

Contents

ABBREVIATIONS	9
1. VR-1 REACTOR	11
2. NEUTRON DETECTION	15
2.1. Introduction	15
2.2. Neutron Gas Filled Detectors	15
2.3. Determination of the Relative Neutron Distribution	18
2.4. Non-linearity Correction Method for Neutron Detection System Working in Pulse Mode	22
2.5. Tasks and Questions	25
2.6. Safety Notes	26
2.7. Related Reading	26
3. DELAYED NEUTRONS DETECTION	27
3.1. Introduction	27
3.2. Prompt and Delayed Neutrons Generation	27
3.3. Delayed Neutron Groups and Their Properties	29
3.4. Influence of Delayed Neutrons on the Reactor Dynamics	31
3.5. Determination of Delayed Neutrons Properties	34
3.6. Determination of Fissionable Material Mass Using Delayed Neutron Counting Method	37
3.7. Limits of Detectability	38
3.8. Tasks and Questions	39
3.9. Related Reading	39
4. REACTOR DYNAMICS STUDY	41
4.1. Introduction	41
4.2. Zero Power Reactor Without Delayed Neutrons	41
4.3. Point Kinetics Theory with Delayed Neutrons	43
4.4. Reactivity Feedback and Reactor Dynamics	48
4.5. Study of reactor dynamics at the VR-1 Reactor	50

4.6.	Safety Notes	59
4.7.	Tasks and Questions	59
4.8.	Related Reading	60
5.	REACTIVITY MEASUREMENT	61
5.1.	Introduction	61
5.2.	Reactivity Definition	62
5.3.	Rod Drop and Source Jerk Methods	63
5.4.	Positive Period Method	66
5.5.	Source-Multiplication Method	68
5.6.	Tasks and Questions	73
5.7.	Related Reading	73
6.	CONTROL ROD CALIBRATION	75
6.1.	Introduction	75
6.2.	Types of Control Rods	75
6.3.	Integral and Differential Control Rod Worth	75
6.4.	Control Rod Calibration by Inverse Rate Method	77
6.5.	Tasks and Questions	79
6.6.	Related Reading	79
7.	DETERMINATION OF THE EFFECTIVE DELAYED NEUTRON FRACTION	81
7.1.	Introduction	81
7.2.	Theoretical background	81
7.3.	Determination of the effective delayed neutron fraction in the VR-1 reactor	85
7.4.	Data processing	86
7.5.	Tasks and Questions	88
7.6.	Related Reading	88
8.	CRITICAL EXPERIMENT - APPROACHING CRITICAL STATE	89
8.1.	Introduction	89
8.2.	Theory	89

8.3.	Approaching the critical state at the VR-1 reactor	92
8.4.	Safety Notes	93
8.5.	Tasks and Questions	93
8.6.	Related Reading	93
9.	DIGITAL SAFETY AND CONTROL SYSTEM OF THE VR-1 REACTOR	95
9.1.	Introduction	95
9.2.	Reactor I&C Basics	95
9.3.	VR-1 Reactor I&C Structure	98
9.4.	Safety Features of I&C	99
9.5.	I&C Safety Classification	100
9.6.	Reactor I&C Components	101
9.7.	Related reading	109
10.	START-UP AND OPERATION OF THE VR-1 REACTOR	111
10.1.	Introduction	111
10.2.	Reactor Regimes and Modes	111
10.3.	Safety and Warning Signals	112
10.4.	Use of HMI for Reactor Control	114
10.5.	Start-up of the Reactor	120
10.6.	Demonstration of Reactor Utilization	122
10.7.	Related reading	123
APPENDIX 1	EMK310 – EQUIPMENT FOR NEUTRON MEASUREMENT	125
APPENDIX 2	LCM310 – LOW CURRENT MONITOR	129
APPENDIX 3	DEVICE FOR DYNAMICS STUDY	131
APPENDIX 4	DEVICE FOR BUBBLE BOILING SIMULATION	137
APPENDIX 5	BOKIN USER GUIDE	141
REFERENCES		145