

Future Medical Accelerator

Kiyoshi Yasuoka

*Proton Medical Research Center
(PMRC)*

*University of Tsukuba, Japan
e-mail: kiyoshi@pmrc.tsukuba.ac.jp*



Introduction ⁽¹⁾

Medical Accelerator

evolving into powerful equipments:

- an **activator** for radionuclide production

⇒ **PET & SPECT**

- a **probe** for radiation diagnostics

- a **knife** for

radiation therapy (RT) : X-ray γ -ray e

particle therapy (PT) : p C n



Introduction₍₂₎

Medical Accelerator:

Mainly

- ✓ **RFQ/DTL LINAC**
- ✓ **CYCLOTRON**
- ✓ **SYNCHROTRON**



Demand

We (medical staff) have DEMAND
for radiation diagnostics
and
radiation/particle therapy.

We have NO SOLUTIONs to achieve
our demands.

You (accel.experts) HAVE the technical
SOLUTION!

They could be **NEW** solution,
and they could be **OLD** solution
established already!



Risk Management

Find out **OLD solution first** before developing
NEW technology!

Because

Medical accelerator is a medical machine.

Target is NOT material BUT human being in
RD , RT/PT

Important Concepts:

**“Medical”=Safe, Stable, Reliable,
Precise, Established, ...**



Commercial Importance for Prevalence of RT/PT

Continue R&D for:

- Compactness $\Rightarrow$
 - Super Conductive (SC)
 - Lighter & Higher RBE Particle use
- Cost Reduction
- Easy & Friendly Operation $\Rightarrow$ • One Button Operation



Radiation Therapy (RT)

Passive

Dynamic

+ respiration gating system

+ motion tracking technology

3D

3.4D

4D

4.1D

More Conformal
IMRT

✓ Technology: c-band linac, SC linac



Particle Therapy (PT)

more precise than conventional RT

Passive

compensator/aperture
or wobbler magnet

+ respiration gating system *high speed painting

+ multi-layered (sobp)
conformal therapy

+ motion tracking technology

+ adaptive

+ individual treatment according to DNA

More Conformal

- ✓ concentrate radiation into a tumor part
- ✓ spare organ

Dynamic scanning

IMPT

*new treatment planning
sys. w/ 4D-CT

3D

3+1D

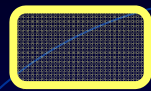
4D

4+1D

5D



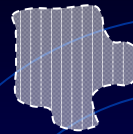
Radiation/Particle Therapy



body

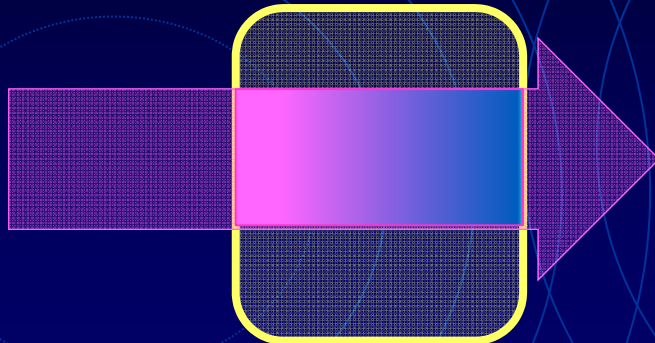


tumor cell



target

photon



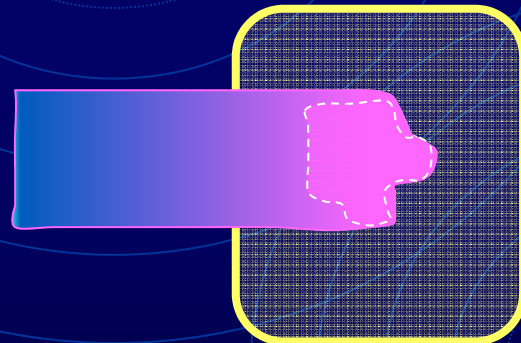
Conventional RT

✓ spare organ

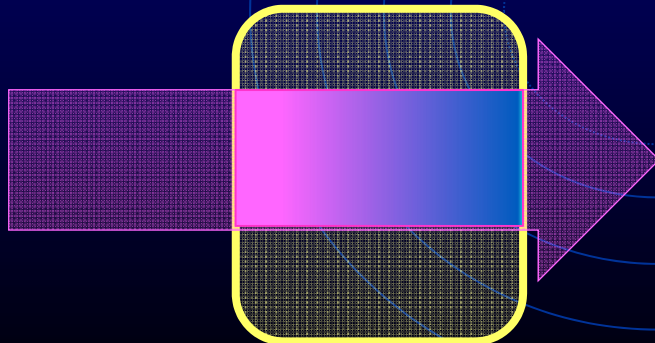
✓ **IMRT**
spare organ

✓ spare organ

proton
carbon

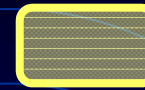


fast
neutron



Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT)

Tumor Cell Selective!



body



tumor cell

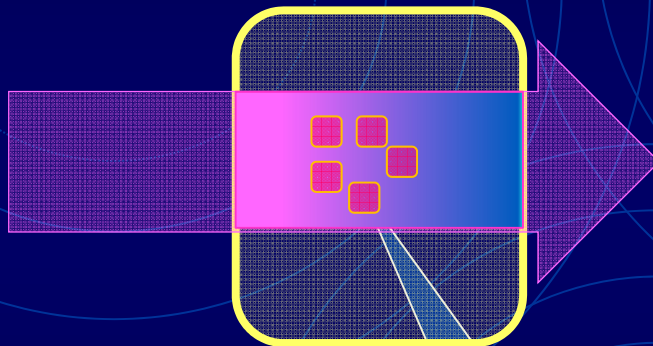


target



normal cell

epithermal
neutron



BNCT

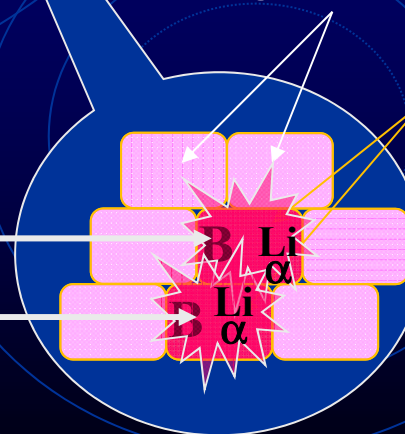
✓ spare normal
tissue

normal cell

tumor cell

epithermal

n
n



Neutron Source Specification @ BNCT

IAEA recommendation

- **Exposure Time** < 1 hour

Epithermal (0.1eV – 10keV) neutron

flux > 10^9 [/cm²/s]

- **Reduction of**

fast neutron dose

< 2×10^{-13} Gy cm²
/epithermal neutron

γ-ray dose

< 2×10^{-13} Gy cm²
/epithermal neutron

thermal/epithermal ratio < 0.05



Neutron Source

BNCT used to be performed by using thermal neutrons produced in nuclear reactors.

In the recent decades, the BNCT is changed to Accelerator-based BNCT.

Epithermal neutrons (0.1eV-10keV) better than fast ($>10\text{keV}$) & thermal ($<0.1\text{eV}$) neutrons as a source



Accelerator-based BNCT

Medical Neutron Accelerator

proton
source

proton
accelerator

Broader-
-ing

neutron
target

moderator

collimator

H₂ gas

Cycrotron
or
LINAC

Q-magnet
or
scanning

Li
or
Be

fast
to
epithermal

shaping

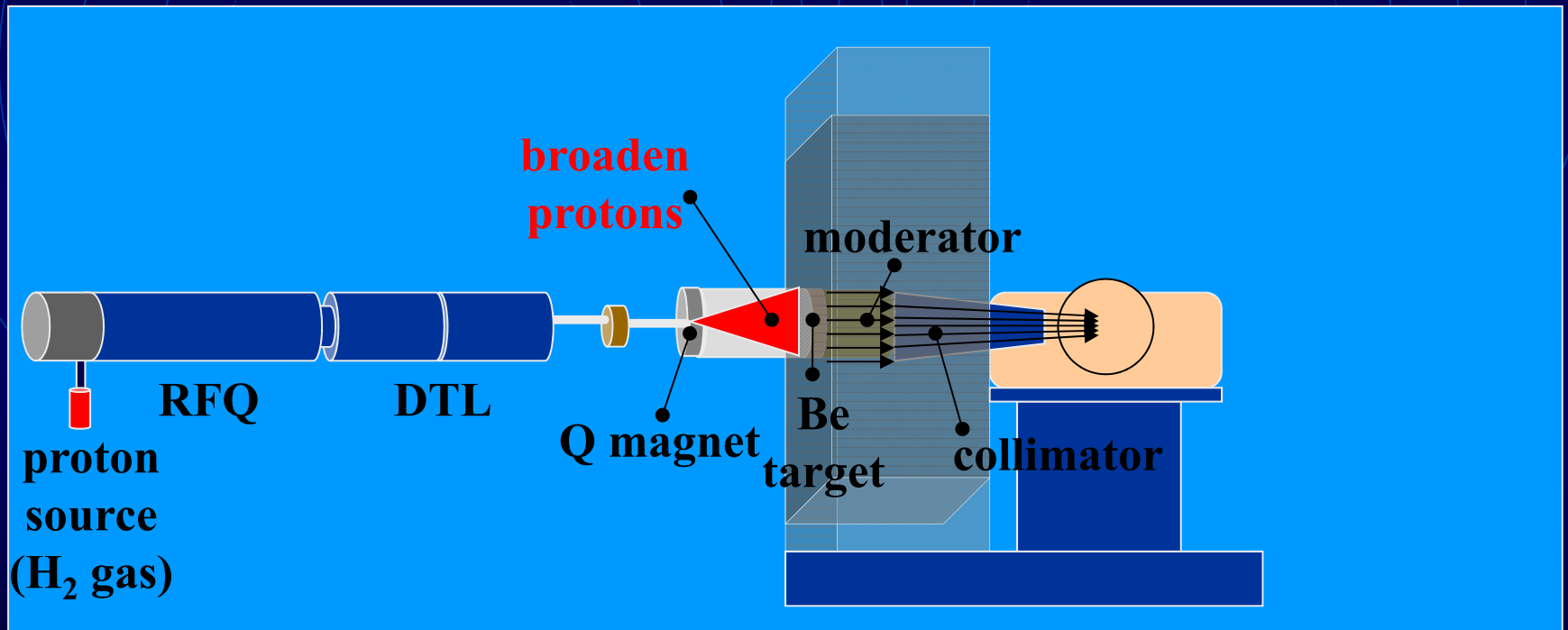
Device for
High I_p

Device for
High Φ_n

Device for
Low E_n



Accelerator-based BNCT



$I_p \sim \text{order of mA!}$



Medical Neutron Accelerator @ Tsukuba

Hospital-based compact proton LINAC

TYPE	RFQ+DTL PROTON LINAC (*)	
Proton Energy	8 MeV	low activation
Peak Current	50 mA	same spec. as J-PARC
Averaged Current	>5 mA (10mA @max)	optimized thermal design of acc. tube
Repetition Frequency	>100 Hz (=>200Hz)	optimized thermal design of acc. tube
Power onto Target	>40kW (80kW @max)	optimized thermal design of target
Length, Area	<7m , <50m ²	

Duty factor >10% => CW technology
(*) Design based on J-PARC linac technology



Neutron Production Target

Material		Advantage	Disadvantage
Be	solid	1. 8 MeV protons generate neutrons => less activation 2. High melting point 1287°C 3. Easy handling 4. Stable	1. Need remove high temperature density 2. HE(>4MeV) neutrons activate materials around
Li	solid	1. Simple moderator 2. Low beam energy => 2.5 MeV	1. Low melting point 180 °C => need fine, absolute , stable temperature control 2. Generate radioactive ^7Be => 5.2 TB/yr (500hrs operation)=> >20mSv/h in exposure room 3. ^3H generated
	liquid	1. Simple moderator 2. Low beam energy => 2.5 MeV 3. No target damage	1. Explosive if mixed with water 2. Generate radioactive materials

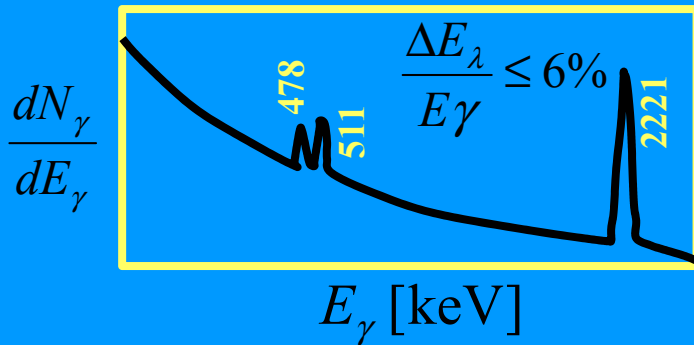


Subjects in Development of Neutron Production Target

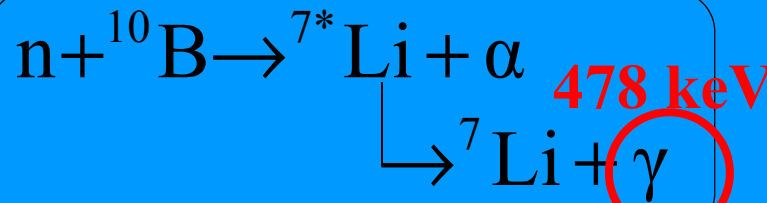
1. Reduction of high-dense thermal energy from Be target (4.5MW/m^2)
2. How to prevent a target from blistering due to H_2 gas generated inside
3. Low radio-activation
4. Fast interlock system for fast temperature rise causing damage to target
5. Damage monitor for target



Dose Distribution Monitor @Accelerator-based BNCT



Medical Neutron
Accelerator



PG-SPECT

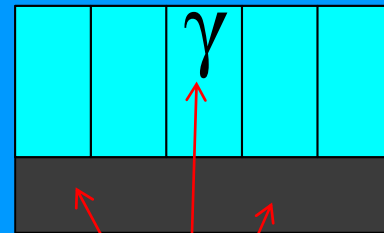
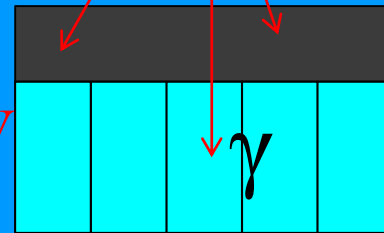
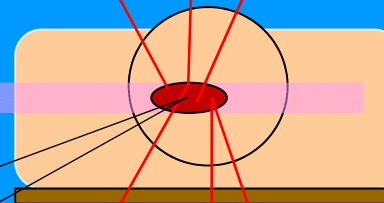


Photo Detector

Collimator (Pb)

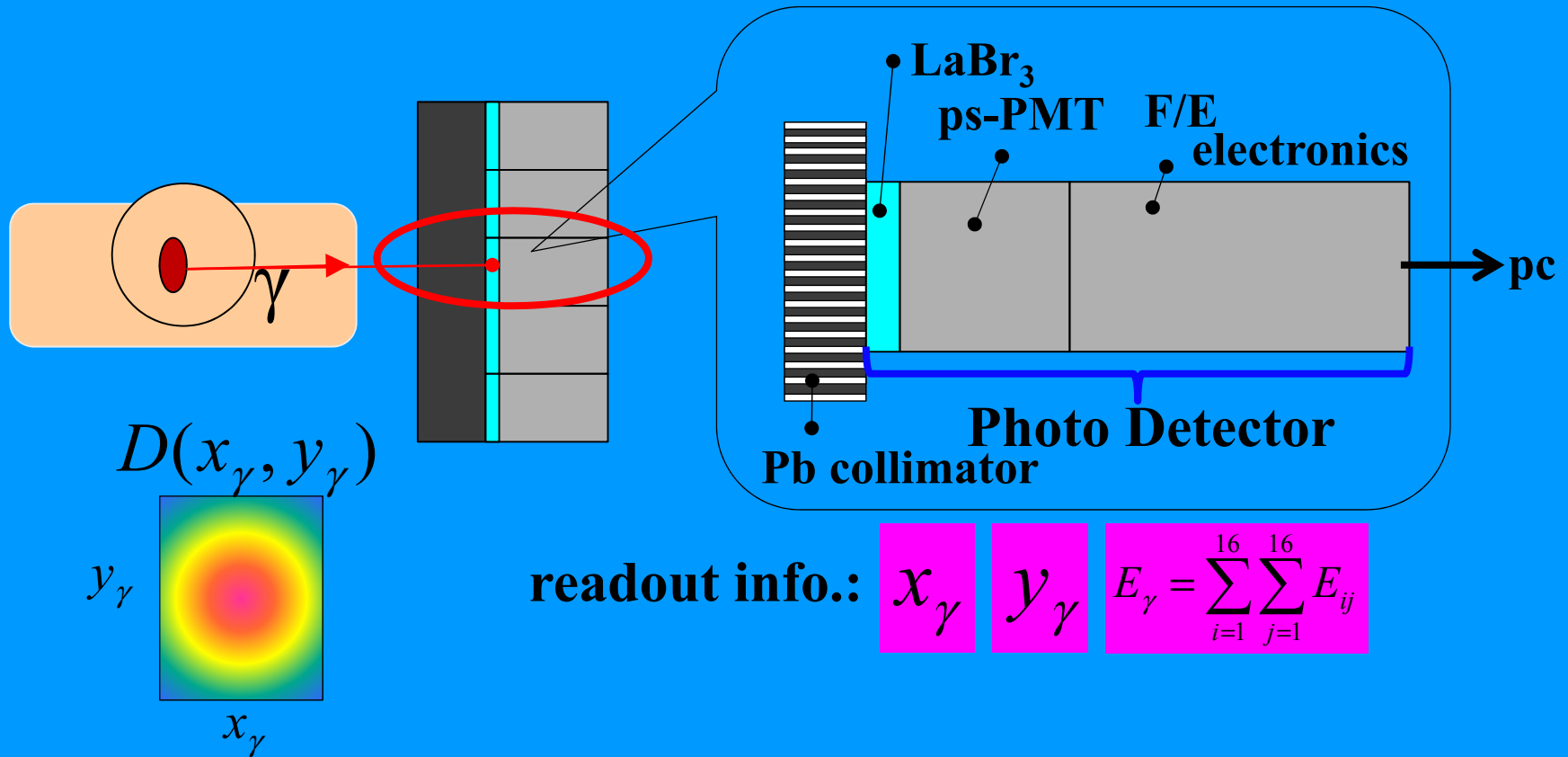


BG:

- Compton γ
- e^+e^- annihilation
- 511 keV γ
- ${}^1\text{H}(n,\gamma){}^2\text{H}$
- 2221 keV γ



PG-SPECT (Dose Distribution Monitor)



Summary⁽¹⁾

- Demands from BNCT:
 - High intensity beam (10mA!)
 - Highly efficient & non-damaged target
 - Less radio activities remained in the hospital!



Summary⁽²⁾

- Future medical accelerator:
 - Compactness & Cost Reduction for prevalence $\Rightarrow$ **New type of hospital-based PT**
 - Integration of multi-type particle delivery for patients in the same facility $\Rightarrow$ **A center of RT/PT**
 - Many sparing normal cell/organ technology (High QA!)

