



# Radiochromic film in the Clinic,

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# Contents

- Varian Rapid Arc (RA), Clinical demand for QA
- EBT2 film dosimetry at VUmc
- Comparison of FilmQA with VUmc method
- Conclusion





# Rapid Arc

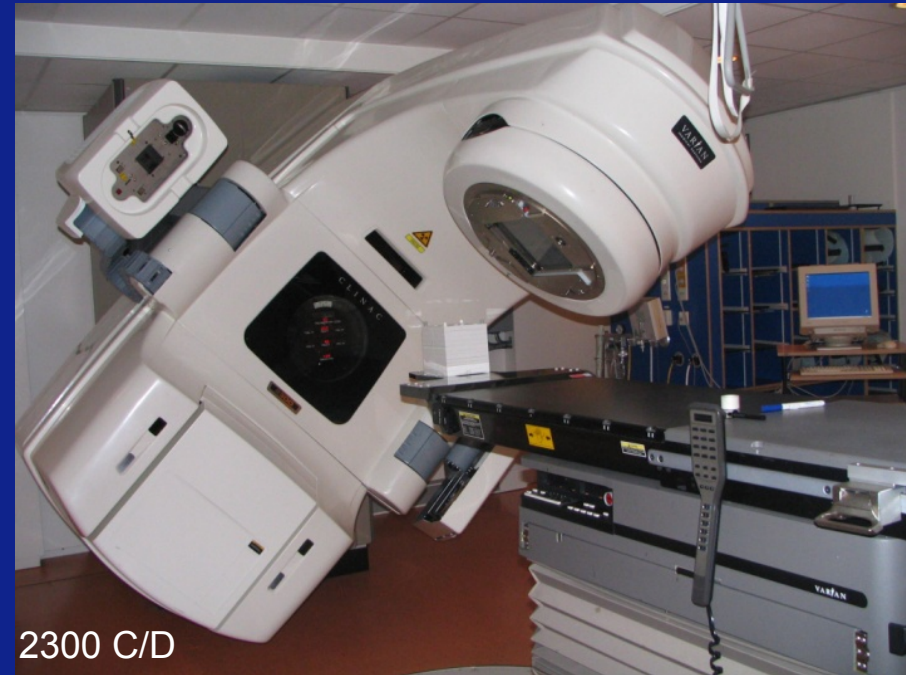
- RA is “IMRT” in a **single** rotation
- Different from IMRT by optimization and delivery
  - 1 Arc with variable gantry speed (0.5 – 5.54 degree/sec)
  - Variable dose rate (0 – 600 MU/min (0 – 1000 MU/min on Novalis Tx)), (0.2 – 20 MU/degree)
  - Rapid changing MLC apertures (0 – 2.5 cm/s)
  - Minimization of Monitor Units
  - Direct Aperture Optimization (simulated annealing)
- AAA in Eclipse (2.5 mm voxel)
- **Inter-digitating MLC**
- Highly modulated beam segments



- 2 Varian 2300 C/D
- 1 Trilogy
- 1 Trilogy Novalis Tx
- 2 Truebeam



Truebeam



2300 C/D



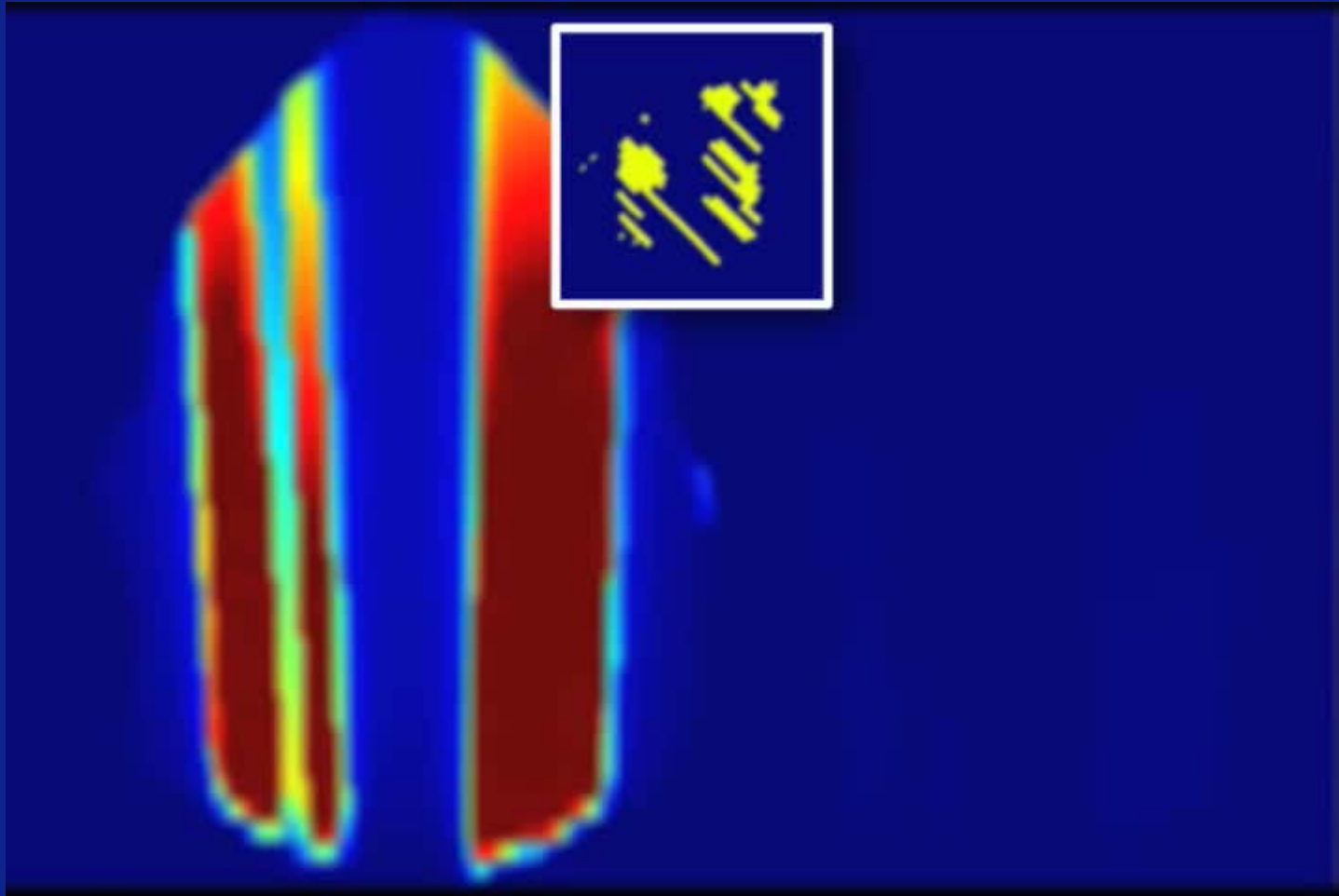
# Implementation Rapid Arc VUmc

- VUmc is one of the first clinical users of RA in Europe (2008)
- Only 6 MV (but also SRS 6 MV 1000 MU/min on Novalis TX)
- 6 accelerators with RA
- 2 arcs per patient (CW and CCW), coll 45 and 50 resp.
- Main indications at VUmc

- Head and neck
- Lung
- Brain
- Glioblastoma
- Prostate

## Fractions x Dose [Gy]

33 x 2 Gy  
 12 x 5 Gy  
 4 x 7.5 Gy  
 1 x 8 Gy  
 5 x 8 Gy  
 3 x 9 Gy  
 5 x 11 Gy  
 3 x 18 Gy

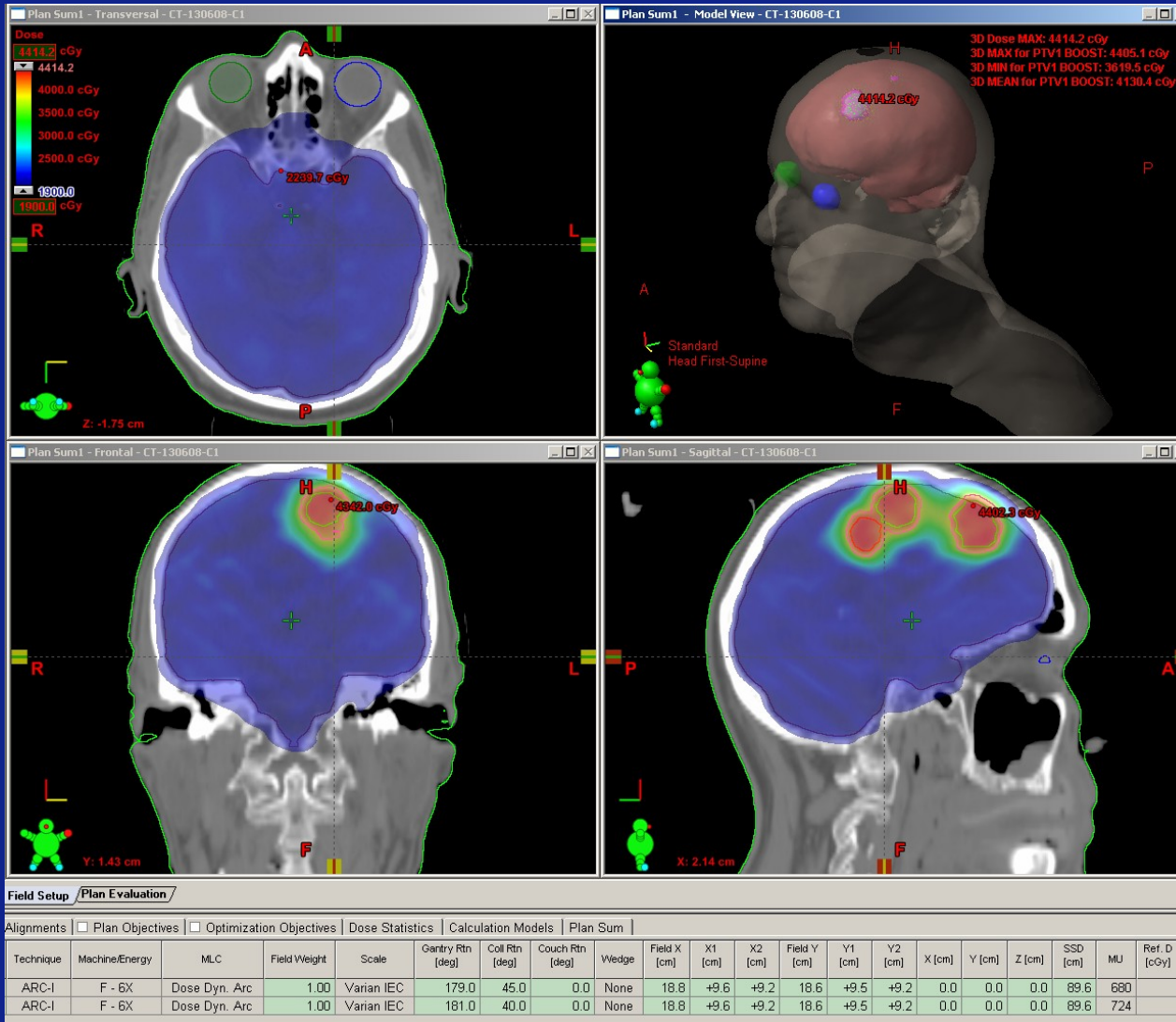


[www.varian.com](http://www.varian.com) for video

*Collimator 45 and 50 degree*

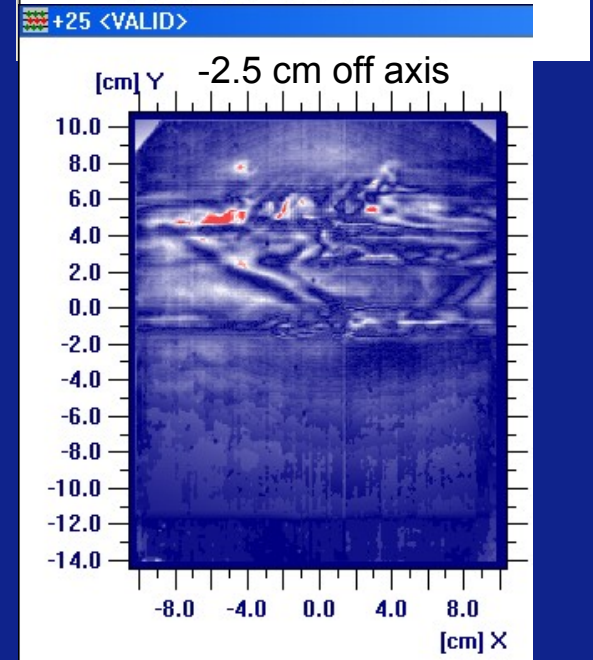
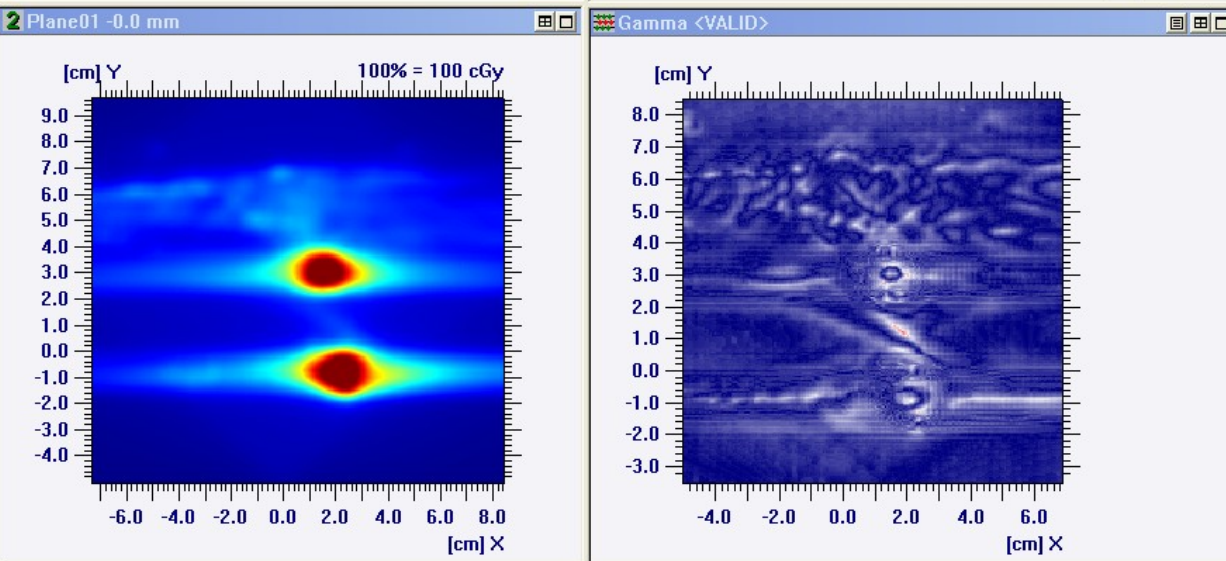
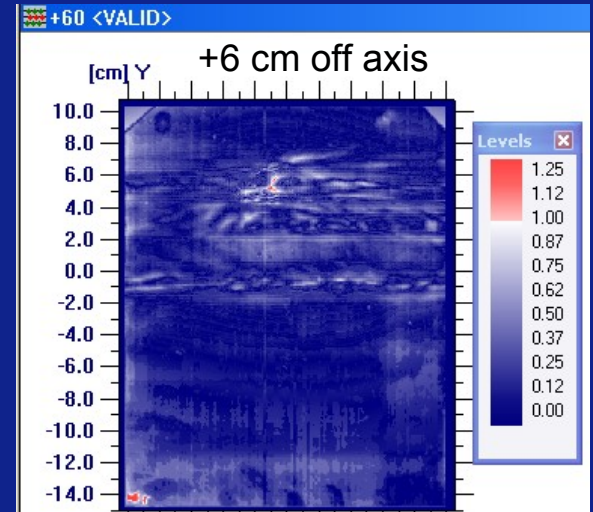
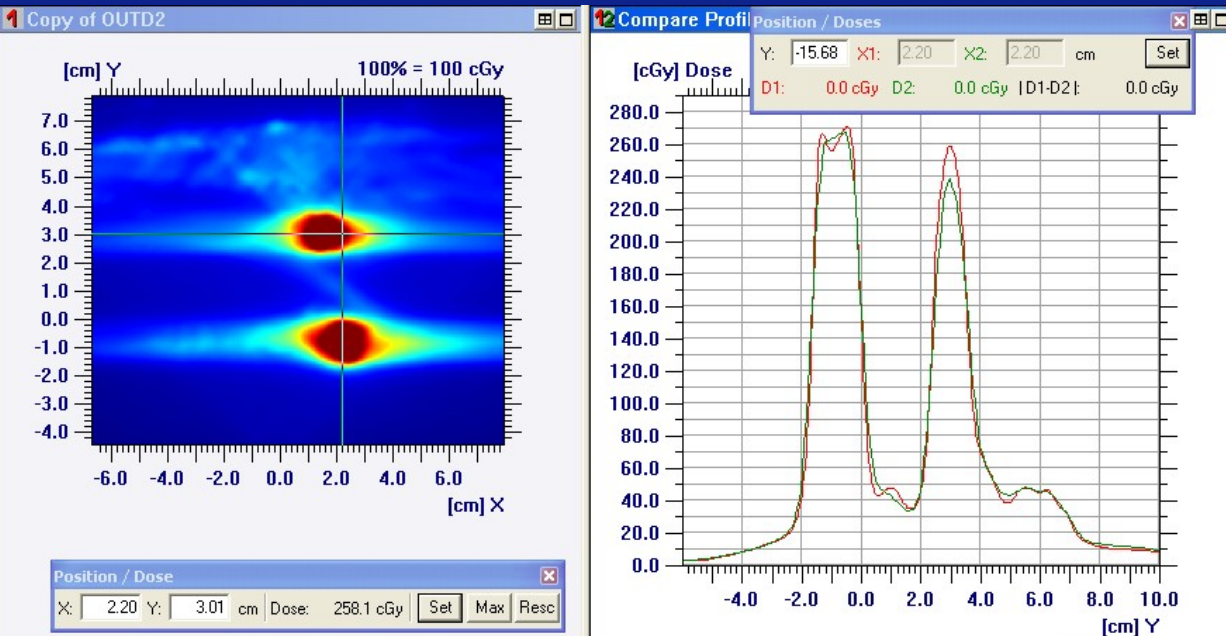


# WBRT (4 Gy) + mult. metas. (8 Gy)





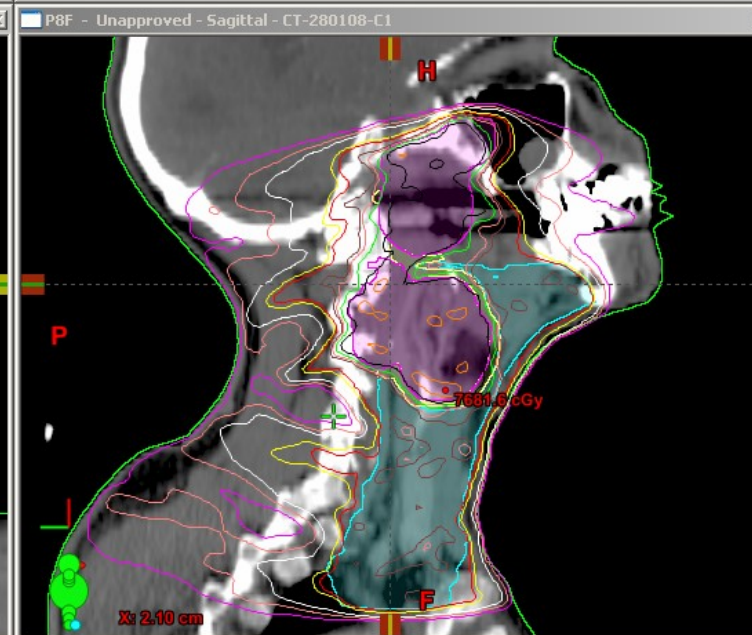
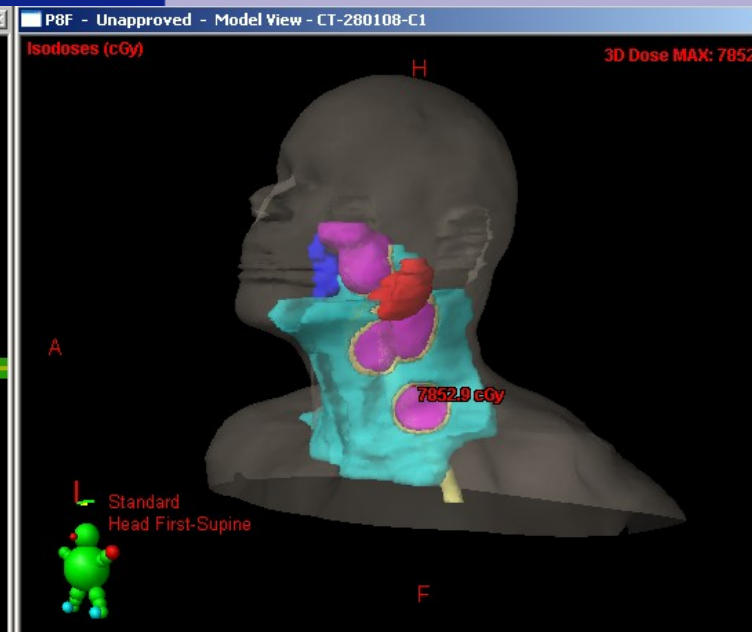
# Multiple brain metas: SRT





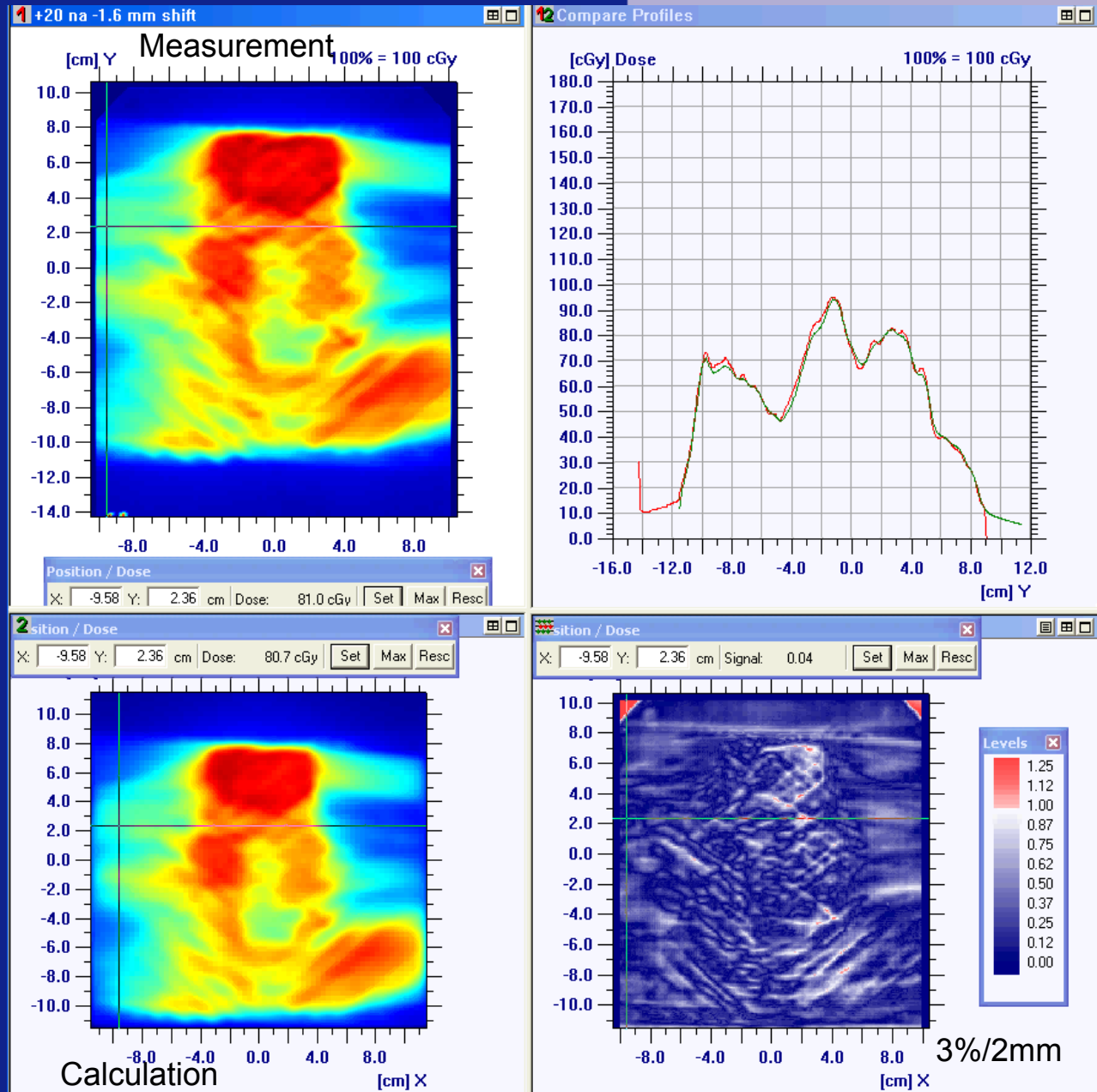


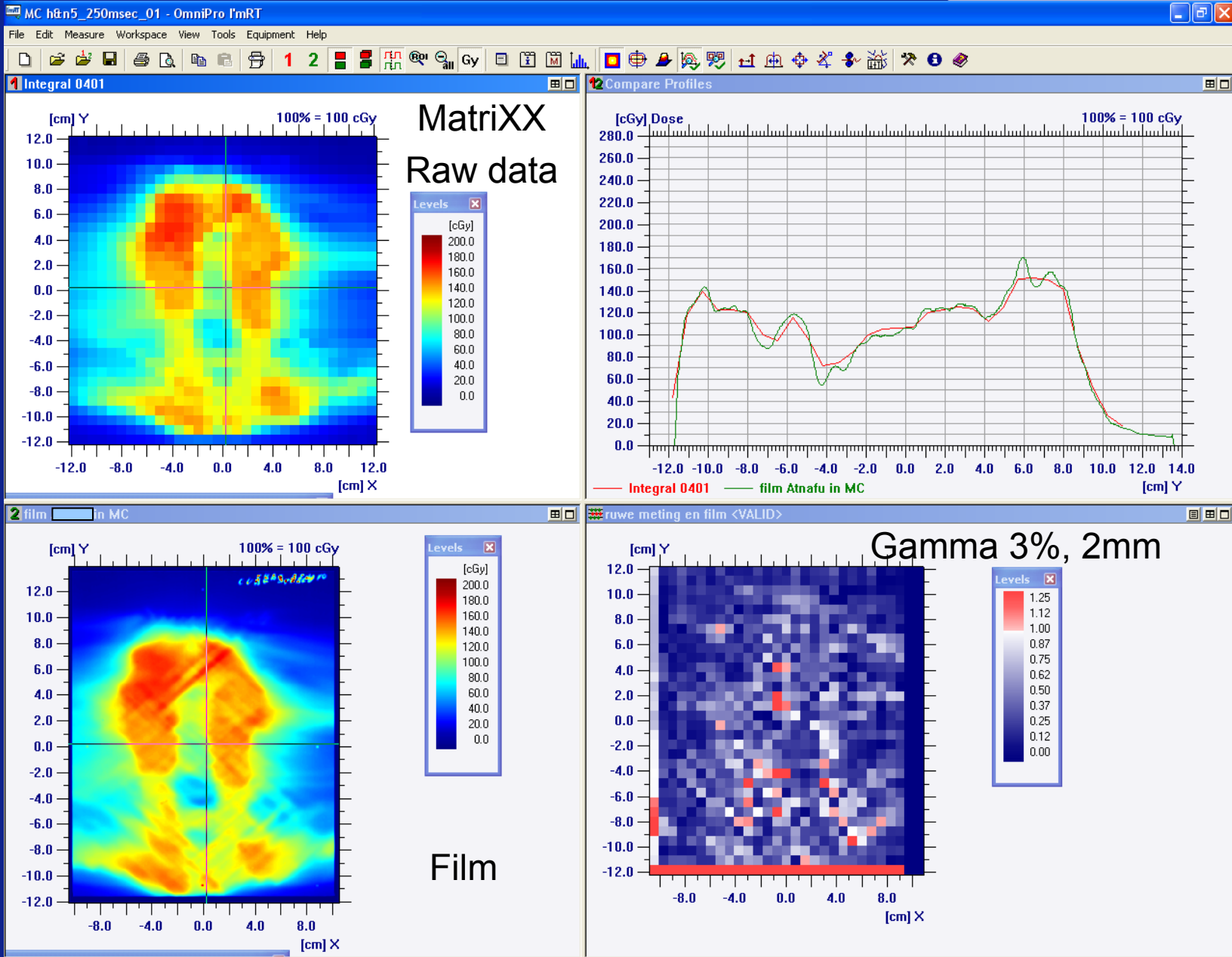
RapidArc  
optimized  
plan for  
Nasopharynx  
with SIB  
(56 / 70 Gy)

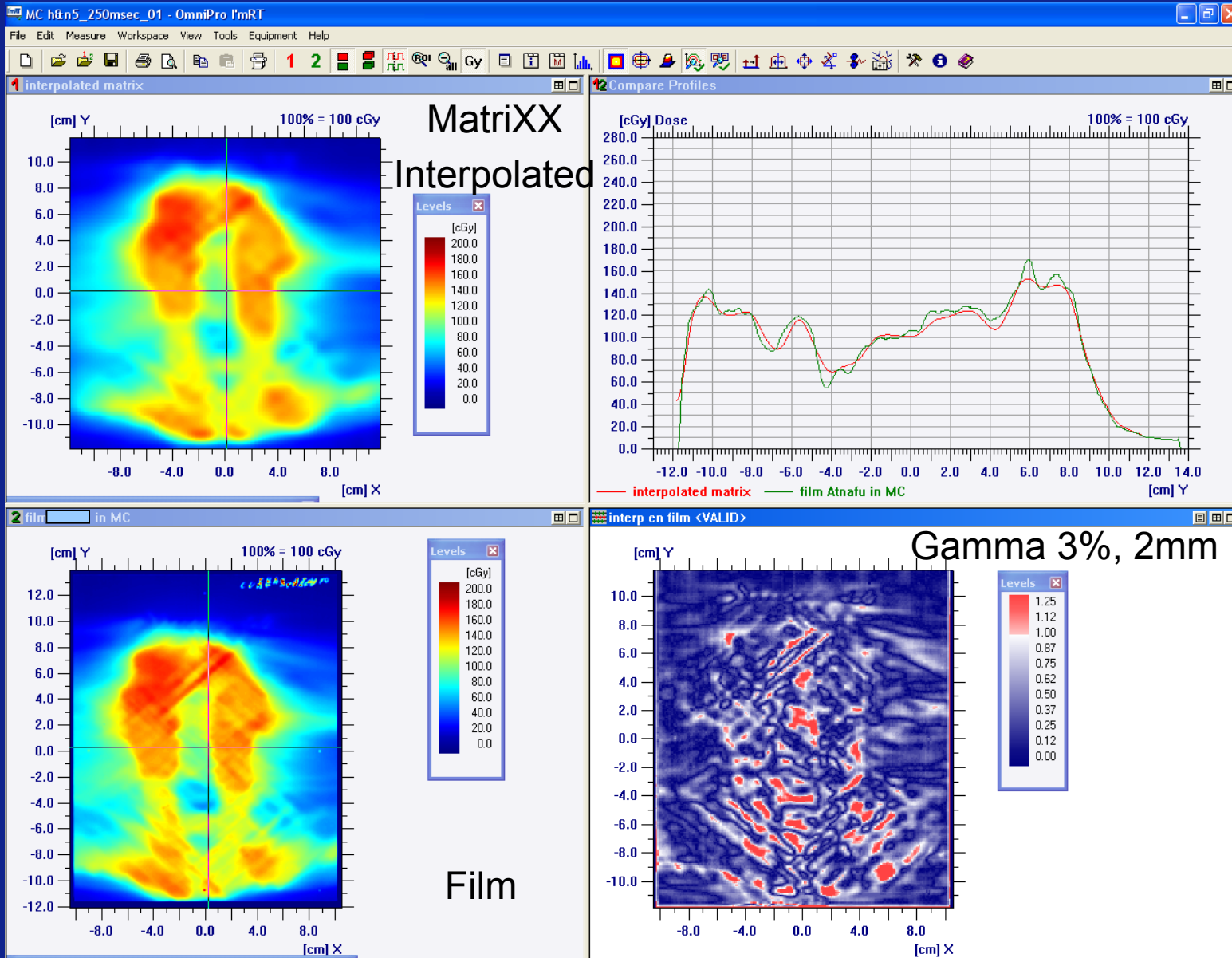


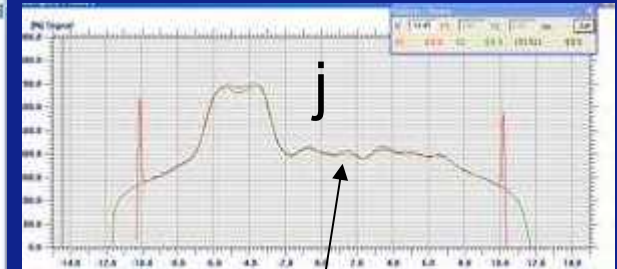
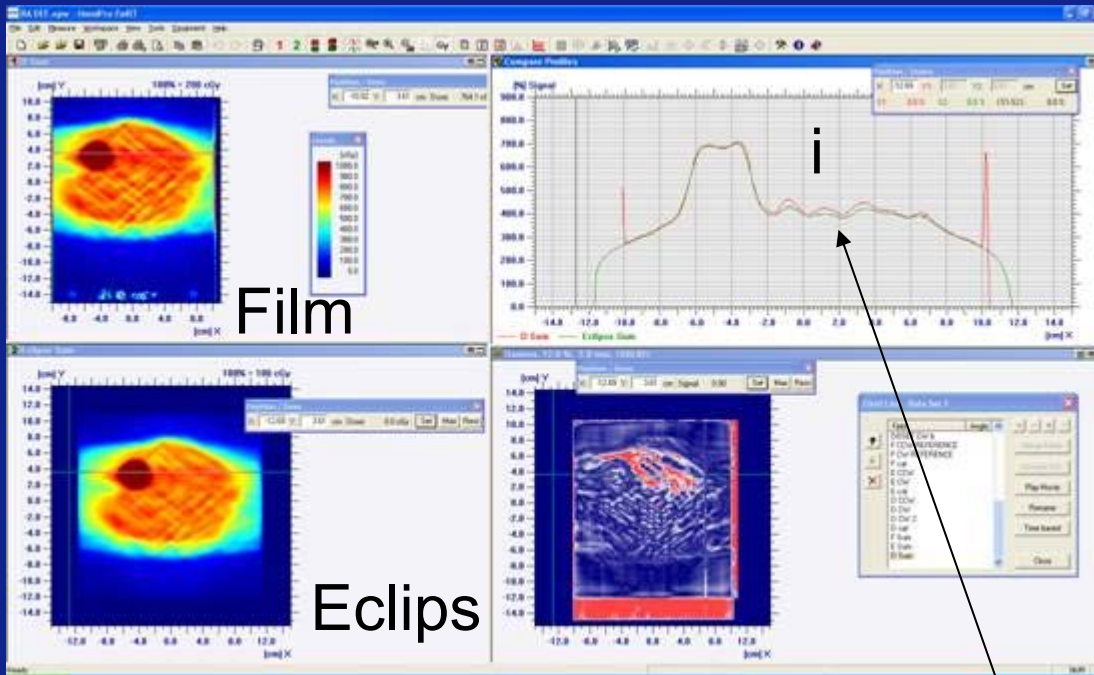


Film analysis for nasopharynx, comparison with calculations







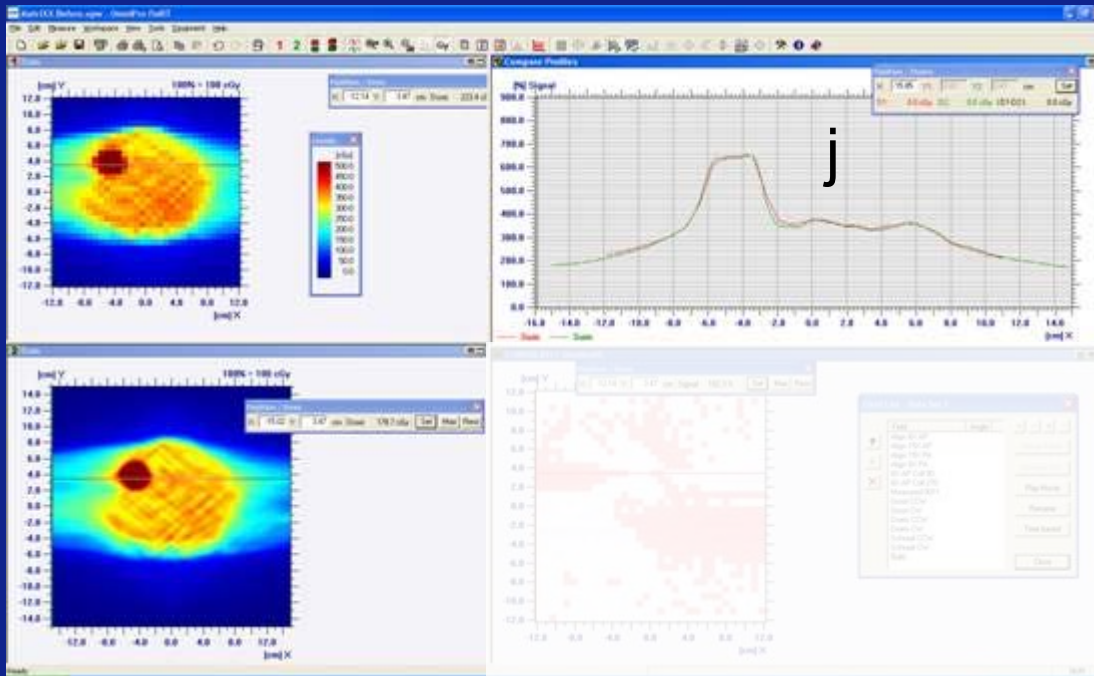


Difference in machine performance (i versus j)

*Machines i and j both meet "Varian specs"!  
Solved by re-positioning head assembly 0.3 mm*



## MatriXX



## GafChromic EBT1 film

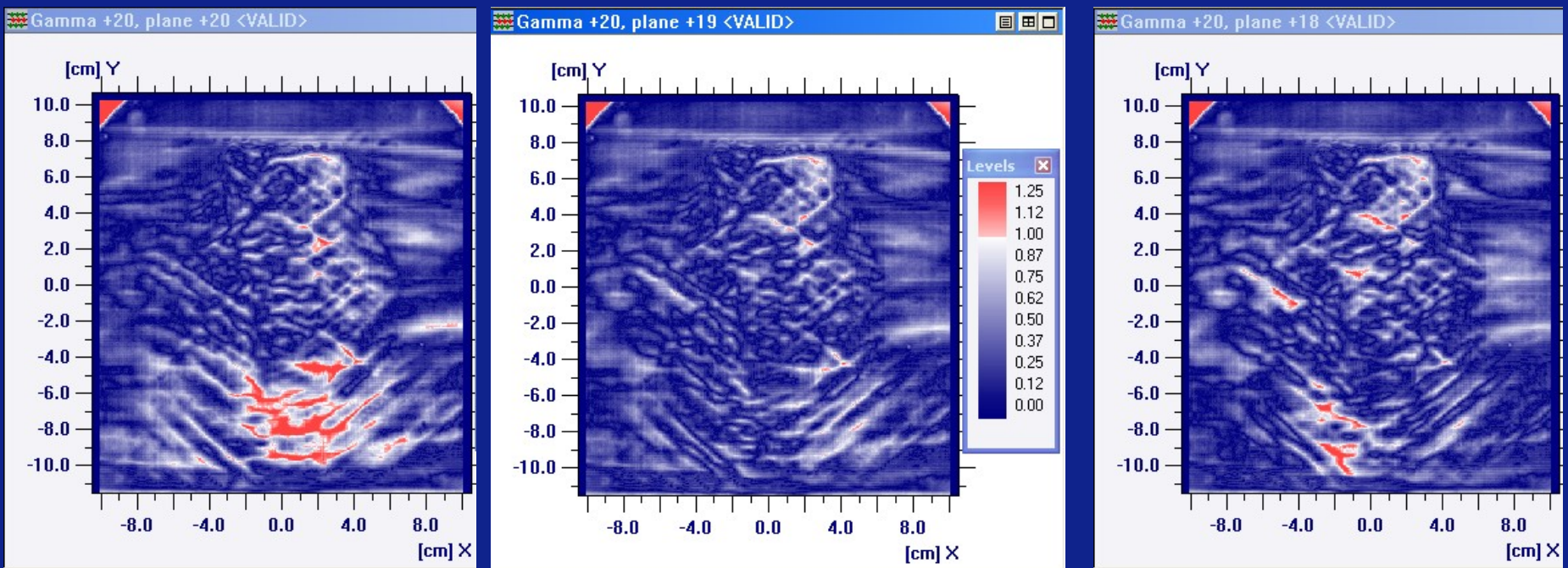


Differences in machine performance not detected with MatrixX only, therefore EBT mandatory!



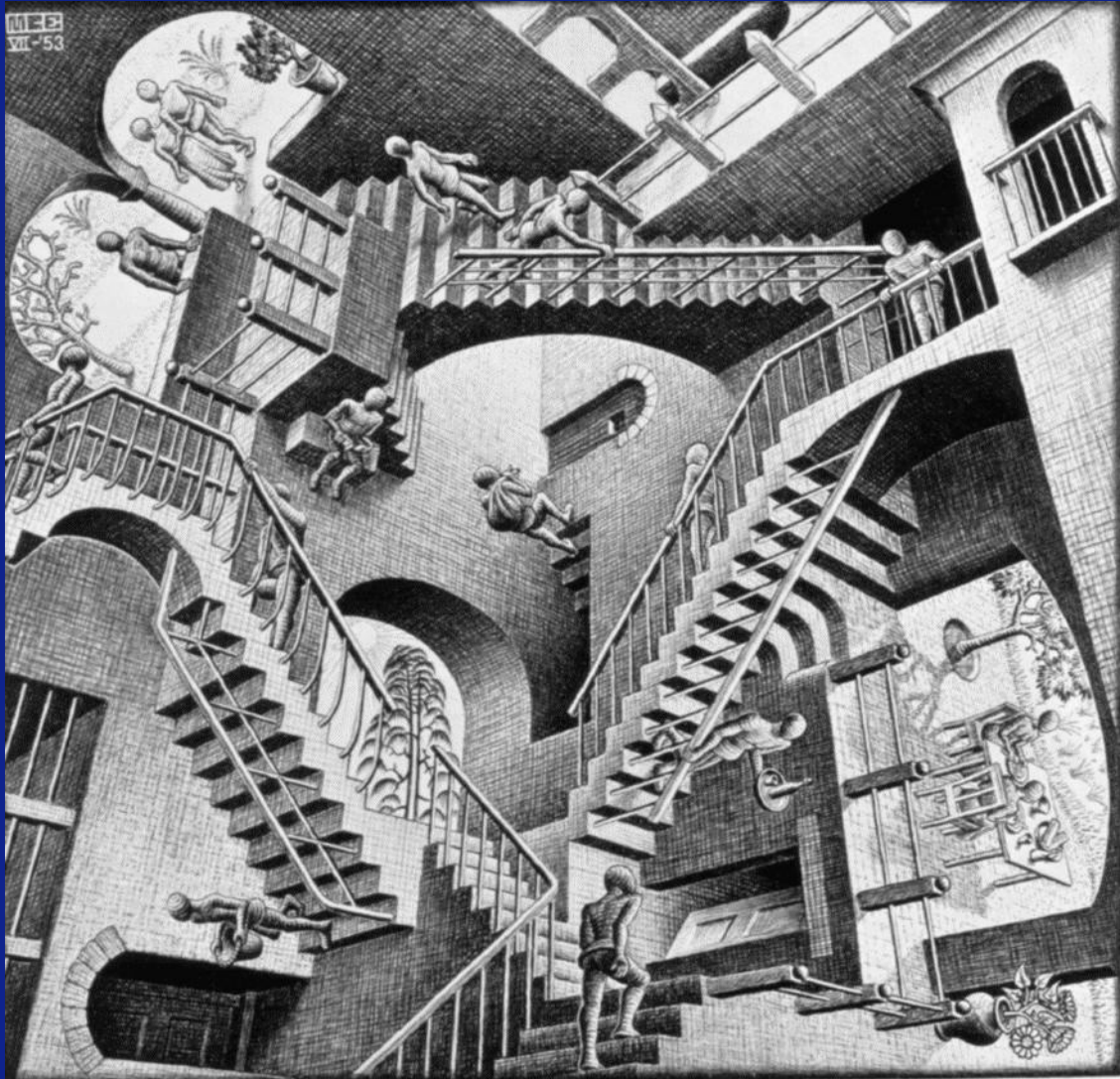
## 2.5 D gamma evaluation?

- Measured plane with 3 calculated planes, 1 mm apart:  
20 mm    19 mm    18 mm



- Uncertainty in phantom positioning
- Highly varying spatial dose distributions (within 95-107%)

# 2D ≠ 3D



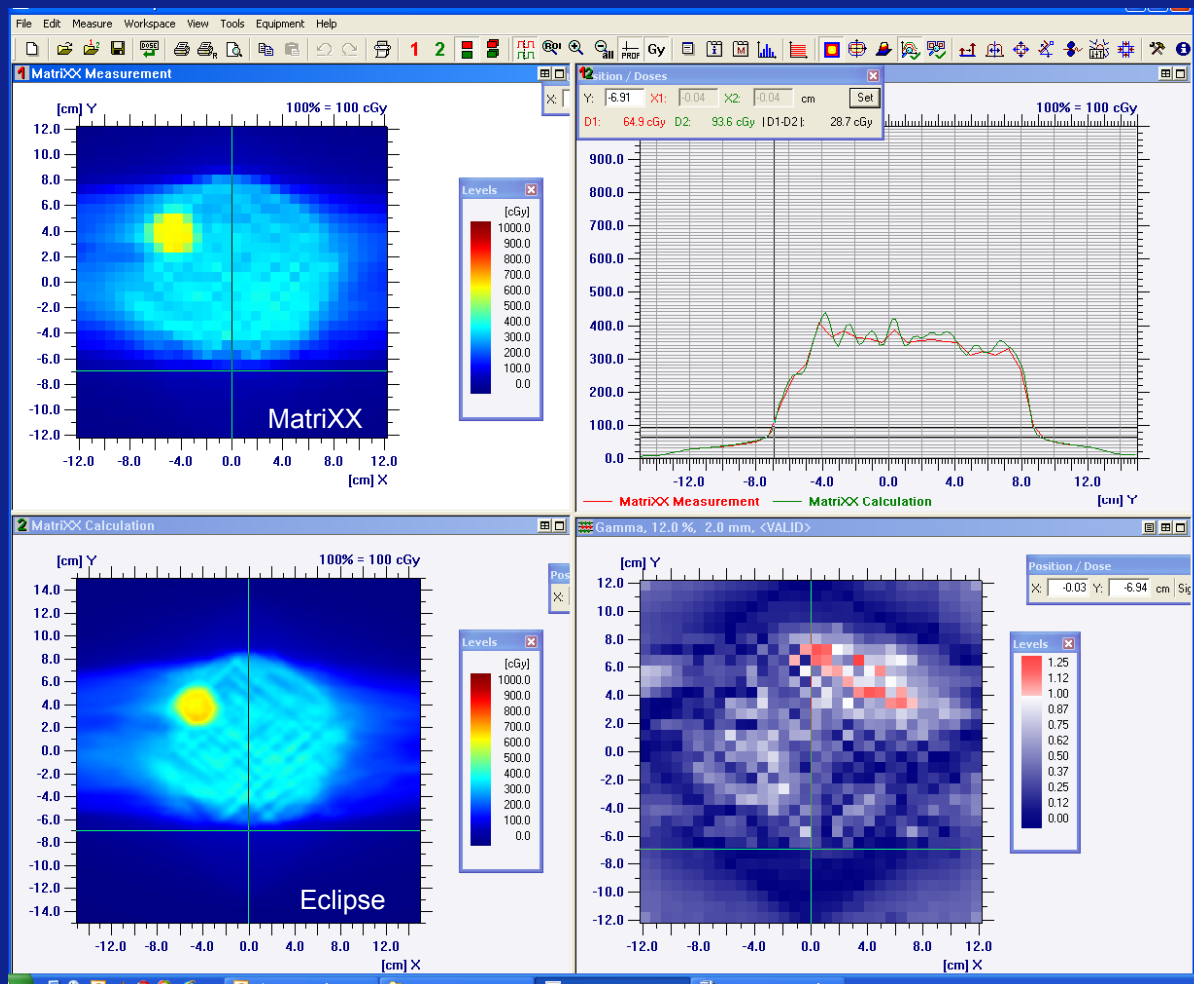
*Relativity 1953 M.C. Escher*

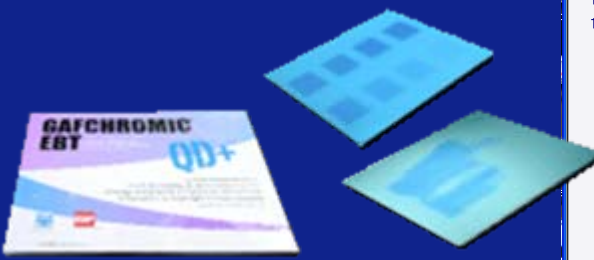
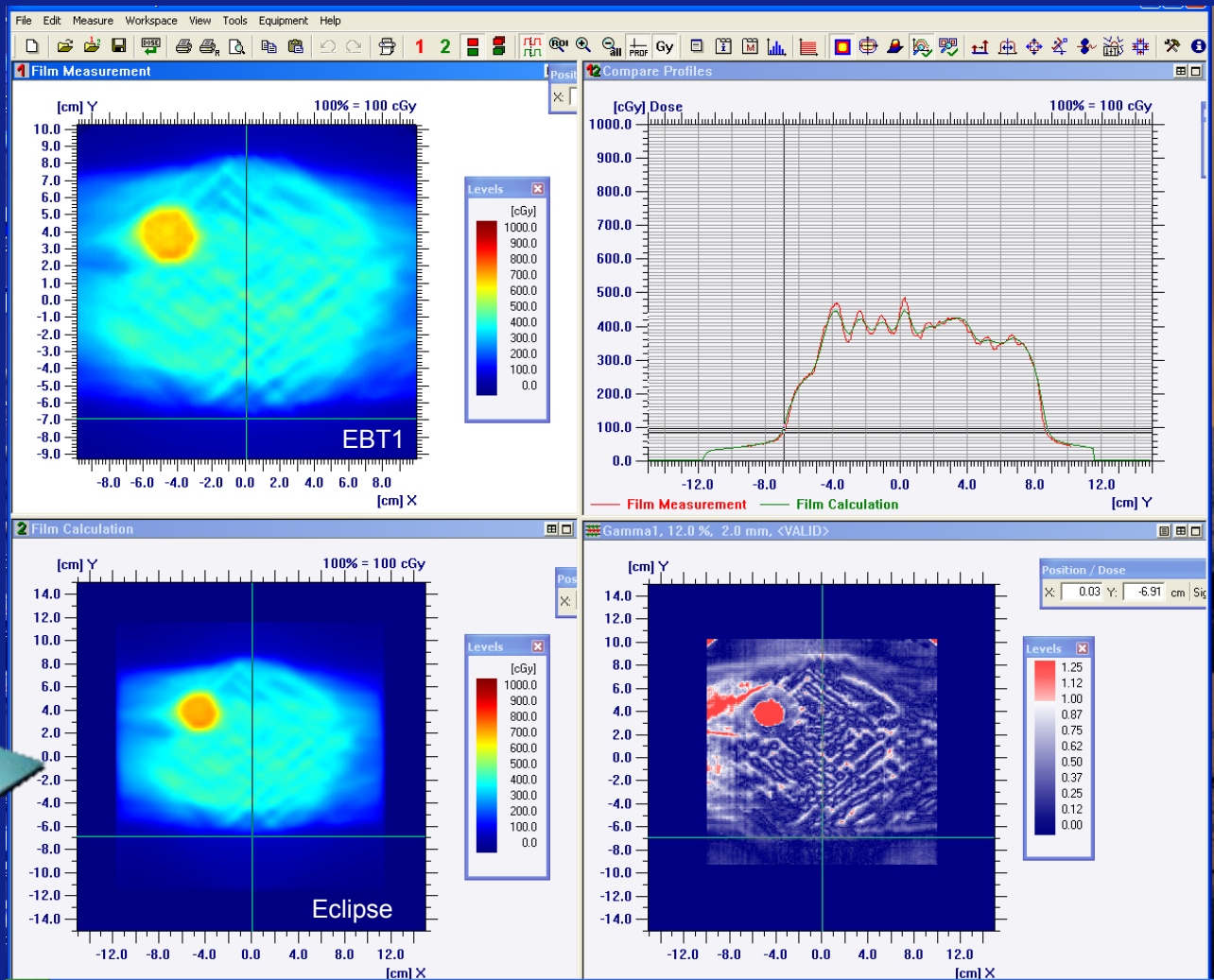


# Observation: Eclipse calculates higher intensity modulation



MatriXX in VUmc phantom





Films shows that accelerator produces higher intensity modulation than calculated



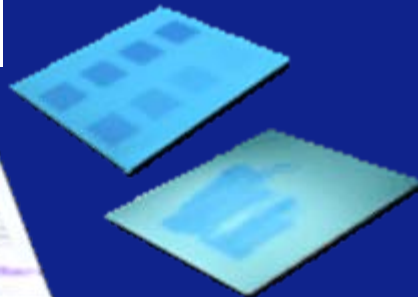
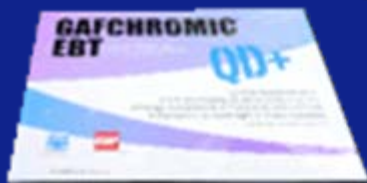
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# GafChromic Film Dosimetry at VUmc

VU medisch centrum



*Van Battum et al Med.Phys 35(2) 2008  
and Van Battum et al ESTRO poster 394 2009*



# VUmc

- Need for high resolution detector with 3% accuracy (1 SD)
  - Especially for commissioning, research, start-up RA, QA, .....
  - EBT1 not available anymore → EBT2 (2008)
  - Film workload too big for routine pre-treatment verification, but
    - method of choice for in-homogeneous phantoms (lung)
    - method of choice in Quasar phantom
    - On demand....
  - Routine RA-QA with MatriXX (10 – 15 patients starting per week)
  - About 10 RA patients with MatriXX; 1½ hr at linac
  - Need for fast QA with good resolution and accuracy





# GafChromic film dosimetry at VUmc

- Dose plane in absolute dose
- No extra ionization chamber measurement
- Average 2 films per dose plane (*Van Battum et al Med.Phys 35(2) 2008*)
- Each pre-treatment verification; 2 calibration films
- ‘Step-shaped’ calibration film
- Derive OD to dose information (with Matrixx data)
- Home made Matlab routine (GClab)

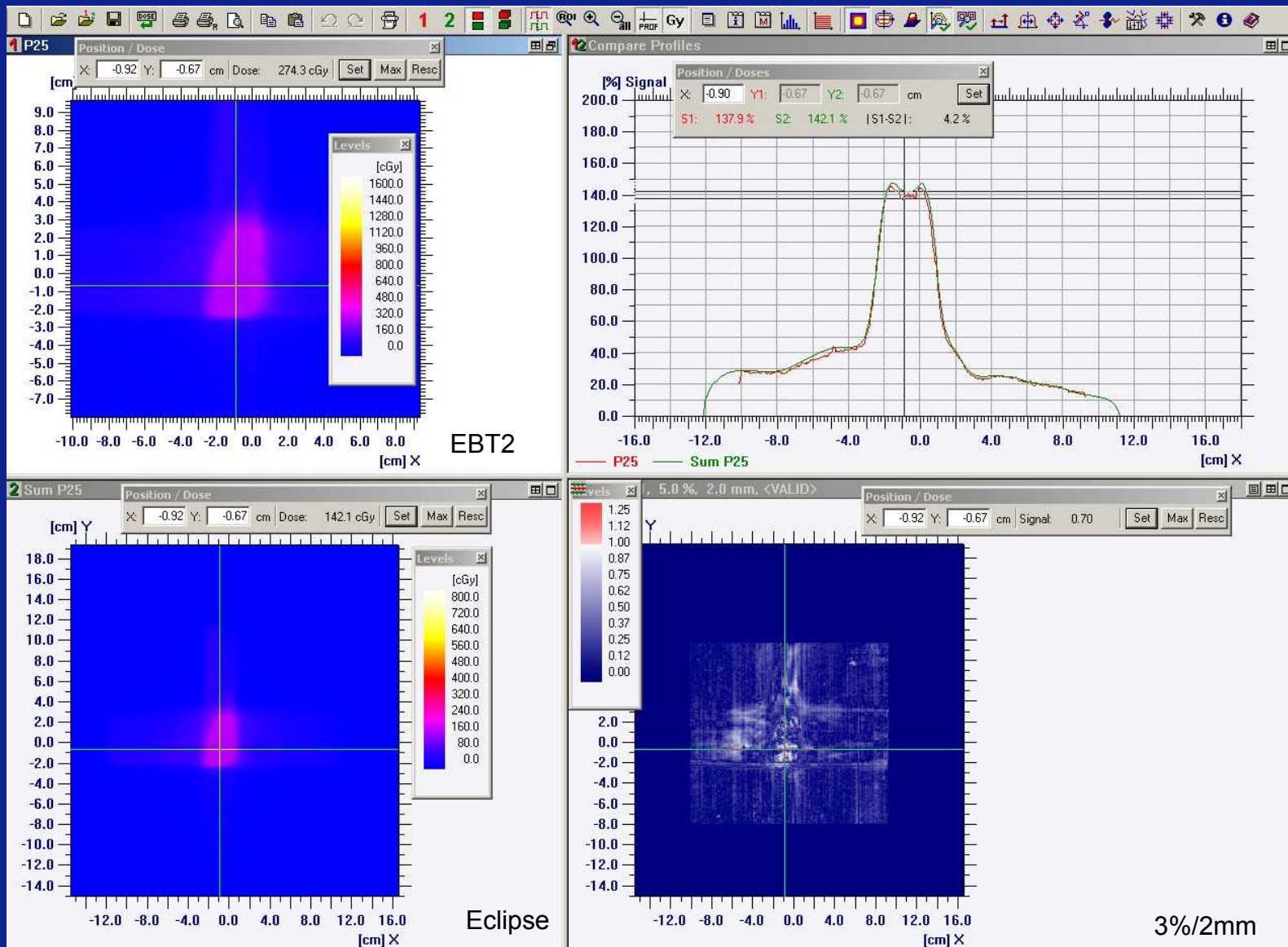


## Double exposure technique;

- To improve accuracy of EBT2;
  - Scan un-irradiated film (red channel only)
  - Irradiate film with e.g. 100 MU
  - Scan film again
  - Irradiate pre-treatment plan
  - Final scan
- Corrects for local sensitivity variations !!!



# Double Exposure technique: clinical example Oct. 2010 Truebeam







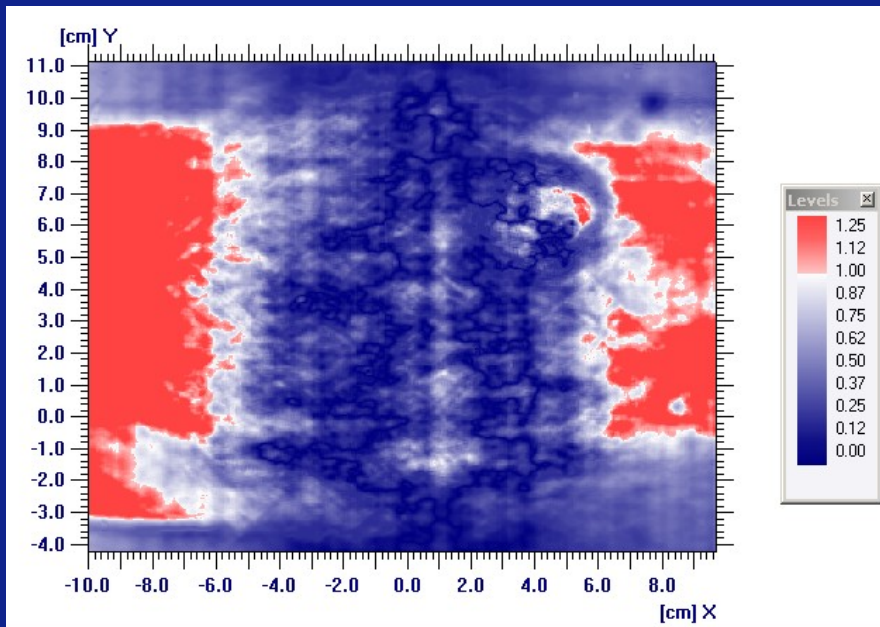
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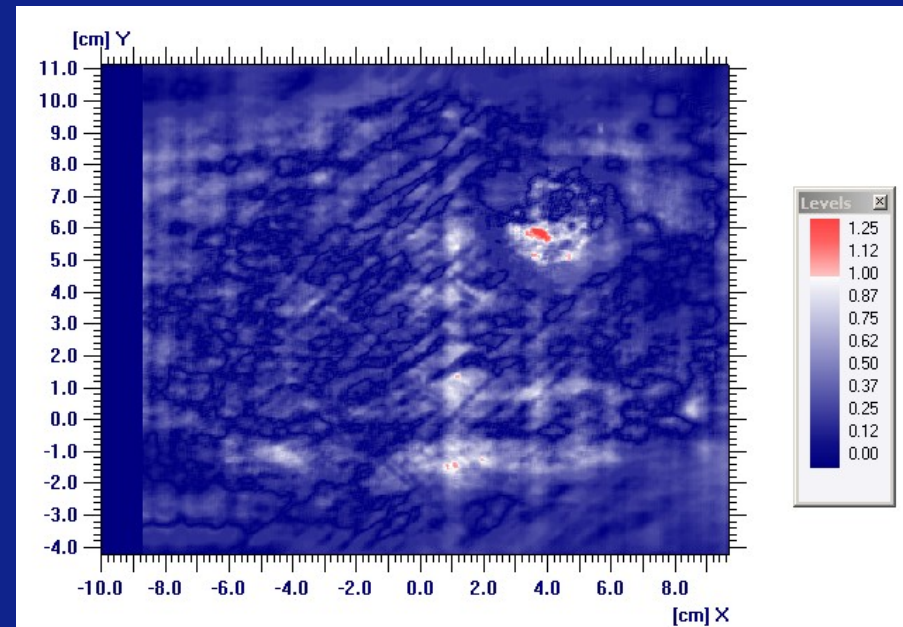




# GCLab vs. FilmQA (LCCR)

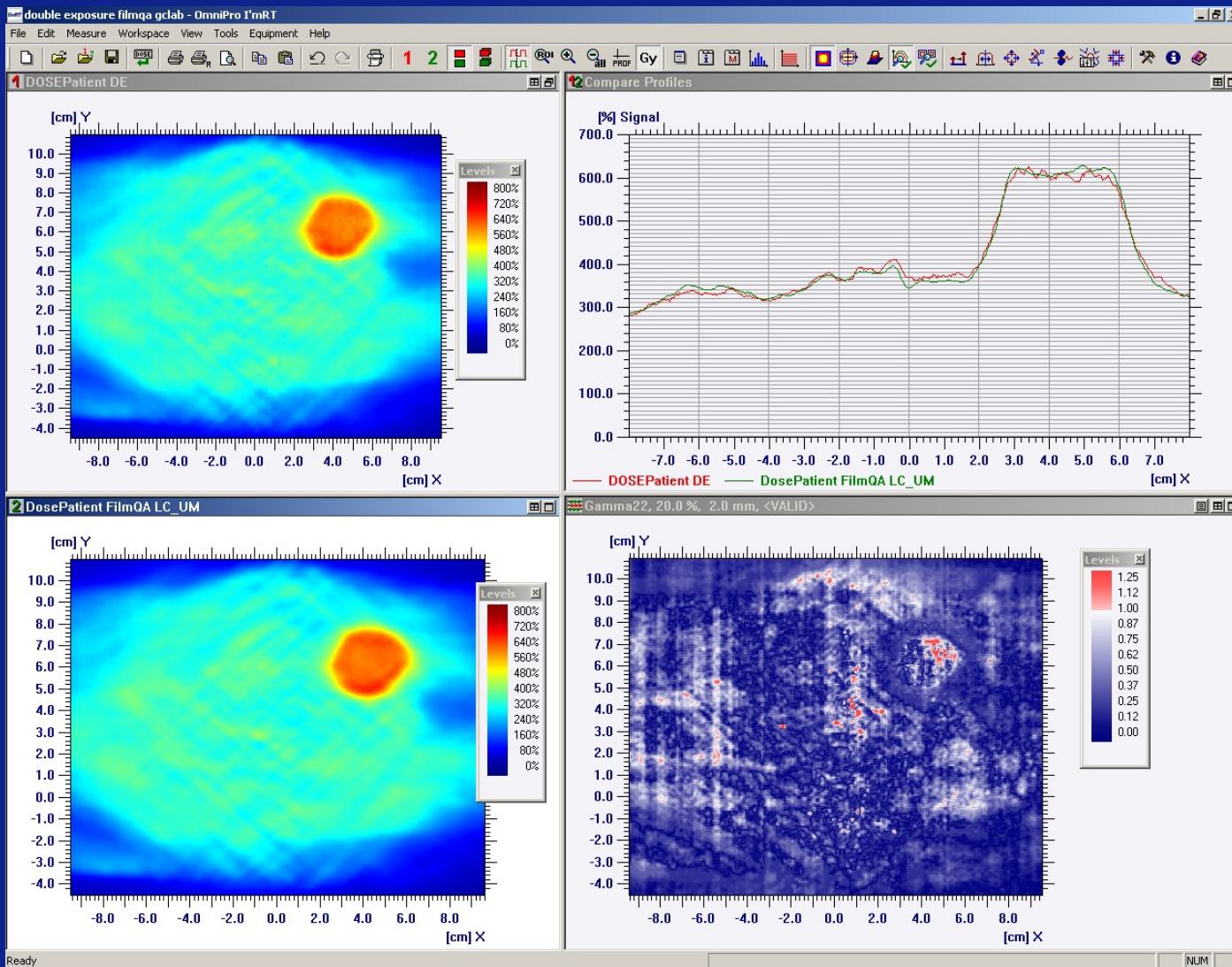


Gamma of GCLab vs. 'FilmQA lateral uncorrected'



Gamma of GCLab vs. FilmQA (LCCR) corrected

# EBT2 GCLab DE vs. FilmQA with lateral correction





# Remarks for Double exposure

- Film dosimetry with Double exposure is;
  - Cumbersome
  - Only applicable for one or two patients a week (complex, SRS)
  - For routine QA we have to check 10-15 patients per week
  - Time available in accelerator is limited (<2 hrs per QA slot)
  - MatriXX information on Dose is OK (spatial resolution is poor)
  - Dose range EBT2 limited (<10Gy) (Green channel??)
  - How about absolute dose information???? (Future work)



# Remarks of Matrixx

- Spatial resolution poor
- Gantry sensor (corrects for directional dependence)
- One single plane per patient (*central phantom*)



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# Conclusions

- Rapid Arc accurately delivers the planned dose distr.
- Higher spatial dose modulation observed with film
- Eclipse calculates smoother dose distributions than measured
- Dosimetry verification with film preferred over MatriXX
- 2.5D gamma evaluation would give better agreement
  
- Pre-treatment verification
  - Discussion if every patient needs to be measured
  - If so, with what accuracy (detector)
  - Epid (Epiqa, Civco, home made?)
  - Risk analyses
  - Total QA program; ongoing process....



# Conclusions

- Film dosimetry for spatial resolution!
- Local QA strategy
- Film-QA gives excellent agreement in comparison to Matlab
- Workload at VUmc limited
- For Varian users Film is a powerful tool
- Absolute dose information is important





*Thank you for your attention*

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