

Homework 2
MAE 118C

Problems 7, 9, 10, 13, 16, 17, 25, 27, 30, 40, 44 from Chapter 3, Lamarsh & Baratta

7.

A beam of neutrons is incident from the left on a target that extends from $x=0$ to $x=a$. Derive an expression for the probability that a neutron in the beam will have its first collision in the second half of the target that is in the region $a/2 < x < a$.

$$I(x) = I_0 \cdot e^{-\Sigma_t \cdot x}$$

$$p(x) dx = \Sigma_t \cdot e^{-\Sigma_t \cdot x} \cdot dx$$

$$p(x) = \int_{\frac{a}{2}}^a e^{-\Sigma_t \cdot x} dx \quad p(x) = \frac{-1}{\Sigma_t} \cdot \left(e^{-a \cdot \Sigma_t} - e^{-\frac{a \cdot \Sigma_t}{2}} \right)$$

9.

What is the probability that a neutron can move one mean free path without interacting in a medium?

$$p(x) dx = \Sigma_t \cdot e^{-\Sigma_t \cdot x} \cdot dx$$

$$p(x) = \Sigma_t \cdot \int_0^{\lambda} e^{-\Sigma_t \cdot x} dx$$

$$p = -1 \cdot (e^{-1} - e^0)$$

$$p = 1 - e^{-1} = .63$$

10.

collision density $F = I \cdot N \cdot \sigma_t$

collisions per second = $F \cdot A \cdot X$

$\sigma_a \gg \sigma_s$ so all collisions are absorbed

rate of neutrons absorbed in target = $\sigma_a \cdot \phi_0 \cdot N \cdot A \cdot X$

13.

$$\Sigma_a = \sum_i (N_i \cdot \sigma_i)$$

$$\Sigma_a = \sum_i \left(N_i \cdot \sigma_i \cdot \frac{N}{N} \right)$$

$$\Sigma_a = \sum_i (f_i \cdot \sigma_i \cdot N)$$

$$\Sigma_a = \sum_i (f_i \cdot \Sigma_{ai})$$

16. $eV := 1.602 \cdot 10^{-19} \cdot J$ $MeV := 10^6 \cdot eV$

$$\Gamma_n := 1.52 \cdot 10^{-3} eV \quad \Gamma_r := 6.67 \cdot eV \quad h := 6.626 \cdot 10^{-34} \cdot \frac{m^2 \cdot kg}{s}$$

$$\Gamma_\gamma := 26 \cdot 10^{-3} eV \quad \Gamma_T := \Gamma_n + \Gamma_\gamma$$

$$g_1 := 1 \quad \gamma_r := \frac{h \cdot c}{E_r} = 0.186 \cdot \mu m$$

$$N_1 := 200 \quad i := 0..N_1 \quad n := 0..N_1$$

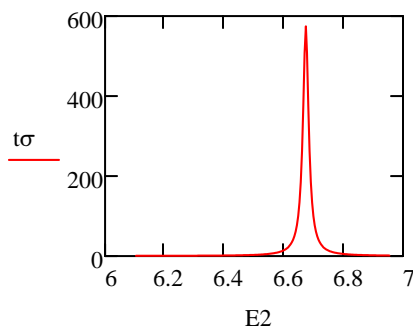
$$E_i := \frac{1 \cdot i \cdot eV}{N_1} + 6eV$$

$$\sigma_i := \frac{\gamma_r^2 \cdot g_1}{4 \cdot \pi} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_n \cdot \Gamma_\gamma}{(E_i - E_r)^2 + \frac{\Gamma_T^2}{4}}$$

Scaling factors so the plot looks right.

$$E2 := \frac{E}{2} \cdot 1.062 \cdot 10^{19} + 1J$$

$$t\sigma_i := \sigma_i \cdot 10^{18}$$



The vertical scale has been rescaled by 10^{18} and the horizontal scale is in the units of eV.

17.

$$\sigma_i = \frac{\gamma_r^2 \cdot g_1}{4 \cdot \pi} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_n \cdot \Gamma_\gamma}{(E_i - E_r)^2 + \frac{\Gamma_T^2}{4}}$$

Max at $E_i = E_r$

$$\sigma_{\max} = \frac{\gamma_r^2 \cdot g_1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_n \cdot \Gamma_\gamma}{\Gamma_T^2}$$

$$\frac{\sigma_{\max}}{2} = \frac{\gamma_r^2 \cdot g_1}{2 \cdot \pi} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_n \cdot \Gamma_\gamma}{\Gamma_T^2} = \frac{\gamma_r^2 \cdot g_1}{4 \cdot \pi} \cdot \frac{\Gamma_n \cdot \Gamma_\gamma}{(E_i - E_r)^2 + \frac{\Gamma_T^2}{4}}$$

Solve for $(E_i - E_r)$ which is half the width:

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma_T^2} = \frac{1}{(E_i - E_r)^2 + \frac{\Gamma_T^2}{4}}$$

$$(E_i - E_r)^2 = \frac{\Gamma_T^2}{2}$$

$$(E_i - E_r) = \frac{\Gamma_T}{2}$$

So the full width at half its height is equal to Γ_T Im using gamma sub T while the book just uses gamma.

25.

a) Head-on collision $\theta = \pi$

$$A_O := 16$$

$$E_{\text{initial}} := 2 \cdot \text{MeV}$$

$$k := 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \cdot \frac{\text{J}}{\text{K}}$$

$$\alpha := \left(\frac{A_O - 1}{A_O + 1} \right)^2 = 0.779$$

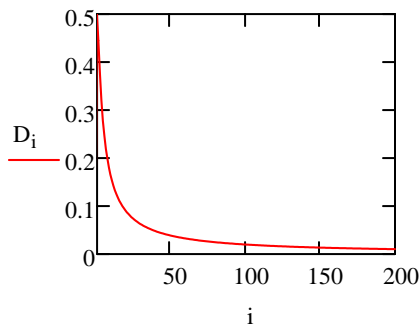
$$E_{\text{neutron}} := \alpha \cdot E_{\text{initial}} = 1.557 \cdot \text{MeV}$$

$$E_{\text{nucleus}} := E_{\text{initial}} - E_{\text{neutron}} = 0.443 \cdot \text{MeV}$$

- b) The binding energy per nucleon for O is larger than this number so it is very unlikely the nucleus will split.

27. $N_1 := 200 \quad i := 0..N_1 \quad M := 1..N_1$

$$D_1 = \frac{\Delta E}{E} \quad D_i := \frac{1}{2} \left[1 - \left(\frac{i-1}{i+1} \right)^2 \right]$$



$$E_g := 1.71 \text{ MeV}$$

30.

$$E_{\text{int}} := 2 \cdot \text{MeV} \quad A_H := 1 \quad \xi_H := 1$$

$$\ln \left(\frac{E_{\text{int}}}{E_g} \right) = 0.157$$

$$E_{\text{fin}} := 1 \text{ eV} \quad A_C := 12$$

$$\xi_C := 1 - \frac{(A_C - 1)^2}{2 \cdot A_C} \cdot \ln \left(\frac{A_C + 1}{A_C - 1} \right) = 0.158$$

a) $\ln \left(\frac{E_{\text{int}}}{E_{\text{fin}}} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{\xi_H} = 14.509$ collisions required for hydrogen moderator

b) $\ln \left(\frac{E_{\text{int}}}{E_{\text{fin}}} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{\xi_C} = 91.961$ collisions required for graphite moderator

40.

$$\text{Fission Rate} = 2.70 \cdot 10^{21} \cdot P = \frac{\text{fissions}}{\text{day}}$$

$$\text{Creations of } ^{131}\text{I per unit time} = R = 8.91 \cdot 10^{24} \cdot 0.029 = 2.58 \cdot 10^{23} \cdot \frac{\text{creations}}{\text{day}}$$

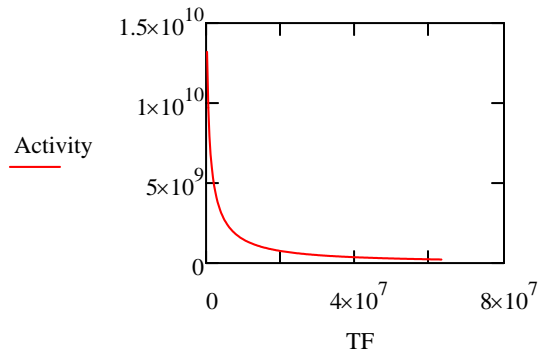
$$\alpha_{\text{equilibrium}} = R = 2.58 \cdot 10^{23} \cdot \frac{\text{decays}}{\text{day}} = 8.08 \cdot 10^7 \cdot \text{Ci}$$

44.

$$P := 250 \cdot \text{kW} \quad \text{TF}_i := \frac{(i + 1) \cdot 52 \cdot 2 \cdot 7}{N_1} \cdot \text{day}$$

$$T_1 := 52 \cdot 5 \cdot 8 \cdot \text{hr} = 86.667 \cdot \text{day}$$

$$\text{Activity}_i := 1.4 \cdot 10^6 \cdot P \cdot \left[\left(\text{TF}_i \right)^{-0.2} - \left(\text{TF}_i + T_1 \right)^{-0.2} \right]$$



Complete the derivations of equation 2.55 in Lamarsh&Barratt chapter 2

Show

$$\bar{E} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot k \cdot T$$

$$\bar{E} = \frac{1}{N} \cdot \int_0^{\infty} N(E) \cdot E \, dE$$

$$N(E) = \frac{2 \cdot \pi \cdot N}{(\pi \cdot k \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cdot E^{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot e^{-\frac{E}{kT}}$$

$$\bar{E} = \frac{1}{N} \cdot \int_0^{\infty} \frac{2 \cdot \pi \cdot N}{(\pi \cdot k \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cdot E^{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot e^{-\frac{E}{kT}} \, dE$$

$$\bar{E} = \frac{2 \cdot \pi}{(\pi \cdot k \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cdot \int_0^{\infty} E^{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot e^{-\frac{E}{kT}} \, dE$$

then from integral tables

$$\bar{E} = \frac{2 \cdot \pi}{(\pi \cdot k \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cdot \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{kT}\right)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \qquad \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi} \cdot \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\bar{E} = \frac{2 \cdot \pi}{(\pi \cdot k \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \cdot \frac{3}{4}}{\left(\frac{1}{kT}\right)^{\frac{5}{2}}}$$

$$\bar{E} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot kT$$

If the energy distribution function is given by equation 2.52 and a system has a temperature T, what fraction of the particles have a kinetic energy $E > kT$?

$$N(E) = \frac{2 \cdot \pi \cdot N}{(\pi \cdot k \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cdot E^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot e^{-\frac{E}{kT}}$$

$$P = \int_{kT}^{\infty} \frac{2 \cdot \pi}{(\pi \cdot k \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cdot E^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot e^{-\frac{E}{kT}} dE$$

$$P = \frac{2 \cdot \pi}{(\pi \cdot k \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \int_{kT}^{\infty} E^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot e^{-\frac{E}{kT}} dE$$

$$\text{Let } x = \frac{E}{kT} \quad dx = \frac{dE}{kT}$$

$$P = \int_1^{\infty} \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \cdot x^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot e^{-x} dx = 0.572$$

Full credit for setting up the integral, solving it is bonus.

Referring to equation 3.28 in L&B, show that the minimum value of kinetic energy for an elastically scattered neutron occurs when the scattering angle equals 180 degrees.

$$E_{\text{prime}} = \frac{E}{(A+1)^2} \cdot (\cos\theta + \sqrt{A^2 - \sin^2\theta})^2$$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\text{Prime}} = \frac{E \cdot 2}{(A+1)^2} \cdot (\cos\theta + \sqrt{A^2 - \sin^2\theta}) \cdot [-\sin\theta + 2 \cdot (A^2 - \sin^2\theta)] \cdot (-2 \cdot \sin\theta \cos\theta)$$

Maxima or minima where derivative equals zero which happens when theta = 0 or pi, theta = 0 is clearly a maxima, theta = pi is a minima.

$$\theta = \pi$$

$$E_{\text{prime}} = \frac{E}{(A+1)^2} \cdot (\cos\pi + \sqrt{A^2 - \sin^2\pi})^2$$

$$E_{\text{prime}} = \frac{E}{(A+1)^2} \cdot (-1 + \sqrt{A^2 - 0})^2$$

$$E_{\text{prime}} = \frac{E}{(A+1)^2} \cdot (-1 + A)^2$$

$$E_{\text{prime}} = \frac{E}{(A+1)^2} \cdot (A-1)^2$$

$$E_{\text{prime}} = \alpha \cdot E \quad \alpha \leq 1$$

Suppose that the macroscopic absorption cross section was a constant for a particular type of material. Find the total absorption rate, F, of such an absorber that is exposed to a thermal population of neutrons using equation 3.38.

$$F_a = \int n(E) \cdot \nu(E) \cdot \Sigma_a(E) dE$$

$$\nu(E) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}} \cdot E^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$F_a = \Sigma_a \cdot \int n(E) \cdot \nu(E) dE$$

$$n(E) = \frac{2 \cdot \pi \cdot N}{(\pi \cdot k \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cdot E^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot e^{-\frac{E}{kT}}$$

$$F_a = \Sigma_a \cdot \int \frac{2 \cdot \pi}{(\pi \cdot k \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cdot E^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot e^{\frac{-E}{kT}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}} \cdot E^{\frac{1}{2}} dE$$

$$F_a = \frac{2 \cdot \pi}{(\pi \cdot k \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}} \cdot \Sigma_a \cdot \int E \cdot e^{\frac{-E}{kT}} dE$$

$$F_a = \sqrt{\frac{8kT}{m\pi}} \cdot \Sigma_a$$