# Solid state instrumentation for microdosimetry

J. PRIETO-PENA\*, F. GÓMEZ, C. FLETA, C. GUARDIOLA, AND G. PELLEGRINI

\*JUAN.PRIETO@USC.ES



#### **Presentation outline**

- Motivation
- Experimental setup and methods
- CNM (INM-CESIC)/USC detectors
- Experiments with first version of the detector (p<sup>+</sup>, <sup>12</sup>C)
- Experiments with second version of the detector (p<sup>+</sup>, <sup>12</sup>C)
- Concluding remarks



# Motivation



- Dose/specific energy is the standard magnitude for expression of the exposition to radiation.
- BUT radiobiological effects are not described through dose only!

$$H = \int Q(L) D(L) dL$$
$$O(L)?$$

• LET/lineal energy related magnitudes are not available in current instruments.



# Motivation



Source: Relative Biological Effectiveness In Ion Beam Therapy. Technical Report Series TRS-461.

- Different kinds of radiation yield different results on living tissue at the same physical dose.
- The RBE is a comparison between the effects of a given radiation and a reference radiation at the same physical dose.
- RBE depends on physical dose, radiation quality, target tissue, fractioning...
- Using RBE a biological dose can be established.
- TEPCs/Silicon detectors are used for this task



## **Experimental setup**





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## Methods

- Energy deposition spectra over several depths of Lucite (PMMA).
- Results compared with Monte Carlo simulations.
- Three parameter  $\chi^2$  minimisation.

$$\chi^{2} = \sum_{i} \left( \frac{\left( N * \left\langle y_{f/d}^{exp}(z_{i} + L) \right\rangle + C_{0} - \left\langle y_{f/d}^{MC}(z_{i}) \right\rangle \right)^{2}}{U_{total}^{2}} \right)$$





## Monte Carlo simulations

- Simulations were performed with FLUKA (and GEANT4).
- For FLUKA: Hadrontherapy settings with a shorter step in the scoring region.
- 10<sup>6</sup> primary histories simulated.
- No detailed simulation of the beamline.
- Detailed geometry of the detector and experimental setup.



## Detector – First version



• Compared with GEANT4 and FLUKA MC.



# CRC Proton test (Column detector)

- 62 MeV proton beam from CYLONE-110 cyclotron at Centre de Recherches du Cyclotron (CRC) at Louvainla-Neuve (Belgium).
- Measurement of microdosimetric distributions at several thicknesses of solid water slabs.
- Reconstruction of the Bragg peak from total ionization of the detector normalized to air ionization.



Source: C. Guardiola, C. Fleta, J. Rodríguez, M. Lozano and F. Gómez, "Preliminary microdosimetric measurements with ultra-thin 3D silicon detectors of a 62MeV proton beam," *Journal of Instrumentation*, Vol 10, Jan. 2015



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#### Test at GANIL – Carbon Ions (Caen, France)



- 94.98 AMeV
  <sup>12</sup>C ion beam.
- Approximately 10<sup>5</sup> particles per second



# Test at GANIL – Carbon Ions (Caen, France)

- GEANT4 simulation matches very well the experimental spectra.
- FLUKA does not have a very good agreement, but this was solved changing the simulation parameters.
- Nevertheless, the peak values are good in both simulations.





# Second version of the detector

- The new version of the microdosimeter was tested at CNAO.
- Microdosimetric spectra for both proton and carbon ions.
- Tests at clinical intensity.



<sup>3</sup>D-microsensor array top-view

Guardiola C. et al., Patent ref: PCT/ES2015/070056



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## Tests at CNAO – Carbon Ions (Pavia, Italy)



- Test performed on December 9-10, 2016 in treatment room 1 at Fondazione CNAO.
- <sup>12</sup>C ions with 115.23 MeV/u at nominal intensity  $(10^7 \ particles/_{spill \ cm^2}).$
- N=10<sup>9</sup> particles.
- Results compared with FLUKA Monte Carlo.



# Carbon test results – Bragg Peak

- Results show an excellent agreement with Monte Carlo simulations.
- N<sub>min</sub>=0.8592 keV/(µm\*ch)
- C0=-2.7619 keV/µm
- L= 2.2027 mm
- Gamma-index tolerances:
  0.1 mm and 0.5 keV/μm
- Gamma-index takes values less than 1.3, specially near the Bragg peak region.







- Good agreement with beam particle distribution.
- Partial charge collection in undepleted sensor volume due to low bias voltage adds counts in the low-y area.



## Proton test results

- Test performed on January 10, 2017 in treatment room 1 at Fondazione CNAO.
- 66.34 MeV protons.
- Test performed at nominal intensity  $(10^{7 \ particles}/_{spill \ cm^{2}}).$
- N<sub>min</sub>= 0.3423 keV/(µm\*ch)
- C0= 5.3235 keV/µm
- L= 1.2383 mm





#### Proton test results – Spectrum



- Good agreement on proton spectrum
- As before, there are some problems with partial charge collection in the detector area.



## **Concluding Remarks**

- There was a very good agreement between experimental and simulated spectra.
- This detector can quantify LET or linear energy distributions on clinical beams allowing calculation of RBE and commissioning on said beams.
- The detector is capable of measuring in clinical conditions, under nominal fluence rate.
- There is still some room for improvement in the new versions of the detector and the electronics, regarding the low-energy part of the spectrum.

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Juan Prieto-Pena



Juan Prieto-Pena











