

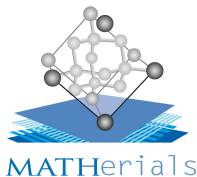
# Reduced Basis method for non-symmetric eigenvalue problems: application to neutronics

Yonah Conjungo-Taumhas<sup>1</sup>, Geneviève Dusson<sup>3</sup>, Virginie Ehrlacher<sup>2</sup>, Tony  
Lelièvre<sup>2</sup> & François Madiot<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Université Paris-Saclay, CEA, Service d'Études des Réacteurs et de Mathématiques Appliquées, 91191 Gif-sur-Yvette, France

<sup>2</sup> CERMICS, Ecole des Ponts ParisTech & MATHERIALS team-project, INRIA

<sup>3</sup> Université de Franche-Comté, Besançon



- 1 Criticality calculations in nuclear core reactor
- 2 Reduced basis method
- 3 Numerical tests

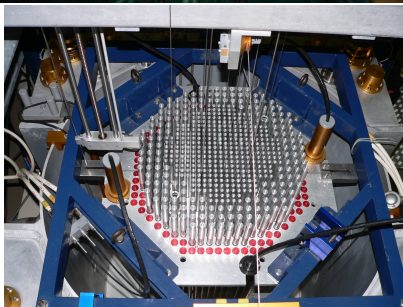
- 1 Criticality calculations in nuclear core reactor
- 2 Reduced basis method
- 3 Numerical tests

- The behaviour of many systems can be described by the solutions of a system of Partial Differential Equations.
- These equations can depend on one or several parameters  $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_p)$  with  $p \in \mathbb{N}^*$  which can take values in a set denoted by  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^p$ .  
In this case, for one particular value  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$  of this vector of parameters, the associated solution to the PDE system is a function  $u_\mu$  solution of

$$\mathcal{A}(u_\mu; \mu) = 0,$$

where  $\mathcal{A}(\cdot; \mu)$  is some differential operator depending on the parameter vector  $\mu$ .

# Research nuclear core reactor



## Simple example: Two-group diffusion model

[Coste-Delclaux, Diop, Nicolas, Bonin, 2013], [Mula, 2014], [Giret, 2018], [Allaire, Blanc, Desprès, Golse, 2019]

- **Spatial domain**  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  occupied by the nuclear core reactor
- Neutrons are assumed to be separated into **2 groups** according to their energy:  $E = \{E_1, E_2\}$  ( $E_1 > E_2$ )
- $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$ : vector of **parameters** of the problem, which encodes the values of the **physical properties** of the nuclear core

**Problem of interest:** Find

- $u_\mu = (u_{1,\mu}, u_{2,\mu}) : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ : **neutron scalar fluxes**;
- $\lambda_\mu > 0$  eigenvalue with **smallest modulus**;

solution to the non-symmetric eigenvalue problem

$$\mathcal{A}_\mu u_\mu = \lambda_\mu \mathcal{B}_\mu u_\mu$$

where  $\mathcal{A}_\mu$  and  $\mathcal{B}_\mu$  are linear operators such that  $\mathcal{A}_\mu^{-1} \mathcal{B}_\mu$  satisfies the assumptions of the **Krein-Rutman theorem**.

The **Krein-Rutman theorem** is a generalisation of the **Perron-Frobenius theorem** to operators defined on infinite-dimensional Banach spaces.

**Consequence of the Krein-Rutman theorem:** there exists a unique eigenvalue with largest modulus  $k_{\text{eff},\mu}$ , which is **simple, positive** and such that

$$A_{\mu}^{-1} B_{\mu} u_{\mu} = k_{\text{eff},\mu} u_{\mu}$$

- $u_{\mu}$  is then uniquely defined (up to a sign factor);
- $k_{\text{eff},\mu} = \frac{1}{\lambda_{\mu}}$ : **effective multiplication factor**

- $k_{\text{eff},\mu} < 1$ : the fission reaction is not the prevailing phenomenon, then the total mean number of neutrons tends towards zero along time; the reactor is said to be **subcritical**
- $k_{\text{eff},\mu} = 1$ : both creation and absorption of neutrons take as much place as the other inside the system; the reactor is said to be **critical**
- $k_{\text{eff},\mu} > 1$ : the fission dominates the absorption phenomenon, therefore a chain reaction phenomenon takes place inside the system, and the total mean number of neutrons increases at an exponential rate, the system then tends to collapse; the reactor is said to be **supercritical**



$$\mathcal{A}_\mu u_\mu = \lambda_\mu \mathcal{B}_\mu u_\mu$$

## Two-group Diffusion Equation

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla \cdot (D_{1,\mu} \nabla u_{1,\mu}) + \Sigma_{11,\mu} u_{1,\mu} + \Sigma_{12,\mu} u_{2,\mu} \\ = \lambda_\mu [\chi_{1,\mu} ((\nu \Sigma_f)_{1,\mu} u_{1,\mu} + (\nu \Sigma_f)_{2,\mu} u_{2,\mu})] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla \cdot (D_{2,\mu} \nabla u_{2,\mu}) + \Sigma_{22,\mu} u_{2,\mu} + \Sigma_{21,\mu} u_{1,\mu} \\ = \lambda_\mu [\chi_{2,\mu} ((\nu \Sigma_f)_{1,\mu} u_{1,\mu} + (\nu \Sigma_f)_{2,\mu} u_{2,\mu})] \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

- $\Sigma_{ii} = \Sigma_{ti} - \Sigma_{s,ii}$ ;
- $\Sigma_{ti}$ : total cross-section of group  $i$ ;
- $\Sigma_{s,ij}$ : scattering cross-section from group  $i$  to group  $j$ ;
- $\Sigma_{ij} = -\Sigma_{s,ij}$ ;
- $D_i = \frac{1}{3\Sigma_{ti}}$ : diffusion coefficient of group  $i$ ;
- $\Sigma_{fi}$ : fission cross-section of group  $i$ ;
- $\nu_i$ : average number of neutrons of group  $i$  emitted per fission;
- $\chi_j$ : fission spectrum of group  $j$

# Parameters of the problem

- $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$  represents the **physical** properties of the core and its configuration.
- The spatial domain of calculation  $\Omega$  is split into a structured grid that defines  $K$  regions. On each region  $\Omega_k$ ,  $\mu^k$  represents the set of material parameters inside the domain  $\Omega_k$ , so that  $\mu = (\mu^1, \dots, \mu^K) \in \mathcal{P}$ .

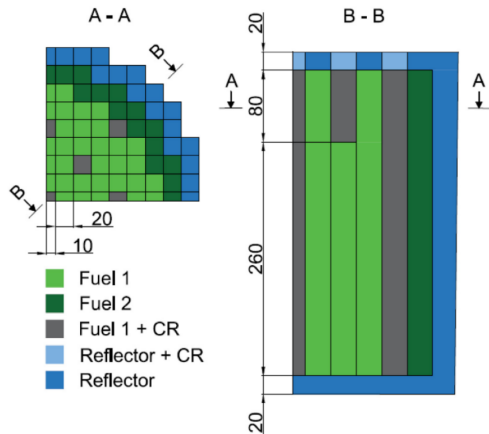


Figure: Cross-sectional view of the BSS-11 nuclear core reactor

- For a particular value of  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$ , a numerical approximation of the solution  $u_\mu$  is computed by some numerical scheme (for instance with a finite element code), the resolution of which may be very costly from a computational point of view.
- There exist a wide variety of contexts in which it is necessary to perform **parametric studies** of the problem at hand, i.e. to compute (a numerical approximation of) the solution  $u_\mu$  for a very large number of values of the parameter vector  $\mu$  as quickly as possible!

## Examples:

- Design optimization
- Inverse problems
- Real-time control
- Uncertainty quantification

In such contexts, naive parametric studies using a standard finite element code may be extremely expensive from a computational point of view and time-consuming!

**Model-order reduction methods** have been developed to circumvent this difficulty. The principle of these methods is the following:

- **Offline stage:** Compute  $u_\mu$  with a standard numerical scheme (for instance finite elements) for a **small** number of well-chosen values of the parameter vector  $\mu$ ; this stage can be quite **expensive** from a computational point of view.
- Build another model, a **reduced model** from these few (expensive) computations in order to compute numerical approximations of  $u_\mu$  for many other values of  $\mu$ , but at a computational cost which is **much cheaper** than the initial (finite element) scheme.
- **Online stage:** Use the reduced model (instead of the original finite element code) in order to compute much faster  $u_\mu$  for a large number of values of  $\mu$ .

1 Criticality calculations in nuclear core reactor

2 Reduced basis method

3 Numerical tests

There exists a huge number of model-order reduction techniques in the literature.

In this talk: **Reduced Basis method** for accelerating the resolution of parametrized **generalized non-symmetric eigenvalue problems**, with a view to accelerating parametric studies for criticality calculations.

## A few seminal references:

- Cohen, Dahmen, DeVore, Maday, Patera...
- *Reduced Basis Methods for Partial Differential Equations: An Introduction*, Alfio Quarteroni, Andrea Manzoni, Federico Negri
- *Certified Reduced Basis Methods for Parametrized Partial Differential Equations*, Jan S Hesthaven, Gianluigi Rozza, Benjamin Stamm

## References on reduced basis techniques for symmetric eigenvalue problems:

[Fumagalli, Manzoni, Parolini, Verani, 2016], [Horger, Wohlmuth, Dickopf, 2017]

## References on reduced basis techniques for neutronic applications:

[Sartori, Cammi, Luzzi, Rozza, 2016]

## Two-Group Diffusion Equation (discrete formulation)

- Discretization of the spatial domain  $\Omega$  with  $P1$  crossed-triangular **finite elements** over a rectangle mesh
- The solution  $u_\mu$  is approximated by an element  $u_{\mu,h}$  belonging to a finite-dimensional subspace  $V_h$  of dimension  $N_h$  (number of DoFs):  
 $V_h = \text{Span}\{(\varphi_i)_{i=1, N_h}\}$

### Weak formulation of the problem

Find  $(u_{\mu,h}, u_{\mu,h}^*, k_{\mu,h}) \in V_h \times V_h \times \mathbb{R}_+^*$  such that

$$\forall v_h \in V_h, \quad a_{\mu,h}(u_{\mu,h}, v_h) = \frac{1}{k_{\mu,h}} b_{\mu,h}(u_{\mu,h}, v_h).$$

**Adjoint problem**  $\forall v_h \in V_h, \quad a_{\mu,h}(v_h, u_{\mu,h}^*) = \frac{1}{k_{\mu,h}} b_{\mu,h}(v_h, u_{\mu,h}^*).$

## Two-Group Diffusion Equation (matrix form)

$$u_{\mu,h} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_h} (U_{\mu,h})_i \varphi_i, \quad u_{\mu,h}^* = \sum_{i=1}^{N_h} (U_{\mu,h}^*)_i \varphi_i \quad (2)$$

### Matrix form of the problem

Find  $(U_{\mu,h}, U_{\mu,h}^*, k_{\mu,h}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_h} \times \mathbb{R}^{N_h} \times \mathbb{R}_+^*$  such that

$$A_{\mu,h} U_{\mu,h} = \frac{1}{k_{\mu,h}} B_{\mu,h} U_{\mu,h} \quad (3)$$

**Adjoint problem**  $A_{\mu,h}^T U_{\mu,h}^* = \frac{1}{k_{\mu,h}} B_{\mu,h}^T U_{\mu,h}^*$

- **Generalized eigenvalue problem**
- $A_{\mu,h} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_h \times N_h}$  is **non-symmetric**, invertible, with a coercive symmetric part
- $B_{\mu,h} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_h \times N_h}$  is **non-symmetric**, not invertible and positive

→ **High-fidelity problem**



- The resolution of the high-fidelity problem for a large number of values of the parameter vector  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$  may be very costly from a computational point of view because  $N_h$  is large!
- The principle of the reduced basis method is to approximate the solution  $(u_{\mu,h}, u_{\mu,h}^*, k_{\mu,h})$  by a Galerkin approximation associated to a linear subspace  $V_N \subset V_h$  of dimension at most  $2N$  with  $N$  much smaller than  $N_h$ .
- The **reduced space**  $V_N$  is chosen such that

$$V_N = \text{Vect} \{ u_{\mu_1,h}, u_{\mu_1,h}^*, \dots, u_{\mu_N,h}, u_{\mu_N,h}^* \},$$

where  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_N$  are  $N$  particular well-chosen values of the parameter vector  $\mu$ .

- In the **offline stage**, the high-fidelity problem is only solved for this  $N$  values of the parameter vector.

Galerkin approximation of the eigenvalue problem in the discretization space  $V_N$

## Weak formulation of the reduced problem

Find  $(u_{\mu,N}, u_{\mu,N}^*, k_{\mu,N}) \in V_N \times V_N \times \mathbb{R}_+^*$  such that

$$\forall v_N \in V_N, \quad a_{\mu,h}(u_{\mu,N}, v_N) = \frac{1}{k_{\mu,N}} b_{\mu,h}(u_{\mu,N}, v_N).$$

**Adjoint problem**  $\forall v_N \in V_N, \quad a_{\mu,h}(v_N, u_{\mu,N}^*) = \frac{1}{k_{\mu,N}} b_{\mu,h}(v_N, u_{\mu,N}^*).$

- In the **online stage**, for each new value of  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$ , an atmost  $2N$ -dimensional matrix eigenvalue problem is solved. When  $N \ll N_h$ , the resolution of the reduced problem is much cheaper from a computational point of view than the resolution of the original high-fidelity problem!
- **Reduced basis**: Let  $n := \dim V_N$  and  $(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n)$  be an orthonormal basis of  $V_N$ . Denoting by

$$\Theta_N := (\theta_1 | \dots | \theta_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_h \times n},$$

We define the  $n \times n$  reduced matrices:

$$\begin{cases} A_{\mu,N} = \Theta_N^T A_{\mu,h} \Theta_N \\ B_{\mu,N} = \Theta_N^T B_{\mu,h} \Theta_N \end{cases}.$$

## Reduced problem

Find  $(c_{\mu,N}, c_{\mu,N}^*, k_{\mu,N}) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}_+^*$  such that

$$A_{\mu,N} c_{\mu,N} = \frac{1}{k_{\mu,N}} B_{\mu,N} c_{\mu,N} \quad \text{and} \quad U_{\mu,N} = \Theta_N c_{\mu,N}$$

$$A_{\mu,N}^T c_{\mu,N}^* = \frac{1}{k_{\mu,N}} B_{\mu,N}^T c_{\mu,N}^* \quad \text{and} \quad U_{\mu,N}^* = \Theta_N c_{\mu,N}^*$$

$$u_{\mu,N} := \sum_{i=1}^{N_h} (U_{\mu,N})_i \varphi_i, \quad u_{\mu,N}^* := \sum_{i=1}^{N_h} (U_{\mu,N}^*)_i \varphi_i.$$

**Assumption:** Separability of the data of the problem

$$A_{\mu,h} = \sum_{p=1}^P g_p(\mu) A_{p,h}$$

**Offline phase:** Compute for all  $1 \leq p \leq P$

$$A_{p,N} = \Theta_N^T A_{p,h} \Theta_N$$

**Online phase:** For  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$ , compute  $A_{\mu,N}$  as

$$A_{\mu,N} = \sum_{p=1}^P g_p(\mu) A_{p,N}$$

Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(Pn^2)$  (no dependence in  $N_h$ )

Similar computation for  $B_{\mu,N}$ .

## How to build $V_N$ ?

This is usually done via an iterative algorithm called a **greedy algorithm**.

Need to choose a finite subset  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{train}} \subset \mathcal{P}$ , called **training set**.

### Naive Greedy algorithm

- Choose randomly  $\mu_1 \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{train}}$ .

$$V_1 = \text{Vect} \{u_{\mu_1, h}, u_{\mu_1, h}^*\}$$

- Iteration N:** Choose  $\mu_N \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{train}}$  such that

$$\mu_N \in \underset{\mu \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{train}}}{\text{argmax}} |k_{\mu, h} - k_{\mu, N-1}|$$

$$V_N = \text{Vect} \{u_{\mu_1, h}, u_{\mu_1, h}^*, \dots, u_{\mu_N, h}, u_{\mu_N, h}^*\}$$

A naive version of the Greedy algorithm requires to evaluate  $k_{\mu, h}$ , for all  $\mu \in \Lambda_{\text{train}}$   
→ too expensive...

#### Practical algorithm:

Replace  $e_{N-1}^k(\mu) := |k_{\mu, h} - k_{\mu, N-1}|$  by an easy-to-compute **a posteriori error estimator**  $\Delta_{N-1}^k(\mu)$ .

- Residuals:

$$\begin{aligned}R_{\mu,N} &= (B_{\mu,h} - k_{\mu,N}A_{\mu,h}) u_{\mu,N} \\ R_{\mu,N}^* &= (B_{\mu,h}^T - k_{\mu,N}A_{\mu,h}^T) u_{\mu,N}^*\end{aligned}\tag{4}$$

## Proposition. *A posteriori* error estimator

There exists a positive constant  $C^k(\mu) > 0$  (called the **prefactor**) such that for all  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$ ,

$$e_N^k(\mu) = |k_{\mu,h} - k_{\mu,N}| \leq C^k(\mu) \frac{\|R_{\mu,N}\|_* \|R_{\mu,N}^*\|_*}{\langle c_{\mu,N}^*, A_{\mu,N} c_{\mu,N} \rangle} = C^k(\mu) \eta_N^k(\mu)\tag{5}$$

with  $\eta_N^k(\mu) := \frac{\|R_{\mu,N}\|_* \|R_{\mu,N}^*\|_*}{\langle c_{\mu,N}^*, A_{\mu,N} c_{\mu,N} \rangle}$  and  $\|\cdot\|_*$  a norm on  $\mathbb{R}^{N_h}$ .

- Residuals:

$$\begin{aligned}R_{\mu,N} &= (B_{\mu,h} - k_{\mu,N}A_{\mu,h}) u_{\mu,N} \\ R_{\mu,N}^* &= (B_{\mu,h}^T - k_{\mu,N}A_{\mu,h}^T) u_{\mu,N}^*\end{aligned}\quad (6)$$

## Proposition. A *posteriori* error estimator

There exist positive constants  $C^u(\mu), C^{u^*}(\mu) > 0$  (called the **prefactors**) such that for all  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$ ,

$$e_N^u(\mu) = \|u_{\mu,h} - u_{\mu,N}\| \leq C^u(\mu) \|R_{\mu,N}\|_* = C^u(\mu) \eta_N^u(\mu) \quad (7)$$

and

$$e_N^{u^*}(\mu) = \|u_{\mu,h}^* - u_{\mu,N}^*\| \leq C^{u^*}(\mu) \|R_{\mu,N}^*\|_* = C^{u^*}(\mu) \eta_N^{u^*}(\mu) \quad (8)$$

where  $\|\cdot\|$  and  $\|\cdot\|_*$  are dual norms of one another.

**Example:** If  $\|\cdot\|$  is a discrete  $H_0^1(\Omega)$  norm,  $\|\cdot\|_*$  is a then discrete  $H^{-1}(\Omega)$  norm.



- **Practical *a posteriori* error estimator:**

$$\Delta_N^k(\mu) = \bar{C}_N^k \frac{\|R_{\mu,N}\| \|R_{\mu,N}^*\|}{\langle C_{\mu,N}^*, A_{\mu,N} C_{\mu,N} \rangle} = \bar{C}_N^k \eta_N^k(\mu)$$

where  $\bar{C}_N^k$  is a heuristic estimation of the prefactor  $C^k(\mu)$

- $\Delta_N^k(\mu)$  can be efficiently computed with complexity  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  if the data of the problem is separated.

## Actual Greedy algorithm

- Choose randomly  $\mu_1 \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{train}}$ .

$$V_1 = \text{Vect} \{u_{\mu_1, h}, u_{\mu_1, h}^*\}$$

- **Iteration  $N$ :** Choose  $\mu_N \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{train}}$  such that

$$\mu_N \in \underset{\mu \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{train}}}{\text{argmax}} \Delta_{N-1}^k(\mu).$$

$$V_N = \text{Vect} \{u_{\mu_1, h}, u_{\mu_1, h}^*, \dots, u_{\mu_N, h}, u_{\mu_N, h}^*\}$$

# How to build $\overline{C}_N^k$ ? Heuristic procedure

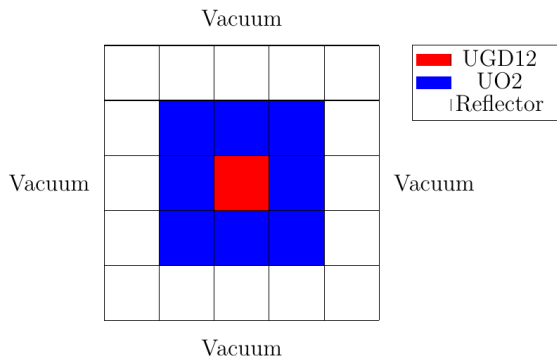
Need to choose a finite subset  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{pref}} \subset \mathcal{P}$ , called **prefactor set** such that  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{pref}} \cap \mathcal{P}_{\text{train}} = \emptyset$ .

- Solve the high-fidelity problem for all  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{pref}}$ .
- Compute for all  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{pref}}$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_N^k(\mu) := \frac{|k_{\mu,h} - k_{\mu,N}|}{\eta_N^k(\mu)}$ .
- Define

$$\overline{C}_N^k := \max_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{pref}}} \mathcal{E}_N^k(\mu).$$

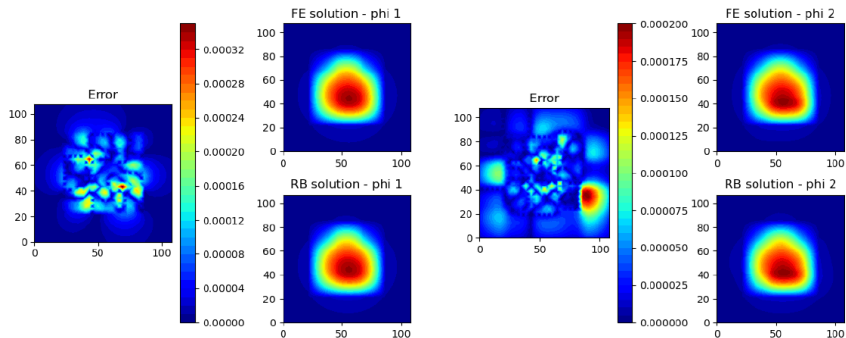
- 1 Criticality calculations in nuclear core reactor
- 2 Reduced basis method
- 3 Numerical tests**

## First toy test case: the MiniCore problem



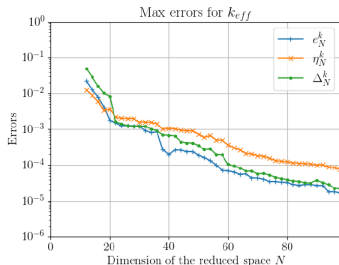
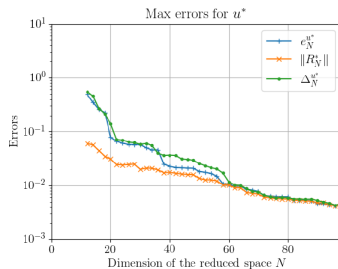
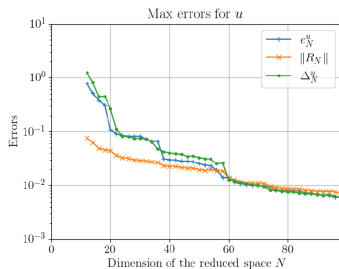
- 25 spatial regions
- $L = 107.52 \text{ cm}$
- UGD12: mix of uranium dioxide and Galinium oxyde
- UO2: uranium dioxide
- BC:  $u_\mu(x) = 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega$
- $N_h = 2602$  DoFs per group
- Training set of parameters  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{train}}$  of cardinality 1000 generated **randomly**

Reduced-order model obtained with  $N = 100$



# Convergence of the reduced basis : mean relative errors over $\mathcal{P}_{\text{test}}$

- $\mathcal{P}_{\text{test}} \subset \mathcal{P}$  with cardinality 50 (test set)
- $\mathcal{P}_{\text{pref}} \subset \mathcal{P}$  with cardinality 10 (prefactor set)



# Parametric variability of the prefactor

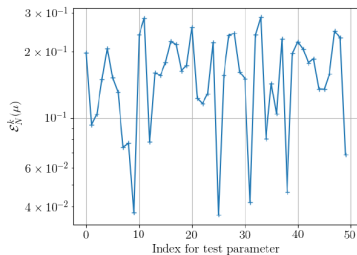
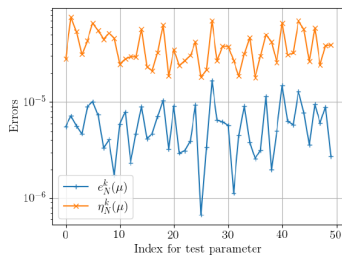


Figure: Parametric variability of the prefactor



# Gain in computational time

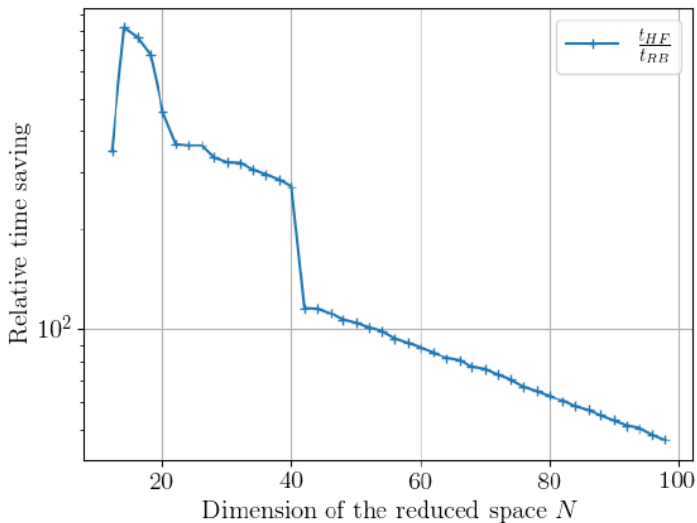


Figure: Relative time saving of the reduced solver

## 3D test case in APOLLO3 code (MINARET solver)

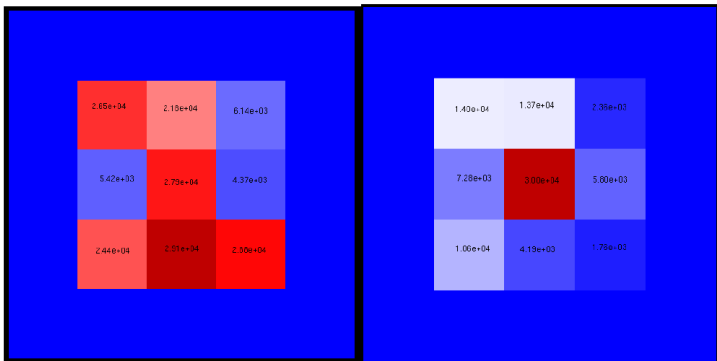
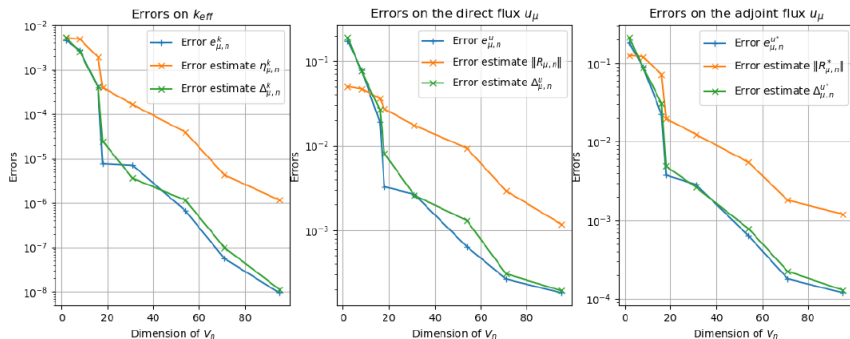


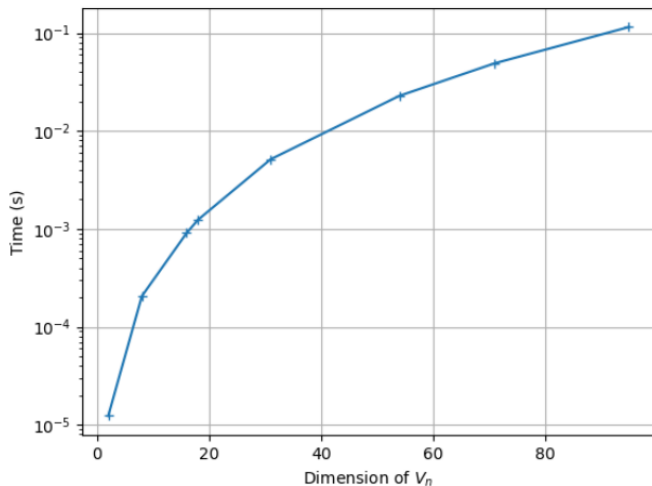
Figure: Cross-sectional views of the 3D core

- 9 spatial regions
- BC:  $u_\mu(x) = 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega$
- $N_h = 108800$  DoFs per group
- Training set of parameters  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{train}}$  of cardinality 100 generated **randomly**
- Prefactor set  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{pref}}$  of cardinality 5
- Test set  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{test}}$  of cardinality 10

# Convergence of the reduced basis approximation



# Computational runtime of the reduced-order model



## Conclusions:

- Efficient reduced-order model for criticality calculations in neutronics using the reduced basis method
- Very encouraging results obtained on two-group diffusion models with the APOLLO3 code
- Heuristic procedure to estimate the value of the prefactor which yields accurate estimations of the true error

## Perspectives:

- More complex parametric variability in the 3D APOLLO test case
- Specific method to explore the parameter space: choice of  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{train}}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{pref}}$ ?
- Rigorous justification of the heuristic procedure used to estimate the prefactor
- Efficient implementation of the reduced order model in the APOLLO code
- Application of the reduced basis method for the reduction of transport models (more complex than two-group diffusion models, like Boltzmann model)

**Thank you for your attention!**