

FRAGMENTATION OF WATER NEAR THE BRAGG PEAK

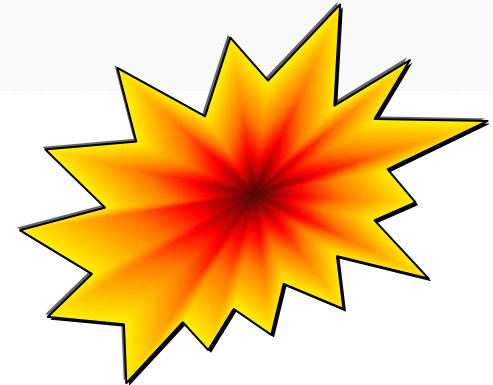
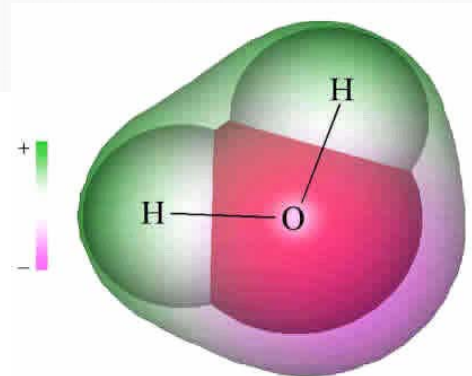
Collaborative programme involving:

Queen's University Belfast
Federal University, Rio de Janeiro

ALSO

Dublin City University
Centro Federal de Educacao Tecnologia, Brazil
Universite Catholique de Louvain

Interaction of Carbon ions with Water



Fragmentation and non-fragmentation channels for C^0 and C^+ projectiles have been measured over the 15 to 100 keV energy range

C⁺ and C⁰ projectiles on Water

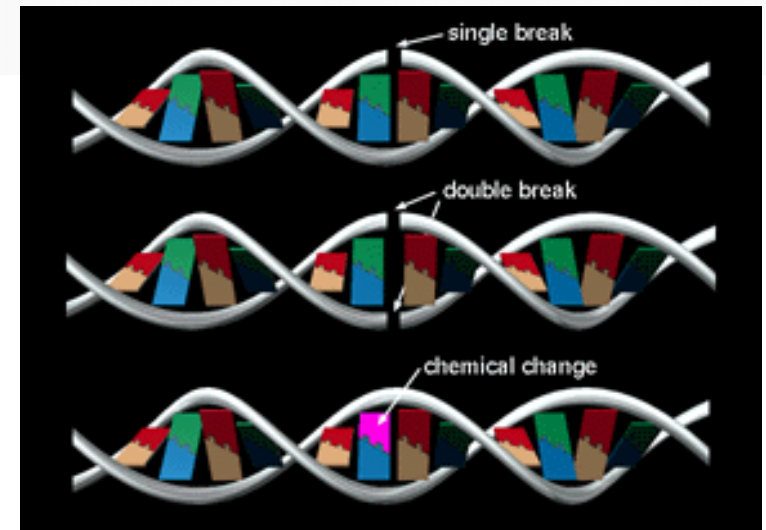
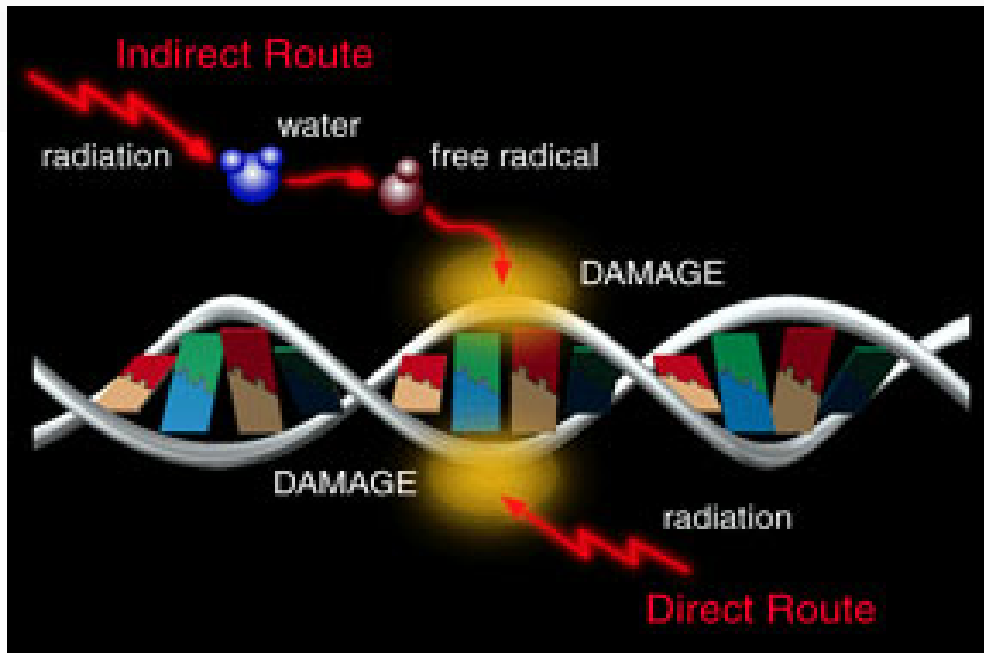
C⁺ beam:

Pure Ionisation, pure capture and transfer ionisation channels measured

C⁰ beam are:

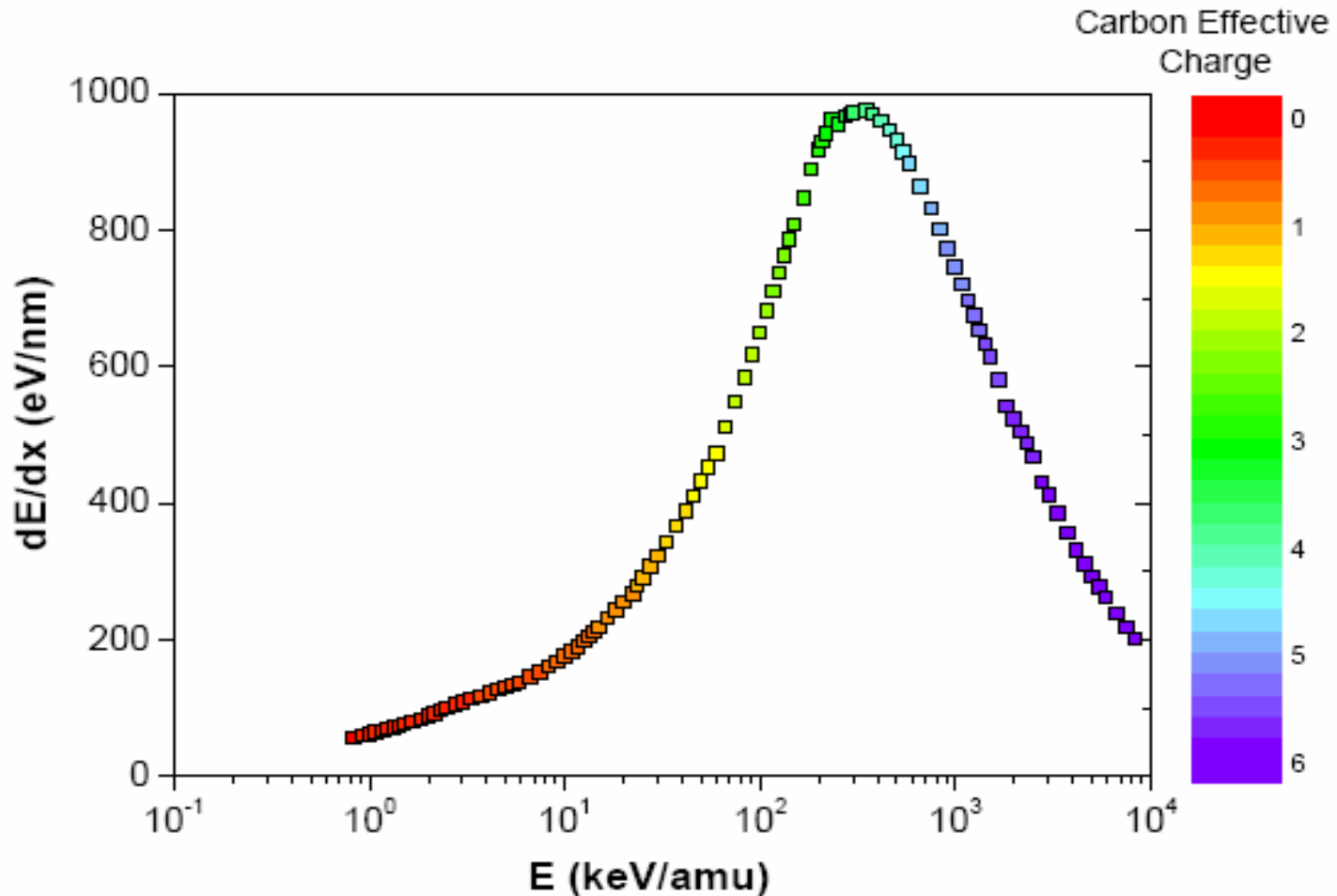
Pure Ionisation, pure capture and projectile electron loss channels measured

- Measurements are of great importance in the C-ion based radiotherapy

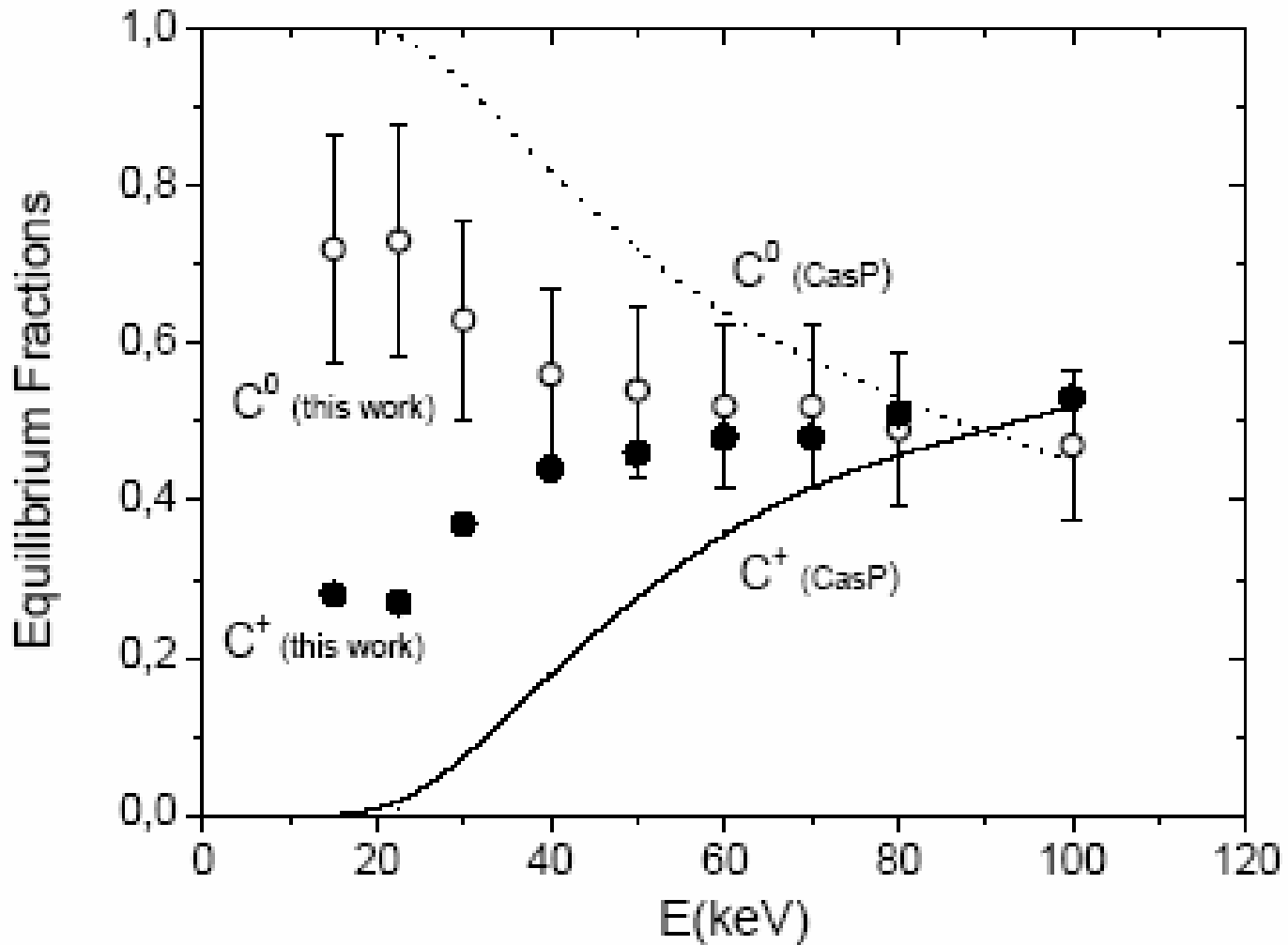


70% of tumour damage is known to occur through chemistry with water radicals

- Present energy range covers the distal part of the Bragg peak
- Knowledge of water radical formation around the Bragg peak is thus of fundamental importance
- Present measurements are first to supply such data of relevance to C-ion therapy

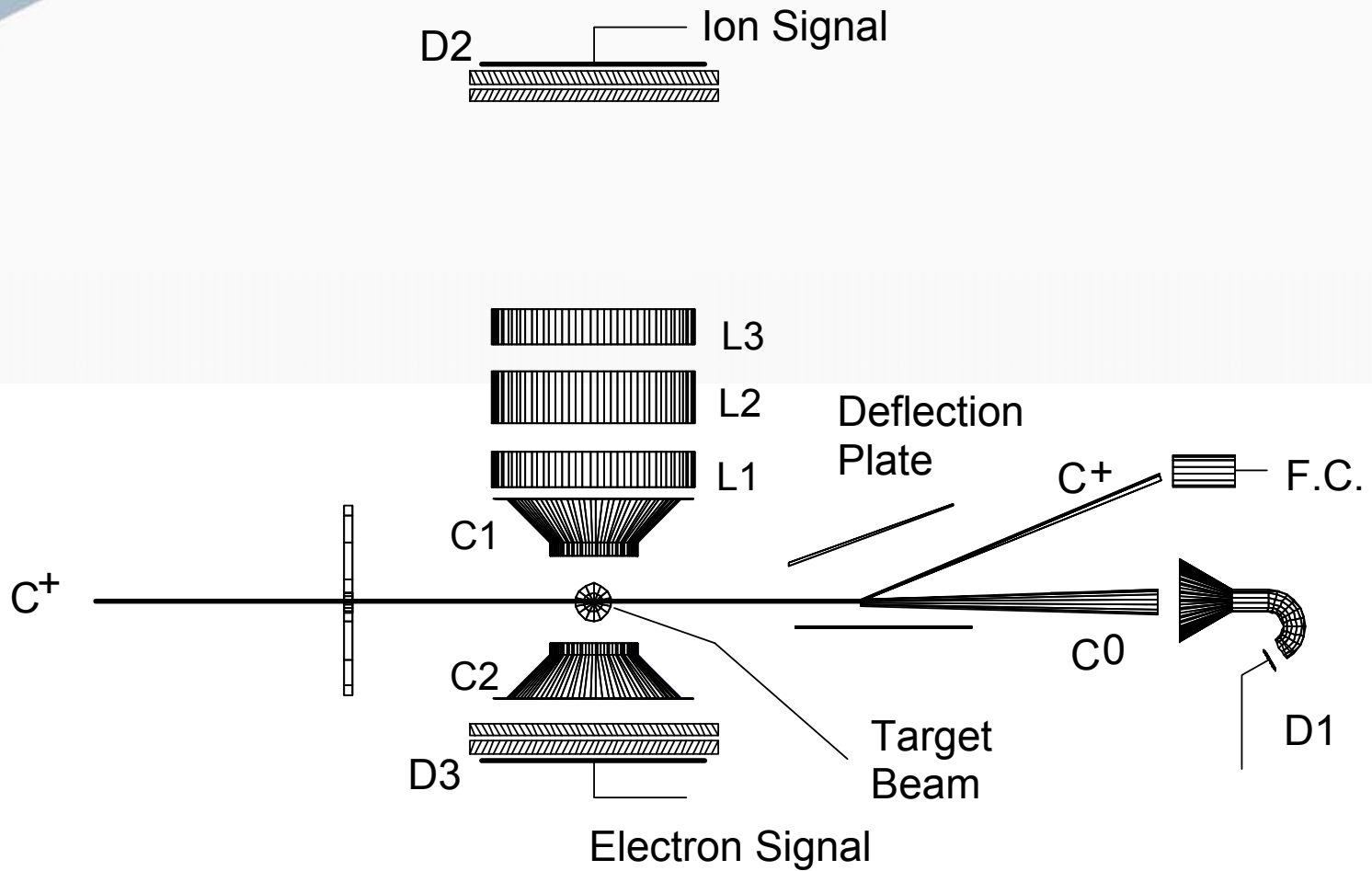


Bragg peak for C-ion therapy. Charge state fractions present in the C-beam are colour coded according to the inset on the right.



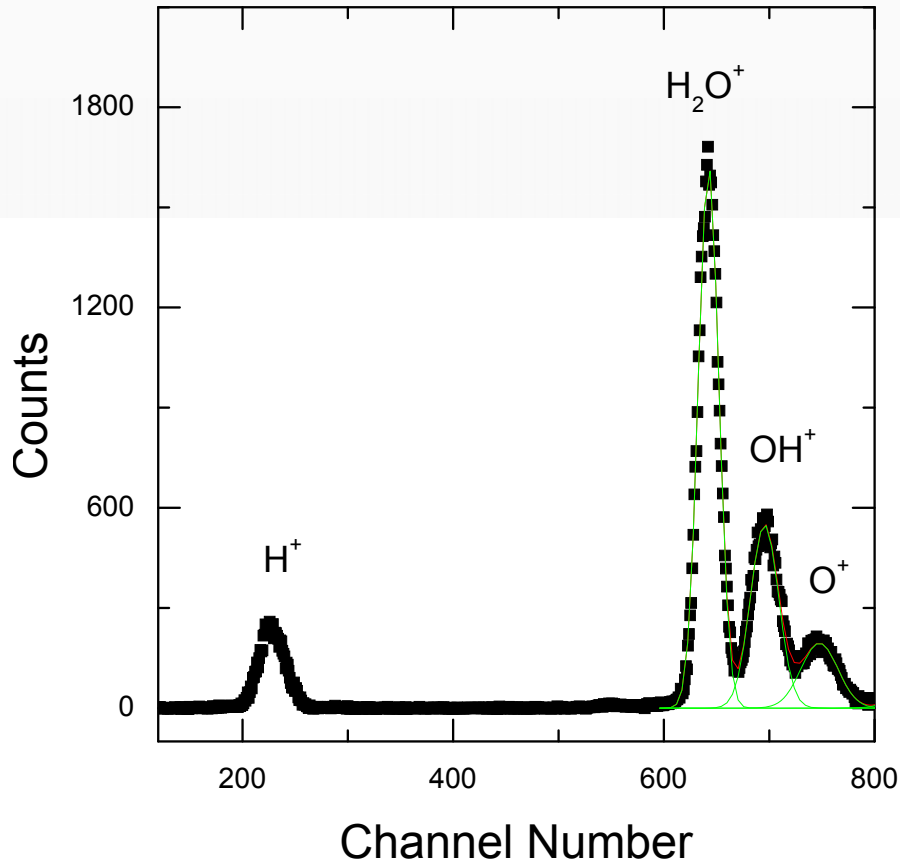
C^0 and C^+ equilibrium fractions over 15 to 100 keV energies. Data points: this work using $f_0/f_1 = \sigma_{\text{loss}} / \sigma_{\text{cap}}$. Lines: Casp calculations.

- Currently Bragg peak is assessed using energy loss data at high energies for a range of projectiles in solids and liquids.
- No experimental data on water molecules have been available
- So how accurately is the Bragg peak determined in water?
- Further should the peak be sharp?
- This affects how close treatment scans can be taken near vital organs such as the OPTICAL NERVES
- After this talk I will let you to be the judge.

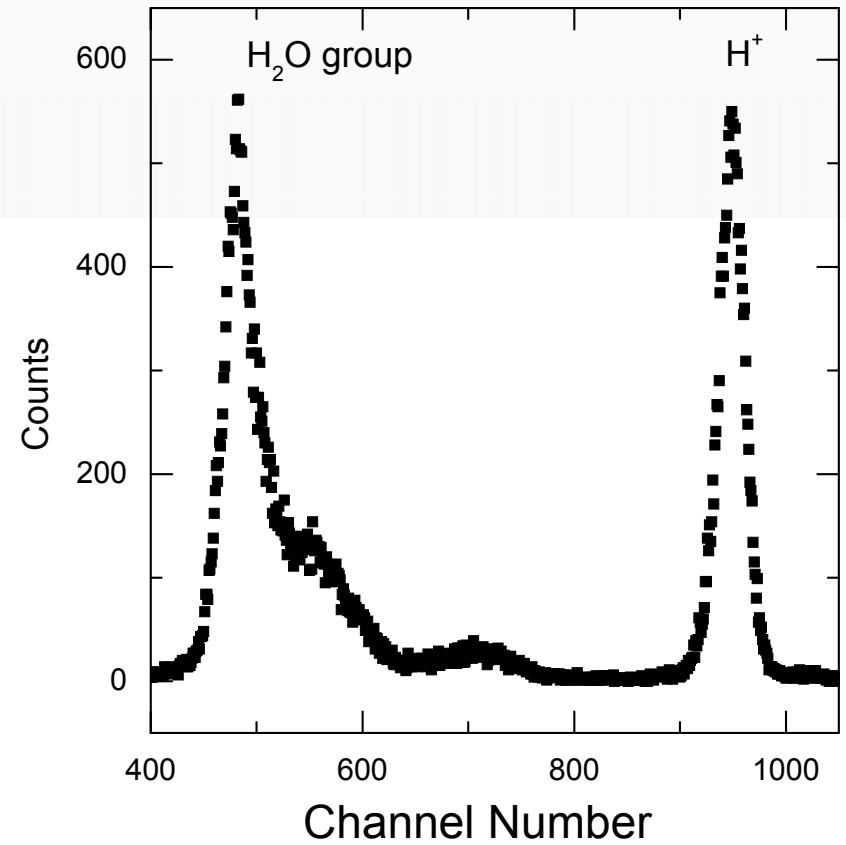


Schematic diagram of the apparatus

TOF spectra with 240mm drift length

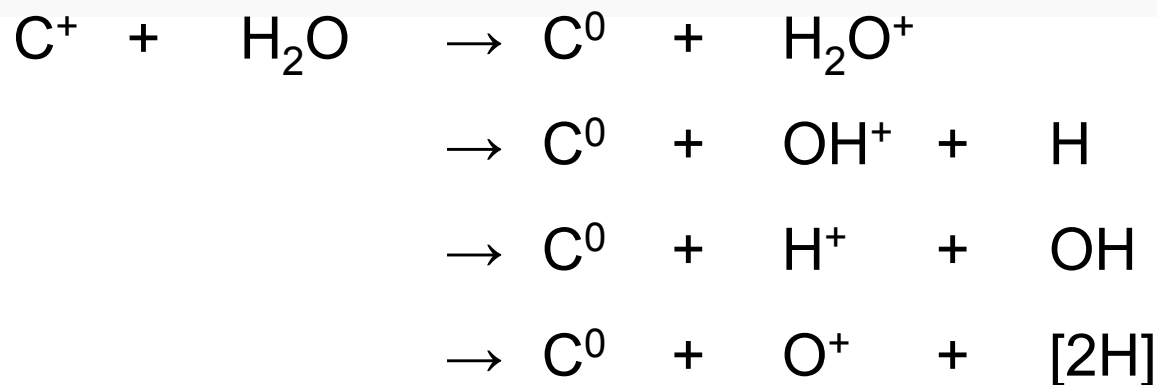


TOF spectra with 35mm drift length

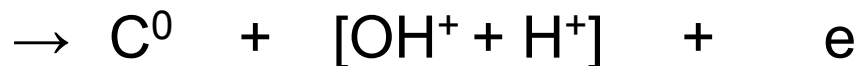


- Notice changes in the H^+ peak

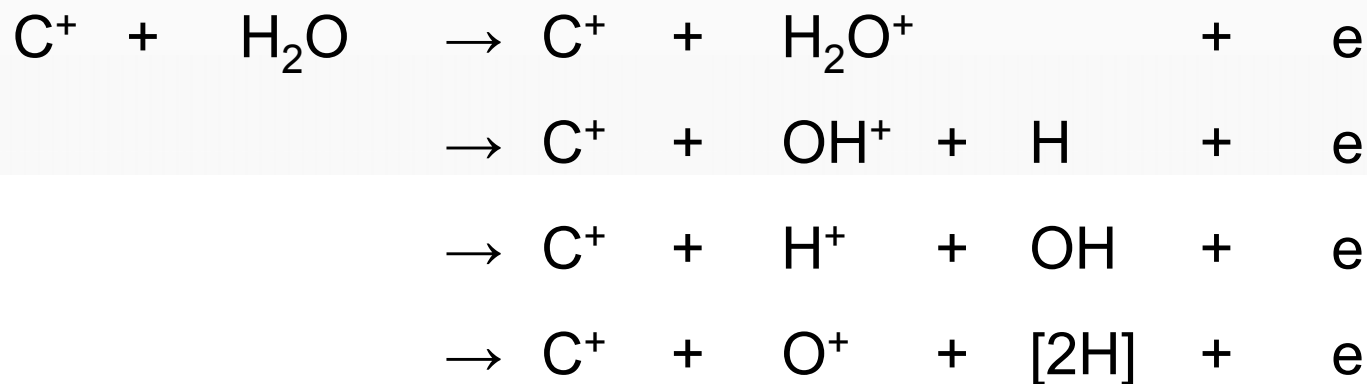
Coincidences between target ion products and projectile products give pure electron capture channels:



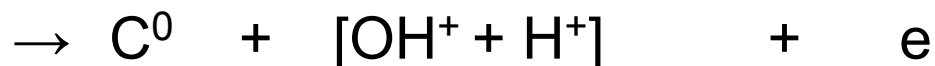
And the transfer ionisation channel



Coincidences between target ion products and target electrons give pure ionisation channels:



As well as the transfer ionisation channel



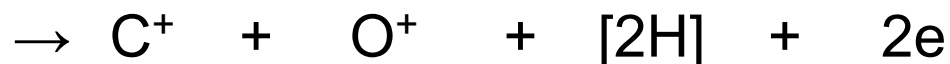
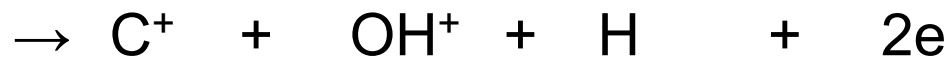
- Transfer ionisation produces an electron as well as a fast neutral projectile and is thus recorded in both the spectra.

For C^0 , an additional electron-loss channel is present:



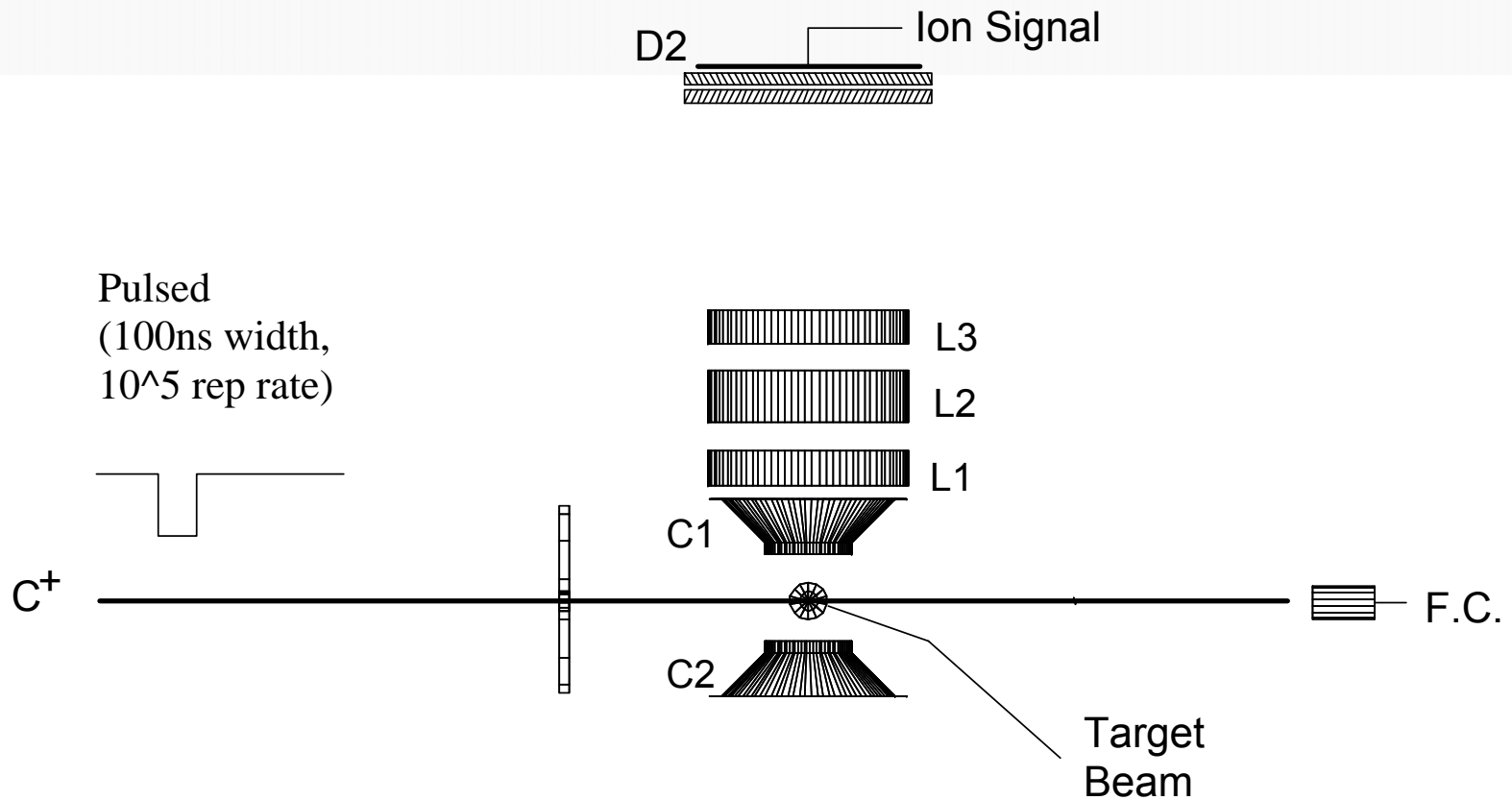
where the target acts as a simple screened scattering centre.

Also present are the electron-loss/ionisation channels



where the target becomes ionised

Transfer ionisation for C^+ is assessed using the "Pulsed Beam" technique



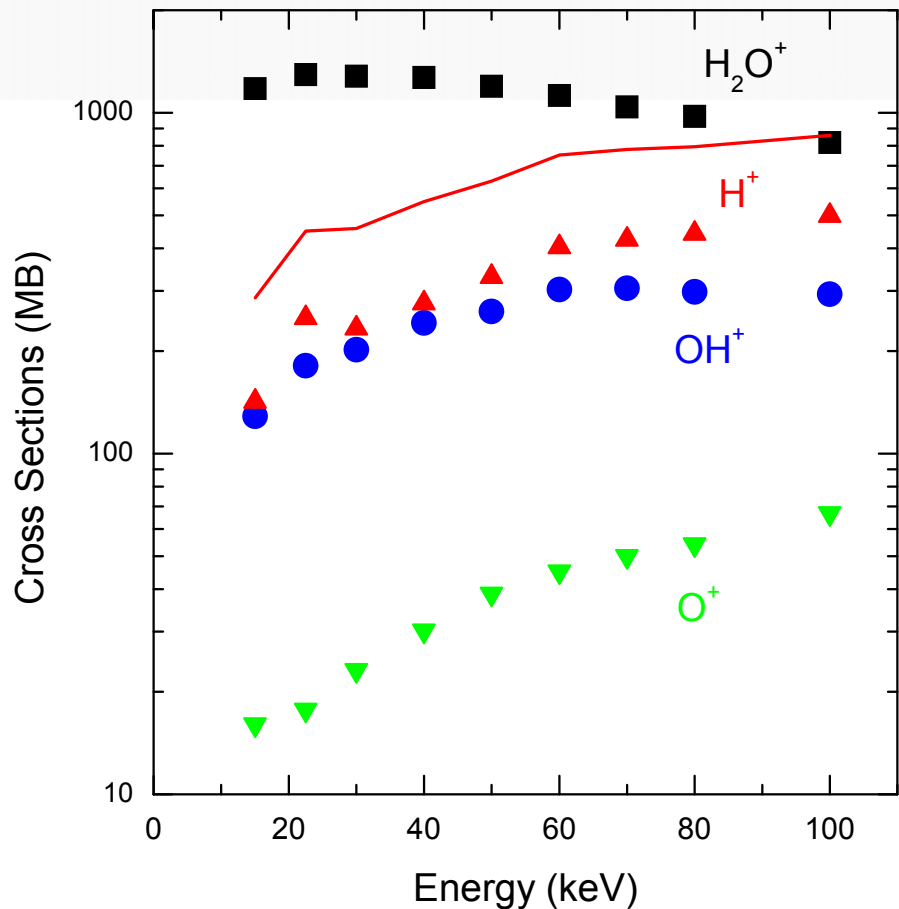
- Pulsed mode:
Pure capture + pure ionisation + transfer ionisation (1)
- Target ion/projectile product coincidence mode:
Pure capture + transfer ionisation (2)
- Target ion/target electron coincidence mode:
Pure ionisation + transfer ionisation (3)

Thus

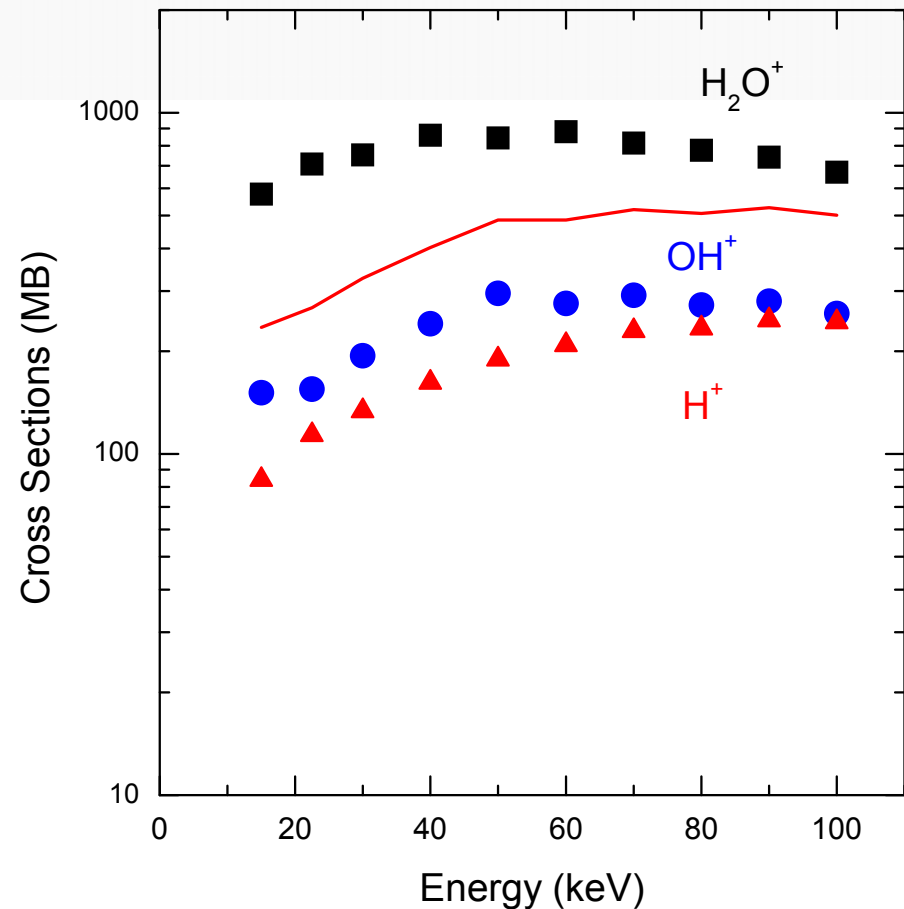
(2)+ (3) - (1) directly gives transfer ionisation

Cross sections for fragmented and non-fragmented channels

C⁺ projectile



C⁰ projectile



Energy loss Calculations

- First need to know energy loss ΔE per collision

$$\Delta E = \overbrace{I_p + \epsilon_i}^{\Delta E_{\text{loss}}} + \underbrace{I_T}_{\Delta E_{\text{ion}}} + \overbrace{E_p - 1/2u^2}_{\Delta E_{\text{cap}}} + \Delta_{\text{exc}}$$

I_p & I_T - IP of the projectile and the target electron

ϵ_i - K.E. of the ejected electron

E_p & $1/2u^2$ - Final energy and c.m. energy of captured electron

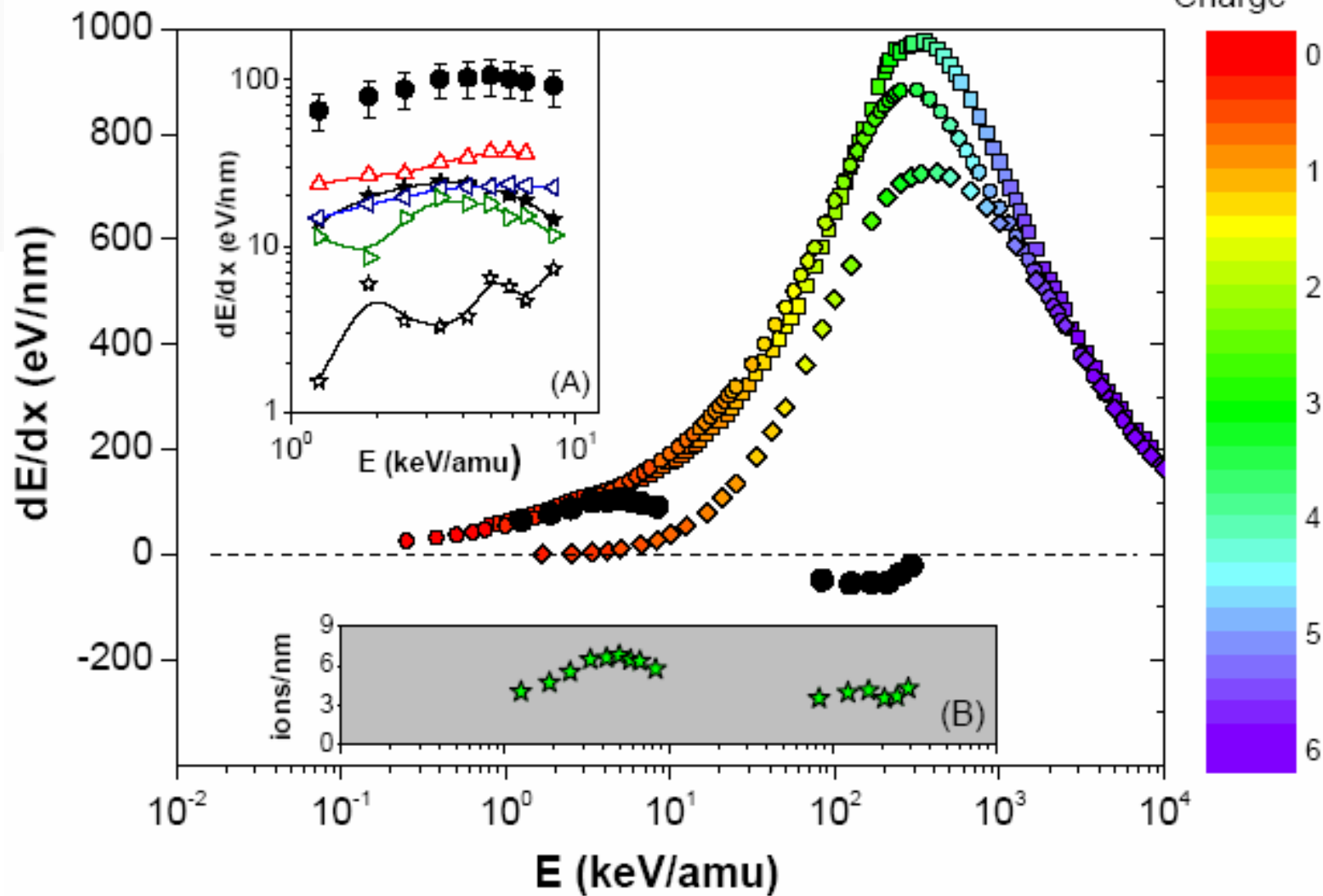
Δ_{exc} - excitation energy of the active electron

- Electrons are removed from the $2a_1$, $1b_2$, $3a_1$ or the $1b_1$ water orbitals
- H_2O^+ channel removes the outermost $3a_1$, and $1b_1$ electrons
- Fragmentation channels remove the deep lying $2a_1$ and $1b_2$ electrons
- ΔE can then be calculated using binding energies of these appropriate electrons

- Density of water, n , in the body and cross sections, σ , then give the energy loss rate
- $\Delta E/dx = (n \cdot 10^{-9} \cdot \sigma) \cdot \Delta E$
where n is per M^3 and σ is in units of M^2 . $\Delta E/dx$ is in eV/nm

These values are given in the next slide

Carbon Effective
Charge



Conclusions

- Water related damage is mainly through radical chemistry
- Therefore it is the number of radical formation which is an important factor and not necessarily the amount of energy deposited
- Present stopping power based energy loss models seem to over estimate likely damage at the centre of the Bragg peak compared to the distal peripheral region.
- Radical formation is almost flat over an extended portion of the distal region
- The radicals should thus give a much more uniform damage profile

People involved

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Thank you

Single Ionization

