





Tutorial # C INTERACTION OF RADIATION WITH MATTER

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1. Determine the number of ion pairs produced by 100 alpha particles of 5.3 MeV energy.

2. Calculate the thickness of lead $(\rho = 11.4 \text{ g/cm}^3)$ necessary to stop 4 MeV alpha particles.

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3. ²⁴Na is often used in medicine as a radioactive tracer . It emits beta rays with a maximum energy of 1.39 MeV.

What is the maximum range of these beta rays in aluminum?

4. Find the thickness of aluminum absorber necessary to absorb 99% of the 5.3 MeV maximum beta particles striking it.

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5. Compute the maximum thickness of aluminum window in a G.M. tube to permit counting of 2.7 MeV beta particles.

6. Calculate :

- (a) the half value thickness
- (b) the mean free path, and

(c) the mass attenuation coefficient for Co-60 gamma rays (1.17 MeV and 1.33 MeV energy) in lead from the following data: 4.5 cm thickness of lead reduces the radiation intensity by 95%. **7.** The linear attenuation coefficient of lead for 1 MeV gamma rays is 0.74 cm⁻¹ Calculate:

(a) half value thickness and

(**b**) thickness of lead necessary to reduce the intensity of the gamma rays to 1/100 of its original value.

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8. A 5 cm thick shield of lead is used to attenuate the gamma rays from Co-60. What fraction of the initial radiation penetrates the shield?

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9. What thickness of AI is needed to reduce the intensity of a beam of thermal neutrons to 1/100 of its initial value? Neutron absorption cross section in aluminum for thermal neutrons is 0.23 barn. Density of AI is 2.7 g/cm³.

10. Cadmium has a neutron absorption cross section of 20,000 barns for thermal neutrons. What fraction of the thermal neutrons will be transmitted by a 0.3 mm foil of cadmium of density 8.6 g/cm3?

11. Calculate the mean free path of thermal neutrons in:
(a) water for which σ=0.33 barn and ρ= 1 g/cm³, and
(b) graphite for which σ=2.6 barns and ρ=2250 kg/m³.

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12. A 0.1 cm thick Fe sheet (ρ =7.8 g/cm³) reduces a beam of 10 4 neutrons by 10%. Calculate: (a) macroscopic cross section of Fe, and

(b) mean free path.

13. A 2 MeV neutron collides head-on with an ¹⁶O nucleus.
Calculate the energy loss of the neutron.

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