prompt gamma lines**

 Most prompt gamma-rays near end-of-range result from a few nuclear level transitions

•	<sup>16</sup> O(p,p') <sup>16</sup> O*	6.13 MeV γ
•	<sup>12</sup> C(p,p') <sup>12</sup> C* + <sup>16</sup> O(p,pα) <sup>12</sup> C*	4.44 MeV γ
•	<sup>16</sup> O(p,p') <sup>16</sup> O*	2.74 MeV γ
•	<sup>16</sup> O(p,px) <sup>15</sup> N* + <sup>16</sup> O(p,px) <sup>15</sup> O* …	5.2 MeV γ

- Resolving discrete energies allows for novel range verifications methods
  - Incorporate known nuclear reaction cross sections
  - Improve accuracy in the presence of tissues with unknown compositions





# **Prototype detector**

# 1. LaBr<sub>3</sub>(Ce) scintillator with high energy resolution

# 2. Active anti-coincidence shield

- Reduce Compton background
- Reduce neutron-induced gamma background

## 3. Data acquisition system

- Synchronized to cyclotron radiofrequency (9 ns period)
- 200 ps sampling resolution
- Digital pulse processing







# **Results: Time/energy histogram**



# **Results: Range 16 cm**



# **Patient Imaging Requirements**

- Geometric setup and stability
  - Multi (1..n) planar X-ray
- Motion tracking
  - Surface tracking (RPM, VisionRT, ...)
  - Fluoroscopy of diaphragm / internal markers
  - EM / RF
- Soft-tissue deformation / changes
  - CBCT
- Adaptive planning
  - (4D)CT
- Perform within the treatment session workflow
  - Optimization
  - Connectivity





# Workflow

# Imaging

- X-ray + CBCT
- CT

# Procedures

- Scenarios
  - Outside / Inside room Immobilization / Imaging
  - Optimization
  - Flexibility
- Facility Layout
- Workflow





# **IGRT: Some in-room solutions**



CT (on rails) – Off isocenter, space, time



Gantry mounted X-ray systems





**HIT PPS solution** 





# **PAIR: Integrated imaging ring:**





- X-ray / Panel Independent Motion
- Couch CS
- X-ray
- CBCT
- Fluoroscopy

m ↓ medPhoton GmbH



radART Paracelsus Medical University Salzburg



# **Ultra-large Field of Views**

## Image auto-stitching

#### medPhoton GmbH



mΦ

# **Fixed Beam Setup for Seated Patients**

#### **Products**

**Product Modules** 

1. P-ART Comprehensive System (all modules but adaptive therapy sw)

2. P-ART Imaging System (all modules, but the robot and the adaptive sw)

3. P-ART Adaptive Therapy System (the adaptive sw)



Real-Time imaging + ART can compensate for uncertainties in seated patients





# **Workflow Simulation**

#### Analyze

- Patient flow are there bottlenecks?
- <u>Queue</u> locations and sizes are they blocked or starved?
- <u>Resources</u> are they sufficient, do they starve important operations?
- Failure modes what are they and what causes them?
- Check required capacity

# • Optimize

- A stitch in time saves nine find all the little holes in the process
- Try before you build
- Create baseline for performance and improvement
- Discrete-Event Simulation
  - Model system state changes at precise points in simulated time
  - Many commercial packages Simul8





# **Workflow Scenarios**





- Dedicated per gantry
- Immobilization with either
  - $\circ$  No imaging
  - o CT
  - o Orthogonal Imaging
- In gantry
  - o 1..2 X-ray imaging

- In gantry
  - o 1..2 X-ray imaging





# **Current State – 100 days**



Total (min)	553
Gantry (min)	501
Interval (min)	51



Total = End of Last – Start of First patient Gantry = sum of all patient time in gantry Request = waiting time in request



# **Workflow Connectivity**

- The treatment session comprises several discrete tasks combinable in various workflow scenarios
  - Immobilization
  - Volumetric imaging for dose verification
  - Treatment plan adaptation
  - Setup verification
  - Beam-on monitoring
- Requires data model and connectivity for inter-task
  communication
  - DICOM Gen 2
  - IHE-RO Profiles





# **Workflow Connectivity**

#### Sup 147: Second Generation RT Radiotherapy

- Existing radiotherapy IODs were designed as containers to <u>communicate</u> radiation therapy data
- Radiation therapy practice and DICOM have evolved.
- In particular, workflow management is now a key aspect of DICOM's domain of application
  - Unified Worklist and Procedure Step
  - Temporal view to map the treatment sequences







# **Workflow Connectivity**

- MGH uses a "Whiteboard" that manages the data handoff between tasks
  - Did not find sufficient or efficient support in existing systems
- MGH / ICT are developing an Enterprise System Bus to
  - Capture and coordinate all data transactions between systems (tasks)
    - Build-up DICOM Gen 2 RT Course Record as a function of executed and pending tasks
  - INTERSYSTEMS Ensemble and Cache for ESB
    - Service Oriented Architecture
      - RT systems are, typically, "stand-alone" applications
    - Business Rule Engine to manage task scheduling and execution
  - ∙ mirth

DICOM interface and routing





# **Service Oriented Architecture**







# **Large Scale Computing Architecture**







# **Summary**

- $p \neq X$ 
  - Same (perhaps) requirements
  - Different Implementation especially where geometry does not suffice for dosimetric feedback (CT vs CBCT)
- p physics offers enhanced feedback
  - Tissue interactions: Prompt γ
  - Immediate dosimetric feedback during delivery
    - Permits control and adaptation during delivery
- Workflow integration and variation
  - "Old" LINAC workflow model must be challenged
  - Do not, ad-hoc, re-use solutions Look at requirements
- Data & High Performance Computation Backbone
  - Light-weight "point of service" applications
  - Need to capitalize on "modern" computing



