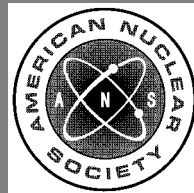


# American Nuclear Society

**nuclear analysis and design  
of concrete radiation shielding  
for nuclear power plants**

**an American National Standard**



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**American National Standard  
Nuclear Analysis and Design of Concrete  
Radiation Shielding for Nuclear Power Plants**

Secretariat  
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Standards Committee  
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**Foreword** (This Foreword is not a part of American National Standard “Nuclear Analysis and Design of Concrete Radiation Shielding for Nuclear Power Plants,” ANSI/ANS-6.4-2006.)

The need for this standard was identified in mid-1972 by D. K. Trubey, then chairman of Subcommittee ANS-6, Radiation Protection and Shielding. The then-existing standard, ANSI N101.6-1972, “Concrete Radiation Shields,” provided excellent guidance on the construction of concrete radiation shielding structures but contained almost no information on shielding effectiveness or analysis. This standard was first issued as ANSI/ANS-6.4-1977 (N403).

After ANSI/ANS-6.4-1977 was issued, two significant events occurred that led to the decision to revise the standard: ANSI N101.6-1972 was withdrawn by ANSI, and the American Concrete Institute (ACI) issued its standard ACI 349-80, “Code Requirements for Nuclear Safety Related Concrete Structures,” as well as the Commentary ACI 349R-80, which provided updated requirements with regard to the construction aspects of concrete shielding structures. The withdrawal of ANSI N101.6-1972; the guidance provided by ACI 349-80; and advances in the evolution of shielding methods, data, and applications led to the revision, ANSI/ANS-6.4-1985.

Since that revision effort, advances in buildup factors prompted the revision ANSI/ANS-6.4-1997. Other advances, particularly with respect to transmission and reflection of gamma rays and neutrons by concrete slabs, prompted the current revision, ANSI/ANS-6.4-2006.

This revised standard is meant to be a “guide to good practice” in the area of concrete shielding analysis and design. Recommendations are given where possible, but more often the choice of analytical methods must be left to the discretion of the shielding engineer as appropriate to the particular job, whether it be a conceptual design or final construction drawing.

This standard was revised by Working Group ANS-6.4 of the American Nuclear Society, which had the following members at the time it prepared and approved this standard:

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<b>Contents</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Page</b>
	<b>1</b> Scope .....	1
	<b>2</b> Requirements and recommendations .....	1
	2.1 Conformance .....	1
	2.2 Requirements .....	1
	2.3 Recommendations .....	2
	<b>3</b> Standards of documentation .....	4
	3.1 Shield design approach .....	4
	3.2 Shield design description .....	4
	3.3 Methods of analysis .....	4
	3.4 Description of analyses .....	4
	3.5 References .....	4
	3.6 Summary results .....	4
	<b>4</b> Terms and definitions .....	4
	<b>5</b> Characterization of concrete .....	6
	5.1 Introduction .....	6
	5.2 Concrete placement .....	7
	5.3 Water content .....	7
	5.4 Heating effects .....	8
	5.5 Reinforcing steel .....	8
	5.6 Aggregates .....	8
	<b>6</b> Calculation methods .....	10
	6.1 Introduction .....	10
	6.2 Point-kernel methods .....	10
	6.3 Discrete ordinates method .....	13
	6.4 Monte Carlo method .....	16
	6.5 Other methods and summary .....	18
	<b>7</b> Concrete shielding data .....	18
	7.1 Introduction .....	18
	7.2 Gamma-ray attenuation coefficients .....	19
	7.3 Gamma-ray buildup factors .....	19
	7.4 Secondary-gamma-ray production .....	20
	7.5 Neutron cross sections .....	20
	7.6 Neutron attenuation curves .....	21
	<b>8</b> Applications .....	21
	8.1 Radiation effects .....	21
	8.2 Minimum water content .....	22
	8.3 Bulk shielding .....	23
	8.4 Radiation streaming through penetrations .....	25
	8.5 Reflection .....	26
	<b>9</b> References .....	27
	Bibliography .....	32
 <b>Tables</b>		
	Table 1      Typical concrete properties .....	3
	Table 2      Partial densities of concrete constituents .....	6

**Figures**

Figure 1	Example of oblique penetration short circuit paths . . . . .	12
Figure 2	$P_1$ convergence of the fast neutron dose rate in water from a point fission source . . . . .	15
Figure 3	Comparison of neutron and gamma-ray dose rate through concrete using transport and diffusion theory . . . . .	17
Figure 4	Example of excess transmission through a void . . . . .	25

**Appendices**

Appendix A	List of codes . . . . .	33
Appendix B	Shielding data . . . . .	36
Table B.1	Mass attenuation coefficients, excluding coherent scattering, for concretes described in Table 1 of the standard . . . . .	37
Table B.2	Mass attenuation coefficients, excluding coherent scattering, for elements comprising ordinary concrete . . . . .	38
Table B.3	Mass attenuation coefficients, excluding coherent scattering, for elements that may be found in other concrete compositions . . . . .	39
Table B.4	Mass energy transfer coefficients for concretes described in Table 1 of the standard . . . . .	40
Table B.5	Mass energy absorption coefficients for concretes described in Table 1 of the standard . . . . .	41
Table B.6	Taylor coefficients for approximating concrete buildup factors . . . . .	42
Table B.7	Geometric progression buildup factor coefficients for ordinary concrete (air kerma, 40 mfp) . . . . .	43
Table B.8	Geometric progression buildup factor coefficients for ordinary concrete (concrete kerma, 40 mfp) . . . . .	44
Table B.9	Gamma-ray spectra from thermal neutron capture in concrete . . . . .	45
Table B.10	Neutron constants for concrete . . . . .	45
Figure B.1	Air kerma buildup factors in concrete, moments method calculations . . . . .	46
Figure B.2	Concrete kerma buildup factors in concrete, moments method calculations . . . . .	47
Figure B.3	Air kerma buildup factors in concrete, geometric progression form (energy: 0.03 to 0.2 MeV) . . . . .	48
Figure B.4	Air kerma buildup factors in concrete, geometric progression form (energy: 0.3 to 2.0 MeV) . . . . .	49
Figure B.5	Air kerma buildup factors in concrete, geometric progression form (energy: 3.0 to 15.0 MeV) . . . . .	50
Figure B.6	Concrete kerma buildup factors in concrete, geometric progression form (energy: 0.03 to 0.2 MeV) . . . . .	51
Figure B.7	Concrete kerma buildup factors in concrete, geometric progression form (energy: 0.3 to 2.0 MeV) . . . . .	52
Figure B.8	Concrete kerma buildup factors in concrete, geometric progression form (energy: 3.0 to 15.0 MeV) . . . . .	53
Figure B.9	Comparison of adjoint discrete ordinates and moments method calculations of neutron dose equivalent (rem) from a plane isotropic fission source as a function of concrete thickness, source normalized to one neutron in a forward direction . . . . .	54

Appendix C	Application data and results .....	56
Table C.1	Constants for the empirical formulation of the ambient dose $H^*(10 \text{ mm})$ albedo $\alpha_D(E_o, \theta_o, \theta, \phi)$ for neutrons incident on NBS Type 04 concrete .....	59
Table C.2	Constants for the expressions fitting the Coleman et al. differential and total albedo data for intermediate-energy neutrons incident on reinforced concrete .....	61
Table C.3	Constants for the empirical formulation of the ambient dose $H^*(10 \text{ mm})$ albedo $\alpha_D(E_o, \theta_o, \theta, \phi)$ for gamma rays incident on NBS Type 04 concrete .....	62
Table C.4	Parameters for the five-term approximation of the ambient dose equivalent albedo for reflected secondary gamma rays resulting from neutrons incident on ordinary concrete .....	62
Table C.5	Attenuation factors for monoenergetic beams of gamma rays obliquely incident on slabs of Type 04 ordinary concrete, expressed as the ratio of transmitted to incident air kerma .....	63
Table C.6	Neutron and secondary-gamma-ray transmission factors for ambient dose $H^*(10)$ (PAR) for neutrons incident on 15-cm-thick slabs of NBS Type 04 ordinary concrete .....	64
Table C.7	Neutron and secondary-gamma-ray transmission factors for ambient dose $H^*(10)$ (PAR) for neutrons incident on 30-cm-thick slabs of NBS Type 04 ordinary concrete .....	65
Table C.8	Neutron and secondary-gamma-ray transmission factors for ambient dose $H^*(10)$ (PAR) for neutrons incident on 50-cm-thick slabs of NBS Type 04 ordinary concrete .....	66
Table C.9	Neutron and secondary-gamma-ray transmission factors for ambient dose $H^*(10)$ (PAR) for neutrons incident on 75-cm-thick slabs of NBS Type 04 ordinary concrete .....	67
Table C.10	Neutron and secondary-gamma-ray transmission factors for ambient dose $H^*(10)$ (PAR) for neutrons incident on 100-cm-thick slabs of NBS Type 04 ordinary concrete .....	68
Table C.11	Composition of Hanford ordinary concrete as a function of temperature .....	69
Table C.12	Compositions of concretes used in measurements .....	69
Table C.13	ANISN spherical model for pressurized water reactor calculation .....	70
Table C.14	Material compositions for pressurized water reactor calculation .....	70
Table C.15	Neutron source distribution for pressurized water reactor calculation .....	71
Table C.16	Neutron source spectrum for pressurized water reactor calculation .....	71
Figure C.1	Resonance neutron distribution in ordinary concrete as a function of temperature .....	72
Figure C.2	Fast neutron distribution in ordinary concrete as a function of temperature .....	73

Figure C.3	Measured neutron fluxes versus distance in ordinary concrete .....	74
Figure C.4	Gamma-ray and neutron flux attenuation curves in ordinary concrete .....	75
Figure C.5	Radiation levels in Bradwell side shield .....	76
Figure C.6	Dose rates in typical pressurized water reactor shield ...	77
Figure C.7	Gamma-ray dose rates from 4-in. Schedule 80 and Schedule 160 steel pipe, containing airborne or waterborne radioactivity, derived through use of the QADMOD-GP code .....	78
Figure C.8	Gamma-ray dose rates from 8-in. Schedule 80 and Schedule 160 steel pipe, containing airborne or waterborne radioactivity, derived through use of the QADMOD-GP code .....	79
Figure C.9	Gamma-ray dose rates from 12-in. Schedule 80 and Schedule 160 steel pipe, containing airborne or waterborne radioactivity, derived through use of the QADMOD-GP code .....	80
Figure C.10	Gamma-ray dose rates from 16-in. Schedule 80 and Schedule 160 steel pipe, containing airborne or waterborne radioactivity, derived through use of the QADMOD-GP code .....	81
Figure C.11	Gamma-ray dose rates from 24-in. Schedule 80 and Schedule 160 steel pipe, containing airborne or waterborne radioactivity, derived through use of the QADMOD-GP code .....	82
Figure C.12	Gamma-ray dose rates from 6-ft outer diameter tank, with 0.25-in. steel wall, containing airborne or waterborne radioactivity, derived through use of the QADMOD-GP code .....	83
Figure C.13	Penetration types .....	84
Figure C.14	Geometry for albedos and a sample application .....	85
Figure C.15	Reflection geometries .....	86

# Nuclear Analysis and Design of Concrete Radiation Shielding for Nuclear Power Plants

## 1 Scope

This standard contains methods and data needed to calculate the concrete thickness required for radiation shielding in nuclear power plants. Where possible, specific recommendations are made regarding radiation attenuation calculations, shielding design, and standards of documentation. The standard provides guidance to architect-engineers, utilities, and reactor vendors who are responsible for the shielding design of stationary nuclear plants. This standard does not consider sources of radiation other than those associated with nuclear power plants. It also excludes considerations of economic aspects of shielding design.

Concrete is a mixture of materials, the exact proportions of which will differ from application to application. This standard includes a discussion of the nature of concrete, emphasizing those variable aspects of the material that are important to the shield designer. The document discusses methods of analysis and the shielding input data appropriate to each method. Applications of the analytical methods are given, including bulk transport, radiation heating, streaming, and reflection problems.

## 2 Requirements and recommendations

### 2.1 Conformance

The word "shall" is used to denote a requirement; the word "should" is used to denote a recommendation; and the word "may" is used to denote permission, neither a requirement nor a recommendation. To conform with this standard, all concrete shield analyses and designs shall be performed in accordance with its requirements, but not necessarily with its recommendations.

### 2.2 Requirements

#### 2.2.1 Computational methods

Any applicable method may be used by the designer in the analysis of shield effectiveness. The designer shall be aware, however, of any limitations imposed by the method employed. Approximations shall be chosen such that the attenuation afforded by the concrete shield is known to be conservative with respect to the design objective. Conservatism may also be introduced by other means, such as the source strength used or the radiation design dose rate outside the shield; the concrete shield analysis need not necessarily be inherently conservative.

#### 2.2.2 Data

Selection of material composition, density, cross sections, albedos, or other properties shall be made such that calculational results are conservative with respect to the design objectives as measured by attenuation afforded by the shield.

#### 2.2.3 Operational environment

Nuclear heating shall be considered during the determination of the operating temperature and water content of a concrete primary reactor shield and of any other concrete shields that are exposed to an incident energy flux greater than  $10^{10}$  MeV/cm<sup>2</sup> s and that will operate at a temperature of 65°C or greater.

#### 2.2.4 Penetrations

All penetration configurations in concrete shield walls shall be shown to provide adequate attenuation. This requirement shall be satisfied by one of the following:

- (1) analysis that follows the guidance of Sec. 8.4 of this standard;
- (2) determination that the configuration is similar to one that is functioning properly under comparable conditions in an operating nuclear facility;