

# **Absorption of alkaline earth elements and rare earth elements in system Sr-resin – mineral acids.**

[Dmitry V. Filosofov](#)

**Radiochemistry department of Dzelepov Laboratory of Nuclear Problem (LNP)  
Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR)  
Dubna, Moscow region, Russian Federation**

## **Main purposes of radiochemistry department at LNP JINR**

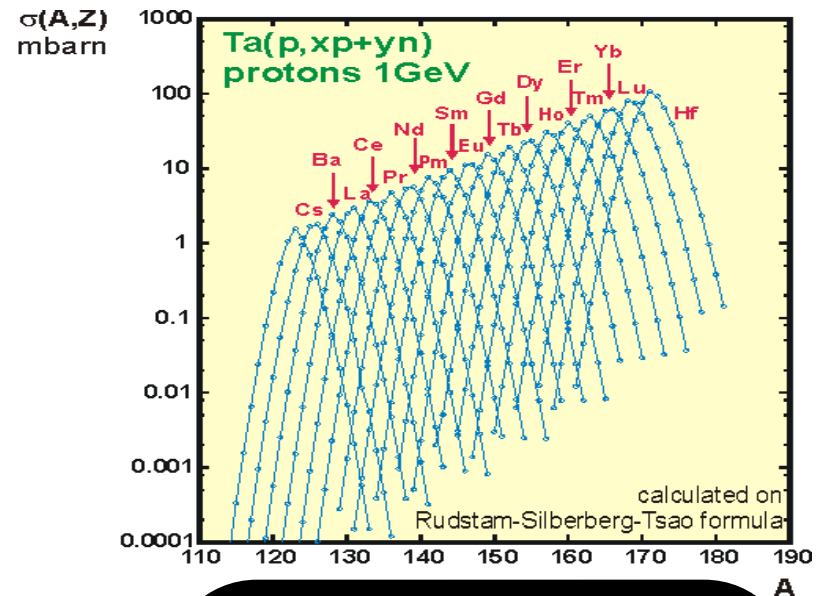
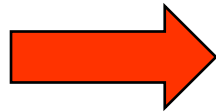
- **Preparative radiochemistry (synthesis of radioactive sources for spectroscopy)**
- **The chemical support by preparation samples for low background measurements**
- **Radiochemical science research**

# Available irradiation facilities

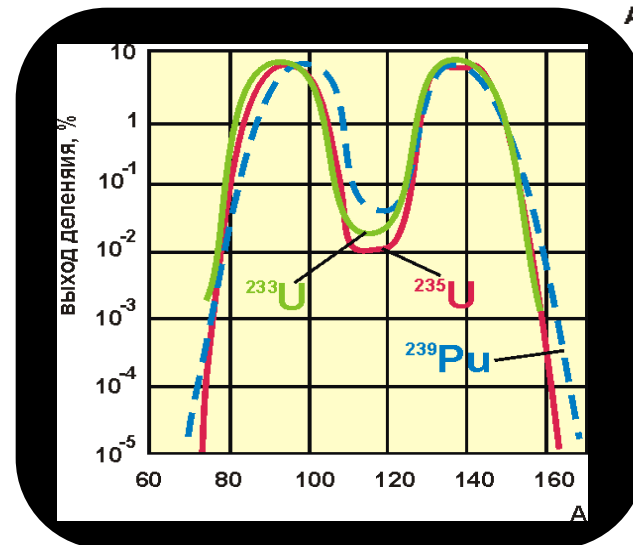
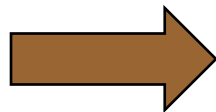
- Phasotron LNP ( $E_p=65-660$  MeV,  $I=6$   $\mu$ A)
- U-200 of Laboratory of Nuclear Reaction (LNR) ( $E_\alpha=36$  MeV,  $I=70$   $\mu$ A)
- Microtron LNR ( $E_\beta=25$  MeV,  $I=30$   $\mu$ A)
- Ractor IBR-2 ( $2 \cdot 10^{12}$  n/s  $\cdot$  cm<sup>2</sup>)

# Production of radionuclides

Spallation



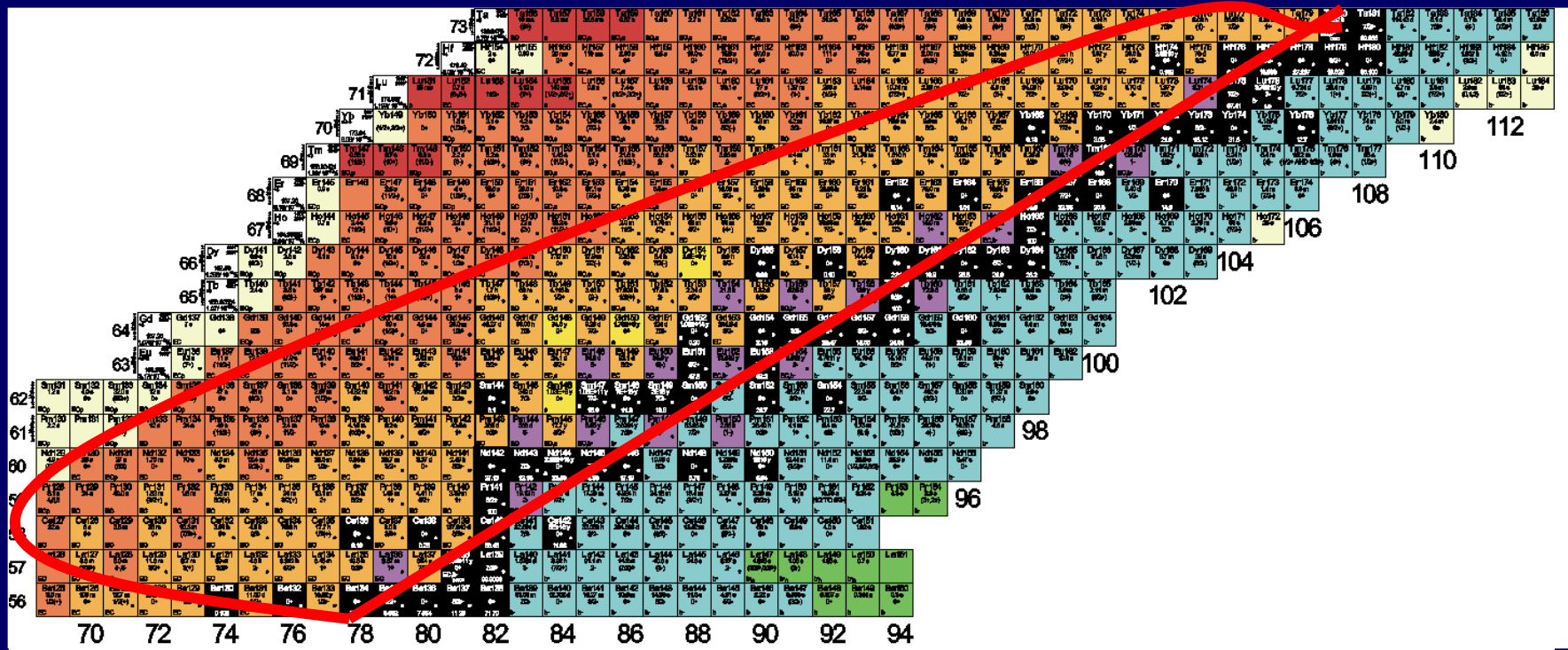
Fission



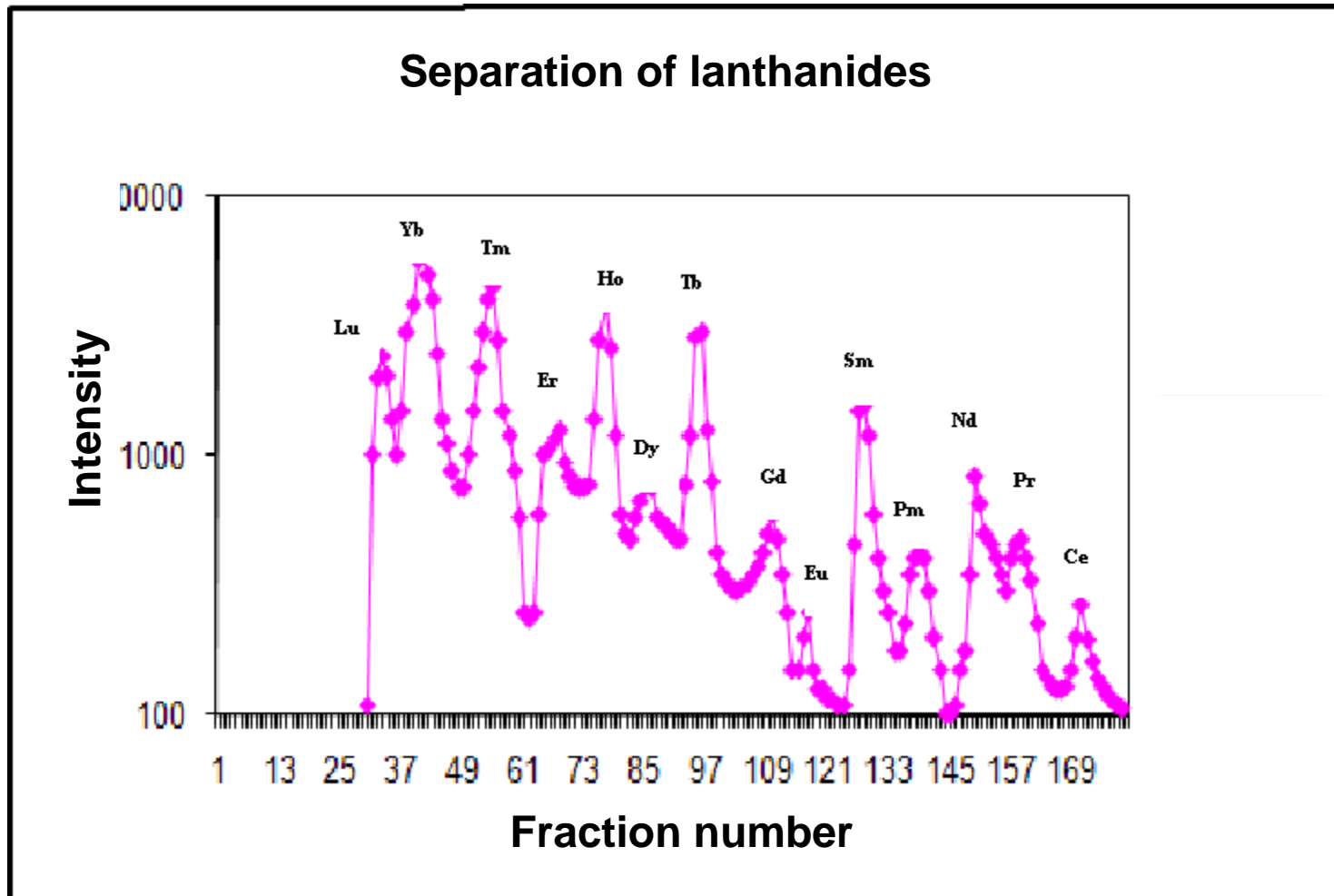
# Spallation

## Reaction of spallation

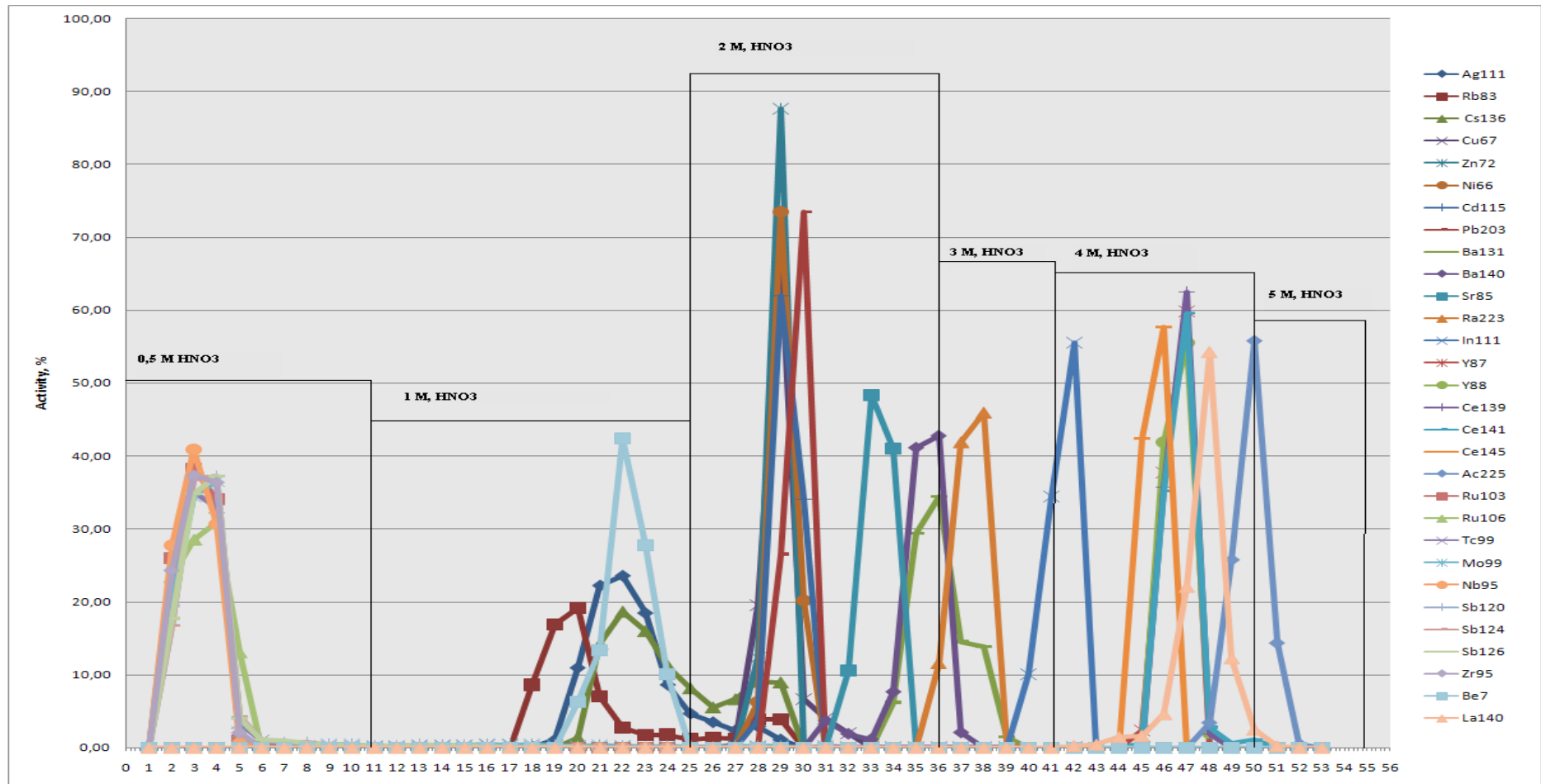
$(p, xp \ yn)$ ,  $x < y$ ,  $E_p > 100 \text{ MeV}$



# Chromatogram of separation rare earth elements (REE) from tantalum target



# Separation of products of nuclear reaction in thorium target on cation exchanger



## Chemical support for sources preparation for low background measurements

- Evaluation of double beta decay (problem of neutrino mass): approximate order of half-life such radionuclides is  $10^{20}$ - $10^{26}$  a.
- Search for dark matter particles and others rare events

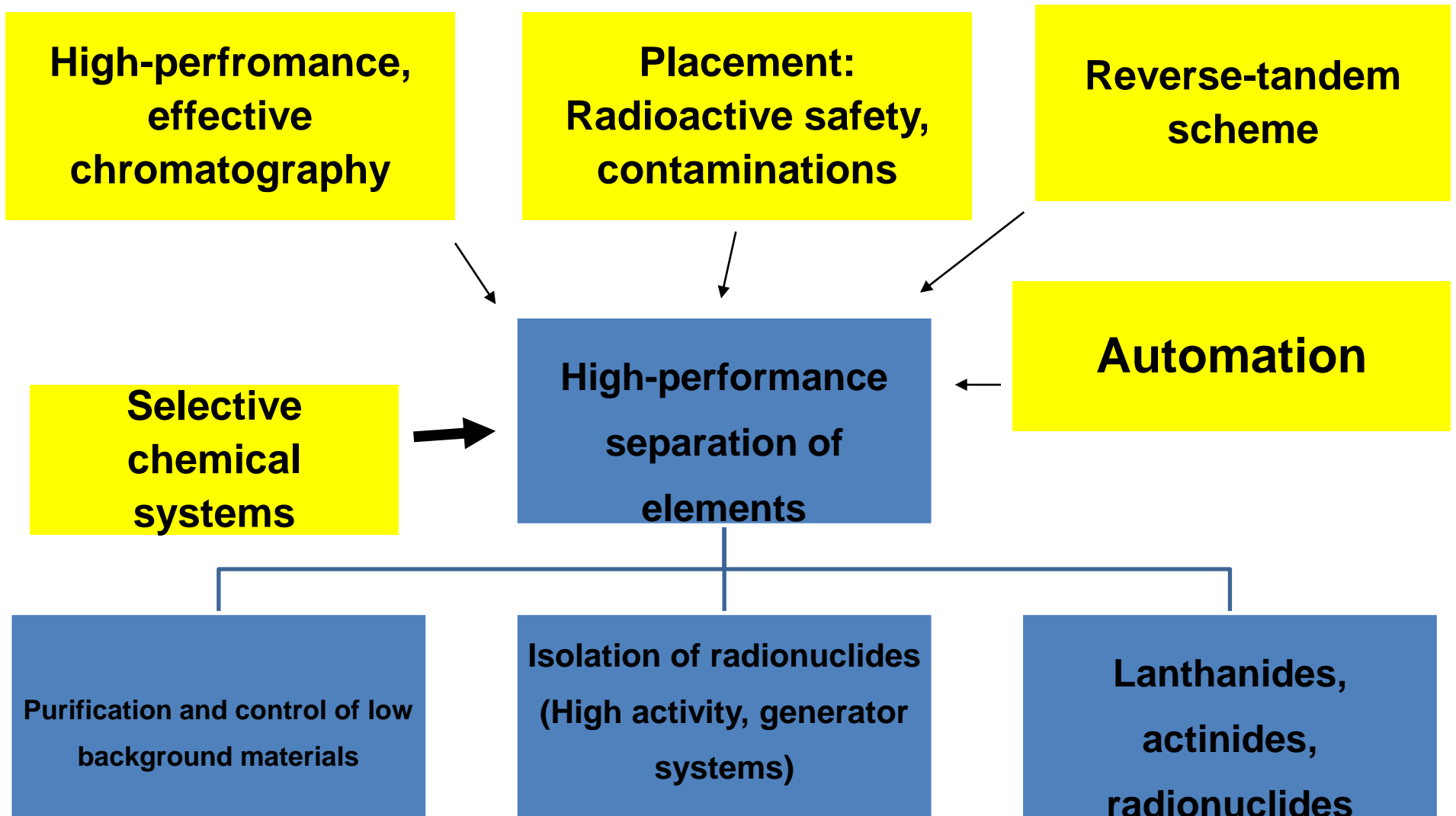
### Example – purification of Se (0.5 kg)

Contamination with radionuclides	$^{40}\text{K}$	$^{232}\text{Th}$	$^{238}\text{U}$	$^{226}\text{Ra}$	$^{228}\text{Ra}$
Content before purification Mbq/kg	$59 \pm 1$ 1	$6,2 \pm 1,$ 3	<48	$10 \pm 1$	$12 \pm 2$
Content after purification MBq/kg	<38	<2,6	<22	<5,8	<3

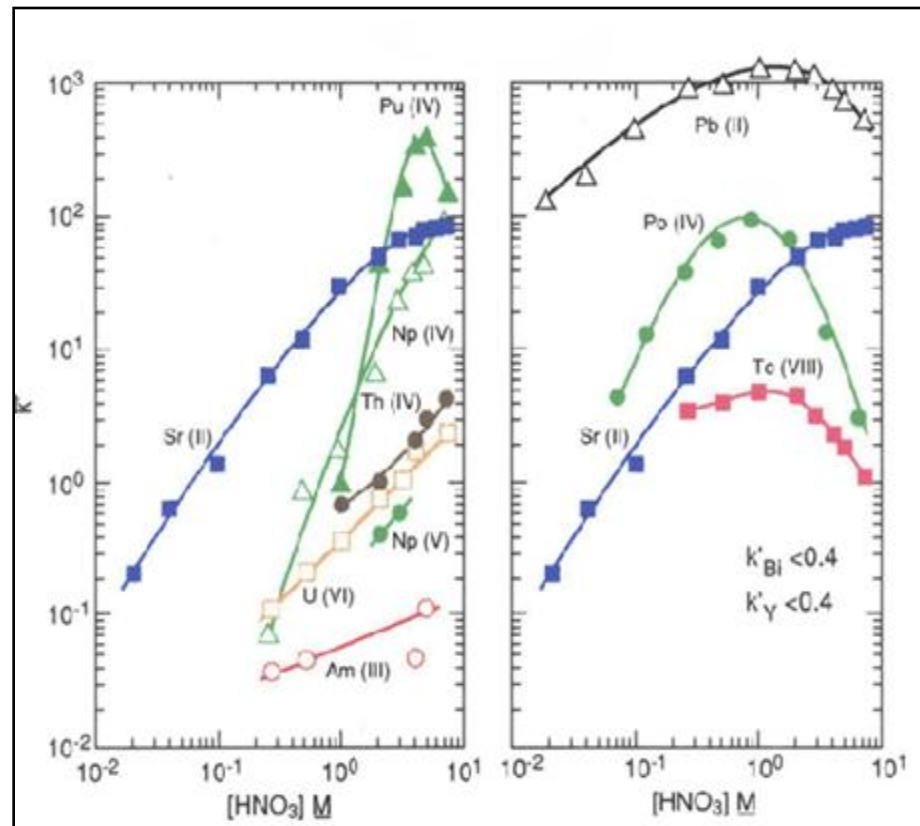
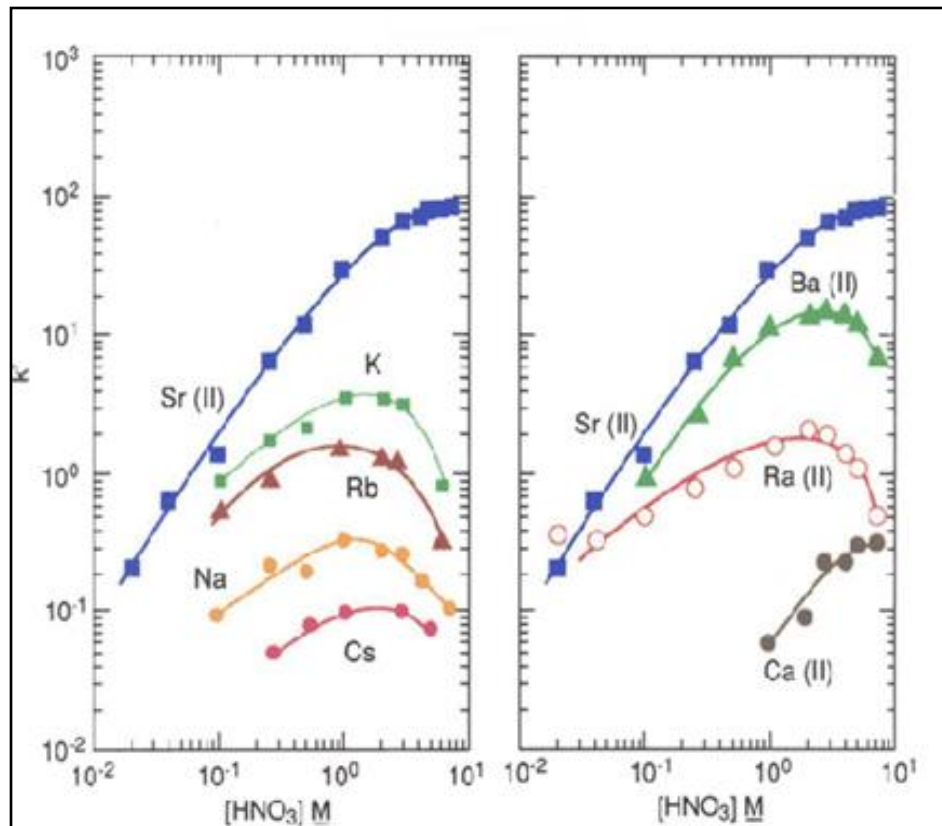
*Product  $^{83}\text{Sr}$ : Specific activity  $S = 5 \times 10^{18}$  Bq/kg*



# High-performance separation of elements

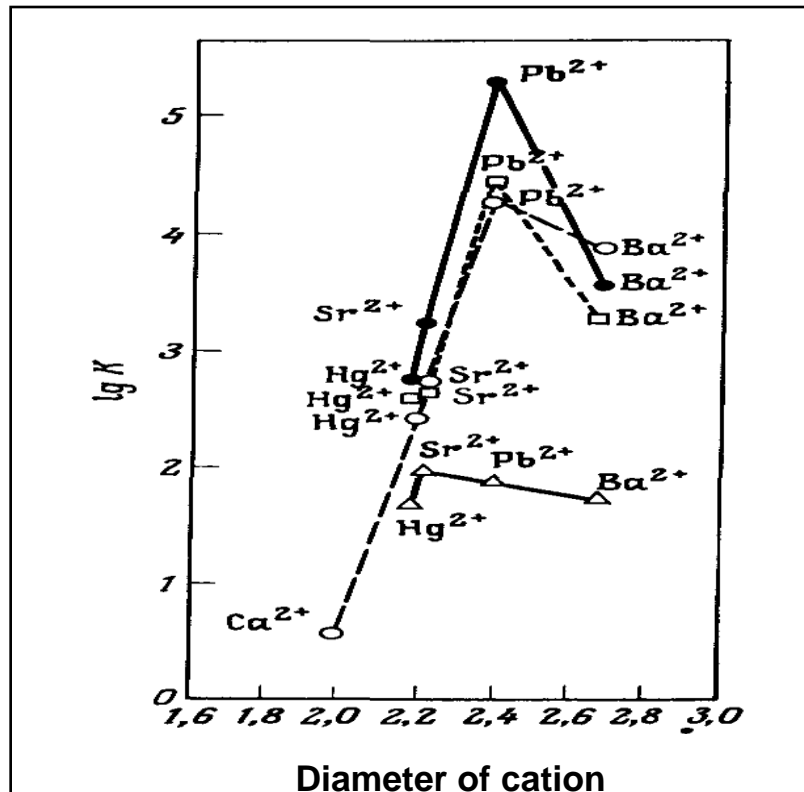
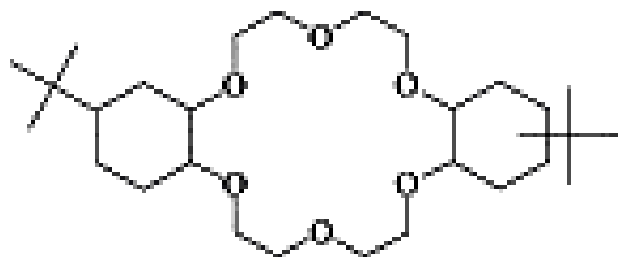


## Dependence of distribution coefficients for several elements from concentrations of $\text{HNO}_3$ at $T=23\text{-}25^\circ\text{C}$ on Sr-resin (Triskem International)



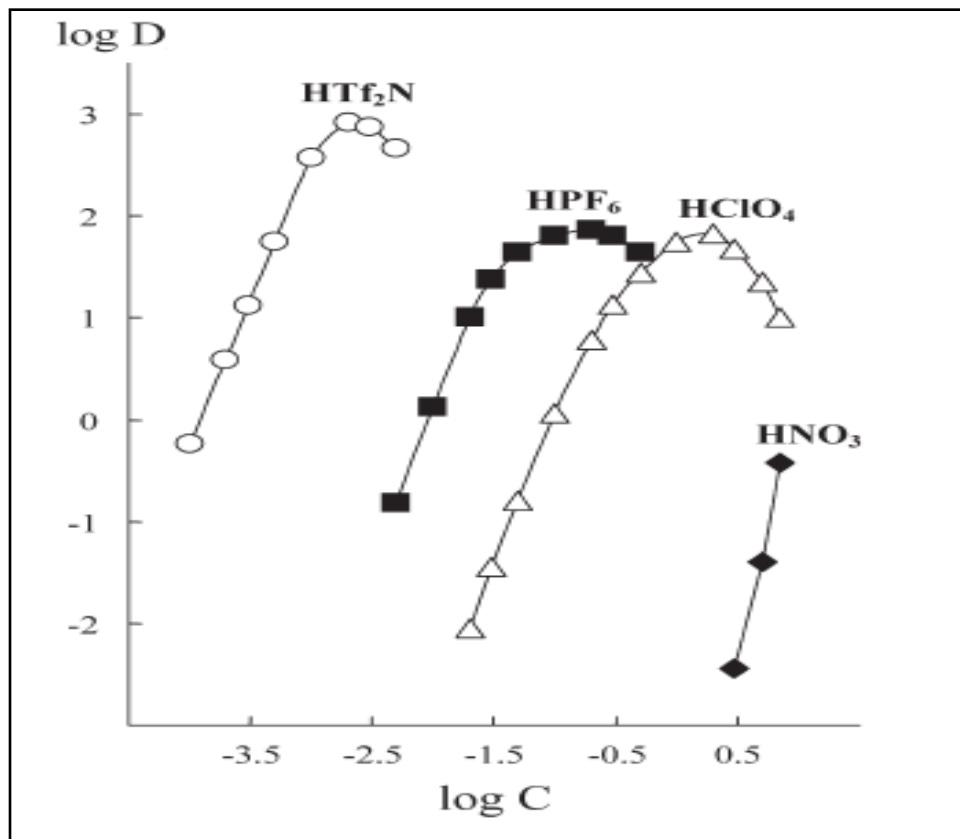
# Crown-ethers

The «Chemical base» of Sr-resin



Dependence of lgK (constant of complex formation) from diameter of cation (reaction  $\text{M}^{2+} + \text{L} = \text{ML}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ).  $\Delta$  15-Crown-5;  $\circ$  18-Crown-6;  $\bullet$  Dicyclohexil-18-Crown-6, Isomer A (cis-sin-cis);  $\square$  Dicyclohexil-18-Crown-6, isomer B (cis-anti-cis).

**Influence of acids concentrations of  $\text{HTf}_2\text{N}$ ,  $\text{HPF}_6$ ,  $\text{HClO}_4$  и  $\text{HNO}_3$  in aqueous phase on distribution coefficients of Eu in equilibrium with extracting agent 0,005 M N,N'-dimethyl-N,N'-diphenyl-3-oxopentadiamide in 1,2 - dichlorethan**



*Turanov A. N., Karandashev V. K. and Baulin V. E. Effect of Anions on the Extraction of Lanthanides (III) by N,N'-Dimethyl-N,N'-Diphenyl-3-Oxapentanediamide // Solvent Extraction and Ion Exchange, 26: 77 – 99 c., 2008.*

# Super acids and acids

Super acids	$H_0$
$\text{HClO}_4$	-13
$\text{FSO}_3\text{H}$	-15,1
$\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}$	-14,1
$\text{HSO}_3\text{F-SbF}_5$	-23
$\text{HF}_{\text{abs}}$	-15
$\text{HF-SbF}_5$	-28

Hammett acidity function Hammett is a parameter acidity which estimated as ability of acid protonated of arbitrary basic and practically same as acidity function. For sulfuric acid acidity parameter is  $H_0 = -12.2$ . Values  $H_0$  for classical super acids are presented in Table above.

Power of acid can be described as equilibrium constant of reaction of dissociation of acid in aqueous media, named also acidity constant  $K_a$

Acids	$\text{p}K_a$
$\text{HClO}_4$	-10
$\text{HBr}$	-9
$\text{HCl}$	-7
$\text{HNO}_3$	-1.4

**Power of acids, which we used in our  
experiemnts for sorbtion of elements at Sr-resin  
(100-150  $\mu\text{m}$ , «Triskem International»)**



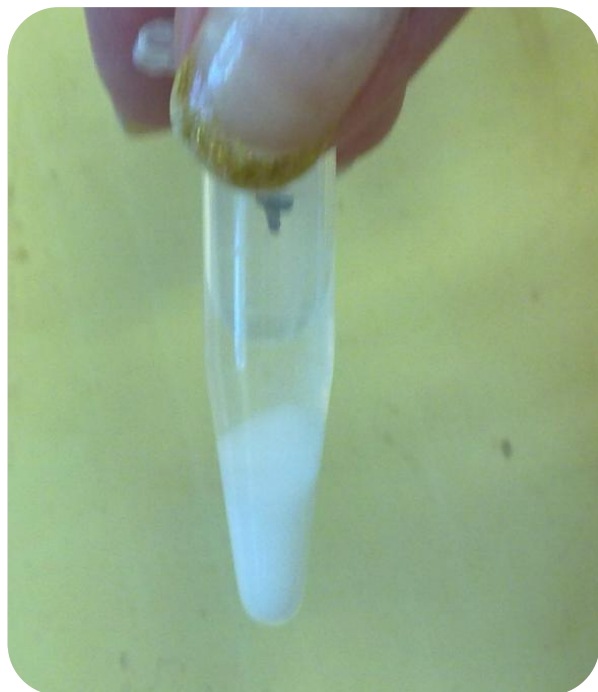
## $\gamma$ – lines for definition of radionuclides

Radionuclide	E, keV	yield, %
$^{82}\text{Sr}$	776,5	13,4
$^{131}\text{Ba}$	496,3	47,1
$^{133}\text{Ba}$	356	62,3
$^{223}\text{Ra}$	270,3	23,5

Radionuclide	E, keV	Yield, %
$^{139}\text{Ce}$	165,8	79,9
$^{143}\text{Pm}$	742	38,3
$^{169}\text{Yb}$	307,7	11,1
$^{173}\text{Lu}$	272	13
$^{225}\text{Ac}$	440,4	27,5
$^{88}\text{Y}$	1836	99,4

- Radionuclides were produced by high energy proton bombardment of tantalum and thorium targets
- No carrier-added radionuclides were applied
- Activity of each radionuclide was approx. 10 kBq in each sample

# Sample proceeding



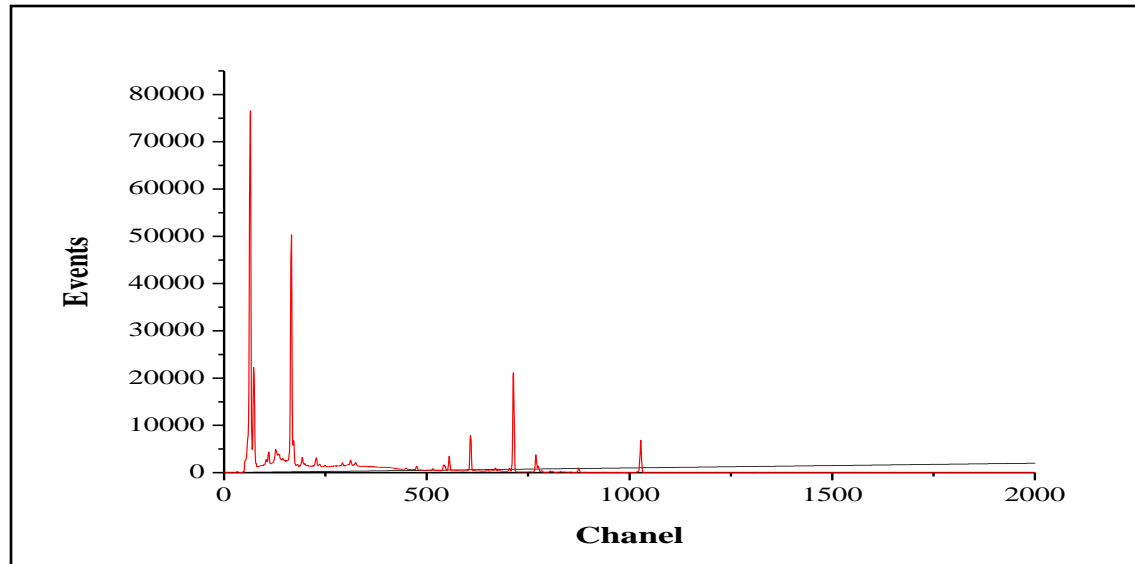
**50 mg Sr-resin and 1 mL of solution**



**900 µL of picked solution**



# Example of obtained spectra



Radionuclide	Energy Kev	Yield, %
$^{82}\text{Sr}$	776,5	13,4
$^{131}\text{Ba}$	496,3	47,1
$^{223}\text{Ra}$	270,3	23,5



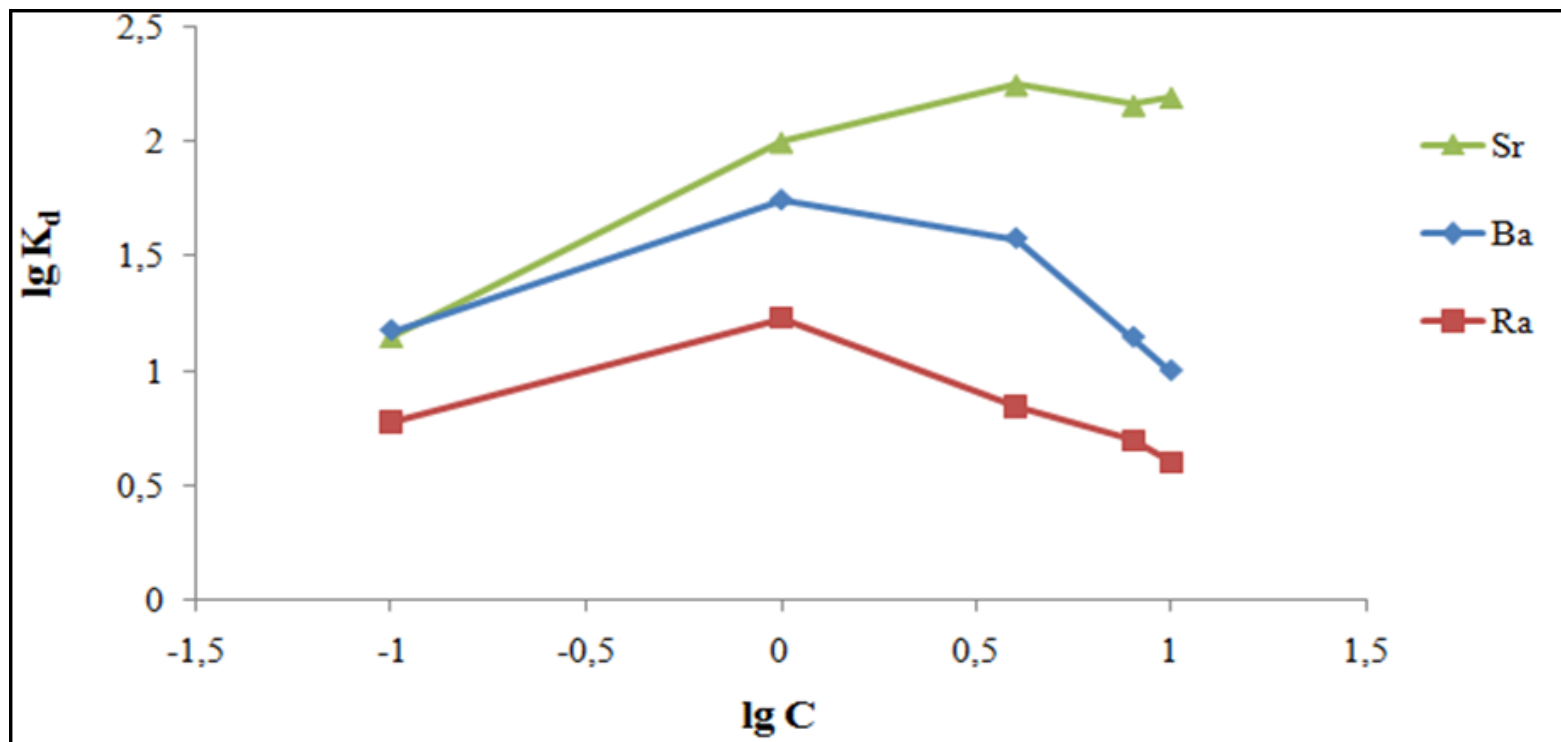
# Equation for calculation of distribution coefficients:

$$K_d = \frac{C_p(\text{phase 1})}{C_p(\text{phase 2})} = \frac{A_{1g}(\text{resin})}{A_{1mL}(\text{solution})} = \frac{A_{50mg}(\text{resin})}{A_{50\mu L}(\text{solution})}$$

Where  $C_p(\text{phase 1})$  u  $C_p(\text{phase 2})$  – equilibrium concentrations of elements in resin and solution,  $A_{50mg}(\text{resin})$  – activity (Bq) in 50 mg of resin,  $A_{50\mu L}(\text{solution})$  – activity (Bq) in 50  $\mu\text{L}$  of solution.

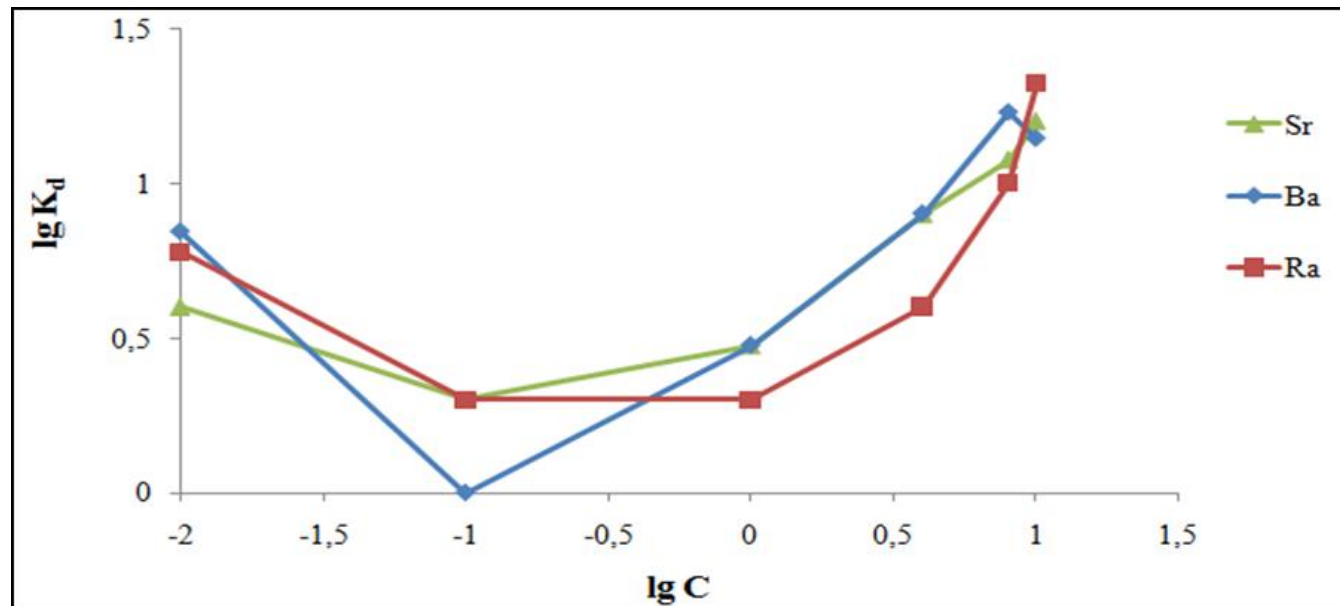
[HNO <sub>3</sub> ], M	K <sub>d</sub>		
	Sr	Ba	Ra
0,1	14	15	6
1	100	56	17
4	178	38	7
8	145	14	5
10	157	10	4

Dependence of distributions coefficients for alkaline earth elements from acid concentration in system Sr-resin- HNO<sub>3</sub>



[HCl], M	K <sub>d</sub>		
	Sr	Ba	Ra
0,01	4	7	6
0,1	2	1	2
1	3	3	2
4	8	8	4
8	12	17	10
10	16	14	21

Dependence of distributions coefficients for alkaline earth elements from acid concentration in system Sr-resin- HCl

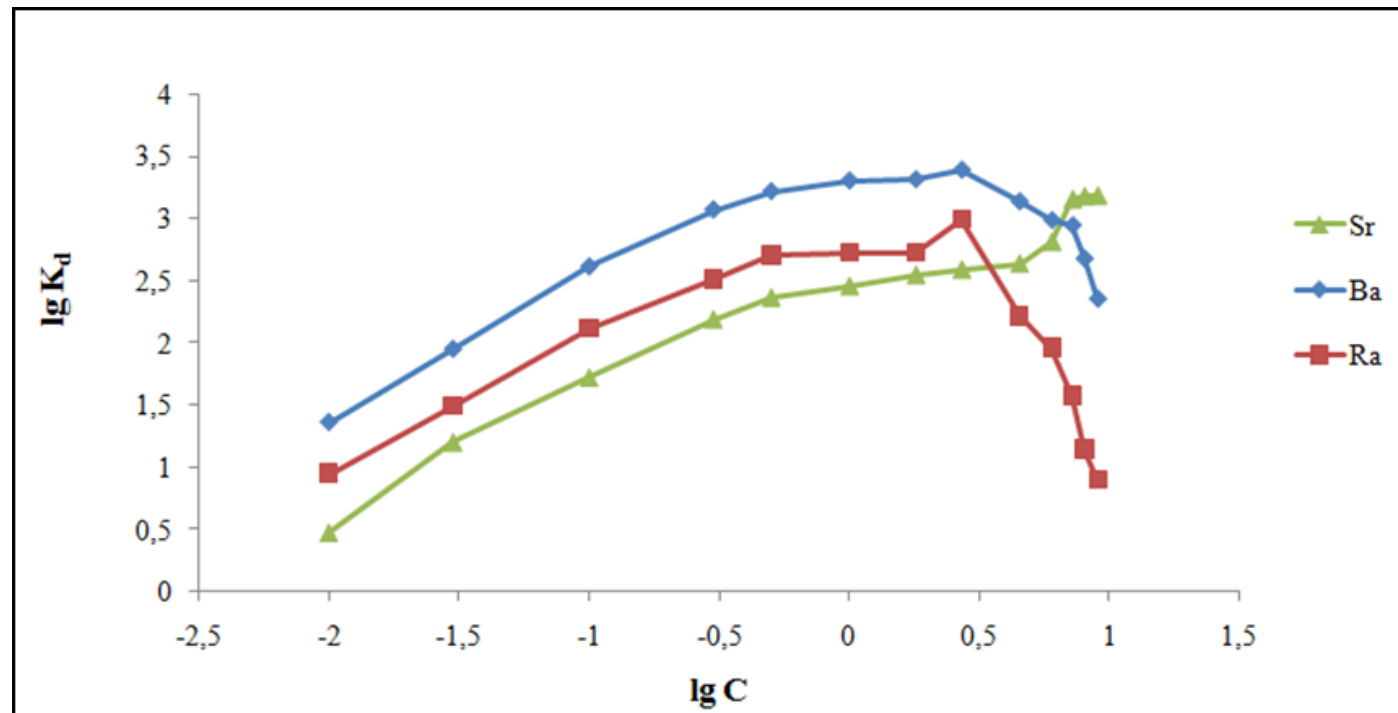


Dependence of distributions coefficients for alkaline earth elements from acid concentration in system Sr-resin- HBr

[HBr], M	K <sub>d</sub>		
	Sr	Ba	Ra
0,01	3,8	4,3	2,5
0,03	1	4	3
0,1	1	3	4
0,3	4	5,5	5,5
0,5	6,9	7,6	7,7
1	5	12	6
1,4	5	7	5
2	5	13	5
3,5	6	12	9
5,6	11	15	9
7	9	15	10

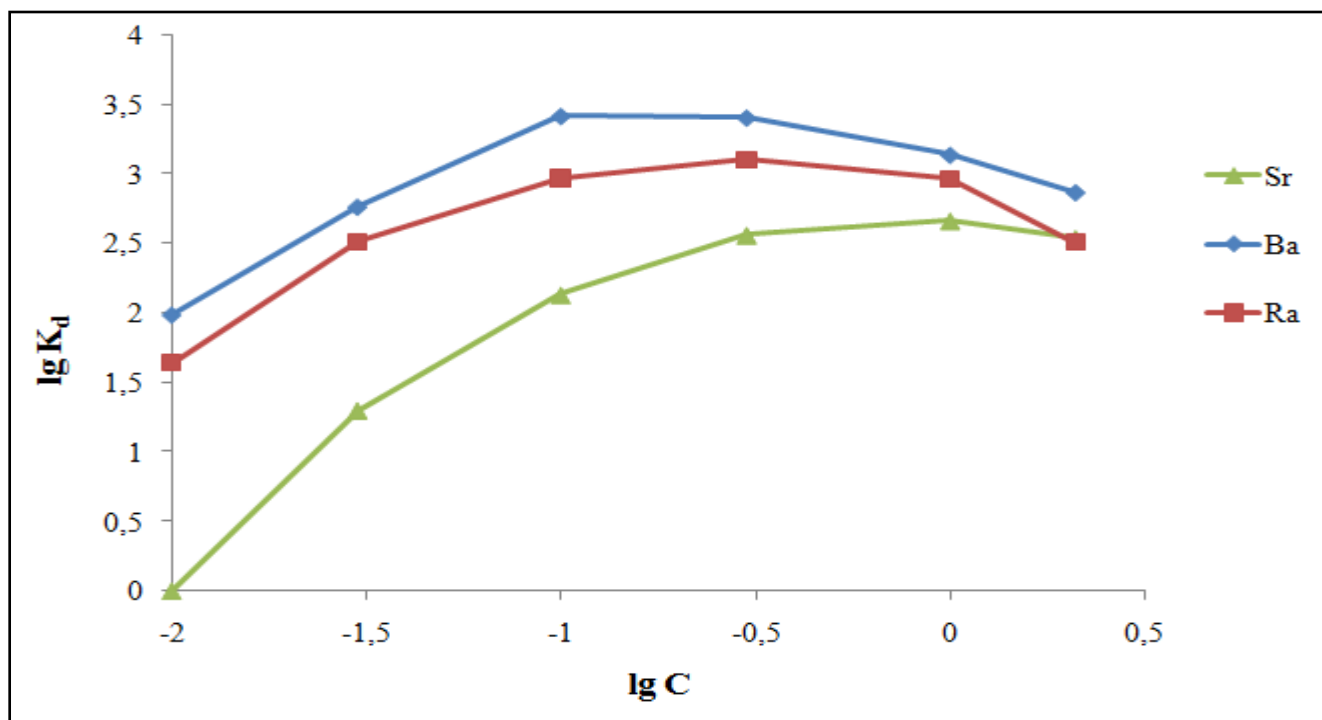
[HClO <sub>4</sub> ], M	K <sub>d</sub>		
	Sr	Ba	Ra
0,01	3	23	9
0,03	16	89	31
0,1	53	409	133
0,3	156	1171	327
0,5	234	1644	512
1	289	2000	540
1,8	356	2048	541
2,7	393	2444	991
4,5	438	1364	165
6	656	963	92
7,2	1444	875	38
8	1525	473	14
9	1545	225	8

Dependence of distributions coefficients for alkaline earth elements from acid concentration in system Sr-resin- HClO<sub>4</sub>

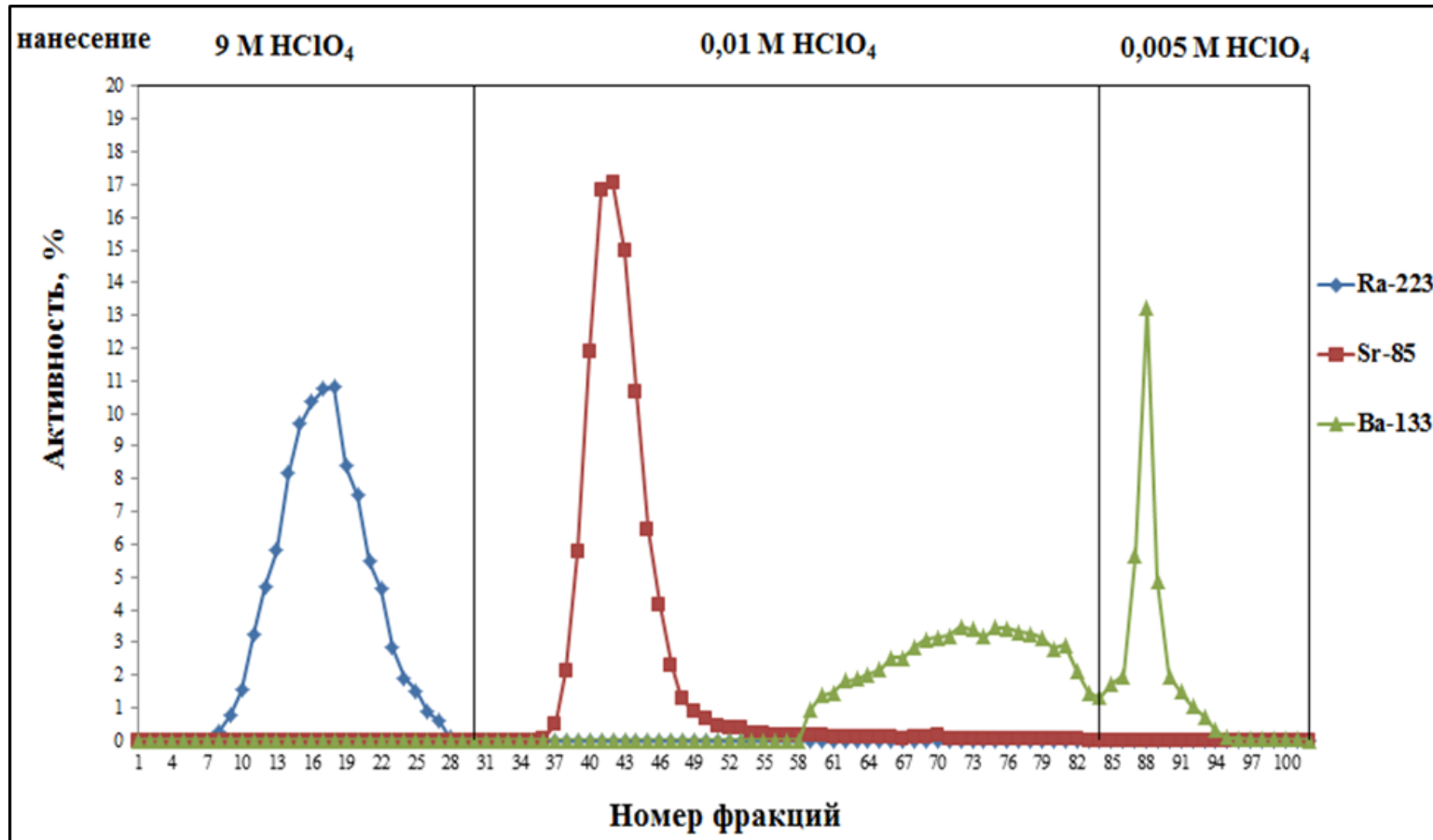


[HPF <sub>6</sub> ], M	K <sub>d</sub>		
	Sr	Ba	Ra
0,01	20	97	44
0,03	136	582	330
0,1	367	2629	945
0,3	466	2560	1283
1	349	1380	941
2	335	741	326
7	26	5	4

Dependence of distributions coefficients for alkaline earth elements from acid concentration in system Sr-resin- HPF<sub>6</sub>



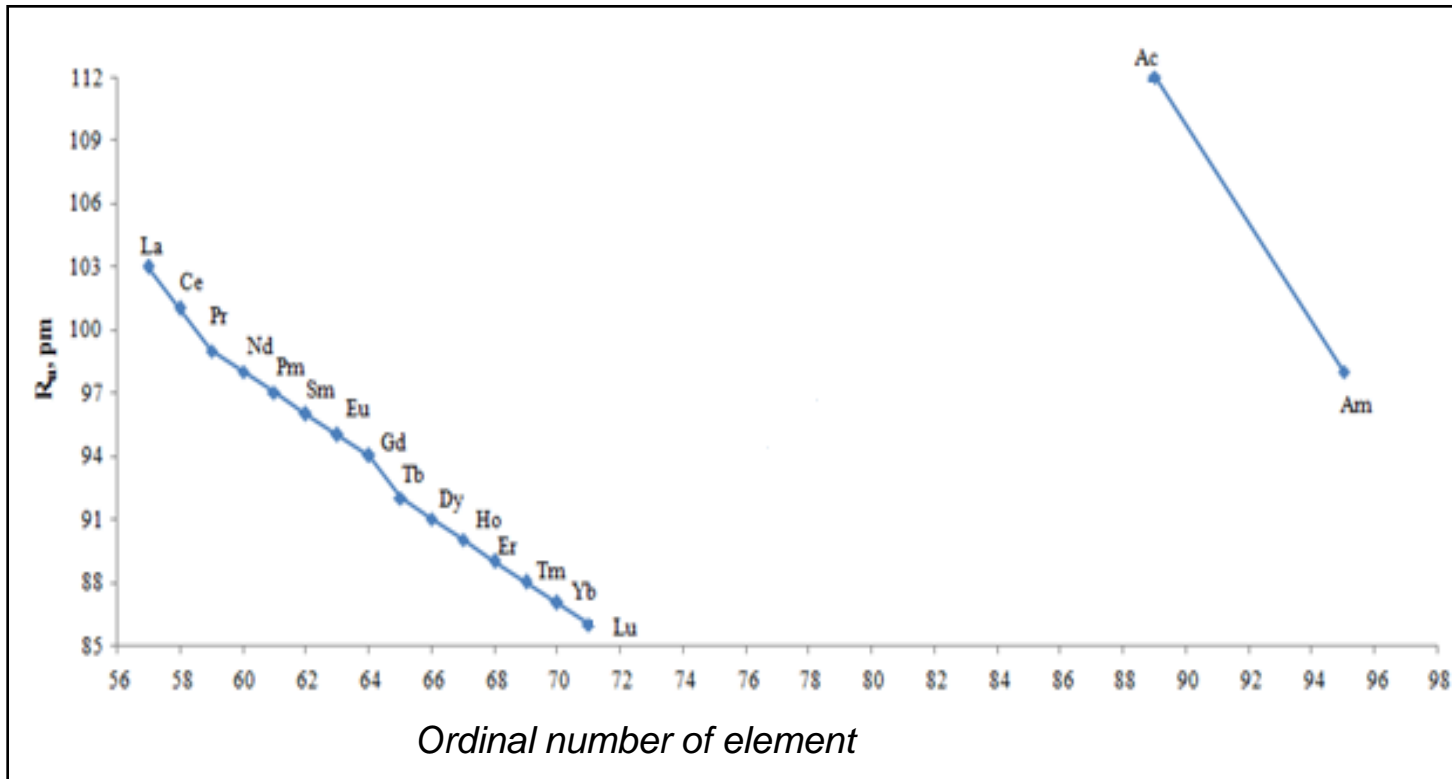
# Experimental data on chromatographical separation of radionuclides $^{223}\text{Ra}$ , $^{85}\text{Sr}$ and $^{133}\text{Ba}$ on Sr-resin column (2 mL, 100-150 $\mu\text{m}$ , «Triskem International»)



*Fraction volume – 0.5 mL*



# Correlation between ionic radius and ordinal number of lanthanidies, americium and actinium with coordination number 6



	$K_d$					
$[\text{HNO}_3], \text{M}$	<b>Ac</b>	<b>Ce</b>	<b>Pm</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Yb</b>	<b>Lu</b>
0,02	7	3	1	1,03	3	2,64
0,03	4	1,78	1,71	<1	<1	2
0,1	14	13	12	10	11,9	11
0,2	3	<1	2	<1	<1	1
1	4	2	<1	3	2	<1
4	5	0,6	1,4	1,9	0,5	1,4
6	1,78	1,2	1,4	<1	2	3
8	1	<1	1	1	3	<1
10	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1

Dependence of distributions coefficients for rare earth elements from acid concentration in system Sr-resin-  $\text{HNO}_3$ ,  $\text{HCl}$  and  $\text{HBr}$

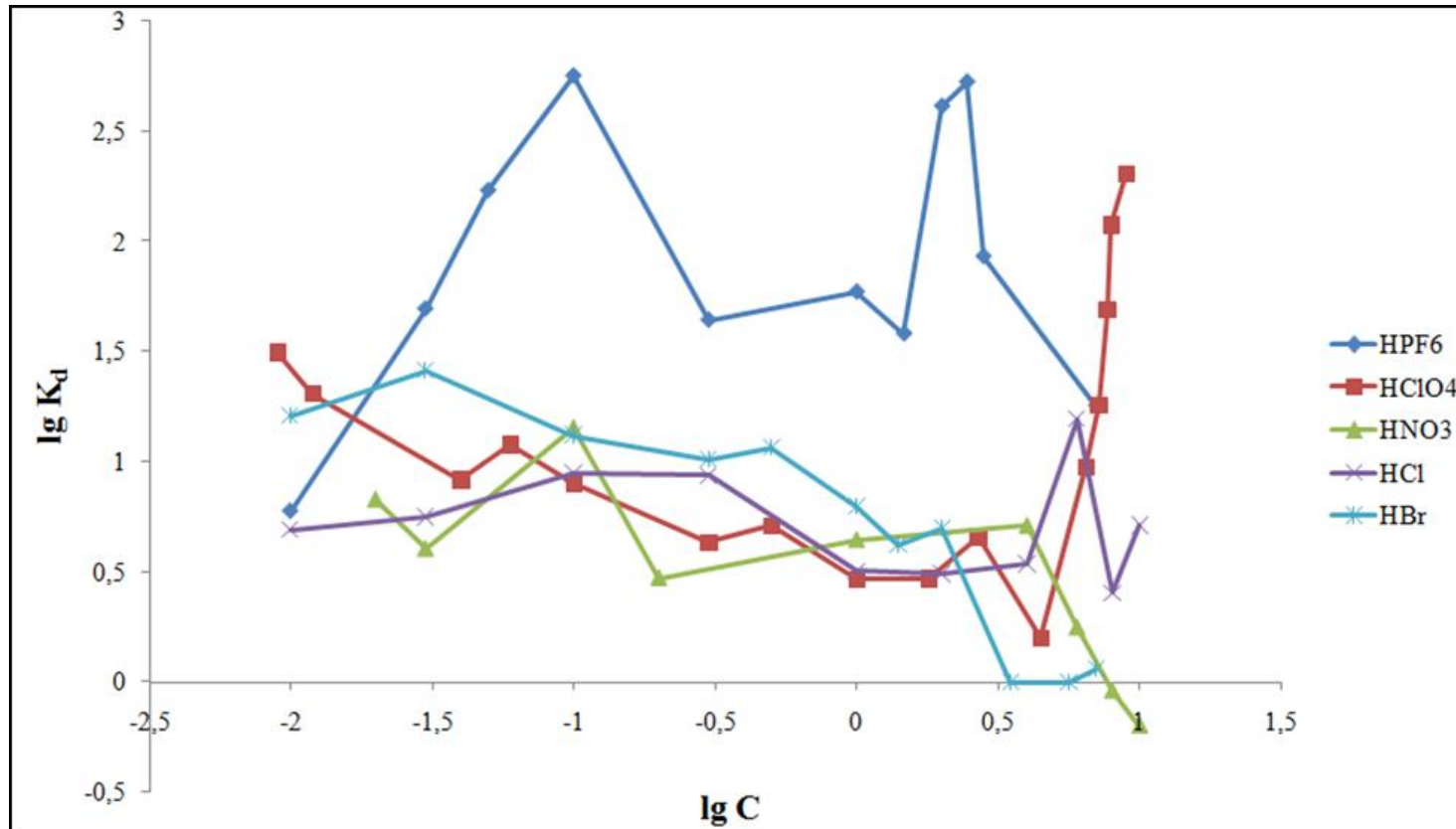
	$K_d$					
$[\text{HCl}], \text{M}$	<b>Ac</b>	<b>Ce</b>	<b>Pm</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Yb</b>	<b>Lu</b>
0,01	5	1,7	2	3	2,3	1
0,03	6	2,4	1,2	1,3	1	2
0,1	9	2	3	5	4	6
0,3	9	7,5	6	5	6,5	7,8
1	3	2	1	<1	<1	1,6
2	3	4	<1	<1	2,3	2,2
4	3	4	2,8	4,2	6	<1
6	16	11	10	11,2	14	5
8	3	1	1,6	2	4	<1
10	5	1,7	1,6	<1	<1	<1

	$K_d$					
$[\text{HBr}], \text{M}$	<b>Ac</b>	<b>Ce</b>	<b>Pm</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Yb</b>	<b>Lu</b>
0,01	16	11	6,13	10	7	6,3
0,03	26	8	15	8,76	9,23	8,91
0,1	13	2,04	1,28	4,69	2,24	2,25
0,3	10,25	2,18	3,76	3,74	3,04	3,48
0,5	11,6	7,14	7,4	5,7	4,64	5,12
1	6,28	2,03	3,74	2,09	2,26	1,41
1,4	4,18	<1	<1	2,3	1,63	1,88
2	4,98	<1	<1	<1	<1	1,38
3,5	<1	1,81	1,47	2,8	2,39	3,58
5,6	<1	<1	2,64	4,72	3,14	2,8
7	1,15	<1	2,71	1,63	4,53	3,91

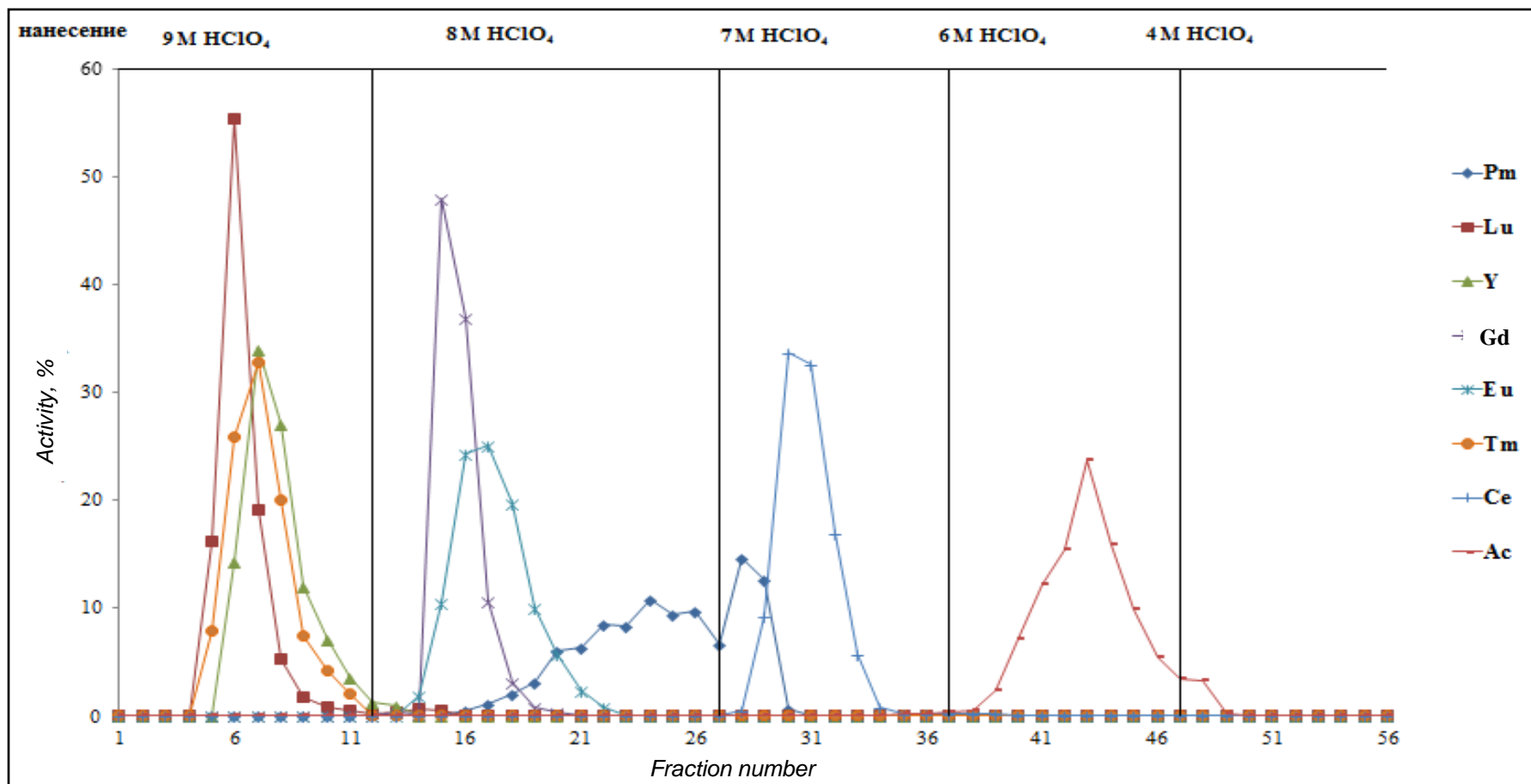
# Dependence of distributions coefficients for rare earth elements from acid concentration in system Sr-resin- $\text{HClO}_4$

[ $\text{HClO}_4$ ], M	$K_d$					
	Ac	Ce	Pm	Y	Yb	Lu
0,009	31	15	18,71	19	16,1	18,23
0,012	20	9,63	7,2	8	6,4	9,89
0,04	8,25	3,62	2,07	2,36	3,69	2,48
0,06	12	8	7,27	7,12	7,03	7,46
0,1	8	4,6	5,26	4,41	4,92	3,19
0,3	4,29	3,4	2,48	<1	1,28	<1
0,5	5,11	3,18	2,39	6,74	3,22	3,75
1	2,92	<1	1,4	1,76	<1	<1
1,8	2,94	<1	<1	<1	<1	2,18
2,7	4,56	2,84	<1	<1	<1	<1
4,5	1,58	<1	<1	<1	1,57	<1
6,5	9	3,63	1,65	3	2	4,4
7,2	18	2,32	3,15	<1	<1	<1
7,7	48	5,6	2	1,2	<1	<1
8	118	19	5,74	2	<1	5,58
9	200	94	31	2,5	<1	1,02

# Dependence $\log K_d$ of actinium from $\log C$ of acids concentrations in systems with Sr-resin



# Chromatographical separation of radiolanthanides and actinium on Sr-resin column(2 mL, 100-150 $\mu\text{m}$ , «Triskem International»)



*Fraction volume – 0.5 mL*

## Conclusions

- Behavior of Y, Sr, Ra, Ba, Ac и radiolanthanides was studied on Sr-resin (100-150  $\mu\text{m}$ , «Triskem International») in nitric acid ( $\text{HNO}_3$ ), hydrochloric acid (HCl), perchloric acid ( $\text{HClO}_4$ ), hydrobromic acid (HBr) and also hexafluorophosphoric acid ( $\text{HPF}_6$ ) solutions.
- Detected strong sorption of Sr, Ra, Ba on Sr-resin in perchloric and hexafluorophosphoric acids. Distribution coefficients for Sr, Ra and Ba in hexafluorophosphoric 10 times higher than for nitric acid, while Ba has strongest sorption.
- Results showed that for nitric and hydrobromic acid with Sr-resin in wide concentration spectra  $K_d$  values of Ac and lanthanides are low (less than 10).

## Conclusions

- **High sorption of Ac and lanthanides on Sr-resin in perchloric and hexafluorophosphoric acid media**
- **Based of Kd values separation strategy was developed for separation Sr, Ra and Ba between each other and also from Ac in system Sr-resin-HClO<sub>4</sub>**
- **Strong adsorption of AEE, REE and Ac on Sr-resin in perchloric and hexafluorophosphoric acid media can be explained by formation of noncontact (separated) ionic pairs in organic media. Therefore metals complexes with crown ethers in organic solvents are solvated (contacted) with molecules of organic solvents. Ion exchange mechanism of extraction**