Heavy Ion Radiolysis from Curie to Present

Jay LaVerne Radiation Laboratory and Department of Physics University of Notre Dame

> Simon M. Pimblott School of Chemistry University of Manchester









#### Marie Skłodowska Curie



#### Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1911

Radium and Polonium (1898)

# <sup>210</sup>Po => <sup>206</sup>Pb + $\alpha$ (5.4 MeV, t<sub>1/2</sub> = 138 days) <sup>226</sup>Ra => <sup>222</sup>Rn + $\alpha$ (4.9 MeV, t<sub>1/2</sub> = 1601 years)

First heavy ion sources

### Early Studies using Radium Sources

P. Curie and A. Debierne, Sur la radio-activité induite et les gas activés par le radium, Compt. Rend. 132, 768-70 (1901)

W. Ramsay and F. Soddy, Experiments in radioactivity, and the production of helium from radium, Proc. Roy. Soc. 72, 204-7 (1903)

W. Ramsay, The chemical action of the radium emanation. Part I. Action on distilled water, J. Chem. Soc. London 91, 931-42 (1907)

A. T. Cameron and W. Ramsay, The chemical action of radium emanation. Part III. On water and certain gases, J. Chem. Soc. London 93, 966-92 (1908)

M. Kernbaum, Sur la décomposition de l'eau par divers rayonnements, Radium, 7, 242 (1910)

W. Duane and O. Scheuer, Décomposition de l'eau par les rayons  $\alpha$  Compt. Rend. 156, 466-467 (1913)

W. Duane and O. Scheuer, Recherches sur la décomposition de l'eau par les rayons  $\alpha$ , Radium 10, 33-46 (1913)

#### **Decomposition of Radium and Water**

$$^{224}$$
Ra =>  $^{220}$ Rn +  $\alpha$ 

# $^{224}Ra + H_2O = ^{220}Rn + \alpha (He) + H_2 + ?$

#### $2H_2O \longrightarrow H_2O_2 + H_2$

### Observe only molecular products



O. Risse, On the radio-photolysis of hydroperoxide, Z. Physik. Chem.
A140, 133 (1929)
H. Fricke and E. R. Brownscombe, Inability of x-rays to decompose water, Phys. Rev. 44, 240 (1933)

$$\begin{array}{cccc} H_2O & & & & & & \\ H_2O^{act} & & \rightarrow & & \\ H_2O^{act} + reactant & \rightarrow & product \end{array}$$

J. Weiss, Radiochemistry of aqueous solutions, Nature 153, 748 (1944)

$$H_2O \land \land \rightarrow \bullet H + \bullet OH$$

Acceptance of radical chemistry

#### LET Effects in Water

A. O. Allen, "The Radiation Chemistry of Water and Aqueous Solutions", Van Nostrand, Princeton, p. 58, 1961.



First summary of LET effects

#### **Cloud Chamber Tracks**

β-particle: C. T. R. Wilson *Proc. Roy. Soc. A*, **1923**, *104*, 192



proton: P. I. Dee Proc. Roy. Soc. A, 1932, 136, 727



α-particle: C. T. R. Wilson Proc. Cam. Phil. Soc. A, 1922, 21, 405



Various particles have tracks that look different.

### Visualization of Tracks

Electron track made of isolated clusters with few reactive species in each.





### Differences in 10 keV Track Segments at 1 ps



Black :  $e_{aq}^{\dagger}$ Red :  $H_{3}O^{\dagger}$ Green : OH Blue : H Cyan :  $H_{2}$ Magenta : OH<sup>-</sup> Yellow :  $H_{2}O_{2}$ Dark yellow :  $O(^{3}P)$ 

# Modern codes give "realistic" track structures.



10 MeV <sup>1</sup>H

#### **Radiation Effects due to Nuclear Power**







Transuranics are  $\alpha$ -particle emitters. Must deal with legacy of weapons and reactors.

### Heavy Ion Radiolysis in Space

solar/cosmic radiation: H, He, etc. planetary particles









### Applications in space exploration and origin of life.

#### Health / Therapy Effects due to Track Structure







#### Precise dose delivery with heavy ions

### Advancement of Heavy Ion Radiolysis





#### Progression from radium salts to advanced accelerators

#### Radiolysis of Water and Aqueous Solutions

#### $H_2O \rightarrow e_{aq}^{-}$ , $H_3O^+$ , OH, H, $H_2$ , $H_2O_2$



 $e_{aq}^{-}$ : electron transfer reactions H<sub>2</sub>: explosive, flammable H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: corrosive OH : biological

#### **Direct Effects**

DNA → single strand breaks, SSB double strand breaks, DSB multiply damaged sites, MDS

**Indirect Effects** 

 $H_2O \rightarrow OH$ n(OH) + DNA  $\rightarrow$  SSB, DSB, MDS



### **OH Radical Scavenging**

$$H_2O \land \land \land \rightarrow e_{aq}^{-}, H_3O^+, OH, H, H_2$$



### **Ion Characteristics**





Notre Dame has a core set of ion accelerators. Each ion has a different track structure, physics and chemistry.

# Heavy Ion Beamline

ROTOMETER







# Gamma Radiolysis



#### Formation of OH Radicals with He Ions

J.A. LaVerne Radiat. Res. 1989



#### Track Segment and Track Average Yields



#### Track Average OH Radical Yields with He Ions

J.A. LaVerne Radiat. Res. 1989



### **OH Radical Scavenging Capacity**

$$H_2O \land \land \land \rightarrow e_{aq}^{-}, H_3O^+, OH, H, H_2$$

			k (M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
●OH + ●OH	$\rightarrow$	$H_2O_2$	5.5 x 10 <sup>9</sup>
e <sub>aq</sub> + ∙OH	$\rightarrow$	OH-	3.0 x 10 <sup>10</sup>
•	Track Reactions	• •	
•OH + HCOOH	$\rightarrow$	$H_2O + \bullet COOH$	1.3 x 10 <sup>8</sup>
•H + HCOOH	$\rightarrow$	H <sub>2</sub> + ●COOH	4.4 x 10 <sup>5</sup>
•COOH + $O_2$	$\rightarrow$	$CO_2 + \bullet HO_2$	

Scavenging Capacity = [HCOOH] x  $1.3 \times 10^8 (s^{-1})$ 

#### Track Segment LET Dependence of OH Radicals

T. Maeyama, S. Yamashita, G. Baldacchino, M. Taguchi, A. Kimura, T. Murakami, Y. Katsumura, Radiat. Phys. Chem. 2011



He: 2.3, 6.7 eV/nm C: 11, 22 eV/nm Ne: 48, 103 eV/nm Ar: 98, 148 eV/nm Fe: 205, 441 eV/nm

Heavy ion studies began in the Curie laboratory.

- Heavy ion studies are still important for many applications.
- OH radical yields are important for medical applications.
- OH radical yields are being determined for a wide variety of radiation type and LET.
- Determining temporal dependence of OH radical yields.

Model techniques are still being developed and compared with experiment.

# Acknowledgments

Simon Pimblott – model calculations Melissa Ryan – DNA experiments Jaime Milligan – DNA experiments

Funded by: Office of Basic Energy Sciences U. S. Department of Energy

