## Shielding Requirements and Backgrounds

Phil Bentley

**European Spallation Source** 

3rd May, 2017

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Shielding Requirements and Backgrounds

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#### Safety Requirements

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# Legal Requirements

- ESS-0001786 defines radiation areas
- Supervised areas:
  - < 3  $\mu$ Sv/h
  - Likely accidents are H2 (1-100 yr events)
  - All other events are included in the dose budget!



Summary Report Document Number ESS 0001780 Date Dec 7, 2015 Revision 3 State Released

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Definition of Supervised and Controlled Radiation Areas

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#### Safety Procedure

- ESS-0019931 defines process we must use
- By hand: 3× safety margin (1 μSv/h), with detailed review
- Non-approved codes ignored (but still useful!)
- Approved codes: 2× safety margin (1.5 μSv/h)



Precedure Decement Number 555 0019931 Date Mar 18, 2005 State Related Classification Page 1122

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ESS Procedure for designing shielding for safety

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Chess Controlled Procedure Ed. 1.1 Template Active Date: 11 Mar 200

# Approved Transport Codes

- MCNP(X)
- FLUKA low E?
- MARS low E?

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# **Approved Activation Codes**

- Cinder
- Orihet
- Monteburn
- Cinder is preferred
- The others can only be used in case of Cinder license problems

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# Licensing Problems

- MCNP(X) is
  - Paid license
  - A birth location lottery
- The other codes can have drawbacks:
  - Not approved (e.g. GEANT4, PHITS)
  - Questions about accuracy at low energy (e.g. FLUKA, MARS)



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# What do we do?

- Your team expert didn't win the birth location lottery
- You are not alone!
- Many staff at ESS, even in NOSG, will never gain full use of MCNP

## What do we do?

- Do shielding calculations by handbook, as per ESS-0019931
- In the equilibrium region, 1.5  $\mu Sv/h \approx$  1.0  $\mu Sv/h$  you don't save much money
- Get someone to check the results with any relevant simulation package, even if it is "not approved"
- This check is also needed for MCNP, if you care about physics and backgrounds
- Options:
  - ESS has limited bandwidth for GEANT4, CombLayer & MCNP
  - Activation calcs can be fairly quick
  - High energy & astronomy community has *many* GEANT4, FLUKA & MARS people
  - JPARC community has several PHITS experts (Niita et al)

#### Core Physics

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#### Fast Neutron Albedo

 Roughly half the beam is scattered back



Fig. 4.3. Total Single-Collision Dose Albedo as a Function of cos  $\theta_0$  and  $\Delta E_0$  for Fast Neutrons (>0.2 MeV) Reflected from Concrete. (From Maerker and Muckentholer, ref. 1.)

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W. E. Selph, ORNL-RSIC-21 (DASA-1892-2)

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# Multiple Line of Sight

- Losing line of sight if possible saves cost
- Certainly helps with background
- Diminishing returns after  $2 \times LOS$
- Twice line of sight is recommended strategy for cost and background
- Instrument project should look at at least one option



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#### Secondary Particle Equilibrium

- Data corrected for 1/R<sup>2</sup>
- High energy particles create more particles
- Need 3 MFP to reach "neutron scattering" world
- Adding shielding might make a problem worse!
- This is why big empty spaces work (e.g. bunker)
- Guessing can be difficult, we need to simulate





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#### Hadronic Shielding Materials



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# Survey of SNS

Three brightest *n* sources:

- Harp / A2T source mitigated by interface with Tom Shea (Accelerator)
- Monolith interfaces earthquake gap between target & bunker!
- Basis shielding mitigated by margin of error on the LOS.



DiJulio et al, Journal of Physics: Conference Series 746 (2016) 012033

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# Survey of SNS

Other interesting facts:

- The accelerator is quiet
- POWGEN straight beamline is OK
- BASIS thin shielding is OK out of line of sight

We thought we might see a safe but significant number of fast neutrons there, but we didn't.



#### **Background Requirements**

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# Requirements

- "The world's leading neutron source"
- Interpreted by almost all instruments as exceeding current world leading signal-to-noise by factor of 10<sup>1</sup>

#### • Typical numbers:

- $10^{-6} 10^{-7}$  elastic line to background on inelastic spectrometers
- 6-8 decades on log-log plot for SANS & Reflectometry
- 10<sup>4</sup> Bragg-peak to background on diffraction

<sup>1</sup>NOSG Handbook, ESS-0039408

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# The Problem

- Background limited science is frequently on a log scale.
- Weak scattering
- Small samples
- "New horizons in science"...
- The instruments are still radiologically safe

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# Spectroscopy



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SANS



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# Reflectometry — $10^{-6}$ is Possible



NiC Mirror

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# Reflectometry — 10<sup>-3</sup> Doesn't Cut It



NiC Mirror

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### **Background Requirements**

- SNS CNCS and HYSPEC: BG≈ 11-30 n s<sup>-1</sup> whole detector).
- BG:S  $\approx 10^{-3}$
- $\sim 100 \times$  too high
- Instrument proposals: 10<sup>-6</sup>–10<sup>-8</sup> n m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>
- TS2 and LET internal backgrounds are so low you even see TS1 background

# HYSPEC data summed over all detectors

#### HYSPEC (SNS), $100 \times$ too high



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#### **Background Requirements**

- Similar problems on CNCS
- Similar problems at JPARC



Amateras (JPARC)

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# **HYSPEC Background Sources**

- Not trivial to debug backgrounds
- Even if you find sources, fixing them can be expensive
- Need to fix as much as possible during early design



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#### **Contributions to HYSPEC Prompt Pulse**

# Cave Echo Estimate at 150 m

- MAGIC source (Uwe Filges) 4 neutrons /cm2 /s
- Fairly flat spectrum from keV to 1 MeV



### ns Pulse (HYSPEC)

- $5 \times 5 \times 5 m^3$  cave
- "Bare structure" tail matches time structure very well
- No skyshine, A2T, target, bunker, crosstalk
- Illustrates the fast suppression of boron, compared to cadmium





Simple model (MCNP+GEANT4+python script)

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# ESS Pulse (CSPEC, TREX)

- $5 \times 5 \times 5 m^3$  cave
- ho  $\sim$  5 m<sup>2</sup> detector area
- + TOF broadening (150 m flight)
- 1 n/s fast neutron count rate
- TREX has  $\sim 5 \times 10^4$  n/s signal
- These numbers are consistent with 10<sup>-4</sup>



Simple model (MCNP+GEANT4+python script)

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#### **Preliminary Skyshine Results**

- Skyshine is a high energy phenomenon
- Fast neutrons escape into the sky, and scatter back down
- 100s of metres
- Cube on the right is 1 km × 1 km × 1 km



VERY PRELIMINARY results :)

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#### **Preliminary Skyshine Results**

Covers whole site



VERY PRELIMINARY results :)

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#### Preliminary Skyshine Results

- Broad distribution of energies ~ 100s MeV
- Skyshine signal is *large*: 10s n /m<sup>2</sup> /s



VERY PRELIMINARY results :)

#### Compare Skyshine to Beam

- Guide albedo source shown in blue
- Skyshine is the strongest fast neutron source.
- We are now perhaps approaching 10<sup>3</sup> signal to noise.
- Only considers accelerator source — no target, bunker, A2T contributions yet.



VERY PRELIMINARY results :)

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#### This isn't all bad news

- NOSG is working on this for multiple instruments (after ICANS, i.e. 3rd April start).
- Instrument input is the requirement as this changes cost prioritisation
- 1 order of magnitude = 1 metre of concrete (or integral equiv)



VERY PRELIMINARY results :)

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# T0 Choppers and Curved Guides

- Curved guide superior to T0 chopper
- Performance is better, also steady state solution
- T0 choppers should be backup solution for later problems, or where there is no choice for straight guides

High Energy neutron elimination either by a To chopper or a curved guide (CG) (example for 40m instrument (LOS: 28m))

To and Curved Guide (CG) are not perfect to get rid of high energy neutrons.



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Masa Arai, IKON 2017 presentation

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#### Thank You

# Thank you for your attention

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