

Efficient patient throughput and detector usage in low cost efficient Monolithic High resolution Walk-through Flat Panel Total Body PET

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Background

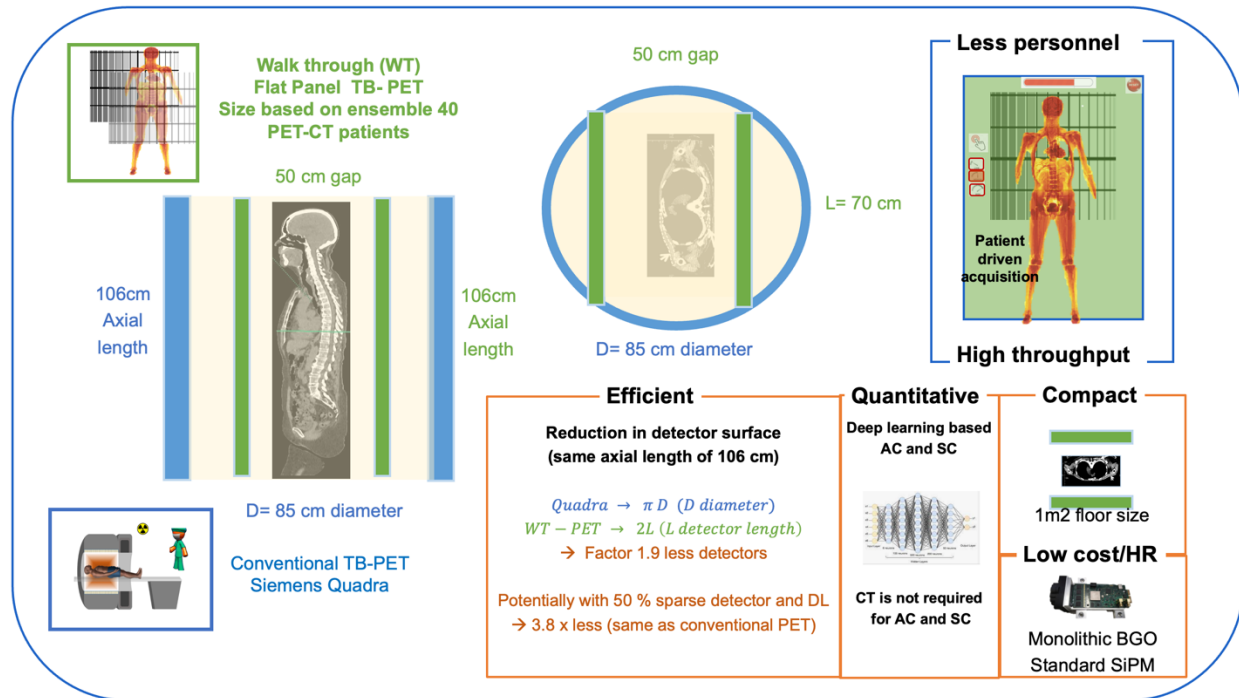
Despite its very high sensitivity [1] high TB-PET throughput is limited by patient handling and shortage of personnel. Monoliths (LYSO and BGO) are valid alternative to pixelated detectors as they have a much better spatial resolution (1-1.5 mm), 6-layer DOI and CTR between 150 and 300 ps [2,3]. Therefore, they can be placed closer with a gain in both sensitivity and spatial resolution (reduced acolinearity). We design a novel monolithic low cost flat panel TB-PET system with patients in upright position.

Methods

Patient width (PW), top head to start of legs and depth from front of the patient to bed (measured from 40 random PET-CT patients) determined flat panel size. Sensitivity and detector surface is compared to Siemens Quadra[4]. In a next phase system simulations and extensive mock-up scanner patient test will be performed to determine scatter, motion and feasible patient-throughput.

Results

The average/max width/height/depth of the 40 patients was 52/65, 85/95 and 32/38 cm. This justifies a design of 70 cm wide, 105 cm high and 50 cm gap. The number of detectors (same FOV) is **1.9 x less** than in a Siemens Quadra for similar sensitivity. Spatial resolution will be less than 2 mm over the whole FOV (reduced acollinearity from 80 to 50 cm). The estimated component cost for 12 mm thick monolithic BGO/6 mm SiPM/readout is only 1.3 MEuro. DL will be applied on images from 50 % sparse BGO detectors to reduce system cost to that of a standard PET scanner. Scatter and attenuation correction can be applied (without CT) to non-attenuation corrected reconstructed using DL [5]. This enables fast, low dose imaging and frequent screening. Personnel costs can be reduced by letting patient start the acquisition via simple touch buttons. The footprint of the scanner is about 1m².



References

1. Vandenberghe S, Moskal P, Karp JS. State of the art in total body PET. EJNMMI Phys. 2020; 7(1):35.
2. Mariele Stockhoff, Milan Decuyper, Roel Van Holen, Stefaan Vandenberghe. High-resolution monolithic LYSO detector with 6-layer depth-of-interaction for clinical PET. Phys Med Biol. 2021; 66(15):10.1088/1361-6560
3. P. Carra, M.G. Bisogni, E. Ciarrocchi, M. Morrocchi, V. Rosso, G. Sportelli, N. Belcari. Performance of monolithic BGO-based detector implementing a Neural-Network event decoding algorithm for TB-PET applications, presentation at Elba PSMR-TB-PET conference 2022
4. Prenosil GA, Sari H, Fürstner M, Afshar-Oromieh A, Shi K, Rominger A, Hentschel M. Performance Characteristics of the Biograph Vision Quadra PET/CT system with long axial field of view using the NEMA NU 2-2018 Standard. J Nucl Med. 2022; 63(3):476-484.
5. Song Xue, Karl Peter Bohn, Rui Guo, Hasan Sari, Marco Viscione, Axel Rominger, Biao Li, Kuangyu Shi, Development of a deep learning method for CT-free correction for an ultra-long axial field of view PET scanner, abstract presented at the PSMR-TBPET conference, Elba 2022

EFFICIENT PATIENT THROUGHPUT AND DETECTOR USAGE IN LOW-COST EFFICIENT MONOLITHIC HIGH RESOLUTION WALK-THROUGH FLAT PANEL TOTAL BODY PET



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GHENT UNIVERSITY/EDITOR EJNMMI PHYSICS

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STATE-OF-THE ART

TOTAL BODY PET

A UNIQUE DESIGN

FLAT PANEL TOTAL BODY PET

SIMULATIONS OF SYSTEM

COST OF SYSTEM

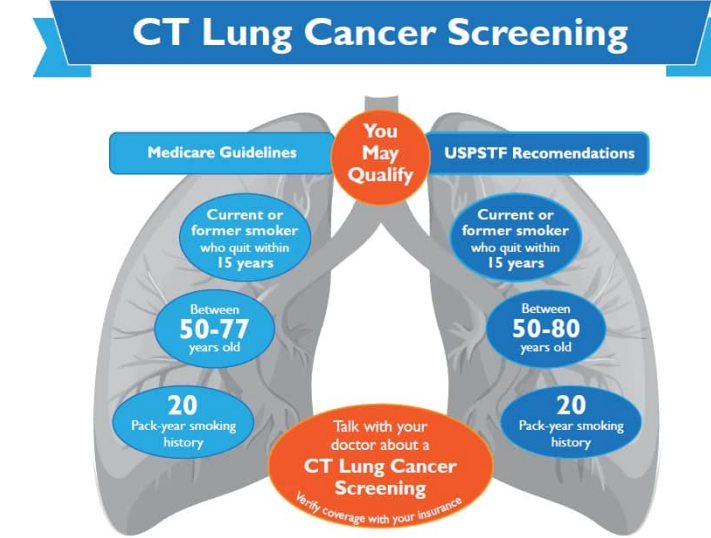
MOCKUP

SUMMARY

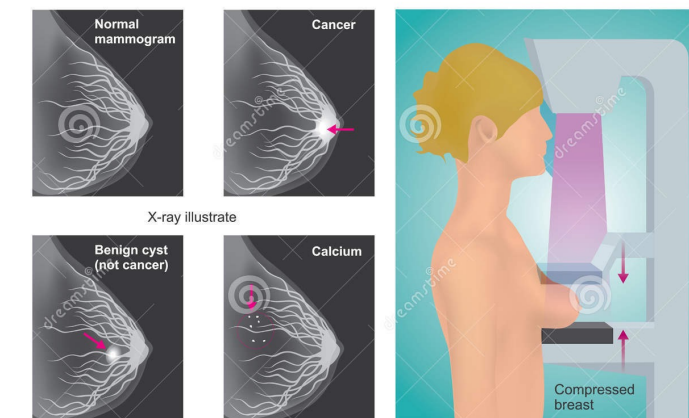
EXPECTED INCREASE IN PET(-CT) PATIENTS

Why ?

- Not only detection but more and more (expensive and complex) therapy prediction and follow-up
 - Early detection → improved therapy outcome
 - First PET scan (20 % normals)
 - Follow-up (40%)
- Selected screening: genetic, blood test, patient history
→ Fast evolutions towards early diagnosis of cancer
- Already CT screening for lung cancer (heavy long term smokers) in US
- Lung cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer...
- With selected screening there will be a high number of patients and repeat scans
- Personnel availability is a problem in many NM depts
- **How** to deal with this:
 - Lower dose imaging
 - **Faster imaging + Throughput**
 - Lower cost imaging (systems + procedure)
 - **Less personnel** per scan



Screening Mammography



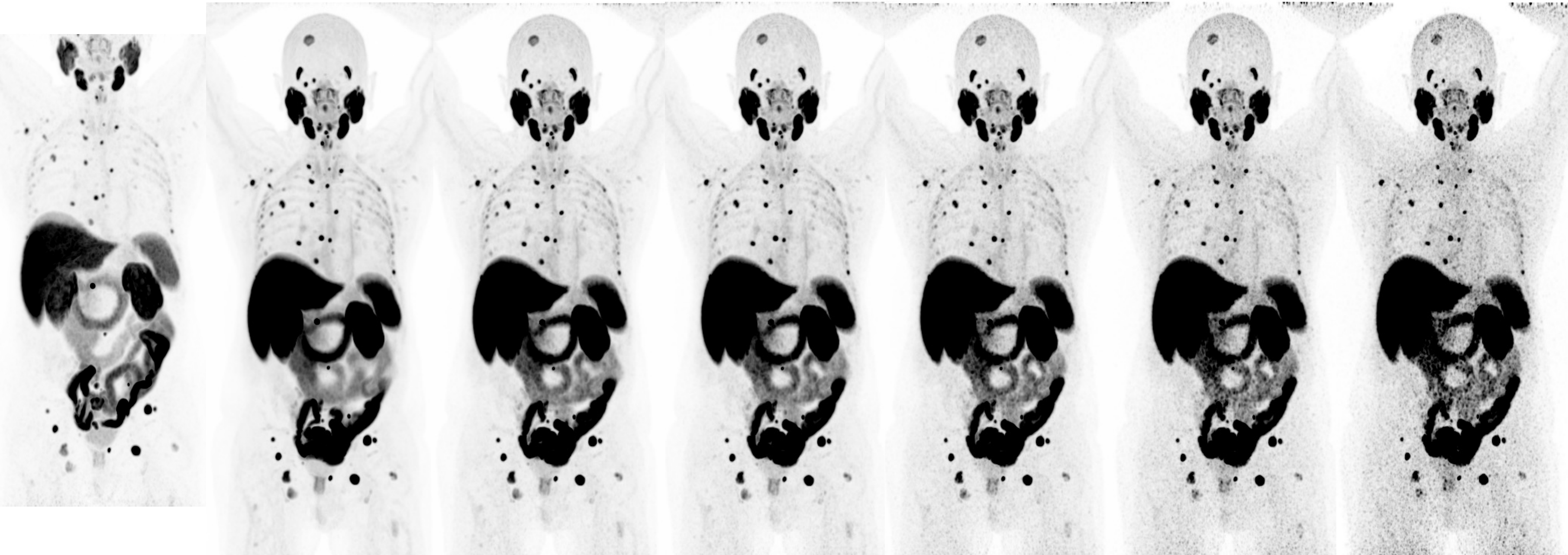
RESEARCH REPORTS

Molecular Imaging Market will expand at an impressive CAGR of around 11.3% from 2021 to 2031

Vision 600
standard PET- CT
120 min. p.i. Σ 12 min
Cost 2-3 Meuro

Total body PET Vision Quadra
180 min. p.i.
Cost 8-10 Meuro !

PSA 14.8 ng/ml
249 MBq F18-PSMA1007
80 kg / 185 cm



10 min

3min

2min

1min

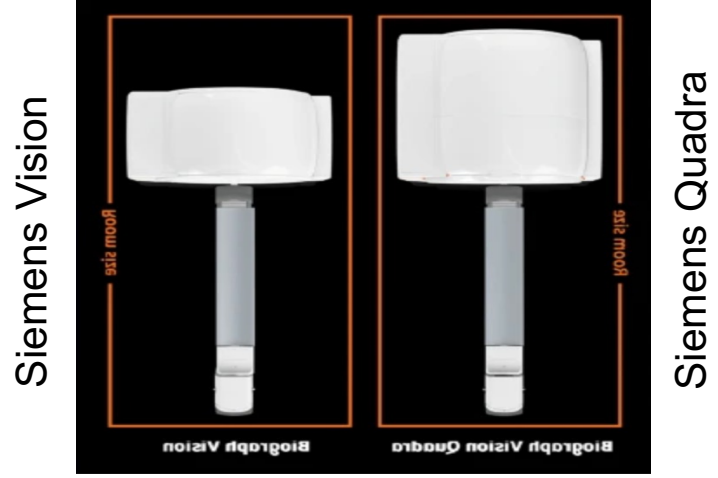
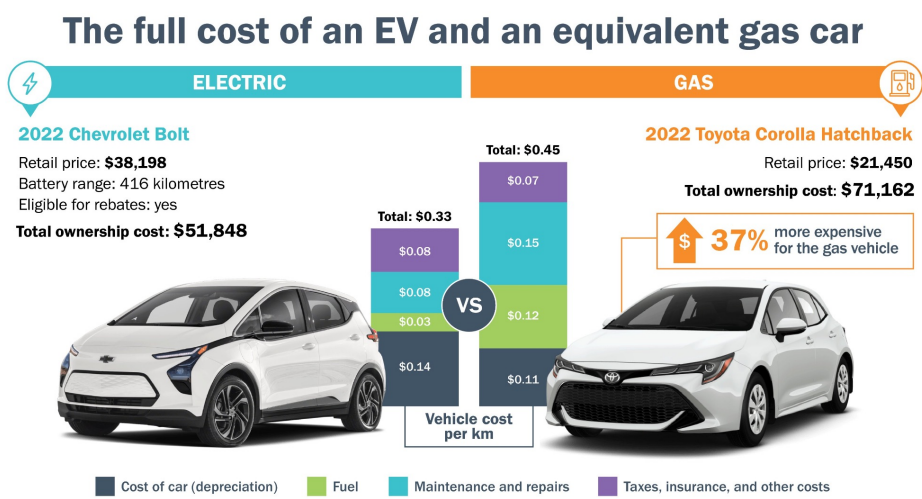
30sec

15sec

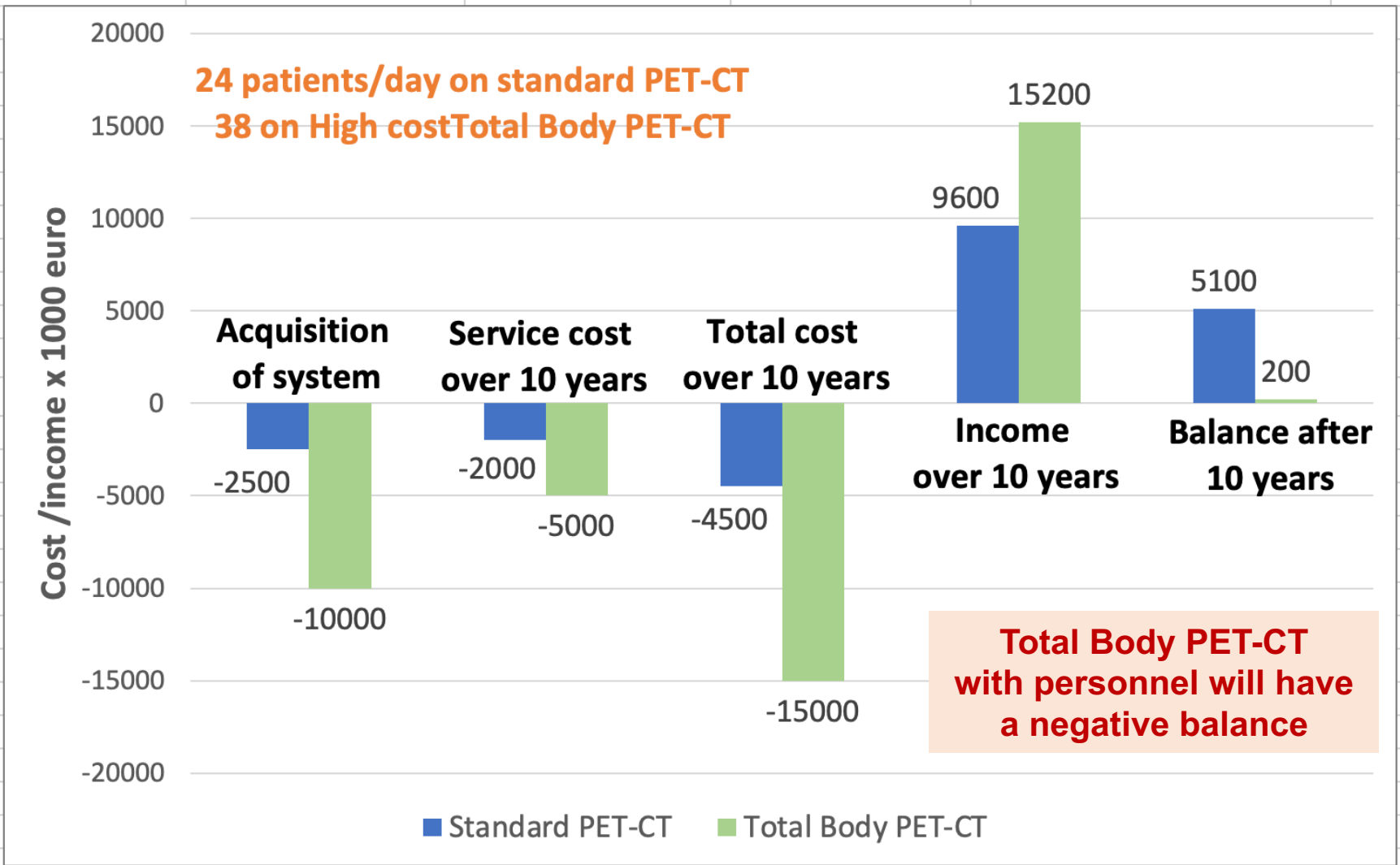
A. Rominger | Biograph Vision Quadra PET/CT

01.01.23

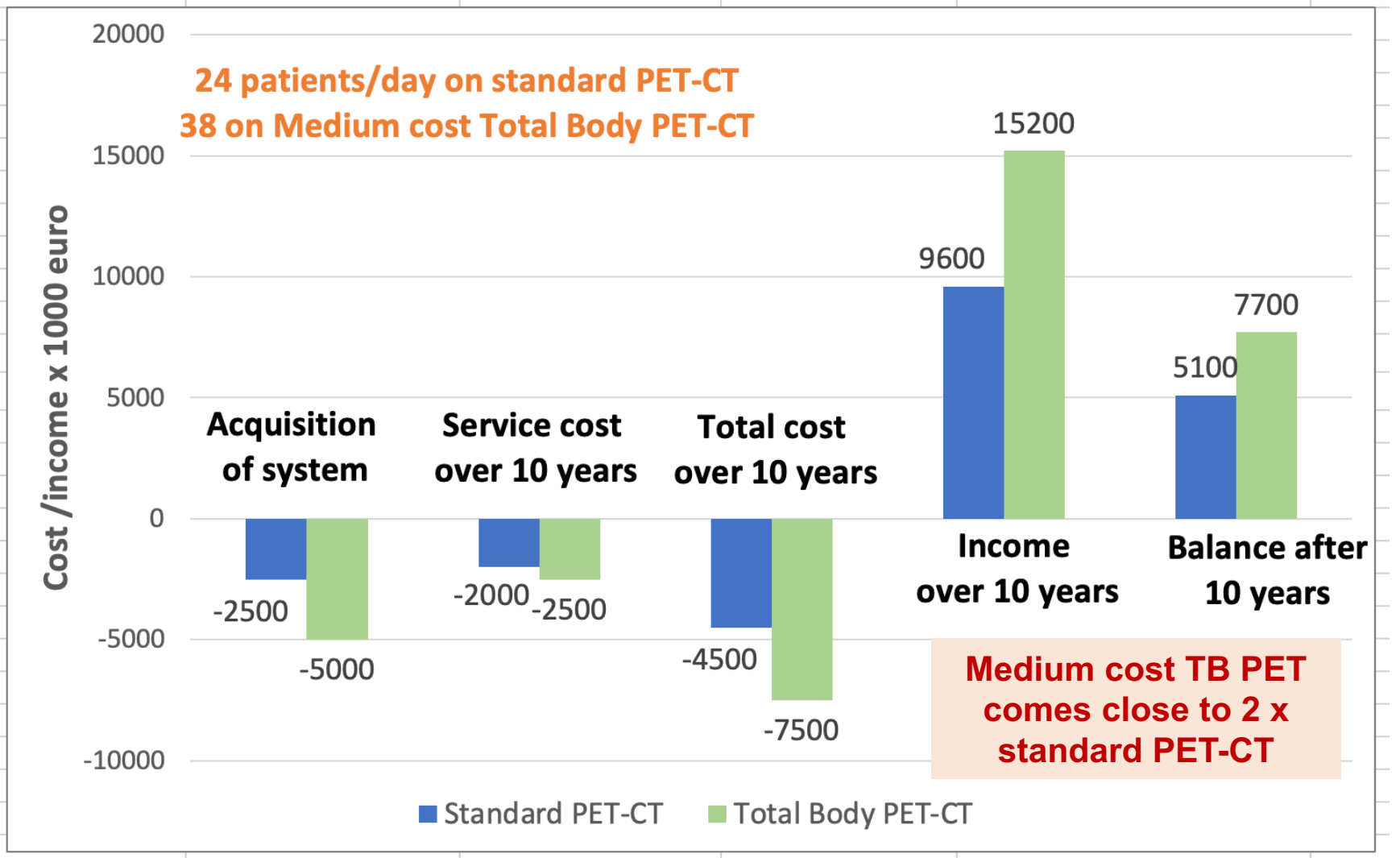
COST OVER LIFETIME



Assumptions					
Patient transfer	Scout/CT time	PET scan time	scans/day		
seconds	seconds	seconds			
360	240	600	24		PET-CT
360	240	150	38		TB-PET-CT
Limiting factors for very fast TB-PET					
PET-CT and TB-PET-CT: 150 euro/dose 350 euro reimbursement					



10 M euro Total Body PET-CT system



5M euro Total Body PET-CT system (same 150s acq time)

STATE-OF-THE ART

TOTAL BODY PET

A UNIQUE DESIGN

FLAT PANEL TOTAL BODY PET

SIMULATIONS OF SYSTEM

COST OF SYSTEM

MOCKUP

SUMMARY

SCANNERS WITH PATIENTS STANDING

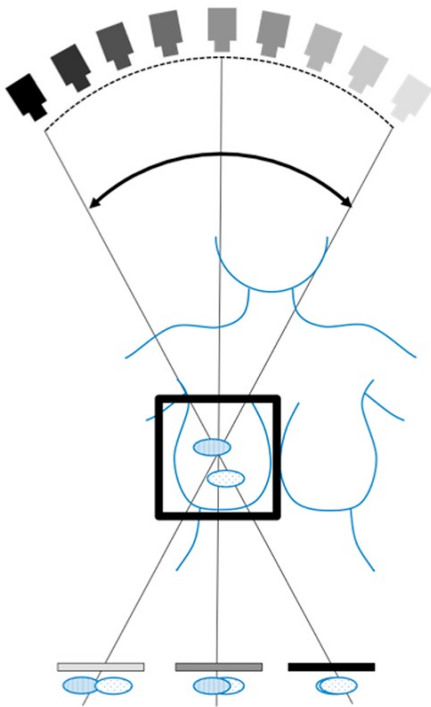
Very old X-ray systems



1950
Krakow
Jagiellonian
university



Breast tomosynthesis



RX



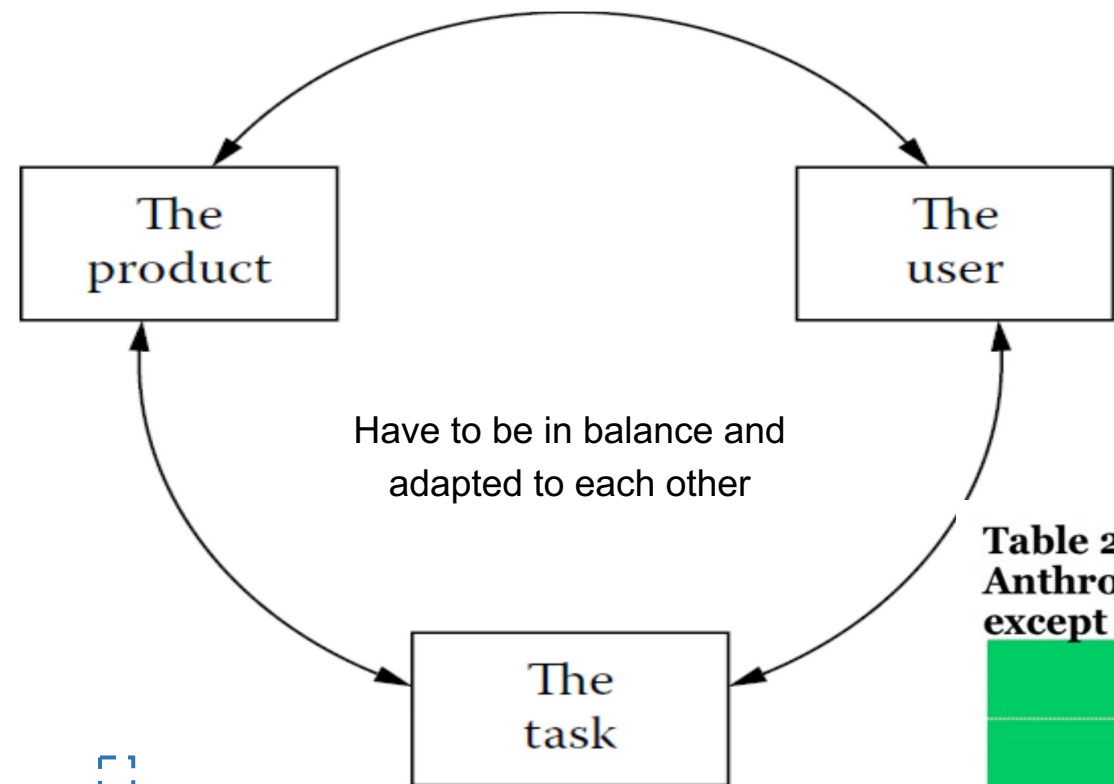
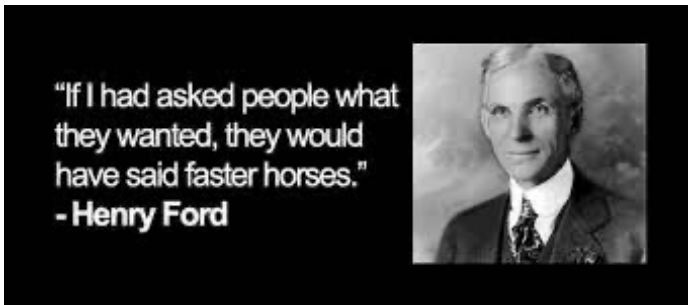
CT



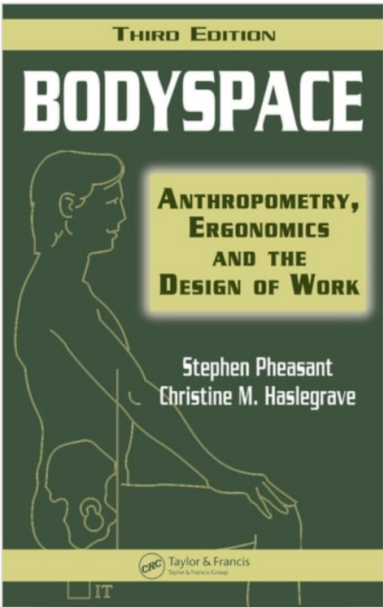
Siemens MultiTom X-ray
2016-2022



PATIENT-CENTERED DESIGN



Johannes van Dierendonck,
Friend from Brugge,
ergonomist, industrial
designer



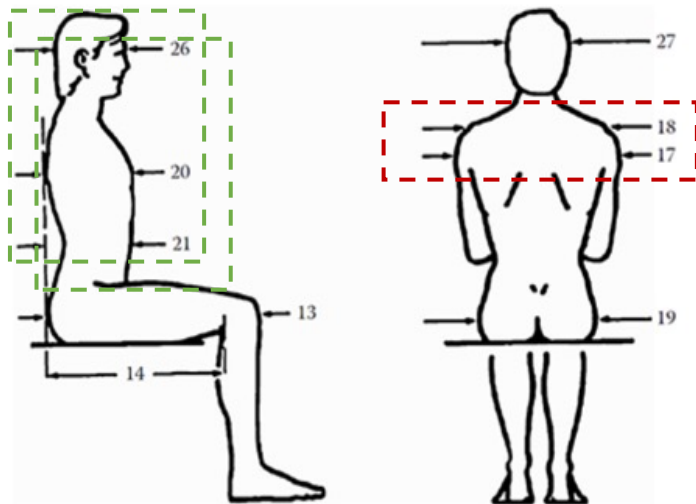
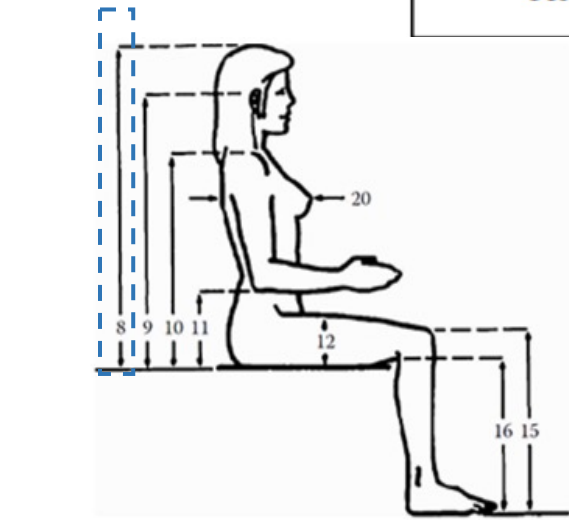
Bodyspace
Anthropometry, Ergonomics and the Design of Work,
Third Edition
door Stephen Pheasant, Christine M. Haslegrave

Synopsis

In the 20 years since the publication of the first edition of **Bodyspace** the knowledge base upon which ergonomics rests has increased significantly. The need for an authoritative, contemporary and, above all, usable reference is therefore great. This third edition maintains the same content and structure as previous editions, but updates the material and references to reflect recent developments in the field. The book has been substantially revised to include new research and anthropometric surveys, the latest techniques, and changes in legislation that have taken place in recent years.

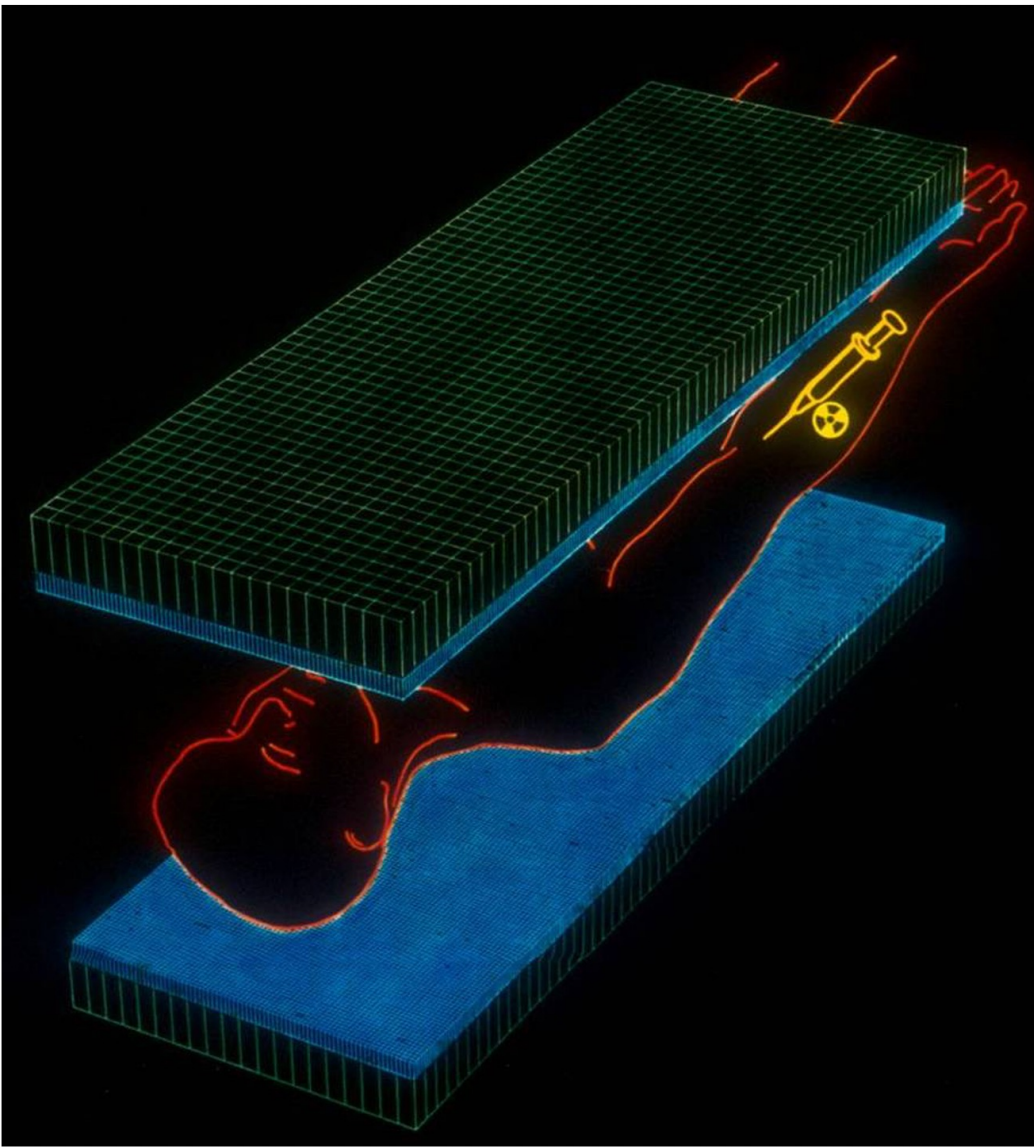
Table 2.5
Anthropometric Estimates for British Adults Aged 19 to 65 Years (all dimensions in millimetres, except for body weight, given in kilograms)

Dimension ^a	Men				Women			
	5th %ile	50th %ile	95th %ile	SD	5th %ile	50th %ile	95th %ile	SD
1. Stature	1625	1740	1855	70	1505	1610	1710	62
2. Eye height	1515	1630	1745	69	1405	1505	1610	61
3. Shoulder height	1315	1425	1535	66	1215	1310	1405	58
4. Elbow height	1005	1090	1180	52	930	1005	1085	46
5. Hip height	840	920	1000	50	740	810	885	43
6. Knuckle height	690	755	825	41	660	720	780	36
7. Fingertip height	590	655	720	38	560	625	685	38
8. Sitting height	850	910	965	36	795	850	910	35
9. Sitting eye height	735	790	845	35	685	740	795	33
10. Sitting shoulder height	540	595	645	32	505	555	610	31
11. Sitting elbow height	195	245	295	31	185	235	280	29
12. Thigh thickness	135	160	185	15	125	155	180	17
13. Buttock–knee length	540	595	645	31	520	570	620	30
14. Buttock–popliteal length	440	495	550	32	435	480	530	30
15. Knee height	490	545	595	32	455	500	540	27
16. Popliteal height	395	440	490	29	355	400	445	27
17. Shoulder breadth (bideltoïd)	420	465	510	28	355	395	435	24
18. Shoulder breadth (biacromial)	365	400	430	20	325	355	385	18
19. Hip breadth	310	360	405	29	310	370	435	38
20. Chest (bust) depth	215	250	285	22	210	250	295	27
21. Abdominal depth	220	270	325	32	205	255	305	30
22. Shoulder–elbow length	330	365	395	20	300	330	360	17



FLAT PANEL PET: OLD IDEA

Terry Jones
1990
first IEEE MIC
Conference
Washington

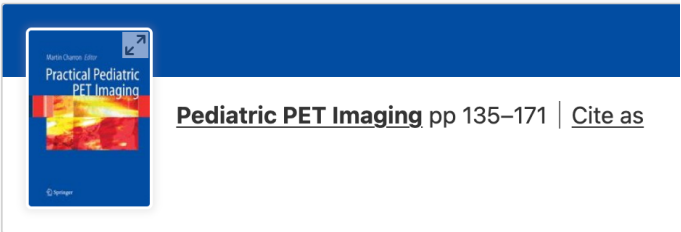
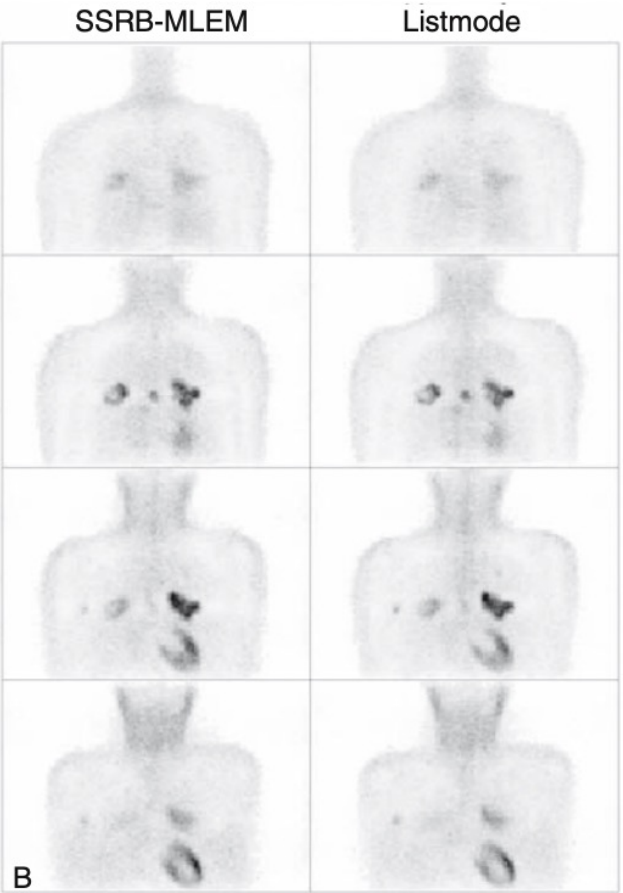


Patient on bed between 2 flat panels

The coincidence gamma camera time: 1997-2002



Figure 10.1. A: A three-head gamma camera-based positron emission tomography (GCPET) system (Philips Irix 3000). The three heads can be placed at different gantry angles with respect to each other and can be used for both routine SPECT as well as for coincidence imaging. B: A schematic representation of the coincidence circuit used in a GCPET system. For a coincidence event to be detected, the two photons must be detected within the 15-ns timing window and should lie within the specified energy range.



Coincidence Imaging

Girish Bal, Stefaan Vandenberghe & Martin Charron



Ph D S. Vandenberghe, Ugent
Iterative listmode reconstruction
for coincidence gamma camera
Ph D Y.D'Asseler, Ugent
Coincidence detection with a
gamma camera



WHY NOT 'WALK THROUGH PET'?

Concept

- Limit in PET-CT throughput becomes patient positioning on the bed
- What if we let the patient keep the natural positioning ?

Technology

- Detectors become very fast + high sensitivity
- TOF has reduced the need for complete angular info
- Scatter and attenuation correction can be done with DL (Elba Insel-Bern, Song Xue)

Aims

- High throughput like in airports (mm-wave scanners)/Planar X-ray
 - This would work very well for most patients (especially screening)
- **Lowest cost per scan !**



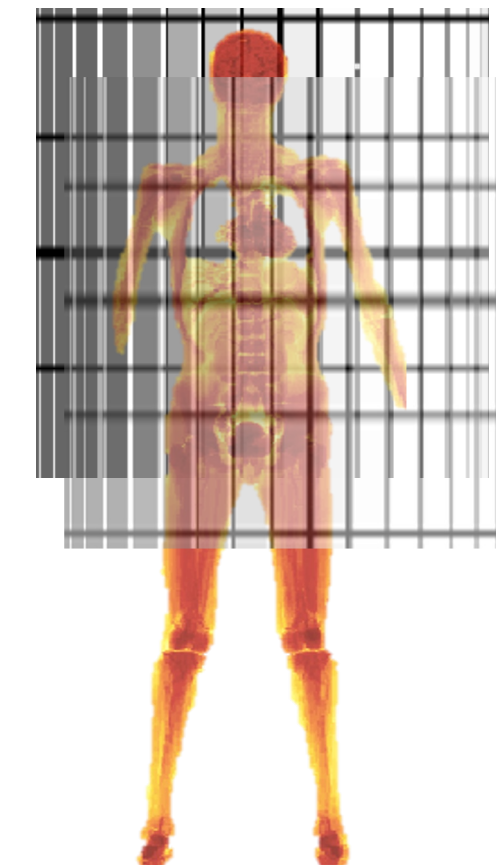
Eindhoven (NL, close to Belgium) Airport



- Luggage: C3 standard CT scanners. 3D-screening of hand luggage items allow passengers to keep their liquids and large electronics in their carry-on bags.
- Body: mm-wave, Infra-red thermal conductivity or even very low dose x-ray (?)
- Higher throughputs, more efficient, less noise, and ergonomic design.
- limited available footprint
- Throughputs as high as 5.4 passengers per minute.



30sec on
Quadra



WT-PET design
project started on
1st June 2022

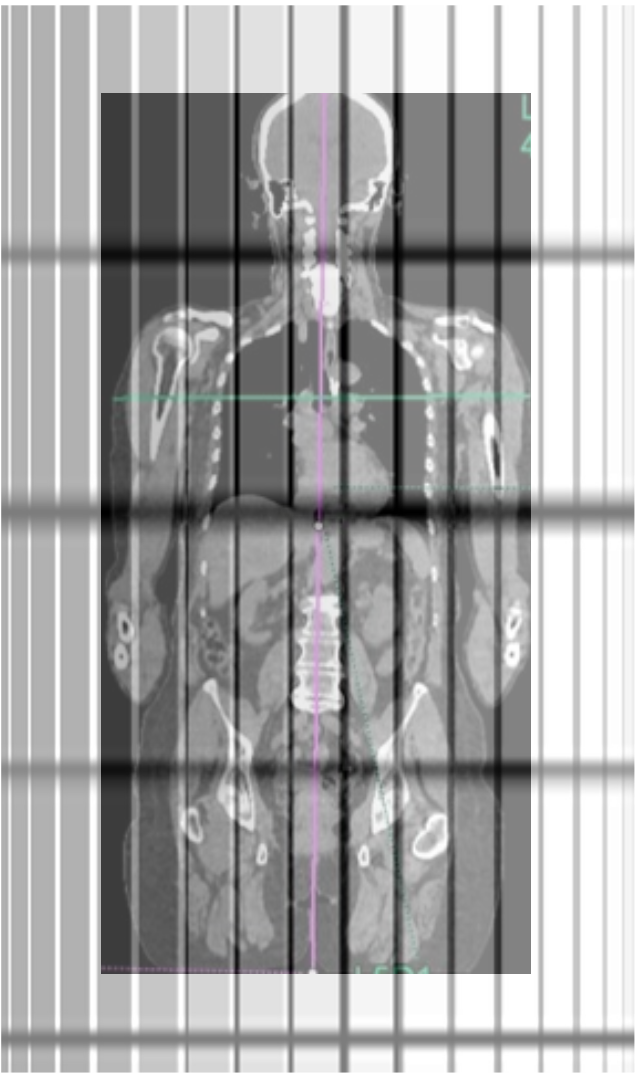
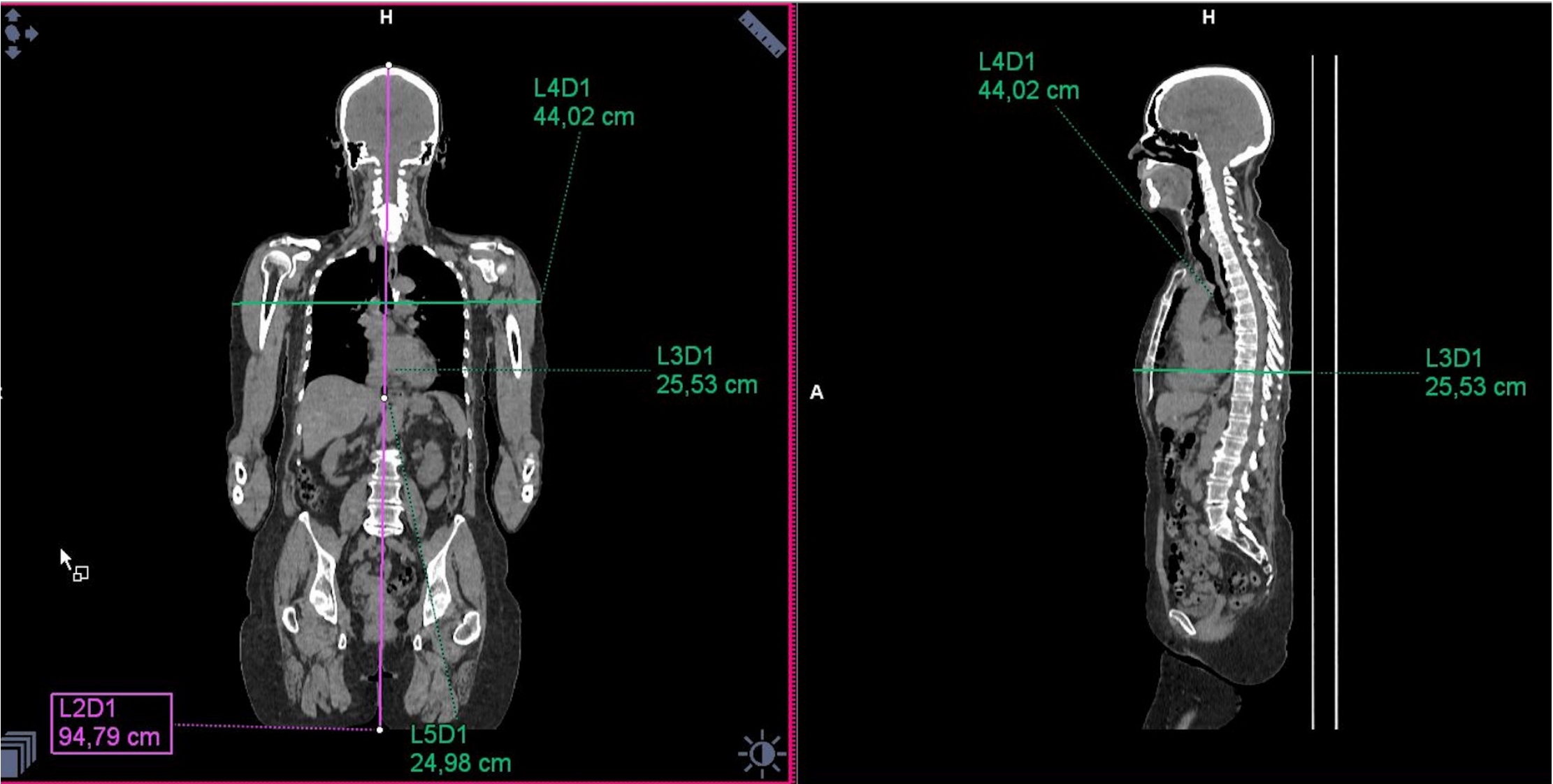
Patient positioning

Time consuming
Personnel costs
Dose to personnel
Only for some patients needed
Less needed for short scans



'WALK THROUGH PET' DESIGN BASED ON PATIENTS

- +/-40 PET-CT patients -> top patient size on CT determines the size of detector



+ 10 cm extra detector

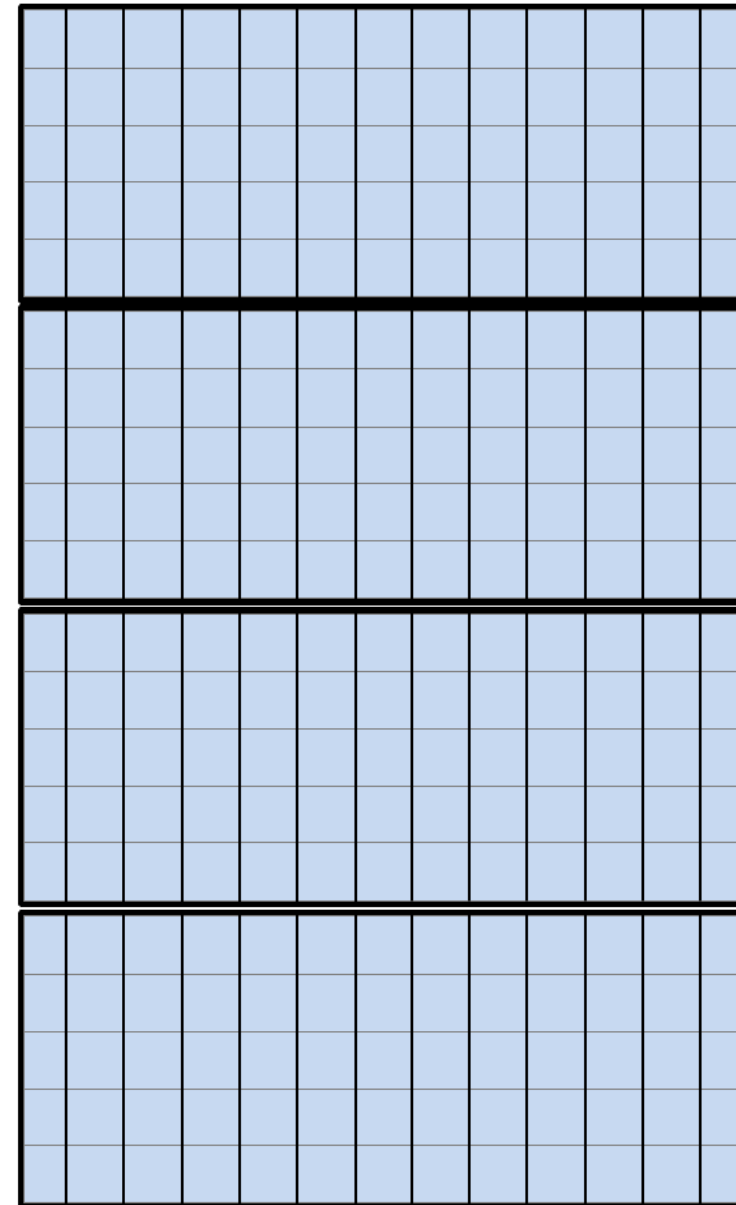
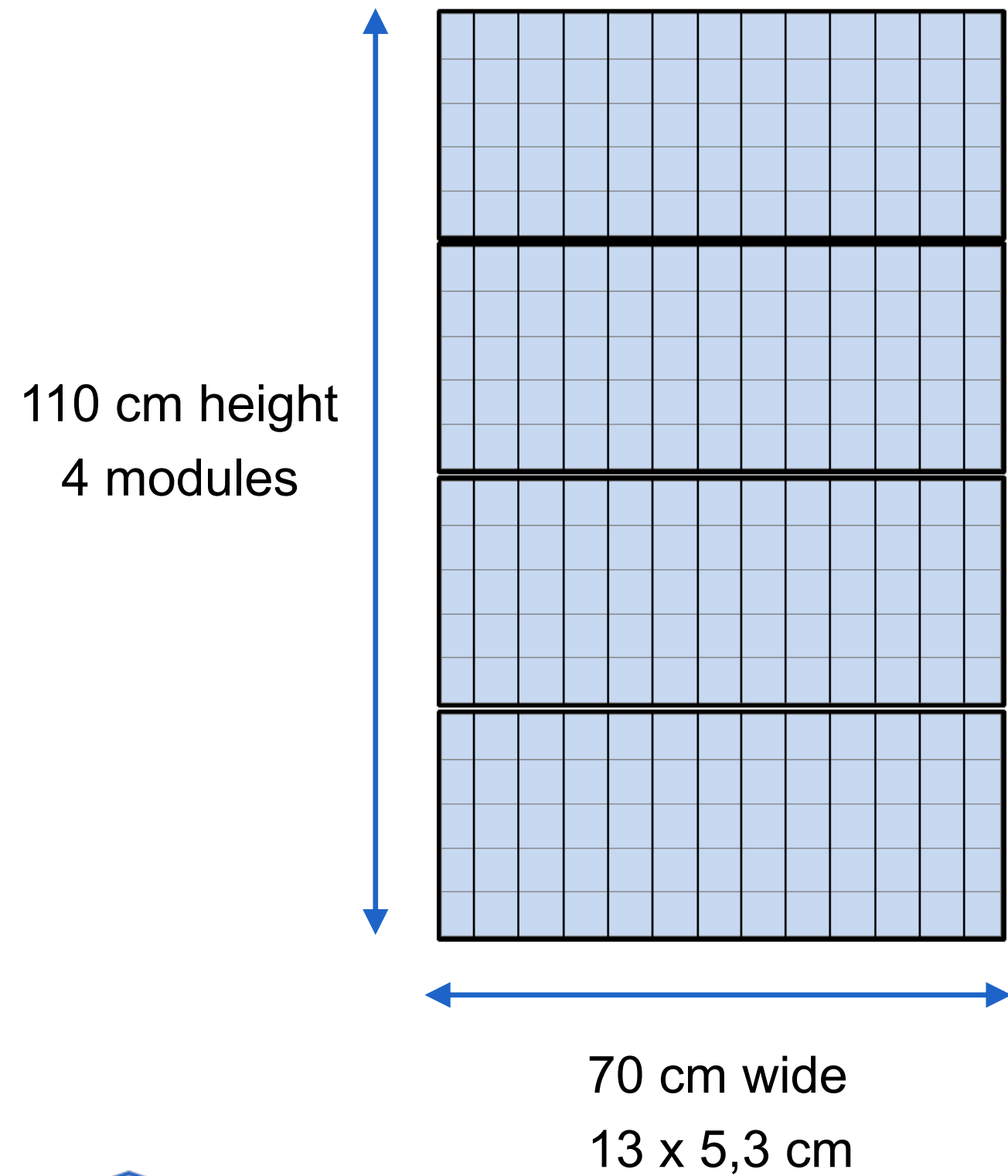


Prof N.Withofs
NM CHU

average/max width/height/depth of 40 patients
52/65, 85/95 and 32/38 cm

70 cm wide
110 cm high
50 cm gap

DETECTOR MODULES

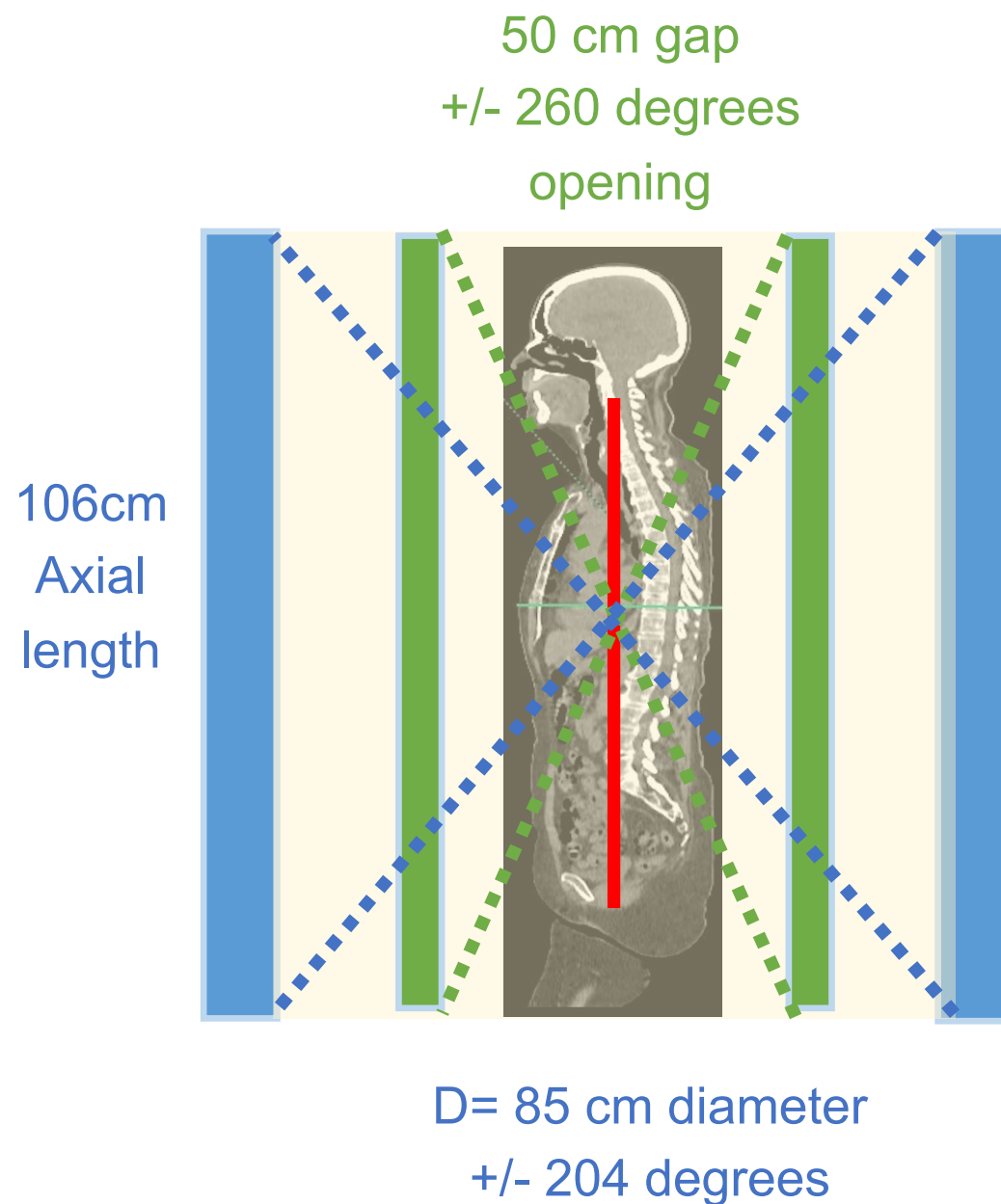


1 module 14 x 5 array
1Block = 50x50x12/16 mm thick BGO

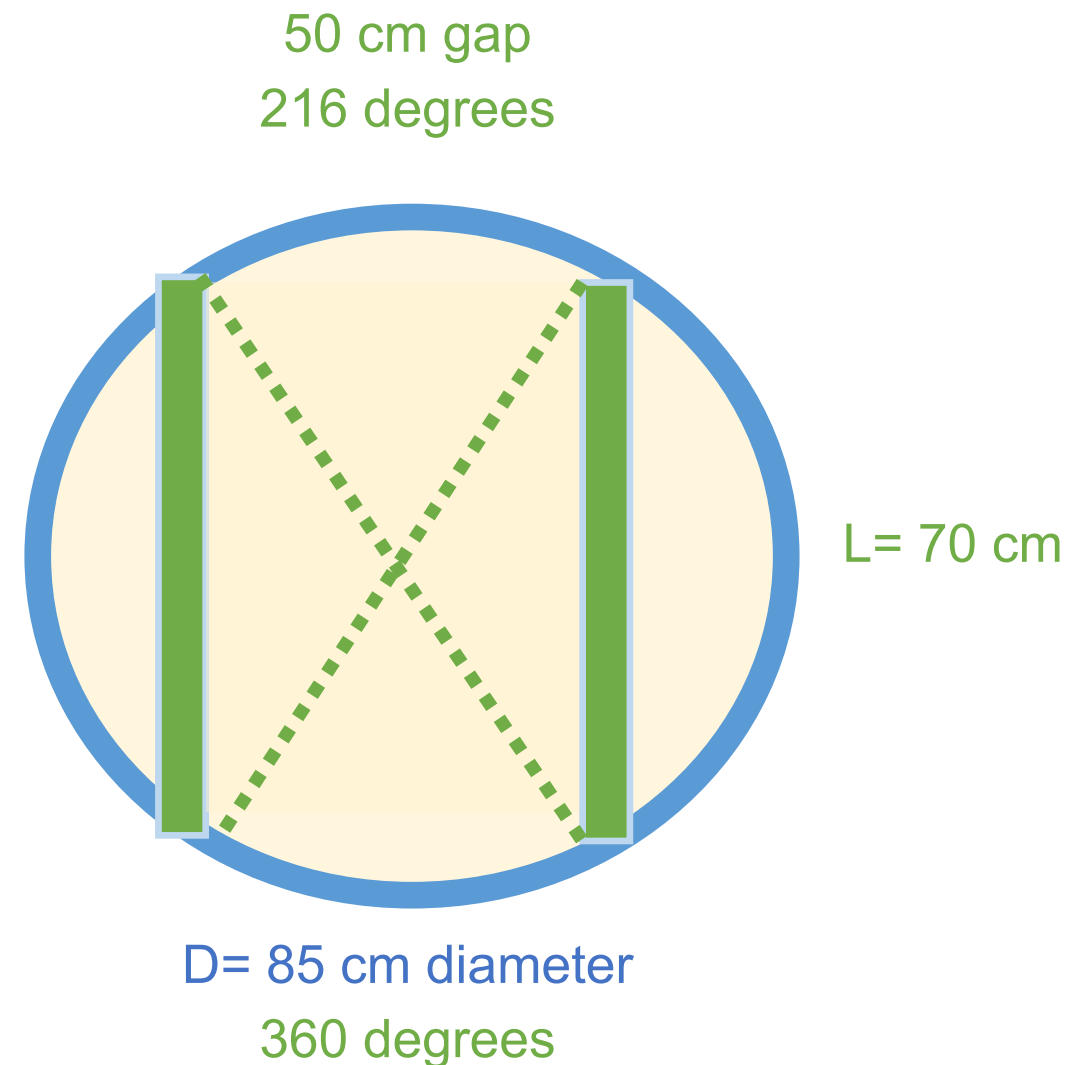
Modular approach/upgradeable
8 panels of reasonable weight
(about 50 kg from first estimate)
Easier for service

Flat panels are also easier to
calibrate

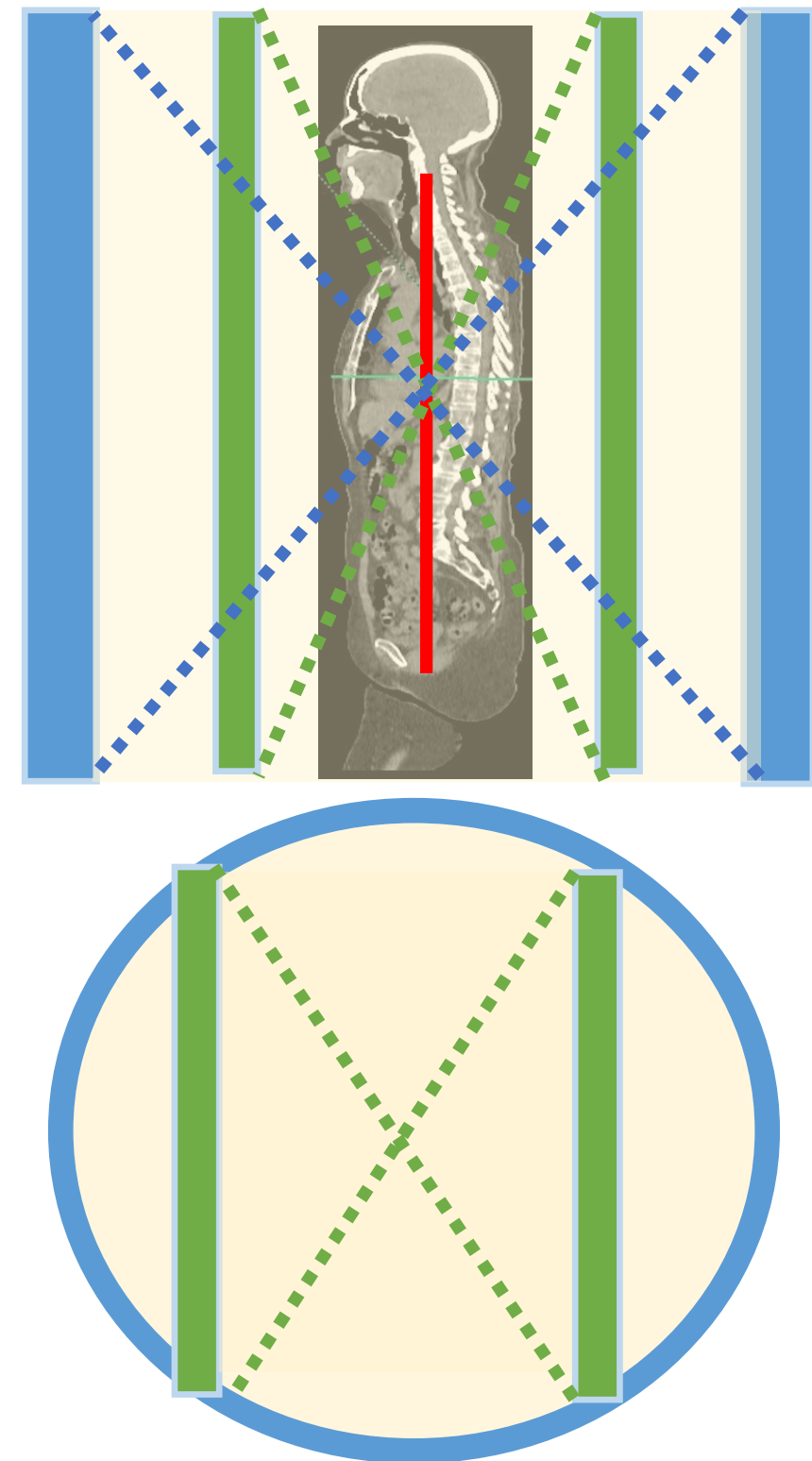
SOLID ANGLE/POINT SENSITIVITY



We gain some
+ 25%
Patient orientation
Limits attenuation/scatter



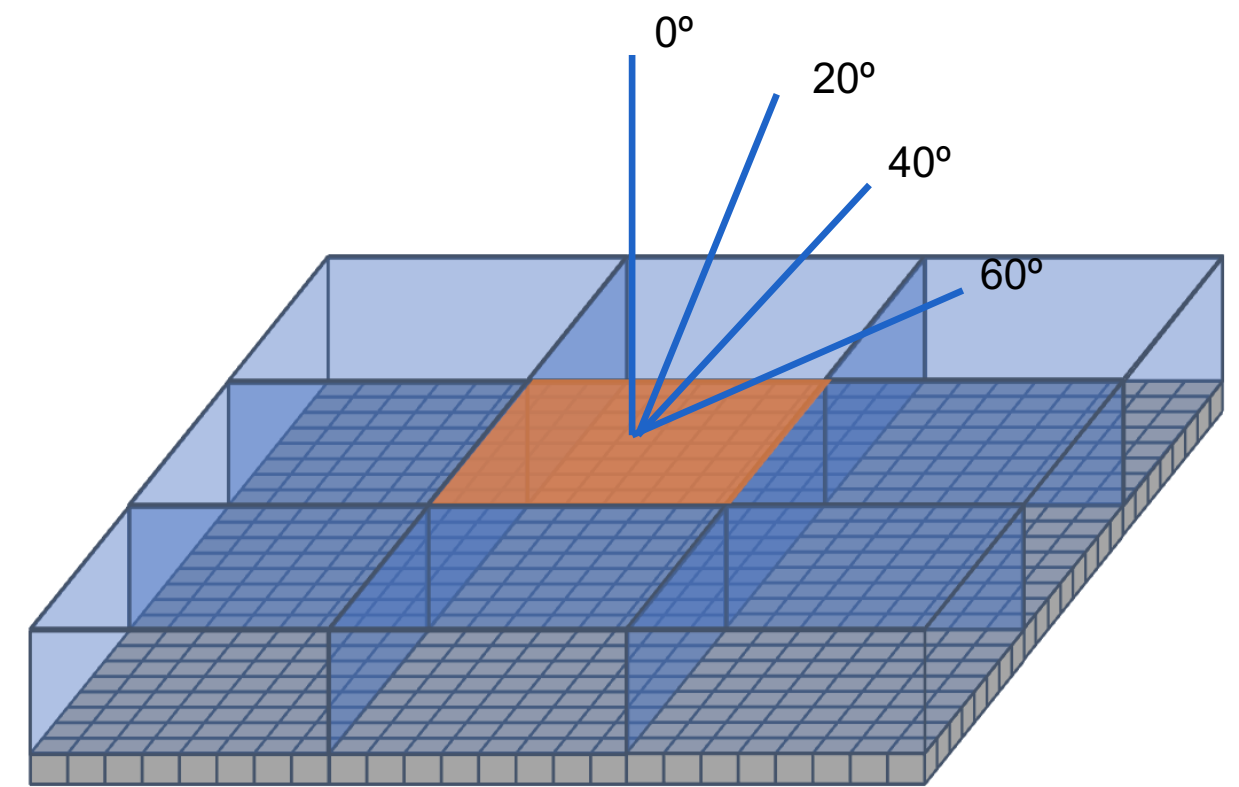
We lose a bit more
- 40%
Patient orientation
limits effective loss



Higher average incidence angle
on detector in flat panels will boost sensitivity
Calc (MC) effective gain → 46% higher absolute sens
→ **2,77 x more coincidences for equal detector area**

WHY BGO INSTEAD OF L(Y)SO

- **3 x cheaper:** More bang for the buck-More bounce to the ounce
- BGO-TOF is lower than LYSO (factor 2 ?) but has become possible (Cherenkov + SiPM)→ 300-400 ps at system level seems feasible (Pisa-UTOPET results)
- No intrinsic activity
- Higher photofraction and sensitivity

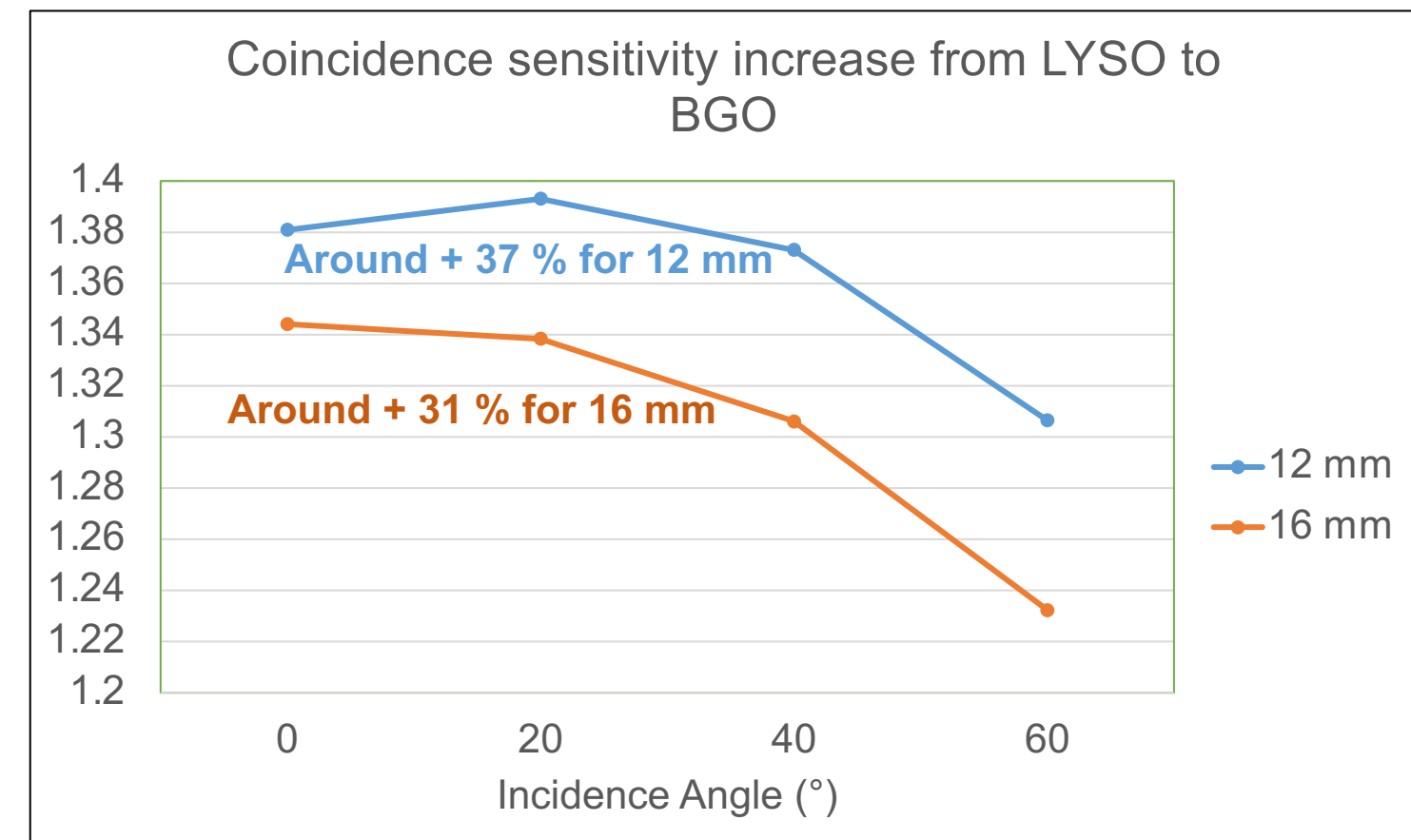


- geometry: 3x3 array of 50x50x-- mm monolithic detectors
 - 2 materials: LYSO & BGO
 - 2 thicknesses: 12 mm & 16 mm
- source: uniform rectangular source (see orange plane) covering the central detector
 - 4 incidence angles (w.r.t. surface normal): 0, 20, 40 and 60 degrees

Properties	BGO	LYSO
Density (g/m ³)	7.13	7.3
Melting Point (°C)	1050	2047
Index of Refraction	2.15	1.82
Radiation Length (cm)	1.10	1.16
Attenuation (cm ⁻¹)	0.96	0.87
Decay Constant (ns)	300	50
Light Yield (%) NaI (Tl)	25	75
Photofraction (%)	40	30
Energy Resolution (511 keV, %)	16	20
Radioactivity	No	Yes

	Sensitivity	TOF gain vs 800 ps	Relative Cost (1.9 x more blocks with BGO)
LYSO-200 ps	100	400	400 x 1 x 1 = 400
BGO-400 ps	135	270	202 x 1.9 x 1.9 = 729

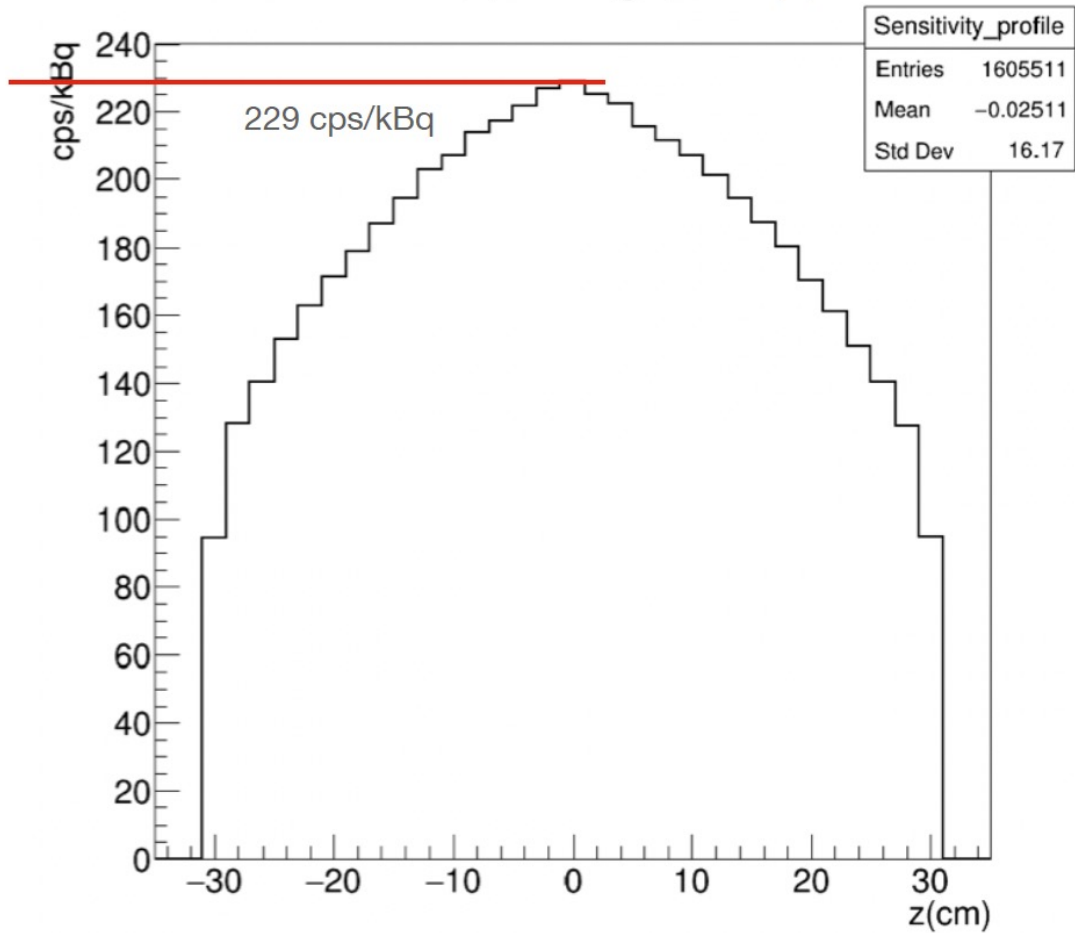
Cost of readout and SiPM taken into account !



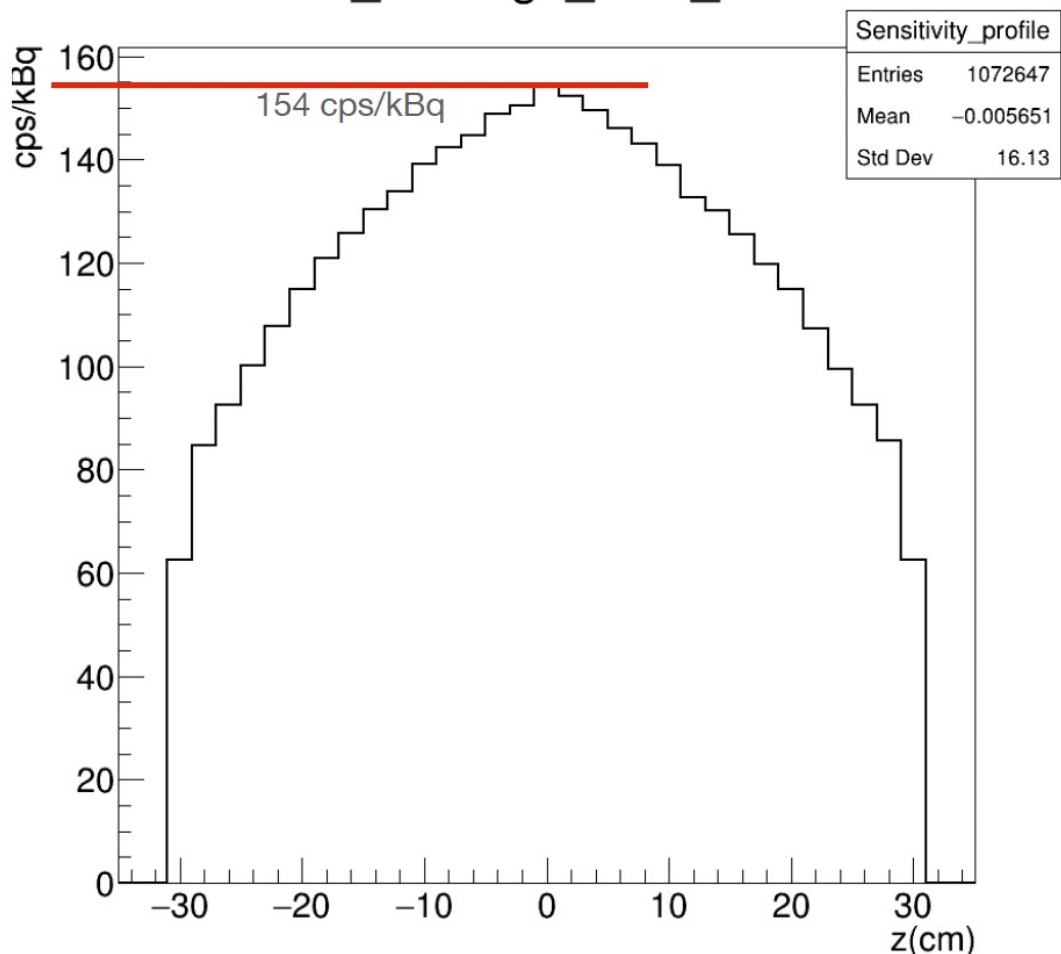
BGO VS LYSO WITH FLAT PANELS

50 X 50 X 16 mm³

Walk_Through_PET_BGO



Walk_Through_PET_LYSO



Properties	BGO	LYSO
Density (g/m³)	7.13	7.3
Melting Point (°C)	1050	2047
Index of Refraction	2.15	1.82
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Photofraction (%)	40	30
Energy Resolution (511 keV,%)	16	20
Radioactivity	No	Yes

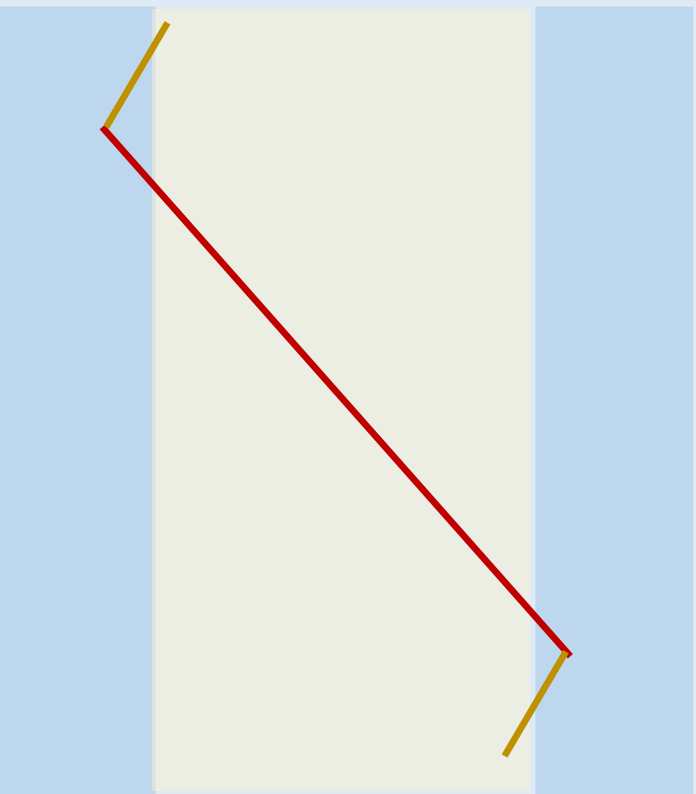
Ratio BGO/LYSO~ 1.48

LYSO has 30 % and BGO 40 % photofraction
Sensitivity increase is much higher than expected from
perpendicular single detector incidences (about 25 % increase
BGO vs LYSO, simulation Jens Maebe)

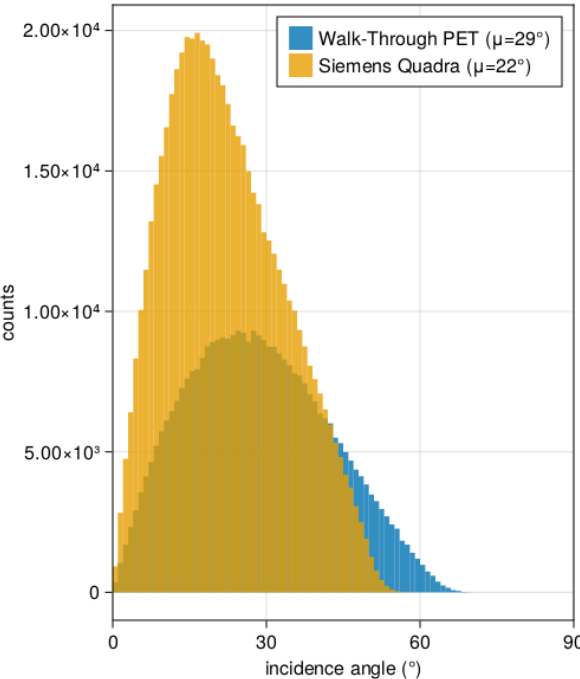
Possible reasons

BGO 40 % photofraction/60% compton

LYSO 30 % photofraction/70% compton

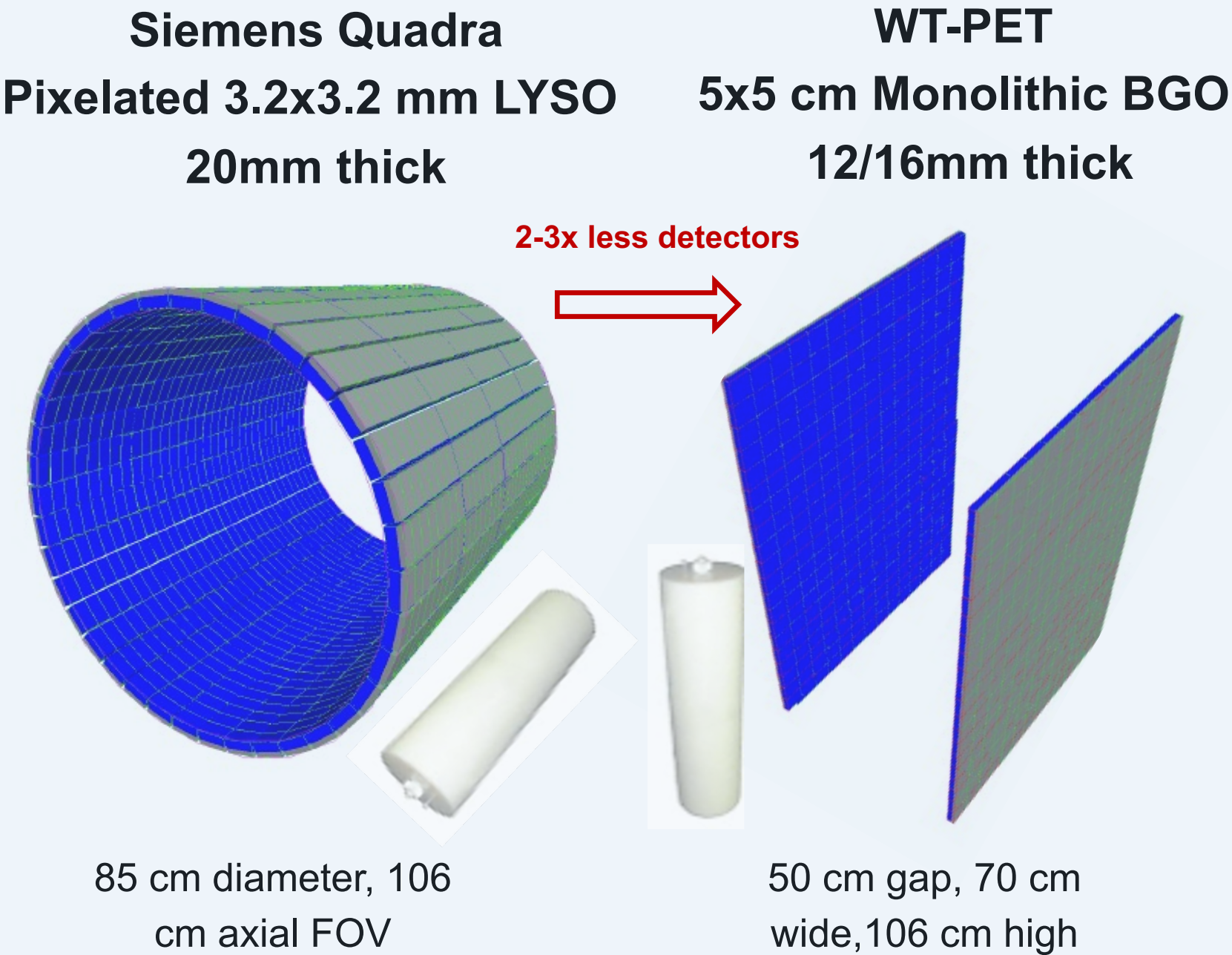


1. Higher photo-fraction of BGO
2. Escape of photon (non-photopeak detection) after first Compton interaction more likely with LYSO at oblique incident angles

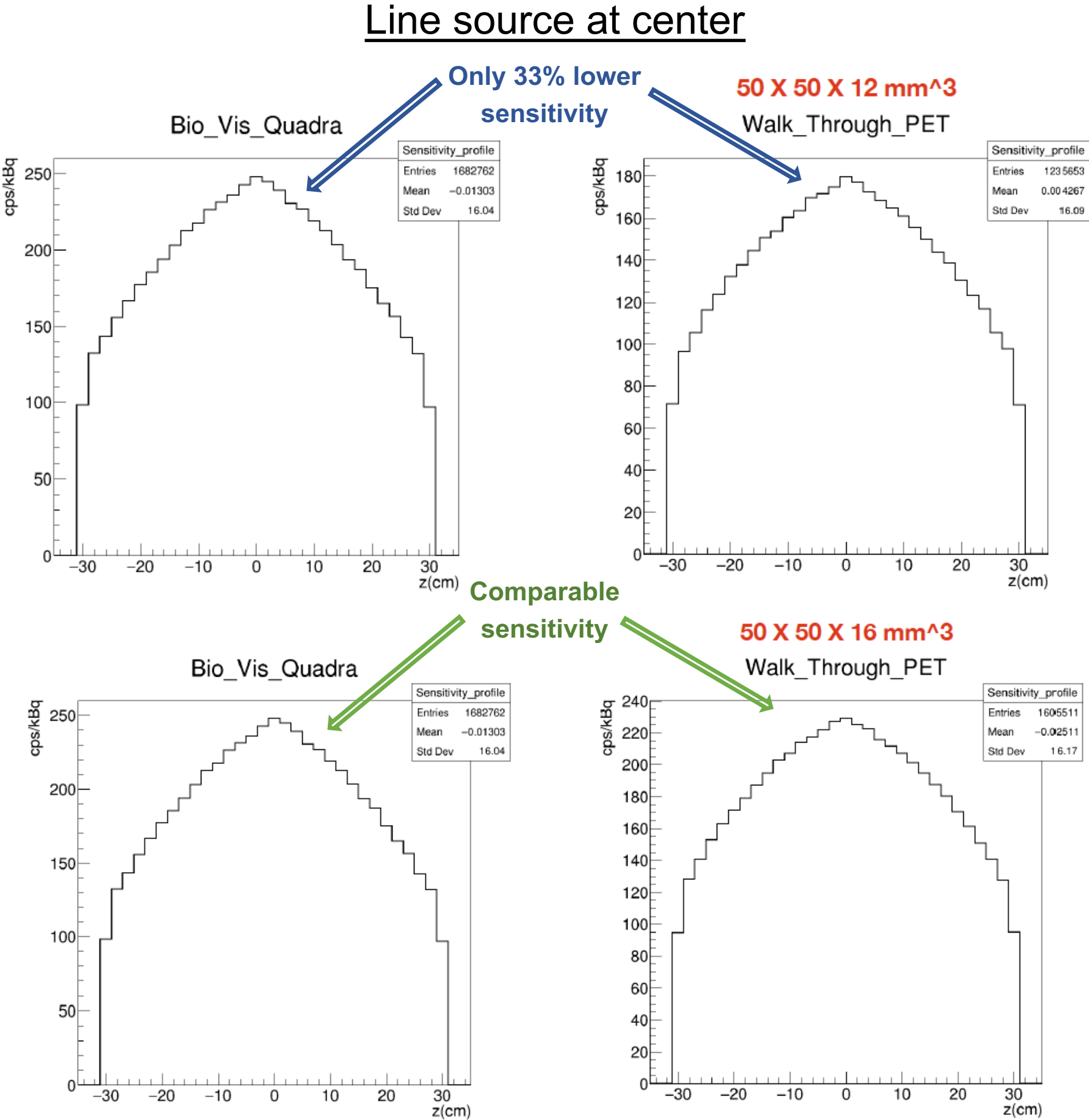


Higher average incidence angle (body phantom)

SYSTEM SIMULATIONS

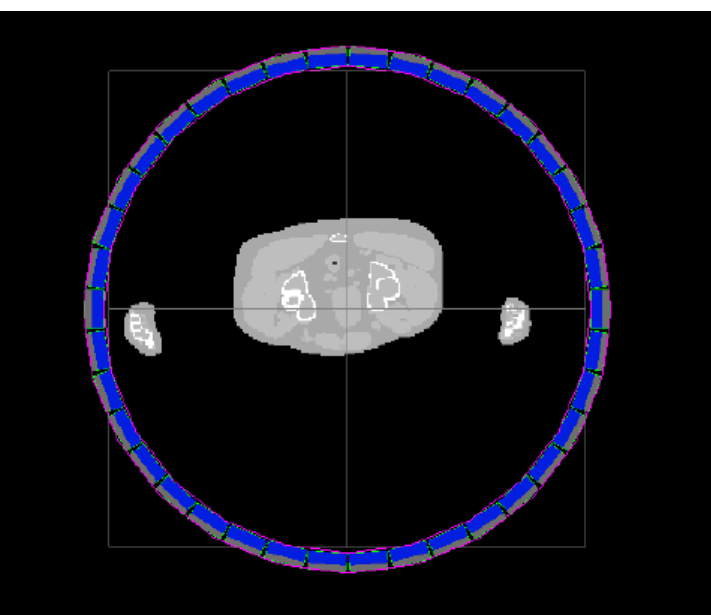
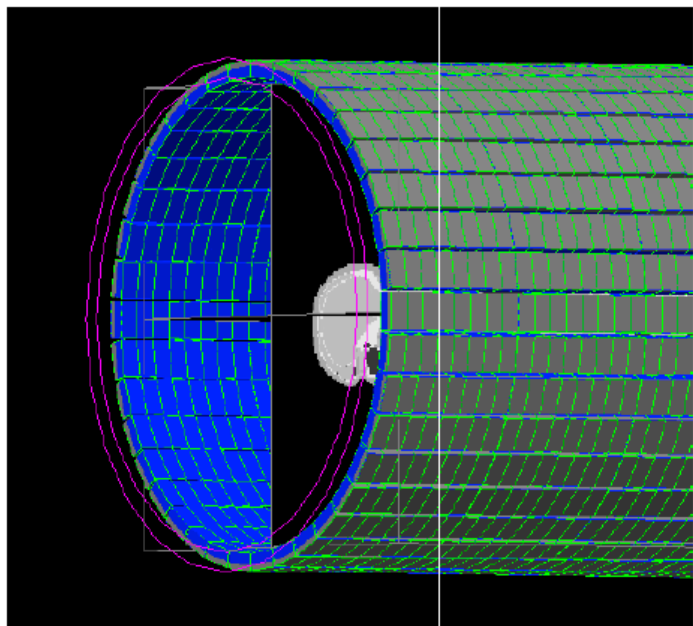


Scatter Fraction:
Quadra 32.5%
WT-PET 31.19%

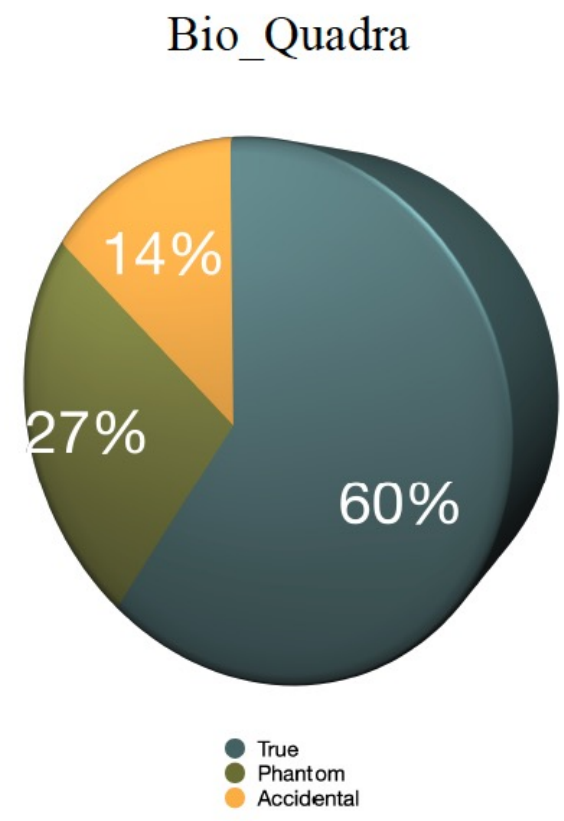


Results from Quadra in full angular acceptance mode, not yet active

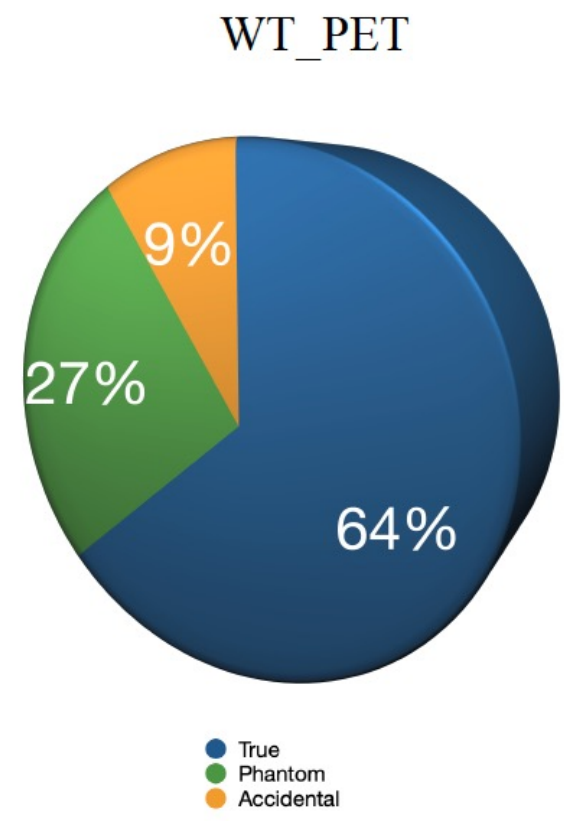
RANDOMS AND SCATTER/XCAT PHANTOM



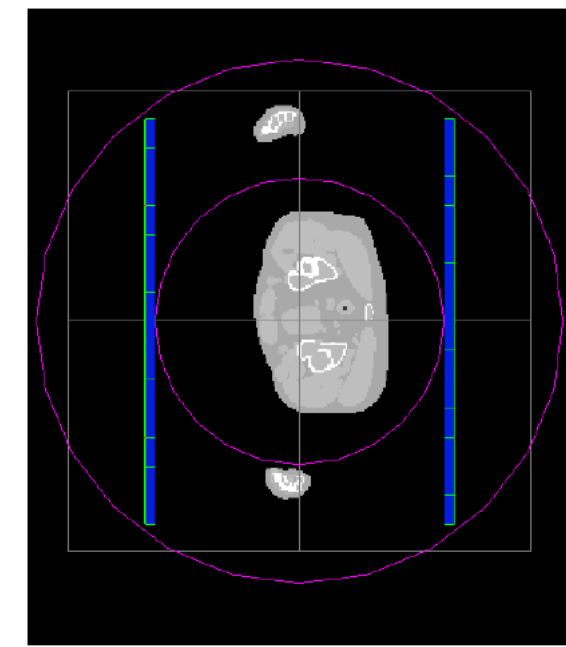
3.7 MBq/kg• Male of 183 cm
Image size of 150x150x600
(cropped in frontal direction)
Voxel size of 3.125 x 3.125 x 3.125 mm³



Scatter Fraction:
Quadra 31.03 %
Randoms fraction
WT-PET 14 %



Scatter Fraction:
WT-PET 29.6 %
Randoms fraction
WT-PET 9%



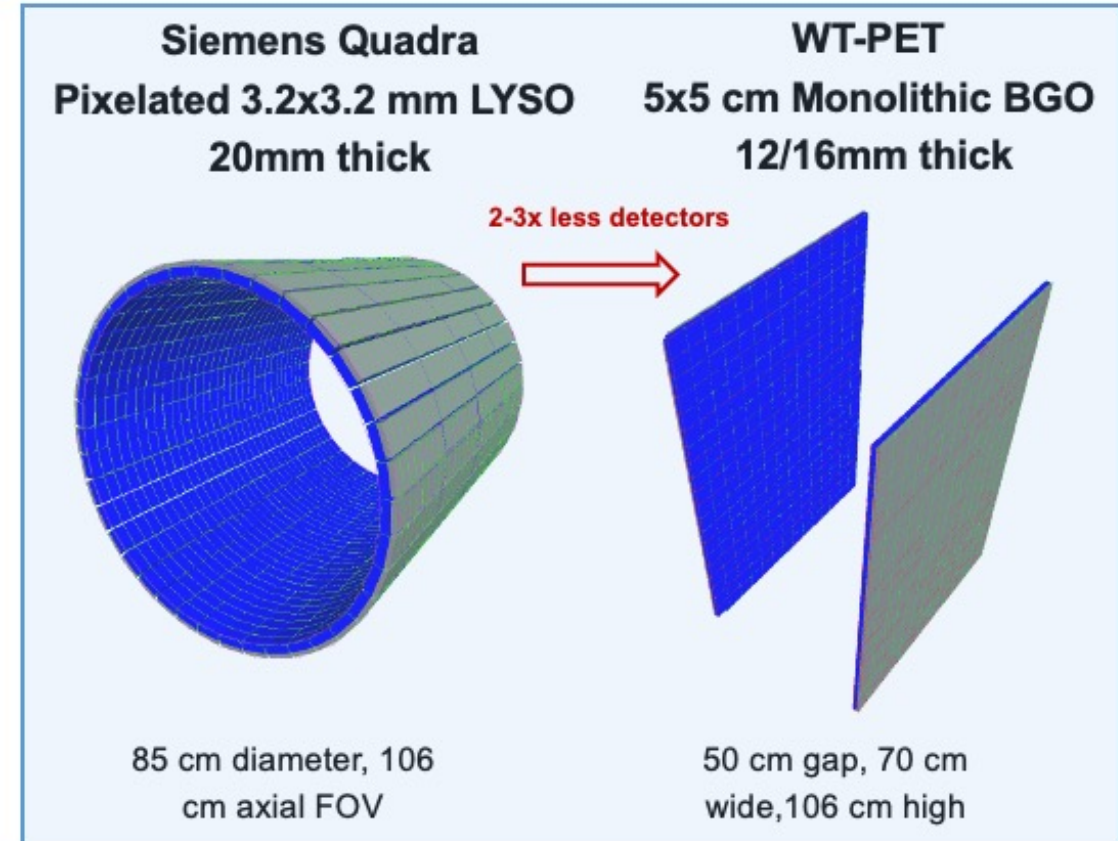
Lower scatter due to object orientation
Lower randoms likely due to higher trues/singles
of WT-PET (object closer to detector)

System component cost without electronics/bed/CT

56 Liter
=
408 kg LYSO

1680 k euro

LYSO (30 Euro/cc)



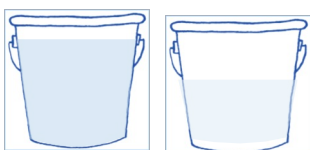
10,5-14 Liter

=

75-100 kg BGO
520 blocks

BGO (10 Euro/cc)

105k-140k euro



Scintillator: 7-10x lower in cost !

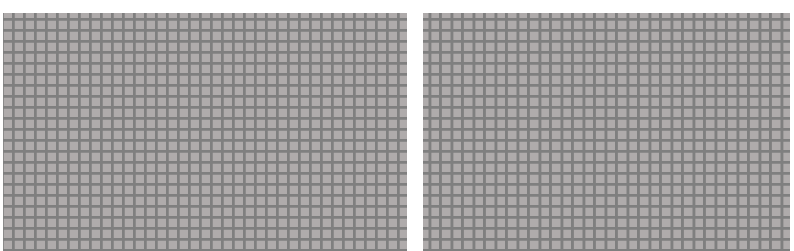
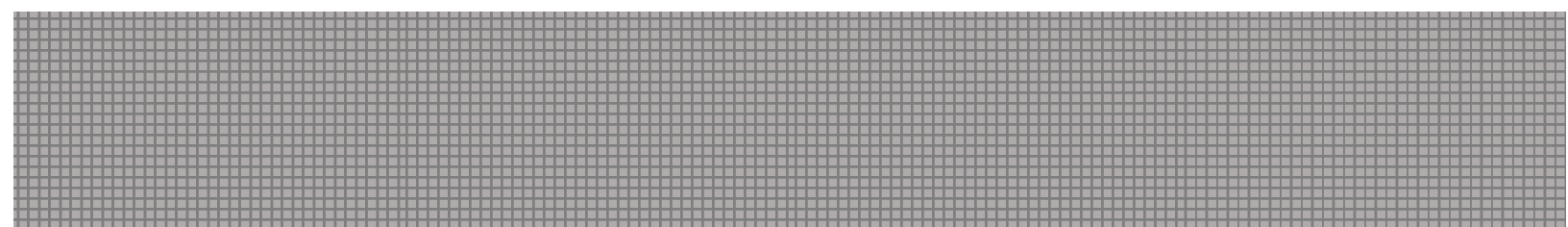
985 k euro

3,64 m² SiPM
Same surface cost

SiPM: 1,9x lower in cost !

1,92 m² SiPM
520 arrays 8x8 6x6mm
1000 Euro/array

520 k euro

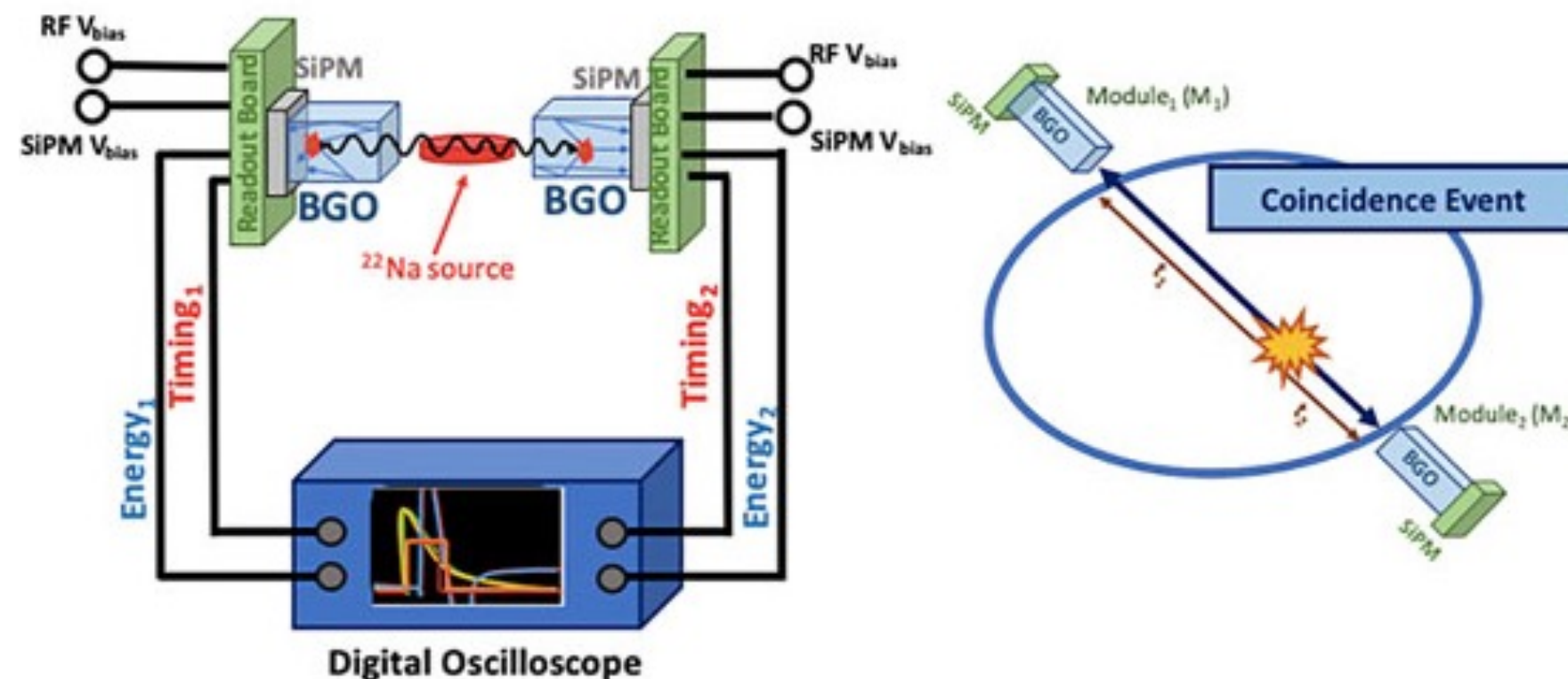
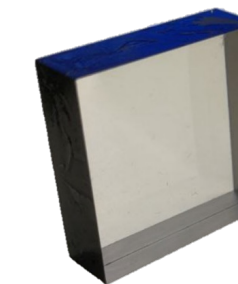
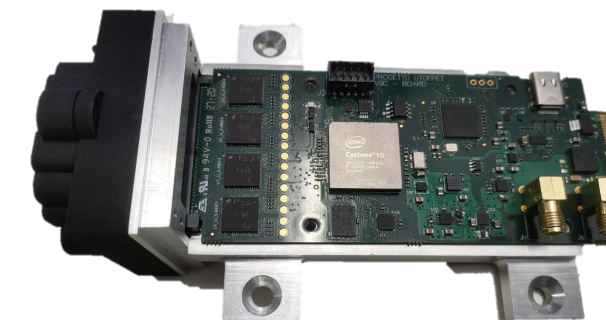
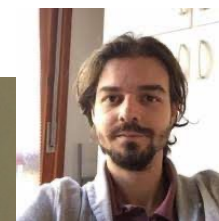


Quadra
2665 k
euro

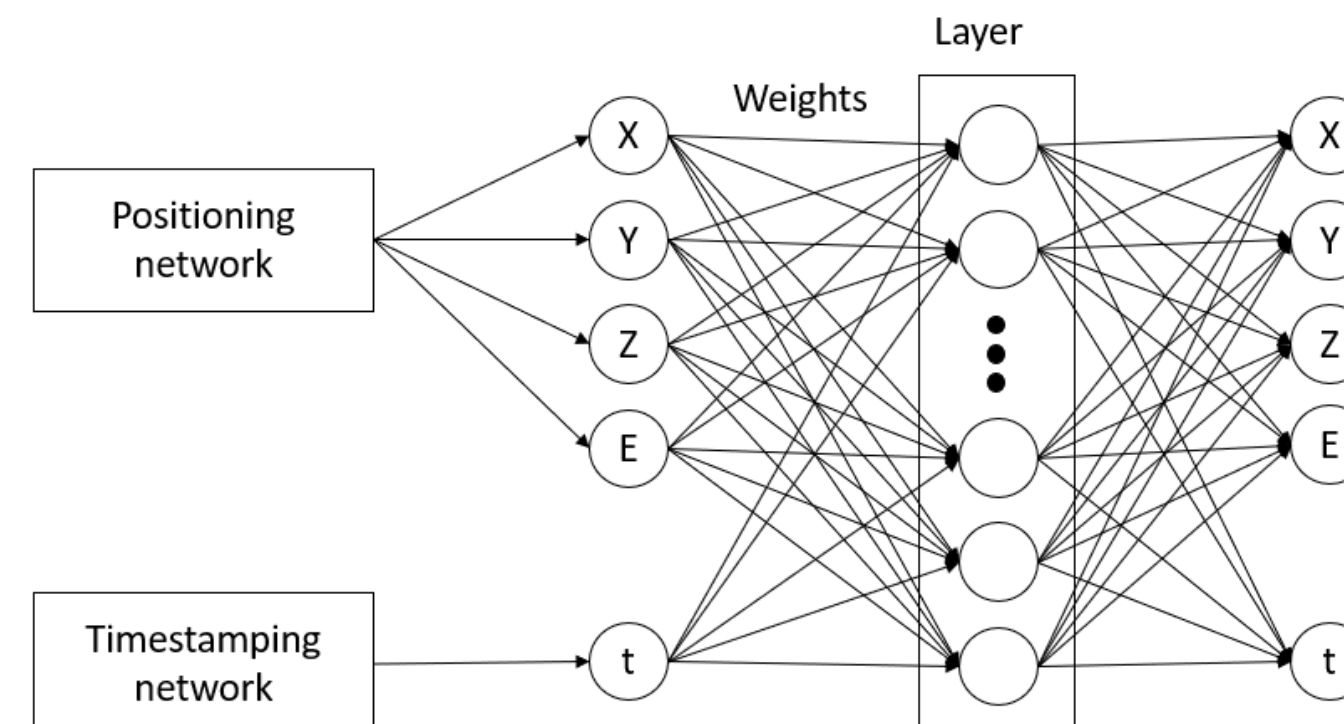
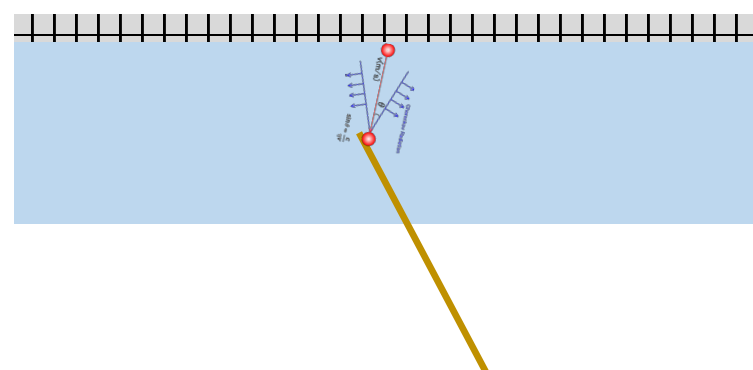
WT-PET
625-660k
euro

System: Factor 4x lower in cost !

TOF FROM BGO



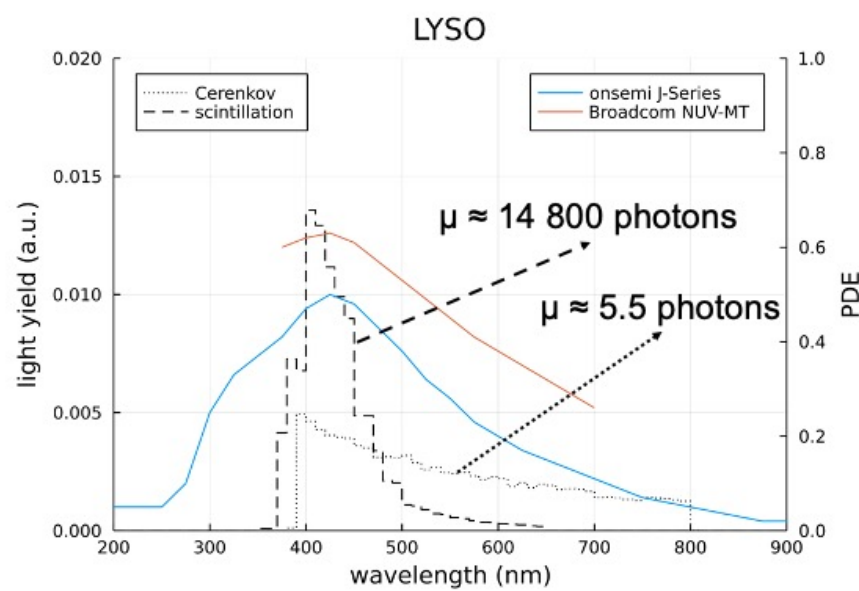
Cherenkov light = only 0.2% of the scintillation light
But instant light (20 photons)
SiPMs around 50-60 % PDE
Low noise SiPMs



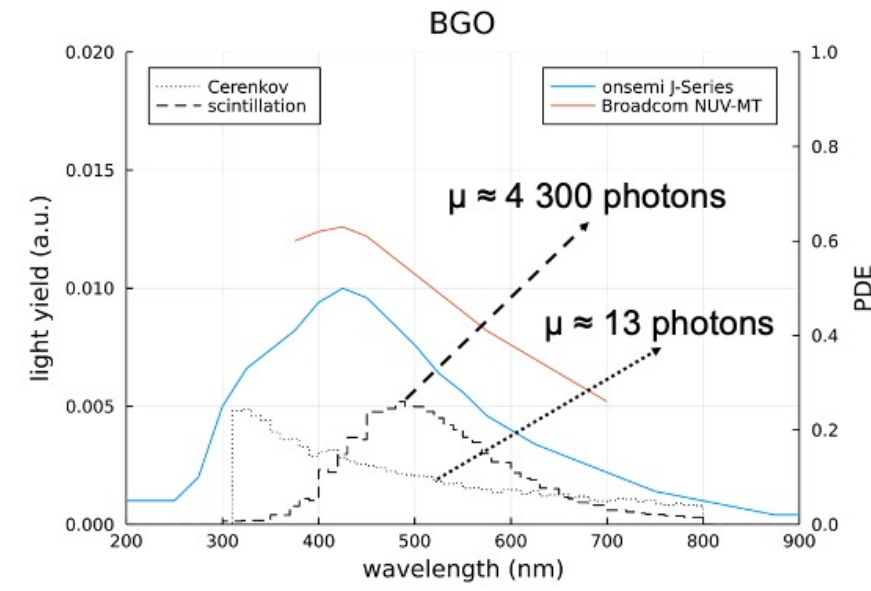
Deep learning based TOF and position
15 % energy resolution
1.3 mm spatial resolution
327 ps TOF
6x6 mm SiPMs → less channels
12 mm BGO: 3 x cheaper
ASIC Barcelona

BGO/LYSO CHERENKOV

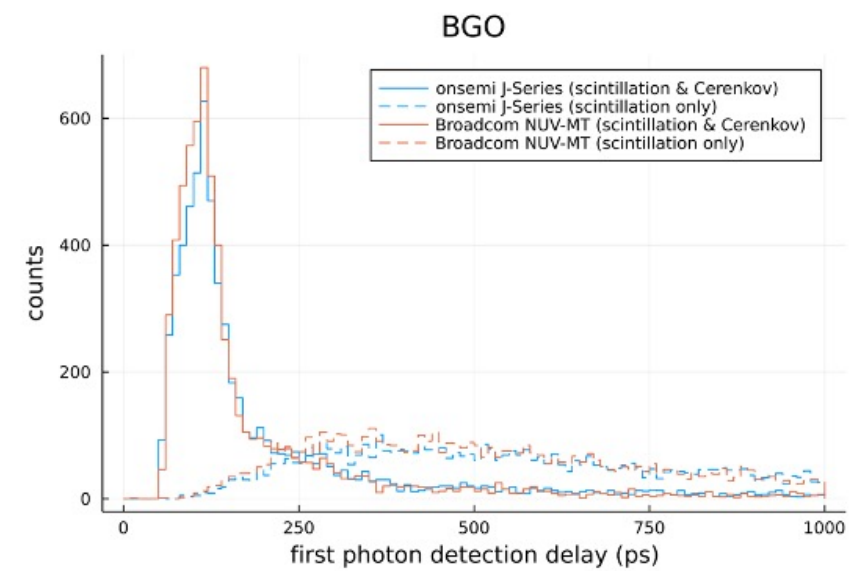
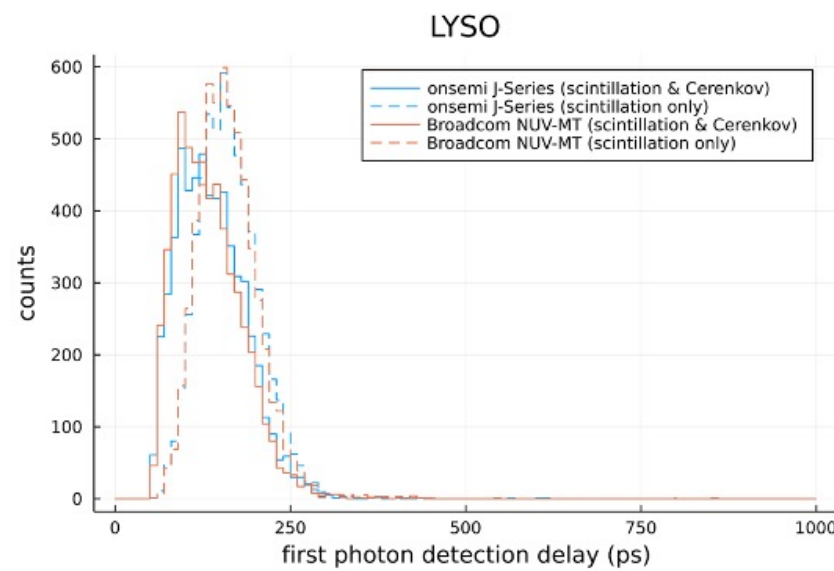
EMISSION



LYSO Cerenkov contribution $\approx 0.04\%$



BGO Cerenkov contribution $\approx 0.3\%$



→ Contribution of Cerenkov light makes a small difference for LYSO and a large difference for BGO.

DETECTION

# Cerenkov photons per event	LYSO	BGO
Emitted	5.5 (8.8 / 3.6)	13.1 (17.3 / 10.4)
Detected (onsemi J-Series)	0.7 (1.0 / 0.4)	1.7 (2.3 / 1.3)
Detected (Broadcom NUV-MT)	0.8 (1.3 / 0.6)	2.2 (2.9 / 1.7)

any 511 keV events (non-scattered 511 keV events / scattered 511 keV events)

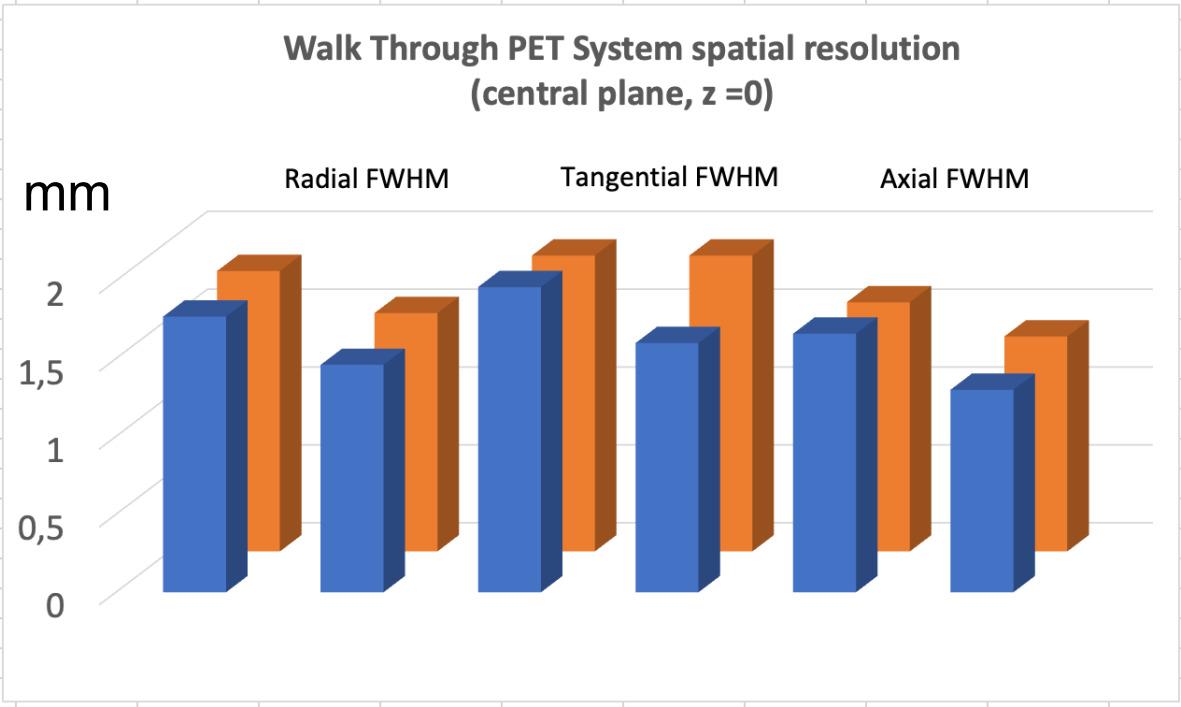
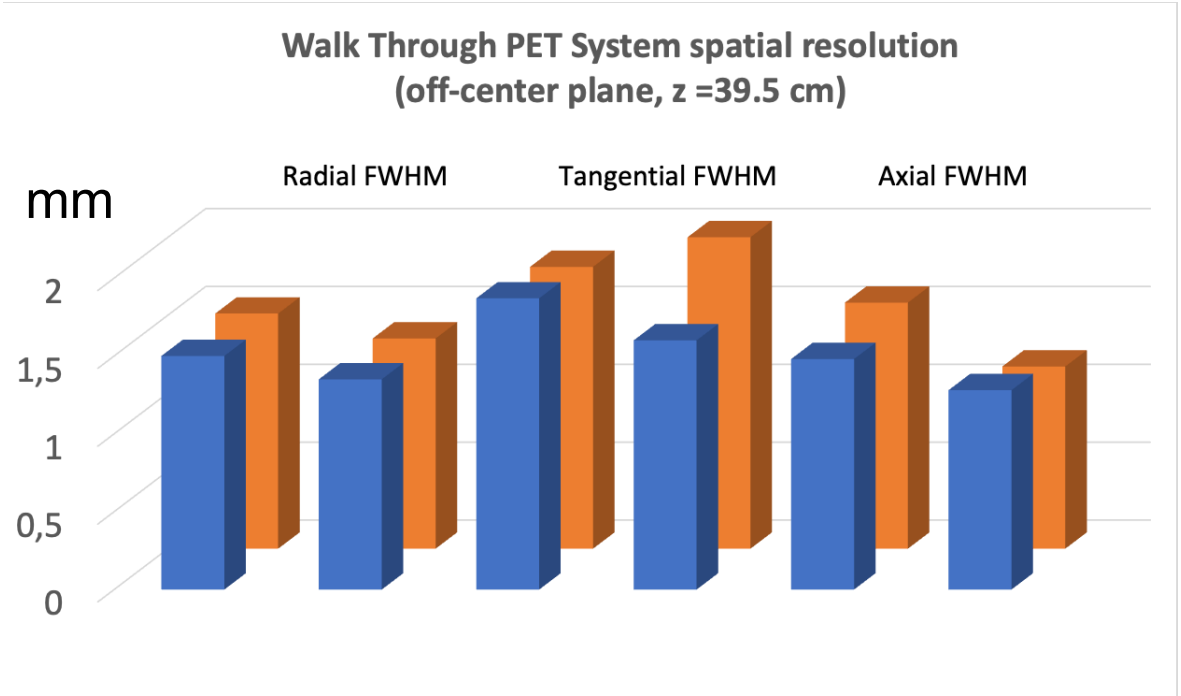
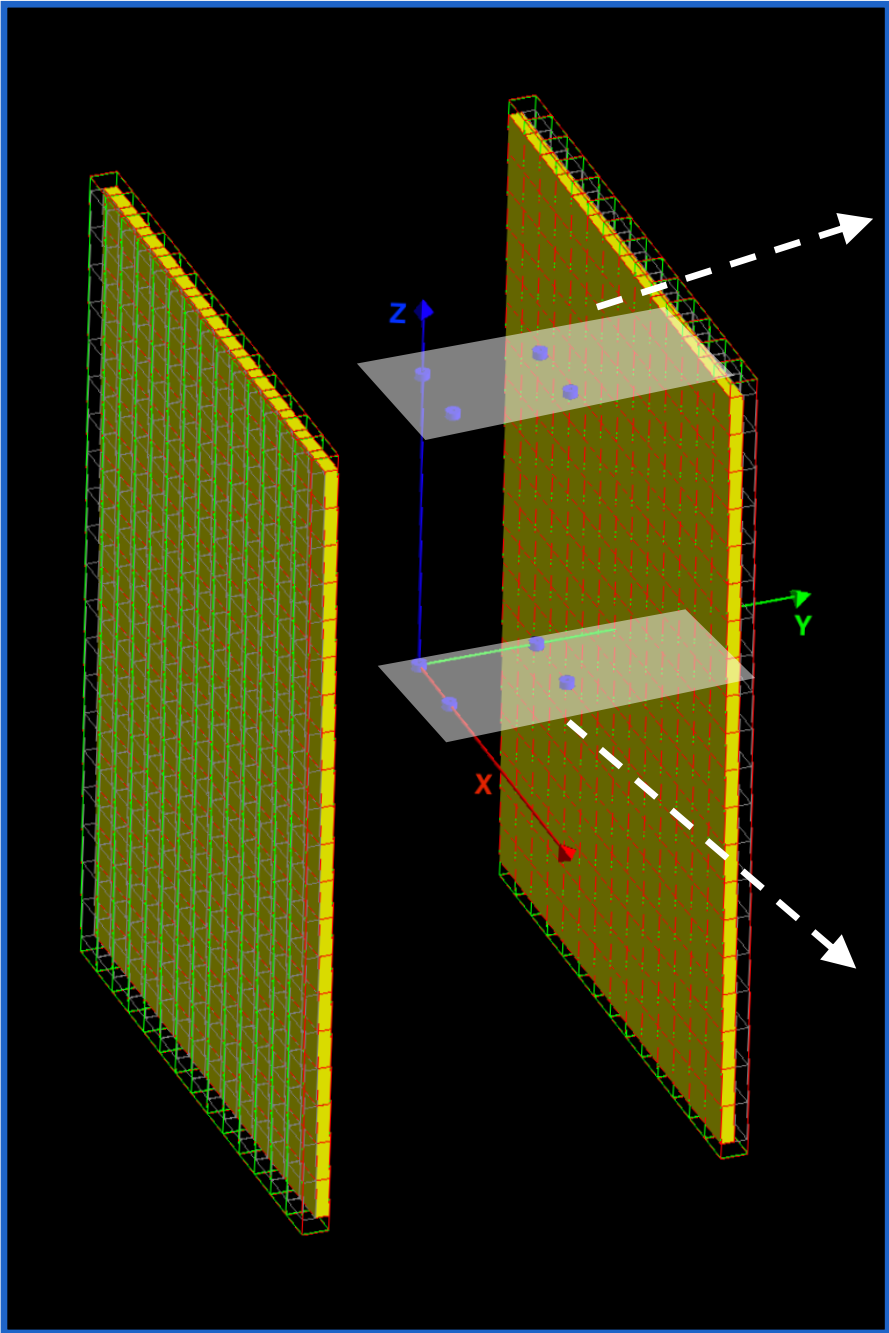
- When relying on Cerenkov for timing, non-scattered events will provide better time resolution.
- Unlikely for multiple Cerenkov photons to hit the same SiPM in large monolithic detectors.



Deep learning for Total Body PET
PhD Jens Maebe

SYSTEM SPATIAL RESOLUTION

GATE simulation of eight F-18 sources
Listmode MLEM reconstruction



Siemens Vision

Radial Distance (cm)	Direction	FWHM (mm)
1	Radial	3.5
1	Tangential	3.7
1	Axial	3.6
10	Radial	4.6
10	Tangential	3.9
10	Axial	4.3

Monolithic detectors
6-layer DOI
High intrinsic spatial resolution
No rebinning nor sinograms
Iterative list mode recon (2 subs, 10 it, non-TOF)

Nearly for all points in all directions between **1.5-2 mm** spatial resolution

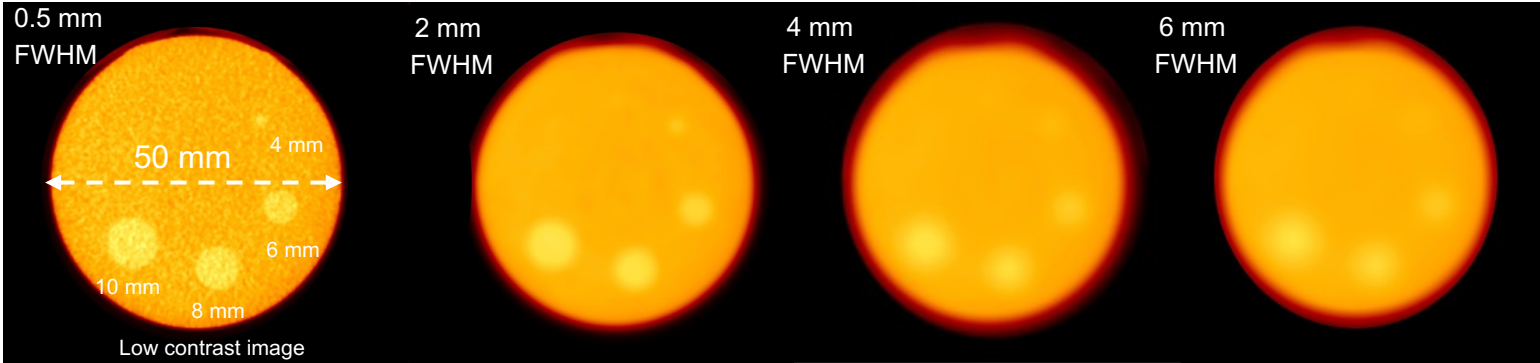
WT-PET
2-3x
Better !

Meysam Dadgar
Postdoc Ugent
WT-PET



Maya Abi Akl
PhD Ugent- Texas A&M Qatar
Cost-effective Total Body PET design

RESOLUTION DIFFERENCES



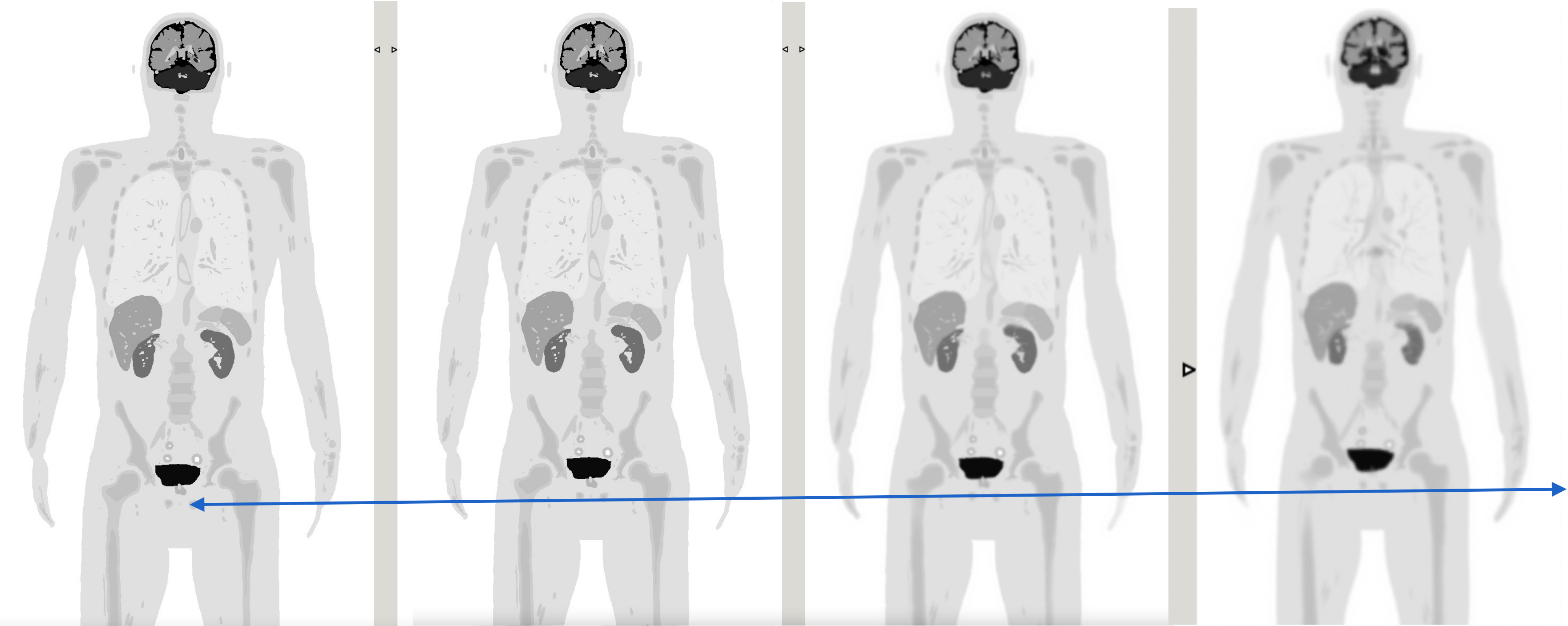
Amide

Xcat input
1x1x1 mm voxels

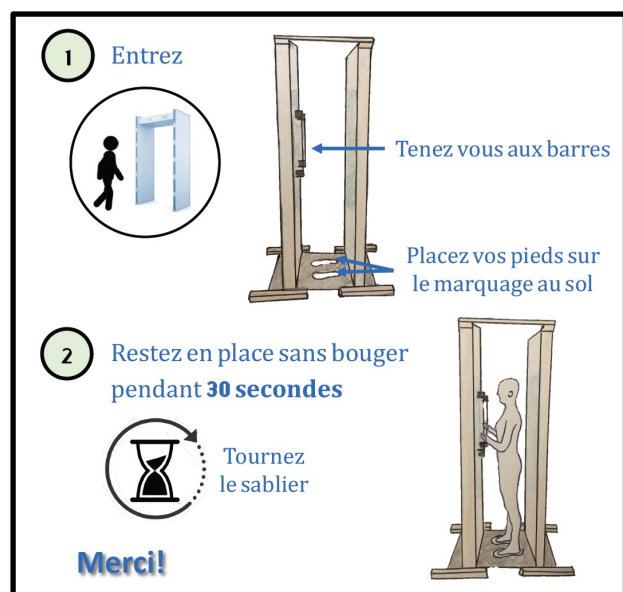
Noise-free
2 mm FWHM Gaussian blur

Noise-free
4 mm FWHM Gaussian blur

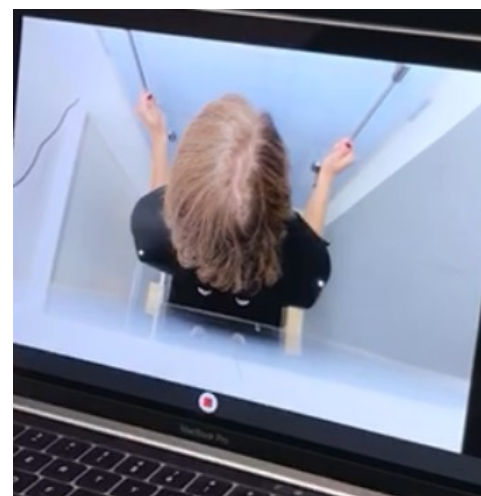
Noise-free
6 mm FWHM Gaussian blur



MOCKUP TEST CHU-UGENT



- 20 regular PET-CT patients
- Pictogram instruction sheet before acquisition
- Procedure:
 - Patient gets a cutting collar with 2 white markers
 - Steps into scanner (on the white feet)
 - Holds 2 bars with hands
 - Watches 30 sec hourglass
 - Ask for breath-hold
- Motion tracking inside scanner webcam and 2 white markers on shoulders
- Simulates a 30 sec 'acquisition'



(more details see poster F-M. Muller Ugent)



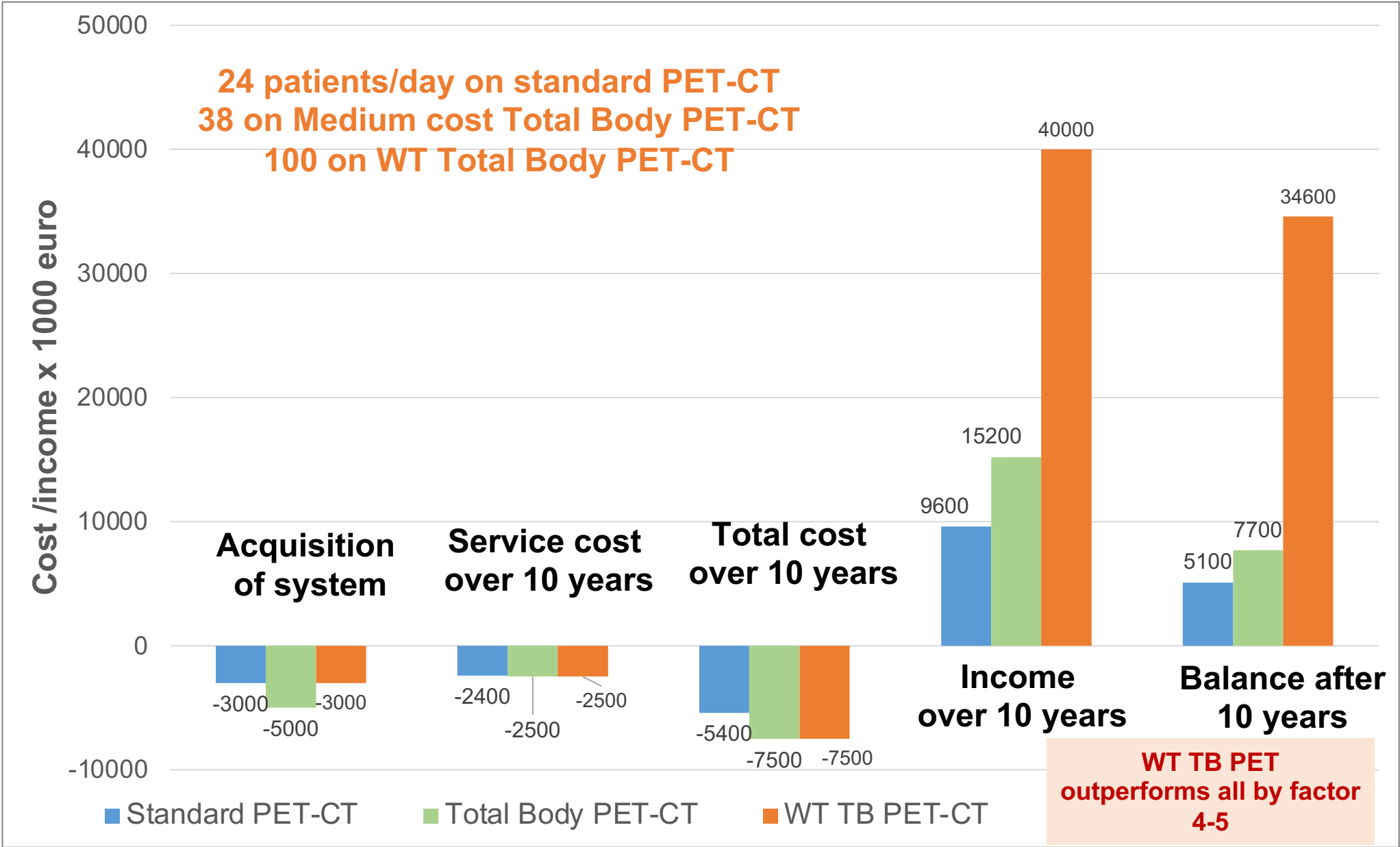
COST OVER LIFETIME WT-PET



Assumptions				
Patient transfer	Scout/CT time	PET scan time	scans/day	
seconds	seconds	seconds		
360	240	600	24	PET-CT
360	240	150	38	TB-PET-CT
228	30	30	100	WT PET-CT

Limiting factors for medium TB-PET reduced in Flat panel

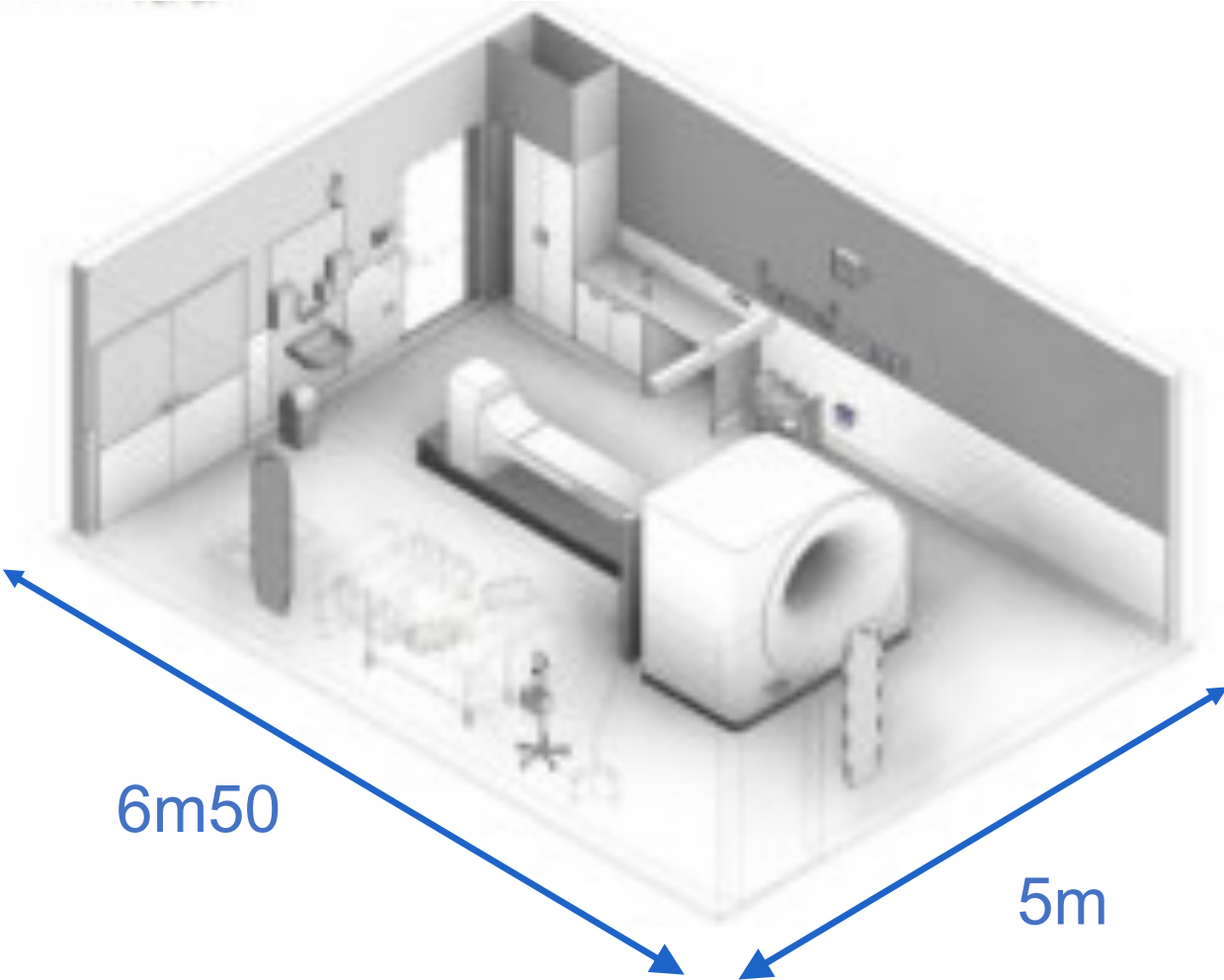
PET-CT/TB-PET-CT/WT-PET
150 euro/dose
350 euro reimbursement



3M Euro standard PET-CT/5M euro Total Body PET-CT/ 3 M WT-PET



COMPACT FOOTPRINT SAVES SPACE IN NM DEPT

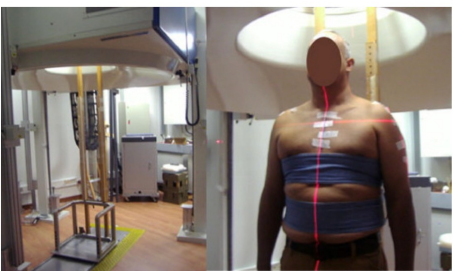
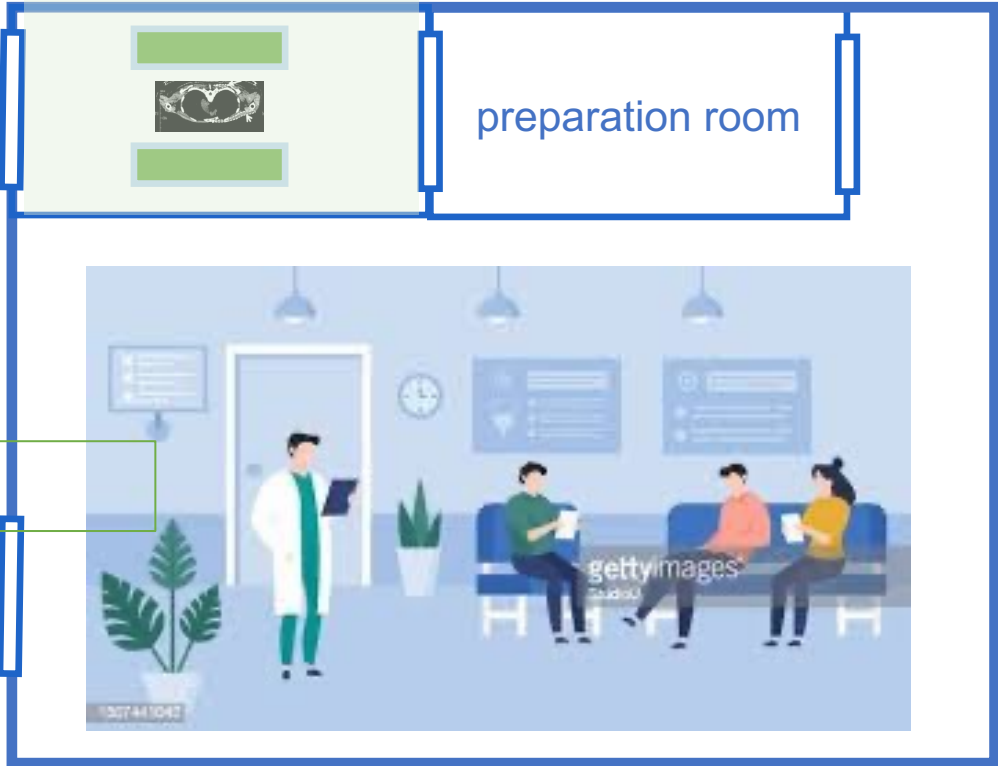


Transform conventional PET-CT room to a waiting + imaging room

2-4 m²

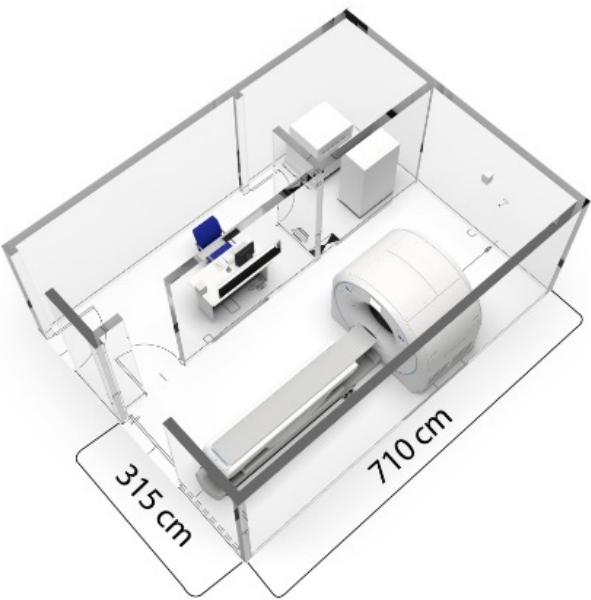
preparation room

32,5 m²



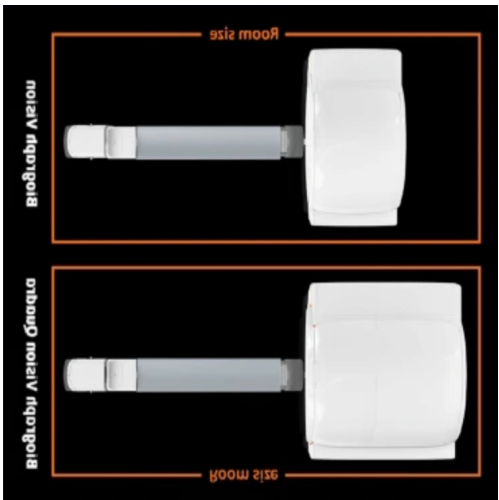
Download : Download high-res image (394KB)
Download : Download full-size image

Fig. 3. Vertical CT scanner at Fermilab (left). Patient supported in vertical CT scanner with a belt to assist in stabilization (right).

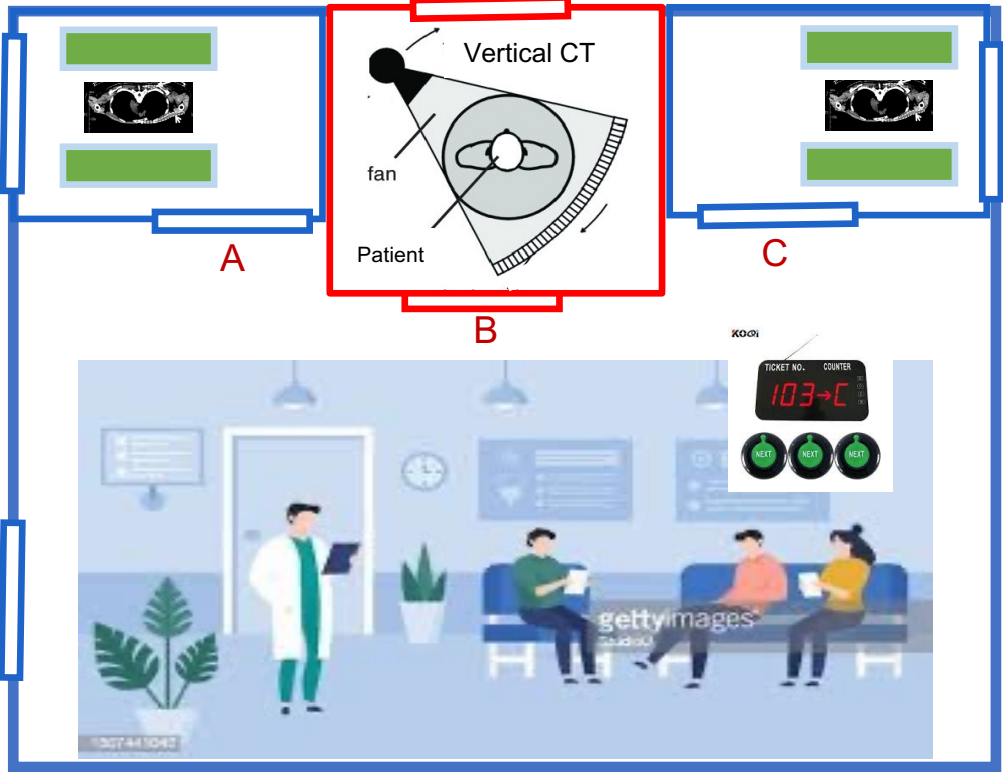
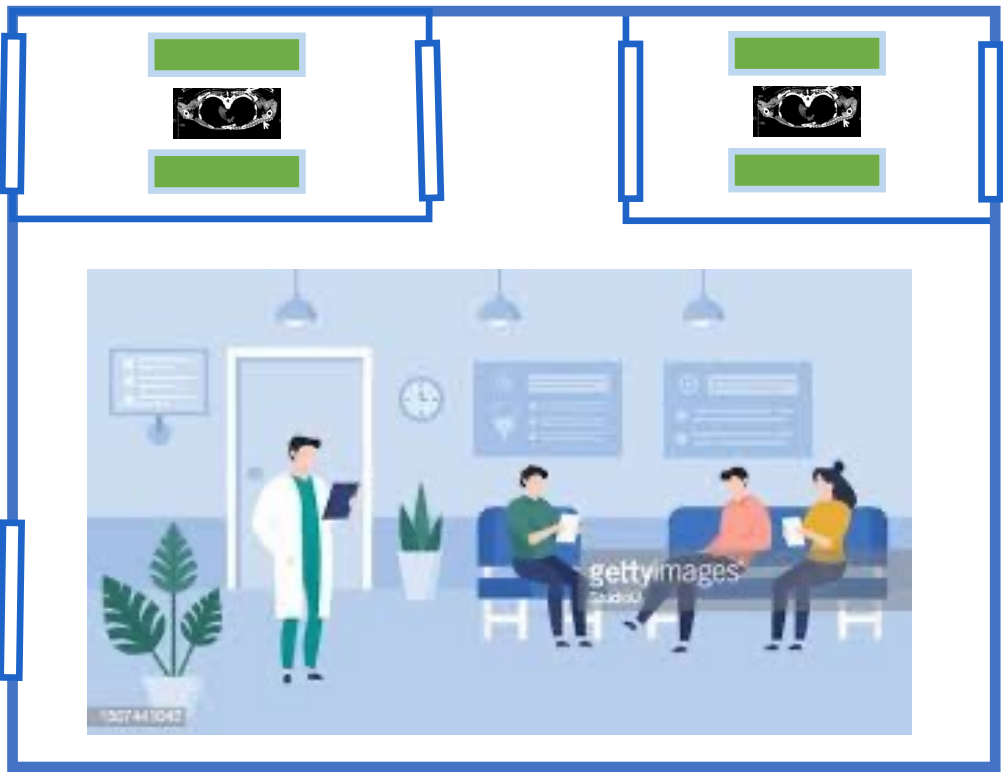


Compact Canon PET-CT

Siemens Vision



Siemens Quadra



SUMMARY

Unique design

- **High Performance**
 - High resolution: $< 2\text{mm}$ invariant instead of $> 3.5\text{ mm}$ variant over FOV
 - Comparable sensitivity as TB-PET due to close detectors and oblique incidences
 - Minimize motion effects with fast scanning (see poster F-M. Muller)
- **Low Cost**
 - Low cost based on Cherenkov-BGO
 - $\frac{1}{2}$ detector surface, 3-4 x less scintillators: component only 1-2x conventional PET TB-PET for price of standard PET-CT feasible → Lower cost scans
- **High Throughput**
 - Alternative configuration without bed (walk-through flat panel PET)
 - Patient throughput can be 4-5 x higher than conventional PET-CT → 100 patients/day

We could (should) have built such design 20-25 years ago (BGO + PS-PMTs)

ATTENUATION/SCATTER WITHOUT CT

Elba PSMR meeting 2022 : Deep learning for CT-free correction for ultra-long axial field of view PET scanners, S Xue*, R Guo*, J Hu, H Sari, C Mingels, K Zeimpekis, G Prenosil, Y Wang, Y Zhang, M Viscione, R Sznitman, A Rominger, B Li, K Shi

u^b

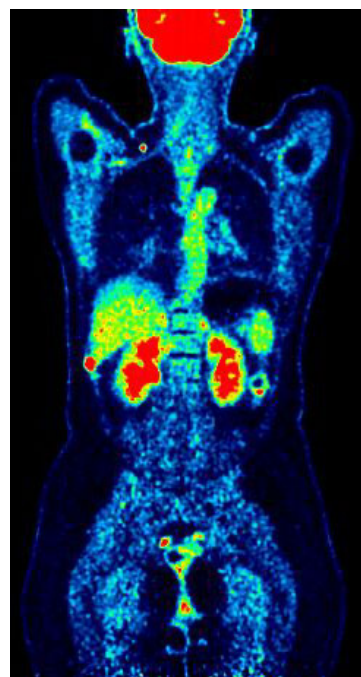
^b
UNIVERSITÄT
BERN

INSELSPITAL
UNIVERSITÄTSSPITAL BERN
HÔPITAL UNIVERSITAIRE DE BERNE

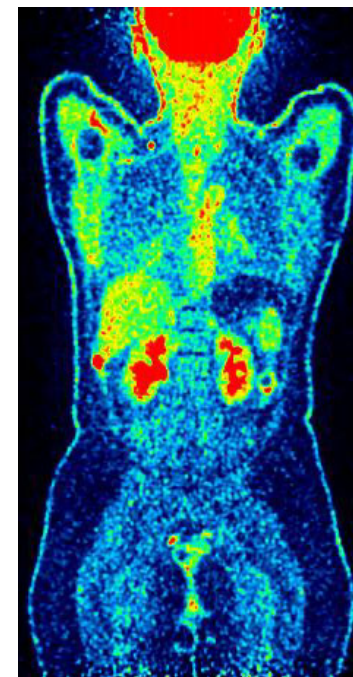
CT Corrected PET

Non corrected PET

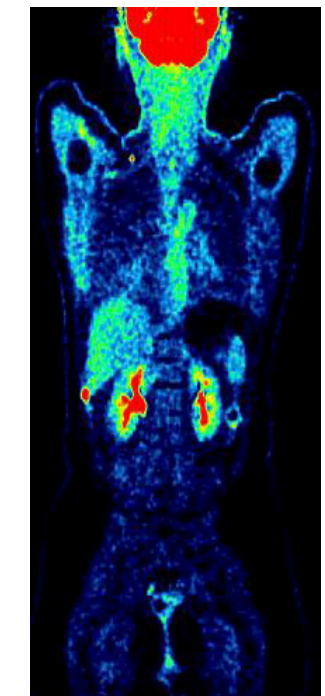
DL Corrected PET



Training
←
GAN



DL correction
→
Trained
GAN

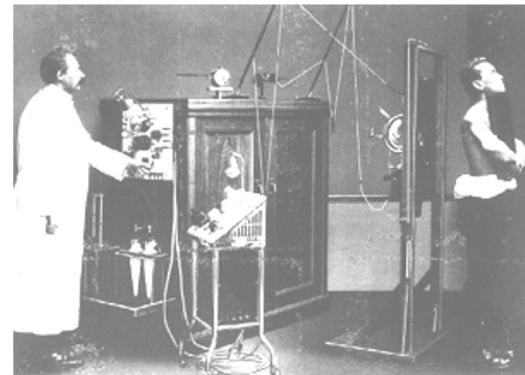


→ reduced dose to the patient

FLEXIBILITY, COMPACT AND EASE OF USE



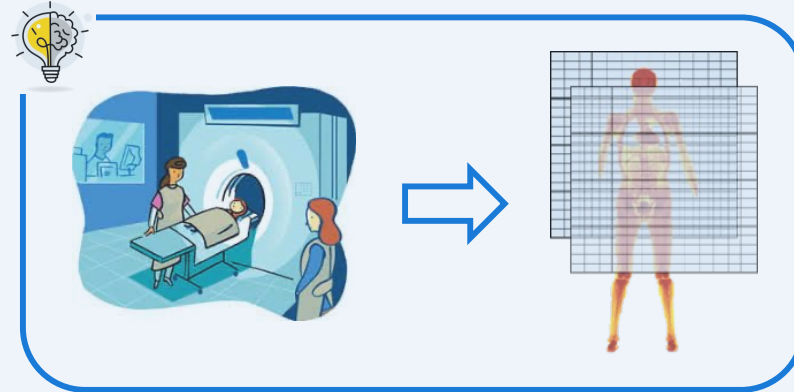
**First and second
mockup version June
2022**



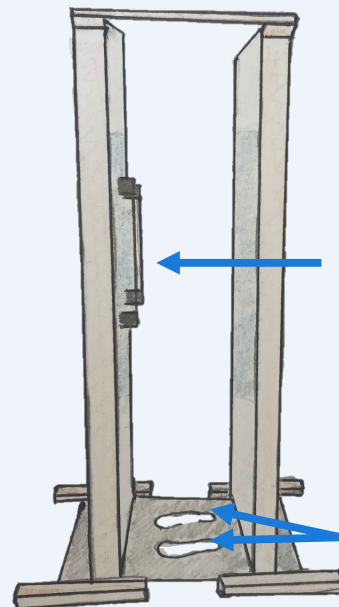
PATIENT TESTING

Info sheet for patients

Walk Through PET



1 Entrez



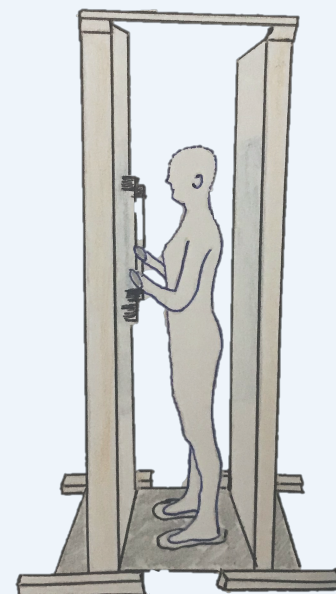
Tenez vous aux barres

Placez vos pieds sur le marquage au sol

2 Restez en place sans bouger pendant **30 secondes**



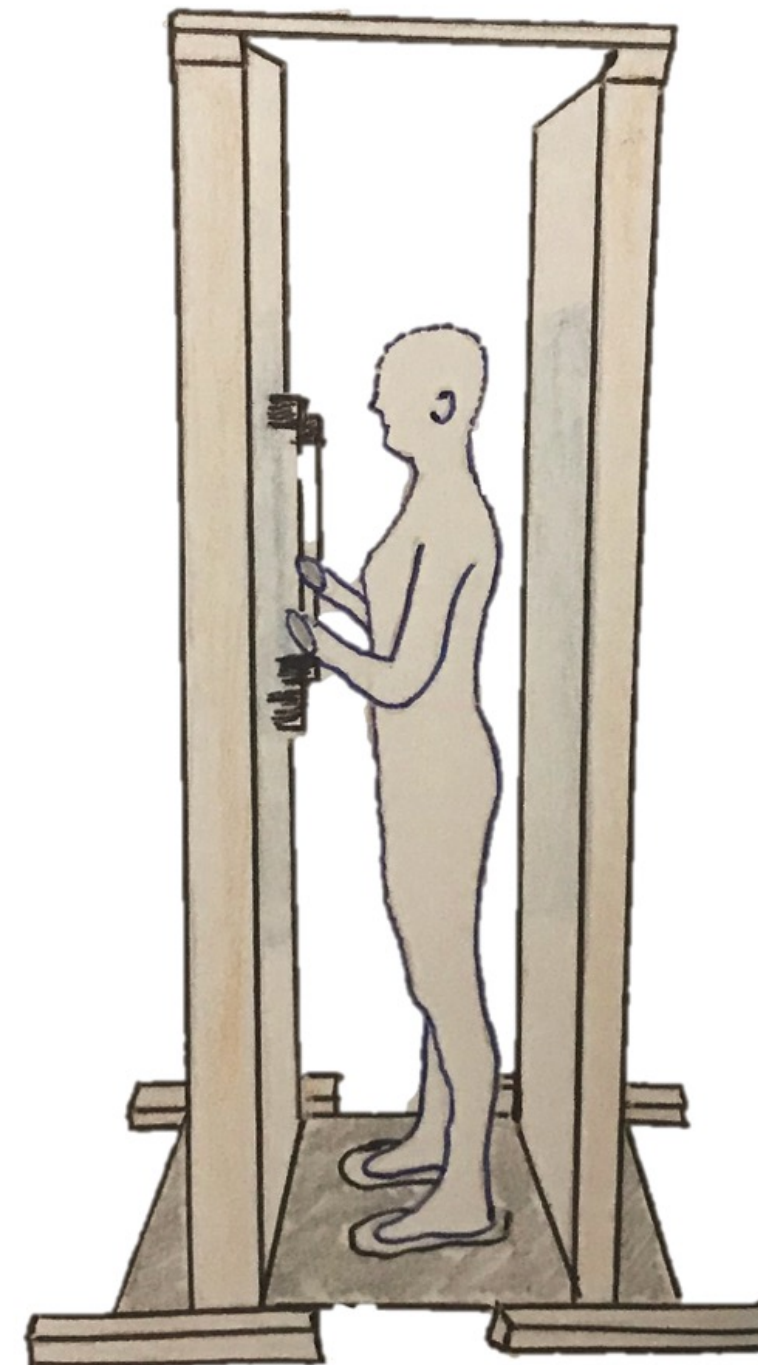
Tournez le sablier



Merci!

SPHYNX

Studying PHYsiology with NeXt generation molecular imaging

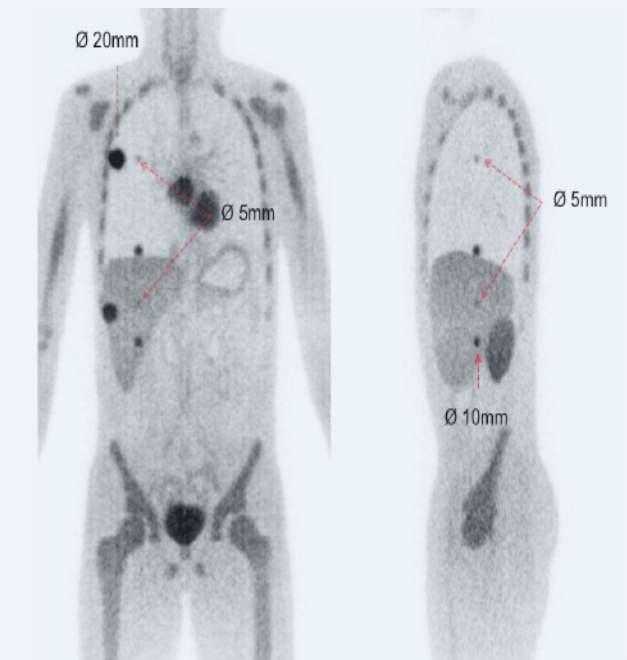


Aims



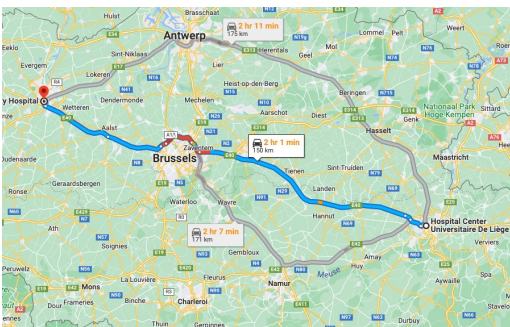
30 sec
Acquisition time

2 mm spatial resolution



MOCKUP INSTALL 1HR

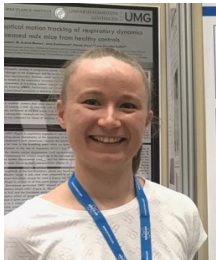
Infinity UZ Gent



CHU Nuclear medicine Liege



Prof
N. Withofs
NM CHU

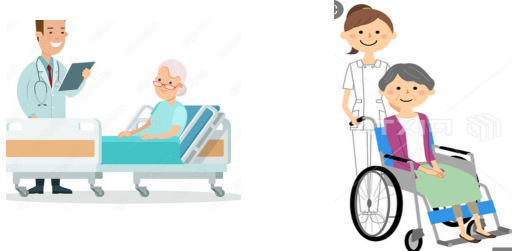


Florence Marie-
Mueller, PhD
Ugent-UPENN

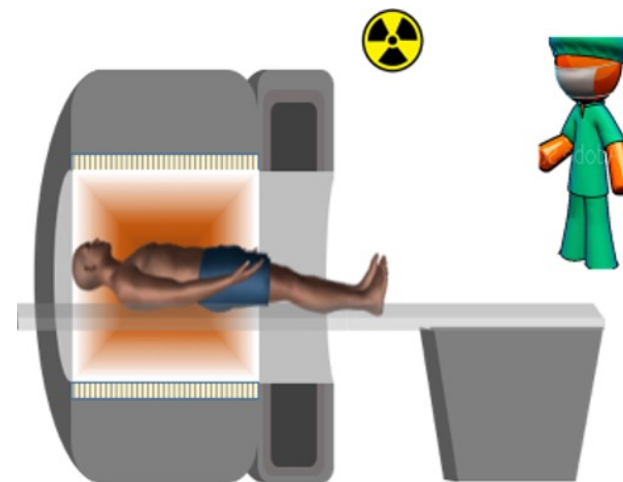
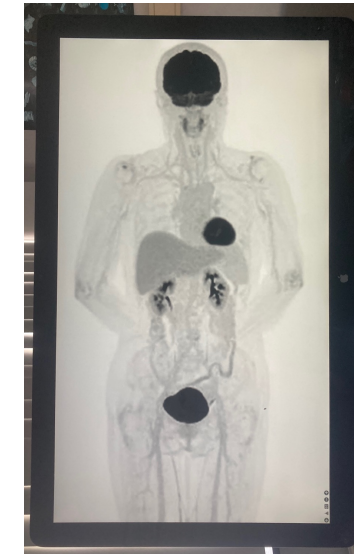
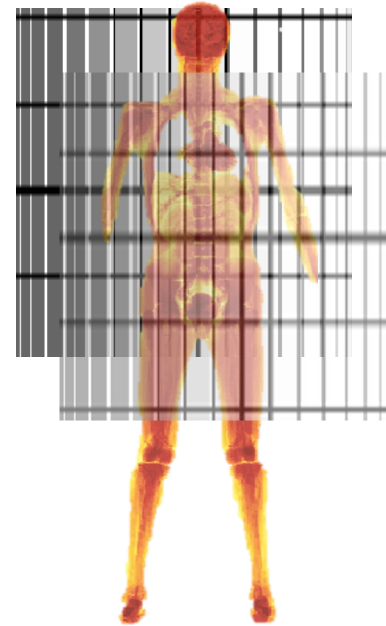


THE FUTURE PET-CT DEPARTMENT

80 % 'healthy' patients with reasonable BMI
Screening, bone scans, infections...
Quick PET scan
Quantitative with AI
Standup mode
Semi-automated injection
Walk through the scanner
Does not see a doctor



20 % 'unhealthy' patients
Or high BMI
Medium length PET-CT scan
Complex dynamic exams
Supine-bed mode

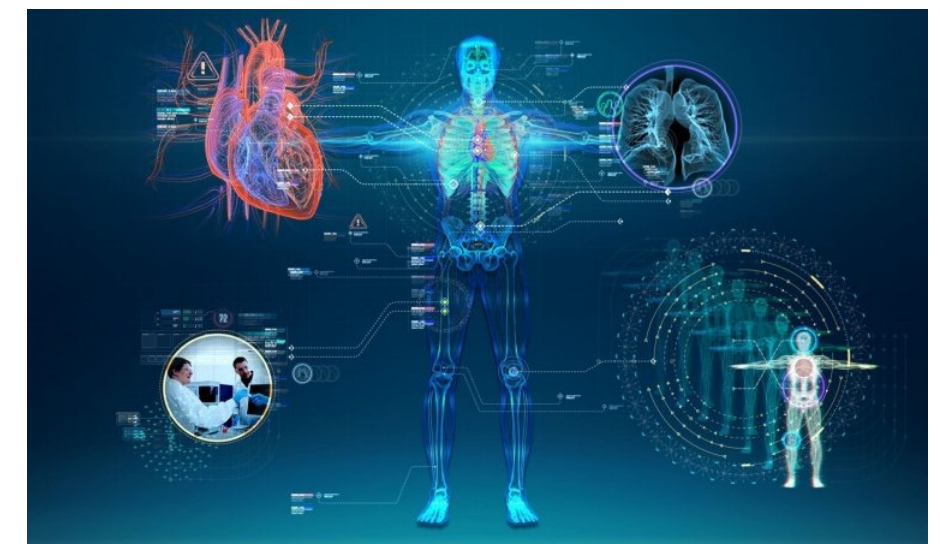


Autonomous driving patient
taxi Gent hospital

Features:

- Compact space
- Low dose (AI+technology)
- Minimal shielding
- Minimal personnel
- Near realtime recon
- AI driven analysis

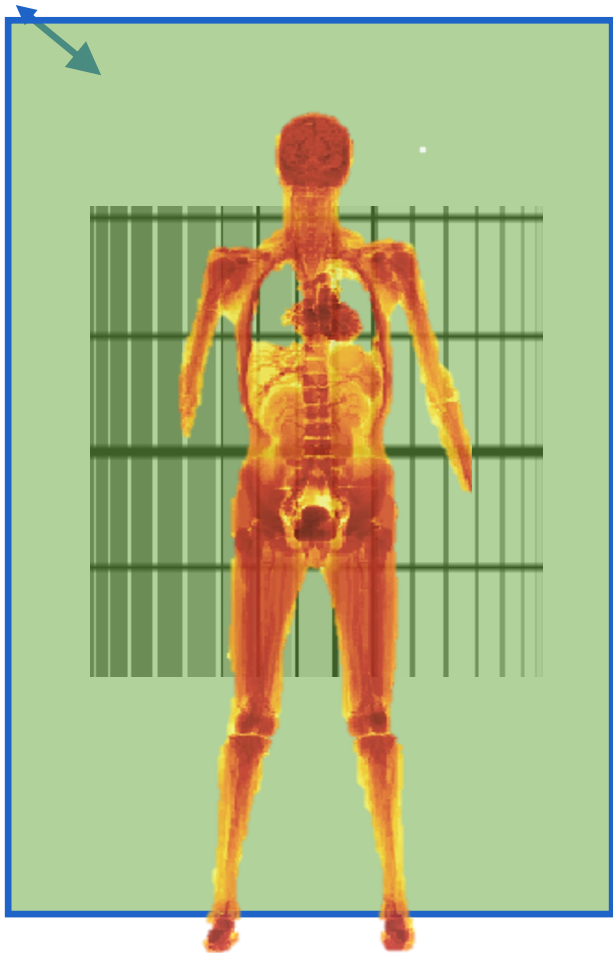
AI enhanced MD room
Automated review of standard exams



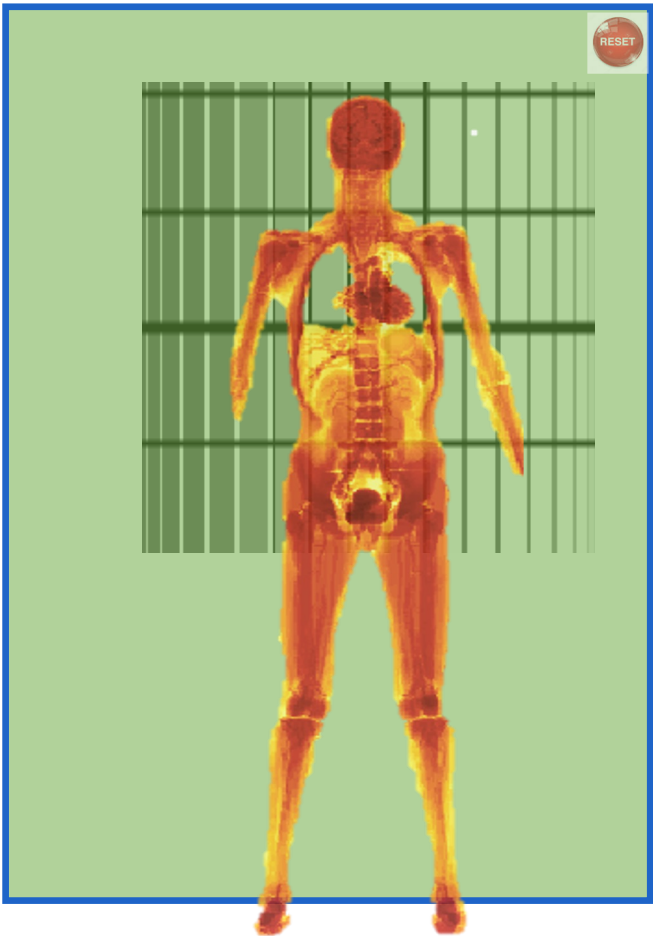
MINIMAL PERSONNEL DIY PET



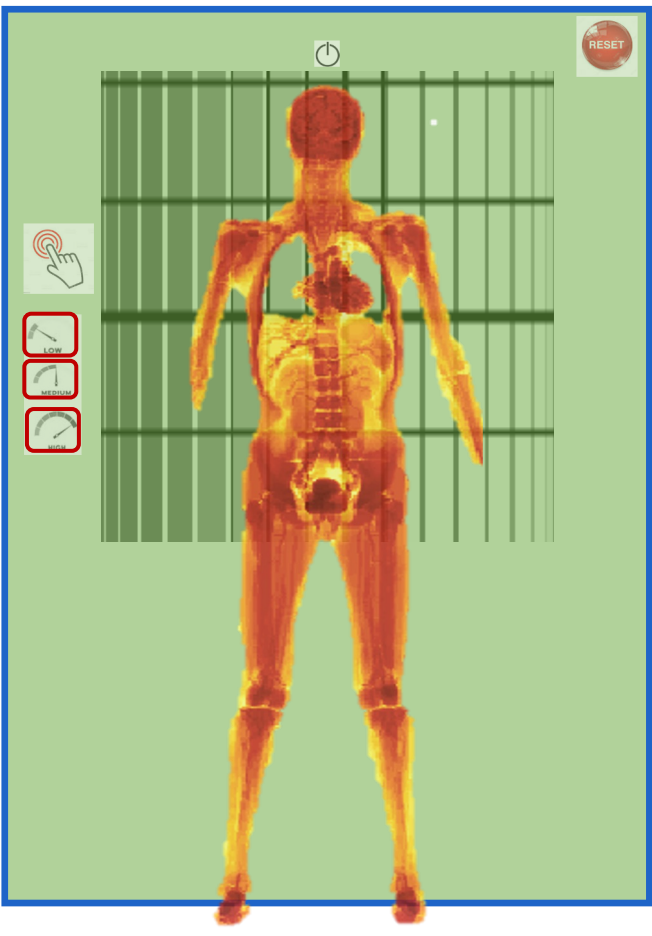
Step 1:
Patient enters room



Step 2:
Automatic detector
position head to thigh



Step 3:
Scan duration selection
Short-Medium-Long



Step 4:
Scan Procedure

