

# III SENCIR

SEMANA DE  
ENGENHARIA  
NUCLEAR E CIÊNCIAS  
DAS RADIAÇÕES

BELO HORIZONTE  
4,5 e 6 de outubro de 2016  
Escola de Engenharia  
UFMG



Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais  
Escola de Engenharia  
Departamento de Engenharia Nuclear  
Programa de Pós-graduação em Ciências e  
Técnicas Nucleares

## *Proposed model for PGAA at TRIGA IPR-R1 reactor of CDTN*

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# TRIGA MARK I IPR-R1 Research Reactor



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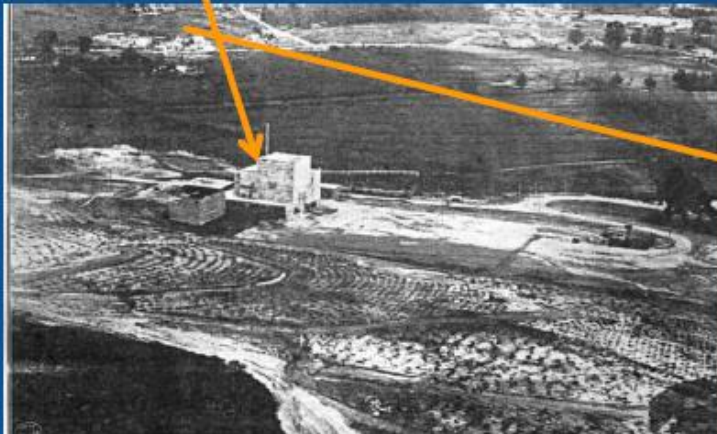
- ✓ CNEN Institutes
- ✓ Research Reactors
- ✓ TRIGA IPR-R1 (CDTN Belo Horizonte)

# RESEARCH REACTORS IN BRAZIL

Name	Utilization	Power	Site	Startup	Type
IPEN/MB-01	Critical facility – PWR Core analysis	100 W	IPEN/CNEN-SP São Paulo	1988	Open Core - Pin Type
ARGONAUTA	Research -Education	500 W	IEN/CNEN-RJ Rio de Janeiro	1965	Argonaut
IPR-R1	Research -Education	100 kW	CDTN/CNEN-MG Belo Horizonte	1960	TRIGA MARK-I
<b>IEA-R1</b>	Research Radioisotope Production	5 MW (2MW)	IPEN/CNEN-SP São Paulo	1957	Reator MTR Piscina Aberta

1957 : IEA

2014: IPEN/CNENSP



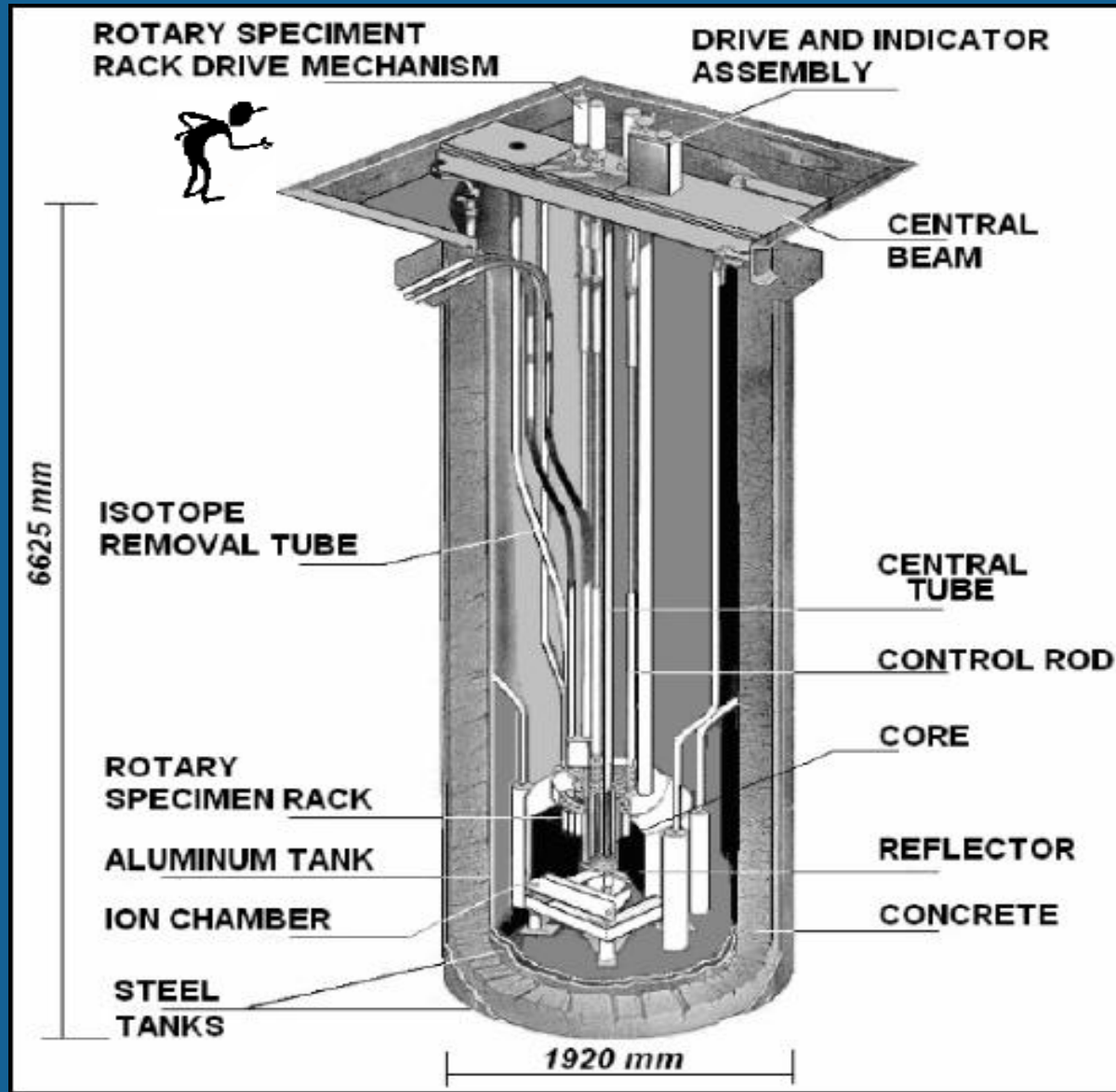
# THE TRIGA MARK I IPR-R1 GA Research Reactor

- ✓ Installed in 1960
- ✓ Operating at 100kW. Ready (but no licensed !) to operate at 250kW
- ✓ Used mainly for training of NPP operators
- ✓ NAA applications
- ✓ Production of some radioisotopes

# MOTIVATION

- ✓ 2005: “ Enhancement of TRIGA IPR-R1 Utilization “
- ✓ Upgrade of the NAA Laboratory
- ✓ Production of new radioisotopes:  $^{195m}\text{Pt}$ ,  $^{64}\text{Cu}$ ,  $^{159}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{125}\text{Xe}$ , ...
- ✓ Study of materials
- ✓ Neutron Beam: A Challenging Goal !

# TRIGA MARK 1 IPR-R1



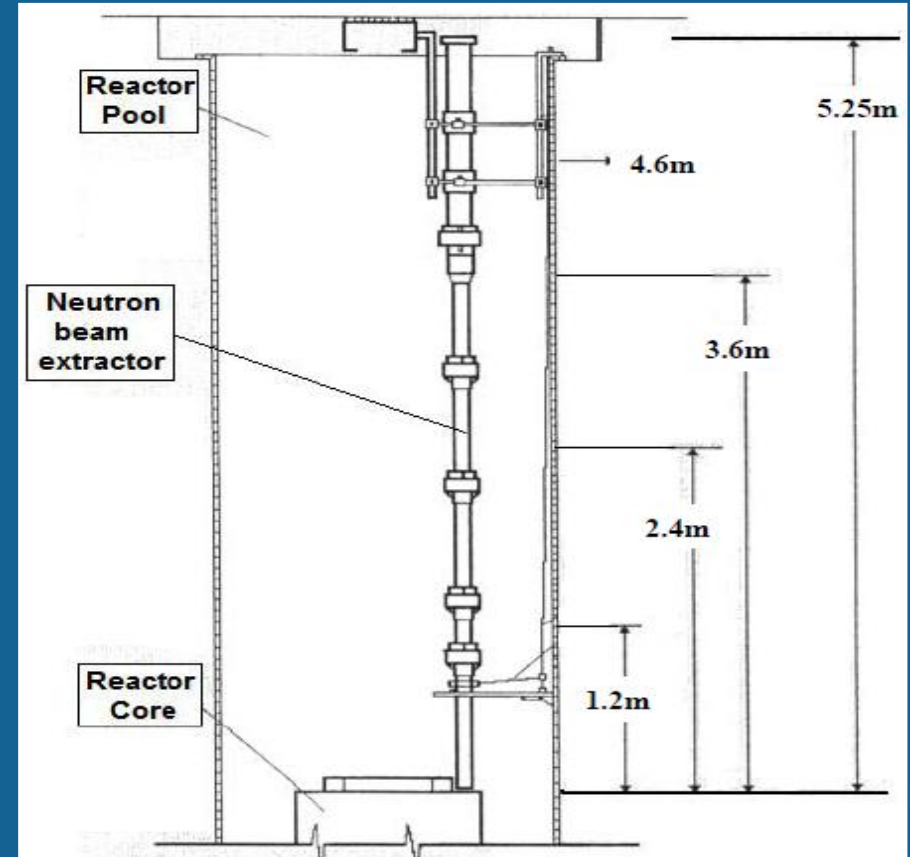
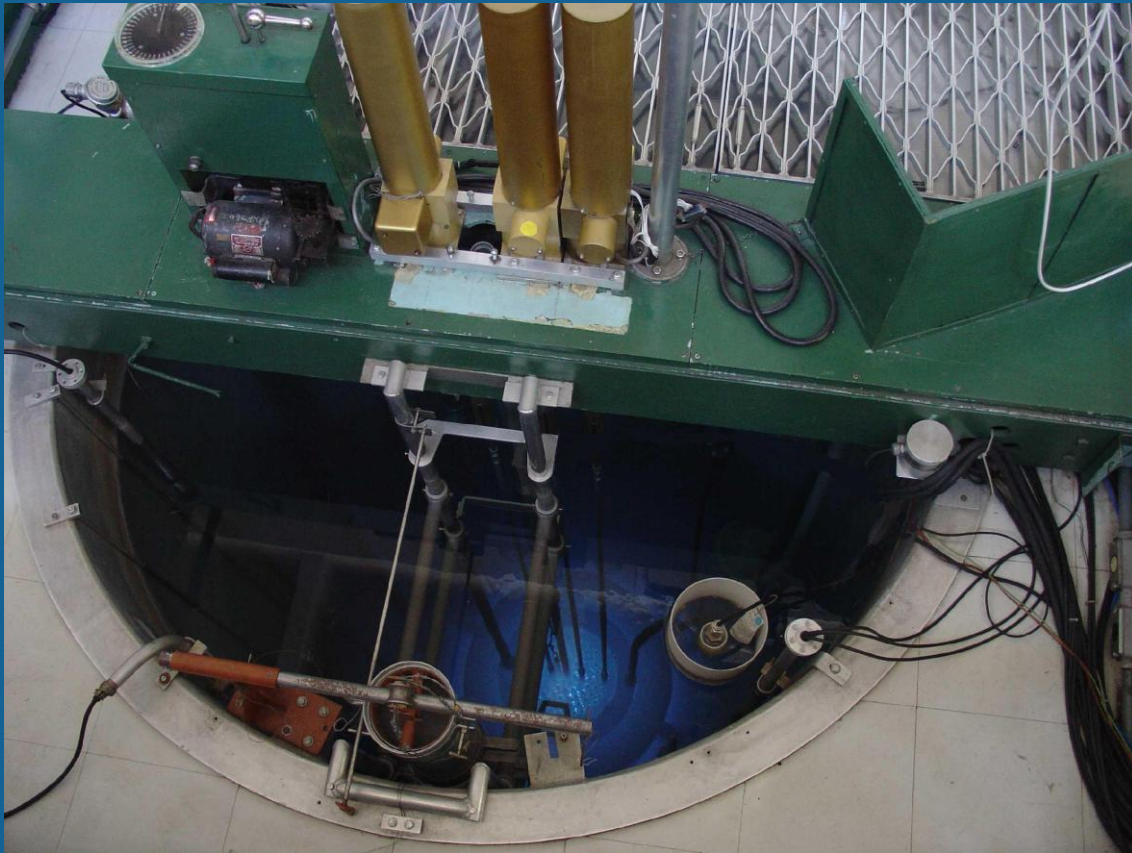
✓ Enhancement of the reactor utilization

✓ Upgrade of the NAA laboratory TRIGA IPR-R1 reactor

✓ Possibility of using the neutron beam for new applications

# THE TRIGA MARK I IPR-R1 GA Research Reactor

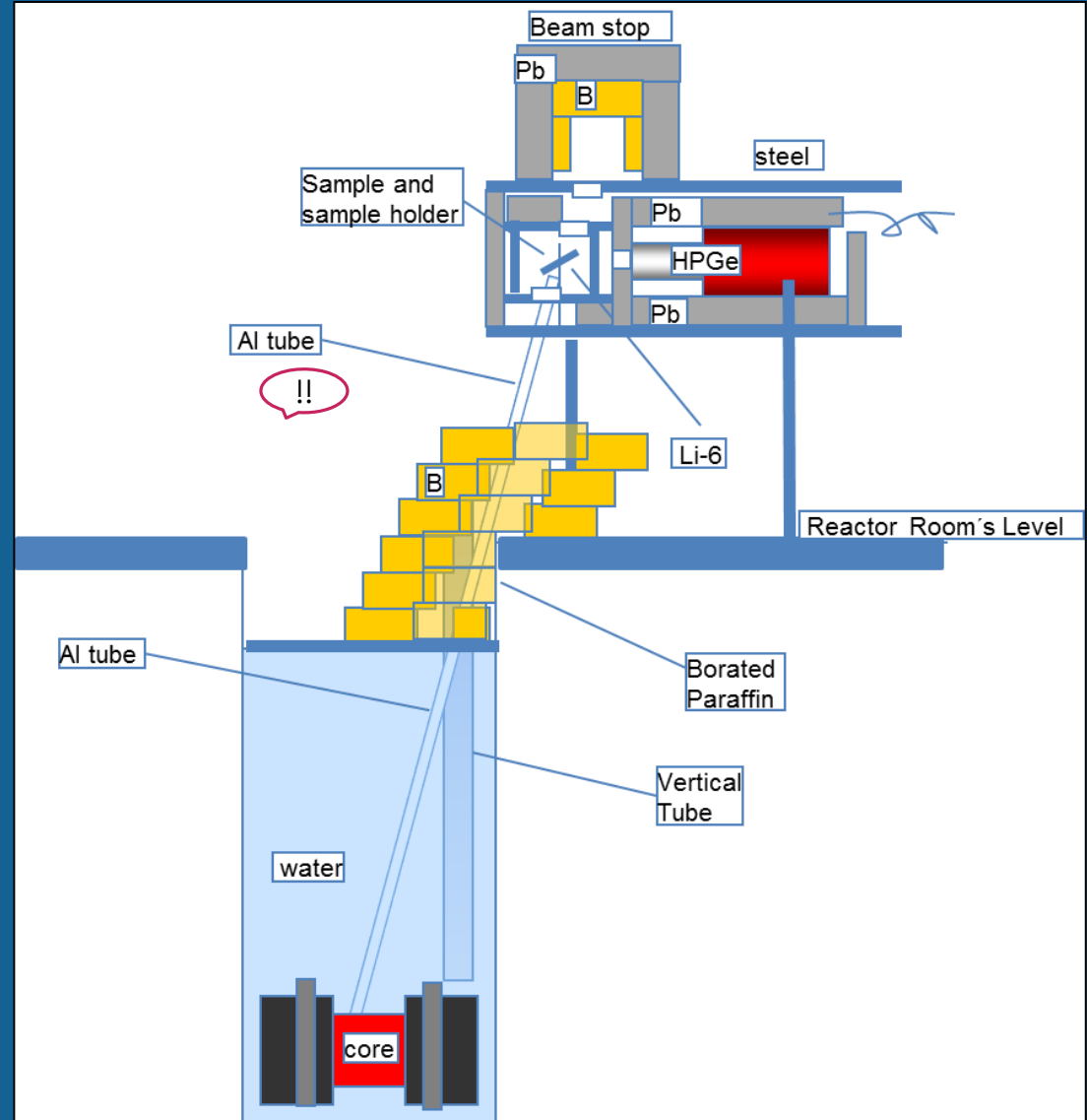
✓ 1980's: Vertical Neutron Beam



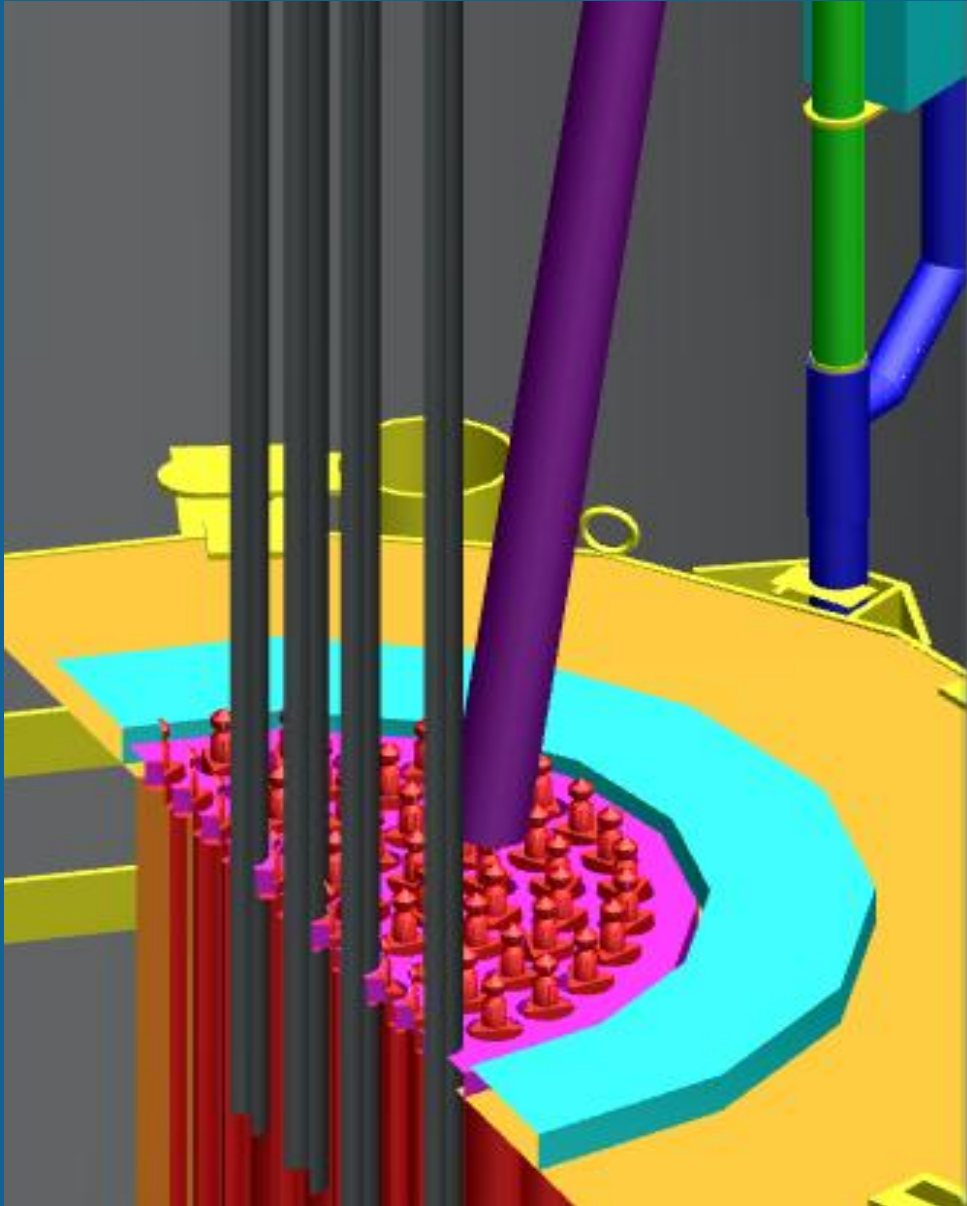


# THE TRIGA MARK I IPR-R1 GA Research Reactor

- ✓ 2008: “Proposed Design for a PGAA “
- ✓ enhancement of the reactor utilization
- ✓ upgrade of the NAA Lab
- ✓ possibility of using the neutron beam for new applications

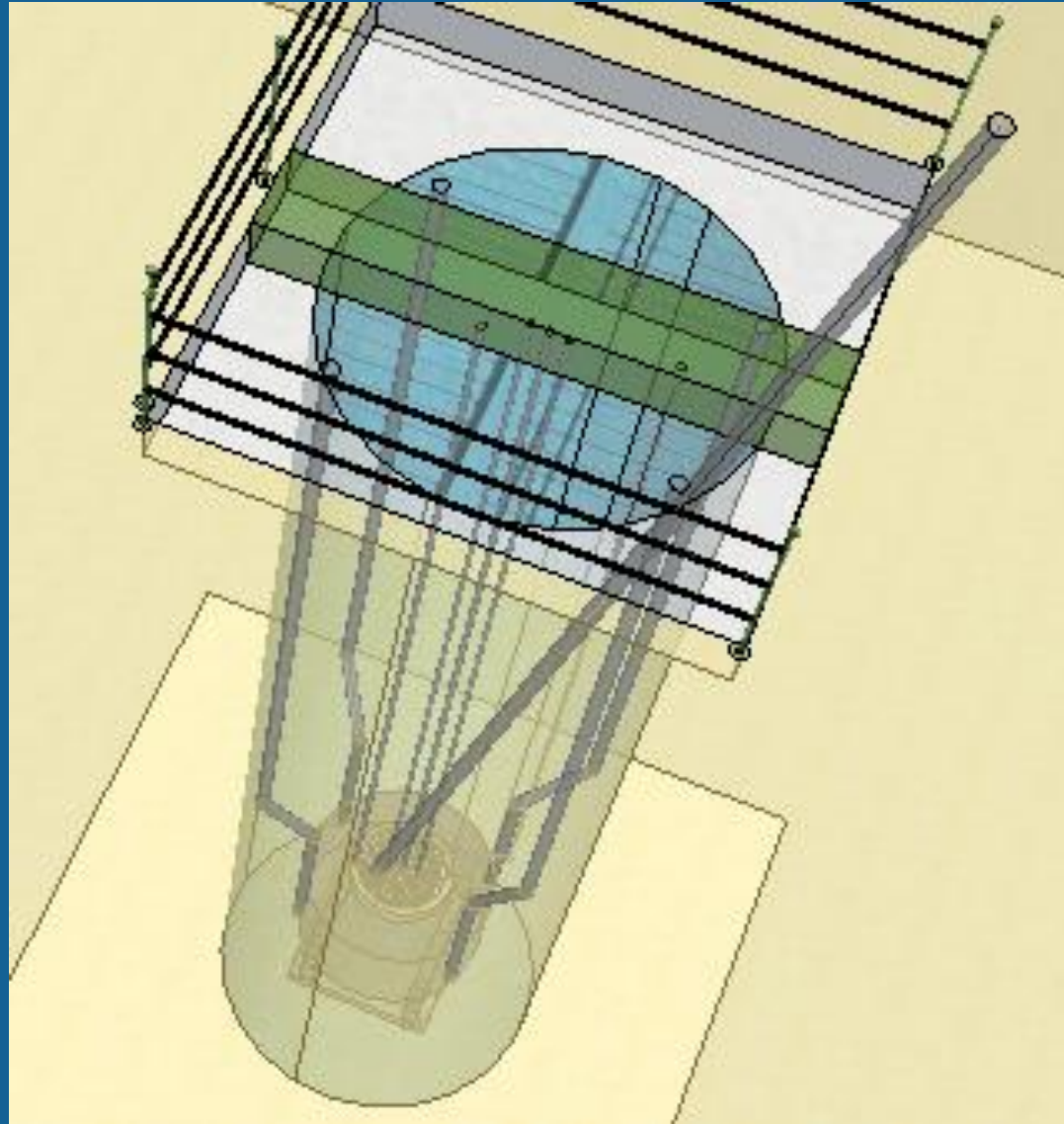


# THE TRIGA MARK I IPR-R1 GA Research Reactor



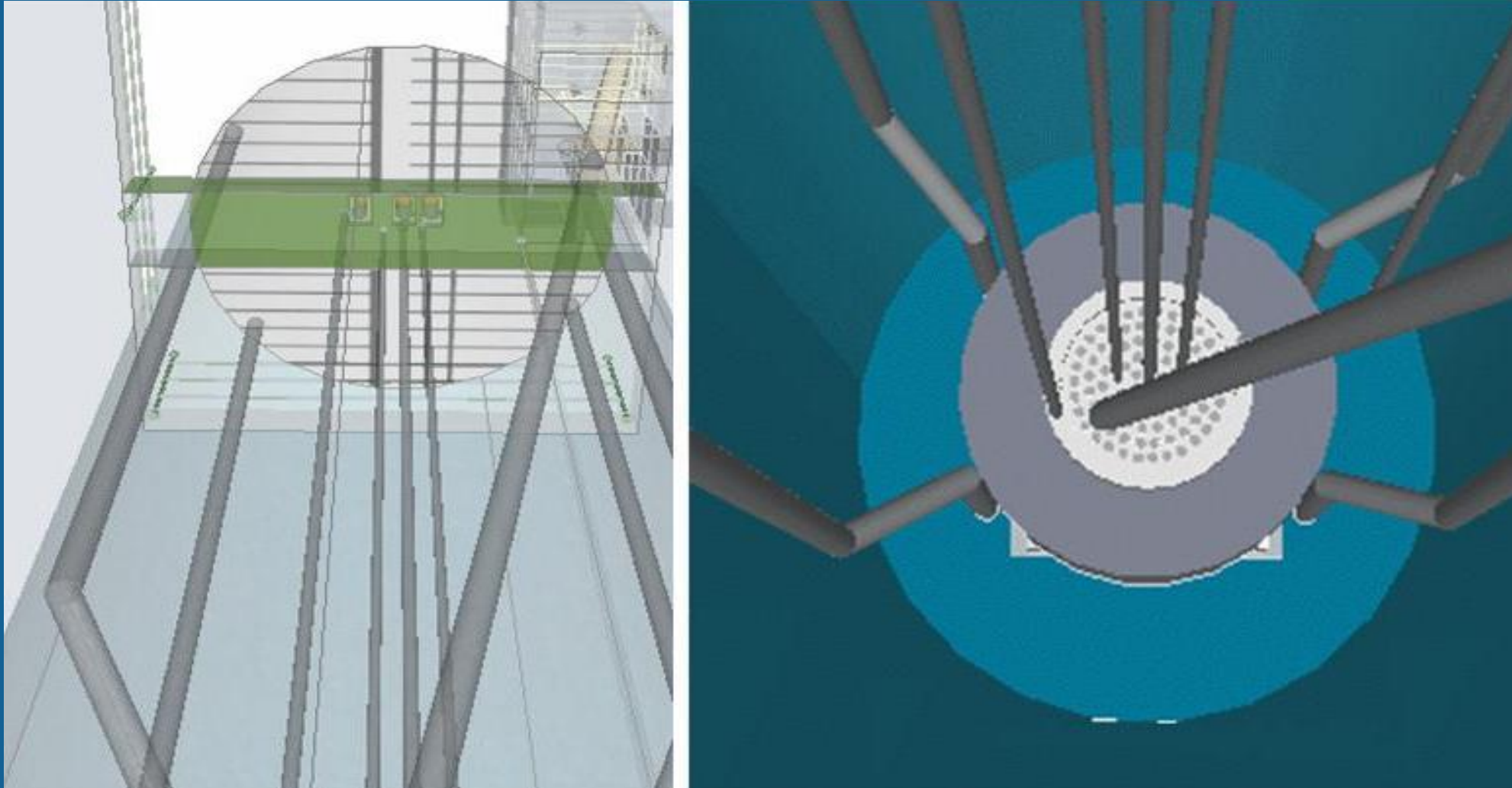
- ✓ Proposed inclined tube
- ✓ Control bars and central thimble
- ✓ Core and fuel elements

# THE TRIGA MARK I IPR-R1 GA Research Reactor



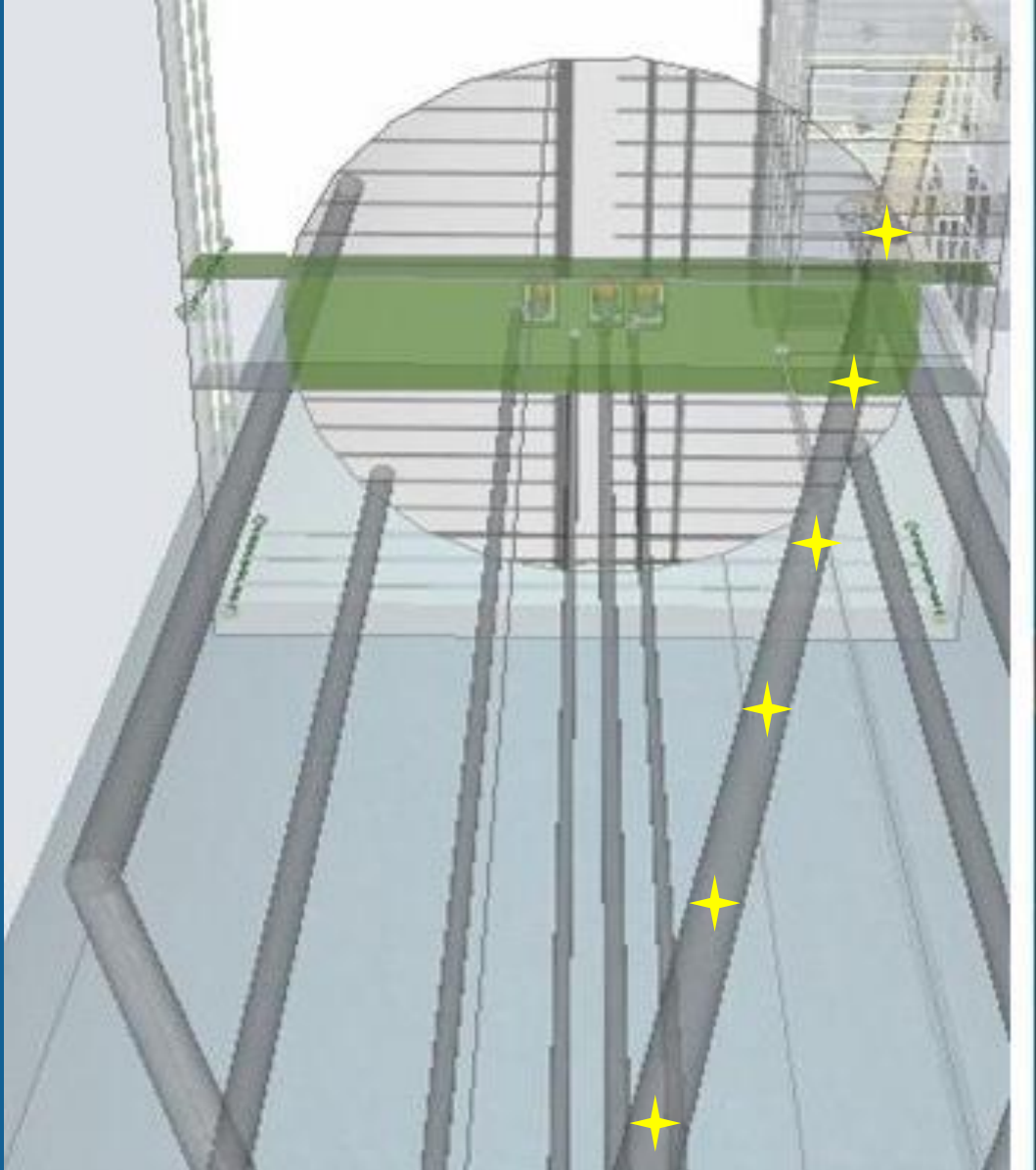
- ✓ Inclined tube: view from the top of the pool and the reactor's room level

# THE TRIGA MARK I IPR-R1 GA Research Reactor



✓ views of the inclined tube: bottom (left), top (right)

## EXPERIMENTAL - Determination of the neutron flux



- ✓ Preparation of the tube and the gold monitors ( $^{198}\text{Au}$ ) 100%
- ✓ The monitors were positioned equally spaced along the tube

# EXPERIMENTAL - Determination of the neutron flux

- ✓ The monitors were positioned in the equally spaced positions using a nylon guide line and polyethylene vials



## EXPERIMENTAL - Determination of the neutron flux

- ✓ Insertion of the gamma shielding: cylindrical tube of polyethylene (1,0 m ) in to of the tube



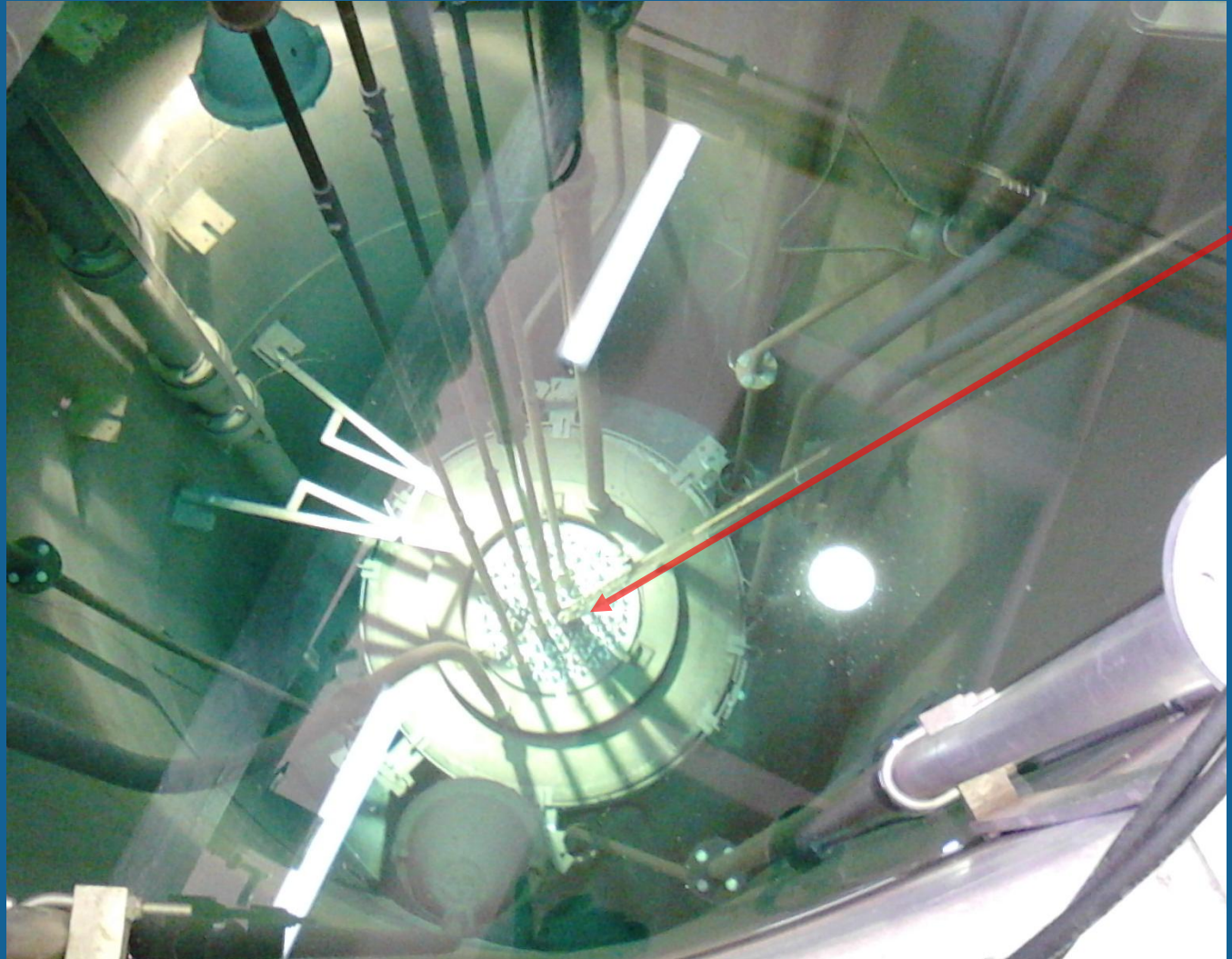
# EXPERIMENTAL - Determination of the neutron flux

- ✓ The insertion of the aluminum tube in the pool

5m length

5cm internal diameter

3mm thickness





# EXPERIMENTAL - Determination of the neutron flux

- ✓ The insertion of the tube in the pool
- ✓ Right material
- ✓ No pressure of the fuel elements

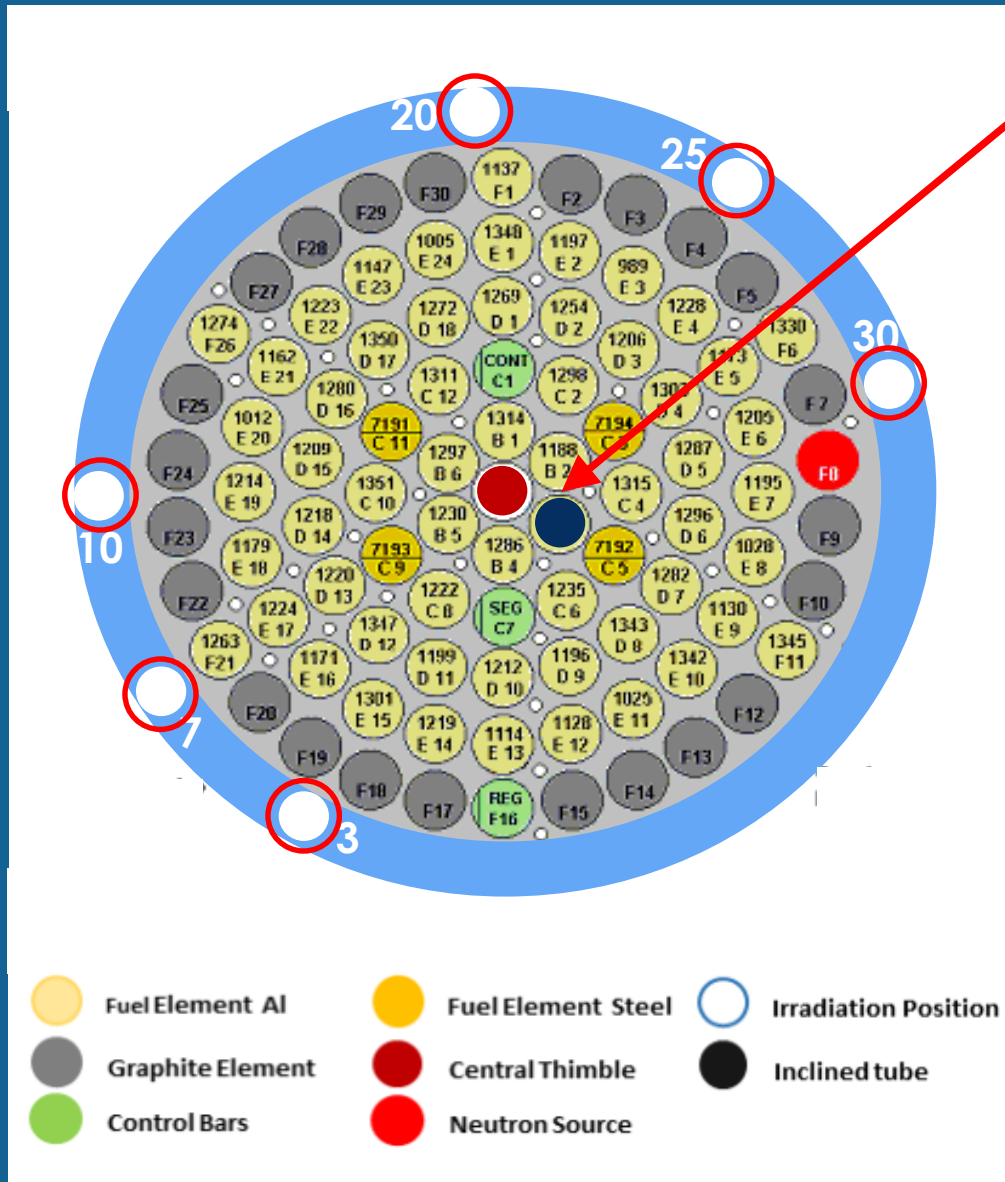


# EXPERIMENTAL - Determination of the neutron flux

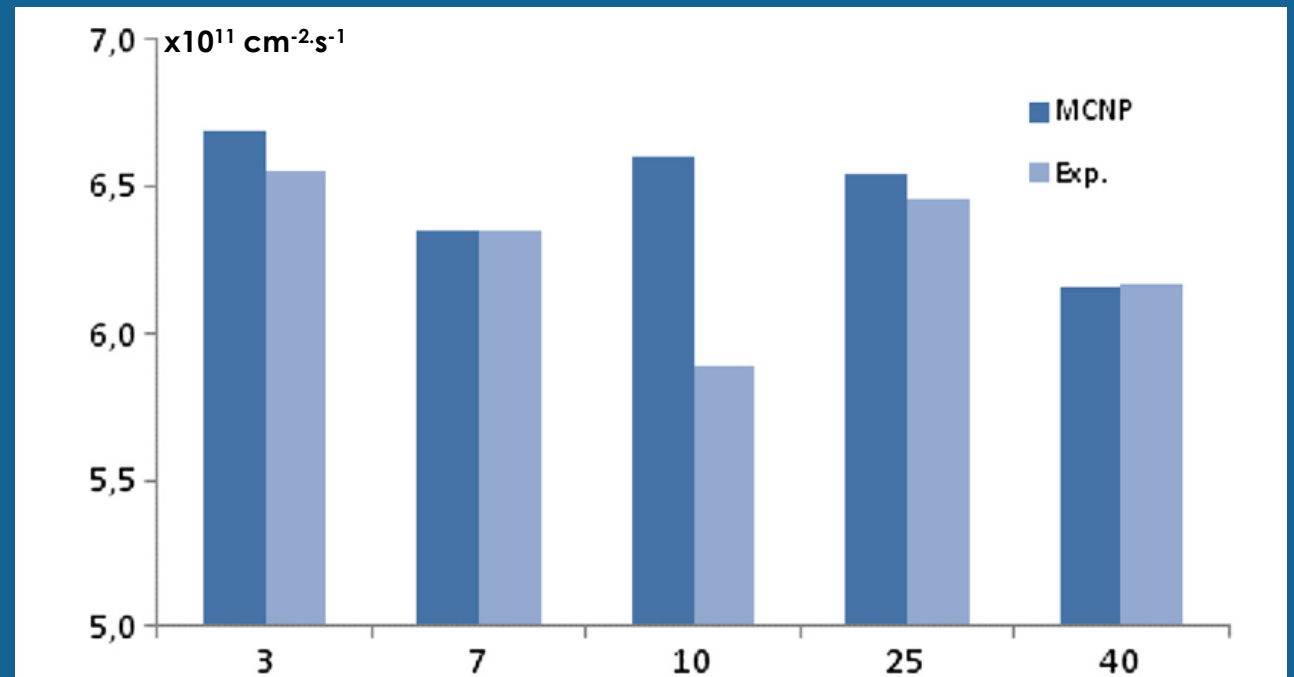
- ✓ The insertion of the tube in the pool
- ✓ Right material



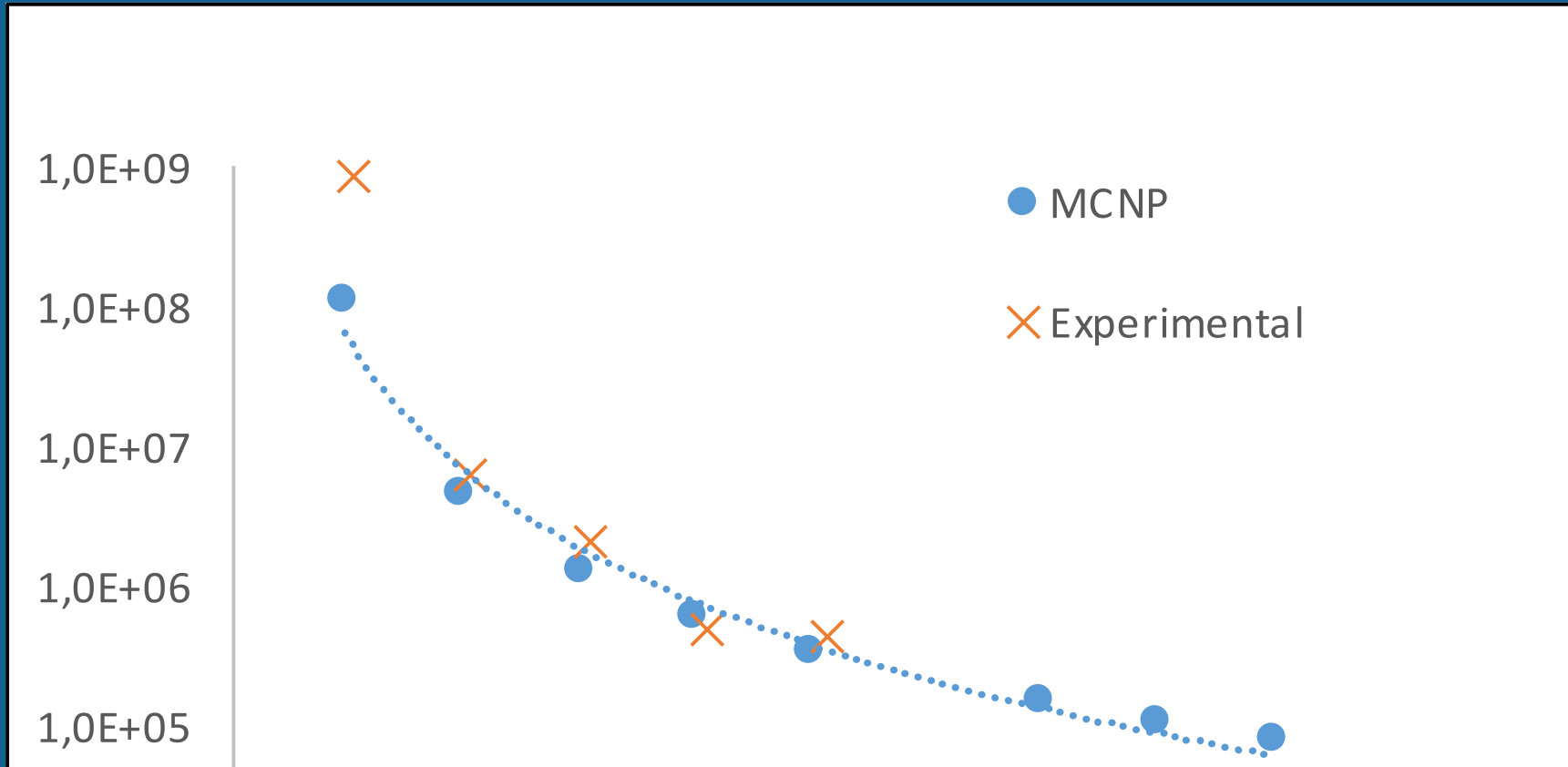
# THE TRIGA MARK I IPR-R1 GA Research Reactor



- ✓ position of the inclined tube in the core
- ✓ positions used for NAA irradiations ( 3, 7, 10, 20, 25, 30) – validation of the MCNP Model

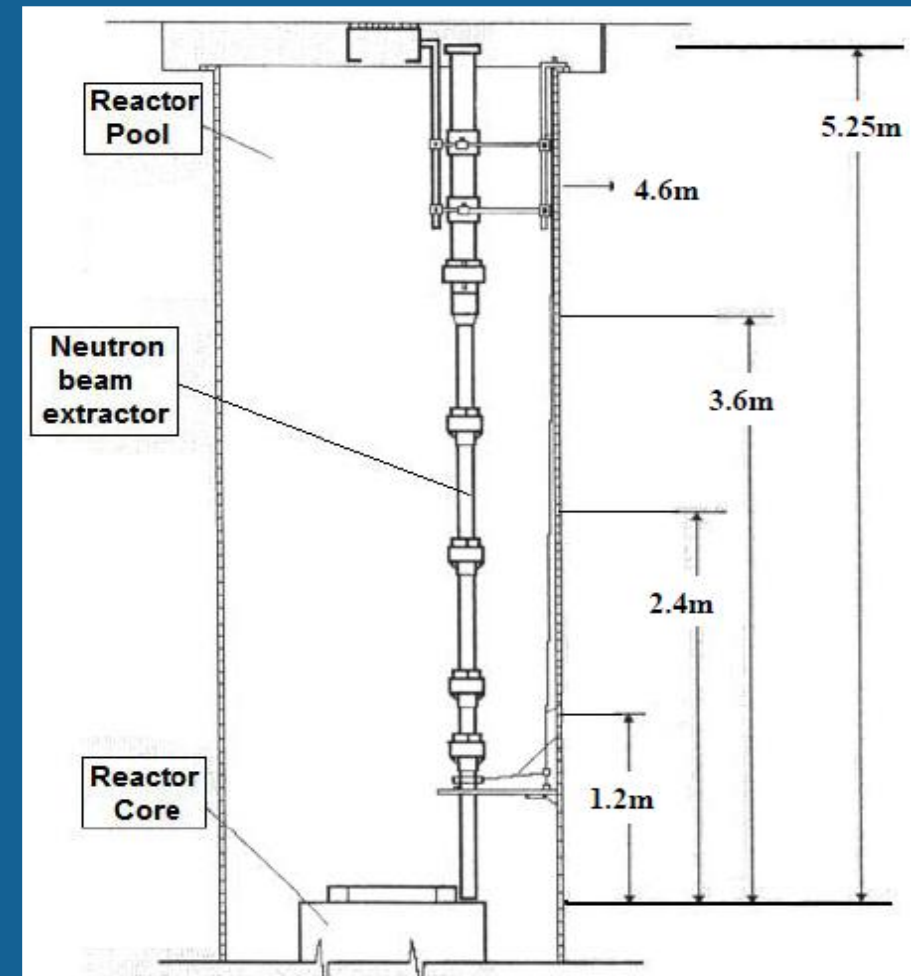
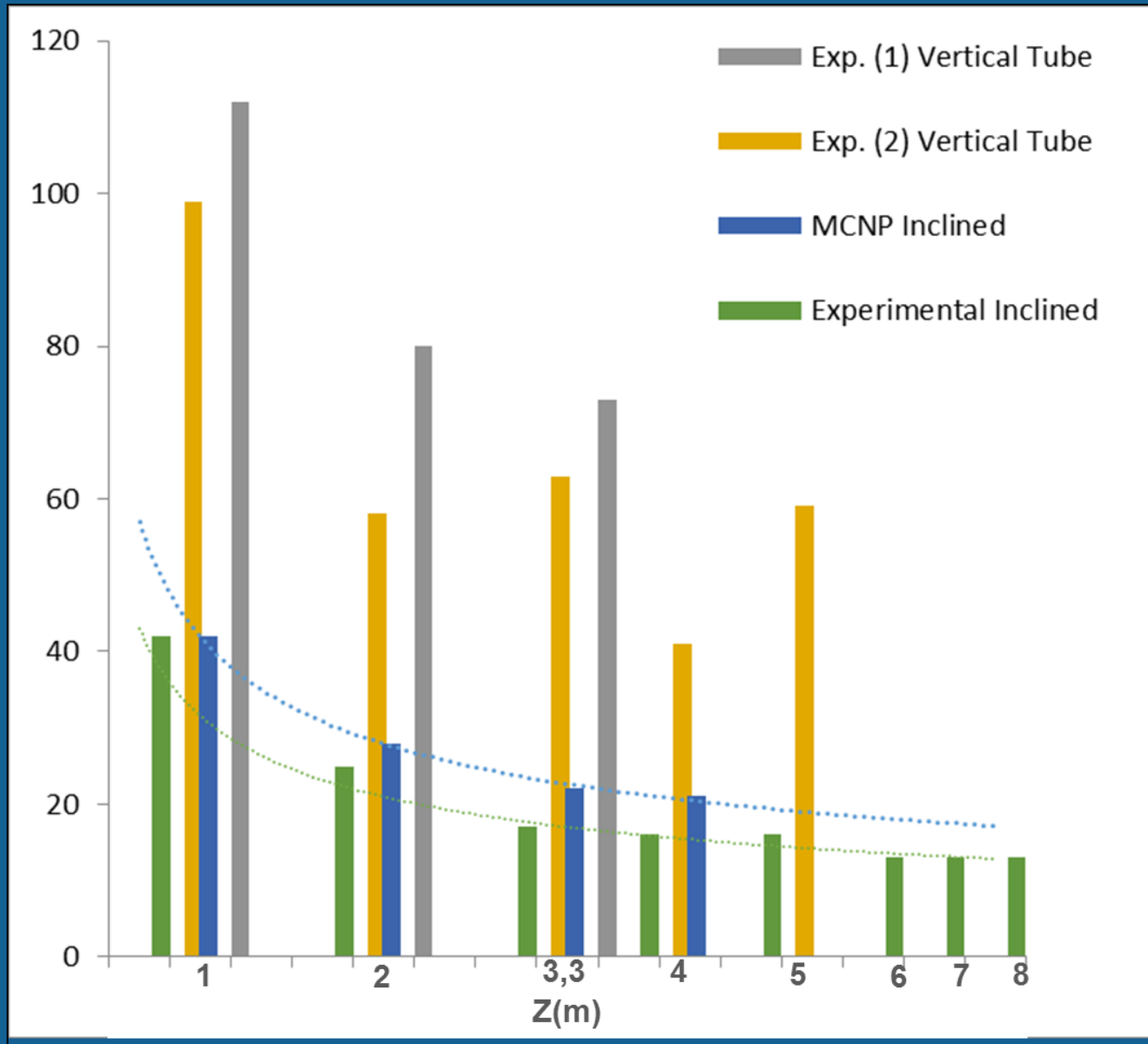


# RESULTS - Thermal neutron flux



Z(cm)	86	178	270	360	450	630	720	810
$\Phi_{th}$ (MCNP)	$1.1 \times 10^8$	$4.6 \times 10^6$	$1.2 \times 10^6$	$5.9 \times 10^5$	$3.3 \times 10^5$	$1.5 \times 10^5$	$1.5 \times 10^5$	$7.6 \times 10^4$
$\Phi_{th}$ (exp)	$1.7 \times 10^8$	$6.0 \times 10^6$	$2.0 \times 10^6$	$4.6 \times 10^5$	$4.2 \times 10^5$	-----	-----	-----
$\Delta_{exp}(\%)$	54	30	40	22	26	-----	-----	-----
$\Delta_{MCNP}(\%)$	9	10	2	3	3	2	2	2

# RESULTS - (Thermal /Epithermal) neutron flux - $f$



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Guerra et al. *SpringerPlus* 2013, **2**:597  
<http://www.springerplus.com/content/2/1/597>

 SpringerPlus  
a SpringerOpen Journal

**TECHNICAL NOTE**

**Open Access**

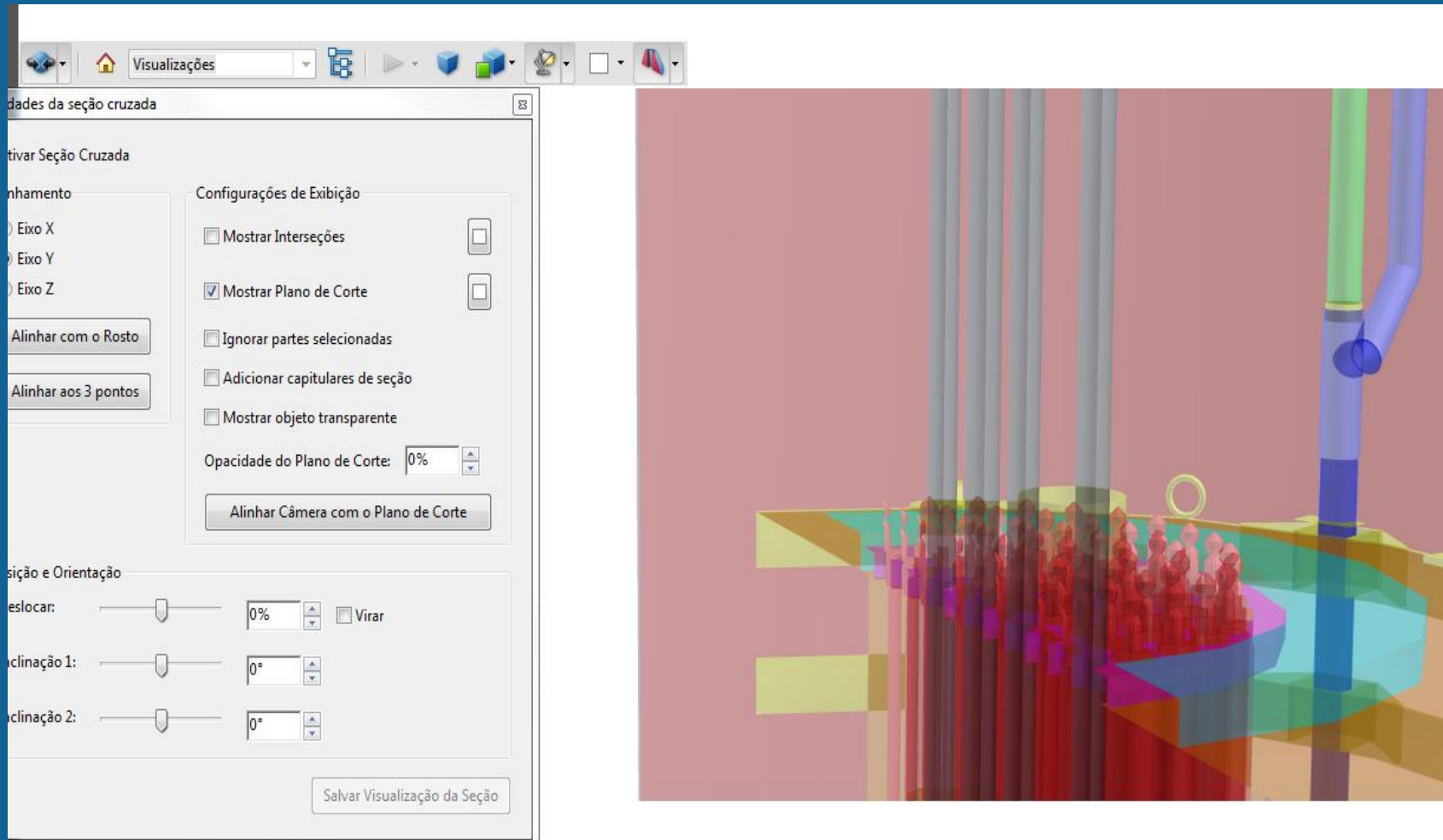
## Proposed design for the PGAA facility at the TRIGA IPR-R1 research reactor

Bruno T Guerra<sup>1,3</sup>, Radojko Jacimovic<sup>2</sup>, Maria Angela BC Menezes<sup>1,3</sup> and Alexandre S Leal<sup>1\*</sup>

# ★ Utilization and Modification of the TRIGA Reactor

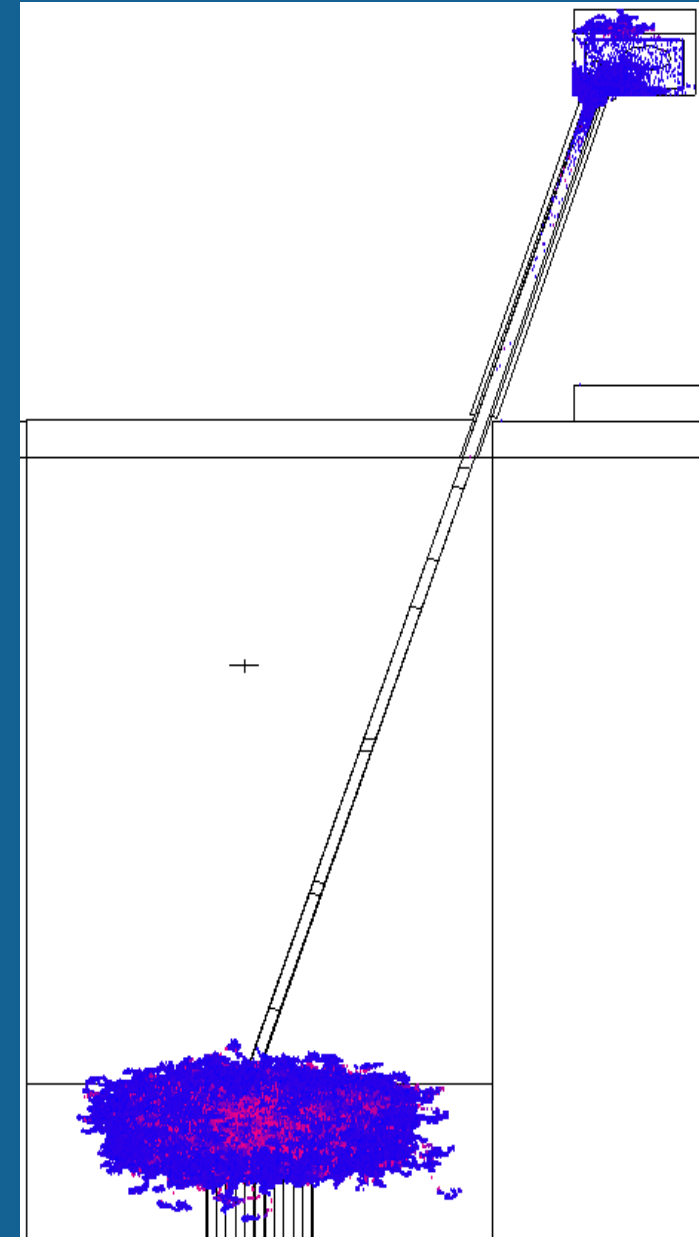
## Inclined Neutron Beam

## Proposed Design for a PGAA

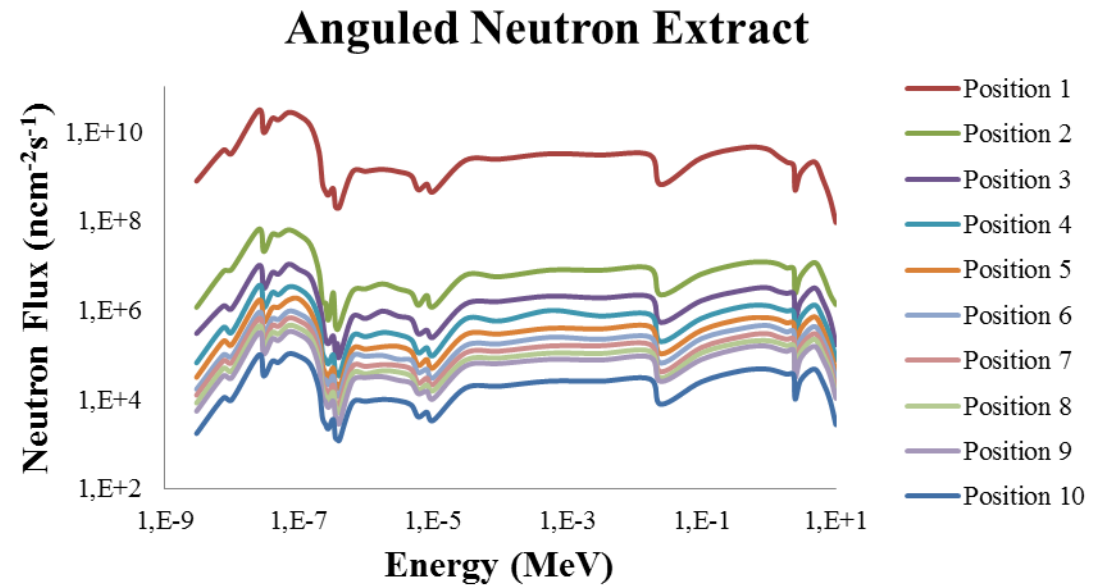
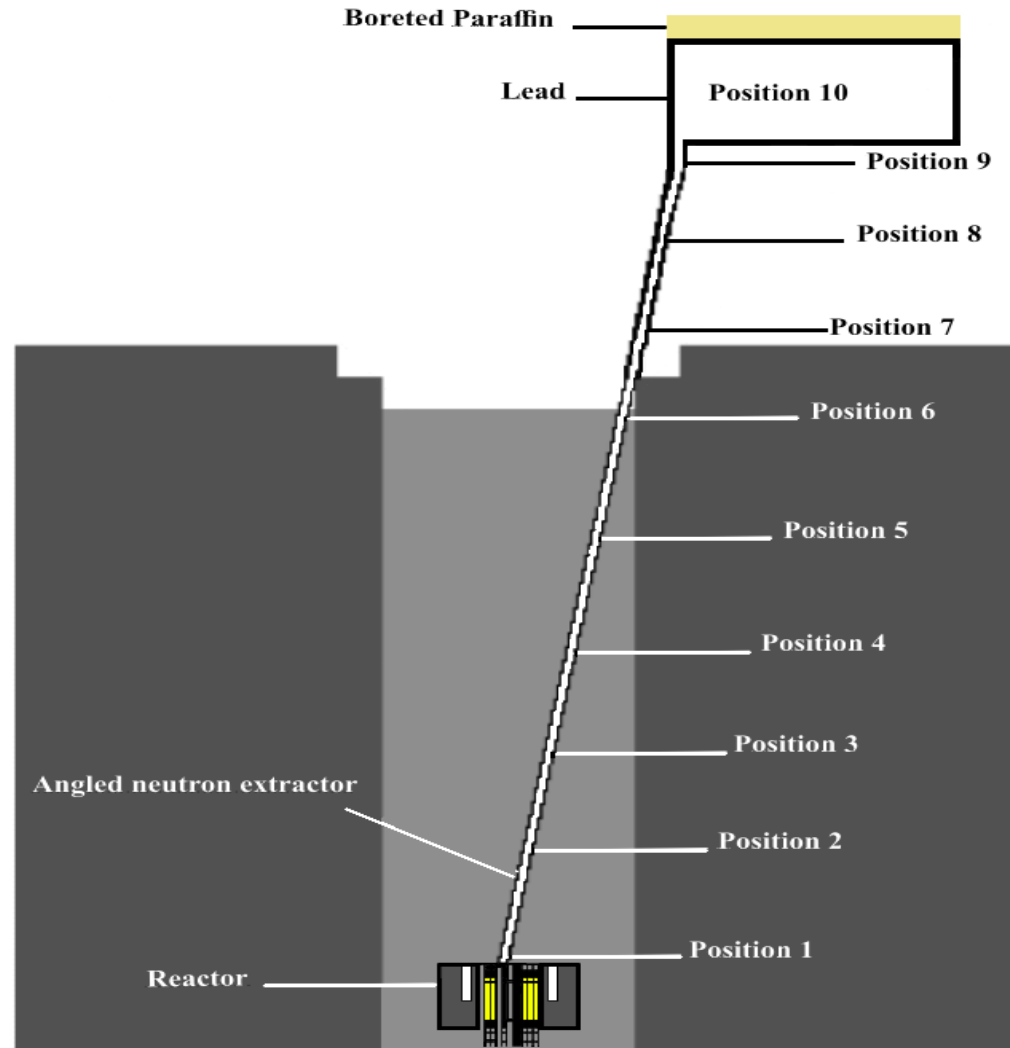


## RESULTS - VISED (Version X 24-E1) *Particle Track Function*

- ✓ Population of the neutrons in the core of the reactor and along across the inclined tube.
- ✓ The box in the top of the tube is a simplified model of the set sample-detector-shielding.
- ✓ The function *particle track* of the VISED platform was used to illustrate the geometry of the system and to facilitate the identification of possible problems, such as the neutrons or photons escaping from the tube

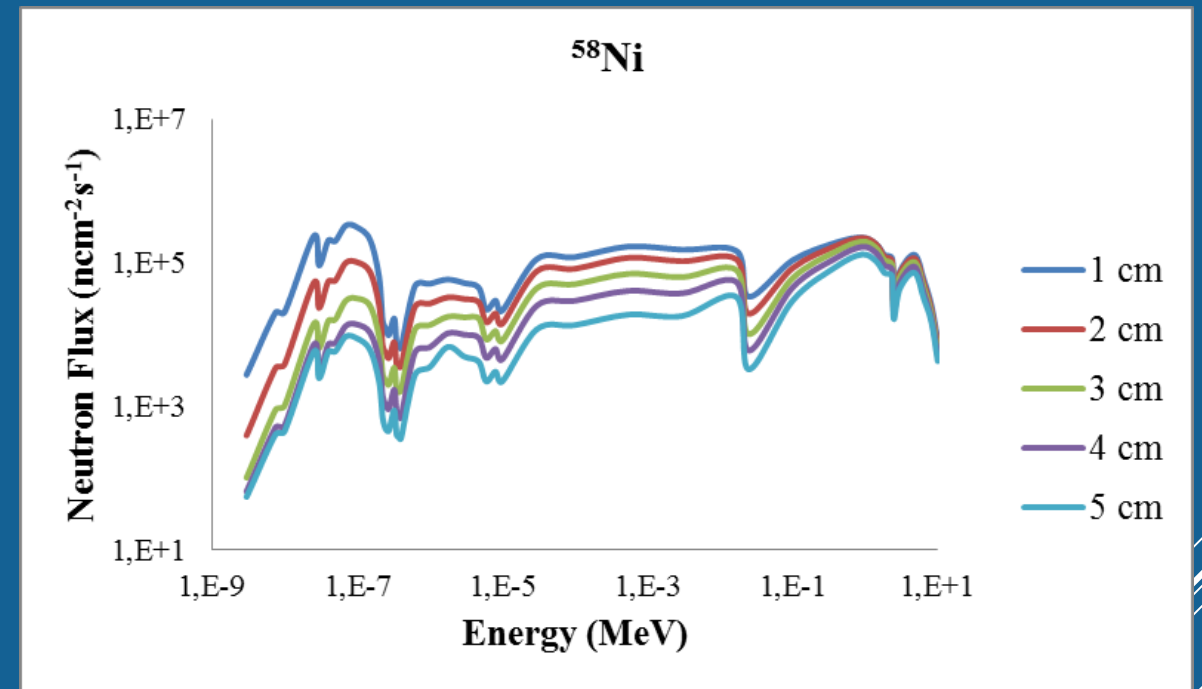
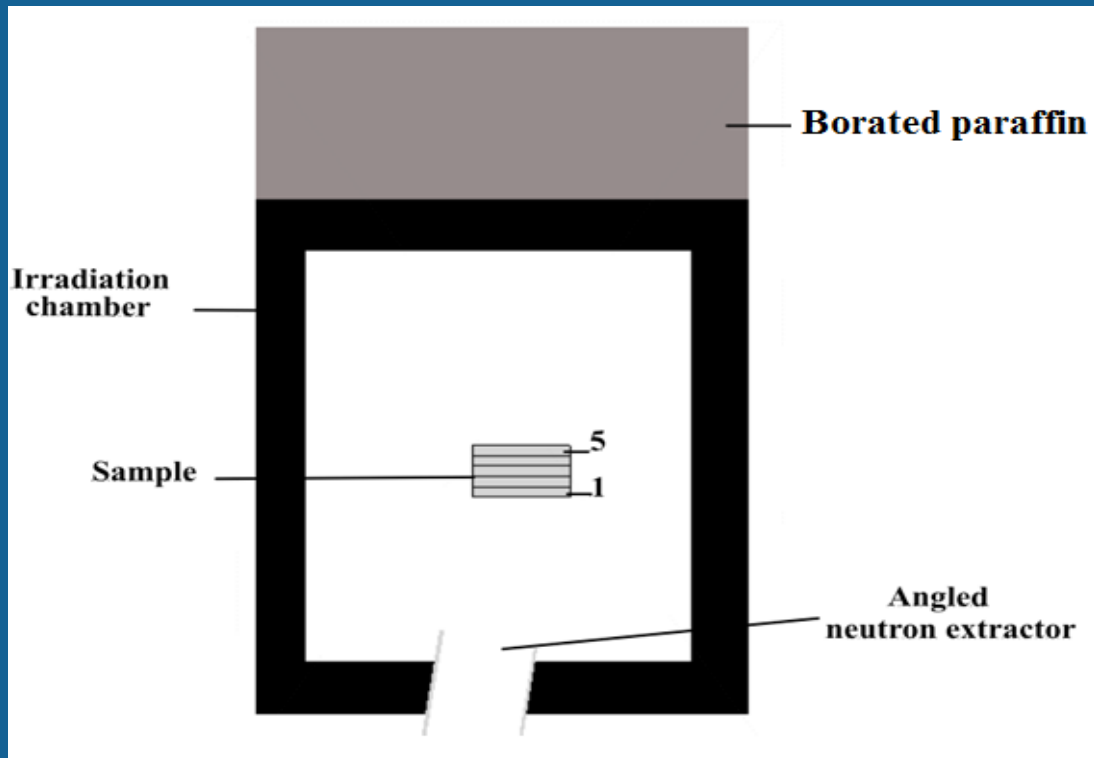






## Monte Carlo Simulations for a Preliminary Design of TRIGA IPR-R1 PGNAA Facility

B. T. Guerra<sup>1,2</sup>, A. S. Leal<sup>2</sup>, C. Pereira<sup>1</sup>, M. A. B. C. Menezes<sup>1,2</sup>



**Monte Carlo Simulations for a Preliminary Design of  
TRIGA  
IPR-R1 PGNAA Facility**

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# CONCLUSION

- ✓ In principle, obtained *suggests* that the inclined tube could be used as a neutron guide for the PGAA facility
- ✓ Better characterization of both: thermal and epithermal neutron flux is necessary: improvement of the MCNP model and additional experimental data !
- ✓ Feasibility of a PGAA facility : Lot of things to do !!!
- ✓ Definition of the power of the TRIGA IPR-R1 operation, 100-250kW !!??

*obrigado !*

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