Prompt fission neutron (PFN) emission in reaction $^{252}\text{Cf}(SF)$ and $^{235}\text{U}(n_{th}, f)$ reaction

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2. Motivation

The mechanism of PFN emission in fission plays important role in nuclear fission theory from the one hand and the information on PFN is highly demanded by nuclear power industry from the other hand.

Analysis of TKE measured in resonance neutron induced fission of $^{235}$U revealed surprising fluctuation. The recent measurement of PFN multiplicity in $^{235}$U resonances demonstrates fluctuations of PFN multiplicities to.

One of the interesting observation is the increasing $\overline{\nu}(A)$ from the heavy FF with increase of the excitation energy of fissioning system still has no clear explanation.

In current report we presenting some preliminary results of measurement of PFN emission in thermal neutron induced fission of $^{235}$U reaction as test of apparatus for resonance neutron induced fission of $^{235}$U measurements foreseen to perform at IREN facility next year.

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3. Experimental setup and data acquisition system.

\[ \bar{V}(A) = \frac{\int_0^\infty \nu(A,TKE) Y(A,TKE) dTKE}{\int_0^\infty Y(A,TKE) dTKE}, \quad \bar{V} = \int_0^\infty \nu(A,TKE) Y(A,TKE) dTKE dA, \quad 200 = \int_0^\infty Y(A,TKE) dTKE dA \]

\[ \bar{V}(TKE) = \frac{\int_0^\infty \nu(A,TKE) Y(A,TKE) dA}{\int_0^\infty Y(A,TKE) dA}, \quad \bar{V} = \int_0^\infty \nu(A,TKE) Y(A,TKE) dTKE dA, \quad 200 = \int_0^\infty Y(A,TKE) dTKE dA \]


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In our approach we have oversampled FF signals. The oversampling we used to increase the effective number of bits (ENOB) improving the signal representation. In practice the increase of ENOB realized automatically when signal passed through second order low pass filter:

\[
V_{out}^1(t) = \int_0^\infty V_{in}(\xi) \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{(\xi-t)}{\tau}\right)d\xi, \quad V_{out}^2 = \int_0^\infty V_{out}^1(\xi) \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{(\xi-t)}{\tau}\right)d\xi
\]

Improved signal presentation (left figure) facilitates numerical solution (differentiation) of the integral equation

\[
V(t) = \text{Const} \cdot \int_0^t i(\xi) \exp(-\xi / \tau) d\xi
\]

Solution of the equation is \(i(t)\) presented on the right figure for the cathode and two anode signals. In terms of familiar analog electronics the operation performed equivalent to differential filter on the input of spectroscopy amplifier (SA). To simulate integrating stage of the SA we implemented integration according to

\[
V(t) = \int_0^t i(\xi)d\xi
\]

The last operation, performed with two correlated anode waveforms, provides the pulse heights of FF.
5. Drift time determination of FF ionization

The concepts of weighting field and weighting potential state that the instantaneous current induced on a given electrode is equal to $i = q\vec{v}E_0$, where $q$ is the charge of the carrier, $\vec{v}$ is its velocity, and $E_0$ is called the weighting field. Another way of stating the same principle is that the induced charge on the electrode is given by the product of the charge on the carrier multiplied by the difference in the weighting potential from the beginning to the end of the carrier path $Q = q\Delta \Phi$. The weighting potential as a function of position was found as the solution of the Laplace equation for the geometry of the detector with special boundary conditions. Evaluation of the drift time can be done if the weighting potential inside the sensitive volume of the chamber is calculated as shown in the above graphs. Using explicit functions for weighting potential one can find the following expression for drift time $T$ for ionization charge density shifting from the origin to the anode:

$$T = \frac{D}{W} \left\{ \left(1 - \frac{\bar{X}}{D}\cos(\Theta)\right) + \frac{d}{2D} \left(1 - \frac{\sigma}{1 - \sigma}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\bar{X}}{D}\cos(\Theta)\right) \right\},$$

where the meanings of $d$, $D$, $\Theta$ are clear from the sketch of the TBIC, $\sigma$ is the grid inefficiency factor or it is the value of the average weighting potential at grid location, and $\bar{X}$ is the center for ionization charge distribution along the FF track. Parameter $T$ for corresponding anode can be measured using the signal current waveform as follows

$$T = S / S_0, \quad S = \int_0^{T_{\text{max}}} i(t) \ast t \, dt, \quad S_0 = \int_0^{T_{\text{max}}} i(t) \, dt$$

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6. FFs $\cos(\Theta)$ evaluation

Cosines calculated from measured drift times $T$ according to formulae above.

$$T = \frac{D}{W} \cdot \left\{ (1 - \frac{\bar{X}}{D} \cdot \cos(\Theta)) + \frac{d}{2 \cdot D} \cdot (1 - \frac{\sigma}{1 - \sigma} \cdot (1 - \frac{\bar{X}}{D} \cdot \cos(\Theta))) \right\}$$

$$\cos(\Theta) = \frac{T_{90} - T}{T_{90} - T_0} \quad T_0 = T(\cos(\Theta) = 1)$$

$$T_{90} = T(\cos(\Theta) = 0)$$

$$P_A^C = P_A / (1 - \sigma \left( 1 - \frac{T}{T_{90}} \right) \cdot (1 + \frac{d}{2D}))$$
7. FFs pulse height correction for \( \cos(\Theta) \)

![Graphs showing pulse height correction for \( \cos(\Theta) \)]

- Measurement
- Gaussian Fit \( \sigma = 0.05 \)

- \( P_1 = 150.4 - 4.2 / \cos(\Theta) \)
- \( P_2 = 150.2 - 8.4 / \cos(\Theta) \)
8. PHD correction

\[ E = \alpha \cdot PH + \beta + PHD(A_{\text{post}}, E_{\text{post}}) \]

The correction for FF pulse height caused by momentum transfer to working gas atoms by FF (non ionizing collisions) during its deceleration – is called pulse height defect (PHD). The PHD depends on the FF mass and kinetic energy and was corrected in data analysis using parameterization presented above. Figures demonstrate PHD dependence on mass and kinetic energies of FFs, measured in \(^{235}\text{U}(n_{\text{th}}, \text{ff})\) reaction investigation.

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9. FF mass&energy distributions.
10. Constant fraction time marking for PFN TOF measurement

![Graphs showing amplitude and TOF measurements](image)

**Graph (a)**: Amplitude [arb. units] vs. Sample No.

- **B**: Cathode Pulse delayed by 400 ns
- **C**: Scaled Cathode Pulse (0.2)
- **D**: C - B Waveform

**Graph (b)**: Counts vs. TOF [ns]

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11. Neutron separation from gamma radiation

The two window algorithm (fast and total light output component) was implemented and resulted function \( ND(Fast, Total) \) was plotted on the upper and middle figs. demonstrates the function \( ND(Fast, Total) \) in rotated according to equation

\[
F' = F \cdot \cos(\Omega) + T \cdot \sin(\Omega),
T' = S \cdot \{-F \cdot \sin(\Omega) + T \cdot \cos(\Omega)\}
\]

,where \( \Omega \) – is axes rotation angle and \( S>1 \) – is the scaling factor. Red line in the middle figure is PFN-PFG separation line . Lower figure demonstrates the TOF distribution before and after PFN separation.
12. PFN angular distribution measurement

Correction for FF recoil according to Nucl. Instrum. and Meth., 115 (1974) 99

\[ W_x = 1, \quad W_y = \exp\left( E_{CM}^x - E_{CM}^y \right) \]

13. ND efficiency evaluation

![Graphs showing efficiency evaluation](image)

**Measured**

Maxwellian, $T=1.31$ MeV

**PFN Efficiency**

**Unfolded**

**CosCM($\Theta$)**

**U-235**
14. PFN multiplicity on FF mass evaluation from measured data (assuming isotropic PFN emission in CM)

\[
\bar{v}(A) = \int_{0}^{\infty} dV_{LAB} \int_{0}^{1} d\cos(\Theta) \int_{140}^{220} dTKE \frac{V(A, TKE, V_{LAB}, \cos(\Theta) \cdot V_{CM} \cdot (V_{LAB} - V_{F} \cdot \cos(\Theta))}{V_{LAB}^{2} \cdot \varepsilon(V_{LAB})} \int_{0}^{\infty} \mathcal{Y}(A, TKE) dTKE
\]

FF mass and Energy values were calculated in iterative procedure taking into account FF recoil after PFN emission according to A. Gavron, Nucl. Instrum. and Meth., 115 (1974) 99

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15. PFN multiplicity on FF TKE evaluation from measured data (assuming isotropic PFN emission in CM)

\[
\bar{\nu}(TKE) = \int_0^\infty dV_{\text{LAB}} \int_0^1 d\cos(\Theta) \int_A dA \frac{\nu(A, TKE, V_{\text{LAB}}, \cos(\Theta)) \cdot V_{CM} \cdot (V_{LAB} - V_F \cdot \cos(\Theta))}{\varepsilon(V_{LAB}) \cdot V_{LAB}^2} / \int_0^\infty Y(A, TKE) dA
\]
16. Experimental setup and data acquisition system in 252Cf(sf) experiment.

\[
\bar{V}(A) = \frac{\int_0^\infty v(A,TKE)Y(A,TKE)dTKE}{\int_0^\infty Y(A,TKE)dTKE}, \quad \bar{V} = \int_0^\infty v(A,TKE)Y(A,TKE)dTKEdA, \quad 200 = \int_0^\infty Y(A,TKE)dTKEdA
\]

\[
\bar{V}(TKE) = \frac{\int_0^\infty v(A,TKE)Y(A,TKE)dA}{\int_0^\infty Y(A,TKE)dA}, \quad \bar{V} = \int_0^\infty v(A,TKE)Y(A,TKE)dTKEdA, \quad 200 = \int_0^\infty Y(A,TKE)dTKEdA
\]

Adopted from C. Budtz-Jørgensen and H.-H. Knitter, *Nucl. Phys.*, A490, 307(1988) and modified with digital pulse processing apparatus. The only difference to 235U(nth,f) experiment was increase in sampling frequency of WFD.

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F(V) = \exp\left(-\frac{mV^2}{2kT}\right), kT = 1.41 \text{ MeV}; \quad \text{where } M(V) \sim V^2 \exp\left(-\frac{mV^2}{2kT}\right) - \text{Maxwell distribution on}

F(V) = \exp\left(-\frac{E}{kT}\right), kT = 1.41 \text{ MeV}; \quad \text{where } M(V) \sim \sqrt{E} \exp\left(-\frac{E}{kT}\right) - \text{Maxwell distribution on}

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The new analysis have taken into account FF kinetic energy correction due to FF recoil Due to PFN emission

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New experimental facility for PFN investigations in Dubna

For this new facility new Twin chamber was developed and tested. Thanks to position sensitivity of the chamber the cosine of angle between Fission axis and PFN can be measured with accuracy better than 0.02

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Prompt fission neutron investigation

Experimental Results with Fission Fragment Detection (precision)

X1\(\text{arb}\) vs. X2\(\text{arb}\)

Y1\(\text{arb}\) vs. Y2\(\text{arb}\)

COUNTS vs. Distance [mm]

X1-X2, \(\sigma=0.75\) mm
Y1-Y2, \(\sigma=0.45\) mm

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14. Conclusions

1. The digital data acquisition system was developed and tested in experiment.
2. The digital pulse processing algorithms was developed and tested both on-line and off-line.
3. The software for PFN multiplicity analysis was revised and some known bugs were removed.
4. The result obtained in this work are differ from the literature and it forces us to revise
5. all stage of new development to verify or improve our recent result.
Thank you for your attention 😊