



Strategies of How and When to Adapt

Weihua Mao, David Schwartz, and Steve Jiang

UT Southwestern Medical Center

March 2015



Disclosure

Currently supported by

Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of
Texas (CPRIT) grants

Varian Research grants

Elekta Research grant



Learning Objectives

Understand what adaptive radiation therapy can do

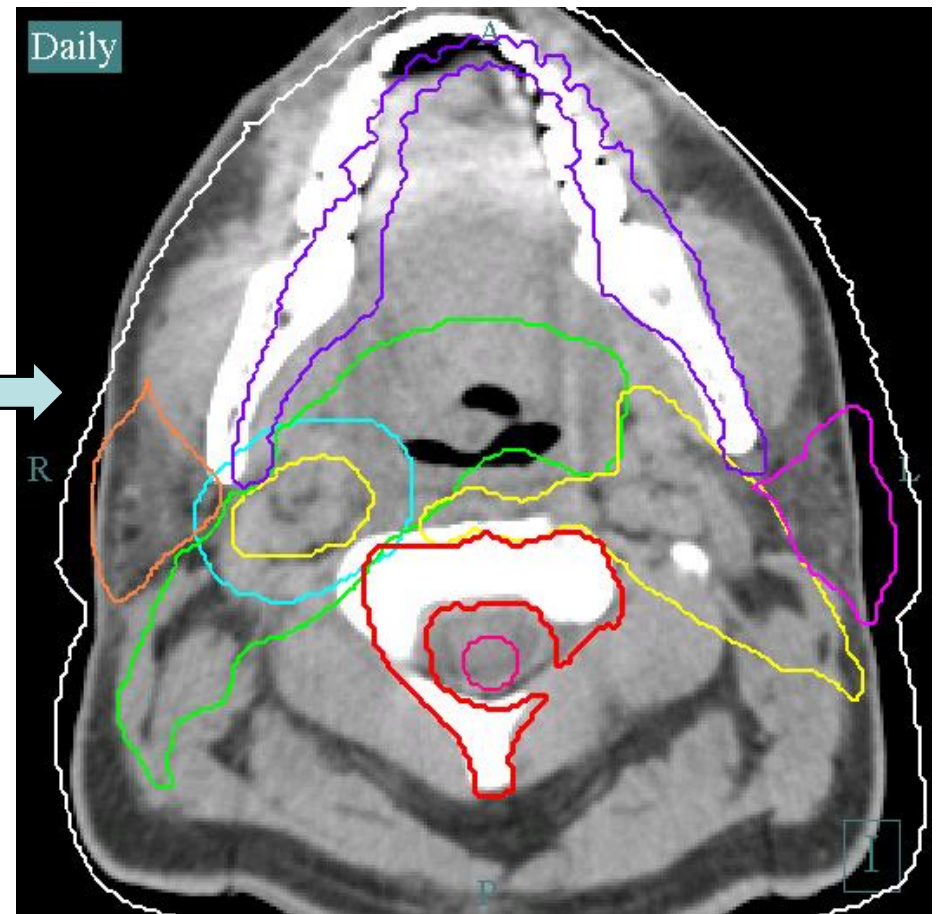
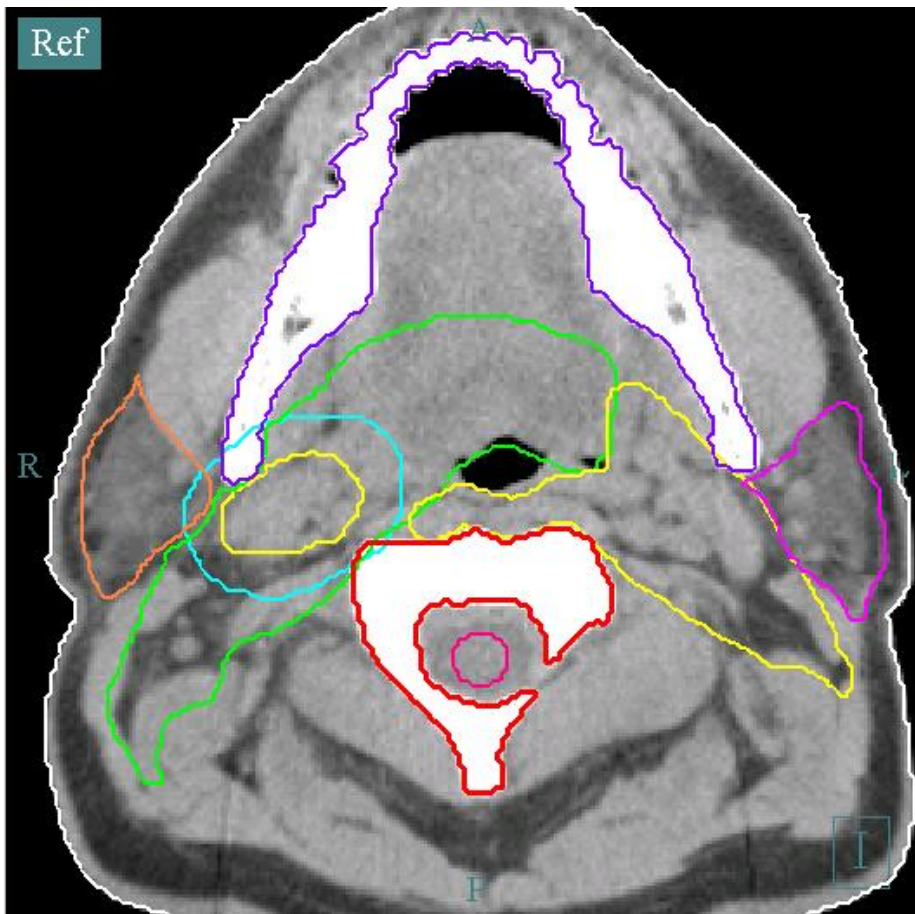
Understand how and when to adapt radiation therapy



Why Adapt

Sources of anatomic changes

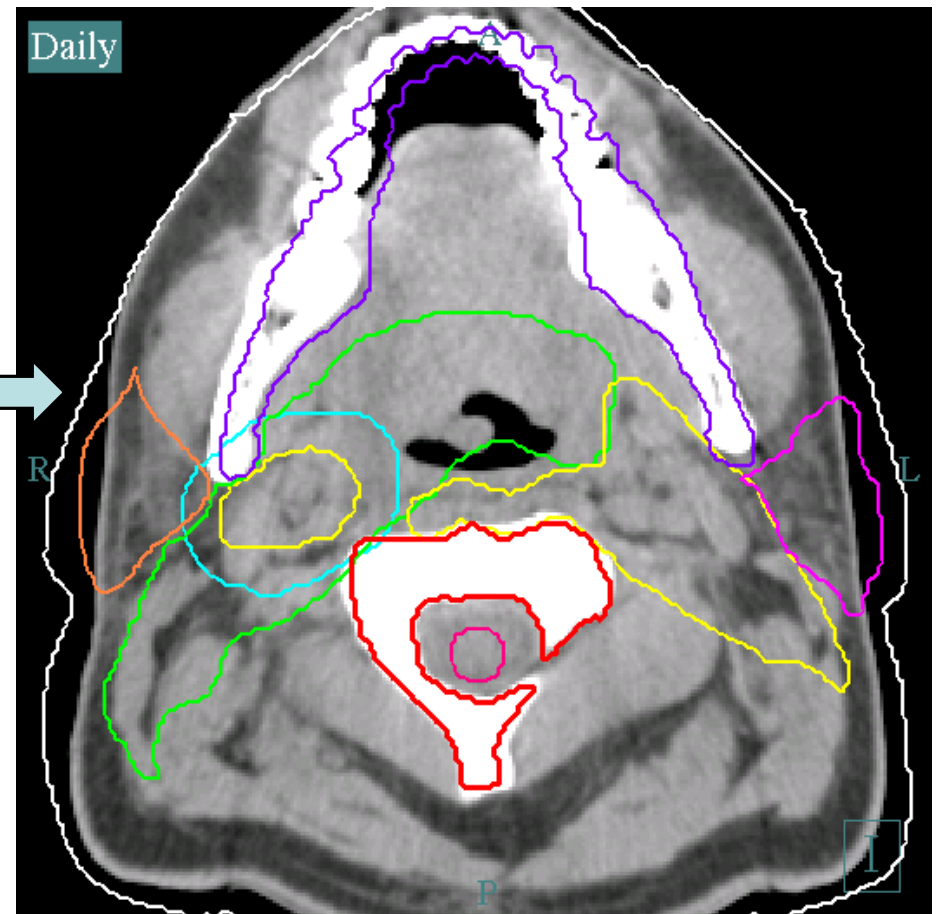
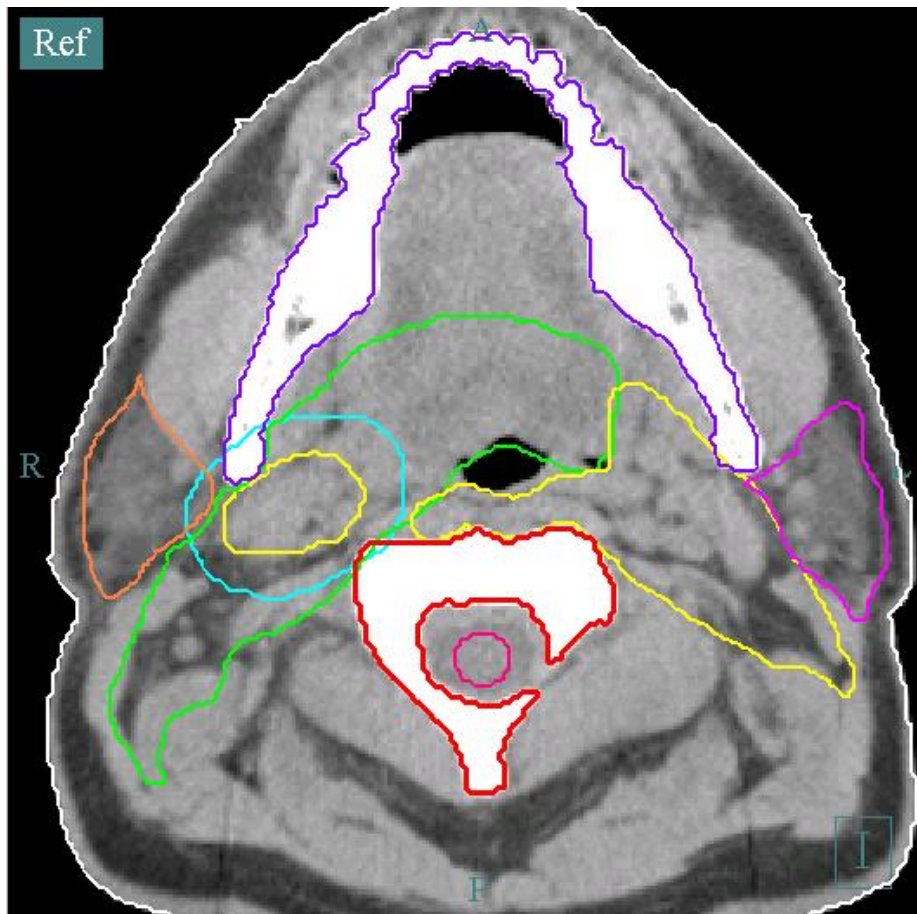
Conventional



Reference Planning CT

**Mask Alignment
(Daily CT)**

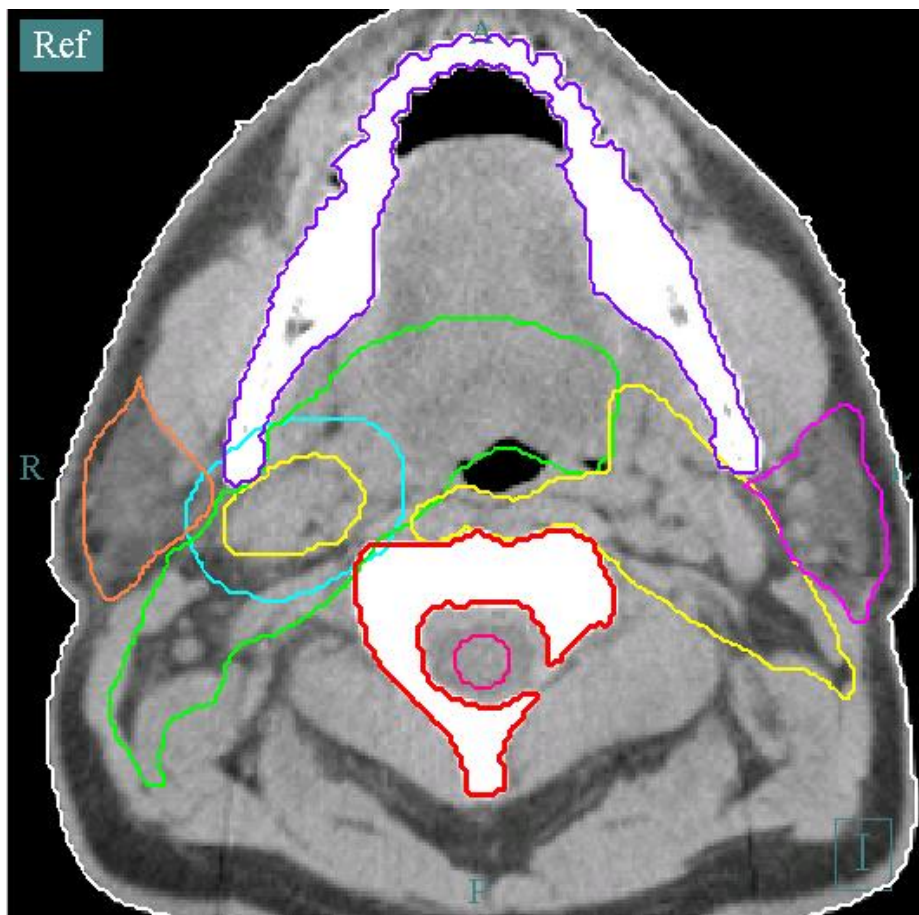
IGRT



Reference Planning CT

**Bone Alignment
(Daily CT)**

IG-ART

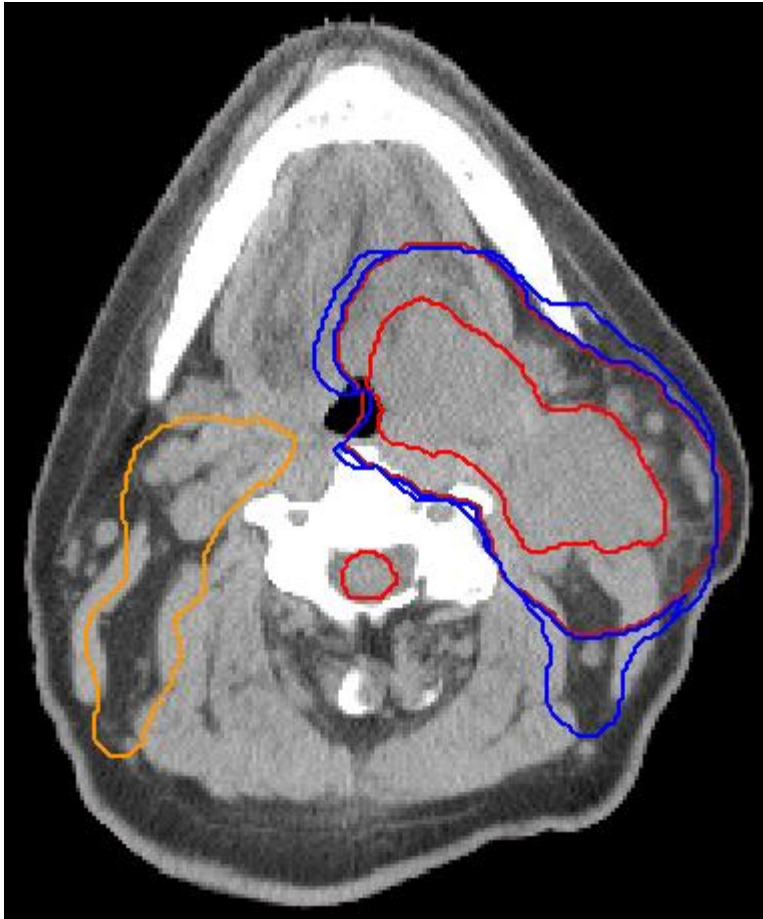


Reference Planning CT

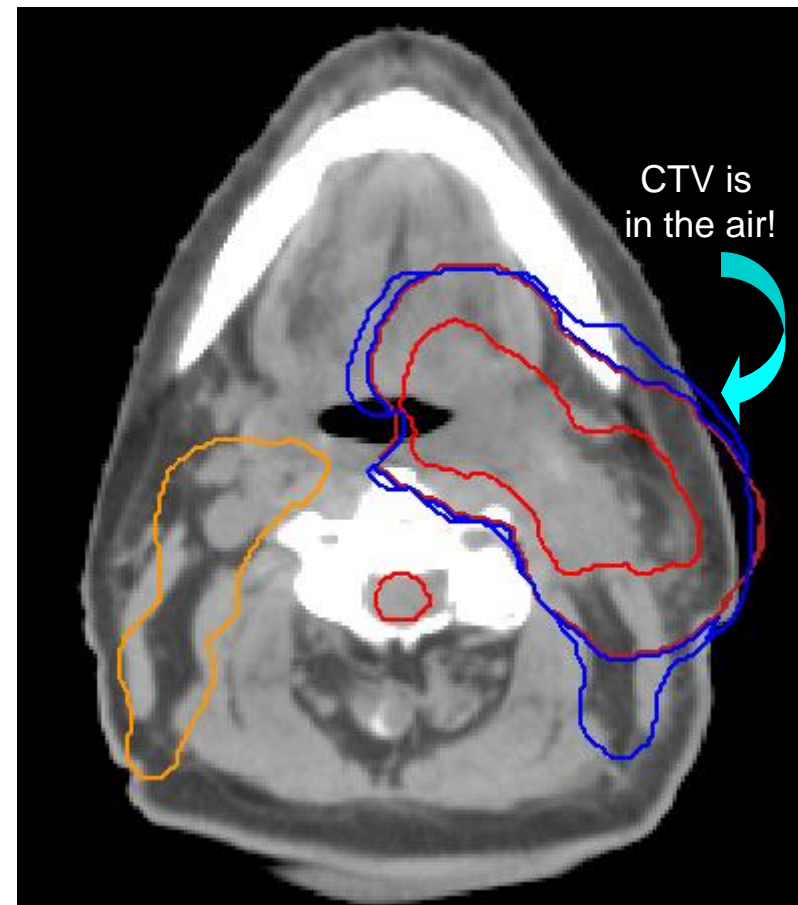
Adapt to Anatomy
(Daily CT)

Complex Uncertainties— Intrinsic Anatomic Changes

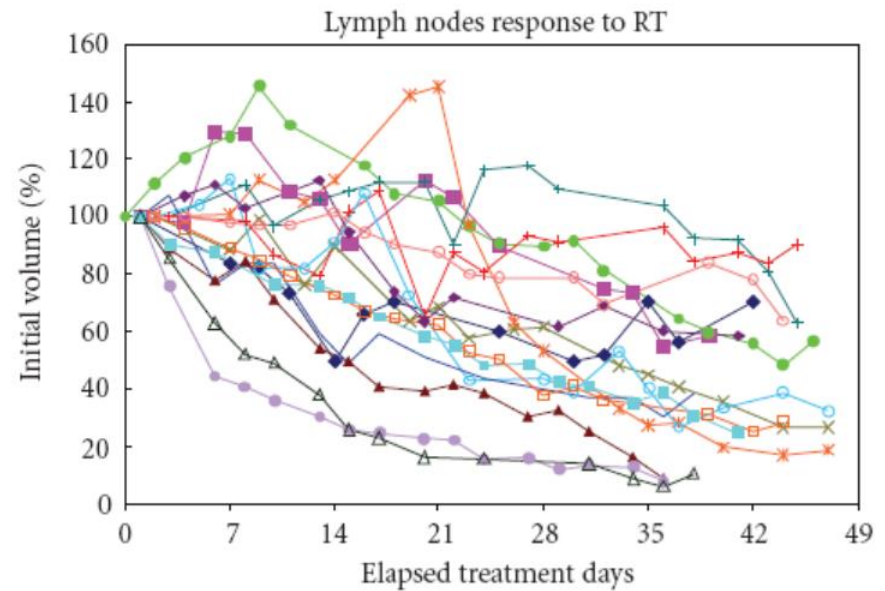
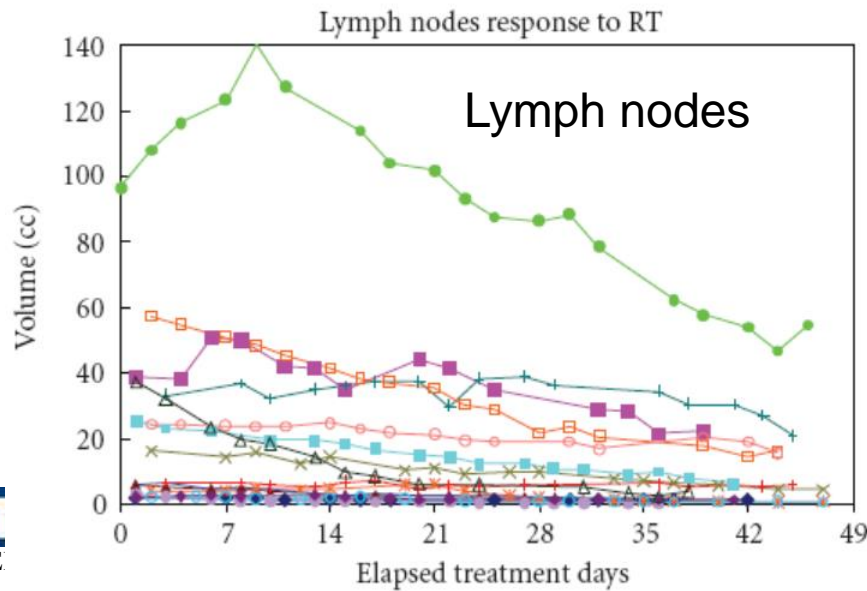
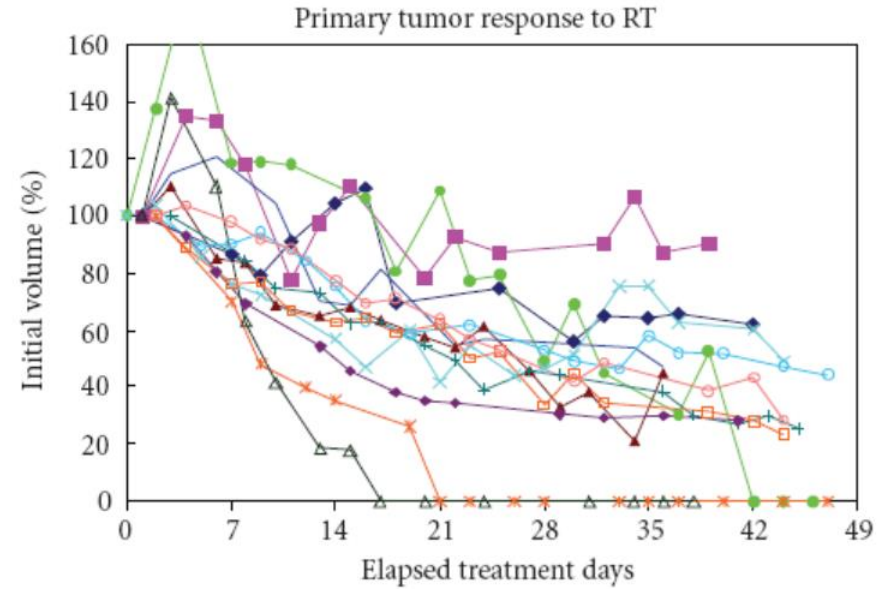
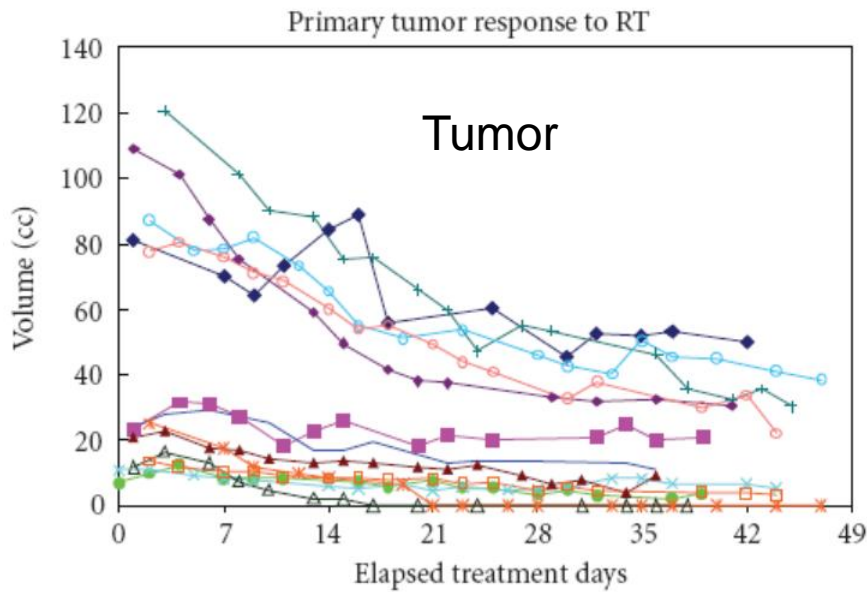
Planning CT



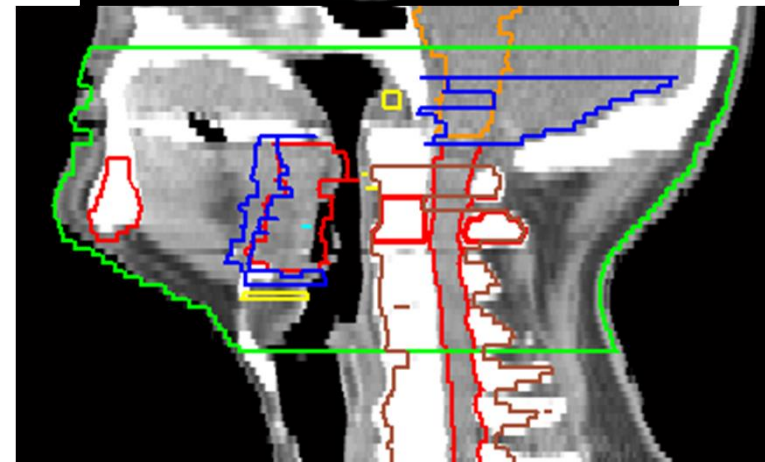
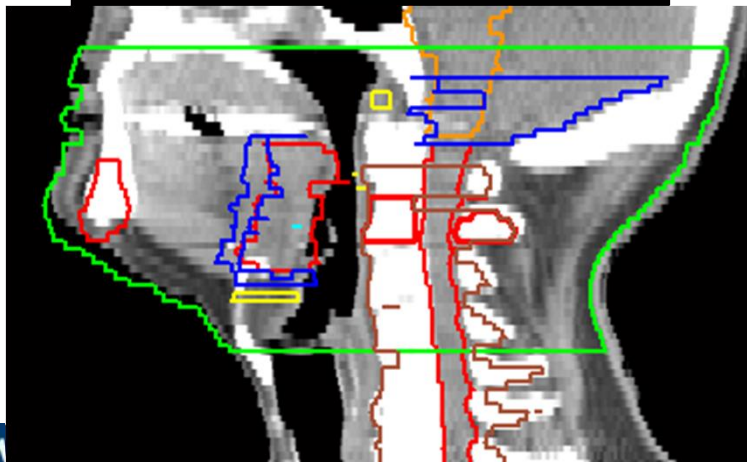
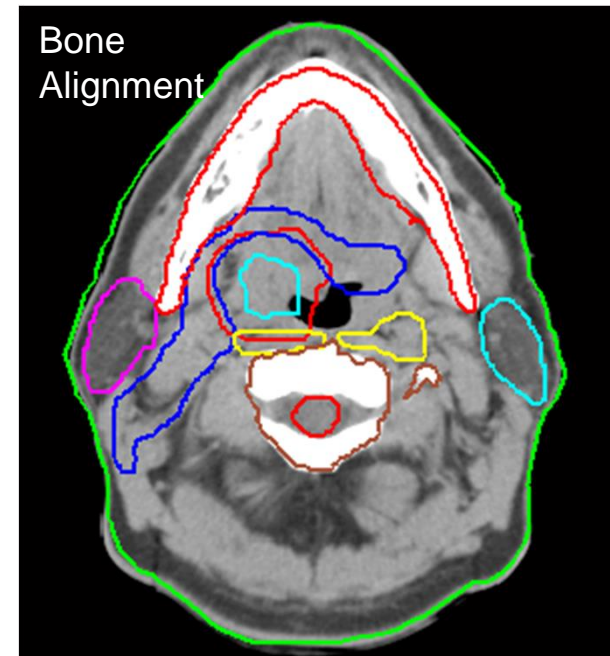
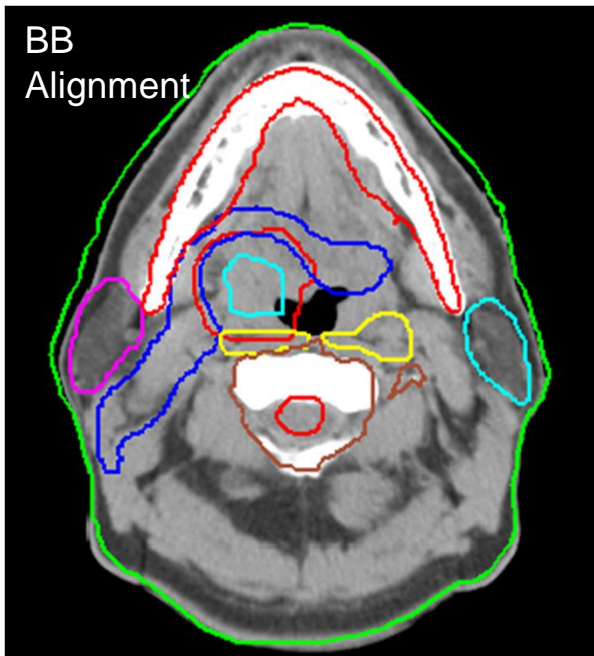
During RT Course



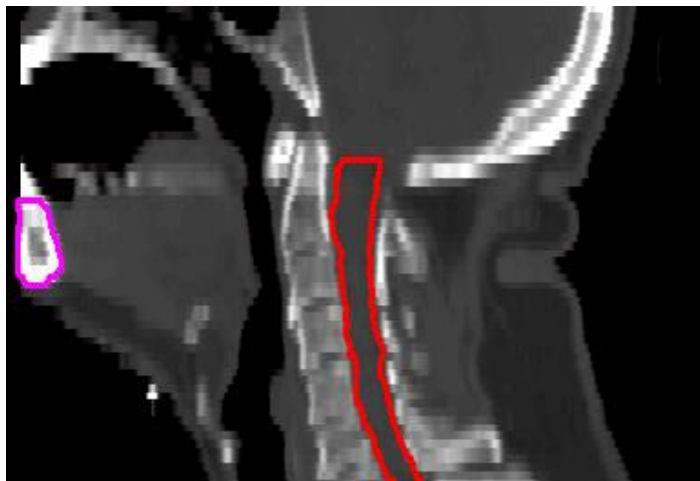
H&N Cancer Treatment Response



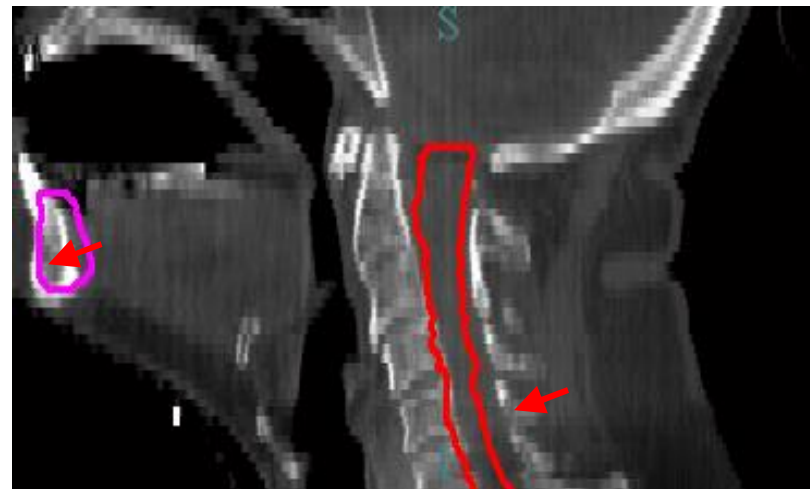
Initial Setup Images



Complex Uncertainties— Neck Curvature

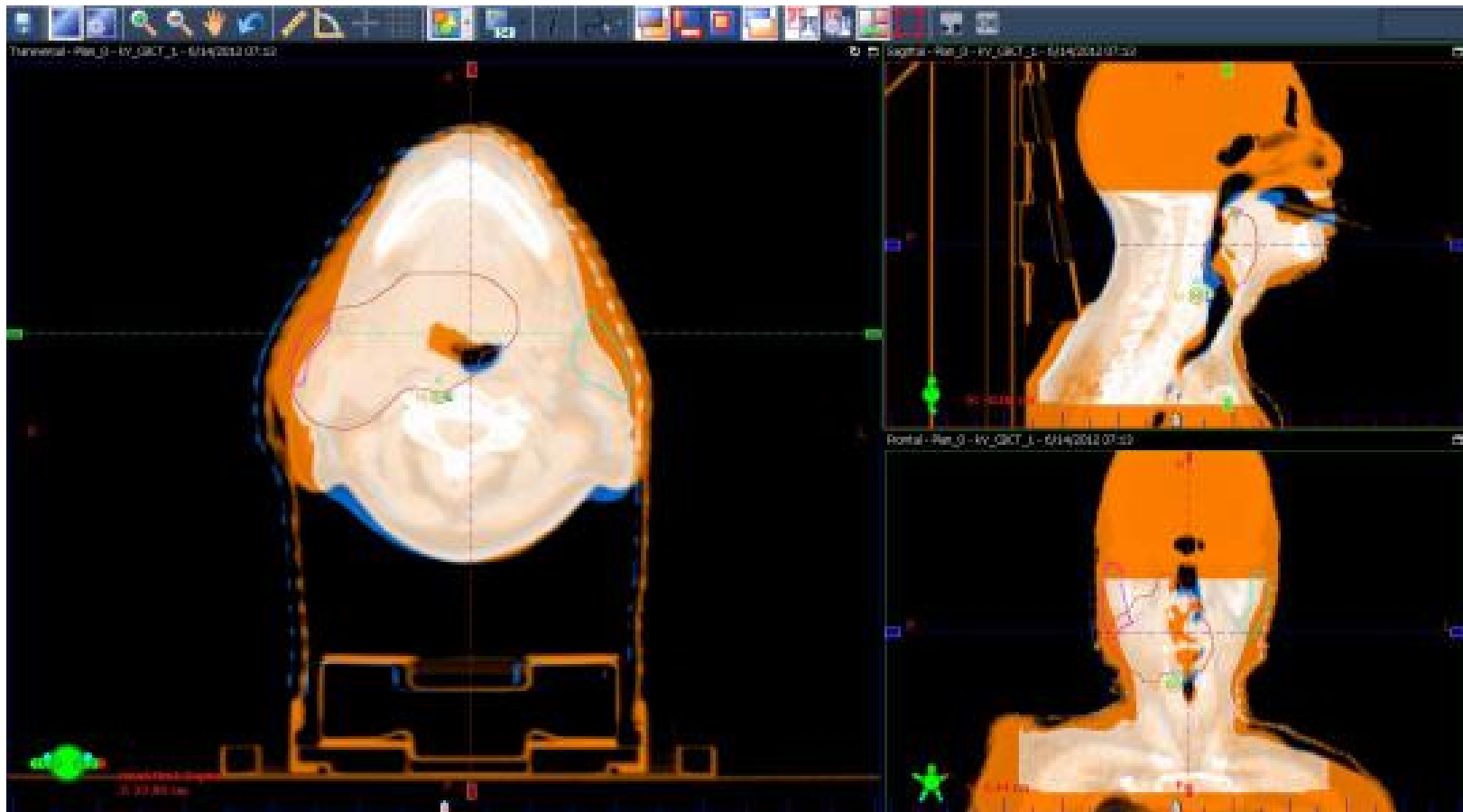


Planning CT

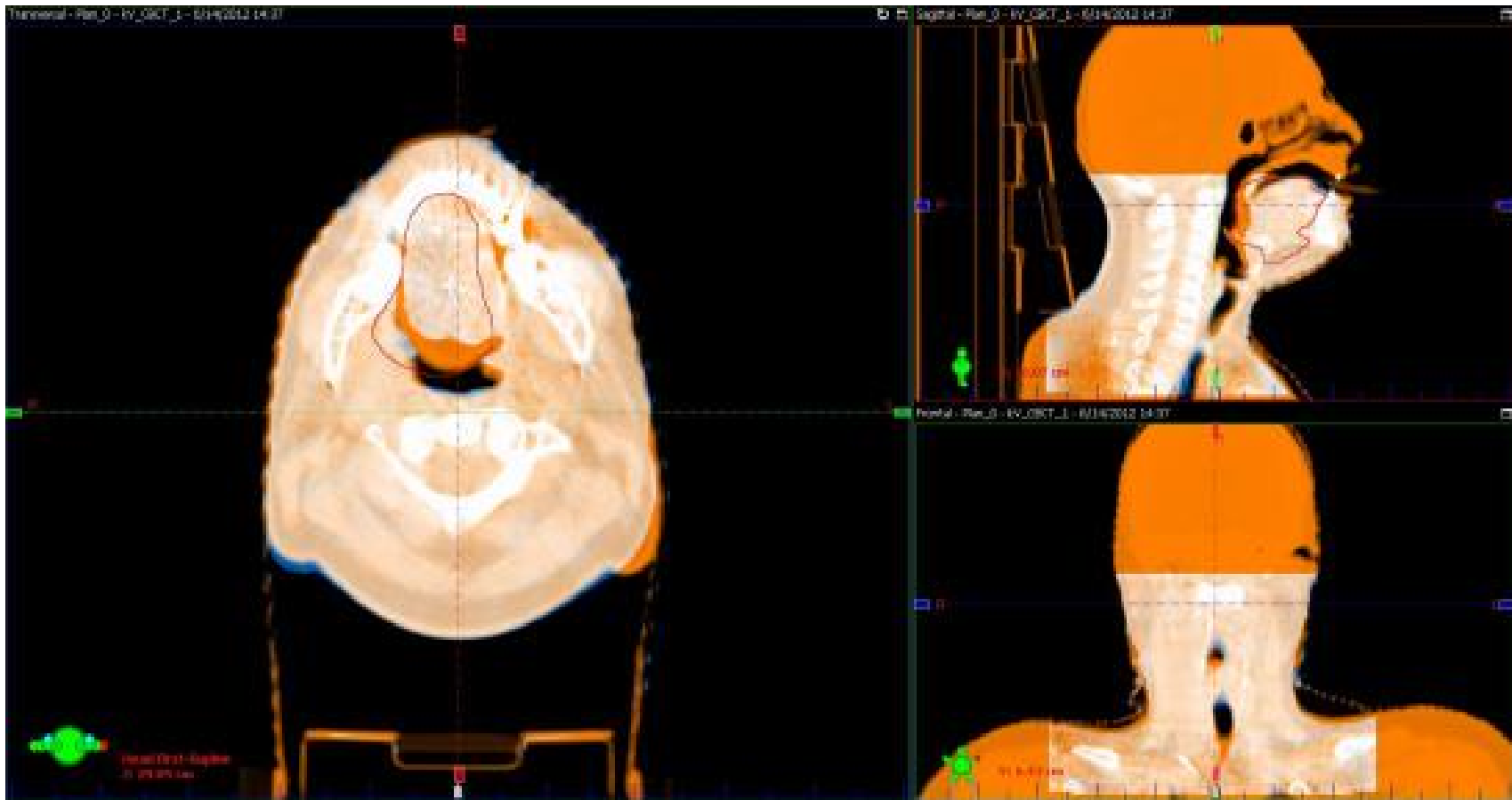


Daily Cone-Beam CT

T3N2 BOT— Weight Loss @ Fx#20



T2N1 "Young Tongue"— Resolving Oral Edema @ Fx#12





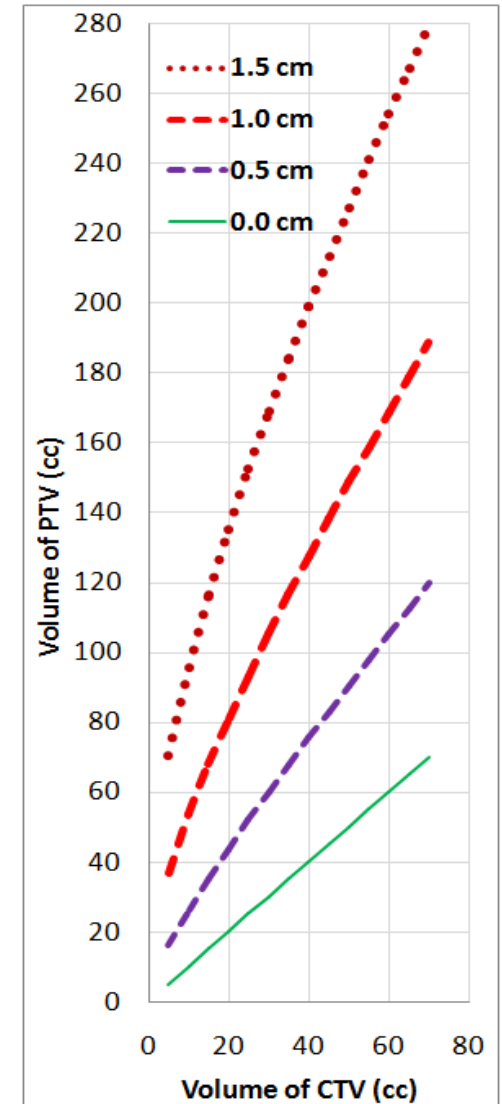
Why Adapt

Sources of anatomic changes

- Tumor volume shrinkage in response to the treatment
- Tumor shape deformation due to filling state change of neighboring organs
- Relative position change between tumor and normal organs

Plan and planning margins

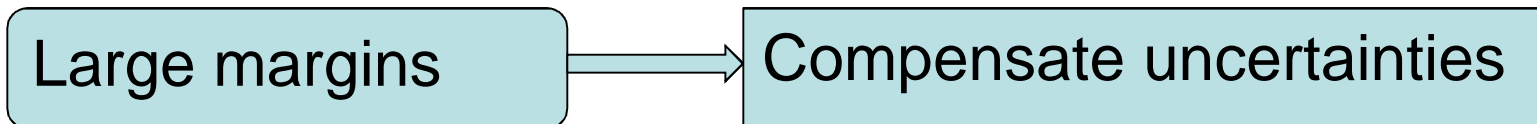
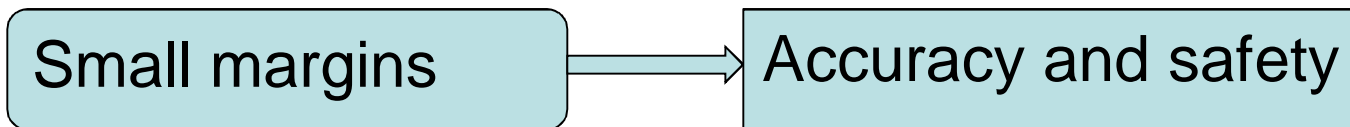
CTV-to-PTV Expansions— The Millimeters Matter



Adapted from Verellen et al *Nature Rev Cancer* 7:949-60 [2007]



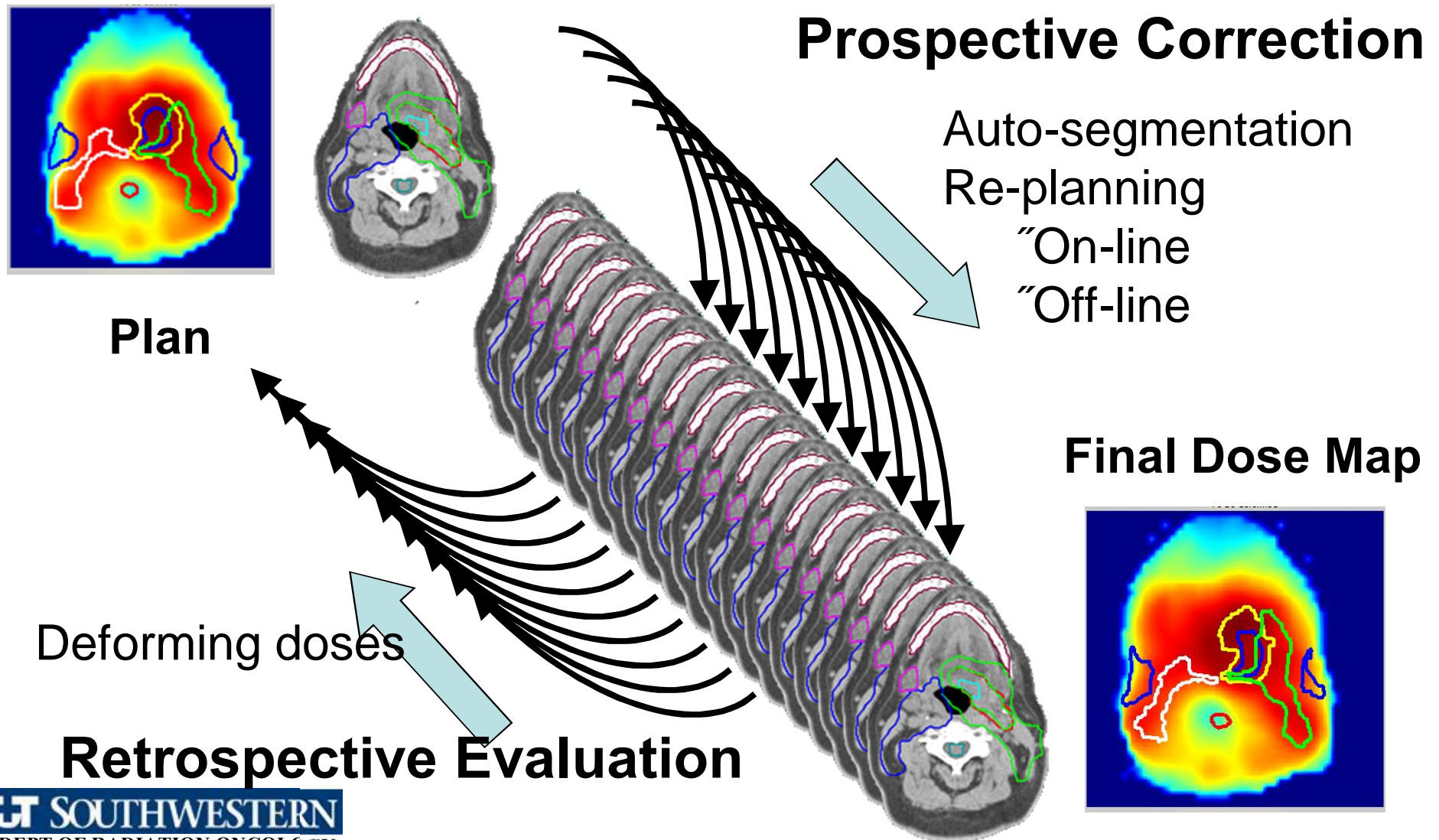
Dilemma



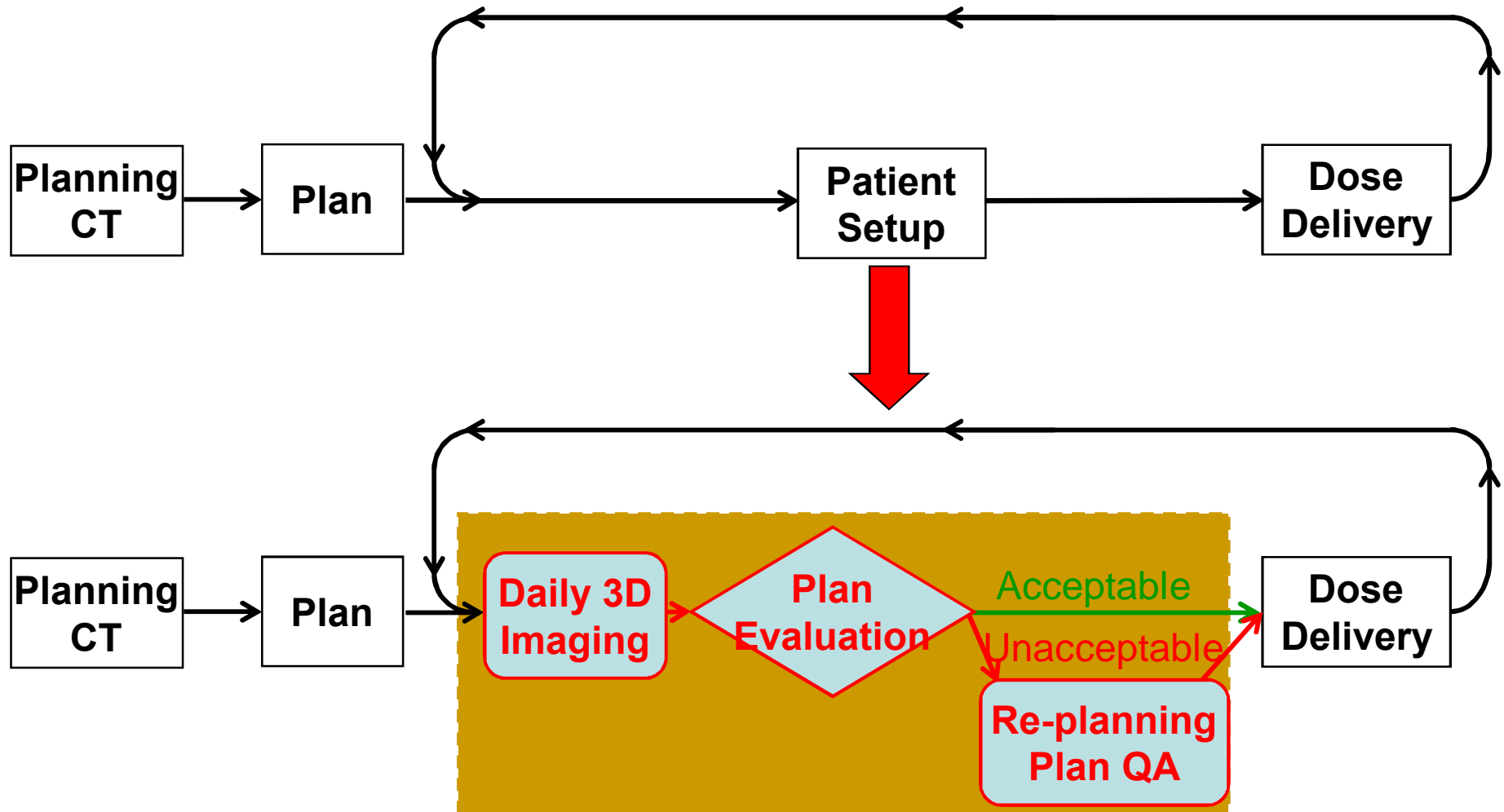
One size fits all?

One plan would work well.

ART—An Iterative Process



Flowchart of Adaptive Radiotherapy





**cone-down boost ? =
adaptive radiation therapy**

Reduce PTV during a course of treatment.

Normally based on the same original CT scan.



Strategies of Adaptive RT

Off-line

With current treatment planning system



MDACC – H&N Replanning Procedure

Standard baseline IMRT planning

3mm PTVs

ART re-plans use no PTV expansions

Daily CT-guided setup

Weekly deformable contour mapping to
each Thursday's CT

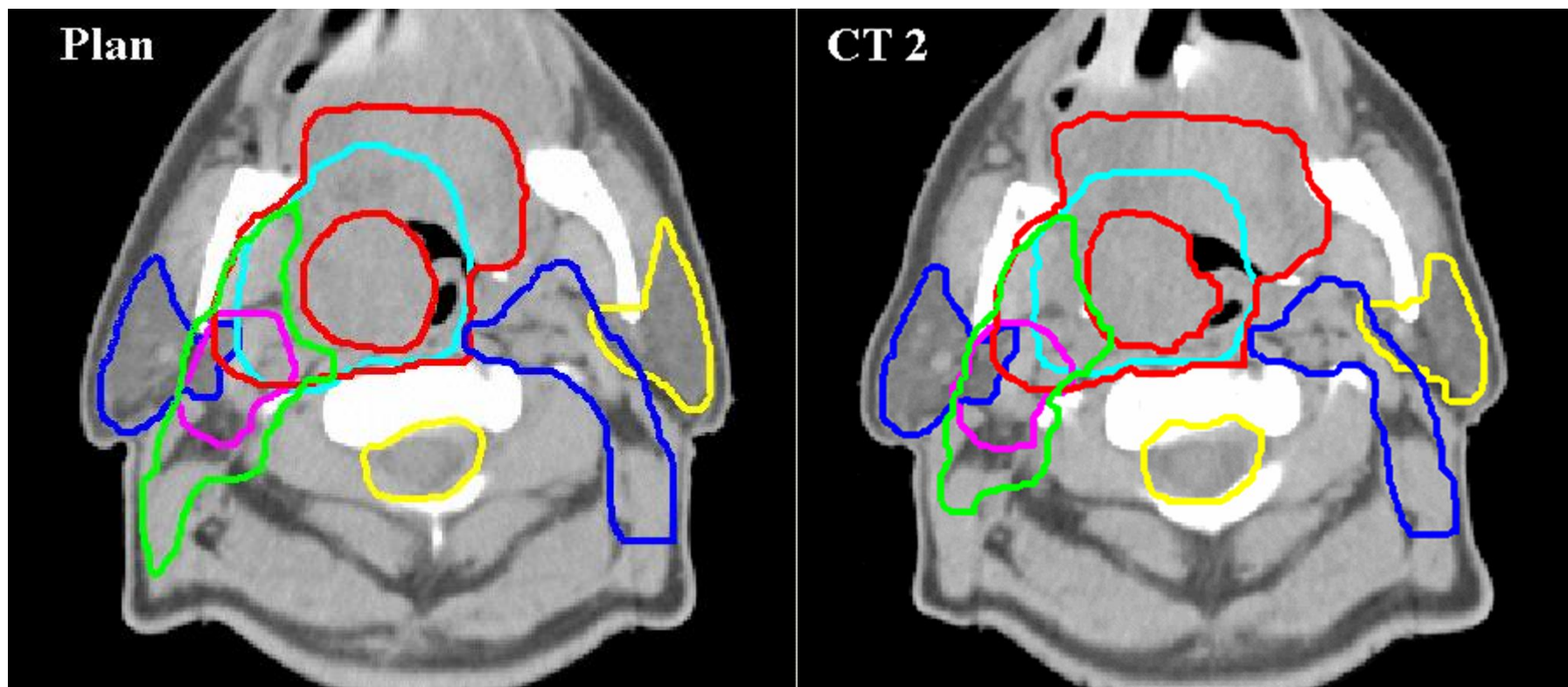
Offline ART evaluation and planning

Re-calc and re-plan

Automated Segmentation

Original Treatment Plan

Anatomy During Treatment

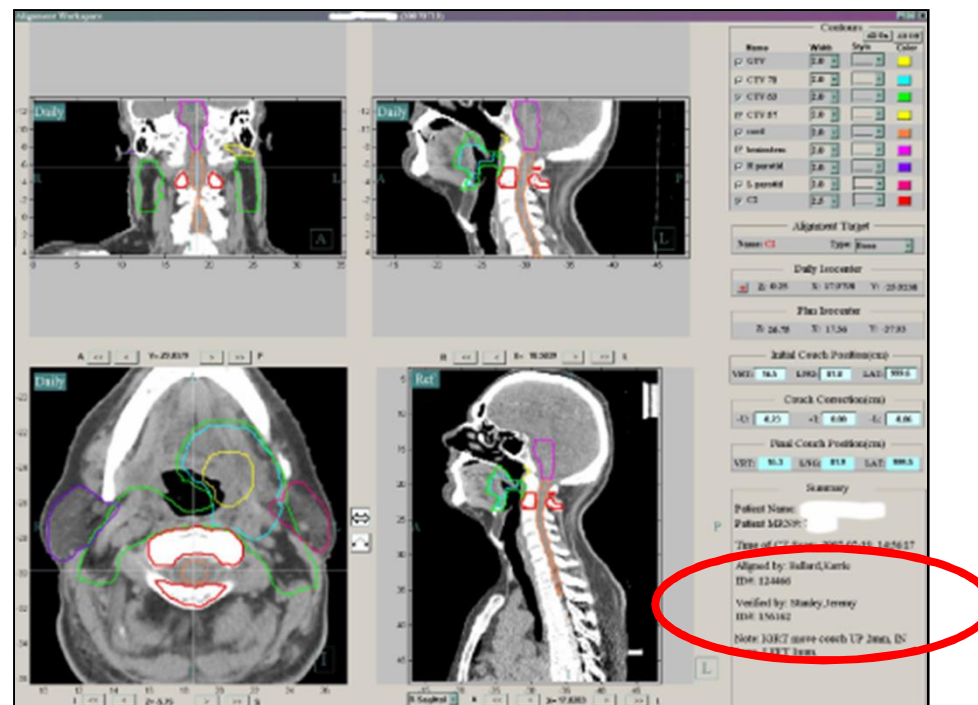


ART Clinical Workflow

Standard baseline contouring/planning

Day 1—Manual IGRT isocenter confirmation

Physics/CAT software on daily in-room imaging



ART Clinical Workflow

Insurance approval

Boilerplate MD letter via Business Office before start

Standard baseline contouring/planning

Day 1—Manual IGRT isocenter confirmation

Physics/CAT software on daily in-room imaging

Daily—MD signs IGRT image on EMR

MOSAIQ - The U.T.M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

File Schedule eChart Tools Code Mgmt Window Help

Home Chart Chart Check D and I Images Daily Master My Sched QCL RO Treat

Documents - [redacted]

View: By Patient Status: All

Document Type	Source ID	F	Status	Encounter	By	Approved	By	Review Req	Co-Sign Req	Transcribed	By	First Printed	By	Last Printed
Daily CT Setup		E	Pending	7/19/2007	JAS			D. Schwartz		7/19/2007	JAS	7/12/2007	JAS	7/12/2007
Daily CT Setup		E	Approved	7/18/2007	KLB	7/18/2007	DLS	D. Schwartz		7/18/2007	KLB	7/12/2007	JP	7/12/2007
Daily CT Setup		E	Approved	7/17/2007	KLB	7/17/2007	DLS	D. Schwartz		7/17/2007	KLB	7/12/2007	KLB	7/12/2007
Daily CT Setup		E	Approved	7/16/2007	JAS	7/16/2007	DLS	D. Schwartz		7/16/2007	IJR	7/12/2007	IJR	7/12/2007
Daily CT Setup		E	Approved	7/13/2007	IJR	7/13/2007	DLS	D. Schwartz		7/13/2007	IJR	7/12/2007	IJR	7/13/2007



ART Clinical Workflow

Insurance approval

Boilerplate MD letter via Business Office before start

Standard baseline contouring/planning

Day 1—Manual IGRT isocenter confirmation

Physics/CAT software on daily in-room imaging

Daily—MD signs IGRT image on EMR

Weekly—MD evaluation of daily in-room imaging



ART Clinical Workflow

Insurance approval

Boilerplate MD letter via Business Office before start

Standard baseline contouring/planning

Day 1—Manual IGRT isocenter confirmation

Physics/CAT software on daily in-room imaging

Daily—MD signs IGRT image on EMR

Weekly—MD evaluation of daily in-room imaging

Replanning—Largest resource burden

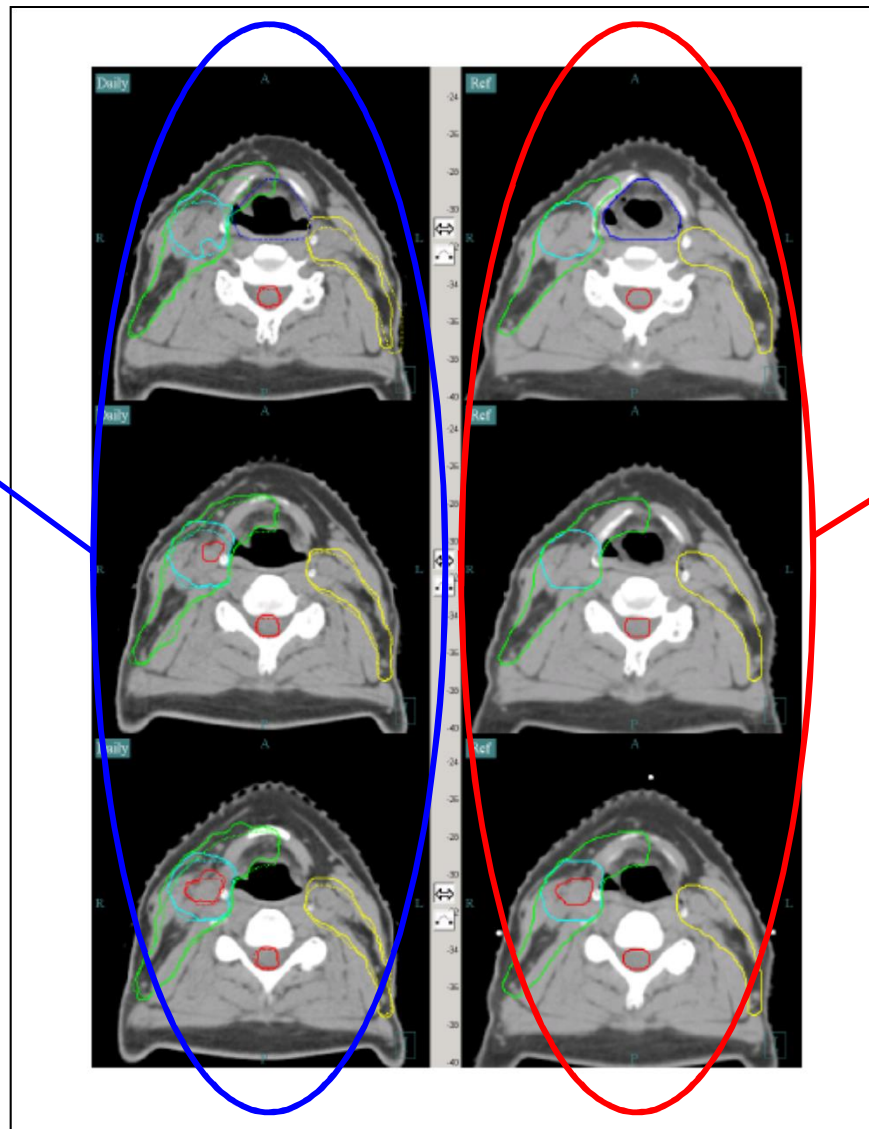
Dosimetry/Physics

MD dictates sim note to document billing

1-2 replans

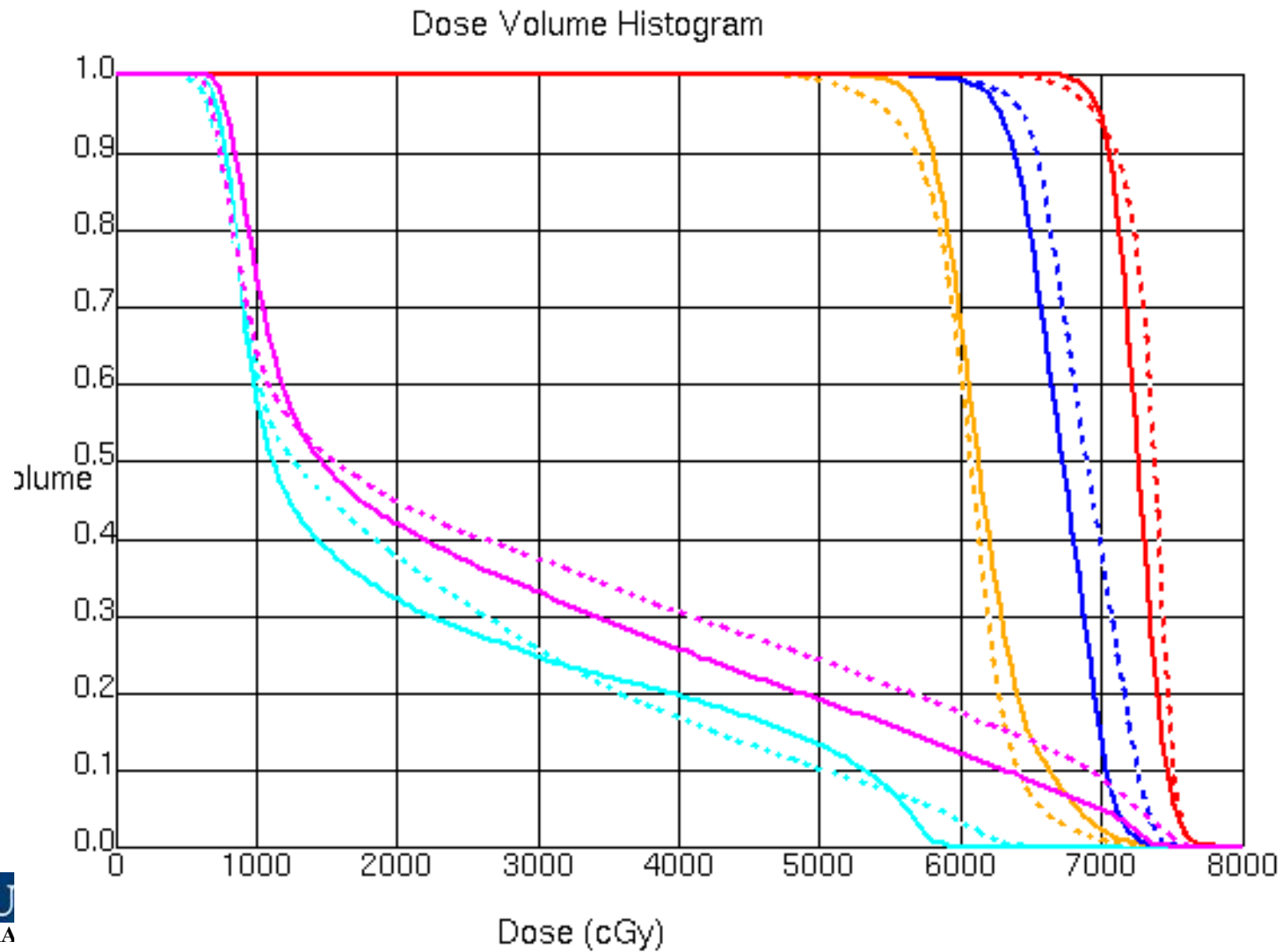
Weekly Contour Evaluation for ART

Original
Contours and
Deformed
Contours on
Current CT

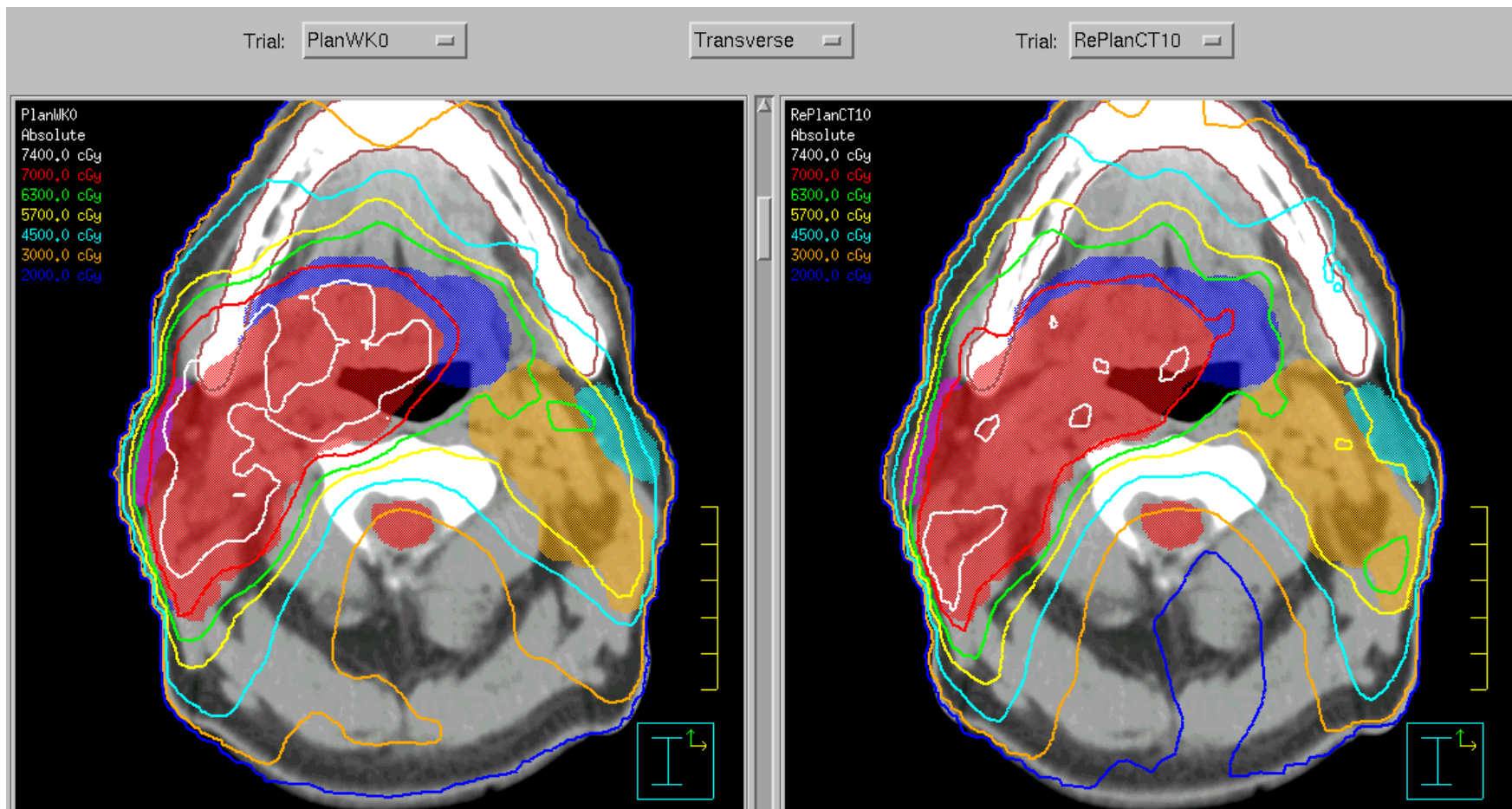


Original
Contours on
Original CT

ART Replan DVH Evaluation



ART Replan Evaluation





Operational Issues

R & V upload time

Plan documentation time

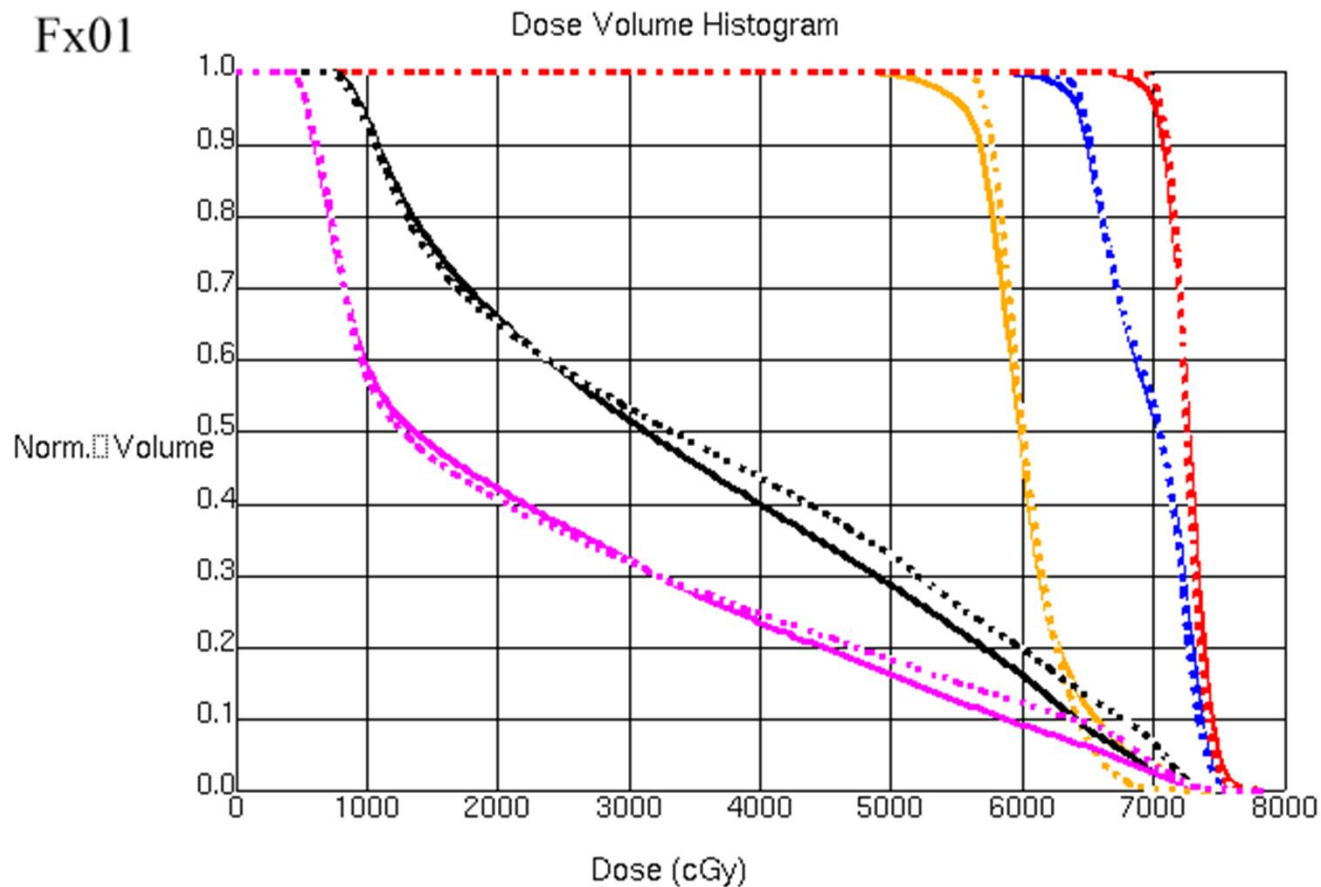
QA time

Billing dept. time & reimbursement risk

With MDACC off-line platform, there is at least a “weekend-assisted” 1.7 fraction delay between in-room CT and delivery of ART

Practical Issues in Adaptive RT

What is the trigger point for replanning?





Practical Issues in Adaptive RT

What should trigger replanning?

Underdosing to target volumes

Overdosing to organs at risk

Elimination of hot spots

Qualitative anatomic changes



Pilot Dosimetry Results

- $n = 22$ pts
- Stage III-IVa oropharyngeal SCCA
- Standard baseline IMRT
- Daily in-room CT-on-Rail imaging
- Weekly off-line plan re-evaluation
- One (ART1) or two (ART2) adaptive replans
 - 0-mm PTV marginS

Schwartz, DL et al *Radiotherapy & Oncology* 106:80-4 [2013]



Pilot Dosimetry Results

Cumulative dosimetry from daily images calculated retrospectively for 4 planning scenarios:

- (1) Pt aligned to isocenter skin markings (BB-IMRT)
- (2) Pt aligned to bony anatomy (IGRT)
- (3) IGRT and one adaptive replan (ART1)
- (4) Actual treatment received (IGRT and 1 or 2 adaptive replans, ART2)

Schwartz, DL et al *Radiotherapy & Oncology* 106:80-4 [2013]

Plan Comparisons

Normal Tissue Sparing

- IGRT increased parotid doses vs. IMRT
- ART1 reduced IMRT parotid doses in 14/17 cases ($p=0.014$)
 - Contralateral parotid: -0.6 Gy ($p=0.003$)
 - Ipsilateral parotid : -1.3 Gy ($p=0.002$)
- ART2 yielded marginal parotid sparing vs. ART1
 - Contralateral parotid: 0.1 Gy ($p=0.8$)
 - Ipsilateral parotid: 0.8 Gy ($p=0.044$)



Plan Comparisons

Normal Tissue Sparing

- ART1 reduced IGRT integral body V60Gy and V40Gy by >40 cc ($p < 0.007$)
- Additional replanning (ART2) did not further reduce integral dose ($p > 0.3$)



Clinical Outcomes

- Median follow-up: 31 months (range: 13-45)
- No primary disease site failure and 1 nodal relapse, which was surgically salvaged
- 100% local and 95% regional 2 yr disease control
- Acute toxicity comparable to conventional IMRT
- Long term outcomes continue to improve after 1 yr



MDACC experiences

- IGRT provide no dosimetric benefit with conventional PTV margins
- One properly timed ART replan provides majority of dosimetric improvement
- Preliminary outcomes suggest functional recovery & preservation of disease control



Strategies of Adaptive RT

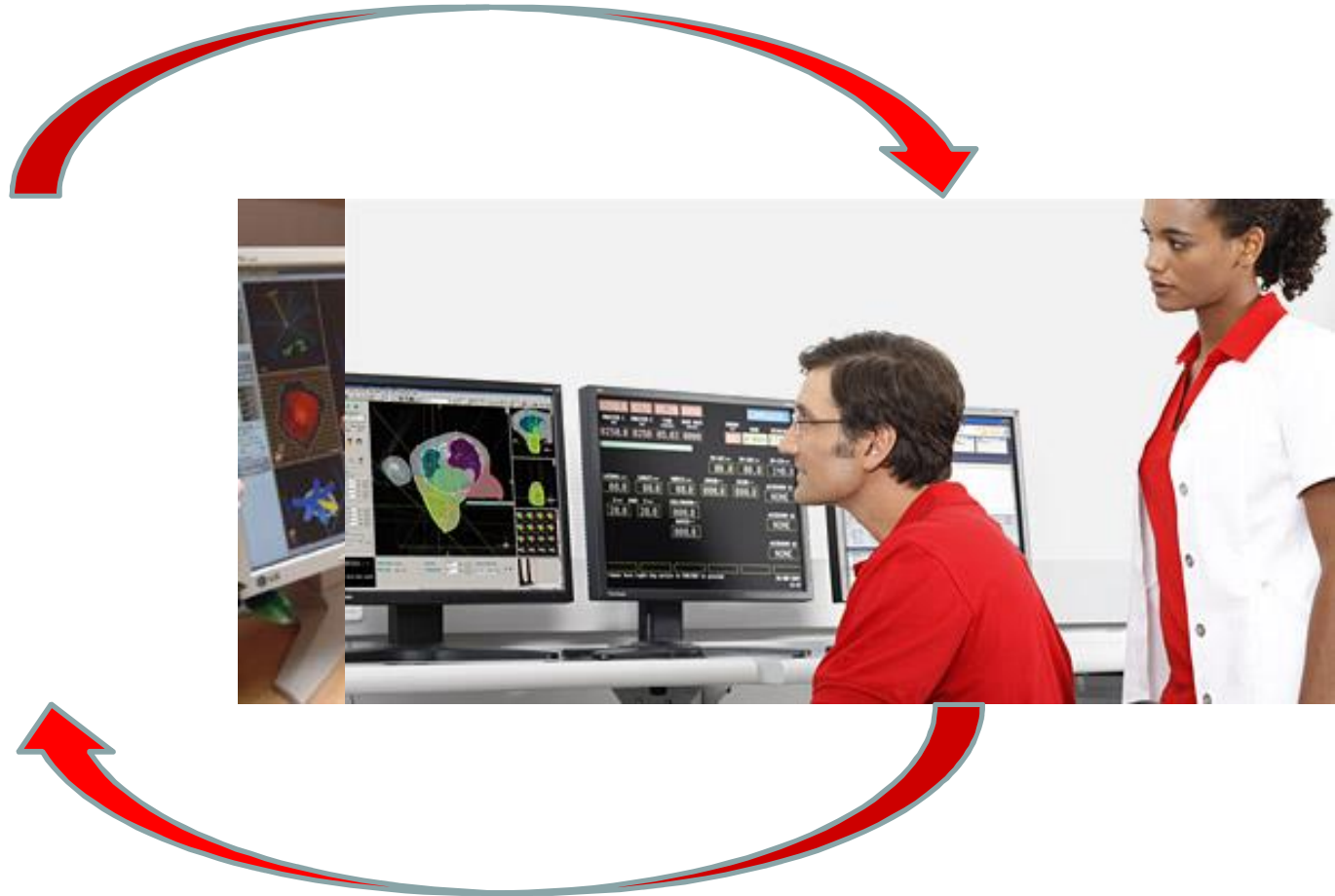
Off-line

With current treatment planning system

On-line

Normally need some special software/tools

Problems with Current Planning - Low Efficiency



The whole process may take a week !



MCW - Pancreatic cases

Liu et al, Int J Rad Onc Biol Phys 2012, e423-e429

Daily imaging - CT on rail

Contouring - Atlas-based

Autosegmentation [ABAS], (Elekta CMS software)

Re-planning - RealART (Panther version 4.71, Prowess Inc)

More efforts of physicists and physicians.

Medical College of Wisconsin - Pancreatic cases

Liu et al, Int J Rad Onc Biol Phys 2012, e423-e429

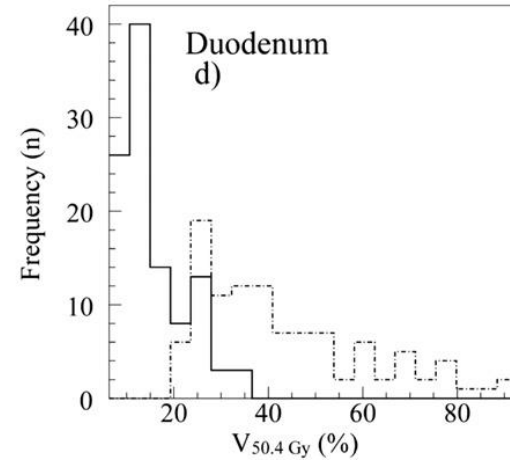
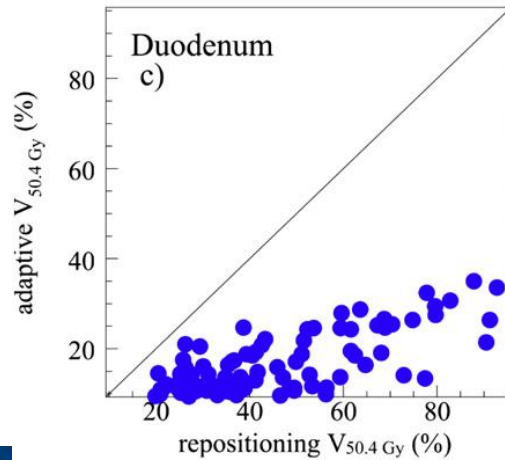
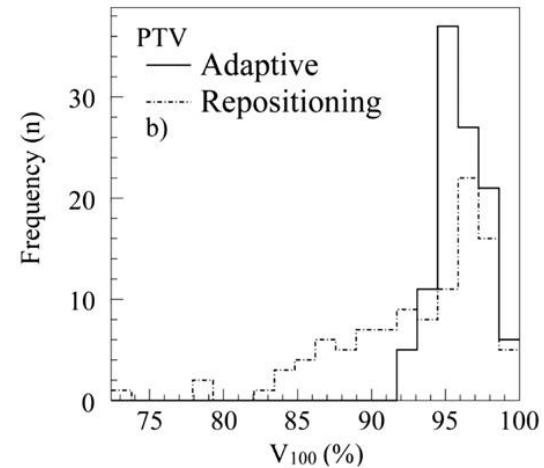
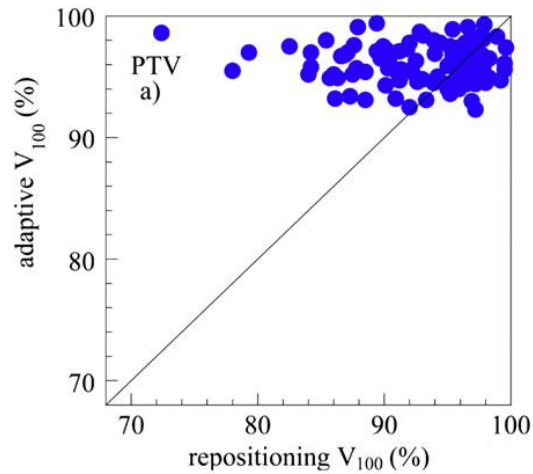
Table Dose-volume quantities for adaptive plans

Quantity	Adaptive (3 mm)	Repositioning (10 mm)	Repositioning (3 mm)	<i>p</i> value (10 mm)	<i>p</i> value (3 mm)
CTV V ₁₀₀ (%)	99.1 ± 0.6	99.7 ± 0.8	97.8 ± 3.7	<0.0001	0.0004
CTV mean dose (Gy)	52.7 ± 0.7	53.2 ± 0.8	52.8 ± 1.0	<0.0001	0.40
CTV maximum dose (Gy)	54.4 ± 1.2	55.3 ± 1.4	54.8 ± 1.3	<0.0001	0.02
PTV V ₁₀₀ (%)	96.0 ± 1.6	93.0 ± 5.0	93.5 ± 6.0	<0.0001	<0.0001
Duodenum V _{50.4} (%)	15.6 ± 6.7	43.4 ± 17.8	23.0 ± 12.0	<0.0001	<0.0001
Stomach V ₄₅ (%)	1.4 ± 1.2	6.4 ± 3.7	2.3 ± 1.6	<0.0001	<0.0001
Large bowel V ₄₅ (%)	0.9 ± 1.4	4.7 ± 5.8	1.4 ± 2.6	<0.0001	0.08
Small bowel V ₄₅ (%)	0.5 ± 0.9	2.4 ± 2.6	0.8 ± 1.9	<0.0001	0.14
Liver V _{30 Gy} (%)	2.2 ± 2.8	8.8 ± 10.0	3.2 ± 4.1	<0.0001	0.04
Right kidney V ₁₅ (%)	12.9 ± 9.3	22.4 ± 13.8	13.1 ± 9.5	<0.0001	0.88
Left kidney V ₁₅ (%)	11.5 ± 5.7	12.1 ± 6.0	9.0 ± 5.4	0.45	0.0012

Table data are mean ± SD values of various dose-volume quantities for the adaptive plans using a 3-mm margin and repositioning plans using 10 mm (default; see text) and 3-mm margins for all selected daily CT sets of 10 patients. *p* values of an unpaired two-tailed *t*-test of the two repositioning plans with respect to the adaptive plans are given.

MCW - Pancreatic cases

Liu et al, Int J Rad Onc Biol Phys 2012, e423-e429





Strategies of Adaptive RT

Off-line

With current treatment planning system

On-line

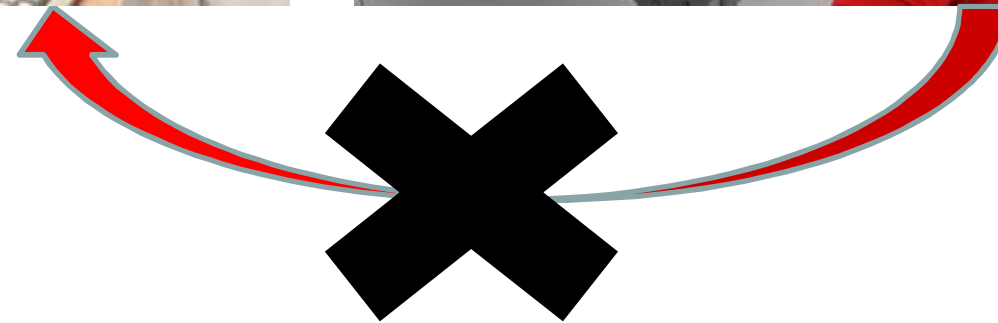
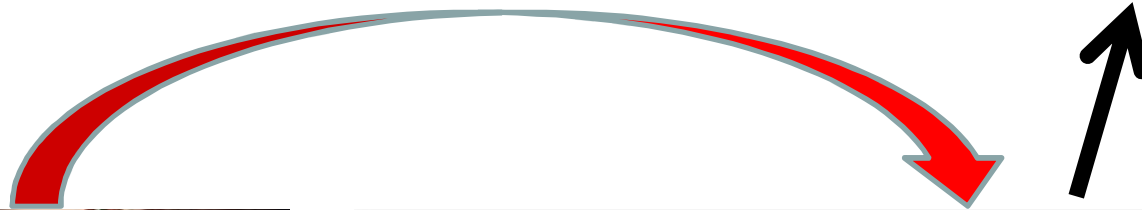
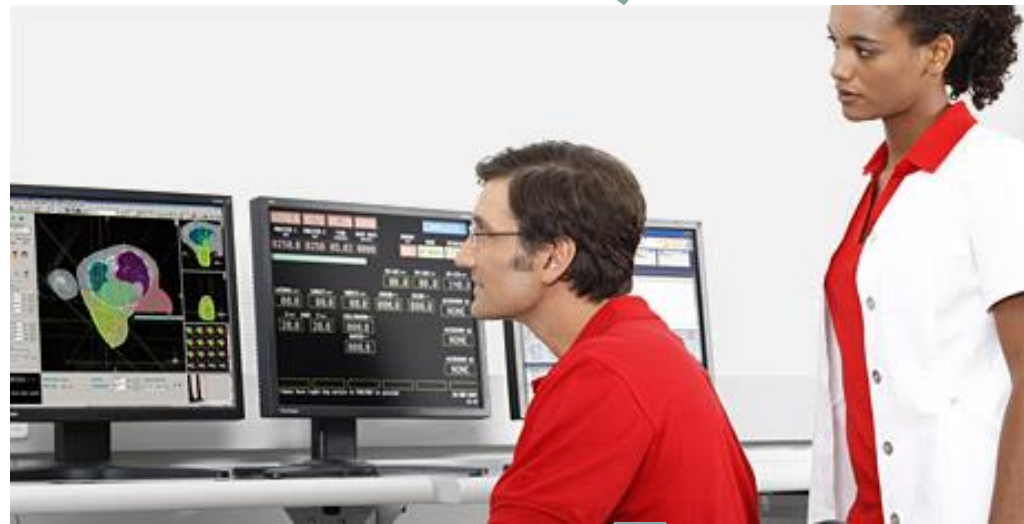
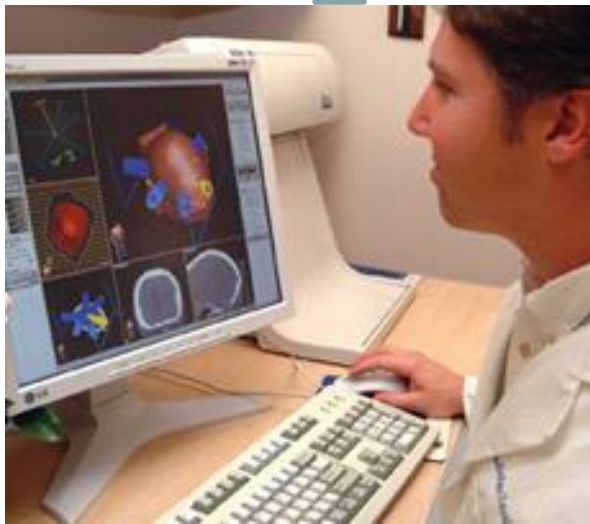
Normally need some special software/tools

Use of GPU cards

- Improve efficiency for some computational tasks in radiotherapy
- More importantly, change the way we treat patients

GPU-based Interactive Tuning

Plan review/revision:
days → minutes



Dose Engine #1: GPU-based FSPB model

☐ Version 1

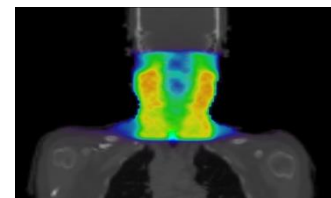
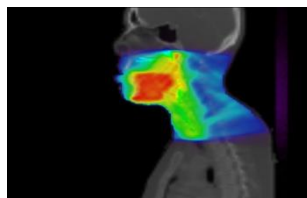
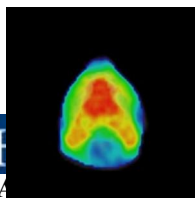
- Gu et al *Phys Med Biol.* 54(20):6287-6297, 2009
- Conventional FSPB model

☐ Version 2

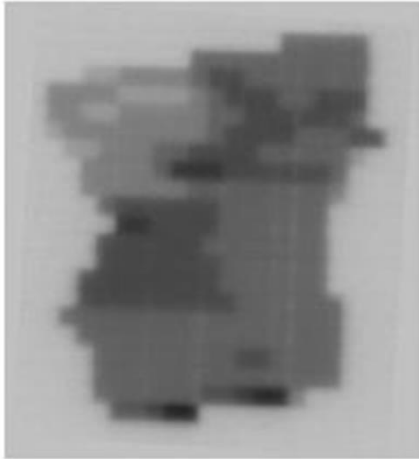
- Gu et al *Phys Med Biol.* 56(11): 3337-3350, 2011
- With 3D density correction
- Accuracy greatly improved
- Still extremely efficient: <1 s for IMRT, ~15 s for VMAT

Dose Engine #2: GPU version of DPM MC code

- Version 1
 - Jia et al *Phys Med Biol.* 55(11): 3077–3086, 2010
 - A straightforward implementation
- Version 2
 - Jia et al *Phys Med Biol.* 56(22):7017-7031, 2011
 - More GPU friendly
 - < 30 s for IMRT and VMAT
- Version 3
 - Townson et al *Phys Med Biol.* 58(12):4341-4356, 2013
 - Tian et. al., *Phys. Med. Biol.* 59, 6467 (2014)
 - Phase space files and commissioning procedure



Three GPU-based Optimization Models

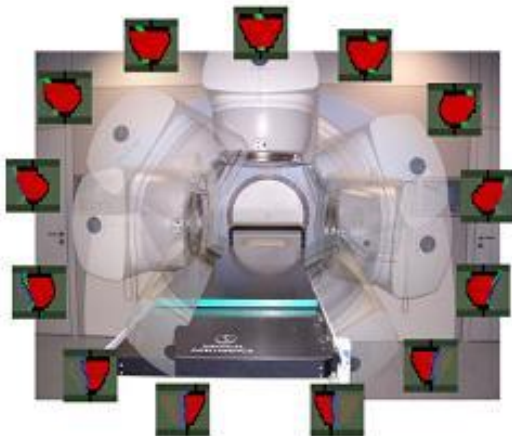
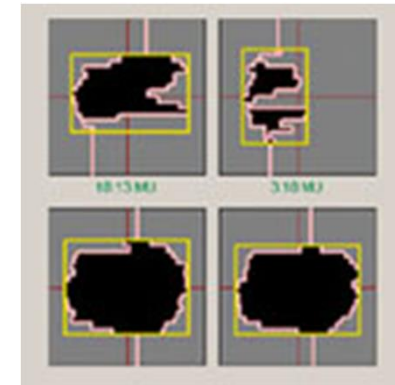


Men et al *Phys Med Biol.* 54(21):6565-6573, 2009

< 1 second

Men et al *Phys Med Biol.* 55(15):4309-4319, 2010

~ 2 seconds



Men et al *Med Phys* 37(11): 5787-5791, 2010

Peng et al *Phys Med Biol.* 57(14):4569-88, 2012

~ 20-60 seconds

Deformable Image Registration (DIR)

- ❑ Demons on GPU
 - Gu et al *Phys Med Biol* 55(1): 207-219, 2010
- ❑ Contour-guided DIR
 - Gu et al *Phys Med Biol* 58(6):1889-1901, 2013
- ❑ CT/CBCT DIR with intensity correction
 - Zhen et al *Phys Med Biol* 57: 6807-6826, 2012



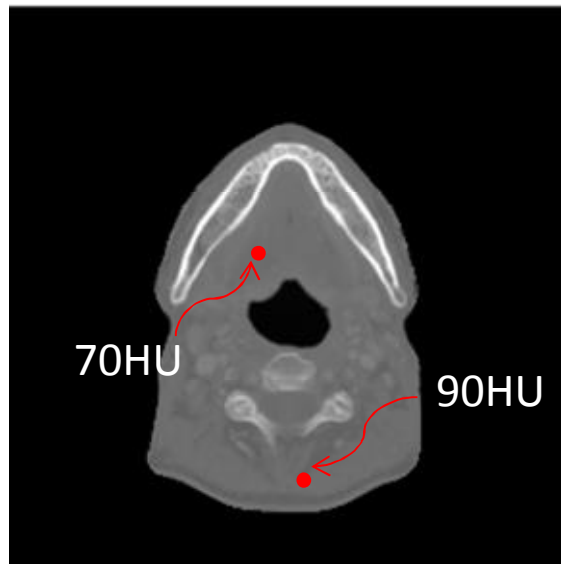
Contour-guided Demons DIR

- After DIR contour propagation, manual inspection and revision (if needed)
- DVF updating for accurate dose accumulation and consistency between DVH and accumulative dose distribution

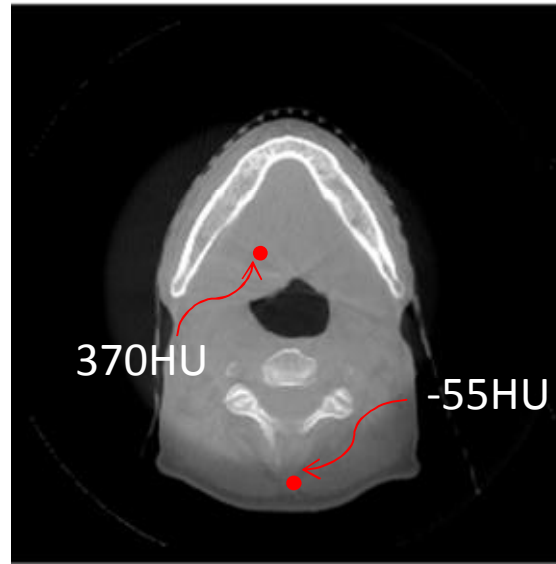
Gu et al, *Phys Med Biol.* 58(6):1889-1901, 2013.

Intensity Inconsistency between CT and CBCT

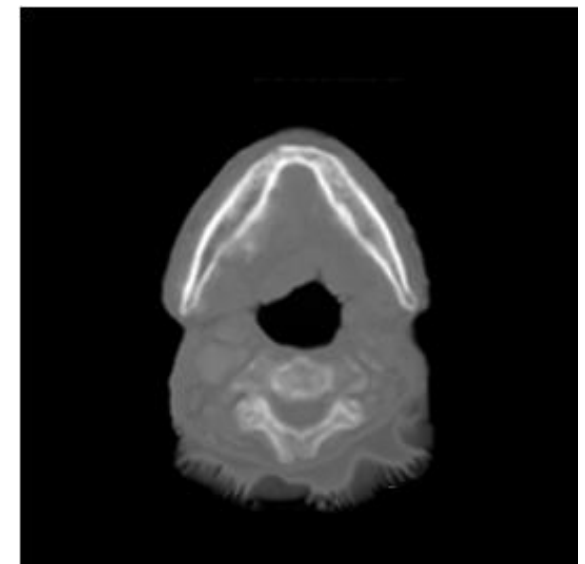
- ❑ Scatter artifacts in CBCT
- ❑ Bowtie filter artifact
- ❑ Different scan geometry
- ❑ Different level of noise, beam hardening, etc



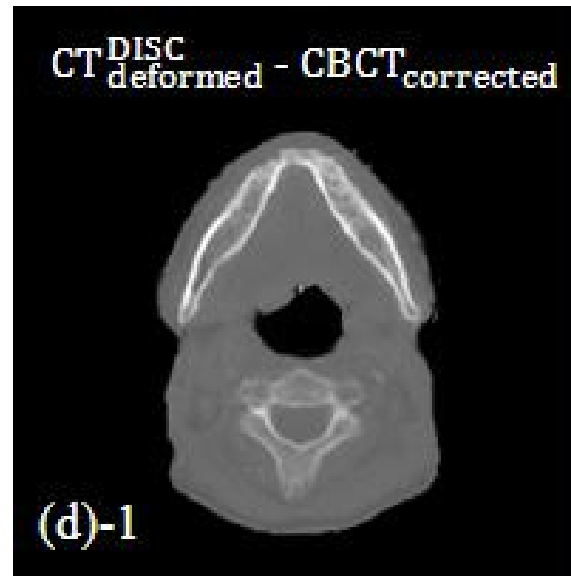
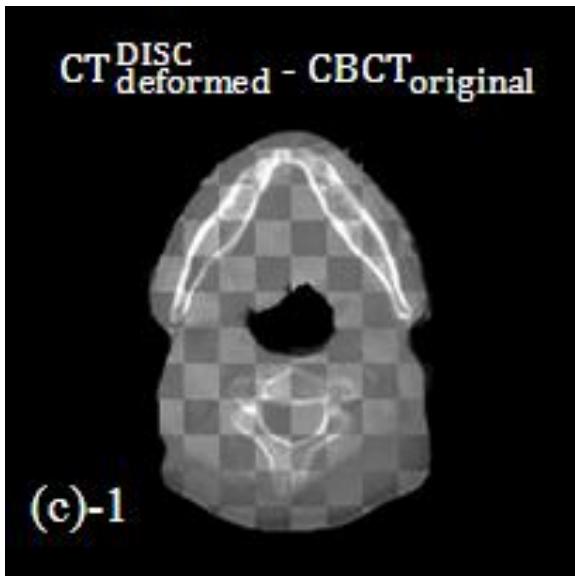
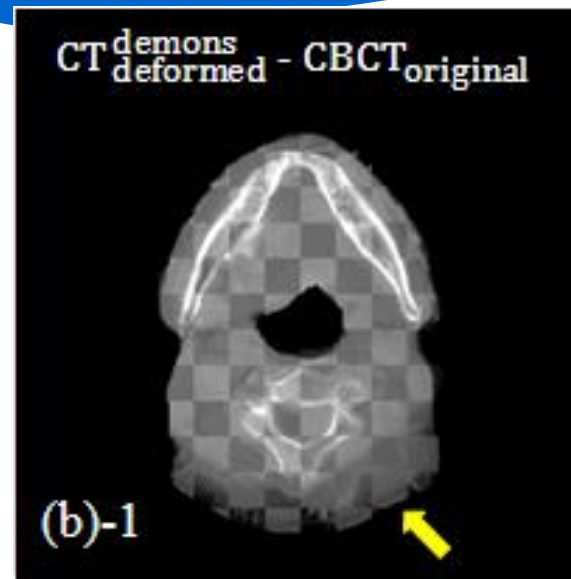
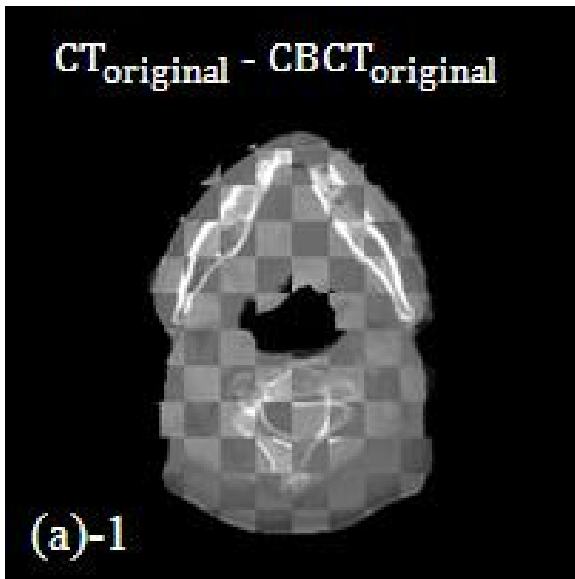
CT



CBCT



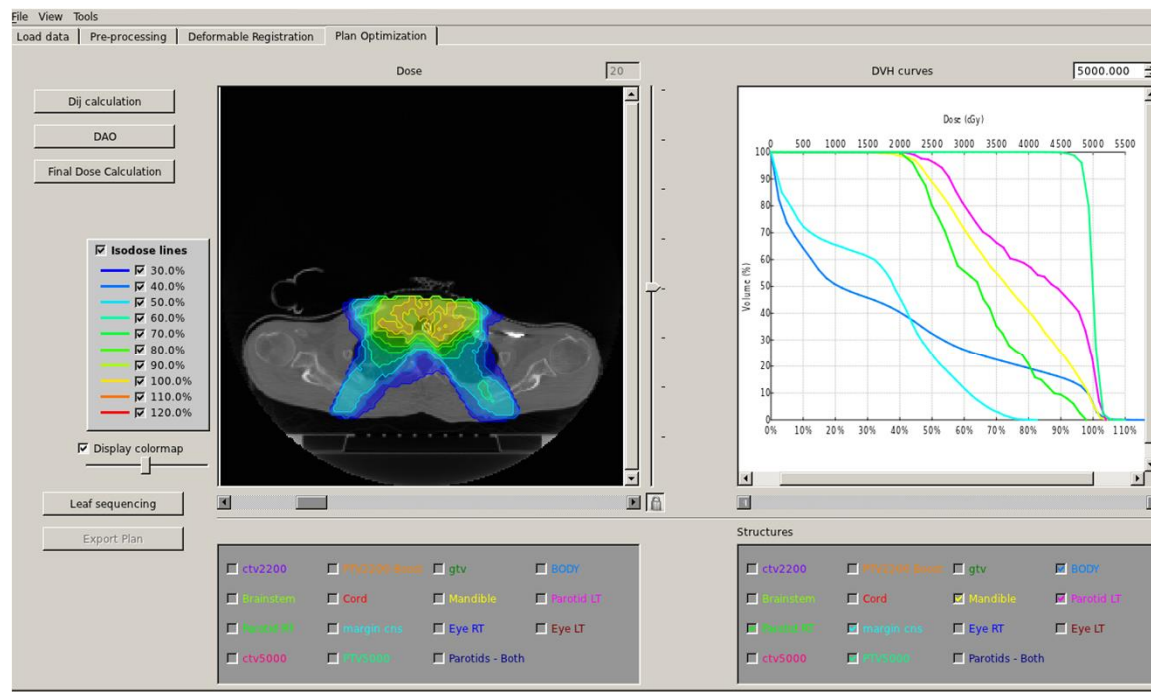
Demos: Deformed CT



SCORE



Supercomputing On-line Re-planning Environment



A GPU-based real-time automatic re-planning system

A research platform for online and offline ART

Clinical studies: H/N, pancreas, GYN, prostate, lung, *etc*



Online Re-planning - A Paradigm Shift

□ Past and current: plan-centered

- A snapshot of patient anatomy before treatment
- A treatment plan based on this snapshot
- Try to match this plan with the patient anatomy throughout the whole treatment course

□ Future: patient-centered

- Automatic plan re-optimization on CBCT every day
- Setup errors and anatomical variations are considered in the new plan
- Much smaller PTV margin and faster patient setup



Conclusion

Adaptive Radiation Therapy should be triggered by dosimetric assessment due to anatomic changes. It will be different due to disease sites. Both offline and online adaptive radiation therapy will help improve dose coverage on tumors and sparing normal tissues.

Acknowledgement

Drs. Steve Jiang and David Schwartz
Other colleagues at UT Southwestern





How to decide whether to adapt a treatment

- 0% 1. Physician's preference
- 0% 2. Physicist's preference
- 0% 3. Progress of the treatment course
- 0% 4. Daily imaging
- 0% 5. Daily dosimetric assessment



How to decide whether to adapt a treatment

1. Physician's preference
2. Physicist's preference
3. Progress of the treatment course
4. Daily imaging
5. **Daily dosimetric assessment**

Schwartz, DL et al *Radiotherapy & Oncology* 106:80-4 [2013]



What's the main purpose of adaptive radiation therapy in addition to IGRT


- 0% 1. Collect more money from patients
- 0% 2. Increase dose to tumor
- 0% 3. Reduce dose to tumor
- 0% 4. Increase dose to normal tissues
- 0% 5. Reduce dose to normal tissues



What's the main purpose of adaptive radiation therapy in addition to IGRT


1. Collect more money from patients
2. Increase dose to tumor
3. Reduce dose to tumor
4. Increase dose to normal tissues
5. **Reduce dose to normal tissues**

Schwartz, DL et al *Radiotherapy & Oncology* 106:80-4 [2013]



What's the major drawback of adaptive radiation therapy in clinical practice

- 0% 1. Need acquire daily imaging
- 0% 2. Much more efforts from physicians/physicists
- 0% 3. Billing code is not available
- 0% 4. Need perform QA of new plans
- 0% 5. Longer treatment time may disturb clinical treatment flow



What's the major drawback of adaptive radiation therapy in clinical practice

1. Need acquire daily imaging
- 2. Much more efforts from physicians/physicists**
3. Billing code is not available
4. Need perform QA of new plans
5. Longer treatment time may disturb clinical treatment flow

Liu et al, Int J Rad Onc Biol Phys 83: e423-e429 [2012]



Strategies of How and When to Adapt

Weihua Mao, David Schwartz, and Steve Jiang

UT Southwestern Medical Center

March 2015