



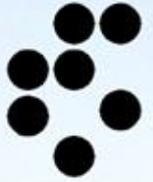
# **NAA Software**

**Radojko Jaćimović**

**Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia**

**20.-24. April 2015  
The Abdus Salam ICTP  
Trieste, Italy**

# Introduction



Two features of (n, $\gamma$ ) reactor NAA are making its standardization potentially easy and accurate:

- 1. the high penetrability of matter for neutrons**
- 2. existence of a delayed signal (besides the prompt gamma's).**

Hence, standard and sample can be excited simultaneously and induced signals of both can be measured successively after a suited time following the end of irradiation.

# Introduction



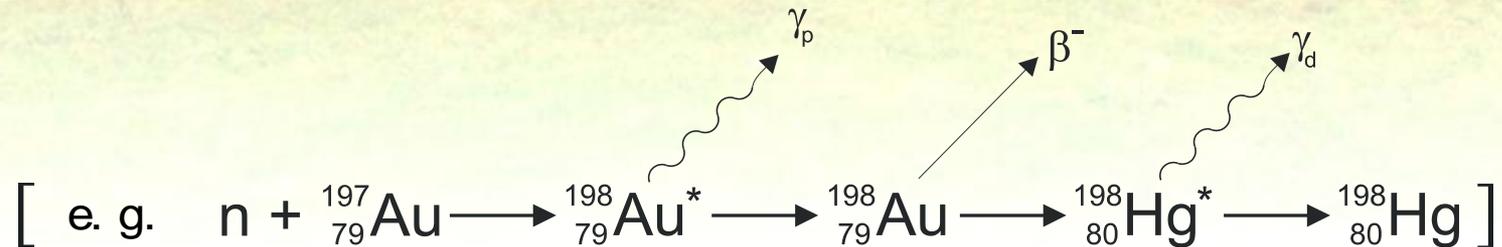
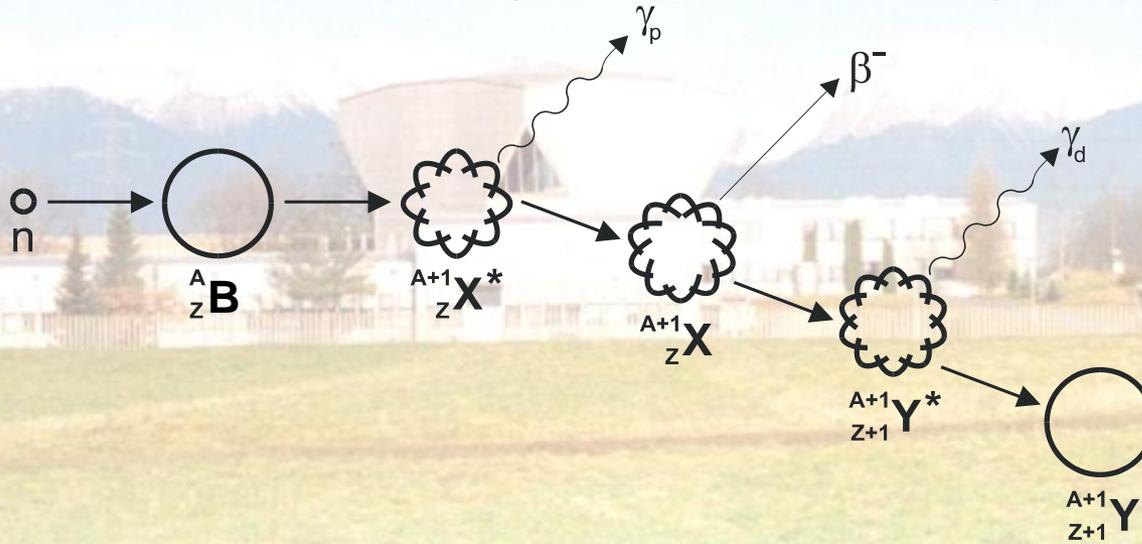
## Other consequences:

- NAA is a bulk analysis method with multi-element capability (element concentration and measured signal is nearly matrix-independent).
- Matrix preparation can be kept simple.
- Treatment of sample (and standard) after irradiation is possible (enabling etching, dissolution, chemical separation - RNAA).
- High sensitivity (down to the  $10^{-6}$ ,  $10^{-9}$  or even to the  $10^{-12}$  g/g) attainable for many elements.
- Reference method for certification of new CRMs or RMs.

# Introduction

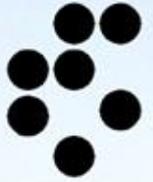


Nuclear reactions: - direct ( $B + a \rightarrow Y + b$ );  $\sim 10^{-22} - 10^{-21}$  s  
 - meta stable ( $B + a \rightarrow X^* \rightarrow Y + b$ );  $\sim 10^{-16} - 10^{-14}$  s



A typical  $(n, \gamma)$  reaction with  $\beta^-$  decay.

# Introduction



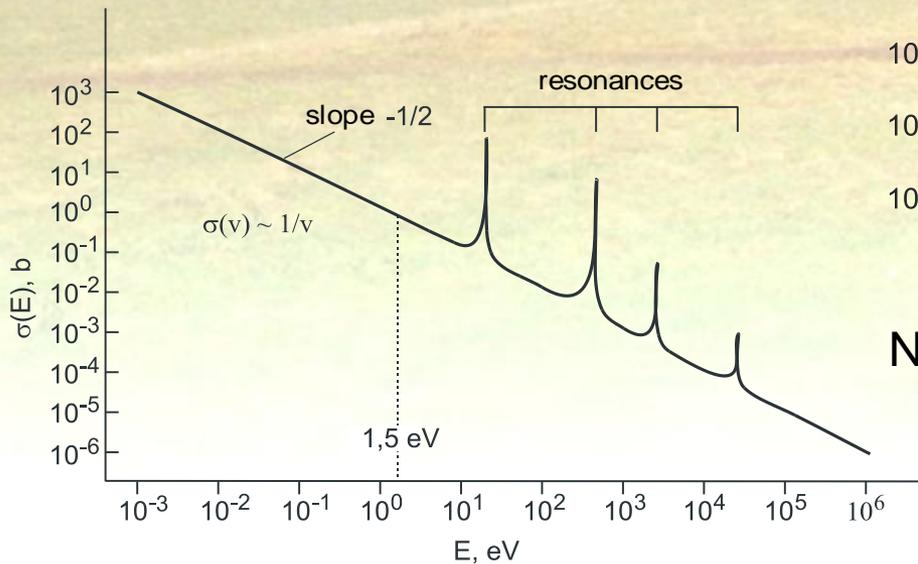
- NAA - four techniques:
  - Prompt Gamma Neutron Activation Analysis (**PGNAA**) (usually with energies  $< 0.001$  eV); prompt gamma rays ( $\gamma_p$ ) emitted by the compound nucleus  $X^*$  are measured
  - Thermal Neutron Activation Analysis (**TNAA**); from reactions in a well-thermalised reactor spectrum, the decay gamma rays ( $\gamma_d$ ) are measured
  - Epithermal Neutron Activation Analysis (**ENAA**); resonance reactions are utilised by using suitable filters to remove thermal neutrons from the reactor spectrum and measuring decay gamma rays
  - Fast Neutron Activation Analysis (**FNAA**); high-energy neutron sources are used without the presence of a moderator for slowing down the neutrons and gamma rays are measured.

# (n,γ) reaction rate

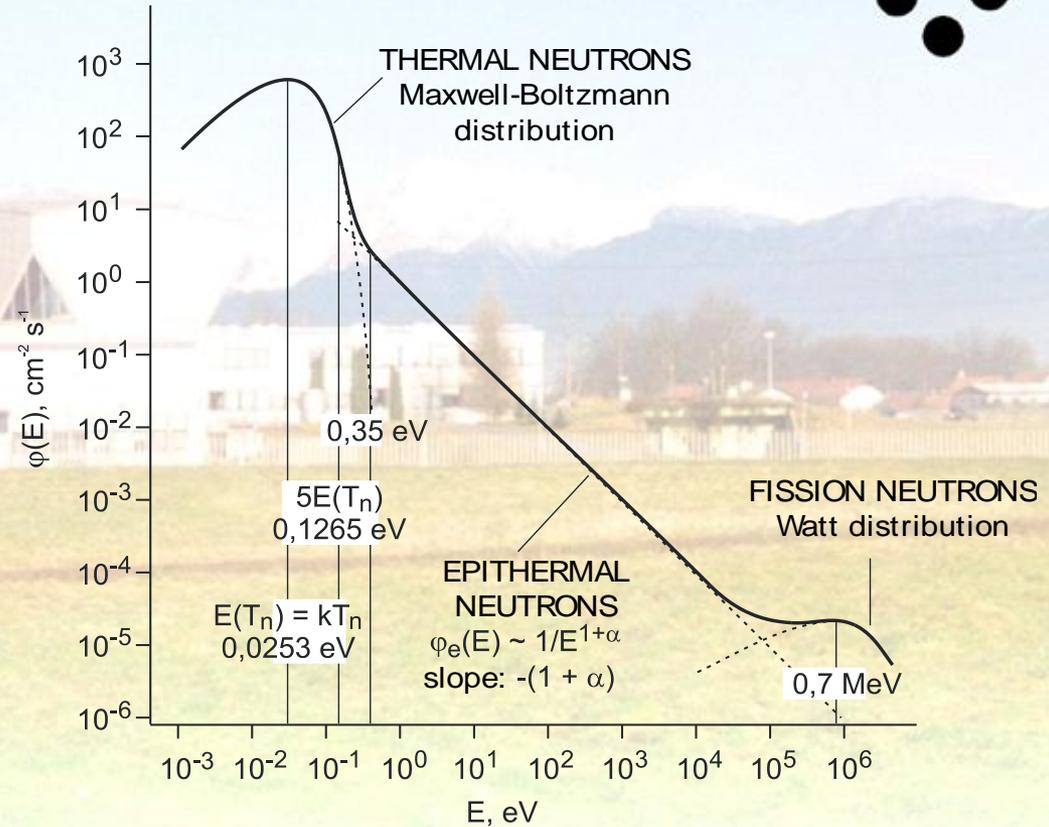


**Specific reaction rate per target nuclide**

$$R_X = \frac{R}{N_1} = \int_0^{\infty} \sigma(E) \phi(E) dE$$



**Cross-section vs. E ( $\sigma(v) \sim 1/v$ )**



**Neutron fluence rate distribution vs. E**

# (n,γ) reaction rate



Hogdahl convention:

$$R_X = \int_0^{v_{Cd}} \sigma(v) \varphi'(v) dv + \int_{E_{Cd}}^{E_2} \sigma(E) \varphi(E) dE = R_{X,th} + R_{X,e}$$

- all (n,γ) reactions are as follows:

$$\sigma(v) \propto 1/v$$

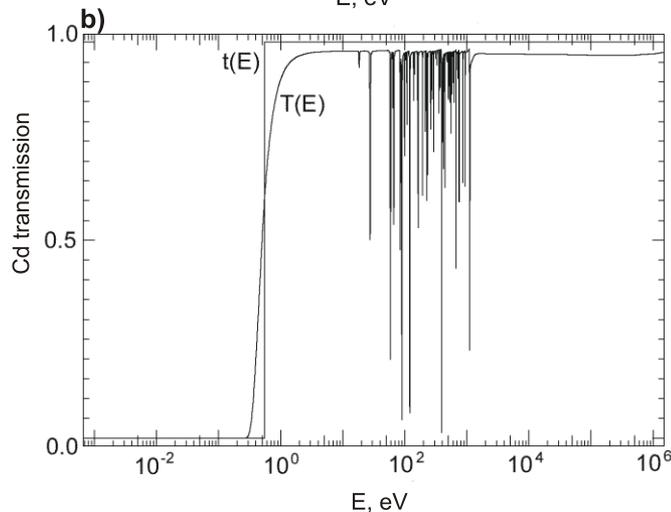
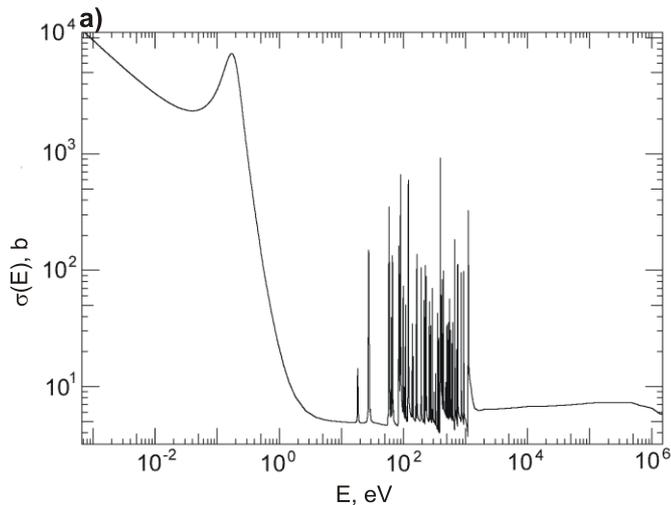
-  $E_{Cd} = 0.55 \text{ eV}$

$$R_X = \sigma_0 v_0 n_{th} + \varphi_e I_0(\alpha) = \sigma_0 \varphi_{th} + \varphi_e I_0(\alpha)$$

with:  $\sigma_0 = \sigma(v_0)$  at reference velocity  $v_0 = 2200 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ,  $\varphi_{th} = v_0 n_{th}$  **fluence rate for thermal neutrons**,  $n_{th}$  – thermal neutron density and

$$I_0(\alpha) = (1 \text{ eV})^\alpha \int_{E_{Cd}}^{E_2} \frac{\sigma(E) dE}{E^{1+\alpha}}$$

**resonance integral** for epithermal part of spectra



Cd total cross section and Cd transmission function T(E) for 1 mm Cd

# (n,γ) reaction rate



For better adjustment of (n,γ) reaction rate in Hogdahl convention it is necessary to introduce some correction factors:

- $G_{th}$  - thermal neutron self-shielding (nucleus density)
- $G_e$  - epithermal neutron self-shielding (density + resonance parameters)
- $F_{Cd}$  - Cd transmission factor for epithermal neutrons

$$R_X = G_{th} \varphi_{th} \sigma_0 + G_e \varphi_e I_0(\alpha)$$

**Cd-ratio:**

$$R_{Cd} = F_{Cd} R_{Cd}^* = 1 + \left( \frac{G_{th} f}{G_e Q_0(\alpha)} \right) \text{ with } f = \frac{\varphi_{th}}{\varphi_e} \text{ and } Q_0(\alpha) = \frac{I_0(\alpha)}{\sigma_0}$$

with  $R_{Cd}^*$  - measured Cd ratio:

$$R_{Cd}^* = \frac{\int_0^{\infty} \sigma(E) \varphi(E) dE}{\int_0^{\infty} T(E) \sigma(E) \varphi(E) dE} = \frac{\int_0^{E_2} \sigma(E) \varphi(E) dE}{F_{Cd} \int_{E_{Cd}}^{E_2} \sigma(E) \varphi(E) dE}$$

# Activation equation



$$N_1^0 = \frac{w N_A \Theta}{M}$$

$$\frac{dN_1}{dt'} = -N_1 R_{X,1}$$

$$N_1 = N_1^0 e^{-R_{X,1} t'}$$

**taking into account** the removal of nuclei of the nuclide produced

$$\frac{dN}{dt'} = N_1 R_{X,1} - N (\lambda + R_N) = R_{X,1} N_1^0 e^{-R_{X,1} t'} - N (\lambda + R_N)$$

$$N = \frac{N_1^0 R_{X,1} e^{-R_{X,1} t_{irr}}}{(\lambda + R_N - R_{X,1})} (1 - e^{(R_{X,1} - \lambda - R_N) t_{irr}})$$

$$N = \frac{N_1^0 R_{X,1}}{\lambda} (1 - e^{-\lambda t_{irr}})$$

**not taking into account** the removal of nuclei of the nuclide produced

Burn-up factor

$$F_{burn} = \frac{\lambda e^{-R_{X,1} t_{irr}} (1 - e^{(R_{X,1} - \lambda - R_N) t_{irr}})}{(\lambda + R_N - R_{X,1}) (1 - e^{-\lambda t_{irr}})}$$

$N_1^0$  - initial number of irradiated nuclei in the target

$N_1$  - number of target nuclide

$N$  - number of radionuclide

$w$  - mass of the investigated element

$N_A$  - Avogadro constant =  $6.022045 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$

$M$  - molar mass

$\Theta$  - isotopic abundance

$\lambda$  - decay constant =  $\ln(2)/T_{1/2}$

$t_{irr}$  - irradiation time

$R_{X,1}$  - specific reaction rate of target nuclide

$R_N$  - specific reaction rate of radionuclide

# Activation equation



Due to radioactive decay, the number of radioactive nuclei  $N$  decreases with time

The reaction rate of the radioactive nuclei  $N$

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -\lambda N$$

$$N = \frac{N_1^0 R_{X,1}}{\lambda} (1 - e^{-\lambda t_{irr}}) e^{-\lambda t}$$

is proportional to the count rate measured by the detector.

The result is the **number of counts** in the full-energy peak ( $N_p$ ) with the start of detection at time  $t_d$  after the end of irradiation:

$$N_p = \frac{N_1^0 R_{X,1}}{\lambda} (1 - e^{-\lambda t_{irr}}) e^{-\lambda t_d} (1 - e^{-\lambda t_m}) \gamma \varepsilon_p$$

↓

$$\frac{N_p}{t_m} = N_1^0 R_{X,1} (1 - e^{-\lambda t_{irr}}) e^{-\lambda t_d} \frac{(1 - e^{-\lambda t_m})}{\lambda t_m} \gamma \varepsilon_p$$

$$S = 1 - e^{-\lambda t_{irr}}$$

Factor for saturation during irradiation

$$D = e^{-\lambda t_d}$$

Decay factor

$$C = \frac{(1 - e^{-\lambda t_m})}{\lambda t_m}$$

“Measurement” factor

# Activation equation



$$\frac{N_p}{t_m} = \frac{w N_A \Theta}{M} R_{X,1} S D C \gamma \varepsilon_p$$

$\varepsilon_p$

Full-energy peak detection efficiency, including gamma attenuation

$\gamma$

Probability of  $\gamma$  emission

**Activity, A [s<sup>-1</sup>]** or the total count rate in the detector:

$$A = N_1^0 R_{X,1} \gamma \varepsilon_p = \frac{w N_A \Theta}{M} R_{X,1} \gamma \varepsilon_p$$

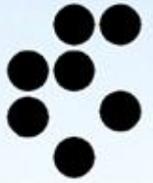
**Specific count rate (s<sup>-1</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>)**

$$A_{sp} = \frac{N_A \Theta}{M} R_{X,1} \gamma \varepsilon_p$$

or

$$A_{sp} = \frac{N_p / t_m}{S D C w}$$

# Activation equation



**Specific count rate ( $\text{s}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$ )**

$$A_{sp} = \frac{N_A \Theta}{M} \frac{1}{F_{burn}} (G_{th} \varphi_{th} \sigma_0 + G_e \varphi_e I_0(\alpha)) \gamma \varepsilon_p$$

**Specific count rate under Cd activation ( $\text{s}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$ )**

$$(A_{sp})_{Cd} = \frac{N_A \Theta}{M} \frac{1}{F_{Cd}} G_e \varphi_e I_0(\alpha) \gamma \varepsilon_p$$

# Nuclear research reactor TRIGA Mark II (250 kW)

- Short and long irradiation in the CC:

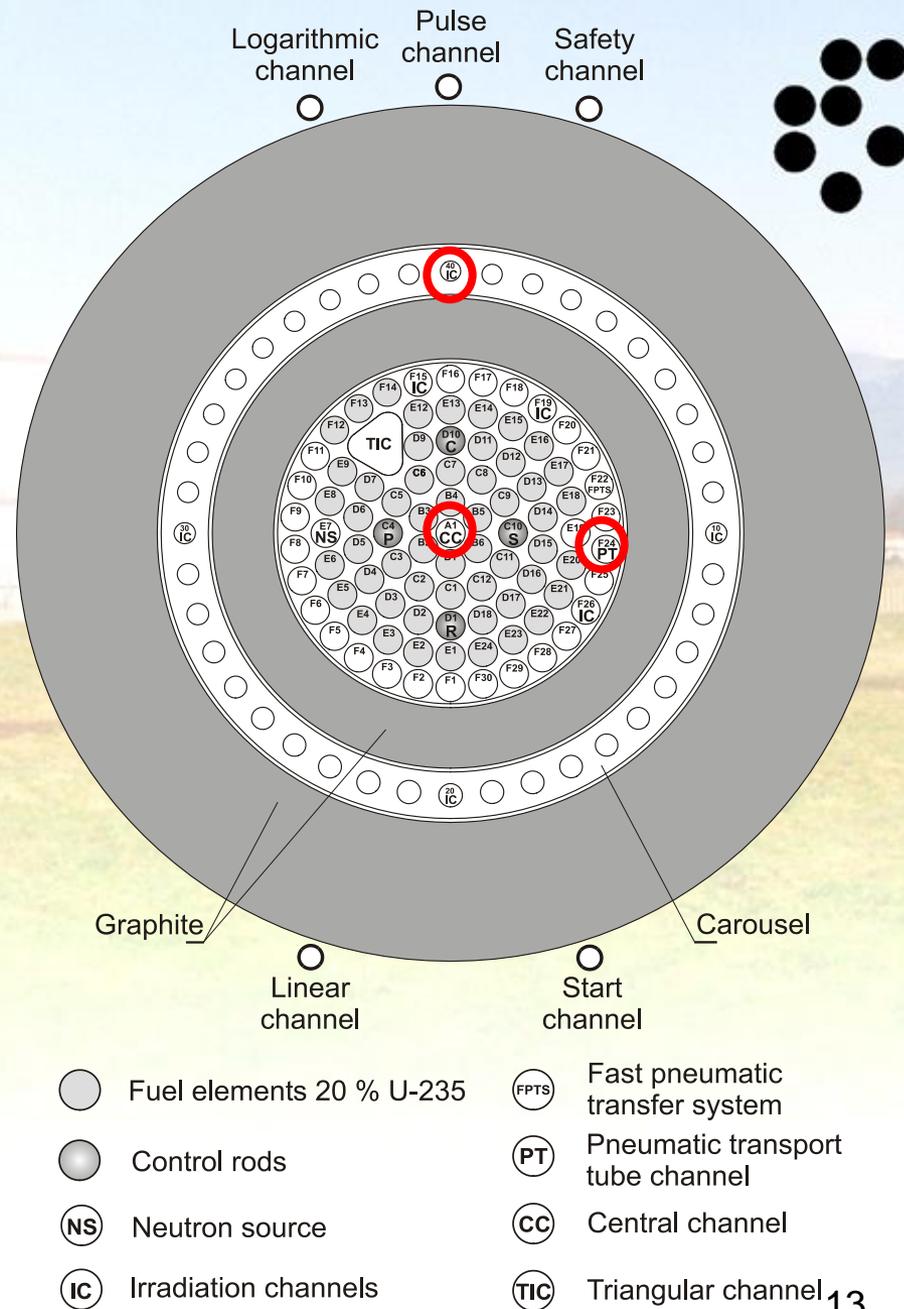
$$\varphi_{th} \sim 10 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

- Short irradiation in the PT and in the FPTS (up-to 30 min.)

$$\varphi_{th} \sim 3.5 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

- Long irradiation in the IC-40 (typically 20 hours)

$$\varphi_{th} \sim 1.1 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$



# Nuclear data of the target and nuclide formed



El.	Nuclide	$T_{1,2}$	$\sigma_{0,1}$ , b	$I_{0,1}$ , b	$\sigma_{0,N}$ , b	$I_{0,N}$ , b
Ru	$^{105}\text{Rh}$	35.36 h	0.32	4,3	16000	17000
Eu	$^{152}\text{Eu}$	13.516 y	5900	1510	12800	1580
Eu	$^{152m}\text{Eu}$	9.113 h	3304	1790	70000	1580
Gd	$^{153}\text{Gd}$	240.4 d	735	2020	36000	n. d.
Au	$^{198}\text{Au}$	2.695 d	98.65	1550	25100	31031
<b>n. d.: no data</b>						

# Burn-up factor ( $F_{burn}$ ) in irradiation channels of the TRIGA reactor (calculations)

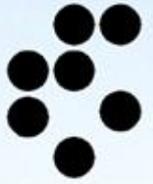


**IC-40:**  $\phi_{th} \sim 1.0 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$   
**PT:**  $\phi_{th} \sim 3.5 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$   
**CC:**  $\phi_{th} \sim 10 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$

El.	Nuclide	$T_{1,2}$	$F_{burn}$ (20 h)		
			IC-40	PT	CC
Ru	$^{105}\text{Rh}$	35.36 h	0.999	0.998	0.994
Eu	$^{152}\text{Eu}$	13.516 y	0.999	0.998	0.993
Eu	$^{152m}\text{Eu}$	9.113 h	0.998	0.993	<b>0.980</b>
Gd	$^{153}\text{Gd}$	240.4 d	0.999	0.995	0.987
Au	$^{198}\text{Au}$	2.695 d	0.999	0.997	<b>0.991</b>

El.	Nuclide	$F_{burn}$ in the CC channel					
		1 h	10 h	20 h	50 h	100 h	200 h
Ru	$^{105}\text{Rh}$	1.000	0.997	0.994	0.988	0.980	0.973
Eu	$^{152}\text{Eu}$	1.000	0.997	0.993	0.983	0.967	0.935
Eu	$^{152m}\text{Eu}$	0.999	0.988	0.980	0.966	0.958	0.946
Gd	$^{153}\text{Gd}$	0.999	0.993	0.987	0.968	0.937	0.879
Au	$^{198}\text{Au}$	1.000	0.995	0.991	0.978	0.961	0.938

# (n, γ) Activation Analysis: Principles of standardization



The mass of  
the element:

$$W_a = \frac{M_a}{N_A \Theta_a \gamma_a} \frac{\left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{S D C} \right)_a}{(G_{th,a} \varphi_{th,a} \sigma_{0,a} + G_{e,a} \varphi_{e,a} I_{0,a}(\alpha)) \varepsilon_{p,a}}$$

Relative standardization:

$$W_a = \frac{\left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{D C} \right)_a}{\left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{D C w} \right)_s} \frac{G_{th,s} f + G_{e,s} Q_{0,s}(\alpha) \varepsilon_{p,s}}{G_{th,a} f + G_{e,a} Q_{0,a}(\alpha) \varepsilon_{p,a}}$$

Concentration  
in relative  
standardization:

$$\rho_a = \frac{\left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{D C w} \right)_a}{\left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{D C w} \right)_s}$$

# (n, γ) Activation Analysis: Principles of standardization



**Single-comparator standardization:** use of k-factors (experimentally determined)

$$k_c(s) = \frac{A_{sp,s}}{A_{sp,c}}$$

$$k_c(s) = \frac{M_c \Theta_s \gamma_s \sigma_{0,s} G_{th,s} f + G_{e,s} Q_{0,s}(\alpha) \varepsilon_{p,s}}{M_s \Theta_c \gamma_c \sigma_{0,c} G_{th,c} f + G_{e,c} Q_{0,c}(\alpha) \varepsilon_{p,c}}$$

$$\rho_a = \frac{\left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{SDCW} \right)_a}{\left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{SDCW} \right)_c} \cdot \frac{1}{k_c(s)}$$

# (n, γ) Activation Analysis: Principles of standardization



**Absolute (parametric) standardization:**

$$\rho_a = \frac{\left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{SDCW} \right)_a M_a \Theta_m \gamma_m \sigma_{0,m} \frac{G_{th,m} f + G_{e,m} Q_{0,m}(\alpha) \varepsilon_{p,m}}{\left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{SDCW} \right)_m M_m \Theta_a \gamma_a \sigma_{0,a} \frac{G_{th,a} f + G_{e,a} Q_{0,c}(\alpha) \varepsilon_{p,a}}{}}$$

a - analyte

m – flux monitor

Condition that  $\varphi_{th}$ , **f** and **α** remain **constant** during irradiation

Parameters M, Θ, γ, σ<sub>0</sub> for both taken from literature (accurate known !)

# $k_0$ -standardization: KAYZERO/SOLCOI



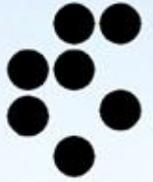
Thermal and epithermal activation:

$$\rho_a = \frac{\left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{S D C w} \right)_a}{\left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{S D C w} \right)_{Au}} \frac{1}{k_{0,Au}(a)} \frac{G_{th,Au} f + G_{e,Au} Q_{0,Au}(\alpha)}{G_{th,a} f + G_{e,a} Q_{0,a}(\alpha)} \frac{\varepsilon_{p,Au}}{\varepsilon_{p,a}}$$

Only epithermal activation:

$$\rho_a = \frac{\left[ \left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{S D C w} \right)_{Cd} \right]_a}{\left[ \left( \frac{N_p / t_m}{S D C w} \right)_{Cd} \right]_{Au}} \frac{1}{k_{0,Au}(a)} \frac{F_{Cd,Au} G_{e,Au} Q_{0,Au}(\alpha)}{F_{Cd,a} G_{e,a} Q_{0,a}(\alpha)} \frac{\varepsilon_{p,Au}}{\varepsilon_{p,a}}$$

# $k_0$ -standardization



$$k_{0,Au}(a) = \frac{M_{Au} \Theta_a \gamma_a \sigma_{0,a}}{M_a \Theta_{Au} \gamma_{Au} \sigma_{0,Au}}$$

Compound nuclear constant

Tabulated constant:

$$k_0, Q_0, \bar{E}_r$$

(experimentally measured)

$$Q_0(\alpha) = \frac{Q_0 - 0.429}{\left(\bar{E}_r\right)^\alpha} + \frac{0.429}{(2\alpha + 1)(0.55)^\alpha}$$

$Q_0$ -factor:

$$Q_0 = I_0 / \sigma_0$$

$\alpha$  Epithermal fluence rate deviation from 1/E

$\bar{E}_r$  Effective resonance energy

$\sigma_{0,Au}$  98.65 ± 0.09 b (±0.09%)

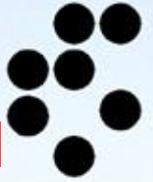
$I_{0,Au}$  1550 ± 28 b (±1.8%)

$\Theta_{Au}$  100%

$Q_{0,Au}$  15.71 ± 0.28 b (±1.8%)

# $k_0$ -library info:

<http://www.kayzero.com/k0naa/k0naa/News/News.html>



J Radioanal Nucl Chem (2014) 300:589–592  
DOI 10.1007/s10967-014-3085-2

## The 2012 recommended $k_0$ database

R. Jaćimović · F. De Corte · G. Kennedy ·  
P. Vermaercke · Z. Revay

Received: 31 October 2013 / Published online: 16 March 2014  
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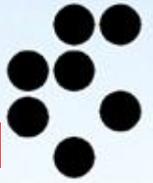
**Abstract** Many overview papers have been published with recommended nuclear data for use in the  $k_0$  method of NAA and made available in scientific journals or in the form of a downloadable database. In September 2009, the  $k_0$ -International Scientific Committee formed the  $k_0$ -Nuclear Data Committee ( $k_0$ -NDC) whose first task was to collect all these data at a single place to facilitate updating and to correct any evident errors. This task of the  $k_0$ -NDC was successfully completed in March 2012 when the 2012 recommended  $k_0$  database was published in the form of an Excel file.

**Keywords**  $k_0$  method of NAA ·  $k_0$  database · Nuclear data · The IUPAC  $k_0$  database

[1], whereby absolute nuclear data were replaced by  $k_0$  factors, which were experimentally determined. Compared to the relative method, the  $k_0$  method greatly reduces the need for the preparation of standards. It uses gold as the standard and composite nuclear constants for analytically interesting nuclides are normalised to gold nuclear data. During the last 30 years the  $k_0$  method has been introduced in many laboratories around the world for multi-element NAA and the method is continuously improving, along with its nuclear data [2–7]. In 2003, these data were made available by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) in the form of the Access database ([http://www.iupac.org/home/projects/project-db/project-details.html?tx\\_wfqbe\\_pi1%5Bproject\\_nr%5D=2001-075-1-500](http://www.iupac.org/home/projects/project-db/project-details.html?tx_wfqbe_pi1%5Bproject_nr%5D=2001-075-1-500)) created by Kolotov and De Corte [8, 9]. In the process of validation of the consistency of the

# $k_0$ -library info:

<http://www.kayzero.com/k0naa/k0naa/News/News.html>



- ❑ The  $k_0$ -Nuclear Data Committee ( $k_0$ -NDC) is responsible for reviewing all new developments in the nuclear data used with the  $k_0$  method of NAA, which includes ensuring the consistency in the  $k_0$  database.
- ❑ The latter task was successfully fulfilled in March 2012 when the 2012 recommended  $k_0$  database was published in the form of an Excel file dated 2012-03-14.

# Periodic table of the elements (elements in the $k_0$ -library)



IA	IIA												IIIA	IVA	VA	VIA	VIIA	VIIIA	
1 H																			2 He
3 Li	4 Be											5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne		
11 Na	12 Mg	IIIB	IVB	VB	VIB	VIB	{	VIII	}	IB	IIIB	13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar		
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr		
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe		
55 Cs	56 Ba	57 *La	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn		
87 Fr	88 Ra	89 □Ac																	

*	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu
□	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr

Short irradiation (1-5 min)

Long irradiation (15 - 20 hours)

○ Westcott factor  $g \neq 1$

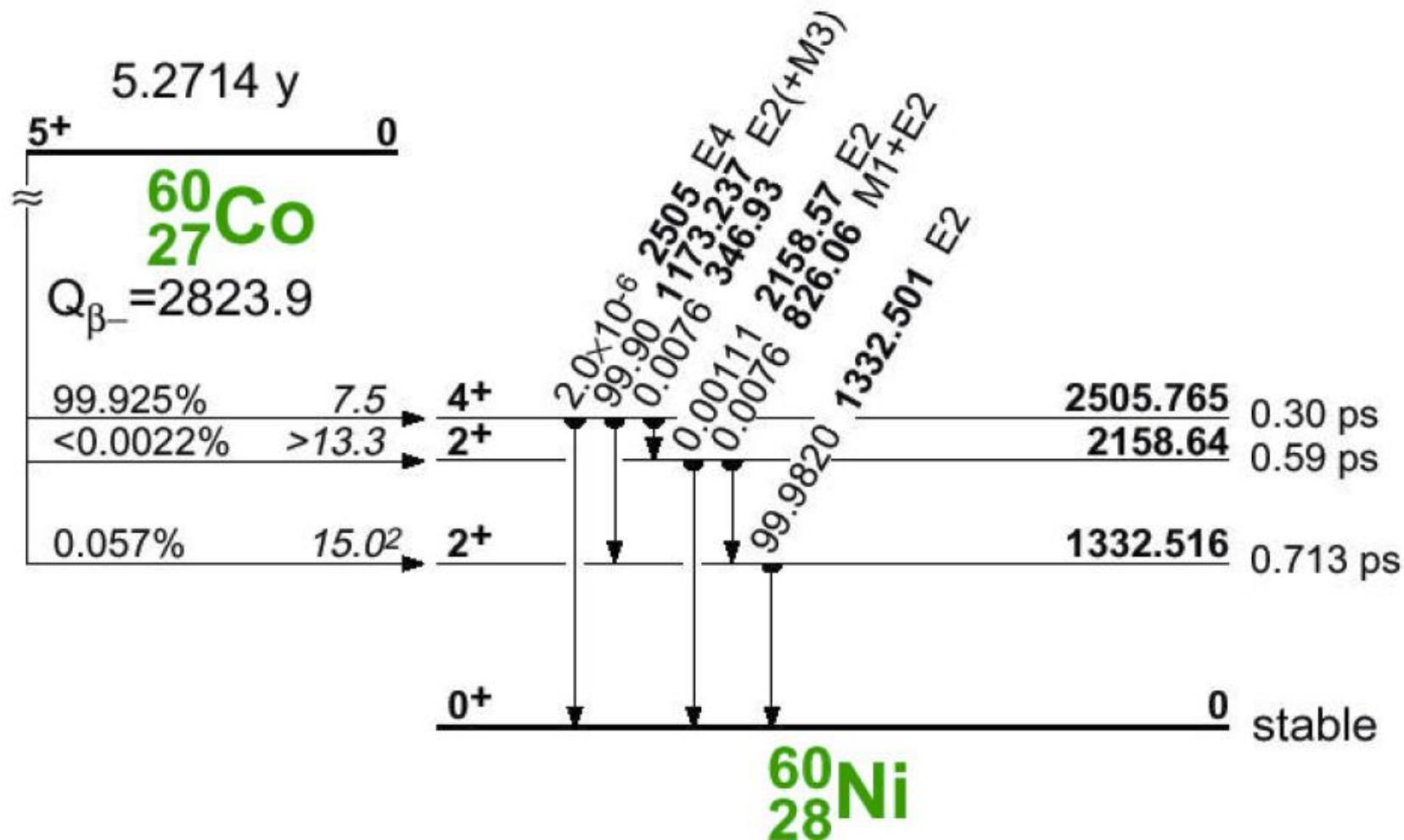


# Activation and decay types in the $k_0$ -method

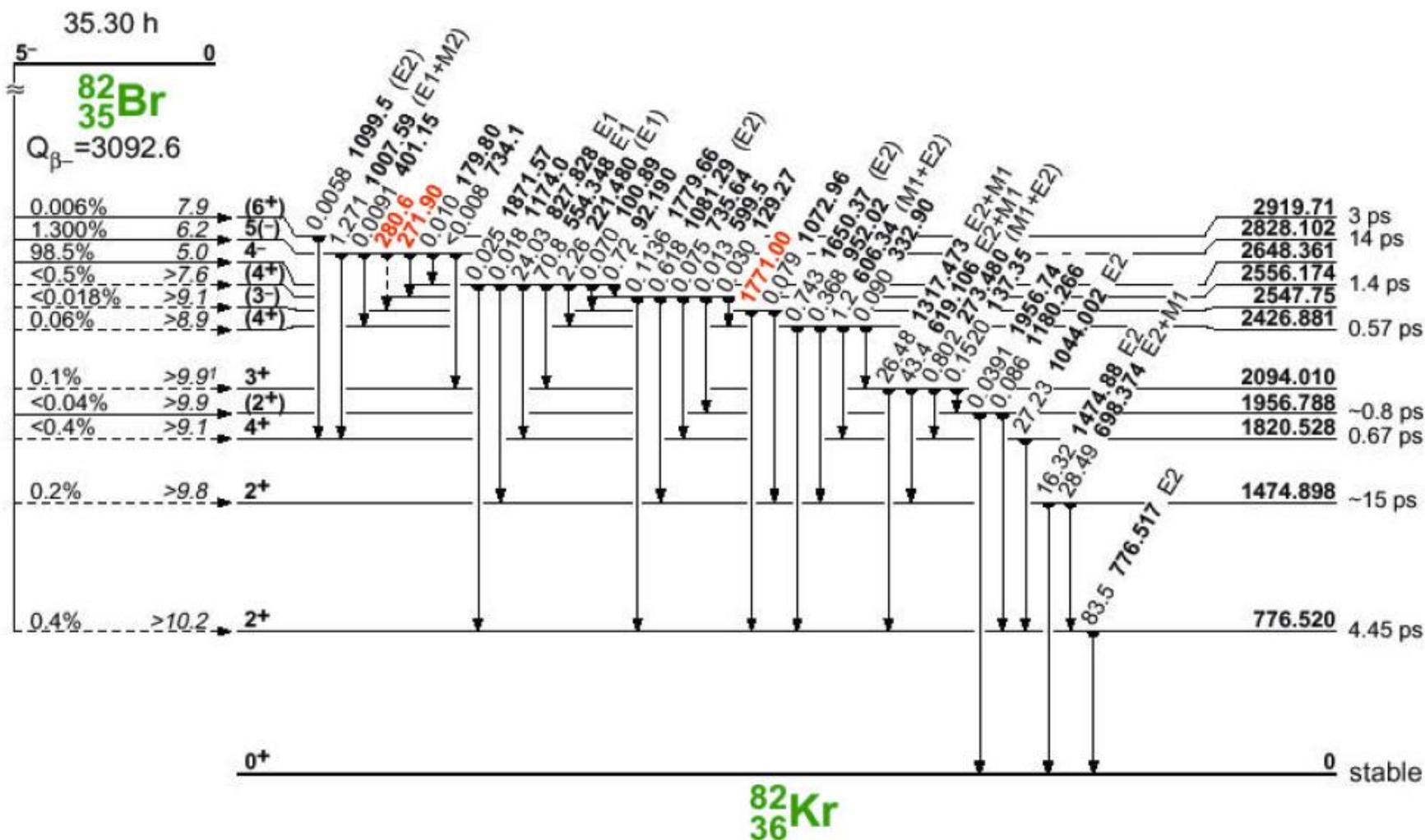
Type	Activation-decay scheme
I	$1 \xrightarrow[\sigma_0, I_0]{n, \gamma} 2 \xrightarrow{\lambda_2}$ [e.g. $^{75}\text{As} (n, \gamma) ^{76}\text{As}$ ]
IIa	$1 \xrightarrow[\sigma_0, I_0]{n, \gamma} 2 \xrightarrow{F_2, \lambda_2} 3 \xrightarrow{\lambda_3}$ [e.g. $^{101}\text{Tc}$ from $^{100}\text{Mo} (n, \gamma)$ ]
IIb	Special case: $\lambda_2 \gg \lambda_3$ and $D_2 = 0$ [e.g. $^{233}\text{Pa}$ from $^{232}\text{Th} (n, \gamma)$ ]
IIc	Special case: $\lambda_2 < \lambda_3$ and $D_3 = 0$
IIId	Special case: measurement of the 140.5 keV line of $^{99}\text{Mo} / ^{99m}\text{Tc}$ [from $^{98}\text{Mo} (n, \gamma)$ ]
IIIa	$1 \xrightarrow[\sigma_0, I_0]{n, \gamma} 2 \xrightarrow{F_2, \lambda_2} 3 \xrightarrow{F_3, \lambda_3} 4 \xrightarrow{\lambda_4}$ [e.g. $^{97}\text{Nb}$ from $^{96}\text{Zr} (n, \gamma)$ ]
IIIb	Special case: $F_{24} = 0$
IIIc	Special case: $\lambda_3 \gg \lambda_2$ and $\lambda_4, D_3 = 0$ $F_3 = 1, F_2 + F_{24} = 1$ [e.g. $^{105}\text{Rh}$ from $^{104}\text{Ru} (n, \gamma)$ ]
IVa	$1 \xrightarrow[\sigma_0^g, I_0^g]{n, \gamma} 2 \xrightarrow{F_2, \lambda_2} 3 \xrightarrow{\lambda_3}$ [e.g. $^{80}\text{Br}$ from $^{79}\text{Br} (n, \gamma)$ ]
IVb	Special case: $\lambda_2 \gg \lambda_3$ and $D_2 = 0$ [e.g. $^{60}\text{Co}$ from $^{59}\text{Co} (n, \gamma)$ ]
IVc	Special case: $\lambda_2 < \lambda_3$ and $D_3 = 0$
Va	$1 \xrightarrow[\sigma_0^g, I_0^g]{n, \gamma} 2 \xrightarrow{F_2, \lambda_2} 3 \xrightarrow{F_3, \lambda_3} 4 \xrightarrow{\lambda_4}$

Type	Activation-decay scheme
Vb	Special case: $\lambda_4 \ll \lambda_2$ and $\lambda_3$ [e.g. $^{199}\text{Au}$ from $^{198}\text{Au} (n, \gamma)$ ]
Vc	Special case: $\lambda_3 \ll \lambda_2$ and $\lambda_4$ , $D_2 = D_4 = 0$ [e.g. $^{113m}\text{In}$ from $^{112}\text{Sn} (n, \gamma)$ ]
VI	Special case: $^{124}\text{Sb}$ [from $^{123}\text{Sb} (n, \gamma)$ after long decay time ( $D_2 = D_3 = 0$ ) $  \begin{array}{l}  \sigma_0^m, I_0^m \xrightarrow{1} 2 \xrightarrow{124m, \text{Sb} (T_{1/2} = 20.2 \text{ min})} \\  \downarrow \lambda_2, F_2 = 1 \\  \sigma_0^m, I_0^m \xrightarrow{1} 2 \xrightarrow{124m, \text{Sb} (T_{1/2} = 93 \text{ s})} \\  \downarrow \lambda_3, F_3 = 0.75 \\  \sigma_0^g, I_0^g \xrightarrow{1} 3 \xrightarrow{124\text{Sb} (T_{1/2} = 60.2 \text{ d})} \\  \downarrow \lambda_4  \end{array}  $
VIIa	$1 \xrightarrow[\sigma_0^m, I_0^m]{n, \gamma} 2 \xrightarrow{F_2, \lambda_2} 4 \xrightarrow{\lambda_4}$ $\sigma_0^g, I_0^g \xrightarrow{1} 3 \xrightarrow{F_3, \lambda_3} 4$
VIIb	Special case: $F_2 = 0$ [e.g. $^{125}\text{Sb}$ from $^{124}\text{Sn} (n, \gamma)$ ]
VIII	$1 \xrightarrow[\sigma_0^m, I_0^m]{n, \gamma} 2 \xrightarrow{F_2, \lambda_2} 4 \xrightarrow{F_4, \lambda_4} 5 \xrightarrow{\lambda_5}$ $\sigma_0^g, I_0^g \xrightarrow{1} 3 \xrightarrow{F_3, \lambda_3} 4$ $\sigma_0^m, I_0^m \xrightarrow{1} 2 \xrightarrow{F_{25}, \lambda_2} 5$ $\sigma_0^g, I_0^g \xrightarrow{1} 3 \xrightarrow{F_{35}, \lambda_3} 5$ [e.g. $^{117}\text{In}$ from $^{116}\text{Cd} (n, \gamma)$ ]

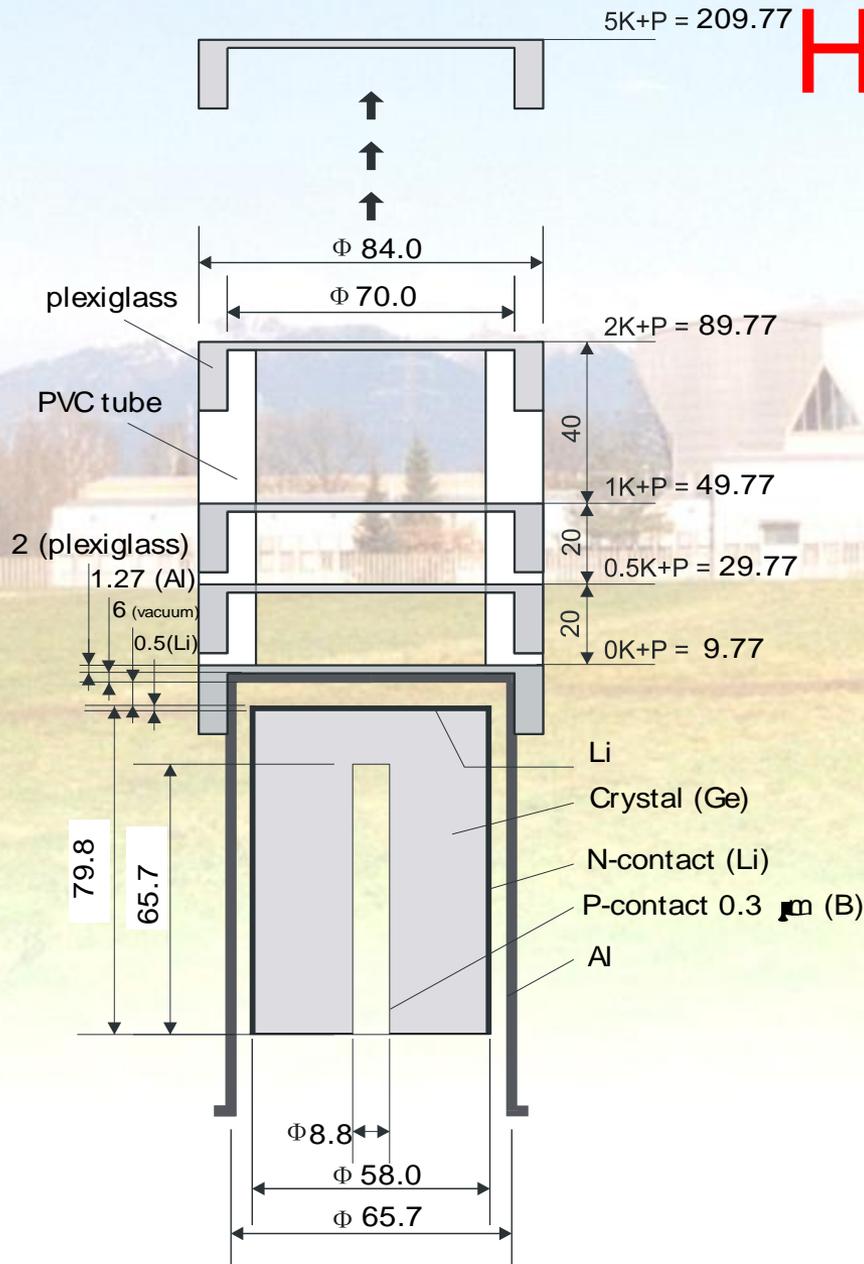
# Decay scheme of the radionuclide



# Decay scheme of the radionuclide



# HPGe detector



HPGe closed end coaxial detector (**OR4**)  
40% relative efficiency at 1332.5 keV ( $^{60}\text{Co}$ )  
("fine tuning" dimensions are in mm)

# Full-energy peak detection efficiency

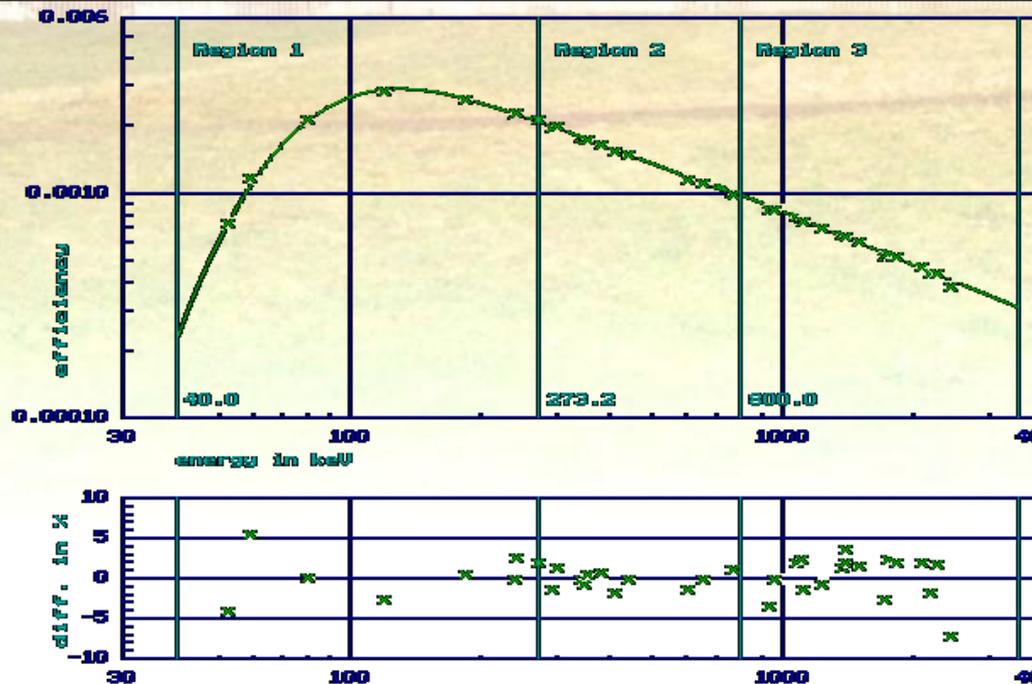


$$\varepsilon_{p,x} = \varepsilon_{p,ref} \frac{\bar{\Omega}_x}{\bar{\Omega}_{ref}}$$

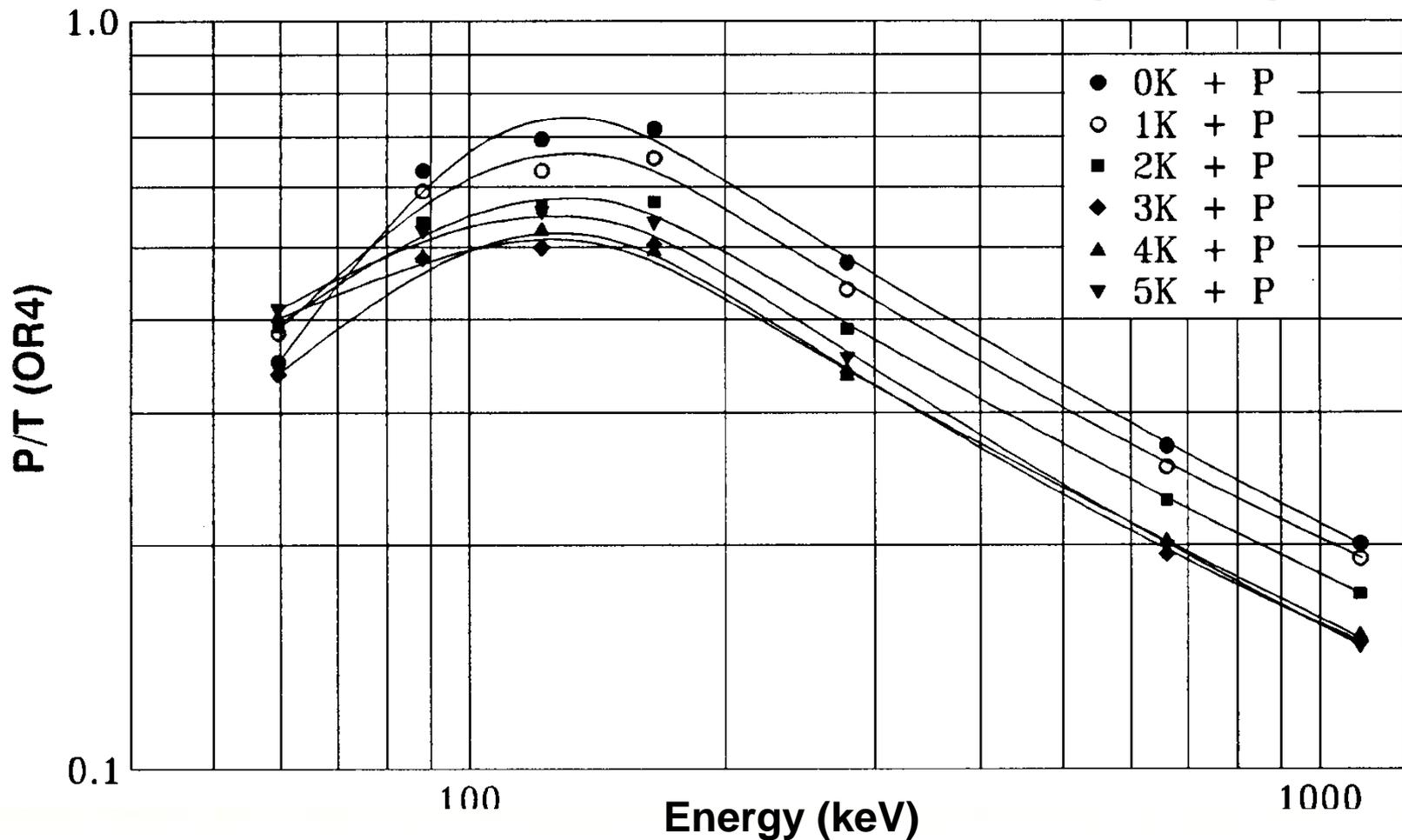
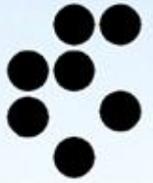
Point sources at reference distance (20 cm):  
 Am-241, Ba-133, Bi-207, Cd-109, Co-57, Co-60,  
 Cr-51, Cs-137, Eu-152, Mn-54, Na-24, Ra-226, Sr-85

Fitting curve:

$$\log \varepsilon_p = a_0 + a_1(\log E_\gamma) + a_2(\log E_\gamma)^2 + a_3(\log E_\gamma)^3 + \dots + a_n(\log E_\gamma)^n$$



# Peak-to-total ratio (P/T)



**Coincidence free point sources:**

Am-241, Cd-109, Co-57, Hg-203, Cr-51, Cs-137 and Zn-65

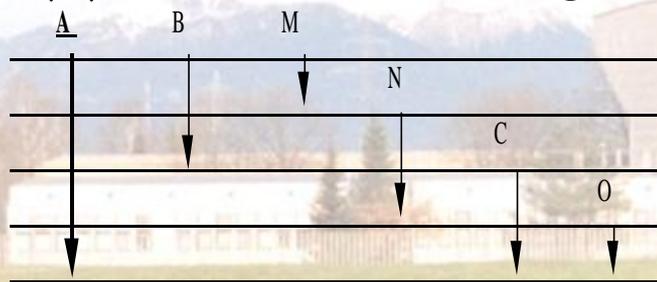
ICTP-IAEA Workshop, 20.-24. April 2015, Trieste, Italy

# True coincidence correction factors



True coincidence effects occur when two or more cascading radiations give rise to a total or partial energy deposition in the HPGe detector

## 1. $\gamma$ - $\gamma$ coincidence summing



$$S(\underline{A} = B + C) = \frac{\gamma_B}{\gamma_A} a_C c_C \frac{\epsilon_{p,B} \epsilon_{p,C}}{\epsilon_{p,A}}$$

$\gamma$  - absolute gamma-intensity,

$a$  - branching ratio,

$c = 1/(1+\alpha_i)$ ,  $\alpha_i$  = total internal conversion coefficient (=  $\alpha_K + \alpha_L + \dots$ ),

$\epsilon_p$  - full-energy peak efficiency

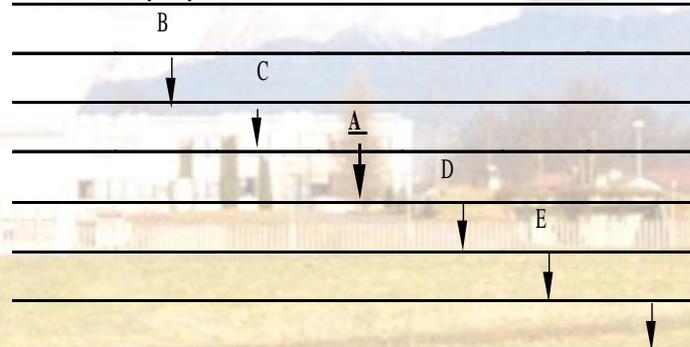
## 3. $\gamma$ -K X(IC) Coincidence loss

## 4. $\gamma$ -K X(EC) Coincidence loss

## 5. $\gamma$ -511 keV ( $\beta^+$ ) Coincidence loss

## 6. 511 keV ( $\beta^+$ )-511 keV ( $\beta^+$ ) Coincidence loss

## 2. $\gamma$ - $\gamma$ coincidence loss



$$L(\underline{A} - D) = a_D c_D \epsilon_{t,D}$$

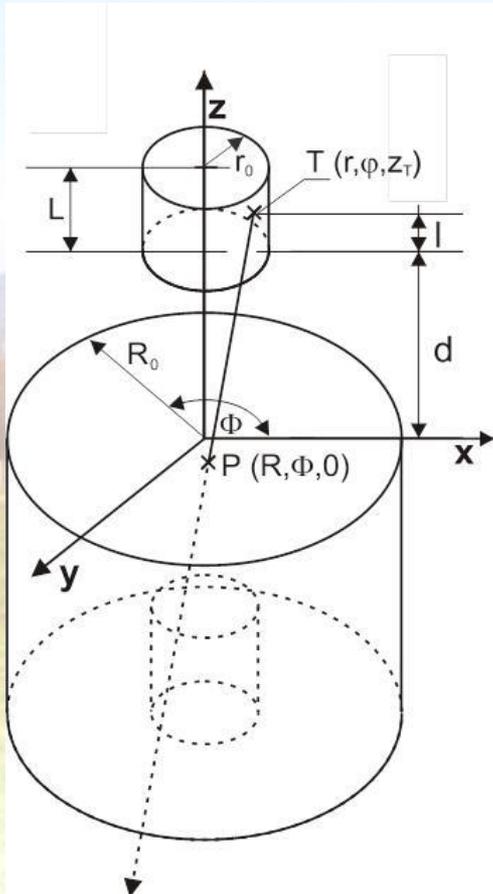
$$\epsilon_{t,D} = \frac{\epsilon_{p,D}}{P/T}$$

Total efficiency

$$COI = [1 - L(\underline{A})] \cdot [1 + S(\underline{A})]$$

$$N_{p,A} = \frac{N_{p,A}^*}{COI}$$

# Effective solid angle



$$F_{att} = e^{\left(-\sum_{i=1}^m \mu_i \delta_i\right)}$$

Gamma attenuation caused by incoherent interaction in the absorbing material interposed between source and detector body

$$F_{eff} = f_1 + f_2 f'$$

Probability for a photon with  $E_\gamma$  to interact incoherently with the detector material

$$\bar{\Omega} = \frac{4}{r_0^2 L} \int_0^L (d+l) dl \int_0^{r_0} r dr \int_0^\pi d\Phi \int_0^{R_0} \frac{F_{att} F_{eff} R dR}{[R^2 - 2Rr \cos \Phi + r^2 + (d+l)^2]^{3/2}}$$

# COI factors for OR4 detector

$\phi=8$  mm

$h=5$  mm



$\rho = 1$  g cm<sup>-3</sup>

Volume monsterhouder = .25701 cm<sup>3</sup>  
 Aantalposities = 5  
 Coincidentiefactoren voor SPRONK AAA 0905 SEDIMENT  
 Detector or4  
 Pulse shaping time = 4.000 microsec.  
 Matrix materiaal = #CaCO<sub>3</sub>

Aantal isotopen in het bestand : 139

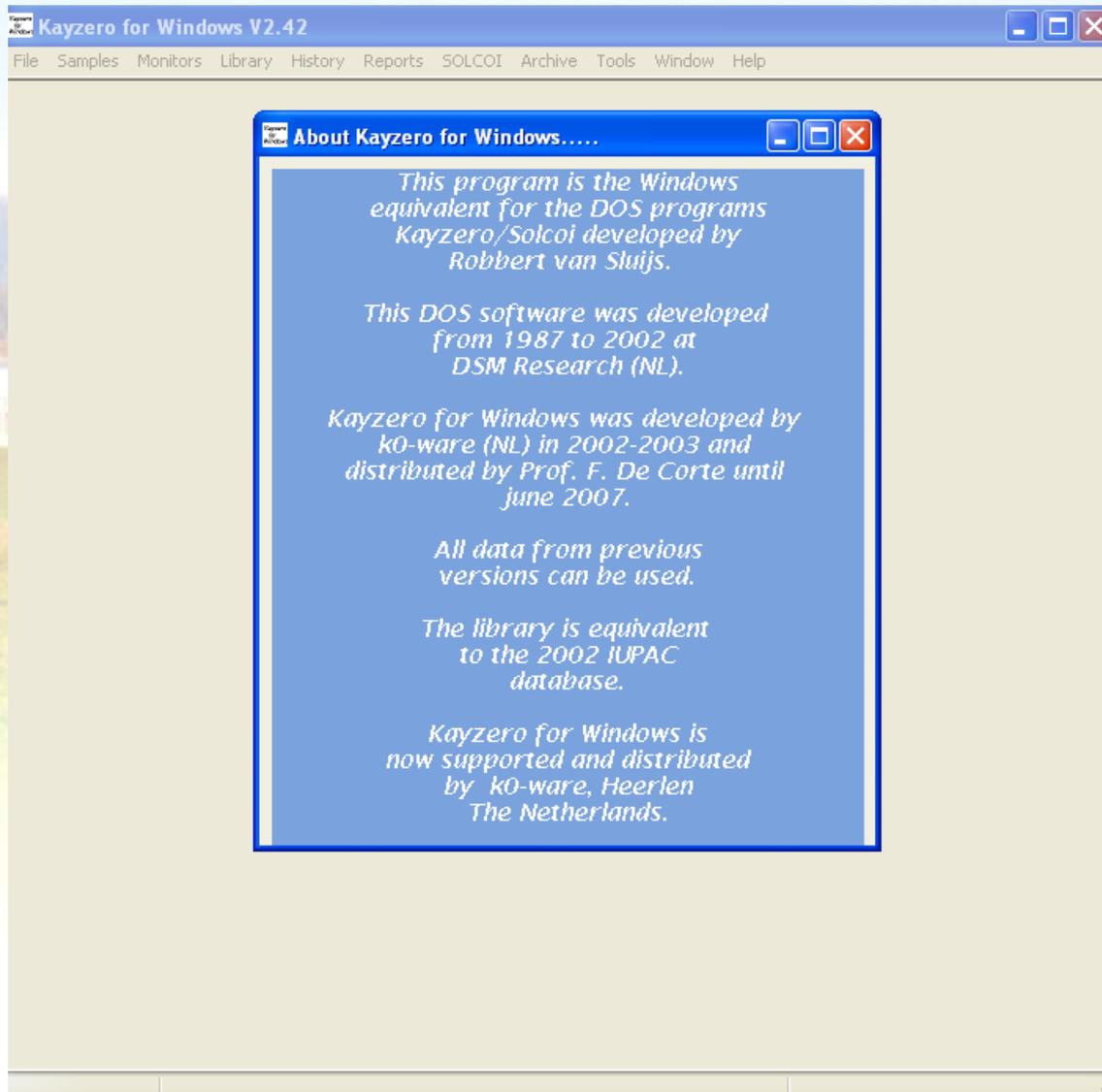
		<b>1 cm</b>	<b>3 cm</b>	<b>5 cm</b>	<b>7 cm</b>	<b>21 cm</b>
CO60	2					
	1173.2 keV	.84229	.93254	.96304	.97584	.99504
	1332.5 keV	.83850	.93095	.96219	.97530	.99499
BR82	16					
	92.2 keV	.71242	.86605	.92468	.95029	.98996
	221.3 keV	.71846	.86725	.92514	.95056	.99013
	273.5 keV	.56291	.79297	.88315	.92282	.98467
	554.3 keV	.64272	.83524	.90777	.93928	.98791
	606.3 keV	.55354	.78808	.88086	.92162	.98496
	619.1 keV	.61022	.81808	.89786	.93270	.98674
	698.4 keV	.56301	.79293	.88329	.92303	.98497
	776.5 keV	.64971	.83883	.90991	.94074	.98831
	827.8 keV	.69618	.86372	.92427	.95021	.99001
	952.0 keV	.59131	.80856	.89297	.92980	.98672
	1007.5 keV	.69403	.86261	.92369	.94987	.98996
	1044.0 keV	.67435	.85256	.91804	.94621	.98942
	1081.3 keV	.59743	.81057	.89593	.93322	.98811
	1317.5 keV	.74287	.88845	.93841	.95911	.99168
	1474.8 keV	.77573	.90533	.94805	.96526	.99281
	1650.3 keV	.75036	.89536	.94329	.96242	.99268

# $k_0$ -standardization: KAYZERO/SOLCOI



- $k_0$ -standardization method of NAA was launched in the 1970s
- **SINGCOMP** program: 1987 written for VAX
- **KAYZERO/SOLCOI** program: 1994, 1996, 2003 written for **DOS** and in 2004 written for **Windows**
- Current status: Kayzero for Windows (**KayWin**<sup>®</sup>) ver. 2.42 from March 2011
- KAYZERO library - 144 nuclides (68 elements)
- $k_0$ -NAA became widespread as a practical analytical tool used to analyse different sample matrices

# KAYZERO/SOLCOI (KayWin) software



# KayWin: <http://www.kayzero.com/>



View History Bookmarks Tools Help

www.kayzero.com

Customize Links Free Hotmail Windows Marketplace Windows Media Windows

## Kayzero for Windows

### New Update Kayzero for Windows available (Version 3)

#### Kayzero/Solcoi

NAA software based on the k0-standardisation method developed by Frans De Corte and Andras Simonits

o the k0-standardisation method, Neutron Activation Analysis has evolved to an efficient element analysis technique that can even be used daily. Kayzero(R) calculates element concentrations taking into account all aspects dealt with in the k0-method, including efficiency and coincidence in calculation (Solcoi(R)).

zero/Solcoi (R) software was developed by Robbert van Shuijs at DSM Research, The Netherlands, under the care of the fathers of the old, Prof. Dr. Frans De Corte and Dr. Andras Simonits.

nation requests and orders should be addressed to: R. van Shuijs, k0-ware, The Netherlands. (phone: +31 45 5726757; [e-mail: r.van.shuijs@demetris.nl](mailto:r.van.shuijs@demetris.nl)).

[in forum](#) for sharing comments or problems so we all learn from our experiences.

the popup window it is coming from the free counter which is used.

e to receive a mail when the website is updated: [just send a mail](#). You do not need to give any information about yourself but we can perhaps suit er if you do give some information. E.g. your name, institute, the kind of software you use now, etc.

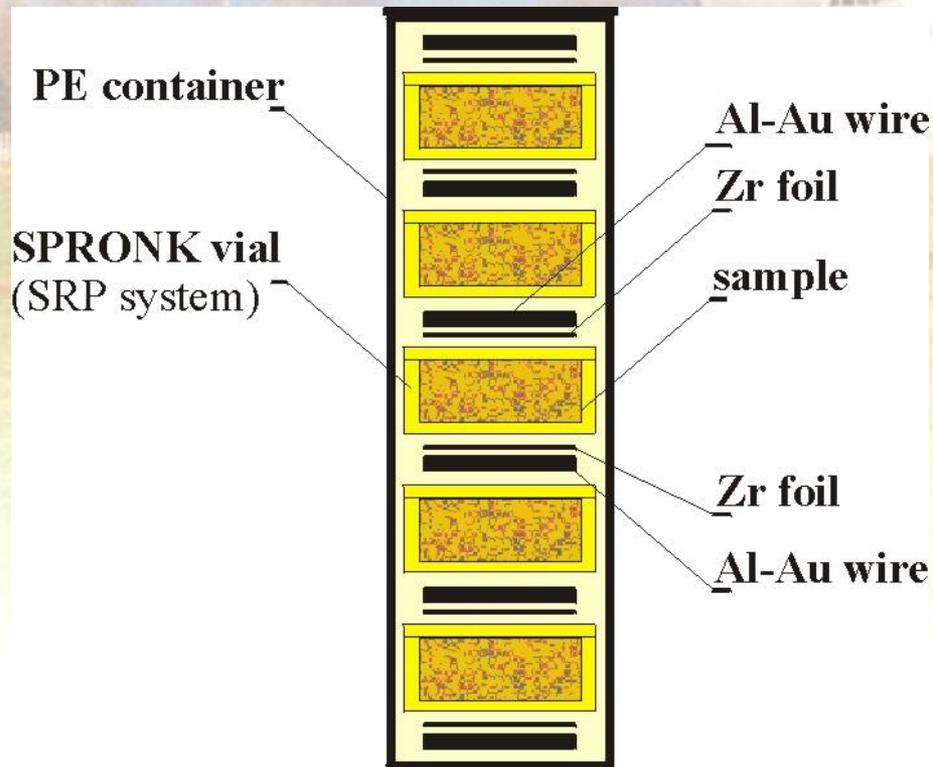
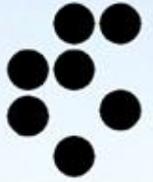
#### Windows Version

ows version is fully compatible with all old data. The program runs in the directory of the DOS-Version without any interference and uses the same SOLCOI options are included.

- **Spectrum Deconvolution**  
Spectrum deconvolution (determination of peak locations and areas) is not implemented in Kayzero for Windows, file formats for spectrum and peak table files from Sampo90, Hypermet, Hyperlab and Genie are supported; other formats on request (free of charge).
- **Information on the software**  
Recent presentations on Kayzero for Windows: at the [NAMES](#), at the [4th k0-users Workshop](#) and at the [MARC-VII](#). Have a look at [Screen Captures](#) from Kayzero for Windows or download the program and use it as a Demo version. Or have a look at [some literature](#) on Kayzero.
- At the 4th k0-users workshop Kayzero for Windows Version 2 was presented. This version includes: integrated direct SOLCOI calculations, multi-monitor f and alpha determination, reactor fluxvariation during irradiation and improved gamma interference correction. This upgrade, as well of all minor updates were free of charge for all "Kayzero for Windows" users.
- **Demo**  
Find the demo program (it turns into the full version if you have the Dongle), the dataset (KayV5A), the Vademecum (old, but is being updated) and the first draft of the new updated manual. New updates of Kayzero for Windows are also always available on the [download page](#).
- **Newest upgrade: Version 3**  
The major upgrade of Kayzero for Windows, Version 3, is finally ready, sorry for the delay. This upgrade is not free of charge. Please mail me for a quotation and more information.

[Users Forum](#)  
[k0-International Scientific Committee Website](#)  
[Neutron Activation Analysis WebSite: All you need to know on NAA, with lots of NAA-news and info.](#)  
[OE Neutron Activation Analysis Portal](#)  
[by Overview](#)

# $k_0$ -INAA analytical procedure



- Sample and standard are prepared in **sandwich form** and irradiated in the carousel facility of the TRIGA Mark II reactor (250 kW)
- Measurement on an HPGe absolutely calibrated detector
- Evaluation of the spectrum by HyperLab program
- Calculation of the effective solid angle between sample and HPGe detector
- Calculation of element concentration by KayWin<sup>®</sup>

# $k_0$ -IAEA software



- A new **k0\_IAEA** software for  $k_0$ -NAA appeared in **2004** in collaborations between the **IAEA** (M. Rossbach), **M. Blaauw**, **M. Bacchi**, beta testers (L. Xilei, R. Jaćimović, G. Kenedy and M.C. Freitas) and additional programmer **A. Trkov**
- Current status: k0\_IAEA software ver. 7.16 from June 2013
- From **ver. 4.01** of k0\_IAEA software the Kayzero library has been updated. The new data have been obtained from:
  - [DECORTE2003]: Recommended nuclear data for use in the  $k_0$ -standardization of neutron activation analysis, Atomic Data and Nuclear Data Tables **85 (2003) 47-67**
  - [DECORTE2003b]: The updated NAA nuclear data library derived from the Y2K  $k_0$ -database, J. Radioanal. Nucl. Chem., **257 (2003) 493-499**
  - [IUPAC] Compilation of  $k_0$  and related data for NAA, V. P. Kolotov and F. De Corte, **ver. 4, 1.10.2002**

# k<sub>0</sub>-IAEA software

<http://www.tnw.tudelft.nl/index.php?id=34350&L=1>



Applied Sciences > Cooperation > Facilities > Reactor Instituut Delft > Organisation >

## Personal pages of Menno Blaauw

 k<sub>0</sub>-IAEA software downloads

The latest version of the k<sub>0</sub>-IAEA program is 7.16, as of June 2013.

To install that from scratch, you will need to install [version 4.04](#) first from a nice .msi file, and then do the [update towards 7.16](#).

If you are already running version 4.04 of higher, you will only need to install the update.

If you are moving to Windows Vista or Windows 7, you will need the [Microsoft driver for the help files](#).

The all-singing and dancing tutorial for the software is too large for the TUD server, but the IAEA provides it [here](#).

Here are some other useful downloads:

Subject	Author(s)
<a href="#">The k<sub>0</sub>-Consistent IRI Gamma-ray Catalogue for INAA</a>	M. Blaauw
<a href="#">The 1995 IAEA gamma-ray test spectra</a>	M. Blaauw
<a href="#">The 1997 IAEA alpha-ray test spectra</a>	M. Blaauw
<a href="#">The 2002 IAEA gamma-ray test spectra for low-level gamma-ray spectrometry</a>	M. Blaauw
<a href="#">True coincidence summing corrections for gamma-ray spectrometry of voluminous samples (PDF, 2.3 Mb)</a>	S.J. Geisema



Empty series - k<sub>0</sub>\_IAEA

File Edit Spectrum analysis View Irradiation facility Detector QA/QC Tools Help

No open series

About k<sub>0</sub>\_IAEA

k<sub>0</sub>\_IAEA Version 7.16  
Copyright (C) 2003 - 2013

OK

Credits

Credits

Initiator  
Matthias Rossbach

Godfathers  
Frans De Corte  
Andras Simonits

Responsible IAEA officer  
Enrique Nacif

The team

Original programmers  
Menno Blaauw  
Marcio Bacchi

Additional programmers  
Andrej Trkov

Beta testing  
Lin Xilei  
Radojko Jacimovic  
Greg Kennedy  
Carmo Freitas

OK

For Help, press F1

No open series

# CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

## SMELS



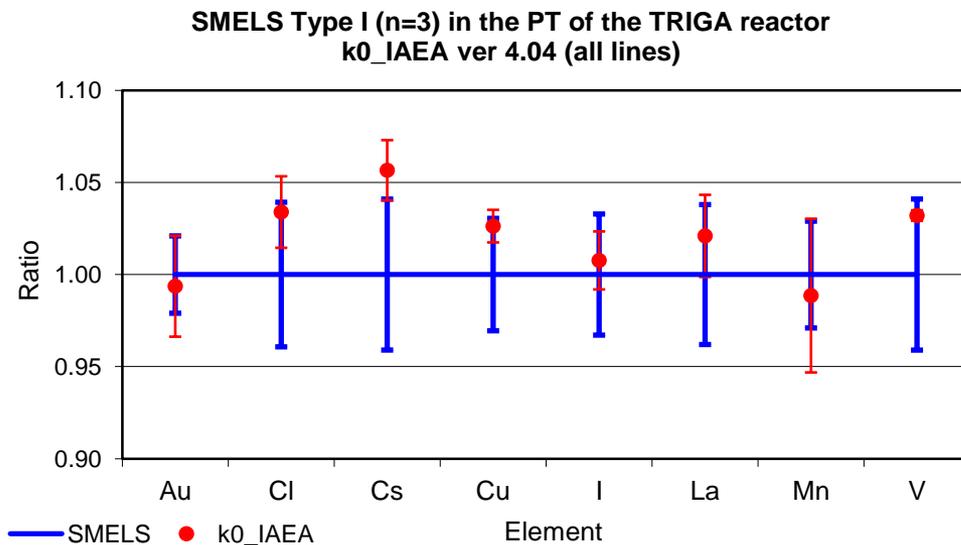
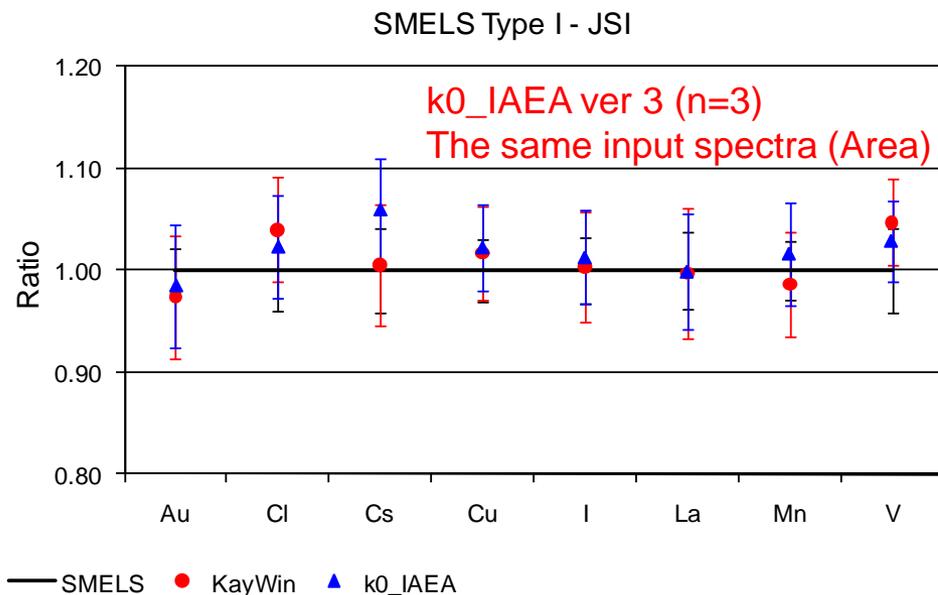
### ASSIGNED VALUES [1]

SMELS	Element	Assigned Value <sup>1</sup> ± U <sup>2</sup> [1] mg/kg	Number of withheld labs
Type I	Au	82,7 ± 1,7	8
	Cl	4330 ± 170	8
	Cs	897 ± 37	8
	Cu	3930 ± 120	8
	I	152 ± 5	7
	La	265 ± 10	8
	Mn	113,9 ± 3,3	8
	V	39 ± 1,6	8
Type II	As	92,3 ± 3,6	9
	Au	3,93 ± 0,07	9
	Br	157 ± 5	7
	Ce	15600 ± 800	7
	Mo	5170 ± 250	8
	Pr	1193 ± 37	8
	Sb	172 ± 8	9
	Th	3670 ± 180	9
	Yb	187 ± 10	9
	Zn	6570 ± 200	8
Type III	Au	0,901 ± 0,016	8
	Co	24,3 ± 0,33	9
	Cr	86,7 ± 2,6	9
	Cs	20,80 ± 0,34	8
	Fe	8200 ± 190	9
	In	462 ± 19	9
	Sb	51,2 ± 1,3	7
	Sc	1,140 ± 0,031	9
	Se	131 ± 6	9
	Sr	8150 ± 200	9
	Th	26,2 ± 0,9	9
	Tm	23,3 ± 0,7	7
	Yb	20,7 ± 0,5	9
	Zn	618 ± 11	9
	Zr	4580 ± 100	9

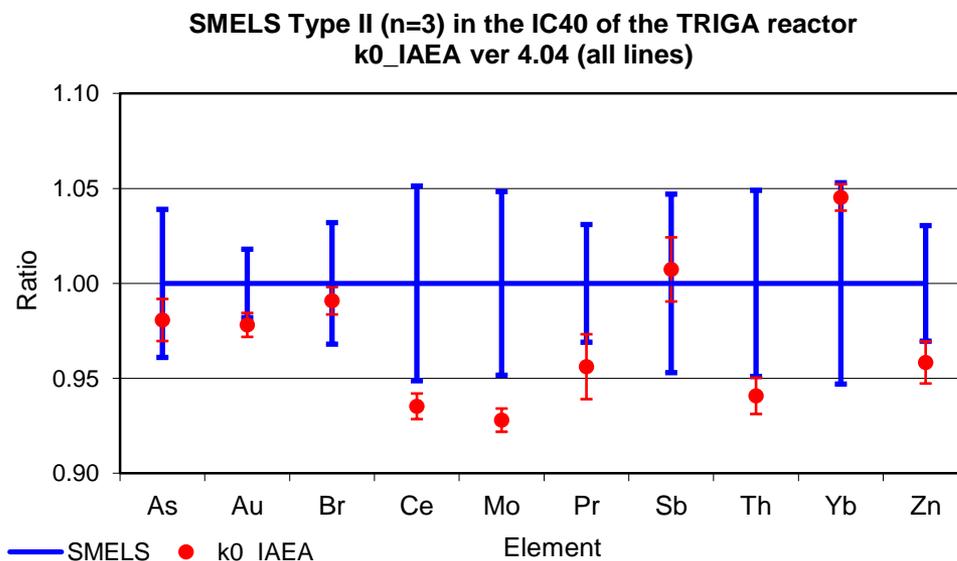
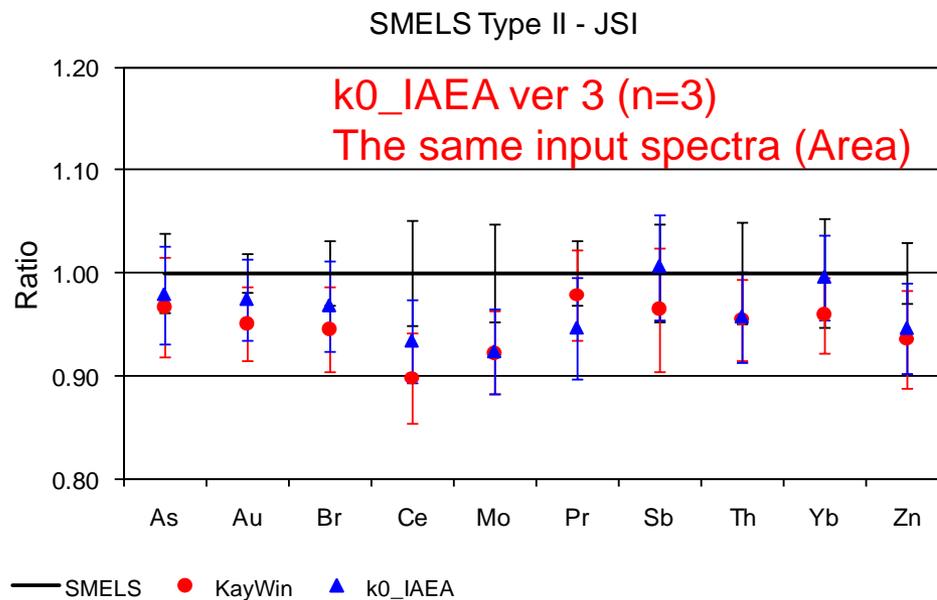
<sup>1</sup>: The assigned values, as determined after a characterisation exercise [1], represent total contents. These values are not traceable to SI and are not certified.  
<sup>2</sup>: Estimated expanded uncertainty U with a coverage factor k=2, corresponding to a level of confidence of about 95 %, as defined in the Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement (GUM), ISO, 1995. Uncertainty contributions arising from characterisation as well as from homogeneity and stability assessment were taken into consideration.

P. Vermaercke, et al.,  
 Nucl. Instr. Meth. A 564  
 (2006) 675-682

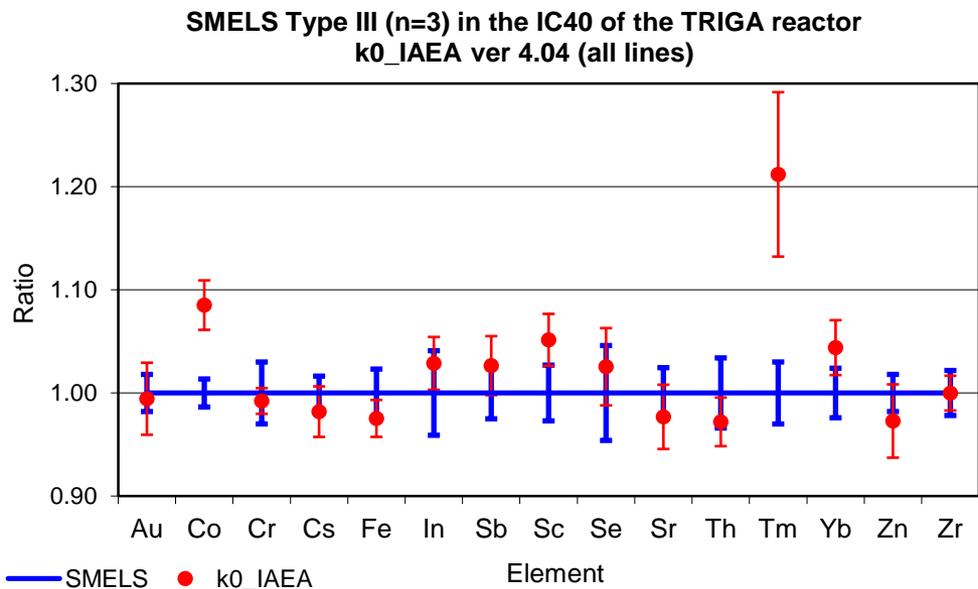
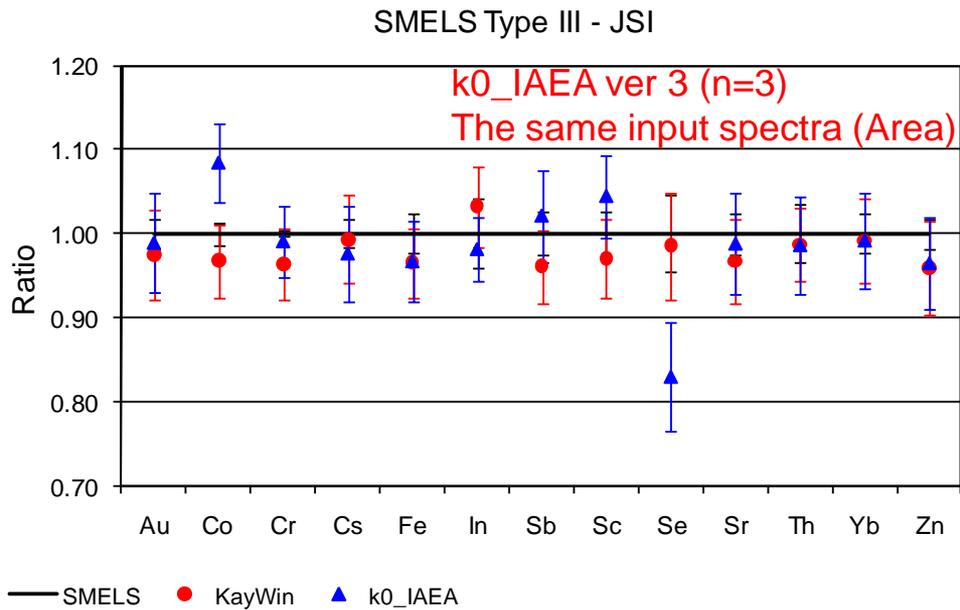
# KayWin vs. k0\_IAEA



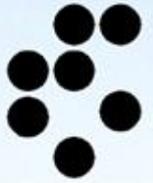
# KayWin vs. k0\_IAEA



# KayWin vs. k0\_IAEA



# Acknowledgments



- The IAEA, Austria
- Prof. F. De Corte, Belgium
- Dr. A. Simonits, Hungary
- Robbert van Sluijs, The Netherlands
- Dr. Menno Blaauw, The Netherlands
- Colleagues at the Department of Environmental Sciences at the JSI, Slovenia



Practical exercise:

KayWin

and

$k_0$ -IAEA software