

PROMPT-FISSION-NEUTRON SPECTRA OF  $^{233}\text{U}$ ,  $^{235}\text{U}$ ,  $^{239}\text{Pu}$   
AND  $^{240}\text{Pu}$  RELATIVE TO THAT OF  $^{252}\text{Cf}$ \*

by

A. Smith, P. Guenther, G. Winkler<sup>+</sup> and R. McKnight

Argonne National Laboratory  
Argonne, Illinois 60439  
U.S.A.

ABSTRACT

The prompt-neutron-induced-fission spectra of  $^{233}\text{U}$ ,  $^{235}\text{U}$ ,  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  and  $^{240}\text{Pu}$  are measured relative to the prompt-spontaneous-fission-neutron spectrum of  $^{252}\text{Cf}$ . The fission of  $^{233}\text{U}$ ,  $^{235}\text{U}$ , and  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  is induced by  $\approx 550$  keV neutrons and that of  $^{240}\text{Pu}$  by  $\approx 850$  keV neutrons. The emitted fission neutrons are observed over the energy range  $\lesssim 0.5$ -10.0 MeV using time-of-flight techniques. Analysis of the measured values indicates that the average-fission-neutron energies are  $-123 \pm 30$  ( $^{233}\text{U}$ ),  $-157 \pm 24$  ( $^{235}\text{U}$ ),  $-76 \pm 29$  ( $^{239}\text{Pu}$ ) and  $-46 \pm 29$  ( $^{240}\text{Pu}$ ) keV relative to that of  $^{252}\text{Cf}$ . The experimental results are compared with those of ENDF/B-V and a simple behavior of average-prompt-fission-neutron energies is suggested.

\*This work supported by the U. S. Department of Energy.

<sup>+</sup>Permanent address; Institut fuer Radiumforschung und Kernphysik; Vienna, Austria.