effects of high-energy radiation on inorganic substances

QD 601 S94 1965

ety for testing and materials

# EFFECTS OF HIGH-ENERGY RADIATION ON INORGANIC SUBSTANCES

A symposium presented at the Fifth Pacific Area National Meeting AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING AND MATERIALS Seattle, Wash., Oct 31-Nov. 5, 1965

ASTM SPECIAL TECHNICAL PUBLICATION NO. 400

Price \$5.25; to members \$3.70



### © BY AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING AND MATERIALS 1966 Library of Congress Catalog Number 66-21923

### NOTE

The Society is not responsible, as a body, for the statements and opinions advanced in this publication.

### Foreword

The papers in this volume were presented at the Symposium on the Chemical and Physical Effects of High-Energy Radiation on Inorganic Substances, held during the Fifth Pacific Area National Meeting of ASTM at Seattle, Wash., on Nov. 2 and 3, 1966. The symposium was sponsored by Committee E-10 on Radioisotopes and Radiation Effects, whose chairman is G. W. Pomeroy, General Electric Co. Chairman of the Symposium Committee was E. S. Freeman, IIT Research Inst.

## Related ASTM Publications

- Materials in Nuclear Applications, STP 276 (1960), \$8.25
- Radiation Effects and Radiation Dosimetry, STP 286 (1961), \$4.75
- Space Radiation Effects on Materials, STP 330 (1962), \$2.50
- Radiation Effects on Metals and Neutron Dosimetry, STP 341 (1963), \$15.00
- Chemical and Physical Effects of High-Energy Radiation on Inorganic Substances, STP 359 (1964), \$6.00
- Space Radiation Effects, STP 363 (1964), \$7.50

# Contents

Introduction — E. S. FREEMAN	vi
The Thermal Decomposition of Irradiated Mercuric Oxalate — E. G. PROUT AND D. J. MOORE	1
The Radiolytic Decomposition of Crystalline Alkali Metal and Alkaline Earth Bromates — J. W. CHASE AND G. E. BOYD	17
The Thermal Decomposition of Gamma-Irradiated Barium Azide — E. G. PROUT AND D. J. MOORE	45
Low-Temperature Annealing Processes in Alkali Halides —  B. S. H. ROYCE	75
Electron Spin Resonance Spectra of Radiation-Damaged Inorganic Crystals — J. R. MORTON	93
The Radiation-Induced Decomposition of Some Inorganic Sulfates  — SUEI-RONG HUANG AND E. R. JOHNSON	121
Activation and Sintering Behavior of Calcium Oxide — The Effect of Copper X-Irradiation on the Surface Area of the Oxide Produced by Thermal Decomposition — R. SH. MIKHAIL	139
On the Dichroism in R-Bands Induced in & Irradiated Potassium Chloride Crystals — J. Z. DAMM	155

#### INTRODUCTION

#### By E. S. Freeman\*

This symposium on radiation effects on inorganic substances is the second of its type sponsored by ASTM. The first was held on June 25, 1965, and was published in ASTM Special Publication No. 359. Because of the interest expressed in this topic, a second symposium was held on the "Chemical and Physical Effects of High Energy Radiation." It is believed that combining both the chemistry and physics aspects of the radiation effects problem provides a better understanding of the overall mechanism of radiation effects In this present meeting the scope of topics on materials. was expanded to include several very interesting approaches to the investigation of radiation damage to solids as well as to bring up to date some of the outstanding research discussed in the previous symposium in the fields of radiation-induced decomposition reactions, radiation effects on the chemical reactivity of solids, as well as research on crystal defects produced by exposure to high-energy radiation.

\*Assistant director, chemical sciences research, IIT Research Inst., Chicago Ill. Chairman of Symposium Committee.

