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# The Advanced Test Reactor Capabilities and Experiments

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## ATR Vessel & Internals

#### **Reactor Type**

Pressurized, light-water moderated and cooled; beryllium reflector

#### **Reactor Vessel**

12 ft diameter, 36 ft high Stainless steel

### **Reactor Core**

4 ft (diameter & height) 40 fuel elements, high enriched U-235

#### **Coolant Temperatures and Pressure**

125°F Inlet, 160°F Outlet 390 psig

### Peak Flux

-5 x 10<sup>14</sup> n/cm<sup>2</sup>-sec fast - 1 x 10<sup>15</sup> n/cm<sup>2</sup>-sec thermal





# **ATR Operations**

- Operating Cycles
  - Standard operating cycle is 6 to 8 weeks
  - Occasionally short high power cycles of 2 weeks
  - Standard reactor outages are 1 or 2 weeks
  - Operations for approximately 270 days per year
- Core Internals Changeout every 7 to 10 years





## **ATR Core Cross** Section

- 77 irradiation positions
  - 4 flux traps

NR

Currently in use

Unused for

Planned future use (within 18 months)

foreseeable future

- 5 in-pile tubes
- 68 in reflector



## **Center Flux Trap Flux Profile (125 MW)**



## **B-7 Flux Properties**

	B-7 Peak Fluxes
Energy	Flux (n/cm²-sec)
Thermal (2200 m/sec)	2.77E+14
Fast (>1 MeV)	1.87E+14
Total	7.23E+14

Gamma Heating at Core Mid-Plane (18 MW NW Lobe): 4.2 watt/gram for SST



# **Current ATR Irradiation Projects**

- Advanced Fuel Cycle (AFC)
  - Fuel tests expected to continue through 2010
  - Gas Fast Reactor material tests
- Neptunium tests Cross Section Data
- Advanced Gas Reactor, Fuel Tests
- RERTR
  - Mini plate
  - Full fuel plate
  - Full element
- Cobalt-60
- Zirconium





# **Proposed Irradiation Tests**

- Next Generation Nuclear Plant, Graphite
- Fuel Qualification for the new ATR Gas Test Loop
- Isotopes
  - Strontium-89
  - Cesium-131
- Plutonium-238 for Radioisotope Power Systems
- Simulation of BWR Conditions for Various Tests
- Material Tests for International Research on Aging and New Reactor Designs



# **Future Activities for the ATR**

- Next CIC tentatively scheduled for 2013
- Reactivation of Pressurized
  Water Loop
  - PWR testing
  - Possibly BWR testing
- Installation of hydraulic "rabbit" system
- Fuel fabrication facility equipment upgrades
- Possible "Fast Flux" Loop
- Hot cell use and need determination
  - Reactor Technology Complex repackaging, dimensions, or new
  - Materials and Fuels Complex PIE, NDE





# Approximate Peak Flux Values for ATR Test Positions at 110 MW<sub>th</sub> (22 MW<sub>th</sub> in each lobe)

Position	Diameter (cm/in.) <sup>a</sup>	Thermal Flux $(n/cm^2-s)^b$	Fast Flux (E>1 MeV) (n/cm <sup>2</sup> -s)
Northwest and Northeast Flux Traps	13.3/5.250	$4.4 \times 10^{14}$	$2.2 \times 10^{14}$
Other Flux Traps	$7.62/3.000^{\circ}$	$4.4 \times 10^{14}$	9.7 x $10^{13}$
A-Positions			
(A-1 - A-8)	1.59/0.625	$1.9 \times 10^{14}$	$1.7 \times 10^{14}$
(A-9 - A-16)	1.59/0.625	$2.0 \times 10^{14}$	$2.3 \times 10^{14}$
B-Positions			
(B-1 - B-8)	2.22/0.875	$2.5 \times 10^{14}$	8.1 x $10^{13}$
(B-9 - B-12)	3.81/1.500	$1.1 \ge 10^{14}$	$1.6 \times 10^{13}$
H-Positions (14)	1.59/0.625	$1.9 \times 10^{14}$	$1.7 \times 10^{14}$
I-Positions			
Large (4)	12.7/5.000	$1.7 \times 10^{13}$	$1.3 \times 10^{12}$
Medium (16)	8.26/3.500	$3.4 \times 10^{13}$	$1.3 \times 10^{12}$
Small (4)	3.81/1.500	8.4 x $10^{13}$	$3.2 \times 10^{12}$

a. Position diameter; capsule diameter must be smaller.

b. Average speed 2,200 m/s.

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c. East, center, and south flux traps can each contain 7 guide tubes with inside diameters of 1.76 cm (0.694 in.).

## **ATR Operating and Experiment Schedule**

Cycle #/ FY Quarter	140B	141A	142A	142B	143A	143B	144A	144B	145A	145B	146A	146B	147A	147B	148A	148B	FY-11, 1	FY-11, 2	FY-11, 3	FY-11, 4	FY-12, 1		
Start Date	12/1/07	1/26/08	3/8/08	6/14/08	08/23/08	11/01/08	01/10/09	03/07/09	05/30/09	08/08/09	10/10/09	12/12/09	01/02/10	02/27/10	05/05/10	07/17/10							
Outage Days	20	7	56	14	14	14	14	28	14	14	14	7	14	35	14	14							
Operating Days	36	35	42	56	56	56	42	56	56	49	49	14	42	42	49	42							
Core Location																							
A1 - A8																							
A-9.10																							
A-11																							
A-12																							
A-13 & A-16																							
A-14 & A-15																							
B1																							
B2			DOE						DOE														
B3, 4, 5, 6																							
B-7					Hydraulic (	Shuttle Irrac	liation Syst	em															
B-8									DOE														
B-9																							
B-10	DOE									DOE											Until 2018		
B-11	DOE		DOE			DOE				DOE						DOE					Until 2012		
B-12				DOE						DOE											Until 2018		
H1, H2																							
H-3, H-11	N-16 Mon	itoring Line	es																				
H4 - H10																							
H12 - H16																							
11-18, 110, 112, 114-121, 123-124																							
19								DOE															
l-11																							
I-13											DOE												
1-22																					Until 2014		
CFT-1			DOE												DOE						Until 2019		
CFT-2		DOE																			Until 2019		
EFT-1	DOE			DOE																	Until 2015		
EFT-2	DOE			NSUF																			
EFT-3	DOE																						
EFT-4	DOE							DOE													Until 2015		
EFT-5																							
EFT-6																							
EFT-7																							
SFT				DOE				DOE			DOE										Until 2018		
1A-NE	NR									DOE			NR										
1D-N	NR																						
1C-W	NR																						
2B-SE	NR																						
2D-SW	NR																						
2E-NW	NR																						
										L													
		Irradiation Ongoing Planned & Funded Irradiations							High Probability Future Irradiation					Medium Probability Future Irradiation						Low Probability Future Irradiation			

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# **INL Isotope Processing Capabilities**

- INL has extensive radiochemistry and chemical separation expertise
- INL has limited facilities for processing irradiated targets, which include radiochemistry labs, gloveboxes and a shielded hot cell facility
- Currently isotope processing at INL is limited to efforts to demonstrate recovery of <sup>225</sup>Ac from excess <sup>233</sup>U for a commercial partner

