

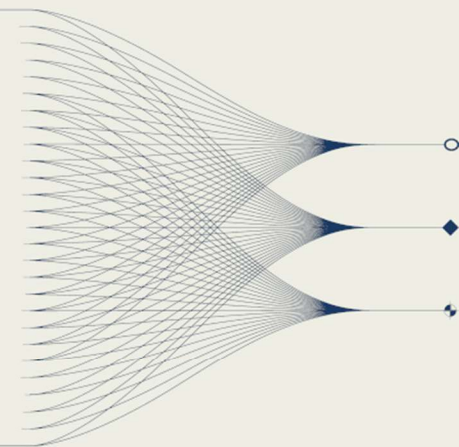
Increasing the resolution of a scintillation detection cell using a diffuse reflective coating and assessment of the retention of performance characteristics during aging of a protective coating

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INTRODUCTION AND MAIN RESULTS

This study demonstrates a 50% increase in scintillation signal efficiency using a barium sulfate diffuse reflective coating and confirms the long-term stability of poly(chloro-para-xylylene) barrier films. Results show no significant degradation after natural and accelerated aging, ensuring reliable detector performance for radiation monitoring systems.



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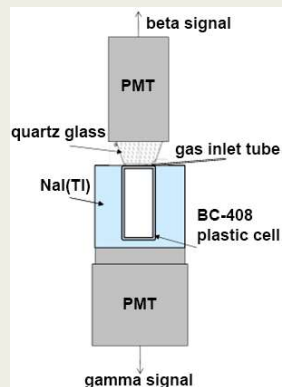
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Radionuclide Technologies and Applications

Background & Objectives

- Scintillation detectors for radioactive xenon must combine high sensitivity, reliability, and durability.
- Critical issue: memory effect (residual activity on detector surfaces).
- VNIIA developed Parylene C barrier coatings, reducing memory effect up to 89%, but at the cost of resolution.
- Objectives:
 - Enhance light collection using a diffuse BaSO₄ reflective layer.
 - Assess aging stability of Parylene C coatings under natural & accelerated conditions.

Simplified schematic of the MIKS beta-gamma detector



Radionuclide Technologies and Applications

- Samples studied:
 - Fresh Parylene C-coated scintillator.
 - Aged sample (operated since 2021).
 - Scintillator with BaSO₄ diffuse reflective layer.
- Techniques:
 - Transmission & reflectance spectroscopy (250–2500 nm).
 - FT-IR spectroscopy (4000–600 cm⁻¹).
 - Accelerated aging at 120 °C for 1000 h (Arrhenius extrapolation ≈10 years).
- Diagnostics: coating thickness, transparency, IR band stability.

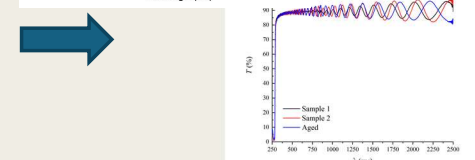
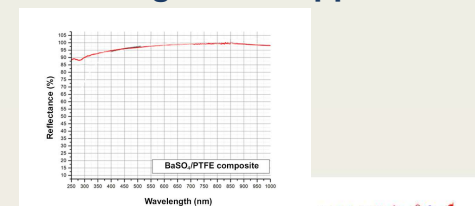


Elements of the scintillation detector

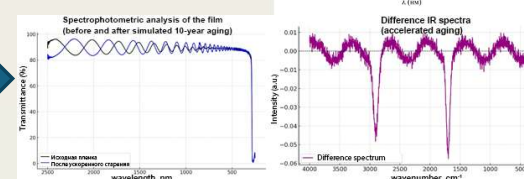


Radionuclide Technologies and Applications

Optical spectra of protective coatings: BaSO₄/PTFE reflectance (left) and Parylene C transmission before/after aging



Spectroscopic stability of Parylene C after simulated 10-year aging



- BaSO₄ coating: +50% scintillation signal efficiency.
- Parylene C barrier: properties stable after 4 years natural aging.
- Accelerated tests: only 5–7% transparency loss over simulated 10 years.
- IR analysis: no significant chemical degradation observed.
- Conclusion: Combining BaSO₄ diffuse layer + Parylene C barrier provides high efficiency and long-term stability, suitable for radiation monitoring systems.