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O. Méplan, Jan Hajnrych, A. Bidaud, S. David, N. Capellan, B. Leniau, A. Nuttin, Frantisek Havluj, Radim Vocka, J. Wilson, et al.

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MURE 2 : SMURE, Serpent-MCNP Utility for Reactor Evolution

User Guide - Version 1



February 2017

Main Contributors :

- O. Méplan (alias PTO), LPSC Grenoble
- Jan Hajnyrch, Ecole des Mines de Nantes, and Warsaw University of Technology (Poland)
- A. Bidaud (alias le bid), LPSC Grenoble
- S. David (alias GTS), IPN Orsay
- N. Capellan (alias Nico la Star), LPSC Grenoble
- B. Leniau (alias BLG), Subatech Nantes
- A. Nuttin (alias Nut), LPSC Grenoble
- Frantisek Havluj, UJV, Czech Republic
- Radim Vocka, UJV, Czech Republic
- and in the past:
 - J. Wilson (alias JW), IPN Orsay
 - R. Chambon (alias Le caribou), LPSC, Grenoble, now back to Canada

- F. Michel-Sendis (alias FMS), IPN Orsay, Now @NEA
- F. Perdu (alias WEC), LPSC, Grenoble, Now @CEA
- L. Perrot, IPN Orsay

See also the [FAQ](#)

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Chapter 1

Introduction

In the following, we refer either to **MURE** (MCNP Utility for Reactor Evolution), **MURE 2** or **SMURE** (Serpent/MCNP Utility for Reactor Evolution)¹; they represent the same package (MURE is the version 1 of SMURE/MURE 2). The main aim of the **MURE**[1, 2]/**SMURE** package is to perform nuclear reactor time-evolution using the widely-used particle transport code **MCNP**[3] (a Monte Carlo code which is mostly written in FORTRAN) or **Serpent2**[4, 5]. Many depletion codes exist for determining time-dependent fuel composition and reaction rates. These codes are either based on solving Boltzman equation using deterministic methods or based on Monte-Carlo method for neutron transport. Among them, one has to cite MCNPX/CINDER 90[6], MONTEBURN[7], KENO/ORIGEN[8], MOCUP[9], MCB[10], VESTA/MORET[17, 18], TRIPOLI-4D[19], Serpent[4], ... which provide neutron transport and depletion capabilities. However, the way to control (or interact with) the evolution are either limited to specific procedure and/or difficult to implement.

In (*S*)**MURE**, due to the Object-oriented programming, any user can define his own way to interact with evolution. From an academic point of view, it is also good to have lots of M-C evolution codes to compare and benchmark them to understand physics approximations of each one. Moreover, **SMURE** provides a simple graphical interface to visualize the results. It also provides a way to couple the neutronics (with or without fuel burn-up) and thermohydraulics using either an open source simple code developed in **SMURE** (*BATH*, Basic Approach of Thermal Hydraulics) or a sub-channel 3D code, **COBRA-EN**[12, 13]. But **SMURE** can also be used just as an interface to **MCNP** or **Serpent** to build geometries (e.g. for neutronics experiments simulation).

SMURE is based on C++ objects allowing a great flexibility in the use². There are 4 main parts in this library:

1. Definition of the geometry, materials, neutron source, tallies, ...
2. Construction of the nuclear tree, the network of links between neighbouring nuclei via radioactive decays and nuclear reactions.
3. Evolution of some materials, by solving the corresponding Bateman's equations.
4. Thermal-hydraulics: it couples neutronics, thermal-hydraulics and, if needed, fuel evolution.

¹In french, a *mûre* is a blackberry; the blue fish with legs of the MURE's logo is the Darwin evolution symbol (a fish leaving the sea), with a small wrench that symbolize that MURE is a tool. The fish climb on a tree with blackberries; they represents the nuclei tree need for the evolution, each drupelet of the berries being the nucleons. The small serpent is of course link with the biblical tree of knowledge (but here for the neutronics knowledge) as well as the Serpent Monte-Carlo code used together with MCNP.

²Basic knowledge of C/C++ may help to understand MURE. Nevertheless, careful reading of examples is sufficient to understand and use the package. In appendix A, a very short introduction to C++ terminology is given in order to facilitate the use of the User Guide and examples.

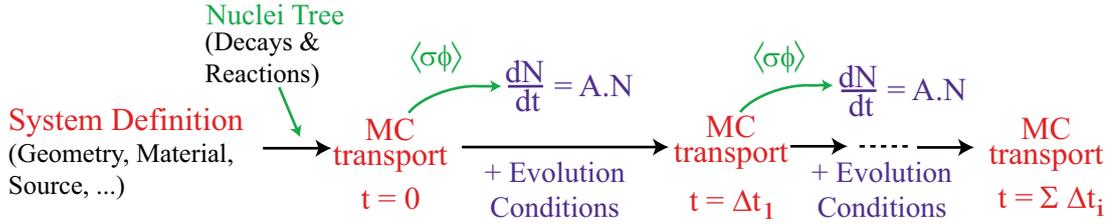


Figure 1.1: Principle of fuel evolution in MURE.

- Part 1 can be used independently of the 2 others; it allows “easy” generation of *Serpent*/*MCNP* input files by providing a set of classes for describing complex geometries. The ability to make quick global changes to reactor component dimensions and the ability to create large lattices of similar components are two important features that can be implemented by the C++ interface. It should be noted that some knowledge of *MCNP* or *Serpent* is very useful in understanding the geometry generation philosophy.
- Part 2 builds the specific nuclear tree from an initial material composition (list of nuclei). The tree of each “evolving”³ nucleus is created by following the links between neighbours via radioactive decay and/or reactions until a self-consistent set of linked nuclei is extracted. Nuclei with half-lives very much shorter than the evolution time steps, could be removed from the tree; mothers and daughters of these removed nuclei are re-linked in the correct way. Part 2 can also be used independently of the other two parts to process cross-sections for *MCNP*/*Serpent* at the desired temperature.
- Part 3 simulates the evolution of the fuel within a given reactor over a time period of up to several years, by successive steps of *Serpent*/*MCNP* calculation and numerical integration of Bateman’s equations. Each time the *MC* code is called, the reactor fuel composition will change due to the fission/capture/decay process occurring inside. Changes in geometry, temperature, external feeding or extraction during the evolution can also be taken into account. Obviously this part is not independent of the 2 others⁴ (see figure 1.1).
- Part 4 consists of coupling the Oak Ridge National Laboratory code **COBRA-EN** (**CO**olant **B**oiling in **R**od **A**rrays) with **MURE**. **COBRA** is a sub-channel code that allows steady-state and transient analysis of the coolant in rod arrays. The simulation of flow is based on a three or four partial differential equations : conservation of mass, energy and momentum vector for the water liquid/vapor mixture (optionally a fourth equation can be added which tracks the vapor mass separately). The heat transfer model is featured by a full boiling curve, comprising the basic heat transfer regimes : single phase forced convection, sub-cooled nucleate boiling, saturated nucleate boiling, transition and film boiling. Heat conduction in the fuel and the cladding is calculated using the balance equation.

The use of this package requires the following installation:

1. a C++ compiler (mandatory). *SMURE* is developed using *gcc* (all version between 2.96 and 6.3.1 are known to work perfectly).
2. **Serpent2**, **MCNP** or **MCNPX** (mandatory, available at the NEA DataBank & RSICC). These codes will be referred as “*MC*” in the following.

³For reactor physics, it is not generally necessary to take into account the evolution of every material (such as reflectors, vessels, ...).

⁴It is, nevertheless, relatively easy to make evolution of user defined *MCNP* file.

- (a) Nuclear data files process for *MCNP* (ACE format) *and/or* *NJOY* to process *ENDF* files into the ACE format (Nuclear data in ACE format are mandatory).
 - (b) **Serpent 1 can not be used with MURE because it does not support unions.**
3. **COBRA-EN** for the thermal-hydraulic part (available the atNEA DataBank & RSICC)
 4. The **ROOT** graphical tools developed at CERN (<http://root.cern.ch>) is necessary if user wants to use the post treatment GUI tools. In the GUI, radiotoxicity of fuel/waste can be calculated and plotted if the **LAPACK** library is installed (Linear Algebra PACKage, see <http://www.netlib.org/lapack/index.html> or standard LINUX repositories (Redhat, Fedora, Ubuntu, ...) for pre-installed versions). **If you are using ROOT-5 or before, you should modify the beginning of the Makefile of MureGui.**

At present, *SMURE* has only been compiled and tested on LINUX/UNIX platforms.

1.1 Installation

TO BE NOTICED: for some evident reasons⁵, upgrading for MURE version 1 to MURE version 2 breaks some backward compatibility. Nevertheless, for “old” MURE user changes will be minors ; we have try to keep the essential of MURE, but given more flexibility. A chapter is devoted to the migration of old MURE users.

1.1.1 Compilation

- Uncompress the archive file where you want to install MURE source.

```
tar zxvf MURE_XX.tgz
```

or

```
gunzip MURE_XX.tgz ; tar xvf MURE_XX.tar
```

This will create the “*data*”, “*documentation*”, “*examples*”, “*gui*”, “*lib*”, “*source*” and “*utils*” directories in the *MURE* directory.

- Configure and Compile MURE

– A bash script is given in the *MURE* directory

```
./install.sh -h : full flag option
```

* main options are

- **-MCNP-version=Num** where *Num* is the **MCNP** version (or its ACE data format) ; *Num* can be either 4 (for MCNP 4 (MCNPX <2.5) compiled with 32 bit data) or 5 (for MCNP ≥5 (or MCNPX ≥2.5) compiled with 64 bit data. MCNP Version 5 is the default.
- **-ENSDF-path=path** where *path* is a valid directory path (absolute or relative) to **ENSDF** main directory files ; these optional data can be obtained at <http://ie.lbl.gov/databases/ensdfserve.html>, download the "Complete ENSDF database" and unzip it in `/path_to_ENSDF_data/ENSDF`.

⁵MURE v1 was designed only for MCNP. It was closely linked to MCNP. The first phase of MURE v2 has been to decouple MURE from MCNP ; the second phase was to couple MURE to a MC code in a “generic” way”. This has caused the break in backward compatibility.

- * Quick install (with the default MCNP 5 version for binary ACE data format 64 bits)

```
./install.sh
```

This script will create a *config* directory that contains *Makefile.config* and *config.hxx* necessary for all *Makefiles* and *MureHeader.hxx* respectively. Then, it compiles “external” libraries (*ValErr* and *mctal*) and the *MUREpkg* library and put them in “*MURE/lib*”. These libraries are shared libraries.

- Set the LD_LIBRARY_PATH (or SHLIB_PATH on HP-UX or LIBPATH on AIX)

in tcsh/csh

```
setenv LD_LIBRARY_PATH "${LD_LIBRARY_PATH}:/path_to_MURE/MURE/lib"
```

or in bash/sh

```
export LD_LIBRARY_PATH="${LD_LIBRARY_PATH}:/path_to_MURE/MURE/lib"
```

1.1.2 Remarks on MCNP/makxsf compilation

In *MURE*, the access to ACE *MCNP* cross-sections is done for different purposes (find if cross-sections exist, find the total cross-sections in order to write in *MC* input file only “significant nucleus” (see 5.1.6), use of “multi-group flux” evolution method (see item 5 of section 7.3), ...). The use of binary ACE files improves the reading time (and also the disk space necessary to store the cross-sections). In C/C++, reading/writing in unformatted files (binary) is done by reading records of 1 byte long. But some FORTRAN compilers such as IFOPT of *Intel* read/write in unformatted file with 4 bytes records. Thus if you want to use such a compiler for MCNP/makxsf you have to force the record length in unformatted files to be 1 byte. In the Intel *IFORT* compiler this is done via the *-assume byterecl* flag of *ifort* command line (see the *System.gcf* file of the *config* dir of MCNP distribution where *System* is either Linux, AIX, ...).

1.1.3 Remarks on MURE with Serpent2

At the present time, *Serpent2* seems only to handle ASCII file for ACE cross-section. Thus one has to use this ASCII data if one use *Serpent*. Conversion from the MCNP *xmdir* to Serpent *xpdata* is done either with the code provided with Serpent, either directly in *MURE* if one use the *MURE:SetAutoXSDIR()* method.

1.1.4 Building files for evolution

In this section, it is explained how to build the 2 necessary files *BaseSummary.dat* and *AvailableReactionChart.dat* (these files are not provided in the distribution). One supposes that a user has a standard *MCNP5* ENDF B6 base provided with MCNP5. The provided *xmdir* file and the nuclear data are located in */path_2_ace_files* directory (Verify that in the *xmdir* the absolute path to data files is present).

- Then go to *MURE/utls/datadir*.
- Compile the **ExtractXsdir.cxx** file (compilation line is at the end of the file).
- Then run it with “**ExtractXsdir**”
 - Answer *ENDFB* to the first question

- 6.8 to the second one
- /path_2_ace_files/xsdir to the third one
- and STD to the last one.

- After a while the **BaseSummary.dat** is created and contains the following

```

1   1   0 ENDFB  6.1  293.62  .24c  STD   1001.24c 0.999170 /path_2_ace_files/la150n2 0 2 1 10106 4096 512 2.5301E-08
...
1   1   0 ENDFB  6.1  293.62  .66c  STD   1001.66c 0.999170 /path_2_ace_files/endlf66a2 0 2 1 10128 4096 512 2.5301E-08
...
92  235 0 ENDFB  6.1  293.62  .66c  STD  92235.66c 233.025000 /path_2_ace_files/endlf66c2 0 2 6899 722105 4096 512 2.5301E-08 ptable
...

```

- Then compile (compilation line at the end of the file) and run **CheckReaction**
- copy **AvailableReactionChart.dat** and **BaseSummary.dat** in *MURE/data*
- Now you can run any examples of MURE.

1.1.5 Running some examples

The directory *MURE/examples* contains commented examples on how to use *MURE*. When this is possible, the same example exist for both *MCNP* and *Serpent2*; as it will be emphasis in the following, the differences in these 2 examples is generally limited to 3 or 4 lines to change, whatever the complexity of the system. A **README** file suggests an order to execute examples. **For each example, a compilation line is put at the end of the file.** Here, 2 examples are described ; other examples are described in this User Guide (see for example, § 4.8.1, 4.8.2, 4.8.3 and 4.5).

In *examples* directory, one finds static examples (i.e. without burn-up calculations) and their outputs⁶ (in *MURE/examples/Output/* directory). To run some of these examples you must provide an *MCNP xsdir* file, whereas for other ones user has to build the **BaseSummary.dat** and **AvailableReactionChart.dat** files. The “evolution” examples are in *MURE/examples/Evolution/* directory. Again you will find an “Output” directory that contains directory output of the examples (also gzip). In these result directories, one has suppressed the *MCNP* “o” and “m” files but left the *MCNP* input files as well as the *MURE* results files.

1.1.5.1 basic MURE possibilities

This example (*MURE/examples/Putin_example.cxx* and *MURE/examples/Putin_example_serpent.cxx*) shows basic geometrical methods.

- The 2nd and 3rd line of these files says that the resulting files will be either *MCNP* or *Serpent* input.
- Then a **Connector** plugin is built ; this connector links *MURE* object with *Serpent* or *MCNP* ones. **It is MANDATORY.**
- One first builds 2 **Materials** (*Graphite & Fuel*).
- Then pure geometrical **Shapes** are defined: in this example, one uses only *Sphere*.

⁶Output files are mainly *MCNP/Serpent* input files named *inp.example_name*. All output files have been compressed ; so you have to make a “**gunzip ***” inside *MURE/examples/Output*.

- The “put in” operator (“>>”) is used to put 3 spheres like Russian dolls: *Smallest* and *Small* are called **Inside Shapes** of *Medium*.
- Then, this *Medium* “matrioshka” is duplicated with the *Shape::Clone()* method: the *Medium2* clone is an exact copy of *Medium*: it contains a small sphere which contains a smaller one.
- *Medium* and *Medium2* shapes are then translated (with their inside shapes) and then put in the *Big* sphere.
- Then, **Cells** are built (*Serpent/MCNP* cells): it associates a **Shape** with a **Material**. The exterior (*outBig* cell) is void and one has to specify a zero neutron importance because neutrons will not be followed (default importance is 1). For *Serpent*, this will correspond to the “outside” material. One has to build all Cells for all Shapes:
 - for *Medium*, *Small* and *Smallest* shapes, it is easy because they have been explicitly declared
 - *Medium2* being a clone of *Medium*, it has also 2 inside shapes: thus one has to define cells for these inside shapes: one access to *Shape::GetOriginalInsideShape()* ; by convention, the most inner inside shape has the index 0, then the next one has the index 1, and so on.
- And finally, the *Serpent/MCNP* file is built ; name is “**minp**” for MCNP input file and “**sinp**” for *Serpent* input file.

1.1.5.2 Fuel Evolution in a Sphere

The aim of this example⁷ of evolution (*MURE/examples/Evolution/EvolvingSphere.cxx* and *MURE/examples/Evolution/Evo*) is to show basic burn-up calculation in *MURE*. The example describes a 50cm radius sphere with a inner sphere (R=30cm) of metal uranium, a middle ring (thickness=10cm) of UOx fuel and an external water reflector (thickness=10cm). The water will not evolve with time ; the thermal power of this “reactor” is 100 MW and it is kept constant for the whole evolution performed from $t = 0$ to $t = 3$ years.

- After defining the *Connector*⁸, the file begins with some general *MURE* settings: DATADIR, Temperature precision, Fission Product selection, ...
- Then 3 *Materials* are built: the water will not evolve whereas the metal and oxide uranium are evolving *Materials*.
- Then *Shapes* are defined (the 3 spheres and the exterior of the “reactor”).
- The *Cell* part associates *Shapes* and *Materials*.
- Then one defines an isotropic, mono-energetic neutron source (500 n/batch) to run in critical mode (KCODE) with 30 active cycles, 10 inactive cycles and an estimated initial $k_{eff} = 1$.
- The directory for the evolution is set (where *MC* files and evolution results will be written).
- One important function concerning reactor evolution is to be called here : it is the thermal power at which evolution is to be simulated. This value is set using the *gMURE->SetPower()* where the argument must be in watts. (c.f. Steady-state Power Normalization in § D.1).

⁷See comments in the file.

⁸The “r” files of *MCNP*, in the *MCNP* version, will be removed (they are in general not useful and very large).

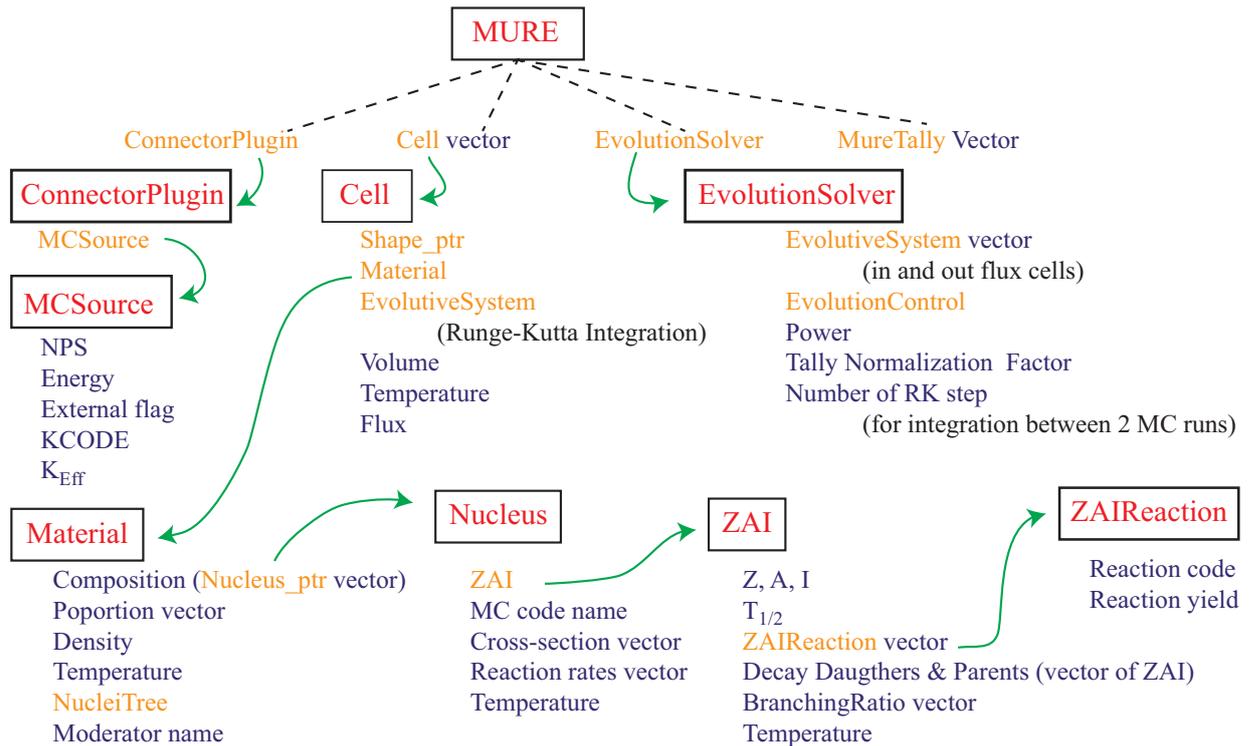


Figure 1.2: Main class structure of *MURE*. Main attributes are shown in blue. A Shape_ptr is only a typedef of Reference_ptr for a Shape. Idem for Nucleus_ptr.

NOTE: For other applications or if the user already knows which neutron flux he wants to simulate, no power needs to be entered here but a tally normalization factor must then be specified. This **Tally Normalization Factor** can be set directly through the *gMURE->SetTallyNormalizationFactor()* method.

- Then one defines the 6 time steps at which a *MC* run is done, in a vector. The first *MC* step is always at time $t=0$; if this step is not defined, it will be insert in the vector. The evolution is performed up to the end but the last *MC* run is just the antepenultimate time step. This is important to know because this means the last values for k_{eff} , fluxes, cross-sections are not *MCNP* values: for k_{eff} the last value considered is the antepenultimate one.

1.2 *MURE* Package structure

The distribution package contains:

- The **PDF** version of this user guide.
- A complete **useful description of each class** (headers)

The general structure of main *MURE*'s classes is shown in figure 1.2.

As it can be seen in figure 1.2, the link between classes is assured by the main class *MURE*. The Shape_ptr and Nucleus_ptr of the figure are smart pointer on Shape and Nucleus objects. The figure 1.3 shows the Shape inheritance graph using the 2 name spaces associated to the MC transport code used (*MCNP* or *Serpent*).

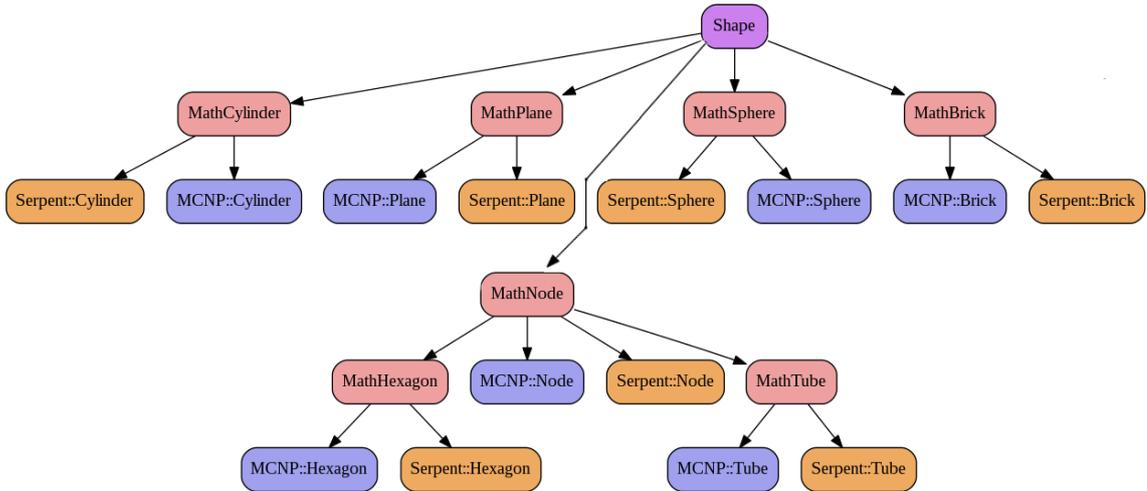


Figure 1.3: Shape inheritance scheme using with the 2 namespaces.

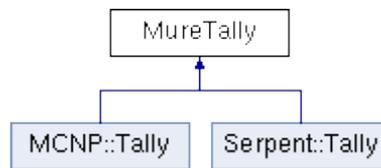


Figure 1.4: MureTally class.

These name spaces are very important (see §3.1) ; one must use 1 (**and only one**) of them in any MURE input file. Results from *MC* run (Serpent detectors or MCNP tallies) are stored in the MureTally class which contains MureBin (cell, surface, ... bins) and TallyMutiplicator for reaction rates (see fig. 1.4 and 1.5).

1.3 MURE class

The *MURE* class is some kind of super class that handles connections between all the other classes. It controls all flows: *MC* input file writing, nuclei trees building, evolution, ...

A global pointer (*gMURE*) on this class is defined to allow interaction between classes. For example, when the geometry has been defined, as well as the *MC* source, tallies (or detectors),, the *MC* file will be written using

```
gMURE->BuildMCFile("myfile");
```

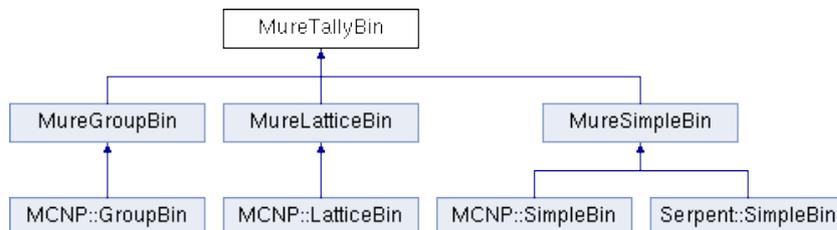


Figure 1.5: MureTallyBin class.

this will generate an *MC* input file called “*myfile*” (if no argument is given to the previous method, the default input file name is “*inp*”).

The name of *MC* exec command is given by

```
gMURE->SetMCExec("mcpn");  
  
or  
gMURE->SetMCExec("sss2");
```

By default, **MCNP::Connector** set the the default value for the *MC* executable to “*mcpn5*” and **Serpent::Connector** set it to “*sss2*”.

MCNP Only: You can specify the particle running mode by either *gMURE->SetModeN()* (the default) to run *MCNP* with neutron transport, *gMURE->SetModeNP()* to transport neutrons and photons and so on. This is not take into account in the Serpent version.

Many methods exist and are grouped in sections to help the users ; therefore examination of *MURE* class header is **strongly** recommended (see **Doxygen class description**).

1.4 MURE basic files

Different files are used or built in *MURE*. It is important to know what these files are to understand the behavior of *MURE*.

1.4.1 Files of “MURE/documentation”

This directory contains the most updated user guide and class documentations.

- the “*MURE/documentation/pdf*” directory contains the PDF files
- the “*MURE/documentation/html*” directory contains the HTML files, in particular an HTML version of the user guide (which is a translation of the PDF one). HTML links are easier to use as well as copy/paste for examples. Moreover the “*MURE/documentation/html/doxygen*” directory contains the automatic Doxygen description of classes.

1.4.2 Files in “MURE/data”

In the root *MURE* tree, there is a very important directory called “**data**” (known in *MURE* as the *DATADIR*) ; this directory can be changed by using either the environment variable **DATADIR**, or using the *MURE::SetDATADIR()* method⁹. In this directory, you will find:

- **chart.JEF3T**: this (old) file contains, for each nucleus, the half-life time and the decay modes. It is a “hand-made” file from nuclear data book and JEFF 2.0 library, from “*Nuclides and Isotopes*”, [14] and “*Table of Isotopes*”, [15].
- **chart.jeff3.1.1**: this file contains, for each nucleus, the half-life time and the decay modes. It is the updated version of the previous one. Data are extracted from NUBASE-2003, ENSDF, LNHB, UKHEDD-2.x and UKADD-6.x (see [16]).

⁹One can use either, *gMURE->SetDATADIR(path)* or the environment variable **DATADIR** (*setenv DATADIR path* in csh and *export DATADIR=path* in bash). **Note that if you are using *gMURE->SetDATADIR(path)* you must call it before any Material definition.**

- **Mass.dat** and **NaturalIsotopeMass.dat** contain respectively the atomic mass for all nuclei and some natural compositions.
- **FPavailable.dat** and **FPyield.bin** are fission product yield files: the first one is an ASCII file containing the Z,A of fissiles, and the address of the fission yield (for the available energies) in the binary *FPyield.bin* file. These files are built from ENDF/B6 file. Source programs that build these files are in *MURE/utills/fp*. These files are part of the MURE package and have been built for 32 and 64 bits computers ; if you want to use other FP yield, you need to rebuild these files using *MURE/utills/fp/GenerateFPYield.cxx* (the compilation line is at the end of the file).
- **xmdirprequ.dat** is the “header” of a general *xmdir* (from the top to the “*directory*” keyword). It is used in the automatic XSDIR construction for *MCNP*.
- **BaseSummary.dat** is the file that contains all available nuclei, their temperature and the corresponding *xmdir* line.
It is build from *MURE/utills/datadir/ExtractTree.cxx* and/or *MURE/utills/datadir/ExtractXsdir.cxx*. The first one extracts information from a directory tree and the second from an existing *xmdir*. This file is the only way for *MURE* to use automatic MC nucleus code. The *xpdata* file for *Serpent* is also built from this file, using a conversion technique close to the perl script of *Serpent*.
- **AvailableReactionChart.dat** contains, for all nuclei of the **chart.jeff3.1.1** (or the old **chart.JEF3T**) and **BaseSummary.dat**, whether or not reactions are available for *MC* codes. The aim of this file is to speed up the NucleiTree construction. It is built from *MURE/utills/datadir/CheckReaction.cxx*.
- **IsomerProduction.dat** contains necessary information to allow the (n, γ) isomer productions for some important nuclei such as ^{241}Am , ^{109}Ag , ...

NOTE: When you add new nucleus or temperature in nuclear cross-sections files, these modifications will be taken into account ONLY if BaseSummary.dat and AvailableReactionChart.dat have been updated. You also need to remove the local ReactionList directory (see after § 1.4.6).

1.4.3 Files of “MURE/utills”

This directory contains codes that can be very helpful to users.

- “*endf2ace*” directory contains a small interface to **NJOY** (see documentation in the directory)
- “*fp*” contains a utility to rebuild **FPyield.bin** and **FPavailable.dat** of *MURE/data* directory. Main file is *GenerateFPYield.cxx* which extracts from an ASCII ENDF file (containing the FP yields) the fission product yield in a format used by MURE.
- “*datadir*” contains programs that allows users to build or complete the *BaseSummary.dat* and *AvailableReactionChart.dat*.
 - *ExtractXsdir.cxx* allows users to build/complete a *BaseSummary.dat* from an existing *MCNP* *xmdir*.
 - *ExtractTree.cxx* allows users to build/complete a *BaseSummary.dat* from a directory tree of cross-sections ; this tree can be built by the “*endf2ace*” utility. The form of the directory tree is

```
base_name/base_version/Z/AAA/Isomeric_state/temperature/bin/
```

where, for example, `base_name=ENDFB`, `base_version=6.8`, `Z=92`, `AAA=235`, `Isomeric_state=0` (for ground state), `temperature=600` (in K). In the directory “*bin*” one find the binary cross-section of the desired nucleus in the file “*ace*” and an `xmdir` line for this nucleus in a file named “*dir*” (for example the line looks like ‘`92235.10c 233.025000 ace 0 2 1 621851 4096 512 5.1704E-08 ptable`’)

In both cases, the compilation line is at the end of the source code.

NOTE: If an existing *BaseSummary.dat* is already present in *MURE/utils/datadir*, this file is completed ; otherwise it is created.

- *CheckReaction.cxx* must be used after building/modifying the *BaseSummary.dat* file in order to build the *AvailableReactionChart.dat*.

NOTE: After running *ExtractXmdir/ExtractTree* and *CheckReaction*, you have to copy the *BaseSummary.dat* and *AvailableReactionChart.dat* in your *MURE/data*.

1.4.4 Graphical User Interface “MURE/gui”

The GUI of MURE is located in the *MURE/gui* directory. The executable name is “**MureGui**” and it reads the result of a *MURE* or *Dragon* evolution. To use it, user must install *ROOT* (free download at <https://root.cern.ch>). Normally, the *install.sh* script of *MURE*, defined all available library in the *MURE/config* directory. If the Lapack package is needed, (see <http://www.netlib.org/lapack/index.html>)¹⁰. The compilation is obtained by a “make” in the *MURE/gui* directory. Using *MureGui* without argument gives a short description of the code used (see also § 8.3).

1.4.5 MURE Source files “MURE/source/include” and “MURE/source/src”

The MURE source files are located in “*MURE/source/include*” for the header files (*.hxx*) and in “*MURE/source/src*” for implementation (*.cxx*). When user is modifying the MURE source, he has to recompile the MURE package (by a “make” in *MURE/source/src*). In *MURE/source/external*, one finds 2 auxiliary libraries, **ValErr** and **Mctal** that are used in MURE. The *ValErr* defines a class to handle numbers and their errors, and *Mctal* is dedicated to reading/writing MCNP “m” files.

In any program using MURE, you have to include at least:

```
#include >MureHeaders.hxx>
```

and either one of the following

```
#include <MureMCNPHeaders.hxx>
```

or

```
#include <MureSerpentHeaders.hxx>
```

If needed on can add also :

```
#include <libmctal/TMTally.hxx>
```

```
#include <libmctal/TMComment.hxx>
```

```
#include <libmctal/TMctal.hxx>
```

¹⁰Most of LINUX distributions provide LAPACK package ; a ‘locate liblapack.so’ shows if it is already installed ; if only liblapack.so.version_number is found, you either have to install the “lapack-devel” package or to make a ‘ln -s /path_to_lapacklib/liblapack.so.version liblapack.so’ in the *MURE/lib* directory.

1.4.6 Other files

Each time a new evolution is run, a directory **ReactionList** is locally built (if it is not already there) with the available reaction of user's nuclear data base (one binary file for each Z). A list of suppressed reactions for some of the nuclei (because they are lower than a given threshold) is also written in **ReactionList/SuppressReaction.dat**. The aim of these files is to save time when **using the same nuclear data base AND the same reaction threshold, life-time cutting** and so on. Thus if you modify one of these, **DO NOT FORGET** to remove the **ReactionList** directory.

Chapter 2

What's new in MURE

1. November 2016:

- (a) Add Z revolution axis Torus for MCNP and Serpent ; see *MathZTorus* , *MCNPZTorus* and *SerpentZTorus* classes.
- (b) Update “chart.jeff3T” file that contains periods and decay modes for all the chart ; this file (JEFF 2 lib.) is kept unchanged, but a new file has been created “chart.jeff3.1.1” (from ref. [16]); it is the new default.

2. November 2015:

- (a) *ReactorMesh* and *ReactorChannel* class have been removed ; a new *GenericReactorAssembly*, and its concrete versions *MCNP::ReactorAssembly* and *Serpent::ReactorAssembly* replace the *ReactorMesh* class. It is a complete rewriting of that class, but the spirit is kept (see § 9.1 and 9.3.2). It adds lot of new possibilities (add duct to an assembly, filling core with a *ReactorAssembly*, ...).
- (b) *COBRA* class is renamed *COBRA_EN* and rewritten ; again backward compatibility is broken (it does not inherit from *GenericReactorAssembly*) but the spirit is not changed.

3. October 2015:

- (a) Correct a bug when reading the “standard” xsdir of MCNP5 ; isomeric cross-section libraries are now in accordance with the MCNP5 documentation.

4. July 2015:

- **New MURE version 2.0 (SMURE)**. This is a major release of **MURE**. It couples now both **MCNP** & **Serpent**. Due to technical, philosophical difficulty and also to beauty in programming (dry codes), backward compatibility is broken. But the changes to user input files between MURE v1 and MURE v2 are small. See 3.

5. November 2014:

- (a) Add the possibility to use standard MCNP tallies ^{238}U and multi-group tallies for other nuclei (see 5).

6. October 2014:

- (a) Add an optional equilibrium treatment for ^{135}Xe (see 7.7)
7. April 2013:
- (a) Version of base and isomeric states (metastable and ground state) for ^{242}Am in *BaseSummary.dat* file for standard library (distributed with **MCNP** or available@NEA) are now more conform to the reality ; you have to regenerate your *BaseSummary.dat/AvailableReaction.dat* files with the exec of *MURE/utills/datadir*. **DON'T FORGET TO REMOVE YOUR *ReactionList* DIRECTORY IN ORDER TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THESE MODIFICATION.**
 - (b) **BasePriority** has been debug and it seems to work as expected...
8. March 2013:
- (a) Add a generalization of the *MURE::SetMode()* method to allow any type of particle transport (mainly for **MCNPX**)
 - (b) Cell importance may have different value for each transported particles (by successive call to *Cell::AddParticle* method)
 - (c) extend the *MCNPSource* possibilities (particle distributions are now allowed for **MCNPX**)
9. July 2012:
- (a) Generalization of isomer production by (n, γ) for special cases (such as ^{241}Am , ^{109}Ag , ...), and bug correction in (^{242}Cm , ^{242}Pu) production, see 6.1.6.
 - (b) Improve **MurGui** Spectrum radiotoxicity tab
 - (c) Allow to plot **neutron balance** in the “*Reaction Rate*” tab.
10. June 2012:
- (a) Add functions in **MureGui** (see MureGui’s Radiotoxicity tab)
 - i. Nuclei extraction is now possible after a given cooling time.
 - ii. γ, β, α and neutron spectra for evolving materials can be computed.
 - (b) New **MURE** install procedure (more simple, more robust): **any fresh install or update NEED to run first the install.sh script** (require bash shell).
 - (c) Add the possibility to used multi-threading (*OpenMP*) during the evolution and for updating multigroup $\sigma\phi$ when the *gcc* version support this option (see *INSTALL* procedure and *install.sh* script and section 7.2.2.2).
 - (d) Add some new kind of *MCNPSource* (see section 5.2.3)
 - (e) Add fluence to dose conversion for tallies
11. May 2011:
- (a) Add a new class *GammaSpectrum* class (section 8.4.2)

- (b) New option of *MureGui* : use the “*radiotoxicity tab*” of *MureGui* on a dumped Material created with *MURE* (see 8.3.6 and “*MURE/example/GammaSpectrumExample.cxx*”)
 - (c) New methods *MCNPSource::SetAXS* and *MCNPSource::SetVec* allows user to define collimated sources.
 - (d) In *Tally::Tally(int type,const char *particle)* : if $type < 0$, it’s change the Tally units.
 - i. For example *Tally *t=new Tally(-4,”P”)* define a tally in *MeV/cm²* rather than *Particles/cm²* .
 - (e) A new method *MURE::SetModeP()* can be used to allow only the photon transport.
12. July 2009:
- (a) Improve the English in User Guide: **many thanks to Erica Agostinho for this painful work.**
 - (b) Implementation of *PseudoMaterial*: in order to take into account temperature effects, one can process the nuclear data at the desired temperature (using *NJOY*) or use an interpolation between 2 already existing temperatures ; this later method is used in the *PseudoMaterial* techniques.
13. Avril 2009: **MURE is available at NEA DataBank**
14. January 2009:
- (a) Improve reading time of *BaseSummary.dat* file : it is now greatly recommended that this file is ordered by Z,A,I (this is the case if it is generated by *ExtractedXsdir.cxx* and *ExtractTree.cxx*).
 - (b) Rewrite long parts of the documentation (*User Guide* and *HTML* class description)
 - (c) Modify examples directory: it now contains documented examples and output.
15. November 2008: Improve radiotoxicity post treatment in *MureGui*.
16. September 2008: Implement “multigroup” calculation for reaction rates: a very narrow energy binning for flux calculation is put in each *MCNP* run ; then reaction rates are obtained by reading *ACE MCNP* files after each *MCNP* run. The result of such method saves a considerable amount of CPU time for *MCNP* (at least a factor 30) with only a low percentage of discrepancy (~ 1 to 3%) in result compared to the standard calculation (reaction rates are tallied in *MCNP*).
17. April 2008:
- (a) implementation of Predictor-Corrector method in the evolution
 - (b) possibility to read ASCII nuclear data file (ACE format): this avoids problems due to binary compatibility (size of real (float or double?), little or big endian, ...). BUT it is much longer to (1) build the *ReactionList* directory and (2) run a *MCNP*.
18. December 2007:
- (a) **Disable the $\sigma\phi$ extrapolation by default. It has been shown, but not really understood, that this treatment introduces a larger dispersion in the result, after N identical evolutions, than doing nothing (no $\sigma\phi$ extrapolation).**
 - (b) Modify the evolution using a *MCNP* User Input geometry file:

- i. “like but” cells can be used (but not evolved)
- ii. “MCNP Transformation” cards can be used
- iii. the 3rd block of the MCNP file is read and copied except the materials (that must be defined in the *MURE* file). Thus the source as well as all other cards of this block can be used without defining them in the *MURE* file (this is also true for user defined tallies).

19. October 2007:

- (a) Switch from *ccdoc* to *Doxygen* for class documentation
- (b) **Change completely the MURE directory trees**
- (c) **NON BACKWARD COMPATIBILITY**
 - i. Material definition has changed: now only 2 constructors must be used:
 - *Material()*: for standard material (you have to specify density, ... with the Set methods)
 - *Material(int)*: for using materials from an *MCNP* input file geometry.
 - ii. THE COPY CONSTRUCTOR HAS NOT TO BE CALL: CALL only the ***Material::Copy()***.
 - iii. The *Material::Mix* has been modified (number of arguments, units required). see *Material.hxx*
 - iv. The *Material::AddNucleus* has been modified (number of arguments). By default the proportion units are "kpMOL" (i.e. molar proportion). But the unit must be specified if you use a moderator (MT card of MCNP).
 - v. The proportion units (both for Density and Proportion) must be used for any *Material::GetProportion()* and *Material::GetDensity()* methods
 - for Proportion the only valid units are: *kpMOL*(molar prop), *kpMASS* (mass prop), *kpATCM3* (at/cm3), *kpATBCM*(at/barn.cm)
 - for density the only valid units are: *kdGCM3* (g/cm3), *kdATCM3* (at/cm3), *kdATBCM* (at/barn.cm)
 - vi. A new material has been defined : *ControlMaterial* (public of *Material*). This class is used for Poison, Fissile or other control of reactivity (e.g. *poison.cxx* in *MURE/examples*)
 - vii. All **Print()** methods now return a **string** instead of a void: to use them: **cout<<Mat->Print()<<endl;** for example.
 - viii. *EvolutionControl* class has been cleaned (as well as *MURE* class). If you want to use special control you have to write your own derivative class. Examples using *PoisonControl*, *FissileControl* & *HNControl* (but Adrien you have to rewrite them and look carefully at *TMSR.cxx* in *MURE/examples*.) and Rod control are defined in *source/src*. You can used them as they are or defined your own using these examples.
- (d) Almost all *cout/cerr* have been removed from classes; used instead *LOG_DEBUG*, *LOG_INFO*, ... ; *LOG_INFO* is now independent of *LogLevelMessage* ; it is always printed. If *MURE::SetMessageLevel* is set to *LOG_LEVEL_DEBUG*, all *LOG_DEBUG* are printed. But if *MURE::SetSilentDebug* is used, only the *LOG_DEBUG*s of methods where a "*int DODEBUG=1*" is inserted are printed. Thus, using *LOG_DEBUG*, avoids to comment all "*cout*" when no debugging is desired.
- (e) ALL EXAMPLES HAVE BEEN UPDATED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THESE MODIFICATIONS: please READ THEM!!!!!!!!!!!!

20. September 2007:

- (a) Correct an important bug in evolution using an *MCNP* User Input geometry file: number of Materials were not correct (Thanks to Jan Frybort).

21. Juin 2007:

- (a) **Rename the MURE header file Shapes.hxx into MureHeaders.hxx : this is more logical...but you have to change your MURE files....**
- (b) Add a new class *EvolutionWrapper* to simplify and extend *EvolutionControl* capabilities
- (c) Suppress the writing of *BDATA_xxx* and *DATA_xxx* ; now, by default, only *BDATA_xxx* are written. This can be changed using the *MURE::SetWriteBinaryData()* and *MURE::SetWriteASCIIData()* methods.
- (d) One can start an evolution from a given step : suppose that the evolution stops at step i ; an evolution can be started from the step $i+1$ using *MURE::Evolution(T,i+1)*. Warning: it is probably not correct for *OutCoreEvolutiveSystemVector*...you must do the evolution from the first step as before.

Chapter 3

From MURE to SMURE : Choosing the Monte-Carlo Transport Code

As already said, coupling *MURE* with a other *MC* code had 2 consequences:

- decouple *MURE* from *MCNP*, which was a big job because they were closely linked.
- couple *MURE* to a *MC* code (*Serpent* or *MCNP*), which is also a big job because the *Serpent* an *MCNP* philosophy are sometimes completely different.

The aim is with a minor change to input file, it will be able to generate output for *MCNP* or for *Serpent 2*. In this chapter, it is explained first how to switch from an *MCNP* input file to a *Serpent* input file (or vice-versa) and then how to migrate from *MURE 1.0* to *SMURE (MURE 2.0)*.

3.1 Switching from MCNP to Serpent in a MURE input file

SMURE has been designed to make the change from *Serpent* input to *MCNP* input (or vice-versa) as simple as possible. Of course, *Serpent* is not *MCNP* and conversely. Thus each of these *MC* codes have their own possibility, not implemented in the other. Moreover, the maturity of the *MURE* coupling is much greater (few years of work for *MCNP* versus 4 months of work for *Serpent*). Thus this section deals only with things that are possible with both *MC* codes and has been implemented in *MURE*. Nevertheless, it seems to us that is it enough to make a standard reactor study (including evolution).

3.1.1 Principle of the implementation

In *MURE*, the choice of *MC* output is performed via a **ConnectorPlugin** ; this class has 2 sibling, a **MCNP::Connector** and a **Serpent::Connector** (see Fig. 3.1) ; thus the main trick is the use of a specific namespace (*MCNP* or *Serpent*). Geometrical shapes are defined in *MURE* as **MathShape** (i.e. a “pure” mathematical Shape, e.g. a **MathSphere**). Then, in each namespace, are defined concrete (or real) shapes that essentially provide a print method derivating from the **MathShapes** (see Fig. 1.3). For example, a **Serpent::Sphere** and **MCNP::Sphere** are daughters of **MathSphere** and implement a **Serpent::Sphere::Print()** or a **MCNP::Sphere::Print()** that will produce respectively the right output for the corresponding MC code. The same trick applies for tallies (or detectors in *Serpent*).

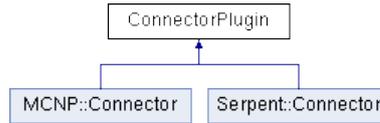


Figure 3.1: The ConnectorPlugin class.

Thus, using a **Connector**, a **Sphere**, ... in *MURE* is just “resolved” by the namespace (that should not be forgotten). In order it works without problems, appropriate header files must be included. First header file, is the “pure” *MURE* header : *MureHeaders.hxx* which includes all pure *MURE* classes. It is thus included in all *MURE* input files, whatever will be the output. The second header file is linked to the output ; *MureMCNPHeaders.hxx* and *MureSerpentHeaders.hxx* includes all classes that couple *MURE* with *MCNP* and *Serpent* respectively. They include particularly **MCNP::Connector** (**Serpent::Connector**), **MCNP::Sphere** (**Serpent::Sphere**), ...

Of course connectors, because of some profound differences between *MCNP* & *Serpent*, have specific methods existing only in one type of connector. The same applies also for the **Tally** class which is more complete in *MCNP*. The last case is for particle sources which are very different from *MCNP* to *Serpent*. This is why, sibling of **MCSource** class keep the *MC* code prefix in there name (**MCNPSource** and **SerpentSource**) in order that the user don’t forget its specificity. An other cause of problems, switching from one code to the other is the **MURE::AddSpecialCard()** which allows to use specific *Serpent* or *MCNP* cards that have not been implemented in *MURE*. Thus a carefull check of **Connector**, **MCSource** and **MURE::AddSpecialCard()** should be done when switching from one code to the other.

3.1.2 A example

Switching from one *MC* code to the other can be performed very fast : edit the file (let say a *MCNP* version) and replace all “**MCNP**” string by “**Serpent**” string. This should change 4 occurrences: the header, the namespace and the source name (See example of Tab. 3.1). Then remove specific command for *MCNP* and add specific command for *Serpent*. To illustrate this, let us consider the “evolving sphere” example. The “red” parts of Table 3.1 correspond to a “replace all” “*MCNP*” string by “*Serpent*” string. The magenta words are “output” directory name, that here, are different to keep a trace of both evolution. The blue lines is an example of a pure specific method of one code (here *MCNP*) of one of the 3 classes **Connector**, (**MCNP/Serpent**)**Source** or **Tally**. And then, in green, a **MURE::AddSpecialCard()** that in this case is only for *Serpent*.

As Shown on this example, the number of line to modify is very limited ; moreover, dealing withe a more complex case, this number will not increase significantly (probably less than a factor 2).

3.2 How migrate my old MURE V1.x file to the MURE V2.x file

3.2.1 What has definitely change

In this part, only the coupling with *MCNP* is considered (as in the old *MURE* v1). Main changes are due to

- Header file has change (row 1 of the Tab. 3.2) ; one must use a namespace *MCNP*.
- One has to define a **ConnectorPlugin** of type **MCNP::Connector** (see row 1 of Tab. 3.2) just after the main declaration. The connector is responsible for all pure *MCNP* methods. Row 3 of Tab. 3.2 give an ex-

Table 3.1: Switching from MCNP (left) to Serpent (right) output files.

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
#include <MureHeaders.hxx>
#include <MureMCNPHeaders.hxx>
using namespace MCNP;
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    Connector *plugin=new Connector();
    //remove the MCNP ".r" file after each evo step
    plugin->SetRemove_r_files();
    gMURE->SetConnectorPlugin(plugin);
    //
    // Nuclei tree construction & nuclear data library
    //
    gMURE->SetMessageLevel(3);
    gMURE->SetDATADIR("../data/");
    gMURE->SetAutoXSDIR();
    gMURE->SetShortestHalfLife(3600);
    gMURE->GetTemperatureMap()->SetDeltaTPrecision(1500);
    gMURE->KeepOnlyFissionProductSelection();
    //
    // Materials
    //
    Material *H2O= new Material();
    H2O->SetDensity(1.); // density in g/cm3
    H2O->AddNucleus(1, 1, 0, 2.); // H of H2O
    H2O->AddNucleus(8, 16, 0, 1.); // O of H2O

    Material *Uranium_metal= new Material();
    Uranium_metal->SetDensity(19.);
    Uranium_metal->SetTemperature(600.); //Temperature in K
    Uranium_metal->AddNucleus(92,235,0.20); //U-235 in mol
    Uranium_metal->AddNucleus(92,238,0.80); //U-238 in mol
    Uranium_metal->SetEvolution(); //this is an evolving material

    Material *UOx= new Material();
    UOx->SetDensity(10.2);
    UOx->AddNucleus(92,235,0, 0.05); // 5%(in mol) of U-235
    UOx->AddNucleus(92,238,0, 0.95); // 95%(in mol) of U-238
    UOx->AddNucleus(8,16,0, 2.); // 2 O for 1 UO2
    UOx->SetEvolution(); //this is an evolving material
    //
    // Shapes
    //
    Shape_ptr Shape_MySphere(new Sphere(0.5));
    Shape_ptr Shape_Exterior(!Shape_MySphere);
    Shape_ptr Shape_MySphere2(new Sphere(0.4));
    Shape_ptr Shape_MySphere3(new Sphere(0.3));

    Shape_MySphere3>>Shape_MySphere2>>Shape_MySphere;
    //
    // Cells
    //
    Cell* CellSphere = new Cell(Shape_MySphere , H2O);

    Cell* CellSphere2 = new Cell(Shape_MySphere2, UOx);

    Cell* CellSphere3 = new Cell(Shape_MySphere3, Uranium_metal);

    Cell* CellExterior = new Cell(Shape_Exterior, 0, 0);
    //
    // General Cards
    //
    //define the neutron source (KCODE)
    MCNPSource *s=new MCNPSource(500);
    s->SetKcode(60,30,1.);
    s->SetEnergy(2e6);
    gMURE->SetSource(s);

    // MC option
    gMURE->SetComment("Evolution of a Sphere");
    gMURE->SetMCInputFileName("inp");
    gMURE->SetMCRunDirectory("sphere", "keep");

    //
    // Evolution
    //
    gMURE->SetPower(1e8); //give the total power: 100 MW

    double TEnd=3*365.25*3600.*24;

    vector<double> T;
    int Nt=6;
    double dt=TEnd/Nt;

    for(int i=0; i<Nt;i++)
        T.push_back(i*dt);

    gMURE->Evolution(T);
}
```

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
#include <MureHeaders.hxx>
#include <MureSerpentHeaders.hxx>
using namespace Serpent;
int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    Connector *plugin=new Connector();

    gMURE->SetConnectorPlugin(plugin);
    //
    // Nuclei tree construction & nuclear data library
    //
    gMURE->SetMessageLevel(3);
    gMURE->SetDATADIR("../data/");
    gMURE->SetAutoXSDIR();
    gMURE->SetShortestHalfLife(3600);
    gMURE->GetTemperatureMap()->SetDeltaTPrecision(1500);
    gMURE->KeepOnlyFissionProductSelection();
    //
    // Materials
    //
    Material *H2O= new Material();
    H2O->SetDensity(1.); // density in g/cm3
    H2O->AddNucleus(1, 1, 0, 2.); // H of H2O
    H2O->AddNucleus(8, 16, 0, 1.); // O of H2O

    Material *Uranium_metal= new Material();
    Uranium_metal->SetDensity(19.);
    Uranium_metal->SetTemperature(600.); //Temperature in K
    Uranium_metal->AddNucleus(92,235,0.20); //U-235 in mol
    Uranium_metal->AddNucleus(92,238,0.80); //U-238 in mol
    Uranium_metal->SetEvolution(); //this is an evolving material

    Material *UOx= new Material();
    UOx->SetDensity(10.2);
    UOx->AddNucleus(92,235,0, 0.05); // 5%(in mol) of U-235
    UOx->AddNucleus(92,238,0, 0.95); // 95%(in mol) of U-238
    UOx->AddNucleus(8,16,0, 2.); // 2 O for 1 UO2
    UOx->SetEvolution(); //this is an evolving material
    //
    // Shapes
    //
    Shape_ptr Shape_MySphere(new Sphere(0.5));
    Shape_ptr Shape_Exterior(!Shape_MySphere);
    Shape_ptr Shape_MySphere2(new Sphere(0.4));
    Shape_ptr Shape_MySphere3(new Sphere(0.3));

    Shape_MySphere3>>Shape_MySphere2>>Shape_MySphere;
    //
    // Cells
    //
    Cell* CellSphere = new Cell(Shape_MySphere , H2O);

    Cell* CellSphere2 = new Cell(Shape_MySphere2, UOx);

    Cell* CellSphere3 = new Cell(Shape_MySphere3, Uranium_metal);

    Cell* CellExterior = new Cell(Shape_Exterior, 0, 0);
    //
    // General Cards
    //
    //define the neutron source (KCODE)
    SerpentSource *s=new SerpentSource(500);
    s->SetKcode(60,30,1.);
    s->SetEnergy(2e6);
    gMURE->SetSource(s);

    // MC option
    gMURE->SetComment("Evolution of a Sphere");
    gMURE->SetMCInputFileName("inp");
    gMURE->SetMCRunDirectory("sphere_serpent", "keep");
    gMURE->AddSpecialCard("plot 3 2000 2000");

    //
    // Evolution
    //
    gMURE->SetPower(1e8); //give the total power: 100 MW

    double TEnd=3*365.25*3600.*24;

    vector<double> T;
    int Nt=6;
    double dt=TEnd/Nt;

    for(int i=0; i<Nt;i++)
        T.push_back(i*dt);

    gMURE->Evolution(T);
}
```

Table 3.2: Summary of changes from MURE to SMURE.

MURE version 1	MURE version 2 : SMURE
<code>#include <MureHeaders.hxx></code>	<code>#include "MureHeaders.hxx" #include "MureMCNPHeaders.hxx" using namespace MCNP;</code>
<code>int main(...) {</code>	<code>int main(...) { Connector *plugin=new Connector(); gMURE->SetConnectorPlugin(plugin);</code>
<code>gMURE->SetRemove_r_files();</code>	<code>plugin->SetRemove_r_files();</code>
<code>gMURE->BuildMCNPFile();</code>	<code>gMURE->BuildMCFile();</code>
<code>gMURE->SetMCNPInputFileName("inp");</code>	<code>gMURE->SetMCInputFileName("inp");</code>
<code>gMURE->SetMCNPRunDirectory("sphere","keep")</code>	<code>gMURE->SetMCRunDirectory("sphere","keep")</code>
<code>gMURE->SetMCNPExec("mcp5");</code>	<code>gMURE->SetMCExec("mcp5");</code>
<code>gMURE->SetWriteASCIIIData();</code>	<code>gMURE->GetEvolutionSolver()->SetWriteASCIIIData();</code>
<code>gMURE->SetWriteBinaryData();</code>	<code>gMURE->GetEvolutionSolver()->SetWriteBinaryData();</code>
<code>gMURE->UseMultiGroupTallies();</code>	<code>gMURE->GetEvolutionSolver()->UseMultiGroupTallies();</code>
<code>gMURE->SetUseNewDBCN();</code>	<code>gMURE->SetUseNewRandomSeed();</code>
<code>Cell *MyLattice=new Cell(AGenerator); MyLattice->Lattice(1,-rx,rx,-ry,ry,-rz,rz);</code>	<code>LatticeCell *MyLattice=new LatticeCell(AGenerator); MyLattice->SetLatticeRange(-rx,rx,-ry,ry,-rz,rz);</code>

ample for removing *MCNP* “r” files; but the same apply for *SetPRDMP()*, *SetMCNP4B()* which are now in **MCNP::Connector** and no more in **MURE**.

- Method names of **MURE** containing “**MCNP**” are (in general) now named with “**MC**” ; examples are given from row 4 to 7.
- Evolution is no more in **MURE** class but in the **EvolutionSolver** class ; example of change are given in row 8 to 10. Almost all **MURE** evolution related method are now in **EvolutionSolver** excepted *MURE;SetPower()* and *MURE::Evolution()*.
- Lattice implementation has changed :
 - Replace the declaration from a simple **Cell** to a **LatticeCell** (row 11)
 - the *Cell::Lattice()* is replaced by *LatticeCell::SetLatticeRange()* and the lattice type is no more necessary (see row 12)
- ReactorChannel & ReactorMesh classes: the first one is, since a while, obsolete ; it is removed in MURE V2.0. The second one has been deeply rewritten and rename as ReactorAssembly but the spirit has not change ; most of work (and thus time spen to migrate from MURE V1.x to MURE V2.0 will be in the change of this ReactorMesh to ReactorAssembly class but we think that the improvements of ReactorAssembly justify this “extra-work”. For more details on the ReactorAssembly class see section 9.3.2.

The time spent to change a very big file from version 1 to version 2 is around 5 minutes maximum.

3.2.2 What is still existing but can be done in a more elegant way

In most of real case fro reactor physics, one has to use lattice, fuel pin, ... A new improvement of *MURE version 2* is to implement a **PinCell** which in fact copy the elegant *Serpent’s* pin definition. To illustrate the advantage of such

a **PinCell** class, the main part of the lattice example in the “old” way is presented and then rewrite using **PinCell**. For sake of clarity, only *Shape* and *Cell* part are presented. All sizes have been defined, as well as 3 Materials : H2O, Iron, and UOx. As shown on Tab. 3.3, the use of **PinCell** makes the code shorter (the 8 blue lines of the shape declaration have been suppressed), and easier to define and to read. The **PinCell** declaration make cell part slightly longer (4 ”magenta” lines versus 6 “green” lines). To be noticed, the use of a **PinCell** without a layer allows to define the whole universe. And a last comment on the *FillLattice* methods : in the first version, a *Shape* is used as argument (red variables on the left) where as in the new version this is a **PinCell** (red variables on the right).

Thus user is strongly encourage to use these PinCells.

Table 3.3: Comparison of a lattice in the Old Mure version1 (left) and with the PinCell of SMURE(right).

<pre> // //Shapes // //the Vessel : a full Tube Shape_ptr Vessel(new Tube(VesselH/2, VesselR)); //the Exterior Shape_ptr Exterior(!Vessel); //the lattice generator Shape_ptr LatticeGenerator(new Hexagon(HexaH/2,HexaSide)); LatticeGenerator->SetUniverse(); // put the lattice generator in the vessel LatticeGenerator>>Vessel; // a small cylinder that will contain UOx Shape_ptr Pin(new Cylinder(PinR)); Pin->SetUniverse(); // a bigger one that define fuel clad Shape_ptr Clad(new Cylinder(CladR)); Clad->SetUniverse(Pin->GetUniverse()); //Outside of the CladShape_ptr OutClad=!Clad; Pin>>Clad; //the whole space that is use near the vessel border Shape_ptr Whole(new Node(-1)); Whole->SetUniverse(); // //Cells // Cell *pin=new Cell(Pin,UOx); Cell *clad=new Cell(Clad,Iron); Cell *surrounding_clad=new Cell(OutClad,H2O); Cell *whole=new Cell(Whole,H2O); //Exterior of the vessel: void and importance=0 Cell *exterior=new Cell(Exterior,0,0); Cell *vessel=new Cell(Vessel); vessel->SetComment("The vessel"); //the lattice LatticeCell *Pavage=new LatticeCell(LatticeGenerator); Pavage->SetLatticeRange(-range,range,-range,range); for(int i=-range; i<=range; i++) for(int j=-range; j<=range; j++) { int pos[3]={i,j,0}; double xt = HexaSide*sqrt(3.) * (i + j*0.5) ; double yt = 1.5 * HexaSide * j; double X[2]={xt,yt}; if(IsHexagonInTube(X,LatticeGenerator,0.9)) Pavage->FillLattice(Pin,pos); else Pavage->FillLattice(Whole,pos); } </pre>	<pre> // //Shapes // //the Vessel : a full Tube Shape_ptr Vessel(new Tube(VesselH/2, VesselR)); //the Exterior Shape_ptr Exterior(!Vessel); //the lattice generator Shape_ptr LatticeGenerator(new Hexagon(HexaH/2,HexaSide)); LatticeGenerator->SetUniverse(); // put the lattice generator in the vessel LatticeGenerator>>Vessel; // //Cells // PinCell *pin=new PinCell; pin->AddLayer(UOx,PinR); //layer 0 = fuel pin->AddLayer(Iron,CladR); //layer 1 = the clad pin->SetSurroundingMaterial(H2O); //surrounding the clad PinCell *whole=new PinCell; whole->SetSurroundingMaterial(H2O); //no layer in that //Exterior of the vessel: void and importance=0 Cell *exterior=new Cell(Exterior,0,0); Cell *vessel=new Cell(Vessel); vessel->SetComment("The vessel"); //the lattice LatticeCell *Pavage=new LatticeCell(LatticeGenerator); Pavage->SetLatticeRange(-range,range,-range,range); for(int i=-range; i<=range; i++) for(int j=-range; j<=range; j++) { int pos[3]={i,j,0}; double xt = HexaSide*sqrt(3.) * (i + j*0.5) ; double yt = 1.5 * HexaSide * j; double X[2]={xt,yt}; if(IsHexagonInTube(X,LatticeGenerator,0.9)) Pavage->FillLattice(pin,pos); else Pavage->FillLattice(whole,pos); } </pre>
---	---

Chapter 4

Geometry Definition

4.1 Introduction

C++ logic for building geometries is slightly different for the *MCNP* or *Serpent* one ; therefore, each time a new geometry is built you should check it with *MCNP/Serpent* before using it.

There are two base classes to build a geometry: *Shape* and *Cell*. *Shape* describes only geometrical shapes, and *Cell* corresponds to an *MC* code cell (i.e., it has a material, importance, etc.).

Shape objects correspond to simple geometrical shapes (sphere, plane, ...) as well as more complex ones resulting from the intersection and/or union of simple shapes (Intersections/unions are defined by the *Node* class). A *Node* is a “tree” of intersections/unions of Shapes. For fast calculations, a node tree has to be as simple as possible. Special methods are available for simplifying the node trees which can (in general) determine whether or not a Shape is disjointed (or included) of (in) another Shape (see example in figures B.1 to B.4 in Appendix B).

These simplifications may result in the deletion of some Shapes. But, because one must not destroy a Shape in a Node if that Shape belongs to another Node, a special way to handle Shape creation/destruction has been implemented (via *Reference_ptr*, which is a C++ smart pointer).

In conclusion : the user must only use *Shape_ptr* (a “reference Shape”) and not *Shape*. *Shape_ptr* is a pointer to *Shape* with *Reference_ptr*. In that way, the *Shape_ptr* will be destructed only if it is no longer referenced, otherwise, its “deletion” leads to a decrement of the number of references.

4.2 Definition of geometrical shapes

- There are 4 available base **Shapes** :
 - *Plane* (infinite),
 - *Cylinder* (infinite),
 - *Sphere*,
 - *Brick* (finite or infinite)
- Then one can define **Node** (unions or intersections of Shapes) with 2 already defined Nodes:

- *Tube*
- *Hexagon* (finite or infinite)

A *Brick* is a rectangular parallelepiped (and can be infinite). A *Tube* is a finite cylinder with an optional inner radius that defines a “tube”. *Hexagons* can have finite or infinite height. In general, a user will only need to use *Spheres*, *Bricks*, *Tubes* and *Hexagons*.

One can define the interior or the exterior of each *Shape*. The complement of a *Shape* can be defined by the `Not()` method as well as by the “!” operator (see examples given later on).

Other shapes available in MCNP(X) or Serpent may be added by any user. This is not too hard even if it requires some work. The best way to do it, is to read the implementation of existing shapes to have an idea.

4.2.1 Units

WARNING: In MURE, the length unit is the meter (whereas in MCNP and Serpent it is the *cm*). In particular, volumes in MURE are in m^3 .

Length	m
Energy	eV
Temperature	K
Density	g/cm ³ , atom/cm ³ or atom/(barn.cm)
Proportion	%mol, %mass, atom/cm ³ or atom/(barn.cm)

4.2.2 Examples of simple shapes

To define the interior of a origin center sphere of radius R :

```
Shape_ptr S(new Sphere(R));
```

To define the outer part of S one can do

```
Shape_ptr Ext_S(!S);
```

or

```
Shape_ptr Ext_S(S->Not());
```

or

```
Shape_ptr Ext_S(new Sphere(R,0,0,0,1));
```

where 3 zeros correspond to the sphere center (the origin) and +1 to the exterior of the *Sphere* (default=-1).

For *Hexagons* and *Bricks*, two versions exist: finite or infinite *Shapes*. For finite bricks and hexagons, you should define it as:

```
Shape_ptr B(new Brick(HalfX, HalfY, HalfZ, Signe));
```

```
Shape_ptr H(new Hexagon(HalfHeight, Side, Signe));
```

where HalfX (resp. Y and Z) is the Half length of the brick in the X (resp. Y and Z) direction, HalfHeight the half height (!) of the hexagon, Side its side, and Signe the sign defining whether it is the inner or the outer part, just as for the sphere. For infinite ones, to avoid conflicts between the definitions, a string at the beginning is necessary (and, of course, HalfHeight and HalfZ are irrelevant) :

```
Shape_ptr B(new Brick("any string you want", HalfX, HalfY, Signe));
Shape_ptr H(new Hexagon("any string you want", Side, Signe));
```

The infinite shapes obtained are parallel to the Z axis, but they may be rotated afterwards.

4.2.3 Examples of simple Nodes

A Node is the Union (+1) or the Intersection (-1) of Shapes (i.e., simple Shapes or Nodes).

To define the intersection of a sphere centered at (x_0, y_0, z_0) of radius R with a square brick of side a centered at the origin, one may use:

```
Shape_ptr S(new Sphere(R,x0,y0,z0);
Shape_ptr B(new Brick(a/2,a/2,a/2));
Shape_ptr Inter=S & B;
```

whereas the union of the sphere and the brick may be defined as

```
Shape_ptr Union=S | B;
```

4.2.4 Moving a Shape

It is possible to move (translation/rotation) a *Shape* (or a *Node*) via the *Shape::Translate* and *Shape::Rotate* methods. For example, to translate the *Shape_ptr* B of (dx,dy,dz),

```
B->Translate(dx,dy,dz);
```

and to rotate clockwise B around (x_0, y_0, z_0) of ϕ , θ and ψ around the z , y and x axis respectively:

```
double center[3]={x0,y0,z0};
B->Rotate(phi,theta,psi,center);
```

Note that the translation/rotation of a Shape translates/rotates also the inside shapes (see next section).

To be noticed: Angles are in radians.

4.3 The “put in” operator >>

It is possible to put a *Shape_ptr* A inside another B one, via the “put in”¹ operator $A \gg B$; this operator works differently depending on A:

- if A is a normal *Shape_ptr*: a $A \gg B$ modifies both A and B; A becomes $A \cap B$ and B becomes $B \cap !A$ (see figure 4.1)
- if A is a *Shape_ptr* with a universe number (e.g. after a call to *Shape_ptr::SetUniverse()* for a lattice): $A \gg B$ does not modify neither A nor B; a MCNP Fill card is just added to B in order to fill B with universe of A.

Example:

```
Shape_ptr S(new Sphere(R));
Shape_ptr B(new Brick(a/2,a/2,a/2));
B>>S;
```

¹In C++ this operator is known as the bitwise right shift operator

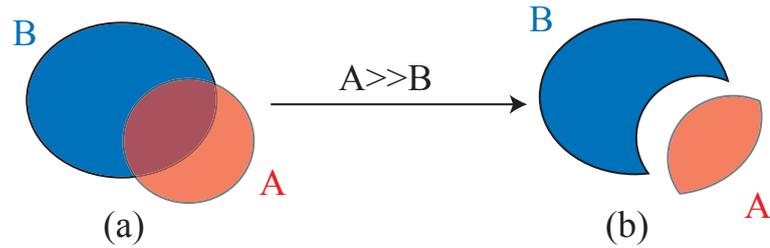


Figure 4.1: Operator \gg (put in). (a) A and B before the action of the operator ; (b) A and B after the action of the operator.

In this example, the *Brick* B is put inside S.

Note that now S and B are new *Shape_ptr*: $S=S \& !B$ (i.e. the sphere without the brick) and $B=S \& B$ (i.e. the intersection of the brick and the sphere) as already mentioned above (see fig. 4.1).

Note:

- The brick B is an *inside shape* of S: this means that if one moves S, one moves also B.
- It is possible to link inclusion:

$A \gg B \gg C;$

means that A is put in B and the result is also put in C. A is an inside shape of B and C ; B is an inside shape of C.

- if after the previous example, one makes

$C \gg D;$

Inside shapes of C are cleared and D has A, B and C as Inside Shapes.

4.4 Clone of a Shape

It may be sometimes very useful to clone a *Shape*, i.e., to create a new *Shape* with the same properties as the original one. Here is an example:

```
Shape_ptr B1(new Tube(1,0.5));
Shape_ptr T1(new Tube(1,0.4));
Shape_ptr T2(new Tube(1,0.3));
T2>>T1>>B1;
Shape_ptr B2=B1->Clone();
B2->Translate(1,0,0);
```

B2 has exactly the same aspect as B1 (with 2 tubes inside) but it is translated by 1m in the *x* direction, whereas B1 is centered at the origin.

4.5 Boundary conditions

In *MCNP*, it is possible to use special boundary conditions: mirror, white or periodic boundary conditions. In *Serpent*, boundary conditions can be applied only on the shapes associated to cells with the “outside” *Serpent*’s material. The only valid possibilities for *Serpent* are black (totally absorbing, the default), mirror or periodic.

To be noticed also, the “outside” cells of Serpent don’t support unions. For any geometry, if the outside cell (Serpent namespace only) is not a “simple” shape (simple in the Serpent’s sense, it includes Spheres, unrotated Tubes, Bricks or Hexagons), then the user define outside shape (the one which is in the 0 importance cell) is put into a Sphere.

In *Serpent*, boundary conditions only apply to Bricks (square, cuboid, ...) or Hexagons (hexxc, hexxprism, ...). Mirror and Black boundary conditions have been implemented in MURE for unrotated Bricks or Hexagons in *Serpent*. In any case, the use of boundary conditions in MURE could be used but have not been fully tested...so it is advised to use them carefully. In all cases, the exterior of the Shape_ptr with boundary conditions must have a zero importance. You can apply only one type of boundary conditions to a Shape_ptr. Here is a brief description of these boundary conditions:

- Mirror conditions correspond to a standard reflection on a shape ; the method to define such conditions is

```
Shape_ptr A(...);
A->SetMirrorBoundary();
```

- For some shapes, (Hexagons and Bricks) mix boundary conditions can be used (e.g. x-y surfaces are mirrors whereas top and bottom z-planes are open (black)).
- White conditions correspond to a reflection with a cosine direction distribution on the surface ; the method to define such conditions is

```
Shape_ptr A(...);
A->SetWhiteBoundary();
```

- Periodic condition: when a particle leaves a given plane it re-enters through another one. This method could only be applied to Bricks or Hexagons, with the restriction that the Top and Bottom planes (before any reflections) are either Mirror boundaries, White boundaries or Infinite boundaries. The method to define such conditions is

```
Shape_ptr A(new Brick(1,1,1));
A->SetPeriodicBoundary(true,"mirror");
```

or

```
Shape_ptr A(new Brick(1,1,1));
A->SetPeriodicBoundary(true,"white");
```

4.6 Recommendations

- It is generally simpler to define a geometry from the inner part to the outer part : for example,
 - define first shape A, then B and C and D.

- Put shapes inside each other like

```
A>>B>>D;
C>>D;
```

- **After doing that, you can't move and/or rotate A, B or C. But if you move/rotate D, then it will move/rotate also the inner shapes (A, B and D). If A, B or C have to be rotated or translated to a given position in D, then you must do it BEFORE putting these shapes inside D.**

- Avoid complex shapes: it is more efficient (in term of CPU time at least for *MCNP*) to divide a complex in several simpler shapes.

4.7 Definition of MC cells

A **Cell** is defined by a **Shape_ptr**, and if needed a **Material**.

MC cells are defined via the *Cell* class ; one has to give

- the *Shape_ptr* corresponding to the geometric shape of the Cell,
- the *Material* (see section 5.1) if exists (default=0 for void),
- the importance of particles² (default=1),

For example to construct a cell composed of a full tube of radius *R* and height *H*, made of *B4C*

```
Shape_ptr C(new Tube(H/2,R));
Cell* c=new Cell(C,B4C);
```

where *B4C* is a (*Material**)³. In this example, one can define the exterior cell as

```
Shape_ptr Exterior(!C);
Cell* exterior=new Cell(Exterior,0,0);
```

The first zero means that the material is void and the second one means that neutron importance is set to 0 in the exterior cell (“outside” material for *Serpent*).

NOTE: If not only neutrons are transported in *MCNP*, it is useful to define the desired mode (i.e., NP, NE, NPE for Neutron and Photon, Neutron and Electron and Neutron, Photon and Electron) before any Cell definition ; indeed, in this case, the given cell importance applies to all particle types. For example:

```
gMURE->SetModeNP();
Cell *c=new Cell(C,B4C);
Cell *exterior=new Cell(Exterior,0,0);
```

will set the transport mode to neutrons and photons and the cell *c* will have an *IMP:N=1 and IMP:P=1* whereas the cell *exterior* will have an *IMP:N=0 and IMP:P=0*.

²The importance given in the *Cell* constructor will be the same for all transported particles (define by one of the *MURE::SetMode* methods) ; if user want to give specific importances for each particle, one needs to call for ALL transported particles the *Cell::AddParticle("particle_Name", importance_for_that_part)*.

³i.e. a pointer on a *Material*, see Appendix A

4.7.1 Cell and clone shapes

Suppose we have defined 2 tubes B1 and B2 as follows:

```
Shape_ptr B1(new Tube(1,0.5));
Shape_ptr T1(new Tube(1,0.4));
Shape_ptr T2(new Tube(1,0.3));
T2>>T1>>B1;
Shape_ptr B2=B1->Clone();
B2->Translate(1,0,0);
```

the cell definition for B1 is not a problem:

```
Cell *b1=new Cell(B1,Graphite);
Cell *t1=new Cell(T1,Iron);
Cell *t2=new Cell(T2);
```

where Graphite and Iron are two *Material**. Here, the result will be a tube of graphite containing a tube of iron containing a void tube. To define analog cells for B2 we have to do:

```
Cell *b2=new Cell(B2,Graphite);
Cell *tt1=new Cell(B2->GetOriginalInsideShape(1),Iron);
Cell *tt2=new Cell(B2->GetOriginalInsideShape(0));
```

Indeed, the “Inside shapes” of B2 are ordered from the most inner ($B2->GetOriginalInsideShape(0)$ clone of T2), to the most outer ($B2->GetOriginalInsideShape(1)$ clone of T1).

4.8 Lattice

Lattices are used in MC to fill cells of repeated structure. In *MCNP*, there are 2 types of lattice, hexahedra (type=1) or hexagonal (type=2). In *Serpent*, circular lattice are also defined but they are yet not implemented in *MURE*.

In this section, four examples of lattices are presented (from the most simple to the most complex case). Of course the lattice type does not change the declaration (except that the lattice generator is a *Brick* for hexahedra lattice whereas it is an *Hexagon* for the hexagonal one). Lattice philosophy is somehow different from *MCNP* and *Serpent*; the *MURE* implementation is closer to the *MCNP*'s one.

The general philosophy for lattice declaration is the following:

1. In the Shape section
 - (a) define the *Shape_ptr* C that will be filled by the lattice (like core),
 - (b) define the *Shape_ptr* G that is used as lattice generator (a **Brick** or an **Hexagon**) and give to that generator a universe number (via **Shape::SetUniverse()**),
 - (c) put G in C with $G>>C$
 - (d) define all *Shape_ptr* B_i that shall be used in the lattice and assign them a universe number (via **Shape::SetUniverse()**) or use **PinCell** (see (a) of Cell Section)
2. In the Cell section
 - (a) define **PinCell** P_i (and/or use (d) of previous part)

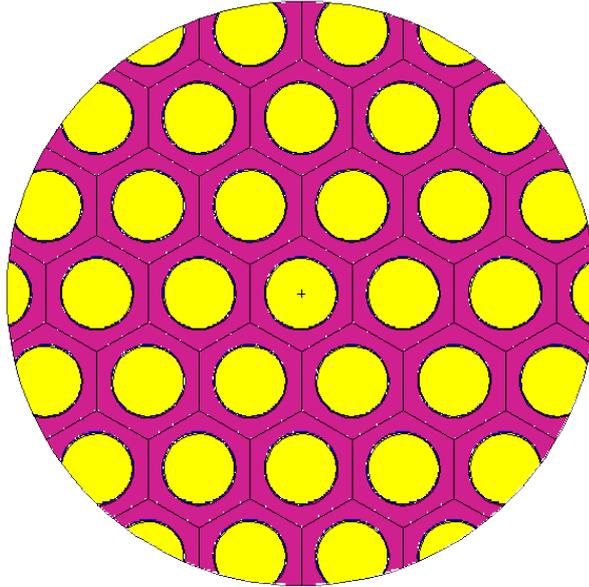


Figure 4.2: A simple *implicit* lattice.

- (b) build the **Cell** for *Shape_ptr C*
- (c) build the **LatticeCell** with the generator *Shape_ptr G*
- (d) [optional] indicate to **LatticeCell** the extension of the lattice (via **LatticeCell::SetLatticeRange()** or **LatticeCell::SetNumberOfLatticeElement()**)
- (e) fill the lattice with all the desired *Shape_ptr B_i* and/or the **PinCell P_i** (via **LatticeCell::FillLattice()**)

4.8.1 An implicit lattice example (SimpleLattice.cxx & SimpleLattice_serpent.cxx)

This example illustrates *implicit lattices*, that is to say a lattice filled by a unique universe. A simple tube (a Vessel) is filled by an hexagonal lattice. Each hexagon of the lattice is made of water and filled with a small cylinder of UOx fuel (a pin) inside an Iron cladding. For this example, 2 different implementation are propose to illustrate the only use of shape (like in the 1.d of the beginning of this section) or the use of **PinCell** (like in 2.a).

As it can be seen, the version using **PinCell** is more compact and more easy to understand (Blue part disappear and magenta part is replaced by green one ; the lattice is thus filled by the **PinCell**). These two implementations give the same result which is shown in Figure 4.2. Note that in the first implementation, outside of the cladding (*OutClad* Shape) has the same universe than the Clad Shape because it is define as the complementary Shape of Clad (the ! operator). Note also than *OutClad* and *Exterior* shapes must be defined before the “put-in” operator (>>) because this latter modify the definition of Vessel or Clad. Few words for *Serpent* users: the “lat” card of *Serpent* need an origin, and a pitch. These quantities are deduced from the generator shape ; translating it will thus change “lat” origin. The sizes of the generator shape will determine the pitch (number of values as well as values depending on the dimension (2D or 3D) of the lattice).

Table 4.1: SimpleLattice example. Implementation using only shapes (left) and using PinCell (right)

<pre> // // define materials (see § 5.1) // Material *H2O= new Material(); H2O->SetDensity(1.); H2O->AddNucleus(1, 1, 2.); H2O->AddNucleus(8, 16, 1.); Material *Iron=new Material(); Iron->SetDensity(7.87); Iron->AddNucleus(26,56,1.); Material *UOx= new Material(); UOx->SetDensity(10.2); UOx->AddNucleus(92, 235, 0.1); UOx->AddNucleus(92, 238, 0.9); UOx->AddNucleus(8, 16, 2.); // // Geometrical Data Size // double VesselH=1; double VesselR=1; double HexaH=VesselH; double HexaSide=0.2; double PinR=0.12; double CladR=PinR+0.05; // //Shapes // //the Vessel : a full Tube Shape_ptr Vessel(new Tube(VesselH/2,VesselR)); //the Exterior Shape_ptr Exterior(!Vessel); //the lattice generator Shape_ptr LatGene(new Hexagon(HexaH/2,HexaSide)); LatGene->SetUniverse(); // put the lattice generator in the vessel LatGene >> Vessel; // a small cylinder that will contain UOx Shape_ptr Pin(new Cylinder(PinR)); Pin->SetUniverse(); // a bigger one that define fuel clad Shape_ptr Clad(new Cylinder(CladR)); Clad->SetUniverse(Pin->GetUniverse()); //Outside of the Clad Shape_ptr OutClad=!Clad; Pin>>Clad; // //Cells // Cell *pin=new Cell(Pin,UOx); Cell *clad=new Cell(Clad,Iron); Cell *surrounding_clad=new Cell(OutClad,H2O); Cell *exterior=new Cell(Exterior,0,0); exterior->SetComment("Exterior of the cylinder"); //vessel Cell *vessel=new Cell(Vessel); vessel->SetComment("The vessel"); //the lattice //----- Line A ----- LatticeCell *Pavage=new LatticeCell(LatGene); //fill the lattice the Pin shape Pavage->FillLattice(Pin); //----- Line B ----- </pre>	<pre> // // define materials (see § 5.1) // Material *H2O= new Material(); H2O->SetDensity(1.); H2O->AddNucleus(1, 1, 2.); H2O->AddNucleus(8, 16, 1.); Material *Iron=new Material(); Iron->SetDensity(7.87); Iron->AddNucleus(26,56,1.); Material *UOx= new Material(); UOx->SetDensity(10.2); UOx->AddNucleus(92, 235, 0.1); UOx->AddNucleus(92, 238, 0.9); UOx->AddNucleus(8, 16, 2.); // // Geometrical Data Size // double VesselH=1; double VesselR=1; double HexaH=VesselH; double HexaSide=0.2; double PinR=0.12; double CladR=PinR+0.05; // //Shapes // //the Vessel : a full Tube Shape_ptr Vessel(new Tube(VesselH/2,VesselR)); //the Exterior Shape_ptr Exterior(!Vessel); //the lattice generator Shape_ptr LatGene(new Hexagon(HexaH/2,HexaSide)); LatGene->SetUniverse(); // put the lattice generator in the vessel LatGene >> Vessel; // //Cells // PinCell* pinUox=new PinCell; pinUox->AddLayer(Uox,PinR); pinUox->AddLayer(Iron,CladR); pinUox->SetSurroundingMaterial(H2O); Cell *exterior=new Cell(Exterior,0,0); exterior->SetComment("Exterior of the cylinder"); //vessel Cell *vessel=new Cell(Vessel); vessel->SetComment("The vessel"); //the lattice //----- Line A ----- LatticeCell *Pavage=new LatticeCell(LatGene); //fill the lattice with the pincell Pavage->FillLattice(pinUox); //----- Line B ----- </pre>
---	--

4.8.2 An explicit lattice example with different zones (SimpleLattice2.cxx & SimpleLattice2_serpent.cxx)

Explicit lattices are filled with different universes, allowing to put different structures at some given position. To illustrate this, let us modify the previous example slightly: we want to fill the Vessel with 2 types of hexagons: the first ones are full water hexagons (the reflector) in the outer part of the Vessel and the second ones are the previous hexagons with the small pin rod inside. For shortness, we chose to fill the Vessel with second hexagon type if it is inside a “virtual” cylinder of radius 90cm. Both implementations using Shape only or PinCell has been proposed in Tab. 3.3. Here, a focus is made on the PinCell implementation. The principal changes take place between the lines named “Line A” and “Line B” . We have to replace this part by:

```
//----- Line A -----
PinCell* whole=new PinCell;
whole->SetSurroundingMaterial(H2O);
LatticeCell *Pavage=new LatticeCell(LatticeGenerator);
int range=int(VesselR/(1.5 * HexaSide))+1;
Pavage->SetLatticeRange(-range,range,-range,range); //define a explicit lattice
for(int i=-range; i<=range; i++)
    for(int j=-range; j<=range; j++)
    {
        int pos[3]={i,j,0}; //the lattice index
        double xt = HexaSide*sqrt(3.) * ( i + j*0.5 ) ;
        double yt = 1.5 * HexaSide * j;
        double X[2]={xt,yt}; //the center of each hexagons
        if(IsHexagonInTube(X,LatticeGenerator,0.9)) //true if the hexa center at X is
            Pavage->FillLattice(pinUox,pos);          //inside a tube of radius 90cm
        else
            Pavage->FillLattice(whole,pos);          //inside a tube of radius 90cm
    }
//----- Line B -----
```

- A new **PinCell** (*whole*) is defined ; because just a surrounding material is defined, this **PinCell** represents the whole space (it is a “pseudo-PinCell”).
- Then the lattice range is defined as $(2range+1) \times (2range+1)$ matrix (in *x* and *y* direction and infinite in *z*). The “range” has been defined to cover at least the entire vessel.
- Then, each position of hexagons in the lattice is computed ; if a hexagon is inside the virtual cylinder of radius 0.9m, a hexagon with the pin rod is used (**PinCell** *pinUox* in the *Cell::FillLattice* method) at the given position *pos* else the “*whole*” **PinCell** is used (and as always with lattices, it is automatically cut by the lattice meshes).

The result is shown in Figure 4.3.

Note: if one prefers use only shapes (and not PinCell), one can used the following trick (but it is not implemented for Serpent!!!)

- In the *Shape* part, define a *Shape_ptr* corresponding to the *Whole* space (intersection of nothing⁴):

⁴Because we are in a lattice, this whole space is cut by the lattice generator. It is also possible to give a bigger volume to obtain the same kind of result ; however, MCNP has to check all surfaces of this volume for a neutron in the cell so it will result in a longer MCNP run...

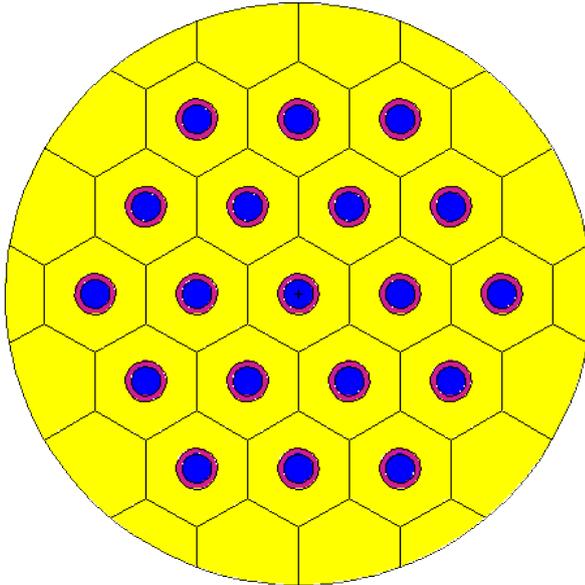


Figure 4.3: A lattice with different zones .

```
Shape_ptr Whole(new Node(-1)); //-1=intersection, here, of nothing
Whole->SetUniverse();
```

- and in the Cell part, add

```
Cell *whole=new Cell(Whole,H2O);
```

4.8.3 A lattice with more than one simple shape (Stadium.cxx & Stadium_serpent.cxx)

In this example, we consider a hexahedra lattice. Each brick of the lattice will have parts of “stadiums” on each (x,y) sides (see Figure 4.4, this is the base geometry of the MSRE reactor).

```
//
//materials
//
Material *Salt=new Material(); //this is the fuel LiF-ThF4/UF4
Salt->SetDensity(3.1);
Salt->AddNucleus(3,7,0.7);
Salt->AddNucleus(9,19,1.9);
Salt->AddNucleus(90,232,0.15);
Salt->AddNucleus(92,233,0.15);
Material *Graphite=new Material();
Graphite->SetDensity(1.86);
Graphite->AddNucleus(6,0,1);
//
// Data
//
double VesselH=0.8; // the core H and R
double VesselR=0.4;
double SquareH=VesselH; //stadium heighth
double SquareS=0.2; //stadium straight line length
```

```

double BendR=0.02; //stadium bend curve radius
double BendH=VesselH;
double BrickW=0.04;
double BrickL=0.08;
//
//Shapes
//
//the Vessel
Shape_ptr Vessel(new Tube(VesselH/2,VesselR));
//the Exterior
Shape_ptr Exterior(!Vessel);
//the lattice generator
Shape_ptr LatticeGenerator(new Brick(SquareS/2,SquareS/2,SquareH/2));
LatticeGenerator->SetUniverse();
//put the lattice generator inside the core
LatticeGenerator>>Vessel;
//Definition of the stadiums (horizontal & vertical)
Shape_ptr Circle0(new Tube(BendH/2,BendR));
Circle0->SetUniverse();
//clone circles for horizontal and vertical stadiums
Shape_ptr Circle1=Circle0->Clone();
Shape_ptr Circle2=Circle0->Clone();
Shape_ptr Circle3=Circle0->Clone();
//translate circle
Circle0->Translate(-0.1,+0.04,0);
Circle1->Translate(-0.1,-0.04,0);
Circle2->Translate(-0.04,0.1,0);
Circle3->Translate(+0.04,0.1,0);
//2 bricks for horizontal and vertical stadiums
Shape_ptr Brick0(new Brick(BrickW/2,BrickL/2,SquareH/2));
Brick0->SetUniverse(Circle0->GetUniverse()); //belong to the same universe than Circle0
Brick0->Translate(-0.1,0,0);
Shape_ptr Brick1(new Brick(BrickL/2,BrickW/2,SquareH/2));
Brick1->SetUniverse(Circle0->GetUniverse()); //belong to the same universe than Circle0
Brick1->Translate(0,0.1,0);
//2 vertical stadiums
Shape_ptr Stade0=Circle0 | Brick0 | Circle1; //union of circles and brick
Shape_ptr Stade2=Stade0->Clone();
Stade2->Translate(0.2,0,0);
//2 horizontal stadiums
Shape_ptr Stade1=Circle2 | Brick1 | Circle3;
Shape_ptr Stade3=Stade1->Clone();
Stade3->Translate(0,-0.2,0);
//interior of all stadiums
Shape_ptr AllStades=Stade0 | Stade1 | Stade2 | Stade3; //to define all stadium exterior

//
// Cells
//
Cell *exterior=new Cell(Exterior,0,0);
exterior->SetComment("The exterior of the reactor");
//vessel
Cell *vessel=new Cell(Vessel);

```

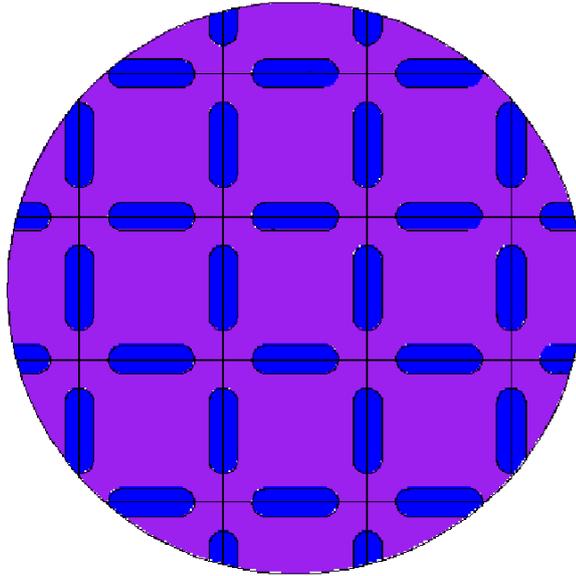


Figure 4.4: A lattice with more than one shape.

```
vessel->SetComment("The reactor vessel");
//Lattice
LatticeCell *Pavage=new LatticeCell(LatticeGenerator);
Pavage->FillLattice(AllStades);
Cell *stade0=new Cell(Stade0,Salt);
Cell *stade1=new Cell(Stade1,Salt);
Cell *stade2=new Cell(Stade2,Salt);
Cell *stade3=new Cell(Stade3,Salt);
Cell *exterior_stade=new Cell(!AllStades,Graphite);
```

- In the Shape part:
 - A *Tube* (Circle0) is created at the origin ; then it is cloned in 3 other *Tubes* (universe number of Circle0 is given to its clones). Then these *Tubes* are translated to the right place.
 - 2 *Bricks* are created (with the same universe as Circle0) and translated to the left and the top of the square. All elements of all stadiums have, here, the same universe.
 - Then 2 stadiums are constructed as the union of 2 tubes and a brick. The right and bottom stadiums are cloned from the 2 previous ones, and a union of all stadiums is constructed.
- In the Cell part:
 - The lattice cell is defined, and filled by the universe of *AllStades*.
 - then, stadiums cells and exterior of these stadium are built.

4.8.4 Lattice of a Lattice (LatticeOfLattice.cxx & LatticeOfLattice_serpent.cxx)

The purpose of this example is to illustrate a hexagonal Lattice of big structural hexagons, themselves filled with a hexagonal lattice of fuel rods (like in a SFR core)

```

//
// Material
//
Material *Iron=new Material();
    Iron->SetDensity(7.87); //density in g/cm3
    Iron->AddNucleus(26,56,1.);

    Material *Na=new Material();
Na->SetTemperature(600);
    Na->SetDensity(0.97);
Na->AddNucleus(11,23,1);
    Material *Na_cold=Na->Clone(300); //just to see in Serpent all hexagons
    Material *Fuel=new Material();
Fuel->SetTemperature(900);
    Fuel->SetDensity(19.);
    Fuel->AddNucleus(92,238,0.8);
    Fuel->AddNucleus(94,239,0.2);
//
// data size
//
double VesselH=1.1; //the core size
double VesselR=1.1;
double FuelHexaSide=0.05; //(small) fuel hexagons side
double PinRadius=0.02; //fuel pin radius
double StructHexaSide=8./sqrt(3.)*FuelHexaSide; //(big) structure hexa
double StructThick=0.01; //the thickness of the structure (inner
// part of this structure is filled with
// FuelHexa.
//
// Shapes
//
//the Core
Shape_ptr Vessel(new Tube(VesselH,VesselR));
//the Exterior
Shape_ptr Exterior(!Vessel);
//the outside structure hexagon
Shape_ptr StructHexa(new Hexagon(VesselH,StructHexaSide+StructThick));
StructHexa->SetUniverse();
//the inside structure hexagon
Shape_ptr InnerStructHexa(new Hexagon(VesselH,StructHexaSide));
InnerStructHexa->SetUniverse();
// put the structure hexagons in the vessel
StructHexa>>Vessel;
//
//a "fuel hexagon"
//
Shape_ptr FuelHexa(new Hexagon(VesselH,FuelHexaSide));
FuelHexa->Rotate(-Pi/2);
FuelHexa->SetUniverse();
//put the fuel hexagons in the structure (inner part)
FuelHexa>>InnerStructHexa;
//
// Cells

```

```

//
PinCell *Reflector=new PinCell(); //Reflector=beetween Core and big
Reflector->SetSurroundingMaterial(Na_cold); //hexagons. This is "cold Na" mat
PinCell *FuelHexaBorder=new PinCell(); //Fill the inner part of big
FuelHexaBorder->SetSurroundingMaterial(Na_cold); //hexagons with cold Na"
PinCell *Carandache=new PinCell(); //This is a fuel pin with
Carandache->AddLayer(Fuel,PinRadius); //a cylinder of fuel
Carandache->SetSurroundingMaterial(Na); //surrounded by Na
Cell *exterior=new Cell(Exterior,0,0); //out side of the core
exterior->SetComment("The exterior of the reactor");
Cell *vessel=new Cell(Vessel); //the core
vessel->SetComment("The reactor vessel");
Cell *innerstructhexa=new Cell(InnerStructHexa);
innerstructhexa->SetComment("The Inside struct Hexa");
Cell *exterior_innerstructhexa=new Cell(!InnerStructHexa,Iron); //space beetwen InnerStructHexa
exterior_innerstructhexa->SetComment("The Big Hexa claddings");//and StructHexa fill with Iron
LatticeCell *structhexa=new LatticeCell(StructHexa);
structhexa->SetComment("The Ouside struct of Big Hexa (lattice)");
int range1=int(VesselR/(1.5 * StructHexaSide)+1);
structhexa->SetLatticeRange(-range1,range1,-range1,range1);
double StructHexaWidth=sqrt(3.)*StructHexaSide;
for(int i=-range1; i<=range1; i++)
for(int j=-range1; j<=range1; j++)
{
int pos[3]={i,j,0};
double xt = StructHexaWidth * ( i + j*0.5 ) ;
double yt = 1.5 * StructHexaSide * j;
double X[2]={xt,yt};
if(IsHexagonInTube(X,StructHexa,VesselR))
structhexa->FillLattice(InnerStructHexa,pos);
else
structhexa->FillLattice(Reflector,pos);
}
LatticeCell *fuel_hexa=new LatticeCell(FuelHexa);
fuel_hexa->SetComment("The fuel hexagonal lattice");
int range=int(StructHexaSide/(1.5 * FuelHexaSide)+1);
fuel_hexa->SetLatticeRange(-range,range,-range,range);
double FuelHexaWidth=sqrt(3.)*FuelHexaSide;
for(int i=-range; i<=range; i++)
for(int j=-range; j<=range; j++)
{
int pos[3]={i,j,0};
double xt = 1.5 * FuelHexaSide * i ;
double yt = FuelHexaWidth * ( j + i*0.5 ) ;
double X[2]={xt,yt};
if(IsHexagonInHexagon(X,FuelHexa,InnerStructHexa))
fuel_hexa->FillLattice(Carandache,pos);
else
fuel_hexa->FillLattice(FuelHexaBorder,pos);
}
}

```

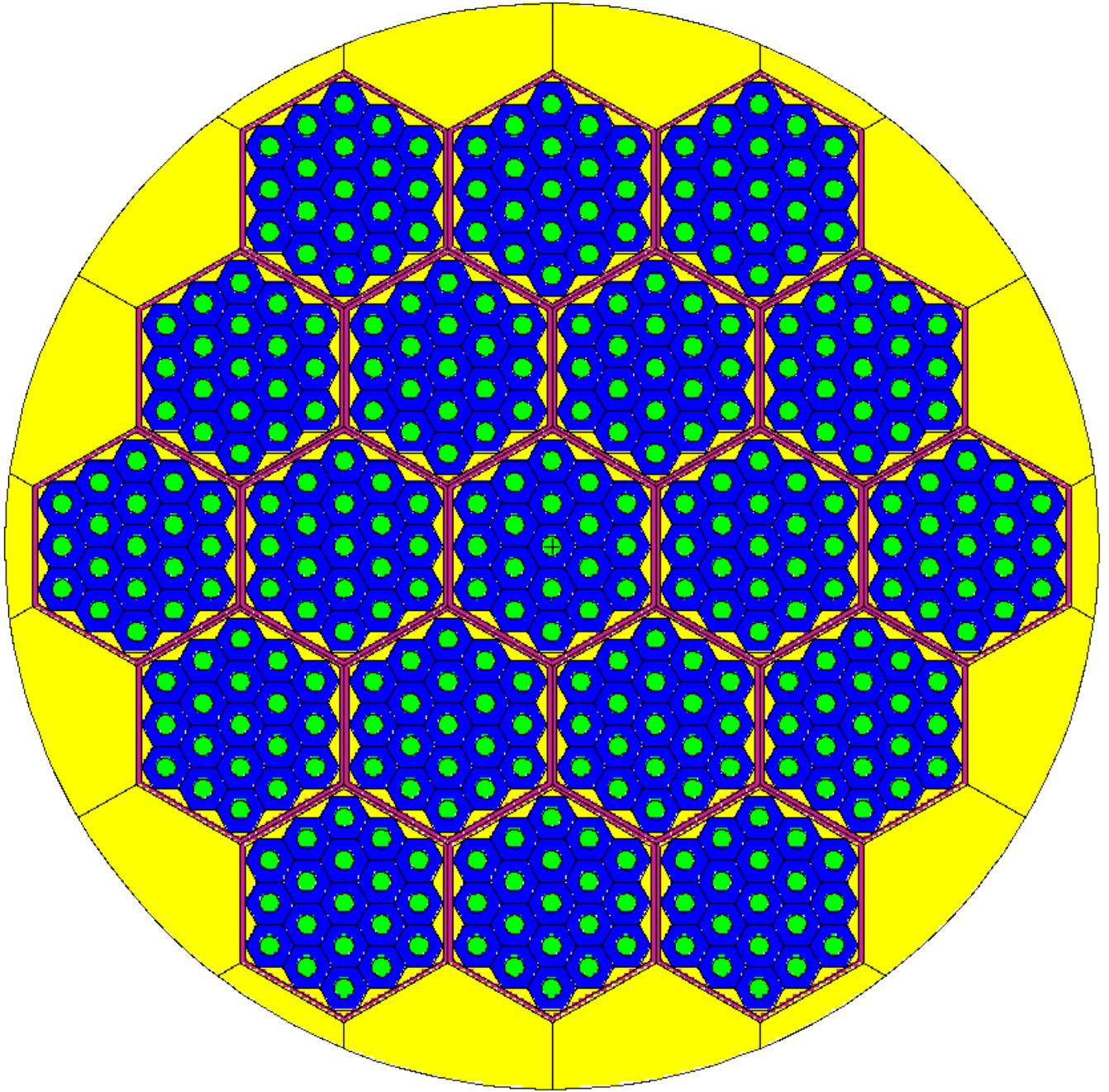


Figure 4.5: Lattice of a Lattice.

Chapter 5

Materials, Sources, Tallies, ...

5.1 Definition of material

A **Material** is a set of nuclei with their proportions (default units is %mol), it has a density and a temperature.

For example to define B_4C of density 2.52 g/cm^3 at 296 K:

```
Material *B4C=new Material();
B4C->SetDensity(2.52); //default units are g/cm3
B4C->AddNucleus(5,10,0.199); //Boron is composed 19.9% of  ${}^1_5B$ 
B4C->AddNucleus(5,11,0.801); // and 80.1% of  ${}^{11}_5B$ 
B4C->AddNucleus(6,0,0.25); // This is natural C (Z=6, A=0) ; for 1 mol of B one has 0.25 mol of C
```

Just before writing Material in MC file, proportions are normalized to 1. The *Material::AddNucleus()* method has the general form

```
Material::AddNucleus(Z,A,I,prop);
```

or

```
Material::AddNucleus(Z,A,prop);
```

where Z is an integer corresponding to the proton number of the nucleus, A , an integer for the number of nucleons, I , an integer for the isomeric state and *prop*, a double for the proportion of the nucleus in the *Material*. For **natural isotopes** $A=0$; for **ground state** $I=0$ (this is the default value when not specified). See § 5.1.3 for units.

- A *Material* can contain one nucleus which is a “moderator”: this means that the special treatment $S(\alpha, \beta)$ is applied for low energy in *MC* run for this nucleus. In order to say that a nucleus is a moderator, one has to add a string for the last parameter of *Material::AddNucleus* (see 5.1.4 for a full description) ; defining thermal treatment for hydrogen in light water leads to:

```
H2O->AddNucleus(1,1,2.,kpMOL,"H2O"); //here the unit of proportion must be given explicitly
```

```
H2O->AddNucleus(8,16,1.);
```

5.1.1 Clone

A *Material* can be cloned via the *Material::Clone(double Temperature)* method. There are 2 types of clones depending on:

- whether the material does **not evolve** and the *Temperature* argument of *Material::Clone()* is **negative** (the default) (see example of *B4C_Light* in § 5.1.7): the clone is only used because it makes possible to define a material with the same number in *MCNP* but also present at different densities in different cells. **A call to *Material::SetTemperature()* will have no effect on such a clone!**
- or whether the material will **evolve and/or** the *Temperature* argument is **positive or null** (see example of *Fuel2* and *B4C_Hot* in § 5.1.7): the clone is a “true” clone, i.e., all compositions and proportions are duplicated (2 different material numbers in *MCNP*). Of course the density, temperature,... of the clone could be changed after cloning, as well as new nuclei could be added. This kind of clone is the correct way to handle 2 evolving cells starting with the same composition but evolving independently. Note that by default the density of the clone is the one of the original material.

5.1.2 Mix (*Mix.cxx*)

Two Materials of different densities can be mixed together to create a third material. This is useful in many situations, e.g., the case of reactor fuels with a given enrichment of fissile isotopes. The principle is the following:

```
M12=M1->Mix(M2,part, kpMOL);
```

M12 is a new material and is created from the molar part mixture of materials M1 and M2 (for example Uranium and Plutonium Oxides). M1 and M2 can not be used in the problem, because the *Material::Mix* method forces them to be fictitious materials by using the *Material::ForbidPrint()* method: **THIS IS DONE IN THE *Material::Mix()* METHOD**. The density of the new material M12, is calculated as

$$\rho_{12} = \frac{1}{\omega_1/\rho_1 + \omega_2/\rho_2}$$

where ω_i and ρ_i are the mass fraction and density of material i . The temperature of the new material is the same as that of material M1.

5.1.3 Units

Density

Default units (k=constant, d=density) for density is *kdGCM3* (g/cm^3); but, to avoid confusion, you must set the density unit in *Material::GetDensity()* (either *kdGCM3* (g/cm^3), *kdATCM3* (at/cm^3) or *kdATBCM* ($at/barn.cm$)). User may give the density in $atom/barn.cm$ by using *Material::SetDensity(density, kdATBCM)*.

NOTE: If the density is not given (i.e. set to the default value 0), it could be automatically found if the proportions are given in $atoms/barn.cm$ or in $atoms/cm^3$.

Proportions

Default units for proportions are in molar percentage. To give proportion in other units, use

```
Material::AddNucleus(Z,A,I,prop,UNITS)
```

where *UNITS* stands for (k=constant, p=proportion): *kpMOL* (" $%mol$ " (default)) or *kpMASS* (" $%mass$ ") or *kpATBCM* (" $at/barn.cm$ ") or *kpATCM3* (" at/cm^3 ").

5.1.4 Material extension for MC

In *MCNP* or *Serpent*, material codes have extensions (like “.60c”). These extensions are very important because they distinguish isotopes at different temperatures, bases, versions, . . . In practice, if no extension is specified in *MCNP* file, the first isotope encountered in the *xmdir* is chosen regardless the temperature imposed in the cell where the material is (but this is not the case in *Serpent*). In *MURE* user has different ways to specify an extension.

- This can be done manually for **each** nucleus of the material composition:

```
mat->GetNucleus(Z,A,I)->SetXSExtension(".49c")
```

- This can be done manually for **all** nuclei of the material composition:

```
mat->SetDefaultXSExtension(".49c")
```

then each nucleus of the Material *mat* will have this ".49c" extension.

- If the MCNP code for a particular Nucleus (Z,A,I) of a given Material *mat* is known, it can be specified by using:

```
mat->GetNucleus(Z,A,I)->SetXSExtension(".49c")
```

- This can be done **automatically (this is the recommended way)**: the specific file, the so-called “*BaseSummary.dat*” file, which contains *xmdir/xsdata* information written in a different way for search efficiency, is used. The extension is chosen according to the *Material* temperature. In fact the closest temperature to the one of the *Material* is chosen with the help of classes *BasePriority* and *TemperatureMap*. (see below)

NOTE:

- If evolution is need, the automatic procedure is certainly required...but I am not sure (PTO).
- If one specifies the extension value (either via *Nucleus::SetXSExtension()* or *Material::SetDefaultXSExtension()* or *Nucleus::SetModeratorName()*) then you must provide in the *xmdir* the corresponding data files.

$S(\alpha, \beta)$ Treatment and MT card

When the special treatment $S(\alpha, \beta)$ is desired for low energy, *MCNP* *MT* card arguments or *Serpent* *moder* and *therm* cards have to be specified. Consider the water example:

```
H2O->AddNucleus(1,1,2.,kpMOL,"H2O");  
H2O->AddNucleus(8,16,1.);
```

- this can be done manually: the string “H2O” must not be empty ; then

```
H2O->GetNucleus(1,1)->SetModeratorName("lwtr.01t");
```

- this can be done automatically: the *BaseSummary.dat* file is read to find the code of $S(\alpha, \beta)$ treatment file ; this time, because $S(\alpha, \beta)$ treatment is material dependent, the string has to refer to a given “Category” to specify which kind of effects are taken into account ; in the above example, hydrogen has different $S(\alpha, \beta)$ treatment for light water, polyethylene, benzene, ... The complete list of available Categories is given in **Nucleus** in the *Nucleus::SetModeratorCategory()*:

H2O	for H in light water
H/Zr	for H in ZrH
poly	for H in polyethylene
D2O	for D in heavy water
BeO	for Be in Be oxide
Be	for Be in Be metal
Gr	for graphite
Zr/H	for Zr in ZrH

The **moderator category** can also be any real **MT file name** such as “*lwtr*” or “*u/o2*”, ...

5.1.5 Pseudo Materials

PseudoMaterials are particularly useful for thermal-hydraulics problems. Normally, the material temperature dictates which extension (e.g. “.60c”) for cross-sections will be used from the evaluated data libraries. The default behaviour in **MURE** is that the nearest available temperature is used, the maximum tolerable difference between this temperature and the desired material temperature being defined in the *TemperatureMap* class. However, there are occasions where it is useful to perform a stochastic interpolation at the desired temperature by adding two identical nuclei at different temperatures in the material in varying proportions. These types of materials are called *PseudoMaterials*, because, in principle, they behave as a material at a precise temperature, T, even though the cross-sections in the evaluated data libraries at this precise temperature do not exist. To declare a *Material (Mat)* to be a *PseudoMaterial* requires the following simple line:

```
Mat->SetPseudoMaterial();
```

From this point onward, **MURE** will automatically create two identical nuclei with different extensions/temperatures and in the correct proportions for, every nucleus which is added to this material. No other commands are necessary. However, in the case of an evolving material (a reactor fuel rod for example), this can cause the addition of many, many extra nuclei to the material, thus slowing down *MCNP* calculations by perhaps as much as 20%. In the case that the user only wants to declare certain nuclei to be *PseudoNuclei* (for example, the most important ones, such as the fissile and fertile nuclei) the following kind of lines can be added after the creation of a *Material*:

```
U02Fuel->AddNucleus(92,235,0.04);
U02Fuel->AddNucleus(92,238,0.96);
U02Fuel->AddNucleus(8,16,2.0);
U02Fuel->GetNucleus(92,235)->SetPseudoNucleus();
U02Fuel->GetNucleus(92,238)->SetPseudoNucleus();
```

Now, only the selected nuclei will be treated as pseudo nuclei and automatically inserted twice into the *MCNP* file at the two nearest data base temperatures in the correct proportions. The proportions, ω_1 and ω_2 , for the interpolation are calculated in the following way:

$$\omega_2 = \frac{\sqrt{T} - \sqrt{T_2}}{\sqrt{T_2} - \sqrt{T_1}}$$

$$\omega_1 = 1 - \omega_2$$

where T_1 and T_2 are the nearest two temperatures in the evaluated data base files straddling the desired temperature T .

5.1.6 MC material Printing

This section concerns only evolving Materials. When evolution is required, at the beginning, many nuclei are present in the material but in a very small proportion. Each time a neutron enters in a cell, *MC* code tries to find the nucleus on which the potential reaction could happen. Thus, the more complex is a material, the longer is the *MC* run. The idea is to suppress only for the *MC* print, the nuclei which do not contribute “significantly” to neutron transport to save CPU time. The criterion is based on the evaluation of total cross-section σ_T and nucleus proportion p . If a nucleus of a material has a $p \times \sigma_T < \varepsilon$, it is not printed. The value of ε is by default set to $0.1\% \times 1mb = 10^{-6}$. This can be changed via `MURE::SetMCNPNUCLEUSTHRESHOLD()`. To be noticed that perturbative tallies of all evolving nuclei are written (in order to evaluate the cross-section...). The effect of this procedure is thus to accelerate *MC* runs at the beginning of the evolution where time steps between *MC* are generally smaller, and add more and more nuclei as far as the evolution is going on (with larger time steps between *MC* runs).

5.1.7 Examples

Please take a look at `Material_test.cxx` and `Material_test2.cxx` and the corresponding *Serpent* version for the second one. **The use of `Nucleus::SetXSEXTENSION` or `Material::SetDefaultXSEXTENSION` supposed that the user provide a correct `xmdir` file with all necessary information.**

5.1.8 Automatic extension finding

Here is a short description of the automatic nucleus extension finding.

Making the *BaseSummary.dat* file

In order to work, a specific file, *BaseSummary.dat*, must be present in the data directory. The aim of this file is to facilitate the search for a given Z,A,I and related `xmdir/xsdata` information (see also § 1.4.2 and 1.4.3).

Extracting the MC nucleus code from the *BaseSummary.dat* file

Suppose the desired *ZAI* exists in the *BaseSummary.dat* file. Then the choice of the desired nucleus is based on 2 criteria: the first one is related to the preference in a nuclear base (ENDB, JEFF, JENDL) and the version of this base, and the second criterion is related to the nucleus temperature. A score is calculated for each criterion, and the best score is chosen. Two classes are in charge of these criteria: *BasePriority* and *TemperatureMap*.

- *BasePriority class*: a priority base is organized in 3 levels (base names) and maximum 3 sub-levels (base versions). Level 1 has a greater priority than level 2 and so on. By default, the 3 levels are: (1) ENDFB (USA), (2) JEFF (European) and (3) JENDL (Japan). Only 1 sub-level is defined for each base (6.1 for ENDFB, 3.0 for JEFF and 3.3 for JENDL). If a user defines for each level the same base (e.g., (1) ENDFB, (2) ENDB, (3) ENDB), then this imposes the base choice (i.e., no other choice is possible).

For example

```
BasePriority *BP=new BasePriority();
BP->SetBasePriority(0,"JEFF"); //1st preferred base
```

```

BP->SetVersionPriority(0,"3.1",0); //1st preferred version for 1st preferred base
BP->SetVersionPriority(1,"2.2",0); //2nd preferred version for 1st preferred base
BP->SetBasePriority(1,"ENDFB"); //2nd preferred base
BP->SetBasePriority(2,"JENDL"); //2nd preferred base
gMURE->SetBasePriority (BP);

```

will choose nuclei first in JEFF 3.1, the if not found, in JEFF 2.2, then in JEFF (what ever is the version), then in ENDFB (default first preferred version VI.8) and then in JENDL (default first preferred version 3.3).

If one want to impose nuclei in ENDFB VII.0, then user should do

```

BasePriority *BP=new BasePriority();
for(int i=0; i<3; i++)
{
    BP->SetBasePriority(i,"ENDFB");
    for(int j=0; j<3;j++)
        BP->SetVersionPriority(j,"7.0",i);
}
gMURE->SetBasePriority (BP);

```

In that case, only nuclei given in the wanted nuclear base are used.

- *TemperatureMap class*: this class defines a temperature “binning” $T[i]$ and a precision ΔT ; an input temperature T_{in} can be searched in this binning with respect to the precision. For example, if $T[0] = 300 K$, $T[1] = 500 K$ and $\Delta T = 50 K$, then all T_{in} in $[250 K, 350 K]$ will have a score of $\frac{|T_{in}-T[0]|}{\Delta T}$, all T_{in} in $[350 K, 450 K]$ will have a 0 score. The precision ΔT can be set via `gMURE->GetTemperatureMap()->SetDeltaTPrecision()`. A zero score in temperature stops the MURE execution: you may either increase the ΔT precision or build the nucleus data file (ACE format) at the desired temperature.

5.1.9 Automatic XSDIR construction

Using the extension finding, *MURE* can build the *XSDIR/XSDATA* file that is used by *MC* code to get the cross-sections used in the problem. To use this option, you just have to set :

```
gMURE->SetAutoXSDIR();
```

When getting the code for *MC* file, *MURE* will then save the best line it finds in *BaseSummary.dat*. Therefore, right before building the *MC* file (the *XSDIR* is built at the first step of an evolution), *MURE* will build the *XSDIR/XSDATA* file by using all these best lines it saved.

IMPORTANT : If an existing *XSDIR/XSDATA* is already present in the *MC* run directory, then *MURE* will **NOT** build a new one ; the existing one will be used by *MC* code. Thus either the *xmdir/xsdata* is correct, either you have to remove it.

5.2 Particle Source

Because the difference between particle source definition in *MCNP* and *Serpent* is great, *MURE* source definition uses 2 different classes, **MCNPSource** and **SerpentSource** to avoid confusion for the user ; they are sibling of the *MCSource* class.

The *MCNPSource* *SerpentSource* classes enable the definition of particle sources (up to now only neutron sources may be defined for *Serpent*). Nevertheless, some source definition methods are common to both classes. Two type of source can be defined, source for criticality calculation (called *kcode mode*) and fix sources for non fissile or subcritical system only. For *Serpent*, source possibilities are much more simpler than for *MCNP* ; in *MURE*, the source implementation for *Serpent* is also much less developed. Mainly position and energy of punctual monoenergetic isotope source can be defined. Criticality is defined also by the “*SerpentSource::SetKcode*” method. In the following section, the *MCNPSource* is used because of its greater complexity, but looking to *SerpentSource* methods and their analog counterpart in *MCNPSource* is self understandable.

The source may be defined with *MCNP* card or as an external source. In the latter case (*MCNPSource::SetExtern()*), external source will be read in a special file. This is valid in subcritical mode as well as in critical (*KCODE*) mode (not true for *Serpent*). One chooses to run in subcritical mode (default) or in *KCODE* mode via the *MCNPSource::SetKcode()* method.

5.2.1 Setting Source for MURE

Once an *MCSOURCE* has been defined, one has to give this source to *MURE* class:

```
MCNPSource *mysource=new MCNPSource(1000); //1000 source particles
gMURE->SetSource(mysource);
```

5.2.2 Criticality calculation: Kcode mode

To be noticed that, for *Kcode*, the number of source particles defined in the constructor of *MCSOURCE* is in fact the number of neutrons per cycle.

To initiate a *KCODE*, a *SDEF* (or *KSCR*) card is needed (if no external source is given!). By default in *MCNP*, the position of this initial source is (0,0,0). If you want to change the source position, use the *MCNPSource::SetPosition()*. In *Serpent* the default positions are chosen in cells containing fissile materials.

```
MCNPSource *mysource=new MCNPSource(1000); //1000 source particles/cycle
//Kcode with first expected keff=1, 10 inactive cycles and 80 active ones
mysource->SetKcode(80,10,1);
gMURE->SetSource(mysource);
```

If one want to use a source from a previous *KCODE*:

```
gMURE->UsePreviousRunSource("olds");
```

where the source file *olds* is the result of a previous run. In case of evolution, if you do not specify any argument, the source will be calculated as specified by inactive cycles, and then for next *MCNP* runs, the source is taken from the previous cycle.

5.2.3 More elaborated sources (MCNP only)

The *MCNPSource* gives more details on *MCNPSource* class possibilities. Two simple examples are presented:

First

```

MCNPSource *source=new MCNPSource(1000); //1000 particles per cycle
source->SetKcode(500,20,1); //critical mode (500 active cycles, 20 inactive, supposed keff=1)
source->SetKSRC(); //use fission spectrum for neutron energy
source->AddPosition(0,0,0); //add one position for the source at (0,0,0)
source->AddPosition(0.1,0.1,0.1); //add an other one at (10cm,10cm,10cm)
source->AddPosition(0,0,0.2); //add an other one at (0,0,20cm)
source->AddPosition(0,0,-0.2); //add an other one at (0,0,-20cm)

```

and the second

```

MCNPSource *source=new MCNPSource(); //SDEF source with 10000 particles
source->SetEnergie("D1"); //energy is define by the source probability 1
source->SetDistribution("RAD=D2 EXT=D3"); // radial and axial extension are
// defined by source information 1 and 2
source->AddBias("SP1 -5 2.0"); //p(E)=E*exp(E/2.MeV)
source->AddBias("SI2 1. 2."); // radial extension from r=1cm to r=2cm
source->AddBias("SI3 -10. 10."); // axial extension from z=-10cm to z=10cm

```

5.2.3.1 Source define via Spectrum class (MCNP only)

One can define energy distribution source using the *Spectrum* class and the *MCNPSource::UseThisEnergyDistribution()* method. Any call to that method will dump in *MCNPSource_YourEnergyDistribution.dat*, the ASCII spectrum of this source (for user own use) as well as the total number of particles emitted (for normalization purpose).

To be noticed: this method will change the source particle type according to the *Spectrum* type (neutrons for *NeutronSpectrum*, γ for *GammaSpectrum*, ...).

This method only change energy distribution of the source (using *MCNP* distribution source cards (D, SI, ...) numbered by default from 800).

5.2.3.2 Tube Source (MCNP only)

It is possible to define volumic cylindrical sources with the help of the *Tube* class. Two methods are available : *MCNPSource::AddTubeSource(Tube * tube, string energy)* and *MCNPSource::AddTubeSource(Tube * tube, Spectrum* spectrum)*. In both cases, the *tube* is used to define the shape of the source. The first one allows to use either mono-energetic sources or using source distributions “D” card. **In the latter case, the user need to provide himself the distribution description via the *MCNPSource::AddBias()* method** (see *TubeSource.cxx* example). The method using *Spectrum* class argument use *Spectrum* to **define both particle type of the source** (neutrons for *NeutronSpectrum*, γ for *GammaSpectrum*, ...) **and energy spectrum** (see *TubeSource2.cxx* example).

Theses 2 methods use internally source distribution cards (*D*, *SP*, *SI*, ...). The starting number of these distribution is 900. Thus don’t use number above 900 to define your own source distribution and biasing.

Of course you can add more than one *Tube* source ; but **it is only possible to add more Tube sources with same calling method** (either *MCNPSource::AddTubeSource(Tube * tube, string energy)* or *MCNPSource::AddTubeSource(Tube * tube, Spectrum* spectrum)*). **One cannot mix them.**

5.2.3.3 Define MCNP Source from the result of an evolution (MCNP only)

If one want to use the energy distribution of a spent fuel which has cooled for a time *t*, use *MureGui* and dump the source in a *MURE* format (“Save Data” button, then select the “*MURE INPUT Spectrum*” radio widget). The generated file can be inserted in a *MURE* “cxx” code (c.f. *MureGui* section 8.3.6).

5.3 Tally class

The *Tally* class enables tallies for *MCNP/Serpent* to be defined.

WARNING : NEVER USE : “Tally *f=new Tally[N]” BUT USE INSTEAD “vector<Tally*> f(N) ; for (int i=0 ; i<N;i++) f[i]=new Tally;”. The reason is that when tallies are deleted, one need to use either “delete []” or “delete” ; in MURE, the second case is chosen which is incompatible with the former declaration.

MCNP tallies or equivalent *Serpent* detectors are used to store quantities from a run ; *Serpent* detectors and *MCNP* tallies have lots of common points but the *MCNP* version has more possibilities (Group tallies, tally normalization, ...). The implementation of tallies in *MURE* is (at least for historical reasons) much more developed for *MCNP*. Nevertheless, **surface tallies (type 1 and 2 in *MCNP*) are not fully implemented (Surface calculation, ...) even if one can use them with special precaution/verification.**

There are 2 main tally types: Surface tallies (type 1 and 2 in *MCNP*, same convention is kept for *Serpent*) and Cell tallies (4,...). At present, only *Cell* tally of type 1 (current through a surface), 2 (flux through a surface), 4 (flux in cell), 6 (energy deposition in a cell) and 7 (fission energy deposition in a cell) are implemented in *MURE*. **Surface tallies have not been tested at all and stochastic surface calculation is not implemented in *MURE*.**

A *Tally* consists of

- a tally type (what is the desired quantity, e.g. flux in a cell),
- a list of *TallyBin*: this may be *SimpleBin* (a cell or surface number), *GroupBin* (a group of cells or surfaces) or a *LatticeBin* which allows to obtain tallies in cells with universes. **The GroupBin does not exist in Serpent ; the LatticeBin is not implemented in MURE for Serpent.**
- a Time and/or Energy binning (linear, log or arbitrary binning)
- a list of *TallyMutiplicator* (*Tally Multiplier*) that allows to obtain cross-sections, A *TallyMutiplicator* is composed of a multiplicative constant, a material number and a *Reaction*. The multiplicative constant is not used in *Serpent*.

Of course Cell tally bin types could not be mixed with surface tally bin type. Tally bins are added with the *Tally::Add()* method (for cell/surface bins) whereas energy and/or time bins are added with *Tally::AddEnergy()* or *Tally::AddTime()*.

Tally multiplier may be added with *Tally::AddMultiplier()* to obtain cross sections, reaction rates and so on. Example of Tallies:

```
Tally *t1=new Tally(); //default tally type is 4: flux in cell
t1->Add(cell_1);
t1->Add(cell_2);
LatticeBin *lpb=new LatticeBin(rod); //rod is a cell associated to an element of a Lattice
lpb->AddContainer(core); //core is a cell fills by "rods"
t1->Add(lpb);
t1->AddEnergy(1e-2,1.e7); //log energy binning from 0.01 eV to 10 MeV with 10 bin/decade (default)
t1->AddMultiplier(mat_1,new Reaction(102)); //capture reaction rate
t1->AddMultiplier(mat_1,-6); //fission reaction rate
```

When in *LatticeBins*, you can precise the positions of the cell in the lattice, use a string which gives the position in the MCNP way, that is :

```
string pos="[0 0 0]";
LatticeBin *lpb=new LatticeBin(rod); //rod is a cell associated to an element of a Lattice
lpb->AddContainer(core,pos); //core is a cell fills by "rod" (e.g. a lattice)
```

This means that you are interested by the flux in the cell *rod* which is in the cell *core* at the lattice position [0,0,0]. The result in *MCNP* file will be (given that the number of cell rod is 1 and cell core is 2):

```
F4:N (1<2 [0 0 0])
```

Finally, you can use the universe shorthand (u=1 for instance), simply by giving the universe number, either directly if you know it or by using *Shape::GetUniverse()* :

```
Tally *t1=new Tally();
t1->Add(MainShape->GetUniverse());
```

Please note that, in *MCNP*, the universe shorthand doesn't work for lattice elements filled with the universe number, that is to say, when a lattice is filled by position, for instance when in *MURE* we use *Cell::FillLattice(Universe_Number, Position)*, the universe is not detected by *MCNP*. (see example *Tally_Test.cxx*)

As this shorthand is replaced by **all** the cells filled with the universe, we strongly recommend that you use it only if you are perfectly sure of the number of cells involved in the tally defined in that way.

Each tally must have a definite volume (or surface). The volume is set via the *Tally::SetBinVolume()* or for a given bin, via the *TallyBin::SetBinVolume()* or *TallyBin::SetVolume()*. This may be done manually or automatically: if no bin volume has been provided, the volume is automatically calculated by a stochastic method (see also the note C.1 concerning the volume calculation). For lattices and universe shorthand, as multiple volumes are needed for each bin, the *SetBinVolume()* method precises a partial number.

```
Tally *t1=new Tally(4);
t1->Add(Cell1);
t1->SetBinVolume(0,1.e-6,0); // Set the volume of Cell 1 to 1 cm3
LatticeBin *lpb2=new LatticeBin(rod1);
lpb2->AddContainer(rod2);
lpb2->AddContainer(core);
Tally *t2=new Tally(4);
t2->Add(lpb2); // A Lattice Bin giving something like (1 2 < 3)
t2->SetBinVolume(0,1.e-6,0); // Set the volume of Cell 1 in cell 3
t2->SetBinVolume(0,1.e-6,1); // Set the volume of Cell 2 in cell 3
```

The partial number follows the order of the output. (to know exactly the order for lattice bin volumes, see *MCNP* doc or example *Tally_test.cxx*).

5.3.1 Fluence to dose conversion (MCNP Only)

The *Tally::AddFluenceToDoseConversion()* method converts fluence (only for F4 type tally) to dose rate (rem/h) using fluence to dose conversion factors. It can be use only for photons or neutrons. The conversion factor are store in */path_to_mure/MURE/data/GammaFluenceToDose.dat* and *NeutronFluenceToDose.dat* (they are taken from [22]).

Interpolation is done for energies and for factors. This interpolation is done by default in log way. The 2 boolean parameters of *Tally::AddFluenceToDoseConversion()* allows to specify linear interpolation for energy (the 1st one) and conversion factors (the 2nd one).

```
Tally *MyTally=new Tally(4,ParticleType);//fluence to dose works only for ParticleType='P' or 'N'  
MyTally->Add(...);  
MyTally->AddEnergy(...);  
MyTally->AddFluenceToDoseConversion();
```

Chapter 6

Nuclei Tree

6.1 Nuclei Trees: general considerations

To evolve a given material, it is essential to know in advance the ensemble of nuclei which it can produce via successive nuclear reactions and decays. This information comes from the *Nuclei Tree* object, which is defined by the **NucleiTree** class, and contains the linking information between all the nuclei that exist in the chart of nuclides. Nuclei can be transformed into other nuclei by nuclear decays (β , α , electron capture, etc.) and nuclear reactions ((n, γ) , $(n, 2n)$, fission, etc.). In general a particular nucleus has daughters (those nuclei it can transform into) and parents (those nuclei that can produce it). To calculate how much of a particular nucleus is produced during the evolution it is essential to know the ways in which it can be produced and the ways it can be destroyed.

We cannot only define the total global nuclear tree (the connections between all 3834 nuclei), but also the local or particular tree for a given nucleus. The particular tree for a certain nucleus is, in general, a subset of nuclei and their linking from the global tree. To extract an individual tree from the global tree, the *NucleiTree::ExtractZAI* method is used. The local tree is explored recursively by starting at the given nucleus (see figure 6.1) and then finding each successive reaction and decay daughters.

6.1.1 How the tree information is stored

- The global nuclear tree has a vector of all the physically possible ZAI objects, representing the different isotopes, including long-lived isomers of the same isotope, as an attribute. Each ZAI object contains vectors of pointers to other ZAI which are either its reaction daughters or its decay daughters. When a particular tree is extracted, the parental relations are also determined (see figure 6.2). It is then possible to follow the tree by jumping from ZAI to ZAI, and to understand for each ZAI object all the ways it can be created and destroyed.

6.1.2 Cutting or simplifying the tree

Isotopes in the chart of nuclides have half-lives ranging over ~ 40 orders of magnitude. In a reactor core neutron fluxes are much lower ($\sim 10^{15}$ neutron/cm²/s) than in supernova explosions (up to $\sim 10^{24}$ neutrons/cm²/s) and thus decay rates are usually much higher than reactions rates for most short-lived nuclei. Furthermore, the reactor fuel composition only changes significantly after some years, so short-lived isotopes play no important role in the evolution. We can therefore assume that nuclei with short half-lives decay instantaneously which allows us to simplify the tree

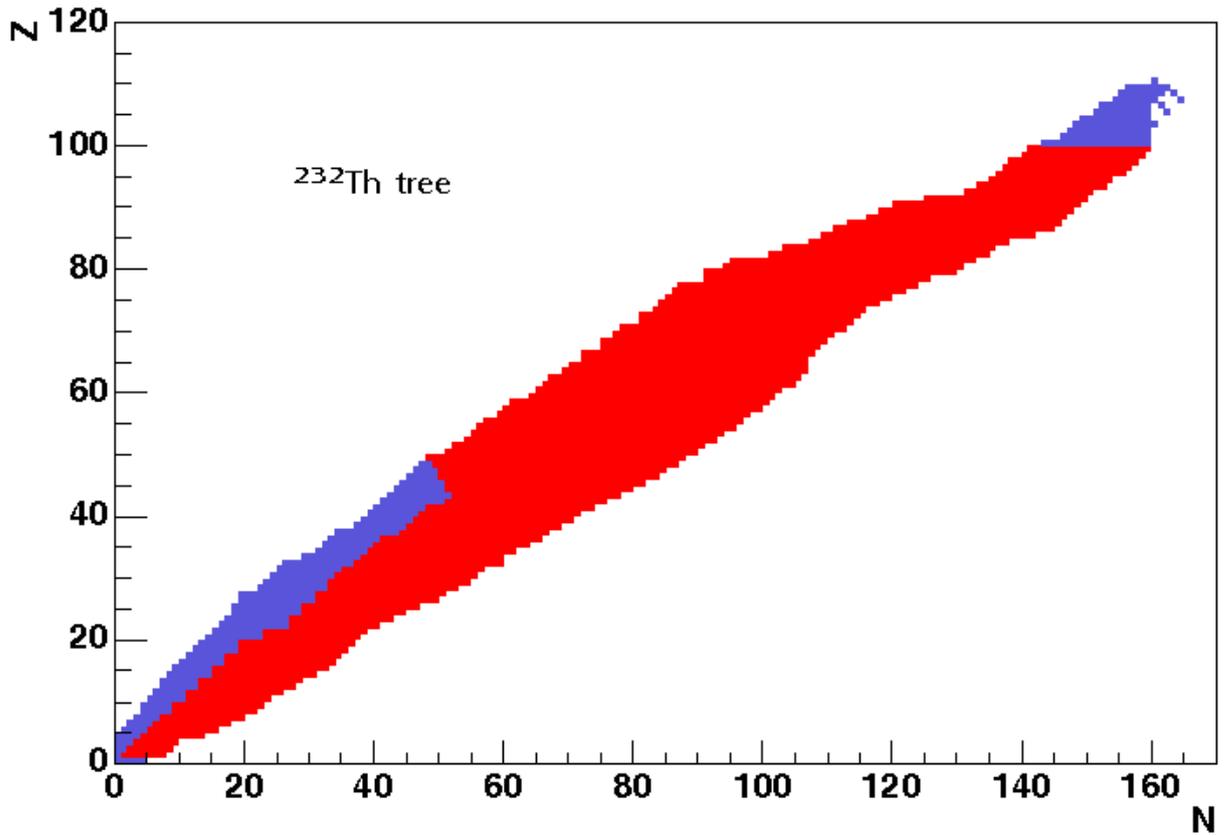


Figure 6.1: The chart of nuclides used in MURE containing 3834 Nuclei. Nuclei colored in red are those present in the Nuclear Tree of ^{232}Th . To build this tree, simple rules are used for determining which reactions are possible: if $Z < 50$, (n, γ) reactions are allowed, if $Z < 90$, (n, γ) and $(n, 2n)$ reactions are allowed, and if $Z \geq 90$, (n, γ) and $(n, 2n)$ and fission reactions are allowed.

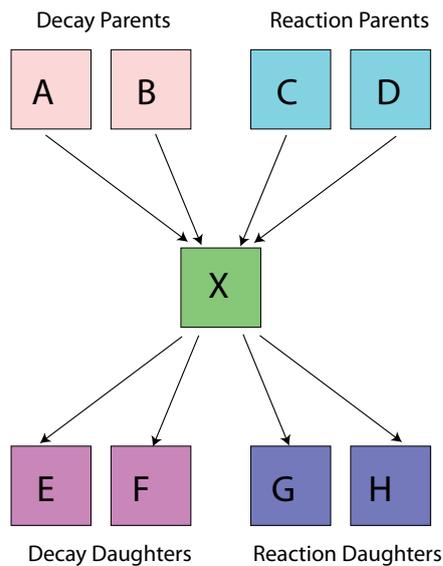


Figure 6.2: The general case of a ZAI object X in a tree with multiple reaction/decay parents and daughters.

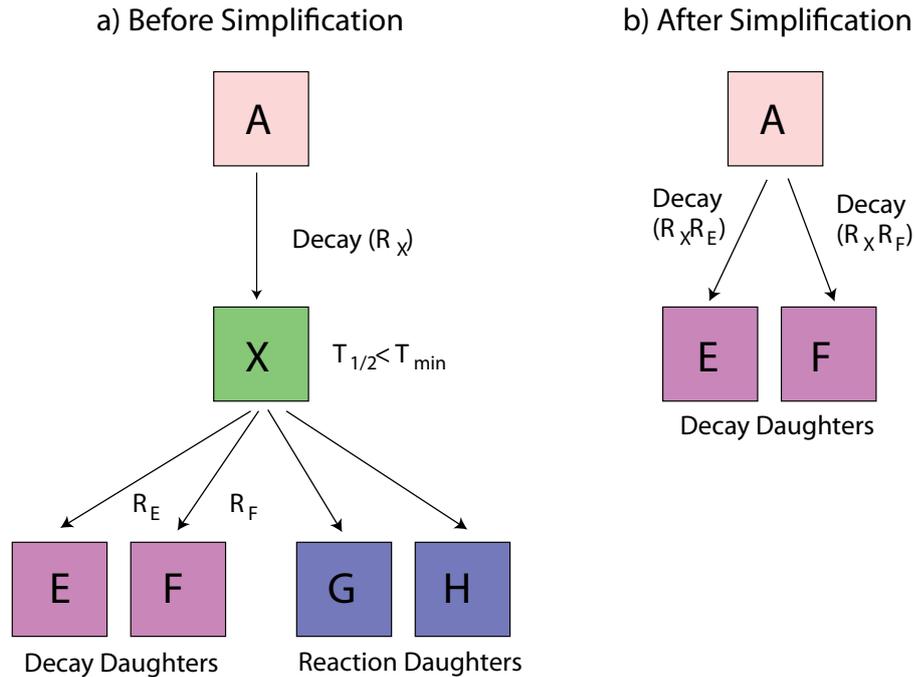


Figure 6.3: Tree simplification if nucleus X is produced via radioactive decay

and reduce the number of nuclei in the calculation and hence the calculation time. To simplify a nuclear tree requires these short-lived nuclei to be cut out of the tree and their reaction/decay parents and daughters re-linked into the tree correctly. There are two types of simplification for a particular tree branch, depending on whether the nucleus X in question is produced via decay (see figure 6.3) or nuclear reaction (see figure 6.4) .

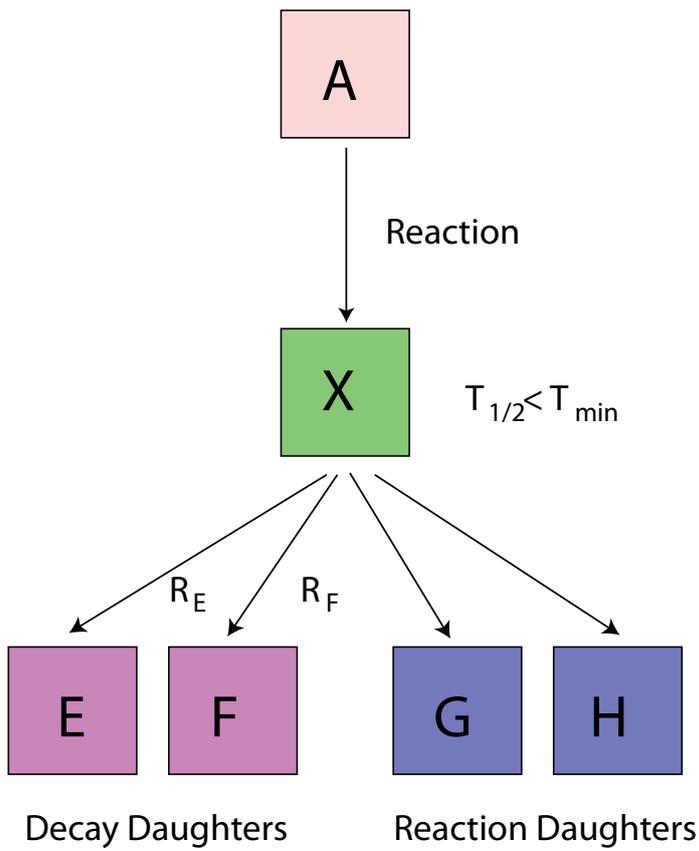
Note that this means that in some cases a single type of reaction can produce multiple daughters with different probabilities (branching ratios), since the reaction daughter had more than one decay daughter itself, and was cut out of the tree because its half-life was too short (see figure 6.4). After the simplification process, these reaction daughters will have weights which are proportional to the decay branching ratios of the nucleus that was removed from the tree.

For a particular tree many nuclei towards the neutron drip-line end up getting cut out due to their progressively shorter half-lives. In figure 6.5 we can see the nuclei explored and then removed from the tree right up to the edge of the nuclear chart.

6.1.3 The difference/similarity of material trees

Two nuclei X, and Y will have identical trees if there is a pathway of decays and reactions that produces Y from X and also a pathway of decays and/or reactions that produces X from Y. Reactions (n, γ) and $(n, 2n)$ move up/down in mass, and decays only move down in mass. Once the mass is sufficiently low that $(n, 2n)$ reactions are not permitted, then decays will only take nuclei as far as the valley of stability and a stable nucleus are reached. At this point the tree branch ends. However, successive neutron captures are always possible, therefore fuels containing lighter elements, such as the Oxygen in Uranium Oxide (UOX) fuel, will have a different tree from a pure fuel's one such as the ^{232}Th (see figure 6.6).

a) Before Simplification



b) After Simplification

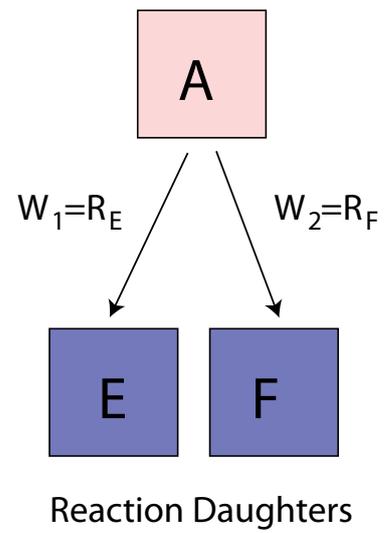


Figure 6.4: Tree simplification if nucleus X is produced via a reaction. The decay daughters of X become reaction daughters of A.

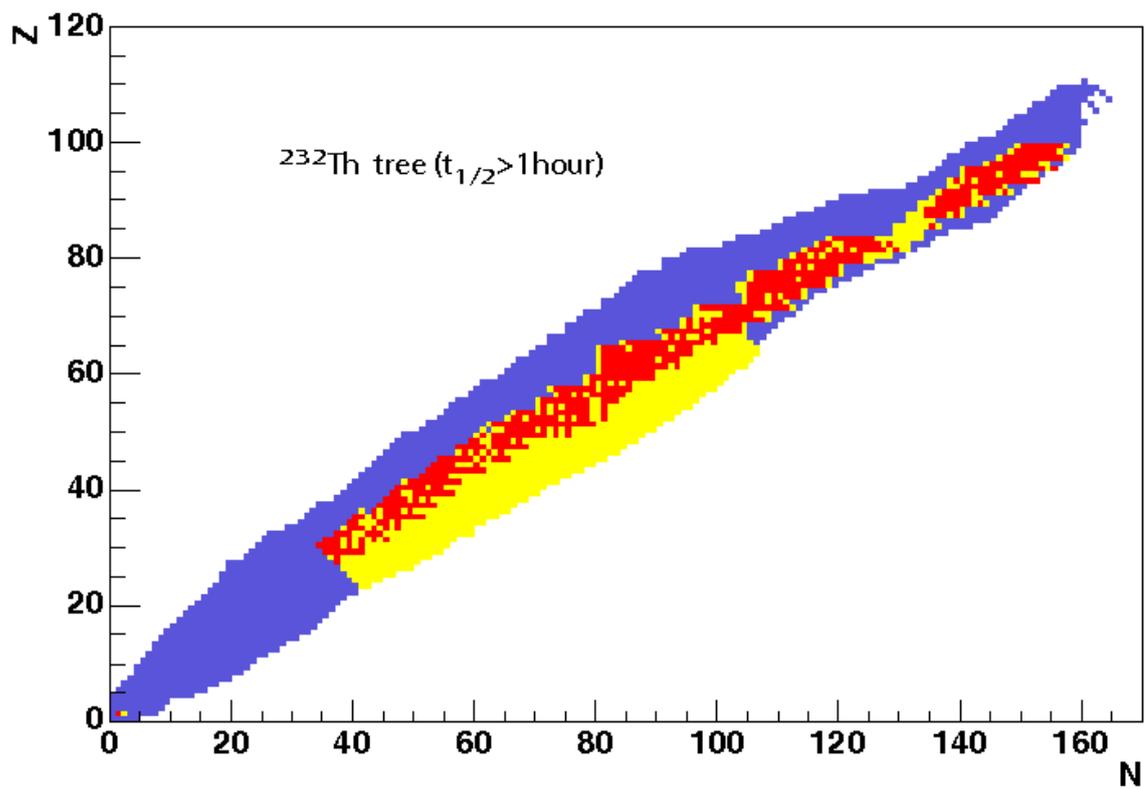


Figure 6.5: The simplified nuclear tree for ^{232}Th . Nuclei in yellow are those which were cut out during the tree exploration process because their half-lives were too short (less than 1 hour). Nuclei in red remain in the tree. Reactions follow the same rules that those defined in fig. 6.1.

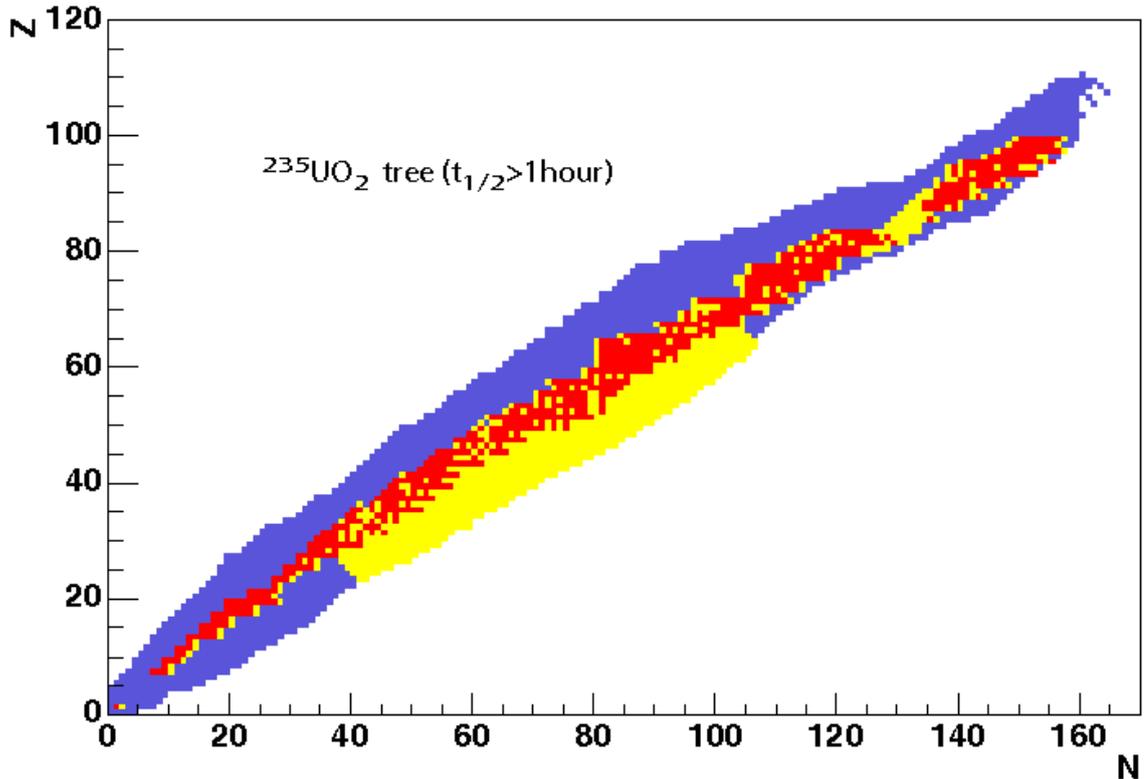


Figure 6.6: The UOX tree for $T_{1/2} \geq 1$ hour. Reactions follow the same rules that those defined in fig. 6.1.

6.1.4 How many nuclei need to be considered in the evolution?

In all the previous chart figures, the reactions taken into account are: if $Z < 50$, (n, γ) , if $Z < 90$, (n, γ) and $(n, 2n)$, and if $Z \geq 90$, (n, γ) and $(n, 2n)$ and fission reactions. In reality, of course, nuclear cross sections are only available for a subset of all nuclei. Figures 6.7 and 6.8 show the nuclei with available reaction data found in the default MCNP4 cross-section (from ENDFB base). All the available reactions are plotted in figure 6.9.

For a realistic half-life cut, the actinide nuclear tree still contains several hundred nuclei. However, simplification has reduced considerably the complexity of the problem(see figure 6.10)¹.

6.1.5 Fission Products

Fission products are built according to the fission yields available in nuclear data libraries (ENDF B 6.8). They are the major contributor to nuclei increased in the reaction tree. Thus, the more FP in nuclear libraries, the longer the *MCNP/Serpent* execution time will be due to the increase in tally number. Thus, in order to obtain a first approximation, it may be convenient to run only a selection of fission products that may be considered as “fundamental”. We provide a method, *NucleiTree::FissionProductSelection()* to choose the most important FP. All other FP will not evolve (no resolution of Bateman equations) but instead are added in the real materials of the *MC* input file in order to have a good flux description. A default selection has been entered with the nuclei of Table 6.1 ; nevertheless the user can provide a

¹In this figure, we also show the MURE cross-section data base built at IPNO/LPSC ; this base stores nuclei from ENDF, JENDL and JEFF. The relatively small difference in nuclei number between MCNP and MURE bases is due to the fact that this tree has been built at 300K. When choosing higher temperatures (as in standard reactors), the difference will increase because the MURE base has been processed for different temperatures (500K, 600K, 800K, 1000K, 1200K, 1500K) for minor actinides and main fission products. This base is not part of the MURE package.

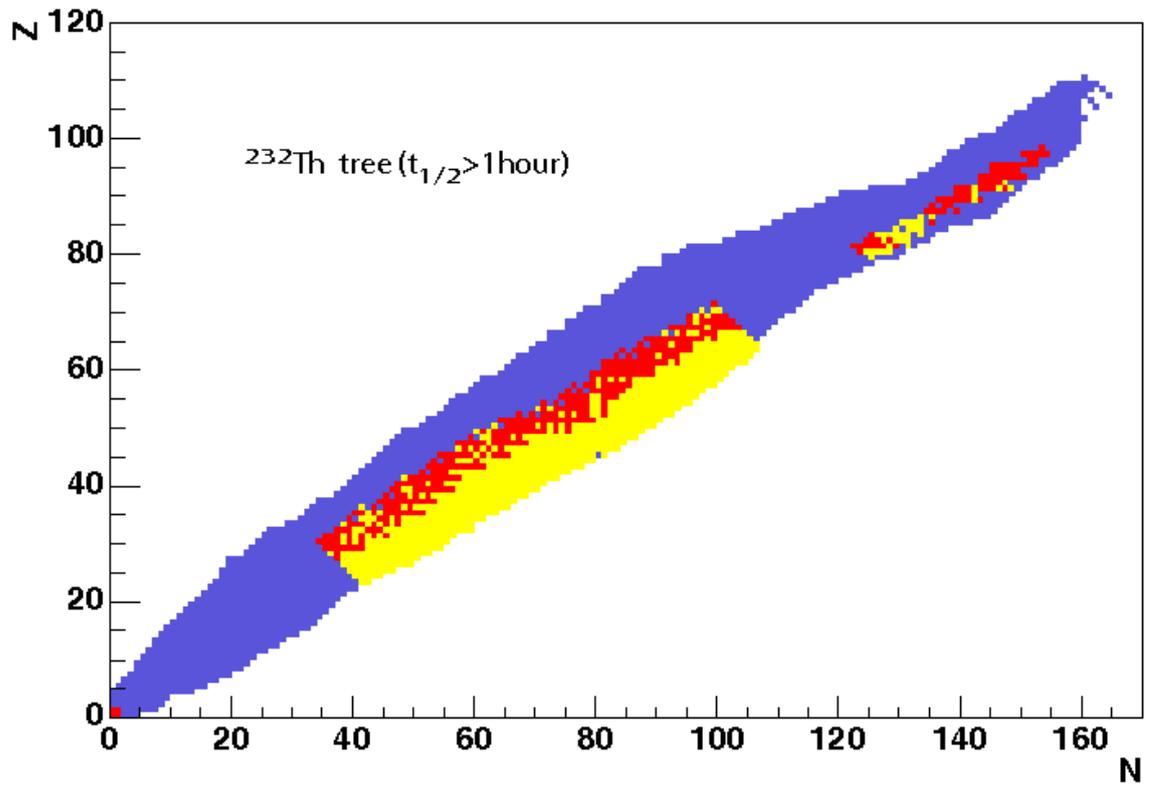


Figure 6.7: ^{232}Th tree with MCNP default cross-sections and $T_{1/2} \geq 1$ hour.

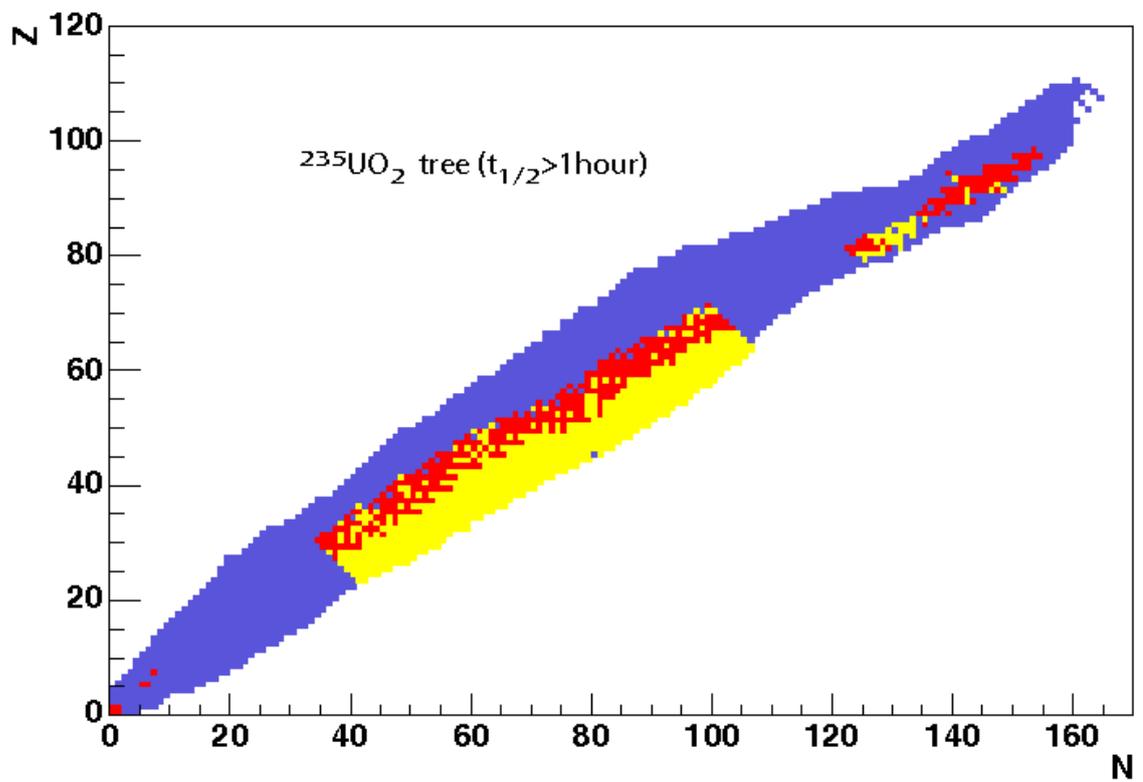


Figure 6.8: The UOX tree with MCNP default cross-sections for $T_{1/2} \geq 1$ hour.

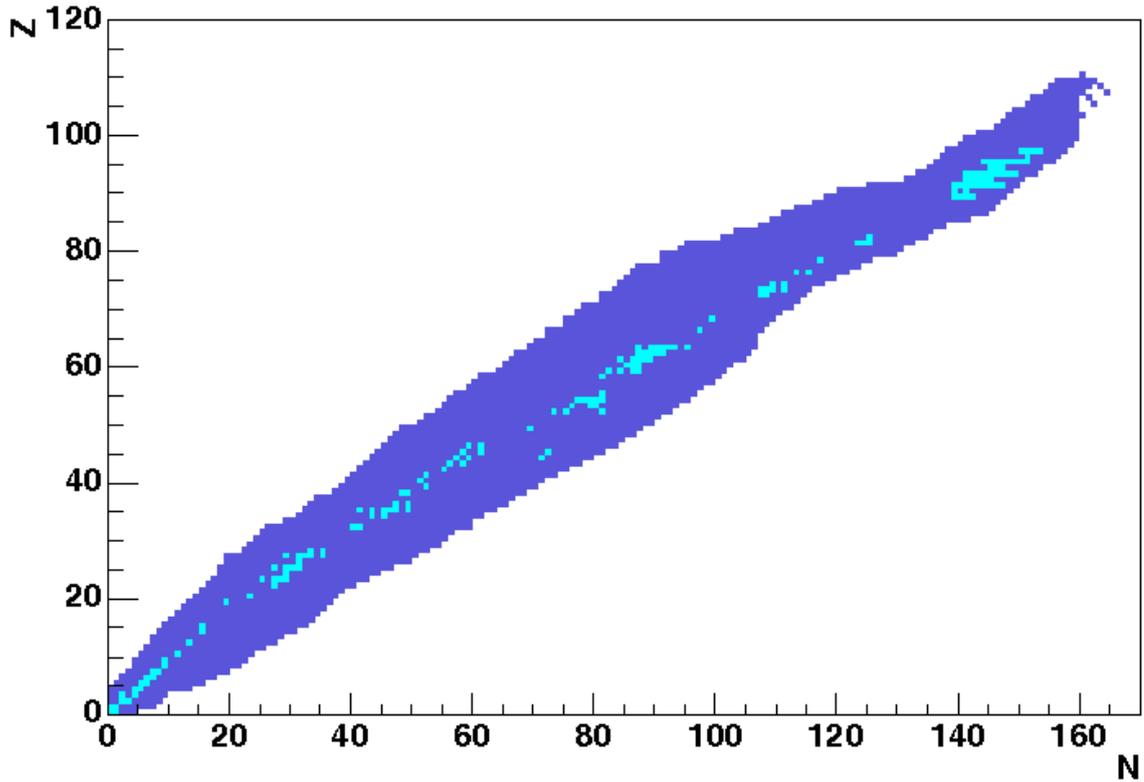


Figure 6.9: MCNP default available reaction data are shown in light blue.

file with its own selection. To use this selection you must use `gMURE->KeepOnlyFissionProductSelection()` ; to give your own selection, use `gMURE->KeepOnlyFissionProductSelection("MyFPSelection.dat")` where the file `MyFPSelection.dat` is an ASCII file with each FP you prefer to keep for evolution : for example

```
Z1 A1
Z2 A2
...
```

Table 6.1: Default 58 fission product selection in `NucleiTree::FissionProductSelection()`.

36-Kr- 83	46-Pd-107	54-Xe-134	60-Nd-145	62-Sm-152	66-Dy-160
40-Zr- 93	46-Pd-108	54-Xe-135	61-Pm-147	63-Eu-151	66-Dy-161
42-Mo- 95	47-Ag-109	54-Xe-136	61-Pm-148	63-Eu-152	66-Dy-162
43-Tc- 99	48-Cd-113	55-Cs-133	61-Pm-149	63-Eu-153	66-Dy-163
44-Ru-101	49-In-115	55-Cs-134	62-Sm-147	63-Eu-154	66-Dy-164
44-Ru-103	51-Sb-125	55-Cs-137	62-Sm-148	63-Eu-155	67-Ho-165
44-Ru-106	52-Te-127	55-Cs-135	62-Sm-149	64-Gd-155	68-Er-166
45-Rh-103	53-I -127	56-Ba-138	62-Sm-150	64-Gd-156	68-Er-167
45-Rh-105	53-I -135	59-Pr-141	62-Sm-151	64-Gd-157	
46-Pd-105	54-Xe-131	60-Nd-143	64-Gd-154	64-Gd-158	

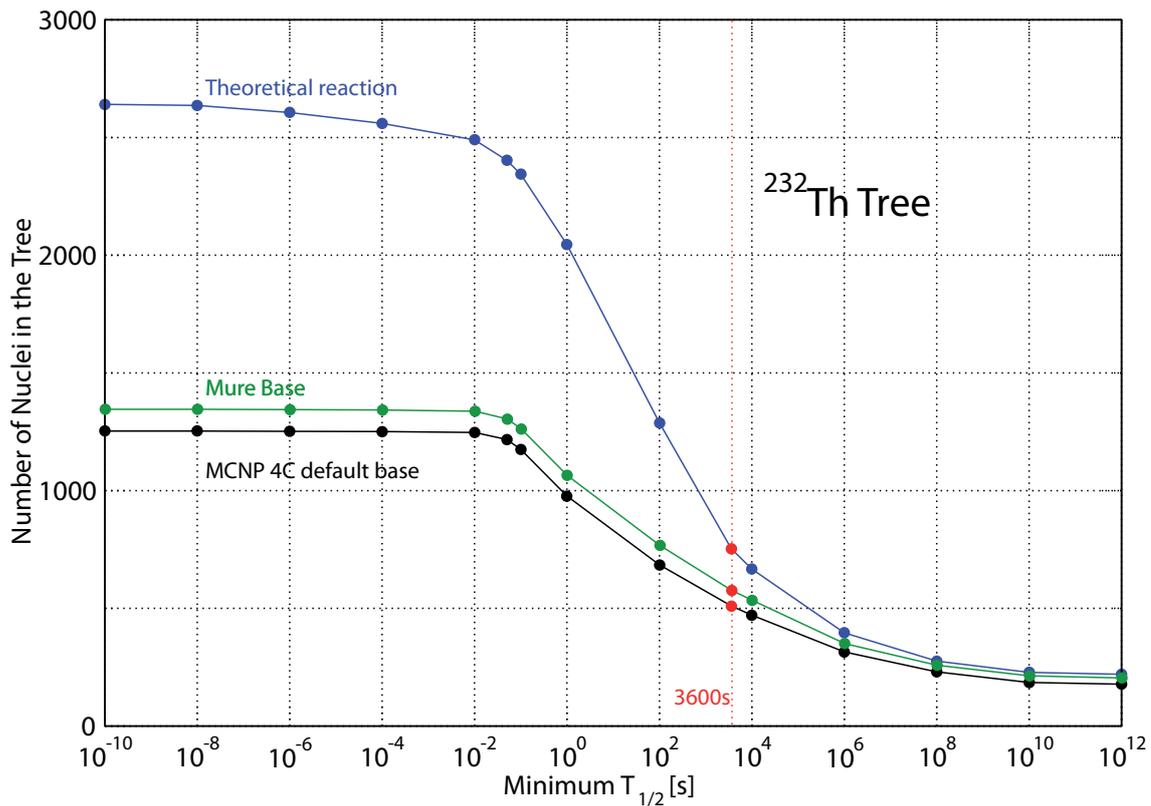


Figure 6.10: Number of nuclei in the ^{232}Th tree as a function of the minimum half life allowed, $T_{1/2\text{min}}$. The blue curve shows the number of nuclei in the tree if the simple rules for allowed reactions are used (see figure. 6.1). The black curve shows the number of nuclei in the tree if allowed reactions are taken from the *MCNP* default reaction data base. The green curve corresponds to the *MURE* data base built at IPNO/LPSC (not part of the *MURE* package). The red dot shows the number of nuclei in the tree for the default cut (1 hour).

6.1.6 Isomer Production from (n,gamma) or (n,2n) reactions

TO BE NOTICED: Before July 2012, MURE only takes into account the case of ^{241}Am . In the previous treatment, all ground state production was replaced by ^{242}Cm ; this was of course wrong and led to an over estimation of ^{242}Cm production and an under estimation of ^{242}Pu . This has been corrected since July 2012.

In some cases, (n, γ) (or $(n, 2n)$) reactions can lead to either ground state and isomeric state of a nucleus. For example, let take the case of ^{241}Am . Neutron capture on this nucleus leads to $^{242}\text{Am}(T_{1/2} \sim 16h)$ and $^{242m}\text{Am}(141y)$. Ground state decays in $^{242}\text{Pu}(17.3\%)$ by electronic capture and in $^{242}\text{Cm}(82.7\%)$ by β^- decay. A file (*IsomerProduction.dat*) is provided to give the branching ratio (for thermal and fast spectrum) to produced its ground and isomeric states of some nuclei. The format of this file is

```
Z A ReactionCode BRth BRf halflife CutFlag
...
```

where Z, A, ReactionCode, BRth and BRf are respectively the Z (95 for ^{241}Am), A (241 for ^{241}Am), the reaction type (allowed type are *n_gamma* or *n_2n*) and the thermal (87.33% for ^{241}Am) and fast (85% for ^{241}Am) branching ratio of the (n, γ) reaction **that leads to ground state** (of ^{242}Am). The “halflife” parameter is the half life of the produced ground state ($T_{1/2} \sim 16h$ for ^{242}Am) follows by its unit (here “h”); **this parameter is not used**, it is just an indication that can help the user to decide if the last parameter (CutFlag) is a “X” or a “M”. “M” means that MURE decide what to do according to *MURE::GetShortestHalfLife()* method. “X” forced the replacement of the ground state (e.g. ^{242}Am) by its decay daughters. To be noticed, if “M” is chosen, wrong results can be obtained in ^{242}Pu and ^{242}Cm for example, if no cross section is available for the ground state (^{242}Am).

Branching Ratio Evaluated branching ratio data for isomer production can be obtained at NNDC-ENDF, in the “advanced” or “extended” retrieval tab, by choosing “n,g” in the *Reaction line* and “MRNP” (Multiplicities for production of radioactive elements, MF=9) in the *Quantity line*. The branching ratio given in MURE/data/IsomerProduction.dat are effective branching ratio computed on a typical thermal and fast spectrum as explained in [25]:

$$BR_{eff} = \frac{\int_0^\infty BR(E)\sigma_{react}(E)\phi(E)dE}{\int_0^\infty \sigma_{react}(E)\phi(E)dE}$$

The NNDC-ENDF site gives either the branching ratio to the ground state or to the isomeric state(s); but in MURE the branching ratio given is always to the ground state.

6.2 Nuclei Tree: the implementation

6.2.1 Important files

All provided data files are located in *MURE/data*. One can use either, *gMURE->SetDATADIR(path)* or the environment variable DATADIR (*setenv DATADIR path* in csh).

- When building trees, nuclear mass data are also incorporated: the two files used for the input are *Mass.dat* (a modified version of the "The 2003 Atomic Mass Evaluation" data from the National Nuclear Data Center (BNL)) and *NaturalIsotopeMass.dat* that is used for non evolving natural isotopes (i.e. with A=0); this file has been built from the NNCD nuclear wallet card. The names of these files can be defined by *gMURE->SetMassDataFileName()* and *gMURE->SetNaturalIsotopeMassFileName()* respectively.

- *Decay data:* The decay data for the ~ 4000 nuclei in the nuclear chart comes from the *chart.jeff3.1.1* file which has been constructed from the ref. [16]. The name of this file is set through the command `gMURE->SetNucleiChartFileName()`.
- *Reaction data:* Allowed reactions are defined in ***ReactionList*** class. This class allows different kinds of possibilities for allowed reaction initialization. The reactions allowed by using the simple rules (see Fig. 6.1) are defined in `ReactionList::InitJon()` ; the automatic detection from available cross-sections is defined in `ReactionList::InitPTO()` (see next paragraph for more details). It uses cross-sections in **ACE format**. The *AvailableReactionChart.dat* helps to save times (this file informs if cross-section are available or not for each nucleus of *chart.jeff3.1.1* file). This file could be made by using `MURE/utils/jp/CheckReaction`. Other initialization functions are free to be defined by the user. This is particularly useful for prohibiting all reactions except a few of particular interest to the given problem.

One can choose a given method to generate *ReactionList* with

```
gMURE->SetReactionListInitMethod(new TSpecificFunctor<ReactionList>(0, &ReactionList::InitMethod));
```

where *InitMethod* could be *InitJon*, *InitPTO*, ..., `ReactionList::InitPTO()` being the default.

- *Isomer production:* a file *IsomerProduction.dat* is provided in `MURE/data` that contains information to produce isomer state and ground state from (n, γ) reactions. This file contains Z,A, thermal and fast branching ratio for a mother nucleus (e.g. ^{241}Am) as well as half-life of the produced ground state (e.g. ^{242}Am) and a string flag (either “M” or “X”) to know if user want to replace the ground state by its daughters (e.g. electronic capture ^{242}Pu and β^- -decay ^{242}Cm daughters). “M” means that *MURE* decide what to do according to `MURE::GetShortestHalfLife()` method. “X” forced the replacement of the ground state (e.g. ^{242}Am) by its decay daughters. **If a file *IsomerProduction.dat* exists in the local run directory, this file is used instead of the `MURE/data/IsomerProduction.dat` one.**
- *Fission:* Two files are needed for the inclusion of spontaneous fission decays and neutron induced fission reactions: *FPavailable.dat* and *FPyield.bin*, which have been built by `MURE/utils/jp/GenerateFPYield`. The first file is in ASCII format and contains the fission energies for each available ZAI, and the position (records) of the fission product yields in the binary file *FPyield.bin* (see for example Fig. 6.11 and 6.12). Even if these files are provided with *MURE*, you can regenerate them by providing the appropriate ENDF fission yield file.

6.2.2 Reaction Auto-detection

Reaction auto-detection is based on information found in the *ACE* binary^{2 3} format files. Nuclei, for which reaction cross-section database information is available, can be found. The auto-detection process relies on the ***ReactionList*** class.

²One can make ACE binary format from ASCII ACE format using MCNP *makzsf* exec. Even if NJOY is theoretically able to create such files (ACE binary files), our experience shows that only ASCII files made by NJOY are usable. So you can process ACE ASCII files from ENDF format with NJOY and then, use *makzsf* to convert them to binary.

³An ASCII file may be used but since the run time increases significantly, we recommend to convert the ASCII ACE file to a binary ACE file with *makzsf*.

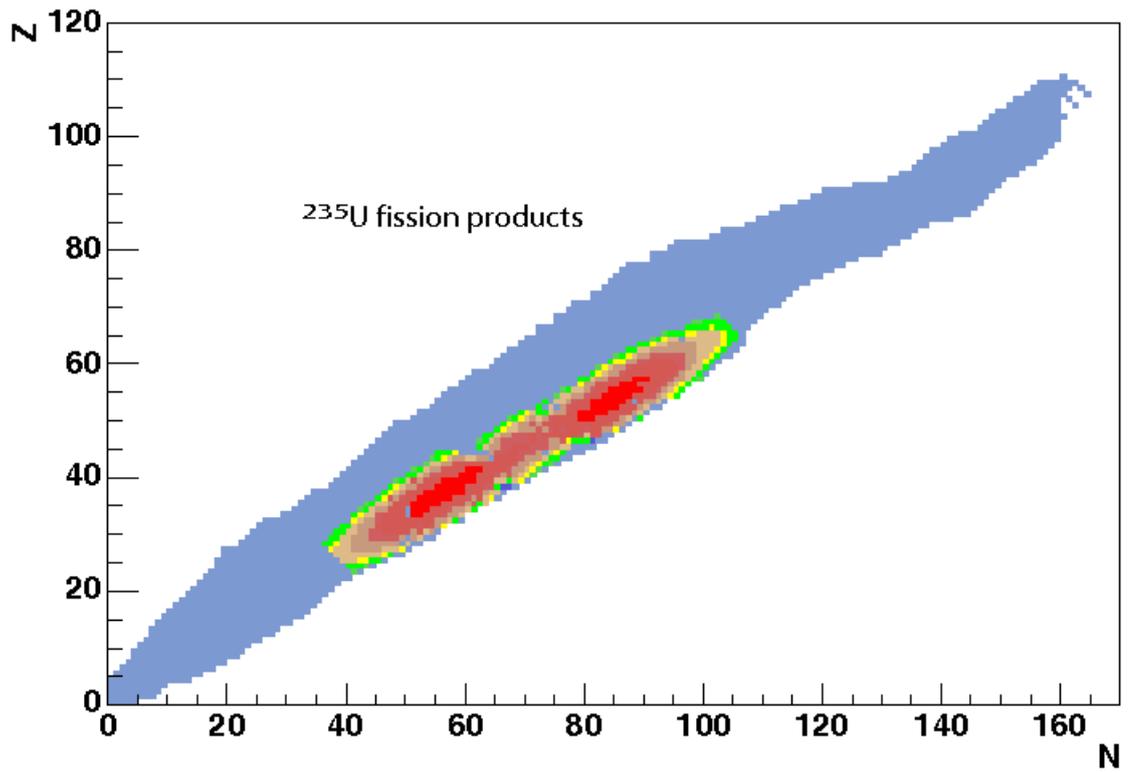


Figure 6.11: Fission yield for ^{235}U .

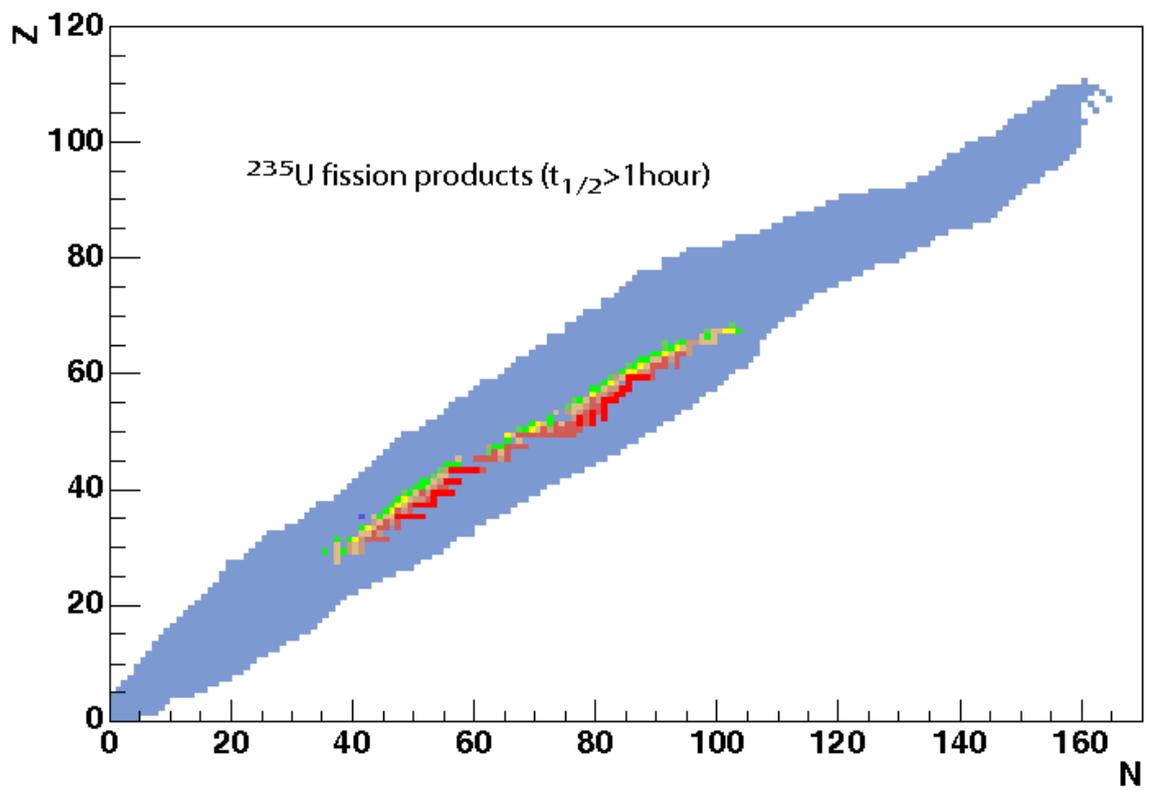


Figure 6.12: Fission yield for ^{235}U with $T_{1/2} > 1$ hour.

How does it work?

- First, try to find out if auto-detection has been performed for the given ZAI by reading the binary file “*ReactionList/Z.bin*” where *Z* is the proton number of the ZAI. This file contains an array of Boolean for each reaction.
- If ZAI is not found in “*ReactionList/Z.bin*”, start auto-detection:
 - Try to find in *BaseSummary.dat* file the ZAI (or an isomeric state of the ZAI)
 - If it is found, read the ACE file and, among all reactions found in this file, find those which are significant according to a given threshold (see next paragraph)
 - Allow significant reactions and disable all others in *ReactionList* and add the ZAI to the “*ReactionList/Z.bin*” file with its reactions.

PLEASE NOTE: if the *BaseSummary.dat* file is modified (add new nucleus, or new base) or if the threshold used to find significant reactions is changed, **THE *ReactionList* DIRECTORY MUST BE REMOVED**. Otherwise, your modifications will not be taken into account.

What are significant reactions?

A quantity Ξ_i is calculated as

$$\Xi_i = \frac{\int \sigma_i d \log E}{\int d \log E}$$

where *i* stands for reaction *i*. Then if and only if $\Xi_i \geq \sigma_{min}$ where σ_{min} is a minimum threshold, the reaction is taken into account ; The default threshold has been set to 0.01 barn⁴. This can be modified by *MURE::SetReactionThreshold()* called before any *MURE::SetReactionListInitMethod()* or Material definition. In order to save time, the procedure to allow or disable a reaction for a given nucleus is performed only the first time an evolution for that nucleus is asked ; then the result for that nucleus (i.e., a *ReactionList* object) is stored in a file (one per *Z*) in a specific local directory named **ReactionList**.

NOTE Any change of the *MURE::SetReactionListInitMethod()* or *MURE::SetReactionThreshold()* after a first run will be taken into account only if the nucleus has not been already processed: thus you must destroy the **ReactionList** directory in order to have these changes taken into account.

6.2.3 The recursion depth cut

It is possible to put a limit on the recursion depth of the reactions when calling the *NucleiTree::ExtractZAI* method. For example prohibiting 30 or more successive neutron captures limits the nuclei included in the tree to the top of the actinide region (e.g Fermium, Californium, etc.) where experimental cross-section information does not exist, and many successive neutron captures are the only way in which these nuclei can be produced. The recursion depth parameter should be used with care. Figure 6.13 shows the effect of the recursion depth. The default value is 10000...

⁴This threshold has been chosen in order to suppress “exotic” reactions, such as (n,n α), as well as other insignificant reactions and to keep “essential” reactions ; a file, *SuppressReaction.dat* in the *ReactionList* directory contains the removed reactions. Don’t forget to verify it!!!!

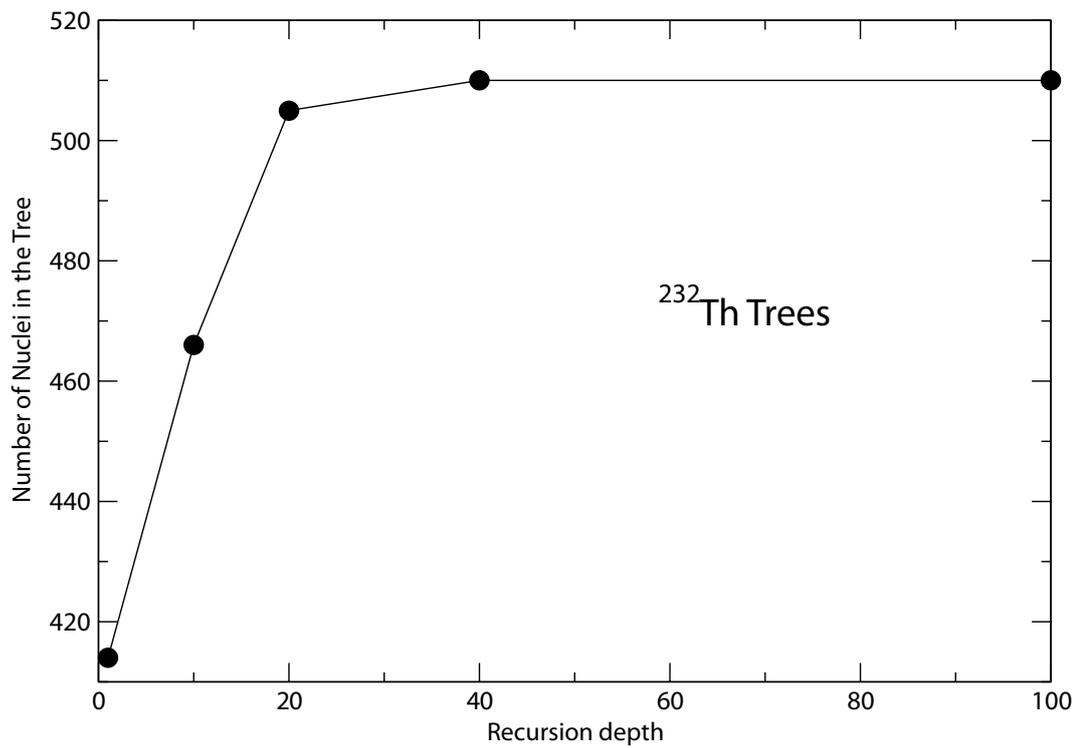


Figure 6.13: Effect from limiting the recursion depth for successive reactions in the ^{232}Th tree, where nuclei with $T_{1/2} < 1$ hour have been removed.

Chapter 7

Evolution in MURE

7.1 Preliminary Remark

Before doing any evolution you must provide a system (geometry based on Cells, all Materials, running *MC* code mode (critical or subcritical), ...). This system definition is normally provided by the *MURE* geometry input file (a C++ code). But if you have a very large *MCNP* file already defined, it is possible to perform an evolution using this file without redefining the whole *MCNP* geometry in *MURE* style. The way of doing this is explained in section 7.5. This has not been yet implemented for *Serpent*.

7.2 General Considerations

Simulating time evolution involves solving the well-known Bateman equations for every given nucleus in every given cell for which evolution is desired, and carrying out this integration over a discrete number of time steps. Simulating the fuel burn-up may also involve adjusting the neutron flux value at every step of the integration process so as to model constant reactor power, adjusting poison concentration to keep a given value for k_{eff} , ...

Implementation of evolution related methods are handle via the *EvolutionSolver* class. An object of that class is automatically built in **MURE** constructor, thus on can access to it via *gMURE->GetEvolutionSolver()*.

The general scheme for the evolution is shown in figure 7.1:

- The nuclei tree is built once and for all at the first *MC* run ; it is controled via the *Material::SetEvolution()* method which must be called for each evolving *Material* **before** any cell definitions are made. Initial compositions of all materials are entered by the user and these will evolve automatically.

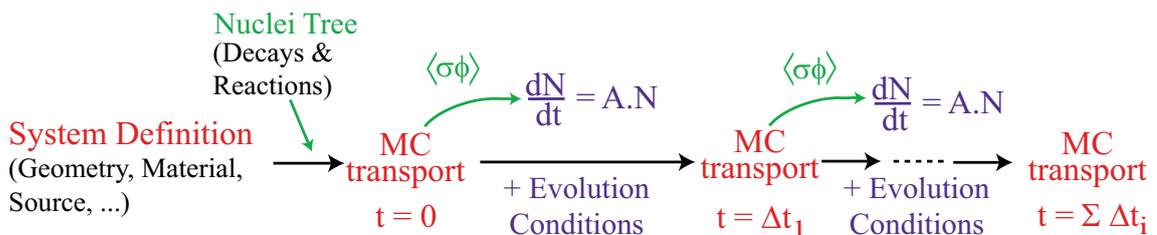


Figure 7.1: Evolution principle.

- All the necessary tallies for calculating mean neutron fluxes and cross-sections in evolving cells are automatically built.
- The *MC* input file with the composition at a given time t_i is built and a *MC* run is performed.
- Bateman equations are solved for (Runge-Kutta method) using fluxes and cross-sections of the *MC* run over a given Δt_i
- A new *MC* file with the composition at $t_{i+1} = t_i + \Delta t_i$ is built, and so on.

At the present time:

- User must provide all t_i in a vector of double where the i th element is the value of instant t_i at which the Monte-Carlo transport is to be performed.
- *EvolutionControl* is used to define evolution conditions (constant power, k_{eff} adjustments, ...). Using inheritance, you may develop your own *EvolutionControl* class (see for example the *PoisonEvolutionControl* class and § 7.4).

The results of an evolution consist of a number of files stored in an “evolution” directory ; the name of this directory should be defined by the user via the *MURE::SetMCRunDirectory* function. Two general sorts of files can be found in this directory : On the one hand, there are the *MC* input and output files (“o”, “m”, “s” and so on for *MCNP* and “_res.m”, “_det0.m”, ... for *Serpent*) and on the other, the MURE-generated summary files (*DATA_i*, *BDATA_i*, ...) that can be read by a **ROOT** (see ROOT home page) C++ interface: **MureGui**.

7.2.1 Time discretization

There are 3 levels of time discretization:

- The first level is the *MC* step, i.e., the number of Δt_i or *MC* runs. These steps are user-defined and may be unregular.
- The second level is the discretization within a Δt_i . Each Δt_i is divided in N_{RK} equally spaced Runge-Kutta δt steps (which we’ll also refer to as RK steps). At each $t_k = k\delta t$, Bateman equations are built with given cross-sections. Special methods controlling the evolution could be called at these times (e.g. the flux is renormalized to keep the constant power, ...).
- Then the last discretization step is performed automatically by the adaptive step size RK method. During this step (discretization of δt in dt_{rk}) cross-sections as well as fluxes are kept constant.

7.2.2 The Bateman’s Equation

Here is the general form of the first-order differential equation that has to be solved for every nucleus in every evolving cell.

$$\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial t} = \underbrace{-\lambda_i N_i + \sum_j \lambda_j^{j \rightarrow i} N_j}_{\text{Decay}} + \underbrace{\sum_j N_j \sigma_j^{j \rightarrow i} \langle \phi \rangle - N_i \sum_{\forall r} \sigma_i^{(r)} \langle \phi \rangle}_{\text{Reaction}}$$

The writing and solving of these equations are systematically carried out by using internal methods of the *EvolutionarySystem* class. Only the general approach will be specified here. This approach involves the definition of what is called the *evolution matrix* E for every evolving cell. The user does not need to know in detail how it works and it is only being described here for the record.

7.2.2.1 The evolution matrix

Internally, every evolving cell knows which nuclei it contains (initially) or will eventually contain due to the evolution of its initial composition, thanks to the prior construction of the nuclei tree (c.f. *NucleiTree* in chapter 6). The approach taken in *MURE* is to assign unique indexes to every nucleus in the cell's composition so as to build its evolution matrix E . It is a square matrix of n dimensions, n being the total number of nuclei in the composition of the cell.

After completion of the matrix, the i th nucleus of a given cell will evolve according to its own Bateman's equation which will then be simply written as the sum over all nuclei:

$$\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial t} = \sum_j E_{ij} \times N_j$$

where E_{ij} is the corresponding element of matrix E and represents the contribution of the j th nucleus in the cell's composition to the rate of change in time of the i th nucleus.

The actual writing of the matrix follows the natural structure of Bateman's equations and is done in two separate parts : first by taking into account all parent/daughter decay relations between nuclei considering proper decay branching ratios. After this, the parent/reaction daughters term is added, where, in the case of fission, fission yields are properly considered.

The evolution matrix is rebuilt in this way at every Runge-Kutta step (c.f. : Time Discretization) for all evolving cells. The solving for the material's composition new proportion vector $\vec{N} = \{N_0, N_1, \dots, N_n\}$ is done automatically using a fourth-order Runge-Kutta-type integration method.

7.2.2.2 Multi-Threading parallelization

Since *gcc* version 4.1, *OpenMp* multi-threading is available with *gcc* compilation. Depending on the distribution, *libgomp* library (*omp.h* and *libgomp*) need to be installed. The multi-threading behavior is controlled by the **OMP_NUM_THREADS** environment variable. Setting it to 1 is equivalent to the single processor mode. Setting it to the maximum number of cores available, will run on all that cores (which is the default when this variable is not set). This variable only controls the behavior of the evolution NOT the *MC* run itself (which is still controlled by the *MURE::SetOMP()* method).

7.2.2.3 Cooling period

Whereas in general the evolution is useful when the reactor runs at its given power, it is also possible to introduce some cooling period, where the power (and thus the flux) is set to 0. This is done by using an array of booleans of same size than the time vector at which *MC* runs are normally performed. Each time this array contains a "true", the flux is imposed to 0 for the considered step, else the evolution is a standard one. The array is passed to *MURE* via *gMURE->SetCooling()* method.

7.3 Different way of evolution

We suppose that the evolution is done at a constant power. Evolution can be performed in different ways that can influence the result.

1. **Evolution with a “constant” reaction rate:** this is the default. Between 2 *MC* steps, reaction rates are keep “constant” ; a new reaction rate evaluation is performed at the next *MC* run for the next step. In fact, they are not really constant: due to renormalization of the flux to keep constant power, reaction rates used in Bateman equations are in fact, $\alpha\sigma\phi$ where α is the flux renormalization coefficient. Thus, periodically within a *MC* step, these reaction rates are readjusted (this explains the use of the term “constant” in quotes). An example of such evolution can be found in *MURE/examples/Evolution/EvolvingSphere.cxx* or *MURE/examples/Evolution/EvolvingSphere_serpent.cxx*
2. Cross-section evolution: this is no longer the default. Previous *MC* runs are used to linearly extrapolate the reaction rates for the next step.
3. Window average evolution: a mean $(\sigma\phi)$ is calculated from the previous *MC* runs and the actual one ; this mean value is used to solve Bateman’s equations. The window to compute average is based on *Evolution-Solver::GetFitRangeNumber()* previous runs (default is 4).
4. Predictor-corrector methods. There are 3 Predictor-corrector (PC) methods implemented. This is actually new and not fully tested (despite the fact that it currently works). Suppose that the *MC* run at time T_N has been done (leading to reaction rates $(\sigma\phi)_N$). The evolution has to be performed up to T_{N+1} .
 - (a) PC at middle point: the predictor run is performed with “constant” reaction rates $(\sigma\phi)_N$ up to $T_C = \frac{T_N+T_{N+1}}{2}$; then a corrector MC run is performed and leads to $(\sigma\phi)_C$. Starting with the composition of T_N , the evolution is done again from T_N to T_{N+1} with the “constant” reaction rates $(\sigma\phi)_C$ evaluated at the middle point.
 - (b) PC at end-point: the predictor run is performed with “constant” reaction rates $(\sigma\phi)_N$ up to $T_C = T_{N+1}$ leading a composition C_{N+1}^P ; then a corrector MC run is performed and leads to $(\sigma\phi)_{N+1}$. Starting with the composition of T_N , the evolution is done again from T_N to T_{N+1} with the “constant” reaction rates $(\sigma\phi)_{N+1}$ leading to a composition C_{N+1}^C . Then, the composition used for the next predictor run (for T_{N+1} to T_{N+2}) is $C_{N+1} = \frac{C_{N+1}^P+C_{N+1}^C}{2}$.
 - (c) Kind of PC at end-point: the predictor run is done like in b) but for the corrector run, we used a linear interpolation of reaction rates from $(\sigma\phi)_N$ to $(\sigma\phi)_{N+1}$. The next composition for T_{N+1} to T_{N+2} is $C_{N+1} = C_{N+1}^C$.

First tests seem to give an advantage to method b) for the quality of its results (compositions, dispersion of composition for M identical run with different random seeds, ...).

5. **Multi-Group evolution**[17]. If this method is used, not that reaction rate tallies are not built in the *MC* input file ; instead, a thin energy binning flux will be built for each evolving cell. Then, after the *MC* run, reaction rates are calculated as $\int \phi(E)\sigma_i^r(E)dE$ where the sum is done over each energy group, σ_i^r is the pointwise cross-section of reaction r for nucleus i read in the ACE file used for *MC* run (if ASCII

version is used, please note that this will take longer...). The main advantage of this method is a considerable CPU time saving (more than 30 times faster¹ than the “standard” evolution). The accuracy of the result are quite good (~1% for thermal systems and 5% for fast ones²). To use this method, one has to define “*gMURE->GetEvolutionSolver()->UseMultiGroupTallies();*” at the beginning of the input file (see *MURE/examples/Evolution/EvolvingSphere2.cxx* example). The default energy binning for flux is (17900 groups)

Energy range	10 ⁻⁴ eV - 1eV	1eV - 10eV	10eV - 10keV	10keV - 0.1MeV	0.1MeV - 20MeV
Number of bins/decade	100	500	5000	1000	500

The main problem of multi-group evolution is the ²³⁸U. Its capture cross section has been chosen to “optimize” the group structure (number of bins/energy interval). In order to take the advantage of the multi-group CPU time saving, it has been implemented the possibility to use multi-group runs for all nuclei but ²³⁸U : in that case, the “standard” method (real *MC* tally) is used for ²³⁸U, and multi-group tallies for the other nuclei. This is done by setting the “StdTallyFor238U” to “true” in the “*EvolutionSolver::UseMultiGroupTallies()*” method.

7.3.1 Cross-section Evolution

Cross-sections are evolving with time because of the flux shape evolution. Between 2 MCNP steps, cross-sections are either constant, either evolving. Taking the cross-section evolution during the “evolving step” should enable a better precision and increase evolution step duration, reducing the CPU time. It is based on linear extrapolation of previous *MC* runs.

!!!! After a study of error propagation, it appears that fitting $\sigma\phi$ leads to a bigger dispersion of cross-section evolution in the result (with a constant power). Thus this treatment is no more used by default. To use it you must specify it by a *MURE::FitSigmaPhi(true)*.

7.3.1.1 How does it work?

The treatment is applied for each cross-section of each nucleus in each cell. Thus, for the sake of simplicity, we will only consider a reaction cross-section σ_i of a nucleus in a cell.

Since for evolution, reaction rates are used, we should rather consider the reaction rate $\sigma_i\phi$ and not the cross-section σ_i . Suppose that we have performed an evolution up to step k (i.e., k th *MC* run is just finished). To know the reaction rate evolution up to step $k + 1$ (i.e., just before a new *MC* run), a linear fit (least square method from Numerical Recipes) is applied to *EvolutionSolver::GetFitRangeNumber()* previous *MC* reaction rates³ (that is to say, *MC* runs $k - 3$, $k - 2$, $k - 1$, and k). Then, for the evolution over step $k \rightarrow k + 1$, the reaction rate is extrapolated with $(\sigma_i\phi)(t) = at + b$, where a and b are the results of the linear regression. Note that for the first *EvolutionSolver::GetFitRangeNumber()* *MC* runs, reaction rates are kept constant.

As already mentioned, integration of Bateman equations is in fact done in N_{rk} Runge-Kutta steps which are automatically divided in other shorter time steps (adaptive step RK method) ; the reaction rate evolution is only

¹When using parallel calculation for MCNP (omp,mpi) this factor is reduced: for example, running MCNP in omp on a 8 processor machine leads to only 16 times faster for a simple problem.

²This is of the same order of magnitude than the deviation observed in a series of N identical evolution starting with a different random seed. Using this multi-group method, unresolved probability tables are not taken into account for reaction rates evaluations ; this explain that for fast systems, the discrepancy is larger than for thermal ones.

³The default is 4, and it can be changed with *MURE::SetFitRangeNumber()*.

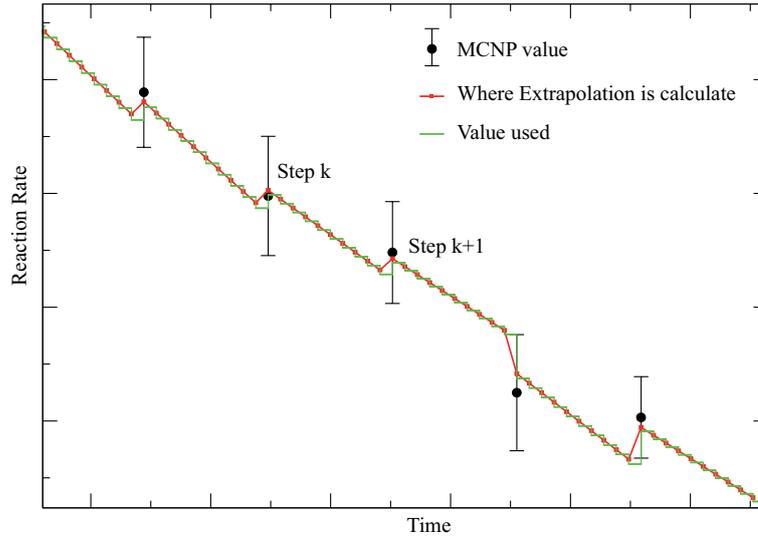


Figure 7.2: Illustration of a reaction rate evolution. *MCNP* results are in black dots. The reaction rate used during the evolution from step k to step $k + 1$ is in green whereas the red squares indicate the time where the extrapolation is performed.

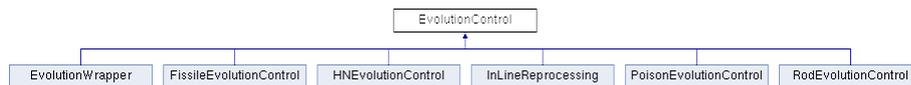


Figure 7.3: EvolutionControl class and siblings.

performed at each RK step level and it is kept constant within the current RK step. This constant value is evaluated in the middle of the RK step to be more accurate (see fig. 7.2).

In order to better consider the rapid variation of a reaction rate slope, we have slightly improved the method as follows (here $N_{fit} = EvolutionSolver:: GetFitRangeNumber()$) :

- a linear regression is performed on N_{fit} to obtain a' and b' for the reaction rate evolution
- a linear regression is performed on $N_{fit} - 1$ to obtain a'' and b''
- then if the 2 slopes a' and a'' are of opposite sign, the slope taken for the evolution is the mean $a = \frac{a'+a''}{2}$ and $b = \frac{b'+b''}{2}$
- or else, $a = a'$ and $b = b'$ if $|a'| < |a''|$ or $a = a''$ and $b = b''$ if $|a''| < |a'|$

7.4 Reactivity Control

NOTE: only few tests have been performed and therefore many bugs may be present in the Evolution Control.

As already mentioned, the control of the whole evolution is done via the *EvolutionControl* class. This class already includes some useful methods, but the best thing to do in order to implement your own control is to write a derived class. In a first example, the reactivity control uses the original *EvolutionControl* class ; then the way of implementing your own control will be given. The EvolutionControl class inheritance tree is shown on Fig. .7.3

7.4.1 A simple example using standard *EvolutionControl*

The example file `poison.cxx` (*MURE/example/poison.cxx*) corresponds to a very simple reactor (cylinder of borated water with a hexahedral fuel pin lattice). The reactivity control is done by adjusting the concentration of a poison (the boron) in the water. We assume that a large reserve of boron is available and thus, when necessary, we can adjust the boron concentration at a desired value. The method principle is to calculate an estimation of k_{eff} using the reaction rate extrapolations:

$$k_{eff} = \frac{\nu N_f \sigma_f \phi}{N_a \sigma_{abs\ w/o\ poison} \phi + N_p \sigma_{poison} \phi - N \sigma_{n,2n} \phi - 2N \sigma_{n,3n} \phi + escape}$$

(n,xn), “escape” and σ_{poison} are supposed to be constant between 2 *MC* steps ; the poison concentration N_p is thus determined using the desired k_{eff} in the formula.

7.4.1.1 Poison material declaration

```
ControlMaterial *BoratedWtr=new Material (0.7187023, 673);
BoratedWtr->SetDensity(0.719);
BoratedWtr->AddTheControlNucleus(5, 10,0.00012);
BoratedWtr->AddTheControlNucleus(5,11,0.00048);
BoratedWtr->AddNucleus(8,16,0.333);
BoratedWtr->AddNucleus(1,1,0.667, "H2O");
```

A *ControlMaterial* is a *Material* which is used to control the evolution, and in this case, a poison to control the reactivity. The 3th and 4th lines inform us that boron 10 (and 11) are the nuclei used to control the reactivity. See the “*poison.cxx*” example.

This material must not be an evolving material, because we’ll consider that we can adjust boron concentration every time .

7.4.1.2 Escape calculation

In the k_{eff} formula, neutron leakage is needed ; in order to calculate these escapes, one has to define a F2 tally (flux through surface) through the most outer Shape of the geometry ; in the example this leads to:

```
gMURE->SetOutermostShape(Vessel);
```

because “Vessel” is the outer cylinder of this “reactor”.

7.4.1.3 Evolution definition

You have to declare the Evolution Control object:

```
PoisonEvolutionControl *ECon=new PoisonEvolutionControl();
ECon->AddReactions(BoratedWtr);
gMURE->SetEvolutionControl(ECon);
```

The 2nd line gives the specific *EvolutionControl* command to add the required reactions useful for the control (poison absorption, ...)

7.4.2 Using your own EvolutionControl

The aim of this section is to help user implement its own *EvolutionControl* using inheritance mechanism. Then you will be able to write your own specific methods that will be called for the evolution control. Supposed we wish to create a *MyEvolutionControl* class: the *hxx* and *cxx* files are in *MURE/example/*.

NOTE: Don't forget to redefine the EvolutionControl* Clone() as:

```
EvolutionControl* Clone(){return new MyEvolutionControl(*this);}
```

Each method and variable of *EvolutionControl* are known in *MyEvolutionControl* ; but because of the virtuality of some methods, the *ControlAtEachMCNPStep()*, *ControlAtEachRKStep()* and *ControlAfterEndOfRKIntegration()* methods of *MyEvolutionControl* will be called instead of the ones of *EvolutionControl*. This means that these original methods of *EvolutionControl* are no more called, **and thus you have to read them carefully to implement what is needed or necessary for your evolution control.**

Now to use this new class in *Myprog.cxx*:

```
#include <iostream>
#include <cmath>
using namespace std;
#include "MureHeaders.hxx"
#include "MyEvolutionControl.hxx"
...
int main(int argc, char** argv)
{
    ...
    MyEvolutionControl *NewEC=new MyEvolutionControl();
    gMURE->SetEvolutionControl(NewEC);
}
```

and to compile the Makefile for the compilation will be

```
g++ -g -O -Wall -fPIC -I../source/include -I../source/external -c MyEvolutionControl.cxx
g++ -g -O -o Myprog Myprog.cxx MyEvolutionControl.o -I../source/include -I../source/external/\
-L../lib -lMUREpkg -lvalerr -lmctal
```

7.5 Evolution of a MCNP user defined geometry

This section is devoted to users who have already defined a complex *MCNP* file and would rather not use the *MURE* geometry capability when making evolution. Even if this task requires some work, the procedure is simple. User has to redefine in *MURE* style, **ALL materials** of its geometry and **all EVOLVING cells** (but not the shapes associated to the cells). Of course, user will need all files required by a standard evolution (*BaseSummary.dat*, *AvailableReactionChart.dat*, ...)

The principle is the following: a *line by line* of a *MCNP* user input file are copied, but

- if the cell number found corresponds to one of the “virtual” evolving cells defined, then the density of the evolving material at the given evolution step is taken into account. Be sure that 2 evolving cells must have 2 different materials (because they usually evolve differently even if at the beginning they are the same) ; thus, it is at present not possible to make the evolution of a cell defined by “*like but*” because there is no material on this cell line.

- The general *MCNP* block will be read, but all the material description (“M” and “MT” cards) will be skipped and replaced by the *MURE* material definition. Note that if one wishes to use source *MURE* definitions, particle MODE definitions or PRDMP *MURE* definitions, any “SDEF”, “KSRC”, and “KCODE” (for source) or “MODE” or “PRDMP” must be removed from the original file. If you have defined tallies, they will be copied (line by line) and the necessary tallies for evolution will be constructed starting from your highest tally number : for example, if you defined 2 tallies F34 and F44, the automatic tallies for evolution will start at F54 ; tally numbers 4,14 and 24, are not used.

For material declaration, you must use the special *Material* constructor that takes as a single argument the material number ; this number is the one you have written in the MCNP input file. Don’t forget to declare ALL materials of the geometry (evolving or non evolving). **For non evolving materials, you must ask *MURE* to include them in the *MCNP* output file by using *Material::AddToGlobalNucleiVector()* after the last input nucleus.**

For cell declaration, you must use the special *Cell* constructor ; it takes the cell number (the one you have written in the *MCNP* input file), an evolving *Material* pointer and the cell volume (in m^3). **ONLY evolving cells should be declared.**

The Original *MCNP* input name is defined by *MURE::SetUserGeometryInputFile()* method. You can also defined all desired cards of the general data block (source, physical card, ...). The rest of the evolution is completely analog to what is explained in the above sections. Don’t forget to provide a mean to calculate the tally normalization factor (you may either give a predefined power or use the *MURE::SetTallyNormalizationFactor()*).

An example is shown in *UserGeo.cxx* with the *UserMCNPGeo* MCNP input file.

7.6 More complex evolution conditions

Sometimes, the evolution is performed with power variations, some parameters such as boron concentration, temperature, ... are changing. This can be achieve through the **EvolutionWrapper** class (see *EvolutionWrapper* class) . Such conditions are illustrated on the following example:

```
EvolutionWrapper *EC=new EvolutionWrapper(); // create EvolutionWrapper
EC->AddPhase(100,3,1); // create a new 100 days phase with three MCNP steps, (1=logarithmic discretization)
EC->SetPowerLinear(0,4e4); // raise power from 0 to 40 kW
EC->SetMaterialBoronLinear(Cell_of_BoratedWater->GetMaterial(),1000e-6,500e-6); //boron depletion from 1000 to 500 ppm
EC->AddPhase(100,1,0); // a new single-step 100 days cooling phase
EC->SetPowerCooling();
EC->AddPhase(100,3,0); // a new 100 days phase with three equal(0=linear discretization) MCNP steps
EC->SetPowerConstant(4e4); // power is kept constant at 40kW in that phase
EC->Evolve(); // run the evolution (DO NOT CALL the MURE:Evolution method ; it is done here)
```

7.7 Equilibrium of Xe-135

In some circumstances, flux oscillations in weak coupled systems creates numerical (unphysical) Xe oscillations. These Xe oscillations enhanced the flux oscillations causing numerical instabilities. To reduce these instabilities, a special treatment has been implemented. To use this treatment, one has to call the *EvolutionSolver::SetXe135Equilibrium(double teq)* method, where t_{eq} is the time from which the treatment is really applied (default time value is $3 \times T_{1/2}^{135Xe} \sim 27h$).

Here is the description of what is done:

- if $t < t_{eq}$, then the standard evolution is carried out (i.e. no special treatment)
- if $t \geq t_{eq}$, then

- the ^{135}Xe Bateman equation is imposed to be at equilibrium : $\frac{dN_{Xe}}{dt} = 0$
- the ^{135}Xe is calculated as

$$N_{Xe} = \frac{y_{Xe} \Sigma_{fission} \tilde{\phi} + \lambda_{^{135}\text{I}} N_{^{135}\text{I}}}{\lambda_{^{135}\text{Xe}} + \sigma_{n,\gamma}^{Xe} \tilde{\phi}} \quad (7.1)$$

where y_{Xe} is the fission yield for ^{135}Xe , $\Sigma_{fission} \tilde{\phi}$ is the number of fissions, λ_i is the decay constant for nuclei i and $\tilde{\phi}$ is a “mean” flux in the cell calculated as

$$\tilde{\phi} = \frac{\phi^{\text{previous MCNP run}} + \phi^{\text{current MCNP run}}}{2}$$

if there is a factor greater than 1.5 between $\phi^{\text{previous MCNP run}}$ and $\phi^{\text{current MCNP run}}$, else $\tilde{\phi} = \phi^{\text{current MCNP run}}$

- the ^{135}I used in (7.1) is calculated in the same way :

$$N_I = \frac{y_I \Sigma_{fission} \tilde{\phi} + \lambda_{^{135}\text{Te}} N_{^{135}\text{Te}}}{\lambda_{^{135}\text{I}} + \sigma_{n,\gamma}^I \tilde{\phi}}$$

but this value is only used in for the (7.1). To be noticed, that in general, due to its very short period ($T_{1/2} \sim 19\text{s}$), the ^{135}Te is absent of the evolution ; it is then taken into account in the iodine fission yield y_I as explained in the Nuclei Tree section (c.f. 6).

Chapter 8

Looking at results from the evolution

8.1 The MURE data files

At present, results from the evolution are stored in the *MC* Run directory. There are 4 types of *MURE* files generated in addition to the *MC* files for each evolution step:

- **DATA_***xxx* files are written for each step number *xxx*, and contain not only the Material composition information, but also average cross-sections for every possible reactions for all evolving cells in the geometry. In addition, average flux for each cell, cell spatial variables (if defined), k_{eff} , and time are also written out. They are written just before RK steps ONLY IF *EvolutionSolver::SetWriteASCIIData()* has been called.
- **BDATA_***xxx* files contain the same information as the above files but in binary format. Initially it was expected that these files would be much shorter in length than the ASCII files, but it appears that not much space is saved if binary files are used to store *MURE* results. Nevertheless it is much faster to use these files for post-treatment. They are written just before RK steps by default. One can disable this writing by using *EvolutionSolver::SetWriteBinaryData(false)*.
- **KDATA** contains all the k_{eff} information (with statistical errors) for all evolution steps in one file. These data are also contained in **[B]DATA_***xxx*.
- **FDATA** contains all the data pertaining to the fission rates of various nuclei. For all the 50 or so nuclei which can fission, the rate (in fissions per second) integrated over all the evolving cells, is written out.

When using reprocessing feature **DATA_***bxxx* or/and **BDATA_***bxxx* files are also written just at the end of RK steps. When using *PoisonEvolutionControl*, additional files are also written such as **POISON_PROPS** which contains the poison proportion as a function of time.

8.2 Reading the data files with Tcl/Tk graphical interface scripts

This graphical interface is now deprecated. Except for ExamTree.tcl

- *ExamTree.tcl*

To run these scripts from anywhere it is a good idea to add the TclScripts directory to your path. **You must also set the *DATADIR* environment variable.**

- The *ExamTree.tcl* script is useful for exploring the evolution nuclear tree, which can be written out for the global nuclei vector of the *MURE* class using *gMURE->WriteAsciiTree("myfile.dat");* or the tree for a material object *Material->DumpTree("myfile.dat");* To explore the tree, type
`ExamTree.tcl myfile.dat`
Everything else is intuitive and self-explanatory. Just click either on the nuclear chart, or the Nucleus X window.

8.3 Reading the data files with ROOT graphical interface

This is a C++ GUI base on **ROOT**. Thus, before using this GUI, you must install a recent **ROOT** version (5.0 or any later version). This is easy because binary files can be downloaded from the **ROOT** home page (<http://root.cern.ch>). We have chosen **ROOT** because:

- it provides a large number of widgets
- it is a very simple way of modifying, saving graphs: zoom on axis, grid, log scale, changing font, color, text position and so on as well as various picture saving formats are available (eps, jpeg, png, gif, ...).

The GUI is in *MURE/gui* ; to build this GUI, a simple “make” in this directory will do the job. The install.sh script should have set the flags according to your ROOT installation¹ and check if Lapack package is available. **LAPACK** is a Linear Algebra PACKage use to solve the set of coupled differential equations for decays by a matrix diagonalization procedure. If this package is not installed, you have to install it (see § 1.4.4) to run the **radiotoxicity** module (**but all other *MureGui* capabilities can run without Lapack**). A simple “make” will build the *MureGui* executable:

```
MureGui [-type c -dataname str] DirName1 [DirName2 ...]
```

where

- *DirName1* is the MURE evolution directory (containing the BDATA_* or DATA_* files) and optional *DirName2*, ... are other directories to compare evolutions. The line style of plotted graphs is different for each directory (solid=*DirName1*, dash=*DirName2*, dot=*DirName3*, dash_dot=*DirName4*, ...). NOTE: when comparing evolutions, you must be sure that the cell composition of the different evolutions are the same: the list of non empty proportion nucleus must be in the same order.
- Optional *-type* follows by a character which is either “A” (or “a”) or “B” (or “b”) ; “A” is to read DATA_* files (i.e. ASCII files) and “B” is to read BDATA_* files. The latter is the default (it is faster to read and a bit smaller) ; the ASCII files may be read when binary formats are not recognized (big endian->little endian, ...)
- Optional *-dataname* follows by a string which is the data evolution prefix file name ; default is BDATA_* for binary reading and DATA_* for ASCII reading².

A module in the transport code DRAGON has been developed to copy the results in DATA ASCII file format.

The interface has a Main windows composed of 8 tabs (*Inventories*, *Cross-sections*, *Fluxes*, *Reaction Rates*, *K_{effective}*, *Breeding Ratio*, *Radiotoxicity* and *Spatial Variables*, see Fig. 8.1) and can have up to 8 plot windows

¹ROOTSYS and LD_LIBRARY_PATH have been set as explained in the ROOT installation guide

²[B]DATA_b* are also read when available.

(one for each tab).

Whereas MureGui is graphical interface, the “Terminal” window used to run this program is often used for some important warnings/information/output: don’t forget to look at it!

8.3.1 The 8 tabs of the main window

- In the *Inventory* Tab, colors of nuclei (see Fig. 8.1) correspond to the total mass scale importance (red: large mass->black: small mass). Nuclei are sorted in 4 categories (Actinides, Fission Products, Gas, and Miscellaneous) but a nucleus could belong to more than one category (a gaseous fission product is in FP and in Gas). “FP” and “AM” check boxes allows respectively the plotting of total fission products and total minor actinides (Np and Am, Cm, ...) . The total mass of checked nuclei can also be automatically performed using the “*Sum of Selected*” check boxes³. Finally, nuclei inventories are given in “g” or “Mol”. When several physical cells i are selected (see later with Spatial Variable combo box), the total inventory of one nucleus is simply given by the sum of inventories in each region. Thus we have:

$$N_{tot} = \sum_i N_i$$

- In the *Cross-section* Tab, colors only help users to see the isotopes (all reactions for a same isotope are on the same color). The “FP” check box allows the plotting of the mean fission products total cross-section. Similarly with the Inventory tab, the total cross-section can be obtained with the “*Sum of Selected*” check box (but FP and AM check boxes are not taken into account in the sum). Microscopic and macroscopic cross-sections are available. When several physical cells i are selected (see later with Spatial Variable combo box), an equivalent cross-section $\bar{\Sigma}$ is computed for all reactions to maintain their total reaction rate:

$$\bar{\Sigma} = \frac{\sum_i n_i \sigma_i \phi_i V_i}{\bar{\phi} V_{tot}}$$

where the nuclei density is $n_i = \frac{N_i}{V_i}$, the mean flux is $\bar{\phi} = \frac{\sum_i \phi_i V_i}{\sum_i V_i}$ and the total volume of all cells is $V_{tot} = \sum_i V_i$. The numerator is the total number of reactions in all i -cells. Thus, one can define an equivalent microscopic cross-section:

$$\bar{\sigma} = \frac{\bar{\Sigma}}{\bar{n}} = \frac{\bar{\Sigma}}{\frac{\sum_i n_i V_i}{\sum_i V_i}} = \frac{\sum_i n_i \sigma_i \phi_i V_i}{N_{tot} \bar{\phi}}.$$

Note:

- when the density of one nuclei is null, a very small and uniform density is used to compute the equivalent microscopic cross-section ($n = 10^{-20} \text{at.cm}^{-3}$).
- This mean cross-section is useful to compute “simplified” Bateman equations. But one has to be very attentive to its physical signification when lot of cells with different fluxes and concentrations are involved ;

³But if FP and/or AM check boxes are selected, they are not part of the sum

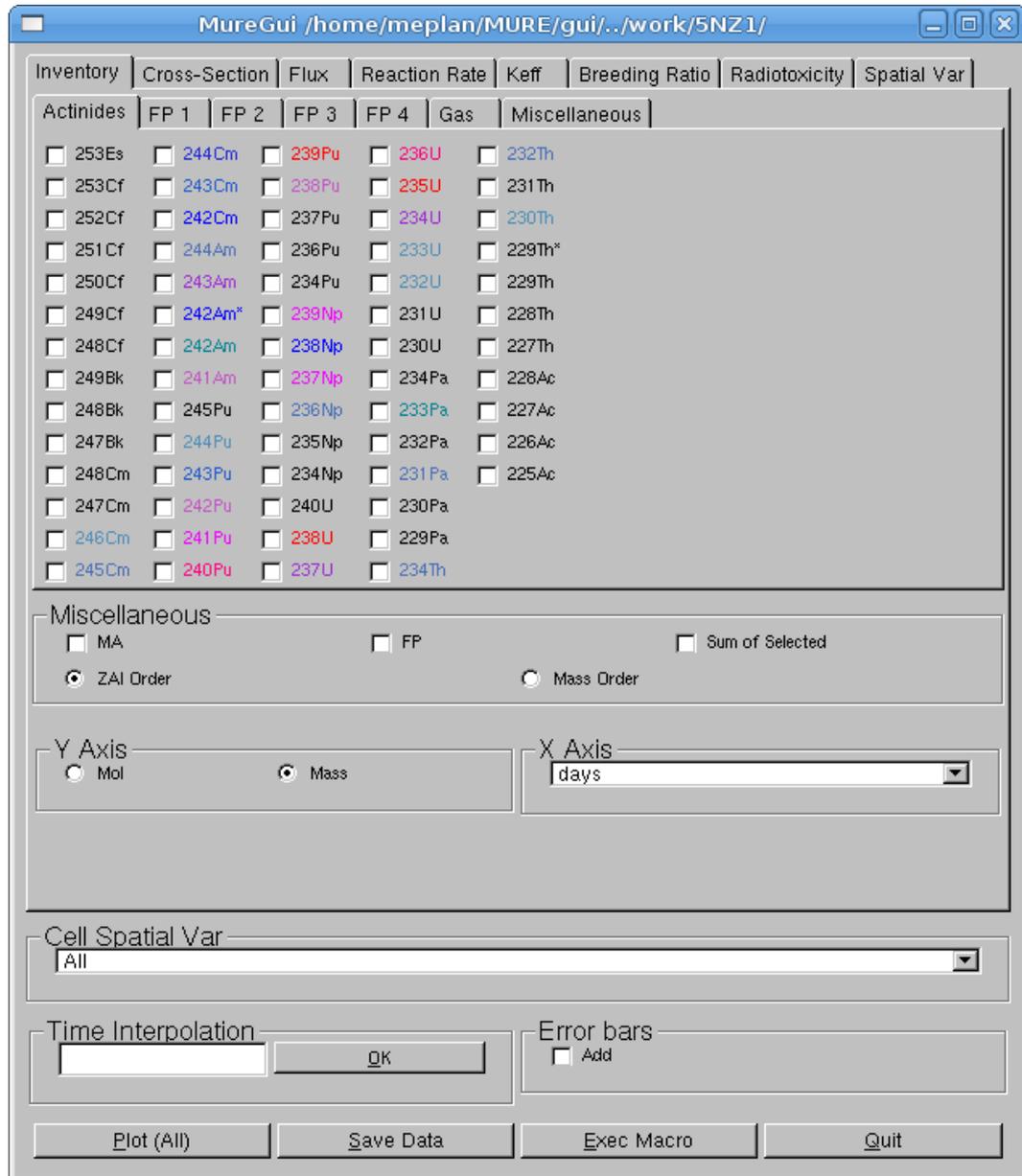


Figure 8.1: MureGui main window. Inventory Tab.

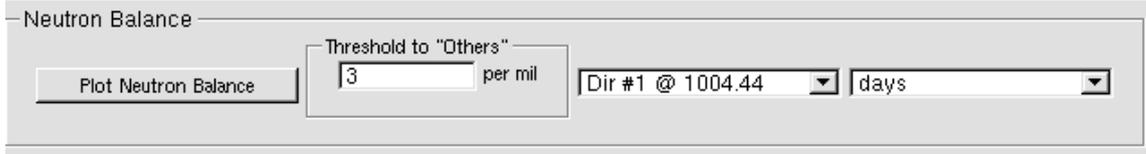


Figure 8.2: Neutron Balance window. In this example, the reaction rates less than 3 per mil are grouped in the “Others” category.

then this mean value may be greater than all individual cross-section of each cell due to an under estimation of the denominator.

- Sometimes, it may be useful to compute the mean microscopic cross-section over the spectrum:

$$\langle \sigma \rangle = \frac{\int \sigma(E) \phi(E) dE}{\int \phi(E) dE}$$

Then one can compute a average cross-section over the cells as $\langle \sigma \rangle = \frac{\sum_i \langle \sigma_i \rangle \phi_i V_i}{\sum_i \phi_i V_i}$. In MureGui, one can plot this kind of microscopic cross-section by selecting the “*Micro (spectrum)*” radio widget.

- In the *Flux* Tab, the “*All cell*” and “*Sum of Selected*” check boxes allow users to plot a mean flux over all or selected evolving cells i . The mean flux is given by:

$$\bar{\phi} = \frac{\sum_i \phi_i V_i}{\sum_i V_i}$$

- In the *Reaction Rate* Tab, the “FP” and “Sum of Selected” check boxes allow users to plot total reaction rate of fission products and the sum of selected reaction rates respectively. The generated power can also be obtained using the “*Power*” check box. **Power results are returned in the terminal** when the graph is refreshed. The “(Un)Select Fissil” button selects (or unselects) all available fission reactions automatically. Note that released energy per fission values (Q_values) are automatically selected according to the transport code previously used (*DRAGON*, *MCNP* or *Serpent*). In this Tab, it is also possible to plot *Neutron Balance* normalized per 1000 fissions. Once the user has selected the wanted reaction rates (or all reaction rates for the fissile (“(Un)Select Fissile” button) or for all nuclei (“(Un)Select All” button), the neutron balance is plotted using histogram bars. The box “Threshold to Others” allow user to group all reaction rates less than the threshold (default 0.1 per mil) in a category named “Others” (see fig. 8.2 and fig 8.3). The “Dir” number is the number of the Dirname argument of MureGui and the number following the “@” character corresponds to the time at which the MC run is done (thus figure 8.2 corresponds to first Dirname at time t=1004.44 days where a MCNP run was performed)
- In the *Keff* Tab, the “*Keff*” check box allows user to plot the multiplication factor k_{eff} of the assembly with evolution time. The “*Average Keff*” check box computes and plots the average neutron multiplication factor $\overline{k_{eff}}$ of an assembly along its life. It is particularly useful in CANDU reactors at the refueling equilibrium state. The average value $\overline{k_{eff}}$ is given by:

$$\overline{k_{eff}}(t) = \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t k_{eff}(t') dt'$$

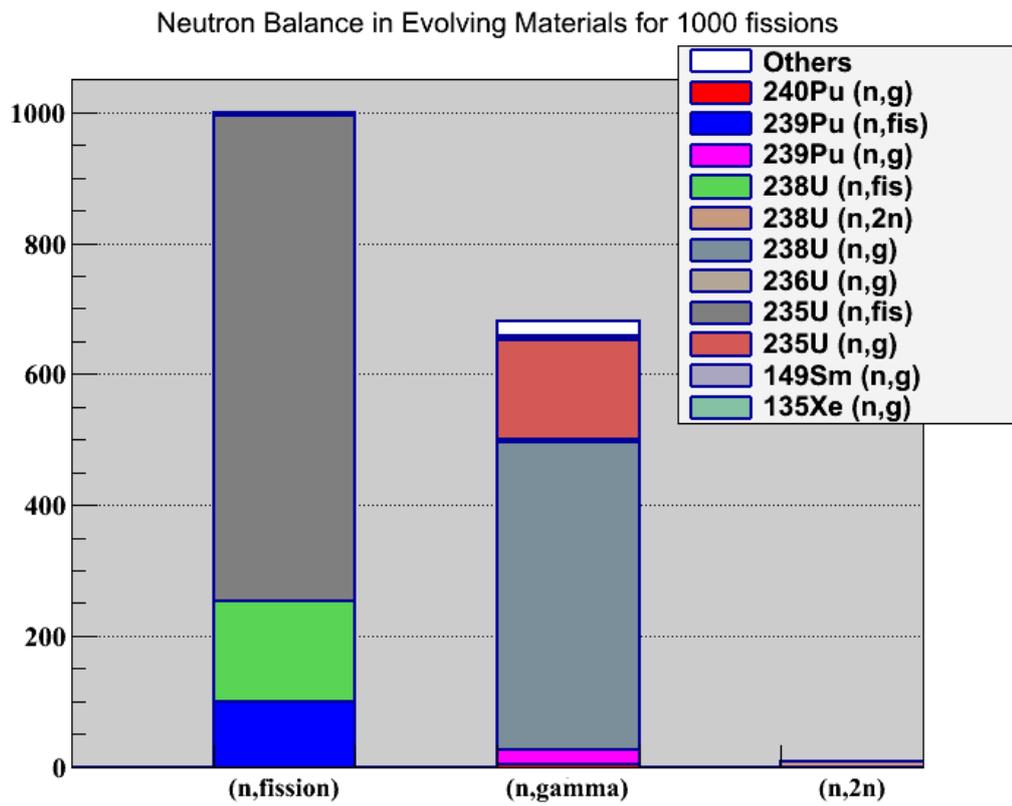


Figure 8.3: Neutron balance plot.

- In the *Breeding Ratio* Tab, users have to select some nuclei among all heavy elements in order to define them as fissile for the calculation of Breeding Ratio (BR) and Fissile Inventory Ratio (FIR). The (instantaneous) BR is computed at a given time t as the ratio of the total production rate of the so-defined fissile nuclei at time t over the total disappearance rate of the same nuclei at the same time. Up to now, only fissile nuclei among ^{233}U , ^{235}U , ^{239}Pu and ^{241}Pu can be defined as fissile and taken into account for BR calculation, with a special treatment for ^{233}U (which production rate is ^{233}Pa decay rate) and ^{241}Pu (which disappearance rate includes its decay rate).

The FIR is computed as the ratio of fissile nuclei between actual and initial time :

$$FIR = \frac{M_{\text{FN}}(t)}{M_{\text{FN}}(0)}$$

Note that if the initial fissile nuclei mass is 0, no plot is returned. In the case of ^{233}U selected as fissile, selecting ^{233}Pa as fissile too gives access to the effective FIR values, with each calculation time as a possible End Of Cycle. Indeed this accounts for ^{233}Pa out-of-flux decay, producing ^{233}U without loss. In this case, a warning is printed to inform the user that ^{233}Pa is used this way only for FIR (BR is still computed without Pa-233 defined as fissile, and using its decay rate as ^{233}U production rate).

- In the *Radiotoxicity* Tab (see also section 8.3.6), shown in Fig. 8.4, (only if Lapack library has been used), decay calculations can be performed for the final inventory after an evolution has been done. Determination of total and partial radiotoxicities, heat released and activities as a function of time can be computed for a given system. Note that if, for radiotoxicity post-treatment, *MureGui* is used from in a directory where the *MURE* “data” directory is not present just above the current path, you must define the **DATADIR** variable.
 - Users should click on the red “*Build Mat*” button before taking any further action. This will compute the *Material* and the matrices. The material is based on the material defined in the DATA or BDATA files where all the nuclei are copied, and all their decay children. **No CUT-OFF is used to select the children.** By default, spontaneous fissions are not taken into account ; in order to allow it, check the “*with SF*” button **BEFORE** clicking the “*Build Mat*” button. The matrices for decay calculations A are also computed once and for all. The variation of the isotopic vector N is given by:

$$\frac{dN(t_c)}{dt_c} = -A.N(t_c)$$

where t_c represents the cooling time (after irradiation). The solution of this equation is simply given by:

$$N(t_c) = N(0).exp(-A.t_c)$$

This equation represents a set of coupled differential equations for the decays which is solved by a matrix diagonalization procedure based on the **LAPACK** standard libraries (resolution is performed at the beginning). Inventory composition over time is then directly obtained from the initial composition.

- The “*Nuclei Extraction*” frame allows user to specify what percentage of nuclei of the current composition is taken into account for activity, radiotoxicity, ... calculation. When one choose “Partial fuel extraction” a new window appears to choose the per cent of category you keep: 100% means that all that category is kept. For example, putting 100% for all categories except 1% for U and Pu mean that the radiotoxicity is

Inventory	Cross-Section	Flux	Reaction Rate	Keff	Breeding Ratio	Radiotoxicity	
Acti	FP 1	FP 2	FP 3	FP 4	Gas 1	Misc 1	
<input type="checkbox"/> 256Fm	<input type="checkbox"/> 251Cf	<input type="checkbox"/> 248Cm	<input type="checkbox"/> 243Am	<input type="checkbox"/> 240Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 240U	<input type="checkbox"/> 234Pa	<input type="checkbox"/> 229Th
<input type="checkbox"/> 255Fm	<input type="checkbox"/> 250Cf	<input type="checkbox"/> 247Cm	<input type="checkbox"/> 242Am*	<input type="checkbox"/> 239Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 238U	<input type="checkbox"/> 233Pa	<input type="checkbox"/> 228Th
<input type="checkbox"/> 254Fm	<input type="checkbox"/> 249Cf	<input type="checkbox"/> 246Cm	<input type="checkbox"/> 242Am	<input type="checkbox"/> 238Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 237U	<input type="checkbox"/> 232Pa	<input type="checkbox"/> 227Th
<input type="checkbox"/> 255Es	<input type="checkbox"/> 248Cf	<input type="checkbox"/> 245Cm	<input type="checkbox"/> 241Am	<input type="checkbox"/> 237Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 236U	<input type="checkbox"/> 231Pa	<input type="checkbox"/> 226Th
<input type="checkbox"/> 254Es	<input type="checkbox"/> 251Bk	<input type="checkbox"/> 244Cm	<input type="checkbox"/> 247Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 236Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 235U*	<input type="checkbox"/> 230Pa	<input type="checkbox"/> 224Th
<input type="checkbox"/> 253Es	<input type="checkbox"/> 250Bk	<input type="checkbox"/> 243Cm	<input type="checkbox"/> 246Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 240Np	<input type="checkbox"/> 235U	<input type="checkbox"/> 229Pa	<input type="checkbox"/> 228Ac
<input type="checkbox"/> 252Es	<input type="checkbox"/> 249Bk	<input type="checkbox"/> 242Cm	<input type="checkbox"/> 245Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 239Np	<input type="checkbox"/> 234U	<input type="checkbox"/> 234Th	<input type="checkbox"/> 227Ac
<input type="checkbox"/> 255Cf	<input type="checkbox"/> 248Bk	<input type="checkbox"/> 247Am	<input type="checkbox"/> 244Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 238Np	<input type="checkbox"/> 233U	<input type="checkbox"/> 232Th	<input type="checkbox"/> 226Ac
<input type="checkbox"/> 254Cf	<input type="checkbox"/> 251Cm	<input type="checkbox"/> 246Am*	<input type="checkbox"/> 243Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 237Np	<input type="checkbox"/> 232U	<input type="checkbox"/> 231Th	<input type="checkbox"/> 225Ac
<input type="checkbox"/> 253Cf	<input type="checkbox"/> 250Cm	<input type="checkbox"/> 245Am	<input type="checkbox"/> 242Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 236Np	<input type="checkbox"/> 230U	<input type="checkbox"/> 230Th	<input type="checkbox"/> 224Ac
<input type="checkbox"/> 252Cf	<input type="checkbox"/> 249Cm	<input type="checkbox"/> 244Am	<input type="checkbox"/> 241Pu	<input type="checkbox"/> 235Np	<input type="checkbox"/> 234Pa*	<input type="checkbox"/> 229Th*	

Material <input type="checkbox"/> With SF <input checked="" type="radio"/> ZAI Order <input type="button" value="Select Child"/> <input type="button" value="Build Mat"/> <input type="radio"/> Mass Order <input type="button" value="Unselect All"/>		Nuclei Extraction <input checked="" type="radio"/> Total Fuel Cooling Time [y] before Extract. [0] <input type="radio"/> Partial Fuel Extraction	
Miscellaneous Activity [] <input type="checkbox"/> By Mother Selected [] <input type="checkbox"/> MA <input type="checkbox"/> FP <input type="checkbox"/> Total			
Irradiation Starting Time [Dir #1 @ 0] days [] Evol. Period (year): first, last, n_step [1] [1e+08] [50] <input type="checkbox"/> Linear Bir			
			
Cell Spatial Var All []			
Time Interpolation <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="OK"/>		Error bars <input type="checkbox"/> Add	
<input type="button" value="Plot (All)"/>	<input type="button" value="Save Data"/>	<input type="button" value="Exec Macro"/>	<input type="button" value="Quit"/>

Figure 8.4: MureGui : the radiotoxicity Tab.

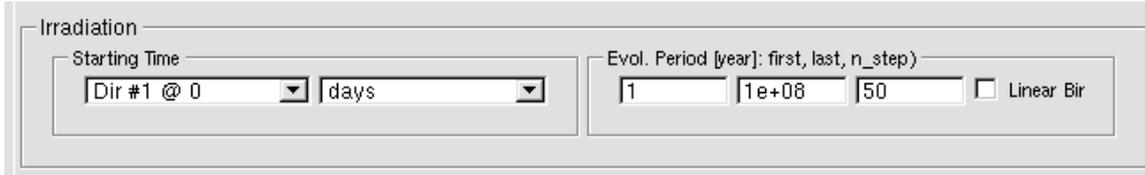


Figure 8.5: “Irradiation” frame. Here, the first Dirname at time $t=0$, i.e., the first MCNP step, is used. The fuel cooling will be plotted from 1 year to 100 million of years with 50 log steps.

calculated for the initial composition where only 1% of the U and Pu nuclei are kept, all other nuclei being completely taken into account. User can choose a cooling time before the extraction occurs. In that case, the plot window will start for $t = 0$ after the core discharge to the cooling time value⁴ ; then, the partial extraction is done and the result is plotted. A dash red line is drawn to show the time of extraction. A “Chars” logo button allows user to plot energy spectra of γ , β , α and neutron emission of “spent fuel” (see section 8.3.6).

- In the “*Miscellaneous*” frame, one can also select the value to be plotted: “Activity”, “Radiotoxicity”, “Heat” released and “Inventory”. By selecting the “*By mother*” check button, the radiotoxicity is computed by mother nucleus (i.e. present at the starting time) in order to see the contribution to the activity of a given nuclei (the daughters of this nucleus are part of its activity). **Note, the “By mother” calculation takes much more CPU time!** “FP”, “MA” and “Total” check boxes allow one to plot the total value for fission products, minor actinides, and all nuclei respectively. A combo box can be used to plot “selected” nuclei, “selected nuclei & their sum” or “only the sum” of selected nuclei (FP and MA check boxes are not taken into account in the sum).
- In the “*Irradiation*” frame, see Fig 8.5, one can choose the burn-up of the spent fuel (i.e., the *MCNP* step given at a time). The “Dir # num” allows to choose which evolution directory to consider in the case or more than one evolution directory is given to *MurGui* arguments. The evolution (cooling) of the spent fuel is specified by the evolution parameter: the cooling starts at $t = 0$, but the plot start at the first value of the “*Evolution Period*” frame ; the final time, number of time-steps and whether the steps are logarithmic or linear are then given. Note that the graph are on a log scale, thus, initial time has to be strictly positive (minimum value is 1 minute). The number of steps does not affect the results, but only the smoothness of the curve.
- The “*Spatial Var*” tab allows the plotting of spatial flux (or power deposit) dependence if you have defined spatial variables (see the *Cell* class and next paragraph). **It is present only if Spatial variables have been defined.** The “*Plotting Time*” frame allows user to select the time at which the plot is done. The “*Variable choice*” frame allows user to select what to plot (in the “*Plotting Variable*” combo box) and with, eventually, a condition on spatial variables (“*Conditional Variable*” combo box). For example, if a core has been divided in N radial zone and M axial zone, you can plot the mean flux as a function of Z for every radial zone (see figure 8.6). One can also plot this flux but only for a given radial zone by selecting the desired “ring” in the “*Conditional Variable*” combo box. The “Same Plot” check button, allow users to overlap plots.

⁴The input cooling time is then chosen as the lower bound of the time binning defined in the “*Evolution period*” frame ; see the exact value in the terminal window.

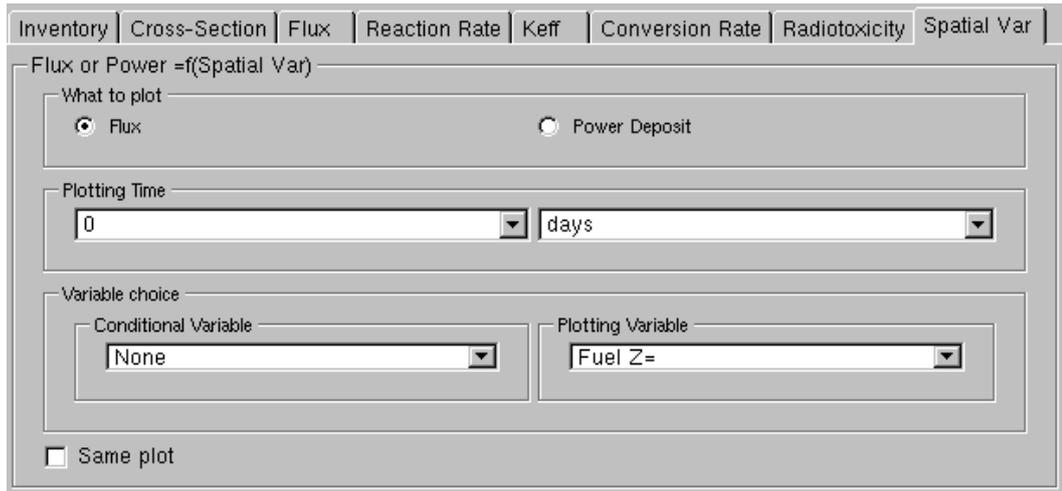


Figure 8.6: Spatial Var Tab - This will plot the flux as a function of Z for $t = 0$ whatever the spatial variables (no condition).

8.3.1.1 Out flux radiotoxicity evolution

It is possible to evaluate the time evolution of radiotoxicity (or activity, ...) of an user input composition without making any MURE/MCNP evolution. This is of course an out flux evolution (only decays are taken into account). User should create a file name DATA_000 in a given directory (let say "TestDir"). This file must contain

```
V -1
UNIT
n
Z1 A1 I1 M1 P1
Z2 A2 I2 M2 P2
...
Zn An In Mn Pn
```

where UNIT is a string among "At", "Mol", "Wgt(g)", "Wgt(kg)", "Wgt(t)" giving the unit of each "proportion Pi" ; "n" is the number of different isotopes (Zi,Ai,Ii) and "Mi" is the molar mass of the isotope. For example, to see the evolution of 2.975 kg of ^{238}U the DATA_000 file is

```
V -1
Wgt(kg)
1
92 238 0 238.05 2.975
```

Then launch MureGui as :

```
MureGui -type a TestDir
```

and go in the "Radiotoxicity" tab ; this gives a total radiotoxicity of about 1mCi for ^{238}U at $t = 0$; then it reaches the secular equilibrium after 2 million years to $14 \times 1\text{mCi}$ (13 radioactive daughters of $^{238}\text{U} + ^{238}\text{U}$).

8.3.2 Frame "Cell Spatial Var" in the Main window

Users can define Spatial variables for cells (see the *Cell* class). The aim of these variables is only to extract results in a simpler way (this means that you can add spatial variables after the evolution is done and redo the evolution keeping



Figure 8.9: MureGui - Interpolation and Error Bars.

MCNP files without any problems). If such variables have been defined you can plot quantities according to spatial variables.

Suppose we have done the evolution of 3 rings of a cylindrical core divided in 3 parts along the cylinder axis. If, for each of these 9 evolving cells, 2 spatial variables named “R” and “Z” with value corresponding to the typical cell locations have been defined, then the combo box of the “Cell Spatial Var” will allow users to plot for example ^{235}U quantity for all cells with a particular radius R_i (i.e. whatever other Z value, see Fig 8.7) or to plot this quantity only for a given R_i and Z_i (see Fig 8.8)



Figure 8.7: MureGui - Spatial Variable combo box selected for all cells of $R = 1$.



Figure 8.8: MureGui - Spatial Variable combo box selected for the cell located at $R = 1$ and $Z = 0$.

8.3.3 Frame “Time Interpolation” in the main window

A linear interpolation is performed on the *plotted* data for the selected Tab at the corresponding time (and not the selected data of this Tab). Results are returned in the terminal. Note that no time unit is specified, thus it must be coherent with the plotted data.

8.3.4 Frame “Error Bars” in the main window

When statistical errors are available, error bars may be added to the corresponding graphs. Note that MCNP provides errors on fluxes, reaction rates and k_{eff} values. Thus, the Error Bars Button has no effect on the *Inventory* and *Conversion Rate* tabs. In [B]DATA_XXX files, are written k_{eff} , fluxes (with their MCNP absolute error), compositions of each nuclei (in atoms), and cross-sections with their error. This error is not really correct because it has been calculated as $\frac{\Delta\sigma}{\sigma} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\Delta(\sigma\phi)}{\sigma\phi}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta\phi}{\phi}\right)^2}$. This is correct only if ϕ and $(\sigma\phi)$ are not correlated...which is obviously not the case. Thus only error for k_{eff} and fluxes are really correct.

For the average flux $\bar{\phi}$ on several individual cells (with an individual flux of ϕ_i), we have:

$$\Delta\bar{\phi} = \frac{1}{V_{tot}} \sqrt{\sum_i (V_i \Delta\phi_i)^2}$$

If the sum of cross-sections is computed, the associated errors is given by:

$$\Delta\overline{\sigma}_{sum} = \frac{1}{N_{tot}} \sqrt{\sum_j (N_{j,tot} \Delta\overline{\sigma}_j)^2}$$

For the average reaction rate $N_{j,tot}\overline{\sigma}_j\overline{\phi}$ of one specific reaction j (linked to the corresponding nucleus) on several individual cells i , we have:

$$\Delta(N_{j,tot}\overline{\sigma}_j\overline{\phi}) = \sqrt{\sum_i \Delta(N_{j,i}\sigma_{j,i}\phi_i)^2} = \sqrt{\sum_i (N_{j,i}\sigma_{j,i}\phi_i)^2 \left[\left(\frac{\Delta\sigma_{j,i}}{\sigma_{j,i}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta\phi_i}{\phi_i}\right)^2 \right]}$$

For the error associated with the power computation, we can use similar formula as for reaction rates, i.e.:

$$\Delta(\sum_j P_j) = \sqrt{\sum_j \sum_i (Q_j N_{j,i} \sigma_{j,i} \phi_i)^2 \left[\left(\frac{\Delta\sigma_{j,i}}{\sigma_{j,i}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta\phi_i}{\phi_i}\right)^2 \right]}$$

8.3.5 The Plot/Save/Quit buttons in the main window

- **“Plot (All)” button:** Except for the “*Cell Spatial Var*” frame in the main window where by selecting a variable, the plot is automatically done, you must push the “*Plot(All)*” button to plot a graph ; The plot window is selected according to the Tab in the main window.
- **“Save Data” button:** This button is used to save plotted graph data from the selected plot window in an ASCII file.
- **“Exec Macro” button:** This button is used to apply a ROOT/C++ interpreted (no compilation required) function to selected plot window. See for instance the **MyMacro.cxx** example in the *MURE/gui* directory. To use this macro (which does a linear fit of the i th graph), just click on the “Exec Macro” button and type **MyMacro.cxx(i)** where i is the number of the graph desired.

8.3.6 More about Radiotoxicity Tab

8.3.6.1 Radiotoxicity of a user input composition (cooling only)

It is possible to obtain activity, inventory, heat of a user input mixture composed of n nuclei as a function of time in a “cooling” phase (i.e. outside of a flux) in a very easy way. User has to create a directory (let’s call it “*tox*”) containing a file named *DATA_000*. This file has the following form:

```
V -1
units
n
Z0 A0 I0 M0 X0
Z0 A0 I0 M0 X0
...
Zn An In Mn Xn
```

where *units* is one of “*At*”, “*Mol*”, “*Wgt(g)*”, “*Wgt(kg)*” or “*Wgt(t)*” (*At*=atomes, *Mol*=moles, *Wgt(g)*= mass in *g*, *Wgt(kg)*= mass in *kg* and *Wgt(t)*=mass in metric tons) that corresponds to the unit of the X_i values input for each nuclei defined by its Z_i (proton number), A_i (atomic number), I_i (isomeric state, 0 for ground state, 1 for 1st isomeric state, ...). M_i is the molar mass in *g/mol* of the i^{th} nuclei. For example, one can see how 2.975 *kg* of ^{238}U reaches the secular equilibrium with

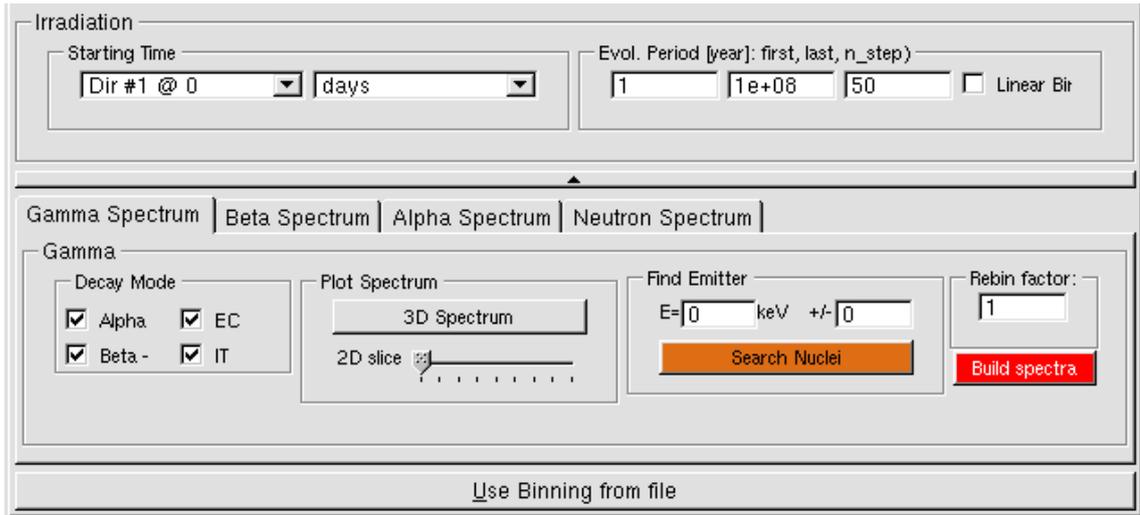


Figure 8.10: MureGui Radiotoxicity Tab

```
V -1
Wgt(kg)
1
92 238 0 238.05 2.975
```

This file is saved in the `tox/DATA_000`. The activity of this initial composition is obtained by doing

```
MureGui -type a tox
```

One can see that the activity starts from 1 *mCi* and reaches secular equilibrium (14 *mCi*) after $\sim 2 \times 10^6$ years.

Remarks:

- The “*type -a*” is necessary because the `DATA_000` file is in *ASCII* and not in binary (the default of *MureGui*)
- Depending on your installation, you probably need to set the environment variable `DATADIR` to the correct path (for example in `ssh, setenv DATADIR /MURE_install_path/MURE/data`)

8.3.6.2 Gamma, Beta, Alpha, and Neutron spectra of an evolving material

User can plot spectra of an evolving material. This feature is “hidden” in the Radiotoxicity Tab : press the “CHARS logo” or depending on your installation, the small down arrow, between “Irradiation” and “Cell Spatial Var” to make it appear (fig. 8.10) .

First of all, spectra has to be built pressing the “Build Spectra” button. It will create a γ spectra for the “Gamma Spectrum” tab, β , α and neutron spectra in the corresponding tabs for each nucleus. This step could take a while especially for the Gammas. In the “Gamma Spectrum” tab (see fig. 8.10), gammas produced by decay modes selected in the “Decay Mode” from are plotted.

“Plot Spectrum” frame: This frame is used to plot either 3D spectra (activity versus energy and time) for γ , β , α and neutrons or “time slice cuts” using the “2D slice” slider of these spectra. For 3D spectra, only one nucleus (or one group among “total”, “FP” or “MA”) can be plotted.

“Find emitter” frame: This frame (only for gammas and alphas) allows user to find the emitter of rays of energy $E \pm \Delta E$ enters in combo boxes (E and ΔE are both in keV, see fig. 8.11).

“Save Data” button: This button can save the last plotted values in either ASCII format or “*MCNPSource* Input” format (only working for “2D Slice” plot)

- ASCII format: dump the last plotted data in a file.
- “Source Input for MURE” format: a *MCNPSource* C++ form file is generated in order to be used for a *MURE/MCNP* simulation. This source as the energy spectra of the selected plot, it is a collimated, uniformly distributed on a disk of a radius of 10cm source. Particles are emitted perpendicularly to the disk. This can be very useful for radio-protection studies.

“Use binning from file” button: This button is used to load the energy binning for Spectrum from a file . The format of this file is the same of the one used for Spectrum class (see for example */path_to_MURE/MURE/gui/NEA_Binning_energies are in eV*):

```
NumberOfBins
LowerEnergy[bin=0] //lower bound of energy bin in eV
LowerEnergy[1]
...
LowerEnergy[NumberOfBins]
UpperEnergy[NumberOfBins+1] // upper bound of the last energy bin in eV
```

If a spectrum of a given cell or of sum of selected cells is wanted, check the wanted cell(s) in *Flux Tab*.

8.3.6.3 Radiotoxicity of a sample

To compute inventories, decay heat, radiotoxicity and alpha, beta, gamma and neutron spectra of a sample over the time one can use the option “*-onlytox*” of *MureGui*.

First define the sample Material :

```
Material *MySample=new Material();
MySample->SetDensity(Density);
MySample->AddNucleus(Z,A,I,Atomes);
...
```

and then dump it:

```
MySample->DumpMaterial(“SampleName”,Mass,Volume); //Mass [kg], Volume [m3]
```

Finally open it with *MureGui* :

Write in you terminal :

```
MureGui -onlytox SampleName
```

8.4 Spectrum Classes (MCNP only)

The aim of these classes is to characterize any irradiated sample in order to create elaborate sources for radio-protection studies. *Spectrum* class is the base class and have not to be used directly bu via its daughters (*GammaSpectrum*, *NeutronSpectrum*, ...)

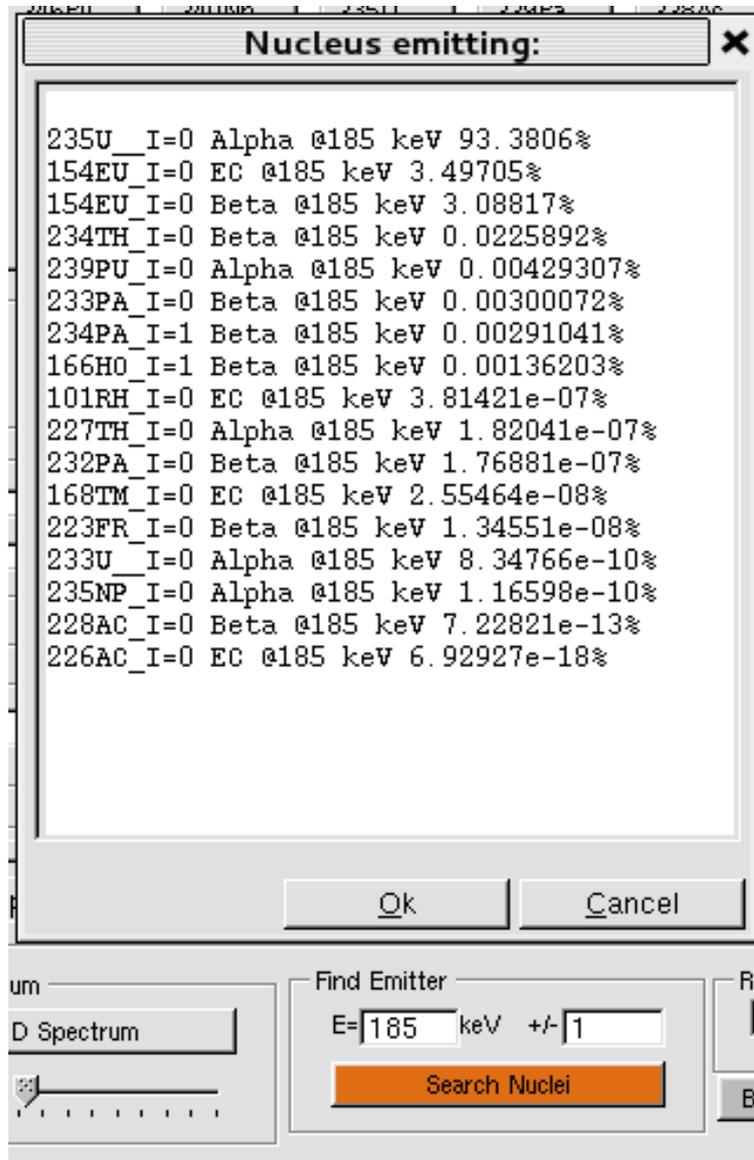


Figure 8.11: Find gamma emitters at $185\text{keV} \pm 1\text{keV}$. They are sorted by decreasing intensity (gamma intensity \times atoms) and the decay mode is indicated (alpha, beta, ...).

8.4.1 Spectrum Class

It's a base class to define energy spectra for γ , β , α and neutrons. This class defines *Spectrum* objects, i.e. one array store intensities and other store energies. The size of these array are *NumberOfBins+1*. To declare a *Spectrum* proceed as follow :

```
Spectrum* MySpectrum=new Spectrum(EnergyMin,EnergyMax,NumberOfBins); //Energy unit: eV
```

Creates a energy spectrum with a constant linear binning from *EnergyMin* to *EnergyMax* (see *Spectrum* for more options).

For non constant binning, one can use:

```
Spectrum* MySpectrum=new Spectrum(EnergyLowVector);
```

where *EnergyLowVector* is the vector of the lower bounds of each energy bin (*NumberOfBins* elements) except the last element (the (*NumberOfBins+1*) of the vector which is the upper bound energy of the last bin. Other methods allow us to build spectrum binnings from arrays or from a file.

To build a spectrum for a particular radiation one uses the *GammaSpectrum*, *BetaSpectrum*, *AlphaSpectrum* or *NeutronSpectrum* classes :

```
ISpectrum* MySpectrum=new ISpectrum(EnergyLowVector); //where X can be Alpha, Beta, Neutron or Gamma.  
MySpectrum->Fill(MyMaterial,Volume);
```

This last method compute the alpha, beta, gamma or neutron spectrum of *MyMaterial* of volume *Volume*.

A spectrum can be added to an other with *Spectrum::AddSpectrum()* but **only if the two spectra have the same energy binning**:

```
MySpectrum->AddSpectrum(SpectrumToAdd);
```

If you add a *XSpectrum* with a *YSpectrum*, the particle type, that can be used for an MCNP source, is defined by the one of the object calling the method (*MyGammaSpectrum->AddSpectrum(MyNeutronSpectrum)* will have for particle type γ).

A Spectrum can be dump in a file with (if *WithEnergies* is true, the energy bounds of each bin is given, else (default), the middle energy of the bin is given) :

```
MySpectrum->Dump(filename,WithEnergies);
```

All the following classes inherit from the *Spectrum* class: *AlphaSpectrum*, *BetaSpectrum*, *GammaSpectrum* and *NeutronSpectrum*.

8.4.2 GammaSpectrum class

In the method *GammaSpectrum::ReadENSDF(Z, A, I, Atoms, DecayMode)* where *Atoms* is the number of atoms of the ZAI and *DecayMode* is the decay mode leading to the emission of a gamma ray (it is any combination of "A" (α decay), "B" (β^- decay), "E" (electronic capture) and "T" (Isomeric Transition).

GammaSpectrum::ReadENSDF() searches in **ENSDF** files the gamma transition of the A_ZX daughter(s) from these values : decay constant of A_ZX (λ), Branching Ratio of the decay (BR), Relative Intensity (RI), and the Normalization Factor (NR). It calculates the activity *A* for one transition of Energy *E* and fills the *Spectrum*:

$$A = \lambda \times N_{{}^A_ZX} \times RI \times NR \times BR/100 [bq]$$

where $RI \times NR$ is the number of photon per 100 decays of the parent for this decay branch. $RI \times NR \times BR$ is the number of photon per 100 decays of the parent. In order to compute the gamma spectrum of a sample, have a look in *MURE/example/SpectrumExample.cxx*.

8.4.3 AlphaSpectrum class

Here, the method *AlphaSpectrum::ReadENSDF(Z, A, I, Atoms)* is almost identical to the *GammaSpectrum::ReadENSDF()* one, but it looks for alpha ray energies and intensities instead of gammas.

8.4.4 BetaSpectrum class

The method *BetaSpectrum::ReadENSDF(Z, A, I, Atoms)* finds in **ENSDF** files decay constant, branching ratio, normalization factor, intensity, and also the the endpoint energy (or data needed to calculate it if it's not present, i.e. energy of the decaying level, *Q-value* (ground state to ground state) of the decay and energy of the level of the daughter)

$$EndPointEnergy = Qvalue + EnergyOfTheDecayingLevel - EnergyOfTheLevelOfTheDaughter$$

As soon as *EndPointEnergy* is known, the distribution $f(E)$ is calculated using a simplified Fermi theory where all the transition are allowed, then for each bin, the *Intensity* is multiplied by this normalized distribution.

$$A(E) = Atoms \times \lambda \times RI \times NR \times BR \times f(E)$$

where

$$f(E) = Norm \times \frac{2\Pi\eta}{1 - \exp(-2\Pi\eta)} \times W \times \sqrt{W^2 - 1} \times (EndPointEnergy - E)^2$$

with $\eta = \frac{Z_{daughter} \times e^2}{4\Pi\epsilon_0\hbar V_e}$, $V_e = c \times \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{(1+W)^2}}$ and $W = 1 + \frac{E}{m_e c^2}$.

8.4.5 NeutronSpectrum class

This class contains methods which are required to calculate neutron energy spectra. Neutrons taken into account are neutrons from spontanerous fission (*NeutronSpectrum::ReadSFData* method), neutrons from (α, n) reactions (*NeutronSpectrum::AddAlphaNSpectra* method), and neutrons from $\beta^- N$ (*NeutronSpectrum::ReadENSDF* method).

8.4.5.1 Neutron from spontaneous fission

The neutron spectra from spontaneous fission is computed using a normalized Watt distribution $W(E)$

$$W(E) = Norm. \exp\left(-\frac{E}{a}\right) \cdot \sinh\left(\sqrt{b \cdot E}\right) \text{ where } a \text{ and } b \text{ are coefficient depending on the nucleus.}$$

Finally the neutron activity of the nucleus ${}^A_Z X$ by spontaneous fission at energy E is :

$$A(E) = \lambda \times N_{\frac{A}{2}X} \times \langle \nu \rangle \times BR \times W(E)$$

where BR is the branching ratio of the spontaneous fission and $\langle \nu \rangle$ the average neutron per fission. The parameters $\langle \nu \rangle$, BR , a and b are available in literature and those used in MURE are located in */PathToMure/MURE/data/SFNeutronSp* [24].

8.4.5.2 Neutron from (α, n) reactions

Neutrons can be produced by (α, n) reactions on light nuclei during slowing down of alpha particle in the sample. Here the reactions taken into account are only $^{17}\text{O}(\alpha, n)^{20}\text{Ne}$ and $^{18}\text{O}(\alpha, n)^{21}\text{Ne}$. To compute neutron spectra from these reactions, one needs alpha spectra, stopping power in the media, cross sections leading to different level of ^ANe and oxygen density (for each isotopes). Default values are natural oxygen density in UOx fuel ($\rho = 10.4\text{g.cm}^{-3}$).

The stopping power was calculated for a UO_2 media using **SRIM**[23], (α, n) cross section are from **JENDL**(JENDL (α, n) Reaction Data File 2005 (JENDL/AN-2005)). The probability p_i of an alpha of energy E_α having a (α, n) reactions on target i while alpha slowing down on dx is $p_i = N_i \sigma_i dx$, where σ_i is the (α, n) cross section on target i . The probability p_i can be expressed as a function of the variation of energy of the alpha particle on dx : $p_i = N \sigma \frac{dx}{dE} dE$. By integrating the energy of the alpha particle from it's initial energy to 0:

$$P_i(E_\alpha) = N_i \int_0^{E_\alpha} \frac{\sigma_i(E)}{-\frac{dE}{dx}} dE$$

Assuming that neutrons are emitted isotropically in the center of mass, neutrons are uniformly distributed in energy in the laboratory system between a maximum energy and a minimum energy defined by the conservation of momentum and energy (see for example [21] for more information).

8.4.5.3 Neutron from $(\beta^- n)$ decays

- This delayed neutron production has been implemented only for $(\beta^- n)$ decays ; $(\beta^- 2n)$ decays are not yet taken into account.
- The neutron production is taken into account only when both $\%(\beta^- n)$ decays and neutron energy E_n is given in **ENSDF** files. In july 2012, only 6 identified nuclei have this two information: ^{85}As , ^{87}Br , ^{88}Br , ^{95}Rb , ^{135}Sb and ^{137}I .

8.4.6 Define *MCNP* Source with *Spectrum* object

A computed *Spectrum* can be used to define a *MCNP* source (see also section 5.2.3, and examples *SpectrumExample.cxx*, and *TubeSource2.cxx* in *MURE/example*).

- First define the sample Material than can emits source particles (γ, n, β) .
- Then define the *Spectrum* (*GammaSpectrum*, *NeutronSpectrum* or *BetaSpectrum*) with one of the constructors
- Finally proceed as follow (for a punctual and isotropic source) :

```
MCNPSource *MySource=new MCNPSource(NumberOfParticle);
MySpectrum->Fill(MyMaterial,Volume);
MySource->UseThisEnergyDistribution(MySpectrum,DistributionNumber);
gMURE->SetSource(MySource);
```

where Volume is the *Volume* of your sample and *DistributionNumber* is the *MCNP* source distribution number (default 800).

Chapter 9

Thermal-hydraulics/neutronics coupling

9.1 Preliminary Remarks

In **MURE 2/SMURE**, some classes have been removed (*ReactorChannel*) or renamed (*ReactorMesh*) and completely rewritten. There are no more backward compatibility of the renamed classes with older ones. Read carefully the following guide and the provided examples.

- Geometry builders : *GenericReactorAssembly* (abstract class), and the 2 concrete implementations *MCNP::ReactorAssembly* and *Serpent::ReactorAssembly*
- Thermal-hydraulics flow simulation class : *COBRA_EN* class.
- **BATH** (Basic Approach of Thermal Hydraulics) : *ThermalCoupling*, *ThermalDataReader*.

Coupling neutronics and Thermohydraulics (like the examples given in *MURE/examples*) is relevant only if temperature dependent cross-sections for MC transport codes have been provided for each isotope.

9.2 General Overview

Simulations of nuclear power plants can need a discretization of the core in 3 dimensions. The *ReactorAssembly* classes provide an easy way to build a full core (with radial and axial discretization) for hexagonal or cubuoid assemblies. These classes allow to define automatically radial zones and axial levels per assembly from a general pins (built via the *PinCell* class) scheme. In each radial zone and axial level, all pins of the same type (e.g. Fuel pins, Guide Tube pins, ...) will have the same composition (all fuel pins have the same clad, coolant and fuel composition in the radial zone, idem for Guide Tube, ...). Zoning is defined via virtual circle (center at in the middle of the assembly) or via given explicit positions. For the former case, a pin belong to a zone if its most outer layer (e.g. clad radius) is fully inside the given circle. These assemblies can then be used to fill a core.

COBRA_EN class has been created for the coupling analysis with a qualified thermal-hydraulics sub-channel code : **COBRA-EN**[12, 13] (Coolant Boiling in Rod Arrays). The coupling is “transparent” for users: the *ReactorAssembly* is passed to *COBRA_EN* class. At the present time, *COBRA_EN* class only support cuboid *ReactorAssembly* with the following restrictions:

- only one guide tube pin type is allowed (same dimension for all guide tubes) ; a guide tube pin must be composed by a inner coolant and a clad layer and a surrounding (coolant) material.
- only one control rod pin type ; a control rod pin must be composed by 4 layers (the rod, its clad, a coolant ring (“gap”) and outer clad (the guide tube clad)) and a surrounding (coolant) material. The control rod outer clad should be the same than the guide tube pin clad.
- 2 types of fuel pins are allowed: standard fuel pins (a fuel inner part, its clad and the surrounding (coolant) material) or special fuel pins with 3 layers (fuel inner part, a ring of non fissile material (Gd, ...), and its clad) with a surrounding (coolant) material.

BATH solves the heat equation in case of a permanent regime and a cylindrical fuel and cladding shapes. The following estimates should be taken into account:

- heat conduction is calculated in homogeneous isotropic media (temperature only depends on radius)
 - simulations are done on average elementary channel(s) (no cross-flow). Several “average” channels can be simulated but thermal-hydraulics interactions between them cannot be calculated.
 - The code only simulates a liquid phase (no boiling).

9.3 Description of methods

9.3.1 Introduction

A nuclear reactor is mainly controlled by two disciplines: neutronics and thermal-hydraulics. In fact, reactor core temperatures depend on the heat sources, and thus on the distribution of power which evolves in the course of time (calculated by neutronics codes). Yet, these codes require cross sections which depend on the temperatures, and thus on the nature of flow that is solved by thermal-hydraulics codes.

The input file for a coupled analysis is almost the same than a pure neutronics **MURE** calculation. Of course, some thermal-hydraulic characteristics must be added (like coolant temperature entrance, pressure,...) but a non thermal-hydraulic physicist can quickly perform a simulation with a thermal-hydraulics coupling. The generation of the **COBRA** input file happens automatically and without any user intervention as well as the **coupling procedure between MURE and COBRA**.

The neutronics code calculates the power distribution in the fuel pins, which is transferred to the thermal-hydraulics code. Then, this latter determines new properties in each pin and sub-channel (temperatures, densities,...). Finally, these data are used as new inputs for the next neutronics calculation. Iterations can be repeated until a converged state is obtained or during a step time for an transient analysis.

Meshing grids are different between neutronics and thermal-hydraulics (c.f. figure 9.1).

In fact two different physics disciplines are dealt with, but their solving methods have nothing in common. This is the reason why two different meshes are defined. Consequently classes manage the correspondence and the symmetrization of these meshes. Updates are done using mean values by zones (c.f. figure 9.2).

These zones are chosen by the user and are dependent on the precision required. In each radial zone and axial level, neutron flux, reaction rates, properties of materials or coolant and fuel burn-up are treated separately.

Any increase in the discretization must be carefully considered because it may use more computing resources for a marginal accuracy gain, or even, in certain circumstances, cause a loss of precision.

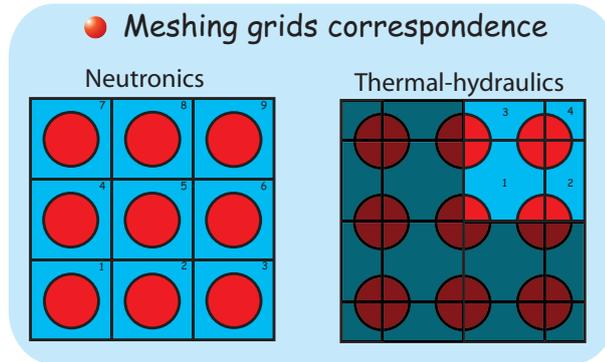


Figure 9.1: Meshing grids.

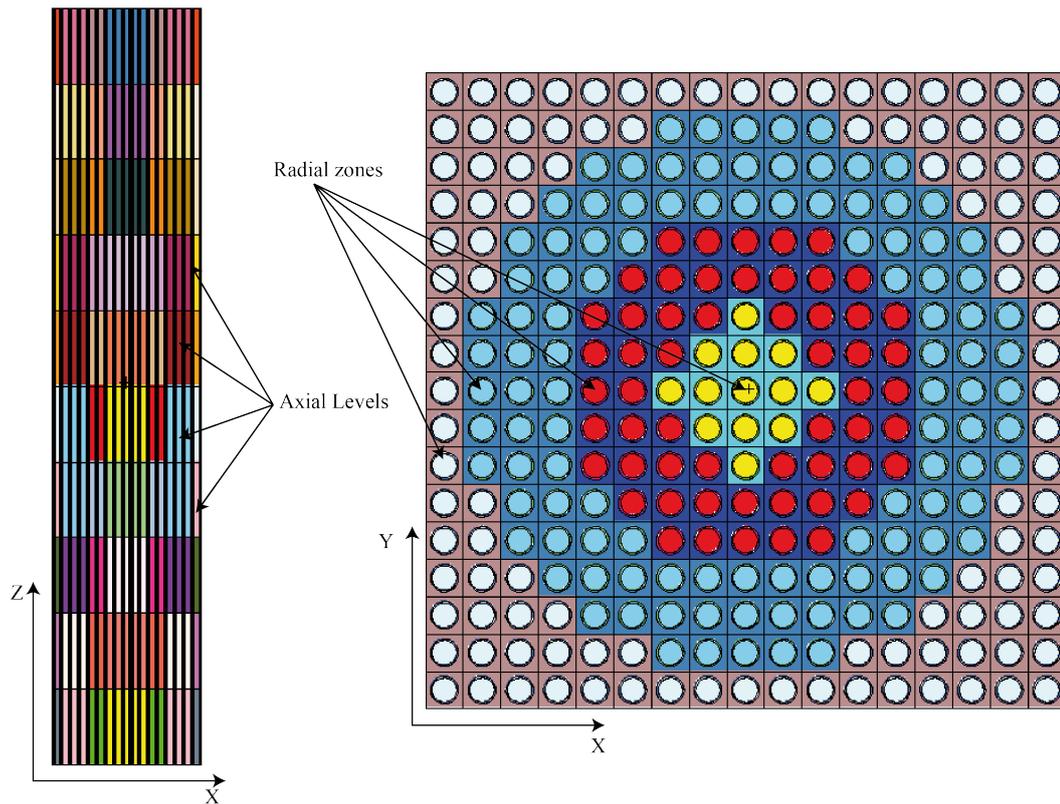


Figure 9.2: 4 Radial zones and 10 axial levels.

9.3.2 ReactorAssembly class

The *ReactorAssembly* class is a complete rewriting of *ReactorMesh* class. This class can be used in a purely neutronics way or for thermohydraulics/Thermics-neutronics coupling. As already emphasis, when *COBRA_EN* is involved, some restrictions are mandatory (see § 9.2).

Utilization for pure neutronics calculation

Examples are provides in *RA_1ass.cxx* (1 hexagonal assembly), *RA_1ass_serpent.cxx* (1 cuboid assembly) and *RA_lattice.cxx* (a cylindrical core filled by cuboid assembly).

IMPORTANT : The order of calling method in the *ReactorAssembly* class is not arbitrary! This is because some methods defined and/or calculate some quantities depending on previous ones. This normally has been protected (by a **MURE** error). But to avoid problems here are some rules (methods not mentioned there after can be called without specific order):

1. Define a *ReactorAssembly* object via *ReactorAssembly::ReactorAssembly(double, int, int, string)*
2. Define eventually plenum thickness and materials if they exist via *ReactorAssembly::SetPlenum(double, Material*, Material*)* and assembly duct (assembly channel) if needed via *ReactorAssembly::SetAssemblyDuct(double, Material*)*
3. Assign the assembly Shape to the object via *ReactorAssembly::SetAssemblyShape(Shape_ptr)*
4. Add all standard fuel pins that fill the whole assembly (without specify position) via *ReactorAssembly::AddFuelPin(PinCell*)*
5. Add specific pins at the given position via *ReactorAssembly::AddFuelPin(PinCell*, int, int)* or via *ReactorAssembly::AddGuideTube(PinCell*, int, int)* or via *ReactorAssembly::AddControlRod(PinCell*, int, int)*
6. ...
7. and last method to be called¹ must be *ReactorAssembly::BuildAssemblyGeometry()*

As an example, user first defines Materials and PinCell (Fuel, Guide Tubes, Control Rods, ...) he want to use. Then, he defines the shape of the assembly (either a cuboid or a hexagon):

```
Shape_ptr AssemblyShape(new Brick(S/2., S/2., H/2.)); //cuboid assembly S x S x H
```

or

```
Shape_ptr AssemblyShape1(new Hexagon(H/2., S)); //Hexagon assembly with edges of size S and height H.
```

This shape determines the type of the *ReactorAssembly* (Cuboid or Hexagonal) ; if, for some reasons, the assembly shape is more complex (e.g. a cuboid assembly with a hole inside that is not filled by any pins, user should provide this complex shape as well as the real cuboid (Brick class) or hexagonal (Hexagon class) of the outer bounding shape). Then user defines a ***ReactorAssembly*** object by given the pitch of the pin lattice and the number of radial zone and axial levels

```
ReactorAssembly* RA = new ReactorAssembly(pitch,4,10); // 4 radials zones, 10 axial levels
```

¹Except if the *ReactorAssembly* is used to fill a core lattice.

If equal size upper and lower plenums are needed, user should call *ReactorAssembly::SetPlenum(thickness, Plenum-Material)* method before any other call to a *ReactorAssembly* 's method.

The shape of the assembly is passed to the *ReactorAssembly* object:

```
RA->SetAssemblyShape(AssemblyShape); // physical limits
```

And zoning is defined by given as many radial zones as it has been defined in the constructor (in this example, 3 radial zones) ; zone number range should be 0 for the most inner zone to N for the most outer. To be noticed: all lattice cell of an assembly (i.e. pins) must belong to a defined radial zone ; this implies that the last zone must include all the pins. If zones are defined via concentric virtual circle center in the middle of the assembly, the last zone radius must be at least equal to $S/\sqrt{2}$ for a cuboid assembly of side S and to $2 \times S$ for an hexagonal assembly of side S .

```
// Automatic differentiation of zones for structurally identical elements
//                (c.f. fig 9.2)
RA->AddCircleZoneRadius(2.5*pitch,0);
RA->AddCircleZoneRadius(5*pitch,1);
RA->AddCircleZoneRadius(8*pitch,2);
RA->AddCircleZoneRadius(S/sqrt(2),3);
```

Then, add the pins at a given position in the (x,y) lattice : the position is a position index in the lattice (with the respect to the primitive cell lattice) ; thus the (0,0) correspond to the central primitive cell, (-1,-1) to the left down adjacent cell, ... If no position is provided, the the pin fill the whole lattice (the normal way of filling normal fuel pins) ; then user can override some of the pins by adding some specific ones to a given position

```
RA->AddFuelPin(FuelPin); // the FuelPin (PinCell *) pins fill the whole assembly.
RA->AddGuideTube(GuideTube,5,2); // add a guide tube pin at (5,2) from the assembly lattice center
RA->AddGuideTube(GuideTube,0,0); // add a guide tube pin in the center of the assembly
RA->AddGuideTube(GuideTube,-5,-2); // add a guide tube pin at (-5,-2) from the assembly lattice center
...
```

You can add different type of fuel pin, control rods (with *ReactorAssembly::AddControlRod*), ...

And then build the assembly geometry (this MUST be the last method of *ReactorAssembly* called):

```
RA->BuildAssemblyGeometry();
```

Clearly, the outside cell of the assembly cannot be defined automatically and it should be defined by user himself.

For **COBRA-EN** coupling, the coolant around guide tubes, control rods and fuel pin cells is the same as the ones for neighbours cells (same composition, temperature, density, ...) of the same radial zone.

A more complex example is presented in *RA_complex.cxx* (c.f. figure 9.3) : this example shows how to define radial zones using virtual circle radii as well as specifying the zone by a lattice position.

9.3.2.1 Using a *ReactorAssembly* to fill a core lattice

After defining a *ReactorAssembly* object with its fuel pins, guide tubes, plenums, ..., this assembly can be used to fill a reactor core. In order to do it, **before calling the *ReactorAssembly::BuildAssemblyGeometry()***, one has to call the *ReactorAssembly::SetUniverse()* method. Then, one as to used the assembly as a lattice generator and to avoid problem of chain surface, the *ReactorAssembly* shape is taken as an infinite one:

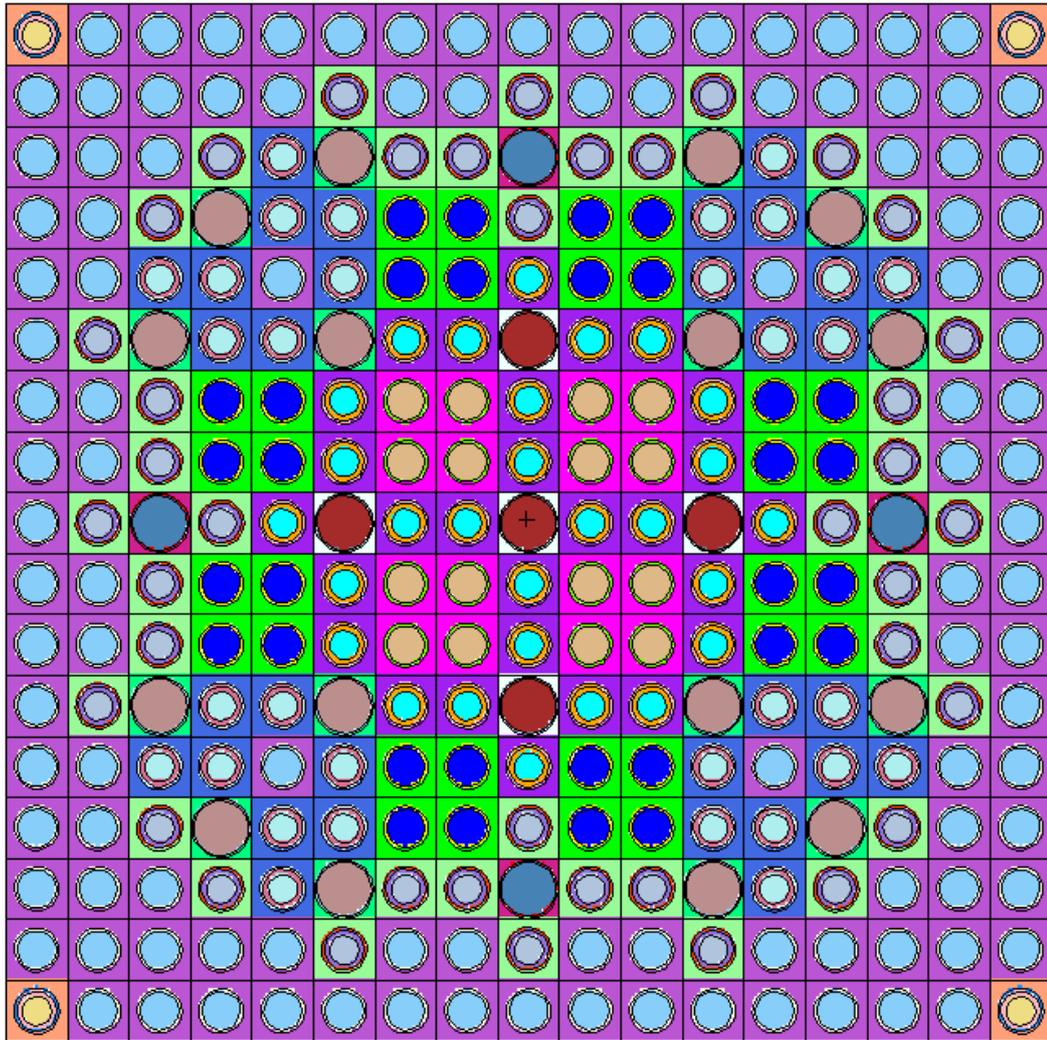


Figure 9.3: A complex assembly with 7 radial zones: 3 zones for standard fuel pins, 3 zones for specific fuel pins and 3 zones for guide tubes..

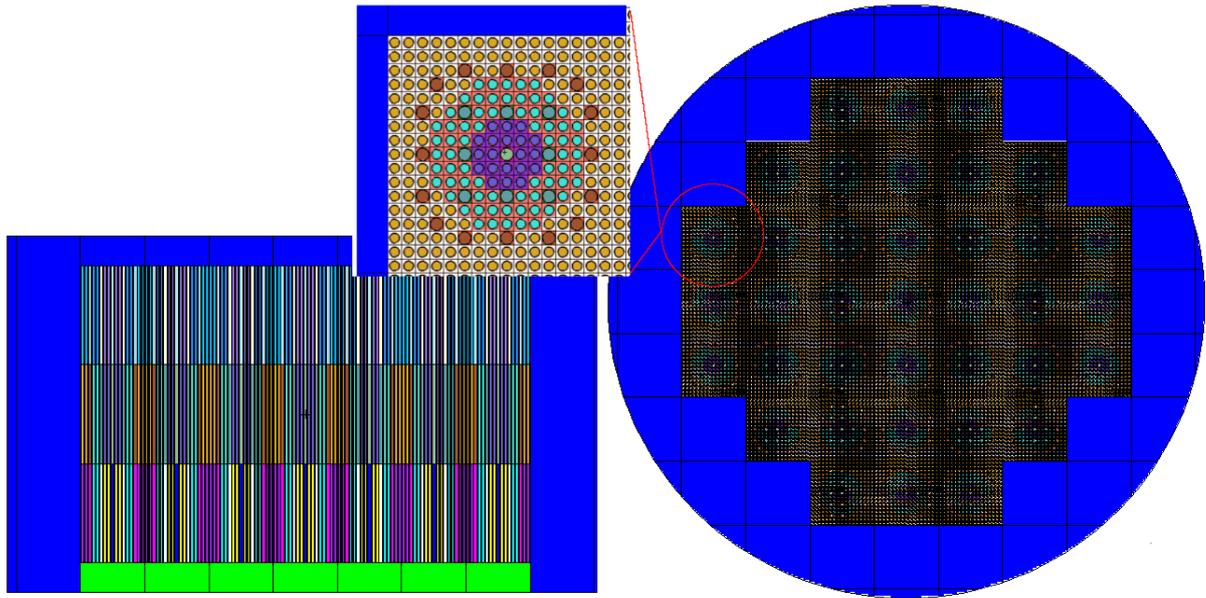


Figure 9.4: A core filled by a *ReactorAssembly*: Axial (right) and radial cut (left) ; a zoom on the *ReactorAssembly* object is also shown (middle).

```

...
ReactorAssembly* RA = new ReactorAssembly(pitch,3,3);
...
RA->SetUniverse();
RA->BuildAssemblyGeometry();
Shape_ptr InfinitAss=RA->GetInfiniteAssemblyShape();
InfinitAss->SetUniverse();

InfinitAss>>Core;

LatticeCell* LatticeGenerator=new LatticeCell(InfinitAss);
LatticeGenerator->FillLattice(RA->GetUniverse())

```

In this short example, the fuel core is filled with the assembly, but a more realistic filling scheme is presented in *MURE/examples/RA_lattice.cxx* (see Fig. 9.4).

For evolution example, see the documented example *MURE/example/Evolution/RMAsssembly.cxx* (c.f. figure 9.5).

9.3.3 The COBRA_EN class : coupled neutronics/thermal-hydraulics calculations

This class manages the Oak Ridge National Laboratory code **COBRA-EN** (COolant Boiling in Rod Arrays). It is a sub-channel code that allows steady-state and transient analysis of the coolant in rod arrays. The simulation of flow is based on a three or four partial differential equations: conservation of mass, energy and momentum vector for the water liquid/vapor mixture (optionally a fourth equation can be added which tracks the vapor mass separately). The heat transfer model is featured by a full boiling curve, comprising the basic heat transfer regimes: single phase forced convection, sub-cooled nucleate boiling, saturated nucleate boiling, transition and film boiling. Heat conduction in the fuel and the cladding are calculated using the balance equation.

Some modifications on the source code have been done to optimize calculations on Intel Fortran Compilers (*ifort*)

PWR 17x17 Assembly

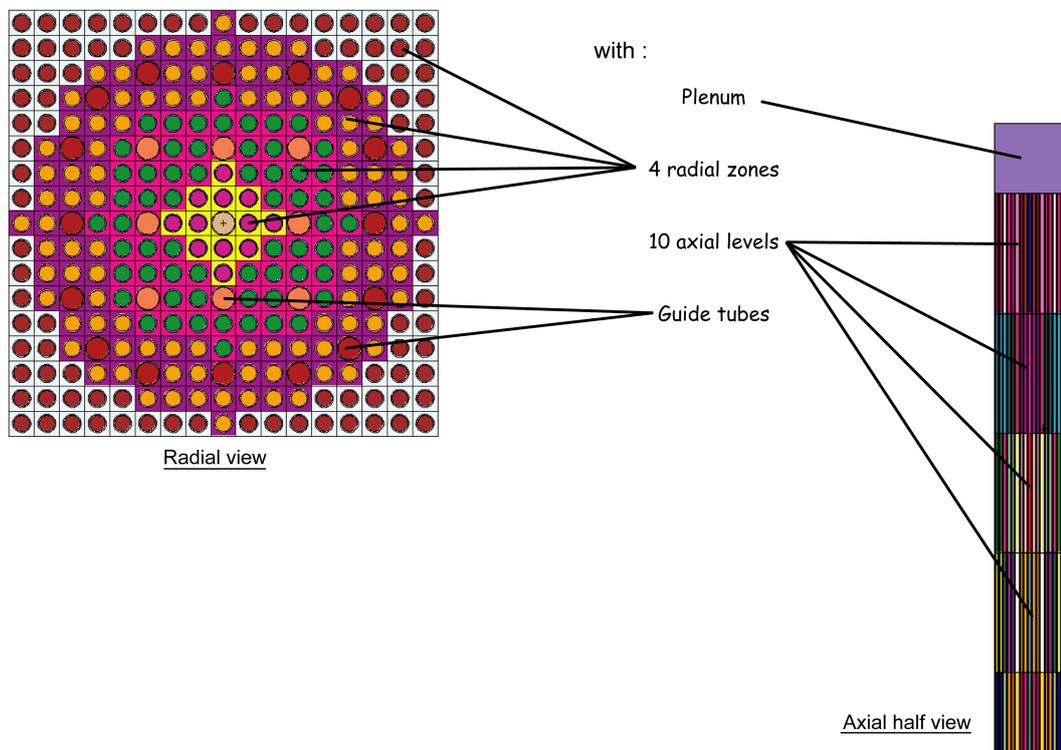


Figure 9.5: Example of an assembly created with *ReactorAssembly*.

and to enlarge arrays (parameters `IDSIZE` in source files).

9.3.3.1 Coupling Thermo-hydraulics and neutronics

1. In the **MURE** input file, you must provide a `gMURE->GetTemperatureMap()->SetDeltaTPrecision(Delta_T);` where `Delta_T` is the temperature precision (in K) used to choose the closest temperature for cross-sections (this number could be big, let say around 1500K).
2. Then, each material where temperature evolution is wanted should know it via the `Material::SetTemperatureEvolution()`; this should be done for the fuel as well as for the coolant part.
3. a `ReactorAssembly` is built (as described above but **be sure to have created real clones of evolving temperature's materials** ; for example the coolant used in fuel pins, plenums, guide tubes,... should be a different material.
4. Create a `COBRA_EN` object (let say this is a pointer called `Channel`) with the previous `ReactorAssembly`.
5. Set to this object the boundary conditions (inlet temperature, mass flow, exiting pressure,...), see § 9.3.3.2
6. then build and run the COBRA-EN file
7. Optionally, to achieve temperature convergence, one can loop on successive iterations between MC/thermo-hydraulics calculation.

All these steps are exemplified in `MURE/examples/Thermal/SimpleTHAssembly.cxx`.

9.3.3.2 Input/Output file

The run of successive MC code and COBRA code required input files for both codes and transfer files that allow communication and cross-check of the simulation. MC file (`inpXXX`) is generated as usual in MURE, in the (MC) run directory. In this directory, a "`TH_yyy`" (where `yyy` is the name of the reactor assembly), input/output and transfer file for COBRA-EN are written.

- `INFILE` is the COBRA-EN input file
- `OUTFILE` is the COBRA-EN output file
- `Mesh_MURE_COBRA_Data.txt` : are written the lattice positions for each pin in the mesh grid of neutronic code and thermohydraulics code
- `MCNPCellsTemp.data` : are written averages temperatures in each zone and level for fuels, cladding and coolant (K)
- `PowerDeposits.data` : are written the local power deposits and its absolute error for a representative fuel element in each zone and level (total power released in the zone/level is normalized by the number of fuel pin in the zone - unit : W)
- `PLOTFILE` is the COBRA-EN output plotfile
- A file called `yyy_MeshZoneData.txt` is also created in the initial running directory: the number of fuel pins, guide tubes, special pins for each zone are quoted ; an equivalent of the mesh `MCNP_Zones` is also written.

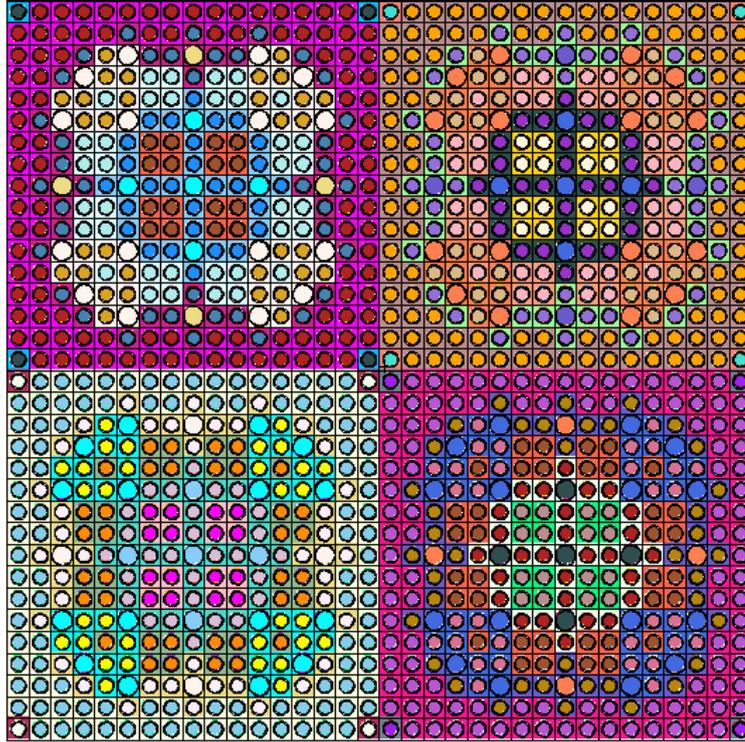


Figure 9.6: Geometry visualization

Input data on operating conditions

Some precision about fluid mechanics must be given. Otherwise, default values are taken into account.

Inlet temperature (K) :

```
Channel->SetInletTemperature(560);
```

Average inlet mass flux ($kg/s/m^2$) :

```
Channel->SetInletMassFlux(2923.72);
```

Inlet boron concentration (ppm) :

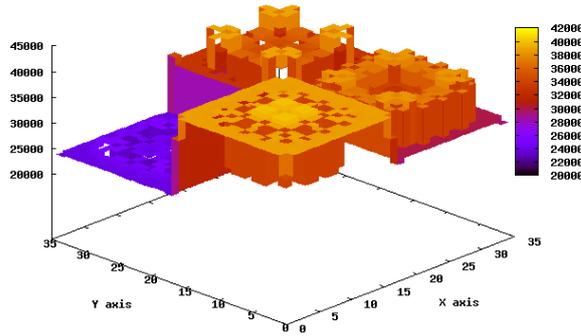
```
Channel->SetInletBoronConcentration(1000);
```

System exit pressure (MPa) :

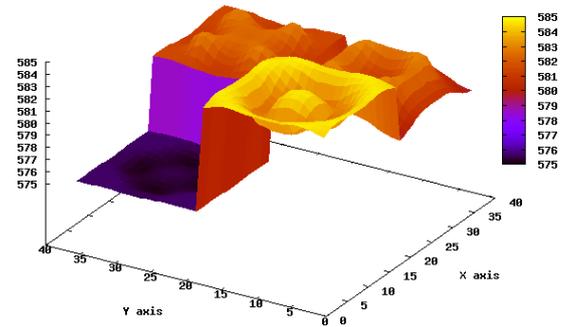
```
Channel->SetExitPressure(15.8);
```

See the documented examples *MURE/examples/Thermal/SimpleTHAssembly.cxx* and *MURE/example/Thermal/C4Assembly.cxx* (c.f. figure 9.6) and some results :

- Power distribution: figure 9.7a
- Exit coolant temperature profile: figure 9.7b.



(a) 3D Power distribution (W)



(b) Exit coolant temperature (K)

Figure 9.7: Complex COBRA coupled simulation : 20 axial levels and 4*7 radial regions

9.3.4 The BATH class (NOT YET TESTED IN SMURE-MURE v2.0)

This class manages temperature calculation for a coupled simulation *neutronics/thermal-hydraulics* with a **2D RZ precision**. It is not as accurate as COBRA and must be explicitly coupled by the user but its advantages are :

- the capability to be coupled with geometry that has already been built
- it is an explicit way of coupling, despite the fact it takes longer, users can completely control what is being simulated (it is not a “black box”)
- capability to simulate a lot of coolant, cladding or fuels types: users just need to add them (thermal data and equations).

9.3.4.1 Capabilities

The code already includes data and equations necessary for simulations. It uses:

- as fuel: uranium oxide and plutonium/uranium mixed oxide and thorium oxide (full or annular pellet)
- as cladding: zircaloy 4 or 2 and stainless steel 316 SS
- as coolant: light water, heavy water and sodium.

9.3.4.2 What is solved

- heat and mass transfer:

$$\dot{m}C_p\Delta T = q_p A$$

- steady-state forced convection in case of turbulent flows:

$$T_p - \bar{T}_{coolant} = \frac{q_p}{h}$$

- steady-state conduction inside the cladding and the fuel: *Fourier law*

- radiation exchange between cladding and fuel surfaces is implemented but not used (due to a lack of precision on gas composition and evolution of the gas space dimension during burn-up): *Stefan law*
- indication of pressure losses (due to acceleration, gravity and friction - loss due to peculiarity like grids are not calculated because it is considered as empirical data): acceleration is zero because the velocity is assumed constant, only gravity and friction (Darcy frictions model) are calculated
- thermal conductivity of zircaloy and steel, data on water, sodium, UOX and MOX are from literature.
- Nusselt dimensionless number calculation:
 - water: Dittus-Boelter equation $Nu = 0.023 Re^{0.8} Pr^{0.4}$
 - sodium: Notter & Sleicher $Nu = 6.3 + 0.0167 Re^{0.85} Pr^{0.93}$

9.3.4.3 How to add data

If thermal conductivity of new cladding is needed, one has to modify the source of *ThermalCoupling* class, adding flags and switching cases in *ThermalCoupling::CladConduction()*.

To add a new coolant, equations of dimensionless number calculation are perhaps necessary and data tables must be added in *thermal_data* directory. As it is done for *water* and *sodium*, files containing thermal data must be created : see *Water.xls* in *thermal_data* directory.

Adding a new fuel is easier: only 2 tables of data are necessary (density and thermal conductivity : see *thermal_data* directory).

Contact Nicolas Capellan (capellan at lpsc.in2p3.fr) for further explanation.

9.3.4.4 Use the code

Users should create the geometry themselves. Flags will be added to indicate positions of frames and cells to the thermal-hydraulics code :

- on materials: flag *SetTemperatureEvolution()* and only on fuel material *SetEvolution()*
- on cells: flag(s) *SetTHLevelPosition()* (the first one at the bottom and then increasing height) and *SetTH-ZonePosition()* if more than one average channel is needed.

BATH is created and launched after the MCNP run.

See the documented example *MURE/examples/Thermal/BATHEexample.cxx*.

9.3.4.5 Output data

Outputs are created in the directory called *Zi_Run_j* (*i* is the “region” and *j* the iteration number of coupled field).

For each level, thermal results are built together with the temperature function of distance from the center (temperature gradient inside fuel, cladding and coolant, c.f. figure 9.8).

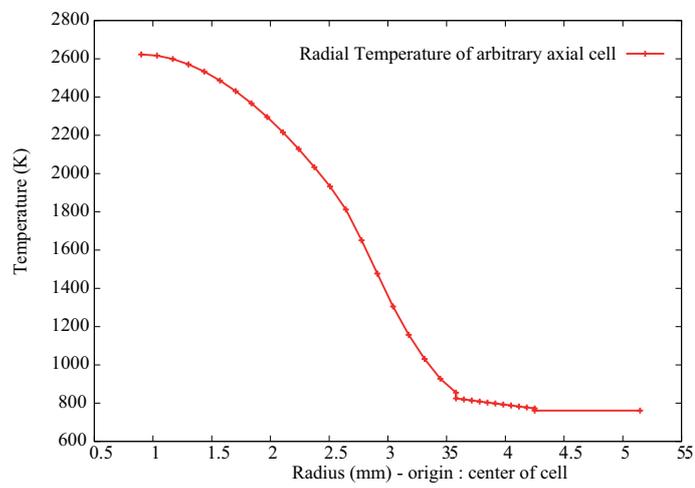


Figure 9.8: BATH output example

Appendix A

Basic of C++ to understand MURE

A.1 Introduction

This appendix is not a C++ tutorial ; its aim is to define roughly commonly used words inside MURE user guide and to allow users unfamiliar with C/C++ to understand examples and uses of MURE. Each main program in C++ is defined as

```
int main() //or int main(int argc, char **argv) to use argument passed to the program
{
    ...
}
```

In general, special functions, variables, ... are needed. Then, the definition of these functions known as the header files should be included:

```
#include <iostream> //standard functions for input/output on the screen (cout, cin, ...)
#include <cmath> //standard mathematical function (cos, sin, ...)
using namespace std;
#include "my_header_file.hex" //a definition made by a user

int main()
{
    ...
}
```

A.2 Class & Object

C++ is said *Object Oriented*. This means that the notion of variables is extended to a more complete and self consistent form: the **object**. The *variable types* are now called **classes**: for example, the type *float* of C (*real* in fortran) is now a *class*. For this class the difference between *type* and *class* is simply semantic. But you can create your own type (your own class) that regroups many other *objects* (or variables in C/fortran language) of different classes (different types). For example a class *Point* can have 2 coordinates of the class *double*:

```
class Point
{
```

```

    public:
        double X;
        double Y;
};

```

The “*public:*” keyword means that one can use the objects of this class from the outside of the class. The 2 objects X and Y are called **members** or **attributes** of the class *Point*. To declare an object P of the class *Point* to be a point of coordinates (0,4), one has to

```

Point P;
P.X=0;
P.Y=4;

```

Moreover, a class contains **methods**, that is to say, specific functions that can act only on objects of this class:

```

class Point
{
    public:
        void Translate(double dx, double dy) {X+=dx;Y+=dy;}
        double X;
        double Y;
};

```

P can be translated of $\vec{V}(1, 1)$:

```

P.Translate(1,1);

```

Special methods of classes are named **constructors**: these methods have *no type and name of the class* ; they are used to allocate memory and eventually initialize an object:

```

class Point
{
    public:
        Point(double x, double y){X=x; Y=y;}
        void Translate(double dx, double dy){X+=dx;Y+=dy;}
        double X;
        double Y;
};

```

Then P can be declared as

```

Point P(0,4);

```

Methods (as well as functions) can be *overloaded*: 2 methods may have the same name but different arguments:

```

class Point
{
    public:
        Point(double x, double y){X=x; Y=y;}
        Point(){X=0; Y=0;}
        void Translate(double dx, double dy){X+=dx;Y+=dy;}
        void Translate(double dV[2]){X+=dV[0];Y+=dV[1];}
        double X;
        double Y;
};

```

here the second *constructor* has no argument ; it is called the “**default constructor**” ; in this case it defines the origin point ; the second *Point::Translate()* method needs an array of dimension 2 as argument:

```
Point P1; //call the default constructor
Point P2(0,4); // call the “normal” constructor P2 is (0,4)
double dv[2]={1,1}; //an array of 2 doubles
P1.X=2; //set X of P1
P1.Y=2; //set Y of P1;
Point P3=P1; //P3 is (2,2)
P1.Translate(dv); //Translate P1 from (2,2)->(3,3) but P3 is still at (2,2)
P2.Translate(1,1); //Translate P2 from (0,4)->(1,5)
```

It is usually safe to “*protect*” the objects of a class from modifying them from the outside of the class without using a class method. One may succeed by using the “**private:**” keyword. But then one must define new methods to modify them.

```
class Point
{
public:
    Point(double x, double y){X=x; Y=y;}
    Point(){X=0; Y=0;}
    void Translate(double dx, double dy){X+=dx;Y+=dy;}
    void Translate(double dV[2]){X+=dV[0];Y+=dV[1];}
    void SetX(double x){X=x;}
    void SetY(double y){Y=y;}
    double GetX(){return X;}
    double GetY(){return Y;}
private:
    double X;
    double Y;
};
```

Then, one should not write

```
P.X=1;
cout<<"Coordinate of P("<<P.X<<","<<P.Y<<")"<<endl;
```

but instead, use

```
P.SetX(1);
cout<<"Coordinate of P("<<P.GetX()<<","<<P.GetY()<<")"<<endl;
```

Of course, this is not very useful for this simple example ; but for larger codes, it avoids bugs.

A.2.1 Header and implementation files

In the previous class *Point*, one has defined explicitly all methods inside the class. But when dealing with larger classes, libraries, please consider separating the class definition (*.hxx* files called **headers**) from the class **implementation** (*.cxx* files). Then, one may build libraries with implementation files whereas the header files could be included in any file using the library. For example one may rewrite the Point class header in the *Point.hxx* file

```

class Point
{
    public:
        Point(double x, double y);
        Point();
        void Translate(double dx, double dy);
        void Translate(double dV[2]);
        void SetX(double x){X=x;} // here the methods are very short,
        void SetY(double y){Y=y;} // one can let them with inline definition.
        double GetX(){return X;}
        double GetY(){return Y;}
    private:
        double X;
        double Y;
};

```

Not the “;” after the first 4 methods: it means that they will be defined somewhere else. The *Point.cpp* implementation file:

```

#include "Point.hxx"
Point::Point(double x, double y)
{
    X=x;
    Y=y;
}
Point::Point()
{
    X=0;
    Y=0;
}
void Point::Translate(double dx, double dy)
{
    X+=dx;
    Y+=dy;
}
void Point::Translate(double dV[2])
{
    X+=dV[0];
    Y+=dV[1];
}

```

Note the “**Point::**” ; it means that the following method belongs to the class point (“**::**” is the *scope resolution operator*).

A.3 Default arguments

In MURE, lots of parameters have default values. In general default values are assigned in methods (or function) definitions (header files) with the following syntax:

```

void TheMethod(double x=3);

```

This means that if one calls `TheMethod(5)`, the value of the argument `x=5`, whereas a call to `TheMethod()` will take `x=3` for this “default” argument. If one writes

```
void AnOtherMethod(double x, double y=2);
```

The first argument must be given and the second one (`y`), if it is not given, takes the value `y=2`. All default arguments must be defined after the explicit argument¹. If one writes

```
void ThirdMethod(double x=1, double y=2, double z=1);
```

then a call to

```
ThirdMethod();           // means that x=1, y=2, z=1
ThirdMethod(3);         // means that x=3, y=2, z=1
ThirdMethod(3,10);      // means that x=3, y=10, z=1
ThirdMethod(3,10,100);  // means that x=3, y=10, z=100
```

A.4 Pointers

We have defined objects of classes. One can define **pointers on objects**:

```
Point *P1=new Point; //call the default constructor
Point *P2=new Point(3,4); //call the normal constructor
P1->SetX(1); //because P1 is a pointer on a Point, one use “->” instead of the “.”
P2->Translate(1,1);
Point *P3;
P3=P1; //P3 and P1 are pointing on the same Point (1,0)
P3->Translate(1,1); // P3 and P1 point on (1,1).
Point *P;
P=new Point[3]; //P is an array of 3 Points (it points on the first)
for(int i=0; i<3; i++)
{
    P[i].SetX(2*i+1); //P[i] is a Point (whereas P is a pointer)
    P[i].SetY(i+1); //thus one uses a “.” and not the “->”
}
P[0].Translate(1,1); //Translate P[0] from (1,1)->(2,2)
delete P1;
delete P2;
delete [] P;
```

The 2 first lines allocate 2 Points (the “new” keyword). One use the “->” instead of the “.” to use a method (or a public attribute) because `P1` and `P2` are pointers. In the declaration of `P3`, no Point is allocated (no “new”) ; the “`P3=P1`” line means that `P3` points on the same Point than `P1` ; thus translating `P3` will translate `P1` (and vice versa). By writing “`P=new Point[3]`”, one allocates an array of 3 Points by calling the default constructor of Point (**to declare arrays, a default constructor must exist**). Each `P[i]` is a real Point object (not a pointer). When one use pointers, the memory is not freed by itself: one has to do it manually though a “delete”. Here one can delete `P1` or `P3` but not both ; in the example, `P3` continues to point on the address of the `P1` Point, but because the memory has been freed, this address does not correspond to anything. To delete arrays, one has to use the “`[]`” after the “delete” keyword.

¹One cannot write `void AnOtherMethod(double y=2, double x)`.

A.5 Inheritance

One very powerful tools of classes is the *inheritance* mechanisms. One says that *a class inherits from a mother class*: all members (methods and attributes) of the mother class are known from the Daughter class. This one may have new methods and/or attributes. Following our previous example, one can define a *Point3D* as:

```
#include "Point.hxx"
class Point3D : public Point //here one says that Point3D is the daughter of Point
{
public:
    Point3D():Point(){Z=0;}
    Point3D(double x, double y, double z):Point(x,y){Z=z;}
    void Translate(double dx, double dy, double dz){X+=dx;Y+=dy; Z+=dz;} //possible if the "private:" of Point
    void SetZ(double z){Z=z;} //is replaced by "protected:"
    double GetZ(){return Z;}
private:
    double Z;
};
```

and one has to replace the keyword **"private:"** of the class *Point* by the keyword **"protected:"** in order to allow the Daughter of *Point* (*Point3D*) to modify its attributes. But from the outside of *Point* and *Point3D*, it is impossible to modify these attributes. The 2 constructors of *Point3D* start to call respectively the default and the normal constructor of the mother class (**:Point()** and **:Point(x,y)**).

```
Point3D P1(1,2,3); // P1 is at (1,2,3)
Point3D P2; //P2 is at (0,0,0)
P2.SetX(1);
P2.SetY(1);
P2.SetZ(1); //P2 is now at (1,1,1)
P1.Translate(1,1,1); //P2 is now at (2,2,2);
```

A.6 Namespace

Some classes or methods are defined in name spaces : this means that one can use a class/method with a reference to that name space : for example the use of *"cout"* to print a flow should be done as

```
#include <iostream>
int main()
{
    ...
    std::cout<<"bla bla bla"<<std::endl;
    ...
}
```

But because this is sometimes quite heavy to write, one just as to use

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
int main()
{
    ...
```

```
    cout<<"bla bla bla"<<endl;
    ...
}
```

This trick is also used in **MURE** to choose the kind of output one need (*Serpent* or *MCNP*) ; lots of classes have the same name (e.g. the *Brick* class) but, because they belong to 2 different name spaces, they are doing different things. Thus one can use either *MCNP::Brick* or *Serpent::Brick* or more easily, for a “Serpent Brick”,

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
using namespace Serpent;
int main()
{
    ...
    Brick *b=new Brick(...);
    ...
}
```

Appendix B

Node tree simplification

In this appendix, more details are provided on the principle of the Node simplification to obtain more optimized MCNP input files. For example, in figure B.1 the Plane number 2 belongs to 2 Nodes and must not be destroyed after the destruction of the included node.

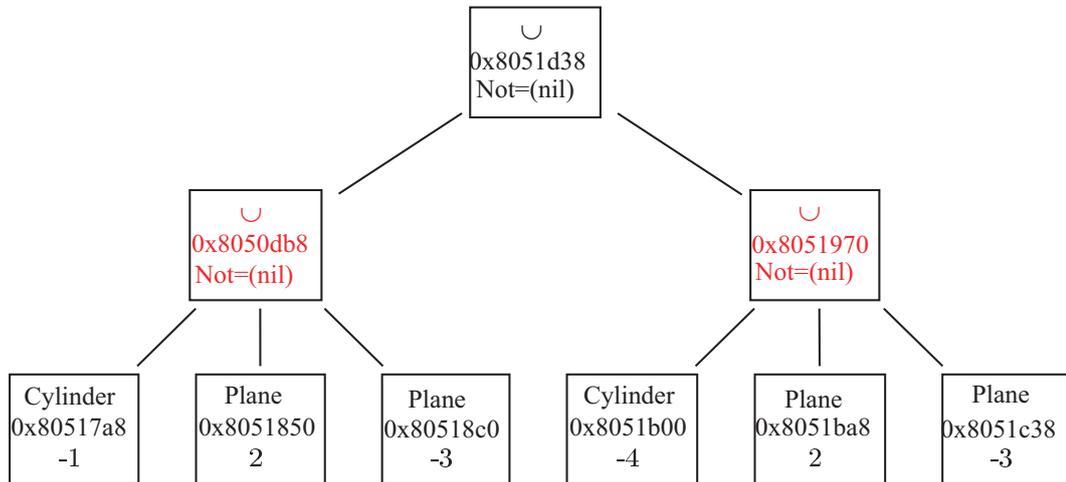


Figure B.1: A tree corresponding to a geometrical object before its simplification. The representation tells whether a node is a union or intersection, then the node address is given, the address of the not of the node (complementary node) is also given if it exists. Nodes in red are usually not removable because of included, bounding or inside shapes (see Node class). For each leaf of the tree, the type of Shape (Plane, Sphere, ...) is given as well as its address and its surface number with a sign (like in surface in MCNP cell).

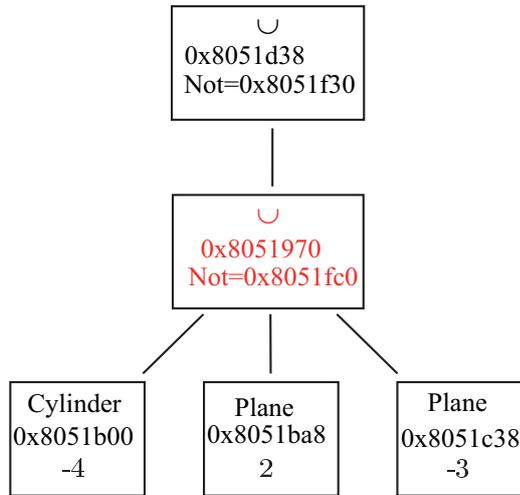


Figure B.2: The tree of figure B.1 after simplification. Since one node was included in the other, it has been removed.

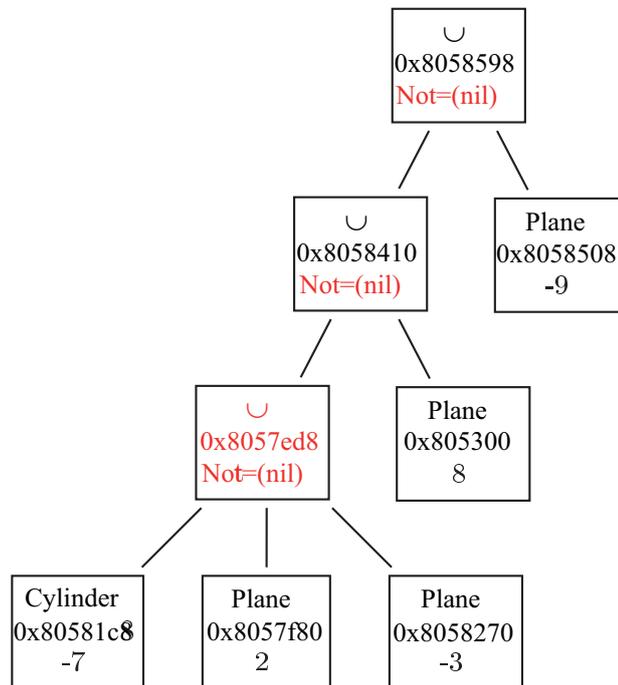


Figure B.3: An other example of tree before simplification.

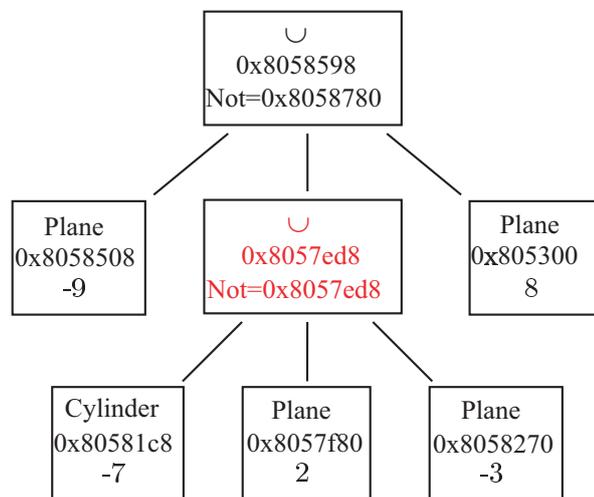


Figure B.4: The tree of figure B.3 after simplification.

Appendix C

Stochastic volume calculation

WARNING: UP TO NOW SURFACE CALCULATIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED.

When using Tallies, cell volumes and/or surfaces are needed. In this package, cell volumes are calculated if possible ; when the program is not able to calculate cell volumes for a tally, we use the method *ConnectorPlugin::FindMissingVolume()* to extract the volume calculated by *MC* code itself (see note C.1). For *MCNP*, 2 options are available: the first one is to obtain missing volumes from the *MCNP* output file¹ (the “o” file). Then, if all missing volume have not been found, the second option is used, that is to say a stochastic volume calculation using *MCNP* itself. For *Serpent*, only the second option is used (but of course the stochastic volume calculation use *Serpent...*).

The principle of the stochastic volume calculation for *MCNP* is to use a spherical shell neutron source geometry directed inwards containing the necessary cells filled with voids. The required volumes are calculated stochastically by *MCNP* from the number of particle tracks which have intersected them.

In *Serpent*, no transport is done, just a stochastic sampling (random points over the whole geometry) is performed.

The *Serpent* way of volume calculation is much faster than the *MCNP* way, but in general, the number of “source” particles in *Serpent* should be greater for a same precision (a factor 2 or 4 greater is generally enough). Nevertheless, *Serpent* is still faster.

The precision on volumes will depend on the “source” neutron number (that can be modified via *MURE::SetVolumeNPS()*) as well as the relative size of the cell/source neutron sphere. In the usual procedure, a source sphere containing the whole geometry is searched ; However, the search can sometimes fail, in which case the user is required to give the source sphere characteristics manually with the command:

```
Shape::SetVirtualSphereRadius()
```

and

```
Shape::SetVirtualSphereCenter()
```

It should be noted that it is not necessary for the whole geometry to be included in the “virtual” sphere ; only cells with unknown volumes must be inside this sphere. A volume warning message is given if the relative precision of the worst volume variance is below 0.5% ; this precision may be change with *MURE::SetVolumeWarning()*.

¹The principle of this method is to “run” *MCNP* in “information mode”, then search the print table 60 containing the cell volumes information.

C.1 Important Note

Stochastic volume calculations are used if a tally bin has a volume equal to -1. The tally bin volume is taken from the cell used in this bin. Cell volumes are determined from Shape volumes. Sometimes, we are unable to determine relatively simple Shape volumes because the *Included/Disjoint* method can't return a result (e.g., a shape may be included in another one, but *Shape::Included()* answers 0 (i.e., not included or unknown)). For these cases it is necessary to avoid stochastic volume calculations, whereas if MC code is able to calculate the volume of such cells, we can use the method *MURE::GetMCNPVolume()*. For a cell without a volume (i.e. -1), if the volume has been calculated and if the cell has no universe number², then the cell volume is set to what MC code has calculated.

To summarize, the *MURE::BuildMCFile()* method calls first the *MURE::FindMissingVolume()* method and afterward the input MCNP file is written.

NOTE: The tally bin volumes should always be provided ; thus, if a group bin or a lattice bin is used, the calculated volume related to that bin...but not to each individual cell composing the bin. Therefore, the individual cell volume remains unknown.

²The volume given in table 60 is the volume of the cell alone ; if a universe is defined, then the volume of the true cell is the volume of all places where that universe is input. Thus only stochastic volume calculations can be made.

Appendix D

Back-Stage processes: everything you always wanted to know about MURE* (*But were afraid to ask)

D.1 Steady-state power: Tally Normalization

MCNP provides raw tallies normalized by source neutron ; we have, for the sake of simplicity, choose the same normalization method in *Serpent*.

For reactor applications, in order to simulate a constant reactor power¹, one must normalize all tallies by the equivalent number of neutrons per second for a user-given power value. This normalization factor will change as the isotopic composition of the material evolves with time and therefore needs to be calculated at the lowest level of time discretization, i.e., at every RK step, and, *a fortiori*, also every time neutron transport is performed.

1. Constant power P is defined by the user once and for all throughout the evolution using the `gMURE->SetPower()` function . This value is translated into the number of fissions per second.
2. At every MC step, flux ϕ and average reactions cross-sections σ_i are read from MC output *for every nucleus in every cell*. Isotopic proportions are read from the initial user-defined composition and for all subsequent steps these values are solved according to their Bateman equations.
3. At every RK step average cross-sections σ_i , read in the prior MC step, have (so far) been kept constant. New values for the isotopic proportions N_{i+1} are solved for using former values of other parameters. P is constant by definition : a new value of the tally normalization factor is therefore calculated in order to keep P constant.

D.1.1 Energy Released from MURE fissions

The energy released per fission is around 200 MeV, but the exact value varies by +/- 5% and varies primarily with the mass of the fissile isotope.

¹For this purpose, only fissions are considered as source of power, at an average value of 200 MeV per fission.

Table D.1: Energy Released per fission for ^{235}U .

Fission Product kinetic energy	166.2 ± 1.3 MeV
Prompt fission γ	8.0 ± 0.8 MeV
Delayed (after β decays) γ	7.2 ± 1.1 MeV
β decays	7.0 ± 0.3 MeV
Neutron kinetic energy	4.8 ± 0.1 MeV
(n, γ) capture ($6 \text{ MeV} \times 1.42$ neutrons)	8.5 MeV
Energy released Q	201.7 ± 0.6 MeV

By default MURE assumes that the energy released from fission for each fissionable isotope is different. For several common fissile isotopes, the fission energy values are taken from: W.H. Walerk, “Mass balance estimate of energy per fission in reactors AECL-3109, 1968”. For all other fissionable isotopes, fitted values are used. The linear fit (as a function of mass) is made for the common isotopes [232Th - 241Pu] and extrapolated to the uncommon ones.

For example (see [20]), in the case of ^{235}U , the energy released by fission Q is given in Table D.1. In MURE, the default value is $Q_{^{235}\text{U}} = 201.7$ MeV. The energy of neutrinos (in this case, 9.6 MeV), is not taken into account.

If a user wishes to use specific values, 2 methods are available. The first one, `MURE::SetAllFissionEnergies()` allows to give a common constant value to each fissionable isotopes (default=200 MeV) ; the second method, `MURE::SetFissionReleasedFile()` allows user to give a file with the required value for some (or all) fissionable isotopes. Each line of the file is

Z A Qvalue

where Z and A are the proton and nucleon numbers and Qvalue is the energy released by fission (in eV). When using this method, the Q values are taken as explained above (using the linear fit) except for the isotopes specified in this file.

NOTE: `MURE::SetAllFissionEnergies()` and `MURE::SetFissionReleasedFile()` must be called BEFORE any Material declaration to be taken into account.

The fact that MURE takes into account different fission energy released values, means that there will be slight differences in the way the normalization factor is calculated, and therefore slight difference in inventory when the fissile nucleus changes as a function of time when compared with the old method.

D.1.2 How the normalization factor is calculated

The total power delivered by the total number of fissions in a given instant (in MC *raw* units) is given by the double sum shown hereafter :

$$P_{\text{MC}} = \sum_j \sum_i N_i^j \sigma_i^j \phi_{\text{MC}}^j \xi$$

where the subscript i refers to the nucleus considered whereas j refers to the cell considered. The sum is to be carried out over all cells and all nuclei belonging to each cell’s material.

P_{MC} can be thought of as the power delivered per source particle transported in the global geometry in question : If ϕ^j is in standard MC cell tally output units (*particles per unit surface per source particle*) then P_{MC} will be also normalized per source particle.

- N_i^j is the number of nuclei i present in cell j .

- σ_i^j is the average *fission* cross-section of nucleus i in cell j .
- ϕ^j is MC's neutron flux track-length estimation for cell j .
- ξ is the average energy delivered in one fission (~ 200 MeV).

Therefore, the scaling factor α , by which tallies will be normalized and which has to be taken into account in order to simulate a constant burn-up at the desired power P_{user} (if P_{user} is provided in watts and ξ in eV) is written :

$$\alpha \equiv \frac{P_{user}}{P_{MC} 1,6.10^{-19}} = \frac{P_{user}}{\sum_i \sum_j N_i^j \sigma_i^j \phi_{MC}^j \xi 1,6.10^{-19}}$$

D.1.3 An alternative approach (for information only)

For a critical system, if one multiplies the desired power in fissions per second times the average number ν of neutrons emitted per fission, one obtains the amount of existing neutrons in the geometry at a given instant. This can be thought of as the intensity of the neutron source needed to achieve this desired power. This value, in neutrons per second, should be equivalent to the value of α calculated in the previous paragraph. If the system is critical ($K_{eff} = 1$) this number is constant during a time interval small enough so that the amount of fissile material remains unchanged in a first approximation. *If the system is critical* and P_{user} is in watts and ξ in electron-volts, then:

$$\alpha \cong \nu \frac{P_{user}}{\xi 1.6 10^{-19}}$$

For our problem example, the first method gives a value of alpha of roughly $8.280 10^{+12}$ whereas the second method gives a value of $8.124 10^{+12}$ with ν taken at 2.599. The two values are therefore comparable within less than 2 percent.

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