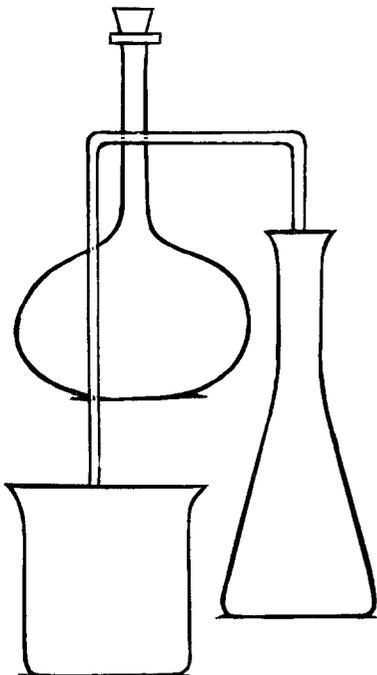




TID-4005(Pt. 2b)

SUMMARIES OF THE USAEC  
BASIC RESEARCH PROGRAM  
IN CHEMISTRY ( ON SITE )

*August 1964*



Division of Research, AEC

UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
Division of Technical Information

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CHEMISTRY  
(TID-4500, 33rd. Ed.)

SUMMARIES OF THE USAEC BASIC RESEARCH PROGRAM  
IN CHEMISTRY (On Site)

Division of Research, AEC

*Indexes prepared by*

Division of Technical Information Extension

August 1964

UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
Division of Technical Information

## FOREWORD

The Atomic Energy Act directs the Atomic Energy Commission to support and foster research in the field of atomic energy. The Division of Research of the Atomic Energy Commission is responsible for accomplishing this objective in the physical sciences. Research is supported at the AEC National Laboratories, at other Government Laboratories, at universities, at research institutes and foundations and at industrial laboratories.

The Chemistry Program is administratively divided into the "on-site" and the "off-site" programs. The "on-site" program is carried out at the AEC Laboratories and other Government-owned facilities. The "off-site" program is carried out elsewhere and consists primarily of research projects performed through contracts with educational institutions.

This document summarizes the objectives and current status of the individual research projects supported by the Office of Chemistry Programs of the Division of Research under its "on-site" program. Projects supported at the National Bureau of Standards are also included.

It is the purpose of this document to inform the scientific community of the current researches being supported.

The summaries have been organized and numbered according to the place where work is carried out. There is also a comprehensive subject index included to permit detailed search for information by subject. Each summary includes the name of the Laboratory at which the work is carried out, the Department or Division, the principal investigator or investigators, and the date on which the summary was received.

All of the research presented in this document is unclassified and investigators are encouraged to report their results in the open literature at the earliest opportunity for wide dissemination of the information. The interested reader is referred to Nuclear Science Abstracts or to Chemical Abstracts as sources of information concerning publications resulting from the work summarized in this document.

Inquiries or comments concerning the researches described should be directed to:

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Assistant Director of Research  
for Chemistry Programs  
Division of Research, USAEC  
Washington, D. C. 20545

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## SECTION 1A

## AMES LABORATORY - CHEMISTRY DIVISION

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Complex Species
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- 1A29 Recoil Chemistry of Carbon-11

For further information on completed work, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature and to the Ames Laboratory Annual Summary Report for July 1962 through June 1963, IS-700, September 1963.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Charles V. Banks/Motomu Kasagi  
George J. Kamin/Michael J. Fahsel

1/10/64

## ELECTROMETRIC METHODS OF ANALYSIS

The sine-wave (A.C.) polarographic method has been found to give quite good results for the determination of small amounts of indium in the presence of large amounts of cadmium, lead, or tin. Niobium and zirconium can be determined in citric acid media with greater sensitivity than is obtainable with D.C. polarography. It is planned to apply the technique of sine-wave (A.C.) polarography to other cases where D.C. polarography is not suitable. The greater sensitivity of the A.C. method and the fact that much larger ratios of reducible species can be tolerated by the A.C. method than by the D.C. method makes the A.C. polarographic method a powerful analytical technique for the determination of trace impurities in "pure" metals.

The interaction of hydrogen ions with 1, 10-phenanthroline is not well understood. Experimental data on this system seem to suggest that poly-1, 10-phenanthroline-hydrogen ion species may exist in solution. It is planned to study this system in some detail to establish more clearly the species that are present in aqueous acid solution, and, if possible, measure the stability constants of these species.

A method for the coulometric titration of the alkaline earth cations following the separation of these ions by a reversed-phase chromatographic method was developed. The zones containing the individual cations were cut out and the cation eluted from the paper and titrated coulometrically with electrically generated EDTA. The EDTA was formed by the reduction of the EDTA-Hg complex at a mercury electrode. This technique is being extended to many other cations.

Publication

1. Dale and Banks, "Study of Metal-1, 10-Phenanthroline Complex Equilibria by Potentiometric Measurement," *Inorg. Chem.*, 2, 591 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

C. V. Banks/J. W. O'Laughlin  
J. W. Ferguson/J. E. Mrochek/R. Parker

1/10/64

INVESTIGATION OF BIFUNCTIONAL ORGANOPHOSPHORUS  
COMPOUNDS AS SOLVENT EXTRACTANTS

The separation of complex mixtures of elements is often necessary before the quantitative analysis of the individual components of the mixture can be made. The solvent extraction technique is one of the most powerful tools available to the analytical chemist for effecting such a preliminary separation. This research involves the synthesis and study of a new class of solvent extractants, bifunctional organophosphorus compounds and particularly bis(dialkylphosphinyl)alkanes.

Information on the nature of the adducts which these compounds form with various cations has been obtained by means of visible and infrared spectroscopic, conductometric, cryoscopic, liquid-liquid partition, and nuclear magnetic resonance techniques. It is anticipated that a better understanding of the nature of these adducts will result in the synthesis of even more powerful and selective extractants.

In addition to their usefulness in liquid-liquid extraction, some of these compounds are being studied as stationary phases in reversed-phase partition chromatography.

Publications

1. Mrochek, O'Laughlin, Sakurai, and Banks, "gem - Bis(di-substituted-phosphinyl)alkanes.II. Extraction of Uranium (VI) with Bis(di-n-hexylphosphinyl) Methane," J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem., 25, 955 (1963).
2. Richard and Banks, "The Metalation of Methyl (disubstituted) Phosphine Oxides and Their Subsequent Reactions," J. Org. Chem., 28, 123 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

C. V. Banks/J. E. Caton, Jr.  
N. A. Wilcox/ M. M. Barling

1/10/64

CHEMISTRY OF VIC-DIOXIMES

The vic-dioximes are widely known and used in analytical chemistry because of their striking selectivity as precipitants for certain metal ions. Results of x-ray crystal structure studies have greatly increased the understanding of the coordination chemistry of the vic-dioximes and have pointed the way to the synthesis of new and more versatile reagents. For example, the tert-butyl group in 4-tert-butyl-1, 2-cyclohexanedionedioxime sterically hinders crystal formation and results in an excellent extracting agent for nickel.

It is now known from x-ray diffraction studies that the hydrogen bonding in crystalline  $\text{Ni}(\text{DMG})_2$  and  $\text{Cu}(\text{DMG})_2$  are quite different. It is planned to study the rearrangement of these hydrogen bond systems, as the crystals are dissolved, by means of infrared, near infrared, and attenuated total reflectance spectra. This study should lead to a better understanding of the marked difference in the solubilities of these two compounds.

The solubility of the nickel-vic-dioxime complexes in non-coordinating solvents such as n-heptane would be expected to correlate rather well with the nickel-nickel distance in the crystalline state if the strength of this bond accounts for a large part of the crystal energy. It is planned to measure these solubilities and compare them with the known nickel-nickel distances. Such a study will contribute to our understanding of the selectivity of such organic analytical reagents.

Publication

1. Banks, "Vic-Dioximes as Analytical Reagents," *Anal. Chem.* 34, 131 (1962).

1A4

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

James Fritz/Edward Hedrick

1/10/64

#### ANALYTICAL SEPARATIONS BY REVERSED-PHASE CHROMATOGRAPHY

The project includes the separation of both inorganic and organic substances by reversed-phase chromatography. A glass column is packed with an organic polymer impregnated with a solvent such as methyl isobutyl ketone, cyclohexane or benzene. Inorganic separations include the separation of molybdenum and iron from each other and from other elements. Organic separation of phenol mixtures and nitroaromatic amine mixtures have been realized, and many more are contemplated.

#### Publication

1. Fritz and Hedrick, "Separation of iron by reversed-phase chromatography," Anal. Chem. 34, 1411 (1962).

1A5

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. Fritz/J. Abbink, Jr./R. Brown  
L. Dahmer/R. Greene/H. Waki

1/10/64

#### ANALYTICAL ION-EXCHANGE SEPARATIONS

Separations are very important in many types of quantitative analysis. Work in progress includes the following approaches:

1. Separation of metal ions from a cation-exchange column by elution with aqueous-acetone solutions containing hydrochloric acid.
2. Cation-exchange separations by elution with dilute aqueous solutions of hydrofluoric acid.
3. Separation of Mo, W, Nb, and Ta from other metal ions by elution with dilute hydrogen peroxide.
4. Separation of rare earths from other metal ions by anion exchange using nitric acid in water-isopropyl alcohol solutions.
5. Separation of alkaline earth metals by anion-exchange using partly nonaqueous solutions.

#### Publication

1. Fritz and Garralda, "Cation-Exchange Separation of Bivalent Metal Ions from Rare Earths," Talanta 10, 91 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Velmer A. Fassel/C. Matsumoto  
W. Dallmann/R. Winge

1/10/64

QUANTITATIVE DETERMINATION OF INTERSTITIAL OXYGEN  
AND NITROGEN IMPURITIES IN METALS

The determination of the interstitial O and N impurity in metals and alloys at decreasingly lower concentration levels is a problem which is certain to remain live for some time. Particular attention is focused on critically evaluating and pin-pointing deficiencies in analytical methods now in use or under development, and on exploring fresh approaches. A new d.c. carbon-arc extraction, gas chromatographic technique for the rapid, simultaneous determination of O and N has been developed. Critical studies on the determination of oxygen in V and Th metals by the vacuum-fusion, inert gas fusion, and d-c carbon arc extraction methods have established the experimental conditions under which accurate data can be obtained. Continuing studies on the spectroscopic technique indicate that recent improvements in near-infrared sensitive detectors will make it possible to devise direct reading approaches. It is expected that further studies on the nature and kinetics of gas evolution reactions when metals are subjected to high temperature, high vacuum environmental conditions will lead to improvements in analytical methods based on vacuum extraction, fusion, or distillation processes.

Publications

1. Evens and Fassel, "Simultaneous Determination of Oxygen and Nitrogen in Steels by a DC Carbon Arc, Gas Chromatographic Technique," Anal. Chem., 35, 1444 (1963).
2. Fassel, Dallman, Skogerboe and Horrigan, "Comparative Study on the Determination of Oxygen in Vanadium Metal," Anal. Chem., 34, 1364 (1962).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Velmer A. Fassel/Richard Kniseley/W.Grossmann

1/10/64

## ANALYTICAL EMISSION SPECTROSCOPY

An effort is devoted to observing excitation processes that occur under environmental conditions far different from those normally employed by the analytical spectroscopist. Systematic explorations of interesting and useful spectra emitted in arc or spark discharges in supporting atmospheres other than air are laying the groundwork for the practical solution of difficult analytical problems; other types of excitation include induction-coupled plasmas and microwave discharge. These studies have led to a spectroscopic technique for determining the O content of niobium metal.<sup>1</sup>

Striking enhancements in the sensitivities of detection of atomic spectral lines emitted in flames have been realized by manipulating the chemical environment in simple flames. Atomic line spectra emitted in the interconal zone of premixed, fuel-rich oxyacetylene flames show detection sensitivities five orders of magnitude greater than the sensitivities observed in conventional turbulent flames. The simple atomic line spectra emitted by the rare earth elements in this interconal zone now provide the most convenient means for performing a complete analysis of rare earth mixtures. Observations on the atomic and molecular absorption spectra and emission spectra of the reaction zone, the interconal zone, and the outer cone of these flames should yield conclusive information concerning the formation of the interconal zone and the striking enhancement in atomic line spectra.

Publications

1. Evens and Fassel, "Emission Spectrometric Determination of Oxygen in Niobium Metal," Anal. Chem. 33, 1056 (1961).
2. Fassel, Curry and Kniseley, "Flame Spectra of the Rare Earth Elements," Spectrochim. Acta 18, 1127 (1962).
3. Kniseley, D'Silva and Fassel, "A sensitive, Premixed Oxyacetylene Atomizer-Burner for Flame Emission and Absorption Spectrometry," Anal. Chem. 35, 910 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

V. A. Fassel/R. N. Kniseley  
E. Conrad/R. Hirschmann/V. Mossotti

1/10/64

## ATOMIC AND MOLECULAR ABSORPTION SPECTRA

Measurements on the  $^{15}\text{N}/^{14}\text{N}$  isotope shift in vibrational frequencies provide data for identifying and characterizing vibrational modes involving appreciable nitrogen motion. A detailed study on benzamide revealed that the frequencies of the Amide I and Amide-II bands are inverted in the solid state, i.e., the Amide-II band lies at a higher frequency than the Amide-I band. Observations on the infrared spectra of substituted primary and secondary amides have clarified assignments on several characteristic vibrations and have yielded additional data on solid state interactions in these compounds. A detailed vibrational analysis of alkyl thiocyanates has been completed. Inclusion of restricted rotation about both the  $\text{C}_\alpha - \text{C}_\beta$  and  $\text{C}_\alpha - \text{S}$  bonds, and associated rotational isomerism was required to satisfactorily account for the complex structure of the  $\text{C}_\alpha - \text{X}$  stretching vibration.

The rare earth free-atom population in fuel-rich, oxy-acetylene flames fed with ethanol solutions of the perchlorate salts was found to be high enough to permit observation of the atomic absorption spectra of these elements. Among the more than 1000 lines observed are those of Eu, Dy, Ho, Gd, and Tb which have not been reported in the literature. The analytical applications of the stronger lines will be critically assessed.

Publication

1. Kniseley, Fassel and Farquar, "Infrared Spectra of Nitrogen-Containing Compounds I. Benzamide," *Spectrochim. Acta* 18, 1217 (1962).

1A9

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. S. Bartell/H. B. Thompson

1/10/64

#### EXPERIMENTAL MOLECULAR STRUCTURE

The purpose of this program is to determine the structures and internal motions of gas molecules by electron diffraction techniques. Studies of stereochemistry, isotope effects, and internal rotation are being carried out to test current theories of valence and molecular force fields.

Deuterium isotope effects on bond lengths and amplitudes of vibration are under investigation in a series of first row hydrides. Novel conformational equilibria encountered in cyclopropane derivatives are being explored. Configurations with eclipsed bonds as well as the usual staggered bonds have been observed. The stereochemistry of phosphorus (V) derivatives is being studied to test the late Professor Rundle's theory of bonding. In addition, measurements of isotopic effects on molar volumes of hydrocarbon liquids are in progress.

The foregoing studies are useful in providing clues about intra- and inter-molecular forces.

1A10

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Donald R. Fitzwater/James E. Benson

1/10/64

#### DIFFRACTION TECHNIQUES

This program is primarily concerned with improving the experimental and computational techniques involved in X-ray and Neutron Diffraction studies of crystal structures. The increasing use of computers has had a tremendous impact on such techniques.

In conjunction with the Computer Services Group and with Dr. Robert M. Stewart, a general purpose, Shared Real Time Computer Control System has been designed and is being implemented. Among the experimental equipment to be controlled by this system will be Neutron and X-ray Diffractometers. Not only will larger volumes of high quality data be made available, but also new data gathering Algorithms will be developed.

Computer programs for the analysis and gathering of such data will be improved and expanded in power.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. R. Fitzwater/Yves P. Jeannin  
David R. Russell/Aubrey J. Serewicz

1/10/64

## STRUCTURAL CHEMISTRY

This program is designed to improve our understanding of the chemical bond. Compounds having interesting bonding and magnetic properties are studied in their crystalline form by X-Ray and neutron diffraction and by magnetic studies.

The abnormal deuterium isotope effect in 3,4-furandicarboxylic acid will be studied, and a structural study of dibenzoylmethane begun. Study of the cyclheptatrienyl-cyclopentadienyl manganese structure will be started. Work on ethylmagnesium bromide will be continued. Work on the triphenylaluminum structure will be started. Structural and magnetic measurements on copper complexes will continue, with a rebuilt magnetic susceptibility apparatus being utilized. Other crystal structures posing interesting structural, valence, or magnetic properties, to be determined as time permits are:  $\text{TeCl}_4$  and  $\text{TeBr}_4$ ,  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{FeMn}(\text{CO})_7$ , ferrocen- $\text{SnCl}_4$  complex,  $\text{IF}_7$ , diphenylgermanium-2-butene complex,  $\text{KPtCl}_3\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{HCoO}_2$  and  $\text{DCoO}_2$ ,  $(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_2\text{Si}$ ,  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SbBr}_6$ ,  $\text{CsCuCl}_3$ ,  $\text{KCrCl}_3$ , and  $\text{CuCl}_2\text{-C}_3\text{H}_7\text{OH}$ .

As neutron diffraction facilities become available they will be used in studies of strong hydrogen bonding and in studies of the magnetic properties of copper complexes.

Publications

1. Engebretson and Rundle, "The Molecular and Crystal Structures of  $\pi$ -Cyclopentadienyl  $\pi$ -Cycloheptatrienyl Vanadium," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 85, 481 (1963).
2. Willet, Dwiggens, Kruh and Rundle, "Crystal Structures of  $\text{KCuCl}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_4\text{CuCl}_3$ ," J. Chem. Phys., 38, 2429 (1963).
3. Rundle, "On the Probable Structures of  $\text{XeF}_4$  and  $\text{XeF}_2$ ," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 85, 112 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

B. C. Gerstein/F. J. Smentowski/Frank Jelinek

1/10/64

## INTERACTIONS OF MAGNETIC SPECIES IN SOLIDS

The details of magnetic interactions in both ordered (such as ferromagnetic) and non-ordered (paramagnetic) systems are still a matter of mystery, although a broad spectrum of magnetic phenomena may be qualitatively described by present theories incorporating approximate treatments of both types of systems. It is the purpose of the present work to investigate in detail magnetic interactions in both types of systems, ordered systems being characterized by rare earth metals, 3d transition group salts and stable free radicals, and paramagnetic systems by nine-hydrated rare earth ethyl sulfates, all systems presently under investigation in this group.

Investigations of the magnetically dilute rare earth salt systems via heat capacity and initial susceptibility measurements have complemented spectral studies in Professor Spedding's Spectroscopy Group, and are serving to critically test the crystalline field approximation as presently applied to 4f systems. It is hoped that such measurements will also provide information relevant to coupling of electronic and lattice excitations in such systems.

Studies of ordered systems, also by heat capacity and initial susceptibility measurements, complemented where possible by x-ray structure and epr work, are presently yielding effective exchange parameters for the rare earth metals, while work on the salts and radicals is just getting underway. Preliminary work on the radicals indicates that these may be ideal systems in which to test models of one- and two-dimensional ordering, and nearest-neighbor interactions only. It is hoped that such tests will be provided by completed measurements on radicals and non-stoichiometric oxides in the coming year.

Publication

1. Gerstein, Jennings, and Spedding, "Thermal and Magnetic Study of Crystal Field Splittings in Thulium Ethylsulfate," J. Chem. Phys. 37, 1496 (1962).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

F. H. Spedding/Herman Weber

1/10/64

THERMODYNAMIC PROPERTIES AND RELATED PROPERTIES  
OF AQUEOUS RARE-EARTH CHLORIDE SOLUTIONS

The availability of precise thermodynamic data and the related properties of aqueous rare-earth chlorides is of fundamental importance to a better understanding of ionic solutions. Since the rare-earths hydrolyze very slightly in aqueous solutions, have a charge of plus three, and a regularly decreasing ionic radii, they form an excellent series for the study of ionic solutions. These thermodynamic data are also essential to the study of aqueous rare-earth chemistry.

At the present time measurements are being carried out on partial molal volumes, partial molal expansibilities, activity coefficients, concentration cell potentials, viscosities, heats of dilution, and heat capacities of aqueous rare-earth chloride solutions. These measurements extend from very dilute concentrations up to the saturated solutions. Partial molal expansibilities, activity coefficients, concentration cell potentials, and viscosities are being measured as a function of temperature from 0.0°C to 80°C. The other measurements are being carried out at 25°C.

Emphasis is being given to measurements of concentrated solutions, since it is felt that these measurements will give valuable insight into the structure and nature of ionic solutions.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Bernard C. Gerstein/Frank J. Smentowski

1/10/64

STUDIES OF FREE RADICAL REACTIONS  
AND PROPERTIES IN SOLUTION

The oxidation of organic mercaptans with inorganic oxidizing agents is a well known reaction, but the analogous reaction using organic agents is little known, and has been found to be a reaction of heretofore unrealized generality. We have found that organic aromatic mercaptans undergo electron transfer with organic electron acceptors to yield aromatic disulfides and the corresponding reduction products, and that radical anions having half lives of the order of hundreds of seconds are produced in the process. We have studied both the oxidation-reduction process for several mercaptan - electron acceptor pairs of agents and obtained information, via epr techniques, regarding spin density distributions in the radical anions. A typical example is the oxidation of nitroso benzene with the sodium salt of p-chloro benzene thiol, the reaction yielding the nitrosobenzene radical anion, and the corresponding disulfide dimer.

The immediate importance of the results of this study is the generalization of electron transfer reagents as oxidation reagents and the production of previously unknown radicals for study in solution and possibly as stable solid salts. It now appears that such salts, if they can be prepared, may supply some of the few examples where one observes linear antiferromagnetic ordering in the solid state with only nearest neighbor interactions. They will, therefore, serve as systems in which to critically test present theories regarding magnetic ordering.

Publication

1. Smentowski, "Electron - Transfer Reactions of Aromatic Thiolate Anions with Organic Oxidizing Agents," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 85, 3036 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

James H. Espenson/James P. Birk/Douglas E. Binau

1/10/64

## KINETICS AND MECHANISMS OF INORGANIC REACTIONS

A study was made of the kinetics of the slow aquation (decomposition) of iodochromium(III) ion,  $\text{CrI}^{2+}$ . The low rate of this process also allows measurements of the kinetics of oxidation of bound iodide ion under conditions where appreciable free iodide ion is not formed; iodate ion, hydrogen peroxide, and iron(III) ion were studied as oxidizing agents.

Work is in progress on the following research problems: a kinetic study of the catalysis by chromium(VI) of aquation of  $\text{CrCl}^{2+}$ , to provide information on the rate and mechanism of formation and decomposition of unstable chromium(IV) and (V) in solution; kinetics and mechanisms for oxidation of iodide ion by chromium(VI) in acidic solution--further information on the roles of +4 and +5 oxidation states of chromium as reaction intermediates is sought here; kinetics and mechanisms for oxidation of vanadium(IV), and kinetics of formation and decomposition of complexes formed between hypophosphite ion and chromium(III), prior to a study of the kinetics of oxidation of hypophosphorous acid by chromium(VI).

Studies on the kinetics and mechanism of a number of additional inorganic reactions are planned, especially reactions of transition metal complexes in solution, and of oxidation-reduction reactions of metal ions. Particular attention in these investigations will be focused upon the roles as intermediates in these reactions of transition metal ions in unusual oxidation states, which will be characterized as completely as possible. In particular, studies are planned on the kinetics of oxidation reactions of lower oxidation states of transition metal ions, especially of vanadium, chromium, and iron complexes by reagents such as chromium(VI) and vanadium(V) and coordinated species of these as well. Underlying these studies is the desire to establish as completely as possible the mechanisms of these reactions with special attention to the question of how electron-transfer processes occur.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Robert S. Hansen/Man Mohan Chaudhri/Peter Dawson

1/10/64

## SURFACE CHEMISTRY

During the past year we have developed what we believe to be a powerful new approach to the study of viscoelastic properties of surface films through observation of propagation characteristics of capillary ripples. The approach includes both new theoretical and new experimental methods; during the next year we intend to apply it to systems with film-to-bulk transfer (soluble monolayers) and, hopefully, also to monolayers with reacting components.

We are further studying reactions on metal surfaces, particularly hydrocarbon decomposition reactions on representative Group VIII transition metals, using ultra-high vacuum field emission microscopy and flash filament desorption techniques, in an effort to establish the detailed kinetic mechanisms of these reactions.

An investigation of electrical double layer properties, particularly of the alteration of double layer capacitance by non-electrolyte adsorption and the usefulness of this alteration for the quantitative measurement of adsorption, is also in progress. During the next year we hope to perfect a method for measurement of capacitance at reversible interfaces by AC bridge techniques.

The limiting low-pressure Henry's Law constant in the gas adsorption isotherm provides, through its temperature dependence, information concerning the potential energy curve for gas-solid interaction. We are presently developing the use of gas adsorption chromatography for the determination of the potential function.

Publications

1. Mann and Hansen, "Propagation Characteristics of Capillary Ripples," *J. Colloid Science* 18, 757-71, 805-19 (1963).
2. Arthur and Hansen, "The Adsorption and Surface Reactions of Hydrocarbons on Clean Iridium," *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* 101, 756-65 (1963)
3. Hansen, Kelsh and Grantham, "The Inference of Adsorption from Differential Double Layer Capacitance Measurements. II. Dependence of Surface Charge Density of Organic Non-Electrolyte Surface Excess," *J. Phys. Chem.* 67, 2316-26 (1963).
4. Hansen and Murphy, "Low Temperature Limiting Behavior of Gas Imperfections due to Gas-Solid Interactions," *J. Chem. Phys.* 39, 1642-4 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

H. J. Svec/G. D. Flesch/G. Junk  
J. Capellen/R. J. Conzemius

1/10/64

PHYSICO-CHEMICAL CHARACTERIZATION OF INORGANIC COMPOUNDS  
BY MASS SPECTROMETRY

Physico-chemical characterization of some volatile hydrides, halides, oxyhalides, chelating agents and chelates is difficult because of their instability, reactivity or inertness. The compounds are usually extremely toxic and/or corrosive. Mass spectrometric techniques can be successfully applied to physico-chemical problems where more conventional approaches are not possible. However, fundamental mass spectral data is non-existent for most of the compounds thus much of the work in this area is currently pioneering in nature. Methods and techniques for introducing and handling the compounds in the instrument have been developed and data processing has been improved to minimize or remove uncertainties and ambiguities in the results.

To date the scope of the work has included volatile Group IV and V hydrides, oxyhalides and halides of the first transition elements and inert elements, chelates and chelating agents. The results are fundamental to studies of absolute isotopic abundances of the elements and are of concern in isotope separations. During the coming year emphasis will be given compounds of Ti, fluorides of some noble metals, mixed dihydrides and copper and rare earth chelates.

Publications

1. Svec and Flesch, "Thermochemical Properties of  $\text{XeF}_2$  and  $\text{XeF}_4$  from Mass Spectra," *Science*, 142 954 (1963)
2. Svec and Junk, "Mass Spectra of  $\alpha$ -Amino acids," *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 85, 839 (1963).
3. Svec and Saalfeld, "Mass Spectra of the Monoelemental and Higher Hydrides of the Group IVB and VB Elements," *Inorg. Chem.* 2, 46, 51 (1963).
4. Svec and Flesch, "Absolute Abundance of Cr Isotopes in Primary and Secondary Minerals," *Geochim. et Cosmochim. Acta* 20 300 (1960); *Ibid.* 26, 1351 (1962).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

H. J. Svec/G. D. Flesch/G. Junk  
R. Conzemius/A. Anderson

1/10/64

## INSTRUMENTATION (MASS SPECTROMETRY)

The mass spectrometry of unstable and/or corrosive inorganic compounds requires special handling techniques, heretofore unused in the field. Those compounds containing electronegative groups form positive and negative ions which introduce unique interpretive problems in order to obtain unique physico-chemical characterizations. The nature of the compounds requires that simultaneous measurements be made of the positive and negative ion currents. A model mass spectrometer which simultaneously detects positive and negative ions has been tested and a full scale instrument based on the pertinent design parameters of the model is being built. Unique construction problems arising from the basic principle of maintaining an electron gun at ground potential and accelerating the ions into high positive and negative fields have been solved. Emphasis at the same time is placed on safety and reliability of instrument operation. During the remainder of this year and the coming year the construction of this instrument will be completed along with pertinent sample handling systems. In addition a spark source mass spectrograph will be placed in operation and used for trace impurity analytical problems peculiar to the Ames Laboratory as well as research concerning matrix effects on the sensitivity of this instrument for element analysis.

Publications

1. Svec and Flesch, "Model of a Positive-negative Ion Mass Spectrometer," Rev. Sci. Inst. 34 897 (1963).
2. Svec and Conzemius, "Improvement of Ion Transmission in an Ion Source," J. Appl. Phys. 34 2486 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. D. Corbett

1/10/64

## PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES OF REDUCED METAL HALIDES

A number of studies of reactions of metals with their molten halides have disclosed new and unusual solid phases requiring additional characterization of their structural stability or thermodynamic properties. Similar requirements pertain to the lower iodides of niobium, thorium and hafnium, particularly as they apply to their role in metal production.

Specifically, magnetic susceptibilities are being measured to establish (1) whether the phase  $\text{LaI}_{2.4}$  contains  $\text{La}^{2+}$  ions or metal-like electrons and (2) the possible nature of the constituent ions in the unusual salt  $\text{GdCl}_{1.6}$ . Hall coefficient data are being obtained for the metallic  $\text{La}^{3+}(\text{I}^-)_2\text{e}^-$  to supplement conductivity and susceptibility data. Also underway is a molecular orbital treatment of the bonding in  $\text{Bi}^{5+}$  previously identified in  $\text{BiCl}_{1.167}$ .

An earlier study of the  $\text{ThI}_4$ -Th system disclosed the existence of a volatile  $\text{ThOI}_2$ . An improved synthesis of this compound is being developed, and this will be followed by measurement of its decomposition and vaporization equilibria. The pressures of gaseous niobium iodides in equilibrium with solid  $\text{NbI}_{2.67}$  and Nb are being determined by static and transpiration techniques. Finally conventional phase studies are underway in the system  $\text{HfI}_4$ -Hf to establish the identity of the lower halides as well as to provide a possible analogue of the metallic  $\text{Th}^{4+}(\text{I}^-)_2(\text{e}^-)_2$ .

Publication

1. Clark and Corbett, "Preparation of Metallic Thorium Diiodide," *Inorg. Chem.* 2, 460 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. D. Corbett/B. N. Ramsey

1/10/64

## REACTION OF METALS WITH THEIR MOLTEN HALIDES

The nature of the solutions formed by many metals in their molten halides presents a challenging problem in high temperature chemistry. Present work is directed particularly toward obtaining (1) further evidence for slightly stable, lower oxidation states commonly thought to be formed in many of these solutions, and (2) additional understanding of the unusual spectral and conductivity features of certain systems.

Specifically, the rare earth metal-metal halide systems have proven to be a fruitful area of investigation, and at present, phase relationships of the respective metals with Sc, Y, and Er chlorides and iodides are being examined. The temperature and concentration dependence of the electronic conductivity in halide solutions of La, Ce and Pr are being investigated to provide information on the electron exchange mechanism that is thought to take place between  $M^{2+}$  solute ions suggested by cryoscopic evidence and  $M^{3+}$  solvent cations.

Substitution of  $AlX_4^-$  for  $X^-$  in systems such as  $CdX_2$ -Cd is known to effect a substantial increase in the stability of the solute,  $Cd^{2+}$  in this case. The accompanying, marked change in the visible and UV spectra is being studied, and the reduction products of other  $M(AlCl_4)_2$  salts (e.g., Pb, Ni) in  $NaAlCl_4$  solvent are being studied by EMF methods.

Publication

1. Dworkin, Sallach, Bronstein, Bredig and Corbett, "The Electrical Conductivity of Solutions of Metals in Their Molten Halides. VI. Lanthanum, Cerium, Praseodymium, and Neodymium in Their Molten Iodides." J. Phys. Chem. 67 1145-1148 (1963).\*

\*Joint Study with ORNL.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Hugo F. Franzen/John Smeggil

3/1/64

## PHASE RELATION AND VAPORIZATION REACTIONS AT HIGH TEMPERATURES

The goals of this research are to describe high temperature condensed phase relations, to determine the thermodynamics of high temperature vaporization reactions, and to contribute to the understanding of the relationship between the nature of condensed phases and their mode of vaporization.

A study of the condensed phase relations in the hafnium-sulfur system is in progress. A study of the vaporization behavior of this system will follow. A study of the transition between the well known monosulfide of vanadium and the recently discovered substoichiometric monosulfide is in progress. A precise determination will be made of the lattice parameter versus composition curve.

A study of the transport of boron in bromine atmospheres under the influence of temperature gradients is being initiated. It is hoped that this study will produce fundamental information about the nature of the vaporization process, i.e. information about the nature of the reaction which occurs when gaseous bromine reacts with solid boron to produce gaseous boron tribromide.

1A22

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. S. Martin, Jr.

3/1/64

#### CHEMICAL EFFECTS IN NUCLEAR REACTIONS

For  $(n, \gamma)$  and  $(\gamma, n)$  processes the radioactive nuclides produced are the same chemical elements as the target. Therefore if a target element is in a suitable chemical compound, recoil from the nuclear reaction may leave the radionuclide in a chemical form which can be separated from the bulk target element. The radioactivity may then be isolated with much reduced dilution by stable nuclides so that greater sensitivity in radiochemical techniques may be achieved. The identification of the particular chemical species which carries the radionuclides provides information about the reactions of the "hot" atoms recoiling from the nuclear neutrons with kinetic energy in excess of thermal energy. In some instances the activity is reincorporated into the target compound by thermal aging. The chemical identification of  $\text{Co}^{58}$  activity as  $\text{Co}^{++}$ , as the target compound, and as other general and specific  $\text{Co}^{\text{III}}$ -complexes is to be determined with the  $(\gamma, n)$  process on tris(ethylenediamine)cobalt(III),  $\text{Co}(\text{en})_3^{+3}$ , and hexaamminecobalt(III),  $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6^{+3}$ , salts in the ISU synchrotron. Also, the exchange of  $\text{W}^{187}$  between tungstate polymers and orthotungstate,  $\text{WO}_4^{-2}$ , is to be studied to determine if the polymers can possibly be used for this Szilard-Chalmers type of separation.

1A23

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. S. Martin, Jr./Henry Abbink

3/1/64

#### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF SILVER HALIDES

The conductivity of silver halides is strongly dependent upon the impurity content, and the dependence of the conductivity upon temperature and impurity concentrations permits a test of theories and models for these ionic compounds. Silver chloride has been purified by fractional distillation at low pressures in a silica apparatus, and single crystals have been prepared from this pure material. The electrical conductivity of this material has indicated high purity. Single crystals of  $\text{AgCl}$  have also been prepared to which a small amount of either  $\text{CuCl}$  and  $\text{CdCl}_2$  has been added. Neutron activation analyses are being utilized to analyze these crystals in order to attain the necessary sensitivity, and an evaluation of the electrical conductivity as a function of temperature and concentration is under way.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. S. Martin, Jr./R. C. Tucker

1/10/64

## CHEMISTRY OF THE PLATINUM ELEMENTS

The platinum metals form a group of elements with striking resistance to corrosion, high temperatures and chemical catalytic activity. Their compounds possess a wide range of chemical and physical properties which are important in separation processes and in fundamental considerations of chemical bonding.

The rates of substitution for halide ligands in a series of complexes of platinum(II) by water, hydroxide, ammonia and halide groups are being determined by spectrophotometric and conductimetric methods together with isotopic tracer techniques. Current emphasis is being given to the reactions of trichloroammineplatinate(II) ion,  $(\text{Pt}(\text{NH}_3)\text{Cl}_3)^-$ , dichloro(ethylenediamine)platinate(II),  $(\text{Pt}(\text{en})\text{Cl}_2)$  and the sym-trans- $\mu$ -dichloro-dichlorobis(ethylene)diplatinum(II),  $(\text{Pt}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4)\text{Cl}_2)_2$ .

The ultraviolet and visible absorption spectra provide important information about the electronic transition of these complexes. The determination of these spectra in single crystals with polarized light of  $\text{PtCl}_4^{-2}$  has provided a definitive identification of the excited states of this ion. The theoretical treatment developed for this ion provides a significant development in the considerations of these spectra so additional efforts are being directed toward improving techniques for obtaining crystal spectra.

Procedures are under development for the determination by activation analysis of each of the platinum metals in specimens of the various elements. Since the presence of small amounts of these elements frequently alter chemical properties, one objective will be the attainment of maximum sensitivity.

Publication

1. Lokken, Martin, "Exchange and Substitution Reactions of Platinum(II) Complexes. IX. Trichloro(ethylene)platinate(II)", Inorg. Chem. 2, 562-568 (1963).

1A25

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Jack E. Powell/Harvey Burkholder

3/1/64

SEPARATION OF RARE EARTHS BY ION EXCHANGE

Isolation of individual rare earths in a highly pure form continues to be an important and challenging problem. The search for more efficient methods than are presently used for isolating the less abundant rare earth elements: Lutetium, thulium, terbium and europium. It is believed that the current methods of separation and isolation can be improved substantially by employing better combinations of existing procedures and by incorporating new techniques based on fundamental data obtained from measurement of chelate stability constants. The effects of operating at elevated temperature are also being investigated. In order to evaluate new schemes effectively, larger-than-laboratory-scale experiments are necessary to learn about potential scale up problems.

1A26

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Jack E. Powell/Duane Nowlin

3/1/64

SEPARATION OF LIGHT ISOTOPES

The separation of isotopes of light elements from one another by ion exchange and continuous countercurrent liquid-liquid extraction is important from both fundamental and practical points of view. The most fruitful approach to study isotope separation appears to lie in the direction of small-scale dynamic equilibrium studies which furnish unequivocal answers as to the ultimate separation factors that can be had in various chemical exchange systems.

In the past, such studies have been successful in establishing the practicality of enriching nitrogen-15 in ammonia and various amine ion exchange systems, the enriching of lithium-6 on cation exchange resins and the enriching of sulfur isotopes by anion exchange. Present plans include the investigation of countercurrent means of separating chlorine-35 and chlorine-37, and further study of chemical exchange systems for separating sulfur isotopes.

In addition to separation factors, dynamic equilibrium studies on ion exchange columns provide information about theoretical plate heights and chemical stability, both of which are essential for evaluating practical applications.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. E. Powell/A. Gupta/J. Farrell/Y. Suzuki

3/1/64

## DETERMINATION OF STABILITY CONSTANTS OF RARE EARTH COMPLEX SPECIES

Formation constant sequences and related data for the individual complex species formed between the lanthanons, yttrium and scandium and various organic ligands are of both theoretical and practical value to scientists interested in chelation and coordination theories and in the efficient separation of rare earths by ion exchange, solvent extraction or fractional precipitation for either preparative or analytical reasons.

The list of ligands investigated recently at Ames includes propionate, isobutyrate, thioglycolate, methoxyacetate, glycolate, lactate,  $\alpha$ -hydroxyisobutyrate, glyoxylate, benzilate, tricarballylate, trimethylactate, trihydroxyisobutyrate and 2,3-dihydroxy-2-methylbutyrate. From information obtained from, and anomalies observed in some of these stability sequences, it appears that many additional homologues and analogues of  $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids merit investigation as to their potential as chelating agents for rare earths and yttrium. Some of the ligands to be studied, of necessity, will have to be synthesized in the laboratory.

Publications

1. Kolat and Powell, "The Solid Rare-Earth Chelates of Ethylenediaminetetraacetic Acid", J. Inorg. Chem., 1, 485-490 (1962).
2. Gupta and Powell, "Formation Constants of the Complex Species Formed by Interaction of Rare Earth N-Hydroxy-Ethylethylenediamine-N,N,N,-triacetate Complexes with an Equivalent Amount of Base", J. Inorg. Chem., 1, 955-956 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

A. F. Voigt/R. G. Clark/W. A. Stensland/E. C. Jacobsen 3/1/64

HIGH PURITY MATERIALS STUDIES USING ACTIVATION ANALYSIS FOR IMPURITY  
DETERMINATION

The use of neutron activation is being investigated as an analytical tool for problems in the development of materials of high purity and known composition. Thermal neutrons from reactors have been used in the analysis for sodium in the sodium tungsten bronzes. Current problems include the determination of tantalum impurity in thorium and rare earths, of rare earths in each other and in yttrium, of impurities from container materials in various metals and ceramics.

A 14 Mev neutron generator has been installed and is being applied to the determination of oxygen by the reaction  $O^{16}(n,p)N^{16}(7 \text{ sec.})$ . A programmed rapid delivery system is used to give the sample an irradiation of fixed duration followed by delivery to the counter and recording of counts for a fixed period. The method will be applied to various metals as a check on spectroscopic and vacuum fusion techniques and to other metals to which these procedures cannot be applied. The determination of other light element impurities will also be studied.

Much of the future program will involve the use of the Ames Laboratory Research Reactor when it becomes available during the next year.

Publication

1. Reuland and Voigt, "Activation Analysis for Sodium Tungsten Bronzes", Anal. Chem. 35, 1263 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

A. F. Voigt/D. B. DeVries/D. E. Clark/F. G. Mesich

3/1/64

## RECOIL CHEMISTRY OF CARBON-11

The behavior of atoms with energies greater than those of the surrounding molecules is related to the understanding of the interaction of energy and matter. Of particular interest is the behavior of carbon in organic molecules since carbon chains form the skeleton of the molecules. The availability of a synchrotron in which the 20 min.  $C^{11}$  can be produced by the  $C^{12}(\nu, n)$  reaction and of rapid gas chromatographic separation have made it possible to study the behavior of high energy carbon atoms as they enter into chemical combination. For hydrocarbons with six carbon atoms as targets: benzene, cyclohexane, normal and branched hexanes, the products of lower molecular weight have been characterized and their yields correlated with reaction mechanisms. In all cases the most abundant gaseous product is acetylene. Its yield is unaffected by iodine scavenger while those of other gases, methane, ethane, ethylene, are reduced. Results support a bond-insertion mechanism in which the energetic carbon combines with the parent molecule but contributes sufficient energy to the intermediate to cause C-C bonds to break. With this mechanism molecules with seven carbons should also result. The first experiments designed to observe the latter indicate they are formed in high yield. This portion of the products will be examined in more detail. In other future work other types of molecules will be irradiated and absolute yields determined.

Publication

1. Rack, Lang and Voigt, "Influence of Structure on Gaseous Products from  $C^{11}$  Recoil Reactions of Hydrocarbons", J. Chem. Phys. 38, 1211 (1963).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

Lawrence Burkhart/Rowland Felt

1/10/64

## FUSED SALT-MOLTEN METAL EXTRACTION

Fused salt-molten metal extraction has been proposed as a method for reprocessing nuclear reactor fuel. It also appears to be useful for pure metal production, and perhaps for other chemical processing operations. Fused salts possess many unique properties for high temperature processing. They are liquid over a wide temperature range, have a low vapor pressure, good electrical conductivity, and low viscosity.

Although considerable effort is being devoted to fused salt chemistry, not much attention has been given to fused salt-molten metal processing. In this project a multistage fused salt-molten metal extractor has been operated at 220°C to separate cadmium from a lead-bismuth eutectic using a sodium-potassium-zinc chloride eutectic salt mixture. The most important factors in fused salt-molten metal extraction equipment are agitation and drop size. Limiting resistances in the transfer process are probably diffusion through the metal phase and the formation of oxide or other films at the salt-metal interface. The presence of reaction products at the interface may also shift the equilibrium constant to a different value from that calculated for the bulk phases. Kinetic studies of the transfer process are continuing since this seems to be the most immediate problem in the proper design of such extraction equipment.

SECTION 1B

AMES LABORATORY - CHEMICAL ENGINEERING DIVISION

1B

- 1B1 Mass Transfer Through A Changing Interface: Extraction From Forming and Collapsing Drops
- 1B4 Fused Salt-Molten Metal Extraction
- 1B3 Laminar Flow Heat Transfer in the Thermal Entry Region at Low Peclet Numbers
- 1B4 Thermodynamic Properties of Liquid Metal Systems
- 1B5 Liquid Metal Vaporization
- 1B6 Liquid Metal Distillation
- 1B7 Turbulent Transport of Heat, Mass, and Momentum
- 1B8 Separation of Rare Earths by Solvent Extraction
- 1B9 Halogenation Studies

For further information on work completed, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature and to the Ames Laboratory Annual Summary Report for July 1962 through June 1963, IS-700, September, 1963.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

L. Burkhart/W. Scholle/J. San Giovanni/H. Torrey

1/10/64

MASS TRANSFER THROUGH A CHANGING INTERFACE:  
EXTRACTION FROM FORMING AND COLLAPSING DROPS

Mass transfer studies are being made for solute diffusing through a changing interface, during droplet formation and collapse. Three models for the mass transfer process under these conditions have been tested -- a molecular diffusion model, a surface renewal model and a cellular renewal model. All three are much too simplified to describe the mass transfer process under these conditions, particularly when they do not account for the possibility of interfacial turbulence.

For identical experiments on mass transfer from forming droplets, the presence of interfacial turbulence has been shown to give a 30 to 35 percent increase in mass transfer.

Analysis of flow patterns within a forming and collapsing drop from both mathematical and experimental data is being used to clarify the type of model to be used for mass transport within the droplet. Dynamic measurement of mass transfer from a rising droplet will provide continuous concentration data as a function of column position and will minimize extrapolation techniques in determining the relative importance of drop formation and drop rise time on mass transfer.

Single drop studies will be extended to extraction from orifice plates to obtain information for filling the gap in research between single droplet extraction studies, and work involving perforated plates with many holes.

Publication:

1. Honekamp and Burkhart, "Role of the Packing in a Scheibel Extractor," Ind. Eng. Chem., Process Design and Development Section, 1, 176 (1962).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

Lawrence Burkhart/Kermit Holman/Robert Huang

1/10/64

LAMINAR FLOW HEAT TRANSFER IN THE THERMAL  
ENTRY REGION AT LOW PECLET NUMBERS

The energy equation, including axial conduction, is being studied for heat transfer to fluids with constant wall heat flux or constant wall temperature.

The constant wall heat flux model is solved by superposition of two solutions, one a fully developed heat transfer solution and the other an arbitrary function of the radial and axial independent variables. A generalized Sturm-Liouville system results and the eigenfunctions are expanded in a Bessel series. For the fully developed laminar flow models, a finite Hankel transform of the eigenfunction expansion generates an infinite system of algebraic equations for the eigenvalues and associated coefficients which are found by iteration. For the plug flow models no iteration is required.

Neglecting axial conduction at Peclet numbers less than 100 can produce errors in estimating the thermal entry region, the wall temperature distribution, or the amount of heat transfer. For the constant wall temperature models over fifty percent of the total heat transport can occur in the thermal entry region.

The results bear most particularly on heat transfer to liquid metals. Direct numerical solution of the energy equation is being studied to compare its efficiency with the eigenvalue approach, since the equations occur in several areas of chemical engineering and are usually difficult to solve.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

George Burnet/F. D. Stevenson/T. Lenz/K. Walter

1/10/64

## THERMODYNAMIC PROPERTIES OF LIQUID METAL SYSTEMS

The uncertainty of liquid metal distillation rates is due in part to the non-ideality of the alloy melts. A study of the thermodynamic properties of binary liquid metal systems confirms that improved rate predictions should be based on component activities rather than mole fractions. Current work on activity coefficient measurements is based on Langmuir's evaporation rate theory coupled with calculations using the Gibbs-Duhem equation. During the next year, measurements will be obtained on (a) binary systems with one component essentially non-volatile compared to the other and (b) binary systems with two volatile components.

The activity coefficients of the volatile component of case (a) systems will be obtained as a function of composition by a technique of simultaneous vaporization of a series of alloys. The present work is concerned with the tin-thallium system, with emphasis upon obtaining better understanding of the effect of surface conditions. If the method proves successful for binary systems, it could then be extended to ternary systems of one volatile component.

The technique of simultaneous vaporization of a series of alloys will also be used for measuring the activity coefficients of case (b) systems. In addition to measuring the rate of sample weight loss, the vapor phase composition will be established by radioactive tracers. This approach also may be extended to ternary systems of two and, possibly, three components of similar volatility.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

George Burnet/William Walsh/Charles Buell

1/10/64

## LIQUID METAL VAPORIZATION

Liquid metals vary greatly in vapor pressure and should be capable of being separated by distillation. Little is known, however, about the vaporization of liquid metal mixtures. One of the important questions yet to be answered is the extent to which the surface becomes depleted in the more volatile components. Diffusion of these components from the bulk of the liquid to the surface may well be the rate-controlling step in the process.

A high-vacuum device has been built and successfully operated which utilizes X-ray fluorescence to measure the concentration of metal ions immediately at the surface of a liquid melt. Tests conducted with the zinc-tin system have demonstrated a high degree of precision and reproducibility over the concentration range of 0 to 50% zinc.

An actual distillation conducted at 400°C showed a nearly linear reduction in zinc (the more volatile component) concentration at the surface with time. The final zinc concentration at the surface was less than that in the bulk. This is the first experimental verification of surface depletion during the vaporization of a liquid metal mixture. The effect of distillation rate and surface oxide films will be investigated, and the technique used to measure liquid phase diffusivities.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

George Burnet/Lawrence Murdoch

1/10/64

## LIQUID METAL DISTILLATION

Major difficulties encountered in separation by distillation are suitable container materials, techniques for assembling separate pieces of equipment, maintenance of high vacuum, and condensation and removal of the product from the system.

A procedure has been developed for screening a large number of container materials to determine their corrosion resistance when exposed to liquid metals under flow conditions. Trace amounts of certain metals have been found to provide corrosion resistance in some systems. A special flange assembly for liquid metal service and a liquid-metal cooled condenser have been developed.

The above work has led to the construction of a loop through which liquid metal mixtures can be circulated using a diaphragm pump. Installed in the loop is a single-stage flash distillation chamber which has given separation efficiencies higher than any previously reported. Flash chamber design, operating temperature, and feed concentration are to be investigated.

Publication

1. Burnet and Clifford, "Attack of Ferritic Steels by the Eutectic Melt of Lead-Bismuth," Chem. Eng. Progr. Symposium Series, 39, 104-107 (1962).

AMES LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

R. Fahien/W. Blumenberg/W. Crowe/D. Shuck/M. Halberg

1/10/64

## TURBULENT TRANSPORT OF HEAT, MASS, AND MOMENTUM

The design and operation of equipment for the separation of fission products as well as the design of nuclear reactors and their auxiliary equipment requires the prediction of the rates of transfer of heat, materials, and fluid momentum. Present methods for calculating these rates are not satisfactory because they only approximately handle the different effects that occur under conditions of practical interest.

An experimental program has been undertaken to determine the eddy diffusivities--quantities that are measures of the rate of transport of heat, mass and momentum under turbulent flow--as a function of flow velocity and properties of the fluid. These experiments have been carried out for

- a) Mass transport in liquids (Radial, axial, and angular components of the eddy diffusivity tensor as functions of position),
- b) Mass transport in gases,
- c) Heat transport in liquids, and
- d) Mass transport in liquids and gases flowing through packed columns.

Theoretical work has been carried out on the prediction of heat, mass, and momentum transport together with other work on the design of equipment through the use of these quantities.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

Morton Smutz/Totaro Goto

1/10/64

## SEPARATION OF RARE EARTHS BY SOLVENT EXTRACTION

The separation of the individual rare earths from one another by continuous countercurrent liquid-liquid extraction is an important problem from both a fundamental and an applied point of view. The chemistry involved in the aqueous and organic phases is not well understood and thus the selection of solvents and the operating conditions have been largely a matter of trial-and-error. As the chemistry involved with the rare earth salts as solutes is known to be similar to that observed in actinide and other systems, the results of this research will be of great interest to all working in the field of solvent extraction chemistry.

Precise equilibrium data are being obtained using organophosphate solvents such as TBP and D2EHPA with rare earth nitrates and chlorides. The data are being correlated for use in predicting equilibria for multicomponent systems. Stage-by-stage calculation methods are being developed, and the accuracy of prediction methods are being checked against data obtained in simulated column runs and continuous runs in a pulse column.

Emphasis is being given to a study of the species present in the aqueous phase because this appears to be the key to an understanding of the observed equilibrium distribution data.

AMES LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

F. D. Stevenson/D. Boesiger/J. Conway/D. Lorine

1/10/64

## HALOGENATION STUDIES

The separation of niobium from tantalum by halogenation processing is complicated by two problems: (1) the halides of niobium and tantalum are very similar both physically (vapor pressure) and chemically and (2) undesirable niobium oxychloride is formed with the desired niobium pentachloride during the initial chlorination step.

Work is underway to study the complexing tendencies of tantalum and niobium chlorides with calcium fluoride. According to previous work, separation of niobium and tantalum is enhanced by  $\text{CaF}_2$  addition. The relative volatilities of complex halides often differ significantly and could provide the volatility differences necessary for the separation. Physical and chemical properties of the reaction products, after isolation under carefully controlled conditions, will be used to confirm complex formation. Future work could lead to investigations with other alkali and alkaline earth halides and with different metal systems.

A kinetic study of the rechlorination of niobium oxychloride is in progress to establish the extent of conversion, reaction mechanism, and the reaction rate as a function of temperature. An isothermal flow reactor will be used to react chlorine with the vaporized niobium oxychloride in a packed carbon bed. The use of different chlorination and reduction agents may lead to more satisfactory conversions. The effect of pressure may also be studied depending on the mechanism of the reaction.

## SECTION 2A

### ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

- 2A1 Nuclear Reactions
- 2A2 High Resolution Studies of (p,p') and (p, $\alpha$ ) Reactions in the Mass Region A = 50 to 60
- 2A3 Isomeric Cross Section Ratio Studies
- 2A4 Investigation of Evaporation Spectra in Nuclear Reactions
- 2A5 Study of Nuclear Structure through the ( $\alpha$ , $\alpha'$ ) Reaction
- 2A6 Investigation of Fluctuations in Nuclear Reaction Cross Sections Leading to Specific Final States
- 2A7 Nuclear Properties of the Heavy Elements
- 2A8 Neutron Cross Sections of the Actinide Elements
- 2A9 Study of Fission-Spallation Reactions in Heavy Elements
- 2A10 Range-Energy Relations for Heavy Recoil Fragments of High Energy Nuclear Reactions
- 2A11 Differential Recoil Study of the  $C^{12}(p,pn)C^{11}$  Reaction
- 2A12 Radiochemical Studies of Nuclear Reactions Resulting from Muon Capture
- 2A13 The Investigation of (p,p $\pi^+$ ) Reactions
- 2A14 Fission Process Studies
- 2A15 Investigation of the Near-Threshold Fission of  $U^{235}$  by Means of the  $U^{234}(d,pf)$  Reaction
- 2A16 Recoil Studies of Nuclear Reactions Induced by High Energy Particles. I. The Production of  $Tb^{149}$
- 2A17 Investigations of Gamma Rays and Neutrons Emitted From Fission Fragments
- 2A18 Fission Studies
- 2A19 Kinetic Energy Correlations
- 2A20 Fission Properties of the Actinide Elements
- 2A21 Half-Lives and Decay Schemes

SECTION 2A (Continued)

- 2A22 Nuclear Decay Schemes
- 2A23 Beta Ray Spectrometry
- 2A24 Computer Analysis of Beta Spectra
- 2A25 Beta-Spectral Shape of the  $\text{Sb}^{122}$  Decay
- 2A26 Liquid Scintillator Studies
- 2A27 Nuclear Chemistry
- 2A28 Light Element Analysis by Rutherford Scattering
- 2A29 Geo-Cosmochemistry
- 2A30 Mineralogical and Chemical Analyses of Meteorites
- 2A31 Search for Element 61 in Nature
- 2A32 Analysis by Differential Migration
- 2A33 Isotopic Source Neutron Facility
- 2A34 Non-Destructive Activation Analysis
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- 2A83 Magnetic Susceptibility Studies
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- 2A86 The Physical Chemistry of the Interaction of (X) (Y)PO(OH) Extractants with Hydrogen Bond Donors and Acceptors
- 2A87 Physical Chemistry of Acidic Organophosphorus Compounds and Various Inorganic Salts

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- 2A87 Physical Chemistry of Acidic Organophosphorus Compounds and Various Inorganic Salts

SECTION 2A (Continued)

- 2A88 The Acid Strength of (X)(Y)PO(OH) and its Extractant Effectiveness as a Function of X and Y
- 2A89 Applicability of (X)(Y)PO(OH) Extractants to Actinide and Lanthanide Separations as a Function of X and Y
- 2A90 Transplutonium Element Separations Chemistry

For further information on completed work, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

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3/26/64

## NUCLEAR REACTIONS

The availability of the 60" Argonne Cyclotron, CP-5 Research Reactor, a 3 MeV Van de Graaff, a LINAC, and a Tandem Van de Graaff makes it possible to study a wide variety of nuclear reactions. A  $\text{Li}^{+3}$  beam has been used in the 60" cyclotron to prepare the delayed proton emitter,  $\text{Ne}^{17}$  and the delayed  $\alpha$  emitter  $\text{Ga}^{62}$  as well as to produce other neutron deficient nuclides. Several isotopes have been prepared for nuclear studies by double alpha particle irradiations, e.g.  $\text{U}^{235}(\alpha,3n)\text{Pu}^{236}(\alpha,2n)\text{Cm}^{238}$ . A general study of transfer and stripping reactions is in progress. Some transfer reactions were carried out using the Yale HILAC. A recent development in the theory of single nucleon transfer reactions shows promise. An excellent fit between theory and experiment was obtained for  $\text{Pb}^{208}(\text{He}^4, \text{He}^3)\text{Pb}^{209}$ .

The LINAC has been and will be used to measure  $(\gamma, f)$  thresholds of many heavy nuclides e.g.  $\text{Bk}^{249}$ ,  $\text{Pu}^{240}$ ,  $\text{Pu}^{242}$  etc. Some  $(\gamma, n)$  and  $(\gamma, p)$  yields have also been investigated.

A program has been activated to study  $\text{He}^3$  reactions such as compound nucleus formation, and the many different stripping reactions as soon as the  $\text{He}^3$  beam is developed early this year in the 60" cyclotron.

A search for spontaneous fission in excited isomeric states of the actinide elements is in progress. Attempts are being made to prepare these states by irradiating U, Np, Pu and Am isotopes with high energy helium ions and deuterons.

Also underway are neutron irradiations of actinides to produce isomeric states and to study the cross sections for the production of different isomeric states. In addition, isomeric states and their properties are being studied by producing these states via gamma irradiation. A study is being made of nuclear levels, and level widths by studying excitation functions with the 3 MeV Van de Graaff.

Publication:

A. M. Friedman and P. Benioff, "Single Neutron Transfer Reactions," Proceedings of Int. Conf. on Direct Interactions, Padua (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

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3/26/64

HIGH RESOLUTION STUDIES OF (p,p') AND (p, $\alpha$ ) REACTIONS  
IN THE MASS REGION A = 50 TO 60

The broad range magnetic spectrograph associated with the Argonne tandem Van de Graaff is being used to study nuclear levels produced in the (p,p') and (p, $\alpha$ ) reactions. In many cases a large enough number of residual states can be resolved to make a statistical analysis in terms of a continuous level density. To date we have studied the following reactions: Co<sup>59</sup>(p, $\alpha$ )Fe<sup>56</sup>, Mn<sup>55</sup>(p, $\alpha$ )Cr<sup>52</sup>, Fe<sup>56</sup>(p,p'), Mn<sup>55</sup>(p,p') and Co<sup>59</sup>(p,p'). A resolution (FWHM) of 6 to 9 keV has been obtained in the (p,p') measurements and final states in Fe<sup>56</sup> have been resolved with excitation energy up to 6 MeV. The level density determined by this direct counting method is being compared with other less direct determinations of the level density for the same range of excitation energy. In a number of cases it is hoped that this comparison will give some information about the uncertainties involved in these indirect determinations of the level density.

In the future we tentatively plan to extend these measurements to heavier nuclei. However, due to the decrease in cross section for charged particle emission and the increase in level density with A, the feasibility of this extension has to be investigated.

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3/26/64

## ISOMERIC CROSS SECTION RATIO STUDIES

In previous work at this Laboratory a statistical model was developed to interpret experimental isomeric cross section data and to obtain information about the angular momentum dependence of the nuclear level density. Further experiments to test this model are in progress or have been completed. Recent experimental work in this field include measurements of isomer ratios from reactions induced with the tandem Van de Graaff which provides beams of accurately known energy.

The theoretical calculation of isomer ratios have been extended to include calculations with a semi-quantitative theory for a Fermi gas with pairing correlations analogous to those of a superconducting metal. The superconductor model predicts a reduction from the Fermi gas rigid-body moment of inertia which is consistent with experimental isomer ratios for nuclei with an odd number of nucleons. However, the superconductor model overestimates the reduction in the moment of inertia for odd-odd nuclei. A manuscript "Interpretation of Isomer Ratios in Nuclear Reactions with Fermi-Gas and Superconductor Models" has just been submitted for publication in Nuclear Physics.

Publications:

H. K. Vonach, R. Vandenbosch and J. R. Huizenga, "Interpretation of Isomer Ratios in Nuclear Reactions with Fermi Gas and Superconductor Models," in press, Nuclear Physics, (1964).

C. T. Bishop, J. R. Huizenga and J. P. Hummel, "Isomer Ratios from  $(\alpha, xn)$  Reactions in Silver," in press, Physical Review (1964).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

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3/26/64

## INVESTIGATION OF EVAPORATION SPECTRA IN NUCLEAR REACTIONS

Decay of the compound nucleus  $\text{Ni}^{60}$  has been studied through the  $\text{Co}^{59}(\text{p},\alpha)\text{Fe}^{56}$  reaction. Energy spectra of  $\alpha$ -particles from this reaction were measured for protons accelerated in the Argonne tandem Van de Graaff over the energy range 7 to 13.5 MeV. The  $\alpha$ -spectra were obtained with surface barrier detectors at  $90^\circ$  and  $170^\circ$  to the beam direction. The cross section ratio  $\sigma(170^\circ)/\sigma(90^\circ)$  was determined to an accuracy of 3% as a function of both the alpha particle energy and the proton bombarding energy, and the results were analyzed in terms of the statistical theory. The angular anisotropy of the alpha particles is accounted for by only a small reduction of the moment of inertia from its rigid-body value. A nuclear temperature of 1.4 MeV was derived from the shape of the alpha particle spectra. The temperature is constant over the whole range of excitation energies which were investigated and independent of bombarding energy.

A similar investigation of the reaction  $\text{Fe}^{56}(\alpha,\alpha')$  is in progress. The proton spectra emitted by the  $\text{Ni}^{60}$  compound nucleus formed in the two above reactions will also be investigated. Furthermore, Mr. A. Katsanos (graduate student from University of Chicago) has begun a similar study for the systems  $(\text{Mn}^{55}+\text{p})$  and  $(\text{Cr}^{52}+\alpha)$ .

Publication:

H. Vonach and J. R. Huizenga, "Study of the  $\text{Co}^{59}(\text{p},\alpha)\text{Fe}^{56}$  Reaction," Bulletin of American Physical Society 9, 168 (1964).

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3/26/64

STUDY OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE THROUGH THE  $(\alpha, \alpha'f)$  REACTION

An experimental program is underway to study the  $(\alpha, \alpha'f)$  reaction. The first experiments include the measurement of the angular correlation of fission fragments for even-even targets. The  $(\alpha, \alpha'f)$  reaction allows one to investigate the interesting region near the fission threshold. Since the fissioning nucleus near threshold is relatively "cold," the saddle point is expected to have a level structure similar to that observed for the ground state deformation. For even-even nuclei where the excitation of intrinsic states requires breaking a nucleon pair, the lowest energy states are expected to be collective rotational and vibrational states.

Preliminary values of the angular dependent differential fission cross section for the  $U^{238}(\alpha, \alpha'f)$  reaction have been obtained as a function of the  $\alpha'$  energy. For the maximum energy  $\alpha'$  group the angular dependent differential fission cross section is well represented by  $1/\sin\theta$  with a measured ratio of about 10 for the maximum to minimum cross section. Such a sharp angular distribution is consistent with fissioning states of  $K = 0$ , and makes it possible to accurately determine the symmetry axis for possible distinction between various theoretical predictions.

The preliminary information obtained from this reaction is very promising and plans are underway to study the reaction in considerably more detail as well as to extend the measurements to other targets. This experiment requires a high resolution cyclotron for separation of some of the collective levels at the saddle point. The study of these levels for the highly deformed saddle configuration adds interesting new possibilities for probing nuclear structure.

Experiments are also planned to investigate long range  $\alpha$  particles from fission.

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

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3/26/64

INVESTIGATION OF FLUCTUATIONS IN NUCLEAR REACTION CROSS SECTIONS  
LEADING TO SPECIFIC FINAL STATES

Recent theoretical investigations by Ericson and Brink have shown that the fluctuations in the cross sections of nuclear reactions in the excitation energy region of strongly overlapping levels in the compound nucleus can yield important information about nuclear reactions.

We have investigated these fluctuations in the excitation functions of the ground and several excited states in  $Fe^{56}$  produced in the  $Co^{59}(p,\alpha)Fe^{56}$  reaction. Measurements of the differential cross sections of the  $\alpha$ -groups at  $90^\circ$  and  $170^\circ$  to the beam direction were made in 10-keV steps with a target of 5-keV thickness for two proton energy regions, 7.90 to 8.10 MeV and 10.90 to 11.10 MeV.

The dependence of the amplitude of the fluctuations on angle and spin of the final state, as well as the absence of cross-correlations between different final states is qualitatively in agreement with the earlier mentioned theory. Analysis of the data in terms of a correlation function gives an upper limit of 10 keV for the width of the compound nuclear states. Making use of this value in conjunction with statistical model calculations enables one to estimate the level density of the compound nucleus at an excitation energy of approximately 20 MeV.

These measurements will be extended to larger energy intervals in order to improve the statistical accuracy of the analysis. In addition, we plan to study the angular dependence of the fluctuations in more detail, and to extend the studies to other reactions and targets.

Publication:

H. K. Vonach and J. R. Huizenga, "Ericson Fluctuations in the  $Co^{59}(p,\alpha)Fe^{56}$  Reaction," Bulletin, American Physical Society, Washington Meeting, (1964).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

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3/26/64

## NUCLEAR PROPERTIES OF THE HEAVY ELEMENTS

The nuclear properties such as alpha energies and half lives, spontaneous fission half lives,  $\beta$  decay and electron capture energies and half lives, and the systematic behavior of these properties in the heavy element region are constantly being investigated. Many different techniques are employed, such as specific activity determinations, mass spectrometry, and decay over a period of time. Correlation with theories are also sought.

Detailed investigations of the decay schemes of heavy elements are also carried out, particularly alpha decay, with the aid of solid state detectors. Bk<sup>245</sup>, Bk<sup>247</sup>, Bk<sup>248</sup>, Bk<sup>249</sup>, Cf<sup>246</sup> and Cf<sup>248</sup> are recent isotopes which have been investigated. In the near future Cm<sup>246</sup>, Cm<sup>248</sup>, Cm<sup>240</sup>, Cm<sup>241</sup> and Cf<sup>251</sup> will be examined.

A search is underway for nuclear isomerism in the heavy element region. Among the odd neutron - odd proton nuclides, Am<sup>244</sup> and Bk<sup>248</sup> have been demonstrated to possess long lived isomers. Other possible isomers are being investigated, as for example, Am<sup>246</sup>, Bk<sup>246</sup>, and Ac<sup>228</sup>.

In some cases where the half lives appear to be very long, as for example, Pu<sup>244</sup> and Cm<sup>247</sup>, the possible geochemical significance is investigated.

Publications:

R. Vandenbosch, P. R. Fields, S. E. Vandenbosch, and D. Metta, "Search for a Spontaneous Fission Branch in a Metastable State of Cm<sup>244</sup>," J. Inorg. and Nucl. Chem., 26, 219 (1964).

A. M. Friedman and J. Milsted, "Alpha Decay of Cf<sup>246</sup>," Phys. Rev. 131, 772 (1963).

J. Milsted, A. M. Friedman and C. M. Stevens, "The Alpha Half-Life of Bk<sup>247</sup>; A New Long-Lived Isomer of Bk<sup>248</sup>," to be published, Phys. Rev.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

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3/26/64

## NEUTRON CROSS SECTIONS OF THE ACTINIDE ELEMENTS

The neutron cross sections of the actinide elements are quite important in order to calculate the rate of formation of these elements and their various isotopes in reactor irradiations and also to evaluate the effect on reactivity of actinide elements which are produced in fuel materials during reactor operations. In cooperation with the Physics Division the neutron cross sections of many actinide elements have been studied as a function of neutron energy using the Argonne Fast Chopper.  $\text{Th}^{229}$ ,  $\text{Th}^{230}$ ,  $\text{Pu}^{242}$ ,  $\text{Am}^{243}$ ,  $\text{Cm}^{244}$ , and  $\text{Cm}^{246}$  have recently been studied in this manner. This type of study yields the parameters describing the neutron resonances in the energy range 0.01 to 900 e.v. and thermal neutron cross sections.

Neutron fission cross sections in the range of 0.02 - 1.80 MeV have been studied using the Reactor Engineering Division Van de Graaff. Recently  $\text{Pu}^{238}$ ,  $\text{Pu}^{241}$ ,  $\text{Am}^{241}$  and  $\text{Am}^{243}$  have been measured.

In addition to the Fast Chopper and the Van de Graaff measurements, effective pile neutron cross sections, both capture and fission, are also being measured. These neutron cross sections are of practical importance.  $\text{Pu}^{243}$ ,  $\text{Bk}^{249}$ , and  $\text{Cm}^{248}$  are now being investigated.

Fast Chopper measurements will be made with  $\text{Cm}^{247}$ ,  $\text{Cm}^{248}$ ,  $\text{Bk}^{249}$ ,  $\text{Cf}^{250}$ , and  $\text{Cf}^{251}$  when these isotopes are available in sufficient quantities. Effective pile neutron cross sections of some heavy curium isotopes, californium and einsteinium will be measured during the next year.

Publication:

R. E. Cote, R.J. Barnes and H. Diamond, "The Total Neutron Cross Sections of  $\text{Cm}^{244}$  and  $\text{Cm}^{246}$ ," to be published, Physical Review, 1964.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

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3/26/64

## STUDY OF FISSION-SPALLATION REACTIONS IN HEAVY ELEMENTS

This experiment has been scheduled for the ZGS at Argonne and will be initiated as soon as the machine becomes operational.

The mechanism of fission at high energies will be studied with respect to total kinetic energy release, the excitation energy deposited in the target nucleus by the bombarding proton, and the anisotropy of the process itself. Several targets have been selected of which  $U^{238}$  and  $Bi^{209}$  would be the first investigated.

Previous studies at lower energies (450 MeV proton fission of  $U^{238}$ ) indicate that the two wings of the mass-yield fission curve appear to be predominantly formed by two different processes, described as high and low deposition energy events. It is of interest to determine whether the low-energy process is still prevalent at higher bombarding energies and to determine the variation of average deposition energy with incident particle energy. Other mechanisms, such as spallation and "fragmentation" should become more dominant at higher energies, especially for neutron deficient species and very light products.

The observed average excitation energy deposited for the formation of a given product will be compared with the results of Monte Carlo calculations.

The formation ratios and recoil properties of isomeric pairs will also be investigated to obtain information of angular momentum effects in these reactions.

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3/26/64

RANGE-ENERGY RELATIONS FOR HEAVY RECOIL FRAGMENTS  
OF HIGH ENERGY NUCLEAR REACTIONS

The differential recoil cross-sections needed for the interpretation of high energy nuclear reactions have involved the determination of recoil energies and momenta from measured range data. There have been some recent theoretical and experimental studies of range-energy relations, and a renewed interest in this field is apparent. However, there is still considerable uncertainty in the utilization of differential range measurements.

We have carried out a study of the differential ranges of  $C^{11}$  fragments in thin aluminum catcher foils over the energy range 3-6 Mev. Recoils of known energy were produced by the reactions  $B^{11}(p,n)C^{11}$  and  $B^{11}(He,T)C^{11}$  at the ANL Tandem Van de Graaff. These measurements are directly applicable to the ranges observed in the  $C^{12}(p,pn)C^{11}$  study reported above. In addition, comparisons with the theory of Lindhard et al. and the work of Northcliffe are being made.

During the next year, we plan to apply time-of-flight techniques to the study of the recoil fragments from high energy nuclear reactions to evaluate, and perhaps avoid, some of the difficulties of range to energy conversion.

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3/26/64

DIFFERENTIAL RECOIL STUDY OF THE  $C^{12}(p,pn)C^{11}$  REACTION

A preliminary study of the  $C^{12}(p,pn)C^{11}$  reaction was made with the external 450 Mev proton beam of the University of Chicago Synchrocyclotron using a polystyrene target and stacked, thin aluminum catcher foils at  $30^\circ$ ,  $60^\circ$ ,  $90^\circ$ ,  $120^\circ$  and  $135^\circ$  to the beam direction. Although it was possible to obtain reasonably good average range values for the recoils at these angles, the intensity was so low that large catcher foils were necessary. The resulting angular resolution was very poor. In addition, the low intensity prevented any observation of a high-momentum tail on the distributions. The data have been analyzed, therefore, in terms of the experimentally obtained average range.

The results obtained are consistent with the description of the  $C^{12}$  and  $C^{11}$  ground-state wave functions as pure harmonic-oscillator, single-particle states, with the distortion effects included by leaving the spring constant as a parameter to be determined from the data. The constant so obtained agrees with the value ( $\sim 8$  Mev) obtained from nucleon density distributions by electron scattering experiments. This indicates that the distortion effects are small.

However, this result is very preliminary and rather crude. We hope to utilize the high intensity proton beam of the ZGS to obtain data of higher angular resolution and sufficient intensity to examine the high momentum tails of the distribution in detail. These data should then lead to a more meaningful analysis.

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3/26/64

RADIOCHEMICAL STUDIES OF NUCLEAR REACTIONS RESULTING FROM  
MUON CAPTURE

Negative muons produced by decay of pions may be absorbed in target materials where they enter into atomic orbitals and are subsequently captured by the nucleus. Most of the work on muon capture has been done by counter techniques in which the emitted particles are observed. The identification and measurement of the reaction products by radiochemical techniques has been difficult because kilogram amounts of target were necessary in order to obtain adequate counting rates. Muon beams of much higher intensity are now available at CERN (Geneva) and, more recently, at the University of Chicago.

In the present work, the use of these high-intensity beams for radiochemical studies is being investigated for application to measurements of the excitation energy imparted to the nucleus after capture, and as a simple analytical technique of measuring the relative frequency of capture of muons by the constituent elements of compounds used as targets. The former is believed to reflect the momentum distribution of protons with the nucleus and the latter may resolve conflicting experimental results as to whether nuclear charge effects extend to the outermost electrons of atoms in insulator type materials.

In cooperation with the nuclear chemistry group at CERN, iodine and zinc targets were irradiated for periods up to 10 hours in the high-intensity muon beam of the CERN synchrocyclotron. Stopping rates of  $5 \times 10^5$  muons per minute were obtained for targets weighing 500g, and the counting rates of higher-yield products were easily adequate for identification by decay periods. Calibration data are still being obtained and further irradiations are being made by the CERN group.

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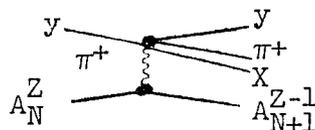
E. P. Steinberg/A. F. Stehney/L. Winsberg

3/26/64

THE INVESTIGATION OF  $(p, p\pi^+)$  REACTIONS

This experiment has been scheduled for the ZGS at Argonne and will be initiated as soon as the machine becomes operational.

The possibility of obtaining fundamental information from the study of this reaction is indicated by the papers of Chew and Low [Phys. Rev. 113, 1640 (1959)] and T. Ericson et al. [Nuclear Physics 36, 353 (1962)]. They have shown how one can relate the differential recoil cross section for the  $(y, y\pi^+X)$  reaction on any target nucleus to the free  $\pi^+$ - $y$  total cross section. This relation assumes that the principal contribution to the cross section comes from diagrams of the type where  $y$  is any incident bombarding particle and  $X$  is a collective line for any further particles which satisfy appropriate conservation laws.



The essential theoretical point is that by measuring the angular and energy distribution of the recoil nucleus  $A_{N+1}^{Z-1}$  one can obtain the total  $\pi^+$ - $y$  cross section over a range of energies whose values are related to the energy and momentum of the recoil nucleus. For example, if  $y = \pi^+$  or  $\pi^-$  we would have a method of measuring the  $\pi^+-\pi^-$  or  $\pi^+-\pi^+$  total cross sections at different energies, cross sections about which almost nothing is known experimentally.

The validity of this method of obtaining such cross sections requires that the effect of many approximations made in the theoretical development be small. As a test of the method, we will first investigate the  $(p, p\pi^+X)$  reaction to determine  $\sigma_{\pi-p}(E)$  and compare it with known values.

Bombardments of  $P^{31}$ ,  $Cu^{65}$ ,  $Ag^{109}$ ,  $Au^{197}$  and  $Bi^{209}$  are planned using the internal proton beam of the ZGS at 6 and 12 Bev. The kinetic energy distribution of recoiling atoms from the  $(p, p\pi^+)$  reaction will be measured by a  $2\pi$  stacked catcher foil technique.

Future work is planned to obtain the angular distribution of the recoils and to study the  $(\pi, \pi\pi^+)$  reaction with the ultimate aim of determining the mechanism of simple nuclear reactions and the nature of the  $\pi, \pi$  interaction.

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3/26/64

## FISSION PROCESS STUDIES

Investigation of the relative yields of nuclear isomers by direct formation in fission may shed some light on the question of how much nuclear spin is imparted to the primary fragments in the fission process. Yields for the isomeric pair  $\text{Te}^{131m}$  (spin 11/2) -  $\text{Te}^{131g}$  (spin 3/2) were measured in thermal-neutron-induced fission of  $\text{U}^{233}$ ,  $\text{U}^{235}$ , and  $\text{Pu}^{239}$ . Preferential formation of the isomer of higher spin may be taken to indicate high nuclear spin in the primary fission fragments. Future studies will include the isomers of  $\text{Nb}^{95}$  and  $\text{Pd}^{111}$  for which preliminary evidence points to a preferential formation of the low spin isomer contrary to expectations.

A radiochemical study has been made of the distribution of mass in thermal-neutron-induced fission of  $\text{Th}^{229}$ . A similar study will be made for  $\text{Cm}^{245}$ .

In connection with the problem of charge distribution in fission the independent yields of shielded nuclides in the relatively unexplored near-symmetrical mass region are under investigation.

A new program in the study of the fission process now underway is the direct physical determination of the division of nuclear charge (atomic number) as a function of mass split. The experimental technique involves the measurement by a proportional gas counter (or NaI detector) of the energy of the characteristic K x-rays emitted by the excited fission fragments in coincidence with two solid-state fission fragment detectors which determine the mass split by measurement of the fragment kinetic energy ratio. Preliminary experiments with a  $\text{Cf}^{252}$  spontaneous fission source indicate that the prompt x-rays accompanying fission arise from interval conversion of the  $\gamma$ -rays emitted in the de-excitation of the primary fission fragments, and not from any K vacancies that might be caused by the fission process itself. In the near future this study will include neutron induced fission of  $\text{U}^{233}$ ,  $\text{U}^{235}$ , and  $\text{Pu}^{239}$ , but may be expanded later to include charged particle fission.

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3/26/64

INVESTIGATION OF THE NEAR-THRESHOLD FISSION OF  $U^{235}$   
BY MEANS OF THE  $U^{234}(d, pf)$  REACTION

The fission of the nucleus  $U^{235}$  is being studied near the fission threshold by use of the  $U^{234}(d, pf)$  reaction. A three parameter analyzer is used to record the kinetic energies of the proton and both fission fragments for each nuclear event. The energy of the absorbed neutron and hence the excitation energy of the  $U^{235}$  nucleus can be calculated from the measured proton energy. The masses of both fission fragments can be calculated from the measured fragment energies. With this information the fission properties of the  $U^{235}$  nucleus such as correlations between the total kinetic energy release, fragment mass, nuclear excitation energy, fragment angular distributions, etc. can be simultaneously studied over a wide range (4 MeV) of well defined excitation energies. This work has shown: 1) within the first 2 MeV above threshold, fission proceeds through at least eight groups of nuclear states, 2) at a specific nuclear excitation energy, fission fragments of all masses have the same angular distribution, 3) the average total kinetic energy release varies by less than 0.8% for the different groups of fissioning states observed.

Further experimental work is being planned and theoretical investigations are currently in progress to interpret the various observed fissioning states.

Publication:

R. Vandenbosch, J. P. Unik, J. R. Huizenga and B. D. Wilkins, "Fission Fragment Correlations for the  $U^{234}(d, pf)$  Reactions," Bulletin, American Physical Society, Washington Meeting (1964).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. Winsberg

3/26/64

RECOIL STUDIES OF NUCLEAR REACTIONS INDUCED BY HIGH ENERGY  
PARTICLES. I. THE PRODUCTION OF  $Tb^{149}$ 

A paper of the above title has been submitted for publication in the Physical Review. The purpose of this study was to determine as much as possible about the mechanism of proton and alpha-particle induced reactions by the application of relatively simple techniques. The targets employed were Ta, Au, and Bi. The range of proton energies was  $\sim 0.4 - 6.2$  Bev; in the case of alpha particles,  $0.5 - 0.88$  Bev. The experimental results were then analyzed for the details of the mechanism by applying the laws of energy and momentum conservation in a general way.

This program will be continued with the following objectives:

1. Continue these experiments with protons of energies up to the maximum available at the Argonne ZGS accelerator.
2. Apply the latest modifications of nuclear evaporation theory to the information gained from these experiments in order to determine the role of nuclear evaporation in these reactions.
3. Investigate whether the optical or some other model is useful in interpreting these reactions.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. P. Unik

3/26/64

INVESTIGATIONS OF GAMMA RAYS AND NEUTRONS  
EMITTED FROM FISSION FRAGMENTS

Investigations are currently in progress to study the gamma rays and neutrons emitted by fission fragments. Using a multiparameter analyzer, correlations are being studied between the fission-fragment masses and the energy spectra and half lives of the gamma rays emitted by the fragments. The spectra of "prompt" gamma rays ( $t_{1/2} \leq 10^{-8}$  sec) have been found to be extremely complex and will require elaborate analysis. The gamma rays emitted between  $10^{-8}$  and  $10^{-7}$  sec after fission come from four principal mass groups with average masses of 99, 107, 134, and 146. The study of these gamma-ray spectra for various fragment masses provides information on the energy levels in very neutron excess nuclei that can not be studied by any other means.

An investigation has recently been initiated to study the frequency distribution of neutrons emitted from fission fragments as a function of the fission-fragment mass for nuclei of varying nuclear excitation energy. This study will provide information on how the initial nuclear excitation energy is divided between the two fragments and could possibly determine which of the two current nuclear fission theories (two mode hypothesis or fragment-shell theory) is more accurate.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. E. Gindler/K. Flynn/J. R. Huizenga

3/26/64

## FISSION STUDIES

1. The anisotropic distribution of individual fission fragments is of interest because of the correlation between anisotropy and asymmetry. Initial results with 43-MeV alpha-particles on radium show that fission products with a mass ratio of 1.01 to 1.28 have an average  $W(165^\circ)/W(90^\circ)$  anisotropy of 1.77. Fission products with a mass ratio of 1.47 to 1.72 have an average anisotropy of 2.26. This study is to be extended to other alpha-particle energies.

2. Fission product mass distributions resulting from the bombardment of  $\text{Ra}^{226}$  with 10.5 MeV protons are triple-peaked. This is a result of  $\text{Ac}^{227}$  and  $\text{Ac}^{226}$  nuclei undergoing fission. Actinium-227 may be prepared by the  $\text{Ra}^{226}(n,\gamma)\text{Ra}^{227}\beta^-\rightarrow\text{Ac}^{227}$  process. It is planned to irradiate  $\text{Ac}^{227}$  with photons of 11 MeV and to determine the mass distribution of its fission products. Irradiations with 18-MeV photons will result in both  $\text{Ac}^{227}$  and  $\text{Ac}^{226}$  fissioning. These mass distributions will be compared with the distributions that have been measured for proton-induced fission of radium. It is expected that other fission measurements will be made with actinium as the target material: anisotropy, cross sections, and kinetic energy distributions of the fission fragments. This will be done for a variety of projectiles: protons, deuterons, and alpha-particles.

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Chemistry Division

J. R. Huizenga/J. P. Unik

3/26/64

## KINETIC ENERGY CORRELATIONS

Two-dimensional analysis of fission fragment kinetic energies is a powerful method of studying mass distributions and kinetic energy distributions. A series of experiments has been completed for the fissioning nuclei produced by bombardment of  $\text{Bi}^{209}$ ,  $\text{Ra}^{226}$ , and  $\text{U}^{238}$  with 30 to 42 MeV helium ions. A large amount of structure in the mass and energy correlations has been observed in the case of  $\text{Ra}^{226}$  and to a lesser extent in the case of  $\text{U}^{238}$ . The maximum total kinetic energy release in the case of  $\text{Ra}^{226}$  and  $\text{U}^{238}$  fission occurs at  $M_H = 135$ , while a maximum in the variance of the total kinetic energy occurs at  $M_H = 131$ . This structure in the kinetic energy is interpreted in terms of shell structure in the heavy fragment.

The full width at half maximum height in the total kinetic energy distribution for 42-MeV helium-ion-induced fission of  $\text{Bi}^{209}$  is  $16 \pm 1$  MeV in excellent agreement with a theoretical calculation of Swiatecki and Nix.

A full report on the details of these experiments has been accepted for publication in the Physical Review. Present and future correlations of the fission fragment kinetic energies are to be done with at least one additional parameter.

Publication:

J. P. Unik and J. R. Huizenga, "Binary Fission Studies of Helium-Ion-Induced Fission of  $\text{Bi}^{209}$  and  $\text{U}^{238}$ ," in press, Physical Review, April (1964).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

P. R. Fields/A. M. Friedman/H. Diamond

3/26/64

## FISSION PROPERTIES OF THE ACTINIDE ELEMENTS

The distribution of the kinetic energy of fission fragments have been measured for a great number of nuclides using neutron induced fission and spontaneous fission.  $\bar{\nu}$  (number of neutrons emitted per fission) as a function of mass split, delayed neutron groups, long range alphas, gamma rays, and the distortion of fission fragments in fission are also investigated. In some cases these parameters are measured at different neutron energies. Various coincidence techniques, detectors, multichannel and multiparameter analyzers have to be employed in the program. One of the most recent studies involves searching for tripartite fission where the three fission fragments are roughly of equal mass and measuring the frequency and the total energy of such fission events. Cf<sup>252</sup> spontaneous fission and neutron induced fission of U<sup>235</sup> are being investigated for tripartite fission.

The fission characteristics of Cf<sup>252</sup> have been and still are being measured in preparation for using this isotope as a primary neutron standard.

Fission fragment distortion in U<sup>235</sup> fission at various neutron energies will be studied as well as the fission characteristics of Cm<sup>248</sup>, Fm<sup>254</sup> and Fm<sup>256</sup>.

Publications:

A. M. Friedman, J. W. Meadows, A. B. Smith, P. R. Fields, J. Milsted and J. F. Whalen, "Fission Fragment Kinetic Energies of Cf<sup>246</sup>, Cf<sup>248</sup> and Cf<sup>254</sup>," Phys. Rev. 131, 1203 (1963).

P. R. Fields and H. Diamond, "Cf<sup>252</sup>: A Primary Standard for Neutrons; Neutron Dosimetry," Vol. II, IAEA, Vienna, 581 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. E. Glendenin/K. F. Flynn/A. Jaffey

3/26/64

## HALF-LIVES AND DECAY SCHEMES

Considerable effort is being devoted to a study of the natural radioactivities of importance in geochemistry since accurate decay constants for  $K^{40}$ ,  $Rb^{87}$ ,  $Th^{232}$ ,  $U^{235}$ , and  $U^{238}$  are needed in the geochronology of rock systems. Accurate measurements of the half-lives of  $K^{40}$ ,  $Rb^{87}$ , and  $Th^{232}$  and a study of the decay scheme of  $K^{40}$  are essentially completed, and determination of the half-lives of  $U^{235}$  and  $U^{238}$  are in progress.

Also under investigation are the half-life and  $\beta^-$  spectrum of the naturally occurring radionuclide  $Lu^{176}$  and the half-lives of the fission products  $Pd^{107}$  (~ 107 years) and  $Sm^{151}$  (~ 100 years). Future studies will include natural radioactivities such as  $In^{115}$  and  $Ac^{227}$  and the fission products  $Se^{79}$  (~  $10^5$  years, forbidden  $\beta^-$  spectrum) and  $I^{129}$  (107 years, forbidden  $\beta^-$  spectrum).

Publications:

L. E. Glendenin, "Present Status of the Decay Constants," Annals. of the New York Academy of Sciences 91, 166 (1961).

D. W. Engelkemeir, K. F. Flynn, and L. E. Glendenin, "Positron Emission in the Decay of  $K^{40}$ ," Phys. Rev. 126, 1818 (1962).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. Gindler/D. W. Engelkemeir/M. S. Freedman, et al./  
 F. S. Tomkins, et al.

3/26/64

## NUCLEAR DECAY SCHEMES

The long-lived  $\text{Np}^{236}$  isomer has been prepared by the  $\text{U}^{235}(\text{d},\text{xn})\text{Np}^{237-\text{x}}$  and  $\text{U}^{238}(\text{d},\text{xn})\text{Np}^{240-\text{x}}$  reactions. Neptunium from the first reaction was separated into its various mass components. In the 236 mass a very low intensity gamma-ray with an energy of 162 keV was observed. Coincidence measurements showed this gamma-ray to be in coincidence with K- and L-X-rays. This same gamma-ray was observed in the neptunium formed by the deuteron bombardment of  $\text{U}^{238}$ . However, so little neptunium was formed in this reaction that no mass separation was attempted. Consequently,  $\text{Np}^{237}$  and its  $\text{Pa}^{233}$  daughter contributed radiations that interfered with the determination of the  $\text{Np}^{236}$  decay scheme. A larger amount of neptunium has been prepared by the  $\text{U}^{238}(\text{d},\text{xn})$  reaction. It is anticipated that separation of the various neptunium masses will be possible and that a clearer understanding of the long-lived  $\text{Np}^{236}$  decay will result.

The decay of  $\text{Th}^{229}$ , initiated by alpha and gamma-ray measurements, has been continued. Conversion electron spectra have been studied using the double beta coincidence spectrometer. The conversion electron spectrum has been studied both in single operation and in coincidence with selected alpha groups. These studies are being continued with improved resolution.

Further studies of the optical hyperfine structure of  $\text{Th}^{229}$  are planned. Previous measurements with the 30 foot grating spectrograph have given five components of selected emission lines. This indicates that the nuclear spin of  $\text{Th}^{229}$  is greater than 3/2 and is probably 5/2. A more definitive spin determination is expected with a new grating of higher resolving power.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

M. S. Freedman/F. T. Porter/F. Wagner, Jr.

3/26/64

## BETA RAY SPECTROMETRY

The general program of decay scheme analysis on the Double Electron Coincidence Spectrometer, particularly in the heavy elements, has been started with  $\text{Th}^{229}$  and  $\text{Cm}^{241}$ . Conversion electron and alpha-electron coincidence studies on these complex schemes demonstrated the need for electron-electron coincidence measurements, particularly at energies as low as a few Kev.

To this end, substantial effort has been invested in the development of efficient low energy electron scintillation detectors. One result of this work is the first measurement of the specific scintillation response of  $\text{NaI}\cdot\text{Tl}$  to electrons as a function of electron energy, in good agreement with semi-empirical theoretical predictions. Similar measurements were made in anthracene and scintillating plastic, together with measurements of the intensity and lifetimes of numerous delayed scintillating states in all three scintillators. We now have detectors with usable efficiency as low as one Kev, and high, but not yet accurately known efficiency at 5 Kev.

In addition to the program of decay scheme studies, we plan three investigations in the near future: the continuous spectrum of internal conversion electrons (inner bremsstrahlung conversion) accompanying electron capture, in  $\text{Fe}^{55}$  (an intense, pure source must be obtained for this experiment); a detailed study of the shape of the beta spectrum of tritium near its endpoint, with reference to the problem of the mass of the antineutrino; and a strong effort to improve the absolute accuracy of spectrum shape determinations, to redress the gross discrepancies in these difficult, sensitive experiments between the results of various investigators.

Publication:

M. S. Freedman, F. T. Porter, I. Sherman and F. Wagner, Jr. Proc. IRE 9th Scint. Counter Symposium. "Electron response of  $\text{NaI}\cdot\text{Tl}$  and a comparison with anthracene and Pilot B."

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

P. Day

3/26/64

## COMPUTER ANALYSIS OF BETA SPECTRA

The determination of the electron distribution involved in a nuclear beta-decay requires a considerable amount of routine computation. In order to relieve the experimenter from these routine calculations and eliminate the possibility of making arithmetical errors, a computer program is being written in FORTRAN to process the experimental data. All data points are corrected for background and decay, then the average of all measurements at each spectrometer setting along with the standard deviations are calculated. A resolution correction is then made using the first and second moments of the spectrometer line shape. This is accomplished by finding the first and second derivatives of the momentum plot obtained by fitting groups of five points with a second order polynomial using a weighted least square method. The energies are calculated from the spectrometer calibration constant, and then the screening corrected values of the Fermi function are obtained from a stored table using the LaGrange method of three-point interpolation. A weighted linear least square analysis is then run yielding the beta spectrum end-point and area with their standard deviation. Finally the data for a "shape plot" with standard deviations is produced. There will be several options in analyzing a particular experiment. Various kinds of backgrounds including other beta spectra may be subtracted at appropriate phases of the computation. It will also be able to compute theoretical "shape factors" by various methods and apply these to the beta spectrum before the weighted linear least square analysis of the spectrum is made. A measure on the usefulness of such a program can be obtained by noting that a similar program written several years ago for the IBM-650 computer took about 15 minutes to process 500 spectrometer settings, whereas desk calculator processing required about 3 days.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

P. Day/R. Steffen\*

3/26/64

BETA-SPECTRAL SHAPE OF THE  $\text{Sb}^{122}$  DECAY

Recently there have been various attempts to explain the relative sizes of the nuclear matrix elements involved in first forbidden non-unique beta transitions. Such concepts as "K-forbiddenness" and "j-forbiddenness" have not been fully successful in explaining the relative sizes of the matrix elements deduced from the experimental data. All or part of this discrepancy may be due to inadequate experimental data. Measuring the "shape" of the electron distribution in a beta-decay process is one of the experimental techniques used for determining the relative sizes of the matrix elements. Another useful technique is to measure the beta-gamma circular polarization and the beta-gamma angular correlation.

Dr. Rolf Steffen is currently measuring the beta-gamma circular polarization and beta-gamma angular correlations involved in the beta-decay of  $\text{Sb}^{122}$ . These measurements indicate that there is a considerable contribution from the  $B_{ij}$  nuclear matrix element involved in the beta-transition to the second  $2+$  state, but little contribution from this matrix element in the beta-transition to the first  $2+$  state. Currently accepted theoretical considerations indicate that both of these  $2+$  levels may be characterized as vibrational states. It is thus not clear why there should be a difference in the relative sizes of the nuclear matrix elements involved in the two transitions.

In order to further determine the relative contributions of the nuclear matrix elements involved in the two transitions, the shape of the electron distribution to each of the excited states will be measured in coincidence with its appropriate gamma-ray on the Argonne double-lens beta-spectrometer.

The "shape" measurements, along with the results of the angular correlation measurements will permit a careful evaluation of the relative contributions of the six nuclear matrix elements that are involved in these two first-forbidden non-unique beta-transitions. If indeed it turns out that the two transitions are different in character, it will either mean that the current ideas regarding the nature of even nuclei level structure are inadequate or else there is a yet unknown selection rule operating in nuclear beta-decay.

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. L. Horrocks

3/26/64

## LIQUID SCINTILLATOR STUDIES

Work has been completed on the liquid scintillator studies of alpha particle energy resolution, average energy required to produce one photoelectron and pulse height-energy relationship for low energy electrons. Also completed is the study of fission fragment interaction with organic scintillators.

Further studies are planned on other applications of liquid scintillators, i.e., quenching measurements, half-life measurements, spontaneous fission determination.

Other work has been concerned with detection of tritium produced during fission. The amount of tritium produced during fission of other fissionable isotopes will be pursued.

Publications:

D. L. Horrocks, "Alpha Particle Energy Resolution in a Liquid Scintillator," Rev. Sci. Instr. 35, 334 (1964).

D. L. Horrocks, "Liquid Scintillator - Methods for Calculation of Average Energy Required to Produce one Photoelectron," Nucl. Instr. and Methods 24, 0000(1964) in press.

D. L. Horrocks, "Interaction of Fission Fragments with Organic Scintillators," Rev. Sci. Instr. 34, 1035 (1963).

D. L. Horrocks, "Tritium Produced during Spontaneous Fission of Californium-252," Phys. Rev. in press (1964).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

C. Stevens/P. Moreland/K. Kaiser

3/26/64

## NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY

Analysis of the abundance of uranium-236 in natural uranium is being carried out using a combination of electromagnetic isotope separation and the Argonne 100-inch mass spectrometer. Two measurements so far give a concentration between  $3-6 \times 10^{-10}$ .

Future plans involve work in several areas. Preparation of an instrument for precision measurements of nuclidic masses has been continuing. Plans call for measurements of secondary mass standards (C-12, O-16, H, D, S-32); electron-capture radioactive nuclides where nuclear reaction measurements have poor accuracy; and other regions of the periodic table of special interest.

Experiments are planned aimed at high sensitivity analysis. These involve identification and half-life of Mn-53, half-life of Si-32, and search for possible long-lived nuclides Ca-40, Au-199, and Au-200.

Plans have been made to study the structure of high molecular weight organic compounds.

A two-stage mass spectrometer which has been under construction for several years will be completed in the coming year. This instrument will be used for investigations of very small concentrations of long-lived isotopes either produced in nuclear reactions or occurring naturally.

An extensive study of the isotopic and elemental abundance of the silver isotopes in seven meteorites was completed and published. An enrichment of  $\text{Ag}^{107}$  would indicate the occurrence in the meteorite at the time of solidification of the now extinct radioactive nuclide  $\text{Pd}^{107}$  ( $T_{1/2} = 7 \times 10^6$  y), and therefore perhaps provide a means of studying presolidification history of the solar system. The results of an extensive study involving many accurate analyses of seven meteorites showed no significant difference between meteoritic and terrestrial silver, which contradicts an anomaly reported by another laboratory.

Publication:

A. Chakraborty, C. M. Stevens, E. Anders and H. Rushing, "Isotopic Composition of Silver in Iron Meteorites," J. of Geophy. Res. 69, No. 3, 505 (1964).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

A. Turkevich\*/J. H. Patterson

3/26/64

## LIGHT ELEMENT ANALYSIS BY RUTHERFORD SCATTERING

The instrument devised for the analysis of the lunar surface by means of alpha scattering has now been accepted by NASA for inclusion in the Surveyor instrument-landing program. This system, which is to be deployed from the spacecraft by an arm to make in situ surface measurements, also uses the proton spectrum from the  $(\alpha, p)$  nuclear reaction of some of the lighter elements to improve the resolution and accuracy of the analysis from the alpha scattering.

Future work will involve further refinement of the method and improvement of the instrumentation, as well as testing of the equipment for reliability after exposure to flight and lunar environmental conditions. High-level curium-242 sources must also be prepared at ANL for the instruments to be used for research and testing, as well as periodic replacement of sources in the instruments now in use.

This program is being carried out in cooperation with Professor A. Turkevich, Consultant, University of Chicago, and Mr. Ernest Franzgrote of Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

G. W. Reed, Jr./A. L. Turkevich\*

3/26/64

## GEO-COSMOCHEMISTRY

The problem of trace element content and isotopic composition of meteoritic matter is being studied using, primarily, activation techniques. The information gained will be useful in understanding the nucleogenesis of solar system matter, the possible nuclear, physical and chemical processes to which this material has been subjected, and the time sequence of these phenomena.

Specific areas under investigation are: (1) the amounts and distribution of the trace anionic species, halogens in particular. Here photonuclear neutron and charged particle activations are or will be used; (2) the concentration and isotopic composition of Pb -- charged particle analyses will permit the determination of at least 3 of the isotopes. Previous work using fast and slow neutrons has demonstrated the feasibility of such an approach, and there is a critical need for measurements independent of use of the mass spectrometer; (3) the determination of the concentrations and distribution of the heavy elements will continue.

Publications:

G. Reed, "Heavy Elements in the Pantar Meteorite," J. Geophys. Res. 68, 3531 (1963).

G. Reed, "Fluorine in Stone Meteorites," Geochim. et Cosmochim. Acta (in press) (1964).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. Fuchs/K. Jensen

3/26/64

## MINERALOGICAL AND CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF METEORITES

The chemical and mineralogical analyses of the polymict brecciated Plainview, Texas meteorite have been completed. The results are to be presented before the meeting of the American Geophysical Union, April 24, 1964. Serious discrepancies were found in the metallic iron, sulfur, and phosphorus results published in the literature. Values for previously unreported titanium, copper, carbon, and water were determined. The presence in this meteorite of tridymite and cristobalite restricts the maximum pressure to four kilobars since the formation of these minerals. Some problems encountered in this study will receive additional attention in the continuing program. One of these is concerned with the assignment of phosphorus to specific minerals. Only one-fourth of the phosphorus content of the Plainview meteorite resides in the phosphate mineral whitlockite. Using a neutron activation analysis technique, it was found that less than one percent of the phosphorus is present in the metal phase. The site of the remaining phosphorus will be determined by an electron microprobe when one becomes available. The distribution of this element, together with a knowledge of its oxidation state, will provide important information on the conditions of formation of stony meteorites.

Publication:

L. H. Fuchs, "Occurrence of Whitlockite in Chondritic Meteorites," *Science*, 37, 425 (1962).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. C. Stewart/M. A. Wahlgren

3/26/64

## SEARCH FOR ELEMENT 61 IN NATURE

Small traces of element 61 (promethium) might be present in natural materials, either as an undiscovered long-lived isomer, as the daughter of a long-lived isomer of neodymium or samarium, or from spontaneous fission of uranium. As starting material for a search for promethium in nature, a two hundred pound rare earth concentrate representing 17,500 pounds of rare earth ore was purchased from a commercial supplier.

This concentrate consisted of the neodymium-samarium interface from the supplier's four-foot diameter rare earth production ion exchange column. Any promethium, if present, would be expected to concentrate at this interface. To concentrate the promethium further, a series of smaller scale ion exchange column runs has been made, with the samarium-neodymium interface fraction of each run being used as feed for the next column in succession. The cycling process has been carried out to the point where gram amounts of Nd-Sm are involved.

As time permits, concentration will be continued until the final "promethium" concentrate can be analyzed for element 61 by counting methods, spectrographic analysis, mass spectrometry, etc.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

H. H. Strain/H. D. Frame

3/26/64

## ANALYSIS BY DIFFERENTIAL MIGRATION

The separation of mixtures and the isolation of the components are essential steps in the investigation of chemical substances. Two of the most effective methods for these separations are chromatography and electrochromatography. Numerous studies of both these differential migration methods have already been reported.

Our current investigations of chromatography and electrochromatography fall into two principal categories; namely, fundamental studies and special applications. In chromatography, the basic studies include the selection of chromatographic systems and the definition of the adsorptive and solution forces. In electrochromatography, the basic investigations show that complex formation is critical in the separation of the cations.

In the area of special applications, adsorption chromatography is serving for the isolation of ordinary chlorophylls, fully deuteriated chlorophylls from various plants, and isomerization and pyrolysis products of the chlorophylls. These methods have been utilized to examine the chloroplast pigments of about 200 Australian plants growing under a variety of environmental conditions. Electrochromatography is being used for the separation and isolation of various radioactive species. These separations have been made over a wide range of concentration, including the lowest detectable concentration.

Many new applications, prerequisite to progress in other problems, are under investigation. Examples are the role of chlorophyll in photosynthesis and the detection of trace elements following neutron activation.

Publications:

J. Sherma, G. H. Evans, H. D. Frame and H. H. Strain, "Separation of Certain Metal Ions from Mixtures by Electrochromatography," Anal. Chem. 35, 224 (1963).

C. K. Miller, D. Steffenson, H. D. Frame and H. H. Strain, "Activated Cellulose for Solution-Adsorption Chromatography," Anal. Chem. 35, 93 (1963).

Chlorophyll Investigations: J. Am. Chem. Soc. 85, 4049 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. C. Stewart/M. A. Wahlgren/W. C. Mohr

3/26/64

## ISOTOPIC SOURCE NEUTRON FACILITY

Current production plans call for gram quantities of  $\text{Cf}^{252}$  to be available within a few years. One gram of  $\text{Cf}^{252}$  emits about  $3 \times 10^{12}$  neutrons/second from spontaneous fission, offering a neutron flux roughly equal to that of a small reactor. Unlike a reactor the  $\text{Cf}^{252}$  source does not vary unpredictably in output, is not subject to frequent shutdown, has an invariant neutron spectrum, and would be relatively accessible for incorporation of a wide variety of experimental facilities. An irradiation facility based on  $\text{Cf}^{252}$  neutrons therefore would have many uses in research and in analysis by activation methods.

A prototype facility using  $\text{Cm}^{242}$ -Be is currently being designed to afford interim evaluation of the system prior to the availability of  $\text{Cf}^{252}$ . Twelve  $\text{Am}^{241}$ -Be sources are being prepared for pile irradiation to convert about one-quarter of the  $\text{Am}^{241}$  to high specific activity  $\text{Cm}^{242}$ . The resultant slugs would contain about 0.4 g of  $\text{Cm}^{242}$  total for a neutron output of about  $10^{10}$  neutrons/second by the  $(\alpha, n)$  reaction on beryllium. The  $\text{Cm}^{242}$ -Be source will be set up in a shielded cell in the new Argonne Chemistry Research Hot Laboratory, with provision for the use of moderators, converters, rabbit tubes, cryogenic equipment, etc. Neutron absorption and scattering; fission fragment, delayed neutron and capture counting; cold, thermal, and fast neutron activation; neutron imaging; neutron radiation effects and empirical testing of neutron shields are among the studies and uses being planned for the facility.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

M. A. Wahlgren/J. Wing

3/26/64

## NON-DESTRUCTIVE ACTIVATION ANALYSIS

For a number of samples in the past it has been possible to eliminate or in some cases to simplify radiochemical separations in activation analysis by utilizing gamma-gamma coincidence with a fast-slow coincidence unit coupled to the multichannel analyzer. In other cases coincidence counting gives a more rapid and unequivocal identification of gamma spectra components than half-life measurements. Equipment at Argonne is accordingly currently being modified to allow sum coincidence counting with the fast coincidence system as an alternate mode.

A table based on Koch's Activation Handbook sensitivities is being prepared to show the calculated sensitivities which can be attained using the coincidence methods in a standard crystal configuration. Where gamma ray abundance data is not available, the sensitivity will be determined empirically. In some cases, as many as three isotopes can be measured simultaneously, and the output data can be punched out on paper tape for computer processing if large numbers of similar samples are to be analyzed.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. Faris/E. Huff

3/26/64

## EMISSION SPECTROGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

A program for the reliable detection by spectrographic methods of trace impurities in various materials will be continued. This includes direct methods for the analysis of tungsten in particular, and also for niobium and tantalum. Emphasis will be placed on developing concentration procedures for isolating trace elements for spectrographic determination. Included will be separation of impurities from plutonium bearing alloys and compounds by anion exchange and column extraction.

Publications:

J. P. Faris, "Applications of the Copper Spark Method for Spectrographic Analysis," 6th Conf. on Anal. Chem. in Nuclear Reactor Technology, Gatlinburg, Tenn., AEC Rept. TID-7655, p. 193 (1962).

J. P. Faris and R. F. Buchanan, "Anion Exchange Characteristics of the Elements in Nitric Acid and Nitrate Solutions and Application in Trace Element Analysis," AEC Rept. ANL-6811 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

B. D. Holt

3/26/64

## DEVELOPMENT OF OXYGEN ANALYSIS METHODS

Efforts are being made to extend carbon-reduction techniques (using induction heating) to the direct determination of oxygen in such difficultly analyzed materials as (1) organic phosphates, (2) metals with boiling points in the 1400°C range, (3) alkaline earth metal oxides, and (4) irradiated refractory metals containing plutonium contamination. The chief difficulties to be overcome are the high sample volatilities in (1) and (2), the gettering of carbon monoxide and the attack on fused silica equipment by freshly-produced magnesium and calcium in (3), and adequate shielding and protective isolation of samples during the extraction and handling of gases in (4).

Previously developed methods are now in use for the determination of oxygen in low boiling point metals (Zn, Cd, Mg) and in various oxides other than MgO and CaO.

Publications:

B. D. Holt and J. E. Stoessel, "Macro Determination of Oxygen in Metal Oxides by Inert Gas Fusion," Anal. Chem., May (1964).

B. D. Holt and H. Goodspeed, "Determination of Oxygen in Zinc, Cadmium, and Magnesium by Carbon-Reduction in an Inert Gas Stream," Anal. Chem. 34, 374 (1962).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. A. Goleb

3/26/64

URANIUM ISOTOPE INVESTIGATIONS BY ATOMIC ABSORPTION  
SPECTROPHOTOMETRY

Many elements have been determined analytically in the past by atomic absorption spectrophotometry, but no work has been reported for uranium. The apparent reasons are the general weakness of the lines in the complex spectrum of uranium and the fact that its compounds are not readily dissociated in the flames normally used as absorption sources.

A sputtering technique is currently being developed for the isotopic analysis of masses 235 and 238 in uranium, using water-cooled hollow-cathode discharge tubes. Two emission tubes, one containing a metallic uranium electrode of mass 235; the other, a similar electrode of mass 238, are used to provide resonance radiation which is passed through the sample being investigated. This sample is in the form of a uranium metal cylinder 1 1/2 inches long and of 1/4 inch inside diameter, placed in an absorption tube. When the discharge is started in the absorption tube, microgram quantities of uranium are sputtered and volatilized into the tube cavity and some of the uranium-235 and uranium-238 incident radiation passing through this discharge tube cavity is absorbed in the vapor. The amount of absorption that is measured at selected wavelengths is dependent on the number of ground state uranium-235 and uranium-238 atoms in the light path of the absorption tube. The results obtained to date using this atomic absorption technique on a depleted uranium sample having approximately 0.2% uranium-235 without the use of standard samples are in good agreement with mass spectrographic isotopic results. Further development of the method for application to other uranium compositions will be continued.

The advantage of this atomic absorption technique is that inexpensive instruments are used, in contrast with emission and mass spectrographic methods employing expensive and sophisticated instruments.

Publication:

J. A. Goleb, "Uranium Isotope Investigations by Atomic Absorption," Anal. Chem. 35, 1978 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

S. Wexler

3/26/64

## INELASTIC COLLISION PROCESSES OF MeV IONS

Properties of the collisions with isolated molecules of ions with energies in the MeV region have been investigated by means of a portable mass spectrometer with special constructional features. The apparatus was built on a frame provided with casters and jacks so that it can readily be moved into position and aligned with the beam of high-energy ions from any of the several electrostatic ion accelerators at Argonne National Laboratory.

As the initial study of this program, the partial cross sections were determined for the formation of noble gas ions in their various charge states as a result of impact of protons in the range from 0.8 to 3.75 MeV. In addition, an experimental assessment was obtained of the validity of the Born approximation as it applied to molecular ionization and fragmentation. The fragmentation patterns of five lower hydrocarbons resulting from impact of 2.25 MeV protons were compared with those produced by 1225 electrons (the velocities of both projectiles were  $2 \times 10^9$  cm/sec.)

Study of ion-molecule reactions in gases near one atmosphere pressure is planned. Such investigations with the mass spectrometer attached to an ionizing source of high-energy protons should reveal ionic mechanisms involved in conventional radiation-chemical experiments on gases, particularly of ionic polymerization. An attempt will be made to determine indirectly lifetimes of parent ions against dissociation.

Publication:

S. Wexler and D. C. Hess, "Ionization by Ions in the MeV Range,"  
J. Chem. Phys. 38, 2309 (1963).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

S. Wexler

3/26/64

CROSSED-BEAM STUDIES OF REACTIONS OF ACCELERATED  
ATOMS WITH MOLECULES

In a new approach to the study of the reactions of energetic recoil atoms in "hot atom" chemistry, an apparatus is being designed to observe the chemical behavior of artificially produced hot atoms. An accelerated, collimated and modulated beam of neutral atoms, of well-defined energy varying between 1 and 100 eV, will impinge on a collimated beam of thermal organic or inorganic molecules which intersect the atomic beam at right angles. The products of the reacting beams will be condensed on a cold surface and later subjected to gas chromatographic separation. Identification of the products will be made by measurement of the radioactivity in the separated fractions (if the atomic beam is composed of active nuclides) or by mass spectrometric analysis. In situ mass spectrometric detection will permit measurements of the kinetic energy and angular distributions of the products, as well as offer an alternative method for their identification.

Measurement of the yields of the various reaction products as a function of the kinetic energy of the artificially accelerated hot atom will give the first direct determination of the threshold energies for these endoergic reactions. The observed product distributions will be compared with those obtained in conventional hot atom studies through the use of recoils from nuclear transformations.

2A40

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

W. G. Brown

3/26/64

ORGANIC SOLID STATE RADIATION CHEMISTRY

This work has as its objective the detection and mechanistic interpretation of difference in products and yields in radiation-induced reactions of organic materials in the solid state where such differences can be correlated with the geometry of the molecule or its environment. Included are studies on typical pairs of geometrical isomers to be carried out where possible on liquid, glassy, and pure crystalline state; related studies involve similar pairs in solid solutions and in heterogeneous crystal matrices. Where feasible, parallel studies of gamma ray and ultraviolet irradiation are performed. The specific cases emerging from a preliminary study as worthy of more detailed investigation are cis- and trans-stilbene, cis- and trans--phenylcinnamic acid, and cis- and trans--1, 2-diphenylcyclopropane. An eventual extension to enantiomorphous pairs is anticipated.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. M. Dorfman/M. C. Sauer/  
I. A. Taub\*/S. Arai†

3/26/64

## THE SOLVATED ELECTRON AND MOLECULAR IONS IN POLAR ORGANIC LIQUIDS

By means of the pulse radiolysis technique it has been shown that solvated electrons are formed in the radiation chemistry of the aliphatic alcohols. Some of the physical and chemical properties of this primary radiation chemical species have been investigated in ethanol and methanol.

The absorption spectrum of the solvated electron in ethanol has a maximum at 700 m $\mu$  and a shoulder at 520 m $\mu$ . The molar extinction coefficient was determined to be  $\epsilon_{\text{sol}}^{5461} = 1.1 \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$  at 5461 Å,

from which the oscillator strength of the overall band was estimated as  $f = 0.7$ . The G-value for the solvated electron in ethanol is approximately 1.

Absolute rate constants in both ethanol and methanol have been determined for  $e_{\text{sol}}^- + \text{H}^+$ ,  $e_{\text{sol}}^- + \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$  and  $e_{\text{sol}}^- + (\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_3\text{COH}$ . The rate constants for the first two reactions are very nearly identical with the analogous constants for the hydrated electron.

In the aliphatic alcohols containing aromatic solutes such as diphenyl, anthracene and terphenyl, the solvated electron becomes attached to form the mononegative ions. These observations establish the role of molecular ions in the chemical stage of liquid phase radiolysis. The anions undergo a proton transfer reaction with the alcohols.

These investigations are being extended to other polar organic liquids.

Publications:

L. M. Dorfman, "Pulse Radiolysis: Fast Reaction in Radiation Chemistry," Science, 141, No. 3580, 493 (1963).

I. A. Taub, M. C. Sauer and L. M. Dorfman, "Pulse Radiolysis Studies of the Reactivity of the Solvated Electron in Ethanol and Methanol," Discussions of the Faraday Society, No. 36 (1963).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

E. J. Hart/M. Anbar\*/H. Fricke/  
S. Gordon/J. K. Thomas

3/26/64

## REACTIONS OF THE HYDRATED ELECTRON AND THE HYDROXYL RADICAL

The precursors of hydrated electrons ( $e_{aq}^-$ ) and hydroxyl radicals (OH), the thermalized electron ( $e^-$ ) and ionized water molecule ( $H_2O^+$ ) respectively, are of too short lifetime ( $\sim 10^{-11}$  sec) to study. However, notable progress has been made in pulse radiolysis research on rate constants of  $e_{aq}^-$  and OH free radical reactions. The use of the transient absorption spectrum of  $e_{aq}^-$  greatly facilitates the study of its reactions and rate constants. This simplest and most reactive of all negative ions has a lifetime of some 20  $\mu$ sec and an intense absorption maximum at 7200 Å. Utilizing this absorption band, the absolute rate constants of about 150 inorganic ions and organic molecules with  $e_{aq}^-$  have been obtained. Further work in this area is projected with the purpose of correlating structure and chemical properties of solutes with their  $e_{aq}^-$  rate constants. A similar program is under way on the measurements of OH rate constants but progress is slower because the OH absorption band has not been discovered yet in irradiated water. In the meantime, OH rate constants relative to the reaction;  $OH + I^- \rightarrow OH^- + I$  followed by  $I + I^- \rightarrow I_2^-$ , can be made by measuring the relative intensity of the  $I_2^-$  absorption maximum as a function of scavenger concentration. An alternative way to obtain H-atom and OH radical rate constants is to use a combination of pulsed and steady electron beam irradiation techniques. This method, requiring kinetic studies, provides an effective tool for getting rate constants of non-absorbing species. Consequently, it supplements the optical absorption method. Continuing effort will be made to obtain reaction rate constants of these primary species and to use them in diffusion kinetic calculations.

Publications:

J. K. Thomas, S. Gordon and E. J. Hart, "The Rates of Reaction of the Hydrated Electron in Aqueous Inorganic Solutions," J. Phys. Chem. (In press).

E. J. Hart, S. Gordon and J. K. Thomas, "A Review of the Radiation Chemistry of Single Carbon Compounds and Some Reactions of the Hydrated Electron in Aqueous Solutions." Radiation Research Supplement, 4, 74 (1964).

H. Fricke and J. K. Thomas, "Pulsed Electron Beam Kinetics," Radiation Research Supplement, 4, 35 (1964).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

E. J. Hart/M. Anbar\*/S. Gordon/J. K. Thomas

3/26/64

SPECTRA OF RADIATION INDUCED TRANSIENT SPECIES  
IN AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS

Pulse radiolysis techniques offer excellent means for studying the properties of intermediate species. Frequently the identification of these species will provide valuable clues to the mechanism of the reaction. And while kinetic data are indispensable in deducing mechanisms, an absorbing intermediate that can be identified and studied is of considerable use too. For example, much success in explaining the fundamental reactions in irradiated water has resulted from the use of the hydrated electron band.

The hydrated electron forms absorbing negative ions of many organic compounds. In these cases, a parent-daughter relationship exists between the decay of the  $e_{aq}^-$  absorption band and the formation of the negative ion band. Transient spectra, possibly due to  $e_{aq}^-$ , form also in dilute solutions of  $Zn^{++}$ ,  $Cd^{++}$  and  $Pb^{++}$  among the inorganic ions and in aqueous phthalic acid, picric acid, thymine, cytosine and acrylamide solutions. Subsequent decay of the transient may be by a second order process (bimolecular recombination) or by a first order process, (Protonization or reaction with water). Not only is the lifetime of the band affected by solutes but the structure of the band is altered by the ionic environment of the solution. The shift in maximum of the  $e_{aq}^-$  absorption from 7200 Å to 6000 Å in saturated potassium fluoride or lithium chloride solutions indicates the conversion of  $e_{aq}^-$  to a new form, possibly an association with the positive ion. Work will continue on the effect of ionic environment on the structure and reactivity of  $e_{aq}^-$  and on the utilization of transient spectra for the interpretation of reaction mechanisms.

Publications:

E. J. Hart and J. W. Boag, "Absorption Spectrum of the Hydrated Electron in Water and in Aqueous Solutions," J. Am. Chem. Soc. 84, 4090 (1962).

S. Gordon, E. J. Hart and J. K. Thomas, "The Ultraviolet Spectra of Transients Produced in the Radiolysis of Aqueous Solutions," J. Phys. Chem., In Press.

E. J. Hart, "Hydrated Electron: Most Reactive and Elementary of all Negative Ions," Science, In Press.

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

M. S. Matheson/J. Rabani\*

3/26/64

## RADIATION CHEMISTRY - PULSED RADIOLYSIS

Pulsed radiolysis research has been carried out during the past year on three systems:

(a) The alkaline aqueous solution saturated with H<sub>2</sub> at 100 atmospheres simplified the complicated system of hydrated electron reactions found in irradiated water so that we could measure the rate constant reactions of e<sub>aq</sub><sup>-</sup> with itself and with OH and H.

(b) In irradiated neutral solutions of tetranitromethane (TNM) reaction (1) takes place, (1) e<sub>aq</sub><sup>-</sup> + C(NO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub> → C(NO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> + NO<sub>2</sub>. The nitroform ion formed in this reaction has a known extinction coefficient at 3660 Å, so that by pulse irradiating aqueous TNM we have determined directly the extinction coefficient of e<sub>aq</sub><sup>-</sup> at 5780. The extinction coefficient is essential for evaluating absolute rate constants in second order reactions, and can be used to determine G<sub>e<sub>aq</sub><sup>-</sup></sub> directly and thus perhaps settle the controversy concerning the proportions of H and e<sub>aq</sub><sup>-</sup> formed in neutral solutions. A number of rate constants including that for k<sub>1</sub> = 5 × 10<sup>10</sup> M<sup>-1</sup>sec<sup>-1</sup> were measured also. In the presence of oxygen it was possible to determine the equilibrium constant for the dissociation of the radical HO<sub>2</sub> to H<sup>+</sup> + O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>.

(c) Aqueous ferrocyanide is presently being studied to clarify discrepancies in earlier steady state radiolyses and to measure the equilibrium constant for the reaction OH + OH<sup>-</sup> ⇌ O<sup>-</sup> + H<sub>2</sub>O.

Future work includes pulse radiolysis studies in liquid ammonia and search for the OH radical absorption in water.

Publications:

S. Gordon, E. J. Hart, M. S. Matheson, J. Rabani and J. K. Thomas, "Reaction Constants of the Hydrated Electron," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 85, 1375 (1963).

M. S. Matheson, "Formation and Detection of Intermediates in Water Radiolysis" Radiation Research Supplement, 4, 1 (1964).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. M. Dorfman/G. Czapski\*

3/26/64

TRANSIENT SPECIES AND RATE CONSTANTS IN THE RADIATION  
CHEMISTRY OF OXYGENATED WATER

The pulse radiolysis technique has been used to study the optical absorption spectra and to determine the absolute rate constants for transient species in irradiated oxygenated aqueous solutions.

The absorption spectra of the hydroperoxy radical in its acid ( $\text{HO}_2$ ) and basic ( $\text{O}_2^-$ ) forms have been recorded. The  $\text{HO}_2$  radical has a maximum at 230 m $\mu$  with a molar extinction coefficient of  $\epsilon_{\text{HO}_2}^{230} = 1060 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The  $\text{O}_2^-$  has a maximum at 240 m $\mu$  with  $\epsilon_{\text{O}_2^-}^{240} = 1150$ .

The pK for the conversion  $\text{HO}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{O}_2^-$  is 4.5. Absolute rate constants for the bimolecular disappearance are  $k_{\text{HO}_2+\text{HO}_2} = 2.7 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{sec}^{-1}$  and  $k_{\text{O}_2^-+\text{O}_2^-} = 1.7 \times 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{sec}^{-1}$ .

In strongly alkaline solution, two new long-lived absorptions were observed. One, with a maximum at 430 m $\mu$  is suggested to be  $\text{O}_3^-$ . The other, unidentified, has a maximum at 240 m $\mu$ .

Transient species in oxygenated water may play an important role in radiation biology so that a more complete understanding is desirable.

Publication:

L. M. Dorfman, I. A. Taub and R. Buhler, "Pulse Radiolysis Studies I. Transient Spectra and Reaction Rate Constants in Irradiated Aqueous Solutions of Benzene," J. Chem. Physics, 36, 3051 (1962).

G. Czapski and L. M. Dorfman, "Pulse Radiolysis V. Transient Spectra and Rate Constants in Oxygenated Aqueous Solutions," J. Phys. Chem., In press (May 1964).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

M. S. Matheson/W. L. Buck\*/K. Schmidt†

3/26/64

#### TRANSIENT CONDUCTIVITY IN PULSE IRRADIATED WATER

A differential amplifier has been constructed. This with other improvements has largely eliminated the tremendous electrical interference produced by the passage of the pulse of electrons through the conductivity cell. Preliminary measurements of the decay of the transient conductivity agree closely with the rate of decay predicted from rate constants measured in pulse radiolysis with optical detection, if plausible values of  $G$  of  $e_{aq}^-$ , of  $G$  of  $H^+$  and of the mobility of  $e_{aq}^-$  are assumed. We have selected systems for study which should enable direct determination of these three quantities. From the mobility the diffusion constant of  $e_{aq}^-$  can be calculated, which is essential to understanding  $e_{aq}^-$  rate constants.

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

M. S. Matheson/J. L. Weeks

3/26/64

#### PHOTOCHEMICAL STUDIES

The quantum yields of  $XeF_2$  formation have been determined as a function of pressure,  $Xe/F_2$  ratio, light intensity, etc.  $XeF_2$  is probably formed by a step-wise addition of F atoms. The transient band spectra observed in flash photolysis probably are due to  $XeF$ . Dr. P. K. Carroll of the University of Chicago has analyzed the bands into several series from which the lower and upper state vibration frequencies can be determined. Work is continuing varying experimental conditions to try to obtain better spectra in flash photolysis (absorption) and also in emission using  $XeF_2$  in a microwave discharge. Pulse radiolysis of gas phase mixtures of Xe and  $F_2$  will also be tried as a way of obtaining transient spectra.

#### Publications:

J. L. Weeks and M. S. Matheson, "Photochemistry of the Formation of Xenon Difluoride," Noble Gas Compounds, H. H. Hyman, Editor, University of Chicago Press, p. 89 (1963).

J. L. Weeks and M. S. Matheson, "Xenon Difluoride," Inorganic Syntheses, Vol. VIII, in press (1964).

2A48

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. Kaplan/K. Wilzbach

3/26/64

#### RADIATION CHEMISTRY OF AROMATIC COMPOUNDS

The purpose of this program is to investigate the mechanisms of the changes produced in aromatic compounds by the action of various types of radiation. The approach used is that of detailed product identification and analysis, coupled with isotopic labelling to establish the route of formation of some of the more important products.

The radiolysis of the isomeric xylenes by gamma rays in the vapor phase produces, in addition to "polymer", smaller amounts of other products, many of which arise by loss, gain, or transfer of methyl groups. Ultraviolet photolysis appears to be a much more selective process, producing relatively large yields of isomer formed by migration of a methyl group to an adjacent position in the same molecule. Work is in progress using isotopic techniques, as well as the effect of added gases, of wavelength, and of other variables in an effort to establish the nature and structure of the excited molecule leading to isomerization. This work will be extended to related systems, such as the methylpyridines and to other forms of radiation. The detailed comparison will be made of the structures of the dimeric products produced from alkyl benzenes by ultraviolet photolysis with those formed by gamma radiolysis. Additional comparison will be made of radiolyses and photolyses in the liquid phase with those in the vapor phase.

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

W. A. Noyes, Jr.

3/26/64

#### ENERGY PATHS IN PHOTOCHEMISTRY

To determine in detail the fate of a quantum, i.e. to determine the fraction of absorbed light going into chemical reaction, fluorescence, phosphorescence and degradation to heat, it is necessary to measure the yield of each process accurately. Very few accurate yields for the quantum yield of fluorescence are available. Several methods are being tried in an effort to determine an accurate fluorescence yield for benzene. Benzene is the model compound chosen for a detailed study of all energy paths.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. J. Katz/H. L. Crespi

3/26/64

PREPARATION OF ISOTOPICALLY ALTERED COMPOUNDS BY  
BIOSYNTHESIS

A considerable number of algae, bacteria, yeasts, and molds have been grown in a fully deuteriated form, and a wide variety of fully deuteriated compounds are now available from these organisms. The factors involved in the adaptation are still obscure, and clarification is highly desirable in the interests of extending the range of available deuteriated organisms. It is proposed to devote particular attention to the deuteriation of protozoa and higher plants, to add to the number of algae and molds that can be grown in  $D_2O$ , and to devise procedures for the isolation of fully deuteriated compounds. The nutritional quality of fully deuteriated algae and yeasts and their utility as deuteriating agents for higher animals will also be studied.

Publications:

H. F. DaBoll, H. L. Crespi and J. J. Katz, "Mass Cultivation of Algae in Pure Heavy Water," *Biotech. Bioeng.* 4, 281 (1962).

H. L. Crespi, M. Marmur, and J. J. Katz, "Use of Fully Deuteriated Algae Extracts for the Isolation of Nucleic Acids," *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 84, 3489 (1962).

M. I. Blake, F. A. Crane, R. A. Uphaus and J. J. Katz, "Effect of  $D_2O$  on the Growth of Peppermint (*Mentha piperita* L.) I. Morphological Study," *J. Pharm. Sci.* 53, 79 (1964).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. J. Katz/ H. L. Crespi

3/26/64

## DEUTERIUM ISOTOPE EFFECTS IN PHOTOSYNTHESIS

Many fully deuteriated compounds and organisms are now available for the first time from various organisms cultivated in 99.8% D<sub>2</sub>O. It is now possible therefore to study a variety of isotope effects hitherto inaccessible to investigation.

Chlorophyll and Other Chloroplast Pigments. Proton magnetic resonance applied to deuteriated compounds is a powerful tool for studying chemical reactivity since any hydrogen introduced in the molecule can readily be detected. It is proposed to investigate allomerization, hydrogen exchange, biosynthesis, and interactions of chlorophyll with other chloroplast pigments using deuterio-chlorophyll as the essential tool. These studies will be extended to chlorophylls of unknown composition present in photosynthetic bacteria and diatoms.

Isotope Effects on Photosynthesis and Hill Reaction. Photosynthesis and related phenomena in fully deuteriated algae are being investigated. Isotopically altered organisms should have unique utility for such studies, particularly for electron paramagnetic resonance applications.

Publications:

J. J. Katz, G. L. Closs, F. C. Pennington, M. R. Thomas, and H. H. Strain, "Infrared Spectra, Molecular Weights, and Molecular Association of Chlorophylls a and b, Methyl Chlorophyllides, and Pheophytins in Various Solvents," J. Am. Chem. Soc. 85, 3801 (1963).

J. J. Katz, R. C. Dougherty, F. C. Pennington, H. H. Strain, and G. L. Closs, "Hydrogen Exchange at Methine and C-10 Positions in Chlorophyll," J. Am. Chem. Soc. 85, 4049 (1963).

H. H. Strain, M. R. Thomas, and J. J. Katz, "Spectral Absorption Properties of Ordinary and Fully Deuteriated Chlorophylls a and b," Biochim. Biophys. Acta, 75, 306 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. J. Katz/H. L. Crespi

3/26/64

## DEUTERIUM ISOTOPE EFFECTS ON MACROMOLECULES

Many fully deuteriated compounds and organisms are now available for the first time from various organisms cultivated in 99.8% D<sub>2</sub>O. It is now possible therefore to study a variety of isotope effects hitherto inaccessible to investigation.

Effects of Deuterium on the Properties of Macromolecules. Fully deuteriated proteins are being isolated and characterized by amino acid composition, ultracentrifugation, electrophoresis, and other physico-chemical procedures. The role of hydrophobic bonding is being studied by comparing thermal denaturation and  $\gamma$ -ray and neutron irradiation effects in ordinary and fully deuteriated proteins. Studies on nucleic acids are being extended along similar lines. Particular attention is being directed to the isolation, characterization, and reaction kinetics of fully deuteriated enzymes and substrates. The purpose of these studies is to ascertain the effects of isotopic substitution on macromolecular conformation and enzyme kinetics.

Publication:

D. S. Berns, H. L. Crespi, and J. J. Katz, "Isolation, Amino Acid Composition and Some Physico-Chemical Properties of the Protein Deuterio-Phycocyanin," J. Am. Chem. Soc. 85, 8 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

M. H. Studier/E. N. Sloth/R. L. Niemann

3/26/64

## HIGH TEMPERATURE CHEMISTRY

## A. Surface Ionization

The effect of anionic constituents on the thermal ionization of alkali metal compounds from hot metal filaments of Pt, W, Ta and Re is under study. A modified Bendix time-of-flight mass spectrometer is employed to measure the relative intensity as well as the masses of the emitted species.

Variations in the isotopic ratio of  $\text{Li}^7/\text{Li}^6$  with anionic constituents, evaporation rate and chemical reactions on hot surfaces is also being studied.

## B. Laser Studies

A ruby laser is being used in conjunction with the Bendix time-of-flight mass spectrometer to study the molecular composition of materials at high temperatures.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

R. J. Thorn/R. J. Ackermann/E. G. Rauh/  
G. H. Winslow/R. R. Walters

3/26/64

## HIGH TEMPERATURE CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL INVESTIGATIONS I

The continuing investigations of chemical, physical, and thermodynamic properties of substances at high temperatures (1000-3000°K) are directed towards obtaining fundamental information about bonding in solids, liquids, and gaseous molecules. Exemplary projects in this category are the following:

1. One of the more significant contributions of thermochemical measurements at high temperature is the reliable determination of dissociation energies which demonstrate that the deformation of the valence electronic orbital contributes energies comparable to the binding energies in molecules having atoms with a number of low lying electronic states. Theoretical as well as experimental aspects of this behavior are being investigated.
2. Use of defect theories of nonstoichiometry and measured partial molar free energies (for example of oxygen in  $\text{UO}_{2+x}$ ) enable one to derive the phase boundaries and interaction energies between nearest neighboring pairs in solids. X-ray (and possibly neutron) diffraction measurements are to be used to establish phase boundaries which in turn are to be used to derive thermochemical properties and averaged interaction energies between neighboring pairs of atoms.

Mainly compounds such as oxides, sulfides, carbides, phosphides, etc. of actinide elements are being investigated but in addition to the effusion method other techniques, such as molecular spectroscopy, electronic dissociation molecular beams, etc.

Publications:

R. J. Ackermann, E. G. Rauh and R. J. Thorn, "Thermodynamic Properties of Yttrium Monoxide; Correlation of Bonding in Group III Transition Metal Monoxides," J. Phys. Chem. 40, 883 (1963).

R. J. Ackermann and R. J. Thorn, "Chemical Bonding from High Temperature Studies," Adv. papers, Int. Symp. on High Temp. Tech., Stanford Research Institute, Sept. 1963.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

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G. H. Winslow/R. R. Walters

3/26/64

## HIGH TEMPERATURE CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL INVESTIGATIONS II

## Rate Processes

Integral parts of the investigations of the chemical and physical properties of substances at high temperatures are the complex rate processes occurring in them in both experimental and engineering systems. The following items represent the tenor of the studies:

1. Studies of the reversible nonequilibrium aspects of the thermodynamics of the vaporization process have helped to clarify the meaning of vaporization, condensation, and accommodation coefficients. The value of introducing such concepts as solid-like surface and gas-like surface phases has been illustrated. More definitive analyses are anticipated.
2. An investigation of the vaporization of uranium dicarbide has demonstrated that the rate is determined by the diffusion of uranium through a layer of carbon.
3. Studies of gas-solid interactions using molecular beams are anticipated.

The structural and thermochemical data and the theoretical concepts cited in Part A are being supplemented by the theories of reversible equilibrium and nonequilibrium rate processes.

Publications:

R. J. Thorn and G. H. Winslow, "Some Aspects of Thermodynamic and Transport Properties of the Uranium Dioxide Phase," submitted to panel at International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna, Austria, March 1964.

K. D. Carlson, P. W. Gilles and R. J. Thorn, "An Analysis of Molecular Flow in an Isothermal Enclosure," J. Chem. Phys., 38, 2064 (1963).

R. J. Thorn and G. H. Winslow, "Vaporization Coefficient of Graphite and Composition of the Equilibrium Vapor," J. Chem. Phys., 26, 186 (1957).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

H. Hoekstra/L. Fuchs

3/26/64

## ULTRA HIGH PRESSURE, HIGH TEMPERATURE STUDIES

Work on the effects of ultra-high pressure on various chemical systems is continuing. Maximum temperatures and pressures used to date are 2000°C and 60 kbar. Although this does not represent the maximum capability of the tetrahedral apparatus, it does afford an extensive working range without subjecting the equipment to excessive strain or creating possible lengthy overhaul problems. Further extension of the working range is anticipated as it appears desirable.

Additional work has been completed on the uranium oxygen system. The stability range (temperature, pressure and composition) of the high pressure  $UO_3$  phase is being outlined. Single crystals of  $\beta-U_3O_7$  have been prepared at 1200°C and 40 kbar. These crystals will permit a detailed structural analysis of the compound (by S. Siegel) and lead to a better understanding of uranium-oxygen bonding in this portion of the phase diagram. High pressure studies on the  $UO_{2+x}$  phase indicate an inverse relationship between the extent of oxygen solubility in  $UO_2$  and pressure.

The rare earth sesquioxides exist in three structural modifications, which have been designated (in order of increasing density): Type C (cubic), B (monoclinic), and A (hexagonal). At atmospheric pressure, the sesquioxides of the heaviest rare earths (Dy through Lu) exist only in the least dense, cubic form. At 300 kbar and 1000°C, dysprosium, erbium and ytterbium oxides have been converted to their corresponding monoclinic phases. Further work will be carried out at higher pressures to study conversion to the most dense, hexagonal configuration.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. I. Katzin/A. Singh\*/E. Gulyas/T. Burer†

3/26/64

## OPTICAL ROTATORY DISPERSION SPECTROSCOPY

Optical rotation measurements, performed with high precision and detail, over a wide wavelength span and deeply into the ultraviolet, present what is in effect a spectroscopy which has hitherto been very poorly exploited. Computer analysis of such data, with least-squares fit to relations based on the Drude equation, gives unique insight into the relations of systems in which one or more components exhibit optical activity.

Study is underway on  $\alpha$ -quartz, the optical activity of which is due to crystal geometry and not to an asymmetric center in a molecule. With the crystal structure of this material, and many of its other properties, well known, it is possible to attempt correlations of properties, and to study not only the material itself, but computational procedures.

Camphor, a classical study material, is being reviewed by the new techniques. Optical rotation is related to absorbing transitions in the molecular energy system. Camphor has a relatively isolated absorption peak which is optically active, and can be used for detailed observations of the relations between absorption and optical rotation. Solvent effects are also being studied. Other natural products will be investigated also.

Chemical reactions and chemical equilibria are also under investigation, with the techniques worked out for optical rotatory dispersion serving as indispensable tools. An example of such a system is the boric acid-tartaric acid complex system. Others are complexes of cations with active anions such as tartrate, complexes of boric acid and analogues with other optically active substances, and so forth.

Publications:

L. I. Katzin and E. Gulyas, "Thorium Tartrate Complexes by Polarimetry," J. Phys. Chem., 64, 1347 (1960).

L. I. Katzin and E. Gulyas, "Effects of Electrolytes on Rotatory Dispersion of Aqueous Tartrate Solutions," J. Phys. Chem. 66, 494 (1962).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

P. R. Fields/L. Stein/G. Toogood\*

3/26/64

CHEMISTRY OF RADON

Radon has been found to react with fluorine to form a compound. Attempts to identify the formula or formulas of the radon fluoride(s) by time of flight mass spectrometry have not been completely successful. The fluorides are very active compounds and appear to react with parts of the spectrometer. Various techniques are being developed to complete the formula determinations. Attempts have been made to hydrolyze the fluorides and obtain radon compounds in solution similar to xenon chemistry. However, the radon fluorides are converted quantitatively to elemental radon under all hydrolysis conditions employed so far. Small amounts of radon may have been retained in solution, but this is not definite.

Several techniques have been used to try to produce other compounds of radon, e.g. oxides, chlorides, cyanides, without success.

Larger quantities of radium have been ordered to increase the quantity of radon used in this research. Many of the difficulties may be due to the trace amounts of radon used in the earlier experiments.

Publication:

P. R. Fields, L. Stein, and M. H. Zirin, "Radon Fluoride," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 84, 4164 (1962).

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2A59

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

M. H. Studier/E. H. Appelman/E. N. Sloth

3/26/64

CHEMISTRY OF ASTATINE

Seven day astatine-211, prepared by alpha bombardment on bismuth, has been reacted with iodine to produce AtI, which was identified mass spectrometrically. Reactions of astatine with other halogens are being studied.

In addition, the compounds HAt and CH<sub>3</sub>At have been identified by mass spectrometry.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

P. R. Fields/D. Cohen/W. T. Carnall/  
G. Toogood/A. Walker<sup>†</sup>

3/26/64

## CHEMISTRY OF THE ACTINIDE ELEMENTS

Studies of the actinide elements in solution, in the solid and gaseous state are being carried out. Several new oxides of neptunium,  $\text{Np}_2\text{O}_5$  and  $\text{NpO}_3$  have been prepared and this phase of the work is being extended to plutonium and americium. Preparation of the actinide metals and compounds such as the oxides, halides, nitrides, and carbides are underway and a study of their structure is part of the program. The high temperature properties of some actinide oxides such as  $\text{NpO}_2$  and  $\text{PuO}_2$  are being investigated. Vapor pressure measurements on  $\text{AmO}_2$  and  $\text{CmO}_2$  will be made in the future.

Attempts to prepare  $\text{AmF}_6$  have been unsuccessful although volatile compounds of the lighter actinides  $\text{UF}_6$ ,  $\text{NpF}_6$  and  $\text{PuF}_6$  have been prepared. Additional attempts to prepare the volatile fluorides of Cm, Cf, and Es will be made when more material is available.

New separations techniques are investigated and developed, as well as improvements in existing techniques, especially in the areas of solvent extraction and ion exchange.

Studies on the oxidation of californium and einsteinium in aqueous solution using trace amounts of these elements have been underway. This investigation will be continued using sodium perxenate as the oxidizing agent.

Publications:

D. Cohen, "Oxides of Neptunium(V) and Neptunium(VI) from Molten Salts," *Inorg. Chem.* 2, 866 (1963).

S. Tsujimura, D. Cohen, C. L. Chernick, "The Attempted Preparation of  $\text{AmF}_6$ ," *J. Inorg. and Nucl. Chem.* 25, 226 (1963).

S. Adar, R. K. Sjoblom, R. F. Barnes, and P. R. Fields, "Ion-Exchange Behavior of the Transuranium Elements in  $\text{LiNO}_3$  Solutions," *J. Inorg. and Nucl. Chem.* 25, 447 (1963).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

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3/26/64

## SPECTRAL STUDIES OF THE ACTINIDE AND LANTHANIDE ELEMENTS

The absorption spectra of the lanthanide and actinide elements in aqueous solutions, deuterated solvents, molten  $\text{LiNO}_3\text{-KNO}_3$  and  $\text{LiCl-KCl}$  eutectics, and in certain crystals are being investigated. The energy of the transitions and the intensities or transition probabilities are being correlated with theory. The observed spectra are interpreted in terms of electronic structure and interaction of the lanthanide and actinide ions with surrounding ligand fields.

Divalent lanthanides and actinides, prepared by irradiating with high energy  $\gamma$ -rays the corresponding trivalent ions incorporated into a cubic crystal such as  $\text{CaF}_2$  or  $\text{SrCl}_2$  are also being examined by absorption spectroscopy. These ions show unusual spectra quite different than the forbidden trivalent ion transitions. Analogous to the lanthanides, the actinides may show possibilities as lasers in the divalent state.

New crystals of lanthanides and actinides in the form of double nitrates are being grown from molten salts. These salts are being used to provide a known crystal symmetry to compare absorption spectra with theoretical calculations for oscillator strengths.

Some work is in progress on fluorescence spectra of the actinide and lanthanide elements excited by light or gamma irradiation.

Publication:

W. T. Carnall, "The Near Infrared Transitions of the Trivalent Lanthanides,  $\text{Th}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Dy}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Ho}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Er}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Tm}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Yb}^{+3}$ ," J. Phys. Chem. 67, 1206 (1963).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

P. R. Fields/W. T. Carnall/D. Cohen/A. Walker\*

3/26/64

## CHEMISTRY OF ACTINIDE ELEMENTS IN MOLTEN SALTS

Many aspects of the chemistry of actinide elements are conducted in molten salts. There are several reasons for requiring this type of media 1) the radiation decomposition is greatly reduced as compared to aqueous solutions 2) some molten salts are transparent to infrared light, and are thus good media for studying spectra in this region, 3) salts with desirable crystal symmetry crystallize from some molten salts and 4) some unusual oxidation states may be obtained in this non aqueous media.

The thermal decomposition of actinides to oxides in molten alkali nitrates is being studied. The oxides of Np, Pu, Am, and Cm are being prepared at fairly low temperatures for study.

Several higher oxides of neptunium have been prepared from molten salts. The preparation and examination of uranates, neptunates and plutonates from molten Li-K nitrate eutectic is continuing.

Molten  $\text{LiNO}_3\text{-KNO}_3$  is used extensively as a solvent for the lanthanides and actinides to study the low lying excited states of these elements in the infrared region. This same salt eutectic is being used to grow the double nitrate salts of the lanthanides and potassium. Later actinides will be incorporated into this lattice. The double nitrate salts are being used to study the absorption spectra of the 4f and 5f electronic states and to interpret the interaction of these electrons with the surrounding ligand field.

Molten  $\text{LiClO}_4$  is being used to prepare higher oxides and unusual modifications of normal oxides by dissolving various metals in this molten salt.

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

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H. Øye\*

3/26/64

## STUDIES IN FUSED SALTS

Studies of the absorption spectra of transition metal ions will be continued. One result of such studies on 3d metal ions has been the discovery of coordination number equilibria in fused salts. In a recent series of experiments it was shown that in molten aluminum chloride, the divalent 3d ions are six coordinated, in contrast to the situation in alkali chloride melts where the same ions are four coordinated.

Detailed knowledge of the factors governing coordination number equilibria are being sought. To this end, our studies are being broadened in several directions to include:

- 1) Measurements on 4d, 5d and 5f ions
- 2) Effects due to varying the fused salt solvent composition
- 3) Influence of temperature
- 4) Influence of pressure

To measure the effects of pressure on the equilibria, an optical cell is being developed to operate at 30,000 p.s.i. inert gas pressure and temperatures in excess of 1000°C.

Publications:

D. M. Gruen, R. L. McBeth, *Pure and Appl. Chem.* 6, 23, (1963).

D. M. Gruen, Chap. 5 in Fused Salts, McGraw Hill Book Co., 1964 (in press).

H. Øye, D. M. Gruen, "Octahedral Absorption Spectra of Divalent 3d Metal Ions in Molten Aluminum Chloride," *Inorg. Chem.*, June 1964 (in press).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. Stein

3/26/64

PROTACTINIUM CHEMISTRY

Work will soon be resumed on protactinium chemistry. Five grams of  $\text{Pa}^{231}$  now on hand as  $\text{Pa}_2\text{O}_5$  will be processed to remove niobium and other impurities, and protactinium fluorides and oxyfluorides will then be prepared for further characterization. The reduction of  $\text{PaF}_4$  to protactinium metal will also be studied.

Publication:

Lawrence Stein, "Protactinium Fluorides," Proceedings of the Protactinium Chemistry Symposium, p, 57, Gatlinburg, Tennessee, April 25-26, 1963.

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. I. Katzin/E. Gulyas

3/26/64

PROPERTIES OF THE CHEMICAL BOND

(1) The rare earth ions have always been assumed to have little covalency, because of the electronic structure and the "burying" of the 4f levels made it plausible that no hybrid orbitals formed. Studies in this laboratory on certain systems, in non-aqueous solvent and in alkaline aqueous solution, have shown (in confirmation of certain phenomena noticed in the published data) that there are certainly rather strong covalency effects in the chemistry of the rare earths, and that correlated spectral alterations show considerable changes in the 4f electron energy levels. Work on covalency in the rare earths will be continued, to obtain information on coordination configuration effects, etc., such as have already been obtained for the d-elements.

(2) An indicator of metal ion-anion interaction, the case of polyatomic anions, is the change induced in the vibration pattern of symmetrical anions when they become bound to the cation. In solids in particular, clues to unexpected relations are found. Work on nitrates has been published; work on perchlorates has been temporarily interrupted but will be continued.

Publication:

L. I. Katzin, J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem. 24, 245 (1962), "Infra-Red Spectra of Nitrate Salts in Tributyl Phosphate Solution."

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

H. H. Hyman/J. G. Malm/C. L. Chernick/  
H. Selig/L. Stein/ H. Claassen/I. Sheft

3/26/64

## NOBLE GAS FLUORIDES

The initial discovery of xenon tetrafluoride led rapidly to the synthesis of other xenon fluorides and oxyfluorides, and krypton and radon compounds. Current research has concentrated on the hydrolysis products of xenon fluorides, and on problems arising from the somewhat unexpected properties of xenon hexafluoride.

Unlike all other known hexafluorides the spectra and behavior associated with xenon hexafluoride are not those expected of an octahedrally symmetrical molecule. This has led to extensive experimental research matched by intensive examination of the theories governing chemical bond formation and molecular symmetry.

The experimental aspects studied by the group include the development of a purification procedure via adsorption on sodium fluoride and measurement of the properties of the pure material, the preparation of acid-base complexes with fluoride ion acceptors ( $\text{XeF}_6 \cdot \text{BF}_3$ ), and the investigation of the properties of the highly ionized solutions in hydrogen fluoride.

Raman spectroscopy of the yellow liquid  $\text{XeF}_6$ , and  $\text{XeF}_6$  solutions, is difficult with conventional light sources. The early availability of Raman apparatus utilizing a red laser source will make an intensive study of such liquids more feasible.

Additional synthetic studies will center on krypton and radon compounds. Aqueous krypton chemistry may be a fertile field of research after the behavior of xenon compounds is more fully elucidated. Research on radon compounds will gradually shift from tracer scale studies to larger scale operations in the hot lab.

Publication:

H. H. Hyman, Ed., "Noble Gas Compounds," U. of Chicago Press (1963), pages 31, 35, 106, 113, 144, 167, 185.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

H. H. Hyman/L. A. Quarterman

3/26/64

CHEMISTRY IN HYDROGEN FLUORIDE AND HALOGEN  
FLUORIDE SOLUTIONS

In this continuing program, electrical conductivity, infrared absorption, Raman spectra and nuclear magnetic resonance spectra have been observed and correlated with chemical properties.

Chain conductance for the proton in acid solution in hydrogen fluoride has been demonstrated, and a somewhat detailed picture is evolving of the behavior of fluoride ion acceptors in hydrogen fluoride.

Xenon fluorides in hydrogen fluoride and halogen fluoride solution offer a fertile field for investigation which we have barely touched.

In the near future this will take a large fraction of the available manpower, but we hope to continue at least some work on other fluorides.

The laser source will permit Raman studies of yellow colored solutions, not accessible with existing equipment. This will be especially valuable in  $\text{ClF}_3$  and  $\text{BrF}_3$  solutions.

Publications:

H. H. Hyman and L. A. Quarterman, "Hydrogen Fluoride Solutions Containing Xenon Difluoride, Xenon Tetrafluoride and Xenon Hexafluoride," Noble Gas Compounds, H. H. Hyman, Ed., U. of Chicago Press, p. 275 (1963).

H. H. Hyman, T. J. Lane and T. A. O'Donnell, 145th Meeting Am. Chem. Soc., p. 63T of Abstract, Sept. 1963.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

M. H. Studier/D. L. Horrocks/E. N. Sloth

3/26/64

## MASS SPECTROMETRIC STUDIES OF NOBLE GAS COMPOUNDS

The study of noble gas compounds by means of a modified Bendix time-of-flight mass spectrometer will be continued. Data on gaseous xenon fluoride and oxyfluoride, xenon tetroxide and krypton difluoride have been published. Ionic species containing two xenon atoms (from ion-molecule interactions) have been observed in the spectrometer.

The study of radon compounds and chemistry continues. Manipulation of these compounds is difficult because of surface effects. Compounds absorbed on the walls of the vacuum system are in general refractory and are decomposed on heating to give the spectrum of radon gas in the spectrometer. Attempts to prepare a volatile radon compound in systems made of different materials (metals, glass, organics) are underway.

A stable radon compound was formed in aqueous solution which carried on precipitated sodium perxenate.

Publications:

M. H. Studier, "Continuous Ion Source for a Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometer," Rev. Sci. Instr. 34, 1367 (1963).

M. H. Studier and E. N. Sloth, "Noble-Gas Compounds," H. H. Hyman, Ed., Univ. of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1963, p. 47.

J. L. Huston, M. H. Studier and E. N. Sloth, "Xenon Tetroxide: Mass Spectrum," Science 143, 3611 (1964).

E. N. Sloth and M. H. Studier, "Gaseous Krypton Fluoride," Science 141, 528 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

R. R. Chasman

3/26/64

## THEORETICAL NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY

In the past year, an approach to the pairing Hamiltonian has been developed which bypasses most of the approximations and inaccuracies of the quasiparticle method. Our approach is sufficiently tractable to be computationally attractive, with the use of electronic computers (IBM-704 and CDC-3600). Calculations, done in the past year, indicate that our approach leads to excellent eigenvalues and eigenfunctions for the ground state and for broken pair states of the pairing Hamiltonian. The results of these studies have been discussed in the literature.

At present, we are attempting to describe, in some useful manner, those states of the pairing Hamiltonian which cannot be handled in terms of our previous work. This work will probably make use of large electronic computers.

Publications:

R. R. Chasman, "Eigenvalues of the Nuclear Pairing Hamiltonian," Phys. Rev. 132, 343 (1963).

R. R. Chasman, "Eigenfunctions of the Nuclear Pairing Hamiltonian," Phys. Rev. (in press) (1964).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

P. Benioff/L. W. Person \*

3/26/64

THEORETICAL STUDIES OF SIMPLE NUCLEAR REACTIONS AT  
HIGH ENERGY

We are interested in utilizing simple nuclear reactions (i.e., those involving only a few nucleons) induced by high energy protons to study nuclear properties of the target and product nuclei.

We have set up a program for the calculation of the distorted-wave impulse part of the exact T-matrix for the above cross-sections. Using various simple models for the nucleus, we shall then study the results to see how sensitive they are to the model assumptions. A comparison of the calculated and experimental cross-sections should tell us which model assumptions are good and should also give us some idea of the magnitude of the neglected terms in the exact T-matrix expression.

The calculation is being carried out with the CDC 3600 computer. It involves the evaluation of a sextuple integral which includes a three dimensional Fourier transform of an appropriately distorted single-particle wave function.

During the next year, we intend to apply the machine program to other types of nuclear reactions. We also will look into the higher order corrections to the distorted wave approximation as well as try to apply Feynman diagram techniques to the "simple" nuclear reactions.

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

S. Siegel/E. Sherry

3/26/64

## X-RAY DIFFRACTION STUDIES

The program on uranate structures is continuing. The following compositions are being investigated as part of a study of the uranyl bond: mono-uranates of Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, and Ti( $\text{TiUO}_5$ ); di-uranates of Li, Na, K, and Rb; and tri-uranates of Mn, Co, Ni, Cu, and Zn. A form of uranyl borate,  $\text{UO}_2(\text{BO}_2)_2$  has been obtained and is also being studied.

High pressure techniques have yielded single crystals of a new modification of  $\text{UO}_3$ , the zeta-form. The cell is orthorhombic with  $a = 7.511 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 5.466 \text{ \AA}$ , and  $c = 5.224 \text{ \AA}$ . The four uranium atoms are in general positions of  $P2_12_12_1$  with  $x = 0.072$ ,  $y = 0.131$ , and  $z = 0.033$ . Single crystals of  $\beta\text{-U}_3\text{O}_7$  have also been obtained at high pressures. Preliminary studies indicate the small tetragonal cell as reported previously. However, powder x-ray and neutron diffraction data seem to indicate a larger cell or changed symmetry.

$\text{K}_3\text{Pr}_2(\text{NO}_3)_9$  is being investigated. The cell is cubic with  $a = 13.53 \text{ \AA}$ . Work on  $\text{CsCdCl}_3$  has been completed. The cubic and hexagonal modifications exhibit the same structural relationships as is found for cubic and hexagonal  $\text{BaTiO}_3$ . X-ray studies of xenon compositions are primarily of a service nature as an aid in the development of the chemistry of these compounds.

The high temperature facility is in operation and temperatures near  $1300^\circ\text{C}$  have been obtained. It is hoped that temperatures of  $2000^\circ\text{C}$  can be reached with varying gas pressures over the sample.

Development of high and low temperature facilities for structural studies are now underway or contemplated.

Publications:

H. Hoekstra and S. Siegel, "Structural Studies on  $\text{Li}_4\text{UO}_5$  and  $\text{Na}_4\text{UO}_5$ ," J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem., In press (1964).

S. Siegel and E. Gebert, "The Structures of Hexagonal  $\text{CsCdCl}_3$  and Tetragonal  $\text{Cs}_2\text{CdCl}_4$ ," Acta Crystallographica, In press (1964).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

F. S. Tomkins/M. Fred/A. Giacchetti/G. Smith\*

3/26/64

## EMISSION SPECTROSCOPY

The research program of the spectroscopy group has been expanded to include the spectra of all the elements from radium through californium. This includes the measurement of wavelengths, hyperfine structure, isotope shift, Zeeman effect, temperature classification, and absorption spectra, in order to derive energy levels and electron configurations. The expansion has been made possible through cooperative programs with the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory at Livermore and Berkeley; the Bellevue, France, Laboratory of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique; the Zeeman Laboratorium at Amsterdam, and Imperial College in London.

Some energy levels and electron configurations have now been obtained for all the elements through curium, with marked progress in the past year. The analysis and interpretation have been greatly aided by more effective use of computers and by theoretical calculations at Argonne and at Bellevue. Greatly improved exposures have been obtained for most of the above spectra, and future plans call for the continued measurement and interpretation of these data.

Our facilities have been enlarged to include a three meter vacuum spectrograph, currently being used for the investigation of the absorption spectrum of radium--in cooperation with Professor Garton of Imperial College. A further cooperative program is being initiated with the Physics Department of the University of Illinois to extend this technique to other elements, and to include kinetic spectroscopy.

Publications:

F. S. Tomkins and M. Fred, "Wavelength Measurements with a Concave Grating Spectrograph," *Applied Optics* 2, 715 (1963).

Th. A. M. von Kleef and M. Fred, "Zeeman Effect Measurements in Neutral and Singly Ionized Mercury," *Physics* 29, 389 (1963).

J. Blaise, M. Fred, S. Gerstenkorn and B. R. Judd, "Lowest Multiplet in the Arc Spectrum of Plutonium," *Comptes rendues* 255, 2403 (1962).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. Weil/J. Heidberg\*/M. Mori\*\*/M. Okada†/P. M. Wright‡

3/26/64

## MAGNETIC RESONANCE STUDIES

Magnetic resonance provides a powerful tool for study of unpaired spin systems, and gives detailed information both about steady-state molecular structure and about dynamic phenomena involving motions of atoms and electrons. At present, paramagnetic resonance studies of radiation damage centers and charge-transfer phenomena in quartz, and of delocalized electron systems in peroxodicobalt complexes are being carried out. Study of the chemistry of hydrazyl-type free radicals continues to be very fruitful, and numerous new reactions and substances are being investigated. Substituted picryl-hydrazines and other aromatic nitro-compounds exhibit proton magnetic spectra giving considerable insight into dynamic aspects of mesomeric and steric effects in these molecules. Studies of the theory of various aspects of spin resonance have centered largely on the effects of molecular motions and randomness of their orientations on the parameters describing solution and powder spectra, as well as on the inter-relationship between crystal symmetry and magnetic resonance parameters in single crystal studies.

Publications:

P. M. Wright, J. A. Weil, T. Buch and J. H. Anderson, "Titanium Colour Centres in Rose Quartz," *Nature* 197, 246 (1963).

J. A. Weil, G. L. Goodman and H. G. Hecht, "Paramagnetic Resonance Absorption in Peroxo-Dicobalt Complexes - Single Crystal Studies," *Paramagnetic Resonance V. II*, p. 880, (W. Low, Editor) Academic Press (1963).

J. A. Weil and H. G. Hecht, "On the Powder Line Shape of EPR Spectra," *J. Chem. Phys.* 38, 281 (1963).

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

M. Atoji

3/26/64

## NEUTRON DIFFRACTION STUDIES

The neutron coherent-scattering amplitude of naturally occurring Hf has been established as + 0.785 Fermi unit at 0.08 to 0.03 eV and the multi-level Breit-Wigner calculation including the bound-level effect led to the reaction nuclear radius of 0.94 Fermi unit in agreement with the optical model with a diffuse spherical potential. The method has been extended to other heavy elements with special reference to their imaginary-part scattering amplitudes. The  $M_3C$  ( $M =$  rare earth and Y) structure, cubic by x-rays, was found to be monoclinic in its atomic symmetry and further studies on the magnetic-spin arrangement in  $Tb_3C$  are under progress. The neutron investigations on  $AlCr_2$ ,  $Cr_3C_2$ ,  $CbC$ ,  $TaC$ ,  $TiC$  and other related metal carbides are nearly complete. The structure-analysis programs on  $Mg_2C_3$ ,  $MgC_2$ ,  $Li_2C_2$ ,  $Na_2C_2$ ,  $LiHC_2$ ,  $KHC_2$  and  $Pu_2C_3$  have not been fruitful, because of poor quality samples. Further effort is being made on obtaining better purity compounds.

The instrumental activities on our automatic double-crystal neutron diffractometer are represented by: some additional improvements on the magnetic devices (max. 18 K oersted) for temperature range, 1.6°K to 1700°C; modification on the high-temperature furnace for non-magnetic study; electronics addition for improved automation.

Future program includes the following: the structure and magnetic analyses on various carbides, acetylides and peroxides; the interaction between conduction and magnetic electrons in magnetite; the electrostatic field effect on magnetic compounds; single-crystal preparation by means of Bridgman, Czochralski, electron-beam floating zone-refining and stress-annealing techniques.

Publication:

M. Atoji, "Slow-Neutron Cross Sections of Hafnium," in press, Acta Crystallographica, (1964).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

G. L. Goodman

3/26/64

## THEORETICAL STUDIES IN MOLECULAR QUANTUM MECHANICS

A recent reinterpretation of the vibrational spectra for certain metal hexafluoride molecules has yielded information about the size of the interaction between electronic motions and nuclear motions in these molecules. This information is now being used to predict the properties to be expected for the higher energy electronic states of these and related hexafluoride molecules: (ReF<sub>6</sub>, OsF<sub>6</sub>, IrF<sub>6</sub>, PtF<sub>6</sub>, TcF<sub>6</sub>, RuF<sub>6</sub>, RhF<sub>6</sub>). Eventually, these predictions will be compared with spectral features of these molecules in order to confirm that the unusual features in their spectra arise from dynamic Jahn-Teller effects.

The molecule XeF<sub>6</sub> was not included in the original work on molecular dynamics of hexafluoride molecules. There is strong evidence however, that the properties of this molecule are seriously influenced by interactions of electronic and nuclear motions. The study of this problem and the search for other examples of vibronic coupling is well under way.

One by-product of this work has been the extension of a perturbation formula given by Moffitt and Thorson to yield a perturbation theory based entirely on commutators of quantum mechanical operators. The possible uses of this new way of treating perturbations are being investigated. They include the calculation of vibronic energy levels and wave functions, the relatively easy development of spin-Hamiltonians to any order in the hyperfine interaction constants, and perhaps the calculation of atomic correlation energies and molecular bond energies.

Publications:

B. Weinstock and G. L. Goodman, Adv. in Chem. Phys., 6, 000 (in press)(1964).

G. L. Goodman, Abstracts of papers presented at the Chemical Society Anniversary Meetings, Birmingham, England, April 4-9, 1964, "Theories of Bonding for Xenon Fluorides."

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

B. G. Wybourne

3/26/64

THEORETICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE SPECTROSCOPIC  
PROPERTIES OF ATOMS AND IONS

This project represents an attempt to interpret the very complex spectra of the lanthanides, and more especially, the actinides. Three aspects of this project are currently under study:

1. The effects of configuration interaction on the energy levels of atoms and ions in the gaseous, liquid and solid state. Extensive use of Racah's algebra of tensor operators is being made to obtain a simple phenomenological treatment of these effects.
2. Atomic energy level calculations. The exceedingly complex spectra of the actinides can only be understood if the existent experimental studies are backed by a theoretical attack upon the calculation of atomic energy levels. Computer techniques are being used to calculate the necessary energy matrices and to analyze the spectra.
3. Transition probabilities and crystal spectra. A detailed study of the intensities of optical transitions in solutions and solids containing actinide ions is being undertaken to investigate the behavior of different ligand fields and to predict the intensity characteristics of the, as yet unobserved, spectra of several heavy actinides, attention is also being given to the interpretation of the crystal spectra of the actinides.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

P. Day

3/26/64

## ASYMMETRIC ROTOR NUCLEAR MODEL

During the past year further modifications have been made on the collective model originally advanced by Bohr and Mottelson over a decade ago to explain the observed level structure in deformed nuclei. Although the initial model was advanced on the basis that nuclei has cylindrical symmetry, these recent modifications indicate that the nucleus is not symmetrical in various regions of the periodic table. Several years ago Davydov attempted to set up the collective model for even nuclei without restricting the nuclei to cylindrical symmetry. In a series of papers over the last few years, he has successively been able to solve his equation sets with fewer and fewer approximations. In his latest attempt he has been able to take into account the effect of the "gamma vibrations" in an exact manner.

The numerical evaluation of the results is rather complex. Since the equations are not in explicit form and are a function of four parameters, it was necessary to evaluate the equations over a fairly large range with a sufficiently fine mesh and then use an interpolation scheme in order to compare the model with experimental results. A computer program was used to produce an extensive table on the IBM-704. Since graphical interpolation would be a time-consuming task by hand, a program has been written to perform tri-variate inverse interpolation on the computer.

Although the previous modifications on the model improved the agreement with experiment, the present modification is in rather poor agreement with the latest experimental results on even nuclei. This may be due to an error in the numerical evaluation of the equations or else the approximations used by Davydov are inadequate in the rare earth mass region.

Further detailed comparison with experimental data and a detailed analysis of the Davydov approximations is planned in order to determine why a heretofore successful theory appears to be less applicable after undergoing a so-called "improvement."

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

H. R. Hoekstra

3/26/64

## URANIUM-OXYGEN BONDING

Bonding between hexavalent uranium and oxygen is generally unsymmetrical - two short (uranyl) bonds are formed, together with four, five or six longer secondary bonds. The purpose of this investigation is to obtain an understanding of the various types of bonding encountered in the uranyl salts, uranium(VI) oxides and the metal uranates. At present, the study is concerned principally with the synthesis of pure compounds in the three categories listed above, the determination of their crystal structures (in cooperation with S. Siegel) and infrared spectra, and the correlation of these data to arrive at uranium-oxygen bond lengths and bond orders.

One of the compounds under investigation at the present time is uranyl metaborate ( $\text{UO}_2\text{B}_2\text{O}_4$ ), which appears to have the greatest thermal stability of any known uranyl salt. Its decomposition temperature is  $\sim 1100^\circ\text{C}$ . The structure of  $\text{UO}_2\text{B}_2\text{O}_4$  is being studied; the infrared spectrum is indicative of a typical uranyl salt with a U-O<sub>I</sub> bond length of  $\sim 1.7$  Å.

Several groups of metal uranates have been prepared. Results on the alkali metal uranates show a good correlation between uranate composition (in the various members of the series  $\text{M}_2\text{U}_x\text{O}_{3x+1}$ ) and uranyl bond length, as predicted by the Zachariasen bond length-bond strength rule. Similar correlations are evident among the alkaline earth and transition metal uranates (Ti through Zn).

Publication:

H. R. Hoekstra and S. Siegel, "Structural Studies on  $\text{Li}_4\text{UO}_5$  and  $\text{Na}_5\text{UO}_5$ ," J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem., in press (1964).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

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3/26/64

PROPERTIES OF LIQUID HELIUM-3 AND LIQUID HELIUM-4  
AT LOW TEMPERATURES

Studies of  $\text{He}^3$  and  $\text{He}^4$  at low temperatures are of importance theoretically and experimentally because of the occurrence of quantum effects on a macroscopic scale. Further,  $\text{He}^3$  is the only uncharged Fermi-Dirac system available for investigation. Since the theoretical predictions about liquid  $\text{He}^3$  are valid only in the limit of very low temperatures, attempts are being made to test the predictions experimentally below  $0.1^\circ\text{K}$ .

Heat capacity measurements are now being made on liquid  $\text{He}^3$  from  $0.04$  to  $0.5^\circ\text{K}$ . Although this temperature range has been covered by two publications from other laboratories, the divergence between the two are too great to provide an adequate test of the theories. It is hoped that the current work will resolve the ambiguities.

An apparatus has been constructed to measure the attenuation of high frequency sound in liquid  $\text{He}^3$  in an attempt to detect the presence of "zero sound." This is a new type of sound vibration predicted by Landau which can be exhibited only by Fermi-Dirac systems.

Measurements of the viscosity of liquid  $\text{He}^3$  are also planned in the temperature range  $0.01$  to  $0.4^\circ\text{K}$ , and the results will be compared with the theoretical  $1/T^2$  dependence.

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ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. W. Osborne/B. M. Abraham/H. E. Flotow/  
F. Schreiner

3/26/64

## LOW TEMPERATURE CALORIMETRY

The primary purpose in making low temperature heat capacity measurements is to obtain thermodynamic functions such as entropy, enthalpy, and free energy increments which are needed in thermodynamic calculations. Another purpose is to obtain information regarding lattice dynamics, antiferromagnetic and ferromagnetic transitions, order-disorder transitions, ligand field splitting of the ground electronic state, and other interesting solid state phenomena.

Measurements have been completed down to 5°K on a number of metal hydrides and deuterides, and the heat capacity curves have been analyzed to determine the characteristic hydrogen vibration frequencies. Similar work is planned on rare-earth hydrides. Also it is planned to make further measurements on the heat capacities of these and other hydrides from 0.8 to 15°K and to attempt to resolve the heat capacity curves into lattice, electronic, and magnetic contributions. Further work is planned on alpha- and beta-UH<sub>3</sub>.

Calorimetric measurements have been made on several hexafluorides: NpF<sub>6</sub>, MoF<sub>6</sub>, and TcF<sub>6</sub>. Because these compounds are volatile at room temperature it has been possible to compare the entropies computed from the third law of thermodynamics with the entropies computed from the electron diffraction and spectroscopic data and thus to obtain a check on the interpretation of the spectra. Similar studies will be made of the new compounds XeF<sub>2</sub>, XeF<sub>4</sub> and XeF<sub>6</sub>.

Heat capacity measurements will also be continued on compounds of rare earths, thorium, uranium, and neptunium.

Publications:

H. E. Flotow, D. W. Osborne, K. Otto, and B. M. Abraham, "YH<sub>3</sub> and YD<sub>3</sub>: Heat Capacities and Thermodynamic Functions from 15° to 350°K and Infrared Absorption Spectra," J. Chem. Phys. 38, 2620 (1963).

H. E. Flotow, D. W. Osborne, and K. Otto, "Heat Capacities and Thermodynamic Functions of YH<sub>2</sub> and YD<sub>2</sub> from 5° to 350°K and the Hydrogen Vibration Frequencies," J. Chem. Phys., 36, 866 (1962).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. B. Magnusson

3/26/64

## ION-ION AND ION-SOLVENT INTERACTIONS

Correlative studies of the formation of 1:1 complexes in aqueous solution of noble gas type cations with fluoride ion and with the anions of o-carbonyl phenols suggest some new approaches to the theories of ion-ion and ion-water interactions. Previous theories treat the interactions as being independent of the sign of the ion charge. The present correlations indicate that the cationic and anionic interactions are fundamentally different. The cation charge may be screened and effectively delocalized by a covalent bonding of solvent electrons. Anion charge cannot be screened and the anomalies in the ionic theories may be the result of a greater extension of a vacuum electric field into the surrounding solvent. Accurate data will be secured for the first hydrolysis constants of noble gas type cations. Correlation of the data may give further information on the anion field. Thought is being given to the feasibility of direct measurement of individual cation and anion hydration energies. The information, very difficult to obtain, would provide answers to the most important problems in electrolyte theory.

Publications:

L. B. Magnusson, "Short Range Interactions of Aqueous Ions," J. Chem. Phys. 39, 1953 (1963).

L. B. Magnusson, C. Postmus, Jr., and C. A. Craig, "Coordination in Solutions. V. Formation Constants for 1:1 Complexes of o-Carbonyl Phenols with Ca, Sr, Ba, La, Eu, Lu, Sc, Y and Th Ions in Water," to be submitted to J. Am. Chem. Soc.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

L. B. Magnusson/C. Postmus, Jr./C. A. Craig

3/26/64

INTER- AND INTRAMOLECULAR HYDROGEN BONDING IN AQUEOUS  
SOLUTION, METAL ION CHELATE COMPLEXES, AND THE pH SCALE

The discovery that a glass electrode cell with a reproducible saturated KCl junction can give the activity of hydrogen ion may be very important to electrolyte theory. Preliminary indications are that cations and anions have detectably different activity coefficients. Further work is planned using more sensitive equipment. The strengths of hydrogen bonds are important in bidentate ligands which can chelate metal ions or hydrogen ions. In phenol derivatives with a carbonyl group and a nitro group each ortho to the hydroxyl group, the possibility exists in aqueous solution of competitive intra- as well as intermolecular bonding. Recent work suggests there is little bonding to an ortho nitro group although an intramolecular bond exists in organic solvents. The work will be extended to D<sub>2</sub>O systems. A systematic correlation of pK values with nuclear magnetic resonance has led to an unambiguous assignment of all the monochloro-derivatives of salicylaldehyde.

Publication:

L. B. Magnusson, C. Postmus, Jr., and C. A. Craig, "Coordination in Solutions. I. Acid Strengths of Phenol Derivations in Water," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 85, 1711 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. M. Gruen/F. A. Cafasso/C. Thalmayer

3/26/64

## MAGNETIC SUSCEPTIBILITY STUDIES

Magnetic susceptibility measurements are being carried out on selected compounds in the range 2-300°K and at a series of magnetic field values. The Faraday method is employed on ~100 mg of sample.

Recent results have included data on  $\text{ReF}_6$  and  $\text{UCd}_{11}$ .

Measurements are in progress on actinide sulfides and on  $\text{XeF}_6$ . In the latter compound, theory predicts a low lying triplet state. It is hoped that the magnetic measurements can throw light on this interesting hypothesis.

Publications:

H. Selig, F. A. Cafasso, D. M. Gruen and J. G. Malm, "Magnetic Susceptibility of  $\text{ReF}_6$ ," J. Chem. Phys. 36, 3440 (1962).

F. A. Cafasso, H. M. Feder and D. M. Gruen, "Electronic Configuration and Valency of Uranium in  $\text{UCd}_{11}$ , a Magnetically Dilute Alloy," J. Chem. Phys. 38, 1256 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. C. Hindman

3/26/64

APPLICATION OF NUCLEAR MAGNETIC RESONANCE TO THE STUDY OF  
STRUCTURE IN ELECTROLYTE SOLUTIONS

The successful development of a model for the interpretation of the effects of 1-1 electrolytes on the proton resonance of water suggested that one could expect to obtain significant information about the structure of liquid water itself from a similar treatment. It has been found that the shielding changes associated with the transformation of water vapor to ice can be used to calculate the dipole moment of the water molecule in ice. Extension of the model to a detailed description of the liquid structure as a function of temperature is in progress. The principal remaining factor to be considered is the second-order van der Waals-London effect on the chemical shift.

The interpretation of the experimental observations on the effect of temperature on the proton resonance in solutions of 1-1 electrolytes is in progress.

Further work is to be oriented toward the interpretation of dynamic processes in electrolyte solutions. It is expected that the greater degree of complexity in the dynamic behavior will require extension of the experimental measurements to nuclei other than hydrogen in order to provide an adequate basis for extension of the theoretical treatment. It is further expected that by a suitable combination of static and dynamic measurements further information can be obtained about rates of exchange of water between solvent and hydrated ions, order in outer hydration layers, rates of complex ion formation, outer sphere association and related phenomena.

Publication:

J. C. Hindman, "Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Effects in Aqueous Solutions of 1-1 Electrolytes," J. Chem. Phys. 36, 1000 (1962).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. A. Hutchison

3/26/64

## RESEARCH APPLICATIONS OF MASS SPECTROMETRY

## Experimental Threshold Laws for Ionization in the Rare Gases

Experimental threshold laws for ionization by electron impact in the rare gases have been determined. It has been found within the limits of experimental precision that ionization varies directly with the first power of the electron energy in excess of the ionization potential. The data do not agree with a 1.127 power law predicted by one theory.

The energy-selected electron beams employed in these experiments were obtained by use of a parallel-plate electrostatic energy selector. A second parallel-plate analyzer furnished information on the electron-energy distributions used in producing ionization. Distributions have been measured for beams selected at 25.0 to 7.5 volts energies. Beams selected at 3.5 volts have been used in studies of ionization in the rare gases. Electronic differentiation of ion-appearance-potential curves was obtained by superposing a sinewave voltage signal on the electron beam and measuring the amplitude signal generated in the ion beam. Computer calculations of the integral of the product of the electron-energy-distribution functions and assumed first order threshold functions yield ionization intensity functions and their first derivatives with energy in close agreement with experimentally measured ones.

Noise in the ionization signals appears to be our most important adverse problem at present. We plan to alleviate this by addition of a digital storage oscilloscope to our instrumentation. Random noise should average toward zero while the stored signal should be enhanced thus increasing the signal-to-noise ratio.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. F. Peppard/G. W. Mason

3/26/64

THE PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY OF THE INTERACTION OF  $(X)(Y)PO(OH)$   
EXTRACTANTS WITH HYDROGEN BOND DONORS AND ACCEPTORS

The molecular complexity of  $(X)(Y)PO(OH)$  compounds in a variety of diluents ranging from alkanes, such as *n*-heptane, through benzene, carbon tetrachloride, di-alkyl ethers such as di *n*-butyl ether, and ketones such as methyl iso butyl ketone to alcohols such as *n*-decyl alcohol and liquid carboxylic acids such as 2-ethyl hexanoic acid is being studied. The groups X and/or Y may be aryl (Ar-), aryloxy (ArO-), alkyl (Alk-), alkoxy (AlkO-), hydrogen (H-), or hydroxy (HO-), or a substituted variant.

In general, if neither X nor Y is hydroxy, these compounds tend toward the dimeric state in benzene and the monomeric state in alcohols. For  $(X)PO(OH)_2$  where X is not hydroxy the molecular complexity is hexameric or greater in benzene, usually higher than this in *n*-heptane, and much lower in good hydrogen bond acceptors. For example (2-ethyl hexyl O)PO(OH)<sub>2</sub>, is monomeric in methyl alcohol and approximately dimeric in acetone. However, (2-ethyl hexyl)PO(OH)<sub>2</sub>, which differs only in that a C-O-P bond has been replaced by a C-P bond, has a molecular complexity nearly three times as great.

A study of the state of aggregation of  $(X)PO(OH)_2$ , where X includes a variety of alkyl and aryl groups as well as Ar-O-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O- and Alkyl-O-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O- groups is nearing completion and will be reported in the literature in conjunction with relevant extraction data including actinide and lanthanide cations.

Publications:

D. F. Peppard and G. W. Mason, "Some Mechanisms of Extraction of M(II), (III), (IV), and (VI) Metals by Acidic Organophosphorus Extractants," Nuclear Science and Engineering 16, 382 (1963).

J. R. Ferraro and D. F. Peppard, "Structural Aspects of Organophosphorus Extractants and Their Metallic Complexes as Deduced from Spectral and Molecular Weight Studies," Nuclear Science and Engineering 16, 389 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

John R. Ferraro

3/26/64

PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY OF ACIDIC ORGANOPHOSPHORUS COMPOUNDS  
AND VARIOUS INORGANIC SALTS

Proton magnetic resonance studies on acidic organophosphorus compounds are being expanded to include the following studies: (1) Mixtures of organophosphorus compounds (2) Organophosphorus compounds with other materials (3) Dibasic organophosphorus acids of the type  $(GO)PO(OH)_2$ ,  $GPO(OH)_2$ . Recent work on the acids  $(GO)_2PO(OH)$ ,  $(GO)G'PO(OH)$  and  $G'_2PO(OH)$ , and a PMR study of new chelates involving organophosphorus compounds are presented in attached reprints.

Also in progress are Raman and far infrared studies ( $350-70\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) of solid inorganic compounds (e.g. transition-metal nitrates, carbonates, bromates, iodates, etc.). Attempts will be made to differentiate between external vibrations (due to the lattice) and internal vibrations (e.g. M-O fundamentals) in the far infrared region. This information will lead to conclusions on the degree of covalency present in these salts. Similar studies are being made with the hydrogen bonded organophosphorus acids in search of low-lying hydrogen bonded fundamental vibrations. The presence or absence of these frequencies will help in elucidating the nature of the hydrogen bonding in these acids, since x-ray studies are lacking.

Publications:

J. R. Ferraro and D. F. Peppard, "Proton Magnetic Resonance Studies of Acidic Organosphorus Compounds," J. Phys. Chem. 67, 2639 (1963).

J. R. Ferraro, "Proton Magnetic Resonance of Several New Chelates," J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem., 26, 225 (1964).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. F. Peppard/G. W. Mason

3/26/64

THE ACID STRENGTH OF (X)(Y)PO(OH) AND ITS EXTRACTANT  
EFFECTIVENESS AS A FUNCTION OF X AND Y

Each member of the series of compounds, (X)(Y)PO(OH), where X and/or Y may be phenyl(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>-), cyclo-hexyl(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>-), hydrogen (H-), phenoxy (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O-), cyclo hexoxy (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O-) or hydroxyl (HO-), with two exceptions, has been prepared and purified. The exceptions are (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O)(H)PO(OH) and (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O)PO(OH)<sub>2</sub>- the former proving unstable and the latter not isolatable with the techniques currently available. Each compound has been titrated in both 75% ethanol and 95% ethanol with 0.1 molar NaOH in the same medium under a standard set of conditions.

The pK<sub>A</sub> values have been computed from the titration data. Numerical values were then assigned individually to the phenyl, cyclo hexyl, hydrogen, phenoxy, cyclo hexoxy, and hydroxy groups so that by combining the values for the X and Y present the pK<sub>A</sub> of the compound is closely approximated. A report of this phase of the investigation is now being prepared for publication.

The pK<sub>A</sub> data will be correlated with the Hammett Acidity Function values now being obtained.

They will also be correlated with the numerical values of the extractant coefficients, K, determined under a standard set of conditions for selected metallic cations.

Publication:

J. R. Ferraro and D. F. Peppard "Proton Magnetic Resonance Studies of Acidic Organo-phosphorous Compounds," J. Phys. Chem. 67, 2639 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

D. F. Peppard/G. W. Mason

3/26/64

APPLICABILITY OF (X)(Y)PO(OH) EXTRACTANTS TO ACTINIDE AND  
LANTHANIDE SEPARATIONS AS A FUNCTION OF X AND Y

A series of (X)(Y)PO(OH) compounds in which X and/or Y may be aryl (Ar-), aryloxy (ArO-), alkyl (Alk-), alkoxy (AlkO-), hydrogen (H-) or hydroxy (HO-), or substituted variants of the above, has been prepared and studied as extractants for actinides and lanthanides.

Although M(II), M(III), M(IV), M(V) and M(VI) are all being investigated, the major emphasis is on M(III). Separations involving any other than M(III) are very readily accomplished, but the M(III) mutual separations remain difficult.

No separations involving actinides (III) or lanthanides (III) by use of (Ar)<sub>2</sub>PO(OH), (Alk)<sub>2</sub>PO(OH), (Ar)(Alk)PO(OH), (Ar)(H)PO(OH), (Alk)(H)PO(OH), (Alk)PO(OH)<sub>2</sub>, or (Ar)PO(OH)<sub>2</sub> have been reported previously.

Examples of these unreported types of extractants as well as the other formulations will be studied with the hope of obtaining better mutual separations of M(III) species, especially in the region beyond curium. The stoichiometry of the extraction is also being investigated on at least one example of each of the type extractants.

The effect of carrier diluents will also be studied, both from the points of view of polarity and of generalized interaction between extractant and carrier diluent, and the point of view of change in state of aggregation of extractant. (The term carrier diluent is used in preference to inert diluent, since inertness seems hardly consistent with the observed large effects of diluent change.)

In the state of aggregation studies di 2-ethyl hexyl phosphoric acid, (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>·C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O)<sub>2</sub> PO(OH), (HDEHP) and di para (1,1,3,3-tetramethyl butyl phenyl) phosphoric acid, (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>17</sub>·C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>PO(OH), (HDOΦP) have been used as extractants in n-decyl alcohol, C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>21</sub>OH, in which they are monomeric, in contrast to their dimeric states in benzene, etc. A report of this phase of the work has been submitted for publication.

Publication:

D. F. Peppard, G. W. Mason and C. M. Andrejasich, "Applicability of Certain Organo Phosphorus Extractants to Environmental and Biological Radioactivity Surveys," J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem. 25, 1175 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

E. P. Horwitz/L. J. Basile

3/26/64

## TRANSPUTONIUM ELEMENT SEPARATIONS CHEMISTRY

The over-all purpose of our investigation is to obtain information on the transplutonium elements that will be of use in the separation of these elements. Concurrently some aspects of the chemistry of the transplutonium elements will also be investigated.

The application of zirconium phosphate gels for use as an ion exchange medium for the separation of transplutonium elements is currently being investigated. By controlling and changing certain variables it is hoped that conditions will be obtained whereby certain transplutonium elements can be separated as a group and also from each other.

The use of polyaminopolycarboxylic acids as chelating agents for the transplutonium elements is also being investigated. A study of the physical and chemical properties of these chelates both as solids and in solution might lead to improved methods in separation and possible practical applications for transplutonium elements.

## SECTION 2B

### ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY - CHEMICAL ENGINEERING DIVISION

- 2B1 Solubility of Rare Gases in Alkali Metals
- 2B2 Thermodynamics - Binary Alkali Metal Solutions
- 2B3 Thermodynamics of Liquid Metal Solutions
- 2B4 Phase Studies by the Effusion Method
- 2B5 Magnetic Susceptibility Studies
- 2B6 Lithium Hydride Regenerative Cell
- 2B7 Bimetallic Regenerative Cells
- 2B8 Solubility of Intermetallic Compounds in Fused Salts
- 2B9 Regenerative Cell Kinetics
- 2B10 The Enthalpies of Formation of the Diborides of Some Group IV and V Metals
- 2B11 The Enthalpies of Formation of Silicon Carbide and Tetrafluoromethane
- 2B12 The Enthalpies of Formation of Uranium Compounds
- 2B13 The Design and Construction of a 1500°C High Precision Enthalpy Increment Drop Calorimeter

For further information on completed work, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature and to the Argonne National Laboratory Chemical Engineering Division Research Highlights Report for May 1963 through April 1964, ANL-6875.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

H. M. Feder/I. Johnson/S. K. Dhar

March 13, 1964

## SOLUBILITY OF RARE GASES IN ALKALI METALS

Data on the solubility and temperature coefficient of the solubility of rare gases in liquid alkali metals may be used to compute thermodynamic quantities for the dissolved rare gas. Since the rare gases are expected to dissolve as neutral atoms (promotional energies to  $p^5s$  configuration range from 156 kcal/mole for Rn to 383 kcal/mole for Ne) these thermodynamic data may be used to estimate the magnitude of interaction energies between neutral atoms and metal ions when the latter are part of a metallic structure. Such information will aid in the development of a theory of metallic solutions.

To experimentally determine the very low solubilities of the rare gases in liquid alkali metals a large quantity ( $\sim 3.2$  liters) of the liquid alkali metal was saturated by circulation of the rare gas through the liquid metal. A large sample (1 to 2 liters) of the saturated liquid metal was analyzed for the rare gas. Precautions were taken to avoid contamination of the sample with the surface layer of the saturated liquid since the quantity of adsorbed gas may be many times greater than the dissolved gas. The dissolved rare gas was stripped from the sample by sparging with helium. The rare gas was separated from the helium stream by adsorption on liquid nitrogen cooled charcoal. After desorbing from the charcoal the rare gas was measured either by mass spectrometric or radiochemical methods.

The solubility of argon and krypton in liquid sodium has been measured. The solubility of argon ranges from  $2 \times 10^{-10}$  to  $3 \times 10^{-9}$  atom fraction over the temperature range  $340-480^\circ\text{C}$  at one atmosphere argon pressure. The solubility of krypton ranges from  $2 \times 10^{-12}$  to  $1.2 \times 10^{-9}$  atom fraction over the temperature range  $200-480^\circ\text{C}$ . The heat of solution for both gases in liquid sodium is approximately 16 kcal/mole. The heat of solution may be shown to be equal to the sum of two parts, the energy to make a cavity in the body of the solvent and the interaction energy between the solute and solvent atoms. Calculated and observed heats of solution are equal if the cavity radius is taken to be about 70% greater than the atomic radius of the rare gas atoms.

During the next year the solubility of krypton in the other alkali metals will be measured.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

H. M. Feder/I. Johnson/F. Cafasso/V. Khanna

March 13, 1964

## THERMODYNAMICS - BINARY ALKALI METAL SOLUTIONS

Recent theoretical advances have been made in the area of metallic solutions.<sup>1</sup> Great promise exists for the future development of a theory which will make possible theoretical calculations of the thermodynamic properties of simple metallic solutions. The binary alkali metals form such simple solutions. A study designed to measure the thermodynamic properties of selected binary liquid alloys formed by the alkali metals was undertaken to provide experimental data for comparison with future theory.

The high chemical reactivity and chemical similarity of the alkali metals limits the possible experimental methods which may be used to determine thermodynamic activity. Where multiple species exist in a vapor phase, as in the case of the alkali metals, a vapor pressure method may be used provided that it is possible to determine the partial pressures of the different species independently. The optical absorption method used in this study permits the concentration of the atoms in the vapor to be distinguished from that of the molecules. In this technique the partial pressure of alkali atoms is determined by measuring the quantity of light of certain characteristics (resonance radiation) absorbed by the vapor. Comparison of the absorption by vapor over an alloy with that over the pure metal is a direct measure of the thermodynamic activity of one of the components in the binary solution.

The sodium-potassium system is the first binary to be studied. The absorption of the 5890 Å line of the Na doublet by vapor over pure liquid Na was measured from 127.7 to 152.7°C. The enthalpy of vaporization for the reaction  $\text{Na}(l) \rightleftharpoons \text{Na}(g)$  calculated from the temperature dependence of absorption is 25.6 kcal/mole. The best literature value for this enthalpy<sup>2</sup> is 24.9 kcal at 150°C.

Five compositions (10% Na-90% K; 22% Na-78% K; 44% Na-56% K; 56% Na-44% K; and 74% Na-26% K) will be examined over the temperature range in which measurable absorption occurs. The activity coefficient of both components, Na and K, will be determined experimentally for each composition.

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<sup>1</sup> A. Bellemans and M. DeLeener, Phys. Rev. Letters, 6, 603 (1961); Phys. Letters, 4, 157 (1963).

<sup>2</sup> M. Sittig, "Sodium, Its Manufacture, Properties and Uses," Reinhold Publishing Corp., New York, N. Y. (1956).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

I. Johnson/M. G. Chasanov

March 13, 1964

## THERMODYNAMICS OF LIQUID METAL SOLUTIONS

The realization that liquid metal solvents are very useful for the processing of nuclear materials has led to the need for thermodynamic data on a large number of systems. Previous thermodynamic studies of liquid metal solutions have largely been confined to the mixtures of the more common low melting metals. In the present studies thermodynamic data on systems of potential use to the nuclear energy program are being obtained. These data are also extending our knowledge of the behavior of more complex metallic systems and therefore will be of use in judging the relative importance of those factors which are necessarily omitted in the initial development of theory.

High temperature galvanic cells are being used to obtain data on the thermodynamic properties of metallic solutions and of the solid metallic phases in equilibrium with these solutions. A systematic study has been completed on the binary systems of uranium with the low melting metals zinc, cadmium, gallium, indium, thallium, tin and lead.<sup>1</sup> A similar study of the binary systems of plutonium with low melting metals has been started; the systems Pu-Zn and Pu-Cd have been completed. A study of the thermodynamics of the binary systems of the rare-earth metals with cadmium has been started. The systems La-Cd, Ce-Cd and Pr-Cd have been completed. All of the systems thus far examined have well defined intermetallic compounds which the thermodynamic studies have shown to have large exothermic heats of formation. The thermodynamic stability of compounds with a given metal, as measured by the free energies of formation, increase in the order uranium, plutonium, rare-earth metals. Plutonium appears to be more like a rare-earth metal than does uranium. The actinide and rare-earth metals in the low melting solvent metals generally have large negative excess partial molar free energies. In a common solvent system the deviations from ideal behavior increase in the order: uranium, plutonium, rare-earth metals. Again plutonium behaves more like a rare-earth metal than does uranium.

It is planned to continue the studies already underway on systems containing rare-earth metals or plutonium.

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<sup>1</sup>Proc. of Symposium on the Thermodynamics of Nuclear Materials, IAEA, Vienna 1962, p. 319; Trans. Met. Soc. AIME 224, 468 (1962).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

I. Johnson/E. Veleckis

March 13, 1964

## PHASE STUDIES BY THE EFFUSION METHOD

The rare-earth metals are known to form complex series of intermetallic phases with the low melting B-subgroup metals. These intermetallic phases offer an unparalleled opportunity to study the variation in stoichiometry, thermodynamic stability and structure with atomic size uncomplicated by changes in electronic configuration. Thus, as one progresses from the light to the heavy rare-earth metals electrons are added to the  $4f$  orbitals, without changing the number of valence (or conductance) electrons except at europium and ytterbium where the enhanced stability of the half-filled and completely filled  $4f$  levels causes a transfer of electrons from the valence shell to the  $4f$  shell. The buildup of the nuclear charge which accompanies this electron addition causes the effective radius to smoothly decrease (with the exception of europium and ytterbium); the mean metallic radius decreasing from 1.877 Å for lanthanum to 1.734 Å for lutetium.

The stoichiometry, relative stability and structure of the binary phases formed between the rare-earth metals and a relatively volatile B-subgroup metal is being studied using a continuous weighing effusion method supplemented by X-ray diffraction studies. The effusion method permits the stoichiometry and the approximate thermodynamic stability of the various phases to be determined. The X-ray diffraction studies yields the structures of the complex series of phases as well as their atomic parameters. The binary systems of the four light rare-earth metals (lanthanum, cerium, praseodymium and neodymium) with zinc and cadmium have been studied. Preliminary data indicate that the stability of a compound with a given structure decreases as the radius of the rare-earth metal decreases and that the stability of compounds between a given rare-earth metal and either zinc or cadmium increases with decreasing zinc (or cadmium) to rare-earth metal ratio reaching a maximum stability at the RE Zn<sub>2</sub> or RE Cd<sub>2</sub> compound. The 1:1 compound is less stable in all cases. The change in stability with increasing atomic number of the rare-earth metal leads to fewer different intermetallic phases for the heavier rare-earth metal-zinc (or -cadmium) systems.

These studies will be continued during the next year; the systematics of the heavier rare-earth metals will be established.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

H. M. Feder/F. Cafasso/D. M. Gruen\*/C. Thalmayer\*

March 13, 1964

## MAGNETIC SUSCEPTIBILITY STUDIES

Uranium monosulfide (US) is one of four uranium alloys known to undergo a ferromagnetic transition. In order to learn more about the electronic configuration of uranium in magnetically-concentrated alloys of this kind, the magnetic susceptibility of US and US-ThS solid solutions are being measured.

Magnetic susceptibility measurements are made by the Faraday method. Samples contained in 4 mm O.D. quartz capsules are suspended from one arm of a microbalance by a cupronickel chain. The suspension extends into a metal cryostat the lower end of which terminates between two isodynamic gap-type pole pieces.

The assessment of the electronic configuration of a magnetic atom depends largely upon a comparison of its measured moment with theoretical moments. Theoretical moments are calculated for atoms free from exchange and/or crystal field interactions. The measured moments, however, are effected by both types of interactions. The ferromagnetism shown by US<sup>1</sup> indicates the exchange interactions are strong in this compound. By alloying US with the isomorphous diamagnetic compound ThS (i.e., by magnetic-dilution), it may be possible to reduce this interaction to such an extent that the compound's ferromagnetism may be lost and theoretical behavior nearly approximated. From magnetic measurements made over a composition range (100% US to 100% ThS) of US-ThS solid solutions, the magnetic moment of US at infinite dilution will be found by extrapolation. This extrapolated moment will be compared with theory.

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\* Chemistry Division

<sup>1</sup> W. Trzebiatowski and W. Suski, Roczn. Chem., 37, 117 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

C. E. Crouthamel/C. E. Johnson/R. Heinrich

March 13, 1964

## LITHIUM HYDRIDE REGENERATIVE CELL

The formation of lithium hydride can be accomplished in a reversible manner in an emf cell by the oxidation of liquid lithium metal (the anode) and the reduction of hydrogen gas diffusing through a metal diaphragm (the cathode). The cell product, lithium hydride, distributes between the cell electrolyte and the liquid lithium metal anode. By cycling either of the liquid phases containing the lithium hydride to a high temperature, the cell reactants (liquid lithium and hydrogen) may be regenerated, separated and returned to their respective anode and cathode compartments.

Data are being obtained by analysis of heating and cooling curves of the solid-liquid equilibrium of fused lithium salt systems; emf-temperature-composition data for the lithium hydride cell are also being obtained; and the permeation rates of hydrogen through metal diaphragms have been determined. Thermal analysis investigations of the solid-liquid equilibria on the binary systems LiCl-LiH, LiBr-LiH, and NaCl-LiH are completed. The ternary phase diagram LiF-LiCl-LiH is being obtained, and the region of the ternary eutectic would be the most probable electrolyte composition of a hydride cell.

Emf-temperature-composition studies on the lithium hydride cell are in progress. Measurements of the standard free energy of formation of lithium hydride and of the activity of lithium hydride in the various electrolytes will continue.

Recent Publications

1. C. E. Johnson, S. E. Wood, and C. E. Crouthamel, "Anomalous and Non-Equilibrium Breaks in Fused Salt Thermal Analysis Curves," Nature 201, 293 (1964).
2. C. E. Johnson, S. E. Wood, and C. E. Crouthamel, "Studies of LiH Systems," Inorganic Division, ACS, April (1964).
3. U. S. Patent No. 3,119,723, January 28, 1964, C. E. Crouthamel and M. S. Foster (Iron H<sub>2</sub>, H<sup>-</sup> Diaphragm Electrode).
4. U. S. Patent Applied for, March 1964, C. E. Crouthamel, R. Heinrich and C. E. Johnson (Vanadium H<sub>2</sub>, H<sup>-</sup> Diaphragm Electrode).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

C. E. Crouthamel/M. S. Foster

March 13, 1964

## BIMETALLIC REGENERATIVE CELLS

The bimetallic regenerative cell is composed of a liquid alkali metal anode, a fused salt electrolyte containing the alkali metal ion and a liquid cathode metal. The cell process is the oxidation of the anode metal to produce alkali metal ions in the electrolyte and at the cathode the alkali metal ions are reduced to metal and diffuse into the liquid metal cathode. By cycling the liquid cathode metal to a high temperature, the alkali metals may be vaporized from selected cathode metals (e.g., Sn, Bi, Pb) and returned to the anode.

Very little is known about the thermodynamic properties of these binary alloy systems over the temperature ranges of interest. Also, phase diagram (solid-liquid equilibrium) data for many of the fused salts systems which would be applicable to these cells are not available.

Emf-temperature-composition data on the lithium-bismuth and lithium-tin alloys have been completed and the data for sodium-bismuth alloys are partly completed. Also, the mass spectrographic analysis of the vapor phase (Knudsen Cell) for the lithium-bismuth system has been completed. Demonstration experiments of regeneration of the cathodic alloy by the isopiestic method have been made for Li-Bi, Na-Bi, Li-Sn and Na-Sn alloys.

Future work will extend the emf-temperature-composition data for the sodium-bismuth cell, and also the data for the vapor pressure and vapor phase species in equilibrium with the alloys produced in the regenerative cells. Investigations of the phase diagrams for fused salt electrolytes applicable to the sodium-bismuth cell will be initiated; electrolytes of interest are  $\text{NaX}$  ( $X = \text{F}^-, \text{Cl}^-, \text{Br}^-, \text{I}^-$ ),  $\text{NaCn}$  and possibly  $\text{NaOH}$ .

Recent Publications

Melvin S. Foster, Scott E. Wood, and C. E. Crouthamel, "Thermodynamics of Binary Alloys, The Lithium-Bismuth System," Inorganic Division, ACS, April (1964).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

C. E. Crouthamel/M. S. Foster

March 13, 1964

## SOLUBILITY OF INTERMETALLIC COMPOUNDS IN FUSED SALTS

During the past year, the solubility of many intermetallic species in fused salt media was observed for the first time! This discovery was made in the course of bimetallic cell studies when the irreversible transfer of cathodic metal to the anode was noted. Also, red, green, and yellow colorations of the electrolytes were observed; these observations could not be attributed to alkali metal solubility.

The design of regenerative bimetallic cells for the direct conversion of heat into electricity will have to take into account the possible irreversible transfer of both anodic and cathodic metals through the electrolyte. The solubility of intermetallic species in the fused salts now establishes an irreversible process for the transfer of cathodic metal in the cell. Previously the solubility of the free alkali metal in the fused salt was considered the only irreversible process for the transfer of metal in the cell.

Quantitative measurements of lithium-bismuth intermetallic solubility in fused salts have been made, and the results indicate that two species,  $\text{Li}_3\text{Bi}$  and  $\text{LiBi}$  both dissolve in the lithium chloride-lithium fluoride fused salts. The fused salts saturated with intermetallic compounds of  $\text{Li}_3\text{Bi}$ ,  $\text{Li}_2\text{Te}$  and  $\text{Na}_2\text{Te}$  have been scanned in the heated sample chamber of a Cary 14H spectrophotometer, and it was observed that these systems are characterized by a broad absorption peak in the visible region. These studies and solubility measurements are currently in progress. The phenomena of solubility of intermetallic compounds in fused salts appears to extend over a wide range of alkali and alkaline earth intermetallic species with a variety of cathodic metals, e.g., Bi, Sn, Cd, Pb, Te, Se, etc.

The work for the current year will be continued next year with the expansion of the spectrophotometric and solubility studies. The effect of this phenomena on bimetallic cell operation does not appear to be serious at cell operating temperatures; however, a more complete evaluation will be made as more data become available during the coming year. Efforts will also be made to elucidate the properties of the intermetallic species in fused salts. The experiments require extremely pure inert atmosphere boxes and are difficult and time-consuming to execute.

Recent Publications

1. M. S. Foster, C. E. Crouthamel, D. M. Gruen and R. L. McBeth, First Observation of a Solution of  $\text{Li}_3\text{Bi}$ , an Intermetallic in Molten  $\text{LiCl-LiF}$ , J. Phys. Chem., (in press), April 1964.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

C. E. Crouthamel/J. Elder

March 13, 1964

## REGENERATIVE CELL KINETICS

For power applications, regenerative cells must be designed with the capabilities of functioning at high electrode current densities (e.g., 100 to 1000 ma/cm<sup>2</sup>) and at about one-half or more of the open circuit voltage.

Experiments have demonstrated that most of the bimetallic systems are in fact capable of these high current densities and voltage outputs. However, the systems cannot be optimized with respect to overall power density and operating characteristics without a more detailed knowledge of the electrode kinetics.

An understanding of the causes of any slow step in the overall electrode process, prior to, during, or after the charge transfer process, requires a study of the current voltage relationships under a variety of experimental conditions. These experimental conditions can be arranged so that either charge transfer or mass transfer phenomena govern the results. To preclude mass transfer effects, a pulse electrolysis technique will be employed. The data from normal electrolysis will be characteristic of mass transport phenomena. In both methods, constant current (galvanostatic) and constant voltage (potentiostatic) techniques will be applied. Because of the extreme chemical reactivity of the bimetallic and hydride cells, all experiments will be carried out in high purity inert-atmosphere boxes.

The potentiostatic and galvanostatic equipment have been installed in conjunction with an inert atmosphere box during the past year. Various cell designs have been considered; those for mass transport studies are under construction and those for pulse electrolysis are still in the design stage.

The experimental program will begin in the next year with mass transport experiments on the sodium-bismuth bimetallic cell and the lithium hydride cell. This will be followed by the pulse electrolysis studies on the same systems as soon as suitable cells can be constructed.

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

W. N. Hubbard/G. K. Johnson/E. Greenberg

March 13, 1964

THE ENTHALPIES OF FORMATION OF THE  
DIBORIDES OF SOME GROUP IV AND V METALS

The diborides of the Group IV and V metals are potential materials of construction for high temperature applications. Whatever sparse thermochemical data exist are uncertain because both bomb calorimetric and equilibrium vapor pressure studies involve reactions difficult to define. Fluorine bomb calorimetry, on the other hand, leads to well-defined products of combustion. Already enthalpy of formation data have been determined for many of the products of formation, the tetrafluorides of titanium<sup>1</sup>, zirconium<sup>2</sup>, and hafnium<sup>1</sup>, the pentafluorides of niobium and tantalum (unpublished), and the trifluoride of boron<sup>3</sup>. In this program the enthalpies of formation of the diborides of zirconium, hafnium, and niobium have been determined by fluorine bomb calorimetry (unpublished). A two-compartment reaction vessel<sup>4</sup> was used in which it is possible to maintain the fluorine in a separate compartment from the sample until intentional ignition was desired.

It is planned to obtain the enthalpies of formation of the diborides of titanium and tantalum.

Publications

1. "Fluorine Bomb Calorimetry. IV. The Heats of Formation of Titanium and Hafnium Tetrafluorides," E. Greenberg, J. L. Settle, and W. N. Hubbard, J. Phys. Chem. 66, 1345 (1962).
2. "Fluorine Bomb Calorimetry. I. The Heat of Formation of Zirconium Tetrafluoride," E. Greenberg, J. L. Settle, H. M. Feder, and W. N. Hubbard, J. Phys. Chem. 65, 1168 (1961).
3. "Fluorine Bomb Calorimetry. III. The Heat of Formation of Boron Trifluoride," S. S. Wise, J. L. Margrave, H. M. Feder, and W. N. Hubbard, J. Phys. Chem. 65, 2157 (1961).
4. "Combustion Bomb Reaction Vessel for Spontaneously Combustible Materials," R. L. Nuttall, S. S. Wise and W. N. Hubbard, Rev. Sci. Inst. 32, 1402 (1961).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

W. N. Hubbard/E. Greenberg

March 13, 1964

THE ENTHALPIES OF FORMATION OF  
SILICON CARBIDE AND TETRAFLUOROMETHANE

The literature values for the enthalpy of formation of silicon carbide range over 8 kcal/mole.<sup>1</sup> Because the combustion in oxygen is very difficult to carry out, a determination is being carried out by combustion of silicon carbide in fluorine in a bomb calorimeter. In oxygen bomb work on which the current "selected best value" is based, most of the heat evolved was from combustion of a kindler, titanium, used to promote combustion. Silicon carbide, however, burns quite readily in fluorine. Combustions are being carried out with both alpha and beta forms.

The value of the enthalpy of formation of silicon carbide obtained will depend on values of the enthalpies of formation of the product fluorides, the tetrafluoride of silicon and carbon. A value for the former has already been determined.<sup>1</sup> The best literature values for tetrafluoromethane range over 3 kcal/mole.<sup>2</sup> Attempts will be made to obtain a better value by combustion of carbon, either graphite or diamond, in fluorine. In principle this method should yield the best possible value, as the measured heat is itself the heat of formation.

Publications

1. "Fluorine Bomb Calorimetry. V. The Heats of Formation of Silicon Tetrafluoride and Silica," S. S. Wise, J. L. Margrave, H. M. Feder, and W. N. Hubbard, J. Phys. Chem. 67, 815 (1963).
2. "The Application of Fluorine Bomb Calorimetry to the Solution of Some Persistent Problems in Light Element Thermochemistry," W. N. Hubbard, H. M. Feder, E. Greenberg, J. L. Margrave, E. Rudzitis and S. S. Wise. Presented at the Symposium on Thermodynamics and Thermochemistry, Lund, Sweden, July (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

W. N. Hubbard/J. L. Settle

March 13, 1964

## THE ENTHALPIES OF FORMATION OF URANIUM COMPOUNDS

Considerable uncertainty exists in the thermochemistry of uranium compounds because of both the difficulty of the preparation of adequately characterized samples for study, and the difficulty of devising suitable calorimetric reactions. Considerable effort has been spent to obtain well-characterized samples. Combustion of the sample in fluorine in a calorimeter is being tried as a general method for the enthalpy of formation determinations.

Fluorine bomb calorimetry has already proved a useful tool<sup>1</sup> in this laboratory for the study of difficult compounds. The enthalpy of formation of uranium hexafluoride has been determined<sup>2</sup> as a datum necessary to the general application of fluorine reaction calorimetry to uranium compounds.

Many of the uranium compounds are fluorine sensitive and must be protected from fluorine before intentional ignition is desired. One promising technique that is being studied involves the use of flow calorimetry rather than bomb calorimetry. Fluorine is not introduced into the calorimeter until intentional ignition is desired. If the technique proves satisfactory, a flow calorimeter will be constructed. The first compounds studied will probably be the sulfides and phosphides of uranium.

Publications

1. "Fluorine Bomb Calorimetry. V. The Heats of Formation of Silicon Tetrafluoride and Silica," S. S. Wise, J. L. Margrave, H. M. Feder, and W. N. Hubbard, J. Phys. Chem. 67, 815 (1963).
2. "Fluorine Bomb Calorimetry. VI. The Enthalpy of Formation of Uranium Hexafluoride," J. L. Settle, H. M. Feder, and W. N. Hubbard, J. Phys. Chem. 67, 1892 (1963).

ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Engineering Division

W. N. Hubbard/D. R. Fredrickson/A. Hu/J. E. Brugger March 13, 1964

THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF A 1500°C  
HIGH PRECISION ENTHALPY INCREMENT DROP CALORIMETER

High temperature enthalpy data are unavailable for many compounds of interest in high temperature chemistry. As actual measurement is the only satisfactory means of obtaining these data for condensed phases, a program has been initiated to design and construct a calorimeter for obtaining precise high temperature enthalpy data. The equipment has been designed and the component parts are undergoing testing.

The calorimeter is of the drop type and consists of a drop mechanism which rests on a furnace in which the sample is suspended, a gate through which the sample falls, and a calorimeter in which the heat evolved by the sample is measured. Subassemblies of these four parts have been tested. Improvements are being made where necessary. During the next year the complete assembly will be tested and calorimetric measurements started unless unforeseen problems arise.

Initial measurements will include studies with synthetic sapphire, using the NBS standard sample. Studies may also be made with molybdenum, tungsten and tantalum and some of the compounds for which room temperature heats of formation have been determined in this laboratory.

## SECTION 3A

### BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY - CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT

- 3A1 Nuclear Chemistry - Nuclear Reactions
- 3A2 Nuclear Chemistry - Nuclear Spectroscopy
- 3A3 Nuclear Chemistry - Nuclear Geochemistry
- 3A4 Solar Neutrinos
- 3A5 Radiation Chemistry
- 3A6 Hot Atom Chemistry
- 3A7 Isotope Effects
- 3A8 Physical Chemistry - Inorganic Reactions in Solution
- 3A9 Physical Chemistry-Theoretical Organic Chemistry
- 3A10 Physical Chemistry--Molecular Excitation and Reactions  
in the Gas Phase
- 3A11 Physical Chemistry--Biochemical Processes
- 3A12 Molecular and Crystal Structure
- 3A13 Analytical Chemistry

For further information on work completed, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature and to the Brookhaven National Laboratory Annual Report, July 1, 1964. The report number is BNL 867 (AS-18). Publication is expected by November, 1964.

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Department

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5/1/64

J. R. Grover/N. Porile/A. Poskanzer/R. W. Stoenner

## NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY - NUCLEAR REACTIONS

Nuclear reaction studies are carried out with various projectiles (protons, deuterons, helium ions, pions, etc.) impinging on complex ( $Z \geq 2$ ) nuclei. Particle beams from the various accelerators at the Laboratory (60-inch cyclotron, Cosmotron, AGS) are used in this work, so that an energy range from a few MeV to 30 GeV is being spanned. The principal emphasis has been on the energy regions accessible with the Cosmotron and AGS, but studies at lower bombarding energies are often used to complement the high-energy work. By far the greatest volume of research has been done on proton-induced reactions; however, with increasing beam intensities, the use of secondary particles such as pions and antiprotons for reaction studies is becoming more feasible and will be of great interest in the future.

The principal aims of the high-energy reaction studies are (1) information on the systematics of the very complex patterns of reactions observed, i.e., knowledge of how the cross section for formation of any particular product depends on bombarding particle, on bombarding energy, and on mass and atomic number of target nucleus; (2) an understanding of the reactions in terms of mechanisms and models. Additional goals of at least some of the reaction studies are, on the one hand, to correlate the behavior of complex nuclei under high-energy bombardment with interactions between elementary particles and, on the other hand, to obtain information on the structure of atomic nuclei.

A variety of techniques is used in the study of interactions of high-energy particles with complex nuclei. Those reaction products which are radioactive are most often identified and measured by means of their characteristic decay properties. To obtain cross sections by this method, one must know in some detail the radiation properties of the nuclide in question and, for this reason, certain nuclear spectroscopy investigations are natural adjuncts of reaction studies. A complementary and potentially very powerful technique for determination of the relative yields of reaction products involves mass-spectrometric detection. The development of the requisite high-sensitivity mass spectrometry and of rather specialized ultra-microchemical source preparation methods are therefore being actively pursued.

From knowledge of reaction cross sections alone, it is usually not possible to deduce reaction mechanisms. Greater insight into the

## NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY - NUCLEAR REACTIONS

(continued)

details of reactions can be obtained if, in addition, there is information about the energy and momentum transferred to the reaction products. Such information comes from experiments on the angular and energy distributions of reaction products recoiling out of extremely thin targets. Experiments of this type are therefore receiving increasing emphasis. Additional details about reactions are obtained from observations of the various charged particles (recoil nuclei, fragments,  $\alpha$  particles, protons, mesons) in nuclear emulsions and in bubble chambers.

The detailed interpretation of high-energy reactions in terms of mechanisms usually involves comparison of experimental results with calculations based on certain models, and these calculations are so complex as to require extensive use of high-speed computers. In particular, Monte Carlo methods have been found very useful in this work.

Investigations of spallation, fission, and fragmentation processes will be carried out at both the Cosmotron and AGS. It is anticipated that detailed recoil studies of the  $\text{Cu}^{65}$  (p,pn) reaction will be completed. Completion and analysis of the differential recoil experiment on neutron-excess and neutron-deficient fission products of uranium bombarded with 3-GeV protons is expected to yield significant information on the time scale of the fission processes leading to these products. A new experiment will be undertaken in an external proton beam at the Cosmotron to study the energy spectra of and angular correlation between fission fragments produced in high-energy fission of uranium. The reaction  $\text{Au}^{197}$  (p,spallation) $\text{Tb}^{149}$ , which is widely used as a monitor reaction for high-energy proton beams, is being reinvestigated and the excitation function is being extended to AGS energies; this study will be completed. The spark source mass spectrometer will be used in attempts to obtain mass-yield data for rare-earth products formed in uranium targets irradiated in the AGS.

Further intensive efforts towards elucidating fragmentation processes are expected. These will include analysis of the detailed studies of the cross sections for formation of the delayed-neutron emitters  $\text{Li}^9$ ,  $\text{Cl}^{16}$ , and  $\text{N}^{17}$  from many targets; further experiments on delayed-proton emitters; and exploitation of the recently developed techniques for measuring yields of short-lived rare gas products. A nuclear-emulsion investigation of the energy spectra of  $\text{Li}^8$  fragments ejected from Cu and Ag targets at various angles will be brought to a conclusion.

Further progress is expected in the extension of Monte Carlo cascade calculations to higher energies and in their application to the interpretation of experimental results.

## NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY - NUCLEAR REACTIONS

(continued)

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1. Porile and Tanaka, "Nuclear Structure Effects in High-Energy (p,pn) Reactions", Phys. Rev. 130, 1541-48 (1963).
2. Fraenkel, "Pion Capture in Complex Nuclei", Phys. Rev. 130, 2407-16 (1963).
3. Porile and Tanaka, "The (p,pxn) Reactions of Br<sup>79</sup> and Br<sup>81</sup> with 2.9-GeV Protons", Phys. Rev. 132, 397-400 (1963).
4. Cumming, "Absolute Cross Section for the C<sup>12</sup>(p,pn)C<sup>11</sup> Reaction at 50 MeV", Nuclear Phys. 49, 417-423 (1963).
5. Cumming, "Monitor Reactions for High Energy Proton Beams", Ann. Rev. Nucl. Sci. 13, 261-86 (1963).
6. Foreman, "Excitation Functions for the (p,pn) and (p,2p) Reactions on Ce<sup>142</sup>, 0.37 to 2.85 GeV", Phys. Rev. 1768-70 (1963).
7. Thomas and Vandenbosch, "Correlation of Fission-Fragment Kinetic-Energy Fine Structure with a Semi-Empirical Mass Surface", Phys. Rev. 133, B976-82 (1964).
8. Donovan, Mollenauer and Warburton, "Inelastic Scattering of 10.2-Mev Protons by N<sup>14</sup>", Phys. Rev. 133, B113-16 (1964).
9. Porile and Church, "Isobaric Yield Distributions in the Interaction of 1.8-GeV Protons with Zr<sup>96</sup>, Mo<sup>96</sup> and Ru<sup>96</sup>", Phys. Rev. 133, B310-17 (1964).
10. Schwarzschild, Poskanzer, Emery and Goldhaber, "Another Search for H<sup>5</sup>", Phys. Rev. 133, B1-2 (1964).
11. Cumming, Cross, Hudis and Poskanzer, "Study of a Fragmentation Reaction by Thin-Target Recoil Techniques. The Production of Na<sup>24</sup> from Bismuth by 2.9-GeV Protons", Phys. Rev. 134, B167-74 (1964).

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

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5/1/64

## NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY - NUCLEAR SPECTROSCOPY

Nuclear spectroscopy is the study, in detail, of the radiations emitted by radioactive atoms. These radiations include alpha, beta, and gamma rays emitted directly from the nucleus, and the conversion electrons, Auger electrons, and x-rays emitted from the orbital electrons. Analysis of the results gives information about the structure of nuclei in various states of excitation. Some of the excited states have properties describable as excitation of only one or of a few nucleons, with the remainder of the nucleus being essentially unaffected. Some excited nuclear states are found to have properties which correspond to energy stored in the nucleus as a whole, such as in vibrations or rotations or both. The properties of still other states seem to be the result of a coupling between particle and collective excitation. This latter aspect is of special interest in the current research.

The interaction of nuclear transitions with the orbital electrons of an atom has been of interest by itself. This study is related to atomic structure as well as to nuclear structure.

A substantial portion of the research in nuclear spectroscopy is associated with studies of nuclear reactions. It is often necessary to study the radiations of certain nuclides in order to measure their yields reliably from various nuclear reactions.

In addition to a continuing investigation of rotational and vibrational levels of deformed nuclei, two new investigations are being started. The first is a study of the x-ray and Auger electron spectra produced in spontaneous fission. This should provide information on the primary atomic number distribution for various mass splits. Possibly, something will also be learned about how the atomic electrons rearrange as the single heavy nucleus divides in two. The second new investigation is a study of M x-ray fluorescence yields in the heavy element region by L-M x-ray coincidence measurements with proportional counters. M shell fluorescence yields are now very poorly known, but they are needed to interpret unambiguously some observations on the Pb M x-ray spectrum that is emitted in the process of  $\text{Po}^{210}$  decay.

Research with the double focusing beta-ray spectrometer will be greatly facilitated by use of the new mass separator to prepare pure, thin, "weightless" sources. High resolution "beta-ray" spectrometry depends strongly on source quality.

## NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY - NUCLEAR SPECTROSCOPY

(continued)

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BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

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## NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY - NUCLEAR GEOCHEMISTRY

The earth and space chemistry research is directed toward an understanding of the past history of the earth, the solar system and cosmic rays by the use of radioactivity and from the variations in stable isotope abundances. The products of nuclear spallation reactions of cosmic rays are studied in the earth's crust, in meteorites, and in artificial satellites. From a comparison with the nuclear spallation products of high energy accelerator produced protons, new information is obtained about the past history of the meteorites as well as of cosmic rays. From the study of nuclear spallation products in recovered artificial satellites, the cosmic ray intensity near the earth is investigated. Study of these same isotopes in ocean cores, polar snow and atmospheric dust is directed toward understanding cosmic dust accretion of the earth as well as the origin of the cosmic dust itself. Methods of isotopic age dating are developed, improved and extended to solve special problems of interest to earth and meteorite history. In particular, K-Ar dating is applied to very young and very old minerals, the disequilibrium in uranium decay chains, especially U-234 excess, and He-U dating are applied to the chronology of the ice ages. Special problems of archaeological interest are also investigated. Experimentally the investigations are carried out by high sensitivity mass spectrometry, low level counting, activation analysis and electron micro-beam probe analysis. The proton beams of the Cosmotron and the AGS are used to simulate cosmic ray interactions.

It has been found that aragonitic fossil shells and corals usually contain a few ppm of uranium and, in addition, that the He<sup>4</sup> produced by this uranium and daughters is retained in the aragonite lattice for periods of 1 million years and probably for periods of up to 30 million years. This conclusion is based on comparison of He ages with Th<sup>230</sup>/U<sup>234</sup> ages on shells and corals less than  $3 \times 10^5$  years old and by comparison with age estimates based on stratigraphic position for corals up to 30 million years old. Thus it appears that the He method probably is a practical geochronometer for the direct dating of fossils. This work was done in collaboration with the Lamont Geological Observatory (Columbia University) which provided the Th<sup>230</sup>/U<sup>234</sup> age control.

## NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY - NUCLEAR GEOCHEMISTRY

(continued)

The He-U dating program for gastropods and corals will be continued to test its applicability to other fossils, to investigate the extent of helium retention in time, and to start critical time measurements.

During the coming year we will complete an investigation of the variation in isotopic composition of lead from ancient mining sites in the Mediterranean region and in England. In addition to the study of lead ore samples, we will examine groups of lead-bearing artifacts from several important archaeological sites, to help determine the source of the lead, and in particular to look for changes with time in the source of lead at a given locality. These isotopic studies should complement our previous archaeological investigations.

The solid source mass spectrometer has been modified to permit precise measurement of the  $U^{234}/U^{238}$  ratio for uranium samples as small as 10  $\mu$ g. The instrument will be used for a study of uranium disequilibrium in marine sediments and marine carbonate shells. Since work at Columbia has indicated the extreme difficulty of separating "authigenic" uranium from deep sea sediments, we will first explore the uranium isotope ratios in certain continental shelf sediments in which uranium is probably enriched. The small amount of uranium required for the mass spectrometric analysis may also, however, permit significant studies on certain types of deep sea sediments.

It is planned to extend the  $Ar^{39}$  and rare gas measurements to the rarer types of meteorites, such as the iron meteorites which are already known to have exposure ages on the order of hundreds of millions of years. Also, other radioactivities will be looked at, such as  $Cl^{36}$  and  $Al^{26}$ . This will serve to check the exposure ages based on  $Ar^{39}$ , and also, since the half lives of these nuclides vary from 270 years to 750,000 years, will enable an estimate to be made as to whether the cosmic ray intensity has varied over that period of time.

A continuing effort over the past several years is to obtain specimens of meteorites which have recently fallen. This permits nuclides of a rather short half life to be measured. Some examples are: 35-day  $Ar^{37}$ , 310-day  $Mn^{54}$ , 2.2-year  $Na^{22}$ , and 5-year  $Co^{60}$ .

## NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY - NUCLEAR GEOCHEMISTRY

(continued)

We plan to continue the investigation on recent meteorite falls in order to improve the measurement of the spatial gradient, both with new meteorite falls and improving the cross section measurements. In particular  $\text{Ar}^{37}/\text{Ar}^{39}$  ratio measurements as a function of energy are planned to test the effect of energy variation of this ratio on the meteorite measurements.

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

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5/1/64

## SOLAR NEUTRINOS

The fusion reactions in the sun produce neutrinos which leave the sun with little absorption or energy loss. These particles serve as a direct signal from the center of the sun that carries detailed information on the solar energy generation process. This approach to the study of solar energy generation has not as yet been explored, since detection systems with sufficient sensitivity have not been developed. An exploratory experiment along these lines must be guided by the results of calculations of solar neutrino fluxes. Sears, Bahcall and Fowler have recently investigated the solar model calculations and the relevant nuclear reaction data to deduce the neutrino flux and have also evaluated the possible errors associated with these calculations. The neutrino producing reactions and the flux at the earth presented by this group is as follows:  $H(H, e^+ \nu)D$ ,  $\phi = 5.8 \times 10^{10}$ ;  $Be^7(e^-, \nu)Li^7$ ,  $\phi = 0.8 \times 10^{10}$ ; and  $Be^8 \rightarrow Be^{8*} + e^+ + \nu$ ,  $\phi = 1.9 \times 10^7 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ . These fluxes are considered to be in error by at most a factor of two.

A pilot experiment was performed in an attempt to observe solar neutrinos by a method based on the reaction  $Cl^{37}(\nu, e^-)Ar^{37}$  to form the 35-day radioactive  $Ar^{37}$ . The experiment used 1000 gallons of perchlorethylene,  $C_2Cl_4$ , and as a target and the irradiation was carried out in a mine 2300 feet deep. A mine is chosen as an irradiation area to shield the target from cosmic rays. This experiment served to set a limit on the solar neutrino flux, which was a factor of 8 above the calculated flux. The limit set was of value in eliminating from consideration certain reactions postulated in the past as contributors in the solar energy generation process. The performance of this small scale experiment showed that the method could be extended in sensitivity sufficient to measure the calculated solar flux, and that background effects from cosmic radiation and local radioactivities could be reduced to a factor of 100 below the calculated neutrino signal.

To measure the calculated solar flux requires an improvement in sensitivity of one-hundred. Since we have developed a counter having an essentially zero background, the remaining way of improving the sensitivity by the  $Cl^{37} - Ar^{37}$  method is to increase the volume of perchlorethylene. A full scale experiment is planned that would use 100,000 gallons. To insure complete elimination of cosmic ray background effects the tank of liquid must be located in a mine at least 4000 feet deep. Two mines in the United States have been located that are suitable for the experiment. The owners

## SOLAR NEUTRINOS

(continued)

will provide space in these mines to be used for this purpose. A preliminary design of the tank has been made and the cost of fabricating the tank in the mine has been estimated. Approximately one year would be required to prepare the cavity and to erect the tank in the mine.

The mine owners would prepare a cavity for the tank and provide facilities essential for the experiment. The tank would be erected in place by a subcontract according to specifications set by the BNL engineering staff. The internal system for agitating the liquid and mixing with helium gas used for removing Ar<sup>37</sup> activity is to be designed by our engineering staff and installed by the vessel contractor. The apparatus for isolating Ar<sup>37</sup> from the helium gas stream will be fabricated at BNL, tested, and finally moved to the mine as a unit.

The experiment is designed to observe the calculated solar neutrino flux with an error of 10%. On the other hand, if the forecasted flux was overestimated, the apparatus would have sufficient sensitivity to observe a flux as low as one-tenth the present calculated value. After the apparatus is completed and preliminary tests performed, a measurement of the solar neutrino flux would require about one year. If the signal is 10 per day or more, a measurement of the rate at perigee versus apogee of the earth's orbit would be performed to test for the 7% difference in neutrino intensity due to the eccentricity of the earth's orbit. Two years' observation would be necessary to reveal this effect. If these measurements are successful, the solar neutrino flux would be followed with time to test for a possible correlation with the solar surface activity cycle of 11 years. Although such an effect is not expected, measurements would be continued to test for the effect.

## RADIATION CHEMISTRY

The aim of this work is to characterize and measure the yields of chemical reactions caused by ionizing radiation, and to test theories advanced to explain the observed effects. Systems under study include organic materials as well as pure water and dilute aqueous solutions. Systematic measurements are made with radiations of different types, covering a wide range of radiation quality and intensity. When looked at in detail, reactions produced by ionizing radiation are found to proceed through formation of various short-lived intermediates, many of which may be characterized as free radicals. The properties of such radicals are of interest in many branches of chemistry. There are thus two aspects in the basic study of radiation chemistry: first, the radiation is a convenient source of free radicals and other transient chemical entities, the properties of which are an important field of study in themselves; second, an understanding of how the radiation gives rise to the products found in a chemical system, including the free radicals, constitutes an important field of fundamental chemical studies and supplies basic knowledge required for prediction of radiation effects in technological and biological systems.

The  $\gamma$ -ray decomposition of azoethane adsorbed on the surface of inert mineral solids is being investigated. Azoethane is chosen because formation of nitrogen gas from this compound requires relatively little energy while methane and hydrogen may be formed from states of high eV energy. It is found that considerable decomposition of the organic material occurs by energy taken up from the radiation by the solid and transferred in some way through the solid and then to the organic molecule adsorbed on its surface. The results are interpreted in terms of the interaction of excited electronic states of the solid with the organic molecule. It is found that color centers formed by irradiation in silica gel are bleached by simple contact with azoethane. This type of study offers a unique approach to the problem of energy transfer in solids, from solid surface to an adsorbed molecule and in fact to the basic problems of heterogeneous catalysis.

It is planned to extend the work on radiolysis of adsorbed compounds by the use of alkali halides as mineral substrates, since the excited states in these solids are better understood than in the oxide systems hitherto studied. It is hoped that correlations with other types of radiation phenomena in solids can be profitably made.

The number of ions formed by irradiation of a liquid has been determined for the first time by methods which appear to be,

## RADIATION CHEMISTRY

(continued)

in principle, straightforward and theoretically unobjectionable. The result is that in hexane, one ion pair is produced per 1200 electron volts of energy given up to the liquid by radiation, regardless of whether the agent producing the ionization is a Compton electron of energy above half a million electron volts, or a conversion electron from dissolved argon-37 having an energy of only 2400 volts. This is only about 2% of the number of ion pairs formed when hexane vapor is irradiated. The yield of ions in carbon tetrachloride is only about 10% greater than that in hexane. Ion yields will be determined in additional liquids and mixtures, the results to provide information on the physical processes underlying the radiation chemistry of liquid systems.

Apparatus has been set up for the spectroscopic study of intermediates of lifetimes down to a few microseconds, using our Van de Graaff electrostatic generator as a source of radiation. Studies have been started on the intermediates formed in radiolysis of oxygenated ferrous sulfate solutions and solutions of electron-capturing substances in organic solvents.

Studies on competitive systems of mixed scavengers in water are being continued in an effort to understand why certain systems seem to indicate a higher yield of solvated electrons produced in neutral water than do other systems. The yield of neutral hydrogen atoms, apparently formed along with the electrons, has been determined in several systems.

A large number of problems still await exploration in the radiation chemistry of water. The effect of radiation quality on the yield of hydrogen atoms in neutral water will be determined and the results should distinguish between the various hypotheses of the origin of these hydrogen atoms. It is also planned to study isotope effects in radiolytic hydrogen formation from water.

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BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

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## HOT ATOM CHEMISTRY

The field of hot atom chemistry or the chemical effects of nuclear transformations concerns itself primarily with chemical reactions brought about by atoms or molecular fragments having excess kinetic energy. The reactive fragments are frequently electronically excited and the molecular species may also be in vibrationally excited states. The emphasis in research in this field will vary from studies on the nature of the solid state to using recoil fragments for preparing labeled compounds. There are essentially three methods for making hot atoms, in use today: photochemical, acceleration of charged species in devices such as mass separators, and using suitable nuclear reactions. Studies on the nature of the species at birth to investigation of its reactions at near thermal energies encompass the studies being carried out in numerous laboratories.

Part of the research in hot atom chemistry at BNL concerns itself with the reaction of hot carbon and tritium atoms. Previous work has been mainly with carbon-14, but in 1956-57 the group at BNL demonstrated that carbon-11 studies could be carried out conveniently in organic systems by use of appropriate gas-liquid chromatography techniques. The great advantage of low and controllable radiation damage coupled with much greater flexibility in experimental parameters provided an impetus to research in this area. The carbon-11 work, coupled with the demonstration at BNL in 1959 that a high yield of labeled organic product could be found in gas phase recoil work, has made possible fundamental strides in understanding the chemical reactions at high energies.

Various nuclear reactions are used as sources of hot carbon atoms. These include  $N^{14}(p,\alpha)C^{11}$  from 10 MeV protons and particularly useful for yield-dose measurements;  $C^{12}(n,2n)C^{11}$  with neutrons from a Li target in the cyclotron beam and valuable for studies with hydrocarbons;  $C^{12}(p,pn)C^{11}$  from Cosmotron protons, which allow great flexibility and give good absolute yield measurements;  $N^{14}(n,p)C^{14}$  from reactor neutrons and primarily useful for preparative studies.

A focal point of our studies has been the "chemistry" of the hot atom reactions subsequent to our demonstration of insertion reactions both with methylene and methyne radicals.

Another phase of hot atom chemistry researches at BNL concerns itself with solids and solutions. In this area the study of processes of

## HOT ATOM CHEMISTRY

(continued)

recoil atom annealing in solids has led to the bridge between hot atom chemistry and radiation damage. The investigations are carried out with the two-fold purpose of studying high energy chemical reactions and solid state chemistry. For this purpose solution studies are an invaluable adjunct.

Concomitant with, but not subsidiary to, the organic hot atom chemistry, photolytic studies and hot atom labelling reactions are investigated. This work is rounded out by mechanistic studies using tracer techniques.

Work is under way on oxygen dependence of major product yields in  $C^{11}$  reactions with alkanes. Oxygen concentrations up to 75% are being used, precision of data at various concentrations is being increased and the study is being extended to more complex and higher molecular weight alkanes. Work on structural dependence of major yields and further research on the existence of methyne will continue.

An experiment is under way which involves the production of thermal carbon atoms by a nuclear reaction. The necessary equipment has been designed and is being currently manufactured. It involves a flow system in which high purity nitrogen, (less than 2 ppm of  $O_2$ ) diluted with argon of comparable purity, is allowed to flow past the 60-inch cyclotron proton beam (run at maximum intensity). This gaseous mixture in which the carbon atoms thermalize without reacting either with the  $N_2$  or with themselves because of dilution is then carried into a shielded reaction chamber into which a slow stream of pure ethane is injected. It is hoped that this will shed light on the reactions of thermal carbon atoms.

The high yield of propanol- $C^{14}$  from recoil reactions in the  $NH_3-CH_3OH$  system led to the prediction that propanol- $C^{14}$  could be produced in good yield by nuclear reactor irradiation of solutions of ethylene in  $CH_3OH$  for periods of the order of one day. The first experiment confirmed these predictions and symmetrically labelled propanol-2,3- $C^{14}$  was produced in 40% yield based on ethylene. Similar experiments with methanol-propene-1- $C^{14}$  mixtures gave 70-80% chemical yields of specifically labelled isobutanol. The absence of n-butyl suggests a fast addition of a radiolytic hydrogen atom to propene, followed by radical recombination with the hydroxymethylene radical, as the mechanism. These radiolytic syntheses are simple and convenient methods for the preparation of the labelled compounds. Work on radiation synthesis, which has been so successful in producing specifically labelled alcohols, will be continued and expanded.

In the next year it is planned to study further the isotopic effect in hot atom chemistry. An almost ideal candidate is the metal-organic

## HOT ATOM CHEMISTRY

(continued)

crystal ruthenocene ( $\text{Ru}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)_2$ ): here the yields of the parent compound can be evaluated for three separate isotopes, Ru-97, 103, and 105, following neutron exposure. Annealing reactions will be followed, and the three isotopes compared. Additional studies of the "intrinsic" annealing range in other crystals, preferable inorganic in nature, are planned. The most likely candidates appear to be potassium chromate and bromate.

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BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

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5/1/64

## ISOTOPE EFFECTS

It is our purpose to obtain through both experimental and theoretical investigations a basic understanding of isotope effects in physical and chemical processes. Fundamental understanding of isotope effects is important to the broadening of our knowledge in pure science. In general, isotope effects arise principally from the role of kinetic energy on energy quantization. Isotope effects are then a powerful tool for the study of quantum effects in matter; the latter are the basic principles which describe the behavior of atoms and molecules. The investigations encompass rate and equilibrium phenomena in gaseous and condensed phases. Isotope effects are an established important tool in such diverse fields as reaction mechanism investigations, geochemistry, biochemistry and molecular biology. Very important practical applications exist in the field of isotope separations. New fundamental investigations on isotope separation are undertaken when the proper occasion arises either through new scientific and technical developments or through programmatic requirements.

Much of the basic theory of the equilibrium behavior of isotopes in ideal gases has been established by rigorous statistical mechanical methods. Recent extensions of the theory to the condensed phase have resulted in the prediction and experimental discovery of new types of dynamical quantum effects in condensed matter. These results were brought to fruition by maintaining a balance of effort and strong interaction between experimental and theoretical investigations. In a similar manner isotope effects are being used to determine through experimental and theoretical investigations the basic laws governing the rates of chemical reactions and the energy surfaces involved. These investigations naturally lead to the general question of the classical and quantum mechanical description of rate processes. Isotope effects are used in the study of reaction mechanisms.

The installation of a large digital computer at BNL has already had great impact on theoretical investigations in this area. The Schacht-schneider programs for the solution of problems in molecular vibration by matrix methods have been incorporated into the isotope effect programs. These programs are being made available to the scientific community. The use of large digital computers can be expected to play an important role in future theoretical and experimental research programs.

The digital computer programs will be used to further extend theoretical calculations of isotope effects. Indications have been obtained that the isotope effects for very large molecular systems can be studied

## ISOTOPE EFFECTS

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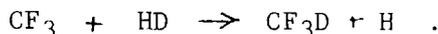
theoretically by working with smaller model molecules ("cut-off procedure"). The "cut-off procedure" will be investigated in some detail. More emphasis will be given now to the analysis of experimentally observed effects and we will try to see what can be said about the force constants in transition states of specific reactions. More study is planned also of non isotopic mass effects in organic chemistry, i.e. the effect of replacement of a methyl group by an ethyl group.

We proposed previously that the restriction of the rotational and translational motion of molecules in the condensed phase will lead to interactions between these motions and the internal vibrational motions and that these interactions will lead to vapor pressure isotope effects. The theory of these interactions has been further explored and application has been made in the case of the liquid isotopic ethylenes. Further exploration of the interaction between rotational, translational, and internal vibrational motions of molecules in the condensed phase is planned. In particular one is interested in the prediction of isotope effects in the spectra corresponding to the translational and the rotational motions. Vapor pressure measurements of isotopic compounds of various symmetries will be undertaken as further tests and examples of the rotation-vibration coupling discovered in ethylene. We plan to initiate a systematic simultaneous investigation of infra-red and Raman spectra of the same molecules.

A correlation of the molal volumes of the isotopic liquid hydrogens with their zero-point energies was carried out through the use of a Grüneisen-type equation of state. Within the assumption of an isotope independent compressibility, the value of the Grüneisen constant derived from isotopic molal volumes is in reasonable agreement with that from thermal measurements and the equation of state of liquid  $D_2$ . The theoretical investigations of the zero point energies of polyatomic molecules will be studied further with the aid of a digital computer. These are of interest from the point of view of force fields in molecules, molecular vibration theory, and the structure of isotope effects.

Kinetic investigations will include the study of base catalyzed elimination reactions with a view toward the possibility of tunnelling in such reactions.

Kinetic isotope effects in some reactions of hydrogen abstraction by trifluoromethyl radicals ( $CF_3$ ) will be studied. A convenient source of these radicals is the photolysis of hexafluoroacetone, and the isotope effects can be measured by isotopic analysis of the fluoromethane formed. It will be particularly interesting to examine the reactions with different isotopic species of molecular hydrogen, and to compare these reactions with the analogous reactions involving halogen atoms. In particular, it will be possible to study the "intramolecular" isotope effect in the reactions



## ISOTOPE EFFECTS

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It is hoped that this system may provide a method of studying isotope effects in reactions of "hot" radicals (i.e., radicals with a kinetic energy greater than that of the surrounding medium). So far, such isotope effects have been studied only with extremely energetic atoms produced in nuclear recoil reactions.

Isotope effect studies have been continued in the decomposition of dialkyl azo compounds. A new azo compound together with its deuterated isomers was synthesized. In previous work, the magnitude of the secondary  $\alpha$ -deuterium isotope effect indicated that azo-bis- $\alpha$ -phenylethane(I) decomposed thermally with both C-N bonds rupturing in a concerted manner. Additional examples of secondary isotope effects in the decomposition of dialkyl azo compounds will be studied. The role of bonding of the substituents on the azo group in determining one or two step processes will be investigated.

$\pi$ -complexes have been invoked as intermediates in mechanisms of reaction as opposed to  $\sigma$ -complexes (or  $\sigma$ -bonds). When a  $\sigma$ -bond is formed there appears to be an inverse secondary  $\alpha$ -effect of 10-15%. We expect to measure the effect of simple deuterated olefins (e.g., cyclohexene-1-d) in  $\pi$ -complex formation with  $\text{Ag}^+$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  to see if these are markedly different from those observed with  $\sigma$ -bond formation.

We plan to study barriers to rotation by n.m.r. The first studies will deal with cyclic amidines. These barriers will provide information about the degree of p-orbital overlap at the C-N bond and will be compared to known barriers of amides.

In the past, both in kinetic isotope effect studies and in theoretical mass spectra studies in this laboratory, the transition state formulation of rate processes has been employed. A program is now being undertaken of studying rate processes within the framework of classical mechanics by integration of the Hamiltonian equations of motion. These studies are possible because of the availability of the IBM 7094 computer. They should throw much light on the nature of reactions.

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## ISOTOPE EFFECTS

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## PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY-INORGANIC REACTIONS IN SOLUTION

This work includes reaction kinetics studies, with emphasis on oxidation-reduction reactions, and studies of chemical equilibria, with emphasis on complex ion and solvent extraction equilibria.

At Brookhaven and elsewhere the problem of determining the rate of electron exchange between different oxidation states has been experimentally solved for a large number of systems by means of appropriate isotopic tracer methods. The results of research in this field have led to the development of new theories of oxidation-reduction reactions, have stimulated interest in the kinetics of redox reactions leading to net chemical change, and have given emphasis to the importance of characterizing the species present in solution, and of determining quantitatively the equilibria among them and the rates at which these equilibria are attained.

The investigation of electron exchange processes is a continuing enterprise. In close association, a program of study of the kinetics of other oxidation-reduction reactions is carried out. The development of various techniques for measuring the rates of fast reactions has opened large areas for investigation. The development of theories which predict relationships between electron exchange rates and other electron transfer processes make it particularly profitable to investigate and compare the kinetics of both types of reactions (as, for example, the exchange between Fe(II) and Fe(III) and the oxidation of Cr(II) by Fe(III)). The general aims of this work are to establish the rate laws for the reactions, to infer reaction mechanisms, to make comparisons and tests suggested by theory, and to extend the theoretical understanding of oxidation-reduction processes.

Quantitative formulation of rate laws requires a knowledge of the concentrations of the various reacting species. It is known that the same metal ion may exhibit very different redox behavior when it is in different states of coordination (e.g.  $Tl^{3+}$ ,  $TlCl^{2+}$ ,  $TlCl_2^+$ , etc.). Hence, equilibrium studies are undertaken<sup>aq</sup> in connection<sup>2</sup> with the kinetics program when adequate data are not available in the literature. Complex ion equilibria of interest for other reasons are also investigated.

The main techniques employed for rate measurements in this work are isotopic tracer methods, fast flow-spectrophotometric methods, and the temperature jump relaxation method. Spectrophotometric and solvent extraction methods are being used for equilibrium measurements. A collateral reason for studying solvent extraction is the wide use of this technique in chemical separations.

## PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY-INORGANIC REACTIONS IN SOLUTION

(Continued)

A result of considerable interest was obtained in experiments on the oxidation of iron(II) by cobalt(III) in the presence of chloride. The question involved was whether the electron transfer proceeds by an inner- or outer-sphere mechanism. Definite experimental evidence for inner-sphere mechanisms has hitherto been obtained only in those cases in which the transfer of a bridging group in the activated complex results in a substitution-inert species. By fast-flow methods it has now been demonstrated that the substitution labile species  $\text{FeCl}^{+2}$  is the direct product of the oxidation of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  by  $\text{CoCl}^{2+}$ , and that this reaction proceeds via an inner-sphere activated complex in which the chloride is bonded directly to both the cobalt and the iron. The reactions of cobalt(III) with chloride will be measured over a wider range of temperature, hydrogen ion concentration, and ionic strength. Another system which will be studied intensively is the iron(II)-iron(III)-chloride system. It is believed that a combination of flow-spectrophotometric and isotope exchange measurements will make possible a definitive choice between electron transfer and atom transfer mechanisms for the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ - $\text{FeCl}^{2+}$  exchange reaction and thus answer a question of long standing in the field.

A considerable body of data on the effects of chloride on the thallos-thallic exchange reaction has been obtained in the past but could not be quantitatively interpreted because of the lack of definitive values of the stability constants of the chloro complexes of trivalent thallium. A similar problem arose in connection with recent studies of the oxidation of Cr(II) by Tl(III) in the presence of chloride. Solvent partition equilibria of thallium chlorides have been under investigation with the hope that reliable values of the stability constants of  $\text{TlCl}_3(\text{aq})$  and  $\text{TlCl}_4^-(\text{aq})$  could be obtained by this method.

It is hoped that final values of the stability constants of  $\text{TlCl}_3$  and  $\text{TlCl}_4^-$  and of the heats of the stepwise formation reactions will be obtained from solvent extraction measurements, and that it will be possible to relate these (satisfactorily) to results obtained by other methods. Research on the hydrolysis constants of the lower chloride complexes of thallium(III) will be extended. It is intended to use these equilibrium data to obtain more accurate formulations of the rate laws for redox reactions involving trivalent thallium. It is hoped that the available data for the extraction of thallic chlorides by diisopropyl ether can be interpreted, and that the problem of varying aggregation in the ether phase can be clarified.

A study of the extraction of methylene blue perchlorate presently under way will be extended to lower concentrations (less than  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  M), if possible, in order to measure a distribution coefficient for the ionized salt as well as an ion pair formation constant in the organic phase. The

# PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY-INORGANIC REACTIONS IN SOLUTION

(Continued)

state of aggregation of  $\text{Hg}(\text{SCN})_2$  in water will be further studied, and an attempt will be made to disentangle the  $\text{HgCl}_2$ - $\text{Hg}(\text{SCN})_2$  equilibria. Extractions with isoamyl alcohol and with trioctylphosphine oxide in hexane are promising for this purpose. A comparison of conductance and extraction coefficient methods for estimating ion-pair formation constants in non-aqueous solvents will be undertaken.

## Publications

1. Dulz and Sutin, "The Kinetics of the oxidation of Iron(II) and its Substituted tris-(1,10-phenanthroline) Complexes by Cerium(IV)," *Inorganic Chem.* 2, 917-21 (1963).
2. Diebler and Sutin, "The Kinetics of Some Oxidation-Reduction Reactions Involving Manganese(III)," *J. Phys. Chem.* 68, 174-80 (1964).
3. Campion, Purdie, and Sutin, "The Rate of the tris-(2,2'-dipyridine)-Osmium(II)-Octacyanomolybdate(V) Electron Transfer Reaction," *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 85, 3528 (1963).
4. Dulz and Sutin, "The Effect of Chloride Ions on the Kinetics of the Oxidation of Chromium(II) by Iron(III)," *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 86, 829-32 (1964).
5. Craig and Sutin, "The Mössbauer Effect in Liquids: Influence of Diffusion Broadening," *Phys. Rev. Letters* 11, 460-62 (1963).
6. Nancollas and Sutin, "The Kinetics of Formation of the Nickel Monooxalate Complex in Solution," *Inorganic Chem.* 3, 360-64 (1964).
7. Conocchioli, Nancollas and Sutin, "The Oxidation of Iron(II) by Cobalt(III) in the Presence of Chloride Ions," *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 86, 1453-54 (1964).
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BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Department

S. Ehrenson

5/1/64

## PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY-THEORETICAL ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

These researches are concerned with the structures and reactivities of organic systems. The methods of attack include linear free energy relationship of the Hammett-Taft type as well as semi-empirical quantum mechanical calculations by the LCAO-MO method. Attempts are made to interrelate the two approaches with the hope of providing quantum mechanical bases for the linear free energy relations.

Substituent effects in aromatic and aliphatic systems are being investigated with improved Hückel and Pariser-Parr wave functions. The electrostatic approaches of Kirkwood-Westheimer and Branch and Calvin are employed within the framework of the Taft equation. A priori statistical re-evaluation of the parameters from experimental data is proceeding by means of fast computers. These parameters provide the bases for the linear free energy comparisons and, if these are to be significant, they must be established reliably.

Empirical refitting of the Taft parameters has been carried out with special emphasis on the  $\sigma^0$  reactivities. These apply to reactions in which resonance is precluded between the substituent and reaction center. These reactions provide a good basis from which to construct a set of linear free energy parameters. In particular, it has been found that meta inductive effects are, in fact, proportional but not equal to the para effects. These have formerly been explicitly assumed to be equal to one another. The implications of this result to the problem of separation of resonance and inductive effects is under investigation. The statistical fitting of linear free energy parameters will be continued with emphasis on benzoic type reactivities and extensions to nucleophilic and electrophilic reactions. Further studies of the relationship of aromatic to olefinic reactivities will be carried out.

The hydrolysis of olefins and dehydration of alcohols have been selected as prototype reactions involving carbonium ions. Electronic energies have been calculated by the Wheland-Mulliken MO method with self-consistent charge redistribution. Hyperconjugation gives significant stabilization to carbonium ions derived from alkyl substituted olefins by proton addition. These results show that hyperconjugation alone suffices to explain the Baker-Nathan effect, and the Markownikoff and Saytzeff-Wagner addition rules. Contrary to experimental indication, these theoretical calculations predict relative C-H to C-C hyperconjugative effects to be the same in olefinic and aromatic systems undergoing similar reactions.

Additional experimental studies of the role of hyperconjugative stabilization of carbonium ions are intended. Evidence for hindered rotation in protonated alkyl anthracenes will be sought.

PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY-THEORETICAL ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

(Continued)

The structure of Yang's molecule, tris di-t-butyl p-phenoxy methyl radical, will be investigated by X-ray diffraction with the hope of determining whether the ground state is a triplet or biradical. Unpaired spins have been demonstrated by magnetic measurements.

Publications

1. Ehrenson, "A Priori Refitting of the Taft Equation by Non-linear Least Squares Methods," Tetrahedron Letters #7, 351-7 (1964).
2. Ehrenson, "Hyperconjugation Theory of Carbonium Ion Reactions," J. Am. Chem. Soc. 86, 847-54 (1964).

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

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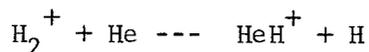
5/1/64

## PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY--MOLECULAR EXCITATION AND REACTIONS IN THE GAS PHASE

This work is concerned with the interactions of electrons and of positive ions with molecules in the gas phase. Such interactions must be directly involved in the radiation chemistry of gases. They also bear on a fundamental problem in chemical kinetics, namely the way in which the kinetic energy of colliding reactants is converted into internal energy, of vibration or rotation, and thus becomes available for chemical reaction.

A considerable body of experimental data on the excitation of molecular vibrations by electron impact has been obtained in other laboratories. At Brookhaven theoretical studies of the phenomena have been undertaken. There is good prospect of success in formulating a theoretical treatment for these effects.

Research on ion-molecule reactions is readily carried out with mass spectrometers, and comprises one of the applications of our mass spectrometric facilities to basic research in chemistry. The unique aspect of ion-molecule reactions is that it is possible to control the kinetic energy of the reactant ions by the simple application of an electric field. In general this does not alter the internal energy of the ion. With hydrogen molecule ions it is possible to compute the internal energy states produced in the electron impact process used to generate these ions. In this way reactions can be studied with species of known internal energy as well as controlled kinetic energy, and significant results on the energy transfer process can be derived. For example, it has been shown that the flow of kinetic energy to internal energy in such processes as the reaction of



is a relatively improbable process and that the energy required to produce the proper configuration in  $\text{H}_2^+$  for reaction must be present prior to collision of the reactants. The object of this research is to study a variety of ion-molecule systems to obtain more detailed information on the nature of energy transfer processes in reactive collisions.

Theoretical calculations have been continued on excitation and de-excitation of molecular vibration by slow electron impact. A mechanism has been proposed which involves compound negative ion

PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY--MOLECULAR EXCITATION AND REACTIONS IN THE GAS PHASE  
(continued)

states as intermediates. Numerical calculations have been carried out for the nitrogen molecule. The multi-peak structure observed in experimental excitation functions has been accounted for. Calculations of the total cross section for vibrational excitation of ground state  $N_2$  are in good agreement with experiment.

The theoretical methods developed for electron-molecule interactions will be extended and tested further by comparison with experiment. Energy transfer in ion-molecule reactions will be studied in the systems HD- $N_2$ , HD- $O_2$ , HD-CO, HD- $N_2O$ , and HD- $CO_2$ . These combinations are selected because of the availability of supplementary information on the properties of  $N_2^+$ ,  $O_2^+$ ,  $CO^+$ ,  $N_2O^+$ ,  $CO_2^+$ , etc. The general objective is to find systems which are relatively simple and still of chemical interest, and which will provide sufficient information for critical tests of theoretical models of the processes.

Publications

1. Chen, "Unitary Operator Formalism of the Eigenvalue Problems", J. Chem. Phys. 39, 3167-70 (1963).
2. Chen, "Anharmonicity Effects in Vibrational Excitation of Molecules by Slow Electron Impact", Physics Letters 8, 183-4 (1964).
3. Chen, "Off-diagonal Hypervirial Theorems and Their Applications", J. Chem. Phys. 40, 615-21 (1964).
4. Moran and Friedman, "Neon-hydrogen Ion Molecule Reactions", J. Chem. Phys. 39, 2491-2500 (1963).
5. Moran and Friedman, "Application of the Platt Electrostatic Model to Diatomic Hydride Ions", J. Chem. Phys. 40, 860-66 (1964).

S. Freed

5/1/64

## PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY--BIOCHEMICAL PROCESSES

Two lines of research on biochemical problems are being pursued. In one, techniques developed here for studying reactions in solution at low temperatures are applied to enzyme reactions. In the other, radioactive tracers are employed to facilitate the detection of possible chemical changes connected with learning by planarians.

Enzyme reactions are being studied in suitable liquid solvents at temperatures between 0°C and -80°C. The aim is to retard reactions which are rapid at room temperature in order to observe reversible intermediate reactions, even when the room temperature reactions are irreversible. It is also hoped that the isolation of intermediate substances and direct study of their properties will prove to be possible. The results should contribute some clarification to the understanding of normal biochemical processes, and may also help provide a chemical basis for studies of viability and long-term preservation of biological systems at low temperatures.

It has been shown by others and confirmed here that planarians, the lowest species in the evolutionary scale possessing a central nervous system, can learn by conditioned reflex and by running mazes. After transection across the length of a trained planarian and subsequent regeneration into two complete worms, each requires considerably fewer trials than the untrained planarian to reach the criterion of learning. In experiments at the University of Rochester it was shown that if the subsequent regeneration took place in a bath containing the enzyme ribonuclease, the worm regenerated from the head portion exhibited the same reduction in the number of trials required for criterion of learning as when regenerated in pond water; but the worm regenerated from the tail portion had lost its stored information, i. e., it now required about the same number of trials as an ordinary, untrained planarian. Ribonuclease hydrolyzes ribonucleic acid into its component mononucleotides, and thus disintegrates the ordering with the information contained in these macromolecules. This experiment indicated that the macromolecules were implicated in the learning process and in the transmission of the information from the ganglia in the head to the tail of the planarians.

The studies in progress are directed to the chemical characterization of changes in the macromolecules of planarians synthesized by them during learning.

Techniques and systems of solvents have been developed for carrying out enzymatic reactions below 0°C.  $\alpha$ -chymotrypsin has been studied

## PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY--BIOCHEMICAL PROCESSES

(continued)

in some detail and exploratory work has been done with a few dehydrogenases.

An intermediate reaction of lactic acid dehydrogenase, its union with the co-enzyme DPNH, was found to occur with great rapidity at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Whereas aqueous solvents containing 42% or more methanol denatured  $\alpha$ -chymotrypsin rapidly at room temperature, at  $-33^{\circ}$  an 80% methanolic solution permitted the catalytic hydrolysis of its specific substrate acetyl tryptophane ethyl ester.

A systematic study was made of the influence of methanol concentration and temperature on the activity of  $\alpha$ -chymotrypsin from  $25^{\circ}$  to  $-33^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Between  $15^{\circ}$  and  $-33^{\circ}\text{C}$  much of the enzymatic behavior proceeded regularly. The measurements at the lowest temperature were made possible by a new fluorometric assay of  $\alpha$ -chymotrypsin.

Indications have been obtained, using P-32 tracer, of a difference in the amounts of the nucleic acids laid down in planarians during the learning processes (in conditioning) as compared with planarians that were given the same number of stimuli but randomly applied.

In addition to further studies of enzymes, chemistry of nucleic acids will be explored at low temperatures.

The experiments on nucleic acid formation in planarians during learning will be repeated with finer chemical discriminations and with better controls. Analyses of the ratios of the different mononucleotides within the nucleic acids will also be made.

Work is also being started on the chemistry of the nervous systems of horse-shoe crabs, to compare changes in the nucleic acids associated with learning. This program, as well as the one with planarians, is being carried out with the participation of a member of the staff of Michigan State University.

### Publication

1. Bielski and Freed, "Fluorimetric Assay of  $\alpha$ -Chymotrypsin", *Anal. Biochemistry* 7, 192-98 (1964).

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Department

L. M. Corliss/N. Elliott/W. C. Hamilton  
J. M. Hastings/J. A. Ibers/E. V. Sayre

5/1/64

## MOLECULAR AND CRYSTAL STRUCTURE

Neutron diffraction is being extensively used to investigate fundamental characteristics of magnetic materials. The interaction of neutrons with an ordered array of atomic magnetic moments gives rise to scattering and a characteristic diffraction pattern quite analogous to the patterns obtained when x-rays are scattered from solids. The magnetic pattern is superimposed on the diffraction pattern which arises from the nuclear scattering and can be separated from it by appropriate techniques. In ferromagnetic and anti-ferromagnetic materials, the repeat pattern of atomic magnetic moments can be obtained, as well as the magnitude and orientation of individual moments. This knowledge of the magnetic structure is fundamental to the understanding of magnetic properties; it provides a framework for theoretical calculations and an essential check on the validity of concepts of the origin of magnetism. The Chemistry Department program has emphasized the study of the relationship between magnetic structure and crystal structure, with the long-range objective of elucidating the nature and mechanism of interatomic magnetic interactions in solids. Interest has also been focused on the magnetic ordering process, magnetic transitions, and the spatial distribution of magnetic electrons. In FY 1965 the High Flux Beam Reactor at BNL will become available for experimental research. This unique facility will place significantly more intense neutron beams at our disposal, making it possible to increase resolution, sensitivity, and data-collection speed. The scope of the experimental program will be extended to areas of research which are inaccessible at the present reactor. These include neutron spectroscopy and inelastic scattering, by means of which the dynamical properties of magnetic as well as non-magnetic crystals can be studied.

Crystallography continues to constitute the best method for the precise and unambiguous determination of molecular structure. In combination with other physical measurements, it provides the key to the understanding of chemical bonding and hence of reactivity, mechanisms, the interpretation of spectra, etc. The unique combination of x-ray diffraction, neutron diffraction, and outstanding computational facilities at Brookhaven has made possible a broad and comprehensive attack on significant problems in organic, inorganic, and physical chemistry. The neutron diffraction installations have been invaluable in the determination of the structure of hydrogen-containing compounds and in the study of hydrogen bonding in the solid state. The use of digital computers has in the past few

## MOLECULAR AND CRYSTAL STRUCTURE

(continued)

years revolutionized crystallography, and we continue to devote considerable effort, not only to the routine computations of crystallography, but to the use of the extraordinary speed and capacity of the modern digital computer to develop methods of automatic solution of crystal structures directly from intensity data.

The development of the modern x-ray diffractometer, using a scintillation counter, and the resulting improved accuracy, have made it possible in principle to determine atomic charge by measuring reflection intensities at low scattering angles. Research in this field is being carried out on a number of simple compounds with known structures for which favorable x-ray reflections occur.

The incorporation of ions and molecules within crystals affects the optical properties of these entities. Spectral changes that intrinsically reflect the periodicity of the lattice (space group effects) as opposed to those that arise solely from the local crystal field acting on the chemical unit (point group effects) have been heretofore investigated only in organic molecular crystals. These investigations have been very limited in scope and the results have not been fully understood. Examples of such interactions in inorganic ionic crystals are being sought and investigated with the expectation that improved understanding of these complex effects will result.

During the coming year a substantial fraction of the experimental equipment including the powder diffractometer, three-crystal inelastic scattering spectrometer and two single crystal units will be installed at the HFBR. It is expected that the powder unit will be available for use during the startup program of the reactor. In addition, the single-computer control of all the jointly operated Chemistry and Physics spectrometers should become operative in FY 1965. The on-line computer control system, designed in collaboration with the Applied Mathematics and Instrumentation Departments, should provide a very flexible and powerful method of data acquisition and processing which will enhance the usefulness of the spectrometers.

The study of intermetallic systems containing rare earth metals now underway will be continued. Interest in these compounds stems from the unusual magnetic structures previously observed with neutrons as well as from the anomalous moments inferred from magnetic measurements and attributed by some to very large crystal field effects. The precise direction of this effort will depend on the outcome of neutron diffraction investigations currently in progress ( $\text{ErMn}_2$ ,  $\text{TmMn}_2$ ,  $\text{TbNi}_2$ ,  $\text{HoGa}_2$ ).

## MOLECULAR AND CRYSTAL STRUCTURE

(continued)

Work on magnetic oxides, directed largely by an interest in superexchange mechanisms, is expected to continue along lines closely related to our activities in the past; interesting possibilities are being explored at the present time. The study of the magnetic scattering from single crystals of  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$ , already under way, will be pursued with both polarized and unpolarized neutrons in order to determine whether canting of the basic antiferromagnetic spin system occurs. This point appears to be essential to a complete understanding of magnetic and magnetoelectric phenomena. Observation should be resolvable through a proper understanding of space group interactions.

It is expected that the present infrared and Raman research will lead to similar studies in the field of electronic and vibronic spectra.

### Publications

1. Ibers and Smith, "Crystal Structure of a Sodium Cobalt Molybdate", *Acta Cryst.* 17, 190-97 (1964).
2. Hamilton and Ibers, "Structures of  $\text{HCrO}_2$  and  $\text{DCrO}_2$ ", *Acta. Cryst.* 16, 1209-12 (1963).
3. Hamilton and Ibers, "X-ray Investigation of the Crystal Structures of Xenon Tetrafluoride", Noble Gas Compounds, H. H. Hyman, Editor, pp. 195-202, University of Chicago Press, 1963.
4. Manoharan and Hamilton, "The Crystal Structure of Sodium Nitroprusside", *Inorganic Chem.* 2, 1043-47 (1963).
5. Hamilton, Ibers, and Mackenzie, "The Geometry of the Perxenate Ion", *Science* 141, 532-34 (1963).
6. McGaw and Ibers, "The Nature of the Hydrogen Bond in Sodium Acid Fluoride", *J. Chem. Phys.* 39, 2677-84 (1963).
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9. Eisenberg, Ibers, Clark and Gray, "Molecular and Electronic Structure of the Bis-(maleonitriledithiolato)-nickelate(II) Ion", *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 86, 113-15 (1964).

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Department

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5/1/64

## ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

Chemical and spectrographic analyses are performed in support of the Laboratory's research program. This is a continuing service activity geared to the requirements of current research. About three-fourths of the activity is required in support of research in the Chemistry Department, while the remainder is in support of work in other departments, principally Nuclear Engineering. Some research on analytical methods related to topics of immediate interest is carried out.

Analytical mass spectrometry services have been provided in the Chemistry Department, in the form of gas analyses, isotopic ratio analyses, and the analysis of solid materials. This work has supported a variety of research programs in Chemistry, and in the Biology, Reactor and Accelerator Departments of BNL. Laboratory facilities include: a 180°-5" radius single collector gas analysis spectrometer, two precision isotope ratio mass spectrometers and a double focussing spark source mass spectrometer. One isotope ratio mass spectrometer serves for precision analysis of hydrogen isotopes, the other is used for C<sup>13</sup>, N<sup>15</sup> and O<sup>18</sup> assays.

Service analyses in support of organic chemical research is provided. Included in this activity are conventional carbon, nitrogen, halogen and sulfur assays, and carbon-14, tritium and deuterium assays.

Neutron activation analysis is finding application in a number of areas of research. Advantage is taken of the non-destructive aspect of this method of analysis in the examination of paintings and of ancient artifacts. The extreme sensitivity of activation analysis is utilized in the analysis of meteorites and mineral separates from meteorites.

Chemical analysis is being applied to archaeological artifacts to determine the nature and sources of raw materials used in their manufacture and also the technological methods employed in antiquity. In some instances compositions are so characteristic of particular regions and periods that they can be employed as evidence for authentication and dating.

## ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

(continued)

The possibility of establishing autoradiography of oil paintings following neutron activation as a nondestructive method of revealing detailed information of the structure, condition and distribution of pigments within the paintings is being explored.

Considerable effort has been expended to develop the double focussing spark source mass spectrometer into an instrument with high sensitivity, sufficient to permit analysis of nuclear reaction products. The object of such studies is to gain more complete mass yield curves on products of nuclear reactions, that is, to measure yields of stable long-lived nuclides which resist detection or measurement by ordinary counting techniques. Samples of fission products in  $U^{235}$  matrices have been analyzed with the object of accurately determining sensitivity and relative ionization and collection efficiencies of the trace constituents. Partial mass yield curves from  $U^{235}$  fission were obtained from samples which contained 15 ppm of the more abundant fission products. These studies showed that analysis of products of nuclear reactions in targets irradiated in the BNL high energy accelerator will require chemical as well as instrumental techniques. Studies are now under way on methods which include one stage of chemical separation of nuclear reaction products from the major constituents of the target matrix. So far, sensitivity which permits detection of  $10^{-10}$  grams of rare earth nuclide has been achieved. This sensitivity is adequate for nuclear reaction studies provided that problems of background contamination of target and reagent materials can be solved. These problems are currently under investigation.

It is hoped that the studies of ancient glass and archeological objects will be completed during the next year. The thermal neutron activation examination of paintings will be directed toward a more quantitative estimate of the damage hazard involved, and to evaluate more fully the range of applicability.

Potassium assays for purposes of age determination by the potassium-argon method are being completed on a series of five mineral separates from the Indarch meteorite.

The development of a spectroscopic method for the direct determination of deuterium in water by closed tube electrodeless discharge is continuing.

### Publication

1. Sayre, "Methods and Applications of Activation Analysis", Ann. Rev. Nucl. Sci. 13, 145-62 (1963).

## SECTION 3B

### BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY - NUCLEAR ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

- 3B1 Physical Chemistry of High Temperature Systems
- 3B2 Mechanism of Pyrolytic-Graphite Formation
- 3B3 Radiation Chemistry of Fluorocarbon and Noble Gas Chemistry
- 3B4 Fluoride Volatility Studies Related to Reprocessing of Reactor Fuels
- 3B5 Solvent Extraction of Polyiodides and Hydration Numbers of Extracted Salts
- 3B6 Mechanism of Fission Fragment Induced Reactions
- 3B7 Mechanism of Radiation Induced Reactions in Organic Materials
- 3B8 Chemistry of Actinides
- 3B9 Electrochemical Studies in Fused Salts
- 3B10 Preparation and Purification of Special Isotopes for Research

For further information on work completed, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature and to the Brookhaven National Laboratory Annual Report, July 1, 1964. The report number is BNL 867(AS-18) Publication is expected by November, 1964.

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY  
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J. J. Egan

1/2/64

#### PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY OF HIGH TEMPERATURE SYSTEMS

The purpose of this program is the development of physico-chemical techniques for studying high temperature systems of interest in nuclear technology, as well as supplying thermodynamic data on these systems. Electrochemical methods in both the liquid and solid state along with spectroscopic techniques are stressed.

Chronopotentiometry and spectrophotometry are being used to study metals dissolved in their own molten halides. Solid state electromotive force methods are employed to obtain free energies of formation of chlorides, fluorides, and carbides at high temperature. The thermodynamic properties of molten salt solutions are being systematically studied by an emf technique using only gaseous electrodes. Liquid metal mixtures whose thermodynamic properties are influenced by their electronic constitution are also being examined by the use of emf cells with solid electrolytes.

#### Publications

1. Egan, "The Standard Molar Free Energy of Formation of  $\text{ThC}_2$  by Electromotive Force Measurements," J. Phys. Chem. (in press, to appear in March 1964).
2. Van Norman and Egan, "The Mg-MgCl<sub>2</sub> System - A Chronopotentiometric Study," J. Phys. Chem. 67, 2460 (1963).
3. Egan, McCoy, and Bracker, "The Standard Molar Free Energy of Formation of MgCl<sub>2</sub>, CeCl<sub>3</sub>, UCl<sub>3</sub>, and ThCl<sub>4</sub> From EMF Measurements" in "Thermodynamics of Nuclear Materials," p. 163, I.A.E.A., Vienna, 1962.
4. Wiswall, R. H. and Egan, J. J., "Thermodynamics of Solutions of Actinides and Fission Products in Bismuth" in "Thermodynamics of Nuclear Materials," p. 345, I.A.E.A., Vienna, 1962.

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12/19/63

### MECHANISM OF PYROLYTIC-GRAPHITE FORMATION

To establish the conditions under which graphite deposits rather than evaporates when in contact with a hydrocarbon-hydrogen system, it is necessary to know the sublimation temperature of graphite as a function of C/H ratio and pressure. These fundamental curves have been calculated by Duff and Bauer using speculative thermodynamic calculations and involve free radicals such as  $HC_x$ . The experimental determination of these sublimation curves is the first objective of the present program.

Experimental studies at BNL have verified the calculated sublimation temperatures in the temperature range 2100° to 2400°C at 0.1 atmospheres, and indicate that equilibrium is rapidly established at the graphite surface. The product gas contains unexpected  $CH_4$  which probably results from subsequent gas-phase reactions. The presence of argon increases the yield of  $C_2H_2$ , but also increases the sublimation temperature. Future work will extend the range of the sublimation temperature determinations. In addition, an investigation will be made to determine how the species present condense and rearrange on a growing graphite surface.

In associated work, a rapid method\* of measuring the surface area of graphites using  $Kr^{85}$ -traced Kr has recently been developed which allows one to determine the surface area of graphite of any geometric form and also determine the surface area of the internal closed pores.

\*submitted to J. Phys. Chem., Nov. 1963

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1/2/64

RADIATION CHEMISTRY OF FLUOROCARBON  
AND NOBLE GAS CHEMISTRY

Fluorocarbon research involves investigation of the effects of heat and radiation on pure fluorocarbons. The materials studied to date include the cyclic compounds F-benzene, F-biphenyl, F-naphthalene, and their saturated analogues F-cyclohexane, F-bicyclohexyl and F-decalin (where F-stands for perfluoro). All have been highly purified by preparative scale gas-liquid chromatography.

Most irradiations have been done in thin window nickel cells using 1.5 Mev electron beam from a van de Graaff accelerator. Results of irradiations at temperatures up to 100°C indicate that in this temperature range  $G_{\text{gas}}$  for the aromatic fluorocarbons is negligible, but  $G_{\text{polymer}}$  is 2 to 3 times that for the corresponding hydrocarbons. The alicyclics, however, are more stable than the corresponding hydrocarbons, and have G-values for consumption of starting material similar to the aromatic fluorocarbons.

Two distinct aspects are now taking shape in the program. One concerns the effects of high temperature on radiation stability of the less volatile compounds, including F-o-terphenyl, which will be available soon. The other involves fundamental studies on the mechanism of radiolysis of one or more of the lighter compounds, using scavengers and radiations of different LET.

Compounds of fluorine with the noble gases, xenon and krypton, have been prepared at room temperature and lower using  $\gamma$ -rays, 1.5-Mev electrons and 10-Mev protons. Attempts to prepare other binary noble gas compounds are being made. The radiation chemistry of xenon fluorides is being studied.

Publications

1. MacKenzie and Wiswall, Jr., "Compound Formation by  $\gamma$ -Irradiation of Xenon-Fluorine Mixtures," Inorg. Chem. 2, 1064 (1963).
2. MacKenzie and Wiswall, Jr., "The Synthesis of Xenon Compounds in Ionizing Radiation." In "Noble-Gas Compounds," University of Chicago Press, 1963, edited by H. H. Hyman.
3. Hamilton, Ibers and MacKenzie, "Geometry of the Perxenate Ion," Science 141, 532 (1963).

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

Nuclear Engineering Department

Gerald Strickland

12/26/63

FLUORIDE VOLATILITY STUDIES RELATED TO  
REPROCESSING OF REACTOR FUELS

Anhydrous solutions of HF containing  $N_2O_4$  will attack reactor fuels containing U,  $UO_2$ ,  $UC_2$ , Pu, Zr, Al, Be, BeO, Mo, stainless steel and graphite. Practical rates are obtainable in a 25 M %  $NO_2$  solution at 100-150°C. Solutions containing  $N_2O_3$ , or NOF and  $N_2O_3$ , are also useful but do not attack graphite. Studies at this laboratory on the chemistry of these solvents have shown that their unusual reactivity is due to the formation of  $NO^+$  and  $F^-$  ions. Distillation studies aided by vapor infrared analysis have revealed the existence of two or three azeotropes in these systems.

These solvents are used as dissolving agents in the Nitrofluor process which is being developed as a simplified method of treating a variety of reactor fuels. Uranium and its compounds are converted to  $NOUF_6$  which is subsequently volatilized as  $UF_6$  by treatment with  $BrF_3$  or  $BrF_5$ . The  $NOUF_6$  is also volatile under conditions not yet completely defined; whereas the Pu compound apparently is not and requires  $F_2$  for conversion to  $PuF_6$ .

Problems related to the engineering-scale dissolution of enriched fuels will be examined using Monel and nickel equipment. These materials owe their corrosion resistance to films which are fairly protective and are under study. Uranium recovery work will follow that on dissolution.

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY  
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1/2/64

SOLVENT EXTRACTION OF POLYIODIDES AND  
HYDRATION NUMBERS OF EXTRACTED SALTS

It has been found that alkali metal cations can be extracted from aqueous solutions into organic solvents of high dielectric constants such as polyiodides. Extraction of sodium, potassium, rubidium, and cesium from sodium iodide solutions into solutions of iodine in nitrobenzene, usually at 25°C, has been studied. Extraction coefficients have been high, ranging from as much as six for sodium to two thousand for cesium. It has been shown that polyiodide anions as complex as the enneaiodide,  $I_9^-$ , are involved in extractions.

Preliminary values of the formation constants, at 25°C in nitrobenzene, of the pentaiodide, heptaiodide and enneaiodide ions have been obtained. An estimate has been made of the formation constant of the triiodide ion. Approximate values of hydration numbers of extracted sodium ion have been determined. More detailed study of the extraction of alkali polyiodides will be made. More accurate values of the formation constants and hydration numbers will be made at temperatures ranging from 10° to 40°C. From these it is hoped to obtain thermodynamic data on the various complex anions.

It has also been found that rare earth and alkaline earth cations may be extracted from aqueous iodide solutions by solutions of iodine in nitrobenzene. Even though extraction coefficients are lower than for alkali metal cations the mechanisms of extraction should be studied.

Publication

1. Slater, "Extraction of Sodium and Cesium Polyiodides into Nitrobenzene," Nuclear Sci. and Eng., 17, 576-585 (1963).

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY  
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#### MECHANISM OF FISSION FRAGMENT INDUCED REACTIONS

It is desired to study the mechanism of fission fragment induced reactions. However, associated with fission fragments are neutrons, gamma rays, and other radiation. It is difficult to separate the effects of fission fragments from those of less energetic radiation. Alpha particles have linear energy transfer (LET) values much closer to those of fission fragments than do other radiations. Thus, the study of alpha particle induced reactions would shed much light on the mechanism of fission fragment induced reactions.

An alpha source calibrator has been built. This consists of a solid state charged particle detector mounted in a vacuum chamber at some distance from a polonium-210 alpha source. The distance from source to detector as well as the size opening to the detector may both be varied. The alpha source may be rotated and tipped. Thus the spectrum and number of alpha particles leaving the source at all angles may be determined. This should result in better values for energy deposited in a system than obtainable from chemical dosimetry. In addition, effects due to varying initial LET values may be determined.

Simple gaseous systems will be studied. The first will be the alpha particle induced formation of ozone from oxygen at various temperatures. The effect of different impurities and of dose rate variation will be studied. After this it is hoped to study other simple reactions leading to a better understanding of the mechanisms of reactions induced by high LET particles.

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12/19/63

MECHANISM OF RADIATION INDUCED REACTIONS  
IN ORGANIC MATERIALS

Solid state polymerization of pure acrylamide and mixed with propionamide has been studied by chemical spectroscopic techniques. Diffusion of monomer at defects and interfaces probably plays an important role. Future studies are aimed at testing quantitatively mathematical expressions for the diffusion processes.

Radiolysis studies of this system in which gaseous products are analyzed suggest that energy transfer and/or radical scavenging reactions are important. Future ESR experiments should permit some differentiation between these alternatives. Other systems will also be studied.

A second effort involves a systematic study of a series of substituted aromatic hydrocarbons under varying conditions of dose, temperature, physical state and LET. Data have been obtained for toluene and xylene and further compounds will be selected to test the effect of polar substituents on the radiation initiated reactions.

A third study involves the role of ions in liquid organic reactions. One aspect of this work will be a continuation of polymerization studies of styrene and related monomers by classical kinetic techniques to determine to what extent ions are involved in recently found abnormally high rates of reactions.

A more fundamental aspect of this study involves development of an ion detection technique based on measurement of dielectric loss as a function of frequency. Future effects will be directed toward reduction of the already successful qualitative technique to a quantitative method. Ultimately the technique should be applicable to the determination of w values for ion yields in liquid systems.

Publications

1. Baysal, Adler, Ballantine and Glines, "Polymer Fractionation Studies in the Solid State Polymerization of Acrylamide," Polymer Letters 1, 257-62 (1963)
2. Baumann, and Metz, "Gamma Radiation Induced Polymerization of Alpha-Methylstyrene. The Effect of Water on Molecular Weight Distribution," J. Polymer Sci. 62, (174), S141-S144, (1962)

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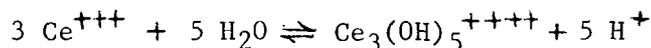
Leonard Newman/Paul Klotz/Jack Fajer

1/2/64

### CHEMISTRY OF ACTINIDES

The synergistic effect of tri-n-octylamine on the solvent extraction of thorium by thenoyltrifluoroacetone (TTA) has been shown to arise from the organic phase reaction  $\text{ThT}_4 + \text{R}_3\text{NHCl} \rightleftharpoons \text{ThT}_4\text{R}_3\text{NHCl}$ , where  $\text{R}_3\text{NHCl}$  represents the amine hydrochloride and  $\text{T}^-$ , the enolate ion of TTA. The formation constant for this reaction was measured in benzene as  $260 \pm 40$ . A similar study on the solvent extraction of americium is underway.

An investigation of the hydrolysis of cerium has been completed and submitted for publication. EMF data indicate that at most, one percent of the Ce(III) ions can be transformed into the hydrolysis products without formation of a precipitate; this is explained by assuming the equilibrium:



Further hydrolysis studies on the actinides are planned.

We have investigated the reduction of piaselelols, the selenium chelates of 1,2 diaminobenzene and related ligands. Solutions of diamagnetic piaselelol undergo chemical and electrochemical reduction to form a red paramagnetic species. Chemical reductions with Na or Li were carried out in tetrahydrofuran, and electrochemical reactions in acetonitrile. ESR data show partial delocalization of the spin density. Polarography shows a half-wave potential of -1.35 v. vs. S.C.E.; coulometric reduction at -1.4 v., at a Hg pool, yields the red paramagnetic species. The original compound can be regenerated by air oxidation as shown by absorption spectra. This work will be continued.

#### Publications

1. Newman, and Klotz, "Synergistic Effect of Tri-n-octylamine on the Solvent Extraction of Thorium by Thenoyltrifluoroacetone," J. Phys. Chem., 67, 205 (1963).
2. Newman, "On the Synergistic Effect in Solvent Extraction," J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem., 25, 304 (1963).

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### ELECTROCHEMICAL STUDIES IN FUSED SALTS

The low melting point (132°C) of  $\text{LiNO}_3\text{-KNO}_3$  eutectic makes it well suited for investigations at the dropping mercury electrode (DME). It is interesting that the half-wave potentials of lead and cadmium in  $\text{LiNO}_3\text{-KNO}_3$  are virtually coincident, in contrast to their 0.2 v. separation in common aqueous media at room temperature. It has been shown that this behavior is not simply a temperature effect but reflects specific solvent-solute interaction, probably preferential coordination of lead by nitrate. As a result it is planned to undertake potentiometric studies in a non-coordinating solvent of similar melting point, such as dimethylsulfone, in which the nitrate concentration can be varied.

Other polarographic work has included initial studies on the anodic dissolution of the DME in molten nitrate media containing such depolarizing anions as chloride, bromide and hydroxyl. Chronopotentiometry, especially with current reversal, is considered to be a powerful technique for studies of this type, and work along these lines will be continued.

Work is now in progress on uranium in EDTA-containing medium, a system which is of analytical interest despite certain abnormal features. The hanging mercury drop electrode, which provides a continually renewable and reproducible surface, has been found to be extremely useful in these studies.

#### Publications

1. Auerbach and Kissel, "Determination of Uranium at Microgram Levels by Derivative Polarography;" BNL 800 (T-307), May 1963; accepted for publication in *TALANTA*.
2. Feldberg and Auerbach, "A Model for Current Reversal Chronopotentiometry with Second Order Kinetic Complications;" presented at the 145th National Meeting, American Chemical Society, New York, September 1963; accepted for publication in *ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY*.

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1/2/64

PREPARATION AND PURIFICATION OF SPECIAL  
ISOTOPES FOR RESEARCH

Reactions of Tritons: Successful use of the reactions of reactor produced tritons ( $\text{Li}^6(n,t)\alpha$ ) for the production of  $\text{F}^{18}$  and  $\text{Mg}^{28}$  has led to a further investigation of the reaction of these tritons with other nuclides of  $A < 60$ .  $\text{Ar}^{42}$  from the  $\text{Ar}^{40}(t,p)\text{Ar}^{52}$  and  $\text{Co}^{58g}$  from the  $\text{Fe}^{56}(t,n)\text{Co}^{58}$  reactions have been observed, and a cross section of  $\sim 50 \mu\text{b}$  has been obtained for the  $\text{Ni}^{58}(t,n)\text{Cu}^{60}$  reaction. Excitation functions have been obtained for the  $\text{Mg}^{26}(t,p)\text{Mg}^{28}$  and the  $\text{Mg}^{25}(t,\alpha)\text{Na}^{24}$  reactions. These, surprisingly, are superimposable. Studies underway intend to measure the range of recoil  $\text{Mg}^{28}$  atoms and to determine the relationship between the ground state spins of the products and the cross sections of their formation.

Milking Systems: Two of the recent milking systems developed are the  $\text{Y}^{89}\text{-Sr}^{87m}$  and the  $\text{Mg}^{28}\text{-Al}^{28}$  generators. Investigations underway include the development of generators for the  $\text{Ti}^{44}\text{-Sc}^{44}$ ,  $\text{Ar}^{42}\text{-K}^{42}$ , and isomer generators of the Te isotopes,  $\text{Te}^{127-131}$ .

Miscellaneous: Carrier-free  $\text{Fe}^{52}$ ,  $\text{Cs}^{129}$  and  $\text{Cs}^{132}$  are prepared by alpha bombardment of  $\text{Cr}^{50}$ ,  $\text{I}^{127}$  and  $\text{I}^{129}$  respectively and are being made available for research. Unknown isotopes being searched for include  $\text{Ti}^{42}$ ,  $\text{Sc}^{51}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{50}$  and  $\text{K}^{46-48}$ .

Publications

1. Hillman, "A Decay of  $\text{Sc}^{48}$ ," Phys. Rev., 129, 2227 (1963).
2. Weiss and Hillman, "The Magnesium-28-Aluminum-28 System: An Aluminum-28 Generator," Intern. J. of Applied Radiation and Isotopes, in press

## SECTION 4

### HANFORD ATOMIC PRODUCTS OPERATION - HANFORD LABORATORIES

- 4-1 Chemistry in Molten Salts
- 4-2 Mechanisms of Solvent Extraction
- 4-3 Research Programs in Chemistry

For further information on work completed, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature.

HANFORD ATOMIC PRODUCTS OPERATION

Hanford Laboratories  
Chemical Research

M. T. Walling, Jr./L. L. Burger

12/1/63

## CHEMISTRY IN MOLTEN SALTS

The purpose of this work is to use molten salts as a medium to investigate molecular interactions, in particular the coordination chemistry of the actinide elements, in the absence of competition from the highly basic water molecule. A secondary aim is the development of methods and techniques suitable for high temperature manipulations and measurements. One of the principal areas of investigation is the electronic spectra of the actinides in various molten salt environments, including the assignments of observed transitions and the resolution of spectra into individual distribution curves. This phase of work is closely coordinated with other work in the laboratory, particularly determination of crystal structure and the comparison of spectra of the complexes in systems other than molten salts. The identification of ionic complexes in molten salt solutions is fundamental to the understanding of the coordination chemistry of the actinides and is one of the goals of the work.

Other areas of investigation involve solubility studies and the partition of elements between immiscible molten salt phases and other two-phase systems involving, for example, a molten salt as one phase and a metal or organic compound as the other. Conventional physical properties are measured when pertinent.

It is felt that these studies - where there is no competition from the highly basic water molecule - will yield very significant information on the nature of bonding in complex ions of the actinide elements and possibly information more susceptible to interpretation on the basis of present day theory.

Publications

1. J. R. Morrey and R. H. Moore, "Thermodynamic Evidence for Complex Formation of Actinide Elements in Fused KCl-AlCl<sub>3</sub> Solvents," J. Phys. Chem. 67, No. 4, April (1963).
2. R. H. Moore, "The Immiscibility Gap in the System: LiCl-KCl-AlCl<sub>3</sub>," J. Chem. Eng. Data, April (1963).
3. J. R. Morrey, E. E. Voiland, "Fused Salt Spectrophotometry II. The Effect of Black-Body and Sample Emission on Absorption Spectra," Spectrochim. Acta 18, 1175 (1962).
4. J. R. Morrey, "Fused Salt Spectrophotometry III. Isosbestic Points Generated by Variation in Temperature," J. Phys. Chem. 60, 2169 (1963).

HANFORD ATOMIC PRODUCTS OPERATION

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Chemical Research

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## MECHANISMS OF SOLVENT EXTRACTION

The purpose of this work is to examine in detail the interaction of inorganic compounds with organic and inorganic solvents. Solvent extraction involves a number of different but related phenomena such as solvation of ions and of undissociated molecules, ion pair formation, hydrogen bonding, simple salt formation, and chelation as well as the weaker molecular interactions found in ordinary solutions.

The approach used is to employ techniques which are especially suited for the different phenomena. Ultraviolet and visible spectrophotometry are being employed to study the environmental effect of different ligands around, for example, an actinide element ion. Infrared and nuclear magnetic resonance are being employed to study general solvation phenomena and the nature and strengths of hydrogen bonds. Liquid-liquid partition data are used to obtain both thermodynamic and structural information on the complexes in solution. Among the solvents being used are ethers, neutral organophosphorus compounds and alkyl amines. Ion exchange studies are used in a similar fashion.

These studies are closely correlated with other programs in this laboratory, especially work with molten salt systems, crystallographic structure determinations and the interpretation of electronic spectra.

Publication

1. W. E. Keder and A. S. Wilson, "Amines as Extractants - Studies of the Organic Phase," Nucl. Science and Eng., 17, 287 (1963).
2. W. E. Keder, "Extraction of Tetra- and Hexavalent Actinides from Hydrochloric Acid by Tri-n-Octylamine in Xylene," J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem. 24, 561 (1962).
3. L. L. Burger, "Dialkyl Diethers in Solvent Extraction," J. Chem. Eng. Data, (Accepted for publication, January or February, 1964).

HANFORD ATOMIC PRODUCTS OPERATION

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12/1/63

## RESEARCH PROGRAMS IN CHEMISTRY

The purpose of this work is to investigate the nature of chemical bonding in complexes formed by actinide elements in the various oxidation states obtainable in aqueous, organic, and molten salt solutions as well as in the solid state. Systematic measurement of the electronic spectra of solutions and their assignment to identified solution species has been in progress for some time, utilizing a variety of synthesis and phase partition techniques and a computer code developed for the mathematical treatment of the recorded spectra. A computer code for the interpretation of x-ray diffraction powder patterns (for cubic, hexagonal, and orthorhombic systems) has likewise been developed. Equipment for obtaining single crystal x-ray diffraction data is also being assembled and the determination of the crystal structure of compounds of interest to this study is underway, aimed at acquiring the information essential to the interpretation of the electronic spectra on the basis of crystal field theory. In addition to the foregoing basic tools, supplementary structural information is obtained via studies of the magnetic susceptibility, infra-red spectra, and nuclear magnetic resonance spectra. Further information on the nature of bonding in complexes and on symmetry can be obtained from Raman spectra and this technique may be added in future studies.

Publications

1. J. R. Morrey, "Fused Salt Spectrophotometry IV. Uranium(IV) in Chloride Melts", J. Inorg. Chem., 2, 163 (1963).
2. J. L. Ryan, "Anion Exchange and Non-Aqueous Studies of the Anionic Chloro Complexes of Hexavalent Actinides," J. Inorg. Chem., 2, 349 (1963).
3. J. L. Ryan, C. K. Jorgenson, "Electron Transfer and 5f-6d Transitions in Uranium(IV), Neptunium(IV), and Plutonium(IV) Hexahalides," Mol. Phys. 7, 17 (1963).

SECTION 5A

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

CHEMISTRY DIVISION

- 5A1 Studies of Alpha and Beta Decay Using Oriented Nuclei
- 5A2 External Field Nuclear Polarization
- 5A3 Investigations of the Internal Conversion Process in Nuclear Decay
- 5A4 Studies of Nuclear Level Schemes at High Precision
- 5A5 Bombardments of Cf With Various Heavy Ions
- 5A6 Neutron-Deficient Praseodymium Isotopes in a Region of Nuclear Deformation
- 5A7 Decay Schemes of Nuclei Near Double-Closed Shells
- 5A8 Nuclear Spectroscopic Investigations Near the Doubly Closed Shell of  $\text{Pb}^{208}$
- 5A9 Nuclear Spectroscopic Measurements in the Transition Region Between Spherical and Strongly-Deformed Nuclei
- 5A10 Nuclear Spectroscopic Investigations of Deformed Heavy-Element Nuclides
- 5A11 Study of Alpha Emitters of Platinum and Nearby Elements Produced by Reactions of Complex Ions with Rare Earth Targets
- 5A12 Calorimetric Measurement of Decay Energy of Metastable  $\text{U}^{235}$
- 5A13 Nuclear Spins, Moments, and Hyperfine Structures of Some Radioactive Isotopes
- 5A14 Calculation of Matrix Elements of Two-Nucleon Interactions in Nuclear Shell Theory
- 5A15 Theoretical Nuclear Structure Calculations
- 5A16 Measurement and Interpretation of Fission Barriers
- 5A17 Prompt Radiations in Fission
- 5A18 Spontaneous Fission

SECTION 5A Continued

- 5A19 Mass and Energy Distributions in Fission
- 5A20 Heavy Ion Fission Studies with Various Elements: Fission Fragment Kinetic Energy Measurements
- 5A21 Heavy Ion Fission Studies with Various Elements: Fission Cross Section Studies
- 5A22 Mass Spectrometric Study of Intermediate Energy Fission
- 5A23 Investigation of Range-Energy Relationships and Range Straggling Effects of Recoils from Heavy Ion Reactions
- 5A24 Investigation of Spallation, Fission, and Fragmentation Reactions by Radiochemical Techniques in Targets Bombarded with High Energy Protons, Deuterons, and Helium Ions
- 5A25 Investigation of the p-p Interaction Via the  $\text{He}^3(d,t)2p$  and  $\text{He}^3(p,d)2p$  Reactions
- 5A26 Polarization in p-p, p-d p- $\text{He}^4$  Scattering
- 5A27 Proton-Induced Two-Nucleon Pickup Reactions
- 5A28 Excitation of High-Spin Nuclear Levels by ( $\alpha$ ,d) Reaction
- 5A29 Mechanisms of Low Energy Nuclear Reactions of Protons,  $\text{He}^3$ , and  $\text{He}^4$
- 5A30 Measurement of the Correlation Coefficient  $C_{NN}$  in p-p Scattering in the 30-57 MeV Range
- 5A31 Nuclear Reactions Induced by  $\pi$  Mesons
- 5A32 The ( $\alpha$ , $2\alpha$ ) Reaction on Several Elements in the 100 MeV Range
- 5A33 Study of Angular Correlation Between Inelastically Scattered Helium Ions and  $\gamma$ -Rays
- 5A34 Elastic and Inelastic Scattering of Charged Particles
- 5A35 In-Beam Spectroscopy Following Heavy Ion Reactions
- 5A36 Coulomb Excitation Using Heavy Ions
- 5A37 Theoretical Investigations of Direct Nuclear Reactions and Their Connection with Nuclear Structure

SECTION 5A Continued

- 5A38 Semiconductor Radiation Detectors
- 5A39 General Purpose Pulse Amplifying and Processing Equipment
- 5A40 Chemistry Instrument Systems
- 5A41 Crystal Structure Determinations
- 5A42 Crystal Structure Studies of Lanthanide and Actinide Compounds
- 5A43 Configuration Interaction in  $1^N$  Configurations
- 5A44 Metastable Electronic States of Molecules
- 5A45 Multiply Charged Ions Formed by Electron Impact in the Mass Spectrometer
- 5A46 Molecular Beam Electric Resonance Spectroscopy
- 5A47 Studies of Induced Internal Fields in Ferromagnets
- 5A48 Mössbauer Effect Studies of Hyperfine Interactions and Lattice Dynamics
- 5A49 Xenon Chemistry
- 5A50 Ion Exchange and Solvent Extraction
- 5A51 Surface Ionization Studies
- 5A52 Paramagnetic Resonance Studies on Actinide Ions
- 5A53 Thermochemistry of the Lanthanide and Actinide Metals and Compounds
- 5A54 Preparation and Properties of the Transplutonium Metals
- 5A55 Solid State Spectra of Actinides
- 5A56 Free Atom Energy Levels of Actinides
- 5A57 Sensitive Activation Analysis for Oxygen, Carbon, and Other Elements by  $\text{He}^3$ -Induced Nuclear Reactions
- 5A58 Chemical Effects of Nuclear Transformations: Reactions of Recoil  $\text{S}^{35}$  and  $\text{H}^3$  with Various Compounds

## SECTION 5A Continued

- 5A59 Radiation Chemistry of Selected Organic Systems  
and the Role of Ions in the Radiolysis Process
- 5A60 Axial Mixing (Longitudinal Dispersion) in Packed  
Extraction and Absorption Columns
- 5A61 Kinetic Studies of Super-Acid Catalysis
- 5A62 Thermodynamics of Metal-Alloy and Fused-Salt Solutions
- 5A63 Mechanical and Chemical Properties of Nonequilibrium  
Liquid-Liquid Interfaces--Liquid-Solid Fluidization
- 5A64 Mechanical and Chemical Properties of Nonequilibrium  
Liquid-Liquid Interfaces--Studies with the Oscillating  
Jet
- 5A65 Liquid-Liquid and Gas-Liquid Agitation
- 5A66 Use of Atomic Hydrogen as a Possible Reducing Agent  
for Purification of Metals
- 5A67 Gas-Liquid Mass Transfer in Cocurrent Flow
- 5A68 Design of Liquid-Liquid Settlers
- 5A69 Bacterial Conversion of Inorganic Compounds
- 5A70 Turbulent Exchange of Momentum and Mass Between Fluid  
Streams and a Wall
- 5A71 Simultaneous Analyses of Elements Using Submilligram  
Amounts of Organic Samples
- 5A72 Optical Pumping Experiments in Neon and Mercury
- 5A73 Coherence Experiments with Laser Beams
- 5A74 Heat and Mass Transfer Between Fluid Phases
- 5A75 Oxygen Initiated Pyrolysis
- 5A76 Gas Liquid Mass Transfer
- 5A77 Basic Mechanisms in the Radiolysis of Amino Acids,  
Peptides and Related Compounds

## SECTION 5A Continued

For further information on completed work, the reader is referred to the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, Berkeley, Chemistry Division Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 1963. It is report number UCRL-11213, February, 1964.

5A1

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

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1/2/64

### STUDIES OF ALPHA AND BETA DECAY USING ORIENTED NUCLEI

An important feature of charged-particle decay is the angular distribution, relative to the nuclear symmetry axis, of the emitted radiations. This distribution may be studied in an effective and straightforward manner by orienting the nuclei with respect to an external direction in space and observing the spatial anisotropy of alpha and beta particles, using semiconductor counters.

A program is underway to study, in this way, the angular distribution characteristics of alpha particles from heavy elements, particularly californium and einsteinium, and to elucidate some of the features of allowed and first-forbidden beta decay. To date these studies have shown that alpha particles are preferentially emitted from the poles of prolately deformed nuclei and have yielded unexpected information about the detailed shape of the angular distribution. Large "front-back" asymmetries have been observed in the beta decays of several isotopes and angular anisotropies have also been seen in the conversion electrons from oriented nuclei.

5A2

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

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1/2/64

### EXTERNAL FIELD NUCLEAR POLARIZATION

The oldest, and conceptually the simplest, method for orienting nuclei in space to study their directional properties consists of polarizing the nuclei through interaction of the nuclear magnetic moments by means of an external magnetic field. In practice this method entails several severe experimental problems and in only a few isolated, favorable cases has it been applied successfully.

Because of the great potential value of external-field polarization, manifest particularly in its application to nuclear structure problems (including beta decay), a systematic long-range program to develop this method is underway. A number of preliminary and related experiments have been carried out and an apparatus has been designed and partially constructed. Arrangements have been made to use a 7 megawatt, 94,000 gauss magnet in the Low Temperature Laboratory of the University of California, Berkeley. Techniques have been developed for cooling radioactive samples to  $0.01^{\circ}\text{K}$  and for counting gamma rays in a magnetic field.

INVESTIGATIONS OF THE INTERNAL CONVERSION  
PROCESS IN NUCLEAR DECAY

The internal conversion coefficient, defined as the ratio of probabilities of atomic electron emission to photon emission in a transition between two nuclear levels, has been a quantity that the nuclear spectroscopist has found quite useful to measure. Largely, this is because the value of the conversion coefficient, according to theory, depends only on the angular momentum and parity changes involved (for a given transition) and is essentially independent of the details of nuclear structure. Thus one had a widely applicable tool for the measurement of these important quantities.

The situation was radically changed when some experiments showed that the I.C.C. (internal conversion coefficients) for some transitions deviated from the theoretical values. Theoretically these deviations have been described by considering the penetration of atomic electrons into the nuclear matter. The penetrating electrons "probe" the nuclear charges and transition currents, and can be in certain situations influenced by the details of the nuclear structure involved in a particular nuclear transition. Because of our knowledge of this effect, the I.C.C. have lost their sharpness as a tool for investigating the properties of nuclear states, but on the other hand careful experiments with conversion electrons can now provide information otherwise unobtainable.

We have studied a certain class of internally converted nuclear transitions, the L-subshell conversion of mixed M1-E2 transitions, using the Berkeley high-resolution 50-cm iron-free electron spectrometer. There is evidence from our preliminary results that this type of measurement may be a very sensitive tool for observing nuclear structure effects, and the program is being continued and expanded.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

J. M. Hollander

1/2/64

## STUDIES OF NUCLEAR LEVEL SCHEMES AT HIGH PRECISION

With the installation at the Radiation Laboratory of a high-resolution iron-free beta spectrometer, it has become possible to investigate nuclear level schemes in greater detail than could previously be done at this laboratory. This instrument allows the measurement of internal conversion spectra with a precision approaching  $1:10^5$ , and an automatic scanning feature makes practical the realization also of high statistical accuracy.

A study of the decay of 20-day  ${}_{99}\text{Es}^{253}$  was one of several that were carried out during the first year of operation, and it is illustrative of the type of investigation made possible by the iron-free spectrometer. The decay of  $\text{Es}^{253}$  gives rise to a number of energy levels in the daughter nucleus  ${}_{97}\text{Bk}^{249}$ , and the properties of sixteen of these levels have been investigated with high precision. Such properties include energies, intensities, and quantum characteristics of the radiations that de-excite the excited levels. With the data, detailed correlations have been made of the observed properties with properties calculated from theoretical nuclear models, with use of presently-known nuclear interactions and forces. The objective of the program is to obtain sufficiently precise data that they can be used with confidence in developing further the nuclear theory.

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

A. Ghiorso/T. Sikkeland/A. E. Larsh/R. M. Latimer

1/2/64

## BOMBARDMENTS OF Cf WITH VARIOUS HEAVY IONS

One of the objectives of this research is to discover elements 104 and 105. The research is done with special equipment during bombardment of californium with carbon and nitrogen ions. The equipment makes use of a combination of electrostatic and electromagnetic fields to separate short-lived recoiling atoms from the bombarding beam of ions.

Another aim of these experiments is to separate and identify new isotopes of the known heavy elements. This is being done mostly by chemical methods at the moment. A new technique is being employed involving volatilization of the recoils from a metal catcher foil followed by ion exchange separation and subsequent alpha particle pulse analysis. The relatively high vapor pressures of the heaviest element metals makes selective volatilization useful.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

I. Perlman/J. E. Clarkson

1/2/64

NEUTRON-DEFICIENT PRASEODYMIUM ISOTOPES  
IN A REGION OF NUCLEAR DEFORMATION

The gamma spectra following the decay of the Praseodymium isotopes,  $\text{Pr}^{134}$ ,  $\text{Pr}^{132}$ ,  $\text{Pr}^{130}$ , are being investigated to determine first-excited state energies of the daughter nuclei or possibly to observe rotational band cascades. Such evidence could help determine the boundary of a new region of deformed nuclei.

In this work,  $\text{Pr}^{134}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 17 \pm 2$  min.) was shown to have an  $\frac{E_{(4+)}}{E_{(2+)}} =$

2.53 whereas a rotational model would predict a value of 3.33. The value of the  $E_{(2+)} = 0.415$  MeV, does not indicate deformation when compared to the value for  $E_{2+(\text{crit.})}$  used in demonstrating this property. Another isotope,  $\text{Pr}^{132\pm 1}$ , ( $t_{1/2} \sim 6$  min.) is currently being studied to determine similar ratios, and  $\text{Pr}^{130}$  will be studied if the half-life is of reasonable duration for investigation.

In the course of this work,  $\text{Ce}^{130}$  was observed to have  $t_{1/2} = 25 \pm 2$  min. by following the growth and subsequent decay of the 0.360 MeV gamma ray in  $\text{La}^{130}$ .

Techniques involved are those of heavy ion bombardments at the HILAC on appropriate targets, fast chemical separations, and analysis of spectra by coincidence gamma ray spectroscopy.

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

J. O. Rasmussen/J. M. Hollander/J. A. Cooper

1/2/64

DECAY SCHEMES OF NUCLEI NEAR DOUBLE-CLOSED SHELLS

The energy level schemes of nuclei near double-closed shells are especially valuable for comparison with shell-model theoretical calculations. The level schemes of nuclei near  $\text{Pb}^{208}$  have already yielded much information on the proper force for shell-model calculations.

We are attempting to develop some energy level information on nuclei near  $\text{Sn}^{132}$  ( $Z = 50$ ,  $N = 82$ ) by studying decay schemes of short-lived fission products from a californium-252 spontaneous-fission source.

We are also studying level schemes of odd-odd nuclei near  $\text{Zr}^{90}$  (proton subshell 40, neutron shell 50).

I. Perlman/F. Asaro/R. Thoresen

1/2/64

NUCLEAR SPECTROSCOPIC INVESTIGATIONS NEAR THE  
DOUBLY CLOSED SHELL OF  $Pb^{208}$ 

The purpose of this study is to enhance our knowledge of the nuclear forces and nuclear structure of presumably spherical nuclei. At the present stage many of the measurements involve the necessary preliminary identification of nuclear radiations. An example of the type of measurements is provided by the recently completed experiments on  $At^{204}$ ,  $At^{206}$ , and  $At^{208}$ . By using different types of chemical and physical methods to separate astatine from polonium, we were able to show that previously-assigned longer-lived isomers of  $At^{208}$  (6 hours),  $At^{206}$  (2.7 hours) and probably  $At^{204}$  (25 minute) were illusions due to chemical effects.

The gamma ray singles and coincidence spectra of  $At^{205}$ ,  $At^{206}$ , and  $Po^{205}$  have been investigated and partially interpreted. More detailed interpretation in terms of nuclear structure will be possible as additional measurements are made.

I. Perlman/V. Subrahmanyam/F. Asaro/D. Mosier

1/2/64

NUCLEAR SPECTROSCOPIC MEASUREMENTS IN THE TRANSITION  
REGION BETWEEN SPHERICAL AND STRONGLY-DEFORMED NUCLEI

Very little is presently known about the characteristics of nuclear energy levels for those nuclei in the transition region. Nuclei in this region are thought to be soft toward "vibrational" deformation from the spherical equilibrium shape. As part of the program of studying the nuclear forces in this region we have investigated the alpha decay schemes of  $Pa^{227}$  and  $Pa^{229}$ . One of the problems in this region is that the energy levels are very close together and can be resolved in many cases only with high-resolution equipment. We are able to cope with this by using one of our high resolution magnetic spectrographs as part of an alpha particle-gamma ray coincidence system. These alpha-particle and gamma-ray spectroscopic measurements have shown that odd-mass rotational bands (characteristic of strongly deformed nuclei) still appear in the transition region.

In addition to the states characteristic of the deformed region, other states have been found in this region. More and different types of spectroscopic measurements should enable us to further characterize these latter states in terms of nuclear structure.

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Chemistry Division

I. Perlman/F. Asaro/F. Stephens/W. McHarris

1/2/64

NUCLEAR SPECTROSCOPIC INVESTIGATIONS OF  
DEFORMED HEAVY-ELEMENT NUCLIDES

The purpose of this investigation is to obtain a better understanding of nuclear structure and nuclear forces for those nuclei which have a permanent spherical deformation. The type of work can be illustrated by two investigations we have just completed--the alpha decay schemes of  $\text{Fm}^{255}$  and  $\text{Es}^{254\text{m}}$ . With our magnetic alpha-particle spectrographs and solid-state spectrometers we investigated the alpha spectrum of  $\text{Fm}^{255}$  and determined eleven energy levels of the daughter.

By various types of gamma-ray coincidence techniques we were able to study the quantum characteristics of these levels and show how they could all be described in terms of the Bohr-Mottelson and Nilsson theories for strongly deformed nuclei. The results were the first experimental measurement of the ordering of the energy levels above the neutron subshell of 152 neutrons.

$\text{Es}^{254\text{m}}$  has the same number of neutrons as  $\text{Fm}^{255}$  (just discussed) and the same number of protons as  $\text{Es}^{253}$  (which we had investigated in previous years). The investigation of  $\text{Es}^{254\text{m}}$  was similar to that of  $\text{Fm}^{255}$ . It showed that all of the detected low-energy states could be described in terms of  $\text{Fm}^{255}$  and  $\text{Es}^{253}$  states. In addition many of the alpha-particle and gamma-ray decay characteristics of  $\text{Es}^{254\text{m}}$  could be described by similar characteristics of  $\text{Fm}^{255}$  or  $\text{Es}^{253}$ .

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Chemistry Division

E. K. Hyde/A. Siivola

1/2/64

STUDY OF ALPHA EMITTERS OF PLATINUM AND NEARBY ELEMENTS  
PRODUCED BY REACTIONS OF COMPLEX IONS WITH RARE EARTH TARGETS

The Heavy Ion Linear Accelerator is an excellent accelerator for the production of nuclei on the neutron deficient side of beta stability. In the case of the interaction of  $C^{12}$ ,  $O^{16}$ ,  $Ne^{20}$  and such nuclei with heavy nuclei of the rare-earth elements it is possible to prepare isotopes of platinum which are extremely deficient in neutrons. Such nuclei decay by electron capture with rather short half-lives but there may be competitive decay by alpha emission. It is the purpose of this investigation to gather as much information as possible about the alpha decay properties of these platinum isotopes.

This is being done by techniques worked out previously in this laboratory for the study of alpha emitters in the rare earth elements. The platinum isotope produced in the target is ejected from the target into an atmosphere of helium, where it is slowed down and then swept out of the target chamber to a counting chamber. There it is caught on a surface located near a semiconductor detector. This detector records the number and energy of the alpha particles emitted by the platinum products. The mass number is identified by the variation in yield as a function of the bombardment energy of the heavy ion.

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

H. P. Robinson/Barbara Bailey

1/2/64

CALORIMETRIC MEASUREMENT OF DECAY ENERGY OF METASTABLE  $U^{235}$

The present work has been undertaken to resolve large discrepancies in measured values of the decay energy of  $U^{235m}$ . Values between 20 and 75 electron volts have been obtained by direct measurement of conversion electron energies. At these energies this measurement is difficult and subject to considerable uncertainty.

When  $U^{235m}$  is deposited on very small thermistor beads, virtually all the energy is converted to heat and transferred to the bead. The resultant temperature rise can be observed and measured as a change in the thermistor resistance in a sensitive Wheatstone Bridge circuit.

The  $U^{235m}$  will be chemically separated from approximately 7 grams of  $Pu^{239}$ , purified, and deposited on one of a pair of matched thermistors. About four half-lives will elapse before equilibrium conditions are reached in the calorimeter, so that a temperature rise of less than 0.001 degree is expected, corresponding to generation of  $4 \times 10^{-8}$  calorie per second.

The calorimeter has been built and is now undergoing extensive tests.

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

W. A. Nierenberg

1/2/64

NUCLEAR SPINS, MOMENTS, AND HYPERFINE STRUCTURES  
OF SOME RADIOACTIVE ISOTOPES

Present work by the atomic beam method includes a spin determination on  $Ce^{143}$ , magnetic hyperfine structure anomaly measurements on two isotopes of tungsten, a direct measurement of the magnetic moment of  $Pr^{142}$ , and the hyperfine structure of  $Pm^{148}$  and  $Er^{165}$ . Recently the spins of  $Gd^{153}$  and  $Pm^{148}$  were determined. Further work on the isotopes of rhenium is being started to determine the magnetic moments directly, and perhaps the hyperfine structure anomaly.

In addition, a mass spectrometer of the Pauli type is being tested; it will be used to detect stable isotopes, and allow additional hyperfine structure anomaly experiments to be performed.

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

M. G. Redlich

1/2/64

CALCULATION OF MATRIX ELEMENTS OF TWO-NUCLEON  
INTERACTIONS IN NUCLEAR SHELL THEORY

Calculations on the double-closed-shell core model have led generally to rough agreement with many data, especially energies, for nuclei with closed shells  $\pm$  two or three particles. Usually the interaction  $V(1,2)$  between outer particles has been approximated by a scalar potential. For  $Bi^{210}$ , however, recent work has shown that a central  $\dagger$  tensor interaction is needed to obtain this agreement. The purpose of the present investigation is to determine whether such agreement can be obtained with a specific central  $\dagger$  tensor Yukawa interaction which accounts for the data on the two-nucleon system at low energies. A recent, very general method is used to calculate the matrix elements as sums of type  $\sum c_m K_m$ , where the  $K_m$  are simple integrals depending upon  $V(1,2)$ , and the  $c_m$  will be calculated exactly on a computer, without any of the decimal approximations which may sometimes introduce considerable errors, using the new multiple-precision computer arithmetic.

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Chemistry Division

J. O. Rasmussen/N. K. Glendenning/H. J. Mang

1/2/64

## THEORETICAL NUCLEAR STRUCTURE CALCULATIONS

Nuclear structure calculations are being carried out in a broad program making considerable use of the capabilities of the IBM-7094 computer at the Laboratory.

1) The most sophisticated residual-force mixtures including the tensor force are applied to nuclei 2, 3, or 4 nucleons removed from doubly-closed nuclei. Detailed comparisons with experimental spectra are made to try to make definitive determination of the residual shell-model force.

2) The many-body problems of spherical, single-closed shell nuclei are being attacked by the powerful variational techniques of the Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer (BCS) approach to superconductors. Binding energies, nuclear moments, radioactive transition rates, and spectroscopic factors for direct nuclear reactions are being extracted from theory to compare with experiment. Emphasis is currently on use of more realistic forces than hitherto employed in such calculations. The usually-neglected interactions between quasi-particles are also being investigated.

3) For the deformed nuclei the variational BCS methods are being applied with simple but more realistic forces than hitherto used, and really large systems are treated. The wave functions from fixed deformation are being applied to comprehensive alpha decay calculations. The variational formalism has been generalized to encompass self-consistent calculation of equilibrium deformations themselves under influence of finite-range residual forces. Nuclear surface deformations of higher order than quadrupole are being investigated theoretically.

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Chemistry Division

S. G. Thompson/W. Swiatecki/F. Plasil/A. Khodai

1/2/64

## MEASUREMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF FISSION BARRIERS

Fission barriers are among the most basic of the predictions of a theory of fission. Since there is a scarcity of experimental data, particularly for the elements below radium, the first objective of this research is to obtain data from which accurate values of fission barriers may be deduced for a wide range of elements. The results may be compared with those calculated from theory and used to determine the extent of its validity. The related theoretical expressions and basic constants of the theory are consequently subject to confirmation and adjustment.

An example of a barrier measurement which has recently been completed is that of  $Tl^{201}$ , produced by the bombardment of  $Au^{197}$  with helium ions. A new technique involving the detection of fission fragments in mica was used to measure the fission cross section over a range of  $10^{10}$ , the lowest value being approximately equal to  $2 \times 10^{-35} \text{cm}^2$ . A new theoretical expression which takes into account quantum mechanical barrier penetration was used to fit the data, deduce the fission barrier, and estimate the range of validity of the values of the penetration factor. These results made it possible to calculate more exact constants for the barrier formulae and for various mass formulae.

The research provides a foundation for the determination of the extent of the influence of angular momentum on the lowering of fission barriers. A certain amount of experimental data already obtained may now be interpreted and compared with theoretical results. Further research may also involve the measurement of angular distributions and studies of the nuclear level structure in the neighborhood of fission barriers.

## PROMPT RADIATIONS IN FISSION

This research involves the study of the prompt neutrons, gamma rays and other radiation associated with the primary fission process. One example has been in the detailed studies of the angular and energy distributions of neutrons from the spontaneous fission of  $\text{Cf}^{252}$ , where it was found that approximately 90% of the neutrons could be accounted for as being evaporated from moving fission fragments. The excitation energies of the fragments, and the neutron energy spectra were also determined as functions of fragment mass.

A second example is in the studies of the prompt gamma ray energy spectra as a function of fission fragment mass. In this case, discrete gamma ray peaks have been observed which are characteristic of certain masses and the observations of the Doppler shift in the energy of the radiation has aided in the identification of the masses. This research is in its beginning stages and has considerable application not only to the study of nuclear structure in a region of nuclides not available by other means, but also to the understanding of certain fission phenomena, such as the angular momentum of fission fragments and its dependence on fragment mass and energy. The methods are applicable to  $\gamma$ -ray lifetime measurements and the determination of angular distributions. The possibility exists for studying the X-rays and conversion electrons from prompt fission events as functions of fragment mass. Such information is of considerable interest in connection with the study of the primary nuclear charge distribution in fission.

As a refinement of the general approach described above, some new methods are being developed for simultaneous velocity and energy measurements of fission fragments. The velocity measurements involve the use of very fast tunnel diodes to obtain maximum speed in timing. By means of these methods, it may be possible to make very precise mass determinations.

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S. G. Thompson

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### SPONTANEOUS FISSION

This research involves the study of trends in spontaneous fission half-lives, related systematics and other spontaneous fission properties which may eventually be understood in terms of a comprehensive theory of fission. One approach has been in the interpretation of half-lives in terms of the influence of the level structure on the passage of the nucleus through the fission barrier. On this basis, the half-lives of new very heavy nuclei have been predicted. The results indicate that a new region of nuclides having comparatively long half-lives may be approached for  $Z > 102$ , provided these nuclides have a sufficient neutron excess.

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1/2/64

### MASS AND ENERGY DISTRIBUTIONS IN FISSION

Studies of mass distributions in fission have long been subjects of major interest and speculation in fission research. The approach which has been taken here involves the simultaneous measurement of the energies of both fragments from fission events. The masses of the fragments are calculated directly from the energies. One example of such research was in measurements which were made on some rare isotopes undergoing spontaneous fission. Distributions in mass and energy were also studied for a wide range of nuclei produced by bombardments with particles ranging from helium ions to very heavy ions. These distributions are, therefore, obtained as functions of excitation energy and angular momentum of the fissioning nuclei. These results are directly comparable with the results of calculations on the basis of a new theory. The agreement is thus far surprisingly good and the measurement comparison will be extended over a wider range of elements to determine the extent of validity of the model, which is expected to apply, at this state, only to the elements below radium.

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Chemistry Division

T. Sikkeland

1/2/64

HEAVY ION FISSION STUDIES WITH VARIOUS ELEMENTS:  
FISSION FRAGMENT KINETIC ENERGY MEASUREMENTS

The method used consists of very careful fragment-fragment angular correlation measurements in fission induced by heavy ions. One detector is at a permanent position at  $\pi/2$  to the beam axis and the coincidence rate is measured as function of the position  $\psi$  of the other detector relative to the beam axis. At the peak of the correlation function the most probable intrinsic center-of-mass kinetic energy  $E_{cm}$  of the fragments is given by:

$$E_{cm} = (1 - n_N/m_{CN}) (0.25 + \tan^2 \bar{\psi}) P_I^2 / m_{CN}$$

Here  $n_N$  is the average number of neutrons emitted before fission,  $P_I$  the momentum of the ion,  $m_{CN}$  the mass of the compound nucleus and  $\bar{\psi}$  the angle at which the coincidence rate is a maximum. The quantity  $n_N$  can be deduced from fission cross section measurements (see above). By comparison of the intrinsic laboratory energy at position  $\bar{\psi}$  to the final laboratory energy as seen by the detector, the average number of neutrons  $N$  emitted from the fragments can be obtained by assuming the neutrons are evaporated. In previous angular correlation measurements the quantity  $N\langle E \rangle$  has been evaluated where  $\langle E \rangle$  is the average cm kinetic energy of the neutrons. Values for  $\langle E \rangle$  can thus be obtained. The results will be compared to liquid drop model calculations and to reaction theories.

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Chemistry Division

T. Sikkeland

1/2/64

HEAVY ION FISSION STUDIES WITH VARIOUS ELEMENTS:  
FISSION CROSS SECTION STUDIES

Fission excitation functions have been measured in reactions between  $O^{16}$  of varying energy and various targets ranging from Cs to Bi. In one set of experiments the same compound nucleus  $Re^{181}$  has been formed three ways by bombarding Tm, Ho, and Tb with  $C^{12}$ ,  $O^{16}$ , and  $Ne^{22}$ , respectively. The data are now analyzed and values for fission barriers are being extracted. The results will be compared to liquid-drop-model calculations.

M. C. Michel

1/2/64

## MASS SPECTROMETRIC STUDY OF INTERMEDIATE ENERGY FISSION

The recent increase in interest, both experimental and theoretical, in the nature of the fission process has shown that a more detailed and precise knowledge of the process will be needed to allow any reasonable theoretical interpretation. The present program involves the use of direct mass-spectrometric measurement of appropriate fission product yields in order to achieve relatively high precision and freedom from the more common systematic errors inherent in the radiochemical approach. This type of data is of interest in itself and in conjunction with the energy and time-of-flight measurements recently made possible by new developments in experimental techniques.

Two types of yield measurement are included in this research. The chain yield data are of fundamental importance in any fission work and these data are relatively rare for intermediate energy fission. More precise and more widely spread chain yields are becoming of importance for comparison with prompt fragment data from coincident fragment energy and time-of-flight experiments in order to determine the neutron yield as a function of mass number. This may be a critical property in the attempt to distinguish between possible "Two mode" or "fragment shell" hypotheses. Apparently only the mass spectrometric method is sufficiently precise to offer serious hope for success with such treatment.

In addition, measurements of independent fission yields can lead to a knowledge of the charge distribution in fission and again, because of the limited number of possible yield measurements, high precision is very desirable to allow any detailed comparison of different fissioning systems.

Much work of both types has been completed and this has led to the demonstration that the charge distribution in fission has approximately the same properties from excitation energies of 6 to over 40 MeV, the observed shift in most probably  $A$  for a given chain being primarily or perhaps exclusively due to neutron evaporation from the fragments. Preliminary results also indicate an unexpected variation of neutron yield with mass number which is in quantitative agreement with the two mode hypothesis and with the results of Britt and Whetstone from coincident fragment energy and time-of-flight measurements.

Even more interesting work is now possible with lower  $Z$  elements where the transition to the more "symmetric" fission mode occur, and on the possible effect of the 50 proton shell on the fission process as predicted from the correct fragment shell treatments.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

E. K. Hyde/J. Gilat

1/2/64

INVESTIGATION OF RANGE-ENERGY RELATIONSHIPS AND RANGE  
STRAGGLING EFFECTS OF RECOILS FROM HEAVY ION REACTIONS

The range of an energetic charged particle in matter is a matter of considerable importance to physics because the energy of such a particle must often be computed from its distance of travel in some stopping medium. It is also important to understand the rearrangement of electronic structures of the charged particle as it slows down. There are great gaps in our knowledge of range-energy relationships, particularly for large ions traveling at many MeV or tens of MeV energy.

The Heavy Ion Linear Accelerator is a useful source of complex nuclei of known energy for new studies of range-energy relations. There is a large class of products which are known to be the result of complete amalgamation of the incoming projectile ( $C^{12}$ ,  $O^{16}$ ,  $Ne^{20}$ , etc.) with a heavy target nucleus followed by the evaporation of a few neutrons. The heavy product nucleus is formed with a known energy.

The range of this heavy product in a series of target foils can be measured by radiochemical techniques. Alternatively, a gas-filled stopping chamber can be used.

A number of such studies are being carried out particularly for energetic nuclei of rare earth elements.

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Chemistry Division

E. K. Hyde/W. Treytl/D. Sisson

1/2/64

INVESTIGATION OF SPALLATION, FISSION, AND FRAGMENTATION  
REACTIONS BY RADIOCHEMICAL TECHNIQUES IN TARGETS BOMBARDED  
WITH HIGH ENERGY PROTONS, DEUTERONS, AND HELIUM IONS

The particle beams available for this project are the 6.4 GeV protons from the bevatron, the 730 MeV proton, 700 MeV deuteron and 880 MeV helium ion beams from the 184 inch cyclotron, and the 50 MeV proton and 100 MeV helium ion beams from the 88 inch cyclotron. The deuteron and helium ion beams of the 184 inch cyclotron provide an almost unique capability since only one other accelerator in the world (a Russian cyclotron) provides these projectiles at these high energies.

The goal of the program is to study radioactive products from targets representative of all regions of the Periodic Chart and to learn as much as possible about the mechanism of interaction of high energy particles with complex nuclei. The yield of the products are measured as a function of energy, and the recoil properties of selected products are investigated. The chief mechanism of high energy reactions is believed to be a 2-step process consisting of a fast cascade of quasi-free collisions between the incoming projectile and the individual nucleons in the nucleus and a slow de-excitation by particle evaporation and fission. The experimental results served as a test of the mechanism and as a means of determining the parameters in calculations relating to the two steps. High energy fission reactions can be fitted into the 2-step reaction mechanism but there are many factors of high energy fission which are distinctly different from low energy fission.

It is known that some products of high energy reaction cannot be accounted for by the conventional model of high energy reactions and must be the results of a fast, violent disruption of the nucleus called fragmentation. A major purpose of the program is to obtain more information on the nature of fragmentation.

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H. E. Conzett/R. J. Slobodrian/S. Yamabe

1/2/64

INVESTIGATION OF THE p-p INTERACTION VIA THE  
 $\text{He}^3(d,t)2p$  AND  $\text{He}^3(p,d)2p$  REACTIONS

Information on the p-p interaction can be gained by analysis of the energy spectra of tritons and/or deuterons from the respective reactions  $\text{He}^3(d,t)2p$  and/or  $\text{He}^3(p,d)2p$ . For example, in the (d,t) reaction a peaking of tritons near the maximum triton energy could be due to the influence of an unbound state of the 2p system; thus, from the triton spectra, information on this 2p state can be derived.

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Chemistry Division

H. E. Conzett/R. J. Slobodrian/S. Yamabe

1/2/64

POLARIZATION IN p-p, p-d, p- $\text{He}^4$  SCATTERING

A polarized proton beam of variable energy up to 60 MeV is being developed by making use of the large polarization induced in p- $\alpha$  scattering. The beam intensity will be of the order of  $10^8$  protons per second with a polarization of 80-100% over the available energy range.

Initial experiments will then investigate the polarization induced in p-p, p-d and p- $\text{He}^4$  scattering. Since little information of this sort is available at energies between 15 and 100 MeV, these experiments are important to the development of an understanding of the basic nucleon-nucleon and few-body problems.

J. Cerny/R. H. Pehl

1/2/64

## PROTON-INDUCED TWO-NUCLEON PICKUP REACTIONS

The variable energy proton beam (20 to 50 MeV) available at the new 88-inch cyclotron at Berkeley permits the investigation of both the (p,t) and (p,He<sup>3</sup>) reactions, neither of which have been previously studied to any appreciable extent.

The (p,t) experiments such as C<sup>12</sup>(p,t)C<sup>10</sup> enable one to investigate the energy levels of nuclei that cannot be studied by most of the commonly used nuclear reactions. In addition, preliminary results on the even-even target nuclei C<sup>12</sup>, O<sup>16</sup>, and Ca<sup>40</sup> indicate that the mechanism of the (p,t) reaction may be sufficiently simple to enable theory to establish the spins and parities of these levels. Particular nuclei whose level schemes are poorly or not known and which can be readily reached by (p,t) reactions include C<sup>10</sup>, Mg<sup>22</sup>, Si<sup>26</sup>, Ar<sup>34</sup>, and Ca<sup>38</sup>.

Studies of (p,He<sup>3</sup>) reactions can be carried out simultaneously with the (p,t) experiments using a new particle identifier developed by F. S. Goulding. It is hoped that the investigation of (p,He<sup>3</sup>) reactions will remove the ambiguity in the interpretation of the mechanism of (d,α) reactions, in which a p-n pair is also transferred. The (d,α) reactions can proceed by pick-up or, in the cluster model approach, by knock-out, while the (p,He<sup>3</sup>) reaction should proceed in first order solely by pick-up. Comparison of (p,He<sup>3</sup>) data on certain transitions to previous (d,α) data should clarify the situation.

Furthermore, there are several pairs of transitions in which (in isobaric-spin formalism) a (p,t) and a (p,He<sup>3</sup>) reaction proceeds on the same nucleus to the same final state, e.g., the O<sup>16</sup>(p,t)O<sup>14</sup><sub>g.s.</sub> (0+, T=1) and the O<sup>16</sup>(p,He<sup>3</sup>)N<sup>14\*</sup> (2.31 MeV, 0+, T=1) transitions. Since these transitions possess identical initial and final states, except for Coulomb energy differences, one would expect to find that the individual angular distributions could be fit by the same optical potentials in a two-particle D.W.B.A. calculation. Precise measurements of the (p,t) to (p,He<sup>3</sup>) transition ratio to these states will be obtained to check this assumption which may also serve as a check on the completeness of the optical potentials used in these analyses.

J. Cerny/B. G. Harvey/R. H. Pehl

1/2/64

EXCITATION OF HIGH-SPIN NUCLEAR LEVELS BY ( $\alpha$ ,d) REACTION

Studies of the ( $\alpha$ ,d) reaction on light elements at the Crocker Laboratory's 60-inch cyclotron showed that only certain excited states of the product nuclei are strongly populated in this two-particle transfer reaction. The strongly populated states were found to be those in which the captured proton and neutron enter the  $d_{5/2}$  shell, coupling their angular momenta to the maximum value of 5. The "core" of the nucleus is left unchanged in the reaction. For example, the spin-5 level of  $F^{18}$  at 1.1 MeV is very strongly excited by  $O^{16}(\alpha,d)F^{18}$ . Immediately preceding the final demolition of the Crocker Cyclotron, it was found that the  $J=7$  level of the configuration  $(f_{7/2})^2$  is very strongly excited in  $Sc^{42}$  by the reaction  $Ca^{40}(\alpha,d)Sc^{42}$ .

Reconstruction of the equipment at the 88-inch cyclotron is now complete. Preliminary tests show that far better energy resolution can be obtained at the cyclotron. Studies of the  $(f_{7/2})^2$   $J=7$  configuration will continue.

S. S. Markowitz/A. J. Pape/C. F. Smith

1/2/64

MECHANISMS OF LOW ENERGY NUCLEAR REACTIONS OF  
PROTONS,  $\text{He}^3$ , AND  $\text{He}^4$ 

Research is in progress to test compound-nucleus theory. One project tests, in a manner similar to that of Ghoshal, whether a compound nucleus such as  $\text{Zn}^{64*}$ , formed by different nuclear reactions of protons,  $\text{He}^3$ , and  $\text{He}^4$ , on the proper copper and nickel target nuclides, will decay independent of its mode of formation. Excitation functions are being determined for different radioactive products of the nuclear reactions mentioned.

To study possible "alpha-particle clustering" within nuclear matter and "direct" interactions, a program is being carried out to measure the cross section and recoil behavior of  ${}^7_4\text{Be}$  nuclei formed by the reaction of  ${}^3_2\text{He}$  ions with various target nuclides. The addition, possibly by a direct "pickup" mechanism, of an alpha particle,  ${}^4_2\text{He}$ , to the  $\text{He}^3$  projectile as the  $\text{He}^3$  passes near or through the nuclear surface region, should give information on alpha clustering. To compare and test the hypothesis, cross sections for  $\text{Be}^7$  formation from  $\text{He}^4$  projectiles with different target nuclides are also being studied. Because of the different binding energies of  $\text{He}^3$  and  $\text{He}^4$  species, it is postulated that  $\text{He}^4$  direct pickup should be more probable than  $\text{He}^3$  direct pickup to form the same  $\text{Be}^7$  product. The possible formation of the  $\text{Be}^7$  by evaporation is also being considered.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

George Igo/P. Darriulat/H. Pugh

MEASUREMENT OF THE CORRELATION COEFFICIENT  
 $C_{NN}$  IN p-p SCATTERING IN THE 30-57 MeV RANGE

The availability from the 88-inch cyclotron of intense (up to  $10\mu\text{A}$ ) proton beams of energies as high as 57 MeV with good duty cycle characteristics makes it possible to measure the spin correlation coefficient  $C_{NN}(E_p)^*$  in the proton energy range  $E_p = 30-57$  MeV with a far higher accuracy than previously obtained in the single measurement that exists at present in this energy range.

In the measurement, a 0.1" thick moving strip of polyethylene acts as a proton target and is bombarded with a proton beam. The unscattered portion of the proton beam is refocused by a quadrupole triplet onto a shielded Faraday cup twenty feet away where the beam energy, intensity, and position may be monitored.

Scattered and recoil protons produced in a p-p scattering event at  $90^\circ \pm 1^\circ$  in the 0.1" thick polyethylene foil will pass into a pair of polarimeters with an intensity of  $5 \times 10^5 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ . In the polarimeters, the protons strike carbon targets from which they may be rescattered into counters placed at  $45^\circ$ , left and right. The expected count rate for detecting an event where both protons are rescattered into polarimeter counters is on the order of 1 count/15 sec. Consequently good statistical accuracy may be obtained in a day's running time.

The quantity actually measured in the experiment is  $\langle P_A \rangle \langle P_B \rangle C_{NN}(E_p)$  where  $\langle P_A \rangle$  and  $\langle P_B \rangle$  are the analyzing powers of the polarimeters;  $\langle P_A \rangle$  and  $\langle P_B \rangle$  are to be determined by placing the polarimeters in a highly polarized proton beam ( $P = 0.99 \pm 0.01$ ) and measuring the asymmetries with P positive and with P negative.

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\* L. Wolfenstein, Am. Rev. Nucl. Sci. 6, 43 (1956).

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

Samuel S. Markowitz/Paul Reeder/David Anderson

1/2/64

NUCLEAR REACTIONS INDUCED BY  $\pi$  MESONS

The interaction of  $\pi$  mesons with nuclear matter is being studied to understand the mechanism involved. The Berkeley 184-inch synchrocyclotron is used to provide a beam of pions sufficiently intense (about  $10^6$  pions per minute) to give measurable amounts of radioactivities.

The immediate goal of the work with the pions is to compare the "simple" reactions, such as  $(\pi, \pi n)$  with those already studied at high energies such as  $(p, pn)$ . The first cross-section measurements at different pion energies were those with  $C^{12}$  as the target. Work is continuing with other light elements and with more complex reactions.

The excitation function for the reaction  $C^{12}(\pi^-, \pi^-n)C^{11}$  was measured from 53 to 1610 MeV by bombarding targets of plastic scintillator with pions. The intensity of the pion beam was monitored with a two-counter telescope and 40-Mc scaling system. The scintillator target was mounted on a phototube and became the detector for the  $C^{11}$  positron activity. Corrections were made for muon contamination in the beam, coincidence losses in the monitor system,  $C^{11}$  activity produced by stray background at the accelerator,  $C^{11}$  activity produced by secondaries in the target, and the efficiency of the  $C^{11}$  detection system.

The  $C^{12}(\pi^-, \pi^-n)C^{11}$  cross sections rise from a threshold at about 50 MeV to a peak of about 70 mb at 190 MeV after which they decrease to 30 mb at 373 MeV and are relatively constant at higher energies. The  $(\pi^-, \pi^-n)$  peak occurs at the same energy as the resonance in free-particle  $\pi^-n$  scattering at 190 MeV. Calculations based on a "knock-on collision" mechanism and "sharp cutoff" nuclear density reproduce the shape of the experimental excitation function, but the magnitudes of the calculated cross sections are low by a factor of about 5 or 6. This simple model indicates that the  $C^{12}(\pi^-, \pi^-n)C^{11}$  reaction occurs in the nuclear surface region at all bombarding energies.

THE ( $\alpha, 2\alpha$ ) REACTION ON SEVERAL ELEMENTS  
IN THE 100 MeV RANGE

With the availability of intense alpha particle beams of good duty cycle up to an energy of 130 MeV, it becomes possible to study the ( $\alpha, 2\alpha$ ) reaction in greater detail than before. Previous studies at lower energies ( $< 50$  MeV) or at very high energy (930 MeV) have indicated the desirability of 1) increasing the energy above 50 MeV so that, for light elements, the level density at the excitation energy of the compound nucleus, if it is formed at all, will be very dense and thus the reaction will be "direct" -- a direct knockout process rather than a two stage process, 2) increasing the energy above 50 MeV for heavy elements so that the outgoing alpha particle reaction products will not be inhibited by Coulomb barrier effects, and 3) decreasing the energy well below 930 MeV in order to obtain the necessary energy resolution to separate out reactions involving specific excited states of the residual nucleus.

We have measured the basic ( $\alpha, \text{He}^4$ ) cross section as a function of angle and energy. From this data, plotted as a contour diagram, suitable regions may be located where the cross section does not change too rapidly with either angle or energy, a desirable situation to have for the ( $\alpha, 2\alpha$ ) reaction. Necessary adaptation in the counter and scattering chamber design to obtain the optimum geometry are in process, and the initial state of research will concentrate on light alpha particle-like nuclei.

STUDY OF ANGULAR CORRELATION BETWEEN INELASTICALLY  
SCATTERED HELIUM IONS AND  $\gamma$ -RAYS

The  $\gamma$ -ray decay of the 4.43 MeV,  $2^+$  state of  $C^{12}$  in coincidence with the inelastically scattered  $\alpha$  particles populating this state has been studied using 40 MeV  $\alpha$  particles. This work showed marked deviation from the prediction of the simple Blair adiabatic approximation. The deviation can be seen in the variation of  $\Theta_0$ , the symmetry angle of the  $\gamma$ -ray angular distribution, as a function of the  $\alpha$  particle detection angle. The theory predicts a straight-line relation, but one finds a variation which is reminiscent of a tangent function. It is supposed that the adiabatic approximation becomes more applicable as the bombarding energy is increased. For this reason it is proposed that the  $(\alpha, \alpha' \gamma)$  reaction on  $C^{12}$  be studied as a function of energy. The 88-inch cyclotron is particularly applicable to such a study, as it provides a wide variation in bombarding energy. In addition, its high and uniform duty cycle facilitates coincidence measurements.

In addition it is proposed that an octopole excitation be studied for comparison with the quadrupole excitation described above. The  $3^-$  level at 6.137 MeV in  $O^{16}$  will provide a good experimental example for this case. It is one of the few examples of a nuclide where the  $3^-$  state decays exclusively to the ground state and not to some intermediate state.

Such experiments should provide rather sensitive tests of the theories of inelastic alpha scattering. Furthermore, they will provide general information which can be applied to other particle gamma ray correlations, such as  $(\alpha, d\gamma)$ .

## ELASTIC AND INELASTIC SCATTERING OF CHARGED PARTICLES

The study of the scattering of particles has always been an important source of information about the nucleus. (In fact the existence of the atomic nucleus was discovered as a result of such experiments). The availability of high energy charged particle beams from accelerators led to a vast increase in experiments of this type during the 1950's.

The 88-inch cyclotron is specially suitable for scattering experiments since it makes available to the experimenter beams of several different particles at a variety of energies. The use of a beam energy-analysis system, combined with detection of scattered particles by high resolution silicon counters, permits the experimenter to observe the excitation of large numbers of nuclear excited states. To make full use of the new possibilities afforded by the 88-inch cyclotron, several groups are studying the elastic and inelastic scattering of (mainly helium) ions in a series of separate but related experiments.

These experiments emphasize different aspects of the scattering process:

- a) An experimentally measured angular distribution can be analyzed in terms of partial-wave phase shifts. Hopefully, the phase shifts can be correlated in terms of relatively simple quantities of real physical interest such as the nuclear radius and the diffuseness of the nuclear surface.
- b) The elastic and inelastic differential cross sections may be interpreted by means of the nuclear optical model. Previous alpha particle scattering has been done at a lower energy range ( $< 50$  MeV). The higher energies now available make more extensive tests possible, and in addition, with the availability of a well defined beam, better energy resolution and more precise measuring gear, better defined data may be obtained.
- c) Since many excited nuclear states can be observed by energy analysis of the scattered beam, such experiments become of great value to nuclear spectroscopy. In this case, very good energy resolution is of prime importance but there is usually less interest in the measurement of very precise angular distributions.

## IN-BEAM SPECTROSCOPY FOLLOWING HEAVY ION REACTIONS

Work already performed here and at other laboratories has demonstrated the great capabilities of in-beam nuclear spectroscopy. Isomers and radioactivities with half-lives in the millisecond to minutes region can be studied very cleanly by conversion-electron and gamma-ray spectrometers in the off-duty cycle of pulsed accelerators such as the Berkeley HILAC (3 msec pulse, 6-20 times per second). Microsecond isomers and radioactivities can be similarly studied by pulsing the beam at this shorter time scale. Finally, the prompt transitions in the gamma-ray cascades following nuclear reactions can be studied if the number of types of reactions produced can be limited by the proper choice of conditions. The use of heavy-ion projectiles allows a greater choice of such conditions and of suitable reaction products than is possible with just protons or alphas, and the much greater amount of angular momentum imparted to the compound nucleus also has interesting consequences.

We plan to continue the present program of investigating millisecond isomers, as in the study of the light thallium isotopes, and to extend it to the microsecond region. We are studying the in-beam gamma-ray cascades in even-even nuclei which are the final steps in the production of these nuclei from various heavy-ion reactions. Considerable information on the levels in the rotational region (Ytterbium, Hafnium, and Tungsten isotopes) has been obtained and is being prepared for publication. More work on such rotational nuclei is planned, and in particular this type of study seems to be very promising for looking at the new regions of deformation. Nuclei in the vibrational region, (Osmium, Platinum, Mercury) are being studied now, and to confirm the decay schemes and spin assignments proposed, more elaborate coincidence experiments are planned.

Publication

1. Diamond and Stephens, "Isomeric Levels in the Light Thallium Isotopes," Nucl. Phys. 45, 632 (1963).

## COULOMB EXCITATION USING HEAVY IONS

Heavy ions have been shown to have some distinct advantages over light projectiles for Coulomb excitation studies. The most important of these is the increased probability for causing a given excitation. This means that many states can be excited directly from the ground state in sufficient intensity for study, whereas with light projectiles the intensity is not sufficient. Even more important, it means that states can be excited by multiple processes which cannot otherwise be reached by any direct process. We are currently making use of the large number of states so excited in studying the systematics of levels in odd-mass deformed nuclei. The collective states, because of their enhanced transition probabilities, are preferentially populated, and our interest has been directed primarily at the vibrational states in such nuclei. Several nuclei have already been studied ( $Tb^{159}$ ,  $Ho^{165}$ , and  $Tm^{169}$ ), one is in progress now ( $U^{235}$ ), and we anticipate studying several more ( $Re^{185}$ ,  $Re^{187}$ ,  $Ta^{181}$ ,  $Lu^{175}$ , and perhaps  $Pu^{239}$ ) in the reasonably near future.

A closely related study is that of even-even deformed nuclei. We have essentially completed work on two such nuclei ( $U^{238}$  and  $Th^{232}$ ) and here the collective states are almost the only ones populated. The three lowest-lying vibrational bands (K values of  $0+$ ,  $2+$  and  $1-$ ) are prominently observed in both nuclei. We plan to extend these studies in the heaviest elements ( $Th^{230}$ ,  $U^{236}$ , and  $U^{234}$ ) and perhaps eventually into the rare earth deformed region.

A very interesting subject for such studies will be the spherical even-even nuclei; and, particularly in conjunction with our in-beam nuclear-reaction spectroscopy program, we plan to initiate some studies of this type in the next year. The separated platinum isotopes have been obtained for this purpose. There is presently little known about the levels in this type of nucleus, and we anticipate that most of our effort in the next year may be directed toward accumulating information on such levels.

Publication

1. Diamond, Elbeck, and Stephens, "Coulomb Excitation of  $Tb^{159}$ ,  $Ho^{165}$ , and  $Tm^{169}$  with  $O^{16}$  Ions," Nucl. Phys. 43, 560 (1963).

N. K. Glendenning

1/2/64

THEORETICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF DIRECT NUCLEAR REACTIONS  
AND THEIR CONNECTION WITH NUCLEAR STRUCTURE

The theory of two-nucleon stripping or pickup reactions has been developed in such a way as to give a central role to the structure of the nuclear states involved. These reactions are particularly suited to the study of certain correlations in the nuclear wave function of the two transferred nucleons. In heavier nuclei they are probably also sensitive to coherent mixtures in the wave function that are induced by pairing matrix elements of the residual (shell model) interaction. The appropriate correlations and coherence are properties of only a few states in any nucleus and this gives rise to the large fluctuations in cross section to the various states, observed in experiments. An analysis of the experiments by the present methods, in conjunction with nuclear structure calculations, therefore can lead to assignments of spin parity, and configuration to the strongly excited states, some of which lie at quite high excitation. It also provides a check on the structure calculations.

## SEMICONDUCTOR RADIATION DETECTORS

Investigations in this area have covered all aspects of the techniques associated with manufacturing  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  detectors of all types, the theory of the devices and the electronic-noise theories necessary for an understanding of the fundamental limitations on resolution in energy measurements.

For high-resolution work with  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  particles, our emphasis has hitherto been upon phosphorous-diffused silicon junction diodes. In order to avoid the ambient sensitivity of the devices - due to surface effects - we have developed a technique for the passivation of the detector surface by producing a high temperature oxide on the silicon surface. While this technique is similar in general to that used in making planar transistors, the high resistivity of the bulk material used in counters necessitates studies of and compensation for the electrical layer normally produced at the Si-SiO<sub>2</sub> interface. Detectors made by this process show  $\alpha$ -energy resolutions as low as 13 keV (full width at half maximum).

Lithium-drifted silicon detectors are employed where thick depletion layers are required to stop particles (e.g., energetic  $\beta$ 's,  $\alpha$ 's, p's, etc.). The drifting process is well understood but again the detector surface at the edge of the Li-Si junction and at the opposite face when the lithium drifts right through the device present problems. Various "potting" techniques to reduce surface problems (the SiO<sub>2</sub> technique cannot be used due to the need for low temperature processing) have been tried and experience so far indicates that a silicon varnish or rubber may reduce surface problems at the junction edge. A technique has been developed to measure the approach of the drifted region to the back face of the wafer. This technique permits termination of the drift process just before the drifted region reaches the back face. Thus, over-drifting may be prevented.

Lithium-drifted germanium detectors for high resolution  $\gamma$ -ray spectrometry are being made in appreciable quantities. The drifting process is similar to that used in silicon but currents during drift are very large. In order to drift thick detectors without thermal runaway, automatic control of drifting is being attempted at the present time. These detectors are used at liquid nitrogen temperature and the design of detector mountings and the handling of detectors requires much ingenuity.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

F. S. Goulding/D. Landis/L. B. Robinson

1/2/64

## GENERAL PURPOSE PULSE AMPLIFYING AND PROCESSING EQUIPMENT

As a result of a program to develop a series of functional circuit blocks which find common use in many coincidence and amplitude spectrometry application, a very versatile transistorized linear amplifier and gating system was developed and is now in use. Specific functional units which form parts of this system will also be available as separate modules. These include:

1. Linear Amplifier - gain X 1000; rise time - 90 ns.
2. Low-Noise Preamplifiers for use with solid-state detectors.
3. A Scintillation Preamplifier.
4. Linear Gate - Speed  $\sim$  100 nsec; Pedestal etc. - 10 mV.
5. Biased Amplifier - linear for signals 10 mV over bias level.
6. Output Shaper - shapes a 1.5  $\mu$ sec square pulse from any input normally encountered. This allows use of optimum time constants to give best resolution and provides a signal suitable for Pulse-Height Analyzers.

Over twenty of the amplifiers are in use with no failures observed in several of these over a period of six months.

One unusual application of this system has been to select scintillation pulses from phototube noise by recognizing the difference in pulse shape. By using a good phototube we have measured a 5.9 keV x-ray with a resolution of 48% with noise counts above 2 keV totaling less than 1 per minute.

Units not mentioned in the above list permit use of two of the systems to carry out fast-slow coincidence experiments. The time resolution may be adjusted from 10 to 110 nsec and the pulse crossover system employed gives timing accuracies of about 5 nsec over a 50:1 range of signals of the typical NaI-Tl shape, (i.e., 0.3  $\mu$ sec time constant).

The testing of this system and pulse-amplitude analyzers required an accurate technique for measuring differential linearity. For this purpose, a generator of pulses whose amplitude increases linearly with time was developed. This unit, which will generate random or equally spaced pulses, permits testing the differential linearity of a system quite accurately. The ramp linearity is believed to be better than 0.25% but this is so much better than pulse measuring systems that no good measurement of the pulser linearity has been made.

M. Nakamura

1/2/64

## CHEMISTRY INSTRUMENT SYSTEMS

Various specific instrumentation projects associated with research programs in the Nuclear Chemistry Division have been undertaken. Examples include:

(1) The scanning and recording of spectrum lines on spectrographic plates. A commercial optical comparator will be used for measuring the spectrum lines. We are building the electronics for digitally recording the position and the intensity of the spectrum lines. The precision of the comparator is good to one micron. The comparator carriage can measure distances of over 10 inches in one scan. It is capable of accommodating spectrographic plates of 18 inches.

(2) The study of measurement techniques for fission fragment traces made in mica sheets: Mica sheets discriminate against all but the most heavily ionizing particles, making mica useful for counting fission fragments with no interference from other charged particles.

(3) Work has also been carried out on two techniques for stabilizing the calibration of amplifier and analyzer. The first is an analog stabilization scheme by which a single channel analyzer baseline is modulated around a photopeak, and gain shifts are sensed in the usual manner. The gain-shift correction signal is fed into a low-level amplifier whose gain can be changed electrically by this correction signal. The second is a digital stabilization scheme similar to the type first described by J. Ladd of Chalk River. We have adapted this scheme to simultaneously stabilize the gain of four parameters being recorded in our multi-parameter recording system. The correction signals for gain shifts are fed to low-level amplifiers in a manner similar to that of the analog stabilization scheme.

5A41

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

D. H. Templeton/A. Zalkin/J. D. Forrester

1/2/64

#### CRYSTAL STRUCTURE DETERMINATIONS

In this research, x-ray diffraction techniques are used to determine the structures of crystals of a wide variety of substances. Some crystals are chosen for study on the basis that their structures may reveal principles of the geometry of atomic arrangement or the nature of the chemical bonding. In other cases new compounds are identified by determination of the crystal structure. The structures of molecules, including the details of distances and bond angles, are determined when these molecules exist in the crystal. Some crystals are investigated because it is important or useful to know their structures for the interpretation of other kinds of physical or chemical investigations of their properties. Other aspects of this research are improvement of (a) the procedures for measurement of the x-ray intensities, (b) the mathematical methods involved in the interpretation of the data, and (c) the facilities for making diffraction measurements at low temperatures.

5A42

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Chemistry Division

B. B. Cunningham/J. C. Wallmann/J. Green/B. M. L. Bansal

1/2/64

#### CRYSTAL STRUCTURE STUDIES OF LANTHANIDE AND ACTINIDE COMPOUNDS

Crystallographic characterization of important compounds, especially oxides and halides, is a continuing project which is automatically extended to include new elements in this series as they become available. Recent work has included precise lattice measurements and thermal expansion coefficient measurements of  $\text{PuCl}_3$ ,  $\text{AmCl}_3$ ,  $\text{CmCl}_3$ ; structural identification and unit-cell size determination of  $\text{BkO}_2$ , and crystallographic identification of  $\text{PmF}_3$ .

Preliminary work has been done on  $\text{BkCl}_3$ ,  $\text{BkOCl}$ ,  $\text{CfCl}_3$ , and  $\text{CfOCl}$ , but not with samples of purity adequate for precise measurements.

Measurements with highly purified materials are planned for the near future and an attempt will be made to extend the crystallographic work to Einsteinium.

Katheryn Rajnak

1/2/64

CONFIGURATION INTERACTION IN  $\ell^N$  CONFIGURATIONS

A general theoretical study of the empirical analysis of the atomic spectra of  $\ell^N$ -type configurations has been undertaken. It has been shown that considerable amounts of configuration interaction are already included (to second-order in perturbation theory) in the usual fitting of Slater parameters and spin-orbit coupling constants. The origin of the "linear effects" of configuration interaction has been clarified and the formulation of non-linear effects carried out. With the proper choice of parameters (17 for  $f^N$  configurations) all configuration interaction may now be accounted for (in second-order perturbation theory).

Present efforts are directed toward applying the theory to the spectrum of Pr III and other specific cases where sufficient data are available. By fitting several different spectra one should gain a feel for the behavior of the new configuration interaction parameters as a function of atomic number and degree of ionization. It should then be possible to interpolate at least some of them to provide a guide to the analysis of other lanthanide and actinide spectra where less data is available.

Configuration interaction via spin-orbit and electrostatically correlated spin-orbit interactions has also been considered in the same light and theoretical work has begun on other electrostatically correlated magnetic interactions. The effect of crystal fields is also being considered.

Publications

1. Rajnak and Wybourne, "Configuration Interaction Effects in  $\ell^N$  Configurations," Phys. Rev. Oct. 1, 1963, 132, 280.
2. Rajnak and Wybourne, "Electrostatically Correlated Spin-Orbit Interactions in  $\ell^N$ -type Configurations," Phys. Rev. (to be published).

5A44

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

K. Street, Jr./A. S. Newton/John Olmsted III

1/2/64

METASTABLE ELECTRONIC STATES OF MOLECULES

The formation of metastable states of molecules, i.e., triplet states formed by electron impact, is being studied by a molecular beam method. Such states, which have lowest levels below the lowest singlet state and are normally forbidden in optical excitation, can be formed using low energy electrons by an electron-exchange mechanism. The appearance potential, excitation function, and cross section for formation represent the goals of the study of these metastable states.

5A45

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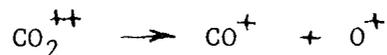
Chemistry Division

A. S. Newton/A. F. Sciamanna

1/2/64

MULTIPLY CHARGED IONS FORMED BY ELECTRON  
IMPACT IN THE MASS SPECTROMETER

A study is being made of the occurrence, stability, and appearance potentials of multiply charged ions formed from molecular species by electron impact in the mass spectrometer. Metastable states of such molecules and metastable transitions of the type,  $M^{++} \rightarrow A^+ + B^+$ , where  $A \neq B$ , will also be studied. One example of this latter reaction already studied is the metastable transition



which has a half-life of 2.2  $\mu$ secs. Modifications in our mass spectrometer are being made which will allow the study of such metastable transitions in any volatile organic molecule.

## MOLECULAR BEAM ELECTRIC RESONANCE SPECTROSCOPY

This research was undertaken to study the electrical properties and nuclear-molecular interactions in simple molecules, and to apply this information to the understanding of molecular geometry and chemical bonding. At present the principal method of investigation consists of the study of microwave rotational spectra and radio-frequency Stark spectra of molecules by the molecular-beam electric-resonance method. These measurements give information on the rotational constants, dipole moment, molecular-nuclear quadrupole interaction, spin-orbit interaction, and spin-spin interaction. In contrast to the magnetic resonance method which averages hyperfine effects over rotational states, the electric resonance method gives these interactions for individual vibrational and rotational states.

The molecular beam apparatus now in operation consists of a differentially-pumped four-chamber high-vacuum system, high-temperature-oven source, tungsten ribbon surface ionization detector with a 5 cm radius permanent magnet mass analyzer and electron multiplier, inhomogeneous (two wire analog) electric deflecting fields, and a 30 cm long electric Stark field region that is homogeneous to approximately one part in  $10^5$ .

The accuracy of the data obtainable with this apparatus exceeds in many cases the accuracy of previously available methods (low order perturbation theory) of theoretical treatment. Considerable effort is being expended in improving the treatment and programming the procedures used to analyze spectra in order to take advantage of these more accurate data.

The spectra of a number of alkali halide molecules have been obtained, e.g.,  $\text{Li}^6\text{F}^{19}$ ,  $\text{Li}^7\text{F}^{19}$ ,  $\text{Li}^6\text{Br}^{81}$ ,  $\text{Li}^6\text{I}^{127}$ , etc. The objective here is to fill in missing data on the alkali halides and increase the accuracy of previous work where this seems warranted. It is anticipated that the study of diatomic molecules will continue. Experiments on polyatomic molecules, both linear and non-linear are beginning.

5A47

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

D. A. Shirley/H. H. Wickman

1/2/64

STUDIES OF INDUCED INTERNAL FIELDS IN FERROMAGNETS

One of the best probes for studying the mechanism responsible for collective magnetism is the determination of the internal magnetic fields at nuclei of magnetic atoms. These fields arise from several interactions and their interpretation is seldom straightforward. When nonmagnetic atoms are dissolved in magnetic metals, however, only one or two of these interactions is operative, and measurements of the internal magnetic fields induced on the impurity atoms can provide unique information on these interactions.

Systematic studies are being made using nuclear polarization, angular correlation of nuclear gamma rays, and Mössbauer spectroscopy, to determine the variation of induced fields on nonmagnetic impurity atoms throughout the Periodic Table. Results obtained thus far on the Group IB metals indicate that the internal fields are correlated with hyperfine field interactions and with the magnetic moments of the host, and that the dominant mechanism is either conduction electron polarization, or less likely, polarization of the atomic core.

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

D. A. Shirley/H. H. Wickman/R. B. Frankel/M. A. Faltens

1/2/64

MOSSBAUER EFFECT STUDIES OF HYPERFINE  
INTERACTIONS AND LATTICE DYNAMICS

The Mössbauer effect provides a method of measuring gamma-ray energies with very high precision. The resonant gamma rays can be used to detect very subtle chemical effects by measuring the hyperfine splittings and energy shifts arising from these effects. We are interested in using internal magnetic fields, quadrupole coupling constants, and chemical shifts to study the electronic configurations in compounds and alloys of several elements, particularly europium, gold, and the heavy rare earths and refractories. Studies to date have shown that there is a large amount of electron transfer in gold alloys and that europous salts have a modest covalent bonding. Both of these results are unexpected on the basis of currently accepted theories.

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1/2/64

#### XENON CHEMISTRY

It is planned to continue the investigation of the chemistry of xenon with particular emphasis on those species stable in aqueous solution. At the present time our work is concerned with the mechanism for the disproportionation of Xe(VI) in several strong bases. The mechanism appears to depend upon the specific base employed. From this study we hope to learn more about the stabilities of Xe(II) and Xe(IV) in aqueous solution and to extend the work to the hydrolysis of  $\text{XeF}_4$  and  $\text{XeF}_2$  in acidic as well as alkaline solutions. The rates of several reactions investigated are sufficiently slow that kinetic studies are in order. We have completed a rate study for the reaction between  $\text{XeO}_3(\text{aq})$  and  $\text{Br}^-$  in acid solution. It is planned to do additional research on the reaction between  $\text{XeO}_3(\text{aq})$  and  $\text{I}^-$  in dilute acid,  $\text{XeO}_3(\text{aq})$  and  $\text{HO}_2^-$  in strong base,  $\text{Na}_4\text{XeO}_6$  and  $\text{HO}_2^-$  in strong base, and to investigate the disproportionation of  $\text{XeO}_3(\text{s})$  in strong base more quantitatively.

5A50

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

R. M. Diamond/A. Beck/J. Bucher

1/2/64

#### ION EXCHANGE AND SOLVENT EXTRACTION

Considerable progress has been made in understanding the ion-exchange resin elution behavior and selectivity orders of simple tracer cations and anions in dilute-to-concentrated solutions of several aqueous electrolytes. The results have been explained as a competition among water molecules, the resin groups, and the macro-electrolyte ion (of opposite charge to the tracer ion of interest) to solvate the tracer ion. An extension of these studies to non-aqueous solutions, or rather to mixed aqueous-organic solvent solutions is planned. Also, comparable studies with liquid ion exchangers, such as dinonylnaphthalene sulfonic acid, have been started.

The investigation of the solvent extraction behavior of strong acids with various extractants will be extended to less basic extractants, in the hope of observing the hydration of the extracting hydronium ion to the tri-solvated,  $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+$  species. With the better extracting agents, such as the amines, the behavior of complex metalo-acids will be studied. The solvation of other ions, anions as well as cations, will be studied by the methods already used for the hydrogen and hydroxide ions; work on fluoride ion is already underway. It is hoped to also study these systems by NMR spectroscopy to better define the part water plays in the extracting complex.

## SURFACE IONIZATION STUDIES

High temperature metal surfaces and mass spectroscopy techniques are employed to study surface ionization and to make ionization potential and work function measurements. Previous reports on this work have contributed to values for the ionization potential of uranium and neodymium and to values for the work function of polycrystalline tungsten, rhenium, and tantalum. On single-crystal tungsten, work function values for the (110) plane and the (111) plane have been determined. This work also has practical application in improved surface-ion sources for mass spectroscopy and in basic research in ion-engine studies. Of added interest are the possible chemical reactions of both the metal surface and impinging atomic beam atoms with oxygen, nitrogen, and fluorine at these high temperatures, and the influence of these elements on the thermionic properties of the metal surface.

Of special interest is the use of the above technique in the determination of first ionization potentials of some of the actinide and rare-earth elements. Equipment is now being constructed to facilitate this study.

Publication

1. "Ionization on Tungsten Single-Crystal Surfaces," J. Chem. Phys. 39, 1107 (1963).

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

B. B. Cunningham/M. Abraham

1/2/64

PARAMAGNETIC RESONANCE STUDIES ON ACTINIDE IONS

The low-lying electronic energy levels of various actinide ions in a lanthanum trichloride, or other crystalline matrix are being investigated by the paramagnetic resonance technique. To date it has been shown that in both lanthanum trichloride and lanthanum ethyl sulfate containing  $\text{Cm}^{+3}$  only a single resonance line is observed at liquid helium temperature. The observed line is attributed to a transition within the lowest doublet of the ground level  $^8\text{S}_{7/2}$ .

Owing to the high degree of intermediate coupling in the 5f elements, as compared with the 4f, crystal field splittings of the ground level are larger than  $kT$  at helium temperatures, accounting for the appearance of a single resonance line rather than seven lines as observed with  $\text{Gd}^{+3}$ .

It is hoped that it will be possible to investigate the isoelectronic  $\text{Am}^{+2}$  ion, but to date conditions have not been found for the preparation of a suitable sample.

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

B. B. Cunningham/J. C. Wallmann/J. Burnett

1/2/64

THERMOCHEMISTRY OF THE LANTHANIDE  
AND ACTINIDE METALS AND COMPOUNDS

The program is a continuing one designed to provide basic thermodynamic data on the transplutonium elements, and on selected lanthanide elements especially standard heats and free energies of formation of the aqueous ions.

To date data have been obtained for the ion  $\text{Am}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Am}^{+4}$ ,  $\text{AmO}_2^+$ ,  $\text{AmO}_2^{+4}$  and  $\text{Cm}^{+3}$ , based on microcalorimetric heat-of-solution measurements.

Currently measurements of the heats of formation of  $\text{Eu}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Eu}^{+3}$ , and  $\text{EuO}$  are being carried out. These results indicate serious errors in the literature values for the heats of formation of  $\text{Eu}^{+2}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{+3}$ .

The measurements will be extended as soon as possible to include  $\text{Cm}^{+4}$ ,  $\text{Bk}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Bk}^{+4}$ , and  $\text{Cf}^{+3}$ .

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

B. B. Cunningham/J. C. Wallmann/J. Green/J. Burnett

1/2/64

PREPARATION AND PROPERTIES OF THE TRANSPLUTONIUM METALS

A program of preparation and study of the transplutonium metals is being carried out for the purpose of clarifying the question of metallic valences in this region of the periodic table. Major emphasis is being placed on structure determinations, solid-phase transformations and magnetic properties, but the program includes melting-point and vapor-pressure measurements as well. To date metallic americium and curium have been shown to exist at room temperature in a double hexagonal closest packed structure. The metallic radii of curium and americium are quite similar, and magnetic measurements indicate a metallic valence of  $3.0 \pm 0.2$  in both metals.

Studies of metallic berkelium and californium are projected for the near future.

5A55

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

J. G. Conway/R. D. McLaughlin/A. Nichol

1/2/64

SOLID STATE SPECTRA OF ACTINIDES

The spectra of the actinides are observed by doping the actinides into single crystals of  $\text{LaCl}_3$ . In this crystal all the actinides are observed to fluoresce, and the highly radioactive ones such as Pu and beyond show a radioluminescence. This type of experiment together with the usual polarized absorption and Zeeman experiments has given valuable information about the 5f electrons and their interactions with the crystal fields. To date Pu(IV) and Am(IV) have been analyzed and the theoretical calculations carried out. This work gives a good understanding of these ions in the solid. Work is at present going on with Cm(IV) and U(IV). The work on U(V) was finished some time ago.

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Chemistry Division

J. G. Conway/R. D. McLaughlin/G. V. Shalimoff/E. F. Worden/ 1/2/64  
R. G. Gutmacher

## FREE ATOM ENERGY LEVELS OF ACTINIDES

We are presently involved in the work necessary to determine the energy levels of actinides. Work is in progress on Cm(I) and Cm(II) and on Dy(I) which is in preparation for the planned experiments on Cf(I). Also the spectra of U(IV) and U(V) are being observed in emission. Work on At(I) is also being carried on. In the cases of Cm and Dy the line lists are in preparation. Each element has on the order of 9000 lines to its spectrum. These lines are measured to an accuracy of 0.001 Å. Whenever possible, single isotopes are used. It is necessary also to separate spectra according to the degree of ionization. This is now possible with electrode lamps by varying the operation of the tube.

S. S. Markowitz/J. D. Mahony

1/2/64

SENSITIVE ACTIVATION ANALYSIS FOR OXYGEN, CARBON,  
AND OTHER ELEMENTS BY  $\text{He}^3$ -INDUCED NUCLEAR REACTIONS

A simple, rapid, and general analytical method is being developed based upon nuclear reactions induced by low-energy  $\text{He}^3$  ions. The sensitivity is fractions of a part per billion, and the precision and accuracy are about 5% at present. Microgram to milligram samples are sufficient and the sample need not be destroyed. The method is especially useful to determine those elements (for example, O, C, N, and F) that are difficult to determine at low sensitivity by conventional techniques or by neutron activation analysis.

The key feature is the use of  $\text{He}^3$  ions accelerated to comparatively low kinetic energies. The  $\text{He}^3$  nucleus has a very low binding energy of 7.7 MeV (compared with 28.3 MeV for  $\text{He}^4$ ). Therefore many of its simple nuclear reactions are exoergic; once the Coulomb barrier is exceeded the cross sections are large. In addition to the thermodynamic benefits, the resulting radioactivities are mainly neutron-deficient and are positron emitters; this enables one to detect either the positrons by conventional beta counters or their annihilation radiation, singly or in coincidence, by NaI scintillation spectroscopy.

Interferences can be eliminated or minimized by choice of  $\text{He}^3$  beam energy, reaction product, detection of radioactivity, and by rapid chemical separation if necessary.

The present research was carried out with the use of the Berkeley Hilac. Experiments using the  $^{16}\text{O}(\text{He}^3, p)^{18}\text{F}$  reaction, for example, indicate that the maximum cross section of about 400 mb is at 7.5 MeV. Therefore, a small cyclotron (about 8 MeV for  $\text{He}^3$  ions) would suffice to accelerate the  $\text{He}^3$  that could be employed to analyze for any element up to calcium,  $Z = 20$ , where 8 MeV is the Coulomb barrier for  $\text{He}^3$ . Such a cyclotron would be only 9 inches in radius.

The effects of trace materials on transistors, biological samples, surfaces, and other solid-state devices are often profound. The  $\text{He}^3$  analysis method is an effective tool for determining many trace elements in various matrices.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

S. S. Markowitz/M. L. Hyder/J. B. Nash

1/2/64

CHEMICAL EFFECTS OF NUCLEAR TRANSFORMATIONS:  
REACTIONS OF RECOIL  $S^{35}$  AND  $H^3$  WITH VARIOUS COMPOUNDS

To understand the mechanism of the reactions of "hot" atoms or ions with various molecules two approaches have been made. One is to produce a "hot atom," such as  $S^{35}$ , via the  $S^{34}(n,\gamma)S^{35}$  reaction with thermal neutrons from a reactor and gaseous sulfur compounds. The other approach is to attempt to produce a beam of low-energy (many eV) ions and atoms such as  $H^3$ , which will strike a molecule such as  $CH_4$  or  $C_2H_6$ , and then separate by gas chromatography the various tritiated products. The latter method is just being started. The  $S^{34}(n,\gamma)S^{35}$  introductory work has been completed.

The chemical behavior of recoil  $S^{35}$  has been studied in gaseous  $H_2S$ ,  $SO_2$ ,  $SF_6$ ,  $CH_3SH$ , and thiophene. The gasses were irradiated with thermal neutrons at the Livermore Pool-Type Reactor (LPTR). Among the effects studied were those of pressure, surface area, and additive gasses including argon, nitric oxide, hydrogen, and oxygen. The results are consistent with a model in which the original molecule is broken up in the nuclear recoil process and the resulting fragments containing  $S^{35}$  react with the surroundings only after they have been slowed to thermal energies; in general, the final chemical form of the  $S^{35}$  is determined by the chemical environment in which it is produced rather than by its original chemical form or oxidation state. However, irradiations of mixtures of several gasses with NO gave results possibly indicating that the chemical form of the  $S^{35}$  immediately after molecular disruption may depend upon the nature of the original molecule.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

A. S. Newton/A. F. Sciamanna

1/2/64

RADIATION CHEMISTRY OF SELECTED ORGANIC SYSTEMS  
AND THE ROLE OF IONS IN THE RADIOLYSIS PROCESS

A continuing study of the radiation chemistry of organic systems with special emphasis on the role of ions in such studies is being made. Systems of compounds such as alcohols, ethers, and the symmetrical dichlorethylenes have been studied in the past. Isovaleric acid, where a large molecular rearrangement occurs in the mass spectrum of the compound, is at present under study, with evidence that in the radiolysis of the gas phase such a rearrangement occurs but in the radiolysis of the liquid phase the rearrangement either does not occur or is small. Other molecules exhibiting large mass spectrometer rearrangement peaks will also be studied.

AXIAL MIXING (LONGITUDINAL DISPERSION)  
IN PACKED EXTRACTION AND ABSORPTION COLUMNS

Experimental studies of liquid phase dispersion are being continued, both in single phase flow and in countercurrent liquid-liquid operation. This work is being extended to include the case of pulsed operation, as a means of gaining additional insight into the fluid mechanical characteristics of dispersion, and also in order to evaluate the value of pulsing in a possible improvement of packed-column performance. Efforts are being made to correlate the observed variation in Peclet number (relative to unpulsed operation) as the amplitude and frequency of pulsing increase. It is also planned to measure internal concentration profiles under actual gas-absorption operation in order to verify the applicability of the theory and the parameters already obtained.

Extending the work of Jacques and Cotter in this laboratory, in liquid-liquid systems, the continuous phase Peclet number may fall to one-tenth, or less, of the single phase value at high values of the velocity ratio. By contrast, relatively high (and nearly constant) values are obtained for the dispersed phase Peclet numbers, whether or not the dispersed phase wets the packing. For both phases, pulsed operation gives a higher Peclet number than unpulsed. General correlations are still lacking, and physical variables such as viscosity and interfacial tension have not yet been studied.

A series of actual extraction runs have been made in the experimental columns, using di-isobutyl ketone and water with acetic acid as solute; and isododecane-water, with crotonic acid. The latter system has also been run with pulsing. Analysis of these runs is still underway. In general they confirm the dispersion coefficient values measured in unsteady state runs, along with the method of analysis. This experimental study of extraction is regarded as incomplete, and is scheduled to be continued during the coming year.

## KINETIC STUDIES OF SUPER-ACID CATALYSIS

This study has two longer term objectives: to determine the catalytic properties of near-anhydrous sulfuric, perchloric, phosphoric, acetic, nitric, and similar acids; and to develop the interrelations between mass transfer and chemical kinetics that apply in different contacting arrangements where acid catalysis is used. An intermediate objective is the development and analysis of a vapor phase apparatus for nitration of aromatic hydrocarbons.

As a basic step toward the thermodynamic description of mixed acid systems, the vapor pressure behavior of aqueous sulfuric acid solutions (in terms of water,  $H_2SO_4$ , and  $SO_3$  as the vapor constituents) has been evaluated from 0 to 100 percent  $H_2SO_4$  and from  $-50^\circ$  to  $+400^\circ C$ .

In aromatic nitration, the active intermediate species is believed to be the nitronium ( $NO_2^+$ ) ion, whose concentration depends upon the relative thermodynamic activity of free protons ( $H^+$ ) in the system. The relative rates of nitration have been determined by others for a limited range of  $HNO_3$  and  $H_2SO_4$  mole fractions. These measurements are now being extended to cover practically the entire range of possible mixture compositions, using different aromatic compounds that will undergo nitration at reasonable rates at temperatures near  $50^\circ C$ . Meta-di (trifluoromethyl) benzene is being used as the aromatic feed in the concentrated-acid region, and nitro-benzene will also be studied in the next lower rate-range.

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

T. Vermeulen/H. Otsuki

1/2/64

THERMODYNAMICS OF METAL-ALLOY AND FUSED-SALT SOLUTIONS

A systematic study is being made to develop methods of predicting the solubility, diffusivity, electrical and thermal conductivity, and heat of mixing of liquid-metal mixtures from known properties of the pure metals in liquid form. The interaction of electrons with metal cations contributes to most of the mixture properties; its effects are not particularly susceptible to theoretical calculation, but it appears that theoretically sound statistical correlations can be reached between each property and a suitably weighted combination of other properties.

5A63

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

T. Vermeulen/J. A. Saxton

1/2/64

MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES OF NONEQUILIBRIUM  
LIQUID-LIQUID INTERFACES--LIQUID-SOLID FLUIDIZATION

A water-fluidized bed of uniform glass spheres, and of mixtures of different sizes of glass and/or plastic spheres is being used to study the following measurable properties: viscosity, surface tension, diffusivity, and miscibility behavior. The kinetic theory of liquids in simplified form is being applied to such systems, based on the analogy that each spherical particle is the counterpart of a single molecule of a true liquid. The gravitational force exerted upon the particle in the fluidized bed is the analog of an attractive force between particles, and the drag by the fluidized medium is analogous to a repulsive force between the particles.

In cases where the fluidized particles separate into two layers, the boundary between them is expected to provide an analog for the interface between two ordinary immiscible liquid phases. It is hoped to observe the magnitude and nature to both mechanical and mass transfer effects upon interface behavior, so as to provide a valuable adjunct to statistical mechanical calculation methods and to macroscopic measurements and observations on true liquid systems.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

T. Vermeulen/A. E. Vandegrift

1/2/64

MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES OF NONEQUILIBRIUM  
LIQUID-LIQUID INTERFACES--STUDIES WITH THE OSCILLATING JET

The oscillating jet formed by flow through an elliptical nozzle or orifice has been investigated as a means of measuring dynamic interfacial tension in the 0.01 to 0.1 second time range. The interfacial tension varies with interface concentration of a transferring solute; the variation can be calibrated in separate equilibrium experiments. During mass transfer from the jet liquid to the surrounding liquid, or vice versa, a change in interfacial tension will be indicated by a variation in the wave length between successive nodes of the jet. An initial phase of the study has just been completed and a second phase will be started soon with the aim of improving the precision of the experimental techniques.

In the initial state, the mathematical behavior of the liquid-liquid system has been solved for the first time, with the aid of computer calculations; the exact solution previously available, developed by Bohr in 1909, applies only to liquid-gas systems. It was also necessary to solve for the radial velocity distribution within the jet, treating it approximately as being circular in cross section. These calculations are now undergoing further refinement preparatory to publication.

On the experimental side, about six satisfactory nozzles have been found (in the 1 to 2mm. size range, from capillary glass tubing) out of more than 200 made and tested. The apparatus that has been constructed and operated has been found relatively satisfactory for equilibrium measurements, but gives jets too short to be suitable for the dynamic studies. In this apparatus, the jet is injected into a stationary second phase. In future studies it is planned to have the outside phase moving in streamline flow at essentially the same velocity as the jet.

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

T. Vermeulen/M. W. Clark/T. D. Coughlen

1/2/64

#### LIQUID-LIQUID AND GAS-LIQUID AGITATION

Power requirements have been measured in the turbulent flow region for a series of rectangularly shaped vessels. The power number values for these experiments proved to lie between the baffled and unbaffled values for a cylindrical tank using the impeller.

Studies are currently underway to relate gas holdup to an impeller type in speed and gas flowrate. Further, power consumption is being determined as a function of these variables. An abrupt decline in the power number is observed with both increasing flow rate and increasing impeller speed. It is believed that the results of this study will aid in re-interpreting previous measurements of mean bubble diameter. The results are expected to apply to various types of absorption, extraction, and chemical reaction equipment.

5A66

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

D. N. Hanson/P. Rony

1/2/64

#### USE OF ATOMIC HYDROGEN AS A POSSIBLE REDUCING AGENT FOR PURIFICATION OF METALS

Atomic hydrogen is a possible reducing agent for removal of small amounts of oxygen from metals, in order to improve the ductility or other properties of the metal. Beryllium is an example. The brittle characteristics of beryllium in its presently available purity (100 ppm oxygen) are generally attributed to the residual oxygen. Chemical reducing agents, such as Ca, are not usable to remove this. Atomic hydrogen could remove the oxygen if recombination were not too rapid on the beryllium surface; available information on recombination rates at metallic surfaces indicates that recombination at the solid surface would be too rapid. However, no information is available on recombination rates at liquid surfaces. Since the metal to be reduced must be molten in order to provide reasonable transport of the oxygen to the surface, the recombination rate on liquid surfaces is important. The research under way at present is directed toward measurement of the recombination of atomic hydrogen on solid and liquid mercury surfaces.

## GAS-LIQUID MASS TRANSFER IN COCURRENT FLOW

The rate of mass transfer in gas-liquid systems is largely influenced by the amount of interfacial area present between the gas and liquid phases. For this reason industrial gas-liquid mass transfer devices generally contain packing of divided solids or are composed of sieve or bubble-cap plates which serve to provide a large interfacial area. In certain regimes of cocurrent two phase conduit flow it is also possible to achieve large interfacial areas per unit volume, but without the necessity of interposed solids. The result can be a more compact and inexpensive device. Although many studies have been made of pressure drops and factors influencing the type of cocurrent gas-liquid flow in a pipe, studies of mass transfer between gas and liquid phases are almost wholly non-existent.

In this project continuous flow test sections have been constructed of lucite pipe. Experiments involving the desorption of oxygen from water into air and the absorption of ammonia from air into water are being carried out to ascertain the gas and liquid phase resistances to mass transfer. The flow is maintained in the emulsification or bubble regime where the gas and liquid phases form a uniform froth rather than being stratified. The effects of both gas and liquid flow rates on the mass transfer are being determined.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

C. R. Wilke/W. Sweeney

1/2/64

## DESIGN OF LIQUID-LIQUID SETTLERS

This is a continuation of previous studies at this laboratory reported by Graham (UCRL-10048) and Epstein (UCRL-10625). The general objective is development of correlations and design methods for gravitational settlers for separation of immiscible liquids such as may be encountered in solvent extraction by mixer-settlers and direct contact heat transfer.

The present study involves separation of Arochlor (tetrachlorodiphenyl) and water in a rectangular vessel 4 feet in length X 6 in. wide X 12 in. high. A photoelectric probe is being developed to characterize the state of the dispersion entering the settler. Efforts will be directed to determining the effects of the entrance section design and mixing Reynolds number on the dispersion, and to determining effects of settler geometry and flow velocities under equivalent dispersion conditions.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

C. R. Wilke/V. Edwards/D. Sortland

1/2/64

## BACTERIAL CONVERSION OF INORGANIC COMPOUNDS

This project is a continuation of the work reported in the thesis by Leban\*. The program is aimed at establishing general design principles for bacterial reactors with particular reference to inorganic systems.

Batch studies have been completed on reduction of sulfate ion to hydrogen sulfide with *Desulfovibrio*. A pure strain of bacteria has been isolated and rate data have been obtained to establish general magnitudes and the effects of the various reactants on the kinetics of sulfate production. Adaption experiments are in progress to develop strains which are active in high sodium chloride concentrations of 18% or more. Apparatus for continuous culture experiments is under construction to gain more accurate knowledge of the rate determining variables. The process may have application in purification of brines. Plant design studies are in progress to assess possible practical applications.

Future work in the program will include separation techniques for bacteria and related problems associated with development of reactors of minimum volume. Use of microorganisms for isotope separations and concentration of ionic species from dilute solutions will be considered in future studies.

\*UCRL-10966

TURBULENT EXCHANGE OF MOMENTUM AND  
MASS BETWEEN FLUID STREAMS AND A WALL

The turbulent exchange of momentum and mass (or heat) in the vicinity of a boundary is encountered in several engineering processes. Many studies have been made of the turbulent transfer rates by measuring the gross properties of a forced convection diffusion system, but a considerable discrepancy has been found in the experimental results due to inaccuracy in measurements and poor definition of the exact conditions of the problem. It is noted that the measurement of the gross properties of a forced convection diffusion system does not give an insight into the fundamental mechanism of mass transfer into turbulent flows. For this reason, this research is undertaken to develop a more basic approach to the study of turbulent exchange of momentum and mass between fluid and a wall in several ways:

1. Theoretical expressions have been developed to describe the variation of mean velocity and eddy diffusivity in the vicinity of a pipe wall. Furthermore, using these distributions, new correlations\* have been derived to describe mass and heat transfer to a fluid in a fully developed turbulent flow in a pipe.
2. The turbulent rates of momentum and mass transfer to gaseous streams flowing normal to single cylinders are being investigated and a new correlation is obtained for the psychrometric ratio.
3. Mathematical solutions to a forced convection diffusion system are being obtained for the first time for the gas phase mass transfer in a cylindrical tube with constant concentration wall condition. Through the numerical solutions of the diffusion convection equation, the effect of the non-diffusing species concentration, the variation of Schmidt and Reynolds numbers and the entry length on the gas phase mass transfer coefficient are being investigated.
4. The experimental program involves the measurements of mean velocity and concentration distributions in turbulent flow of air through a porous ceramic pipe with mass transfer occurring from the wall to the gas stream. Experiments involving the vaporization of water into air are being carried out to ascertain the gas phase mass transfer rates. It is believed that from these results it will be possible to determine the effect of the mass transfer flux on the velocity distribution and the limitations of the theoretical analysis.

\*Wasan and Wilke, UCRL-10556, March, 1963.

5A71

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

C. W. Koch

3/10/64

SIMULTANEOUS ANALYSES OF ELEMENTS USING SUBMILLIGRAM  
AMOUNTS OF ORGANIC SAMPLES

The determination of submilligram amount of the elements commonly present in organic compounds is being investigated employing vacuum techniques. The simultaneous determination of carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen has been successfully scaled down so that 200-500  $\mu$ g samples are now routinely analyzed with an accuracy equivalent to that generally obtained for 5-20 mg samples ( $\pm 0.2\%$ ). The present procedure is being extended further to include sulfur. Work also is in progress to reduce the size of the vacuum system so that amounts of organic substance required may be decreased to 20-50  $\mu$ gs without appreciable loss of accuracy.

5A72

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

D. McColm/T. Hadeishi/I. Maleh/O. McHarris

3/10/64

OPTICAL PUMPING EXPERIMENTS IN NEON AND MERCURY

Experiments to detect low frequency rf resonances in both short-lived and metastable levels in neon are in progress. Electron-bombardment of neon gas is employed to populate the desired energy states; the spontaneously emitted light is observed.

In addition, an experiment is being performed on  $\text{Hg}^{203}$  with the aim of measuring its nuclear magnetic moment. Optical pumping is used as the polarizing technique.

5A73

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

D. McColm

3/10/64

COHERENCE EXPERIMENTS WITH LASER BEAMS

A study is being performed on the beam of a helium neon CW laser to determine its coherence properties. Special emphasis is to be placed on observing higher order correlations between the photons. Coincidence techniques are employed; photomultipliers are used as photon detectors.

5A74

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

C. J. King/C. H. Byers

3/10/64

#### HEAT AND MASS TRANSFER BETWEEN FLUID PHASES

The fundamental nature of heat and mass transfer between two immiscible fluid phases is being examined by means of both theoretical analysis and laboratory experimentation. The laboratory work is focussed upon flow situations where both of the phases present a significant resistance to the transfer processes. Of particular interest are cases (1) where heat and mass transfer occur simultaneously, (2) where there are relatively steep gradients in temperature and/or concentration, and (3) where various side effects enter, such as those caused by surface tension as density driven mixing processes. Initial investigations are concerned with smooth, laminar flow.

5A75

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Chemistry Division

C. J. King/E. D. Hausman

3/10/64

#### OXYGEN INITIATED PYROLYSIS

The effect of trace quantities of oxygen upon the thermal decomposition of hydrocarbons is being examined. A continuous flow reactor is employed, with reaction times on the order of 0.1-0.3 seconds. Initial oxygen concentrations vary from 1% down to 0.001%. Oxygen is found to increase the rate of decomposition even when present in low concentration. Particular attention is paid to the effect of the oxygen on the reaction rate and the decomposition yield spectrum; in this way it is possible to determine the mode of attack of oxygen on the hydrocarbon and to deduce the mechanism of the oxygen initiated decomposition.

C. J. King

3/10/64

## GAS LIQUID MASS TRANSFER

## 1. UNDER CONDITIONS OF EXTREME AGITATION

Rates of gas absorption are being measured in a continuous flow, rapidly stirred vessel. Several sparingly soluble gases are employed to determine the effect of solute diffusivity on the liquid phase mass transfer coefficient. The results will indicate whether or not the process can become turbulence-controlled under very high rates of agitation, and will test the surface-renewal theories of mass transfer. The study will also ascertain whether there is an upper limit to the absorption rate per unit volume in an agitated two phase fluid medium.

## 2. ADDITIVITY OF INDIVIDUAL PHASE RESISTANCES

Theoretical studies are being carried out to assess the classical concept of the addition of individual phase coefficients in the design of mass transfer equipment. Among the significant effects uncovered and explored are (1) the interaction of individual phase coefficients and (2) the distribution of surface lifetimes within equipment. These factors are capable of resolving seeming anomalies in past data and provide guideposts for improved design techniques.

Computer solutions have been employed to predict the interaction effect in a simple, countercurrent contacting of two fluids. The rate of mass transfer is found to be significantly higher than the rate suggested by the addition of resistances concept.

Warren M. Garrison

3/10/64

BASIC MECHANISMS IN THE RADIOLYSIS OF AMINO ACIDS, PEPTIDES  
AND RELATED COMPOUNDS

Studies include quantitative determination of reaction products and stoichiometries and identification of the intermediate processes by which the energy of excitation and ionization absorbed in the primary act is manifested as chemical change. Both aqueous and solid-state systems are involved. We find, for example, that the radiation chemistry of the simple  $\alpha$ -amino acids in oxygen-free solution is initiated by the reactions (i)  $\bar{e}_{aq} + \text{NH}_3^+\text{CH(R)COO}^- \rightarrow \text{NH}_3 + \dot{\text{C}}\text{H(R)COO}^-$  (ii)  $\text{H} + \text{NH}_3^+\text{CH(R)COO}^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2 + \text{NH}_3^+\dot{\text{C}}\text{(R)COO}^-$  (iii)  $\text{OH} + \text{NH}_3^+\text{CH(R)COO}^- \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{NH}_3^+\dot{\text{C}}\text{(R)COO}^-$ . Effects of side-chain substitution on the above elementary reactions and on competing reactions involving side-chain loci are being measured. Peptides in aqueous solution undergo OH attack similar to that observed with amino acids. In oxygenated solutions the peptide radical is removed in the schematic step  $\sim\text{CONH-C(R)} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \sim\text{CON=C(R)} + \text{HO}_2$ . Mild hydrolysis of the dehydropeptide (or its hydrate) yields ammonia and  $\alpha$ -keto acid. This reaction is being used to study the effects of amino acid composition and molecular configuration on the rate and locus of reactions of protein and synthetic polypeptides with the OH radical.

Many of the intermediates formed in aqueous solution are also produced in solid-state system. The radiation-induced coloration of proteins has recently been shown to be related to the formation of dehydropeptide linkages at aromatic amino-acid sites. However, long-lived peptide radicals ( $\sim\text{CON-C(R)}\sim$ ) represent the major degradation products in the radiolysis of protein and polypeptide in vacuo. The combined yield of peptide radicals formed in the  $\gamma$ -radiolysis of a variety of proteins and polypeptides i.e.  $G(\text{NH}_3)$  is in the range 2 to 4. Studies of gaseous products under identical conditions give  $G(\text{H}_2) \leq 0.3$ . Present evidence is that the reaction  $\sim\text{CONH-CH(R)}\sim \rightarrow \text{H} + \sim\text{CONH-C(R)}\sim$  does not represent a major path for formation of peptide radicals. Studies of gaseous products are being made with finely divided fibrils. When proteins and synthetic polypeptides in this form are irradiated under oxygen, the observed yields of both ammonia and carbonyl are increased by an order of magnitude. Oxygen is apparently reacting with states that are chemically ineffective in vacuo.

SECTION 5B

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY  
INORGANIC MATERIALS RESEARCH DIVISION

- 5B1 Metal Phase Diagrams
- 5B2 Thermodynamic Compilations
- 5B3 Radiative Lifetimes of Excited Electronic States
- 5B4 New Spectral Methods
- 5B5 Absorption Coefficients of High Temperature Molecules
- 5B6 Kinetic and Stoichiometric Studies of Hydrated Metal Ions
- 5B7 The Chemistry of Sulfur-Nitrogen Compounds
- 5B8 The Chemistry of Hydrides
- 5B9 Liquid Ammonia Chemistry
- 5B10 Ultra-High Pressure Research: Thermodynamics of Metals Under Pressure
- 5B11 Ultra-High Pressure Research: Resistance Measurements
- 5B12 Ultra-High Pressure Research: Heat Conductivity of Insulators Under Pressure
- 5B13 Ultra-High Pressure Research: Mössbauer Measurements Under Pressure
- 5B14 Nature of Ionized Gases
- 5B15 Photosensitized Ionization
- 5B16 Kinetics of Electron Reactions
- 5B17 Reaction Kinetics by Paramagnetic Resonance
- 5B18 The Kinetics of Chlorination of  $UCl_4$  In A Fused Salt
- 5B19 Kinetics of Liquid-Metal Extraction
- 5B20 Diffusion-Controlled Oxidation of the Refractory Metals
- 5B21 The Graphite-Hydrogen System
- 5B22 Elastic Scattering of Crossed Alkali Metal Beams

SECTION 5B (Continued)

- 5B23 Chemical Reactions Induced by Fission Fragment Irradiation
- 5B24 Low Temperature Calorimetry
- 5B25 Studies of Molecular Structure Using NMR Techniques
- 5B26 New Methods for Following and Characterizing Gas-Phase Species at Very Low Concentrations
- 5B27 Electrode-Electrolyte Reactions
- 5B28 Electrochemistry
- 5B29 Transport of Charge and Mass in Electrochemical Systems
- 5B30 Nonaqueous Ionizing Solvent Media, and Uncommon Electrode Reactions

For further information on completed work, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature and to the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, Berkeley, Inorganic Materials Research Division Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 1962, Report Number UCRL 10706.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Leo Brewer

2/10/64

## METAL PHASE DIAGRAMS

A preliminary evaluation of the fundamental electronic factors which can be correlated with thermodynamic stability of metal phases has been published. The Engel theory of metals was used to relate the structures and stability of metallic phases through the use of bonding concepts that are successful in describing the chemical behavior of conventional materials. The structures of the possible phases and their maximum composition ranges have been described in text, tables, and in the form of multicomponent phase diagrams for the various combinations of thirty transition metals. These diagrams are being used to guide choices of compositions for superconductivity studies.

Publications

1. L. Brewer, "Thermodynamic Stability and Bond Character in Relation to Electronic Structure and Crystal Structure," paper in Electronic Structure and Alloy Chemistry of the Transition Elements, Ed. Paul A. Beck, Interscience, New York, 1963.
2. L. Brewer, "Prediction of High Temperature Metallic Phase Diagrams," UCRL-10701, July, 1963.

Leo Brewer

2/11/64

## THERMODYNAMIC COMPILATIONS

Methods have been developed for the prediction of low-lying electronic states of gaseous diatomic and triatomic molecules and have been used to assist in the critical evaluation and compilation of thermodynamic data for the gaseous metal dioxides and dihalides. A similar critical evaluation of high temperature vaporization data and consistent estimation of partition functions is underway for the gaseous metal monoxides. The application of these data to high temperature purification procedures has been illustrated for removal of oxygen from metals. It is planned to illustrate the use of such thermodynamic data in the design of the high temperature purification processes for removal of iron from refractory metals.

The available data for nitrides, carbides, sulfides, and halides of molybdenum have been critically evaluated and estimated values tabulated when no data were available. During the next two years, it is planned to consolidate these previous compilations which are over 10 years old, to bring them up to date, and to compile complete thermodynamic tables for Mo and its compounds.

Publications

1. L. Brewer and G. M. Rosenblatt, "Dissociation Energies of Gaseous Metal Dioxides," Chem. Rev., 61, 257(1961).
2. L. Brewer, G. R. Somayajulu, and E. Brackett, "Thermodynamic Properties of Gaseous Metal Dihalides," Chem. Rev., 63, 111 (1963).
3. L. Brewer and G. M. Rosenblatt, Trans AIME, 224, 1268(1962).

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Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Leo Brewer/J. Link/A. Chutjian/R. Walsh

2/11/64

## RADIATIVE LIFETIMES OF EXCITED ELECTRONIC STATES

An apparatus for measurement of radiative lifetimes in the range of  $10^{-5}$  to  $10^{-9}$  seconds has been applied to fluorescent solids, organic compounds, and to the  $\nu' = 26$  level of the  $B^3\Pi$  state of gaseous iodine. Its use has now been extended to gaseous sodium and other atoms and additional organic compounds. Further work is underway using various atomic light sources to excite different rotational and vibrational levels of the  $^3\Pi$  state of  $I_2$  to determine the variation of lifetime with rotational and vibration excitation and to measure the lifetimes of various electronic states of the alkali metals.

Gaseous  $I_2$  has been successfully studied in a molecular beam and the method is being extended to molecular beams of the high temperature molecules  $LaO$  and  $CN$ .

Publications

1. S. J. Strickler and R. A. Berg, "Relationship between Absorption Intensity and Fluorescence Lifetime of Molecules," J. Chem. Phys., 37, 814 (1962).
2. L. Brewer, R. A. Berg, G. M. Rosenblatt, "Radiative Lifetimes of  $I_2$  Fluorescence,  $B^3\Pi_{0+g} - X^1\Sigma_{0+g}$ ", J. Chem. Phys. 38, 1381 (1963).

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LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Leo Brewer/B. Meyer/R. Walsh/R. Hauge

2/11/64

#### NEW SPECTRAL METHODS

An attempt will be made to develop new methods of analyzing electronic spectra. Absorption spectra of high temperature molecular beams have been obtained in an effort to establish the ground states. The polarization of fluorescence for molecular beams will be examined in an effort to detect Q branches and heads. The possibility of electronic Raman spectra of molecular beams is being considered.

It has been found that sharp electronic spectra of high temperature atoms and molecules trapped in rare gas matrixes at liquid helium and hydrogen temperatures can be obtained. Forbidden transitions such as the infra-red vibration spectrum of  $S_2$  can be seen in matrixes. The spectra of a variety of high temperature molecules in rare gas as well as polar matrices are being studied.

#### Publication

1. B. Meyer, "Vibration Spectrum of Trapped  $S_2$ ", J. Chem. Phys. 37, 1577(1962).

5B5

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Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Leo Brewer/M. Shetlar/R. Hauge/R. Walsh

2/11/64

#### ABSORPTION COEFFICIENTS OF HIGH TEMPERATURE MOLECULES

Measurements of absolute absorption and emission intensities of  $C_2$  and CN spectral features in the King furnace have been combined with estimates of equilibrium partial pressures in the King furnace to calculate radiative lifetimes. When directly measured radiative lifetimes become available for these molecules, the calculations can then be reversed to obtain accurate values of the equilibrium concentrations and free energies and enthalpies of formation of  $C_2$  and CN. Similar work is planned for  $LaO$ ,  $Si_2$ , and  $MgCl$ .

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

R. E. Connick

2/10/64

## KINETIC AND STOICHIOMETRIC STUDIES OF HYDRATED METAL IONS

The observation of the broadening of the  $O^{17}$  NMR resonance of water has permitted measurement of very rapid rates of water exchange in and out of the first coordination sphere of a number of paramagnetic ions. This type of measurement will be extended to other magnetic cations and the temperature range covered by the original measurements will be broadened to yield additional information on exchange kinetics and the relaxation process. An extensive set of data should reveal the primary factors controlling these rates of exchange. The change in the water exchange rate brought about by complexing of the metal ion by ligands other than water is also being investigated.

Work has started on measuring the number of water molecules in the first coordination sphere of diamagnetic cations whose exchange is sufficiently slow to yield a separate  $O^{17}$  resonance for the bound water. In certain cases it will be possible to obtain rates of exchange from temperature dependence studies.

Time permitting, determinations of oxygen bridging in hydrolyzed cationic polymers and poly acids will be attempted using the  $O^{17}$  NMR resonance.

Publication

1. Swift and Connick, "NMR-Relaxation Mechanisms of  $O^{17}$  in Aqueous Solutions of Paramagnetic Cations and the Lifetime of Water Molecules in the First Coordination Sphere," J. Chem. Phys., 37, 307 (1962).

William L. Jolly

2/10/64

## THE CHEMISTRY OF SULFUR-NITROGEN COMPOUNDS

The chemistry of compounds containing sulfur-nitrogen bonds represents a large, although little understood, branch of inorganic chemistry. We are attempting to systematize the reactions of these compounds.

Recently we reported four new methods for preparing NSCl and new, improved methods for the preparation of  $S_3N_2Cl_2$ ,  $S_3N_2Cl$ ,  $S_3N_3Cl_3$  and  $S_4N_3Cl$ . As an off-shoot of these studies, we are presently investigating the nature of the reaction of HCl with  $S_4N_4$ . The reaction of ammonia with  $S_2Cl_2$  to produce, among other things,  $S_4N_4$ ,  $S_7NH$ , and  $S_8$  is being studied to determine the optimum conditions for the preparation of  $S_4N_4$  and  $S_7NH$ . It appears that various sulfur-nitrogen-chlorine compounds are formed as intermediates in this reaction, and perhaps some of these can be isolated.

We have found that solutions of  $S_4N_4$  in tetrahydrofuran can be titrated with solutions of sodium naphthaleneide to form a series of species, probably of the type  $S_4N_4^-$ ,  $S_4N_4^{2-}$ , etc. We plan to follow the course of the reaction by measuring the u.v. absorption spectra and e.s.r. spectra of the solutions. Other species, such as the  $S_4N_3^+$  ion, will also be titrated.

The reactions of atomic nitrogen with a variety of sulfur-containing compounds are being systematically studied. So far we have found that sulfur vapor reacts to give  $S_4N_2$ , that  $S_2Cl_2$  reacts to give NSCl, and that  $H_2S$  reacts to give  $S_4N_4$ .

Publications

1. Jolly, Maguire, and Rabinovich, "Convenient Methods for Preparing  $S_3N_2Cl_2$  and  $S_4N_3Cl$ ," Inorg. Chem. 2 1304 (1963).
2. Jolly, Maguire and Smith, "Four New Methods for Preparing NSCl," Chem. and Ind., 1589, (1963).

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

William L. Jolly

2/10/64

## THE CHEMISTRY OF HYDRIDES

We have found that it is possible to prepare the higher hydrides of silicon and germanium, as well as their phosphorus- and arsenic substituted derivatives, by the action of a silent electric discharge on the simple hydrides. It will be interesting to compare these new compounds with the structurally analogous hydrocarbons, organo-phosphines, and organo-arsines in order to determine which properties are similar and which are markedly different.

We are currently studying the n.m.r. and infrared spectra of trisilane and both isomers of tetrasilane. We are now engaged in preparing the isomers  $\text{SiH}_3\text{SiH}_2\text{PH}_2$  and  $\text{SiH}_3\text{PHSiH}_3$  in large enough quantities to permit the measurement of their physical and chemical properties. By studying the effect of the electric discharge on mixtures of  $\text{SiH}_4$  and  $\text{SiH}_3\text{PH}_2$ , and of  $\text{Si}_2\text{H}_6$  and  $\text{PH}_3$ , we hope to get an insight to the mechanism of the discharge tube reaction.

We plan to study the reactivity of species such as germane and digermane with the borohydride ion. Preliminary data suggest that it is possible to prepare the ion  $\text{GeH}_3\text{BH}_3^-$ .

Practically nothing is known of the mechanism whereby the borohydride ion reduces inorganic species in aqueous solution. As a start toward obtaining this information, we are studying the kinetics of the reduction of ferricyanide to ferrocyanide.

Publication

1. Jolly, "Hydrides of Germanium, Tin, Arsenic and Antimony," Inorg. Synthesis, 1, 34 (1963).

William L. Jolly

2/10/64

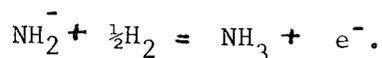
## LIQUID AMMONIA CHEMISTRY

We have recently completed studies of the absorption spectrum of calcium in liquid ammonia and the calcium-ammonia phase diagram. Projected studies in liquid ammonia chemistry include:

(1) A study of the kinetics of the reactions of the electron with various species such as  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ,  $\text{ROH}$ ,  $\text{NO}_2^-$ ,  $\text{MnO}_4^-$ , etc. It will be interesting to compare the rate constants for these reactions with the rate constants for the corresponding reactions in aqueous solutions.

(2) A study of the rates of proton exchange reactions in liquid ammonia by means of n.m.r. measurements. Such rates are often acid- or base-catalyzed, so it may be possible to establish a relative acidity scale in liquid ammonia. This would be extremely useful in other physical chemical studies in this solvent.

(3) A direct measurement of the equilibrium constant of the reaction

Publication

1. Jolly and Hollada, "Absorption Spectra of Calcium-Ammonia Solutions," *Inorg. Chem.* 2, 1076 (1963).

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Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

George Jura

2/11/64

ULTRA-HIGH PRESSURE RESEARCH:  
THERMODYNAMICS OF METALS UNDER PRESSURE

One of the objectives of the high pressure program is the determination of the thermodynamic properties of materials under high pressures. Except for very special cases, namely hydrogen at helium temperatures, no direct measurement of a high pressure thermal property of any solid has been made. The difficulty in these measurements is that the heat capacity of the container is much larger than the heat capacity of the system under consideration. Also, the heat leak is very large. We believe that in the case of metals these difficulties can be solved through the measurement of electrical resistance.

Since the resistance of a metal can be determined as a function of the temperature, the temperature can be determined by a resistance measurement. If a pulse of electrical energy is passed through the sample, heating it, the energy in the pulse and the rise in resistance (temperature) can both be measured. If the pulse is of sufficiently short duration, and if the resistance measurement is made rapidly enough, then the average heat capacity between the original and final temperature may be determined. By using various starting temperatures, this data can be differentiated and the actual heat capacity determined as a function of the temperature and pressure of the sample. Calculations of the thermal conductivity of silver chloride show that in 2 microseconds less than 1% of the heat will be conducted away from the sample if the temperature rise of the sample is about 200°C. In order to raise the temperature of the sample this much, the pulse must have an energy of about 0.2 joules, delivered in less than one microsecond.

Resistance measurements in a short time period is not difficult. It is hoped that the electrical problems of switching and obtaining a sufficiently large pulse of energy in the necessary time will be solved during the next six months.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

George Jura

2/11/64

## ULTRA-HIGH PRESSURE RESEARCH: RESISTANCE MEASUREMENTS

Reliable resistance measurements can now be made with an accuracy of 0.01%. The major effort at the present time is directed toward an extension of the working temperature range from 77°K to about 600°K. In order to obtain higher temperatures it has been necessary to use more complex pressure devices than Bridgman anvils. By using resistive heating we have reached a temperature of at least 1400°K, with no damage to anvils.

The technique of internal heating is a definite asset in the study of phase transformation under pressure. Preliminary studies of iron and bismuth have been made. The iron transition has been difficult to study under nearly hydrostatic conditions, since the transformation would start sometimes at a pressure of 160 kbars and at other times at a pressure over 200 kbars although even when the transition has been as highly overdriven, the transition would still take about 50 kbars to be completed. Preliminary measurements using internal heating give a sharp transition at about 110 kbars.

The bismuth 6-8 transition has been surveyed. By judicious heating it has been possible to transform the material to the two-phase region, and watch one of the phases grow at the expense of the other.

With this technique, the preliminary value for this transition is 80 kbars, as compared to the previously determined 88 kbars.

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Research Division

George Jura

2/11/64

ULTRA-HIGH PRESSURE RESEARCH:  
HEAT CONDUCTIVITY OF INSULATORS UNDER PRESSURE

This measurement is a byproduct of our early attempts to determine the heat capacities of metals. We have found that after heavily pulsing a metal sample, and then following the resistance as a function of time, the temperature decay is controlled by the temperature of the medium rather than that of the sample. By placing probes at various positions with respect to the sample, it is possible to determine the temperature gradient in the insulator. By measuring the energy input in a steady state, it becomes possible to determine the flow of heat through the insulating material. If these measurements could be carried out over a sufficiently wide range of temperatures, it would become possible to approximate, among other quantities, the Debye temperature of the insulator.

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Research Division

George Jura

2/11/64

ULTRA-HIGH PRESSURE RESEARCH:  
MOSSBAUER MEASUREMENTS UNDER PRESSURE

Determinations of the Mossbauer effect under pressure with  $Dy^{161}$  and  $Fe^{57}$  show the importance of this technique in high pressure studies. In the case of iron, the experiments became impossible when the data became the most interesting; when the iron started to transform to the high pressure phase. The first experiments did not permit us to conclude studies of the magnetic nature of the high pressure phase.

Studies of the geometry and containing rings are under progress. These studies will enable us to make determinations at higher pressures. Other physical methods, namely heating, will enable us to determine the spectrum of iron after it has been completely transformed to the high pressure phase. This in turn will enable us to determine the magnetic properties of the high pressure form. There also will be an attempt to make these determinations as a function of temperatures as well as pressure. In general when a Mossbauer nucleus is available, it will be possible in many cases to determine the magnetic properties of the material under study as a function of interatomic distance. These results could be important in the understanding of the ferromagnetic state.

In the  $Dy^{161}$  work, we found that under certain circumstances placing the sample under pressure induced the formation of a high resolution spectrum. The development of a hyperfine structure, and the increase in the separation of lines with pressure developed an increasingly complex fine structure to a pressure of 50 kbars. Above this pressure no further resolution of the spectrum occurred. It is our belief that it was the absorber that was limiting the resolution. We are now building a system whereby the absorber can be maintained at any temperature down to helium temperatures. This system which will be of value for many systems, will be tested with a solution of gold in iron.

Publication

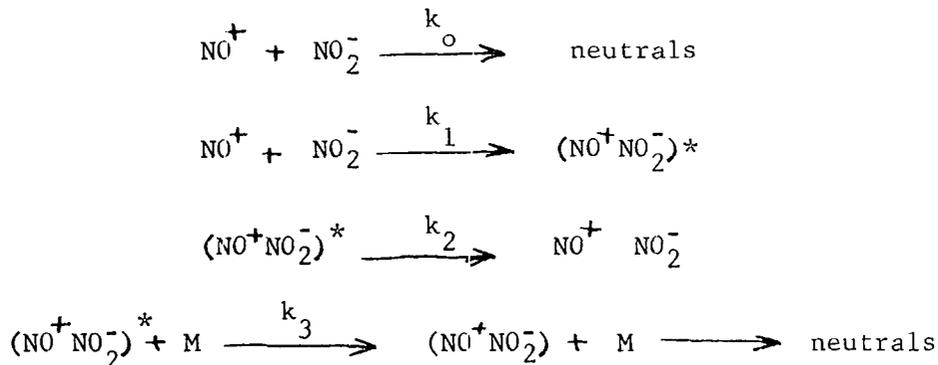
1. Jura and Nicol, "The Effect of Pressure on the Mossbauer Spectrum of  $Fe^{57}$  in Iron Metal," *Science*, 141, 3585, 1035-38 (1963).

B. H. Mahan

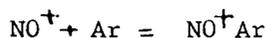
2/10/64

## NATURE OF IONIZED GASES

The rates of mutual charge neutralization of gaseous ions have been investigated. For example, the rate constants for the following processes have been determined:



Here,  $(\text{NO}^+\text{NO}_2^-)^*$  is a pair of ions close to each other, but with enough energy to separate,  $(\text{NO}^+\text{NO}_2^-)$  is a pair of ions that are bound to each other, and M is a molecule of a neutral inert gas. In order to understand the magnitudes of these rate constants, it is important to know what fraction of the ions are tied up in complexes with the inert neutral molecules. That is, we must know the value of the equilibrium constant for



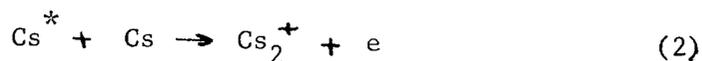
and other similar reactions. We have begun the construction of a mass spectrometer which will examine these ionized gases and which will be used to determine equilibrium constants as a function of temperature. This investigation will give us information about the magnitudes of ion-neutral binding energies, as well as the data necessary to understand ion neutralization rates.

B. H. Mahan

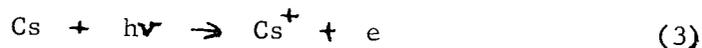
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## PHOTOSENSITIZED IONIZATION

The ionization resulting from the reactions of electronically excited atoms is being studied. At present, we are trying to find the threshold frequency for the reaction



The difference between the threshold energy for this ionization process and for the direct photoionization of the cesium atom



is a lower limit for the bond energy in  $\text{CS}_2$ . This type of measurement will be extended to the other alkali metals to determine the bond energies in  $\text{Na}_2$ ,  $\text{K}_2$ , and  $\text{Rb}_2$ . These bond energies are of fundamental interest, since the one electron bonds are the simplest possible.

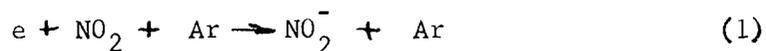
The second part of this problem is to determine the rates of processes represented by reaction (2). The electronic state represented by  $\text{Cs}^*$  will be known, and the whole system can be described in terms of rather simple wave functions. Thus it may be possible to make a meaningful comparison between experimental and calculated reaction cross sections.

B. H. Mahan

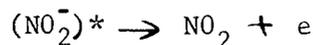
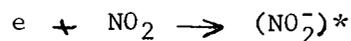
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## KINETICS OF ELECTRON REACTIONS

By using microwave cavity resonance techniques, it is possible to measure the concentration of gaseous thermal electrons. This method can be used to study the kinetics of the elementary reactions of electrons. For example,



are three different types of reactions that gaseous electrons undergo. Reaction (1) is presently under investigation. It is of practical interest because  $\text{NO}_2^-$  is an important negative ion in the upper atmosphere. The theoretical analysis of such a reaction in which the de Broglie wave length of the electron is large compared to the extent of the fields of the molecules is possible, and indicates that the data can be analyzed to give a limit for the lifetime of the electron on  $\text{NO}_2$  in the process.

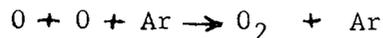


B. H. Mahan/R. Myers

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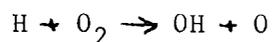
## REACTION KINETICS BY PARAMAGNETIC RESONANCE

Electron paramagnetic resonance permits the direct observation of gaseous free radicals, and can be used to study the rates of their chemical reactions. There are no completely satisfactory measurements of the rates of



and we intend to determine the rate constants for these reactions within the next year. They are of particular interest because the potential energy surfaces are well known, and the rate data can be interpreted theoretically.

As a second part of the program, metathetical free radical reactions will be studied. For example,



are reactions in which both product and reactant radicals can be detected. This allows a more certain determination of reaction mechanisms and rate constants in these potentially more complicated systems to be made, and in some cases gives rate information that cannot be obtained by any other technique.

Donald R. Olander

2/10/64

THE KINETICS OF CHLORINATION OF  $UCl_4$  IN A FUSED SALT

This program is concerned with investigating the kinetics of the reaction:  $UCl_4(l) + Cl_2(g) \rightarrow UCl_6(g)$ , which occurs at the interface between a fused  $UCl_4$ - $LiCl$ - $KCl$  salt mixture and an atmosphere of chlorine gas. The process involves diffusional transport of the reactants to the phase boundary, chemical conversion at the interface, and removal of the reaction products to the bulk phases. The overall rate depends upon the relative magnitudes of the diffusion and chemical reaction steps.

In order to permit direct calculation of the mass transfer contribution from experimental data, a laminar jet contacting device is employed. The nickel reaction vessel is approximately 10" high and 4" in diameter. It is divided into two sections by a nickel plate which is pierced by a 1 mm orifice. The molten salt (containing  $UCl_4$ ) is fed to the upper section from a feed tank and is maintained at a constant level by a level controller. The jet exiting from the orifice leaves the reaction section via a 2 mm capillary, and is collected in a receiving tank.

Preheated chlorine gas is fed to the bottom section of the vessel and removed (along with any  $UCl_6$  formed) at the middle. The exit gas is then analyzed for  $UCl_6$ . In order to ascertain that the jet is operating properly and not spilling over the capillary, a quartz window and a mirror are provided for direct observation. The entire vessel is placed in a resistance furnace which provides temperatures of 400-600°C.

A theoretical investigation of diffusion limited surface reactions in this system, based upon boundary layer approximations to the gas phase hydrodynamics, is also being conducted.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Donald R. Olander

2/10/64

## KINETICS OF LIQUID-METAL EXTRACTION

This study is concerned with the kinetics of extraction of a solute metal between two liquid-metal solvents. Radioactive cerium metal is to be extracted from a molten uranium-chromium eutectic drop as it falls through liquid magnesium.

The extraction kinetics will be studied in a 2" diameter, 4' high tantalum tube containing 2 kg of molten magnesium metal at 860-900°C. The magnesium metal floats on a layer of fused sodium chloride-potassium chloride-mixed salt. A solid pellet of the uranium-chromium eutectic  $\sim 1$  mm in diameter is dropped into the top of the column, melted in the magnesium layer and resolidified as it passes through the salt layer, which is held below the melting point of the drop material. Each small droplet contain  $\sim 1$  mc of total activity, obtained by irradiation in the Livermore reactor. This radioactivity enables radiation detectors to follow the progress of the drop down the column, and permits rapid analysis of the cerium content before and after extraction. The solidified drop is removed from the column by valves and falls into a container which is held in a lead cask. Similar drop extractors have been used for pyrometallurgical studies at the Brookhaven National Laboratory.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Donald R. Olander

2/10/64

## DIFFUSION-CONTROLLED OXIDATION OF THE REFRACTORY METALS

The oxides of the refractory metals molybdenum, tungsten, tantalum, and niobium melt or sublime at temperatures considerably lower than the melting point of the parent metal. The absence of a protective oxide coating in high temperature oxidizing atmospheres implies that the rate of oxidation will be controlled either by the chemical kinetics of the surface reaction or by the diffusional resistance to oxygen transport to the surface or metal oxide removal from the surface; the importance of both of these steps has been demonstrated in the case of molybdenum.

The kinetics of the oxidation of these refractory metals will be studied at temperatures in the neighborhood of the sublimation point of the principal oxide in a device which permits accurate estimation of the diffusional resistance.

The material to be studied initially is molybdenum; its volatile oxide ( $\text{MoO}_3$ ) sublimates at  $1150^\circ\text{C}$ , nearly  $1500^\circ\text{C}$  below the melting point of the metal. The flow system to be used is the rotating disk, for which the combined momentum, energy and diffusion equations are amenable to exact numerical solution. Since at the temperatures of interest, both chemical reactions and diffusion offer important resistance to oxidation, a system of predictable hydrodynamic and diffusional properties is necessary for the evaluation of the chemical rate constant from the overall kinetic data.

Donald R. Olander

2/10/64

## THE GRAPHITE-HYDROGEN SYSTEM

The primary heterogeneous reactions between molecular hydrogen and graphite are to be studied by a modulated molecular beam technique similar to that developed by Fite.

A molecular beam of hydrogen effuses from an oven source at a prescribed temperature through a collimating slit into the main reaction chamber, maintained at  $10^{-5}$  mm Hg, and where it impinges upon a heated graphite surface. A small fraction of the hydrocarbon reaction products ( $\text{CH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2$ ,  $\text{CH}_3$ , and higher hydrocarbons) enter the ionization chamber of a mass spectrometer, and the resulting ion currents are mass-analyzed and measured by an electron multiplier.

A signal to noise ratio sufficient to identify primary reaction products can be obtained by modulating the primary hydrogen and detecting only the AC component of the predominantly DC ion current.

The primary objective of the work is to identify the carbon containing species resulting from the surface reactions. The probability of hydrogen reacting to form each of the hydrocarbons will be measured as a function of temperature. Future work will involve reaction of the graphite by atomic hydrogen. The effect of ionization radiation upon the graphite will also be studied.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Donald R. Olander

2/10/64

## ELASTIC SCATTERING OF CROSSED ALKALI METAL BEAMS

The differential elastic scattering cross sections of the alkali metals are to be measured by scattering of crossed atomic beams. From these measurements, the interatomic potentials can be obtained by the usual kinetic theory methods. In addition, the transport properties of the gas phase can be computed directly from the differential cross sections.

The experimental set up will be similar to that employed by Beck. Two beams of alkali metals (e.g., K-K) will be crossed in a chamber held at  $\sim 10^{-5}$  mm Hg. The beams will be velocity-selected to provide nearly mono-energetic collisions. The oven and velocity selection chambers will be separated from the main scattering chamber by partitions which contain small collimating slits. Each of the chambers will be differentially pumped, and the main chamber cooled by liquid nitrogen in the region of impingement of the main beams. The relative velocity will be adjusted either by altering the source oven temperatures or by varying the angle of intersection of the two beams. The angular distribution of the scattering particles will be measured by a movable surface ionization gauge of suitably high angular resolution.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Donald E. Olander

2/10/64

## CHEMICAL REACTIONS INDUCED BY FISSION FRAGMENT IRRADIATION

The objective of this program is to measure the build-up of stable products and unstable intermediates in the radiation-induced conversion of ammonia to hydrazine. This system has been chosen because of the relatively small number of species expected (i.e.,  $H_2$ ,  $N_2$ ,  $NH_3$  and  $N_2H_4$ ) and the free radicals H, N and  $NH_2$ .

Mass spectrometric methods similar to those employed to follow reactions in cool flames will be used for analysis of the mixture during irradiation. The irradiation chamber will be pierced by a small orifice through which a representative sample of the gas effuses to the ionizing chamber of the mass spectrometer. In order to prevent further reaction between the sampling orifice and the ionizer, either by collisions in the gas phase or with the container, the flow through the orifice must be molecular. At the low pressures required, a highly ionizing form of radiation must be used to deposit a sufficient amount of energy in the reaction mixture. Fission fragment radiation will be employed. The inner walls of the reaction chamber will be coated with finely divided particles ( $\sim 2-3\mu$  diameter) of enriched  $UO_2$ ; the chamber will be exposed to a neutron flux. Under steady state operation, the approach to radiation equilibrium will be followed.

N. E. Phillips

2/10/64

## LOW TEMPERATURE CALORIMETRY

Experimental work is concerned with the interval between  $0.07^{\circ}\text{K}$  and  $20^{\circ}\text{K}$  with the emphasis on the relatively unexplored regions below  $1^{\circ}\text{K}$  and from 4 to  $15^{\circ}\text{K}$ . The calorimeters used are of two distinct types. The first employs the technique of adiabatic demagnetization to cover the region from  $1^{\circ}\text{K}$  to the lowest temperatures. Experiments are in progress to improve the accuracy of temperature measurements below  $0.1^{\circ}\text{K}$  and to extend the measurements to lower temperatures. The second type of calorimeter employs liquid  $\text{H}_2$  and liquid  $\text{He}^4$  to produce temperatures between  $1^{\circ}\text{K}$  and  $20^{\circ}\text{K}$ , and in some cases a  $\text{He}^3$  stage is added to extend the range to  $0.3^{\circ}\text{K}$ . A special apparatus for the calibration of germanium thermometers between  $0.3^{\circ}\text{K}$  and  $20^{\circ}\text{K}$  is being made.

Measurements in progress or planned for the next year include the following:

- 1) Magnetic hyperfine heat capacities in ferromagnetic and antiferromagnetic metals. In some cases it should be possible to determine the sign of the hyperfine field by making measurements in a magnetic field.
- 2) The heat capacity of solid rare gases at pressures up to 10,000 atmosphere.
- 3) Spin wave heat capacities of ferromagnets and antiferromagnets.
- 4) Comparison of elastic constants and lattice heat capacity in superconducting and normal metals.

Publications

1. Phillips, Ho and O'Neal, "Low Temperature Heat Capacities of Constantin and Manganin," Rev. Sci. Inst. 34 7, 782-83(1963).
2. Ahlers, "Heat Capacity of Solid  $\text{He}^4$  at the Density of the Gamma Phase," Phys. Rev. Letters, 10 439 (1963).

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Charles H. Sederholm

2/10/64

## STUDIES OF MOLECULAR STRUCTURE USING NMR TECHNIQUES

High resolution NMR techniques are being used to study the structure of molecules. In addition, correlations are being found between the structure of molecules and their NMR spectra.

A thorough study of the factors influencing fluorine-fluorine coupling constants has led to the conclusion that the direct overlap of nonbonding electrons around the two nuclei being coupled is as important to fluorine-fluorine coupling constants as are the bonding electrons in the molecule. The spin information carried by the bonding electrons is reduced as the electronegativity of the other atoms attached to the molecule is increased.

Measurements of fluorine NMR spectra over a wide temperature range have resulted in two types of information. Barriers to internal rotation in several halogen substituted ethanes containing at least one fluorine atom have been determined and some correlation has been established between the barrier heights and the size of the halogen substituents. The time weighted average approximation for chemical shifts and coupling constants has been tested in several compounds and it has been demonstrated that solvent effects can cause serious exceptions to this approximation. The effect solvents have on coupling constants is being further investigated.

Proton geminal coupling constants are predicted to vary with the H-C-H bond angle. For a normal tetrahedral angle the coupling constant is predicted to be and is generally found to be roughly 8-12 cps. In several four membered ring compounds the geminal coupling constant has turned out to be quite small; on the order of 2-3 cps. Geminal coupling constants in four membered rings are being further investigated to determine which factors affect their size.

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Harold S. Johnston

2/7/64

NEW METHODS FOR FOLLOWING AND CHARACTERIZING GAS-PHASE  
SPECIES AT VERY LOW CONCENTRATIONS

Mechanisms of gas-phase chemical reactions typically involve many elementary reactions, in series and in parallel, and to explain experimental results one usually must postulate one or more free radicals, free atoms, excited electronic states, or other reactive intermediates. By means of flash photolysis, shock tubes, high intensity pulses of beam sources, etc., one can sometimes obtain observable concentrations of reactive intermediates. On the other hand it is highly desirable to develop methods of very high sensitivity, and that is the object of this work.

One method being developed is fairly standard; it uses modulated photochemical excitation and a phase sensitive detector. The method of greatest interest is to use the decay constant of light in an optical cavity to measure light absorption. With modern multi-layer dielectric coatings and moderate cell lengths (3 meters), this method gives promise for measuring species at particle densities of  $10^{12+2}$  per cc. The method demands a high speed Kerr cell and electronic counting in the nanosecond time range.

R. H. Muller

3/1/64

## ELECTRODE-ELECTROLYTE REACTIONS

Studies will be conducted on the preparation and characterization of solid-fluid interfaces. Of special interest are the properties of electrolytically prepared metal surfaces and the influence of adsorbed or reacted interfacial layers on kinetic parameters. Ellipsometry, which is sensitive to transitional layers of atomic dimensions, promises to be a powerful tool for this work. Later studies will include the electrolytic crystal growth on surfaces of defined characteristics, preferably single crystal faces. Optical electron and field ion microscopy are being considered as experimental techniques in this phase.

Electrolyte films on gas consuming electrodes will be investigated in detail and theoretical reasons for the observed phenomena will be sought. Refraction and adsorption indices for light reflected at the solid-liquid interface will be measured with an ellipsometer to determine the exact value of the optical phase retardation. Knowledge of these quantities is needed to ascertain the position of the zero point in film thickness measurements.

Efforts to measure current distributions in pore models of realistic critical dimension will be continued. In a new high precision assembly under construction, the width of each electrode section is being decreased to provide a better resolution of current distribution. At the same time, the width of the separating insulation between sections is being decreased and its construction revised so as to reduce dead surface and chance of cold flow.

E. Grens

2/13/64

## ELECTROCHEMISTRY

Experimental studies of current distribution in electrodes with fissure-type pores are being carried out. This work involves measurement of a redox reaction as a function of depth in a single fissure (of micron order width) which serves as one electrode of a laboratory cell.

The rates of dissolution of porous metal anodes undergoing electrolysis are being measured. The dependence of these rates upon position and pore depth in the electrodes is of concern in the work being performed.

Investigation of the initiation and course of the reaction of liquid droplets (or solid particles) suspended in gaseous atmosphere containing both inert and reactive components is planned. The effects of the composition and temperature of the gaseous atmosphere upon the course of the reactions that may occur are to be investigated.

Measurements of transport parameters for systems with simultaneous heat and mass transfer, in particular thermocells, are to be made, and interpretation of experimental data by methods of nonequilibrium thermodynamics will be made.

5B29

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Charles W. Tobias

2/10/64

#### TRANSPORT OF CHARGE AND MASS IN ELECTROCHEMICAL SYSTEMS

Both experimental and theoretical studies are being carried out to permit improved description and understanding of transport phenomena in electrochemical systems. Development of precise numerical techniques for the evaluation of current distribution in two-dimensional enclosures is underway. Experimental studies of current distribution, and the variation of rates of dissolution throughout a porous metal electrode are being studied.\* Studies of transport properties in concentrated electrolytes are being made.\*\* Finally, studies of the effect of mass transport on current distribution on "rough" surfaces are being carried out.

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5B30

LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY - BERKELEY

Inorganic Materials  
Research Division

Charles W. Tobias

2/10/64

#### NONAQUEOUS IONIZING SOLVENT MEDIA, AND UNCOMMON ELECTRODE REACTIONS

Several different studies are being carried out on the electrochemistry of nonaqueous or unusual systems. Studies of the anodic oxidation of liquid phosphorus in aqueous media are being made. The physical properties and the electrochemical behavior of metallic solutions of calcium in liquid ammonia are being determined. The nature of the electromotive series in dimethyl sulfoxide is being explored.\*\*\* Lastly the mechanism of electrodes of the second kind in nonaqueous solvents is being examined.

\*\*\*Partially supported by Contract No. N123(62738)23531A.

## SECTION 6

### NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

- 6-1 Interactions at Gas-Solid Interfaces
- 6-2 Radiolysis of Organic and Inorganic Compounds
- 6-3 Vacuum Ultraviolet Photochemistry
- 6-4 Photoionization Studies
- 6-5 Flash Spectroscopy
- 6-6 Data of State for Gaseous Fluorides
- 6-7 Molecular Theory of Time - Dependent Phenomena
- 6-8 Infrared Spectra and Molecular Constants of Deuterated Molecules
- 6-9 Electrochemical Calorimetry
- 6-10 Calorimetric Determination of the Composition and of the Equilibrium Constant of Complexes Existing in Fused Salts
- 6-11 Collection, Analysis, and Compilation of Chemical Thermodynamic Data

For further information on completed work the reader is referred to the open scientific literature and to the publication "Research Highlights of the National Bureau of Standards - Annual Report for 1963," miscellaneous publication 255.

John D. McKinley

1/3/64

## INTERACTIONS AT GAS-SOLID INTERFACES

This is an experimental program to investigate the various rate processes of importance in chemical interactions at a gas, metal interface. Reactive systems leading to volatile products are studied under conditions of low surface coverage, and particular attention is given to the influence of the crystallographic orientation of the metal surface on the rate processes. Some completed work on energy transfer and kinetics in reactions of halogens with polycrystalline nickel is listed below. This work is being continued on similar systems utilizing ultra high vacuum techniques and large single crystals of nickel with low index planes of known orientation exposed on the surface. Experiments now in progress are an electron microscopic study of the three principal low index planes of known orientation exposed on the surface. Experiments now in progress are an electron microscopic study of the three principal low index planes of nickel at successive stages of reaction with bromine at 700° - 1100°C; a mass spectrometric study of the identity and formation rate of the volatile nickel, chlorine reaction products as a function of the orientation of the reacting surface; a mass spectrometric investigation of the reaction products in the following systems: nickel, fluorine; molybdenum, chlorine; yttrium, chlorine. Planned for the immediate future are further measurements of energy transfer from a hot surface to a cold gas in both reactive and non-reactive systems.

Publications

1. "Translational Energy Accomodation in the Nickel Chlorine Surface Reaction", McKinley, J. Phys. Chem. 66, 554 (1962).
2. "Mass Spectrometric Investigation of the High Temperature Reaction between Nickel and Chlorine", McKinley, J. Chem. Phys. 40, Jan. 1 (1964).
3. "Mass Spectrometric Investigation of the Nickel Bromine Surface Reaction", McKinley, J. Chem. Phys. 40, Jan. 15 (1964).

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Physical Chemistry Division

Pierre Ausloos

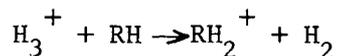
1/8/64

## RADIOLYSIS OF ORGANIC AND INORGANIC COMPOUNDS

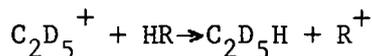
The general objective of this work is to study the fundamental chemistry of radiolytic systems involving hot radical reactions, excited neutral decompositions and particularly ionic processes.

Hot radical studies are now underway on  $\text{CH}_3$  species. It is expected that this work will result in publishable results within the next year.

Emphasis is being placed upon ionic reactions. For example, the radiolysis of hydrogen in the presence of a hydrocarbon, RH, is dominated by a very fast proton transfer reaction:



The relative kinetics of the hydride transfer reaction



have been measured for about fifteen hydrocarbons and seven other non-hydrocarbon molecules.

An unequivocal demonstration of the production of  $\text{CH}_2$  in methane radiolysis with  $G \sim 0.35$  at 15 atmospheres has now been obtained.

Research is continuing on solid and liquid phase radiolysis as well as on the effect of applied field on gas phase radiolysis. During the next year, the above research will be continued and the radiolysis of n-pentane and neopentane and the solid and liquid phase radiolysis of propane will be studied.

### Publications

1. Lias and Ausloos, "Vapor Phase Radiolysis of Propane- $d_8$  in the Presence of Other Hydrocarbons", J. Chem. Phys., 37, 877 (1962).
2. Sandoval and Ausloos, "Radiolysis of Propane- $d_8$  in the Presence of Organic Compounds Other than Hydrocarbons", J. Chem. Phys., 38, 2454 (1963).

## VACUUM ULTRAVIOLET PHOTOCHEMISTRY

An important class of reactions in radiation chemistry is the production of electronically excited neutral molecules, their modes of decomposition and the subsequent reactions of the fragments so produced. This constitutes the subject matter and the understanding of these processes is the objective. An extension of this research is the study of ionic reactions stimulated by monochromatic photons in the ionizing region.

Chromatically pure light sources have now been achieved for xenon and krypton and H atom resonance lamps and efforts are continuing in the case of the argon resonance lamp. Other significant work in lamp technology is the development of lamps capable of operation up to 400°C with LiF windows.

Photolysis of propylene in the ionizing and non-ionizing region is in progress.

An exchange program has been arranged in which Dr. Okabe, one of the principal investigators, is in Bonn, Germany studying field ion mass spectrometry and Dr. K. H. Welge will spend one year at the National Bureau of Standards establishing a program in vacuum ultraviolet flash photochemistry.

The photochemistry of n-butane has been studied and the details of the photolysis of ethane have been uncovered in an exhaustive experimental study.

Next year's plans include continued efforts to produce an argon resonance lamp and the corresponding study of the photochemistry of propylene in the ionizing and non-ionizing region. The flash photochemical program is expected to give the National Bureau of Standards a capability in the study of excited molecules and radicals produced in vacuum ultraviolet photochemistry. The development of high temperature lamps should enable us to begin a study of the photochemistry of CO<sub>2</sub> or N<sub>2</sub>O during the next year.

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Physical Chemistry Division

Vernon H. Dibeler/Robert M. Reese/Henry M. Rosenstock

1/15/64

## PHOTOIONIZATION STUDIES

A completely windowless vacuum ultraviolet monochromator combined with a mass spectrometer was recently completed for the study of photoionization processes in low-pressure gaseous systems. The apparatus permits observations in the energy range of ten to twenty electron volts with unequivocal identification of the photoionization products. Preliminary studies have included the determination of the photoionization efficiency curves for acetylene, acetylene-d<sub>2</sub> and benzene and the accurate measurement of their first ionization potentials. Vibrational levels of the ground state ions were also determined. A brief report on the acetylenes has been submitted for publication.

Immediate plans include the determination of ionization efficiency curves for argon and krypton using the high-pressure helium and argon continua as photon sources. Diatomic molecules, H<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, CO, O<sub>2</sub>, and triatomics, particularly those of a related series: CO<sub>2</sub>, COS, CS<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, H<sub>2</sub>O, etc., will be examined in the near future. Particular attention will be paid to molecules for which the calculation of Frank-Condon factors is deemed feasible.

Studies of more complicated series; e.g., methanol and substituted alcohols and thiols, methyl amine and substituted amines, acetylenic and aromatic series are further contemplated. The presence of electronically excited states, auto-ionization and other phenomena are already known to complicate the ionization efficiency curves and the use of homologous series such as above is expected to aid in the identification of these processes.

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Physical Chemistry Division

Louis J. Schoen/D. E. Mann

1/3/64

## FLASH SPECTROSCOPY

The objective of the proposed research is the extension of flash photolytic spectroscopy to species isolated in matrices at liquid helium temperatures. Matrix isolation coupled with infrared detection has proved to be an effective and general means for the preservation and study of various radical species whose spectra cannot be obtained in other ways. This applies especially to radicals and molecules which do not have banded or discrete electronic spectra. Flash photolysis, while a powerful means of producing radicals, cannot be successfully applied in cases where the resulting fragments do not have suitable electronic absorption spectra. The aim of the present research is to wed these techniques. The parent substance is deposited along with a large excess of an inert gas such as argon as a thin film on a transparent disk kept near 4°K. The resulting matrix is then subjected to flash photolysis over a period of 10-30 microseconds, with an electronic absorption spectrum being taken within a few microseconds of the peak of the light pulse. If a spectrum is found it will make possible also a study of the deactivation, decay, and diffusion of the fragments in the matrix. Whether or not an electronic spectrum is not found, the matrix will make possible subsequent infrared spectroscopic studies of the fragments to indicate if recombination or reaction has occurred. This approach has the advantage that species, such as high temperature molecules, which cannot be studied by conventional flash photolytic techniques are made accessible to investigation. Preliminary studies have indicated that stray and scattered light will not prove to be a serious problem, and the projected investigation of selected group III, IV, and V halides can be undertaken.

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Heat Division

Joseph Hilsenrath

1/7/64

## DATA OF STATE FOR GASEOUS FLUORIDES

The objective of this work is the experimental determination of the pressure-volume-temperature relations in gaseous fluorides and other related halogen compounds. Also, complete tables of real-gas thermodynamic properties from the PVT data and ideal gas thermal functions from spectroscopic and molecular data are being calculated.

Measurements are now underway in a Burnett-type apparatus of the compressibility isotherms for gaseous  $\text{BF}_3$ . The apparatus is capable of attaining temperatures from  $25^\circ\text{C}$  to  $200^\circ\text{C}$  and pressures from 5 to 250 atmospheres. Approximately 8 isotherms will be measured during the next six months.

These data will be fitted to a suitable potential function from which will be computed the virial coefficients and their derivatives. The virial coefficients will be used to calculate gas-imperfection corrections to the thermodynamic properties. In the latter part of the year p-v isotherms will be measured on a second apparatus on liquid and gaseous hydrogen fluoride ( $\text{HF}$ ). These data will be combined with similar measurements in the literature and incorporated in a comprehensive correlation of all pertinent available experimental data to determine the degree of association of hydrogen fluoride vapor over a range of temperatures and pressures. Use will be made, in correlating the data, of a new general purpose computing program which permits a deeper diagnosis and analysis than was possible heretofore.

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Heat Division

R. Piccirelli/M. Green/M. Boyd/J. Sengers

1/10/64

## MOLECULAR THEORY OF TIME - DEPENDENT PHENOMENA

In the field of statistical mechanics of dense gases, it is proposed to compute the first density coefficient of viscosity and thermal conductivity for some simple molecular models beginning with the hard sphere model. In addition a re-examination of the Chapman-Enskog method as applied to dense gases is being made. It is proposed also to examine the autocorrelation expressions for transport coefficients to see what can be learned from them about very dense gases transport coefficient  $>300$  Amagat.

A priori quantum mechanical calculations of wave functions, energies, and potential curves by means of the linear-combination-of-atomic-orbitals, self-consistent-field method of Roothaan are in progress. These studies are being made on some small unstable molecules, both known and hypothetical (i.e.,  $\text{HO}_2$ ,  $\text{NCl}$ ,  $\text{AlN}$ ). Excited states as well as ground states will be studied in an attempt to elucidate the behavior of atoms and small molecular systems in interaction.

Publication

1. Green and Piccirella, "Basis of the Functional Assumption in the Theory of the Boltzmann Equation", *Phy. Rev.* 132, 1388 (1963).

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Atomic Physics Division

D. R. Lide, Jr./W. J. Lafferty/W. B. Olson

1/7/64

## INFRARED SPECTRA AND MOLECULAR CONSTANTS OF DEUTERATED MOLECULES

The purpose of this program is to determine with high accuracy the molecular constants of certain deuterated molecules from measurements of high-resolution infrared absorption spectra. The comparison of constants of deuterated and normal molecules gives considerable information on molecular structure-interatomic distances, angles, vibrational force constants, etc. Furthermore, the results of such measurements are necessary for the calculation of ideal gas thermodynamic properties. The present program is directed particularly toward the investigation of certain light, symmetric molecules, which are not accessible for study by other techniques such as microwave spectroscopy, but which are of great importance.

Work is now in progress on normal and deuterated species of methane, acetylene, allene, and diborane. The many resonances encountered in the higher vibrational levels of these molecules are being analyzed in detail. The objective is to build up as complete information as possible on the pattern of energy levels in these molecules, and then to obtain the most accurate values of the fundamental vibrational and rotational constants.

Publications

1. Olson, Allen, and Plyler, "Analysis of Two Infrared Bands of  $\text{CH}_2\text{D}_2$ ", J. Res. Nat'l. Bureau Stds. 67A, 27 (1963).
2. Lafferty and Plyler, "Infrared Spectrum of the  $Z_2 + Z_6$  Band of  $\text{C}^{13}\text{C}^{12}\text{H}_6$ ", J. Res. Nat'l. Bureau Stds. 67A, 225 (1963).
3. Lafferty, Plyler, and Tidwell, "Infrared Spectrum of Acetylene- $\text{d}_1$ ", J. Chem. Phys. 37, 1981 (1962).
4. Lafferty and Plyler, "Molecular Parameters of Ethane", J. Chem. Phys. 37, 2688 (1962).

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Metallurgy Division

Abner Brenner/Sara L. Catey

1/8/64

## ELECTROCHEMICAL CALORIMETRY

This program deals broadly with the heat effects attending the passage of the electric current across interfaces involving electrolytes. The first topic studied dealt with the calorimetric measurement of enthalpy changes of electrochemical reactions. The second topic studied dealt with the calorimetric determination of half-cell entropies.

The present activity deals with the measurement of the reversible heat effect attending the passage of an electric current across a liquid junction. The experiments involved the measurement (with minute thermistors) of the temperature change at various distances from the junction of the electrolytes, so as to yield a temperature profile of the effect. The total reversible heat effect has been calculated from the integrated area under the curve of temperature profile (which had been corrected for the Joule heat) and reported as a voltage-equivalent. It has been shown to be independent of the current density or sharpness of the junction and to be related to the Peltier effect and to the diffusion liquid junction potentials.

The following values were obtained for three systems of electrolytes:

- 0.04 M hydrochloric acid and 0.4 M hydrochloric acid, 30 mv
- 0.90 M hydrochloric acid and 3.0 M potassium chloride, 80 mv
- 1.15 M hydrochloric acid and 1.21 M lithium chloride, 80 mv

The future work will deal with (1) determination of voltage-equivalents for a number of systems of electrolytes; (2) measurements of voltage-equivalents for systems of a reversible electrode immersed in an electrolyte; (3) measurement of the temperature coefficients of the EMF of thermocells and of liquid junctions corresponding to the systems involved in items (1) and (2).

Publication

1. Sherfey\*, "Calorimetric Determination of Half-Cell Entropy Changes", J. Electrochem. Soc. 110, 213-221 (1963).

\*Present address: National Aeronautics Space Administration, Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md.

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Metallurgy Division

Abner Brenner/William H. Metzger, Jr.

1/8/64

CALORIMETRIC DETERMINATION OF THE COMPOSITION AND OF THE  
EQUILIBRIUM CONSTANT OF COMPLEXES EXISTING IN FUSED SALTS

A calorimeter has been constructed for measuring heats of reaction in fused salt systems at temperatures up to about 850°C. It consists of two individually controlled, concentric heating systems, each provided with a heavy copper or silver cylinder for equalizing the temperature. The temperature of the inner heating system acts as the environment for the calorimeter and is controlled automatically with a precision of about 0.01°C.

The procedure involves the measurement of the heat effect attending the addition of about 1 g of salt, either A or B, to melts composed of various proportions of A and B. The partial molal heat effect is calculated and plotted against the composition of the melt. The heat effect goes through a rapid change in the neighborhood of the stoichiometric composition of the complexes which are formed. The composition of the complex is ascertained from the partial molal heat effects, and the instability constant is calculated from the value of the heat effect and the slope of the curve where it passes through a stoichiometric composition.

This is a general method. To test it, the system cadmium chloride-potassium chloride was investigated because the salts are readily obtained and melt without decomposition. The current experiments are being performed at 800°C, because at this temperature potassium chloride is liquid, and its heat of fusion is, therefore, not involved. The data are not complete but they definitely indicate that two complexes exist in the molten mixture.

Future work will be directed toward completing the work with the system at 800°C and repeating the work at 600°C and perhaps in the presence of an inert fused solvent. The procedure will then be applied to other systems in which there is current interest, for example, titanium halides in fused alkali halide melts or aluminum oxide in cryolite.

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Physical Chemistry Division

D. D. Wagman/V. B. Parker/W. H. Evans/I. Halow

1/10/64

COLLECTION, ANALYSIS, AND COMPILATION OF CHEMICAL  
THERMODYNAMIC DATA

The preparation of the manuscript for a comprehensive review of data on heats of solution, dilution, and heat capacity for uniunivalent electrolytes in aqueous solution has been completed and is now being readied for publication.

We are continuing to work intensively on the comprehensive review of the chemical thermodynamic literature. This project is reviewing simultaneously all available data on the heats and free energies of formation and heats and entropies of phase change (fusion, vaporization, etc.), and selecting a set of self-consistent "best" values for these quantities. An annual summary of current published literature indexed as to substances and properties measured in the area of chemical thermodynamics is also being prepared as part of the new Bulletin of Thermochemistry and Thermodynamics.

The recalculation to standard units and conditions of all published data on heats of combustion of organic compounds is continuing and will soon be completed. The resulting tables will then be prepared for publication.

## SECTION 7

### UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME - RADIATION LABORATORY

- 7-1 The  $\text{CH}_2$  and the  $\text{NH}$  Free Radical
- 7-2 Vacuum Ultraviolet Photochemistry
- 7-3 Radiation and Photochemistry of Organometallic Compounds in Benzene
- 7-4  $\text{CO}^{60}$ -Gamma Radiation Induced Cis-Trans Isomerization of Stilbene in Benzene
- 7-5 Effect of Density in Radiolysis of Ammonia
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- 7-8 Specific Rates of Energy Transfer in Organic Liquid and Rigid Media
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- 7-30 Determination of Extent of Dissociation in Solution of Complexes of Metal Halides with Aryl Amines
- 7-31 Infrared Spectra of Complexes of Metal Halides with Ligands Containing the P=S Bond
- 7-32 Kinetics and Equilibria in Isomerization of  $\alpha$ -Branched Trialkylboranes and in Redistribution Reactions Among Unsymmetrical Primary Trialkylboranes
- 7-33 Polarographic and Other Behavior of Simple Ions and Complex Compounds in Dioxane-Water Media
- 7-34 Relative Lewis Acid and Lewis Base Strengths from PMR Measurements
- 7-35 Chelates of Polyfunctional Ligands
- 7-36 Organogermanium Chemistry
- 7-37 Electrochemical Behavior of Metal Ions in Sulfuric Acid Medium

## SECTION 7 Continued

- 7-38 Development of New Fluorometric Methods for the Determination of Metal Ions
- 7-39 Infrared Absorption Studies

For further information on completed work, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

Milton Burton/Ko Taki

12/13/63

THE CH<sub>2</sub> AND THE NH FREE RADICAL

There are numerous reports of the role of the free CH<sub>2</sub> radical in electrical discharge in methane\*, in photochemistry of diazomethane and of ketene,\*\* in the near uv, and in photochemistry of methane in the far uv and implications of its corresponding significance in radiation chemistry. Similarly, there have been some less extensive studies of NH. Both free radicals can exist in the singlet as well as in the triplet state. Both may participate in hydrogen extraction reactions as well as in insertion reactions; CH<sub>2</sub> has been shown to add an H<sub>2</sub> (or D<sub>2</sub>) molecule in a single elementary process. However, some contradictory statements regarding the reactions of these radicals particularly with smaller molecules (e.g. methane) are in the current literature. It is planned to resolve some of the questions thereby created by comparison studies of the reactions of the same free radicals produced from different compounds by different processes. Numerous preliminary experiments with electrical discharge processes have been completed.

\* Wiener and Burton, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 75, 5815-23 (1953)

\*\* Chanmugam and Burton, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 78, 509-19 (1956)

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

Milton Burton/A. D. Kennedy/D. B. Peterson

12/10/63

## VACUUM ULTRAVIOLET PHOTOCHEMISTRY

This project is presently in the very early stages of development. Lamps and associated equipment are being constructed which, when complete, will make it possible to investigate photochemical and luminescent systems at wavelengths as short as 1236 $\text{\AA}$ .

It is anticipated that ammonia and cyclohexane will be among the first photochemical systems to be investigated. These two systems are of particular interest because of extensive information available from radiation chemical studies which have been carried out in this and other laboratories. When possible, photochemical results will be compared with those obtained with high-energy radiation.

Also, with this equipment it will be possible to investigate energy transfer processes from higher excited states of molecules such as benzene. Such studies will be a valuable adjunct to the investigations of energy transfer presently being carried out in this laboratory.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

D. B. Peterson/Milton Burton/D. A. G. Walmsley/T. Arakawa 12/16/63

RADIATION AND PHOTOCHEMISTRY OF  
ORGANOMETALLIC COMPOUNDS IN BENZENE

A detailed study of high-energy ( $\text{Co}^{60}$ -gamma) and uv-induced decomposition of organometallic compounds of the type  $\text{M}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_n$ , where M is a Group IVA or Group VA metal in dilute benzene solution is presently nearing completion. Direct photochemical decomposition of these compounds at  $2537\text{\AA}$  in an inert solvent, (cyclohexane) has also been investigated.

Results obtained are comparable with those obtained for other organometallic compounds used to quench high-energy induced luminescence of organic scintillators in benzene. In luminescent systems the important processes involve energy transfer from solvents to scintillator X (with resultant protection of the solvent) or to quencher D (also with protection of the solvent) and with possible sensitized decomposition. When S is benzene, the excited state responsible for luminescence is  $^1\text{B}_{2u}$ , the first excited singlet, and the quenching processes of interest are those involving that state. Deactivation of excited scintillator by the organometallics has been shown to be unimportant.

In chemical studies, the interaction of the quencher with the system is followed by determination of products of quencher decomposition.

Results obtained thus far indicate that kinetic parameters are the same in luminescence quenching and photosensitized decomposition of the organometallics but different from those obtained in high-energy sensitized decomposition.

Publication

1. Kropp and Burton, "Effect of Added Quenchers in Organic Scintillator Solutions: Organometallics," J.Chem. Phys. 37, 1752 (1962).

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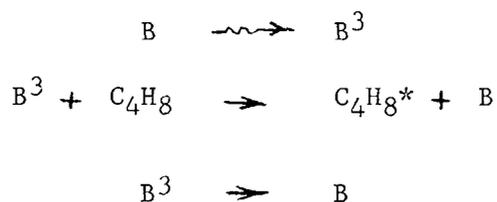
Radiation Laboratory

D. B. Peterson/Milton Burton/S. Srivastava

12/10/63

$^{60}\text{Co}$ -GAMMA RADIATION INDUCED CIS-TRANS  
ISOMERIZATION OF STILBENE IN BENZENE

Recently Cundall in England and Kaufman and Hamill in this laboratory have shown that butene-2 undergoes a radiation-sensitized cis-trans isomerization which is most easily interpreted in terms of the following reactions.



where  $\text{B}^3$  is a triplet state of benzene.

From their results they estimate a  $\underline{G}$  of benzene triplets of about 4 or 5. This result is of sufficient importance to warrant further examination. It has been shown that cis-trans isomerization of stilbene can be photosensitized by a number of different donor molecules. This photosensitized isomerization is apparently induced by donor molecules excited to triplet states. Thus, studies of photosensitized and high-energy induced isomerization of stilbene in benzene solution should provide further evidence for the role of triplet states in the radiolysis of benzene.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

D.B. Peterson/P.A. McCusker/Sr. C.M. Wodetzki/M. Nishikawa 12/16/63

## EFFECT OF DENSITY IN RADIOLYSIS OF AMMONIA

A number of interesting phenomena are expected to influence the radiolysis of gaseous systems as the density is increased from that characteristic of a gas at one atmosphere to pressures approaching those characteristic of liquids. Among these are collisional stabilization of excited ions and molecules and ion-clustering.

In a previous study in this laboratory, it was shown that  $G(H_2)$  and  $G(N_2)$  from radiolysis of  $NH_3$  undergo marked decreases at pressures well below the critical pressure and approach values characteristic of the liquid phase. These results, which were obtained at a temperature slightly above the critical temperature, are consistent with the formation of clusters of neutral molecules about ions, a phenomenon which has been treated theoretically by Magee and Funabashi of this laboratory. Studies of ammonia at high pressures have been extended to other temperatures and the influence of added scavengers has been examined.

Studies of the effect of density have now been extended to temperatures in the range 100-150°C. Yields of  $H_2$  and  $N_2$  decrease with decreasing temperature but the density at which yields of  $H_2$  and  $N_2$  begin to drop is relatively insensitive to temperature. A temperature effect might have been expected if cluster formation is responsible for the density effect. As part of this investigation some experiments have been carried out to obtain evidence bearing on the details of ammonia radiolysis.

Studies of the effect of added ethylene at various densities have also been made. The latter studies indicate that at all densities at least 85% of the dissociation is to  $NH_2 + H$ . Analyses of hydrocarbons formed in the presence of ethylene reveal the presence of small but significant yields of propane. It is possible that the propane arises from the reaction of nitrogen atoms with ethylene to give  $CH_3$  which ultimately appears as propane. Studies of very dilute mixture of hydrazine in ammonia are also being carried out in an attempt to elucidate the radiolysis mechanism.

Publication

Toi, Peterson and Burton, "Effect of Density in Radiolysis of Ammonia," Radiation Research, 17, 399 (1962).

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

D. B. Peterson/M. Burton/P. A. McCusker/  
Sr. C. M. Wodetzki

12/16/63

## EFFECT OF DENSITY ON RADIOLYSIS OF ETHANE

Since it had been found in previous work in this laboratory that the product yields on radiolysis of  $\text{NH}_3$  were markedly decreased at higher pressures, a study was undertaken to determine whether similar pressure effects occur in other substances.

Ethane, as a typical hydrocarbon, was chosen for this study. Results obtained thus far indicate that  $\underline{G}(\text{H}_2)$  for pure ethane decreases at high pressures but the effect is less pronounced than in ammonia. The effect of pressure on the yields of hydrocarbon products is also being studied.

To obtain data pertinent to possible mechanisms of the radiolysis, the effect of radical scavengers, such as ethylene and nitric oxide, on the product yields at various pressures is being studied. Mixtures of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$  and  $\text{C}_2\text{D}_6$  are being investigated.

Further evidence bearing on the mechanisms is being obtained from studies on the radiolysis of mixtures of  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$  and  $\text{C}_2\text{D}_6$  at various pressures.

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Radiation Laboratory

D. B. Peterson/P. A. McCusker/Sr. P. J. Zeleznik

12/16/63

RADIATION AND PHOTOCHEMISTRY OF GROUP IVB METAL  
ALKYLS IN BENZENE AND CYCLOHEXANE

The high-energy ( $\text{Co}^{60}$ -gamma) and uv-induced decomposition of the tetraethyls of Si, Sn, and Pb in benzene and cyclohexane solutions are being studied to correlate decomposition yields with the efficiencies of these metal alkyls as luminescence quenchers. Similar studies are being conducted with the corresponding metal tetraphenyls.  $\text{Si}(\text{Et})_4$  and  $\text{Sn}(\text{Et})_4$  have been found to be poor quenchers of luminescence and to undergo very little sensitized decomposition. In this respect  $\text{Si}(\text{Et})_4$  resembles  $\text{SiPh}_4$ .  $\text{Sn}(\text{Et})_4$ , however, differs from  $\text{SnO}_4$  in that it is a much poorer quencher and undergoes much less sensitized decomposition. A comparison of  $\text{Pb}(\text{Et})_4$  with  $\text{PbPh}_4$  indicates that the  $\text{Pb}(\text{Et})_4$  is a relatively inefficient quencher of luminescence and also suffers less sensitized decomposition. Comparison of the tetraalkyls among themselves shows that there is a small increase in the extent of sensitized decomposition in going from Si to Sn and a large increase in going from Sn to Pb.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

M. Burton/P.K. Ludwig/C. R. Mullin/M. A. Dillon

12/12/63

SPECIFIC RATES OF ENERGY TRANSFER IN  
ORGANIC LIQUID AND RIGID MEDIA

Energy (light, x-rays, beta or gamma radiation) which is deposited initially in one component of certain organic solutions shows up partially as luminescent light emitted from another component. The energy transfer can be described as a result of molecular diffusion, energy diffusion or long range interaction between excited and unexcited molecules. It is the object of a variety of studies to obtain information about the specific mechanisms involved in energy transfer processes for a number of systems and eventually to find generally valid underlying relations. Both steady-state and dynamic methods may be employed. In a steady-state method, the affect of scintillator concentration and of quencher concentration on luminescence intensity is used to give a variety of characteristic parameters and ultimately, in conjunction with information from decay time studies, to give certain specific rates for energy transfer and quenching processes. In this work, particularly on solutions containing cyclohexane and benzene as solvent, some relatively high specific rates have been calculated. It is shown that certain high rates,  $> 10^{10} \text{M}^{-1} \text{sec}^{-1}$ , are consistent with the best known values of diffusion constants and molecular diameters. Examination of these specific rates in terms of a recently developed theory by Yguerabide, Dillon and Burton, indicate that mechanisms of energy deposition and transfer in cyclohexane and in benzene are radically different.

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Radiation Laboratory

J. T. D'Alessio/P. K. Ludwig/M. Burton

12/12/63

DEVELOPMENT OF AN ACCURATELY REPRODUCIBLE,  
PULSABLE, UV SOURCE

One of the difficulties in study of excitation transfer processes excited by high-energy radiation resides in recognition of the excited states actually involved. In principle, it should be easy to simplify the problem by exciting specific states with uv-light. The difficulty is that suitable uv lamps for this purpose do not exist. They either have too long a decay time or have non-reproducible decay time characteristics or both. In this laboratory, we have developed a highly reproducible spark-type mercury hydrogen lamp in which the half-width of the light is less than a nanosecond, the decay time is of the order of a half-nanosecond, and the decay curve can be reproduced within a time resolution of less than 0.1 nanoseconds. This lamp and its associated electronic circuit will be described in a forthcoming article.

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Radiation Laboratory

P. K. Ludwig/J. T. D'Alessio/M. Burton/M. A. Dillon

12/13/63

MEASUREMENT OF LUMINESCENCE DECAY TIME  
AFTER PULSED UV EXCITATION

Uv-excitation of specific excitation levels provides an especially useful tool for examination of the mechanism of excitation transfer in condensed systems. In projected work, it is expected to use the new mercury-hydrogen spark lamp developed by Dr. D'Alessio in the Radiation Laboratory as well as a luminescent source of uv. It has been found by Ludwig and Dillon that 4-bromo-p-terphenyl dissolved in benzene provides a luminescence source of wavelength near 4000Å with a decay time of the order of 0.5 nanoseconds. This source is very reproducible when excited by x-rays and can therefore be used for the purposes of excitation of other systems, e.g., of perylene, dissolved either in liquid solutions or in plastic. These new types of illumination make possible decay time studies which have not hitherto been possible.

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Radiation Laboratory

P. K. Ludwig/M. Burton/M. A. Dillon/M. Kawanishi/R. Rein 12/13/63

LUMINESCENCE OF PURE HYDROCARBONS AFTER GAMMA-IRRADIATION  
AT LOW TEMPERATURE: SPECTRA OF SHORT-LIVED EMISSION PROCESSES

Theoretical considerations predict a temperature effect on the luminescence properties of condensed systems. Luminescence studies in the low temperature range, were made and background properties of pure aliphatic hydrocarbons after gamma irradiation were examined. It was found that such systems were luminescent and that the only effect of a variety of additives including both scintillator and quencher was to decrease the luminescence intensity. This result was found in the particular case of 3-methylpentane which can be made into a glass near liquid-nitrogen temperature. In a glassy state, light is emitted immediately after gamma irradiation; light emission persists for long periods of time and the rate of light emission can be influenced both by temperature increase and irradiation with suitable wavelengths. Two types of radiation emission have been observed, one with an activation energy near 0.1 ev and the other with an activation energy near 0.25 ev. It is planned to establish the associated spectra and to examine in much greater detail the kinetics of the processes involved.

7-12

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Radiation Laboratory

P. K. Ludwig/M. Burton/D. Spence

12/12/63

KINETIC ESR STUDIES OF ORGANIC RADICALS  
PRODUCED BY HIGH-ENERGY IRRADIATION

Modified ESR (electron spin resonance) equipment is available for use to determine the nature of radical species produced by electron bombardment of organic systems. It will find particular use for radiochemical work such as on the luminescence of Pure Hydrocarbons described above. Modifications of the ESR equipment for use in connection with a Van de Graaff generator involved considerable efforts in the design of suitable waveguides and microwave cavities to meet requirements of high vacuum tightness, high Q-value, temperature control and efficient electron beam penetration. To extend its use to kinetic studies the electronic sampling technique developed by Dreeskamp and Burton is being adapted to follow the decay of radicals with lifetime down to the order of microseconds. Future application of the ESR equipment includes the study of excited states, a potentially powerful tool when used in connection with a laser providing an extremely high density of radiation.

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Radiation Laboratory

## LUMINESCENCE DECAY TIMES

## 1. FLUORESCENT DECAY TIME MEASUREMENTS AFTER PULSE EXCITATION

M. Burton/P. K. Ludwig/R. Povinelli/Sr. S. Kennard 12/12/63

The dynamic method of approach to the problem of energy transfer in organic liquid and rigid media involves a determination of rise and decay characteristics of the luminescence of a system after extremely short excitations. The method employed in such work was developed in this laboratory and is described in previous publications. There have been recent improvements which enable sharp demarcation between different mechanisms of light emission. At present, characteristic decay times (there are usually two of them) have been established for scintillator solutions containing six different scintillators in three different liquid solvents and in polystyrene. A comprehensive table of results will be published shortly. This work is an extension and improvement on results previously reported.

Publication

1. Yguerabide and M. Burton, "Luminescence Decay Times: Concentration Effects", J. Chem. Phys. 37, 1757-1774 (1962).

## 2. TRANSFER PROCESSES IN RIGID MEDIA: TREATMENT OF ENERGY

P. K. Ludwig/M. Burton/M. A. Dillon 12/13/63

Examination of the theory of excitation transfer and quenching in luminescence systems indicates that it is diffusion-controlled. However, the rules of diffusion-control should be different for photochemical excitation and for high-energy excitation and should also be affected by the nature of the diffusion-controlled process -- whether it involves actual molecular diffusion or diffusion of excitation (cf. J. Yguerabide, M. Dillon and M. Burton, paper submitted for publication). The Dreeskamp-Burton method of decay-time studies (Dreeskamp, Ghosh and Burton, Rev. Sci. Instr. 32, 304-307 (1961)) as improved by P. K. Ludwig, makes possible the very accurate observation of decay curves. At present a systematic study is being made of a variety of scintillators dissolved in plastic media. Certain rather curious results indicate that the behavior of rigid systems is not readily predictable from studies of liquid phases.

3. EFFECT OF TEMPERATURE ON LUMINESCENCE DECAY TIMES

P. K. Ludwig/M. Burton/E. Gruenhut

12/13/63

It is known from theoretical considerations that the excitation transfer mechanisms in organic liquid and rigid media should be affected by temperature. However, little attention has been paid to this subject because of the difficulty of measuring decay times themselves. Development of satisfactory techniques of decay time measurements, described above, encourages the expectation that it is now time to measure temperature effects. Suitably modified decay-time equipment is now in the process of construction and will be used for study of the effect of temperature on decay times.

4. EFFECT OF PHYSICAL STRAIN ON LUMINESCENT DECAY TIMES

P. K. Ludwig/M. Burton

12/13/63

If the structure of the medium plays a significant role in the establishment of excitation transfer mechanisms in rigid media particularly, stresses brought to bear upon the system should change the structure and thus affect the significant specific rates. The Dreeskamp-Burton technique, as modified by Dr. Peter Ludwig and others in this Laboratory, is being subjected to further modification which will permit the application of physical stresses to the scintillating medium. It is expected that this work will take a long time but it seems to be both desirable and necessary.

5. EFFECT OF VISCOSITY AND SOLVENT ON LUMINESCENCE DECAY TIMES AND LIGHT YIELDS IN LIQUID ORGANIC SYSTEMS

P. K. Ludwig/M. Burton/R. Povinelli

12/13/63

The elaborate theory of quenching and excitation transfer processes has developed by Yguerabide, Dillon and Burton (paper submitted for publication) suggests that viscosity should have a significant effect on fluorescent decay times and light yields. The modified Dreeskamp-Burton method of decay time measurement is being used to study the effect of viscosity in a variety of scintillating systems and also the possible effect of nature of the exciting radiation.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

Peter K. Ludwig/Milton Burton

12/12/63

## APPLICATION OF LASER TECHNIQUES IN RADIATION CHEMISTRY

The application of lasers to sources of coherent and extremely intense light in the work of this laboratory may open a vast area of research. The mechanisms of excitation of various organic systems under the light conditions of a laser are not well understood. Studies of this kind may well contribute to a better understanding of the basic processes of light absorption. Further work will therefore be particularly directed towards the application of lasers as light sources. It is too early to predict the nature of the results which may be obtained but it is an important objective of the proposed work to obtain fairly uniformly distributed excited solute molecules in reasonably high concentration in a large volume of solvent. A technique of this nature will assist both radiation chemical and photochemical studies. It is premature to discuss some attendant theoretical objectives.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

W. H. Hamill/W. P. Hauser/S. Tsuda/G. F. Hennion, Jr. 12/11/63

ELECTRON IMPACT TECHNIQUE FOR MEASURING ION EXCITATION  
AND FRAGMENTATION

Several laboratories have reported finding structure in ionization efficiency (IE) curves by the retarding potential difference method (RPD) which correlates with observed spectroscopic molecular ion and fragment ion states. Other IE curve structure corresponds to ion-pair formation. Substantially all of this work concerns atoms and diatomic molecules.

Work in progress in the Radiation Laboratory at Notre Dame discloses more structure for simple ions (e.g.,  $O_2^+$ ,  $CH_4^+$ ) than others have hitherto reported. For  $C_2H_4^+$  from  $C_2H_4$ ,  $C_2H_6$ ,  $C_3H_8$ ,  $C_4H_{10}$  there is always the same structure. Similarly for  $CH_3^+$  from  $CH_4$ ,  $CH_3Cl$  etc., for  $C_2H_5^+$  from  $C_2H_6$ ,  $C_2H_5Cl$  etc. etc. The cross-section for  $RH \rightarrow R^+ + H^-$  approximates that for  $RH \rightarrow R^+ + H$ , not previously reported, and greatly exceeds that for  $RX \rightarrow R^+ + X^-$  ( $X = \text{halogen}$ ). When  $R_e^+$  (excited) forms, all  $R_e^+X^-$  and  $R_e^+X$  pairs are detected.

Most unexpectedly, the IE curve for  $RX^+$  always shows structure at the onset for  $R^+X^-$ . Presumably  $RX + e \rightarrow RX^* + e$ ;  $RX^* \rightarrow RX^+ + e$  and also  $RX^* \rightarrow R^+X^-$ . Present theory does not explain this.

This line of investigation is continuing. It will include re-examination of all thermochemistry by electron impact.

### Publications

1. Van Dusen, Jr. and Hamill, "Ionix and Free Radical Processes in the Radiolysis and Sensitized Photolysis of Benzene Solutions," J. Am. Chem. Soc. 84, 3648 (1962).
2. Nash and Hamill, "The Effect of Hydrogen Iodide on the Radiolysis of Cyclohexane-d<sub>12</sub>," J. Phys. Chem., 66, 1097 (1962).
3. Theard and Hamill, "The Energy Dependence of Cross Sections of Some Ion-Molecule Reactions," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 84, 1134 (1962).

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

W. H. Hamill/M. Kondo/J. B. Gallivan/D. Skelly

12/11/63

CATIONS, ANIONS, RADICALS AND ELECTRONS IN  $\gamma$ -IRRADIATED ORGANIC  
GLASSES AT  $-196^{\circ}$

An original technique for examining by spectrophotometry the major transient intermediates from many  $\gamma$ -irradiated organic glassy systems has been developed at Notre Dame. Behavior of cations and anions produced by  $\gamma$ -irradiation was established by comparison with chemically prepared authentic ions (e.g.,  $C_{10}H_8^-$  and  $NH_2C_6H_4N(CH_3)_2^+$ ).

Dissociative electron attachment, solvent-solute positive charge exchange, proton transfer and photodetachment of electrons have been observed and are under continued study. The measurement of electron affinity from a photodetachment spectrum in nonpolar medium is being examined. The chemical effects of ion recombination are being examined by observing reactants, as  $cyclo-C_6H_{10}^+ + e^-$  (trapped), then photodetaching the electron and observing product  $C_6H_8 + H_2$ . Only  $H_2$  is not measurable in the glass at  $-196^{\circ}$ .  $G(e^- - \delta)$  will be measured as  $(C_6H_5)_2^+$  at very small solute concentrations. Luminescence spectra and intensities from ion recombination by photodetachment of trapped electrons at various frequencies are being measured. With solutes, the known solute phosphorescent spectrum is emitted. Effects of second solutes (e.g., electron attachment, proton abstraction) will be studied by this very sensitive method.

### Publications

1. Guarino, Ronayne and Hamill, "Solute Competition for Thermal Electrons in Gamma-Irradiated Organic Glasses at  $-196^{\circ}$ ", Radiation Research, 17, 379 (1962).
2. Ronayne, Guarino and Hamill, "Electron Attachment and Solvation in Gamma Irradiated Organic Glasses", J. Am. Chem. Soc., 84, 4230 (1962).

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

John L. Magee/J. D. Mitchell

12/11/63

## FUNDAMENTAL NATURE OF EXCITED ELECTRONIC STATES

The initial absorption of energy from high-energy particles in matter is in the form of electronic excitation. The theoretical group has been interested in the description of electronic states of irradiated matter from the time of the initial energy deposition through its various transformations and migrations. A problem of particular interest is the behavior of low-energy excited states which can be treated as separated electron-positron pairs of charged particles. We hope that this study will help us understand the size and form of tracks (spurs for low-LET radiation). We have found the study of one-dimensional models useful and we expect to be able to generalize results to real materials of interest, such as liquids and glasses. A report on this work should be available within six months.

Publication

Chen and Magee, "Excitation of Molecular Vibration by Slow Electron Impact," J. Chem. Phys., 36, 1407-1411 (1962).

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

J. L. Magee/Fueki/A. Mozumder/Mo. F. M. Schmitt

12/11/63

THEORETICAL STUDY OF POSITIVE AND  
NEGATIVE IONS IN THE GAS PHASE

The structure of both positive and negative ions is of obvious interest in radiation chemistry. They are also of interest in connection with current work in mass spectrometry being conducted in the Radiation Laboratory.

The complete spectrum of the excited state of the lower hydrocarbon molecules (to  $C_{10}H_{2n+2}^+$ ) is being studied by a semi-empirical method developed by Dr. Fueki. A computer program for obtaining these energies has been developed and debugged. Within the next six months a report on this work will be available.

The structure of negative ions has been of interest to the theoretical group for some time. We are interested in negative ions formed by attachment of an additional electron to neutral molecules with the binding due to secondary (i.e., dipolar and polarizability) interaction, and also excited states arising from two-electron excitations. Computer programs are being developed for both of these types of ions and results should be obtained within the next year.

We hope to extend this work to the reactions of ions.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

John L. Magee/Kenji Fueki

12/11/63

## TRACK REACTIONS OF RADIATION CHEMISTRY

The reactions of long-lived intermediates such as radicals and ions in particle tracks is a problem of continuing interest in the theoretical group. A rather extensive study of track reactions involving the numerical solution of ten coupled inhomogenous partial differential equation was completed and presented at the Notre Dame Discussion of the Faraday Society in September 1963. This work led to a considerable increase in our knowledge of the structure of tracks and brought up questions regarding mechanisms of reaction (such as negative ions with neutral molecules) and questions regarding the mathematics of the set of equations.

At present we are developing programs to study specific effects of the overlapping of tracks and to determine the transient chemical behavior of complex systems such as are obtained by irradiation of gases. We hope that significant progress can be made in this work early in 1964.

Publication

S. G. ElKomoss and Magee, "Parent Ion Recapture in Gases," J. Chem. Phys., 36, 256-262 (1962).

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

John L. Magee/Koichi Funabashi

12/11/63

## ENERGY TRANSFER AND MOLECULAR MOTIONS

The purpose of this study is to understand the effects of inter-molecular electronic interaction on molecular motions, in particular, dissociation processes and, at the same time, to investigate the mechanisms for energy localization. The system under consideration is a linear chain of identical diatomic molecules. The total time-dependent wave function, written as a linear combination of suitable product-form wave functions of time, can be followed by calculating the expectation values for each internuclear separation from the total wave function. The probability and the location of dissociation depend upon the ratio of the interaction energy to the spread of energy in the Franck-Condon region.

It is planned to extend the study to a more general case of mixed systems where impurity effects compete with the effects due to molecular motions in energy trapping. Also, it is hoped to study the effects of multiple exciton bands.

A paper discussing some aspects of this work has been submitted for publication in "Actions Chimiques et Biologiques des Radiations" edited by Professor M. Haissinsky.

Publication

1. Lorquet, ElKomoss and Magee, "Energy Transfer Phenomena and Dissociation Processes in Electronically Excited Molecules," J. Chem. Phys. 37, 1991-2000 (1962).

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

J. T. Banchemo/J. A. Herbst

12/11/63

STORED ENERGY AND ITS INFLUENCE ON THE CATALYTIC ACTIVITY OF  
PLATINUM

In Metals, stored energy is usually associated with lattice defects which may be produced, although to different degrees, through cold working, irradiation, quenching, electrodeposition, etc. The classification and behavior of lattice defects, principally through measurements of changes in density, extra-resistivity, hardness, thermoelectric force and the rate of release of stored (strained) energy, has been the subject of considerable research in the past decade. However, the role these lattice defects play in the catalytic activity of a metal has not yet been established conclusively. The purpose of the present study is to establish the nature of the active sites in catalytic platinum; specifically the connection, if any, between these hypothetical sites and point defects (i.e., vacancies) and/or dislocations of pure platinum metal at its surface. Investigations have been made to determine the influence of cold work on the catalytic activity of platinum metal, its activity being probed through the batch wise decomposition of hydrogen peroxide. Reaction rates as a function of the amount of cold work, temperature and hydrogen peroxide concentration were determined via measurement of the rate of oxygen evolution. The influence of neutron and gamma-ray irradiation on the catalytic activity of platinum metal is currently under study.

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Radiation Laboratory

G. C. Kuczynski/Charles Gibbon

12/11/63

EFFECT OF INTERNAL INTERFACES UPON FORMATION OF COLOR CENTERS  
IN ALKALI HALIDES

This is the first part of a study of the mechanism of diffusion of point imperfections in ionic crystals. This part deals with the investigation of the mechanism of formation of color centers such as F, M, N, R and V near the grain boundaries of pure polycrystalline alkali halides samples in presence and absence of ionizing radiation.

It has been found (as reported in previous publications) that the presence of grain boundaries and of radiation capable of ionizing the F centers greatly accelerates diffusion of defects. There is reason to believe that the chemical reactions in the grain boundaries at elevated temperatures, produce a great number of halogen vacancies and some acceptors in the crystal layer adjacent to the grain boundary.

Studies are conducted on bi-crystals as well as polycrystalline samples prepared from fine powder of very pure KCl, pressed and sintered in vacuum. The absorption spectra obtained from these samples yield information about kind and quantity of centers produced during these operations. From the measured bleaching rates information about diffusion of F centers and mutual interaction of color centers will be obtained. In addition, in some of these samples the F centers will be produced by additive coloration and/or irradiation with a Cobalt-60 source. The bleaching of these centers will also be studied.

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Radiation Laboratory

G. C. Kuczynski/Norris Hooten

12/11/63

## STRESSES INDUCED BY OXYGEN ADSORPTION ON METALLIC OXIDES

The objective of this research is to explore the space-charge layer near the surface of the oxides. Preliminary experiments have indicated that the adsorption of oxygen on the surface of thin plates ( $<100\mu$ ) of MgO crystals produces small changes in the crystal dimensions. This is probably traceable to ionization of the defects near the crystal surface by transfer of their electrons to the adsorbed atoms. (The sizes of ionized and neutral defects are not the same.) Measurements of the strains produced during adsorption and of the optical absorption are expected to yield some information about the number and quality of these imperfections. The whole problem has obvious relation to catalysis.

The dimensional changes at present are measured by electrical strain gages. However, this method is not altogether satisfactory, as the cement used to affix the gage to the surface of the crystal seems to undergo some changes in vacuum. Therefore, in the future, a system will be employed in which a thin crystal plate, rigidly held at one end and with one side covered with a thin layer of gold, will be made a part of a condenser whose capacity will change with the plate deformation.

The point imperfections will be introduced either by heat treatment (deviation from stoichiometry) and/or by irradiation with a Cobalt-60 source.

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Radiation Laboratory

G. C. Kuczynski/D. A. Venkatu

12/11/63

## FORMATION OF SPINELS IN METALLIC OXIDES

This is the third part of a project dealing with the general problem of diffusion in ionic crystals. Here, the objective is to investigate the diffusive phenomena occurring during the formation of ferrites. Ferrites are usually produced by sintering. The experimental technique used is to measure the size changes of ferrites during sintering and to carry out a detailed microscopic study of the growth of spinel crystal between a sphere and a plate of two different oxides. At present the systems  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3\text{-NiO}$ ,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3\text{-MgO}$  and  $\text{MgO-NiO}$  are under investigation. It has been found that the process of sintering is controlled chiefly by interdiffusion; the process may be modified greatly by the stresses set up during the growth of the spinel phase.

During the next year, several other systems, such as  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3\text{-ZnO}$  and  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3\text{-ZnO}$ , will be studied and efforts will be made to establish a generalized theory of this phenomenon.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

Francis Owen Rice

12/11/63

## STUDY OF FREE RADICALS

This project may be divided into two parts, the first of which includes a study of free radicals produced at temperatures in the neighborhood of 2°K. This temperature was selected because it may be of significance as being the temperature of interstellar space. The comprehensive study of free radicals made at the Bureau of Standards some years ago was done mostly at temperatures of 4°K and higher. At these temperatures migration effects are far from negligible so that only very small concentrations of free radicals could be obtained for study.

At temperatures below 2°K, radicals would have to be formed in the matrix from molecules by photochemical decomposition or by radiative decomposition. The radicals produced as well as their life times and reactions would be studied by ESR.

The second line of work would be the study of free radical reactions in which the free radicals are produced by photochemical decomposition by light in the region 1000-2000Å. It seems rather certain that in this region divalent radicals are produced. There are three simple divalent radicals, CH<sub>2</sub>, NH, and O. Their reactions with molecules seem to be quite different from those of univalent radicals and depends on the number of electron pairs in the reacting molecule.

A primary study will be made of absorption spectra in this region. It is hoped to find suitable molecules (CO is one) that have banded absorption and therefore permit decomposition or excitation of each species by varying the wavelength of the light.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

James P. Kohn/John Hu

12/11/63

## LIQUID PHASE MOLECULAR DIFFUSION COEFFICIENT OF METHANE IN DILUTE SOLUTIONS

The primary objective of the work is the perfection of experimental techniques to measure the diffusion coefficient (in nonpolar systems) as a function of temperature with high accuracy. The molecular diffusion coefficient is calculated from data on total rate of absorption in a liquid phase. The binary systems, methane-n-hexane and methane-3 methyl-pentane have been studied and work is proceeding on methane-n-octane.

The effect of pressure on the diffusion coefficient is studied employing a single phase technique and vessels capable of pressures up to 7000 atm. The system methane-n-hexane has been studied up to 5000 atm.

It is anticipated that the work will lead to a better understanding of molecular diffusion in the liquid state, particularly the role of pressure, temperature and solvent molecular size on the molecular diffusion coefficient.

Publication

1. Shim and Kohn, "Multiphase and Volumetric Equilibria of Methane-n-hexane Binary System at Temperatures between -110° and 150°C," J. Chem. and Eng. Data, I, 3-8 (1962).

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

E. L. Eliel/J. Saha

12/11/63

## FREE-RADICAL AROMATIC SUBSTITUTION

A reinvestigation was made of the apparent isotope effect in the arylation of benzene- $d_1$  with phenylazotriphenylmethanes,  $ArN=NCPh_3$  and it was confirmed that the isotope effect was unity within limits of experimental error. The isotope effect in the arylation of benzene- $d_1$  with various diazonium hydroxides was also unity. The tentative conclusion that dihydrobiaryl intermediates are absent in these reactions because of the operation of a cage effect became untenable in the light of reports in the literature that arylclohexadienyl radicals can, in fact, be isolated. The previously studied reaction of nitrosoacetanilides with benzene- $d_1$  to give biaryls was therefore also reinvestigated and it was found that here, as well, iodobenzene is obtained in the presence of iodine in low concentration. This makes the operation of a cage effect very unlikely; however, no alternative mechanism is apparent at the present time.

The invariance of the isomer ratio in the phenylation of substituted benzenes ( $C_6H_5X$ ), in the presence and absence of oxygen has been reinvestigated. To obtain further information, chlorobenzene- $o$ - $d_1$  and - $p$ - $d_1$  have been arylated; although an isotope effect is found in the arylation of the ortho-deuterium compound (ca. 2.3), the isomer ratio is the same as in undeuterated chlorobenzene. These surprising results are now being evaluated.

Publication

1. Eliel, Eberhardt, Simamura and Meyerson, "Mechanisms of Free-Radical Aromatic Substitution," Tetrahedron Letters, 749, (1962).

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

E. L. Eliel/B. Thill/S. Schroeter

12/11/63

## STEREOCHEMISTRY IN LITHIUM ALUMINUM HYDRIDE REDUCTION

The stereochemistry of reduction of 3-phenyl-2-butanone and 1, 2-diphenyl-1-propanone with lithium aluminum hydride and various mixed hydrides has been investigated. The results may be interpreted in terms of "steric approach control", *i.e.*, the more hindered the reagent, the less it attacks from the more hindered side as defined in the model of this reduction proposed by Cram. The results suggest that Cram's model comes close to representing the actual transition state in the reaction and that Cram's rule is not just an empirical rule but actually rests on a mechanistic foundation.

Experiments are presently underway to study the stereochemistry of reduction of oximes. Preliminary results indicate that oximes are less subject to "product development control" than are the corresponding ketones in reduction with lithium aluminum hydride.

Publication

1. Eliel, Pilato and Badding, "Reductions with Metal Hydrides. XIII Hydrogenolysis of Hemithioacetals and Hemithioketals with Lithium Aluminum Hydride-Aluminum Chloride," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 84, 2377 (1962).

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

Columba Curran/Walton Welna

12/12/63

## MÖSSBAUER EFFECT IN Sn(II) COMPLEXES

The  $\text{Sn}^{119}$  nucleus has characteristics favorable for Mössbauer studies; the nuclear resonance absorption of a number of Sn(IV) compounds has been studied in other laboratories. Sn(II) complexes are of particular interest in that the tin atom has an unshared pair of valence electrons with appreciable s character. These have a relatively large effect (compared to p and d electrons) on the ground and excited nuclear energy levels. It is to be expected that the interaction of these electrons with the nucleus will vary appreciably with the nature of the groups attached to the tin atom, resulting in a wide spectrum of chemical shifts. Mössbauer studies should be very informative regarding the electron withdrawing and electron releasing properties of the attached ligands.

Very few Sn(II) complexes are reported in the literature. We have prepared a few of these and it is planned to synthesize many more. Types of complexes to be studied include those of tin halides with halide ions and with neutral mono- and bidentate ligands, and those of  $\text{Sn}^{++}$  with bidentate anions, for example: bis(8-quinolinato)tin (II). We will assemble an instrument for Mössbauer studies during the coming year.

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Radiation Laboratory

Columba Curran/Scaria M. Chackalackal

12/12/63

DETERMINATION OF EXTENT OF DISSOCIATION IN SOLUTION  
OF COMPLEXES OF METAL HALIDES WITH ARYL AMINES

Very few studies have been made of the dissociation of metal complexes in organic solvents. We have previously studied the solid state displacement of aryl amines from their complexes with metal halides by such donor molecules as hexamethylene-tetramine and thiourea. At present the dissociation of these aryl amine complexes is being studied in a variety of organic solvents by infrared absorption (chiefly) and nuclear magnetic resonance measurements.

The NMR (Nuclear Magnetic Resonance) spectra of the coordinated amines have sharp N-H peaks compared to those of the free amines. The chemical shift of the N-H peak appears to be proportional to the extent of dissociation of the complex. Present studies are being carried out in acrylonitrile solutions; they are limited by the low solubility of many complexes.

Infrared studies concentrated in the 3-micron region are being carried out on the absorptions associated with the N-H stretching vibrations of the free and coordinated amines. The amines studied include aniline, *p*-toluidine, *p*-anisidine and *p*-chloroaniline; the metal halides include the chlorides, bromides and iodides of zinc, cadmium, cobalt (II), copper (II), and manganese (II). Dissociation increases with increasing electron withdrawing property of the para substituent, and from chloride to bromide to iodide. It is planned to determine dissociation constants for these complexes at various temperatures. A correlation of the NMR and infrared studies will be made.

Publication

Bro. Curran, "Infrared Spectra of Complexes of Metal Halides with Amines Containing the N-Methyl group," to be published in "Proceedings of International Symposium on Molecular Structure and Spectroscopy" Tokyo, Japan, September, 1962.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

Bro. Columba Curran/Jose Philip

12/12/63

INFRARED SPECTRA OF COMPLEXES OF METAL HALIDES WITH LIGANDS  
CONTAINING THE P=S BOND

A number of complexes of metal halides with ligands containing the P=O bond have been prepared previously; the electric dipole moments of some and infrared spectra of all of these complexes have been obtained. For comparison, a number of ligands containing the P=S bond have been synthesized: tributylphosphine sulfide, tripiperidino-phosphine sulfide and tripyrrolidinophosphine sulfide. Infrared spectra have been obtained and the P=S stretching vibration frequency characterized. It is planned to determine the dipole moments of these compounds to compare the polarities of the P=O and P=S bonds. To date we have been able to isolate pure complexes of only the last two compounds. From solution, complexes with only  $\text{CdBr}_2$ ,  $\text{CdI}_2$ ,  $\text{ZnBr}_2$  and  $\text{ZnI}_2$  have been obtained only by solid state reactions. The frequency of the P=S stretching vibration, in the range  $590\text{-}680\text{ cm.}^{-1}$ , is decreased on complex formation. The shift is about  $30\text{ cm.}^{-1}$  for tripiperidinophosphine sulfide complexes. Work is continuing in an effort to prepare complexes with other metal halides and with the other ligands that have been prepared.

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Radiation Laboratory

P. A. McCusker/Sr. Grace Francis Rossi/Francis X. Mueller 12/11/63

KINETICS AND EQUILIBRIA IN ISOMERIZATION OF  $\alpha$ -BRANCHED  
TRIALKYLBORANES AND IN REDISTRIBUTION REACTIONS AMONG  
UNSYMMETRICAL PRIMARY TRIALYLBORANES

The work on isomerization kinetics has been carried out for the isomerization of t-butyldiisobutylborane to triisobutylborane and for the stepwise isomerization of triisopropylborane and tri-sec-butylborane through the intermediate unsymmetrical compounds to tri-n-propylborane and tri-n-butylborane. From rate data at several temperatures, energies and entropies of activation have been obtained. These data suggest the conclusion that the mechanism of isomerization probably involves the formation of  $R_2BH$ -olefin as the rate-determining step but that the olefin is separated in the case of t-butyldiisobutylborane and remains complexed in the case of the secondary trialkylboranes.

Redistribution of primary alkyl groups in the following type of reaction  $R_3B + R'_3B \rightarrow R_2BR' + R'_2BR$  has been shown to be negligible at room temperature but to be quite rapid at 90°C. Preliminary data indicate that a statistical distribution of alkyl groups occurs. The kinetics of the redistribution reaction will be studied to obtain information bearing on the mechanism of the reaction.

Publication

1. McCusker, Pennartz and Pilger, "Organoboron Compounds. XIV. Rapid Alkoxy Exchange between Dialkylalkoxyboranes and Alkyldialkoxyboranes," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 84, 4362 (1962).

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

Bro. Columba Curran/Rev. Joseph L. Walter/  
Sr. M. Rosalie Urzendowski

12/16/63

POLAROGRAPHIC AND OTHER BEHAVIOR OF SIMPLE IONS AND  
COMPLEX COMPOUNDS IN DIOXANE-WATER MEDIA

The polarographic study in dioxane-water media was undertaken to note the effects of adding increasing amounts of dioxane upon the limiting current, half-wave potential, diffusion current constant, viscosity, density, etc. of cadmium ion in such supporting electrolytes as 0.1 N  $\text{KNO}_3$ , 0.1 N  $\text{KCl}$  and in 0.1 N  $\text{NaClO}_4$ . Experimental data on half-wave potentials and diffusion current constants of  $\text{Cu(II)}$ ,  $\text{Ni(II)}$ ,  $\text{Co(II)}$ ,  $\text{Zn(II)}$ , and  $\text{Cd(II)}$  in various supporting electrolytes were also determined. The formation constants of several alkylhydroxy substituted pyridines with  $\text{Cu(II)}$  and  $\text{Cd(II)}$  were determined polarographically. The acid dissociation constants and chelate stabilities of alkyl-amino, alkylhydroxy and alkyl-carboxy-pyridyl type ligands with simple metal ions were obtained by the potentiometric method. The heat contents of some of these complexes were determined by a direct calorimetric method. From the polarographic and potentiometric results, plus the calorimetric data, thermodynamic values will be calculated.

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Radiation Laboratory

P. A. McCusker/J. F. Deters

12/11/63

RELATIVE LEWIS ACID AND LEWIS BASE STRENGTHS  
FROM PMR MEASUREMENTS

This work involves a survey of the effects of Lewis acid - Lewis base interactions on the chemical shifts of alpha protons in either the base or the acid or both by PMR (Proton Magnetic Resonance) techniques. Results to date have indicated the possibility of developing a quantitative Lewis acid scale based on the change in chemical shift of ether hydrogens in going from the pure ether to the ether-Lewis acid complex. The ratio of changes in chemical shifts of some of the following Lewis acids have been found to be the same for at least two different ethers. The relative Lewis acidities so far measured, based on  $\text{BF}_3$ , as a standard, are as follows:  $\text{Bu}_2\text{BCl} = 0.74$ ;  $\text{BF}_3 = 1.00$ ;  $\text{BuBCl}_2 = 1.27$ ;  $\text{AlCl}_3 = 1.33$ ;  $\text{BCl}_3 = 1.64$ . Extensions to a large variety of other Lewis acids is planned.

From selected Lewis acids containing suitable alpha protons it is hoped that a similar Lewis base scale may be developed.

Exchange equilibria data have been obtained for reactions of the following type.  $\text{R}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{BF}_3 + \text{R}'_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{R}'_2\text{O} \cdot \text{BF}_3 + \text{R}_2\text{O}$ . For a number of pairs of ethers the equilibrium constants have been obtained at several temperatures and  $\Delta\text{H}^\circ$  and  $\Delta\text{S}^\circ$  values have been calculated.

It is planned to extend these studies to a wide variety of ethers and other Lewis bases.

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Radiation Laboratory

R. S. Bottei/Fr. T. Fangman/W. Joern/D. Quane  
R. Schneggenburger

12/11/63

## CHELATES OF POLYFUNCTIONAL LIGANDS

Chelates of di-, tri-, and tetra-valent metal ions with the poly-functional ligands, naphthazarin,  $\beta$ -hydronaphthazarin,  $\beta$ -hydronaphthazarin disulfonate, 2, 5-dihydroxy-1, 4-benzoquinone, dicupferron, and some dicarboxylic acids, are being studied by a variety of methods which include: elemental analysis, visible and infrared spectrophotometry, polarography, and thermogravimetry. Studies on the chelates are directed toward determination of the effect of structural changes in the ligands on composition, reactivity and stability and also the effect of the various metal ions on the thermal stabilities of the chelates should polymers be formed. Some of the work has already been reported.\*

Future plans include continuation extension of the work to include other molecules structurally related to those already studied. These may include: 1, 4, 5, 8-tetrahydronaphthalene, naphthadiquinone, dinaphthazarin, di- $\beta$ -hydronaphthazarin,  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -hydrojuglone, purpurin, and reduced purpurin. The photochemistry and radiation chemistry of complexes will eventually be studied.

\*"A Spectrophotometric Study of the Thorium- -Hydronaphthazarin Disulfonate System," J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem. 21, 265 (1961).

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R. S. Bottei/Mr. L. Kuzma

12/11/63

## ORGANOGERMANIUM CHEMISTRY

Recently, after a very thorough review of the literature, work was begun on the preparation and disproportionation of organogermanium alkoxides of the type  $(RO)_nGe(OR')_{4-n}$ . Various combinations of R and R' and their disproportionation at different temperatures will be studied. Some of the techniques to be used will include infrared spectrophotometry, nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, and vapor phase chromatography.

Publication

1. Quane and Bottei, "Organogermanium Chemistry", Chem. Rev., 63, 403-442, (1963).

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UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Radiation Laboratory

R. S. Bottei/Sr. M. Lawrence Antoun

12/10/63

ELECTROCHEMICAL BEHAVIOR OF METAL IONS IN SULFURIC ACID MEDIUM

Electrochemical studies have been concerned with polarographic behavior of certain metal ions in sulfuric acid of varying concentration (0.1 M to 18 M) and the coulometric generation of  $\text{Cr}^{++}$  in sulfuric acid medium. As yet the coulometric generation of  $\text{Cr}^{++}$  has not been attempted, but the polarographic work (which was necessary before attempting the coulometric work) has given some rather unusual results; the half-wave potential shifted as  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  concentration was changed and, for a given concentration of acid, the diffusion current increased with time and finally reached a limiting value. More intensive studies are now under way to try to explain the observed behavior.

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Radiation Laboratory

R. S. Bottei/Bro. I. Ambrose Trusk/Mrs. A. D'Alessio

12/11/63

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW FLUOROMETRIC METHODS FOR THE DETERMINATION OF METAL IONS

In the fluorometric studies, a new method has been developed for the determination of tungsten and has been successfully applied to certain non-ferrous alloys. The application of the method to iron alloys requires certain preliminary separations which are now being studied. A new method for the determination of thorium in acid solution has also been developed and its application to a wide variety of substances is under investigation. Future work will concern the development of procedures for elements such as titanium and niobium which have not as yet been determined fluorometrically.

Publication

1. Anal. Chem., "Fluorometric Determination of W with Flavanol," 35, 1910, (1963).

## INFRARED ABSORPTION STUDIES

1. COMPLEXES OF TRANSITIONAL METAL IONS WITH GLYCINE,  
DL-ALPHA-ALANINE, ALPHA-AMINO-ISOBUTYRIC ACID AND DL-ISOVALINE

Bro. Columba Curran/Rev. Joseph L. Walter/J. A. Durkin

12/16/63

The infrared spectra of cis- and trans-isomers of platinum(II), palladium(II), and copper(II) glycine chelates and the trans-complex of nickel(II) have been investigated from 670 to 270  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Assignments for the observed metal-nitrogen stretching frequencies have been made using an approximate normal coordinate analysis. Approximate metal-nitrogen bands stretching force constants were calculated for the trans-compounds and found to vary in the order  $\text{Pt(II)} > \text{Pd(II)} > \text{Cu(II)} > \text{Ni(II)}$ , thus demonstrating a corresponding order for the relative strengths of the metal-nitrogen interaction. A paper entitled "Infrared Absorption Spectra of Metal-Amino Acid Complexes. II. An infrared Study of the Metal-Nitrogen Band in Glycine Chelates", was prepared for publication and is now in press.

For DL-alanine, alpha-amino-isobutyric acid, and DL-isovaline studies similar to those of the glycine chelates are in progress.

## 2. STRUCTURE OF METAL COMPLEXES OF DIBASIC AMINO ACIDS

Bro. Columba Curran/Rev. Joseph L. Walter/R. J. Hooper

12/16/63

The infrared spectra of the dibasic amino acids, L-aspartic acid and L-glutamic acid, and their metal chelates with Cu(II), Ni(II), Co(II), Zn(II) and Cd(II) have been obtained in the region 4000 to 270  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The observed absorption bands are being assigned throughout the frequency range cited. Assignments are based on a comparison of the spectra with those of the N-deuterated amino acids and metal complexes and with the spectra of some thoroughly studied simple compounds.

An approximate normal coordinate analysis of the chelate rings in the metal complexes will be carried out in order to determine the structures of the complexes and the relative strengths of the metal-nitrogen interactions. The analysis will be performed as a seven-body problem using a valence force potential field. The resulting bond-stretching force constants will be compared with the stretching and rocking frequencies of the coordinated  $\text{NH}_2$  groups in order to determine the validity of the use of these frequencies as a criterion for relative bond strengths in these chelates.

## INFRARED ABSORPTION STUDIES (CONTD)

3. COMPLEXES OF TRANSITIONAL METAL IONS  
WITH DL-LEUCINE AND DL-NORVALINE

Bro. Columba Curran/Rev. J. L. Walter/J. F. Jackovitz

12/16/63

The primary object of this study is to determine the relative extent of interaction of the transition metal ions, cobalt(II), nickel(II), copper(II), platinum(II), palladium(II), zinc(II), and cadmium(II) with the amino groups of DL-leucine ( $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHCHNH}_3^+\text{COO}^-$ ) and DL-norvaline ( $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CHNH}_3^+\text{COO}^-$ ). The extent of interaction of the amino groups with the given series of metal ions will be determined through a comparison of the metal-nitrogen bond stretching force constants and the stretching and rocking frequencies of the coordinated amino groups.

All of the above chelates have been prepared, purified, and the C, H, and N analyses have been obtained. The infrared spectra have been obtained for all chelates of the DL-leucine series in the region  $4000\text{-}270\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Spectra for the N-deuterated chelates of the above series have also been obtained in the same region. Assignment is complete for DL-leucine and current work is concerned with assignment of the corresponding chelates and calculation of the metal-nitrogen bond stretching force constants. Work to be performed to complete this problem is repetition of the same procedure for DL-norvaline.

## 4. DL-PHENYLALANINE, DL-TYROSINE, AND THEIR METAL COMPLEXES

Bro. Columba Curran/Rev. Joseph L. Walter

12/16/63

Rev. Peter T. Moriwaki

Metal complexes of DL-phenylalanine with Cu(II), Ni(II), Pt(II), Pd(II), Zn(II), Co(II), Co(III) and Cr(III) have been prepared and analyzed. Infrared spectra have been recorded in the  $4000\text{ cm}^{-1}$  to  $270\text{ cm}^{-1}$  region. Detailed assignments for DL-phenylalanine are complete and those for the metal complexes are almost complete. The preparation of the metal complexes of DL-tyrosine is now in progress and their infrared spectra are being studied.

Future work involves the assignment of the observed absorption bands for DL-tyrosine and metal-tyrosine complexes. Calculations will be performed to determine the metal-nitrogen bond-stretching force constants for the metal complexes of both ligands by the Wilson G-F Matrix method.

SECTION 7X

NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION - ATOMICS INTERNATIONAL

7X1 High Temperature Chemistry

7X2 Radiation Chemistry

For further information on completed work, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature.

NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION

Atomics International

S. J. Yosim

April 15, 1964

## HIGH TEMPERATURE CHEMISTRY

One of the objectives of this project is to learn enough about high temperature physical chemistry to be able to establish basic principles. The project is divided into two general areas, namely, the study of metal-metal salt systems and the study of fused salt systems.

Metal-Metal Salt Systems - The chemistry of systems of the type, metal plus metal halides, metal plus metal oxides, sulfides, etc., have been chosen for study because of the unique and interesting reactions and states of aggregation indicated by the work on these systems to date. We seek to obtain an understanding of the chemical reactions which take place, information as to the atomic, molecular and ionic species formed and thermodynamic relations descriptive of the system.

Salt Systems - The objective is to achieve an understanding of ionic substance (halides, oxides, oxy-salts, and glass systems). The basic questions of interest are those concerned with:

- a) Establishing the nature of the species existing in ionic melts.
- b) Determining the physico-chemical interactions between species.

Statistical mechanical studies on the theory of liquids have been fruitful, and emphasis in this area will continue. The scaled particle theory will be applied to liquid solutions, dense gases, and to additional properties of pure liquids.

Emphasis on the effects of pressure on the physico-chemical properties of high temperature melts will continue. Conductivities of pure salts and metal-salt solutions will be measured at constant volume. The importance of such measurements is that it will no longer be necessary to vary both density and temperature simultaneously. The results of these studies will help explain the maximum in the conductivity of many salts when the temperature is raised; they will also provide more evidence on the conductivity mechanism of metal-salt solutions. The effect of pressure on the metal-metal salt phase diagrams will be studied. The systems to be first investigated are Bi-BiBr<sub>3</sub> and Bi-BiI<sub>3</sub>.

Electrical conductivities of additional pure salts will be measured as a function of temperature to see how prevalent the maxima in conductivities are. Some of the salts to be investigated are InI<sub>3</sub>, ZnX<sub>2</sub>, CdCl<sub>2</sub>, CdBr<sub>2</sub>, and TlX. In addition the conductivities of salts will be measured at temperatures above the critical temperature to see how ionic such systems are. These studies will begin with salts with expected low critical temperatures such as

## HIGH TEMPERATURE CHEMISTRY

(continued)

the bismuth halides. It is expected that the conductivity studies of the mixed halides will be completed.

A study of the Soret effect as well as the Seebeck coefficient will be carried out on the Bi-BiBr<sub>3</sub> system. The results of these studies will give additional evidence on the nature of the transport process as well as on the structure of the melt surrounding the diffusing species.

### Publications

1. Grantham and Yosim, "Electrical Conductivities of Molten Bi-BiI<sub>3</sub> Solutions," J. Chem. Phys., 38 1671 (1963).
2. Topol and Ransom, "Magnetic Susceptibilities of Molten Bi-BiI<sub>3</sub> Solutions," J. Chem. Phys., 38, 1663 (1963).
3. Owens, "Melting Properties of Silver Nitrate to 10,000 Atmospheres," J. Chem. Phys. 39, 1053 (1963).
4. Yosim, Grantham, Luchsinger and Wilke, "Electrodeless Determination of Electrical Conductivities of Melts at Elevated Temperatures," Rev. Sci. Inst., 34, 994 (1963).
5. Yosim and Owens, "Calculation of Heats of Vaproization and Fusion of Non-Ionic Liquids from the Rigid Sphere Equation of State," J. Chem. Phys., 39, 2222 (1963).
6. Blander and Yosim, "Ionic Conformal Solution," J. Chem. Phys., 39, 2610 (1963).
7. Topol, "E.M.F. Measurements in Molten Divalent Metal-Metal Halide Solution," J. Phys. Chem. 67, 2222 (1963).
8. Grantham and Yosim, "Anomalous Behavior of the Electrical Conductivity of Molten Bismuth Halides," J. Phys. Chem., 67, 2506 (1963).

NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION

Atomics International

R. B. Ingalls

April 15, 1964

## RADIATION CHEMISTRY

The objectives of this project are to study the fundamental processes of radiolysis of organic systems and to study in separate experiments the elementary chemical reactions postulated to occur in these systems. Of particular interest is an understanding of those processes, following the interaction of ionizing radiation, which lead to free radicals and hydrogen atoms. Thus, studies involved in characterizing and measuring yields of free radicals formed on various model organic systems during radiolysis are extremely valuable. Also, it is important that our knowledge of the reactions of hydrogen atoms including measurements of absolute reaction rates be extended. It is anticipated that the recently developed techniques for detecting radicals utilizing carbon-14 labeled methyl and ethyl radicals as radical scavengers will be useful in these studies.

The primary products of energy transfer from excited rare gases are also under investigation in order to establish by direct observation the chemical effects of energy transfer. Knowledge of the relative rate constants for these processes and their relative importance in radiation chemistry is also required.

Other means of investigating the mechanisms of organic radiation chemistry will be employed such as the isolation of particular reactions in radiolysis by the use of radioactively labeled solutes. Knowledge about certain elementary reactions of postulated free radical intermediates, for example, can frequently be obtained more readily from photochemical studies.

Four primary studies will be undertaken during the next year:

- a) Refinement of Thermal Spike Model of Low LET Radiolysis of organic systems and extension to high temperature radiolysis of aliphatic systems.
- b) The absolute rate constants of the reaction of hydrogen atoms with aromatic rings will be measured.
- c) The absolute rate constant of the abstraction of hydrogen atoms from the alkyl groups of alkyl aromatic molecules by hydrogen atoms will be measured.
- d) The yields of free radicals during radiolysis of several organic systems will be measured by the Holroyd labeled radical scavenger technique.

## RADIATION CHEMISTRY

(continued)

It has been shown that the  $C^{14}$ -labeled radical scavenger can be used to detect and measure the yields of individual radicals in both saturated and unsaturated hydrocarbons. The labeled methyl radicals sample the steady-state concentration of radical intermediates forming identifiable labeled derivatives under conditions where either high dose rates or low temperatures are employed. This technique shows promise of wide application and will be particularly useful both in systems in which radiolysis leads to such a variety of products that complete product analysis is precluded and in systems consisting of very reactive organic substances where conventional radical scavengers cannot be employed. It is anticipated that yields of hydrogen atoms from hydrocarbons can also be obtained by the addition of a second additive, ethylene, a known hydrogen atom trap. The yield of ethyl radicals produced by hydrogen atom addition to the ethylene is a direct measure of the hydrogen atom yield.

In addition the study of the elementary reactions of hydrogen atoms and other free radicals with polymer fluffs will continue and will be extended to new systems.

### Publications

1. Scarborough and Burr, "The Effect of Solid-Liquid Phase Transition Upon Hydrogen Yield from Biphenyl", *Journal of Chemical Physics*, 37, 1890 (1962).
2. M. Cher, "The Reaction of Methyl Radicals with Methanol, " *Journal of Physical Chemistry*, 67, 605 (1963).
3. Young, "Calculation and Display of Absorption and Derivative Curves of Gaussian and Lorentzian Functions", *Journal Applied Physics*, 35, 460 (1963).
4. Yang and Ingalls, "Tritium B-Decay Induced Reactions in the Polystyrene Fluff," *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, 85, 3920 (1963).

SECTION 8A

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY - CHEMISTRY DIVISION

- 8A1 Chemistry of the Actinide Elements
- 8A2 Nuclear Reaction Studies of Heavy Nuclei
- 8A3 Nuclear Chemistry Studies of Fission
- 8A4 Beta-Ray Polarization Measurements
- 8A5 Characterization of Low-Energy Properties of Nuclei
- 8A6 Development of Data Handling Systems for Nuclear Chemistry
- 8A7 Nuclear Chemistry - Neutron Cross Sections
- 8A8 Nuclear Spectroscopy
- 8A9 Nuclear and Inorganic Chemistry of Technetium
- 8A10 Paramagnetic Resonance Spectroscopy
- 8A11 Thermochemistry and Calorimetry
- 8A12 Chemistry of Aqueous Solutions: Complex Solute Species and Thermodynamics
- 8A13 Thermodynamic Studies of Aqueous Electrolyte Solutions over Wide Temperature Ranges
- 8A14 Physical Chemistry of Ion Exchangers
- 8A15 Development of an Ion Exchange Separation Scheme
- 8A16 Ion Exchange Properties of Passive Metals
- 8A17 Effect of Adsorbed Ions on the Electrochemical Behavior of the Active Iron Electrode
- 8A18 Electrochemistry of Zirconium in Hydrofluoric Acid Solutions
- 8A19 Solution Spectrophotometry over Wide Temperature Ranges
- 8A20 Molecular Beam Studies of Alkali Atom Reactions

SECTION 8A Continued

- 8A21 Modulated Molecular Beam Studies Using Mass Spectrometric Detection
- 8A22 Mass Spectrometry
- 8A23 Comparative Inorganic Chemistry - Adsorption of Inorganic Materials
- 8A24 Diffraction Studies of Liquid Structure
- 8A25 Metal-Molten Salt Solutions
- 8A26 Spectroscopy of Isotopic Molecules
- 8A27 Chemistry of Isotopic Reactions
- 8A28 The Isotope Effect
- 8A29 Assignment of Configuration to Diastereoisomers of Glycols
- 8A30 The Nature of the Ionic Intermediates in Aliphatic Deamination and Related Reactions
- 8A31 Organic Compounds: Reactions with  $\text{HNO}_3$  and Structural Effects on Separation of Electrolytes from Aqueous Solutions
- 8A32 Radiation and Hot-Atom Chemistry of Inorganic Crystalline Solids
- 8A33 Radiation Chemistry of Water and Aqueous Solutions
- 8A34 Radiation Chemistry - Studies of Energy Transfer, Charge Transfer, and Other Processes in Gas, Liquid and Solid Systems
- 8A35 Neutron Diffraction Crystallography

For further information on completed work, the reader is referred to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Chemistry Division Annual progress report for the period ending June 30, 1963, ORNL-3488 and also to the open scientific literature.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

A. Chetham-Strode/O. L. Keller, Jr.

11/1/63

## CHEMISTRY OF THE ACTINIDE ELEMENTS

This program includes the synthesis and structural investigation of compounds and complexes of the actinide and chemically related elements. Infrared, Raman, and diffraction data on crystals are correlated with Raman spectra of solutions to determine the nature and structure of ionic species in solution. These results provide a basis for the interpretation of ionic equilibria and bonding phenomena and for the descriptive inorganic chemistry of the heaviest elements.

The program this year will emphasize the Raman spectroscopy of hydrofluoric acid solutions of protactinium and tantalum salts and the synthesis of complex protactinium fluorides. The occurrence of hydrolytic species will be studied by ultraviolet absorption spectroscopy of oxyfluoride complexes in solution.

Theoretic studies of ligand field effects in the intra-series comparative chemistry of the rare earths and actinide elements will be continued in the hope of providing an indication of the importance of these effects in ionic equilibria in solution.

Publication

1. Keller, "Identification of Complex Ions of Niobium(V) in Hydrofluoric Acid Solutions by Raman and Infrared Spectroscopy," *Inorg. Chem.*, 2, 783 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

A Chetham-Strode/R. J. Silva

11/1/63

## NUCLEAR REACTION STUDIES OF HEAVY NUCLEI

Recent advances in accelerator technology and particle detection have made it possible to extend precision nuclear reaction methods to the study of level structures in the heaviest nuclei. Reaction methods provide high resolution over a wide range of excitation energy and, additionally, are applicable to nuclei not accessible to decay scheme investigation. This program includes the study of heavy nuclei by stripping and scattering reactions and the development of the required accelerator and particle detection techniques.

Development and application of compensated silicon semiconductor detectors for the spectroscopy of 10 to 15 Mev protons will be continued. A new amplifier system will be installed with sufficient resolution and stability to allow the study of closely spaced levels in uranium and thorium isotopes. The observed levels will be characterized by angular distribution and coincidence measurements. These results will be supplemented by studies of level structures in medium weight elements of interest in connection with nuclear models.

Publications

1. Dickens, Perey, Silva and Tamura, "Proton Excitation of Two-phonon Levels," Phys. Letters, 6, 53 (1963).
2. Perey, Silva and Satchler, "Excited-core Model of Odd-A Nuclei and the  $\text{Cu}^{63}$  (p,p') Reactions," Phys. Letters, 4, 25 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

G. D. O'Kelley/E. Eichler/N. R. Johnson

11/1/63

## NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY STUDIES OF FISSION

A need exists for more accurate values of cumulative and independent fission yields for thermal-neutron fission of heavy nuclei. Information concerning the division of nuclear charge in fission is essential to studies of the fission mechanism. The needed data on the distribution of primary fission yield with nuclear charge (the "charge distribution") can be obtained radiometrically by measuring the cumulative yields of early members of fission-product chains and the independent yields of later members. Detailed measurements of the variations in fission yield with changes in excitation energy are also important for an understanding of the mechanism of fission.

Recent accomplishments in this program include new information on yields and half-lives in the mass-99 fission-product chain and the independent yield of  $\text{Sb}^{127}$ , all for thermal-neutron induced fission of  $\text{U}^{235}$ . A recent determination was made of the independent yield of  $\text{Nb}^{97}$  in the fission of  $\text{U}^{235}$  by epi-cadmium neutrons.

Plans for the immediate future include measurements of cumulative yields of nuclei in the valley of the fission-yield curve of thermal-neutron induced fission. Since the charge distribution data have been more completely determined for nuclei in the heavy-mass peak of the  $\text{U}^{235}(n_{\text{th}},f)$  yield curve, complementary data are needed for nuclei in the light-mass peak. Experiments will also be made to study the feasibility of performing radiochemical fission-yield determinations on spontaneous fission sources, and for neutron-induced fission at resonances in the fission cross section. Efforts to develop new experimental methods for measurements of fission yields will be continued.

Publication

1. Troutner, Ferguson, and O'Kelley, "Yields and Half-Lives in the Mass-99 Fission-Product Chain", *Phys. Rev.*, 130, 1466 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry and Physics Division

A.R. Brosi/B.H. Ketelle/H.B. Willard

11/1/63

## BETA-RAY POLARIZATION MEASUREMENTS

In this program it is planned to measure the polarization of the electrons emitted by several different nuclides which undergo beta decay. Measurements of beta-ray polarization have, in general, been consistent with the V-A theory of beta decay. A measurement of the polarization of  $P^{32}$  beta rays which was made as part of this program agreed with theory to within about 1%.

However, in several cases other workers have found discrepancies which were several times their experimental errors. It is proposed to repeat measurements in some of the cases where discrepancies exist, as well as to measure polarizations of beta rays which have not been measured previously.

Measurements will be made by the method of Mott scattering where the electron spin is rotated from longitudinal to transverse by a spherical electrostatic analyzer. The transverse polarization is then determined by a measurement of the asymmetry of electron single scattering from a gold target using semiconductors which have good energy resolution as detectors.

With further refinements in electron polarization measurements it may be possible to learn something about the nuclear matrix elements in beta decay. It may also be possible to detect or put lower limits on the amount of the pseudoscalar interaction.

Publication

1. Brosi, Galonsky, Ketelle and Willard, "A Precision Measurement of the Longitudinal Polarization of Betas Following  $P^{32}$  Decay," Nucl. Phys., 33, 353 (1962).

G. D. O'Kelley

11/1/63

## CHARACTERIZATION OF LOW-ENERGY PROPERTIES OF NUCLEI

A critical study of current nuclear theories requires detailed knowledge of nuclear energy levels, but in many cases the necessary data are lacking. Hence, the need exists for systematic studies of nuclear level schemes over a series of isotopes of an element. Most of the work on this program has been concentrated on the medium-weight nuclei, for which no truly satisfactory model applies. A continuing effort will also be carried out on deformed nuclei, where the emphasis will be on characterization of high-energy collective states and on the effects of K-band mixing.

Spectroscopy of the radiations emitted in radioactive decay is one of the most useful methods available for these studies of nuclear energy levels. Although in this work it has proved necessary to investigate radioactive nuclei over a broad half-life range, an especially large body of new data has been obtained on the short-lived fission products. These latter species, which are neutron-rich and hence possess high decay energies, excite many nuclear levels in their decay.

In addition to investigations of fission products, studies of decay schemes and gamma-gamma angular correlations were recently performed on  $\text{Ne}^{23}$  and  $\text{V}^{51}$ . An investigation was also carried out on the high-energy states of  $\text{O}^{17}$  populated in the decay of  $\text{N}^{17}$ , a delayed-neutron emitter. Future work will extend the investigation of delayed-neutron emission to the fission-product region. With new coincidence scintillation spectrometry methods, studies of medium-weight nuclei will continue, with particular emphasis on nuclei at or near the closed shells of 50 and 82 neutrons.

Publications

1. Eichler, O'Kelley, Robinson, Marinsky, and Johnson, "Nuclear Levels of  $\text{Ge}^{74}$ ", Nuclear Physics, 35, 625 (1962).
2. Johnson, "Decay of  $\text{Re}^{184}$  and the Level Scheme in  $\text{W}^{184}$ ", Phys. Rev., 129, 1737 (1963).
3. Robinson, Johnson and O'Kelley, "Gamma-Gamma Angular Correlation in  $\text{V}^{51}$ ", Nuclear Phys. (in press).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

G. D. O'Kelley

11/1/63

## DEVELOPMENT OF DATA HANDLING SYSTEMS FOR NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY

Specifications and design criteria were formulated for a multiparameter pulse-height analyzer for use in coincidence spectroscopy of radioactive nuclei. This instrument was built by an outside contractor, tested exhaustively at ORNL, and is now in use on studies of nuclear decay schemes. The analyzer contains a ferrite-core memory of 20,000 channels, each with a storage capacity of  $10^6$  counts. Coincidence events are sorted according to their height (channel number), and then may be stored in a basic array of 200 x 100 channels.

Outstanding features of this instrument are its versatile, cathode-ray tube display system and its ability to transfer the contents of the 20,000-channel memory onto computer-compatible magnetic tape in only 15 sec.

The formidable problem of counting the many samples from a fission-yield study created a need for more automatic data recording and processing. An automatic beta- and gamma-ray counting system which produces its information on punched cards was built by an outside contractor to our specifications.

Since both of the new instrument systems have outputs compatible with the various Oak Ridge computers, it is possible to acquire and process information far more rapidly and with greater precision than before. During the coming year much effort will be spent on writing computer programs to take full advantage of the data gathered with these instruments.

Publication

1. Goodman, O'Kelley and Bromley, "A 20,000-Channel Pulse Height Analyzer with Two Coordinate Address," pp 197-200 in Proceedings of the Symposium on Nuclear Instruments, Harwell (ed. by J. B. Birks), Academic Press, New York (1962).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Joseph Halperin/R. W. Stoughton

11/1/63

## NUCLEAR CHEMISTRY - NEUTRON CROSS SECTIONS

The quantitative estimation of neutron reaction rates in nuclear reactors is of continuing interest in nuclear research. The calculation of nuclide yields in reactor neutron spectra, evaluation of neutron fluxes and their energy dependence, and the effect of nuclide production on reactor reactivity ("neutron poison" effects) are particular examples of such interest(1, 2). Cross section measurements of neutron induced reactions (eg.,  $(n, \gamma)$ ,  $(n, 2n)$ ,  $(n, \alpha)$ ,  $(n, \text{fission})$ ) using primarily radiochemical and mass spectrographic techniques, and the associated problems of flux spectra determination are the major concern of this research. In particular, the measurement of thermal cross sections and resonance integrals usually provides the basis for an adequate description of reaction rates. Generally the unstable nuclides, which cannot be simply measured by transmission methods, can be most usefully analyzed by these activation techniques.

It is of interest to apply these methods to measurements with monenergetic neutrons. In this connection a crystal monochrometer is presently being assembled for studies in the thermal and near thermal energy region.

Publications

1. Stoughton and Halperin, "Effective Cutoff Energies for Boron, Cadmium, Gadolinium and Samarium Filters," Nuclear Sci. & Eng., 15, 314 (1963).
2. Halperin, et. al., "The Average Capture/Fission Ratio of  $U^{233}$  for Epithermal Neutrons," Nucl. Sci. & Eng., 16, 245 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

A. R. Brosi/B. H. Ketelle

11/1/63

## NUCLEAR SPECTROSCOPY

Recent work on this program has been concerned with the decay schemes of  $\text{Pr}^{135}$  and  $\text{Ce}^{135}$ . An isomeric transition has been discovered in  $\text{Ce}^{135}$ . This is not a simple M-4 transition as is the case with the transitions from the isomeric levels in  $\text{Ce}^{137}$  and  $\text{Ce}^{139}$ .

In this work it is hoped that energy level diagrams can be worked out for both  $\text{Ce}^{135}$  and  $\text{La}^{135}$  and that spin and parity assignments can be made for at least some of the levels. It has been proposed that the isotopes in the region near the low mass number cerium isotopes have deformed nuclei which should have energy level spacings predicted by the unified nuclear model. It will be interesting to learn whether the level diagrams of the mass-135 isotopes show evidence of nuclear deformation.

In this work it is planned to use semiconductor detector spectrometers as well as scintillation spectrometers. An effort will be made to assign spins and parities to some of the levels by conversion electron angular correlation measurements.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

CHEMISTRY AND ANALYTICAL  
CHEMISTRY DIVISION

G. E. Boyd/R. H. Busey/J. C. White/ D. E. LaValle

## NUCLEAR AND INORGANIC CHEMISTRY OF TECHNETIUM

The purpose of this project is to obtain an improved understanding of the nuclear and inorganic chemistry of the element technetium. More complete information on the nuclear chemistry of technetium is desirable to better establish the nuclear systematics of its isotopes. The decay of the short-lived heavy Tc isotopes currently is of special interest because of recent reports of the existence of an unexpectedly long half-life at mass 104. A confirmation of the 18m Tc<sup>104</sup> will be attempted by 14 Mev neutron bombardment of ruthenium enriched in Ru<sup>104</sup>. Rapid chemical separations of Tc from Ru and from the uranium fission products are being developed to prepare sources of short-lived Tc<sup>102</sup>, Tc<sup>103</sup> and Tc<sup>104</sup> for the detailed characterization of their decay schemes.

The chemistry of gram quantities of technetium (with Tc<sup>99g</sup>) and its compounds is being investigated to test the predictions of the Periodic Table on the comparative chemical behavior of the Group VII B elements and to add to available information on the chemical behavior of the 4d transition elements. Thermodynamic properties of the more important compounds of technetium are being determined, and methods for the preparation of all of the oxidation states either in solid compounds or in aqueous solution are being developed. Some of the compounds will be characterized by x-ray diffraction, optical absorption and magnetic susceptibility measurements. The analytical chemistry of the element is being studied and methods for the determination of its numerous oxidation states are being devised.

Publications

1. Miller and Zittel, "Spectrophotometric Determination of Technetium with 1,5 Diphenylcarbon hydrazide", Anal. Chem., 35, 299 (1963).
2. Terry and Zittel, "Determination of Technetium by Controlled Potential Coulometric Titration in Buffered Sodium Tripolyphosphate Medium", Anal. Chem., 35, 614 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Ralph Livingston

11/1/63

## PARAMAGNETIC RESONANCE SPECTROSCOPY

The spectra arising from paramagnetic species formed by irradiating pure substances are being studied in order to identify and elucidate their properties. In the systems being studied these species are most often chemical free radicals; frequently these radicals play a direct role in the gross chemical changes ultimately brought about by the radiation. Low temperatures are usually used to stably trap the radicals during the time of study. Systems containing hydrogen and oxygen have been of particular interest, and work is under way on irradiated (for the present UV photolyzed) single crystals of hydrogen peroxide. Several paramagnetic species are formed including some in triplet states, and an effort will be made to deduce detailed properties of these species from first principles. The effects of gamma irradiation on single crystals of peroxide and ice will also be studied in detail. A triplet state species has also been seen in gamma irradiated single crystals of dimethylglyoxime where it now appears that free radicals have been formed in adjacent lattice sites giving rise to the triplet state. Defect pairs of this type will be studied in detail. Also typical of studies that have been made and which are continuing are the various species formed in irradiated crystals of nitrates and nitrites.

Publication

1. Zeldes and Livingston, "Paramagnetic Resonance Study of Production of  $\text{NO}_2^-$  in Irradiated  $\text{KNO}_3$ ," J. Chem. Phys., 37, 3017 (1962).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

R. H. Busey

11/1/63

## THERMOCHEMISTRY AND CALORIMETRY

The objective of the research of this project is the acquisition of thermodynamic properties (heat capacities, entropies, and free energy functions), the study of transitions arising from structural and magnetic changes, and the determination of heats of solution and formation for compounds of elements of the second and third transition series, with special emphasis on compounds of rhenium and technetium. Low temperature heat capacity (6° to 330°K) and high temperature enthalpy measurements are the primary observations made. Supplementary information is obtained from measurements of solubilities and heats of reaction which permit extension of certain thermodynamic properties of the compounds to the ions formed in solution.

Measurements will be made on  $K_2ReI_6$  and  $K_2ReF_6$  to determine if these compounds exhibit an unusual low temperature heat capacity similar to that observed for  $K_2ReCl_6$  and  $K_2ReBr_6$ . These measurements will complete the observations on the series of paramagnetic compounds  $K_2ReX_6$  and provide important information on the antiferromagnetism exhibited by these compounds.

The recent alteration of a thermochemical laboratory to provide for safe handling of several curies of technetium will permit low temperature heat capacity measurements to be made on large samples of technetium compounds. The first two compounds to be measured are  $KTcO_4$  and  $K_2TcCl_6$ .

Publication

1. Busey, Dearman and Bevan, Jr., "The Heat Capacity of Potassium Hexachlororhenate (IV) from 7 to 320°K. Anomalies near 12, 76, 103 and 111°K. Entropy and Free Energy Functions. Solubility and Heat of Solution of  $K_2ReCl_6$ . Entropy of the Hexachlororhenate Ion," J. Phys. Chem., 66, 82 (1962).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

James S. Johnson, Jr.

11/1/63

CHEMISTRY OF AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS: COMPLEX SOLUTE SPECIES AND  
THERMODYNAMICS

The predominant, though not exclusive, concern of this program is elucidation of the species formed by inorganic ions in hydrolytic reactions. The ions of most metallic elements of the middle rows of the periodic table react with water to form complex polymeric species, and to understand their aqueous solution chemistry, these reactions must be taken into account. Originally, the main technique was ultracentrifugation, and the problem of interpretation of refractive index patterns given by equilibrium distributions of ionic solutes has occupied a substantial fraction of the efforts up to the present. In recent years, weight-sensitive methods (on occasion light scattering as well as centrifugation) have been supplemented with other techniques, such as optical or Raman spectra or potentiometry (see publications below), when necessary. In addition, equilibrium ultracentrifugation has been employed for the measurement of activity coefficients of solutes in two component systems, and recently for solutions of two solutes.

In the near future, it is planned to complete work on several isopolyanion systems. Of these, Mo(VI) is essentially complete; W(VI), nearly so; and Ta(V), well along. A preliminary look at Si(IV) hydrolysis is in progress. Development of techniques for interpretation of ultracentrifugation data in terms of equilibrium constants will continue. If time permits, work on Th(IV) will be resumed. With respect to activity coefficient measurements, we are now engaged in work on the NaCl-BaCl<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O system, and probably shall investigate one or more pairs of perchlorate salts; perchlorate media are of great importance in study of complexing reactions.

Publication

1. Rush and Johnson, "Hydrolysis of U(VI): Absorption Spectra of Chloride and Perchlorate Solutions," J. Phys. Chem., 67, 821 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

M. H. Lietzke/R. W. Stoughton

11/1/63

THERMODYNAMIC STUDIES OF AQUEOUS ELECTROLYTE  
SOLUTIONS OVER WIDE TEMPERATURE RANGES

The general purpose of this project is to study the thermodynamic properties of aqueous solutions over wide ranges of concentration and temperature with emphasis on systems of interest in fluid reactors and in liquid chemical processing. In implementing this program two principal types of measurements have been made: EMF and solubility. The program of EMF measurements includes not only making thermodynamic studies of both simple and complex systems but also the development of both indicator and reference electrodes that will function properly over wide ranges of temperature and in a variety of electrolyte solutions. The solubility measurements offer a method of obtaining thermodynamic information on aqueous systems in temperature ranges that are difficult to study by more direct methods and make possible the extension of the studies to solutions for which no compatible electrodes have been developed.

Studies of the activity coefficient of DCl in D<sub>2</sub>O medium, the application of glass electrodes to indicating concentrations of metallic cations, and the solubilities of multivalent electrolytes in aqueous electrolyte mixtures will be extended. Continued use will be made of the application of high speed computers to the above and related problems.

Publications

1. Lietzke and Stoughton, "The Second Dissociation Constant of Deuteriosulfuric Acid from 25 to 225<sup>o</sup>," J. Phys. Chem. 67, 652 (1963).
2. Lietzke and Stoughton, "A Mathematical Model for the Solvent Extraction of Uranyl Nitrate and Nitric Acid," Nucl. Sci. and Eng., 16, 25-30 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

G. E. Boyd/S. Lindenbaum

10/1/63

## PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY OF ION EXCHANGERS

The long-range goal for this program is the achievement of a fundamental understanding of the behavior and properties of synthetic organic ion exchangers. Thermodynamic measurements are being conducted to learn what factors control the ionic selectivity shown by cation and anion exchangers when they are in equilibrium with electrolyte solutions. The rates of diffusion of ions in and through ion exchangers are being determined to evaluate the role of ion size and copolymer structure. Spectroscopic techniques (infra-red, visible and u.v. absorption) are being employed to identify ions inside ion exchangers.

Current work utilizes (1)  $C^{14}$  labelled tetra-alkyl ammonium ions for equilibrium and rate studies, (2) aqueous solution calorimeters for heat of exchange and apparent molal heat content measurements, and (3) radioactive, high molecular weight polymers for the measurement of the water content and electrolyte invasion of cross-linked cation exchangers. Ion exchanger beads, linear polyelectrolytes, "model compounds" and liquid ion exchangers are employed in the various phases of this program.

Publication

1. Lindenbaum and Boyd, "Spectrophotometric Investigations of the Extraction of Transition Metal Halo-Complex Ions by Liquid Anion Exchangers", J. Phys. Chem., 67, 1238 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

K. A. Kraus/F. Nelson

11/1/63

## DEVELOPMENT OF AN ION EXCHANGE SEPARATIONS SCHEME

Broad comparative studies of the ion exchange behavior of essentially all elements are underway whose objectives are deeper understanding of the properties of inorganic ions in solution, development of new separations techniques, and hopefully development of a new separations scheme which would be simpler, more rapid than existing ones, and adaptable to macro and tracer concentrations. The supporting fundamental studies stress properties in concentrated electrolyte solutions in a variety of media with special emphasis on cation exchange techniques at high ionic strength which have been neglected in the past. From these studies information on thermodynamic properties such as activity coefficients in concentrated electrolyte solutions and complexing reactions can also be obtained.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

George H. Cartledge

11/1/63

## ION EXCHANGE PROPERTIES OF PASSIVE METALS

Measurements on the kinetics of adsorption and desorption reactions of inorganic corrosion inhibitors on passive metal surfaces are being carried out by use of electrochemical polarization techniques and of tracer methods. Information of this type is essential for the understanding of mechanisms of inhibitor action and of the effect of adsorbed species on the kinetics of electrochemical reactions important in corrosion. The passive film on iron and stainless steel retains chromate ions tenaciously and these ions may be slowly exchanged by other anions ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{OH}^{-1}$ , etc.) in solution (see publication below). The kinetics of the exchange reactions are being measured by use of  $\text{Cr}^{51}(\text{VI})$  as a tracer. The results may be interpreted in some cases by a complex mechanism based upon the assumption of an activation energy which increases linearly with the extent of the exchange reaction. Exchange reactions of chromate ions with other anions such as  $\text{MoO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$  will be studied. Measurements of exchange kinetics at different temperatures are expected to provide values of activation energies of the exchange reactions.

Publication

1. Cartledge and Spahrbier, "Ion Exchange Properties of the Film on Passive Iron and Steel", J. Electrochem. Soc., 110, 644 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

E. J. Kelly

11/1/63

EFFECT OF ADSORBED IONS ON THE ELECTROCHEMICAL  
BEHAVIOR OF THE ACTIVE IRON ELECTRODE

The adsorption of organic ions and molecules from solution onto the surface of metals exerts remarkable effects on the kinetics of corrosion reactions. Comparative measurements on the polarization behavior of actively corroding iron electrodes in noninhibiting sulfate and in inhibiting benzoate solutions show that adsorption of the benzoate ion accelerates the specific rate of the hydrogen evolution reaction and greatly inhibits the specific rate of the iron corrosion reaction at the interface. Adsorption and desorption reactions of the organic anion are slow, thus permitting a detailed investigation of the effect of adsorption on the structure of the electrical double layer by both transient and steady state electrochemical methods. Results of this type are particularly useful for the comparison of predictions of theoretical models of the adsorption process and its effect on the structure of the double layer and on the kinetics of electrode processes with experimental observations. Future theoretical efforts will be devoted to the development of an adequate model for the interaction between specifically adsorbed ions and the other components of the electrical double layer at the metal-solution interface. Experimental measurements on the effect of organic cations on the corrosion reactions of iron will be carried out for comparison with the results obtained for organic anions.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

R. E. Meyer

11/1/63

ELECTROCHEMISTRY OF ZIRCONIUM IN  
HYDROFLUORIC ACID SOLUTIONS

Studies on the kinetics of corrosion and film growth processes on zirconium and other metals are conducted to provide new data bearing on the nature and properties of passive oxide layers on refractory metals. Steady state and transient polarization curves obtained by classical and pulse techniques on zirconium during dissolution in the presence of hydrogen fluoride show that corrosion proceeds by continuous formation and dissolution of a passive oxide layer on the surface. Further information about the dissolution of zirconium in various solutions containing hydrogen fluoride is being obtained by use of a rotating disk electrode. The use of a rotating disk electrode possesses the advantage that mass transfer conditions are precisely defined in solution so that corrections for the contribution of mass transfer processes to measurable kinetics can be made. In this manner the kinetics of the fast interfacial reactions occurring on zirconium and other refractory metals in hydrogen fluoride solutions can be measured. Studies on interfacial reactions occurring on film-covered electrodes are being extended to tantalum, niobium, and possibly hafnium, with emphasis on dissolution reactions in hydrogen fluoride solutions, film formation processes, and kinetics of cathodic reactions.

Publication

1. R. E. Meyer, "The Reduction of Oxygen on Passive Zirconium," J. Electrochem. Soc., 110, 167 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

R. W. Stoughton

11/1/63

## SOLUTION SPECTROPHOTOMETRY OVER WIDE TEMPERATURE RANGES

The purpose of this program is to study the visible and near-visible spectra of solutions, particularly of electrolytes, over wide temperature ranges in order to elucidate general solute-solute and solute-solvent interactions. A spectrophotometer cell assembly has been constructed which allows simultaneous and automatic control of both sample and reference cells over the range of about  $-70$  to  $280^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The applicability of aqueous  $\text{HNO}_3$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and  $\text{HClO}_4$  solutions (both protonated and deuterated) as suitable solvents in the equipment has been demonstrated, and their temperature and concentration ranges of stability have been determined.

In the near future solutions with liquid ammonia and methanol as solvents will be studied from the vicinity of their freezing points ( $-78$  and  $-98^{\circ}\text{C}$ , respectively) to above their critical temperatures ( $132$  and  $240^{\circ}\text{C}$ , respectively). Also, the effects of electrolytes on the very sensitive near infra-red spectra of water ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ) will be investigated.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

S. Datz/E. H. Taylor/R. E. Minturn/M. G. Menendez

11/1/63

## MOLECULAR BEAM STUDIES OF ALKALI ATOM REACTIONS

A study is being made of the scattering of alkali atoms from halogen molecules and atoms in an effort to observe large-cross-section coulomb scattering due to electron transfer at large impact parameters. For most alkali atom-halogen atom combinations, the internuclear separation at the crossing point between the ionic and homopolar potential curves far exceeds gas kinetic collision diameters. Thus, for those combinations in which the non-crossing rule is obeyed, the system should exist in an ionic state during the time that the atoms are within the crossing point distance. Since this leads to a coulomb scattering potential in this interval, the effect should be observable in both the total and differential scattering cross sections.

In some cases (e.g. Cs + Cl) the energy gap separating the ionic from the homopolar states at infinite distance is small enough that one may be able to observe chemi-ionization collisions and to determine the cross sections for these processes.

Studies are continuing on chemically reactive collisions of alkali atoms with halogen-containing molecules. In this work a new differential detection technique utilizing beam deflection by inhomogeneous magnetic fields is under investigation.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

S. Datz/E. H. Taylor/G. E. Moore

11/1/63

MODULATED MOLECULAR BEAM STUDIES  
USING MASS SPECTROMETRIC DETECTION

The modulated molecular beam apparatus which utilizes mass-spectrometric detection is being used to study interactions of molecular beams with surfaces and to measure scattering cross sections of isotopic hydrogen mixtures.

In the surface reflection work, low temperature (77°K) beams of helium atoms and deuterium molecules are being reflected from heated metal surfaces. Because of the modulation frequency and flight path used, changes in velocity upon reflection are measurable as phase shifts in the modulated signal.

Surface reactions, such as the dehydrogenation of  $C_2H_6$  and the decomposition of  $C_2H_6$  into methyl radicals on heated Pt are also under study.

The same apparatus will be used to measure the collision cross section of HT and of  $D_2$  with e.g. He or  $H_2$ . The comparative cross sections of these hydrogen molecules is of particular interest since they differ only in their rotational moments of inertia. Correlations will be made with the thermal diffusion factors for these two gases.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

C. R. Baldock

10/28/63

## MASS SPECTROMETRY

The work included here consists of two types of application of mass spectrometry to chemical problems.

The first is the measurement of changes in isotopic abundance as the result of neutron capture. This is the final step in the determination of neutron capture cross sections, the other steps of which are carried out by another group. The measurements are made with a two-stage mass spectrometer, since in many cases the ratio of abundances of the different masses which must be measured is a million or more, a circumstance requiring unusually clean separation of the mass peaks.

The second is the use of mass spectrometry to provide information of use in radiation chemistry and in other branches of chemical kinetics. This includes the nature of ions produced by electron impact, by alpha particles and by other means, the reactivities of these ions with neutral molecules, and the identities of radical and molecular species formed in various types of reaction. This work is also done with a special mass spectrometer, in this case one adaptable to high pressure (up to 1 torr) in the source and of high sensitivity.

Publications

1. Melton, "Ionization and Excitation Processes in Argon, Krypton, and the C<sub>2</sub> Hydrocarbons Produced by Various Means," J. Chem. Phys., 37, 562 (1962).
2. Martin\*, Rummel\* and Melton, "Higher Pressure Mass Spectrometry," Science, 138 (3537), 77 (1962).

\*Chemistry Department, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

K. A. Kraus/H. O. Phillips

11/1/63

COMPARATIVE INORGANIC CHEMISTRY-  
ADSORPTION ON INORGANIC MATERIALS

For a number of years the ion exchange and adsorption properties of inorganic materials have been investigated at this laboratory. In the past principal emphasis has been on hydrous oxides and acid salts such as phosphates, tungstates, molybdates, antimonates, etc. These studies are to continue during the coming year with special emphasis on search for new materials, particularly those which are essentially exclusively anion exchange active. Typical examples are bismuth oxide, lanthanum oxide, and magnesium oxide. Their behavior and interaction with electrolyte solutions will be studied for a broad range of temperatures and compositions of the surrounding media. Within the last few years the studies have been broadened to include adsorptive properties and reactions of highly insoluble sulfides. These exhibit interesting and at times useful rapid exchange and metathetical reactions whose exploitation and further characterization will be an important part of next year's work.

Publication

1. Phillips and Kraus, "Absorption on Inorganic Materials. V. Reaction of Cadmium Sulfide with Cu(II), Hg(II) and Ag(I)," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 85, 486 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

M. A. Bredig/H. A. Levy

11/1/63

## DIFFRACTION STUDIES OF LIQUID STRUCTURE

This problem is concerned with contributions to understanding of liquid structure from x-ray and neutron diffraction studies.

The experimental data yield a description of the environment of the atoms in the liquid under study in terms of the average distribution of atoms about a given atom. The combination of neutron and x-ray data for the same material makes possible a more detailed description than either technique alone.

The program is presently concerned with water, aqueous solutions, and molten binary salts.

In the case of water, a model of the local structure has been proposed which yields a good fit to the x-ray diffraction data. Studies of the effect of temperature and of solutes in the structure are in progress.

Publication

1. Danford and Levy, "The Structure of Water at Room Temperature," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 84, 3965 (1962).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

Max A. Bredig

11/1/63

## METAL-MOLTEN SALT SOLUTIONS

Among studies of the chemistry of molten salts, the investigation of solutions of metals in their molten halides, which has been in progress for a number of years, is continuing. Of special interest are systems of the electropositive metals, i.e., the alkali, alkaline earth, and rare earth metals. These are distinguished from other metal-salt systems such as those of the transition and post-transition metals, by the occurrence of electronic conductance. While the study at this laboratory of the electrical conductance in most of the electropositive metal-salt solutions has been more or less completed in recent years, a few systems such as the yttrium-yttrium halide solutions remain to be investigated. As a result of very recent observations on Ba-BaX<sub>2</sub> systems, the question of the existence of solid subhalides containing alkaline earth metal ions in a low oxidation state such as M<sup>+</sup> or M<sub>2</sub><sup>2+</sup> has gained renewed attention and is being investigated by thermal analysis, X-ray diffraction, and other suitable methods. An apparatus for the measurement of the Hall effect in certain alkali metal-molten halide systems has been constructed and will be used in attempts to gain further insight into the electronic behavior of such solutions. Studies of absorption and magnetic properties are also being considered.

Publication

1. Dworkin, Sallach, Bronstein, Bredig and Corbett, "The Electrical Conductivity of Solutions of Metals in their Molten Halides VI. Lanthanum, Cerium, Praseodymium, and Neodymium in their Molten Iodides," J. Phys. Chem., 67, 1145 (1963).

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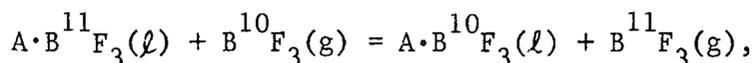
J. S. Drury/G. M. Begun

11/1/63

## SPECTROSCOPY OF ISOTOPIC MOLECULES

Raman and infrared studies of isotopic molecules provide fundamental information from which force constants, molecular configurations, and isotopic equilibrium constants may be deduced. Such studies of the boron-10 and boron-11 species of  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{O}\cdot\text{BF}_3$  and  $(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{O}\cdot\text{BF}_3$  have been published.<sup>1,2,3</sup> Similar studies are in progress, or are planned, for (1) the molecular addition compounds of  $\text{BF}_3$  with  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OCH}_3$  and  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{S}$ , (2) the xenon fluorides ( $\text{XeF}_2$ ,  $\text{XeF}_4$ ,  $\text{XeF}_6$ ,  $\text{XeOF}_4$ ), and (3) the related interhalogen compounds ( $\text{BrF}_5$ ,  $\text{IF}_5$ ,  $\text{IF}_7$ ,  $\text{ClO}_2\text{F}$ ).

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) examinations of these compounds will also be performed whenever such studies may be deemed useful.<sup>4</sup> Further NMR studies will be made of the kinetics and mechanism of boron exchange between the isotopic species of the reaction,



where A represents  $(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{O}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{S}$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{NO}_2$ , and  $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{N}$ .

Publications

1. Begun, Fletcher and Palko, "Infrared and Raman Spectra of the Boron Trifluoride-Dimethyl Ether Complex," *Spectrochim. Acta.*, 18, 655-65 (1962).
2. Palko, Begun and Landan, "Equilibrium Constant for Boron Isotope Exchange Between  $\text{BF}_3$  and  $\text{BF}_3\cdot\text{O}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ," *J. Chem. Phys.*, 37, 552-55 (1962).
3. Begun and Palko, "Raman and Infrared Spectra of  $\text{BF}_3$  Complexes with Diethyl Ether and Tetrahydrofuran, and the Isotopic Exchange of These Complexes with  $\text{BF}_3$ ," *J. Chem. Phys.*, 38, 2112 (1963).
4. Rutenberg, "Xenon Fluorides: Fluorine-19 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectra," *Science*, 140, 994 (1963).
5. Rutenberg, Palko and Drury, "Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Studies of  $\text{BF}_3$  Addition Compounds. I. The Exchange of  $\text{BF}_3$  Between  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{O}\cdot\text{BF}_3$  and  $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{O}\cdot\text{BF}_3$ ," *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 85, 2702 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

J. S. Drury

11/1/63

## CHEMISTRY OF ISOTOPIC REACTIONS

Equilibrium constants and kinetics of reactions which may serve as a basis for fractionating isotopes of the light elements and for performing other difficult separations are being systematically examined.

For separating alkali metals and their isotopes, ion exchange with polar, non-aqueous solvents will be further explored, since ethylenediamine gives a larger separation factor than water, although with a lower reaction rate. Exchange between an amalgam and an aqueous or organic solvent will be extended to zinc, magnesium, copper and similar metals.

Previous studies of isotopic exchange between  $\text{BF}_3$  complexes and  $\text{BF}_3$  have given one improved system for the separation and several promising possibilities. These will be tested further, and some systems containing selenium and tellurium will be explored.

Studies of the carbamate- $\text{CO}_2$  exchange, in which both carbon and oxygen isotopes are fractionated, will be continued. The possibility of thermal reflux lends impetus to such studies.

Large isotopic differences in the rates of reduction of  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and in the rates of thermal decomposition of substituted diazonium fluoroborates have been observed. Since such information is meager for nitrogen in comparison with carbon and oxygen, these measurements will be elaborated and extended to other reactions.

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Chemistry Division

C. J. Collins/V. F. Raaen

11/1/63

## THE ISOTOPE EFFECT

Because of their importance to tracer chemistry, differences in reaction rates between isotopically substituted and unsubstituted compounds have been under study by this group for several years. A particular problem arises in determining secondary isotope effects in which the isotopic bond is not broken, for normal methods of measurement of these effects involve determining small differences between large numbers with an attendant increase in error. A new technique called the "differential method" has therefore been developed and applied for the purpose of measuring small, secondary isotope effects of both carbon-14 and deuterium during the formation of derivatives of several labeled ketones and aldehydes (see publication below). During the coming year the differential and related methods will be applied to studies of 1) possible  $\pi$ -complexes of hydrogen or deuterium; 2) the question of neighboring group participation and bridged ion formation by hydrogen or deuterium, and 3) the mechanisms of several oxidation reactions.

Publication

1. Raaen, Dunham, Thompson and Collins, "Steric Origin of Some Secondary Isotope Effects of Deuterium," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 85, 3497 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

C. J. Collins/B. M. Benjamin

11/1/63

## ASSIGNMENT OF CONFIGURATION TO DIASTEREISOMERS OF GLYCOLS

This project deals with the identification of diastereoisomeric pairs as erythro- (or meso- or racemic-) compounds. The correct assignment of configuration in such cases is usually done by: 1) physical methods - infrared spectroscopy and x-ray and electron diffraction crystallography and 2) chemical methods - use of relative reactivities, elimination and rearrangement reactions, stereospecific syntheses, and resolvability. The methods can be tedious and sometimes lead to erroneous conclusions (see for example, the discussion by J. H. Stocker, P. Sidisunthorn, B. M. Benjamin and C. J. Collins, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 82, 3913 (1960)). For the assignment of configuration to diastereoisomeric 1,2-diols, nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy is a useful tool. Thus we have shown that, when the spectra of the two compounds are measured at the same concentration, the hydroxylic-proton resonance of meso-2,3-diphenyl-2,3-butanediol appears at higher field strength than the hydroxylic-proton resonance of the racemic isomer. The effect seems to be general and depends upon the degree of intramolecular hydrogen bonding which will in turn depend upon the conformational and steric requirements of the substituent groups in the molecules.

Nuclear magnetic resonance measurements will be made on a series of diastereoisomers of known configuration and a correlation will be made between the chemical shifts of the groups, particularly the hydroxylic protons and the structure of the diols. The method will be extended to other classes of stereoisomers.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

C. J. Collins/B. M. Benjamin

11/1/63

THE NATURE OF THE IONIC INTERMEDIATES IN ALIPHATIC DEAMINATION  
AND RELATED REACTIONS

Studies of the nature of the carbonium ion intermediates in deamination reactions have been a major effort of the organic group, and have been in progress for approximately ten years. Although much information has already been obtained, some important questions remain unanswered. These are: 1) What effect do the ion-pairs exert on the stereochemistry of the product? 2) Does the carbonium center become planar--if not, is this lack of planarity sufficient to control stereochemistry? 3) Under which conditions are the foregoing factors more important in controlling product stereochemistry than the steric condition of the planar carbonium ion itself?

The answers to these questions are being sought by combined stereochemical and isotopic techniques, the latter involving both tracer and isotope effect studies with carbon-14, deuterium and tritium. The same techniques will be applied to the chlorinolysis of certain thiolperoxides, a reaction which bears similarities to the deamination reaction.

Publication

1. Collins and Benjamin, "A Quantitative Test for a Classical Carbonium Ion Mechanism," J. Am. Chem. Soc., 85, 3519 (1963).

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Chemistry Division

W. H. Baldwin/C. E. Higgins

11/1/63

ORGANIC COMPOUNDS: REACTIONS WITH  $\text{HNO}_3$  AND STRUCTURAL EFFECTS ON  
SEPARATION OF ELECTROLYTES FROM AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS

The solvent extraction processes now employed in many nuclear fuel processing installations are operated with organic compounds in contact with aqueous solutions containing nitric acid and nitrates. A specific problem has been encountered involving the reaction between nitric acid and the hydrocarbon diluent used with tributyl phosphate as the organic solvent. Particularly significant is the formation of an unknown material that has a high affinity for zirconium. Since the diluent is a mixture of hydrocarbons and the unknown material is formed in small amounts, it seems profitable to study model compounds that might be formed in this reaction. The first class of compounds to be examined will be hydroxamic acids,  $\text{RCONHOH}$ , that are reported to form complexes with many cations but for which few data exist. Acids containing branching in the R group will be used to obtain the most favorable solubility characteristics.

Such diverse problems as the separation of electrolytes from solutions of reactor fuels and the desalination of salt water are being studied with organic compounds. Currently, the separation of the actinides from the lanthanides is an important problem. It was observed that a highly branched amide,  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{19}\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CON}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ , shows a dramatic selectivity for uranium over thorium. Great variations in the structure of amides, i.e., in length of chain, degree of branching, and position of branching, are available through known synthetic methods. A series of amides,  $\text{RCONR}'_2$ , will be synthesized to relate structures, mechanism of extraction and selectivity for actinides, lanthanides, water, and sodium chloride.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

G. E. Boyd

10/1/63

## RADIATION AND HOT-ATOM CHEMISTRY OF INORGANIC CRYSTALLINE SOLIDS

This program is directed toward a study of the radiation chemistry of molecular ions in crystals. The ultimate objectives are the identification of the primary radiolytic processes and the development of a mechanism for the reaction of the initial products to give the final chemical species observed on analyzing the irradiated solid.

The alkali-metal and alkaline earth halates have been chosen for these investigations and results on the radiolysis of the bromates by  $\text{Co}^{60}$  gamma rays, by nuclear reactor radiations, by  $\text{Li}^6$  fission recoil particles and by Br-atom recoils have been obtained. The view is taken that the behavior of the radioactive recoil bromine atoms formed by thermal neutron capture in crystalline bromates can give complementary information about the damage to the molecular environment. The physical and chemical nature of the damaged region and the manner in which this changes with subsequent physical treatment of the crystal is considered to be a central problem in the radiation and hot-atom chemistry of inorganic crystalline solids.

Publication

1. Boyd, Graham and Larson, "Recoil Reactions with High Intensity Slow Neutron Sources. IV. The Radiolysis of Crystalline Alkali-Metal Bromates with  $\gamma$ -Rays," J. Phys. Chem., 66, 300 (1962).

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C. J. Hochanadel/J. A. Ghormley/T. J. Sworski/P. S. Rudolph/ 3/1/64  
J. F. Riley/H. A. Mahlman/J. W. Boyle/A. R. Jones/H. W. Kohn/  
Tsu-Chang Hung

## RADIATION CHEMISTRY OF WATER AND AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS

The mechanisms through which high energy radiations bring about chemical change are being studied. We are interested in how energy is taken up in each systems studied, what the processes of energy migration and degradation are, and in the identity, the reactivity and the yields of the various transient chemical intermediates in each system. A chemical kinetics approach is generally used to elucidate a reaction mechanism; the mechanism is inferred from experimental results involving variables such as total dose, dose rate, temperature, LET, and scavenger concentration on radiolysis.

Various scavengers and tracers (such as  $O^{18}$ ) are used to study the mechanism of the radiolysis of water. To identify intermediates produced, their chemical properties are compared with the properties of known intermediates generated by means other than radiolysis. Dilute aqueous solutions are studied in order to use the solute as a scavenger or detector to study the intermediates produced in the radiolysis of water, to produce unusual valence states in elements such as Cr, As, Tl, Ag, Eu, Sm.

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C. J. Hochanadel/J. A. Ghormley/T. J. Sworski/P. S. Rudolph/ 3/1/64  
J. F. Riley/H. A. Mahlman/J. W. Boyle/A. R. Jones/H. W. Kohn/  
Tsu-chang Hung (IAEA Fellow, 1963-64).

RADIATION CHEMISTRY - STUDIES OF ENERGY TRANSFER, CHARGE  
TRANSFER, AND OTHER PROCESSES IN GAS, LIQUID AND SOLID SYSTEMS

Processes such as energy partition, energy transfer, charge transfer, and energy migration are studied in several types of systems other than concentrated aqueous solutions. The formation of ozone is studied in solutions of oxygen in liquid nitrogen and in liquid argon over the entire concentration range. Energy transfer in alkali halide matrices is studied by measuring the decomposition of various energy acceptors such as  $\text{KNO}_3$  or organic materials present in small concentration ( $< .1\%$ ). The important variables are the nature of the matrix and the acceptor, and the concentration of the acceptor. Energy transfer and charge transfer processes are also studied in gas phase reactions. Present studies are concerned with the influence of  $\text{CO}_2$  and the rare gases on the synthesis of water from  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2$ . A program will be initiated to determine the relative roles of ions and excited states in gas phase radiolysis by using an applied electric field during irradiation. The effects of crystal structure and phase on the radiolysis of nitrates and bromates, and the effect of phase in the radiolysis of methane are under study. The effect of LET on the radiolysis of nitrates, chlorates, and plastics provides information on special effects in heavy particle tracks (e.g., thermal spikes). High energy radiation is used to study heterogeneous catalysis by introducing specific defects which can be related to catalytic, adsorptive, and energy-transferring properties of the solids. In addition, radiation induced reactions of materials on oxide surfaces are studied. We expect to undertake additional photochemical studies, particularly in the vacuum ultraviolet, to provide comparisons between different modes of initiation of reaction. Also, studies of reactions of ions in the mass spectrometer will be resumed.

### Publications

1. Hochanadel, "Radiation Decomposition of Sodium Chlorate; Comparison of Yields and the Post-Irradiation Annealing Behavior for Irradiation by  $\gamma$ -Rays and  $\alpha$ -Particles," J. Phys. Chem., 67, 2229 (1963).
2. Rudolph, Lind and Melton, "Ionic Complexes of Xe and  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$  Produced by the Radiolysis of These Gases," J. Chem. Phys., 36, 1031 (1962).
3. Kohn and Taylor, "The Effect of Ionizing Radiations on Catalytic Activity. Hydrogenation and Isotopic Exchange on Inorganic Solids," J. Catalysis, 2, 32-39 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemistry Division

H. A. Levy/P. A. Agron/G. M. Brown/W. R. Busing/  
R. D. Ellison/C. K. Johnson

3/1/64

## NEUTRON DIFFRACTION CRYSTALLOGRAPHY

This problem encompasses the investigation of crystal structures by means of the diffraction of slow neutrons. Subjects for study are chosen for their interest in structural chemistry and for their particular susceptibility to solution by the neutron technique. Thus the structures of crystals containing atoms of low atomic number, particularly hydrogen, constitute a large part of the program of study.

At present structures being studied include:

1. Potassium hydrogen chloromaleate. This is of interest as a hydrogen-bonded molecule with considerable strain. Results already obtained show an unusually short hydrogen-bond. The structure is being refined.
2. Sucrose. This is the largest molecule for which a complete, precise structure has been obtained. A few minor refinements will complete the work.
3. Lithium hydroxide monohydrate. This is interesting as an inorganic hydroxide with hydrogen bonds.
4. Citric acid monohydrate. This is a molecule of biological interest, and one in which it is planned to study optical activity by enzymatic deuterium substitution.
5. Xenon hexafluoride. This will complete the series of xenon fluorides whose structures have been determined precisely by neutron and x-ray diffraction.
6. Sodium phytate (sodium inositol hexaphosphate $\cdot$ 38 H<sub>2</sub>O). This is of biological interest, particularly as an example of a phosphate and as a hydrate. It is being studied by x-rays rather than by neutrons because the large amount of hydrogen is a complication in a first determination of the structure. Later work, after the heavier atoms are located, may include neutron diffraction if large enough crystals can be grown.

These studies have also contributed basic information related to the geometry of hydrogen bonds in a variety of organic and inorganic crystals; a systematic dependence of hydrogen positions on the strength of the hydrogen bonds between oxygen atoms has been disclosed. Other studies contributing to understanding of hydrogen bonds are planned.

In addition to atomic positions, these studies often yield detailed information on thermal displacements and make possible deduction of rigid body molecular motions.

SECTION 8B

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY - ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY DIVISION

- 8B1 Nuclear Methods of Chemical Analysis
- 8B2 Analysis of Molten Salts by Electrochemical Methods
- 8B3 Instrumental Methods for Chemical Analysis
- 8B4 Effects of Radiation on Analytical Methods

For further information on work completed, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature and to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Analytical Chemistry Division Annual Progress Report for the period ending November 15, 1963, Report number ORNL-3537.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Analytical Chemistry Division

J. C. White/W. S. Lyon

11/1/63

## NUCLEAR METHODS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

This program is concerned with the study of nuclear methods of analysis involving nuclear particles other than neutrons; it involves broad research in basic analytical radiochemistry with the primary objective of searching for new, interesting, or unusual reactions or mechanisms which may be translated into useful applications. Possibilities for analytical application of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ , X-ray and bremsstrahlung radiation are to be investigated. In addition the use of charged particle reactions (p,n) (p, $\alpha$ )  $\text{He}^{+3}$ , etc., offers the possibility of performing selected analytical determinations which may not be feasible otherwise.

In this program investigation of these nuclear phenomena and their application to analytical procedures will be studied. Alpha and beta scattering, autoradiography, and X-ray and  $\gamma$ -ray absorption all offer potential in analytical chemistry. Improvements in particle counting techniques, such as liquid scintillation counting and solid state detectors, make possible more sensitive detection and, hence, more useful methods for analysis.

Recent discoveries in basic nuclear physics, such as the Mossbauer effect, will be investigated for analytical purposes. The use of alpha and beta backscattering for analysis of low Z material will be investigated. The feasibility of proton activation analysis and  $\text{He}^{+3}$  bombardment for analysis will also be studied. Application of new techniques in liquid scintillation counting and solid state detection also will be initiated.

Publications

1. R. L. Hahn and W. S. Lyon, "Internal Conversion Coefficients in the Decay of  $\text{Au}^{199}$ ", Phys. Rev., 130, 306 (1963).
2. R. L. Hahn, "Chemical Effects of Isomeric Transitions: The Separation of the Isomers of  $\text{Te}^{127}$ ,  $\text{Te}^{129}$ , and  $\text{Te}^{121}$ ," J. Chem. Phys. 39, 3482, (1963).

## ANALYSIS OF MOLTEN SALTS BY ELECTROCHEMICAL METHODS

Electrochemical methods are required to ascertain the behavior of electroactive species in molten salt systems. This program is unique in that the studies are confined primarily to molten fluoride salt mixtures which present difficulties due both to high melting temperatures ( $\sim 500^\circ\text{C}$ ) and the corrosive properties of the melt. The immediate problem here is to devise compatible containers and electrode systems. The ultimate objective of the program is to devise techniques and apparatus applicable to direct analyses of molten fluorides.

Controlled potential voltammetry (both slow and rapid scan) and chronopotentiometry were used in a study of iron and nickel in molten LiF-NaF-KF (46.5 - 11.5 - 42 mole%) to provide basic information pertaining to the half-wave potential, limiting current constant, diffusion coefficient, reversibility of the electrode reaction and activation energy of the limiting current process. The melt is contained in a graphite cell inside a quartz jacket to maintain a vacuum or controlled atmosphere. Indicator electrodes are fabricated from platinum, silver, gold, tungsten and pyrolytic graphite; the latter has proved to be the most promising electrode material tested.

Voltammetric and chronopotentiometric data will be obtained for other electroactive constituents such as chromium, uranium and oxide ion. Preliminary experiments are also planned in an effort to develop a true reference electrode for molten fluorides. Presently the potentials are referred to a platinum quasi-reference electrode.

Publications

1. D. L. Manning, "Voltammetry of Iron in Molten LiF-NaF-KF," J. Electroanal. Chem. (in press).
2. D. L. Manning and Gleb Mamantov, "Current-Voltage Curves for Zirconium and Uranium in Molten Fluorides," J. Electroanal. Chem. (in press).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Analytical Chemistry Division

D. J. Fisher/M. T. Kelley

11/1/63

## INSTRUMENTAL METHODS FOR CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

The objective of this program is to seek out those physical or chemical properties that might best serve the purpose of chemical analysis and to develop instrumentation and advanced instrumental techniques and theory for chemical research and analysis including continuous analyses and analyses of radioactive materials. New instruments are developed in addition to improved instruments applying established principles. Information developed in this program has appeared with acknowledgement in several textbooks and several of the instruments that were developed have been duplicated in other laboratories and by commercial manufacturers. A number of operational amplifier systems have been designed or applied in various combinations in instrumentation. Emphasis is placed on the mathematical analysis of system performance and on including test functions as part of the design procedure. For new instruments, manuals are prepared that include, in addition to operating procedures, specifications defining normal instrument performance and procedures for troubleshooting. Work in progress includes instruments and techniques for the remotely controlled analysis of radioactive materials, controlled-potential ac polarograph and polarography, a high-sensitivity conductometric titrator, a chronopotentiometer and a voltammeter for molten salt applications, and studies of potentiostat performance. Work that is scheduled includes: design and evaluation of a new fast dc polarograph, a voltammeter/chronopotentiometer/coulometric stripper, and a differential polarograph; further development of the technique of derivative dc polarography; additional investigation of the sensitivity limits of dc polarography; instrumentation for and techniques of stationary electrode voltammetry and coulometry; automation of analytical procedures.

Publications

1. Maddox, Kelley and Dean, "Determination of Chloride Ion in Dilute Solutions by Cathodic Stripping Voltammetry," J. Electroanal. Chem., 4,96 (1962).
2. "Microchemical Techniques in the Analysis of Highly Radioactive Materials," Microchemical Journal Symposium Series, Vol. 2, "Proceedings, 1961 -- International Symposium on Microchemical Techniques," Nicholas D. Cheronis, Editor, Interscience Publishers, New York, 1962, pp. 939-957.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Analytical Chemistry Division

J. C. White/H. E. Zittel

11/1/63

## EFFECTS OF RADIATION ON ANALYTICAL METHODS

Definitive data on the effects of alpha, beta and gamma radiation on analytical methods that are used for the analysis of highly radioactive materials are for the most part nonexistent. This situation is particularly true with respect to more recent analytical techniques such as gas chromatography and the highly refined electroanalytical methods as well as the more established colorimetric methods. The general purpose of this program is to define (1) the nature of the effect of radiation on a specific method or technique, (2) the tolerance of the method to radiation, and (3) means of preventing or circumventing deleterious effects if possible.

Initial efforts have involved gamma radiations from a  $\text{Co}^{60}$  source. These will be continued and similar investigations extended to alpha emitting materials also. Methods and techniques are examined to ascertain what effects such radiation induces. Typical examples are studies of the effect of radiation on (1) solvent extraction reagents, (2) the stoichiometry of  $\text{UO}_2$ , (3) electrodes used in electroanalytical methods, (4) the dissolution behavior of refractory materials after exposure to high radiation and thermal flux, and (5) actinide radiations (particularly alpha radiation) on analytical procedure.

Publications

1. Zittel, "Effect of Gamma Radiation on Aqueous Solutions of EDTA," Anal. Chem., 35, 1528 (1963).
2. Zittel, "Chromium(VI)-1,5-Diphenylcarbohydrazide Reaction and Effect of Gamma Radiation On It," Anal. Chem., 35, 329 (1963).

## SECTION 8C

### OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY - REACTOR CHEMISTRY DIVISION

- 8C1 Radiation Chemistry of Organic Materials--High Polymers
- 8C2 Radiolysis of Inorganic Fluorides
- 8C3 Surface Chemistry of Refractory Oxides in Aqueous Media
- 8C4 Mechanism of Aqueous and Radiation Corrosion of Zirconium Alloys
- 8C5 High Temperature Aqueous Chemistry--Hydrolysis of Metal Salts
- 8C6 High Temperature Aqueous Systems--Electrical Conductance
- 8C7 High Temperature Aqueous Systems--Solubility Studies
- 8C8 Isopiestic Studies in High Temperature Aqueous Solution Chemistry
- 8C9 Physical Chemistry of Molten Salts
- 8C10 Phase Behavior in Fluoride Systems
- 8C11 Physical Chemistry of Gaseous Thermodynamic Working Fluids

For further information on completed work, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature and to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Reactor Chemistry Division Annual Progress Report for the period ending January 31, 1964, Report number ORNL-3591.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Reactor Chemistry Division

W. W. Parkinson

11/1/63

## RADIATION CHEMISTRY OF ORGANIC MATERIALS--HIGH POLYMERS

The general objective is the development of an understanding of the changes in molecular structure which are responsible for the radiation-induced changes in physical and mechanical properties of organic polymers. Materials under study are polystyrene, polyacrylate, and various isomeric polybutadienes.

The molecular weight and distance between cross-links influence mechanical properties very strongly. These are measured by viscosities of dilute solutions or by solubility properties. Radiation-induced changes in chemical composition are correlated with the changes in physical properties. Chemical changes are determined by infrared analysis of solid polymers and by gas chromatographic analysis of the evolved gases.

During the next year the molecular weight measurements on polystyrene will be improved by utilizing light-scattering measurements. Cross-link densities will be determined by equilibrium stress measurements. Stress relaxation and creep will be measured in air and high vacuum, at high and low temperatures. The studies will be broadened to include natural and the newer synthetic rubbers.

Publication

1. Sisman, Parkinson and Bopp, Chapters 5 and 6 of Radiation Effects on Organic Materials, edited by Bolt and Carroll, Academic Press, (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Reactor Chemistry Division

G. H. Jenks/W. T. Rainey, Jr.

11/1/63

## RADIOLYSIS OF INORGANIC FLUORIDES

The detection of elemental fluorine and carbon tetrafluoride in the cover gases following in-pile irradiation of MSRE fuel salt capsules suggested that, under undetermined conditions, radiolysis of inorganic fluorides in the frozen state had occurred with a low  $G(F_2)$  value. It was assumed that carbon tetrafluoride was formed by reaction of the fluorine with graphite purposely included in the capsule or with carbon compounds present in trace impurities.

A fundamental research study of this effect has very recently been initiated, with the use of "pure radiation", e.g., a  $Co^{60}$  gamma source, X-rays, and Van de Graaff electrons, for irradiation of fluorides under a variety of conditions. The primary objectives of this program have been to determine the important parameters affecting the release of fluorine from inorganic fluorides and to describe the quantitative relationships in effect during radiolysis. The following variables were considered important and are being incorporated into experimental plans: salt composition and environment, crystal size, temperature, types of radiation, dose rate, and adsorbed dose.

Fuel salt mixtures containing  $LiF$ ,  $BeF_2$ ,  $ZrF_4$ ,  $ThF_4$ , and  $UF_4$  (0.70, 0.23, 0.05, 0.01, and 0.01 mole fraction, respectively) have been irradiated with the three sources under somewhat different conditions.

Continued work is planned to describe further the effects of temperature, dose rate, and type of radiation. The pure component salts will be irradiated, and the results will be compared with those from the mixed salts to determine possible synergistic influences. The effects of crystallite size and particle size will be investigated in order to determine whether or not the fluorine liberation is diffusion controlled.

C. H. Secoy

11/1/63

## SURFACE CHEMISTRY OF REFRACTORY OXIDES IN AQUEOUS MEDIA

This program has so far concerned itself with the interaction of thorium oxide with aqueous media. The aqueous media range from very low pressure, unsaturated water vapor through pure liquid water and dilute solutions of electrolytes to concentrated solutions. In addition to very thorough determination of the geometric parameters of the solids, (surface area, particle size and distribution, crystallite size and pore size and distribution) three general experimental approaches are used. These are, first, the determination of adsorption isotherms for water and for ionic species; second, calorimetric determination of differential and integral heats of adsorption for water and for ionic species; and third, a study of electrokinetic transport, including surface conductance, in water and in electrolyte solutions.

The influence of pretreatment conditions on the heat of immersion of thorium oxide in water at 25°C has been determined. The heat of immersion is complex involving both a slow and an immediate release of heat both of which are strongly dependent on the outgassing parameters. A sensitive ( $10^{-7}$  g/g) gravimetric adsorption apparatus has been constructed. It is being used to determine adsorption isotherms and to prepare samples with known amounts of preadsorbed water for heat of immersion measurements. A major effort is the design and construction of a high-temperature, high-pressure, precision adiabatic calorimeter. This instrument should be in operation within the next year.

A non-steady state, electro-osmotic method has been used to determine electrokinetic conductance and surface conductance. Surface conductances far greater than would be expected in the diffuse part of the double layer have been observed. We believe this is attributable to the mobility of chemisorbed species.

The entire program will be extended to higher temperatures and to other refractory oxides as progress permits.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Reactor Chemistry Division

G. H. Jenks

11/24/63

## MECHANISM OF AQUEOUS AND RADIATION CORROSION OF ZIRCONIUM ALLOYS

Reactor radiations are known to increase the corrosion of Zircaloy-2 and other zirconium-base alloys in oxygenated, high-temperature aqueous  $\text{UO}_2\text{SO}_4$  solutions and also in oxygenated dilute acid and water. Two studies having the objective of providing information which will aid in establishing the mechanism of the radiation corrosion are in progress.

One of these has the immediate goals of determining whether the primary radiation effects occur in the metal or in the oxide, and/or whether the radiation effects are manifest only when a corrosive environment is present. Preoxidized and film-free specimens are exposed to reactor radiations while in an inert environment at 100 or 300°C, and subsequently exposed to a steam-oxygen environment at 300°C. The reactivity of a specimen and the protective qualities of the oxides formed are gauged from results of measurements of the rates of weight gain in this environment and of the A.C. film impedance of the oxides formed.

The other study has the objective of providing basic information on the corrosion of Zircaloy-2 and other metals in aqueous environments in the temperature range 100 to 300°C using electrochemical methods. The general approach from an experimental point of view is to design and fabricate equipment to perform routinely those measurements familiar to the electrochemist working on electrochemical systems at room temperature and pressure. Specifically, electrochemical measurements of corrosion rates as a function of time have been performed on crystal bar zirconium and Zircaloy-2 in highly oxygenated, dilute sulfuric acid at 167°, 208°, 268°, and 295°C. The activation energies of the anodic partial process reaction (oxidation of zirconium) and of the cathodic partial process reaction (reduction of oxygen) have also been determined.

A study of the reduction kinetics of  $\text{H}^+$ ,  $\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{+2}$ , and  $\text{UO}_2^{+2}$  at temperatures from 100° to 300°C is planned.

Publication

1. Bacarella, "Electrochemical Measurements of Corrosion Rates on Zirconium and Zircaloy-2 at Elevated Temperatures," J. Electrochem. Soc., 103, 331 (1961).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Reactor Chemistry Division

C. F. Baes, Jr.

11/1/63

HIGH TEMPERATURE AQUEOUS CHEMISTRY--HYDROLYSIS  
OF METAL SALTS

The principal objective of this program is to determine the role of hydrolytic reactions of metallic cations in the behavior of metal salt solutions at elevated temperatures. The principal method of investigation is the potentiometric determination of acidity (pH) by use of the glass electrode (to 100°C) or the hydrogen electrode (to > 200°C) as a function of solution composition. In addition, the pH dependence of metal oxide or metal hydroxide solubility is investigated. The general approach is to study the hydrolytic behavior of a selected cation at elevated temperatures and, together with its known or measured hydrolytic behavior at room temperature, to deduce therefrom the hydrolytic reactions which occur and their temperature dependence. This information should permit a better understanding of the chemical and phase behavior of a variety of high temperature aqueous systems in terms of the ionic species of the metal which, from these studies, are expected to be present in solution. To date the hydrolysis of  $UO_2^{2+}$  and  $Th^{4+}$  have been examined in the range 25-94°C and 0-94°C, respectively. During the coming year investigation of  $Fe^{2+}$  hydrolysis (in the range 25-260°C), presently in progress, will be continued, and  $Be^{2+}$  hydrolysis studies will be initiated.

Publication

1. Baes, Jr. and Meyer, "Acidity Measurements at Elevated Temperatures. I. Uranium (VI) Hydrolysis at 25 and 94°C," *Inorg. Chem.*, 1, 780 (1962).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

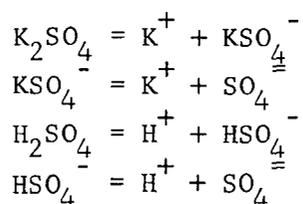
Reactor Chemistry Division

W. L. Marshall/A. S. Quist

11/1/63

## HIGH TEMPERATURE AQUEOUS SYSTEMS--ELECTRICAL CONDUCTANCE

The extent of electrolytic dissociation of a salt dissolved in a liquid or gas can be determined by measuring the electrical conductance of a series of solutions of varying concentration. By measurement of the conductances of many different salts under similar conditions of temperature, concentration, and pressure, not only can the extent of dissociation be determined but also the types of ions which are formed and the relative velocities with which they move in an electric field. With the use of electrical conductance as a tool, the behavior of salts in water solution is being investigated at temperatures up to 800°C and at pressures up to 4000 bars. Above 374°C and 221 bars, water ceases to behave as a liquid and can only exist as a supercritical fluid which fills its container. In a study of the behavior of a sulfate salt, the electrical conductance of  $K_2SO_4$  dissolved in  $H_2O$  was measured at temperatures from 0 to 800°C and at pressures from 1 to 4000 bars; this showed that  $K_2SO_4$  at high temperatures and at moderately high pressures still ionized to some extent. The specific goals of this program are (1) to complete studies of the conductances of two other electrolytes,  $KHSO_4$  and  $H_2SO_4$ , in aqueous media at high temperatures and pressures (2) to use these data, in addition to those on  $K_2SO_4$ , to attempt to evaluate ionization constants for the several reaction equilibria,



over the entire range of temperature and pressure, and (3) to derive related thermodynamic values from these constants.

Publication

1. Quist, Franck\*, Jolley and Marshall, "Electrical Conductance of Aqueous Solutions at High Temperature and Pressure. I. The Conductances of  $K_2SO_4$ - $H_2O$  Solutions from 25 to 800°C and at Pressures up to 4000 Bars, *J. Phys. Chem.*, 67, 2453 (1963)

\* E. U. Franck, Institut für Physikalische Chemie und Elektrochemie, Karlsruhe Technische Hochschule, Karlsruhe, Germany

W. L. Marshall

11/1/63

## HIGH TEMPERATURE AQUEOUS SYSTEMS--SOLUBILITY STUDIES

The general objectives of this program are to determine solubilities of metal sulfate salts in aqueous electrolyte media at temperatures from 100 to 374°C (the critical temperature of H<sub>2</sub>O), and to use these data to obtain solubility products and ionization constants from which other thermodynamic values can be derived. These investigations are important not only because of the experimental information obtained but also because of the potential application of the data (1) in understanding the nature of solubility in high temperature water, (2) in evaluating chemical processes, and (3) in understanding the behavior of salts of geochemical interest. The solubilities of solids in general in very high temperature water are of particular interest because of the sparsity of information that is available. By the use of apparatus previously developed in this program, the general approach is to determine the variation in solubility of a salt as a function of the concentration of an additional electrolyte. With these data the Debye-Huckel theory can be applied for extrapolation to zero ionic strength, and thermodynamic quantities,  $K$ ,  $\Delta F^\circ$ ,  $\Delta H^\circ$ , and  $\Delta S^\circ$ , can be obtained in addition to the mean activity coefficients of the salt as a function of ionic strength. The present goals are (1) to determine the solubilities of salts such as Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, Li<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and CaSO<sub>4</sub> in a variety of electrolyte media at the extremes of temperature, and (2) to obtain the various thermodynamic quantities.

Publications

1. Marshall and Gill, "Aqueous Systems at High Temperature-XI. Effect of Pressure on Liquid-Liquid Immiscibility in the System UO<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O and Liquid-Supercritical Fluid Equilibria in the System UO<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O; 290-430°C, 75-330 Bars," J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem., 25, 1033-1040 (1963).
2. Marshall and Jones, "Aqueous Systems at High Temperatures-X. Liquid-Liquid Immiscibility and Critical Phenomena in the Systems UO<sub>3</sub>-CuO-SO<sub>3</sub>-D<sub>2</sub>O, UO<sub>3</sub>-NiO-SO<sub>3</sub>-D<sub>2</sub>O and UO<sub>3</sub>-CuO-NiO-SO<sub>3</sub>-D<sub>2</sub>O, 260-410°C," J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem., 25, 1021-1031 (1963).
3. Gill and Marshall, "Glass to Metal Tube Connector for Visual Observation of the Effect of Pressure on Phase Equilibria," Rev. Sci. Instr., 34, 442 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Reactor Chemistry Division

B. A. Soldano/C. H. Secoy

11/1/63

## ISOPIESTIC STUDIES IN HIGH TEMPERATURE AQUEOUS SOLUTION CHEMISTRY

The general aim of this program is to obtain a systematic, comprehensive assessment of aqueous electrolyte solution behavior, with special emphasis on effects that accompany variations in temperature in the 100°C to 200°C range.

The isopiestic technique used, involving the in situ weighing of representative salts all sharing a common water vapor pressure, has proven highly effective in achieving the main objectives of this program. Studies have been completed, and the results published, for temperatures from 100° to 140°C.

The specific objectives for the forthcoming year are two-fold in nature. (1) The experimental measurement of the systematics of aqueous electrolyte behavior at 160°C should be completed. (2) The appearance of unexpected, anomalous maxima in the osmotic coefficients at low molalities and elevated temperatures for certain electrolytes will be reinvestigated. If these maxima are real, currently accepted theories will require revision.

Publication

1. Soldano and Meek, "Isopiestic Vapor-pressure Measurements of Aqueous Salt Solutions at Elevated Temperatures. Part III," J. Chem. Soc., Sept. 1963 (846), 4424-4426.

## PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY OF MOLTEN SALTS

The purpose of this program is the determination of the basic chemical principles of molten salt behavior which define the nature, extent and rates of chemical reactions therein. The general approach includes studies of (1) equilibrium behavior by phase, cryoscopic, calorimetric, e.m.f. and vapor pressure measurements, and (2) kinetic behavior by viscosity, diffusion, and reaction rate measurements. Present specific goals are the identification of species which occur in molten salts (principally molten fluorides) and the determination of their activity coefficients, their chemical reactivity (e.g. redox behavior) and their interactions with solvent ions. Such information should provide both the basic information necessary for the desired understanding of the chemistry of this very interesting and important branch of the liquid state, and valuable chemical knowledge in support of important nuclear and non-nuclear applications of molten salts. Plans for the coming year include continued freezing point depression, e.m.f., oxide solubility, and viscosity measurements in molten fluorides. In addition, studies are in progress on the redox and disproportionation behavior of U(III) in fluorides, the equilibrium between HF-H<sub>2</sub>O vapor and metal fluoride-oxide mixtures in molten fluorides, and the development of a stable reference electrode for e.m.f. measurements in molten fluorides.

Publications

1. Cantor and Carlton, "Freezing Point Depressions in Sodium Fluoride. II. Effect of Tetravalent Fluorides," J. Phys. Chem., 66, 2711 (1962).
2. Cantor and Ward, "Freezing Point Depressions in Sodium Fluoride. III. Effects of 3d Transition Metal Difluorides and Cadmium Fluoride," J. Phys. Chem., 67, 1868 (1963).
3. Cantor and Ward, "Freezing Point Depressions in Sodium Fluoride. IV. Effects of Trivalent Fluorides," In Press, J. Phys. Chem. (1963).
4. Mamantov and Manning, "Current-Voltage Curves for Zirconium and Uranium in Molten Fluorides," In Press, J. Electro-analytical Chem. (1963).

## PHASE BEHAVIOR IN FLUORIDE SYSTEMS

This program is intended to provide an improved understanding of the phase behavior in fluoride systems and of the crystal structure of the complex compounds in such systems. Development of fuel mixtures for molten salt reactors required detailed investigations of phase behavior in several binary, ternary, and quaternary fluoride systems. In these studies techniques were devised to permit rapid and complete evaluation of liquid-liquid, liquid-solid, and solid-solid equilibria in such systems. Precise composition-temperature relationships were established with the use of specimens obtained by annealing mixtures of known composition in a multiply compartmented container at high temperatures in a measured thermal gradient and then quenching the container. The temperatures of phase transitions were inferred from the results of petrographic and x-ray examination of the specimens in the several compartments. The data obtained suggested a simple relationship between radii of the cations and the number, stoichiometry, and structure of the complex fluorides occurring in the system. Systematic extension of the investigation and correlation of the information confirmed the suggestion and provided a basis for prediction of the occurrence and some properties of many previously unreported compounds. Subsequent examination of additional binary systems has offered confirmation of the predictions.

Studies in the near future will be directed primarily toward phase behavior in binary systems of sodium fluoride with the rare earth trifluorides and to structure determinations of the hexagonal  $\text{NaF} \cdot \text{MF}_3$  and  $5\text{NaF} \cdot 9\text{MF}_3$  phase shown to be common to several of the  $\text{NaF} \cdot \text{MF}_3$  systems.

Publications

1. Thoma et al., "Phase Equilibria in the System  $\text{NaF} \cdot \text{ThF}_4 \cdot \text{UF}_4$ ," J. Am. Ceram. Soc., 46, 37 (1963).
2. Thoma et al., "Phase Equilibria in the System  $\text{NaF} \cdot \text{YF}_3$ ," Inorg. Chem., 2, 1005 (1963).
3. J. H. Burns et al., "Xenon Tetrafluoride Molecule and Its Thermal Motion: A Neutron Diffraction Study," Science, 139, 1208 (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Reactor Chemistry Division

A. P. Malinauskas

10/24/63

## PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY OF GASEOUS THERMODYNAMIC WORKING FLUIDS

The principal objectives of this program are twofold: (1) the extension of the kinetic theory of gases to polyatomic molecules, and (2) an elucidation of intermolecular interactions. Two phenomena exhibited by gases are currently under investigation, viz., ordinary gaseous diffusion and thermal transpiration.

The diffusion program has been planned to proceed in three stages. The first phase consists of preliminary studies with a prototype two-bulb diffusion cell for use at temperatures in the range 0°C to 150°C. During the coming year, this apparatus will be employed to obtain diffusion coefficients, as a function of temperature, for the following systems: He-Ar, He-Ne, He-Xe, He-N<sub>2</sub>, He-O<sub>2</sub>, He-CO, and NH<sub>3</sub>-CO. The second phase is concerned with the design, construction, and operation of a refined version of the prototype apparatus. Unlike the diffusion chamber employed in phase 1, wherein the diffusion process is terminated in order that the compositions of the chambers can be analyzed, the refined apparatus will monitor the diffusion process continuously through the utilization of radioactive tracers. Design concepts for this apparatus, particularly those involving the gating mechanism for the isolation of the two diffusion chambers, are presently being tested on the prototype. Use of the radiotracer technique will permit a wider choice of polar gases and should be amenable to the use of the halogens. It should also be possible to investigate the effects of the distribution of mass within a molecule on the diffusion process. The utility of the diffusion phenomenon for a study of intermolecular interactions can be increased if the temperature range can be extended. Such an extension will be attempted in the third phase of the program.

It has recently been suggested that thermal transpiration data can yield information regarding the rotational relaxation times of gaseous molecules. A thermal transpiration apparatus has been constructed and is currently being used to study the effect exhibited by the following systems: Ar, Xe, N<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, CO, and CO<sub>2</sub>. The extension to other systems, a study of the approach to the steady state, and the inclusion of a concentration gradient are also under consideration.

Publications

1. Mason\*, Evans III, and Watson, "Gaseous Diffusion in Porous Media. III. Thermal Transpiration," J. Chem. Phys., 38, 1808 (1963).
2. Mason\*, "Molecular Relaxation Times from Thermal Transpiration Measurements," J. Chem. Phys., 39, 522 (1963).

\*E. A. Mason of the University of Maryland

## SECTION 8D

### OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY - CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

- 8D1 Separations Chemistry Research
- 8D2 Mechanisms of Separations Processes
- 8D3 Metal Nitrate Extraction by Amines  
(Subcontract with Massachusetts Institute of Technology)
- 8D4 Solvent Extraction Studies
- 8D5 Coalescence Studies
- 8D6 Stacked Clone Contactor Development
- 8D7 The Study of the Dynamic Behavior of Packed Gas Absorption  
Columns (Subcontract with the University of Tennessee)
- 8D8 Ion Exchange Studies
- 8D9 Protactinium Complex and Polymer Formation in Solution
- 8D10 Reserves and Process Costs of Recoverable Thorium in Granitic  
and Other Rocks
- 8D11 Geologic Aspects of Thorium Recovery from Common Rocks  
(Subcontract with Rice University)
- 8D12 Uranium and Thorium Processing
- 8D13 Preparation and Properties of Thoria and Urania Sols and  
Gels
- 8D14 Sintering and Surface Properties of Thoria Gels  
(Subcontract with the University of Utah)
- 8D15 Spectrophotometric Studies of High Specific Alpha Solutions  
at High Temperatures and Pressures
- 8D16 Basic Fluoride Volatility Studies

For further information on completed work, the reader is referred to the open scientific literature and to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Chemical Technology Division Annual Progress Report for the period ending May 31, 1963, Report number ORNL-3452.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Technology Division

## SEPARATIONS CHEMISTRY RESEARCH

The purpose of this program is to establish new separation systems, with continuing primary emphasis on solvent extraction systems, and to study their pertinent chemistry enabling development of new separations methods. The Program is divided into three parts: (a) Descriptive Chemistry, (b) Separations Process Development, and (c) Fundamental Chemistry.

K. B. Brown/C. A. Blake/C. F. Coleman/D. J. Crouse  
Boyd Weaver

10/1/63

## (a) DESCRIPTIVE CHEMISTRY

The function of the descriptive chemical studies is to search out new potentially useful extractants and other separation reagents and to evaluate their properties, in order to determine applicable areas and degree of utility in radiochemical and other separations. This is the "inventive" part of a program which, since 1950, has been responsible first for wide use of solvent extraction in ore processing and subsequently for several new developments in radiochemical and other fields.

Evaluation and systematic surveys of several useful, versatile reagents and combinations (alkylphosphonic acids, amines, phenols, synergistic combinations, etc.) are well along and will continue. Search will continue for new separations reagents, including special ion exchangers. New extractants already showing promise include: amides (U, Th), cage phosphate esters (Th, Th over U), hydroxamine acids (Zr, Nb, Hf, Sr), carboxylic acids, and reagents that may replace TBP (tributyl phosphate) in existing flowsheets such as Purex, Interim-23, etc. Diluent degradation studies are showing the reasons for poor process performance, providing methods for improving the stability against nitration of commercial aliphatic diluents, and showing potential of better performance by certain aromatic diluents.

## (b) SEPARATIONS PROCESS DEVELOPMENT

This part of the separations chemistry program serves to develop new solvent extraction recovery and separation processes for metals and materials not heretofore so treated and to develop more economical processes than those in existence. Here, work is carried to the point that large-scale performance can be predicted. Starting in the early 1950's, extractants found in the Descriptive Chemistry part of the program were developed into processes now widely used in the uranium ore processing industry. Those and other extractants have since been developed into practicable processes of much wider application, both within various areas of the AEC programs and as a by-product in areas useful to private industry.

Developments have been completed on vanadium recovery, thorium recovery, uranium-thorium separation, technetium and neptunium recovery, alkaline earth extractions with dialkylphosphoric acids, separations of promethium and other individual rare earths with TBP, nitrate recovery by amines, regeneration of degraded solvents by alkanolamines. Continuing developments include plutonium purification from Purex 1BP, transplutonium-actinide and inter-transplutonium separations in chloride-free systems, di-*sec*-butyl phenylphosphonate as a process extractant, recovery of cesium and rubidium with phenols, of strontium and other alkaline earths with carboxylic acids, of beryllium with primary amines, and of sulfuric and phosphoric acids with amines. Radiochemical processes are tested at full activity level where possible. In the future new separation schemes for short cycle fuel reprocessing, and potential use of such special reprocessing liquors as concentrated  $H_2SO_4$  and HF, will be evaluated. Separation methods for nucleic acids and other biological materials will be studied. Methods other than solvent extraction will be included.

Publications

See ORNL Reports on Special Solvent Extraction Topics: ORNL-1959, -2173, -2720, -2744, -2820, -2941, -2952, -3064, -3071, -3106, -3185, -3204, -3496.

## (c) FUNDAMENTAL CHEMISTRY

The purpose of this part of the program is to increase the knowledge of solvent extraction chemistry and to understand the mechanisms of the different solvent extractions in such a way as to improve, extend, or define the limits of their process, analytical, and physicochemical applications. While species and equilibria are now well understood in dialkylphosphoric acid extractions of many metal ions, extraction by synergistic combinations is far less completely understood, and new synergistic combinations are continually being discovered. Still greater complications in amine extraction are attributed to large variations of organic-phase activity coefficients; here considerable progress in identification of species and correlation of parameters still fails to reconcile equilibria with the Mass Action Law.

In the future, work will continue on determination of species and equilibria in dialkylphosphoric, substituted phenol, and synergistic extraction systems, on kinetics for elucidation of extraction mechanisms, on measurement of organic-phase aggregation numbers and activity coefficients important in amine and some other extraction systems, and on elucidation of the apparent anomalies in amine extraction. Various aqueous metal complex formation constants have been evaluated through extraction equilibria; this and other uses of extraction as a tool in measurement of aqueous-phase activity coefficients and formation constants will be continued and extended.

Publications

1. McDowell and Coleman, "Reagent Dependence in Sodium and Strontium Extraction by Di(2-ethylhexyl) phosphoric Acid," J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem., 25(2), 234-5 (1963).
2. Allen and McDowell, "The Thorium Sulfate Complexes from Di-n-Decylamine Sulfate Extraction Equilibria," J. Phys. Chem., 67, 1138-40 (1963).

Wallace Davis, Jr.

10/1/63

## MECHANISMS OF SEPARATIONS PROCESSES

This program is designed to provide a quantitative description of the mechanisms of separations processes such as solvent extraction and radiation degradation of solvents. At present, a transpirational vapor pressure method is being used to obtain activities of TBP in TBP-HNO<sub>3</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O and TBP-UO<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O two-phase solutions. This same technique is being used to determine uranyl nitrate activities in the H<sub>2</sub>O-HNO<sub>3</sub>-UO<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> system. Future work will include extension of TBP activity measurements to solutions that contain a diluent. Later, a sixth component will be added in trace concentration to correspond to a single fission product.

Publications

1. Wallace Davis, Jr., "Thermodynamics of Extraction of Nitric Acid by Tri-n-Butyl Phosphate-Hydrocarbon Diluent Solutions". I. "Distribution Studies with TBP in Amsco 125-82 at Intermediate and Low Acidities," Nucl. Sci. and Eng. 14, 159 (1962).
2. Ibid. II. "Densities, Molar Volumes, and Water Solubilities of TBP-Amsco 125-82-HNO<sub>3</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O Solutions," Nucl. Sci. and Eng. 14, 169 (1962).
3. Ibid. III. "Comparison of Literature Data," Nucl. Sci. and Eng. 14, 174 (1962).

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

ORNL Subcontract 1327

E. A. Mason

10/1/63

### METAL NITRATE EXTRACTION BY AMINES

This subcontract study under the ORNL Chemical Technology Division Separations Chemistry Research program serves to supplement its descriptive chemistry and process development studies of amine extraction. The primary emphasis has been on measuring the macrochemical equilibrium extraction of fission-product and corrosion-product metal nitrates from acid solutions. With correlations essentially complete on the principal elements (molybdenum, ruthenium, zirconium, niobium showed varying extractability; rare earths and stainless steel metals almost inextractable), the extractabilities of a wider range of metal nitrates are now being surveyed, as functions of amine type and organic- and aqueous-phase compositions.

#### Publications

1. Vaughen and Mason, "Equilibrium Extraction of Nuclear Fuels Metals by Alkyl Amines in Nitrate Systems," *Trans. Am. Nucl. Soc.*, 5(2), 462 (1962).
2. Skavdahl and Mason, "Extraction of Nitric Acid and Nitrosylruthenium Complexes by Alkyl Amines in Nitrate Systems," *Trans. Am. Nucl. Soc.*, 5(2), 463 (1962).
3. Skavdahl and Mason, "The Concentrations and Amine Extraction Characteristics of Nitrosylruthenium-nitrate Complexes," *Trans. Am. Nucl. Soc.*, 5(2), 464 (1962).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Technology Division

M. E. Whatley/A. D. Ryon

10/1/63

## SOLVENT EXTRACTION STUDIES

1. Correlation of Pulse Column Capacity: The purpose of the work is to correlate the existing data on the flow capacity of pulse columns with the operating variables and the physical properties of the systems. A literature search has been completed and about 1800 data points have been compiled. Computations on a high speed computer are being made with a major segment of the data pertaining to aqueous continuous operation of stainless steel sieve plate columns. It is planned to extend the calculations for the other column variables for which data are available.

2. Hydraulics of Pulse Columns: The purpose of the study is to determine the hydraulic characteristics of pulse columns having several different types of plates. The effective orifice coefficients have been calculated from pressure data for both steady and pulsed flow conditions. Solution of equations describing flow in column and the exit jackleg is under way and should be completed very soon. No further study is planned.

3. Solvent Extraction Contactor Development: The purpose is to develop an advanced contactor for small scale development or production with radiochemical systems. The present concept is a mixer-settler with positive interface control. The mixers are driven by magnetic coupling to eliminate the troublesome bearing and seal problems of conventional contactors. A six-stage plastic unit is being constructed and will be evaluated experimentally.

Publication

1. Chester and Newman, "Liquid-Liquid Interfacial Area Determination Using a Liquid Scintillator," Journal of Tennessee Academy of Science, 38 (2), 62, (April 1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Technology Division

C. F. Chester

10/1/63

## COALESCENCE STUDIES

The purpose of this study is to develop methods for predicting coalescence rates in ionizing radiation fields. Preliminary runs have been made with the water-benzene system using  $\text{Li}^6$  in the aqueous phase. No effect was noted from a proton radiation, but coalescence was accelerated by an alpha radiation. A preliminary mathematical model is supported by the experimental results. The apparatus and experimental technique are being improved to reduce the statistical spread of the data. Provision is made to simultaneously record (1) 1-30 cycles per minute at  $10^{-6}$  in. amplitude of background mechanical vibration in apparatus; (2)  $10^{-4}$ °C temperature fluctuation; (3) neutron flux; and (4) drop lifetime. The effect of variation of system, drop size, ionizing particle type, and temperature are being studied. The effect of temperature gradients and of surface active agents on the radiation effect on coalescence will be studied.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Technology Division

W. E. Whatley/W. M. Woods

10/1/63

## STACKED CLONE CONTACTOR DEVELOPMENT

It is intended to provide a high performance solvent extraction contactor capable of handling feed solutions of very high specific activity at significant plant capacities. The stacked clone contactor has been developed to the point that gross holdup times are less than 5 sec. per theoretical solvent extraction stage. Each physical stage consists of a clone 1.5 in. top diameter tapering rapidly to a 1/2-in.-diam cylindrical section to the underflow port. Each stage is 5 in. in length and develops about 70% stage efficiency. The device works best at throughputs over 50% of flooding and flow ratios, aqueous/organic, in excess of 1.

The optimum design configuration for a clone stage is being ascertained. The effect of underflow chamber volume, clone length, vortex finder, and feed port sizes and certain critical dimensions are under study. The effect of physical properties of the solvents, flow rate ratios, and throughput will be quantitatively determined on the optimum clone design. Design of a stainless steel plant prototype will be undertaken. It is planned that this unit will eventually be constructed and run on a variety of solvent extraction systems.

Patent

1. U. S. Patent No. 3,052,361, M. E. Whatley and W. M. Woods, assigned to AEC, U. S. Government, filed Dec. 6, 1960, issued Sept. 4, 1962.

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE  
Knoxville, Tennessee

ORNL Subcontract 2153

J. W. Prados

10/1/63

#### THE STUDY OF THE DYNAMIC BEHAVIOR OF PACKED GAS ABSORPTION COLUMNS

The objectives of the study are the development of mathematical techniques for describing the transient behavior of packed, counter-current gas-liquid contacting equipment, and the evaluation of these techniques by experiment. Experiments are conducted with a column constructed of 6-in.-ID Pyrex pipe, packed to a depth of 5 ft. with 1/4- and 5/8-in. ceramic Raschig rings. The system air-carbon dioxide-water was employed, and both direct-sinusoidal and pulse forcing of the incoming gas composition were used for dynamic perturbation of the absorber. Overall amplitude ratios and phase shifts were obtained for liquid flows of 0 to 220 moles/(hr)(ft<sup>2</sup>) and gas flows of 1 to 10 moles/(hr)(ft<sup>2</sup>). Agreement between the two perturbation techniques was good, and reproducible results from the pulse tests extended to frequencies almost twice as great as those from direct sinusoidal tests.

A digital computer program was written for calculating theoretical amplitude ratios and phase shifts as functions of the forcing frequency under the following assumptions: (1) the equilibrium relation is linear, (2) the operating line is linear, (3) both phases move through the column in slug flow. Results of this program indicate that the dynamic behavior is primarily influenced by absorption factor, number of transfer units, and time required for liquid and gas phases to traverse one transfer unit.

Continuation of this work will involve more complex mathematical models to take into account axial mixing and end effects. The experimental work will be extended to systems of higher solubility such as the air-iodine-water system.

#### Publication

1. Gray and Prados, "The Dynamics of a Packed Gas Absorber by Frequency Response Analysis," A. I. Ch. E. Journal, 9, 211-216 (1963).

8D8

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Technology Division

Wallace Davis, Jr.

10/1/63

### ION EXCHANGE STUDIES

The objectives of the program are to develop new ion-exchange processes, to determine how such processes are limited by radiation and thermal degradation of the exchangers, and to develop methods of engineering analysis for application in AEC problems. Present studies are limited to evaluation of radiation damage to ion exchange resins in flowing water. Water is passed through the resin which is contained in a 10,000 curie cobalt-60 source and the effluent is concentrated by low temperature vacuum distillation. Analyses of the products will be used to define the mechanism of radiation damage to the resin. Future areas of study include radiation stability of cation and anion resins in other common processing environments, such as nitric and sulfuric acids; rapid oxidation and other potential hazards associated with organic resins in contact with acid media; and potential uses of inorganic ion exchangers in radiochemical processing.

8D9

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Technology Division

D. O. Campbell

10/1/63

### PROTACTINIUM COMPLEX AND POLYMER FORMATION IN SOLUTION

The purpose of this research is to obtain basic information on protactinium chemistry, especially solution chemistry, in systems potentially applicable to chemical separations processes. The behavior of protactinium in sulfuric acid solutions has been studied by solvent extraction and ion exchange methods, and definite evidence for the reversible polymerization of protactinium has been found.

Investigations of protactinium chemistry in sulfuric acid media are continuing, with emphasis on elucidation of the polymerization reaction. Studies of solutions containing the very effective complexing ion  $F^-$  have been initiated. Physical methods, particularly infrared and Raman spectroscopy, will be applied to the study of protactinium complexes in solution, and these results will be correlated with similar studies of crystalline compounds.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Technology Division

K. B. Brown/D. J. Crouse

11/1/63

RESERVES AND PROCESS COSTS OF RECOVERABLE THORIUM  
IN GRANITIC AND OTHER ROCKS

The purpose of this project is to determine, in requisite degree, the cost-quantity pattern of the earth's thorium reserves and their ability to support a long-range nuclear power economy. Such information is important to reactor program planning and studies on this project were started in 1959 after a preliminary survey revealed the paucity of knowledge about thorium reserves. Granitic rocks have been emphasized as a long-range thorium source since they comprise a large fraction of the earth's crust. With a Th/U content ratio of about 5, they also constitute a large potential uranium source. Brief evaluations of bauxites, sublatic soils, and volcanic rocks have indicated these low-grade sources to be less attractive than the granites.

From studies of numerous thorium ores and thorium bearing rocks, it is now apparent that reserves are sufficient to start large thorium reactor programs with low cost (\$10/lb) thorium, supply it for a long period with low to moderate cost (\$10-100/lb) thorium, and extremely long periods with high cost (\$100-500/lb) thorium which would be acceptable in a successful breeder reactor. It has been found that the higher-than-average grade Conway granite in New Hampshire is an especially attractive source. This single formation contains about 14,000,000 tons of thorium in the upper 600 ft., recoverable at \$75/lb thorium (plus uranium), increasing known U.S. thorium reserves by two orders of magnitude. Much greater amounts are probably available at greater depths. Several million tons of thorium are probably available from the Conway at \$30-40/lb.

It is expected that this project will be completed within a year's time; work to be performed includes: (1) further laboratory testing of certain granitics to refine cost estimates, (2) studies of very deep core samples of Conway and other granites obtained from the U.S. Upper Mantle Project, (3) correlation of granite mineralogy and process behavior.

RICE UNIVERSITY  
Houston, Texas

ORNL Subcontract 1491

John S. Adams

10/1/63

#### GEOLOGIC ASPECTS OF THORIUM RECOVERY FROM COMMON ROCKS

These studies are part of a program to determine the cost-quantity pattern of the earth's thorium reserves and their ability to support a long-range nuclear power economy. Since high-grade (low cost) reserves are limited, the program has been aimed at evaluating low grade sources, particularly granitic rock which appears to be the most attractive of the low-grade materials.

In a preliminary survey, samples were collected from many large granite formations in the United States and their thorium and uranium contents were determined. These data, coupled with process studies at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, indicated that very large tonnages of thorium are recoverable from granite at a cost tolerable for a breeder-reactor system. Recent studies have concentrated on evaluation of the Conway granite formations in New Hampshire. Thorium reserves have been estimated at about 20 million tons in the outer 600 ft. of the Conway. The uranium reserve has not been accurately determined but is expected to be about one-fifth this amount.

Autoradiographic and mineral separation techniques are being employed to identify the thorium-bearing minerals in granites and to estimate quantitatively the distribution of thorium among the minerals for correlation with processing studies at Oak Ridge.

Future studies will include (1) additional evaluation of granites including deep (1000 ft.) core samples now being obtained from the United States Upper Mantle Project, (2) continued studies of soils (laterites) and placer sands to determine the relative grade and recoverability of their thorium, and (3) continuation of studies on the micromineralization of granites.

#### Publication

1. Adams et. al., "The Conway Granite of New Hampshire as a Major Low-Grade Thorium Resource," Proc. National Acad. Sciences, 48, 1898-1905 (1962).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Technology Division

D. J. Crouse/K. B. Brown

10/1/63

## URANIUM AND THORIUM PROCESSING

The purpose of this program is to develop new or improved (more economical) processes for recovering uranium and thorium (and by-product metals) from ores and purifying them for reactor use. The program was started in 1948 when a serious uranium shortage seemed unavoidable. Process developments eventually covered nearly all low and high grade uranium and thorium sources including shales, phosphate rock, lignites, Western U.S.A. ores, monazites, etc. The most notable outcome was the development of solvent extraction processes for application to uranium and thorium ores which are now widely used in the metallurgical industry. The same extractants and processes have provided a basis for greatly expanded solvent extraction technology in separation chemistry. They have now been developed for various other separations including radiochemical and are used or receiving attention in most countries throughout the world.

Current studies include (1) developing inorganic ion exchange methods for removing radium from mill wastes to permit their release to the environment and (2) improving solvent extraction processes for better economy or more diversified application. Future studies will probably include the production of reactor grade uranium and thorium at the mill (rather than in present mill-refining complex) in view of potential cost savings in fuel-cycle where large production and its attendant economies are not possible or otherwise contemplated.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Technology Division

J. P. McBride

10/1/63

## PREPARATION AND PROPERTIES OF THORIA AND URANIA SOLS AND GELS

The purpose of this research is to provide basic information for use in applied programs dealing with the preparation and properties of thorium and thorium-uranium oxides and carbides. Electrophoretic, rheological, infrared, small-angle x-ray scattering, and electro-dialytic methods will be employed to study thoria and urania sols and gels.

Precipitation and peptization behaviors of U(IV) nitrate and formate in ammoniacal solutions have been studied. Uranium reduction to U(IV) has been carried out both by catalyzed hydrogen reduction and by electrolytic reduction. High temperature infrared spectrophotometric studies of thoria gels and studies of the sintering behavior of thoria compacts at temperatures above 900°C are under way.

During the next year the electrophoretic and rheological studies will be continued. Urania sol and gel preparation and study will be emphasized, with the objective of better understanding what factors influence sol and gel formation and the sintering and densification behavior of the gels.

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH  
Salt Lake City, Utah

ORNL Subcontract 2176

M. E. Wadsworth

10/1/63

#### SINTERING AND SURFACE PROPERTIES OF THORIA GELS

The purpose of this research program is to determine the densification of thoria gel and to study the colloidal and surface properties of the gel itself. Current work consists of:

1. Study of shrinkage and sintering of thoria gel;
2. Electron micrographic grain growth studies of thoria gel;
3. Grain growth studies by high temperature x-ray line broadening techniques; and
4. Infrared studies of thoria gel.

Little sintering occurs in thoria gels below 850°C, but at 1000°C the sintering process is rapid. At 1000°C, 98.2% of theoretical density is reached in about 3 hours. These results have been confirmed by the grain growth studies which show very slow crystallite growth below 850°C, becoming rapid at 1000°C or higher.

Further confirmation of these results will be sought with thicker gel samples and the sintering measurements extended to systems under applied loads and controlled atmospheres. The electron micrographic studies will be extended to a variety of times and temperatures. The x-ray line broadening study will be concentrated in the temperature range of rapid grain growth, about 1000°C. Infrared studies will be concerned with characterization of the surface water in the gels, both bonded and chemisorbed. These studies will include hydrogen-deuterium exchange, dehydration-hydration isotherms and isobars, and adsorption of various other substances such as methanol, ethanol, or glycols.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Technology Division

R. G. Wymer/R. E. Biggers

10/1/63

SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC STUDIES OF HIGH SPECIFIC ALPHA  
SOLUTIONS AT HIGH TEMPERATURES AND PRESSURES

The purpose of this research is to develop and use spectrophotometric techniques for studying aqueous solutions of uranium and transuranium elements at temperatures to 330°C. A full-scale titanium high temperature spectrophotometer cell has been built and is being tested. Equipment for density measurements of solutions at temperatures to 330°C has been constructed. Equipment is in operation to compile spectrophotometric data in a form suitable for analysis by computer programs which have been developed. A loop system for measuring spectra of circulating fluids at temperatures to 150°C has been built.

Highly alpha-radioactive solutions of transuranium elements at high temperatures and pressures will be studied. Elements to be studied include Pu, Am, Cm, Bk, Cf, Es, Fm, and Pa.

Publication

1. Wymer and Krohn, "Measuring Liquid Densities at High Temperatures and Pressures," Encyclopedia of X- and Gamma Radiation, Reinhold Publishing Corp. (1963).

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

Chemical Technology Division

G. I. Cathers/R. L. Jolley

10/1/63

## BASIC FLUORIDE VOLATILITY STUDIES

The purpose of this program is to study the chemistry associated with the Fused Salt Volatility process with particular emphasis on new applications. The current area of study is the volatilization of  $\text{PuF}_6$  from fused salt with emphasis on establishing the equilibrium and kinetic factors involved. Evaluation of the latter is viewed as being particularly important in operating a salt-gas contactor with a continuous gas phase.

During the next year fused salt electrochemical studies will be initiated as a more fundamental approach to serious corrosion problems and for evaluating redox equilibria existing between container metals and fused salts containing fuel components and fission products.

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