

(21.2) Using the data for the Würgassen reactor and the thermal neutron capture cross-section (Table 19.4) it can be calculated how many kg Pu should be formed per t U at a burn-up of 27 500 MWd/t. (a) Make this calculation assuming that plutonium disappears only through fission in ^{239}Pu . (b) According to Table 21.2 each t U from a PWR contains 8.69 kg Pu; why is your result much lower?

$$\phi := 4.4 \cdot 10^{13} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{sec}^{-1} \quad \sigma_{c238} := 1.5 \cdot 10^{-28} \cdot \text{m}^2 \quad \sigma_{f239} := 1048.7 \cdot 10^{-28} \cdot \text{m}^2$$

$$p_{\text{fuel}} := \frac{1912 \cdot 10^6}{86600 \cdot 10^3} \cdot \text{watt} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} \quad Q_{\text{spent}} := \frac{27500 \cdot 10^6 \cdot 24 \cdot 60 \cdot 60}{1000} \cdot \text{joule} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1}$$

$$t_{\text{irr}} := \frac{Q_{\text{spent}}}{p_{\text{fuel}}} \quad t_{\text{irr}} = 1.076 \cdot 10^{11} \cdot \text{sec} \quad N_A := 6.022137 \cdot 10^{23} \cdot \text{mole}^{-1}$$

$$m_U := 1000 \cdot \text{kg} \quad M_U := 238.03 \cdot \text{gm} \cdot \text{mole}^{-1} \quad M_{\text{Pu}} := 239 \cdot \text{gm} \cdot \text{mole}^{-1}$$

$$x_{235} := 2.6 \cdot \% \quad x_{238} := 1 - x_{235} \quad N_{238} := \frac{m_U}{M_U} \cdot N_A \cdot x_{238}$$

$$N_{239} := \frac{\sigma_{c238} N_{238}}{\sigma_{f239}} \cdot (1 - \exp(-\phi \sigma_{f239} t_{\text{irr}})) \quad N_{239} = 3.525 \cdot 10^{24}$$

$$m_{239} := \frac{N_{239}}{N_A} \cdot M_{\text{Pu}} \quad m_{239} = 1.399 \cdot \text{kg}$$

(b) 1. Self screening in U neglected, 2. Capture to little fissionable ^{240}Pu was neglected. 3. Self-screening in ^{239}Pu also neglected, gives less fission.