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INVITED LECTURE - Detecting and evaluating minimal traces of radioisotopes in environment and foods

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The radioactivity analysis often requires a very high sensitivity to detect minute traces of both natural and artificial radioisotopes. In many cases, to obtain the required sensitivity is necessary to carry out a concentration of the element to be determined. The measurement of the activity can be done by the alpha or gamma spectrometry according to the type of emission of the radioisotope to be determined. Nowadays are frequently requested results about the concentration of uranium in foods and drinkable water, the contamination by DU in the environment and humans, the concentration of artificial radionuclides in the environment as a result of atmospheric nuclear explosions and nuclear accidents. This kind of analysis requires the adoption of sophisticated techniques to obtain a reliable result.

Primary author: Prof. RANDACCIO, Paolo (University of Cagliari, Italy)

Presenter: Prof. RANDACCIO, Paolo (University of Cagliari, Italy)

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