



Opportunities with NSUF for Nuclear Energy R&D

February 2019

Changing the World's Energy Future

Brenden J Heidrich



INL is a U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratory operated by Battelle Energy Alliance, LLC

DISCLAIMER

This information was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the U.S. Government. Neither the U.S. Government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, expressed or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness, of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. References herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trade mark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the U.S. Government or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Government or any agency thereof.

Opportunities with NSUF for Nuclear Energy R&D

Brenden J Heidrich

February 2019

**Idaho National Laboratory
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415**

<http://www.inl.gov>

**Prepared for the
U.S. Department of Energy
Under DOE Idaho Operations Office
Contract DE-AC07-05ID14517**

Nuclear Science User Facilities

Opportunities with NSUF for Nuclear Energy R&D

Brenden Heidrich, Ph.D.
Irradiation Chief Scientist, NSUF

Additive Manufacturing Discussion on Collaboration
Opportunities with LLNL & ISU
Idaho Falls, ID
February 27, 2019



The NSUF: Pairing the best minds with the needed capability

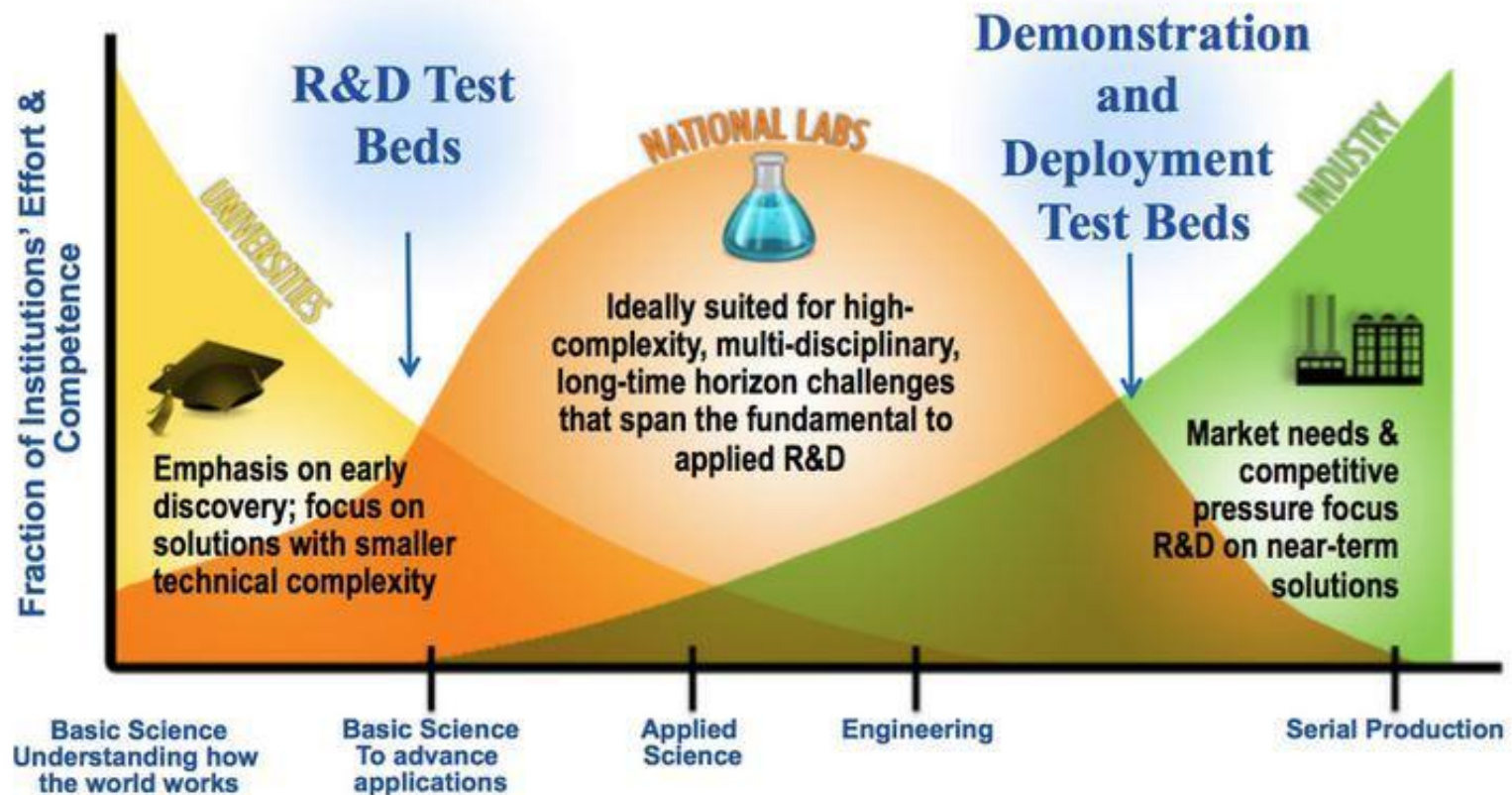
- The Nuclear Science User Facilities (NSUF) offers unparalleled research opportunities for nuclear energy researchers.
- Users are provided access (at no cost to the researcher) to:
 - world-class nuclear research facilities,
 - technical expertise from experienced scientists and engineers, and
 - assistance with experiment design, assembly, safety analysis and examination.
- Access is awarded through a competitive peer-reviewed process.
- Submitted proposals should be consistent with the DOE-NE mission and its programmatic interests.

NSUF supports the **NE Mission Focus Areas** by offering access to capabilities that can provide the fundamental understanding to:

1. predict the long term stability of light water reactor structural materials and accident tolerant fuels to support the **existing fleet**,
2. determine the applicability of advanced materials for future reactor designs to better develop the **advanced reactor pipeline**, and
3. develop simplified materials recovery technologies, waste management, and proliferation risk reduction methods to re-establish the **national fuel cycle infrastructure**.

Role of the National Laboratories in Nuclear Energy R&D

Bridging the “Valleys of Death”



NSUF General

- **Established 2007 as DOE Office of Nuclear Energy first and only user facility**
 - Initially at Idaho National Laboratory only, today INL is lead institution
 - Link intellectual capital with nuclear research infrastructure to fulfill mission of DOE-NE
 - Provide access to capabilities and expertise at no cost to user
 - Irradiation effects in nuclear fuels and materials
 - Support design, fabrication, transport, irradiation, PIE, disposition
- **Generally select projects through open competitive proposal processes**
 - **Consolidated Innovative Nuclear Research (CINR FOA, 1 call/year)**
 - Irradiation + PIE (\$1.0M - \$4.0M, up to 7 years)
 - PIE only (~\$500K, up to 3 years)
 - Irradiation only (\$500K - \$3.5M)
 - Beamlines at other user facilities
 - **Rapid Turnaround Experiments (RTE, 3 calls/year, limited \$\$, executed within 9 months)**
 - **Proposals welcome from University, National Laboratory, Industry, Small Business**



NSUF – A consortium

A group formed to undertake an enterprise beyond the resources of any one member

- Recognized early that needs of community exceed capacity at INL
- Partner Facilities program started in 2008
- Name changed to Nuclear Science User Facilities in 2014
- 11 Universities + 4 Universities in CAES, 8 National Laboratories, 1 industry



NSUF Capabilities Offer Research Opportunities

Neutron
Irradiations

Ion
Irradiations

Gamma
Irradiations

Hot Cells &
Shielded
Cells

Low Activity
Laboratories

Beamlines

High
Performance
Computing



11 Universities

CAES (4 Univ)

8 National
Labs

1 Industry

1 Int'l Affiliate

Visit nsuf.inl.gov for
details at individual
facilities



NSUF Support Structure Points of Contact

DOE

Mr. Shane Johnson
Mr. Mike Worley
Ms. Alice Caponiti
Ms. Tansel Selekler
Mr. Jihad Aljayoushi (ID)

Ion Beams

Prof. Gary Was (UM)
Prof. Kumar Sridharan (UW)
Dr. Meimei Li (IVEM, ANL)
Dr. Khalid Hattar (SNL)
Prof. Lin Shao (TAMU)
Dr. Scott Tumey (LLNL)

Neutron Irradiation

Ms. Debra Utterback (INL)
Dr. Lin-Wen Hu (MIT)
Dr. Gordon Kohse (MIT)
Prof. Ayman Hawari (NCSU)
Mr. Kory Linton (ORNL)
Prof. Raymond Cao (OSU)
Dr. Richard Sisson (SNL)
Dr. Sven Van den Berghe (BNRC)

Beamlines

Dr. Lynne Ecker (BNL)
Prof. Ayman Hawari (NCSU)
Dr. Tarik Saleh (LANL)

Examinations

Dr. Kurt Terrani (ORNL)
Mr. Kory Linton (ORNL)
Dr. Yaqiao Wu (CAES)
Ms. Joanna Taylor (CAES)
Dr. Andrew Casella (PNNL)
Dr. David Senior (PNNL)
Prof. Ahmed Hassanein (Purdue)
Prof. Peter Hoseman (UCB)
Dr. Paula Freyer (Westinghouse)
Dr. Tarik Saleh (LANL)
Prof. James Baciak (UFla)
Dr. Thomas Hartmann (UNLV)
Prof. Kumar Sridharan (UW)
Prof. Ayman Hawari (NCSU)
Prof. Gary Was (UM)
Dr. Mitch Meyer (INL)
Dr. Sven Van den Berghe (BNRC)

And many more scientists, engineers and technical staff at all partner facilities to help get things done

Accessing the NSUF

1. Consolidated Innovative Nuclear Research FOA

- For full irradiation/PIE, PIE Only, or NSLS-II projects
- Kickoff in August, awarded the following June
- R&D support funding can be requested

2. Rapid Turnaround Experiment calls

- For small examination or beam-line projects
- Three calls per year
- No R&D support funding
- XPD at NSLS-II is available

3. DOE-NE Infrastructure Programs

- Reactor Upgrades
- General Scientific Infrastructure



- NFML
- Internships
- Post-Docs
- LDRD

NSUF Projects Summary

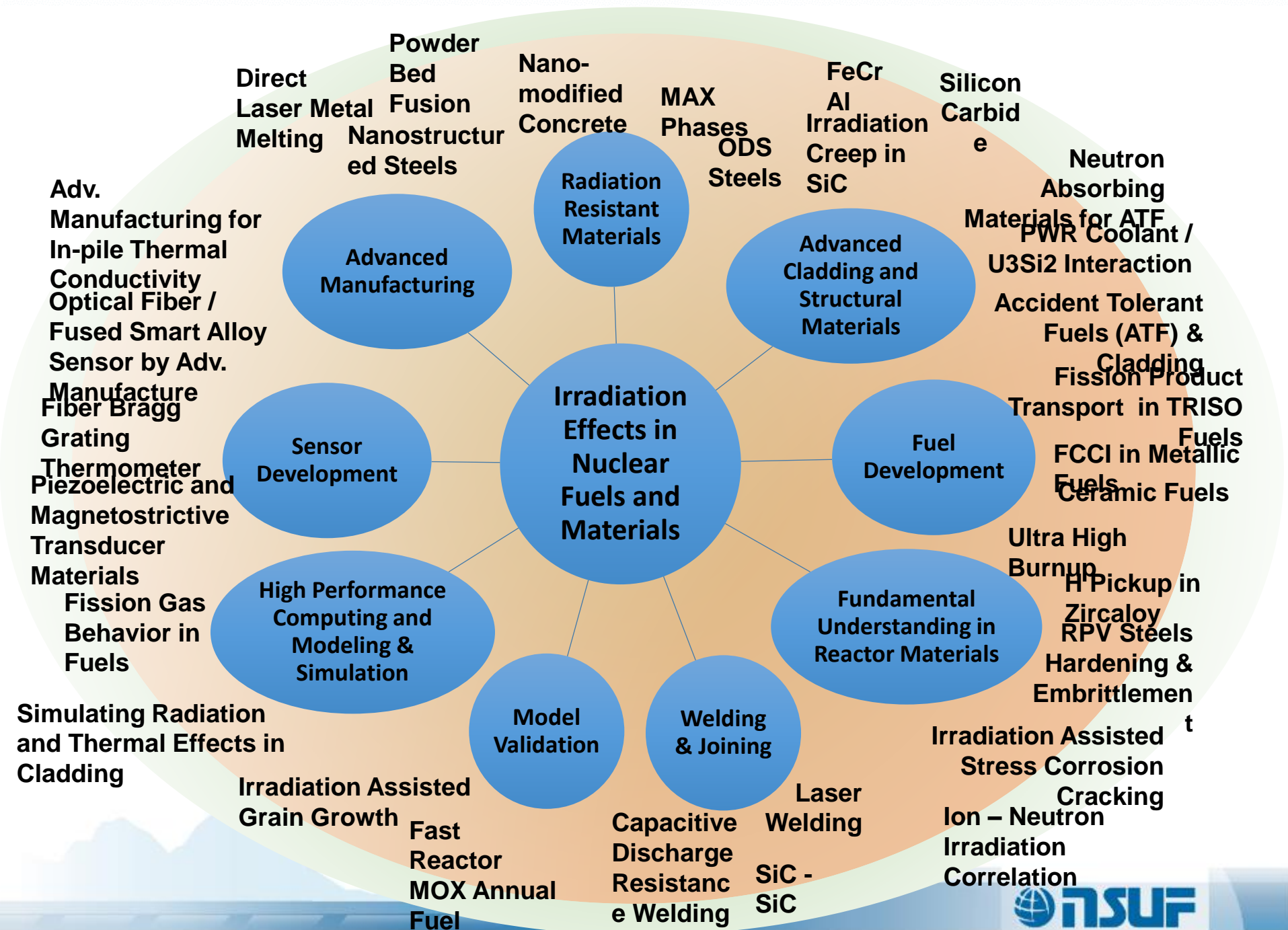
FY 2007 – FY2018

- Total of 39 CINR type projects executed
- Total of 35 CINR type projects currently ongoing
- Total of 270 RTEs executed
- Total of 63 RTEs ongoing
- 407 total projects awarded
 - 251 projects to 45 US universities
 - 123 projects to 6 national laboratories
 - 15 projects to the US nuclear industry
 - 18 projects to 9 international universities and research laboratories

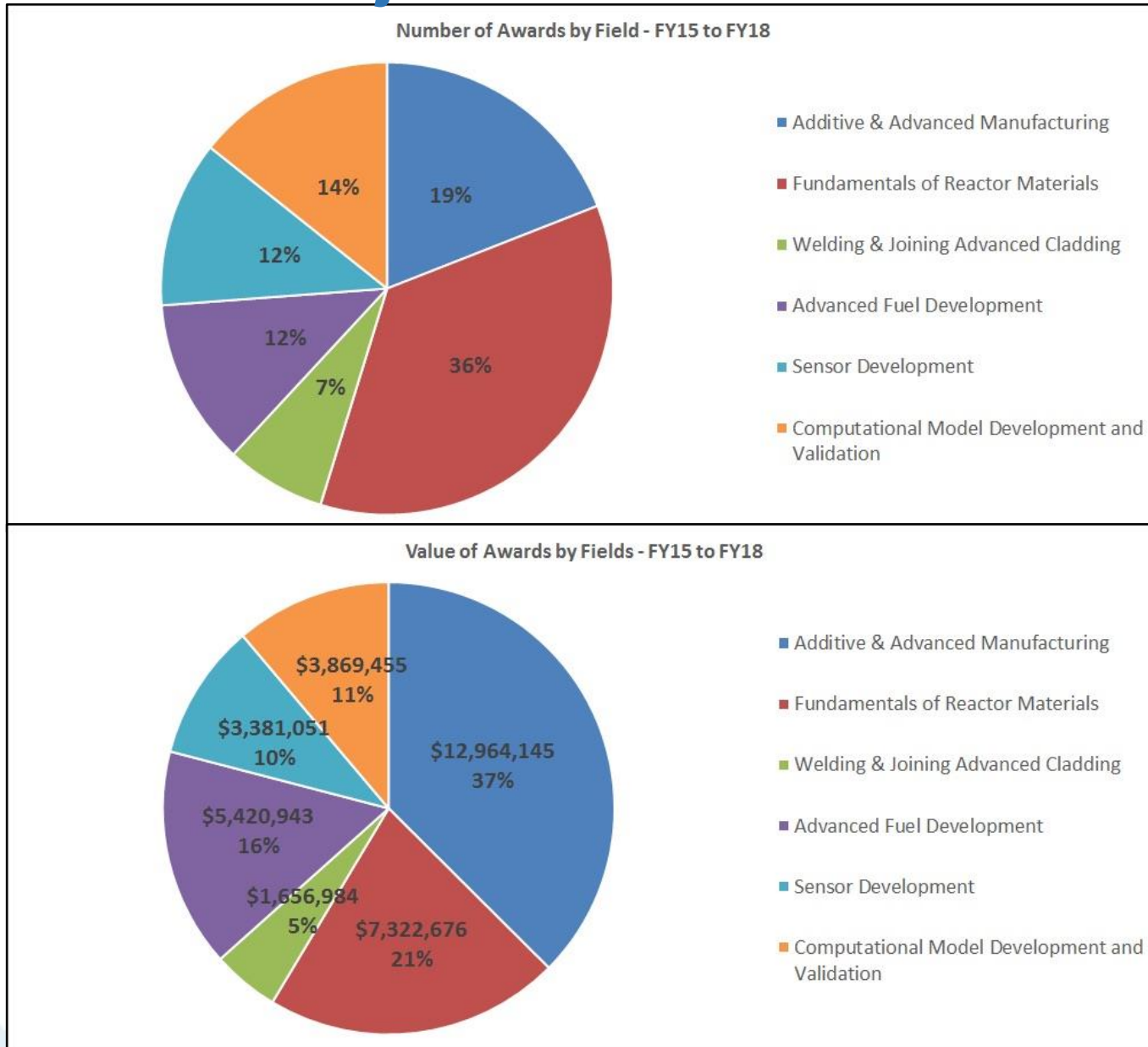


FY 2018

- Effective FY2018 budget: ~\$30M (same as FY17 & FY16)
- Total effective FY 2018 budget allocated to projects: ~\$13.6M direct (CINR + RTE) + ~\$3.4M supporting (PIE coordination, experiment managers, experiment analyses, shipping, SCK-CEN pilot projects)
- At any particular time, NSUF is managing 100+ projects

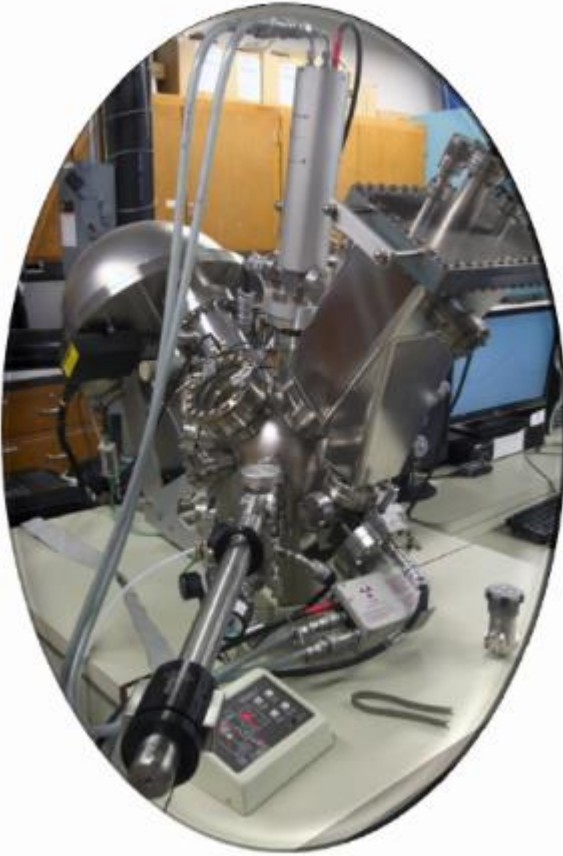


CINR Awarded Projects FY 2015 – FY 2018



Graphics created by Simon Pimblott

General Scientific Infrastructure

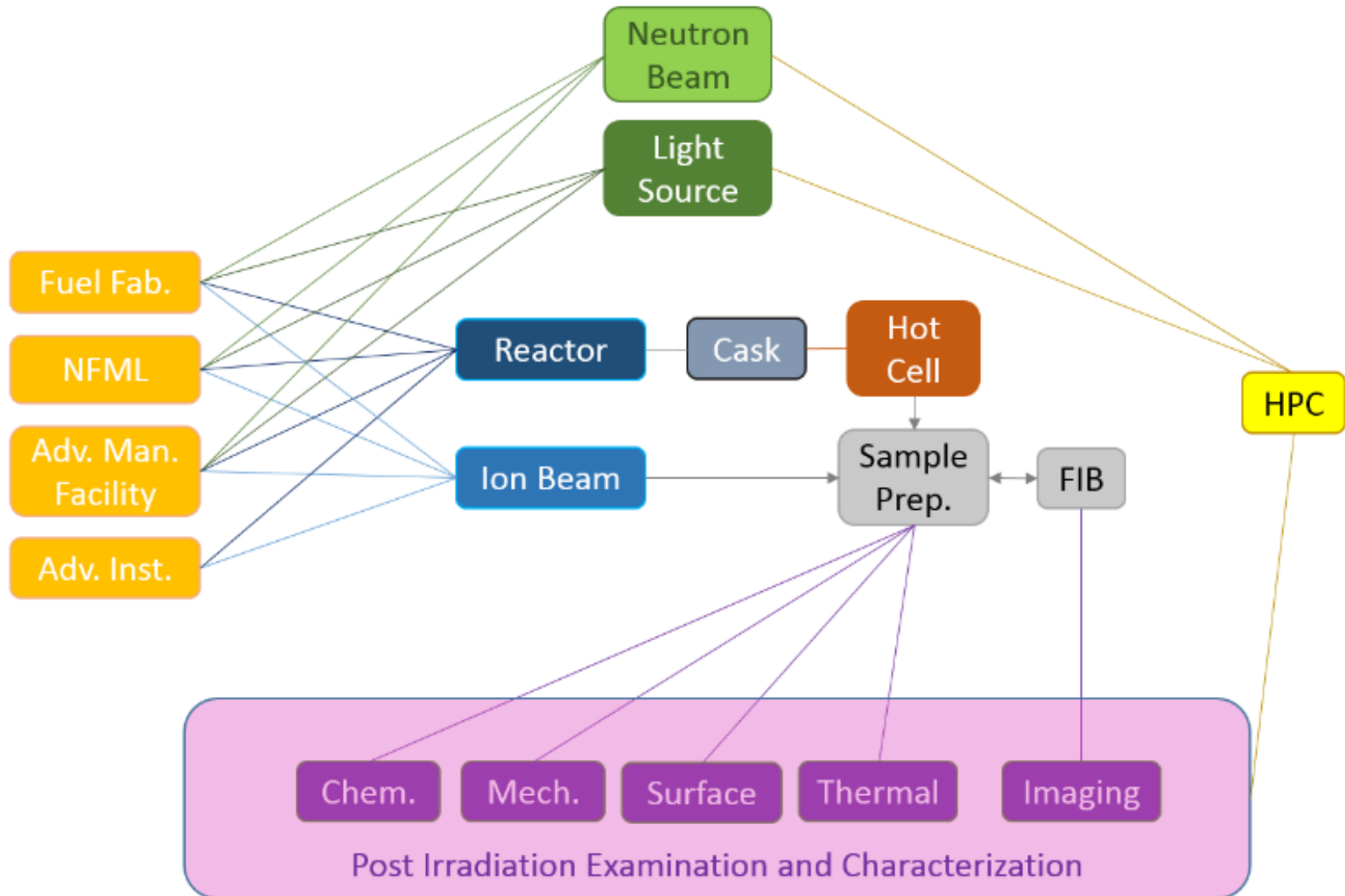


- Anticipated award size \$250,000
- Universities are eligible to submit applications.
- One application per institution can be submitted.
- Cost match (1:1) required after \$250,000
- Review Criteria
 - NSUF Integration (25%)
 - Scientific Impact (25%)
 - Utilization (25%)
 - Execution (25%)

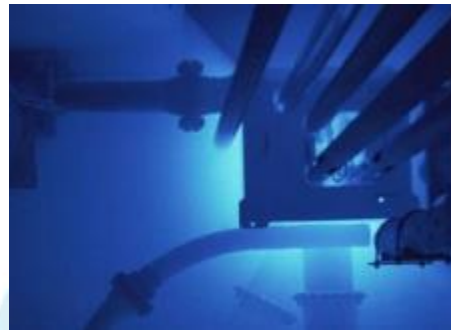
Nuclear Science User Facilities

CAPABILITIES

NSUF Experiment Pathways

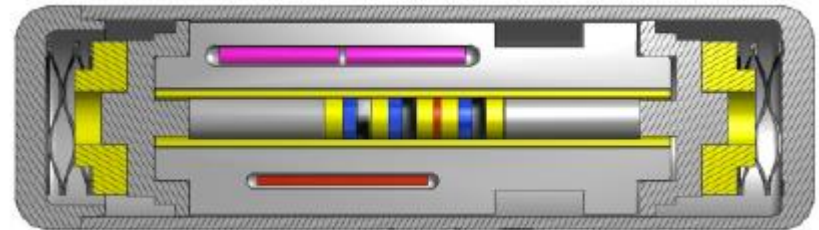
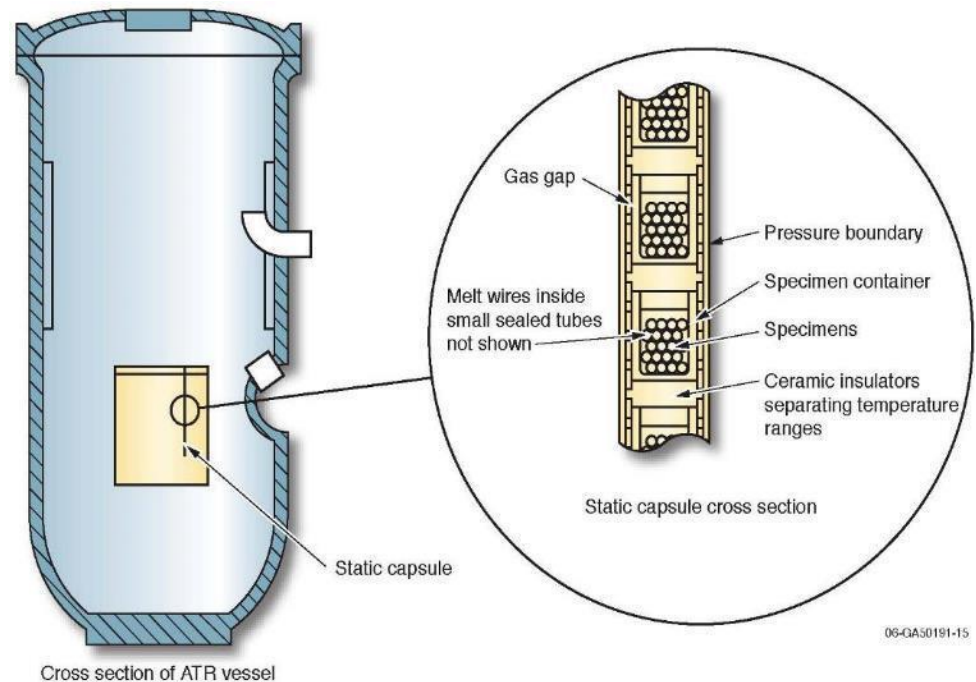


NSUF Neutron Irradiation Capabilities

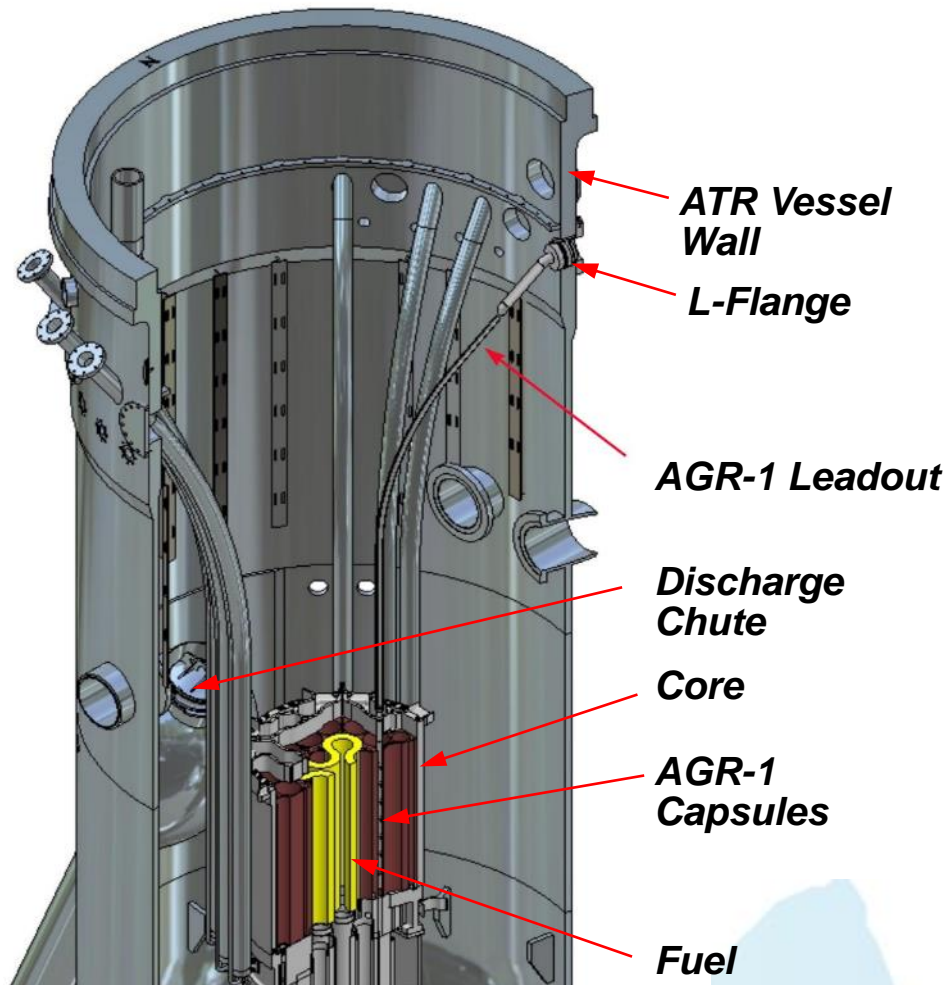


Simple Static Capsule Experiments

- Passive instrumentation (flux wires, melt wires)
- Enclosed in sealed tube, or fuel plates
- Temperature target controlled by varying gas mixture in conduction gap and with material selection
- Lengths up to 48"; diameter 0.5" – 5.0"
- Used for isotope production, fuel and material testing



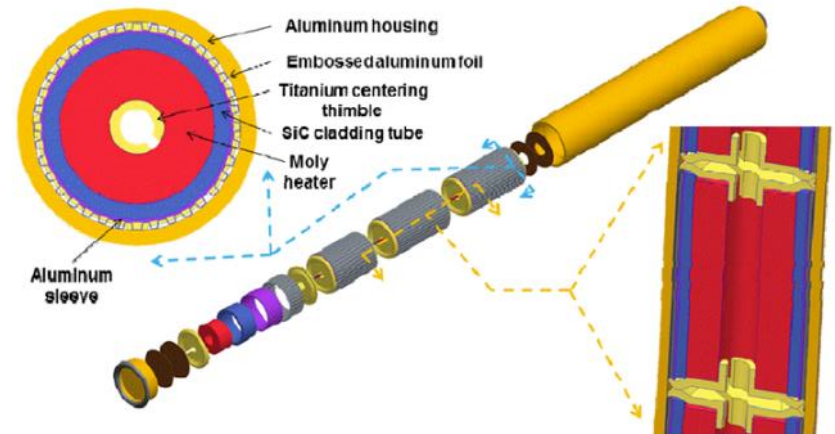
Instrumented Lead Experiments



- On-line experiment measurements
- Temperature control range 250-1200°C, within +/- 5°C
- Monitoring of temperature control exhaust gases for experiment performance (e.g., fission products, leaking materials, etc.)
- Specialized gas environments (oxidizing, inert, etc.)

Hydraulic Shuttle Irradiation System

- 14 shuttle capsules
- Simultaneously irradiated
- Flux, at 110 MW:
 - Thermal Flux: 2.5×10^{14} n/cm²-s
 - Fast (>1MeV): 8.1×10^{13} n/cm²-s
- Dimensions:
 - ~ 0.55" ID, ~2.1" IL
 - ~ 7 cc useable volume
 - ~35 gm Contents
- Can irradiate small amounts of fissile material (10mg)



NSUF – Ion Beam Irradiation Facilities



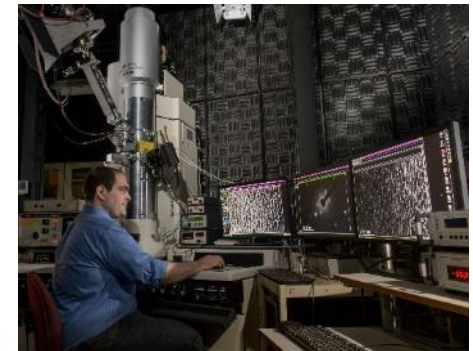
University of Michigan
Ion Beam Laboratory



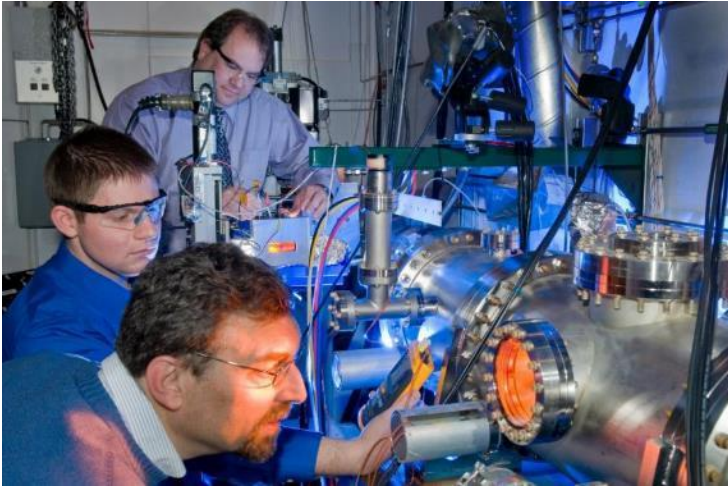
University of Wisconsin
Tandem Accelerator Ion Beam

Additional Partner Facilities:

- IVEM at the Argonne National Laboratory
- CMUXE at the Purdue University (surface science)
- Ion Beam Laboratory at the Texas A&M University
- I³TEM Facility at the Sandia National Laboratory



Synchrotron Radiation



Illinois Institute of Technology MRCAT Beamline

at Argonne National Laboratory's
Advanced Photon Source

National Synchrotron Light Source-II (NSLS-II)

radioactive materials beamline
at Brookhaven National Laboratory



Hot Cell Capabilities



Hot Fuel Examination Facility (INL)



MIT Reactor Hot Cells



Materials Center of Excellence
Laboratories (Westinghouse)



Radiochemical Engineering
Development Center (ORNL)



Radiochemistry Processing Laboratory
(PNNL)

NSUF Capabilities: high-radioactivity

High radiation level measurements/instrumentation

- Neutron Radiography
- Elemental & Isotopic Analyses
- Gas Sampling and Analyses
- Profilometry
- Gamma Scanning
- Mechanical Testing (tensile, punch, Charpy)
- Micro-focus X-ray Diffraction
- Thermal Analyses
- Eddy Current
- Irradiation Assisted Stress Corrosion Cracking
- Electron Probe Micro Analysis (EPMA)
- Electron and Optical Microscopy
- Focused ion Beam (FIB)



NSUF Capabilities: low-radioactivity

Low radiation level measurements/instrumentation

- **Electron and Optical Microscopy**
 - Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)
 - Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)
- **Focused Ion Beam (FIB)**
- **Mechanical Testing**
 - Tensile
 - Hardness
 - Micro- and Nano-Indentation
- **X-ray Diffraction**
- **Photo Electron Spectroscopy**
 - X-ray Photo Electron Spectroscopy (XPS)
 - UV Photo Electron Spectroscopy (UPS)
 - Auger Spectroscopy
- **Irradiation Assisted Stress Corrosion Cracking (IASCC)**
- **Positron Annihilation Spectroscopy**
- **Atomic Force Microscopy**
- **Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry**
- **Thermal Analysis**
 - Thermal Conductivity
 - Heat Capacity
 - Thermal Expansion
- **Nuclear Magnetic Resonance**



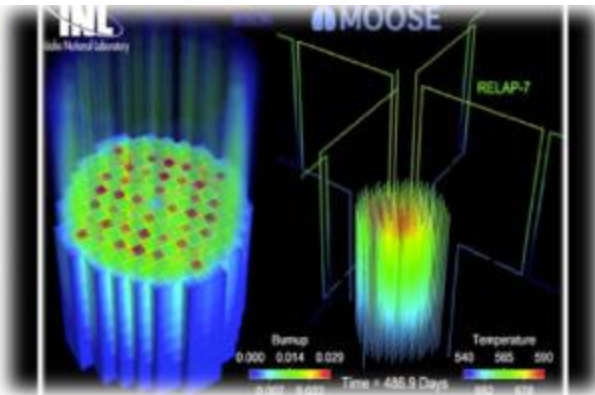
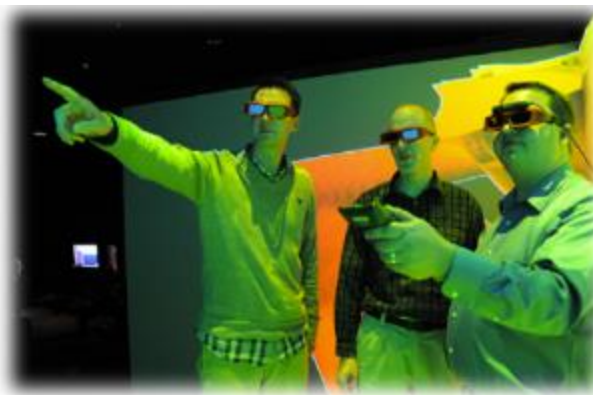
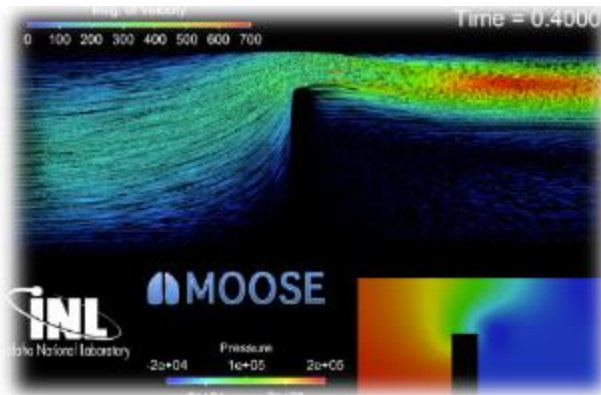
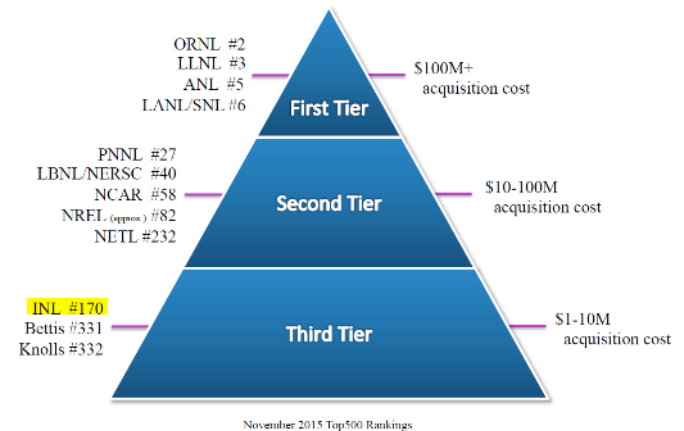
NSUF High Performance Computing Resources

How does HPC enable DOE missions?

- High Performance Computing (HPC) compliments theory and informs experimental processes.
- HPC functions as a 'microscope' for researchers to better understand physics, chemistry, and engineering principles in ways not otherwise possible.
- HPC resources support NSUF, CASL, NEAMS, NEUP, and GAIN

NSUF Program Support

- System already in place for quickly granting user access and prioritizing work
- Reporting and accounting systems are being modified to better capture NSUF metrics and science impact
- Implementing tools to improve and simplify user experience
- Ensuring that NSUF and related programs have needed support
 - Priority scheduling for milestones upon request
 - Supporting as-run analysis, thermal analytics, neutronics analytics
 - MOOSE support



Nuclear Science User Facilities

TOOLS & DATABASES

Infrastructure Database (NEID)



FEI Quanta 3D FEG
Focused Ion Beam
SEM Microscope



Institutions

Facilities

Instruments

Database of world-wide nuclear energy R&D resources (NEID)



NSUF Fuels and Materials Library

Provides irradiated samples for users to access and conduct research through a competitively reviewed proposal process.

The library includes over 3500 specimens as part of the NSUF awarded research.

Materials Include:

- **Steels**
- **Other alloys**
- **Ceramics**
- **Pure materials**
- **Actinides**
- **Fission products**



**INL Legacy
materials**

**Volunteered
materials from
outside the INL**

**Supporting
documentation
related to
samples**

NSUF Fuels and Materials Library

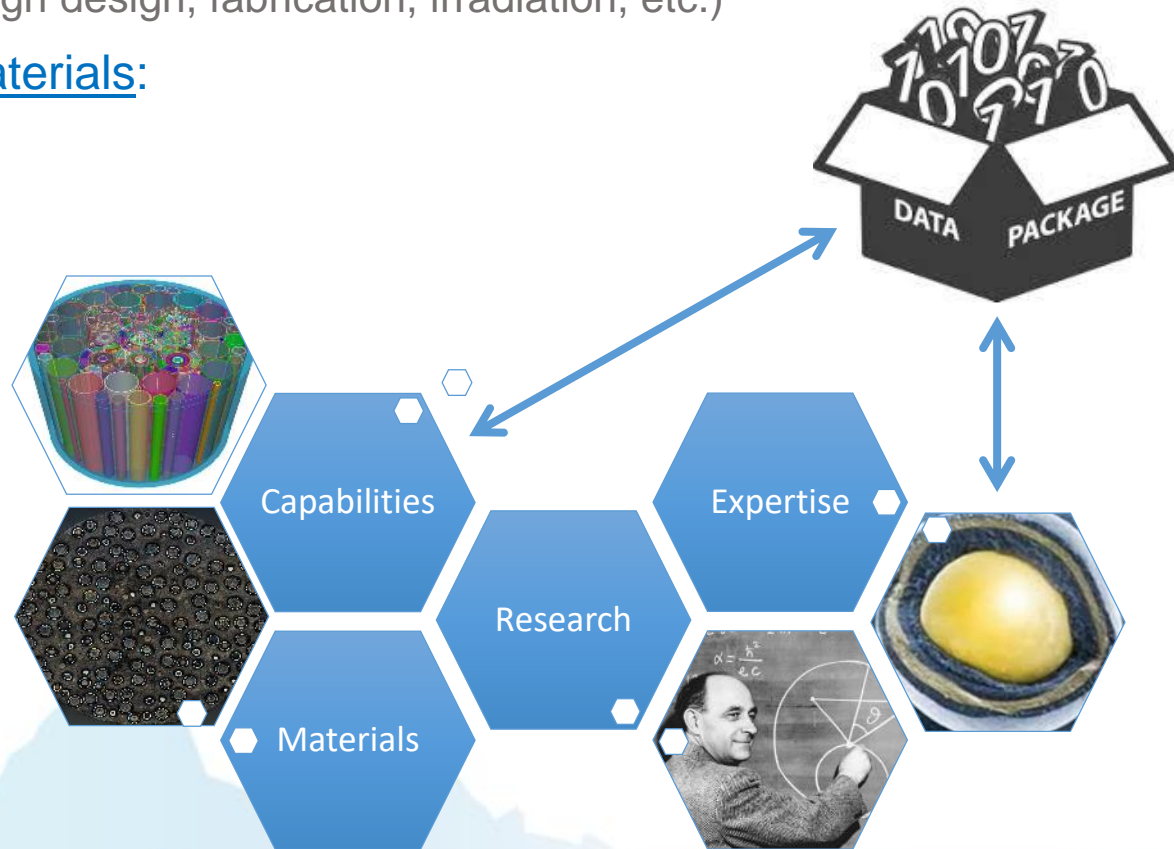
Steels	
17-4 PH SS	Fe-Cr Alloys
304 SS	HCM12-A
304 SS welds	HT-9
Super 304H	MA-956
316 SS	MA-957
347 SS	MAR-2008
416 SS	Mo-ODS
420 SS	nCr-YWT
9Cr ODS	NF616
Borated Steel	NF709
Carbon Steel	PM2000
Cast ASS	T-91
D9 ASS	Tool Steel T-1
Eurofer 97	XM-19
F82H-IEA	various model alloys

Other Alloys	Ceramics	Pure Materials
Al_3Hf	Al_2O_3	Copper
Al1100	MgO	Iron
Al6061	MgO-ZrO_2	Ni/Cu/Nb (DC)
Aluminum Bronze	$\text{Mg}_2\text{-SnO}_4$	Nickel
Berylco #25	$\text{MgO}_{1.5}\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$	Niobium
C276 Hasteloy	MgTiO_3	Silver
Incoloy 800H	$\text{Nd}_2\text{Zr}_2\text{O}_7$	Tantalum
Inconel X/X-750	SiC	Tungsten
Stellite	Ti_2AlC	Zirconium
	Ti_3AlC_2	
	Ti_2AlN	
	TiO_2	
	Ti_3SiC_2	

Small amounts of purified actinides and fission products in liquid form.

What can we build from NSUF Resources?

1. We can connect facilities and instruments as parts of a process to accomplish a research method or process, such as:
 - Microstructural characterization of irradiated fuel.
 - Irradiation experiment (through design, fabrication, irradiation, etc.)
2. We can include fuels and materials:
 - Fuels and Materials Library
 - Link to facilities utilized
 - Link to researchers
3. We can connect research:
 - Subject matter
 - Facilities utilized
 - PIs & collaborators
4. We can include expertise:
 - Support for **GAIN**



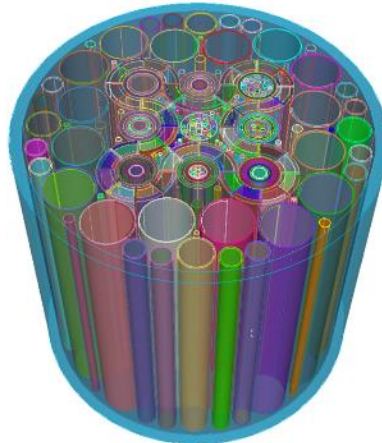
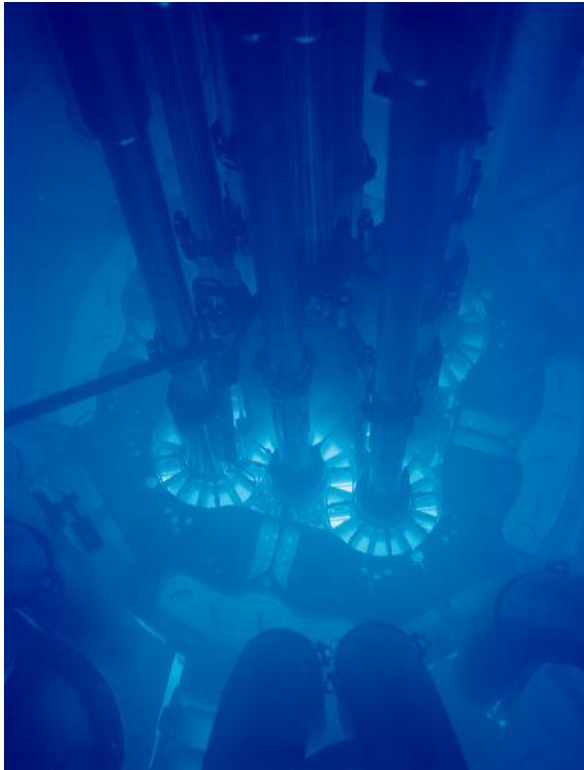
What's missing?

Contact Information for NSUF

Brenden Heidrich

(208) 526-8117

Brenden.Heidrich@INL.gov



NSUF@INL.gov

NSUF.INL.gov



DISCLAIMER

- This information was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the U.S. Government.
- Neither the U.S. Government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights.
- References herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the U.S. Government or any agency thereof.
- The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Government or any agency thereof.