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ON PROTON BOMBARDMENT OF SILICON SEMICONDUCTORS
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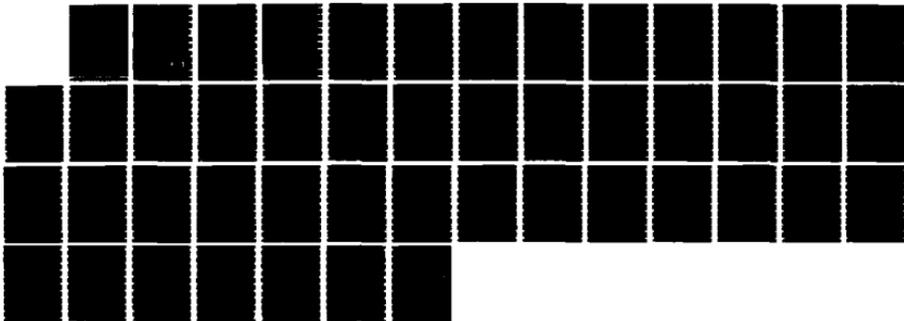
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**ON PROTON BOMBARDMENT OF SILICON
SEMICONDUCTORS**

Ionization vs Displacement Disablements

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1 February 1985

Technical Report

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19 ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse if necessary and identify by block number) The bombardment of thick silicon-crystalline targets by monodirectional and monoenergetic beams of 25 to 250 MeV protons is considered. By use of a proton-fluence model that accounts for stragglng effects, total ionization dose and silicon-atom displacement-density profiles within the target material are determined and presented as functions of incident particle energy. For assumed values of total dose [1 Mrad(Si)] and displacement [10^{14} 1-Mev-equivalent-neutrons/cm ²] levels that would disable typical semiconductors, the times required for a beam of "reference" proton flux [10^{13} protons/cm ² ·s] to disable such devices by each of the two mechanisms are computed. Profiles of the ratio of the two disablement times are presented as functions of incident proton energy. For the reference disablement criteria, ionization disablement is found to precede displacement-disablement. Means to scale results to other values of these criteria are noted. Plans to extend the work to cover all three of the hydrogen-isotope beams are noted and the desirability of certain related experimental data is discussed. An appendix details the construction of a function assumed to represent-					
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19. ABSTRACT (Continued)

the displacement damage coefficient. *Revised*

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SUMMARY

This report concerns two of the mechanisms by which high-energy protons can disable silicon semiconductors: ionization and displacement. The basic difference between these two mechanisms is fairly concisely explained in a recent text as follows:

"Displacement effects are the changes that occur in the properties of a material when energetic (here, proton) radiation displaces (here, silicon) atoms from their normal positions in the lattice. These effects are in contrast to the ionization effects that are the result of orbital electrons being excited away from their parent (here, silicon) atoms by the radiation" (Ref. 1).

The reader is referred to that text for a detailed discussion of the various types of silicon device degradation that can result from proton bombardment.

Here we ask the question: If subjected to proton bombardment, would a silicon semiconductor device first fail by excessive ionization or by excessive displacement? To answer the question, we follow the usual custom of assuming that the two disabling mechanisms act independently of each other. This assumption, in turn, permits us to utilize the vast store of disablement information on various devices that has been accrued over years of gamma- and neutron-irradiation experiments (e.g., see Ref. 2). The former experiments (where displacement effects are negligible) determine total

ionization-dose failure levels, while the latter (where ionization effects are negligible) determine displacement-density failure levels.

To estimate ionization doses and displacement densities all along the tracks of penetrating protons, one of course needs at least a reasonable representation of the proton fluence as a function of both the position and energy of the projectile particles. By following the type of approach adopted by Mather and Segre in 1951 (Ref. 3), such a fluence function has been constructed and is described in Reference 4. This function permits an immediate estimate of the ionization dose along the path followed by a proton beam as its individual particles straggle to their various stopping locations in a thick silicon target.

To estimate displacement densities along the path one also needs a second function, a displacement damage coefficient which is dependent on proton energy. By use of two preliminary forms of this second function, the likely magnitudes of the displacement density that beams of 25- to 250-MeV protons might induce in thick silicon targets have been explored (Ref. 5). More recently, a third form of the displacement damage function has been constructed. As fully explained in the Appendix of this report, this third form was structured to conform with a wide assortment of available theoretical and experimental information. In the following sections, we will detail the findings that have been based on the Appendix displacement damage function and on the proton fluence model described in Reference 4.

Section 1 sets forth the total dose profiles in thick silicon targets that would result from bombardments by beams of 25- to 250-MeV protons. For beams of an incident "reference fluence" (10^{13} protons/cm², corresponding to a flow of 16 mA/m² for one second), the dose at points of proton-entry ranges from $\sim 1/2$ Mrad (250-MeV protons) to ~ 3 Mrad (25-MeV protons). The peak dose (that at the "Bragg peak" of the dose profile) occurs just short of the mean penetration depth. On the basis of the Reference 4 fluence model, the peak value is estimated to be 5.8 times the value at points of proton-entry into the thick target. This factor would be appreciably higher if straggling were not taken into account. Where the dose peaks, the fluence of surviving (i.e., unstopped) protons is estimated at $\sim 81\%$ of the incident fluence.

In Section 2, we estimate the capability of protons (at all points along their paths in the thick silicon crystal target) to cause silicon atom displacements relative to the same capability of 1-MeV neutrons.* It is customary to relate the proton-induced displacement density to that induced by 1-MeV neutrons, since the displacement-disabling fluences of such neutrons have been measured over years of nuclear weapons effects experiments. The profiles of the displacement damage ratio are presented for beams of protons with incident

*Since the spectra of neutrons from sources used in displacement damage experiments vary considerably, it has become customary to equate the fluence using a particular source spectrum to the "1-MeV-equivalent neutron fluence" that would cause the same displacement damage.

energies in the same 25- to 250-MeV range examined in our total dose study. We estimate that those proton beams that are capable of penetrating at least ~ 10 g/cm² of target material (i.e., with incident energies $\geq \sim 100$ MeV) would be roughly twice as effective as 1-MeV neutrons in causing displacements near points of proton-entry. The peak of the displacement density profile would occur in the neighborhood of the mean stopping depth. For incident protons of 100-MeV, the peak proton-to-1-MeV-equivalent-neutron displacement damage ratio is estimated at ~ 5 . For 250-MeV incident protons, the ratio is estimated at ~ 4 . The peak ratio for the least energetic proton beam considered (25-MeV incident energy) is estimated at ~ 17 . However, the mean penetration depth of this particular beam's protons would be only ~ 0.8 g/cm² of target material. These peak ratios would be considerably higher if straggling did not occur.

In Section 3, we compare the irradiation time to disable a typical bipolar device via excessive total dose to that for disablement via displacement damage. Reference kill criteria are taken at 1 Mrad(Si) for ionization dose disablement and at a displacement density equal to that resulting from exposure to 10^{14} 1-MeV neutrons/cm². Based on these reference kill criteria, a beam that delivers a flux of 10^{13} protons/cm²·s to a thick assembly of such devices could always first kill each such device by ionization alone. Under the cited conditions, the devices located near the mean penetration depth of protons would fail (via ionization) in times ranging from ~ 0.06 seconds (25-MeV beam) to ~ 0.3 seconds (250-MeV beam). Devices near points of beam-entry would absorb the reference killing dose in somewhat longer times: ~ 0.3 seconds for the 25-MeV beam and ~ 2.0 seconds for the 250-MeV beam. Under

reference conditions, the time required to cause killing levels of the displacement density is estimated to be a factor of ~ 4 to ~ 12 larger than the ionization kill time.

We should here remind the reader that the ratio of ionization to-displacement kill times, of course, scales directly with the ionization dose kill criterion and inversely as the displacement kill criterion. For example, a device which fails (via displacements) upon exposure to only 10^{13} 1-MeV neutrons/cm² or to our reference 1-Mrad ionization dose, would experience--essentially simultaneously--a killing level of displacements and also a killing level of ionization. If this same displacement-sensitive device was so "total-dose-robust" as to require 10 Mrads for ionization disablement, it would first be killed by the displacement mechanism and, considerably later, be killed again by excessive ionization.

In Section 4, we recall our original plan to examine the bombardment of silicon semiconductors by deuterons and tritons as well as by the proton beams considered here. The desirability of experiments that would generate the type of input needed to extend our analyses to cover all three hydrogen-isotope beams is noted. Also, our plan to proceed analytically with similar studies involving the heavier isotope beams is outlined.

In the Appendix, we explain the construction of our final form of the displacement damage function.

PREFACE

The research documented here was conducted under the administrative supervision of Dr. David Gakenheimer, whose support and programmatic guidance are gratefully acknowledged.

Peter Haas had made useful suggestions, provided information on nuclear radiation effects on electronics, and had been responsible for bringing the authors together--a liaison that stimulated the present work.

RDA's Drs. J. Green and D. Washburn have constructively influenced the course of this research as have Dr. R. M. Zazworski of the Sandia National Laboratory at Albuquerque, and Dr. R. More of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Finally, we wish to acknowledge the constant support of Mrs. F. Boyle, who has developed the machine programs used to compute the various quantities appearing in this report.

CONVERSION TABLE
(Symbols of SI units given in parentheses)

To convert from	to	Multiply by
angstrom	meters (m)	1.000 000 X E -10
atmosphere (normal)	kilo pascal (kPa)	1.013 25 X E +2
bar	kilo pascal (kPa)	1.000 000 X E +2
barn	meter ² (m ²)	1.000 000 X E -28
British thermal unit (thermochemical)	joule (J)	1.054 350 X E +3
calorie (thermochemical)	joule (J)	4.184 000
cal (thermochemical)/cm ²	mega joule/m ² (MJ/m ²)	4.184 000 X E -2
curie	giga becquerel (GBq)*	3.700 000 X E +1
degree (angle)	radian (rad)	1.745 329 X E -2
degree Fahrenheit	degree kelvin (K)	$T_K = (t_F + 459.67)/1.8$
electron volt	joule (J)	1.602 19 X E -19
erg	joule (J)	1.000 000 X E -7
org/second	watt (W)	1.000 000 X E -7
foot	meter (m)	3.048 000 X E -1
foot-pound-force	joule (J)	1.355 818
gallon (U.S. liquid)	meter ³ (m ³)	3.785 412 X E -3
inch	meter (m)	2.540 000 X E -2
jerk	joule (J)	1.000 000 X E +9
joule/kilogram (J/kg)(radiation dose absorbec)	Gray (Gy)**	1.000 000
kilotons	terajoules	4.183
kip (1000 lbf)	newton (N)	4.448 222 X E +3
kip/inch ² (ksi)	kilo pascal (kPa)	6.894 757 X E +3
ktop	newton-second/m ² (N-s/m ²)	1.000 000 X E +2
micron	meter (m)	1.000 000 X E -6
mil	meter (m)	2.540 000 X E -5
mile (international)	meter (m)	1.609 344 X E +3
ounce	kilogram (kg)	2.834 952 X E -2
pound-force (lbf avoirdupois)	newton (N)	4.448 222
pound-force/inch	newton-meter (N*m)	1.129 848 X E -1
pound-force/inch	newton/meter (N/m)	1.751 268 X E +2
pound-force/foot ²	kilo pascal (kPa)	4.788 026 X E -2
pound-force/inch ² (psi)	kilo pascal (kPa)	6.894 757
pound-mass (lbm avoirdupois)	kilogram (kg)	4.535 924 X E -1
pound-mass-foot ² (moment of inertia)	kilogram-meter ² (kg*m ²)	4.214 011 X E -2
pound-mass/foot ³	kilogram/meter ³ (kg/m ³)	1.601 846 X E +1
rad (radiation dose absorbed)	Gray (Gy)**	1.000 000 X E -2
roentgen	coulomb/kilogram (C/kg)	2.579 760 X E -4
shake	second (s)	1.000 000 X E -8
slug	kilogram (kg)	1.459 390 X E +1
torr (mm Hg, 0°C)	kilo pascal (kPa)	1.333 22 X E -1

*THE BECQUEREL (BQ) IS THE SI UNIT OF RADIOACTIVITY; 1 BQ = 1 EVENT/S.

**THE GRAY (GY) IS THE SI UNIT OF ABSORBED RADIATION.

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SECTION 1

PROTON BEAM TO SILICON TARGET ENERGY TRANSFER VIA ATOM IONIZATION/EXCITATION MECHANISMS

Equation (11) of Reference 4 permits estimates of the energy transferred from a proton beam to a silicon target via non-nuclear interactions (i.e., via the so-called "dE/dx" mechanisms of silicon atom ionization and excitation). Reference 4 considers the irradiation of a uniform semi-infinite target by a uniform monodirectional beam whose axis is normal to the target face. The energies of the incoming beam particles are highly concentrated about an energy, E_m , which is one of the basic input quantities that define a beam/target system. A second input is R , the mean penetration depth of beam nuclei into the target material. For the proton/silicon system under study here, R is given by

$$R \cong 3.05 \times 10^{-3} \times E_m^b . \quad (1)$$

Above, $b = 1.74$ and, with E_m in MeV, R is in units of g/cm². The third input is r , a dimensionless quantity that relates to the straggling of the proton stopping points in the thick silicon target. According to the model used in deriving Equation (11) of Reference 4, the standard deviation of the Gaussian distribution of the stopping depths is R/r . For protons, the model's prescription gives $r = 71.4$.

Figure 1 shows the estimated dE/dx dose that would be felt at points of a thick silicon target that is irradiated by beams that deliver a reference fluence of 10^{13} protons/cm² to the target face. To accrue a total fluence of 10^{13} particles/cm²

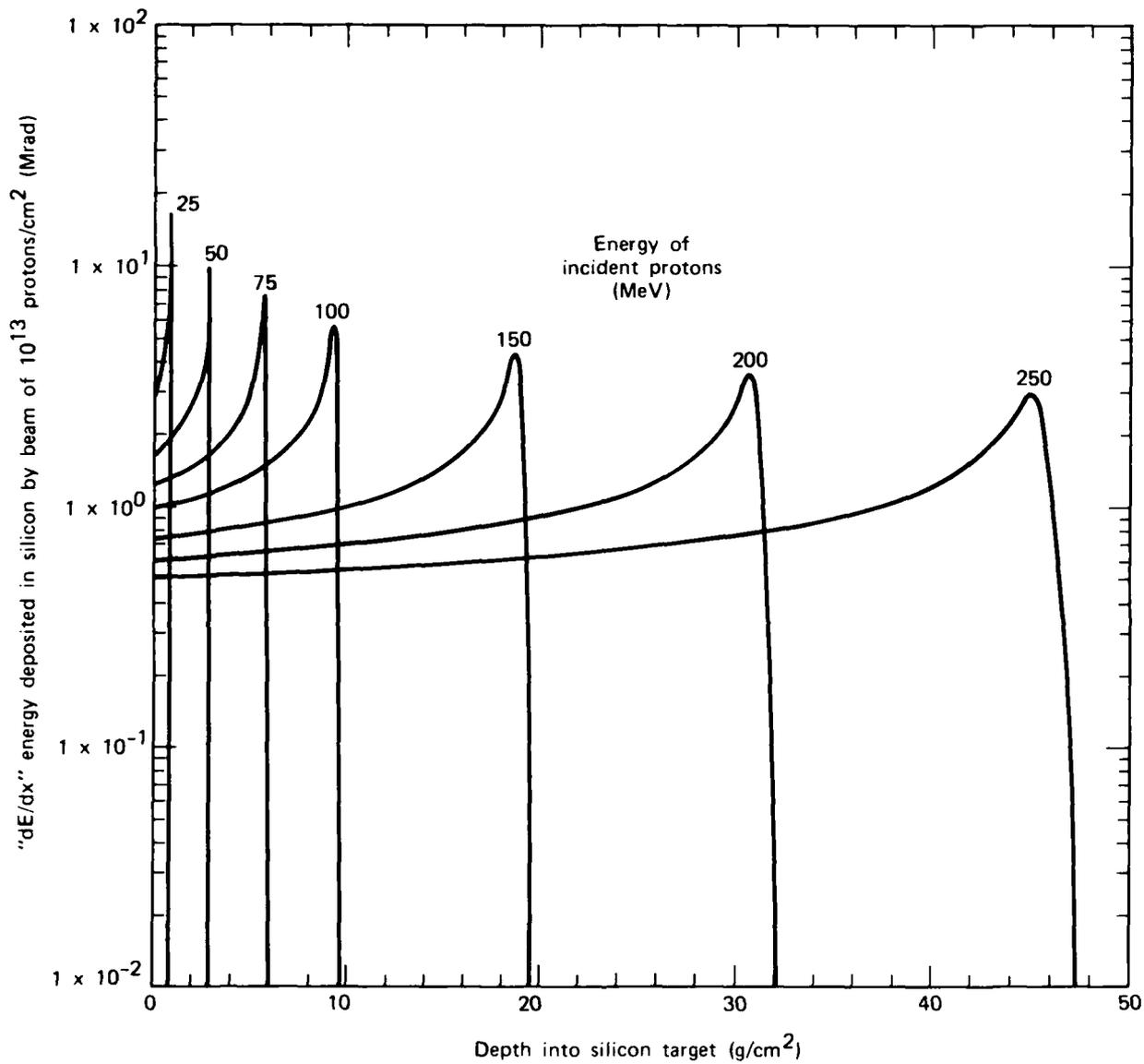


Figure 1. Energy transferred from proton beam to unit mass of silicon target via "dE/dx" mechanisms.

in one second, the average current density at the target must be 16 mA/m².

According to our Figure 1 estimates, a reference fluence beam of the most penetrating particles considered (i.e., 250-MeV protons) would deliver ~1/2 Mrad dose to silicon near the target face and a maximum of ~3 Mrad at the Bragg peak of the dE/dx curve. To reach silicon at depths of 10 g/cm² or more, proton energies above ~100 MeV would be required. And, due to the energy dependence of the dE/dx mechanisms, it is evident that the lower energy beams would be more damaging to the silicon devices within their reach than would be the more penetrating higher energy beams of equal fluence. The peak value dose is a factor of 5.8 higher than the near-surface dose according to the Reference 5 model which accounts for straggling. This factor would be significantly higher if straggling--which, of course, does occur--did not occur.

SECTION 2

SILICON ATOM DISPLACEMENT DENSITIES: PROTON-INDUCED RELATIVE TO 1-MeV-NEUTRON-INDUCED DENSITIES

The energy transferred from protons to silicon atoms via the dE/dx mechanisms has been estimated by us to be some three orders of magnitude larger than that given over to displacing these atoms from their normal positions in the silicon crystal lattice. However, as will be demonstrated in Section 3, dE/dx - and displacement-disablements of silicon devices may result from irradiations that are within only one order of magnitude of each other in duration. To lay the groundwork for comparing the two types of disablements in Section 3, we here first relate the displacement damage capability of protons to that of 1-MeV neutrons, since the fluence of such neutrons that would disable various semiconductors via the displacement mechanism is known (e.g., see Ref. 2).

As customary in the radiation effects field, we assume that the degradation of a semiconductor's performance due to displacements is a function of the displacement number-density, independent of the type of radiation that causes the displacements. The induced displacement density is taken to be proportional to the density of primary knock-on atom (PKA) displacements times an average "displacement-effective" PKA recoil energy, $\bar{\omega}$, which is a function of the bombarding particle's energy, E . As fully explained in the Appendix, the total displacement density (PKAs plus all generations of secondary displacements) at depth x of our thick silicon target is proportional to

$$\int_0^{\infty} (\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}) \cdot \phi(x, E) dE.$$

Above, $\phi(x,E)dE$ represents the fluence of protons at depth x with energies in dE about E , and σ represents the displacement cross section for these protons. Like $\bar{\omega}$, σ is a function of E . The $\phi(x,E)$ function used in this study is defined by Equation (8) of Reference 4 and the $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ function is represented by Curve B of Figure 6 of the Appendix.

The curve on the right of Figure 2 represents that portion of the complete $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ function (the above-cited Curve B) which significantly affects our displacement estimates. If straggling did not occur, all protons would travel to a common depth where all would stop. Also, all would have the same energy at any depth along the way to the common stopping depth. That is, the displacement density at any depth x would simply be proportional to $\sigma(E) \cdot \bar{\omega}(E)$, where E is the common energy that all protons would have at this depth. Since the $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ function increases by a few orders of magnitude as proton energy is reduced by dE/dx mechanisms, the near-end-of-range displacement density would be some hundredfold larger than the density at the target face, if straggling did not occur.

To help understand the nature of the displacement density distribution to be expected when straggling is taken into account, we have prepared the family of curves shown on the left of Figure 2. There, the solid-line curves give the average proton energy as a function of depth in the silicon target, this average being estimated by use of Equation (10) of Reference 4. The dashed curves, obtained by use of Equation (9) of Reference 4, indicate the percent of the incident protons that remain unstopped at each depth. For the displacement density to be high at a given depth, we would expect two conditions would have to exist at that depth. First, to induce

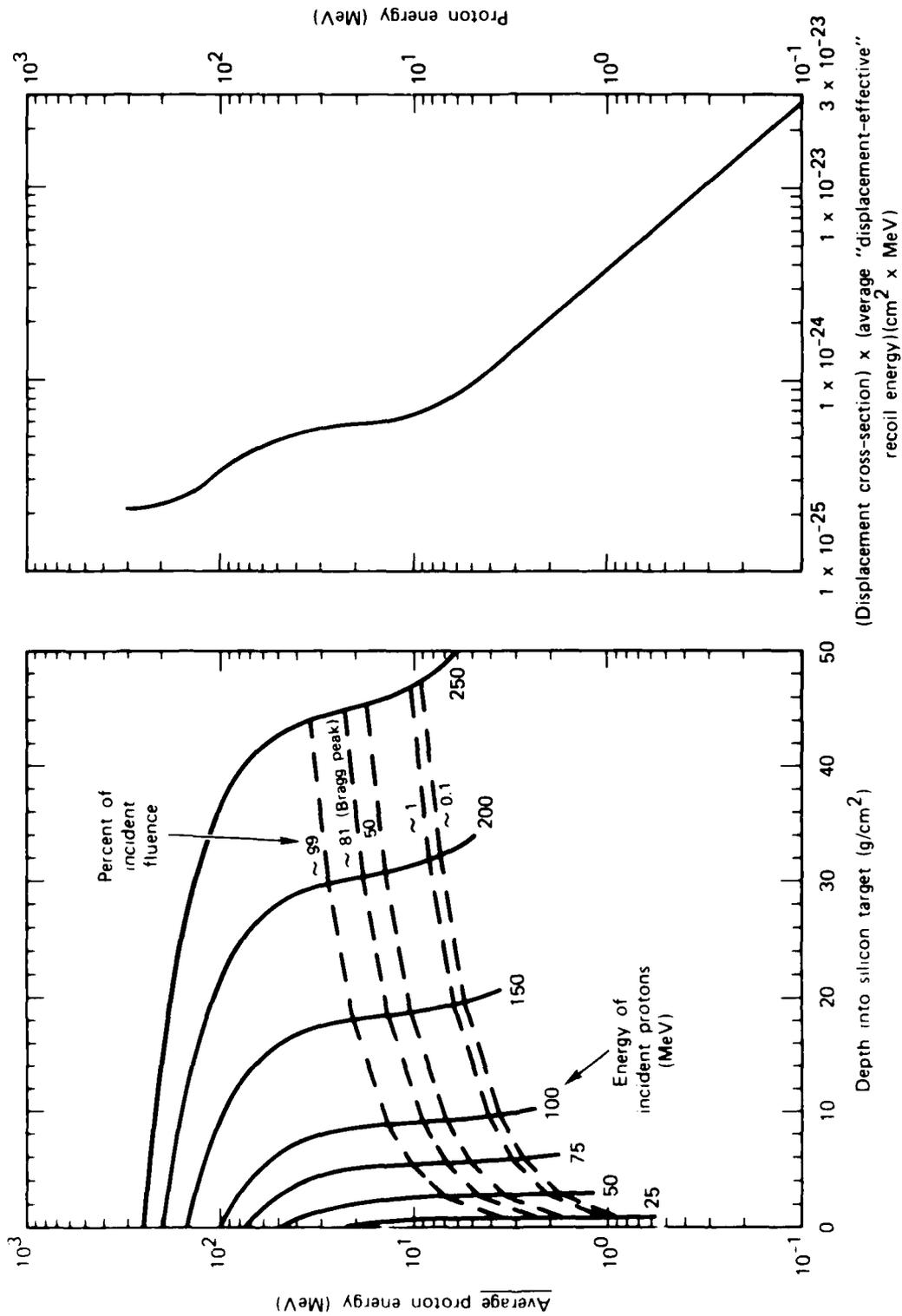


Figure 2. Average energy of unstopped protons (left) and displacement cross-section times average "displacement-effective" recoil energy (right).

a significant number of displacements, the fluence of protons should be a reasonable percentage of the incident fluence. Second, the average energy of the protons should be low so that the quantity $\sigma \cdot \bar{w}$, to which the displacement density is proportional, would be high.

Figure 2 permits us to predict the general shape of the displacement-density profile to be expected when a beam of protons of a particular incident energy bombards a thick silicon target. Starting at the target face and moving into the target material, we note that this density should increase initially since the fluence remains essentially constant and the average proton energy drops (i.e., $\sigma \cdot \bar{w}$ increases) significantly. As we move to depths near and beyond the Bragg peak, the surviving fluence falls off so fast as to overwhelm the increase in $\sigma \cdot \bar{w}$ that results from the lessening of the average proton energy. Hence, we should expect that the displacement density would go to a maximum and then plunge steeply to insignificant levels at points slightly beyond the Bragg peak neighborhood. The lower the incident proton energy, the higher the expected peak of the displacement density, since lower average energies will be realized by a significant fraction of the protons in this neighborhood. However, the penetrability of the lower energy beams is, of course, very low.

In Figure 3, we show a family of curves that have profiles similar to the displacement-density profiles. The ordinate of any point on a curve represents a dimensionless ratio. This ratio equals the value of the integral defined in the second paragraph of this section divided by $\Phi_0 \cdot \sigma_N \cdot \bar{w}_N$. Here, Φ_0 is a fluence equal to the total proton fluence at the face

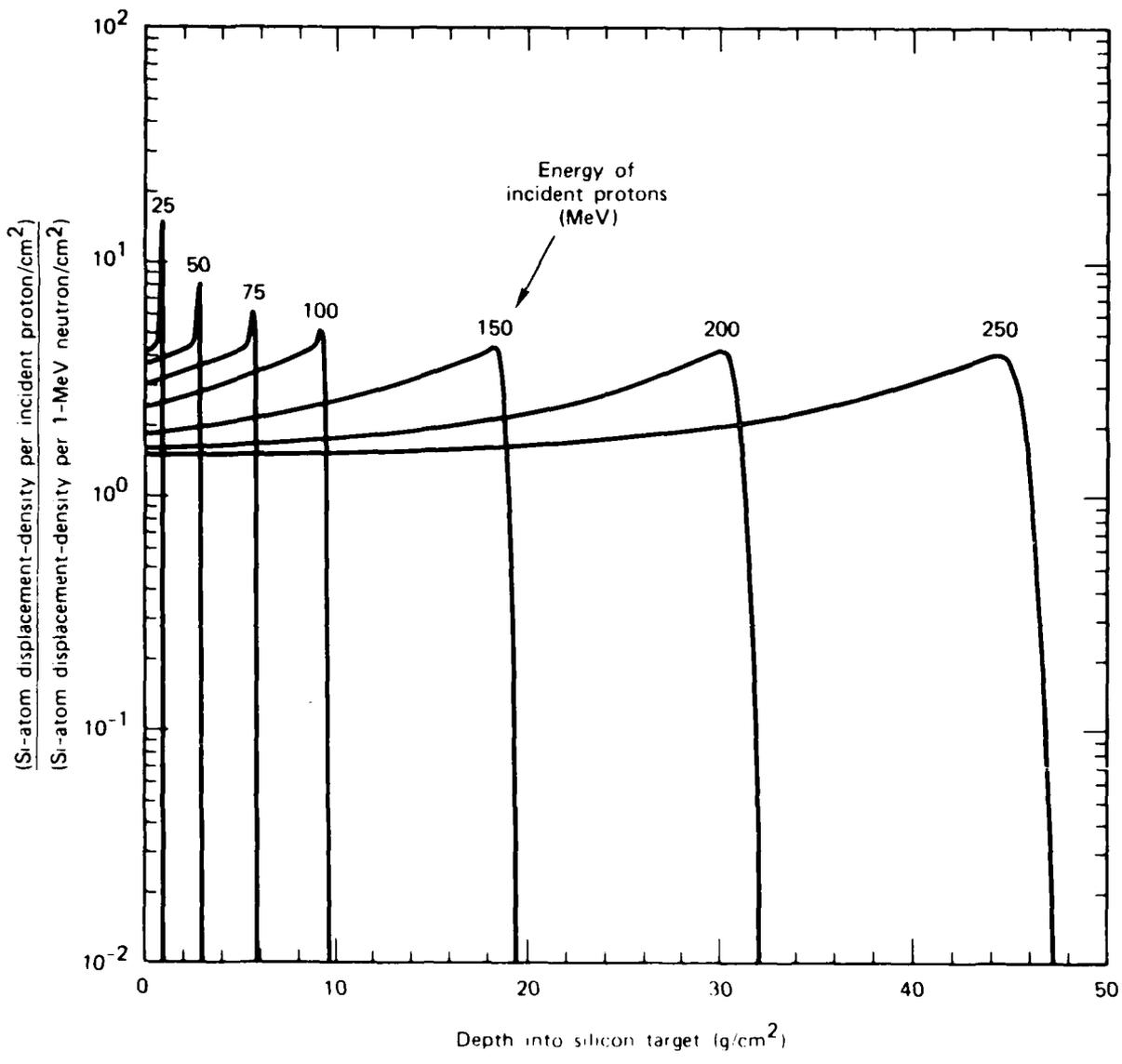


Figure 3. Comparison of estimated proton-induced and 1-MeV-neutron-induced silicon-atom displacement-densities.

of our thick silicon target; $\sigma_N (\cong 3.3 \times 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2)$ represents the scattering cross section of silicon assumed for 1-MeV neutrons (Ref. 14); and $\bar{w}_N (= 0.6 \times [2 \times 28/29^2] \times 1 = 0.040 \text{ MeV})$ is taken as the average recoil energy of a silicon nucleus when bombarded by 1-MeV neutrons. The 0.6 factor in the \bar{w}_N computation is that cited in Reference 11 to account for the forward scattering of MeV neutrons in the center-of-mass system. These assumed data give $\sigma_N \cdot \bar{w}_N = 1.33 \times 10^{-25} \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{cm}^2$ for the 1-MeV neutron displacement kerma.

As noted in Figure 3, the ordinate compares the silicon-atom displacement density at a given depth per proton/cm² entering the target at its face with the density that would result if the silicon at that same depth were exposed to a 1-MeV neutron fluence of 1 neutron/cm². The essential point here is that we compare displacement densities that arise from a uniform proton bombardment of a surface (that of the target face) with a uniform neutron irradiation of a volume (that of the thick silicon target), the incoming proton fluence and the neutron fluence being equal. This particular ratio readily lends itself to the accomplishment of our primary objective-- a comparison of a proton beam's capability to disable a silicon semiconductor via excessive ionization/excitation with its capability to disable via excessive displacements.

SECTION 3

IONIZATION VERSUS DISPLACEMENT DISABLEMENT OF BIPOLAR DEVICES

According to the state-of-the-art hardness levels cited in Reference 2, typical bipolar technology silicon devices can survive an average total ionizing dose of 1 Mrad and the effects of displacements induced by exposure to an average fluence of 10^{14} 1-MeV neutrons/cm². For reference purposes, let us adopt the 1-Mrad figure as the average total dose required for the permanent disablement of a silicon device. Also, for reference purposes, let us assume that the displacement-density induced by exposing a device to an average fluence of 10^{14} 1-MeV neutrons/cm² is sufficient for permanent disablement. For these selected reference criteria, we now compare the times required for a given proton beam to kill a device via total dose with that required for a displacement kill.

In Figure 4, we show estimates of the two kill times for irradiations by a beam flux of 10^{13} protons/cm²·s. The family of solid curves gives the estimated total-dose kill time for an assembly of small silicon devices, the totality of which is assumed to make up the equivalent of a thick silicon target. The dashed curves give the estimated times for displacement kills. The kill time for a device that is located where the fluence is attenuated to 0.1% of its incident value is about two orders of magnitude larger than that for a device situated at any depth less than the mean proton range. This is a reason for our terminating the curves at the 0.1% fluence points.

As seen in Figure 4, which is based on the reference kill criteria, disablement via total dose would occur prior to

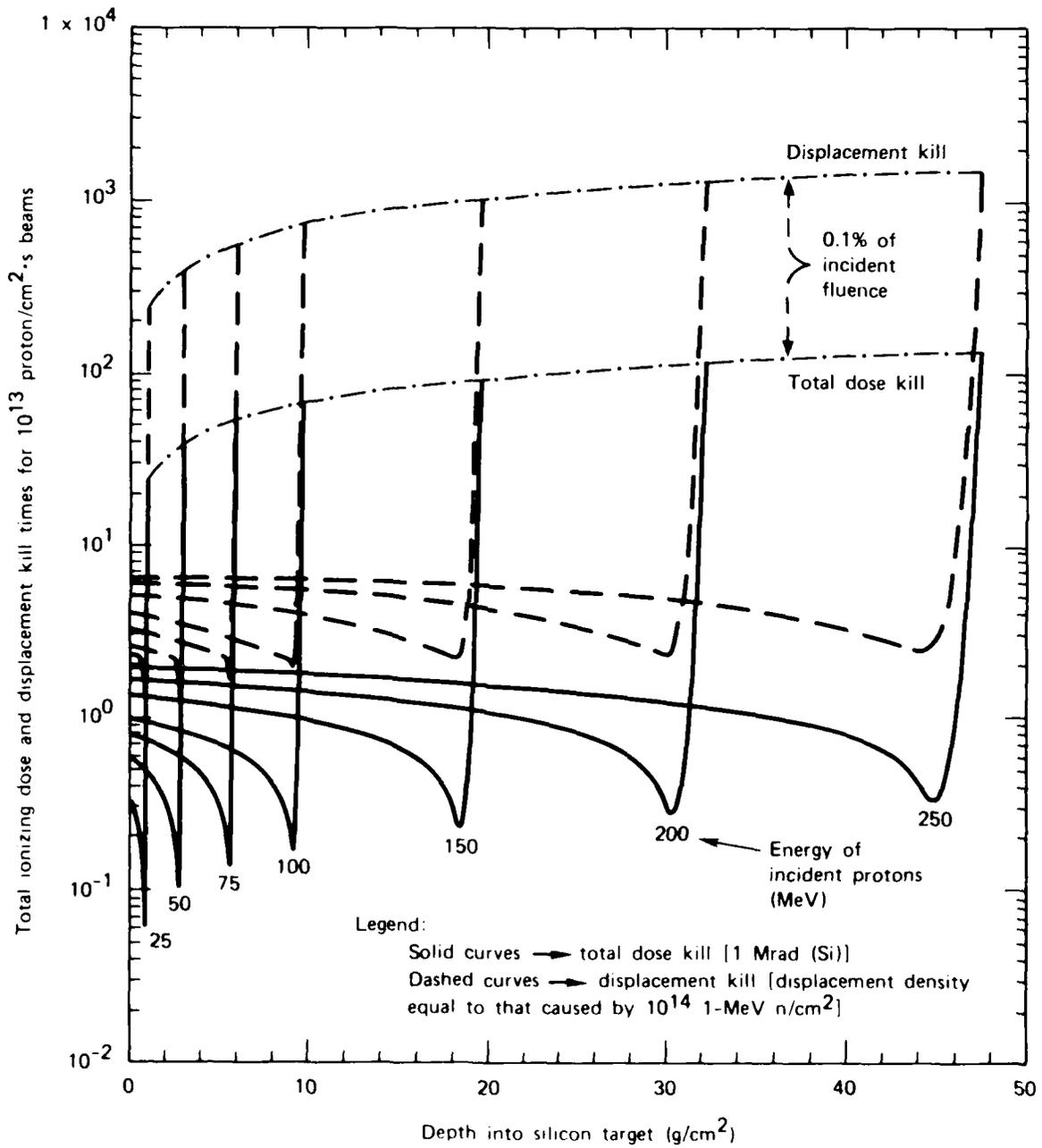


Figure 4. Total dose and displacement damage kill times for 10^{13} p/cm²·s beams.

disablement via excessive displacements. In Figure 5, we show the ratio of the dose-kill time to the displacement-kill time for the reference criteria. We conclude that kills via total dose should occur in $\sim 1/10$ to $\sim 1/5$ of the times required for displacement kills for devices hardened to the levels cited on Figures 4 and 5.

It may be noted that the ratio of ionization-to-displacement kill times, of course, scales directly with the ionization dose kill criterion and inversely as the displacement kill criterion. For example, a device which fails (via displacements) upon exposure to only 10^{13} 1-MeV neutrons/cm² or to our reference 1-Mrad ionization dose, would experience--essentially simultaneously--a killing level of displacement and also a killing level of ionization. If this same displacement-sensitive device was so "total-dose-robust" as to require 10 Mrads for ionization disablement, it would first be killed by the displacement mechanism and, considerably later, be killed again by excessive ionization.

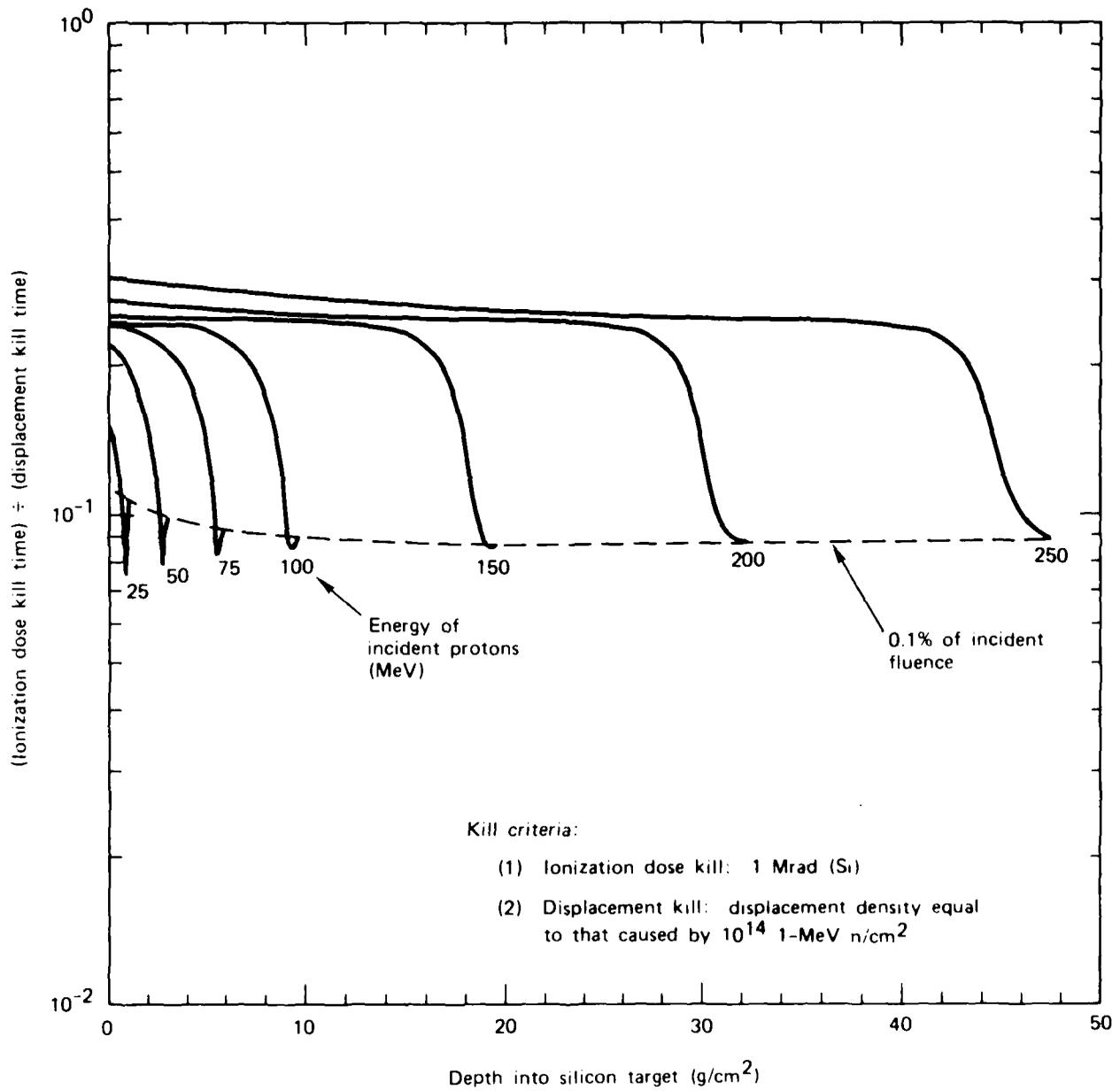


Figure 5. Ratio of total ionization dose kill time to displacement kill time.

SECTION 4

CONCLUDING REMARKS

At the beginning of this study, we planned to examine the effects of silicon bombardment by each of the three hydrogen isotopes (i.e., by deuterons and tritons as well as by protons). Although the two heavier isotopes cannot penetrate target material as deeply as can protons of equal energy, they are more damaging. For example, at points reachable by the heavier isotopes, both the dE/dx energy deposition density and the displacement number-density will be higher than the corresponding insults induced by protons. It was simple enough to estimate the dE/dx energy deposition caused by each of the three isotopes by use of the Reference 4 fluence model. The total dose profiles for the trio of projectiles have, in fact, been computed on the basis of that model (Ref. 5). However, we have thus far only estimated the magnitudes of peak displacement densities to be expected when a thick silicon target is bombarded by each of the three isotopes (Ref. 5).

Now, Rutherford scattering is the likely dominant displacement mechanism as a hydrogen isotope nears the end of its trip into a thick silicon target. And, since the maximum displacement density occurs near the journey's end, it was possible to estimate the peak displacement-density for each type of projectile particle by use of the Rutherford model. However, to develop the complete displacement profiles, one needs a reasonable representation of the displacement damage coefficient (i.e., the $\sigma \cdot \bar{w}$ function) at high projectile energies where the simple Rutherford model is not applicable. In the case of proton projectiles, the shape of the $\sigma \cdot \bar{w}$ function over much--but not all--of the high-energy range had been established by the Bell Laboratory proton experiments (Ref. 6). As explained in the Appendix, those experiments--

together with the material presented in References 7, 8 and 9--made it possible for us to construct a $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ function over the full high-energy range needed for the proton-induced displacement estimates presented here.

At this writing, we do not have experimental $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ data for the bombardment of silicon by high-energy deuterons or tritons. Experiments, similar to those conducted by Bell Laboratory workers using protons within a limited energy range, should be performed using each of the three hydrogen isotopes over an energy range reaching to ~ 300 MeV. Such thin-target experiments* would establish the shapes of the $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ functions for each of the three projectile types in the complex high-energy regime, a regime that--at its lower end--overlaps (and is normalizable to) the $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ functions in the Rutherford scattering regime.

Pending the performance of the above types of experiments, we plan to construct $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ functions for the two multiple-nucleon hydrogen isotopes (deuterons and tritons) by a procedure similar to that used for the simple single-nucleon projectile, the proton. That procedure (see Appendix) will have to be modified to account for the nearly-simultaneous bombardment of silicon nuclei by two or three nucleons, those initially assembled in the rather weakly bound configuration that represents a deuteron or a triton. Armstrong and Colborn have described a model by which such high-energy bombardments may be treated as a sequence of single nucleon interactions (Ref. 10). We plan to examine that model as a possible means to construct the $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ functions for deuteron and triton beams.

*In addition to thin-target exposures to highly monoenergetic projectiles, thick-target experiments would, of course, also be desirable since these could reveal the smearing effects of straggling by direct observation.

With these functions in hand, we would be able to repeat for the heavier hydrogen isotopes that which we have reported here for proton beams. This would complete the tasks that we had in mind at the beginning--to estimate the relative vulnerabilities of silicon semiconductor to disablements via excessive ionization and via displacements as such would be induced by hydrogen isotope bombardment.

SECTION 5

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APPENDIX:

ASSUMED REPRESENTATION OF THE DISPLACEMENT DAMAGE FUNCTION

Provided that a proton-bombarded silicon atom's recoil energy is not too high but high enough to cause its displacement from its normal position in the crystalline lattice, the total number of displacements (primary plus all secondaries) has often been taken to be proportional to the recoil energy of the primary knock-on atom (e.g., see p. 27 of Ref. 11; p. 104 of Ref. 12; and, p. E-3 of Ref. 13). However, as has been noted more recently in References 7 and 8, there is considerable experimental evidence that the energy in a displacement cascade does not increase indefinitely with increasing primary recoil energy. Thus, for the recoil energies of primary knock-on atoms (PKAs) that result from high-energy proton collisions with silicon nuclei (i.e., where proton energy \geq coulomb barrier energy), the total number of displacements will be proportional to an average "displacement-effective" recoil energy, which is less than the average PKA energy.

The fluence of protons with energies in dE about E at depth x in a silicon target is denoted by $\phi(x,E)dE$. This incremental portion of the total fluence at x will cause a displacement density proportional to $\sigma(E) \cdot \bar{E}(E) \cdot \phi(x,E)dE$. Here, $\sigma(E)$ is the displacement cross section for protons of energy E , and $\bar{E}(E)$ is the average of the "displacement-effective" recoil energies for such protons. We refer to the product $\sigma(E) \cdot \bar{E}(E)$ as a displacement damage function since the total displacement density per proton is taken to be proportional to this function of proton energy. As noted above, since $\bar{E}(E) < E_{PKA}$ (the average PKA recoil energy), $\sigma(E) \cdot \bar{E}(E) < \sigma(E) \cdot E_{PKA}$. Figure 6 displays our assumed representations of $\sigma(E) \cdot E_{PKA}$ (Curve A) and $\sigma(E) \cdot \bar{E}(E)$ (Curve B).

As indicated on the figure, our $\sigma \cdot \bar{w}$ function was constructed to conform with available experimental data plus certain computed information. It is convenient to describe the construction in terms of four bases, denoted by ①, ②, ③, and ④ on the figure. Basis ③, which refers to the 1954 experiments by Bell Laboratory staff (Ref. 6), is central to the overall construction of Curve B. These workers irradiated silicon solar cells by protons in the 1- to 130-MeV range and determined the dependence of the displacement damage coefficient on proton energy within this range. They observed that--at the beginning of the range investigated--the coefficient decreased with increasing proton energy as predicted by the Rutherford scattering model. Accordingly, we fit the experimental Bell curve to the $\sigma \cdot \bar{w}_{PKA}$ curve computed by use of the Rutherford model (see overlapping of segments ② and ③ in Figure 6).

According to the prescription of Equation 2-8 of Reference 11, we assumed the Rutherford model to apply for proton energies down to ~ 1 KeV and the hard sphere silicon atom model to apply for energies between 1 KeV and ~ 220 eV, the range of curve segment ①. The 220-eV figure represents the lowest energy that a proton can have and still displace a silicon atom (30 eV has been assumed for the minimum silicon recoil energy needed for a displacement to occur). The collision cross section of the silicon atom in the segment-① energy interval is assumed to vary linearly with proton energy. For an atom at rest, we assume a radius equal to the Bohr radius of the atom's outer electrons. The cross section for 1-KeV protons is adjusted to give a continuous $\sigma \cdot \bar{w}$ function where segments ① and ② join.

As seen in Figure 2 of the text, the number of protons that are slowed to an average energy of less than 100 KeV is

estimated to be negligible by use of the $\psi(x,E)$ model used in this study. Hence, our estimates of displacement densities cannot be sensitive to the assumed form of the $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ function in and near the segment-① regime of Figure 6.

Unfortunately, the 130-MeV upper limit of the proton-energies used in the Bell Laboratory experiments falls short of the nominal 250-MeV maximum of interest to us here. To extend Curve B to cover the desired high-energy range, we generated segment-④, which runs from 60 MeV to 300 MeV and reasonably fits the Bell data in the 60- to 130-MeV range. For proton energies in the segment-④ range, $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}_{PKA}$ has an elastic collision component, $\sigma_e \cdot (\bar{\omega}_e)_{PKA}$, and nonelastic collision component, $\sigma_n \cdot (\bar{\omega}_n)_{PKA}$.

To estimate the elastic component, we assert all protons are scattered by a small angle equal to the proton's de Broglie wavelength divided by a certain diameter. The diameter is that of a circle whose area equals σ_e , the elastic scattering cross section for proton-silicon collisions. This assertion yields

$$\sigma_e \cdot (\bar{\omega}_e)_{PKA} = \pi \frac{h^2}{8M}, \quad (2)$$

where M is the mass of the silicon nucleus and h is Plank's constant. The above gives $0.22 \times 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2 \cdot \text{MeV}$ for the elastic component.

The nonelastic component is estimated by assuming that the proton collides elastically with one of the nucleons in the silicon nucleus and also that the following conditions apply. Whichever of the two colliding nucleons emerges from the encounter with the greatest energy is assumed to move on a

straight line and--without further encounters--to leave the nucleus. The nucleon emerging from the collision with the lesser energy is assumed to be stopped within the nucleus. The momentum of this trapped nucleon goes over to the nucleus formed by the entrapment. The energy of this nucleon goes to $(\bar{\omega}_n)_{PKA}$; to excitation energy, E^* , of the compound system; and, to rotational energy, which we neglect in estimating the nonelastic component of $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}_{PKA}$. Where these conditions apply, one finds

$$\sigma_n \cdot (\bar{\omega}_n)_{PKA} = \sigma_n \cdot \frac{m}{M-m} \cdot \bar{E}^* , \quad (3)$$

where m is the proton mass and \bar{E}^* is the average value of E^* . We use the 1968 Soviet Monte Carlo computations for \bar{E}^* [see p. 46 of Ref. 9]. And, for lack of better information at this time, we assume the nonelastic cross section, σ_n , for proton bombardment of silicon-28 equals that for proton bombardment of aluminum-27. Experimental values of σ_n for aluminum are taken from page 9 of the same Soviet paper just cited.

The sum of the two components of $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}_{PKA}$ thus estimated is represented by that portion of Curve A in Figure 6 that lies in the proton energy interval of 60 to 300 MeV. To estimate the corresponding portion of the $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ function (i.e., Curve B), we looked to References 7 and 8 for guidance.

As previously implied, the authors of those two papers taught us that--for high-energy recoils--the "displacement-effective" average recoil energy, $\bar{\omega}$, does not remain proportional to the average of the actual PKA recoil energy, $\bar{\omega}_{PKA}$. Rather, the

ratio $\bar{\omega}/\bar{\omega}_{PKA}$ decreases with increasing $\bar{\omega}_{PKA}$. For protons with energies between 60 and 130 MeV, we could fit the Bell Laboratory experimental findings by assuming that $\bar{\omega} = \bar{\omega}_{PKA}$ if $\bar{\omega}_{PKA} < 0.35$ MeV and that $\bar{\omega} = 0.35$ MeV if $\bar{\omega}_{PKA} > 0.35$ MeV. This, together with the assumption that silicon nonelastic--as well as elastic--cross sections equaled those for aluminum (as presented on p. 9 of Ref. 9), permitted us to extend Curve B from 130-MeV to 300-MeV proton energies in the manner shown in Figure 6.

With the 0.35-MeV limit on $\bar{\omega}$, we have the following prescriptions for the two components of $\sigma \cdot \bar{\omega}$ in the segment-④ energy interval.

$$\sigma_e \cdot \bar{\omega}_e = 0.23 \times 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2 \cdot \text{MeV}; \quad 60 < E < 90 \text{ MeV}, \quad (4a)$$

$$\sigma_e \cdot \bar{\omega}_e = 0.35 \times \sigma_e \text{ cm}^2 \cdot \text{MeV}; \quad 90 < E < 300 \text{ MeV}, \quad (4b)$$

and

$$\sigma_n \cdot \bar{\omega}_n = 0.35 \times \sigma_n \text{ cm}^2 \cdot \text{MeV}; \quad 60 < E < 300 \text{ MeV}. \quad (4c)$$

Above, E represents proton energy and the σ 's are implied to be in units of cm^2 . The initial fall-off and then flattening of Curve B for $E > 60$ MeV result from the similar behaviors of the σ 's as functions of E (see p. 9 of Ref. 9).

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