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Neutron physics with accelerators

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Neutron physics with accelerators

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Abstract

Neutron-induced nuclear reactions are of key importance for a variety of applications in basic and applied science. Apart from nuclear reactors, acceleratorbased neutron sources play a major role in experimental studies, especially for the determination of reaction cross sections over a wide energy span from subthermal to GeV energies. After an overview of present and upcoming facilities, this article deals with state-of-the-art detectors and equipment, including the often difficult sample problem. These issues are illustrated at selected examples of measurements for nuclear astrophysics and reactor technology with emphasis on their intertwined relations.

Keywords: fast-pulsed neutron sources, quasi-Maxwellian neutron sources, neutron cross sections, time-of-flight method, activation technique, detectors for neutron reactions, applications in technology, astrophysics, and medicine

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