

Neutron Imaging Basics & Applications

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Overview

Comparison of X-rays and Neutrons
 Comparison of Radiography & Tomography
 Neutron Imaging Beamline at DHRUVA
 Some Applications of Neutron Imaging

Why Neutrons ????

- Neutrons have very different scattering and absorption property compared to X-ray
- Whereas X-ray interaction is dependent on electron density of the material, neutrons interact with the nuclei. Therefore neutrons can be used to image low Z materials enclosed inside a high Z material..... This cannot be done using X rays !!
- Neutrons can be used to image radioactive materials as neutron imaging is not sensitive to intense gamma ray background.
- Neutrons have small magnetic moment which can be used to probe magnetic properties of materials
- Interaction cross section of neutrons for different isotopes of same element is different
 : they can be used for isotopic differentiation



Neutrons and X-rays : Complimentary Techniques



Neutron and X-ray radiography of a motherboard



Neutron and X-ray tomography of a concrete sample

Neutron Radiography (2D) vs. Neutron Tomography (3D)



Neutron Imaging Facility at DHRUVA Reactor



FEATURES:

- \rightarrow Thermal Neutron Flux: 4 x 10⁷ n/s-cm²
- ≻ L/d (collimation) :160
- ➢ Cadmium ratio :250
- Beam diameter:120mm
- Spatial Resolution:100 micron

EXPERIMENTAL FACILITIES AVAILABLE

- > Neutron Radiography
- > Neutron Tomography
- > Neutron Phase Contrast Imaging

<⊐ Shutter Sample ✓ Manipulator

Detector

Real time imaging for transient events

Application Areas of Neutron imaging



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