



# Proposal for a new evaluation of the Erbium capture cross sections

#### ENEA, INFN and UNIBO (*n\_TOF collaboration*)

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## Motivations (Erbia vs Gadolinia)



- Scientific aspects:
- Lower thermal absorption cross sections (Er: 162 b; Gd: 2.5E+05 b) not downgrade the power distribution;
- negative temperature feedback coefficient  $(\alpha = \delta k / \delta T)$ More higher reactor core safety;
- Higher extensive and more energy resonance integrals better control of start-up and accidental transient phases;
- Reduction of 239Pu in a EoL fuel core inventory improvement of the non-proliferation actions.
- Nuclear safety and economical aspects:
- Er-Super High Burnup fuel concept (BU>70 GWd/MTU, erbia>0.2 wt%, U-235> 5 wt%) was adopted in some exp. campaigns:
- Low content of Erbia is add into all UO2 (>5 wt%) powder just after the reconversion process;
- Fuel enrichment is greater than 5 wt% but at BOL is equivalent to 5 wt%;
- Higher enriched fuel (HEU, enr > 5 wt%) can be handle within the existing fabrication facilities with an improvement of the criticality safety and a global reduction of in-core the fuel cost



![](_page_1_Figure_13.jpeg)

## S&U Analysis & Available data

![](_page_2_Picture_1.jpeg)

#### • S&U studies (Er-SHB FA):

![](_page_2_Picture_3.jpeg)

Eri(n,g) are one of the major contributors to the uncertainty after U reactions.

![](_page_2_Figure_5.jpeg)

The overall uncertainty due to Eri(n,g) is equal to **126 pcm** roughly **18.2%** of the overall Xs(n,j) uncertainty contribute (i.e., **688 pcm**).

• Evaluated data (ENDF/B-VII.1):

![](_page_2_Figure_8.jpeg)

Only one evaluated point in the Xs high sensitivity region, namely **between 0.5 and 5 keV!** 

#### • Exp. data (EXFOR, Er-167):

Age	Data (thrm. point)	Data Error	Data Error	Dev from average
[year]	[b]	[b]	[%]	[%]
1958	620.0	125	20.2	-6.0
1967	699.0	20	2.9	5.9
1968	658.0	30	4.6	-0.3
1998	644.4	2.4	0.4	-2.3
1958-1998	655.4	STD: 33.1 b	STD: 5.1%	-

Data with values below of 10% from the average have a **STD major than 5%!** 

![](_page_2_Figure_13.jpeg)

**Only one** resonance data used for several Er-167(n,g) evaluation!

#### • Resonance parameter (Er-167):

Reference	Γγ (0.46 ) (meV)	Unc (meV)	gГn (0.58) (meV)	Unc (meV)
T. Wang et al.	94.72	0.94	0.1068	0.002
Danon et al.	87.12	0.16	0.1082	0.0004
Mughabghab	87.12	0.16	0.1082	0.0005
Landolt-Bornstein	88	1	0.12	0.01
ENDF/B-VII.0-1	87.12	-	0.1082	-
Average	88.82		0.110	
STD [%]	3.74		4.96	

![](_page_2_Picture_17.jpeg)

![](_page_2_Picture_18.jpeg)

## **ICSBEP 2019 database**

![](_page_3_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Erbium isotopes is included in the International Criticality Safety Benchmark Evaluation Project (ICSBEP, 2019) in solid form as adsobers whitin the fuel or the control rods.
- Erbia in solid form is present only in three facilities of the two ICSBEP database:

#### ✓ <u>DICE</u>:

- 1. LEU-MET-THERM-005 (Experimental facility to support the Er-SHB project);
- 2. IEU-COMP-THERM-013 (TRIGA, Mark II research reactor).
- ✓ <u>IDAT</u>:
  - 1. CROCUS-LWR-RESR-001(Zero-power reactor, critical research facility).

![](_page_3_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_3_Picture_10.jpeg)

## LEU-MET-THERM-005 (2012)

![](_page_4_Picture_1.jpeg)

- The KUCA B-core is a multipurpose, reconfigurable array assembled using a number of fuel elements that can be specifically tailored to match experimental goals;
- The LMT-T-005 experiments were conducted in support of the Er-SHB fuel concept development program.

-	-	-	_	-	******	_			-	-		_	-	_	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	_
	163			12																51		
				F	F	F																
		C	F	F	F	F	F	S					(C)		F	F	F	F	F	D	S	
		F	F	F	F	F	F	F			1	60			F	F	F	F	F			
		F	F	F	F	F	F	F					500	D	F	F	F	F	F	D		1
		F	F	F	F	F	F	F			1				F	F	F	F	F	Ð		
		(3)	F	F	F	F	F	(0)			1		(8)		F	F	F	F	F	D	C	
			F	F	F	F	F				1				D	D	D	D	D			
				(0)	Al	(3)					1				0		D12		S			
				(a)	) con	-1							-	-		(b)	con	<del>8</del> -2	-	-		
											1											8
				D	D	D					1						D	D				
	(c)	D	D	F	F	F	D	D	s		1				D	F	F	F				
		Ð	F	F	F	F	F				1		0	D	F	F	F	F	F	D	(8)	
			F	F	F	F	F				1	18			F	F	F	F	F	D		
100		D	F	F	F	F	F	D			1		S		F	F	F	F	F	D	(0)	
	(\$)		D	F	F	F	D	D	C		1				D	F	F	F	Ð			
			D	D	D	D	D				1					D	D	D				
			(0)		D10		S	12		100	1					(C)	D6	S	123			
100											1					X		Ĭ				
				(c)	) con	e-3									-	(d)	con	e-4				
			F	E t	Er lo arg	ade et o	ed f f sa	uel imp	elei le w	mer /ort	ht,					po	lyet	hylo	ene			
			F	6	êr ko	ade	ed f	uel	eler	ner	nt			A	1	alu	ımir	niun	n			
			D	d	lrive	r fu	el e	len	nent	í.			(	C	)	co	ntro	l ro	d			
		C	Эx	р х	arti is r	ally	loa ber	ded	driv	ver or o	fue	el, s	(	s	)	sa	fety	rod				

	Table 1-1. Comparison of Core Parameters.												
Case	Average Enrichment (wt. %)	Erbia Content (wt. %) Erbia/U-total	H/ <sup>235</sup> U	Outline									
0	5.4	-	277	Reference core without erbia									
1	5.4	0.3	277	Homogeneously erbia-loaded core very soft spectrum									
2	5.4	0.3	91	Zone-type core with driver to simulate PWR spectrum									
3	9.6	0.6	48	Zone-type core with driver Harder spectrum									
4	9.6	1.12	148	Zone-type core with driver Higher erbia content									

![](_page_4_Picture_6.jpeg)

	Table 3-24. Experimental and Benchmark K <sub>eff</sub> .											
Core	$\mathrm{Experim}\mathrm{ental}\ \mathrm{k_{eff}}{\pm}1\sigma$	Experimental k <sub>eff</sub> ±1σ Simplification Bias										
0	$1.0000 \pm 0.0006$	$-0.0012 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0006$									
1	$1.0000 \pm 0.0005$	$-0.0012 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0005$									
2	$1.0000 \pm 0.0008$	$-0.0012 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0008$									
3	$1.0000 \pm 0.0010$	$-0.0011 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9989 \pm 0.0010$									
4	$1.0000 \pm 0.0006$	$-0.0007 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9993 \pm 0.0006$									

![](_page_4_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_4_Picture_9.jpeg)

#### **LEU-MET-THERM-005**

		Table 4-2. Comp	arison of Sample Calculat	ions using			0.1
		MCNP5 and Vari	ous Neutron Cross Sectior	1 Libraries.			U.4
Case	Como	Code (Libnowy)	Calculated	Benchmark	(C-E)/E		0.
No.	Core	Code (Library)	$k_{eff} \pm 1 \sigma$	$keff\pm 1\sigma$	(%)		0.
1	0		$1.0026 \pm 0.0001$	0.9988 ± 0.0006	0.38	ă	•
2	1		$1.0035 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0005$	0.47	e c	U.
3	2	MCNP5 (JEFF-3.1)	$1.0016 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0008$	0.28	5	0.
4	3		$1.0027 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9989 \pm 0.0009$	0.38	e	0.
5	4		$1.0057 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9993 \pm 0.0006$	0.64	Pe	
1	0		$1.0015 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0006$	0.27	alia	0.0
2	1		$1.0021 \pm 0.0001$	0.9988 ± 0.0005	0.33	E	0.0
3	2	MCNP5 (ENDF/B-VIL0)	$1.0007 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0008$	0.19	c	0.0
4	3		$1.0020 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9989 \pm 0.0009$	0.33		
5	4		$1.0047 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9993 \pm 0.0006$	0.54		0.0
1	0		$1.0003 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0006$	0.15		0.0
2	1		$1.0009 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0005$	0.21		
3	2	MCNP5 (JENDL-3.3)	$0.9990 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0008$	0.02		
4	3		$1.0007 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9989 \pm 0.0009$	0.18		_
5	4		$1.0036 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9993 \pm 0.0006$	0.43		
1	0		$0.9996 \pm 0.0001$	0.9988 ± 0.0006	0.08		
2	1		$0.9999 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0005$	0.11		
3	2	MCNP5 (ENDF/B-VI.8)	$0.9976 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0008$	-0.12		
4	3		$0.9998 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9989 \pm 0.0009$	0.09		
5	4		$1.0027 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9993 \pm 0.0006$	0.34		
1	0		$0.9986 \pm 0.0001$	0.9988 ± 0.0006	-0.03	CACE	
2	1	]	$0.9992 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0005$	0.04	CASE	
3	2	MCNP5 (ENDF/B-V.2)	$0.9965 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9988 \pm 0.0008$	-0.23	(_)	
4	3	]	$0.9987 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9989 \pm 0.0009$	-0.02		+
5	4		$1.0014 \pm 0.0001$	$0.9993 \pm 0.0006$	0.21	1	

![](_page_5_Figure_2.jpeg)

CASE	Sensitivity Er-167 (n,γ)
2	2.24E-02
3	2.20E-02
4	2.25E-02
5	4.32E-02

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	Δ(Δk)	ΔΚ	Kcal	Kben	H/U238	Erbia	Enr.	CORE	CASE
		(pcm)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(wt%)	(wt%)	(-)	(-)
1-2	-	270	1.0015	0.9988	277	0	5.4	0	1
	60	330	1.0021	0.9988	277	0.3	5.4	1	2
3-4	-	190	1.0007	0.9988	91	0.3	5.4	2	3
רע I	120	310	1.0020	0.9989	48	0.6	9.6	3	4
- 4-	230	540	1.0047	0.9993	148	1.12	9.6	4	5

<u>Note</u>: Criticality difference between calculated and experimental values  $\Delta(\Delta K)$  increase as Erbia content increase.

![](_page_5_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_5_Picture_7.jpeg)

## LEU-MET-THERM-005 (k<sub>eff</sub> cal. vs exp.)

![](_page_6_Picture_1.jpeg)

- Criticality analyses on the KUCA 4 core configurations were performed by means of MVP MC code using several nuclear data libraries (JENDL-3.3, ENDF/B-VI.8, JEFF-3.0, ENDF/B-VII.0) [9].
- The results were reported as C/E value of keff. The error bars represent the  $3\sigma$  statistical uncertainty;
- ENDF/B-VII.0 and ENDF/B-VI.8 trend is to overestimate and underestimate, respectively;
- It can be supposed that the discrepancies are partially caused from differences between ENDF/B-VI.8 and ENDB/B-VII.0  $Er^{167}(n, \gamma)$ ;
- $Er^{167}(n, \gamma)$  of ENDF/B-VII.1 ENDF/B-VIII.0 equal to ENDF/B-VII.0.

![](_page_6_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_6_Figure_8.jpeg)

 $\Delta\left(\frac{c}{r}\right) = 220 \div 300 \, pcm$ 

![](_page_6_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_6_Picture_11.jpeg)

## LEU-MET-THERM-005 (Xs unc. eval.)

![](_page_7_Picture_1.jpeg)

$$if (H/U|_{j} = H/U|_{j+1}) \quad and \quad (C_{Er,j} \neq C_{Er,j+1}) \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \Delta(\Delta \mathbf{k}) = (\Delta \mathbf{k}_{j+1} - \Delta \mathbf{k}_{j})$$
$$if (H/U|_{j} \neq H/U|_{j+1}) \quad and/or \quad (C_{Er,j} \neq C_{Er,j+1}) \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \Delta(\Delta \mathbf{k}) = (\frac{\mathbf{S}_{j}}{\mathbf{S}_{j+1}}) \cdot (\Delta \mathbf{k}_{j+1} - \Delta \mathbf{k}_{j})$$

• Case 1-2:

CASE	Enr.	CEr	H/U	K <sub>ben</sub>	K <sub>cal</sub>	ΔΚ	∆(∆k)
(-)	(wt%)	(wt%)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(pcm)	(pcm)
1	5.4		277	0.9988	1.0015	270	-
2	5.4	0.3	277	0.9988	1.0021	330	60

Si	dk/k	dk	dσ/σ	dσ/σ		
(-)	(-)	(pcm)	(-)	(%)		
2.24E-02	6.01E-04	60	2.68E-02	2.68		

![](_page_7_Figure_6.jpeg)

• Case 3-2:

CASE	Enr.	CEr	H/U	K <sub>ben</sub>	K <sub>cal</sub>	ΔΚ	∆(∆k)
(-)	(wt%)	(wt%)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(pcm)	(pcm)
3	5.4	0.3	91	0.9988	1.0007	190	-
2	5.4	0.3	277	0.9988	1.0021	330	140

Si	dk/k	dk	dσ/σ	dσ/σ	
(-)	(-)	(pcm)	(-)	(%)	
2.20E-02	1.36E-03	137	2.68E-02	6.80	

Em —	60	170	200 · 260	рст
$E_{unc} =$	0.30	$=\frac{0.52}{0.52}$	200 - 200	wt%

• Case 4-5:

CASE	Enr.	CEr	H/U	K <sub>ben</sub>	K <sub>cal</sub>	ΔΚ	∆(∆k)
(-)	(wt%)	(wt%)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(pcm)	(pcm)
4	9.6	0.6	48	0.9989	1.0020	310	
5	9.6	1.12	148	0.9989	1.0047	540	230

Si	dk/k	dk	dσ/σ	dσ/σ
(-)	(-)	(pcm)	(-)	(%)
2.25E-02	1.20E-03	120	2.68E-02	2.84

<u>Note</u>: The  $\sigma_{Er^{167}}(n, \gamma)$  uncertainty appears to be major than the evaluated value reported in ENDF/B-VIII (**2.35%**).

![](_page_7_Picture_15.jpeg)

![](_page_7_Picture_16.jpeg)

# IEU-COMP-THERM-013-001 (2011)

![](_page_8_Picture_1.jpeg)

- The neutron radiography (NRAD) reactor is a 250 kW TRIGA Mark II tank-type research reactor located in the basement of the Hot Fuel Examination Facility (HFEF) at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL).
- It is primarily used for neutron radiography analysis of both irradiated and unirradiated fuels and materials.

![](_page_8_Picture_4.jpeg)

Table 1.2. Typical NRAD LEU (30/20) Fuel Design Parameters. <sup>(a)</sup>				
Number of Fuel Elements	60			
Fuel Type	UZrH-Er			
Zir conium Rod Diameter	5.715 mm			
Fuel Meat Outer Diameter	34.823 mm			
Fuel Meat Length	381 mm			
Clad Thickness	0.508 mm			
Clad Material	304 SS			
Total Uranium (wt.%)	30.0			
Uranium Density (g/cm³)	2.14			
Weight of <sup>235</sup> U (g)	149.32			
Weight of <sup>238</sup> U (g)	599.33			
Uranium Enrichment (wt.%)	19.75			
Total Fuel Weight (g)	2519			
Erbium (wt.%)	0.90			

The TRIGA LEU (30/20) fuel is a mixture of U (30%wt, enr: 19.75 wt%), Er, and Zr hydride.

![](_page_8_Picture_7.jpeg)

• The elements contain a uniform dispersion of 0.9 wt.% natural Er that is used as a burnable poison to offset initial reactivity of the fresh fuel and contribute to the prompt negative temperature coefficient.

![](_page_8_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Picture_10.jpeg)

#### **IEU-COMP-THERM-013** (Benchmark cal.)

![](_page_9_Picture_1.jpeg)

Table 4.1a. Comparison of Benchmark Eigenvalues (Case 1).								
Analysis	Neutron Cross	Calculated			Benchmark			$\frac{C-E}{T}$ (%)
Coue	Section Library	k <sub>eff</sub>	. ±	σ	k <sub>eff</sub>	_ ±	σ	<u> </u>
	ENDF/B-VII.0	1.01412	±	0.00007				1.29
MONDO	JEFF-3.1	1.01174	±	0.00007				1.05
MCNPS	JENDL-3.3 <sup>(%)</sup>	1.01094	±	0.00007				0.97
	ENDF/B-VI.8 <sup>(b)</sup>	1.00942	±	0.00007				0.82
	ENDF/B-VII.0 (238-group)	1.01462	±	0.00007	1.0012	±	0.0015	1.34
KENO-VI	ENDF/B-VII.0 (continuous energy) <sup>(c)</sup>	1.00945	±	0.00008				0.82
	ENDF/B-VII.0 (v. 1.1.17)	1.01402	±	0.00008				1.28
SERPENT	ENDF/B-VII.0 (v. 2.1.13)	1.01293	±	0.00008		-		1.17

(a) S(α,β) data from the ENDF/B-VII.0 library were used with the JENDL-3.3 cross section data... (b) ENDF/B-VII.0 cross section data for erbium isotopes were used.

(c) This value is calculated to be 1.01310 ± 0.00007 using updated thermal scattering data and treatments currently in the SCALE 6.2 software package (prerelease). Personal communication with B. J. Marshall at ORNL (June 17, 2013).

- The difference between calculated and experimental values (C - E)is not negligible (~1300 pcm);
- This difference is at least partly due to Erbia cross sections.

CASE	Enr.	Erbia	K <sub>ben</sub>	Unc (1σ)	K <sub>cal</sub>	Unc (1σ)	∆k <sub>best</sub>
(-)	(wt%)	(wt%)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(pcm)
1	19.75	0.9	1.0012	0.0015	1.01412	0.00007	1292
2	19.75	0.9	1.0012	0.0015	1.01413	0.00007	1289

Table 4.1b. Comparison of Benchmark Eigenvalues (Case 2).								
Analysis	Neutron Cross	Cal	culated		Benchmark			$\frac{C-E}{M}$ (%)
Code	Section Library	k <sub>eff</sub>	±	σ	k <sub>eff</sub>	±	σ	E ` '
	ENDF/B-VII.0	1.01413	±	0.00007				1.29
MCNDS	JEFF-3.1	1.01181	±	0.00007				1.06
MUNPS	JENDL-3.3 <sup>(%)</sup>	1.01116	±	0.00007				0.99
	ENDF/B-VI.8 <sup>(b)</sup>	1.00928	±	0.00007				0.81
	ENDF/B-VII.0 (238-group)	1.01462	±	0.00008	1.0012	±	0.0015	1.34
KENO-VI	ENDF/B-VII.0 (continuous energy) <sup>(c)</sup>	1.00937	±	0.00008				0.82
	ENDF/B-VII.0 (v. 1.1.17)	1.01409	±	0.00008				1.29
SERPENT	ENDF/B-VII.0 (v. 2.1.13)	1.01278	±	0.00008				1.16

(b) ENDF/B-VII.0 cross section data for erbium isotopes were used.

(c) This value is calculated to be 1.01325 ± 0.00007 using updated thermal scattering data and

![](_page_9_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_13.jpeg)

## CROCUS-LWR-RESR-001 (2006)

![](_page_10_Picture_1.jpeg)

- The CROCUS reactor, operated by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, is a simple twozone uranium-fueled, H<sub>2</sub>O-moderated critical research facility.
- The reactivity in the CROCUS reactor is controlled by the water level, which can be adjusted with an accuracy of ± 0.1 mm or ~ 0.4 pcm.

![](_page_10_Figure_4.jpeg)

Parameter	Unit	002	Umetal
Cladding thickness	mm	0.85±0.05	0.975±0.05
External cladding diameter	mm	12.60±0.1	19.3+0.1/-0.0
Fuel diameter	mm	10.520±0.017	17.00±0.02
<sup>235</sup> U enrichment	wt.%	$1.8060 \pm 0.0007$	0.9470±0.0007
Square pitch	mm	$18.370 \pm 0.002$	29.170±0.002
Fuel density	g/cm <sup>3</sup>	10.556±0.034 <sup>(a)</sup>	18.677±0.044 <sup>(a)</sup>

T Levit

- Two absorber rods were used to perform kinetic measurements:
  - 1. Cylinder aluminum tube filled with water (~ 6770 ppm of Boron)
  - 2. Cylinder aluminium tube filled with pellet (ZrO2 Er2O3)

Parameter	Unit	Dimension
Outer diameter	mm	8.0+0.1/-0.0
Wall thickness	mm	1.00±0.05
Absorber B <sub>nat</sub> : density	ppm in water at 20°C	6768±0.1%
Absorber Er: density	g/cm <sup>3</sup>	4.594±1%
Absorber Er: pellet diameter	mm	5.89±0.2%

![](_page_10_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Picture_11.jpeg)

## CROCUS-LWR-RESR-001 (benchmark cal.)

![](_page_11_Picture_1.jpeg)

- With the absorber rod inserted, the reactor was made critical by adjusting the water level. Afterwards, the absorber rod was withdrawn, the water level being kept constant;
- Three different water level configurations and two supercritical configurations after withdrawing the absorber rods were measured.

#### **Cross Sections used:**

- ✓ HEXNOD: based mainly on ENDF/B
- ✓ MCU: based on ENDF/B-VI, JENDL-3.2 and BROND
- ✓ HELIOS: standard library in 45 energy groups
- ✓ BOXER: based on JEF-1 and BROND-2 for Er isotopes

#### Energy Groups used:

- HEXNOD: 40 groups, condensed to 5 grps for 2D calc.
- MCU: pointwise energy description
- $\circ~$  HELIOS: 45 groups, condensed to 12 groups
- BOXER: based on 70 groups

 $\label{eq:calculated} \begin{array}{l} \mbox{Table 4.3. Calculated Reactivity $\rho_{calc}$ [pcm] and Discrepancy of each Participant's Result against the $Mean Value [pcm]$, and Uncertainty due to the Measured Inverse Period [pcm]$. \end{array}$ 

Results	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Case 2} \\ H_2 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Case 3} \\ \text{H}_3 \end{array}$	Case 4 H <sub>4</sub>	Case 5 Boron	Case 6 Erbium
Mean	88.4	109.6	130.5	83.8	169.6
HEXNOD	88.3 -0.1	109.3 -0.3	130.3 -0.2		
MCU	88.4 +0.0	109.5 -0.1	130.6 +0.1	85.0 +1.2	179.5 +9.9
HELIOS	89.2 +0.8	110.9 +1.3	132.3 +1.8	81.3 -2.5	163.8-5.8
BOXER	87.8 -0.6	108.6 -1.0	129.0 -1.5	85.1 +1.3	165.4 4.2
$\Delta \rho_i(\omega)$	±0.40	±0.49	±0.58	±0.38	±0.76

 The point kinetics model was used to determine the reactivity through measure of the inverse period (ω) with the "stable period method" (T=1/ω).

• The largest discrepancy between calculated and mean values are in Case 6 (i.e., ~14 pcm) were erbium Xs may play a role as well as the resonance shielding calculations for Er isotopes [10].

![](_page_11_Picture_19.jpeg)

#### **Evaluation of the mass sample**

![](_page_12_Picture_1.jpeg)

• A preliminary evaluation of the Er-167 and Er-nat mass to have to use in the sample (metal disc with a radius of 1 cm) for the Xs measurements was performed on the basis of different TR.

![](_page_12_Figure_3.jpeg)

 $TR \ge 0.15 \div 0.20 \implies m_{Er-167} \le 50 \text{ mg}; m_{Er-nat} \le 220 \text{ mg}$ 

![](_page_12_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Picture_7.jpeg)

#### **Updates 1: Isotopes cost**

![](_page_13_Picture_1.jpeg)

- **Isotopes cost**: U.S. National Isotope Development Center (NIDC), responded to a quote request [1]:
- Er-167: 50 mg, 449 \$ (~ 376 €), but a minimum quantity of 100 mg would be cleared for shipping (to verify).
- Packaging fee: 2,415 \$ (~ 2023 €).
- Er-nat: 200 mg, 65 \$ (~ 54 €), 100 mg is the minimum quantity that it would probably be shipped (to verify). [2]
- **Comment:** Due to the isotopes Xs(n,g) ratio, a measurement of Er-nat sample would be enough to evaluate Er-167 (n,g) in the thermal range.

![](_page_13_Figure_7.jpeg)

Oak Ridge, TN 37831-6158	National Isotope Development Center Oak Ridge National Laboratory P.O. Box 2008 Oak Ridge, TN 37831-6158
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Customer Reference: NIDC\_Order 12574

Quotation For: 999000 ENEA ANTONIO GUGLIELMELLI VIA MARTIRI DI MONTE SOLE N° 4 40129 BOLOGNA BO ITALY

SALE IS SUBJECT TO DOE APPROVAL

Isotope Quotation

Quotation	3006/13
Date	01/11/2021
Quotation Period	01/11/2021 to 02/15/2021
Terms of Payment	Advance Payment Request
Terms of Delivery	FCA DOE Facility

Refer Questions To: Betty Lane Phone: 865-574-7415 Email: <u>lanebs@ornl.gov</u>

Item	Descri	ption	Quantity	Price per l	Unit (USD)	Value
0010	ER-166	Erbium 166 Chemical Form: Erbium oxide Assay: 96.3100% Batch: 173392	1,000.000 MG	3.42	1 MG	3,420.00
0011	ZZ-S11	EM Isotope Conversion Services Conversion of oxide to metal	1.000 LOT	5,130.00	1 LOT	5,130.00
0020	ER-167	Erbium 167 Chemical Form: Erbium metal solid Assay: 91.5200% Batch: 173441	100.000 MG	8.98	1 MG	898.00
0030	ER-168	Erbium 168 Chemical Form: Erbium metal solid Assay: 95.4800% Batch: 173545	100.000 MG	4.37	1 MG	437.00
0040	ER-170	Erbium 170 Chemical Form: Erbium metal solid Assay: 96.9300% Batch: 173641	1,000.000 MG	12.00	1 MG	12,000.00
0050	ZZ-S01	EM Stable Isotope Packaging Fee	1.000 LOT	2,415.00	1 LOT	2,415.00

[1] In date 16/11/2020 a request was sent by e-mail, on 11/01/2021 NIDC replied by e-mail.
[2] Erbium cost available on-line from: https://www.chemicool.com/elements/erbium.html

![](_page_13_Picture_16.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Picture_18.jpeg)

#### **Updates 2: GELINA feedback**

![](_page_14_Picture_1.jpeg)

- The GELINA scientific senior group (Carlos Paraela, Peter Schillebeeckx, Stefan Kopeky) have positively evaluated this proposal;
- Further investigations have been requested on:
  - 1. The research activities status of "erbia burnable absorber";
  - 2. The "*in-core use*" of erbium, particularly in the EU countries.
- Based on the ICSBEP analysis, it was also suggested to submit a request at OECD-NEA databank to put Er(n,g) in High Priority Request List (HPRL);
- The HPRL request has already been prepared and will be submitted in the next weeks.
- A scientific article on "Scientific motivation for a new erbium isotopes capture cross section measurement" is in progress and will be finalized in the next months.

SG-C Working document	24/06/2021 11:59:00						
HPRL Request Form							
Information below can be entered using the onlir http://www.oecd-nea.org/dbdata/hprl/requestf	e form on the HPRL webpage: orm.html						
Detailed explanations on all fields and on the <u>sub</u> http://www.oecd-nea.org/dbdata/hprl/guidelin	<u>mission</u> procedure are available online: <u>es.html</u>						
If there is any problem with the online procedure, add references if necessary, and send this to <u>emn</u>	please complete the information below, <u>eric.dupont@cea.fr</u> .						
Requester (Each request should be "owned" by a	single individual)						
Dr. Antonio Guglielmelli, Ph.D. e-mail: antonio.guglielmelli@enea.it Organization: Italian National Agency for New Economic Development (ENEA) Country: Italy	Technologies, Energy and Sustainable						
<b>Target Z. A</b> Target Z: 68-Er Target A: 166, 167, 168, 170							
Reaction/Process (Physical reaction process, e.g. (n.g)	, fission, scattering, etc.)						
Quantity (Quantity of the reaction process that section, resonance parameter, spectrum, average n SIG (cross section), SIG-RP (Resonance paramete	is of concern to the requester, e.g., cross nultiplicity, etc.) rs)						
Incident energy range (Energy range of the incid 0.01 - 100 eV	lent particle in the laboratory)						
Secondary energy/angle (If differential or double energy and angular ranges for the emitted particle 	e-differential data are requested, then the need to be specified)						
Covariance information: Yes/No (if there is no it will be assumed that knowledge of the standard Yes	request for covariance information, then deviations alone is adequate)						

![](_page_14_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Thank you for attention!

Antonio Guglielmelli antonio.guglielmelli@enea.it

![](_page_15_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_5.jpeg)