

Miniature X- Ray Source

Mini–X is a self-contained, miniature X-ray tube system, which includes the X-ray tube, high voltage power supply and USB controller. Designed for X-ray fluorescence analysis applications - XRF.



Mini-X is the first of its kind; a self-contained, packaged, miniature X-ray tube system, which includes the X-ray tube, the power supply, the control electronics and the USB communication to the computer. It is designed to replace radioisotopes in X-ray fluorescence analysis applications.

Mini-X has been designed to simplify the XRF process by providing a grounded anode, variable current and voltage controlled via USB and ease of operation. It features a 50 kV/80 μ A power supply, a gold (Au) or silver (Ag) transmission target, and a beryllium end window. It is designed for continuous operation in industrial environments.

To further simplify the use of Mini-X an AC adaptor is provided to supply the 12 VDC needed to power the system. The only connections needed to operate the tube are a USB cable and AC adaptor. A flashing red LED and a beeper warns the user when x-rays are present.

Features

- 50 kV / 80 µA
- Ag or Au target

Mini–X

- USB controlled
- Stable output
- Fast
- Low power
- Small

Applications

- X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) analysis
- Portable systems
- OEM
- Process Control
- Research
- Teaching



Mini–X Output X-Ray Spectra

The Mini-X is based on the Newton Scientific Inc. miniature X-ray source.

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Mini–X Specifications

Target Material	Silver (Ag)	Gold (Au)
Target Thickness	0.75 μm (±0.1 μm)	1 μm (±0.1 μm)
Tube Voltage	10 to 50 kV	10 to 50 kV
Tube Current	5 μA min. / 200 μA max.	5 μA min. / 200 μA max.
Approximate Dose Rate	1 Sv/h @ 30 cm on axis, 50 kV and 80 μA	1.3 Sv/h @ 30 cm on axis, 50 kV and 80 μA
Approximate Flux	10 ⁶ counts per second/mm ² on the axis at a distance of 30 cm (50 keV/1 $\mu A)$	1.3x10 ⁶ counts per second/mm ² on the axis at a distance of 30 cm (50 keV/1 $\mu A)$
Continuous Output Power	4 W max. @ 100% duty cycle	4 W max. @ 100% duty cycle
Window Material	Beryllium (Be); window at ground	Beryllium (Be); window at ground
Window Thickness	127 μm	127 μm
Focal Spot Size	Approximately 2 mm	Approximately 2 mm
Output Cone Angle	120°	120°
Cooling	Air cooled	Air cooled
High Voltage Stability	< 0.1%	< 0.1%
Leakage Radiation	<5 µSv/h (0.5 mrem/h) at 5 cm with safety plug installed	<5 µSv/h (0.5 mrem/h) at 5 cm with safety plug installed
Power Consumption	9 W at 50 kV and 80 μA	9 W at 50 kV and 80 μA
Input Voltage	12 VDC (AC adapter included)	12 VDC (AC adapter included)
Control	USB, mini-USB connector (cable included)	USB, mini-USB connector (cable included)
Setting Time	Typical < 1 s	Typical < 1 s
Weight	360 g	360 g
Humidity	30 to 90% non condensing	30 to 90% non condensing
Operating Temperature	-10 °C to +50 °C	-10 °C to +50 °C
Storage Temperature	-25 °C to +60 °C	-25 °C to +60 °C
Safety Controls and Indicators	 1) External hardware interlock 2) Flashing LED 3) Beeper 	 1) External hardware interlock 2) Flashing LED 3) Beeper
Software	Control Software controls voltage and current. Mini-X API for custom programming applications	Control Software controls voltage and current Mini-X API for custom programming applications
Warranty	One year or 2000 hours, whichever comes first	One year or 2000 hours, whichever comes first

Radiation Precautions

The Mini–X Is intended to generate x-ray radiation during normal operation. The Mini–X has been designed to focus radiation in the designated output direction, however radiation in other directions is possible and should be addressed with shielding and/or monitoring in the final application.

Radiation Levels external to the X-ray tube housing with the brass safety plug ON do not exceed 25 µS/h (2.5 mrem/h) measured 5 cm from the surface of the housing in accordance with Requirements 5.2.2.2.2 of the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) Handbook for Radiation Safety for X-Ray Diffraction and Fluorescence Analysis Equipment.

Examples of Shielding (that comply with the above standard)

- 1 mm (0.040 inch) of Pb will result in radiation levels of 0.5 mrem/h.
- 6.35 mm (0.250 inch) of Fe will result in radiation levels of 0.5 mrem/h.
- 3.18 mm (0.125 inch) of Brass will result in radiation levels of 2.5 mrem/h.

The inside of the housing can also be lined with 3.18 mm (0.125 inch) of aluminum (AI) in order to absorb the XRF from the shielding material.

Caution

This device produces X-Rays when energized. To be operated only by qualified personnel.



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