

# Calculation of dose deposition in nanovolumes and simulation of $\gamma$ -H2AX experiments

By

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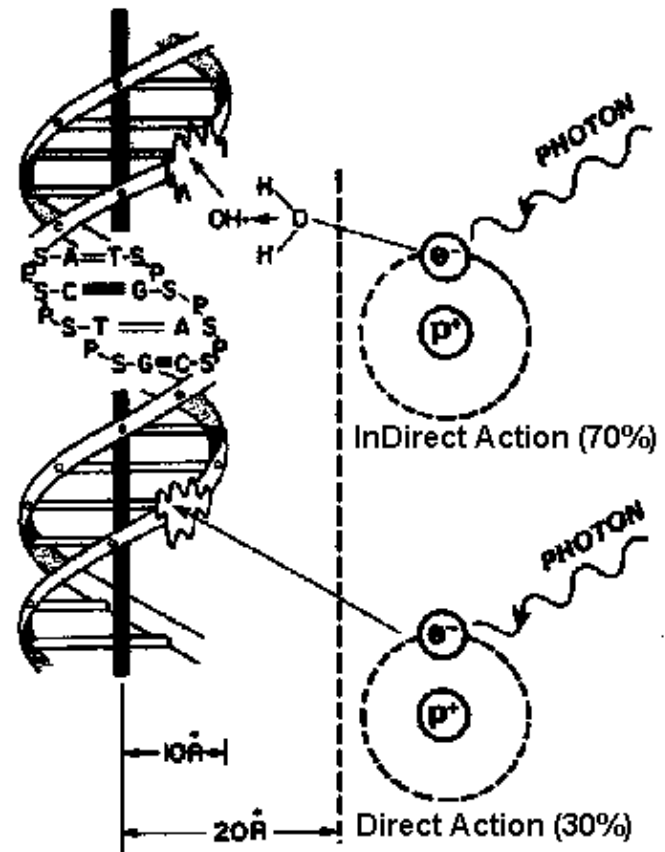
MC2010

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden

November 9-12, 2010

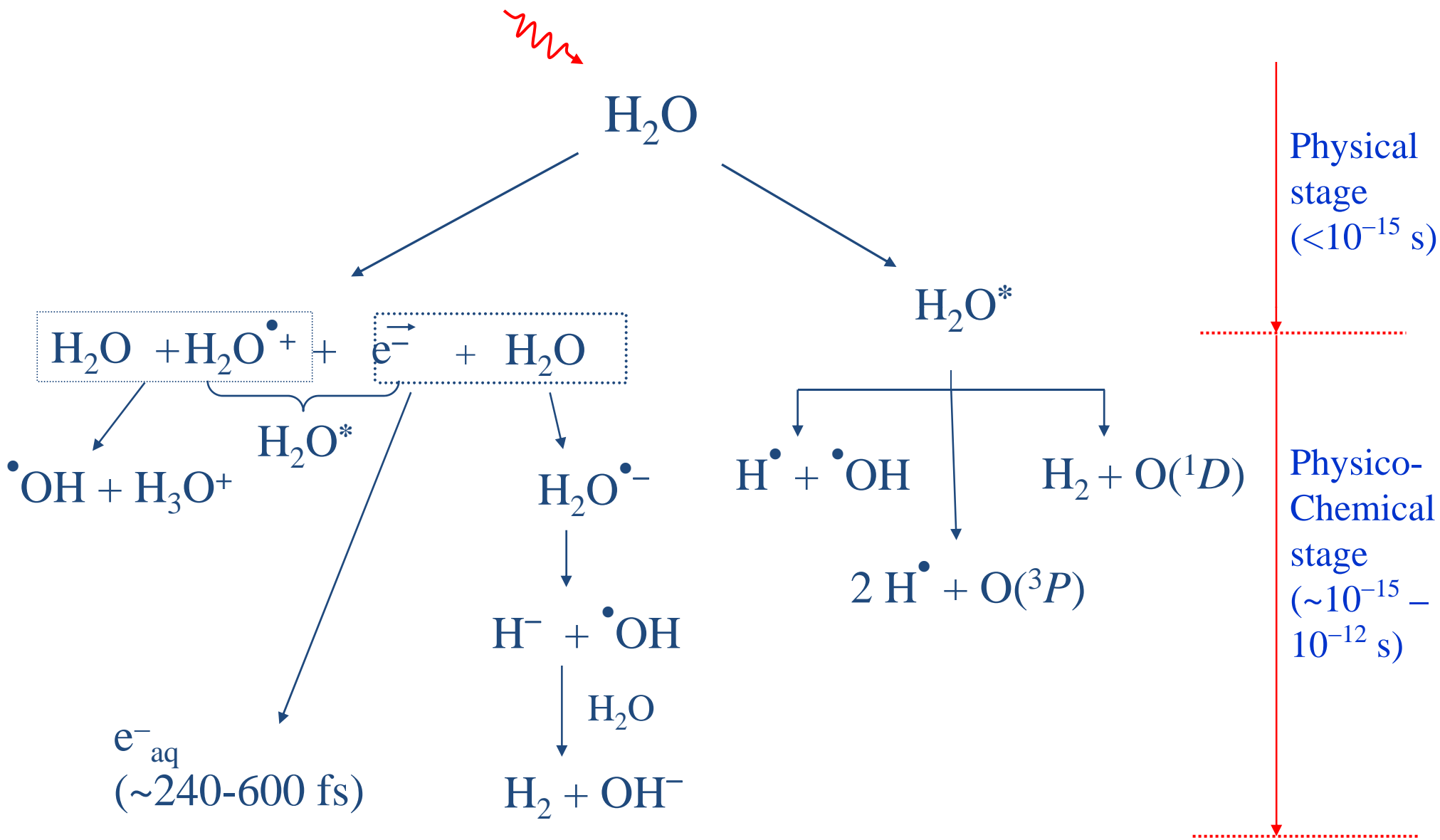
# Why study the radiation track structure?

- The cross sections for some phenomenon in liquid water are not well known
- The radiation track structure is essential to understand the induction of DNA damage
- Multiple lesions in a localized region of DNA leads to complex damage, notably Double-Strand Breaks (DSB)
- DSB are considered the most important for long term effects of ionizing radiation



Hall, Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins,  
Philadelphia, PA, 2000.

# Physical and physico-chemical stages

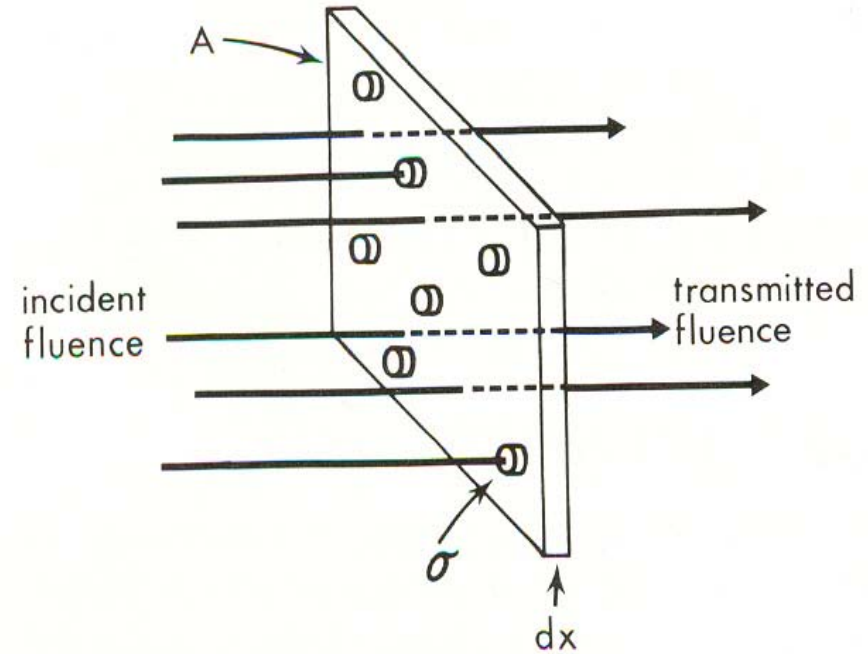


# Cross sections

- Interaction between radiation and matter

$$dI = -In\sigma dx$$

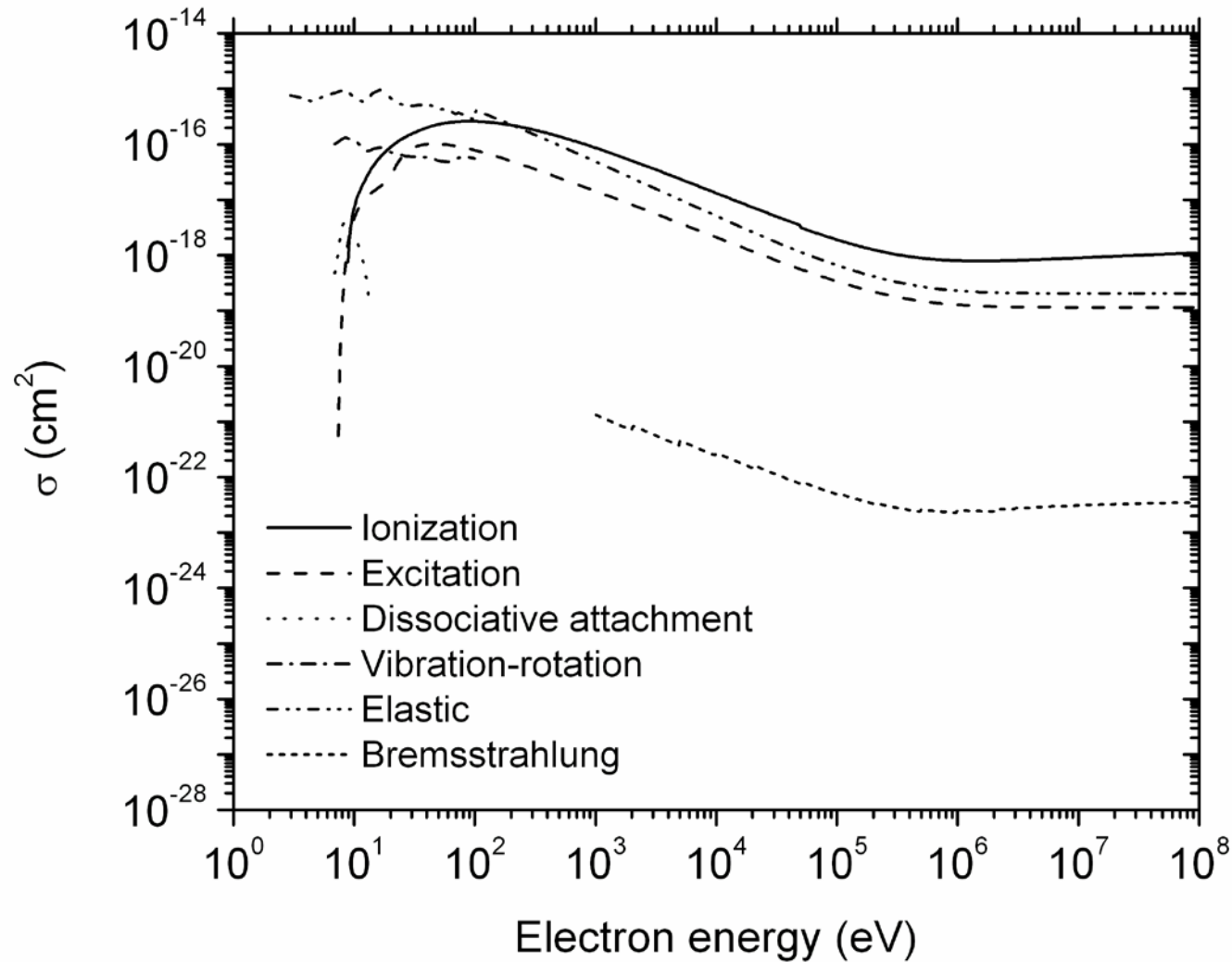
I: Incident fluence  
n: Density of targets  
dx: Width  
 $\sigma$ : Cross section



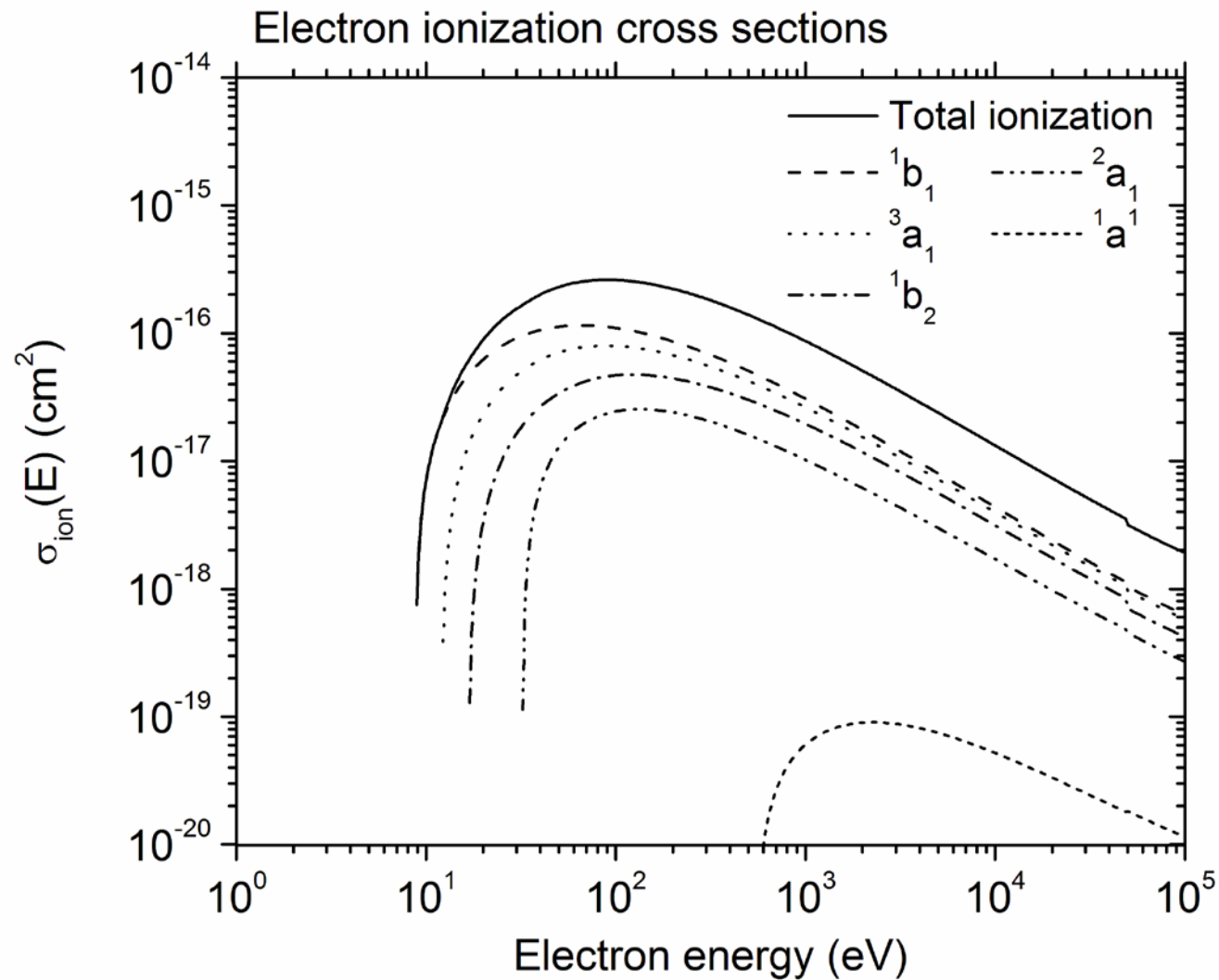
Anderson, D.W. (1984), University Park Press, Baltimore, MD

- Cross sections** (units:  $\text{cm}^2$ )

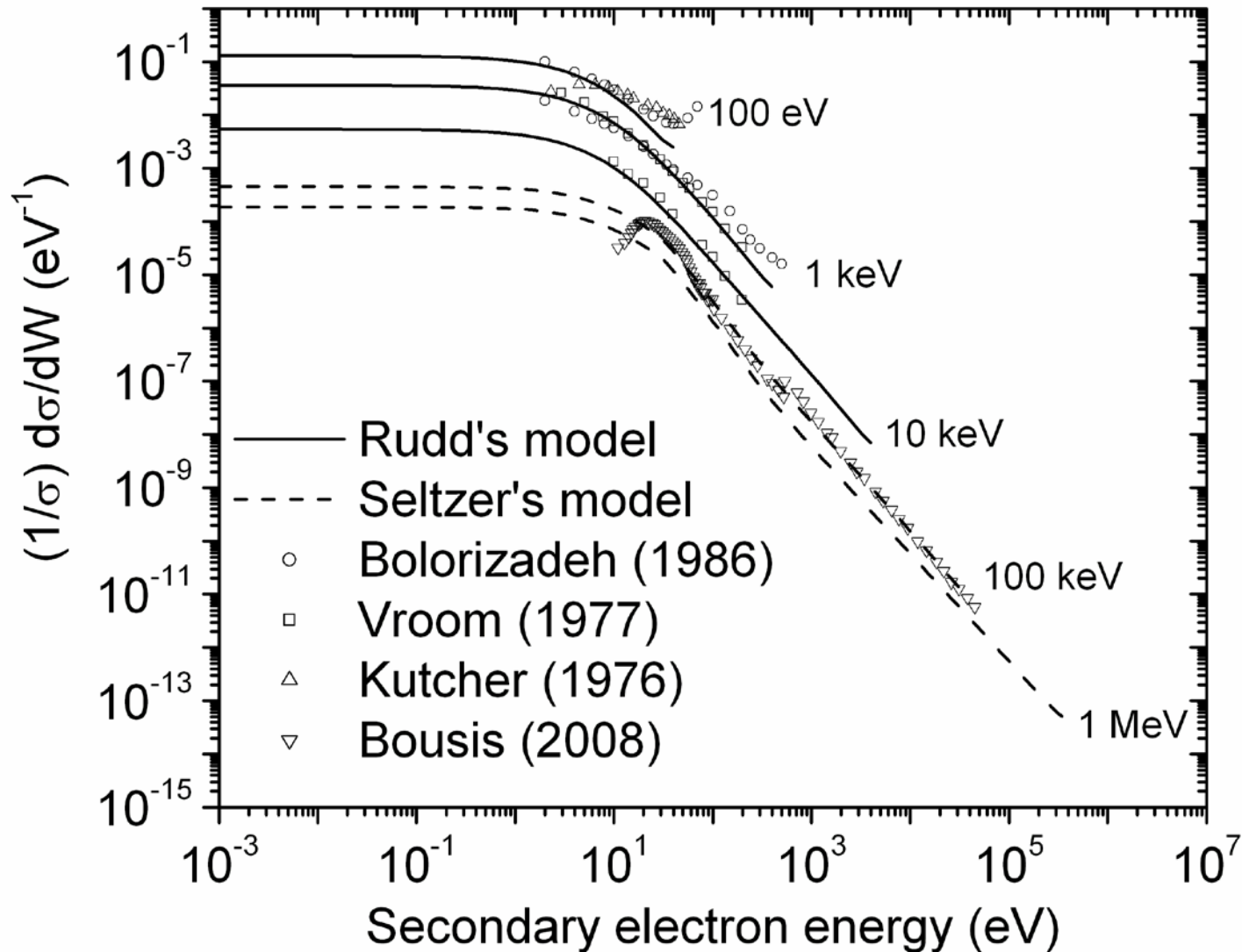
# Electron cross sections for RITRACKS



# Electron cross sections for RITRACKS



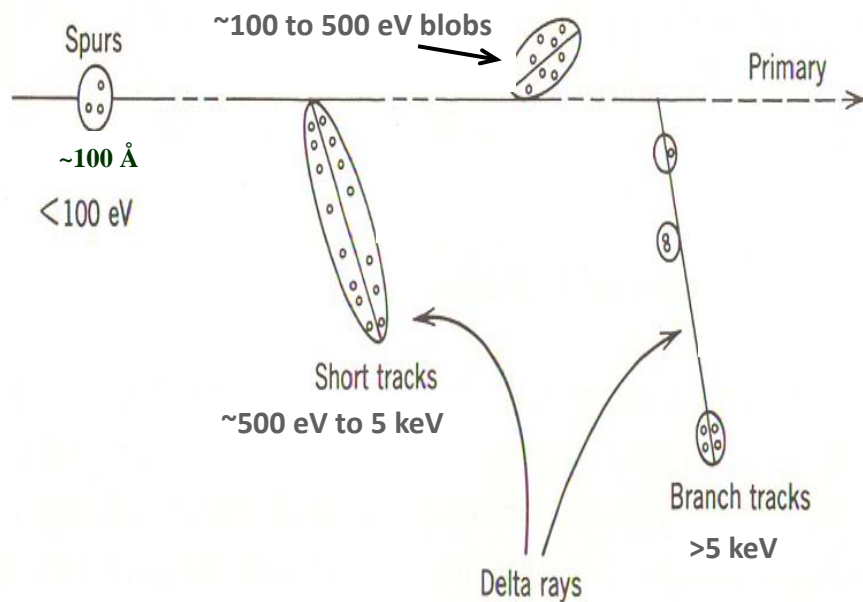
# Electron cross sections for RITRACKS



# Physical and physicochemical stages

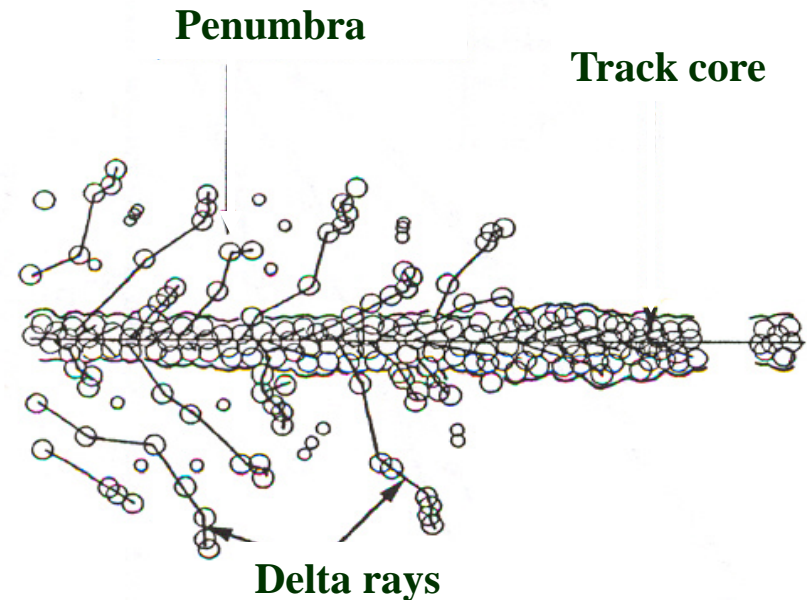
- The nonhomogeneous deposition of energy is called “radiation track structure”

## Primary energy loss events in low-LET tracks



A. Mozumder and J.L. Magee (1966) *Radiat. Res.* **28**, 203

## Primary energy loss events in high-LET tracks



C. Ferradini (1979) *J. Chim. Phys.* **76**, 636



# RITRACKS main screen

**RITRACKS 1.0** [min] [max] [close]

File Data View Options Help

**Incident radiation**

Electron  
 Ion 12C6+

Energy:  MeV/amu  
LET (appr): 78.27 keV/um

**Irradiation volume**

Disk  Clip tracks  
 Square

No particles:   
Radius:  um  
Length:  um

Area: - cm<sup>2</sup>  
Fluence: - cm<sup>-2</sup>  
Dose (appr): - cGy

**Messages**

Welcome to RITRACKS

**Simulation info**

Histories:

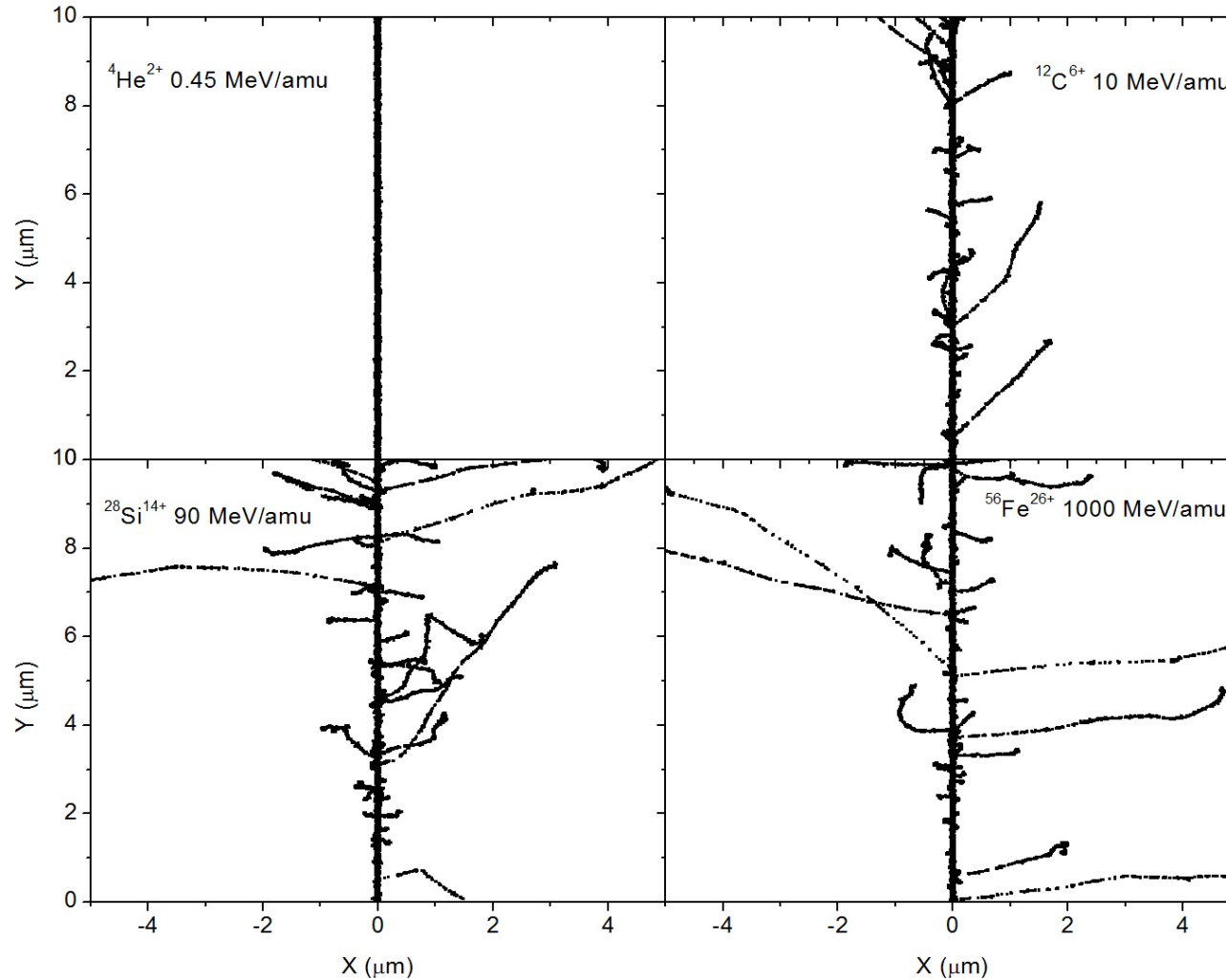
**Calculations**

Save track structure  
 Save all events  
 Save 3D dose map

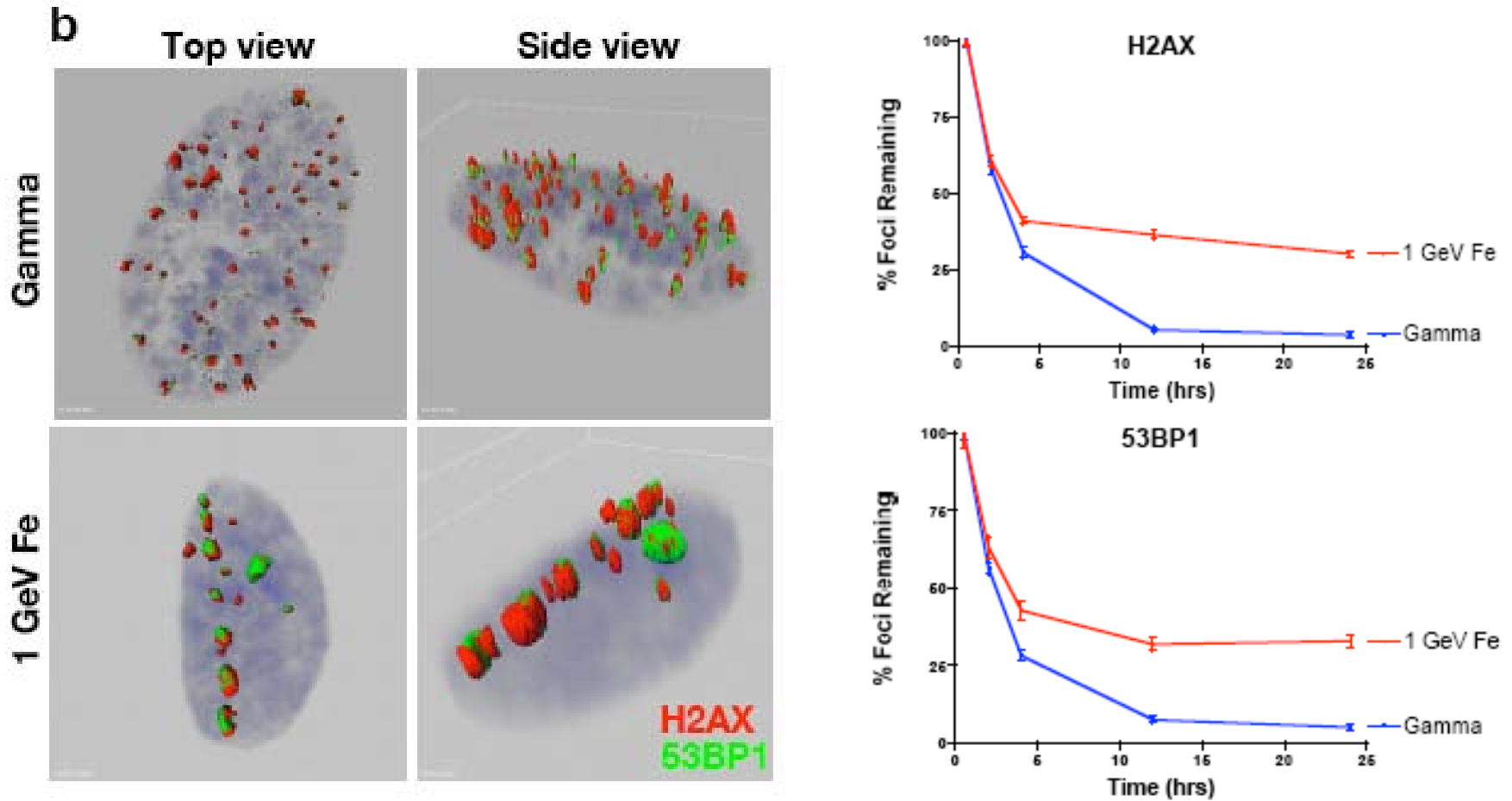
Simulation progress:

# Heavy ions track structure simulations

LET~150 keV/ $\mu\text{m}$

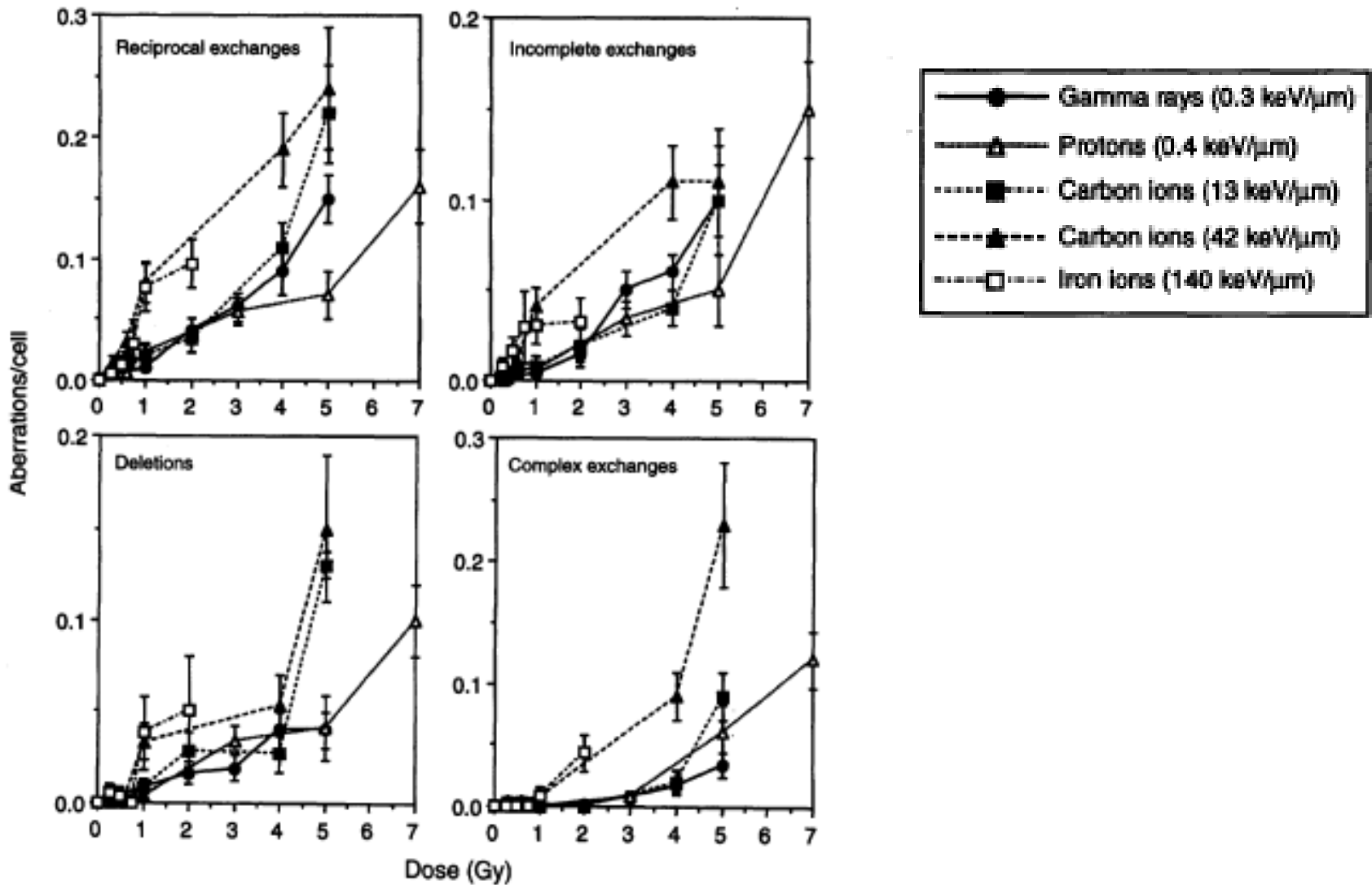


# DNA damage



Mukherjee, B. et al. (2008), *DNA repair* **7**, 1717-1730

# DNA damage



Wu, H. et al. (1997) *Radiat. Res.* **148**, S102-S107

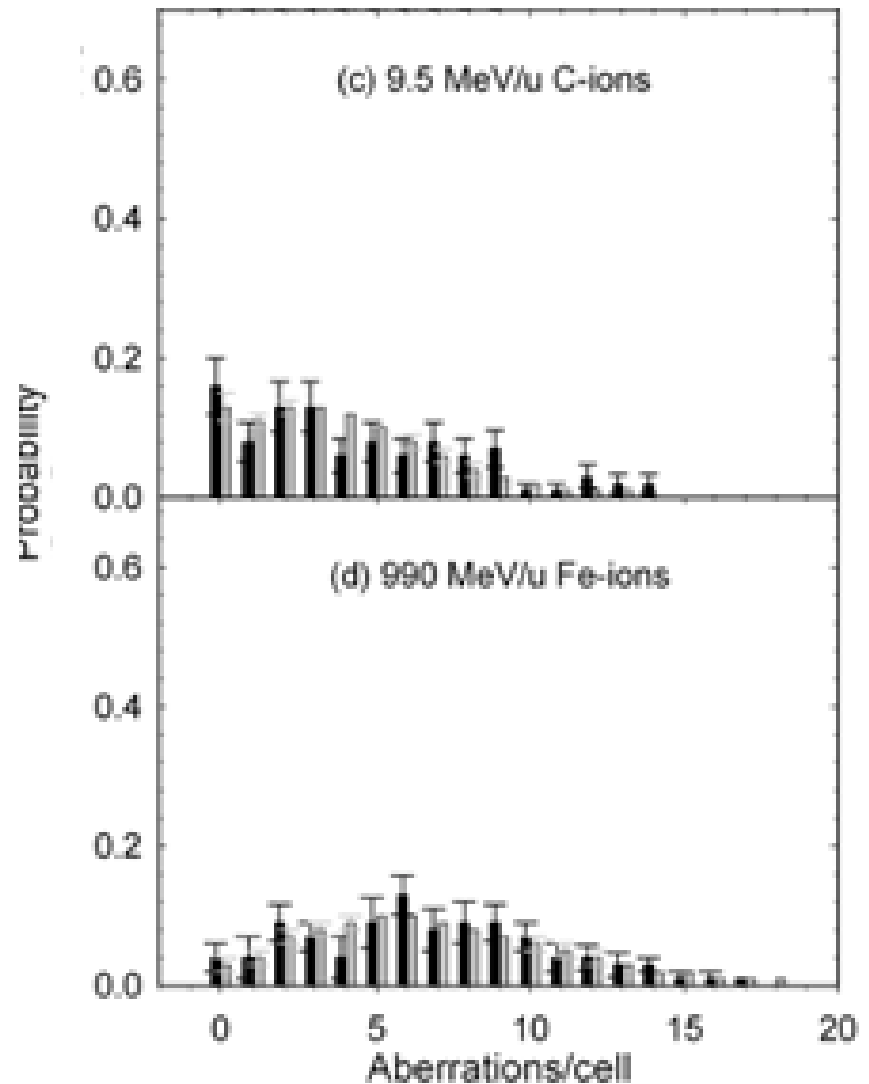
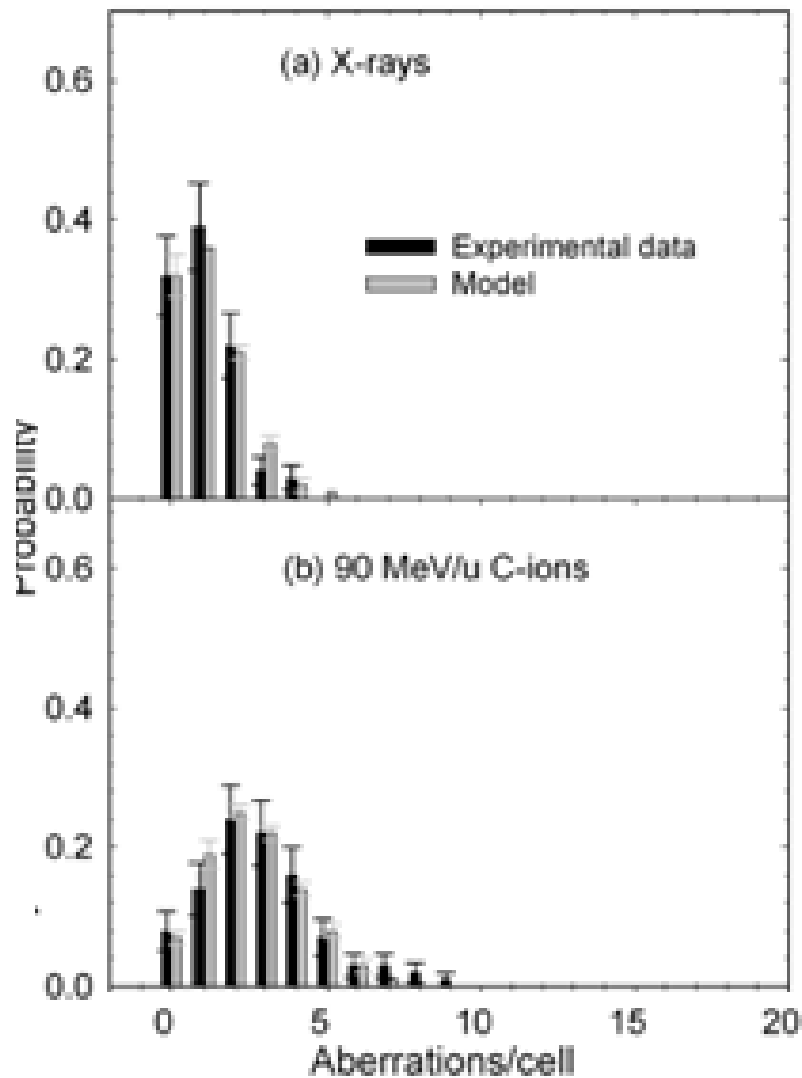
# DNA damage models

- Chromosomes simulated by random walk models
- The whole chromosome is located randomly with respect to the track center
- The radial dose is used to obtain the local dose
- The probability of having a double-strand break (DSB) is given by:

$$\psi = 1 - e^{-QD(t)}$$

D(t): Radial dose at the distance t (Gy)  
Q: Track efficiency parameter (Gy<sup>-1</sup>)

# DNA damage models

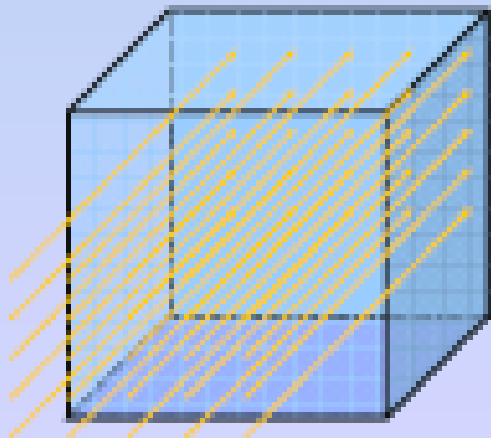


# Definition of dose

- Dose: energy absorbed/unit mass

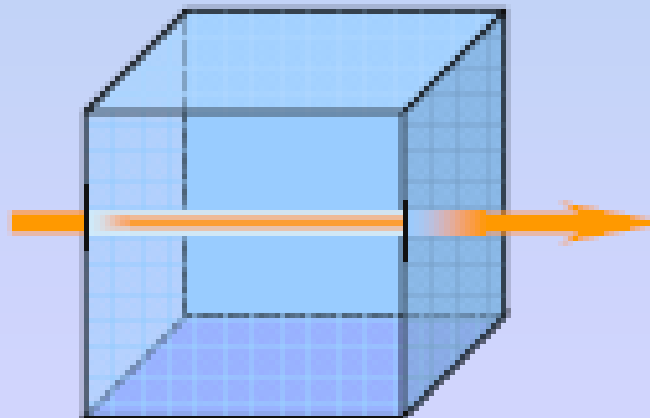
◆ Dose is defined as energy absorbed per unit mass  
(irrespective of the spatial distribution of the absorbed energy)

1 Dose Unit



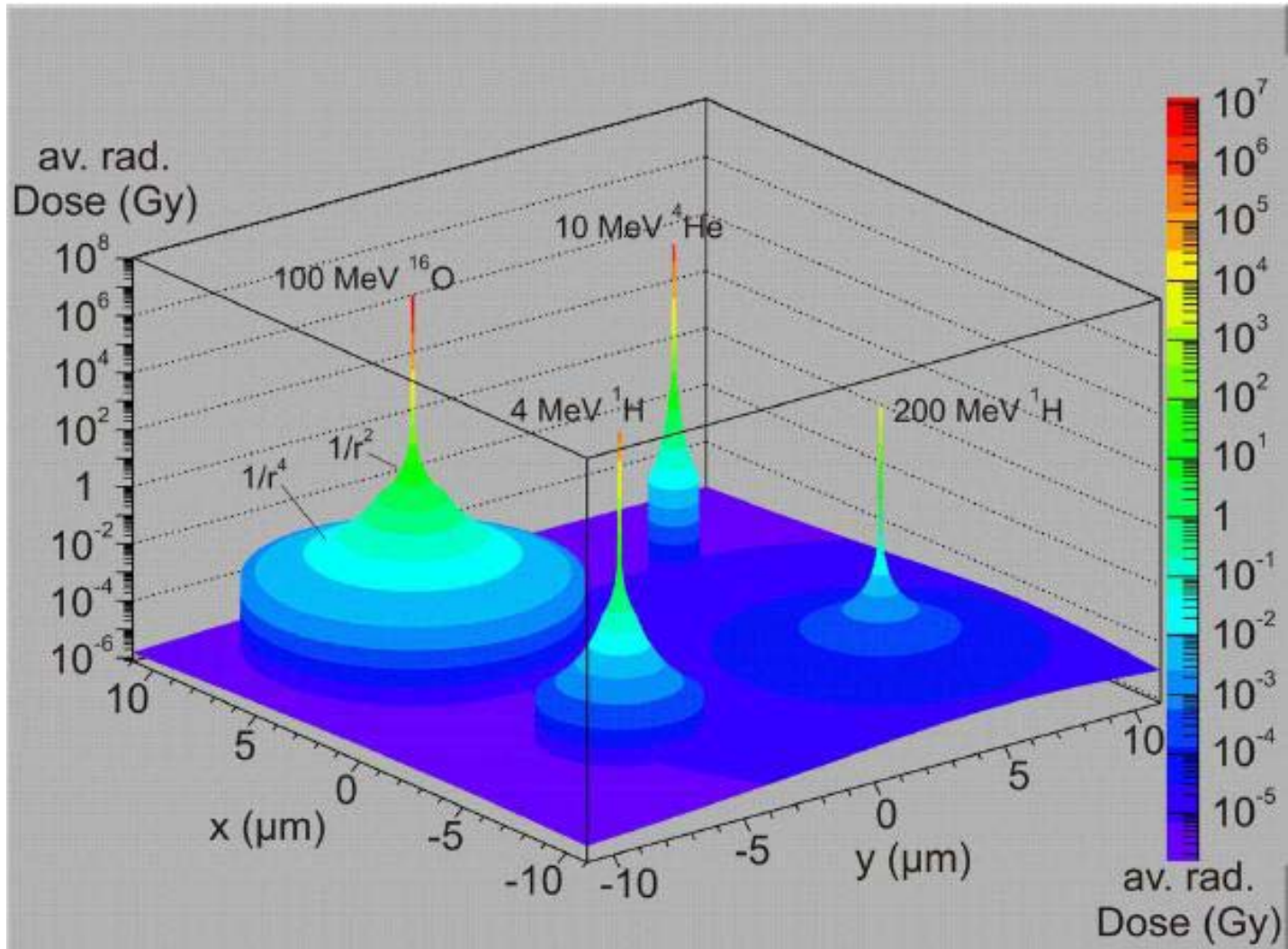
Low LET radiation deposits energy in a uniform pattern

1 Dose Unit



High LET radiation deposits energy in a non-uniform pattern

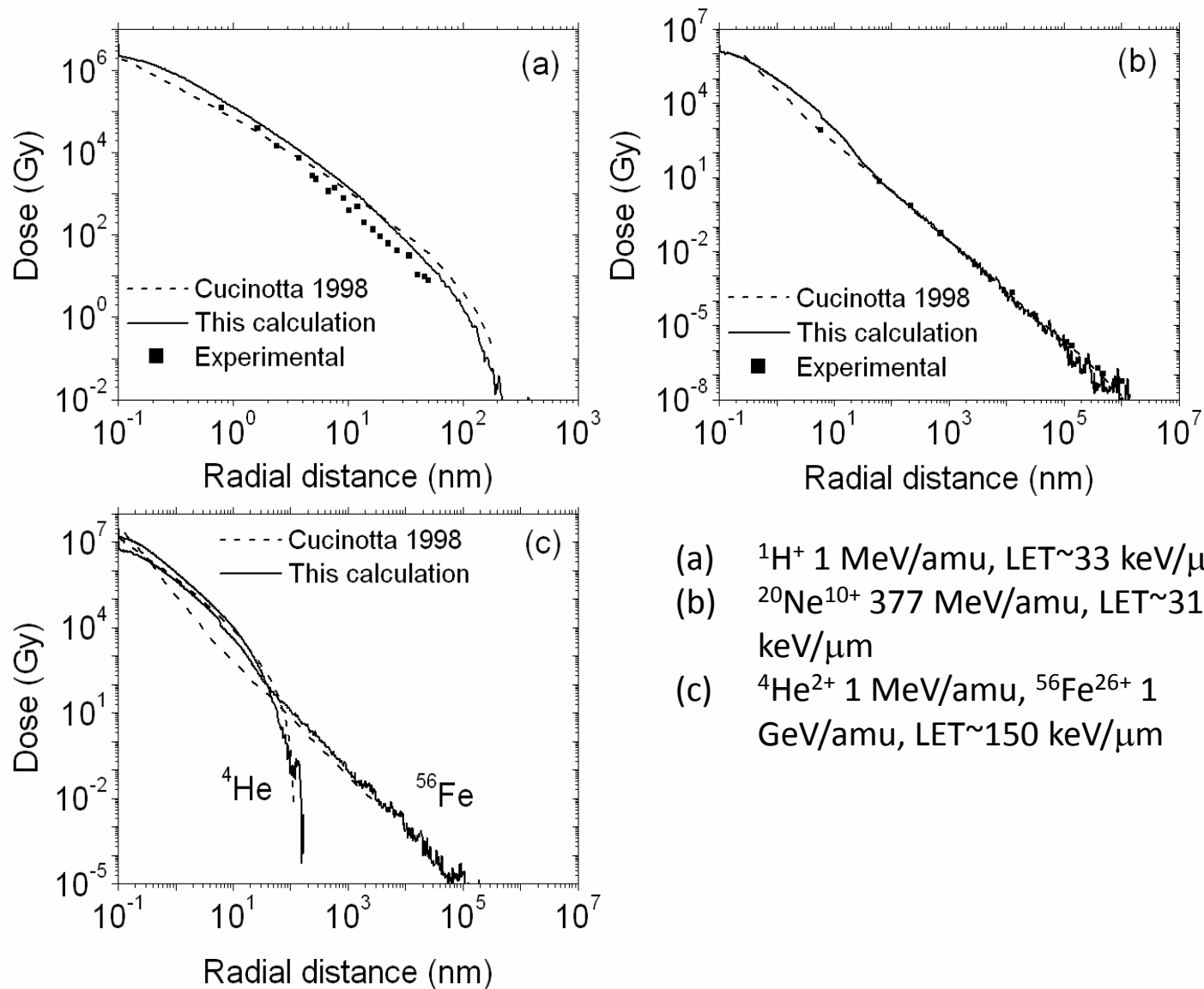
# Dosimetry: 3D



Hauptner, A. et al. *MfM* **52**, 59-85(2006)

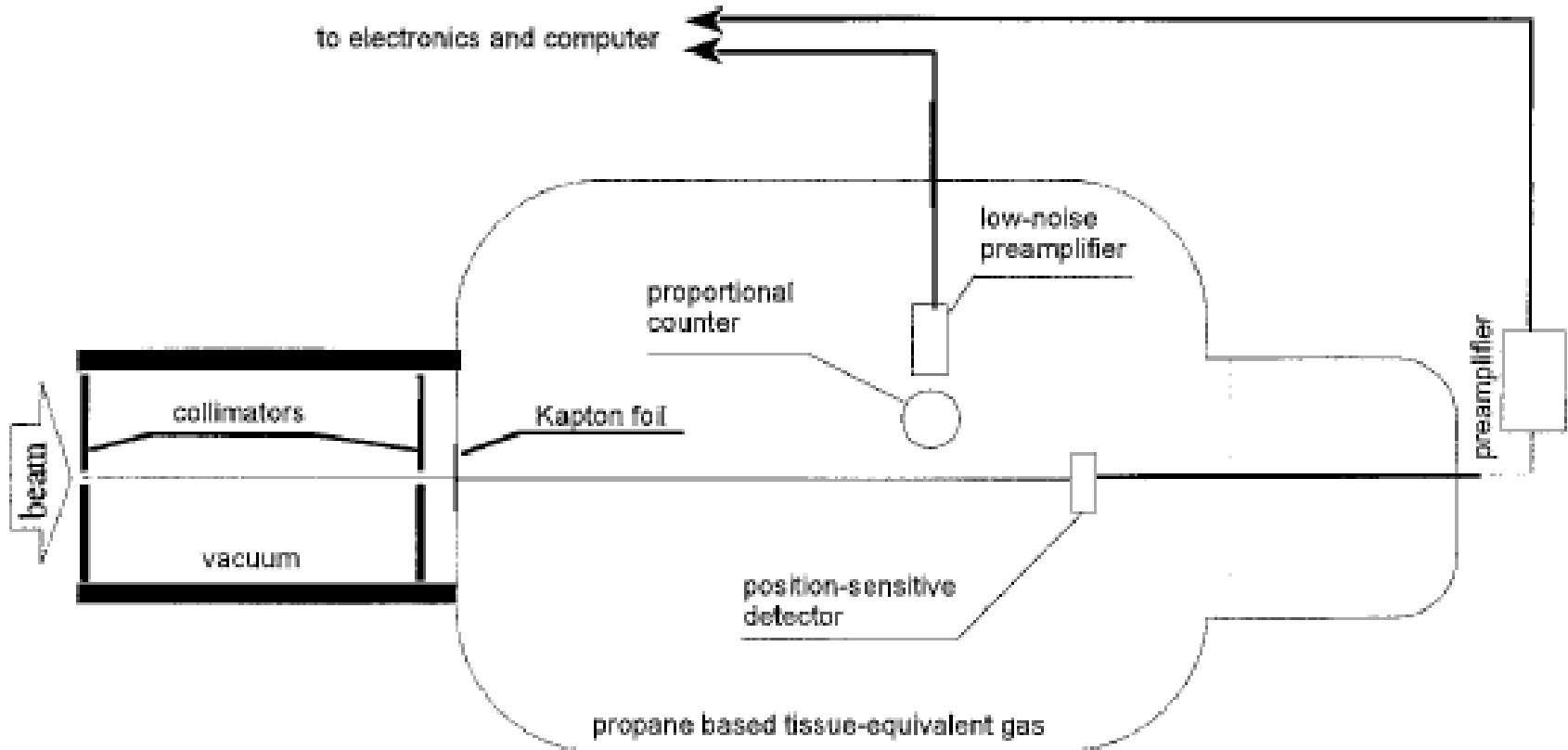


# Radial Dosimetry

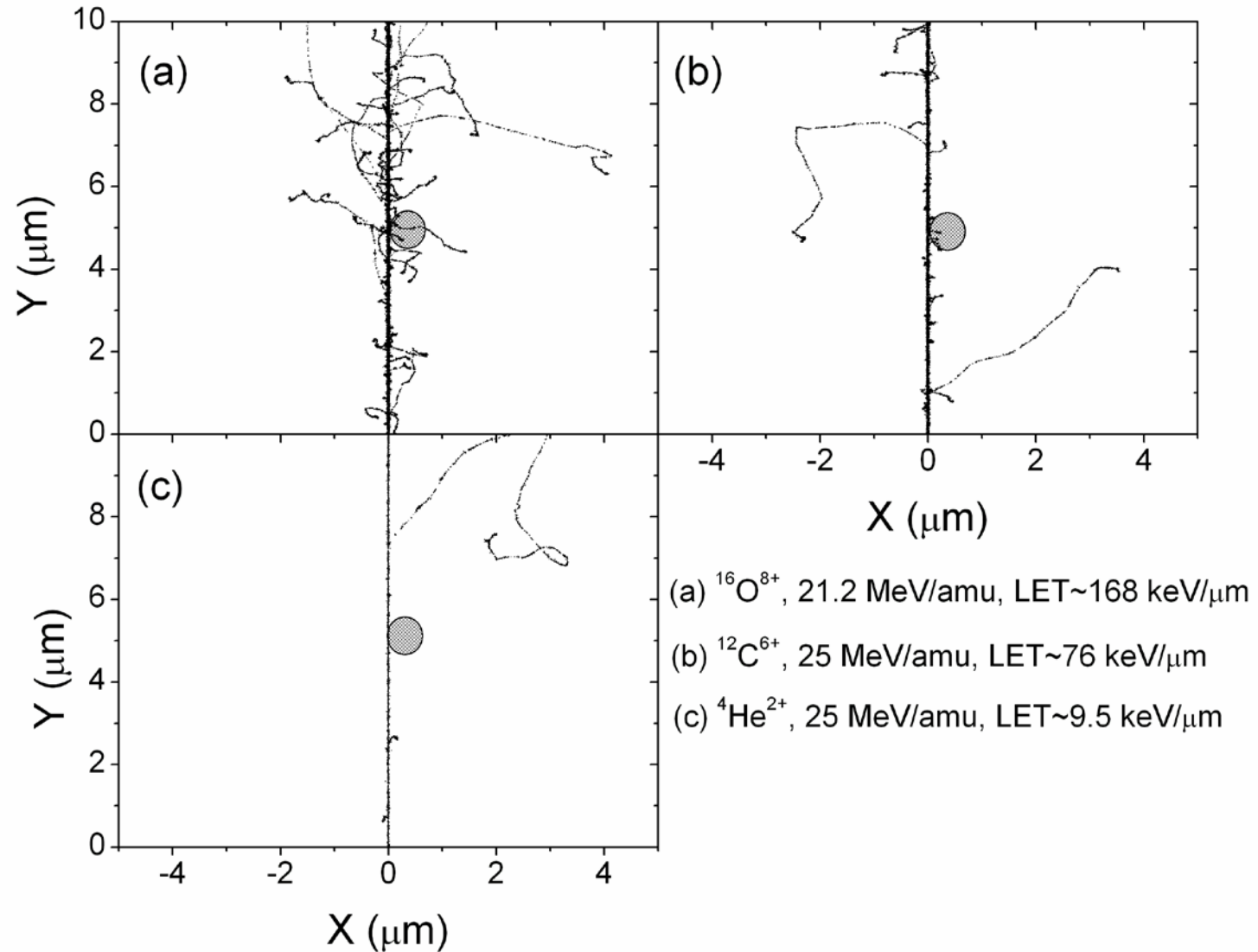


# Dosimetry

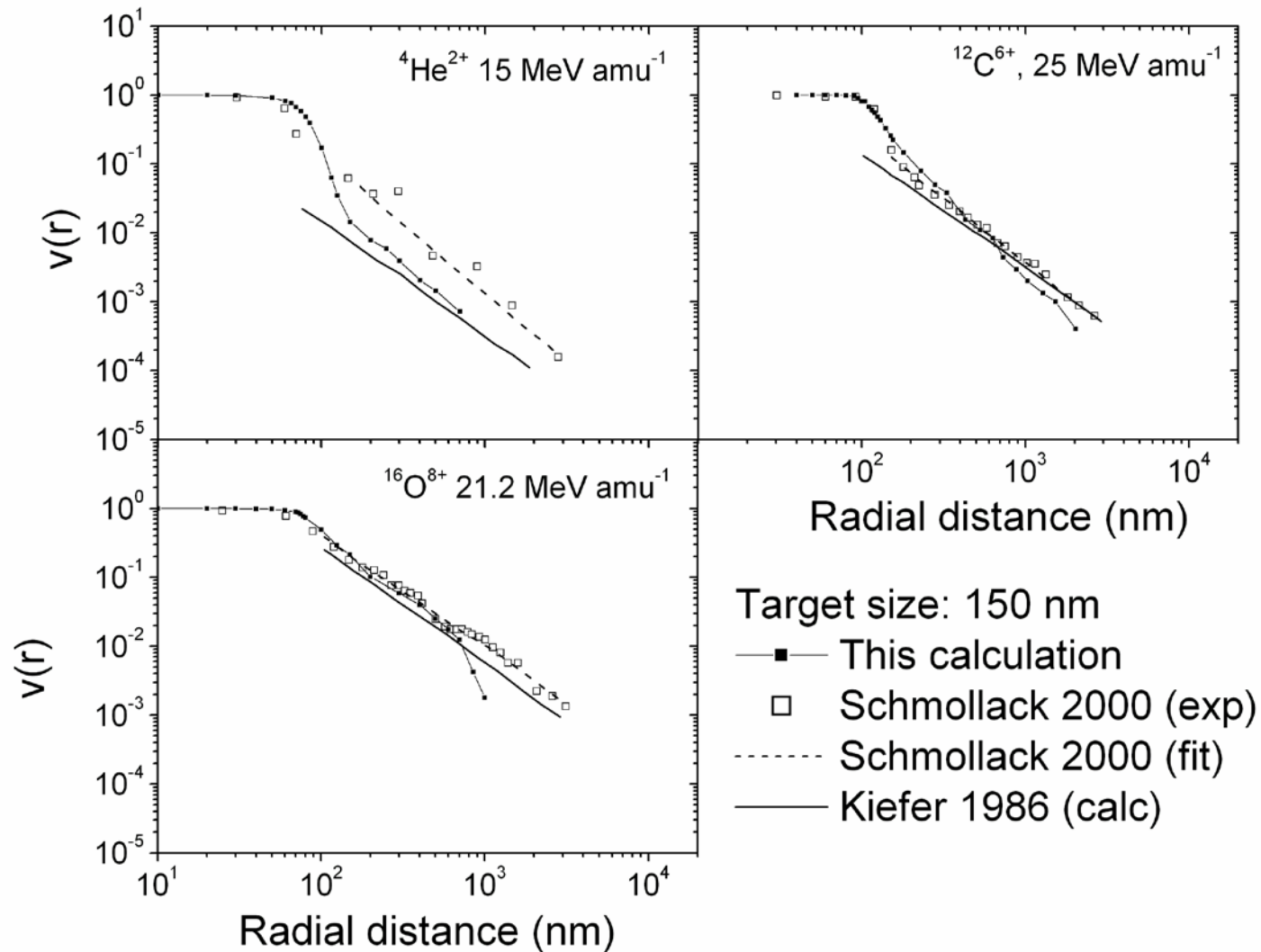
- Experimental setup



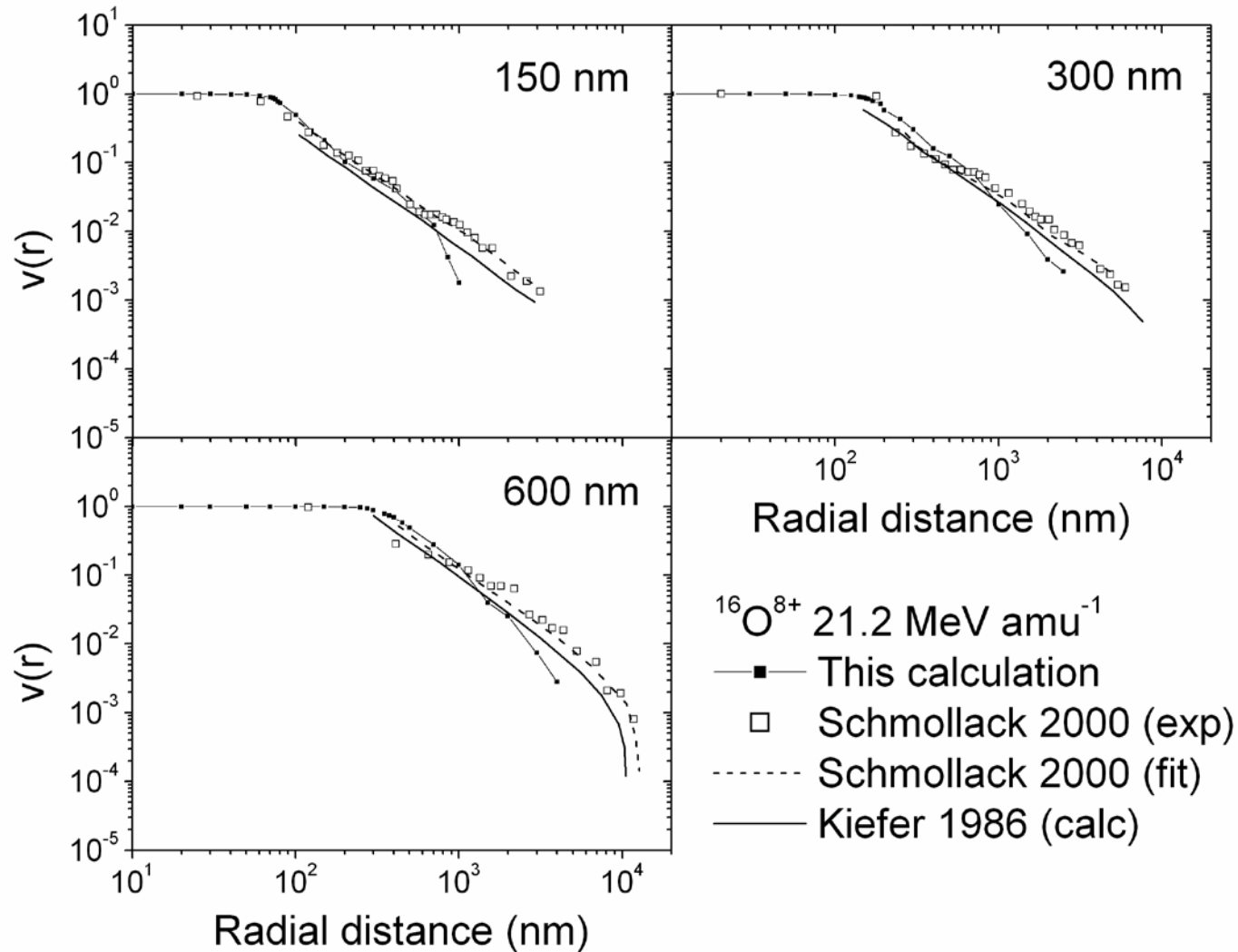
# Simulation



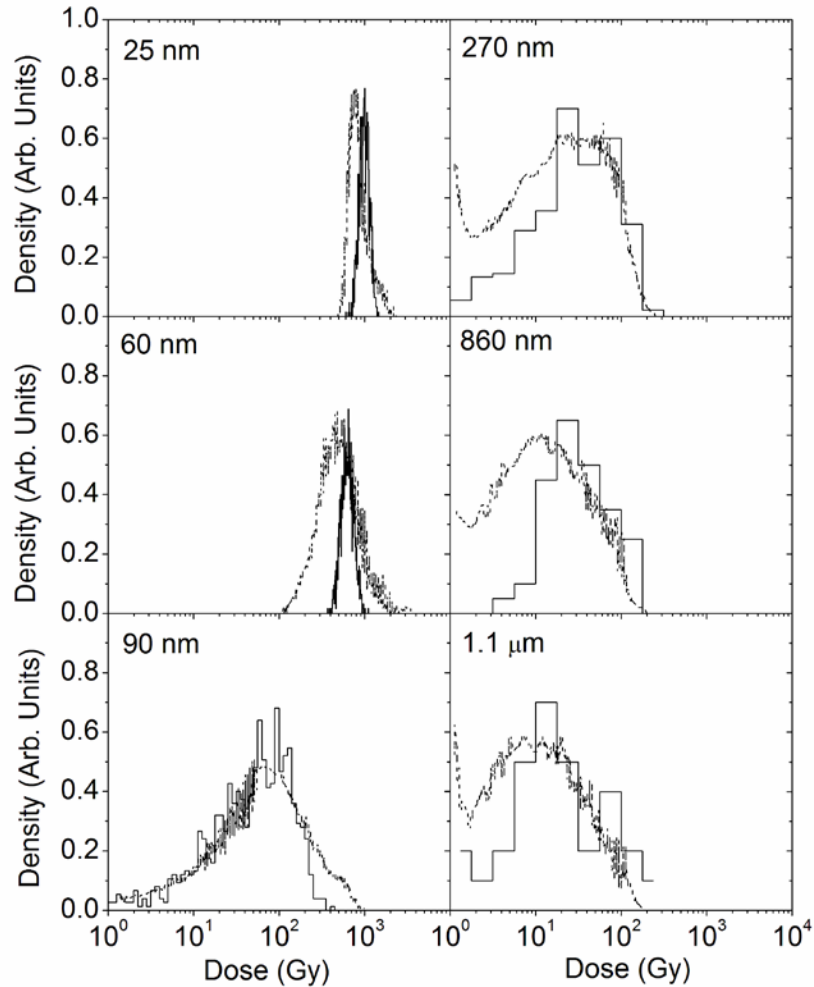
# Frequency of site hits



# Frequency of site hits

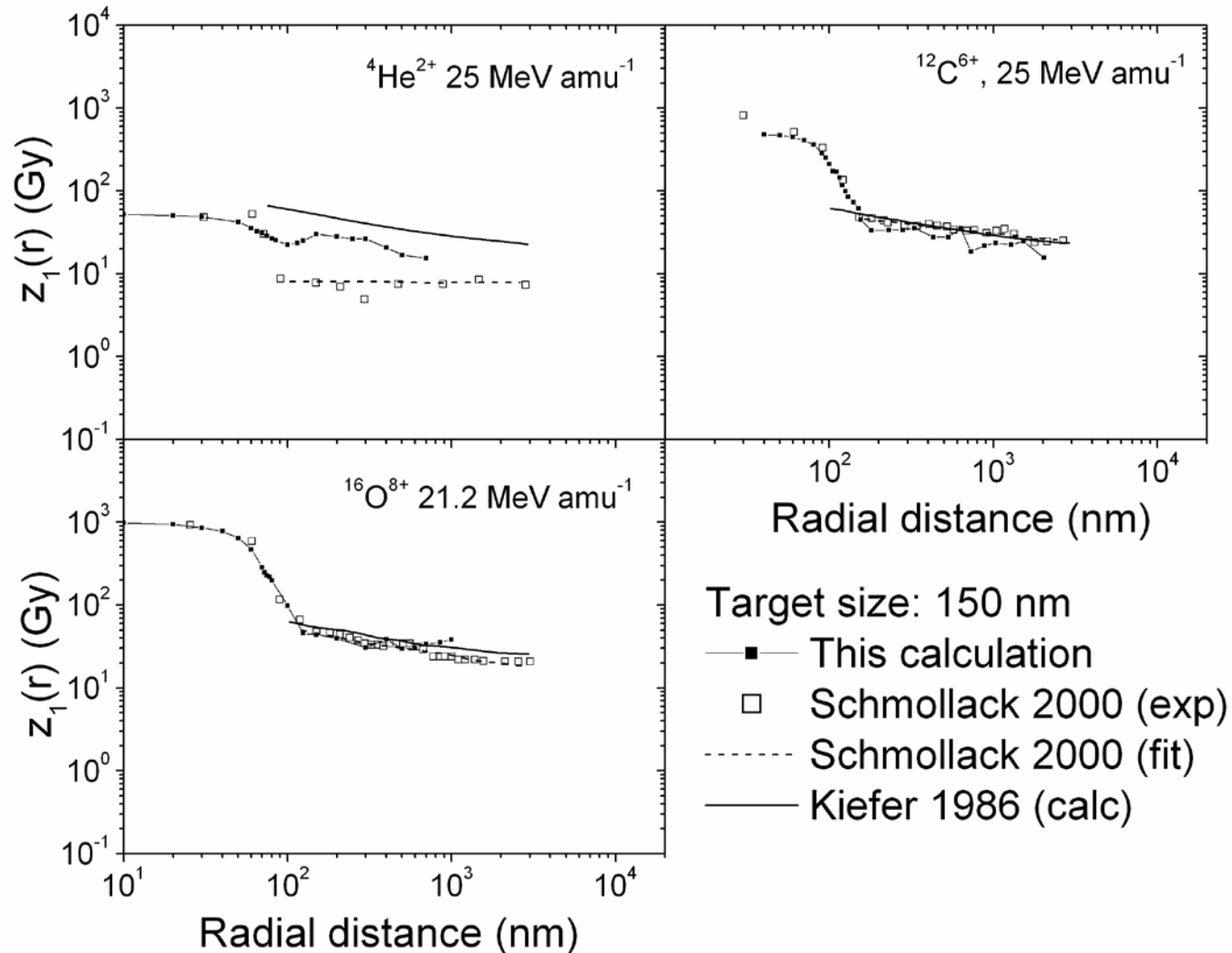


# Dose distribution in target

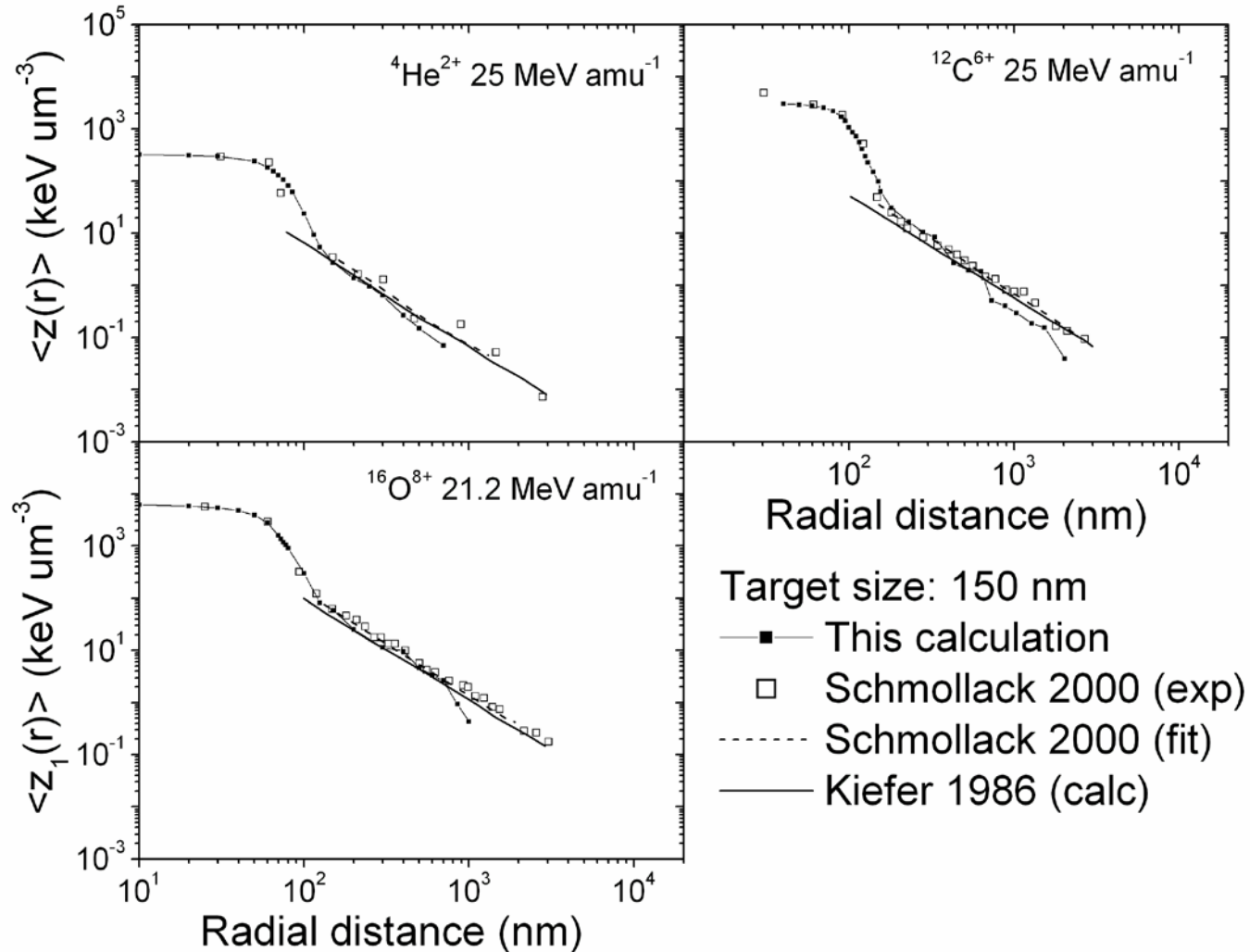


$^{16}\text{O}^{8+}$ , 21.2 MeV amu $^{-1}$

# Specific energy per event



# Specific energy per ion

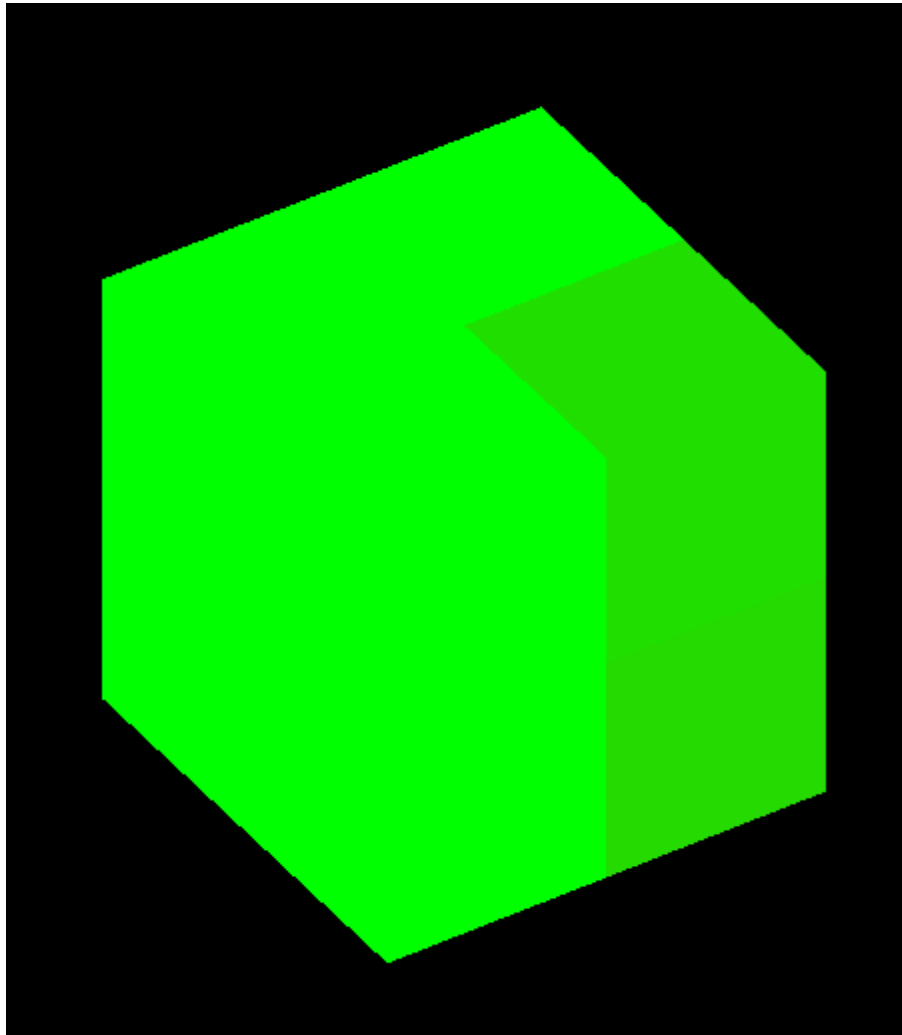




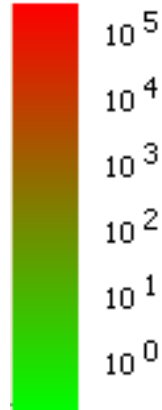
# Calculation of dose in voxels

- Irradiated volume:  $5\ \mu\text{m} \times 5\ \mu\text{m} \times 5\ \mu\text{m}$
- Dose:  $\sim 1\ \text{Gy}$
- Radiations:
  - 450  $^1\text{H}^+$  ions, 300 MeV, LET:  $\sim 0.3\ \text{keV}/\mu\text{m}$
  - 1  $^{56}\text{Fe}^{26+}$  ions, 1 GeV/amu, LET:  $\sim 150\ \text{keV}/\mu\text{m}$
- Calculation of the track structure(s) with RITRACKS
- All energy deposition events are recorded
- Dose recalculated in voxels

# Calculation of dose in voxels



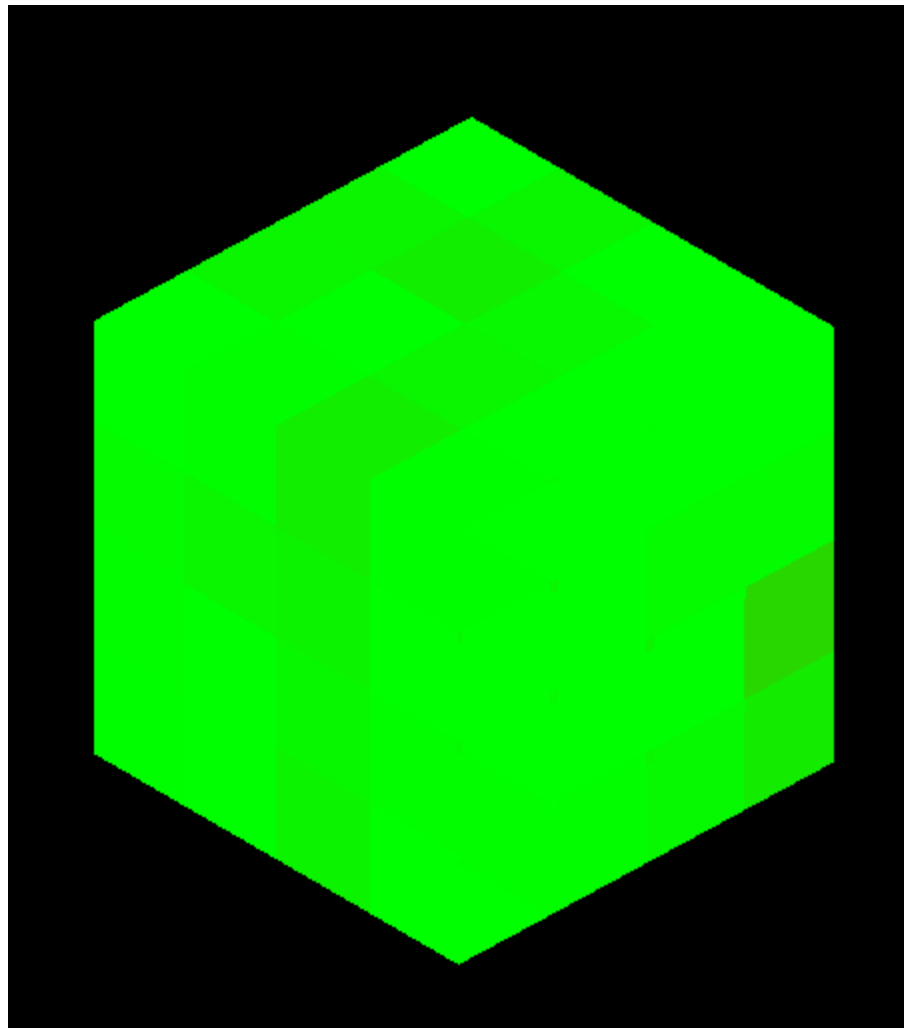
Dose (Gy)



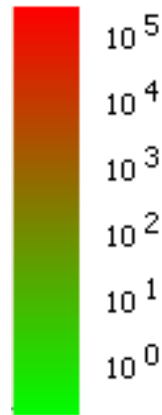
- Calculations with RITRACKS
- 1  $^{56}\text{Fe}^{26+}$  ions, 1 GeV/amu
- LET:  $\sim 150$  keV/ $\mu\text{m}$
- Irradiated volume:  $5 \mu\text{m} \times 5 \mu\text{m} \times 5 \mu\text{m}$
- Voxels: 20 nm, 40 nm, 80 nm, 160, 320 nm, 640 nm, 1280 nm, 2560 nm

Voxels size: 2560 nm

# Calculation of dose in voxels



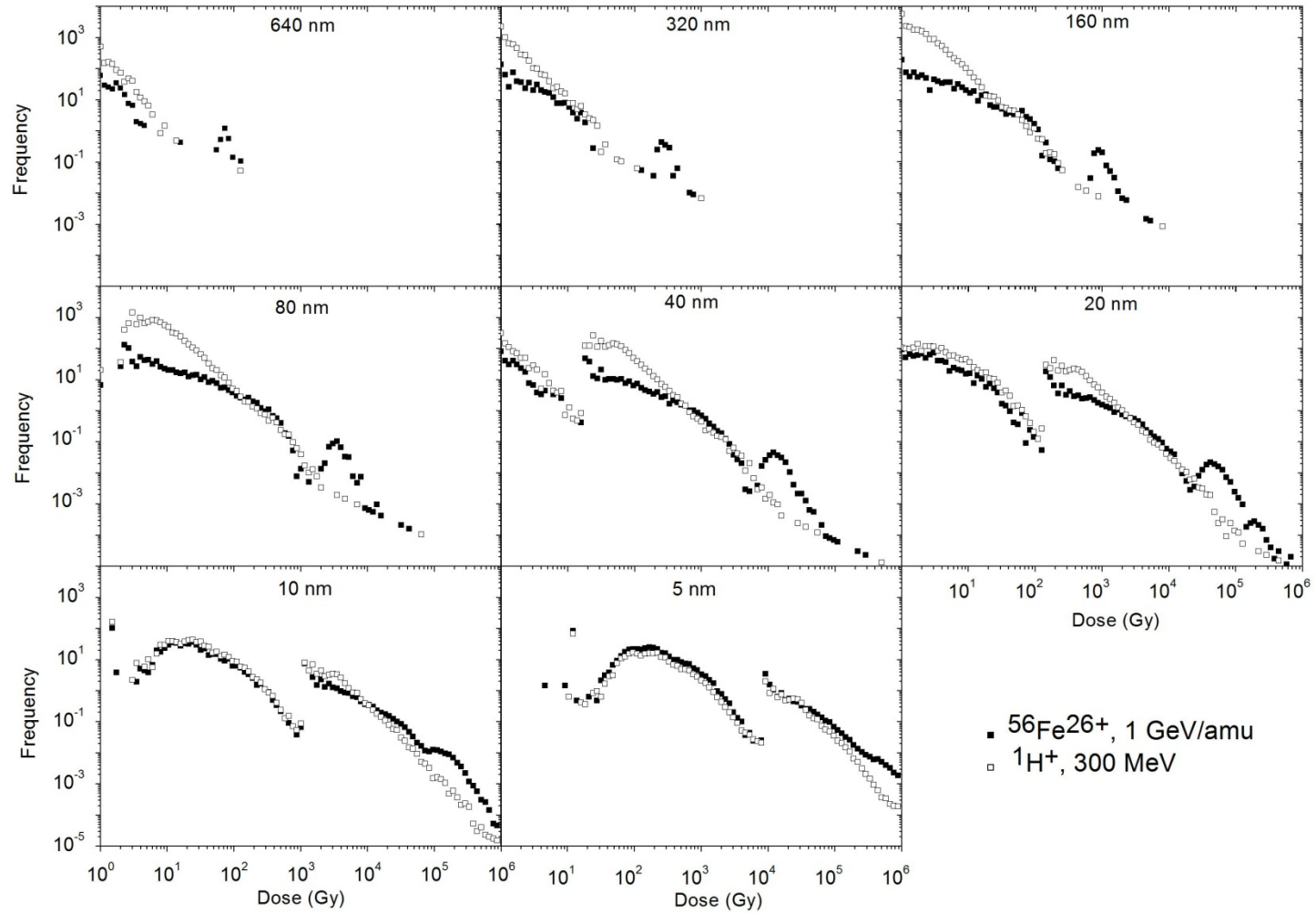
Dose (Gy)



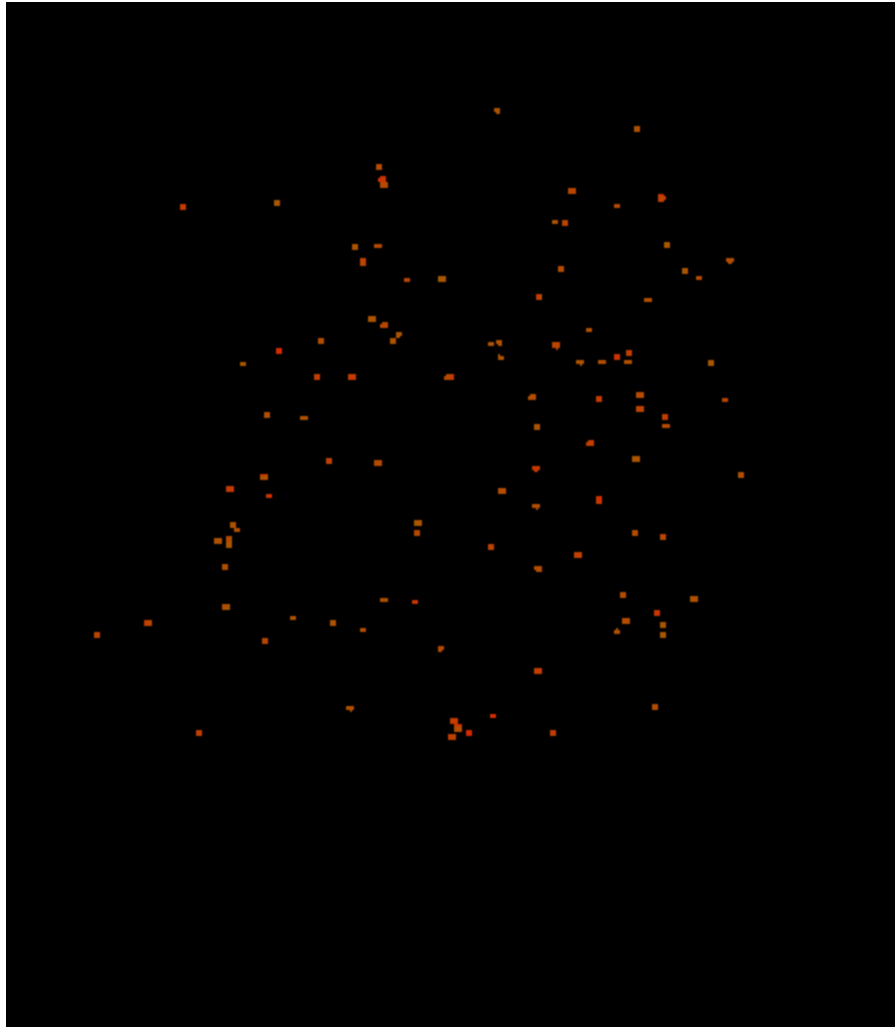
- Calculations with RITRACKS
- 450 <sup>1</sup>H<sup>+</sup> ions, 300 MeV
- LET: ~0.3 keV/μm
- Irradiated volume: 5 μm x 5 μm x 5 μm
- Voxels: 20 nm, 40 nm, 80 nm, 160 nm, 320 nm, 640 nm, 1280 nm

Voxels size: 1280 nm

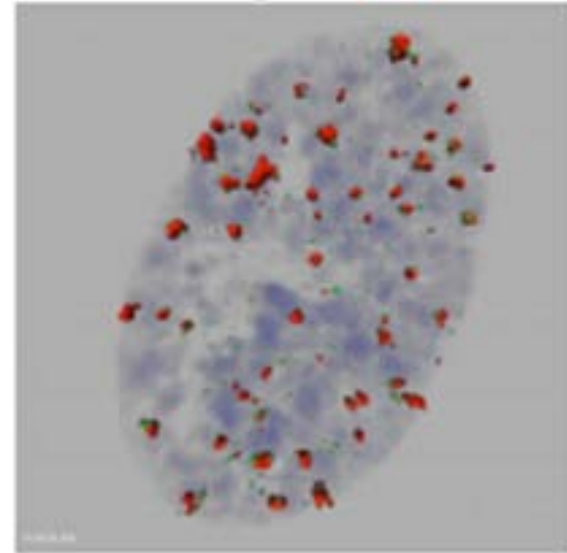
# Dose distribution in voxels



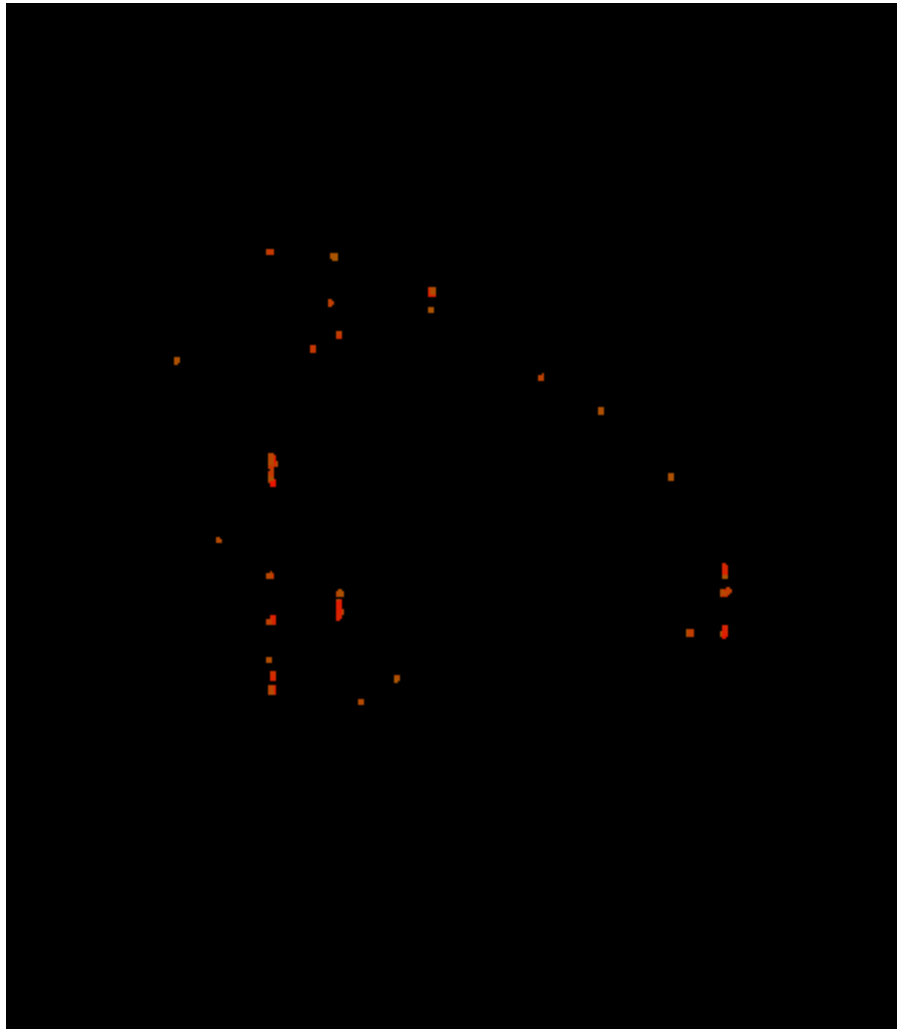
# DNA damage



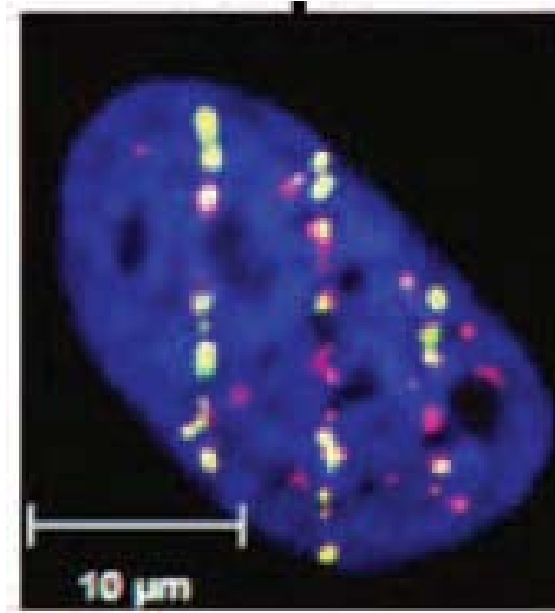
1800 x  $^1\text{H}^+$ , 300 MeV (1 Gy)  
Dose in voxels (20 nm)  
Chromosomes (RW model)  
Intersection voxels  
H2AX foci experiments  
Threshold (2000 Gy)



# DNA damage

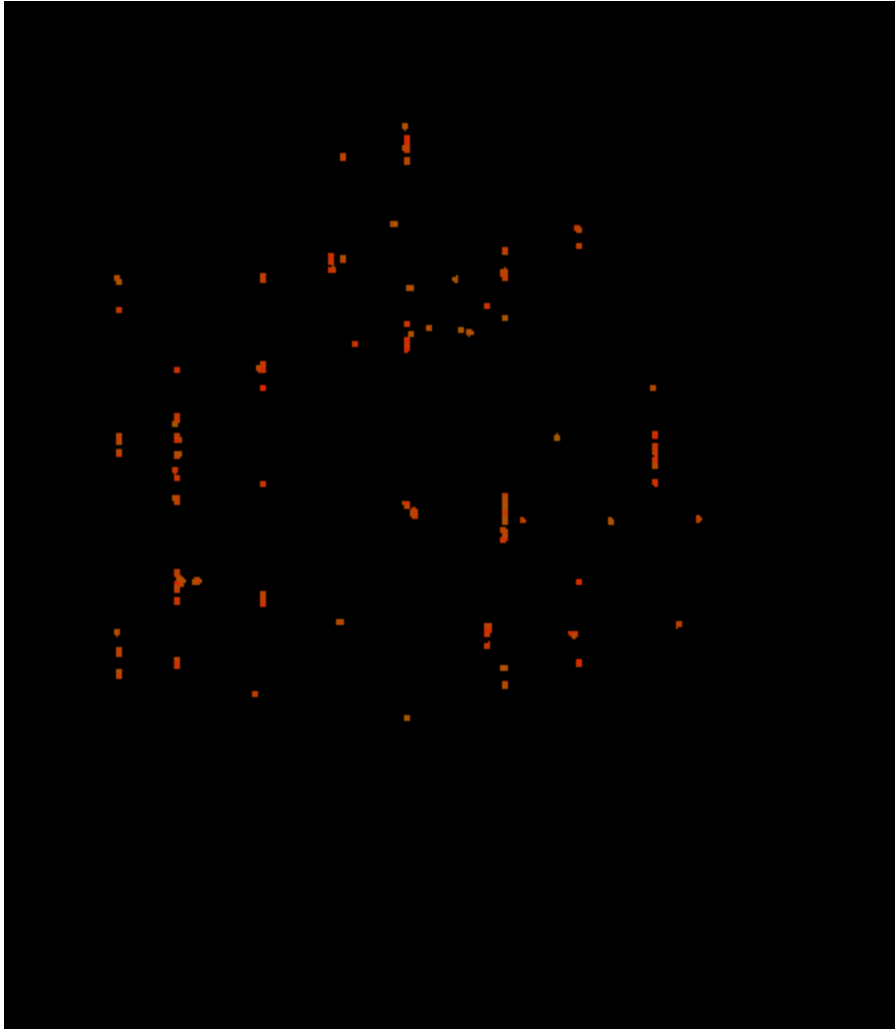


$4 \times {}^{56}\text{Fe}^{26+}$ , 1 GeV/u (1 Gy)  
Dose in voxels (20 nm)  
Chromosomes (RW model)  
Intersection voxels  
H2AX foci experiments  
Threshold (2000 Gy)

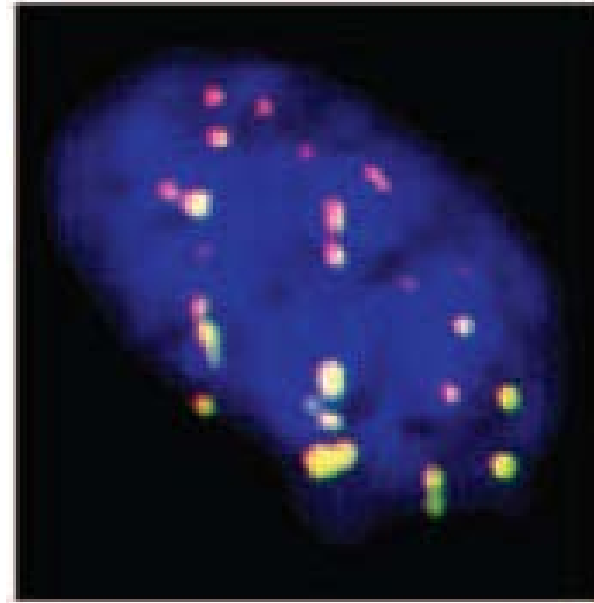


Asaithamby, A. et al. (2008) *Radiat. Res.* **169**, 437-446

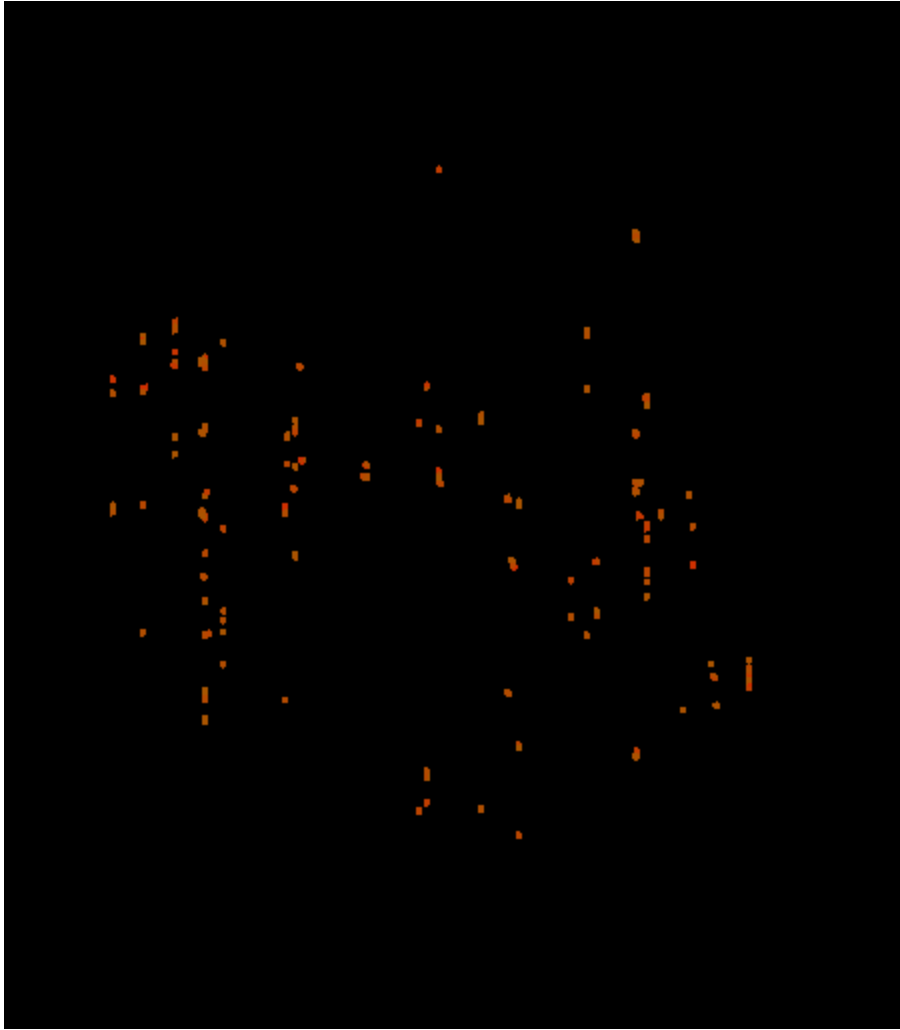
# DNA damage



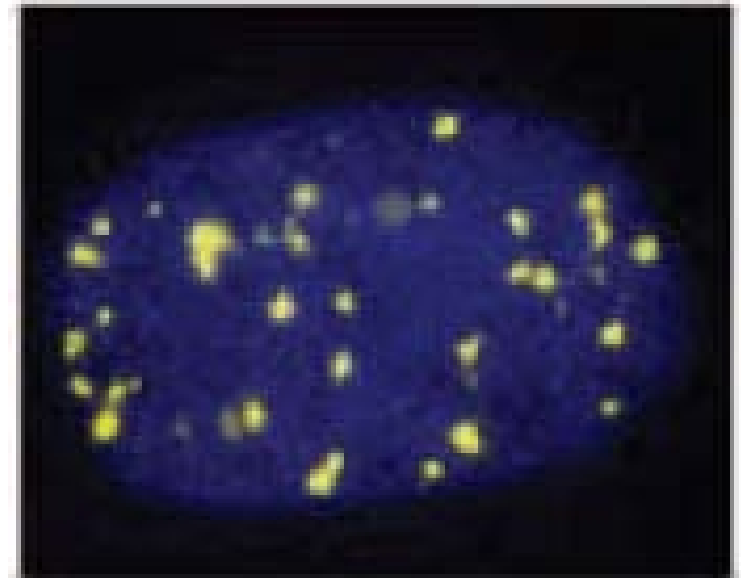
15 x  $^{28}\text{Si}^{14+}$ , 1 GeV/u (1 Gy)  
Dose in voxels (20 nm)  
Chromosomes (RW model)  
Intersection voxels  
H2AX foci experiments  
Threshold (2000 Gy)



# DNA damage



45 x  $^{16}\text{O}^{8+}$ , 1 GeV/u (1 Gy)  
Dose in voxels (20 nm)  
Chromosomes (RW model)  
Intersection voxels  
H2AX foci experiments  
Threshold (2000 Gy)





# Conclusion and perspectives

- Monte-Carlo track structure simulations can accurately simulate experimental data
  - Frequency of target hits
  - Dose per event
  - Dose per ion
  - Radial dose
- The dose is uniform in micrometers sized voxels; at the nanometer scale, the difference in energy deposition between high and low-LET radiations appears.
- The calculated 3D distribution of dose voxels, combined with chromosomes simulated by random walk is very similar to the distribution of DSB observed with  $\gamma$ -H2AX experiments. This is further evidenced by applying a visualization threshold on dose.

# Conclusion and perspectives

- Since high-dose voxels are found mainly in high-LET radiation simulations and DSBs created by high-LET ions are more difficult to repair, we may hypothesize that complex DSB may be created in areas corresponding to high-dose voxels.
- Future work:
  - Parallelize RITRACKS (multi CPU or GPU)
  - Calculations of chromosome aberrations using the 3D dose distribution and chromosomes simulations
  - Include chemistry

# Acknowledgments

- Prof. Jean-Paul Jay-Gerin and team (University of Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada)
- Dr. Luc Devroye (McGill University)
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- NASA

