

STOCHASTIC NATURE OF RADIATION INTERACTIONS: MICRODOSIMETRY

Preface	9
Glossary	10
List of Symbols	14
Abstract	15
Executive Summary	15
1. Introduction	20
1.1 Definition of Microdosimetry	20
1.2 History	21
1.3 This Report	21
2. Interactions of Radiation With Matter	23
2.1 Indirectly Ionizing Radiations	23
2.1.1 Photons	23
2.1.2 Neutrons	23
2.2 Directly Ionizing Radiations	24
2.2.1 Electrons	24
2.2.2 Protons and Ions	25
2.2.3 Modeling Electromagnetic Particle Cross-sections in Condensed-Phase Media	25
2.3 Track Structure	27
3. Stochastic Variables and Distributions	29
3.1 Continuous and Discrete Random Variables	29
3.2 Energy Imparted (ϵ)	30
3.3 Derived Continuous Stochastic Quantities	30
3.3.1 Specific Energy, $f(z)$ and $f(z,D)$	30
3.3.2 Single-Event Frequency-Mean-Specific Energy, \bar{z}_{1F}	31
3.3.3 Single-Event Dose Mean Specific Energy, \bar{z}_{1D}	31
3.3.4 Lineal Energy, y	31
3.4 Relationship Between Microdosimetry and Macroscopic Quantities	31
3.4.1 z and Absorbed Dose	31
3.4.2 y and LET	32
3.4.3 Measurement of Microdosimetric Parameters y and z	33
3.5 Ionization Number in Defined Sites	33
3.6 Radial Distribution of Absorbed Dose	34
3.7 Presentation of Data	34
3.7.1 Frequency Distributions	35
3.7.2 Absorbed-Dose Distributions	36
3.7.3 Semi-Log Plots and Normalization	36
3.7.4 Resolution	37
4. Number of Ionizations and Energy Deposition in Sites	38
4.1 Sites Within a Uniform Medium	38
4.1.1 Distribution of Sites Relative to Tracks	38
4.1.2 Path Length Effects	38
4.1.3 Stopping Power Effects	39
4.1.4 Delta Ray Effects	39
4.1.5 Particle Range	39
4.1.6 Statistics of Rare Events	40

4.2	Energy Deposition in Sites Within a Nonuniform Medium	41
4.2.1	Wall Effect Due to Changes in Density	41
4.2.2	Wall Effect Due to Changes in Atomic Composition	42
5.	Monte Carlo Simulations for Microdosimetry	44
5.1	Monte Carlo Method in Radiation Physics	44
5.2	Core Concepts of Radiation Transport	45
5.3	Fundamental Concepts of Particle Interactions Modeling	46
5.4	Condensed History Approach and Track Structure Monte Carlo Simulations	47
5.5	Track Structure Monte Carlo Simulations	47
5.5.1	Track Structure	48
5.5.2	Validation of Track Structure Monte Carlo Codes	48
5.6	Monte Carlo Condensed History Approach	49
5.7	Acceleration of Monte Carlo Simulations for Microdosimetric Calculations	51
5.8	Monte Carlo Simulations for Microdosimetry: Final Observations	52
5.9	Analytical Function	54
6.	Measurement of Ionization or Energy Deposition in Defined Sites	56
6.1	Motivation for Experimental Measurements	56
6.1.1	Validation of Simulations	56
6.1.2	Characterization of Unknown Radiation Fields	56
6.1.3	Characterizing Radiation Quality	57
6.2	Considerations for Detector Design	58
6.2.1	Chord Length Distributions	58
6.2.2	Effect of Site Size on Signal-to-Noise Ratio	59
6.2.3	Effect of Nonuniform Gain	60
6.2.4	Conversion Between Atomic Compositions	60
6.2.5	Impact of Wall Thickness	61
6.2.6	Impact of Wall Effect	61
6.2.7	Data Acquisition	61
7.	Gas-Filled Detectors	65
7.1	Function of Gas-Filled Detectors	65
7.1.1	Gas Multiplication in Proportional Counters	65
7.1.2	Experimental Simulation of Small Sites	66
7.2	Characteristics of Gas-Filled Detectors	67
7.2.1	Count Rate Versus Detector Size	67
7.2.2	Pulse Height Resolution	67
7.3	Wire Anode Detectors	68
7.4	Other Gas Detectors	70
7.4.1	GEM-Based Detectors	70
7.4.2	Avalanche Confinement Proportional Counter	71
7.5	Nanodosimeters	72
7.5.1	Jet Counter	73
7.5.2	Ion Counter	74
7.5.3	Startrack Counter	75
7.6	Derivation of Dosimetry Quantities	76
7.7	Calibration of Gaseous Detectors	78
7.7.1	Methods for Single-Event Calibration	79
7.7.1.1	Alpha source calibration	79
7.7.1.2	Methods associated with common features of the $y d(y)$ weighted dose distribution	79
7.7.1.3	Methods associated with the direct deposit of known quanta of energy in the TEPC-sensitive volume	79

7.7.2	Calibration Using a Known Value of Absorbed Dose	80
7.7.3	Calibration When Using the Variance Method	81
7.7.4	Uncertainties Due to Calibration	81
8.	Solid-State Detectors	82
8.1	General Properties of Solid-State Detectors	82
8.1.1	Silicon Detectors	82
8.1.2	Diamond Detector	83
8.1.3	Radiation Damage of Semiconductor Detectors	84
8.2	Detectors Measuring y and z	85
8.2.1	Development of Silicon Microdosimetry	85
8.2.2	SOI Microdosimetry	86
8.2.3	ΔE -E Silicon Microdosimetry	89
8.3	Applications Evaluating Particle Radiance	90
8.4	Derivation of Microdosimetric Quantities	92
8.4.1	Lineal Energy in Particle Beams	92
8.4.2	Tissue Equivalence	94
8.4.3	Matching Energy Deposition Spectra	94
8.4.4	Ratio of Stopping Power	94
8.5	Considerations When Characterizing Particle Beams	95
8.5.1	Energy Acquisition Range	95
8.5.2	Volume Size	96
8.5.3	Sensitive Volume Shape	96
8.6	Derivation of Dosimetry Quantities From Timepix Data	97
9.	Applications of Stochastic Characteristics of Radiation Interactions	100
9.1	Microdosimetric Interpretation of Low Absorbed Dose	100
9.2	Microdosimetric Interpretation of Single-Event Upsets	101
9.3	Microdosimetry for Thermoluminescence Detectors	103
9.3.1	Lithium Fluoride TL Detectors	104
9.3.2	Microdosimetric Modeling of Response	104
9.3.3	Target Size in Microdosimetric Models of Thermoluminescence	106
9.4	Relevance to Mechanisms and Models of Biological Effects of Radiation	107
9.4.1	Distributions of Ionizations or Imparted Energy in Subcellular Targets	107
9.4.2	Correlating Ionizations or Energy Imparted With Biological Effects	109
9.4.3	Track Structure for Simulation of Consequent Biological Damage	112
9.4.4	Excluding Specific Mechanisms and Specification of Low Absorbed Dose	118
9.4.5	Microbeams and Other Nonrandom Irradiations	120
9.5	Microdosimetry of Internal Emitters	121
9.6	Microdosimetry in Radiation Therapy	123
9.6.1	Charged Particle Beam Therapy	124
9.6.1.1	Motivation for using microdosimetry	124
9.6.1.2	Microdosimetric detectors for particle beam therapy	125
9.6.1.3	RBE models for treatment planning systems	125
9.6.1.4	RBE models for treatment planning systems in proton therapy	127
9.6.1.5	Use of microdosimetry in commissioning and quality assurance of proton and other high LET particle beams	128
9.6.2	Boron Neutron Capture Therapy	130
9.6.3	Radiopharmaceutical Therapy	132
9.7	Space and Aircrew Dosimetry	133
9.7.1	Aircrew Dosimetry	133
9.7.2	Space	135

10. Recommendations	137
Appendix A: Chord Length Distributions	138
Appendix B: Monte Carlo Tools	140
B.1 Acceleration Using Monte Carlo Implementations	140
B.2 Acceleration Using Machine Learning Solutions	140
References	141