

Preservation of Photographic and Cinematographic Films by Electron-Beam Irradiation

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON

ACCELERATORS FOR RESEARCH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

From good practices towards socioeconomic impact



23–27 May 2022

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria

Nuclear and Energy Research Institute -IPEN

Ministry of Science and Technology

National Nuclear Energy Commission



Nuclear and Energy Research Institute



Brazilian weather conditions have been affected directly tangible materials



Natural disasters

Insects



Fungi attack

Biodeterioration

Ionizing Radiation to Support Conservation and Preservation of Tangible Cultural Heritage (CH) in Brazil

1. Disinfection by ionizing radiation
material characterization, R&D on several materials,
Side-effects studies



2. Consolidation by ionizing radiation
-resins – polymerization – cross linking

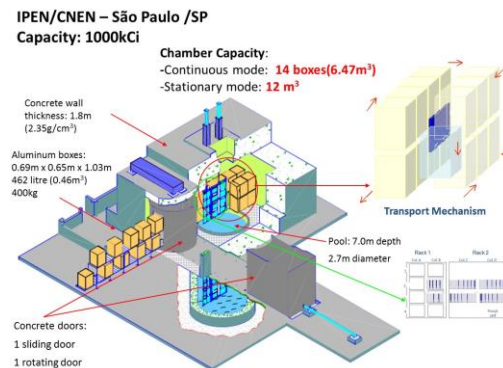


3. Developing of new nanostructured materials
for cleaning surfaces of CH by ionizing radiation
R&D, natural polymers, blends

Radiation Technologies available at IPEN

Gamma Irradiation

Cobalt-60



Brazilian technology - 2004 :
1000kCi
Category IV (IAEA -SSG-8)

Multipurpose Gamma Irradiation Facility

EB Accelerators



JOB 188 – 1,5 MeV 37.5kW
Radiation Dynamics, Inc. (RDI),
R&D



-Mobil Unit



JOB 307 - 97.5 kW, 1.5MeV
Continuous treatment system
(300 m/min)
Commercial applications

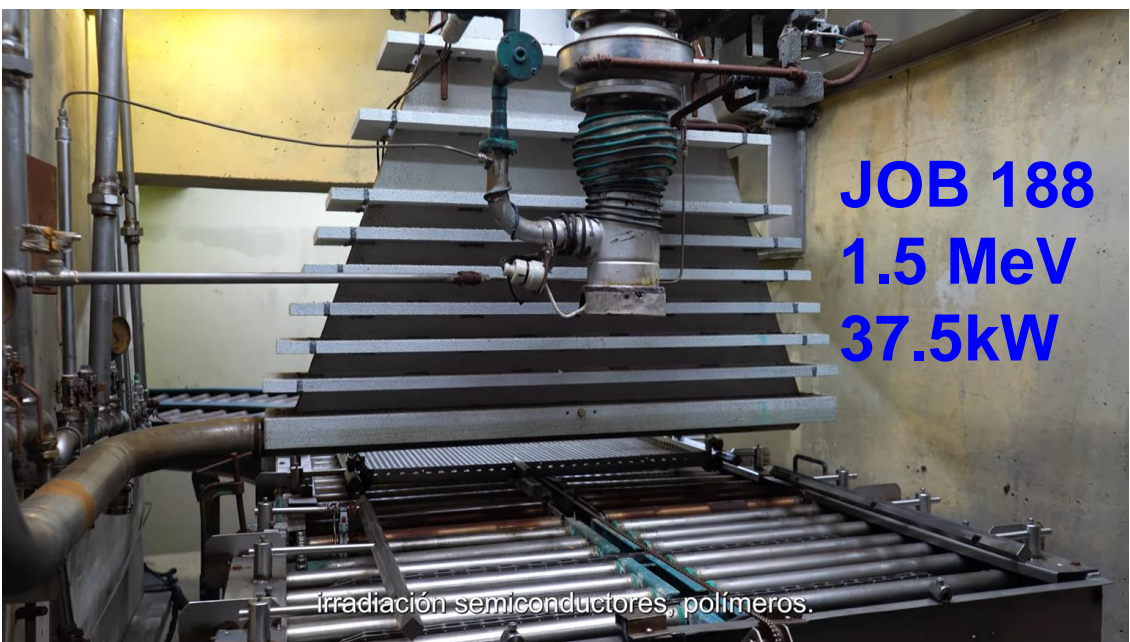


0.7MeV-20kW





instalado
en IPEN en el año de 1978.



JOB 188
1.5 MeV
37.5kW

irradiación semiconductores, polímeros.



JOB 307
97.5 kW
1.5MeV

Dentro de la misma sala de radiación (búnker),
existe otro acelerador de electrones



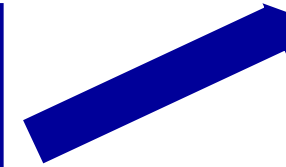
el mismo que se utiliza para la investigación,
y otro acelerador

E-beam Irradiation Facility



Irradiation or radiation processing

- a) Physical effects
- b) **Chemical effects**
- c) **Biological effects**



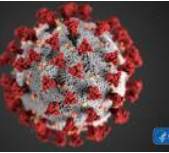
γ



Polymerization
Cross-linking
Grafting

Biocidal action

***Eliminates/inhibits/sterilizes...**
insects and Microorganisms
such as bacteria and fungi



**Virus
Inactivation**

- **Electron Beam Accelerator JOB 188 (Dynamitron®)**
- energy 1.5 MeV
- beam current 25 mA
- scan 60 to 120 cm
- beam power 37.5 kW

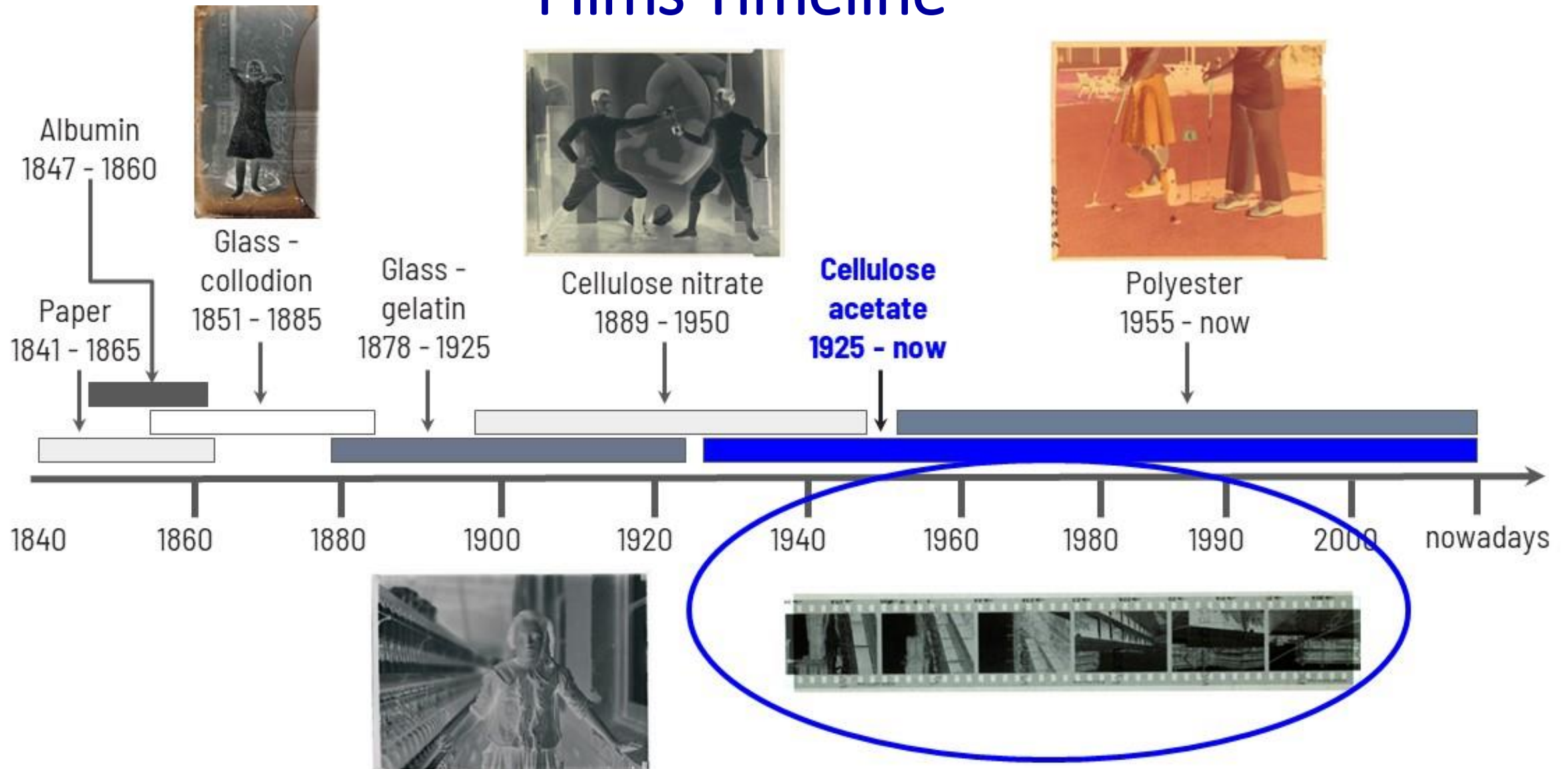
Applications:



- irradiating and sterilizing medical products
- silicon wafer processing
- food
- composites modification
- polymer modification
- shrink wrap sheet products
- tire and rubber pre-cure treatment
- chemical or biological wastes



Films Timeline



Typical deterioration in cellulose acetate films

Brazilian weather conditions affect photographic and cinematographic collections.

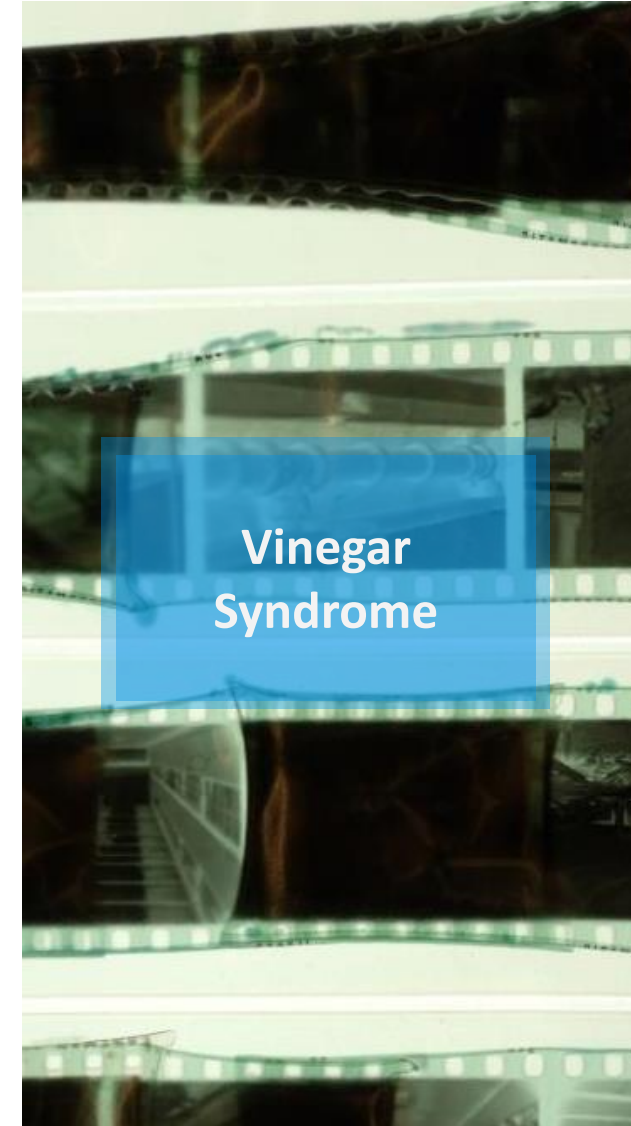
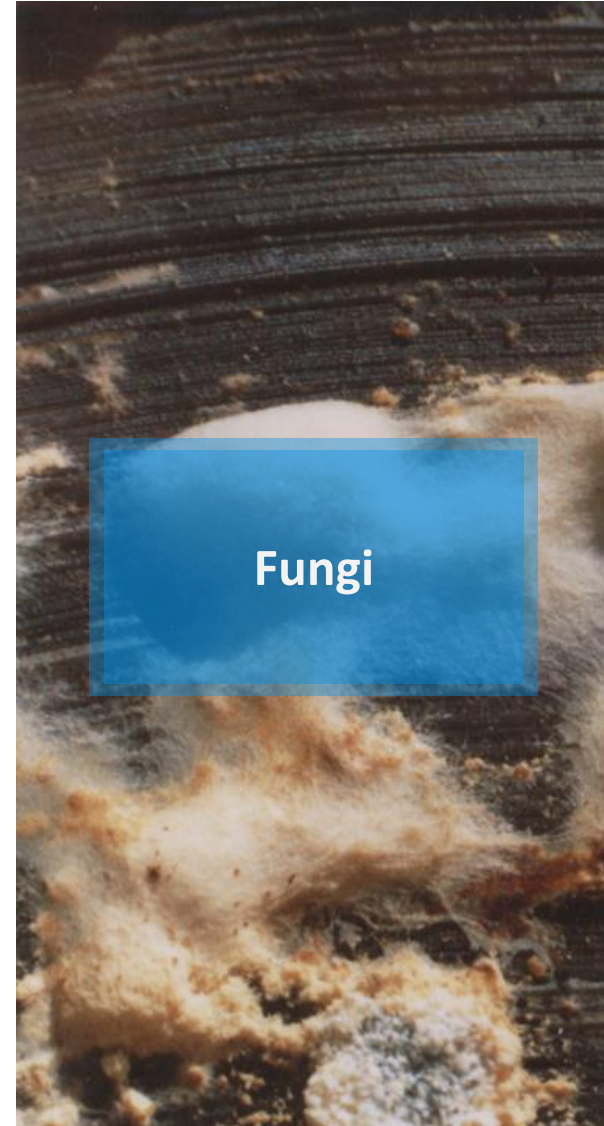
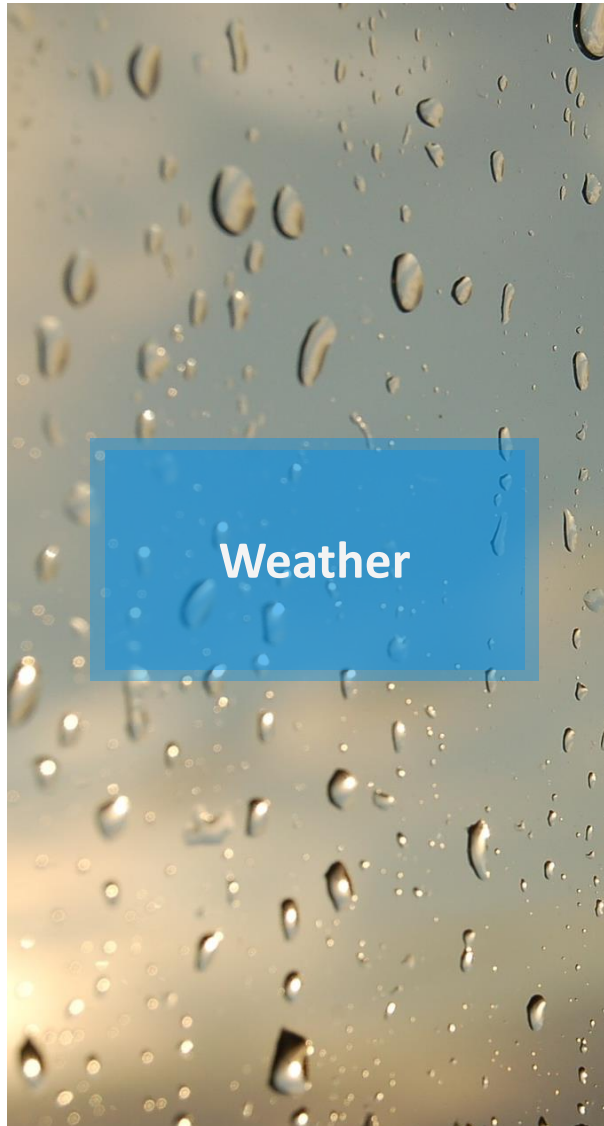
Fungi contamination main causes of biodeterioration in photographic and cinematographic collections.

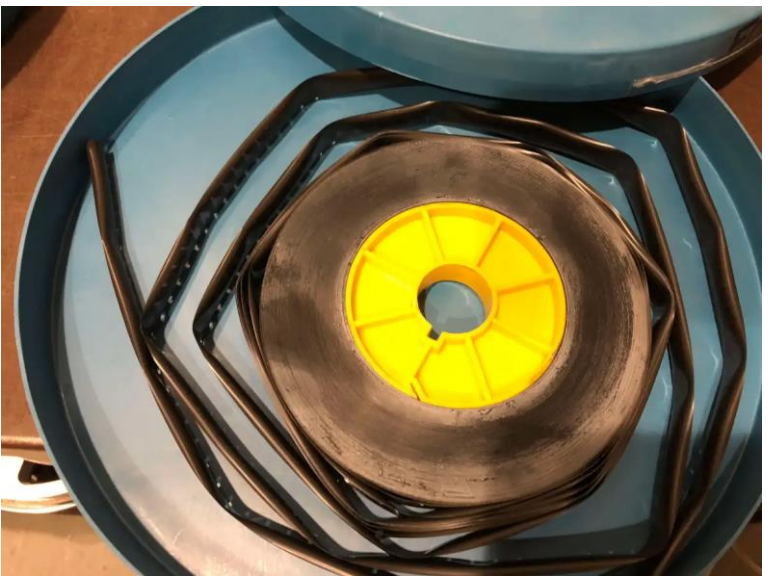
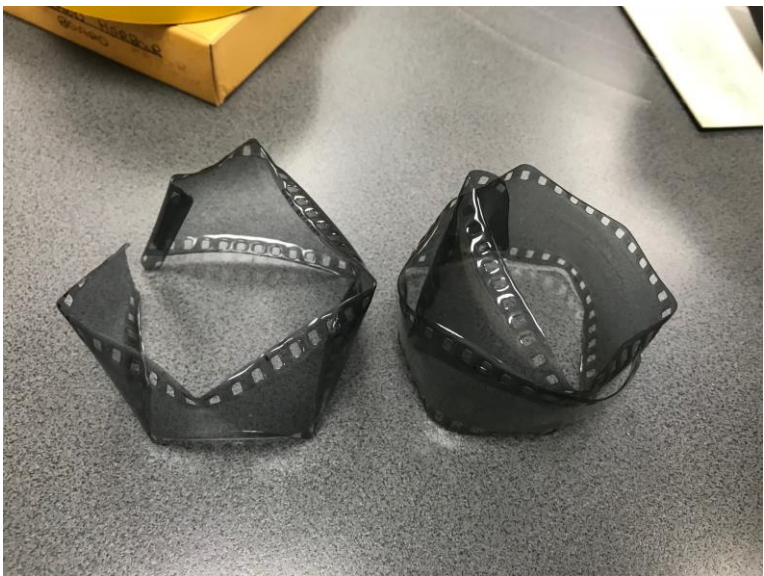
Vinegar Syndrome

Chemical deterioration,
Substrate: buckle, shrink and brittle.

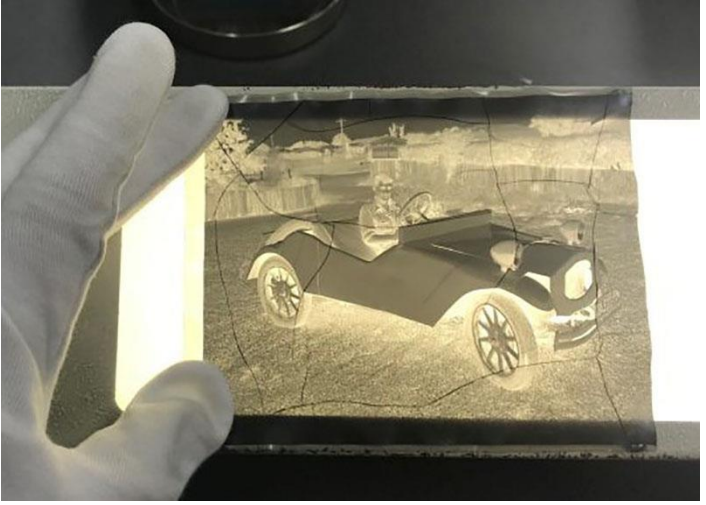
Production of acetic acid
(vinegar)

Deacetylation





Vinegar Syndrome Examples



<https://www.nfsa.gov.au/preservation/preservation-glossary/vinegar-syndrome>

<http://www.micrographics.co.nz/wp-content/>

Films Samples



(N5)



(F1)

Figure 1. Samples of photographic negative (N5) and cinematographic film (F1) selected from University of Sao Paulo libraries.

Goal of the study

- Characterization of the films.
- Evaluate electron beam radiation effects for the disinfection of photographic and cinematographic films.
- Check the effect of ionizing radiation-induced crosslinking (vinegar syndrome)

Results

FTIR-ATR samples characterization

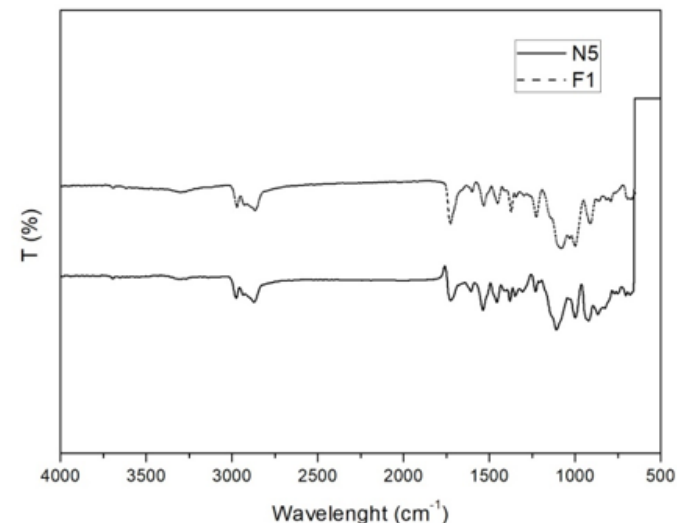


Figure 2. The infrared spectra of two samples showed coincident peaks of cellulose triacetate (CTA), gelatin and triphenyl phosphate (TPP).

Research Model



FEG-SEM micrographs

FEG-SEM

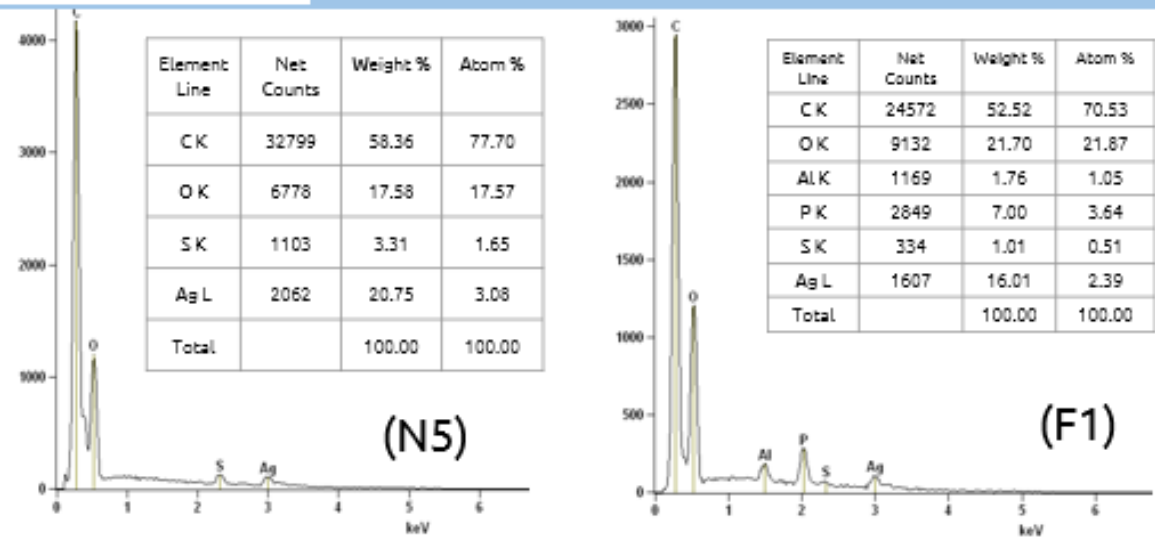
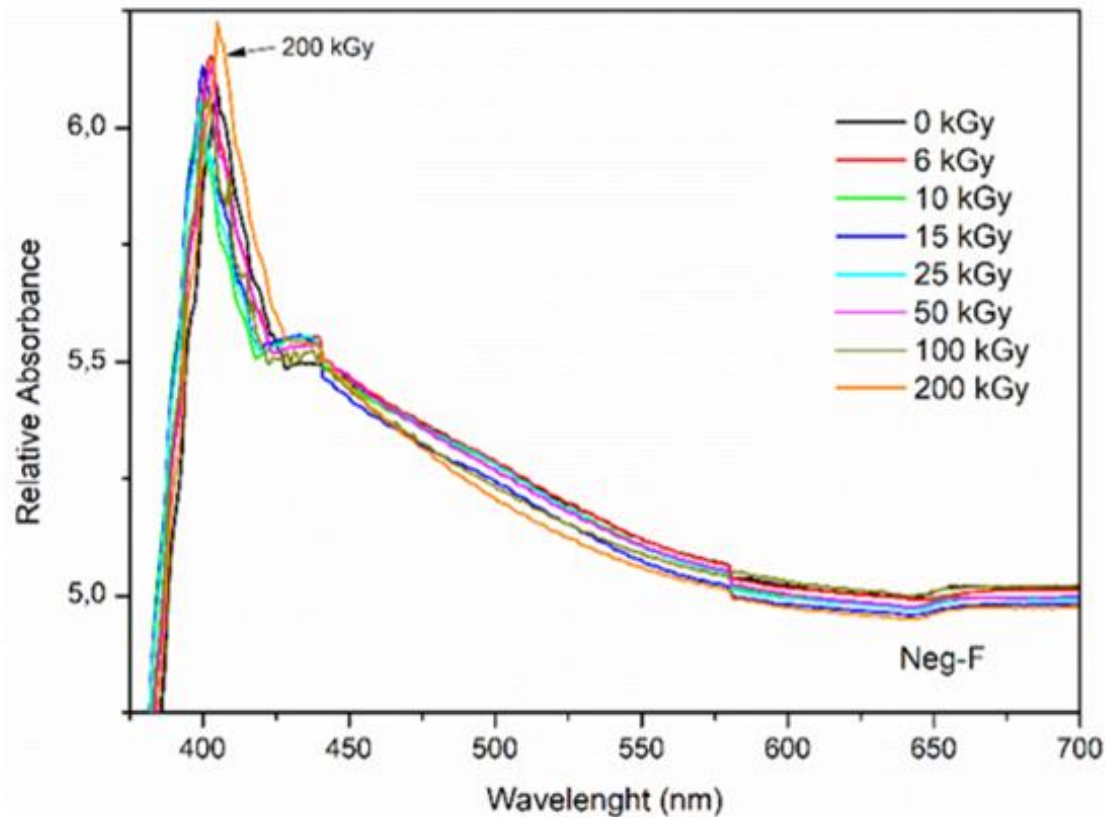


Figure 3. Spectrum of the elements distribution non irradiation samples. All samples show carbon and oxygen as majority elements due to the organic compounds of film materials. Coating samples with carbon enhances the carbon peak of the EDS spectrum. Silver are the photosensitizing element. Phosphorus from TPP plasticizer can be observed in sample F1. Sulfur came from the fixing solution of thiosulfate. Aluminum can be attributed to the sample-holder material.

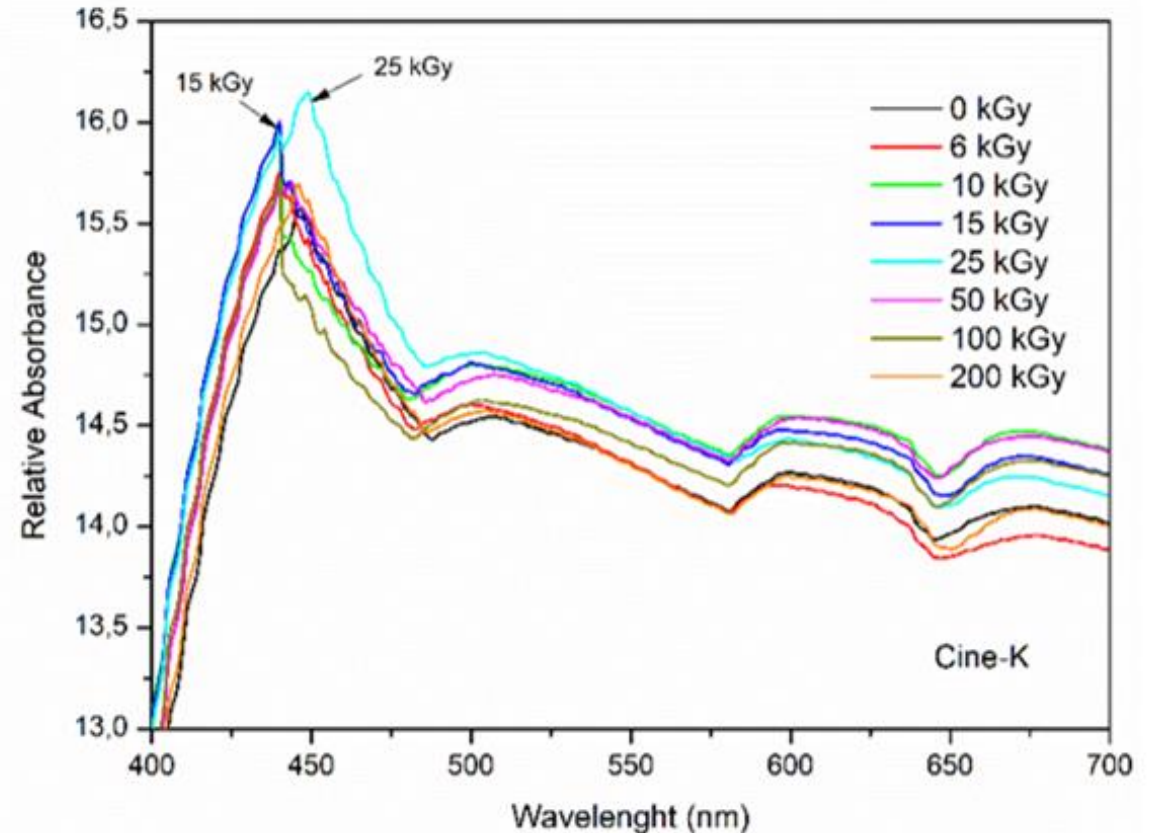
Sample	non-irradiated	10 kGy gamma irradiated	10 kGy e-beam irradiated
N5			
F1			

Table 1. Micrographs of the non-irradiated (0kGy) and irradiated samples (10kGy). Different kind of intensities and variations of white and black contrast can be associated with specific elements or with impurities and superficial contamination.

UV-Vis spectrophotometer outcomes



Sample: Neg-F

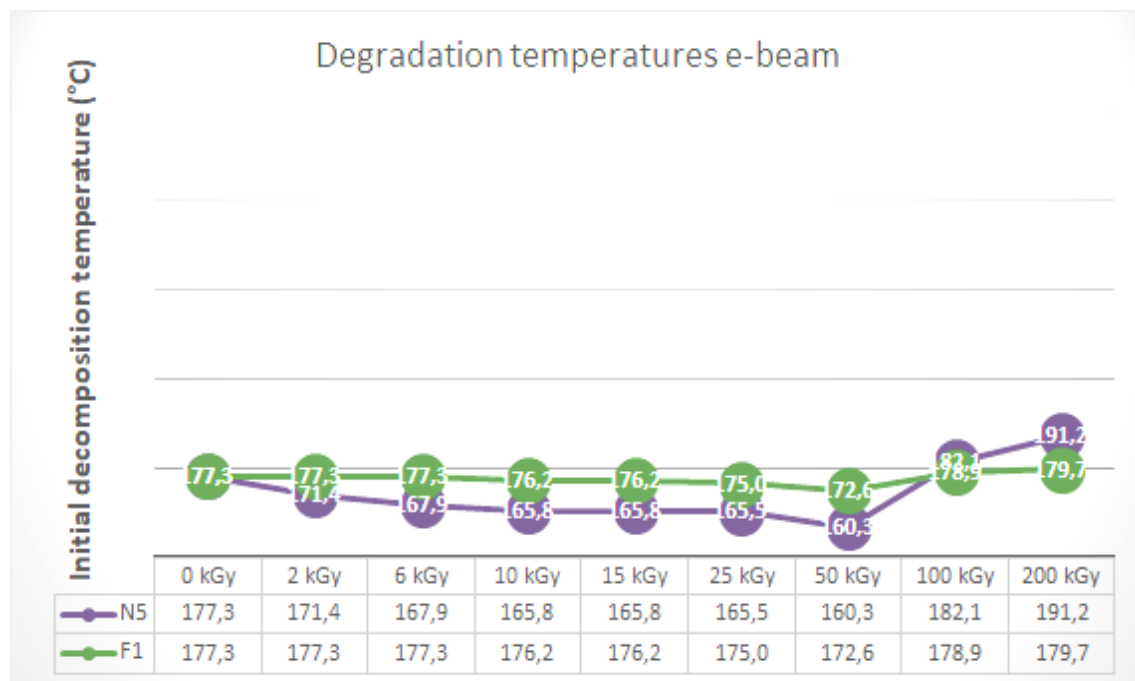


Sample: Cine-K.

❖ **Limit for disinfection: 10 kGy**

Thermal analysis

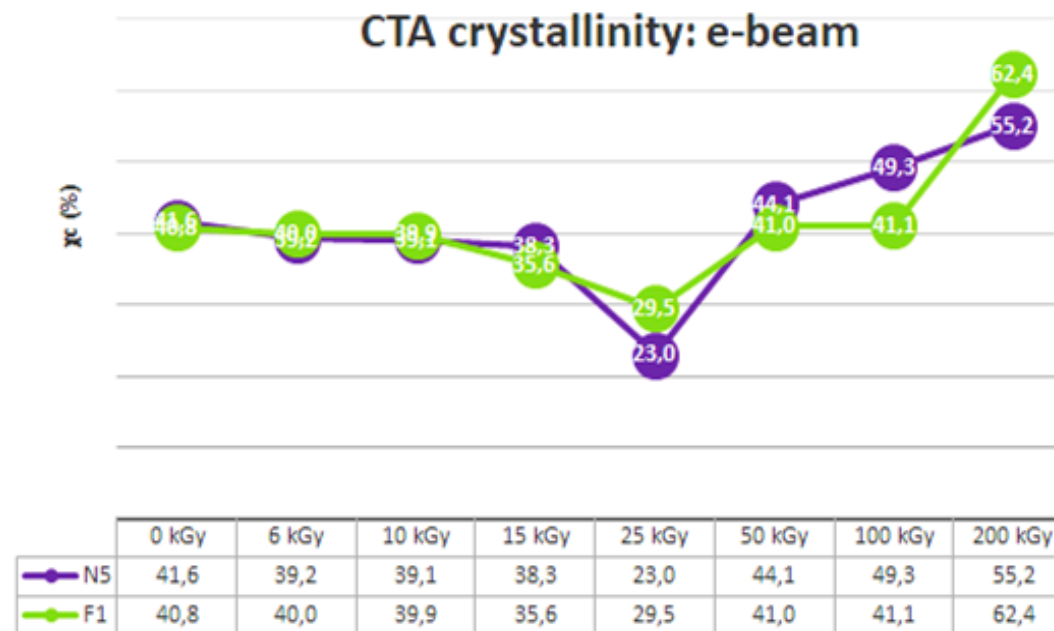
Thermogravimetry (TG)



TG results of samples N5 and F1 irradiated with different irradiation doses. crosslinking at doses strating at 50 kGy.

❖ **crosslinking dose: 50 kGy**

Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC)



DSC results of samples N5 and F1 irradiated with different irradiation doses. Higher degrees of crystallinity (indicative of crosslinking) were identified at doses starting at 50 kGy.

Conclusions

- **Disinfection** by electron beam radiation can be achieved safely applying radiation absorbed doses between **6 kGy to 10 kGy** with no significant change or modification of main properties of the constitutive polymeric materials.
- Electron beam irradiation, due to the effect of **crosslinking** is presented as an alternative to treat films affected by “vinegar syndrome” applying absorbed dose of **50 kGy** in order to increase shelf life of cultural heritage materials. However, a specialized restoration process is required after irradiation process.



JOB 188

JOB - 307

354

SCAN

This is the JOB 188 accelerator,

Thank you



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- International Agency of Atomic Energy – IAEA
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