

A Study on the Gamma-ray Attenuation coefficient Parameters for Potassium Carbonate

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ABSTRACT

The linear attenuation coefficient (LAC) and mass attenuation coefficient (MAC) are most important while studying of radiation, radio-isotopes in dosimentry and irradiation of materials. In the present work to calculate linear attenuation coefficient (LAC) and mass attenuation coefficient (MAC) values of different salts samples by using Gamma-ray spectrometry with Photo-Multiplier Tube (PMT) and Multi-Channel Analyzer (MCA). The 0.123, 0.511, 0.662, 1.17, 1.28 and 1.33MeV gamma energy rays used for the experiment in the interaction of Potassium carbonate salt samples and compared the Mass attenuation coefficient (MAC) values of salt samples. The obtained gamma-ray spectra were analyzed using computer software.

KEY WORDS:-Gamma-ray attenuation parameters, Gamma-ray spectrometry, Potassium Carbonate.

1. Introduction

The linear attenuation and mass attenuation coefficient of elements, molecules and materials are widely used in space physics, dosimetry, and plasma physics and in the field of radiation physics. The technology developed day by day, the gamma rays are used in many fields, like medicine, food preservation and with their measurement techniques are developed but we find these measurements can be made with still simpler method. The study of absorption of gamma radiations in the material and these are used for study of biological importance.

There are different measurement techniques to measure them. As the technology developed now a day, the gamma rays are used in many areas such as food preservation and medicine and with their measurement techniques are developed. This method is developed from single element mass attenuation coefficient of gamma rays to a mixture that is solute and solvent. In 1977 Hubbel *et al.*, has reported the mass attenuation coefficient for hydrogen, carbon, nitrogen and oxygen at low gamma energy, according to his μ/ρ of these elements using butanol, pentanol, N-N dimethyl acetate and acetone and the other elements i.e. Na, K, Mg. Teli *et al.*, 1994 have measured the attenuation coefficient of 123Kev gamma radiations by dilute solution of sodium chloride. Dongarge et al., 2010 proposed the linear attenuation coefficient for gamma a rays for ammonium sulfate salt by aqueous solution method 1.28 MeV gamma ray energy. Hubbel has calculated mass attenuation coefficient for 92 elements for hydrogen to Uranium and some compounds from photon energies 1 KeV to 20 MeV.

2. Method and Materials

In this study to calculate gamma ray attenuation parameters, some salt samples were by using gammaray spectrometry with Photo-Multiplier Tube (PMT) and Multi-Channel Analyzer (MCA). The interaction of these with matter has various effect like light pulses or chemical changes in materials which is to be detected by detector. First the gamma rays are passed through empty container reaching the detector. The spectrum is obtained for 1800 sec. using MCA which gives plot of channel number Vs counts. The block diagram of gamma-ray spectrometry with Multi-Channel Analyzer (MCA) is



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as shown in the fig.1. The spectrometer comprises scintillator material coupled with photomultiplier tube (PMT) and preamplifier housed in scintillation head. The signal collected from PMT are amplified and digitalized for further processing in Multi-Channel Analyzer (MCA). For gamma ray spectrometry, inorganic crystal of thallium doped Sodium iodide [NaI(Tl)] was used in scintillation detector. The NaI(Tl) was the most extensively used as it has very scintillation efficiency and available in single crystal polycrystalline forms a wide variety of size and geometries. It has maximum light yield is in the range 20°C to 60°C which normal ambient temperature.

The experiment for the measurement of mass attenuation coefficient and linear attenuation coefficient carried out of aqueous solution of Potassium Carbonate compound by a gamma transmission in narrow beam geometry. The measurement of mass attenuation coefficient and linear attenuation coefficient of Potassium m Carbonate at different gamma energies range as 0.123 to 1.33MeV at different amount of concentrations of salt ranges 6.9774gm to 15.9391gm. The experimental arrangement for measuring mass attenuation coefficient and linear attenuation coefficient of the compound is as shown in the fig.2. The total linear attenuation coefficient μ/p (cm⁻¹) and mass attenuation coefficient μ/p (cm⁻²/gm) of the absorber are related by the standard exponential law.

I=Io $e^{-\mu h}$ and

I=Io exp $[\mu / \rho^{(ph)}]$

Since Io, I are proportional to the gross area under the photo-peak of interest. A cylindrical container of internal radius r cm, the density of the solution of mass m and height h cm in the container is given by $p=m/\pi r^2$ therefore the equation as-

$$I = Io \exp\left[\frac{\mu}{\rho} + \frac{m}{\pi r^2}\right]$$

From above equation (μ / ρ) ' as-

$$\left(\frac{\pi}{\rho}\right)' = \frac{\pi r^2}{m} \ln[\frac{Io}{I}]$$

By using this graphical equation calculate the value $\frac{\pi}{\rho}$ from slope.

The gross area of selected region of interest in accumulated spectrum for 1800 sec was used for calculations. The data of measured linear attenuation coefficient of Magnesium Carbonate at different gamma energies range as 0.123, 0.511, 0.662, 1.17, 1.28 and 1.33MeV at different concentration range 6.9774 gm to 15.9391gm as shown in table 1, 2, 3,4,5 and 6.

The block diagram of gamma-ray spectrometry with Multi-Channel Analyzer (MCA) is as shown in the fig.1.



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The experimental arrangement for measuring mass attenuation coefficient and linear attenuation coefficient of the compound is as shown in the fig.2.



3. Results and Discussion

The experimental observations were made for the measurement of measured linear attenuation coefficient and mass attenuation coefficient of Magnesium Carbonate. The gross area of selected region of interest in accumulated spectrum for 1800 sec was used for calculations. The mass attenuation coefficient $\left(\frac{\mu}{\rho}\right)$ was estimated from the linear attenuation coefficient of Magnesium Carbonate at different gamma energies range as 0.123, 0.511, 0.662, 1.17, 1.28 and 1.33MeV at different concentration range 6.9774 gm to 15.9391gm as shown in table 1, 2, 3,4,5 and 6. The percent deviations between experimental and theoretical values of mass attenuation coefficient $\left(\frac{\mu}{\rho}\right)$ are showing good agreement,

as shown in table7.

The measured values of linear attenuation coefficient $\mu c (cm^{-1})$ at different gamma energies range as 0.123, 0.511, 0.662, 1.17, 1.28 and 1.33MeV.

| Table-1- Gamma ray energy 0.123 MeV | | | | | Mass of Comp. | <u>= 2gn</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------|----------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| | m(gm) m=m _c +m _w | Io, I 1800 Sec | Ln(Io/I) | m _c / m x-axis | $(\frac{\mu}{\rho})$ y-axis | |
| | 0.0000 | 11220 | | | | |
| | 6.9774 | 8555 | 0.27118 | 0.28660 | 0.16191 | |



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| 7.9710 | 8289 | 0.30277 | 0.25082 | 15820 |
|---------|------|---------|---------|---------|
| 8.9693 | 7957 | 0.34365 | 0.22297 | 0.15962 |
| 9.9652 | 7658 | 0.38195 | 0.20070 | 0.15969 |
| 10.9611 | 7362 | 0.42137 | 0.18247 | 0.16017 |
| 11.9572 | 7139 | 0.45213 | 0.16727 | 0.15754 |
| 12.9521 | 6804 | 0.50019 | 0.15441 | 0.16089 |
| 13.9430 | 6489 | 0.54759 | 0.14339 | 0.16357 |
| 14.9447 | 6378 | 0.56484 | 0.13384 | 0.15748 |
| 15.9391 | 6197 | 0.59363 | 0.12548 | 0.15517 |

Table-2- Gamma ray energy 0.511 MeV

| m(gm) m=m _c +m _w | Io, I 1800 Sec | Ln(Io/I) | m _c / m x-axis | $(\frac{\mu}{\rho})$ y-axis |
|---|-------------------|----------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 0.0000 | 27543 | | | |
| 6.9774 | 23599 | 0.15454 | 0.28662 | 0.09227 |
| 7.9710 | 23168 | 0.17298 | 0.25091 | 0.09041 |
| 8.9693 | 22476 | 0.20330 | 0.2298 | 0.09443 |
| 9.9652 | 22183 | 0.21642 | 0.20070 | 0.09049 |
| 10.9611 | 21486 | 0.24835 | 0.18242 | 0.09437 |
| 11.9572 | 21227 | 0.26047 | 0.1671\24 | 0.09075 |
| 12.9521 | 20707 | 0.28528 | 0.15442 | 0.09177 |
| 13.9430 | 20148 | 0.3264 | 0.14339 | 0.09339 |
| 14.9447 | 19576 | 0.34144 | 0.13384 | 0.09520 |
| 15.9391 | 19378 | 0.35161 | 0.12548 | 0.09191 |

Table-3- Gamma ray energy 0.662 MeV

| m(gm) m=m _c +m _w | Io, I 1800 Sec | Ln(Io/I) | m _c / m x-axis | $\left(\frac{\mu}{\rho}\right)$ y-axis |
|---|-------------------|----------|------------------------------|--|
| 0.0000 | 20765 | | | |
| 6.9774 | 18077 | 0.13863 | 0.28665 | 0.08278 |
| 7.9710 | 17665 | 0.16168 | 0.25078 | 0.08447 |
| 8.9693 | 17368 | 0.17864 | 0.22299 | 0.08298 |
| 9.9652 | 17052 | 0.19700 | 0.20072 | 0.08237 |
| 10.9611 | 16704 | 0.21762 | 0.18247 | 0.80272 |
| 11.9572 | 19298 | 0.24223 | 0.16732 | 0.08443 |
| 12.9521 | 16038 | 0.25831 | 0.15441 | 0.08309 |
| 13.9430 | 15589 | 0.28370 | 0.14339 | 0.08565 |
| 14.9447 | 15287 | 0.30627 | 0.13385 | 0.08540 |
| 15.9391 | 15084 | 0.31863 | 0.12548 | 0.08355 |

Table-4- Gamma ray energy 1.17 MeV

| m(gm) m=m _c +m _w | Io, I 1800 Sec | Ln(Io/I) | m _c / m x-axis | $(\frac{\mu}{\rho})$ y-axis |
|---|-------------------|----------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 0.0000 | 20167 | | | |
| 6.9774 | 18138 | 0.10604 | 0.28668 | 0.06333 |
| 7.9710 | 17833 | 0.12300 | 0.25051 | 0.06426 |
| 8.9693 | 17689 | 0.13110 | 0.22299 | 0.06090 |
| 9.9652 | 17378 | 0.14884 | 0.20072 | 0.06224 |



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| 10.9611 | 17125 | 0.16351 | 0.18246 | 0.06215 |
|---------|-------|---------|---------|---------|
| 11.9572 | 16803 | 0.18249 | 0.16732 | 0.06361 |
| 12.9521 | 16434 | 0.20470 | 0.15440 | 0.06584 |
| 13.9430 | 16283 | 0.21368 | 0.14339 | 0.06383 |
| 14.9447 | 16004 | 0.23121 | 0.13385 | 0.06447 |
| 15.9391 | 15864 | 0.24000 | 0.12548 | 0.06273 |

| m(gm) m=m _c +m _w | Io, I 1800 Sec | Ln(Io/I) | m _c / m x-axis | $(\frac{\mu}{\rho})$ y-axis |
|---|-------------------|----------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 0.0000 | 11567 | | | |
| 6.9774 | 10424 | 0.10405 | 0.28668 | 0.06214 |
| 7.9710 | 10288 | 0.11718 | 0.25082 | 0.06123 |
| 8.9693 | 10165 | 0.12921 | 0.22304 | 0.06003 |
| 9.9652 | 10034 | 0.14218 | 0.20068 | 0.05944 |
| 10.9611 | 9828 | 0.16292 | 0.18245 | 0.06192 |
| 11.9572 | 9764 | 0.16945 | 0.16734 | 0.05907 |
| 12.9521 | 9534 | 0.19329 | 0.15441 | 0.06217 |
| 13.9430 | 9429 | 0.20437 | 0.14339 | 0.06105 |
| 14.9447 | 9226 | 0.22613 | 0.13385 | 0.06305 |
| 15.9391 | 9104 | 0.23944 | 0.12549 | 0.06359 |

Table-5- Gamma ray energy 1.28 MeV

Table-6- Gamma ray energy 1.33 MeV

| m(gm) m=m _c +m _w | Io, I 1800 Sec | Ln(Io/I) | m _c / m x-axis | $(\frac{\mu}{\rho})$ y-axis |
|---|-------------------|----------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 0.0000 | 10896 | | | |
| 6.9774 | 9832 | 0.10275 | 0.28671 | 0.06137 |
| 7.9710 | 9769 | 0.10918 | 0.25088 | 0.05706 |
| 8.9693 | 9576 | 0.12914 | 0.22304 | 0.06000 |
| 9.9652 | 9477 | 0.13953 | 0.20072 | 0.05834 |
| 10.9611 | 9322 | 0.15602 | 0.18245 | 0.05930 |
| 11.9572 | 9201 | 0.16821 | 0.16734 | 0.05864 |
| 12.9521 | 9028 | 0.18806 | 0.15441 | 0.06049 |
| 13.9430 | 8936 | 0.19831 | 0.14439 | 0.05924 |
| 14.9447 | 8724 | 0.22232 | 0.13384 | 0.06199 |
| 15.9391 | 8639 | 0.22321 | 0.12548 | 0.06067 |

The percent deviations between experimental and theoretical values of mass attenuation coefficient $\left(\frac{\mu}{\rho}\right)$ are follows

| Table-7- Mas | s atten | uatio | n coeffici | ient for | Mag | gnesiu | m Carbonate. |
|--------------|---------|-------|------------|----------|-----|--------|--------------|
| | - | | | | | - | 0 / |

| Energy | Experimental | Theoretical | % |
|--------|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| (MeV) | values | Values | Deviation |
| 0.1230 | 0.18318 | 0.18917 | 3.17064 |
| 0.5110 | 0.08450 | 0.08451 | 0.01775 |
| 0.6620 | 0.07523 | 0.07520 | -0.04122 |
| 1.1700 | 0.05708 | 0.05699 | -0.15967 |
| 1.2800 | 0.05456 | 0.05447 | 0.17808 |
| 1.3300 | 0.05391 | 0.05349 | -0.78701 |





Fig.3- Graph of Energy V/S experimental and Theoretical values of $(\frac{\mu}{\rho})$ for Magnesium Carbonate

Conclusion

In the this research work experimental and theoretical measurement of linear and mass attenuation coefficient of Potassium Carbonate at different gamma energies range as 0.123, 0.511, 0.662, 1.17, 1.28 and 1.33MeV. The validity of the exponential absorption law for gamma radiation in solution, also as in solids and provide a new method for the determination of linear attenuation coefficient μc (cm⁻¹) and mass attenuation coefficient $\left(\frac{\mu}{\rho}\right)$ for soluble substance. The method used is simple and avoids the need of preparation of pure crystalline compound for experiment thereby saving time and expenditure. The results of this study give information about self attenuation correction factors. The attenuation coefficients are needed for different applications of radiation, e.g. dosimetry, radiography, tomography in industrial, agricultural and medical areas in science, technology, human health etc.

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