How Integral Benchmarks Benefit Fission Product Data via Data Calibration

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Measurements Form the Basis for Nuclear Data

Integral Measurements/Benchmarks

- Measurements of a system that is dependent on multiple data (isotopes, reactions, energies) at once
- May be designed to be particularly sensitive to one piece of data



Examples:

- Critical assemblies
- Subcritical assemblies
- Reactor startup
 experiments
- Reactor operation data
- Shielding Experiments
- Activation Experiments
- Post Irradiation Examination





Established Integral Benchmark Handbooks

- Benchmarks are evaluated integral experiments
- International Criticality Safety **Benchmark Evaluation Project** (ICSBEP)
 - >5000 Critical, subcritical, and physics configurations
- International Reactor Physics **Evaluation Project (IRPhEP)**
 - 200 Reactor benchmarks
 - 200 Spectra benchmarks
- Shielding Integral Benchmark **Database (SINBAD)**
 - Reactor shielding (46)
 - Fusion neutronics shielding (31)
 - Accelerator shielding (23)
- Spent Fuel Composition (SFCompo)
 - 700 Samples







Integral Experiments Sensitive to FYs

- Experiments with benchmark data:
 - Irradiated reaction rate foils
 - Reactor kinetics (delayed neutron fraction)
 - Post Irradiation Examinations
 - Calorimetry of irradiate fuel
- Fuel after burnup in reactor can be examined to determine it's composition
- Concentrations of fission products & minor actinides used as integral data
- Simulation biases are large and uncertainties are large
- Sought to perform adjustment of FYs with data







Approach

- Take data from SFCOMPO database and simulate reactor fuel cycle
- Evaluate covariance matrix of fission product concentrations
- Use GEF to propagate uncertainties of model parameters
- Correct for model defects (GEF or radiation transport) and unaccounted for uncertainties
- Perform Bayesian Monte Carlo adjustment
- Verify with ENDF/unseen fuel sample/reactivity measurements



Figure: Experimental covariance matrix





Marginal Likelihood Optimization

- Unexplained biases create large χ^2 that threatens to worsen FYs
- Add penalty hyperparameter by minimizing marginal likelihood of the data set

$$\chi^2 = \left(\mathbf{E} - \mathbf{C}\right)^T \left(\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{E}} + \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{C}} + \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{extra}}\right)^{-1} \left(\mathbf{E} - \mathbf{C}\right)$$

$$L = \frac{e^{-\chi^2/2}}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^N \det(\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{E}} + \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{C}} + \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{extra}})}}$$
$$\min\left[\frac{1}{2} \left(N * \log(2\pi) + \det(\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{E}} + \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{C}} + \mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{extra}}) + \chi^2\right)\right]$$





Adjusted FYs





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Adjusted Covariances







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MLO Importance





Posterior Concentrations

	Prior	Posterior
Average absolute bias	26%	15%
Average relative standard deviation	21%	9%





Unseen Fuel Sample







Ideal Integral Experiment to Test FYPs

- Current benchmarks unlikely to have characterization needed for high quality calibration
- Well characterized neutron source (fast burst critical assembly, research reactor irradiation well)
- Well characterized fissile target (foil, fission chamber)
- High precision fission product analysis (chemical dissolution and mass spectrometry)
- Detailed computational model with evaluated uncertainties that affect fission product production





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Model Parameter Adjustments



Figure: Adjustments to 21 model parameters, with and without MLO.



Non-Gaussian FPYs





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