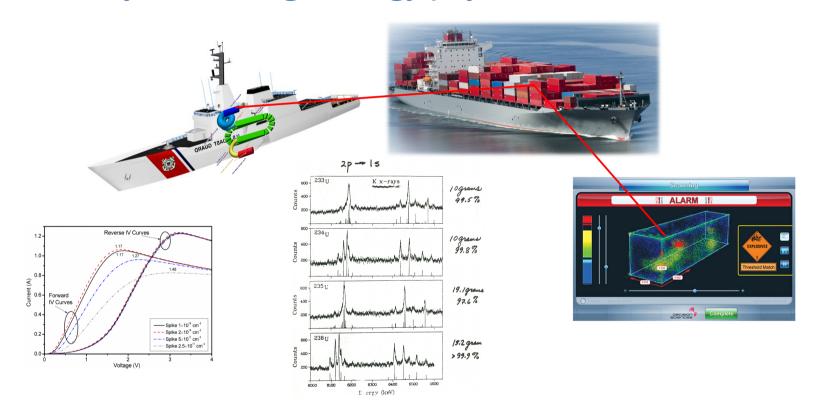
## Game changing muon applications:

beyond the high energy physics window



Zack Sullivan

May 3, 2016

w/ Adam Hock, Dan Kaplan, Jeff Terry

### Fermilab is part of this BIG IDEA

# SOLVING BIG PROBLEMS WITH SMALL ACCELERATORS

S. HENDERSON

**Argonne National Laboratory** 

W. LEEMANS

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

April 21, 2016



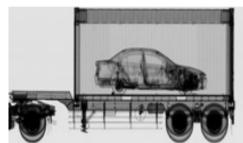
## ACCELERATORS ARE ESSENTIAL TOOLS IN MODERN LIFE

#### **Discovery Science**



Groundbreaking, Nobel prize winning science

#### **National Security**



Securing dozens of border crossings, ports and airports

#### Industry



\$500B/year in products

#### Medicine

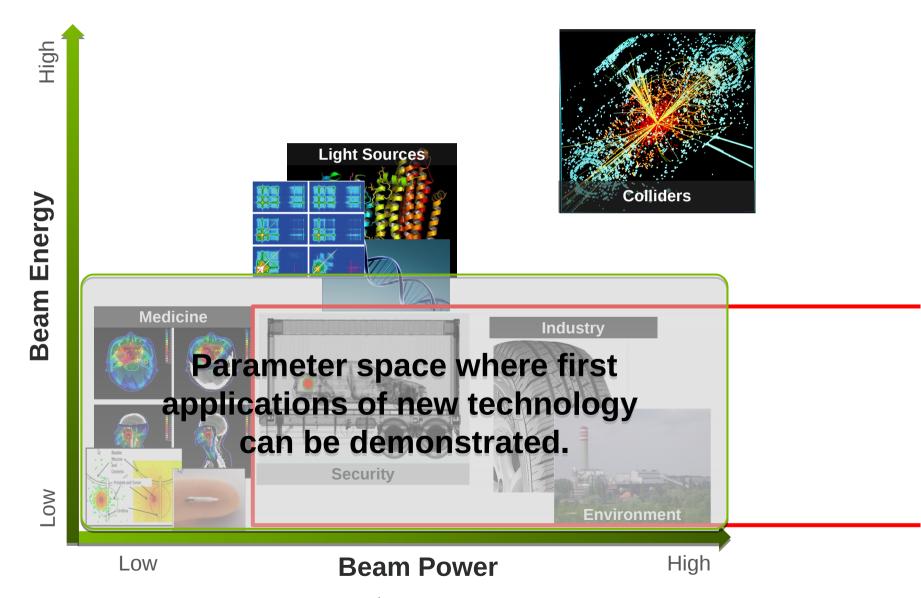


10's of millions of patients treated with accelerators each year

The development of accelerator technology in the 20th century is a tremendous success story.

- However, the reach of accelerators is more and more limited by size, cost, and performance.
- But, new techniques can make accelerators more compact, more powerful, more energy-efficient, and can solve a wider range of problems

## DIFFERENT APPLICATIONS REQUIRE DIFFERENT ACCELERATOR PERFORMANCE



## Some applications for today

- 1) Muons for security
  - A nuclear security challenge
  - Muon tomography
  - Muon-induced gamma spectroscopy
  - What needs to be done
- 2) Muons for radiation damaged materials (Terry)
- 3) Muons for lightly doped semiconductors (Hock)

#### IPRO 497-209

#### Developing a New Strategy to Detect Smuggled Nuclear Material



with Profs. Sullivan and Kaplan Held Fall 2015, 2016

## Life cycle of a cargo container

Somewhere in the world...

A container is filled

and loaded onto a ship.



The U.S. cannot secure these points.

Life cycle of a cargo container



The first interaction might be just offshore before entering port, but boarding all ships is impractical.

National Network

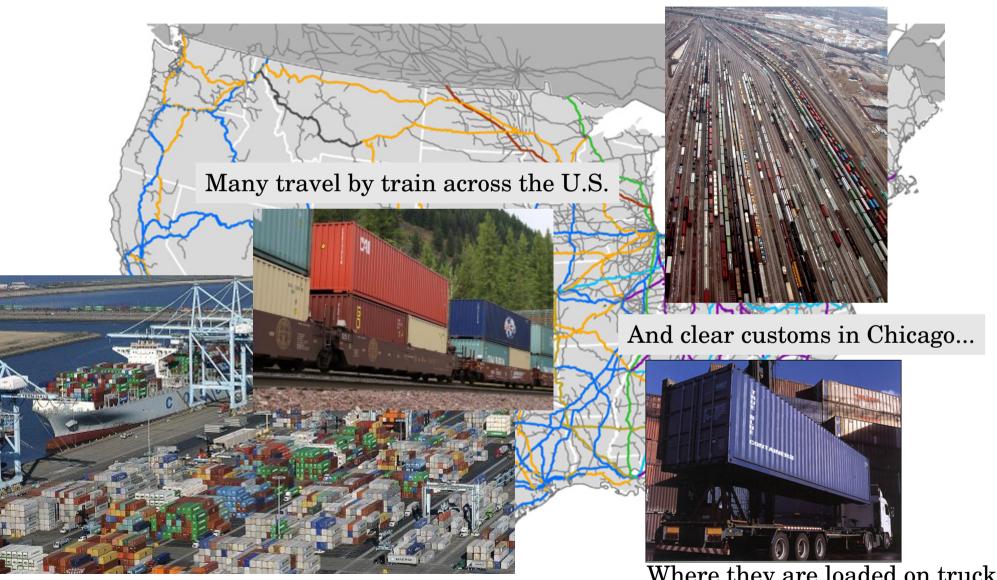
BNSF

CSXT

UP

All Other Rail

## Life cycle of a cargo container



10+ million containers unloaded in ports each year

Where they are loaded on trucks and disperse everywhere

#### **National Security**

## Port security: U.S. fails to meet deadline for scanning of cargo containers

By Douglas Frantz July 15, 2012

The Obama administration has failed to meet a legal deadline for scanning all shipping containers for radioactive material before they reach the United States, a requirement aimed at strengthening maritime security and preventing terrorists from smuggling a nuclear device into any of the nation's 300 sea and river ports.

The Department of Homeland Security was given until this month to ensure that 100 percent of inbound shipping containers are screened at foreign ports.

But the department's secretary, Janet Napolitano, informed Congress in May that she was extending a two-year blanket exemption to foreign ports because the screening is proving too costly and cumbersome. She said it would cost \$16 billion to implement scanning measures at the nearly 700 ports worldwide that ship to the United States.

10/47

#### Further into the article

The DHS says monitors scan 99 percent of the containers for radiation after they arrive at U.S. ports. But experts say the monitors at U.S. ports are not sophisticated enough to detect nuclear devices or highly enriched uranium, which emit low levels of radiation.

The Government Accountability Office has warned that a nuclear device could be detonated while at a port — containers often sit for days awaiting radiation checks — causing billions of dollars in damage in addition to the loss of life. Estimates of damage caused by a nuclear detonation at a major port range from tens of billions of dollars to \$1 trillion.

Shipping containers are potentially ideal for smuggling weapons, people and other illicit cargo; ensuring the integrity of the contents is difficult and costly. The standard container is 40 feet long and 8 feet high and holds more than 30 tons of cargo. A large vessel carries 3,000 or more containers from hundreds of different shippers and many ports. And a single container can hold cargo from many customers.

## Where can we stop the threat?

Follow the law and check at a foreign port?
 Not realistic...



• Scan trucks/trains in U.S. ports? This is the most common focus.



Scan ships while at sea?
 This is ideal, but technically challenging.



Check in Chicago with a Geiger counter?
 This is done now, but not really effective...

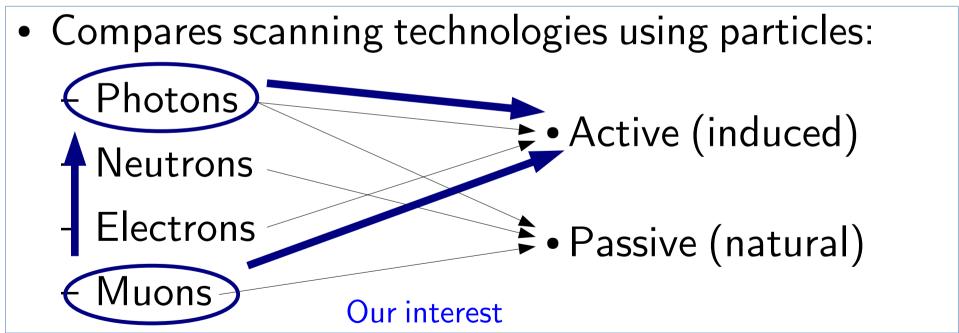




#### Detection of Nuclear Weapons and Materials: Science, Technologies, Observations

Jonathan Medalia Specialist in Nuclear Weapons Policy

June 4, 2010



Congressional Research Service

7-5700 www.crs.gov R40154

### **Overview**

- National security problem
  - Life cycle of a cargo container
- What can we do with  $\mu$ ?
  - Tomography
  - Isotope fingerprinting
- Health Physics (an aside on how not to die)'
- What do we need?

## What can we do with $\mu$ ?

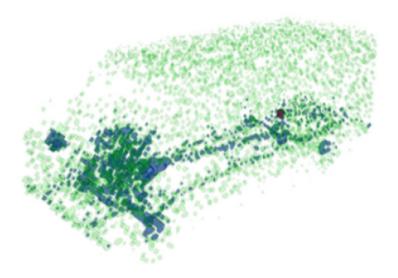
- Tomography (fancy word for picture taking)
  - Find the really dense materials, like Uranium, via scattering, though lead, tin, etc. scatter too
- Isotope fingerprinting
  - Uniquely identify higher than trace amounts of interesting materials, e.g., <sup>235</sup>U vs. <sup>238</sup>U vs. <sup>208</sup>Pb etc.

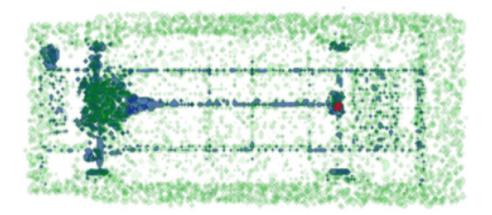
## Decision sciences uses atmospheric muons for tomography (passive)



Promotional picture

## Simulations for imaging a car...





90 seconds to find the red dot?

Source: Decision Sciences International Corporation.

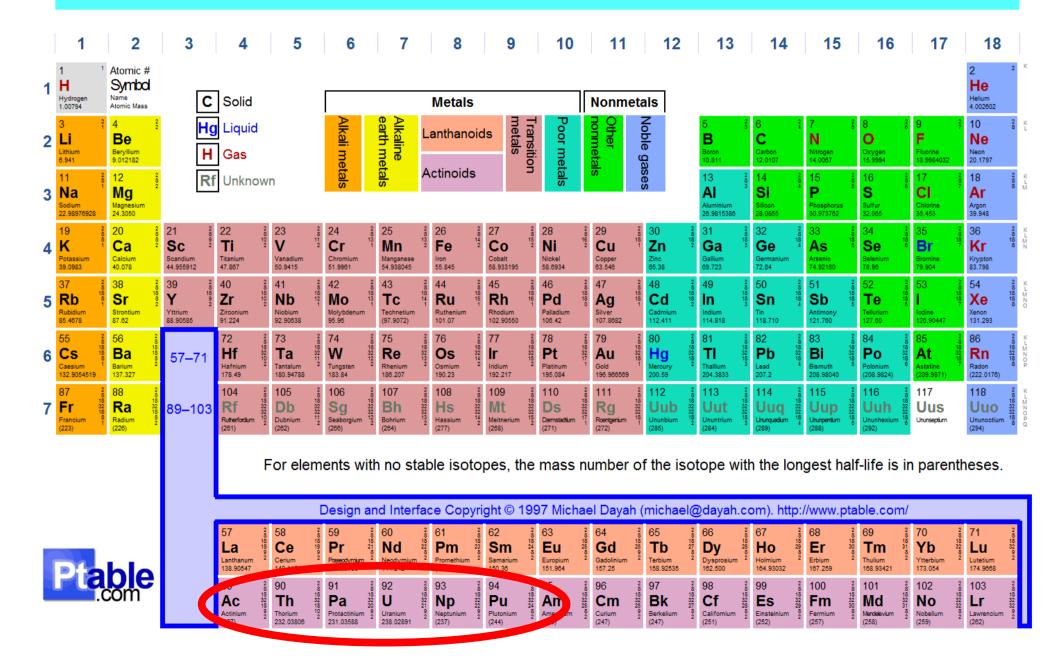
**Notes:** This figure shows one simulated scan at 90 seconds of side-angle and top views using simulated data. The dark spot above the rear axle represents SNM and is highlighted in red.

## How does tomography work?

- High-Z (proton number) materials scatter more than low-Z, so measure angles.
- High-Z materials capture muons at a rate that goes like  $Z^2$ , so look for muons that go in but dont come out.
- Existing test facility uses both methods.

 Remembering our chemistry, what we are mostly interested in are the Actinides.

## **Periodic Table of Elements**

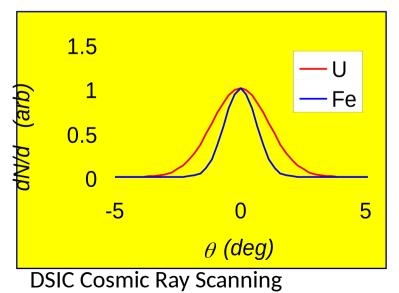


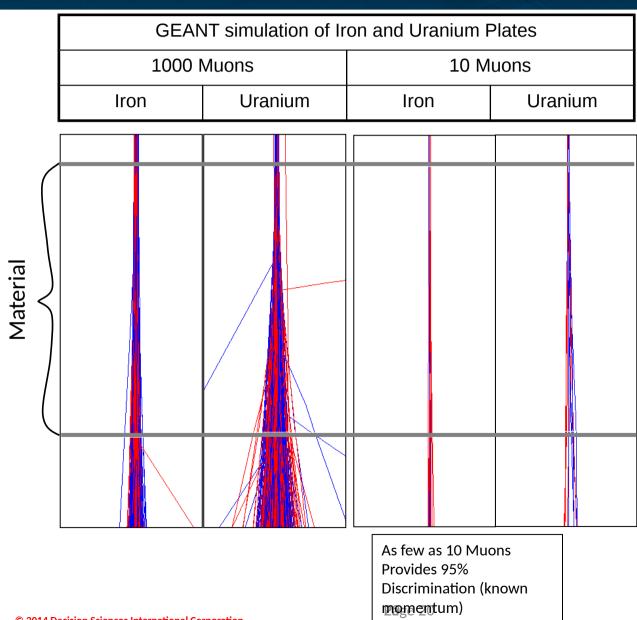
## Multiple Coulomb Scattering



$$\frac{dN}{d\theta_x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\theta_0} e^{-\frac{\theta_x^2}{2\theta_0^2}}$$

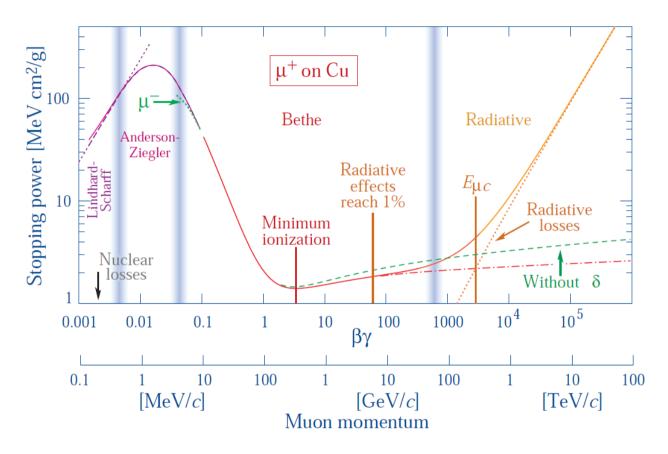
$$\theta_0 = \frac{13.5}{p\beta} \sqrt{\frac{x}{X_0}}$$





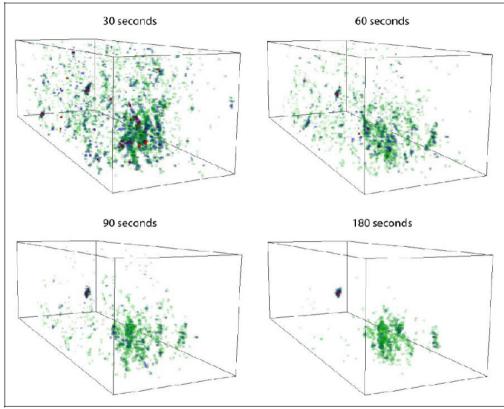
© 2014 Decision Sciences International Corporation

## Muons passing through (or stopping) in matter



Energy loss 
$$\left\langle -\frac{dE}{dx} \right\rangle = Kz^2 \frac{Z}{A} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2 W_{\text{max}}}{I^2} - \beta^2 - \frac{\delta(\beta \gamma)}{2} \right]$$

## Actual imaging data (how they really do)



Source: Decision Sciences International Corporation, April 2010

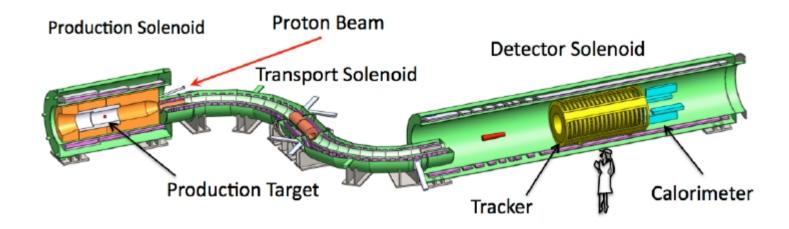
**Notes:** This figure shows scans of a car at various times using actual data. The dark spot "floating" at the back of the image is high-Z material and is highlighted in red.

- Clearly the longer the exposure the better, but a container full of rock needs to be scanned quickly.
- Realistically, this takes 10+ min for a loaded vehicle –a few percent false positives /47 are not acceptable.

## Using beams of muons we can have roughly any intensity we need

Key observation: time ~ 1/intensity<sup>δ</sup>

(note  $\delta$  is some power likely between 1/2 and 1)

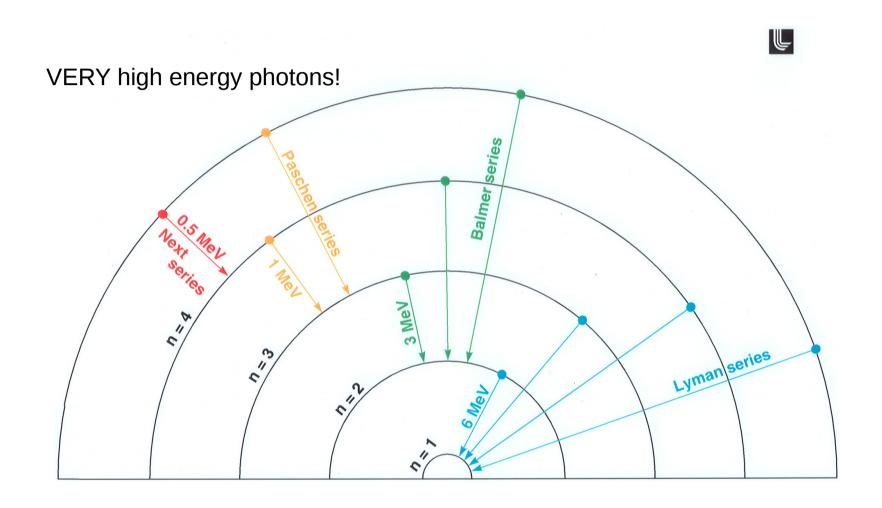


 So use a muon accelerator to turn up intensity (ultimately will want to design smaller muon sources)

## What can we do with $\mu$ ?

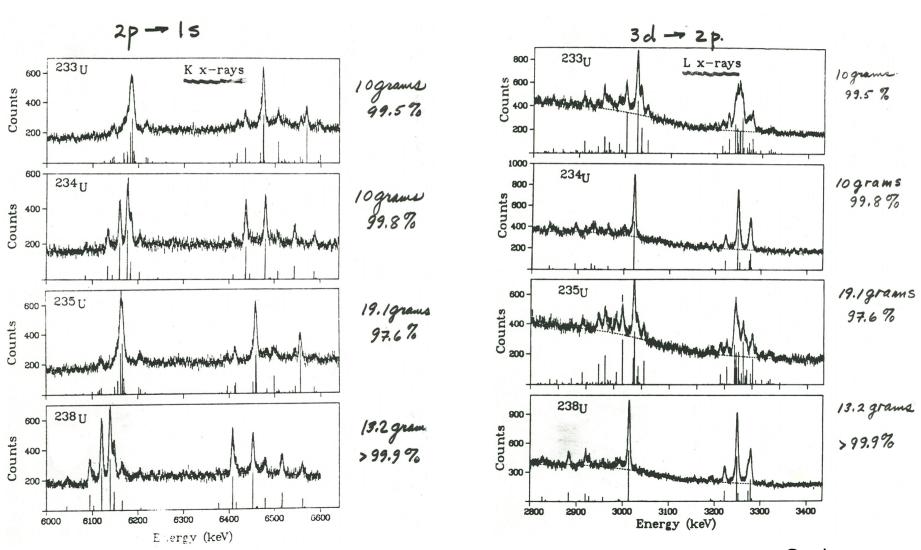
- Tomography (fancy word for picture taking)
  - Find the really dense materials, like Uranium, via scattering, though also lead, tin, etc. scatter too
- Isotope fingerprinting
  - Uniquely identify higher than trace amounts of interesting materials, e.g., <sup>235</sup>U vs. <sup>238</sup>U vs. <sup>208</sup>Pb etc.
  - When muons capture they induce characteristic photon emission energies (from "tomic levels")
  - They also fall into the nucleus, emitting more photons
  - High-Z materials also fission (don't turn up the intensity too high! Something we'll have to watch out for...)

## Muons for isotope fingerprinting



Muon mass multiplies energy levels by a factor of 207!

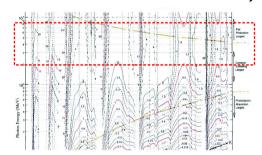
## U spectra measured in 1984 by John Zumbro w/ LANSE



## 2 modes of operation: fingerprinting or faster tomography

#### • Needed:

- Accelerator parameters (muon energies, timing, etc.)
- Detector ideas (large scale, 100 keV resolution for 6 MeV photons)
  - George Chapline (LLNL) looking at NaI at RAL
  - Would like to move to LaBr, Sil
- Materials database (for fingerprinting)
  - Essential for real applications
  - Need U, Pu, U<sub>x</sub>O<sub>y</sub>, UZr, etc.
  - Also need Pb, W, PbO, high-W steel, and everything else
- HEALTH PHYSICS -will the needed intensity kill you?



6 MeV has reduced  $\gamma$  absorption so signal may escape shielding

## Health Physics: radiation safety

- What happens to someone if they are hiding in the container?
- The answer to this question is a clear go/no go point.
  - If we cannot raise the intensity high enough to beat the use of natural atmospheric muons, then this program will never start
- A good solution here is a dual-mode system using tomography for bulk pointing, and concentrated muon capture for fingerprinting in volumes w/ high-Z material.

#### What we need 1st

- Low energy muons (what can we get E vs.  $\mathcal{L}$ ?)
  - What really matters is captured  $\mu/s$  across various high-Z materials
  - Minimum interesting  $10^5/s$ , want  $10^7-10^8/s$
- Confirm muon atomic spectra on interesting materials
  - Starting with Pb, W, <sup>238</sup>U
  - Begin to build a database of materials
  - Test detector technologies for 1-10 MeV gammas

## Some applications for today

- 1) Muons for security
  - A nuclear security challenge
  - Muon tomography
  - Muon-induced gamma spectroscopy
  - What needs to be done
- 2) Muons for radiation damaged materials (Terry)
- 3) Muons for lightly doped semiconductors (Hock)

### **Nuclear Materials**

- Fuel
  - Radiation Damage
  - Corrosion
  - Pellet Cladding Interaction
  - Fission gas release and swelling
- Beyond Design Basis Accidents
  - High Temperature
  - Fuel Cladding Reactions
  - Hydrogen Generation

#### **Problems**

- Radiation Effects Play a Major Role in Defining the Physicochemical Properties of Nuclear Fuels
- Incredibly Difficult To Irradiate Nuclear Fuels In a Controlled Manner
- In Reactor
  - Research Reactors Do Not Run 24/7
- Rabbits
  - Short Exposures

### In Reactor Irradiation

Cycle #	Cycle Start	Outage	Operating	Lobe Powers <sup>a</sup>			
	Date	Days	Days	NW	NE	SW	SE
140A	9/29/07	14	49	18.0	18.0	23.0	23.0
140B	12/1/07	20.5	35.6	18.0	17.7	23.7	23.0
141A	1/26/08	9.6	32.4	18.0	18.0	23.0	23.0
142A	3/8/08	57	48	23.0	18.0	24.8	23.0
142B	6/21/08	18	52	23.0	18.0	25.0	25.0
143A	8/30/08	21	56	18.0	18.0	25.0	25.0
143B	11/15/08	21	56	18.0	18.0	25.0	25.0
144A	1/31/09	14	49	18.0	18.0	23.0	25.0
144B	4/4/09	14	49	18.0	18.0	23.0	23.0
145A	6/6/09	56	56	18.0	18.0	23.0	25.0
145B	9/26/08	14	49	18.0	18.0	23.0	25.0
146A	11/28/09	14	56	18.0	18.0	23.0	25.0
146B	2/6/10	14	49	23.0	18.0	23.0	25.0
147A	4/10/10	49	49	23.0	18.0	23.0	23.0
147B	7/17/10	14	14	18.0	18.0	50.0	30.0
148A	8/14/10	7	56	18.0	18.0	23.0	23.0
148B	10/16/10	14	49	18.0	18.0	23.0	23.0
149A	12/18/10	14	56	18.0	18.0	23.0	23.0

a. Powers listed for Northwest (NW), Northeast (NE), Southwest (SW), and Southeast (SE) reactor lobes

Research reactors have a short cyclic schedule<sup>33/47</sup>

#### In Reactor Irradiaton

- Temperature and Irradiation Cycles Vary
  - Samples Undergo Thermal Cycling
  - Some Instrumented Capsules That Attempt to Control or Measure Temperature
  - Big Advantage Higher Flux
    - $4.4 \times 10^{14} \text{ n/cm}^2\text{-s}$
  - Long Irradiation Times

### Rabbit

- Pneumatic Tubes
  - Short Irradiation Times (3600 s)
  - No Temperature Control
  - Rudimentary Instrumentation
  - Lower Flux
    - $10^{12}$   $10^{14}$  n/cm<sup>2</sup>-s

## Why Muons

- Controlled Experiments
  - Put an Advanced Fuel in a Temperature Controlled System
  - Irradiate With Muons
  - Observe Damage From Fission

#### Muon-induced Fission

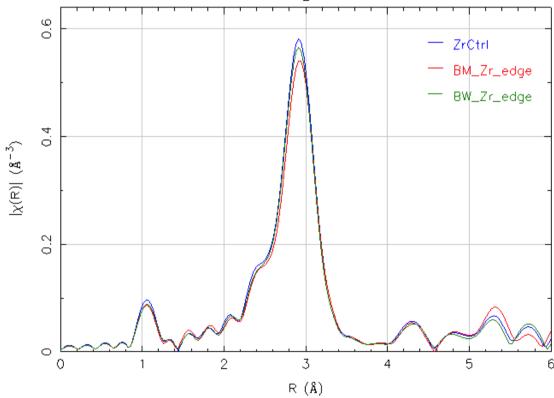
- Fission Probability
  - Fission Yield 0.142 per muon
  - Comparable to 0.1 per thermal neutron
    - S. Ahmad, et al, Physics Letters 92B, 83 (1980).

Table 4.15
Basic parameters for fission and Auger events for muon stops in heavy atoms

Nuclide	Lifetime (ns)	Prompt/ delayed fission	Total fissions per $\mu$ stop	Prompt/ delayed neutrons	$v_p$ (prompt fission)	$v_d$ (delayed fission)	Auger neutrons (%, per stop)
<sup>207</sup> Pb	75.4 (10)						$\sim 5^{\rm a}$
<sup>209</sup> Bi	73.5 (4)		0.000042 (7)				$7(2)^{a}$
<sup>232</sup> Th	77.3 (3)	0.05(1)	0.02(1)	0.056 (10)	2.4	3.6	$10(2)^{b}$
$^{233}U$	68.9 (3)	0.201(1)	0.48 (13)	,	2.4	3.6	( )
$^{234}U$	70.6 (2)	0.177(1)	0.31 (8)		2.5	3.7	
$^{235}U$	72.2 (2)	0.125(1)	0.31 (8)	0.11	2.5	3.7	18 (6) <sup>b</sup>
$^{236}U$	74.3 (3)	0.186(2)	0.20 (5)		2.6	3.8	
$^{237}U$		. ,	$0.17(5)^{c}$		2.9	4.1	
$^{238}U$	77.1 (3)	0.088(1)	0.14(4)	0.08	3.1	4.3	$15.4 (17)^{b}$
<sup>237</sup> Np	69.8 (2)	0.281(1)	0.54 (17)		2.9	4.1	· /
<sup>239</sup> Pu	70.1 (7)	0.20(5)	0.8(3)	0.16(2)	3.2	4.4	$\sim 5^{\rm b}$
<sup>242</sup> Pu	75.4 (9)	0.21(1)	0.6(2)	0.17	3.4	4.6	
<sup>244</sup> Pu	78.2 (4)	0.26(1)	0.6(2)		3.4	4.6	

### **Uranium Metal Fuels: UZr**

- Higher Thermal Conductivity
  - Reduces likelihood of meltdown



- 10<sup>13</sup> n/cm<sup>2</sup>-s for 1800 s (Rabbit)
- Expect loss of coordination due to radiation damage

### Damage Mechanisms

- Goal is to understand the damage mechanisms
  - Too many confounding factors
- Muon Irradiation Can Provide Better Control of Parameters
  - Muon Flux of 10<sup>8</sup>-10<sup>10</sup> muons/cm<sup>2</sup>-s Would Provide Useful Information With Month to Year Exposures

#### What we need 1st

- Low energy muons (what can we get E vs.  $\mathcal{L}$ ?)
  - What really matters is captured  $\mu/s$  in U
  - Minimum interesting  $10^5/s$ , want  $10^7-10^8/s$  or more
- Low temperature controlled exposures
  - Distinguish temperature vs. radiation effects
  - Rate effects on stress formation (controlled by exposure)
- Then move on to cladding materials, structural steel for core supports, etc.

## Some applications for today

- 1) Muons for security
  - A nuclear security challenge
  - Muon tomography
  - Muon-induced gamma spectroscopy
  - What needs to be done
- 2) Muons for radiation damaged materials (Terry)
- 3) Muons for lightly doped semiconductors (Hock)

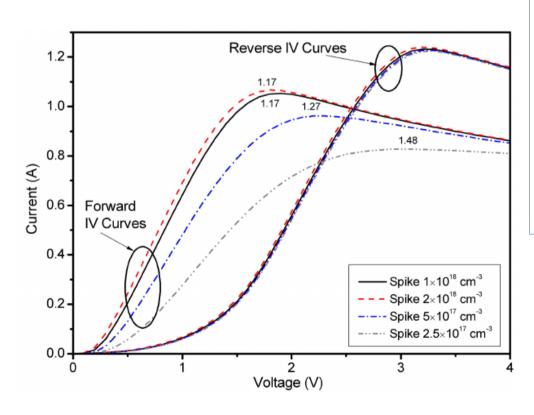
- What effect would captured muons have on semiconductor devices doped with a few mid to high-Z atoms?
  - The muons should neutralize hole carriers (at least partially), but will not change the crystalline structure.
  - What does that do to electrical properties?
- Can we use these temporary muon captures to learn about inner band gaps structures?

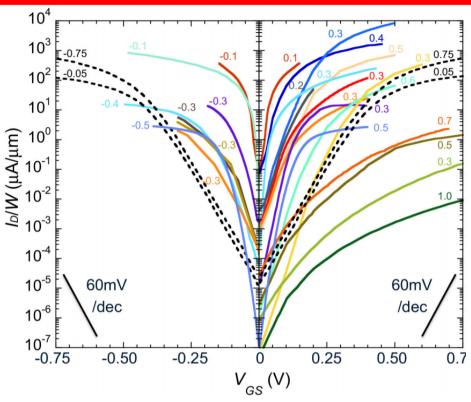
#### **Electrical Devices Intro**



Response per  $\Delta V = 1 V$  can be >  $10^9$ 

- Over a huge variety of material compositions
- Similar device performance
- Robust devices=many I-V other cycles
  - High reproducibility





Lu and Seabaugh, *J. Electron. Dev. Soc.* 2014, 10.1109/JEDS.2014.2326622

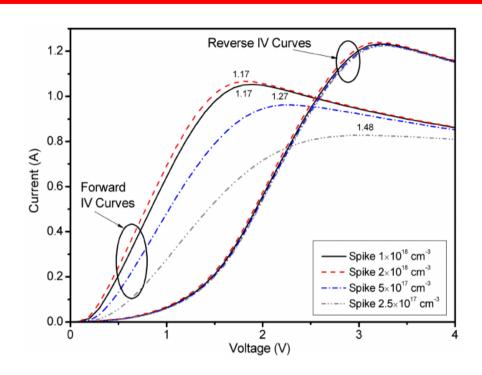
Typical response to dopant concentrations

- Change in mobility
- I-V and C-V curves very sensitive to change in dopant concentrations

10.1117/12.830296

#### Electrical Devices, continued



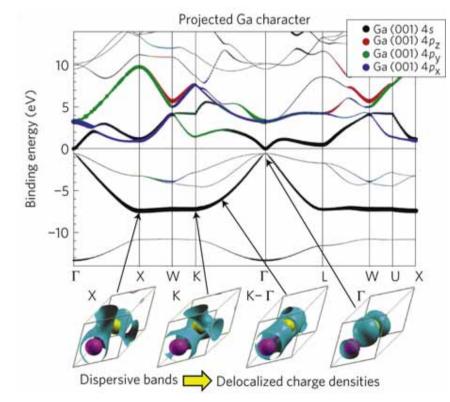


Can muon irradiation experimentally modify dopant concentrations?

- Quench p-doped sites?
- 'extra' n-dopants?

#### In GaAs material

- Heavy Z elements
- Can we use muons to change dopant concentration?
- Effect on dopant levels, carrier mobility, etc?



Nature Mat. 2011, 10.1038/nmat3089

#### Initial Experiment, controls



1e15 acceptors per cm³ to 1e17 acceptors per cm³ in lightly doped semiconductor 1e-15 cm³, in 100nm² by 40nm single device = 4 dopant atoms in a device

It is now possible to fabricate devices with 1-1000 atoms as dopants.

Possible initial experiment:

verify effect as a function of Z (capture probability)

- Equal doping level with high and low-z dopants
- High Z devices with multiple doping concentrations

'Broader Impact'

- What do muons do to electrical properties?
  - Carrier concentration
  - Carrier mobility
  - Interaction with 2-D electron gasses(?)
- New tool for characterizing materials/devices?

Aside: These 100x100 nm devices fit in an array on a single chip, so really you do  $10^4 - 10^6$  experiments simultaneously.

Up to tera-HZ switching can be used to observe turn off/on of dopant effect while muon is in place/decays.

#### What we need 1st

- Low energy muons (what can we get E vs.  $\mathcal{L}$ ?)
  - What really matters is captured  $\mu/s$  for a wide range of Z (from  $_{92}Pb$  down to  $_{14}Si)$
  - Minimum interesting  $10^5/s$ , want  $10^7-10^8/s$  or more
  - Nearly continuous exposure desirable
- Higher beam density pays large dividends
  - Semiconductor devices are small -activate as many as possible
  - $1 \text{ cm}^2$  is OK, but  $< 1 \text{ mm}^2$  or smaller beams allows for much broader range of device applications
  - Ultimately want to aim toward few  $\mu$ m-sized concentrated beams to activate more sites/device.

#### **Conclusions**

- There a push to address broad accelerator applications across the DOE lab complex.
- Muons can address national needs in:
  - Nuclear security
  - Nuclear reactor materials improvements
  - New semiconductor materials
- All of these are best served by high-intensity (10 $^8/s$ ), low-energy (<100 MeV?), focused ( $\mu$ m) muon sources.
- All would benefit from initial lower-luminosity (10<sup>6</sup>/s) demonstration experiments.