

Synergy analysis for mouse Harderian gland radiation tumorigenesis induced by mixed beams whose individual components are simulated galactic cosmic rays

Edward Greg Huang, Yimin Lin, Mark Ebert, Dae Woong Ham, and Rainer K. Sachs

3 October 2017

1. Introduction

1.1. Terminology

There will be a number of acronyms in this paper. The main ones are the following, with less familiar but here often used ones, such as **IDER** and **MIXDER**, in bold-face and underlined. **AIVP** Autonomous ODE Initial Value Problem (Section sss below) **GCR** Galactic Cosmic Rays (or Galactic Cosmic Radiation). Occurs above low earth orbit. **HG** Harderian Gland. An organ found in many rodents **HZE** ion High Z and E (charge and energy) atomic nuclei, almost fully ionized **IDER** Individual Dose-Effect Relation, for a single agent or single mixture component **MIXDER** Mixture Dose-Effect Relation **L=LET** Linear Energy Transfer, stopping power, $LET \propto LNT$ Linear-No-Threshold. A straight line through the origin (dose=0, effect=0) **NTE** Non-Targeted Effect(s) due to inter-cellular interactions. ‘Bystander’ effect(s) **ODE** Ordinary Differential Equation **TE** Targeted Effect(s). Standard radiobiology action due to a direct hit or near miss In the paper: “concave” and “convex” are used, as illustrated in Fig. fff below, to refer to second derivatives when analyzing **IDER** graphs; “low dose” usually refers to doses between 0 and 2 cGy; “very low dose” refers to doses between 0 and 5 mGy; and “ultra low dose” refers to doses <1 mGy. More details on terminology and a summary of the mathematical symbols used are in sub-section A1 of the supplementary materials.

1.2. Scope of Paper

NASA has been concerned about possible synergy when mixed radiation fields produce biological damage (reviewed, e.g., in [Norbury et al. 2016],[Siranart et al. 2016], [Ham et al. 2017rrr]). There is evidence that synergy sometimes occurs (e.g. [Bennett et al. 2007]). We will here use mathematical synergy analyses of earlier and proposed experiments on mouse Harderian Gland (HG) radiogenic tumorigenesis after exposure to mixtures whose components simulate GCR. There is evidence that HZE ions probably induce NTE due to inter-cellular interactions [Cucinotta and Chappell 2010; Chang et al. 2016], so we will use $I(d)$

1.3. Synergy Analysis

1.3.1. A Brief History of Synergy Theory

Lots more stuff here

2. Mathematical and Computational Methods

2.1. Open-Source, Freely Available Programs

2.2. IDERs: General Approach [almost always use toy examples for 1st year 1-variable calculus audience]

2.2.1. General Requirements on IDERS

Notation. dose. labeled by index or by biophysical parameters. contain adjustable parameters IDERs defined and C2 on half open interval $[0, \infty)$ of dose axis. 0 at dose 0. $E < 1$ for all doses.

2.2.2. Concave/Convex Terminology as Regards Second Derivatives

Use a 3-panel Figure with concave, convex, and inflection point IDERs to illustrate the following items. Suppose $d^2E/dd^2 < 0$ for all doses in an open interval, then E is (strictly) “concave” for all such doses; > 0 (strictly) convex. Inflection point. Aside: convex graphs have a much more general definition in mathematics [give reference] but here we will only need the above.

2.2.3. The Hazard Function Equation

$E=1-\exp(-H)$. Motivate E is IDER (section 2.2.1) iff H is IDER.

2.2.4. Standard IDERs and IDERs Defined by an Autonomous Initial Value Problem (AIVP IDERs)

Standard: given as functions of dose, explicit using “elementary” functions or high-quality numerical. AIVP: $dE/dd=F(E)$; $E(0)=0$; insist, as a mild condition on F , that there be a unique solution C2 at and near dose 0. Motivate at length. Important Innovation.

2.3. IDERs Used in This Paper (will be Long sub-section with various subdivisions)

2.4. Synergy Analysis (will be long sub-section with various subdivisions)

2.5. Computational Implementation

The data are sourced from Chang et al. (2016) and Alpen et al. (1993, 1994) and implemented as R dataframes throughout the calculations. A number of R packages from the CRAN repository were used, notably `minpack.lm` for non-linear regression, `deSolve` for solving differential equations, `mvtnorm` for Monte Carlo simulations, and `ggplot2` for plotting. Standardized IDERs are initialized as R functions with arguments for dose and LET. These IDERs encompass various particle variants (HZE, low-LET) and effect models (TE, NTE + TE). Computing $I(d)$ involves calling a user-written R function that applies incremental effect additivity to mixtures of $N \geq 2$ IDERs, with at most one low-LET IDER. This requires use of a one-dimensional root finder within a numerical ODE integrator from `deSolve`. Confidence intervals for the calculated baseline MIXDER are found through Monte Carlo simulations (more to be added). The raw code is available on Github.

Works Cited

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