GAMMA SPECTROSCOPY OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE FOR NEUTRON ACTIVATION ANALYSIS

S.R. de Lucia, V.A. Maihara and M.O. de Menezesa

Instituto de Pesquisas Energéticas e Nucleares - IPEN/CNEN-SP Centro do Reator de Pesquisas - CRPq Av. Lineu Prestes, 2242 - Cid. Universitária 05508-000, São Paulo-SP,Brazil

Neutron Activation Analysis (NAA) is an well stablished, analytical, multi-element technique based on the irradiation of a sample in a powerful neutron source, e.g., a nuclear reactor, and subsequent measurement of the induced radioactivity. The measurement is done by gamma spectrometric analysis, using parameters such as counting geometry and statistics, the decay-time and live-time corrections, the background radiation.

In this paper we present the initial prototype of a free/open source, multi-platform software to perform Gamma Spectroscopy Analysis for Neutron Activation Analysis being developed in the Neutron Activation Analysis Laboratory of the IPEN/CNEN Nuclear Research Reactor IEA-R1m. The software is being developed using Python as the main language, Trolltech Qt as the main graphic library and some extensions for scientific graphics plotting. Python is a dynamic object-oriented programming language that can be used for many kinds of software development. It offers strong support for integration with other languages and tools, comes with extensive standard libraries. Using the pyqt tool, we'll be able to use the graphics C++ library Qt in Python. Qt is a complete C++ application framework, including a class library and tools for cross-platform development.

The ultimate goal of this project is to delivery a system that enable researchers to manage their NAA projects in a distributed, safely and practical manner, with workflow capabilities together with a fine grained access control model.

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