



# **Optimization in cancer treatment: indefinitely a problem?**

**--- an application ---**

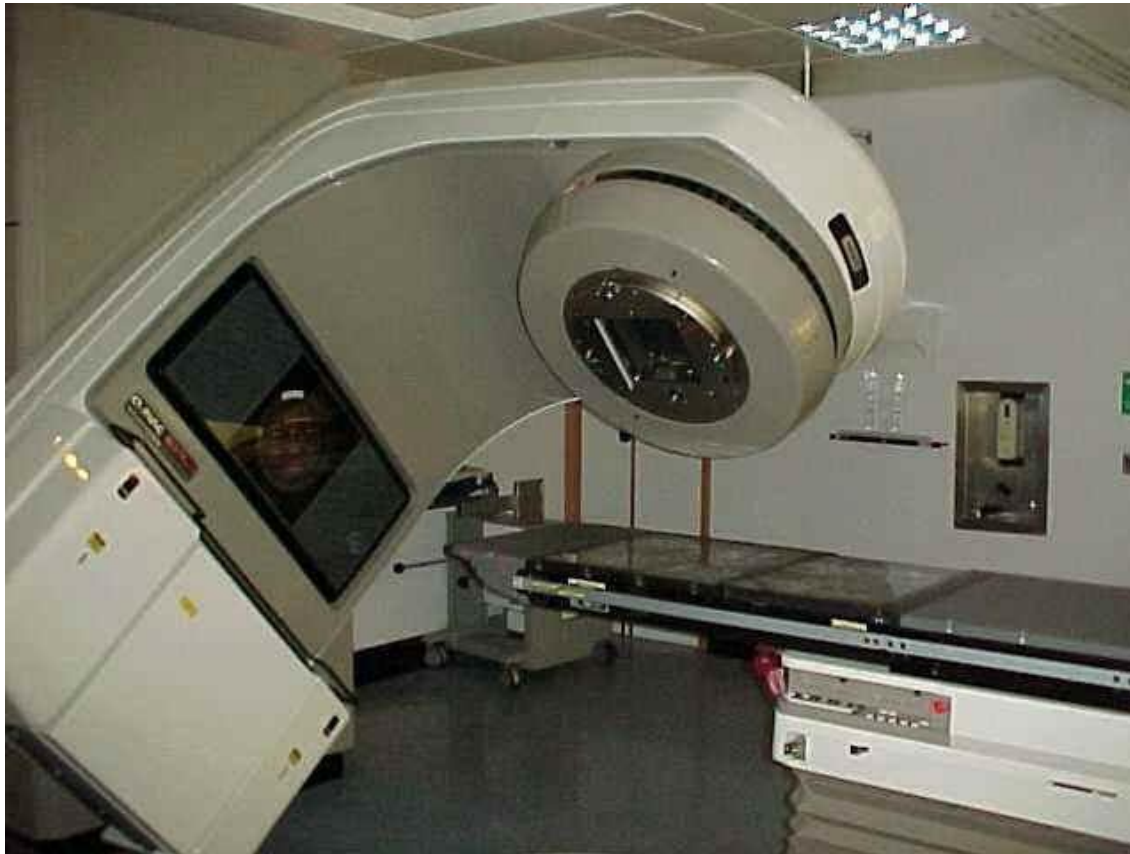
Sebastiaan Breedveld

Indefinite Systems Workshop

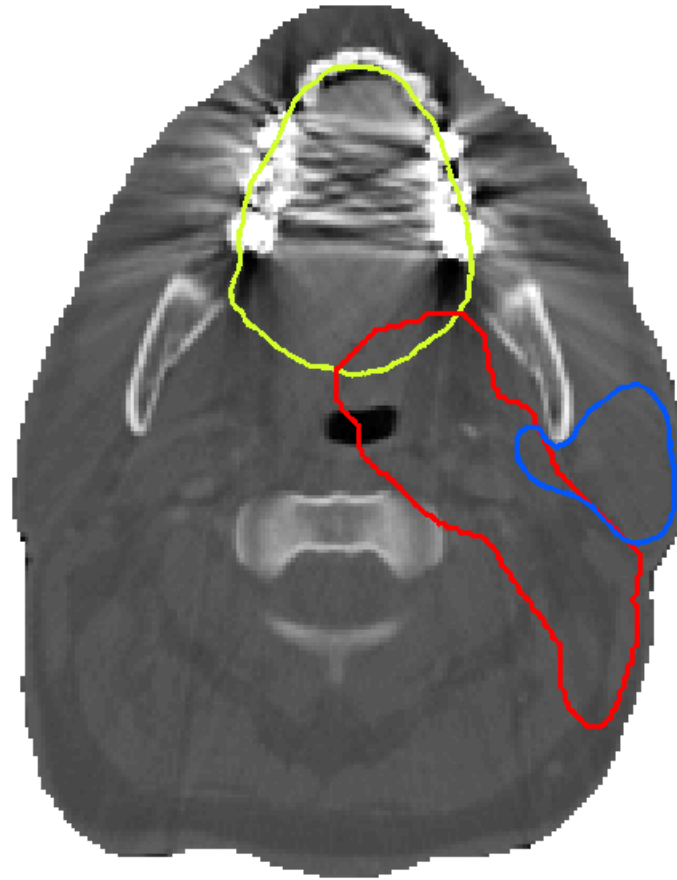
TU Eindhoven, April 17<sup>th</sup> 2012

# Radiation therapy (radiotherapy)

- Treatment of cancer by irradiating the tumour with ionising beams
- Treatment device can rotate around the patient
- Beam can be modulated

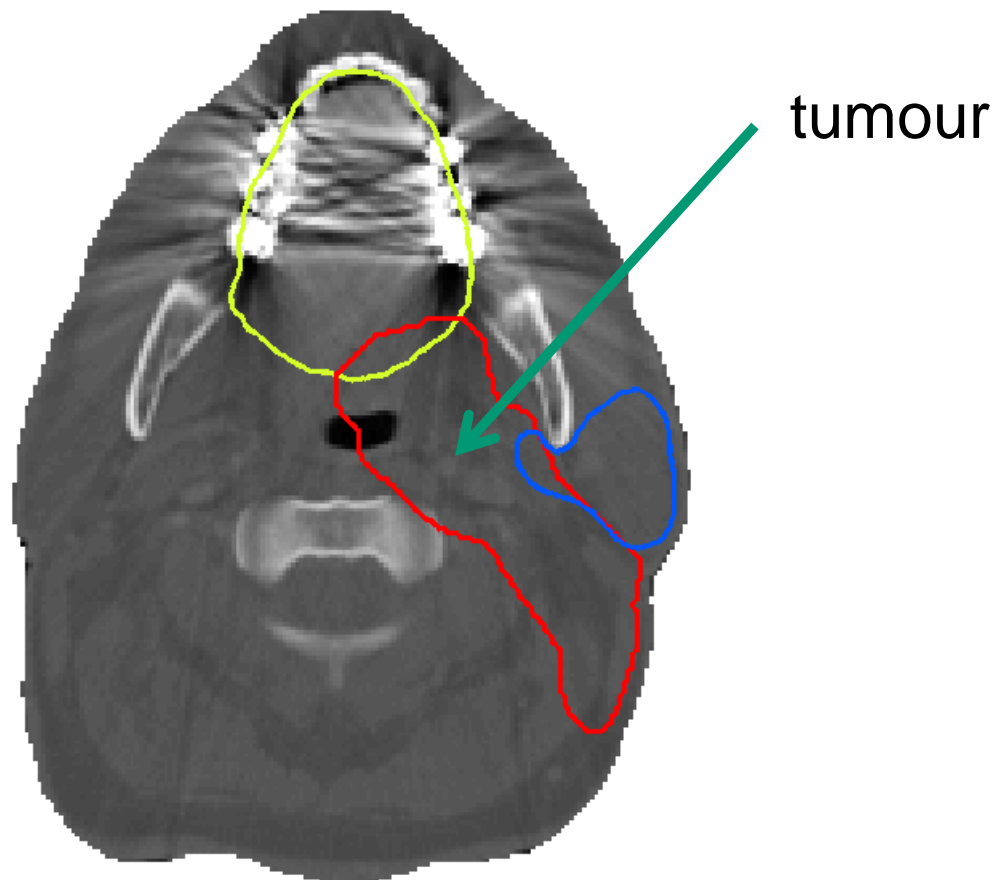


# Radiotherapy treatment



CT slice of head

# Radiotherapy treatment



CT slice of head

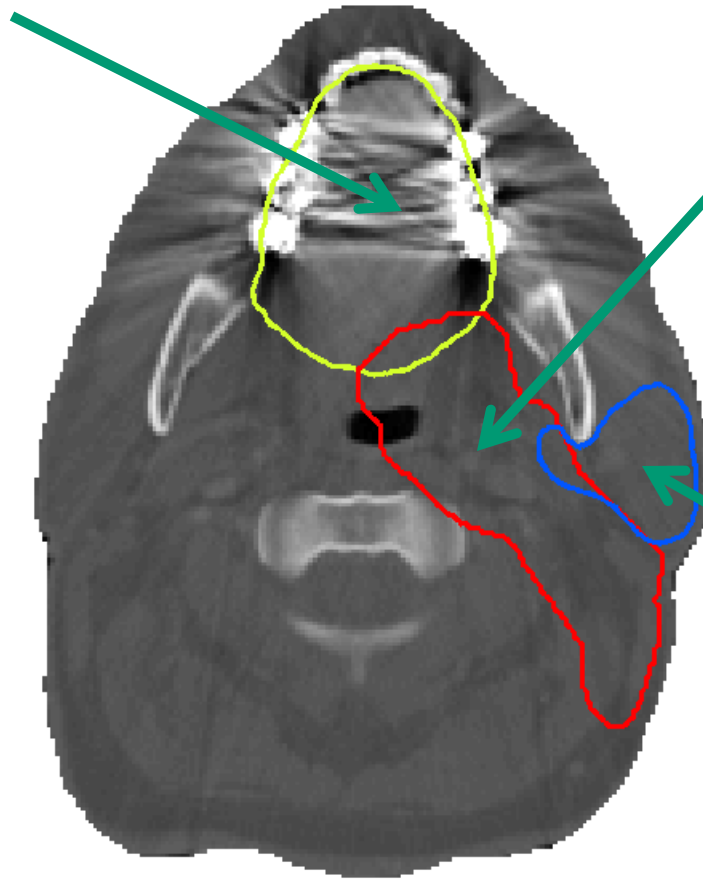
# Radiotherapy treatment

oral cavity

tumour

salivary gland

CT slice of head

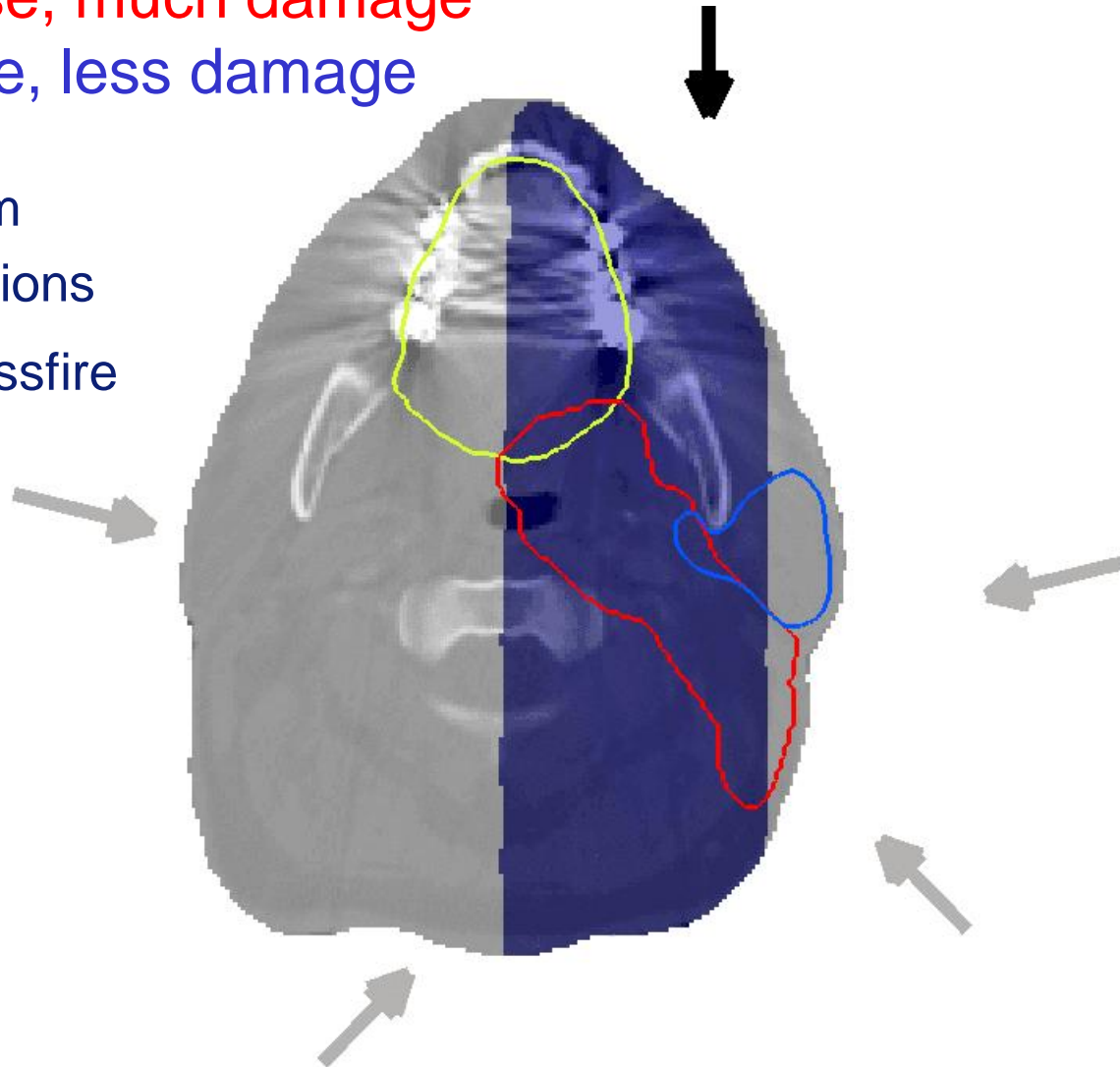


# Radiotherapy treatment

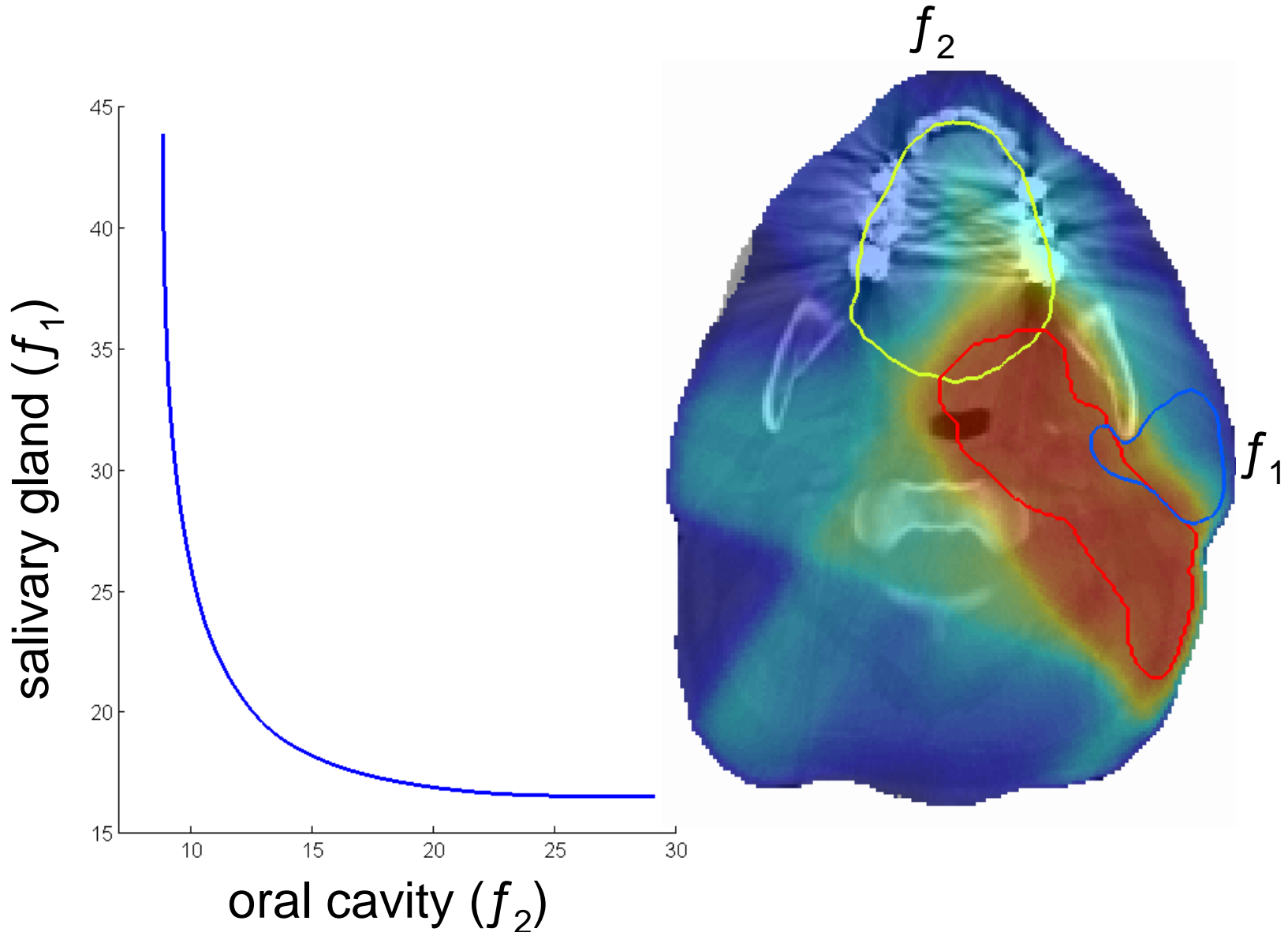
Red: high dose, much damage

Blue: low dose, less damage

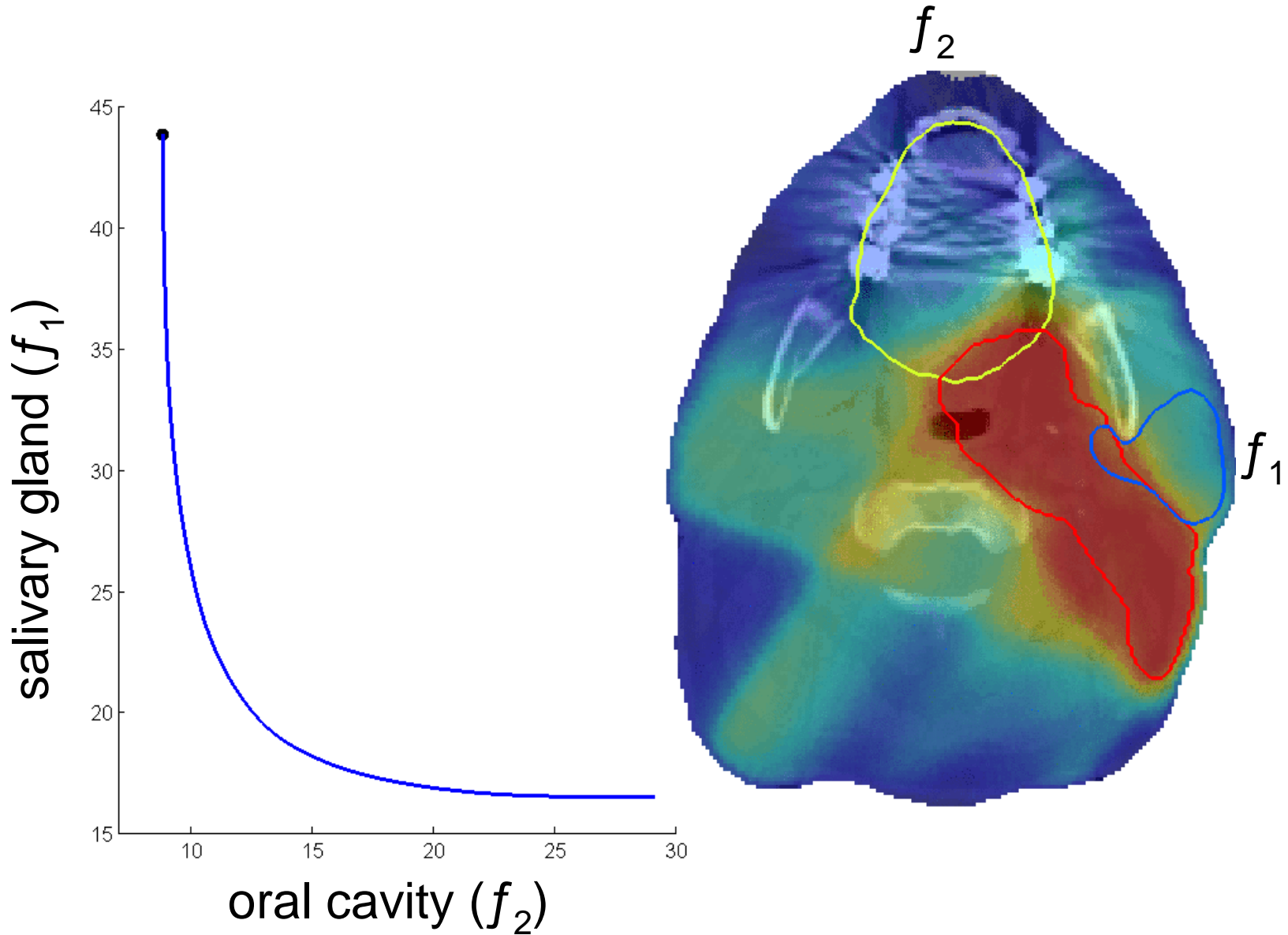
- Irradiation from different directions
- Tumour in crossfire



# Treatment plan optimization: trade-offs



# Treatment plan optimization: trade-offs





# Treatment planning

- Objective: eliminate tumour and maximize functionality of organs
- Planning is multi-criterial, non-convex (broader scale: combinatorial)
- Many optimizations have to be performed
- Time to finish: 1 work-day maximum

At ErasmusMC – Daniel den Hoed, Rotterdam:

- 15 treatment devices
- 5500 patients per year
- ~20 new patients (thus plans) per day  
→ each patient has an individual plan

# Treatment planning

- Reduced to general optimization problem

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & f(x) \\ \text{subject to} & h(x) \leq b \\ & x \geq 0 \end{array}$$

- n: represents discretisation  $x$  of fluence (modulation).
  - Dimension:  $\sim 500-5000$ , or  $\sim 15.000$  for other treatment modalities
- m: constraints: discretisation of organs in the patient
  - Dimension:  $> 50.000$

# Interior-point optimization: a short HOWTO

System  
size  $2m+2n$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{minimize} && f(x) \\ & \text{subject to} && h(x) \leq b \\ & && x \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} X & & Z & & \\ & Y & & & W \\ -I & & H & & A^T \\ & I & & & A \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta z \\ \Delta w \\ \Delta x \\ \Delta y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu e - XZe \\ \mu e - WYe \\ -\nabla f - A^T y + z \\ b - h(x) - w \end{pmatrix}$$

 Diagonal matrices

 Hessian / second derivatives

 Matrix of derivatives

# Interior-point optimization: a short HOWTO

- Symbolic elimination to reduced Karush-Kuhn-Tucker, size  $m+n$

$$\begin{pmatrix} H + ZX^{-1} & A^T \\ A & -WY^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

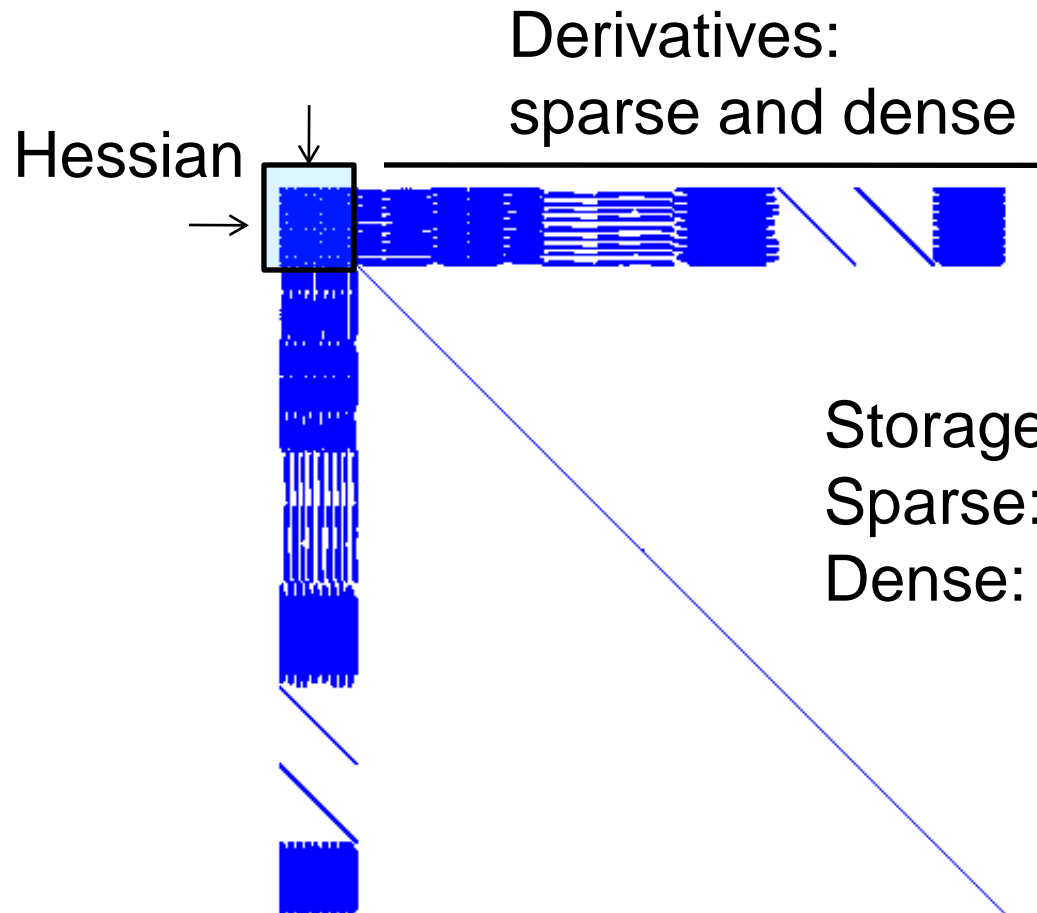
- Indefinite system!

**Solve this system!**  
(one way or another)

Problems with radiotherapy:

- Matrix of derivatives  $A$  is not sparse
- Hessian  $H$  is not sparse  
→ System cannot be constructed

# Sparsity pattern of indefinite system



Storage requirements:  
Sparse: 750MiB  
Dense: 17 GiB

# Approaches: from optimization

- Further reduce system to dimension  $n$  (current approach):

$$N = H + X^{-1}Z + A^T(W^{-1}Y)A$$

- Pros: small symmetric, dense system; Hessian for free (smart implementation); improves condition; mostly positive definite for non-convex problems
  - Cons: requires  $O(m*n^2)$  matrix-matrix multiplications
- Quasi-Newton approaches:
    - BFGS: only for Hessian, was already for free
    - L-BFGS: for indefinite system, but cannot handle bounds/constraints
    - L-BFGS-B: can handle bounds (TODO)

## Approaches: direct indefinite systems

- Because of the size and non-sparsity, construction of system is not efficient.
- $LDL^T$  results in large, dense L
- Classic methods (GMRES, CG, etc) do not work well
- IDRs (Induced Dimension Reduction, Sonneveld and van Gijzen, 2008) works best
  
- General problem: to work for interior-point optimization, solve system within machine precision?