



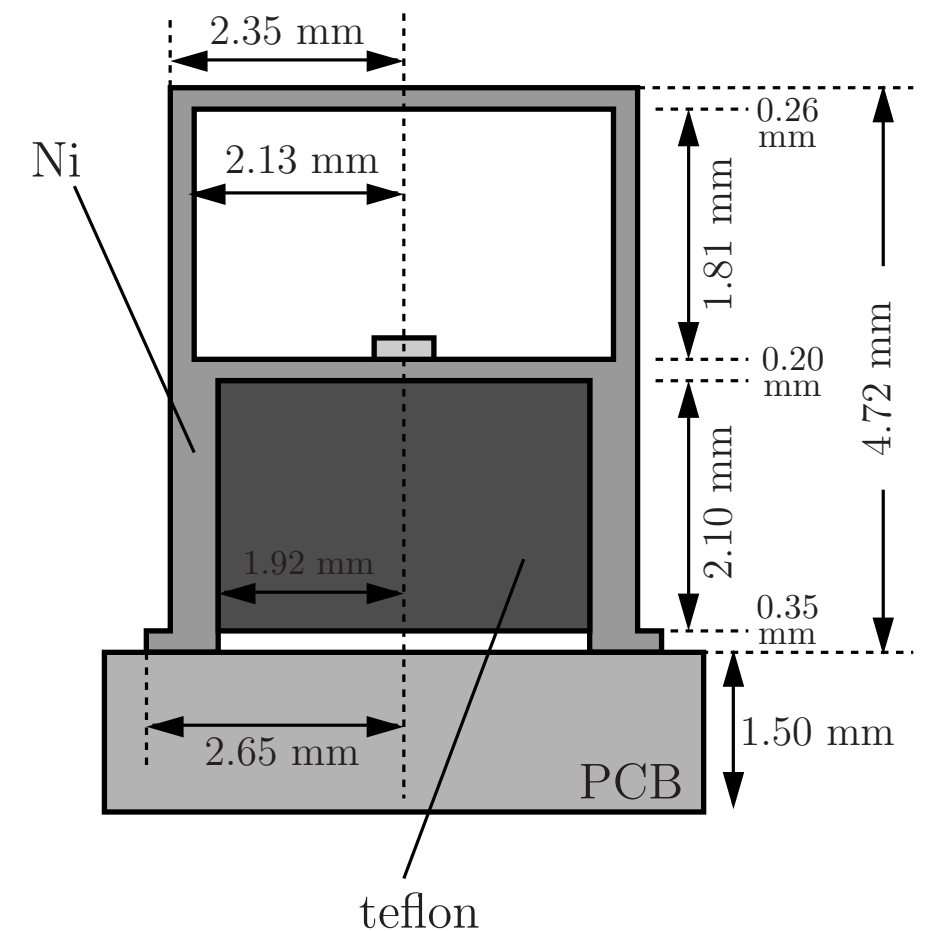
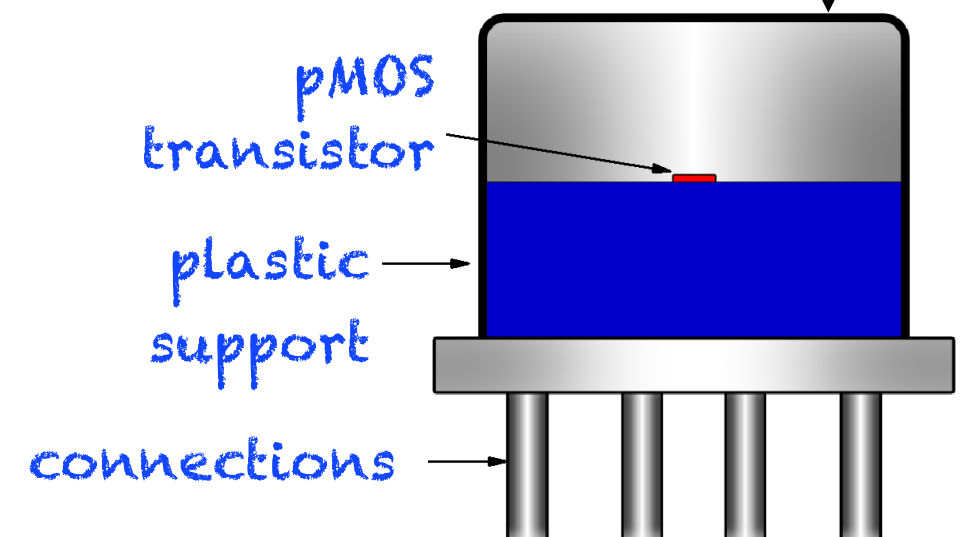


pMOS transistor 3N163



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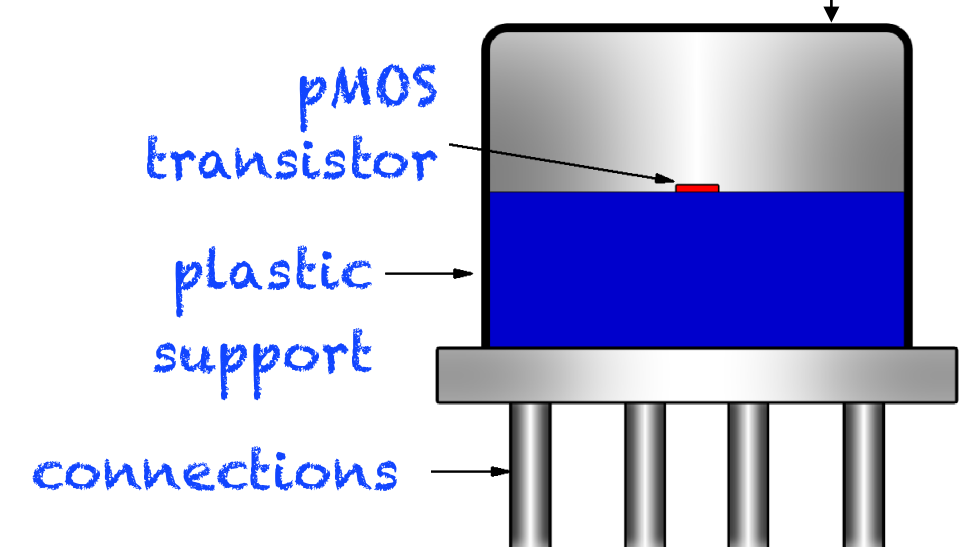
nickel encapsulation



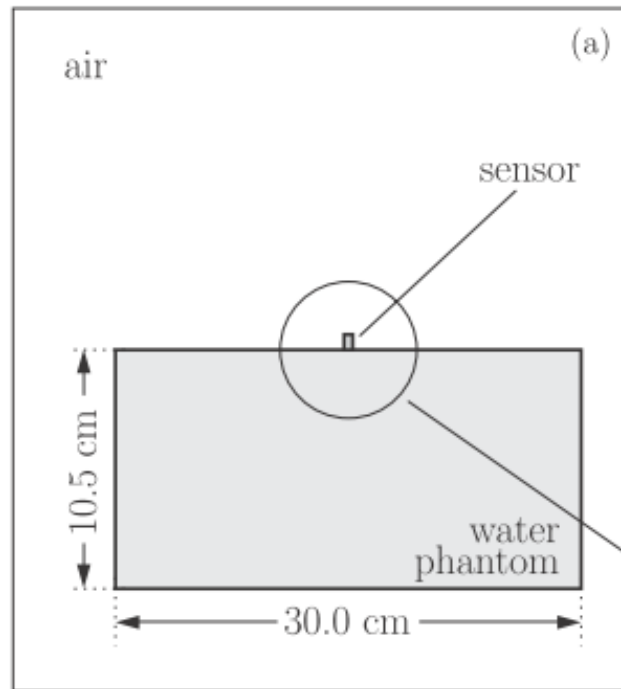
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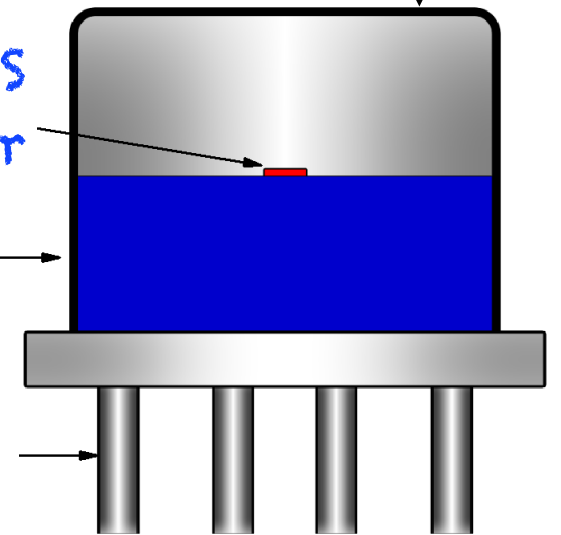
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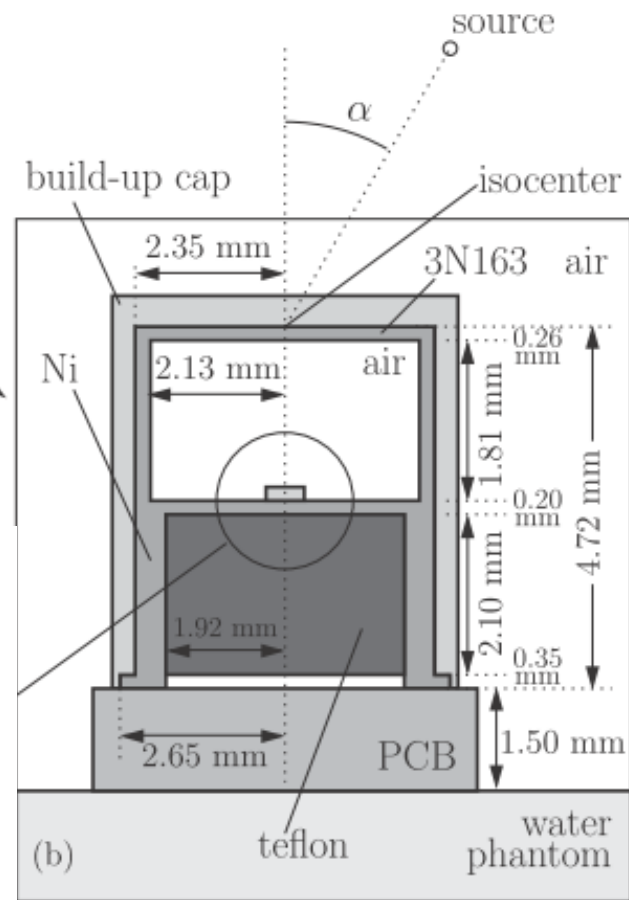
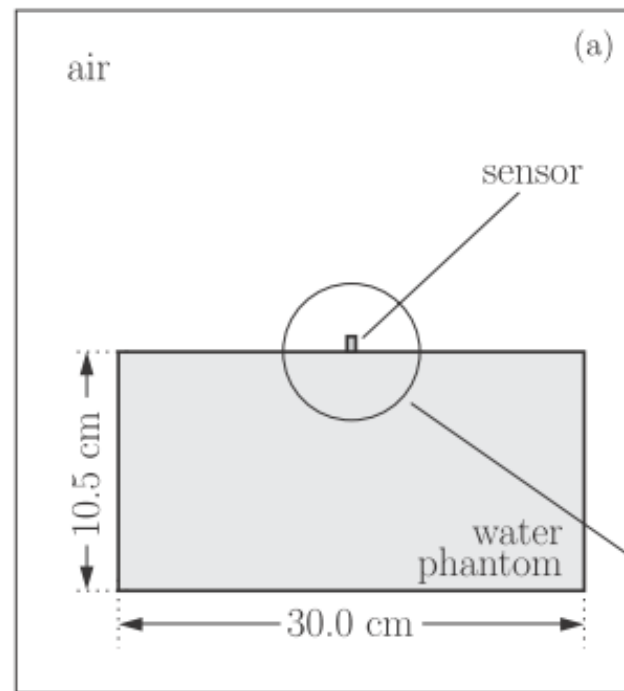
pMOS transistor

plastic support

connections

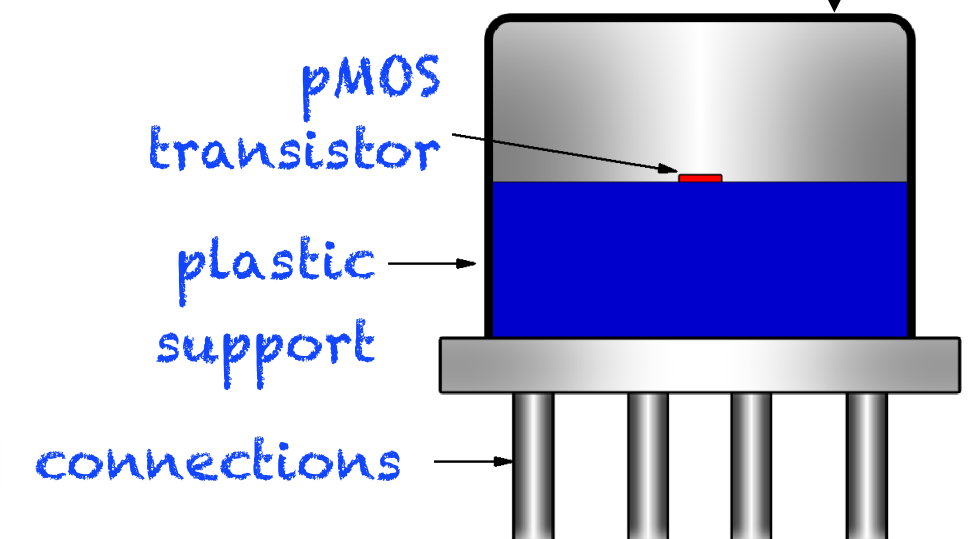


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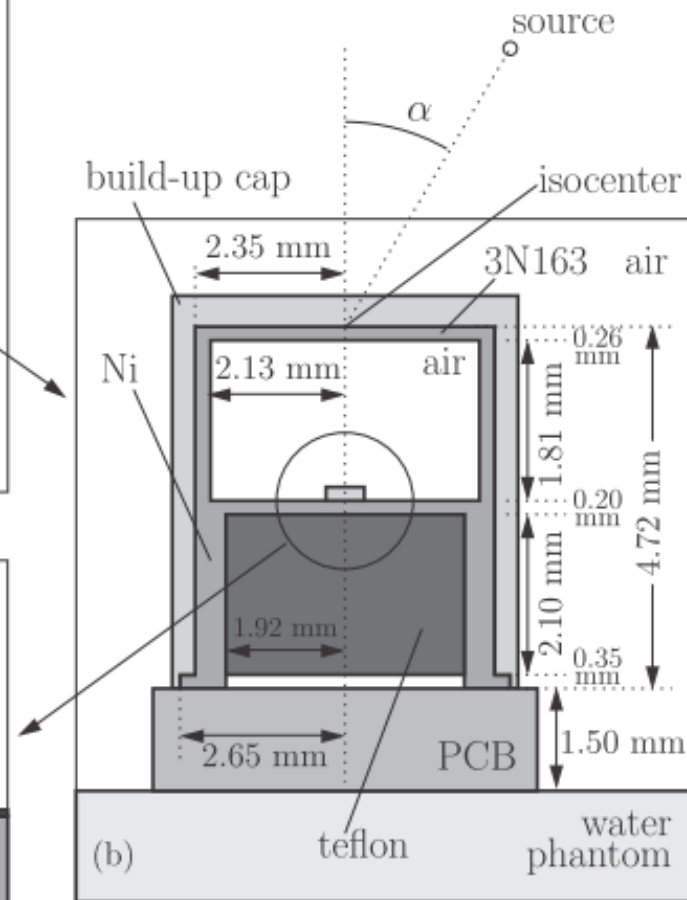
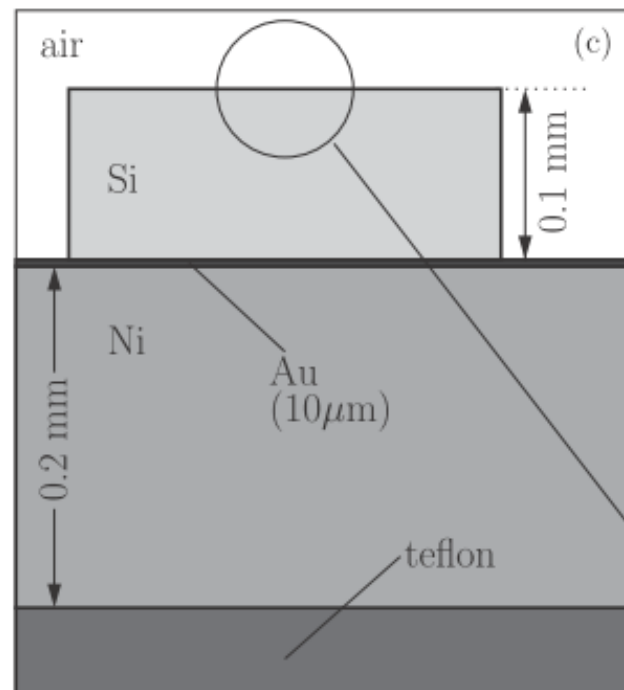
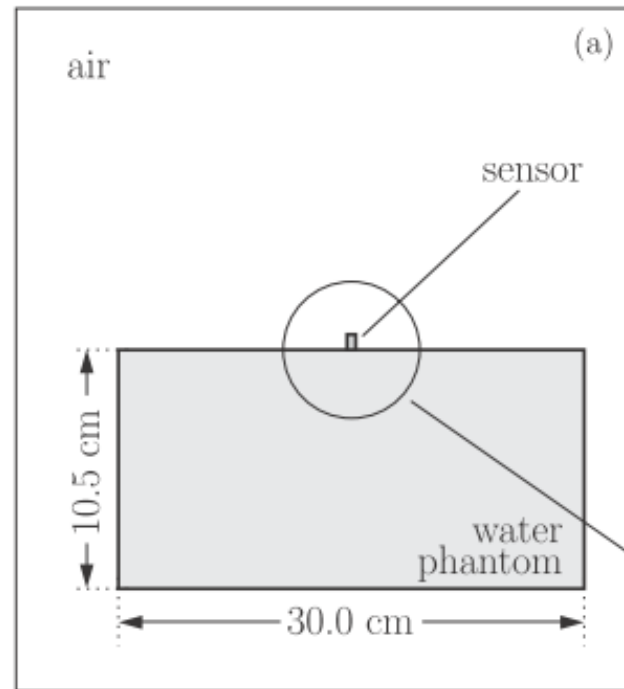


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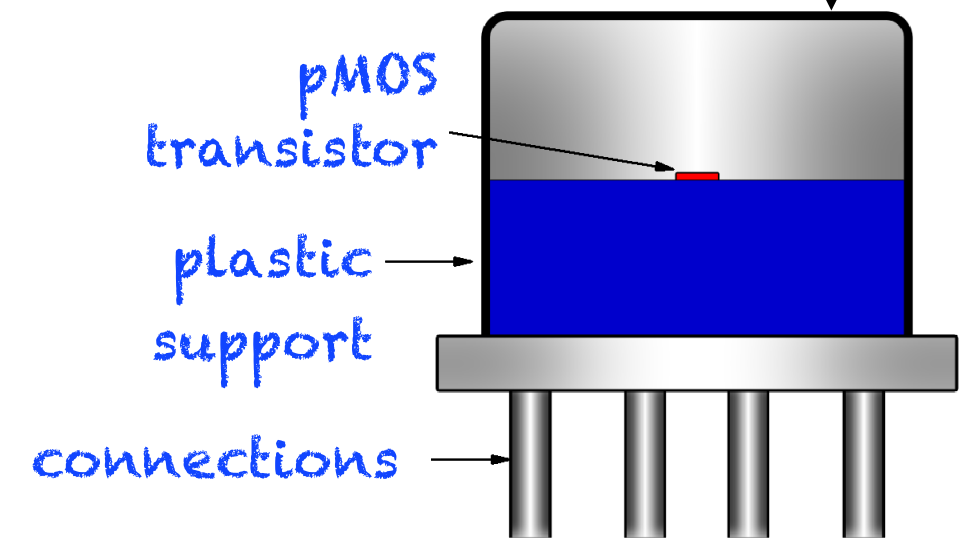


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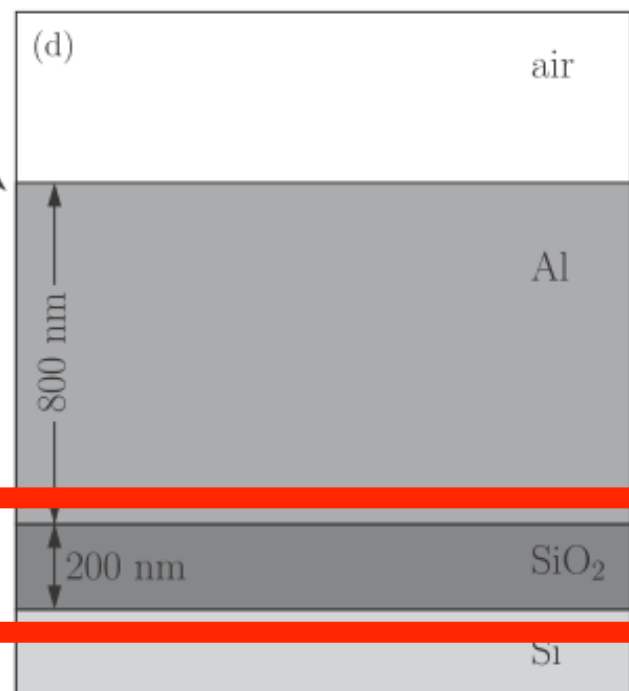
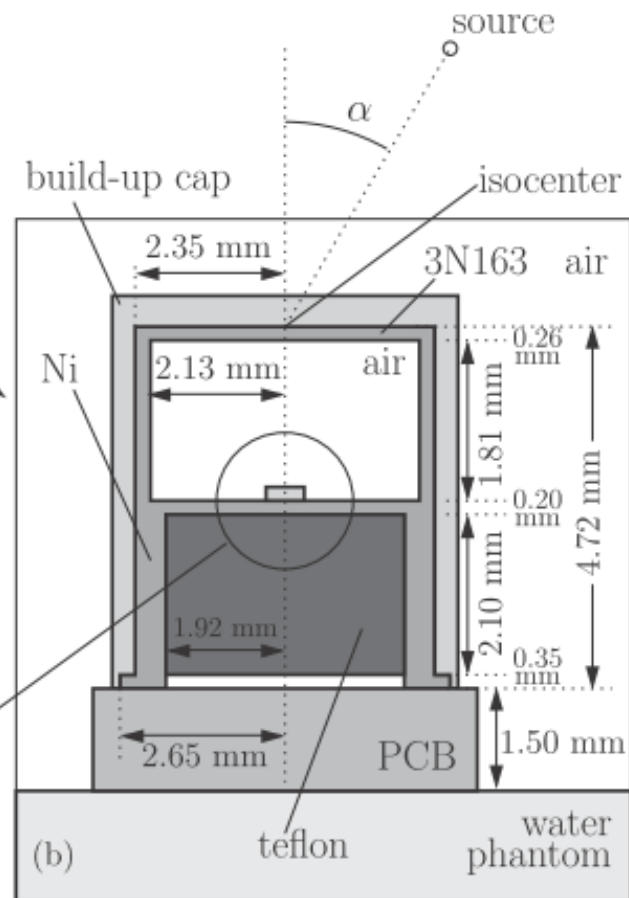
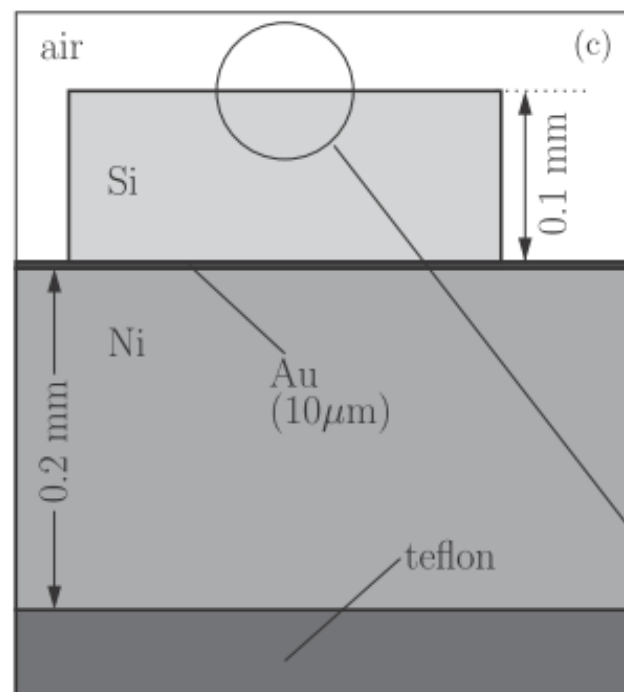
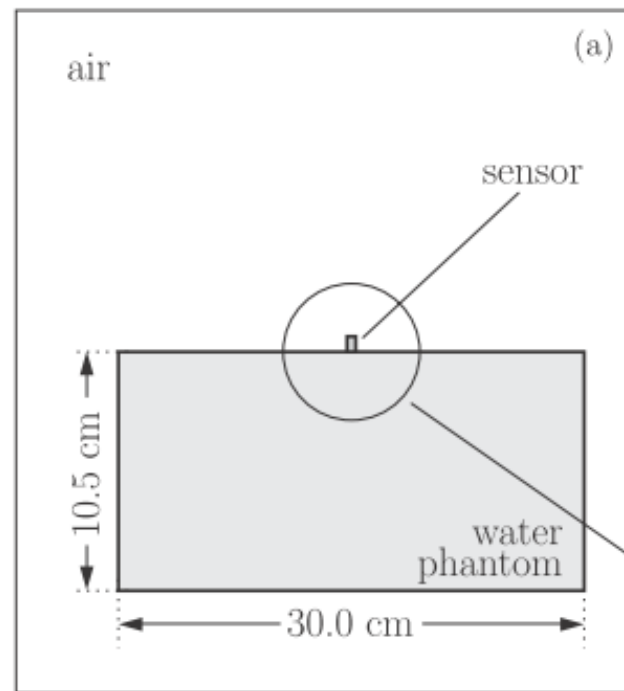
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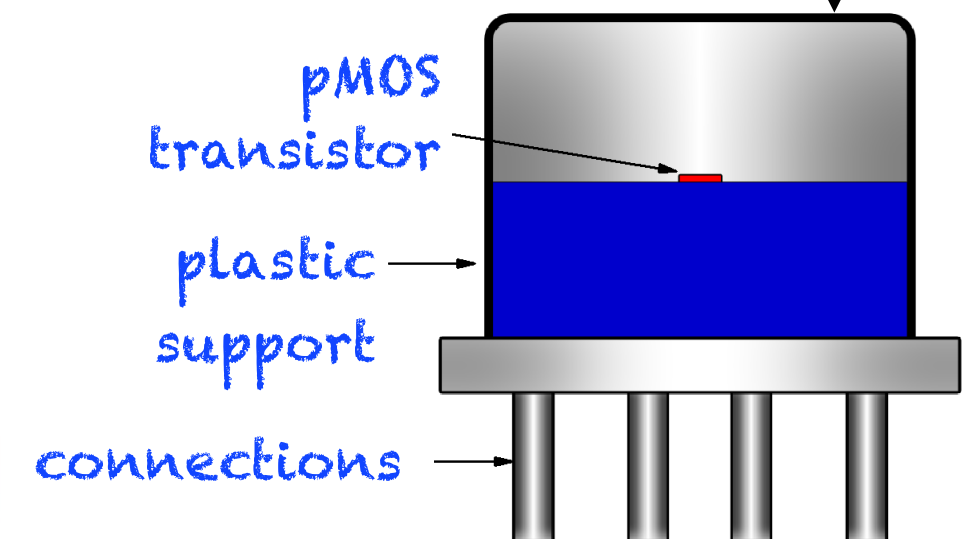


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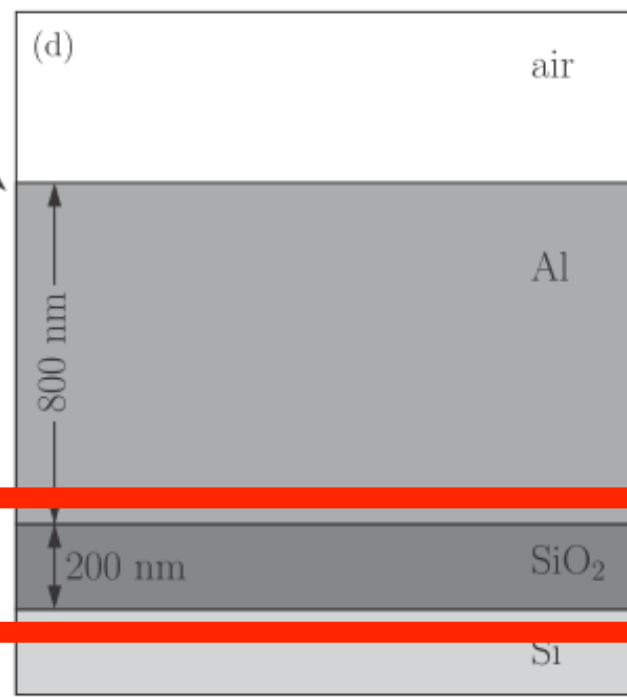
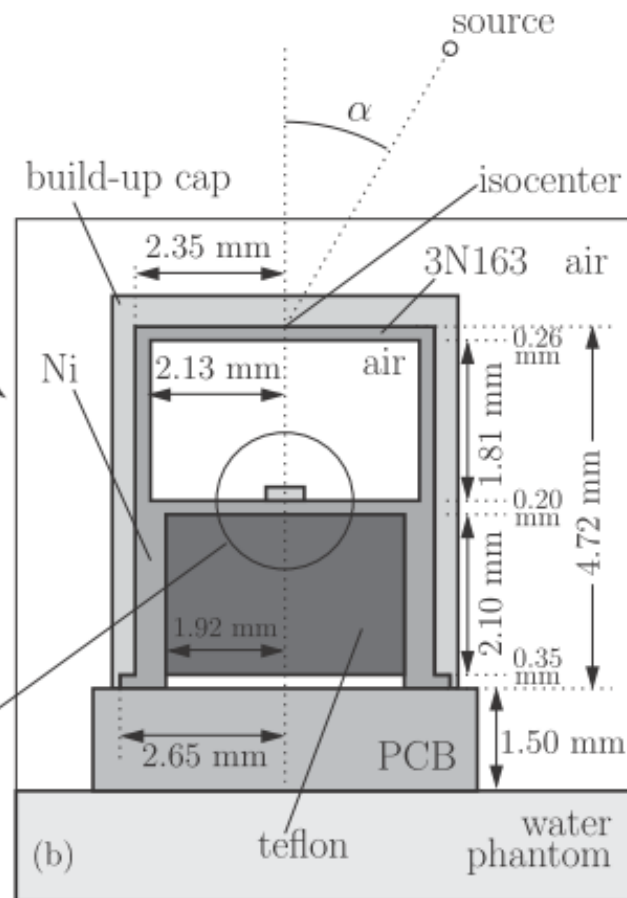
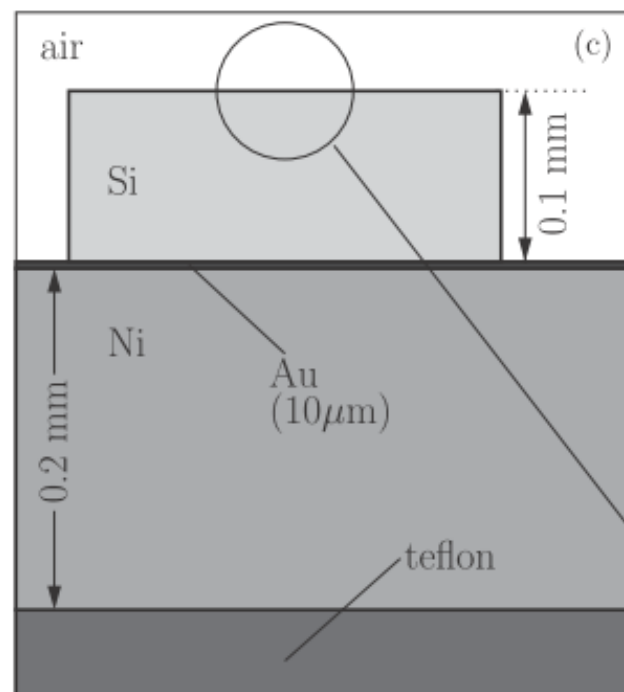
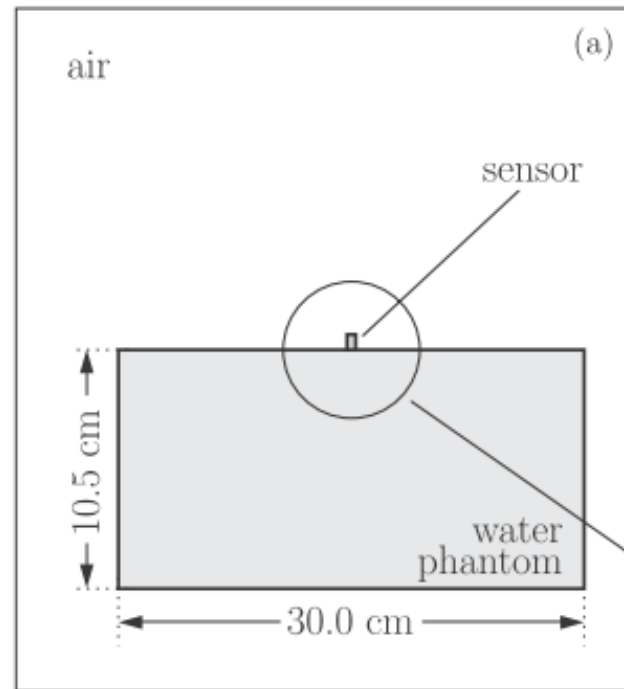


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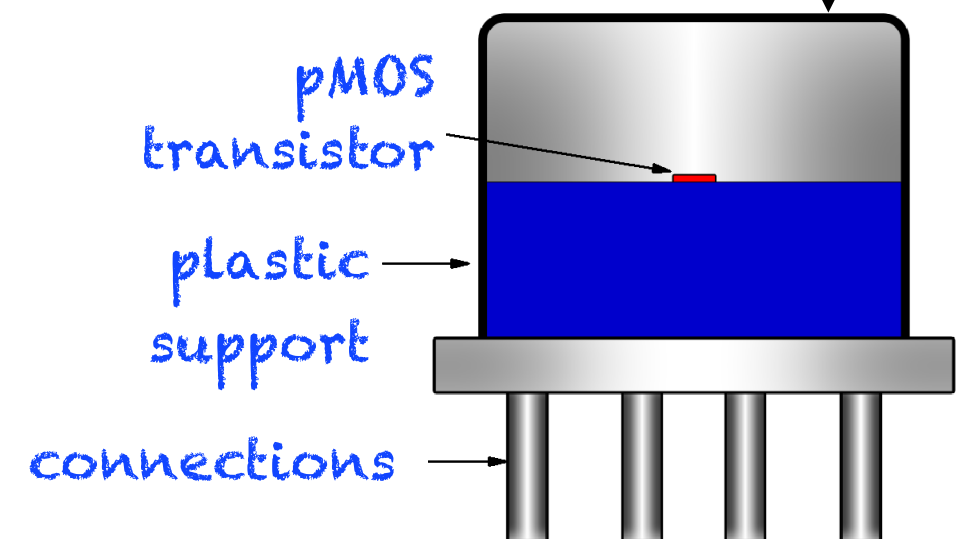


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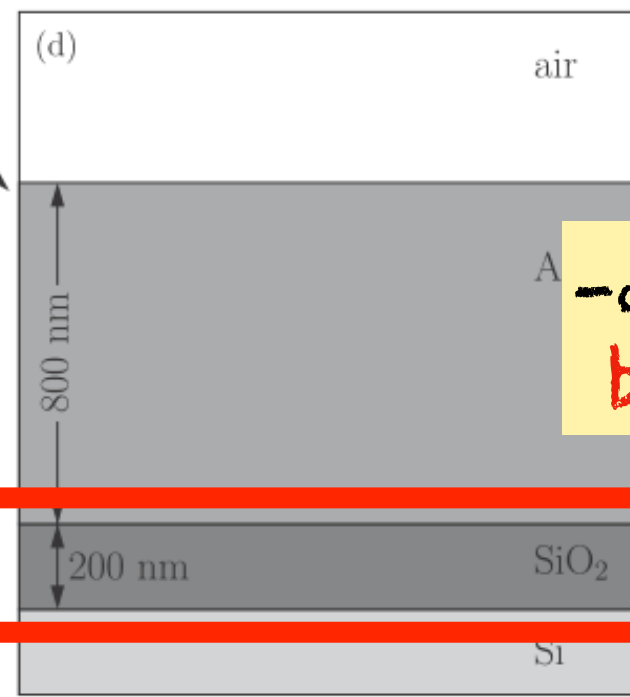
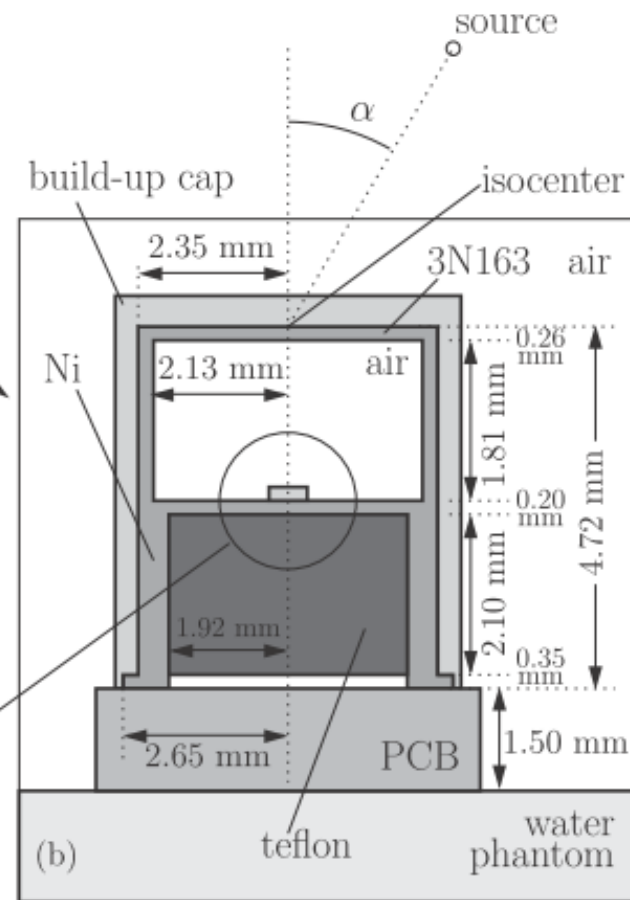
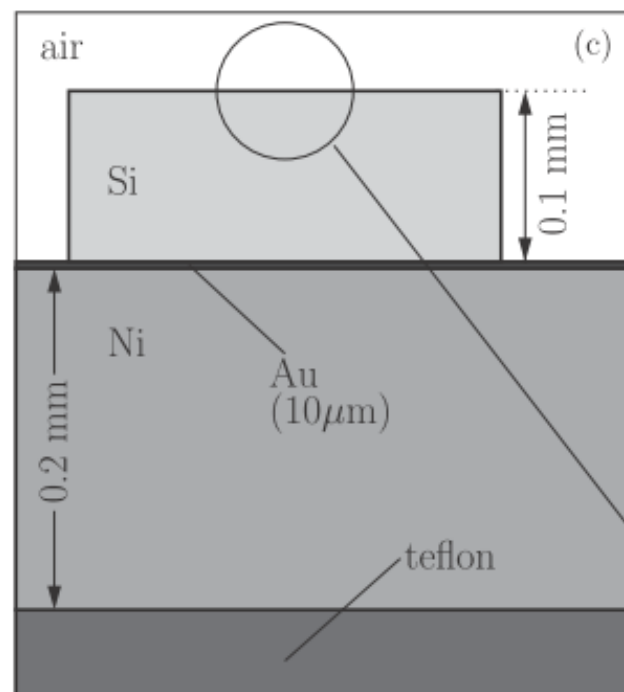
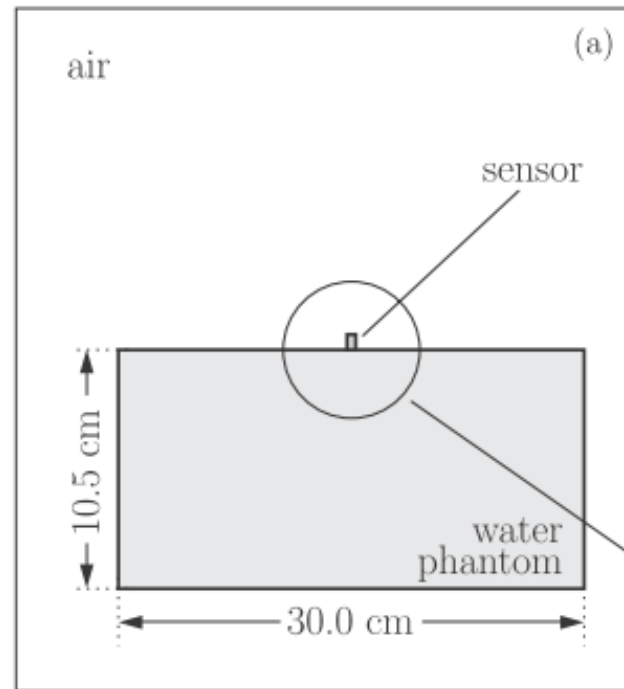
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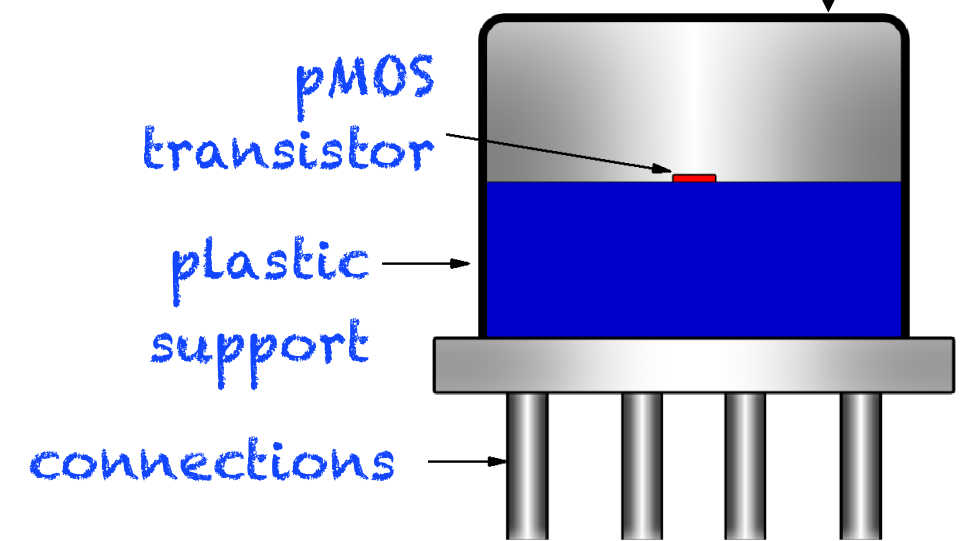
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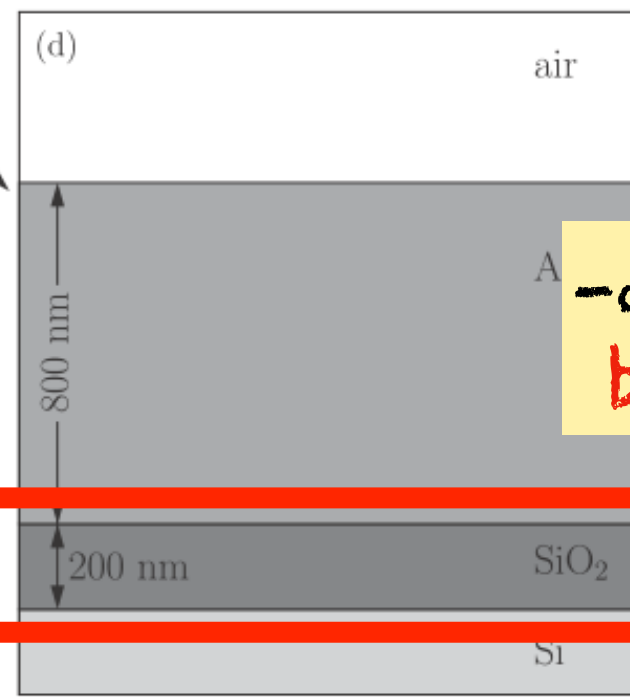
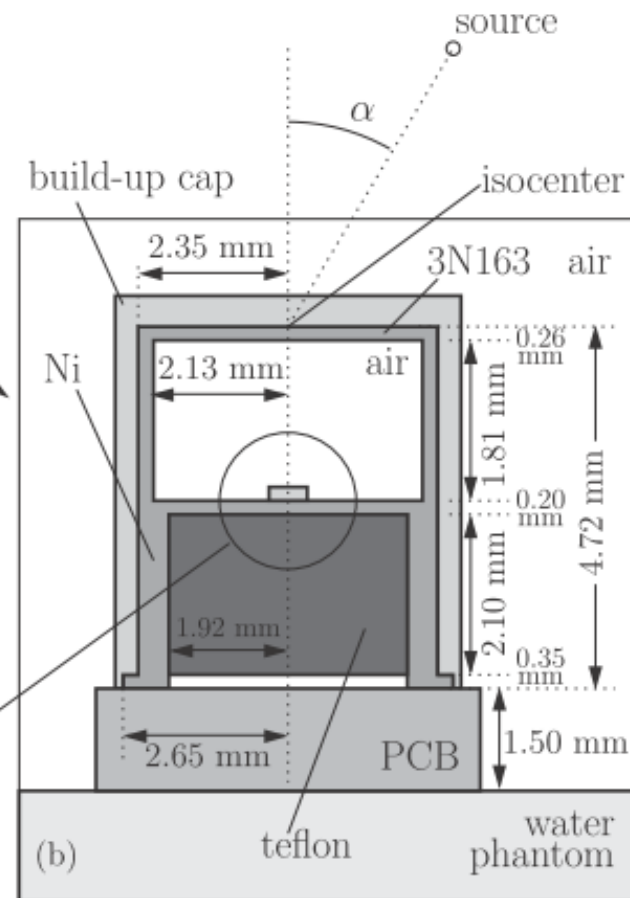
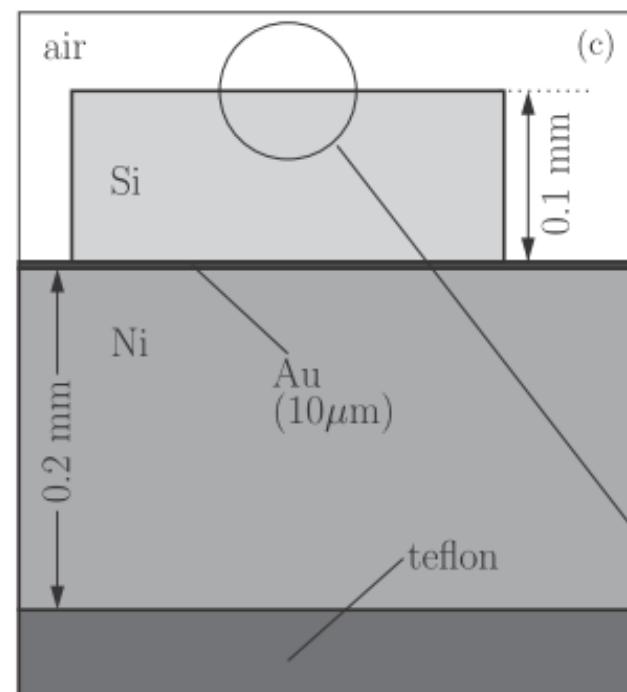
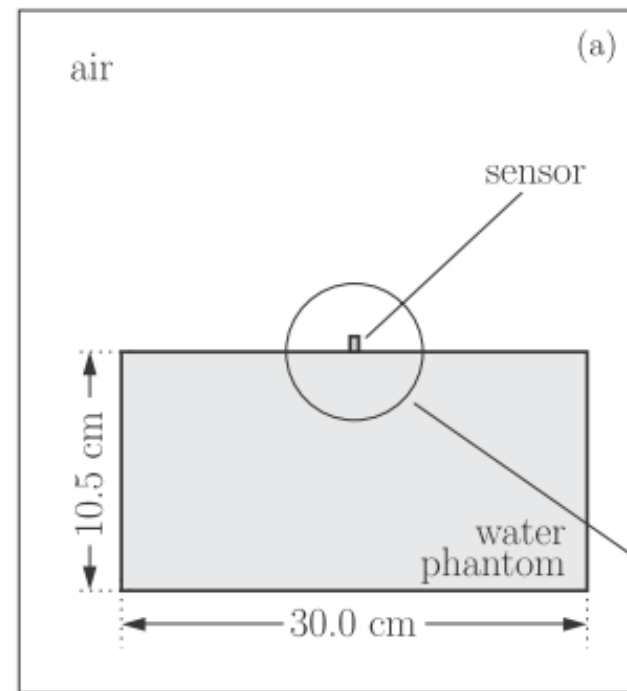
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-detailed simulation within MOSFET,  
but very low statistic

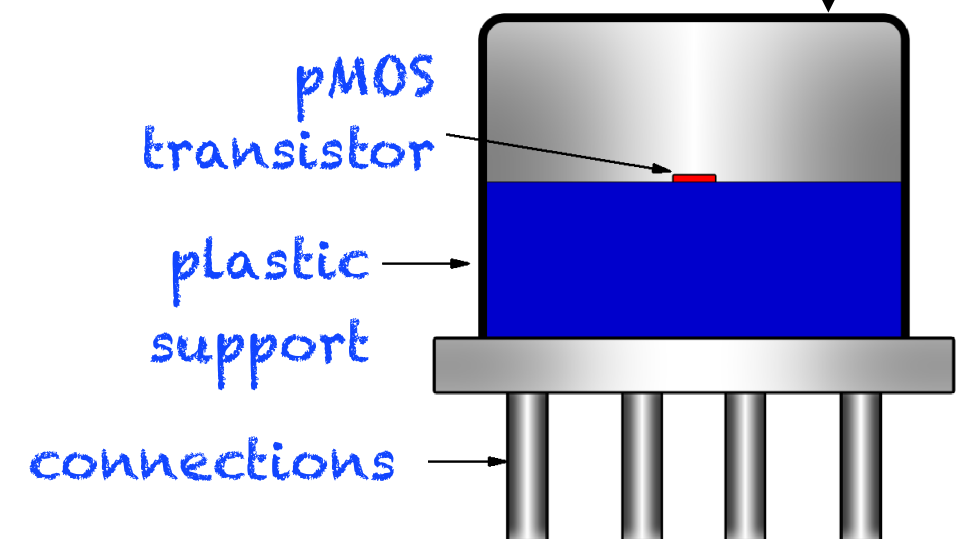
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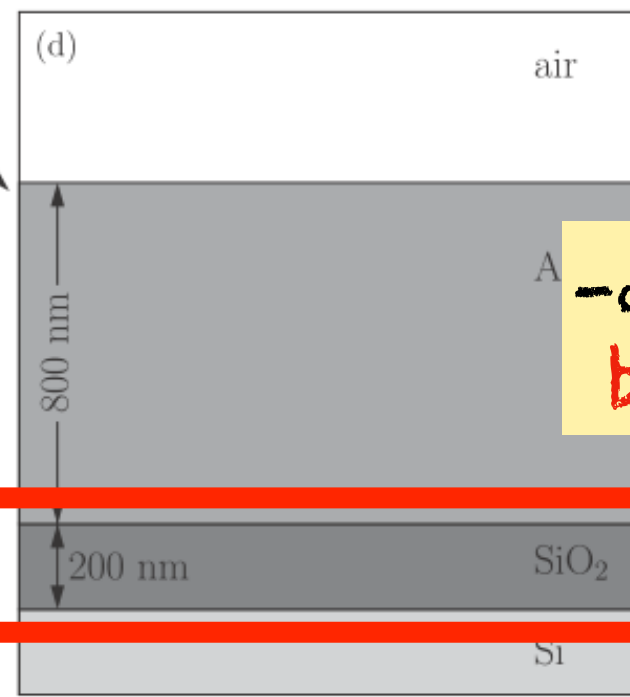
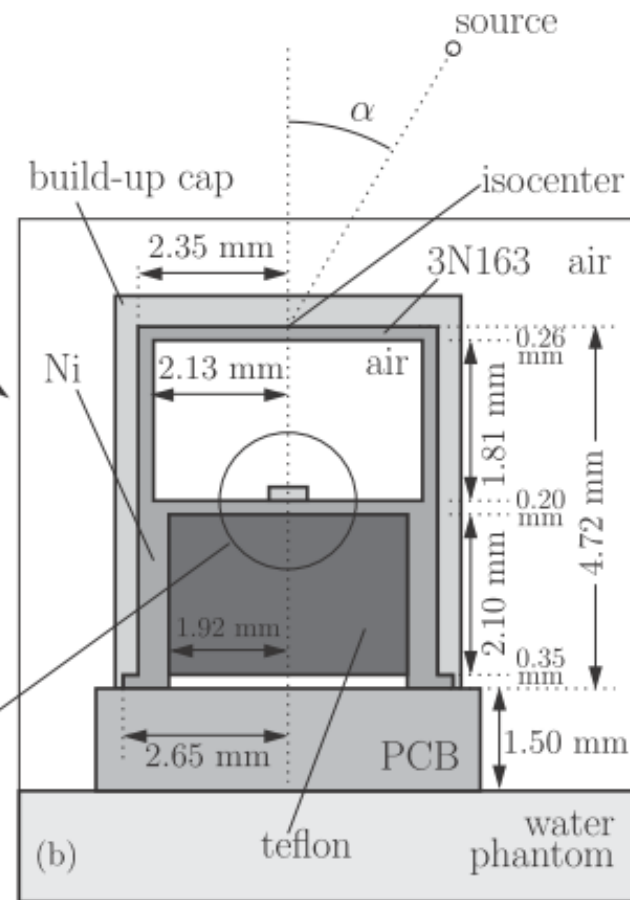
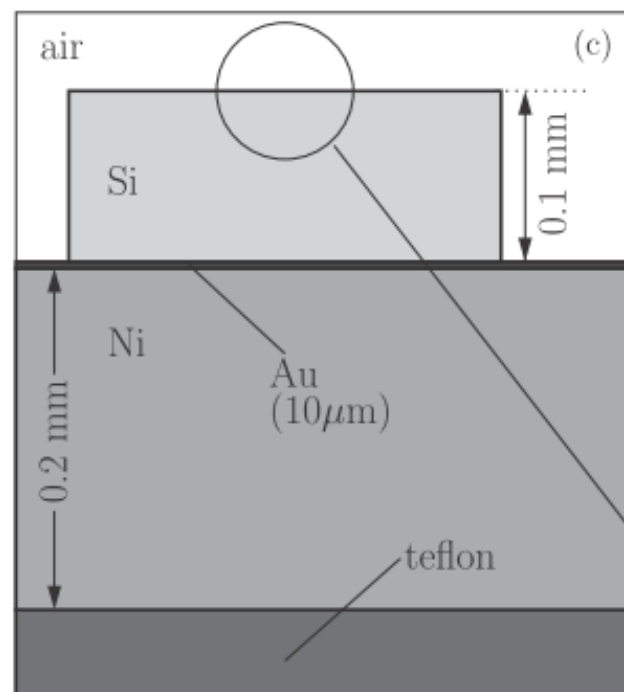
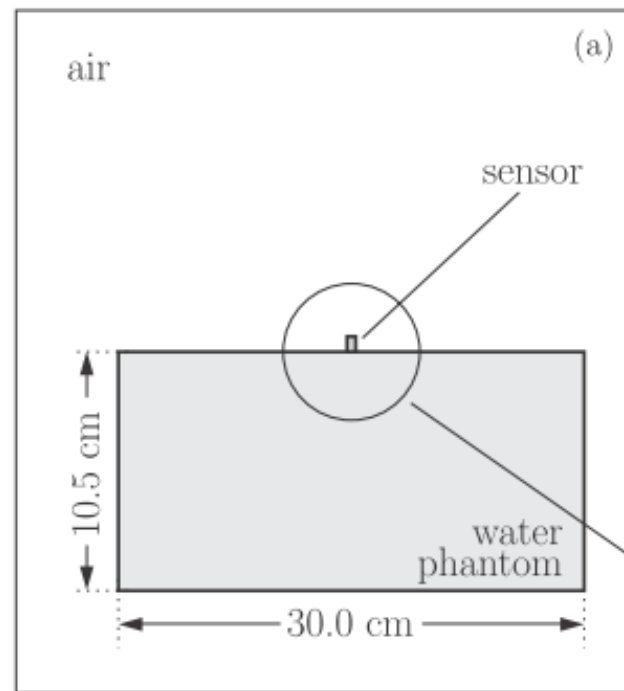


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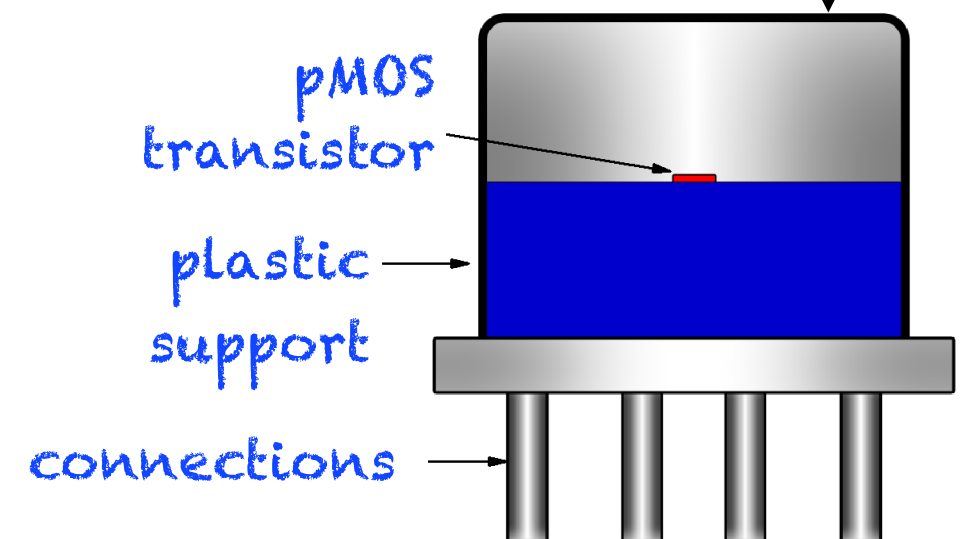
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# Variance reduction techniques in Monte Carlo simulations: ants at work!

Salvador García-Pareja

Hospital Regional Universitario, Málaga, Spain

Antonio M. Lallena

Universidad de Granada, Spain



Hospital Regional  
Universitario  
de Málaga



UNIVERSIDAD  
DE GRANADA

# Outline

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- Introduction

- Ant colony algorithm

- Results

- Conclusions

# Introduction



# Introduction

• increase of the computer power has made Monte Carlo simulation a powerful tool in many fields

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how to do it?

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VRT effectiveness depends on:

- $S$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  values
- strategy used for splitting and killing

# ant colony algorithm: Implementation

---

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- ants look for food following random walks
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- a particle source and a ROI are defined
- the whole geometry is divided into virtual cells
- each cell is characterized by an importance value



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$$P_i = \frac{W_i^C}{W_i^P}$$

← sum of the weights of particles entering  $i$ -th cell and that reach the RoI (they or their descendants)

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$$k = \begin{cases} \left\lceil 5 \frac{P(i)}{P(0)} - 5 \right\rceil, & \text{if } P(i) \leq P(0), \\ \left\lceil 7 \frac{P(i) - P(0)}{1 - P(0)} \right\rceil, & \text{if } P(i) > P(0). \end{cases}$$

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•if  $w \cdot I > 1$ : splitting in  $w \cdot I$  particles with  $w' = 1/I$

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-once a particle enters a new cell, VRTs are applied according the particle weight ( $w$ ) and the cell importance ( $I$ )

$$I = 2^k \quad \text{importance}$$
$$k = \begin{cases} \left\lceil 5 \frac{P(i)}{P(0)} - 5 \right\rceil, & \text{if } P(i) \leq P(0), \\ \left\lceil 7 \frac{P(i) - P(0)}{1 - P(0)} \right\rceil, & \text{if } P(i) > P(0). \end{cases}$$

•if  $w \cdot I > 1$ : splitting in  $w \cdot I$  particles with  $w' = 1/I$

•if  $w \cdot I < 1$ : apply Rr with survival probability  $w \cdot I$ ;  
if particles survives:  $w' = 1/I$

-importance in a cell tells about the probability that a particle passing through it reaches the ROI

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•if  $w \cdot I = 1$ : do nothing

# Results



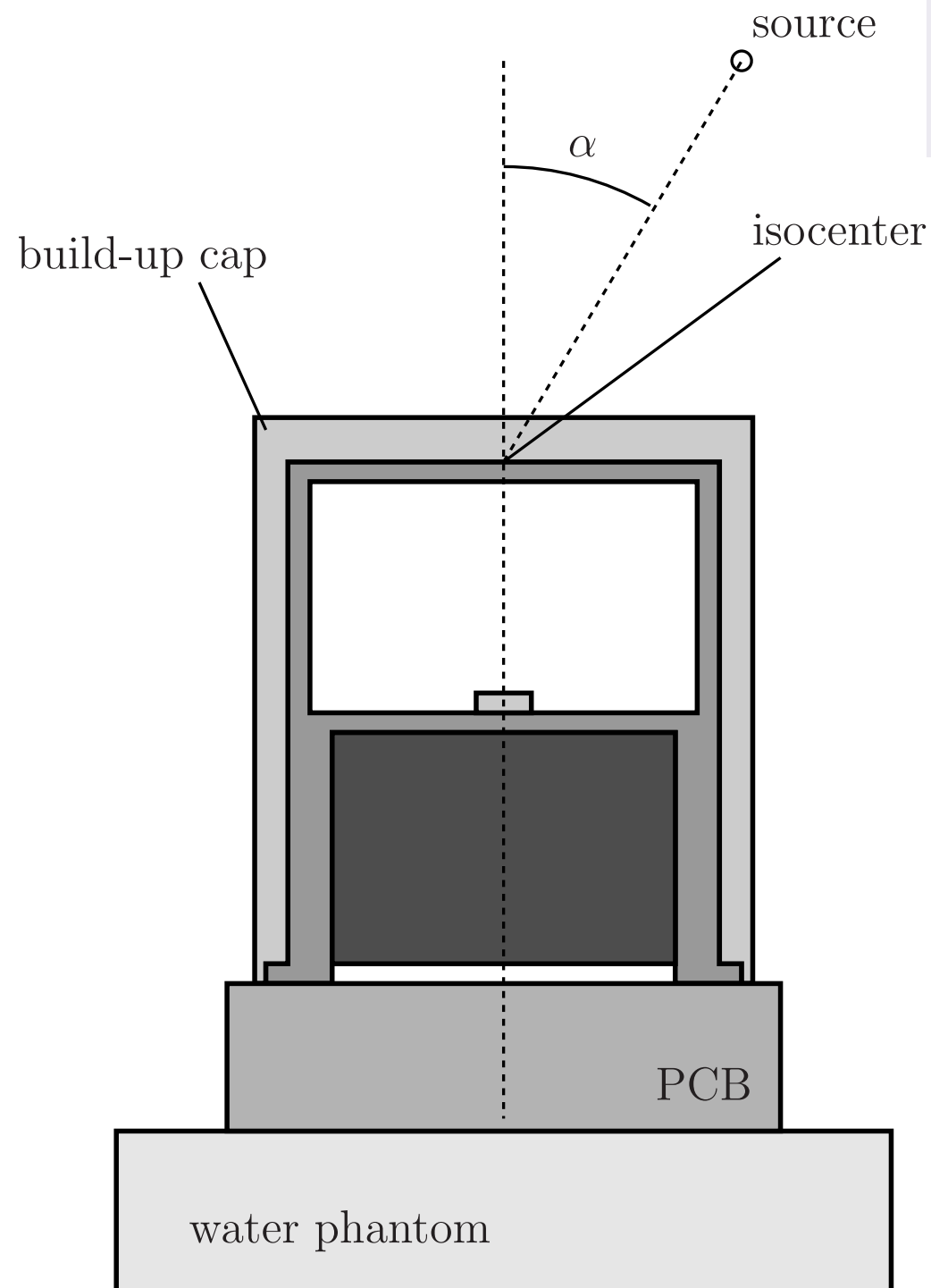
Results

MOSFET used as a in-vivo dosimeter

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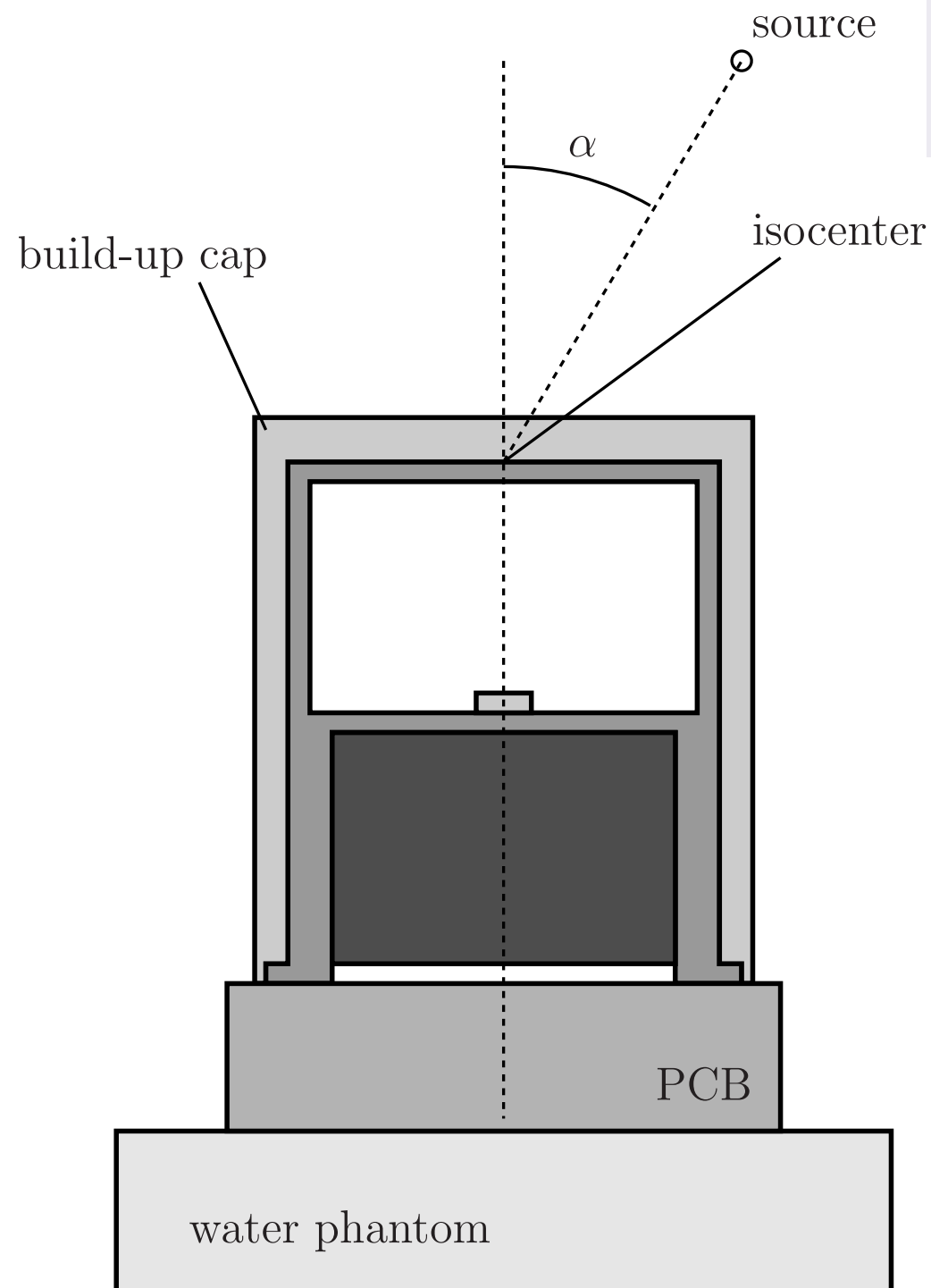
## MOSFET used as a in-vivo dosimeter

-address the possible angular dependence of the MOSFET response to irradiation



# Results

## MOSFET used as a in-vivo dosimeter



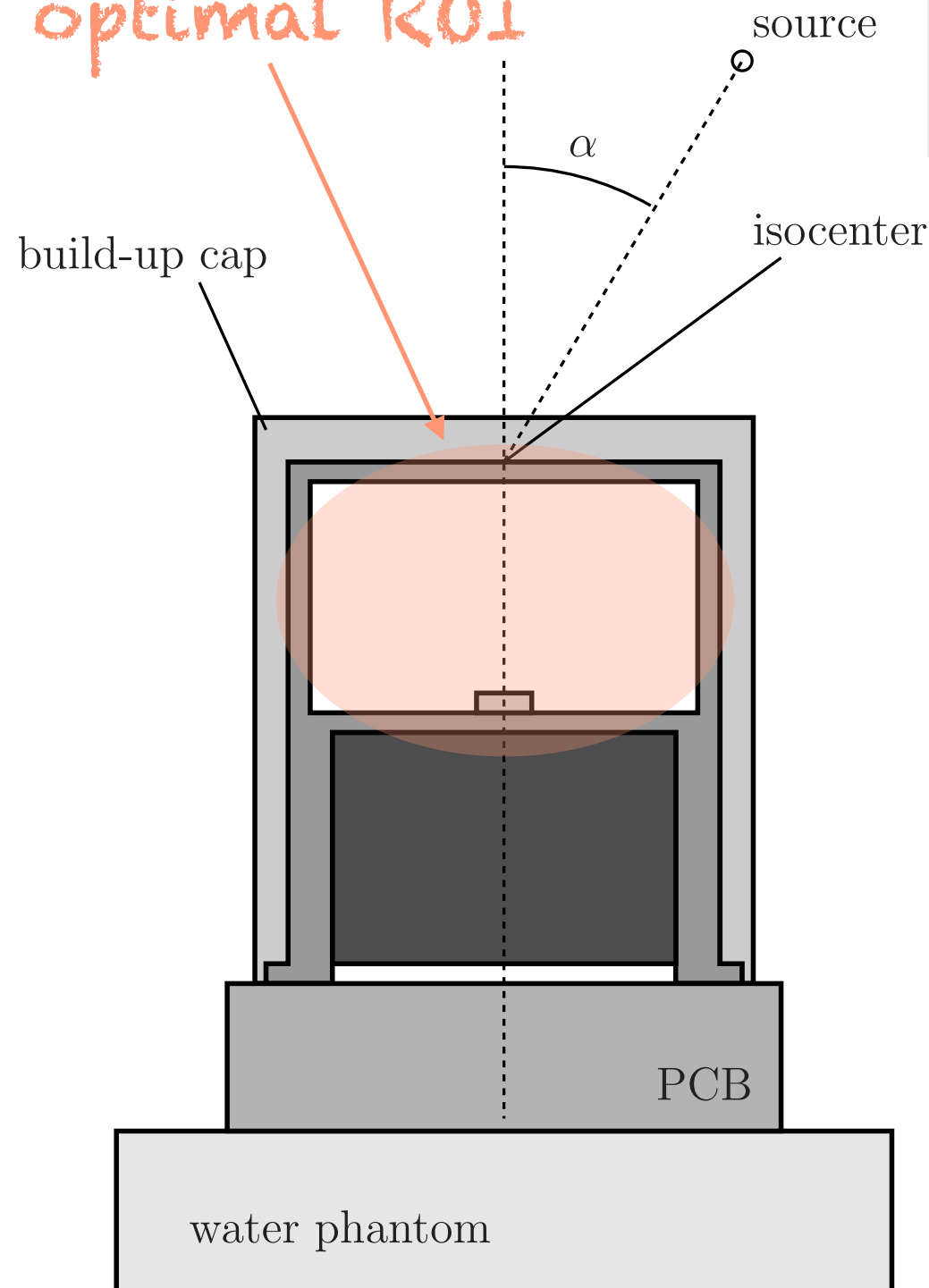
-address the possible angular dependence of the MOSFET response to irradiation

- If RoI is restricted to  $\text{SiO}_2$ 
  - the algorithm does not work !!
  - because of the few number of particles reaching the RoI,
    - filling the importance map to begin applying VRT takes a large CPU time (1000 particles reaching the RoI)
    - actualization of the importance map is extremely slow and uncertainties remain huge

# Results

## MOSFET used as a in-vivo dosimeter

optimal ROI



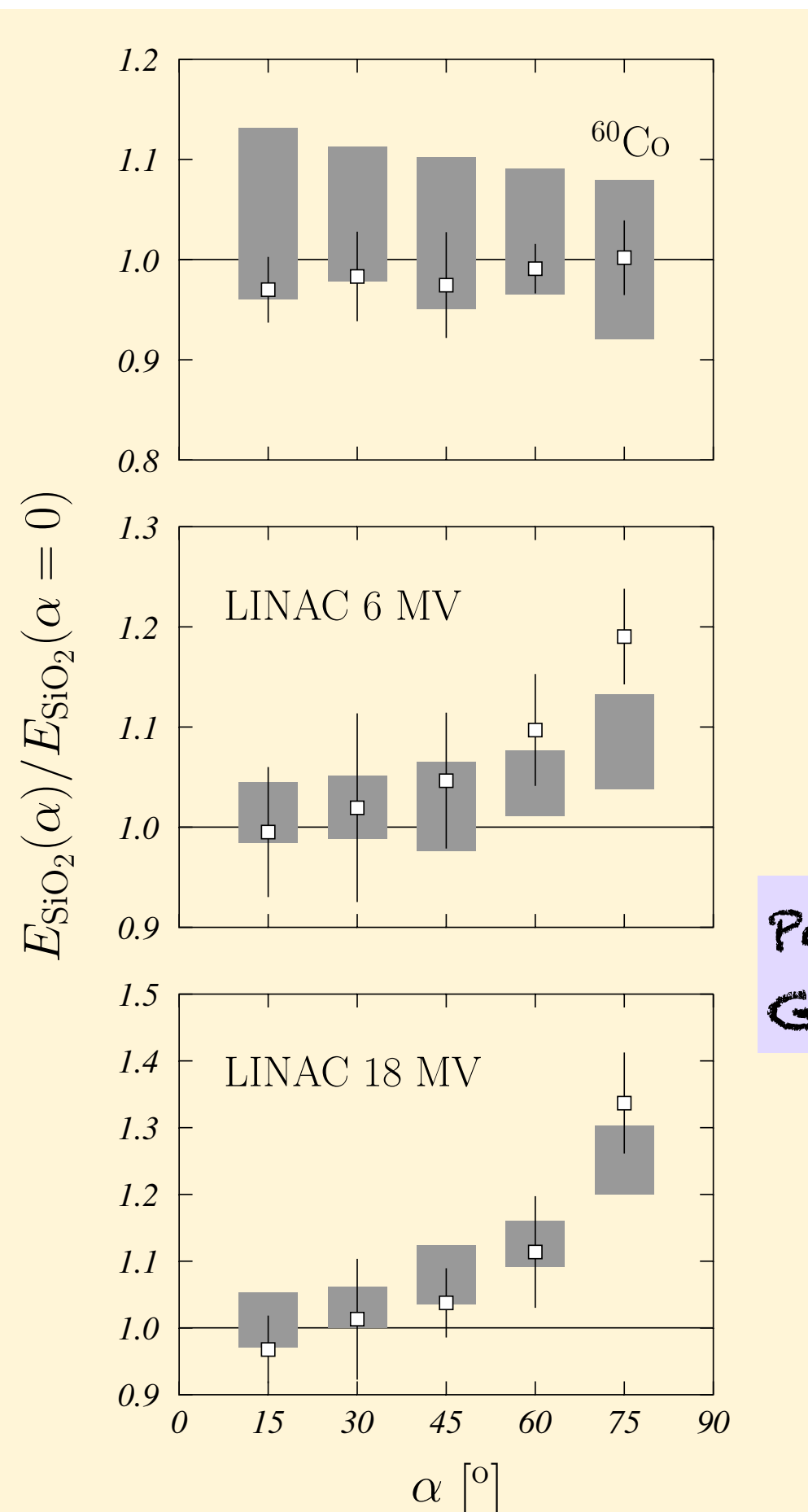
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- optimal ROI:
  - whole Si die +  $\text{SiO}_2$  + air
  - a gain factor  $\sim 70$  to fill the importance map and "human" CPU times to reach reasonable uncertainties

# Results

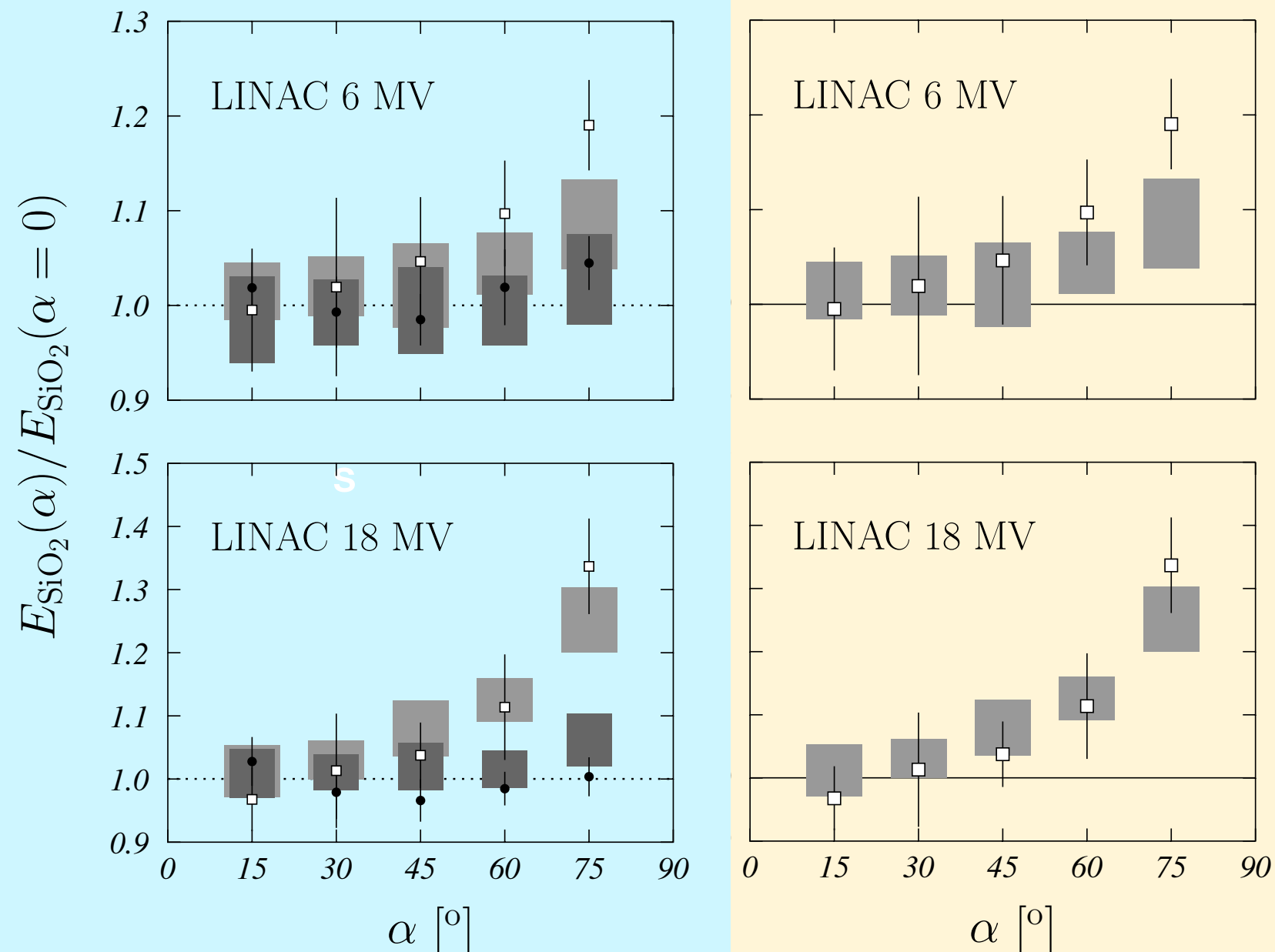
# Results



Points: experiment  
Gray bands: Monte Carlo

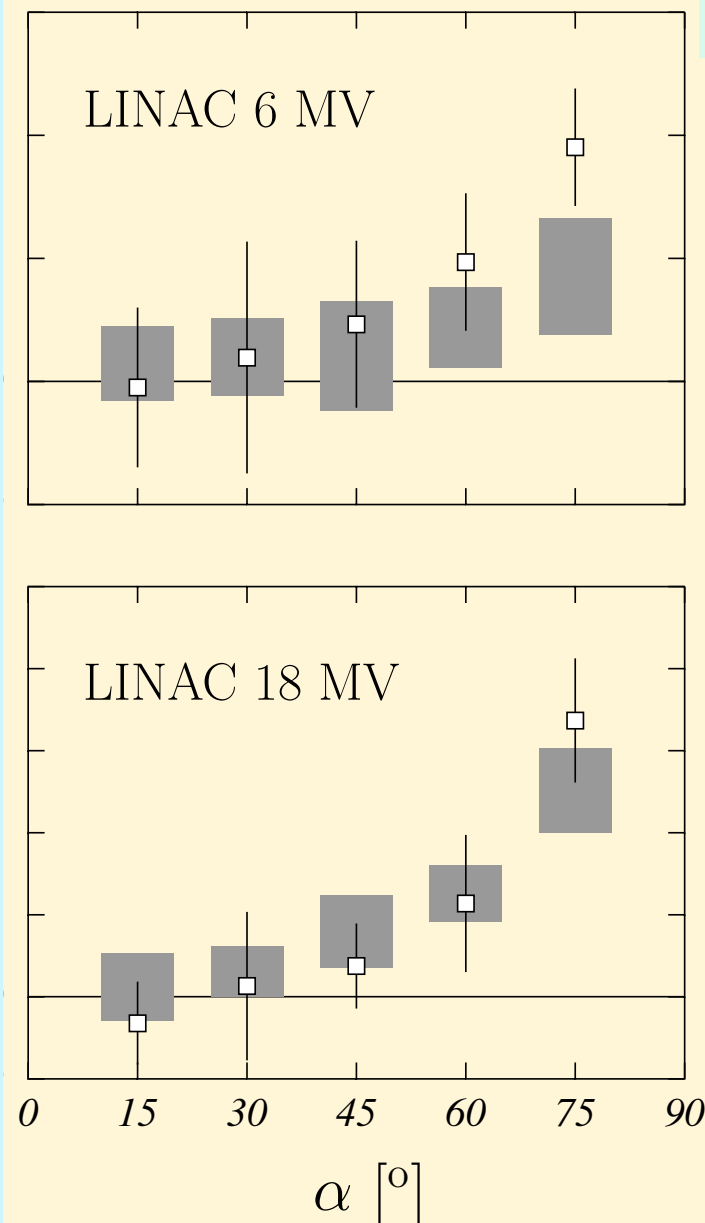
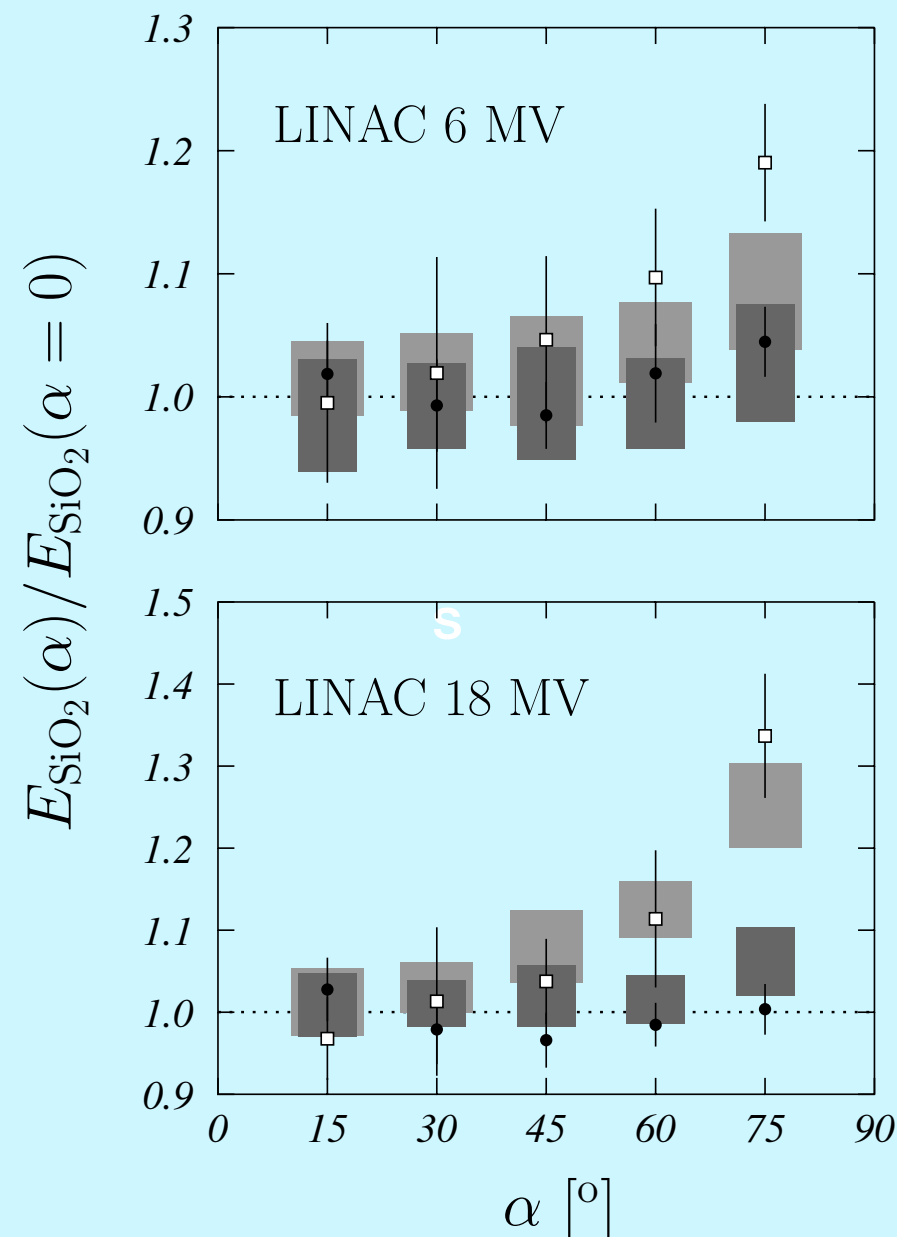
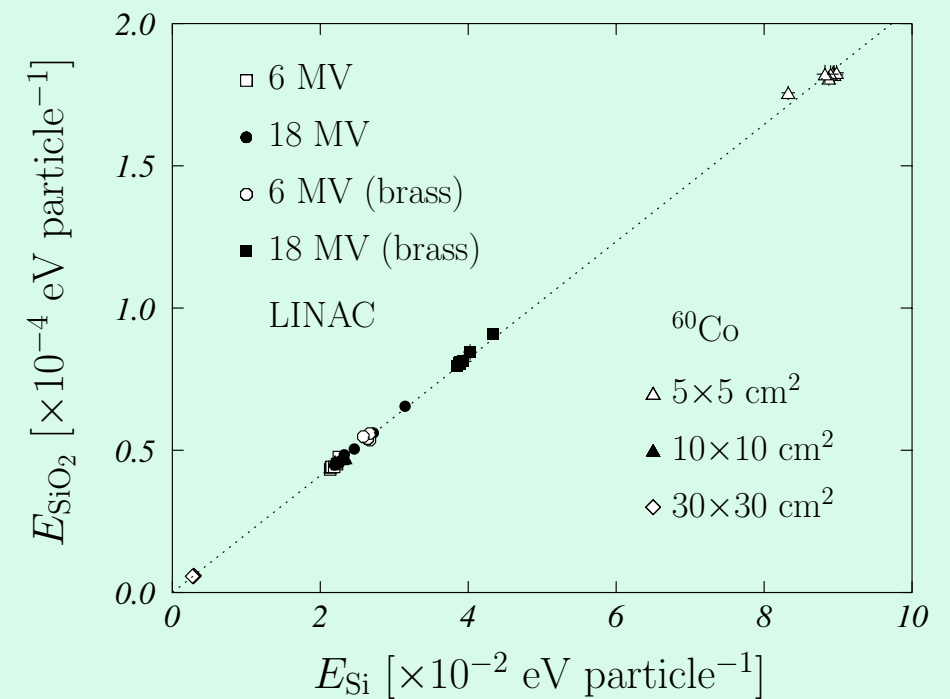
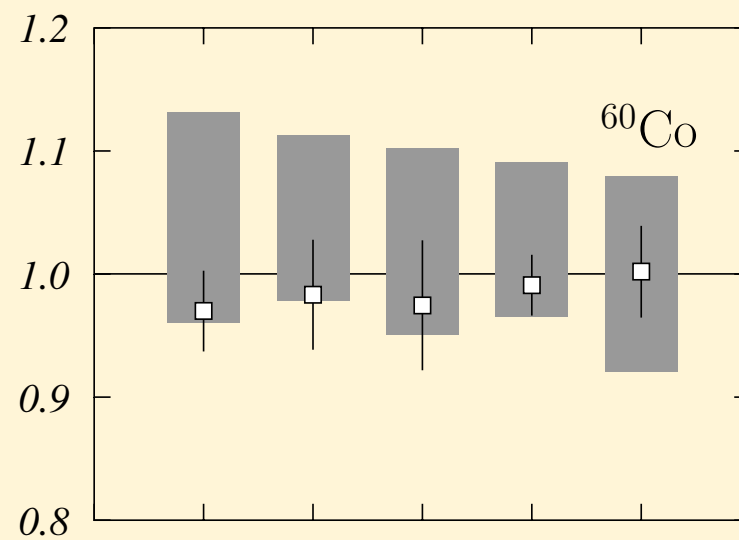


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## • Conclusions

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## •Conclusions

- VRTs allow simulating problems with very low statistics
- The ant colony algorithm developed allows the efficient implementation of VRTs by using the information scored on importance maps and with a minimum intervention of the user ... but details are relevant
- Applications in other problems:
  - clinical linacs
  - radiosurgery photon beams (very small fields)
  - specific absorbed fractions (nuclear medicine)
  - correction factors of small ionization chambers



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F. Salvat Univ. Barcelona (Spain)  
L. Brualla Universitätsklinikum Essen (Germany)  
A. Palma, M.Á. Carvajal Univ. Granada (Spain)  
D. Guirado Hosp. Univ. Granada (Spain)  
F. Erazo SOLCA Cuenca (Ecuador)  
M. Vilches IMOMA Oviedo (Spain)  
P. Galán Hosp. Univ. Málaga (Spain)

# Variance reduction techniques in Monte Carlo simulations: ants at work!

S. García-Pareja, A. M. Lallena



Thanks !!



# Some applications

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## Photon beams for radio surgery

# Some applications

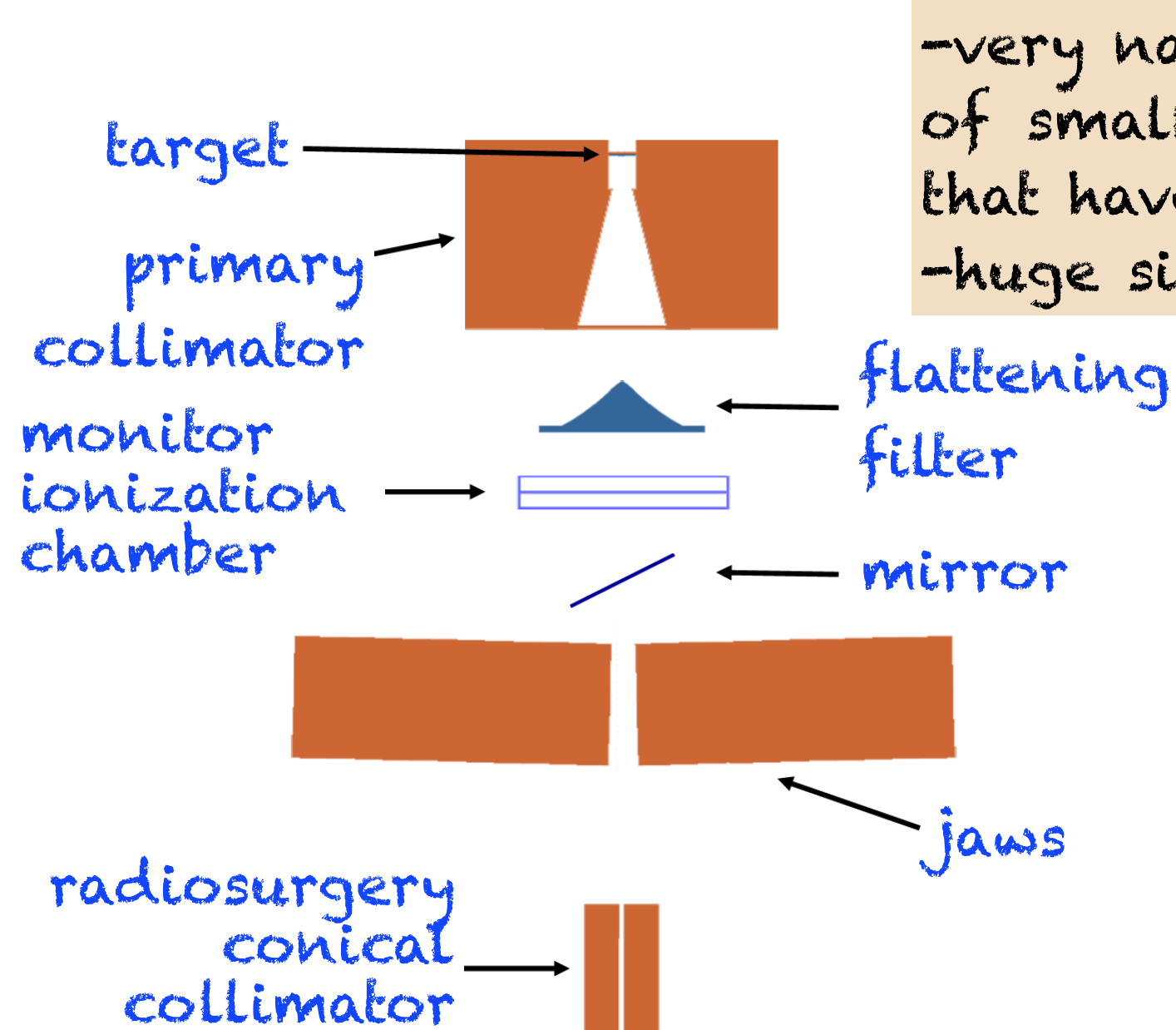
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## Photon beams for radio surgery

- very narrow beams used for treatment of small lesions nearby healthy tissues that have to be preserved
- huge simulation CPU times!!

# Some applications

## Photon beams for radio surgery

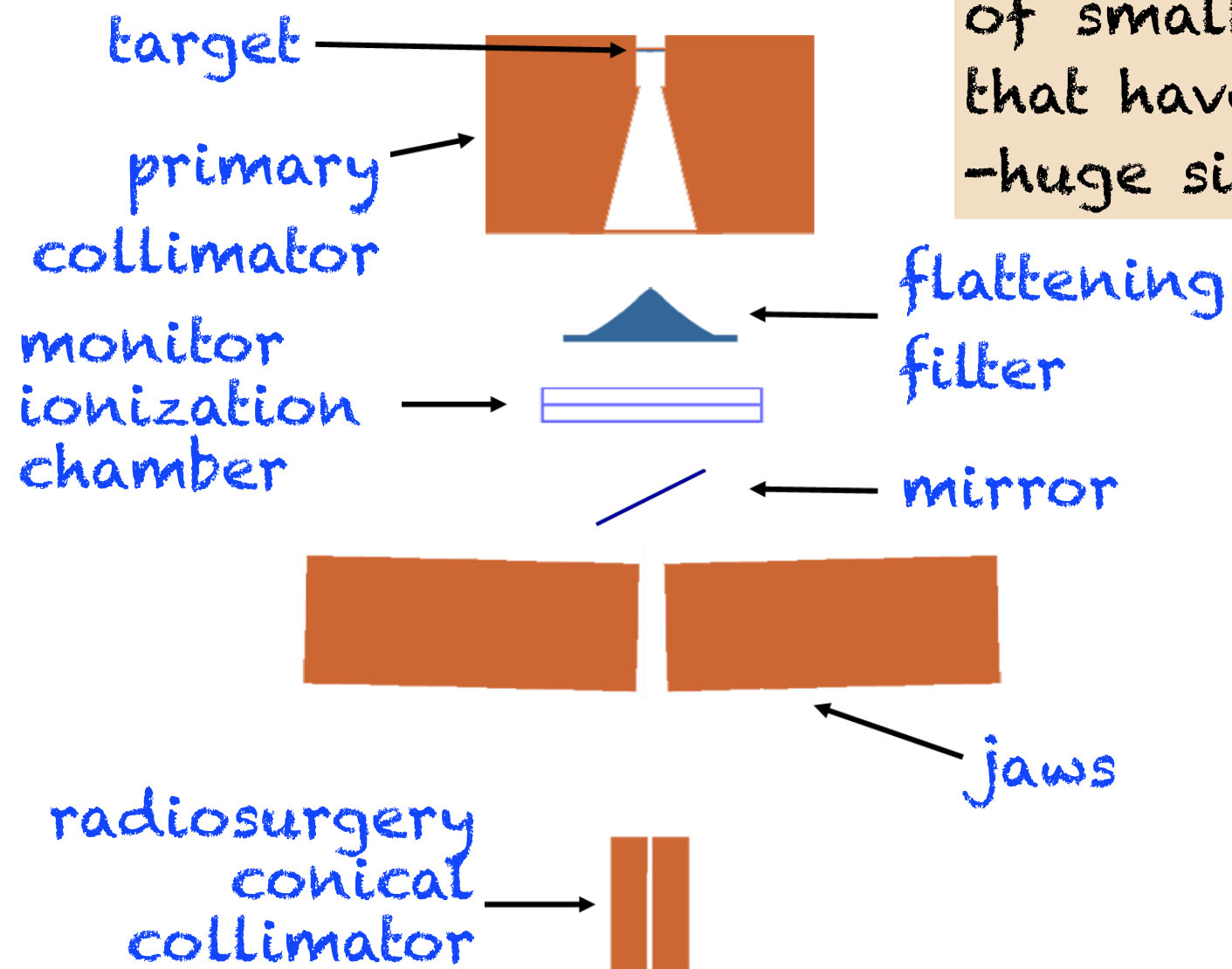


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-VRT applied to both electrons and photons

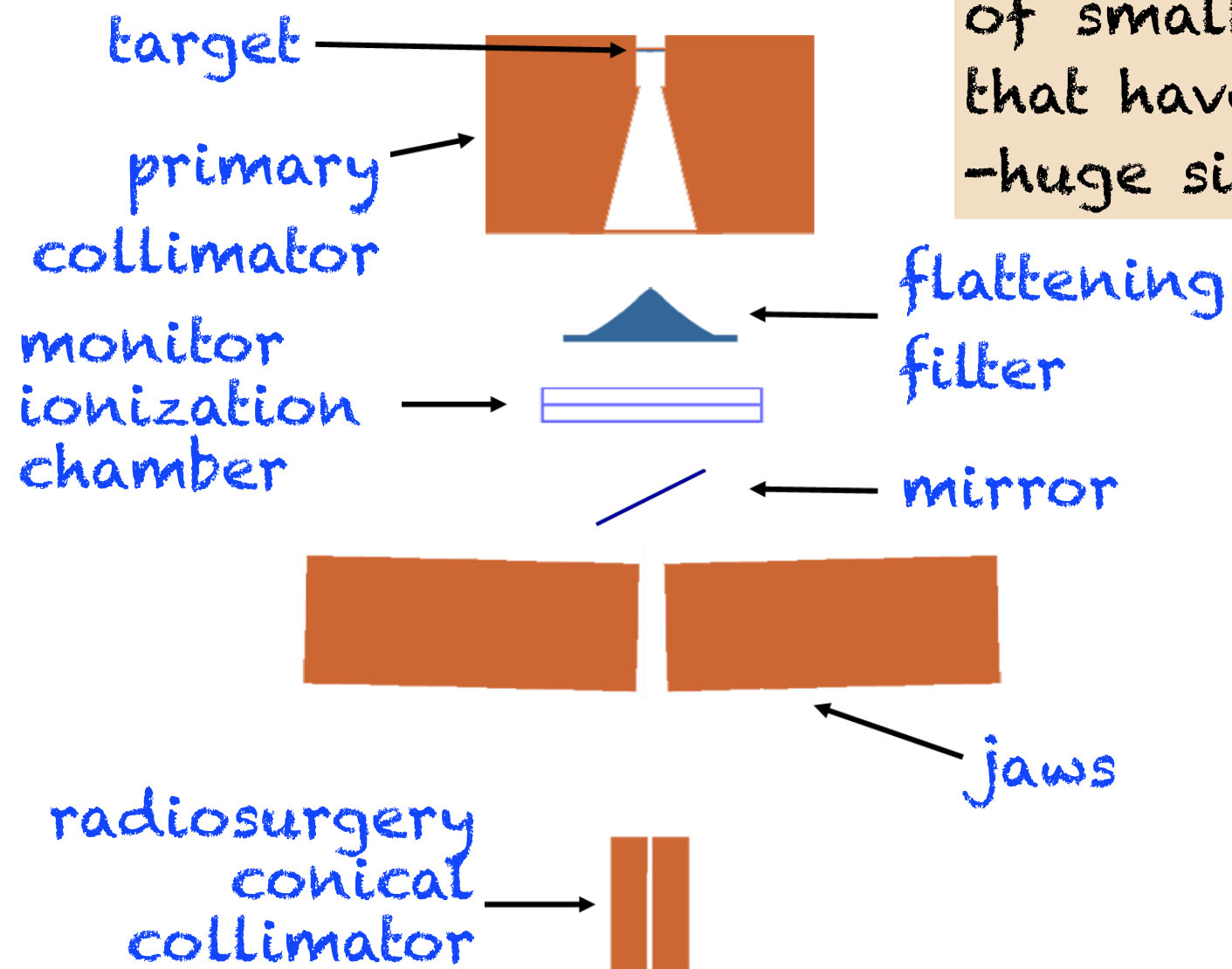
$$I_1 = I(x, y, z, E, M) \text{ for electrons.}$$

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# Some applications

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•directional Bremsstrahlung splitting is needed  
-applied throughout the whole geometry

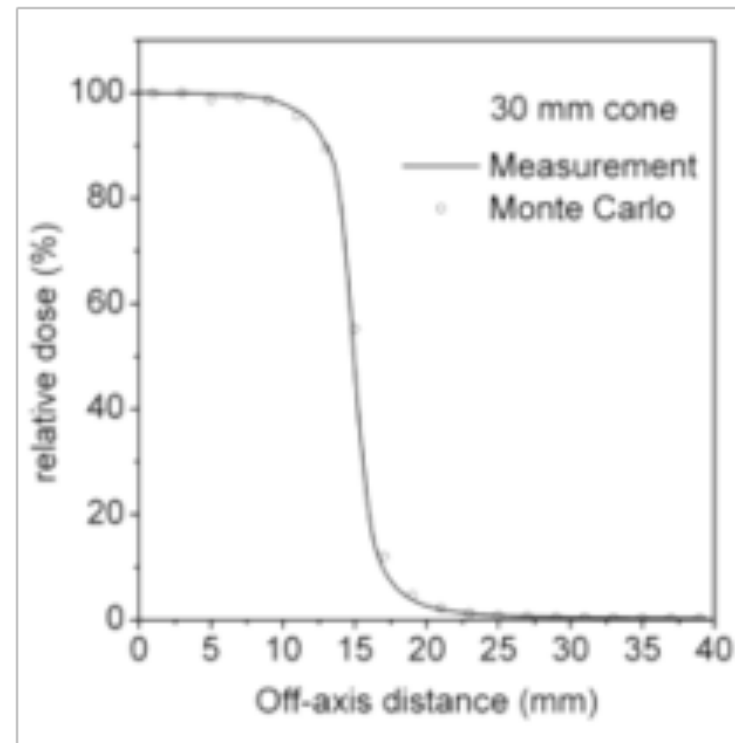
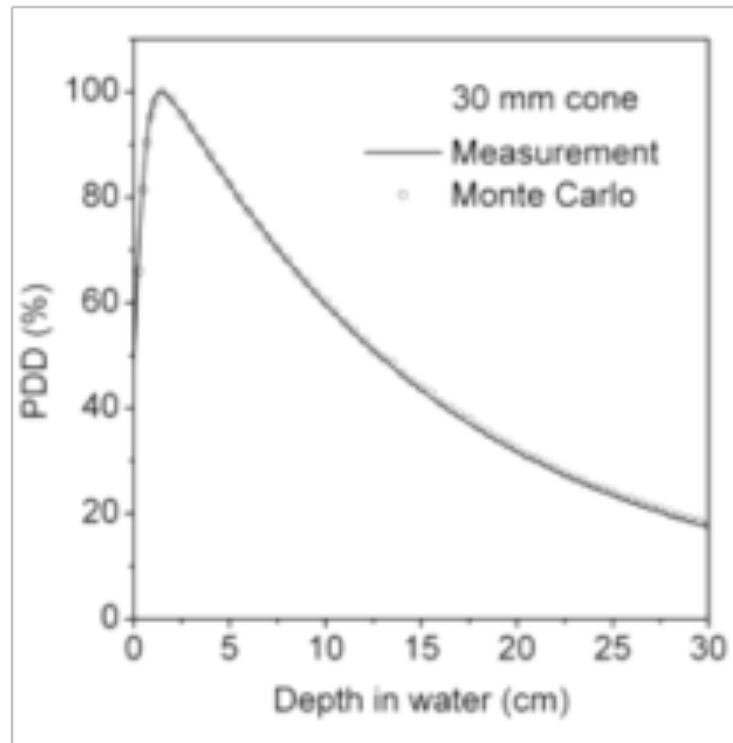
# Some applications

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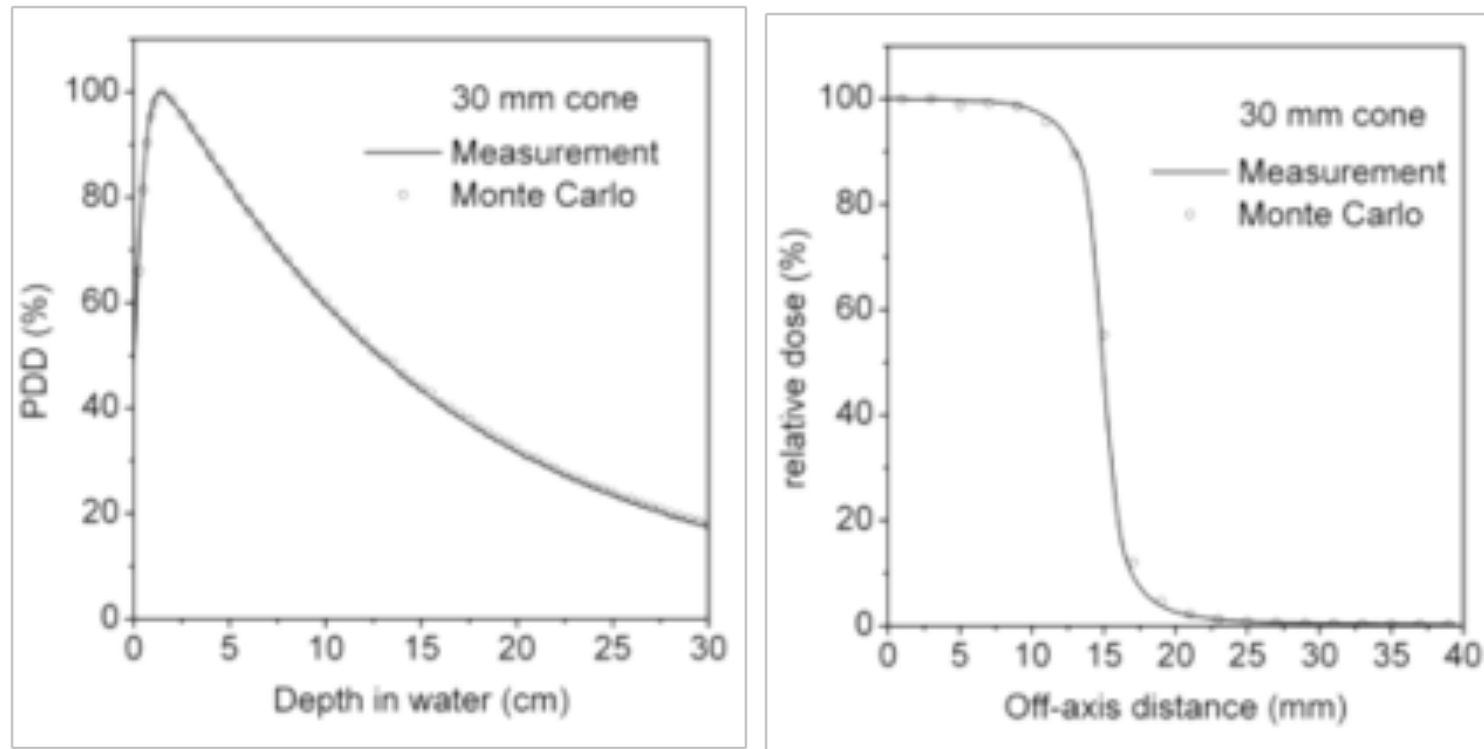
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# Some applications

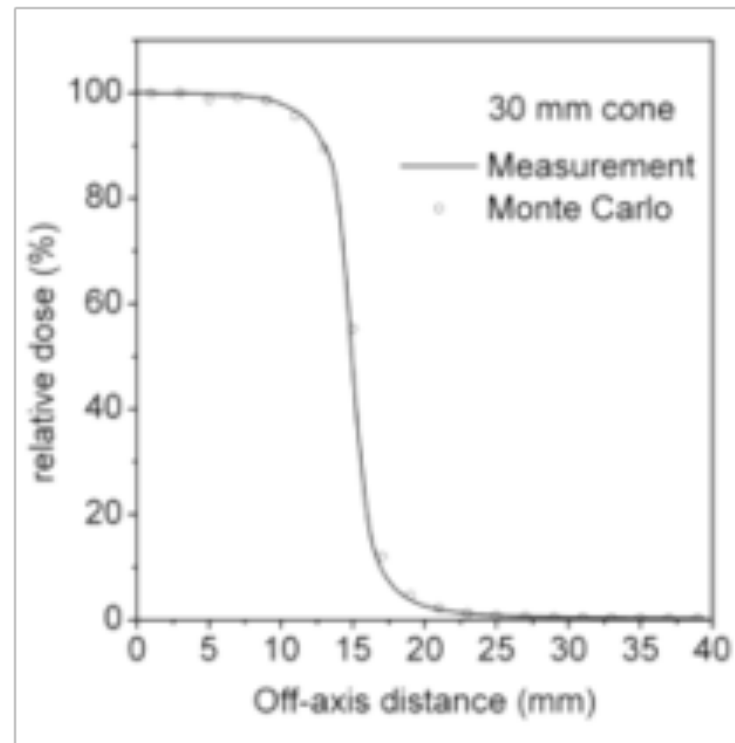
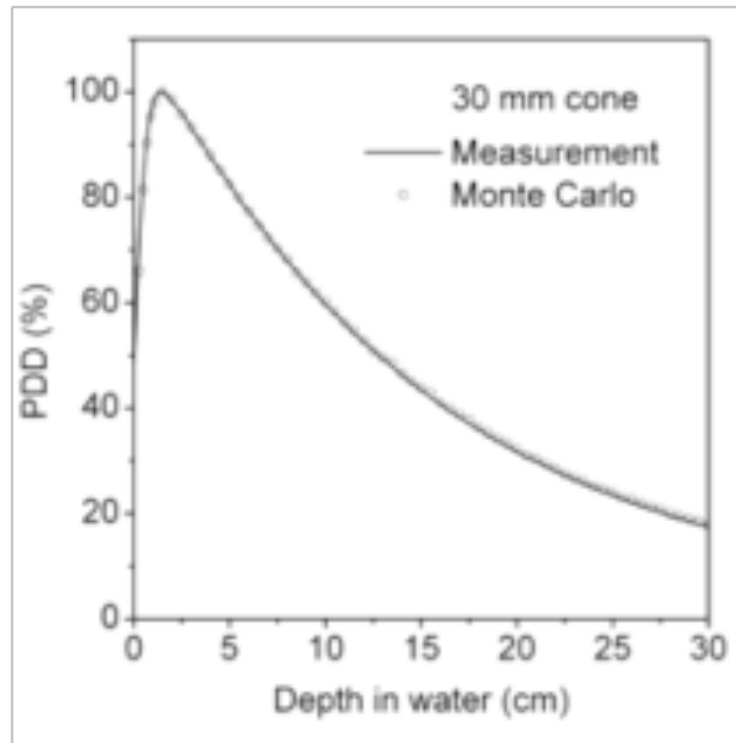
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CPU times:  
9 h (10 mm) to 0.9 h (30 mm)

# Some applications

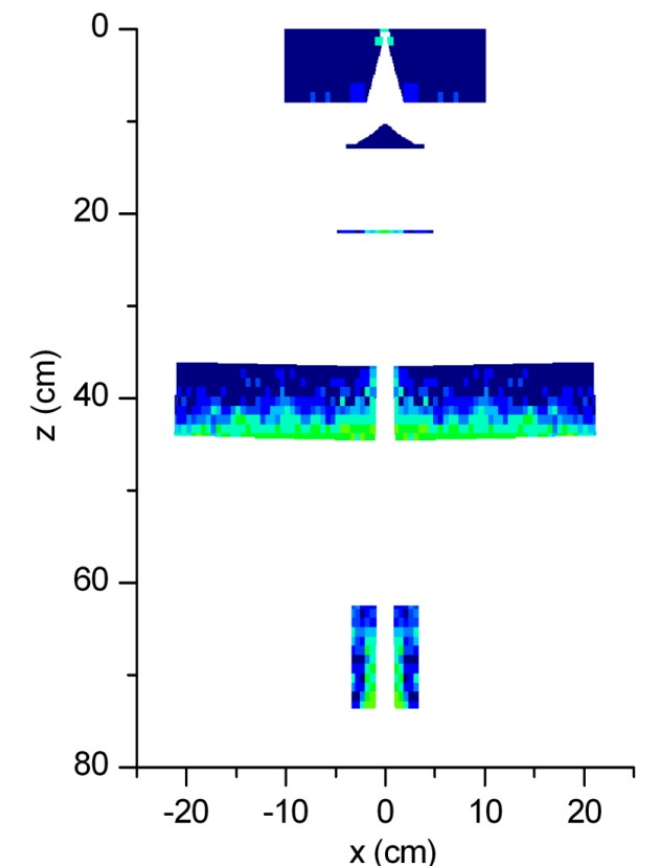
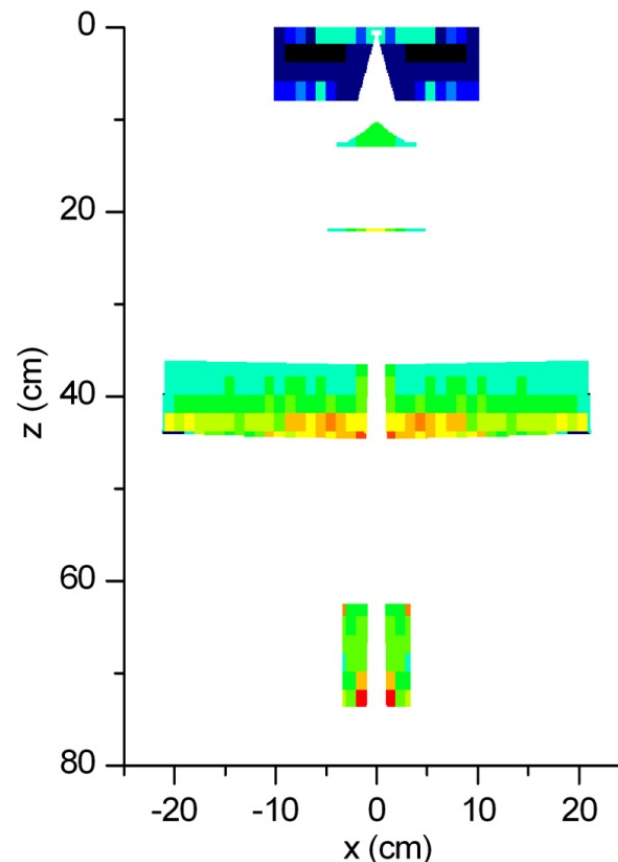
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high  
energy  
photons

high  
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electrons



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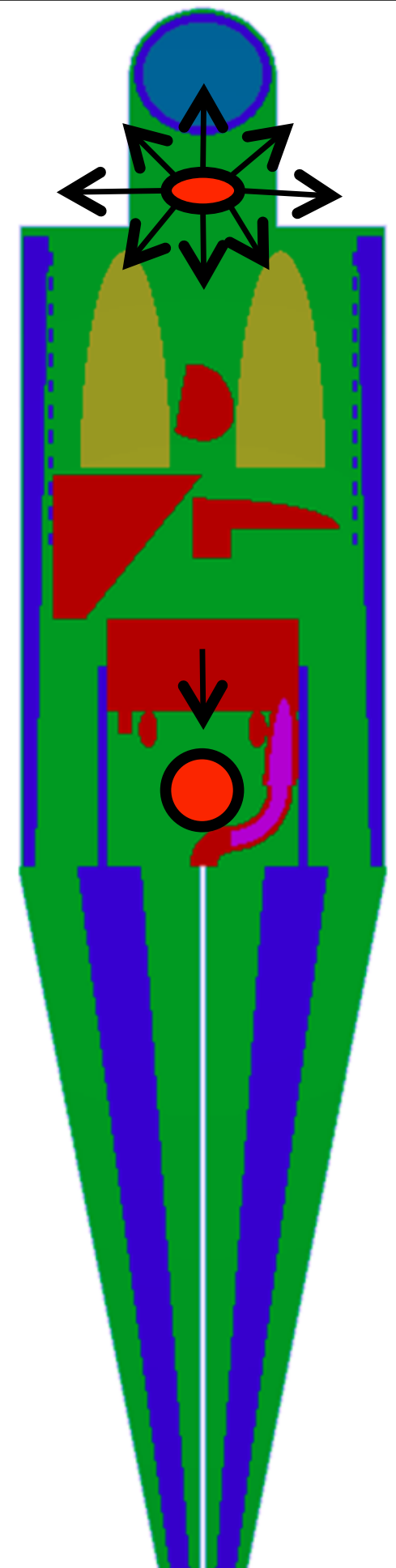
## Specific absorbed fractions



# Some applications

## Specific absorbed fractions

- inform about organ/tissue irradiation due to diagnostic or therapy of other organ
- interest in Nuclear Medicine



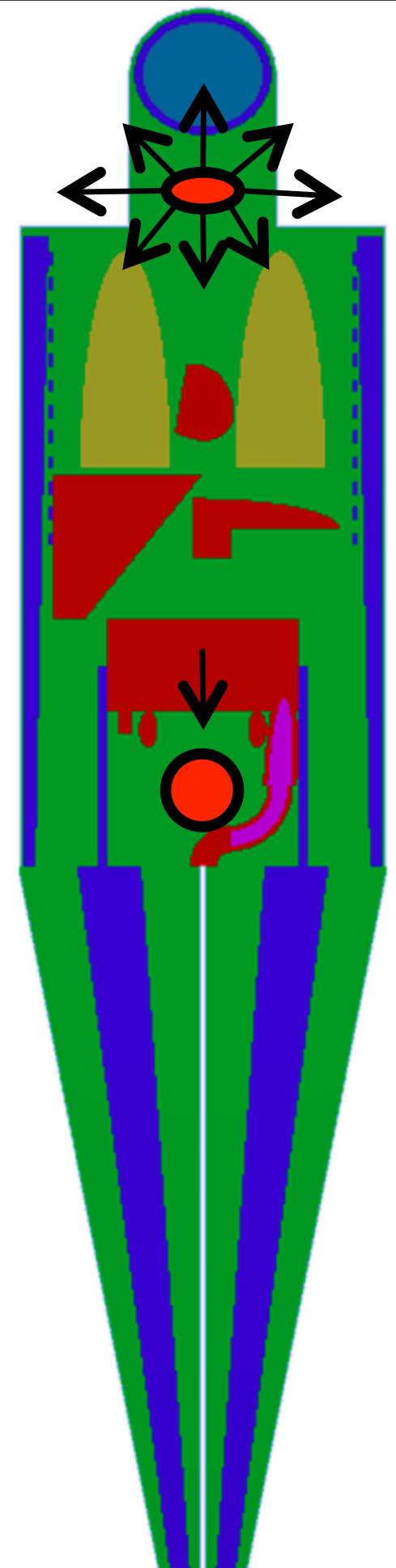
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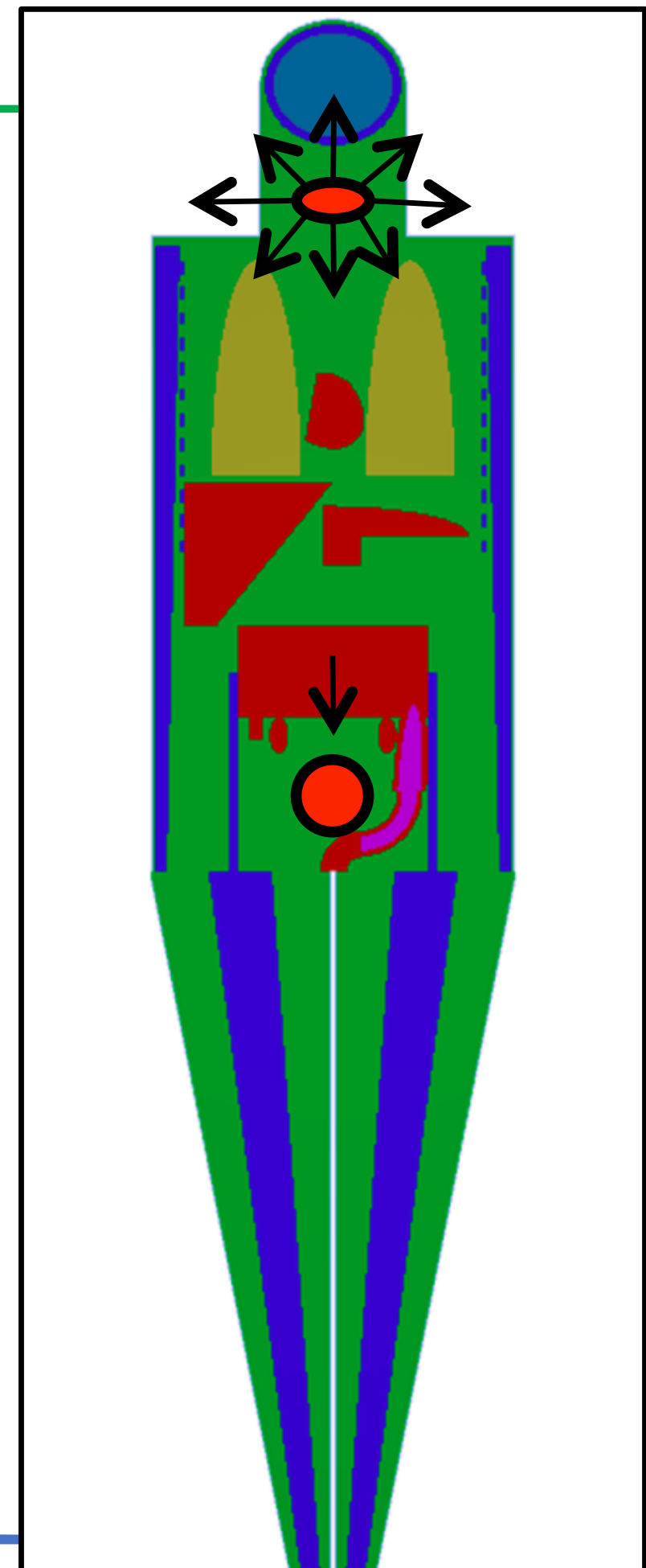
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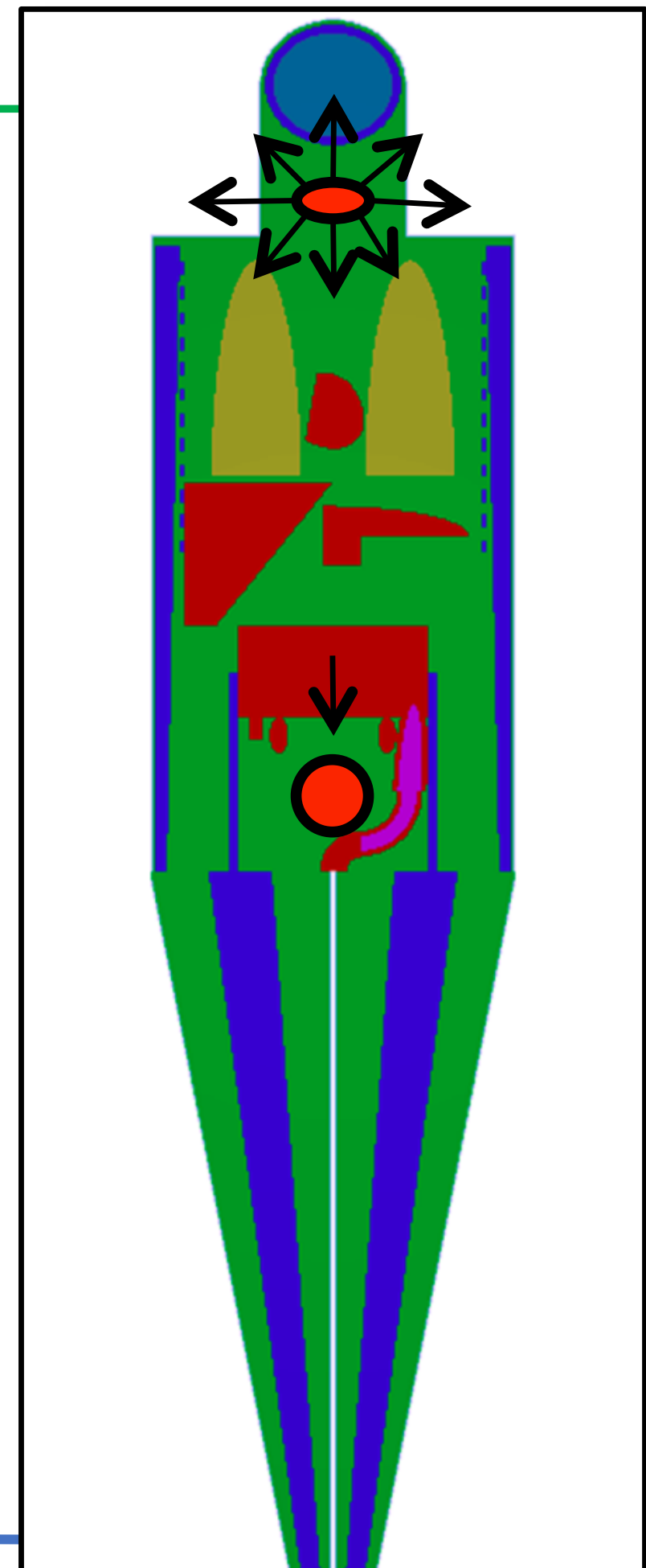
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## Correction factors of micro-chambers



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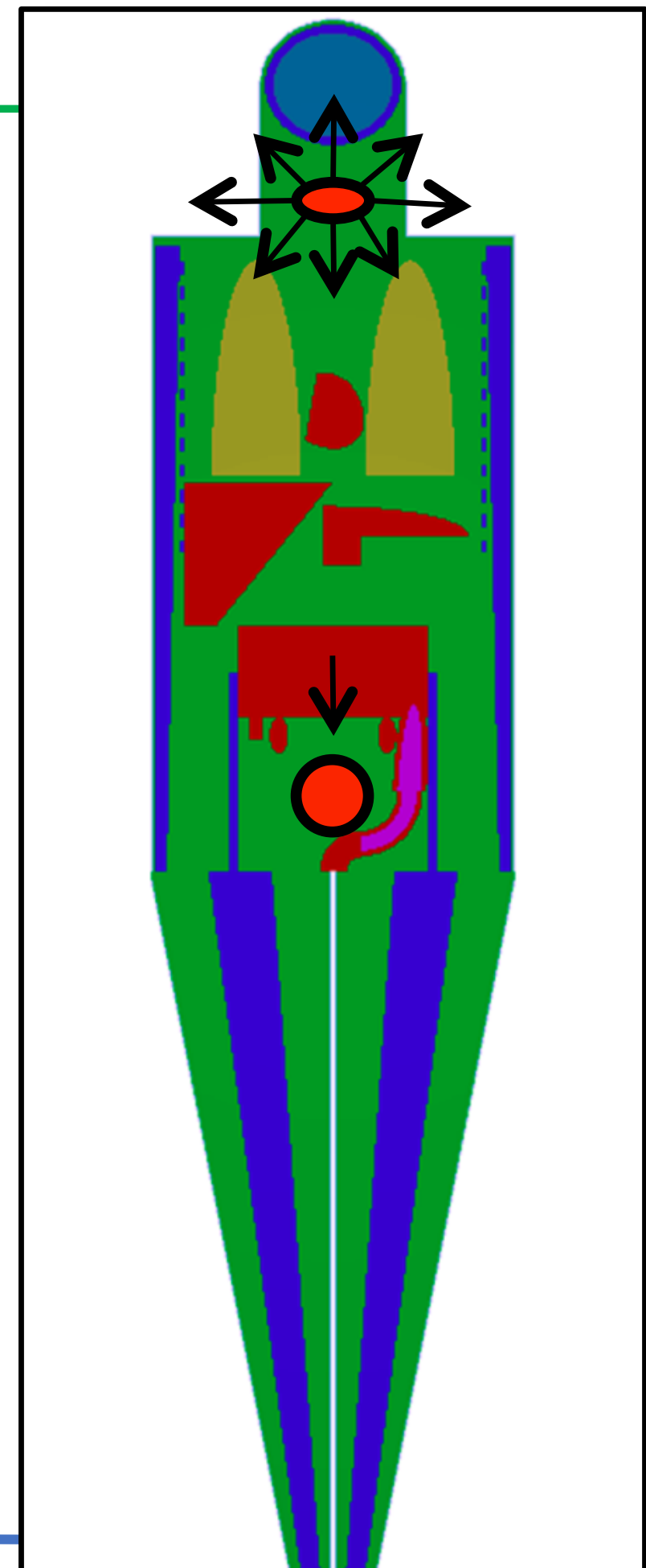
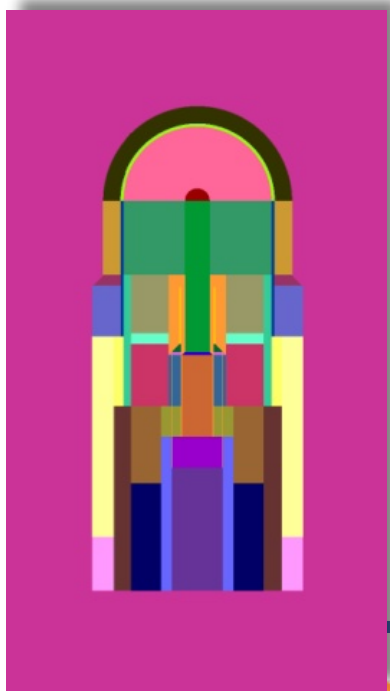
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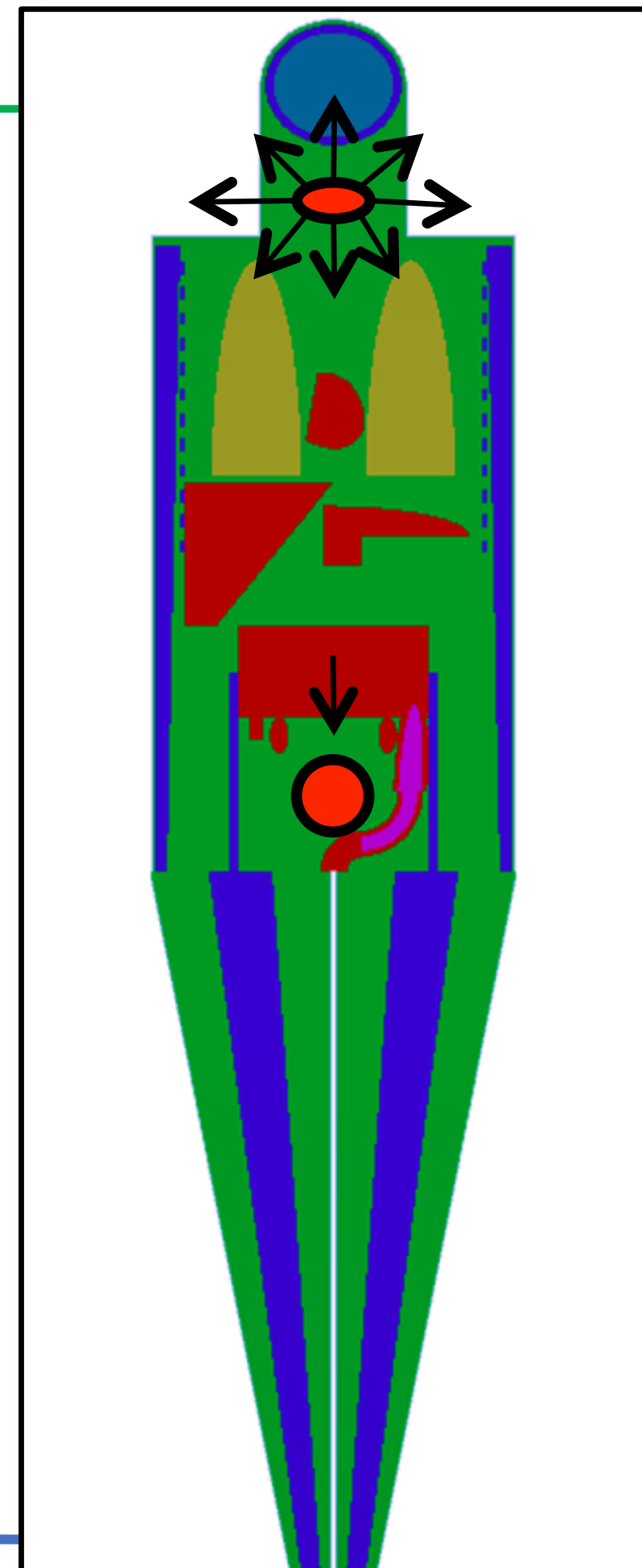
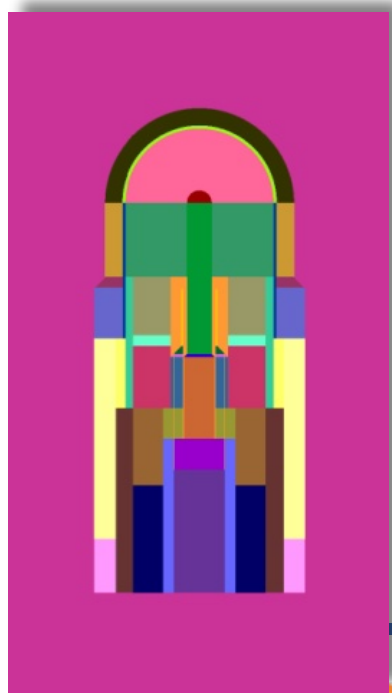
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- efficiency increase by a factor 10!!

## Correction factors of micro-chambers

- efficiency increases by a factor 100!!



# Conclusions

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- An optimization algorithm based on 'ant colony behavior' has been developed
- It allows the efficient implementation of variance reduction techniques
- It uses the information scored on importance maps
- Minimum intervention by the user is required ... but details are relevant