

§3. A Dual Type Ionization Chamber for Monitoring n-X Mixed Fields

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A dual type ionization chamber system has been developed for dosimetry use of n-X mixed fields. This is composed of a pair of cylindrical vessels of the same size and shape, one containing ^3He gas sensitive to both n and X, and the other ^4He insensitive to neutrons.

The ionization chambers, 1 liter in volume and gas-filled at 3 different gas pressures (1, 2 and 3 atm), have been examined with various kinds of radiation sources^{1,2)}. In the present study, a set of 100 cc chambers filled with 1 atm gas pressure are prepared and placed inside the D₂O thermalised neutron area of the KUR.

The observed responses of ^3He and ^4He chambers against the reactor power are summarised in Figure 1 and 2. The output currents from the 100 cc ^3He chamber are closely proportional to the reactor operating powers, or fission neutron yields. This result is the same as that of the 1 liter chamber. On the other hand, the 100 cc ^4He chamber seems less efficient to detect gamma rays when the reactor power is below 10 kW. It gives 6mSv per hour as the dose rate due to gamma rays.

The ratio of the output currents from the 100 cc chamber to the 1 liter is 0.07 for ^3He , and 0.007 for ^4He when measured without polyethylene

moderators. This size effect will be analysed in detail.

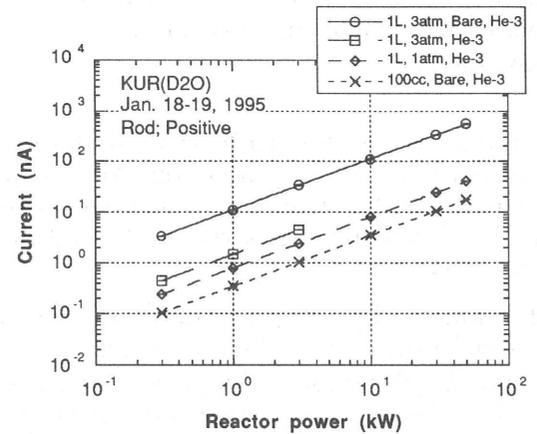


Fig. 1 Relationship between ^3He output currents and reactor power

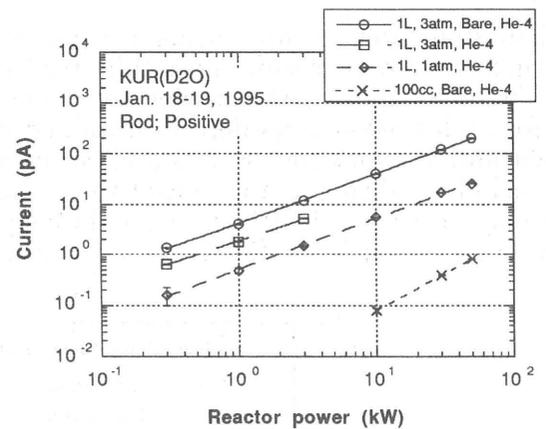


Fig.2 Relationship between ^4He output currents and reactor power

REFERENCES :

1. J. Kodaira et al., Proc. 8th Symp. on Acc. Sci.&Tech. (RIKEN) (1991) 443.
2. H. Obayashi et al., Proc. 8th IRPA (1992) Vol.1, 140.