

Fission Counters

(RS-P6-1608-110)

For source range reactor control

The RS-P6-1608-110 is a fission counter for use in a mixed neutron and gamma flux.

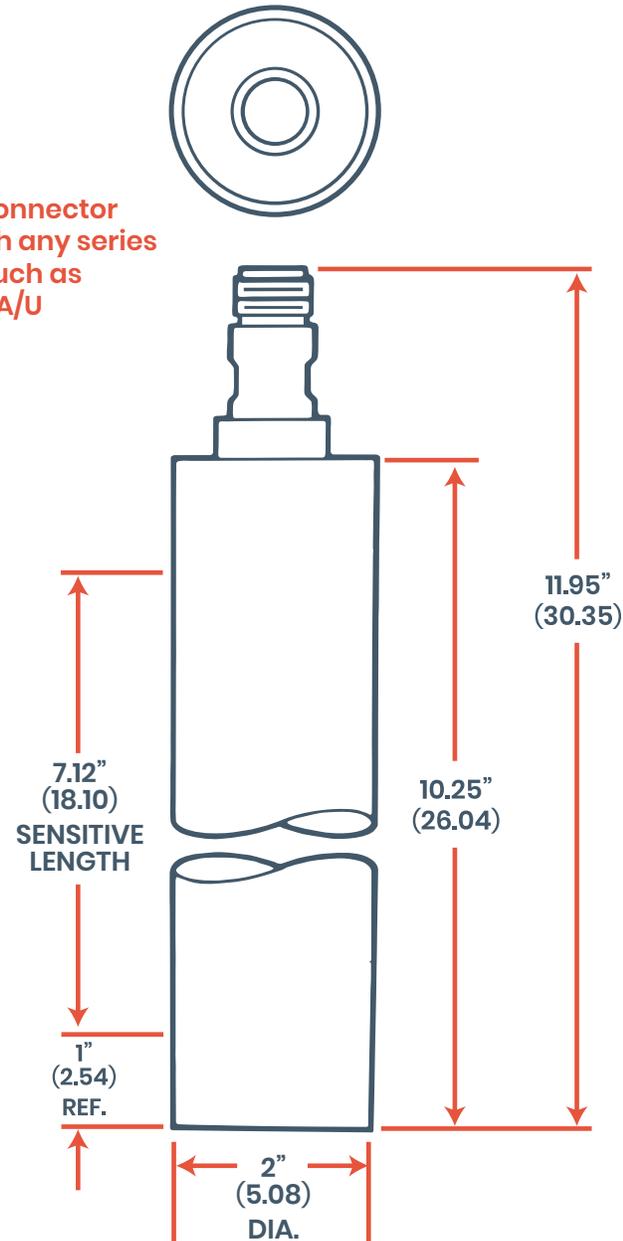
It has special advantages over other source range neutron counters (BF_3 and B_{10}) in applications where the detector must operate while exposed to high gamma flux ($>10^3$ R/hr).

In such cases, the very large fission pulses permit discrimination against gamma pulses and pulse pile-up because of the high neutron-to-gamma signal ratio. B_{10} and BF_3 counters would experience gamma pulse pile-up to the extent that they cannot be operated satisfactorily.

In all potential applications, the inherent low sensitivity (0.95 cps/nv in 0 R/hr) must be weighed against the advantage of satisfactory performance (with reduced neutron sensitivity) in a high gamma environment. In all cases of operation in a high gamma flux, performance is greatly dependent on associated electronics. High count-rate electronics are required for optimum performance.

The unit is constructed of aluminum alloy for minimum neutron absorption and residual activity. All seals are ceramic-to-metal. Insulators are high-purity alumina.

Type HN connector mates with any series HN plug, such as MIL UG-59A/U



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Specifications

Mechanical

- **Maximum diameter:** 5.16 cm.
- **Maximum overall length:** 30.66 cm.
- **Connectors:** Type HN
- **Net weight:** 0.8 kg.

Material

- **Outer shell and inner electrodes:** Aluminum
- **Connector:** Magnesium
- **Insulation (detector and connector):** Alumina ceramic
- **Neutron sensitive material:** Uranium enriched >93% in U-235
- **Total quantity U-235:** 1.8 gm
- **Fill gas:** 76 cm Hg - Argon/Nitrogen

Capacitance

- 140 pf

Resistance @ 25°C

- 10^9 ohms (minimum)

Maximum ratings

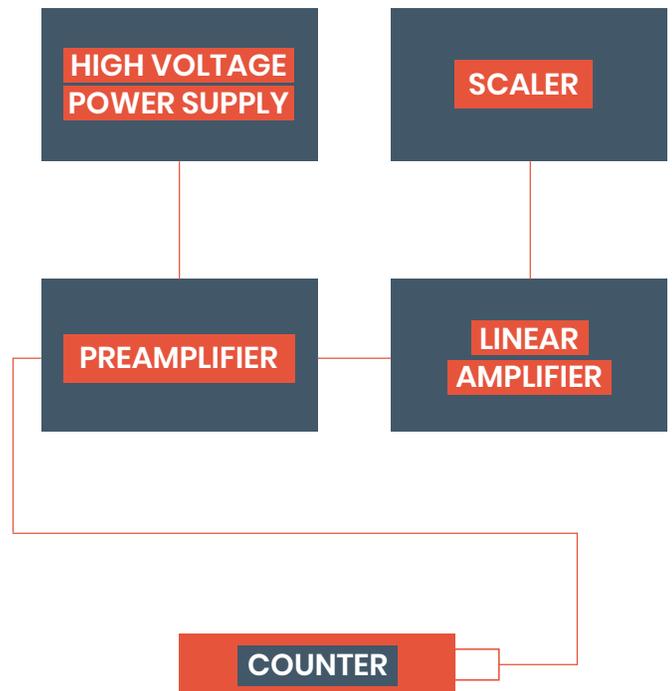
- **Voltage:** 800 volts
- **Temperature:** 300°C (572°F)
- **Burn-up life:**
for 10% decrease in sensitivity: 1.6×10^{20} nvt (thermal)

Typical operating characteristics

- **Thermal neutron sensitivity (unperturbed):** 0.95 cps/nv
minimum $\pm 20\%$
- **Thermal neutron flux range:** to 10^{10} nv
- **Voltage range:** 300 to 800 volts
- **Output pulse characteristics (average):**
 - Charge output: 7×10^{-14} coulombs
 - Collection time: <200 nanoseconds

NOTE: The sensitivity is measured with alpha background count rate from uranium plating <1 cps

Typical connection diagram



CABLE: LOW-NOISE COAX

