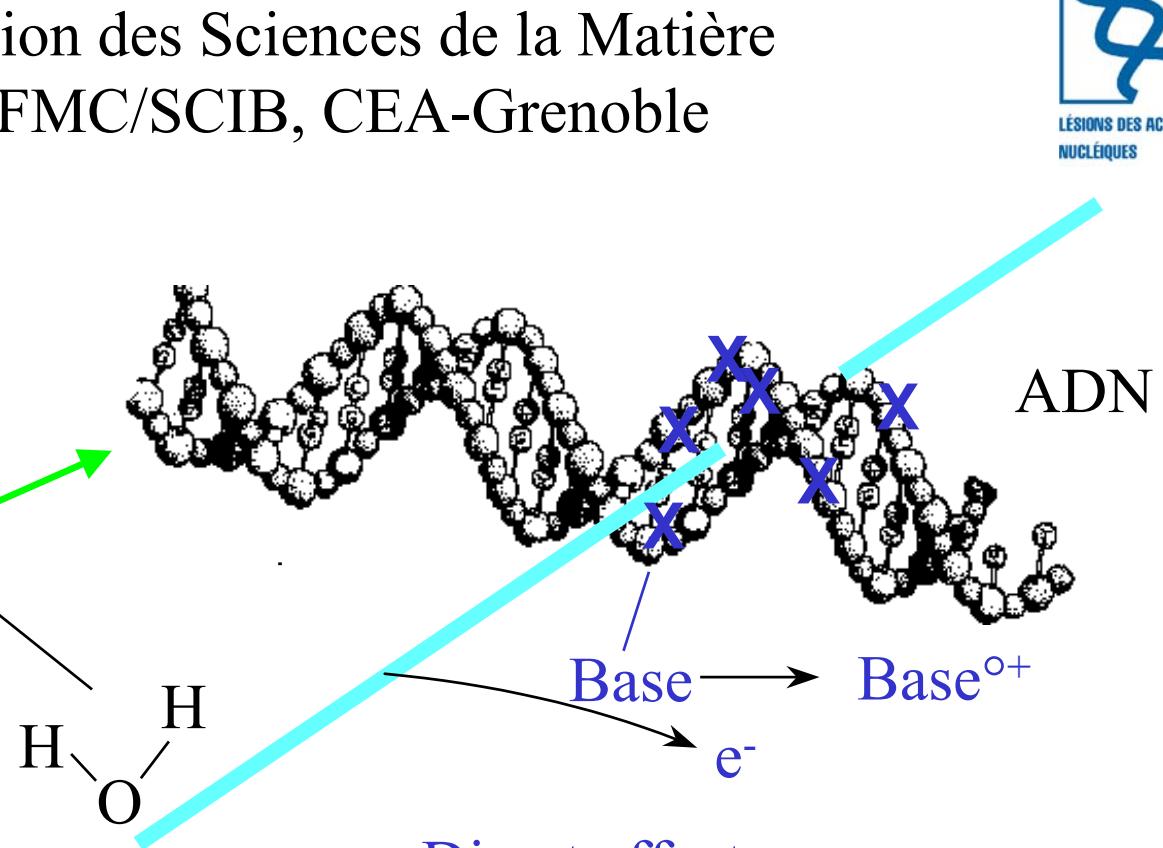


Indirect effect:  
(radiolysis of water)

$e^-_{aq}$ ,  $H^\circ$ ,  $HO^\circ$

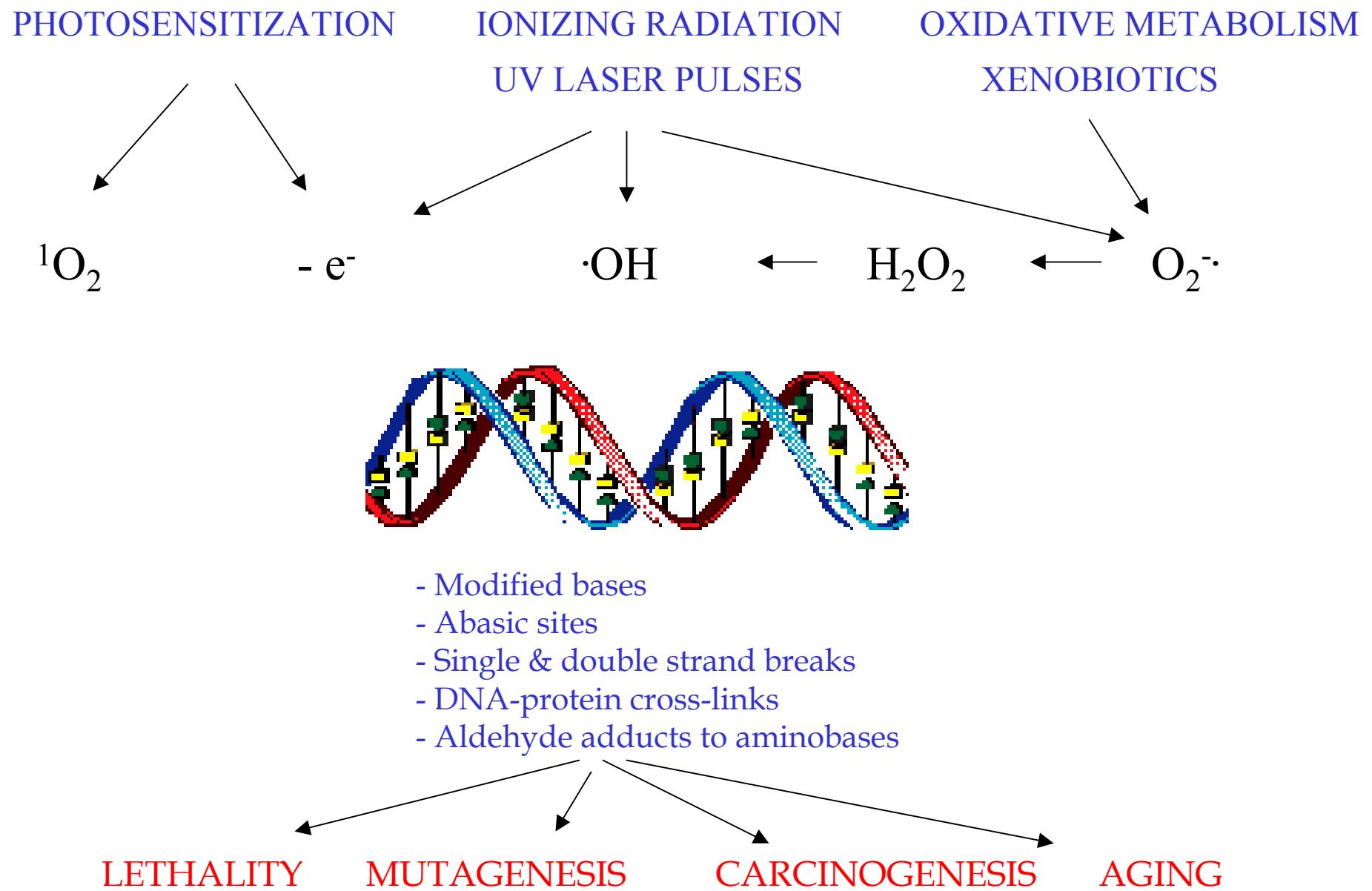


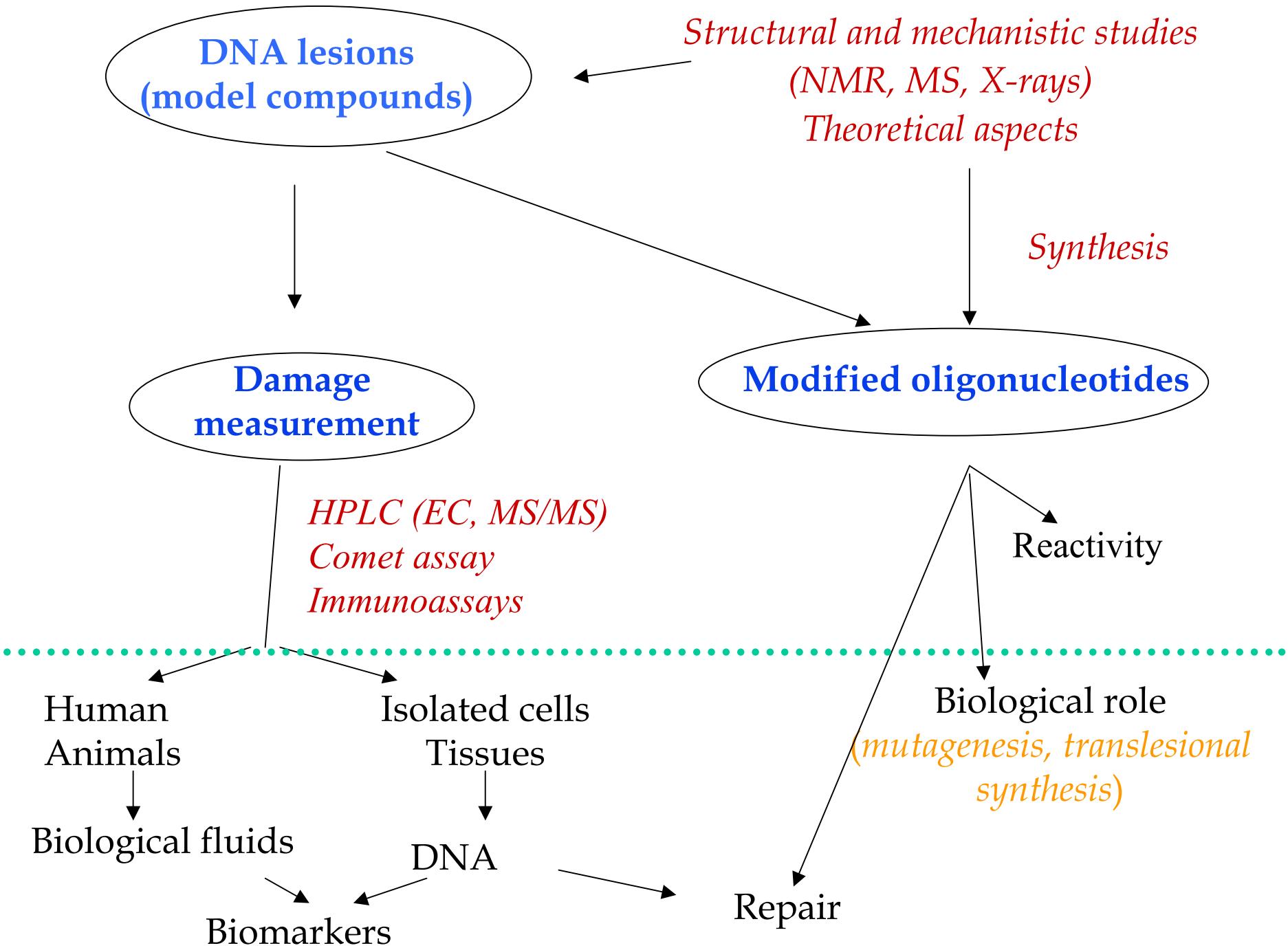
Direct effect:  
(ionization of DNA bases)

### Aims of the work:

- **identification** of the lesions
- **quantification** of their formation in cells
- determination of their **biological properties**

# OXIDATIVE DAMAGE TO DNA





## MODEL SYSTEMS

- identification of over **70 radiation-induced base damage**
- several major mechanistic pathways established
- correlations with theoretical approaches



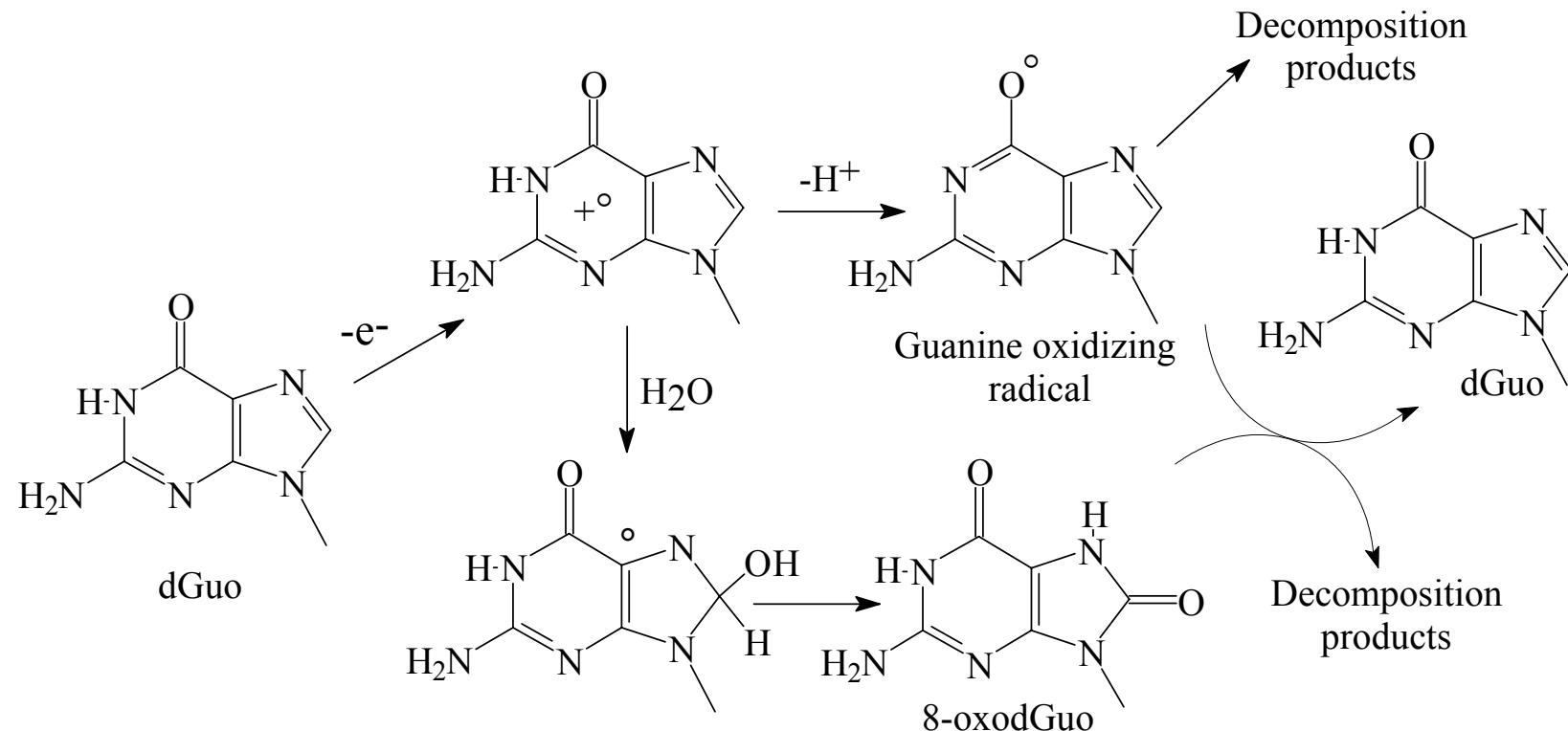
### MEASUREMENT OF DAMAGE IN CELLULAR DNA (chemistry in the cells)

- twelve modified bases singled out by chromatographic assays
- damage quantified in cells exposed to low doses (0.2 Gy) using biochemical assays

### DETERMINATION OF BIOLOGICAL FEATURES

- synthesis of 20 site-specifically modified oligonucleotides (*mostly base damage*)
- substrate specificity of repair enzymes
- mutagenic properties of lesions (*shuttle vector methods, polymerases*)

# Radical oxidation reactions of isolated 2'-deoxyguanosine



Yields of formation of 11 base modifications in the DNA of monocytes upon exposure to  $^{60}\text{Co}$   $\gamma$ -rays (LET: 0.2 keV/ $\mu\text{m}$ ) and  $^{12}\text{C}^{6+}$  ions (LET: 25 keV/ $\mu\text{m}$ )

DNA base modifications <i>(per 10<sup>9</sup> bases and per Gy)</i>	$\gamma$ -rays	$^{12}\text{C}^{6+}$
5,6-Dihydroxy-5,6-dihydrothymidine <i>(4 diastereomers)</i>	97	62
5-(Hydroxymethyl)-2'-deoxyuridine	29	12
5-Formyl-2'-deoxyuridine	22	11
5-Hydroxy-2'-deoxyuridine	< 0.2	< 0.2
8-Oxo-7,8-dihydro-2'-deoxyadenosine	3	3
Adenine formamidopyrimidine	5	1
8-Oxo-7,8-dihydro-2'-deoxyguanosine	20	10
Guanine formamidopyrimidine	39	22

## Estimated damage in a mammalian cell nucleus for 1 Gy of low-LET radiation

### - *Initial physical damage*

Ionizations in cell nucleus	~ 100 000
Ionizations directly in DNA	~ 2 000
Excitations directly in DNA	~ 2 000

### *Selected biochemical damage (Ward 1988)*

DNA strand breaks DNA	1 000
8-Hydroxyadenine	700
Diol de thymine	200
DNA double-strand breaks	40
DNA-proteins crosslinks	150

### *Selected cellular effect*

Lethal events	~ 0.2 - 0.8
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# **RADIATION DAMAGE TO DNA**

*(future work)*

- Complex damage
- Effects of electrons of low energy
- DNA-protein crosslinks
- DNA-aldehyde adducts (LOOH)
- Bystander effects