



# PUSPATI TRIGA REACTOR (RTP) CONTROL ROD WORTH CALIBRATION DATABASE DEVELOPMENT

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### *Abstract*

*This paper is about The PUSPATI TRIGA Reactor (RTP) control rod worth calibration database / development. This database is very important as part of RTP core management analysis to support the improvement of in-core management strategy for safe operation and better utilisation. Control rod worth calibration has been done annually since 1982, the year when RTP start its operation and usually done during RTP annual maintenance by using positive period method part of licensing requirement set by AELB. Few reasons of inconsistency of data were identified and elaborated in this paper such as a physical properties of control rod like control rod position inside the core. Finally, this database is crucial for security of data, data integrity of consistent and accurate data and easier data management in the future.*

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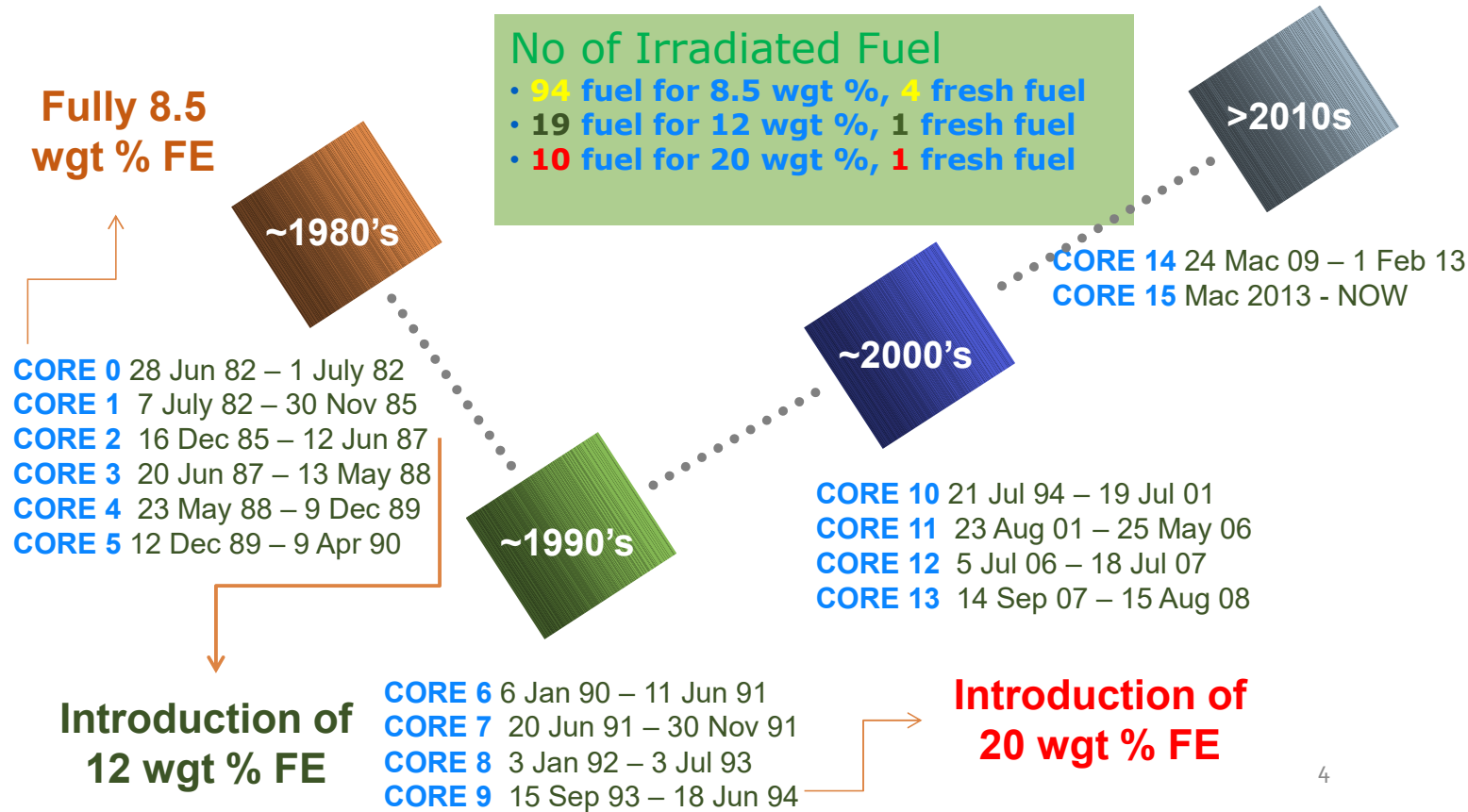
Keywords: RTP, TRIGA, Control Rod Worth, positive period method

# Content

- Objective
- Background
- Method
- Results
- Conclusion

# Objective

- RTP Control Rod Worth (CRW) calibration database development (1982-2019)
- As part of RTP core management analysis to support the improvement of in-core management strategy for safe operation



# Background

- Each change in reactivity caused by control rod motion is referred to as control rod worth/control rod reactivity worth
- There are several methods for determining the reactivity worth curve of control rods and these methods depends on the reactor type, the available instrument and time:
  - a) Positive period method
  - b) Rod Drop Method
  - c) Inverse rate method
  - d) Inverse kinetics method (Reactivity meter)

# Background

## a) Positive period method

$$P(t) = P(0) \exp\left(\frac{t}{T}\right)$$

$P(t)$  := reactor power at time  $t$ .

$P(0)$  := initial power

$T$  := reactor period [sec]

$$\rho = \omega \left[ l + \sum_{i=1}^6 \frac{\beta_i}{\omega + \lambda_i} \right]$$

In-hour Eq.

$\rho$  := reactivity

$l$  := prompt neutron generation time [s]

$\omega$  := inverse hour (if doubling time  $\omega = \ln 2 / t$ )

$\beta(i)$  :=  $i$ -th delayed neutron fraction

$\lambda(i)$  :=  $i$ -th precursor decay constant [1/s]

# Background

b) Rod drop method

$$\frac{n_1}{n_0} = \frac{\beta}{\beta - \rho}$$

Derived from  
point kinetic Eq.

$n(1)$ := neutron population after prompt jump.

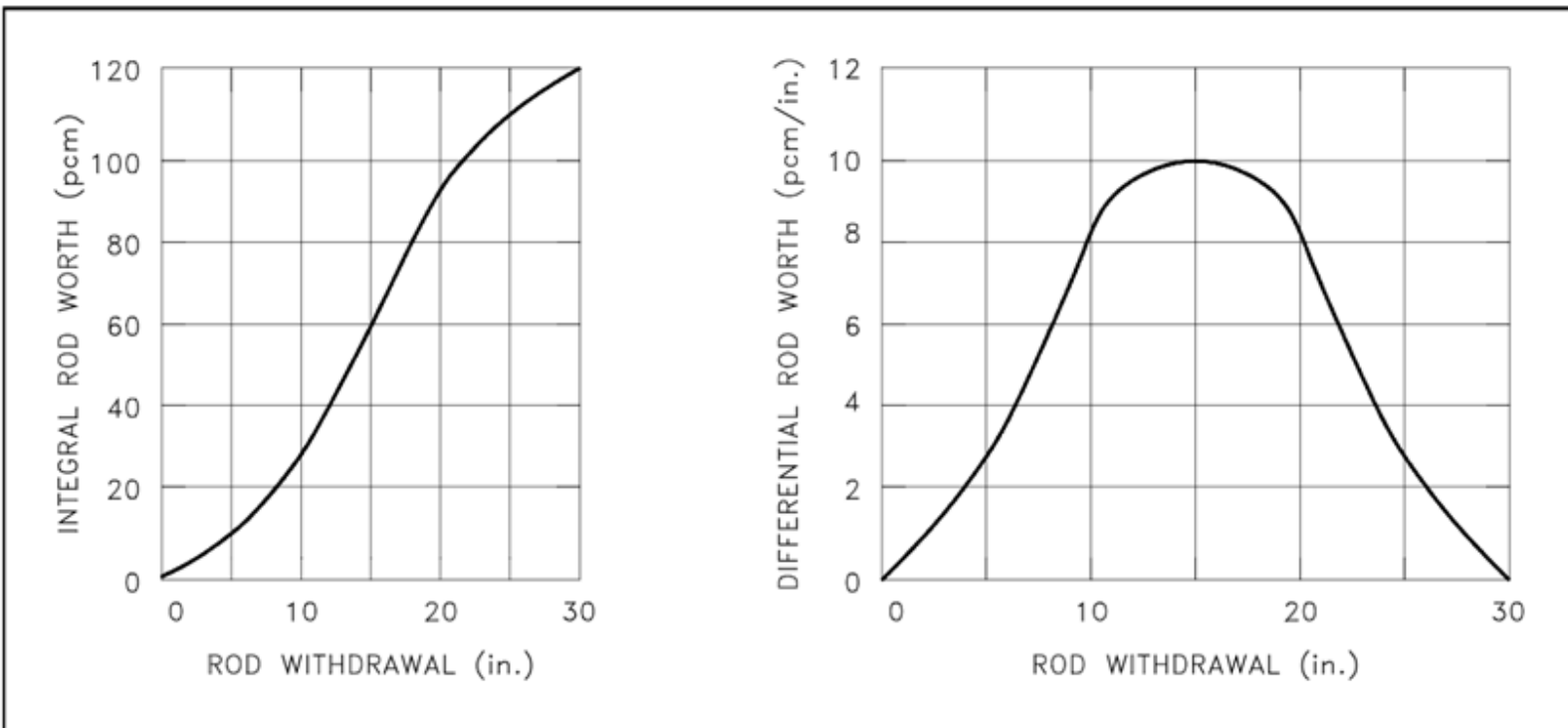
$n(0)$ := initial neutron population before prompt jump

$\beta$ :=effective delayed neutron fraction

$\rho$ :=reactivity

# Background

## Integral and Differential Rod Worth Curve





# Method

## PROCEDURE

Calibration of the individual rod by using positive period method

1. Neutron source is placed inside the core.
2. The control rod to be calibrated shall be at the bottom plate of the core. (start calibration with TR from bottom)
3. Freeze the rod to be calibrated. (start calibration from bottom)
4. Operate the reactor power level at 5 W by withdrawing three rods.
5. Make sure that the three control rods are in the same position and elevation discrepancy between the highest and the lowest rod shall be less than 30 mm
6. Change the control mode to AUTO with demand power of 5 W.
7. Remove the neutron source from the core and place at the storage rack.
8. Maintain the power at 5W in the range of  $\pm 1\%$  rate for 5 minute in AUTO mode for all the delayed neutron effects to die out.
9. The equilibrium 5 W is reached and switch to MANUAL mode.
10. Unfreeze the frozen rod and if the power moving from the equilibrium, repeat step 8 to 9.
11. Record all the control rods position.
12. Withdraw the control rod to be calibrated by 10 mm or less distance.
13. Observe the reactor period is between 15 and 30 seconds and freeze the control rod.
14. If the reactor period is longer than 30 seconds, repeat step 8 to step 13
15. Measure the time to power level increased by 1.5 times (280 W to 420 W, 320W to 490 W, 360 W to 540 W, 400W to 600 W, 440 W to 660 W and 480 W to 720 W) by using stop watch or RTP Trend Software. (Stick visible note for 1.5 times power for reference)
16. Record the control rod position together with the time to power level increased by 1.5 times on the Data Sheet
17. Take five to six values. The reactivity values are obtained from the average value of the time by referring to the reactivity table or by using curve fit reactivity table formula.
18. Make sure average time is between 9 and 24 seconds except 6 to 42 seconds for the last step of each CR calibration.
19. Do not let the reactor power level exceeds 1 kW.
20. Lower the power to 5 W by lowering other three control rods.
21. Repeat step 8 to step 20 until the control rod to be calibrated is fully out from the core. (Average time for step 21 is 12 to 15 min)
22. Repeat step 1 to step 21 for other each control rod to be calibrated.
23. Trip the reactor by pressing the MANUAL SYSTEM TRIP switch.

Source:

1. RTP CRW Annual Maintenance Report 2019
2. RTP-JILID7, Procedure 8.0 Control rod calibration
3. IMS-T-07 Revision: 1.0 (2014) Tentukuran Rod Kawalan
4. TP-RPT-01 Rev. No.: 0 RPT Procedure of Rod Worth Measurement

# Method

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# Method

Excel ribbon: FILE, HOME, INSERT, PAGE LAYOUT, FORMULAS, DATA, REVIEW, VIEW, ADD-INS, Nitro Pro 9, PDF, POWERPIVOT

Clipboard: Paste, Cut, Copy, Format Painter

Font: MS Sans Serif, 10, Bold, Italic, Underline, Text Color, Background Color

Alignment: Wrap Text, Merge & Center

Number: General, Percentage, Decimals, Thousands Separator

Conditional Formatting, Format as Table, Normal\_Book1, Calculation

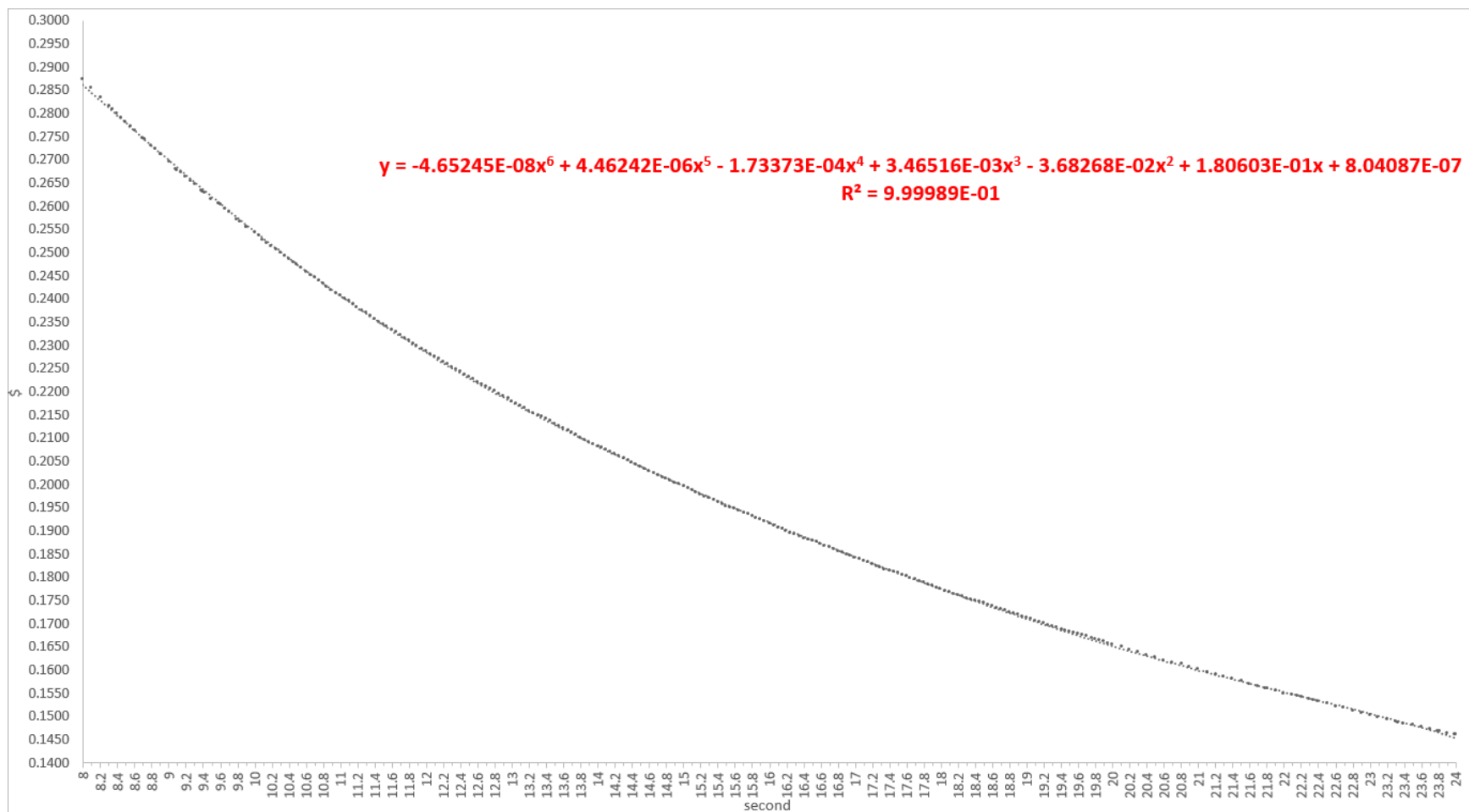
Formula bar: C8, 10.43

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1	8	0.2873	10.0	0.2542	12.0	0.2287	14.0	0.2083	16.0	0.1915	18.0	0.1774	20.0	0.1654	22.0
2	0	0	10.04	0.2536	12.010	0.2286	14.004	0.2083	#REF!	#REF!	18.06	0.1770	0	0	22.09
3	8.1	0.2854	10.1	0.2527	12.1	0.2275	14.1	0.2074	16.1	0.1907	18.1	0.1768	20.1	0.1649	22.1
4	8.14	0.2846	10.150	0.2520	12.19	0.22651	14.15	0.2070	16.1778	0.1902	18.168	0.1763	0	0	22.155
5	8.2	0.2835	10.2	0.2513	12.2	0.2264	14.2	0.2065	16.2	0.1900	18.2	0.1761	20.2	0.1643	22.2
6	0	0	10.27	0.2503	12.21	0.2263	14.21	0.2064	16.250	0.1896	18.22	0.1760	0	0	22.232
7	8.3	0.2817	10.3	0.2493	12.3	0.2253	14.3	0.2056	16.3	0.1892	18.3	0.1755	20.3	0.1638	22.3
8	8.350	0.2803	10.43	0.2481	#REF!	#REF!	14.31	0.2055	16.35	0.1889	18.32	0.1754	0	0	22.347
9	8.4	0.2793	10.4	0.2465	12.4	0.2242	14.4	0.2047	16.4	0.1885	18.4	0.1749	20.4	0.1632	22.4
10	8.45	0.2790	10.43	0.2481	#REF!	#REF!	14.430	0.2044	16.42	0.1884	18.482	0.1744	20.41	0.16315	0
11	8.5	0.2781	10.5	0.2472	12.5	0.2232	14.5	0.2038	16.5	0.1878	18.5	0.1743	20.5	0.1627	22.5
12	8.55	0.2772	10.506	0.2471	12.59	0.2223	14.513	0.2037	16.52	0.1876	18.548	0.1740	20.503	0.16268	0
13	8.6	0.2763	10.6	0.2458	12.6	0.2221	14.6	0.2029	16.6	0.1870	18.6	0.1736	20.6	0.1621	22.6
14	0	0	#REF!	#REF!	12.61	0.2220	14.69	0.2022	16.64	0.1867	18.6556	0.1733	0	0	0
15	8.7	0.2746	10.7	0.2445	12.7	0.2210	14.7	0.2021	16.7	0.1863	18.7	0.1730	20.7	0.1616	22.7
16	8.723	0.2742	10.78	0.2435	12.760	0.2205	14.750	0.2017	#REF!	#REF!	0	0	20.779	0.1612	0
17	8.8	0.2729	10.8	0.2432	12.8	0.2200	14.8	0.2012	16.8	0.1856	18.8	0.1724	20.8	0.1611	22.8
18	8.84	0.2722	10.83	0.2428	12.83	0.2200	14.87	0.2006	16.69	0.1864	18.88	0.1719	20.8056	0.1611	0
19	8.9	0.2712	10.9	0.2419	12.9	0.2190	14.9	0.2003	16.9	0.1849	18.9	0.1718	20.9	0.1605	22.9
20	8.91	0.2710	10.96	0.2411	12.97	0.2182	0	0	#REF!	#REF!	18.91	0.1717	20.9744	0.1601	0
21	9	0.2695	11.0	0.2406	13.0	0.2179	15.0	0.1995	17.0	0.1842	19.0	0.1712	21.0	0.1600	23.0
22	9.090	0.2681	11.001	0.2406	13.050	0.2174	15.010	0.1994	17.045	0.1840	19.0544	0.1709	21.08	0.1596	0
23	9.1	0.2679	11.1	0.2394	13.1	0.2169	15.1	0.1987	17.1	0.1835	19.1	0.1706	21.1	0.1595	23.1

Reactivity Table

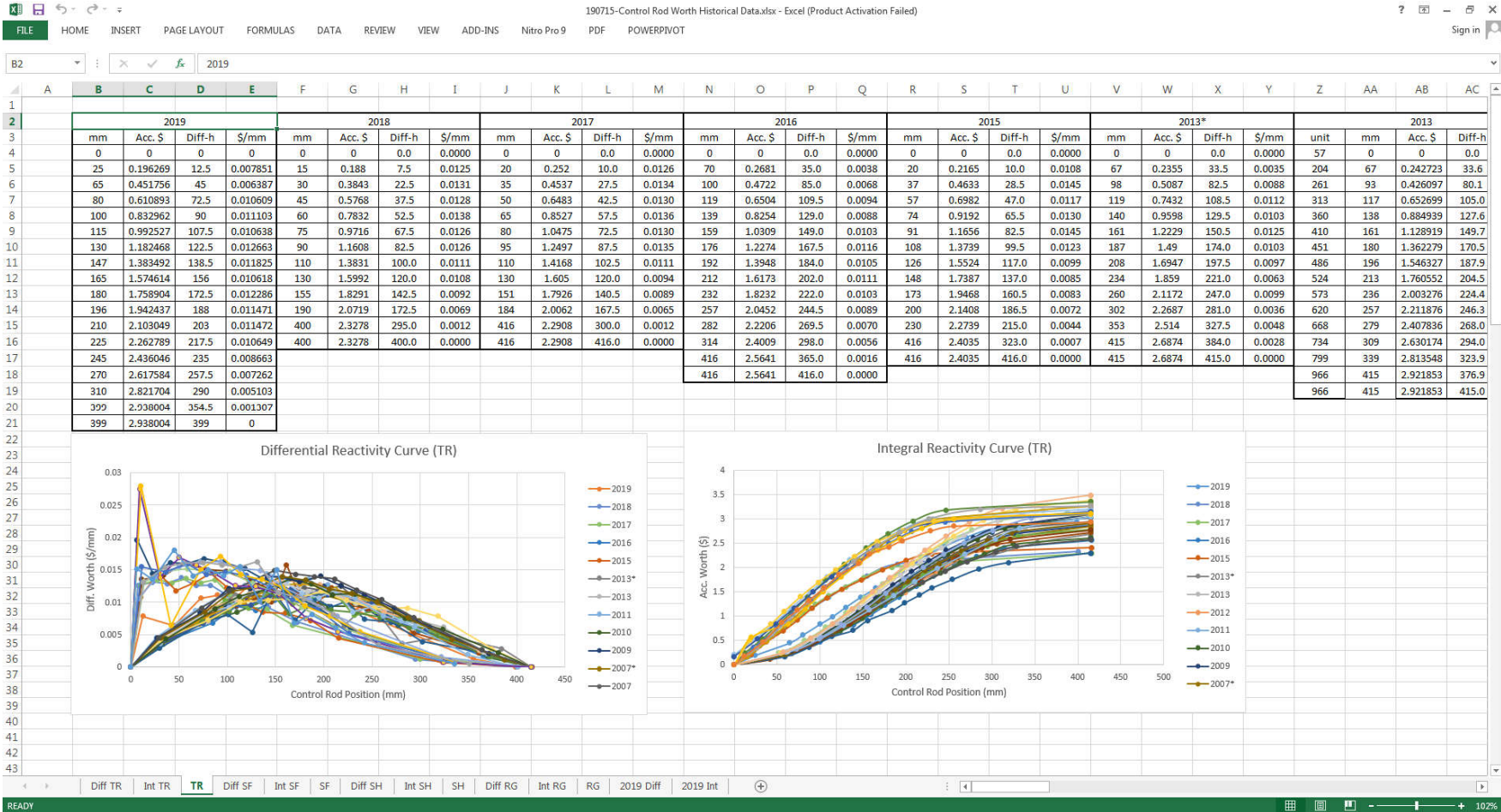
# Method

Curve fit reactivity  
table formula



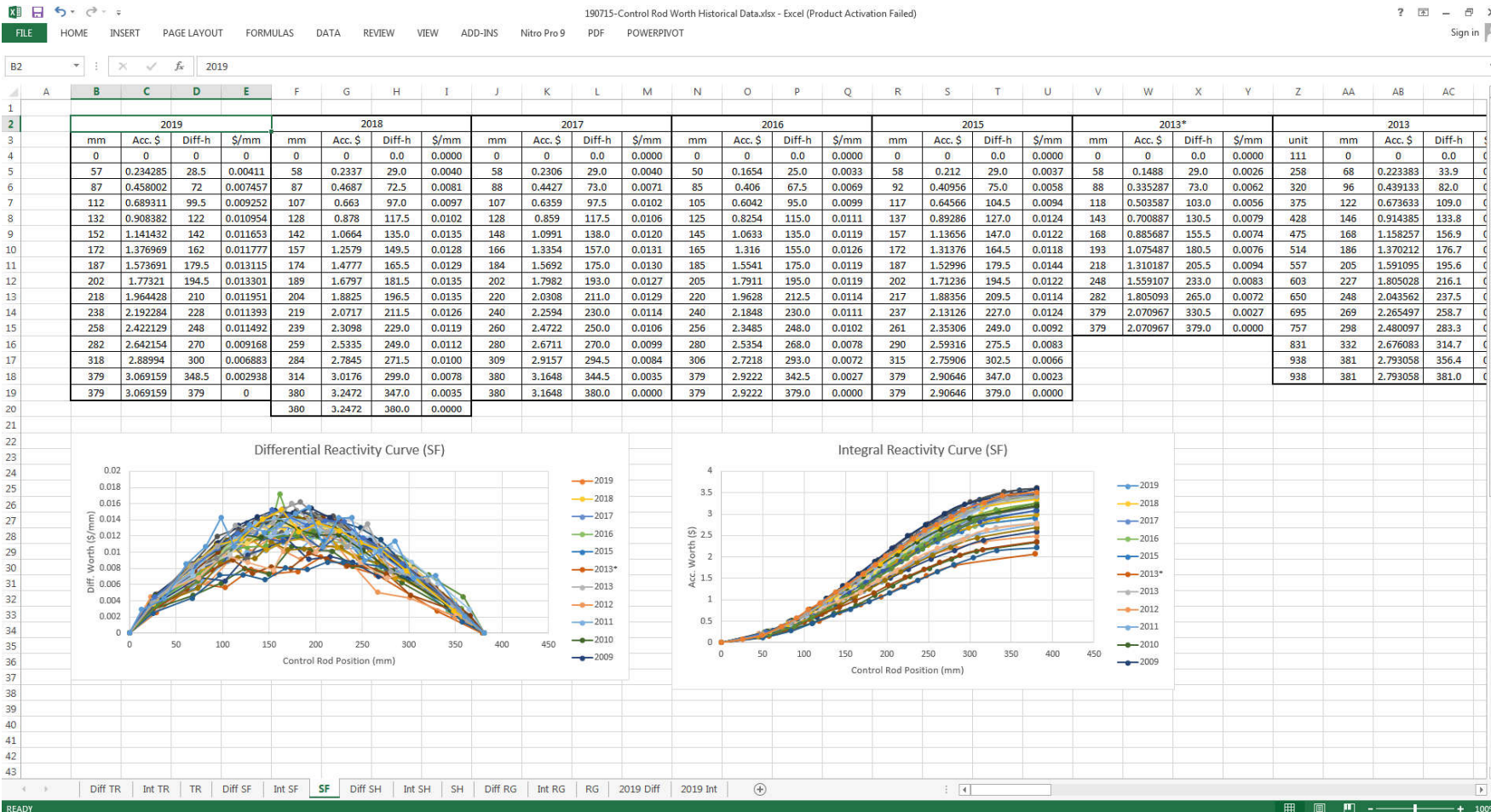
# Results

## RTP CRW Database 1982-2019 (TR)



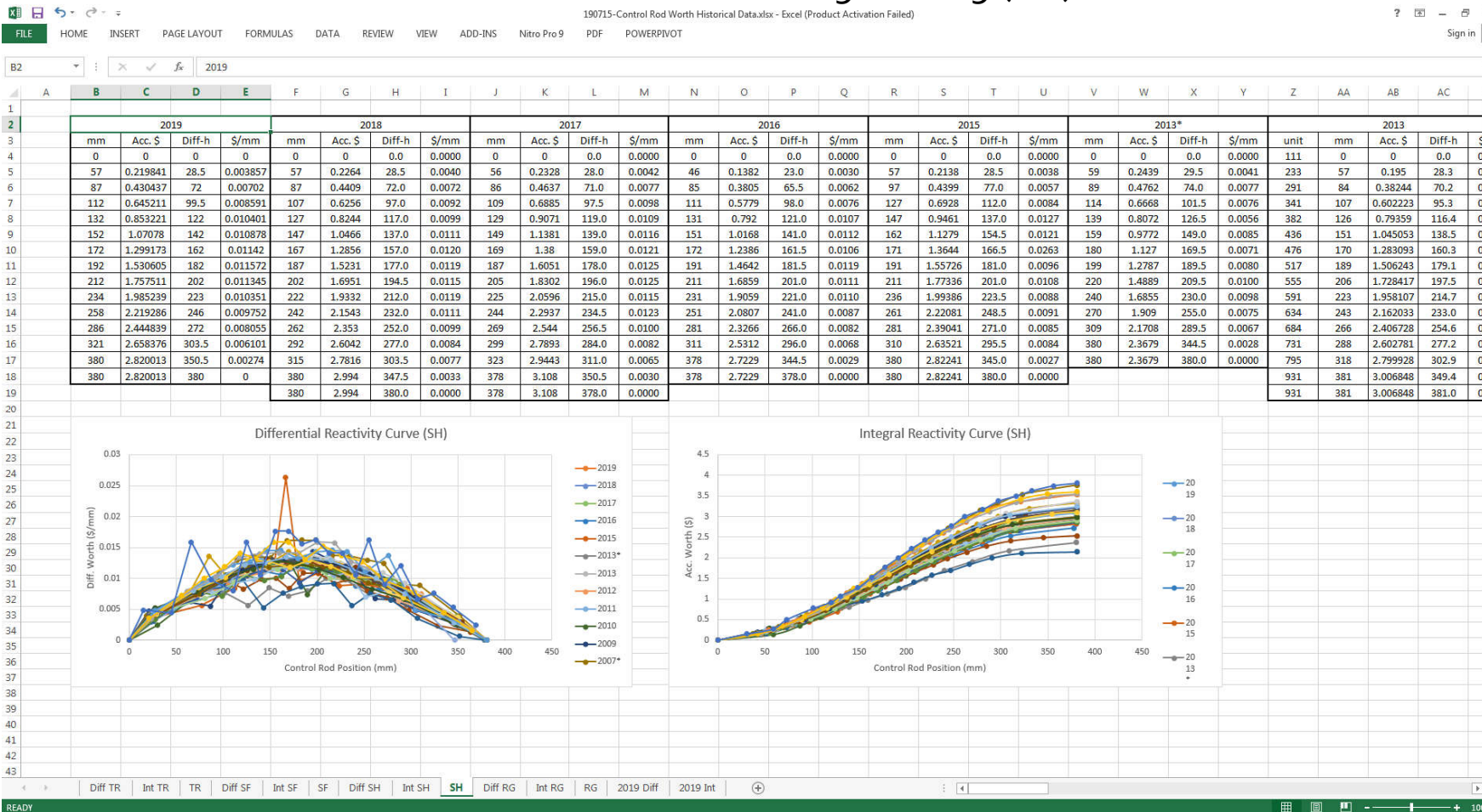
# Results

## RTP CRW Database 1982-2019 (SF)



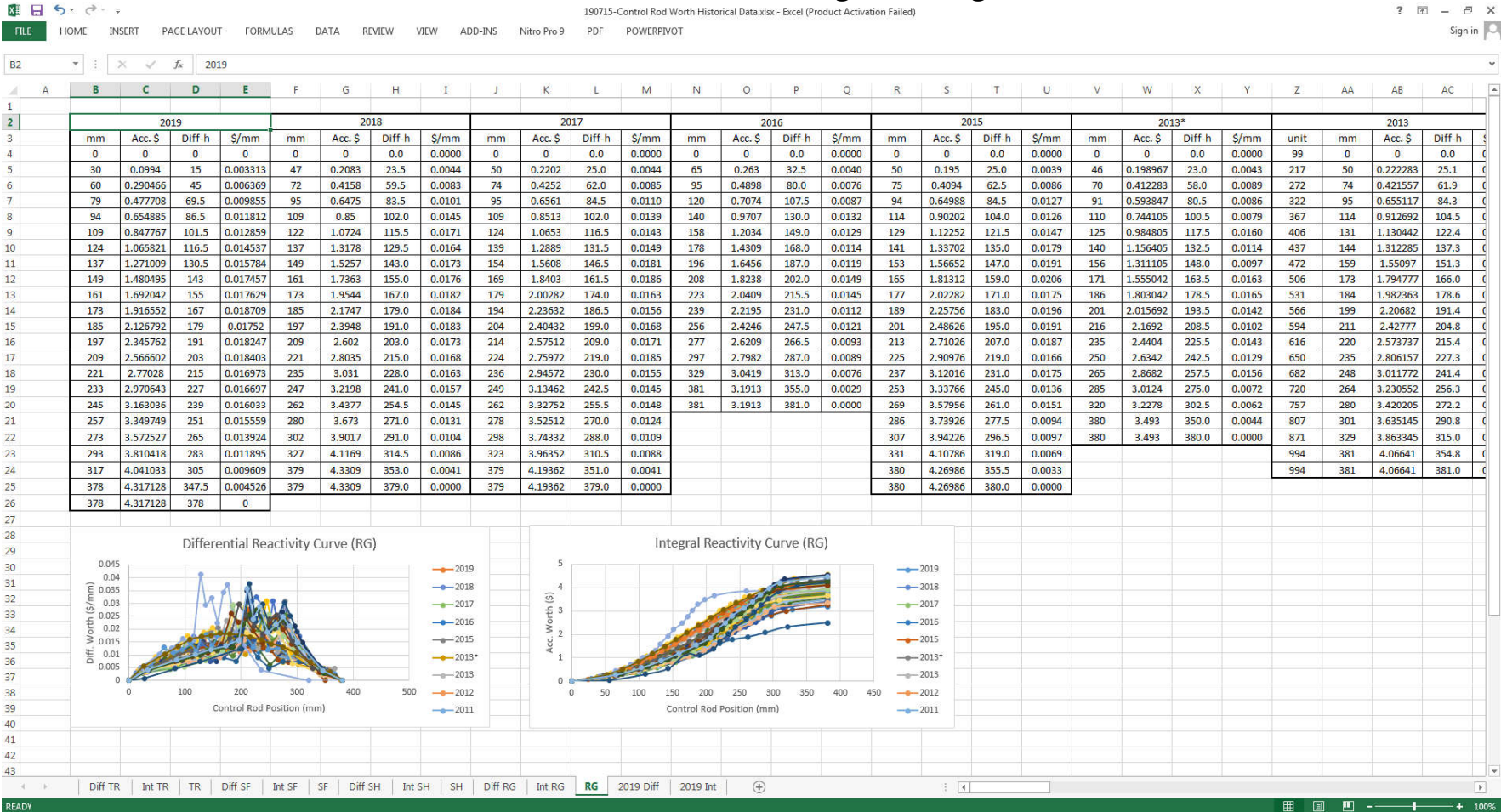
# Results

## RTP CRW Database 1982-2019 (SH)



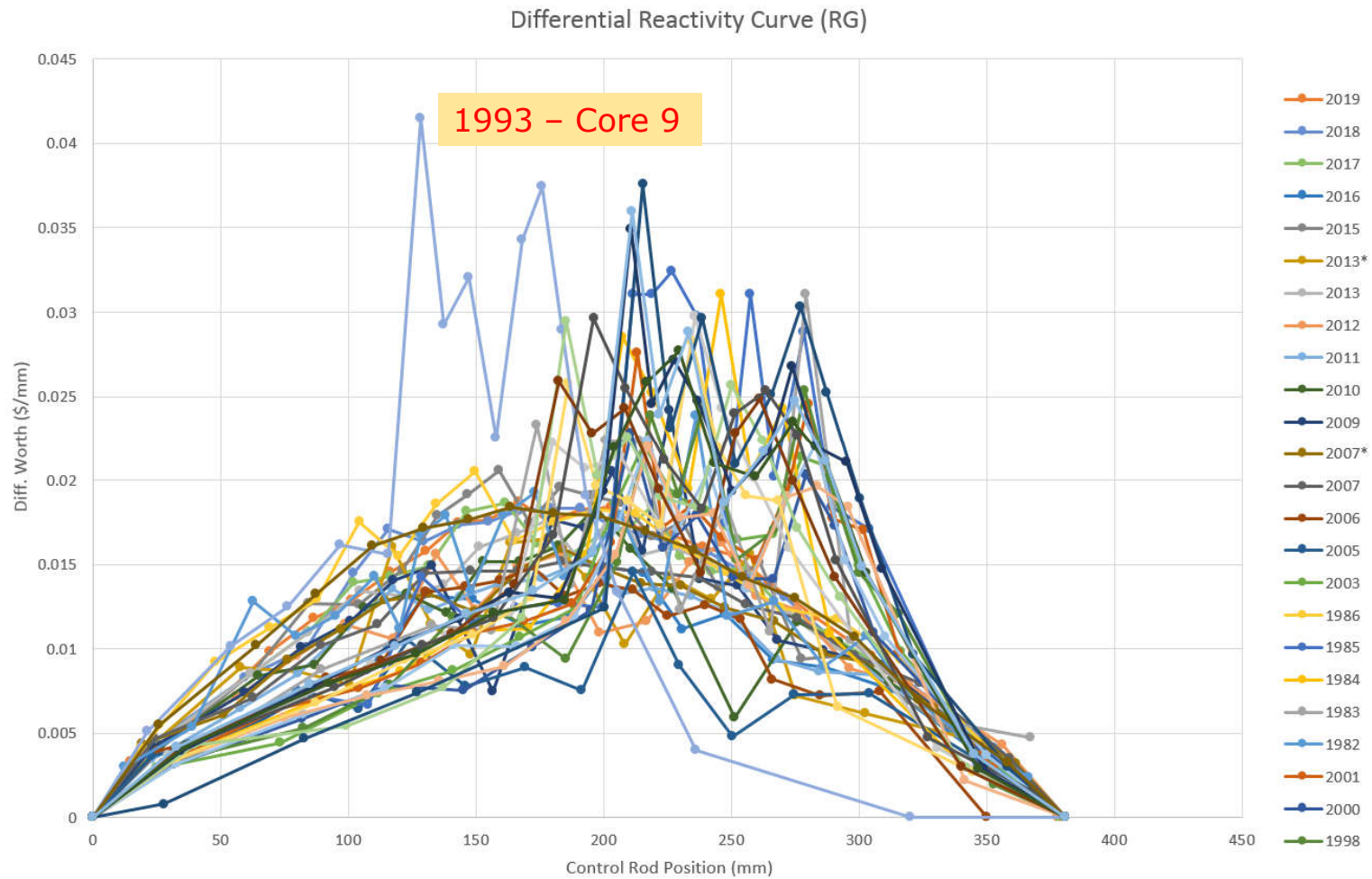
# Results

## RTP CRW Database 1982-2019 (RG)

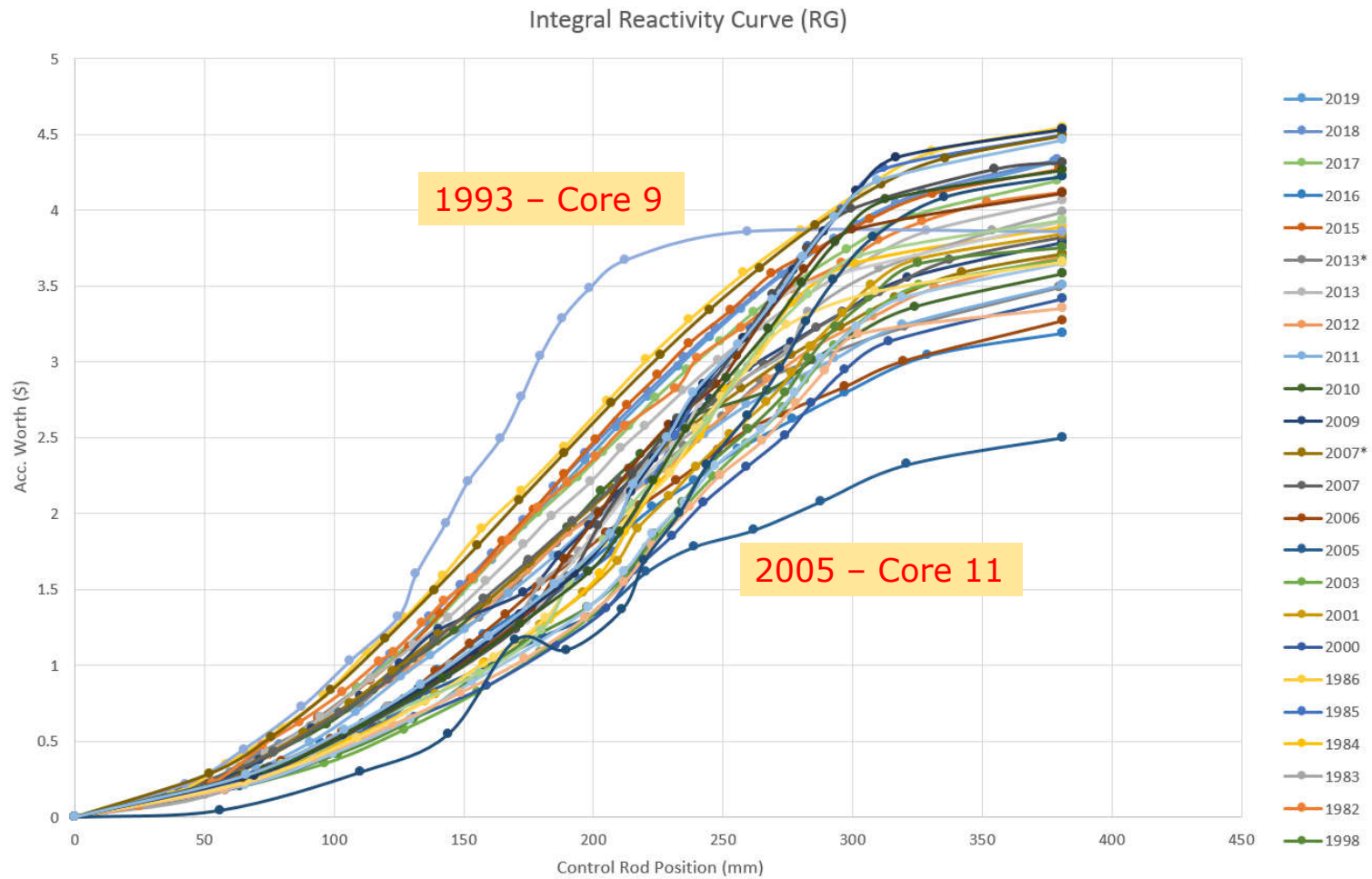




# Results

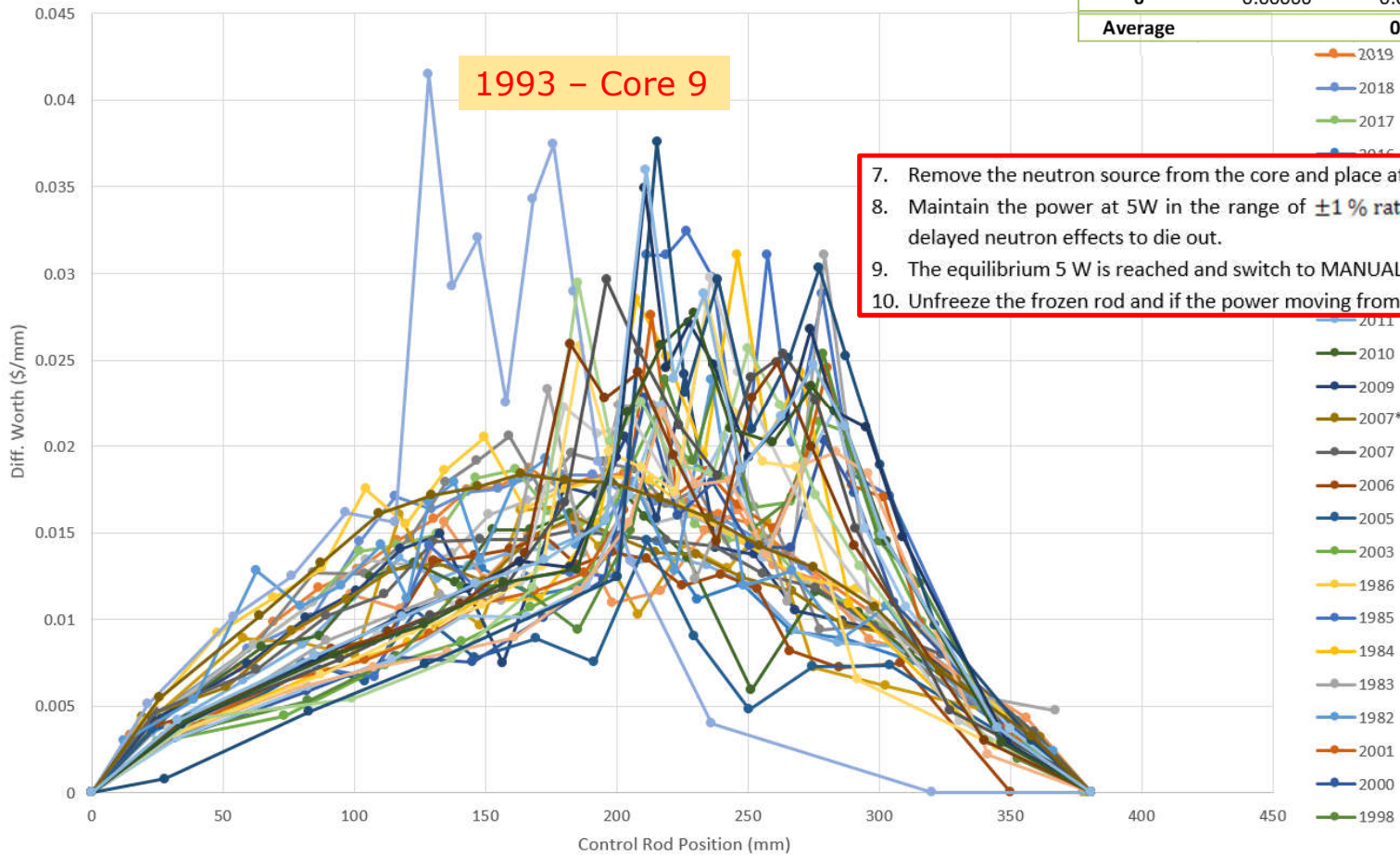


# Results



# Results

Differential Reactivity Curve (RG)

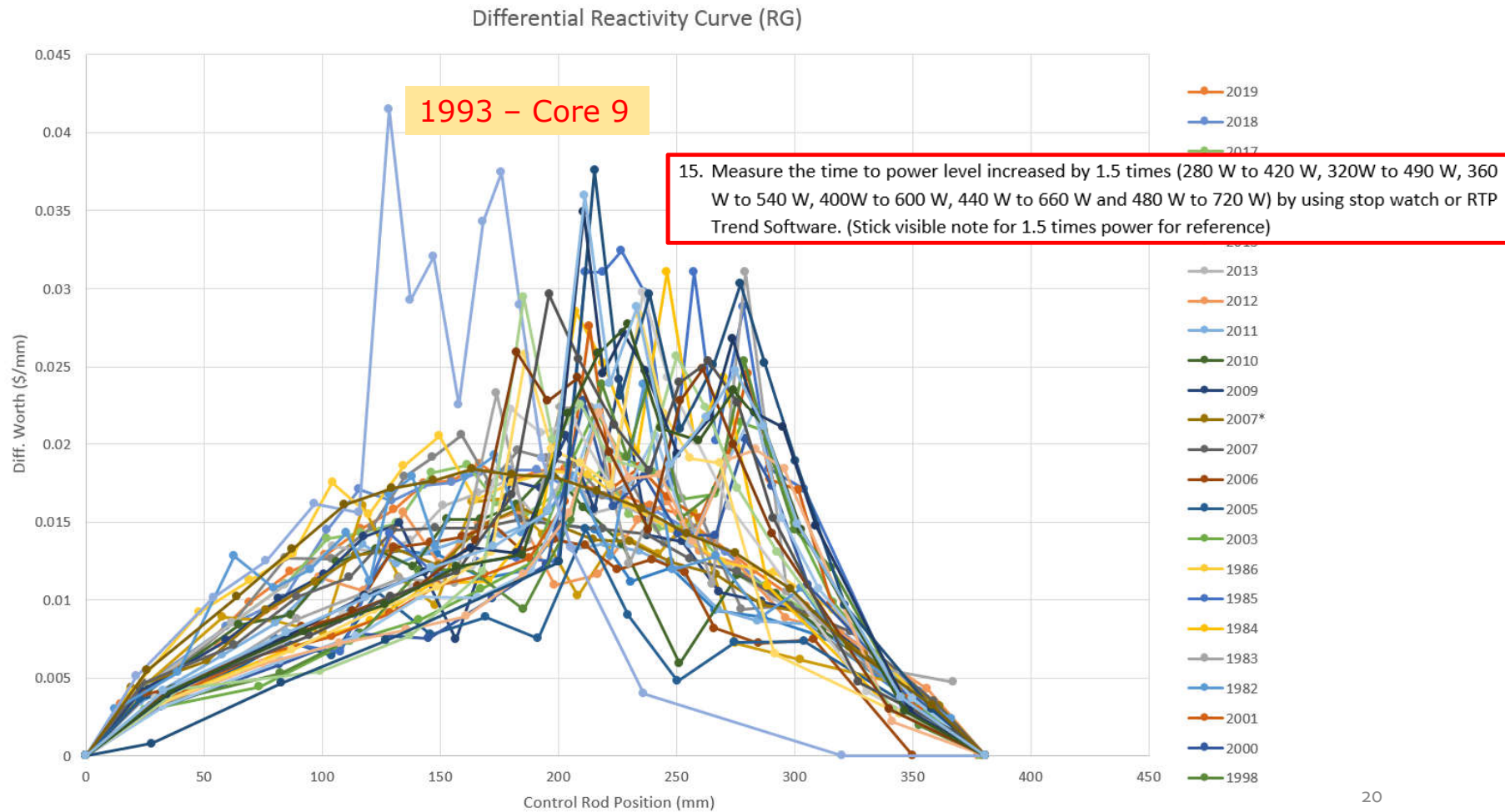


7. Remove the neutron source from the core and place at the storage rack.
8. Maintain the power at 5W in the range of  $\pm 1\%$  rate for 5 minute in AUTO mode for all the delayed neutron effects to die out.
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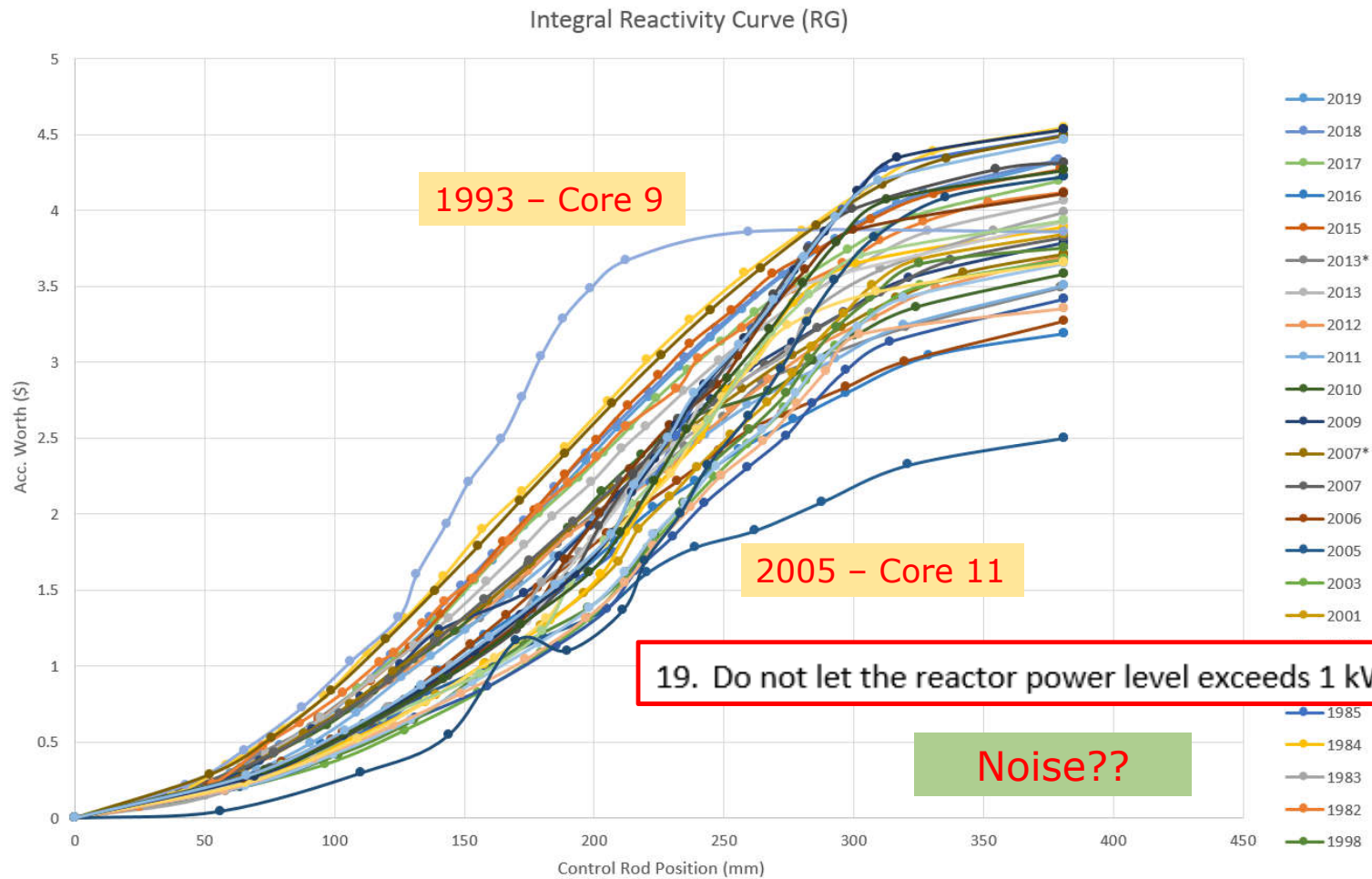
Group	Yield, Neutron per Fission	Fraction, $\beta_i$	Half-life, $t_{1/2}$ (s)	Decay constant, $\lambda_i$ ( $s^{-1}$ )
1	0.00052	0.000215	55.72	0.0124
2	0.00346	0.001424	22.72	0.0305
3	0.0031	0.001274	6.22	0.111
4	0.00624	0.002568	2.30	0.301
5	0.00182	0.000748	0.614	1.14
6	0.00066	0.000273	0.230	3.01
<b>Average</b>		<b>0.0065</b>		<b>0.008 (near criticality)</b>

- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2011
- 2010
- 2009
- 2007\*
- 2007
- 2006
- 2005
- 2003
- 1986
- 1985
- 1984
- 1983
- 1982
- 2001
- 2000
- 1998

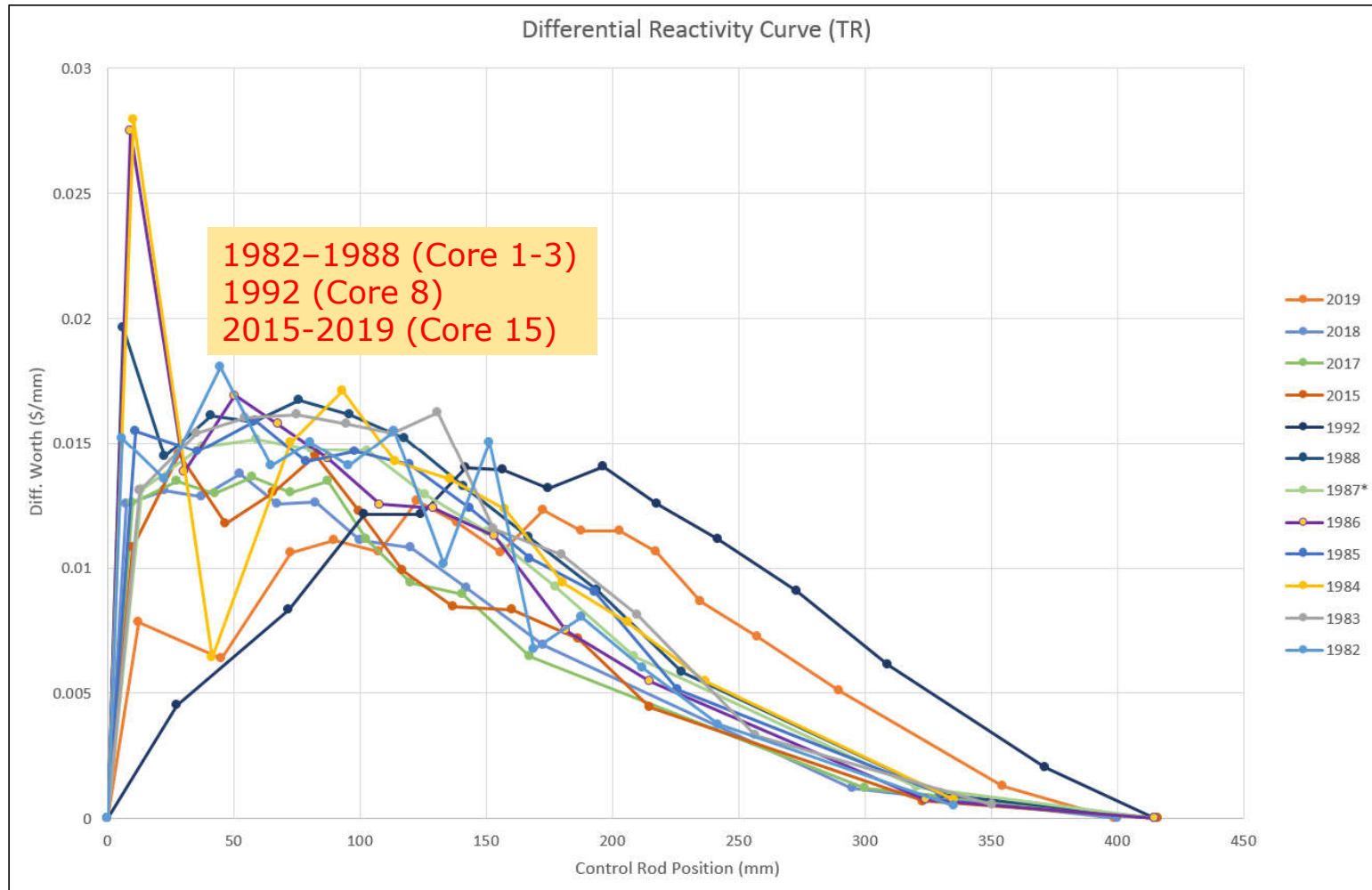
# Results



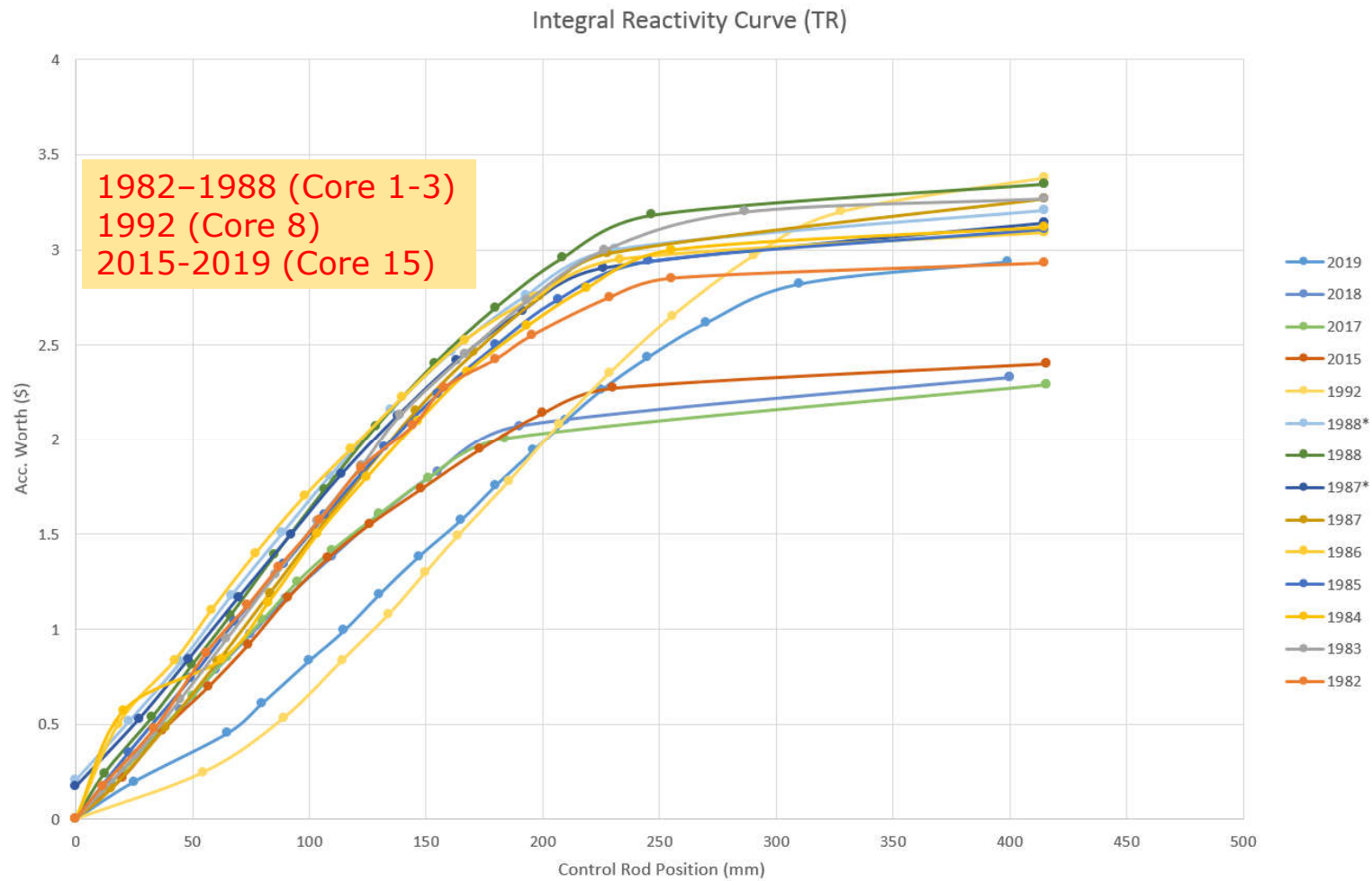
# Results



# Results

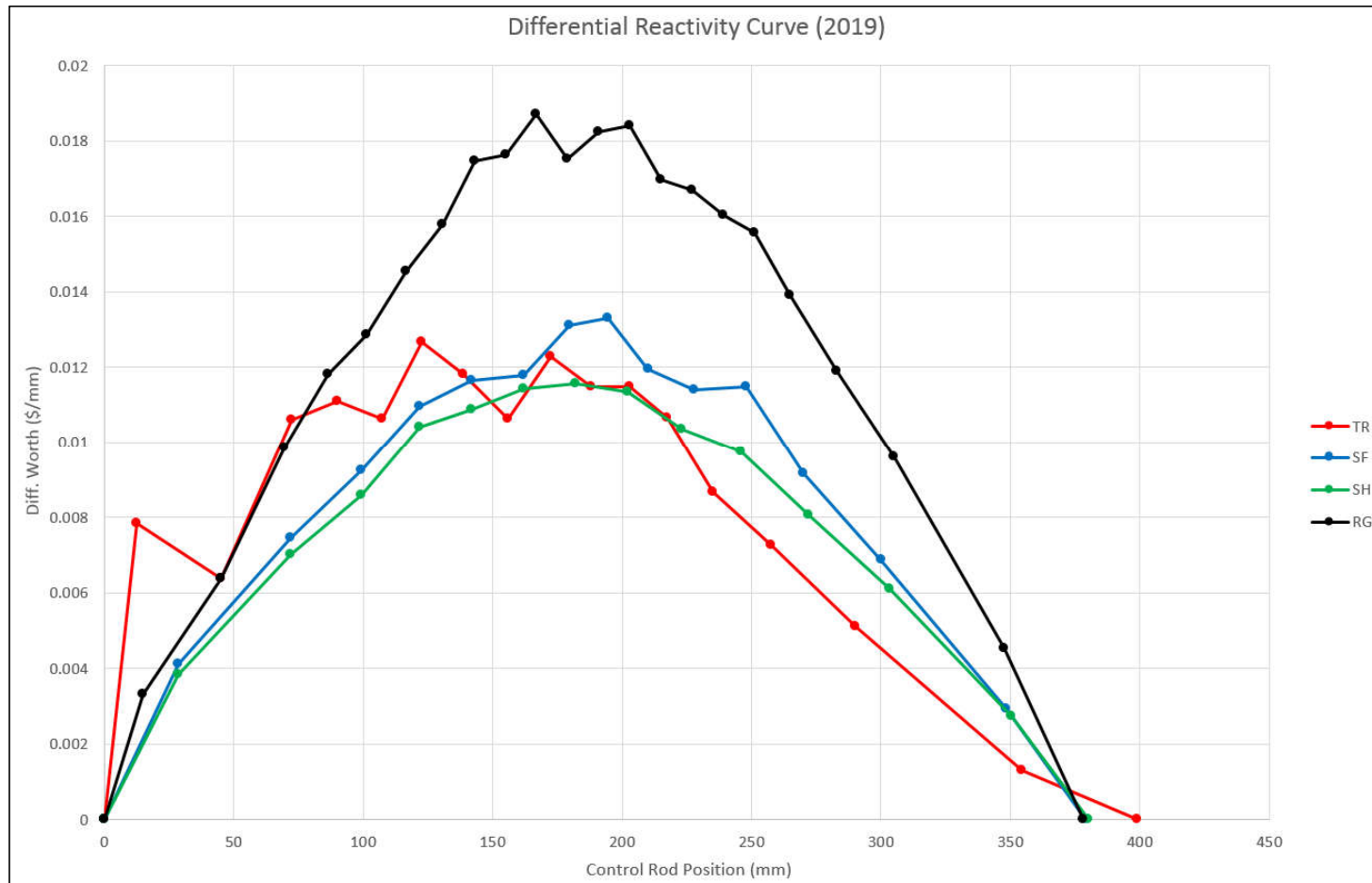


# Results



# Results

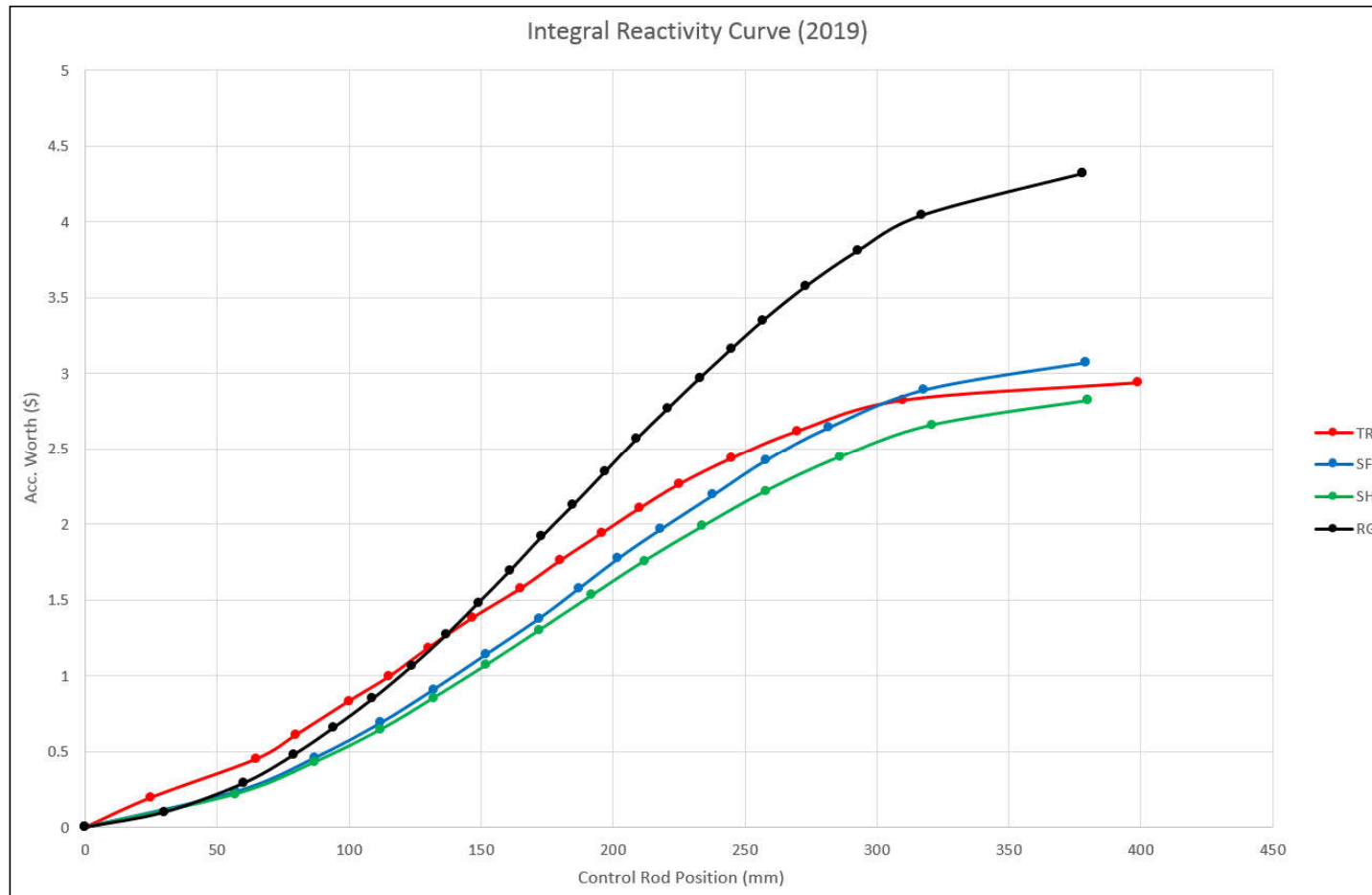
## RTP CRW Database 1982-2019





# Results

## RTP CRW Database 1982-2019



# Conclusion

- This RTP CRW calibration database is important for:
  - Ease of updating data;
  - Security of data;
  - Data integrity;
  - Data analysis.
- This important as part of RTP core management analysis to support the improvement of in-core management strategy to ensure safe operation and for better utilization.

# Reference

- *Safety Analysis Report (SAR) for RTP, 2014*
- RTP CRW Annual Maintenance Report 2019
- RTP-JILID7, Procedure 8.0 Control rod calibration
- IMS-T-07 Revision: 1.0 (2014) Tentukuran Rod Kawalan
- TP-RPT-01 Rev. No.: 0 RPT Procedure of Rod Worth Measurement



# Thank You

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