

Review of ENDF/B-VII.0 Validation

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Introduction

- This presentation is strictly a brief review of the validation results presented 1-year ago which supported the release of ENDF/B-VII.0
- The validation work presented at that time was comprehensive spanning the entire range of the validation effort
- All of these validation results were presented in the "Big Paper" and this review presentation <u>has been summarized from that reference</u>.



Summary of Criticality Results

Overall the agreement with experiment is improved in many cases

- Including bare and reflected U and Pu systems and arrays of LEU fuel rod lattices
- C/E's for HEU and Pu are increased and closer to unity
- The reflector bias for the ²³⁸U reflected Flattop assemblies has been largely eliminated



Bare and ²³⁸U Reflected Assemblies



HEU-MET-FAST Assemblies with Various Reflectors





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PU-MET-FAST Assemblies with Various Reflectors



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Pb reflected Assemblies



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Be reflected Assemblies



Be reflected Assemblies (Continued)



Summary of Criticality Results (Continued)

Major improvements for the intermediate spectra assemblies

- Particularly for Big Ten
- Lesser extent for some of the ZPR assemblies
- Improved result for fast ²³⁷Np assembly
- Excellent agreement for (HEU and LEU) uranium solution assemblies
- Elimination of underprediction for thermal low-enriched U fuel rod lattice assemblies
- Much improved performance for fast and thermal systems with ²³³U and ²³²Th
- Large bias and trends for unmoderated and moderated Zeus assemblies question ²³⁵U scattering data and Cu data



ZPR Assemblies



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HEU-SOL-THERM Assemblies



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LEU-COMP-THERM-006 Assemblies





LEU-COMP-THERM Assemblies





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PU-SOL-THERM Assemblies





Delayed Neutron Results (β_{eff})

Modest improvements based on limited testing

- Thermal ²³⁵U systems
 - ~5% decrease in β_{eff} resulting in C/E's close to unity
- Fast Pu/U systems
 - Smaller (2% positive and negative) changes yielding slightly better or worse results



Reaction Rates in Critical Assemblies





Persistent discrepancies in spectral indices in several LANL fast critical assemblies

Shielding and Pulse-Sphere Testing

Results based on FNS (Fusion Neutronics Source) benchmark

- Improved results for several new evaluations
 - ^{235,238}U, ²³⁹Pu, Pb, Li, and Be
- Persistent discrepancies for older evaluations, e.g., W
- Pulsed sphere results confirm quality of inelastic scattering data for ²³⁵U and ²³⁹Pu



Apparent Data Discrepancies from ENDF/B-VII.0 Validation Effort

- Large discrepancies in ²³⁹Pu in thermal (e.g., solutions) and intermediate spectra systems
- 2. RR/URR range of Cr as evidenced in Pu/C/SST assembly
- 3. RR/URR range of Mn as evidenced in Pu/C/SST assembly
- 4. Very poor trend for assemblies with clean assemblies with W
- 5. Still puzzling results with ²³³U data testing
- 6. Some issues remain with Zr isotopes
- Although largely improved, some large discrepancies remain with ⁹Be
- 8. Some discrepancies with ²³⁸U capture
- 9. Many polyethylene moderated and reflected critical assemblies very high (also Teflon)
- 10. Some Pb biases remain in thermal systems

