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Cross-section measurements of krypton 78 to 86 isotopes in the spallation of palladium and silver. A new semi-empirical spallation formula in the Y to Ag target mass region

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Résumé. — La composante « cosmogénique » du krypton dans les météorites de fer est due aux réactions nucléaires induites par le rayonnement cosmique primaire ou secondaire dans des cibles allant de Zr (Z=40) à Pd (Z=46). Nous avons mesuré, par spectrométrie de masse de haute sensibilité, les sections efficaces des réactions nucléaires conduisant à ⁷⁸⁻⁸⁶Kr dans des cibles de Pd et Ag bombardées par des protons de 0,15, 0,6, 1,05 et 24 GeV. Ces nouvelles mesures et celles existant dans la littérature entre Y et Ag nous ont permis de modifier sensiblement les paramètres de la formule de Rudstam dans cette région de cibles. Sur 500 sections efficaces expérimentales, notre formule permet d'en calculer 89 % à mieux qu'un facteur 2 si on considère les produits tels que $5 \le \Delta A \le 40$ et les énergies incidentes telles que $E_p \ge 130$ MeV. Si on élimine les énergies $E_p \le 206$ MeV et les petites sections efficaces $\sigma \le 0,1$ mb, ce pourcentage s'élève à plus de 96 %. Notre formule convient donc au calcul des sections efficaces non mesurées de ⁷⁸⁻⁸⁴Kr dans Mo, Ru et Rh, cibles dont la contribution au krypton cosmogénique dans les météorites de fer est dominante.

Abstract. — Cosmogenic krypton in iron meteorites arises from the bombardment of the elements between Zr (Z = 40) and Pd (Z = 46) by primary and secondary cosmic rays. In this work we measured the cross-sections of $^{78-86}$ Kr formation in nuclear reactions induced by the proton bombardment of Pd and Ag at 0.15, 0.6 (Ag only), 1.05 and 24 GeV using high-sensitivity mass-spectrometry. We then developed a Rudstam-like semi-empirical spallation formula that gives good results in the target and product region of interest. Of over about 500 cross-sections compiled for Y (Z = 39) up to Ag (Z = 47) with $5 \le \Delta A \le 40$ and $E_p \ge 130$ MeV, 89 % are calculated to better than a factor of 2. That percentage increases to 96 % when excluding small cross sections ($\sigma \le 0.1$) mb and low energies ($E_p \le 206$ MeV). Our formula is suitable for the calculation of unknown Kr cross-sections in Mo, Ru and Rh, the elements that make the main contribution to cosmogenic krypton in iron meteorites.

1. Introduction.

Spallation is ubiquitous in nature. Solar and galactic cosmic rays interact continuously with interstellar medium, planetary atmospheres, and small bodies in the solar system. Knowledge of spallation reactions is of major interest for astrophysical and cosmochemical problems such as the propagation of cosmic rays in the galaxy and the record of cosmic rays in Solar System matter (see recent reviews by Cesarsky [1] and Reedy *et al.* [2]). Excitation functions have been measured for only a few reactions and the missing cross sections may be calculated using either mathematical developments of the two-step model [3] or semi-empirical formulae [4, 5]. The latter approach is still the most realistic because it

provides generally an experimental to calculated cross-section ratio which is better by a factor of two in well documented target and product mass ranges. In his pioneering work, Rudstam [4] found a five parameter general expression that fitted the data then available. The best agreement was obtained for iron and neighbouring targets. Later Silberberg and Tsao [5] designed a Rudstam-like formula with eleven adjustable parameters that gave, on average, good results in targets lighter than Cu and was well suited to simulate the propagation of cosmic rays in the Galaxy. The Silberberg and Tsao (or S-T) formula is applicable also in targets heavier than Cu. However, a natural limitation for semi-empirical fits is the number and the variety of experimental data in the target, incident energy and product region where an unknown cross-section has to be calculated. For example the above spallation formulae both underestimate the effect of the (A_t/Z_t) ratio of the target, as illustrated in Chackett and Chackett [6] and Regnier [7].

One of our interests concerns cosmogenic krypton produced by cosmic-ray-induced nuclear reactions near the surface of the Moon and in meteorites. We first examined nuclear reactions in Rb, Sr, Y and Zr, the main targets for producing krypton in the Moon and in stony meteorites [8]. Unmeasured cross sections in Rb and Sr were evaluated using newly developed methods for peripherical reactions, rather than semiempirical fits, which do not apply for low ΔA (≤ 5) and low energy (≤ 150 MeV) reactions. In the present paper we will examine the case of iron meteorites, in which the main targets responsible for cosmogenic krypton are in the Zr (Z = 40) to Pd (Z = 46) region. We irradiated Pd and Ag targets with 0.15, 0.6 (Ag only), 1.05 and 24 GeV protons and measured cross sections of krypton isotopes with A = 78, 80,81, 82, 83, 84, 85 and 86. This new data, plus results from this laboratory for Y and Zr [8], cross sections measured by Belyaev et al. [9] in 90,91,94Zr, and some others results, enabled us to calculate more accurate parameters of the Rudstam CDMD formula in the Y (Z = 39) to Ag (Z = 47) target region. Our new results and new cross-section formula will permit the calculation of the cosmogenic component of krypton in iron meteorites.

2. Experimental.

The techniques employed for the measurement of stable noble gas isotopes in our laboratory have already been described in [7] and [8]. Pure target foils of Pd (99.9 % or 3N) and Ag (5N) were stacked with monitor and guard Al (5N) foils. Exact thickness (about 20 µm) was determined by weighing. The targets were irradiated between 1971 and 1975 in the accelerators of Orsay (150 MeV), CERN-SC (600 MeV), Saturne 1 (1.05 GeV) and CERN-PS (24 GeV). Internal proton beams were used, except for one irradiation at 24 GeV. Proton fluences were measured according to the ${}^{27}Al(p, X){}^{22}Na$ monitor reaction whose cross sections are 17.2, 17.3, 15.3 and 10 mb, respectively at 0.150, 0.600, 1.05 and 24 GeV [10]. At least 2 years after irradiation, Pd or Ag targets and blank foils were melted in an extraction system. Gases were exposed in several steps to Ti and CuO-Pd getters, cooling slowly from 700 to 200 °C to eliminate active species. The noble gases He, Ne, Ar and Kr were separated into enriched fractions using charcoal traps. Argon and krypton were successively introduced into a statically operated, 60°-sector, 12 cm radius mass spectrometer. Calibration was carried out using air standards. The isotope ratios were subjected to corrections for memory or pumping, re-extractions, mass-discrimination, doubly-charged ions, blanks and hydro-carbons.

3. Results.

Cross sections for krypton isotopes are reported for Pd and Ag targets in tables I and II. All results are averages of two to four independent measurements, weighted by individual errors. Our procedure for calculating the uncertainty takes into account the error on target preparation and impurities, measurement of ²²Na in monitoring, blanks and hydrocarbons, doubly-charged ions, zero time corrections to massspectrometer analysis, mass discrimination, re-extraction and calibration. All cross-sections are cumulative. Earlier measurements in Ag were made by Bieri and Rutsch [11] at 540 MeV and by Hudis et al. [12] with 3 and 29 GeV protons. The 29 GeV results of reference [12] are in very good agreement with ours at 24 GeV. Krypton cross-sections at 1.05 GeV are significantly larger than those at 24 GeV, strongly suggesting a maximum for most excitation functions around 1 GeV. Cross sections for ⁷⁸Kr, ⁸²Kr and ⁸⁴Kr in Ag are plotted versus energy on figure 1, where the lines are excitation functions calculated according to the methods described in the following section.

Table I. — Krypton cross sections (in mb) for Pd targets as a function of the incident energy E_{p} (in GeV).

E (GeV)	0.150	1.05	24	
78 _{Kr}	0.0009 ± 0.0005	15.0 ± 1.5	8.4 ± 1.2	
⁸⁰ Kr	0.0026 ± 0.005	24.7 ± 2.5	13.3 ± 1.5	
⁸¹ Kr	0.0032 ± 0.0012	26.8 ± 2.7	13.8 ± 1.4	
82 _{Kr}	0.0060 ± 0.0006	29.1 ± 2.9	14.4 ± 1.4	
83 _{Kr}	0.0106 ± 0.0011	31.3 ± 3.1	14.9 ± 1.5	
⁸⁴ Kr	0.0017 ± 0.0005	3.6 ± 0.4	2.2 ± 0.2	
⁸⁵ Kr		0.057 ± 0.006	0.054 ± 0.011	
86 _{Kr}		0.012 ± 0.002		

Table II. — Krypton cross sections (in mb) for Ag target as a function of the incident energy E_p (in GeV).

E _p (GeV)	0.150	0.600	1.05	24
78 Kr	0.0014 ± 0.0005	4.4 ± 0.4	12.7 ± 1.3	8.1 ± 2.3
⁸⁰ Kr	0.0031 ± 0.0011	8.6 ± 0.9	20.5 ± 2.1	12.3 ± 3.4
⁸¹ Kr	0.0032 ± 0.0012	10.5 ± 1.1	22.2 ± 2.2	12.7 ± 3.6
⁸² Kr	0.0055 ± 0.0019	12.6 ± 1.3	23.8 ± 2.4	13.0 ± 3.7
⁸³ Kr	0.0070 ± 0.0026	15.4 ± 1.5	25.3 ± 2.5	13.6 ± 3.8
⁸⁴ Kr		1.34 ± 0.13	2.31 ± 0.23	1.4 ± 0.4
⁸⁵ Kr		0.0095± 0.0010	0.021 ± 0.002	0.018 ± 0.005
86 _{Kr}				0.004 ± 0.002



Fig. 1. — Measured cross-sections σ in mb for the production of krypton isotopes ⁷⁸Kr (triangles) ⁸²Kr (circles) and ⁸⁴Kr (squares) in silver bombarded with protons of energy *E* in MeV. Filled symbols : this work; empty symbols : literature values (see text and table III). Solid lines are excitation functions calculated according to our spallation formula.

4. The cross-section formula between Y and Ag.

4.1 METHODS. — The Rudstam CDMD formula [4] gives the cross-section σ for a reaction product (Z, A) in a target (Z_i, A_i) according to the following five parameter expression :

$$\sigma(Z, A) = KP \exp \times$$
$$\times \left[P(A - A_t) - R | Z - SA + TA^2 |^{3/2} \right].$$
(1)

We adopted the same expression for which we calculated new parameters K, P, R, S, T, using the least squares and differential corrections methods, well described in [4]. A test for goodness of fit is given by D:

$$D = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} \log \left(\sigma_{i,\text{calc}} / \sigma_{i,\text{exp}}\right)^2\right)^{1/2}$$
(2)

which has to be a minimum. N is the number of cross-sections used for fitting. Available experimental results are compiled in table III for Y, Zr, Nb, Mo, Ru, Pd and Ag target elements. Only the proton-induced reactions for which $\Delta A = A_t - A$ lies between 5 and 40, and experimental results with less than 40% uncertainty are considered. Corrections for the monitor cross-section have been applied where

necessary according to [10]. Cross sections in Zr and Pd were not used for fitting (except in the case of the K parameter) because of the many natural isotopes of these elements. However they will provide an excellent test of the cross-section formula.

The best agreement between the formula and experimental results was obtained in the following way :

i) calculate the five parameters for each line (i.e. each fixed target plus incident energy) of table III;

ii) weighting by the number of measured crosssections, find the best relation between one chosen parameter and physical constants such as incident energy E_p , Z, A, Z_v , A_t or A_t/Z_t . Or, simply take an average value;

iii) start the entire calculation again with one parameter less (successively with 4, 3, 2, 1 parameters).

The parameters were determined in the sequence S, T, R, P and K.

4.2 THE PARAMETER S. — We found no systematic trend in S with either target, product, or incident energy. Its average value, weighted by the number of cross-sections is :

 $S = 0.489 \pm 0.011$ (one standard deviation). (3)

In the Rudstam formula, S is also constant (0.486) whereas, in the formulae of reference [5] and reference [6], S was found to depend on A_t/Z_t .

4.3 THE PARAMETER T. - T was found to depend strongly on the target N/Z ratio. The best evidence for this is obtained from the data of Porile and Church [13] in ⁹⁶Zr, ⁹⁶Mo, ⁹⁶Ru and Belyaev *et al.* [9] in ^{90,91,94}Zr. Figure 2 shows the average T-values obtained in targets, whatever the energy, *versus* the atomic mass of the target, A_t . Clearly, T increases when the target becomes neutron richer. T was fitted by the following equation, where a_1 , a_2 , a_3 are constants :

$$T = a_1 + a_2(A_t/Z_t) + a_3 A_t$$
(4)

$$a_1 = -1.24 \pm 0.29 \times 10^{-3};$$

 $a_3 = -2.75 \pm 0.76 \times 10^{-6}$

with

and

 $a_2 = 8.42 \pm 0.13 \times 10^{-4}$.

In previous formulae (4, 5, 6), T had a constant value (3.8×10^{-4}) in this mass region.

4.4 THE PARAMETER R. — A simple way to determine R is to consider the cross-section ratio of two reaction products on the same isobar. If the irradiation conditions (projectile, target, incident energy) are the same,

Table III. — Spallation data for fitting and comparison with 3 semi-empirical formulae.^{**} Because of the numerous natural isotopes of Zr and Pd, results from these two targets were used for the K determination only. N_i is the number of measured cross-sections for each line. E is the incident proton energy.

Target	E(MeV)	Ni	Reference	(σ /σ) mean ± 1 σ calc exp		
				This work	Silberberg and Tsao	Rudstam
89 _Y	75	6	8	1.22 ± 0.80	1.6 ± 0.6	1.6 ± 0.5
	80	4	14	1.48 ± 1.03	2.1 ± 1.0	2.0 ± 0.8
	100	5	15	4.68 ± 1.70	5.6 ± 4.6	5.3 ± 3.6
	150	13	8, 14	2.98 ± 3.02	3.2 ± 3.2	2.8 ± 3.1
	168	9	8	1.15 ± 0.49	1.22 ± 0.54	1.02 ± 0.36
	180	9	15	1.75 ± 0.61	1.59 ± 1.11	1.6 ± 1.2
	200	9	8	0.80 ± 0.35	1.11 ± 0.67	0.80 ± 0.36
	240	9	8, 16	1.87 ± 0.85	1.23 ± 1.09	1.21 ± 0.67
	1050	13	8	0.79 ± 0.14	1.1 ± 0.7	0.90 ± 0.42
	2500	14	8	0.94 ± 0.24	1.7 ± 1.1	1.49 ± 0.61
	24000	12	8	1.06 ± 0.29	1.90 ± 1.06	1.80 ± 0.80
Zr	59 ×	5	8	0.62 ± 0.32	1.7 ± 0.8	1.88 ± 0.63
	75 ×	7	8	0.78 ± 0.58	0.88 ± 0.70	1.19 ± 0.70
	168**	8	8	1.00 ± 0.44	1.18 ± 0.87	0.90 ± 0.30
	200 *	9	8	0.87 ± 0.48	0.89 ± 0.75	0.82 ± 0.39
	1005 **	13	8	0.93 ± 0.22	0.91 ± 0.73	0.94 ± 0.41
	2500**	13	8	0.88 ± 0.14	1.6 ± 1.1	1.38 ± 0.50
90	24000 **	12	0	1.16 ± 0.23	1.60 I U.63	1.87 ± 0.73
90 91	1000	18	9	1.41 ± 0.97	1.5 ± 0.9	1.26 ± 0.58
Zr	1000	24	9	1.21 ± 0.33	1.2 ± 0.8	1.23 ± 0.45
⁹⁴ Zr	1000	18	9	0.92 ± 0.32	0.94 ± 0.63	0.96 ± 0.52
⁹⁶ Zr	1800	9	13	1.24 ± 0.45	0.83 ± 0.46	1.77 ± 1.65
93 _{Nb}	240	8	17	5.14 ± 3.02	1.06 ± 0.50	1.15 ± 0.37
	320	8	17	5.05 ± 3.1	1.00 ± 0.44	1.10 ± 0.26
	500	8	17	3.00 ± 1.59	0.78 ± 0.24	0.94 ± 0.34
	720	8	17	1.79 ± 0.83	0.66 ± 0.27	0.85 ± 0.55
96 _{Mo}	1800	9	13	1.11 ± 0.18	0.73 ± 0.30	1.05 ± 0.48
96 _{Ru}	1800	9	13	1.13 ± 0.29	0.86 ± 0.64	1.87 ± 1.34
Pd	1050 ×	6	this work	0.64 ± 0.11	0.59 ± 0.14	0.57 ± 0.07
	24000 %	6	this work	1.11 ± 0.09	1.14 ± 0.06	1.70 ± 0.21
Ag	540	6	11	1.38 ± 0.23	0.72 ± 0.08	0.71 ± 0.07
	600	9	this work	1.21 ± 0.62	0.63 ± 0.24	0.66 ± 0.32
	1050	6	this work	0.72 ± 0.10	0.59 ± 0.07	0.64 ± 0.14
	3000	26	12, 18	0.82 ± 0.15	0.94 ± 0.19	1.40 ± 0.57
	11500	29	19	1.12 ± 0.29	1.1 ± 0.7	1.75 ± 0.96
	24000	6	this work	1.17 ± 0.08	1.22 ± 0.04	1.82 ± 0.26
	29000	27	12, 18	1.01 ± 0.13	1.01 ± 0.17	1.71 ± 0.55
	300000	40	20, 21	1.07 ± 0.21	0.96 ± 0.47	1.53 ± 0.86

and also if the parameters K and P are independent of Z, this ratio is :

$$\frac{\sigma(Z, A)}{\sigma'(Z', A)} = \frac{\exp(-R | Z - SA + TA^2 |)^{3/2}}{\exp(-R | Z' - SA + TA^2 |)^{3/2}}$$
(5)

S and T are given by equations (3) and (4). Expression (5) applies in the case of cumulative cross sections by just making summations. More than 100 pairs were found for products with A = 72-103. Finally

we agree with Rudstam [4] in that R is independent of the energy E_p and slightly decreases with the atomic number, A, of the spallation product in our mass range. However R-values were rather scattered around the simple function that best represented them :

$$R = b_1 A + b_2 \tag{6}$$

with $b_1 = (-1.71 \pm 0.63) \times 10^{-2}$ and $b_2 = 2.66 \pm 0.52$. For comparison $R = 11.8 A^{-0.45}$ in previous for-



Fig. 2. — Parameter T (in units of 10^{-4}) versus target atomic mass A_t . Average T-values are quoted for several targets. The $(A_t - Z_t)/Z_t$ dependence clearly appears from the fitted T-values in 90,91,94,96 Zr and in 96 Zr, 96 Mo, 96 Ru.

mulae (4, 5). The simple shape of equation (6) best represents the data and it applies only in our target and product mass region.

4.5 THE PARAMETER P. — The parameter P decreases strongly with increasing energy E_p , then becomes roughly constant if $E_p \ge 1\,966$ MeV as plotted in figure 3. The best fit is given by :

$$P = c_1 E^{-c_2} \quad \text{if} \quad E < E_0 \tag{7}$$

$$P = c_3 \qquad \text{if} \quad E \ge E_0 \tag{8}$$

with $c_1 = 91.8 \pm 9.2$; $c_2 = 1.09 \pm 0.08$; $c_3 = 0.023 \pm 0.006$ and $E_0 = 1.966$ MeV.

No A_t dependence was detected.

The parameter P from Rudstam (4) is also plotted in figure 3 (dashed line) for comparison. The curve from Silberberg and Tsao [5] would be intermediary. However a strict comparison is not possible because we already fixed S, T and R. Also the data selection is very important for this parameter.



Fig. 3. — Parameter P versus energy. The solid line is the fit given by equations (7) and (8). The dashed line is given by the Rudstam formula.

4.6 THE PARAMETER K. — We considered K to be a normalizing parameter and looked for a simpler form of equation (23) in reference [4] :

$$K = f(E) \frac{d_1(1 - d_2 A_t)}{1 - d_3/PA_t + d_4 \exp(-PA_t)}.$$
 (9)
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Fitting over 426 cross-section data we found :

$$d_1 = 1\ 645$$
 $d_2 = 0.0054$
 $d_3 = 0.46$ $d_4 = 0.85$.

An adjustmeent parameter f(E) was necessary at low energy :

$$f(E) = 1$$
 if $E > E'$ (10)

$$f(E) = \exp(e_1 - e_2 E) \quad \text{if} \quad E \leqslant E' \qquad (11)$$

with

$$e_1 = 2.22 \pm 0.30$$

 $e_2 = 0.0108 \pm 0.0017$
 $E' = 206$ MeV.

5. Discussion.

5.1 COMPARISON WITH EXPERIMENT. — After the calculation of the parameters of our new formula was completed, we found 23 cross-sections that were missed in our first survey of literature. These cross-sections were measured in Nb [22], Mo [23] and Ag [24]. We also included all measured cross sections in multiple-isotope-targets Zr and Pd. The final data set available to compare calculated and measured cross-sections was comprised of 491 measurements in Y, Zr, Nb, Mo, Ru, Pd and Ag targets for products with $5 \leq \Delta A \leq 40$ and $E_p \geq 130$ MeV. The ratio of calculated to experimental cross sections lies



Fig. 4. — Histograms giving the number of cases N when the ratio F of calculated to experimental cross-sections lies between fixed values. In the dark portion, the energy range is limited to $E \ge 1$ GeV. Figure 4a) : This work; 4b) : Silberberg and Tsao formula. 4c) : Rudstam formula.

within a factor of 1.5 from unity in 72 % of all cases, and within a factor of 2 from unity in 89% of all cases (compared to 46 % and 76 % respectively for the original Rudstam formula and 57 % and 79 % for the S-T formula). When looking only at $E_{p} \ge$ 1 000 MeV, these numbers become 83 % and 96 %(43 % and 74 % for Rudstam, 61 % and 80 % for S-T). The ratios from this work, from Silberberg and Tsao [5], and from Rudstam [4] are also represented on the histograms of figures 4a, 4b and 4c, respectively. These histograms show clearly the advantage of our local formula in the $Z_{\rm T} = 39$ to 47 target region, with a distribution well peaked around unity, almost symmetrical, and much narrower than the two other distributions. A comparison between the three calculations can also be made in table III, where the mean ratio is quoted for each target and each incident energy. In many cases our formula provides a better mean ratio and a better 1 σ value.

5.2 EVALUATION OF THE CALCULATIONS. — Among all available cross sections in Y to Ag targets, 51 (about 10 %) are calculated to a worse than 2 factor; 24 of these 51 are less than 0.1 mb cross-sections. In fact almost all cross-sections less than 0.1 mb are overestimated by our formula, which is not generally the case in the work of Rudstam [4] or Silberberg and Tsao [5]. We attribute this fact to the low weight of small cross-sections in our compilation. No systematic trend could be found among the other miscalculated cross-sections. Most cross-section measurements from reference [16] in Y at 150 MeV give bad ratios.

Looking now at all the results, there is no systematic trend favoring neutron-rich or neutron-poor products. Also, from the data set available, there is no ΔA effect, at least if $\Delta A \ge 5$. However there exists an energy effect in the GeV region : the formula does not account for a maximum followed by a decrease of excitation functions around 1 GeV. Consequently the average ratio is significantly higher at 24 GeV than at 1 or 2.5 GeV.

From the work of Belyaev et al. [9], many independent cross-sections for rubidium isotopes with A = 75-90 were measured in 3 different isotopic targets of zirconium (A = 90, 91 and 94) bombarded with 1 GeV protons. These data are plotted on figure 5 together with our calculations (solid lines) and those of reference [4] (broken lines) and reference [5] (dotted lines). Our formula accounts for the displacement of the mass-distribution toward the neutron rich side when the target becomes neutron richer from 90 Zr to 94 Zr. The Rudstam formula gives constant values, whereas the Silberberg and Tsao formula also predicts the displacement.

The mass-yield curves have been plotted on figure 6 for the spallation of silver. Experimental (sharp) lines were taken from Katcoff *et al.* [18] at 3 and 29 GeV. Calculated (thick) lines clearly show the



Fig. 5. — Mass-distribution of rubidium isotopes produced in the proton bombardment at 1 GeV of a) 90 Zr, b) 91 Zr, and c) 94 Zr. Solid lines are calculated from this work, dotted lines from Silberberg and Tsao and dashed lines from Rudstam. All experimental cross sections σ are from Belyaev *et al.* [9].

advantage of our formula : the calculated massyield curve from this work at energies ≥ 3 GeV is parallel to both experimental curves at 3 and 29 GeV and almost identical to the experimental curve at 29 GeV. The Rudstam formula does not account for the slope of the mass-yield curve and the S-T formula gives oscillations that are not evident from experiment.

5.3 COSMOGENIC KRYPTON IN IRON METEORITES. — The most abundant krypton-producing target elements in iron meteorites are Mo, Ru, Rh and Pd.



Fig. 6. — Mass yield curves in silver at several proton energies. Sharp lines are experimental and adopted from reference [18] at 3 GeV (dashed line) and 29 GeV (continuous line). Thick lines are calculated at 4 GeV from our formula (continuous line) and the Rudstam formula (dashed line). The reduced figure on the left corner shows the same calculated mass yield curves together with that of the S-T formula (dotted line).

Both Mo and Ru have ΔA values for Kr isotopes which are intermediate between the Y-Zr and Pd-Ag target groups, and mainly particles of more than 200 MeV are expected to be efficient from threshold considerations. We thus have a good case for the calculation of unknown cross-sections for ⁷⁸⁻⁸⁴Kr in Mo and Ru using our semi-empirical formula. However, we particularly scrutinized the ratio of calculated over measured cross sections for Kr isotopes in Y, Zr, Pd and Ag targets, in order to define any poor trends more precisely. Looking for absolute values in the case of ⁸²Kr, and for isotopic ratios ${}^{i}Kr/{}^{82}Kr$ otherwise, we obtained the results of table IV (mean values over several energies for each target, and over all targets and energies). Errors are one standard deviation from the mean. Whatever the target, the formula tends to underestimate, by about 15 %, both absolute cross sections and the ⁷⁸Kr/⁸²Kr ratio. Also the ⁸⁴Kr/⁸²Kr ratio is always overestimated by about 30 %. Consequently, some normalizing procedure should be applied when using krypton excitation functions to calculate cosmogenic krypton in extraterrestrial matter [25].

Table IV. — Calculated over experimental cross-sections or isotopic ratios for Kr isotopes in Y, Zr, Pd and Ag targets at several proton bombarding energies. The last column averages all ratios. Experimental data for Y and Zr are from reference [8], and for Pd and Ag are from this work and reference [12]. 85 Kr is not included in the comparison because it has an isomer that does not decay through internal transition.

	Y	Zr	Pd	Ag	All targets and energies
78/82	0.73 ± 0.20	0.81 ± 0.10	0.90 ± 0.02	1.03 ± 0.20	0.85 ± 0.20
80/82	0.91 ± 0.12	0.97 ± 0.07	1.01 ± 0.03	1.04 ± 0.09	0.97 ± 0.10
81/82	0.93 ± 0.09	1.00 ± 0.05	1.02 ± 0.01	1.07 ± 0.04	1.00 ± 0.08
83/82	1.04 ± 0.21	1.02 ± 0.08	1.00 ± 0.01	1.03 ± 0.05	1.03 ± 0.13
84/82	1.3 ± 0.9	1.5 ± 0.8	1.30 ± 0.22	1.27 ± 0.10	1.35 ± 0.61
⁸² Kr	0.91 ± 0.17	0.83 ± 0.19	0.85 ± 0.35	0.89 ± 0.19	0.88 ± 0.19

Preliminary calculations (25) yielded a reasonable agreement, often better than 10 %, for the krypton isotopic distribution in some iron meteorites.

6. Conclusion.

Cross-sections for ⁷⁸⁻⁸⁶Kr were obtained in Pd and Ag targets bombarded with protons of 0.15, 1.05 and 24 GeV. Excitation functions pass through a maximum around 1 GeV. We calculated new parameters that appreciably improve the Rudstam formula in the Y to Ag target region. The new semi-empirical formula is expected to calculate unknown cross-sections to better than a factor of 1.5 in most cases, providing that $5 \leq \Delta A \leq 40$, $E_{\rm p} > 206$ MeV, and $\sigma > 0.1$ mb. Less than 4 % of such data were found to give a fit that was worse than a factor of two. That number increases to 11% when looking at all data with $5 \leq \Delta A \leq 40$ and $E \geq 130$ MeV. This work will be used to calculate the cosmogenic component of krypton in iron meteorites, a sensor of irradiation effects in the Solar System.

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