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Notices

TLDATE : a program for the TL age estimation of archaeological samples

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A program, TLDATE, has been developed for the thermoluminescence (TL) age estimation of archaeological samples. The salient features of the package are :

1. It is simple, very specific and interactive at every stage of the analysis.
2. It plots smoothed, background subtracted and auto scaled glow curves in single and multi-mode.
3. A novel method of plateau estimation, based on two software packages (koul and Bhat, 1994 ;Koul,1995) Data is screened, point by point, from either side of the chosen window to see the relevance of individual points vis-a-vis the plateau. The set of selected inputs has absolutely no impact on the results. There is also provision for identifying the common plateau region.
4. Equivalent dose estimation is carried out by extrapolating the least square fit of the data to the point of intersection with the time or dose axis.
5. In non-linearity estimation the user has to identify the point up to which the supralinear portion extends. There-after, again, a least squares fit is made for points which include this point and all other point above it. The intersection with time or dose axis yields nonlinearity correction.
6. A subroutine for annual dose estimation which takes care of all relevent parameters (Nambi and Aitken,1986).
7. Age estimation and errors involved in it are calculated in a conventional way (Aitken, 1985).
8. All data management is in-built in the package.

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Note :

For any information about this package please contact D.K.Koul or Director, Centre for Advanced Technology, Indore 452 013, India.

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