

Software Engineering Practices in Scientific Computing

and other exotic beasts

Prof. Kochunas

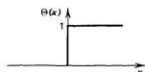
EECS 481 (W24)

Appendix C

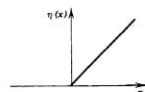
Step Functions, Delta Functions, and Other Exotic Beasts

I. INTRODUCTION

Consider the discontinuous function $\Theta(x)$ defined by the properties

$$\Theta(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 1 & x > 0 \end{cases} \quad (C-1)$$


$\Theta(x)$ is the unit "step function" introduced by Heaviside in his development of operational calculus (now known as integral transform analysis). One can perform numerous operations on $\Theta(x)$. In particular it can be integrated to yield the ramp function

$$\eta(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x dx' \Theta(x') = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ x, & x > 0. \end{cases} \quad (C-2)$$


Let's try something a bit more unusual by taking the derivative of $\Theta(x)$. Clearly this is ridiculous, because this derivative, call it $\delta(x)$, is undefined at $x=0$ because $\Theta(x)$ is discontinuous at this point:

$$\delta(x) = \Theta'(x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{\Theta(x+\epsilon) - \Theta(x)}{\epsilon} \right] = \begin{cases} 0, & x \neq 0 \\ \infty, & x = 0. \end{cases} \quad (C-3)$$

Nevertheless Dirac, Heaviside, and others have made very good use of this strange "function." To be more specific, the Dirac δ -function, $\delta(x)$, has the properties

$$\delta(x-x_0) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \neq x_0 \\ \infty, & x = x_0 \end{cases}, \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \delta(x-x_0) = 1. \quad (C-4)$$

One-Slide Summary

- Prof. Kochunas's 5-steps to computational science software development
 1. Make it work (get it to run)
 2. Make it right (satisfy functional requirements)
 3. Make it robust (get rid of bugs)
 4. Make it fast (get answer quicker)
 5. Make it usable (should not need PhD to use)

Outline

- Background
- Requirements
- Testing Quality Metrics
- Test Inputs and Oracles
- QA Processes
- Multi-Language Programs
- Fun with VR (sort of)



Learning Objectives: by the end of today's lecture you should be able to...

1. (*value*) a lot of the course topics have immense practicality
2. (*value*) software development in computational science is probably more fun than working at a tech company



Background

MAGIC EYE

A New Way of Looking at the World



3D Illusions by N.E. Thing Enterprises

Wait... why is a nuclear engineer here?

- Software from my PhD has
 - R&D 100 (2016)
 - NQA-1 Certified (2019)
 - Supported ~20 PhDs
- Also Developed graduate course “**Methods and Practice of Scientific Computing**” for MICDE in 2016



Consortium for the Advanced Simulation of LWRs
(10 years and \$250M)



More specifically...

Watts Bar
Unit 1



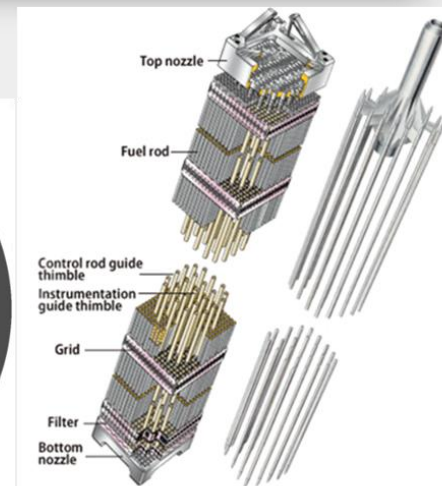
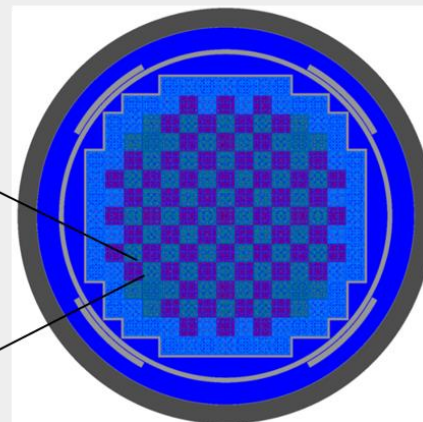
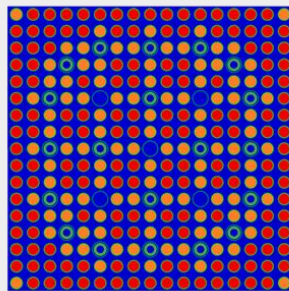
Solve This:

$$\vec{\Omega} \cdot \nabla \phi(\vec{r}, \vec{\Omega}, E) + \Sigma_t(\vec{r}, E) \phi(\vec{r}, \vec{\Omega}, E) =$$

$$\frac{\chi(E)}{4\pi k_{eff}} \int_0^\infty \nu \Sigma_f(\vec{r}, E') \int_0^{4\pi} \phi(\vec{r}, \vec{\Omega}', E') d\Omega' dE' +$$

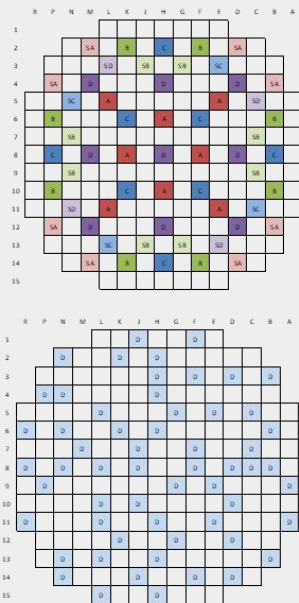
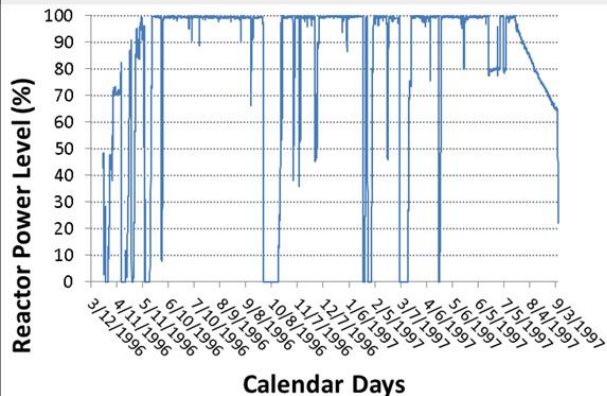
$$\int_0^\infty \int_0^{4\pi} \Sigma_s(\vec{r}, \vec{\Omega}' \cdot \vec{\Omega}, E' \rightarrow E) \phi(\vec{r}, \vec{\Omega}', E') d\Omega' dE'$$

For that:



Oh by the way...

It operates like this:



And you'll need this:

- Largest open science computer in U.S.

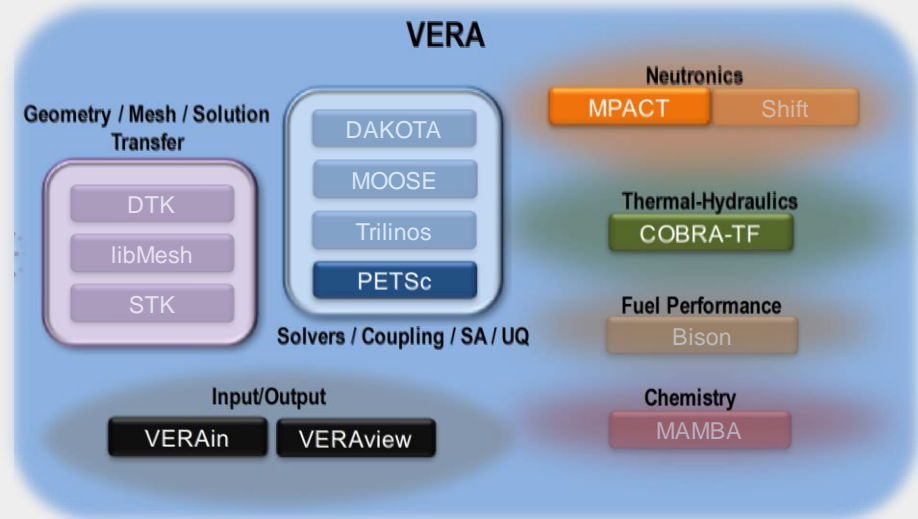


but really for industry they want to use 1000 cores and deplete a cycle overnight



Michigan PArallel Characteristics based Transport

- MPACT *did not exist at the outset* of CASL, but *grew out of the program*.
- **To CASL:** MPACT is *the* deterministic neutronics code to solve the pin resolved power distribution throughout the reactor core.
 - Sits at the heart of the “core simulator” capability.
- **To UM:** MPACT is a research tool designed in a flexible way to facilitate PhD research in several areas
 - Transport methods, acceleration methods, parallel algorithms
 - Reactor Analysis and multi-physics numerical methods
 - As a teaching tool



The VERA Core Simulator

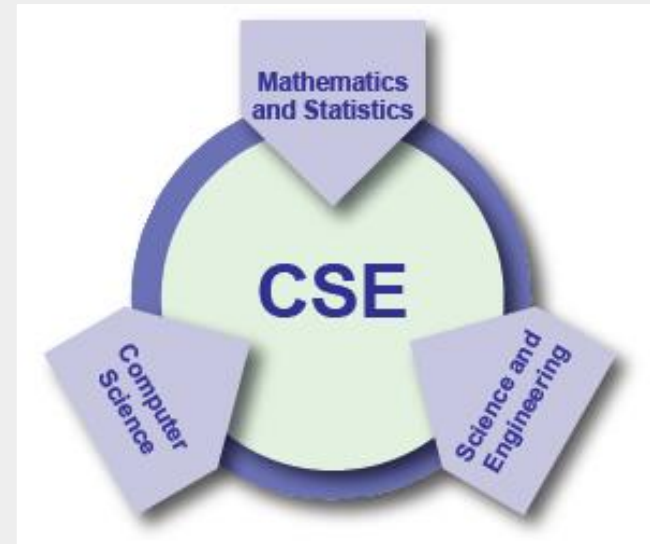
Spoiler alert! We did it!

at the heart of this is



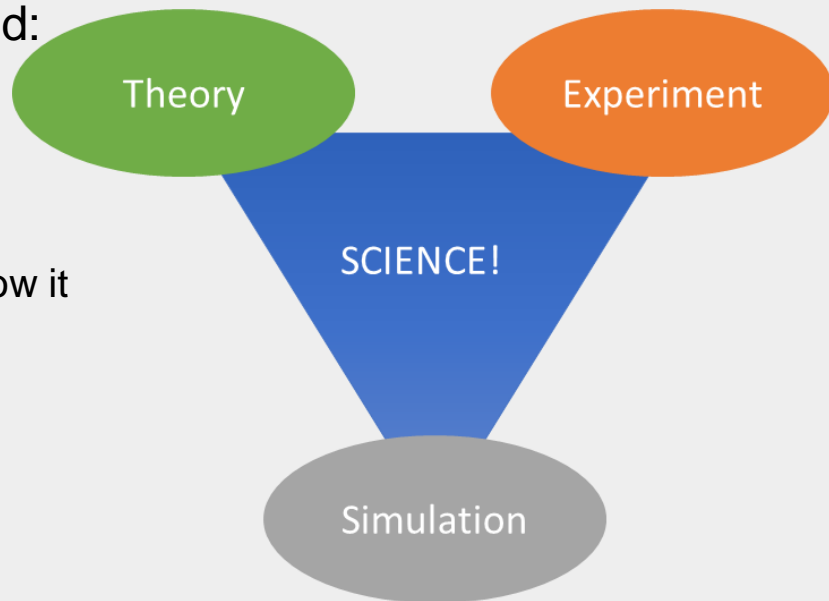
What is Computational Science and Engineering?

- CSE is a recently established multidisciplinary field of research and education
 - It lies at the intersection of mathematics, computer science, and science & engineering.
- As engineers how do we participate in CSE?
 - We have the applications & technology
 - We understand the physics governing our systems
- But we may not know the latest math or how to effectively utilize computers to solve our problems



Pillars of Science

- Why so much focus on CSE?
- Traditional scientific and engineering method:
 - 1. Do theory or paper design
 - 2. Perform experiments, build prototypes, etc.
- Limitations
 - Too difficult—build a large wind tunnel
 - Too expensive—build a passenger jet and throw it away
 - Too dangerous—nuclear weapons
 - Too slow—climate change or astral evolution
- Computational science and engineering paradigm
 - 3. Use computers to simulate and analyze phenomenon



PhD's at U of M using MPACT

- **Brendan Kochunas, 2013** – [A Hybrid Parallel Algorithm for the 3-D Method of Characteristics Solution of the Boltzmann Transport Equation on High Performance Compute Clusters](#)
- **Travis Trahan, 2014** – [An Asymptotic, Homogenized, Anisotropic, Multigroup Diffusion Approximation to the Neutron Transport Equation](#)
- **Blake Kelley, 2015** – [An Investigation of 2D/1D Approximations to the 3D Boltzmann Transport Equation](#)
- **Yuxuan Liu, 2015** – [A Full Core Resonance Self-shielding Method Accounting for Temperature-dependent Fuel Subregions and Resonance Interference](#)
- **Shane Stimpson, 2015** – [An Azimuthal Fourier Moment-Based Axial SN Solver for the 2D/1D Scheme](#)
- **Thomas Saller, 2015** – [Asymptotic Homogenized SP2 Approximations to the Neutron Transport Equation](#)
- **Ang Zhu, 2016** – [Transient Methods for Pin-Resolved Whole Core Transport](#)
- **Dan Walter, 2016** – [A High Fidelity Multiphysics Framework for Modeling CRUD Deposition on PWR Fuel Rods](#)
- **Mitchell Young, 2016** – [Orthogonal-Mesh, 3D Sn with Embedded 2-D Method of Characteristics for Whole-Core, Pin-Resolved Reactor Analysis](#)
- **Michael Rose, 2017** – [Multiphysics Simulation of Fission Gas Production and Release in Light Water Reactor Fuel](#)
- **Aaron Graham, 2017** – [Subgrid Methods for Resolving Axial Heterogeneity in Planar Synthesis Solutions for the Boltzmann Transport Equation](#)
- **Benjamin Yee, 2018** – [A Multilevel in Space and Energy Solver for Multigroup Diffusion and Coarse Mesh Finite Difference Eigenvalue Problems](#)
- **Michael Jarrett, 2018** – [A 2D/1D Neutron Transport Method with Improved Angular Coupling](#)
- **Jipu Wang, 2019** – [Application of the Method of Manufactured Solutions to Verify the Method of Characteristics for Reactor Analysis](#)
- **Andrew Fitzgerald, 2019** – [Parallel 3-D Method of Characteristics with Linear Source and Advanced Transverse Integration](#)
- **Andrew Gerlach, 2020** – [Adaptive Time Stepping for Transport Solution with the \$\alpha\$ -Eigenvalue](#)
- **Qicang Shen, 2021** – [Robust and Efficient Methods in Transient Whole-Core Neutron Transport Calculations](#)
- **Zackary Dodson, 2021** – [Linear Diffusion Acceleration for Neutron Transport Problems](#)
- **Nicholas Herring, 2022** – [The Legendre Polynomial Axial Expansion Method](#)
- **Nickolas Adamowicz, 2022** – [The NILO-CMFD Method for Iteratively Solving Coupled Neutron Transport-Thermal Hydraulics Problems](#)

Computational Science Requirements are more than functional



Requirements: One-Slide Summary

- **Requirements** articulate the relationship and interface between a desired **system** and its **environment**. This includes both what **is** (or is expected) and what **should** be.
- We distinguish between **functional** and **quality** (or non-functional) requirements. Both should be stated in **measurable** ways.
- Requirements can describe variables, inputs, and outputs, and assumptions between them.
- We distinguish between **informal** statements and **verifiable** requirements.

High-Level Requirements (Roadmap)

Date Completed	Benchmark Problem Description
09/2012	• #1 2D HZP Pin Cell
12/2012	• #2 2D HZP Lattice
~5/2013	• #3 3D HZP Assembly
~7/2013	• #4 HZP 3x3 Assembly CRD Worth
11/2013	• #5 Physical Reactor Zero Power Physics Tests (ZPPT)
11/2013	• #6 HFP BOL Assembly
4/2014	• #7 HFP BOC Physical Reactor w/ Xenon
7/2014	• #8 Physical Reactor Startup Flux Maps
9/2014	• #9 Physical Reactor Depletion
2/2015	• #10 Physical Reactor Refueling

Application drives development

A cycle depletion on < 1000 cores, overnight

Functional Requirements

- What do we notice?
- What's good/bad about these requirements

Fuel Shuffle File Requirements

1. Must implement the "VERAIn Specification for LWR Core Shuffling and Jump-in" specifications below for Cartesian grid LWRs. Specifically:
 - a. Must be able to process the specified VERA input options as stated
 - b. Must be able to read in one or more (depending on mode) properly generated VERA restart files and use them to begin a calculation
 - c. Must be able to produce the specified restart file at the end of a VERA state calculation
2. Must be able to write, read, and shuffle (where applicable) any reactor component of any reactor type for which tracking irradiation may be of interest:
 - a. Fuel rods/assemblies
 - b. Inserts
 - c. Control rods/blades
 - d. Nozzles
 - e. Core plates
 - f. Grids
 - g. Baffle/reflector
 - h. Reactor vessel
 - i. Composite blocks
 - j. Fuel pebbles
 - k. Molten salt compositions
 - l. Solid moderator components (e.g. graphite blocks)
3. Must work for all reactor types
4. Must be able to write, read, and shuffle (when appropriate) the following information:
 - a. Geometry information: Core layout, axial mesh, thermal expansion parameters
 - b. Feedback and post operation data
 - i. Component-specific data (e.g. vessel fluence from SHIFT)
 - ii. Pin-wise data (CRUD/corrosion data)
 - iii. Any other feedback/post operation data that could be required
 - c. State data such as power history and reactor state data from the end of the previous calculation (e.g. control rod positions, boron concentration, etc.)
5. Must support reconstituted rods for solid-fueled reactors when performing restarts or shuffles
6. Must be able to restart using different thermal expansion temperatures than were used to

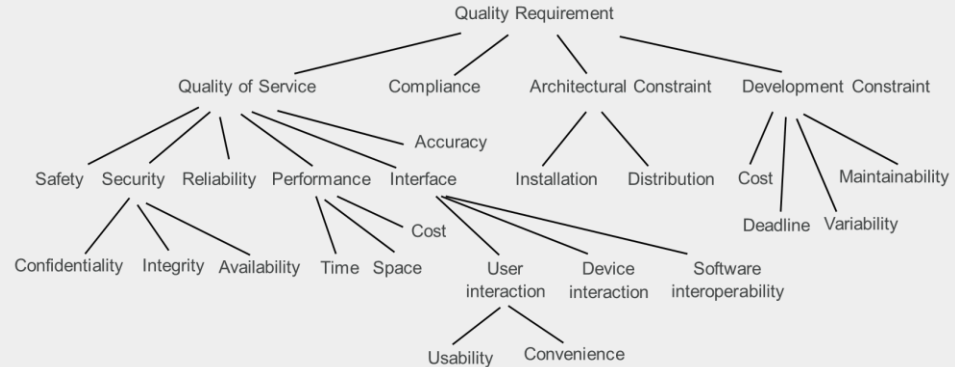
Need to talk to [REDACTED] about the exact requirements for this (I think I have a good guess but I'll make sure with him), then the developers can determine what information to write to the file to accomplish that

Quality Requirements

Input Example: Write and Read a Restart File

```
[STATE]
deplete EFPD 0.0
restart_write restart_cyc12.h5 "BOC"
[STATE]
deplete EFPD 20 40 80 100
restart_write restart_cyc12.h5 "100EFPD"
[STATE]
deplete EFPD 150 200
restart_write restart_cyc12.h5 "200EFPD"
```

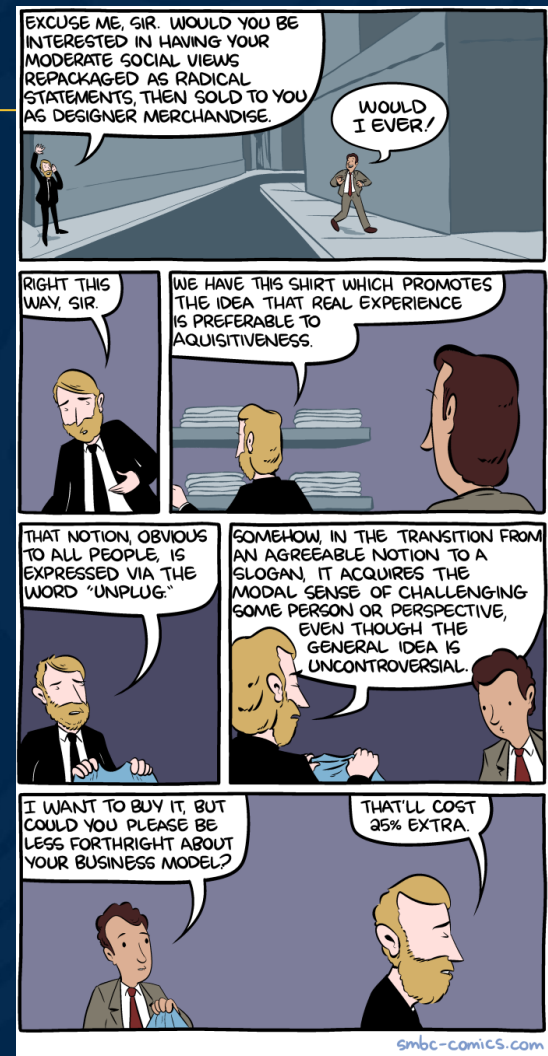
```
[STATE]
power 50.0
boron 800
restart_read restart_cyc12.h5 "200EFPD"
```



- 7. Should be able to optionally write & read depletion isotopes in addition to transport isotopes
- 8. Must support various levels of HDF5 compression
- 9. Must support axial remeshing on an assembly-by-assembly basis
- 10. Must support radial remeshing on a pin-by-pin basis



Testing Quality Metrics



QA and Testing: One-Slide Summary

- **Quality Assurance** maintains desired product properties through process choices.
- **Testing** involves running the program and inspecting its results or behavior. It is the dominant approach to software quality assurance. There are numerous methods of testing, such as **regression testing**, **unit testing**, and **integration testing**.
- **Mocking** uses simple replacement functionality to test difficult, expensive, or unavailable modules or features.

(special thanks to James Perretta for material)

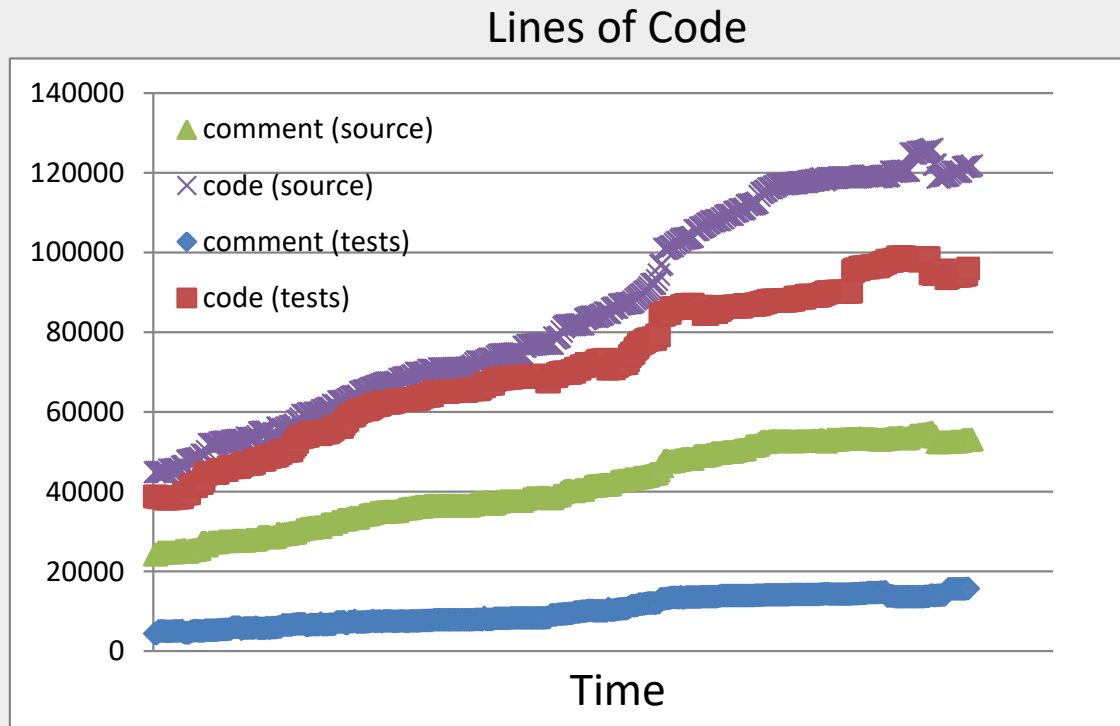
Test Quality Metrics: One-Slide Summary

- **Test suite quality metrics** help us decide which suite to use. **Line coverage**, the fraction of lines visited when running a suite, is simple but gives limited confidence.
- **Branch coverage**, which requires both true and false values for conditions, is richer (incorporating data values indirectly).
- **Mutation analysis** measures the fraction of seeded defects detected by a suite; it is expensive but effective.
- **Beta** and **A/B testing** involve real users and their experiences.

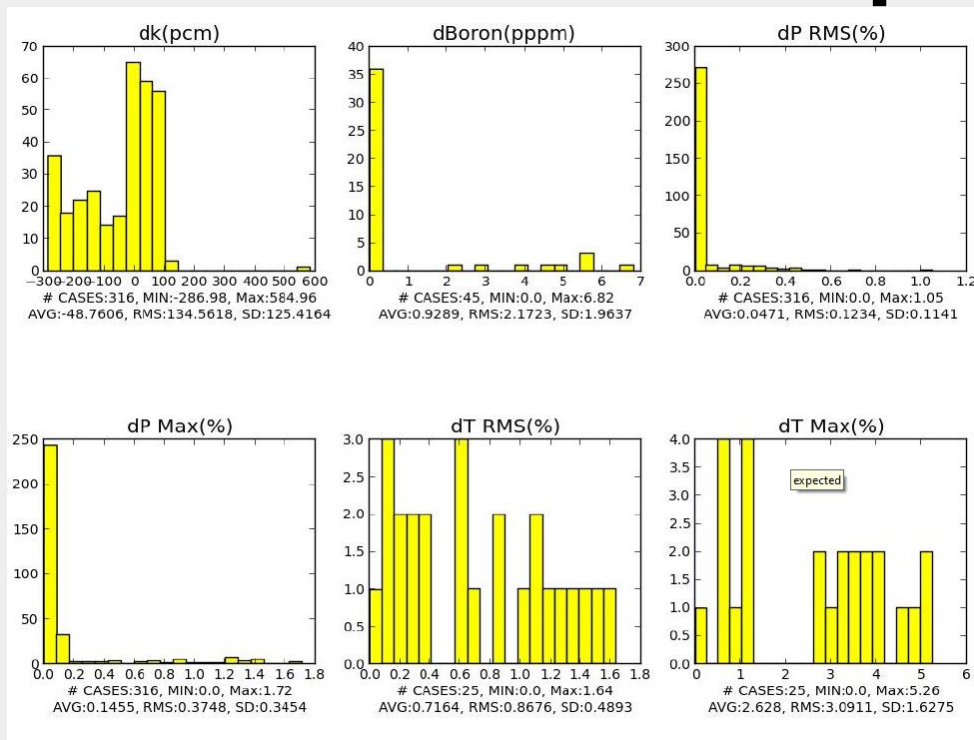
Test and Source Code Metrics

- Code Coverage (by line)

- Utils: 91.6%
- Reactor: 84.0%
- CoreSolvers: 84.1%
- MOC: 70.3%
- CMFD: 28.9%
- XS: 73.5%
- UI: 57.9%



Regression Test Suite Acceptance



Map Functional Requirements to Validation Data

Operating Power Plants										Validation Activities										Post-Irradiation Exams				CE Monte Carlo								
Watts Bar	BEAVRS	Catawba	McGuire	Westinghouse 3-Loop	Krsko	B&W-Type	CE-Type	B&W	Helstrand	KRITZ	DIMPLE	VENUS	IPEN/MB-01	RPI	SPERT III	Strawbridge & Barry	Saxton	CREOLE	EPICURE	CAMELEON	CROCUS	JAERI TCA	ICSBEP	Catawba MOX LTAs	Three Mile Island	MALIBU	Robinson	Calvert Cliffs	Pin-by-Pin Fission Rates	Intra-Pin Distributions	Depleted Isotopes	Misc. Applications

The image shows a detailed grid of validation data. A green oval highlights a specific section of the grid, which corresponds to the 'Strawbridge & Barry' validation activity in the main table above. The grid contains various data points, likely representing different functional requirements and their validation status across different experiments and power plants.

We still have bugs and get the wrong answer

Test Inputs, Oracles, and Generation



Inputs & Oracles: One-Slide Summary

- Formally, a **test case** consists of an **input (data)**, an **oracle** (output), and a **comparator**.
- Test inputs determine the behavior of the program. High-coverage inputs can be **generated automatically** through **path enumeration**, **path predicates**, and mathematical **constraint solving**.
- Test **oracles** correspond to what the program should do. Generating them is an expensive **problem**; but it can be done automatically (sort of) through **invariants** and **mutation**.
- **Test suite minimization** finds the smallest subset of tests that meet a coverage goal.

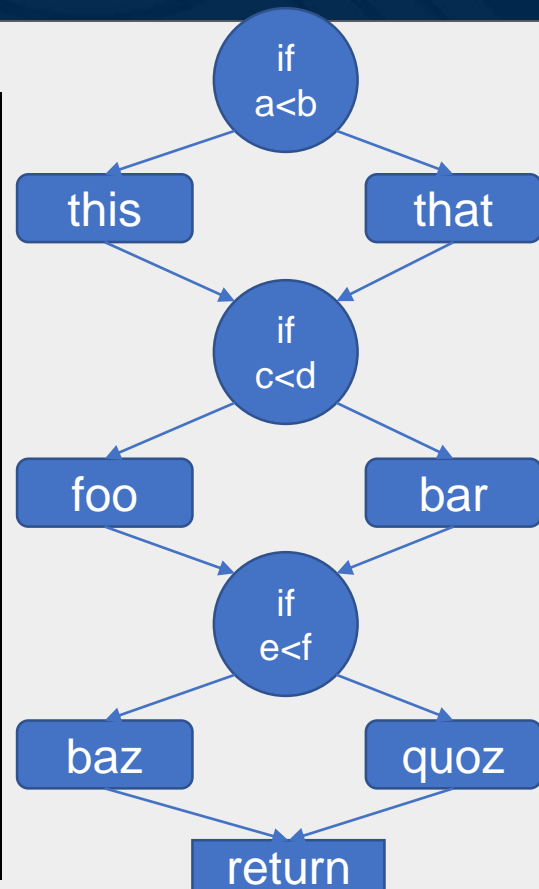
A Taxonomy of Testing (If its not tested, its not a supported feature)

- *Unit Testing* – Test individual units of program *in isolation*
 - Should run very fast: < 1 second (a couple seconds is ok)
- *Integral Testing* – Testing program components together
 - Should run fast: < 1 minute (a couple minutes is ok)
- *Regression Testing* – Test whole program for changes in program output
 - Should run fast: < 1 minute (a couple minutes is ok)
- **Verification Testing** – Test that you are “doing things right”
 - Can happen at unit or integral or regression level. Comparison analytic solutions or manufactured solutions.
- **Validation Testing** – Whole program testing “doing the right thing”; simulating reality, comparison to experiment.
 - May be long running: minutes to hours
- *Memory Testing* – Expensive testing that does detailed memory simulations to detect errors (valgrind)
- *Coverage Testing* – Figure out how much of your source code is actually covered by testing
- *Portability Testing* – test on different platforms and with different compilers

Test input path testing

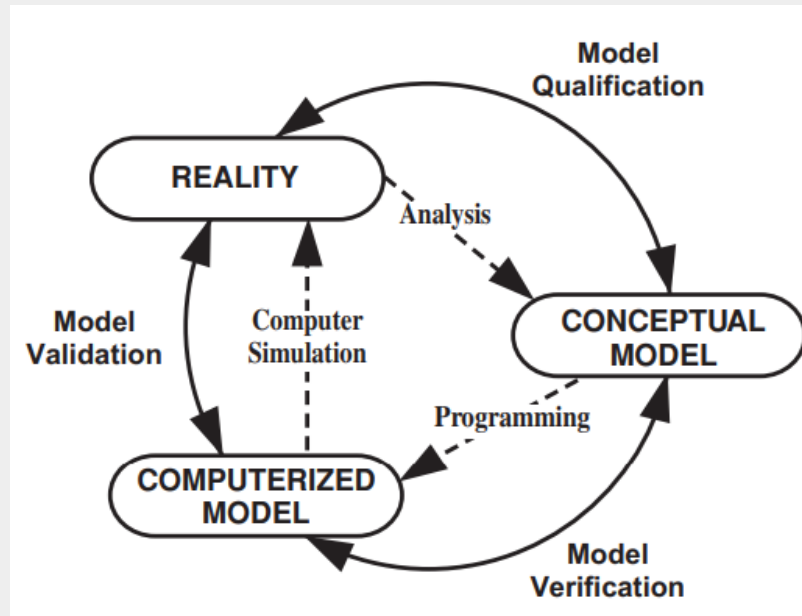
- Change input settings

Solvers	2D P0
	2D Pn
	2D/1D NEM
	2D/1D SP3
	CMFD 1g
	CMFD MG
	Search keff
	Search boron
	Search rod
	Multistate
	Depletion native
	Depletion origen
	Shuffle rotational
	Shuffle mirror
	InternalTH
	CTF
	Eq Xe/Sm
	Subgroup
	ESSM
	Cusping

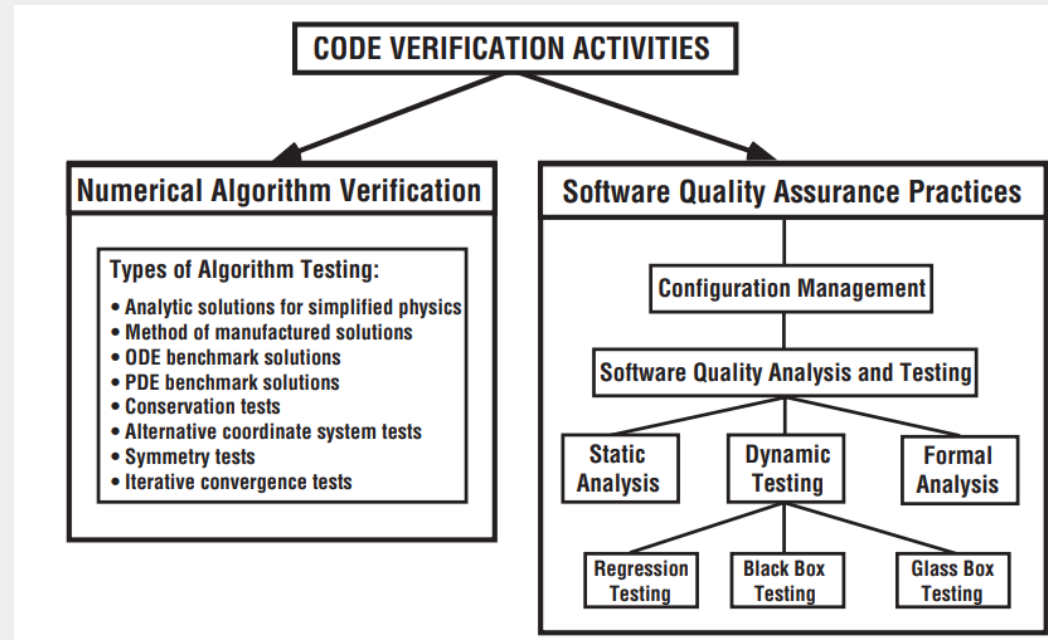
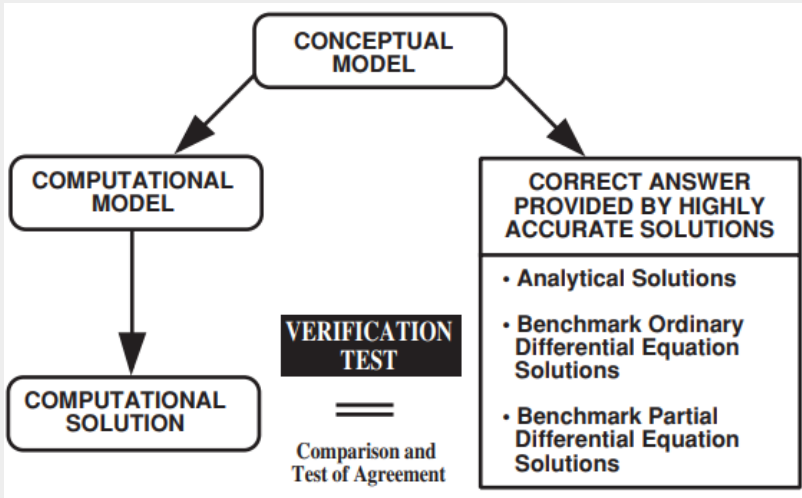


Verification and Validation

- Model verification: substantiation that a computerized model represents a conceptual model **within specified limits of accuracy**.
- Model validation: substantiation that a computerized model within its domain of applicability possesses a **satisfactory range of accuracy** consistent with the **intended application** of the model.

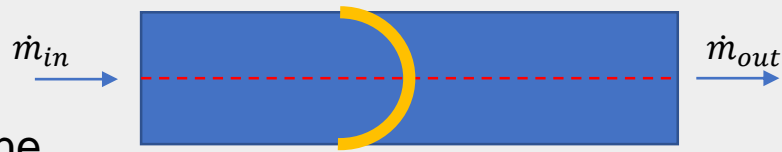


V&V In the Context of SQA



Simple Test Example

- Symmetry
 - Define a problem with geometry and boundary conditions symmetric about a plane
 - Can also look at periodic problems
- Rotational Invariance
 - Similar to the above except change coordinates
- Conservation (perform global integration)
 - of energy in heat transfer
 - of mass or momentum in fluid flow



$$\dot{m}_{in} = \dot{m}_{out}$$

What CSE typically does not do...

- Automatic Test Generation
 - Inputs and oracles
- Mutation analysis
- Path Coverage
- Test Suite Minimization



Trivia Break



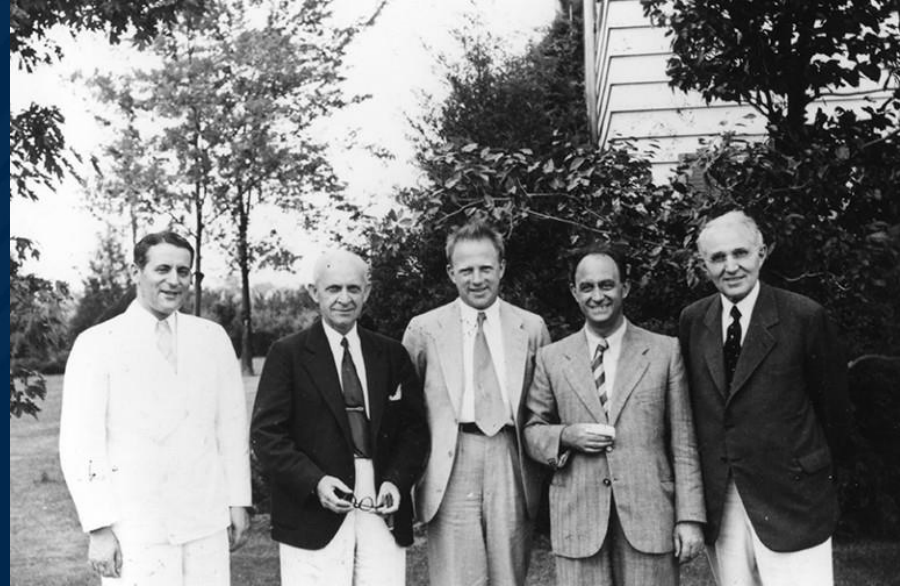
Trivia: Physicist

- This Dutch-American physicist is credited with jointly proposing the concept of electron spin at 23. He was the editor-in-chief of the leading physics journal *Physical Review Letters*, received the National Medal of Science, and has a named collection of Egyptian antiquities



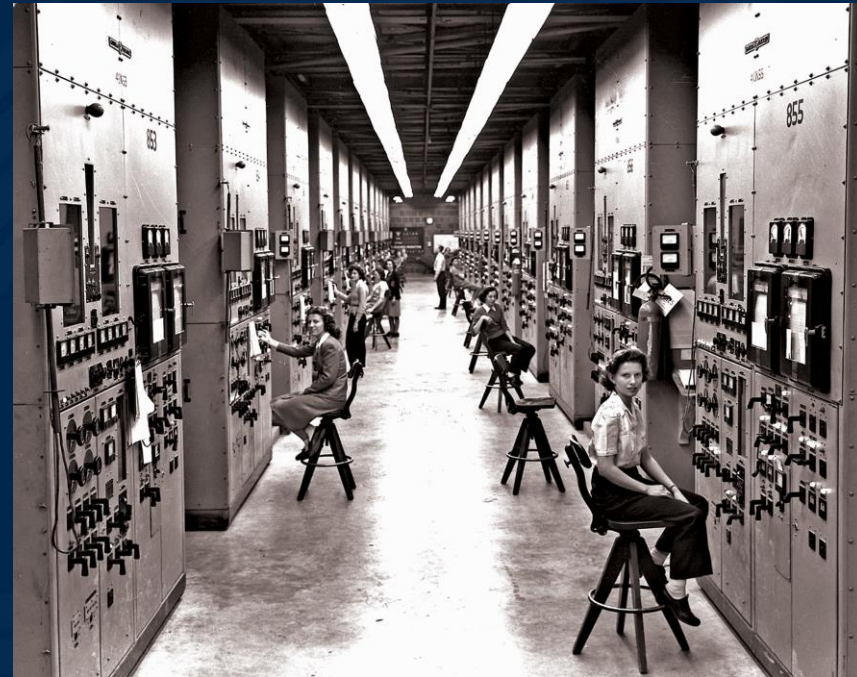
Trivia: Great Minds

- These photo features
 - Samuel Goudsmit
 - Werner Heisenberg
 - Enrico Fermi
- It was taken at one of the world's pre-eminent physics summer schools in 1939
- Where was it taken?

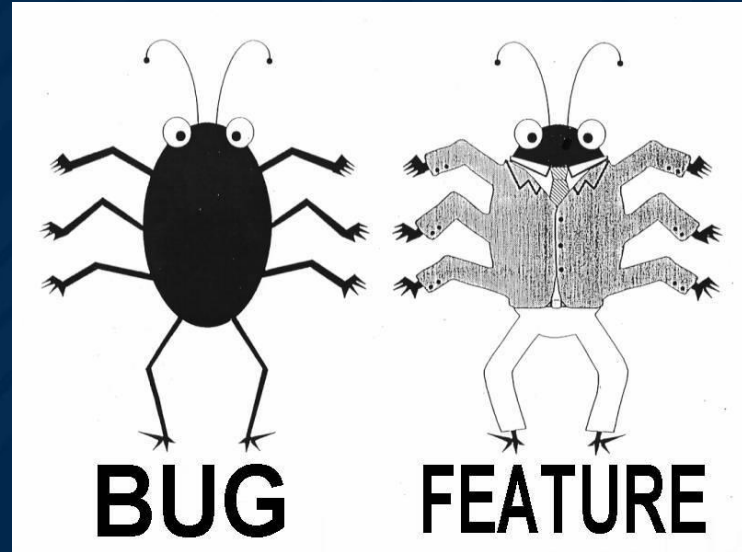


Trivia: Manhattan Project

- These women operated this type of machine who's inventor received a Nobel prize (in 1939) for its invention.
- Despite the women not being told exactly what it was they were operating. They engaged in a week long competition with male scientists (mostly PhDs) to see who could produce more product and outperformed their male colleagues.
- Their service was crucial to the production of "tube alloy" for "Little Boy"



QA Processes



Inputs & Oracles: One-Slide Summary

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- **Test suite minimization** finds the smallest subset of tests that meet a coverage goal.

Ideal Maturity of Software Quality Metrics

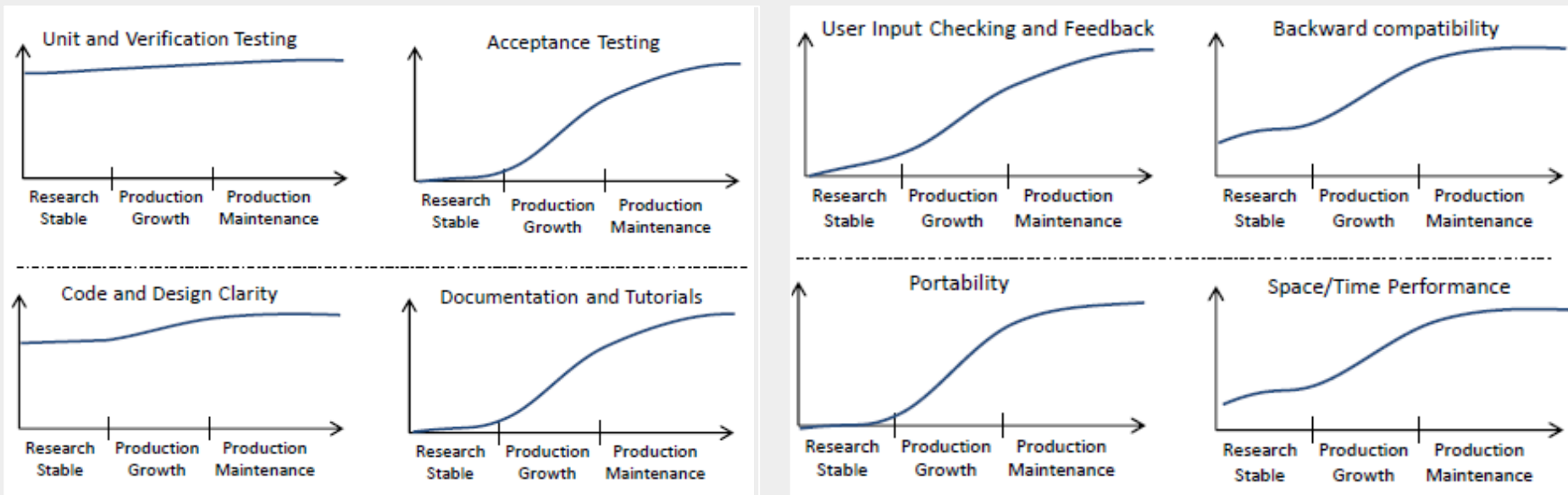


Figure 1. “Example of the more typical variability in key quality metrics in a typical CSE software development process.”
From R. Bartlett, et al., “TriBITS Lifecycle Model Version 1.0,” SAND2012-0561, (2012)

Real Software Quality Metrics

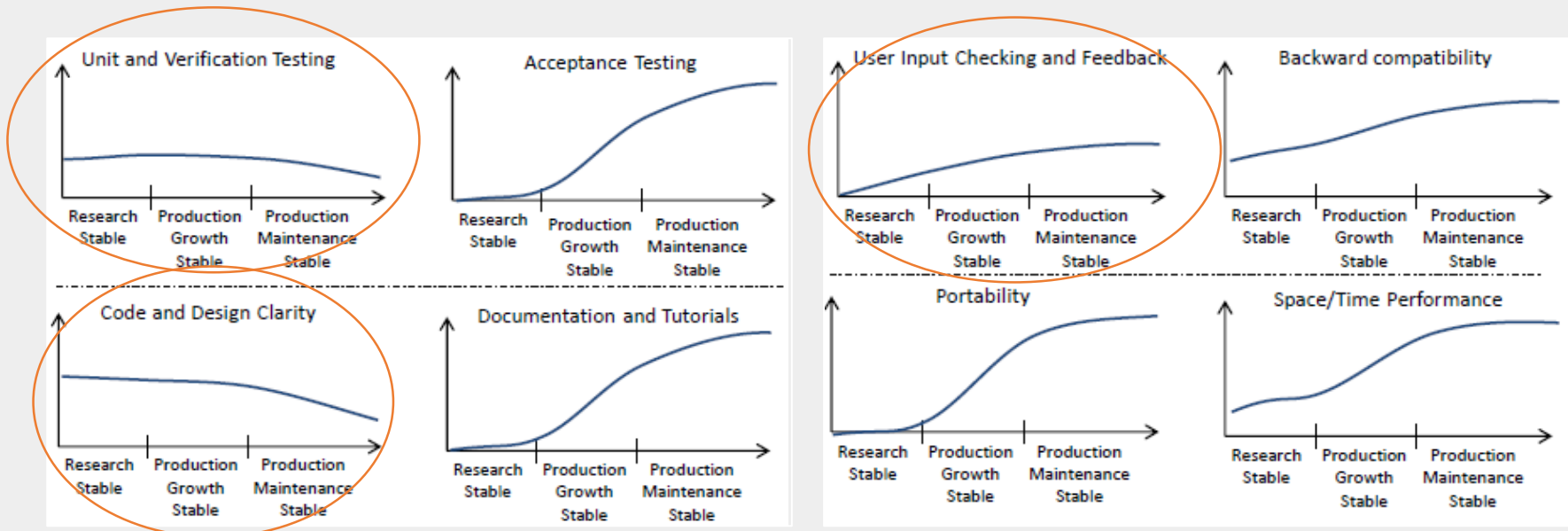
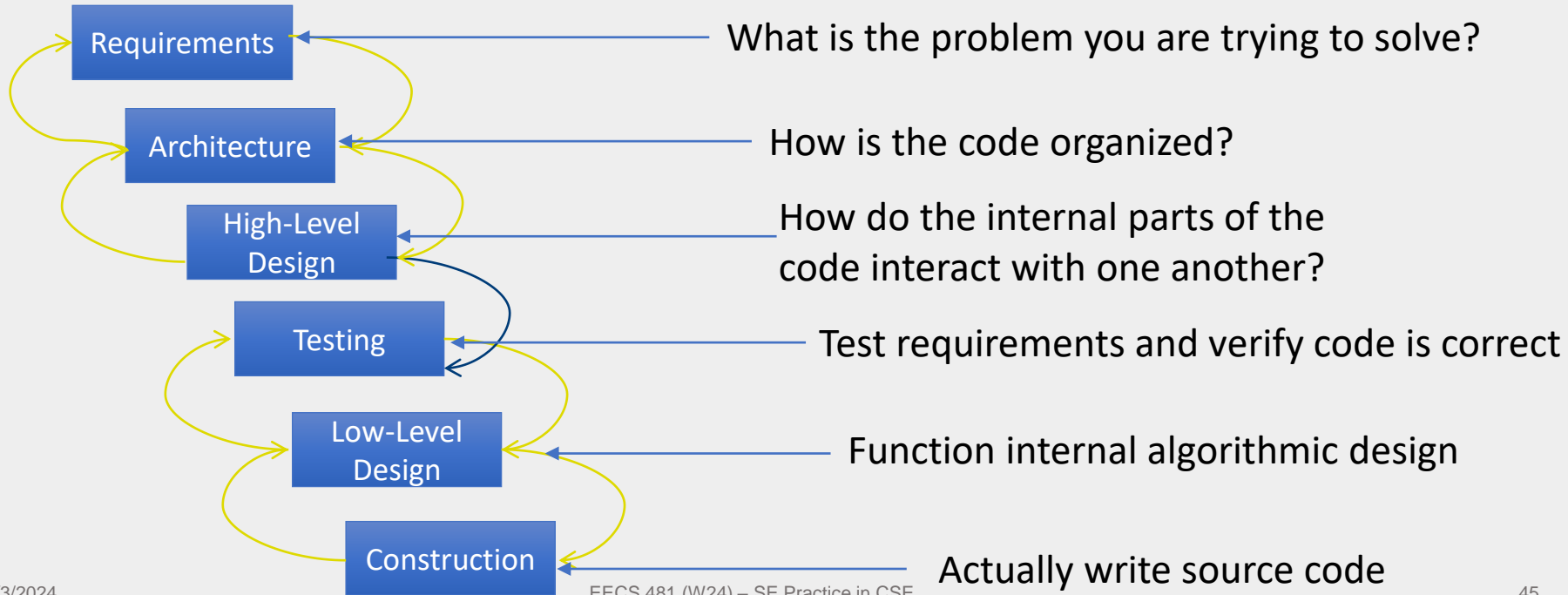


Figure 6. “Example of the more typical variability in key quality metrics in a typical CSE software development process.”
From R. Bartlett, et al., “TriBITS Lifecycle Model Version 1.0,” SAND2012-0561, (2012)

The MPACT Dev Process

Iterative development Process



NQA-1 Program

- Sets QA requirements for program
- Each release has
 - Software Management Plan
 - User Manual
 - Theory Manual
 - Verification and Validation Manual
 - Programmer Manual
 - Software Test Plan Requirements and Test Report

Traceability

Req. ID	Requirement Description	Test Name	Test Input	Additional Info
1	MPACT shall compute solutions to a 3-D multiassembly model with control rod movement.			MPACT_exe/tests/regression_tests/mini_core/4-mini_appr.inp
2	MPACT shall compute solutions to a shuffle of an evenpin lattice, mirrored across the x-axis, with 0 quarter rotations.			MPACT_exe/tests/regression_tests/solution_verification/xml_input/shuffle_symmetry/evenpin_mirror-x_rot0.inp
3	MPACT shall compute solutions to a shuffle of an evenpin lattice, mirrored across the x-axis, with 1 quarter rotations.			MPACT_exe/tests/regression_tests/solution_verification/xml_input/shuffle_symmetry/evenpin_mirror-x_rot1.inp
4	MPACT shall compute solutions to a shuffle of an evenpin lattice, mirrored across the x-axis, with 2 quarter rotations.			MPACT_exe/tests/regression_tests/solution_verification/xml_input/shuffle_symmetry/evenpin_mirror-x_rot2.inp
5	MPACT shall compute solutions to a shuffle of an evenpin lattice, mirrored across the x-axis, with 3 quarter rotations.			MPACT_exe/tests/regression_tests/solution_verification/xml_input/shuffle_symmetry/evenpin_mirror-x_rot3.inp

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848	MPACT_exe_testVerify_shuffle_oddpin_rotation-y_rot2	Completed	Passed
849	MPACT_exe_testVerify_shuffle_oddpin_rotation-y_rot3	Completed	Passed
850	MPACT_exe_testVerify_shuffle_oddpin_unfold_mir	Completed	Passed

Defect Reporting: One-Slide Summary

- A software **defect report** includes information and communications related to addressing a software issue.
- Defect reports have many **components**
- Defect reports are subject to **triage** based on **severity** and **priority** information.
- Defect reports have a **lifecycle** that is complicated and non-linear with multiple possible **resolutions**.



Scientific Computing is inherently multi-lingual



Multi-language Projects: One-Slide Summary

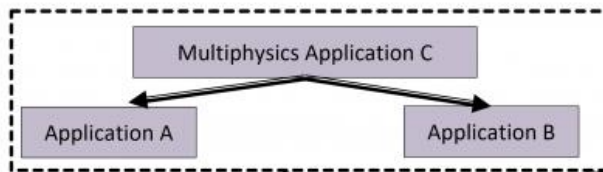
- Many modern software projects involve code written in **multiple languages**. This can involve a common **bytecode** or **C native** method interfaces.
- Native code interfaces can be understood in terms of (1) **data layout** and (2) special common **functions to manipulate** managed data.
- Almost **all aspects of software engineering** are impacted in multi-language projects.

xSDK – eXascale Software Development Kit

xSDK Version 0.8.0: November 2022

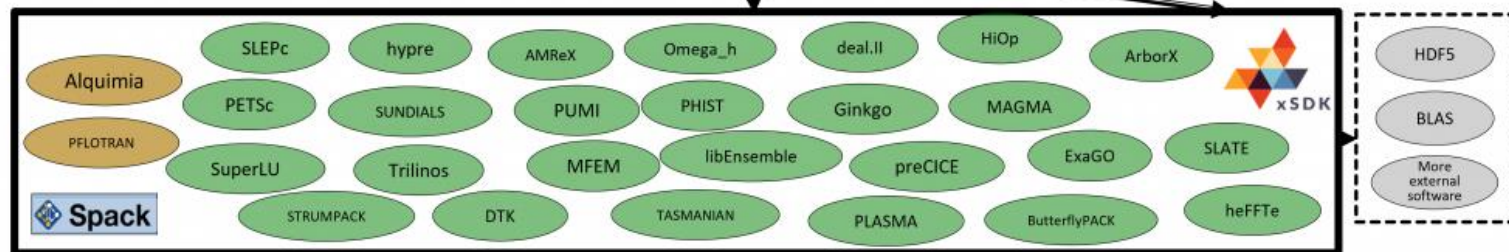
<https://xsdk.info>

Each xSDK member package uses or can be used with one or more xSDK packages, and the connecting interface is regularly tested for regressions.



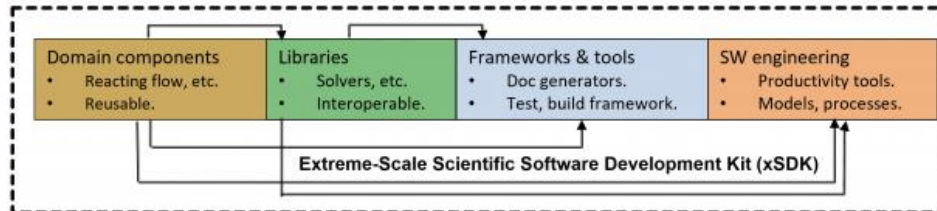
xSDK functionality, Nov 2022

Tested on key machines at ALCF, NERSC, OLCF, also Linux, Mac OS X



November 2022

- 26 math libraries
- 2 domain components
- 16 mandatory xSDK community policies
- Spack xSDK installer

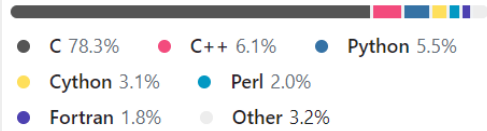


Impact: Improved code quality, usability, access, sustainability

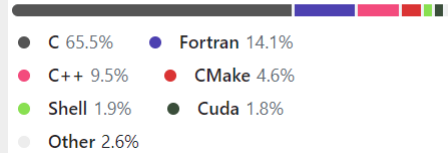
Foundation for work on performance portability, deeper levels of package interoperability



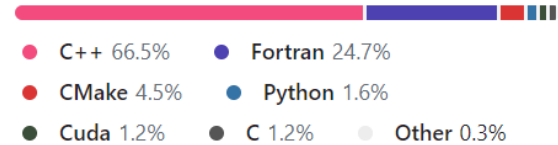
Languages PETSc



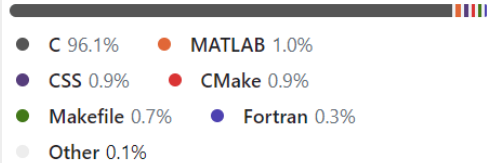
Languages SUNDIALS



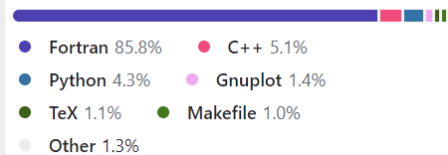
Languages heFFTe



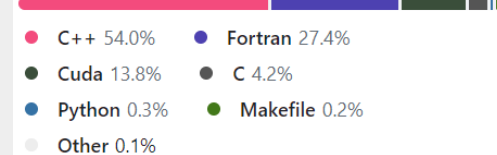
Languages SuperLU



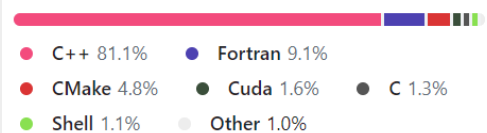
Languages PFLOTRAN



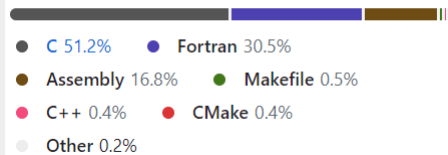
Languages MAGMA



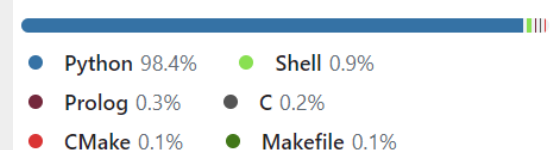
Languages STRUMPACK



Languages OpenBlas



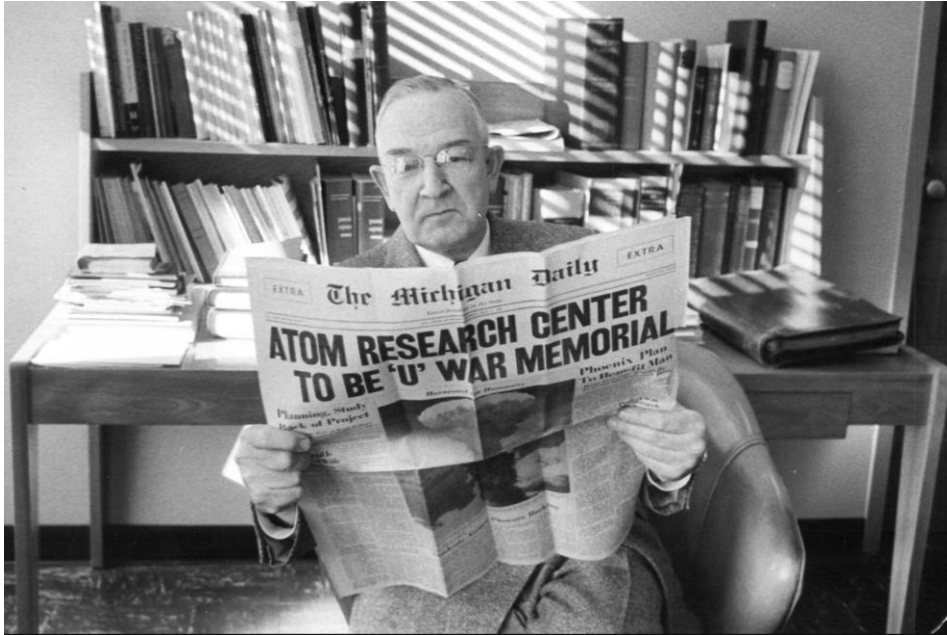
Languages Spack



History of the Ford Nuclear Reactor



Founding Monday, May 17th, 1948



Planning, Study Back of Project

Year and Half of Work Follows Original Student Legislature Idea

Memorial Is Greeted With Enthusiasm Gains Support, Help of Aid

The Phoenix Project—based three months earlier by a year and one-half of intensive planning, research, and efforts to finance legal education.

The success of a "memorial" was revealed originally with enthusiasm on the 16th. That night the student legislature was in session for a 48-hour session.

Official sessions were held in the University House of Records named a faculty-student War Memorial Committee in September, 1947.

"They were called by an Almeria Association, because that is the name of the student legislature," said the speaker in the minutes of the meeting of the group by the University House.

The idea of a atomic memorial came through first in the mind of Paul J. Smith, assistant Vice President and now vice president of the University. He was the one who first proposed the idea.

The idea was enthusiastically received by the War Memorial Committee. It was the first step in the development of the memorial.

The committee has to work to check the amount of atomic energy, particularly in the field of atomic energy, particularly in the field of atomic energy.

The memorial is to be a monument to the atomic energy industry. It is to be a monument to the atomic energy industry.

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ATOM RESEARCH CENTER TO BE 'U' WAR MEMORIAL



ATOMIC ENERGY ELEMENTS—Planned store in the atomic energy industry being more than 10,000 feet high, about 100 feet wide. This store is to be built by the Phoenix Project. It is to be a monument to the atomic energy industry.

DYNAMIC REACTION:

Students Assure Phoenix Backing

There is a strong assurance that the Phoenix Project will be supported by the student body. The Phoenix Project will be supported by the student body.

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Phoenix Plan To Benefit Man

Huge Program Will Probe Peaceful Application of Atom

An all-out effort to convert the nightmare of Nagasaki into a living and lasting force for the betterment of man was launched today by the University in memory of its students and faculty members who died in World War II.

President Alexander C. Roshov announced the establishment of the "Phoenix Project"—the world's first research institute devoted exclusively to exploring the peaceful and humanitarian applications of atomic energy.

Named the Phoenix Project to symbolize the creation of a new era from the ashes and destruction of the old University, the Memorial is intended to probe peaceably the atomic energy field.

The Phoenix Project will be supported by the student body. The Phoenix Project will be supported by the student body.

Project Will Aid Research Coordination War Memorial Is Functional

The Phoenix Project's far-reaching program to coordinate research in the atomic energy field is now being set up in the University House of Records.

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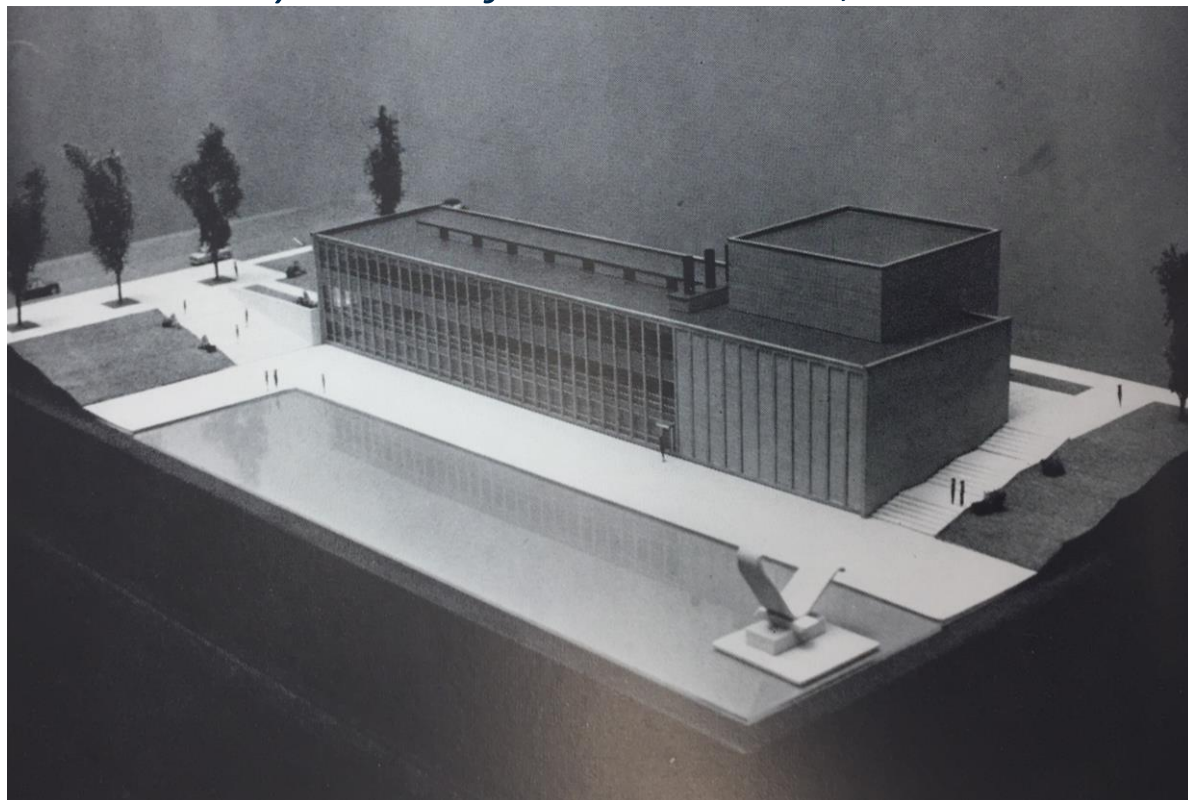
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A permanent monument to University dead of World War II, the completed Phoenix Memorial Laboratory will look like this.

The cubical windowless area at the right represents the ~~student offices~~ nuclear reactor





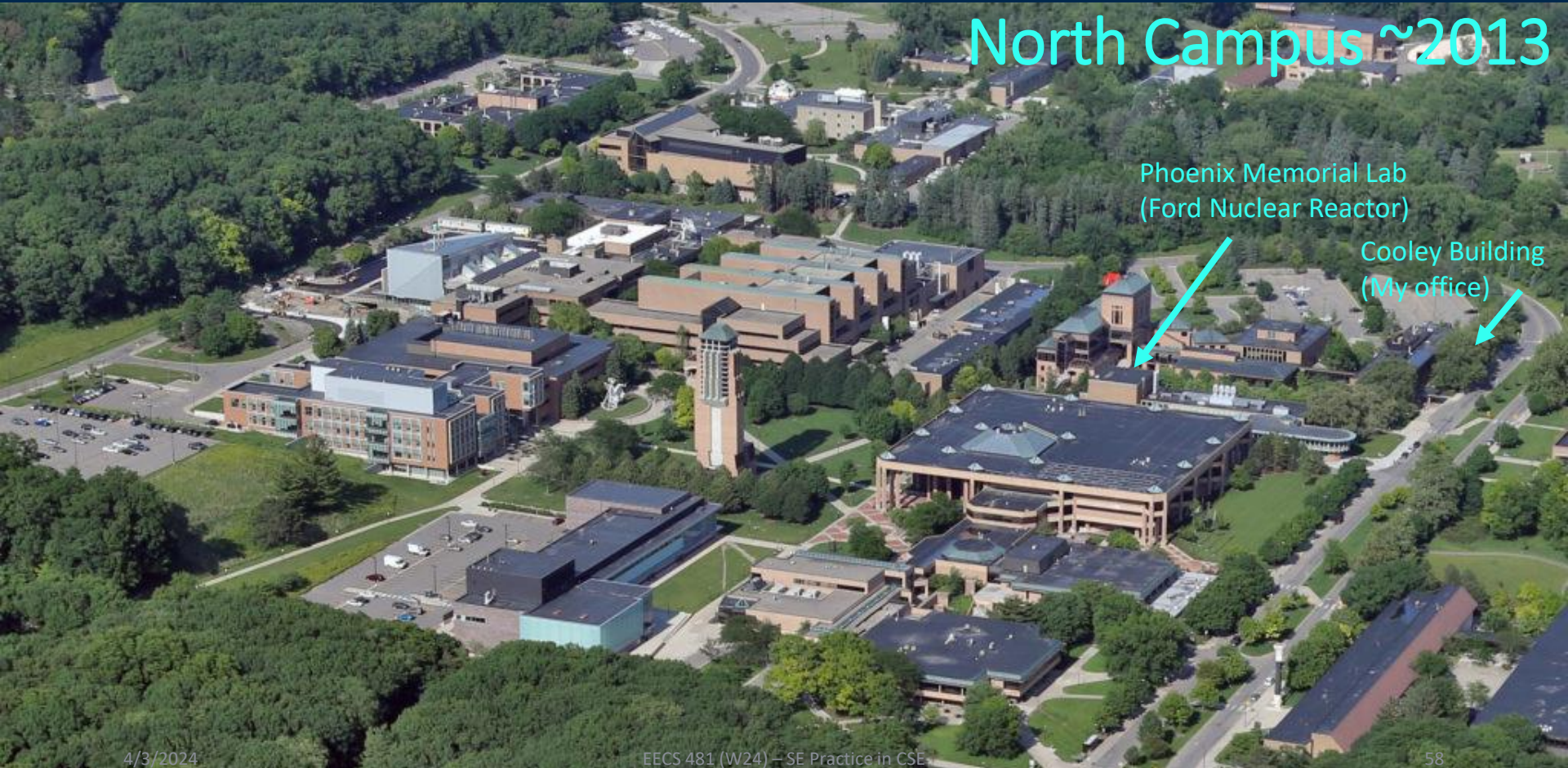
September 1954

Phoenix Memorial Lab
(Ford Nuclear Reactor)

Cooley Building
(My office)



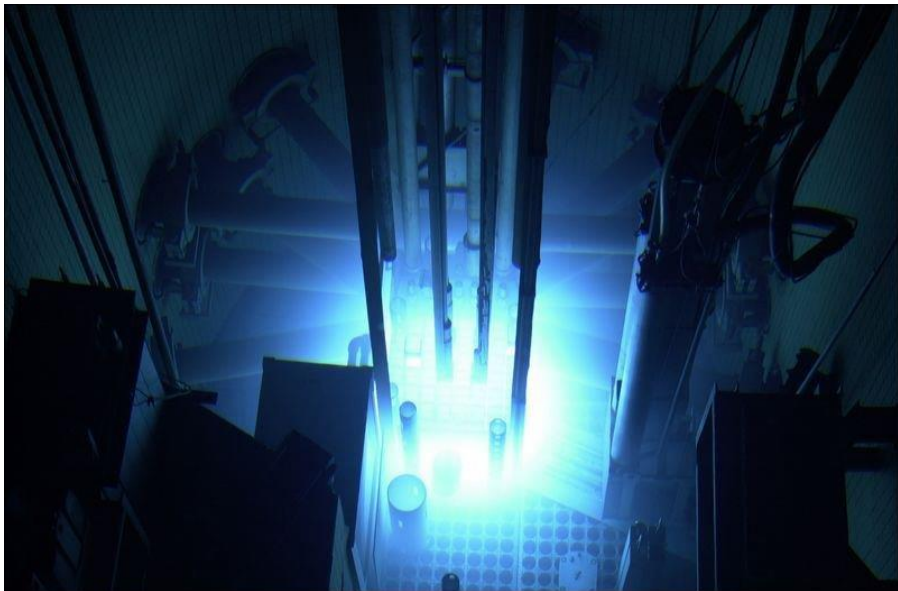
North Campus ~2013



Phoenix Memorial Lab
(Ford Nuclear Reactor)

Cooley Building
(My office)

Ford Nuclear Reactor



- The Ford Nuclear Reactor (FNR) was a research reactor that operated at U of M from September 1957.
- FNR was used to explore peaceful uses of nuclear energy for the well-being and advancement of humanity.
- Unfortunately, FNR was permanently shut down in July 2003 and eventually decommissioned due to the prohibitively high cost of maintenance and operation.



Figure 1. Color photograph of the FNR facility from the Detroit News Sunday Pictorial, Sept. 13, 1959

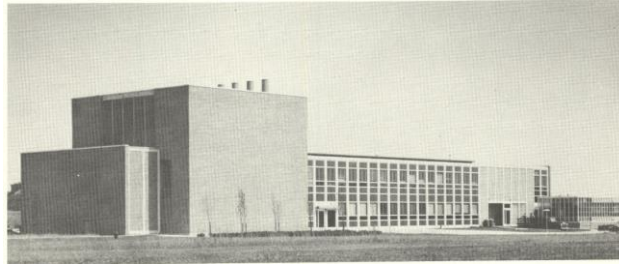


Figure 2. The FNR building and adjacent Phoenix Memorial Lab



Figure 3. Professors in the glow of the reactor plotting their next student assignments



Figure 4. Photograph of a reactor operator at the FNR control panel

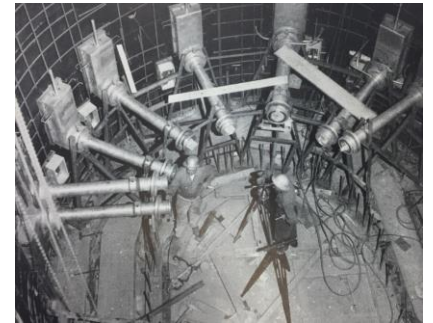
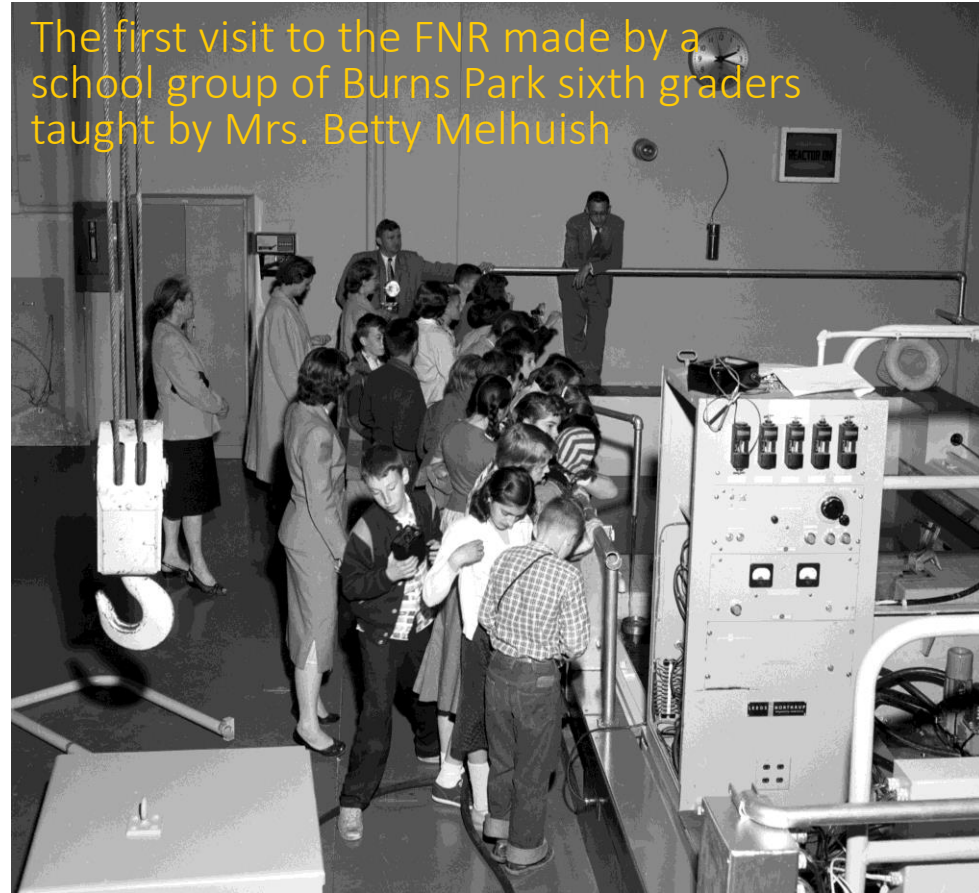
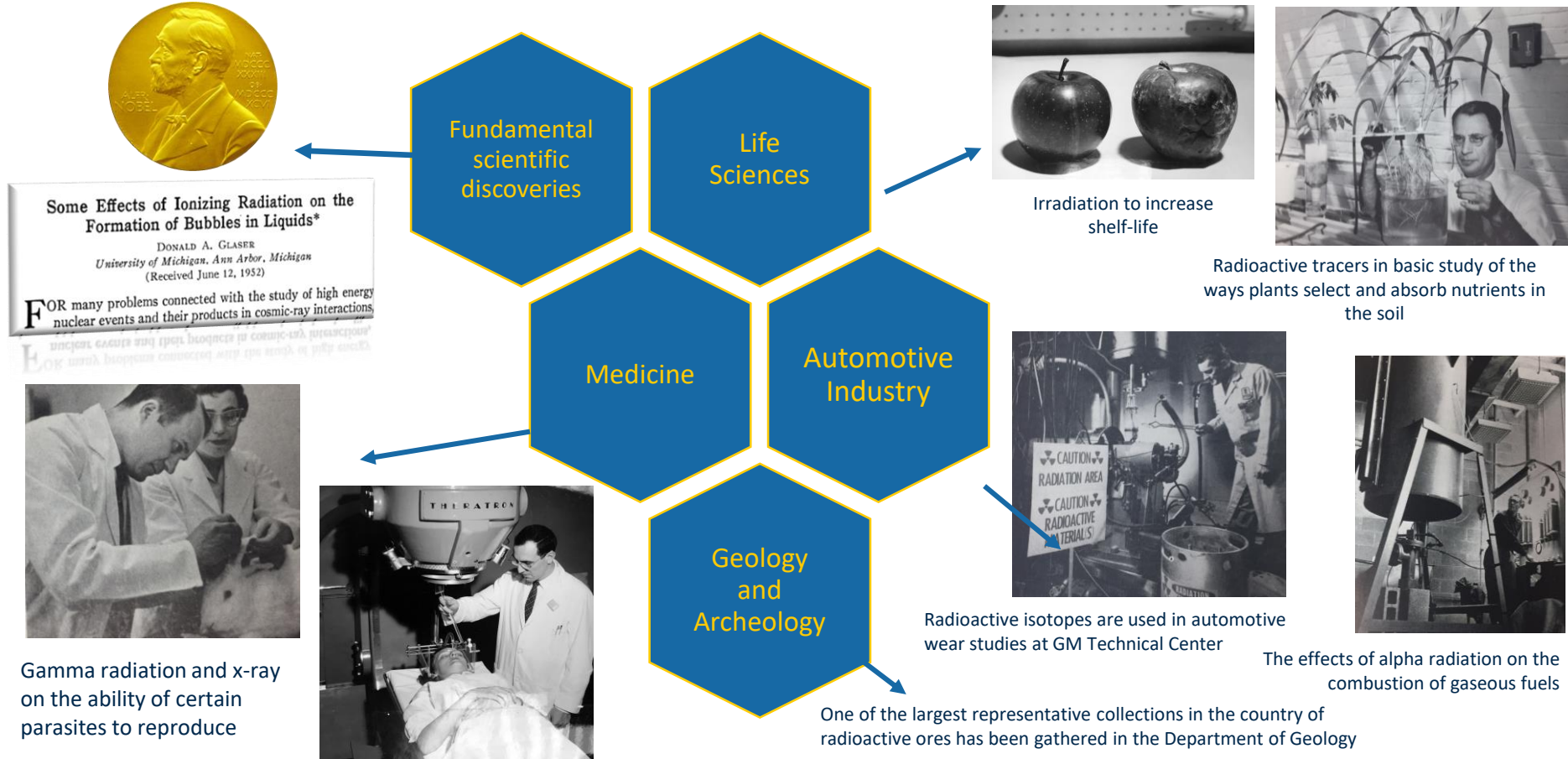


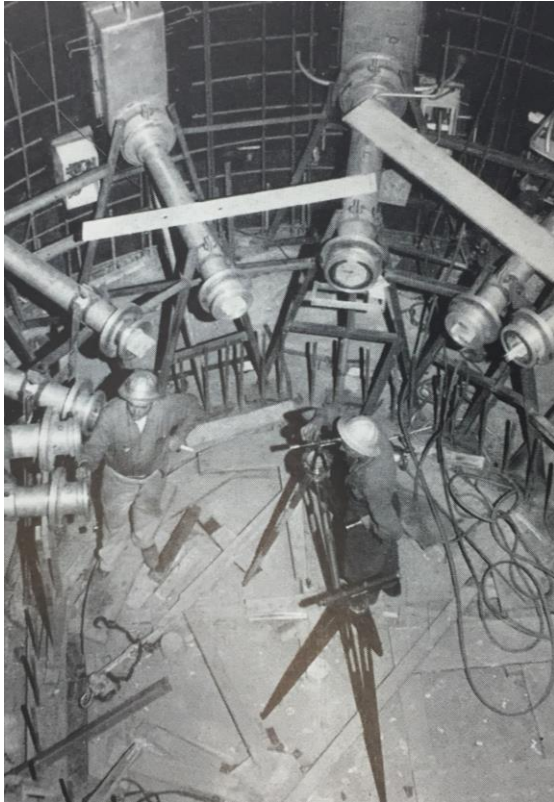
Figure 5. Photograph of FNR reactor pool construction

The first visit to the FNR made by a school group of Burns Park sixth graders taught by Mrs. Betty Melhuish



Mrs. David Weyant demonstrates the versatility of the manipulator by picking up a book of matches, taking one match out, lighting it and then lighting a cigarette for Prof. Ralph A. Sawyer head of the the Phoenix Project





1950's

4/3/2024



Filling in the FNR
Pool with Concrete

EECS 481 (W24) – SE Practice in CSE

2016



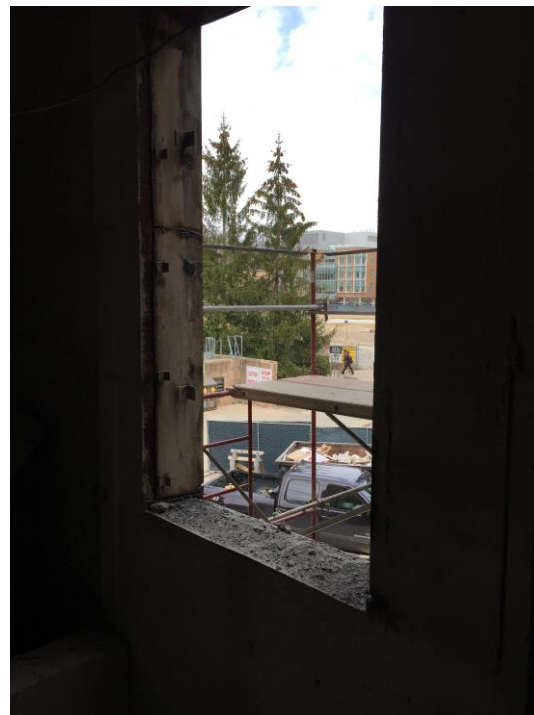
Cutting Windows in the Reactor Building



Let there be light!
And so the students shall have windows.

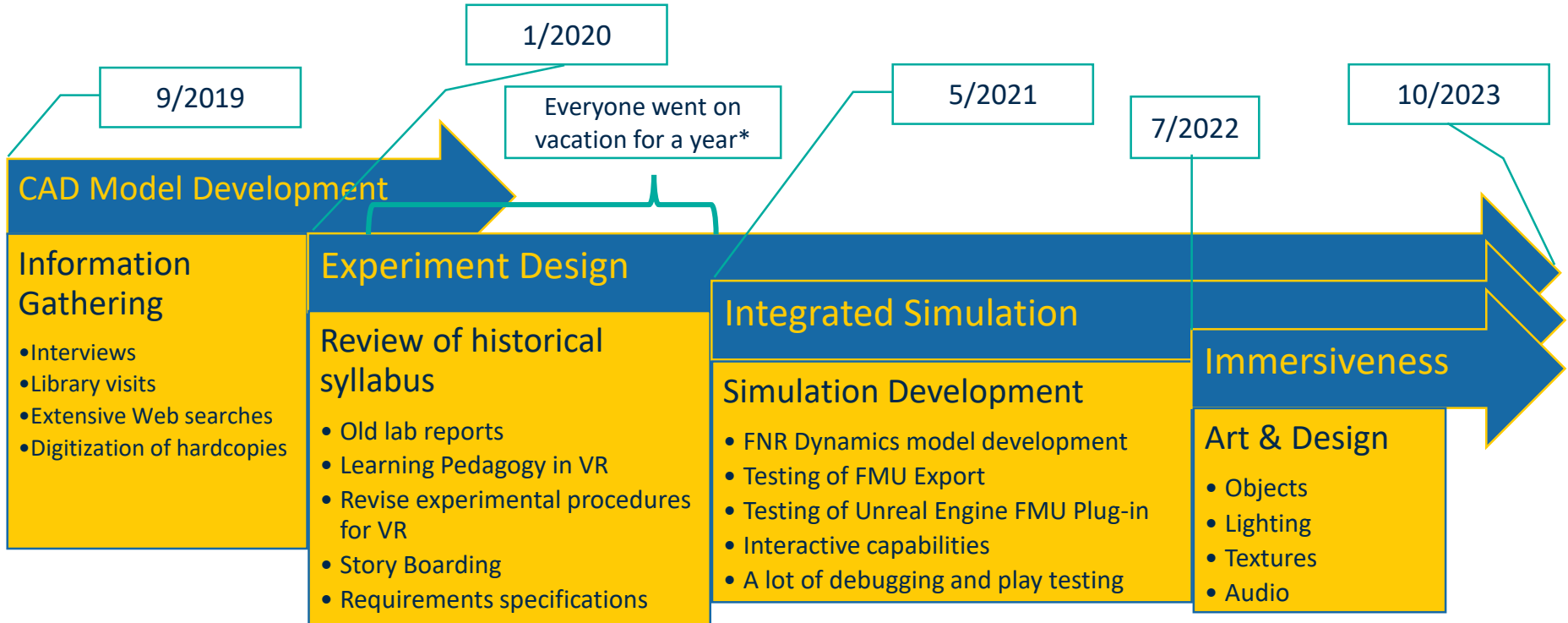
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EECS 481 (W24) – SE Practice in CSE

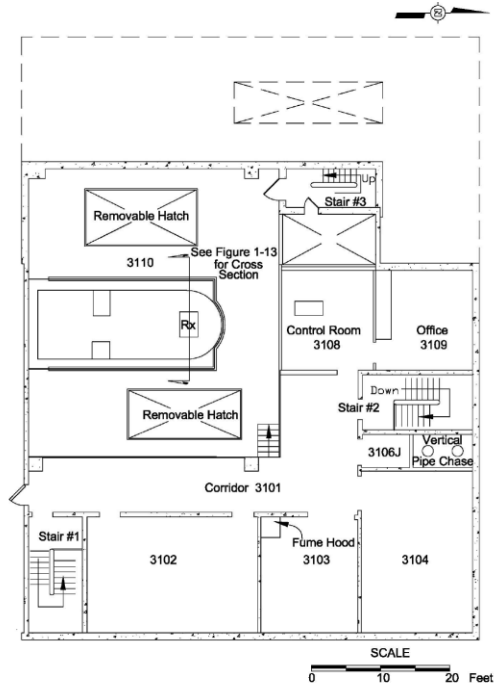


2016

Timeline of VFNR Development

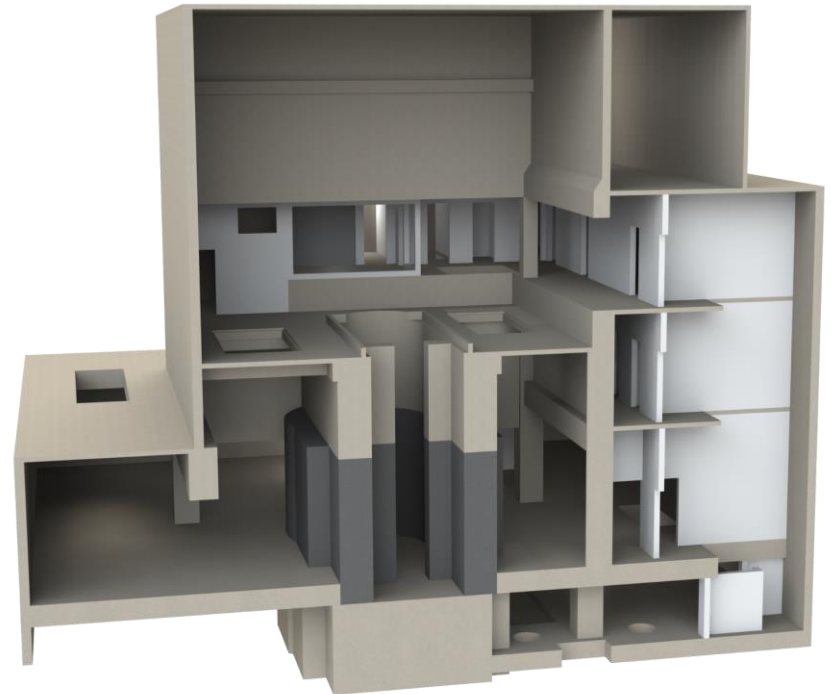


The Map is not the Territory



Scale Drawing of the Reactor Floor

Cross section of a CAD model of the FNR building

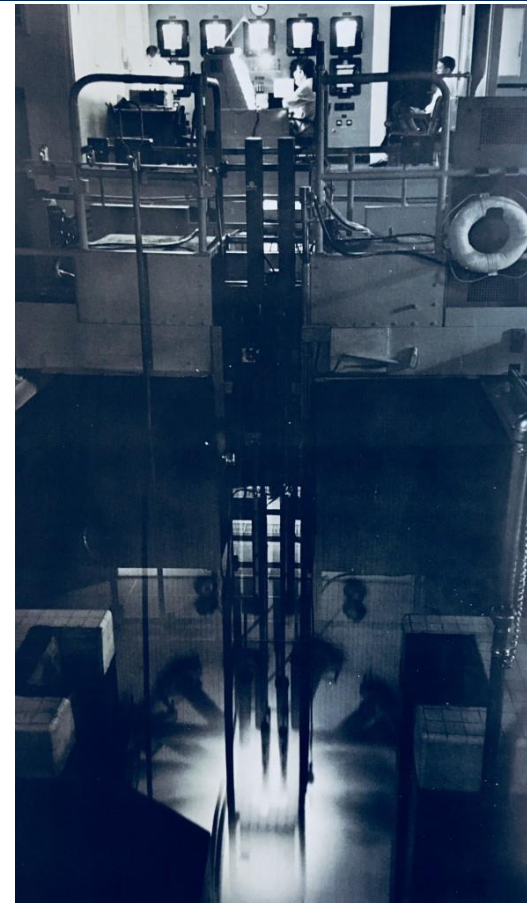
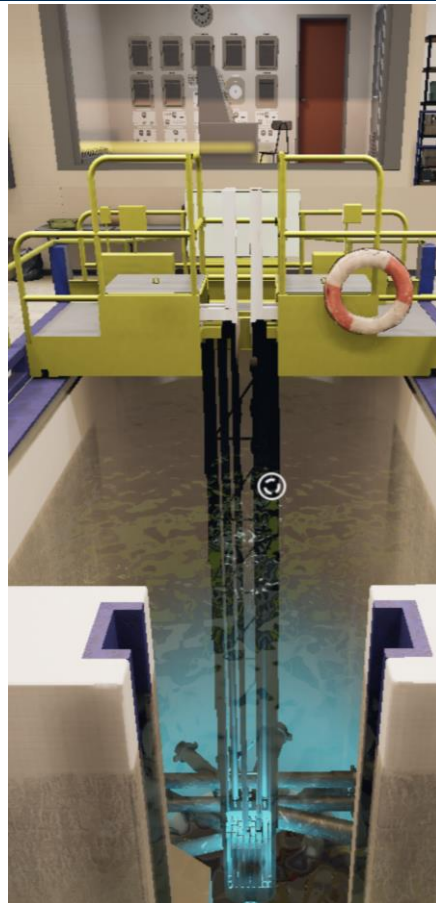


Project Phase 4: Enhanced Immersiveness

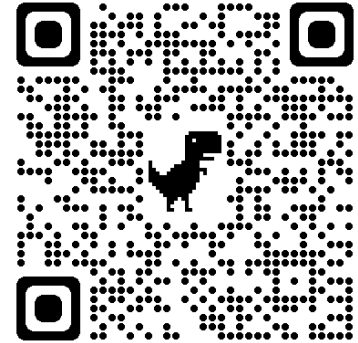


Project Phase 4: Enhanced Immersiveness





Questions?



1. Navigate to: <https://innovationpartnerships.umich.edu/available-inventions/>
2. Search for Virtual Ford Nuclear Reactor