



From Radiobiology to Radiation Therapy: Action of Heavy Charged Particles in Biological Material

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Challenges of biophysical research with heavy ions

- Mechanisms of biological damage induced by densely ionizing radiation: cellular response, signal transduction, genetic mutation
- Charged-particle cancer therapy
- Radiation protection in long-term space missions



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Radiobiological effects of highly charged ions

- High and low LET radiations act differently on DNA (differing degrees of spatial clustering of ionizations!)
- Number and size distribution of DNA fragments show a significant dependence on radiation quality
- The effect can be attributed to the random distribution of radiation tracks and deterministic localisation of energy within the track

Lesion clustering (multiple damage sites MDS) occurs at various levels of chromatin organization



B. Rydberg, Acta Oncol., 2001.

Krämer, Kraft, Radiat. Environ.
Biophys., (1994)
Cucinotta, Nikjoo,
Goodhead, Radiat.
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Scholz, Kraft,
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Dosim., (1994)
Holley, Chatterjee,
Radiat. Res., (1998)



p21 foci in human fibroblast nuclei traversed by Pb ions



X-rays: 10 Gy

B. Jakob et al., Radiat Res., 2000.

0 h

1.5 h

Intracellular DSB induction and rejoining along the track of carbon particle beams



Heilmann J. et al., Int J Radiat Oncol., 1996.

Chromosomal aberrations in blood lymphocytes

George et al., 2001



Normal

Simple reciprocal exchange involving chromosome 5 Complex exchanges involving chromosomes 1, 2, and 5







Counting statistics and distribution of fragment lengths from the LEM (Local Effect Model)





Conclusions



After high LET irradiation most DSBs is located in clusters corresponding to multiply damaged sites





Differences in the complexity of induced lesions can be traced back to the pattern of a local energy (dose) deposition

Conclusions



- Cosmic radiation is one of the main problems for long-term space missions, particularly for the exploration of Mars
- Necessity: to <u>reduce uncertainty</u> in risk estimates and to <u>develop</u> <u>contermeasures</u>



 These tasks can be accomplished (within 10-20 years) by extensive biological experiments at accelerators using p and heavy ions at 0.1<E<10 GeV/n

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BioLab



Nanometer-scale Science Advanced Materials

NANOSAM UJ

Energy localisation: the Bragg peak



Ni ions 3.5 MeV/u, 4•10⁸ p/cm²

Induction of double strand breaks (DSB)

