FEM-BABEL

A Computer Program for Solving Three-Dimensional Neutron Diffusion Equation by the Finite Element Method

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FEM-BABEL

A Computer Program for Solving Three-Dimensional Neutron Diffusion Equation by the Finite Element Method

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The finite element method has been applied to solve accurately the multi-dimensional neutron diffusion equation on a modern computer. A new computer program FEM-BABEL has been developed by adopting the solution algorithm based on the Galerkin-type scheme. This three-dimensional program makes use of the combination of prism- and box-shaped elements to simulate reactor geometries efficiently. The successive over-relaxation method is adopted to solve the system equation and the inner iterations are accelerated using the coarse mesh rebalancing technique.

Numerical calculations have demonstrated the present finite element method has advantages over the finite difference method for solving realistic three-dimensional problems in view of computing cost.

Keywords

Finite Element Method, Neutron Diffusion Equation, Three-Dimensional Calculation, Prism-Shaped Element, Box-Shaped Element, Galerkin-Type Approximation, Computer Program, Successive Over-Relaxation, Coarse Mesh Rebalancing Technique.

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FEM-BABEL

有限要素法による3次元中性子拡散方程式の解法プログラム

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多次元中性子拡散方程式を大型電子計算機により精度良く解く為に有限要素法の応用が計られ、ガラキン型の数値解法アルゴリズムと計算プログラム FEM-BABEL の開発がなされた。この3次元用プログラムは三角柱と四角柱要素との組み合わせを用いており、体系方程式の解法としては SOR 法、中性子束の反復計算の加速法としては粗メッシュ再釣合い法が採用されている。実在体系についての数値計算では、差分法プログラムより計算機の使用コストの点で優位性が示された。

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1. Introduction

The finite element method (FEM)^{1),2)} has been proved to be a very useful tool for discretizing practical differential equations³⁾. Since Ohnishi advocated the applicability of FEM to reactor physics calculations⁴⁾, FEM has been developed to solve neutron diffusion^{5)–16)} and transport equations.^{17)–23)} It offers many other possibilities than the discretization by the finite difference method (FDM). For this, two reasons may be mentioned; The first is that with elements of appropriate shape the method can easily be applied to represent complicated geometric structures flexibly (geometrical flexibility).^{5),6),18)} The second is that within the elements the unknown functions can be approximated by using interpolation polynomials of any desired degree (higher order approximation).^{7)–10),15),23)} Thus it is possible to obtain very precise answers by using FEM.

However, one must of course pay for these advantages; One is the complexity of the solution algorithm introduced from the variability in the element shape and in the approximation order. The resulting equation with an irregularly occupied matrix is to be solved by using a complicated method, mostly the direct method. Even with this method, computer programs for solving a large system of matrix equations require a sophisticated data management system. For this problem, however, we can find nowadays promising solution procedures. Another is that the user must specify a large amount of input data inherent in the finite element method. To facilitate this, finite element mesh generating programs are being developed, so that it will become sufficient for the user to specify a relatively small amount of data. (26)-28)

Three-dimensional diffusion calculation is the most practical way to take account of all essential features of realistic nuclear design problems. Among various kinds of three-dimensional finite elements, like the tetrahedron, hexahedron, quadrilateral prism, triangular prism (prism-shaped element), rectangular prism (box-shaped element) and so on,²⁹⁾ the prism- or box-shaped element is considered to be most appropriate from the viewpoint of computing time and computer storage.^{30),31)} It is reported that calculations using the terahedron element³²⁾ could not converge for a practical problem within reasonable computing cost.³³⁾ Thus we have here chosen prism- and box-shaped elements in our computer program.

For realistic three-dimensional problems, a million unknowns may be needed to solve the system equations accurately and the coefficient matrices have generally sparse and irregular structure. Accordingly, the iterative method rather than the direct one shall be used to solve such large matrix equations from its potentiality by taking account of the next generation computer, because the iterative method requests less severe storage requirements and seems more efficient for most problems of large size. However, the implementation and effectiveness of the iterative methods have not been clear in the finite element approach to practical problems.²⁵⁾ Thus we here adopt the successive over-relaxation method in our computer program.

The remainder of this report is arranged as follows. In Chapter 2, we present the formalism of the finite element method for the multi-dimensional neutron diffusion equation. Chapter 3 describes the three-dimensional computer program developed here according to the formalism in Chapter 2. This chapter is intended to read also as user's manual for our program. Chapter 4 gives the verification of the program by solving a problem for which the exact solution is known. In addition, the applicabilities are demonstrated through a realistic large problem of a pressurized water reactor.

2. Solution of the Neutron Diffusion Equation by the Finite Element Method

We start to express the multigroup neutron diffusion equation in the form of the Galerkin approximation.¹⁾ Next we construct concrete expressions of the basis functions (called the shape function in engineering) for triangular⁵⁾, rectangular⁶⁾, prism-shaped and box-shaped finite elements. It is noted that the numerical integrations over these elements are shown to be performed analytically. Finally, we derive the matrix expression of the system equations by the Galerkin approximation and generate the concrete expression of the coefficient matrices.

2.1 Multigroup Neutron Diffusion Equation and Finite Element

In the general multigroup formalism, the neutron diffusion equation is represented by a coupled system of differential equations on the scalar flux, ϕ :

$$-\nabla D_{g}(\mathbf{r})\nabla \phi_{g}(\mathbf{r}) + \Sigma_{r,g}(\mathbf{r})\phi_{g}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\substack{g'=1\\(g'\neq g)}}^{G} \Sigma_{s,g'g}(\mathbf{r})\phi_{g'}(\mathbf{r}) + \sum_{g'=1}^{G} \frac{\chi_{g}}{K_{\text{eff}}}(\nu \Sigma_{f})_{g'}(\mathbf{r})\phi_{g'}(\mathbf{r}),$$

$$q = 1, 2, \dots G, \quad \text{for} \quad r \in \Omega,$$

$$(1)$$

where the notations are defined as follows:

g the energy group index,

 ϕ_g the flux in the g-th energy group (cm⁻² sec⁻¹),

 D_a the diffusion constant (cm),

 $\Sigma_{r,q}$ the total removal cross section (cm⁻¹).

 $\Sigma_{s,g'g}$ the scattering cross section from g' into g (cm⁻¹),

 χ_g the fission source spectrum normalized as $\sum_{g=1}^{G} \chi_g = 1.0$,

 $K_{\rm eff}$ the effective multiplication factor,

 ν_a the average number of neutrons produced by fissions induced in group g,

 $\Sigma_{f,g}$ the fission cross section (cm⁻¹).

By denoting the external boundary of a domain Ω by $\partial_e \Omega$, the general form of boundary condition associated with Eq. (1) is described as

$$a(r)\left(D_{g}\frac{\partial\phi_{g}}{\partial n}\right)(r)+b(r)\phi_{g}(r)=0, \qquad r\in\partial_{e}\Omega,$$
(2)

where $\partial/\partial n$ represents the outward normal derivative at $\partial_e \Omega$ with unit vector n, and a=0 shows the free boundary, b=0 the reflective boundary, and a>0 and b>0 the extrapolated boundaries. If a reactor is composed of a finite number of subdomains, each of which is characterized by a specific material property, then the bulk coefficients $D_g(r)$, $\Sigma_{r,g}(r)$, $\Sigma_{g'g}(r)$, $(\nu \Sigma_f)_g(r)$, as well as the boundary coefficients a(r) and b(r), are constant throughout each subdomain. In addition to Eq. (2), the usual interface conditions with respect to neutron flux and current must be satisfied. That is, if the domain Ω is composed of matrials having interfaces $\partial_i \Omega$, then the interface conditions are

$$\phi_g(\mathbf{r})$$
 and $\left(D_g \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n}\right)(\mathbf{r})$ are continuous across $\partial_i \Omega$. (3)

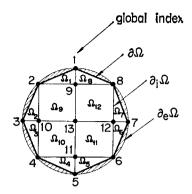


Fig. 1 Partition of a polygon into subdomains, or trianglar and rectangular elements and their global node indices.

For more explanation, the domain Ω is assumed a bounded set in the two-dimensional Euclidean space and Ω is the union of a finite number N of contiguous subdomain Ω_i what is called the finite element:

$$\Omega = \bigcup_{i=1}^{N} \Omega_i \tag{4}$$

As shown in Fig. 1, a two-dimensional reactor can be divided into N=12 triangular or rectangular sub-domains. The presence of a black absorber or hole subdomain is not allowed in the interior of the reactor domain Ω . The boundary $\partial \Omega$ of Ω , which is the union of the exterior boundary $\partial_e \Omega$ and the interfaces $\partial_i \Omega$:

$$\partial \Omega = \partial_e \Omega \cup \partial_i \Omega \,, \tag{5}$$

is assumed to be piecewise rectilinear. The cross-hatched region in Fig. 1 must be as small as possible for a good approximation to the virtual external boundary. In later use, it is defined that

$$\bar{\Omega} = \Omega \cup \partial \Omega . \tag{6}$$

Now to solve the generalized eigenvalue problem described by Eqs.(1)-(3) for the effective multiplication factor $K_{\rm eff}$ and the corresponding positive eigenfunction, $\{\phi_g(r); g=1, 2, \ldots, G\}$ we adopt the usual outer iteration (also called the source iteration or the power iteration) procedure. That is, starting with a positive but otherwise arbitrary estimate $\{\phi_g^{(0)}\}$ for group fluxes and a positive estimated $K_{\rm eff}^{(0)}$ for the effective multiplication factor, we generate successive estimates $\{\phi_g^{(n)}\}$ and $K_{\rm eff}^{(n)}$, $n=1, 2, \ldots$, according to the following scheme:

$$-\nabla D_{g}(r)\nabla \phi_{g}^{(n)}(r) + \Sigma_{r,g}(r)\phi_{g}^{(n)}(r) = \sum_{g'(g)} \sum_{s,g'g}^{u} (r)\phi_{g'}^{(n-1)}(r) + \frac{1}{K_{\text{eff}}^{(n-1)}} \chi_{g}(r) \sum_{g'=1}^{G} (\nu \Sigma_{f})_{g'}(r)\phi_{g'}^{(n-1)}(r) ,$$
for $g = 1, 2, \dots G$, (7)

and

$$K_{\text{eff}}^{(n)} = K_{\text{eff}}^{(n-1)} \frac{\langle \phi^{(n)}, \phi^{(n)} \rangle}{\langle \phi^{(n)}, \phi^{(n-1)} \rangle}, \tag{8}$$

where <, > denotes any appropriate inner product. The scattering cross section $\Sigma_{s,g'g}$ is parted into the down-scattering cross section $\Sigma_{s,g'g}^d$ (g' < g) and the up-scattering cross section $\Sigma_{s,g'g}^u$ (g' > g).

At each step of this outer iteration procedure, we thus solve G uncoupled self-adjoint elliptic boundary value problems of the form:

$$-\nabla D(\mathbf{r})\nabla\phi(\mathbf{r}) + \Sigma(\mathbf{r})\phi(\mathbf{r}) = f(\mathbf{r}), \quad \text{for } \mathbf{r} \in \Omega,$$
(9)

where f is a known function. The unknown ϕ is subject to the same boundary conditions, Eqs. (2) and (3). The conservation of the self-adjoint character provides the Galerkin-type approximation procedure for the solution of the elliptic boundary value problem as described in the following.

The matrix expression of Eq. (7) in the form of Eq. (9) is given by

$$[-\overline{V}D(r)\overline{V} + \Sigma(r)]\phi^{(n)}(r) = F^{(n-1)}(r), \qquad (10)$$

where

$$\Sigma = \Sigma_r - \Sigma^d, \tag{10a}$$

$$F^{(n-1)}(\mathbf{r}) = \left[\Sigma^{u}(\mathbf{r}) + \frac{1}{K_{eff}^{(n-1)}} \chi(\mathbf{r}) S(\mathbf{r}) \right] \phi^{(n-1)}(\mathbf{r}), \qquad (10b)$$

$$\Sigma_{r} = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{r,1} & & & 0 \\ & \Sigma_{r,2} & & 0 \\ 0 & & \ddots & \\ & & & \Sigma_{r,G} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{10c}$$

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} D_1 & & & \\ & D_2 & & \\ 0 & & \ddots & \\ & & D_G \end{pmatrix}, \tag{10d}$$

$$\Sigma^{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \Sigma_{s,21} & \Sigma_{s,31} & \cdots & \Sigma_{s,G1} \\ & 0 & \Sigma_{s,32} & \cdots & \Sigma_{s,G2} \\ & & 0 & & \vdots \\ & & \ddots & & \Sigma_{s,G,G-1} \\ & & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{10f}$$

$$\chi = (\chi_1, \chi_2, \cdots \chi_G)^T, \tag{10g}$$

$$S = ((\nu \Sigma_f)_1, (\nu \Sigma_f)_2, \cdots (\nu \Sigma_f)_G)^T,$$
(10h)

$$\phi = (\phi_1, \phi_2, \cdots \phi_G)^T, \tag{10i}$$

in which $(.)^T$ is the transposed vector.

2.2 Galerkin-Type Approximation

We proceed here as usual on a Galerkin-type approximate procedure. The symbol x denotes a point on the two-dimensional Euclidean plane. Let $L_2(\Omega)$ be the Hilbert space of functions which are square integrable over Ω . The inner product on $L_2(\Omega)$ is expressed by

$$(u,v) = \int_{\Omega} u(x)v(x)dx, \qquad (11)$$

and the norm by

$$||u|| = \sqrt{\overline{(u,u)}}. \tag{12}$$

we define D(L) as the set of functions in $L_2(\Omega)$, which have the following properties:

- (i) they are twice continuously differentiable in Ω ,
- (ii) the functions and their first derivatives are continuous on $\partial \Omega$,
- (iii) they satisfy the boundary conditions Eqs. (2) and (3).

Thus our problem is to find the function $u \in D(L)$ which satisfies the following equation:

$$(L+\Sigma)u=f, \qquad f\in L_2(\Omega), \tag{13}$$

where we define the linear differential operator L by

$$(Lu)(x) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \cdot D(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u, \text{ on domain } D(L),$$
 (13a)

and the multiplicative operator Σ by

$$(\Sigma u)(x) = \Sigma(x)u(x)$$
, on $L_2(\Omega)$. (13b)

Furthermore, let $W_2^1(\Omega)$ denote the Hilbert space of all elements of $L_2(\Omega)$ that have generalized derivatives of the first degree in $L_2(\Omega)$ (which is called Sobolev space). The inner product in $W_2^1(\Omega)$ is defined by

$$\langle u, v \rangle_{1,2} = \int_{\mathcal{Q}} \left(uv + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right) dx ,$$
 (14)

and the norm by

$$||u||_{1,2} = \sqrt{\langle u, u \rangle_{1,2}}. \tag{15}$$

If $u \in D(L)$ and all the coefficients in Eq. (13) are smooth, then it can be shown that the solution of Eq. (13) is equivalent to find the function $u \in W_2^1(\Omega)$ which satisfies the following equations:

$$a(u, v) = (f, v), \quad \text{for all } v \in W_2^1(\Omega),$$
 (16)

where

$$a(u,v) = \int_{Q} \left(D(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \Sigma(x) u(x) v(x) \right) dx + \int_{\partial \mathcal{Q}} \frac{b(x)}{a(x)} u(x) v(x) dS, \qquad (16a)$$

and

$$(f, v) = \int_{\Omega} f(x)v(x)dx, \quad \text{for any} \quad v \in W_2^1(\Omega)$$
 (16b)

and

$$\partial_{\varepsilon}^{\prime} \Omega = \{ x | x \in \partial_{\varepsilon} \Omega, \, a(x) > 0 \} . \tag{16c}$$

The expression (16) is called the weak form of Galerkin approximation.

Here we shall define the Galerkin-type approximation to the present problem. The weak form of the original problem is given by

$$a(\phi, \psi) = (F, \phi), \quad \text{for all} \quad \psi \in W_2^1(\Omega),$$
 (17)

where

$$a(\phi, \psi) = \int_{\Omega} [D\vec{V}\phi\vec{V}\psi + \Sigma\phi\psi]dV + \int_{\partial L\Omega} \frac{b}{a}\phi\psi dS, \qquad (17a)$$

$$\partial_e' \Omega = \{ r | r \in \partial_e \Omega, \, a(r) > 0 \} \tag{17b}$$

and

$$(F,\psi) = \int_{\mathcal{Q}} F\psi dV. \tag{17c}$$

Let M_N be any finite-dimensional subspace of $W_2^1(\Omega)$ as shown also in Fig. 1, and then our aim is to solve the following approximate problem having a unique solution $\hat{\phi}$ in M_N ,

$$a(\hat{\phi}, \psi) = (F, \psi), \quad \text{for all } \psi(r) \in M_N.$$
 (18)

With any subspace, there is a finite partition of M_N into polygonal subdomains of element shape, like triangles and/or rectangles. If we define a polynomial function $\hat{\phi}$ with degree m as an element of the subspace in each polygonal subdomain of the partition, then each polynomial can be uniquely determined by its behavior within its associated subdomain. This approximate procedure is commonly referred to as the finite element method.

In order to uniquely determine $\hat{\phi} \in M_N$ from its local behavior, we need ν data in each subdomain if a polynomial of degree m in two variables (for two-dimensional space) has ν degrees of freedom. These data can be the values of the function or of its derivatives at a certain number of points in the subdomain. Polynomials which are obtained in this manner are called interpolating polynomials or interpolants. In the following study we will assume that only function values, and no derivative values, are used to determine the polynomials. This type of interpolating polynomials is commonly referred to as the Lagrange-type polynomial. Thus, in order to uniquely determine a Lagrange interpolant over a subdomain we need ν reference points, which we shall take at the nodes of a grid over the subdomain: vertex nodes, equally spaced nodes on each of all the sides of the subdomain, and interior nodes. Since we associate here one degree of freedom with each node, the dimension of the finite-dimensional subspace M_N is precisely N or the total number of nodes in Ω .

2.3 Construction of Basis Functions

We make here a choice of a finite-dimensional subspace and construct a basis for it. With each node (global index i; $i=1,2,\ldots N$) in Ω we now associate a basis u_i which has the minimum support. That is, u_i vanishes outside the union of the finite elements (triangles and/or rectangles) to which the i-th node belongs. Furthermore, u_i assumes the value 1 at the i-th node and the value 0 at all other nodes within its support. It is easily verified that u_i is continuous across inter-element boundaries, so $u \in M_N$ implies $u \in C(\Omega)$, in which $C(\Omega)$ means a class of functions continuous over Ω .

Now we construct the basis function $u_i(r)$. The solution $\hat{\phi}_g(r)$ of the approximate problem described by Eq. (18) will be of the form:

$$\hat{\phi}_{g}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} q_{gi} u_{i}(\mathbf{r}), \qquad (19)$$

or the matrix expression is

$$\hat{\phi}(\mathbf{r}) = q\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r}), \tag{19a}$$

where

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} q_{11} & q_{12} & \cdots & q_{1N} \\ q_{21} & q_{22} & \cdots & q_{2N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ q_{G1} & q_{G2} & \cdots & q_{GN} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{19b}$$

$$\boldsymbol{u} = (u_1, u_2, \cdots u_N)^T. \tag{19c}$$

The coefficients q_{gi} , i=1, 2, ... N, in the expansion (19) represent the values of $\hat{\phi}_{g}(\mathbf{r})$ at the node, that is,

$$\hat{\phi}_{g}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) = q_{gi}, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots N.$$
 (20)

Our goal is now to determine the basis u in terms of the values of the nodal parameter q. The coefficient q is called the generalized coordinate in the finite element terminology.

We use triangle and rectangle for two-dimensional domain (prism and box for three-dimensional domain) as the shapes of the finite elements, as shown in **Fig. 2** (in **Fig. 3**). The nodal indices shown in **Figs. 2** and **3** are called the local indices written later. Their indices are numbered in counterclockwise order on the plane and the order does not generally coincide with the global indices (written as i or j).

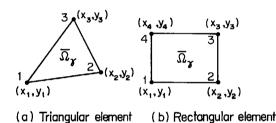
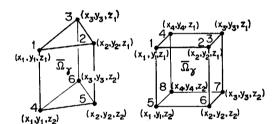


Fig. 2 Local node indices and their coordinates for two-dimensional finite elements.



(a) Prism-shape element (b) Box-shape element

Fig. 3 Local node indices and their coordinates for three-dimensional finite elements.

The solution $\hat{\phi}^r$ has the general form expressed with a polynomial of x and y for two-dimensional element (a polynomial of x, y and z for three-dimensional element):

$$\hat{\phi}_{g}^{\gamma}(x, y, z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\nu} a_{gk}^{\gamma} P_{k}(x, y, z) , \qquad (21)$$

or in matrix form by

$$\hat{\phi}^{\gamma}(x, y, z) = \mathbf{a}^{\gamma} \mathbf{P}(x, y, z), \qquad (21a)$$

where ν is, for instance, 3 for triangular element, 4 for rectangular element, 6 for prism-shaped element, and 8 for box-shaped element if applying the first degree polynomials. Then the basis function P(x, y, z) is expressed by

$$\mathbf{P}(x, y, z) = \mathbf{P}(x, y) = \begin{cases} (1, x, y)^T, & \text{for triangular element,} \\ (1, x, y, xy)^T, & \text{for rectangular element,} \end{cases}$$
(21b)

$$\mathbf{P}(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} (1, x, y, z, xz, yz)^T, & \text{for prism-shaped element,} \\ (1, x, y, z, xy, yz, zx, xyz)^T, & \text{for box-shaped element.} \end{cases}$$
 (21c)

Here, let $\bar{\Omega}_{\gamma}$ be the subdomain to which the *i*-th node (global index) belongs and let i(k) be the index corresponding to the *k*-th local index. On each subdomain $\bar{\Omega}_{\gamma}$, the basis function u_i is represented by, say u_i^r :

$$\mathbf{u}_{i}(x, y, z) = \mathbf{u}_{i(k)}^{\tau}(x, y, z), \quad \text{for} \quad (x, y, z) \in \bar{\Omega}_{\tau} \quad \text{and} \quad \tau \in \Gamma_{i},$$
 (22)

where Γ_i is the set of suffixes γ on $\bar{\Omega}_{\tau}$ to which the *i*-th node belongs. Using Eq. (22), Eq. (19) is rewritten as

$$\hat{\phi}_{g}^{r}(x, y, z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\nu} q_{gk}^{r} u_{i(k)}^{r}(x, y, z) , \qquad (23)$$

or in matrix form by

$$\hat{\phi}^{r} = q^{r} u_{i}^{r} . \tag{23a}$$

Now, we express the basis function u by the polynomial P(x, y, z). First, we define the following functional:

$$L_k[\hat{\phi}_q^{\gamma}] = \hat{\phi}_q^{\gamma}(x_k, y_k, z_k), \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots \nu.$$
 (24)

From Eq. (20), we must have the identity,

$$L_k[\hat{\phi}_q^r] = q_{qk}^r, \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots \nu,$$
 (25)

or in matrix form by

$$L(\hat{\phi}^{r})^{T} = (\boldsymbol{q}^{r})^{T}, \tag{25a}$$

where $L^T = (L_1, L_2, \dots L_{\nu})$.

Putting Eq. (21) into Eq. (23), we obtain

$$(\mathbf{q}^{\mathsf{r}})^{\mathsf{T}} = (\mathbf{L}\mathbf{P}^{\mathsf{T}})(\mathbf{a}^{\mathsf{r}})^{\mathsf{T}} \equiv \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{a}^{\mathsf{r}})^{\mathsf{T}}. \tag{26}$$

The matrix C is non-singular, so that

$$\boldsymbol{a}^{\mathrm{r}} = \boldsymbol{q}^{\mathrm{r}} (\boldsymbol{C}^{-1})^{\mathrm{T}}, \tag{27}$$

where

$$\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{P}^{T}(x, y, z). \tag{27a}$$

Putting Eq. (25) into Eq. (21), the result is given by

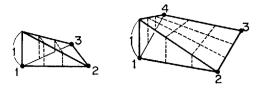
$$\hat{\phi}^{r} = \boldsymbol{q}^{r} (\boldsymbol{C}^{-1})^{T} \boldsymbol{P} \,. \tag{28}$$

Using Eq. (28) together with Eq. (23), we obtain finally the expression about u_i^r (x, y, z) as follows:

$$u_{i(k)}^{\gamma}(x, y, z) = \sum_{\ell=1}^{\nu} (C^{-1})_{\ell k} P_{\ell}(x, y, z), \qquad (29)$$

or in matrix form by

$$\mathbf{u}_{i}^{r}(x, y, z) = (\mathbf{C}^{-1})\mathbf{P}(x, y, z)$$
 (29a)



(a) Triangular element (b) Rectangular element

Fig. 4 Basis functions (at the first node) of linear Lagrange-type interpolant.

Here, on Ω_{τ} , u_i^{τ} is the unique Lagrange-type interpolant which has the value 1 at the i-th node and value 0 at all other nodes. Linear Lagrange-type interpolants are shown in Fig. 4. The concrete expressions of $u_i^{\tau}(x, y, z)$ for two- and three-dimensional finite elements are then represented, by writing $u_{i(k)}^{\tau}$ as u_k^{τ} , as follows:

$$u_{(1)}^{r}(x,y) = \frac{1}{J_{r}} \left\{ x_{2}y_{3} - x_{3}y_{2} + x(y_{2} - y_{3}) + y(x_{3} - x_{2}) \right\}$$

$$u_{(2)}^{r}(x,y) = \frac{1}{J_{r}} \left\{ x_{3}y_{1} - x_{1}y_{3} + x(y_{3} - y_{1}) + y(x_{1} - x_{3}) \right\}$$

$$u_{(3)}^{r}(x,y) = \frac{1}{J_{r}} \left\{ x_{1}y_{2} - x_{2}y_{1} + x(y_{1} - y_{2}) + y(x_{2} - x_{1}) \right\}$$
(30)

where

$$J_r = x_1(y_2 - y_3) + x_2(y_3 - y_1) + x_3(y_1 - y_2) \neq 0$$
,

and

$$u_{(1)}^{r}(x,y) = \frac{1}{K_{r}}(x-x_{2})(y-y_{2})$$

$$u_{(2)}^{r}(x,y) = \frac{1}{K_{r}}(x-x_{1})(y_{2}-y)$$

$$u_{(3)}^{r}(x,y) = \frac{1}{K_{r}}(x-x_{1})(y-y_{1})$$

$$u_{(4)}^{r}(x,y) = \frac{1}{K_{r}}(x-x_{2})(y_{1}-y)$$
(30a)

where

$$K_r = (x_2 - x_1)(y_2 - y_1) \not\equiv 0$$
.

The expressions for the prism- and box-shaped elements are written by using the above expressions of the triangular and rectangular elements, respectively:

$$u'_{(k)}(x, y, z) = \frac{z - z_2}{z_1 - z_2} u'_{(k)}(x, y)$$

$$u'_{(k+3)}(x, y, z) = \frac{z_1 - z}{z_1 - z_2} u'_{(k)}(x, y)$$
, $k = 1, 2, 3$, for prism-shaped element, (31)

and

$$u_{(k)}^{\lambda}(x, y, z) = \frac{z - z_2}{z_1 - z_2} u_{(k)}^{\tau}(x, y)$$

$$u_{(k+4)}^{\tau}(x, y, z) = \frac{z_1 - z}{z_1 - z_2} u_{(k)}^{\tau}(x, y)$$
, $k = 1, 2, 3, 4$, for box-shaped element. (31a)

These four finite elements were already referred to in Figs. 2 and 3.

2.4 Solution Algorithm in Galerkin Approximation

We start to determine the nodal parameters q of Eq. (19) by adopting the basis u_i ($i=1, 2, \ldots N$) constructed in the previous section as the trial function. Equation (17) is rewritten as

$$\mathbf{a}(\phi_a^{(n)}, u_i) = (\mathbf{F}^{(n-1)}, u_i) + \mathbf{K}_{ai}^{(n)}, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots N,$$
(32)

where n is the outer iteration index and

$$\boldsymbol{a}(\phi_{g}^{(n)}, u_{i}) = \int_{\Omega} \left[D_{g} \nabla \phi_{g}^{(n)} \cdot \nabla u_{i} + \Sigma_{r,g} \phi_{g}^{(n)} \cdot u_{i} \right] dV + \int_{\partial_{r}^{r} \Omega} \frac{b}{a} \phi_{g}^{(n)} \cdot u_{i} dS, \qquad (32a)$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{gi}^{(n)} = \int_{\Omega} [\Sigma^d \phi^{(n)}]_g u_i dV. \tag{32b}$$

Moreover, the fission source term F in Eq. (32) is expanded with the basis u_i as follows:

$$F_g^{(n)}(x, y, z) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} f_{gi}^{(n)} u_i(x, y, z), \qquad (32c)$$

or in matrix form,

$$F^{(n)}(x, y, z) = f^{(n)}u(x, y, z)$$
. (32d)

Substituting these expressions into Eq. (32), we obtain the following linear system equations for the generalized coordinates:

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N} q_{gi}^{(n)} a(u_j, u_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{N} f_{gi}^{(n-1)}(u_j, u_i) + K_{gi}^{(n)}, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, N,$$
 (33)

or in matrix form,

$$(\mathbf{q}^{(n)}\mathbf{A})_{gi} = (\mathbf{f}^{(n-1)}\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{K}^{(n)})_{gi}, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots N,$$
 (33a)

where \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are the following symmetric matrices:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a(u_1, u_1), & a(u_1, u_2), & \cdots & a(u_1, u_N) \\ a(u_2, u_1), & a(u_2, u_2), & \cdots & a(u_2, u_N) \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a(u_N, u_1), & a(u_N, u_2), & \cdots & a(u_N, u_N) \end{pmatrix},$$
(34)

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} (u_1, u_1), & (u_1, u_2), & \cdots & (u_1, u_N) \\ (u_2, u_1), & (u_2, u_2), & \cdots & (u_2, u_N) \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ (u_N, u_1), & (u_N, u_2), & \cdots & (u_N, u_N) \end{pmatrix},$$
(35)

and f is represented by using Eq. (10b) as

$$f^{(n-1)} = \left[\Sigma^{u} + \frac{1}{K_{cc}^{(n-1)}} \chi S \right] q^{(n-1)}.$$
 (36)

Consequently, we obtain the following equation from Eq. (32) is to determine the nodal parameters:

$$\mathbf{q}_{gi}^{(n)} = \left\{ \left[\left(\Sigma^{u} + \frac{1}{K_{\text{eff}}^{(n-1)}} \chi \mathbf{S} \right) \mathbf{q}^{(n-1)} \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{K}^{(n)} \right] \mathbf{A}^{-1} \right\}_{gi}, \qquad i = 1, 2, \dots, N,$$

$$\text{for } g = 1, 2, \dots, G,$$

$$(37)$$

and then K_{eff} is expressed by the following equation if Σ^u is zero,

$$K_{\text{eff}}^{(n)} = K_{\text{eff}}^{(n-1)} \frac{\sum_{g=1}^{G} \sum_{g'=1}^{G} \chi_g(\nu \Sigma_f)_{g'}(\hat{\phi}_g^{(n)}, \hat{\phi}_{g'}^{(n)})}{\sum_{g=1}^{G} \sum_{g'=1}^{G} \chi_g(\nu \Sigma_f)_{g'}(\hat{\phi}_g^{(n)}, \hat{\phi}_{g'}^{(n-1)})} \equiv K_{\text{eff}}^{(n-1)} \frac{S^T q^{(n)} B(q^{(n)})^T \chi}{S^T q^{(n-1)} B(q^{(n)})^T \chi}.$$
(38)

The solution $\hat{\phi}$ is thus obtained through Eq. (19).

2.5 Generation of the Coefficients in the Approximate Equation

We give here the concrete expressions of A, B, and K. Though the descriptions are mainly made for two-dimensional elements, the expressions for three-dimensional elements are easily derived with the help of the results for two-dimensional elements as shown afterwards.

We begin to describe **B**. An element B_{ii} in the symmetric matrix **B** is given by,

$$B_{ij} = \int_{\Omega} u_i u_j dx dy . \tag{39}$$

Therefore the value of B_{ij} is non-zero only when the global node indices i and j belong to the same sub-domain Ω_{τ} according to the property of the basis function u. Consequently B_{ij} is expressed by

$$B_{ij} = \sum_{\tau \in \Gamma_{ij}} B_{ij(k\ell)}^{\tau}, \tag{40}$$

where

$$B_{ij(k\ell)}^r = \int_{g_r} u_{i(k)}^r u_{j(\ell)}^r dx dy \tag{40a}$$

and Γ_{ij} denotes the set of indices (γ) of the elements $(\bar{\Omega}_{\gamma})$ which belong to the intersection of the domains of u_i and u_i . The meaning of indices i(k) and $j(\ell)$ was already described in Eq. (22).

We start on the triangular element. In order to most efficiently calculate $B_{ij(k\ell)}^r$, we map the triangle Ω_{τ} onto a standard canonical triangle, say T_0 . Let Ω_{τ} have the vertices, (x_1, y_1) , (x_2, y_2) and (x_3, y_3) , and let T_0 have the vertices (0, 0), (1, 0) and (0, 1). This mapping is easily performed by linear transformations $x=a_1+b_1\xi+c_1\eta$ and $y=a_2+b_2\xi+c_2\eta$. Then by solving these equations about the constants a_1, b_1, \ldots , we obtain the following equations:

$$x = x_1 + (x_2 - x_1)\xi + (x_3 - x_1)\eta$$

$$y = y_1 + (y_2 - y_1)\xi + (y_3 - y_1)\eta,$$
(41)

and the inverse mapping is given by

$$\xi = \frac{1}{J_{\tau}} \{ (-x_1 y_3 + x_3 y_1) + (y_3 - y_1) x + (x_1 - x_3) y \}$$

$$\eta = \frac{1}{J_{\tau}} \{ (x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1) + (y_1 - y_2) x + (x_2 - x_1) y \},$$
(42)

where

$$J_{7} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial \xi}, & \frac{\partial x}{\partial \eta} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial \xi}, & \frac{\partial y}{\partial \eta} \end{vmatrix} = (x_{1} - x_{2})(y_{1} - y_{3}) - (x_{1} - x_{3})(y_{1} - y_{2}), \qquad (42a)$$

which is the Jacobian or the functional determinant.

After the linear transformation (written with tilde ~), we obtain the following equations:

$$\tilde{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \xi_1 & \eta_1 \\ 1 & \xi_2 & \eta_2 \\ 1 & \xi_3 & \eta_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$
(43)

$$\tilde{C}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},\tag{44}$$

and

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \xi \\ \eta \end{pmatrix}. \tag{45}$$

Accordingly, the basis function $\tilde{u}_{i(k)}^{r}(\xi,\eta)$ corresponding to Eq. (29) is given by

$$\tilde{u}_{i(k)}(\xi, \eta) = a_k + b_k \xi + c_k \eta$$
, for $k = 1, 2, 3$, (46)

where

$$a_1 = 1$$
, $b_1 = -1$, $c_1 = -1$,
 $a_2 = 0$, $b_2 = 1$, $c_2 = 0$, (46a)
 $a_3 = 0$, $b_3 = 0$, $c_3 = 1$.

By using these expressions, Eq. (40) leads to the following expression:

$$B_{ij(k\ell)}^{r} = \int_{\Omega_{I}^{r}} u_{i(k)}^{r} u_{j(\ell)}^{r} dx dy$$

$$= \int_{T_{0}} \bar{u}_{i(k)} \bar{u}_{j(\ell)} |J_{I}| d\xi d\eta$$

$$= \int_{0}^{1} d\xi \int_{0}^{1-\xi} \bar{u}_{i(k)} \bar{u}_{j(\ell)} |J_{I}| d\eta$$

$$= \frac{1}{24} |(x_{1} - x_{2})(y_{1} - y_{3}) - (x_{1} - x_{3})(y_{1} - y_{2})|$$

$$\times (12a_{k}a_{\ell} + 2b_{k}b_{\ell} + 2c_{k}c_{\ell} + 4\overline{a_{k}b_{\ell}} + \overline{b_{k}c_{\ell}} + 4\overline{c_{\ell}a_{k}}), \quad \text{for } k, \ell = 1, 2, 3, \tag{47}$$

where $\overline{a_k b_\ell} = a_k b_\ell + a_\ell b_k$.

Thus, after some algebraic maniplations we obtain the final expression about B as follows:

$$\mathbf{B}^{r} = \frac{J_{r}}{24} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{for triangular element},$$
 (48)

where J_{τ} was already defined by Eq. (42a). Similarly, we obtain

$$\mathbf{B}^{r} = \frac{K_{r}}{36} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 \\ \text{symmet.} & 4 & 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{for rectangular element}, \tag{49}$$

where $K_r = (x_1 - x_2) (y_1 - y_2)$.

Next, we derive the expressions for three-dimensional elements. Since the three-dimensional interpolant Eq. (31) is factorized into the axial and planar components:

$$u_{i(k)}^{r}(x, y, z) = f_{i(k)}(z)u_{i(k)}^{r}(x, y),$$
(50)

the expressions B^r corresponding to Eqs. (48) and (49) for the three-dimensional elements are represented by

$$\mathbf{B}_{ij(k\ell)}^{r} = \int_{z_{1}}^{z_{2}} f_{i(k)}(z) f_{j(\ell)}(z) dz \cdot \int_{a_{1}} u_{i(k)}^{r}(x, y) u_{j(\ell)}^{r}(x, y) dx dy .$$
 (51)

As the result of planar integral in the right hand side of Eq. (51) has already been obtained as Eq. (48) or (49), the concrete expressions of Eq. (51) are easily written as follows:

$$\mathbf{B}^{r} = \frac{J_{\tau}^{r}}{144} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} & \mathbf{V} \\ \mathbf{V} & \mathbf{U} \end{pmatrix}$$
, for prism-shaped element, (52)

where

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 \\ \text{symmet.} & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{52a}$$

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \\ \text{symmet.} & 2 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{52b}$$

and

$$J'_{r} = (z_2 - z_1) \cdot J_{r}$$
 (52c)

$$\mathbf{B}^{r} = \frac{K_{r}^{\prime}}{216} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U}^{\prime} & \mathbf{V}^{\prime} \\ \mathbf{V}^{\prime} & \mathbf{U}^{\prime} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{for box-shaped element},$$
 (53)

where

$$U' = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 4 & 2 & 4 \\ 8 & 4 & 2 \\ 8 & 4 \\ \text{symmet.} & 8 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{53a}$$

$$V' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 \\ & 4 & 2 \\ symmet & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{53b}$$

and

$$K_r' = (z_2 - z_1)K_r$$
 (53c)

The expressions of J_{γ} and K_{γ} in the above equations were already described in Eqs. (42a) and (49), respectively.

We now describe the concrete expression of the symmetric matrix A, Eq. (34) The matrix element is expressed with the help of Eq. (32a) as

$$A_{ij} = \int_{o} [D\nabla u_i \cdot \nabla u_j + \Sigma_r u_i u_j] dx dy, \qquad (54)$$

where the last term for the boundary condition on the right hand side of Eq. (32a) is excluded because Eq. (32a) can be solved for the generalized coordinate q for the natural boundary conditions since they are

satisfied automatically in the Galerkin approximation. For the non-natural conditions, the q's must be constrained to satisfy the conditions.

The value of A_{ij} is non-zero only if the domain to which u_i and u_j belong is common on the finite element. By assuming that reactor parameters D, Σ_r, \ldots are constant within a finite element, Eq. (54) is rewritten as

$$A_{ij} = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma_{ij}} A^{\gamma}_{ij(k\ell)}, \qquad (55)$$

$$A_{ii(k\ell)}^{\gamma} = DQ_{ii(k\ell)}^{\gamma} + \sum_{r} B_{ii(k\ell)}^{\gamma} \tag{56}$$

and

$$Q_{ij(k\ell)}^{\gamma} = \int_{\Omega_{\tau}} \nabla u_{i(k)}^{\gamma} \nabla u_{j(\ell)}^{\gamma} dx dy . \qquad (57)$$

The values of $B_{ij(k\ell)}^r$ for triangular, rectangular, prism and box finite elements were already given by Eqs. (48), (49), (52) and (53), respectively.

The $Q_{k\ell}^r$'s (writing $Q_{ij(k\ell)}^r$ as $Q_{k\ell}^r$ for simplicity) are obtained through the linear transformation in a way similar to obtaining $B_{ij(k\ell)}^r$.

For the two-dimensional triangular element, we use the identity:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} + \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta}$$

$$= \frac{1}{J_T} \left[(y_3 - y_1) \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} + (y_1 - y_2) \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \right]$$
(58)

and

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{J_r} \left[(x_1 - x_3) \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} + (x_2 - x_1) \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \right]. \tag{58b}$$

Thus we obtain

$$Q_{k\ell}^{\tau} = \frac{1}{J_{\tau}^{2}} \int_{T_{0}} \left[\left\{ b_{k}(y_{3} - y_{1}) + c_{k}(y_{1} - y_{2}) \right\} \cdot \left\{ b_{\ell}(y_{3} - y_{1}) + c_{\ell}(y_{1} - y_{2}) \right\} \right. \\ \left. + \left\{ \left(b_{k}(x_{1} - x_{3}) + c_{k}(x_{2} - x_{1}) \right\} \cdot \left\{ b_{\ell}(x_{1} - x_{3}) + c_{\ell}(x_{2} - x_{1}) \right\} \right] J_{\tau} d\xi d\eta \\ = \frac{1}{J_{\tau}} W_{k\ell} \int_{0}^{1} d\xi \int_{0}^{1 - \xi} d\eta = \frac{1}{2J_{\tau}} W_{k\ell}, \quad \text{for} \quad k, \ell = 1, 2, 3,$$
 (59)

where

$$W_{k\ell} = b_k b_{\ell} [(y_3 - y_1)^2 + (x_1 - x_3)^2] + c_k c_{\ell} [(y_1 - y_2)^2 + (x_2 - x_1)^2]$$

+ $b_k c_{\ell} [(y_3 - y_1)(y_1 - y_2) + (x_1 - x_3)(x_2 - x_1)],$ (59a)

or by rearranging, we get

$$Q_{7} = \frac{1}{2J_{7}} \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{\alpha} (\alpha_{2} - \alpha_{3})^{2}, & -\sum_{\alpha} (\alpha_{1} - \alpha_{3})(\alpha_{2} - \alpha_{3}), & -\sum_{\alpha} (\alpha_{1} - \alpha_{2})(\alpha_{3} - \alpha_{2}) \\ & \sum_{\alpha} (\alpha_{3} - \alpha_{1})^{2}, & -\sum_{\alpha} (\alpha_{3} - \alpha_{1})(\alpha_{2} - \alpha_{1}) \\ & \sum_{\alpha} (\alpha_{1} - \alpha_{2})^{2} \end{pmatrix},$$
symmetric
$$\sum_{\alpha} (\alpha_{1} - \alpha_{2})^{2}$$
for triangular element, (60)

where \sum_{x} denotes the summation over x and y like

$$\sum_{\alpha} (\alpha_2 - \alpha_3)^2 = (x_2 - x_3)^2 + (y_2 - y_3)^2.$$

$$Q^{r} = \frac{1}{6K_{r}} \begin{pmatrix} 2X+2Y, & X-2Y, & -X-Y, & -2X+Y \\ & 2X+2Y, & -2X+Y, & -X-Y \\ & & 2X+2Y, & X-2Y \\ \text{symmetric} & & 2X+2Y \end{pmatrix}, \text{ for rectangular element } (61)$$

where $X=(x_2-x_1)^2$ and $Y=(y_2-y_1)^2$.

We can obtain Q^r for the three-dimensional elements in a similar manner to B^r . The $Q^r_{k\ell}$ is given by

$$Q_{k\ell}^{r} = \int_{z_{1}}^{z_{2}} dz f_{i(k)}(z) f_{j(\ell)}(z) \cdot \int_{\Omega_{r}} \left[\frac{\partial u_{i(k)}^{r}(x,y)}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u_{j(\ell)}^{r}(x,y)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u_{i(k)}^{r}(x,y)}{\partial y} \frac{\partial u_{j(\ell)}^{r}(x,y)}{\partial y} \right] dx dy$$

$$+ \int_{z_{1}}^{z_{2}} dz \frac{df_{i(k)}(z)}{dz} \frac{df_{j(\ell)}(z)}{dz} \int_{\Omega_{r}} u_{i(k)}^{r}(x,y) u_{j(\ell)}^{r}(x,y) dx dy$$

$$= Q_{k\ell}^{r(2)} \int_{z_{1}}^{z_{2}} f_{i(k)}(z) f_{j(\ell)}(z) dz + B_{k\ell}^{r(2)} \int_{z_{1}}^{z_{2}} \frac{df_{i(k)}}{dz} \frac{df_{j(\ell)}}{dz} dz , \qquad (62)$$

where $Q_{k\ell}^{r(2)}$ and $B_{k\ell}^{r(2)}$ are respectively $Q_{k\ell}^r$ and $B_{k\ell}^r$ for the two-dimensional elements already described. Consequently, we have the following concrete expressions for the three-dimensional elements:

$$\mathbf{Q}^{r} = \frac{1}{24J_{r}'} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} & \mathbf{V} \\ \mathbf{V} & \mathbf{U} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{for prism-shaped element},$$
 (63)

where

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 4ZQ_{11} + 2J_{r}^{2}, & 4ZQ_{12} + J_{r}^{2}, & 4ZQ_{13} + J_{r}^{2} \\ & 4ZQ_{22} + 2J_{r}^{2}, & 4ZQ_{23} + J_{r}^{2} \\ \text{symmetric} & 4ZQ_{33} + 2J_{r}^{2} \end{pmatrix},$$
(63a)
$$V = \begin{pmatrix} 2ZQ_{11} - 2J_{r}^{2}, & 2ZQ_{12} - J_{r}^{2}, & 2ZQ_{13} - J_{r}^{2} \\ & 2ZQ_{22} - 2J_{r}^{2}, & 2ZQ_{23} - J_{r}^{2} \\ \text{symmetric} & 2ZQ_{33} - 2J_{r}^{2} \end{pmatrix},$$
(63b)

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} 2ZQ_{11} - 2J_{r}^{2}, & 2ZQ_{12} - J_{r}^{2}, & 2ZQ_{13} - J_{r}^{2} \\ & 2ZQ_{22} - 2J_{r}^{2}, & 2ZQ_{23} - J_{r}^{2} \end{pmatrix},$$
(63b)
symmetric
$$2ZQ_{33} - 2J_{r}^{2}$$

and $Z=(z_2-z_1)^2$, and Q_{ii} (i, j=1, 2, 3) is given by Eq. (60) without the factor $1/(2J_r)$. In addition,

$$Q^r = \frac{1}{36K_r'} \begin{pmatrix} U' & V' \\ V' & U' \end{pmatrix}$$
, for box-shaped element,

where

$$U' = \begin{pmatrix} 4Z(X+Y) + 4XY, & 2Z(X-2Y) + 2XY, & -2Z(X+Y) + XY, & -2Z(2X-Y) + 2XY \\ & 4Z(X+Y) + 4XY, & -2Z(2X-Y) + 2XY, & -2Z(X+Y) + XY \\ & 4Z(X+Y) + 4XY, & 2Z(X-2Y) + 2XY \\ & & 4Z(X+Y) + 4XY \end{pmatrix},$$
(64a)

$$V' = \begin{pmatrix} 2Z(X+Y) - 4XY, & Z(X-2XY) - 2XY, & -Z(X+Y) - XY, & -Z(2X-Y) - 2XY \\ & 2Z(X+Y) - 4XY, & -Z(2X-Y) - 2XY, & -Z(X+Y) - XY \\ & 2Z(X+Y) - 4XY, & Z(X-2Y) - 2XY \\ \text{symmetric} & 2Z(X+Y) - 4XY \end{pmatrix},$$
(64b)

where $X=(x_2-x_1)^2$, $Y=(y_2-y_1)^2$ and $Z=(z_2-z_1)^2$.

With these expressions B^{γ} and Q^{γ} , we obtain A^{γ} from

$$A^{\tau} = DQ^{\tau} + \Sigma_{\tau} B^{\tau} \tag{56a}$$

Finally we describe the scattering source matrix K in Eq. (37). We start from the two-dimensional elements. The matrix element K_{gl} is written as

$$K_{gi} = \int_{\Omega_{\tau}} (\Sigma^{d} \hat{\phi})_{g} u_{i} dx dy$$

$$= \int_{g'=1}^{g-1} \int_{\Omega_{\tau}} \Sigma^{d}_{g'g}(x, y) \hat{\phi}_{g} \cdot u_{i} dx dy$$

$$= \int_{g'=1}^{g-1} \sum_{j=1}^{N} q_{g'j} \int_{\Omega_{\tau}} \Sigma^{d}_{g'g}(x, y) u_{i} u_{j} dx dy$$

$$= \int_{g'=1}^{g-1} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \Sigma^{d}_{g'g} q_{g'j} B_{ji}, \qquad (65)$$

where

$$B_{ij} = \int_{\Omega_T} u_i u_i dx dy$$

$$= \sum_{\tau \in \Gamma_{i,i}} {}^{\tau} B_{ij(k\ell)}^{\tau}. \tag{65a}$$

Thus we obtain the following matrix expression:

$$(K)_{gi} = (\Sigma^d q B^r)_{gi}$$
, for two-dimensional elements, (65b)

and the concrete expressions of B^r were already described by Eqs. (48) and (49).

We obtain the same expression for the three-dimensional elements in a similar way as for the twodimensional elements,

$$K_{gi} = \sum_{g'=1}^{g-1} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{g'g} Q_{g'j} B_{ji}, \qquad (66)$$

where

$$B_{ji} = \int_{Q_T} u_j(x, y, z) u_i(x, y, z) dx dy dz.$$
 (66a)

Thus,

$$(\mathbf{K})_{gi} = (\Sigma^d \mathbf{q} \mathbf{B}^{\gamma})_{gi}. \tag{66b}$$

where the concrete expressions of B^{γ} wer already described by Eqs. (52) and (53).

3. Three-Dimensional Computer Program FEM-BABEL

The program is all written in the FORTRAN-IV language for implementing on the FACOM 230/75 operating system. Significant features are summarized as follows;

- (i) Arbitrary combination of the prism-and box-shaped elements is adopted for simulating reactor geometry. Use of two types of the elements will give more geometrical flexibility and save the computer storage by taking account of the symmetry appropriate to the geometry.
- (ii) Successive over-relaxation (SOR) method is adopted for solving the system equation having a large and sparse coefficient matrix. Taking advantage of the feature (i), the data transmission is performed on each x-y plane and then the point SOR is applied successively to the plane.
- (iii) Inner iterations are accelerated by using the coarse mesh rebalancing technique and the power iterations to solve eigenvalue problems are accelerated by adopting the extrapolation by SOR.
- (iv) Use of free field FIDO input form, complete restarting procedure, automatic mesh generation routine and so on will give users a help to prepare the input data more easily.
- (v) Any down-scattering of neutrons is allowed, but up-scattering and region-dependent fission spectrum are not permitted.
- (vi) Free and reflective boundary conditions can be imposed but logarithmic boundary condition can not be.
- (vii) FEM-BABEL has special mesh generator program for PWR calculations.²⁸⁾

3.1 Solution of the System Equation by the Relaxation Method

In this section, we derive the matrix expression of the total system and then describe the equation two-dimensionally because of the use of the prism-and box-shaped elements. That is, it is shown that the equation is solved by applying SOR successively to x-y planar layers.

The system equation to be solved is rewritten from the result of Galerkin approximation in the following form:

$$[H]^{g} \cdot \phi^{g} = S^{g}, \quad \text{for } g = 1, 2, \cdots G,$$
 (67)

where

$$[H]^{g} = D^{g}[Q]^{r} + \Sigma_{r}^{g}[B]^{r} \quad (cf. Eq. (56)),$$
 (67a)

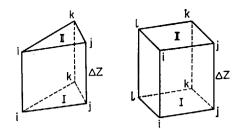
$$S^{g} = \frac{1}{K_{\text{eff}}} \chi^{g} \sum_{g'} [\mathbf{F}]^{\gamma,g'} \phi^{g'} + \sum_{g'} [\mathbf{K}]^{\gamma,g'g} \phi^{g'}, \qquad (67b)$$

$$[\mathbf{F}]^{r,o'} = (\nu \Sigma_f)^{o'} [\mathbf{B}]^r, \tag{67c}$$

$$[\mathbf{K}]^{\gamma,\sigma'\sigma} = \Sigma_{s}^{\sigma'\sigma}[\mathbf{B}]^{\gamma}, \tag{67d}$$

and $[Q]^r$ and $[B]^r$ are the integrals over finite elements, Q^r and B^r , already shown in Chapter 2 (see also the following Eqs. (68) and (68a)) and γ is the supercript which shows the prism- or box-shaped element.

The local node indices of both the elements are ordered on x-y planar layers as shown in Fig. 5. Since the three-dimensional $[Q]^{\gamma}$ and $[B]^{\gamma}$ have already been described by two-dimensional ones in



(a) Prism-shape elment (b) Box-shape element

Fig. 5 Local node indices on x-y planar layers.

Chapter 2, the matrices in Eq. (67) are written by the submatrices having planar indices:

$$[\mathbf{Q}]^r = \begin{pmatrix} Q_I & P_I \\ P_I & O_I \end{pmatrix} \tag{68}$$

and

$$[\mathbf{B}]^r = \begin{pmatrix} B_I & D_I \\ D_I & B_I \end{pmatrix}. \tag{68a}$$

Consequently we obtain the expressions for [H], [F] and [K] as follows:

$$[\boldsymbol{H}] = \begin{pmatrix} A_I & C_I \\ C_I & A_{II} \end{pmatrix},\tag{69}$$

$$[F] = \begin{pmatrix} F_I & G_I \\ G_I & F_{II} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{69a}$$

and

$$[K] = \begin{pmatrix} S_I & R_I \\ R_I & S_{II} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{69b}$$

where

$$A_{I} = A_{II} = DQ_{I} + \Sigma_{r}B_{I},$$

$$C_{I} = DP_{I} + \Sigma_{r}D_{I},$$

$$F_{I} = F_{II} = (\nu \Sigma_{f})B_{I},$$

$$G_{I} = (\nu \Sigma_{f})D_{I},$$

$$S_{I} = S_{II} = \Sigma_{S}B_{I},$$

$$R_{I} = \Sigma_{S}D_{I},$$
(69c)

In addition, Q_I , P_I , B_I and D_I are expressed by two-dimensional submatrices as shown in Chapter 2:

$$P_I = \Delta z \cdot \mathbf{Q}^{r} - \frac{1}{\Delta^z} \cdot \mathbf{B}^{r}, \qquad (70)$$

$$Q_I = 2 \cdot \Delta z \mathbf{Q}^r + \frac{1}{\Delta z} \cdot \mathbf{B}^r \,, \tag{70a}$$

$$B_I = 2 \cdot D_I, \tag{70b}$$

$$D_I = \frac{1}{6} \cdot \Delta z \cdot \mathbf{B}^r \,, \tag{70c}$$

where B^{r} and Q^{r} are the two-dimensional ones shown in Eqs. (48) (49), (60) and (61).

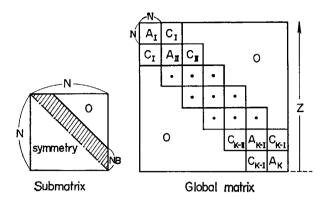


Fig. 6 Structure of the global matrix.

Our ultimate object is to solve Eq. (67). Here we investigate the property of the coefficient matrices. The submatrices are symmetric banded matrices as follows:

$$[A] = A(NB, N), \tag{71}$$

$$[C] = C(NB, N), (71a)$$

where NB and N stand respectively for the half band width and the total dimension as shown in Fig. 6.

The global matrix [H] is composed of these submatrices and has the tridiagonal structure shown also in Fig. 6. Considering the structure and the rather large dimensions of the global matrix and the submatrices, it is pertinent to solve Eq. (67) by the successive over-relaxation method (SOR)³⁴⁾ that has less storage limitations to computers.²⁵⁾

The inner iterations with SOR are performed in the core memory successively for each planar layer. That is, if t is the inner iteration index, i and j nodal indices and I plane index,

$$\phi_{i,I}^{(t+1)} = \phi_{i,I}^{(t)} + \beta(\phi^* - \phi_{i,I}^{(t)}), \tag{72}$$

where

$$\phi^* = A_I(1, i)^{-1}(S_{i,I} - X_i - Y_i - Z_i), \qquad (72a)$$

$$X_{i} = \sum_{j=2}^{NB} A_{I}(j, L_{j}) \phi_{L_{j}, I}^{(t+1)} + \sum_{j=2}^{NB} A_{I}(j, i) \phi_{M_{j}, I}^{(t)},$$
(72b)

$$Y_{i} = \sum_{j=2}^{NB} C_{I-1}(j, L_{j}) \phi_{L_{j}, I-1}^{(t+1)} + \sum_{j=1}^{NB} C_{I-1}(j, i) \phi_{M_{j}, I-1}^{(t+1)},$$
(72c)

$$Z_{i} = \sum_{j=2}^{NB} C_{I}(j, L_{j}) \phi_{L_{j}, I+1}^{(t)} + \sum_{j=1}^{NB} C_{I}(j, i) \phi_{M_{j}, I+1}^{(t)},$$
 (72d)

for
$$L_j = i - (j-1)$$
 $(L_j \ge 1)$, $M_j = i + (j-1)$ $(M_j \le N)$,

and $\phi_{LJ,I}^{(t)}$ is the neutron flux for node L_i within plane I at t-th iteration. The β is the relaxation factor and it is approved by the Ostrowski theorem that the iterations converge for $0 < \beta < 2.34$

3.2 Acceleration Techniques and Convergence Criteria

The outer iterations are accelerated by the extrapolation of the SOR because of less storage requirements for computers. If P_i is the fission source at a nodal point i and P^* the value normalized by the eigenvalue (K_{eff}) , we obtain

$$P_i = \frac{1}{K_{\text{eff}}} P_i^* \tag{73}$$

where

$$K_{\mathrm{eff}} = \int_{\mathrm{reactor}} P_i^* \, dV$$
 and $P_i^* = \sum\limits_{g=1}^G (\nu \Sigma_f)_g \phi_i^g$

If n is the outer iteration index and $(P'_i)^{(n+1)}$ the point fission source calculated by the n-th flux, then we obtain

$$P_i^{(n+1)} = P_i^{(n)} + \beta_s((P_i')^{(n+1)} - P_i^{(n)}), \tag{74}$$

and by calculating

$$K_{\mathrm{eff}}^{(n+1)} = \int P_i^{(n+1)} dV,$$

we get finally

$$(P_i^*)^{(n+1)} = \frac{1}{K_{\text{eff}}^{(n+1)}} \cdot P_i^{(n+1)}.$$

The $(P_i^*)^{(n+1)}$ is the extrapolated fission source for the next outer iteration. This acceleration is adopted after the 4-th outer iteration and continues until the effect of acceleration satisfies the criterion ERR $\leq 10 \times$ EPS1, where ERR is $|K_{\text{eff}}^{(n)} - K_{\text{eff}}^{(n+1)}|/K_{\text{eff}}^{(n+1)}$ and EPS1 the input for the outer interation criterion written later in Section 3.7.

The inner iterations are accelerated by the coarse mesh rebalancing technique.³⁵⁾ This technique is adopted neither for the one coarse mesh region nor for the case when satisfying the following condition. That is, let K be the number of the coarse mesh regions and f_k the rebalancing factor for the region k, then the condition is given by

$$|1.0 - f_{\text{max}}| \le 0.01, \tag{75}$$

where $f_{\text{max}} = \max\{f_1, f_2, \dots, f_K\}$

The algorithm of the coarse mesh rebalancing technique is as follows. If ψ_i is the accelerated point flux, it is given by

$$\psi_i = \phi_i \sum_{k=1}^K f_k R_k , \quad \text{for } 1 \le i \le N ,$$
 (76)

where

$$R_k = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for } i \in k, \\ 0, & \text{for } i \notin k. \end{cases}$$

The rebalancing factor $\{f\}$ is calculated as follows. The weight function $\{w\}$ is defined by

$$W_{j} = \begin{cases} \phi_{j}, & \text{for } j \in k, \\ 0, & \text{for } j \notin k, \end{cases} \quad \text{for } 1 \le j \le N.$$
 (77)

Multiplying Eq. (67) by W_j , putting the resulting residual to zero and substituting Eq. (76) into the obtained equation, we get

$$[H]^*\{f\} = \{S\}^*, \tag{78}$$

where

$$H_{kl}^* = \sum_{i} \sum_{j} \phi_i H_{ij} \phi_j, \quad \text{for} \quad i \in k, j \in \ell,$$
 (78a)

and

$$S_k^* = \sum_i \phi_i S_i. \tag{78b}$$

Equation (78) is solved by the direct method (Gaussian elimination)³⁶⁾.

Determination of the band width is also important for solving Eq. (67), because it affects the computer storage and computation time. If the nodal indices are numbered on plane as shown in Fig. 5-(b) for instance, then the half band width NBAND (=NB of Eq. (71)) is determined by

$$NBAND = \max \{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n, \dots, B_{NELEM}\}, \qquad (79)$$

where NELEM is the number of finite elements on the plane and

$$B_n = \max \left\{ \alpha_l, \alpha_j, \alpha_k, \alpha_\ell \right\}, \tag{79a}$$

in which

$$\alpha_i = |i-j|+1$$
, for cyclic i, j, k and ℓ . (79b)

If the user mistakes input for NBAND, the edited print for input data messages the correct NBAND calculated by the above algorithm.

Finally we describe the convergence criteria. The program recognizes and stops when the following two convergence criteria are satisfied. The inner iterations continue until the number of iterations reaches a given inner maximum (NIMAX) or the following criterion is satisfied in SOR iteration t for an energy group:

$$\left| \frac{\phi^{(t+1)} - \phi^{(t)}}{\phi^{(t)}} \right| \le \text{EPS 2 (input)}. \tag{80}$$

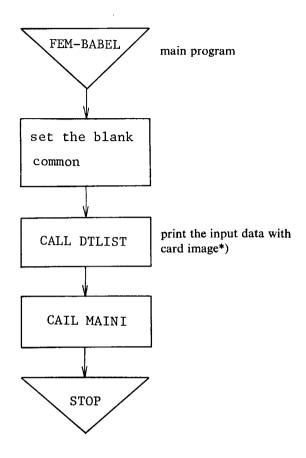
After the above conditions are satisfied, the calculation is transmitted to next energy group.

On the other hand the outer iterations continue until the number of iterations reaches a given maximum (NOMAX) or the following criterion is satisfied for the eigenvalue K_{eff} in the outer iteration n,

$$\left| \frac{K_{\text{eff}}^{(n+1)} - K_{\text{eff}}^{(n)}}{K_{\text{eff}}^{(n+1)}} \right| \le \text{EPS 1 (input)}. \tag{80b}$$

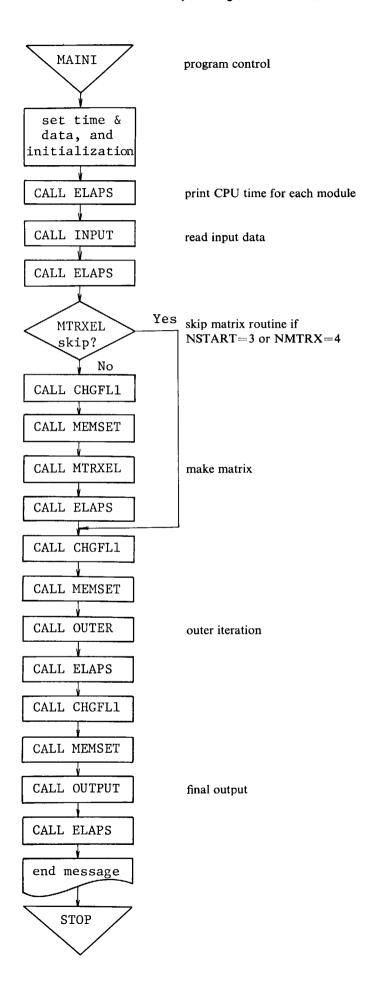
3.3 Flow Diagrams of Programs

i) FEM-BABEL

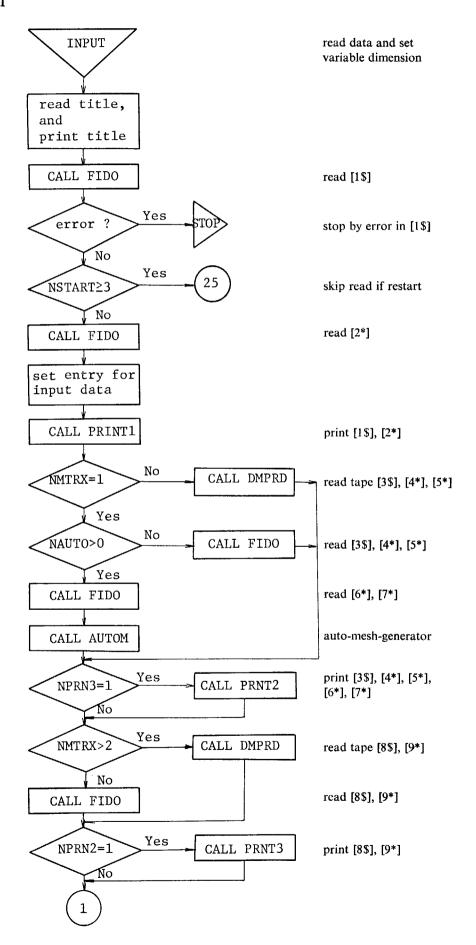


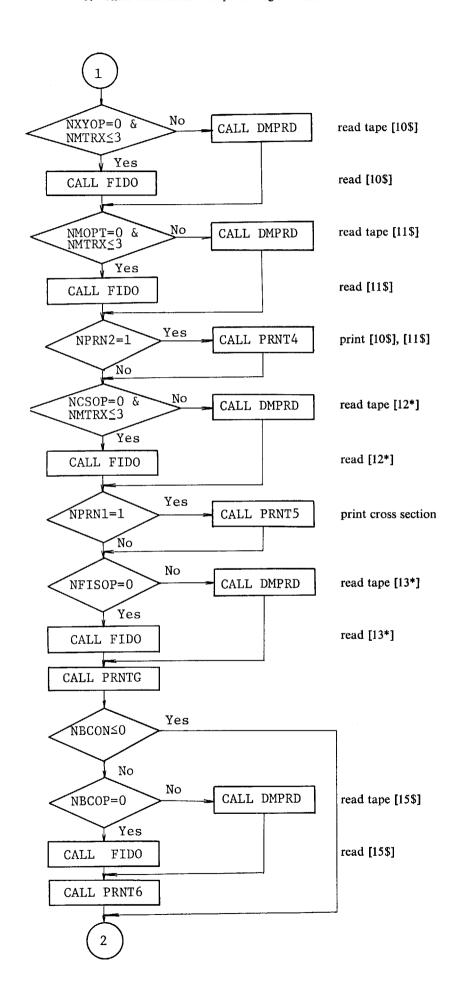
^{*)} The program which prints the data with the very card image after reading, was programed by H. Ryufuku and registered already in JSSL³⁷⁾.

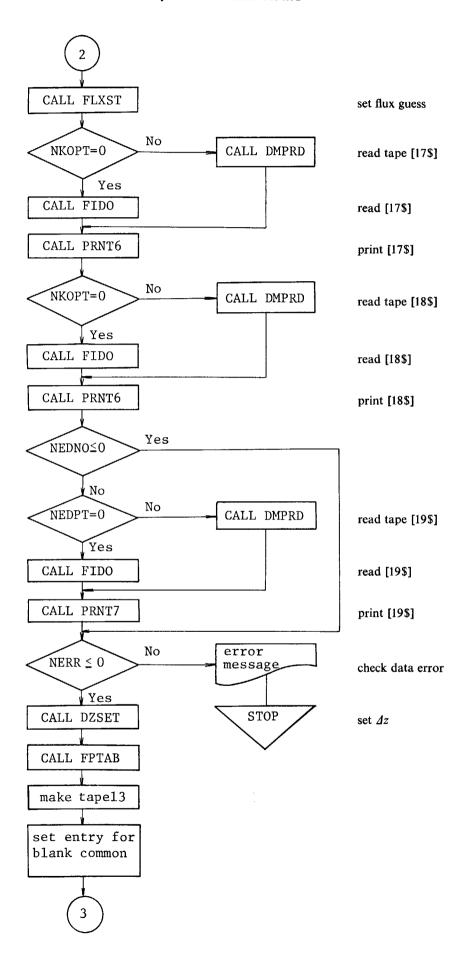
ii) MAINI

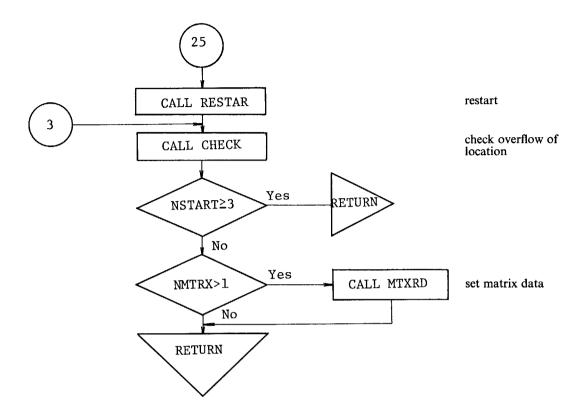


iii) INPUT

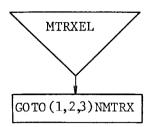




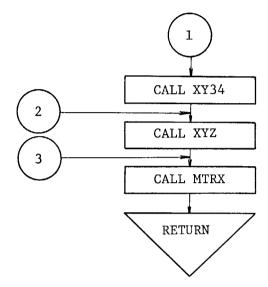


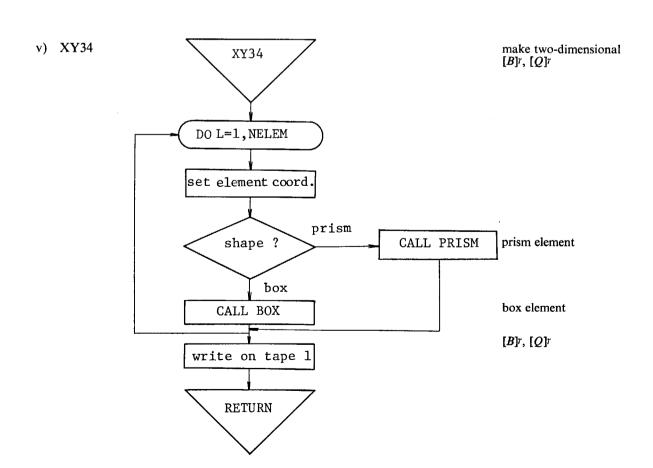


iv) MTRXL

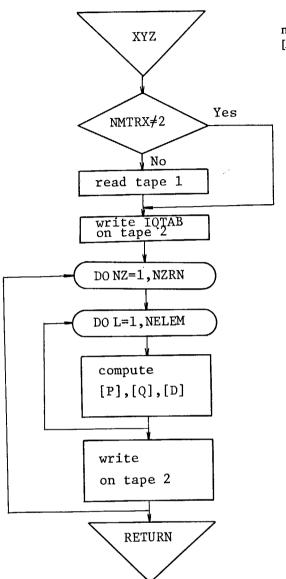


control the routine making matrices



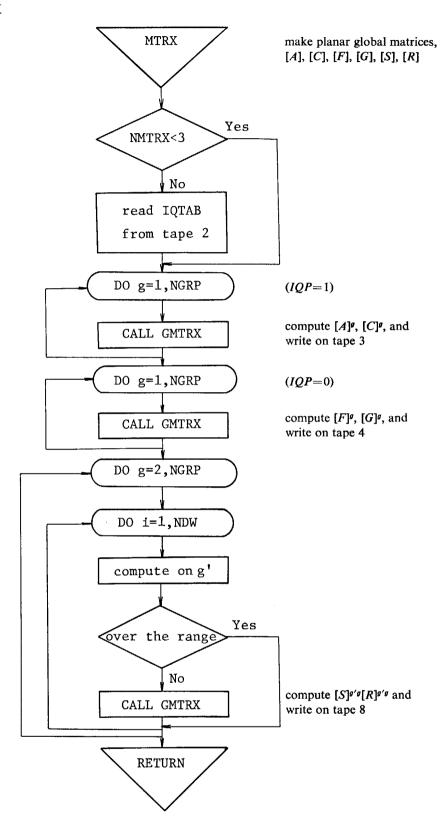


vi) XYZ

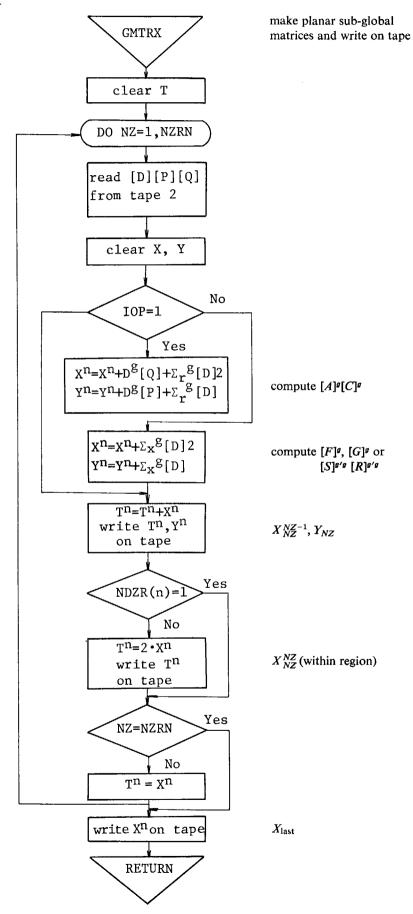


make three-dimensional [P], [Q], [D] and write on tape

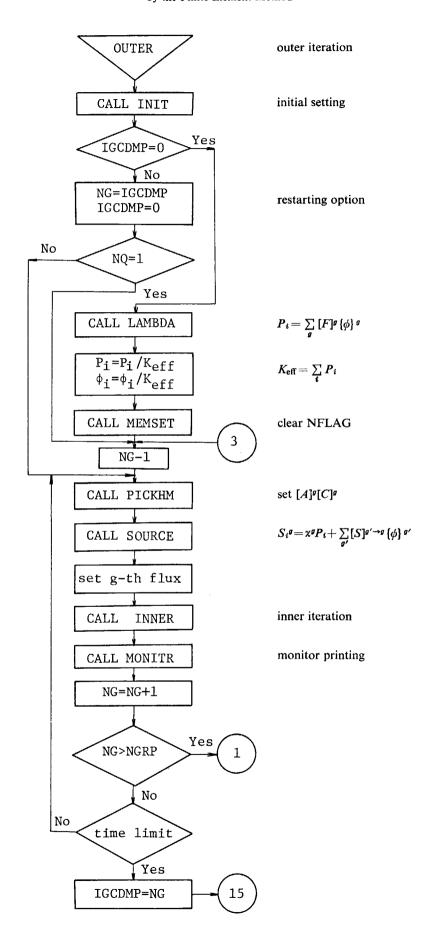
vii) MTRX

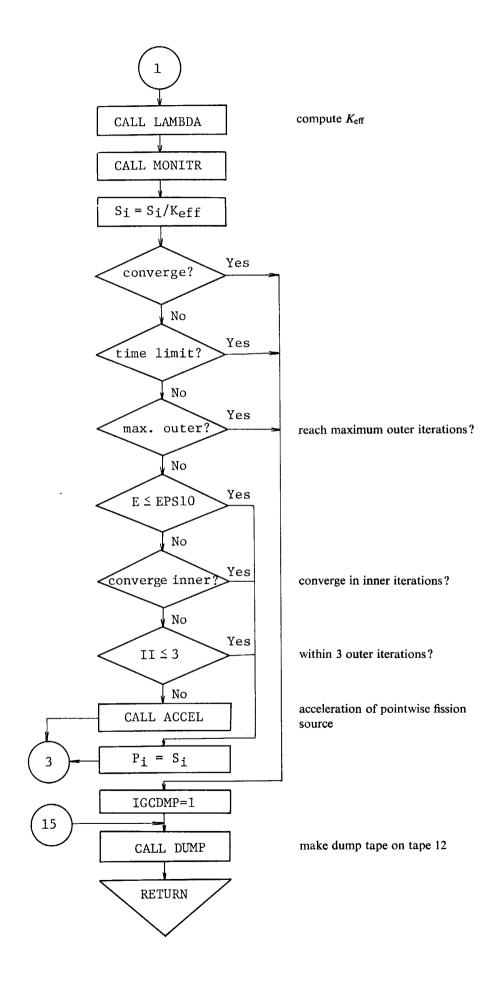


viii) GMTRX

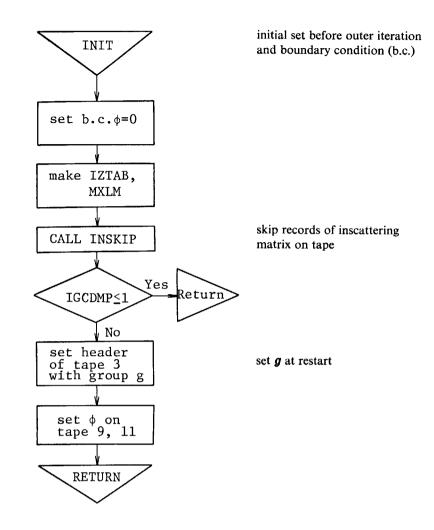


ix) OUTER

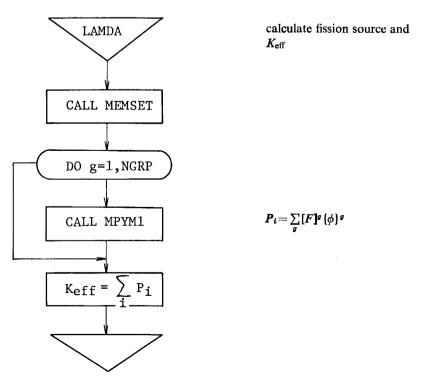




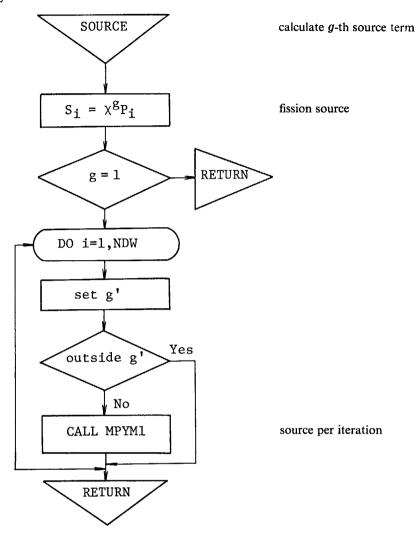
x) INIT



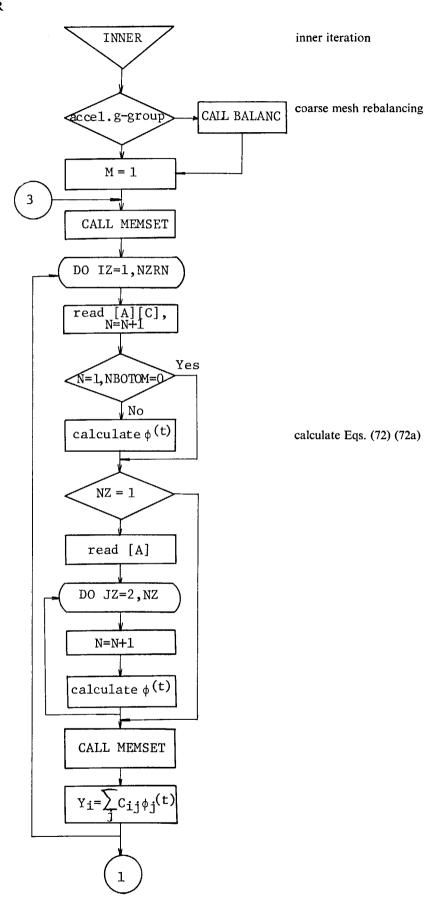
xi) LAMDA

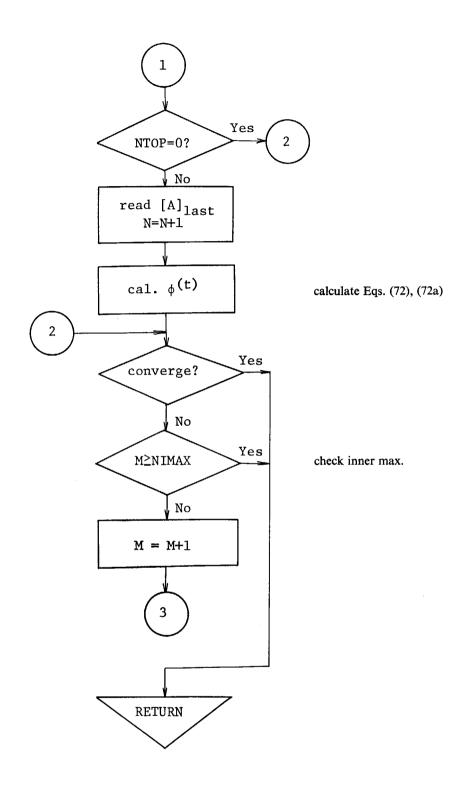


xii) SOURCE

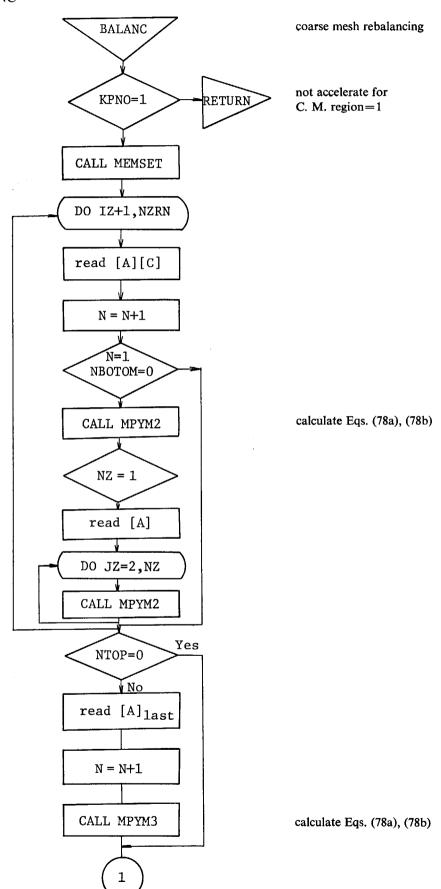


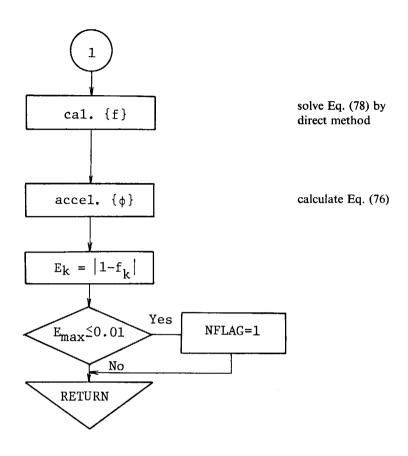
xiii) INNER



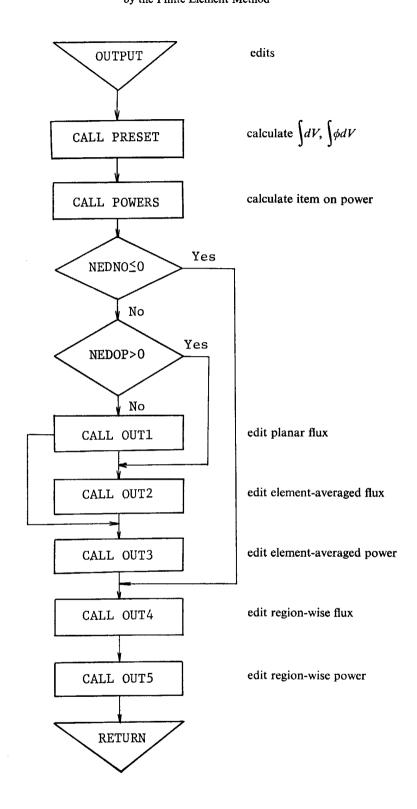


xiv) BALANC





xx) OUTPUT



3.4 Descriptions of FIDO Input Form

The FIDO input format used in the FEM-BABEL has been widely used since it was developed at ORNL and has been adopted in the neutron transport programs ANISN, DOT³⁸⁾ and so on. The input form is specially devised to allow the entering or modifying large data arrays with minimum labor. The options for repeated data and for symmetric data are especially of advantage to the finite element computer program. Accordingly, users may easily prepare data cards compactly if they are familiar with the FIDO format.

Fixed Field Input

Each card is divided into six 12-column data fields, each of which is divided into three subfields, as shown in Fig. 7. Three subfields are always composed of 2, 1, and 9 columns, respectively. To begin with the first array of a data block, an array originator is placed in any field on a card as follows:

Subfield 1: An integer array identifier (<100) specifying the data array to read.

Subfield 2: An array type indicator,

"\$" if the array is integer data,

"*" if the array is real data,

Subfield 3: Blank.

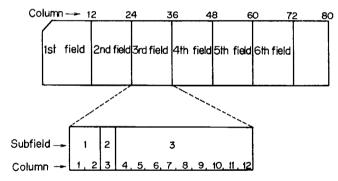


Fig. 7 Preparation of a data card in the FIDO format.

Data are then placed in successive fields until the required number of entries has been entered. In entering the data, it is convenient to think of a "pointer" which is under control of the user, and which specifies the position in the array into which the next data entry is to go. The pointer is always positioned at the first location of the array by entering the array originator field. The pointer subsequently moves according to the data operator chosen. Blank fields neither cause any data modification nor move the pointer.

Data field

It has the following form:

Subfield 1: The data numerator (an integer <100). This entry is referred to as N_1 in the following explanation.

Subfield 2: One of the special data operators listed below.

Subfield 3: A nine-character data entry, to read in F9.0 format. It will be converted to an integer if the array is a "\$" array or if a special array operator such as "Q" is used. Note that an exponent is permissible but not required. Likewise, a decimal is permissible but not required. If no decimal is supplied, it is assumed to be immediately to the left of the

exponent, if any, and otherwise to the right of the last column. This entry is referred to as N_3 in the following description.

Data operators and their effect on the array are as follows:

- "Blank" indicates a single entry of data. The data entry in the 3rd subfield is entered in the location indicated by the pointer, and then the pointer is advanced by one. However, an entirely blank field is ignored.
- "+" or indicates exponentiation. The data entry in the 3rd field is multiplied by $10^{\pm N1}$, where "-" where N_1 is the data numerator in the 1st subfield, and the sign is indicated by the data operator itself. The pointer is advanced by one. In a case where an exponent is needed, this option allows the entering of more significant figures than the blank option.
- "R" indicates that the data entry is to be repeated N_1 times. The pointer is advanced by N_1 .

 "I" indicates linear interpolation. The data numerator, N_1 , indicates the number of interpolated points to be supplied. The data entry in the 3rd subfield is entered, followed by N_1 interpolated entries equally spaced between that value and the data entry found in the 3rd subfield of the next non-blank field. The pointer is thus advanced by (N_1+1) . The field following an "I" field is processed normally according to its own data operator. The "I" entry is especially valuable for specifying a spatial mesh. In "\$" arrays, interpolated values will be rounded to the nearest integer.
- "Q" is used to repeat sequences of numbers. The length of the sequence is given by (N_1+N_3) . A sequence of (N_1+N_3) is repeated one time only and the pointer is advanced by (N_1+N_3) . This feature is especially valuable for geometry specification such as regions.
- "N" indicates an inverse repetition of sequence of numbers analogously to "Q" except that the sequence is repeated in the inverse order.
- "M" has the same effect as "N" but the sign of each entry in the sequence is reversed in addition.
- "S" indicates that the pointer is to skip N_1 positions leaving those array positions unchanged. If the 3rd subfield is non-blank, then data entry is entered following the skip and the pointer is advanced by (N_1+1) .
- "A" moves the pointer to the position N_3 specified in the 3rd subfield.
- "F" fills the remainder of the array with the datum entered in the 3rd subfield.
- "E" skips over the remainder of the array. The array length criterion is always satisfied by an "E", no matter how many entries have been specified. No more entries to an array may be given following an "E" except that data entry may be restarted with an "A".
- "Z" causes (N_1+N_3) locations to be set to 0. The pointer is advanced by (N_1+N_3) .

The reading of data to an array is terminated when a new array originator field is supplied, or when the block is terminated. If an incorrect number of positions has been filled, an error edit is given and a flag is set to abort later the execution of the problem. The FIDO then continues with the next array if an array originator was read but otherwise it returns control to the calling program.

A block termination consists of a field having "T" in the 2nd subfield. All entries following "T" on a card are ignored and control is returned from FIDO to the calling program.

Special Field Input

If the user follows the array identifier in the array originator field with the character "U", "V", "W" or "X" in the 2nd subfield, the input format can be selected by the user. If one of these characters is speci-

fied, the FORMAT explained below must be supplied in columns 1-72 of the next card. Then the data for the entire array must follow on successive cards. If the array data do not fill the last card, the remainder must be left blank. In a field with "U", "V", "W" or "X" the 3rd subfield must be left blank.

"U"	inputs the following cards in the format (6E12.5).
"V"	inputs the following cards in the format 4 (1X, E16.9, 1X).
"W"	inputs the variable format data with (18A4) in the next card. In the following cards
	the data are read according to the specified format.
"X"	inputs the data in the following cards according to the variable format already read as
	type "W".

3.5 Use of Restarting Procedures

The FEM-BABEL cannot run different problems successively. However, the restart procedure is designed to effect the continuation of the iterative process terminated in a previous run by saving the dump tape (tape 12; restarting procedure). In the restarting procedure, one can use optional data by taking out of the dump tape, for an example, the nuclear cross section data and/or the pointwise flux, etc.

The restart is specified by NSTART=3 or 4 in the input card "1\$" and the calculation is continued following the last iteration in the previous run.

A. Complete restarting with NSTART=3

User should input "title" card and "1\$" card only and specify "NSTART=3" in the "1\$" card. All the data (the fluxes, the node points, the nuclear cross sections etc.) are read to be used as input data and/or initial guess fluxes from the dump tape.

B. Modified restarting with NSTART=4

This restarting procedure is to modify partial data which does not change the program flow and then to restart. One should input "title" card, "1\$" card, and "2*" card. The data in the last run is taken for unmodified data. The data which can be modified are for the following items (see Section 3.7): 12., 13., 22., 23., 24., 25., 26., 27., 33., in "1\$" card and 1., 2., 3., 4., 5., 6., 7. in "2*" card.

3.6 I/O File Unit Requirements

The contents in each tape file unit are described in the following, including those in the dump tape.

Unit No.	Contents
1	Geometrical matrix data for each element on $x-y$ plane; record 1: $((B^r(i, \ell), Q^r(i, \ell), i=1, 10), IQTAB(\ell), \ell=1, NELEM)$, record 2: $(\Delta S(\ell), \ell=1, NELEM)$
2	Geometrical 3-dimensional matrix data for each z mesh and region; record 1: (IQTAB (ℓ) , $\ell=1$, NELEM), record $2\sim$ record NZRN+1: ($(D(i,\ell), P(i,\ell), Q(i,\ell), i=1, 10), \ell=1$, NELEM)
3	$x-y$ plane global matrix data of every z region for each energy group, that is, A^g (NBAND, NPOINT), C^g (NBAND, NPOINT);

4	F^g (NBAND, NPOINT), G^g (NBAND, NPOINT), and fission source term. The same form as for file unit 3.
5	Card input
6	Print output
7	Not used
8	Scattering term in the same form as for file unit 3: $S^{g' \to g} \text{ (NBAND, NPOINT), } R^{g' \to g} \text{ (NBAND, NPOINT) up to maximum NDW in the following order.}$ $ \leftarrow 1 \to \leftarrow 2 \to \qquad \leftarrow g \to $ $ S, R \mid S, R \mid S, R \mid \cdots \mid S, R \mid \cdots \mid S, R \mid$ $ 1 \to 2 1 \to 3 2 \to 3 1 \to g (\leq \text{NDW} + 1) g - 1 \to g$
9	Point-wise fluxes are written for each energy group and this file is used also as the external tape for initial flux guess; record $1 \sim \text{record NGRP}$: ((FLUX $(i, j), i=1, \text{NPOINT}$), $j=1, \text{NZMAX}$)
10	Temporary file. It is used at the inner iterations for $[A]^g$ and $[C]^g$.
11	Temporary file for fluxes (the same contents as in file unit 9)
12	Dump tape. See 17. and 18. in the card B in Section 3.7
13	It is used for restarting or constant data at editing.
14	It is used only as the external tape for the geometrical $x-y$ element data. For instance, it is directly read from the edit file of LOOM- P^{28})

No.	Record	Contents of the dump tape	Description
1	1	M12 (22)	Flag for reading the dump tape
2	1	A (1)-A (260)	Entry table and input constants
3	1	"3\$", "4*", "5 * "	Geometrical data of x-y plane
4	1	" 8 \$", "9*"	Geometrical data of z mesh
5	1	"10\$"	Regional data on x-y plane
6	1	"11\$"	Material table
7	1	"12*"	Cross section data
8	1	"13*"	x data
9	1	"15\$"	Data of the zero flux boundary conditions; it is skipped if NBCON≤0
10	1~NGRP	FLUX (NPOINT, NZMAX)	fluxes
11	1	"17\$"	x-y planar data for coarse mesh rebalancing
12	1	"18\$"	z mesh data for coarse mesh rebalancing
13	1	"19\$"	Data for editing flux
14	1	PS (NPOINT, NZMAX)	Point fission source
15	1	DZRN (NZRN)	Az for each axial region; record 1 of file unit 13
16*)	1	MFPI1 (NXYRN)	Point table for each region; record 2 of file unit 13
17*)	1	MFPI2 (MPOINT)	Point table for each region; record 3 of file unit 13
18	1	NFLAG (NGRP)	Flag for convergence performance of g-th group
19	1	\mathbf{B}^{r} , \mathbf{Q}^{r} , \mathbf{IQTAB}	Record 1 of file unit 1
	2	ΔS	Record 2 of file unit 1
20	1	IQTAB	Record 1 of file unit 2
	$2\sim$ NZRN+1	D, P, Q	Record 2 of file unit 2
21	$1\sim$ MXLM	A, C	Copy of file unit 3
22	$1\sim$ MXLM	F, G	Copy of file unit 4
23	1~MXLS	S, R	Copy of file unit 8

^{*)} If NEDOP>0, it does not have these contents.

3.7 Input Specifications

The input data array for FEM-BABEL is read using the FIDO input system described in Section 3.4 except for "title" card. The data arrays are organized into blocks, which are terminated by a "T" delimiter as explained already. The FEM-BABEL does not permit to run the successive cases of 3-dimensional calculations, since they need too much computer time even on today's computers. However, the code has the various restarting functions in order to save the computer time as described in Section 3.5. An input example is shown in Appendix together with necessary control cards for the execution.

A. Title card

one card; format (18A4)

B. Integer data

1\$ [33 parameters]

- 1. NGRP number of energy groups
- 2. NDW maximum number of groups for down-scatterings
- 3. NPOINT number of node points on x-y plane
- 4. NZMAX number of node points along z direction
- 5. NELEM number of elements on x-y plane
- 6. NXYRN number of geometrical regions on x-y plane
- 7. NZRN number of geometrical regions along z direction
- 8. MTT number of materials
- 9. NBCON number of node points with the zero flux boundary condition on x-y plane
- 10. NBOTOM bottom boundary condition;

0: zero flux,

1: reflective

11. NTOP top boundary condition;

0: zero flux,

1: reflective

- 12. NIMAX inner iteration maximum allowed for energy group
- 13. NOMAX outer iteration maximum for execution stop
- 14. NBAND half bandwidth in the global matrix (see Section 3.2)
- 15. NKXY number of coarse mesh rebalancing regions on x-y plane
- 16. NKZ number of coarse mesh rebalancing regions along z direction
- 17. NSTART starting option for initial guess for flux;

0: flat,

- 1: guess read from the external tape (file unit 9),
- 2: guess read from the dump tape (file unit 12),
- 3: complete restarting from the dump tape (file unit 12),
- 4: modified restarting from the dump tape (file unit 12)

18. NMTRX option for matrix calculation;

- 1: calculate all the matrices for a new case,
- 2: read the geometrical matrix on x-y plane from the dump tape (file unit 12),
- 3: read the 3-dimensional geometrical matrix from the dump tape (file unit 12),
- 4: read all the global matrices from the dump tape (file unit 12)

		-,
19.	NPRN1	print option for the material cross sections;
		0: no print,
		1: print
20.	NPRN2	print option for regional data;
		0: no print,
		1: print
21.	NPRN3	print option for elements and coordinates;
		0: no print,
		1: print
22.	NXYOP	input option for regional data on x-y plane;
		0: by cards,
		1: from the dump tape
23.	NMOPT	input option for material number data;
		0: by cards,
		1: from the dump tape
24.	NCSOP	input option for nuclear cross section data;
		0: by cards
		1: from the dump tape
25.	NFISOP	input option for χ data;
		0: by cards,
		1: from the dump tape
26.	NBCOP	input option for zero flux boundary condition data;
		0: by cards,
		1: from the dump tape
27.	NKOPT	input option for the coarse mesh rebalancing region data;
		0: by cards,
		1: from the dump tape
28.	NAUTO	option for auto-mesh generating routine (on x-y plane);
		0: not used (input by cards),
		1: generate grid meshes all composed of right angle triangles,
		2: generate grid meshes all composed of rectangles,
		3: read from the external tape (file unit 14)
29.	NXP1	number of node points along x direction for auto-mesh generating routine
30.	NYP1	number of node points along y direction for auto-mesh generating routine
31.	NEDOP	edit option for flux;
		0: edit the point-wise fluxes on x-y planes,
		1: edit the element-averaged fluxes on x-y planes,
		2: edit the element-averaged fluxes on z meshes
32.	NEDNO	number of edit fluxes for x - y planes or z meshes; the number of z meshes with x - y
		planes for edit x-y plane fluxes, or the number of x-y points with z meshes for edit
		z mesh fluxes
33.	NEDPT	input option for parameter 32, NEDNO;
		0 1 1

0: by cards,

1: from the dump tape

```
"T" terminator
```

C. Floating point data

2* [7 parameters] (input for NSTART ≠ 3 in "1\$" card)

- 1. EPS1 criterion for outer iteration convergence (K_{eff})
- 2. EPS2 criterion for inner iteration convergence (point-wise flux)
- 3. SORF over-relaxation factor β due to SOR method; $1.0 \le SORF \le 2.0$
- 4. POWER operating power level in megawatts for normalizing fluxes
- 5. TIME CPU execution time limit in minutes
- 6. FA1 coefficient on geometrical symmetry of a nuclear reactor for power-normalized fluxes (such as 1/FA1-reactor core)
- 7. FA2 number of nuclear fissions per watt-sec $(1/K_f)$, see also Section 3.9)
- "T" terminator

D. Geometrical data

point data on x-y plane (input for NMTRX=1 and NAUTO=0 "1\$" card)

3\$ NELNO (4, NELEM)

input the number of the node points which compose an element in anticlockwise, put NELNO (3, NE)=NELNO (4, NE) for a triangular element

4* PX (NPOINT)

input x-coordinate on each node point

5* PY (NPOINT)

input y-coordinate on each node point

"T" terminator

data for auto-mesh generating routine (input for NMTRX=1 and NAUTO>0)

6* XNODE (NXP1)

distance from center to each mesh-division in x-coordinate

7* YNODE (NYP1)

distance from center to each mesh-division in y-coordinate

"T" terminator

z mesh data (input for NMTRX \leq 2)

8\$ NDZR (NZRN)

number of divisions in each region in z-direction (from bottom)

9* ZNODE (NZRN)

region width in each region in z-direction (from bottom)

"T" terminator

regional data on x-y plane (input for NXYOP=0 and NMTRX \leq 3)

10\$ NXYGN (NELEM)

assign the region number on each element

"T" terminator

E. Material data

material table (input for NMOPT=0 and NMTRX≤3 in "1\$" card)

11\$ NMRGN (NXYRN, NZRN)

assign the material number on each region (from bottom)

"T" terminator

cross section data (input for NCSOP=0 and NMTRX≤3)

12* CS (IHM, NGRP, MTT)

input macroscopic cross sections on each energy group for every material; within a group, the order of data in cross section tables is:

Position	Entry
1	\sum_f^{g}
2	D^g
3	$ u \sum_f^g$
4	\sum_{a}^{g}
5	$\sum_{s}^{g \to g+1}$
6	$\sum_{s}^{g \to g+2}$
•	
•	•
•	•
IHM	$\sum_{s}^{g \to g + NDW}$

where NDW is the number of groups for down-scatterings

"T" terminator

F. Fission spectrum (input for NFISOP=0 in "1\$" card)

13* AKAI (NGRP)

input the energy-wise χ^g in order of $g=1, 2, \ldots$ NGRP

"T" terminator

G. Data for the zero flux boundary condition on x-y plane (input for NBCOP=0 and NBCON>0 in "1\$" card)

15\$ NBPOT (NBCON)

input all the numbers of node points with the zero flux boundary condition

"T" terminator

H. Data for coarse mesh rebalancing region (input for NKOPT=0 in "1\$" card)

x-y plane data

17\$ KRPNT (NPOINT)

assign the coarse mesh rebalancing region number to each node point

"T" terminator

z mesh data

18\$ KZRN (NZRN)

assign the coarse mesh rebalancing region number to each region (from bottom)

"T" terminator

I. Edit data (input for NEDNO>0 and NEDPT=0 in "1\$" card)

19\$ NEDTB (NEDNO)

position table of edited fluxes or powers for specifying;

the node point numbers in the z direction for NEDOP=0 (from bottom), or the mesh (element) numbers in z direction for NEDOP=1 (from bottom), or the element numbers on x-y plane for NEDOP=2.

It is noted that the power in z meshes is edited even for NEDOP=0 at power edit.

"T" terminator

3.8 Operating Instructions

Since the variable dimension in the blank common is adopted in FEM-BABEL, users must determine the amount of data storage required for a problem in the program in order to use the computer efficiently as well as to prevent the storage from overflowing.

The required amount of data storage space, MEMORY, is given by MEMORY=PL+BLK, where PL, the program size which contains the labeled common, is 41 kilowords on the FACOM 230/75 operating system. The BLK, the length of blank common, is given by

BLK=INPUT+max {MTRXEL, OUTER, OUTPUT},

where INPUT, MTRXEL, OUTER and OUTPUT are the lengths of blank common in their modules, respectively. Usually user can refer to the memory arrangement printed at the beginning of the edit as shown in **Table 1**. Otherwise, one can calculate the length of blank common in each module as follows:

INPUT=260+6×NELEM+NPOINT (3+NZMAX)+NZRN (4+NXYRN)+NGRP+NBCON+ NEDNO+IHM×NGRP×MTT,

 $MTRXEL=31\times NELEM+3\times NBAND\times NPOINT$,

 $OUTER = KPNO \times KPNO1 + 2 \times NPOINT (NZMAX + NBAND + 1) + 2 \times NGRP,$

OUTPUT=NELEM $(3 \times NZMAX-2)+NXYRN (1+NZRN (7+2 \times NGRP))+NGRP$.

Module name	Required size (words)	Allowed size (words)	
INPUT	25125	100000	
MTRXEL	86584	100000	
OUTER	98844	100000	
OUTPT	82508	100000	

Table 1 Memory arrangement edited as an example on FACOM 230/75 computer

3.9 Edits

Input edit

Following the title, the edit prints the input data B., C., D., E., F., H., and I. explained in Section 3.7. The table for the memory arrangement is printed at the end.

Output edit

It begins with editing the convergence performance (on K_{eff} and flux) and the calculation time for each outer iteration. Additional edits are described in the following (i=node point, g=energy group, e=element and r=region),

i) point-wise fluxes normalized by power for each region $(\phi_i^{*,g})$;

$$\phi_i^{*,g} = \alpha \phi_i^g$$
,

where

$$\alpha = \frac{\text{POWER} \times 10^6 \times \text{FA2}}{\text{FA1} \times \int_{\text{core}} \sum_{g} \sum_{f}^{g} \phi^g dV}$$

(see "2*" in Section 3.7 for POWER, FA1 and FA2).

ii) point-wise powers (PP_i) ;

$$PP_i = \sum_{g} \Sigma_f^g \phi_i^{*,g}$$
.

iii) element-averaged fluxes and powers $(\bar{\phi}_e^{*,g}, \overline{PP}_e)$;

$$\tilde{\phi}_e^{*,g} = \frac{\int_e \phi^{*,g} dV}{\int_e dV},$$

$$\overline{PP}_e = \frac{\int_e PPdV}{\int_e dV}.$$

iv) region-wise edit;

regional volume: $V_r = \sum_{e \in r} \int_e dV$,

regional power: $PR_r = \sum_{q \in r} \int_{Q} PPdV$,

regional volume-averaged flux: $AF_r^g = \frac{1}{V_r} \sum_{e \in r} \int_e \phi^{*,g} dV$,

regional maximum flux: $FM_r^g = \max\{\phi_i^{*,g}: i \in r\}$,

regional maximum power: $PM_r = \max\{PP_i: i \in r\}$,

regional flux peaking factor: $PFF_r^g = \frac{FM_r^g}{AF_r^g}$,

regional power peaking factor: $PFP_r = PM_r \cdot \frac{V_r}{PR_r}$.

v) edit for total system

system volume: $V = \sum_{r} V_{r}$,

system power: $POW = \sum_{r} PR_{r}$,

system flux peaking factor: $PFF = FMAX - \frac{V}{\int_{\text{system}} \phi^{*,g} dV}$

system power peaking factor: $PFP = PMAX \frac{V}{POW}$,

where FMAX and PMAX are the maximum point flux and the maximum point power in the system, respectively. In addition, the element numbers and the mesh numbers in z direction are edited for maximum point powers.

The descriptions about error message are omitted as they are self-explanatory in the code.

4. Program Application and Comparison with Other Methods

The main purpose of this chapter is to establish the reliability of FEM-BABEL. For this purpose we have treated in Section 4.1 a homogeneous cubic reactor problem which is exactly solvable and in Section 4.2 a modified IAEA three-dimensional problem for comparison with the finite difference calculations. Comparisons have been made for the eigenvalues, power distributions, convergences of outer and inner iterations, computer storage requirements and computation time.

In discussion of the power distributions, the element-averaged powers (see Chapter 3.9) are used since the finite difference program CITATION³⁹⁾ adopts the central difference scheme. Program sizes are 41 kilowords for FEM-BABEL and 60 kilowords for CITATION on the FACOM 230/75 operating system. The calculations are performed with 3 and 4 inner interactions per outer iteration for the 1st and 2nd problems, respectively, for both the programs. Material constants used for these test problems are listed in **Table 2** (see also **Fig. 12** for the corresponding material number of the IAEA problem).

Problem		Energy group		D_g (cm)	$ u^{\sum_{f,g}} (cm^{-1}) $	$\sum_{a,g}$ (cm ⁻¹)	$\Sigma_{s,g,g+1} \atop (\text{cm}^{-1})$	χ_g	Comment
Exact problem ⁵⁾	1	1 2	$1.2334 \times 10^{-2} \\ 1.0080 \times 10^{-2}$				$4.0792 \times 10^{-2} \\ 0.0$	0.575 0.425	Core
	2		0.0 0.056	1.50 0.40	0.0 0.135	0.01 0.08	0.02 0.0	_	Fuel 1
			0.0 0.056	1.50 0.40	0.0 0.135	0.01 0.085	0.02 0.0	1.0 0.0	Fuel 2
IAEA problem ³³⁾	3		0.0 0.056	1.50 0.4	0.0 0.135	0.01 0.13	0.02 0.0	_	Fuel 2 +absorber
	4	_	0.0 0.0	2.0 0.3	0.0	0.0 0.01	0.04 0.0		Reflector
	5		0.0 0.0	2.0 0.3	0.0 0.0	0.0 0.055	0.04 0.0	-	Reflector +absorber

Table 2 Material constants for the test problems

4.1 Verification of the Program through Exact Solution

In order to verify the computer program FFM-BABEL, it will be best to deal with an analytically solvable problem. We therefore consider here a homogeneous cubic reactor in a two-energy-group model. The reactor configuration is illustrated in Fig. 8. In this case, the multigroup diffusion equation is exactly solvable. Now, set $\Omega = \{(x, y, z) : 0 < x < L, 0 < y < L, 0 < z < L\}$, and the system of Eq. (1) takes the form:

$$-D_{1}\Delta\phi_{1} + \Sigma_{r,1}\phi_{1} = \frac{1}{K_{\text{eff}}} \chi_{1}[(\nu\Sigma_{f})_{1} + (\nu\Sigma_{f})_{2}\phi_{2}],$$

$$-D_{2}\Delta\phi_{2} + \Sigma_{r,2}\phi_{2} = \Sigma_{s,12}\phi_{1} + \frac{1}{K_{\text{eff}}} \chi_{2}[(\nu\Sigma_{f})_{1}\phi_{1} + (\nu\Sigma_{f})_{2}\phi_{2}],$$
(81)

for $(x, y, z) \in \Omega$, with the boundary conditions

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\phi_{\mathfrak{g}}(0,x,z) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\phi_{\mathfrak{g}}(x,0,z) = \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\phi_{\mathfrak{g}}(x,y,0), \qquad (81a)$$

$$\phi_g(L, x, z) = \phi_g(x, L, z) = \phi_g(x, y, L) = 0,$$
(81b)

for $(x, y, z) \in \partial \Omega$, and g=1, 2.

If we set $B^2=3$ $(\pi/2L)^2$ and $E_g=D_gB^2+\Sigma_{r,g}$ for g=1, 2, then the multiplication factor $K_{\rm eff}$ is given by the expression

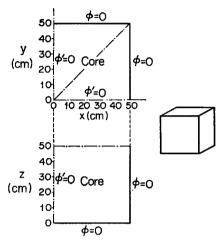


Fig. 8 Reactor configuration of the exact problem.

Table 3 Comparison between the numerical and analytical values of the multiplication factor for the exact problem

				Mesh si	ize		
	Analytical value	2	2 cm		5 cm	1	0 cm
		$K_{ m eff}$	Relative error	$K_{ m eff}$	Relative error	K_{eff}	Relative error
DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF	,,,,,,	1.33537*	0.010%	1.33473*	0.058%	1.33211*	0.25%
FEM-BABEL	1.335506	_	-	1.33478	0.054%	_	_
CITATION		1.33562	0.009%	1.33623	0.054%	1.33842	0.22%

^{*} With octant symmetric configuration

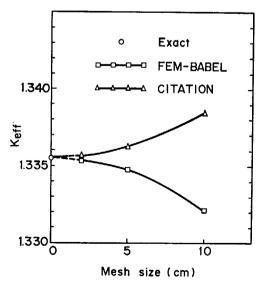


Fig. 9 Comparison of Keff between FEM-BABEL and CITATION as a function of mesh refinements.

Table 4 Comparison between the numerical and analytical values of the power distribution for the mesh size of 2 cm

							x (cm)	m)					
	1.0	1.0 5.0	0.6	13.0	17.0	21.0	25.0	29.0	33.0	37.0	41.0	45.0	49.0
Analytical	1.0	1.0 0.9882 0.9608	0.9608	0.9182	0.8612	0.7905	0.7075	0.6132	0.5093	0.3973	0.2791	0.1565	0.03143
FEM-BABEL	1.0	1.0 0.9879 — 0.03%	0.9605	0.9180	0.8610	0.7903	0.7073	0.6131	0.5092	0.3972	0.2791	0.1565	0.03142 0.03%
CITATION	1.0	1.0 0.9877 — 0.05%	0.9877 0.9605 0.05% 0.03%	0.9178	0.8610	0.7903	0.7072	0.6130	0.5091	0.3972	0.2790	0.1565	0.03141

Percent values are the fractional deviations from the analytic solution

$$K_{\text{eff}} = \frac{\chi_1(\nu \Sigma_f)_1 E_2 + \chi_1(\nu \Sigma_f)_2 \Sigma_{s,12} + \chi_2(\nu \Sigma_f)_2 E_1}{E_1 E_2}$$
(82)

and the unnormalized flux corresponding to K_{eff} is written as follows:

$$\phi_g(x, y, z) = A_g \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2L}x\right) \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2L}y\right) \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2L}z\right), \quad \text{for } g = 1.2$$
 (83)

where

$$A_1 = \alpha A_2,$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\chi_1 E_2}{\chi_2 E_1 + \chi_1 \Sigma_{s,12}}.$$

If the flux is normalized to one fission in the entire reactor, then

$$A_2 = \frac{(1/8) \cdot B^2}{\alpha(\Sigma_f)_1 + (\Sigma_f)_2}.$$

For the program check of FEM-BABEL, we used this exact solution and the finite difference solution from CITATION.³⁹⁾ The finite difference calculations were performed for a quarter symmetric configuration for a sequence of mesh sizes of 2 cm, 5 cm, 10 cm. On the other hand, the finite element calculations were carried out for an octant symmetric configuration for the same mesh size sequence and for a quarter symmetric configuration with the mesh size of 5 cm.

From a comparison of the effective multiplications with the exact value given in **Table 3**, the finite element solutions are seen to come as near to the exact value as the finite difference solutions. As illustrated in **Fig. 9**, we also note the finite element solutions approach the exact value from smaller values as the mesh

Table 5 Comparison of the numerical and analytical values of the power distribution for the mesh size of 5 cm

							x (cm)				
	_	2.5	7.5	12.5	17.5	22.5	27.5	32.5	37.5	42.5	47.5
Analyt	ical	1.0	0.9754	0.9267	0.8553	0.7628	0.6515	0.5241	0.3839	0.2342	0.07870
	Octant	1.0	0.9742	0.9254	0.8541	0.7617	0.6506	0.5234	0.3834	0.2339	0.07860
FEM-	Octani		0.12%	0.14%	0.14%	0.14%	0.14%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%	0.13%
BABEL	Overter	1.0	0.9754	0.9268	0.8553	0.7628	0.6515	0.5241	0.3839	0.2342	0.07870
	Quarter	_	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
CITAT	TON	1.0	0.9754	0.9267	0.8553	0.7627	0.6515	0.5241	0.3840	0.2342	0.07869
CITAT	ION	_	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.03%	0.00%	0.01%

Table 6 Comparison between the numerical and analytical values of the power distribution for the mesh size of 10 cm

			x (cm))	
	5,0	15.0	25.0	35.0	45.0
Analytical	1.0	0.9021	0.7159	0.4597	0.1584
CCL C D A DEL	1.0	0.8979	0.7119	0.4574	0.1576
FEM-BABEL		0.47%	0.56%	0.50%	0.51%
CITATION	1.0	0.9021	0.7160	0.4596	0.1584
CITATION	—	0.00%	0.01%	0.02%	0.00%

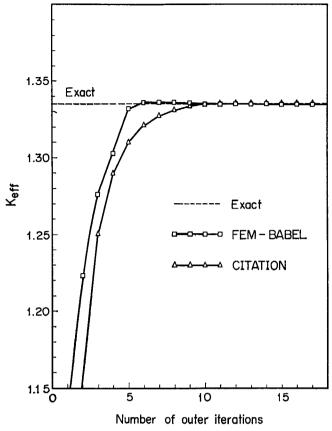


Fig. 10 Comparison of K_{eff} 's iterative perfromance for mesh size of 5 cm.

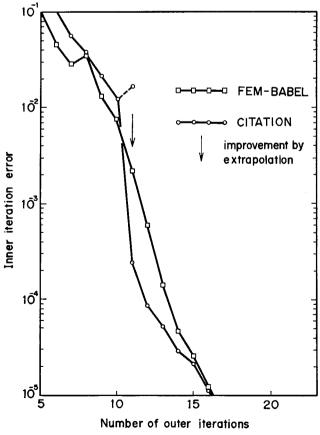


Fig. 11 Comparison of the inner iterative performance for mesh size of 5 cm.

Table 7 Comparison of the outer and inner errors for various numbers of outer iterations

	Mesh	7th	7th outer iteration	uc	10th	10th outer iteration	tion	15th	15th outer iteration	ion	last	last outer iteration	ion
	size (cm)	Keff	Outer error	Inner	Keff	Outer error	Inner error	Keff	Outer error	Inner	Keff	Outer error	Inner
	2	1.2524	$2.9 \times 10^{-2} 9.4 \times 10^{-1}$	9.4×10^{-1}	1.3140	1.1×10^{-2} 5.1×10^{-2}	5.1×10^{-2}	1.3367	6.8×10 ⁻⁴	6.8×10^{-4} 3.8×10^{-2}	1.33537	$^{(32)}_{1.7\times10^{-6}}$ 8.6×10 ⁻⁶	8.6×10-6
FEM-BABEL	٠	1.33535	4.9×10^{-4} 5.7×10^{-2}	5.7×10^{-2}	1.33470	9.5×10^{-5} 3.9×10^{-2}	3.9×10^{-2}	1.33473	1.9×10-6 7.4×10-4	7.4×10^{-4}	1.33473	(20) 4.5×10^{-8} 7.4×10^{-6}	7.4 × 10-6
	10	1.3311	2.3×10^{-3} 2.8×10^{-2}	2.8×10^{-2}	1.33184	1.4×10^{-5} 2.4×10^{-3}	$2.4 imes10^{-3}$	1.33210	2.6×10-6 3.6×10-5	$3.6\!\times\!10^{-5}$	1.33211	(20) 1.8×10^{-6} 8.5×10^{-6}	8.5×10^{-6}
	7	1.3237	8.1×10 ⁻³ 1.2	1.2	1.3328	1.2×10-3 3.7×10-2	3.7×10-2	1.3352	2.4×10-4	2.4×10-4 2.1×10-3	1.33562	(22) 2. ×10 ⁻⁶ 7.1×10 ⁻⁶	7.1×10-6
CITATION	S	1.3275	6.4×10^{-3} 6.7×10^{-2}	$6.7\!\times\!10^{-2}$	1.33620	1.9×10^{-3} 1.3×10^{-2}	$1.3\!\times\!10^{-2}$	1.33623	1. ×10-6	1. ×10-6 1.7×10-5	1.33624	(17) 1. $\times 10^{-6}$ 7.5×10 ⁻⁶	7.5×10^{-6}
	10	1.3291	6.5×10^{-3} 7.2×10^{-2}	7.2×10^{-2}	1.33836	1.33836 1.7×10 ⁻⁵ 3.2×10 ⁻³	$3.2\!\times\!10^{-3}$	1.33842	1. ×10 ⁻⁶	1. $\times 10^{-6}$ 3.4 $\times 10^{-5}$	1.33842	(18) $1. \times 10^{-6} \ 9.5 \times 10^{-6}$	9.5×10-6

Figures in parentheses are the numbers of the outer iterations at which the results have converged.

sizes decrease, while the finite differences solutions approach from larger values. From comparisons between the power distributions for various mesh sizes given in **Tables 4** to **6**, it is here ascertained that both the numerical solutions agree well with analytical results within adequate precision.

Table 8 Comparison of the computation times and storage requirements

			М	esh size		
	2	cm .	5	cm	10) cm
	Storage (words)	CPU time (sec)	Storage (words)	CPU time (sec)	Storage (words)	CPU time (sec)
	50((0*	1775	5594*	54	1460*	10
FEM-BABEL	50669*		10337	92	1469*	
CITATION	158585	342	15228	38	4709	25

^{*} For octant symmetric configuration

Table 9 Comparison of iterative performance at the same error range in case of mesh size of 5 cm

	Error range* (%)	$K_{ m eff}$ at the range	Outer iterations	Computation time (sec.)	Relative ratio
FEM-BABEL	0.060	1.33470	6	96	1.0
CITATION	0.052	1.33620	10	22	1.4

^{*} Analytical value ($K_{\text{eff}} = 1.335506$) is taken as reference one.

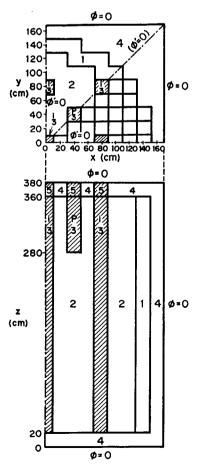


Fig. 12 Reactor configuration of the IAEA problem.

Next we investigate the convergence mechanism of the outer and inner iterations. Figure 10 presents a comparison of the eigenvalue convergence as a function of the number of outer iterations between the finite element and finite difference calculations for mesh size of 5 cm. It is of interest to note that the finite element calculations indicate rather higher convergence than the finite difference ones. Inner iteration error for the finite element calculations given in Fig. 11 is seen to decay rather smoothly and fast, even though these calculations use the simple SOR. On the contrary, the finite difference calculations show that the speed of error decay is drastically increased in the midway of convergence, for it comes from the fact that CITATION adopts a sophisticated technique like the flux extrapolation for the inner iterations. Considering together with the results summarized in Table 7, we may infer that both the outer and inner iterations of the finite element calculations converge in the same rate as the finite difference calculations. Comparison of computation times and storage requirements between two programs in Table 8 indicates that the differences are resulted from those between their data processing procedures. In addition, from the iterative performance in Table 9, we find that FEM-BABEL has rather less computing cost. From the above mentioned results, we may conclude that FEM-BABEL calculations give proper solutions and are utilizable.

4.2 Calculation of a Pressurized Water Reactor

In this section we discuss the efficiency of FEM-BABEL for a real scale problem, which comes from a slight modification (for reason of consistency to the boundary condition of the finite difference method) of the three-dimensional IAEA water reactor problem³³⁾ illustrated in Fig. 12, by comparing with the finite difference calculations. A comparison is performed for mesh size of 5 cm on x-y plane and 10 cm in z direction up to 34 outer iterations due to saving computation time. The reference value for comparison

 Table 10
 Comparison of the multiplication factor and convergence between FEM-BABEL

 and CITATION for the IAEA problem

		FEM-BABEL	CITATION
	$K_{ m eff}$	1.02261 (0.58%)	1.02075 (0.76%)
10th	Outer error	4.5×10^{-4}	7.4×10^{-4}
outer iteration	Inner error	4.7	3.4×10^{-1}
	CPU time (min)	44.2	9.41
	$K_{ m eff}$	1.02510 (0.34%)	1.02416 (0.43%)
20th	Outer error	1.6×10^{-4}	2.2×10^{-4}
outer iteration	Inner error	3.5×10^{-2}	1.6×10^{-1}
	CPU time (min)	85.7	19.0
	$K_{ m eff}$	1.02635 (0.22%)	1.02572 (0.28%)
30th	Outer error	9.6×10^{-5}	1.2×10^{-4}
outer iteration	Inner error	2.5×10^{-2}	2.7×10^{-1}
	CPU time (min)	128.7	28.5
	$K_{ m eff}$	1.02670 (0.19%)	1.02614 (0.24%)
34th	Outer error	8.0×10^{-5}	9.7×10^{-5}
outer iteration	Inner error	2.2×10^{-5}	1.6×10^{-2}
	CPU time (min)	146.3	32.2

Percent values in K_{eff} are the fractional deviations from the reference value $K_{\text{eff}} = 1.028615$ calculated by CITATION with 63 outer iterations, outer error of 1. $\times 10^{-6}$, inner error of 6.1 $\times 10^{-4}$ and CPU time of 59 min.

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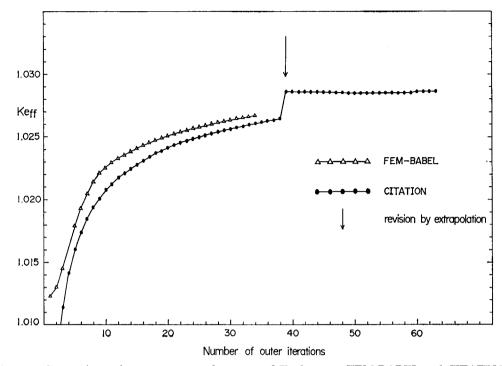


Fig. 13 Comparison of convergence performance of K_{eff} between FEM-BABEL and CITATION.

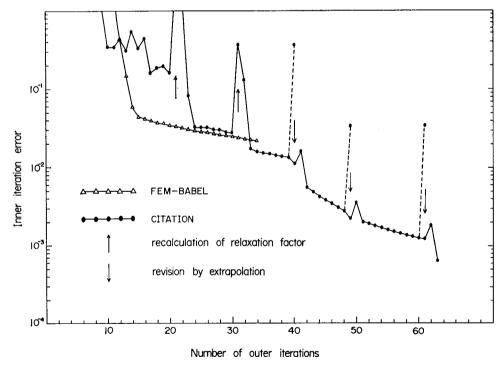


Fig. 14 Comparison of performance of inner iterations between FEM-BABEL and CITATION.

Table 11 Comparison of iterative performance at the same error range

	Error range* (%)	$K_{\rm eff}$ at the range	Outer iterations	Computation time (min.)	Relative ratio
FEM-BABEL	0.24	1.02615	28	120.	1.0
CITATION	0.24	1.02614	34	32.	0.27

^{*} See about the reference value the margin below Table 10.

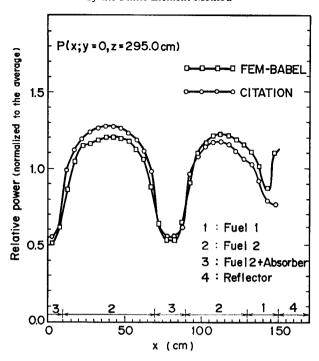


Fig. 15 Comparison of radial power distribution between FEM-BABEL and CITATION.

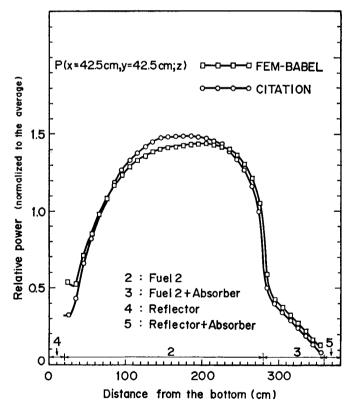


Fig. 16 Comparison of axial power distribution between FEM-BABEL and CITATION.

was obtained from the CITATION calculation for the same mesh size, when converged within the outer error of 1.0×10^{-4} and inner error of 1.0×10^{-3} .

The results on iterative performance given in **Table 10**, **Figs. 13** and **14** show that the finite element calculations converge in similar rates for the outer and inner errors as in the finite difference ones except for the timing comparison. The locally better performance in the finite different calculations seen in **Figs. 13**

FEM-BABEL CITATION Program size 41 kilowords 61 kilowords SOR for every 4 inner ADI for every 4 inner Solution method iterations with $\beta = 1.6$ iterations with adaptive β use only SOR but not coarse Acceleration SOR+adaptive for inner iterations mesh rebalancing technique extrapolation Acceleration fixed extrapolation by SOR Chebyshev extrapolation for outer iterations with $\beta_s = 1.7$ Storage requirements and 126 kilowords; only planar 455 kilowords; all data in data processing data in core memory core memory CPU time 120 min for 28 outer 32 min for 34 outer (see Table 11) iterations iterations

Table 12 Comparison of the solution techniques and assumptions for the IAEA problem

and 14 is due to the adaptive extrapolation technique as already described in the previous section. On outer iterations the finite element calculations indicate rather better performance than the finite difference ones, although the former doesn't adopt such sophisticated technique as the latter does. A comparison of the timing performance at the same error range is shown in Table 11.

Comparisons of power distributions illustrated in Fig. 15 for x-y plane and Fig. 16 for z direction show that within tolerable errors the finite element results agree globally with the finite difference ones except near the core-reflector interface. It may be inferred from a sense of reactor physics that in this point of view the finite element calculations are more reasonable than the finite difference ones.

Finally we present in **Table 12** the comparison of the solution technique and the assumption between FEM-BABEL and CITATION. The FEM-BABEL requires solely a smaller core storage and then can easily perform realistic three-dimensional calculations without being afraid of the computer restriction. We can compute using FEM-BABEL the present problem with the same core storage (for reason of adopting the plane-like SOR in FEM-BABEL: see also Section 3.1) for finer meshes in the z direction, for instance, mesh size of 5 cm. However, CITATION in our version needs so much core storage in three-dimensional problem that it cannot calculate this problem. It seems that FEM-BABEL is slower in iterations, but we consider that the iterations are substantially fast from the fact that in the core storage the disk data transfer rate is about 10 times slower than the multiply rate.

5. Conclusions

Through the numerical calculations of the exact problem and a realistic large problem, it can be concluded that FEM-BABEL is acceptable especially for the analysis of a practical problem from viewpoint of reasonable computing cost. It is seen that the iteration method is very effective also for the finite element calculations. In the present calculations, we did not use the coarse mesh rebalancing technique, which is known to have an effect for analysis of practical problems (it is reported that the computation time is reduced to one fourth by adopting this technique for a two-dimensional TRIGA reactor calculation⁴⁰⁾). By using this technique the calculation time will be reduced to some extent compared with the present calculation.

Some improvements to the iteration method have been reported so far.^{41),42)} Data handlings like the concurrent iterations (solving simultaneously several planar layers in the core storage) and the parallel processing will improve the efficiency of the method.²⁵⁾

Another question for the finite element calculation is the difficulty of mesh generation for practical problems. To FEM-BABEL, the mesh generation program²⁸⁾ already developed by us gives the users a help to prepare a large amount of data.

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Appendix

We present here the list of input cards together with control cards, for FEM-BABEL calculations on the representative problems shown in the present report. Readers can therefore ascertain the results given in the text.

- A-1 Input cards set up for the quarter symmetric geometry with mesh size of 5 cm for the exact problem
- A-2 Input cards set up for a new case of the IAEA problem
- A-3 Input cards set up for a restart case of the IAEA problem

A-1 Input cards set up for the quarter symmetric geometry with mesh size of 5 cm for the exact problem ...*...1...*...2...*...3....*...4....*...5....*...6....*...7....*...8

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                                                                            W.1/PAGE
                                                                                      80
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         S521130 . T. ISE . 431 . 11 . FEMBABEL
                                                                               /JOB-CARD
¥HFORT
      PROGRAM FEM-BABEL
\mathbf{c}
      COMMON
                IAC 70000)
      CALL CHGFLO(M.N)
                                                                                BABEL
C
                          * FACOM *
                                                                                       9
                                                                                BABEL.
      IA(1)= 70000
                                                                                IA
C
                                                                                BABEL 12
      CALL DTLIST
      CALL MAIN1
                                                                                BABEL 13
                                                                                BABEL 14
      STOP
      END
                                                                                BABEL 15
#HLIEDRUN RFNAME=J1223.BABELA.
                                    EDIT=YES.
                                                        SIZE=30
*TPDISK FO1.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK FO2.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK FO3.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BS1ZE=6300
*TPDISK FO4.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK FO8 DISP=DELETE RSIZE=900 BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F09.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F10.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F11+DISP*DELETE+RSIZE=900+BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F12.DISP=DELFTE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F13.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F14.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.6SIZE=6300
*DATA
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          300
                        13
                                                    1
                                                                               1 13-18
                                       1
                                                                 0
            1
                                                    0
                                                                 0
                                                                               0 19-24
            0
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                                       0
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 2*
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     1.0 -05
                   1.0 -05
                                1.7
                                             1.0
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     3.3 +10
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            1
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                2.6800
                              3.0834-02
                                           1.3785-02
                                                        4,0792-02
   1,0080-02
                1,5788
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A-2 Input cards set up for a new case of the IAEA problem
...,*....5,,...*....2.,...*.....3.....*....4......5,,...*.....6....,*.....7.....*.....8
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            B333.
                                                                         T.7/TIME 60M
                                                                         C.4/CORE 256
                                                                         W.1/PAGE 80
                                                                         P.O/PCH
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                                                                            /JOB-CARD
¥GJOH
          S521130 . T . ISE . 431 . 11 . FEMBABEL
#HFORT
C
      PROGRAM FEM-BABEL
                 IA(140000)
       COMMON
       CALL CHGFLO(M.N)
                                                                             BABEL
C
                          * FACOM *
                                                                             BABEL
       IA(1)=140000
C
                                                                             BABEL 12
       CALL DTLIST
       CALL MAIN1
                                                                             BABEL 13
       STOP
                                                                             BABEL 14
                                                                             BABEL 15
       END
       SUBROUTINE ACCEL (P.S)
       DIMENSION P(1) .S(1)
       COMMON
               A(1)
       EQUIVALENCE (A(142), NPALL), (A(128), RAMDA), (A(253), SORF)
       T=0.0
       DO 1 I=1.NPALL
       P(I)=P(I)+1.70*(S(I)=P(I))
     1 T=T+P(1)
       DO 2 I=1.NPALL
     2 P(1)=P(1)/T
       RETURN
       END
*HLIEDRUN
           RFNAME=J1223.BABELA. EDIT=YES.UPDT=YES.SIZE=30
                                                                             BABELA
 *TPDISK FO1.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK FO2.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
 *TPDISK F03.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F04.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK FO8.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F09.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F10.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F11.DISP*DELETE.RSIZE#900.BSIZE#6300
 *TAPE F12.J1223.B333.NEW.010215
 *TPDÍSK F13.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
 *TPDISK F14.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE#900.BSIZE=6300
 ¥DAŤA
 3D=IAEA(MODIFIED) FOR COMPARISON WITH CITATION. DX=5CM DZ=10CM
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                                                               0
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                                    36
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            1 3R
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	0.056	0.4	0.135	0.08	0.0	F1	
	0.00	1,5	0.0	0.01	0.02	E 2	
		-1-	-10	0101	0102	F2	

••••	*1.	*,	2	*	٠.,	.3,*	4	*	.5.,*	6*	····7····*8
	0,056 0,00 0,056		0.4 1.5 0.4			0.135 0.00 0.135		0,085 0,01 0.13	0 • 0 0 • 0	02	F2+CR
	0.00 0.00 0.00		2.0 0.3 2.0 0.3			0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00		0.00 0.01 0.0 0.055	0 • 0 0 • 0 0 • 0	0 0 4	REFL+CR
T 13* 15¥ 17*		33 I F	1.0	596 ĩ	т	0.0	r T	0,033		<i>.</i>	
18¥ 19¥ ¥JENI	D .	F		i 10	Ť	30	T				

A-3 Input cards set up for a restart case of the IAEA problem

```
¥NO
           B333.
                                                                      C.4/CORE 256
                                                                      W.1/PAGE
                                                                                80
                                                                      P.O/PCH
                                                                      T.7/TIME 60M
                                                                     ·LRG/
¥GJ0B
                                                                         /JOB-CARD
         S521130.T. ISE. 431, 11. FEMBABEL
¥HFORT
      PROGRAM FEM-BABEL
      COMMON
                IA(140000)
      CALL CHGFLO(M.N)
C
                         * FACOM *
      IA(1)=140000
C
      CALL DTLIST
      CALL MAIN1
      STOP
      END
      SUBROUTINE ACCEL (P.S)
      DIMENSION P(1).S(1)
      COMMON
               A(1)
      EQUIVALENCE (A(142), NPALL), (A(128), RAMDA), (A(253), SORF)
      T=0.0
      DO 1 I=1:NPALL
P(I)=P(I)+1:50*(S(I)-P(I))
    1 T=T+P(!)
      DO 2 I=1 NPALL
    2 P(1)=P(1)/T
      RETURN
      END
¥HLIEDRUN RFNAME=J1223,BABELA, EDIT=YES,UPDT=YES,SIZE=30

¥TPDISK F01,DISP=DELETE,RSIZE=900,BSIZE=6300
                                                                          BABELA
*TPDISK FO2.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F03.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F04.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK FO8.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F09.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F10.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F11.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TAPE F12.J1223.B333.NEW.010215
*TPDISK F13.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
*TPDISK F14.DISP=DELETE.RSIZE=900.BSIZE=6300
¥DATA
 3D=IAEA(MODIFIED) FOR COMPARISON WITH CITATION. DX=5CM DZ=10CM
                                                                   RESTART
 1¥
                                                                       595 1 -05
                                    1
                                                           39
                                              630
                                    5
                                               35
                                                             0
                                                                         0 6 -11
           6
                      100
                                   36
                                                1
                                                                         4 12-17
                                                             1
                                                                         0 18-30
           4 3R
                       1 6R
                                    0
                                                0
                                                             0
                                    O
           1
                                                                           31-33
                 1.0 -04
 2*
                              1.0 -03
                                              1.6
                                                         3800.
                                                                     55.0
                                                                           1 - 5
                3,265+10
                          T
¥JEND
```