

Full-body PET based on Liquid Xe TPC

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PET

(Positron Emission
Tomography)

Various Medical Tomographs

CT

MRT

PET

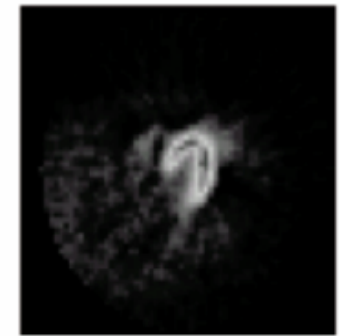
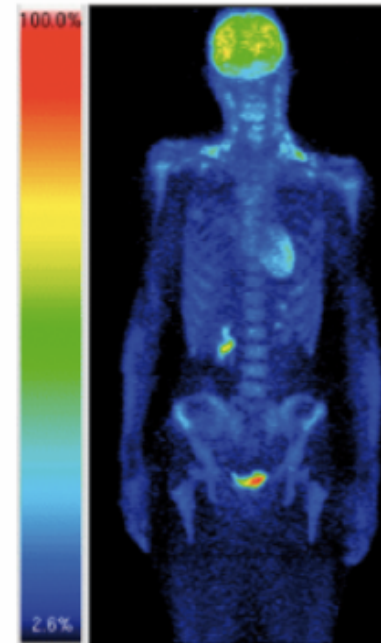
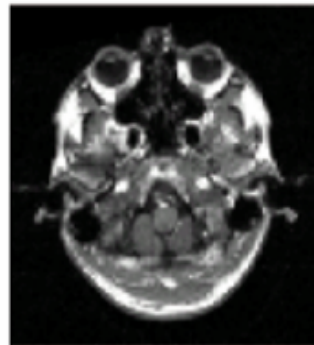
SPECT

Computer-Tomography

Magneto-Resonance-
Tomography

Positron Emission
Tomography

Single-Photon-Emissions-
Computed-Tomography



Resolution: 0,5 - 1 mm

1 mm

FWHM)

5 mm

5 mm

Radiation Dose: ~10 mSv

0 mSv

~5 mSv

~3 mSv

(flight ~0,05)

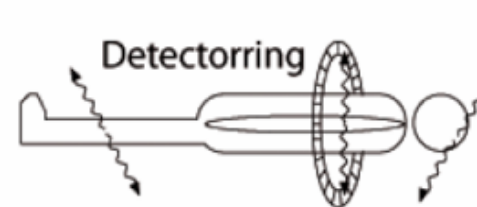
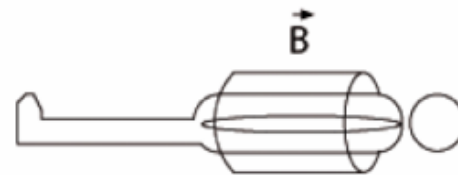
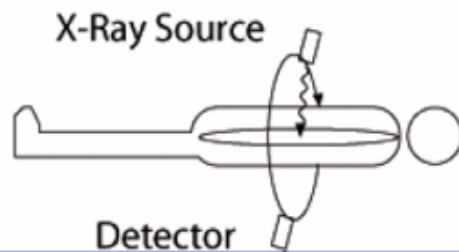
(natural annual dose=2.4mSv)

Anatomy

Metabolism

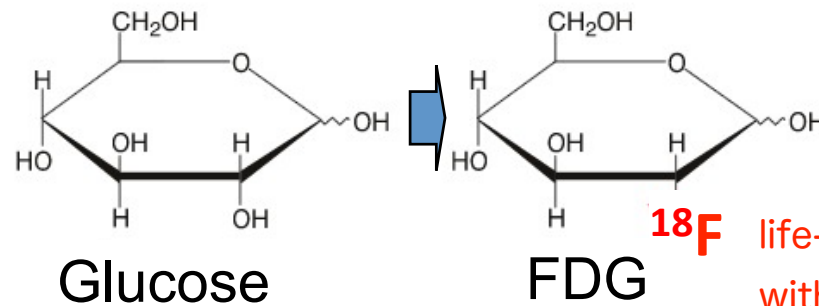
(Anatomical imaging)

(Functional imaging)



PET Imaging principle

(1) Production of fluorodeoxyglucose (^{18}F -FDG)



^{18}F life-time of 109.8 minutes
with a positron emission

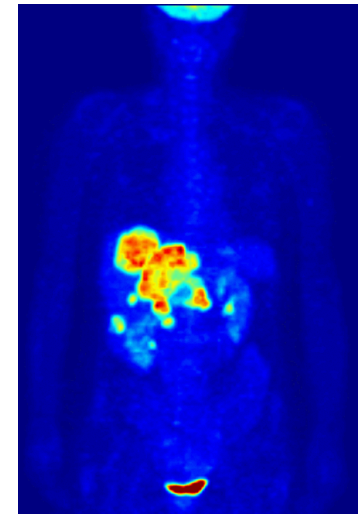
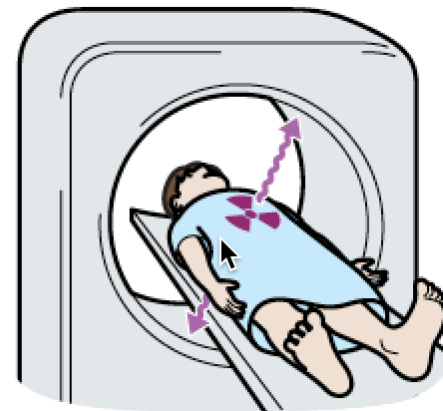
^{11}C -methionine(MET)
for brain tumor ($\tau=20$
minutes)

(2) Injection (a dose of 200- 400 MBq) and accumulation in tumors or diagnosis of glucose metabolism

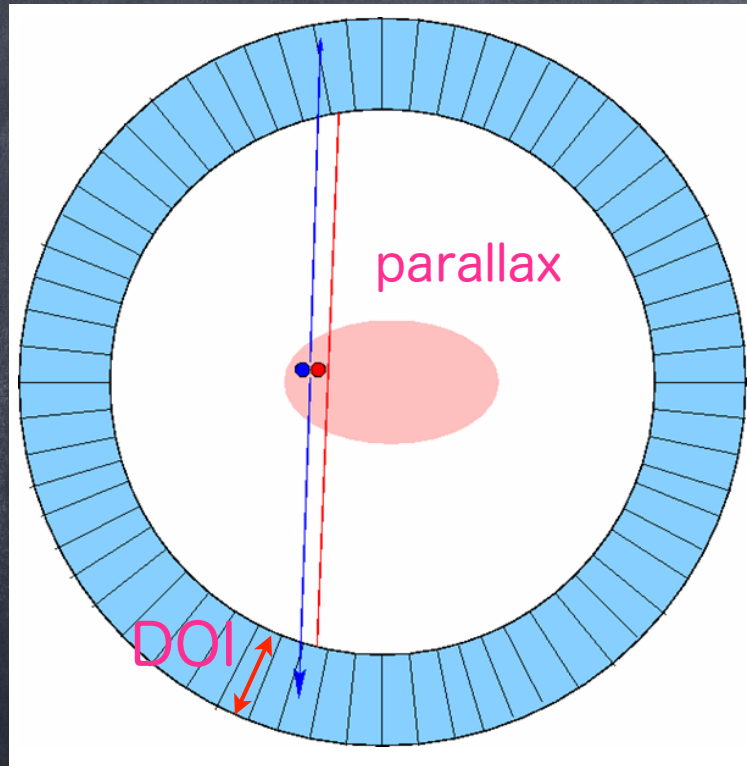
who has been
fasting for at
least 6 hours



(3) Imaging the distribution of ^{18}F -FDG in the body by a PET scanner for 20 minutes



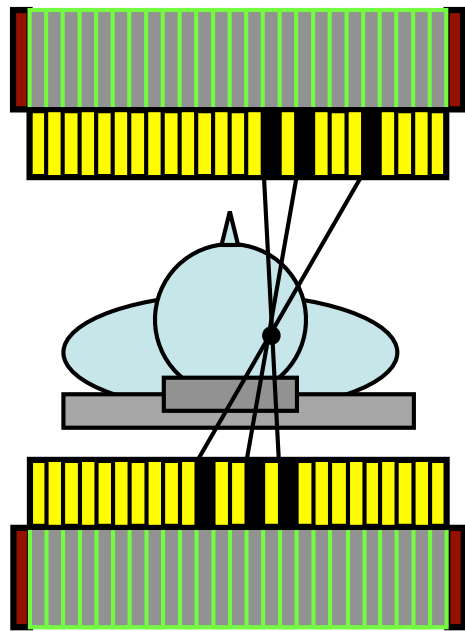
Major limitation of conventional PETs



Large parallax due to the Depth of Interaction (DOI) resolution, i.e. the size of scintillation crystals

➔ Lower resolution

Developments of PET

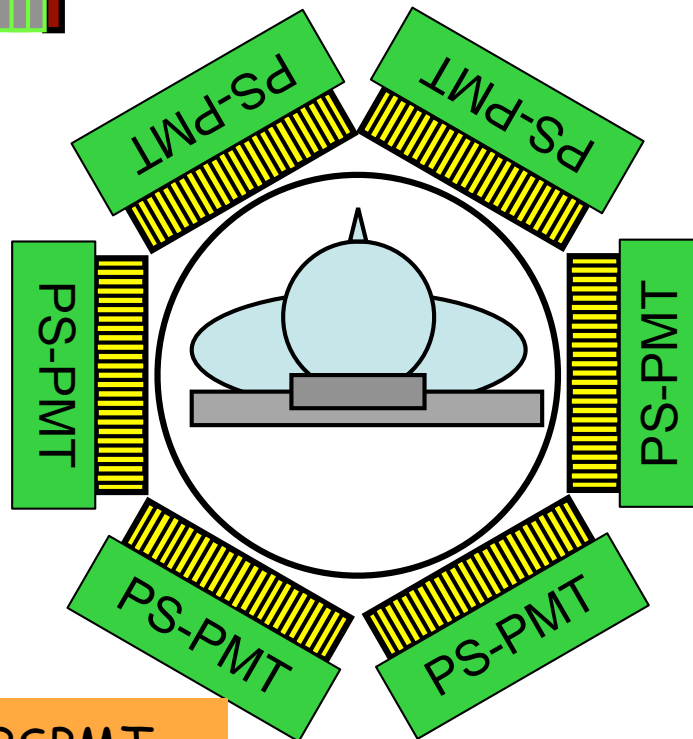


Crystal-PMT

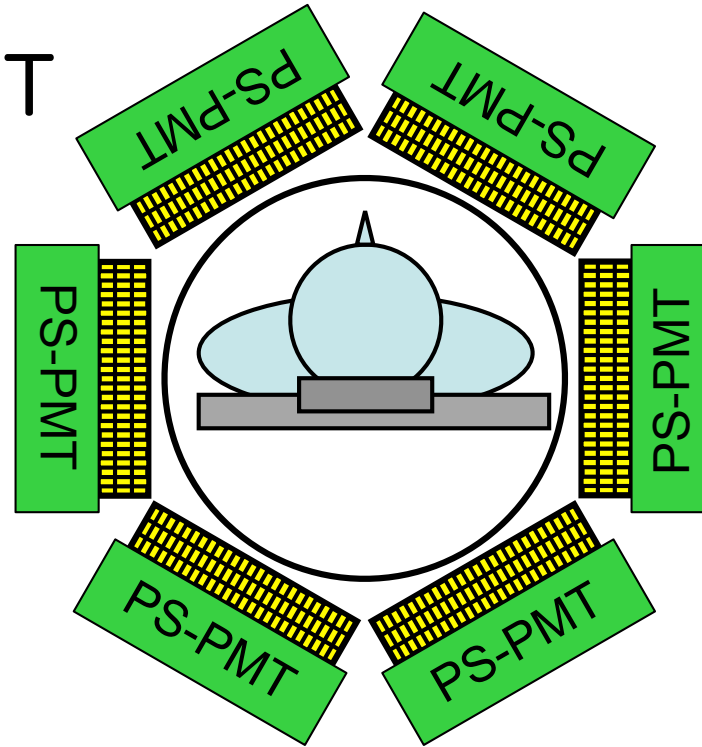
sensitivity
improvement

Small crystal-PSPMT

DOI
improvement



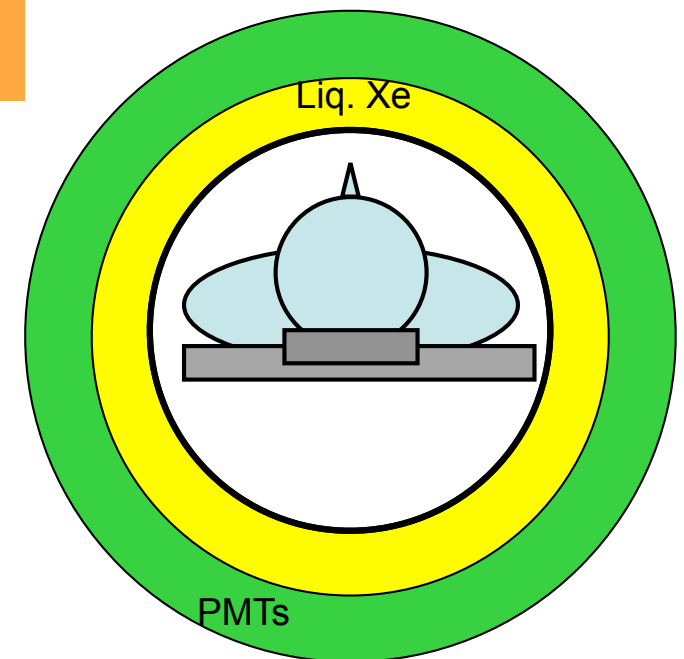
PSPMT = Position Sensitive PMT



DOI-PET
jPET-D4

3D position
resolution
 1 mm^3
No parallax
No boundaries
Compton camera

TXePET



Liquid Xenon

Characteristics of Liquid Xenon Detector

Liquid Xenon is a Rich Detection Media

Scintillation signals and Ionization signals

fast timing/energy, ROI

3D positions, energy

Photomultipliers

Time Projection Chamber (TPC)

(APD, MPPC)

(Ionization chambers)

22,000 photons/511KeV

30,000 electron-ion pairs/511KeV

electron drift at 2.3mm/us with 2kV/cm

At 511 keV, 22% photoelectric, 78% Compton in xenon

~0.5 mm of absorption length for 511 keV photoelectron

Scintillator	GSO Gd_2SiO_5	LSO $\text{Lu}_2\text{SiO}_5(\text{Ce})$	Liquid Xe
Density(g/cm^3)	6.71	7.4	3.06
Rad. Len. (cm)	1.38	1.14	2.77
Scintillation light : wave len. (nm)	430	420	175
: decay time(ns)	30-60	40	2, 30
: relative yield (%)	20	40-75	100
: reflection index	1.85	1.82	1.6
Melting point ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	1950	2050	-111.75
a crystal size (mm^3)	2.45x5.1x30	4x4x20	monolithic
Drift vel.($\text{mm}/\mu\text{s}$)	-	-	2.3 (E=2kV/cm)

Liquid Xenon

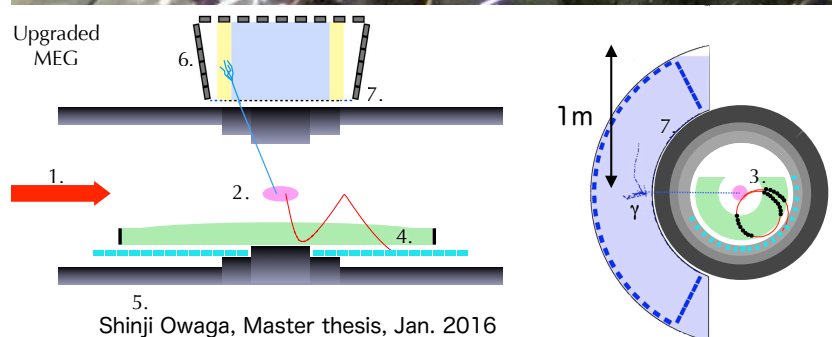
Detector

MEG II

900 ℓ (2.8tons) LXe detector for γ (52.8MeV) of $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$
BR $< 4 \times 10^{-14}$ (90% C.L.) ?

Installation completed!

12x12mm²MPPC (SiPM) x 4092
multi-pixel photon counter



2" ϕ PMT x 668
photo-multiplier tube

photo taken with 360° camera
(Ricoh theta S)

“MEG II, liquid xenon detector with VUV-sensitive SiPM, Kei Ieki, XeSAT2017

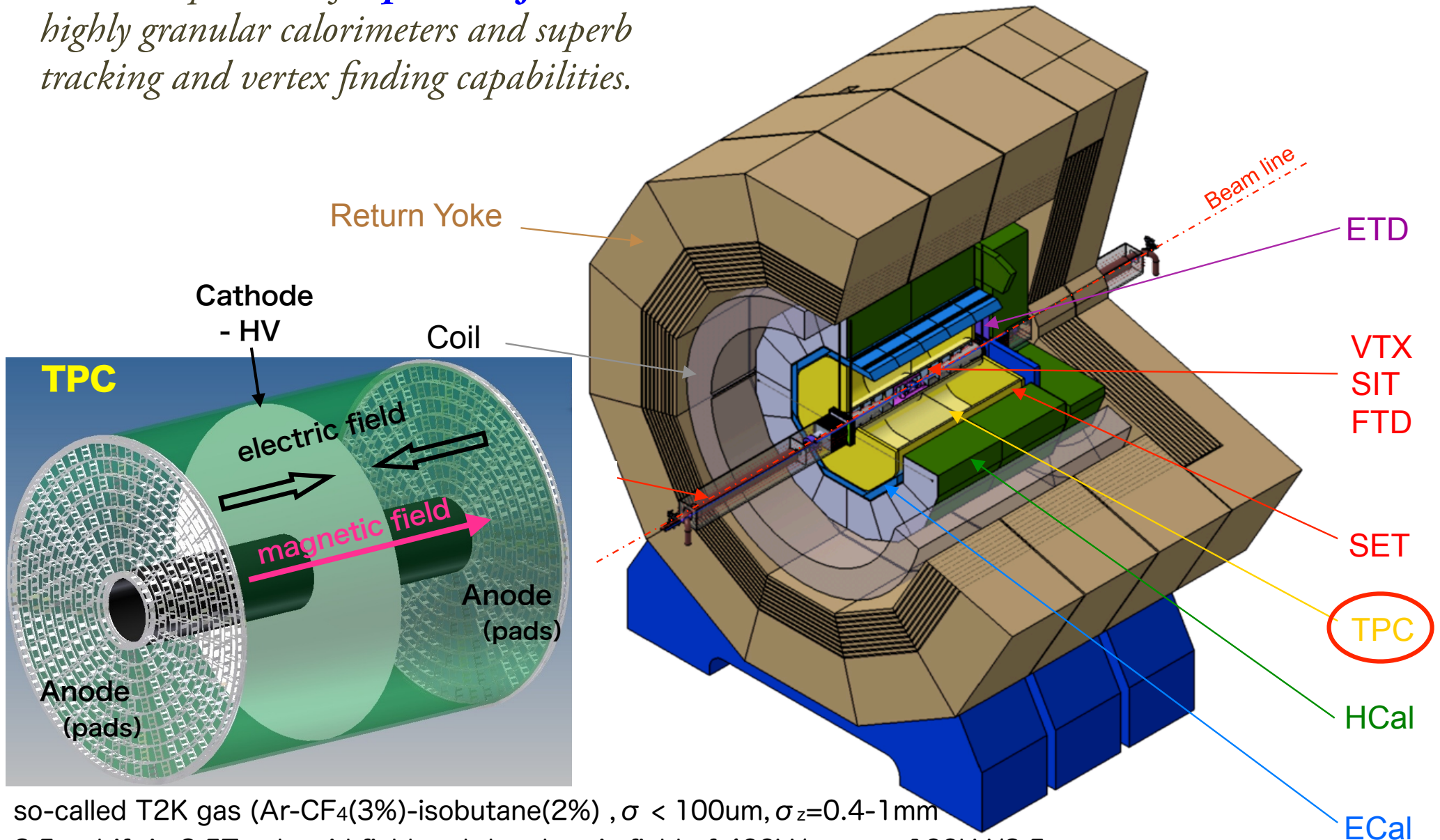
TPC

Time Projection Chamber (TPC)
for the central tracking detector
of charged particles at the high
energy experiments

International Large Detector

at the International Linear Collider, ILC

*Detector optimized for **particle flow**, with highly granular calorimeters and superb tracking and vertex finding capabilities.*



so-called T2K gas ($\text{Ar-CF}_4(3\%)\text{-isobutane}(2\%)$), $\sigma < 100\mu\text{m}$, $\sigma_z = 0.4\text{-}1\text{mm}$
2.5m drift in 3.5T solenoid field and the electric field of 400V/cm so 100kV/2.5m

New Generation

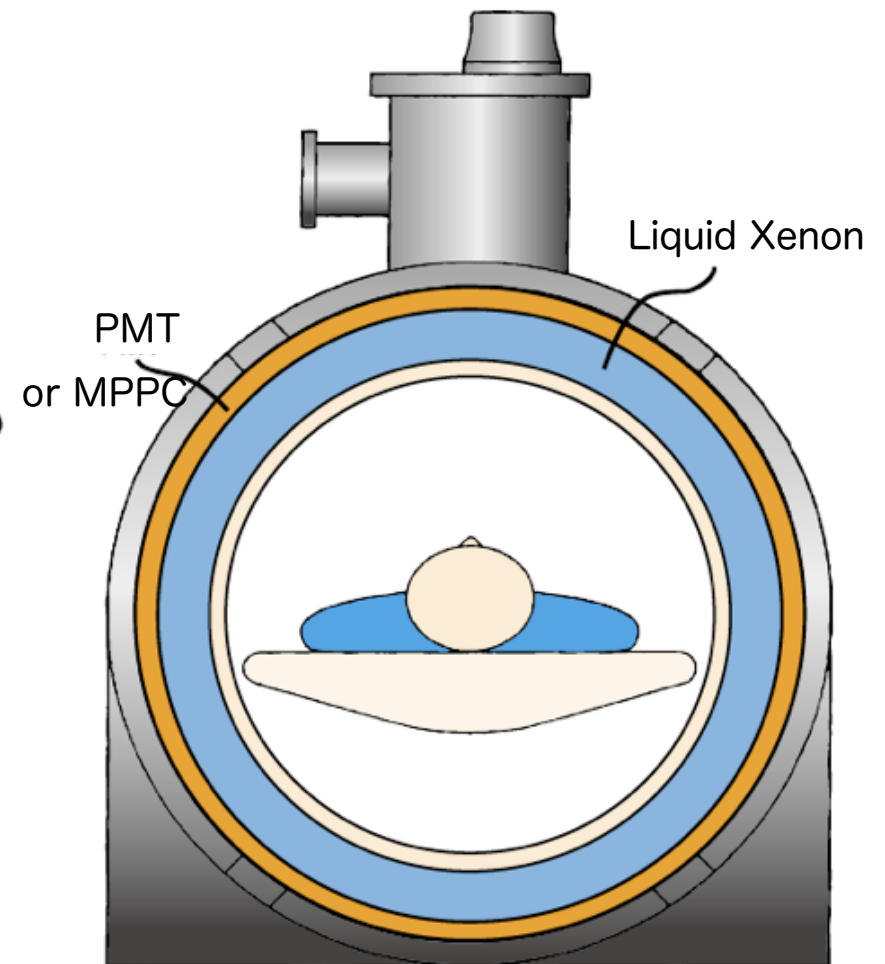
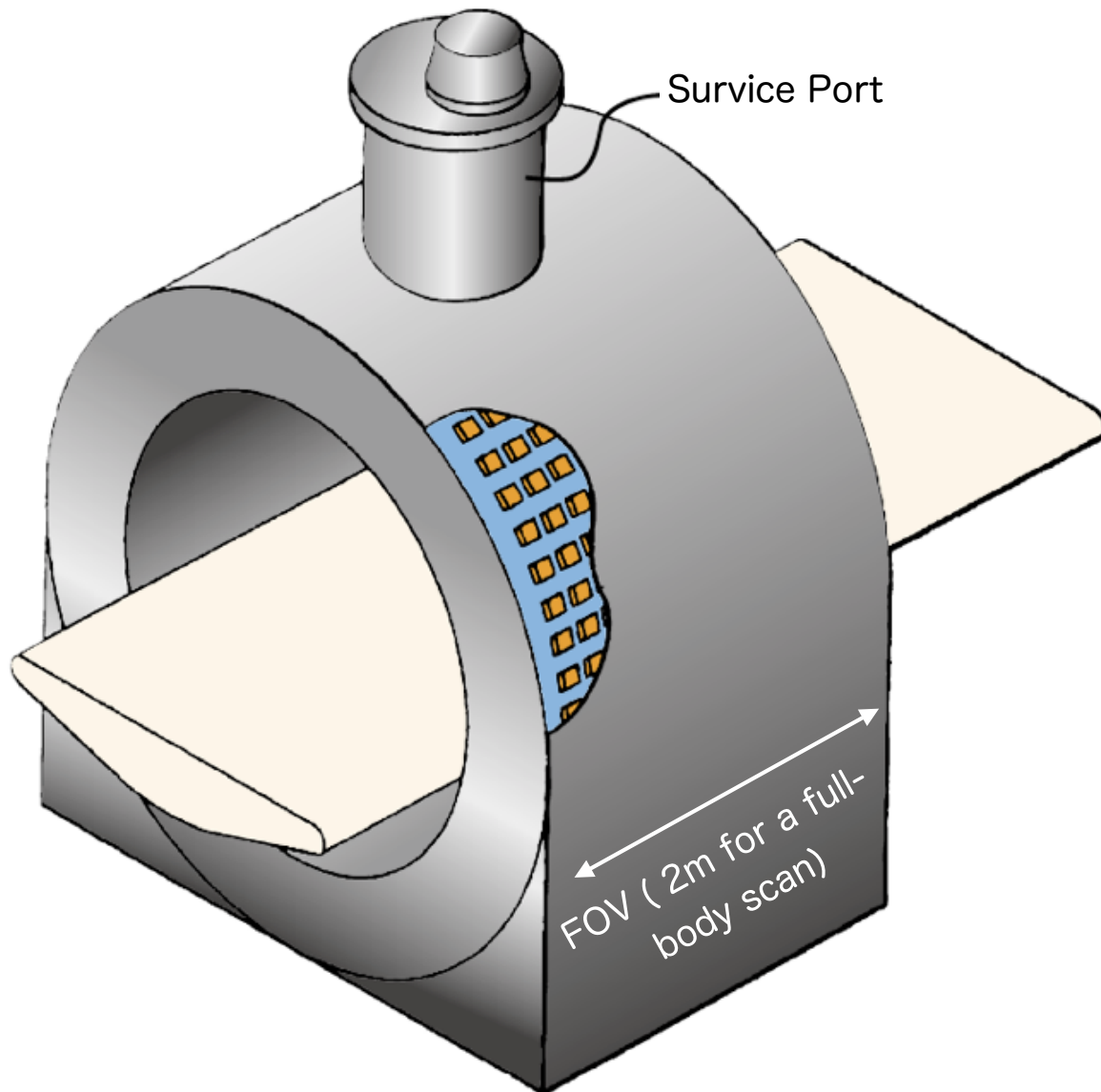
PET: TXePET

based on the liquid

Xe TPC

TXePET

PET based on TPC in liquid xenon



TXePET (2m FOV for the full-body)

Liq.Xe : 140L, 88cm-dia, 48cm FOV, 9cm DOI (93% γ eff.)

Resolutions(σ) : 1mm of the 3D positions, 5% of the energy

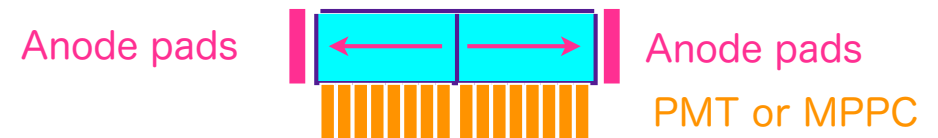
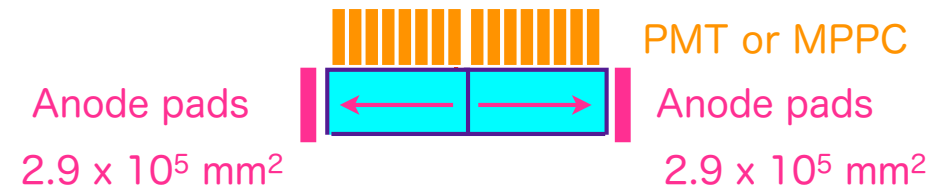
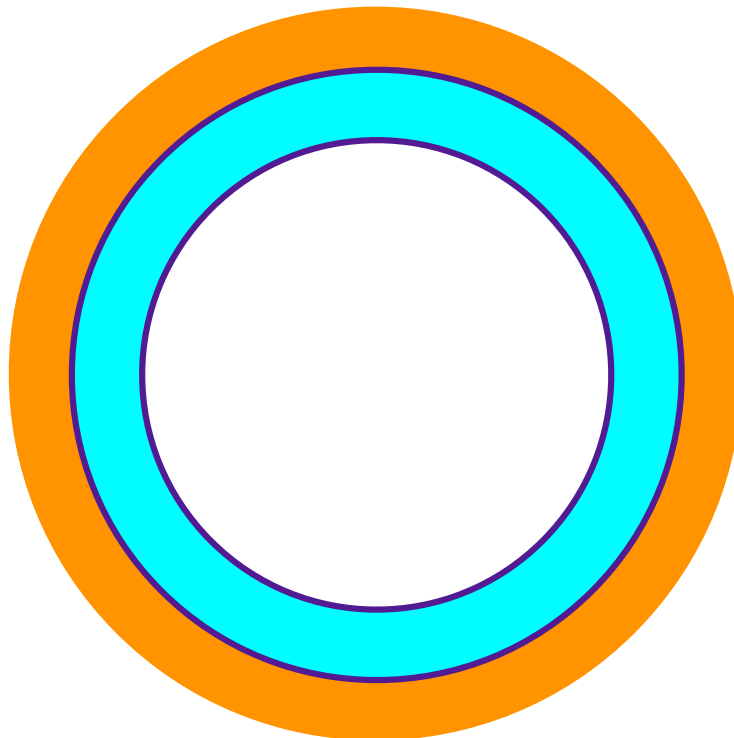
PMT(1"□): $8 \times 112 \times 2 = 1,792$ 本

TPC : $E = 48\text{kV} / 24\text{cm}$

or MPPC($12 \times 12\text{mm}^2$): $\sim 7,100$

spatial res.(FWHM) = 2cm
coincidence time = 10 nsec
time stamp for TPC

drift time : $104 \mu\text{sec} / \pm 24\text{cm}$
(velocity : $2.3\text{mm} / \mu\text{sec}$)
pipeline readout, i.e. no deadtime



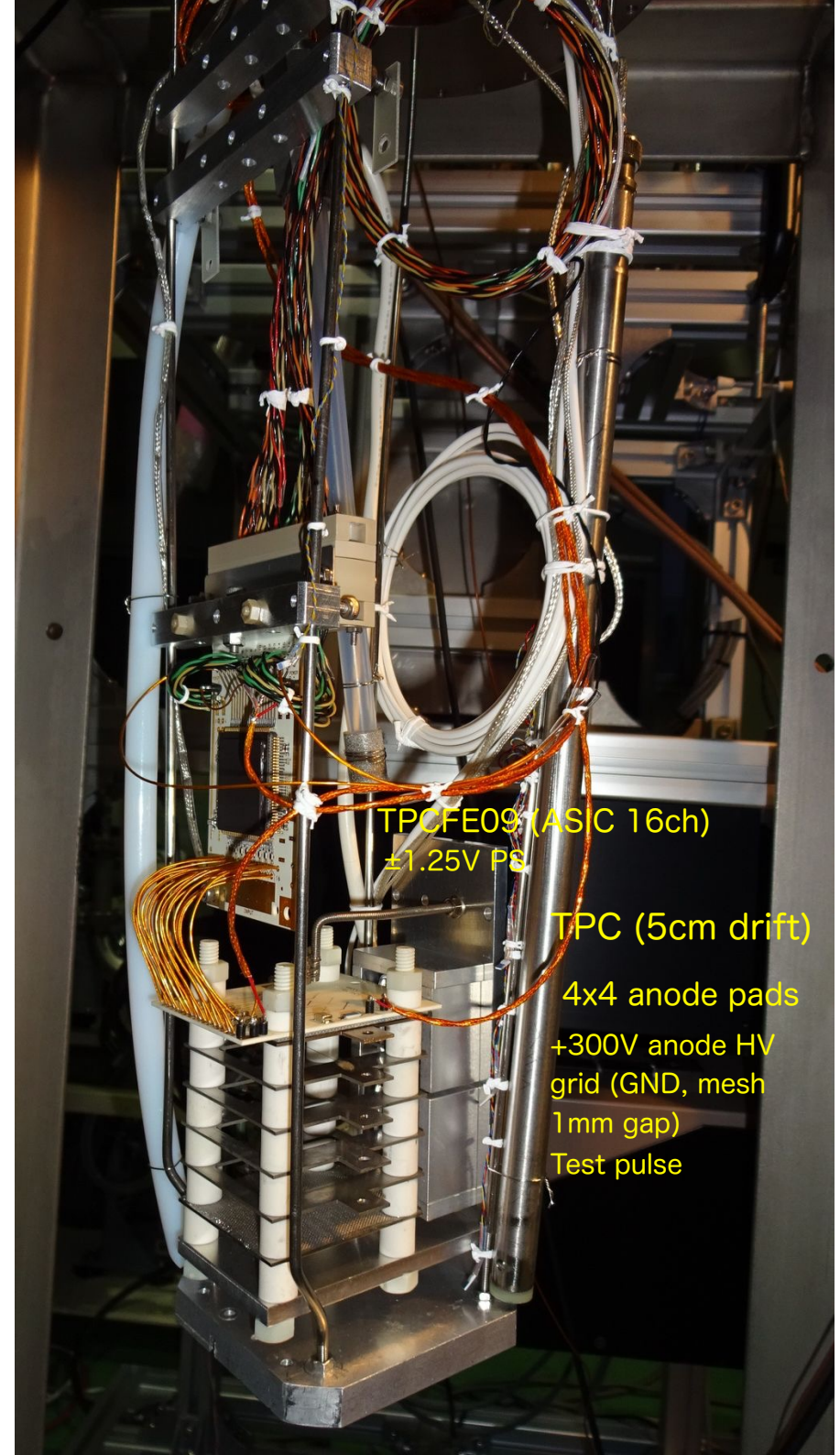
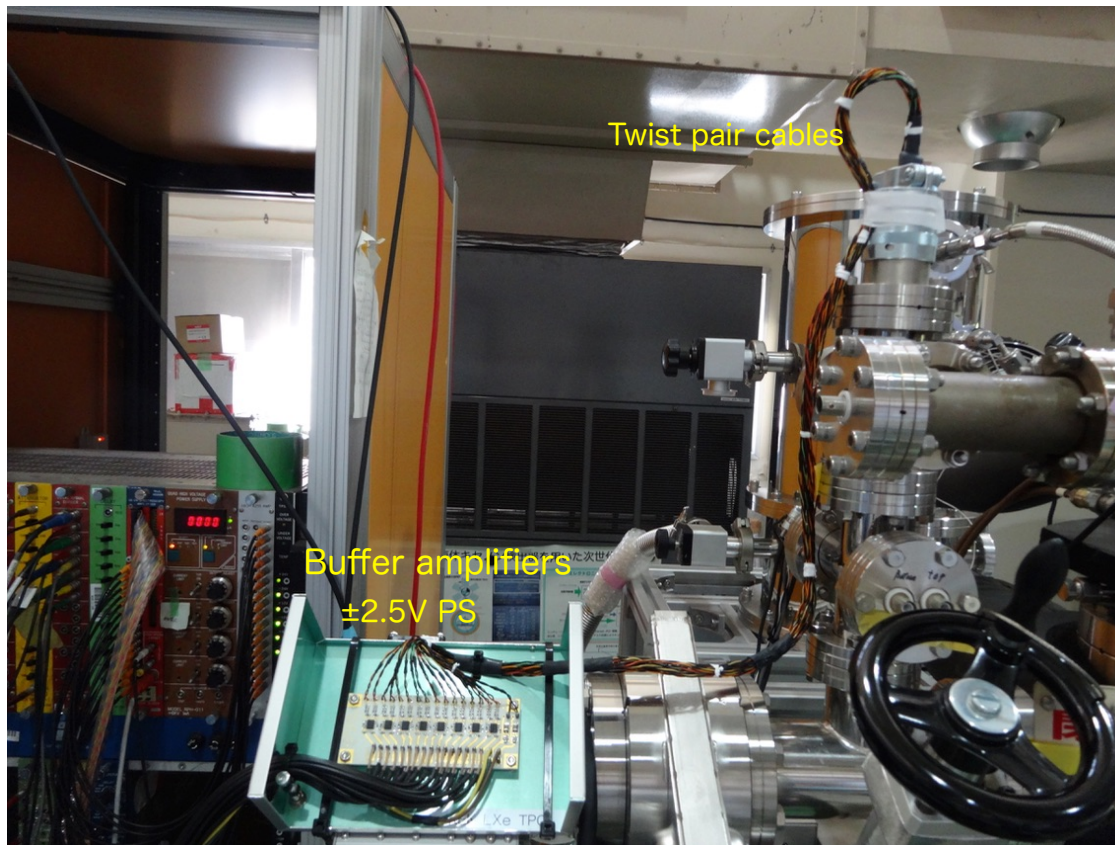
Prototype of TXePET at KEK

LXeTPC

prototype -2

ASIC Frontend Electronics(16ch/chip)
with the pre-cooling system

Optimized setup, 22 October, 2015



3γ PET

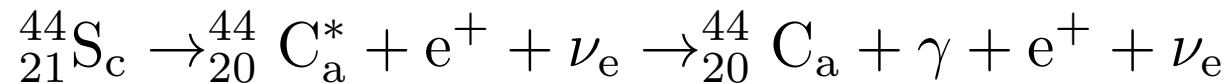
as an innovative
imaging modality

3 γ Imaging unique to a Liquid Xe PET

for better sensitivity and lower injected activity

L. Gallego Manzano et al., NIM A787(2015) 89-93

LOR and 3rd γ (Compton telescope) measurements at the same time

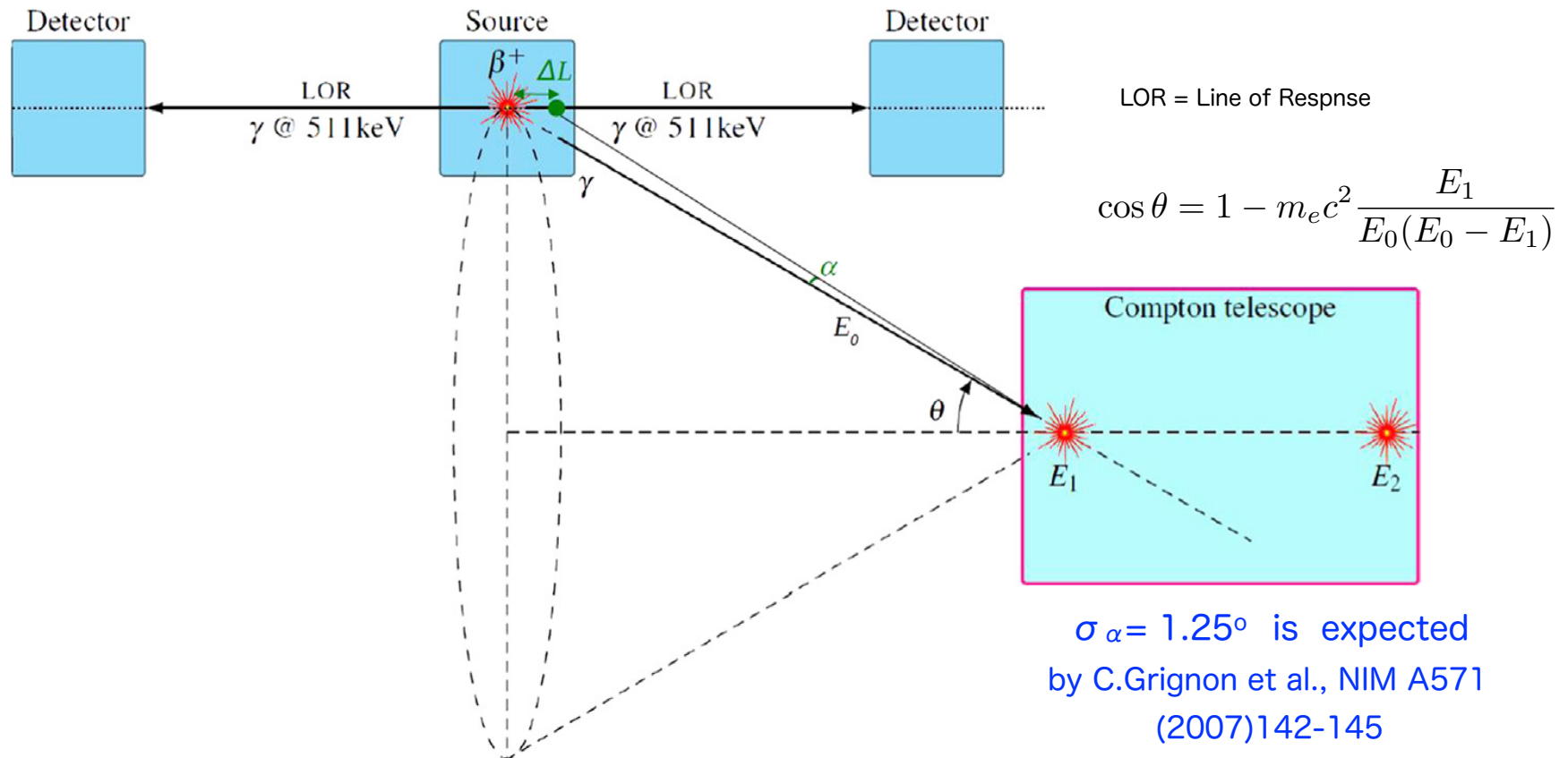


β^+ 94.3%

$E_{\text{max}}=1.474\text{MeV}$

$\tau=4\text{h}$

$\sim 100\%$ emission of a 1.157MeV γ , which has 79% probability of Compton scattering in Liquid Xe



Prototype
of 3γ PET
(XEMIS)
at Subatech

XENON Group @ Subatech

XEMIS @ Subatech

- Jean-Pierre Cussonneau
- Eric Morteau
- Dominique Thers

Post-doc:

- Nicolas Beaupere
- Lucía Gallego

PhD students:

- Debora Giovagnoli
- Loïck Virone
- Yajing Xing
- Yuwëi Zhu

Mechanical Service:

- Patrick Le Ray
- Jean-Sébastien Stutzmann

Electronic Service

Collaborations

CHU / INSERM

- Thomas Carlier

IRCCyN

- Imaging

KEK Japon

- R&D photodetectors

Air Liquide Advanced Technologies

- R&D liquid xenon cryogenics

Pôle Micrhaou

- R&D electronics

ARRONAX

- Radioisotope production



XEMIS: XEnon Medical Imaging System

Low activity Medical Imaging (~ 20 kBq)



for 20 min.

3γ imaging + Liquid xenon Compton camera

So the injected activity is about 1/1000 , the imaging time can be <1 sec !

XEMIS1

R&D

XEMIS2

Small animal imaging

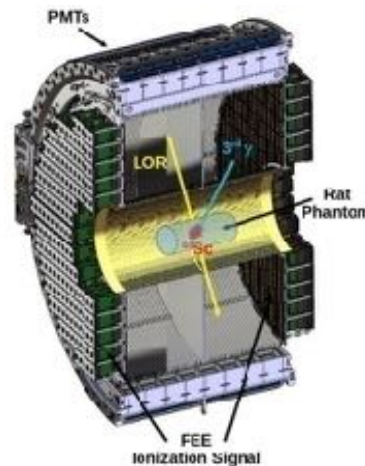
XEMIS3

Whole body imaging



30 kg

12 cm drift TPC



200 kg

2 x 12 cm drift TPC

From 2020

LXe clinical camera

- Neurology: ~ 250 kg
- Paediatrics: ~ 700 - 800 kg
- Whole body: few tons

Prototype of the full-body PET and also in-beam imaging

Evolution of XEMIS2 (small animal imaging)

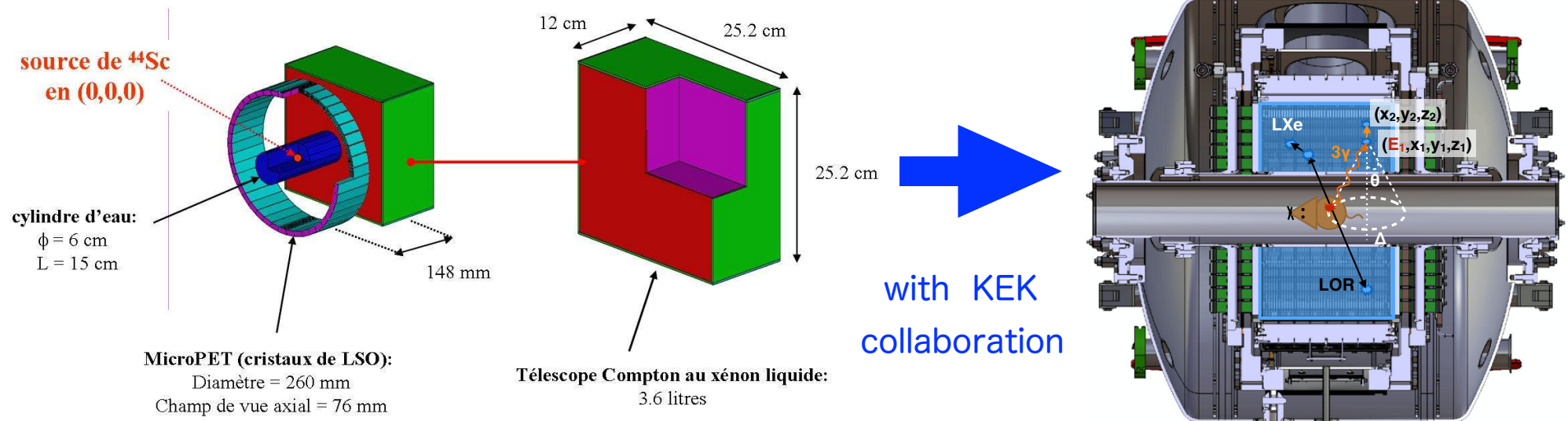


FIG. 6.4 – Représentation du télescope Compton au xénon liquide associé à une micro-TEP au LSO

Subatech group

Doctor thesis of C.Grignon, Nantes university, 2007, and
C.Grignon et al., NIM A571 (2007)142-145

L. Gallego Manzano et al., NIM A787(2015) 89-93

Establishment of XEMIS2 in CHU-Nantes

(Nantes university hospital)

ReStox XEMIS2
Patent in progress

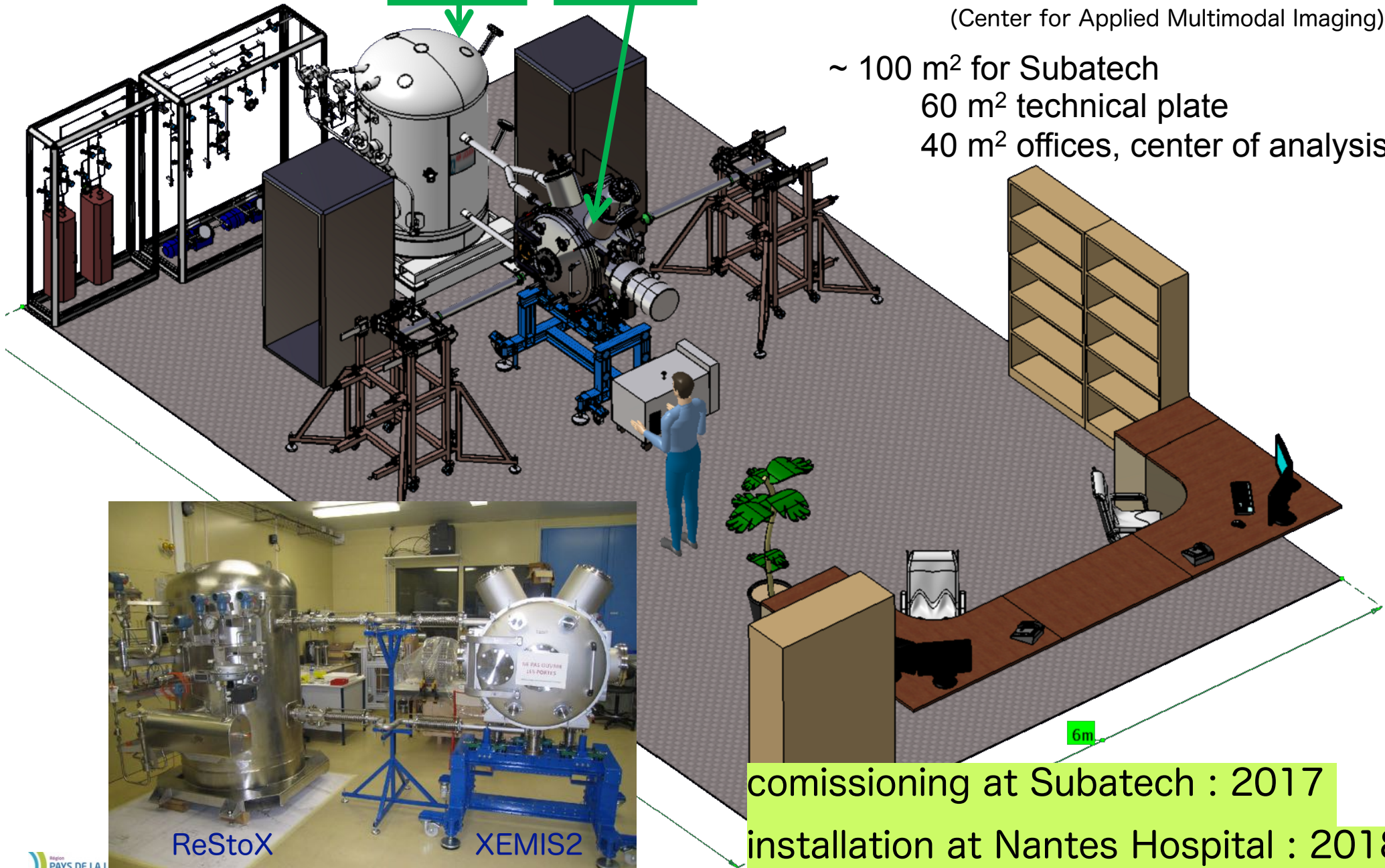
ReStoX

Caméra

New center of imagery CIMA

(Center for Applied Multimodal Imaging)

~ 100 m² for Subatech
60 m² technical plate
40 m² offices, center of analysis



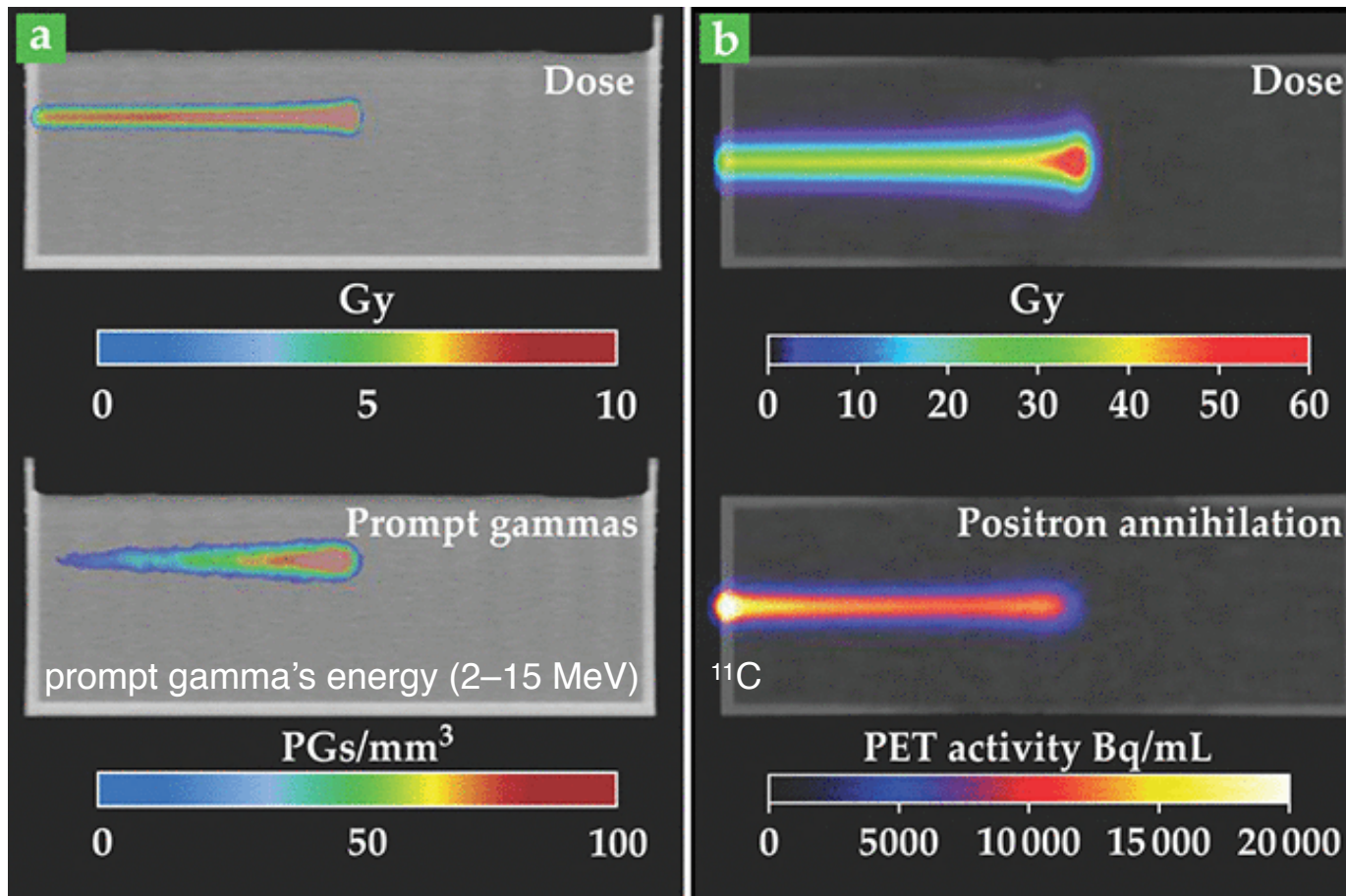
comissioning at Subatech : 2017
installation at Nantes Hospital : 2018

In-beam Imaging

(Ion beam range
monitoring

at hadron therapy)

realtime or 4D imaging?



an experimental Compton camera

PET

Figure 4. Simulated patients—tanks of water or gelatin—are irradiated with proton beams for proof-of-principle gamma imaging. In each case, the dose distribution in the upper panel is calculated, and the gamma distribution in the lower panel is measured. **(a)** A 150-MeV clinical proton pencil beam impinges on a water tank, and the prompt-gamma (PG) emission is imaged with an experimental Compton camera specially designed for the purpose. **(b)** Positron-annihilation gamma emission from a tank of tissue-like gelatin is imaged with a commercial diagnostic positron emission tomography instrument shortly after irradiation with a 177-MeV proton beam. The strong signal near the entrance region in the PET image is a result of carbon-11 activation in the carbon-rich walls of the tank. (Panel b courtesy of Julia Bauer, Heidelberg Ion-Beam Therapy Center.)

The liquid xenon TPC can work both for the Compton camera and PET !

A beam structure can be optimized for this detector ?

Proton radiotherapy for the breast cancer very close to the heart and LAD

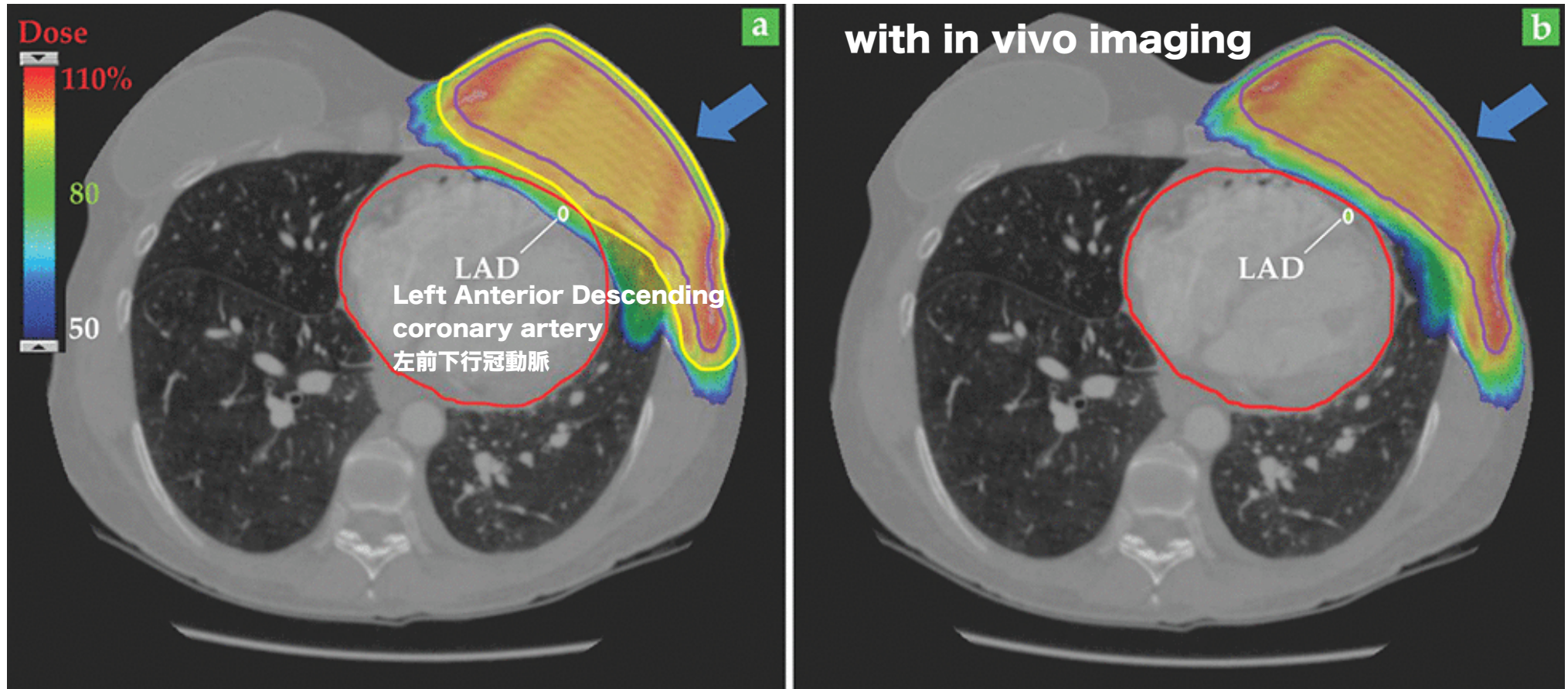


Figure 5. Patient outcomes can be greatly improved by in vivo imaging that reduces beam-range uncertainty by just a few millimeters. In this breast cancer patient, the intended treatment volume is indicated by the purple line, and the direction of the treatment beam is shown by the blue arrow. **(a)** To account for the beam-range uncertainty, the treatment volume must be expanded to the region enclosed in yellow. As a result, significant dose (shown here as a percentage of the prescribed dose) is delivered to the heart (red line) and the left anterior descending coronary artery (LAD; white line). **(b)** With range-verified proton radiotherapy, no expansion to the treatment volume would be needed. Dose delivered to the heart and the LAD is greatly reduced, as is the patient's risk of radiation-induced heart disease.

For this particular patient, the mean heart dose could be reduced from 3.0 Gy to 0.6 Gy, the LAD dose from 4.0 Gy to 0.6 Gy, and the lung dose from a mean value of 10.0 Gy to 6.5 Gy.

Summary

1. The liquid Xe TPC can be an ideal PET with a good DOI resolution, i.e. the 3 dimensional resolution of a few mm. Fine imaging is expected with smaller radiation dose. It is also a good Compton camera especially for prompt gammas, i.e. for the in vivo imaging.
2. A prototype, XEMIS2, was constructed for a small animal PET, which will demonstrate the basic characteristics of the 3 γ imaging.
3. For the real-time tracking, the imaging speed depends on algorithm of the deconvolution and the computer power with GPU (Graphics Processing Unit). The successive approximation method such as the ML-EM must be improved for the fast imaging of 10 frames/sec (*).

(*) 2 frames/sec with an average delay time of 2.1 sec has been demonstrated for a point source in the OpenPET based on jPET-D4 by T.Yamaya et al.

ref: Yamaya T., Tashima H. (2017) OpenPET Enabling PET Imaging During Radiotherapy. In: Inoue T., Yang D., Huang G. (eds) Personalized Pathway-Activated Systems Imaging in Oncology. Springer, Singapore