

### THE TRANSITION FROM 2D TO 3D AND TO IMRT -RATIONALE AND CRITICAL ELEMENTS

#### ICTP SCHOOL ON MEDICAL PHYSICS FOR RADIATION THERAPY DOSIMETRY AND TREATMENT PLANNING FOR BASIC AND ADVANCED APPLICATIONS March 27 – April 7, 2017 *Miramare, Trieste, Italy*

Yakov Pipman, D.Sc.

# The Radiotherapy Process ... in the beginning...





nene 3 Number 3

#### KV therapy for breast

The front cover depicts one of the first attempts to treat cancer with radiotherapy, it was painted in 1908 by the French artist Georges Alexander Chicotot, and is reproduced by kind permission of the Bridgeman Art Library.

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Radiation therapy simulation... a note and a diagram in the chart

### Radiotherapy 1-D and 2-D









Co-60 TREATMENT TIME and "SKIN" DOSAGE CHART at The Long Island Jewish Hospital 270-05 76th Avenue

New Hyde Park, N.Y. 11040

80 CM. S.S.D.

Time in Minutes to give 100 rads tumor dose at depth and Max.r "skin" dose for 100 Rads at depth for period April 1, 1969 through June 30, 1969.

Output 104.8 r/Min. at 80 Cm. S.S.D.

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CO-60 treatment	2.0	110	1.06	108	1.00	107	1.02	107	1.00	106	.99	
	3.0	117	1.13	115	1.10	113	1.08	112	1.05	111	1.04	
	4.0	125	1.22	122	1.17	120	1.14	118	1.11	117	1.10	
	5.0	134	1.30	130	1.25	127	1.21	125	1.18	124	1.16	
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	13.0	252	2.44	236	2.29	223	2.12	210	1.98	200	1.87	
	14.0	273	2.64	254	2.47	239	2.28	225	2.10	212	1.99	
	15.0	296	2.86	275	2.66	257	2.45	239	2.25	226	2.12	
	16.0	319	3.08	298	2.87	276	2.63	256	2.40	240	2.25	
	17.0	345	3.33	320	3.08	296	2.83	274	2.57	257	2.40	
	18.0	371	3.59	345	3.33	318	3.03	293	2.74	272	2.55	
	19.0	402	3.90	373	3.68	343	3.27	313	2.93	289	2.11	
	20.0	436	4.23	402	3.88	368	3.51	334	3.12	306	2.01	
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#### **Typical dosimetric** calculation

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### Radiotherapy 1-D +

### Planning

Simple beam arrangements

**Prescription to a point** 

### Calculations

Standard condition tables (PDD and BOT) Corrections for SSD and field size Blocked field corrections = > Equivalent Square Point of interest calculations

### **The Radiotherapy Process – in 2-D**







FIG. 11–37. C. The same procedure used for the localization of the lowest palpable disease is also used to determine the center of the lateral portals. A Lucite bridge used for daily treatment duplication is also shown.



FIG. 11–37. A. Projection of vaginal disease onto the surface of the body. The cervical localizer, seen on the left side of the tray, consists of a plastic rod with a lead plug at its tip and a fluid level to assure its horizontal position. The plastic rod is introduced into the vagina, guided by the examining finger until contact is made with the lowest palpable vaginal disease. As the rod is then attached to the stand at exactly this level, the vertical pointer, which is in line with the tip of the rod, will project the location of the lowest palpable vaginal disease onto the surface of the body. The lower margin of the portal is drawn 2 cm below that projection. A verification film is taken immediately and adjustments are made until the field includes approximately 1 cm of tissue below the lead plug, which means that there will be at least 2 cm of normal vaginal tissues in the irradiated field.

Also seen on the tray are the compression cone for the 22-MeV betatron with the lead blocks to shield respectively 2 and 4 cm of tissue at 10-cm depth. The end of compression cone for the <sup>60</sup>Co unit is made of copper mesh to minimize secondary electron emission. The lead blocks can slide sideways to fit the isodose curves of the individual radium system.





![](_page_10_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_2.jpeg)

**D.** Isodose distribution of <sup>60</sup>Co wedges. The tumor dose is taken at the 138% curve. The tissue volume included in the high dose range is not excessive.

![](_page_10_Figure_4.jpeg)

### In "2D" radiotherapy

- The target is defined in relation to anatomic landmarks – heavy reliance on bony anatomy
- The extent of fields is driven by knowledge of anatomy and by disease pathways
- Extensive use of physical examination, palpation and physical measurements of the patient.
- Dose distribution information limited to single plane of major significance in order to cover the target. Energy selection is very important.
- Protection of critical organs set by experience

### The Radiotherapy Process in 2D with Radiographic Simulation

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **Radiotherapy 2-D with R/F simulation**

### Targeting

- Palpation
- Use of planar images
- **Reference to Anatomical landmarks**
- **No Information on actual volumes**
- Beam's eye-view of simple fields
- Choice of field size usually by disease site rules

### Blocking

Protection of critical structures rather than conformality. Based on clinical experience to avoid complications Treatment fields <u>not</u> conformal to <u>target</u>

![](_page_15_Picture_0.jpeg)

- We never treated our patients with 2D RT...
- Our information was 2D
  - Radiographs collapsed all the anatomy unto a 2D radiographic film
  - We could only represent one plane at a time
- Our patients? All of them tri-dimensional !

### The 90's – the era of 3D

![](_page_16_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_2.jpeg)

DLOR FIGURE 13–3. Demonstration of various tools used in the planning of an evaluation of a litent with paranasal sinuses involving a medial wall of the right orbit. (A) Digitally reconstructed diograph depicting BEV-designed portal 3, which is an inferior superior beam. (B) Isodose distribution the central axis, coronal view.

CARLOS A. PEREZ • LUTHER W. BRADY

#### Principles and Practice of RADIATION ONCOLOGY

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**Third Edition** 

Lippincott - Raven

![](_page_16_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_11.jpeg)

COLOR FIGURE 13-5. Patient with a localized prostate cancer. (A) BEV-designed portal, right lateral. (B) Room view depicting beam directions for a seven-beam plan: right lateral, RAO, AP, and LAO; left lateral, LPO and RPO. (C) losdose distribution at the level of the central axis. (D) Demonstration of dose surface (70 Gy) from various views.

Perez and Brady - Principles and Practice of Radiation Oncology-1998, and others...

### 3-D Conformal Radiotherapy (3-D CRT)

 "The design and delivery of radiotherapy treatment plans based on 3-D image data with treatment fields individually shaped to treat only the target tissue"

### **Tools in 3-D planning systems**

design beam orientations

display beam's-eye-views (BEVs)

design of beam weights

calculate dose distribution throughout patient volume

computation of 3-D dose to the PTV and PRV

evaluation of the dose plan using dose volume histograms (DVH)

evaluation of the biological effect of the plan using tumor control probability (TCP) and normal tissue complication probability (NTCP)

### **The Radiotherapy Process – 3D-CRT**

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Immobilization Increasingly Important in 3D-CRT

![](_page_20_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

### **3D-CRT**

high quality 3-D imaging used to define : gross tumor volume (GTV) clinical target volume (CTV) planning target volume (PTV) planning organ at risk volume (PRV)

![](_page_23_Picture_0.jpeg)

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![](_page_24_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Four fields+ 2 arcs for a small\_Prostate EBT Total prescription 65 Gy to Isocenter

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Green Dose Cloud for four fields plus 2 arcs for the <u>small</u> prostate Isodose is the 65 Gy prescription

![](_page_26_Picture_1.jpeg)

## Dose Cloud for four fields plus 2 arcs for the same small prostate PTV

Isodose is now 97% of isocenter prescription (63 Gy)

![](_page_27_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Same Green Dose Cloud for four fields plus arcs for the LARGE PTV Isodose is 97% of isocenter prescription – 63 Gy

![](_page_28_Picture_1.jpeg)

### **Virtual Simulation**

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_0.jpeg)

### **Treatment Portal Evaluation Tools**

- •Digitally Reconstructed Radiographs (DRR)
- Port verification films
- Electronic Portal Imaging Devices (EPID)
- •On Board Imagers (OBI)
- Port comparison Software

#### CT guided Conformal Plan One of Six fields Prescription 77.4Gy to PTV

![](_page_33_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### **Dose Cloud** for a Six Fields <u>CRT</u>

Prescription Isodose 77.4 Gy – small PTV

![](_page_35_Picture_2.jpeg)
### **Dose Cloud** for Six Fields <u>CRT</u>

#### Prescription Isodose 77.4 Gy – LARGE PTV





#### Multimodality image registration



#### Acoustic neuroma not

clearly visible on CT image

#### Mass clearly seen on reformatted MRI image after fusion with CT



**Multiple beams** projected on a surface rendering of the patient facilitate setting the patient up for treatment. The puckered surface represents the mask used to immobilize the patient's head in the correct treatment position.

Dosimetric effects caused by couch tops and immobilization devices: Report of AAPM Task Group 176 - Med. Phys. 41 (6), June 2014



Non-coplanar beams (peach and red) aimed at a brain tumor(purple), displayed on a digitally reconstructed radiograph. The brain stem (green) and the optic chiasm (orange) are spared using conformal shaping of the beams



**External Beam Arrangement for 3-D conformal PBI** 

### **Dose distribution for External 3-D conformal PBI**



### **Cranio- spinal Irradiacion**





# 3–D Conformal RT Essential use of CT information

- Major increase in the use of CT information enables the construction of volumetric data sets
- The targets are constructed slice by slice from knowledge of anatomy and by disease pathways but aided by visualization of organs and boundaries between them and the targets. Physical examination, palpation and other tests are complemented with cross sectional images.
- The fields outlines are "conformed" to the BEV of the targets
- Physical measurements of the patient are substituted by digital image measurements tools
- The target is still defined in relation to anatomic landmarks significant reliance on bony anatomy. Use of DRR's

# 3–D Conformal RT – cont

- Dose distribution information expanded to multiple planes
- Multiple beam directions and non-coplanar arrangements reduce the dependence on beam energy
- Accounting for dose contributions from other planes is made possible by better beam models. Increased weight given to doses to critical organs
- New tools required to describe target and critical organ doses (DVH) and for plan evaluation
- DVH's of critical organs started to generate Organ dose tolerance information and partial volume dose tolerance

### Comparative Dose-Volume Histograms Dose escalation for Prostate Ca.



### RFS vs. DOSE - RT alone



From: M.J.Zelefsky et. al.; IJROBP June 1998

# **RFS vs. DOSE - RT alone**

657 patients treated in 1994-95



Fig. 2. Kaplan-Meier prostate-specific antigen (PSA) disease-free survival curves of patients with intermediate-risk tumors (T1b, T1c, T2a, GS  $\leq 6$  and PSA  $\geq 10$  ng/mL but  $\leq 20$  ng/mL or T2b, GS  $\leq 6$  and PSA  $\leq 20$  ng/mL or GS 7 and PSA  $\leq 20$  ng/mL).

#### From: P. Kupelian et. al.; IJROBP Feb 2005

# **Dose Response**



Fig. 2. Logistic response models for bNED for two pretreatment PSA groups.

#### • From: G.E.Hanks et. al., IJROBP, June 1998

# Morbidity vs. Dose



Fig. 5. Logistic response models for gastrointestinal and genitourinary radiation sequelae.

From:G.E.Hanks et. al., IJROBP, June 1998



- We can give radiation doses so high that they can sterilize any tumor... and "cure" any localized cancer
- If it were not for those inopportune organs and tissues that get in our way and prevent us from doing the best of jobs...





# **The Radiotherapy Process - IMRT**



# **Relation between Volumes**



ICRU-50 and ICRU-62

#### Structure Definitions Typical of an Head and Neck IMRT Treatment Design



DPF, NSUH\_LIJ,NY,USA



# Uncertainties (ICRU 62)

**Combined uncertainties** to define the PTV from the GTV (A)=linear addition of margins (B)=probabilistic addition of IM and SM (C)=global safety margin (empirical compromise between adequate coverage of GTV and unacceptable irradiation of organs at risk (OARs)

# Immobilization is of major importance to reduce setup margins (SM)



# **The Radiotherapy Process - IMRT**



# A new perspective on what is "the prescription"

- Identification of the Target is a <u>"must"</u>
- Definition of the <u>desired</u> Target DVH
- Determine the <u>desired</u> DVH's for Sensitive Structures
- Assign Uncertainties to the Volumes
- Set <u>Goals</u> and <u>Priorities</u> or <u>Penalties</u>

### The new "fashion" in prescriptions

PE.

#### Optimization

#### **Structures and Constraints**

- 60

B	7	СТУ	Volume [cc]:	142	Points:	7150	Resolution [mm]:	3.00	*
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1		Lower	Volume [%]:	100.0	Dose [cGy]:	5400.0	Priority:	110	
Ξ		Cooling Ring	Volume [cc]:	657	Points:	33574	Resolution [mm]:	3.00	
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		Upper	Volume [%]:	2.0	Dose [cGy]:	4200.0	Priority:	85	
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E	7	L cochlea	Volume [cc]:	1	Points:	1314	Resolution [mm]:	1.00	
		Upper	Volume [%]:	50.0	Dose [cGy]:	2050.0	Priority:	100	
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		LT Eye	Volume [cc]:	8	Points:	2552	Resolution [mm]:	1.52	
		Upper	Volume [%]:	20.0	Dose [cGy]:	1500.0	Priority:	80	
	7	PTV 3mm	Volume [cc]:	185	Points:	8965	Resolution [mm]:	3.00	
		Upper	Volume [%]:	10.0	Dose [cGy]:	5950.0	Priority:	80	
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		Upper	Í	10.0	ŕ	4300.0	Í	85	
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#### DVH limits – reference values

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	Structure	Volume (cc)	Total Dose (Gy)	Max Dose (Gy)	Endpoint	Notes	Reference	
34	Kidney	10%	10% 18		Renal insufficiency		Spalding	
35	Lens			25	Cataracts		RTOG 0615	
36	Lens				Cataracts	Avoid direct beam exposure	RTOG 0513	
37	Liver	50%	35	Clinical hepatitis			RTOG 0436	
38	Liver	100%	30		Clinical hepatitis		RTOG 0436	
39	Lung minus GTV	37%	20		Clinical pneumonitis		RTOG 0623	
40	Lung minus GTV	Mean	20		Clinical pneumonitis		RTOG 0623	
41	Mandible	1	75	70		Use either limit	RTOG 0225	
42	Optic nerves	1%	60	54		1% of PTV, use either limit	RTOG 0225	
43	Oral cavity (exclude PTV)	Mean	40				RTOG 0615	
44	Parotid gland (both)	20	20		Xerostomia	Only if sparing both glands	RTOG 0912	
45	Parotid gland (one)	50%	30		Xerostomia	Only if sparing one gland	RTOG 0912	
46	Parotid gland (one)	Mean	26		Xerostomia	Only if sparing one gland	RTOG 0912	
47	Penile bulb	Mean	52.5				RTOG 0126	
48	Rectum	15%	75				RTOG 0126	
49	Rectum	25%	70				RTOG 0126	
50	Rectum	35%	65				RTOG 0126	
51	Rectum	50%	60				RTOG 0126	
52	Small bowel	65	45	50			RTOG 0822	
53	Small bowel	100	40	50			RTOG 0822	
54	Small bowel	180	35	50			RTOG 0822	
55	Spinal cord			45	Myelitis		RTOG 0623	
56	Spinal cord	0.03	48		Myelitis		RTOG 0619	
57	Stomach	2%	50	54			Spalding	
K ← ▶ M Conventional SRS, SBRS, 1 fx / SBRT, 3 fx / SBRT, 5 fx / BED / Info / 💭								

Compiled and distributed – <u>without warranties</u> - by Nathan Childress, Ph.D., through http://www.medphysfiles.com/

# **The Radiotherapy Process - IMRT**



### **Inverse Planning Problem**

Dose to point i:

$$D_{i} = x_{1}d_{1i} + \bullet \bullet + x_{J}d_{Ji}$$
$$= x \bullet d_{i}$$

Objective function:

$$F(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i} W_{i} \bullet (D_{i} - P_{i})^{2}$$

Minimize F(x):

 $\nabla F(\mathbf{x}) = 2 \sum_{i} w_{i} \cdot (D_{i} - P_{i}) \mathbf{d}_{i} = 0$ 





## **Posterior Field Intensity Profile - Prostate**





# Delivery Methods to Modulate the Intensity

- Custom physical compensators
- Sliding Window with d-MLC
- "Step and Shoot" with MLC
- Slit Arc with binary MLC (Tomotherapy)
- VMAT
- RapidArc
- After the 'optimization' all require a final calculation of fluence and dose distribution !

# **Plan Review**



GTV (red), CTV (purple), Parotids (tomato), Brain Stem (green)

DPF, NSUH\_LIJ,NY,USA

# Plan Review: Dose Volume Histograms

- Dose Volume Histograms of the target and critical structures must be reviewed
- The same as you would for a 3-D plan, but more structures



Do We Deliver the Correct Dose Distribution for Treatment the first time ?

- Associate the d-MLC files to the fields in the Record and Verify system
- Verify start MLC positions for each field
- Verify modality and other parameters of each field against the reference plan.
- Measure the dose distribution (patient specific QA)

# Do We Deliver the Correct Fluence for Treatment every time ?

- Periodic QA of the d-MLC
- Audit the d-MLC motion history for the treatment
- Audit the patients electronic records
Do We Deliver the Same Treatment Every Time ?

With an 80 leaf MLC, there are about 2,000 parameters and 15,000 leaf positions per day, that have to be "just right".... ...every day.

> Record and Verify systems should be an integral part of IMRT delivery !



http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/Publications/PDF/Pub1607\_web.pdf

Do We Deliver the Correct Dose Distribution for Treatment every time ?

 For many anatomical sites we have limited control of the internal organ motion.

### Effects of Intra-Fraction Organ Motion on the Delivery of IMRT with







## Conventional treatment

Effect of organ motion on **GTV** is accounted for by **PTV**, which is always inside the beam aperture.

## IMRT treatment: summation of small beams

No organ motion delivered = planned with organ motion delivered ≠ planned

Courtesy of Dr C. S. Chui

## **Targeting Accuracy and Localization**

- Targets Move
  - Patient positioning
  - Limits on delivery system
- Implication:
  - Increased risk of complications seen with dose escalation
- Some Solutions
  - Minimize Uncertainty in Target Organ Location, perhaps on a daily basis
  - Use Image guided localization of the target or a reliable surrogate
  - Use gated beam delivery

# The great challenge!

•The better we can "fix" the target and be sure where we deliver the dose, the more we can reduce the margin required to convert CTV to PTV, and spare dose to sensitive structures! •However...

The tighter the dose distribution, the better we must know where the target is at all times!
If not...
We will achieve the exact opposite of our goal!

AAPM Report No. 82: Guidance Document on Delivery, Treatment Planning, and Clinical Implementation of IMRT. (2003) <u>http://www.aapm.org/pubs/reports/RPT\_82.pdf</u>.

#### Guidance document on delivery, treatment planning, and clinical implementation of IMRT: Report of the IMRT subcommittee of the AAPM radiation therapy committee

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TABLE 1. CLASSIFICATION OF CONFORMAL THERAPY ACCORDING TO THE METHODOLOGY AND TOOLS ASSOCIATED WITH EACH STEP OF THE PROCEDURE

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	Basic CRT	3-D CRT	Advanced 3-D CRT
1. Patient data acquisition			
Immobilization	Desirable	Customized to the patient	Customized to the patient
Imaging system	Localization films, few CT slices optional	Thin adjacent CT slices, MR optional	Co-registered CT with MR or PET
Anatomical data	-		
Reference marks for setup	Height above table and skin marks	External markers or frame	Implanted markers or frame
Critical organs	Contour individual slices	3-D segmentation	3-D segmentation
Inhomogeneities	Optional	Contouring every slice or voxel based correction	Voxel based correction
Gross tumour volume (GTV)	May not be formally defined	Contouring every slice	3-D segmentation
Clinical target volume (CTV)	May not be formally defined	Grown from GTV using auto-margin growing	Margin growing from GTV + functional imaging
Internal target volume (ITV)	May not be formally defined	Based on standard decision rules	4-D CT data to define ITV customized to patient

#### Transition from 2-D Radiotherapy to 3-D Conformal and Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy

**IAEA** 

mic Energy Agency

**TECDOC No. 1588. (2008)** 

www.pub.iaea.org/MTCD/Publications/PDF/TE\_1588\_web.pdf

#### APPENDIX A SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is designed to assist centres that plan to embark on a programme of 3-D conformal radiotherapy to check that they have all the necessary requirements. By the time the first patient is to be treated the answers to all the questions should be "Yes". Where gaps are identified they will need to be corrected. The questionnaire begins with the staffing and equipment requirements and then looks at the process of conformal radiotherapy planning and treatment to identify the issues that need to be addressed. Items indicated with an asterisk (\*) are optional for 3-D CRT. Questions 50-62 cover additional issues required for IMRT, for which the items marked with an asterisk should be regarded as essential.

### **Reference of References**

- "The Modern Technology of Radiation Oncology: A Compendium for Medical Physicists and Radiation Oncologists" - Volume 3 - J. Van Dyk, editor. Madison, WI: Medical Physics Publishing, (2013)
- Chapter 16: Radiation Oncology Resources for Working, Teaching, and Learning
- <u>https://medicalphysics.org/documents/vandykch16.pdf</u>

# IMRT is a powerful and sharp tool in the treatment of cancer with radiation!

