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Investigation on gamma and neutron radiation shielding parameters for BaO/SrO-Bi₂O₃-B₂O₃ glasses

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Abstract

In this work, mass attenuation coefficients (μ/ρ), effective atomic number (Z_{eff}), electron density (N_e), mean free path (MFP), and half-value layer (HVL) of 20 BaO/SrO–(x) Bi₂O₃–(80–x) B₂O₃ glasses (where x=10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60 mol%) were calculated using WinXCom program and MCNP5 code. The obtained (μ/ρ) results using both MCNP5 code and WinXCom program were in good agreement. It is found that the addition of Bi₂O₃ leads to increase the Z_{eff} values in both BaO/SrO–Bi₂O₃–B₂O₃ glass systems. However, the Z_{eff} values of the BaO–Bi₂O₃–B₂O₃ glass system are higher than those of the SrO–Bi₂O₃–B₂O₃ glasses. The fast neutrons effective removal cross sections (Σ_R) for 20 SrO–40 Bi₂O₃–40 B₂O₃ glass is the highest among all studied glasses. The calculated half-value layer values were compared with different glass systems and it was found that the shielding properties of the selected glasses are comparable or even better than other glass systems such as phosphate glasses.

Keywords: Bismuth borate glasses; gamma-rays; neutron radiation; WinXCom; MCNP5 code; shielding properties

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