Long term monitoring of Bratislava aerosol radioactivity.

Ivan Sýkora,1,*

¹Comenius University Bratislava, Department of Nuclear Physics and Biophysics, 842 48 Bratislava, Slovakia

* e-mail: sykora@fmph.uniba.sk corresponding/presenting author

Variations of cosmogenic (⁷Be), primordial (⁴⁰K), radiogenic (²¹⁰Pb) and anthropogenic (¹³⁷Cs) radionuclides in Bratislava air studied during 2001–2024 using a weekly sampling and HPGe gamma-spectrometry are presented. A new sampling device (Senya Snow White), recently installed in our meteorological station, was tested and compared with the old sampling system. While ⁷Be variations were associated with transport of air masses from the lower stratosphere to the ground level air, an inverse trend was observed for ²¹⁰Pb variations due to infiltration of radon from the soil. The ¹³⁷Cs activity concentrations (excluding the Chernobyl and Fukushima accidents periods) were decreasing with half-life of 1.9 years, however, during recent years they were almost constant. The increased atmospheric ⁴⁰K levels were due to soil resuspension and radionuclide transport by winds.