



# Extension of the PINN\* Diffusion Model to $k$ -eigenvalue Problems

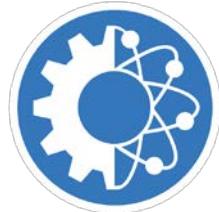
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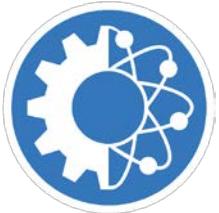
*International Conference on Physics of Reactors (PHYSOR 2022)*  
*Pittsburgh PA, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022*

**\*PINN - Physics Informed Neural Network**



# Outline

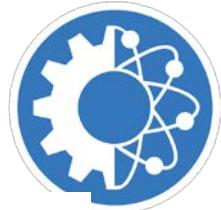
- Background Introduction
- Forward PINN Framework
- PINN for eigenvalue problems
- Numerical Examples
- Conclusions
- Future Work



# Background

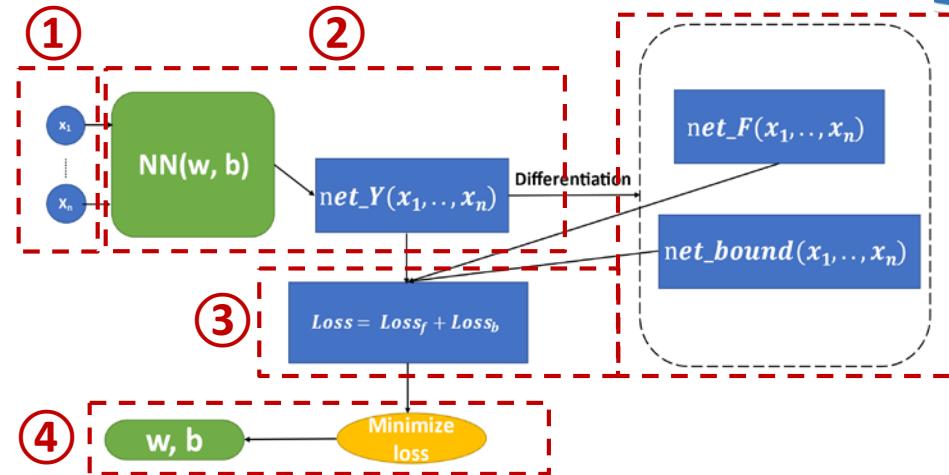
- PINN directly tackles PDEs without prior assumptions or simplifications.
- PINN takes advantages of deep learning technique and greatly simplifies numerical implementation for PDE solvers
- Forward PINN has been picked up in a variety of engineering discipline applications, but rarely seen in nuclear engineering applications
- Preliminary success has been established for PINN in fixed-source diffusion models (previous work)
- This one extends PINN methods to  $k$ -eigenvalue diffusion models

# Forward PINN Framework



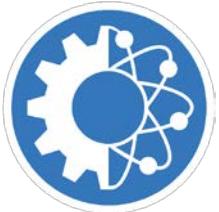
## PINN training algorithm:

1. Select **training points**
2. Evaluate the **NN predictions** at the set of training points
3. Calculate the deviation between predictions and **target values** through the loss function
4. Minimize the **loss function**



PINN Training Scheme

Important note: we do not have direct target values for the predictions, but we know these predictions must satisfy the PDE and the boundary conditions (B.C.).



# Explanation Example

The 2D fixed-source diffusion model:

$$-\nabla \cdot D \nabla \phi(x, y) + \Sigma_a \phi(x, y) - S = 0$$

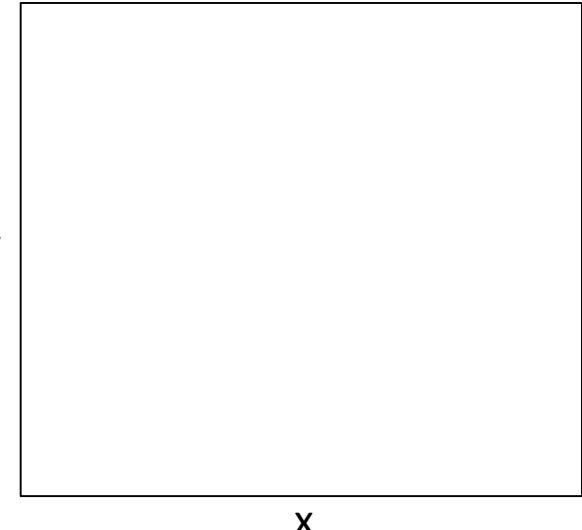
Subject to the following B.C.:

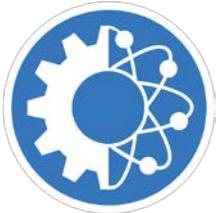
Bottom:  $\phi(x, 0) = a$

Left:  $\phi(0, y) = a$

Top:  $\frac{d\phi}{dy} = 0$  (Reflective)

Right:  $\frac{d\phi}{dx} + 0.5\phi = 0$  (Zero-incoming flux)





# Explanation Example: Main PDE

Approximating the solution by NN:

$$\phi(x, y) \approx \text{net}_\phi(x, y)$$

Evaluate the residual of diffusion model:

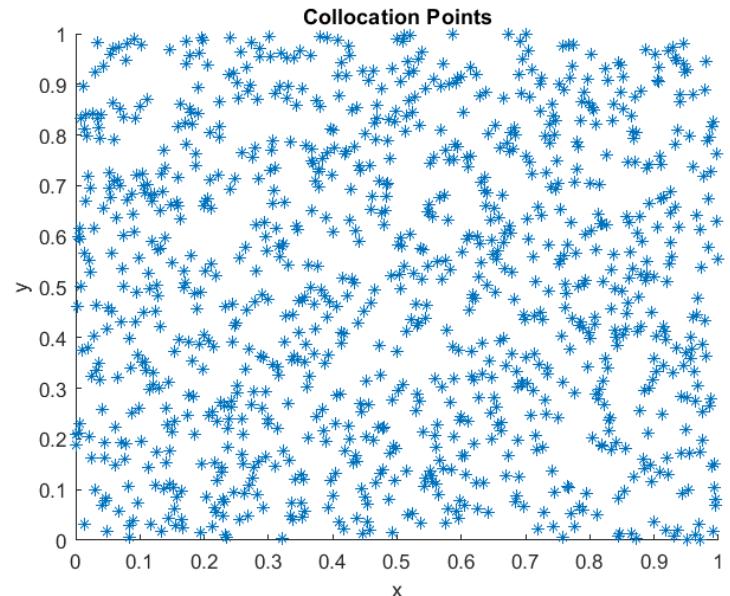
$$\begin{aligned}\text{net}_F(x, y) := & -\nabla \cdot D \nabla \text{net}_\phi(x, y) \\ & + \Sigma_a \text{net}_\phi(x, y) - S\end{aligned}$$

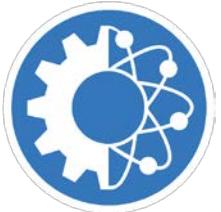
Set the target values:

$$\text{net}_F(x, y) = 0$$

Define the loss function:

$$\text{Loss}_{PDE} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_f} (\text{net}_F(x_i, y_i))^2$$





# Explanation Example: Use of BC's

**Left & Bottom:**

**Target values:**  $\text{net}_\phi(x, y) = a$

**Loss:**  $\text{Loss}_{L\&B} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{L\&B}} (\text{net}_\phi(x_j, y_j) - a)^2$

**Right:**  $\text{net}_{BR}(1, y) = \frac{d\phi}{dx} + 0.5\phi$

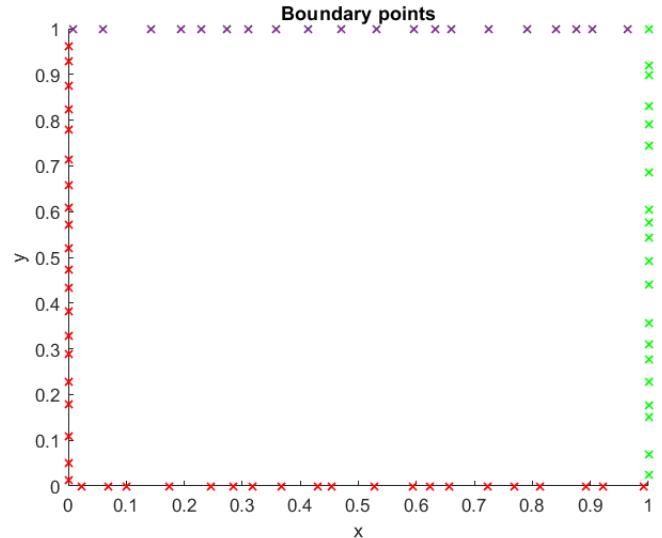
**Target values:**  $\text{net}_{BR}(1, y) = 0$

**Loss:**  $\text{Loss}_R = \sum_{l=1}^{N_R} (\text{net}_{BR}(1, y_l))^2$

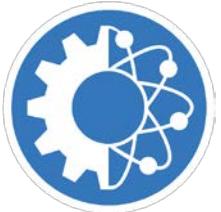
**Top:**  $\text{net}_{BT}(1, y) = \frac{d\phi}{dy}$

**Target values:**  $\text{net}_{BT}(x, 1) = 0$

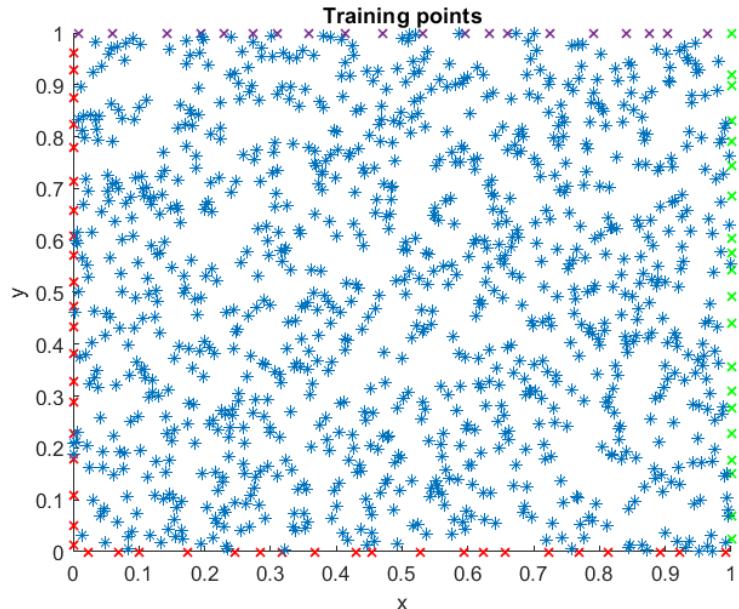
**Loss:**  $\text{Loss}_T = \sum_{m=1}^{N_T} (\text{net}_{BT}(x_m, 1))^2$



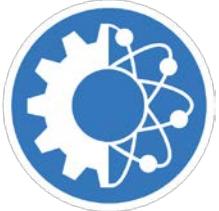
$$\text{Loss}_{BC's} = \text{Loss}_{L\&B} + \text{Loss}_R + \text{Loss}_T$$



# Explanation Example: Put Things Together



$$\text{Loss} = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N_f} (\text{net}_F(x_i, y_i))^2}_{\text{Neutron Balance (i.e., physics principle)}} + \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^{N_{L\&B}} (\text{net}_\phi(x_j, y_j) - a)^2}_{\text{Boundary Conditions}} + \sum_{l=1}^{N_R} (\text{net}_{\text{BR}}(1, y_l))^2 + \sum_{m=1}^{N_T} (\text{net}_{\text{BT}}(x_m, 1))^2$$



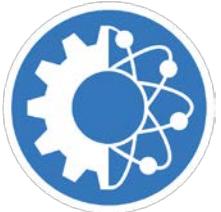
# *k*-eigenvalue Problems

The 2D *k*-eigenvalue diffusion model:

$$F := \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( D \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( D \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \right) \right] - \Sigma_a(x, y) \phi(x, y) + \frac{1}{k} v \Sigma_f(x, y) \phi(x, y) = 0$$

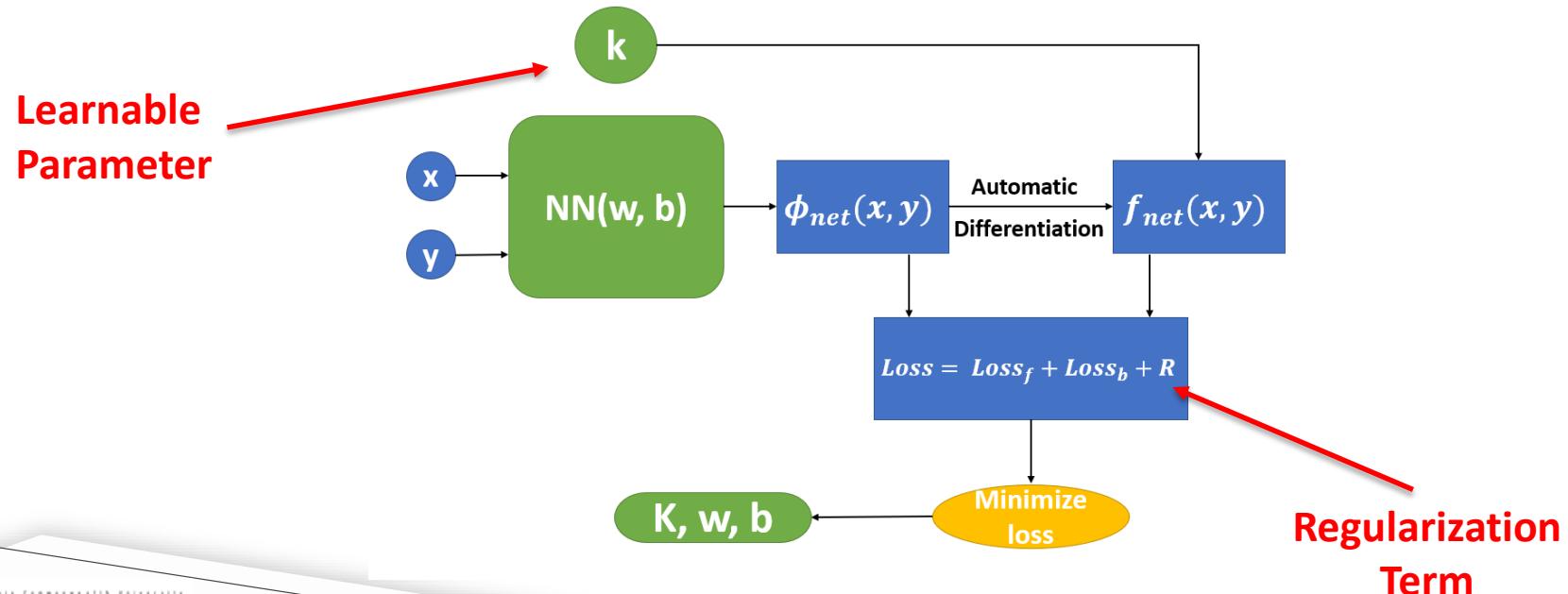
Why this is different?

- Parametric equation (unknown *k*)
- Homogenous (Direct minimization of *F* results in  $\phi(x, y) = 0$  )



# Customize PINN for $k$ -eigen Problems

Add one free learnable parameter in PINN to approximate  $k$





# Additional Regulation for the Loss Function

$$\text{Loss} = \underbrace{\text{Loss}_f}_{\text{Neutron Balance} \\ (\text{i.e., physics principle})} + \underbrace{\text{Loss}_b}_{\text{Boundary} \\ \text{Conditions}} + \underbrace{R}_{\text{Regularization}}$$

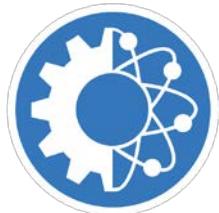
Regularization term:

$$R = [\text{Fission rate} - C]^2$$

Here  $C$  is a user provided parameter, and the fission rate is

$$\text{Fission rate} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^{N_f} \Sigma_f \phi_{net}(x_i, y_i)$$

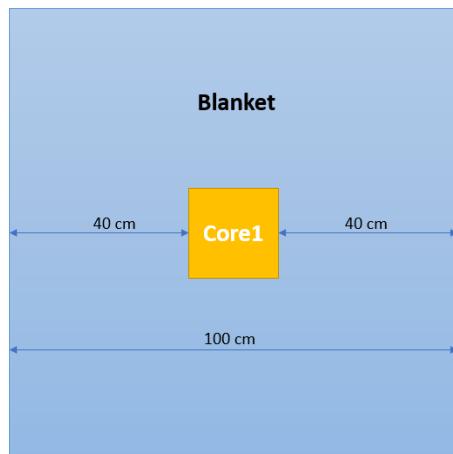
# One-Group 2D Examples



Material Properties

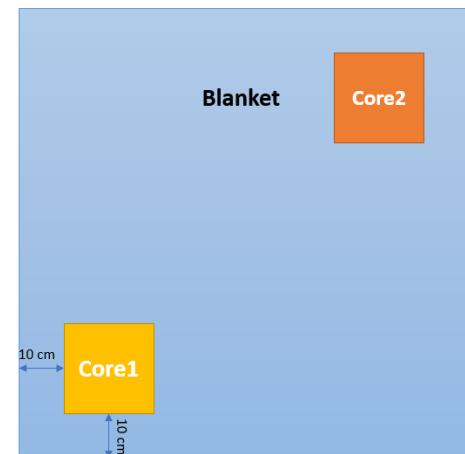
Region Material	$\Sigma_a$ (cm $^{-1}$ )	$D$ (cm)	$\Sigma_f$ (cm $^{-1}$ )
Core 1	0.062158	2.2008	0.107622
Core 2	0.062158	2.2008	0.102622
Blanket	0.064256	2.0950	0.0

Example 1



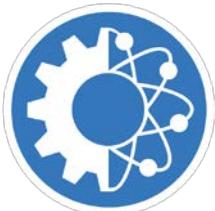
(a)

Example 2

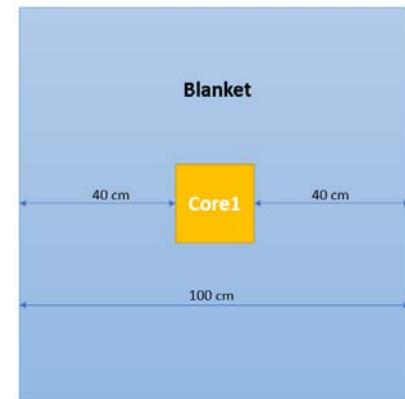
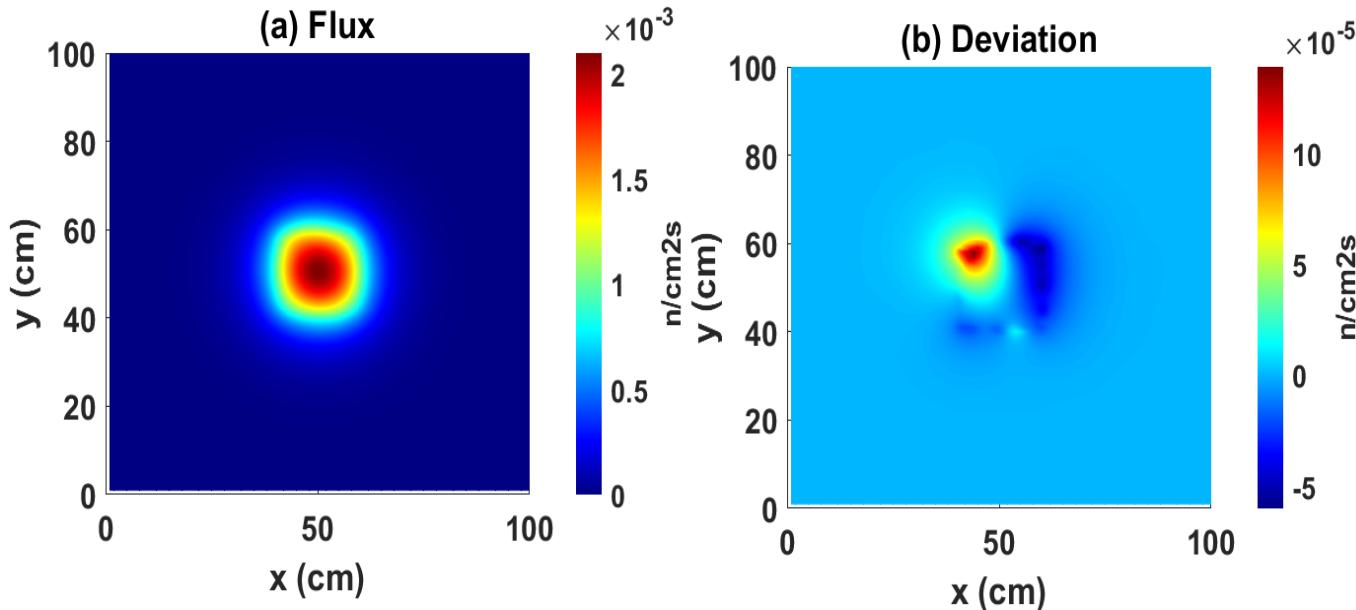


(b)

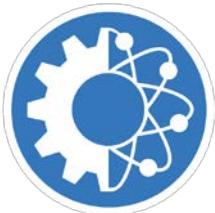
All zero-incoming flux B.C. assumed



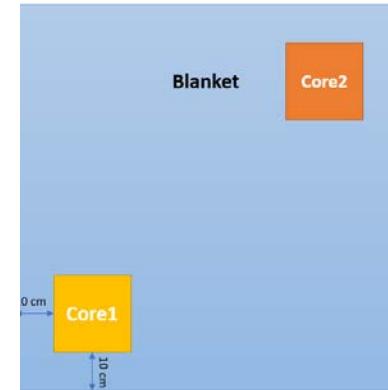
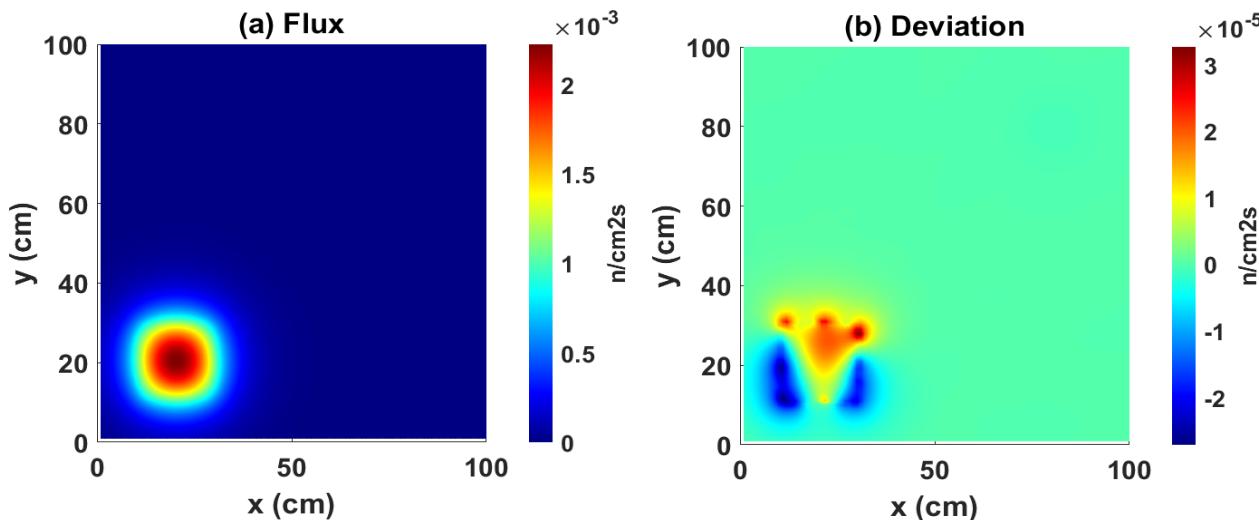
# Example 1 Results



Predicted       $k = 0.96266$   
Reference       $k = 0.96395$   
 $\%Err = 0.13\% \text{ (129 pcm)}$

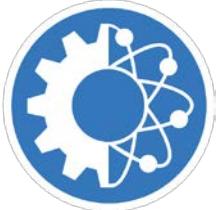


# Example 2 Results



Predicted  $k = 0.95894$   
Reference  $k = 0.96321$

$\%Err = 0.44\% (427 \text{ pcm})$



# Two-Group Diffusion Model

$$\begin{cases} F_1 := -\nabla(D_1 \nabla \phi_1) + \Sigma_{r,1}\phi_1 - \frac{1}{k}v\Sigma_{f,2}\phi_2 = 0 \\ F_2 := -\nabla(D_2 \nabla \phi_2) + \Sigma_{a,2}\phi_2 - \Sigma_{s,1 \rightarrow 2}\phi_1 = 0 \end{cases}$$

- **What's the difference?**

- Joint learning task
- Generally multi-scale optimization problem

$$\begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(x, y) \\ \phi_2(x, y) \end{bmatrix} = NN(x, y)$$

$$\text{Loss} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_b} \left| \begin{array}{l} F_{T1}(x_j^T, y_j^T) \\ F_{T2}(x_j^T, y_j^T) \end{array} \right|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{N_f} \left| \begin{array}{l} \color{red}{F_1(x_i^f, y_i^f)} \\ \color{red}{F_2(x_i^f, y_i^f)} \end{array} \right|^2 + \dots + R$$

**Boundary Conditions**      **Neutron Balance**      **Regularization**



# Two-Group 1D Multi-Region Example

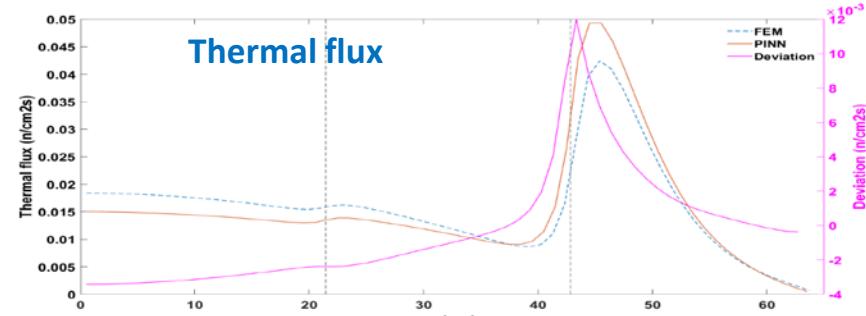
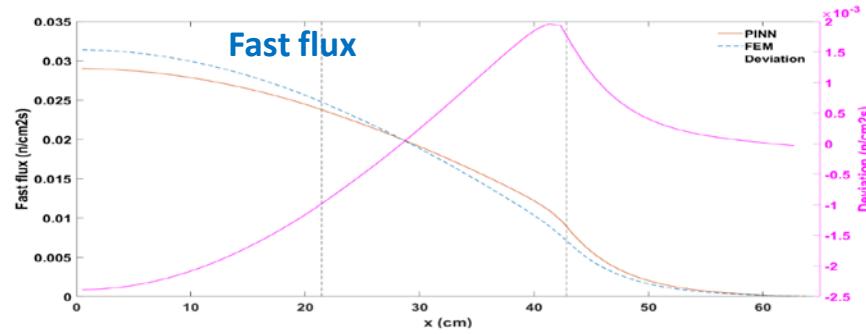
Material Properties

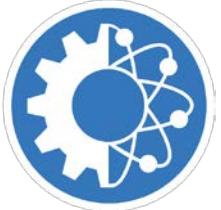
	Material 1	Material 2	Material 3
$D_1$ [ cm ]	1.2	1.2	1.2
$D_2$ [cm]	0.4	0.4	0.2
$\Sigma_{r,1}$ cm $^{-1}$ ]	0.03	0.03	0.051
$\Sigma_{a,2}$ cm $^{-1}$ ]	0.3	0.25	0.04
$\Sigma_{s,1 \rightarrow 2}$ cm $^{-1}$ ]	0.015	0.015	0.05
$\Sigma_{f,1}$ cm $^{-1}$ ]	0.0075	0.0075	0
$\Sigma_{f,2}$ cm $^{-1}$ ]	0.45	0.375	0

Predicted  $k = 0.96764$

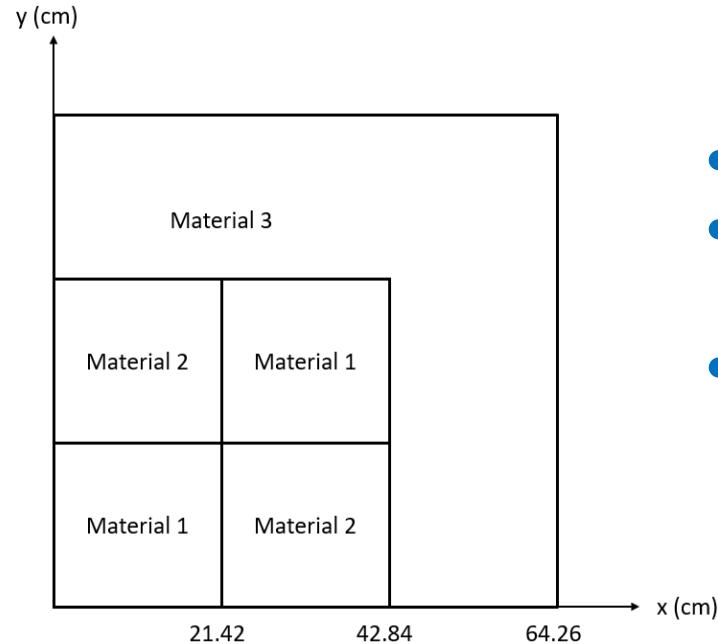
Reference  $k = 0.96243$

%Err = 0.54% (521 pcm)

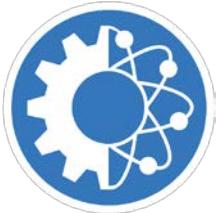




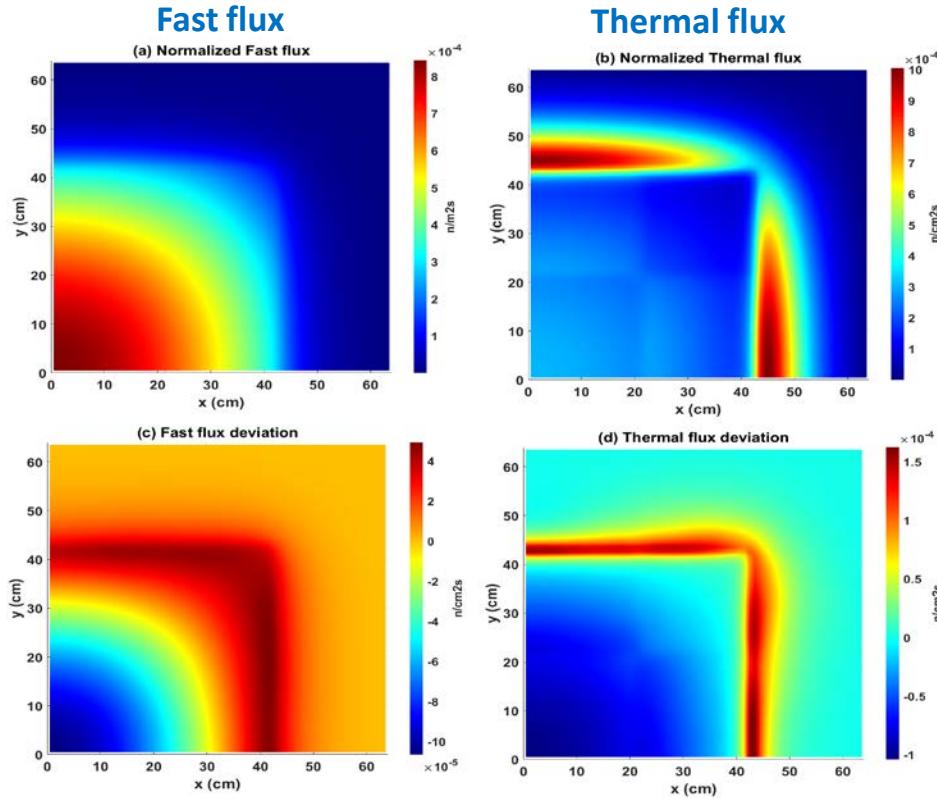
# Two-Group 2D Five Region Example



- Reflective BC. (Left and Bottom)
- Zero-flux BC. (Top and Right)
- The same material properties from the 1D example was used



# Two-Group 2D Example Results

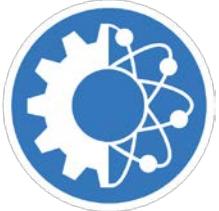


Predicted  
Reference

$$k = 0.93620$$
$$k = 0.92764$$

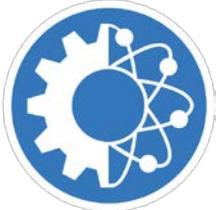
$$\%Err = 0.92\% \text{ (856 pcm)}$$

Compared to reference solutions,  
the max relative difference for  
fast flux is 8%, for thermal flux is  
15% .



# Conclusions

- **Advantages:**
  1. Obtain **mesh-free** solutions
  2. No simplifications for material **interfaces** or **B.C.s**
  3. Eliminate the **fission source convergence** problem
  4. Achieve **the same level of accuracy** as conventional methods.
  5. Manpower efforts for the PINN can be **significantly reduced**.
- **Challenges:**
  1. Computational complexity
  2. Applications to higher dimensionality problems
  3. Multi-scale optimization (**Multi-group problems**)



# Discussion and Future Work

- Computational accuracy and efficiency
- PINN variations:
  - Physics-Informed Neural Operator (PINO)
  - Parareal Physics-Informed Neural Network (PPINN)
  - Probabilistic PINN
- Future efforts
  - Dominance Ratio
  - Multi-group problems ( $G > 2$ )



# Thank You, and Any Questions?

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## Extension of the PINN Diffusion Model to k-eigenvalue Problems

PHYSOR 2022 Conference, May 15-20, 2022



**VCU** College of Engineering  
Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering