

Computational dosimetry in Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT).

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Dosimetría Computacional y Planificación de Tratamiento, BNCT

Comisión Nacional de Energía Atómica (CNEA)

Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET)

Argentina



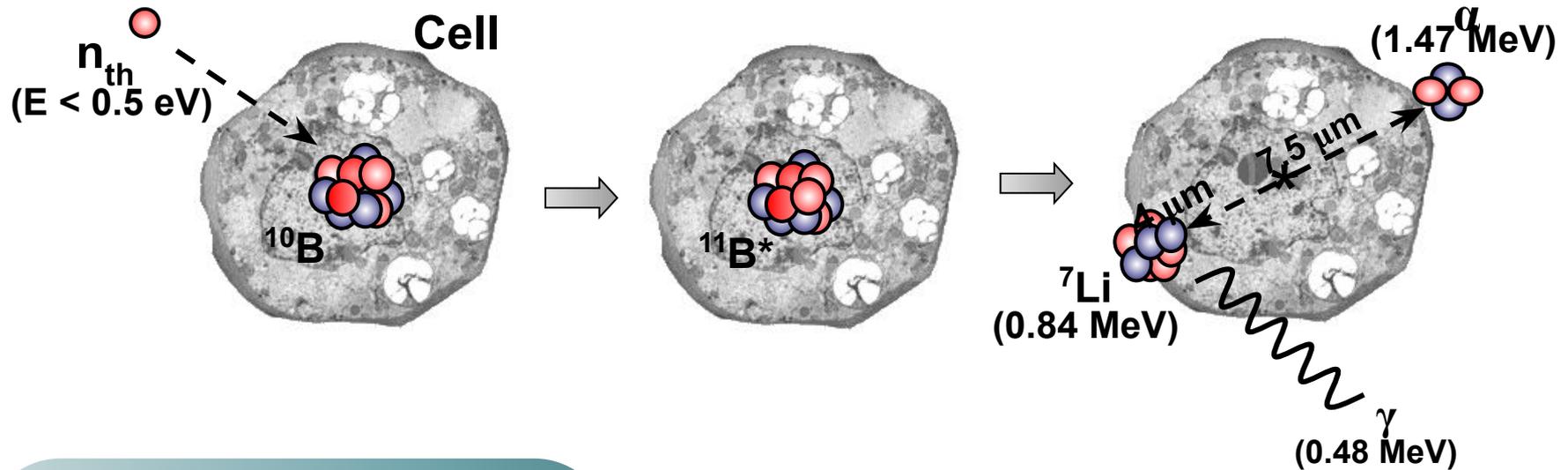
CONICET



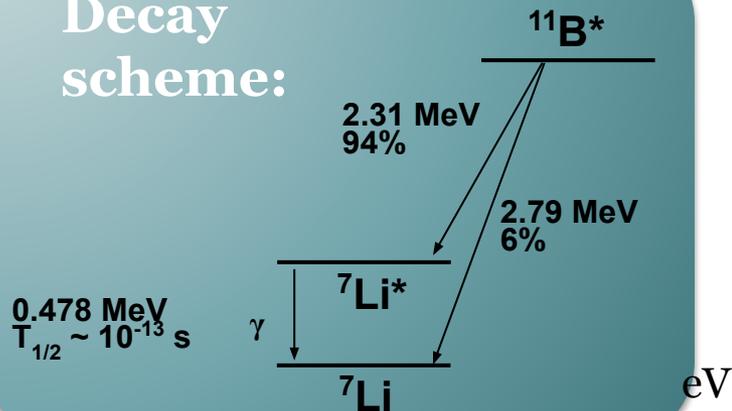
srgonzal@cnea.gov.ar



The BNCT Reaction: $^{10}\text{B}(n,\alpha)^7\text{Li}$



Decay scheme:



Releases an average of 2.79 MeV per neutron capture.

Products: highly ionizing

initial LET values in tissue, 180 to 370 keV/ μm
lose their energy over distances less than 10 μm

Boron-10: large cross section of 3839 barns at 0.0253

high natural isotopic abundance of 19.8%.

Contributions to the dose in BNCT

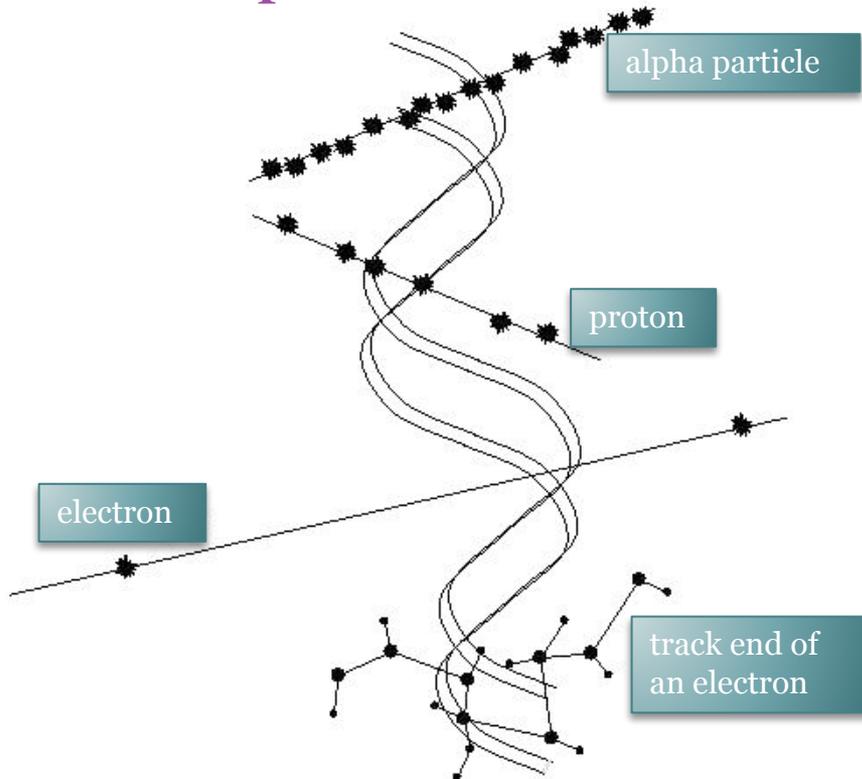
Main components :

- From products of $^{10}\text{B}(n,\alpha)^7\text{Li}$ reaction (**Boron dose: D_b**)
- From products of $^{14}\text{N}(n,p)^{14}\text{C}$ reaction (**Thermal neutron dose: D_{th}**)
- From recoil nuclei, mostly elastic collisions with hydrogen nuclei
 $^1\text{H}(n,n')^1\text{H}$ (**Fast neutron dose: D_f**)
- From photons of the beam and neutron capture reaction in hydrogen
 $^1\text{H}(n,\gamma)^2\text{H}$ (**Photon dose: D_g**)

Total absorbed dose: $D = D_b + D_{th} + D_f + D_g$ in Grays [$\text{Gy} = \text{J}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$]

Contributions to the dose in BNCT

Ionization pattern for:



Adapted from “*Damage pattern as a function of radiation quality and other factors;*” C R Acad Sci III. 1999;322(2-3):89-101.

Different products with different ionization patterns cause different biological effect for the same absorbed dose.

Four dose components with different radiation transport characteristic conform a **complex radiation dose field**

□ Deterministic transport methods:

Too many approximations

□ Statistical simulation methods:

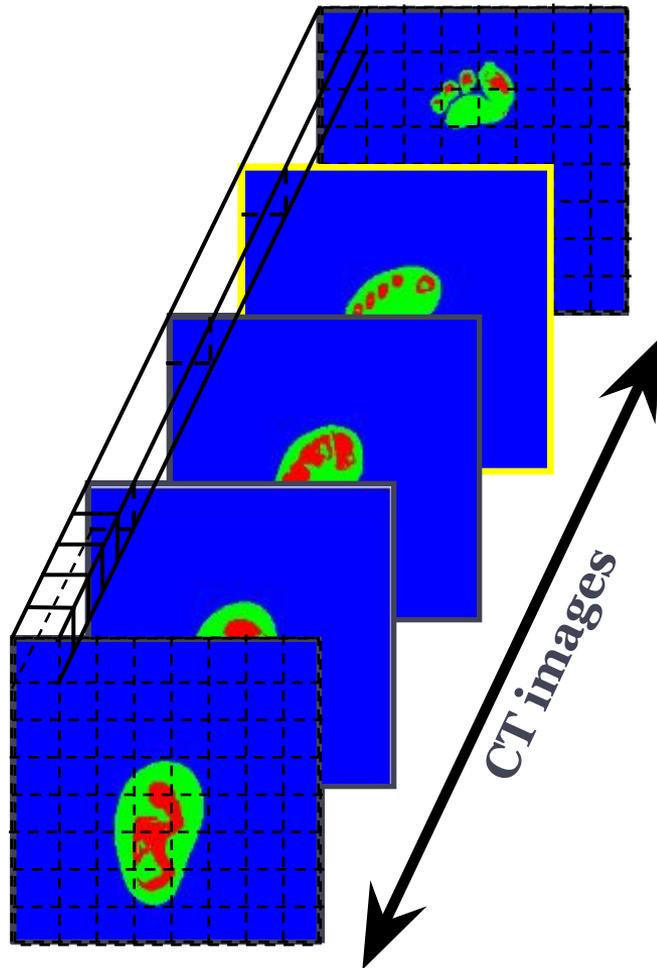
High accuracy (MCNP code!)

Treatment planning:

Neutron Capture Therapy Plan (NCTPlan v. 2.0)

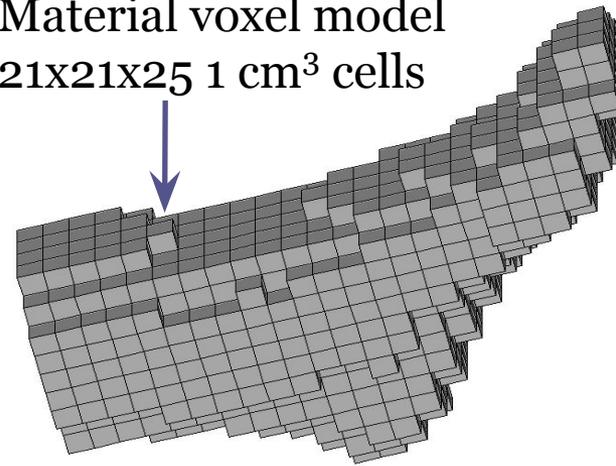
- Software:
 - developed by the joint collaboration between CNEA & Harvard-MIT
 - written in Microsoft Visual Basic
 - runs under Windows operative system
- Program structure
 - includes multiple windows for patient modeling and dose analysis and displays
 - directly creates MNCP input desks (UF: L. Provenzano & N. Mojsiejczuk)
- Clinical protocols including NCTPlan
 - Harvard-MIT, RO1 Peripheral Melanoma and R21 GBM and Intracranial Melanoma Metastases (USA)
 - CNEA, Peripheral Melanoma (Argentina)

Treatment planning: Voxel model



- **Image segmentation:** air (■), normal and tumor tissues (■), and bone (■)
- **Image partitioning:** each primary material is rounded off to the nearest 20% volume increment.

Material voxel model
21x21x25 1 cm³ cells



Lower part of the leg and foot

Treatment planning: dose calculations

MCNP input file creation

Select the input file containing the cell information derived from CT data (Max 50 characters)

Enter the identifier to be used for the name of the MCNP input deck (for instance, the patient's name). The file name will be assigned in the form: aaaans, where aaaa = first 4 letters of the character identifier [e.g., patient's name], n = beam number assigned in NCTPlan and s = radiation source, either n(neutron) or p(photon)

Enter a title card - 70 characters max. María Teresa Marengo, Pierna derecha, región pretibial

Do you want regular MCNP input files, 4A's lattice input files or 4B's lattice input files ? Regular 4A lattice 4B lattice (default)

Select material compositions (max 50 characters - default ICRUBrain.cmp) ICRUMuscle.cmp

Select the file containing the photon source and tally data - max 50 characters (default distp.sdf) fgamma.txt

Select the file containing the photon keramas max 50 characters (default = PhotonCRUBrain.ker) PhotonCRUMuscle.ker

Select the file containing the 56 material mixtures (max 50 characters - default 56Mix20Pct.mix) 56Mix20Pct.mix

Select the file containing the b10 keramas (max 50 characters - default = Boron10.ker) Boron10.ker

Enter the distance the source plane is away from the entrance point in centimeters 0

Select the file containing the neutron source and tally data - max 50 characters (default distp.sdf) fneutr.txt

Select the file containing the neutron keramas (max 50 characters - default = NeutronCRUBrain.ker) NeutronCRUSkin.ker

Enter an nps value (default= 1000000) 1000000

Create MCNP input Close

Transport simulation with MCNP

Creation of the MCNP input file

Treatment planning: dose calculations (cont.)

Tallies in MCNP:

Estimates of the average neutron/photon fluence in each cell (F4), assign the average value to the center of the 1 cm³ voxel

To compute doses:

$$K = \int \Phi(E) k(E) dE$$

$\Phi(E)$: energy-dependent fluence,

$k(E)$: fluence-to-kerma coefficients; account for the initial kinetic energy for all those primary charged particles released by uncharged particles (ICRU 1999).

Assumption: charged particle equilibrium (CPE) conditions are satisfied everywhere in the geometry.

Under this assumption, dose is approximated by KERMA.

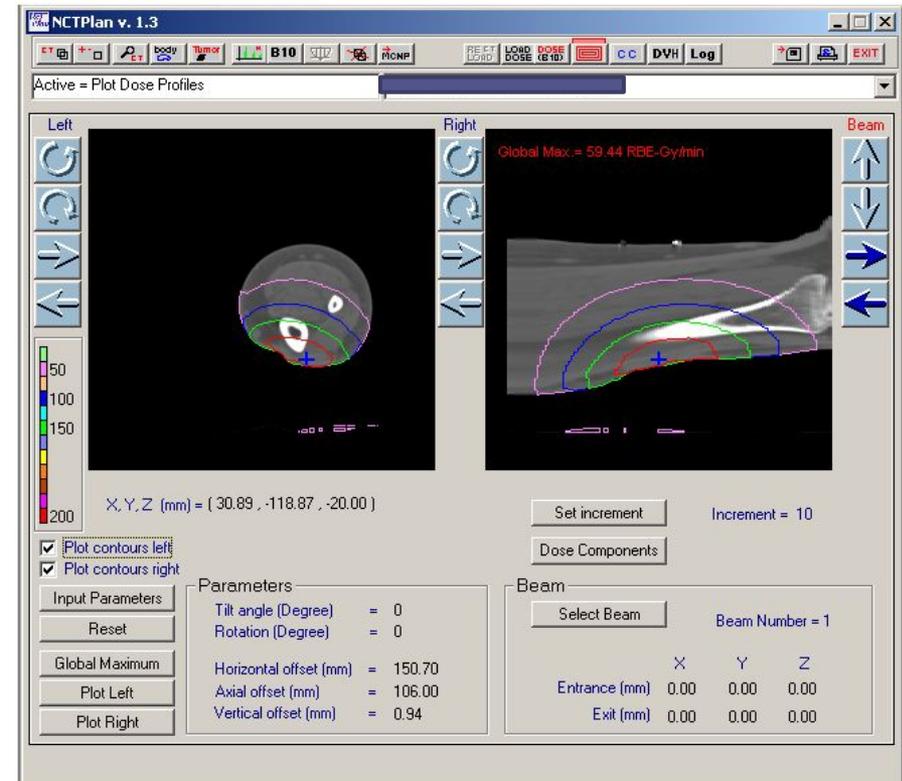
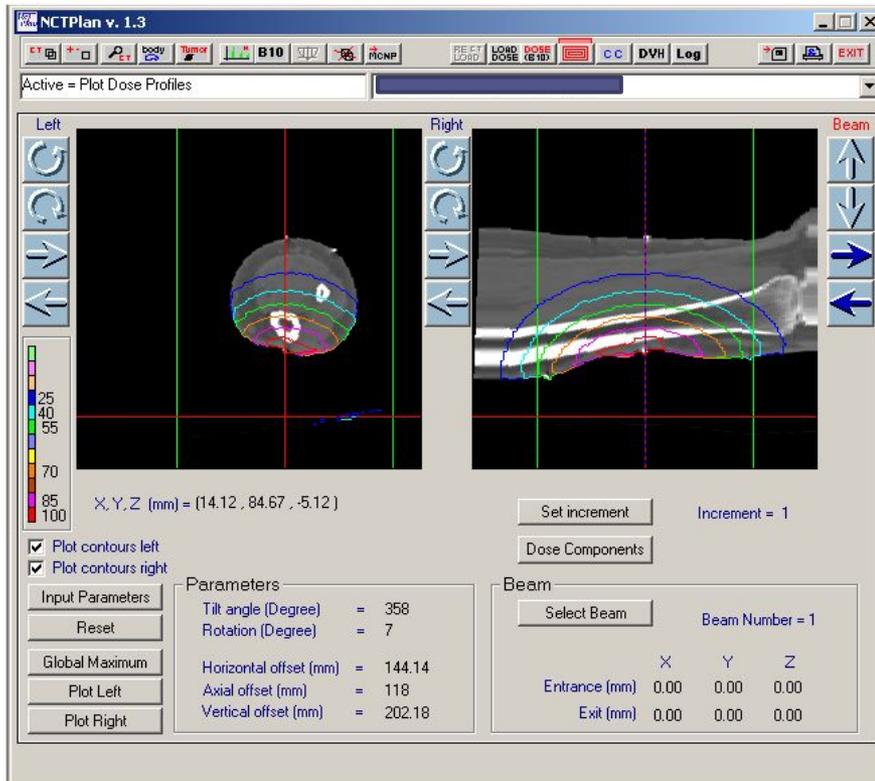
Treatment planning: dose calculations

- Geometry model: air, muscle, bone (ICRU 44)
- Normal tissue doses: specified for OAR (skin kerma factors)
- RBE & CBE weighting factors

Photon dose:	1	
Thermal & fast neutron dose:	3	
Boron dose:	2.5 (normal skin)	
	3.8 (tumor)	
- ^{10}B concentration ratios

Normal T-to-blood:		1.0
Skin-to-blood :	1.5	
Tumor-to-blood:	3.5	
$(C_{\text{blood}} = 15 \text{ ppm})$		

Treatment planning: dosimetry analysis



Dose distributions inside the anatomy: dose iso-curves for normal tissues and tumors.

Treatment planning in Argentina

Particularities:

- (1) ANTERIOR
- (2) PODALIC
- Multiple “visible” lesions
- Fixed particle source

Steps:

1. Physicians established the treatment target area.
2. Search for the “best” patient positioning
3. Setting the skin marks for repositioning and TP
4. Performed the CT study

Patient #4

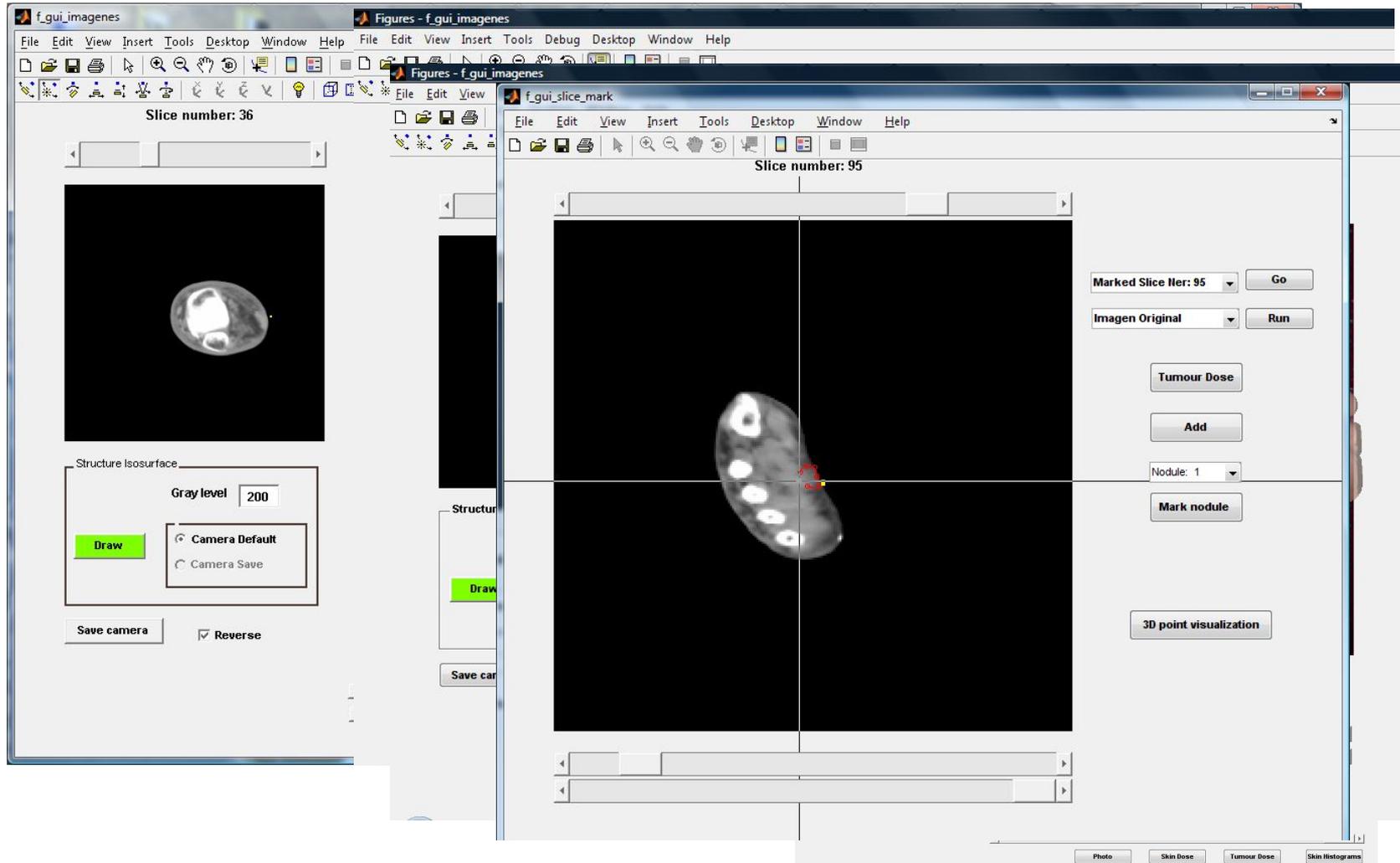


Patient #1



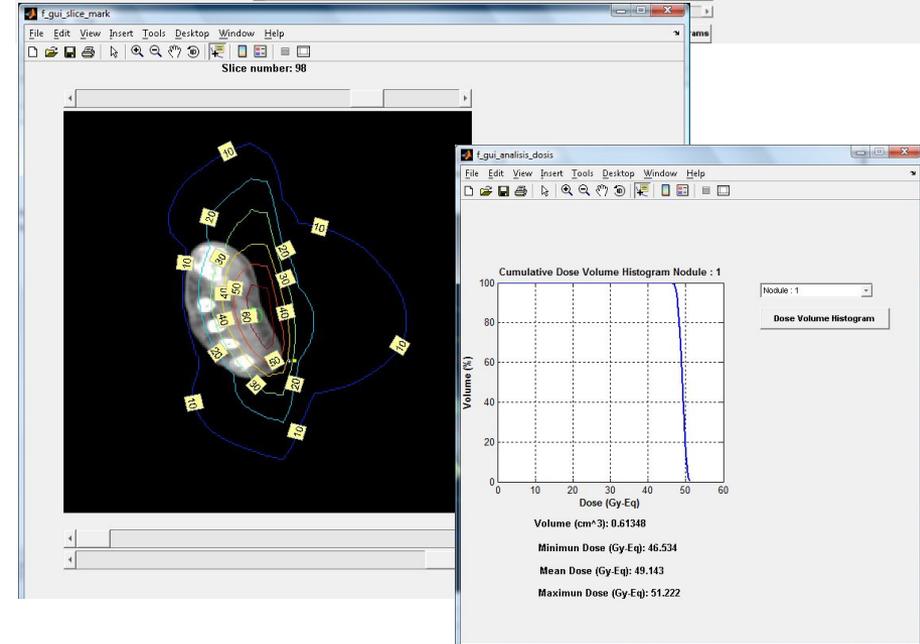
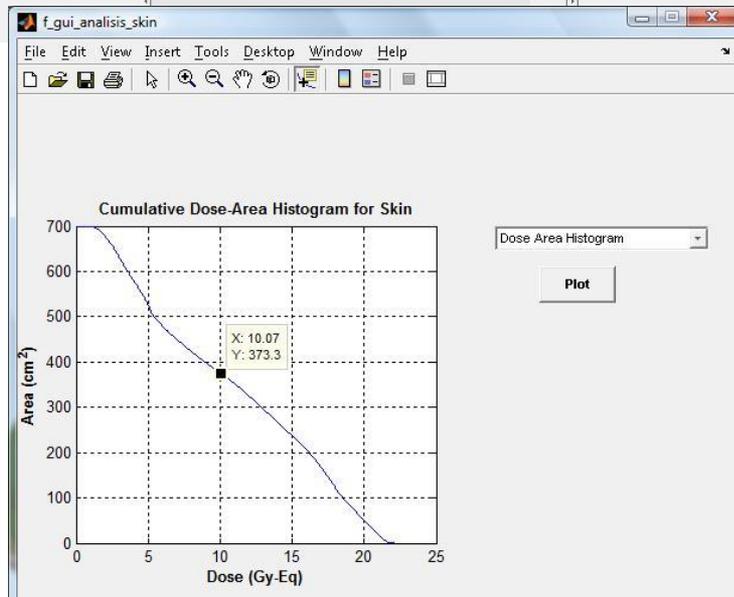
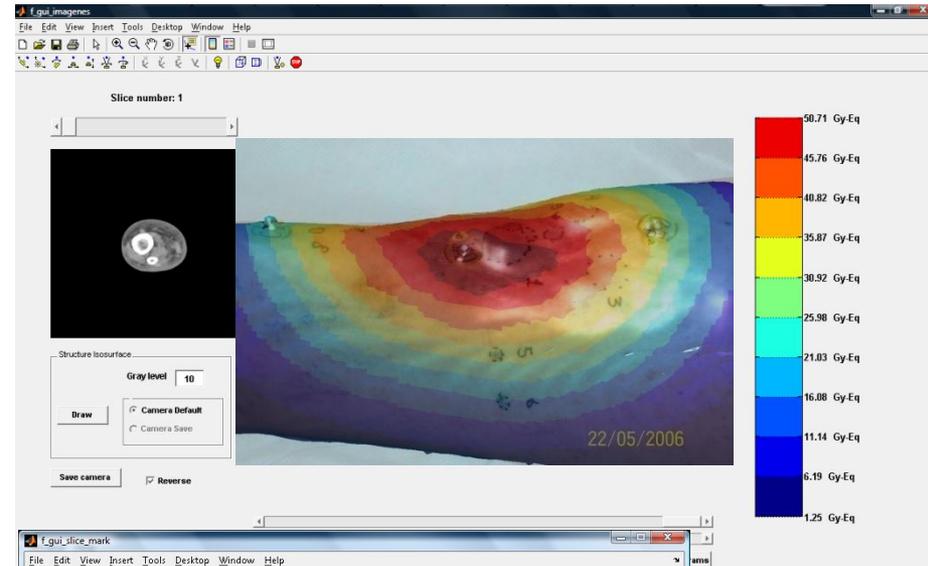
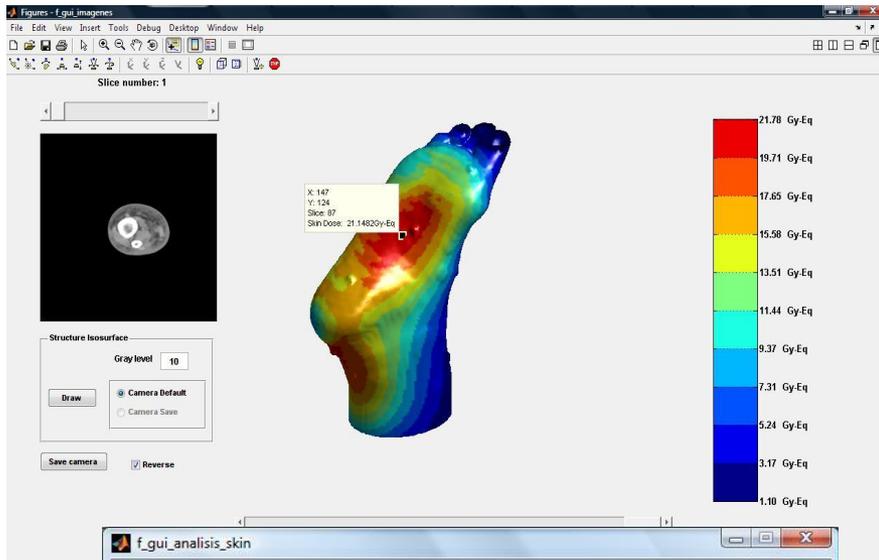
Treatment planning: 3D representations, Sphere

Tesis MSc. S. Gossio



Skin

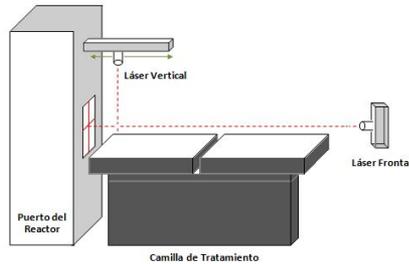
Tumors



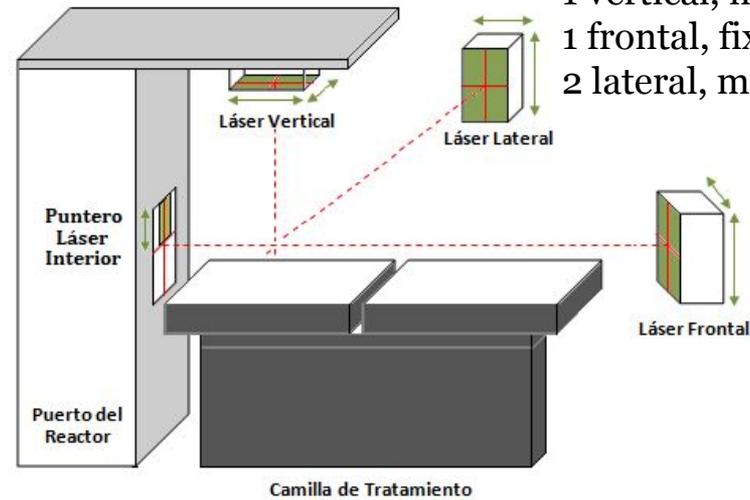
U. Favaloro: Victoria Gutierrez & Leandro Monzón

Lasers system

External



1 vertical, mobile (1 dir)
1 frontal, fixed



1 vertical, mobile (2 dirs)
1 frontal, fixed
2 lateral, mobile (1 dir)

Internal



Formación de RRHH:

- **GRADO:** Tesis de Licenciatura en Cs. Físicas (UBA)/Proyecto Final de la Carrera Ingeniería en Física Médica (U. Favaloro)

2007-2008 José Bertotti –
Julio Marín

2008-2009 Rubén Farías.

2008-2010 María Silvia Soto

2009-2010 Esteban Boggio

2010-2011 Victoria Gutiérrez –
Leandro Monzón

2011-2012 Natanael Mojsiejczuk

2011-2012 Lucas Provenzano

2012-2013 Agustina Razetti

- **POSGRADO:** Maestría en Física Médica (UBA)
2007-2009 Sebastián Gossio

- **POSGRADO:** Doctorado (UNSAM)

2009-2014 María Silvia Herrera

2010-2015 Rubén Farías

2012-pres. Mario Gadán

2013-pres. Lucas Provenzano

2016-pres. Sebastián Gossio

- **INVESTIGADORES:**

2012-2013 Agustina Portu (Beca posdoctoral)

2013-pres. Agustina Portu (Investigador Asistente CONICET)



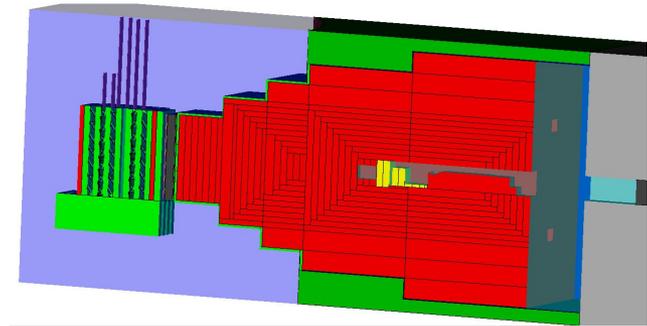
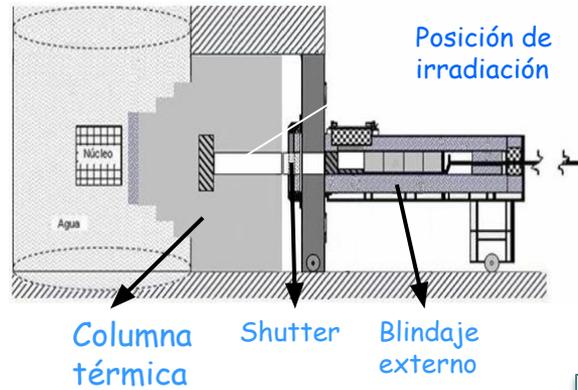
Rubén Farías

Dosimetría 3D computacional

Modelo completo de la facilidad central de columna térmica del reactor RA-3 (FCCT)



Silva Bortolussi



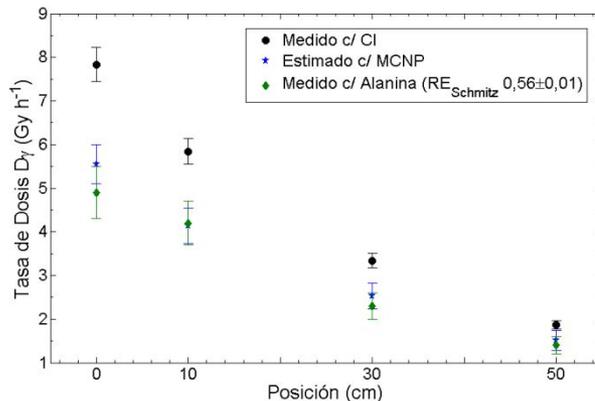
- AIRE
- GRÁFITO
- BISMUTO
- HORMIGÓN
- AGUA
- PLOMO
- ALUMINIO
- BARRAS DE CONTROL

Representación 3D del modelo MCNP de la FCCT

Caracterización gamma de la cavidad de la FCCT



Alanina



Applied Radiation and Isotopes 89 (2011) 1924–1927

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Applied Radiation and Isotopes

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/apradiso

Simulation of the neutron flux in the irradiation facility at RA-3 reactor

S. Bortolussi^{a,b,*}, J.M. Pinto^d, S.I. Thorp^c, R.O. Farias^f, M.S. Soto^g, M. Szejnberg^c, E.C.C. Pozzi^{d,e}, S.J. Gonzalez^{c,f}, M.A. Gadan^{a,c}, A.N. Bellino^d, J. Quintana^d, S. Altieri^{a,b}, M. Miller^c



Rubén Farías

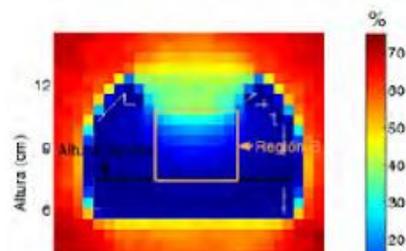
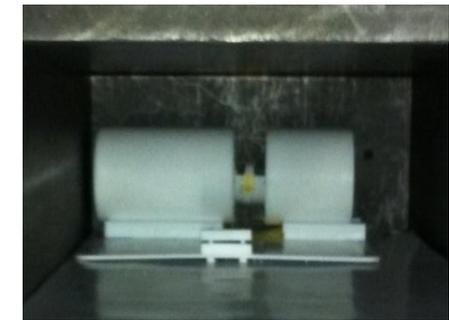
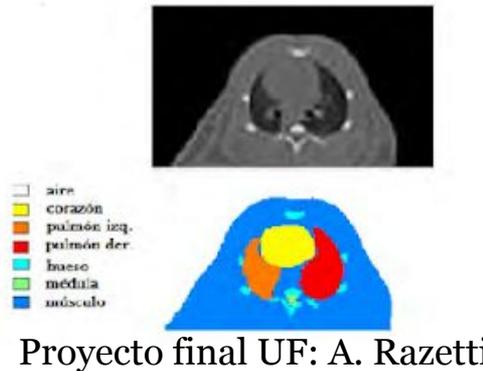
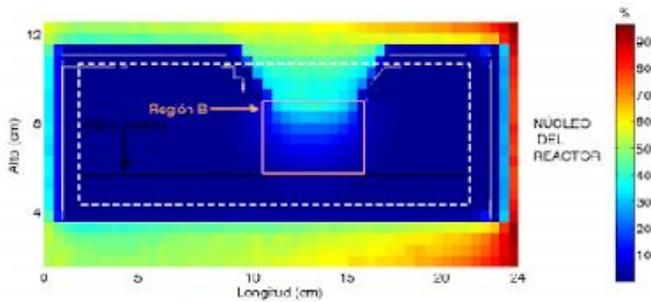
Dosimetría 3D computacional

Irradiaciones de órganos y de pequeños animales.

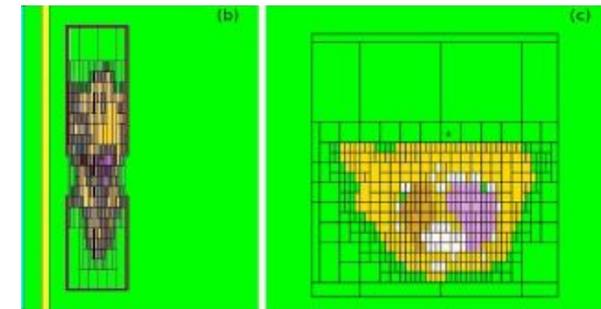
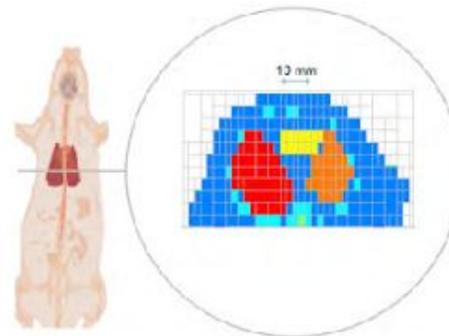
Factibilidad de BNCT para metástasis pulmonares experimentales (CNEA & U. Pavia)



Silva Bortolussi



Eficacia terapéutica de BNCT
Proyecto final UF: A. Serrano



Dosimetría 3D computacional

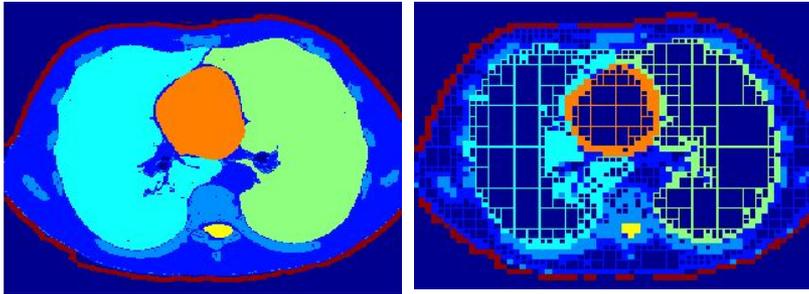
BNCT in – situ para el tratamiento de cáncer de pulmón (CNEA & U. Pavia)



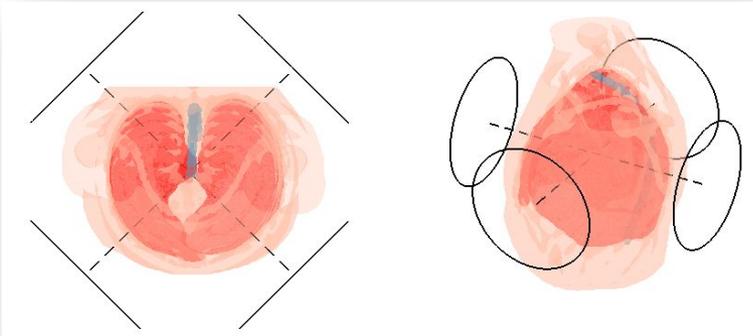
Rubén Farías



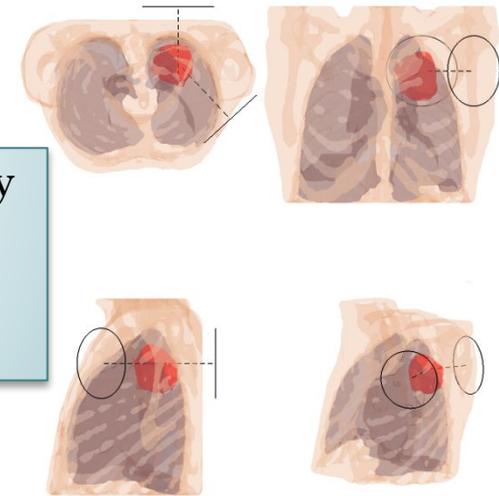
Silva Bortolussi



Metástasis pulmonares difusas
(Lesiones nodulares múltiples)



Recurrent malignancy
after standard RT
Massive localized
volume



Physica Medica 30 (2014) 888–897

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



Physica Medica

journal homepage: <http://www.physicamedica.com>



Original paper

Exploring Boron Neutron Capture Therapy for non-small cell lung cancer

Rubén O. Farías^{a,b}, Silva Bortolussi^{c,d}, Pablo R. Menéndez^e, Sara J. González^{a,b,*}





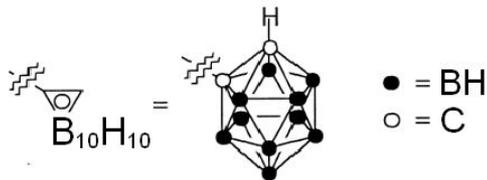
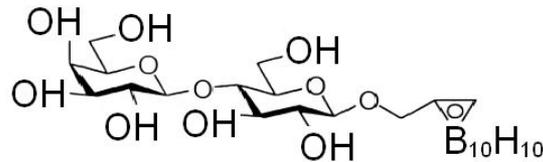
Mario Gadán

Estudios de BNCT en cáncer de mama



Luigi Panza

Encapsulamiento de compuestos borados en liposomas.



LCOB

Carboranos

Compuestos polihédricos con 10 átomos de boro por molécula

β -lactosil o-closocarborano (LCOB)
Especial interés para su aplicación en BNCT.



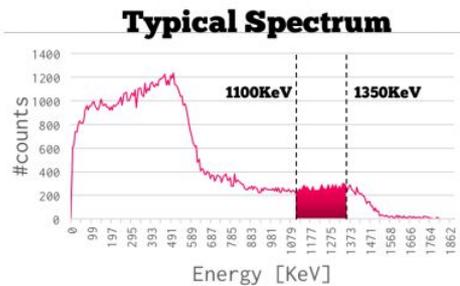
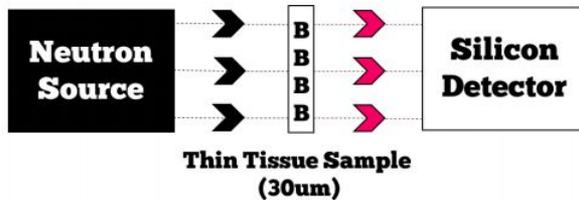
Lucas Provenzano

Extensión de técnicas de detección de boro en tejidos duros



Silva Bortolussi

Alpha Spectrometry



8th Young Researchers BNCT Meeting 2015 Pavia, Italy.

Boron-10 Concentration

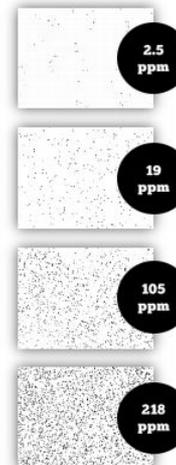
$$[^{10}\text{B}]_{\text{ppm}} = K \cdot \# \text{counts} \cdot \frac{\Delta E}{\Delta \rho x}$$

K=PROPORTIONALITY CONSTANT KNOWN

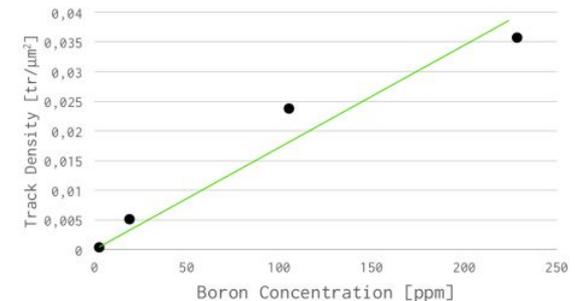
Neutron Autoradiography

HARD TISSUE SAMPLES

Control Sheep Femur powder + Boric Acid.



Calibration for Bone Powder



$$\text{TD} = 1.68\text{E-}04 \times [\text{B}] - 3.02\text{E-}05$$

8th Young Researchers BNCT Meeting 2015 Pavia, Italy.



Sara González

Investigación y formación de RRHH en BNCT



Silva Bortolussi

- Dirección conjunta de L. Provenzano (becario doctoral CONICET)
 - Técnicas de detección de boro en tejidos duros: alfaespectrometría & autorradiografía neutrónica
 - Evaluación del reactor RA-6 para tratamientos de cabeza y cuello
- Estudios de BNCT en osteosarcoma
 - Evaluación de haces
 - Potencialidad de tratamiento
- Estudios de BNCT ex situ en pulmón sano de oveja
- Modelo teórico de cálculo de dosis en BNCT
 - Ensayos de sobrevivencia celular (líneas celulares de osteosarcoma, cabeza y cuello)
 - Aplicación del modelo a casos clínicos de BNCT
- S. Bortolussi & S. Altieri, colaboradores de subsidios PICT y PIP



Saverio Altieri

¡Muchas gracias!
Grazie mille!



Silva y Lucas siguiendo atentamente los monitores durante el tratamiento de BNCT (reinicio de los tratamientos clínicos en Bariloche, Octubre 2015).

srgonzal@cnea.gov.ar

