

Improving hadrotherapy with FOOT experiment

Marco Francesconi First year seminar, Pisa 21-09-2017

Summary

- What is hadrotherapy
 - How it compares to conventional external radiotherapy treatments
- The problem of nuclear fragmentation
 - its effect on hadrotherapy
- The FOOT Expetiment
 - Experimental setup
 - Expected results









 Can be tuned by changing the energy of the incoming beam



Hadrotherapy and conventional radiotherapy



Tens thousands euros





Hundreds millions euros Treatments costs ~ 5-10 radiotherapy



Hadrotherapy showed capable of addressing cases of radiation resistant tumor But is worth the economical effort?

Hadrotherapy in Italy



At least yes in Italy!!!! 4th position in the world (ex-aequo with China)



CNAO

Pavia



CATANA Catania

Proton beam up to 60 MeV Active since 2002 specialized on eye tumor 363 patients Proton Beam up to 250MeV <u>Carbon Beam</u> up to 480MeV/u Active since 2011 1200 patients Proton Therapy Center Trento

Proton Beam up to 230MeV Active since 2015

Still experimental treatments but recognized by Italian sanitary system in 2017

RadioBiological Effectiveness



Particle with **bigger charge** tends to cause more ionization clusters



$$R.B.E = \left(\frac{D_{X-ray}}{D_H}\right)_{Same \ effect}$$





RBE values



RBE values





Proton beam



Target Fragmentation



Small Range

Hydrogen 10%

Carbon, Oxygen, Nitrogen 90%





Effect



Increased energy deposit in the entry channel (Target Fragmentation) long tail after the tumoral target (Projectile Fragmentation)

Effect



Effect



Detect low-energy products from target fragmentation

Fragment	E (MeV)	LET (keV/µm)	Range (µm)
¹⁵ O	1.0	983	2.3
¹⁵ N	1.0	925	2.5
^{14}N	2.0	1137	3.6
¹³ C	3.0	951	5.4
^{12}C	3.8	912	6.2
¹¹ C	4.6	878	7.0
$^{10}\mathbf{B}$	5.4	643	9.9
⁸ Be	6.4	400	15.7
⁶ Li	6.8	215	26.7
⁴ He	6.0	77	48.5
³ He	4.7	89	38.8
² H	2.5	14	68.9

Range from MC Simulation ~um

Fragments remains inside production target

Very difficult to detect almost impossible to characterize

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"Target on beam" approach

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The FOOT Goal

Measure .

 $\frac{d\sigma}{dE, d\theta}$ with 5% uncertainty for 200MeV ions for various ion (H, He, C, O...) impinging on different targets (C, C₂H₂,PMMA...) with isotopic identification with 1-2MeV/u resolution in the fragment energy with ~10 mrad accuracy in angles



9 INFN section (Pisa included)

Almost all national labs: CNAO, TIFPA, LNS, LNF

International collaboration with:

- Nagoya University (Japan)
- GSI (Germany)
- Aachen University (Germany)
- IPHC Strasbourg (France)

The FOOT "Double" Experiment







Sub-detector	Main Characteristics
Start Counter	Plastic scintillator 250 µm
Beam monitor	Drift chamber (12 layers of wires)

Start Counter

- Measure incoming Beam flux (Normalization)
- Provide Start Time

Beam Monitor

- Check Beam is fine (no Fragmentation)
- Provide track of the incoming particle



Sub-detector	Main Characteristics
Start Counter	Plastic scintillator 250 µm
Beam monitor	Drift chamber (12 layers of wires)
Target	$C + C_2H_4 (2 mm)$
Vertex	4 layers silicon pixel (20x20 μm)
Magnet	2 permanent dipoles (Halbach geometry 0.8 T)
Inner Tracker	2 layers silicon pixel (20x20 μm)
Outer Tracker	3 layers of Silicon strip (125 µm pitch)

Vertex & Inner Tracker(Silicon Pixel)

- Track outgoing fragments
- Locate vertex of fragmentation
- ultra-low material budget
- first estimation of momentum

Magnet

- Double dipolar magnet
- non superconducting, easier to maintain

Strip detector

- Very good tracking on wider surface
- Provide dE/dx information (particle identification)

Allow extrapolation of track to next detectors

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Prototypes in progress



Start Counter













Fragment Identification (Z)

Dedicated Time of Flight detector -> determination of Z



Fragment Identification (A)

FOOT is a redundant experiment

Mass value can be extracted using multiple detectors



Montecarlo simulation of differential cross section

FOOT may use different target

Extract cross section of protons by comparing carbon and polyethylene

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dE_{kin}}(H) = \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{d\sigma}{dE_{kin}}(C_2H_4) - 2\frac{d\sigma}{dE_{kin}}(C) \right)$$



this procedure have been validated with Montecarlo





Other experimental activities in FOOT

Helium or Oxygen as possible ions to be used in therapy?



Balance between lateral dispersion immunity and fragmentation probability

 Measure cross section for Cosmic Ray particle that may be armful to astronauts

Higher energies (up to 700 MeV/u)

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Also with on bigger projectiles (Si, Fe)

This is an example of known combination of projectile-target for non-hydrogen fragments



References

Everything concerning FOOT:

FOOT Collaboration, **FOOT Conceptual Design Report**, https://web.infn.it/f00t/index.php/it/public-links, <u>Being pushed to Arxiv soon</u>

in an handy 94 pages size

Francesco Tommasino and Marco Durante, Proton Radiobiology, Cancer 2015

Jay S. Loeffler and Marco Durante, Charged particle therapy - optimization. challenges and future directions, Nature Reviews 2013

E. Haettner *et al,* Experimental study of nuclear fragmentation of 200 and 400 MeV/u ¹²C ions in water for applications in particle therapy, Phys. Med. Biol. 2013

Conclusion

FOOT experiment aims to measure fragmentation cross section of ions interesting for therapy applications



Design phase have been almost completed, waiting for final approval by INFN

This is a very multicultural experiment involving people and knowledges from Particle, Nuclear and Medical Physics



... and world is looking forward to FOOT results!

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Hadrotherapy history



Steadily growing

2017 data (PTCOG):

- 75 operating facilities
- out of them 11 are ion-therapy
- 41 being built

154203 patients by the end of 2015 (20000 with carbon ions)

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The future is ion beam?

- higher relative Bragg peak
- less lateral dispersion
- more "effective"
- ... more susceptible to a problem described later...



The emulsion spectrometer



Integrate target, Particle Identification and spectrometer

- Good to separate low mass isotopes
- Big angular acceptance due to compactness ± 70°

