

Multi-objective optimization strategies for radiation shielding performance of BZBB glasses using Bi₂O₃: A FLUKA Monte Carlo code calculations

ABSTRACT

Highly efficient gamma shielding of BZBB glasses with various Bi₂O₃ concentrations in the $x\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3\text{-}30\text{B}_2\text{O}_3\text{-(}65\text{-}x\text{)ZnO-}5\text{BaO}$, ($5 \leq x \leq 25$ mol%) were evaluated for their radiation shielding properties. The μ m results have been evaluated via the NISTXCOM database and simulated via FLUKA code. The simulation values by Monte Carlo code (FLUKA) have been shown to converge and correlate with XCOM values. Shielding properties like HVL, MFP, Z_{eff}, EBF, and EABF values have been computed. The values observed that μ m and Z_{eff} increase with increasing Bi₂O₃. 47.09, 48.91, 50.73, 52.54 and 54.36 (cm²/g) are the μ m values for BZBB1, BZBB2, BZBB3, BZBB4 and BZBB5 glasses at 15 keV. Also, the μ m values decrease with increasing photon energy for all glass samples. Moreover, BZBB5 sample had the low-est HVL, MFP, EBF, and EABF values. That indicates to the addition of Bi₂O₃ improves the radiation shielding properties of BZBB glasses. The obtained results were compared with the most commonly shielding materials such as lead and concretes. It was concluded that the improved BZBB glasses with the addition of Bi₂O₃ showed excellent shielding properties comparing with shielding materials. These results could be highly beneficial for fields such as medical treatment facilities.

Keyword: Bismuth; Borate glasses; FLUKA code; Shielding properties