

## NC State University - Radiation Transport Group

### THOR User's Manual

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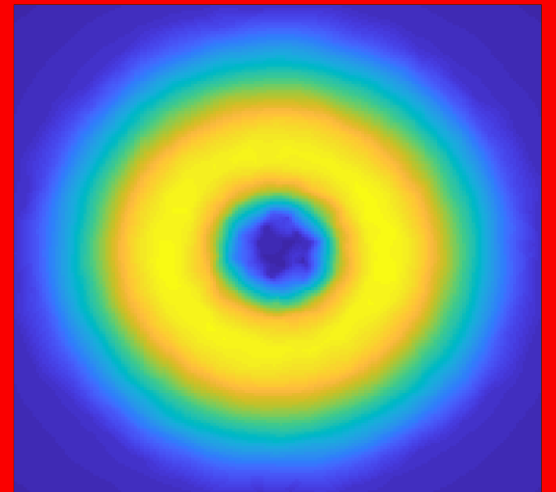
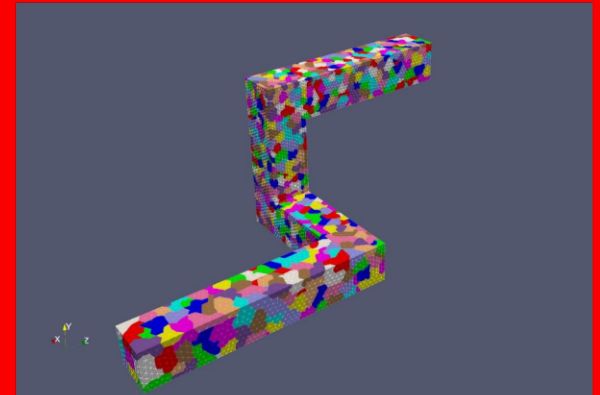
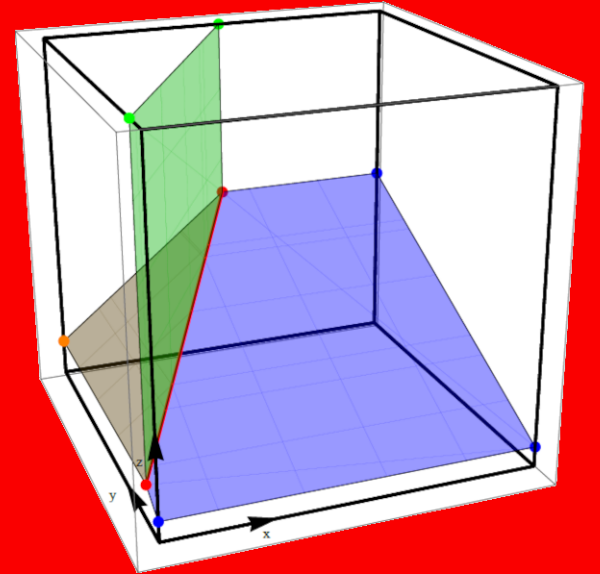
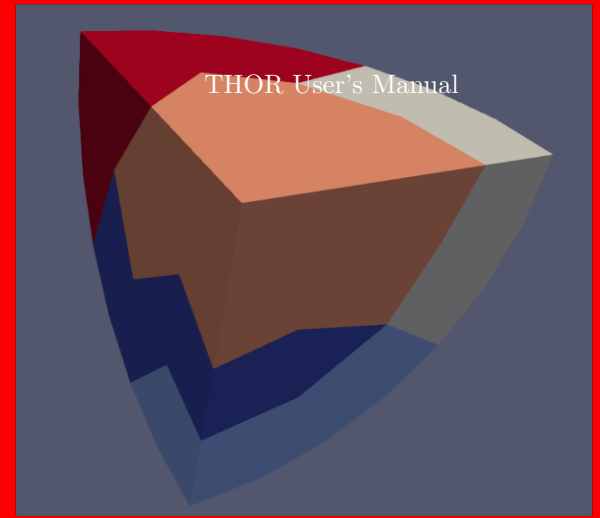
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## Revision Log

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# Acronyms

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The purpose of the User Manual is to provide the novice user with the necessary instructions to install, compile, and execute the Tetrahedral-grid High Order Radiation (THOR) transport code.

# 1. System Requirements

- UNIX-like operating system, recommended Ubuntu
- Some type of MPI, recommended `mpich`
- `make`
- Some fortran compiler (recommended `gfortran`)
- (Conditional on setup method) `git`



## 2. Getting Started

### 2.1 Obtaining THOR

This section describes how to obtain THOR. Please contact the code owner [Yousry Azmy](#) to be added to the project's membership.

Once a user has been added to the projects membership, they can navigate to their desired installation directory and clone THOR from the NCSU GitHub repository using the following command:

```
>> git clone https://github.ncsu.edu/NCSU-Rad-Transport/THOR.git
```

Alternatively, a user who will communicate frequently with THOR's github repository can link their computer's ssh keys with their GitHub account and clone THOR directly by issuing the following command:

```
>> git clone git@github.ncsu.edu:NCSU-Rad-Transport/THOR.git
```

### 2.2 Obtaining lapack dependencies

THOR depends on certain lapack routines. These are provided with THOR as a submodule. The lapack submodule can be initialized by:

```
>> git submodule update --init
```

The lapack submodule is not expected to change at all. However, if it does, the THOR repository keeps track of the associated version of the lapack repository, so the user may run:

```
>> git submodule update
```

to obtain the latest lapack submodule. If as expected lapack hasn't changed an empty line will be displayed.

### 2.3 Compiling THOR

This section describes how to compile THOR and its dependencies. The first step is to compile the lapack dependency. To this end, navigate to the installation scripts using (where `<thor_dir>` is the directory THOR was cloned into):

```
>> cd <thor_dir>/contrib/scripts
```

Edit the file `make.inc` to specify the MPI Fortran compiler available on the local machine (if `gfortran` and `mpich` are being used, there is no need to make any changes). Also, if necessary, enter command line that modify the environment to enable the compilation process to find the path to required executables; these typically have the form `>> load module pathname`, where `pathname` is a directory on the local computer where these necessary executables reside. Execute the `build_lapack.sh` script by (first command may not be necessary, it only ensures that `build_lapack.sh` is executable):

```
>> chmod +x build_lapack.sh
>> ./build_lapack.sh <n>
```

where `<n>` is the number of processors. For example, on Idaho National Laboratory's Sawtooth HPC the compiler is set in `make.inc` via the statement `FORTRAN = mpif90`, and the environment is modified with the command line

```
>> module load mvapich2/2.3.3-gcc-8.4.0".
```

A successful lapack build will conclude the scrolled output on the screen with a table of the form:

```

-->  LAPACK TESTING SUMMARY  <--
      Processing LAPACK Testing output found in the TESTING directory
SUMMARY          nb test run      numerical error      other error
=====          =
REAL              1291905          0      (0.000%)          0      (0.000%)
DOUBLE PRECISION  1292717          0      (0.000%)          0      (0.000%)
COMPLEX           749868          0      (0.000%)          0      (0.000%)
COMPLEX16         749588          1      (0.000%)          1      (0.000%)

--> ALL PRECISIONS  4084078          1      (0.000%)          1      (0.000%)

```

The lapack build may conclude with:

```

make[2]: Leaving directory '<thor_dir>/contrib/lapack/TESTING/EIG'
NEP: Testing Nonsymmetric Eigenvalue Problem routines
./EIG/xeigtstz < nep.in > znep.out 2>&1
make[1]: *** [Makefile:464: znep.out] Error 139
make[1]: Leaving directory '<thor_dir>/contrib/lapack/TESTING'
make: *** [Makefile:43: lapack_testing] Error 2

```

These errors indicate that the system did not have enough memory allocated to lapack to complete the entirety of the testing suite. This is typically not a concern and if these are the sole errors the user is free to continue on to the next step. The correctness of THOR and the lapack linkage can later be verified with the regression tests if the user so desires.

Now, THOR can be compiled. Navigate to the cloned THOR folder, and then to the source folder within it:

```
>> cd \verb"<thor_dir>"/THOR/src
```

and, as before, edit the file `Makefile` to utilize the available MPI Fortran compiler and if necessary modify the environment to enable `make` to locate the compiler (again, for `gfortran` and `mpich`, no changes are necessary). Then type:

```
>> make
```

Successful compilation of THOR will conclude with the line:

```
mv ./thor-1.0.exe ../
```

The THOR executable (named in the above line) can be found here:

```
>> ls <thor_dir>/THOR/
```

that should produce:

```
doc  examples  hello_world  scripts  src  thor-1.0.exe  unit
```

## 2.4 Running THOR for the first time

Navigate to the `hello_world` directory:

```
>> cd <thor_dir>/THOR/hello_world
```

Check the content of this folder:

```
>> ls
```

It should show the following files:

```
>> ls
hello_world.in hello_world.o hello_world.thrm hello_world.xs
```

These files have the following significance:

- `hello_world.in` is a sample input file to THOR. This file is used to execute THOR.
- `hello_world.thrm` is the corresponding mesh file that is referenced within `hello_world.in`. At this point, it is only important that it is present and has the proper THOR mesh format. Creation of THOR mesh files is covered later in this manual.
- `hello_world.xs` is the corresponding cross section file, also referenced within `hello_world.in`, and again at this point, it is only important that it is present.
- `hello_world.o` is the corresponding output file created by redirecting THOR's standard output. This file can be used to compare THOR's printed output with what it should be upon correct termination of this run.

THOR is invoked with the executable name and the standard input file that is specified as the first and only command line argument passed to THOR.

```
>> ../thor-1.0.exe hello_world.in
```

For parallel execution type:

```
>> mpirun -np <n> ../thor-1.0.exe hello_world.in
```

where <n> is the number of processors. Several files should have been created:

- hello\_world.flux
- hello\_world.fluxeven
- hello\_world.fluxodd
- hello\_world.in.log
- hello\_world.in\_out.csv
- intermediate\_output\_even.dat
- intermediate\_output\_odd.dat

The significance of these files will be discussed later. THOR's standard output should start with a banner and conclude with:

```
-----
      Region averaged reaction rates
-----

-- Region --    0 Volume=   1.500000E+01
   Group      Flux      Fission      Absorption      Fiss Src
     1  9.515584E-01  1.284604E+00  8.564026E-01  1.284604E+00
   Total  9.515584E-01  1.284604E+00  8.564026E-01  1.284604E+00

-----

      Execution of THOR completed successfully
-----
```

### 2.4.1 Running THOR Regression Tests

If THOR appears to be running properly, it is recommended that the user run THOR's regression tests after making THOR. To do this, navigate to the regression tests directory:

```
>> cd <thor_dir>/THOR/examples/regression_tests
```

and run the script to run all regression tests

```
>> bash ./runall.bash <n>
```

Here `<n>` is the number of processors to use (default 1). These tests will take some time. For 24 threads, these tests take about 2 to 3 hours. As such, it is recommended that this testing be performed overnight. It should also be noted that two of the inputs, `homogeneous_cube_keig_1G/keig_jfnk.inp` and `takeda-IV/takeda_jfnk.inp`, use JFNK in problems with opposing reflective boundary conditions. THOR currently does not support the running of such problems in parallel. As such the user should manually rerun those problems after the testing script completes unless the user originally specified `<n>=1`.

## 2.5 Pre/post Processors

### 2.5.1 Mesh Converter

The mesh converter is the current recommended pre-processing utility for THOR meshes. This converter takes a version 4 Gmsh file (tested with version 4.1) and converts it to the THOR mesh input file described in Section 4.3. There are plans to extend this converter to intake other versions of Gmsh and exodus and even perhaps add other output formats in addition to the current THOR mesh output. As of the publishing of this manual, Gmsh version 4.1 is the most recent release Gmsh mesh file format.

To compile the Mesh Converter, navigate to the source folder:

```
>> cd <thor_dir>/pre-processors/Mesh_Converter/src
```

and then make the converter by typing:

```
>> make
```

A successful compilation of the Mesh Converter will conclude with the line:

```
>> mv ./Mesh_Converter.exe ../
```

The Mesh Converter does not have any software requirements that are not also required by THOR.

To run the Mesh Converter, simply invoke the mesh converter binary and follow it immediately with the Gmsh input file (where `<gmsh_file>` is the name of the Gmsh file):

```
>> <path_to_Mesh_Converter>/Mesh_Converter.exe <gmsh_file>
```

Output will be titled `<gmsh_file>_out.thrm`. This output will set all boundary conditions to vacuum. If the user desires to set boundary conditions to reflective or incoming flux boundary conditions, then boundary conditions can be specified on the command line when invoking the Mesh Converter by using the `-bc` indicator. If the `-bc` indicator is called, then the next six entries will be assumed to be the boundary conditions (integer values) on each of the six primary directions. The order for the boundary conditions specified in this manner are as follows:

```
-x +x -y +y -z +z
```

0 is the integer value for vacuum boundary conditions, 1 is the integer value for reflective boundary conditions, and 2 is the integer value for incident flux boundary conditions. i.e. The following use of the Mesh Converter will convert the Gmsh file and assign reflective boundary conditions to the  $-x$ ,  $-y$ , and  $+y$  boundary faces, and all other boundary conditions will be set to vacuum.

```
>> <path_to_Mesh_Converter>/Mesh_Converter.exe <gmsh_file> -bc 1 0 1 1 0 0
```

It should be noted that if reflective boundary conditions are specified, then the reflective boundaries must all reside on flat boundary surfaces. If the user tries to assign reflective boundary conditions to a direction with a non-flat boundary, then the converter utility will throw an error and terminate. This check is ignored if all boundary conditions are reflective.

### 2.5.2 THOR\_MESH\_Generator

THOR MESH generator is an older pre-processor that converts *exodus* and *gmsh* (the legacy version 2) mesh formats to THOR's native mesh format. It is currently undergoing maintenance and will likely have important capabilities simply added to the Mesh Converter after which it may be removed. As such, use of the THOR MESH generator is not currently recommended.

## 3. Tutorials

THOR currently includes two tutorials to guide new users through the process of creating a mesh with Gmsh, using the Mesh Converter to make it a THOR mesh, and running THOR using that mesh. The first tutorial is the Godiva tutorial, creating a model of the bare Godiva critical experiment sphere, meshing it, and running it with THOR. This tutorial demonstrates basic THOR problem creation and running concepts.

The second tutorial is the BeRP tutorial, creating a model of the BeRP ball with 3 inches of polyethylene reflector surrounding the BeRP ball. This tutorial demonstrates a more advanced problem involving multiple materials and regions.

Since both systems are physically equivalent to one-dimensional spherical problems, the symmetry is taken advantage of and the problems are modeled using a one/eighth model with reflective boundary conditions to be equivalent to the full spheres for the tutorial. In the tutorial folders, `<thor_dir>/THOR/examples/Godiva_tutorial` and `<thor_dir>/THOR/examples/BeRP_tutorial`, versions of these tutorials with full spheres, half spheres, and quarter spheres are also included along with reference results.

### 3.1 Godiva Tutorial

Godiva is an un-shielded, pulsed, nuclear burst reactor. It is essentially a homogeneous sphere of highly enriched uranium with a diameter of 30 cm, that was operated by inserting a piston of fissile material [2]. In this tutorial the critical benchmark configuration described in Ref. [1] is considered. The geometry that is modeled by THOR is a homogeneous sphere of radius 8.7407 cm discretized by tetrahedra similar to Fig. 3.1. The energy domain is discretized with six energy groups, and cross sections are provided by [1].

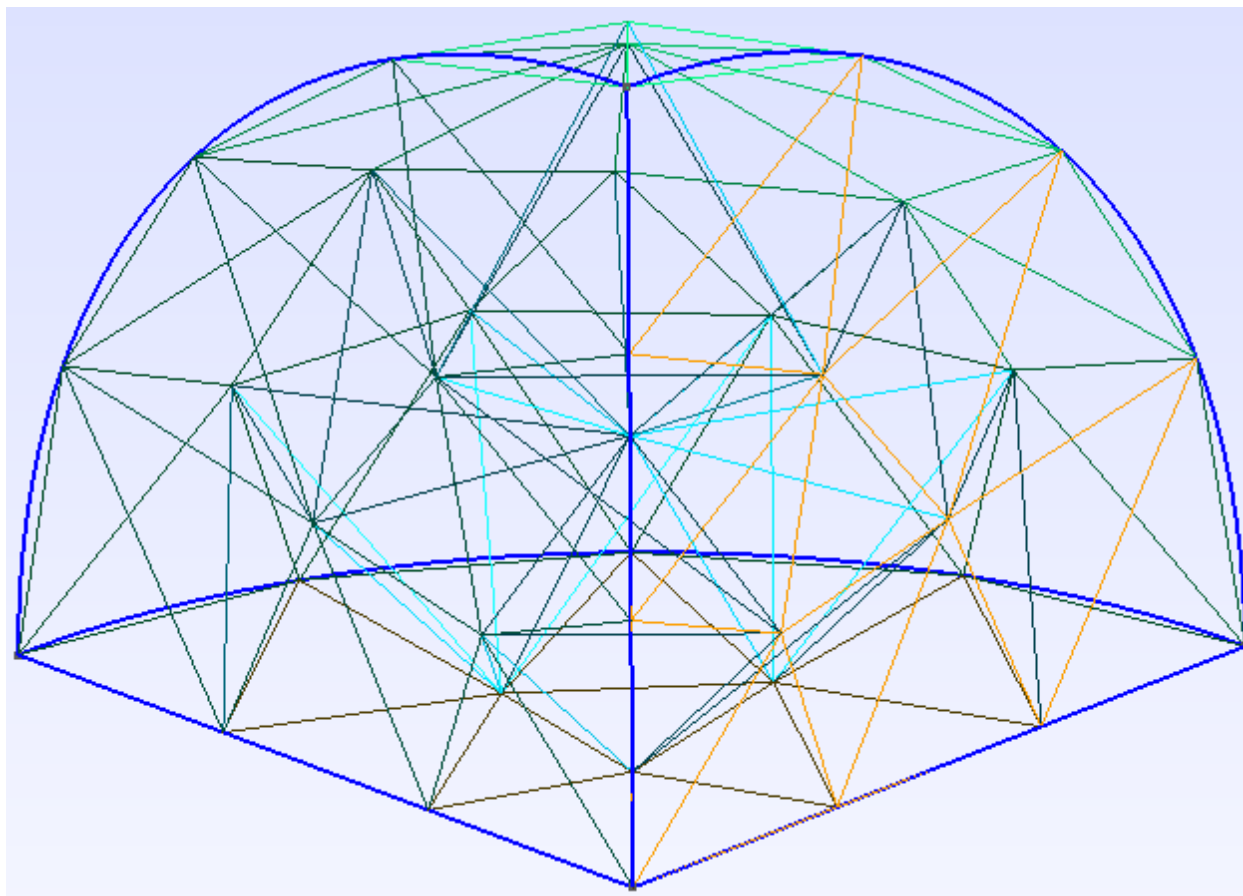
This tutorial first explains how a tetrahedral mesh is created for the Godiva problem, then the cross sections data input is discussed, and finally the standard input to THOR is covered. The input files discussed below for the Godiva tutorial are located in:

```
>> <thor_dir>/THOR/examples/Godiva_tutorial
```

#### 3.1.1 Godiva Mesh

The workflow described here is suitable if the user has access to a compatible version of **Gmsh**. Any version 4 Gmsh should work, but the example specifically performed here was done using Gmsh version 4.10.1.

Begin by navigating to the location of the Godiva Gmsh geometry files, which are found in:



**Figure 3.1:** Coarse mesh for Godiva problem

```
<thor_dir>/THOR/examples/Godiva_tutorial/mesh_create/
```

Opening the file geometry file `godiva_octant.geo` in a text editor, it can be observed that the model is created by removing the negative portions of each direction from a sphere centered at the origin. For more details on creating original Gmsh inputs, see the Gmsh [reference manual](#).

Open `godiva_octant.geo` in Gmsh and run the “3D” command from the “Mesh” dropdown menu under “Modules”. The mesh should be generated and now become visible in the GUI. Now, select the “Save” command from the same “Mesh” dropdown to save the generated mesh to `godiva_octant.msh`. This mesh may be compared to the provided `godiva_octant_msh.ref`, however they may differ slightly if the versions differ or if optimization of the mesh is employed.

The gmsh file `godiva_octant.msh` is converted to THOR’s native mesh format by executing the Mesh Converter with the command line:

```
>> <thor_dir>/THOR/pre-processors/Mesh_Converter/Mesh_Converter.exe convert_godiva.msh
    -bc 1 0 1 0 1 0
```

Note that since we are modeling the fully positive octant of the sphere we are setting all of the flat negative faces to be reflective (see Section 2.5.1 for more details). After successful completion of the conversion, the following printout should appear:



```

----- Reading in gmsh:
Progress:*****
----- Calculating Adjacencies:
Progress:*****
----- Outputting thrm file:
Progress:*****
----- Calculating volumes:
Progress:*****
Region 5 volume:    3.3099604624050352E+02
Region 5 equivalent radius:  4.2911933629822876E+00
Total system volume:  3.3099604624050352E+02
Equivalent radius:    4.2911933629822876E+00
-----
-----
----- THOR mesh converter successful -----
----- Output written to godiva_octant.thrm

```

The file `godiva_octant.thrm` should result from this execution for use by THOR. This mesh may be compared to the provided `godiva_octant_thrm.ref`, which it should match if `godiva_octant.msh` matches `godiva_octant_msh.ref`. Notice that the given volume for Region 5 (the Godiva eighth of a sphere as seen in `godiva_octant.geo`) is 330.996 cm<sup>3</sup>, but the actual octant volume for the Godiva sphere is 349.653 cm<sup>3</sup>. The ratio of the actual volume to the meshed volume is then 1.056366, which will come in handy later. This concludes the mesh generation step for this tutorial.

### 3.1.2 Cross section data

The user should now move `godiva_octant.thrm` to the input file location

```
<thor_dir>/THOR/examples/Godiva_tutorial/
```

and navigate there to continue the tutorial.

The THOR cross section file for the Godiva benchmark is provided by `godiva.xs`. THOR uses a custom cross section format that is explained in detail in Sec. 4.4.

At the end of Section 3.1.1, it was observed that there was a discrepancy in the volume of the Godiva mesh compared to the original problem. To preserve material mass, the cross sections must be altered by increasing them by a factor of 1.056366. In THOR, the user need not alter the cross sections themselves to make this adjustment. Instead, THOR will automatically adjust reaction and material attenuation calculations by a given density factor for each region. By default, this factor is 1.0, which will lead to use of the original cross sections unaltered. However, the user may specify density factors in a density factor file, described in Section 4.5. For this tutorial, this density factor adjustment is provided by `godiva_octant.dens`

### 3.1.3 THOR input file and executing THOR

The THOR input file is `godiva_octant.inp`. THOR uses a keyword-based input that is listed in Sect. 4.1. The Godiva tutorial input file is verbose and some parameters are ignored as they are not relevant to the problem. Upon running THOR, a verbose form of the input will always be echoed, and ignored parameters will be highlighted as such.

```

type                keig
keigsolver          pi
lambda              0
inflow              no
piacc               errmode
page_sweep          no
page_refl           save
page_iflw           all
kconv               1e-8
innerconv           1e-12
outerconv           1e-7
maxinner            4
maxouter            5000
jfnk_krsze          25
jfnk_maxkr          250
jfnk_method         flat
initial_guess       no
restart_out         no
ipiter              0
print_conv          yes
density_factor       godiva_octant.dens
execution           yes
mesh                ./godiva_octant.thrm
source              source.dat
flux_out            no
xs                  ./godiva.xs
vtk_flux_out        yes
vtk_mat_out         yes
vtk_reg_out         no
vtk_src_out         no
cartesian_map_out   no
print_xs            no
ngroups             1
pnorder             0
pnread              0
upscattering        yes
multiplying         yes
scatt_mult_included yes
qdtype              levelsym
qdorder             4
cartesian_map       no
point_value_locations no
region_map          5 1

```

The Godiva tutorial is solved with THOR via the command line:

```
>> <thor_dir>/THOR/thor-1.0.exe godiva_octant.inp
```

Completion of execution of the Godiva tutorial is indicated by the printout:

```

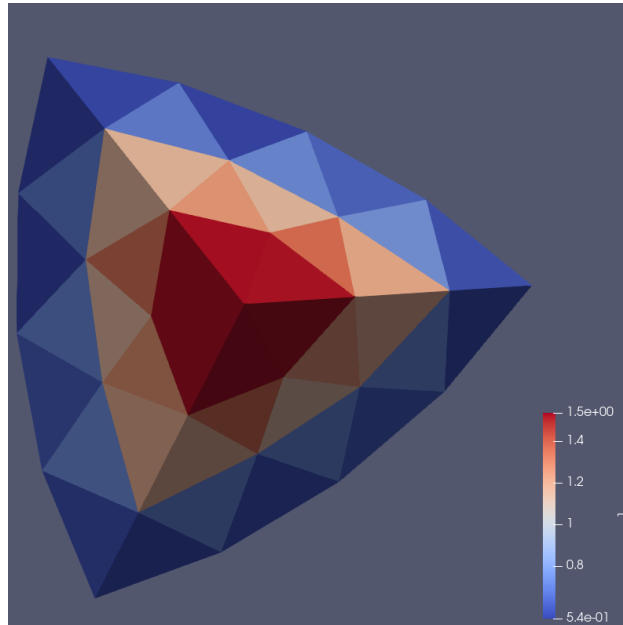
-----
Execution of THOR completed successfully
-----

```

THOR provides the following output that is discussed in this tutorial:

- The final estimate of the multiplication factor is printed under “Execution Summary”, “Final eigenvalue”. In this case the value is 0.935. This is not close to critical because the mesh that is created is very coarse.
- A summary of group-wise, region-averaged reaction rates is provided for each region identifier separately under “Region averaged reaction rates”. The volume of each region, and group-wise fluxes, fission, absorption, and fission source rates are listed.
- Two vtk formatted files, `godiva_octant_flux.vtk` contains spatial flux maps, and `godiva_octant_mat.vtk` contains the material map. These files can be opened with the paraview post-processing tool that is available [here](#).

A plot of the fast flux using ParaView 5.10.0 for this run is shown in Figure 3.2.



**Figure 3.2:** Fast flux for Godiva tutorial.

The reaction rate summary is given by:

```
-----
Region averaged reaction rates
-----
```

-- Region --	5 Volume=	3.309960E+02			
Group	Flux	Fission	Absorption	Fiss Src	
1	8.317355E-01	1.381271E-01	4.883317E-02	1.381271E-01	
2	1.549185E+00	2.298278E-01	9.364997E-02	2.298278E-01	
3	9.627054E-01	1.353285E-01	5.854598E-02	1.353285E-01	
4	1.585196E+00	2.152633E-01	9.782396E-02	2.152633E-01	
5	1.137791E+00	1.819135E-01	8.630310E-02	1.819135E-01	
6	1.682607E-01	4.366399E-02	2.265428E-02	4.366399E-02	
Total	6.234875E+00	9.441242E-01	4.078105E-01	9.441242E-01	

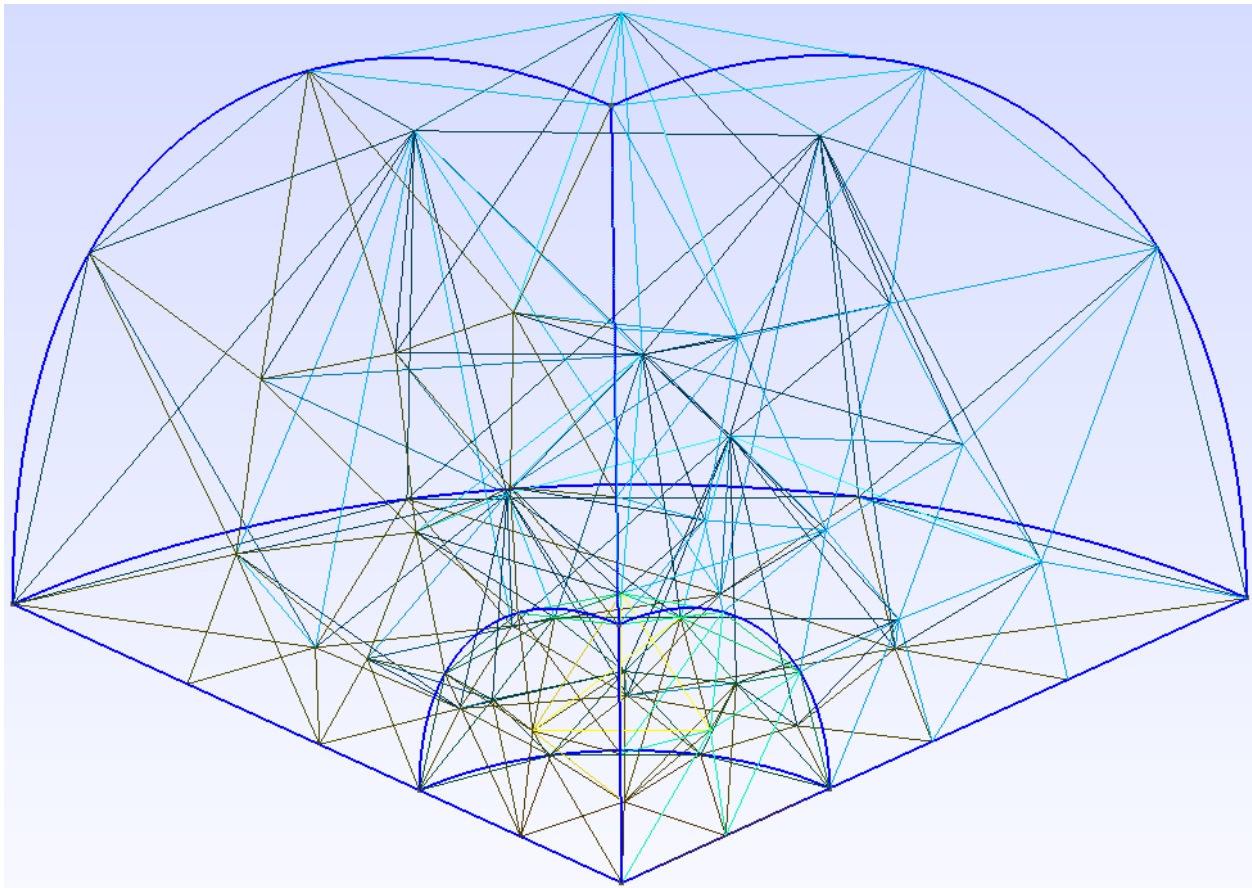
The results can be improved by increasing the refinement of the mesh. This can be achieved by reducing the mesh size parameter in the `godiva_octant.geo` file, that parameter is `MeshSize{ PointsOf{ Volume{:}; } }`; which can be seen is set to 4.

## 3.2 Polyethylene Shielded BeRP Ball Tutorial

The BeRP ball is a weapons grade plutonium sphere used in detector and criticality experiments [?]. The ball represents a fission neutron source that is subcritical under normal conditions. The sphere has a mean radius of 3.7938 cm. The calculated density of the sphere is 19.604 g/cm<sup>3</sup> giving the plutonium a total mass of 4,483.884 g.

The BeRP ball is designed to be inserted into reflecting spherical shells. These shells act as both a moderating reflector that increases the induced fission rate produced in the ball, as well as a shield changing the spectrum and strength of the emitted neutrons that escape the reflector. The shells exist in a variety of sizes, with larger shells fitting around smaller shells to go from at least 0.5 inches to up to at least 6 inches. Shells also exist in a variety of materials including but not limited to high density polyethylene (HDPE) and copper.

This tutorial includes the 3 inch polyethylene shield as the shell for the BeRP ball.



**Figure 3.3:** Coarse mesh for BeRP Ball with Poly Shield

This tutorial first explains how a tetrahedral mesh is created for the BeRP ball surrounded by a poly shield, then the cross sections data input is discussed, and finally the standard input to THOR is covered. The

input files discussed below for the BeRP tutorial are located in:

```
>> <thor_dir>/THOR/examples/BeRP_tutorial
```

### 3.2.1 BeRP Ball Mesh

The workflow described here is suitable if the user has access to a compatible version of [Gmsh](#). Any version 4 Gmsh should work, but the example specifically performed here was done using Gmsh version 4.10.1.

Begin by navigating to the location of the BeRP Gmsh geometry files, which are found in:

```
<thor_dir>/THOR/examples/BeRP_tutorial/mesh_create/
```

Opening the file geometry file `berp_octant.geo` in a text editor, it can be observed that the model is created by removing the negative portions of each direction from a sphere centered at the origin surrounded by another sphere centered at the origin. For more details on creating original Gmsh inputs, see the [Gmsh reference manual](#).

Open `berp_octant.geo` in Gmsh and run the “3D” command from the “Mesh” dropdown menu under “Modules”. The mesh should be generated and now become visible in the GUI. Now, select the “Save” command from the same “Mesh” dropdown to save the generated mesh to `berp_octant.msh`. This mesh may be compared to the provided `berp_octant_msh.ref`, however they may differ slightly if the versions differ or if optimization of the mesh is employed.

The gmsh file `berp_octant.msh` is converted to THOR’s native mesh format by executing the Mesh Converter with the command line:

```
>> <thor_dir>/THOR/pre-processors/Mesh_Converter/Mesh_Converter.exe berp_octant.msh
    -bc 1 0 1 0 1 0
```

Note that since we are modeling the fully positive octant of the sphere we are setting all of the flat negative faces to be reflective (see Section 2.5.1 for more details). After successful completion of the conversion, the following printout should appear:

```
----- Reading in gmsh:
Progress:*****
----- Calculating Adjacencies:
Progress:*****
----- Outputting thrm file:
Progress:*****
----- Calculating volumes:
Progress:*****
Region 6 volume:    2.6511347836966994E+01
Region 6 equivalent radius:    1.8497558414045954E+00
Region 7 volume:    6.6374040817476271E+02
Region 7 equivalent radius:    5.4113202652319341E+00
Total system volume:    6.9025175601172975E+02
Equivalent radius:    5.4824287000562011E+00
-----
-----
```

```
-----
----- THOR mesh converter successful -----
----- Output written to berp_octant.thrm -----
```

The file `berp_octant.thrm` should result from this execution for use by THOR. This mesh may be compared to the provided `berp_octant.thrm.ref`, which it should match if `berp_octant.msh` matches `berp_octant_msh.ref`. Notice that the given volume for Region 6 (the BeRP eighth of a sphere as seen in `berp_octant.geo`) is 26.511 cm<sup>3</sup>, but the actual octant volume for the BeRP ball is 28.591 cm<sup>3</sup>. Similarly, the given volume for Region 7 (the Poly shield eighth of a sphere as seen in `berp_octant.geo`) is 663.740 cm<sup>3</sup>, but the actual octant volume for the Poly shield is 749.965 cm<sup>3</sup>. The ratio of the actual volume to the meshed volume for these two regions is then 1.078425 and 1.129907 respectively, which will come in handy later. This concludes the mesh generation step for this tutorial.

### 3.2.2 Cross section data

The user should now move `berp_octant.thrm` to the input file location

```
<thor_dir>/THOR/examples/BeRP_tutorial/
```

and navigate there to continue the tutorial.

The THOR cross section file for the BeRP benchmark is provided by `berp.xs`. THOR uses a custom cross section format that is explained in detail in Sec. 4.4.

At the end of Section 3.2.1, it was observed that there was a discrepancy in the volume of the BeRP mesh compared to the original problem. To preserve material mass, the cross sections must be altered by increasing them by a factor of 1.078425 in the BeRP ball and 1.129907 in the polyethylene. In THOR, the user need not alter the cross sections themselves to make this adjustment. Instead, THOR will automatically adjust reaction and material attenuation calculations by a given density factor for each region. By default, this factor is 1.0, which will lead to use of the original cross sections unaltered. However, the user may specify density factors in a density factor file, described in Section 4.5. For this tutorial, this density factor adjustment is provided by `berp_octant.dens`. This file differs from the file in the Godiva tutorial in that it gives true region volumes instead of ratios of true to meshed volumes. The effect is the same, however it is often simpler to specify the density factors in this manner.

### 3.2.3 THOR input file and executing THOR

The THOR input file is `berp_octant.inp`. THOR uses a keyword-based input that is listed in Sect. 4.1. The BeRP tutorial input file is not verbose and all parameters given are used, though not all are necessary since many are the same as the default values. Upon running THOR, a verbose form of the input will always be echoed, and ignored parameters will be highlighted as such.

```
print_conv yes
lambda 0
type keig ; keigsolver pi ; piacc errmode
page_refl save
innerconv 1E-8 ; outerconv 1E-6
maxinner 5 ; maxouter 5000

mesh ./berp_octant.thrm
```

```
xs ./berp.xs
density_factor berp_octant.dens
vtk_flux_out yes
vtk_mat_out yes

qdtype levelsym ; qdorder 4

region_map
6 1
7 2
```

The BeRP tutorial is solved with THOR via the command line:

```
>> <thor_dir>/THOR/thor-1.0.exe berp_octant.inp
```

Completion of execution of the BeRP tutorial is indicated by the printout:

```
-----
Execution of THOR completed successfully
-----
```

THOR provides the following output that is discussed in this tutorial:

- The final estimate of the multiplication factor is printed under “Execution Summary”, “Final eigen-value”. In this case the value is 1.08.
- A summary of group-wise, region-averaged reaction rates is provided for each region identifier separately under “Region averaged reaction rates”. The volume of each region, and group-wise fluxes, fission, absorption, and fission source rates are listed.
- Two vtk formatted files, `berp_octant_flux.vtk` contains spatial flux maps, and `berp_octant_mat.vtk` contains the material map. These files can be opened with the paraview post-processing tool that is available [here](#).

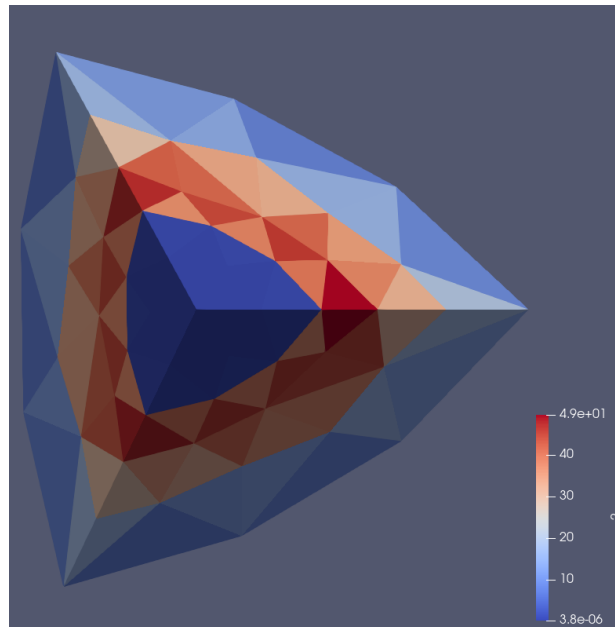
A plot of the thermal flux using ParaView 5.10.0 for this run is shown in Figure 3.4.

The reaction rate summary is given by:

```
-----
Region averaged reaction rates
-----

-- Region --   6 Volume=   2.651135E+01
Group      Flux      Fission      Absorption      Fiss Src
  1  4.796767E+00  4.145841E-01  4.913242E-01  1.322154E+00
  2  1.094419E-02  3.641023E-03  1.236176E-01  1.054076E-02
Total 4.807711E+00  4.182251E-01  6.149418E-01  1.332695E+00

-- Region --   7 Volume=   6.637404E+02
Group      Flux      Fission      Absorption      Fiss Src
  1  3.984566E-01  0.000000E+00  1.461140E-04  0.000000E+00
  2  3.051344E-01  0.000000E+00  6.844744E-03  0.000000E+00
Total 7.035909E-01  0.000000E+00  6.990858E-03  0.000000E+00
```



**Figure 3.4:** Thermal flux for BeRP tutorial.

The results can be improved by increasing the refinement of the mesh. This can be achieved by reducing the mesh size parameter in the `berp_octant.geo` file, that parameter is `MeshSize{ PointsOf{ Volume{:}; } };` which can be seen is set to 6 for the poly and 2 for the BeRP.



## 4. Input Format

### 4.1 THOR Inputs

The THOR transport solver has distinct user input formats for the following separate input files:

- Standard Input File (Sec. 4.2) - The primary input file to be run by THOR. All other input files will either be listed in this file, or assumed to be the default filenames as described in Section 4.2. This is the only input file given to THOR by way of the command line.
- Mesh File (Sec. 4.3) - File containing the physical 1st order tet mesh for the problem.
- Cross Section File (Sec. 4.4) - File containing cross sections for the problem.
- Density Factor File (Sec. 4.5) - File containing the density factors for each adjustment of cross sections in each region.
- Initial Guess File (Sec. ??) - File containing the initial guess for the problem.
- Source File (Sec. ??) - File containing the source for a fixed source problem.
- Inflow File (Sec. ??) - File containing the boundary condition inflow data for a fixed source problem.

This chapter describes the input formats of the THOR transport solver.

### 4.2 THOR Standard Input Format

The following describes properties of the keyword based THOR input file:

- Any keyword can appear in any order, but no keyword may appear multiple times.
- Every keyword has a default value, and THOR will echo a verbose form of the input at the beginning of the run, including all keywords and their values for the problem, whether they are set by the user or not.
- Whitespace is necessary between a parameter and the parameter values but is otherwise ignored.
- It is recommended that each parameter have its own line, however multiple parameters can be on the same line separated by semicolons (;).
- The user should ensure that line endings are UNIX text line endings, not Windows or Mac line endings.

- Whether multiple parameters are on the same line or not, the value immediately following the parameter is assumed to be that parameter's value.
- A line cannot contain more than 200 characters and most parameters must have all their values on the same line they reside, with exceptions outlined in the parameter descriptions, for some parameters that have a potentially large number of values (the only exception is **region\_map** at this time).
- Lines starting with an exclamation point, !, and blank lines will be ignored. Any data following an exclamation point on a used line will be ignored. This is equivalent to FORTRAN's comment style.
- The job name, <job\_name>, is the input filename with extension removed if the extension is ".in", ".in", or ".i"

#### 4.2.1 TYPE Card

type <prob\_type>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
type	STRING	keig/fsrc	keig
Description: Problem type. Either eigenvalue (keig) or fixed source (fsrc)			

#### 4.2.2 KEIGSOLVER Card

keigsolver <solver\_type>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
keigsolver	STRING	pi/jfnk	pi
Description: Solve type for keig. Either power iteration (pi) or Jacobian-Free Newton-Krylov (jfnk)			

#### 4.2.3 LAMBDA Card

lambda <spatial\_order>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
lambda	INTEGER	-	0
Description: Expansion order, negative number indicates reduced set			

#### 4.2.4 INFLOW Card

inflow <infl\_spec>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
inflow	STRING	yes/no/<filename>	no
Description: If fixed inflow boundary conditions are provided for fsr problems. If yes, then "inflow.dat" is assumed to be the filename. If a string other than "yes" or "no" is given, then that string is assumed to be the filename.			

#### 4.2.5 PIACC Card

piacc <acc\_method>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
piacc	STRING	errmode/none	none
Description: Type of power iteration acceleration: none or error mode extrapolation			

#### 4.2.6 PAGE\_SWEEP Card

page\_sweep <page\_sweep\_option>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
page_sweep	STRING	yes/no	no
Description: If the sweep path is saved (no) or is paged to scratch file when not needed (yes)			

#### 4.2.7 PAGE\_REFL Card

page\_refl <page\_refl\_option>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
page_refl	STRING	page/save/inner	save
Description: If significant angular fluxes are paged to/from scratch file (page), stored (save), or discarded after completing inner iterations for a given group (inner)			

#### 4.2.8 PAGE\_IFLW Card

page\_iflw <page\_iflw\_option>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
page_iflw	STRING	bygroup/all	all
Description: If inflow information is loaded to memory completely (all) or for each group when required (bygroup)			

#### 4.2.9 KCONV Card

kconv <conv\_criteria>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
kconv	REAL	-	$10^{-4}$
Description: Stopping criterion for eigenvalue			

#### 4.2.10 INNERCONV Card

```
innerconv <conv_criteria>
```

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
innerconv	REAL	-	$10^{-4}$
Description: Stopping criterion for group flux during inner iteration			

#### 4.2.11 OUTERCONV Card

```
outerconv <conv_criteria>
```

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
outerconv	REAL	-	$10^{-3}$
Description: Stopping criterion for group flux during outer/power iteration			

#### 4.2.12 MAXINNER Card

```
maxinner <num_iters>
```

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
maxinner	INTEGER	-	10
Description: Maximum number of inner iterations			

#### 4.2.13 MAXOUTER Card

```
maxouter <num_iters>
```

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
maxouter	INTEGER	-	100
Description: Maximum number of outer/power iterations			

#### 4.2.14 JFNK\_KRSIZE Card

```
jfnk_krsze <krylov_space_size>
```

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
jfnk_krsze	INTEGER	-	25
Description: Maximum size of Krylov subspace during jfnk			

#### 4.2.15 JFNK\_MAXKR Card

```
jfnk_maxkr <num_iters>
```

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>jfnk_maxkr</code>	INTEGER	-	250
Description: Maximum number of Krylov iterations			

#### 4.2.16 JFNK\_METHOD Card

`jfnk_method <jfnk_method>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>jfnk_method</code>	STRING	outer/flat/flat_wds	flat
Description: Type of jfnk formulation, see [?] for details.			

#### 4.2.17 INITIAL\_GUESS Card

`initial_guess <init_guess_spec>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>initial_guess</code>	STRING	yes/no/<filename>	no
Description: If an initial guess file should be read. If yes, then “initial.guess.dat” is assumed to be the filename. If a string other than “yes” or “no” is given, then that string is assumed to be the filename.			

#### 4.2.18 RESTART\_OUT Card

`restart_out <restart_out_spec>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>restart_out</code>	STRING	yes/no/<filename>	no
Description: If a restart file should be written. If yes, then “<job_name>.restart.out” is assumed to be the filename. If a string other than “yes” or “no” is given, then that string is assumed to be the filename.			

#### 4.2.19 IPITER Card

`ipiter <num_iters>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>ipiter</code>	INTEGER	-	0
Description: Number of initial power iterations for jfnk			

#### 4.2.20 PRINT\_CONV Card

`print_conv <print_conv_spec>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<b>print_conv</b>	STRING	yes/no	no
Description: If convergence monitor is written to file. If yes, then “<job_name>_conv.convergence” is the convergence filename			

#### 4.2.21 DENSITY\_FACTOR Card

**density\_factor** <dens\_fact\_filename>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<b>density_factor</b>	STRING	no/filename	no
Description: Density factor filename, or use no density factors (no).			

#### 4.2.22 EXECUTION Card

**execution** <exec\_opt>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<b>execution</b>	STRING	yes/no	yes
Description: If yes problem is executed, if no then input is only read and checked.			

#### 4.2.23 MESH Card

**mesh** <mesh\_filename>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<b>mesh</b>	STRING	-	mesh.thrm
Description: Name of the mesh file.			

#### 4.2.24 SOURCE Card

**source** <source\_filename>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<b>source</b>	STRING	-	source.dat
Description: Name of the volumetric source file for fsrc problems.			

#### 4.2.25 FLUX\_OUT Card

**flux\_out** <flux\_filename>

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<b>flux_out</b>	STRING	-	<job_name>_flux.out
Description: Name of the THOR formatted output flux file			

#### 4.2.26 XS Card

`xs <xs_filename>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>xs</code>	STRING	-	<code>xs.dat</code>
Description: Name of the cross section file			

#### 4.2.27 VTK\_FLUX\_OUT Card

`vtk_flux_out <vtk_flux_spec>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>vtk_flux_out</code>	STRING	yes/no/<filename>	no
Description: If vtk flux file should be written. If yes, then “<job_name>.flux.vtk” is assumed to be the filename. If a string other than “yes” or “no” is given, then that string is assumed to be the filename.			

#### 4.2.28 VTK\_MAT\_OUT Card

`vtk_mat_out <vtk_mat_spec>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>vtk_mat_out</code>	STRING	yes/no/<filename>	no
Description: If vtk material file should be written. If yes, then “<job_name>.mat.vtk” is assumed to be the filename. If a string other than “yes” or “no” is given, then that string is assumed to be the filename.			

#### 4.2.29 VTK\_REG\_OUT Card

`vtk_reg_out <vtk_reg_spec>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>vtk_reg_out</code>	STRING	yes/no/<filename>	no
Description: If vtk region file should be written. If yes, then “<job_name>.reg.vtk” is assumed to be the filename. If a string other than “yes” or “no” is given, then that string is assumed to be the filename.			

#### 4.2.30 VTK\_SRC\_OUT Card

`vtk_src_out <vtk_src_spec>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>vtk_src_out</code>	STRING	yes/no/<filename>	no
Description: If vtk source file should be written. If yes, then “<job_name>_src.vtk” is assumed to be the filename. If a string other than “yes” or “no” is given, then that string is assumed to be the filename.			

#### 4.2.31 CARTESIAN\_MAP\_OUT Card

```
cartesian_map_out <cartesia_map_filename>
```

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>cartesian_map_out</code>	STRING	-	<job_name>\_cartesian\_map.out
Description: Name of the THOR formatted Cartesian map output file			

#### 4.2.32 PRINT\_XS Card

```
print_xs <print_xs_opt>
```

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>print_xs</code>	STRING	yes/no	no
Description: If cross sections are echoed to standard output.			

#### 4.2.33 PNORDER Card

```
pnorder <pn_order>
```

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>pnorder</code>	INTEGER	-	0
Description: Spherical harmonics order used for scattering in code.			

#### 4.2.34 QDTYPE Card

```
qdtype <quad_tp>
```

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
<code>qdtype</code>	STRING	levelsym/legcheb/<filename>	levelsym
Description: Quadrature type: level-symmetric, Legendre-Chebyshev, or read from file if a filename is given (read from file not currently supported).			

#### 4.2.35 QDORDER Card

```
qdorder <quad_ord>
```



Keyword	Type	Options	Default
qdorder	INTEGER	-	4
Description: Order of the angular quadrature.			

#### 4.2.36 CARTESIAN\_MAP Card

`cartesian_map <cart_map_spec>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
cartesian_map	STRING/REAL (9 entries)	no/xmin, xmax, nx, ymin, ymax, ny, zmin, zmax, nz	no
Description: Sets up an overlaid Cartesian mesh that fluxes and reactions rates are averaged over. The Cartesian mesh is defined by the minimum and maximum coordinates for each direction (x, y, z) and number of subdivisions between.			

#### 4.2.37 POINT\_VALUE\_LOCATIONS Card

`point_value_locations <points>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
point_value_locations	STRING/REAL (3 N)	-	no
Description: Allows extraction of flux values at user provided points. N is the number of points, (x,y,z) coordinates of N points, x1 y1 z1 x2 y2...			

#### 4.2.38 REGION\_MAP Card

`region_map <region_maps>`

Keyword	Type	Options	Default
region_map	STRING/INTEGER	no/reg1 mat1 reg2 mat2 reg3 mat3...	no
Description: Mapping from region id to cross section id. Region ids are an integer assigned to to each tetrahedral element that are used to group elements into regions or blocks (see Sect. ??). Cross section ids are indices that identify sets of cross sections provided in the cross section input file (see Sect. ??). If no map is provided, then the mapping is assumed to be one to one, i.e. region 4 maps to cross section material 4, region 8 maps to cross section material 8, etc. The “region_map” card can have entries on multiple lines.			

The `region_map` card is best illustrated for an example. Let us assume that we have regions -1,4,7,19 and we want to assign the cross section materials as follows:

```
-1 -> 12
4 -> 1
7 -> 1
19 -> 3
```

Then the `region_map` card is given by:

```
region_map -1 12 4 1 7 1 19 3
```

or, since the `region_map` can be specified on multiple lines:

```
region_map
-1 12
 4 1
 7 1
19 3
```

### 4.2.39 Legacy Data Cards

The following cards specify data for deprecated features. Unless legacy features are being used, this data is not necessary and will be ignored.

Keyword	Type	Options	Default	Legacy Application
<b>ngroups</b>	INTEGER	-	1	Old XS format
Description: Number of energy groups in cross section file.				
<b>pnread</b>	INTEGER	-	0	Old XS format
Description: Spherical harmonics expansion provided in cross section file.				
<b>upscattering</b>	STRING	yes/no	yes	Old XS format
Description: Read upscattering data from cross section file or ignore it.				
<b>multiplying</b>	STRING	yes/no	yes	Old XS format
Description: If the cross section file contains fission information.				
<b>scatt_mult_included</b>	STRING	yes/no	yes	Old XS format
Description: If the cross section file scattering data includes the $2l + 1$ multiplier or not.				

## 4.3 THOR Mesh Format

Line 1: number of vertices

Line 2: number of elements

Line 3: unused enter 1

Line 4: unused enter 1

Block 1: vertex coordinates, number of lines = number of vertices; each line is as follows:  
`vertex_id x-coordinate y-coordinate z-coordinate`

Block 2: region and source id assignments, number of lines = number of elements; each line is as follows:  
`element_id region_id source_id`

For setting up Monte Carlo on the tet mesh, this block can be ignored.

Block 3: element descriptions, the `vertex_ids` that form each element. Number of lines = number of elements;

each line is as follows:

`element_id vertex_id1 vertex_id2 vertex_id3 vertex_id4`

Next line: number of boundary face edits

Block 4: boundary face descriptions. All exterior faces associated with their boundary condition id, number if lines = number of boundary face edits; each line is as follows:

`element_id local_tetrahedron_face_id boundary_condition_id`

Explanation: `local_tetrahedron_face_id`: natural local id of tetrahedrons face which is the id of the vertex opposite to this face. Note: indexed 0-3. `boundary_condition_id`: value = 0: vacuum BC value = 1: reflective BC value = 2: fixed inflow

Next line: number of adjacency list entries

Block 5: adjacency list, number of lines = number of adjacency list entries; each line is as follows:

`element_id face_id neighbor_id neighbor_face_id`

Explanation: The `element_id` is the current element. The neighbor across the face indexed by `face_id` has the element id `neighbor_id` and the its own local index for the said common face is `neighbor_face_id`.

## 4.4 THOR Cross Section Format

Lines starting with an exclamation point, !, and blank lines will be ignored. Any data following an exclamation point on a used line will be ignored. This is equivalent to FORTRAN's comment style. An example of the format is given in `<thor_dir>/THOR/examples/c5g7.xs`. The following is the order of the data as it appears in the cross section file:

Line 1: `THOR_XS_V1 <num_mats> <G> <L>`

Line 2: `energy_group_boundary_1... energy_group_boundary_G`

Block 1: Each entry in this block contains cross sections for a single material.

Each block contains  $(L+1)*G+5$  lines. There are `num_mats` blocks.

Entry line 1: `id <material_id> name <material_name>`

Entry line 2: `fission_spectrum_1 fission_spectrum_2... fission_spectrum_G`

Entry line 3: `Sigma_f_1 Sigma_f_2 Sigma_f_3... Sigma_f_G`

Entry line 4: `nu_bar_1 nu_bar_2... nu_bar_G`

Entry line 5: `Sigma_t_1 Sigma_t_2... Sigma_t_G`

Entry line 6: `sig_scatt_{0, 1->1} sig_scatt_{0, 2->1}... sig_scatt_{0, G->1}`

Entry line 7: `sig_scatt_{0, 1->2} sig_scatt_{0, 2->2}... sig_scatt_{0, G->2}`

:

Entry line  $G+5$ : `sig_scatt_{0, 1->G} sig_scatt_{0, 2->G}... sig_scatt_{0, G->G}`

Entry line  $G+6$ : `sig_scatt_{1, 1->1} sig_scatt_{1, 2->1}... sig_scatt_{1, G->1}`

Entry line  $G+7$ : `sig_scatt_{1, 1->2} sig_scatt_{1, 2->2}... sig_scatt_{1, G->2}`

:

Entry line  $2G+5$ : `sig_scatt_{1, 1->G} sig_scatt_{1, 2->G}... sig_scatt_{1, G->G}`

:

Entry line  $LG+6$ : `sig_scatt_{L, 1->G} sig_scatt_{L, 2->G}... sig_scatt_{L, G->G}`

:

- `num_mats` = Total number of cross section materials.
- `G` = Total number of energy groups.
- `L` = Scattering expansion order.
- `energy_group_boundary_g`: Currently unused, can be filled with 0s. Upper bound of energy group  $g$ . The assumption is that the energy structure is the same for all materials.
- `material_id` = Index of the material. Used in identifying the material and region mapping.
- `material_name` = Name of the material. Not used except in output for the user to keep track of materials.
- `fission_spectrum_g`: Fraction of neutrons born in fission that appear in energy group  $g$  ( $\chi$ ).
- `Sigma_f_g`: Fission cross section in group  $g$  ( $\Sigma_f$  NOT  $\nu\Sigma_f$ ).
- `nu_bar_g`: average number of neutrons released by fission caused by a neutron in energy group  $g$  ( $\nu$ ).
- `Sigma_t_g`: total cross section in energy group  $g$  ( $\Sigma_t$ ).
- `sig_scatt_{l, g'→g}`:  $l$ -th Legendre polynomial moment of the scattering cross section from group  $g$  to  $g$  ( $\Sigma_{s,l,g'→g}$ ). The  $(2 * l + 1)$  factor may be included in the value of the cross section or not, THOR can handle both cases. It needs to be specified separately every time.

## 4.5 THOR Density Factor Format

THOR density factors are used to adjust cross sections in the transport calculation. The first line in the file contains the `<adj_type>`, specifying whether the data contained within is `volumes` or `dens_facts` for the data. If `volumes` is specified, then the `adjustment` values are actual volumes of the regions pre-meshing. The meshed volume is then divided by the exact volume and the resulting ratio is the scaling factor for the cross sections in that region in THOR. If `dens_facts` is specified, then the `adjustment` values are assumed to be the actual scaling factors for the cross sections for the specified region in THOR.  $N$  here is the number of regions as found in the standard input and mesh file. Lines starting with an exclamation point, `!`, and blank lines will be ignored. Any data following an exclamation point on a used line will be ignored. This is equivalent to FORTRAN's comment style. The following describes the density factor format for THOR:

```
Line 1: <adj_type>
Line 2: <region_number> <adjustment>
Line 3: <region_number> <adjustment>
      :
Line N+1: <region_number> <adjustment>
```

# Bibliography

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- [2] M.J. Engelke, E.A. Bemis Jr., and J.A. Sayeg. Neutron tissue dose rate survey for the godiva ii critical assembly. Technical report, Los Alamos National Laboratory, 1961.