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## The impact of polyethylene vials on reactor channel characterization in $k_0$ -NAA

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Reactor channel characterization is commonly performed by irradiation of bare and cadmium-covered “fluence rate-monitors”, avoiding as much as possible the use of irradiation vials/capsules and spacers for positioning the monitors inside the channel.

However, in routine  $k_0$ -Neutron Activation Analysis is generally necessary to pack the samples in polyethylene vials prior to irradiation.

This work aims at studying the impact of polyethylene vials on the  $f$  (thermal-to-epithermal flux ratio) and  $\alpha$  (epithermal flux distribution) parameters through the bare, cadmium-covered and Cadmium-ratio methods.

The accuracy of each method will be discussed.

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