







# Disadvantages of Radiography

- Many safety precautions for the use of high intensity radiation.
- Many hours of technician training prior to use.
- Access to both sides of sample required.
- Orientation of equipment and flaw can be critical.
- Determining flaw depth is impossible without additional angled exposures.
- Expensive initial equipment cost.

# Basic Principles

## *Atoms and Their Components*

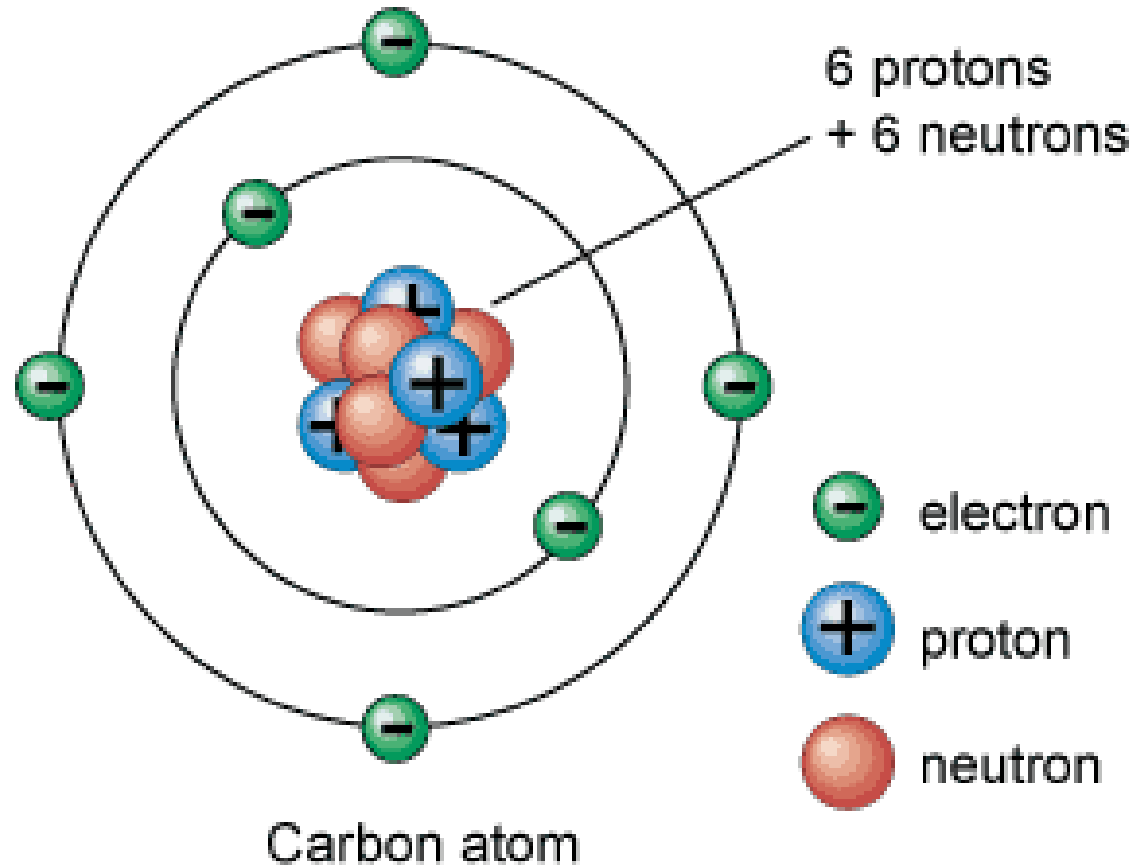
- Subatomic particles organize to form all atoms.
  - The three basic subatomic particles are the proton, neutron, and electron.
  - **Protons** and **electrons** are charged particles.
  - **Neutrons** are neutral or uncharged.
  - Protons have a positive (+) charge, and electrons have a negative (-) charge.
  - Overall, atoms have *no charge* because the number of protons is equal to the number of electrons.

# Basic Principles

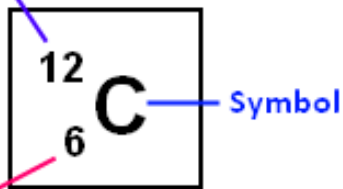
## *Atoms and Their Components*

- **Structure of an Atom**
  - **Protons** and **neutrons** are clustered together in the nucleus.
  - **Electrons** are dispersed throughout the area around the nucleus.
  - The space occupied by the electrons is called **the electron cloud** since the electrons are constantly moving and are difficult to pinpoint
  - Most of an atom consists of empty space.

# Basic Principles



Protons + Neutrons = Atomic Mass Number



Number of Protons = Atomic Number

# Basic Principles

## *Atomic Number and Mass Number*

- All atoms of the same element always have the same number of protons.
- **Atomic Number**
  - The number of protons in an atom of any element can be determined from the periodic table.
  - The number that appears above each element within its block is its atomic number.
  - The atomic number indicates the number of protons present.



# Basic Principles

## *Atomic Number and Mass Number*

- The number of protons gives an atom its unique properties.
- A carbon atom, atomic number 6, contains six protons.
- All atoms of carbon have six protons.
- Because atoms are neutral (no charge), the number of electrons in an atom is equal to the number of protons.
- Carbon must contain six electrons.













# Basic Principles

## *Radioactivity and Radioisotopes*

- Most naturally occurring isotopes have a stable nucleus and are not radioactive.
- Isotopes that are not stable become stable by spontaneously emitting radiation from their nuclei.
- This is radioactive decay.
- Isotopes that emit radiation are also called radioisotopes.
- All the isotopes of elements with atomic number 83 and higher are radioactive.
- Some smaller elements also have radioisotopes.



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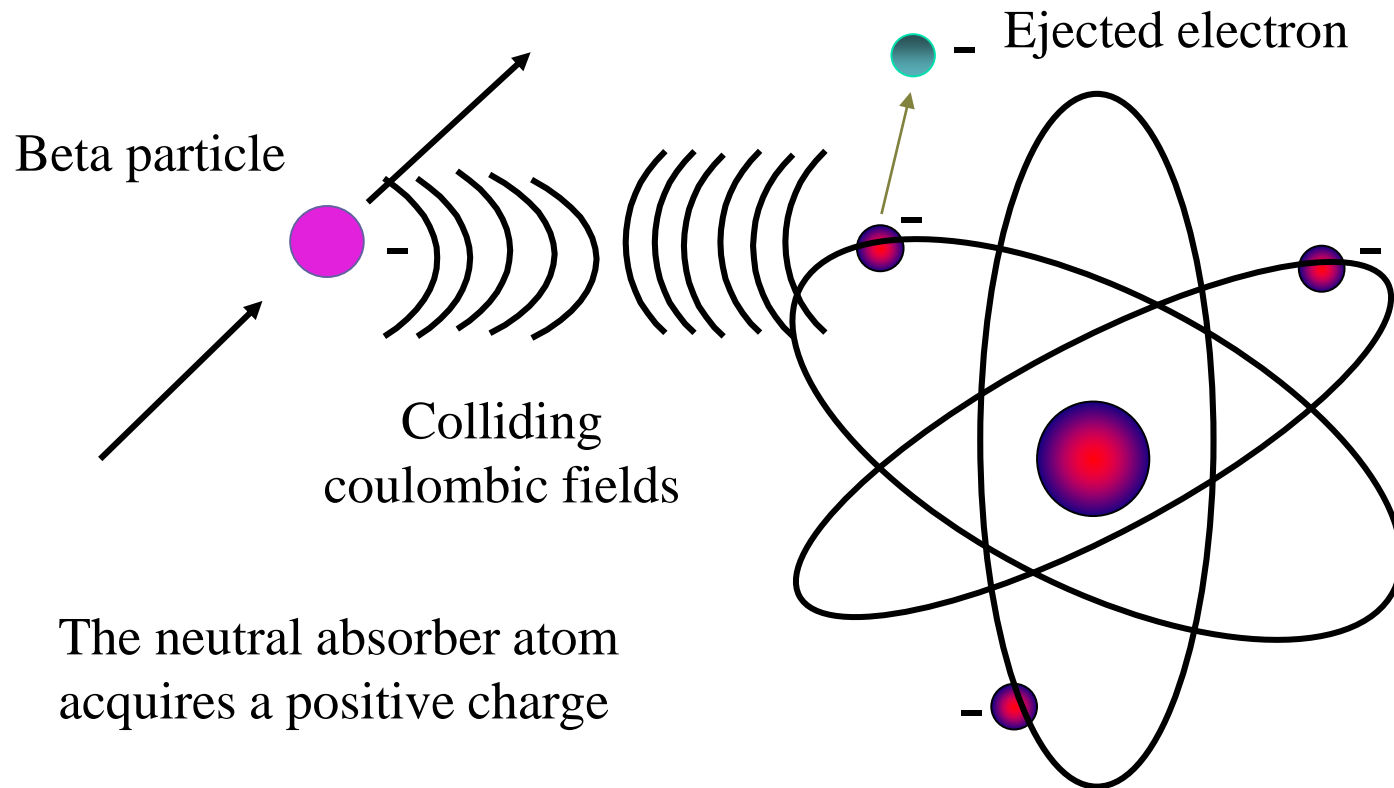




# Basic Principles

## ***Ionizing***

Formation of a charged and reactive atom



# Basic Principles

## *Ionizing*

▪ **Non-Ionizing Radiation**: Radiation that does not have sufficient energy to dislodge orbital electrons.

**Examples of non-ionizing radiation**: microwaves, ultraviolet light, lasers, radio waves, infrared light, and radar.

▪ **Ionizing Radiation**: Radiation that has sufficient energy to dislodge orbital electrons.

**Examples of ionizing radiation**: alpha particles, beta particles, neutrons, gamma rays, and x-rays.

# Basic Principles

## *Ionizing radiation*

- Occurs from the addition or removal of electrons from neutral atoms
- Four main types of ionizing radiation
  - alpha, beta, gamma and neutrons



# Basic Principles

## *Determining Half-Lives*

Defined as the time required for the activity of a particular radioisotope to decrease to half of its original value

Varies for different radioisotopes

Ranges from microseconds to billions of years (uranium)

Half-life of Cobalt-60 = 5.3 years

Half-life Iridium-192 = 74 days

Carbon-14 dating

used to approximate the age of fossils

Decays with a half-life of 5730 years

$$\text{isotope remaining} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \times \text{starting amount}$$

where  $n$  = the number of half-lives determined

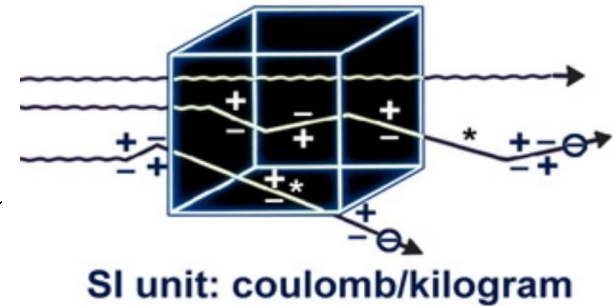




# Basic Principles

## *Radiation exposure*

The roentgen is a unit for measuring *exposure*. It is defined only for effect on air. The roentgen is essentially a measure of how many ion pairs are formed in a given volume of air when it is exposed to radiation. Therefore it is **not** a measure of energy absorbed, or *dose*. It applies only to gamma and x-rays. It does not relate the amount of exposure to biological effects of radiation in the human body.



Traditional unit: **Roentgen (R)** =  $2.58 \times 10^{-4}$  coulomb/kg  
=  $1 \text{esu/cm}^3$

# Basic Principles

## *Radiation exposure*

**The roentgen** describes the amount of x-rays or gamma rays to which a target (e.g., fly, mouse, rat, dog, human, cow, elephant, etc.) is exposed. The roentgen relates to the ability of x-rays and gamma rays to remove electrons from atoms in one cm<sup>3</sup> of air. 1 R (Roentgen) = 1000 mR (milliRoentgen)

# Basic Principles

## *Absorbed dose (D)*

Energy imparted to matter from any type of radiation

$$D = E/m$$

**D:** absorbed dose

**E:** energy absorbed by material of mass 'm'

Units of absorbed dose

The SI unit: gray (Gy)

$$1 \text{ Gy} = 1 \text{ joule/kilogram}$$

Old unit : rad

$$1 \text{ Gy} = 100 \text{ rad}$$



# Basic Principles

**Different absorbed doses can arise in different organs or tissue of the body for the same exposure in R.** Thus, if a person were exposed to 10 R of gamma rays, the eye, the thyroid, and the lung would have different absorbed doses. Special computer programs can calculate such doses.

**Units of absorbed dose often used are the rad and gray (an SI unit).**







# Basic Principles

## *Effective dose (E)*

Risk related parameter, taking relative *radiosensitivity* of each organ and tissue into account

$$E(Sv) = \sum_T W_T \times H_T$$

$W_T$  : tissue weighting factor for organ T

$H_T$  : equivalent dose received by organ or tissue T



# Basic Principles

## Conversion between units used in radiation protection

| Physical quantity | SI unit      | Non-SI unit | Relationship  |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------|---|
| Activity          | becquerel    | curie (Ci)  | $1 \text{ Bq} = 2.7 \times 10^{-11} \text{ Ci}$<br>$1 \text{ Ci} = 3.7 \times 10^{10} \text{ Bq}$<br>$1 \text{ mCi} = 37 \text{ MBq}$ |
| Exposure          | coulomb/kg   | roentgen ®  | $1 \text{ R} = 2.58 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C/kg}$<br>$1 \text{ C/kg} = 3876 \text{ R}$   |
| Absorbed dose     | gray (=J/kg) | rad         | $1 \text{ Gy} = 100 \text{ rad}$  |
| Equivalent dose   | sievert      | rem         | $1 \text{ rad} = 1 \text{ cGy}$<br>$1 \text{ Sv} = 100 \text{ rem}$<br>$1 \text{ rem} = 10 \text{ mSv}$                               |

# Basic Principles

Dose limits recommended by ICRP (1991) - whole body

## Occupational exposure

50 mSv maximum in any 1 year  
100 mSv in 5 years

Working figure 20 mSv per year

## Public exposure

5 mSv in any 5 consecutive years

Working figure 1 mSv per year





# Basic Principles

## *Radiation protection*

### Basic principles of radiation protection

- Justification of practice
- Optimization of protection
- Individual dose limits

**ALARA** As low as reasonably achievable







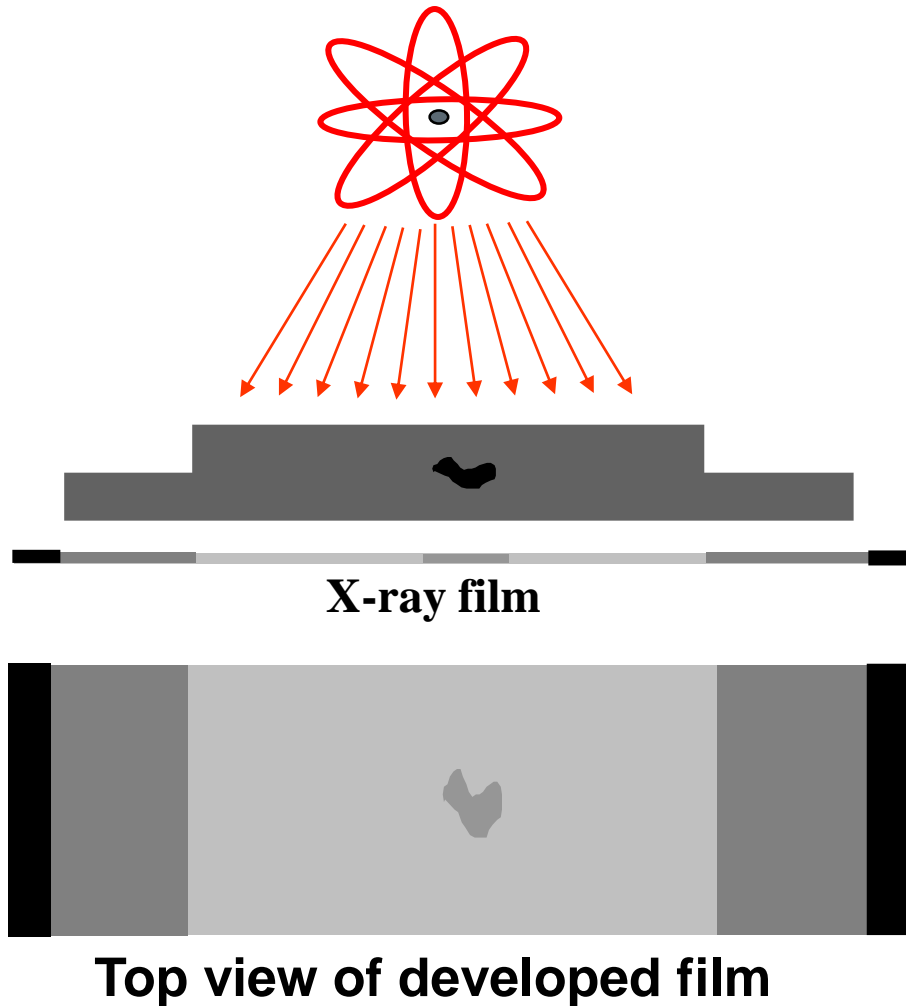








# General Principles of Radiography



The part is placed between the radiation source and a piece of film. The part will stop some of the radiation. Thicker and more dense area will stop more of the radiation.

The film darkness (density) will vary with the amount of radiation reaching the film through the test object.

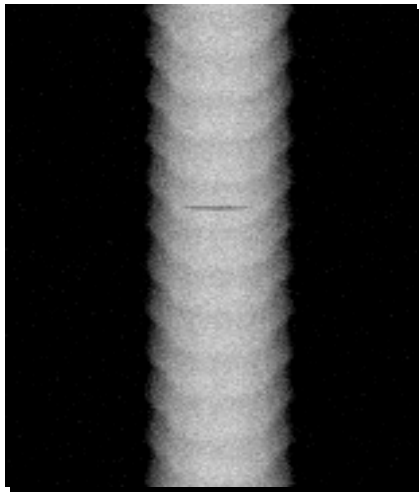




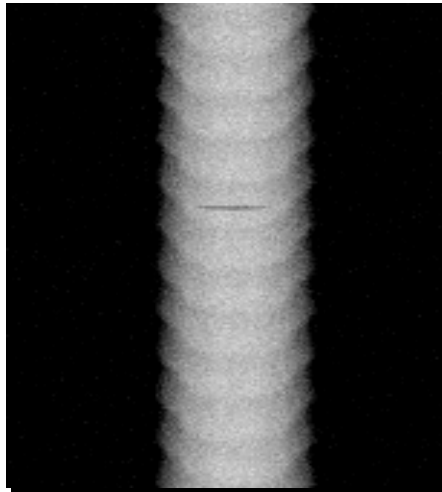


# Flaw Orientation

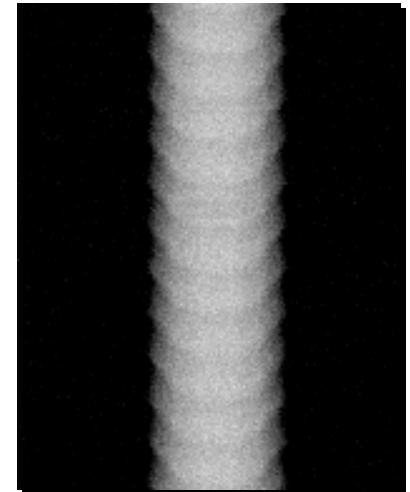
Since the angle between the radiation beam and a crack or other linear defect is so critical, the orientation of defect must be well known if radiography is going to be used to perform the inspection.



0°



10°



20°





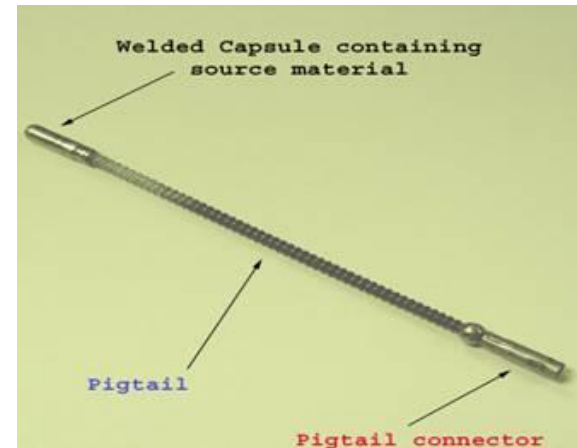
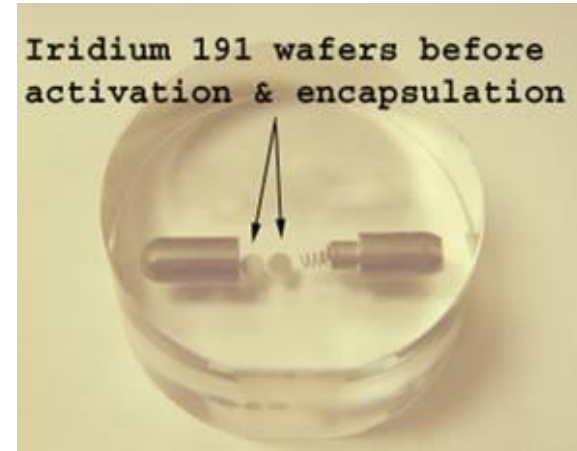


# Gamma Radiography

Unlike X-rays, which are produced by a machine, gamma rays cannot be turned off. Radioisotopes used for gamma radiography are encapsulated to prevent leakage of the material.

The radioactive “capsule” is attached to a cable to form what is often called a “pigtail.”

The pigtail has a special connector at the other end that attaches to a drive cable.









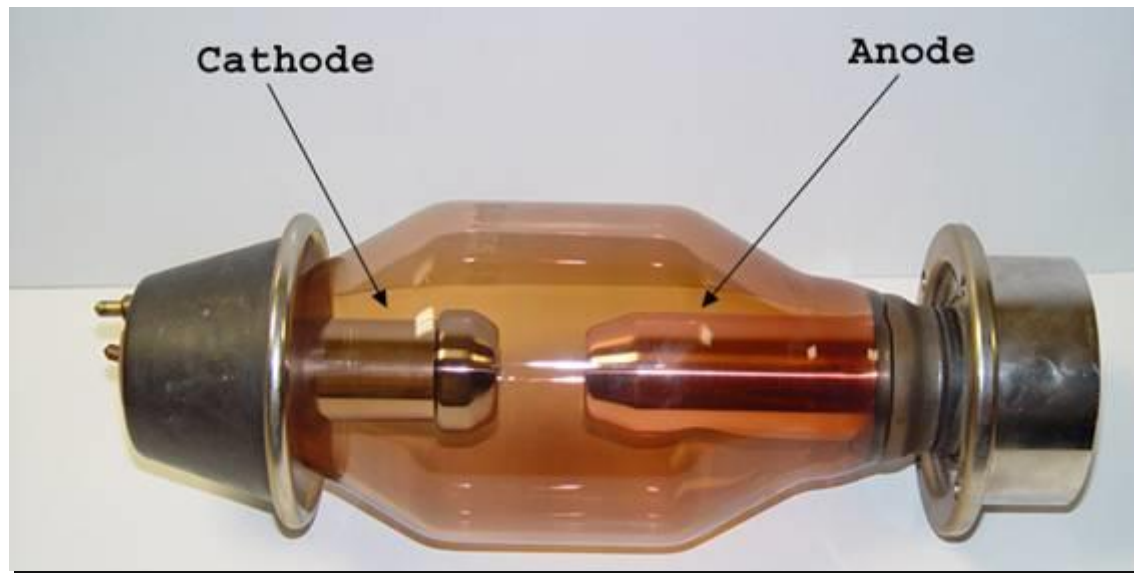






# X-ray Radiography

- X-rays are produced by establishing a very high voltage between two electrodes, called the anode and cathode.
- To prevent arcing, the anode and cathode are located inside a vacuum tube, which is protected by a metal housing.





# Imaging Modalities

Several different imaging methods are available to display the final image in industrial radiography:

- Film Radiography
- Real Time Radiography
- Computed Tomography (CT)
- Digital Radiography (DR)
- Computed Radiography (CR)













# Digital Radiography

There are a number of forms of digital radiographic imaging including:

- Computed Radiography (CR)
- Real-time Radiography (RTR)
- Direct Radiographic Imaging (DR)
- Computed Tomography





# Computed Radiography



*After exposure:*



The imaging plate is read electronically and erased for re-use in a special scanner system.



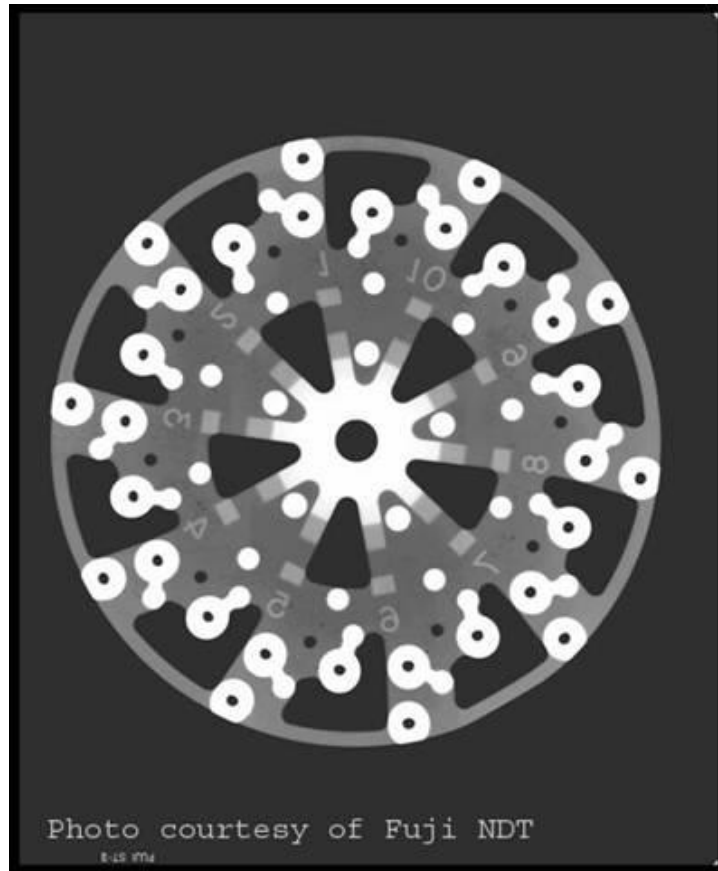






# Computed Radiography

Examples of computed radiographs:



# Real-Time Radiography

- Real-Time Radiography (RTR) is a term used to describe a form of radiography that allows electronic images to be captured and viewed in real time.
- Because image acquisition is almost instantaneous, X-ray images can be viewed as the part is moved and rotated.
- Manipulating the part can be advantageous for several reasons:
  - It may be possible to image the entire component with one exposure.
  - Viewing the internal structure of the part from different angular perspectives can provide additional data for analysis.
  - Time of inspection can often be reduced.











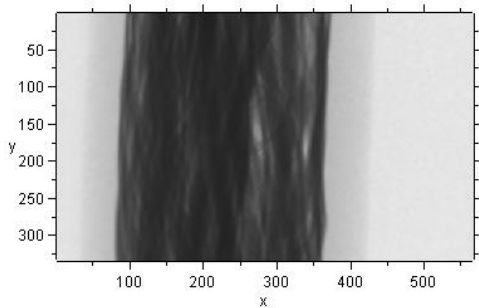




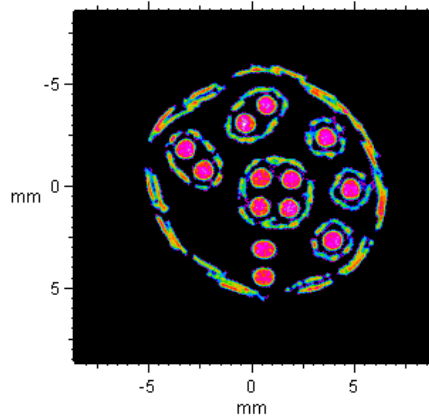


# Computed Tomography

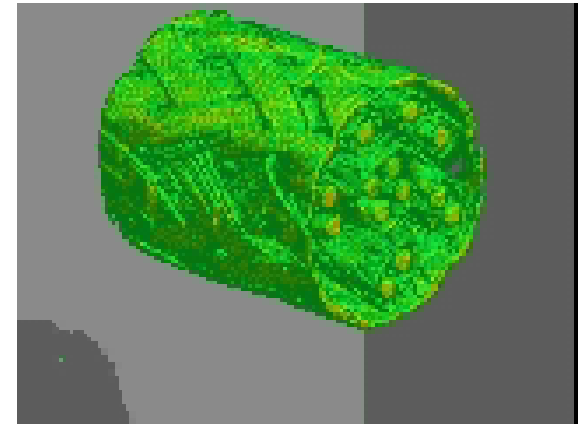
- Many separate images are saved (grabbed) and compiled into 2-dimensional sections as the sample is rotated.
- 2-D images are then combined into 3-dimensional images.



Real-Time  
Captures



Compiled 2-D  
Images



Compiled 3-D  
Structure

























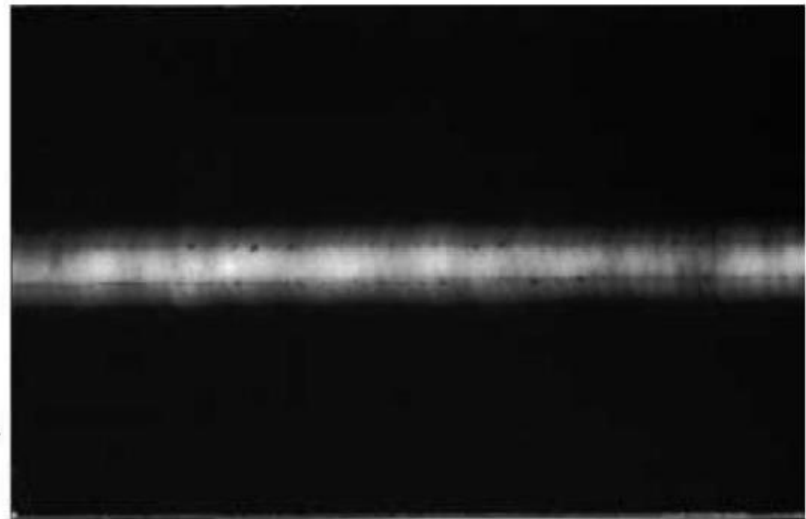
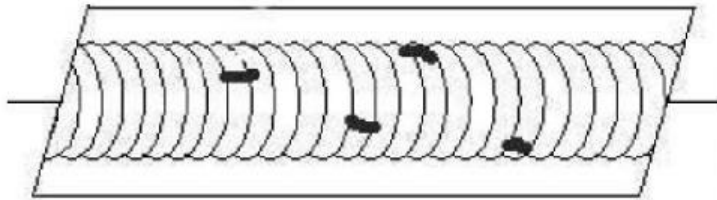
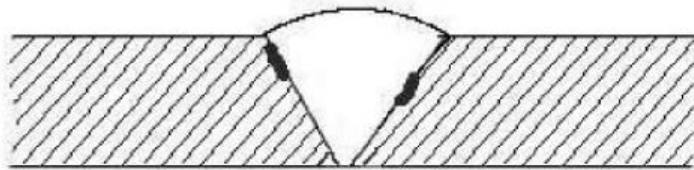






# Examples of radiographs

## *Incomplete fusion*











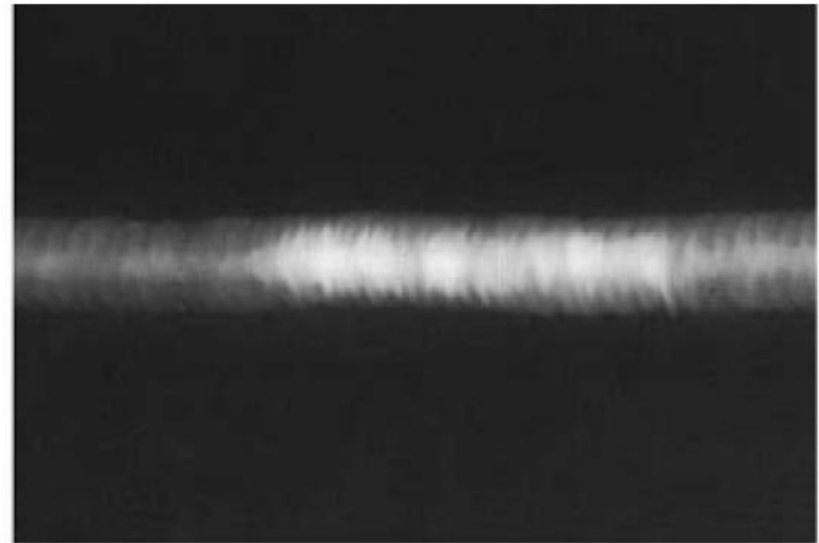
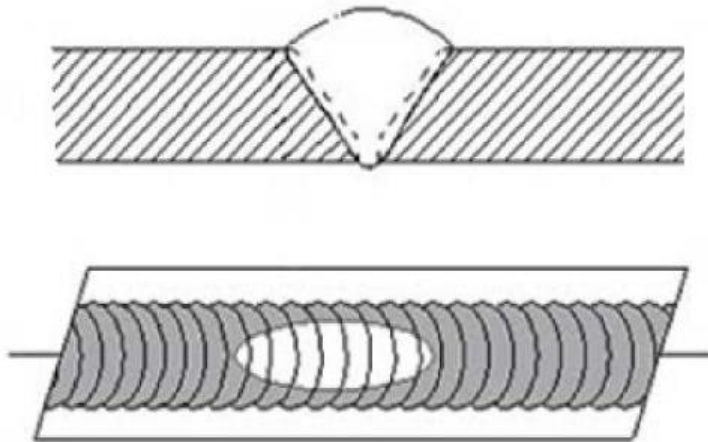






# Examples of radiographs

## *Excess weld reinforcement*









# Glossary of Terms

- **Activation:** the process of creating radioactive material from stable material usually by bombarding a stable material with a large number of free neutrons. This process typically takes place in a special nuclear reactor.
- **Anode:** a positively charged electrode.
- **Automatic Film Processor:** a machine designed to develop film with very little human intervention. Automatic processors are very fast compared to manual development.
- **Capacitor:** an electrical device that stores an electrical charge which can be released on demand.
- **Cathode:** a negatively charged electrode.
- **Exposure:** the process of radiation penetrating and object.

# Glossary of Terms

- **Darkroom:** a darkened room for the purpose of film development. Film is very sensitive to exposure by visible light and may be ruined.
- **Gamma Rays:** electromagnetic radiation emitted from the nucleus of a some radioactive materials.
- **Phosphor:** a chemical substance that emits light when excited by radiation.
- **Pixel:** Short for *Picture Element*, a pixel is a single point in a graphic image. Graphics monitors display pictures by dividing the display screen into thousands (or millions) of pixels, arranged in rows and columns. The pixels are so close together that they appear connected.
- **Photo-multiplier tube:** an amplifier used to convert light into electrical signals.

# Glossary of Terms

- **Radioactive:** to give off radiation spontaneously.
- **Radiograph:** an image of the internal structure of an object produced using a source of radiation and a recording device.
- **Silver Bromide:** silver and bromine compound used in film emulsion to form the image seen on a radiograph.