Radiation Chemistry of Aqueous Solutions Related to Nuclear Reactor Systems and Spent Fuel Management

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Abstract

In this thesis the rate constants for a number of radical reactions in aqueous solution have been studied in a wide temperature range. The reactions of H with H₂O₂, OH and HO₂ and the reactions of HO₂ with OH, Fe²⁺ and Cu²⁺ have been studied.

For each reaction rate constants have been determined as a function of temperature using the technique of high temperature, high pressure (HTP) pulse radiolysis. The rate constants were obtained by fitting a kinetic computer model to the experimental data. From an Arrhenius plot the activation energy of each reaction was determined. The data determined in this way are important for modeling of radiolysis in nuclear light water reactors.

A previously developed model for calculation of the effect of water radiolysis products on oxidation and dissolution of spent nuclear fuel has been improved. In the new model, called TraRaMo, simultaneous transport by diffusion and chemical reactions induced by radiolysis can be modeled. The model is a compartment model. After a radiolysis calculation in each compartment, diffusion of the species are allowed to take place before a new radiolysis calculation in the next time step. Three different types of radiation can be simulated simultaneously.

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