Abstract

Irradiation experiments (IE) are an essential step in the development of High-Energy Physics (HEP) particle accelerators and detectors. They are used to assess the radiation hardness of experimental devices by simulating, in a short time, the common long-term degradation effects due to energy loss in matter. Usually carried out with ionizing radiation, these complex processes require highly specialized infrastructures called “irradiation facilities”. Aiming to promote knowledge sharing and digital management of IEs, we introduce IEDM, a new Irradiation Experiments Data Management ontology. This work presents an overview of the key concepts and structure of IEDM while discussing possible applications.

Why and where do we need such experiments?

Irradiation experiments are found in different domains:

- **High-Energy Physics (HEP)**: qualification of detectors or electronic components in a radiation environment equivalent to the one these devices will encounter in actual HEP experiments and accelerators, thus simulating, in a short time, long-term radiation-induced degradation effects;
- **Space Technology and Avionics**: radiation-hardness testing of components of aircraft and spacecraft avionics, subjected to radiation damage during flight;
- **Industry**: food sterilization, seed treatment, etc.;
- **Medicine**: radiotherapy treatments.

Irradiation Experiments

What is irradiation experiment?

An irradiation experiment is a process where materials (e.g., electronics, detectors, etc.) or patients are purposefully exposed to a radiation source of electromagnetic or corpuscular nature.

Irradiation Facilities Survey

We conducted an extensive survey of the irradiation facilities existing worldwide in order to find the important semantic domain entities.

With the collected data, we developed and populated an irradiation facilities database and web application.

http://cern.ch/irradiation-facilities

IEDM Ontology

IEDM reuses classes from the Ontology of Scientific Experiments (EXPO), the Units of Measure ontology (OM) and the Friend-of-a-Friend ontology (FOAF). Concepts specific to the data management of irradiation experiments are introduced afterwards.

http://cern.ch/iedm