

6th IGD-TP Exchange Forum (EF6)

WG3 –Cement Organics Radionuclides Interactions –(CORI)

Topic on: Degradation of Organic Products by Radiolysis/Hydrolysis

London, November 3-4, 2015

J.Vandenborre

CORI PROJECT =

1) WP: Degradation of Organic Products by Radiolysis/Hydrolysis

Why ? : Degradation mechanisms of OP insufficiently known in literature for high pH (> 12)

Key Topic : Kinetic Study of Degradation Rates by Radiolysis/Hydrolysis

Aim : Database of Relevant Organic Products as Source Term which can be used in other WPs

↳ 2) WP: Mobility of Organics in Cementitious Environment and their Interaction with Fe

↳ 3) WP : Mobility of Organics-RN Complexes in a Cementitious Environment

↳ 4) WP : Modelling, Upscaling, Application to PA

PARTNERS

Consortia for

Irradiation Tools

→ Parallel Experiments

between Hydrolytic

and Radiolytic

Degradations

WMO

Interested

SUBATECH
AMPHOS21
FZJUELICH
KIT-INE
PSI
CEA ?
SCK-CEN
UPPC
Manchester University
ANDRA
ONDRAF
SKB

WG3-CORI: WP « Degradation of Organic Products by Radiolysis/Hydrolysis »								
Laboratory	SUBATECH	AMPHOS21	FZJULICH	KIT-INE	PSI	SCK-CEN	UPPC	Manch.Univ
Radiation	√		√	√		√		√
Polycarboxylate as Superpasticiz	√	√		√			√	
Phtalate as Superpasticiz			√	√			√	√
PVC as Plastic		√	√		√			√
Ion. Exch Resins	√	√	√		√	√	√	√
Carboxylic Acid as simpl molec	√				√	√	√	
Cellulose, ISA		√		√		√		√
CSH Phase	√		√	√		√	√	√
CEM (III-V) phase		√	√			√		
Portland Phase	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Analytic Tools for Organic molecules in solution	UV-VIS, HPLC, GC-MS, ICP-MS, Ion Chromatog COT, LC-MS, ESR	TRLFS, UV-VIS, ICP-MS, ICP-OES, TOC, Ionic Chromatography, CE, ESI-MS	GC-MS, HPLC-MS, IC/CE/LC-MS, ICP-MS, NMR	TRLFS, LSC, ICP-MS, TOC, UV-vis,	Ion exclusion chromatogra phy, + Mass Spectrometry , TOC	UV-Vis, FT-IR, HPLC/SEC, HPLC-MS, ICP-AES, ICP-MS, TOC/IC,	Luminescence/ Fluorescence spectroscopy, Raman spectroscopy	IR, ICP AES, -MS, HPLC-ICP-MS, GCMS, LCMS
For Gas measurements	μGC, IR		GC-MS		GC+MS	μGC; GC-FID		
Rates Det. Modelling	Maksima Chemsimul		CHEMSIMUL Molecular Dynamics	MCNP calculations		COMSOL pFLOTTRAN Phreeqc		
Other WPs Implication	√√	√√	√√	√√	√	√√	√	√

OP Degradation Rates Determination :

- Kinetic Studies vs. Time (Irradiation or Chemical)
- Hydrolytic Degradation Experiments : Experimental Conditions
pH = 12.5, Aerated/Anoxic Atmosphere, With/Without Initial H₂ gas,
With/Without Cement Phases, Temperature ?
- Radiolytic Degradation Experiments (Same Conditions)
 - Irradiation Tools/Facilities Available (γ and He²⁺ for α emitter)
 - 5 Partners (5 γ -sources, 1 α doping and 1 cyclotron facility)
 - Consortia for parallel experiments between hydrolytic and radiolytic degradation

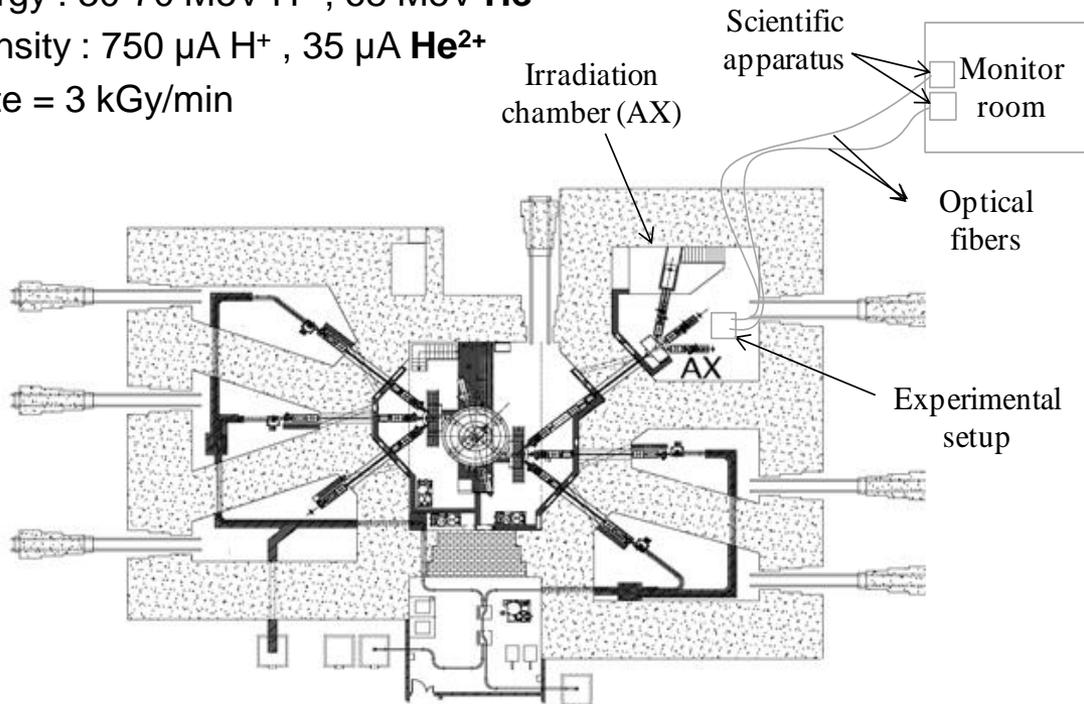
Cyclotron Facility = External Source

Bi-particles : H^+ / He^{2+}

High energy : 30-70 MeV H^+ , 68 MeV He^{2+}

High intensity : 750 μA H^+ , 35 μA He^{2+}

Dose Rate = 3 kGy/min



Large range of Dose Rate
(^{137}Cs - ^{60}Co)
= 60 Gy/h – 10 kGy/h

α Doping = Internal Source

Complementary radiolytic degradation experiments

Tandem 15 MeV He^{2+} / 10 MeV H^+

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Cellulose, ISA		√		√		√		√
CSH Phase	√		√	√		√	√	√
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Other WPs Implication	√√	√√	√√	√√	√	√√	√	√

Organic Products selected:

Representative Organic Ligands in Nuclear Waste Management

+ Degradation Products from these ROL (Simple Molecule)

1) PVC as Plastics

2) Cellulose

3) Phtalate/Polycarboxylate as Superplasticiser (commercial SP ?)

4) Ionic Exchange Resins

5) Low Molecular Weight Organics (Carboxylic Acid: Formic / Acetic /

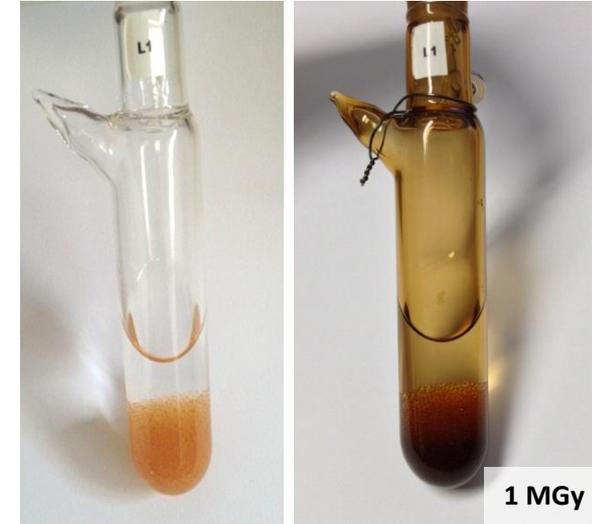
Oxalic ; ISA...) considered as degradation products from 1-2-3-4

groups

Examples of JUELICH for CORI WP2 (I)

I. Radiolytic degradation of spent ion exchange resins (SIER)

- Investigated materials:
 - IERs
 - model substances (polymers) to simulate radiolysis of different functional groups
- Co-60 γ -irradiation up to 10 MGy
- controlled aerobic/anaerobic conditions
- different solution compositions
- Analytical approach:
 - Gas phase: GC \rightarrow : G-values, speciation
 - Liquid phase: HPLC, LSC, $^1\text{H-NMR}$ \rightarrow total released fraction, ^{14}C -speciation
 - Solid phase (IERs): SS-NMR, FTIR, RAMAN \rightarrow final structure



➤ Results:

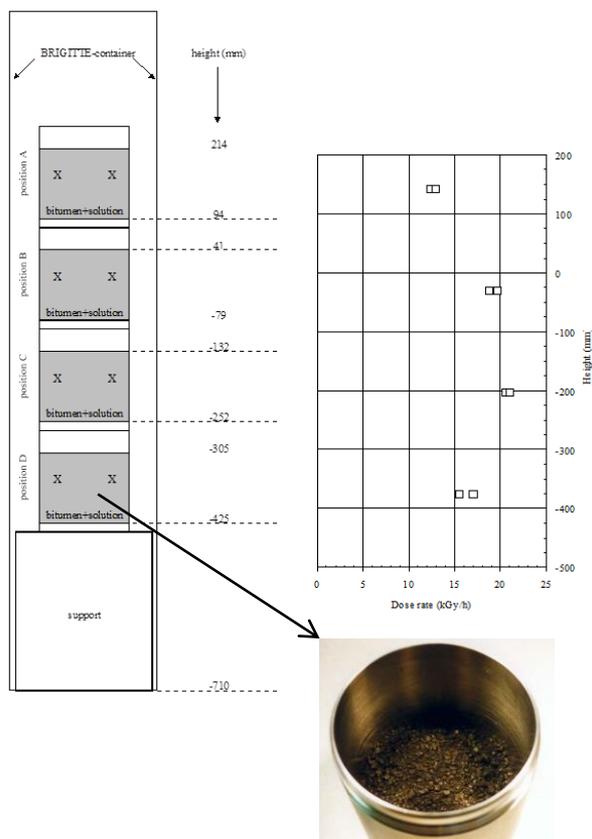
- Different organic species in the gas phase varying with dose


 ((CH₃)N; HCOH; H₂C=CH₂; H₃C-COH)

- Formic acid in the aqueous phase
- Quantitative analysis of released species

Characterisation of chemical and radiolytic degrad. prod. of Eurobitum

- Inactive Eurobitum in contact with artificial Boom Clay water (SCW) or cement-equilibrated water (CCW), without DOM, gamma-irradiated until 4.8 MGy
- A.o. IC-EC and GC-MS of degradation product solution



	SCW		CCW	
(Concentration in mg/L)	irradiated	control	irradiated	control
total DOC before treatment	< 9	< 9	6.3 (1.4)	6.3 (1.4)
total DOC after treatment	769 (91)	39 (6)	962 (110)	77 (8)
formate	127 (13)	7 (2)	129 (13)	n.m.
acetate	319 (32)	< 10	393 (39)	n.m.
oxalate	59 (15)	< 10	184 (18)	n.m.

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Solids Addition :

Impact of the solid onto degradation rates?

+ Impact of the Radiolytic/Hydrolytic Degradation processes onto the solid?

1) Cement Phase : CSH = Calcium-Silica-Hydrate = Simplest Phase
(C/S Ratio?)

2) Initial CEM (before Degradation)

CEM I = Ordinary Portland

Other Blended Cements CEM (III-V) = more complex ?

3) Degraded CEM Analysis during/after degradation experiments

Carbonated Cement ?

Analytical tools and substances to be investigated



- Site-selective spectroscopy at ultra low-temperatures
- Time-resolved and steady-state fluorescence spectroscopy
- Stop-flow experiments
- Interlanthanide energy transfer

- *Organic products:*
 - Polycarboxylates
 - Phthalates
 - Ionic exchange resins
 - Low molecular weight organic acids (C2 – C10)
- *Radionuclides (Ln(III) as analogs) and system components:*
 - Ln(III) (especially Eu(III))
 - Fe(II) / Fe(III)
 - $\text{SO}_4^{2-}/\text{S}^{2-}$
 - Ca(II)
 - U(VI) (if provided by partner)
- *Cement phases:*
 - CSH (reference: ettringite, tobermorite)
 - Portland (e. g. alite, belite)

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Complementary Approach : Solution + Gas + Solid

Solution : Simple molecules (C-Species) detection + quantification

- 1) Mass Spectroscopies (GC, ICP, LC, ESI)
- 2) Liquid (HPLC, Ionic Chromatography, TOC)
- 3) UV-VIS Speciation (*in situ* = during experiment)

Solid : Surface Phase Characterization during/after experiments

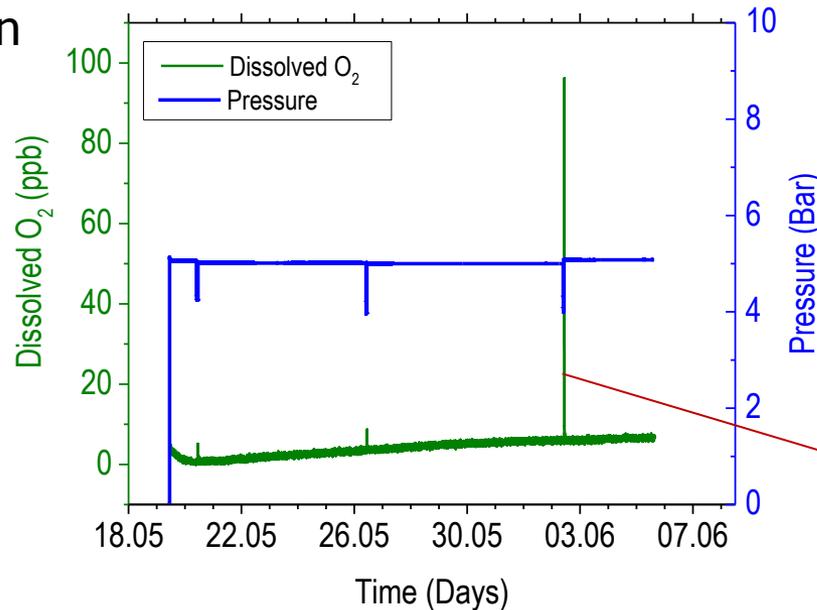
- 1) Fluorescence/Luminescence Spectroscopies (Time-Resolved-LFS)
- 2) Vibrational Spectroscopies (FT-IR, Raman)
- 3) X-Ray Diffraction, SEM-EDX, XPS, AFM

Gas : Radiolytic Production (H_2 , C_xH_y , CO , CO_2 ...) to determine yields

- 1) Gas Chromatography (+MS, +FID), 2) IR

□ Reactor system

- Set-up of the gas-tight reactor system including monitoring of:
 - pressure
 - O₂ concentration
 - temperature



Sampling + re-adjustment of liquid volume with O₂ saturated Milli-Q water

□ Analytical tools

- Identification of the degradation products
 - i) in the liquid phase using high performance ion exclusion chromatography with mass spectrometry
 - ii) in gas phase using gas chromatography with mass spectrometry
- Determination of total and organic carbon contents

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OP Degradation Rates Determination Modelling:

From Experimental Data obtained in the WP

Modelling to extrapolate Degradation Rates Determination vs.:

Degradation Time, Dose, Dose Rate, Temperature....

Strong Overlap with WP “Modelling, Upscaling, Application to PA”

Hydrolytic/Radiolytic OP Degradation Rates Database (Source Term):

Strong Overlap with WP “Mobility of Organics in Cementitious

Environment and their Interaction with Fe”

Link with WP « Modelling »

Degradation analysis and modeling (PhreeqC)



■ Oxazepam degradation

- *Degradation rate*: First-order kinetic

$$\frac{\partial C_{\text{water}}}{\partial t} = -k_{\text{deg}} \cdot C_{\text{water}}$$

- *Sorption*: DLM for hydrophobic surfaces ; constants predicted using QSAR (Chemaxon + Franco and Trapp 2008)

- *Evolution of the surface properties*:

$$\frac{\partial C_{\text{water}}}{\partial t} = -(k_{\text{ads}} \cdot C_{\text{water}} - k_{\text{des}} \cdot C_{\text{sediment}})$$

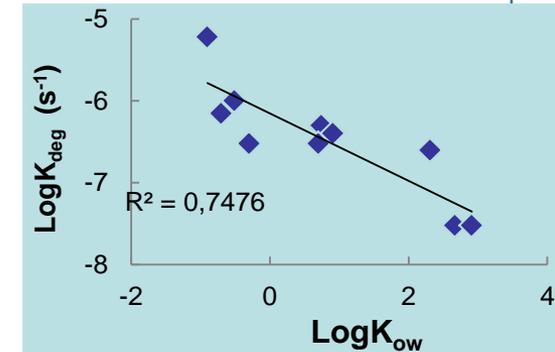
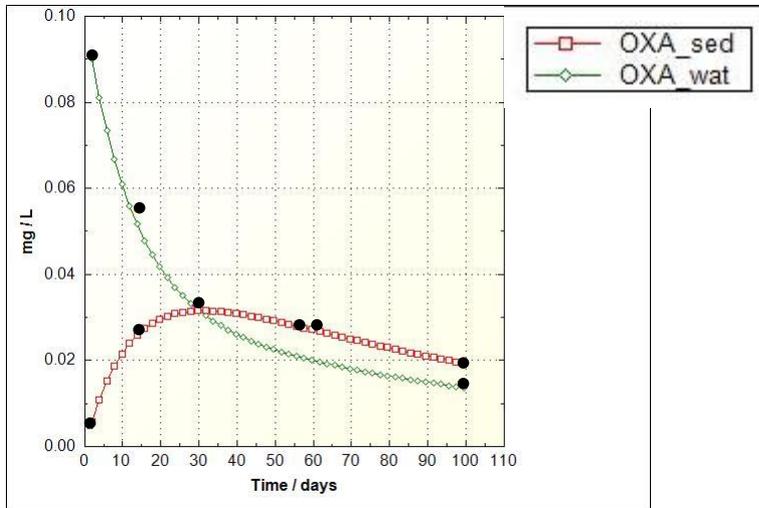
- *Aqueous complexation*: pKa from QSAR modeling (ACD Labs)

Löffler et al.
(2005)

Sediment
TOC 1.4%

L/S = 5 ;
pH = 8.5

LogK_{ow} = 2.9
pKa = 10.7
LogK_{oc} = 2.2



*Generalization for
hydrophilic to slightly
hydrophobic molecules*

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OP ± Cement Phases

- Organic Products
- 1) PVC
 - 2) Cellulose
 - 3) Phtalate/Polycarboxylate
 - 4) Ionic Exchange Resins
 - 5) LMWO as deg. products

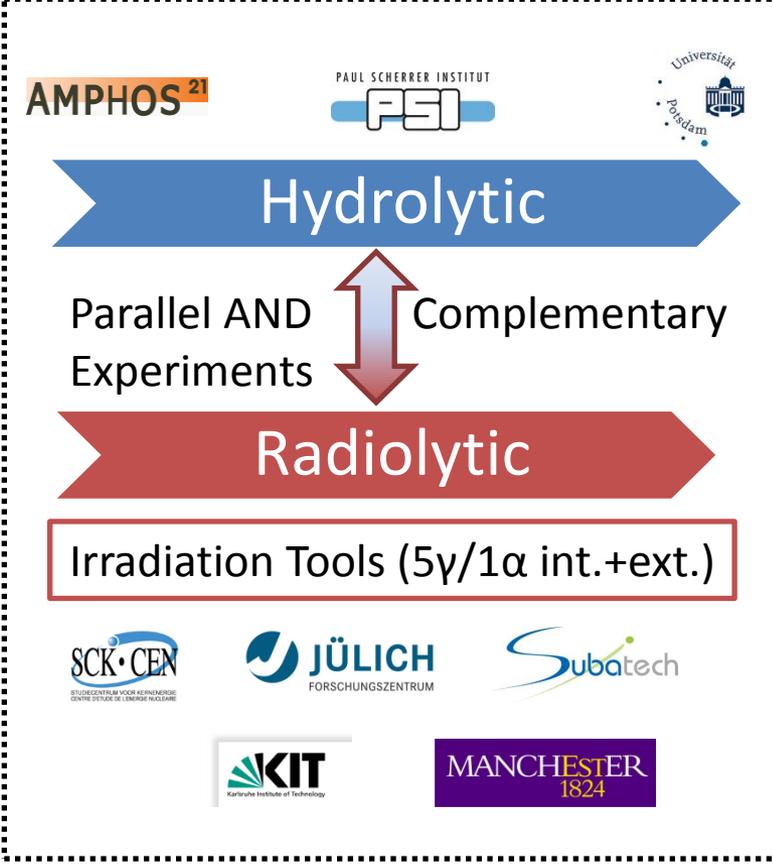
With/Without

- Cement Phases
- 1) CSH
 - 2) CEM I = Portland
 - 3) CEM III-V



Degradation Experiments

pH = 12.5
 Atmosphere : Anoxic/Aerated
 ± Initial H₂g
 Temperature ?



Output: Degradation Rates

