

# Emerging Initiatives in SCALE

Presented to:  
**2018 SCALE Users' Group Workshop**

Presented by:  
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Reactor and Nuclear Systems Division  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

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# SCALE Evolution (1976 – present)



## SCALE 0.0 – SCALE 4.4a

**1980 – 2000**

### Established for Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Provides an independent rigorous nuclear safety analysis capability for out-of-reactor license reviews

### Key Capabilities

- Criticality safety
- Radiation source term characterization
- Radiation shielding
- Heat transfer

## SCALE 5.0 – SCALE 6.1

**2004 – 2011**

### Expanded Capabilities to Address a Broader Classes of Analysis

Reactor physics for LWR, MOX, HTGR, CANDU, FHR, and high-burnup fuels

Shielding analysis for large, complex systems with automated variance reduction

Sensitivity and uncertainty analysis, especially for validation and gap analysis

High-fidelity criticality safety in continuous energy

Graphical user interfaces and visualization tools

### Expanded impact

Used in 56 nations by regulators, industry, utilities, and researchers

## SCALE 6.2

**2016 – 2018**

### Increased Fidelity, Infrastructure Modernization, Parallelization, Enhanced Quality Assurance

Solutions for extremely complex systems

High-fidelity shielding, depletion and sensitivity analysis in continuous energy

Simplified and efficient lattice physics

Unified user interface

Modern, modular software design integrated with QA

### Expanded Use

9,000 users

Tools leveraged by many projects

## SCALE 6.3 – SCALE 7.0

**2018 –**

### High-performance Monte Carlo, Capabilities for Advanced Reactors and Advanced Fuels, Integration with Many other Tools

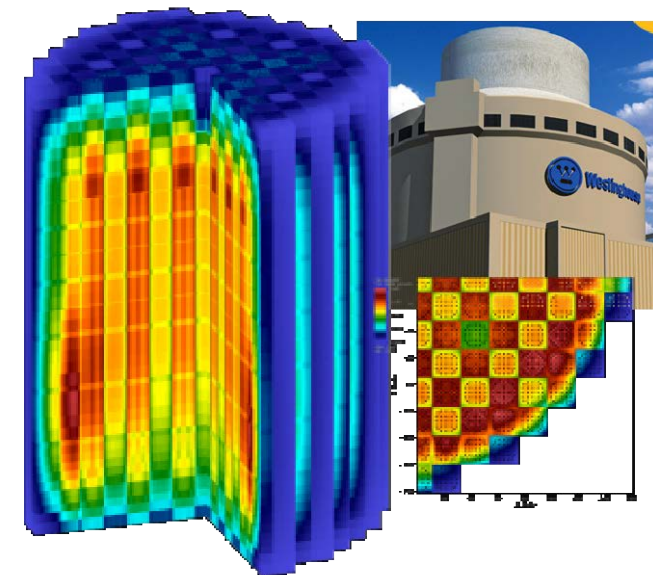
Focused capabilities for ATF and nonLWR

High-fidelity, highly parallelized criticality shielding, depletion and sensitivity analysis in continuous energy

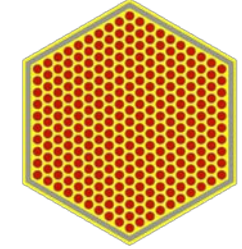
Extended modern, modular software design

### Expanded Integration

Tools directly integrated with many projects



# SCALE is part of the NRC's reactor licensing path




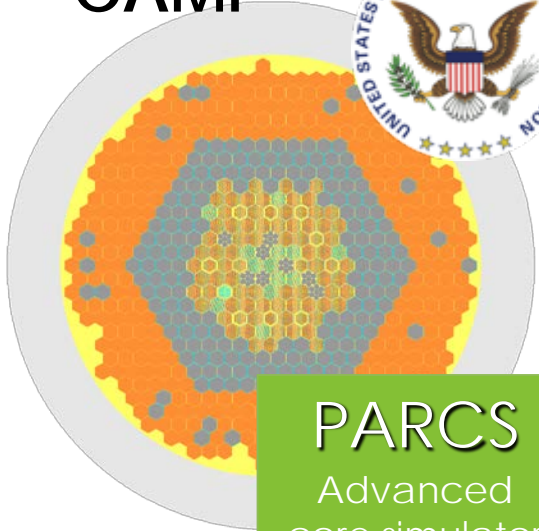
**AMPX**  
Validated cross section libraries in multigroup (O(100g)) or continuous-energy (O(100,000g)); depletion and decay data

**TRITON / Polaris**  
Transport and depletion in 1D, 2D, and 3D for LWR, ATF, and nonLWR

**ORIGEN / ORIGAMI**  
Depletion, activation and decay  
Reactor-specific radioactive source term characterization

**ENDF**  
Physics data  
Thermal scattering law, resonance data, energy distributions, fission yields, decay constants, etc.

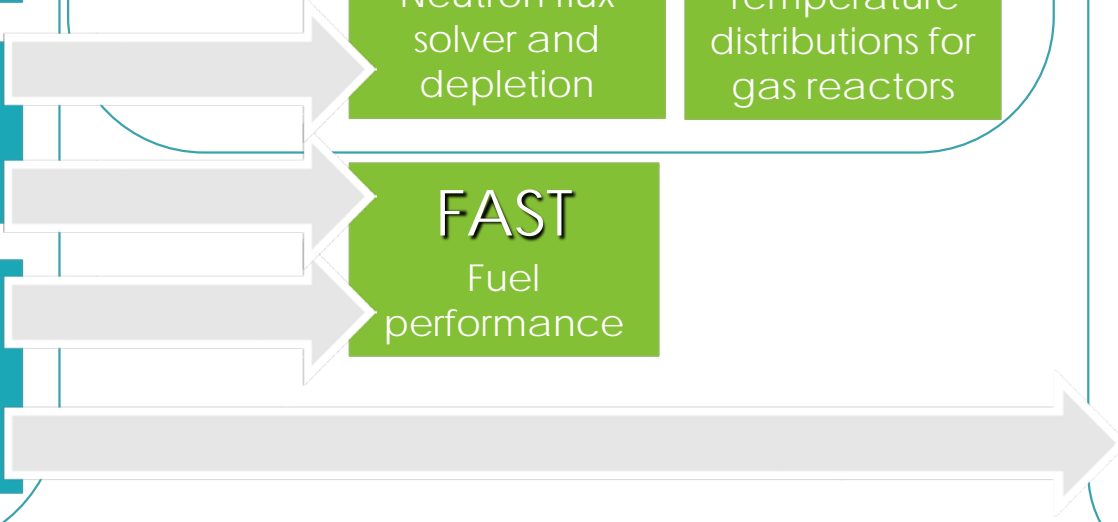
**CAMP**

**TRACE**  
System level temperature distributions and feedback

**AGREE**  
Temperature distributions for gas reactors

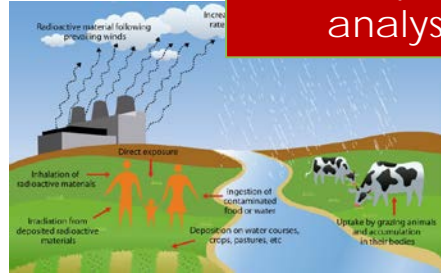
**PARCS**  
Advanced core simulator  
Neutron flux solver and depletion



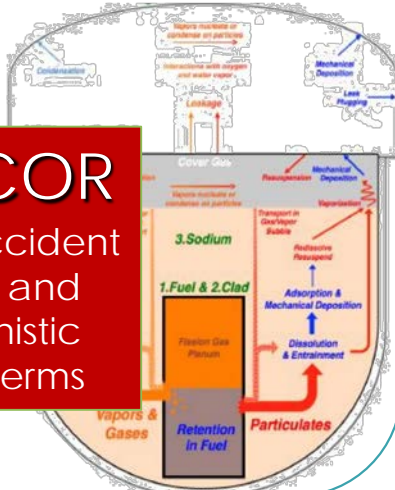
**FAST**  
Fuel performance

**CSARP**

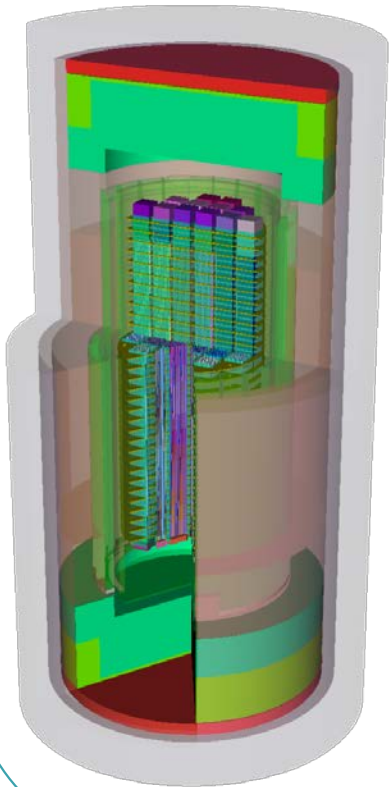
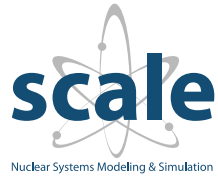
**MACCS2**  
Offsite consequence analysis



**MELCOR**  
Severe accident analysis and mechanistic source terms



# SCALE is part of NRC's transportation and storage licensing path



## UNF-ST&DARDS

Used Nuclear Fuel-Storage, Transportation & Disposal Analysis Resource and Data System

## ENDF

Physics data  
Thermal scattering law, resonance data, energy distributions, fission yields, decay constants, etc.

## AMPX

Validated cross section libraries in multigroup (O(100g)) or continuous-energy (O(100,000g)); depletion and decay data

## TRITON / Polaris

Transport and depletion in 1D, 2D, and 3D for LWR, ATF, and nonLWR

## CSAS / KENO

3D criticality safety analysis

## MAVRIC / Monaco

3D shielding and dose rate analysis

## TSUNAMI

Sensitivity and uncertainty analysis and validation applicability

## ORIGEN / ORIGAMI

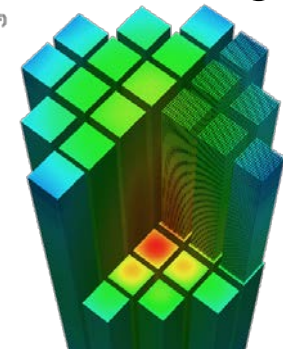
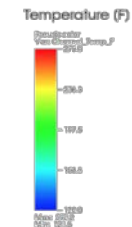
Depletion, activation and decay  
Reactor-specific radioactive source term characterization

## Structural analysis

### ANSYS / LS-DYNA

Commercial finite element analysis

## Thermal analysis

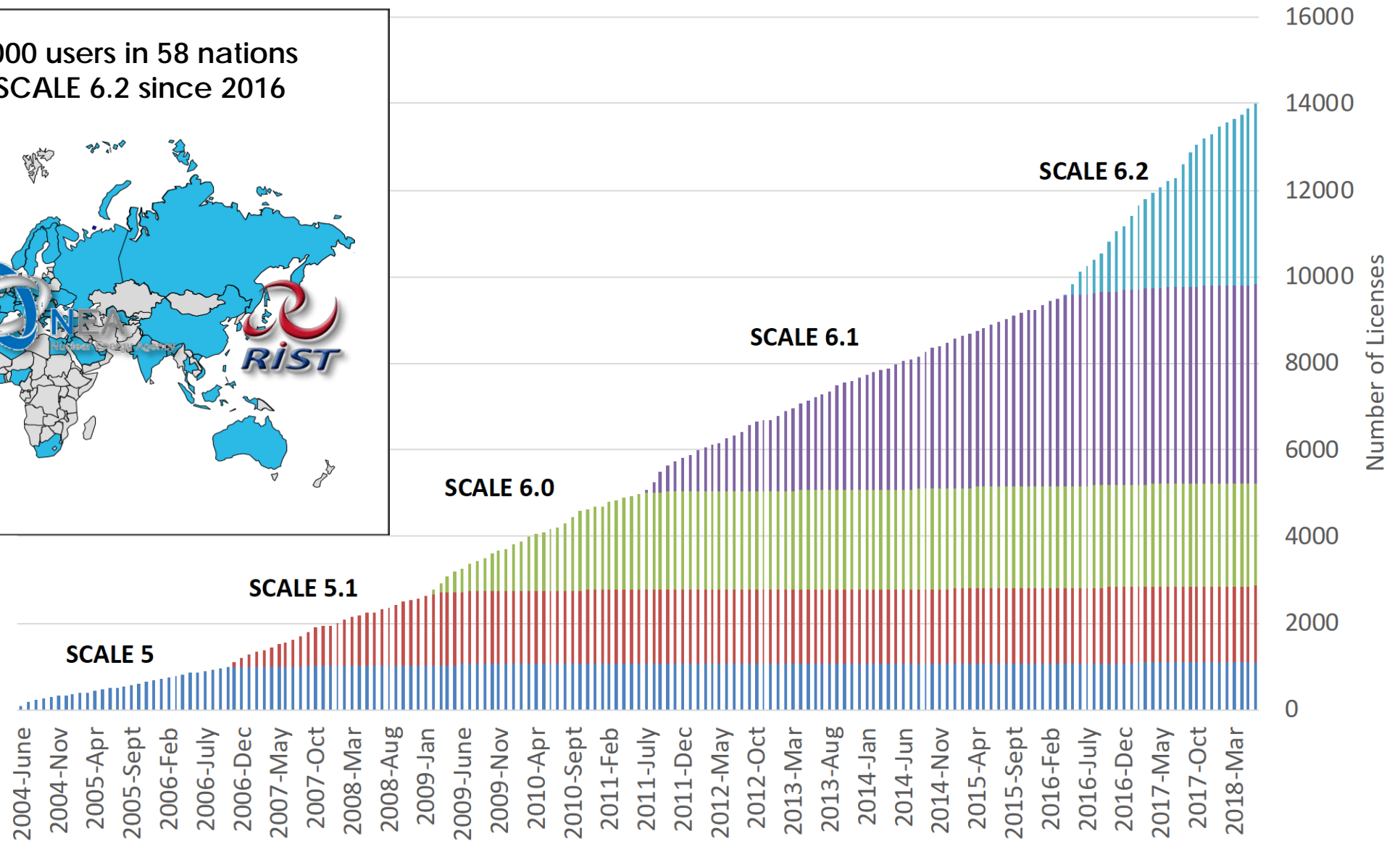


### STAR-CCM+ / FLUENT

Commercial computational fluid dynamics codes

# SCALE licenses by version

Global distribution: 9,000 users in 58 nations  
4,000 distributions of SCALE 6.2 since 2016



SCALE training courses are routinely provided to the user community



Public courses at ORNL and NEA

Application-specific training provided at NRC and user facilities

Fall 2018 SCALE training classes at ORNL, October 15 – November 9

October 15-19	Sensitivity and Uncertainty Analysis for Criticality Safety Assessment and Validation
October 22-26	SCALE/TRITON Lattice Physics and Depletion
October 29 - November 2	SCALE/ORIGEN Standalone Fuel Depletion, Activation, and Source Term Analysis
November 5 – 9	SCALE Criticality Safety and Radiation Shielding



Point-of-contact: Germina Ilas, [ilasg@ornl.gov](mailto:ilasg@ornl.gov)

## Collaboration with other projects:

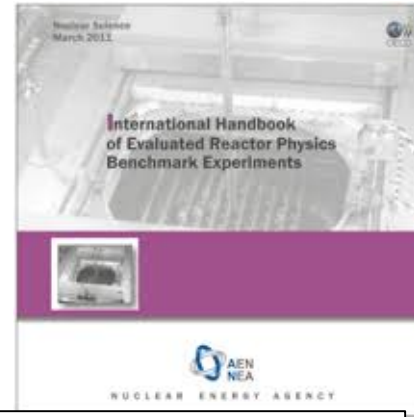
- DOE Nuclear Data and Benchmarking (ND/B) Program
- NNSA Nuclear Criticality Safety Program
- DOE Used Fuel Disposition (UFD) R&D Program
- High performance computing:
  - DOE-NE Consortium for the Advanced Simulation of LWRs (CASL)
  - Exascale Computing Project



# Nuclear Data and Benchmarking Program



- New Nuclear Energy Enabling Technology (NEET) Crosscutting Program
- Partner with industry, NRC, and other programs to:
  - Identify priority needs for nuclear data and benchmarking
  - Perform new data measurements and evaluations
  - Support integral experiments and handbooks
  - Participate in application benchmark studies



## USE OF SENSITIVITY AND UNCERTAINTY ANALYSIS IN THE DESIGN OF REACTOR PHYSICS AND CRITICALITY BENCHMARK EXPERIMENTS FOR ADVANCED NUCLEAR FUEL

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W. J. ANDERSON Framatome ANP, Inc., P.O. Box 10935, 3315 Old Forest Road Lynchburg, Virginia 24508-0935

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Received June 4, 2004  
Accepted for Publication September 14, 2004

Framatome ANP, Sandia National Laboratories (SNL), Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and the University of Florida are cooperating on the U.S. Department of Energy Nuclear Energy Research Initiative (NERI) project 2001-0124 to design, assemble, exercise, analyze, and document a series of critical experiments to validate reactor physics and criticality safety codes for the analysis of commercial power reactor fuels consisting of  $UO_2$  with  $^{235}U$  enrichments  $\approx 5$  wt%. The experiments will be conducted at the SNL Pulsed Reactor Facility. Framatome ANP and SNL produced two series of conceptual experiment designs based on typical param-

eters, such as fuel-to-moderator ratios, that meet the programmatic requirements of this project within the given restraints on available materials and facilities. ORNL used the Tools for Sensitivity and Uncertainty Analysis Methodology Implementation (TSUAMI) to assess, from a detailed physics-based perspective, the similarity of the experiment designs to the commercial systems they are intended to validate. Based on the results of the TSUAMI analysis, one series of experiments was found to be preferable to the other and will provide significant new data for the validation of reactor physics and criticality safety codes.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Framatome ANP, Sandia National Laboratories (SNL), Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and the University of Florida (UF) are collaborating on the U.S. Department of Energy Nuclear Energy Research Initiative (NERI) project 2001-0124 to design, assemble, analyze, and document a series of critical experiments to validate reactor physics and criticality safety codes for the analysis of commercial pressurized water reactor

(PWR) and boiling water reactor (BWR)  $UO_2$  fuels with  $^{235}U$  enrichments  $\approx 5$  wt%. At the inception of this project, a supply of nuclear fuel, originally manufactured for the PATHFINDER nuclear system intended for assembly at The Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) in the 1960s, was identified for use in the experiments. The PATHFINDER program was eventually cancelled; the fuel was never irradiated and has been in storage at Penn State for many years. For this current project, the PATHFINDER fuel has been shipped to SNL for disassembly. Disassembly is necessary because the PATHFINDER fuel is  $\approx 2$  m long and bundled

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NUCLEAR ENERGY AGENCY

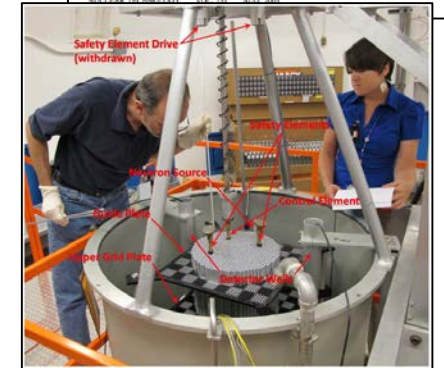
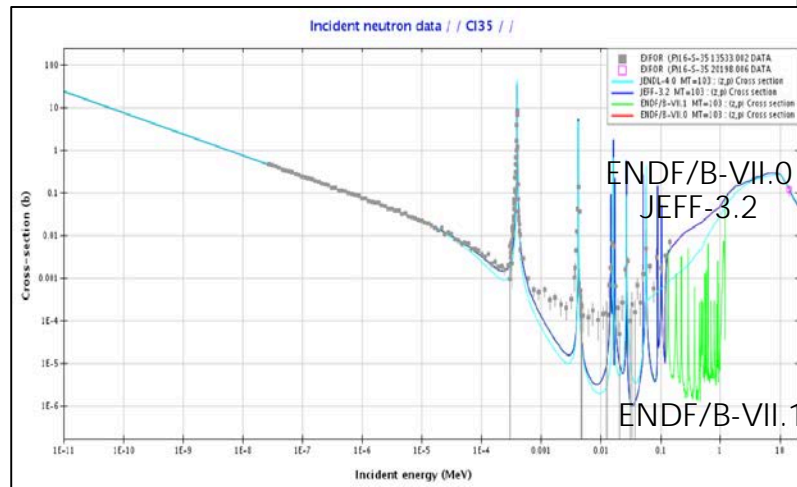
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**PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT  
TO DOE NATIONAL LABORATORIES**

U. S. Department of Energy  
Office of Science  
Nuclear Physics

Nuclear Data Interagency Working Group / Research Program  
DOE National Laboratory Announcement Number: LAB 17-1763  
Announcement Type: Initial

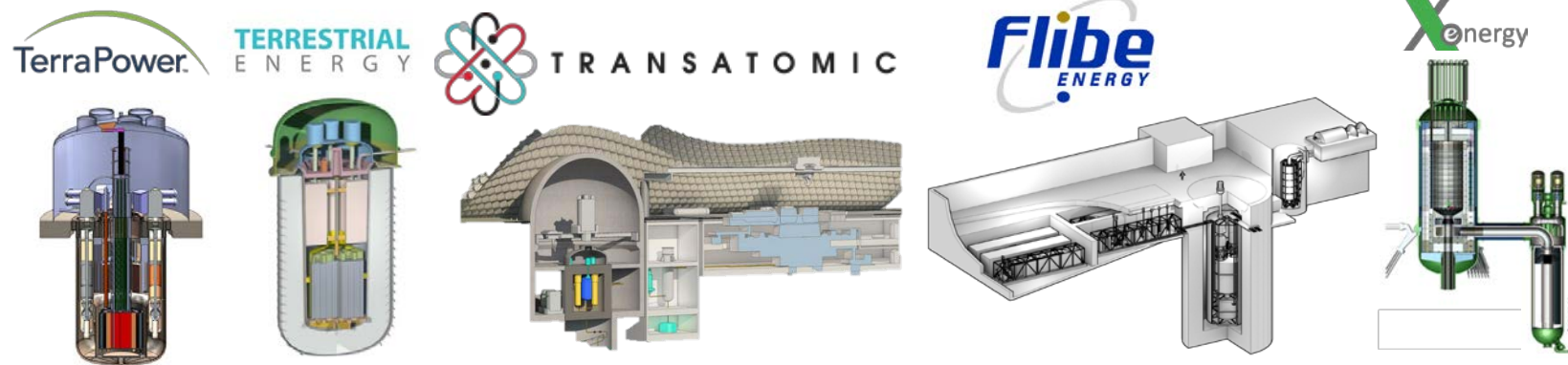
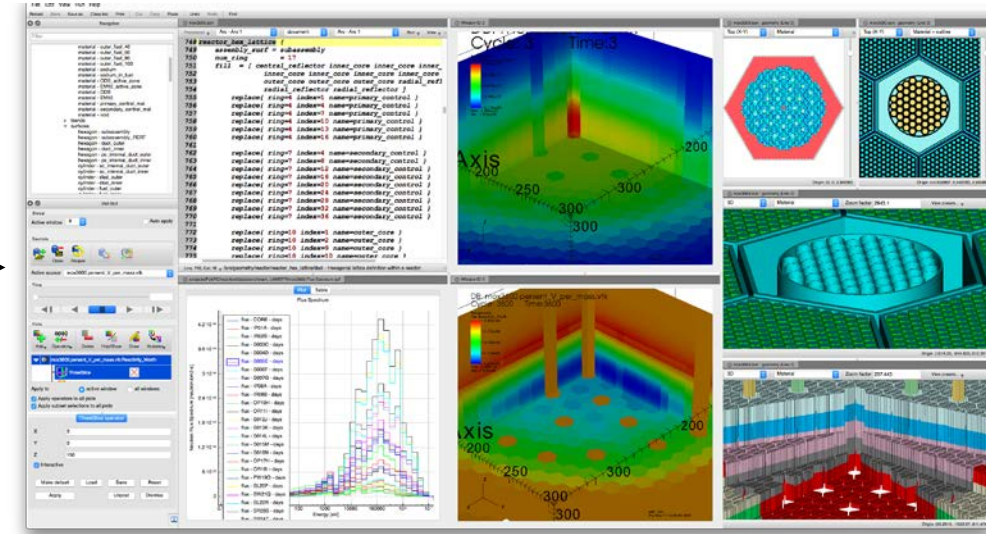
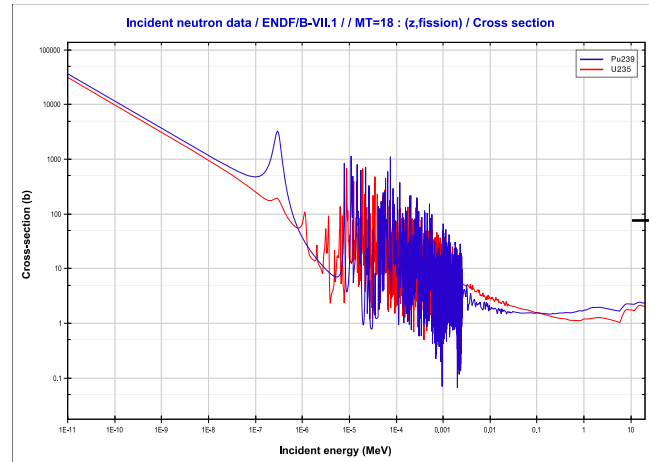
Issue Date:	04/26/2017
Letter of Intent Due Date:	05/12/2017 at 5 PM Eastern Time <i>A Letter of Intent is required.</i>
Encourage/Discourage Date:	05/26/2017 at 5 PM Eastern Time
Application Due Date:	07/21/2017 at 5 PM Eastern Time





# Nuclear data is necessary for reliable modeling and simulation of the next generation of nuclear reactors because of limited experimental data

- SCALE/AMPX
  - assessment of nuclear data needs
- TSUNAMI/Sampler
  - uncertainty quantification
  - validation assessment
  - experiment design



## Collaboration with other projects:


- DOE Nuclear Data and Benchmarking (ND/B) Program
- NNSA Nuclear Criticality Safety Program
- DOE Used Fuel Disposition (UFD) R&D Program
- High performance computing:
  - DOE-NE Consortium for the Advanced Simulation of LWRs (CASL)
  - Exascale Computing Project

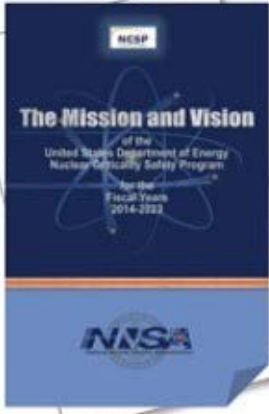



# NNSA Nuclear Criticality Safety Program


- Technology infrastructure needed to enable sites to perform safe, efficient fissionable material operations in the DOE Complex
  - Nuclear data generation and testing
    - SAMMY, AMPX
  - Criticality safety assessments
    - AMPX, KENO
  - Criticality accident alarm system analysis
    - KENO, ORIGEN, MAVRIC
  - Validation and uncertainty quantification
    - TSUNAMI, Sampler
  - Nuclear criticality and shielding experiment design
    - TSUNAMI, MAVRIC


Program Execution	Modeling and Simulation	Integral Experiments	Nuclear Data	Training and Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead lab oversight of NCSP work in DOE complex</li> <li>• 10-year mission and vision development</li> <li>• 5-year execution plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and deploy radiation transport analysis tools for NCS applications</li> <li>• Support safety basis analyses for facility operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis for experiment design support</li> <li>• Experiment execution oversight at SNL and NCERC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differential data measurements</li> <li>• Cross-section evaluation and processing to support modeling and simulation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate development and deployment of "hands-on" NCS training courses for DOE complex</li> <li>• Manage multi-lab team for training course execution</li> </ul>












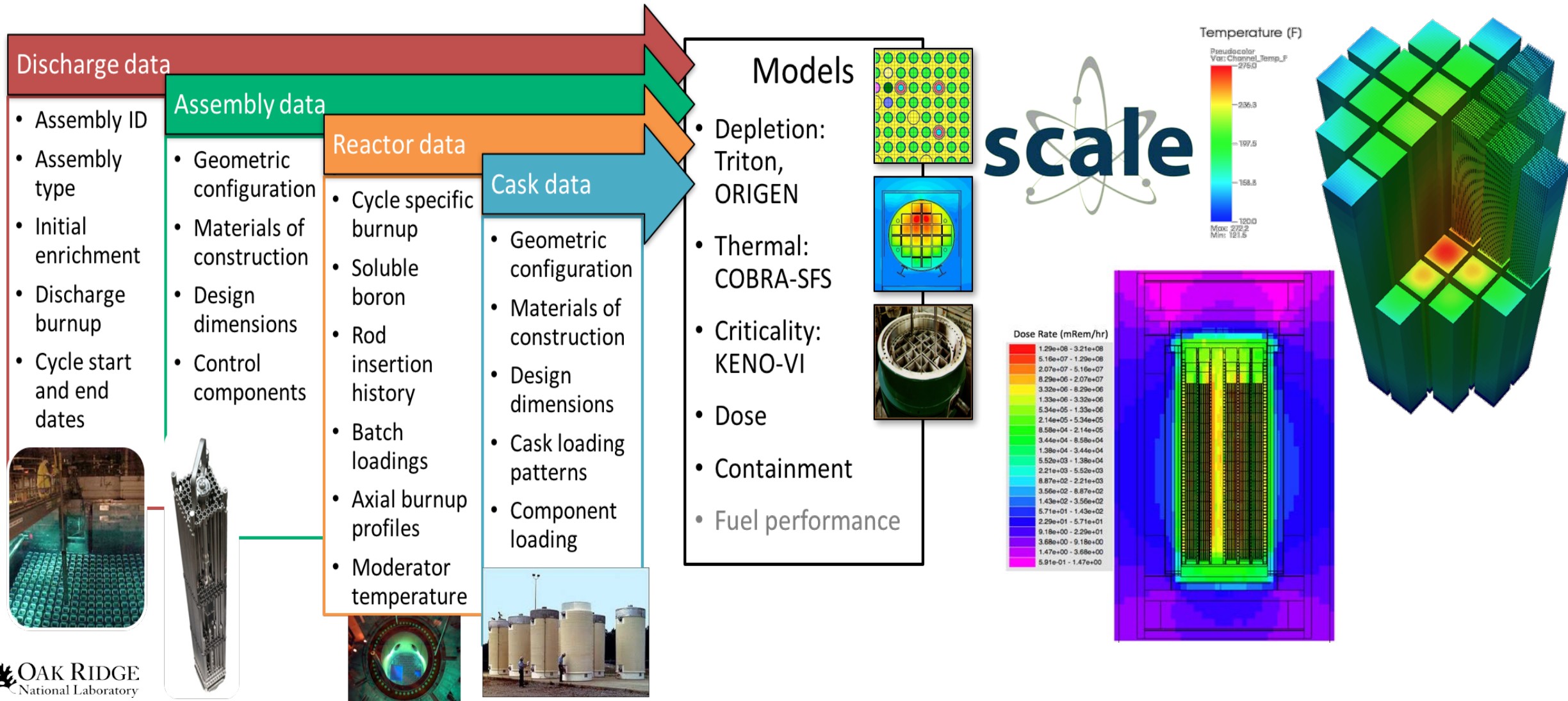


## Collaboration with other projects:

- DOE Nuclear Data and Benchmarking (ND/B) Program
- NNSA Nuclear Criticality Safety Program
- DOE Used Fuel Disposition (UFD) R&D Program
- High performance computing:
  - DOE-NE Consortium for the Advanced Simulation of LWRs (CASL)
  - Exascale Computing Project



# UNF-ST&DARDS integrates data with analysis capabilities to simplify UNF characterization process



## Collaboration with other projects:

- DOE Nuclear Data and Benchmarking (ND/B) Program
- NNSA Nuclear Criticality Safety Program
- DOE Used Fuel Disposition (UFD) R&D Program
- High performance computing:
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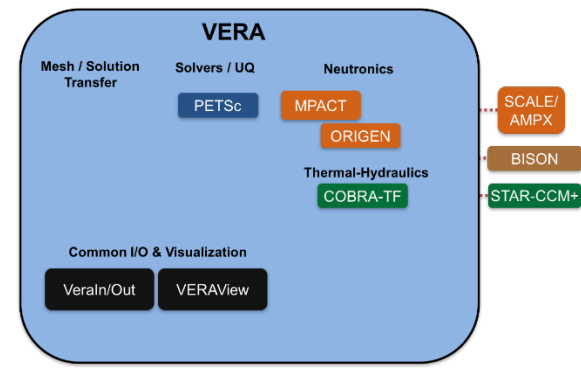


# VERA Core Simulator

Virtual Environment for Reactor Applications  
Flexible multiphysics framework

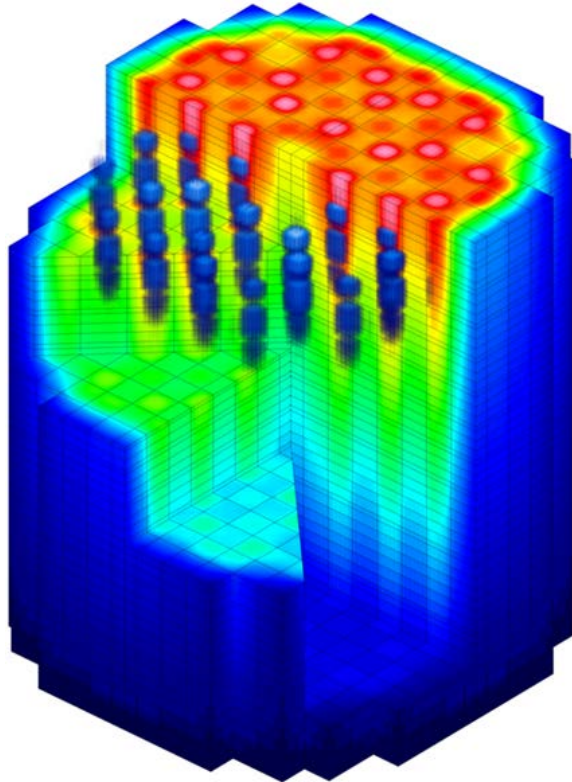
## MPACT or Shift

Advanced pin-resolved 3-D whole-core deterministic  
neutron transport in 51 energy group or continuous energy  
SCALE/AMPX nuclear data library

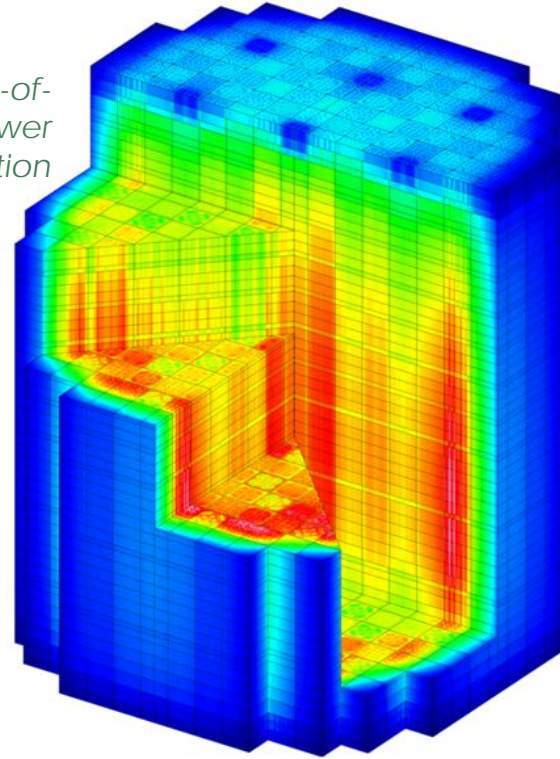


## CTF

Subchannel thermal-hydraulics with  
transient two-fluid, three-field solutions in  
14,000 coolant channels with crossflow



WB1C11 Beginning-of-Cycle  
Pin Power  
Distribution

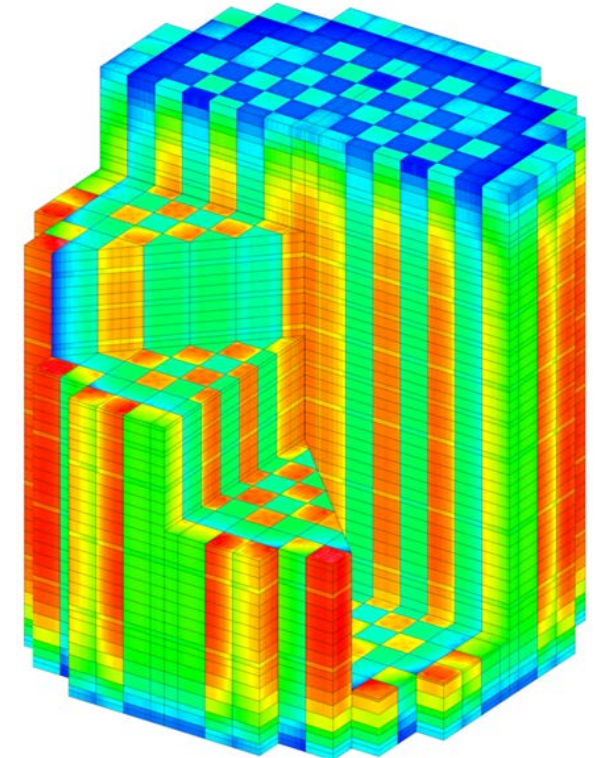


WB1C11 Middle-of-Cycle  
Coolant Density  
Distribution

WB1C11 End-of-Cycle  
Pin Exposure  
Distribution

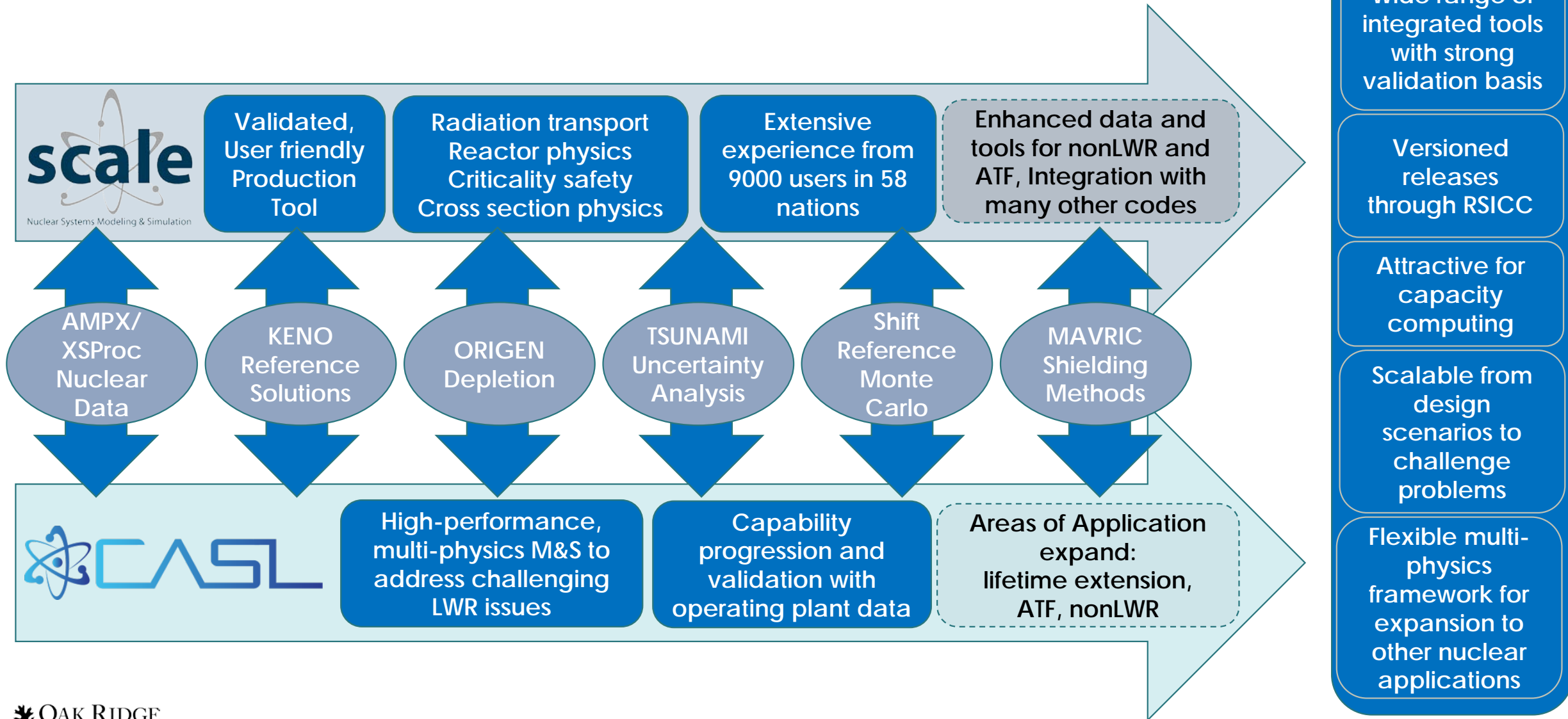
## SCALE/ORIGEN

Isotopic depletion and decay in  
>2M regions tracking 263 isotopes  
in 2.5 million depletion regions



# SCALE and CASL:

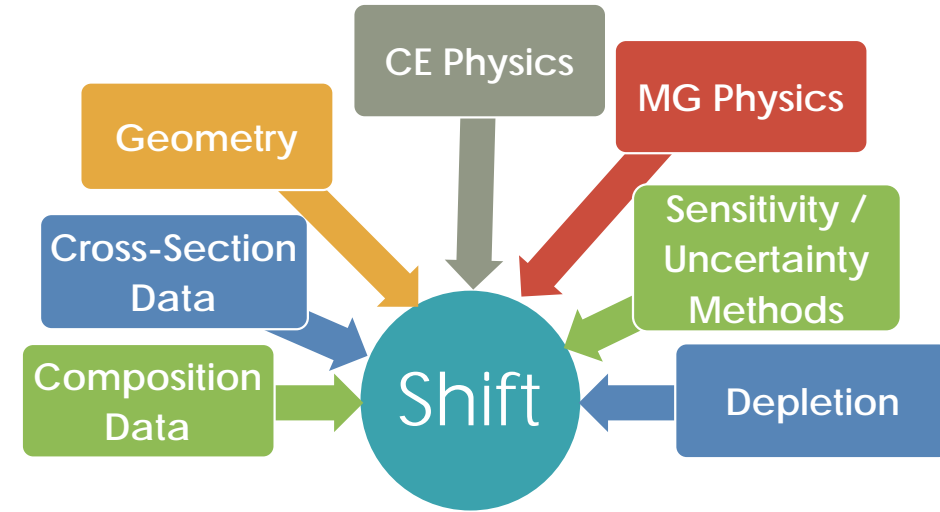
Meeting user needs while transforming the state-of-the-art





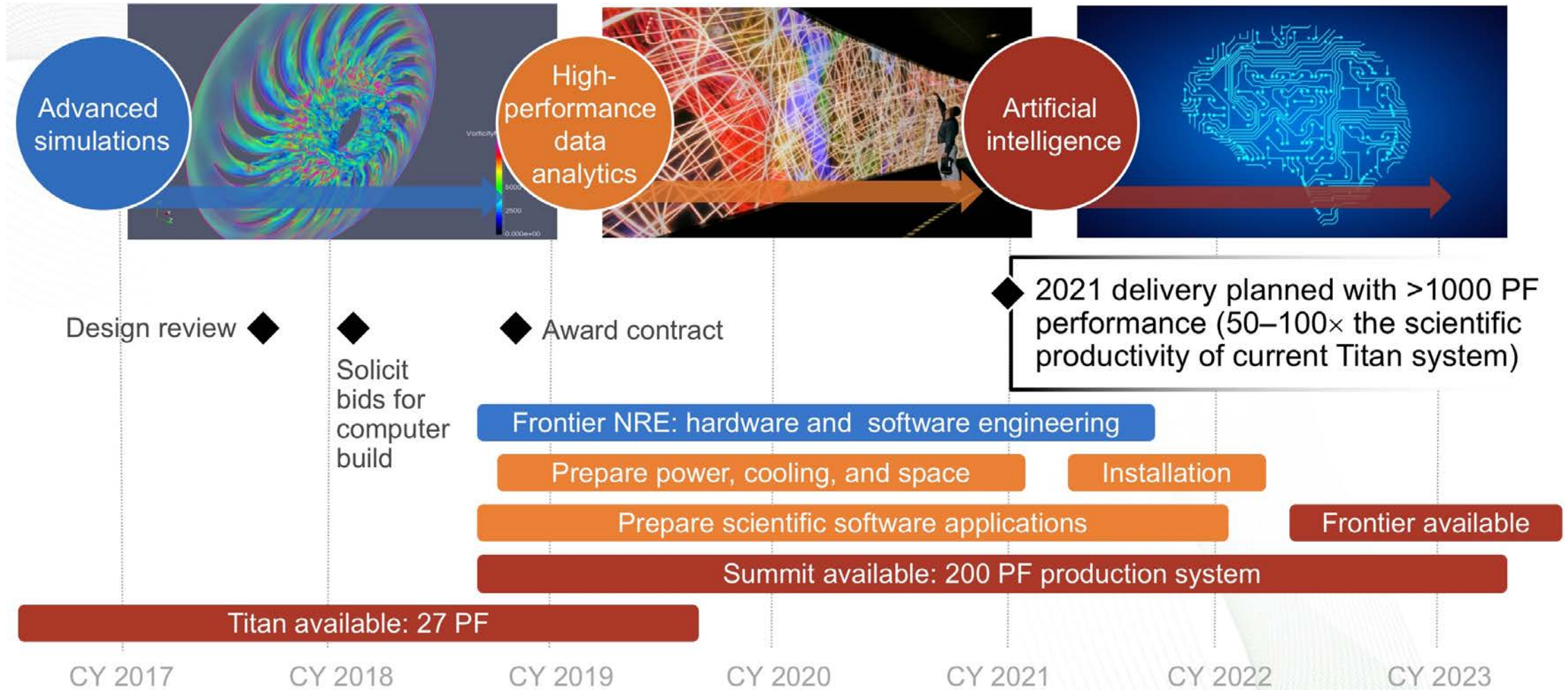
# Shift Monte Carlo code system

- Flexible, high-performance Monte Carlo radiation transport *framework*
- Shift is physics agnostic
  - SCALE CE physics
  - SCALE MG physics
- Shift is geometry agnostic
  - SCALE geometry
  - Exnihilo RTK geometry
  - MCNP geometry
  - DagMC-CUBIT CAD geometry

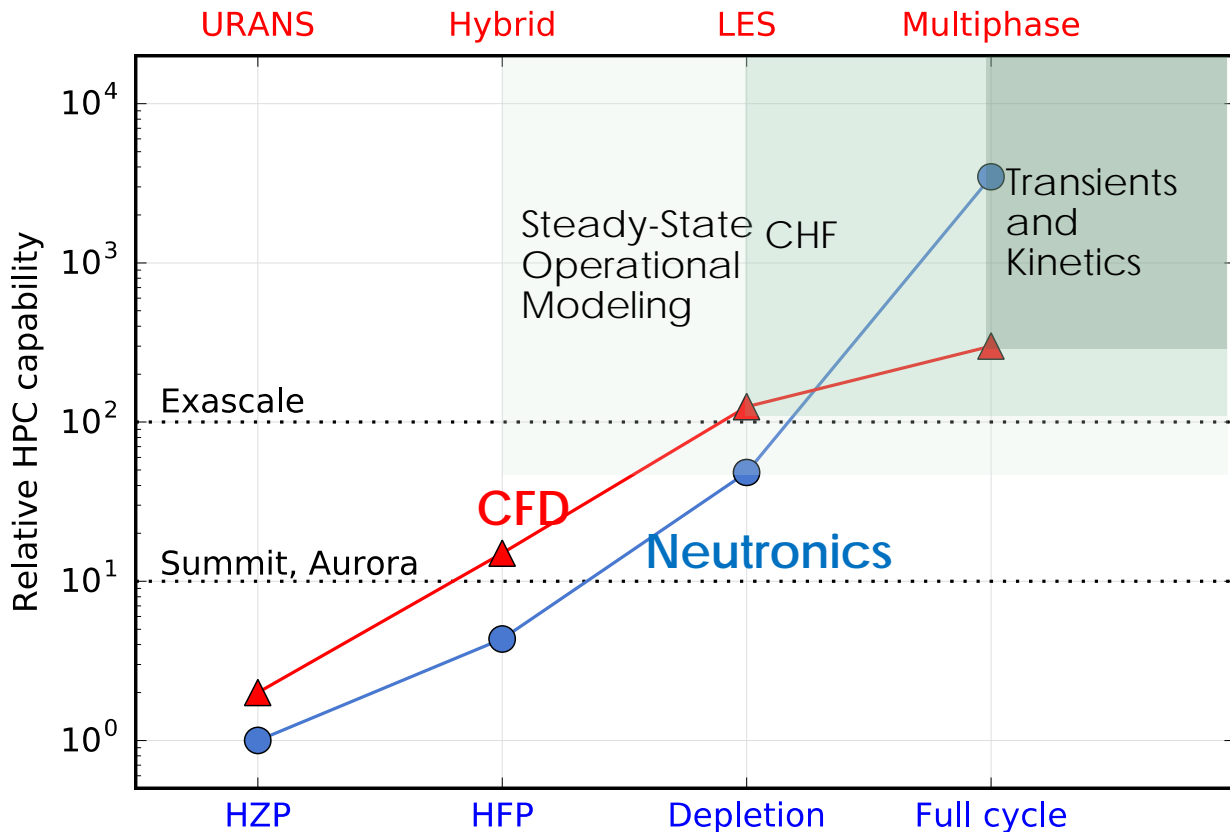


- Fixed-source and eigenvalue solvers
- Integrated with Denovo for hybrid methods
- Multiple parallel decompositions and concurrency models
- Shift is designed to scale from supercomputers to laptops

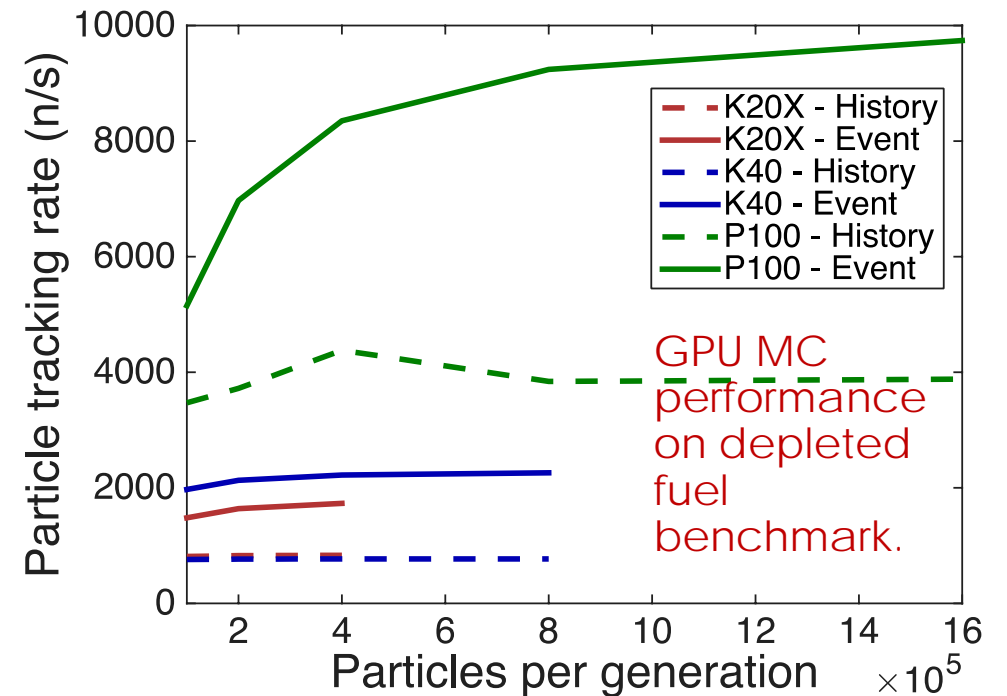
# Shift is being extended for operation on GPUs as part of the \$2B Exascale Computing Project



# Application project: ExaSMR



- Improved Monte Carlo particle tracking rate allows reduction in statistical errors
- Cost of tallies and data access is implicit in this measure
- Improved device performance yields better results – Algorithms are tracking hardware improvements



## SCALE 6.3

- Motivation – Advanced Systems
- Nuclear data libraries
- Shift Monte Carlo Code
- Beta release



# Abbreviated advanced reactor technology matrix (1/2)

Reactor Type	Companies	Licensing action expected	Fuel / Enrichment	Thermal spectrum	Fast Spectrum	Coolant	Radial core expansion	Flowing Fuel	Fuel Form	Control elements
HPR	Oklo	2019	~20%		✓	Sodium heat pipes	✓		Metallic Castings	External drums
	Westinghouse (eVinci)	2019	19.75%	Thermal/ Epithermal		Sodium heat pipes (dual condenser)			Oxide	External drums
SFR	TerraPower (TWR)		~20%		✓	Sodium	✓		Metallic Rods	Internal rods
	GE PRISM		~20%		✓	Sodium	✓		Metallic Rods	Internal rods
LFR	Westinghouse		15-20%		✓	Lead	✓		Oxide/ Nitride	Internal rods
HTGR	X-energy (Xe-100)	2020s	15.5%	✓		Helium		Pebbles	TRISO	External rods
	Areva (SC-HTGR)		~20%	✓		Helium			TRISO	Internal rods
FHR	Kairos	2020s	~17%	✓		FLiBe		Pebbles	TRISO	External rods

# Abbreviated advanced reactor technology matrix (2/2)

Reactor Type	Companies	Licensing action expected	Fuel / Enrichment	Thermal spectrum	Fast Spectrum	Coolant	Radial core expansion	Flowing Fuel	Fuel Form	Control elements
MSR	Terrestrial Energy (IMSR)	2019	~5%	✓		Proprietary		Salt	Molten Salt	Internal rod
	Transatomic	2020s	~5%	Thermal/ Epithermal		FLiBe		Salt	Molten Salt	Internal ZrH moderating rods
	TerraPower (MCFR)	2020s	~20%		✓	Chloride salt		Salt	Molten Salt	External rods?
	Elysium		~20%		✓	Chloride salt		Salt	Molten Salt	
	FLiBe Energy		Thorium	✓		FLiBe		Salt	Molten Salt	Internal rods

# NRC NGNP Evaluation Model (2008)



## NRC Evaluation Model Development

**RIC 2010**  
Next Generation Nuclear Plant (NGNP) Research

**J.M. Kelly**  
USNRC Research  
March 11, 2010

Department of Energy

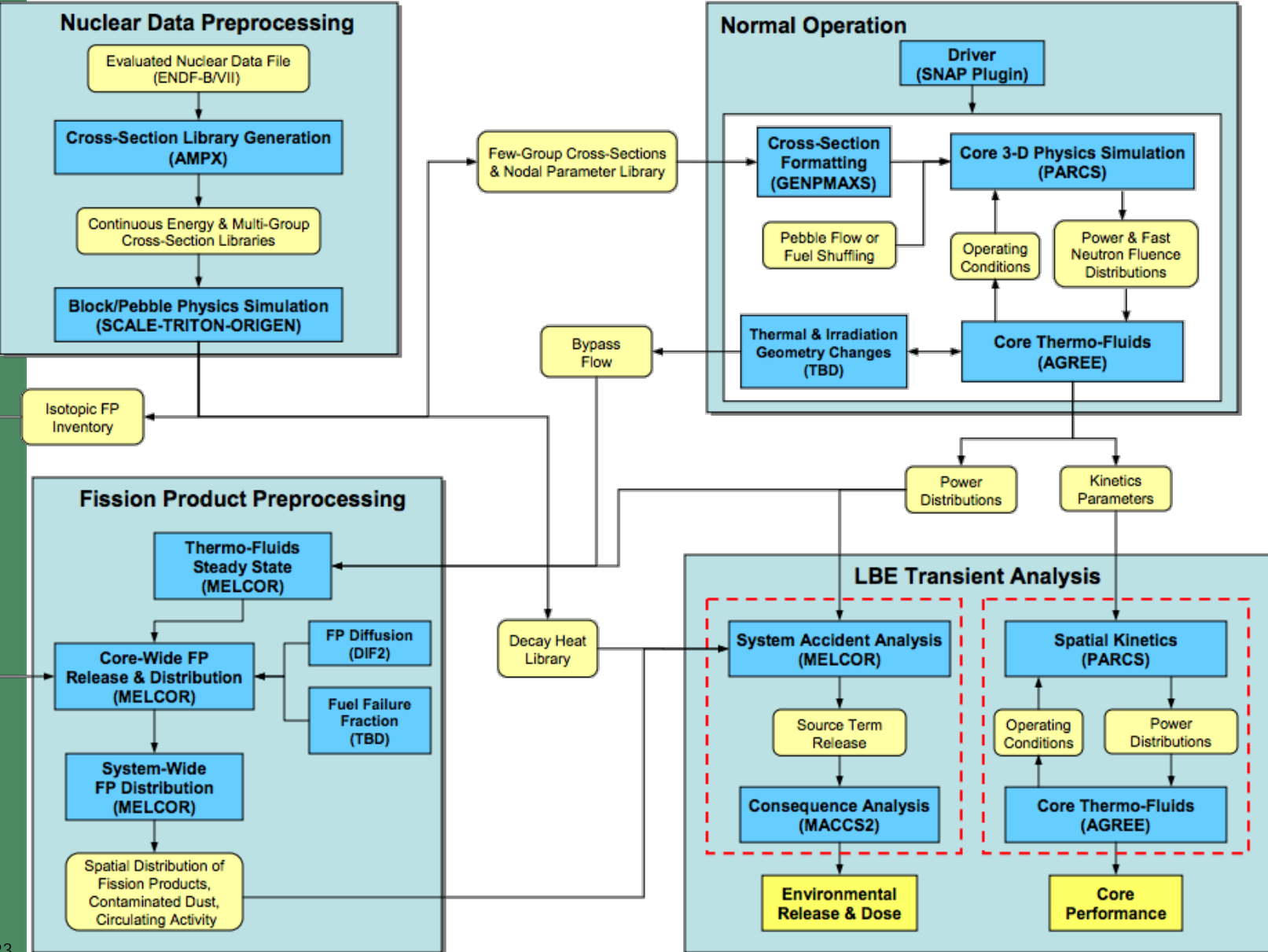
## DOE, NRC Issue Licensing Roadmap For Next-Generation Nuclear Plant

AUGUST 15, 2008

Home » DOE, NRC Issue Licensing Roadmap For Next-Generation Nuclear Plant

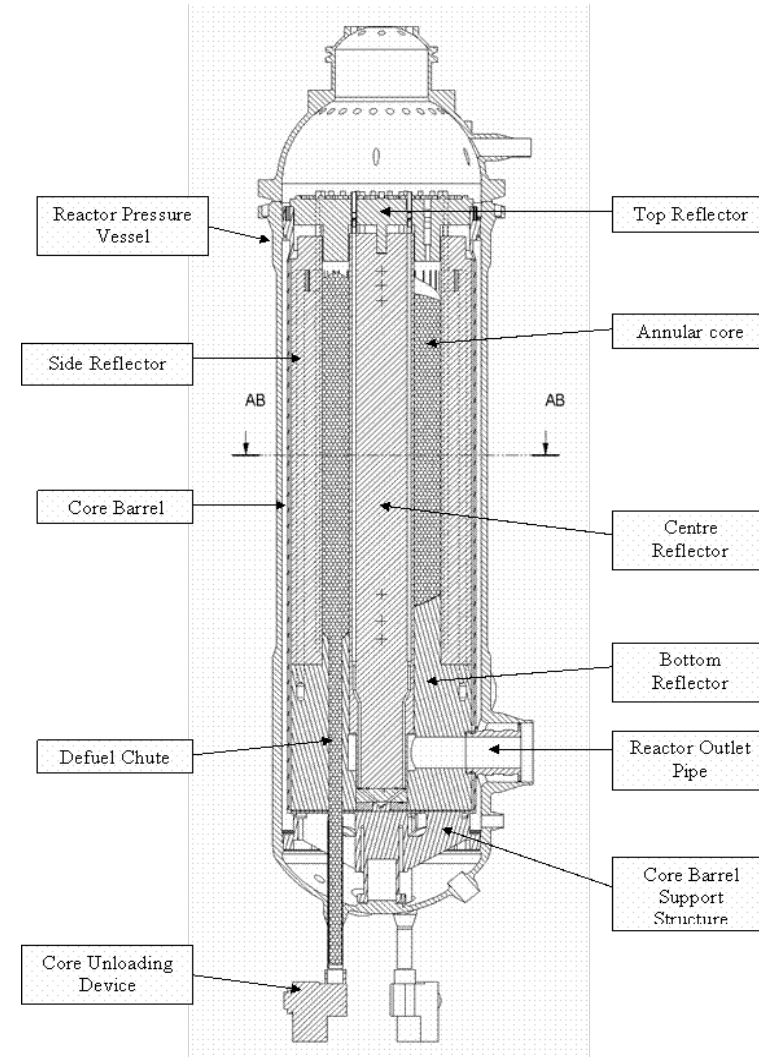
WASHINGTON, DC -The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory

"The NRC's new reactor licensing process is currently focused on light-water reactors, and the staff is confident this basic framework can also support an NGNP review," said NRC Chairman Dale Klein. "We will work with DOE to supplement that framework with NGNP-specific items."



# OECD/NEA PBMR-400 Benchmark

<b>PBMR Characteristic</b>	<b>Value</b>
Thermal Power	400 MW
Core configuration	Vertical with fixed centre graphite reflector
Outer diameter	3.7 m
Core Height	11 m
Reactor pressure	9MPa
Mass flow rate	192.5 kg/s
Core inlet temperature	500°C.

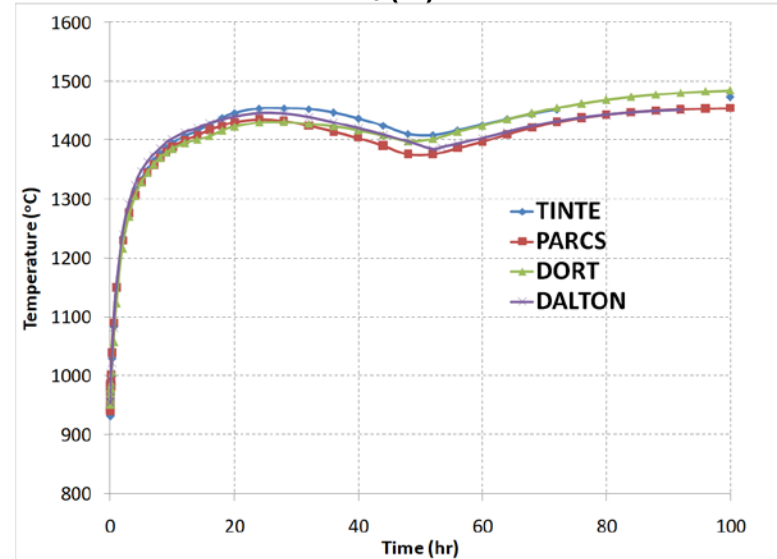
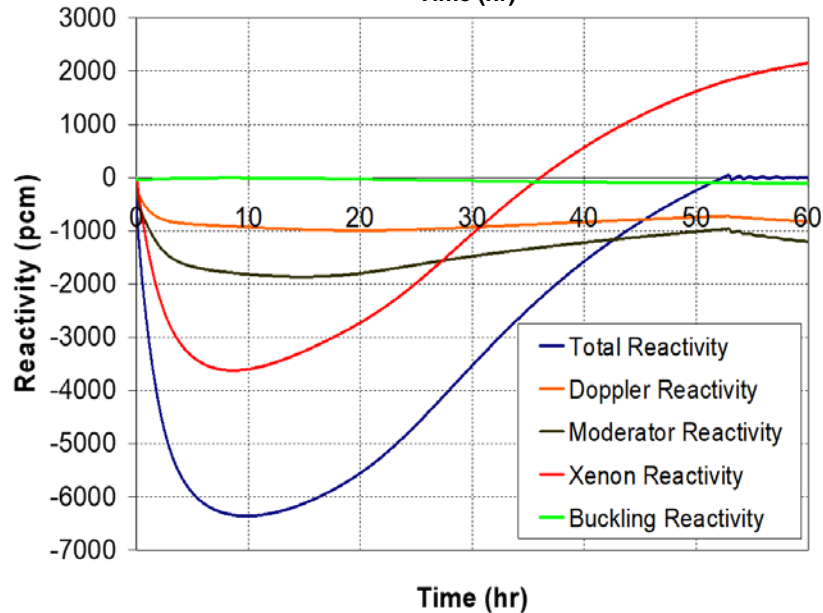
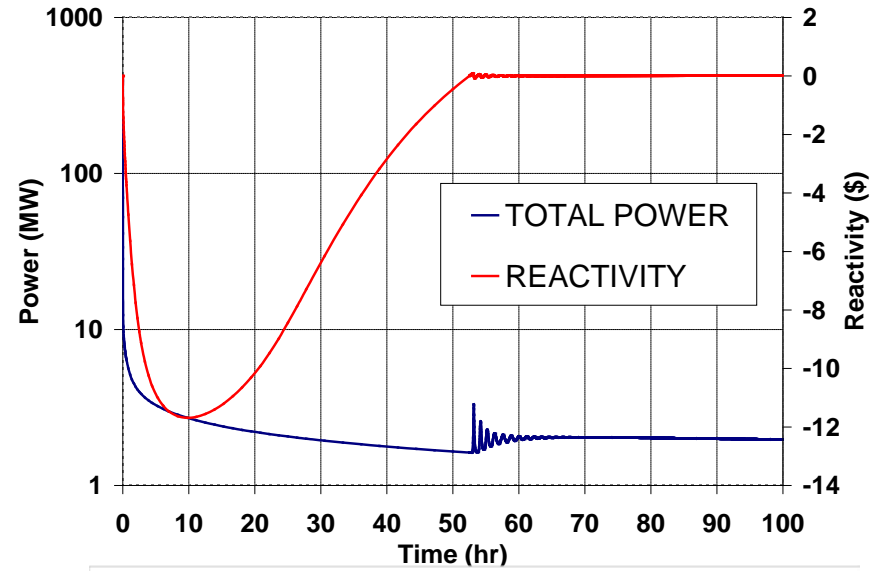
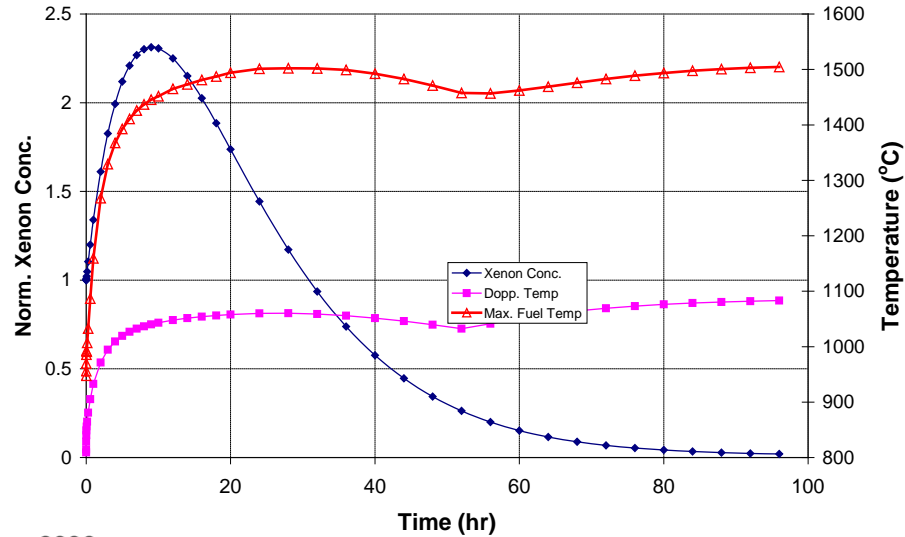




# SCALE/PARCS/AGREE CASE T-1: Depressurised Loss of Forced Cooling (DLOFC) without SCRAM

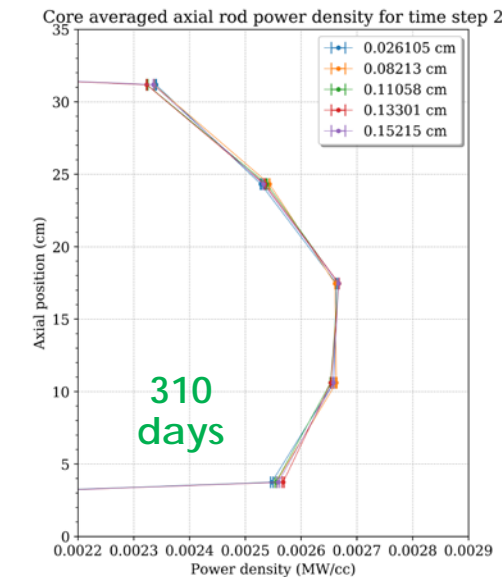
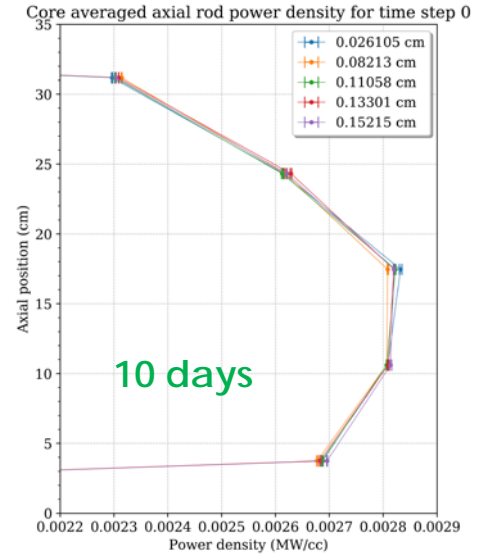
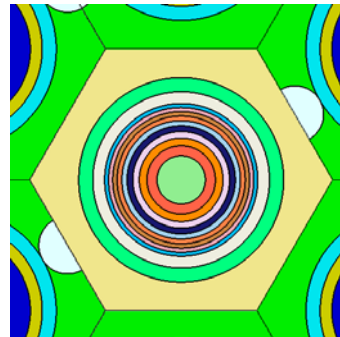
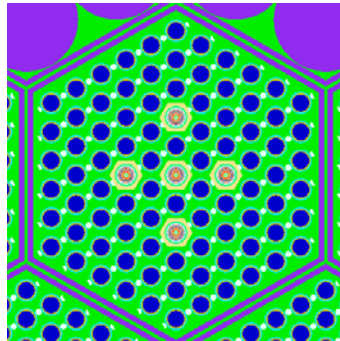
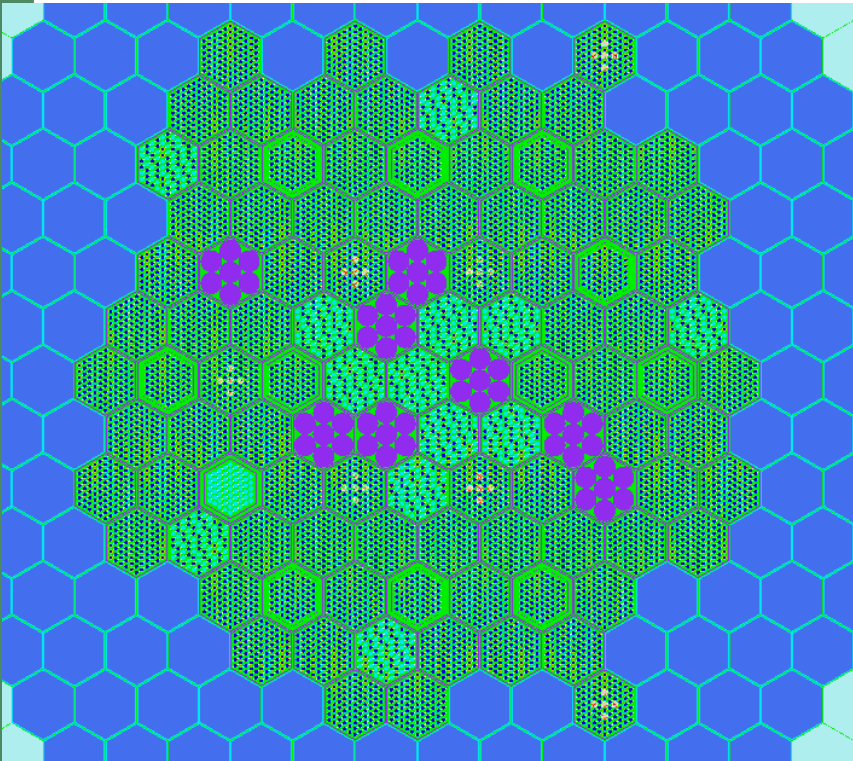


XENON Concentration / FUEL Temperatures

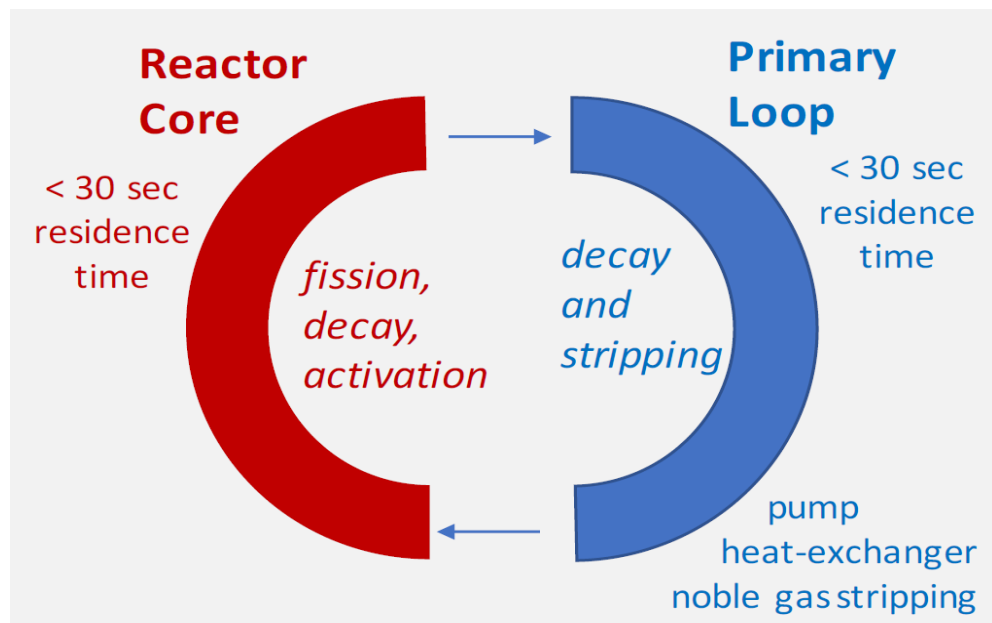
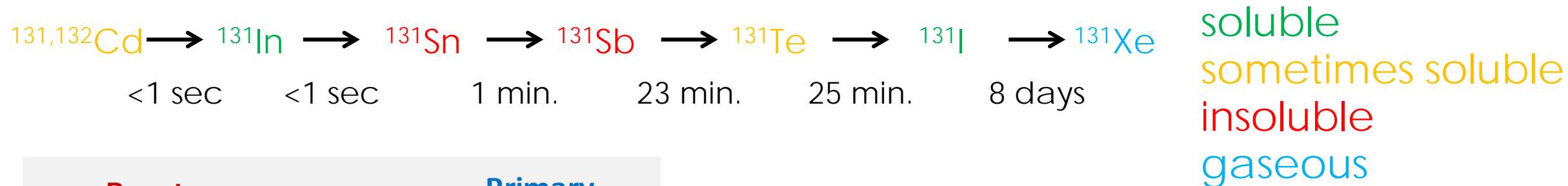


# Sodium fast reactors: EBR-II Model with TRITON / Shift

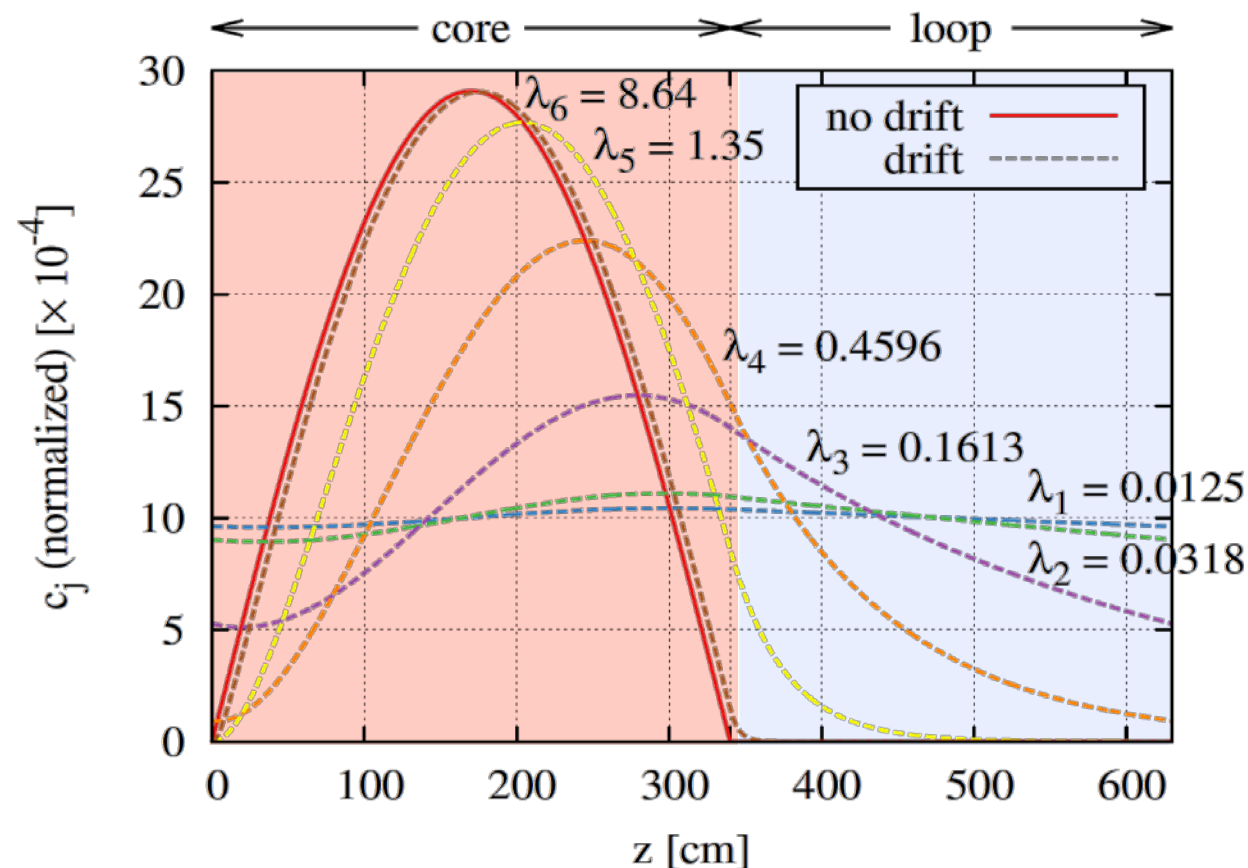
- Hi fidelity Monte Carlo neutronics with depletion for with coupling to NRC's FAST fuel performance code



# TRITON for MSR neutronics (a.k.a. ChemTRITON)



- Delayed neutron precursor drift
- Material removal and feed



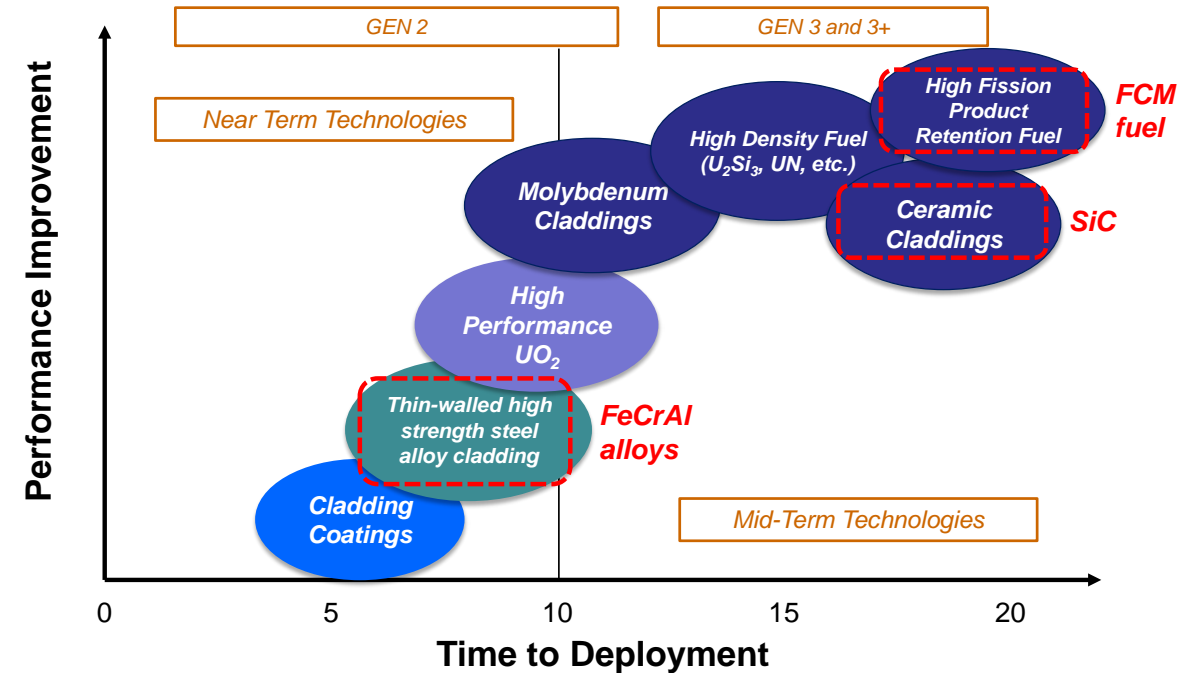
Delayed neutron precursor concentrations in the primary loop of a liquid-fueled MSR.

# Demonstration of VERA-MSR for integrated multiphysics analysis of Molten Salt Reactor Experiment (MSRE) Transient.



# SCALE is being extended for advanced fuel concepts

- ATF concepts must meet existing needs for plants and improve performance during accident scenarios
- High-burnup fuel will require additional validation and performance assessments
- Goals:
  - Extend tools for normal operation (NO), anticipated operational occurrences (AOOs), design basis accidents (DBAs)
  - Maintain compatibility with existing infrastructure
- Polaris has been benchmarked for AFT concepts



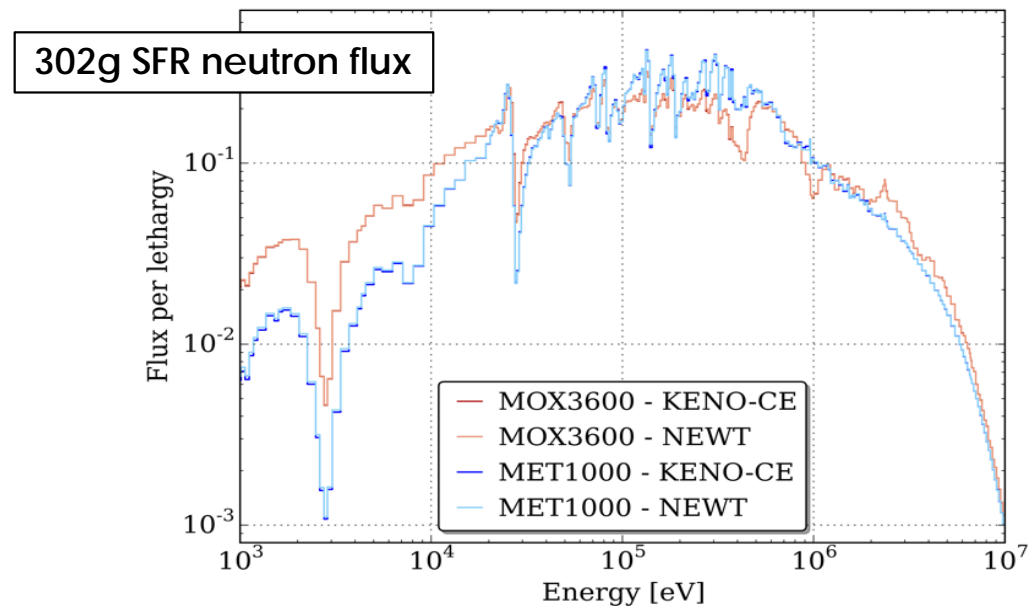
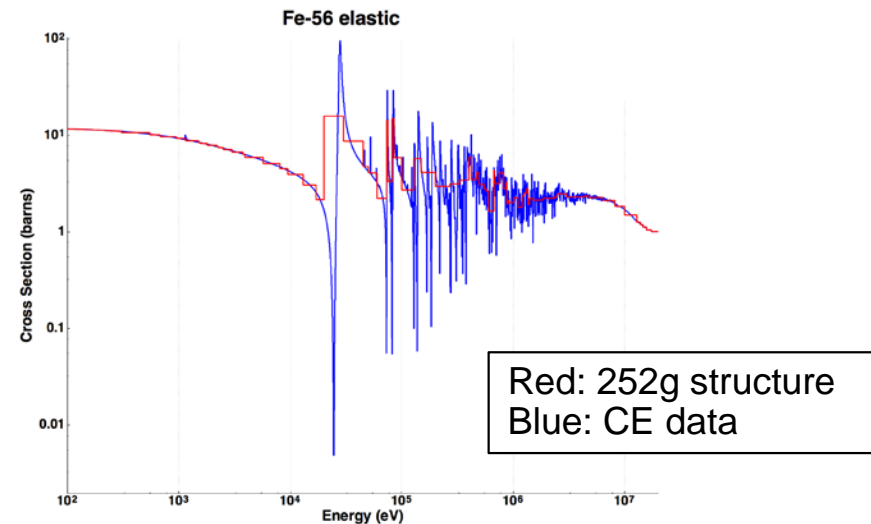
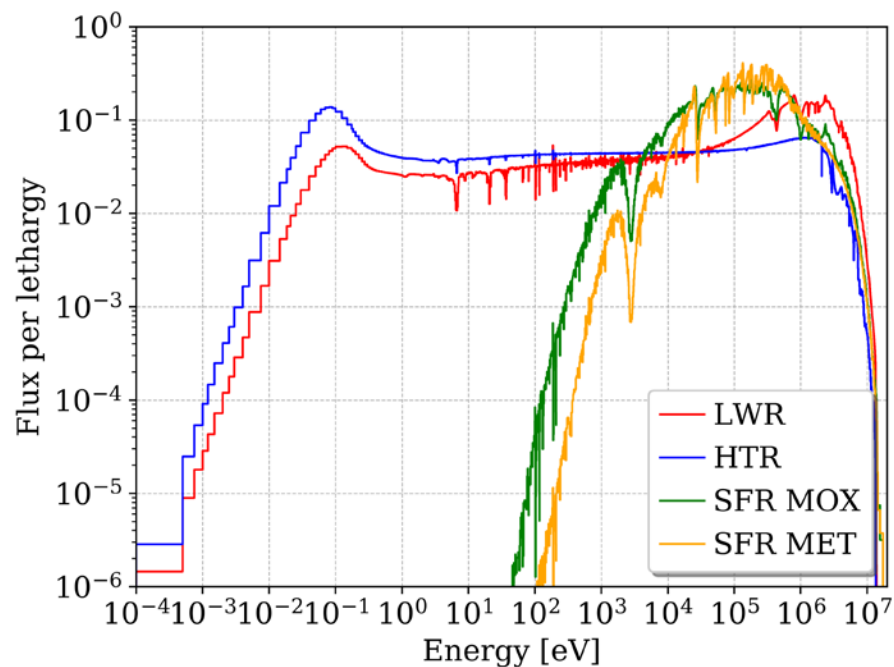
## SCALE 6.3

- Motivation – Advanced Systems
- Nuclear data libraries
- Shift Monte Carlo Code
- Beta release



# Updated nuclear data libraries for advanced systems

- With SCALE 6.2 MG libraries optimized for thermal systems are available
- Group structures and weighting spectrum are being optimized for advanced systems



## SCALE 6.3

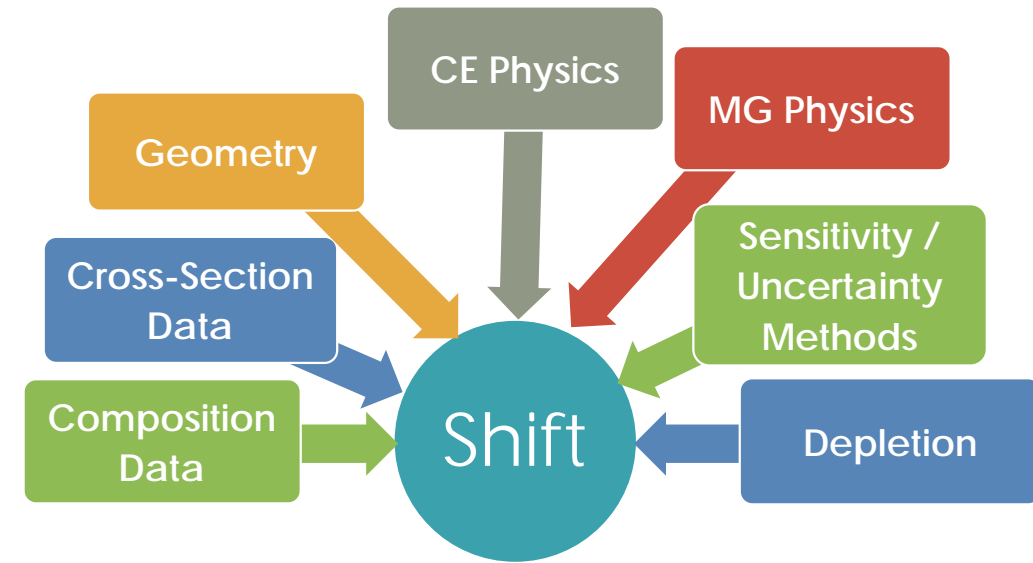
- Motivation – Advanced Systems
- Nuclear data libraries
- Shift Monte Carlo Code
- Beta release





# Shift/SCALE integration

- **Integrated in CSAS criticality sequence**
  - KENO V.a and KENO-VI geometry
  - SCALE physics, material, and control specifications
  - Validated with over 600 benchmark experiments
- **Integration in TRITON depletion sequence**
  - ORIGEN depletion
  - Multigroup cross section generation for nodal codes
  - Randomized geometry for TRISO and pebble bed
  - Validated with SFCOMPO data and full core code assessments
- **Integration in TSUNAMI sensitivity/uncertainty sequences**
  - Eigenvalue and generalized perturbation theory sensitivity coefficients with CE physics
- **Integration in MAVRIC shielding sequence**
  - Fixed-source shielding problems using hybrid methods, especially for large facility and site modeling



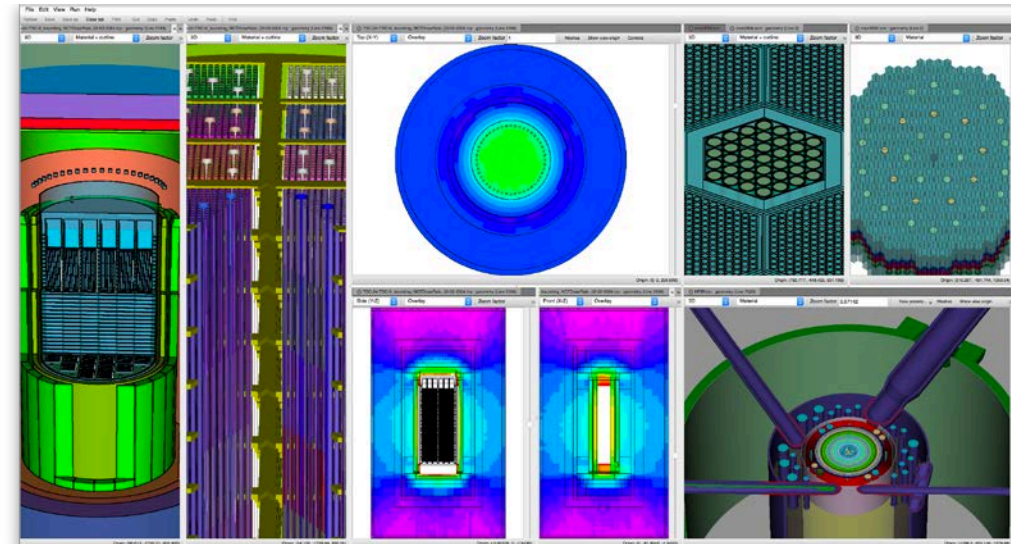
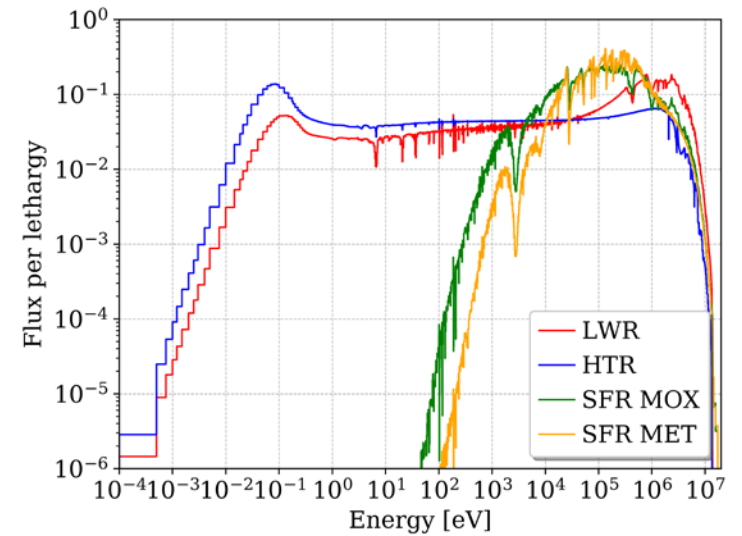
## SCALE 6.3

- Motivation – Advanced Systems
- Nuclear data libraries
- Shift Monte Carlo Code
- Beta release



# SCALE 6.3 Beta1 (fall 2018)

- ENDF/B-VIII.0 nuclear data libraries
  - Continuous-energy
  - LWR and nonLWR
- Shift Monte Carlo Code integration and feature extension
- Polaris enhancements for ATF and nonLWR
- TRITON MSR capability
- Fulcrum user interface enhancements, including 3D visualization
- Enhanced interoperability with MELCOR and FAST for LWR, ATF and nonLWR



# Your SCALE Team



# SCALE 6.2 Team Photo – May 2016



Left to right: Ahmed Ibrahim, Germina Ilas, Brandon Langley, Andrew Holcomb, Shane Hart, Cihangir Celik, Seth Johnson, Matt Jessee, Kevin Clarno, Adam Thompson, Bob Grove, Rob Lefebvre, Greg Davidson, Charles Daily, Alan Icenhour, Barbara Snow, Brian Ade, Brad Rearden, Ben Betzler, B. J. Marshall, Kursat Bekar, Will Wieselquist, Mark Baird, Mark Williams, Georgeta Radulescu, Ron Ellis, Thomas Miller, Dan Ilas, Elizabeth Jones, Cecil Parks, Sheila Walker, Teresa Moore, Marsha Henley, Sandra Poarch, Lester Petrie

## SCALE Leadership Team

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**Will Wieselquist**  
*Deputy Manager, SCALE Code System*  
**Doug Bowen**  
*Group Leader, Nuclear Data and Criticality Safety*  
**Kevin Clarno**  
*Group Leader, Reactor Physics*  
**Bob Grove**  
*Group Leader, Radiation Transport*  
**Rob Lefebvre**  
*Software Development Coordinator*  
**Matt Jessee**  
*Senior R&D Staff*

## Radiation Safety Information Computational Center (RSICC)

Tim Valentine

Versioned  
 Releases  
 User Licensing

Strategic Vision  
 Quality Assurance Plan  
 Budgets and Staffing  
 Change Control Board

### Infrastructure and Support

**Tony Walsh**  
 Seth Johnson  
 Brandon Langley  
 Jordan Lefebvre  
 Rob Lefebvre  
 Paul Miller

Quality Assurance System  
 Build and Test Framework  
 Deployment

### Monte Carlo Development

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 Kaushik Banerjee  
 Kursat Bekar  
 Cihangir Celik  
 Greg Davidson  
 Tom Evans  
 Shane Hart  
 Seth Johnson  
 Tara Pandya  
 Doro Wiarda

KENO/CSAS  
 MAVRIC/Monaco  
 Shift  
 Sourcerer

### Decay, Depletion, and Activation Methods

**Will Wieselquist**  
 Ian Gauld  
 Shane Hart  
 Germina Ilas  
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 Doro Wiarda

ORIGEN  
 ORIGAMI  
 Depletion, Decay,  
 and Activation Data

### Reactor Physics Methods

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 Will Wieselquist

TRITON  
 Polaris  
 Advanced Reactor R&D

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XSPROC  
 Neutron and Gamma  
 Cross Section Data (MG&CE)  
 Covariance Data

### User Interfaces

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 Geometry and  
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### Sensitivity and Uncertainty Analysis

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 Goran Arbanas  
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 Rike Bostelmann  
 Matt Jessee  
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 B.J. Marshall  
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 Will Wieselquist

TSUNAMI  
 TSURFER  
 SAMPLER  
 Optimization and  
 Inverse Analysis

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 Cihangir Celik  
 Justin Clarity  
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Courses at ORNL, NEA Data  
 Bank, NRC, and User  
 Facilities  
 Conference Workshops  
 Helpline, User Groups  
 Documentation

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Sandra Poarch, Division Secretary

July 1, 2018

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- <sup>1</sup> Dual Capacity  
<sup>2</sup> Subcontractor  
<sup>3</sup> Joint Faculty  
<sup>4</sup> Postdoctoral  
<sup>5</sup> ORISE Post Master's  
<sup>6</sup> Part-time  
<sup>7</sup> CASL/ORISE Post BS

# ORNL Nuclear Modeling and Simulation Portfolio





# Updated SCALE Leadership

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**Kevin Clarno**

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**Bob Grove**

*Group Leader, Radiation Transport*

**Rob Lefebvre**

*Software Development Coordinator*

**Matt Jessee**

*Senior R&D Staff*

**Brad Rearden (ex officio)**

*Leader, Modeling and Simulation Integration*