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FAST NEUTRON FISSION OF 236Pu NUCLEUS

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Plutonium isotopes are produced in nuclear reactors by neutron-induced fission of 235,238U nuclei and by (n,2n), (gamma,n) processes of Neptunium isotopes. Among the Plutonium isotopes, 236Pu nucleus is a trace element of interest for studies of the environmental impact of fuel cycles. Development of new type of fast neutron nuclear reactions destined for scientific researches based on 237Np fuel, implies the analysis of the influence of different fission products such as 236Pu.

Fission variables of fast neutron-induced of 236Pu nucleus like cross-sections, fission fragment mass and charge distributions, emitted neutron spectra, isotope production of interest for applications in medicine, electronics and nuclear technology was investigated. The contribution of different reaction mechanisms to fission and production of 236Pu were examined. In the incident and emergent fission channels level density and Wood-Saxon potential parameters were extracted.

Experimental data from the literature were compared with theoretical evaluations of fission observables. It is necessary to note that in the case of fast neutron-induced fission of 236Pu nucleus there are very few experimental data regarding fission observables and therefore their evaluation is of great importance for both fundamental and applicative researches.

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