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National User Facility

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Enabling NNSA and DOE Missions:  
The Los Alamos Neutron Science Center  
National User Facility

NNSA Defense Programs Seminar  
August 12, 2015

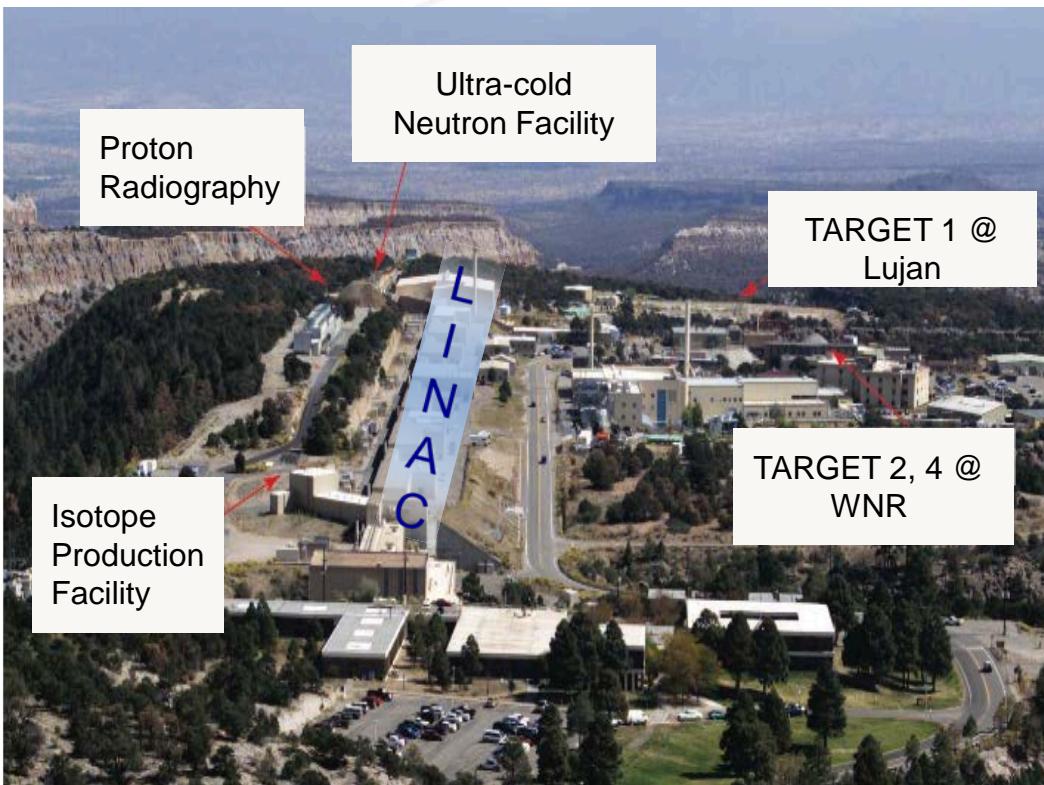
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Deputy Associate Director Experimental Physical Sciences  
Mark Chadwick  
Deputy Associate Director Weapons Physics (Acting)



# Outline

- Facility description and recent user program highlights
- Operation performance
- LINAC Risk Mitigation update
- Future 5-year planning
- NNSA programmatic impacts: Mark Chadwick

# The LANSCE LINAC drives six end-stations or targets for a broad spectrum of fundamental and applied programmatic and scientific research



Highly-flexible beam delivery to multiple facilities with 24-7 operation

## Proton Radiography & Microscopy

- *High explosives*
- *Shock physics*
- *Materials in extremes*
- *Hydrodynamics*

## Un-moderated neutron production (T2 & T4 – WNR)

- *High energy nuclear physics ( $n,xn$ );( $n,f$ )*
- *Neutron radiography*
- *Neutron and proton irradiation effects on materials and semiconductors*

## Moderated neutron production (T1 @ Lujan Center)

- *Low energy nuclear physics ( $n,\gamma$ )*
- *Neutron scattering – material science*
- *Neutron radiography*

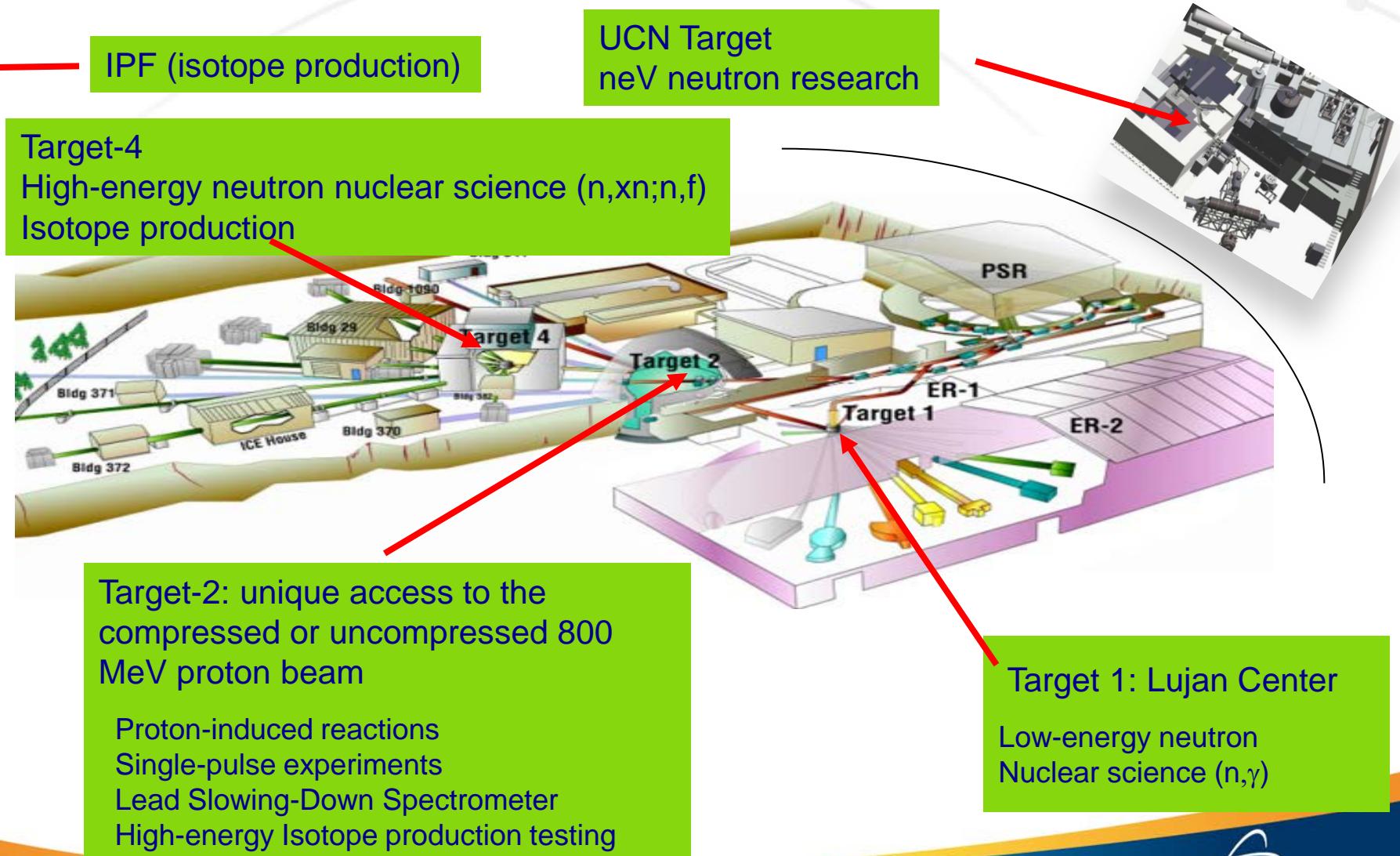
## Isotope Production

- *Nuclear medicine*
- *National security isotopes*

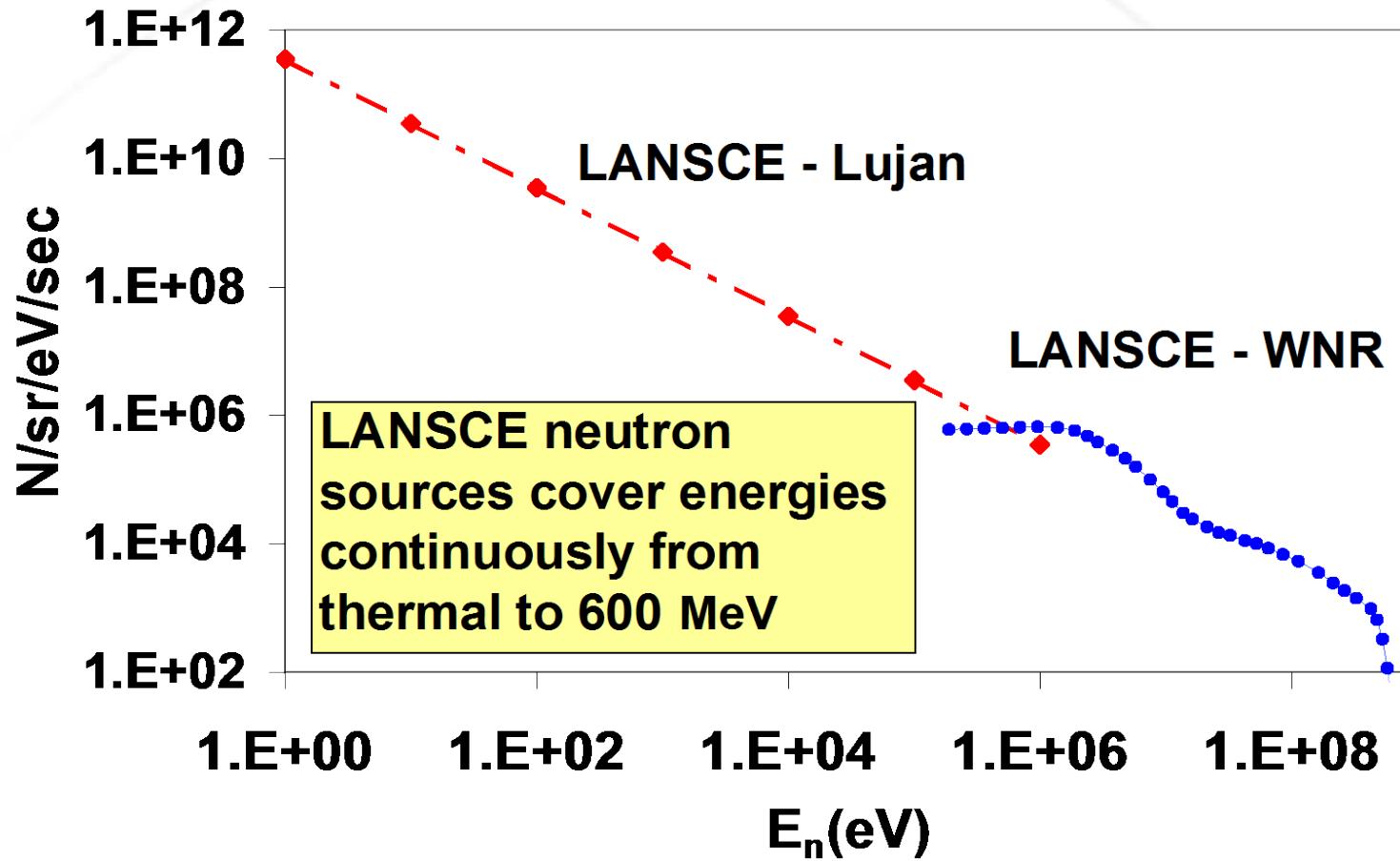
## Ultra-cold neutron production

- *Fundamental nuclear physics*

# LANSCE Nuclear Science Research Capabilities employs 4 neutron spallation targets

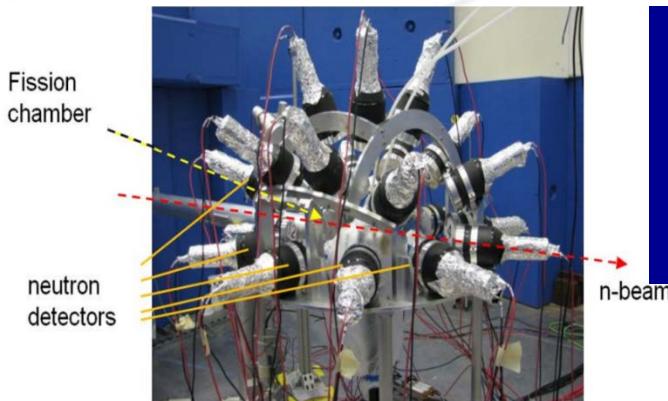


## Only LANSCE has the spectral range to address the full suite of NNSA-DP research



# The un-moderated (high-energy) neutron sources at WNR directly inform NNSA programmatic milestones

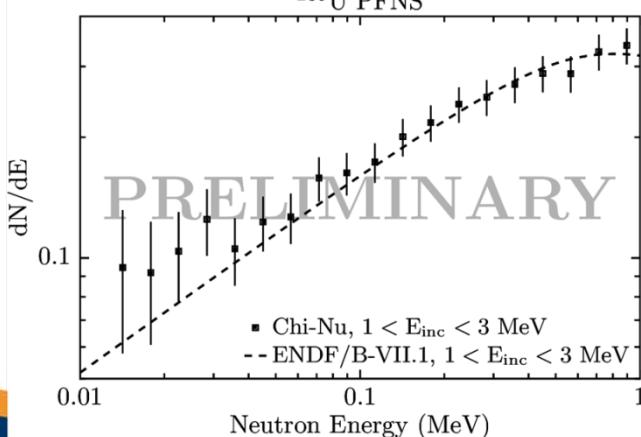
## Chi-Nu at the LANSCE (WNR)



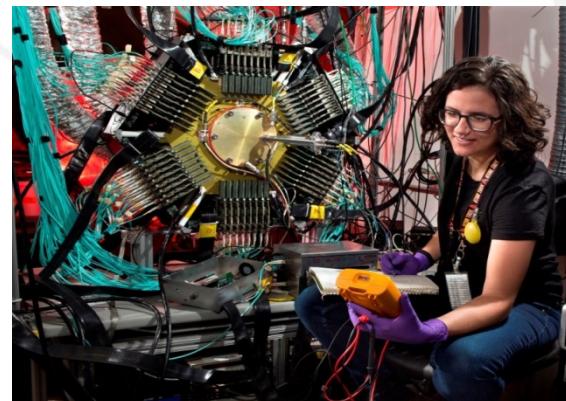
**Both Chi-Nu and TPC experiments need 120 Hz LINAC operation to meet programmatic milestones**

**Goal:** Precise measurement of  $^{239}\text{Pu}$  and  $^{235}\text{U}$  prompt fission neutron spectra in energy regions where the data are poorly known

**2014 run cycle:** The  $^{235}\text{U}$  neutron spectrum in the energy range 0.01 to 1 MeV was measured



## The TPC at the LANSCE (WNR)



Graduate student Verena Kleinrath

**Goal:** Measure the Pu-239 fission cross section with the unprecedented accuracy of 1%

**2014 run cycle:** Production data on Pu-239 as a ratio to U-235 was collected yielding a first, preliminary cross section

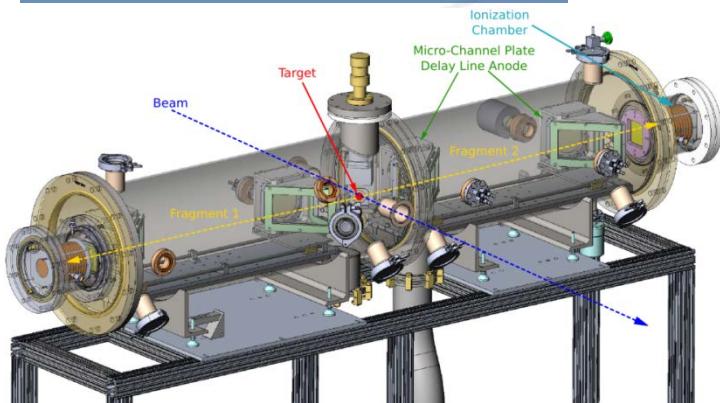
64 Nuclear Science proposals were completed in the 2014 run cycle – with a 2.6 oversubscription

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# The moderated neutron source at the Lujan Center is used to develop new techniques to improve weapons performance predictions

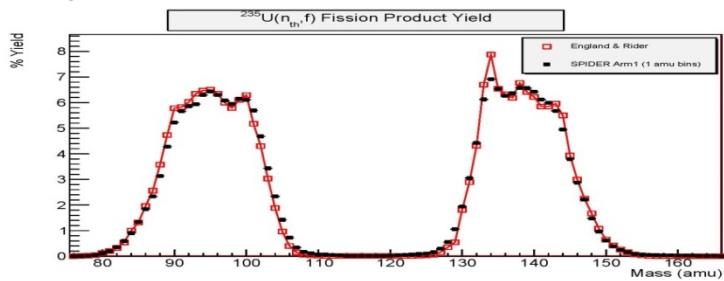
SPIDER at the LANSCE (LUJAN)



## Goal: Measure the energy dependence of fission product yields (FPY)

*Fission product yields are used to analyze nuclear test data, and help in evaluating weapons performance*

**2014 run cycle:** Fission product yields in U-235 and Pu-239 were measured for thermal neutrons. Instrument performance was evaluated in a technical project review, and as a result the project received funding to build full system



DANCE at the LANSCE (Lujan)



## Goal: measure properties of short-lived isomers in $^{236}\text{U}$ for NPF goals

**2014 run cycle:** New high-performance data acquisition and detectors installed to enable measuring actinide isomers in high-fluence environments in the important 1keV to 1Mev range

64 Nuclear Science proposals were completed in the 2014 run cycle – with a 2.9 over-subscription

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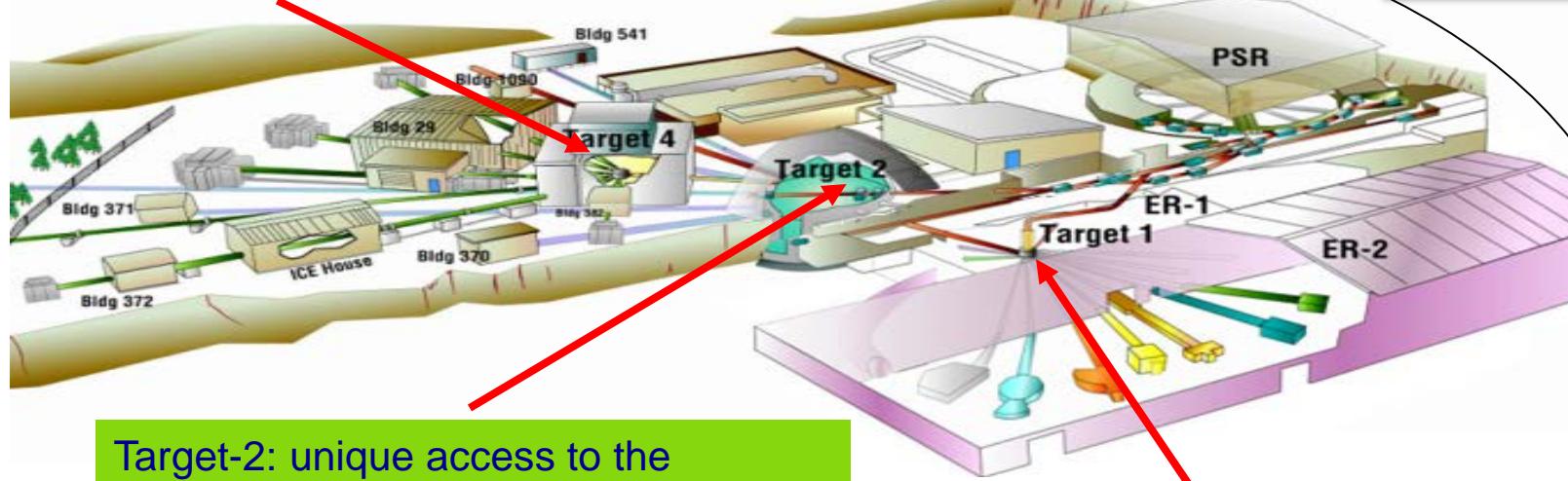
Operated by Los Alamos National Security, LLC for the U.S. Department of Energy's NNSA

# LANSCE Materials Science Research uses protons and neutrons for irradiation, probes, and radiography

IPF (p,n irradiation)

Target-4 (unmoderated neutrons)  
Semiconductor cosmic ray irradiation

pRad  
Dynamic and extreme  
materials research

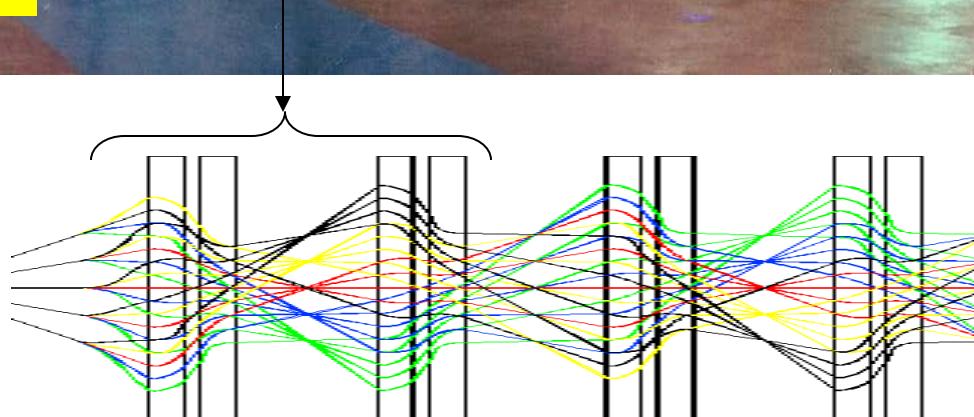
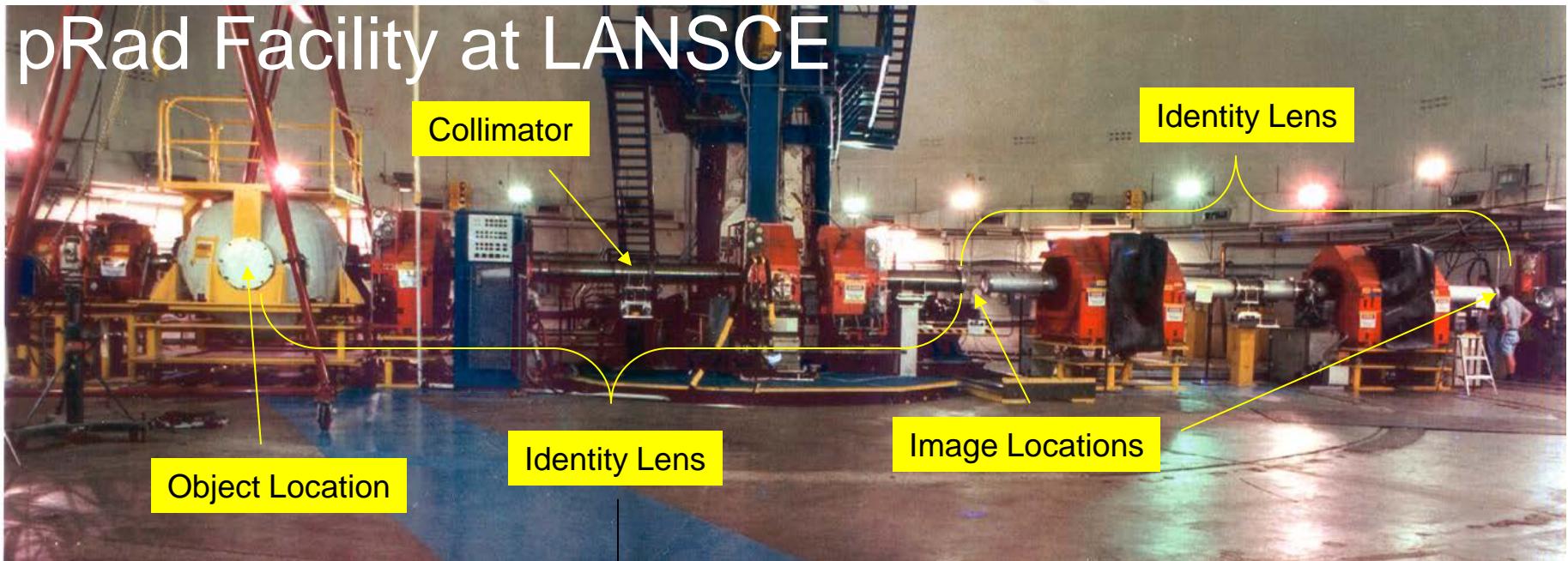


Target-2: unique access to the  
compressed or uncompressed 800  
MeV proton beam

- (p,n) Material irradiation
- NRS dynamic materials

Lujan Center (moderated neutrons)  
• Neutron scattering  
• Neutron radiography

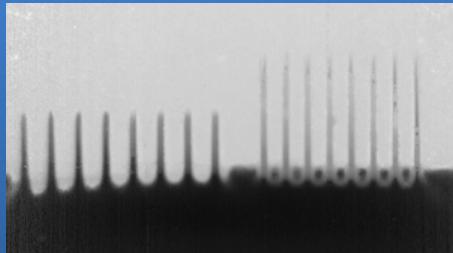
Proton microscopy (radiography) was developed at Los Alamos and has developed into an important and unique probe for dynamic materials research



Slide 9

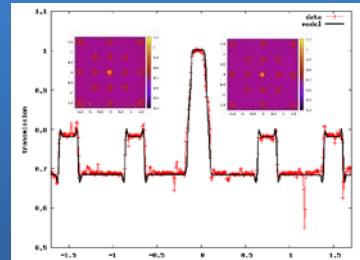
# Proton Radiography continues to expand its role in stockpile stewardship through verification, calibration, and validation of physics-based models and codes

## Ejecta



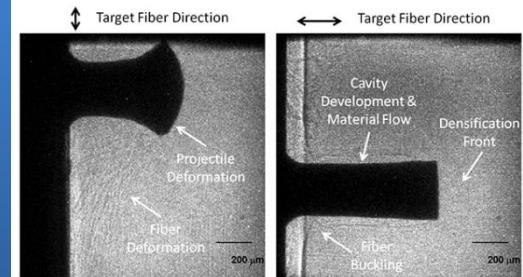
RMI-hydro codes

## Radiograph interpretation



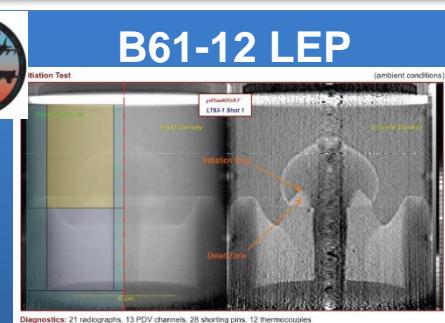
BIE analysis-Molli

## Penetration mechanics



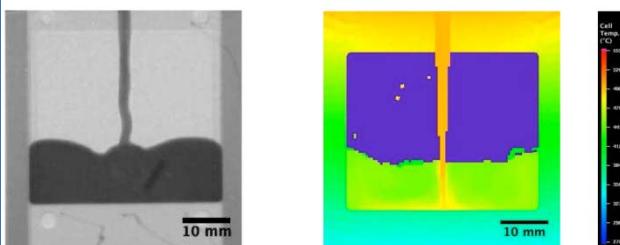
Supporting DOD

## B61-12 LEP



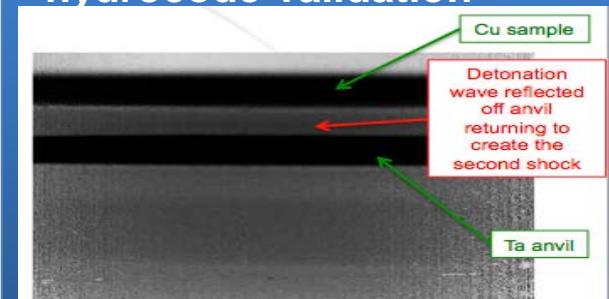
PBX 9502 initiation behavior

## AM-Casting



TRUCHAS code

## Red-Sage – Subcrit hydrocode validation



2014 run cycle was over-subscribed by 2.6

# NNSA-focused materials researchers use the moderated neutron source at Lujan to develop new analysis techniques for stockpile materials

SMARTS at the LANSCE (LUJAN)

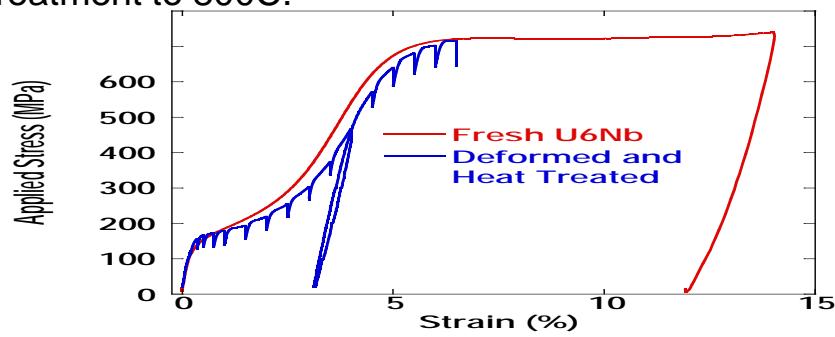


HIPPO at the LANSCE (Lujan)



**Goal:** Lay scientific groundwork for re-use of existing U6Nb parts

**2014 run cycle:** Measurements with LLNL on pre-deformed U6Nb demonstrate that the microstructure (and thus ductility) is recovered by a simple heat treatment to 800C.



**Goal:** High pressure and temperature EOS of U6Nb

**2014 run cycle:**

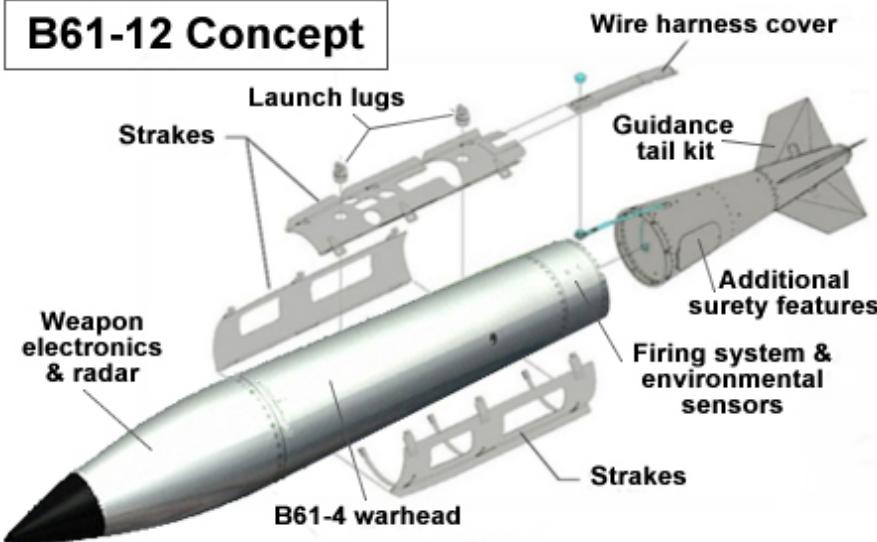
- Bulk modulus of U6Nb ~10% higher than uranium
- Phase stability depends on hydrostatic pressure.
- Nb stable in solution at lower temperature and increased pressure.

106 Material Science proposals were completed in the 2014 run cycle – with a 2.9 oversubscription

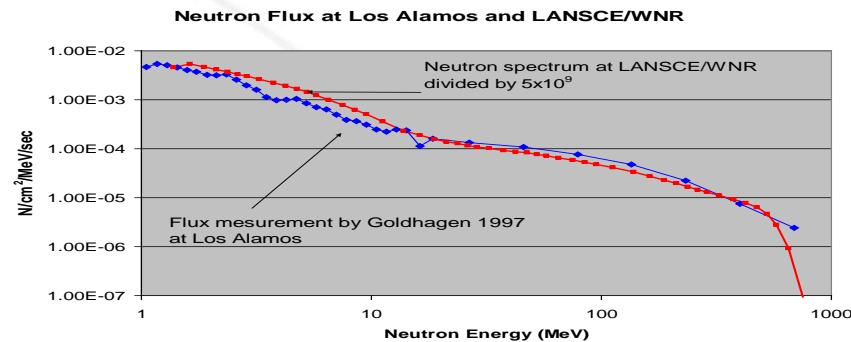
# WNR produces an intense neutronic cosmic ray spectrum for testing electronics for single-event upset response

## B61-mod12 Tail Kit Assembly Tests at WNR

### B61-12 Concept



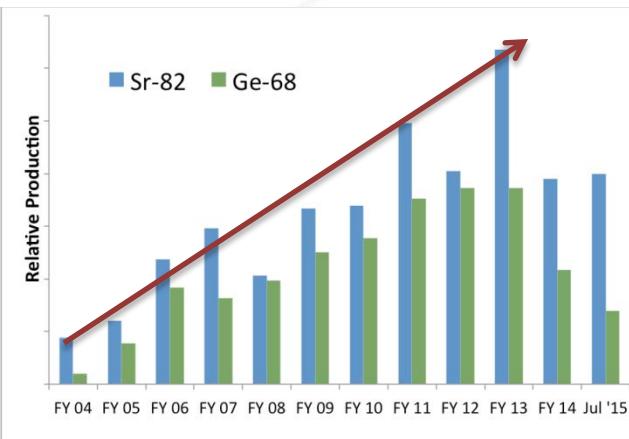
Federation of American Scientists, 2011



- All electronics/avionics suffer from neutron interactions which can cause failures
- WNR has a long history of performing critical testing for the avionics industry
- In the upcoming run cycle Boeing will test components of the B-61 tail kit guidance system in the WNR neutron beam
- 3 hours of beam will give the equivalent of 1 million hours of cosmic-ray bombardment

## Meeting Domestic Need for Medical Isotopes

LANSCE production of Sr-82 for cardiac imaging impacts ~ 30,000 patients/ month.



LANL is the largest domestic supplier of <sup>82</sup>Sr

Demand continues to grow

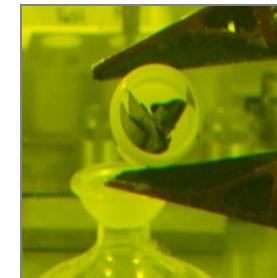
- Successful test of Rb metal targets in FY15 demonstrated a 1.4x increase in <sup>82</sup>Sr yield.
- Plan to implement at the end of FY16.



**Goal: Continue to meet growing need for imaging isotopes; LRM will benefit reliability of supply**

## Cancer Therapy: Ac-225 Tri-lab Research Effort

- <sup>225</sup>Ac ( $t_{1/2}$  10 d) is a promising isotope for targeted alpha-based cancer therapy, but supply is limited.
- Conducted small-scale production irradiations at LANSCE.
- Will continue to increase production with improvements and evaluation of product and alternatives.



## New radionuclides for therapy and imaging

- <sup>119</sup>Sb is an Auger emitter ( $t_{1/2}$  38.5 h) of interest for therapy;
- <sup>44</sup>Ti ( $t_{1/2}$  58.9 a) as a generator for the PET isotope <sup>44</sup>Sc ( $t_{1/2}$  3.92 h); produced record 5 mCi of <sup>44</sup>Ti in a single target

**Goal: Build diverse portfolio of radionuclides for medical applications**

## Nuclear Data & New Production Routes

- LANSCE is the only North American facility actively measuring charged particle excitation functions at proton energies from 60 – 800 MeV (IPF and WNR).
- Produce isotopes including  $^{73}\text{As}$  for experiments at **Lujan Center**.
- Investigating production routes for radionuclides (e.g.,  $^{236\text{m/g}}\text{Np}$ ,  $^{236}\text{Pu}$ ) needed as IDMS standards for national security.
- Anticipated new start to investigate  $^{230}\text{U}$  production as a generator for alpha therapy isotopes.
- Exploring secondary neutron flux at the Isotope Production Facility (IPF) as a novel means of production of radionuclides and generation of nuclear data.

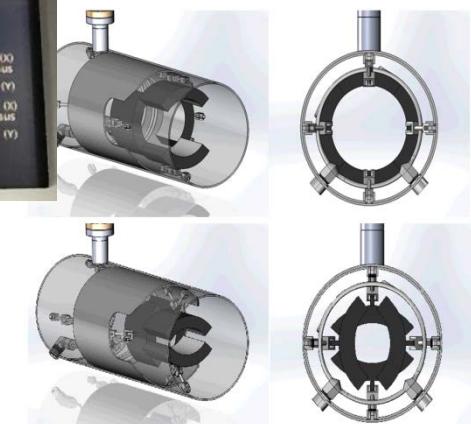
**Goal: Provide needed data, evaluation and samples to address questions in the isotope production, national security and nuclear data communities**

## Accelerator Improvement Project

- The first DOE-SC AIP project at LANSCE in over 20 years was approved (8/3/15) to enhance the IPF beam transport system (\$5.1M effort).
- Improved beam-target diagnostics will increase reliability and reduce risk to the facility.



**Improved raster distributes beam energy over target**



**Novel adjustable collimator concept allows large aperture for production and small for R&D targets**

**Goal: Reduced operational risk and major improvements to production and research capability at IPF**

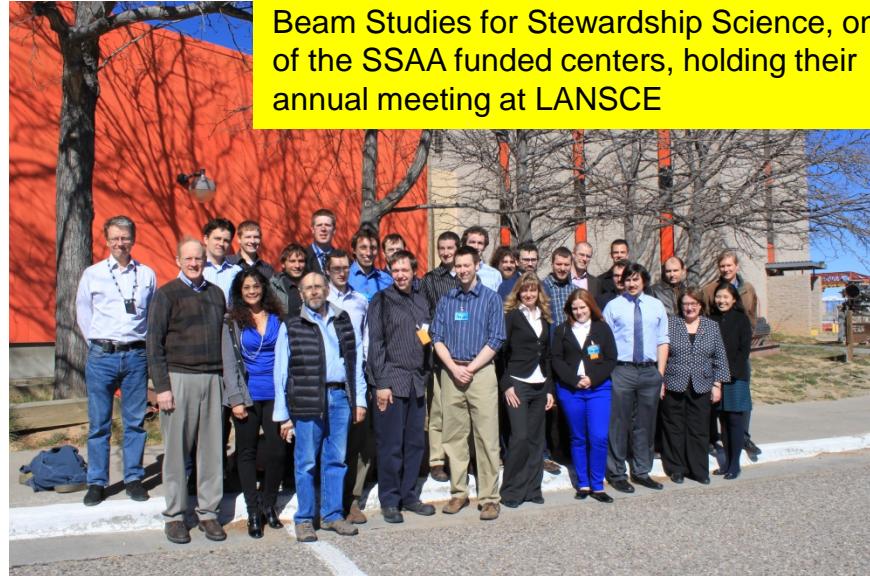
# LANSCE is an important portal for national and international collaboration and recruitment

## Example: Stockpile Stewardship Academic Alliance (SSAA)

- The SSAA program funds academic research in the areas of materials under extreme conditions, low-energy nuclear science, radiochemistry, and high-energy density physics
- Six experimental campaigns, funded by the SSAA program, ran in the 2014 LANSCE run cycle
- Experiments are planned to continue in the 2015 run cycle, and one additional SSAA-funded collaboration has requested beam time

**36 academic institutions utilized Lujan and WNR during the FY 14 run cycle**

The Center of Excellence for Radioactive Ion Beam Studies for Stewardship Science, one of the SSAA funded centers, holding their annual meeting at LANSCE



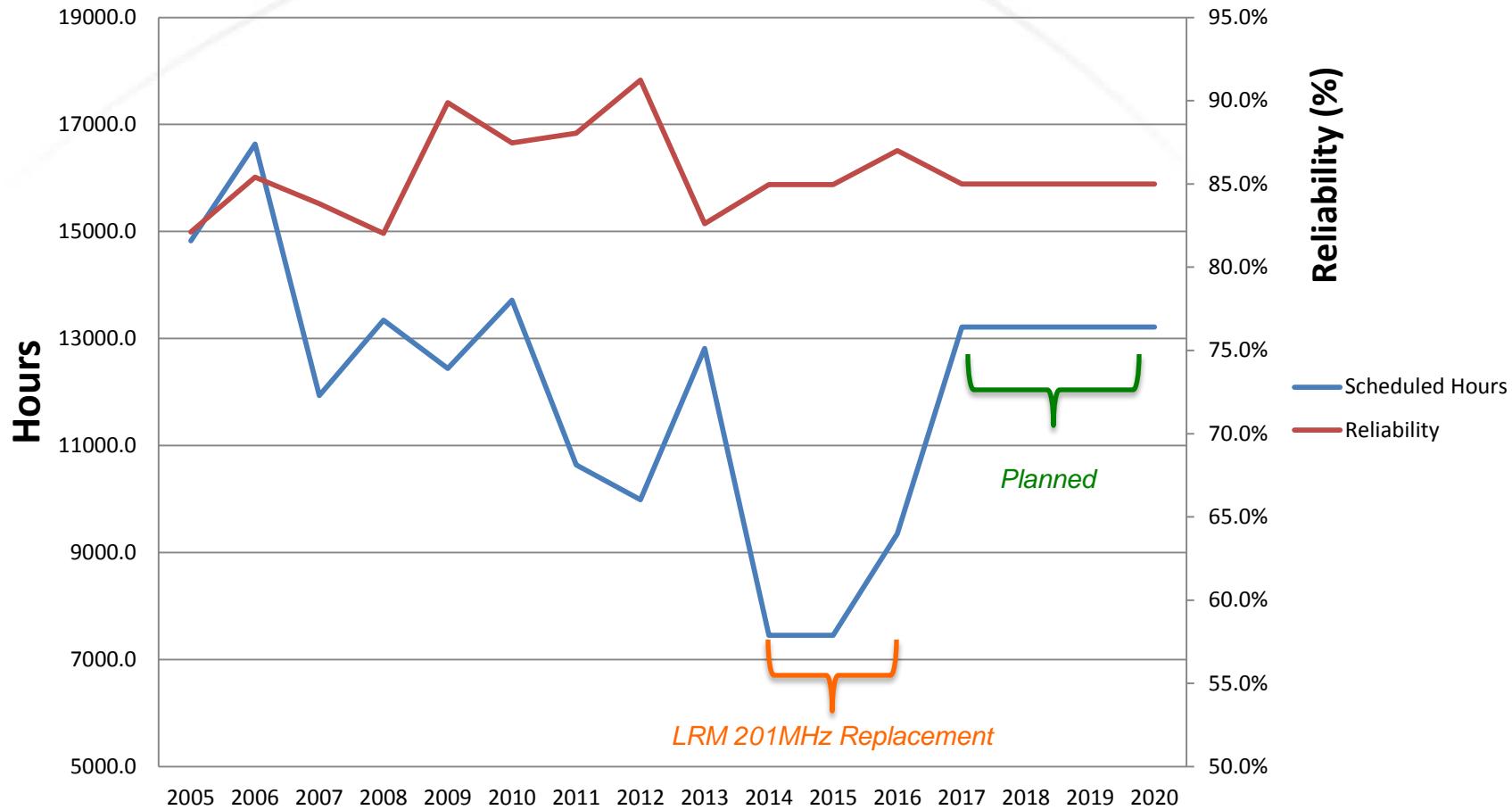
Brett Manning, then a SSAA funded student, discussing his research with Eric Brown, the P-23 group leader.



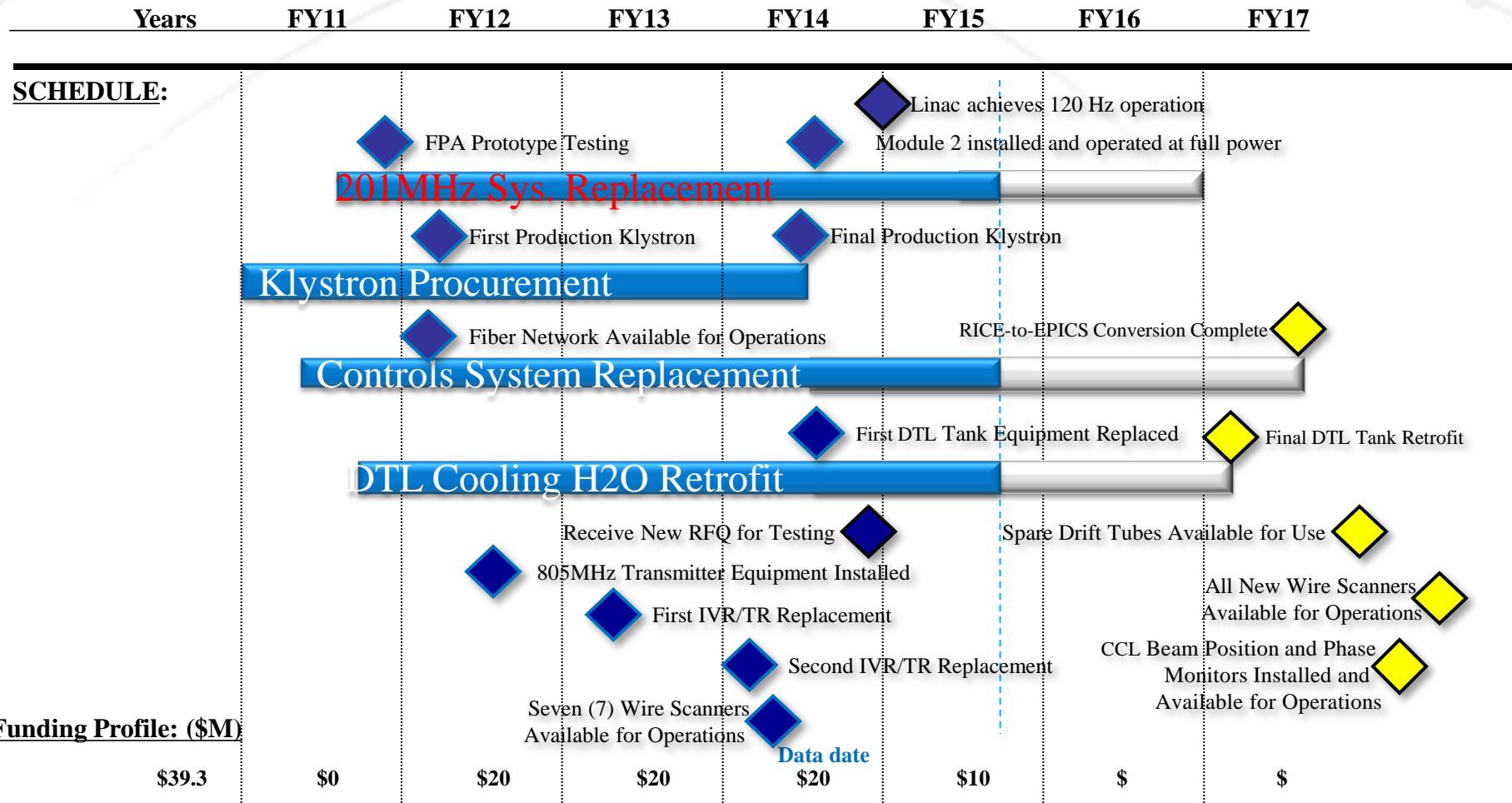
## Outline

- Facility description and recent user program highlights
- Operation performance
- Linac Risk Mitigation update
- Future 5-year planning
- NNSA programmatic impacts: Mark Chadwick

# LANSC has achieved excellent operational reliability for all facilities over the past decade with a return to full production in CY17



## **Linac Risk Mitigation activities have completed major milestones on the road to sustainable operations**



## LINAC returned to 120 Hz operation during FY15 run



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# High Power Amplifier Installed in Module 2 enabled regaining design performance at 120 Hz in FY14



*Module 2 High Power  
201.25 MHz amplifier*

# In addition to the 201 MHz RF success, a wide variety of new LRM-funded systems has operated successfully in the FY14 run cycle



New Klystrons



New Modulators



New DTL water  
Instrumentation  
and piping



New DTL pumps  
and control valves



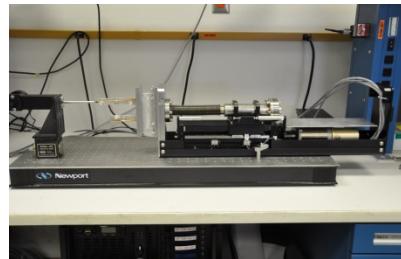
Refurbished Transformer  
Rectifiers



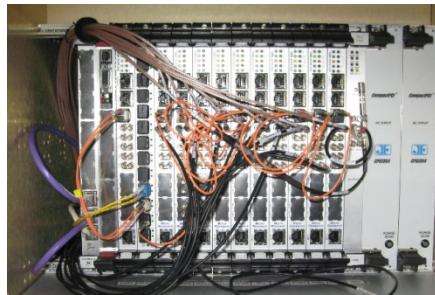
Beam Position and  
Phase Measurement  
Sensor



New Industrial  
Controls



Wire Scanner Actuator



Master Pattern  
Generator for New  
Timing System



Refurbished Inductrol  
Voltage Regulators

**The second High Power 201.25 MHz Power amplifier was installed in FY 2015 and will allow sustainable operation at 120 Hz**



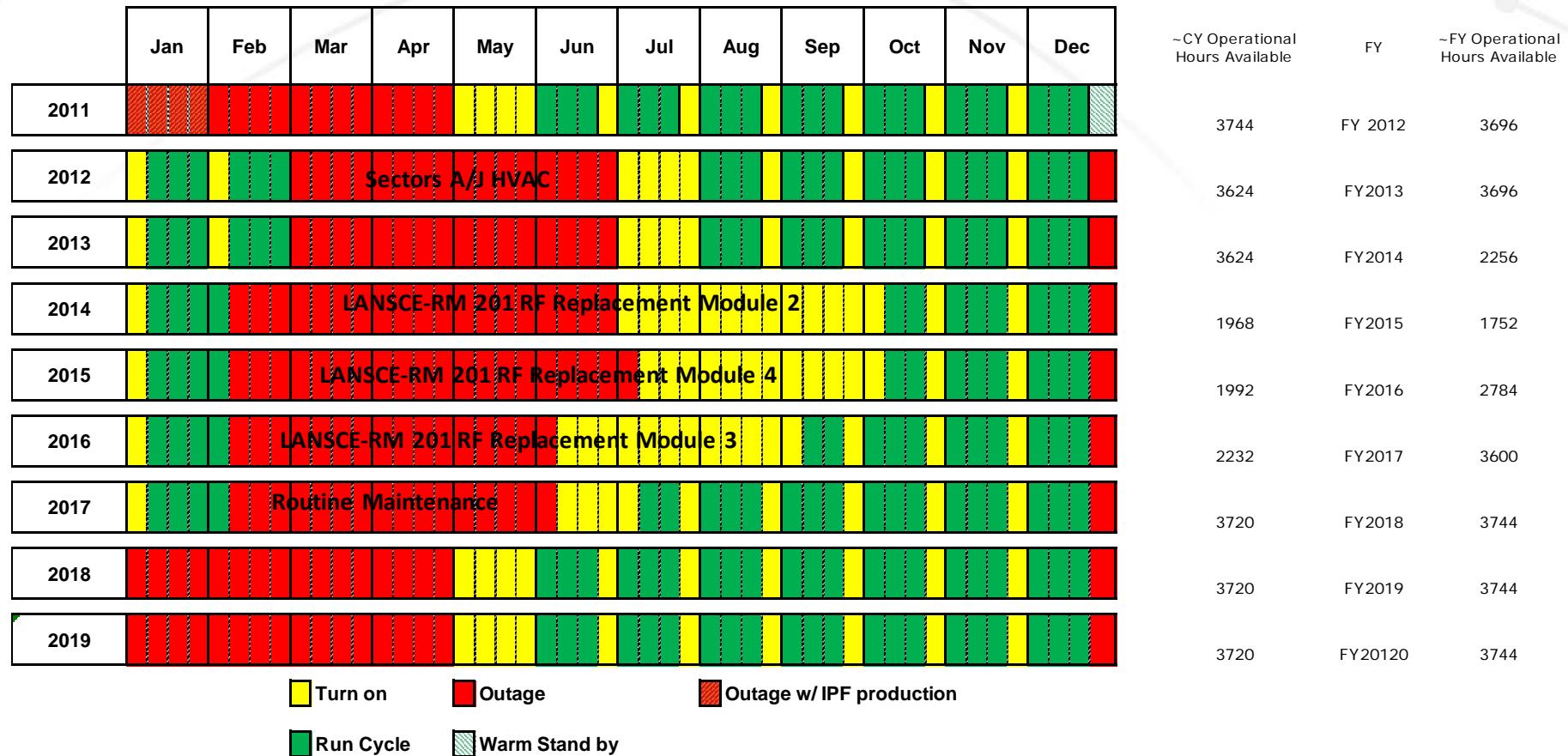
**Module 4 High Power Amplifier**



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# Long-term LANSCE run schedule shows a return to full 7-month production in CY 2017



# Programmatic and scientific demand for LANSCE nuclear research in FY16 remains high and oversubscribed

- The 2015 LANSCE nuclear science call accepted proposals for 11 flight paths
  - 80 proposals were received
  - 1441 days were requested across the available flight paths
  - 743 days of beam time have been scheduled for the upcoming run cycle
  - A diverse set of proposals were received; the most oversubscribed is a general-use flight path, 4FP60R
- Many of the proposals support Primary Assessment Technologies (Science Campaign 1) and Industry users
  - The Chi-Nu and TPC projects funded by C1 will need essentially all beam time on two flight paths to meet their FY2016 milestones
  - Another thrust area is radiography; the number of proposals has been growing over the last few years
  - The interest from industry users to characterize radiation effects at LANSCE-WNR continues to be strong

# Programmatic and scientific demand for LANSCE material science research in FY16 remains high and oversubscribed

- The 2015 LANSCE material science call accepted proposals for 3 beamlines
  - Even with the reduced number of material beamlines there is significant interest from internal and external users to perform experiments at Lujan Center
  - Total number of proposals received: 100
  - Days requested: 571
  - Available: 240
  - All three flight paths are heavily oversubscribed
- The majority of proposals are supporting the Science Campaigns, but there are also several requests from other institutions
  - About half of the proposals funded by NNSA
  - Another major thrust area is nuclear energy: 11 proposals funded entirely or in part by DOE-NE were received

# The NNSA Science Campaign needs in FY16 – FY20 are well defined for Proton Radiography, WNR, and the Lujan Center

## pRad

- Initial conditions for boost and boost
- HE reactive burn model validation
- CHE to IHE and reuse
- LEP needed experiments
- Experiments with UK and LLNL
- Platform development for U1A subcrits ..

## WNR

- Precise criticality for boost and Ics
- NDSE nuclear science support and n-rad option
- Outputs and effects
- Diagnostics of fission yields
- N-Rad (advanced surveillance)
- Forensics / CNI capture diagnostics

## Lujan

- NDSE for modeling fission g-ray outputs, fission product isomer background characterization
- Radchem cross sections
- Late-time yield diagnostics and forensics
- Characterization of AM
- Pu multi-phase EOS upgrades
- Material properties for assuring performance in relevant environments
- HE reactive burn model development



## memorandum

Associate Directorate for Weapons Physics (ADX)

To/MS: Robert Webster, ADX, A109,  
Mary Hockaday, ADEPS, A106  
From/MS: Mark Chadwick,  
Kim Scott, ADX, B259  
Phone/Fax: 7-9877/7-6568  
Symbol: ADX:15-020  
Date: April 14, 2015

## SUBJECT: SCIENCE NEEDS FOR LANSCE MEASUREMENTS, FY16-20

This memorandum summarizes Science Campaigns needs for LANSCE measurements in the next 5 years, in the areas of proton radiography, nuclear science, and materials science. Although our needs extend beyond 5 years, such longer-term needs are not addressed here.

The memorandum provides linkages to major Science Campaign programmatic objectives (see *italic*) as identified in a more classified document that has been part of our planning work with NNSA/NA11 HQ and in internal ADX program integration planning (see classified addendum).

We understand RTBF funding is tight in FY 16. However, items A, B, C below are essential for our mission, and represent a uniquely important set of capabilities that LANL stewards for the NNSA. Item D – Lujan material science – has been recently reinvested in by Science Campaigns and is showing promise as a tool for stewardship, and we understand that the incremental RTBF cost of D compared to C (Lujan nuclear science) is small. Thus we see a strongly compelling case for experiments A-D. We suggest a goal to seek increased efficiencies in accelerator operations to enable this program execution within the RTBF funding constraints, and are willing to take the risk of decreased reliability, if necessary, to enable the full suite of experiments at pRad, WNR Target 4, and Lujan Target 1. It is important that NNSA programs benefit from the large investments made by RTBF in the LANSCE/RM project.

### A) Proton radiography.

Experiments are needed in HE physics, dynamic materials, and ejecta and turbulence physics, to solve the following hydrodynamics-related objectives:

- Initial conditions for boost, and boost
- HE reactive burn model validation, for aging considerations and for LEP options
- CHE to IHE and reuse
- Turbulence modeling
- Common modeling advanced capabilities
- Platform development for U1a subcrits, including Red Sage & Sierra Nevada
- LEP needed experiments, including experiments with the UK and with Livermore
- CNI experiments related to understanding and mitigating foreign threats

### B) WNR (Target 4) nuclear science

The next 5 years will see the fruition of our precise fission experiments to determine criticality accurately, for fission cross sections (TPC), neutron spectra (Chi-nu), and fragments (SPIDER). These are Los Alamos – Livermore experiments needed to solve:

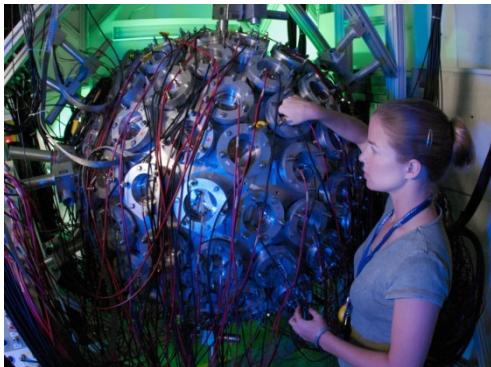


## We developed a “FYNSP FY16-FY20” operations plan, with defined decision points, consistent with programmatic deliverables and MaRIE CD-0 schedule

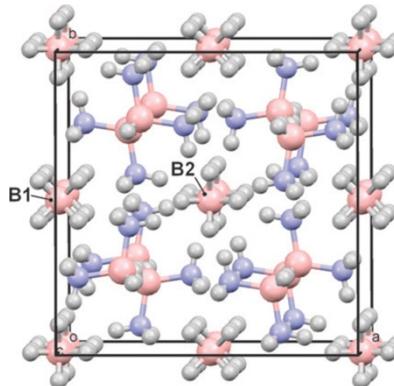
- Drives linac at 120 Hz with beam delivery to the present 6 targets.
- Meets Nuclear Science deliverables to Science Campaigns and DSW at pRad, WNR and Lujan
- Maximizes scientific and programmatic output for LANSCE facilities. .
- Continues critical investments in Linac infrastructure to maintain facility research availability and to prepare the proton Linac for MaRIE.
  - *201MHz power amplifier work is completed in FY16 (Module 3)*
  - *Includes sustainability investments in Linac and conventional facilities, including critical spares*
- Maintains accelerator operations expertise and infrastructure until needed for MaRIE construction (CD-3 activities in FY21)

**Our vision: Operating LANSCE as a “designated national user facility” will optimize its scientific and programmatic value as we segue the scientific user community to MaRIE**

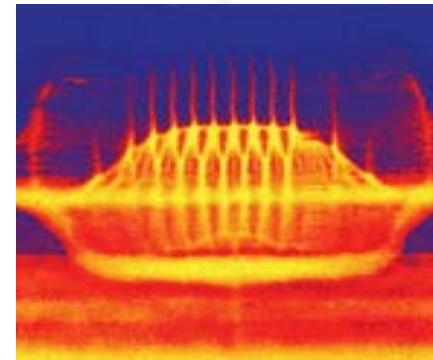
**As we look toward MaRIE, LANSCE will continue to evolve capabilities to meet the specific demands of National Security and the broader requirements for achieving scientific excellence.**



Nuclear Science and Technology



Materials Science

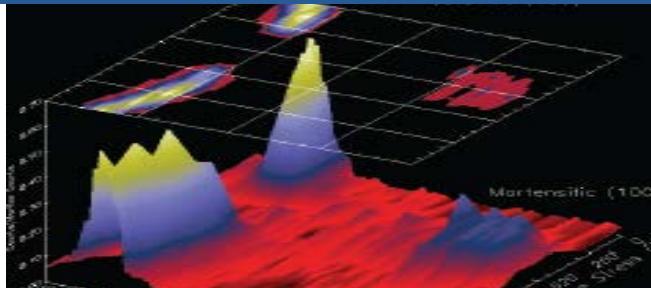


Materials in Extremes Research



Isotope Production

- Provide required research for Stockpile Stewardship and National Security
- Maintain and grow the excellence of the NNSA science base to ensure the quality of scientific and technical staff that ensures the stockpile is safe, secure, and effective



Scientific excellence



Recruiting Our Future Staff

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