



# Contents

PREFACE . . . . .	iii
CHAPTER 1 RADIOACTIVE-DECAY PROCESSES . . . . .	1
1-1 Atomic Structure . . . . .	2
1-2 Decay Rate and Activity . . . . .	3
1-3 Mass and Energy Equivalence . . . . .	6
1-4 Modes of Decay . . . . .	7
1-4.1 Beta (Negatron) Decay . . . . .	7
1-4.2 Electron-capture Decay . . . . .	8
1-4.3 Positron Decay . . . . .	9
1-4.4 Alpha Decay . . . . .	10
1-4.5 Isomeric Transition and Gamma Radiation . . . . .	10
1-4.6 Internal Conversion . . . . .	11
1-4.7 Competitive Modes of Decay . . . . .	11
1-4.8 Multiple Decay Schemes . . . . .	12
References . . . . .	13
Bibliography . . . . .	13
Problems . . . . .	14
CHAPTER 2 NUCLEAR REACTIONS . . . . .	15
2-1 Reaction Rates and Cross Sections . . . . .	15
2-2 Neutron Reactions . . . . .	17
2-2.1 Thermal-neutron (Capture) Reactions . . . . .	17
2-2.2 Fission . . . . .	18
2-2.3 High-energy Neutron Reactions . . . . .	19
2-3 Charged-particle Reactions . . . . .	21
2-4 Electromagnetic-radiation Reactions . . . . .	22
References . . . . .	22
Bibliography . . . . .	23
Problems . . . . .	23
CHAPTER 3 RADIATION: SOURCES AND INTERACTION WITH MATTER . . . . .	24
3-1 Heavy Charged Particles . . . . .	24
3-1.1 Alpha-particle Energy . . . . .	24
3-1.2 Alpha-particle Interactions and Range in Air . . . . .	25
3-1.3 Alpha-particle Interactions and Range in Matter . . . . .	27
3-1.4 Range of Other Heavy Charged Particles . . . . .	30
3-2 Electrons and Beta Particles . . . . .	31
3-2.1 Beta-particle and Electron Sources and Spectra . . . . .	31
3-2.2 Electron Interactions with Matter . . . . .	33

	3-2.3	Electron Range in Matter . . . . .	37
3-3		Electromagnetic Radiation . . . . .	41
	3-3.1	Electromagnetic Radiation Sources and Spectra . . . . .	41
	3-3.2	Interaction of Electromagnetic Radiation with Matter. . . . .	44
	3-3.3	Range of Electromagnetic Radiation in Matter . . . . .	52
3-4		Neutrons . . . . .	54
	3-4.1	Neutron Sources and Spectra . . . . .	54
	3-4.2	Neutron Interactions . . . . .	55
	3-4.3	Neutron Diffusion . . . . .	60
	3-4.4	Neutron Transmission . . . . .	61
		References . . . . .	62
		Problems . . . . .	62
CHAPTER 4		RADIATION DETECTION SYSTEMS . . . . .	64
	4-1	Gas Detectors. . . . .	65
		4-1.1 Gas Detection Mechanisms . . . . .	65
		4-1.2 Ionization and Excitation of Gases . . . . .	66
		4-1.3 Ionization Chambers . . . . .	70
		4-1.4 Proportional Counters . . . . .	74
		4-1.5 Geiger-Mueller Counters. . . . .	77
	4-2	Semiconductor Detection . . . . .	79
		4-2.1 Semiconductor Detection Mechanism . . . . .	79
		4-2.2 Surface-barrier Detectors. . . . .	81
		4-2.3 Lithium-drift Detectors. . . . .	82
	4-3	Scintillation Detection . . . . .	83
		4-3.1 Scintillation Detection Mechanisms . . . . .	83
		4-3.2 Photomultiplier Tubes . . . . .	85
		4-3.3 Inorganic-crystal (NaI) Detectors . . . . .	87
		4-3.4 Liquid Scintillation and Other Organic Detectors . . . . .	90
	4-4	Electronic Equipment for Radiation-counting Systems . . . . .	92
		4-4.1 Detector-pulse Characteristics . . . . .	92
		4-4.2 Discriminators . . . . .	93
		4-4.3 Univibrators . . . . .	97
		4-4.4 Scaler Circuits . . . . .	98
		4-4.5 Counting-rate Meters. . . . .	101
		4-4.6 Pulse-height Analysis. . . . .	103
	4-5	Photographic Film and Other Photochemical-reaction Detection Methods . . . . .	106
		References . . . . .	108
		Bibliography . . . . .	108
		Problems . . . . .	109
CHAPTER 5		RADIATION DETECTOR RESPONSE . . . . .	110
	5-1	Statistical Fluctuation of Radioactive Decay . . . . .	111
		5-1.1 Definitions and Statistics Review . . . . .	111
		5-1.2 Radioactive-decay Probability Distributions . . . . .	114
		5-1.3 Useful Statistical Formulas for Predicting Radiation-counting Confidence Limits . . . . .	118
	5-2	External Detection Parameters. . . . .	121
		5-2.1 Point Source and Cylindrical Detector. . . . .	121
		5-2.2 Geometry Factor . . . . .	122

	5-2.3	Absorption Factor . . . . .	123
	5-2.4	Scattering Factor . . . . .	126
5-3		Inherent Detector Parameters . . . . .	128
	5-3.1	Resolving-power Factor . . . . .	128
	5-3.2	Detector-efficiency Factor . . . . .	131
	5-3.3	Detector-system Stability Factor . . . . .	133
		References . . . . .	134
		Bibliography . . . . .	135
		Problems . . . . .	135
<b>CHAPTER 6</b>		<b>RADIATION SAFETY . . . . .</b>	<b>136</b>
	6-1	Permissible Exposure Levels . . . . .	137
		6-1.1 Radiation-dose Units . . . . .	137
		6-1.2 Radiation Effect on Man . . . . .	138
		6-1.3 Permissible Radiation Dose . . . . .	140
	6-2	Calculation of Radiation Doses . . . . .	141
		6-2.1 Doses from Electromagnetic Radiation . . . . .	141
		6-2.2 Doses from Charged Particles . . . . .	145
		6-2.3 Doses from Neutrons . . . . .	146
	6-3	Protection Against Radiation from External Sources . . . . .	148
		6-3.1 Radiation-monitoring Methods and Instruments . . . . .	148
		6-3.2 Control of External Radiation Exposure . . . . .	149
		6-3.3 Routine Surveys and Decontamination Procedures . . . . .	150
	6-4	Protection Against Radiation from Ingested Sources . . . . .	152
		6-4.1 Residence Times of Radioisotopes in the Body . . . . .	152
		6-4.2 Radiation-monitoring Methods and Instruments . . . . .	154
		6-4.3 Waste-disposal Procedures . . . . .	155
		References . . . . .	155
		Bibliography . . . . .	156
		Problems . . . . .	156
<b>CHAPTER 7</b>		<b>RADIOTRACING PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES . . . . .</b>	<b>157</b>
	7-1	The Tracer Method . . . . .	157
		7-1.1 The Tracer Paradox . . . . .	158
		7-1.2 Advantages of the Radiotracer . . . . .	158
	7-2	Tracer Characteristics Peculiar to Radiotracers . . . . .	160
		7-2.1 Radiotracer Purity . . . . .	160
		7-2.2 Radioisotope Exchange . . . . .	163
		7-2.3 Radiation Effect . . . . .	163
		7-2.4 Radiocolloid Effect . . . . .	164
		7-2.5 Isotope Effect . . . . .	164
	7-3	Selection and Preparation of Radiotracers . . . . .	165
		7-3.1 Choice of Radioisotope . . . . .	165
		7-3.2 Synthesis . . . . .	166
		7-3.3 Thermal-neutron Activation . . . . .	166
		7-3.4 Exchange and Adsorption . . . . .	168
	7-4	Calibration of Radiotracer Experiments . . . . .	169
		7-4.1 Radiotracer Balance . . . . .	169
		7-4.2 Relative and Absolute Tracer Experiments . . . . .	171
		7-4.3 Calibration Samples and Standards . . . . .	172

7-5	Design and Analysis of Radiotracer Experiments . . . . .	174
7-5.1	Experiment Feasibility . . . . .	174
7-5.2	Sources and Propagation of Errors in Radiotracer Experiments. . . . .	174
7-5.3	Radiotracer Experiment Precision and Fluctuations in Decay Rates . . . . .	177
	References . . . . .	178
	Bibliography . . . . .	179
	Problems . . . . .	179
CHAPTER 8	RADIOTRACER APPLICATIONS TO ENGINEERING PROCESSES . . .	181
8-1	Fluid Properties. . . . .	181
8-1.1	Interface Detection in Pipelines . . . . .	181
8-1.2	Leak Detection . . . . .	182
8-1.3	Flow Patterns. . . . .	183
8-1.4	Flow Rates . . . . .	186
8-2	Analysis. . . . .	205
8-2.1	Difficult Analysis Problems . . . . .	205
8-2.2	Tracer Dilution . . . . .	208
8-2.3	Isotope Dilution . . . . .	209
8-3	Wear . . . . .	210
8-4	Process Characteristics . . . . .	215
8-4.1	Mixing Time . . . . .	215
8-4.2	Residence Time . . . . .	219
8-4.3	Frequency Response . . . . .	221
	References . . . . .	223
	Bibliography . . . . .	225
	Problems . . . . .	225
CHAPTER 9	RADIOTRACER APPLICATIONS TO ENGINEERING RESEARCH . . .	228
9-1	Automating Data Accumulation. . . . .	228
9-2	Unit Operations Research . . . . .	234
9-3	Mathematical Models and Process Mechanisms . . . . .	241
9-4	Diffusion and Mass Transfer. . . . .	246
	References . . . . .	251
	Bibliography . . . . .	252
	Problems . . . . .	252
CHAPTER 10	RADIOGAUGING PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES. . . . .	254
10-1	Radiogauge Characteristics. . . . .	255
10-1.1	Relation of Measured Variable to Radiogauge Response . . . . .	255
10-1.2	Radiogauge Standardization and Calibration. . . . .	257
10-1.3	Radiogauge Accuracy . . . . .	258
10-1.4	Radiogauge Sensitivity. . . . .	262
10-2	Static and Continuous Radiogauge Considerations . . . . .	264
10-2.1	Characteristics of Static Radiogauges . . . . .	264
10-2.2	Characteristics of Continuous Radiogauges . . . . .	268
10-3	Radiogauge Design and Optimization . . . . .	279
10-3.1	Choice of Radiogauge Principle . . . . .	279

	10-3.2	Choice of Radioisotope . . . . .	281
	10-3.3	Choice of Detection System . . . . .	282
	References	. . . . .	285
	Problems	. . . . .	286
<b>CHAPTER 11</b>	<b>RADIOGAUGING WITH CHARGED PARTICLES</b>	. . . . .	<b>287</b>
	11-1	Alpha-particle Gauging . . . . .	287
	11-1.1	Ion-gauge Principle . . . . .	288
	11-1.2	Energy Principles. . . . .	291
	11-1.3	Range Principles . . . . .	292
	11-1.4	Digitizing Mechanical Sensors. . . . .	300
	11-2	Beta-particle Gauging . . . . .	302
	11-2.1	Energy and Range Principles . . . . .	302
	11-2.2	Backscatter Principle. . . . .	311
	11-2.3	Forward-scatter Principle . . . . .	319
	References	. . . . .	322
	Problems	. . . . .	323
<b>CHAPTER 12</b>	<b>RADIOGAUGING WITH ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION.</b>	. . . . .	<b>325</b>
	12-1	Transmission of High-energy Radiation . . . . .	325
	12-1.1	Thickness Measurement . . . . .	325
	12-1.2	Fluid-level Measurement . . . . .	328
	12-1.3	Density Measurement . . . . .	332
	12-1.4	Two-component Analysis . . . . .	336
	12-2	Scatter of High-energy Radiation. . . . .	342
	12-2.1	Thickness Measurement . . . . .	343
	12-2.2	Density Measurement . . . . .	345
	12-3	Resonant Absorption of Low-energy Radiation . . . . .	358
	12-4	Characteristic Fluorescent X Rays . . . . .	361
	References	. . . . .	367
	Bibliography	. . . . .	368
	Problems	. . . . .	368
<b>CHAPTER 13</b>	<b>RADIOGAUGING WITH NEUTRONS</b>	. . . . .	<b>370</b>
	13-1	Moderation and Absorption . . . . .	370
	13-1.1	Mathematical Treatment of Neutron Transport. . . . .	372
	13-1.2	Measurement of Soil Water Content . . . . .	377
	13-1.3	Measurement of Salt Content in Aqueous Solution . . . . .	383
	13-1.4	Oil-well Logging and Other Miscellaneous Measurements . . . . .	386
	13-2	Neutron Reactions for Producing Characteristic Gamma Rays . . . . .	386
	References	. . . . .	390
	Bibliography	. . . . .	390
	Problems	. . . . .	391
<b>CHAPTER 14</b>	<b>RADIOGRAPHY</b>	. . . . .	<b>392</b>
	14-1	Principles of Radiography . . . . .	392

14-1.1	Sensitivity or Minimum Detectable Change in Density Thickness . . . . .	393
14-1.2	Factors That Affect Radiograph Quality . . . . .	397
14-1.3	Designing a Radiography Experiment. . . . .	401
14-2	Process-equipment Inspection . . . . .	404
14-3	Flaw Detection and Location . . . . .	406
14-4	Autoradiography and Radiography with Other Radiations . . . . .	407
References	. . . . .	409
Problems	. . . . .	409
APPENDIX A	GENERAL PROOF OF PUMP-BUCKET METHOD FOR STREAM FLOW . . . . .	411
APPENDIX B	A PRINTER PROGRAMMER FOR RECORDING TRANSIENT DIGITAL RADIATION-COUNTING DATA . . . . .	413
LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS		
INTRODUCTION TO THE LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS . . . . .		419
INTRODUCTORY EXPERIMENTS . . . . .		419
E.1	Geiger-Mueller Counter Characteristics and Statistical Aspects of Radiation Detection. . . . .	421
E.2	Detector-system Response I—External Parameters . . . . .	426
E.3	Detector-system Response II—Inherent Parameters . . . . .	430
E.4	Techniques for Preparation and Standardization of Radioactive Samples . . . . .	433
E.5	Radiation Safety . . . . .	439
RADIOTRACING EXPERIMENTS		
E.6	Flow Measurement with Radiotracers . . . . .	443
E.7	A Radiotracer Technique for Particle-size Determination. . . . .	448
E.8	A Radiotracer Technique for Residence-time Determination. . . . .	451
E.9	A Radiotracer Technique for Frequency-response Determination. . . . .	454
RADIOGAUGING EXPERIMENTS		
E.10	Beta-particle Transmission Radiogauges for Measuring Liquid-hydrocarbon Hydrogen Fractions . . . . .	457
E.11	Beta-particle Forward-scatter Radiogauges for Measuring Two-component Gases . . . . .	461
E.12	Gamma-ray Transmission Radiogauges for Measuring Salt-solution Densities . . . . .	465
E.13	Gamma-ray Scatter Radiogauges for Measuring the Densities of Solids. . . . .	469
E.14	Characteristics of Continuous Radiogauges . . . . .	473
RADIOGRAPHY EXPERIMENT		
E.15	Radiography . . . . .	475
INDEX . . . . .		477

