# Some Recent Work at NDS, RPDD, BARC

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Arrival airport: <u>Sapporo-</u> <u>Shin-Chitose Airport</u> (CTS) Destination country: <u>Japan</u>

Distance: 6879 km





# Some of my recent involvements

- Photo-fission of actinides –applications
- Thorium utilization (eg. EPR)
- Dhruva n\_ToF Facility
- Fusion-fission hybrid

## Need for proliferation Monitoring



#### Photo-Fission is a good option

No/Minimal Activation
Even heavily shielded
cargo can be probed
Delayed gamma have
characteristic
signature

Actinide Fission XS. (TALYS, A. Koning et.al.)



(Experimental Fission Barrier Parameters)

Electron energy = 10 MeV Beam Current = 100 mA Beam Frequency = 100 Hz Pulse width = 10 E-06 s

Nominal beam power is 1000 W or 1 KW which is carried from source to target by ~ 6.2415E+014 electrons per second each having energy 10 MeV (1.60219E-012 J).



#### Photo-fission of actinides

## Bremsstrahlung spectrum



## Photo-fission Cross section (U238)

#### Photo-Fission of U238



Fission Cross Section (mb)

## Reaction Rates in a 5mm thick sample

Energy (MeV)	Photon/electron	Photo-fission XS	Reaction Rate per	Reaction Rate for 10
		(mb)	electron	MeV 100mA beam
7.50E-01	1.44E-01	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
1.25E+00	4.46E-02	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
1.75E+00	2.61E-02	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
2.25E+00	1.74E-02	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
2.75E+00	1.24E-02	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
3.25E+00	9.21E-03	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
3.75E+00	7.08E-03	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
4.25E+00	5.54E-03	2.384E-04	6.340E-11	3.960E+04
4.75E+00	4.42E-03	9.479E-03	2.011E-09	1.256E+06
5.25E+00	3.57E-03	1.424E-01	2.440E-08	1.522E+07
5.75E+00	2.84E-03	1.373E+00	1.872E-07	1.168E+08
6.25E+00	2.32E-03	8.981E+00	1.000E-06	6.243E+08
6.75E+00	1.81E-03	1.093E+01	9.496E-07	5.922E+08
7.25E+00	1.41E-03	1.330E+01	9.001E-07	5.598E+08
7.75E+00	1.05E-03	1.419E+01	7.152E-07	4.456E+08
8.25E+00	7.26E-04	1.739E+01	6.060E-07	3.782E+08
8.75E+00	4.52E-04	2.253E+01	4.888E-07	3.053E+08
9.25E+00	2.44E-04	3.003E+01	3.517E-07	2.193E+08
9.75E+00	9.39E-05	4.070E+01	1.834E-07	1.146E+08
1.00E+01	8.47E-06	5.470E+01	2.224E-08	1.389E+07
	9	SUM =		3.386E+09

Enough Fission to detect delayed neutrons and delayed gamma

# **European Pressurized Water Rx**

## Reduce Generation Cost

- By increasing Burnup
  - Reduced Xenon poisoning
  - Reduced Doppler feedback
  - Heavy reflector used
- By increasing Plant availability
  - Large flexibility for loading schemes IN/OUT OUT/IN
  - Different cycle lengths (batch size) possible for Fuel management
  - Stretched out operation of up to 70 EFPD is allowed.

#### Increase maneuverability

- Unscheduled large and fast power variations over the range of 20-100% RP.
- Capacity for permanent primary and secondary control in range of +/- 12.5% between 50 - 100% RP.
- Nominal EPR considers very flexible fuel management schemes. It considers different batch sizes (3-batch, 4-batch and 6-batch) of different durations (24 months, 18 months and 12 months).

## **Burnup Characteristic of EPR-1650**



#### EPR-1650 (UO2+Th) 5.6% Fissile



Increasing fissile content to 5.6% in Thorium EPR the burnup characteristics matches with that of nominal EPR. Mined Uranium Utilization still remains lower than that for nominal EPR however this configuration can de taken for further study.

#### Discharge Burnup and Mined Uranium Utilization

Fuel Management	Discharge Burnup (MWD/T)						
genere	EPR-U (4.9%)* 37,500**	EPR-UTh (5.6%) 39,000	EPR-UTh (6.0%) 42,500	EPR-UTh (7.0%) 51,200			
3 Batch	56,540	58,500	63,750	76,800			
4 Batch	60,14 <b>2</b>	62,400	68,000	81,900			
6 Batch	64,660	66,850	72,850	87,700			

\*\* Equivalent One Cycle Burnup

Fuel Management	Mined Uranium Utilization (MWD/T mined U)							
	EPR-U (4.9%)*	EPR-UTh (5.6%)	EPR-UTh (6.0%)	EPR-UTh (7.0%)				
3 Batch	6,136	5,373	5,467	5,643				
4 Batch	6,526	5,731	5,831	6,018				
6 Batch	7,017	6,140	6,247	6,444				

Discharge burnup achievable with 5.6% thorium EPR is comparable with that of Nominal EPR. Also in 6-Batch refueling scheme in this configuration gives mined uranium utilization comparable to nominal EPR.

Various Fission Rates EPR-U (4.9%)



In nominal EPR the fission rates of Pu239 and U235 are comparable at burnup of 42000 MWD/T

Various Fission Rates EPR-U+Th (5.6%)



In thorium EPR (5.6%) the fission rates of U233 and U235 are comparable at burnup of 45000 MWD/T. Pu239 fission rates remains significantly low during whole cycle.

#### Plutonium Vector 3-Batch Refueling Scheme

Plutonium produced (kg/TWeh)							
	Pu-238	Pu-239	Pu-240	Pu-241	Pu-242	Pu-total	
EPR-U (4.9%)	0.6612	12.990	5.9324	3.9367	1.9411	24.800	
EPR-U+Th (4.9%)	0.5141	5.3357	1.8363	1.7676	0.7629	9.7011	
EPR-U+Th (5.6%)	0.6562	4.9334	1.7707	1.7313	0.8588	9.2946	
EPR-U+Th (6.0%)	0.7190	4.8550	1.7635	1.7299	0.8903	9.2387	
Pe	rcent Comp	osition of t	he Plutoniu	m Vector at	Disch. Burnu	р	
	Pu-238 (%)	Pu-239 (%)	Pu-240 (%)	Pu-241 (%)	Pu-242 (%)	Pu- total(g/Kg)	
EPR-U (4.9%)	2.668347	52.3795	23.92041	15.87319	7.826987	12.11541	
EPR-U+Th (4.9%)	5.299956	55.00174	18.92967	18.22139	7.864074	3.96038	
EPR-U+Th (5.6%)	7.061057	53.08267	19.05098	18.62738	9.239742	4.69788	
EPR-U+Th (6.o%)	7.782614	52.55127	19.08846	18.72481	9.636446	5.08865	
EPR-U+Th (7.0%)	9.487424	51.54744	19.21462	18.84108	10.39805	6.093759	

Minor Actinides 3-Batch Refueling Scheme

Minor Actinide produced (gm/TWeh)								
	Am-241	Am-242	Am-243	Cm-242	Cm-243	Cm-244	Total	
EPR-U (4.9%)	161.68	2.59	494.62	58.94	1.67	222.82	942.32	
EPR-U+Th (4.9%)	68.11	1.12	175.84	22.78	0.55	59.79	328.20	
EPR-U+Th (5.6%)	76.15	1.29	231.02	26.72	0.76	95.29	431.22	
EPR-U+Th (6.o%)	80.27	1.38	252.20	28.23	0.85	111.35	474.27	
EPR-U+Th (7.0%)	89.68	1.59	300.22	31.38	1.06	153.19	577.12	

#### Minor Actinides 4-Batch Refueling Scheme

Minor Actinide produced (gm/TWeh)								
	Am-241	Am-242	Am-243	Cm-242	Cm-243	Cm-244	Total	
EPR-U (4.9%)	168.36	2.69	587.23	65.13	1.96	287.40	1112.76	
EPR-U+Th (4.9%)	72.38	1.19	212.49	25.56	0.66	78.51	390.79	
EPR-U+Th (5.6%)	79.23	1.34	275.40	29.34	0.89	123.45	509.65	
EPR-U+Th (6.0%)	82.83	1.42	299.52	30.78	0.99	143.95	559.48	
EPR-U+Th (7.0%)	90.95	1.60	353.21	33.69	1.21	196.39	677.04	

Economy of Fuel : Initial Core EPR-U (4.9%) and EPR-U+Th (5.6%)

Full Core 4.9% enriched Uranium inventory = 183 T
Mined uranium Feed Requirement = 1686.5 T
(Feed Fraction = 0.71%, Tail Fraction = 0.2%)
Total SWU = 1578893
Energy requirement

3.87E+12 kWh (Gas Diffusion Method)
8.68E+10 kWh (Gas Centrifuge Method)

Full Core 19.75% enriched Uranium inventory = 51.98 T
Mined uranium Feed Requirement = 1992.56 T
(Feed Fraction = 0.71%, Tail Fraction = 0.2%)
Total SWU = 2347410
Energy requirement

•5.75E+12 kWh (Gas Diffusion Method)
•1.29E+11 kWh (Gas Centrifuge Method)

	EPR-U (4.9%)	EPR-U+Th (5.6%)
Mined uranium Feed Requirement	1686.5 T	1992.56 T
Total SWU	1578893	2347410
Energy requirement	8.68E+10 kWh	1.29E+11 kWh



# DHRUVA n\_Tof

Neutron time of flight experiments facilitate energy discrimination of neutrons from a pulsed source because of their spatial distribution along the flight path making energy dependent cross section measurement possible



# Chopper Design

What all we need to know? •Pulse width

•ToF

•Resolution

Transmission

•Slit Design



Radius (m.) = 0.3810000

Chopper Slit Widths (m.)=Inlet= 3.000001E-04 Outlet= 1.2700001E-02 Stator Slit Widths (m.)=Inlet= 3.000001E-04 Outlet= 8.0000004E-03 Flight Path (m.)= 10.38100

Table of Chopper Parameters for Different Rotation for given Radius, Slit Width s and Flight Path length

Time of Flight (n\_ToF) and Neutron velocity (Vn) isfor neutron of cutoff energy for given Path Length and Rotationalspeed. Parameters for Different energy are in next table

Time in micro second velocity in m/s energy in eV

W(RPM)_	_E1 Cut(eV.)	v1cut(m/s)_	_Pls Width_	_T next P	_n_T0F	_E2Cut(eV)	v2cut(m/s)
1000.0	0.006732	1468.72	518.8	6981.2	7068.1	0.007	1486.998
2000.0	0.026927	2937.43	259.4	3490.6	3534.0	0.028	2973.996
3000.0	0.060586	4406.15	172.9	2327.1	2356.0	0.062	4460.994
4000.0	0.107709	5874.87	129.7	1745.3	1767.0	0.110	5947.992
5000.0	0.168296	7343.59	103.8	1396.2	1413.6	0.173	7434.990

E(eV)\_\_V(m/s)\_\_TOF(mic.S)\_V Low(m/s)\_V high (m/s)\_dV (m/s)\_\_dE(eV)\_\_dE/E (Reso.)\_\_Lamda

0.025 2186.97 4746.76 2186.74 2187.20 4.6069E-01 1.0533E-05 4.2131E-04 1.8088E+00 1.000 13831.59 750.53 13822.38 13840.81 1.8429E+01 2.6647E-03 2.6647E-03 2.8600E-01 5.000 30928.38 335.65 30882.38 30974.52 9.2146E+01 2.9794E-02 5.9587E-03 1.2790E-01 10.000 43739.34 237.34 43647.39 43831.68 1.8429E+02 8.4267E-02 8.4267E-03 9.0441E-02 15.000 53569.53 193.79 53431.67 53708.11 2.7644E+02 1.5481E-01 1.0321E-02 7.3845E-02 20.000 61856.76 167.82 61673.02 62041.60 3.6859E+02 2.3835E-01 1.1917E-02 6.3952E-02 25.000 69157.96 150.11 68928.36 69389.09 4.6073E+02 3.3310E-01 1.3324E-02 5.7200E-02 30.000 75758.75 137.03 75483.32 76036.20 5.5288E+02 4.3788E-01 1.4596E-02 5.2216E-02 35.000 81828.80 126.86 81507.56 82152.59 6.4503E+02 5.5179E-01 1.5765E-02 4.8343E-02 Slit Design



Chopper disk slit let pass neutrons of acceptable range

# **Fusion-Fission hybrid**

#### Option for Sustainable Energy source

#### **Nuclear Fission**

Criticality safety
MA
LLFP
Closed end FC cost
Proliferation issues

**Nuclear Fusion** 

- Source or Sink?
- Very small heat deposition
- Activation issues
- First wall design
- •Self sustainability?

#### Renewable

- Can share load but cannot bear load
- No safe/effective energy storage technology

**Fusion-Fission Hybrid** 

- Get rid of criticality safety issue
  Sub Lawson operation possible
- Neutrons can be utilized for fissile breeding and incineration of MA Transmutation of LLFP

## What geometry? -Co-axial Cylindrical

- Make provision for
  - Central solenoid coils
  - Toroidal field coils
  - Poloidal field coils
  - Fusion chamber
  - Tritium breeding
  - Cryostat (?)
  - Proper shielding for all these
- Now fission blanket can come



Can a fusion system drive a **sub-critical** fission system?

Widely accepted answer is Yes it can. ..... if it is not a very big (low neutron density) source.

In a particular FFH design (200 MW of 14.5 MeV neutron power) results in a surface source of ~**1.6E13 n/s.cm2** at the Inner wall of the fission blanket

A fission blanket design which offers an area of 2.7e5 cm2 to incoming neutron can intercept **4.4E+018** neutrons/second (~141 MW fission power)

A multiplication of ~21.5 can result in 3000MWt (~ 1000MWe) Fission Power

A source multiplication of ~28 can result in 3000MWt (~ 1000MWe) Fission Power and account for 30% leakage losses.

It does look promising but it is not good. Effective Multiplication (required) for hot operating condition will 0.964. Criticality safety issue will still be there

200 MW of 14.5 MeV neutron power ~8.6e18 n/s



## Flux Distribution in fission blanket region





# Thank You !