Modeling and Simulation for Advanced Reactors

Presented to: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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SCALE code system Neutronics and shielding analysis enabling nuclear technology advancements http://scale.ornl.gov



SCALE is an Integrated System with Many Features



SCALE Verification and Validation

Verification

Continuous unit and regression testing >7000 fixed-source transmission tests for neutron/gamma spectral data Every nuclide/element at multiple energies >5000 infinite medium k_{inf} tests

Validation

600 criticality and shielding benchmarks
120 isotopic assays samples
121 decay heat measurements
Gamma spectra - burst fission
Neutron spectra – spent fuel and (α,n) sources



MIX-COMP-THERM-004 Critical Experiment



10⁰

²³⁹Pu thermal fission

10¹

10²

Time (s)

10³

•

1.0

0.8

0.6

0.2

0.0

 10^{-1}

(MeV/fission)

£^{0.4}



Fissile materials

High-enriched uranium (HEU), Intermediate-enriched uranium (IEU) Low-enriched uranium (LEU) Plutonium (Pu) Mixed uranium/plutonium oxides (MOX) Uranium-233 (U233) **Fuel form**

Metal (MET),

Fissile solution (SOL) Multi-material composition (e.g. fuel pins – COMP)

Neutron spectra

Fast Intermediate (INTER) Thermal Mixed



SCALE criticality validation: Verified, Archived Library of Inputs and Data (VALID)

- 611 configurations from International Criticality Safety Benchmark Evaluation Project (ICSBEP)
- 200 additional configurations, especially for ²³³U systems









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National Laboratory

Sequence / Geometry	Experiment class	ICSBEP case numbers	Number of configurations	
	HEU-MET-FAST	15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 30, 38, 40, 52, 65	19	Fissile materials
	HEU-SOL-THERM	1, 13, 14, 16, 28, 29, 30	52	High-enriched uranium (HEU).
	IEU-MET-FAST	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9	8	Intermediate-enriched uranium (IEU
	LEU-COMP-THERM	1, 2, 8, 10, 17, 42, 50, 78, 80	140	Low-enriched uranium (LEU)
	LEU-SOL-THERM	2, 3, 4	19	Plutonium (Pu)
	MIX-MET-FAST	5, 6	2	Mixed uranium/plutonium oxides
CONCE	MIX-COMP-THERM	1, 2, 4	21	(MOX)
KENO Va	MIX-SOL-THERM	2, 7	10	Uranium-233 (U233)
KENU V.a	PU-MET-FAST	1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 10, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26	12	• Eucl form
	PU-SOL-THERM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 20	81	
	U233-COMP-THERM	1	3	
	U233-MET-FAST	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	10	Fissile solution (SOL)
	U233-SOL-INTER	1	29	Multi-material composition (e.g. fuel
	U233-SOL-MIXED	1, 2	8	pins – COMP)
	U233-SOL-THERM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17	140	Neutron spectra
02426/	HEU-MET-FAST	5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 24, 80, 86, 92, 93, 94	27	Fast
	IEU-MET-FAST	19	2	Intermediate (INTER)
	MIX-COMP-THERM	8	28	Thermal
				Mixed SCAK RIDGE

SCALE training courses are routinely provided to the user community at ORNL and NEA, regulatory training is provided twice annually to NRC, and application-specific training provided at 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 -SCALE/ORIGEN Standalone Fuel Depletion, Activation,November 2and Source Term Analysis
- November 5 9 SCALE Criticality Safety and Radiation Shielding













SCALE Evolution



SCALE 0.0 – SCALE 4.4a

1980 – 2000

Established for Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Provides an independent rigorous nuclear safety analysis capability for out-ofreactor 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 Class of Problems & Sponsors

Reactor physics

Shielding analysis with automated variance reduction

Sensitivity and uncertainty analysis

High-fidelity criticality safety in continuous energy

Graphical user interfaces and visualization tools

Expanded visibility

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

Initiated modern, modular software design

Expanded Use

Over 8,000 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

Solutions for extremely complex systems

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



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



Waste Control Specialists Consolidated Interim Storage Facility Phase 1:

- 467 canisters
- Phase 1 concrete pad: 243.84 m \times 106.68 m
- Site boundary 2713 m \times 2576 m
- Air: 959.1 m for skyshine
- Soil: 1 m for ground return



Nuclear Data from ORNL AMPX Tools

AMPX now included with SCALE distribution so users can create their own libraries!



Depletion, Decay, and Activation Data



Energy (eV)

Two Approaches to Uncertainty Analysis

Stochastic Sampling

(SCALE/Sampler)

- Covariances of input data sampled; statistical analysis of output distribution gives uncertainties
- Pros
 - Typically minimally invasive to code
 - Can address complex simulations with coupled codes
- Cons
 - Quantification of separate effects (sensitivity coefficients) is challenging



Sensitivity Methods

(SCALE/TSUNAMI)

- Sensitivities are computed and combined with covariances to obtain uncertainties
- Pros
 - Quantifies uncertainty contributors
 - Obtains all data sensitivities for a single response in single calculation
- Cons
 - Requires invasive implementation of adjoint solution in simulation codes
 - Limited to radiation transport applications



SCALE licenses by version



CAK RIDGE

12

The Consortium for the Advanced Simulation of Light Water Reactors (CASL): an Energy Innovation Hub

- Established by former DOE Energy Secretary Steven Chu
- Modeled after the scientific management characteristics of AT&T Bell Labs:
 - Addressing critical problems
 - Combines basic and applied research with engineering
 - Integrated team to take discovery to application
- 10-year focused R&D effort (2010–2019)

CASL MISSION

Provide leading-edge modeling and simulation (M&S) capabilities to improve the performance of currently operating and future light water reactors (LWRs)



"Multi-disciplinary, highly collaborative teams ideally working under one roof to solve priority technology challenges" – Steven Chu



Our challenge problems are focused on key commercial reactor performance areas

Predict CRUD thickness, boron **Pellet-Clad Interation (PCI)** uptake, and impact on power Predict core wide PCI margin and cladding corrosion for and missing pellet surface PCI iPWR, PWR for BWR, iPWR, PWR Neutronics, Thermal-Hydraulics, Neutronics, Thermal-Hydraulics, Fluid Flow (CFD), Chemistry *Fuel/Cladding Performance* **Cladding Integrity Loss of Cladding Integrity Reactivity Core Environment Coolant Accident** Insertion Accident Neutronics, Predict peak clad Predict pellet-clad mechanical Thermal-Hydraulics, temperature and oxidation interaction for BWR, iPWR, PWR Fuel Performance for margin for BWR iPWR, PWR Reactor Kinetics, Transient **BWR**, iPWR, PWR Fuel/Cladding Performance *Fuel/Cladding Performance* **Departure from Nucleate Boiling Grid to Rod Fretting** (DNB) and Flow Regimes Predict fluid structure excitation Predict PWR DNB margin for steam forces, grid-clad gap, and line break, predict thermal and cladding wear for iPWR, PWR solutal flow, BWR flow regimes Fluid Flow (CFD), Fuel/Clad Neutronics, Thermal-Hydraulics/Fluid Performance, Materials Performance Flow (CFD)



14



Watts Bar Unit 1 Benchmark

- VERA used to model Cycles 1-14 (20 years of operation)
- Good agreement with measured data (provided by TVA)
 - RCCA bank worths (-0.7 ± 3.4%)
 - Isothermal temperature coefficients (-1.6 ± 0.7 pcm/F)
 - Critical boron concentrations (-16 \pm 17 ppm)
 - In-core power distributions (1.7% radial, 3.3% total error, 0.2% AO)







An Approach to Multiphysics V&V



W. J. Rider and V. Mousseau, Validation and Uncertainty Quantification (VUQ) Strategy, Revision 1, CASL-U-2014-0042-001 (2014)



Advanced Reactors



Over two dozen companies are entering the advanced reactor market today



Abbreviated advanced reactor technology matrix

Reactor Type	Companies	Licensing action expected	Fuel / Enrichment	Thermal spectrum	Fast Spectrum	Coolant	Radial core expansion	Flowing Fuel	External control elements	TRISO Fuel	Metallic Fuel
SFR	Oklo	2019	~20%		\checkmark	Sodium heat pipes	\checkmark		\checkmark		\checkmark
	TerraPower (TWR)		~20%		\checkmark	Sodium	\checkmark				\checkmark
	GE PRISM				\checkmark	Sodium	\checkmark				\checkmark
HTGR	X-energy (Xe100)	2020s	15.5%	\checkmark		Helium		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
	Areva (SC- HTGR)		~20%	\checkmark		Helium				\checkmark	
FHR	Kairos	2020s	~17%	\checkmark		FLiBe		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
MSR	Terrestrial Energy (IMSR)	2019	~5%	\checkmark		Proprietary		\checkmark			
	Transatomic	2020s		\checkmark		FLiBe		\checkmark			
	TerraPower (MCFR)	2020s	~20%		\checkmark	Chloride salt		\checkmark			
	Elysium		~20%		\checkmark	Chloride salt		\checkmark			
	FLiBe Energy		Thorium	\checkmark		FLiBe		\checkmark			



Needs for advanced reactors

- New materials / geometry / nuclear data needs
- Most use high-assay LEU fuel
- Flowing fuel
 - Slow flow for pebble bed
 - Rapid flow with reactivity effects for MSR
- New spectra
- Core leakage effects
- Control systems external to the core
- Chemistry effects
- Material expansion/deformation with temperature as a control mechanism
- Need for tight coupling with PARCS, T/H, material flow, chemistry



Shift Monte Carlo Code



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



Validation of CSAS5-Shift

- VALID results for Shift correspond well with KENO V.a and KENO-VI results
- VALID calculations were run on a single processor, to compare computational time between KENO and Shift

Experiment type	Number of cases	Difference from KENO ^a (pcm)	Standard deviation ^b (pcm)
LEU-COMP-THERM	128	21	31
IEU-MET-FAST	11	16	160
PU-MET-FAST	10	-23	27
MIX-SOL-THERM	3	23	21
MIX-COMP-FAST	2	506	19
MIX-COMP-THERM	20	18	17
HEU-MET-FAST	22	-14	18
PU-SOL-THERM	81	6	20

^a Computed as the average over all KENO and Shift simulations for an experiment set.

^b Computed as the standard deviation of the difference in k_{eff} between Shift and KENO.



Shift parallel scaling compared to KENO

- **Test Case:** GE14 fuel assembly with depletion tallies
 - A number of identical simulations were run and the average time over the set simulations was used to
 estimate CPU time
- Shift is only slightly faster than KENO on a single node (1.5x 2x), but much faster on many nodes (3x - 7x)
- Shift scales close to ideally up to hundreds of processors when using O(50k) particles per generation



TRITON/Shift Depletion Testing

- Simple LWR test cases were run in all of SCALE's depletion methods
 - Long history of validation for LWR's provides confidence in SCALE's multigroup methods
 - Results show consistency between TRITON/Shift depletion and SCALE's multigroup depletion methods



Generating Few-Group XS Data using SCALE/Shift

- Tally capability has been added to Shift and a new input definition has been implemented to allow generation of few-group cross sections using Shift
- Highlights:
 - Arbitrary energy group structure
 - Multiple tally regions in a single model
 - Supports typical XS data, ADFs, scatting matrix, etc.
 - Based on a rectangular mesh
 - Can be used in Shift-based TRITON or CSAS sequences

Input Format

```
read fgxs
    shape cuboid id=NUM Xmax Xmin Ymax Ymin Zmax Zmin
    energy id=NUM E0 E1 E2 ... EN end
    tallytype id=NUM [options]
end fgxs
```

3 Tally Region Example:

```
read fgxs
    shape cuboid id=10 5.0 -5.0 5.0 -5.0
                                             40.0 0.0
                        0 0.625 20E6 end
                 id=10
    energy
    tallyset t16 id=10
    shape cuboid id=20
                        5.0 -5.0 5.0 -5.0
                                             70.0 40.0
                 id=20
                        0 0.625 20E6 end
    energy
    tallyset t16 id=20
    shape cuboid id=30 5.0 -5.0 5.0 -5.0 100.0 70.0
                 id=30
                        0 0.625 20E6 end
    energy
    tallyset t16 id=30
end fgxs
Tally ID=0 Example:
read fgxs
    energy
                id=0
                      0 0.625 20E6 end
   tallyset t16 id=0
    shape cuboid id=10 5.0 -5.0 5.0 -5.0 40.0 0.0
    shape cuboid id=20 5.0 -5.0 5.0 -5.0
                                           70.0 40.0
    shape cuboid id=30
                       5.0 -5.0 5.0 -5.0
                                          100.0 70.0 🖻
end fqxs
```

Shift Nodal Data for 3D Assemblies



- GE14 fuel assembly modeled with full and vanished regions at BOL.
- Realistic axial void fraction distribution taken from previous BWR BUC work
- Full 3D fuel assembly model compared to typical axial slice models, both modeled in Shift.
 - Designed to test the assumption of using 2D slices to generate XS data for a 3D core simulator
- Results indicate relatively minor differences between cross sections generated with true 3D model versus 2D slice model



Stochastic Geometry in SCALE

- Goal: Enable more straightforward generation of reference solutions for stochastic geometry (TRISO, pebble bed, FCM, etc.)
- Current capabilities
 - Multiple particle types and sizes (spherical only)
 - Sphere, cylinder, and cuboid boundaries
 - Random or regular array placement
 - Visualization of geometry enabled in Fulcrum
- Implemented only in Shiftbased sequences

Pebble Input Example

1	=csas-shift									
2										
3	unit 1									
4	sphere 1 2.500000e-02									
5	sphere 2 3.400000e-02									
6	sphere 3 3.800000e-02									
7	sphere 4 4.150000e-02									
8	sphere 5 4.550000e-02									
9	media 100 1 1									
10	media 101 1 2 -1									
11	media 102 1 3 -2									
12	media 103 1 4 -3									
13	media 104 1 5 -4									
14	boundary 5									
15	unit 10									
16	com='pebble'									
17	sphere 1 2.500000e+00									
18	sphere 2 3.000000e+00									
19	media 101 1 1 randommix='trisos'									
20	media 106 1 2 -1									
21	boundary 2									
22	•••									
23	end geometry									
24	•••									
25	read randomg eom									
26	<pre>randommix = 'trisos'</pre>									
27	type= random									
28	units= 1 end									
29	pts= 0.10 end									
30	clip= no									
31	Seed= 1000									
32	enu randommix									
33										
34	end									
35	CIU									

Shift is being extended for operation on GPUs as part of the Exascale Computing Project



GE

atory







http://www.nvidia.com/object/what-is-gpu-computing.html

- 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



Shift/SCALE integration

Integrated in CSAS criticality sequence

- Eigenvalue mode for criticality safety
- KENO V.a and KENO-VI geometry
- Uses standard SCALE geometry, material, and control specifications
- Validated with over 400 benchmark experiments

Integration in TRITON depletion sequence

- Currently in development
- Flux-solver
- Depletion
- Multigroup cross section generation for nodal codes
- Randomized geometry for TRISO and pebble bed

Integration in TSUNAMI sensitivity/uncertainty sequences

- Capability demonstrated
- 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
- Currently in development







HTR Modeling Capabilities



Previous efforts for HTRs

- SCALE provides unique capabilities for the neutronics and source terms analysis of high-temperature reactors (HTRs), including gas-cooled HTGRs, as well as fluoride-salt cooled FHRs.
- Through the US Department of Energy's Next Generation Nuclear Plant (NGNP) program, the NRC supported enhancements to SCALE for tristructural isotropic (TRISO) fuel modeling, especially for interoperability with the PARCS core simulator for HTGR license reviews.
- These capabilities were further enhanced under a cooperative research and development agreement with the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Shanghai Institute of Applied Physics (SINAP) to integrate and extend TRISO features within the modernized SCALE framework and to develop enhanced features for additional fuel forms and molten salt coolants.
- Sensitivity and uncertainty analysis features of SCALE have been applied extensively with IAEA Coordinated Research Project on HTRs.





Ongoing efforts for HTR

- Current development activities involve advanced 3D capabilities with the Shift Monte Carlo code, including generation of nodal cross sections for core simulator calculations and modeling random TRISO particle loading.
- Planned developments include improved core simulator coupling for thermal feedback, pebble flow and depletion, reflector and control rod effects, and transient analysis.



National Laborator

Some applications of SCALE to HTGRs

USSNRC United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Protecting Prode and the Eurivronment

Validation of SCALE for High Temperature Gas-Cooled Reactor Analysis



G. Ilas, D. Ilas R. P. Kelly, and E. E. Sunny, *Validation of SCALE for High Temperature Gas Cooled Reactor Analysis*, NUREG/CR-7107, ORNL/TM-2011/161, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (2011). https://www.nrc.gov/docs/ML1220/ML12201A080.pdf

#	Reference of publications - Provided by Frederik Reitsma - Project Manager for Gas Cooled Reactor Technology at IAEA (HTGRs and Molten Salt Reactors)	Year	Reference to SCALE
1	V F Boyarinov, A V Grol, P A Fomichenko and M Yu Ternovykh, "Improvement of Modeling HTGR Neutron Physics by Uncertainty Analysis with the Use of Cross-Section Covariance Information", 2017 J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 781 012032	2017	Yes
2	Friederike Bostelmann, Hans R. Hammer, Javier Ortensi, Gerhard Strydom, Kiril Velkov, Winfried Zwermann, "Criticality calculations of the Very High Temperature Reactor Critical Assembly benchmark with Serpent and SCALE/KENO-VI" Annals of Nuclear Energy 90 (2016) 343–352	2016	Yes
3	Lidong Wang, Jiong Guo, Fu Li, Jason Hou, Kostadin N. Ivanov "Effect of Double Heterogeneity Treatment on Neutronics Modeling of HTGR Unit Cell", International Topical Meeting on High Temperature reactor technology (HTR2016), November 6-10, Las Vegas, NV, USA	2016	Yes
4	V.F. Boyarinov, P.A. Fomichenko, A.V. Grol, "Use of Cross-Section Covariance Information in Uncertainty Analysis at Modeling HTHR Neutron Physics", International Topical Meeting on High Temperature reactor technology (HTR2016), November 6-10, Las Vegas, NV, USA	2016	Yes
5	Pascal Rouxelin, Gerhard Strydom, Andrea Alfonsi, Kostadin Ivanov, "IAEA CRP on HTGR Uncertainties: Sensitivity Study of PHISICS/RELAP5-3D MHTGR-350 Core Calculations using Various SCALE/NEWT Cross-Section Sets for Ex. II-1a" International Topical Meeting on High Temperature reactor technology (HTR2016), November 6-10, Las Vegas, NV, USA	2016	Yes
6	Frederik Reitsma, "The Activities at the IAEA in Support of High Temperature Reactors Technology Development", International Topical Meeting on High Temperature reactor technology (HTR2016), November 6-10, Las Vegas, NV, USA	2016	Yes
7	Frederik Reitsma and Wonkyeong Kim, "The contribution of cross-section uncertainties to pebble bed reactor eigenvalues results: IAEA cooperative research project Phase I standalone neutronics", Reviewed paper presented at the PHYSOR2016 conference, Sun Valley, Idaho, May 1-5, 2016.	2016	Yes
8	Wonkyeong Kim, Frederik Reitsma and Deokjung Lee, "IAEA Coordinated Research Program on HTGR Uncertainty Analysis: Results of Exercise I-1 Model and the Application of the RPT Method", Reviewed paper presented at the PHYSOR2016 conference, Sun Valley, Idaho, May 1-5, 2016.	2016	Yes
9	V.V. Naicker, D.A. Maretele, F. Reitsma, F. Bostelmann, G Strydom, "Quantification of the SCALE 6.1 Eigenvalue Uncertainty due to Cross-Section Uncertainties for Exercise I-1 of the IAEA CRP on HTGR Uncertainties." Reviewed paper presented at the PHYSOR2016 conference, Sun Valley, Idaho, May 1-5, 2016.	2016	Yes
10	Lidong Wang, Jiong Guo, Fu Li, Chen Hao, Kostadin Ivanov, Pascal Rouxelin "Direct Evaluation of Nuclear Data Uncertainty Propagation in Pebble-Bed HTR Core", Reviewed paper presented at the PHYSOR2016 conference, Sun Valley, Idaho, May 1-5, 2016.	2016	Yes
11	Friederike Bostelmann, Kiril Velkov, Winfried Zwermann (GRS), Hans Hammer (Texas A&M), Gerhard Strydom (INL), "Impact of Nuclear Data Uncertainties on Criticality Calculations of the Very High Temperature Reactor Critical Assembly Benchmark", Reviewed paper presented at the PHYSOR2016 conference, Sun Valley, Idaho, May 1-5, 2016.	2016	Yes
12	P. Rouxelin (NCSU), G. Strydom (INL), K. Ivanov (NCSU), "IAEA CRP on HTGR Uncertainties: Comparison of Ex. I-2c Nominal Results and Coupling with the PHISICS/RELAP5-3D Core Model for Ex. II-1", Reviewed paper presented at the PHYSOR2016 conference, Sun Valley, Idaho, May 1-5, 2016.	2016	Yes
13	Friederike Bostelmann, Gerhard Strydom, Frederik Reitsma, Kostadin Ivanov "The IAEA coordinated research programme on HTGR uncertainty analysis: Phase I status and Ex. I-1 prismatic reference results" Nucl. Eng. Des. (2015). http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.nucengdes.2015.12.009	2015	Yes
14	G. Strydom, F. Bostelmann, "IAEA Coordinated Research Project on HTGR Reactor Physics, Thermal Hydraulics and Depletion Uncertainty Analysis: Prismatic HTGR Benchmark Definition: Phase 1" INL/EXT-15-34868, Revision 1, August 2015	2015	No
15	Tae Young Han, Hyun Chul Lee, Jae Man Noh, "Development of a sensitivity and uncertainty analysis code for high temperature gas-cooled reactor physics based on the generalized perturbation theory", Annals of Nuclear Energy 85 (2015) 501–511	2015	Yes
16	Frederik Reitsma "The IAEA Activities in Support of the Near Term Deployment of High temperature Gas Cooled Reactors" 2014 ANS Winter Meeting and Nuclear Technology Expo; Transactions of the American Nuclear Society Volume 111, TRANSAO 111, p 1082-1084 (2014); ISSN: 0003-018X	2014	No
17	F. Reitsma, G. Strydom, F. Bostelmann K. Ivanov, "The IAEA Coordinated Research Program on HTGR Uncertainty Analysis: Phase I Status and Initial Results", Paper HTR2014-51106, Proceedings of HTR 2014, Weihai, China, October 27 – 31, 2014	2014	Yes

Additional References for Applications of SCALE to HTRs

- R. Rouxelin and G. Strydom, IAEA CRP on HTGR Uncertainties in Modeling: Assessment of Phase I Lattice to Core Model Uncertainties, INL/EXT-15-36303 (2016).
- F. Bostelmann, G. Strydom, F. Reitsma, and K. Ivanov, *The IAEA coordinated research programme on HTGR uncertainty analysis: Phase I status and Ex. I-1 prismatic reference results*, INL/JOU-15-34866 (2016).
- F. Bostelmann and G. Strydom, "Nuclear data uncertainty and sensitivity analysis of the VHTRC benchmark using SCALE," *Ann. Nucl. Eng.*, 110, p. 317-329 (2017).
- P. Avigni, On-line refueling for the Advance High Temperature Reactor, Georgia Institute of Technology 2017.

Pascal Rouxelin Gerhard Strydom

September 2016





INL/JOU-15-34866

INL/EXT-15-36306

The IAEA coordinated research programme on HTGR uncertainty analysis: Phase I status and Ex. I-1 prismatic reference results

Friederike Bostelmann, Gerhard Strydom, Frederik Reitsma, Kostadin Ivanov

January 2016



daho Nationa aboratory



X-energy Neutronics Roadmap ORNL / NRC Official Use Only Used with permission from X-energy

 Feasibility study published by Idaho National Laboratory in August 2017

	Basic C	ode Sui Verific	tability ation a	y to Develop nd Validati	oment and on	Basic Functional Capabilities					
Code	Pedigree (Doc. and V&V)	Level of Support		Availability		Core Neutron Transport in Cylindrical (2D or 3D) Geometry		Burnup (Micro	Fuel Management	Cross-section (XS) Generation	
		Code	User	Source	Exe.	Transient	SS	Depletion)	(Shuffling)	Double Het.	Leakage Feedback
VSOP-A	L	Н	Н	√	√	X	√	1	√	√	√
VSOP-99	L	L	Μ	X	√	X	√	√	√	√	√
MGT	L	L	Μ	X	\checkmark	√	\checkmark	VSOP99 can	VSOP99 can support this.		
HCP	L	L	L	X	X	√	\checkmark	√	√	✓	√
PARCS-SCALE	Н	M	Μ	√	√	√	√	1	X	✓	Х
PEBBED	L	М	М	~	~	X	\checkmark	~	Equilibrium. Core	~	~
CYNOD	L	L	L	✓	√	√	\checkmark	Third-party of	Third-party codes can support this.		
DYN3D	L	L	L	√	\checkmark	X	×	√	X	Unknown	Unknown
NEM	L	M	Μ	√	\checkmark	1	\checkmark	X	X	MICROX-2	
DORT/TORT	L	M	Μ	√	\checkmark	√	\checkmark	X	X	MICROX-2	
DALTON	L	L	L	Unknown	Unknown	~	\checkmark	X	X	SCALE, but might need more work.	
RZ-KIND	L	L	L	Unknown	Unknown	1	\checkmark	X	X	Unknown	Unknown
PANTHER	M	M	Μ	Unknown	\checkmark	X	X	unknown	unknown	WIMMS.	
PHISICS	L	М	М	~	~	X	×	~	√ (tested on LWRs only)	Third-party codes only.	
MAMMOTH/ RATTLESNAKE	L	М	М	~	~	✓	~	~	×	Third-party codes only.	
CAPP	L	L	L	Unknown	Unknown	√	\checkmark	~	~	HELIOS w. RPT, ECF, method.	
Hexpedite	L	L	L	X	X	X	×	X	X	Unknown	Unknown

H = High, M = Medium, L = Low

INL/LTD-17-42500 Revision 0 X-energy Core **Neutronics Simulation** Code Technical Feasibility Study Work For Others Agreement No.14803 between Battelle Energy Alliance, LLC, and X-energy, LLC., Modification No. 5 Sonat Sen Gerhard Strydom Hans Gougar August 2017 PROTECTED WFO INFORMATION This product contains protected WFO information that was produced on 06/12/2017 under WFO No. 14803 and is not to be further disclosed for a period of one year from the date it was produced, except as expressly provided for in the WFO Agreement.

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Idaho Nationa

Laboratory

X-ENERGY BUSINESS SENSITIVE



X-energy Neutronics Roadmap ORNL / NRC Official Use Only Used with permission from X-energy

- X-Energy, LLC (X-energy) requires a fully functional high-temperature reactor core design and analysis code to support Xe-100 reactor design, licensing, and commercial operation. The code suite should be able to simulate all neutronic and thermal-fluid core scenarios and phenomena needed to show that the Xe-100 reactor plant design can meet technical requirements, and enable understanding of potential licensing and economic impacts. This report documents the process used by Idaho National Laboratory (INL) engineering staff to evaluate candidate neutronic simulation codes and recommend a viable option for meeting X-energy's needs.
- A two-step selection process was employed. In the first step, neutronics codes that were applied to previous
 pebble bed reactor core neutronics simulations (as indicated through publication or participation in international
 benchmark projects) were measured against high-level code accessibility and functionality criteria. Those that
 met a large number of these criteria were deemed suitable for a more detailed evaluation of capabilities and
 gaps. The challenges to acquisition and development posed by the remaining codes were deemed too great
 such that overcoming them would not be an effective use of X-energy's resources.
- The code systems that passed the first filter were then assessed against a set of detailed Technical and Functional Requirements (TFRs). Individual requirements were categorized as either Essential (E), Recommended (R), or just Desirable (D) in terms of the capability to simulate pebble bed reactor neutronics and fuel management. The maturity level of the selected codes was assessed against these TFRs using the Predictive Capability Maturity Model (PCMM) methodology developed at Sandia National Laboratory (SNL).
- This process led to the SCALE/PARCS/Flownex code set as being the recommended option for calculations beyond the scoping phase, based on the combined package's verification and validation (V&V) pedigree, choice of high-fidelity solvers, and flexibility. It will, however, require improvements in the coupling with Flownex or another thermal-fluid code, the addition of a fuel management (shuffling) capability, and a leakage feedback correction methodology.



SCALE-HTGR Integrated Modeling and Simulation



Modeling and Simulation Gaps - HTGR

- Pebbles flowing through core and reloaded
- >5% enrichment
- Nuclear data libraries optimized for graphite spectrum
- Leakage effect in cross section treatment
- Treatment of control rods in reflector
- Steaming paths through core
- 3D effects of non-uniform burnup distribution and history effects
- Mechanistic source terms
- Fuels performance



SCALE-FHR Integrated Modeling and Simulation



Modeling and Simulation Gaps - FHR

- Pebbles flowing through core and reloaded
- >5% enrichment
- Nuclear data libraries optimized for graphite spectrum with molten salt
- Tritium production in FLiBe
- Leakage effect in cross section treatment
- Treatment of control rods in reflector
- 3D effects of non-uniform burnup distribution and history effects
- Mechanistic source terms
- Fuels performance



SFR Modeling Capabilities



0.20

لم 0.15

0.10

0.05

0.00 L 10²

flux

keno-ce

t-newt 252g

Nuclear Data Libraries from AMPX

- Continuous-energy data serve as reference solution to confirm multigroup approximations
- Multigroup cross sections can be generated for any type of system
 - LWR, HTGR, MSR, FHR, SFR, etc. with appropriate energy group structure and weighting spectrum
- Uncertainties in cross sections (covariance data) quantify confidence in deployed data libraries
- AMPX developed and deployed with SCALE

keno-ce

0.40

t-newt - 230g watt



Uncertainty in k_{eff} Due to Nuclear Data Uncertainties: 1,435 pcm!

cova nuclide-reaction	ariance matrix with nuclide-reaction	% Δk/k due to this matrix
u-238 n,n'	u-238 n,n'	1.2053(9)
na-23 elastic	na-23 elastic	0.3242(2)
fe-56 elastic	fe-56 elastic	0.2590(3)
u-238 n,gamma	u-238 n,gamma	0.2435(1)
fe-56 n,n'	fe-56 n,n'	0.2388(1)





Some applications of SCALE to SFRs

- F. Bostelmann, W. Zwermann, A. Pautz, "SCALE Covariance Libraries For Sodium-Cooled Fast Reactor Systems," Proc. PHYSOR 2018, Cancun, Mexico, April 22-26, 2018
- F. Bostelmann, N. R. Brown, A. Pautz, B. T. Rearden, K. Velkov, and W. Zwermann, "SCALE Multi-Group Libraries for Sodium-cooled Fast Reactor Systems," M&C 2017 – International Conference on Mathematics & Computational Methods Applied to Nuclear Science and Engineering, Jeju, Korea, April 16–20, 2017.
- F. Bostelmann, B. T. Rearden, W. Zwermann, A. Pautz, "Preliminary SCALE/TSUNAMI Results for the Sub-exercises of the OECD/NEA Benchmark for Uncertainty Analysis in Modeling of Sodium-Cooled Fast Reactors," *Trans. Am. Nucl. Soc.* (2018) (submitted)
- F. Bostelmann, N. Brown, B. Rearden, K. Velkov, W. Zwermann, "Assessing and Enhancing SCALE Capabilities to Model Fast Neutron Spectrum Systems," FR-UAM-2 meeting: Paul Scherrer Institut, Villigen, Switzerland, June 2-3, 2016
- J. Bousquet, F. Bostelmann, K. Velkov, W. Zwermann, "Macroscopic Cross Section Generation with SCALE 6.2 for the MYRRHA Minimal Critical Core," M&C 2017 – International Conference on Mathematics & Computational Methods Applied to Nuclear Science and Engineering, Jeju, Korea, April 16–20, 2017.
- P. Romojaro, et al, "Nuclear data sensitivity and uncertainty analysis of effective neutron multiplication factor in various MYRRHA core configurations," Ann. Nucl. Eng., 101, p. 330-338 (2017).
- R. Stewart, Sensitivity and Uncertainty Analysis in the Homogenization of the EBR-II Core, Idaho State University 2017.
- N. E. Stauff, et al, "Evaluation of the OECD/NEA/SFR-UAM Neutronics Reactivity Feedback and Uncertainty Benchmarks," IAEA-CN245-149 2017.



EBR-II Model with TRITON / Shift





Radial power distribution





SCALE-SFR Integrated Modeling and Simulation

Continuous-energy Shift/PARCS Path



SCALE-SFR Integrated Modeling and Simulation

Multigroup TRITON (or Polaris) / PARCS Path



Modeling and Simulation Gaps - SFR

- >5% enrichment
- Nuclear data libraries optimized for fast spectrum
- Core expansion as safety feature
- Leakage effect in cross section treatment
- Treatment of control rods in reflector
- Steaming paths through core
- Mechanistic source terms
- Fuels performance



Discussion on MSRs



Multiphysics simulations are required for MSRs



Mass Transport with Nuclear Decay



TRITON for MSR neutronics *Analytical solutions for precursor drift, material removal and feed*

- To provide solutions for testing precursor drift modules
- OD model is unable to account for effects from power shapes

Analytic Correction Factors (F) Using	
Different Models	

÷	0.D	Core-averaged 1-D				
J	0-D	p(z) = C	$p(z) \sim \sin(z)$			
1	0.5493	0.5403	0.5403			
2	0.5635	0.5417	0.5421			
3	0.6480	0.5788	0.5885			
4	0.7772	0.7236	0.7660			
5	0.9059	0.8961	0.9518			
6	0.9840	0.9838	0.9987			
total	0.7405	0.6994	0.7287			



in the primary loop of a liquid-fueled MSR.



Initial Assessment CASL VERA-MSR for 3D Multiphysics Analysis with delayed neutron precursor drift and thermal feedback

First moderator bank inserted to 66%



-0.05

0

10





Ongoing Efforts Molten Salt Reactor Tools

- Finalize integration into SCALE/TRITON
- Finalize generic implementation inputs
- Demonstrate applicability with examples (feeds potential training materials)
- Finalize TM on these tools
 - Recommendations for parameterizing chemical processes



Extending capability to support more reactors



Molten Chloride Reactor



Hexagonal Pitch Graphite Moderated



Molten Salt Demonstration Reactor



Some applications to MSRs

- B. R. Betzler, **S. Robertson**, E. E. Davidson, J. J. Powers, A. Worrall, **L. Dewan**, **M. Massie**, Assessment of the Neutronic and Fuel Cycle Performance of the Transatomic Power Molten Salt Reactor Design, ORNL/TM-2017/475 (2017).
- B. R. Betzler, S. Robertson, E. E. Davidson, J. J. Powers, A. Worrall, L. Dewan, M. Massie, "Fuel cycle and neutronic performance of a spectral shift molten salt reactor design," *Ann. Nucl. Eng.*, 119 p. 396-410 (2018).
- B. R. Betzler, el al, Two-Dimensional Neutronic and Fuel Cycle Analysis of the Transatomic Power Molten Salt Reactor, ORNL/TM-2016/742 (2017).
- N. R. Brown, et al, Complete Sensitivity/Uncertainty Analysis of LR-0 Reactor Experiments with MSRE FLiBe Salt and Perform Comparison with Molten Salt Cooled and Molten Salt Fueled Reactor Models, ORNL/TM-2016/729 (2016).
- B. R. Betzler, J. J. Powers, and A. Worrell, "Molten salt reactor neutronics and fuel cycle modeling and simulation with SCALE," Ann. Nucl. Eng., 101, p. 489-503 (2017).
- E. Losa, et al, "Neutronic experiments with fluorine rich compounds at LR-0 reactor," Ann. Nucl. Eng., 120, p. 286-295 (2018).
- B. Collins, C. Gentry, and S. Stimpson, "Molten Salt Reactor Simulation Capability Using MPACT," M&C 2017 International Conference on Mathematics & Computational Methods Applied to Nuclear Science and Engineering, Jeju, Korea, April 16–20, 2017.



SCALE-MSR Integrated Modeling and Simulation



58

Modeling and Simulation Gaps - MSR

- Flowing fuel creates integrated multiphysics effects
- >5% enrichment
- Nuclear data libraries optimized for thermal and fast spectrum molten salts, also with graphite stringers and zirconium moderator rods
- Delayed neutron "precursor drift"
- Continuous fuel feed and fission product removal
- Tritium production in FLiBe
- Leakage effect in cross section treatment
- Treatment of control rods in reflector
- 3D effects of non-uniform burnup distribution and history effects
- Mechanistic source terms



Summary

- For four decades, ORNL and the SCALE team have responded to a wide range of regulatory needs with innovative, useable, production level capabilities integrated under a robust quality assurance program, with an experienced team to provide user support and training
- Projects have been underway for some time to make the next update to SCALE to support non-LWRs licensing activities
- As features are implemented, early beta releases will be made to NRC staff with hands-on training provided
- Analyst feedback from training will be used as input to guide enhancements



SCALE Users' Group Workshop



- The first ever SCALE Users' Group Workshop was held at ORNL, September 26-28, 2017
 - attended by 117 participants from academia, industry, research institutions, and government agencies
 - provided an interactive forum for discussions between SCALE end users and developers



Backup Slides on SCALE Modernization



SCALE Modernization Plan:

89 Independent Executable Modules in SCALE 6.1



Hypothetical SCALE 6.1 Calculation



64

SCALE 7 Modernized Concept



