



SIMULATION OF RADIO-INDUCED DNA DAMAGES AND THEIR REPAIR BY MEANS OF GEANT4-DNA MONTE CARLO TRACK STRUCTURE CODE

<u>Y. Perrot</u>, A. Le Tuan, Y. Thibaut, H. Tran, D. Sakata, S. Incerti and C. Villagrasa yann.perrot@irsn.fr







MODELLING IN RADIOBIOLOGY: A MULTI-SCALE APPROACH





GEANT4 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AT THE PHYSICS-MEDICINE-BIOLOGY FRONTIER - NAPOLI 24-26 OCT. 2022

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NANODOSIMETRIC SIMULATION CHAIN



Simulation chain at the origin of dnadamage1 user example and based on Geant4-DNA (Geant4 11.0)

Includes physical, physico-chemical and chemical stages of the action of ionizing radiations

Validated for DSB induction for a variety of particles and LETs:

- Proton, alphas: Meylan et al., Sci. Rep. 7 (2017)
- Kilovoltage and megavoltage X-Ray beams: Tang et al., IJMS 20 (2019)

New features include:

- New nuclei geometries from the isochore theory: Thibaut et al., IJMS 23 (2022)
- Possibility to use Independent Reaction Time of the chermical step: IRT-sync implementation of Tran et al., Med. Phys. 48 (2021)
- Biological repair models



TARGET GEOMETRY

DNA IS THE MAIN TARGET

Creation of complete genome geometries (~6 Gbp) with DNAFabric software*

*Meylan S., Vimont U., Incerti S., Clairand I., Villagrasa C., Comput Phys Commun. 204:159 (2016)

- Importance of chromatin fiber compactionDamage induction
- Repair processes

Hetero and euchromatin is not randomly distributed

- Current developments consider a realistic distribution
- isochore family theory: Genome contains 5 families compaction,^{52,5%} each family is linked to a GC rate



GC profile – chromosome 41



Chemistry

First developments: Step by Step method

- Particle-continuum based, each individual molecule is simulated
- Simulation of diffusion controlled reactions based on full step-by-step Brownian dynamics
 Reaction Reaction rate (10⁹ M⁻¹s⁻¹)

| Reaction | reaction rate $(10^{10}M^{-1} \cdot s^{-1})$ |
|---|--|
| $H^{\bullet} + e_{aa}^{-} + H_2O \rightarrow OH^{-} + H_2$ | 2.65 |
| $H^{\bullet} + OH^{\bullet} \rightarrow H_2O$ | 1.44 |
| $H^{\bullet} + H^{\bullet} \rightarrow H_2$ | 1.20 |
| $H_2 + OH^{\bullet} \rightarrow H^{\bullet} + H_2O$ | $4.17 \cdot 10^{-3}$ |
| $H_2O_2 + e_{aa}^- \rightarrow OH^- + OH^{\bullet}$ | 1.41 |
| $H_3O^+ + e_{aa}^- \rightarrow H^{\bullet} + H_2O$ | 2.11 |
| $H_3O^+ + OH^- \rightarrow 2H_2O$ | 14.3 |
| $OH^{\bullet} + e_{aa}^{-} \rightarrow OH^{\bullet}$ | 2.95 |
| $OH^{\bullet} + OH^{\bullet} \rightarrow H_2O_2$ | 0.44 |
| $\mathbf{e}_{aq}^{-} + \mathbf{e}_{aq}^{-} + 2H_2O \rightarrow 2OH^{-} + H_2$ | 0.50 |

| Reaction | Reaction rate (10 ⁹ M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹) | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| 2-deoxyribose + OH• | 1.8 | | |
| Adenine + OH^{\bullet} | 6.1 | | |
| Guanine + OH [•] | 9.2 | | |
| Thymine $+ OH^{\bullet}$ | 6.4 | | |
| Cytosine + OH^{\bullet} | 6.1 | | |
| 2 -deoxyribose + e_{aq} | 0.01 | | |
| Adenine + e_{aa} | 9.0 | | |
| Guanine + e_{aq} | 14.0 | | |
| Thymine $+ e_{aq}$ | 18.0 | | |
| $Cytosine + e_{aq}$ | 13.0 | | |
| 2-deoxyribose + H^{\bullet} | 0.029 | | |
| Adenine + H^{\bullet} | 0.10 | | |
| Guanine + H^{\bullet} | - | | |
| Thymine + H^{\bullet} | 0.57 | | |
| Cytosine + H^{\bullet} | 0.092 | | |
| $Histone + radical \rightarrow Histone$ | - | | |
| | | | |





Recent developments: Independent Reaction Times approach

- N-body \rightarrow 2-body
- Comparison of reaction times for all pairs of radicals independently of the system
- Hybrid approach: Tran et al., Med. Phys. 48 (2021)



REPAIR MODELS

| Model | ENDPOINT | Reference | Ινρυτ Δατα | VALIDATION EXPERIMENTAL DATA FROM LITERATURE |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Local Effect Model | Non rejoined DSB | Tommasino et al (2013) Rad. Res. 180, 524-538 | Simple and complex DSBs in 1 Mbp chromatin loops | - Stenerlow (2000): Fibroblast, α 40 keV/μm |
| Two Lesion Kinetic Model | Surviving fraction | Stewart (2001) Rad. Res. 156, 365-378 | Simple and complex DSBs | - Belli (2000): Fibroblast, p 7.7 keV/μm - Netti (2004): Fibroblast, α 132 keV/μm |
| Belov model | DSB repair | Belov et al. (2015) J. Theo. Biol. 366, 115-130 | Simple and complex DSBs | - Antonelli (2015): Fibroblast, p 28.5 keV/μm |





STRAND BREAKS YIELD



Protons and alphas: 2.7-132 keV/μm

Direct SB:

- 17.5 eV in Sugar-Phosphat
- Saturation with increasing LET

Indirect SB

- Tchem = 5 ns
- 42% hydroxyl-Sugar reactions
- Decrease of indirect SBs with increasing LET

Good agreement IRT-sync / SBS





DOUBLE STRAND BREAKS YIELD

Fibroblast cell nucleus

Protons and alphas: 2.7-132 keV/μm

Sparse experimental data

Both methods SBS and IRT are in agreement with experimental data

IRSN



SIMPLE AND COMPLEX DOUBLE STRAND BREAKS YIELD

Fibroblast cell nucleus

- Protons and alphas: 2.7-132 keV/μm
- Saturation of simple DSB yield with increasing LET
- Linear evolution of complex DSB yield with LET on this range
- sDSB and cDSB calculation method provided as a deliverable of BioRadIII project



SURVIVAL FRACTION (TLK MODEL)



Fibroblast cell nucleus

- Protons 7.7 kev/μm and alphas 132 keV/μm
- Geant4-DNA+TLK: good agreement with experimental data

BioRadIII project (ESA funding)



TIME EVOLUTION OF γ-H2AX (Belov's model)

IRSN



CONCLUSIONS

- A simulation chain based on Geant4-DNA MC tool was tested for fibroblast cells from the generation of the initial DNA damage to its repair
- DSB yields and biological endpoints that have been implemented are in agreement with experimental data
- BioRadIII project:
 - The simulation chain will be publicly released next year
 - DNAFabric geometries of cell nuclei (endothelial, lymphocyte, fibroblast) with random distribution of hetero and euchromatin will be released next year







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