# Lattice Confinement Nuclear Fusions Using Photon Showered Erbium: Another Kind of Room Temperature Fusion Discovery in NASA's Glenn Research Center

Tae Ho Woo

Department of Mechanical and Control Engineering, The Cyber University of Korea, Seoul 03051, Republic of Korea \*Corresponding author: thw\_kor@hotmail.com

## 1. Introduction

Another kind of room temperature fusion is investigated at NASA's Glenn research center for seeking energy sources applicable in the deep-space journeys and eventually the building of the new colonies [1-3]. Fig. 1 shows the feature of Erbium where the lattice is the hexagonal closed packed (HCP) structure [4]. The low energy nuclear reactions (LENRs) are described in this work where the Erbium is a major element to design the LENRs reaction where the nuclear fusion could be realized with the excess heat productions.

### 2. Methods

In the modeling, the experiment is considered by nuclear fusion or Oppenheimer-Phillips (O-P) nuclear stripping reactions which his is in Fig. 2 that shows the scheme of NASA's experiment. The deuterated material (ErD<sub>3</sub>) is showered by the photons with 2.5 to 2.9 MeV where the 2.45 MeV neutrons is consistent with  ${}^{2}H(d,n){}^{3}He$  fusion reactions [5]. It is proposed that the experimental fusion cross section  $\sigma_{exp}(E)$  is [5],

$$\sigma_{exp}(E) = \sigma_{bare}(E)f(E) \tag{1}$$

where f(E) is the enhancement factor. So,

$$f(E) = \frac{S(E+U_e)}{S(E)} \frac{E}{(E+U_e)} exp[G(E) - G(E+U_e)]$$
(2)

There is the animation that describes the reaction [6]. In this work, the simulations are performed for the possibility of the experiment. Fig. 3 has the SRIM simulations with the set-up for simulation of 10keV deuterons into Erbium of thickness 10<sup>4</sup> Angstrom [7]. The ion trajectories of 500keV deuterons into Erbium (side view) and the ion trajectories of 500keV deuterons into Erbium (transverse view). The result gives the ion ranges of 10keV deuterons into Erbium.

In the simulations, there are some significant features. The Ion Range is obtained as the unit of  $(atoms/cm^3)/(atoms/cm^2)$ . Ionization is described as Energy Loss (eV/Angstrom). The Collision Events is shown as Number/(Angstrom-Ion).

## 3. Results

In this work, in case of Fig. 3(d), the value is obtained by the target thickness in the most probable point. The slope decreases rapidly until 100 keV. Fig. 4 describes the

related events for the most probable point. Table 1 is the list of events.

# 4. Conclusions

Fig. 5 shows the meaning of LENRs where another kind of energy production could be possible using the room temperature reactions to be commercialized in the space as well as industry.

## Acknowledgements

This study was supported by the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) grant funded by the Korea Ministry of Science and ICT (NRF2020M2B5A1110908 11).

#### REFERENCES

- ANS, 2020. NASA work on lattice confinement fusion grabs attention, American Nuclear Society (ANS), La Grange Park, USA, <https://www.ans.org/news/article-447/nasa-workon-lattice-confinement-fusion-grabs-attention/>.
- [2] Delebert, C., 2020. NASA Found Another Way Into Nuclear Fusion, Popular Mechanics, Hearst Magazine Media, Inc., New York, USA.
- [3] NASA, 2020. Lattice Confinement Fusion, Glenn Research Center, Cleveland, USA, <https://www1.grc.nasa.gov/space/science/latticeconfinement-fusion/>.
- [4] RSC, 2020. Erbium, Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC), Cambridge, UK, <https://www.rsc.org/periodic-table/element /68/erbium>.
- [5] NASA, 2020. Novel Nuclear Reactions Observed in Bremsstrahlung-Irradiated Deuterated Metals, Glenn Research Center, Cleveland, USA, <https://www1.grc.nasa.gov/wp-content /uploads/TP-20205001616-Experiment-Paper-Final.pdf>.
- [6] NASA, 2020. Nuclear Fusion Reactions in Deuterated Metals, YouTube Video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ug7B7Gsm-2Y&feature=youtu.be, NASA Glenn Research and Technology, Brook Park, USA.
- [7] Zieger, J., 2015. SRIM The Stopping and Range of Ions in Matter, <a href="http://www.srim.org/">http://www.srim.org/</a>>.



Fig. 1. Feature of Erbium.



Fig. 2. Scheme of NASA's experiment.



(b)





Fig. 3. SRIM simulations (a) Set-up for simulation of 10keV deuterons into Erbium of thickness  $10^4$  Angstrom (b) Ion trajectories of 500keV deuterons into Erbium (side view) (c) Ion trajectories of 500keV deuterons into Erbium (transverse view) (d) Ion ranges of 10keV deuterons into Erbium.



Fig. 4. The most probable point in related events.



Fig. 5. The meaning of LENR

# Transactions of the Korean Nuclear Society Virtual spring Meeting May 13-14, 2021

Table I: List of events.			
Energy(keV)	Ion Range(um)	Ionization(um)	Collision
			Events(um)
10	0.08	0.07	0.05
50	0.09	0.48	0.25
100	0.1	0.8	0.6
500	0.11	3.9	3.5