Monte Carlo modelling and experimental verification of a high resolution silicon diode array performance in proton beams and magnetic fields

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Increasingly complex radiotherapy.... MRI guidance is here..

Recent developments in x-ray beam Radiotherapy



Year: 1990 - 1992 - 1994 - 1996 - 1998 - 2000 - 2002 - 2004 - 2006 - 2008 - 2010 - 2012 - 2014 - 2016 - 2018

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Real-time MRI-guided Proton beam therapy?



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Real-time MRI-guided Proton beam therapy?



A challenging concept...

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Real-time MRI-guided Proton beam therapy?



A challenging concept... but various studies already exist....

Deflection in B



Raaymakers et al., Phys.
Med. Biol. 53 (2008)
5615-5622.
Wolf and Bortfeld, Phys.
Med. Biol. 57 (2012)
N329-N337

Planning Studies



- Moteabbed *et al.*, Med. Phys. 41, 111713 (2014) - Hartmann *et al.*, Phys. Med. Biol. 60 (2015) 5955-5969

Beam delivery



- Oborn *et al.* Med. Phys. 42, 2113 (2015)

Fast numerical model



- Schellhammer and Hoffmann, Phys. Med. Biol. 62 (2017) 1548-1564

Oborn et al. (Silicon array in B-fields)

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MRI-guided Proton therapy.....

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Future of medical physics: Real-time MRI-guided proton therapy

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(Received 11 December 2016; revised 12 March 2017; accepted for publication 15 May 2017; published 4 July 2017)



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- To assess the operation of a high resolution dosimeter in magnetic fields for proton beams
 - Deflections
 - Bragg-peak
 - High resolution
- To setup Geant4 Monte Carlo simulations of the experiment
 - Complex geometry and beamline
 - Verify experimental results



Methods: Experimental Setup

- Silicon based diode array: 'DUO'a
 - 0.2 mm pitch cross-hair
 - 52×52 mm range
 - 256 pixels in each cross-hair
 - 0-40 mm thick PMMA build-up
- 0.95 T magnetic field
 - OncoRay permanent magnet
- 90, 109, 125 MeV proton beams
 - Dresden research beamline



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Methods: Monte Carlo Setup

• Geant4

- Full detector geometry
- Full magnetic field map from COMSOL simulation
- Parameterised proton beamline
- 10 mm collimated beams





70 MeV Pencil Beam in Air



Results: simulation basics

- The proton beam travels through various media:
 - PMMA, Air gaps, PCB (printed circuit board), resin, silicon chip
 - Protons will scatter between mediums before stopping somewhere
 - Hence the Bragg-peak is spreadout
 - Size/shape of the air-gap most important





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Results: simulation basics - dose distributions



A sideview of the spread-out Bragg-peak components



A close-up of the dose in the silicon chip: multiple B-P are observed

- PMMA + Silicon path
- Air + Silicon path
- PBC + Silicon path
- Various media path = SOBP/background...

Exp results: 90 MeV Edge-on





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Exp results: 109 MeV Edge-on





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Exp results: 125 MeV Edge-on





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Results: Simulation vs Experiment

- \bullet Good agreement with the deflection amount observed: \approx 4 mm for a beam which reaches the cross-hair
- We don't have a good match inline direction: air-gap squashed/relaxed



Discussion/Conclusions

- A complex multiple Bragg-peaked depth-dose profile was observed
 - Monte Carlo helps to explain, but completely accurate model not found
 - Multiple Bragg-peaks can be used for energy verification
- A changing beam cross-profile was observed for different energies
 - A unique Monte Carlo beam model will be required for each energy
 - direction, spread, FWHM....
- Real-time MRI guided proton therapy will require robust dosimetry
 - Pencil beam scanning only for MR-PT
 - Real-time requirements
 - Proton deflections
- Another field ready for Monte Carlo!

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Thanks for your attention!

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