

(16.5) ^{244}Pu decays through spontaneous fission with a half-life of $6.6 \cdot 10^{10}$ y. Estimate the number of neutrons emitted per fission if the measured n-emission rate is $1890 \text{ n s}^{-1} \text{ g}^{-1}$.

First constants, known values, and units:

$$N_A := 6.022137 \cdot 10^{23} \cdot \text{mole}^{-1} \quad M_{\text{Pu}} := 244 \cdot \text{gm} \cdot \text{mole}^{-1}$$

Then the data from the text:

$$t_{\text{half fission}} := 6.6 \cdot 10^{10} \cdot \text{yr} \quad A_{\text{nPu}} := 1890 \cdot \text{sec}^{-1} \cdot \text{gm}^{-1}$$

Calculations based on 1 gram of Pu:

$$m_{\text{Pu}} := 1 \cdot \text{gm} \quad \lambda_{\text{fission}} := \frac{\ln(2)}{t_{\text{half fission}}}$$

$$N_{\text{Pu}} := \frac{m_{\text{Pu}}}{M_{\text{Pu}}} \cdot N_A$$

$$A_{\text{fission}} := \lambda_{\text{fission}} \cdot N_{\text{Pu}} \quad n_{\text{perfission}} := \frac{m_{\text{Pu}} \cdot A_{\text{nPu}}}{A_{\text{fission}}} \quad n_{\text{perfission}} = 2.30$$