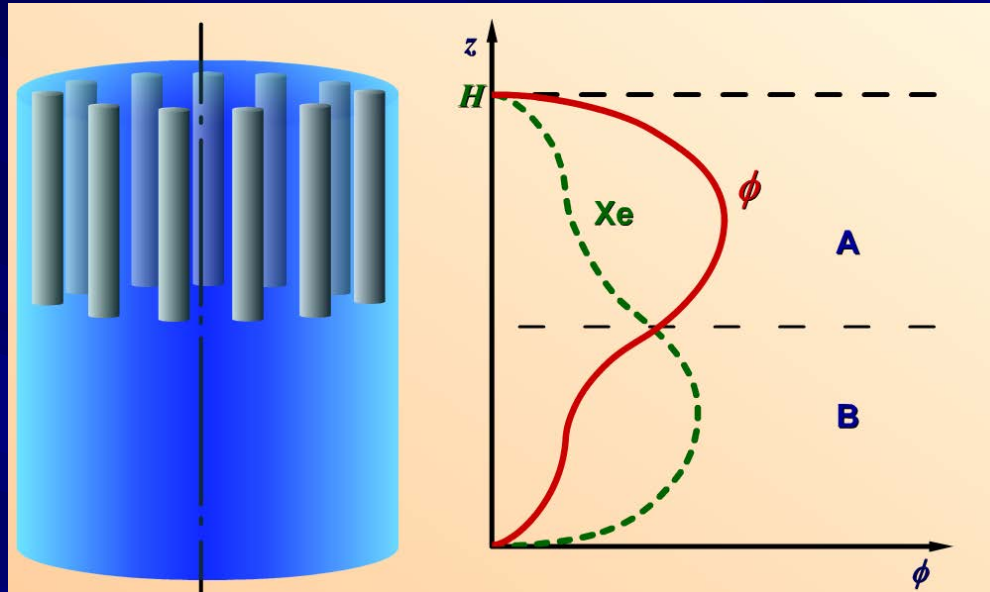


# MULTIMEDIA COURSE ON NUCLEAR REACTORS PHYSICS, APPLICATION TO A TAILORED ON THE JOB TRAINING COURSE.



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**IAEA**

International Atomic Energy Agency

# Multimedia on Nuclear Reactor Physics

- In order to improve education and training quality, a Multimedia on Nuclear Reactor Physics has been developed.
- In some institutions, this course is called Fundamentals of Nuclear Reactor Operation.
- Nowadays, this multimedia has about 800 slides and the text is in Spanish, English, French and Russian .
- Until now about 126 institutions from 53 countries have applied for the multimedia.
- The teacher uses the multimedia during his lectures.
- Students use it at home to study this course.

# Multimedia on Nuclear Reactor Physic

454 CDs distributed to 53 Member States  
for 3800 students for education and training



Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, UK, Ukraine

Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Palestine, the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Thailand, UAE, Vietnam, Iran

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Peru, USA

Algeria, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa





Technical University of Catalonia (UPC), BarcelonaTech  
School of Engineering of Barcelona (ETSEIB)  
Department of Physics and Nuclear Engineering (DFEN)  
Nuclear Engineering Research Group (NERG)



# MULTIMEDIA ON NUCLEAR REACTOR PHYSICS

*Version 4.3*

*English*

*Spanish*

*French*

*Russian*

*Javier Dies*  
*Francesc Puig*  
*Claudia Pereira*



- 
- Nowadays, this multimedia has about 800 slides and the text is in:
    - English
    - Spanish
    - French
    - Russian.
    - Chinese (very soon will be ready)

- Applications in EDUCATION
- Since 2001 in Nuclear Reactor Physics course at UPC Barcelona,
  - Master Level, Engineering degree, nuclear major.
  - 60 hours – 5 ECTS
  - extended course, from September to December, evaluation in January.

## Applications in TRAINING:

A tailored on the job training course of two weeks based on this multimedia is organized in nuclear power plants and nuclear institutions worldwide on request.



- **Applications in TRAINING**
- Since 2009, Fundamentals of reactor operation at Nuclear Power Plant Asco-Vandellos (Tarragona, Spain)
  - 60 hours training course
  - compacted course, 2 weeks,
  - Skipping chapter 5 and 6.
  - For new employers at NPP with university degree (engineers, physicians, chemistries, informatics )





- Applications in TRAINING
- Fundamentals of Reactor Operation course for Operators of NPP.
  - 60 hours training course
  - Compacted course
  - For new operators
  - For refreshing course of operators
  - Skipping chapter 5 and 6



- **Applications in TRAINING:** July 2013, Nuclear Reactor Physics, University of Ghana, School of Nuclear and Allied Sciences.
- compacted course, 2 weeks.





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- A new procedure, in order to facilitate the distribution worldwide is now ready from IAEA web, enable the multimedia direct download.

- The new version is ready for:

  - Windows

And very soon for :

  - Android

  - ISO systems

- <http://bit.do/NuclearReactorPhysics>

# We offer two things:

1. Download free of charge the multimedia on NRP.
2. Organize a two weeks training course on the job, in your institution.



- This multimedia is complemented with a experimental program developed with a conceptual nuclear power plant simulator SIREP-1300 from Corys –Tess (France).

DIES, J.; TAPIA, C.; PUIG, F.; VILLAR, D.;  
“Experiences program in nuclear engineering  
area. SIREP 1300 nuclear power plant  
conceptual simulator (DFEN-ETSEIB-UPC),  
(language: English), E-prints UPC, pág. 206,  
Barcelona, 2012.

<http://hdl.handle.net/2117/17190>

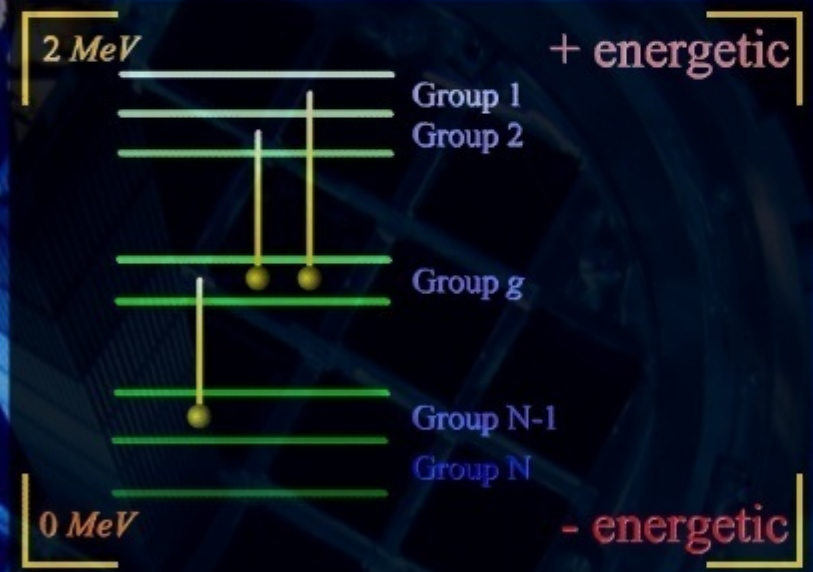
# NUCLEAR REACTOR PHYSICS

## Title

- 1.- INTRODUCTION TO NUCLEAR ENERGY
- 2.- NEUTRON INTERACTION
- 3.- FISSION PROCESS IN A NUCLEAR REACTOR
- 4.- NEUTRON MULTIPLICATION IN A NUCLEAR REACTOR

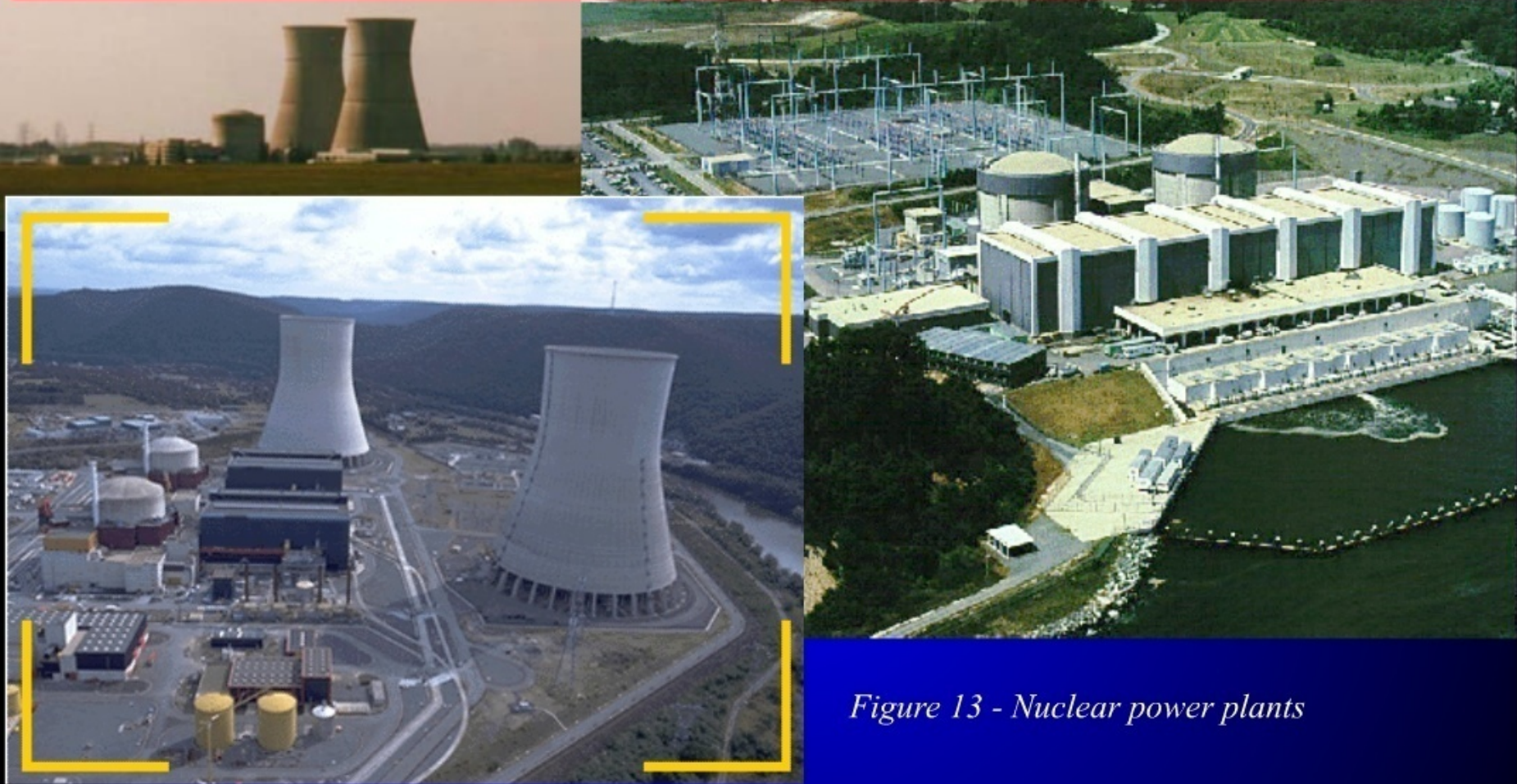
### **5.- NEUTRON BALANCE**

- 6.- TWO-GROUP CRITICALITY
- 7.- REACTOR KINETICS
- 8.- EFFECTS OF CONTROL RODS
- 9.- CHEMICAL SHIM
- 10.- BURNABLE POISONS
- 11.- TEMPERATURE EFFECTS ON REACTIVITY
- 12.- FISSION PRODUCT POISONING
- 13.- NEUTRON SOURCES





# FISSION PROCESS IN A NUCLEAR REACTOR



*Figure 13 - Nuclear power plants*

In a nuclear reactor, there are two important aspects that should be considered in connection with radioactivity from fission products.

# NEUTRON MULTIPLICATION IN A NUCLEAR REACTOR

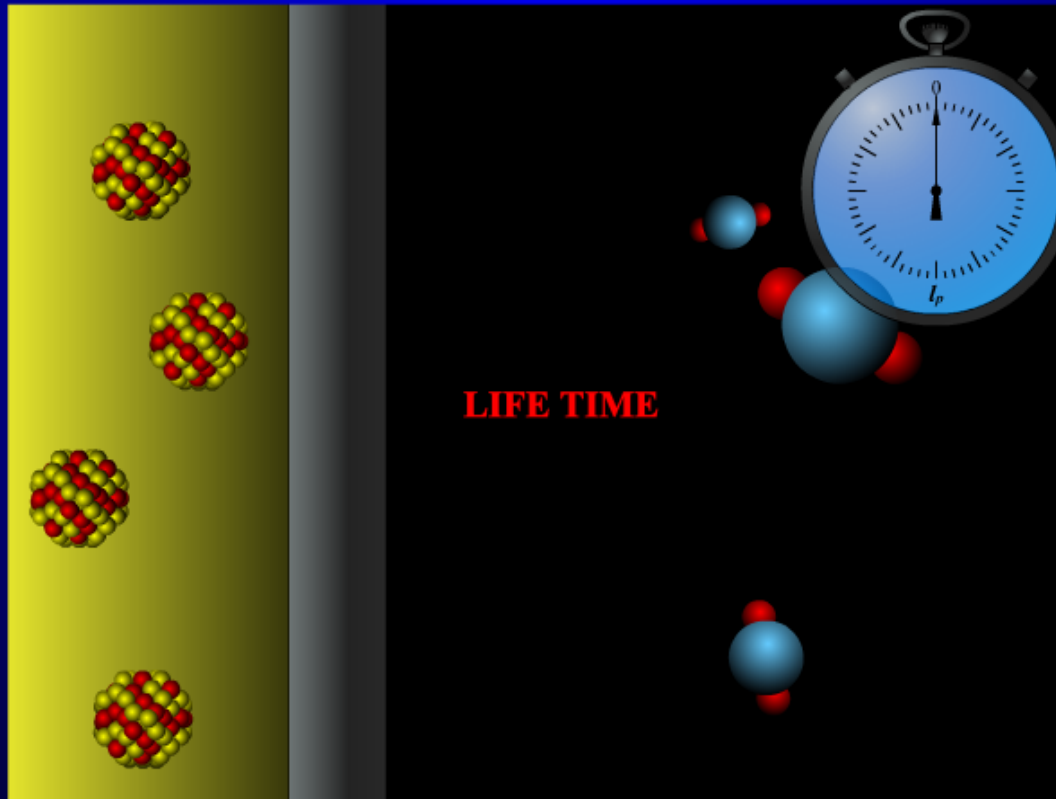
Another definition of the multiplication factor  $k$  can be expressed in terms of a balance:

$$k = \frac{\text{neutron production rate in the reactor}}{\text{neutron loss rate (absorption + leakage) in the reactor}} \equiv \frac{P(t)}{L(t)} \quad (2)$$

In this way lifetime of the free neutron ( $l$ ) can be defined, being equal to:

$$l \equiv \frac{N(t)}{L(t)} \quad (3)$$

where  $N(t)$  is the total population of neutrons in the reactor at time  $t$ .

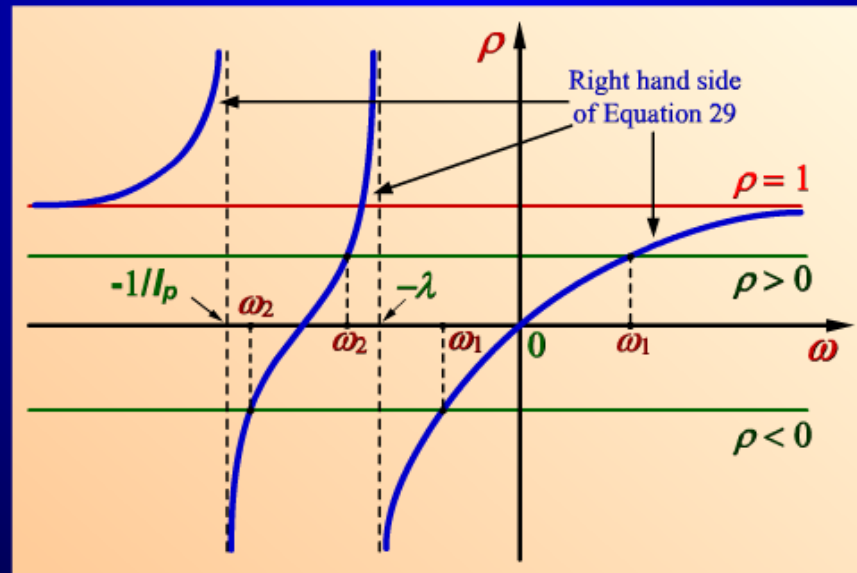




# REACTOR KINETICS

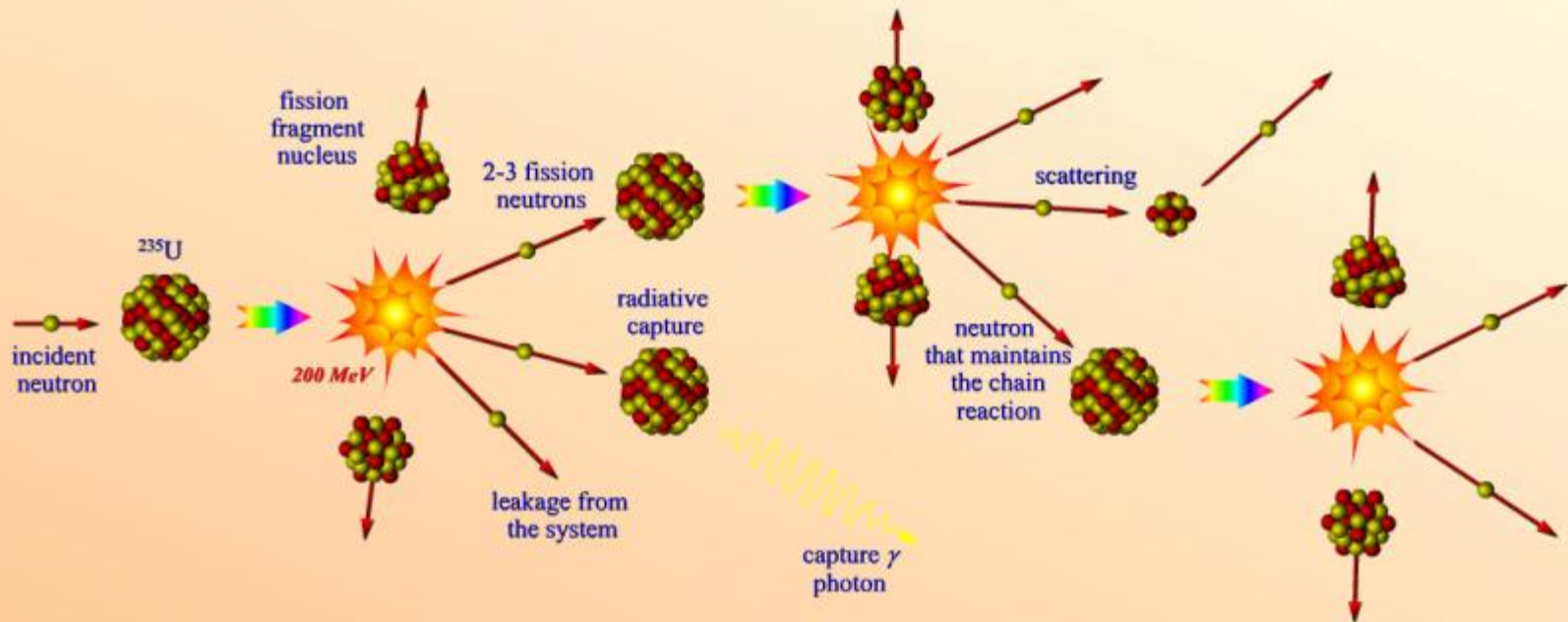
$$\rho = \frac{\omega \cdot l_p}{1 + \omega \cdot l_p} + \frac{\omega}{1 + \omega \cdot l_p} \cdot \frac{\beta}{\omega + \lambda} \quad (29)$$

1. If  $\omega = 0$ , then  $\rho = 0$ ,
2. If  $\omega$  varies from zero to  $+\infty$ ,  $\rho$  grows positively, taking as limit the value  $1$ ,
3. If  $\omega$  varies from  $0$  to  $-\lambda$  (with values to the right of  $-\lambda$ ),  $\rho$  tends to  $-\infty$ ,
4. If  $\omega$  tends to  $-\lambda$  (with values to the left of  $-\lambda$ ),  $\rho$  tends to  $+\infty$ ,
5. If  $\omega$  tends to  $-1/l_p$  (with values to the right of  $-1/l_p$ ),  $\rho$  tends to  $-\infty$ ,
6. If  $\omega$  tends to  $-1/l_p$  (with values to the left of  $-1/l_p$ ),  $\rho$  tends to  $+\infty$
7. If  $\omega$  tends to  $-\infty$ ,  $\rho$  tends to  $+1$ .



## Samples of Nuclear Reactor Physics Multimedia (language: English):

### NEUTRON MULTIPLICATION IN A NUCLEAR REACTOR



In order to adjust  $k$  to the desired value, neutron production rate has to be adjusted with the rate of disappearance.

The neutrons from the reactor may disappear in two ways:

- (a) escaping from the reactor through its surface and
- (b) being absorbed by nuclear reactions and radiative capture reactions in the material that comprises the reactor.

# CHEMICAL SHIM

**Example 1** - A **PWR** type reactor has a total of reactivity excess of **20%**, while the total reactivity value of control rods is **12%**. What should be the minimum concentration of boric acid, in *ppm* and in *g/l* in the water (moderator) so that the reactor does not become critical, knowing that its thermal utilization factor (without boric acid) is **0.900**?

*Solution.* The amount of negative reactivity to be assigned to chemical shim, or boric acid, will be  $20 - 12 = 8\%$ . From Eq. (8), the boron concentration should be:

$$\rho_w = 1.92 \cdot C \cdot 10^{-3} \cdot (1 - f_o) \quad (8)$$

$$C = \frac{\rho \cdot 10^3}{1.92 \cdot (1 - f_o)} = \frac{0.08 \cdot 10^3}{1.92 \cdot (1 - 0.9)} = 417 \text{ ppm de boro}$$

The molecular mass of boric acid ( $H_3BO_3$ ) is  $3 \times 1 + 10.8 + 3 \times 16 = 61.8$ .

Therefore, the boric acid concentration that is necessary to obtain a boron concentration of **417 ppm** is:

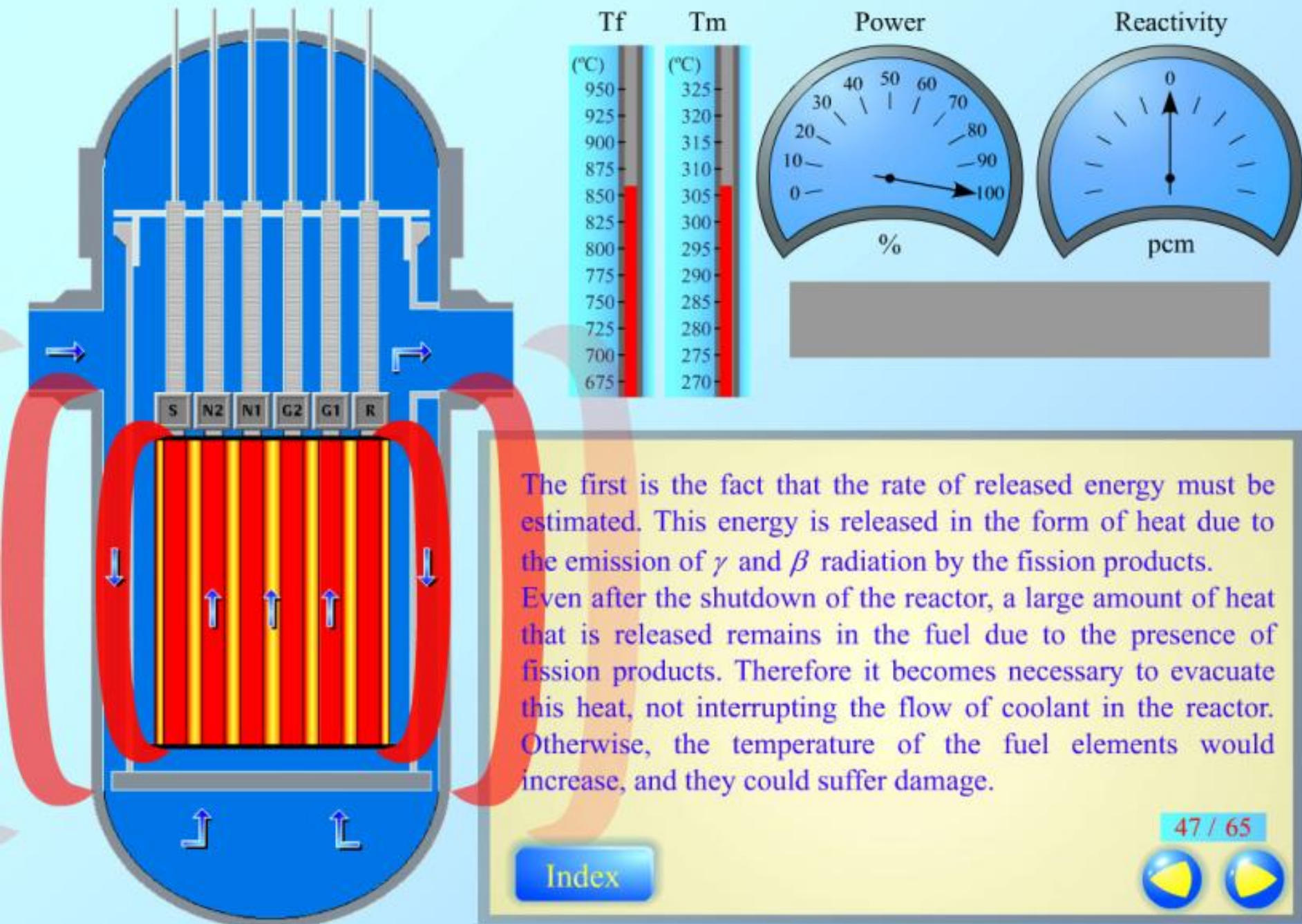
$$(61.8 \times 417) / 10.8 = 2386 \text{ ppm of boric acid.}$$

Considering that there will be **2386 g** of boric acid in **10<sup>6</sup> g** of water, that occupies a volume of about **1000 l**, the concentration in *g/l* should be **2386 g/1000 l = 2.39 g/l**.



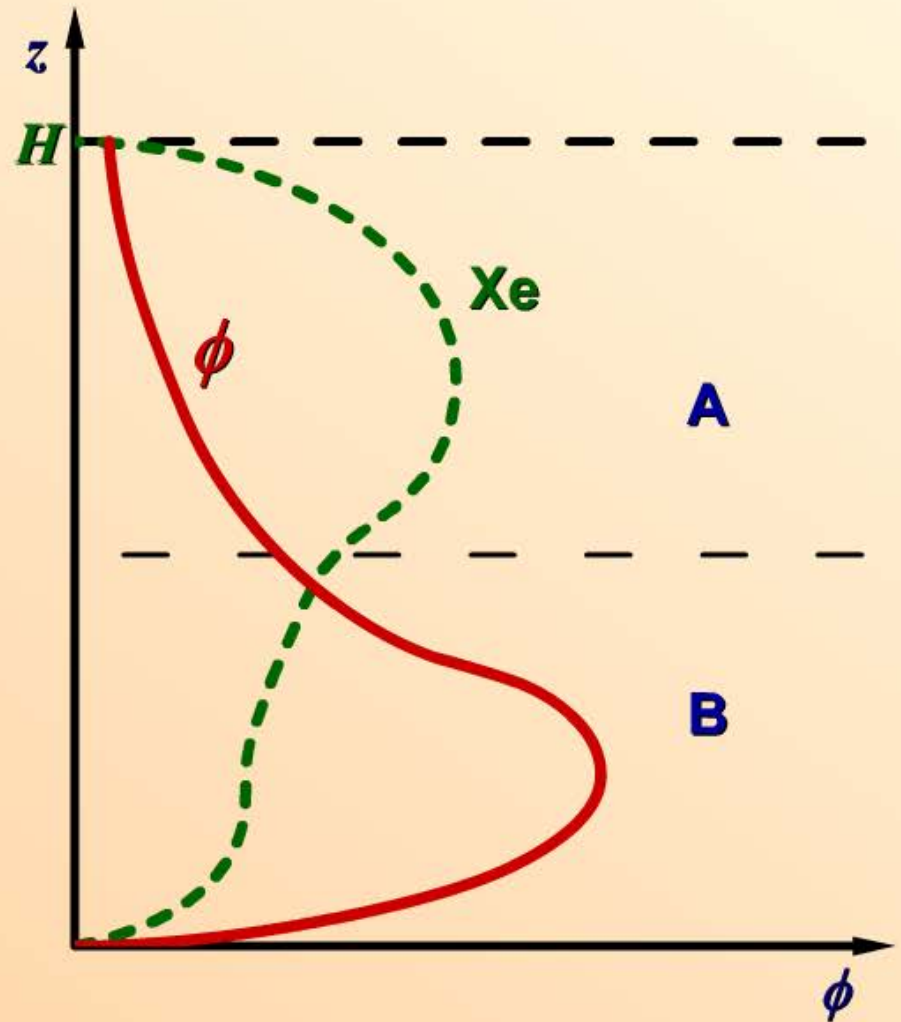
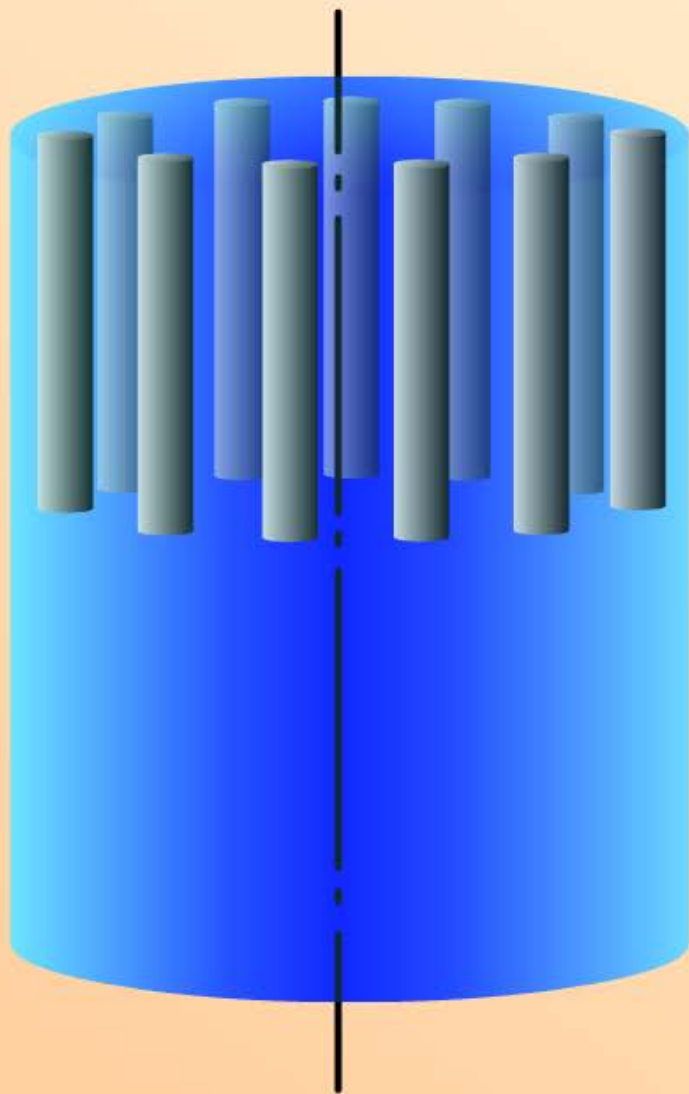


# FISSION PROCESS IN A NUCLEAR REACTOR





# FISSION PRODUCT POISONING



**c)  $t = 6$  hours after the rod insertion**

[Return](#)

Figure 12 - Axial oscillations of xenon following a change in axial power (III)

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END