CHECKLIST

Dead time awareness checklist for radiation measurements

- [ ] Confirm the dead time value for your detector from the manufacturer or measure it with paired sources.
- [ ] Check whether your readings plateau or fall as you move closer to the source.
- [ ] Apply dead-time correction only when losses stay below twenty per cent.
- [ ] Report both observed and corrected count rates with the dead-time value used.
- [ ] Repeat measurements at lower count rates if the correction introduces large uncertainty.
- [ ] Replace or reconfigure the detector if it enters saturation or rollover.