

TOP SECRET

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A STUDY OF THE TWO DIMENSIONAL  
MULTIGROUP DIFFUSION  
ANALYSIS CODE: FEREBUS

by  
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## ÖZET

Bu çalışmada amaçtır EREBUS isimli, çok guruplu difüzyon ve difüzyonun sonlu boyutlu geometride çözümleri için geliştirilmiş bir bilgisayar programını deneylerle incelemek. EREBUS programının geliştirilmesinde yardımcı olanlar N. Console, A. D'acchi ve P. Di Stefano'dur. EREBUS programının geliştirildiği okul Doğu İtalya'daki Udine'deki Udine Üniversitesi'dir. Programın dili FORTRAN 77'dir.

Bu bilgisayar programı difüzyon denkleminin iki boyutlu ve üç boyutlu (2D ve 3D) geometride sonlu farklar yöntemiyle çözümleri için çözümleri ve gerekli olan mikroskopik hesaplamaları için küçük bilgisayar programları tarafından hazırlanmıştır. EREBUS programı, GTSB'nin (Gesellschaft für Kernforschungsbereich für die Entwicklung der Schichtfahrt mbH.) yardımıyla K. Pando, P. Schell, G. Schütz tarafından geliştirilmiş olan GTSB kodu kullanılarak geliştirilmiştir.

EREBUS bir ana program ve alt programlar içeren bir programdır. Bu programın işlevleri aşağıdaki gibidir:

1. Giriş bilgilerinin okunması, kontrol edilmesi, çıkartılması ve yazılması.
2. Grup sabitlerinin ve makroskopik hesaplamaların yapılması.
3. Difüzyon denkleminin sonlu farklar yöntemiyle çözümleri için gerekli hesaplamaların yapılması.
4. Sonlu fark denklemlerinin çözülmesi.
5. Yerel alanlardaki yama mikroskopisi ve diğer hesaplamaların belirlenen zaman dilimlerinde yapılması.
6. Elde edilen bilgilerin düzenlenerek yazılması.

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to examine and explain the computer code DIBBUS. It is a multi-group diffusion equation code in two dimensions, with criticality searches. This code has been developed by H. Concio, A. Daneri, and K. Saito under the auspices of EURATOM-FIAT-ARS and is adapted to be used in the TRIGA system at BOAZIGI UNIVERSITY. Program description of DIBBUS is given in VI NAROVAN IV.

DIBBUS is designed to solve problems involving the finite difference representation of the diffusion theory equations in two spatial dimensions in either one or two energy groups.

The major sections of this code are: 1) Input data, which is accepted by various codes but, (THIS, developed by K. Tamm, and the U.S. Oak Ridge under the auspices of ORNL (Generalized) and the Kernforschungswerk in Schiffbau und Schiffbau, which was developed specifically for this purpose.

DIBBUS consists of one main program and several subprograms. The major sections of which perform the following functions:

1. Processing of the input data, including checking and editing.
2. Calculation of the required macroscopic cross sections and group parameters.
3. Calculation of the coefficients for the finite difference equations used to approximate the group diffusion equations, together with the interface and boundary coefficients.
4. Solution of the eigenvalue problem represented by the finite difference equations.
5. Calculation of the fuel depletion and accumulation of fission products for a specified time step.
6. Printing of the selected information for the user's use and plotting.

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NOTATION

SYMBOL	CHARACTERIZE
$W_{AB}(J)$	: Absorption term for the $J^{th}$ isotope
$P$	: Actual power density
$A(J)$	: Atomic weight of the $J^{th}$ isotope
$A_v$	: Avogadro Number
$J$	: Burnable (time dependent) isotope index
$M$	: Composition index
$\lambda$	: Decay constant
$D$	: Diffusion factor
$V_{eff}$	: Effective volume of the reactor
$S_{eff}$	: Fission source term
$Y_{eff}$	: Fission yield
$X_{eff}$	: Fom factor
$P_{act}$	: Integrated actual power
$S_{act}$	: Integrated actual source
$V_{act}$	: Integrated actual volume flux
$A_{loss}$	: Losses due to absorption, removal and leakage
$\sigma_a$	: Macroscopic absorption cross section
$\sigma_f$	: Macroscopic cross section for energy production
$\sigma_{f,0}$	: Macroscopic fission cross section
$\sigma_r$	: Macroscopic removal cross section
$N(r)$	: Neutron density in region $r$
$\phi$	: Neutron flux
$R$	: Region index

- SCORR : Scattering collision source  
 : Self-Shielding factor  
 $W(j)$  : Total weight of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  burnable isotope in region  $R$   
 $W(R, j)$  : Weight of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  burnable isotope in core region  $R$   
 $W(i, j)$  : Weight of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  burnable isotope in region  $i$

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study is to examine and explain the operation of the program HERBIE which is a multigroup diffusion model with dimensions, with criticality searches. This code is designed to operate on the computer of the IBM-360 and is written in FORTRAN which uses large directly addressable storage. It is written by M. G. Smith, A. J. Taylor and W. S. Ballis under the sponsorship of the Office of Naval Research in Fortran IV language and has been adapted to the IBM-360 system at Bogazici University.

HERBIE is designed to solve problems involving the diffusion of neutrons in a homogeneous medium. The theory of neutron transport is a complex one and can be solved by using an analytical technique or by numerical analysis.

A neutron reactor is a device in which neutrons are produced and arranged so that a chain reaction can occur in a controlled manner. The neutron chain reaction is a self-sustaining chain reaction in which the number of neutrons that are produced in a fission reaction is equal to the number of neutrons that are lost in absorption and leakage. The neutron population in a reactor is controlled by the use of control rods which absorb neutrons. The neutron population in a reactor is also controlled by the use of moderators which slow down neutrons. The neutron population in a reactor is also controlled by the use of reflectors which reflect neutrons back into the reactor. The neutron population in a reactor is also controlled by the use of absorbers which absorb neutrons. The neutron population in a reactor is also controlled by the use of moderators which slow down neutrons. The neutron population in a reactor is also controlled by the use of reflectors which reflect neutrons back into the reactor. The neutron population in a reactor is also controlled by the use of absorbers which absorb neutrons.

When a neutron is captured by a nucleus it can cause the nucleus to fission. This is defined as the splitting of a nucleus into two or more smaller nuclei. The energy released in a fission reaction is used to produce heat which is used to generate electricity. The number of neutrons produced in a fission reaction is called the multiplication factor. The multiplication factor is defined as the ratio of the number of neutrons produced in a fission reaction to the number of neutrons that are lost in absorption and leakage. The multiplication factor is a function of the neutron population in a reactor. The multiplication factor is also a function of the neutron population in a reactor. The multiplication factor is also a function of the neutron population in a reactor.

critical. If the multiplication factor is greater than unity, the number of fissions increases with each successive generation, in which case, the chain reaction diverges and the system is said to be supercritical. Finally, if the multiplication factor is less than unity, the chain reaction eventually dies out, and the system is called subcritical.

Energy, space and time dependent neutron diffusion equation describing the balance of competing processes that is applicable to a multiplying medium can be written as:

$$\nabla^2 \phi(r, E, t) - \Sigma_a(r, E) \phi(r, E, t) + \lambda(r, E) \nabla^2 \phi(r, E, t) = \frac{1}{v} \int_0^\infty \Sigma_f(r, E') \phi(r, E', t) dE' \quad (1.1)$$

When the system is in a steady state, the time derivative term in equation (1.1) would clearly vanish and the resulting equation would be describing a critical system. In search for a steady state solution, we can modify the above equation by the introduction of a delay factor as follows:

$$-\nabla^2 \phi(r, E, t) / \beta(r, E) + \Sigma_a(r, E) \phi(r, E, t) = \frac{\lambda(r, E)}{\beta(r, E)} \nabla^2 \phi(r, E, t) + \frac{1}{v} \int_0^\infty \Sigma_f(r, E') \phi(r, E', t) dE' \quad (1.2)$$

By passing from Equation (1.1) to equation (1.2) the constant  $\lambda$  has been replaced by  $\lambda/\beta$  and the time derivative has been dropped. Physically this mathematical step corresponds to the introduction of the real system source by a factor  $1/\beta$ , so as to obtain a time independent i.e., critical system described by equation (1.2). However, if the solution of the latter equation is not  $\beta$ , then the system described by equation (1.1) is not in a steady state. However, if  $\beta$  turns out to be the solution of equation (1.2) then we have arrived at the source of the critical system. It is to be noted that the source  $\beta$  is independent of energy and is a function of position. It is to be noted that the critical case is characterized by a value of  $\lambda$  such that  $\lambda/\beta$  is equal to  $\lambda_c$  which is a function of position. In other words, we have arrived at a steady state solution of the critical system which is independent of time. In other words, we have arrived at a steady state solution of the critical system which is independent of time.

system. As will be made clear later in this work this procedure is exactly the same thing as the multiplicative factor method used above.

The solution of the energy dependent diffusion equations in two dimensions can be broken down into several stages. In stage one, the multigroup approximation can be developed. In stage two, the multigroup problem can be solved by the source iteration method. In this method reducing the solution of the multigroup problem to the solution of a series of one group problems. In stage three, we will discuss setting up the finite difference approximation in the two dimensional case. In stage four, the solution of the finite difference equations will be discussed.

There are three basic difficulties in the solution of the finite difference equations. Firstly, the equations cannot be solved directly, hence an iterative method has to be used. Secondly, many more mesh points of the order of  $10^6$  or  $10^7$  mesh points have to be used. Thirdly, the two dimensional problem will usually require the use of magnetic tape or direct access to memory, with a consequent increase in running time and a decrease in flexibility.

We will now allow the neutron flux to depend on energy. In order to reduce the number of neutron energy variables we will discretize the continuous variable into discrete energy groups as schematically shown below:



Notice that we are using a backward indexing scheme. This is done for physical reasons. The fact that the neutron number density is a function of energy during its lifetime and neutron flux is a function of energy and position allows the discretized equations to be solved sequentially and working successively to lower energies.

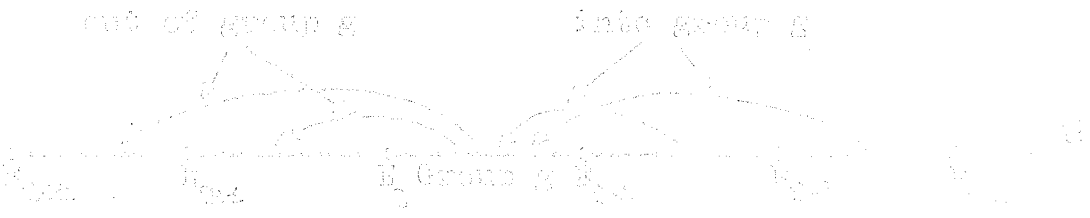
It would be possible to discretize energy into a number of groups only to be defined at each energy mesh point  $E_i$ . However, this is not convenient so define the discretized energy groups. The energy range of  $E_{i-1}$  to  $E_i$  is the energy range of each group. Let the multigroup flux  $\phi(x)$  represent the total flux at all positions with energies  $E_i$  in the group  $P$ ,  $E_{i-1} < E_i$ . Then, we will derive the equations governing the behavior of  $\phi(x)$ . We will find that these equations take the form of a set of coupled equations describing the neutrons in each energy group.

The equations are coupled to one another since neutrons may experience changes in energy by, for example, being scattered from one group to another. Also, fission neutrons will usually be born in the highest energy groups and then cascade downward in energy as they are moderated by scattering collisions.

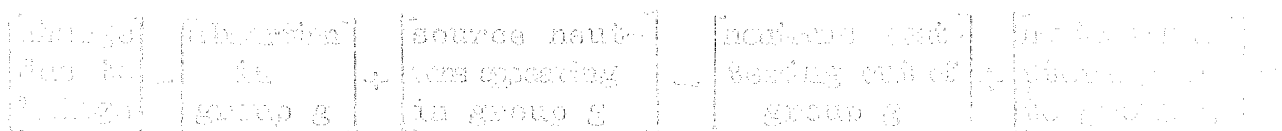
Recalling the rather detailed dependence of neutron cross sections on neutron energy  $E$ , one might expect that a great many such energy groups would be necessary to adequately describe the energy dependence of neutron flux. Surprisingly enough, however, most nuclear reactor calculations achieve sufficient accuracy using only few group diffusion descriptions. The ability to be able to model a reactor adequately with a relatively small number of energy groups is not simply fortuitous, but rather is a result of the use of a careful choice of the energy averaged cross sections that are used to describe the neutrons in each group. Thus, the choice of such group averaged cross sections is a highly non-trivial task and is the key to the successful implementation of an  $M$ -group diffusion theory.

We will first give a heuristic derivation of the multi-group diffusion equations based on the concept of the neutron balance. We will then derive these equations in a more rigorous manner which is also amenable to a numerical solution. Finally, we will discuss the common calculational strategies used to solve the set of coupled partial differential equations.

Perhaps, the most straightforward manner in which to describe the neutron balance of the multi-group diffusion equations is to apply the concept of the neutron balance to a given energy group  $g$ , including the ways in which neutrons can enter or leave that energy group. Consider then a typical energy group  $g$ .



When a bit of reflection is shown, it should be apparent that a neutron balance would exist in steady state as follows:



From now on we will speak of group  $i$  instead of group  $g$ .

It should be noted that we have taken explicit account of the fact that a scattering collision can change the neutron energy and hence either remove it from group  $i$ , or if it is suitable, scatter it into energy group  $j$ , scatter it into energy group  $k$ . We will denote the probability for scattering a neutron from group  $i$  to the group  $j$ , as  $\lambda_{ij}^{sc}$ . Then

$$\sum_{j=1}^M \lambda_{ij}^{sc} = \sum_{j=1}^M \lambda_{ij}^{tr} + \lambda_{i0}^{tr} \quad (1-1)$$

denotes the cross section for removal from group  $i$ .

We will similarly define an absorption cross section  $\lambda_{i0}^{ab}$  for neutrons in group  $i$ , and a source term  $S_i(x)$  given by the number of neutrons appearing within this group. Finally we will define a diffusion coefficient  $D_i$  so that the neutron flux  $\phi_i$  can be written within the diffusion approximation as  $D_i \nabla^2 \phi_i$ . If we combine all of these terms, we find a particularly compact representation of the time independent balance relations. The diffusion equations solved by ERFBUS are thus:

$$D_i \nabla^2 \phi_i + \lambda_{i0}^{tr} \phi_i - \left[ \sum_{j=1}^M \lambda_{ji}^{sc} \phi_j + \lambda_{i0}^{sc} \phi_i + S_i(x) \right] = 0 \quad (1-2)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^M \lambda_{i0}^{ab} \phi_i = \sum_{i=1}^M \lambda_{i0}^{sc} \phi_i \quad (1-3)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^M \lambda_{i0}^{ab} \phi_i = \sum_{i=1}^M \lambda_{i0}^{sc} \phi_i \quad (1-4)$$

To approximate the spatial variables, either may be used.  $N$  is the total number of groups, either. The usual interpretation of these symbols are



- $D_i$ : the diffusion coefficients  
 $\phi$ : the neutron flux  
 $\Sigma_a$ : the macroscopic absorption cross section  
 $\Sigma_{r,i}$ : the macroscopic removal cross section from group  $i$   
 $\Sigma_{r,i-1}$ : the macroscopic removal cross section from group  $i-1$  to group  $i$   
 $k$ : the geometric buckling in the transverse direction  
 $\beta_i$ : the probability that a fission neutron will be born with energy in group  $i$   
 $\beta_i \Sigma_{f,i}$ : the macroscopic fission cross section times the average number of neutrons per fission  
 $\lambda$ : the eigenvalue

Thus we now have a set of  $NG$  coupled diffusion equations for the  $NG$  unknown group fluxes  $\phi(x)$ .

The major sections of TREBUS perform the following functions:

1. Transferring of the input data, including checking and editing.
2. Calculation of the required macroscopic cross coefficients for group parameters.
3. Distribution of the coefficients for the finite difference equations used to approximate the group diffusion equations together with interface and boundary conditions.
4. Solution of the eigenvalue problem represented by three finite difference equations.
5. Calculation of the fuel depletion and accumulation of fission products for a specified time step.
6. Editing of selective information for printing out of the log.

In order to have TREBUS readily modifiable for other applications to other machines of the IBM-350 series, but with different options for available storage. The dimensions of the computer, the maximum number of groups, compositions, regions, and the available machine language and so on, are parameterized.

The numerical values of these parameters for the present version of TREBUS, are given in appendix B.

A brief account of the physical model employed in TREBUS, of the beginning of core life, the elements comprising most of the groups are not uniformly distributed, but as time progresses, the distribution becomes nonuniform. Hence, in the early

to take into account the spatial variation of the group constants  $k_{gij}$ , the diffusion coefficient  $D$ , the fission cross section  $\Sigma_f$  and the neutron production rate per unit of flux  $\nu \Sigma_f$ .

The spatial dependence of these group constants is realized by dividing the reactor into an arbitrary number of regions or arbitrary chaps. Each region is considered as a homogeneous slab of fuel, that is all the isotopic number densities are assumed to be uniformly distributed within the same region.

## CHAPTER II

EREBUS consists of one main program and three-three sub-programs. The schematic diagram of EREBUS is given in Figure II-3. The main program calls the subprograms OVER-1, OVER-2, ..., OVER-N. It controls the number of time stops. If time stop number (KRENT) is greater than the last time stop number (KRENT) then the program is terminated.

Program is terminated when the convergence is attained. After the termination of the problem subroutine ERKIT is called.

### II-1 SUBROUTINE OVER-1

In order to have EREBUS readily modifiable for adaptation to other machines of the IBM-360 series, but with different various storage availabilities, the dimensions of the program are variable. Before the title card two input cards have to be read which contain the values of the parameters specifying the dimensions of the problem. The meaning of the quantities are:

KRL:	Maximum number of	library sets	
KBS:	"	"	self shielding sets
KGD:	"	"	compositions
KGD:	"	"	groups
KFP:	"	"	fuel isotopes
KTP:	"	"	fission products
KIS:	"	"	isotopes
KIV:	"	"	burnable isotopes
KRENT:	"	"	time stops
KROD:	"	"	control areas
KRIST:	"	"	control banks
KRTEC:	"	"	regions
KRMAT:	"	"	mesh time steps
KRETC:	"	"	element in the control grid
KXN:	"	"	X mesh
KYN:	"	"	Y mesh
KOOP:	"	"	self shielding coefficients

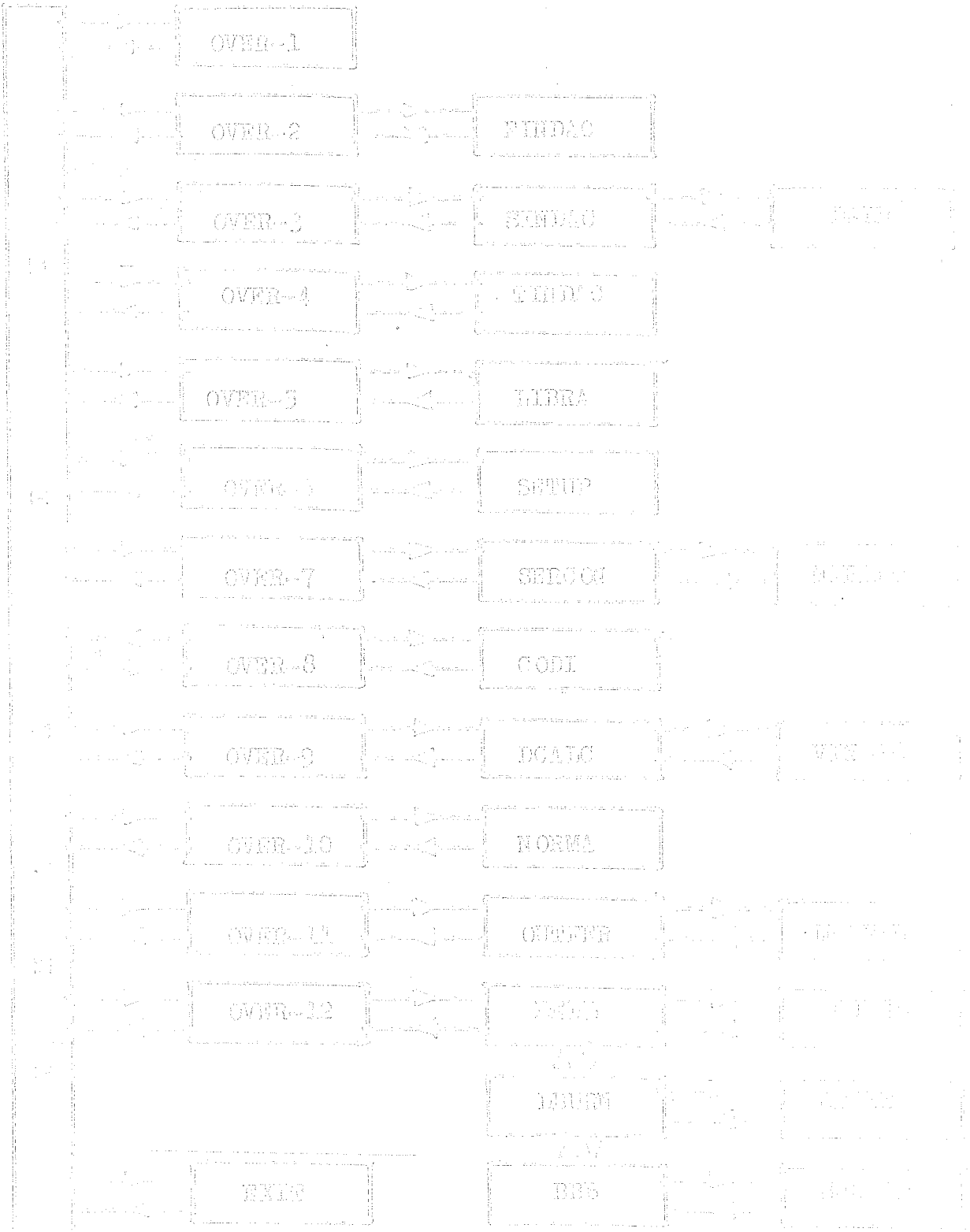


Figure IX-4. The schematic diagram of WREN3000

KPD: Maximum number of mesh points  
 IPR: " " " print indices  
 NOT: " " " arrays taken in common

The following conditions have to be observed:

$KIP \gg KIP$   $KIS \neq KCD$   
 $KIV \leq 60$   $KLIST \geq 5$   
 $KXD \neq KYD$   $KMOD \geq 5$   
 $KCD \neq KPRG$   $KTR1 \geq 5$

$KED \geq NPK, NPY$  or  $(KXD - KYD)$

$KED \geq (NPK + 1) \cdot NPK / 2$  or  $(KXD + 1) \cdot KYD / 2$  for diagonal  
 symmetric problems.

$KCOF \geq NG \cdot NCF \sum_{K=1}^{NCF} NBT(K)$

where:

NGP: Number of the coefficients

NBT(K): Number of blocks of self shielding coefficients  
 of the set K

The values of the above parameters are printed as output by  
 OVRD=1. Length of the common region is calculated and if it is  
 allowed, otherwise a return is made to the main. Variable IPR  
 gives the possible errors and if IPR>0, then again check  
 apply.

## CHAPTER VII

The first stage in a reactor code is to read in the data. This data can usually be presented in some compact form. Next, the data is controlled for any possible errors and elimination of any loads to an abortion.

REBUS is an "overlay program" constituted by main and subprograms which are illustrated in Figure II-1. Subprograms OVER-2, OVER-3, . . . . , OVER-12 are used only to call related subprograms. Subprograms FINDAC, SINDAC, DELR, TINDAC and REPR read, check, reorder and print out the input data. The input data have been divided into 35 card sets. One set may consist of one or more cards. Input data set is given in APPENDIX A.

There are three types of starts in REBUS for each one of which a different input set is provided.

a. Normal start: We will deal with normal start in our study.

b. Strong restart: With this type of restart, a problem interrupted during the finite difference calculations in a stability search, can be restarted from the last (or the last but one) criticality iteration being performed at the time of interruption.

Moreover, if the restart is made using also the flux figure prepared by the program, the STRONG RESTART is practically equivalent to restart of a problem from the very point where it was interrupted, except for a loss of time negligible with respect to the total computational time.

c. Weak restart: By this type of restart, a problem can be restarted just after the number density available is restored to the last computed time step, or to any other previous time step.

### III-A FINDAC

FINDAC is the subprogram referenced by OVER-2.

The geometric specification of the reactor is given on

input data in this subprogram. The x axis (or the r axis in cylindrical geometry) is coincident with the top side of the reactor and is rightwards oriented. The y axis (or the z axis in cylindrical geometry) is coincident with the left side and is downwards oriented. From now on we will speak of  $x, y$  axes, also for the cylindrical geometry.

In the mesh grid layed out for the finite difference discretization, the lines parallel to the x axis are called rows and the lines parallel to the y axis are called columns.

Rows and columns are numbered, starting from 1, from top to bottom and from left to right respectively. These are shown in Figure III-1.

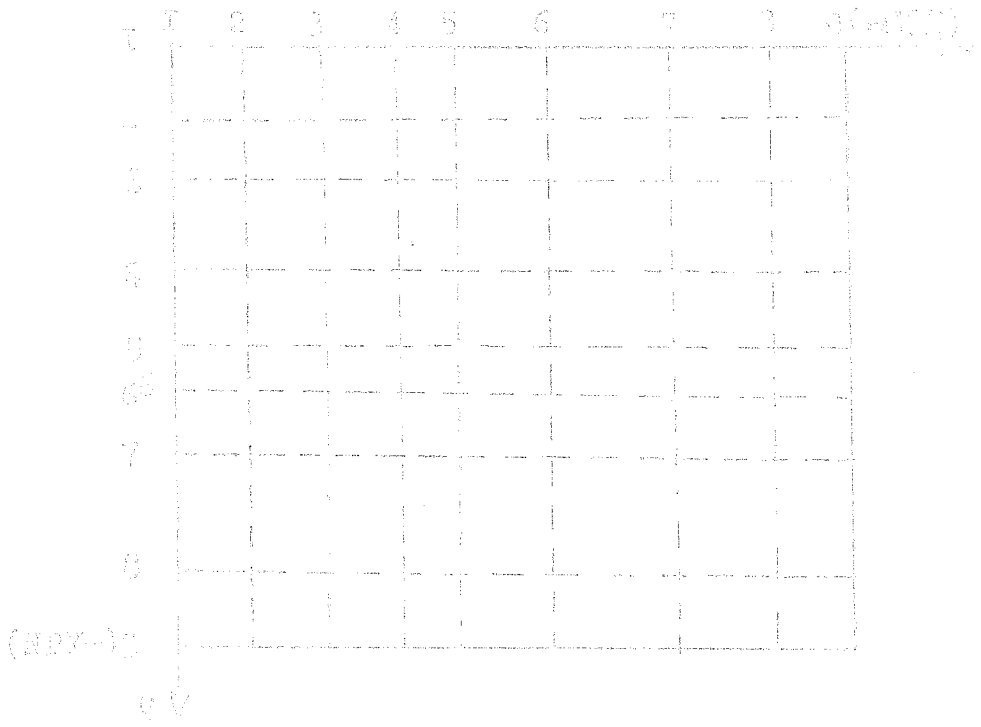


Figure III-1 Sample reactor core mesh layout

The reactor is divided into regions in each of which a program performs an average burn-up, that is, calculates the core average isotopic number densities and hence the mean multiplication cross sections to all rectangular meshes belonging to a given region. A region can also be made up of disjoint sets of rectangular meshes.

Two or more regions can have the same initial composition. In the following and also in the program print-outs, the initial composition will be simply named composition. But, after the first burn-up interval is elapsed, and the isotopic number densities have changed, each region generally represents a separate composition.

### III-A-4 BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

The boundary conditions are given as

$$\alpha \frac{\partial \phi^i}{\partial x} + \beta \phi^i \frac{\partial \rho^i}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (i=1,2, \dots, NG) \quad (\text{III-4})$$

through which the following cases can be specified.

1. Flux is equal to zero when  $\alpha \frac{\partial \phi^i}{\partial x} = 0$  and  $\beta \phi^i = 0$  (zero flux condition).
2. Current is equal to zero when  $\alpha \frac{\partial \phi^i}{\partial x} = 0$  and  $\beta \phi^i \neq 0$  (zero current condition).
3. Current condition  $(-\frac{\partial \phi^i}{\partial x}) \neq 0$  when  $\alpha \frac{\partial \phi^i}{\partial x} = 0$  and  $\beta \phi^i \neq 0$ .

If  $\alpha \frac{\partial \phi^i}{\partial x} = 0.5$  and  $\beta \phi^i = 1$  condition (III-4) represents a vanishing inward but non-zero outward current in diffusion theory.

This last condition should be employed when the actual core dimensions rather than the extrapolated one are being used instead of the usual one of vanishing flux. For the boundary condition specification, the boundaries are numbered counterclockwise starting from the top side as shown in Figure III-2.

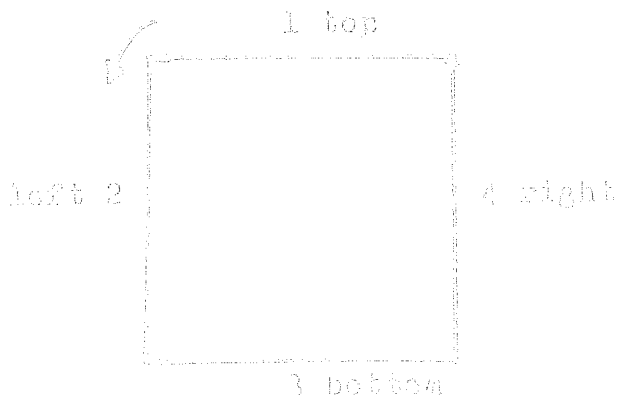


Figure III-2



Boundary conditions may be group dependent or independent. If the boundary conditions are group dependent, then as many as  $10^3$  (number of groups) cards must be supplied, one for each group. If it is group independent, namely the same for all groups, then only one card is necessary and specified values apply to all groups.

If  $c_1^i - \beta^i = 0$ , the program will stop, except when this condition occurs on the left side of a cylindrical or spherical geometry. In this case the program sets automatically  $c_1^i = 0$  and  $\beta^i = 0$  (symmetry condition).

If zero current condition occurs at any boundary, then the program sets the boundary condition indicator as zero for this group and this side.

If zero flux condition occurs at any boundary, then the boundary condition indicator is set to be minus one for this group and this side.

For the remaining condition (vanishing inward current) it sets the indicator as  $c_1^i/\beta^i$ . This fraction must always be greater or than zero.

### III D SUBROUTINE SINDAG AND DEER

These subprograms read, check, reorder and print out some of the input data. The geometric specification of the reactor has been given as input data in the subprogram SINDAG. The distances between rows and columns are called mesh space lengths, and are given as input in DEER.

The geometric specification of the regions is made through the so called "overlay" method employed in many diffusion codes (e.g. ref. 1 and 2) for the composition specification. The lay-out of the regions is inputted by a sequential specification of rectangular blocks of a given region index. Any of such blocks can cover totally or partially the preceding ones.

Referring to Figure III-3, the regions for a two dimensional problem is described as follows:

Suppose the reactor were divided into 5 regions. In each of them the program performs on average mesh- $\omega$ , that is, on each the same average isotopic number densities and hence the same macroscopic cross sections to all rectangular meshes belonging to a given region. Vertical (columns) and horizontal (rows)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	5	5	
2	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	5	5	
3	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	5	5	
4										
5	2	2	2	4	4	4	5	5	5	
6										
7	2	2	2	4	4	4	5	5	5	
8										
9	3	3	3	4	4	4	5	5	5	
10										
11	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	
12										
13	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
14										
15	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	

Figure III-3 Example reactor core region system.

Lines are drawn at all the region interfaces. The resulting blocks are defined as regions. In this section the number of blocks between and the width of each vertical region going from left to right are specified, followed by the number of blocks and the widths of each horizontal region going from top to bottom. The inputs for the regions shown in Figure III-3 would be as follows:

## REGION OVERLAY

Region number	Column number	Row number
5	1 - 10	1 - 10
4	4 - 7	4 - 7
3	1 - 4	1 - 4
2	1 - 6	1 - 6
1	1 - 3	1 - 3

Subprogram SINDAC calculates the region and composition volumes. Mesh space length between rows is  $\Delta y$  and columns  $\Delta x$ , the other dimension is unity. Then the volume of one mesh square is

$$VOL = \Delta x \cdot \Delta y \quad (1134)$$

A region consists of one or more mesh squares. The volume of any region is found by summing over the mesh grid volumes which belong to the same region. The same way is used to calculate the other region volumes.  $VOL(I)$  is the volume of region I.

After the region volumes, composition volumes are calculated by the program by summing up to the region volumes having the same composition so as to obtain the composition volumes.  $VOL(M)$  is the volume of composition M.

## LET-3-1 NUCLIDE CHAIN SPECIFICATION

Fuel depletion analysis is concerned with predicting the long-term changes in reactor fuel composition caused by exposure to neutron flux during reactor operation. Such changes have an important bearing on the operating life of a reactor, as well as on its stability and control.

A variety of nuclear processes must be monitored during a depletion study. These include, of course, the normal fission of fissile nuclides (fuel burn-up). However, one must also account for the conversion of fertile isotopes into fissile isotopes and the production of numerous fission products. Finally, one should monitor the reactivity balance to ensure safe conditions, usually by determining the change in reactivity over a period of core operation and then adjusting control poison to compensate for this reactivity change.

A complete burn-up calculation would involve the solution of the coupled reaction rate equations describing such processes for the hundreds of different isotopes in a reactor core. In practice, one usually introduces approximations that greatly simplify these calculations. For example, the only fission products that are explicitly treated are usually those with large capture cross sections and fission yields, namely,  $\text{Pu}^{238}$ ,  $\text{Pu}^{239}$ ,  $\text{Pu}^{240}$ ,  $\text{Pu}^{241}$ ,  $\text{Pu}^{242}$ ,  $\text{Am}^{241}$ , and  $\text{Am}^{242}$ . The remaining fission products are lumped into one or several groups, each characterized by an effective cross section. Furthermore, any nuclide with a short half life is omitted from the burn-up calculation.

The specific isotopes monitored depend on the particular fuel used in the core. The isotopes of interest in both Uranium and Uranium-Thorium fueled reactors are indicated in Table 1 and 2 respectively.

TABLE-1

No	Name	1st capture parent	2nd capture parent	Decay parent	Fissionable	Fission product
1	U-235	-	-	-	Yes	No
2	U-236	1	-	-	Yes	No
3	U-238	-	-	-	Yes	No
4	Pu-239	3	-	-	Yes	No
5	Pu-240	4	-	-	Yes	No
6	Pu-241	5	-	-	Yes	No
7	Pu-242	-	-	-	No	Yes
8	Am-241	-	-	7	No	Yes
9	Am-242	-	-	-	No	Yes
10	Xe-135	-	-	9	No	Yes
11	Lumped fission product	-	-	-	No	Yes
12	Boron	-	-	-	No	Yes
13	Burnable poison	-	-	-	No	Yes

TABLE-2

No	Name	1st capture parent	2nd capture parent	Decay parent	Fluoride enable	Fluoride product
1	Th-232	--	--	--	Yes	No
2	Pa-233	1	--	--	Yes	No
3	U-233	--	--	2	Yes	No
4	U-235	3	2	--	Yes	No
5	U-235	--	--	--	Yes	No
6	U-236	5	--	--	Yes	No
7	U-238	--	--	--	Yes	No
8	Th-232	7	--	--	Yes	No
9	Pa-233	--	--	8	Yes	No
10	Pa-240	9	8	--	Yes	No
11	Pa-241	10	--	--	Yes	No
12	Th-242	11	--	--	Yes	No
13	Pa-149	--	--	--	No	Yes
14	Pa-149	--	--	13	No	Yes
15	Th-155	--	--	--	No	Yes
16	Th-155	--	--	15	No	Yes
17	1st group of fission product	--	--	--	No	Yes
18	2nd group of fission product	--	--	--	No	Yes
19	3rd group of fission product	--	--	--	No	Yes
20	Boron-10	--	--	--	No	No
21	Boron-10 position	--	--	--	No	No

The initial flux approximations and bucklings are given as inputs. Subprogram TINDAC defines the initial fluxes and bucklings for each region and writes them on the logical unit 5.

The number densities of the first NUCL=1 isotopes (that is, the time dependent isotopes, plus control isotopes) can be specified either per composition or per region or both. The number densities of the time independent isotopes except for the control (the control isotopes) can be specified only per composition.

In the criticality searches by means of a control isotope variation (ICRISV = 1,2 on card no.3 columns 28-30), the program can assume, as control isotopes, the isotopes no NUCL=1.

We recall that the number densities, both per composition and per region and the logarithmic derivatives, are all set equal to zero before any reading, except in the weak reactivity problems. In the latter case, the number densities and the logarithmic derivatives are the ones read from the restart tape.

#### LET 6 SUBROUTINE TINDAC

The goal of this subprogram is to read, control, record and print out the input data the list of which is given in appendix 7.

KREBUS can solve at each time step, four types of diffusion calculations. The required input data is provided in this subprogram. If there is any error in input then program gives a clarifying error message.

Types of diffusion calculations are classified as follows:

- a. Straight diffusion calculation.
- b. Criticality search by uniform variation of a control isotope.
- c. Criticality search by a programmed regionwise variation of a control isotope.
- d. Boundary search.

These will be explained in chapter V.

TINDAC also computes the average fluxes for each mesh point. If input flux approximation is negative at some points or zero at every point then this problem can not be continued. On the other hand, input flux approximation for all mesh points are written on logical unit NATI=9, and printed out.

the multiplication factor  $k$ , the multiplication factor  $k$  is the ratio of the number of fission neutrons which are produced to the number of fission neutrons which are lost. The multiplication factor  $k$  is a function of the energy of the neutrons, and it is possible to choose the energy of the neutrons in such a way that the ratio of fission neutrons produced to fission neutrons lost is balanced by the rate of fission which is taking place. We can express this requirement in a simple way. If the neutrons play the central role in the reaction, then the multiplication factor  $k$  must be equal to 1. If  $k > 1$ , then a given neutron will be "born" in a fission reaction, and it will eventually cause the reaction which will produce more than one "child" in either an absorption reaction or a fission reaction. Certain neutrons of these "children" will be absorbed or fissioned and others will be absorbed, finally leading to the birth of new fission neutrons, the new "generation" of neutrons. Suppose that the number of neutrons in a given generation is  $N$ , then the ratio of fission neutrons produced to fission neutrons lost, characterizing the multiplication factor  $k$ , characterizing the multiplication factor  $k$ .

$$\text{Multiplication Factor} = \frac{\text{Number of fission neutrons produced}}{\text{Number of fission neutrons lost}}$$

Since the number of fission neutrons is directly proportional to the number of fission events, and since each fission event produces a certain number of fission neutrons, we could have found the multiplication factor  $k$  by taking the ratio of the number of fission events to the number of fission neutrons lost. However, since the number of fission events is directly proportional to the number of fission neutrons produced, we could have found the multiplication factor  $k$  by taking the ratio of the number of fission neutrons produced to the number of fission neutrons lost. Others may find it more convenient to take the ratio of the number of fission neutrons produced to the number of fission neutrons lost, but this is equivalent to the ratio of the number of fission neutrons produced to the number of fission neutrons lost, but this is equivalent to the ratio of the number of fission neutrons produced to the number of fission neutrons lost.

The multiplication factor  $k$  is a function of the energy of the neutrons, and it is possible to choose the energy of the neutrons in such a way that the ratio of fission neutrons produced to fission neutrons lost is balanced by the rate of fission which is taking place.

The multiplication factor  $k$  is a function of the energy of the neutrons, and it is possible to choose the energy of the neutrons in such a way that the ratio of fission neutrons produced to fission neutrons lost is balanced by the rate of fission which is taking place.

It is clear that if  $k > 1$ , the number of fission neutrons will be increasing, and if  $k < 1$ , the number of fission neutrons will be decreasing. The multiplication factor  $k$  is a function of the energy of the neutrons, and it is possible to choose the energy of the neutrons in such a way that the ratio of fission neutrons produced to fission neutrons lost is balanced by the rate of fission which is taking place.

is considered by  $k=1$  as being critical. Hence the primary function of the nuclear engineer is to design the reactor so that  $k=1$  is achieved. One possible approach would be to select a particular material composition and configuration, and then calculate  $k$  for this choice, and if  $k$  is not unity, another design would be on the first try, readjust the design until the criticality condition is achieved.

The adjustment of the core composition is through the use of control rods inserted into the core, thus allowing for a margin of excess reactivity to be maintained for reasonably long periods of time.

### II. NEUTRON INTERACTIONS

There are essentially two types of nuclear reactions which are of interest in the study of nuclear reactors:

- a. Reactions resulting from the collision between neutrons and nuclei.
- b. Spontaneous disintegrations of nuclei.

The neutron-nucleus collision events involved in the study of nuclear reactors are an example of the first type of reaction. These reactions depend not only on the properties of the incident particles, as in the case of the neutron-nucleus collision, but also the relative velocity with which they are moving. An example of the second type of reaction is the spontaneous decay of fission products, which is also of great importance.

The study of a wide variety of possible nuclear reactions is of great interest in the analysis of nuclear reactors. The most important interactions between neutrons and nuclei are the elastic and inelastic scattering of neutrons by nuclei. The cross sections for these reactions are of the order of  $10^{-28}$  cm<sup>2</sup>. However, the cross sections for neutron capture reactions are frequently as large as  $10^{-26}$  cm<sup>2</sup>. The study of these reactions can frequently be extended to the study of the nucleus as a whole, and the general principles of quantum mechanics are applicable to the study of the nucleus as a quantum mechanical system. For example, the study of the



For slow neutrons is almost one million times as large as the geometric cross section.

Obviously each cross section can be used to characterize a nuclear reaction, thus the definition of  $\Sigma$  is the sum of the cross sections for each type of neutron-nucleus interaction. For different nuclei. For example, cross sections for absorption and scattering are denoted by  $\Sigma_a$  and  $\Sigma_s$  respectively. Usually, we can introduce the concept of a macroscopic cross section related to the probability that any type of reaction will occur. Obviously

$$\Sigma = \Sigma_a + \Sigma_s = \Sigma_{a1} + \Sigma_{a2} + \Sigma_{s1} + \Sigma_{s2} + \dots$$

The hierarchical diagram of the hierarchy of cross sections with the conventional notation is shown in Figure III-4.

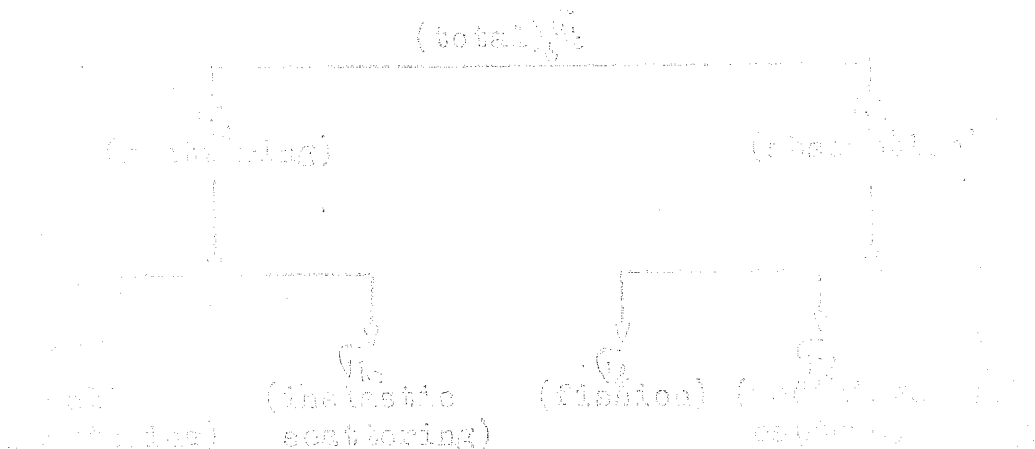


Figure III-4 Neutron cross section hierarchy

As we have defined the concept of a cross section, we are considering the neutrons having the same energy incident upon the target nucleus. However, it is well known that such cross sections will vary with the neutron speed or energy, and therefore the energy-dependent cross sections for neutrons of different energies are needed, a very strong cue for the development of the neutron cross sections as a function of energy. In principle, such work has been done for a wide range of nuclear applications.

APPENDIX I - FEBRUARY SET

The microscopical cross sections were obtained from the W.M.W. by depositing the suboxide under the auspices of SSSS (Society for Scientific Study and Research in Schiffs and Schiffbau). The data are available for this purpose.

In addition to the actual microscopic cross sections, the data are also available in the form of a list of 45 micro groups and their corresponding numerical values. For all the micro groups are supplied with a numerical value up to 15 and up to 15 in the case of the cross sections generated by SSSS for the purpose of comparison of the present version of W.M.W. with the previous version. This data are also available in the form of a list of numerical values for the micro groups. Thus, it is possible to obtain the numerical values of microscopic cross sections for each of the micro groups. This data is outlined in Figure IV of the present report. The numerical values of each of the micro groups are listed in the following table.

The numerical value (LBI) is greater than 15. The numerical values are supplied by the SSSS. The numerical values are listed in the order in which such are reported in the present report.

APPENDIX II - SELF SHIELDING SET

The present reactor core is not homogeneous and the flux distribution in a core is not uniform. The flux distribution is not uniform and is not isotropic. The flux distribution is not uniform and is not isotropic. The flux distribution is not uniform and is not isotropic.

The numerical values are listed in the order in which such are reported in the present report. The numerical values are listed in the order in which such are reported in the present report.

The numerical values are listed in the order in which such are reported in the present report. The numerical values are listed in the order in which such are reported in the present report.

Nucleon Area	Isotope Index	Nuclear data for isotope
	1	$\sigma_{\text{el}}^i$ $i=1,2,\dots,10$ $\sigma_{\text{in}}^i$ $i=1,2,\dots,10$ $\sigma_{\text{t}}^i$ $i=1,2,\dots,10$ $\sigma_{\text{f}}^i$ $i=1,2,\dots,10$ $\int \sigma_{\text{f}}^i$ $i=1,2,\dots,10$ } other data $\sigma_{\text{f}}^i$ $i=1,2,\dots,10$ } $\sigma_{\text{in}}^i$ $i=1,2,\dots,10$ $\sigma_{\text{t}}^i$ $i=1,2,\dots,10$ $\sigma_{\text{f}}^i$ $i=1,2,\dots,10$
	2	$\sigma_{\text{el}}^i$ $\sigma_{\text{in}}^i$ $\sigma_{\text{t}}^i$ $\sigma_{\text{f}}^i$ $\sigma_{\text{f}}^i$
		$\sigma_{\text{el}}^i$ $\sigma_{\text{in}}^i$ $\sigma_{\text{t}}^i$ $\sigma_{\text{f}}^i$
1110		$\sigma_{\text{el}}^i$ $\sigma_{\text{in}}^i$ $\sigma_{\text{t}}^i$ $\sigma_{\text{f}}^i$

Table III-4 Schematic representation of our data

the specification of one self-shielding...  
the specification of one self-shielding...  
the specification of one self-shielding...

the specification of one self-shielding...  
the specification of one self-shielding...  
the specification of one self-shielding...

the specification of one self-shielding...  
the specification of one self-shielding...  
the specification of one self-shielding...

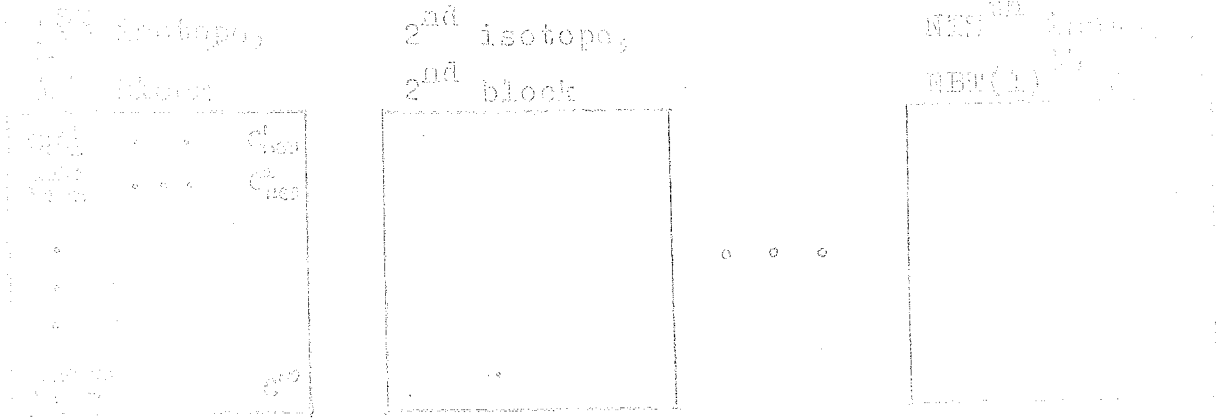
$$NBF \quad NBF(K) \leq K \leq NBF$$

the present version of WPTBUS

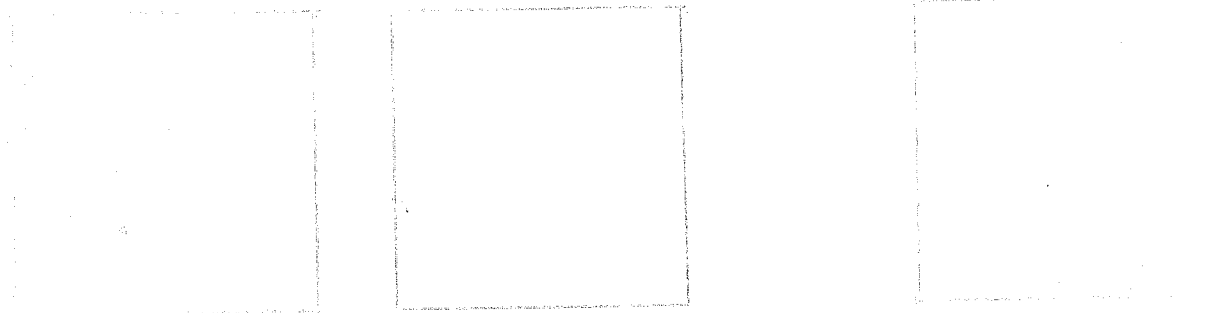
4000 - 4000

the specification of one self-shielding...  
the specification of one self-shielding...  
the specification of one self-shielding...

SELF SHIELDING SET 1,  $NDF(1)=NIS$



SELF SHIELDING SET 2,  $NDF(2)=NIS-5$



SELF SHIELDING SET K,  $NDF(K)=$  of blocks in the set

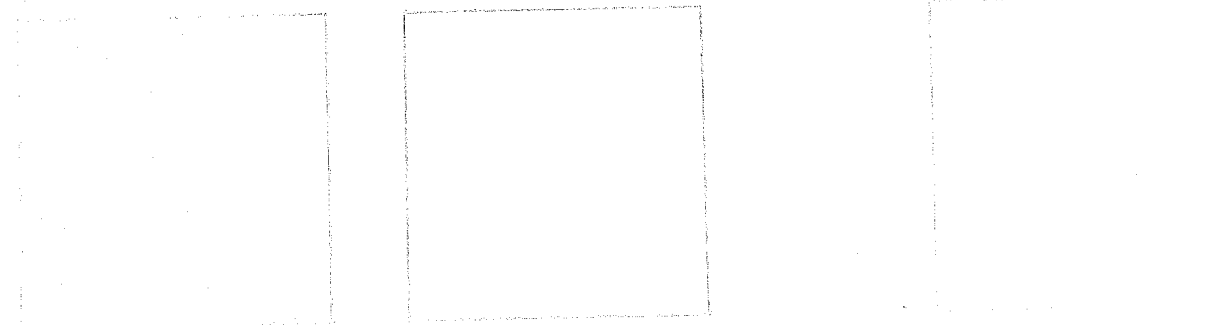


Figure XII-6 Schematic representation of self-shd. sets

## CHAPTER-IV

The product of the atomic number density  $N$  and the microscopic cross section  $\sigma_x$  is denoted by  $\Sigma_x$ . It is called macroscopic cross section.

$$\Sigma_x = N \sigma_x = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dN}{dx} \sigma_x dx \quad (4.1)$$

The unit of  $\Sigma_x$  is the total macroscopic cross section of the material, whereas the microscopic cross section is the probability of interaction with a single nucleus. It should be noted that  $\Sigma_x$  is not really a cross section, since its unit is inverse length.

The definition of  $\Sigma_x$  has been restricted to total macroscopic cross section, but it is characteristic the probability that a neutron will undergo a type of reaction. We can generalize this concept by defining the macroscopic cross section for any reaction as the microscopic cross section for that reaction multiplied by the number density  $N$  of the nuclei of interest. For example, the macroscopic fission cross section would be defined as

$$\Sigma_f = N \sigma_f \quad (4.2)$$

The concept of a macroscopic cross section can be extended to a mixture of different materials. For example, a homogeneous mixture of three materials with atomic numbers  $Z_1, Z_2,$  and  $Z_3$ , with respective atomic densities  $N_1, N_2,$  and  $N_3$ , and microscopic cross sections  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2,$  and  $\sigma_3$ , would have a macroscopic cross section

$$\Sigma = N_1 \sigma_1 + N_2 \sigma_2 + N_3 \sigma_3 \quad (4.3)$$

The  $\sigma_x$  is the microscopic cross section for quality  $x$  of the reaction. The macroscopic cross sections for all reactions depend on the energy of the incident neutron.

Therefore the macroscopic cross section can depend on all of the variables as well. For example, suppose that the number density of a uniform composition, then the macroscopic cross section for a given element will be space dependent. In a similar manner, the number densities might depend on time. Suppose, for example, that the nuclide of interest is unstable such that its number density is decaying as a function of time. Therefore in the general case, one would write

$$\Sigma(r, E, t) = N(r, t) \bar{\Sigma}(E) \quad (IV.1)$$

to include the explicit dependence of the macroscopic cross section on position  $r$ , energy  $E$ , position  $r$ , and time  $t$ .

In the next two sections, first the number densities of the nuclides are determined, after that, macroscopic cross sections are calculated.

#### IV.2. SUBROUTINE SETUP

The number densities of burnable isotopes, needed for the calculation of group constants, are read from the input file at the initial variable IND = 0. These number densities are then multiplied by unit number 10 initially as input and later by the multiplication results for the following time steps.

When the variable IND is increased by 1 so as to compute the weights of burnable isotopes. Calculation of the burnable isotopes weights is made for each region as follows

$$W(L, J) = \frac{N(L, J) \cdot V(L) \cdot A(J)}{A_{AV}} \quad (IV.2)$$

$J$  = Burnable (time dependent) isotope

$N(L, J)$  = Number density of the  $J^{th}$  isotope in region  $L$

$V(L)$  = Volume of the  $L^{th}$  region ( $cm^3$ )

$A(J)$  = Atomic weight of the  $J^{th}$  isotope ( $g/mole$ )

$A_{AV}$  = Average atomic number ( $g/cm^3$ )

$W(L, J)$  = Weight of the  $J^{th}$  burnable isotope in region  $L$

When IND = 2 the same calculation is made to obtain

weight of burnable isotopes in composition M.

$$W(M, J) = \sum_L \frac{N(L, J) \cdot V(L) \cdot A(J)}{Av.} \quad (III)$$

where the composition M consists of regions denoted by variable L and A.

WRRG calculates the total weight of each burnable isotope in the reactor in grams.

$$W(J) = \sum_{L=1}^{NRRG} \frac{N(L, J) \cdot V(L) \cdot A(J)}{Av.} \quad (IV)$$

RRG reads on a tape file the data required for a WRRG calculation, including microscopic nuclear data, bucklings,  $\beta$  ratios,  $\lambda$  ratios, coefficients, and number densities.

RRG also, if there is fuel shuffling, then the number densities of the burnable isotopes in the region L are calculated for each region or composition. Clearly fuel shuffling is only considered only if the time step number is greater than zero.

If fuel shuffling has been effected then a new fuel composition is given in which case the subprogram calculates the number densities of the isotopes in each region and for each time step.

#### THE SUBROUTINE SERCON AND MAPPIO

After determining the type of the criticality search, the type of start, this subprogram calculates the buckling of the reactor core; one calculation for the  $k$  calculation and the other doing the same for  $\beta$  and  $\lambda$ .

In the criticality search, subprogram SERCON calculates the buckling,  $\beta$  and  $\lambda$  ratios, and prints out the log file.

MAPPIO now solves, at each time step, four types of diffusion equations. These are classified as follows:

#### THE SUBROUTINE STRAIGHT DIFFUSION CALCULATION

MAPPIO now solves the solution of the diffusion equations.



finding the eigenvalue  $\lambda_0$ , which is coincident with the multiplication factor  $k_{eff}$  of the reactor. This type of calculation is called "Bright Burnup".

#### VI.5.4. CRITICALITY SEARCH BY UNIFORM VARIATION OF A CONTROL ISOTOPE

This is the search of a prefixed multiplication factor  $\lambda_0$  by uniform variation of a control isotope number density  $\rho_{control}$ . The number density of the control isotope is given as an input for each region, except for a multiplication factor  $\lambda_0$ . The dilution factor, unique for the whole reactor, is determined by the program. Maxima and minima values  $\rho_{max}$  and  $\rho_{min}$  are to be inputted. The search interval  $\Delta\rho_{control}$  is also given as input.

The program first determines the eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  according to  $\rho_{max}$  and  $\rho_{min}$ . If  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_0$  and  $\lambda_2 = \lambda_0$  have different signs, the first estimate  $\rho^{(1)}$  is determined by linear interpolation:

$$\rho^{(1)} = \rho_{min} + (\rho_{max} - \rho_{min}) \frac{\lambda_0 - \lambda_2}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} \quad (VI.5.4.1)$$

The search process is carried out, by successive iterations, until the desired precision is reached. The search is interrupted if the search interval  $\Delta\rho_{control}$  is found such that:

$$|\lambda^{(n)} - \lambda_0| < \epsilon \quad (VI.5.4.2)$$

where  $\lambda^{(n)}$  is not equal to  $\lambda_0$  and the search is terminated.

If the reactivity  $\beta$  does not change sign during the search, the critical search is interrupted, and the program prints the final value of a normal problem (composition, control isotope composition, multiplication factor, etc.).

#### VI.5.5. CRITICALITY SEARCH BY A PROGRAMMED VARIATION OF A CONTROL ISOTOPE

The search region is given as input. The search is carried out by a programmed variation of a control isotope number density. One or more regions can be grouped, and each region can be varied independently. A control bank can consist of a single control

The control list is changed simultaneously for all banks. Following to the same control bank, the value  $N_{crit}$  of the criticality and minimum values,  $N_{min}$  and  $N_{max}$ , of the reactivity  $\beta$  must be supplied for any of the given banks.

Let us suppose now that, following the given control bank, the program is examining a given control bank. The program determines the eigenvalues  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  corresponding to  $N_{min}$  and  $N_{max}$ . If the reactivity  $\beta(\lambda = \lambda_1 - \lambda_2)$  does change sign, i.e., if  $N_{min} < N_{crit} < N_{max}$ , the critical value  $N_c$  is determined by strictly by consecutive linear interpolations, also, within the range of  $N$  provided for the determination of the criticality factor  $\beta_c$ .

If, on the contrary, the reactivity  $\beta(\lambda)$  does not change sign, the criticality cannot be achieved with the given bank. After examination, the program goes on to examine the next critical banks, as indicated by the control list.

When the control list is exhausted, the criticality cannot be determined, and the problem ends with the final value of  $N_c$  and  $\beta_c$  in this case. Regarding the number distribution of the criticality factor, the regions not belonging to the control list, after the examination, the following rules hold:

1) For all control banks, which include the given bank under examination, the number distribution of the criticality factor in this region takes the value  $N_{crit}$  of the bank in which this region appears;

2) For all control banks, which include the given bank under examination, the number distribution of the criticality factor takes the value  $N_{min}$  of the first bank in which this region appears.

3) For all control banks, including the given bank under examination, the other ones follow the bank under examination. The number distribution in this region takes the value  $N_{min}$  of the first bank of the preceding banks.

It should like to point out that, with regard to  $N_{min}$  and  $N_{max}$ , when a region appears in some bank, the value of  $N_{min}$  in one bank should be smaller than the value of  $N_{max}$  in order to make some sense from a physical point of view.

## INDEX-AREA BOUNDARY SEARCH

which is the search of a prefixed multiplication factor  $\lambda$  in the course of a quasi-continuous movement of the boundary of specified control areas, of rectangular shapes.

For each of such control areas, the region of the following area can be specified. The follower replaces the control area which its moving boundary (its bottom side) is being withdrawn according to the negative sense of the y axis).

The replacement of the moving boundary from one control area to the next of upper one, constitutes "an elementary step" of the search. This search is performed in a fashion quite analogous to the preceding one (type III). A list of control areas is given in the form of a tree and they are grouped into control banks, each the end of which is all control areas belonging to a bank and the beginning of the following one. Therefore, an upper and lower limit,  $y_{max}$  and  $y_{min}$ , of the y coordinate is specified for each bank, within which the moving boundary is confined.

Let us suppose now that, following the given control area, the program is examining a given control bank. The program will withdraw the moving boundary of each region of the bank to the lower limit  $y_{min}$ . Successively the boundary is displaced to the upper limit  $y_{max}$  at a time, and at each "elementary step" the critical boundary is selected.

The search is considered completed when a position of the moving boundary is reached, such that either the equality  $\lambda = \lambda_c$  is satisfied or the reactivity  $\xi(\lambda) = \lambda - \lambda_c$  does change sign. The latter case is the case of the critical positions of the moving boundary.

In the last case, the critical boundary is not of the type of a control area which gives the smaller reactivity.

If the moving boundary comes to the upper limit  $y_{max}$ , then, in the course of the two conditions stated above, the program will continue the same procedure for the next control area of the tree.

By following the position of the moving boundary in the course of its withdrawal to the one under the current control area, the following condition holds:

In all control banks, including the given one, the moving boundary of the upper bank under examination, the moving boundary of the lower bank is not below the lower limit  $y_{min}$  of the last bank in which the moving boundary is confined.

of all the control banks, including the given area, for a given reactor examination, the moving boundary of this area is set at the lower limit  $y_{max}$  of the first bank in which such a situation occurs.

In all cases of the control banks, including the given area, the moving boundary of this area is set at the upper limit  $y_{max}$  of the first bank in which such a situation occurs. The moving boundary of this area is set at the upper limit  $y_{max}$  of the first bank in which such a situation occurs.

Figure IV-3 shows a reactor with 5 control areas. The first area is constituted by areas 1, 2, 3, the second one by 3, 4, 5. In this case the control list is: 1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5. The following areas are represented by the shaded zones.

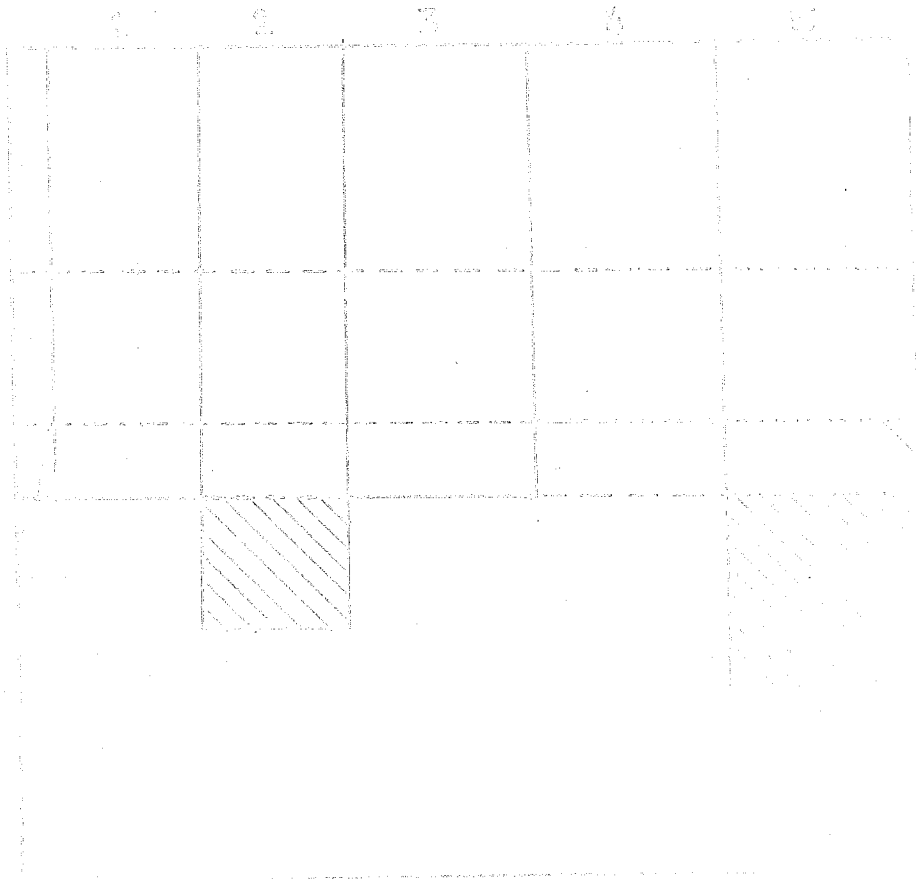


Figure IV-3 Example of control areas.

The criticality searches (ii), (iii) and (iv) are performed by means of a triple loop of iterations.

a. Criticality iterations: They are clearly described in Section IV-D-ii, iii and iv (in the boundary search (iv), an iteration is constituted by an "elementary step" of the moving boundary (v)). The criticality iterations are interrupted when

1. The maximum number of outer iterations is exceeded,
2. The control list is exhausted,
3. The maximum number of criticality iterations is exceeded,
4. The reactivity  $\rho$ , in paragraph (i) does not change significantly from  $\rho_{crit}$  to  $\rho_{win}$ .

b. Outer iterations: They are defined in the same way they generally are in most diffusion programs; the outer iterations are characterized by the successive estimates of the fluxes  $\phi$  and the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , keeping fixed  $\rho$  and the mesh parameter configuration.

1. The criteria are employed to cease the outer iterations:
  - a. The eigenvalue convergence

$$\left| \frac{\lambda^{(i)} - \lambda^{(i-1)}}{\lambda^{(i)}} \right| < 10^{-4} \quad (IV-10)$$

where  $\lambda$  is the convergence criterion for the criticality search and  $i$  is the outer iteration index.

2. The pointwise convergence

$$\frac{\sum_{j=1}^M |\phi_j^{(i)} - \phi_j^{(i-1)}|}{\sum_{j=1}^M \phi_j^{(i-1)}} < \epsilon \quad (IV-11)$$

where  $\epsilon$  is an input "pointwise convergence criterion".

Every criticality iteration, the outer iterations are interrupted when a condition (IV-10) is fulfilled. Only when the criticality search condition (IV-9) is achieved (or as a result of the boundary search), the outer iterations are such that the pointwise condition (IV-11) is fulfilled. This last condition is reached even if the criticality search has not converged, for instance (2), (3), (4). If the search has converged, for instance (1), the problem can be solved with the boundary search (IV-10) or (IV-11). The outer iterations are

ended when the pointwise criterion (IV-11) is fulfilled.

Two iterations: The inner iterations are performed in the course of a given outer iteration in order to calculate the group fluxes corresponding to the fission source of the previous iteration.

The calculation of type of straight burnup is performed in the course of outer iterations only.

### APPENDIX D - CALCULATION OF THE SELF SHIELDING FACTORS

For the calculation of effective group constants, it is necessary to generate self shielding factors as stated in Chapter III-D-1.

Self shielding factors  $\Sigma^{i,j,l}$  are automatically calculated in the course of each time step by the semi-empirical formulae

$$\Sigma^{i,j,l} = g^{i,j} (K^{i,j,l}) \quad (IV-12)$$

with

- $i$  = group index
- $j$  = isotope index
- $l$  = region index

The function  $g^{i,j}(z)$  is given according to an option (I, II, III) by one of the following expressions. If the isotope index  $j$  equals two or three, then the expression  $g^{i,j}(z)$  is given by

$$g^{i,j}(z) = \sum_{n=1}^N a_n^{i,j} z^n \quad (IV-13)$$

If the isotope index  $j$  equals zero or one, then the following expression is used:

$$g^{i,j}(z) = \frac{C^{i,j}}{1 + \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{V_n}{V_i} a_n^{i,j} z^n} \quad (IV-14)$$

where the independent variable is given according to another of them as either of the following expressions:

If  $IBRZ(J)$  equals zero or two, then

$$k_{i,j,l}^{i,j,l} = \sum_{j=1}^J N^{j,l} ( \sigma_{a,i,j}^{i,j,l} + \sigma_{r,i,j}^{i,j,l} ) \quad (IV-31)$$

or, if  $IBRZ(J)$  equals one or three

$$k_{i,j,l}^{i,j,l} = N^{j,l} \quad (IV-32)$$

The meaning of the symbols are as follows:

- $N^{j,l}$ : number density of isotope  $j$  in the region  $l$ .
- $\sigma_{a,i,j}^{i,j,l}$ : microscopic absorption cross section of isotope  $j$  in group  $i$ .
- $\sigma_{r,i,j}^{i,j,l}$ : microscopic removal cross section of isotope  $j$  in group  $i$ .

The isotopes included in the summation (IV-31) are specified in Table 4. The coefficient  $C_N^{i,j}$  and the above microscopic cross sections are input data, and are generally group and isotope dependent.

#### IV-3. CALCULATION OF THE GROUP CONSTANTS

The reason we would like these diffusion parameters to be available was this information in the calculation of the coefficients of the finite difference equations and eventually the eigenvalues of the criticality of a reactor. The group constants are calculated in this subprogram.

As has been briefly discussed in the macroscopic cross section and group constants in Chapter IV.

If variable index  $IBD=1$ , then the diffusion coefficients and macroscopic cross sections, except the scattering ratio, are calculated by the subprogram `SNBCOH`. Group constants are calculated all isotopes. Thus, they would be defined as:

$$k_{i,j,l}^{i,j,l} = \sum_{j=1}^J N^{j,l} \sigma_{i,j,l}^{i,j,l} \quad \sigma_{i,j,l}^{i,j,l} \quad \sigma_{i,j,l}^{i,j,l} \quad \text{Macroscopic absorption cross section } \Sigma_a \quad (cm^{-1})$$

In a similar fashion we can define

$$\Sigma_{f,i,j,l} = \sum_{j=1}^M N_{j,l} \sigma_{f,i,j,l} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j,l \\ \sigma_{f,i,j,l} \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j \\ \sigma_{f,i,j} \end{array} \right. \quad \text{Macroscopic fission cross section (cm}^{-1}\text{)} \quad (IV-19)$$

and

$$\Sigma_{mf,i,j,l} = \sum_{j=1}^M N_{j,l} \sigma_{mf,i,j,l} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j,l \\ \sigma_{mf,i,j,l} \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j \\ \sigma_{mf,i,j} \end{array} \right. \quad \text{Macroscopic nu-fission cross section (cm}^{-1}\text{)} \quad (IV-20)$$

and

$$\Sigma_{r,i,j,l} = \sum_{j=1}^M N_{j,l} \sigma_{r,i,j,l} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j,l \\ \sigma_{r,i,j,l} \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j \\ \sigma_{r,i,j} \end{array} \right. \quad \text{Macroscopic removal cross section from group } l \text{ to } k \text{ (cm}^{-1}\text{)} \quad (IV-21)$$

and

$$\frac{dN_{i,j,l}}{dt} = \sum_{j=1}^M N_{j,l} \lambda_{i,j,l} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j,l \\ \lambda_{i,j,l} \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j \\ \lambda_{i,j} \end{array} \right. \quad \text{Macroscopic cross-section for energy production (J/cm}^3\text{)} \quad (IV-22)$$

$c = 3.2 \times 10^{-11} \text{ J}$

and

$$\Sigma_{tr,i,j,l} = \sum_{j=1}^M N_{j,l} \sigma_{tr,i,j,l} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j,l \\ \sigma_{tr,i,j,l} \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j \\ \sigma_{tr,i,j} \end{array} \right. \quad \text{Macroscopic transport cross section (cm}^{-1}\text{)} \quad (IV-23)$$

and

$$D_{i,j,l} = \frac{1}{3 \sum_{j=1}^M N_{j,l} \sigma_{tr,i,j,l}} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j,l \\ \sigma_{tr,i,j,l} \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} i,j \\ \sigma_{tr,i,j} \end{array} \right. \quad \text{Diffusion coefficient (cm)} \quad (IV-24)$$

The physical interpretations of these symbols are:

- $M$  = total number of isotopes
- $j$  = isotope index
- $l$  = group index
- $i$  = region index



- $\sigma_{tj}^{(g)}$  : microscopic transport cross section  
 $\sigma_{aj}^{(g)}$  : microscopic absorption cross section  
 $\sigma_{fj}^{(g)}$  : microscopic fission cross section  
 $\nu_j$  : average number of neutrons produced per fission  
 $E_j$  : energy produced per fission  
 $\sigma_{rj}^{(g)}$  : microscopic removal cross section from group  $j$  to  $k$   
 $\sigma_{rj}^{(g)}$  : microscopic removal cross section from group  $j$  to  $k$

SAKTOF collects the  $\Sigma_a$ ,  $\Sigma_r$  and  $D \times E^2$  which signify the total  
 macroscopic absorption, diffusion coefficient and nu-fission and writes  
 them on logical unit 4.

If the variable index IND=2, then the program calculates the  
 general matrix which is also written on logical unit 4.

CHAPTER V  
SUBROUTINE CODE

QDDI calculates the coefficients of the finite difference equations and prepares the tapes for a strong reactor.

Let us consider how one could attempt to solve the neutron diffusion equation directly by the aid of a digital computer. One of the advantages of using a computer is its ability to solve large systems of algebraic equations with great speed and accuracy. The first task is to convert the diffusion equation into a system of algebraic equations more suitable for a digital computer. This is accomplished by "discretizing" each of the terms in the diffusion equation, that is, by replacing functions of a continuous variable by a discrete set of values at a discrete set of mesh grid points. The derivatives and integrals appearing in the diffusion equation must also be replaced by a suitable finite difference representation. In this way one arrives at a set of algebraic equations for the discrete representation of the dependent variable which in our case is the neutron flux.

One way of achieving the discretization of the diffusion equation is by using the point scheme. The reactor geometry is first represented by a two dimensional map; the axes of the map may be either  $x$ - $y$  or  $r$ - $z$  or  $r$ - $\theta$ . To simplify the description, we will consider the  $x$ - $y$  geometry in detail. It is not difficult to see how the  $x$ - $y$  case can be extended to the  $r$ - $z$  or  $r$ - $\theta$  geometries. The mesh system is defined as shown in Figure V-1 by a grid of horizontal lines. In this system, each rectangular hole is divided into mesh squares. Considering the numerical solution of the general diffusion equation;

$$-D \nabla^2 \phi(x,y) + \Sigma_a^i(x,y) \phi(x,y) = \frac{K^i}{\lambda} \sum_{j=1}^{NG} \gamma_j \Sigma_f^j(x,y) \phi^j(x,y) + \sum_{j=1}^{NG} \sum_{l=1}^{NL} \gamma_{jl} \Sigma_f^j(x,y) \phi^l(x,y) \quad (V-1)$$

The coefficients of the general diffusion equation are  $D(x,y)$ ,  $\Sigma_a^i(x,y)$ ,  $\Sigma_f^j(x,y)$  and  $\Sigma_{jl}(x,y)$ . We assume that these coefficients are constant in each mesh square.

FIGURE 2

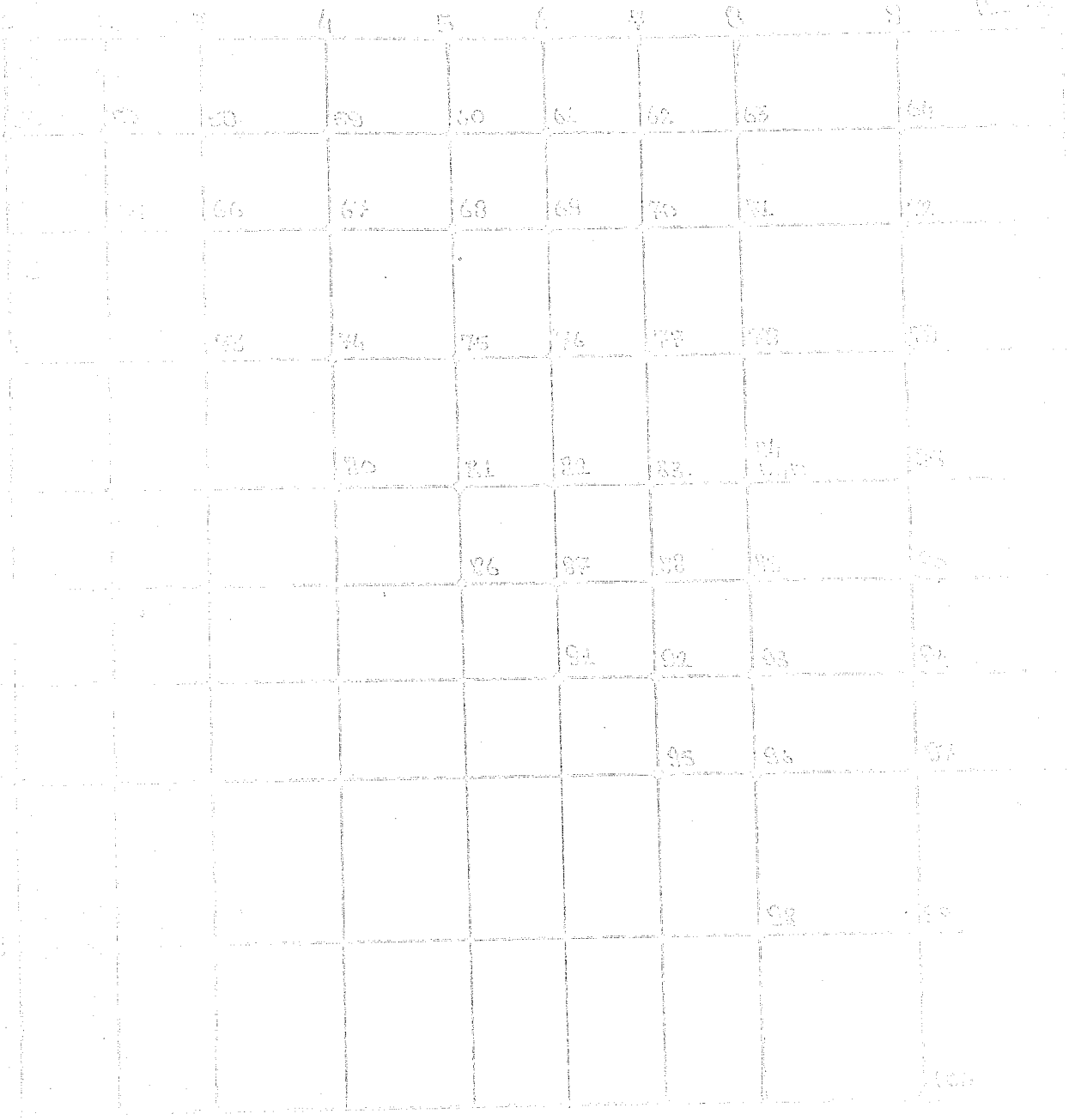


FIGURE 2. The complete x-y mesh

Let us consider the grid point  $(n,n)$  and four adjacent grid points  $(n-1,n)$ ,  $(n+1,n)$ ,  $(n,n-1)$  and  $(n,n+1)$  as illustrated in Figure V-2. Four rectangular boxes around the point  $(n,n)$  are defined by lines passing through the midpoints between the point  $(n,n)$  and the neighboring ones. Thus, there are four types of volumes around the mesh point  $(n,n)$ . These volumes are illustrated in Figure V-2. Each volume may or may not have different group constants, or different region indices; since interfaces are always taken to be mesh points.

Subprogram UODI calculates  $v_1$ ,  $v_2$ ,  $v_3$ , and  $v_4$  that are the volumes indicated in Figure V-2.

$$v_1 = \frac{\Delta x_2 \cdot \Delta y_2}{4}, \quad v_2 = \frac{\Delta x_1 \cdot \Delta y_1}{4}, \quad v_3 = \frac{\Delta x_1 \cdot \Delta y_2}{4}, \quad v_4 = \frac{\Delta x_2 \cdot \Delta y_1}{4}$$

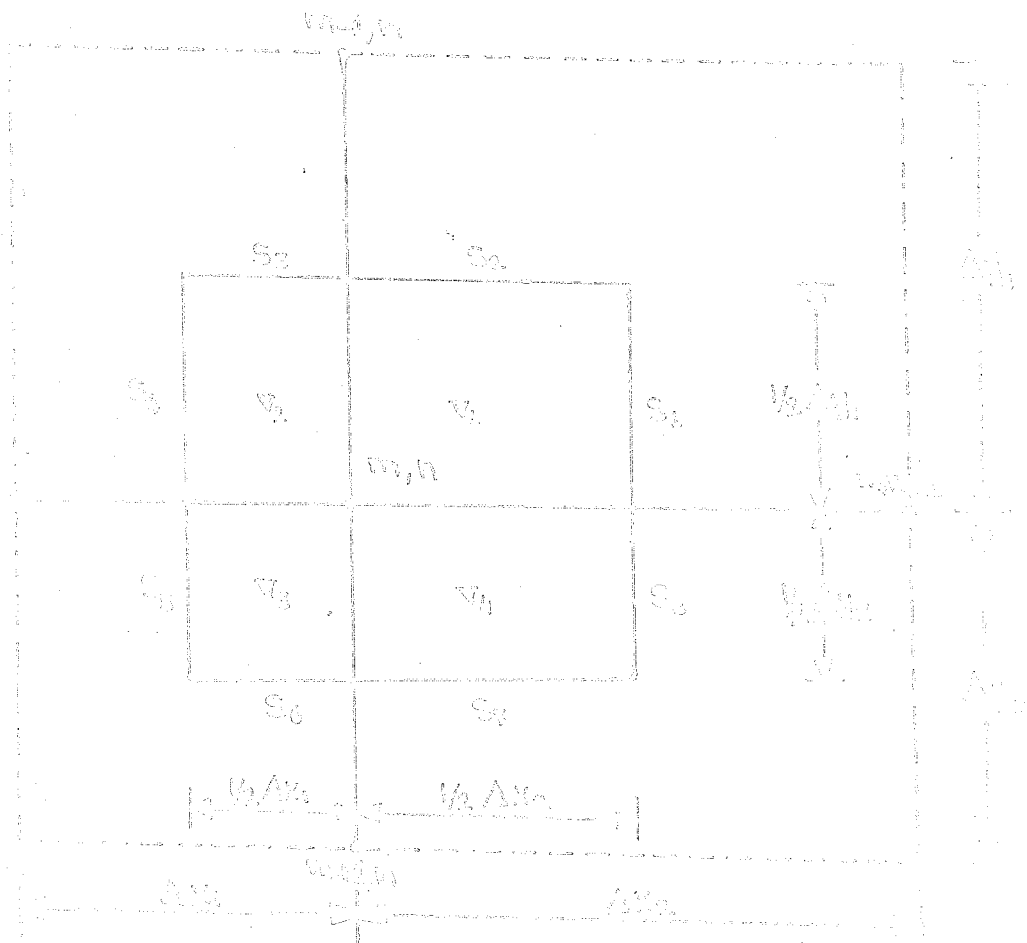


Figure V-2 Part of the mesh shown in detail.

Region regions have been described in subprogram SIMDAD, so that the mesh points have already been assigned to different regions via the assignment statements;

$$IC1 = ICMP(N1)$$

$$IC2 = ICMP(N2)$$

$$IC3 = ICMP(N3)$$

$$IC4 = ICMP(N4)$$

where N1, N2, N3, and N4 are the mesh point numbers which are located at the left bottom corners of the mesh squares. Each mesh point number describes a different mesh square.

IC1, IC2, IC3, and IC4 are the region indices. A region can contain one or more mesh squares.

#### 4-1 COEFFICIENTS OF THE FINITE DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS

The difference equations are obtained by integrating the diffusion equation over the four rectangular volumes associated with the mesh point  $(a, a)$

$$\int_{V_1} \nabla^2 \psi(x, y) \nabla \psi(x, y) + \int_{V_2} \nabla^2 \psi(x, y) \nabla \psi(x, y) = \frac{\Delta x \Delta y}{4} \sum_{i=1}^{N_1} \int_{j=1}^{N_2} \nabla^2 \psi(x, y) \nabla \psi(x, y) + \sum_{i=1}^{N_3} \int_{j=1}^{N_4} \nabla^2 \psi(x, y) \nabla \psi(x, y) \quad (4-1)$$

Consider each term separately. The first integral is along the surface of the region of integral and  $\nabla \psi / \partial n$  is the derivative normal to the surface;

$$\int_{V_1} \nabla^2 \psi(x, y) \nabla \psi(x, y) dV = - \int_{S_1} \nabla \psi(x, y) \nabla \psi(x, y) dS \quad (4-2)$$

In performing the surface integral of the right side of Eq. (4-2), we approximate the derivative by

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \approx \frac{\psi_{i+1, j} - \psi_{i-1, j}}{\Delta x} \quad \text{on the surface } S_1 \text{ and } S_3 \quad (4-3)$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \approx \frac{\psi_{i, j+1} - \psi_{i, j-1}}{\Delta y} \quad \text{on the surface } S_2 \text{ and } S_4 \quad (4-4)$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \approx \frac{\psi_{i+1, j} - \psi_{i-1, j}}{\Delta x} \quad \text{on the surface } S_3 \text{ and } S_4 \quad (4-5)$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi^i}{\partial y} = \frac{\phi_{1,2,3,4}^i - \phi_{1,2,3,4}^i}{\Delta y_1}$$

on the surface  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  (V-2)

the surface integrals along  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , for example, become

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{S_1} (\nabla \phi^i) \cdot \mathbf{v}^i dS &= -D_1^i \frac{\phi_{1,2,3,4}^i - \phi_{1,2,3,4}^i}{\Delta y_1} \cdot \frac{\Delta x_2}{2} - D_2^i \frac{\phi_{1,2,3,4}^i - \phi_{1,2,3,4}^i}{\Delta y_1} \cdot \frac{\Delta x_1}{2} \\ &= \frac{D_1^i \Delta x_2 + D_2^i \Delta x_1}{2 \Delta y_1} (\phi_{1,2,3,4}^i - \phi_{1,2,3,4}^i) \end{aligned} \quad (V-3)$$

The surface integrals along the other surfaces may be calculated similarly;

$$\int_{S_3} (\nabla \phi^i) \cdot \mathbf{v}^i dS = \frac{D_3^i \Delta x_1 + D_4^i \Delta x_2}{2 \Delta y_1} (\phi_{1,2,3,4}^i - \phi_{1,2,3,4}^i) \quad \text{along } S_3 \text{ and } S_4 \quad (V-4)$$

$$\int_{S_5} (\nabla \phi^i) \cdot \mathbf{v}^i dS = \frac{D_5^i \Delta x_2 + D_6^i \Delta x_1}{2 \Delta y_2} (\phi_{1,2,3,4}^i - \phi_{1,2,3,4}^i) \quad \text{along } S_5 \text{ and } S_6 \quad (V-5)$$

$$\int_{S_7} (\nabla \phi^i) \cdot \mathbf{v}^i dS = \frac{D_7^i \Delta x_1 + D_8^i \Delta x_2}{2 \Delta y_2} (\phi_{1,2,3,4}^i - \phi_{1,2,3,4}^i) \quad \text{along } S_7 \text{ and } S_8 \quad (V-6)$$

where  $D_1^i, D_2^i, D_3^i, D_4^i, D_5^i, D_6^i, D_7^i, D_8^i$  are the diffusion coefficients in the volumes  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  respectively.

The second integral becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{S_9} (\nabla \phi^i) \cdot \mathbf{v}^i dS &= (\sum_{k=1}^4 v_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_k + \sum_{k=1}^4 v_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_k + \sum_{k=1}^4 v_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_k + \sum_{k=1}^4 v_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_k) \phi_{1,2,3,4}^i \\ &= \frac{h}{Vol} (\sum_{k=1}^4 v_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_k) \cdot \phi_{1,2,3,4}^i \end{aligned} \quad (V-7)$$

where  $\phi_{1,2,3,4}^i$  is the value of  $\phi^i(x,y)$  in the volume bounded by  $v_k$  ( $k=1,2,3,4$ ). Similarly the first term on the right hand side of Equation (V-2) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^4 \int_{S_k} (\nabla \phi^i) \cdot \mathbf{v}^i dS &= \frac{h}{Vol} \sum_{k=1}^4 (v_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_k + v_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_k + v_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_k + v_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_k) \phi_{1,2,3,4}^i \\ &= \frac{h}{Vol} \sum_{k=1}^4 \sum_{l=1}^4 v_k \cdot \mathbf{v}_l \cdot \phi_{1,2,3,4}^i \end{aligned} \quad (V-8)$$

where  $\bar{\Sigma}_{Ri}^i$  is the value of  $\Sigma_{Ri}^i(x, y)$  in the volume represented by  $V_i$ . The second integral on the right side of Equation (V-13) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{NS} \int_{V_i} \Sigma_{Ri}^i(x, y) \phi_{mn}^i(x, y) dV &= \sum_{i=1}^{NS} \left( \bar{\Sigma}_{Ri}^i \cdot V_i + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \bar{\Sigma}_{Ri}^i \cdot V_k + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \bar{\Sigma}_{Ri}^i \cdot V_k + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \bar{\Sigma}_{Ri}^i \cdot V_k \right) \phi_{mn}^i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{NS} \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \bar{\Sigma}_{Ri}^i \cdot V_k \cdot \phi_{mn}^i \end{aligned} \quad (V-14)$$

where  $\bar{\Sigma}_{Ri}^i$  is the value of  $\Sigma_{Ri}^i(x, y)$  in the volume represented by  $V_i$ .

The last two equations (V-13) and (V-14) constitute the source term of the diffusion equation. The source terms can be represented as a single term such as  $S_{mn}^i$ . Thus:

$$\frac{d\phi_{mn}^i}{dt} = \frac{d\phi_{mn}^i}{dt} + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \sum_{l=1}^{N-1} \bar{\Sigma}_{Ri}^i \cdot V_k \cdot \phi_{mn}^i + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \sum_{l=1}^{N-1} \bar{\Sigma}_{Ri}^i \cdot V_k \cdot \phi_{mn}^i \quad (V-15)$$

Collecting all the terms together, we obtain the five-point difference equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{mn}^i \left( \frac{d\phi_{mn}^i}{dt} + b_{mn}^i \phi_{mn}^i + c_{mn}^i \phi_{m-1n}^i + d_{mn}^i \phi_{m+1n}^i + e_{mn}^i \phi_{mn}^i \right) \\ + e_{mn}^i \phi_{mn}^i = S_{mn}^i \end{aligned} \quad (V-16)$$

where the coefficient are;

$$\frac{d\phi_{mn}^i}{dt} = \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} \sum_{l=1}^{N-1} \bar{\Sigma}_{Ri}^i \cdot V_k - (b_{mn}^i + c_{mn}^i + d_{mn}^i + e_{mn}^i) \quad (V-17)$$

$$b_{mn}^i = \frac{D_x^i \Delta x_1 + D_y^i \Delta x_2}{2 \Delta x_1} \quad (V-18)$$

$$c_{mn}^i = - \frac{D_x^i \Delta x_2 + D_y^i \Delta x_1}{2 \Delta x_1} \quad (V-19)$$

$$d_{mn}^i = \frac{D_x^i \Delta y_1 + D_y^i \Delta y_2}{2 \Delta x_1} \quad (V-20)$$

$$d_{m,n}^i = \frac{D_m^i \Delta y_i + D_n^i \Delta x_i}{2 \Delta x_i} \quad (V-21)$$

In the preceding equation,  $b_{m,n}^i$ ,  $d_{m,n}^i$ ,  $d_{m,n}^i$ ,  $d_{m,n}^i$  are positive and  $d_{m,n}^i$  is positive when  $B \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^I \Delta x_i \Delta y_i > 0$ . Notice also the boundary properties  $b_{m,n}^i = b_{n,m}^i$  and  $d_{m,n}^i = d_{n,m}^i$ .

### V-2. REACTOR DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS NEAR A BOUNDARY

If the mesh point  $(m,n)$  is on an outer boundary, the diffusion equation is derived by using the boundary condition which is usually expressed as

$$D \frac{\partial \phi(s)}{\partial n} + \gamma(s) \phi(s) = 0 \quad (V-22)$$

where  $s$  is the coordinate along the boundary; then

$$\gamma(s) = \frac{\alpha}{D} \quad (V-23)$$

The boundary condition at the edge of the reactor core is

$$\phi(x_0, y) = 0 \quad \text{for } m=1 \text{ or } M=MPY \quad (V-24)$$

$$\phi(x, y_0) = 0 \quad \text{for } n=1 \text{ or } N=NPX \quad (V-25)$$

An alternative set of boundary conditions could be

$$\phi(x, y) D(x, y) \frac{\partial \phi(x, y)}{\partial x} + c(x, y) \phi(x, y) = 0 \quad (V-26)$$

$$\phi(x, y) D(x, y) \frac{\partial \phi(x, y)}{\partial y} + c(x, y) \phi(x, y) = 0 \quad (V-27)$$

Consider one particular outer boundary, for example, the left edge where  $m=1$ . If the condition in Equation (V-24) prevails,  $\phi(x_0, y) = 0$  and  $\phi(x_0, y)$  is equal to zero for all  $y$ . If the condition in Equation (V-26), then we integrate the diffusion equation



and the values  $v_2$  and  $v_3$ . The contributions for  $v_1$  and  $v_4$  are now zero, because they now don't exist. The contributions for  $S_2, S_4, S_5$ , and  $S_6$  are the same as before. But the contributions for  $S_1, S_3$ , and  $S_7$  don't exist for this boundary point. However, we have the new surfaces  $S_1^i$  and  $S_3^i$ .

The surface integral for the first term of Equation (V-2) is performed along the surfaces of  $v_2$  and  $v_3$ . The derivatives of  $\psi^i(x,y)$  normal to the surfaces  $S_1^i$  and  $S_3^i$  are evaluated by Equation (V-22), so that the surface integral along  $S_1^i$  and  $S_3^i$  becomes:

$$\int \psi^i(x,y) \nabla \psi^i(x,y) dx dy = - \int \psi^i(x,y) \psi^i(x,y) dx dy \\ = - \left( \frac{\psi_1^i \Delta y_2}{2} + \frac{\psi_3^i \Delta y_2}{2} \right) \psi_{1,2}^i \quad (V-23)$$

where  $\psi_1^i$  and  $\psi_3^i$  are the values of  $\psi^i(x,y)$  on  $S_1^i$  and  $S_3^i$  respectively.

The surface integrals along  $S_2$  and  $S_5$  become:

$$\frac{\Delta x_1 + \Delta x_2}{2 \Delta x_1} (\psi_{1,2}^i - \psi_{1,2}^i) \quad (V-24)$$

and along  $S_3$

$$\frac{\Delta x_2}{2 \Delta x_2} (\psi_{1,2}^i - \psi_{1,2}^i) \quad (V-25)$$

and along  $S_6$

$$\frac{\Delta x_2}{2 \Delta x_2} (\psi_{1,2}^i - \psi_{1,2}^i) \quad (V-26)$$

The contributions for  $v_4$  and  $v_5$  are unchanged. Finally, the contribution (V-2) only only to  $v_2$  and  $v_3$ , so that the right-hand side of Equation (V-2) becomes simply:

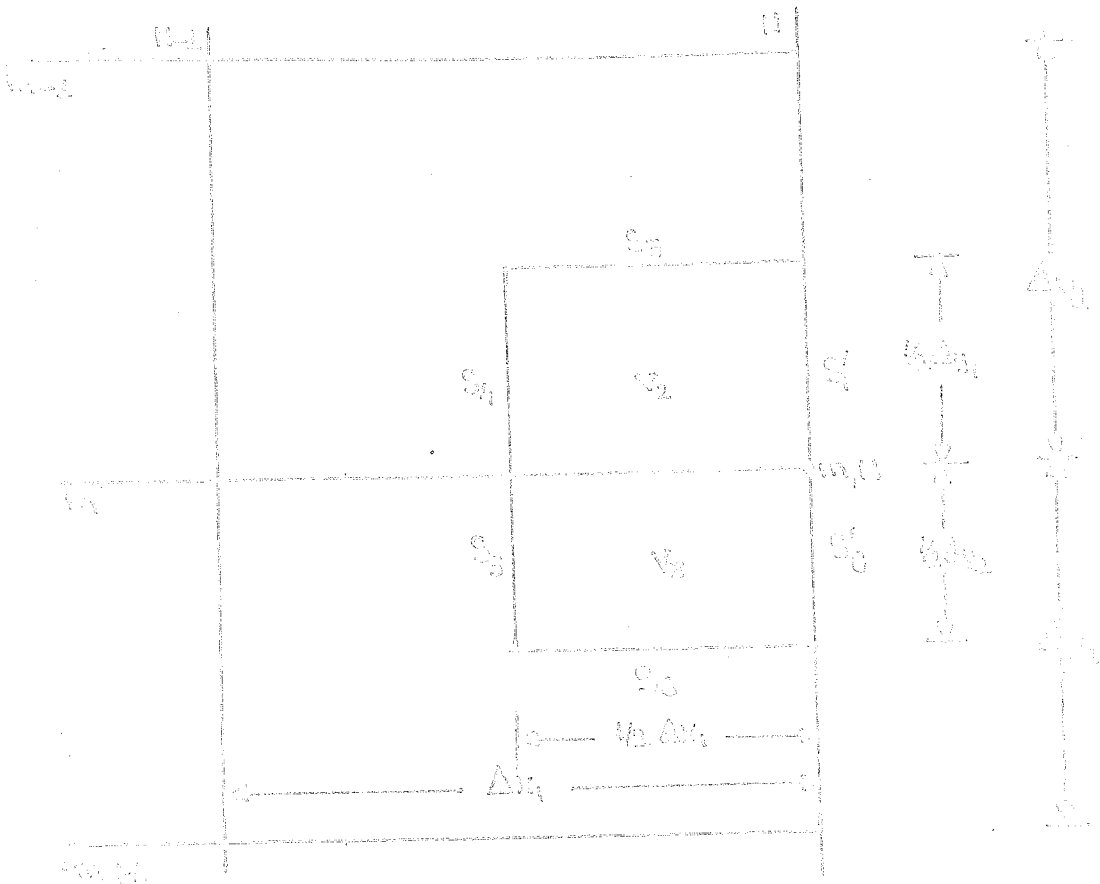


Figure V-3 Area of integration near the outer boundary.

$$\int_{S_2}^{\Delta x_1} \phi(x, y) \psi(x, y) dx dy = \left( \sum_{i=1}^i \cdot v_2 + \sum_{i=1}^i \cdot v_3 \right) \phi_{i,2}^i \quad (V-12)$$

$$\frac{\Delta x_1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N/2} \int_{S_2}^{\Delta x_1} \phi(x, y) \psi(x, y) dx dy = \frac{\Delta x_1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N/2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^i \cdot v_2 + \sum_{i=1}^i \cdot v_3 \right) \phi_{i,2}^i \quad (V-13)$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N/2} \sum_{i=1}^{i=1} \phi(x, y) \psi(x, y) dx dy = \sum_{j=1}^{N/2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{i=1} \cdot v_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{i=1} \cdot v_3 \right) \phi_{i,2}^i \quad (V-14)$$

The source terms can be represented as a single term with  $\phi_{i,2}^i$ , then

$$\phi_{i,2}^i = \left[ \frac{\Delta x_1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N/2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^i \cdot v_2 + \sum_{i=1}^i \cdot v_3 \right) + \sum_{j=1}^{N/2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{i=1} \cdot v_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{i=1} \cdot v_3 \right) \right] \phi_{i,2}^i \quad (V-15)$$

Collecting all the terms, the difference equation is expressed by Equation (V-16) with the coefficients as;

$$C_{i,j,k}^i = \Sigma_{i,j} v_1 + \Sigma_{i,j} v_2 - (D_{i,j,k}^i + C_{i,j,k}^i + C_{i,j,k}^i + C_{i,j,k}^i + \frac{V_1^i \Delta y_1}{\Delta x_1} + \frac{V_2^i \Delta y_2}{\Delta x_2})$$

$$D_{i,j,k}^i = \frac{D_1^i \Delta x_1}{2 \Delta y_1}$$

$$C_{i,j,k}^i = 0$$

$$C_{i,j,k}^i = \frac{D_2^i \Delta x_2}{2 \Delta y_2}$$

$$C_{i,j,k}^i = \frac{V_1^i \Delta y_1 + V_2^i \Delta y_2}{2 \Delta x_1}$$

The difference equations for Equation (V-2), in cases of other two dimensional coordinate systems,  $r-\theta$  or  $r-\phi$ , can be obtained similarly by evaluating the volume and surface integrals properly.

## CHAPTER VI

### SOLUTION OF THE FINITE DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS

We have now finished the discussion of the setting up of finite difference equations. The next problem is to solve these equations bearing in mind that a typical problem will have between 1000 and 10000 spatial mesh points in each energy group. One first task is to cast the set of equations into matrix form. For the sake of later discussion, it will be convenient to write Equation (V-16) in the matrix form.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \left[ \begin{array}{ccc}
 c_{11} & b_{11} & \\
 c_{21} & c_{21} & b_{21} \\
 & c_{31} & c_{31} & b_{31} \\
 & & & & & \\
 & & & & c_{101} & a_{101} & b_{101} \\
 & & & & c_{12} & a_{12} & b_{12} \\
 & & & & & & & & c_{22} & a_{22} & b_{22}
 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{c}
 \phi_{11} \\
 \phi_{21} \\
 \phi_{31} \\
 \vdots \\
 \phi_{101} \\
 \phi_{12} \\
 \vdots \\
 \phi_{22}
 \end{array} = \begin{array}{c}
 d_{11} \\
 d_{21} \\
 d_{31} \\
 \vdots \\
 d_{101} \\
 d_{12} \\
 \vdots \\
 d_{22}
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

The configuration of A depends on how the elements of the vector  $\phi$  correspond to  $\phi_{m,n}$ .



Sometimes, it is convenient to think of the elements of our flux vector  $\Phi_1, \Phi_2, \dots$  etc. as belonging to a two dimensional mesh. We thus have

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \Phi_1 = \Phi_{0,1} & A_{1,1} = a_{1,1} \\
 \Phi_2 = \Phi_{2,1} & A_{1,2} = b_{1,1} \\
 \Phi_3 = \Phi_{0,1} & A_{1,3} = 0 \\
 \vdots & \vdots \\
 \vdots & \vdots \\
 \Phi_n = \Phi_{m,1} & A_{n,1} = a_{1,1} \\
 \Phi_{n+1} = \Phi_{1,2} & A_{2,1} = c_{2,1} \\
 \Phi_{n+2} = \Phi_{2,2} & A_{2,2} = a_{2,2} \\
 \vdots & \vdots \\
 \vdots & \vdots \\
 \Phi_m = \Phi_{m-1,1} & A_{m,m-1} = c_{1,2} \\
 \Phi_p = \Phi_{m,0} & \vdots \\
 & \vdots \\
 & A_{p,p} = a_{p,p}
 \end{array}$$

From which it is obvious that the dimension of the flux vector is  $2m+1$ . The matrix  $A$  has certain special properties such as

- $A$  is symmetric.
- The diagonal elements are positive. The off-diagonal elements are zero or negative.
- The absolute value of the diagonal term in any row of  $A$  is equal to or greater than the sum of the absolute values of all off-diagonal elements of that row. Namely, the matrix  $A$  is diagonally dominant. The difference between the diagonal element and the magnitude of the off-diagonal sum is denoted by  $h_{m,n}$  and is defined as

$$h_{m,n} = a_{m,n} - (b_{m,n} + c_{m,n} + d_{m,n} + e_{m,n}) \quad (V-5)$$

where  $b_{m,n}$ ,  $c_{m,n}$ ,  $d_{m,n}$ , and  $e_{m,n}$  have been given in Chapter V. At the boundary  $h_{m,n}$  is positive or zero. For most points within the mesh, the difference between diagonal and off-diagonal elements are still positive. For example, for the boundary node the difference is;

$$L_{m,n}^i = O_{m,n}^i - (b_{m,n}^i + c_{m,n}^i + e_{m,n}^i) \quad \text{--- (VI-6)}$$

Consider the mesh system consisting of nine grid points shown in Figure VI-1(a). If we array  $O_{m,n}$  in the sequence shown in Figure VI-1(b), then Equation (VI-3) becomes:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & b_{11} & 0 & d_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ c_{21} & a_{21} & L_{21} & 0 & d_{21} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{31} & a_{31} & 0 & 0 & d_{31} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{12} & 0 & 0 & a_{12} & b_{12} & 0 & d_{12} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e_{22} & 0 & c_{22} & a_{22} & b_{22} & 0 & d_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c_{32} & 0 & c_{22} & a_{32} & 0 & 0 & d_{32} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & e_{13} & 0 & 0 & d_{13} & b_{13} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & e_{23} & 0 & c_{23} & a_{23} & b_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & e_{33} & 0 & c_{23} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{11} \\ \phi_{21} \\ \phi_{31} \\ \phi_{12} \\ \phi_{22} \\ \phi_{32} \\ \phi_{13} \\ \phi_{23} \\ \phi_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s_{11} \\ s_{21} \\ s_{31} \\ s_{12} \\ s_{22} \\ s_{32} \\ s_{13} \\ s_{23} \\ s_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{(VI-7)}$$

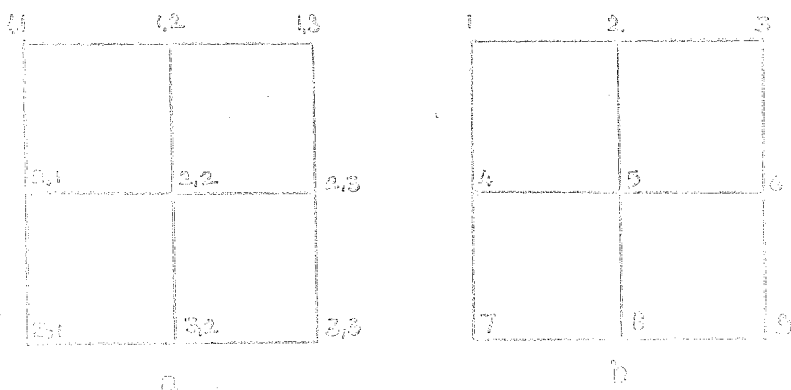


Figure VI-1

Notice that Equation (VI-7) is a pentadiagonal matrix; the mathematical properties of this matrix equation are of great interest. We are particularly interested in the sufficient conditions for the iterative solution to converge to the exact solution. The

iterative solution is convergent if the spectral radius of the iterative matrix is less than unity. Of course, it is generally very difficult or impossible to know all the eigenvalues of a matrix if the order of matrix is large. There are, however, theorems that give sufficient conditions to ensure a spectral radius less than unity. A proof of the theorem and a few of the basic properties, related to iterative convergence, can be found in the literature on matrix theory, for example, Householder (3) and Varga (4). The fact Equation (VI-3) has various favorable properties for iterative solution methods.

The following iterative schemes are well known

1. Gauss-Jacobi iterative method.
2. SOR (Successive Over-Relaxation) iterative method.
3. Gauss-Seidel iterative method.
4. Alternating direction implicit method.
5. Successive over relaxation method.
6. Györfi-Chebyshev semi iterative method.

#### VI-4 DETERMINATION OF THE ACCELERATION PARAMETERS FOR THREE ITERATION

We now return to the problem of solving Equation (VI-3). We now illustrate the basic idea with a simple example. Suppose we wish to invert a matrix  $A$ , that is, we wish to solve

$$A\mathcal{Q} = \mathcal{E} \quad (VI-6)$$

The inner iteration procedure is set up to obtain an approximate solution of  $\mathcal{Q}$ . Successive Over-relaxation method will be used for the inner iteration procedure. We first decompose  $A$  into its diagonal and off-diagonal elements.

$$A = D - L - U \quad (VI-7)$$

The spectral radius of a matrix  $A$  is the number  $\rho(A) = \max_i |\lambda_i|$ , where  $\lambda_i$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ . It can be shown that  $\rho(A) \leq \|A\|$ , thus the spectral radius  $\rho(A)$  of a matrix can not exceed the value of its norm.



where  $D$  is the diagonal matrix of order  $P$ ,

$L$  is the lower triangular matrix with null diagonal elements,

$U$  is the upper triangular matrix with null diagonal elements.

The Gauss-Seidel iterative method (4) is then defined by

$$D \phi^{(t+1)} = L \phi^{(t+1)} + U \phi^{(t)} + S \quad (VI-10)$$

$$(D-L) \phi^{(t+1)} = U \phi^{(t)} + S \quad (VI-11)$$

giving

$$\phi^{(t+1)} = (D-L)^{-1} U \phi^{(t)} + (D-L)^{-1} S \quad (VI-12)$$

The matrix  $(D-L)^{-1} U$  is called the Gauss-Seidel iteration matrix associated with the matrix  $A$ .

It is possible to accelerate the convergence of the iteration scheme even further by introducing an acceleration parameter to extrapolate the iterative flux estimate. This procedure is known as the Successive Overrelaxation (SOR) method. In the SOR method the displacement vector is  $w$  times that in the Gauss-Seidel method, where  $w$  is the acceleration parameter and is a real number. Hence, by Equation (VI-10) the SOR iteration is defined by

$$D \phi^{(t+1)} = \phi^{(t)} + w [L \phi^{(t+1)} + U \phi^{(t)} + S - \phi^{(t)}] \quad (VI-13)$$

Here the acceleration parameter  $w$  ranges between 1 and 2. Of course for  $w=1$ , we return to the Gauss-Seidel method in which no acceleration is used. Equation (VI-13) can be written as

$$\phi^{(t+1)} = (D-wL)^{-1} [wU - (w-1)U] \phi^{(t)} + (D-wL)^{-1} wS \quad (VI-14)$$

The convergence rate of the SOR method is dependent on the value of  $w$ . However, the proper choice of  $w$  is particularly important when the given problem is intrinsically slowly convergent. If the solution method employs the acceleration parameter

repeatedly, it is worthwhile to develop a subprogram to calculate the optimal  $w$ . For this reason, subprogram VIN36 is provided.

Various methods of computing the accelerating parameter  $w$  has been investigated by B.A. Carro (5) who considered a problem for which the best value of  $w$ , denoted by  $w_{opt}$ , equals 1.9. This gives a rate of convergence forty times greater than that obtained by using  $w=1$  (Gauss-Seidel).

Unfortunately there are no simple formula for calculating  $w_{opt}$ , so its value must be estimated. This depends upon estimation of either the spectral radius  $\rho(j)$  of the corresponding Jacobi iteration matrix  $(L+U)$ ; or the spectral radius  $\rho(G)$  of the Gauss-Seidel iteration matrix  $(D-L)^{-1}U$ . Assuming that the matrix of the finite difference equation possesses the Property A and is consistently ordered (6), then it can be proved that

$$\rho(G) = \rho^2(j) \quad (VI-11)$$

$$w_{opt} = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 - \rho(G)}} \quad (VI-12)$$

Carro, reference 5, and Varga, give several methods for estimating  $\rho(G)$  and  $\rho(j)$ .

One such method calculates a large set of successive approximations  $\phi^{(0)}, \phi^{(1)}, \dots, \phi^{(n)}$  to the solution of the P.D.E. equations by Gauss-Seidel iterations and then estimates  $\rho(G)$  from

$$\rho(G) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|d^{(t+1)}\|}{\|d^{(t)}\|} \quad (VI-13)$$

where  $d^{(t)} = \phi^{(t+1)} - \phi^{(t)}$  and  $\|d^{(t+1)}\|$ ; the norm of  $d^{(t+1)}$ , can be defined by

$$\|d^{(t+1)}\| = |\phi^{(t+1)} - \phi^{(t)}| + |\phi^{(t+1)} - \phi^{(t)}| + \dots + |\phi^{(t+1)} - \phi^{(t)}| \quad (VI-14)$$

$$\|d^{(t+1)}\| = \text{maximum of } |\phi_i^{(t+1)} - \phi_i^{(t)}| \quad i=1, 2, \dots, D \quad (VI-15)$$

$$\|A^{(t+1)}\| = \left[ (\beta_1^{(t+1)} - \beta_1^t)^2 + (\beta_2^{(t+1)} - \beta_2^t)^2 + \dots + (\beta_p^{(t+1)} - \beta_p^t)^2 \right]^{1/2} \quad (\text{VI-35})$$

If the spectral radii,  $\rho(G) = \text{AMD}(IG)$ , are initially given as input then these are used to determine the optimum overrelaxation parameters  $w_{opt}$  to be used in the acceleration scheme.

If  $\rho(G) = \text{AMD}(IG)$  are not provided then ROWI, and ROMA (minimum and maximum spectral radii) are estimated by VI-36 and using these values in an extrapolation procedure RODE (average spectral radii) are obtained and assigned as the values of  $\rho(G) = \text{AMD}(IG)$  which are then used to find  $w$  through the function  $\text{FOG}(\rho(G))$

$$\text{FOG}(\rho(G)) = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 - \rho(G)}} \quad (\text{VI-36})$$

If any one of the estimated values for ROWI, ROMA and RODE found by VI-36 is greater than one, then VI-36 makes a new estimate of  $\rho(G)$  until they all are less than or equal to one. Then the program calculates maximum, minimum and average overrelaxation factors by using the function

$$\text{FOG}(x) = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1-x}} \quad (\text{VI-37})$$

$$\text{ROWI} = \rho_{\max}(G), \text{ROMA} = \rho_{\min}(G), \text{RODE} = \rho_{\text{ave}}(G)$$

$$w_{\max} = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 - \rho_{\max}(G)}} \quad (\text{VI-38})$$

By the same way  $w_{\min}$  and  $w_{opt}$  are calculated as;

$$w_{\min} = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 - \rho_{\min}(G)}} \quad (\text{VI-39})$$

$$w_{opt} = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 - \rho_{opt}(G)}} \quad (\text{VI-40})$$

after which ZT is obtained from

$$ZT = \frac{W_{\text{max}} - W_{\text{min}}}{2 - W_{\text{opt}}} \quad (\text{VI-21})$$

If ZT < 0.2 then calculation of the overrelaxation factors is completed and those values are written as output.

For the application of the Chebyshev polynomials to the overrelaxation coefficient, it is assumed that the eigenvalues of the iterative process are real. First the number of extrapolation parameters to be found is determined and then as many of them are computed as follows:

$$w_1 = 1 \quad (\text{VI-22})$$

$$w_2 = \frac{2}{2 - \rho_{\text{ave}}(G)} \quad (\text{VI-23})$$

$$w_n = \frac{4}{4 - \rho_{\text{ave}}(G) \cdot w_{n-1}} \quad \text{for } n > 2 \quad (\text{VI-24})$$

A separate set of Chebyshev extrapolation parameters are determined by the program for each group. Thus we obtain the extrapolation parameters required for the inner iterations.

#### VI.4 STRATEGIES FOR SOLVING THE FINITE DIFFERENCE GROUP DIFFUSION EQUATIONS

If we recall the general discussion of finite difference approximations of the neutron diffusion equations given in Chapter V, it is apparent that the general structure of the finite difference multigroup diffusion equations takes the form

$$\begin{aligned} & a_{m,n}^i \phi_{m,n}^i + b_{m,n}^i \phi_{m,n+1}^i + c_{m,n}^i \phi_{m-1,n}^i + d_{m,n}^i \phi_{m,n-1}^i + \dots \\ & e_{m,n}^i \phi_{m,n}^i = s_{m,n}^i \end{aligned} \quad (\text{VI-25})$$

Notice that in addition to the coupling to different energy group fluxes at a given mesh point due to the fission source and scattering the finite difference equation is coupled as well to the flux at adjacent spatial mesh point because of the effect of spatial diffusion.

If we denote the number of spatial mesh points by  $P \cdot M \cdot N$  and the number of groups by  $NG$ , then Equation (VI-21) represents a set of  $P \cdot NG$  simultaneous linear algebraic equations. One usually normalizes the flux at one energy group-space mesh point, since overall normalization of the flux is arbitrary in a criticality calculation. Hence, we have  $P \cdot NG$  equations available to determine the  $(P-1) \cdot NG$  fluxes and the multiplication eigenvalue  $k$ . As before, it is convenient to rewrite this set of equations as a matrix eigenvalue problem

$$A\phi = \frac{1}{k} F\phi \quad (VI-22)$$

There are two problems to be resolved:

1. Often the matrix  $A$  is so large that it is very difficult to invert  $A$  so an approximate method of solution must be introduced leading to inner iterations.

2. The vector  $S$  is, of course, unknown since  $S$  is directly determined by  $\phi$ . The most commonly used method for solving for  $S$  (and hence  $S$ ) is the power iteration method.

The outer iteration is primarily concerned with obtaining the eigenvalue  $k$ . The power method is an iteration scheme for obtaining the largest eigenvalue  $\lambda$  which is the multiplication factor  $k$ . The multiplication factor is the ratio of two successive iterations which can be thought of as a ratio of the integrated neutron population at an iteration step  $i$  to the value of the same quantity at the previous iteration step  $(i-1)$ .

The iteration scheme proceeds as follows:

define a vector

$$\psi = \frac{1}{k} F\phi = \frac{1}{k} S \quad (VI-23)$$

where

$$S = F\phi \quad (VI-24)$$

which is called the source vector. The iteration is defined by the relation

$$\Lambda \phi^{(t)} = \Psi^{(t-1)} \quad (\text{VI-32})$$

so that from Equation (VI-31), we have

$$S^{(t)} = F \phi^{(t)} \quad (\text{VI-33})$$

Obtain the iteration source by using Equation (VI-30)

$$\psi^{(t)} = \frac{1}{\lambda^{(t)}} S^{(t)} \quad (\text{VI-34})$$

After that, obtain new flux vector by using Equation (VI-14)

$$\phi^{t+1} = (D-wL)^{-1} [wU - (w-1)D] \phi^t + (D-wL)^{-1} wS^{(t)}$$

Note that in inner iterations  $S^{(t)}$  denotes what  $\psi^{(t)}$  denotes in outer iterations and multiplying by  $S^{(t)T}$  we obtain

$$\lambda^{(t)} = \frac{S^{(t)T} \cdot S^{(t)}}{S^{(t)T} \cdot \psi^{(t)}} \quad (\text{VI-35})$$

Let us now review the general iterative strategy for solving this eigenvalue problem.

1. One first makes an initial guess of the flux vector  $\phi^{(0)}$  and multiplication eigenvalue  $\lambda^{(0)}$ .

2. Using Equation (VI-33) estimate the source vector:

$$S^{(0)} = F \phi^{(0)} \quad (\text{VI-36})$$

and also using Equation (VI-30) estimate the  $\psi^{(0)}$

$$\psi^{(0)} = \frac{1}{\lambda^{(0)}} S^{(0)} \quad (\text{VI-38})$$

3. At this point one proceeds to solve the inhomogeneous matrix Equation

$$A\phi^{(t)} = \frac{1}{\lambda^{(t-1)}} S^{(t-1)} \quad (\text{VI-39})$$

for the next flux iterate  $\phi^{(t)}$ . This solution involves a number of substeps.

a. One solves the inhomogeneous diffusion Equation energy by energy for each of the energy groups.

$$L\phi_i^{(t)} = \frac{1}{\lambda^{(t-1)}} S_i^{(t-1)} \quad (\text{VI-40})$$

by solving first for the highest energy group,  $i=1$  and using  $\phi_i^{(t)}$  to solve for  $\phi_{i-1}^{(t)}$ , and so on, solving successively down the groups.

b. Of course, solving even the inhomogeneous diffusion equation for a single group is no trivial matter. For multidimensional problems, iterative techniques will be necessary such as SOR which was discussed in section VI-A. Inner iterations usually take the previous flux estimate  $\phi_k^{(t-1)}$  as their first guess in solving Equation (VI-40). It should be mentioned that a variety of schemes have been proposed for coupling such inner iterations to the outer iterations in order to accelerate convergence.

4. Having obtained the flux estimate  $\phi^{(t)}$ , source vector is obtained by Equation (VI-33)

$$S^{(t)} = F\phi^{(t)} \quad (\text{VI-41})$$

5. Having obtained the source estimate  $S^{(t)}$ , one can now

determine the new estimate for the multiplication factor by using Equation (VI-35)

$$\lambda^{(t)} = \frac{S^{(t)} T_{\infty} S^t}{S^{(t)} T_{\infty} \psi^{(t-1)}} \quad (\text{VI-42})$$

6. Calculate a new  $\Psi$  using Equation (VI-30)

$$\psi^{(t)} = \frac{1}{\lambda^{(t)}} S^{(t)} \quad (\text{VI-43})$$

7. At this point one tests the outer iteration for convergence by the criterion:

$$\left| \frac{\lambda^{(t)} - \lambda^{(t-1)}}{\lambda^{(t)}} \right| < 10^{-3} \eta \quad (\text{VI-44})$$

where  $\eta$  is the convergence criterion for the criticality search. If the changes in  $\lambda^{(t)}$  are sufficiently small, one assumes that convergence has been achieved and the iterative procedure is ended. If not, then a new source is calculated and the iteration continues, as a repetition of the steps outlined above.



## CHAPTER-VII

### NORMALIZATION FACTOR AND POINT FLUXES

#### VII-A SUBROUTINE NORMA

This routine evaluates the region average fluxes, performs power integration and calculates the flux normalization factor. Normalization factor is computed by dividing the total reactor power for the time step under consideration, which is a part of input data by the total amount of energy production rate given by the unnormalized fluxes. The latter is computed by NORMA. Through the use of the data generated for each energy group and stored in the magnetic tape file by WREBUS. As was explained in SERCON, this data, including microscopic cross sections, is first used to find the self shielding factors and then the macroscopic cross sections.

Total energy production rate in the reactor resulting from unnormalized fluxes is computed as follows. Total energy production rate is here denoted by TOT.

$$TOT = \sum_{IG=1}^{NG} \sum_{L=1}^{NRNG} \Sigma_f(L, IG) \phi(L, IG) \quad (VII-1)$$

where

IG = group index

L = region index

$\Sigma_f(L, IG)$  = macroscopic fission cross section in region L

$\phi$  = energy production per fission ( $3.2 \cdot 10^{11}$  J/fission)

$\phi(L, IG)$  = volume weighted region flux in group IG.

$\Sigma_f(L, IG)$ , being a part of macroscopic cross sections, was computed in SERCON via the use of microscopic data and self-shielding factors.  $\phi$  (energy production per fission) is given as input. We will now explain how to calculate  $\phi(L, IG)$ , the volume weighted region flux in group IG.

The reactor is divided into regions, in each of which, the program performs an average burn-up, that is, assigns the same average isotopic number densities and macroscopic cross sections to a given region. Also each region consists of mesh grid. Each

mesh is represented by a number which is called the mesh number or mesh point number. There may be at most four volume elements around a mesh point. Each volume is assigned to a different mesh point as illustrated in Figure VII-1. Also, each mesh point may

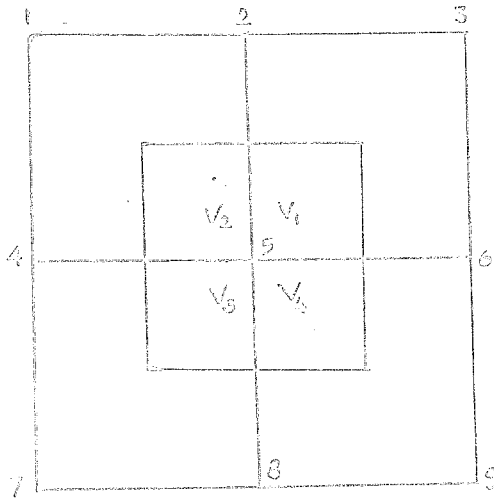


Figure VII-1

belong to a different region. Group constants are the same for all rectangular meshes belonging to a given region. Thus, it will be sufficient to give an example for only one mesh point. If a mesh grid is on the boundary then the respective boundary condition is taken into account.

Let us suppose that a mesh point is not on a boundary. In order to compute the quantities needed for say, the mesh point number 5 (see Figure VII-1). Program firstly determines the neighbouring mesh points which are 4, 7, and 8. Each mesh point is known to belong to a specified region. After that, point fluxes for points 5, 4, 7 and 8 are evaluated and mesh volume elements around the point 5 are calculated by the following scheme.

Distances between rows and columns are called mesh space lengths, and they are given as input. In the  $x$  direction,  $\Delta x$  and in the  $y$  direction,  $\Delta y$ . Mesh volume is

$$XV1 = \Delta x \cdot \Delta y$$

(VII-2)

Now, one can calculate an average point flux from the point fluxes read in the logical unit number 9. Calculation of one volume weighted average point flux involves four neighbouring fluxes, in the form;

$$\Psi(L, IG) = \frac{1}{4} \Delta x \cdot \Delta y [VFT4(5) + VFT4(4) + VFT4(7) + VFT4(8)] \quad (VII-3)$$

This routine is repeated for each mesh point. Along this routine, fluxes belonging to the same region are summed up such that,

$$\phi(L, IG) = \sum_{I=1}^I \Psi(L, IG) \quad (VII-4)$$

where  $I$  is the mesh point belonging to region  $L$ . Thus we obtain the volume weighted region flux for group  $IG$ .

If the mesh point under investigation is on a boundary then there would be leakage from this boundary. For example, the top side of the reactor forms a boundary line and if the boundary condition indicator,  $BCON(IG, 1)$ , is less than zero here then a zero flux condition is obtained, in which case leakage from the top side of the reactor is

$$XLEAK(IG, 1) = D(L, IG) \cdot \frac{VFT4(N3) + VFT4(N4) - [VFT4(N1) + VFT4(N2)]}{\Delta y} \cdot \frac{\Delta x}{2} \quad (VII-5)$$

where

$N1, N2, N3,$  and  $N4$  are the mesh point numbers.

Leakage from the other possible boundary sides of the reactor can be obtained in the same way. At the bottom of the reactor,

$$XLEAK(IG, 3) = D(L, IG) \cdot \frac{VFT4(N1) + VFT4(N2) - [VFT4(N3) + VFT4(N4)]}{\Delta y} \cdot \frac{\Delta x}{2} \quad (VII-6)$$

At the left side of the reactor

$$XLEK(IG, 2) = D(L, IG) \cdot \frac{VET4(N2) + VET4(N4) - [VET4(N1) + VET4(N3)]}{\Delta x} \cdot \frac{\Delta y}{2}$$

(VII-7)

At the right side of the reactor

$$XBEK(IG, 4) = D(L, IG) \cdot \frac{VET4(N1) + VET4(N3) - [VET4(N2) + VET4(N4)]}{\Delta x} \cdot \frac{\Delta y}{2}$$

We can now calculate the total neutron production which is denoted by FNOR, in the whole reactor

$$FNOR = \sum_{IG=1}^{NG} \sum_{L=1}^{NRNG} \nu \cdot \sum_{j=1}^J (L, IG) \phi(L, IG) \quad (VII-8)$$

and total energy production in the whole reactor

$$TOT = \sum_{IG=1}^{NG} \sum_{L=1}^{NRNG} e(IG) \sum_{j=1}^J (L, IG) \phi(L, IG) \quad (VII-9)$$

For the calculation of the normalization factor, reactor power for the given time step is divided by TOT

$$TOT = \frac{XP}{TOT} \quad (VII-10)$$

where

XP is given as input and TOT is calculated.

The following calculations are then made by NORMA with the normalization factor, TOT.

Leakage from the reactor boundaries;

$$XLEK(IG,K) = XLEK(IG,K) \cdot TOT \quad (\text{VII-12})$$

$$\text{Actual neutron production } PNOR = \frac{1}{\lambda} \cdot PNOR \cdot TOT \quad (\text{VII-13})$$

Integrated actual power for region L;

$$ASS(L) = \sum_{IG=1}^{NG} \sum_f(L,IG) \cdot \phi(L,IG) \cdot \epsilon(IG) \cdot TOT \quad (\text{VII-14})$$

Integrated actual power for the reactor as a whole;

$$XASS = \sum_{L=1}^{NREG} ASS(L) \quad (\text{VII-15})$$

Integrated actual source for region L;

$$CPNOR(L) = \frac{TOT \sum_{IG=1}^{NG} \sqrt{\sum_f(L,IG) \cdot \phi(L,IG)}}{\lambda} \quad (\text{VII-16})$$

Integrated actual volume flux for region L and group IG;

$$VF(L,IG) = TOT \cdot \phi(L,IG) \quad (\text{VII-17})$$

There is no energy generation in some regions of the reactor and therefore, the actual reactor volume is greater than the effective volume.

For the calculation of the actual power density it is necessary to have the effective volume of the reactor. It is here denoted by VOLTA;

$$VOLTA = \sum_{\substack{L=1 \\ L \neq NEGL}}^{NCREG} VOL(L) \quad (VII-18)$$

where

NEGL : number of regions in which there is no energy generation

VOL(L) : volume of the region L

Actual power density

$$XY = \frac{XASS}{VOLTA} \quad (VII-19)$$

Average power density in region L;  $ZF1=ASS(L)/VOL(L)$

Average source density for region L;  $ZF2=CFSOR(L)/VOL(L)$

Form factor that will be helpful in constructing the power profiles;

$$XYASS(L) = \frac{ZF1}{XY} \quad (VII-20)$$

#### VII-3 SUBROUTINE OUTPR

The goal of this subprogram is to determine the power and fluxes. For this reason, OUTPR calculates the loss and source densities in a reactor by making use of the group constants read in from logical unit number 4.

The loss terms include absorption, removal and leakage which are calculated separately in each region for the group  $KG$ . The

absorption term is here denoted by ABSINT(IG)

$$\text{ABSINT}(IG) = \sum_{L=1}^{\text{NREG}} \Sigma_a(L, IG) \cdot \phi(L, IG) \quad (\text{VII-21})$$

The removal term is

$$\text{RMINT}(IG) = \sum_{L=1}^{\text{NREG}} \Sigma_r(L, IG) \cdot \phi(L, IG) \quad (\text{VII-22})$$

Transverse leakage

$$\text{TRBLEK}(IG) = \sum_{L=1}^{\text{NREG}} D(L, IG) \cdot B^2(L, IG) \cdot \phi(L, IG) \quad (\text{VII-23})$$

Leakage from the reactor boundaries have been obtained in MORJA. The source term includes sources due to fission and scattering collision.

Fission source

$$\text{FSINT}(IG) = \frac{\nu}{\lambda} \sum_{L=1}^{\text{NREG}} \Sigma_f(L, IG) \cdot \phi(L, IG) \quad (\text{VII-24})$$

Scattering collision source or removal source:

$$\text{SCSOR}(IG) = \sum_{L=1}^{\text{NREG}} \sum_{\substack{K=1 \\ K=IG}}^{\text{NG}} \Sigma_s(L, K) \cdot \phi(L, K) \quad (\text{VII-25})$$

The energy production in a reactor due to flux in group IG is calculated by the OUTFER and is represented by OGA(IG)

$$OQA(IG) = \sum_{I=1}^{NREG} \nu \cdot s(IG) \sum_{j=1}^4 (L, IG) \phi(L, IG) \quad (VII-25)$$

Losses due to absorption, removal and transverse leakage in group IG denoted by ABSINT(IG)

$$ABSINT(IG) = ABSINT(IG) + RMINT(IG) + TRLEAK(IG) \quad (VII-27)$$

Total losses in the reactor denoted by XIT2 is;

$$XIT2 = \sum_{IG=1}^{NG} \left[ ABSINT(IG) + \sum_{K=1}^4 XLEAK(IG, K) \right] \quad (VII-28)$$

where

$$\sum_{K=1}^4 XLEAK(IG, K) = \text{total leakage from the reactor in group IG.}$$

The sources in each group are given by;

$$SCSOR(IG) = \frac{\nu \cdot TOT}{\lambda} \sum_{IG=1}^{NG} \left[ \chi(IG) \sum_{L=1}^{NREG} \sum_{j=1}^4 (L, IG) \phi(L, IG) \right] + \sum_{L=1}^{NREG} \sum_{\substack{K=1 \\ K \neq IG}}^4 \sum_{R=1}^{NG} (L, K) \phi(L, K) \quad (VII-29)$$

and the total source is determined as;

$$XIT1 = \sum_{IG=1}^{NG} SCSOR(IG) \quad (VII-30)$$



## CHAPTER VIII

### FUEL DEPLETION ANALYSIS

As energy production proceeds in the reactor, the fuel composition changes as a result of losses of fissionable material, fission products, build-up and decay of fission products, and the depletion of the reactor materials due to neutron capture. The analysis of core composition changes is complicated by the fact that the time and spatial variation in isotopic composition will depend on the neutron flux distribution which itself depends on the core composition. Fortunately changes in core composition occur relatively slowly (on time scales of hours, days or even months) so that the reactor core can be always be kept in a critical state by control element adjustments or by manipulating the poison distribution. This means that although a detailed analysis of the rate equations describing the changes in isotope number densities is necessary, the neutron behavior can be predicted by performing a sequence of instantaneous static equilibrium calculations for each core composition encountered at each time step of the burnup period.

The aspects of depletion analysis are particularly important from the point of view of fuel management.

The effects of depletion are evaluated by subdividing the burnup period into steps and evaluating the effect on the energy production during the steps.

1. The changes in power distribution associated with depletion, including the effects of control poison adjustments to maintain criticality.

2. The change in fuel composition, with particular emphasis on the isotopes of greatest economic value so that the fuel value can be accurately evaluated.

The effects of depletion are evaluated by subdividing the time the fuel resides in the reactor into a sequence of time or burnup steps. A depletion analysis is then carried out for each time interval assuming separability in space and time. The fuel

step in the evaluation is the calculation of a converged flux and/or power distribution for the spatial composition that exists at the beginning of the burnup step. This includes adjustment of control material to yield a critical or near-critical eigenvalue. The burn-up step length is chosen to be small enough so that the change in power distribution over the depletion interval is small. The power distribution is then assumed constant over the burnup time step. Finally, the energy production and absorption is used to evaluate the changes in isotopic number densities during a depletion step. The process is then repeated for subsequent time steps until the reactor is almost subcritical with all control material removed, save that portion required for daily operations, startup and shutdown.

During the depletion process, the neutron spectrum within the energy groups will also be subject to change. This change can be accounted for by recalculating the asymptotic neutron spectrum for each fuel type periodically during the depletion process and generating new fuel group constants for each time interval. This is equivalent to assuming separability of the neutron spectrum and time over the depletion time steps.

## APPENDIX I THE BASIC EQUATIONS OF ISOTOPIC TRANSFORMATION AND DECAY

During the actual operation all the materials of which the reactor is composed are subject to change by neutron interactions. The general equation for isotope transmutation and radioactive decay is:

$$\frac{dN_j}{dt} = N_j \left[ \beta_j + \sum_{i=1}^{NG} \frac{\phi_i}{V} \beta_{ij} \sigma_{ij}^i \right] - \lambda_j N_j - N_j \sum_{i=1}^{NG} \frac{\phi_i}{V} \sigma_{ij}^i \beta_{ij} \\ + N_j \sum_{i=1}^{NG} \frac{\phi_i}{V} \sigma_{ij}^i \beta_{ij} - \sum_{i=1}^{NG} \frac{\phi_i}{V} \sigma_{ij}^i N_j \sum_{k=1}^{NG} \beta_{ik} \sigma_{ik}^k$$

where

$NG$  = number of groups

$\beta_{ij}$  = self-shielding factor of isotope  $j$  and group  $i$

$\phi_i$  = average flux over the considered region and group  $i$

$\lambda_j$  = decay constant of isotope  $j$

$\sigma_{ij}^i$  = microscopic capture cross section of isotope  $j$ , group  $i$

$M, P2, R3$  : indices of the capture parents 1 and 2 and decay parent respectively

The time rate of change of the concentration of isotopes  $j$  in equation (VIII-1) is based on two loss modes and three production modes. The two modes, by which the nuclei of isotopes  $j$  are lost, are:

1. the first term represents the loss by radiative decay of isotopes  $j$  with decay constant  $\lambda_j$ .
2. the second term represents loss by neutron absorption, with a spectrum averaged microscopic cross section  $\Sigma_j$  including fission and capture.
3. The third term in Equation VIII-1 represents production by radiative decay of precursor,  $W^{P2}$ , with a decay constant,  $\lambda^{P2}$ . Production of a given isotope can be by more than one type of decay. As an example,  $\text{Pu}^{239}$  can be produced by beta decay of  $\text{U}^{239}$ .
4. the fourth term represents production by neutron interaction with a precursor species  $W^{M2}$  by neutron capture with  $\Sigma_j^{M2}$ . As an example,  $\text{U}^{233}$  is produced as a result of an  $(n, \gamma)$  reaction in  $\text{U}^{232}$ .
5. The fifth term represents production by precursor species  $W^{R3}$  by neutron capture with cross section  $\Sigma_j^{R3}$ .
6. The final term in Equation VIII-1 represents the production term for fission products, where the value of the fission product yield,  $\beta^j$ , is dependent on both the fissioning isotope and the energy of the neutron causing fission.

Note that Equation (VIII-1) is nonlinear if either the flux or the reaction cross sections are time dependent. An initial condition, the time or burn-up step length can be chosen so that the neutron spectrum, and hence the cross sections, are subject to small variation. Assuming a constant flux over the time interval, a more severe restriction, the last condition, can be relaxed, however, Equation (VIII-1) will be linear. In a wide range, linearization can be accomplished by restricting the range of other operating variables. Our objective in dealing with the general equation is to emphasize that simplification of the differential equations for transmutation and decay can usually be obtained at the expense of placing restrictions on the

range of applicability.

All power reactors consist of both fissile and fertile materials. A fertile material is one that is capable of being transmuted, either directly or indirectly, into a fissile material, by neutron capture. Absorption of excess neutrons produced in the fission process by fertile material serves to extend the burn-up cycle by creation of new fissile material. The two most common fertile nuclides are  $\text{Th}^{232}$  and  $\text{U}^{238}$ . The production chains for these isotopes are shown in Figure VIII-1 and VIII-2. If the captures in fertile nuclei exceeds the absorption in fissile by-

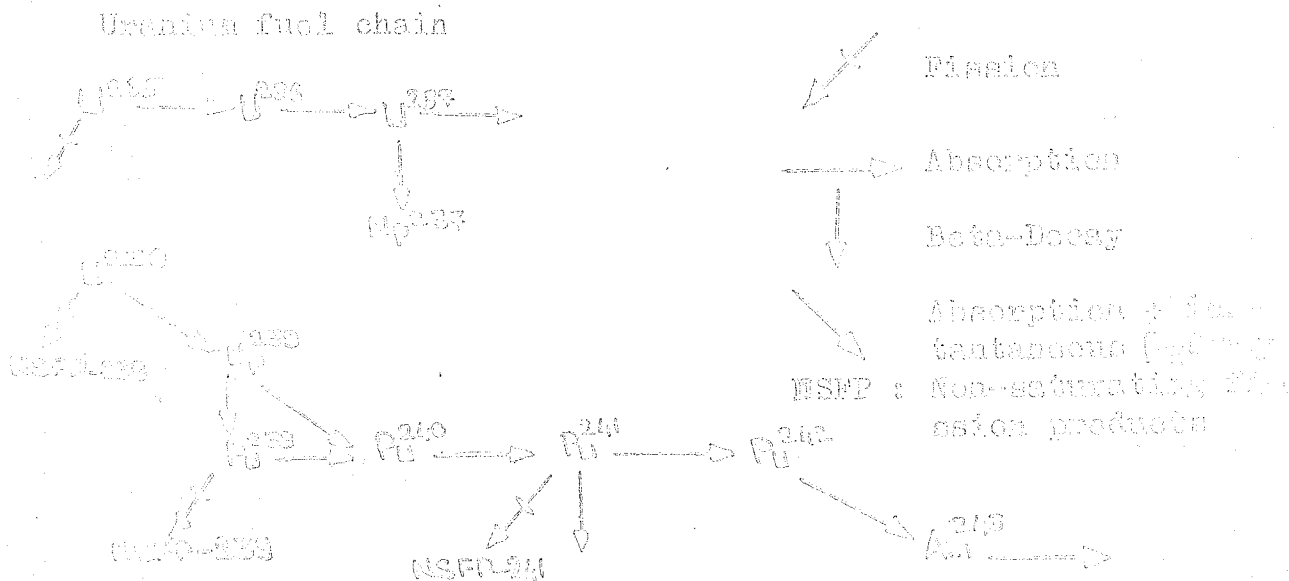


Figure VIII-1 Isotopic chains of interest in fuel depletion analysis.

Thorium fuel chain

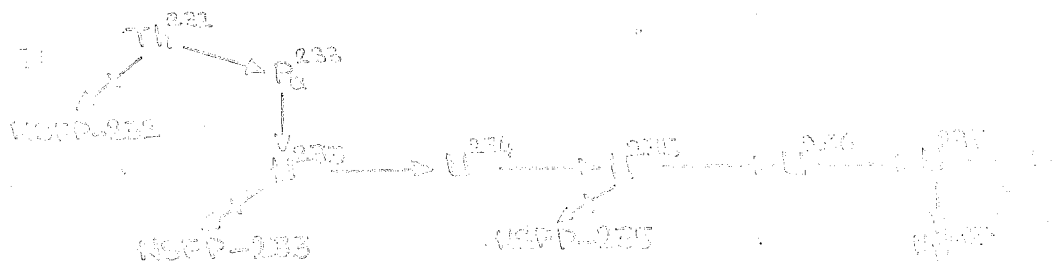


Figure VIII-2 Isotopic chains of interest in fuel depletion analysis.

terial, then the reactor is a net producer, or breeder of fissile material and is called a breeder reactor. The ratio of fissile material production to loss at any point in time is called the instantaneous breeding ratio. If the rate of fissile material production is less than the rate of loss of fissile material, the reactor is called converter reactor. Most thermal reactors are converters, although, breeding is possible in a thermal reactor that uses the  $\text{Th}^{232}\text{-U}^{233}$  system. The largest breeding ratios are possible with the  $\text{U}^{238}\text{-Pu}^{239}$  system in a fast neutron spectrum, with which breeding ratios in the range of 1.25 to 1.4 are possible.

We first consider the transmutation chain for  $\text{U}^{238}$ , which is the most common fertile nucleus used in currently operating power reactors. In writing the equations for production and loss of the various isotopes in the chain we adopt the convention in which each isotope is described by a two digit superscript. The first digit in the superscript is the last digit of the atomic number of the nucleus, and the second digit is the last digit of the mass number. The  $\text{U}^{238}$  concentration is then represented by  $N^{28}$ , and  $\text{Pu}^{239}$  by  $N^{49}$ . The differential equations describing the chain in Figure VIII-1 are then;

$$\frac{dN^{28}}{dt} = -\sigma_a^{28} N^{28} \phi \quad (\text{VIII-2})$$

$$\frac{dN^{29}}{dt} = \sigma_c^{28} N^{28} \phi - \lambda^{29} N^{29} \quad (\text{VIII-3})$$

$$\frac{dN^{30}}{dt} = \lambda^{29} N^{29} - \lambda^{30} N^{30} \quad (\text{VIII-4})$$

$$\frac{dN^{49}}{dt} = \lambda^{40} N^{40} - \sigma_a^{49} N^{49} \phi \quad (\text{VIII-5})$$

$$\frac{dN^{40}}{dt} = \sigma_c^{49} N^{49} \phi - N^{40} \sigma_a^{40} \phi \quad (\text{VIII-6})$$

$$\frac{dN^{41}}{dt} = \sigma_c^{40} N^{40} \phi - N^{41} (\lambda^{41} + \sigma_a^{41} \phi) \quad (\text{VIII-7})$$

$$\frac{dN^{42}}{dt} = \sigma_c^{41} N^{41} \phi - \sigma_a^{42} N^{42} \phi \quad (\text{VIII-8})$$

In Equations (VIII-2) to (VIII-8), we have made several simplifications regarding the relative importance of production and loss terms. In Equation VIII-3 and 4, for instance, we have assumed for all anticipated flux values that the loss of  $U^{238}$  and  $Np^{237}$  by neutron absorption is negligible in comparison with losses by radioactive decay. We can obtain considerable additional simplification if we assume that the time span of interest is small compared to the inverse decay constants of  $U^{238}$  and  $Np^{237}$ . The effect of this assumption is that, for times long relative to these inverse decay constants,  $Pu^{239}$  is produced directly by neutron capture in  $U^{238}$ .

$$\frac{dN^{239}}{dt} = \sigma_c^{238} N^{238} \phi - \lambda_a^{239} N^{239} \phi \quad (\text{VIII-9})$$

If we now redefine our independent variable to be the time-integrated neutron flux or fluence

$$\theta = \int_0^t \phi(t) dt \quad (\text{VIII-10})$$

we have the following coupled set of linear equations:

$$\frac{dN^{238}}{d\theta} = -\sigma_a^{238} N^{238} \quad (\text{VIII-11})$$

$$\frac{dN^{239}}{d\theta} = \sigma_c^{238} N^{238} - \lambda_a^{239} N^{239} \quad (\text{VIII-12})$$

$$\frac{dN^{240}}{d\theta} = \sigma_c^{239} N^{239} + \sigma_c^{240} N^{240} \quad (\text{VIII-13})$$

$$\frac{dN^{241}}{d\theta} = \sigma_c^{240} N^{240} - \lambda_a^{241} N^{241} - \frac{\lambda^{241} N^{241}}{\phi} \quad (\text{VIII-14})$$

$$\frac{dN^{242}}{d\theta} = \sigma_c^{241} N^{241} - \lambda_a^{242} N^{242} \quad (\text{VIII-15})$$

The last term in Equation VIII-14 is normally neglected in evaluating fuel composition changes within the reactor. Although this causes an error of less than 1% during reactor operation, radioactive decay of  $Pu^{241}$  (half life=15 years) is appreciable over the time periods between discharge from the reactor and fuel reprocessing. For high burnup fuels, or fuels initially loaded with

a mixture of fissile Plutonium isotopes, it is sometimes necessary to account for the neutron poisoning effects of other transplutonium isotopes such as  $\text{Am}^{241}$  and  $\text{Am}^{243}$ . Note that the loss term is always represented by the absorption cross section,  $\bar{\sigma}_a$ , which includes capture and fission, while the production term is represented by the capture cross section of the previous isotope in the chain.

The solution of Equations VIII-11 to VIII-15 may be carried out in a straightforward fashion either numerically or analytically. Equations VIII-16, 21, 22, 23 give the analytical solution of the isotopic build up equations for a series of four sequential isotopes. In this equations  $N^1(0)$  is the initial concentration of the first isotope,  $\bar{\sigma}_a^1$  is the spectrum averaged microscopic cross section for absorption in isotope  $N^1$  and  $\bar{\sigma}_c^1$  is the spectrum averaged microscopic cross section for capture to produce the next higher isotope in the chain from isotope  $N^1$ . If more than one isotope of the chain is present at the beginning of a fuel burnup step, the same series of equations can be used to determine the contribution of each initial isotope to the total concentration of any higher isotopes. Note that the individual terms contain differences in cross sections and exponential terms, which may require that a large number of significant figures be carried if two of the one group microscopic absorption cross sections are close to one another in value.

Equations VIII-11 through 15 are easily solved by starting with the first and proceeding downward. The solution for  $N^2$  is

$$N^2(t) = N^1(0) e^{-\bar{\sigma}_a^1 t} \quad (\text{VIII-18})$$

Equation VIII-12 can be rearranged, this yields

$$\frac{dN^2}{dt} + \bar{\sigma}_a^2 N^2 = \bar{\sigma}_c^1 N^1 \quad (\text{VIII-19})$$

which is linear differential equation of the first order. If both sides are multiplied by the integration factor  $e^{\bar{\sigma}_a^2 t}$ , the left side becomes a complete differential. Thus;

$$\left( \frac{dN^2}{dt} + \bar{\sigma}_a^2 N^2 \right) e^{\bar{\sigma}_a^2 t} = \bar{\sigma}_c^1 N^1 e^{\bar{\sigma}_a^2 t} \quad (\text{VIII-20})$$

so that;

$$d(N^2 e^{\Gamma_a^2 \theta}) = \Gamma_c^1 N^1 e^{\Gamma_c^2 \theta} d\theta \quad (\text{VIII-19})$$

If Equation VIII-16 is substituted into Equation (VIII-19) integration yields

$$N^2(\theta) e^{\Gamma_a^2 \theta} = \frac{\Gamma_c^1 N^1(\theta)}{\Gamma_a^2 - \Gamma_a^1} e^{(\Gamma_a^2 - \Gamma_a^1)\theta} + C \quad (\text{VIII-20})$$

where C is the integration constant. Integration over the range  $\theta=0$  to  $\theta$  and  $N(\theta)=0$  at  $\theta=0$

$$N^2(\theta) = \Gamma_c^1 N^1(\theta) \left[ \frac{e^{-\Gamma_a^1 \theta}}{\Gamma_a^2 - \Gamma_a^1} + \frac{e^{-\Gamma_a^2 \theta}}{\Gamma_a^1 - \Gamma_a^2} \right] \quad (\text{VIII-21})$$

The remaining equations can be solved by the same technique. The results of this solution can be obtained in the following forms:

$$N^3(\theta) = \Gamma_c^2 \Gamma_c^1 N^1(\theta) \left[ \frac{e^{-\Gamma_a^1 \theta}}{(\Gamma_a^2 - \Gamma_a^1)(\Gamma_c^2 - \Gamma_a^1)} + \frac{e^{-\Gamma_a^2 \theta}}{(\Gamma_a^3 - \Gamma_a^2)(\Gamma_c^1 - \Gamma_a^2)} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{e^{-\Gamma_a^3 \theta}}{(\Gamma_a^2 - \Gamma_a^3)(\Gamma_a^1 - \Gamma_a^3)} \right] \quad (\text{VIII-22})$$

$$N^4(\theta) = \Gamma_c^3 \Gamma_c^2 \Gamma_c^1 N^1(\theta) \left[ \frac{e^{-\Gamma_a^1 \theta}}{(\Gamma_a^4 - \Gamma_a^1)(\Gamma_a^2 - \Gamma_a^1)(\Gamma_c^3 - \Gamma_a^1)} + \frac{e^{-\Gamma_a^2 \theta}}{(\Gamma_c^1 - \Gamma_a^2)(\Gamma_a^3 - \Gamma_a^2)(\Gamma_c^2 - \Gamma_a^2)} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{e^{-\Gamma_a^3 \theta}}{(\Gamma_a^4 - \Gamma_a^3)(\Gamma_a^2 - \Gamma_a^3)(\Gamma_a^1 - \Gamma_a^3)} + \frac{e^{-\Gamma_a^4 \theta}}{(\Gamma_c^2 - \Gamma_a^4)(\Gamma_c^3 - \Gamma_a^4)(\Gamma_c^1 - \Gamma_a^4)} \right] \quad (\text{VIII-23})$$



## VIII-3 FISSION PRODUCT POISONING

Several hundred fission product isotopes are present in a partially depleted fuel as a result of direct yield from fission, radioactive decay of fission products, neutron capture by a fission product, or a combination of the latter two processes. The fission product inventory of the reactor creates a number of problems that must be considered by the fuel management engineer in analyzing the behavior of each fuel cycle.

Hence in order to estimate the reactivity change due to fission product poisoning, one must calculate the number density of the poisoning isotopes  $N(t)$  as a function of time. To determine  $N(t)$ , one must solve the rate equations describing the various production and decay processes that can affect the poison concentration which will be illustrated with an example involving the build up of  $\text{Xe}^{135}$ .

$\text{Xe}^{135}$  is the most significant fission product because of its enormous thermal neutron absorption cross section and its relatively large fission yield. Actually  $\text{Xe}^{135}$  can be produced not only directly as a fission product but may also result from the  $\beta$ -decay of  $\text{Te}^{135}$ . A portion of the production-decay scheme of the A=135 chain is shown in Figure VIII-3.

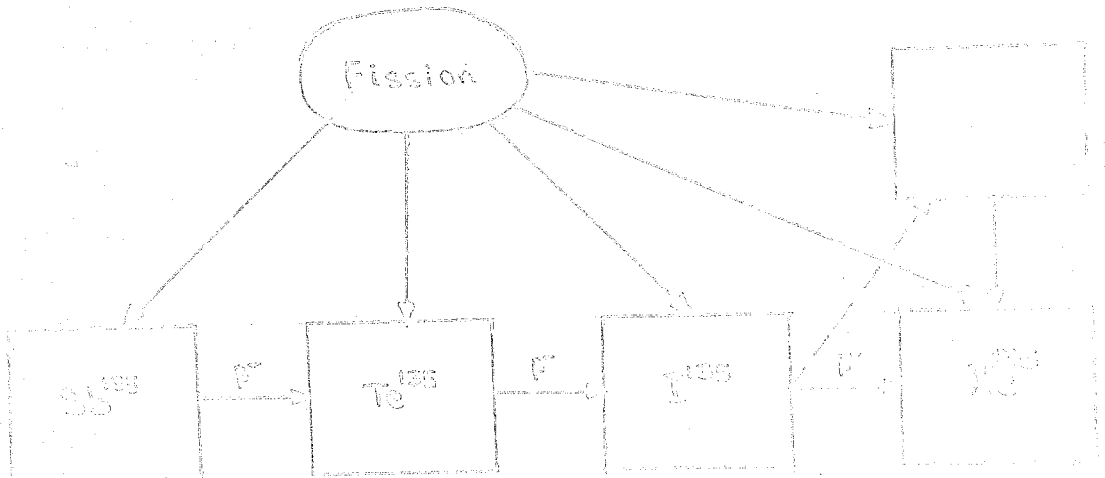


Figure VIII-3 A portion of the decay scheme for A=135.

Fortunately this rather complicated decay scheme can be considerably simplified by assuming that the decay of  $\text{Ic}^{135}$  to  $\text{Xe}^{135}$  is instantaneous. Furthermore we will also ignore the short lived isomeric state  $\text{Xe}^{135m}$  and assume that all  $\text{Ic}^{135}$  nuclei will decay directly to the ground state of  $\text{Xe}^{135}$ . Hence the effective decay scheme to be studied is shown in Figure VIII-4.

Let us denote the atomic number densities of the two isotopes as  $N^I(t)$  and  $N^X(t)$  respectively. Furthermore let  $\gamma_I$  and  $\gamma_X$  denote the effective fraction of the fission products which are  $\text{Ic}^{135}$  and  $\text{Xe}^{135}$  while  $\lambda_I$  and  $\lambda_X$  are the  $\beta$  decay constants for these two isotopes. Using those parameters, one can then write the coupled rate equations describing the simplified decay scheme illustrated in Figure VIII-4

Iodine

$$\frac{\partial N^I}{\partial t} = \gamma_I \sum_f \phi - \lambda_I N^I \quad (\text{VIII-24})$$

Xenon

$$\frac{\partial N^X}{\partial t} = \gamma_X \sum_f \phi + \lambda_I N^I - \lambda_X N^X - N^X \sigma_a^X \phi \quad (\text{VIII-25})$$

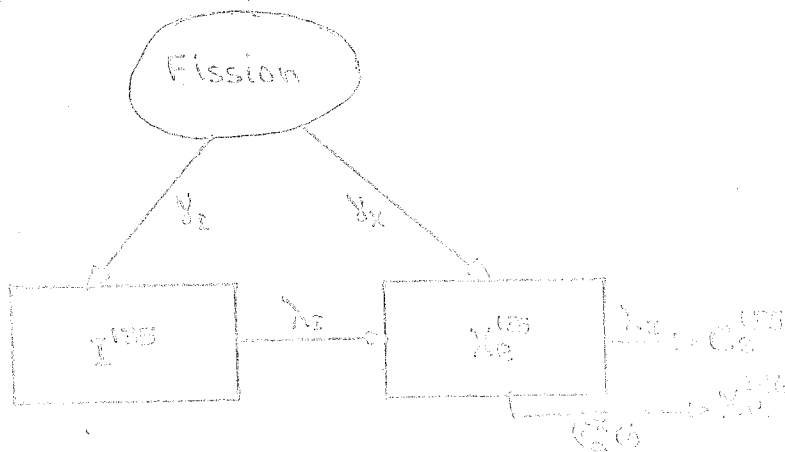


Figure VIII-4 A simplified decay scheme for  $\text{Ic}^{135}$

Notice that a loss term has been included in the Xenon balance equation to account for the fact that neutron capture will deplete the  $Xe^{135}$  concentration. Before proceeding to solve Equation VIII-25 one needs to solve Equation VIII-24 the solution of which is;

$$N^I(t) = \frac{\lambda_2 \Sigma_f \phi}{\lambda_I} (1 - e^{-\lambda_I t}) \quad (\text{VIII-26})$$

substituting this solution into Equation VIII-25 and solving it to determine the  $Xe^{135}$  concentration as a function of time gives;

$$N^{II}(t) = \frac{(\lambda_2 + \lambda_3) \Sigma_f \phi}{\lambda_x + \Gamma_a^* \phi} [1 - e^{-(\lambda_x + \Gamma_a^* \phi)t}] + \frac{\lambda_2 \Sigma_f \phi}{\lambda_x \Gamma_a^* + \lambda_3^* \phi} [e^{-(\lambda_x + \Gamma_a^* \phi)t} - e^{-\lambda_I t}] \quad (\text{VIII-27})$$

That is, the concentration of these fission product poisons in a reactor operating at constant flux will eventually saturate at these equilibrium values for which the production of poisons from fission is just balanced by the decay and neutron capture losses of the poisons. These equilibrium concentrations could also have been determined directly from the rate equations VIII-24 and 25 themselves by merely setting  $dN^I/dt = 0 = dN^{II}/dt$ .

VIII-6 SUBROUTINES DEPL, SHIELD, BRUNW, SPRLN, BBB and SUBDEP

At any time step, these subroutines calculate the self-shielding factors, perform the flux normalization and solve the depletion equation.

Subroutine DEPL is used to calculate the normalized flux and the normalized flux. For the calculation of the multiplication factor it is necessary to have self-shielding factors and the group constants. Self-shielding factors are calculated by

the subprogram SHIELD. The method of calculating the self shielding factors is the same as that described in the subprogram SHIGGI. Also the same procedure, explained in NORMA, is followed to calculate the normalization factor and the normalized fluxes.

After calculating the normalized flux, burnup calculations for a small time step starts. For this reason, the loss and source terms of the depletion equations are calculated separately. There are two loss terms explained before. Absorption is denoted by WABS(J) ;

$$WABS(J) = \sum_{IG=1}^{IG} \sigma_a(IG, J) \{ (IG, J) \phi(L, IG) \quad (VIII-28)$$

The radioactive decay is denoted by DEC(J);

$$DEC(J) = \lambda(J) \quad (VIII-29)$$

There are four source terms which are also as explained before. Fission is denoted by;

$$WFIS(J) = \sum_{IG=1}^{IG} \sigma_f(IG, J) \{ (IG, J) \phi(L, IG) \quad (VIII-30)$$

Capture cross section is defined as absorption cross section and the fission cross section and thus the gain due to capture is;

$$WCAP(J) = WABS(J) - WFIS(J) \quad (VIII-31)$$

Gain due to beta decay;

$$LAMBDA(J) = DEC(J) \quad (VIII-32)$$

Division plus 10;

$$YIELD(J, I) = GAM(J, I, NI)$$

(VIII-35)

Decay constants and fission yields have been given as input.

After that, subprogram DEPL calls subprogram DBUILD for constituting the depletion matrix which is called DEPM. It is lower triangular matrix. Diagonal elements of DEPM is constituted by

$$WABS(J) + DEC(J)$$

The other elements of the depletion matrix are placed in DEPM. Then, subprogram SPLIT which splits the given depletion matrix DEPM into NPLCHN independent of fuel and NUCLIDE-DEPENDENT fission product chains. Each chain is characterized by the parameter NPLCHN(L) which is the index of the first member of chain L.

NUCLA(L), (L=1,2 ... NCHAIN) is the width of the stripped matrix. After splitting the depletion matrix, subprogram EIG and SUBSEP solve each depletion submatrix equation separately by using an analytical approach.

## CHAPTER IX

### DISCUSSION AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

This study was to form the second part of a larger problem concerning the possibility of power production alongside  $U^{235}$  conversion from  $Th^{232}$  in a conventional PWR of the type used at the AKKUYU plant. The first part has made use of the PWR spectral code GELIS developed by K. Ponderf, F. Schütz, and others under the auspices of GKSS (Gesellschaft für Kernforschung mbH) to generate broad group constants for reactor cells made up of varying mixtures of fuel elements in which the Uranium component is enriched to different levels between 12% and 20%  $U^{235}$  by weight. Similar cross sections for supercells containing lumped control poison was generated by that study (21)

In this work the intention was to study the multigroup diffusion capture program "EREBUS" in two dimensions with a goal of approach so as to prepare an enlarged manual for possible use and adapt the code to the UNIVAC-1106 system at Technische Universität. This has been accomplished to a large extent but successful trial runs proved to be not possible due to the difficulties encountered in attempts to have access to the calculations that was supposed to be generated by the GELIS code for EREBUS. The possibility of using the card input medium to read the data was precluded because of the tremendous volume of data required by EREBUS. Thus the study remained confined to a theoretical outline of the code and debugging of computer errors in adaptation to UNIVAC-1106 system.

Further work along these lines could involve first of all removing the obstacle to successful utilization of the PWR code by EREBUS and then using the code to analyze reactor configurations composed of different cell regions for which the broad group data would be generated by GELIS. There is clearly merit in this approach to the design of a PWR that would be capable of  $U^{235}$  without sacrificing from the other desirable performance characteristics. For example, placing a Thorium rich fuel near the center of the core would result in high conversion but power production would be adversely affected at least for a few initial cycles.

until the contribution from  $U^{235}$  that is building up reaches a significant level. Also such Thorium rich cells near the core center would require highly enriched Uranium cells in other regions to assure sufficient  $k_{eff}$  values and thus sufficiently long core lifetimes. On the other hand, an inclination to place the Thorium rich cell more at the periphery of the core would be good for neutron economy since Thorium conversion is more effectively done with low energy neutrons and also because the neutrons in peripheral regions would be lost through leakage from the system anyway. Thus the core designer would have to try different core configurations while being guided by considerations of this sort and choose the design that performs best according to the criteria of Thorium conversion, power production, uniformity of power peak, Xenon concentration, amount of excess reactivity available initially and throughout the core lifetime and finally the core lifetime itself incorporating the fuel cycle economics.

## APPENDIX A

### INPUT DATA PREPARATION

The maximum number of bytes available to the programmer on the IBM-360 is not yet definitely settled, and is likely to undergo changes in the near future. Therefore, in view of possible future restrictions on the machine's available storage, the limitations of EREBUS can not be specified on this study, so they are indicated parametrically. The numerical values of these parameters, for the present version of EREBUS now running at Pisa, are given in appendix B, so that future changes of the program restrictions will only imply the updating of appendix B.

The correspondence between the logical peripheral storage units used by EREBUS and the physical units of the IBM-360 system (tapes, disks or drums), is not definitely established, being susceptible of changes, due to either possible reorganization of the program or to future new computer configurations, or both. The correspondence between physical and logical units retained in the present version of EREBUS is given in appendix C.

The input data have been divided into RECARD sets ( one set may contain one or more cards ):

#### 1. FIRST CARD (18A4).

Col. 1-56 Title of the problem.  
 Col. 57-72 Leave these columns blank (they are used in RESTART problems).

#### 2. CARD No. 2 (24I3)

Col. 3-3 NG ( $\leq$  KGD) = number of groups.  
 Col. 4-6 NREG ( $\leq$  KREG) = number of regions.  
 Col. 7-9 NCMP ( $\leq$  KCD) = number of compositions.  
 Col. 10-12 NLS ( $\leq$  KLS) = maximum isotopi index.  
 Col. 13-15 NPY ( $\leq$  KYD) = number of rows.  
 Col. 16-18 NFX ( $\leq$  KXD) = number of columns.  
 N.B.: It must be  $NPX \cdot NPY \leq KXD$  or, for a symmetric case,  $(NPX+1) \cdot NPY/2 \leq KXD$  (24IAG 2).  
 Col. 19-21 NF = maximum number of outer iterations.



- Col. 22-24 IFDIT = 0 the point fluxes are not printed.  
 = 1 the point fluxes are printed only for specified groups.  
 = 2 the point fluxes are printed for all groups.  
 (the point power is printed in any case)
- Col. 25-27 IFI = 1 the initial flux approximation, for the time step zero, is read from tape.  
 = 0 is read from cards, per group.  
 =-1 is read from cards, per composition, per group.  
 =-2 is read from cards, per region and per group.
- Col. 28-30 ILAM = 1 the initial eigenvalue approximation, for the time step zero, is read from tape.  
 = 0 is read from cards, or is calculated by the program.
- Col. 31-33 ISIG = 1 the first guess of the dominance ratio, for the time step zero, is read from tape.  
 = 0 is read from cards or calculated by the program.
- Col. 34-36 IOM = 1 the spectral radii of the Gauss-Seidel matrices, in the first orthogonality iteration of the time step zero, are read from tape.  
 = 0 are calculated by the program.  
 =-1 are read from cards.
- Col. 37-39 IMACR = If this field is zero or blank, the removal matrix is not printed.
- Col. 40-42 IMACR1 = If this field is zero or blank, the neutron shielding factor is not printed.
- Col. 43-45 IPRINT = print index. If IPRINT = 1, then the program prints the selective information.

### 3.0 CTRD Eq. 3 (2413)

- Col. 1-3 NGRINT = last time step  
 The time steps are numbered starting from zero.
- Col. 4-6 NRUN = last time step to be completed in the present run (NRUN  $\leq$  NGRINT)  
 If NRUN = NGRINT, the program ends after

the diffusion calculations of the  $n$ -th time-step NGRINT.

If  $NRUN < NGRINT$ , the program ends after the computation of the number densities and the saving of data for the next start, and before the fuel shuffling and the diffusion calculations of the next time step  $NRUN+1$ .

- Col. 7-9 NCFOM = 0 x, y geometry.  
 = 1 r, z geometry.
- Col. 10-12 IDIAG = 1 the reactor is symmetric about the 45° main diagonal. In this case it must be:  
 NPX=NPY and  $NPX \cdot (NPX+1)/2 \leq KPD$ .  
 = 0 no diagonal symmetry.
- Col. 13-15 ICOND = 0 the boundary conditions are the same for all groups.  
 = 1 the boundary conditions are group dependent.
- Col. 16-18 IPOW = 0 only one power all through the lifetime.  
 = 1 the power is specified for each time-step.  
 = 2 the power is specified for each time-step.  
 If NGRINT=0, it must be IPOW=0.
- Col. 19-21 IBK = 0 one buckling.  
 = 1 buckling per group.  
 = 2 buckling per group and per region.  
 = 3 buckling per group and per region.
- Col. 22-24 ISYST = 0 the microscopic cross sections are given in barns, and the number densities in Szilard ( $1 \text{ Szilard} = 10^{20} \text{ atoms/cm}^3$ ).  
 = 1 the cross section are given in barns and the number densities in number/cm<sup>3</sup>.
- Col. 25-27 NSRZ = 0 the self-shielding factors are calculated by formula (IV-14).  
 = 1 the self-shielding factors are calculated by the polynomial formula (IV-15).
- Col. 28-30 ICRISE = 0 straight burnup.  
 = 1 search of the dilution factor  $\phi$ .  
 = 2 regionwise programmed search of optimal isotope number density.  
 = 3 boundary search.

- Col. 31-33 NCRIT = maximum number of criticality iterations. Note that, in the boundary searches, one criticality iteration means a boundary displacement of one "elementary step" (that is one mesh row).
- Col. 34-36 NUCL = number of time-dependent isotopes. The time-dependent (or burnable) isotopes are numbered from 1 to NUCL ( $NUCL \leq KIV$ ).
- Col. 37-39 NIF = number of fuel isotopes. All isotopes from 1 to NIF are considered fissionable. It must be  $NIF \leq NUCL$ . ( $NIF \leq KIF$ )
- Col. 40-42 NIP = number of fission product isotopes. All isotopes numbered from  $(NIF+1)$  to  $(NIF+NIP)$  ARE CONSIDERED FISSION PRODUCTS. It must be  $(NIF+NIP) \leq NUCL$ .

If the field 34-36(NUCL) is zero or left blank, the program automatically assumes the standard isotopic chain of table-1. It must be  $NUCL < NIS$

#### 4. SPECIFICATION FOR THE GROUP-FLUX PRINTING

This set of one or more cards (2413), present only if NPDIE is equal to one, on card no.2, specifies the vector IP(1) to IP(2), ..., NG

Col. 1-3 IP(1) = 1 the point flux of group 1 is printed  
= 0 is not printed

Col. 4-6 IP(2) = the same meaning for the group 2, but so on for all groups. If  $NG > 24$ , two or more cards are needed.

#### 5. CARD No.5 (7E10.5)

Col. 1-10 AUCR1 = eigenvalue  $\lambda_c$  to be searched for, in the criticality searches ( $ICR1ST = 1, 2, 3$ )  
= minimum allowed eigenvalue  $\lambda_{min}$  if  $RISE = 0$ . If the multiplication factor at some time step, becomes less than  $\lambda_{min}$ , the calculation is stopped. If this field contains zero or is left blank, the program assumes AUCR1 = 1.

Col. 11-20 AUP = initial eigenvalue approximation.  
If this field is zero or blank, the program assumes AUP = 1. This value is used only if  $ITAM = 0$  on CARD No.3.

Col. 21-30 SIGMA = initial guess of the deadweight ratio ( $\rho$  ratio between the second and the first eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , if the eigenvalues are ordered

dered by decreasing modulus).  $\sqrt{\eta}$  must be  $\sqrt{\eta} < 1$ . If this field is left blank or contain zero, and  $ISTG=0$  on card no.2,  $\sqrt{\eta}$  is calculated by the program.

Col. 31-40 ETA = convergence criterion for the criticality searches ( $ICRISW = 0$ ). This search is interrupted when  $|\lambda - \lambda_c| < ETA$

Col. 41-50 EPS = pointwise convergence criterion :

$$\frac{\lambda_{max} - \lambda_{min}}{2\lambda} \leq EPS$$

Generally  $EPS = 10^{-3}$  is an adequate value.

Col. 51-60 POWER = reactor power (watt), if only one power for all through the lifetime is supplied ( $IPOW = 0$  on card no.3). If  $IPOW \neq 0$ , leave this field blank.

If the reactor is symmetric about one or two axes, 1/2 or 1/4, respectively, of the reactor total power must be supplied. This holds also if the power is given per time-step or small time-step ( $IPOW \neq 0$ ).

Col. 61-63 DEL = Convergence criterion for inner iteration. If this field is zero or left blank, the program sets automatically  $DEL=0.1$ .

Col. 64-66 TAU = Convergence criterion for overrelaxation factor. If this field is zero or left blank, the program sets automatically  $TAU=0.2$ .

#### 6 : CARD No. 6 SPECTRAL RADII OF GAUSS-SEIDEL MATRIX

This set consists of one or more cards (7E10.5) if  $ICOU = 1$ .

Col. 1-10 OGA(1) = spectral radius of Gauss-Seidel matrix for group 1

Col. 11-20 OGA(2) = same for group 2.

And so forth, up to OGA(NG).

#### 7 : BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

HIERNS applies on each external side of the reactor, conditions of type :

$$\omega^i \phi^i + \rho^i D^i \frac{\partial \phi^i}{\partial n} = 0 \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, NG)$$

where  $\omega^i \geq 0$ ,  $\rho^i \geq 0$ ,  $\omega^i + \rho^i > 0$ .

This set consists of one card (8E9.4) if  $ICOND = 0$  or  $ICOND = 1$ .

Col. 1-9	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \alpha_i \\ \beta_i \end{array} \right\}$	} for the top side (row 1)
10-18		
Col. 19-27	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \alpha_i \\ \beta_i \end{array} \right\}$	} for the left side (column 1)
28-36		
Col. 37-45	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \alpha_i \\ \beta_i \end{array} \right\}$	} for the bottom side (row NPY)
46-54		
Col. 55-63	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \alpha_i \\ \beta_i \end{array} \right\}$	} for the right side (column NPX)
64-72		

### 8: SHUFFLING TIME-STEPS

This set of one or more cards (24I3), present only if NGRINT is greater than zero, is to specify the vector NPU(K), K are numbered, starting from one to NGRINT.

If NPU(K) = 1, the program performs the shuffling before the diffusion calculation of the time-step K. If NPU(K) = 0 no shuffling is performed. It is not possible to perform any shuffling at time-step zero.

### 9: SMALL TIME-STEP DIVISION

This set of one or more cards (24I3), present only if NGRINT is greater than zero, specifies the subdivision of each time step into small time-steps.

The first card contains:

Col. 1-3 NSA(1) = number of small time-steps, into which the time-step 1 is divided.

Col. 4-6 NSA(2) = number of small time-steps, into which the time-step 2 is divided.

And so forth, up to NSA(NGRINT).

It must be  $\sum_{k=1}^{NGRINT} NSA(K) = \text{total number of small time-steps}$  and also time or equal to maximum number of small time-steps.

### 10: TIME-STEP LENGTHS

This set, present only if NGRINT = 0, contains one or more cards (1E10.5):

Col. 1-10 DELTAT(1) = length (hours) of the time step 1

Col. 11-20 DELTAT(2) = same, for time step 2

And so forth, up to DELTAT(NGRINT), using as many cards as necessary.

## 11 : TIME-STEP POWERS

This set, present only if NGRINT > 0 and IPOW = 1, contains one or more cards (7E10.5). The first card is :

Col. 1-10 W(1) = power (watt) for the time step 1

Col. 11- 20 W(2) = power (watt) for the time step 2

and so forth, up to W(NGRINT).

At any time step K, the fluxes are normalized in such a way that :

$$\frac{1}{V} \sum_{i=1}^{NG} \int_{\text{Reactor}} E^i \phi^i(r) dV = W(K)$$

## 12 : SMALL TIME-STEP POWERS

This set, present only if NGRINT > 0 and IPOW=2, is made of NGRINT sets of cards (7E10.5), one for each time step.

The set I contains the powers of all small time-steps into which the time-step I is divided.

Initialize a new card when changing time-step.

The above card sets are read by the subprogram FINDAG. The card sets below are read by the subprograms SINDAG and DELR.

13 :  $\Delta x$ -MESH SPECIFICATION (along the X axis)

Each card is divided into 6 parts  $\{6(E9.3, I3)\}$  of 12 columns each. Each part is constituted by a 9 column field (E9.3) and a 3 column field (I3), and specifies a couple  $(\Delta x, C)$  where  $\Delta x$  is a mesh space length (in cm) and C is the column up to which this value is extended. All the C must be given in an increasing order, and the last one must be NPX.

14 :  $\Delta y$ -MESH SPECIFICATION (along the Y axis)

The same rules as before are holding. The last specified value of C must be coincident with NPY.

N.B.- This set of cards must be omitted in diagonal symmetry problems (IDIAG=1).

## 15 : SPECIFICATION OF THE INITIAL COMPOSITIONS

One or more cards (24I3)

Col. 1-3 IMIX(1) = initial composition of region 1

Col. 4-6 IMIX(2) = initial composition of region 2

The compositions are numbered according to the order in which the corresponding number densities are specified (cf. set no. 22 : NUMBER DENSITIES PER COMPOSITION)

## 16 : SPECIFICATION OF THE REGIONS AND CONTROL AREAS

The geometric specification of the regions is made through the so called "OVERLAY" method employed in many diffusion programs (e.g. refs. 1 and 2) for the composition specification. The lay-out of the regions is inputted by the sequential specification of rectangular blocks of a given region index. The specification of the rectangular blocks is made by inputting sets of 6 integers :

Col. 1-3  $i_r$  = region index of the block

Col. 4-6  $c_1$  = left column bounding the block ( $1 \leq c_1 \leq NPY$ )

Col. 7-9  $c_2$  = right column bounding the block ( $1 \leq c_1 < c_2 \leq NPY$ )

Col. 10-12  $r_1$  = upper row bounding the block ( $1 \leq r_1 \leq NPY$ )

Col. 13-15  $r_2$  = lower row bounding the block ( $1 \leq r_1 < r_2 \leq NPY$ )

Col. 16-18 = Generally these columns are to be left blank. Only when ICRISE=3 this field is used to indicate the region index of the "follower". (The follower is defined as the region which replace the region  $i_r$  when the moving boundary is withdrawn).

The specification is continued in columns 19-36, 37-54, and 55-72 using as many cards as necessary.

## 17 : BLANK CARD

A blank card indicates the end of the region overlay and control area specification.

## 18 : SPECIFICATION OF THE ISOTOPIC CHAINS

This set of cards is present only if  $NUCL > 0$  (Card no.3). there must be  $NUCL$  cards (2A4, 3I4, 2E10.5), one for each time dependent isotope, following order of the isotope index from one to  $NUCL$ .

Col. 1-8 Isotope name (any alphanumeric characters). It is suggested that the names start with column 1.

Col. 9-12  $No_1$  = index of the first capture parent

Col. 13-16  $No_2$  = index of the second capture parent

Col. 17-20  $N_p$  = index of the decay parent

Col. 21-30  $\lambda$  = decay constant

Col. 31-40 atomic weight (gram/mole)

We recall that the indices  $Nc_1, Nc_2, Nc_p$  must be less than the index of the considered isotope.

#### 19 : INITIAL FLUX GUESS

This set of one or more cards (7E10.5) must be omitted if IFG=-1.

If IFG=0, NG values must be supplied.

If IFG=-1, there are NG sets, one for each group, on which the initial flux guesses for all compositions from 1 to NCMP are specified.

If IFG=-2, there are NG sets, of one or more cards (one set per group), each containing NREG values.

#### 20 : BUCKLINGS

This set of one or more cards (7E10.5) is for the specification of bucklings.

If IBK = 0 (Card no.3, columns 19-21) only one card (7E10.5) is present, containing the  $B^2$ .

If IBK = 1 there must be one or more cards containing NG bucklings, one for each group.

If IBK = 2 there must be NG sets, one for each group, on which the bucklings for all compositions from 1 to NCMP are specified.

If IBK = 3 there must be NG sets, of one or more cards (one set per group), each containing NREG bucklings.

#### 21 : INFORMATION CARD

There must be one card (2413) containing :

Col. 1-3 NEC = number of isotopes whose number densities are given per composition ( $0 \leq NEC \leq NIS$ ).

Col. 4-6 NEMIR = number of isotopes whose number densities are given per region ( $0 \leq NEMIR \leq NUCL-1$ ).

Col. 7-9 NRC = number of compositions having logarithmic derivatives ( $0 \leq NRC \leq NCMP$ )

Col. 10-12 IPUN = 1, the number densities of the first  $NUCL-1$  isotopes are punched on cards (7E10.5) at each time step, before the shuffling.

IPUN = 0, no punch cards.

These punched cards can be used to input the number densities per region in other problems.

#### 22 : NUMBER DENSITIES PER COMPOSITION

This set of cards, present only if NRC  $\neq$  0, is constituted of :



- 22.a) one or more cards (24I3) containing the isotope indices of the NEC isotopes whose number densities are given in (22.b)
- 22.b) for each isotope declared in (22.a), one or more cards (7E10.5) containing NCHP number densities, one per composition.

Initialize a new card when changing isotope.

### 23 : NUMBER DENSITIES PER REGION

This set of cards, present only if NNMTR  $\neq$  0, is arranged in the same way as the set "Number densities per composition". Read REGION instead of "COMPOSITION".

### 24 % LOGARITHMIC DERIVATIVES

This set of cards, present only if NRC  $\neq$  0 is constituted of :

- 24.a) One or more cards (24I3) containing the indices of the NRC compositions which have logarithmic derivatives.

- 24.b) NRC sets of cards (7E10.5), one for each composition, containing the logarithmic derivative  $C_i$ ,  $i=1,2,\dots,NG$ . Initialize a new card, when changing the composition.

If  $C_i > 0$ , the composition under consideration is a "rod material" with respect to the group  $i$ ; in this case the flux  $\phi^i$  is not evaluated in the mesh points inside the composition, but it must satisfy, on the boundary points, the condition is

$$D_i \frac{\partial \phi^i}{\partial n} = - C_i \phi^i$$

If  $C_i = 0$ , the composition under consideration is a normal diffusion material with respect to the group  $i$ .

### 25 : $\chi^i$ SPECIFICATION

This set is made up of one or more cards (7E10.5) containing the fission spectrum integrals  $\chi^i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,NG$ ) for all groups.

It must be  $\chi^i \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^{NG} \chi^i > 0$ .



SINDAG

DFLR

### 26 : DATA FOR THE UNIFORM SEARCH

Only if ICRISF = 1, there must be one card (7E10.5) containing :

Col. 1-10 DILMIN =  $\phi_{min}$  = minimum permissible value of the dilution factor .

Col. 11-20 DILMAX =  $\phi_{max}$  = maximum permissible value of the dilution factor .

## 27 : CONTROL LIST FOR THE REGIONWISE PROGRAMMED SEARCH

This set, present only when ICRISE = 2, specifies the control list. It is made of as many cards (18I3, 2E9.4) as the number of control banks. The first 18 fields, of three columns each, contain the indices of the regions belonging to the same bank.

Each bank can be constituted by one or more regions, but obviously not more than 18.

The last two fields, of 9 columns each, contain :

Col. 55-63  $N_{\min}$  = minimum permissible value of the control isotope number density, for the bank under consideration

Col. 64-72  $N_{\max}$  = maximum permissible value of the control isotope number density ( $N_{\min} < N_{\max}$ ).

These number densities are given in Szilard or in nuclei/cm<sup>2</sup> according to the option ISYST in card no.3.

The same region can be repeated in two or more different banks. The maximum number of control banks is KLIST, and the total number of all region indices appearing in this set must not be greater than KTRL.

The control isotope (of index NUCL+1) retains the given values of its number densities, specified per composition or per region, in the regions which do not appear in the control list. These values are, on the contrary, ignored for the regions belonging to the control list.

## 28 : BLANK CARD (only if ICRISE = 2)

A blank card indicates the end of the control list specification.

## 29 : CONTROL LIST FOR THE BOUNDARY SEARCH

This card set, present only if ICRISE=3, specifies the control list in the boundary searches. It is made up of as many cards (24I3) as the number of control banks. The first 22 fields, of 3 columns each, are devoted to the specification of the rectangular control area which belong to the considered bank. Each bank can be constituted by one or more areas as with the only obvious limitation of 22. The following data are then specified :

Col. 67-69  $y_{\min}$  = row number which represents the upper limit of the moving boundary for the bank under consideration.

Col. 70-72  $y_{\max}$  = row number representing the lower limit of the moving boundary ( $y_{\min} < y_{\max}$ )

The same control area can be repeated in two or more different banks. The maximum number of control banks is  $KLIST$ . The entries of the control list (i.e. all the area indices appearing in the cards above) must not be more than  $KERY$ . Recall that the control areas are numbered in the same order that they are specified in SPECIFICATION OF THE REGIONS AND CONTROL AREAS:

30 : BLANK CARD (only if  $ICRIS=3$ )

A blank card indicates the end of the control list specification in the boundary searches.

↓  
TINDAG

31 : LIBRARY AND SELF SHIELDING PARAMETERS

It is possible, in FEEBUS, to specify many sets of microscopic cross section libraries, called library sets and many sets of self-shielding coefficients, called self-shielding sets.

It is necessary, then, to assign to each initial composition a well determined LIBRARY SET and a SELF-SHIELDING SET.

The following card (24I3) provides general informations :

Col. 1-3  $NBI=INX1=$  total number of library sets ( $NBI \leq KBI$ )  
If  $NBI > 0$ ,  $NBI$  sets of microscopic cross sections must be supplied consecutively, by means of as many data sets in NGELS file "SPECIFICATION OF ONE LIBRARY SET"

If  $NBI = 0$ , possible only if a WRAK RESTART case is dealt with, the program takes library data from the RESTART TAPE.

Col. 4-6  $NBS=INX2=$  total number of self-shielding sets ( $NBS \leq KDS$ )

If  $NBS > 0$ ,  $NBS$  sets of self-shielding coefficients must be supplied consecutively by means of as many card sets 33: SPECIFICATION OF ONE SELF-SHIELDING SET, ending with the card 34: SELF-SHIELDING ASSIGNMENT which assigns the various self-shielding sets to the compositions.

If  $NBS=0$ , no self-shielding data (neither SELF-SHIELDING SPECIFICATION nor SELF-SHIELDING ASSIGNMENT) are supplied on cards but the program reads them from the RESTART TAPE if the case code

consideration is a restart case, otherwise sets all the self-shielding factors equal to one for all groups and isotopes, if it is not a restart case.  
 Col. 7-9 NGP = number of coefficients  $n_c+1$  ( $NGP \geq 7$ )

### SPECIFICATION OF ONE LIBRARY SET

The description of this data set applies to one generic library set. If library set number (NBL) is greater than one, NBL such set of data must be supplied consecutively by the NGELS code. Each set will take a distinctive number called library set number, according to the order in which such sets appear in the NGELS file.

For each isotope, whose microscopic data are to be supplied there must be the following sets of data in the NGELS file:

- a.) Name of the isotope. This name is used only for output purposes of the nonburnable isotopes.
- b.) Index of the isotope. If this index is greater than NIS, library data of this isotope are ignored.
- c.) IDEP = 0, This isotope is included in the summation (OMITTED TER-IV Formula (IV-15)), and its self-shielding factors are functions of the argument (IV-15).  
 = 1, this isotope is not included in the summation (IV-15), and its self-shielding factors are functions of the argument (IV-15).  
 = 2, this isotope is included in the summation (IV-15) and its self-shielding factors are functions of the argument (IV-16) (that is of its number domain only).  
 = 3, this isotope is not included in the summation (IV-15), and its self-shielding factors are functions of the argument (IV-16).

This field is read only in the first library set, if many are present, then its data are extended also to other sets.

- d.) If this alphanumeric field is not blank (e.g. contains the SCATTER), a complete scattering matrix must be supplied for this isotope.  
 If this field is blank, no such matrix is supplied, but it is assumed that the removal occurs only from one group to the next lower one (single down-scattering).

- e.) This field generally must be left blank. The word SET END must be punched in the last isotope of the set.
- f.) The microscopic transport cross sections  $\sigma_{tr}^i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,NG$ ).
- g.) The microscopic absorption cross sections  $\sigma_a^i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,NG$ ).
- h.) The microscopic removal cross sections  $\sigma_R^i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,NG$ ) to the next group.

If the isotope is a fuel isotope, that is its index is less than or equal to  $HIP$ , ( $HIP=1, 2, \dots, 10$ ), must be supplied, otherwise they are omitted.

- i.) The microscopic fission cross sections  $\sigma_f^i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,NG$ )
- k.) The microscopic fission cross sections times the number of neutrons per fission  $\nu\sigma_f^i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,NG$ )
- l.) The energies per fission  $e^i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,NG$ ) (joule/fission)
- m.) The fission yields  $\nu_{jR}^{i-1}$  ( $j=HIF+1, HIF+2, \dots, HIF+HIF$ ) of the isotope under consideration ( $i$ ) for all fission products.
- n.) This set is present only if the stage 3.) has the word SCATTER. It is made of  $NG$  sets containing the microscopic removal cross sections  $\sigma_R^{i-1}$  ( $j=1,2,\dots,NG$ )

### 32 : LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT

The first card (2413) contains :

Col. 1-3 the library set number assigned to composition 1  
 Col. 4-6 the library set number assigned to composition 2  
 and so forth, up to the last composition  $NGCOMP$ . If  $NGCOMP > 24$ , the assignment is continued on one or more cards.

The library set numbers are the progressive numbers in which the library sets are given.

### 33 : SPECIFICATION OF ONE SELF-SHIELDING SET

The description of this set of cards applies to one generic self-shielding set. If more than one self-shielding set are present ( $NBS > 1$ )  $NBS$  such sets of cards must be supplied consecutively. Each set will have a distinctive number, or index (called set number) according to the order in which such set appears in the input deck.

For each set, more blocks of self-shielding coefficients can be given. One block is made of  $FG \cdot HCP$  coefficients (for all groups).

#### 33.a) The first card (2413) contains :

Col. 1-3  $NBS(F)$  = total number of blocks of self-shielding

coefficients of the set  $K$  under consideration, it must be  $NBT(K) \neq 0$ .

Col. 4-6 block number assigned to the isotope no. 1.  
Col. 7-9 block number assigned to the isotope no. 2.  
and so forth for all the NIS isotopes.

If  $NIS > 24$ , the assignment is continued on one or more successive cards, starting with the field 1-3.

The block numbered "zero" is a block having the first coefficient of all groups equal to one, and all the other coefficients equal to zero. This block is implicitly defined by the program, and causes all the self-shielding factors to be 1.

- 33.b) The blocks of coefficients are specified consecutively. Each block must have  $NG$  cards ( $7E10.5$ ), one for each group in increasing order, with the self-shielding coefficients from 1 to  $NBT$ .

Remember that the number densities in formula (IV-16) are in Szilard even if they have been inputted as nuclei/cm<sup>3</sup>.

There is limitation to the total number of self-shielding coefficients; it must be:

$$NG \cdot NBT \sum_{K=1}^{NBS} NBT(K) \leq NCOM$$

#### 34 : SELF-SHIELDING ASSIGNMENT

The first card (2413) contains:

Col. 1-3 self-shielding set assigned to the composition no.1.  
Col. 4-6 self-shielding set assigned to the composition no.2.  
and so forth. If  $NCMP > 24$  the assignment is continued on one or more cards.

Recall that the numeration of the self-shielding sets is based on the order in which the cards SPECIFICATION OF SELF SHIELDING SETS appear in the input.

The self-shielding set no. 0 is automatically defined by the program as giving all the self-shielding factors equal to 1, so its assignment to a given composition is equivalent to making equal to 1 all the self-shielding factors of the composition.

LIBRA

#### 35 : FUEL SHUFFLING LIST

This set of cards must be supplied for any time-step  $K$  such

that  $NPU(K)=1$ , to be performed in the present run (Cfr. SHUFFLE TIME-STEP)

The first card (2413) contains :

Col. 1-3 NLSM = number of elements of the following list  $L(I)$ ,  $I=1,2,\dots,NLSM$ .

Col. 4-6  $L(1)$  = first element of the list.

Col. 7-9  $L(2)$  = second element of the list.

and so forth. If  $NLSM > 24$  the list is continued on one or more cards. The meaning of  $L(K)$  is :

$L(K) = 0$  the region  $K$  remains unchanged.

= M the number densities of the burnable isotopes in the region  $K$  are replaced by the ones of the region  $M$ .

= N the number densities of the burnable isotopes in the region  $K$  are replaced by the ones of the composition  $N$ .

If  $NLSM = 0$ , there must be only one card, filled with zeros or blanks.

If  $NLSM > 0$ , it is obvious that the vector  $L(K)$  must be supplied for the regions from 1 to NLSM. The regions successive to NLSM do not undergo any shuffling.

↓  
SETUP

## APPENDIX B

### PROGRAM RESTRICTIONS

The present version of WREBUS has the following maximum dimensions:

Maximum number of library sets	KBL = 5
"    "    "    self shielding sets	KBS = 5
"    "    "    compositions	KCD = 40
"    "    "    self shielding coefficients	KCOF = 5000
"    "    "    groups	KGD = 15
"    "    "    fuel isotopes	KIF = 20
"    "    "    fission products	KIP = 20
"    "    "    isotopes	KIS = 40
"    "    "    burnable isotopes	KIV = 29
"    "    "    control banks	KLIST = 100
"    "    "    mesh points	KPD = 10000
"    "    "    regions	KREG = 300
"    "    "    time-steps	KRINT = 50
"    "    "    control areas	KROD = 100
"    "    "    small time-steps	KSMAT = 150
"    "    "    elements in the control list	KTRR = 400
"    "    "    rows	KYD = 200
"    "    "    columns	KYD = 200



APPENDIX C

PERIPHERAL UNIT CONFIGURATION

Logical unit	Physical unit	Function
2	tape or disk	to store the finite difference coefficients and the data for the STRONG RESTART
3	tape or disk	
4	disk	panel
9	tape or disk	to store the fluxes
11	tape or disk	
10	tape or disk	to store the data for the WEAK RESTART

When required, the aforementioned tapes should be mounted on the physical units available to programmers. For instance, on the IBM-360/65 at ISFRA, the available physical units are as follows:

2-389 , 2-38A , 2-38D (9 tracks)

2-38C , 2-38E , 2-38F (7 tracks)

(the double number such as 2-389 specifies the same physical unit but accessible from two different channels.)

Moreover a tape is needed for off-line punching of subprograms, if required. The procedure for card punching is subject to the rules holding in the Computer Center.

The correspondence between logical and physical units is left to the programmer's choice and is defined by the DD cards and other informations concerning the use of peripheral units.

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