TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B45

The term “neutron generation time” is defined as the average time between...

A. neutron absorption and the resulting fission.

B. the production of a delayed neutron and subsequent neutron thermalization.

C. neutron absorption producing a fission and absorption or leakage of resultant neutrons.

D. neutron thermalization and subsequent neutron absorption.

ANSWER: C.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B174

Which one of the following is the definition of the term prompt neutron?

A. A high-energy neutron emitted from a neutron precursor, immediately after the fission process.

B. A neutron with an energy level greater than 0.1 MeV, emitted in less than 1.0×10^{-4} seconds following a nuclear fission.

C. A neutron emitted in less than 1.0×10^{-14} seconds following a nuclear fission.

D. A neutron emitted as a result of a gamma-neutron or alpha-neutron reaction.

ANSWER: C.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B245

Delayed neutrons are neutrons that...

A. have reached thermal equilibrium with the surrounding medium.

B. are expelled within 1.0×10^{-14} seconds of the fission event.

C. are expelled with the lowest average kinetic energy of all fission neutrons.

D. are responsible for the majority of U-235 fissions.

ANSWER: C.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B1146 (P1945)

Which one of the following types of neutrons has an average neutron generation lifetime of 12.5 seconds?

A. Prompt

B. Delayed

C. Fast

D. Thermal

ANSWER: B.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B1345 (P1445)

A neutron that is expelled 1.0×10^{-2} seconds after the associated fission event is a _____ neutron.

A. thermal

B. delayed

C. prompt

D. capture

ANSWER: B.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B1545 (P1145)

Which one of the following is a characteristic of a prompt neutron?

A. Expelled with an average kinetic energy of 0.5 MeV.

B. Usually emitted by the excited nucleus of a fission product.

C. Accounts for more than 99 percent of fission neutrons.

D. Released an average of 13 seconds after the fission event.

ANSWER: C.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B1845 (P545)

Delayed neutrons are fission neutrons that...

A. are released at the instant of fission.

B. are responsible for the majority of U-235 fissions.

C. have reached thermal equilibrium with the surrounding medium.

D. are expelled at a lower average kinetic energy than most other fission neutrons.

ANSWER: D.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B1945 (P845)

Delayed neutrons are neutrons that...

A. are responsible for the majority of U-235 fissions.

B. are expelled within 1.0×10^{-14} seconds of the fission event.

C. have reached thermal equilibrium with the surrounding medium.

D. are produced from the radioactive decay of certain fission fragments.

ANSWER: D.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B2046 (P2045)

In a comparison between a delayed neutron and a prompt neutron produced from the same fission event, the prompt neutron is more likely to... (Assume that both neutrons remain in the core.)

A. require a greater number of collisions to become a thermal neutron.

B. be captured by U-238 at a resonance energy peak between 1 eV and 1000 eV.

C. be expelled with a lower kinetic energy.

D. cause thermal fission of a U-235 nucleus.

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B2145 (P2145)

In a comparison between a delayed neutron and a prompt neutron produced from the same fission event, the prompt neutron is more likely to... (Assume that both neutrons remain in the core.)

A. cause fast fission of a U-238 nucleus.

B. be captured by a U-238 nucleus at a resonance energy between 1 eV and 1000 eV.

C. be captured by a Xe-135 nucleus.

D. cause thermal fission of a U-235 nucleus.

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B2245 (P5023)

In a comparison between a delayed neutron and a prompt neutron produced from the same fission event, the delayed neutron is more likely to... (Assume that each neutron remains in the core unless otherwise stated.)

A. cause fission of a U-238 nucleus.

B. travel to an adjacent fuel assembly.

C. be absorbed in a B-10 nucleus.

D. leak out of the core.

ANSWER: C.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B2345 (P2345)

A neutron that is released 1.0×10^{-10} seconds after the associated fission event is classified as a _____ fission neutron.

A. delayed

B. prompt

C. thermal

D. spontaneous

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B2545 (P2545)

In a comparison between a delayed neutron and a prompt neutron produced from the same fission event, the prompt neutron is more likely to...

A. be captured by a Xe-135 nucleus.

B. cause thermal fission of a U-235 nucleus.

C. leak out of the core while slowing down.

D. be captured by a U-238 nucleus at a resonance energy.

ANSWER: C.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B2645 (P2645)

In a comparison between a delayed neutron and a prompt neutron produced from the same fission event, the delayed neutron is more likely to...

A. leak out of the core.

B. cause fission of a U-238 nucleus.

C. become a thermal neutron.

D. cause fission of a Pu-240 nucleus.

ANSWER: C.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B2945 (P2945)

Which one of the following types of neutrons in a reactor is more likely to cause fission of a U-238 nucleus in the reactor fuel? (Assume that each type of neutron remains in the reactor until it interacts with a U-238 nucleus.)

A. A thermal neutron.

B. A prompt fission neutron beginning to slow down.

C. A delayed fission neutron beginning to slow down.

D. A fission neutron at a U-238 resonance energy.

ANSWER: B.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B3145 (P2845)

During a brief time interval in a typical reactor operating steady-state near the beginning of a fuel cycle, 1.0×10^3 delayed neutrons were emitted.

Approximately how many prompt neutrons were emitted during this same time interval?

A. 1.5×10^5

B. 6.5×10^6

C. 1.5×10^7

D. 6.5×10^8

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B3345 (P2445)

In a comparison between a prompt neutron and a delayed neutron produced from the same fission event, the delayed neutron requires _____ collisions in the moderator to become thermal; and is _____ likely to cause fission of a U-238 nucleus. (Assume that both neutrons remain in the core.)

A. more; more

B. more; less

C. fewer; more

D. fewer; less

ANSWER: D.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B3545 (P3545)

During a brief time interval in a typical reactor operating steady-state at the beginning of a fuel cycle, 1.0×10^5 delayed neutrons were emitted.

Approximately how many prompt neutrons were emitted in the reactor during this same time interval?

A. 1.5×10^5

B. 6.5×10^6

C. 1.5×10^7

D. 6.5×10^8

ANSWER: C.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B4123 (P4123)

A neutron that appears 1.0×10^{-16} seconds after the associated fission event is classified as a _____ fission neutron.

A. delayed

B. prompt

C. thermal

D. spontaneous

ANSWER: B.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B4923 (P4923)

During a brief time interval in a typical reactor operating steady-state near the beginning of a fuel cycle, 4.25×10^5 delayed neutrons were produced.

Approximately how many prompt neutrons were produced in the reactor during this same time interval?

A. 1.5×10^6

B. 6.5×10^6

C. 1.5×10^7

D. 6.5×10^7

ANSWER: D.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B7123 (P7123)

Which one of the following is the process that produces the majority of delayed neutrons in an operating nuclear power plant reactor?

A. A thermal neutron is absorbed by a fuel nucleus. After a period of time, the nucleus fissions and releases a delayed neutron.

B. A thermal neutron is absorbed by a fuel nucleus. The fuel nucleus fissions. During the decay process of the fission products, a delayed neutron is emitted.

C. A fast neutron is absorbed by a fuel nucleus. After a period of time, the nucleus fissions and releases a delayed neutron.

D. A fast neutron is absorbed by a fuel nucleus. The fuel nucleus fissions. During the decay process of the fission products, a delayed neutron is emitted.

ANSWER: B.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B7523 (P7523)

During a brief time interval in a typical reactor operating steady-state near the beginning of a fuel cycle, 4.25×10^{10} prompt neutrons were produced.

Approximately how many delayed neutrons were produced in the reactor during this same time interval?

A. 2.8×10^{8}

B. 6.5×10^{8}

C. 2.8×10^{9}

D. 6.5×10^{9}

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.0/3.1]
QID: B7677 (P7677)

Which one of the following is the process that produces the majority of prompt neutrons in an operating nuclear power plant reactor?

A. A thermal neutron is absorbed by a fuel nucleus. Almost immediately, the nucleus fissions and emits one or more prompt neutrons.

B. A thermal neutron is absorbed by a fuel nucleus. Almost immediately, the fuel nucleus fissions and produces fission products. During the decay of the fission products, one or more prompt neutrons are emitted.

C. A fast neutron is absorbed by a fuel nucleus. Almost immediately, the nucleus fissions and emits one or more prompt neutrons.

D. A fast neutron is absorbed by a fuel nucleus. Almost immediately, the fuel nucleus fissions and produces fission products. During the decay of the fission products, one or more prompt neutrons are emitted.

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.03 [2.7/2.7]
QID: B345

A neutron that possesses the same kinetic energy as its surroundings is called a/an _____ neutron.

A. slow

B. intermediate

C. resonance

D. thermal

ANSWER: D.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.03 [2.7/2.7]
QID: B545

A neutron is "thermal" when...

A. its kinetic energy is in the 1 eV to 1,000 eV energy range.

B. it is in energy equilibrium with the moderating medium.

C. it is released from the fission of a U-235 atom.

D. its cross-section for absorption in the fuel undergoes a sudden decrease.

ANSWER: B.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.03 [2.7/2.7]
QID: B645

The kinetic energy of thermal neutrons in a reactor operating at full power is...

A. less than 0.1 eV.

B. between 1 and 10 eV.

C. between 100 and 1,000 eV.

D. greater than 1 MeV.

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.03 [2.7/2.7]
QID: B846

Which one of the following describes the energy level of a thermal neutron in a reactor operating at full power?

A. The kinetic energy of the neutron has decreased until it is in equilibrium with its surroundings.

B. The potential energy of the neutron has decreased to nearly zero as the neutron approaches equilibrium with its surroundings.

C. The kinetic energy of the neutron has decreased sufficiently to allow the neutron to be resonantly absorbed by U-238.

D. The potential energy of the neutron has decreased to a level that will allow the neutron to be absorbed by U-235.

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.03 [2.7/2.7]
QID: B945

Regarding a thermal neutron, the word "thermal" indicates that the neutron...

A. was expelled greater than 10^{-14} seconds after the fission event.

B. is a product of a thermal fission reaction.

C. was released by the decay of fission fragments.

D. is at the same energy level as the surrounding atoms.

ANSWER: D.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.03 [2.7/2.7]
QID: B2446

A thermal neutron exists at an energy _____ the epithermal range; and its cross section for absorption in U-235 _____ as the neutron energy decreases.

A. above; decreases

B. above; increases

C. below; decreases

D. below; increases

ANSWER: D.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.04 [3.2/3.2]
QID: B246

A fission neutron will typically lose the most energy when it interacts with a/an...

A. hydrogen atom in a water molecule.

B. oxygen atom in a water molecule.

C. helium atom in the fuel pin fill gas.

D. zirconium atom in the fuel clad.

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.04 [3.2/3.2]
QID: B445

Which one of the following conditions will increase the amount of neutron moderation in a reactor operating at 50 percent power?

A. Increasing moderator temperature

B. Reducing feedwater inlet temperature

C. Reducing reactor vessel pressure

D. Reducing reactor recirculation system flow rate

ANSWER: B.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.04 [3.2/3.2]
QID: B446

Neutron moderation refers to a decrease in neutron_____; primarily due to _____.

A. population; neutron absorption by the control rods

B. population; neutron leakage at the core boundary

C. energy; scattering reactions in the fuel pellets

D. energy; scattering reactions in the reactor coolant

ANSWER: D.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.04 [3.2/3.2]
QID: B745

During moderation of a fission neutron, the neutron is most susceptible to resonance absorption when it is a/an _____ neutron.

A. slow

B. fast

C. epithermal

D. thermal

ANSWER: C.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.04 [3.2/3.2]
QID: B1646

Which one of the following will decrease the ability of the coolant to moderate neutrons in a reactor operating at saturated conditions?

A. Decreasing coolant temperature.

B. Decreasing feedwater inlet temperature.

C. Decreasing reactor vessel pressure.

D. Increasing reactor recirculation system flow rate.

ANSWER: C.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.04 [3.2/3.2]
QID: B2746

A fast neutron will lose the greatest amount of energy during a scattering reaction in the moderator if it interacts with...

A. an oxygen nucleus.

B. a hydrogen nucleus.

C. a deuterium nucleus.

D. an electron orbiting a nucleus.

ANSWER: B.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.04 [3.2/3.2]
QID: B6623

Which one of the following accounts for the majority of energy transfer from a fission neutron while slowing down in a moderator?

A. Collisions with the nuclei in the moderator.

B. Collisions with the electrons in the moderator.

C. Interactions with the electric fields of the nuclei in the moderator.

D. Interactions with the electric fields of the electrons in the moderator.

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.04 [3.2/3.2]
QID: B7767 (P7767)

Which one of the following nuclei will cause the greater loss of kinetic energy from a 2.1 MeV fission neutron during a head-on collision? (Assume that each nucleus is stationary just prior to the collision and the neutron is elastically scattered in all cases.)

A. A helium-4 nucleus in the fuel rod fill gas.

B. An oxygen-16 nucleus in the reactor coolant.

C. A zirconium-90 nucleus in the fuel cladding.

D. A uranium-235 nucleus in a fuel pellet.

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.05 [2.4/2.6]
QID: B346

The best neutron moderator is _____ and is composed of _____ atoms.

A. dense; large

B. not dense; large

C. dense; small

D. not dense; small

ANSWER: C.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.05 [2.4/2.6]
QID: B1046

The ideal moderator has a _____ macroscopic absorption cross section for thermal neutrons and a _____ average logarithmic energy decrement.

A. large; small

B. large; large

C. small; small

D. small; large

ANSWER: D.

TOPIC: 292001
KNOWLEDGE: K1.05 [2.4/2.6]
QID: B5323

The ideal neutron moderator has a _____ microscopic scattering cross section for thermal neutrons and a _____ density.

A. small; low

B. small; high

C. large; low

D. large; high

ANSWER: D.