MEASUREMENTS OF HIGH-ENERGY PART (7–20 MeV) OF BREMSSTRAHLUNG SPECTRA USING PHOTONUCLEAR REACTIONS

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The presented method is based on using threshold photonuclear (γ, n) reactions [1]. Thin foils made of K, Sc, Ni, Cu, Ga, Ge, Br, Zr, Nb, Cr, Ta are used as irradiated materials [2].

Selection of employed materials was made by the next parameters: half-life period, threshold and cross-section of (γ, n) reaction, decay probability of secondary isotope accompanied by γ -quantum emission, energy of decay γ -photons, and isotopic abundance of parent isotope.

Bremsstrahlung spectra measurements are conducted as follow. Thin foil assembly made of selected materials is installed in the bremsstrahlung beam. After irradiation (γ, n) photonuclear reactions occur in the assembly leading to radioactive isotopes formation. This assembly is then installed in HPGe detector, which measures the γ -decays of radioactive isotopes. The magnitude of measured detector signal characterizes the amount of these isotopes formed in the irradiated assembly. Knowing the cross-sections of (γ, n) reactions and assuming the shape of spectra we can restore the original spectra of bremsstrahlung bunch in energy region of (γ, n) reactions from 7 to 20 MeV [3].

References

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