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Neutron production in radioactive processes relevant to underground experiments

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Neutron production in (alpha,n) reactions as one of the main contributors to the background in dark matter experiments is discussed. Several codes exist to calculate the neutron yields and spectra from the decays of naturally occurring isotopes in various materials giving sometimes quite different results. The comparison of different codes will be presented and the sources of differences between the results will be discussed, also in comparison with available measurements.

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