

Problem Set 7

Due SES #20

[EL] = Lewis, Elmer L. *Fundamentals of Nuclear Reactor Physics*. Burlington, MA: Academic Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780123706317.

Suggested Problems: [EL] Chapter 7, Problems 7.5, 7.13

Question 1: Determine the critical radius of a sphere using:

- a) 1-group theory
- b) 2-group theory

Table 1.1: 1-group parameters

D (cm)	1
Σ_a (cm ⁻¹)	0.25
$\nu\Sigma_f$ (cm ⁻¹)	0.3125

Table 1.2: 2-group parameters

D ₁ (cm)	2
Σ_{r1} (cm ⁻¹)	0.08
$\nu\Sigma_{f1}$ (cm ⁻¹)	0.02
D ₂ (cm)	1
Σ_{a2} (cm ⁻¹)	0.25
$\nu\Sigma_{f2}$ (cm ⁻¹)	0.5
Σ_{s21}	0.058

Question 2: Write the 4 group steady-state diffusion equations with no external source. Assume that all fission neutrons are born in the fast group and that there is no-upscattering.

If we assume that the leakage in groups 2,3 and 4 is negligible compared to the collision terms in these groups, derive the corresponding modified 1 group equation.

Question 3: A bare spherical reactor is to be constructed of a homogeneous mixture of D₂O and U-235. The composition is such that for every uranium atom there are 2000 heavy water molecules (i.e. $N_{D_2O} / N_{U-235} = 2000$). Calculate the critical radius of the reactor using one-speed diffusion theory using the following parameters:

$$\begin{aligned} \eta_{U-235} &= 2.06 \\ D_{D_2O} &= 0.87 \text{ cm} \\ \Sigma_{aD_2O} &= 3.3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^{-1} \\ \sigma_{a,D_2O} &= 0.001 \text{ barn} \\ \sigma_{a,U-235} &= 678 \text{ barn} \end{aligned}$$

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22.05 Neutron Science and Reactor Physics
Fall 2009

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