

DE-SC0019565

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Dr. Ethan Balkin

Purification of Lutetium-177



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Technical Objective

Objective

- Rapid chromatography for purification of Lutetium-177
- Lutetium-177 used in targeted radionuclide therapy

Why?

- Current state of the art is time consuming and limited to small batch sizes

How?

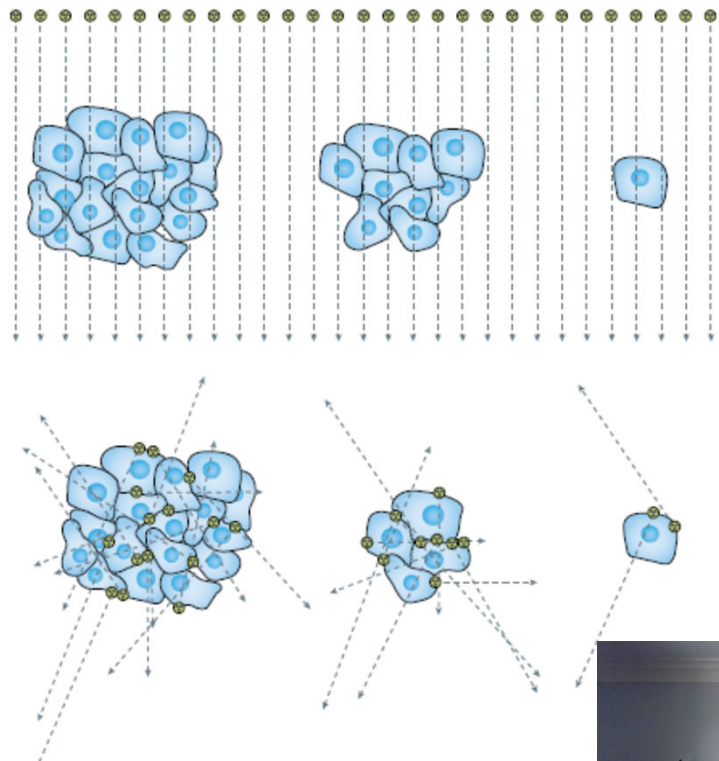
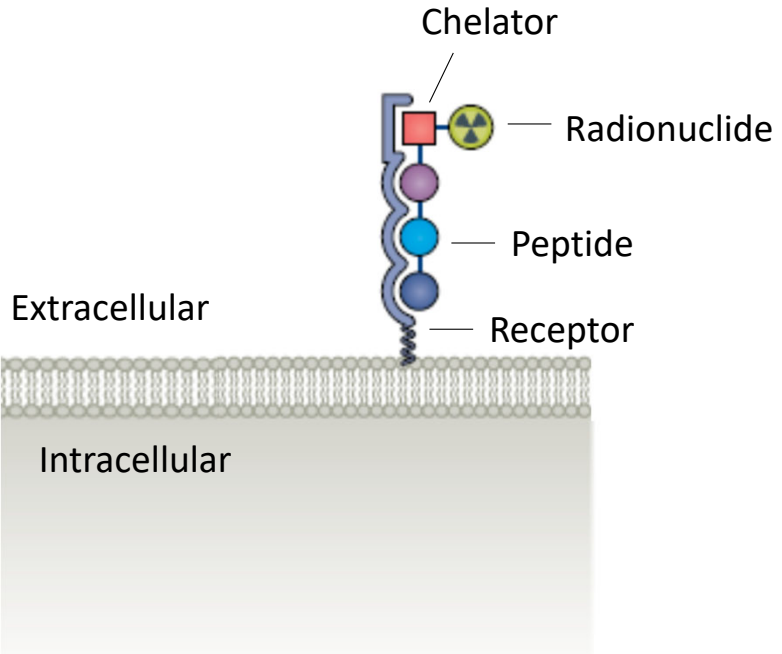
- New solvents allows for new chemistries



Image: ITM



Peptide Receptor Radionuclide Therapy

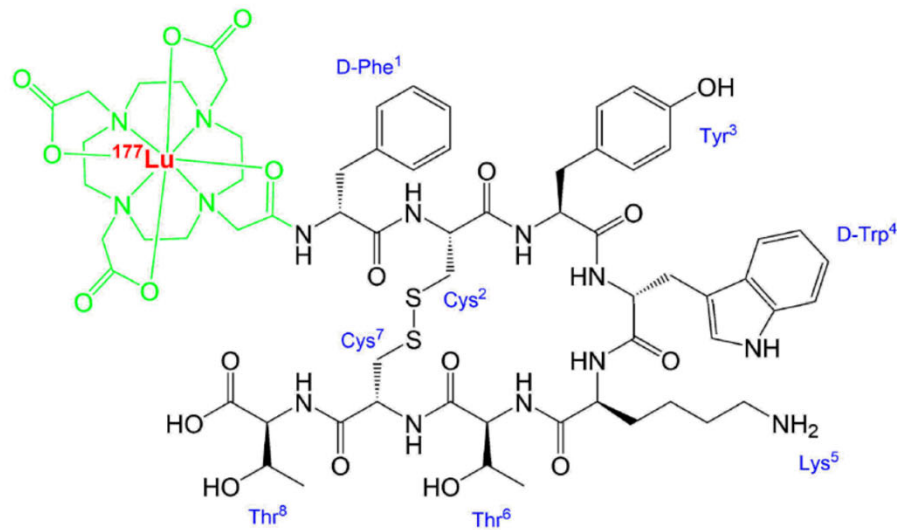


Images from Sgouros, George, Lisa Bodei, Michael R Mcdevitt, and Jessie R Nedrow. 2020. "Radiopharmaceutical Therapy." *Drug Discovery* 19 (September). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41573-020-0073-9>.



Lutetium-177

- ^{177}Lu -DOTATATE, approved for neuroendocrine tumors
- ^{177}Lu -lilotomab satetraxetan for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (Phase I/II)
- ^{177}Lu -DOTATOC for neuroendocrine tumors (Phase III, expected approval in 2024).
- ^{177}Lu -PSMA-617 for prostate cancer (Phase III, expected approval in 2022)



radionuclide (^{177}Lu) + chelator (DOTA) + targeting peptide (octreotate)

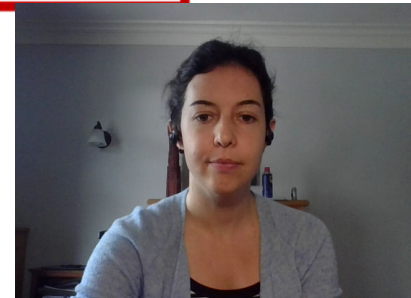
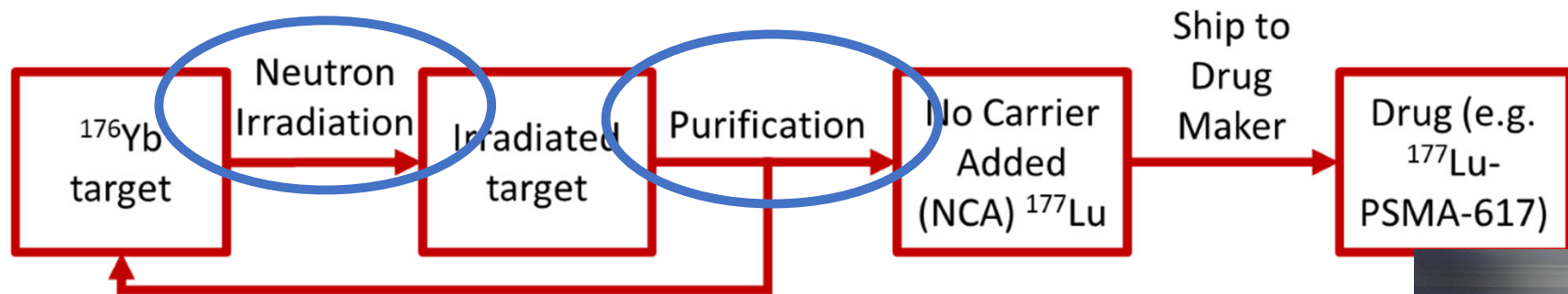
Image from Hennrich, Ute, and Klaus Kopka. 2019. "Lutathera®: The First FDA- and EMA-Approved Radiopharmaceutical for Peptide Receptor Radionuclide

Thera
<https://>

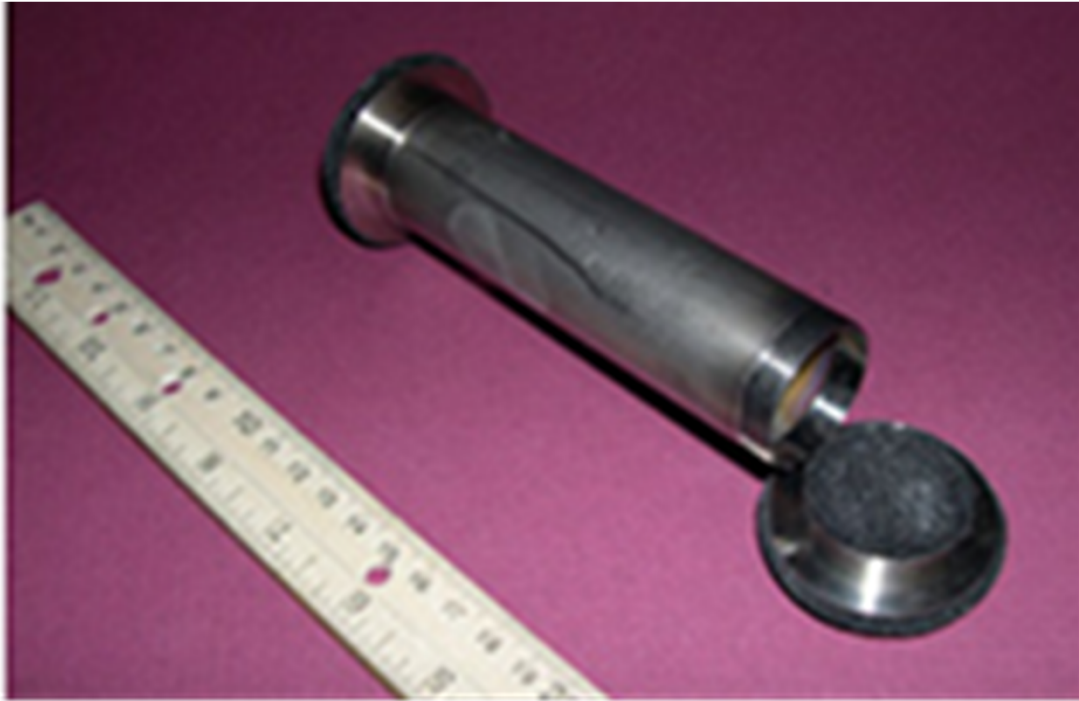


Supply Chain

- Target customers are isotope manufacturers
- Irradiate and purify lutetium-177, sells to drug makers
- Examples: IDB Holland (subsidiary of Novartis), Isotope Technologies Munich (ITM), Isotopia, Eckert & Ziegler, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, etc.



Irradiation of ytterbium-176



Irradiated Target

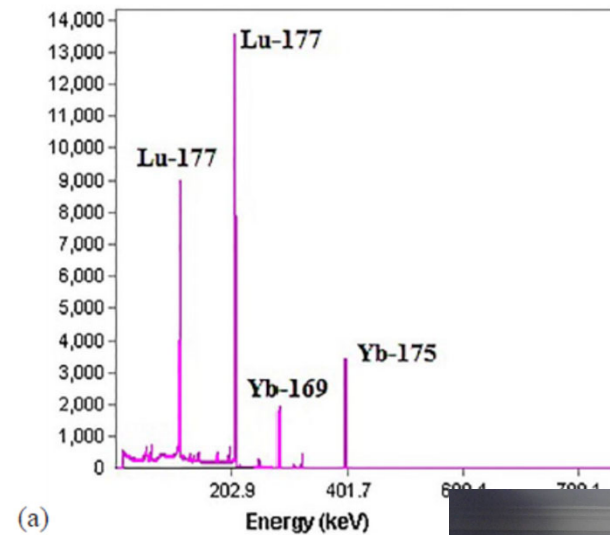
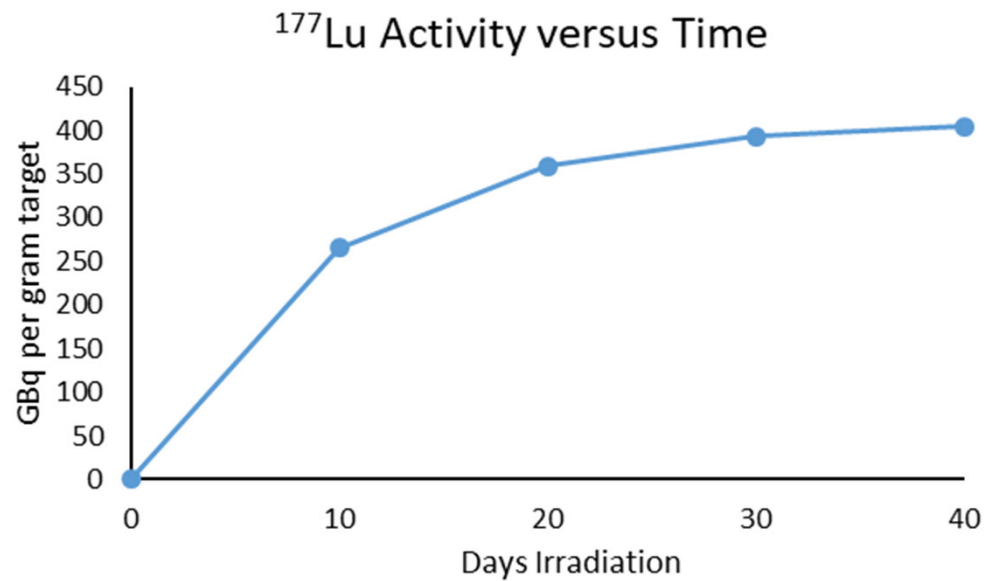
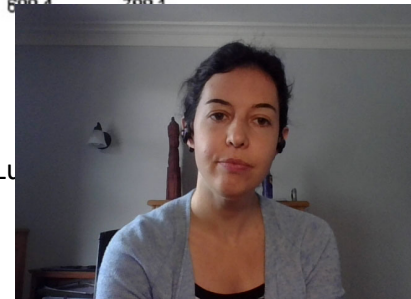


Image from Salek, Nafise, Mojtaba Shamsaei, and Mohammad Ghannadi Maragheh. 2016. "Production and Quality Control ^{177}Lu Potential Agent for Bone Pain Palliation" 17 (6): 128–39.



Current Purification Technologies

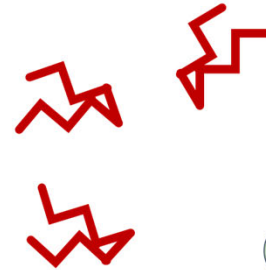
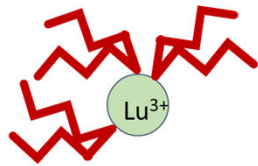
Alternative	Advantages and Disadvantages
Aqueous ion exchange chromatography	Advantages: Chemicals are cheap and readily available Disadvantages: Requires multiple stages, long processing times (6-8 hours) Methods can be limited to small target sizes (~150 mg)
Extraction chromatography	Advantages: Suitable for large targets (>300 mg) Disadvantages: Complex, many stages and resin types required The process is ~16 hours and may need to be repeated multiple times
Cementation	Advantages: Applicable to medium-sized targets (at least 200 mg) Processing times are relatively short (3-4 hours), but may require extraction chromatography to clean up product Disadvantages: Residual mercury can be present which is a health risk for patients



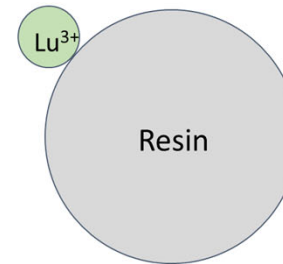
Process

Loading

1. Chemical with metal

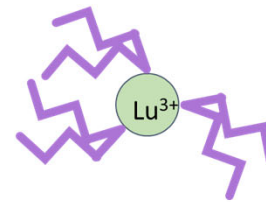
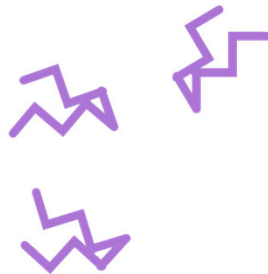


2. Metal has been loaded onto resin

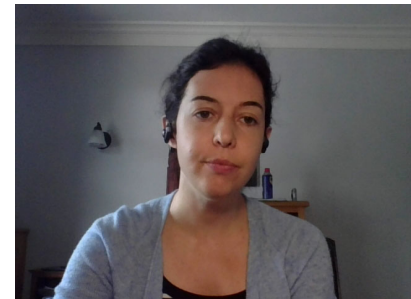
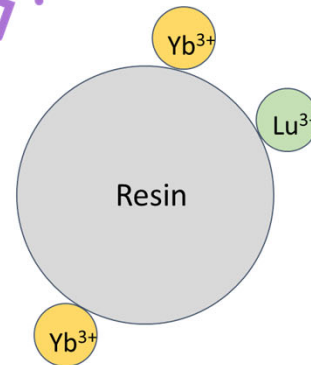


Stripping

1. Chemical

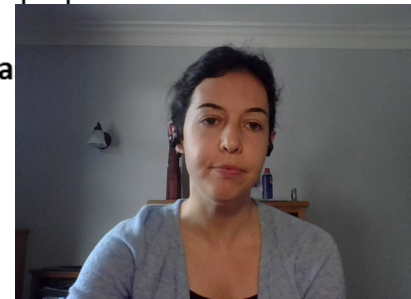
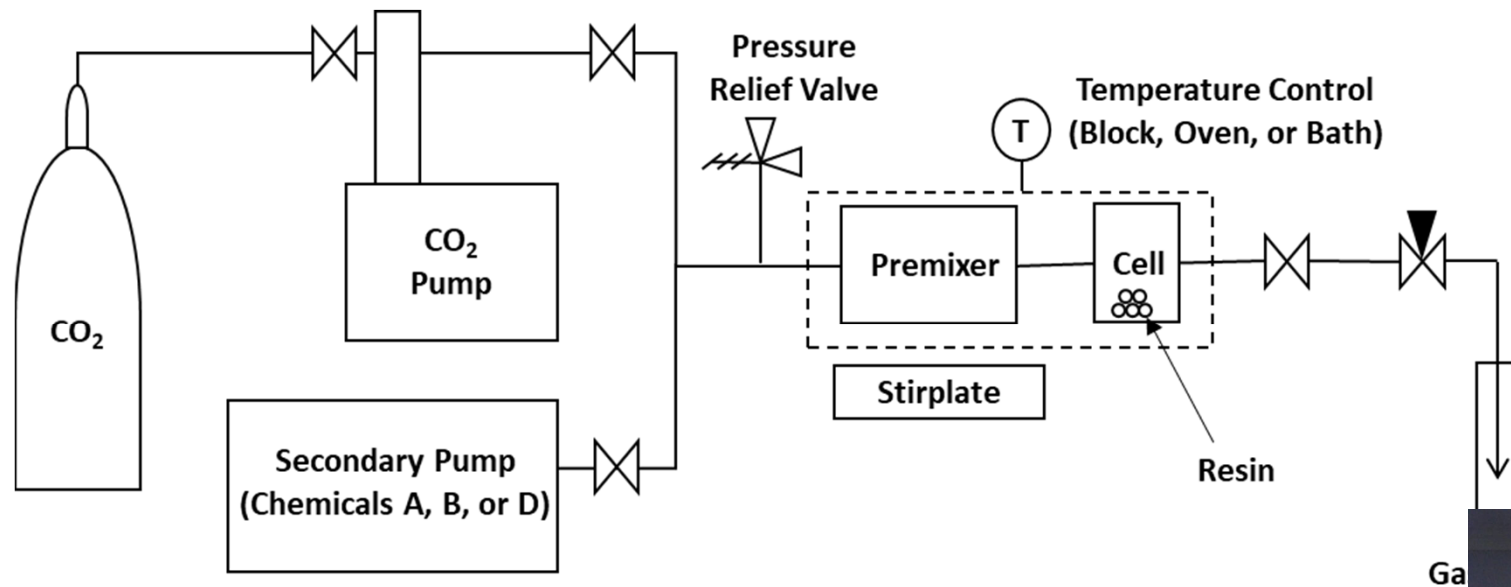


2. Metal has been stripped from resin



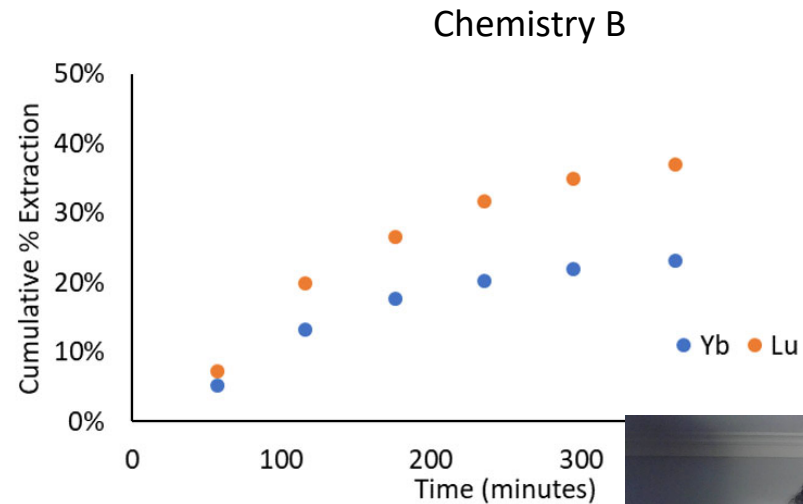
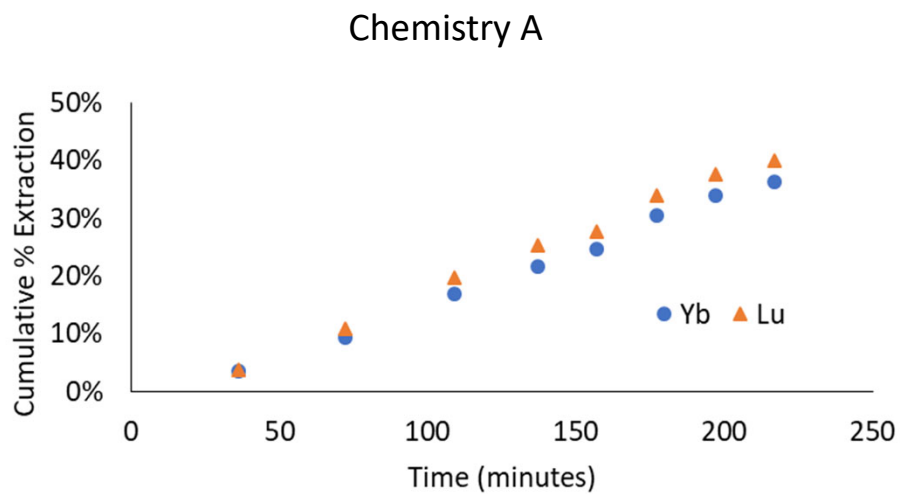
Phase I – Testing Separation Factors

- Tested extraction of Lu and Yb from Resin A



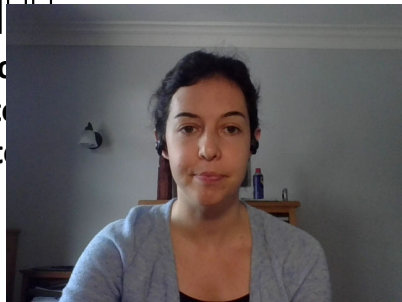
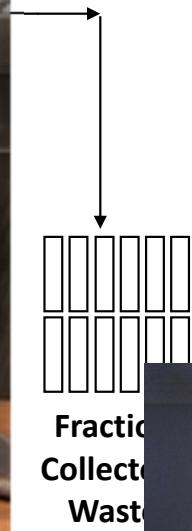
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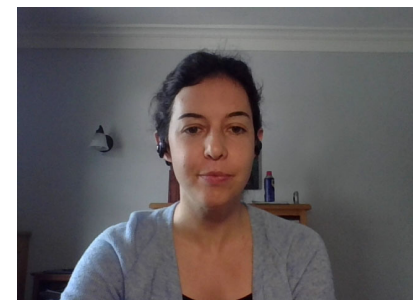
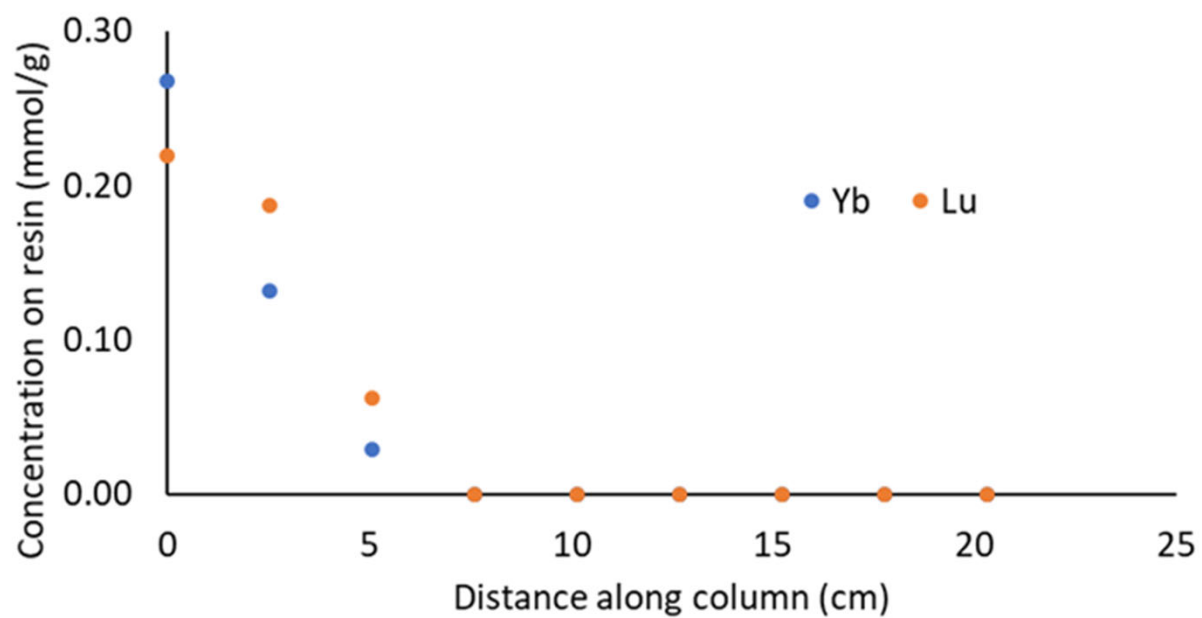


Chromat

Hexane
Ex
Extractant

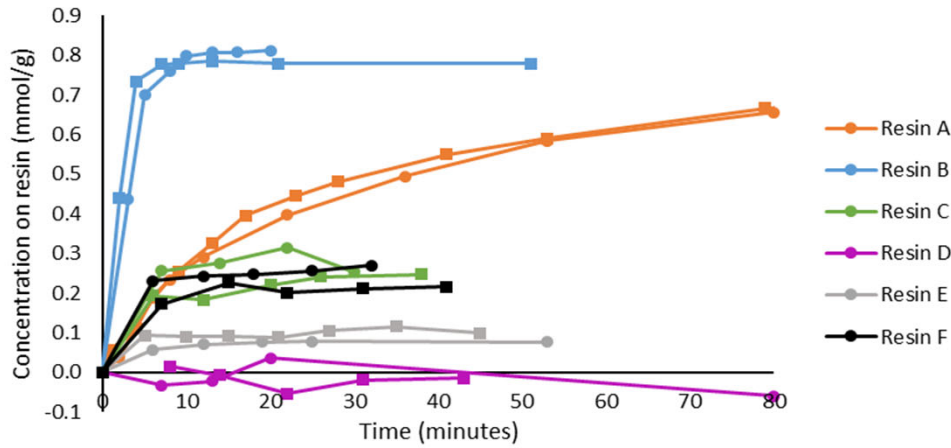


Initial Chromatography Effort

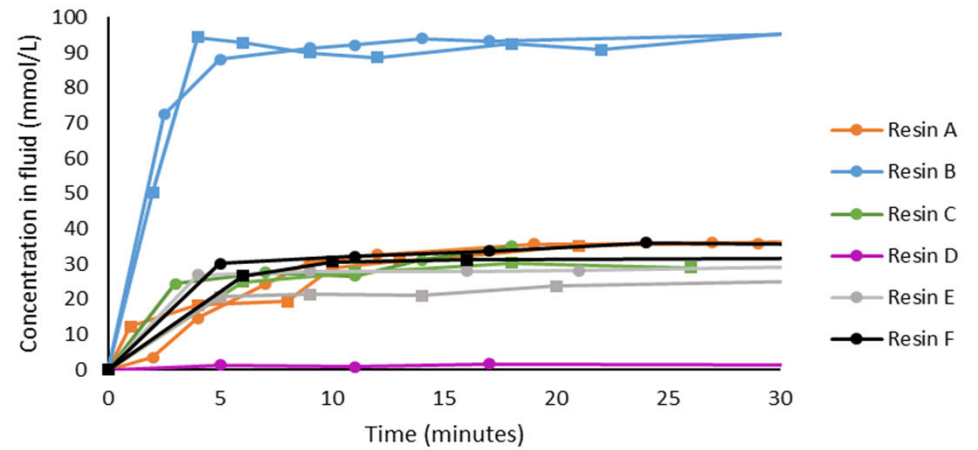


Resin Screening

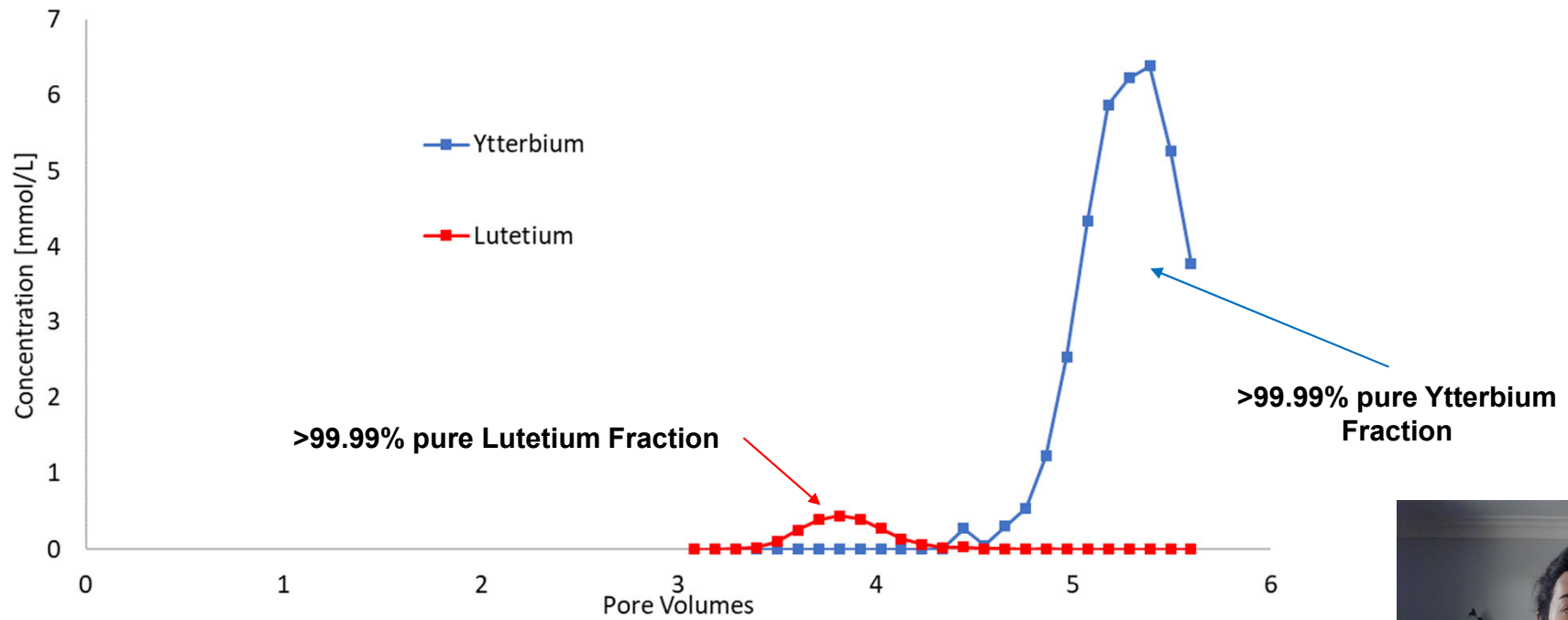
Loading Kinetics of Ho onto Resins



Stripping Kinetics of Holmium from Resins

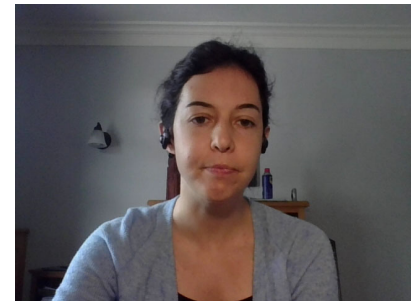


Sample Chromatogram



Next Steps

- Purification of irradiated target (October 2021 – April 2022)
- Confirmation of radionuclidic and chemical purity
- Patent review
- Ongoing customer discovery and reach-out
- Ongoing kinetics work at Idaho National Laboratory



The Team



Research Institute:
Idaho National Laboratory
Dr. Robert Fox
Distinguished Staff
Scientist

- 30 years experience with radiological materials, lanthanide and actinide separations, and supercritical CO₂
- Existing relationship with HFIR at Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Previous and current partnerships with CF Tech



Small Business Concern:
CF Technologies, Inc.
Dr. Laura Sinclair
Mr. John Moses

- 30 years experience in supercritical, chromatography and high pressure processes
- In-house laboratory, pilot, engineering, and machining capabilities
- CF Tech's Dr. Sinclair has 10 years experience in high pressure processes and metal sep

