

## **Exercise: Radiation Protection calculations**

Beginner course – INTA, April 2024

## **Goal of the exercise**

# Study of 4 Radiation Protection (RP) related quantities for proton beam on a copper target:

- Prompt ambient dose equivalent rate
- Residual ambient dose equivalent rate (12 hours cool-down time)
- Production Yields of residual nuclei
- Activity after 12 hours of cool-down time
- Prepare the input file in 5 tasks (see the following slides)





## **RP calculations exercise - Starting point**

#### What is already contained in input file:

- Relevant **PHYSICS** cards
- Geometry
- Scoring for prompt ambient dose equivalent (in 2 meshes)
- Scoring for Nuclei Production Yield tables [#nuclei/g/primary] for the target
- Plots (without normalization)



#### Irradiation conditions and radiation settings

- Add a **RADDECAY** card:
  - Use defaults for residual transport (PRECISION: 100 keV for photons and electrons)
  - Switch off EMF for the prompt transport (prompt cut)
    - Check this point if your simulations runs slow!
  - Decay cut = 10.0 (no modification of PRECISION settings)
- Define the irradiation profile:
  - 180 days of irradiation, with 1e+10 primaries per second
- Define a cooling time:
  - 12 hour after the end of irradiation



#### Ambient dose equivalent rate maps

- Add one **USRBIN** for the cool-down time
- USRBIN should have the same R- $\Phi$ -Z as the prompt USRBIN
  - 20 radial bins, up to R=200 cm
  - 1 angular bin
  - 40 longitudinal bins in the range -200 cm  $\leq$  Z  $\leq$  200 cm
  - Why is this a good choice?
- Associate the new USRBIN to the cool-down time (DCYSCORE)



#### **Residual nuclei tables [Bq/g] for the target**

- Add **RESNUCLE** for the target region
- Do not forget to include the mass normalization [Vol field]
  - Note: you should enter the mass in g; density of copper= 8.96 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
  - Hint: See **RESNUCLE** scoring for Production Yields
- Associate the new RESNUCLE to the cool-down time (DCYSCORE)



#### Select an executable and run the simulation!

- Executable:
  - Use FLUKA's default <flukadpm> (already available in the "Run" tab)
  - This is necessary to use DPMJET as the beam is made of high energy protons
- Use spawns and cycles to run a total of **100000** primaries
- Run and do not forget to merge the results



#### **Plotting results – Flair Plot tab**

- 4 plots already exist in the flair file
- Link the plots to the processed output files
- Add the proper normalization for ambient dose equivalent rates to [mSv/h]
  - Hint: Irradiation profile already contains beam intensity
  - Hint: prompt scoring is per primary
- Create all 4 plots



#### Flair Cheat Sheet







- You can **STOP** or **KILL** the run.
- You can edit your input while the simulation runs.

#### !!! WARNING !!!

Mind the memory and CPU usage of your simulations!

- 1. Go to the *Run* tab, select *Runs* view.
- 2. Add new folder + Add new run.
- 3. Override the input run info:
  - Number of primaries
  - Title / Max. time per cycle / Seed / Exec.
- Override/Define variables.
- 5. Recommended: Increase number of spawns
- 6. Set number of cycles per spawn
  - Recommend at least 5 cycles in total.
  - num\_cycles\_tot = num\_cycles\_per\_spawn \* num\_spawns

- 7. *Clean* run files after change to input or run settings.
- 8. Click *Start* to launch the simulations.
- 9. Monitor the progress. Click *Refresh* to force update.
- 10. After all cycles end:
  - Go to the **Data** (🜄) tab.
  - Click **Process** ( <a>! §</a>; to combine all cycles and create simulation data files.
  - You may need to refresh ( ) and scan ( ) if detectors are missing.



#### Flair cheat sheet



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#### **Activation exercise - Solutions**











## **RP calculations exercise - Task 6 (BONUS)**

#### **Geometry modifications for residual radiation**

- Not to lose your progresses, work on a copy of the exercise Flair project
- Define/import a new material: stainless-steel
- Modify the geometry to draw a simplified cylindrical container around the target
  - Example: use two RCCs, container with 2.5 cm thickness
  - Create a region for the container (modify accordingly the other regions)
  - Set the material to AIR
  - Set the material decay to stainless-steel
- Ideas: modify the Flair project, use FLUKA preprocessor, ...
- Run again the simulation
  - Hint: check the statistical uncertainty; if needed, increase the number of primaries
  - One possible solution is provided (.flair)

