

# LET THERE BE LIGHT

*Een verhandeling over straling*

*François van Langevelde*

# The Creation of Light (Genesis 1.3-5)



Gustave Doré – Bible Illustrations

1 In den beginne schiep God den hemel en de aarde.

2 De aarde nu was woest en ledig, en duisternis was op den afgrond; en de Geest Gods zweefde op de wateren.

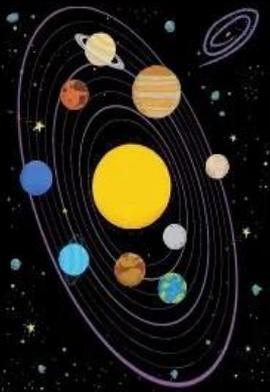
3 En God zeide: Daar zij licht! en daar werd licht.

4 En God zag het licht, dat het goed was; en God maakte scheiding tussen het licht en tussen de duisternis.

5 En God noemde het licht dag, en de duisternis noemde Hij nacht. Toen was het avond geweest, en het was morgen geweest, de eerste dag.

Aldus De Statenvertaling 1637

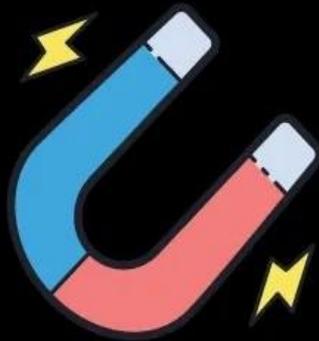
# The Four Fundamental Forces



**Gravity**

Gravitonen (?)

1



**Electromagnetic  
Force**

Fotonen

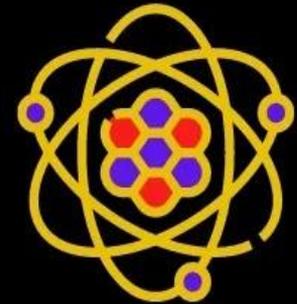
$10^{38}$



**Weak Force**

W&Z Bosonen

$10^{15}$

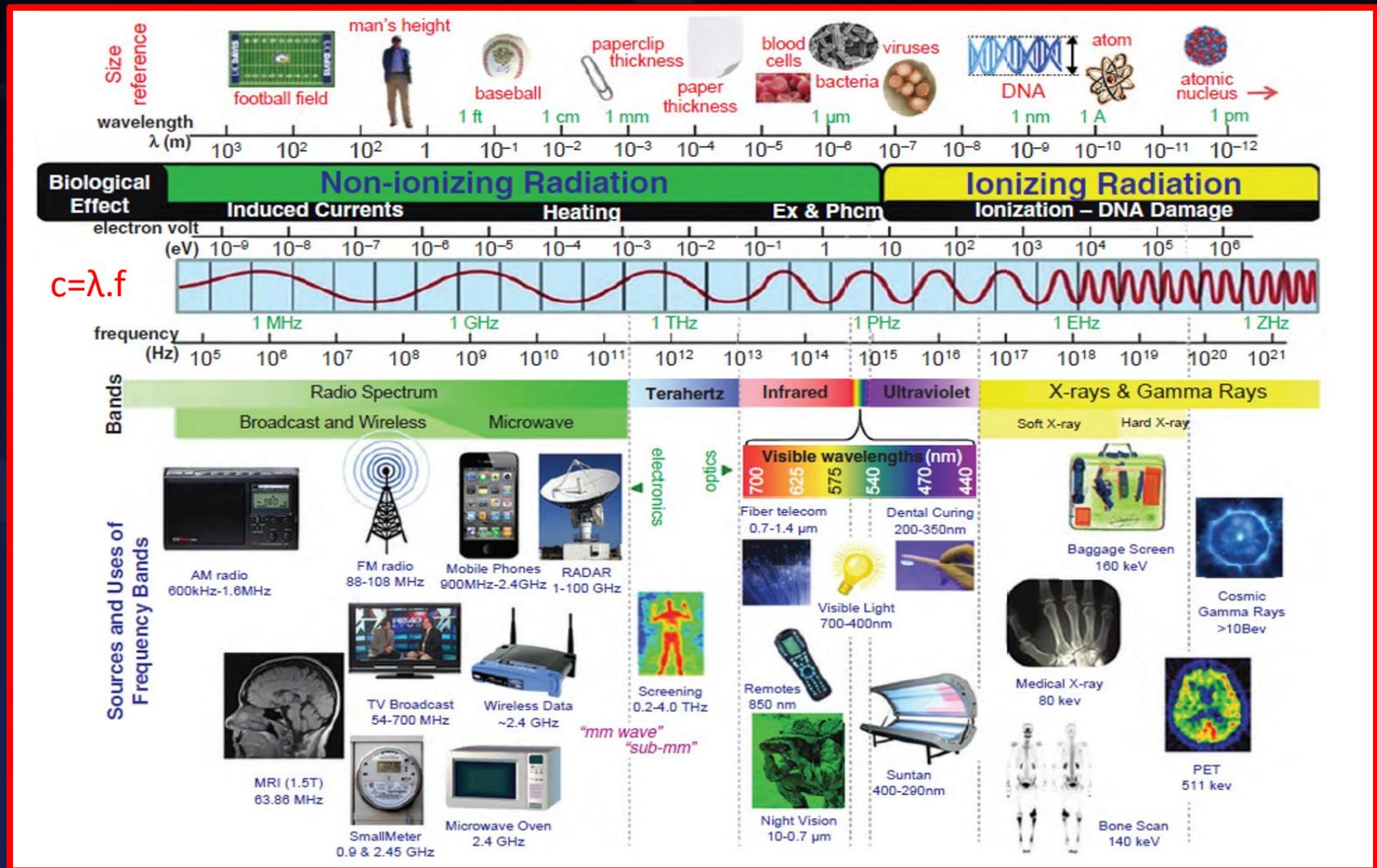


**Strong Force**

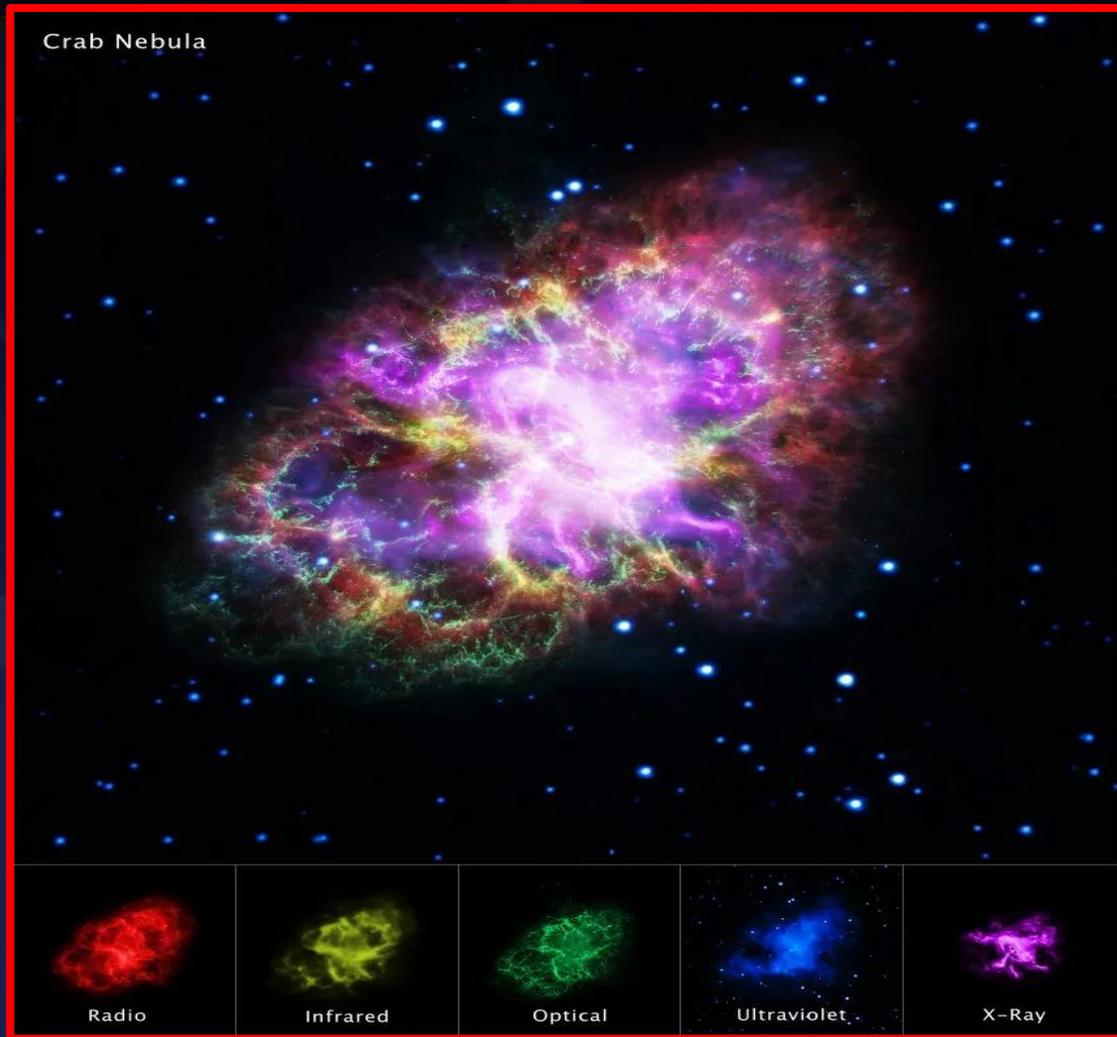
Gluonen

$10^{40}$

# The Electromagnetic Spectrum I



# The Electromagnetic Spectrum II

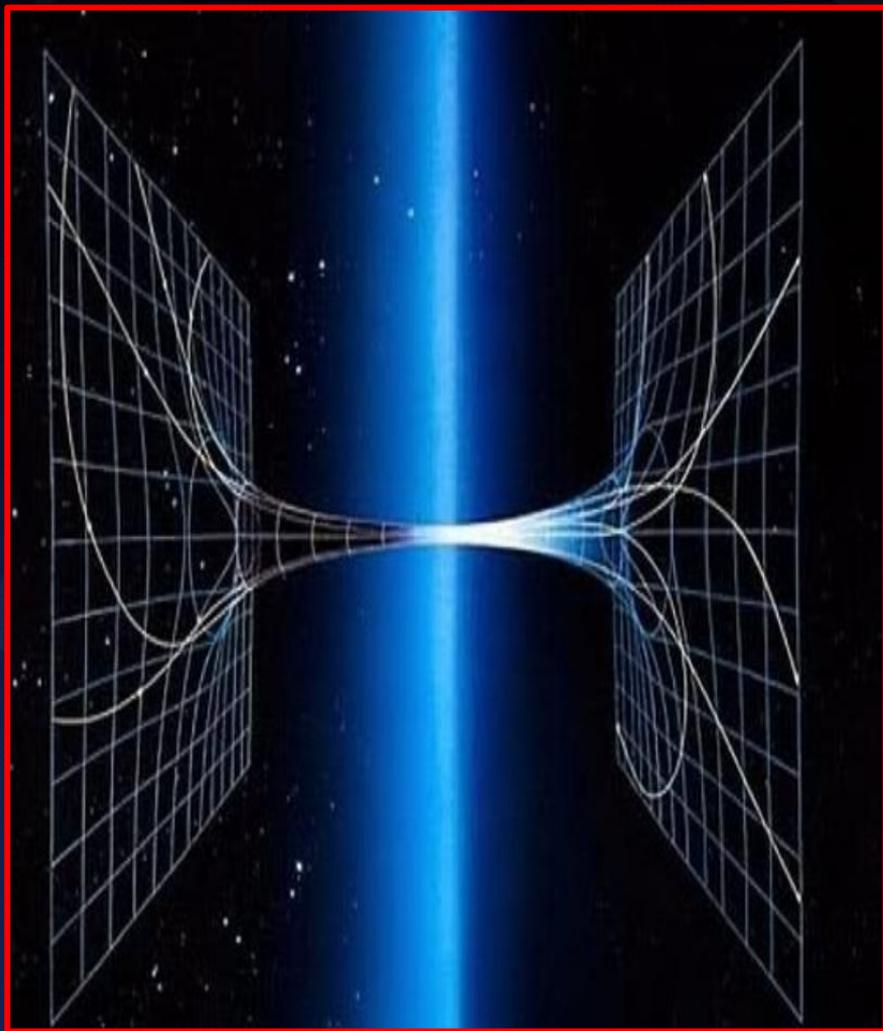


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# "Genesis" according to George Gamow



From Big Crunch to Big Bang?

In het begin schiep God Straling en Ylem.  
En Ylem was zonder vorm of getal, en de nucleonen  
raasden als gekken over het oppervlak van het diepe.

En God zei: "Laat er massa twee zijn."  
En er was massa twee.  
En God zag Deuterium, en het was goed.

En God zei: "Laat er massa drie zijn."  
En er was massa drie.  
En God zag Tritium, en het was goed.

En God bleef getallen noemen totdat Hij bij de  
Transuranium elementen kwam.  
Maar toen Hij terugkeek op zijn werk, zag  
Hij dat het niet goed was.  
In de opwinding van het tellen had  
Hij gemist om massa vijf te noemen, en dus  
konden er natuurlijk geen zwaardere elementen  
gevormd zijn.

.....



# Human Elemental Composition

## Human Body Ingredients

The four ingredients below are essential parts of the body's protein, carbohydrate and fat architecture.



OXYGEN

65.0%

Critical to the conversion of food into energy.



CARBON

18.5%

The so-called backbone of the body and a key part of other important compounds, such as testosterone and estrogen.



HYDROGEN

9.5%

Helps transport nutrients, remove wastes and regulate body temperature. Also plays an important role in energy production.



NITROGEN

3.3%

Found in amino acids, the building blocks of proteins; an essential part of the nucleic acids that constitute DNA.

(Percentage of body weight. Source: *Biology*, Campbell and Reece, eighth edition.)



## Other Key Elements

**Calcium 1.5%**  
Lends rigidity and strength to bones and teeth; also important for the functioning of nerves and muscles, and for blood clotting.

**Phosphorus 1.0%**  
Needed for building and maintaining bones and teeth; also found in the molecule ATP (adenosine triphosphate), which provides energy that drives chemical reactions in cells.

**Potassium 0.4%**  
Important for electrical signaling in nerves and maintaining the balance of water in the body.

**Sulfur 0.3%**  
Found in cartilage, insulin (the hormone that enables the body to use sugar), breast milk, proteins that play a role in the immune system, and keratin, a substance in skin, hair and nails.

**Chlorine 0.2%**  
Needed by nerves to function properly; also helps produce gastric juices.

**Sodium 0.2%**  
Plays a critical role in nerves' electrical signaling; also helps regulate the amount of water in the body.

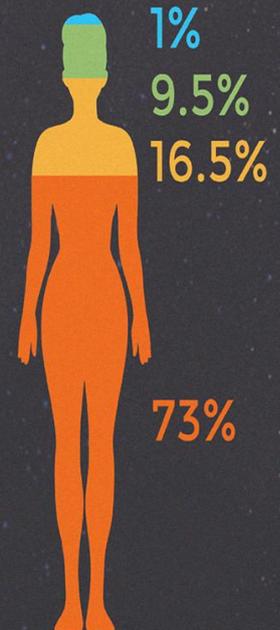
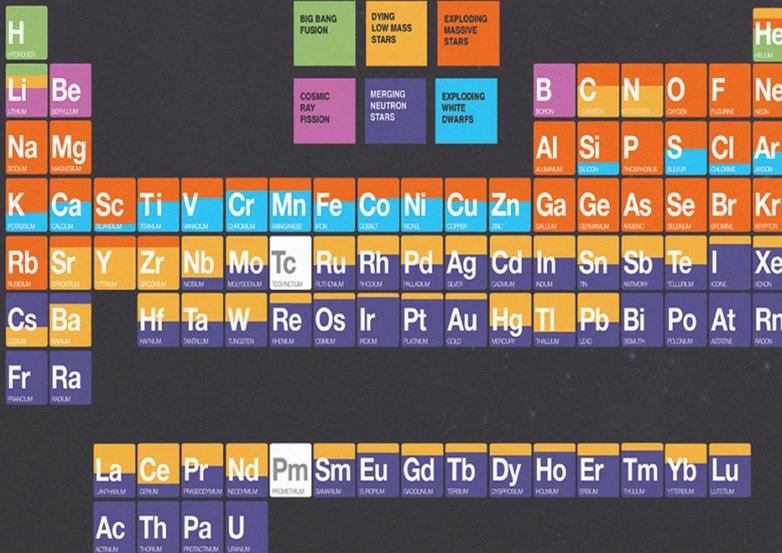
**Magnesium 0.1%**  
Plays an important role in the structure of the skeleton and muscles; also found in molecules that help enzymes use ATP to supply energy for chemical reactions in cells.

**Iodine (trace amount)**  
Part of an essential hormone produced by the thyroid gland; regulates metabolism.

**Iron (trace amount)**  
Part of hemoglobin, which carries oxygen in red blood cells.

**Zinc (trace amount)**  
Forms part of some enzymes involved in digestion.

## Elements from Big Bang and Stars



## Radionuclides in the body:

- $^{40}\text{K}$  isotope of Potassium
- $^{14}\text{C}$  isotope of Carbon
- $^{226}\text{Ra}$  isotope of Radium

# Earliest Human Experience with Light

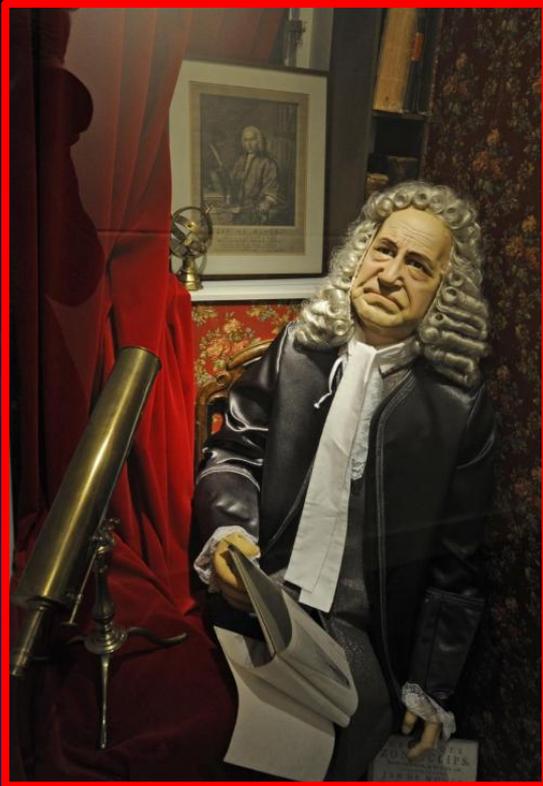
SUN



FIRE



# 17<sup>th</sup> Century Age of Light (Telescope)

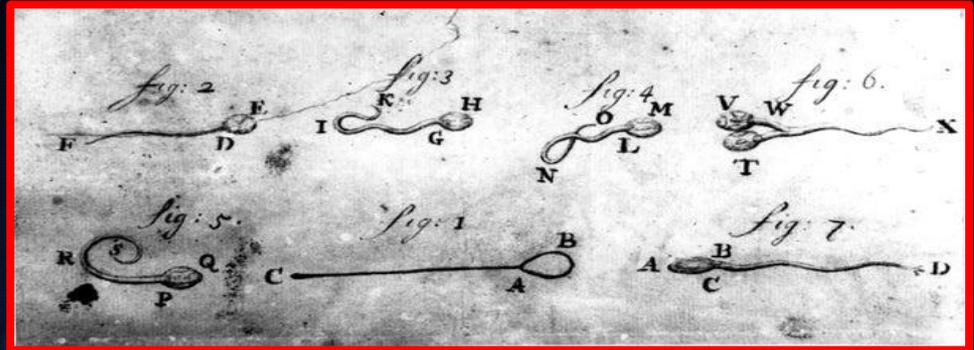
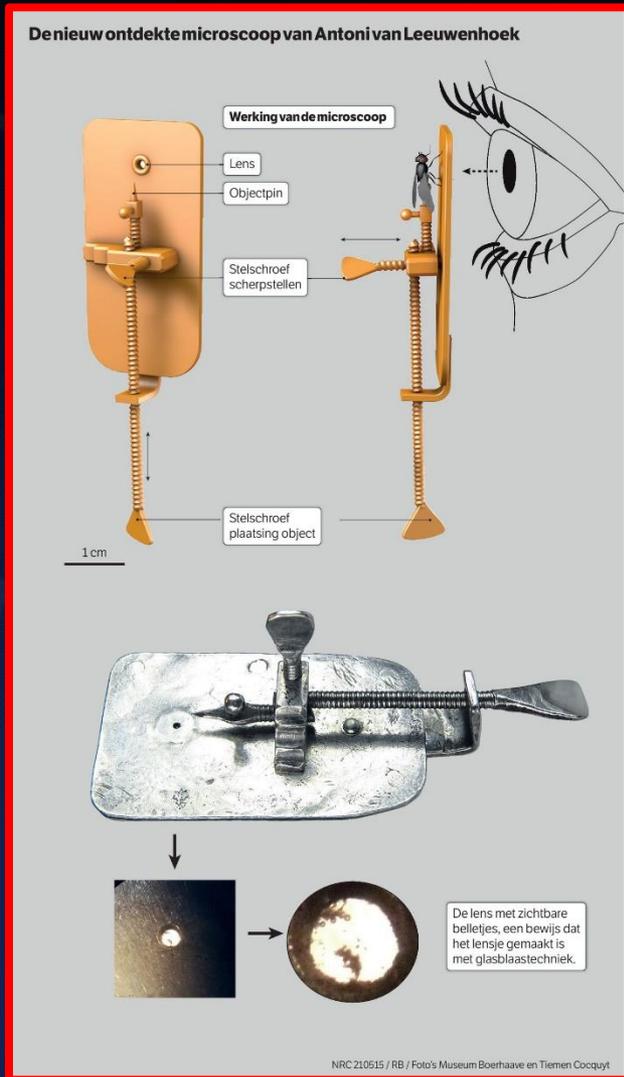


Johannes Lipperhey



1608

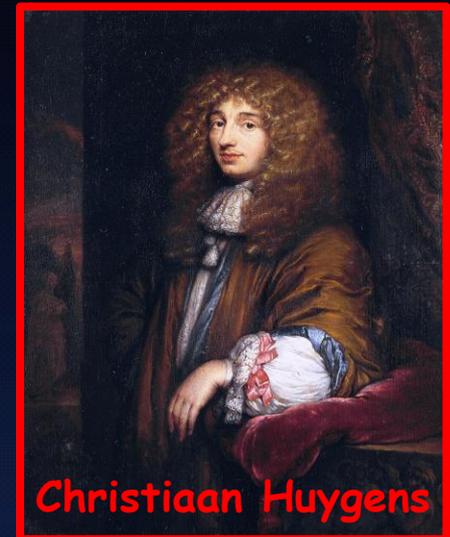
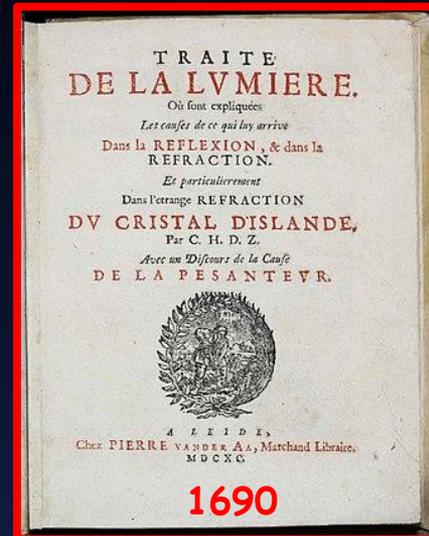
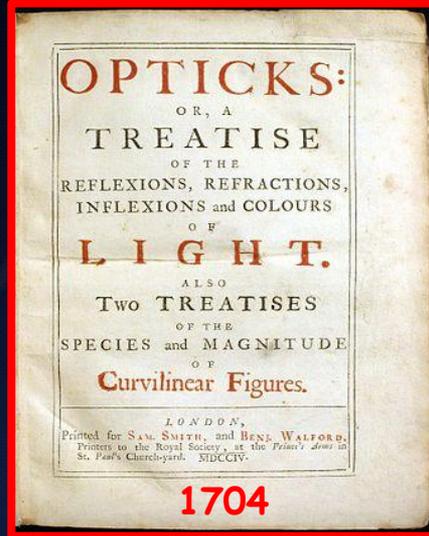
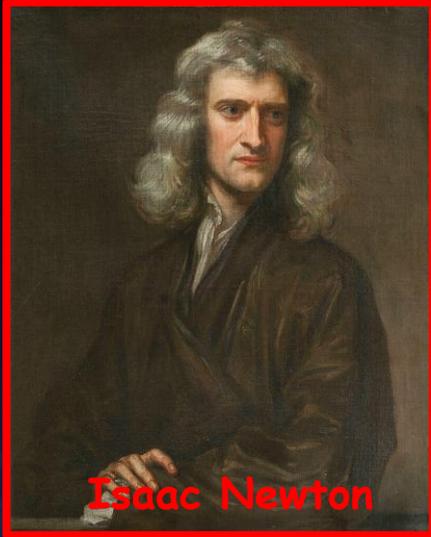
# 17<sup>th</sup> Century Age of Light (Microscope)



Antoni van Leeuwenhoek 1632-1723



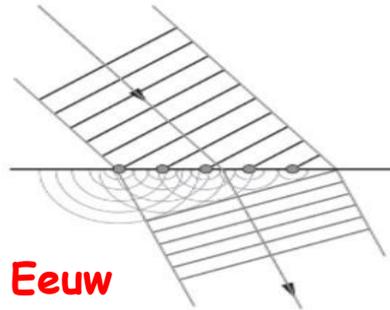
# 17<sup>th</sup> Century Age of Light (particles or waves?)



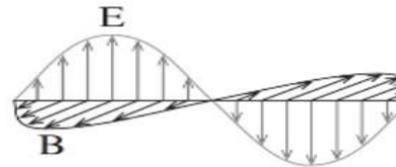
Newton



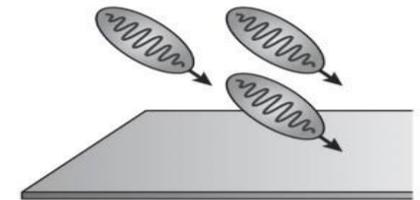
Huygens



Maxwell

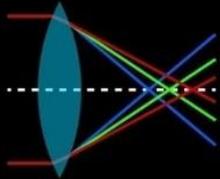


Einstein



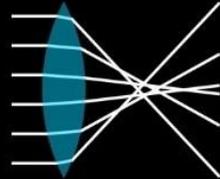
# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Age of Light Optics

## CHROMATIC ABERRATION

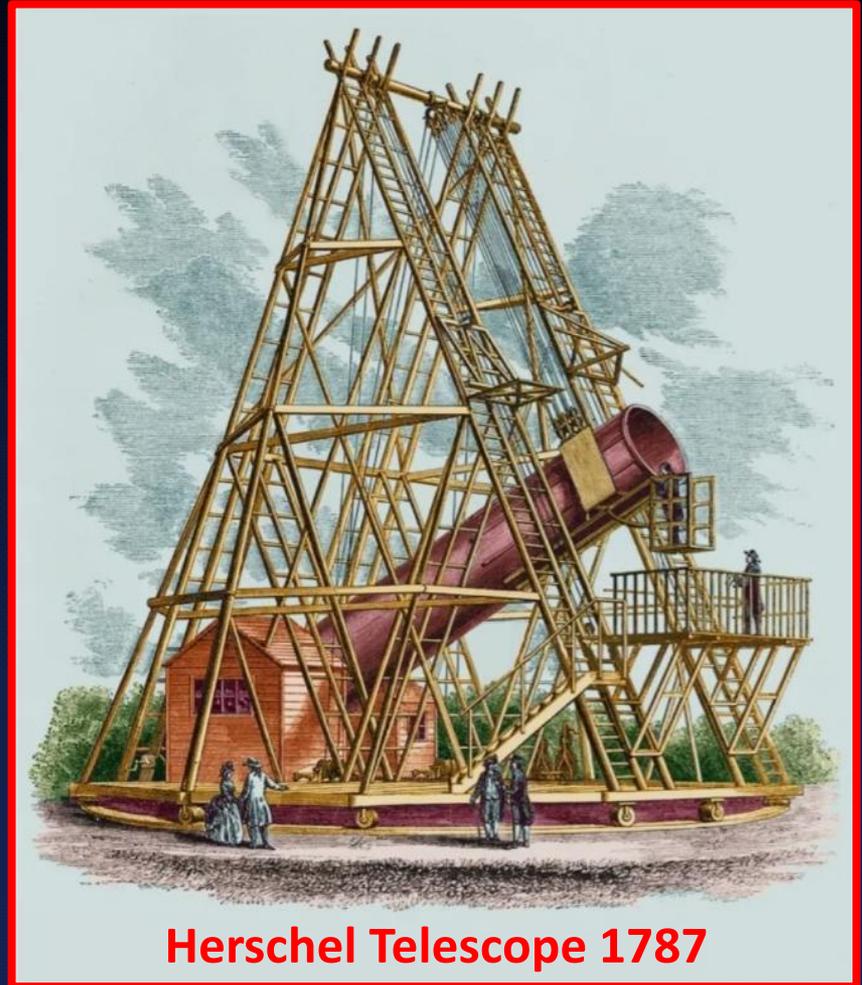


occurs because the lens refracts the various colors at different angle according to the wavelength

## SPHERICAL ABERRATION

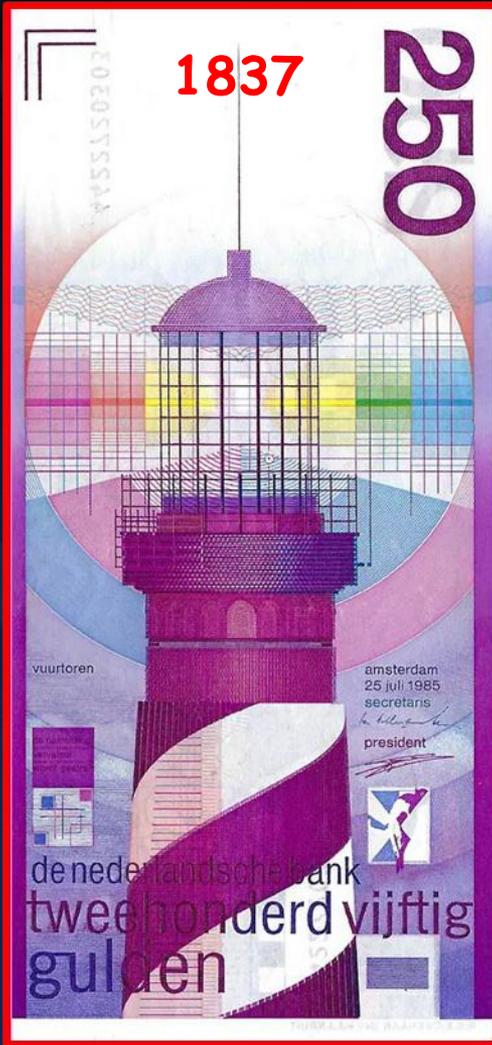


occurs when light waves passing through a lens with spherical surface are not brought into exact focus



**Herschel Telescope 1787**

# 19<sup>th</sup> Century Age of Light/Electricity



Davy  
Ørsted  
Volta  
Ampere  
Faraday  
Ohm  
Henry  
Morse  
Maxwell  
Bell  
Edison  
Thompson



Booglamp  
Electromotor  
Electromagneet  
Dynamo  
Telegraafkabel  
Brandstofcel  
Oplaadbare batterij  
EM theorie  
Gloeilamp  
Transformator  
Radiogolven  
Draadloze telegrafie  
Kathodestraalbuis  
Ontdekking electron



# New York City 1880 vs Bangkok 2025



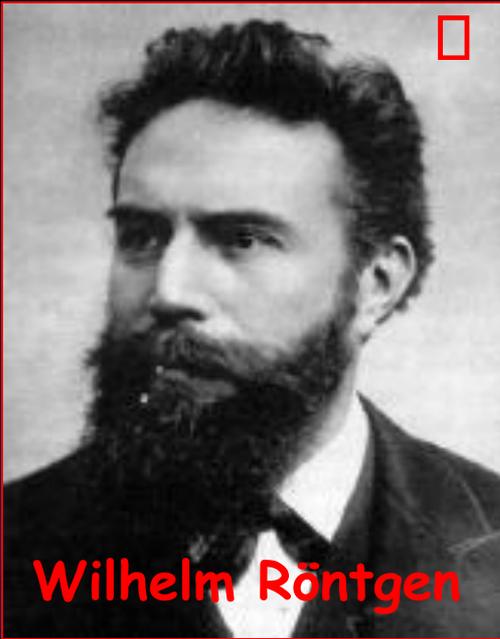
Dit is New York City in de jaren 1880.



Dit is Bangkok anno 2025.

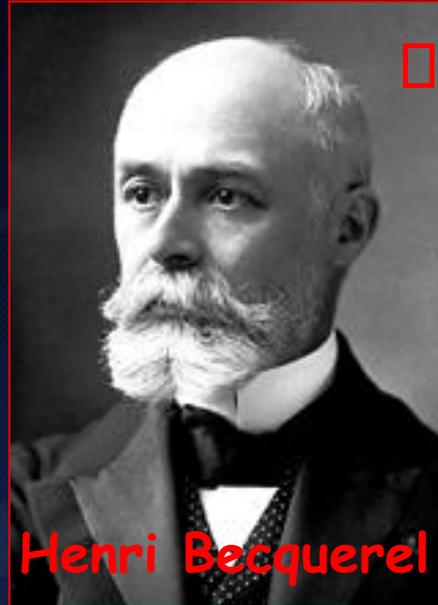
# Discoveries of X-rays & Radioactivity

□ 1895 X-rays



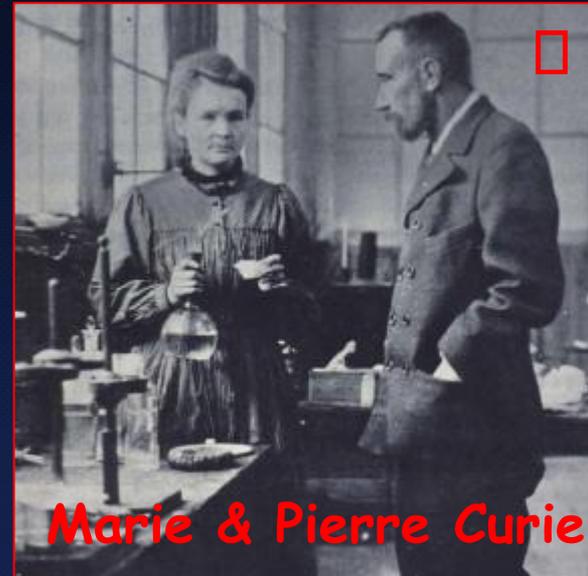
Wilhelm Röntgen

□ 1896 Radioactivity

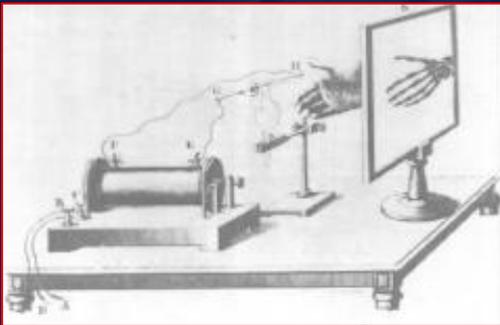


Henri Becquerel

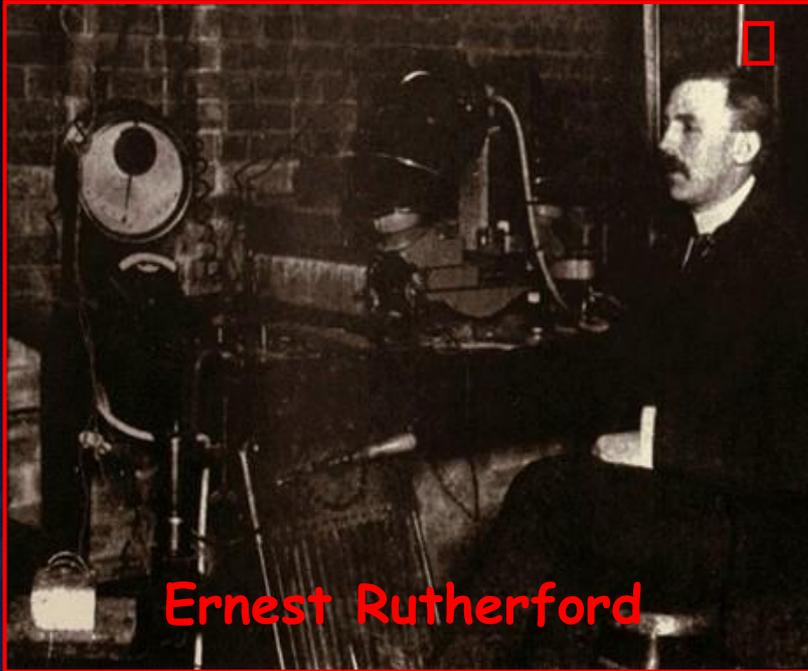
□ 1898  
Radio-  
active  
Elements  
(Po & Ra)



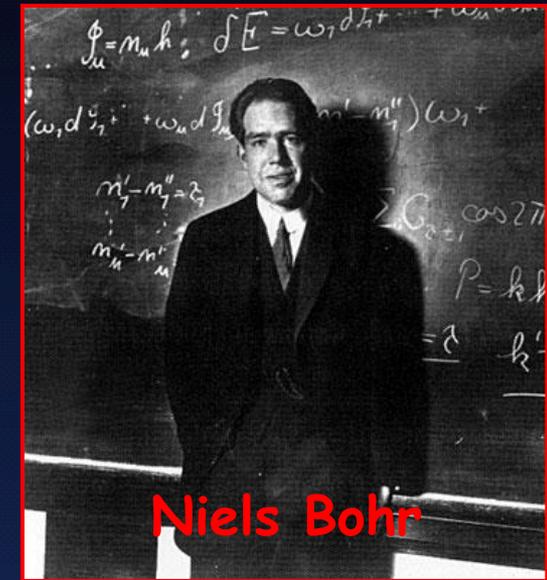
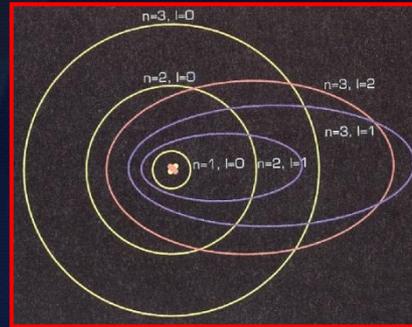
Marie & Pierre Curie

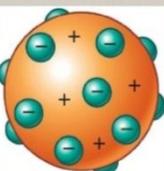
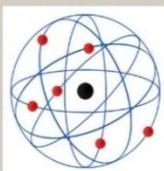
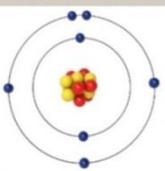
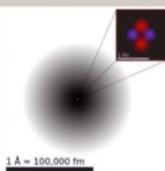


# Birth of Atom Physics



1919 nuclear reaction by using radio-active elements

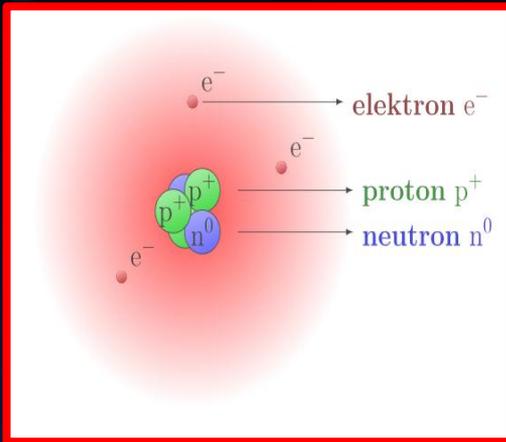


					
450 BC Democritus atomic model	1803 Dalton atomic model	1897 Thomson atomic model	1911 Rutherford atomic model	1913 Bohr atomic model	1926 Quantum atomic model (current)

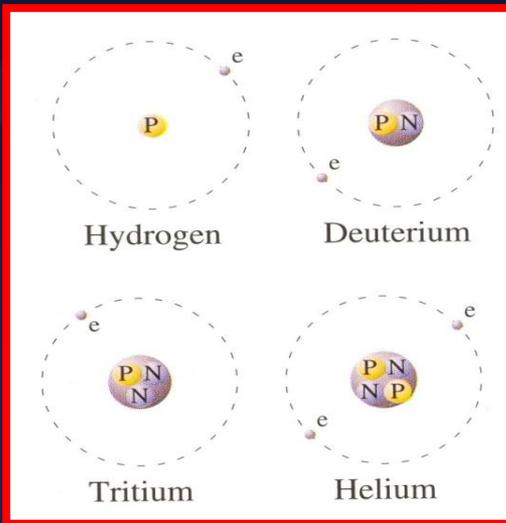
1913 Atom Models



# The Composition of Matter



- the Elements  
*118 elements*  
*atoms and nuclei*  
*periodical system*  
*(Mendeleev)*



- the Nuclides  
*280 stable*  
*>2300 instable*  
*nuclide chart*  
*(Segrè)*

# Periodic table of the elements

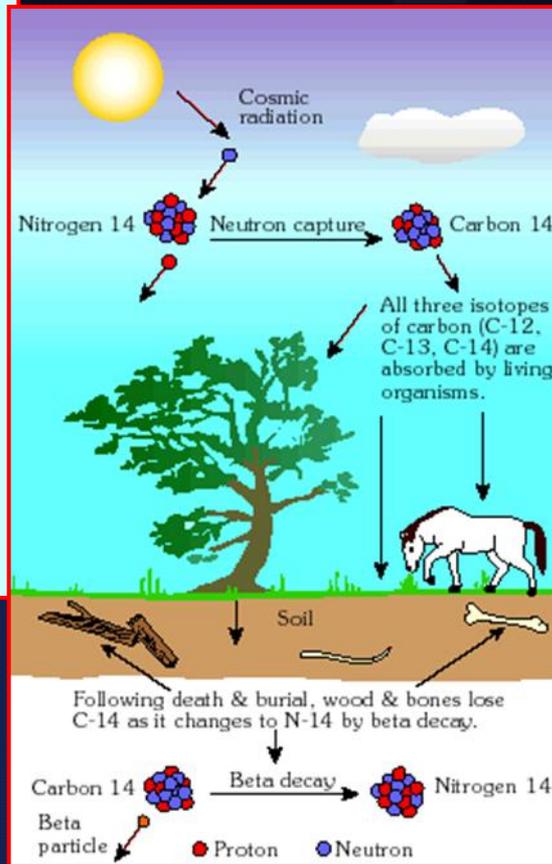
group	1*	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1	<b>H</b>																	<b>He</b>
2	<b>Li</b>	<b>Be</b>											<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Ne</b>
3	<b>Na</b>	<b>Mg</b>											<b>Al</b>	<b>Si</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>Cl</b>	<b>Ar</b>
4	<b>K</b>	<b>Ca</b>	<b>Sc</b>	<b>Ti</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>Cr</b>	<b>Mn</b>	<b>Fe</b>	<b>Co</b>	<b>Ni</b>	<b>Cu</b>	<b>Zn</b>	<b>Ga</b>	<b>Ge</b>	<b>As</b>	<b>Se</b>	<b>Br</b>	<b>Kr</b>
5	<b>Rb</b>	<b>Sr</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Zr</b>	<b>Nb</b>	<b>Mo</b>	<b>Tc</b>	<b>Ru</b>	<b>Rh</b>	<b>Pd</b>	<b>Ag</b>	<b>Cd</b>	<b>In</b>	<b>Sn</b>	<b>Sb</b>	<b>Te</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>Xe</b>
6	<b>Cs</b>	<b>Ba</b>	<b>La</b>	<b>Hf</b>	<b>Ta</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Re</b>	<b>Os</b>	<b>Ir</b>	<b>Pt</b>	<b>Au</b>	<b>Hg</b>	<b>Tl</b>	<b>Pb</b>	<b>Bi</b>	<b>Po</b>	<b>At</b>	<b>Rn</b>
7	<b>Fr</b>	<b>Ra</b>	<b>Ac</b>	<b>Rf</b>	<b>Db</b>	<b>Sg</b>	<b>Bh</b>	<b>Hs</b>	<b>Mt</b>	<b>Ds</b>	<b>Rg</b>	<b>Cn</b>	<b>Nh</b>	<b>Fl</b>	<b>Mc</b>	<b>Lv</b>	<b>Ts</b>	<b>Og</b>
lanthanoid series 6	<b>Ce</b>	<b>Pr</b>	<b>Nd</b>	<b>Pm</b>	<b>Sm</b>	<b>Eu</b>	<b>Gd</b>	<b>Tb</b>	<b>Dy</b>	<b>Ho</b>	<b>Er</b>	<b>Tm</b>	<b>Yb</b>	<b>Lu</b>				
actinoid series 7	<b>Th</b>	<b>Pa</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>Np</b>	<b>Pu</b>	<b>Am</b>	<b>Cm</b>	<b>Bk</b>	<b>Cf</b>	<b>Es</b>	<b>Fm</b>	<b>Md</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Lr</b>				

- Alkali metals
- Alkaline-earth metals
- Transition metals
- Other metals
- Other nonmetals
- Halogens
- Noble gases
- Rare-earth elements (21, 39, 57–71) and lanthanoid elements (57–71 only)
- Actinoid elements

# Natural and Other Radionuclides

## URANIUM 238 (U238) RADIOACTIVE DECAY

type of radiation	nuclide	half-life
	uranium—238	$4.5 \times 10^9$ years
$\alpha$	thorium—234	24.5 days
$\beta$	protactinium—234	1.14 minutes
$\beta$	uranium—234	$2.33 \times 10^5$ years
$\alpha$	thorium—230	$8.3 \times 10^4$ years
$\alpha$	radium—226	1590 years
$\alpha$	radon—222	3.825 days
$\alpha$	polonium—218	3.05 minutes
$\alpha$	lead—214	26.8 minutes
$\beta$	bismuth—214	19.7 minutes
$\beta$	polonium—214	$1.5 \times 10^{-4}$ seconds
$\alpha$	lead—210	22 years
$\beta$	bismuth—210	5 days
$\beta$	polonium—210	140 days
$\alpha$	lead—206	stable



□ Terrestrial radionuclides:  
 $^{238}\text{U}$ ( $4.5 \times 10^9 \text{y}$ ),  $^{232}\text{Th}$ ( $1.4 \times 10^{10} \text{y}$ ),  
 $^{40}\text{K}$ ( $1.3 \times 10^9 \text{y}$ ),  $^{235}\text{U}$ ( $7 \times 10^8 \text{y}$ ), . . .

□ Cosmogene radionuclides:  
 $^3\text{H}$ (12,4y),  $^7\text{Be}$ (53d),  $^{14}\text{C}$ (5730y),  
 $^{22}\text{Na}$ (2,6y), . . .

□ Artificial Produced  
 Radionuclides  
 medical:

$^{18}\text{F}$ (2h),  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ (6h),  $^{131}\text{I}$ (8d), . . .

industrial:

$^{60}\text{Co}$ (5,7y),  $^{241}\text{Am}$ (432y), . . .

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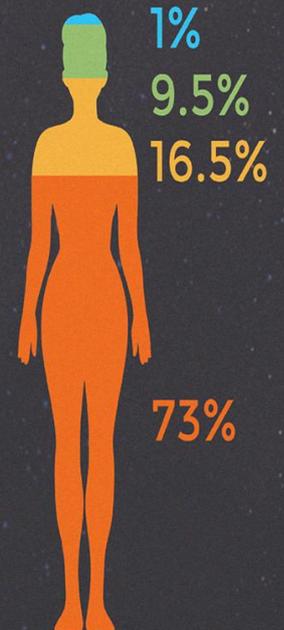
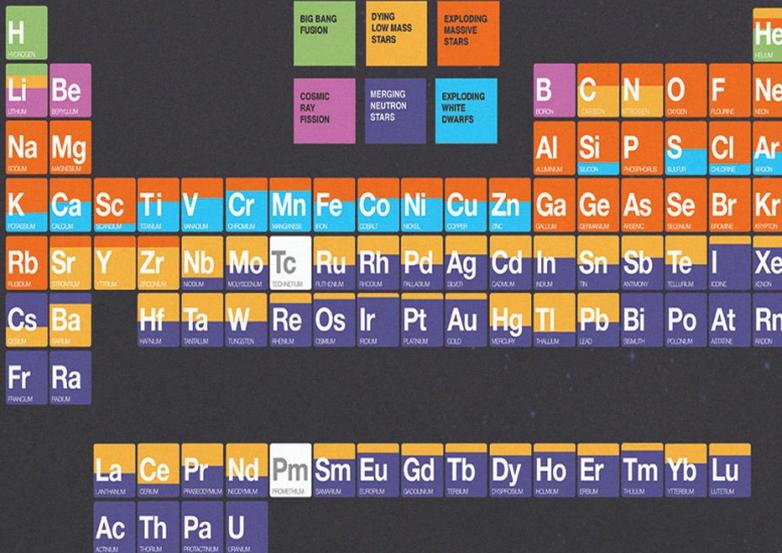
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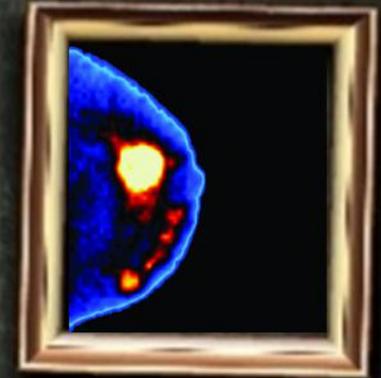
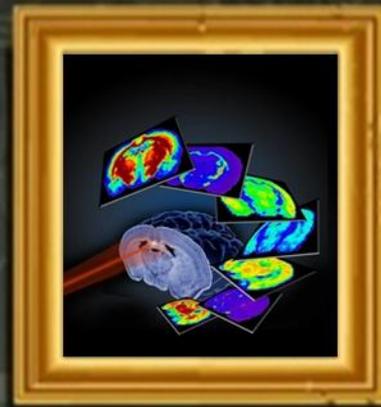
## Elements from Big Bang and Stars



## Radionuclides in the body:

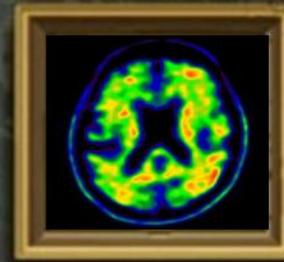
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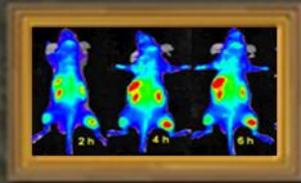


PICTURE

IS  
WORTH



WORDS



1000





**CT scanner**



**Ultrasound scanner**



**PET scanner**



**SPECT Camera**



**MRI scanner**

# Medical Imaging Modalities

- Non-ionizing Radiation Techniques

MR Techniques (MRI)

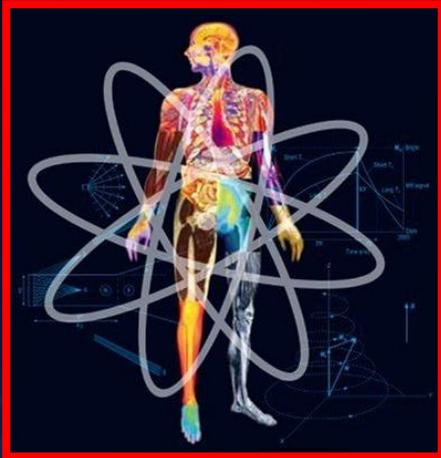
Ultrasound

- Ionizing Radiation Techniques

X-ray Techniques (CT)

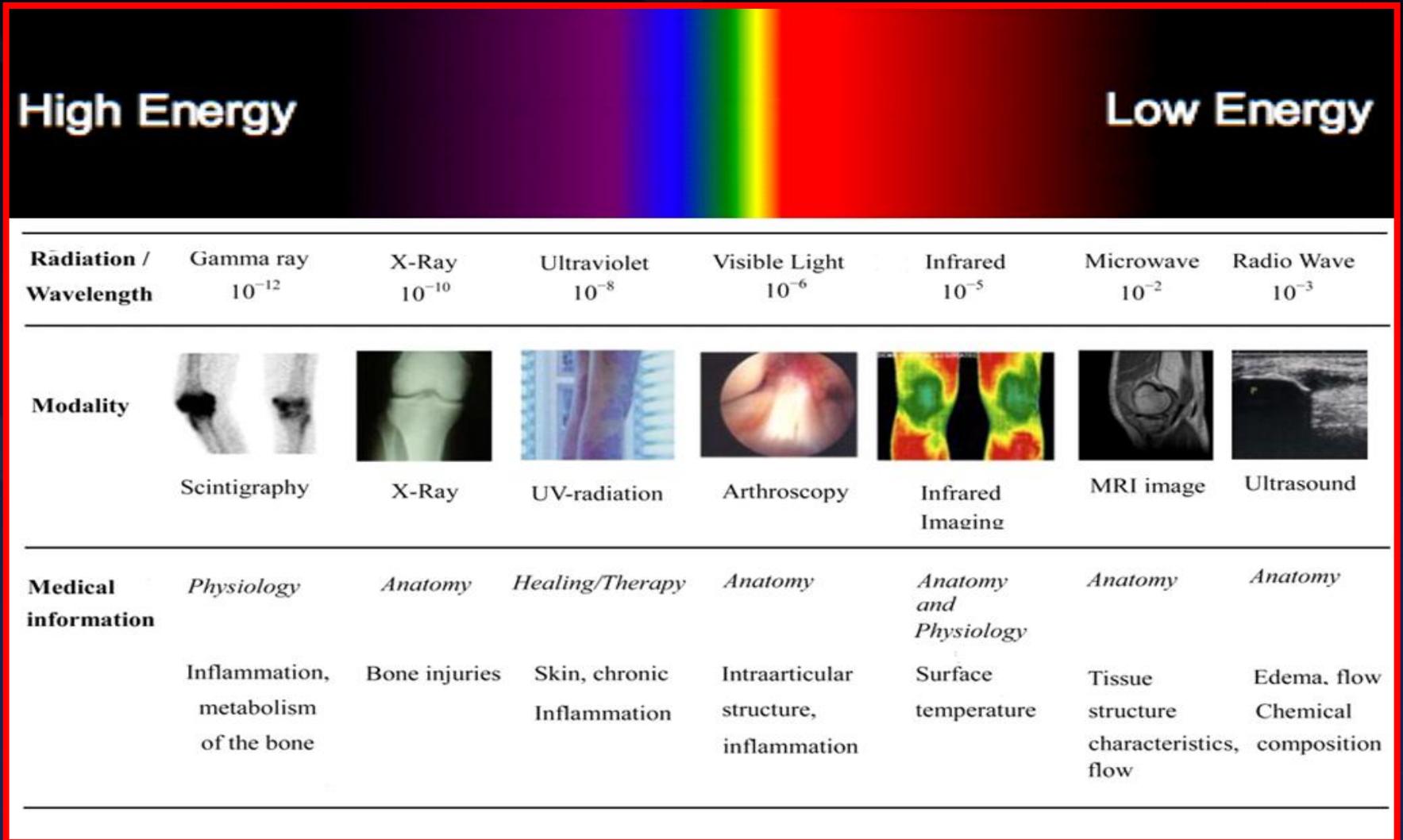
Nuclear Imaging (PET)

# Why are there so many modalities?

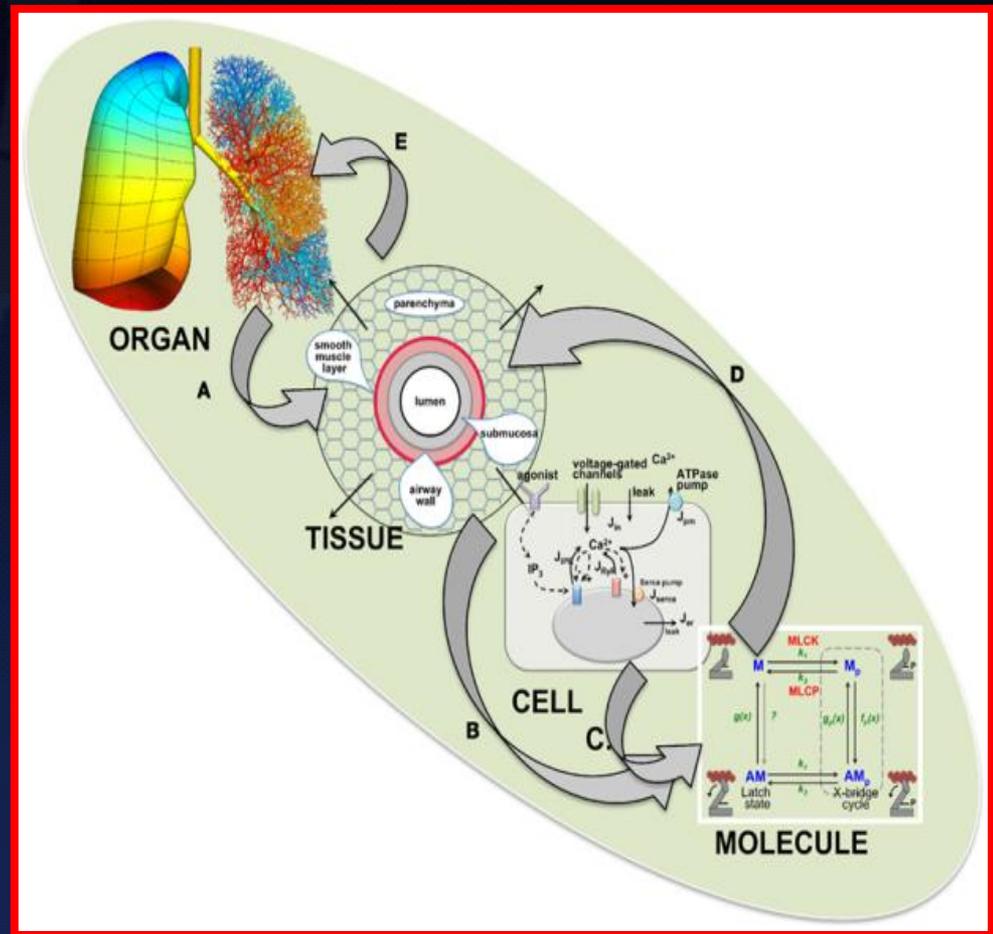
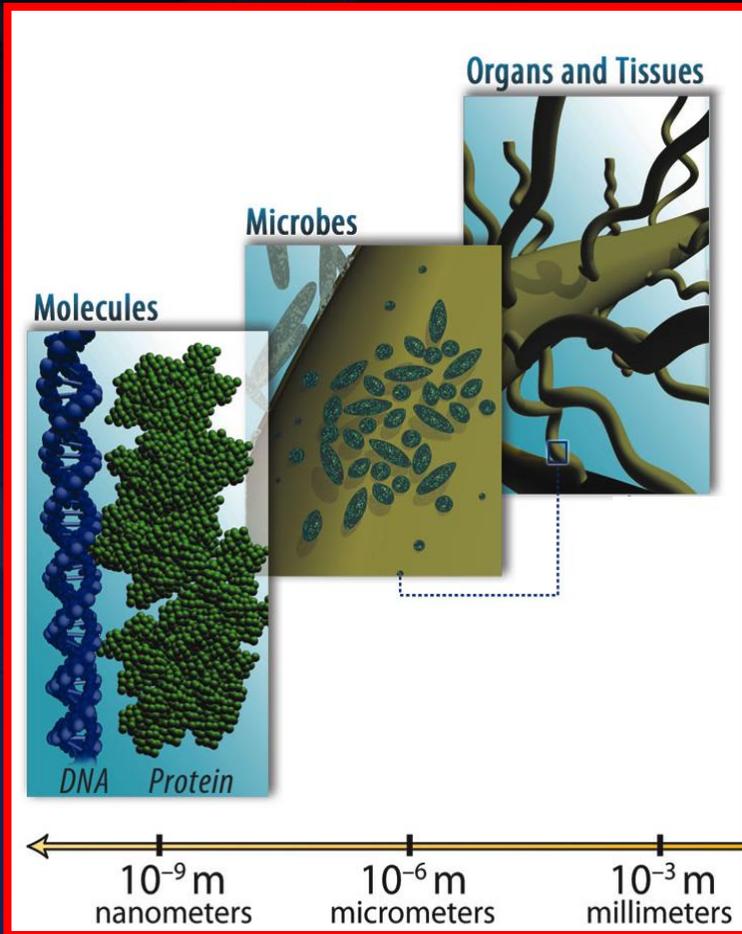


structure or function?  
desired temporal resolution  
desired spatial resolution  
desired field of view  
tissue culture, tissue slice, or in vivo ?

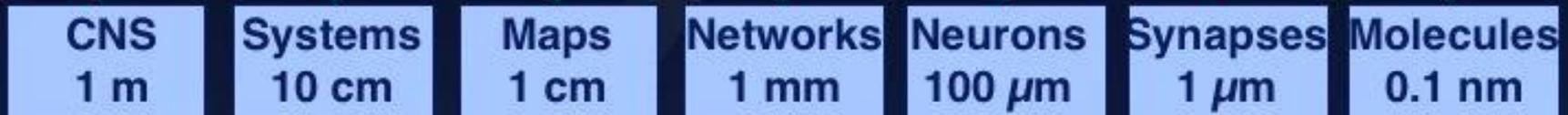
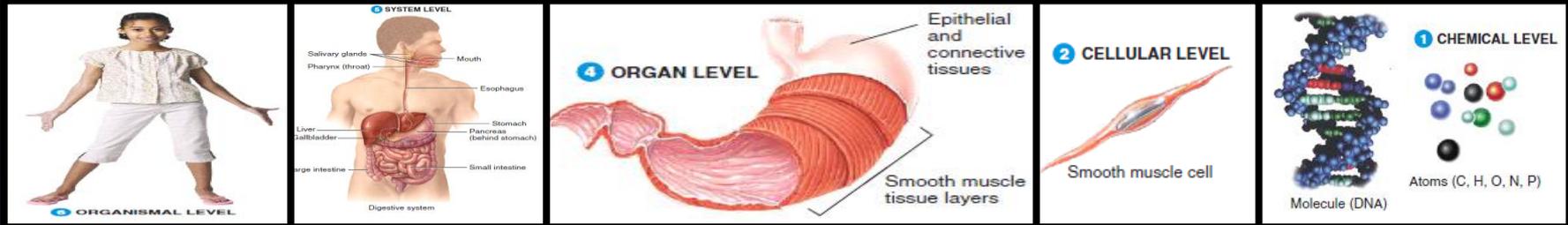
# The Electromagnetic Spectrum



# Spatial Scales



# Spatial Scales in the Central Nervous System



Positron Emission Tomography

Electron Microscopy

Ultrasound Imaging

Light Microscopy

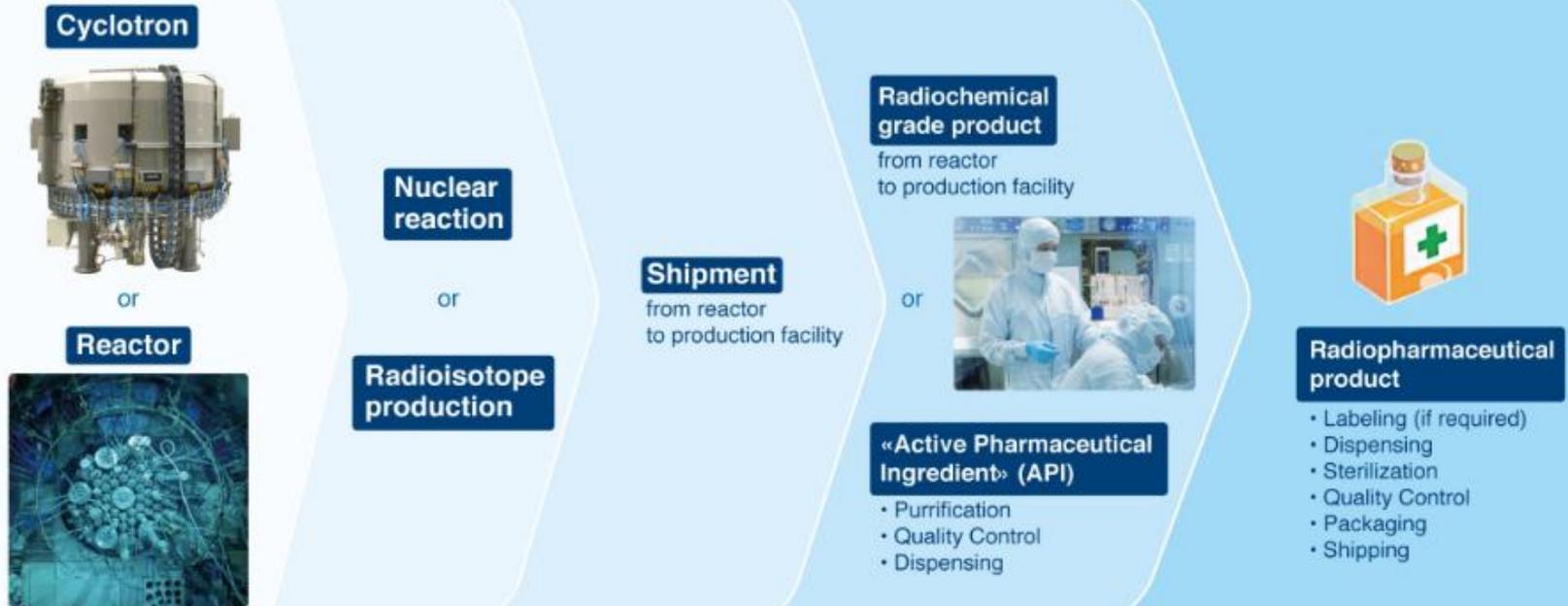
Autoradiography

Computed Tomography

Magnetic Resonance Imaging

# Artificial Produced Radionuclides & Radiopharmaceuticals

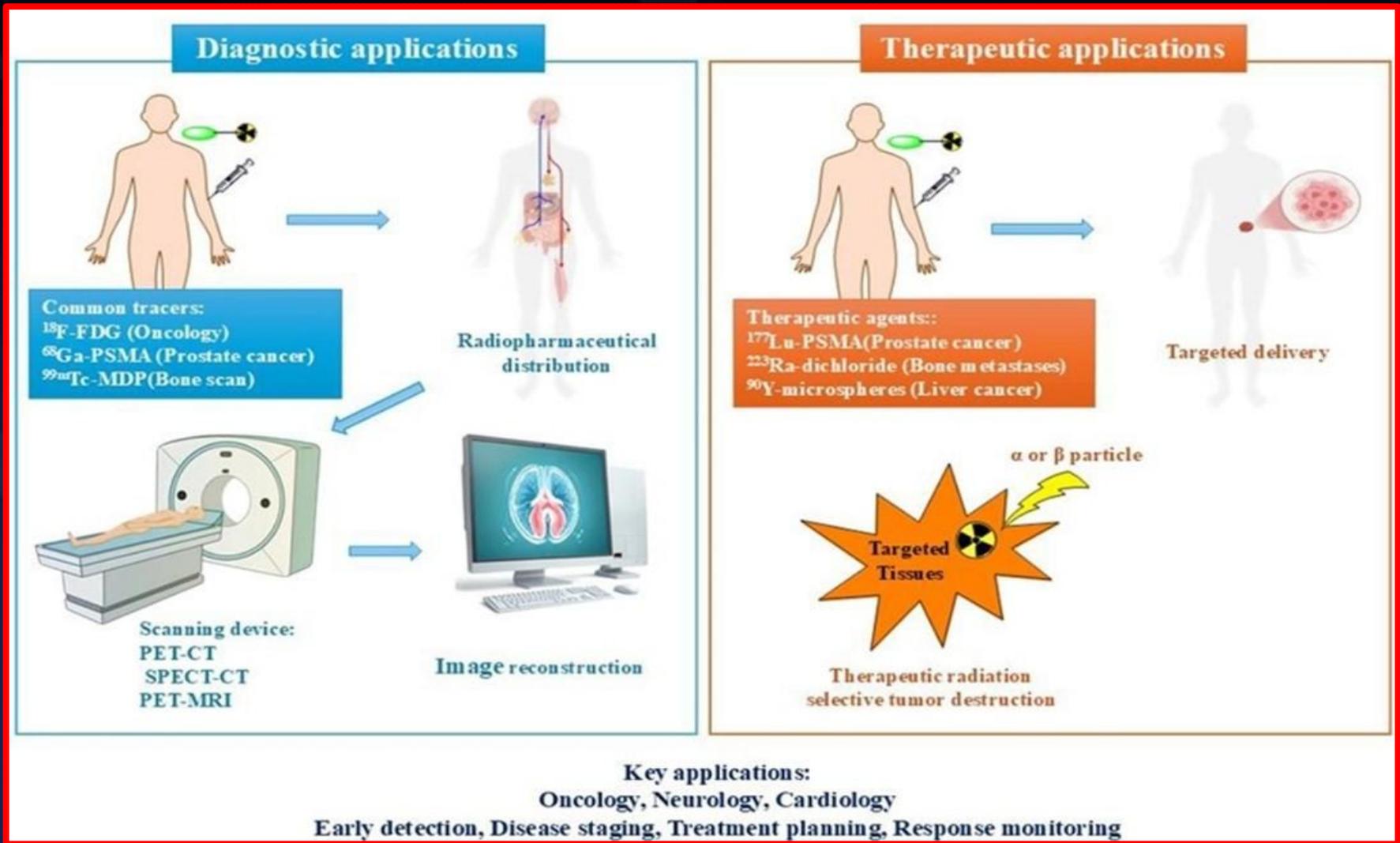
## Radiopharmaceuticals Production

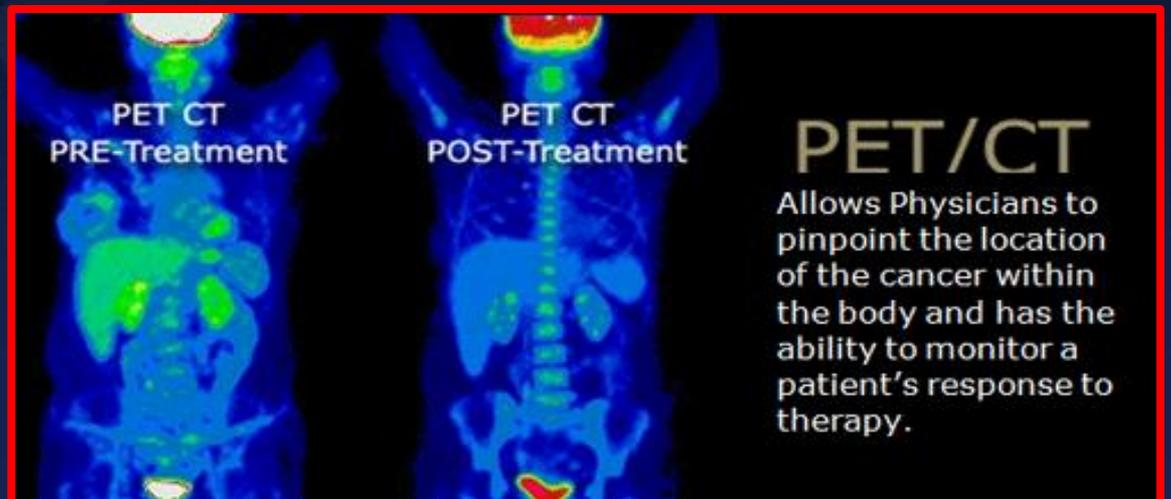
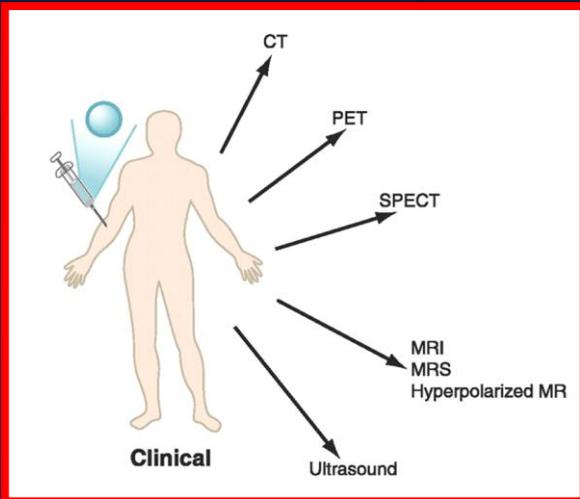
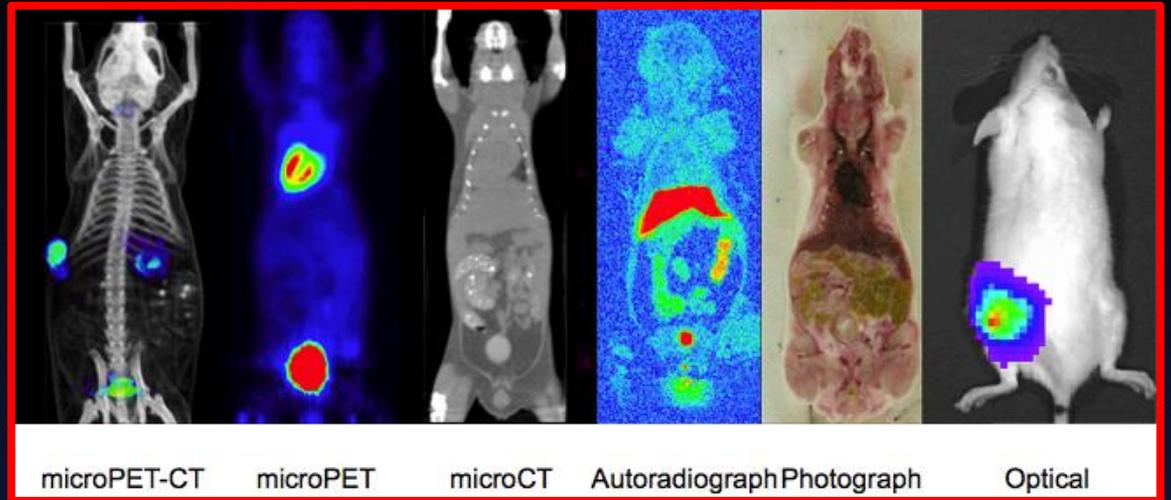
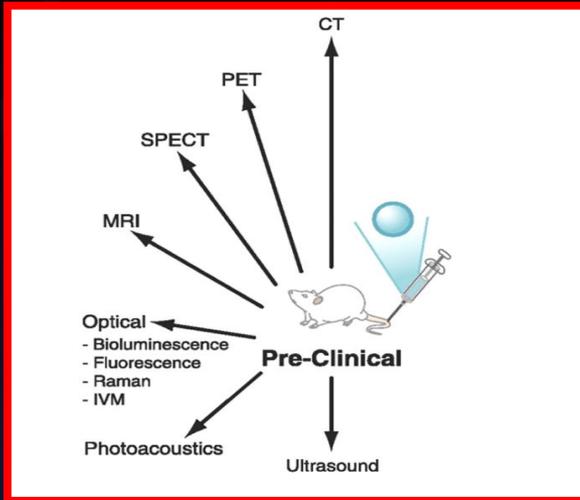


Radiopharmaceuticals Production



# Radionuclides for Diagnosis and Therapy

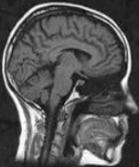




# BRAIN IMAGING

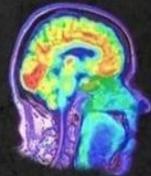


MRA  
Magnetic Resonance Angiography



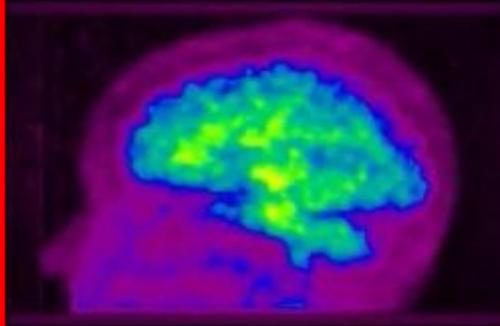
MRI  
Magnetic Resonance Imaging

PET  
SCAN  
Positron Emission Tomography

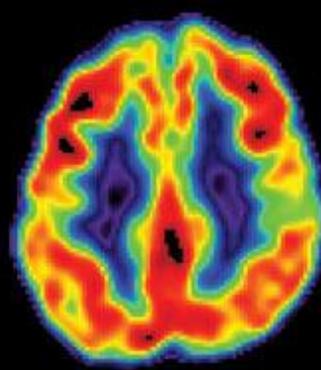
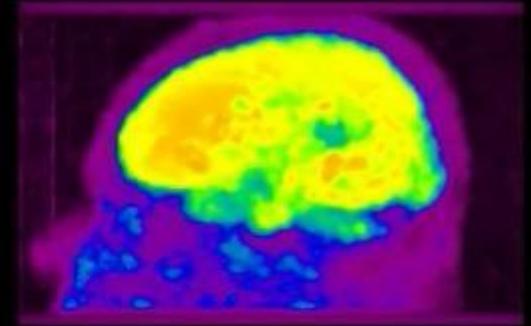


CT  
Computed Tomography

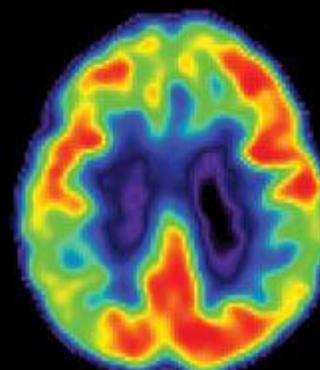
## Normal brain



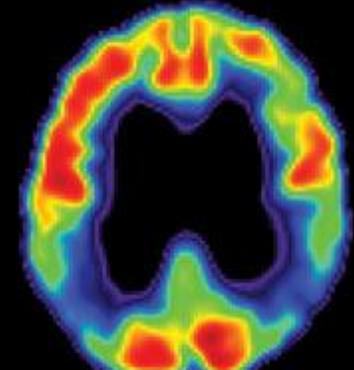
## Alzheimer's brain



Normal

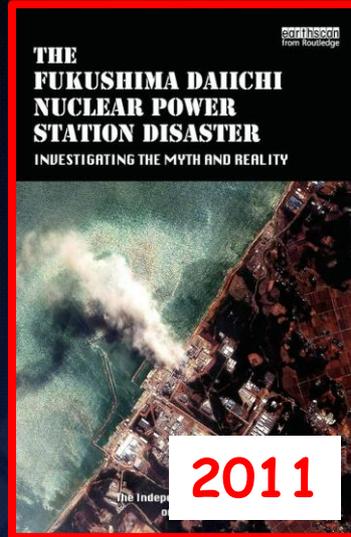
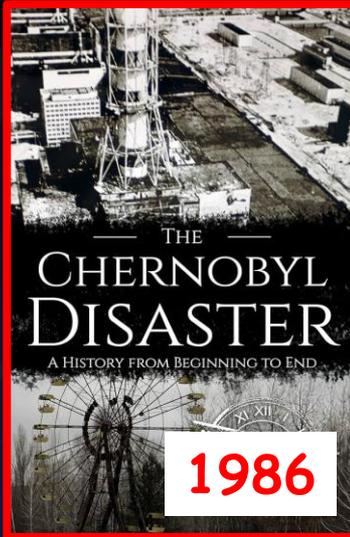
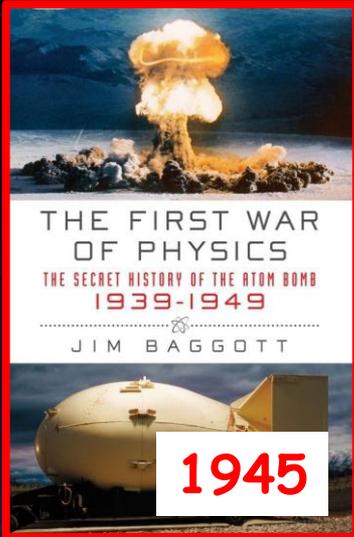


Mild cognitive  
impairment



Alzheimer's  
disease

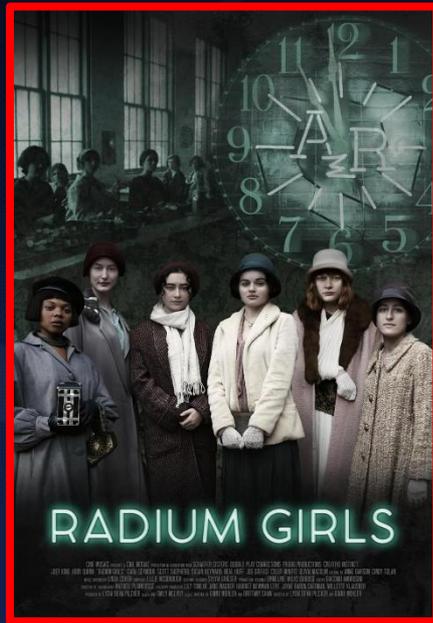
# 20<sup>th</sup> Century Age of (Ionising) Radiation



# Examples of Collective Exposure

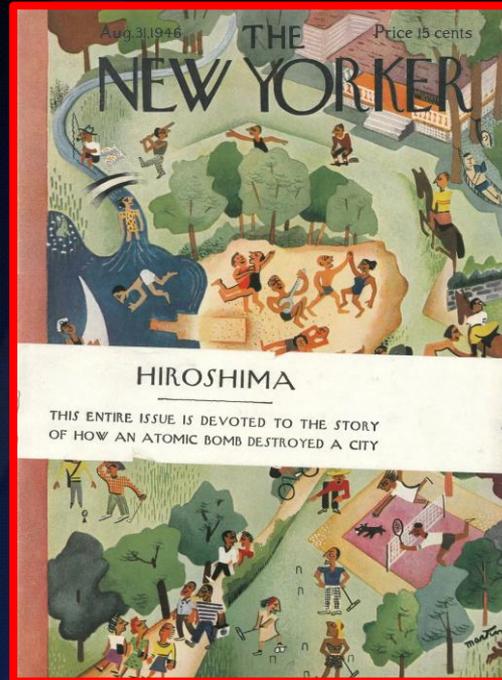
□ 1879

Uranium mijnwerkers  
Erzgebirgste (CZ/DE)



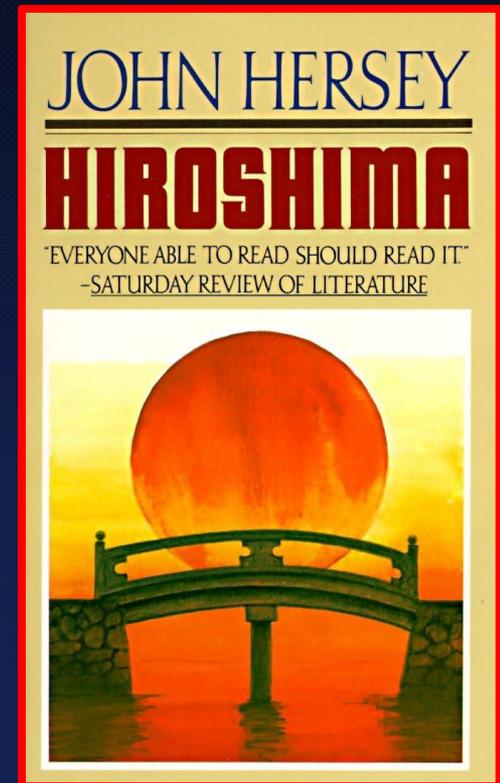
□ 1920s

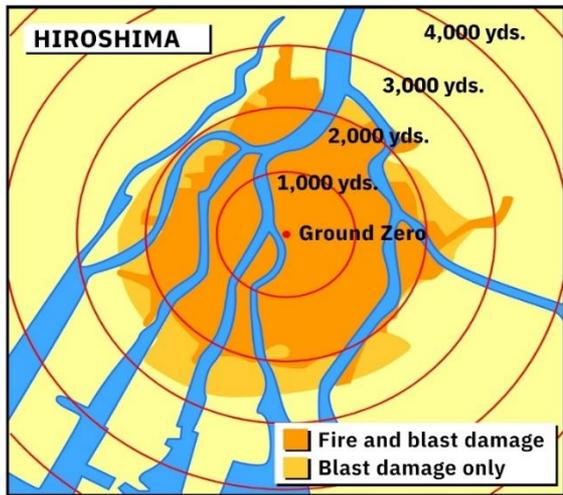
"Radium Girls" de wijzerplaat verfers  
(lick, dip, paint)



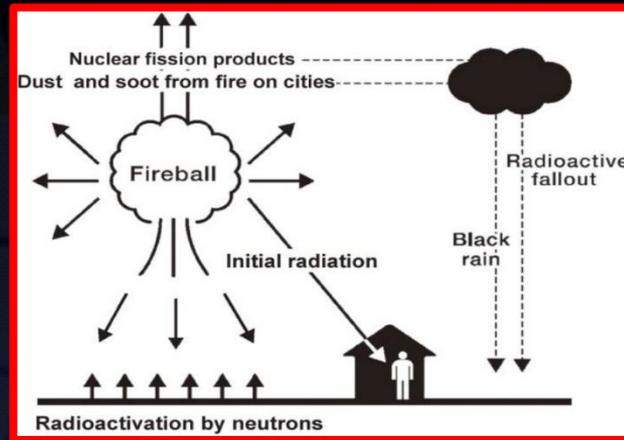
□ 1945

Hiroshima





Atomic Bomb Damage of Hiroshima

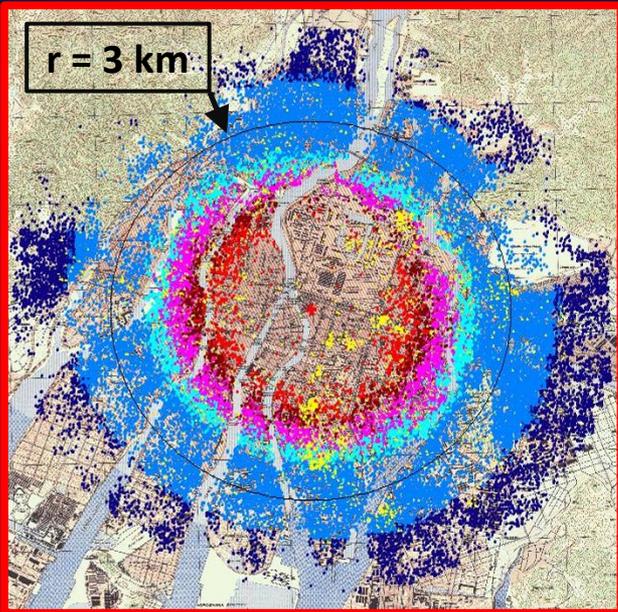


□ korte termijn effecten (1):

- explosie 50% energie
- hitte 35% energie
- straling 15% energie
- houten structuren verbrand < 2.0 km
- massale destructieve schokgolf < 2.5 km

□ korte termijn effecten (2):

- Hiroshima: 110.000 -140.000 doden
- 30%-40% van de populatie
- mortaliteit >60% binnen 1 km



## Radiation exposure How does it compare?

Exposure measured in mSv

**10,000**  
Fatal within weeks **LD100**

**6,000**  
Typical dosage recorded in those Chernobyl workers who died within a month

**5,000**  
Single dose which would kill half of those exposed to it within a month

**1,000**  
Single dose which could cause radiation sickness, nausea, but not death

**400**  
Max radiation levels recorded at Fukushima plant 14 March, per hour

**350**  
Exposure of Chernobyl residents who were relocated

**100**  
Recommended limit for radiation workers every five years

**10**  
Dose in full-body CT scan

**9**  
Airline crew NYC -Tokyo polar route, annual

**2**  
Natural radiation we're all exposed to, per year

**1.02**  
Radiation per hour detected Fukushima site, 12 March

**0.4**  
Mammogram breast x-ray

**0.1**  
Chest x-ray

**0.01**  
Dental x-ray

SOURCE: WNA, RADIOLOGYINFO.ORG, REUTERS

# Biologic Effects based on Hiroshima/Nagasaki

## DETERMINISTISCHE EFFECTEN

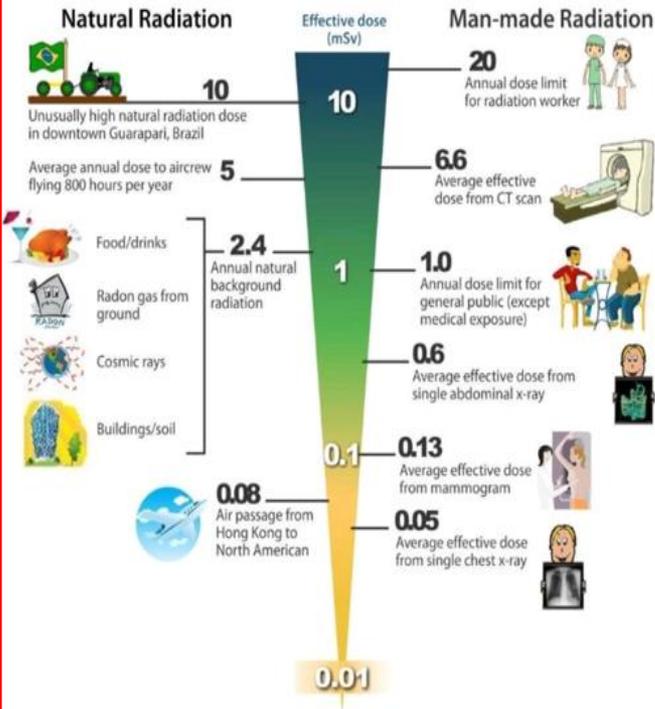
- **Stralingsziekte**
  - "Beenmerg" Syndroom
  - "Darm" Syndroom
  - "Hersen" Syndroom

## STOCHASTISCHE EFFECTEN

- **Risico op kanker**

# Radiation in Daily Life I

## Radiation in Daily Life



## Public exposure to natural radiation<sup>2</sup>

Source of exposure	Annual effective dose (mSv)		
	Average	Typical range	
Cosmic radiation	Directly ionizing and photon component	0.28	
	Neutron component	0.10	
	Cosmogenic radionuclides	0.01	
<b>Total cosmic and cosmogenic</b>		<b>16%</b>	<b>0.39</b>
External terrestrial radiation	Outdoors	0.07	
	Indoors	0.41	
<b>Total external terrestrial radiation</b>		<b>20%</b>	<b>0.48</b>
Inhalation	Uranium and thorium series	0.006	
	Radon (Rn-222)	1.15	
	Thoron (Rn-220)	0.1	
<b>Total inhalation exposure</b>		<b>53%</b>	<b>1.26</b>
Ingestion	K-40	0.17	
	Uranium and thorium series	0.12	
<b>Total ingestion exposure</b>		<b>16%</b>	<b>0.29</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>Public exposure to natural radiation 100%</b>		<b>2.4 mSv</b>
			<b>1.0-13</b>

# Radiation in Daily Life II

## 5 Radioactive Products ...We Use Every Day

Radioisotopes are unstable atoms that decay and emit excess energy, also known as radiation. There are hundreds of uses for radioisotopes and they can be found in countless everyday products—including these five for starters.

1

### Clocks and Timepieces

Some wrist watches contain a gaseous tritium light source (GTLS), which are sealed glass containers filled with radioactive tritium gas that is used to make a timepiece glow in the dark.

2

### Gemstones

Irradiated gemstones include amethysts, yellow sapphires, and green diamonds, and their initial distribution is actually regulated by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

3

### Smoke Detectors

Household detectors contain a tiny amount of Americium-241, a radioactive isotope used to detect smoke particles. The two charged plates inside create a flow of positively and negatively charged ions that trigger the alarm when smoke breaks the constant flow of ions.

4

### Exit Signs

Some exit signs contain tiny traces of tritium, a rare and radioactive isotope of hydrogen, which is why they're able to glow in the dark without batteries. The tritium is contained in sealed glass tubes lined with phosphor. Low-energy beta particles emitted by the tritium bombard the phosphor, causing it to glow.

5

### Snack Time

Bananas contain naturally occurring radionuclides — radioactive potassium-40, to be exact — which, according to the EPA, means they can emit .01 millirem (0.1 microsieverts). And if you attend that happy hour, there's a teeny bit (about 390 Picocurie per kilogram) of the same isotope potassium-40 in your beer too!



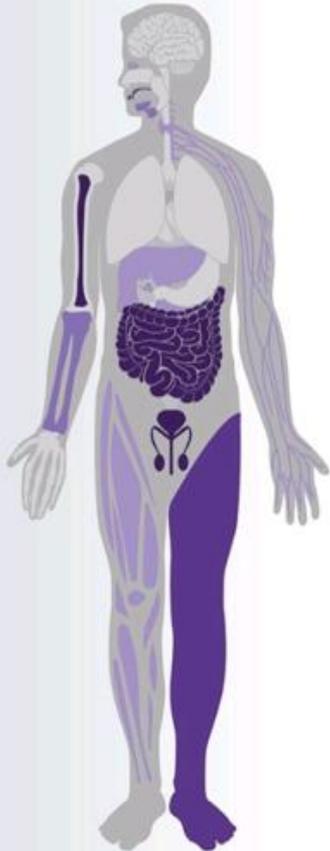
LEARN MORE AT [energy.gov/ne](http://energy.gov/ne)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
NUCLEAR ENERGY

# Radiation Dose from Medical Examinations

## Organs & tissues sensitivity to ionizing radiation



### HIGH

Bone marrow  
Reproductive cells  
Intestines  
Lymphoid tissue

### MODERATELY HIGH

Oral mucosa  
Skin

### MODERATELY LOW

Salivary glands  
Mature bone  
Mature cartilage  
Thyroid gland tissue

### LOW

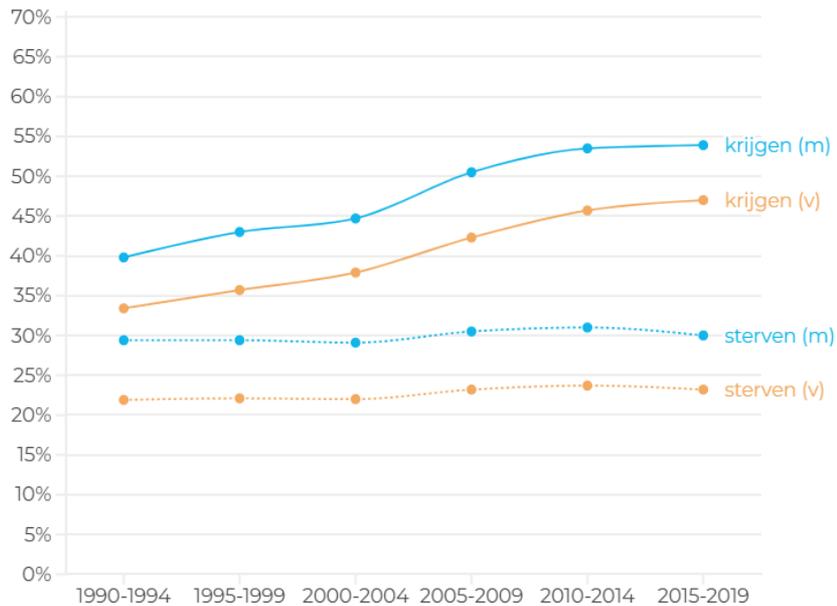
Liver  
Optic lens  
Kidneys  
Muscle  
Nerve

## Radiation Dose to Adults From Common Imaging Examinations

	Procedure	Approximate effective radiation dose	Comparable to natural background radiation for
 ABDOMINAL REGION	Computed Tomography (CT) — Abdomen and Pelvis	10 mSv	3 years
	Computed Tomography (CT) — Abdomen and Pelvis, repeated with and without contrast material	20 mSv	7 years
	Computed Tomography (CT) — Colonography	6 mSv	2 years
	Intravenous Pyelogram (IVP)	3 mSv	1 year
	Barium Enema (Lower GI X-ray)	8 mSv	3 years
	Upper GI Study With Barium	6 mSv	2 years
 BONE	Spine X-ray	1.5 mSv	6 months
	Extremity (hand, foot, etc.) X-ray	0.001 mSv	3 hours
 CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM	Computed Tomography (CT) — Head	2 mSv	8 months
	Computed Tomography (CT) — Head, repeated with and without contrast material	4 mSv	16 months
	Computed Tomography (CT) — Spine	6 mSv	2 years
 CHEST	Computed Tomography (CT) — Chest	7 mSv	2 years
	Computed Tomography (CT) — Lung Cancer Screening	1.5 mSv	6 months
	Chest X-ray	0.1 mSv	10 days
 DENTAL	Dental X-ray	0.005 mSv	1 day
 HEART	Coronary Computed Tomography Angiography (CTA)	12 mSv	4 years
	Cardiac CT for Calcium Scoring	3 mSv	1 year
 MEN'S IMAGING	Bone Densitometry (DEXA)	0.001 mSv	3 hours
 NUCLEAR MEDICINE	Positron Emission Tomography — Computed Tomography (PET/CT)	25 mSv	8 years
 WOMEN'S IMAGING	Bone Densitometry (DEXA)	0.001 mSv	3 hours
	Mammography	0.4 mSv	7 weeks

# Risk of Cancer/Dying in a Lifetime

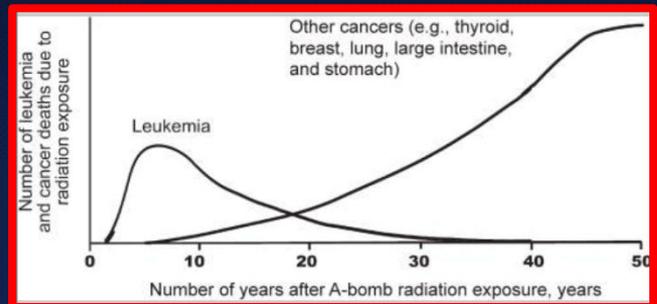
De kans op het krijgen van/sterven aan kanker



**KNL** integraal  
kankercentrum  
Nederland

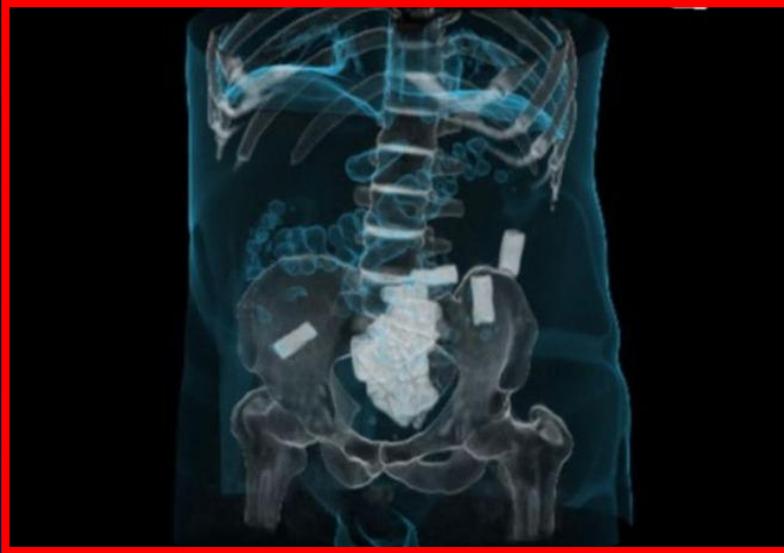
Het risico op kanker ten gevolge van ioniserende straling is:

~ 5 % per Sievert

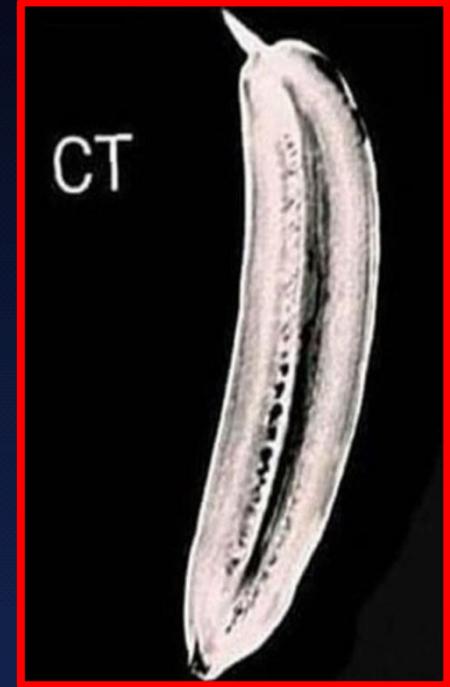


<https://www.ntvg.nl/artikelen/ontwikkeling-van-de-kans-op-kanker-1990-2019>

# Non-Medical Imaging

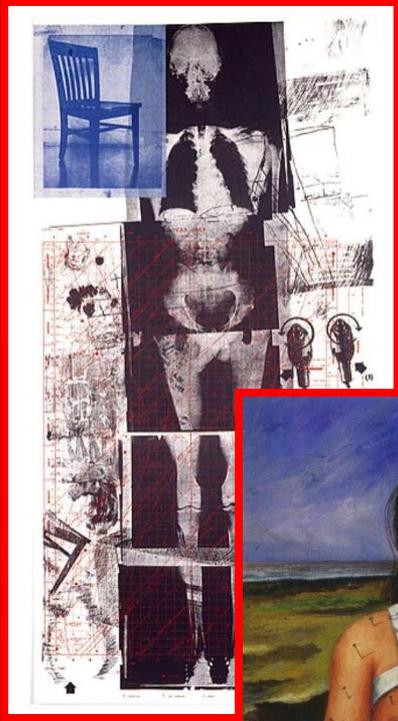


# Non-Medical Imaging

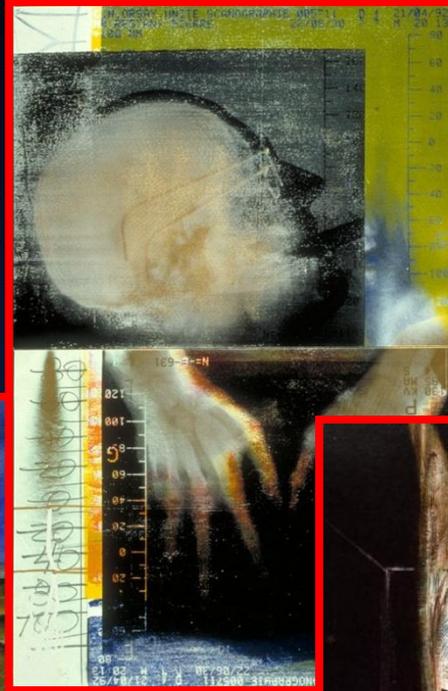


# Non-Medical Imaging and the Arts

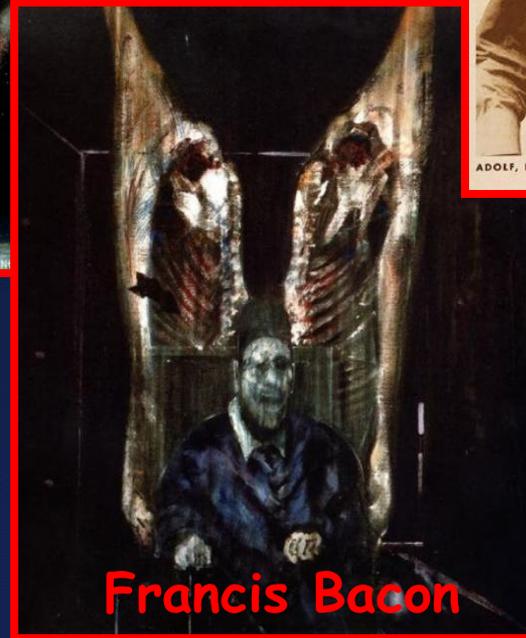
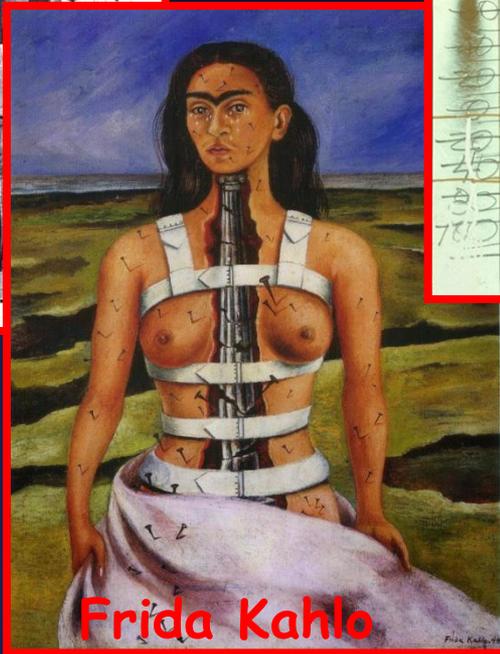
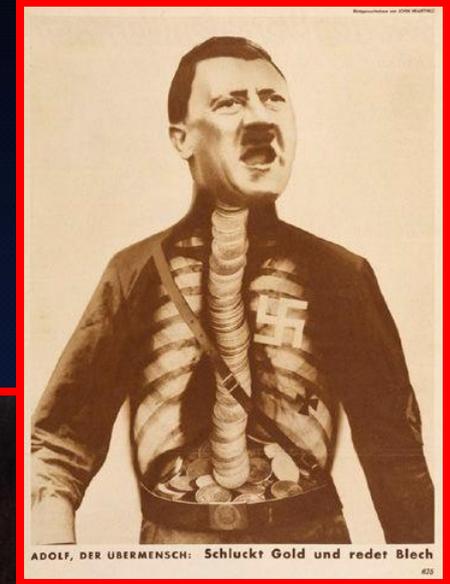
Rauschenberg



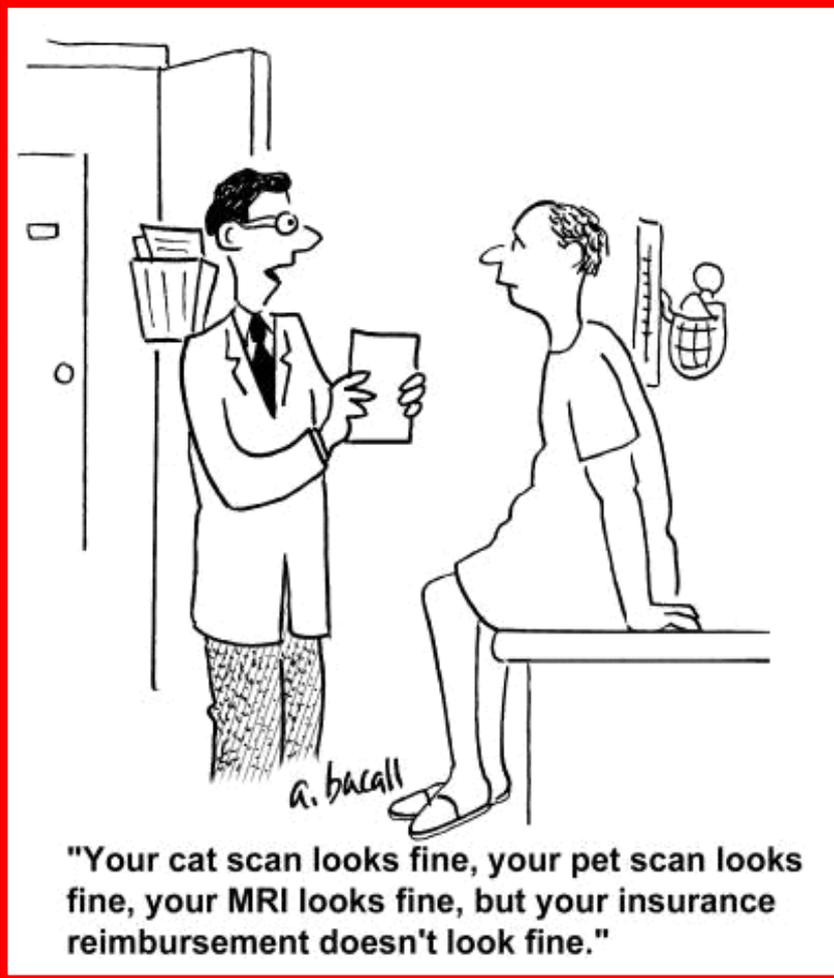
Steve Miller



Heartfield



# Some Medical Related Topics



- Preventive Whole-Body Scan?
- Unjustified use of Medical Procedures
- Overall Increase of Collective Dose
- Personalised Medicine
- Health Insurance costs

# Some Medical Related Conclusions



- Medical Imaging is a non-invasive (mostly diagnostic) practice.
- Medical Imaging is team work and needs highly qualified personnel. (High Tech and Multi-Discipline)
- Medical Imaging Modalities are complementary.
- Medical Imaging has a spin off in many domains.
- Overall Increase of Collective Dose
- Danger of Medicalization

# Some General Conclusions

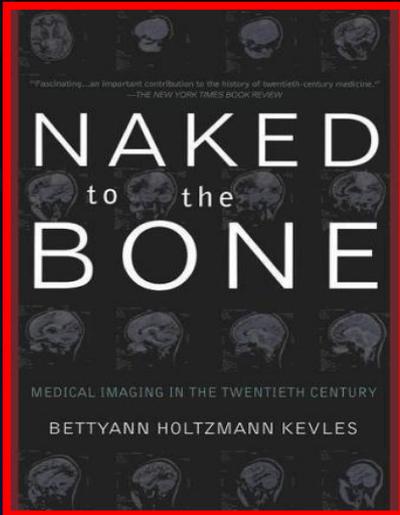


Francisco de Holanda (1545)

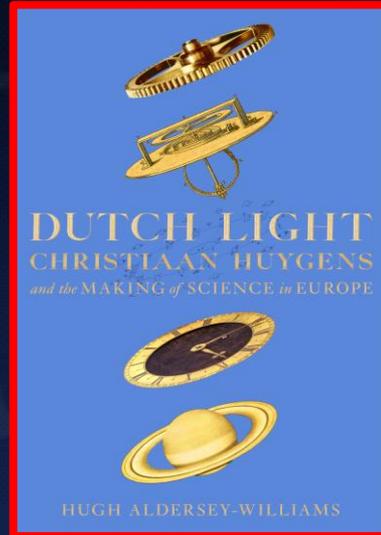
- Radiation is a General Natural Phenomenon all around in Time and Space.
- In Short:  
Radiation is Energy on the move.
- In Practice:  
Be aware of the distinction between Ionising and Non-Ionising Radiation

Exposure to Ionising Radiation is basically not without Risk.

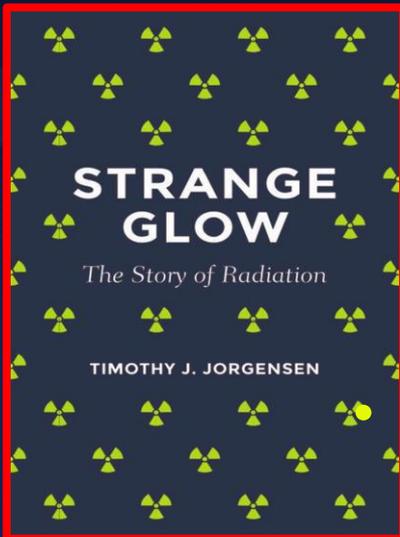
# References



Naked to the Bone: Medical Imaging in the Twentieth Century (1997) - *B. Kevles*



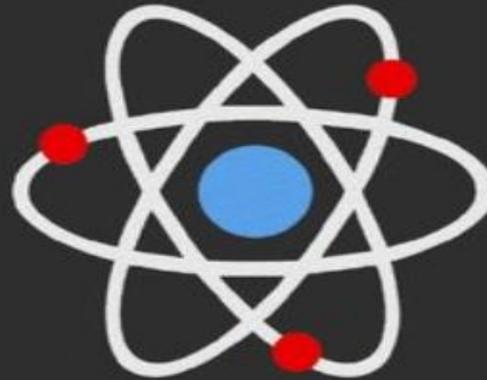
Dutch Light (2020) -  
*Hugh Aldersey-Williams*



Strange Glow (2020) -  
*Timothy J. Jorgensen*

- YouTube (DWDD Licht)
- <http://www.unscear.org/>
- <https://www.iaea.org>
- <http://www.who.int>

Think like a  
**Proton**



and stay  
**Positive**