



**Treatment Delivery Systems 2  
Field Shaping; Design Characteristics  
and Dosimetry Issues**

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**David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA**



**TU-A-517A-1**

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**Presentation Outline**



- **MLC Characteristics**
  - TG-50 / Definitions**
- **Description of Commercial MLC**
  - Standard MLC**
  - Mini/Micro MLC**
- **Dosimetry and QA of MLC**
- **Considerations for IMRT**

**TU-A-517A-1 Field Shaping; Design  
Characteristics and Dosimetry Issues**

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**MLC Characteristics**



- **MLC Design**
- **Leaf Transmission**
- **Leaf Sizes**
- **Number of Leaves**
- **Leaf Travel**
- **Leaf Abutment**
- **Source-Leaf Distance / Isocenter Clearance**
- **Leaf Positioning Mechanism / Accuracy**
- **Leaf Positioning Constraints**
- **Leaf Speed**

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# MLC Design



- Upper Jaw Replacement
- Lower Jaw Replacement
- Tertiary MLC

TU-A-517A-1 Field Shaping; Design Characteristics and Dosimetry Issues

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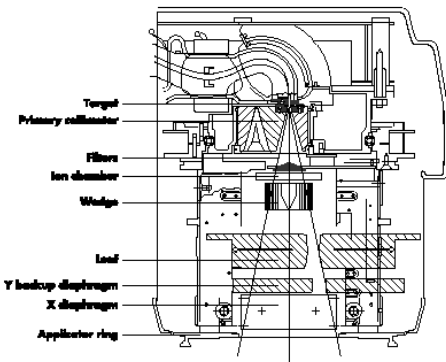
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## Upper Jaw Replacement



Courtesy Elekta

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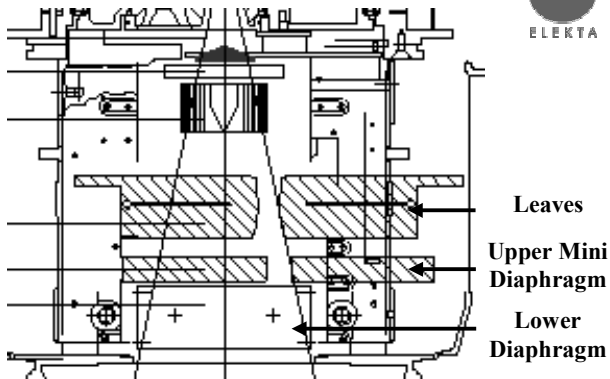
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## Upper Jaw Replacement



Courtesy Elekta

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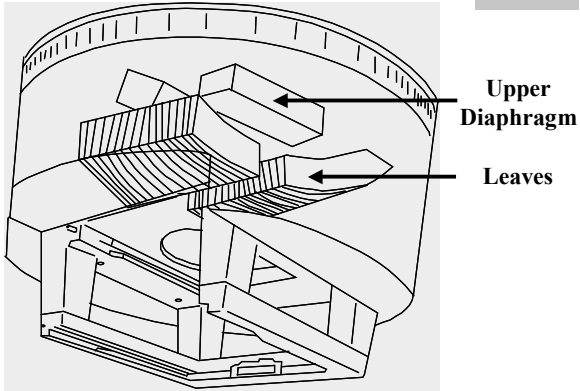
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### Lower Jaw Replacement

SIEMENS



Courtesy Siemens

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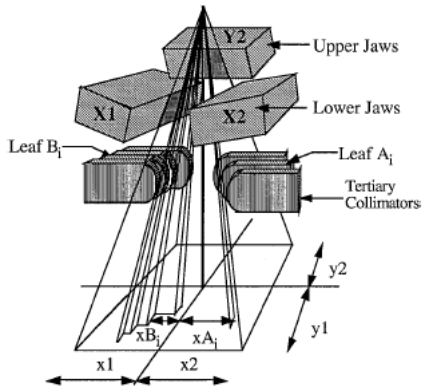
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### Tertiary MLC



TG-50

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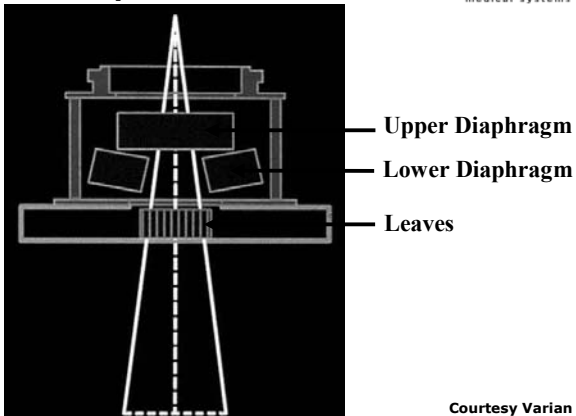
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### Tertiary MLC

VARIAN  
medical systems



Courtesy Varian

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## Isocenter Clearance

MLC	Largest	Block Tray	Wedge	Tray + Wedge
Elekta	45 cm	35.3 cm	35.3 cm	35.3 cm
Siemens	43 cm	43 cm	43 cm	43 cm
Varian	42 cm	35 cm	35 cm	31 cm

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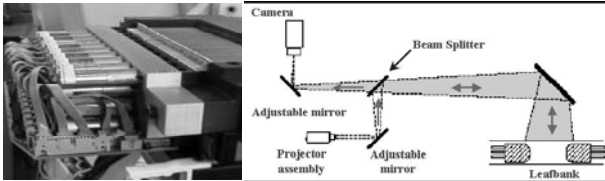
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## Positioning Mechanism / Precision




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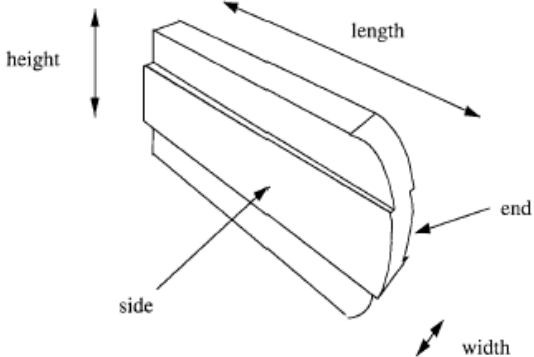
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Elekta	Siemens	Varian Standard	Varian Millennium
Video	Linear Encoder	Linear Encoder	Linear Encoder
0.01 cm	0.10 cm	0.01 cm	0.01 cm

## TG-50 Definitions



TG-50

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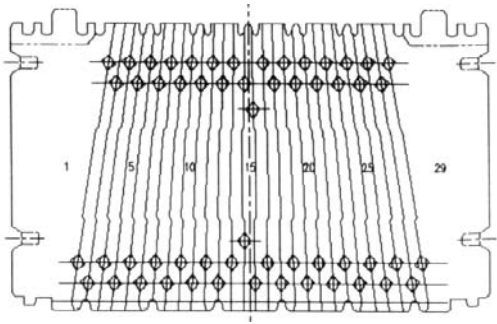
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## MLC Design – Leaf Sides

Leaf sides follow divergence



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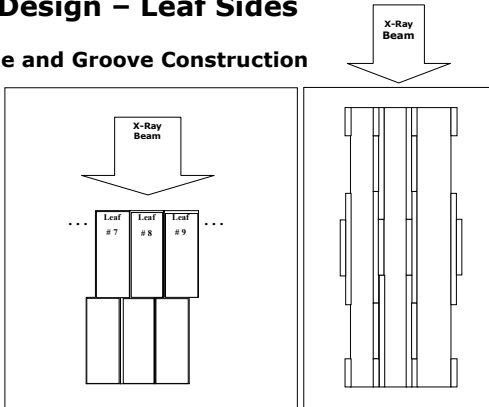
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## MLC Design – Leaf Sides

Tongue and Groove Construction



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## MLC Design – Leaf Ends

**Non-focused (rounded) Leaf Ends**

Leaf motion restricted to a single plane

In principle, penumbra is somewhat greater than for focused collimators of divergent custom blocks

Potential for greater leaf end transmission when leaves are abutted



Both Varian and Elekta use the non-focused design

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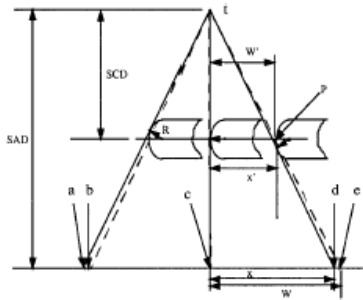
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## MLC Design – Leaf Ends

Penumbra relatively constant as a function of leaf position



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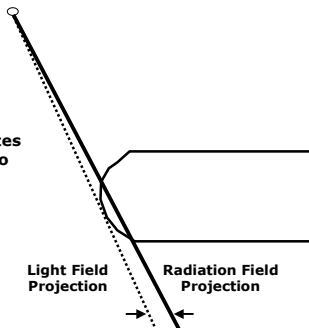
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## MLC Design – Rounded Leaf Ends

Light Field versus radiation field

Light field underestimates radiation field by 0.5 to 1.2 mm per side



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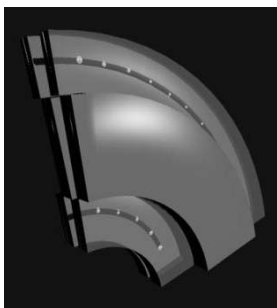
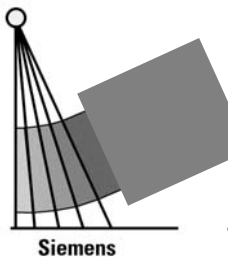
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## MLC Design – Leaf Ends

Focused leaves – maintain geometric divergence

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## Leaf Size and Number

MLC	Leaves	Size
Elekta	40 x 2	1 cm
Siemens	29 x 2	1 cm (27) 6.5 cm (2)
Varian Standard	26 x 2	1 cm
Varian Standard	40 x 2	1 cm
Varian Millennium	26 x 2	1 cm
Varian Millennium	40 x 2	1 cm
Varian Millennium	60 x 2	1 cm (20) 0.5 cm (40)

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## TG-50 Transmission Recommendation

**For upper or lower jaw replacement MLC, transmission requirements are the same as for standard collimators**

**For tertiary MLC, transmission requirements are the same as for custom blocks (< 5%). However, leaf thickness should provide adequate attenuation to compensate for interleaf transmission**

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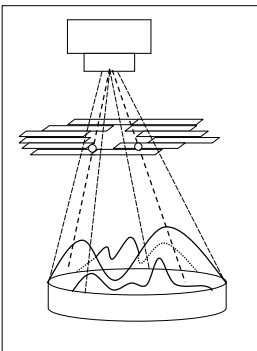
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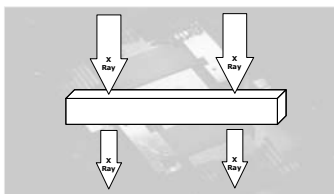
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## TG-50 Definitions: Leaf Transmission



**Reduction of dose through the full height of the leaf**



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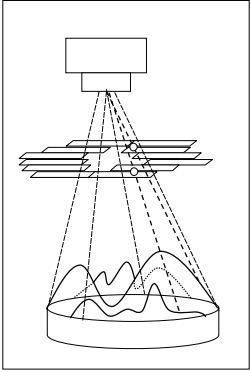
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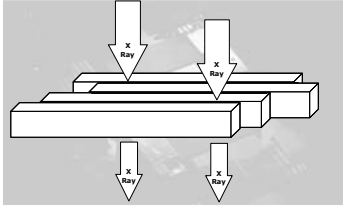
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### TG-50 Definitions: Interleaf Transmission



Reduction of dose between adjacent leaves



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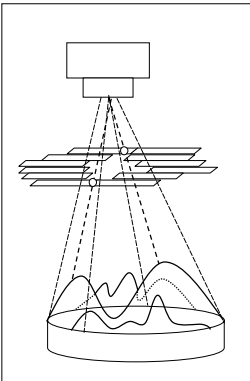
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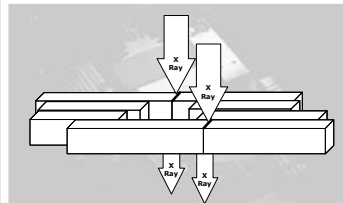
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### TG-50 Definitions: Leaf End Transmission



Reduction of dose between the ends of opposed leaves



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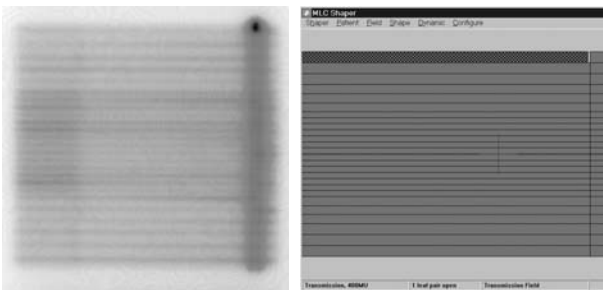
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### Leaf Transmission



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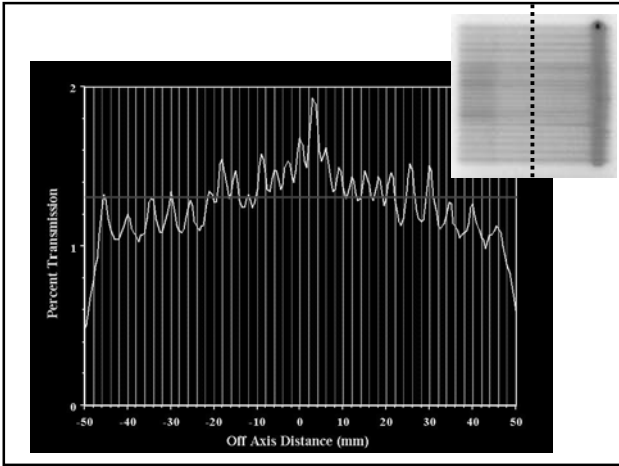
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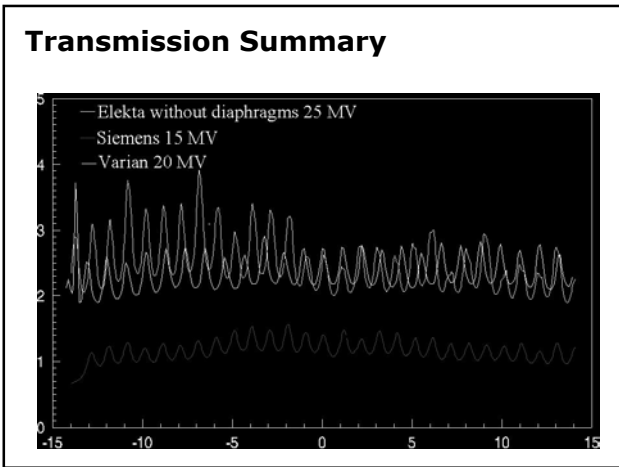
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### Transmission Summary

**Elekta:** 1.8% - 2%, 11% (backup diaphragm only), <0.5% (leaves + backup diaphragm), 4-4.5% between leaves, 50-60% between leaf ends

**Siemens:** 1%, < 1.5% between leaves

**Varian:** 1.5-2.5%, 2-3.5% between leaves, 12-28% between leaf ends

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## Leaf Characteristic Summary

Effective penumbra (80%/20%) of focused versus divergent leaf ends within 1-2 mm of each other

Leaf side penumbra  $\sim 1$  to 1.5 mm less than leaf end penumbra

For focused leaf ends, light field underestimates radiation field

Transmission characteristics on all systems  $< 4\%$

Tongue and groove construction produces a transmission distribution

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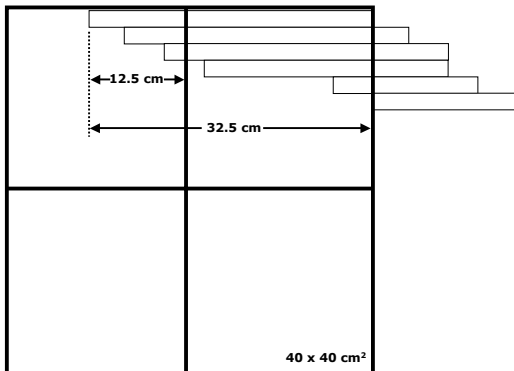
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## Leaf Travel - Elekta



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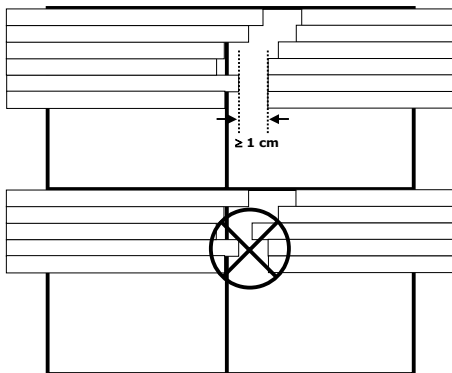
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## Leaf Abutment - Elekta



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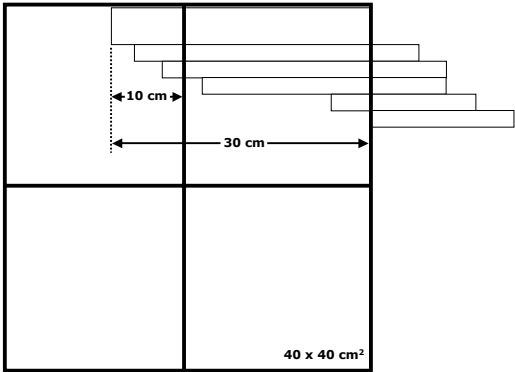
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### Leaf Travel - Siemens



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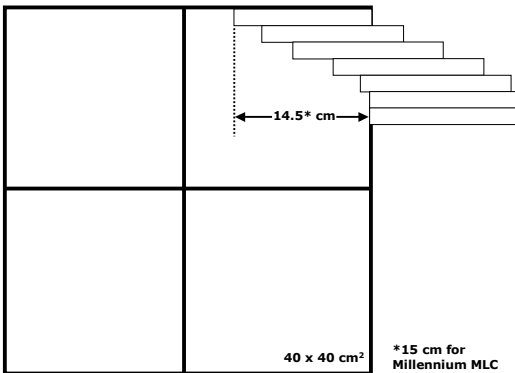
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### Leaf Travel - Varian



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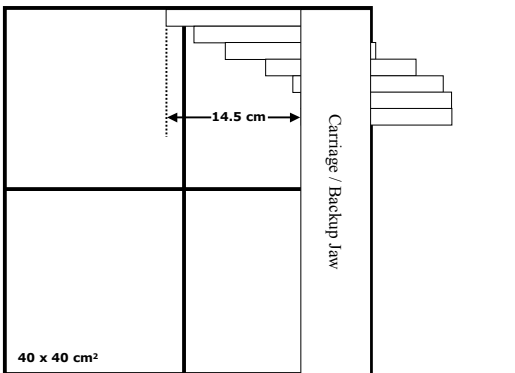
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### Leaf Travel - Varian



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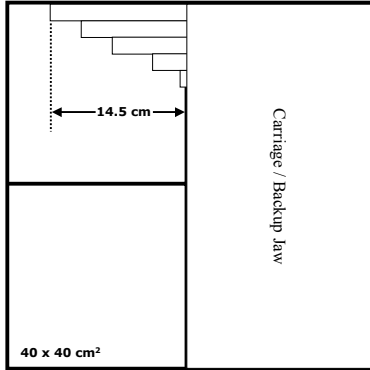
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## Leaf Travel - Varian




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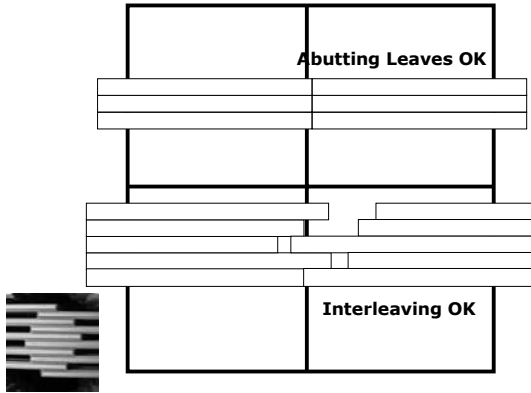
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## Leaf Abutment - Siemens / Varian




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## Field Size Summary

MLC	Regular Field	Irregular Field
Elekta	40 x 40 cm <sup>2</sup>	40 x 40 cm <sup>2</sup>
Siemens	40 x 40 cm <sup>2</sup>	40 x 27 cm <sup>2</sup>
Varian Standard	40 x 40 cm <sup>2</sup>	29 x 40 cm <sup>2</sup>
Varian Millennium	40 x 40 cm <sup>2</sup>	30 x 40 cm <sup>2</sup>

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## Acceptance Testing, Commissioning and Quality Assurance

- Alignment of mechanical and optical axes
- Leaf position calibration, leaf travel characteristics, as a function of collimator and gantry position
- "Follower" jaw calibration
- Transmission characteristics
- Interlocks
- Field shaping software, data transfer, reproduction of standard shapes
- Dosimetric comparison with treatment planning system

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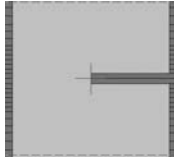
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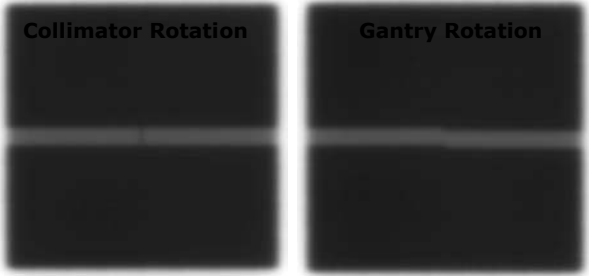
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## Alignment of mechanical and optical axes



Collimator Rotation

Gantry Rotation



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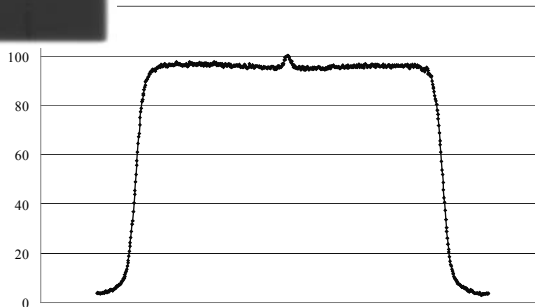
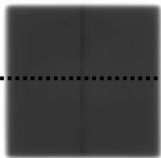
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## Leaf Positioning



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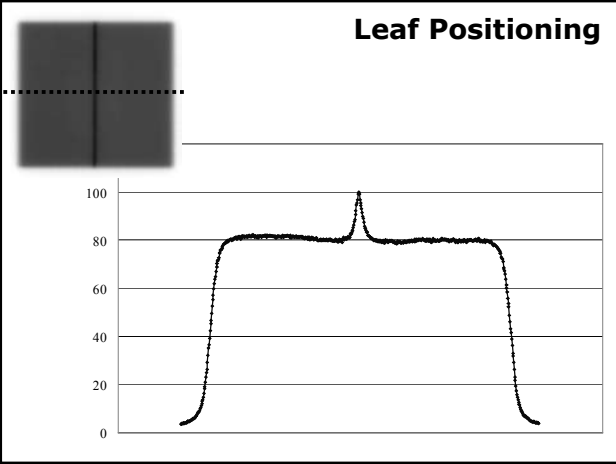
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### Leaf Positioning



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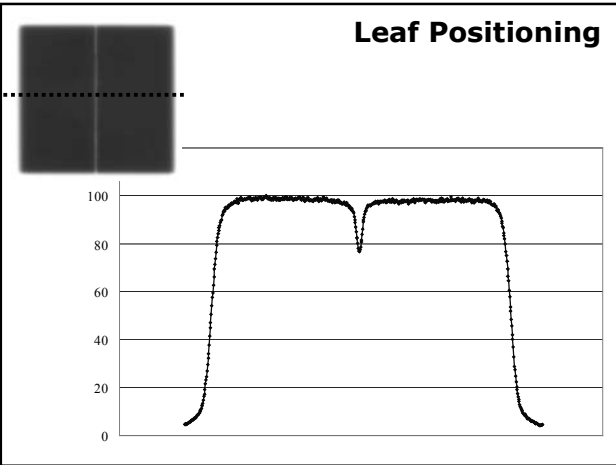
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### Leaf Positioning



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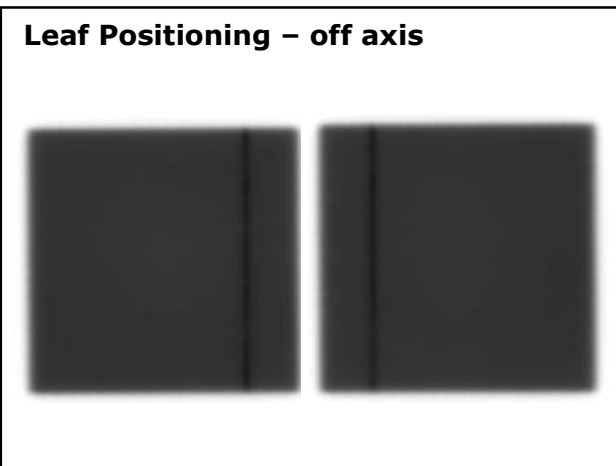
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### Leaf Positioning – off axis



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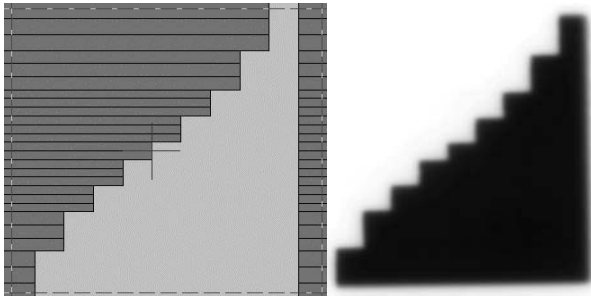
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### Leaf Positioning – off axis



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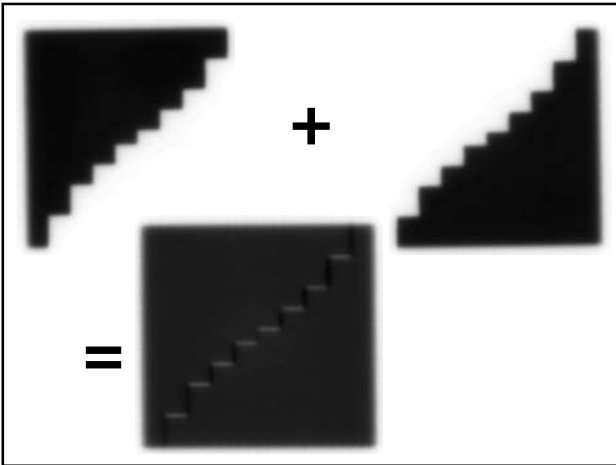
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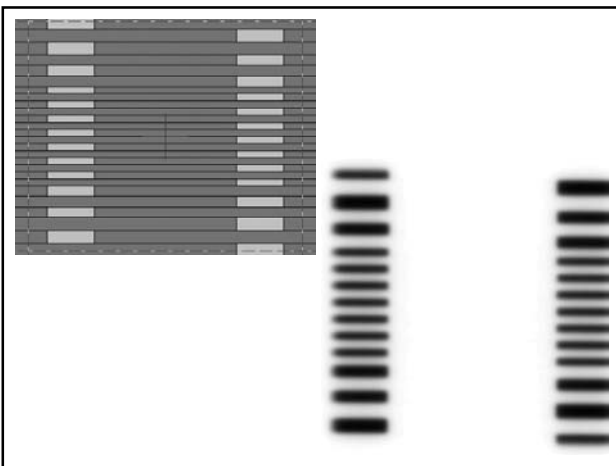
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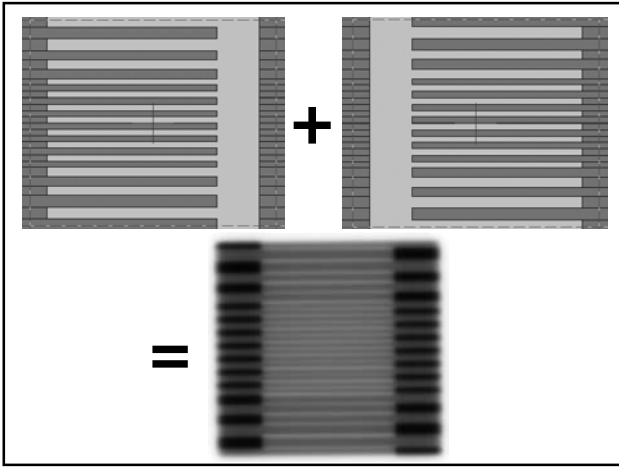
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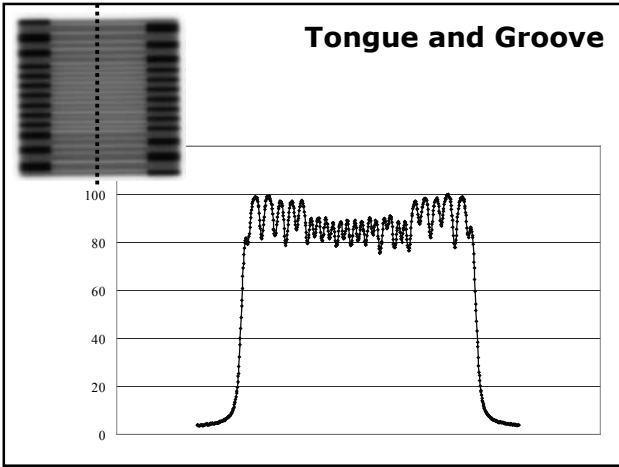
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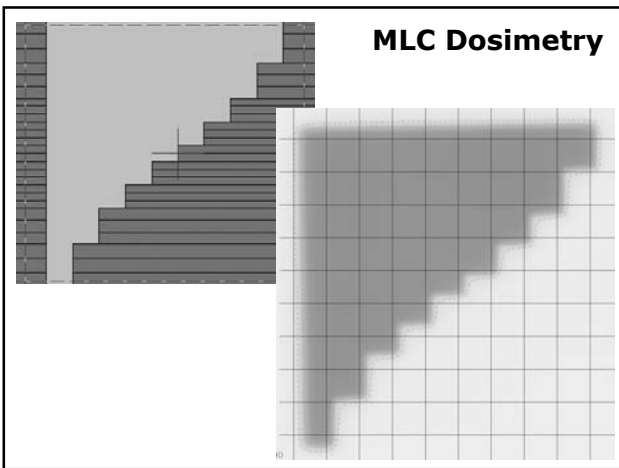
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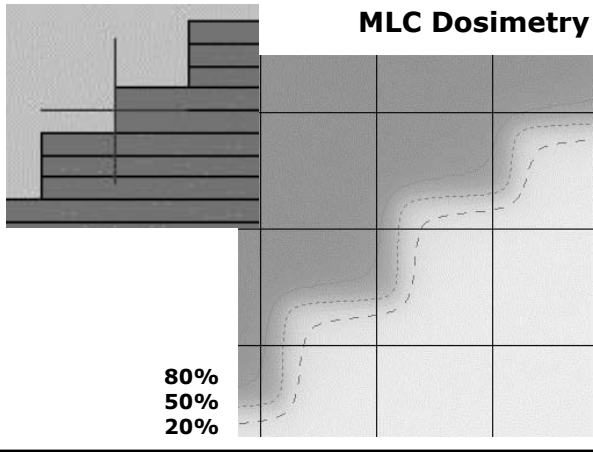
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## MLC Dosimetry




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### 3D Line DMLC

# Leaf Pairs	24
Leaf Width (@ Isocenter)	~5 mm
Maximum Field Size	11.5 x 12.0 cm <sup>2</sup>
Leakage	< 1%
Leakage (interleaf)	N/A
Penumbra (not specified)	3 mm
Maximum Leaf Speed	1 cm/sec
Weight	40 kg
Clearance to Isocenter	N/A




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### BrainLAB m3

# Leaf Pairs	26
Leaf Width (@ Isocenter)	3.0, 4.5, 5.5 mm
Maximum Field Size	10 x 12 cm <sup>2</sup>
Leakage	< 1%
Leakage (interleaf)	< 2%
Penumbra (80/20)	< 4.0 mm
Maximum Leaf Speed	1.5 cm/sec
Weight	30 kg
Clearance to Isocenter	37.9 cm / 31 cm*

\*for Varian w/o MLC / other linacs




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### MRC Systems MicroMLC

# Leaf Pairs	40
Leaf Width (@ Isocenter)	1.6 mm
Maximum Field Size	7.3 x 6.4 cm <sup>2</sup>
Leakage	< 1%
Leakage (interleaf)	N/A
Penumbra (80/20)	3-4 mm (6 MV)
Maximum Leaf Speed	1.2 cm/sec
Weight	38 kg
Clearance to Isocenter	N/A



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### MRC Systems ModuLeaf

# Leaf Pairs	40
Leaf Width (@ Isocenter)	2.5 mm
Maximum Field Size	10 x 12 cm <sup>2</sup>
Leakage	< 2%
Leakage (interleaf)	< 2.5%
Penumbra (80/20)	< 4.0 mm
Maximum Leaf Speed	2.0 cm/sec
Weight	43 kg
Clearance to Isocenter	N/A



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### Radionics MMLC

# Leaf Pairs	31
Leaf Width (@ Isocenter)	4 mm
Maximum Field Size	10 x 12 cm <sup>2</sup>
Leakage (	< 1%
Leakage (interleaf)	< 2% max
Penumbra (80/20)	< 4.0 mm
Maximum Leaf Speed	2.5 cm/sec
Weight	38 kg
Clearance to Isocenter	33 cm*

\*linear accelerator not specified



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### Zmed BIGMINI

# Leaf Pairs	40
Leaf Width (@ Isocenter)	2.5 mm
Maximum Field Size	10 x 12 cm <sup>2</sup>
Leakage	< 2%
Leakage (interleaf)	< 2.5%
Penumbra (80/20)	< 4.0 mm
Maximum Leaf Speed	2.0 cm/sec
Weight	43 kg
Clearance to Isocenter	N/A



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### Vendor Websites

- 3D Line (DMLC) [www.3dline.com](http://www.3dline.com)
- BrainLAB (m3) [www.brainlab.com](http://www.brainlab.com)
- Elekta [www.elekta.com](http://www.elekta.com)
- MRC Systems (micro-MLC and ModuLeaf) [www.imrt.de](http://www.imrt.de)
- Radionics (MMLC) [www.radionics.com](http://www.radionics.com)
- Siemens [www.siemensmedical.com](http://www.siemensmedical.com)
- Varian [www.varian.com](http://www.varian.com)
- ZMED (BigMini) [www.zmed.com](http://www.zmed.com)

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### Acknowledgements

- Jim Billich, Siemens Medical
- Bruce Curran, Nomos Corporation
- Call Huntzinger, Varian Medical Systems
- Steve Leadley, Elekta

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## References



**AAPM Report No. 72 - Basic Applications of Multileaf Collimators, Report of Task Group 50**

**JM Galvin et al - Evaluation of multileaf collimator design for a photon beam. IJROBP 23(4): 789-801 (1992).**

**EE Klein et al - Clinical implementation of a commercial multileaf collimator: dosimetry, networking, simulation, and quality assurance. IJROBP 33(5): 1195-1208 (1995).**

**MN Graves et al - Calibration and quality assurance for rounded leaf-end MLC systems, Med. Phys. 28(11): 2227-2233 (2001).**

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## See Also:



**E Klein - Multileaf collimators I: general description, systems and technology assessment**

**J Galvin - Acceptance testing, commissioning, and routine QA for multileaf collimator systems**

**J Palta and S Kim - Multileaf collimator dosimetry**

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