

Neutronic Characteristics Analysis of a Fast Breeder Reactor (FBR) Using MCNPX Code

A Thesis

Submitted for the degree of Ph.D in physics as a partial fulfillment for requirements of the doctor of Science

By

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Title: Neutronic Characteristics Analysis of a Fast Breeder

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بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَقُل رَّبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

"..And Say: My Lord! Increase me in Knowledge"

"TAHA/114, the Glorious QurAn"

To

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Mother,
Father,
Brother,
Sisters,
And
Dear Wife.
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Acknowledgement

All gratitude is due to ALLAH the most merciful, who guided and gave me strength to complete this work.

I wish to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the board of supervisors.

My Sincere thanks and deepest gratitude to **Prof. Dr. Moustafa**Aziz Abdelwahab, Professor of Nuclear Engineering at Nuclear and
Radiological Regulatory Authority, for suggesting this point of
research and his supervision, useful opinions in the thesis
construction, continuous support, valuable help, encouragement
and guidance throughout this work.

I wish to express my deep thanks to **Prof. Dr. Soad Abd El-Monem El-Fiki**, professor of Nuclear physics at Physics Department, Faculty of Science, Ain Shams University, for her supervision, honest guidance, continuous encouragement and trustful help through the writing of the thesis.

I would like to thank with gratitude **Prof. Dr. Samir Yousha El-Khamisy**, professor of Nuclear physics at Physics Department, Faculty of Science, Ain Shams University, for his kind supervision, kind encouragement, his continuous support and kind guidance throughout the present work.

I wish to express my deep thanks to **Dr. Ahmed Abdelghafar** Galahom, higher technological institute 10th of Ramadan, for his valuable help, his advice and generous assistance and continuous helpful discussions.

I also wish to express my deep thanks to my family for their continuous support and encouragement during my research.



Abstract

Name: Amr Ibrahim Abd El-Azeam

Title: Neutronic Characteristics Analysis of a Fast Breeder

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Submitted To: Physics Department, Faculty of Science, Ain-

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The Gas Cooled Fast Reacor (GCFR) is one of the six advanced systems that have been chosen by Generation IV iniatiative for research and development of a relaible, economic, safe and proliferation-resistant nuclear system. This study presents a comprehensive overview of the neutronic performance of the large scale Gas Cooled Fast reactor GFR2400. This reactor is a highly innovative system with advanced geometrical design and fuel materials. The active fuel region of this reactor is divided radial into two core zones namely, inner core fuel assemblies (IC), and outer core fuel assemblies (OC). MCNPX code is used to study the neutronic behavior and fuel isotopic transmutations of the GFR2400 and to investigate the effect of fuel homogenization on the neutronic parameters and fuel transmutations both at assembly and core levels. An analysis of the core neutronic and safety related parameters have shown favorable neutronic characteristics. Moreover, the results of isotopic transmutation and burn-up within the reactor core demonstrated the capability of GFR2400 concept to achieve fuel sustainability even without the use of fertile blankets.

Keywords: Fast reactors- GFR2400- MCNPX- Fuel homogenization.

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