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**Gadolinium Based Scintillators for Thermal Neutron Detection**

**Abstract**

Neutron detectors are used in various applications in nuclear security and nuclear safety. Most efficient neutron detection systems used in these applications are based on the 3He technology. The growing demand for 3He already exceeds production in the next few years leading to an exponential increase of the price. The last decade has been driven by the quest for finding competitive alternative technologies to replace 3He base detectors. Gadolinium (Gd) is a promising rare earth element which has the largest thermal neutron absorption cross section of all the stable elements. Scintillators based on Gd show a high potential for the deployment of efficient and cost-effective detectors for thermal neutron detection. This poster describes the investigation and fabrication of Gd2O3:Eu3+, GdBO3:Eu3+ andLi6Gd(BO3)3:Eu3+ phosphors as thin scintillator layers for thermal neutron detection. Laboratory samples were evaluated using photoluminescence, gamma and X-ray response.

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