

# Fission Battery Initiative Workshop Series: Transportation and Siting for Fission Batteries

## Moderators:

- Abhinav Gupta (NCSU)
- Abdollah Shafieezadeh (OSU)
- Chandrakanth Boliseti (INL)
- Elmar Eidelpes (INL)

## Fission Battery Lead and Support Staff:

- Vivek Agarwal (INL)
- Dayna Daubaras (INL)
- Erik Schuster (INL)

**March 15, 2021**

# Fission Battery Initiative Workshop Series: Transportation and Siting for Fission Batteries

Today's workshop will discuss siting and transportation of fission batteries, including connections to spent nuclear fuel management practices, site-independent fission battery deployment, critical regulatory challenges and other relevant topics.

## Goals:

- Initiate conversations on issues and hurdles related to fission battery transportation and siting.
- Promote the identification of research and development needs to support fission battery siting and transportation.
- Foster community building and share the current state of understanding on fission batteries among stakeholders.
- Identify the potential stakeholder needs in order to make fission batteries a reality.

*The Fission Battery Initiative envisions developing technologies that enable nuclear reactor systems to function as batteries and to be referred as fission batteries.*

**March 15, 2021**

# Transportation and Siting for Fission Batteries

## Introduction: “Fission Battery” Vision Defined

12:00 Welcome

Elmar Eidelpes (INL)

12:05 Fission Battery Initiative

Vivek Agarwal (INL)

## Session 1: Lessons Learned from Waste Management Session

Chair: Elmar Eidelpes, INL

Topics: Insights in spent nuclear fuel management practices will be discussed and the connection to fission battery siting and transportation will be established.

12:20 Transportation Issues – Fission Batteries

Alan Wells (consultant)

12:40 DOE Nuclear Waste Management Transportation  
and Handling Tests

Sylvia Saltzstein (SNL)

## Session 2: Regulatory Perspective

Session Chair: Abhinav Gupta, NCSU

Topics: The perspective of the U.S. regulator on fission battery transportation and siting will be addressed.

- |      |  |                          |
|------|--|--------------------------|
| 1:10 | Transportation of Radioactive Material                           | David Pstrak (U.S. NRC)  |
| 1:30 | Modernizing the Regulatory Framework for Advanced Reactor Siting | Robert Schaaf (U.S. NRC) |
| 1:50 | Break  |                          |

## Session 3: Industry and Other Stakeholder Perspectives

Session Chair: Abdollah Shafieezadeh, OSU

Topics: This session focuses on the perspective of industry and other stakeholder representatives on fission battery transportation and siting, and questions related to advanced reactor development and licensing.

- |      |   |                       |
|------|---|-----------------------|
| 2:30 | Flexible Siting   | Emma Redfoot (Oklo)   |
| 2:50 | Technological Innovations in Management of Transportation: Advances in Visual Sensing | Abhinav Gupta (NCSU)  |
| 3:10 | Issues in Commercial Reactor Siting   | George Griffith (INL) |

## Panel Discussion

Moderator: Chandrakanth Bolisetti, INL

A moderated panel discussion to discuss the key takeaways and roadblocks identified within this workshop, with a Q & A session for the audience to interact with the panel.

Panel Members: Emma Redfoot (Oklo), Alan Wells (Consultant), Bernie White (U.S. NRC), George Griffith (INL)

3:40 Panel Discussion and Q & A

4:55 Closing Remarks Abdollah Shafieezadeh (OSU)

February 10, 2021

**Vivek Agarwal, Ph.D.**

Technical Lead, Fission Battery Initiative

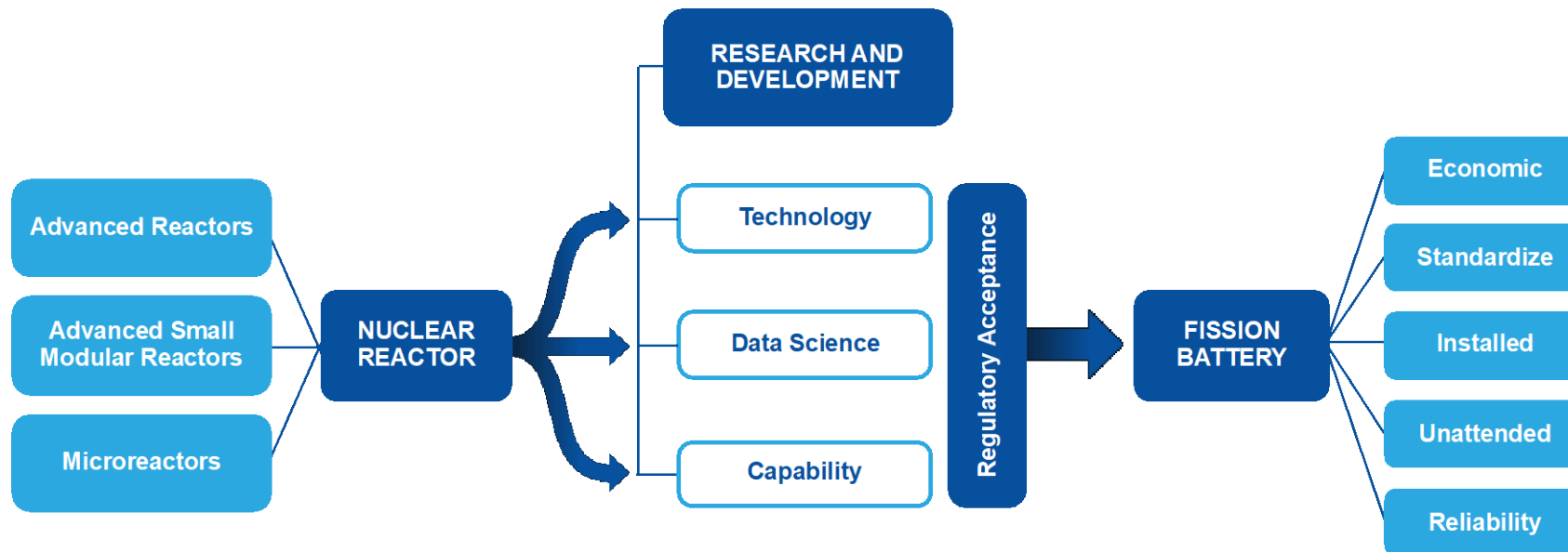
# Fission Battery Initiative

Nuclear Science and Technology

# Fission Battery Initiative

**Vision:** Developing technologies that enable nuclear reactor systems to function as batteries.

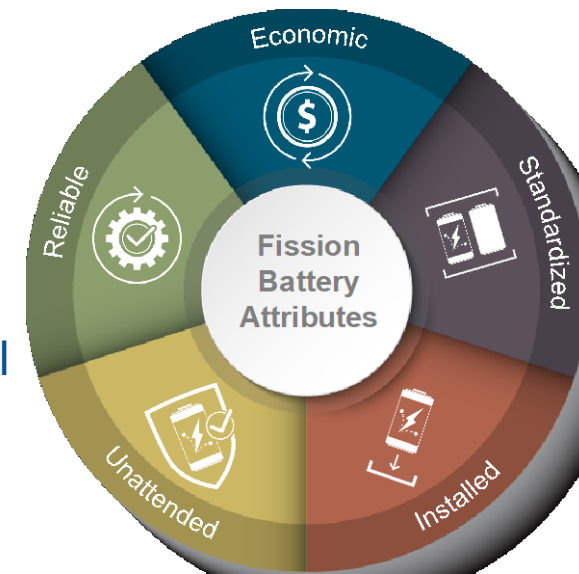
**Outcome:** Deliver on research and development needed to provide technologies that achieve key fission battery attributes and expand applications of nuclear reactors systems beyond concepts that are currently under development.



*Research and development to enable nuclear reactor technologies to achieve fission battery attributes*

# Fission Battery Attributes

- **Economic** – Cost competitive with other distributed energy sources (electricity and heat) used for a particular application in a particular domain. This will enable flexible deployment across many applications, integration with other energy sources, and use as distributed energy resources.
- **Standardized** – Developed in standardized sizes, power outputs, and manufacturing processes that enable universal use and factory production, thereby enabling low-cost and reliable systems with faster qualification and lower uncertainty for deployment.
- **Installed** – Readily and easily installed for application-specific use and removal after use. After use, fission batteries can be recycled by recharging with fresh fuel or responsibly dispositioned.
- **Unattended** – Operated securely and safely in an unattended manner to provide demand-driven power.
- **Reliable** – Equipped with systems and technologies that have a high level of reliability to support the mission life and enable deployment for all required applications. They must be robust, resilient, fault tolerant, and durable to achieve fail-safe operation.





# Fission Battery Workshop Series

- **Jointly INL and National University Consortium are organizing workshops across five areas:**
  - Market and Economic Requirements for Fission Batteries and Other Nuclear Systems
  - Technology Innovation for Fission Batteries – Next workshop is February 24, 2021
  - Transportation and Siting for Fission Batteries – March 15, 2021
  - Security Scoping for Fission Batteries – April 02, 2021
  - Safety and Licensing of Fission Batteries – April 16, 2021
- **Expected outcomes:**
  - Each workshop outcomes are expected to outline the goals of each fission battery attribute



# TRANSPORTATION ISSUES: FISSION BATTERIES

Alan H Wells, PhD, PE

March 15, 2021

# Criticality Safety Considerations

- Structural –
  - Significant yielding of structure is a concern if it affects fissile system geometry.
  - Neutron absorbers are generally not structural and are lower temperature materials.
- Neutronic –
  - Partial credit for neutron absorbers due to manufacturing issues and neutron channeling concerns. (75-90 %)
  - independence, redundancy and diversity of the safety measures; engineered versus administrative; passive or active IAEA SSG-27, Section 4.1. Also Criterion 22, 10 CFR 50 Appendix A, Protection System Independence.

## **Transportation Regulations – 10 CFR 71 and IAEA Specific Safety Requirements-6**

- **Criticality Safety – Fully Flooded at Optimum Moderation. Moderator Exclusion allowed for Double-Sealed Transportation Container.**
- **Structural – Transportation Impact equivalent to 9 meter drop onto unyielding surface and 1 meter pin puncture drop. High g-loads (55 g).**
- **Shielding – Dose Rate Limit 10 mrem/hour at 2 meters from package boundary for Normal Conditions of Transport and 1 rem/hour on contact for Hypothetical Accident.**

## **Transportation Regulations – 10 CFR 71 and IAEA Specific Safety Requirements 6**

- Thermal – 30 minute engulfing fire at 800°C.
- Containment – Helium Fill Gas. Source Terms plus Release Fractions (PWR are documented). Leak Rates must be calculated for Normal Conditions and Hypothetical Fire Conditions. (ANSI/ANS-14.5, NUREG/CR-6487)
- Handling – Fresh, delivered to site, non-radioactive. For return after service, burned, radioactive; packaging for transport becomes complicated. Delay prior to packaging may be needed.

## Regulatory Issues

- 10 CFR 51 – Modal Study Revision?
- Reactor Containment Vessel as Transportation Package Containment?
- Moderator Exclusion for Reactor? How to manage double-sealing.
- k-effective limit 0.95? Burnup credit? (ANSI/ANS 8.27) Reactor can exceed k-eff of 1.0, transportation limit is 0.95, so protection systems must be robust.
- Normal and Accident Release fractions for Containment analysis for new fuel types (or old types used in new ways)? (DOE-HDBK-3010-94 [2013])

# Transportation for Recovery After Accident

- Fermi-1 U/Mo Melted Fuel – Hot Cell Examination







# Transportation of Radioactive Material

David Pstrak  
Division of Fuel Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

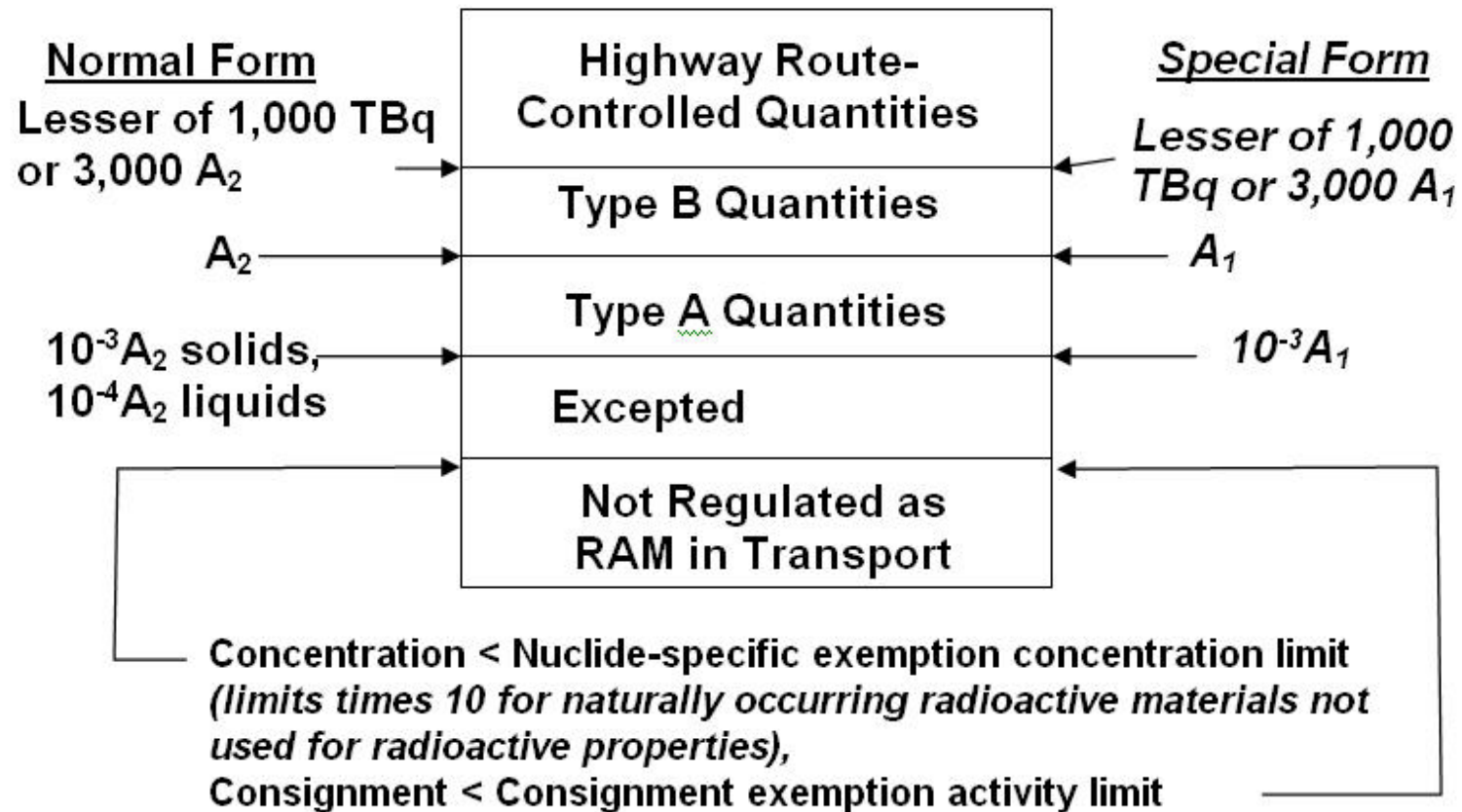
Transportation and Siting for Fission Batteries Workshop  
March 15, 2021

# Domestic Transportation Regulations

- U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) co-regulate radioactive material transportation
  - NRC transportation regulations (10 CFR Part 71)
  - DOT transportation regulations (49 CFR Parts 107; 171 – 180)
- NRC only regulates a portion of radioactive material transportation
- NRC and DOT regulations are compatible
- The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (44 FR 38690), published July 2, 1979, delineates the respective agency responsibilities

<http://www.nrc.gov/what-we-do/regulatory/enforcement/moudot.pdf>

# Activity and Packaging Types



# Transportation Packages

- Type A fissile package (Type AF)
  - Less than a Type B quantity (less than  $A_2$  value in 10 CFR Part 71, Table A-1)
  - $A_2$  value for uranium (U) with enrichment  $\leq 20$  weight percent U-235 is unlimited (see Table A-1)
- Type B package (Type B or Type BF)
  - Greater than  $A_2$  value from 10 CFR Part 71, Table A-1
  - Enrichments  $> 20$  weight percent U-235, mass dependent

# Packaging and Transportation

## Philosophy

- Three safety functions
  - Shielding – limit external radiation dose rates
  - Containment – limit release of radioactive material
  - Subcriticality – prevent criticality in transport
- NRC reviews/approves the package design that was evaluated


# Transportation Tests

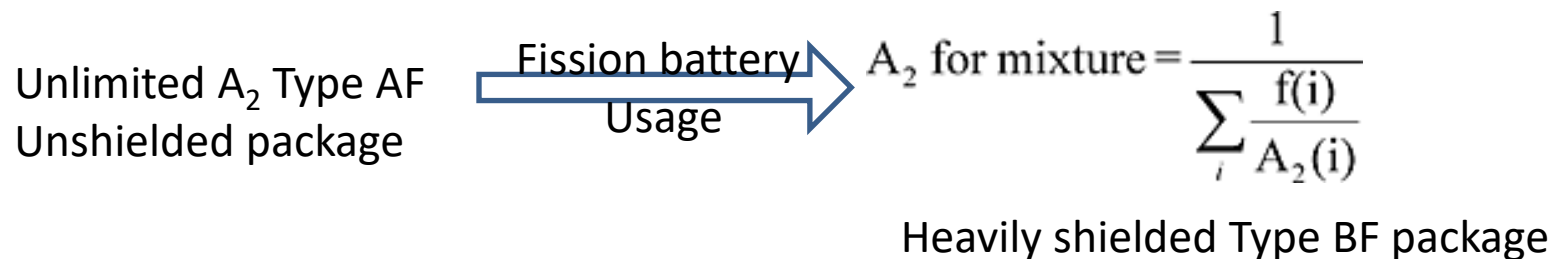
- Normal conditions of transport (10 CFR 71.71)
  - Hot and cold temperatures
  - Reduced and increased external pressure
  - Vibration
  - Water spray
  - Free drop (1 to 4 feet)
  - Corner drop
  - Compression test
  - Penetration test
- Hypothetical accident conditions (10 CFR 71.73)
  - 30-foot drop test
  - 40-inch puncture test
  - 30-minute fire at 1,475 degrees Fahrenheit
  - Immersion test

# Transportation Tests cont'd

- Tests for fissile packages transported by air (10 CFR 71.55(f))
- Tests for plutonium package transported by air (10 CFR 71.88, 10 CFR 71.64 and 10 CFR 71.74)

# Package Approval Criteria

- Type AF  Type BF package
- Criticality safety
  - Single package
  - Array of packages
- Containment—Type B packages only
  - Leakage rate testing for Type B packages (10 CFR 71.51, “Additional Requirements for Type B Packages”)
- Shielding
  - Dose rates in 10 CFR 71.47, “External Radiation Standards for All Packages” after tests for normal conditions of transport
  - Dose rate less 1 rem/h at 1 m from the package surface after tests for hypothetical accident conditions (10 CFR 71.51)





# Radiation level limits (10 CFR 71.47 and 49 CFR 173.441)

Package and Vehicle Radiation Level Limits (§ 173.441) <sup>1</sup>				
		Nonexclusive Use Shipment	Exclusive Use Shipment	
		Open or Closed Transport Vehicle	Open (flat-bed)	Closed Transport Vehicle
Package Limits:	External Surface	2 mSv/h (200 mrem/h)	2 mSv/h (200 mrem/h)	10 mSv/h (1000 mrem/h)
	Transport Index (TI) <sup>2</sup>	10	No limit	
	Criticality Safety Index (CSI) <sup>5</sup>	50	No limit	
Transport Vehicle Limits (highway and rail):	Any point on the outer surface	N/A	N/A	2 mSv/h (200 mrem/h)
	Vertical planes projected from outer edges		2 mSv/h (200 mrem/h)	N/A
	Top of		Load: 2 mSv/h (200 mrem/h)	Vehicle: 2 mSv/h (200 mrem/h)
	2 meters from		Vertical Planes: 0.1 mSv/h (10 mrem/h)	Outer Lateral Surfaces: 0.1 mSv/h (10 mrem/h)
	Underside		2 mSv/h (200 mrem/h)	
	Occupied position	N/A <sup>3</sup>	0.02 mSv/h (2 mrem/h) <sup>4</sup>	
	Sum of package TIs	50	No limit	
	Sum of package CSIs <sup>5,6</sup>	50	100	

<sup>1</sup> The limits in this table do not apply to excepted packages. [§§ 173.421, 173.424, 173.426, and 173.428]  
<sup>2</sup> The dimensionless number equivalent to maximum radiation level at 1 meter (3.3 feet) from the exterior package surface is in mrem/h rounded up to the next tenth. [§ 173.403]  
<sup>3</sup> No dose limit is specified, but separation distances apply to packages with RADIOACTIVE YELLOW-II, RADIOACTIVE YELLOW-III, or CSI labels. (§ 177.842)  
<sup>4</sup> Does not apply to carriers if operating under a state or federally-regulated radiation protection program and if personnel wear radiation dosimetry devices. [§ 173.441(b)(4)]  
<sup>5</sup> These provisions do not apply to shipment by vessel. See § 176.700–720 for the vessel requirements.  
<sup>6</sup> The number of packages containing fissile material stored in transit in any one storage area must be limited so that the total sum of the CSIs is ≤50 and such groups of packages must be spaced at least 6 meters (20 feet) from other such groups. [§§ 173.457 and 173.459]

# Contact Information

- David Pstrak

[David.Pstrak@NRC.gov](mailto:David.Pstrak@NRC.gov)

(301) 415-7053

- Bernie White

[Bernard.White@NRC.gov](mailto:Bernard.White@NRC.gov)

(301) 415-6577

# Modernizing the Regulatory Framework for Advanced Reactor Siting

March 15, 2021

Robert Schaaf, Sr. Environmental Project Manager  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

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# Introduction

- NRC mission
- Traditional regulatory framework
- Purposes of NRC siting review
- Regulatory framework modernization efforts
- Opportunities for stakeholder participation

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# Nuclear Regulatory Commission

- Created in 1974
- Independent Executive Branch Agency
- Mission
  - *to license and regulate civilian use of radioactive materials to provide reasonable assurance of adequate protection of public health and safety, to promote the common defense and security, and to protect the environment.*

<https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc.html>

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# Regulatory Framework – Siting

- Legislation
  - Atomic Energy Act
  - National Environmental Policy Act (and others)
- Regulations
  - Title 10, *Code of Federal Regulations*  
(Parts 50, 51, 52, and 100)

<https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory.html>

<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors.html>

<https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/licensing/nepa.html>

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# Purposes of Siting Review

## Safety & Security

- Natural and man-made hazards to plant
  - Seismic
  - Flooding
  - Hurricanes/Tornados
  - Infrastructure (rails lines, pipelines, facilities)
- Security
- Emergency planning

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# Purposes of Siting Review

## Environmental

- Project purpose and need
- Impacts to natural and human environment
  - Water quality
  - Ecology
  - Human health
  - Socioeconomic
  - Historic and cultural resources
  - Fuel cycle & waste
  - Others...
- Alternatives



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# Advanced Reactor Licensing Modernization

- Policy Statement (1986, 2008)
- Readiness Assessment (2001)
- Vision & Strategy (2016)
- Implementation Action Plan (2017)
- Program Status Reports (latest – 2021)

<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/advanced/policy-issues.html>

<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/advanced/details.html#visionstrat>

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# Licensing Modernization Siting Review – Safety & Security

- New 10 CFR Part 53
- Emergency Preparedness
- Physical Security

<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/advanced/details.html#part53>

<https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NRC-2015-0225/document>

<https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NRC-2017-0227/document>

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# Licensing Modernization Siting Review – Environmental

- Interim Staff Guidance
  - COL/ESP-ISG-027, Light Water SMRs
  - COL/ESP-ISG-029, Micro-reactors
- Generic Environmental Impact Statement
- 10 CFR Part 51

<https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/isg/col-app-design-cert.html>

<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/advanced/details.html#advRxGEIS>

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# Stakeholder Engagement

- Rulemaking public comments
- Advanced reactor stakeholder meetings
- Part 53 rulemaking meetings

<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/advanced/details.html#stakeholder>

<https://www.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg>

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# Conclusion

- Detailed siting reviews for power reactor license applications
- Modernizing regulatory framework for advanced nuclear reactors
- Stakeholder feedback is encouraged
- Continue to ensure our core mission to protect public health and safety and the environment

<https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/advanced.html>



OKLO INC

# Flexible siting

Emma Redfoot | March 2021

Fission battery | Siting and transportation



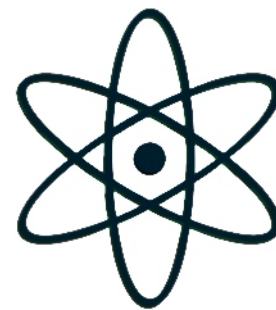
# About us

Raised the **first-ever**, modern, venture-led, series A for a fission company

Granted an INL **site use permit** from Department of Energy

Selected to demonstrate **recycle of spent fuel** at Idaho National Laboratory

Became the first advanced fission company in the country to have a license application **accepted** by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission



Oklo develops clean energy generation sources with advanced fission to mitigate the social and environmental impacts of pollution as well as energy poverty.



# Fast facts



20 year fuel life



1-2 MWe output



Integrated with solar



No water use



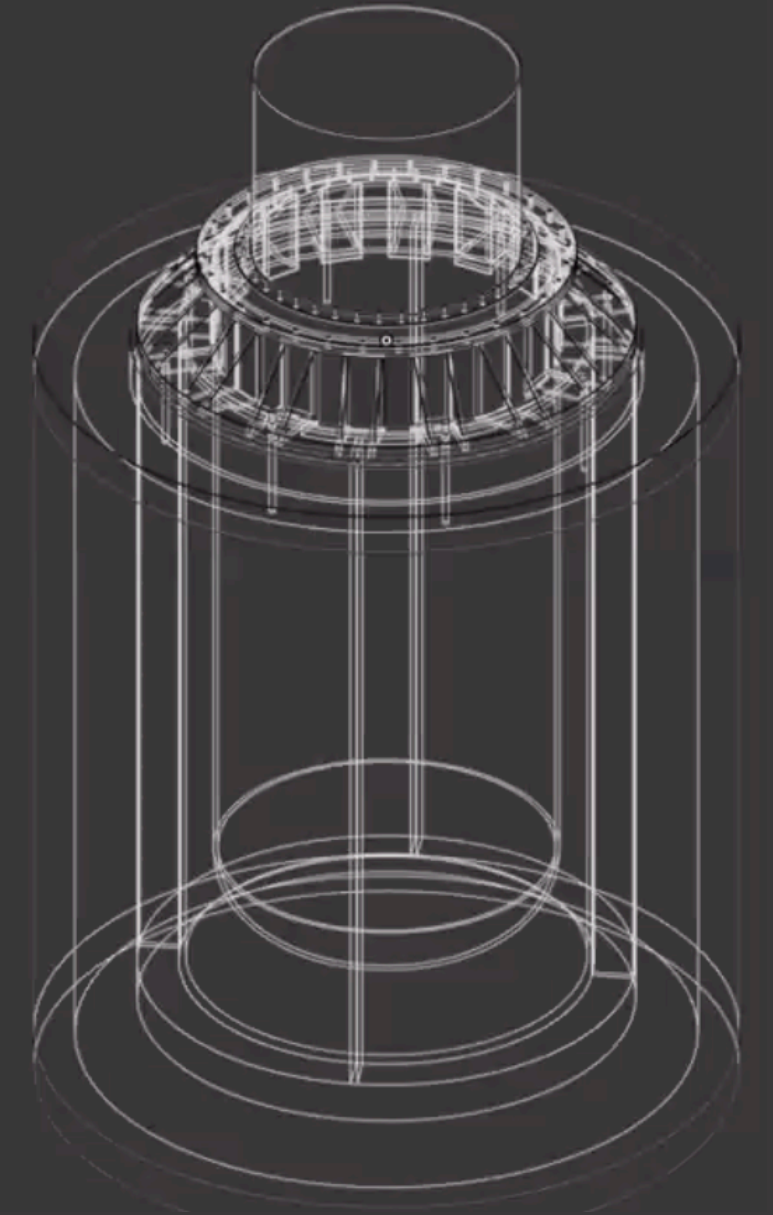
Cooled by natural forces



Recycles nuclear waste



Saves 1,000,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>







# Flexible siting



# Flexible siting principles

Designing a reactor that can be flexibly sited involves:

- **Robust design**
  - Deterministically demonstrating the design can sustain the safety challenges presented by most or all external hazards.
- **Minimal operations resource requirements**
  - Not relying on site specific characteristics (e.g. a source of water or a nearby population for staffing) for the safe operation of the plant.



# Flexible siting benefits

- **Site selection focused on cultural and ecological characteristics**
  - The ability to selectively choose sites that avoid important characteristics, such as being culturally relevant or home to endangered or threatened species.
- **Choose site based on community preferences**
  - Siting in a location most beneficial to a community based on the insight and consent of the local people.
- **Robust design**
  - The robust design required for a high degree of site flexibility results in a low-risk facility that presents negligible radiological risk to the public visiting the facility.
- **Cost effective**
  - Minimal site-specific investigations need to be presented as part of the safety case in a license application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).



# Siting vs environmental analysis

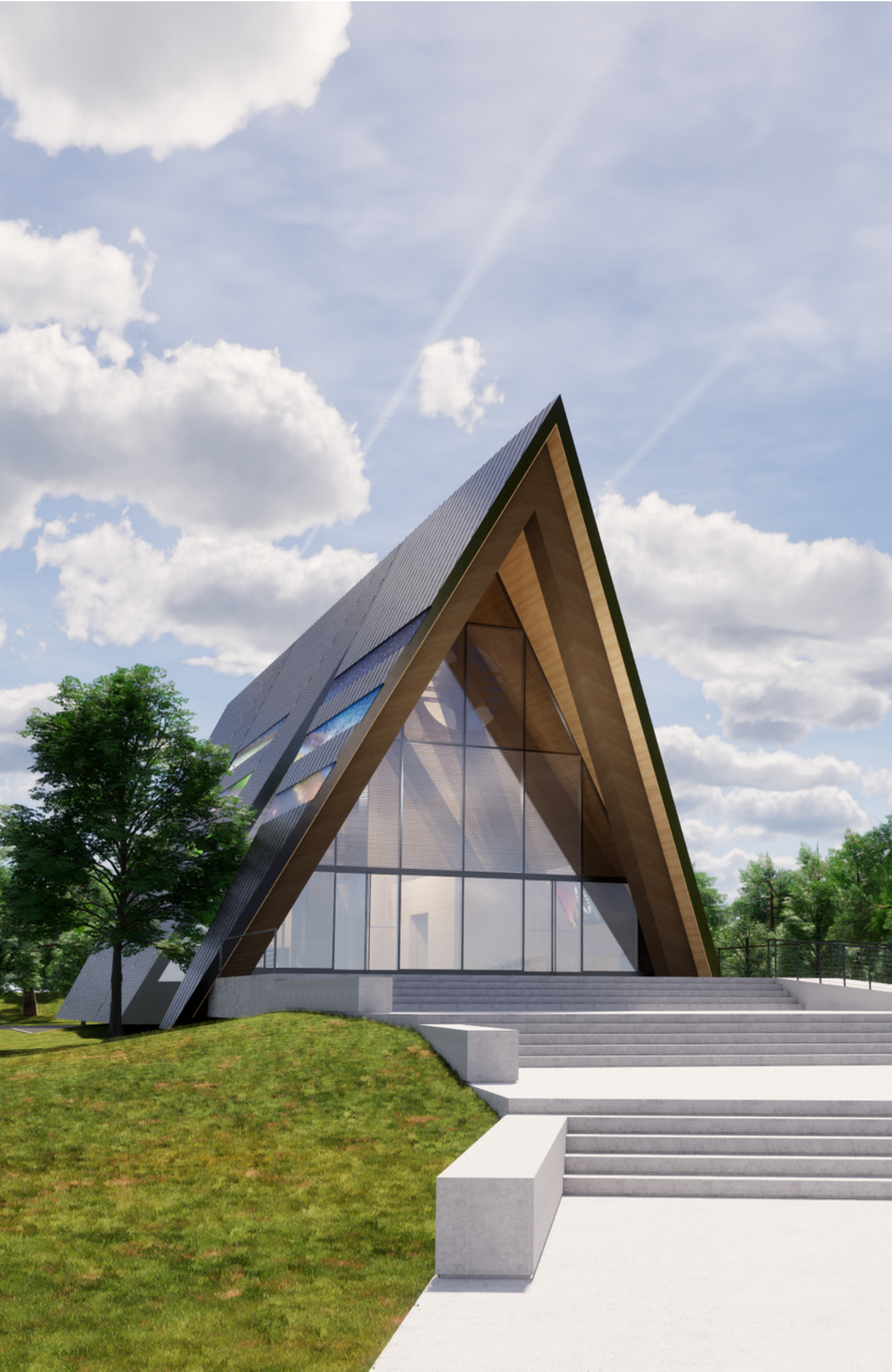
## Siting

Included in the final safety analysis report (FSAR) to ensure that the environment does not pose an unaccounted-for risk to the nuclear facility.

## Environmental

Included in the environmental report to ensure that the nuclear facility does not pose an unaccounted-for risk on the environment.





# External hazards methodology

Aurora COLA Submitted March 2020,  
Accepted June 2020



# Main takeaway

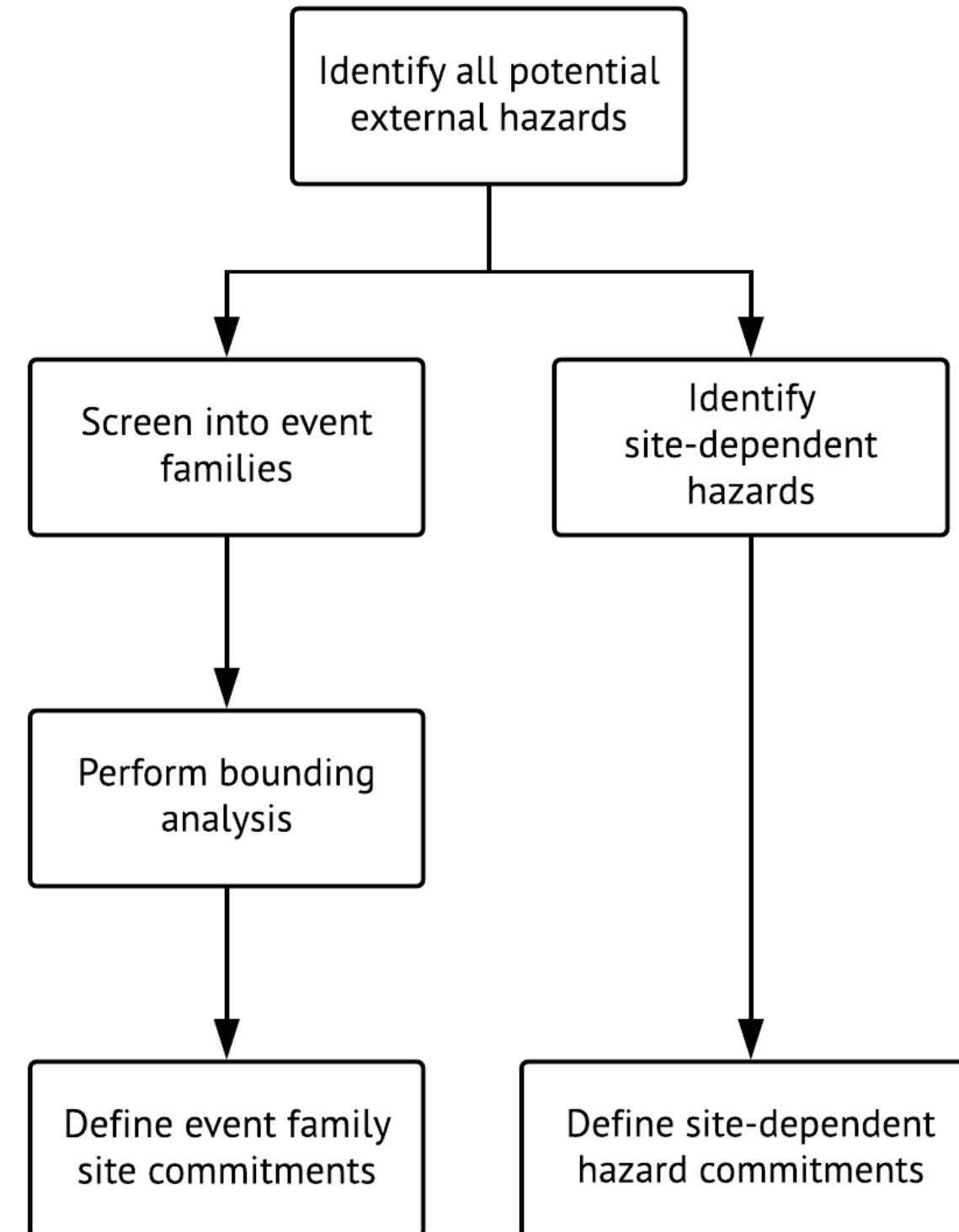
The site characterization data included in a license application needs to be based on the **risk presented** by the fission battery.



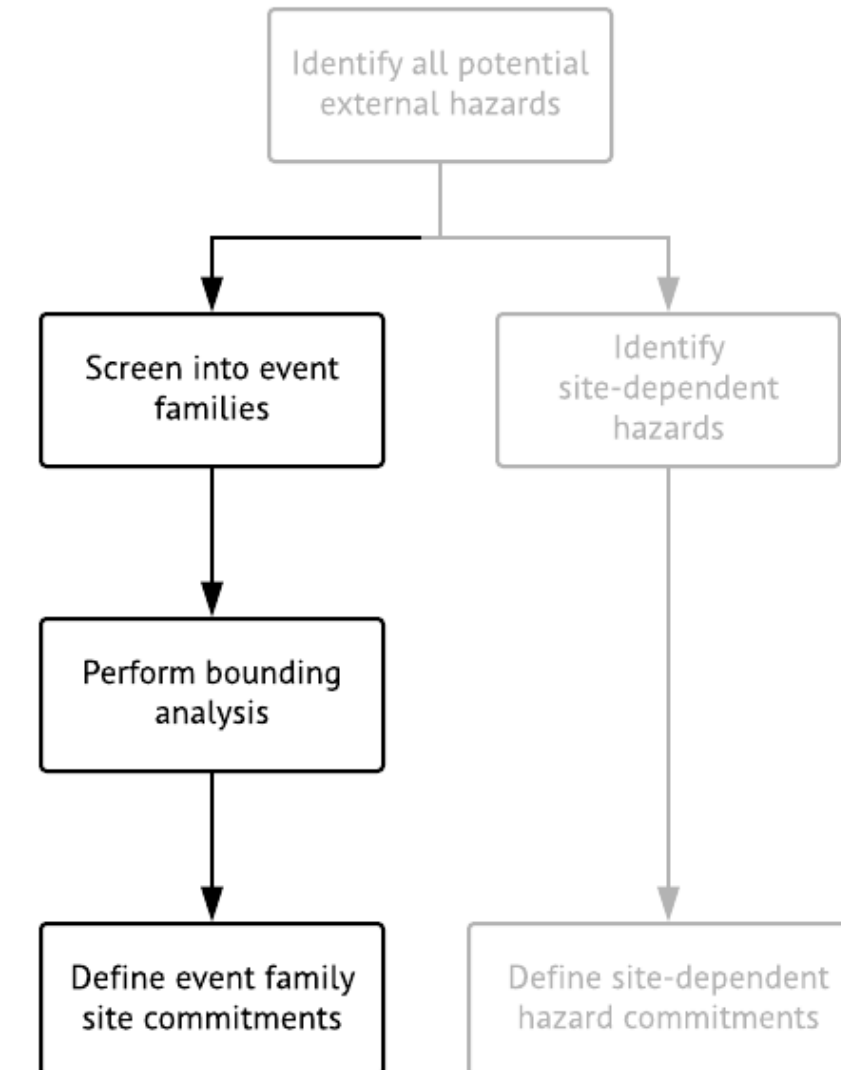
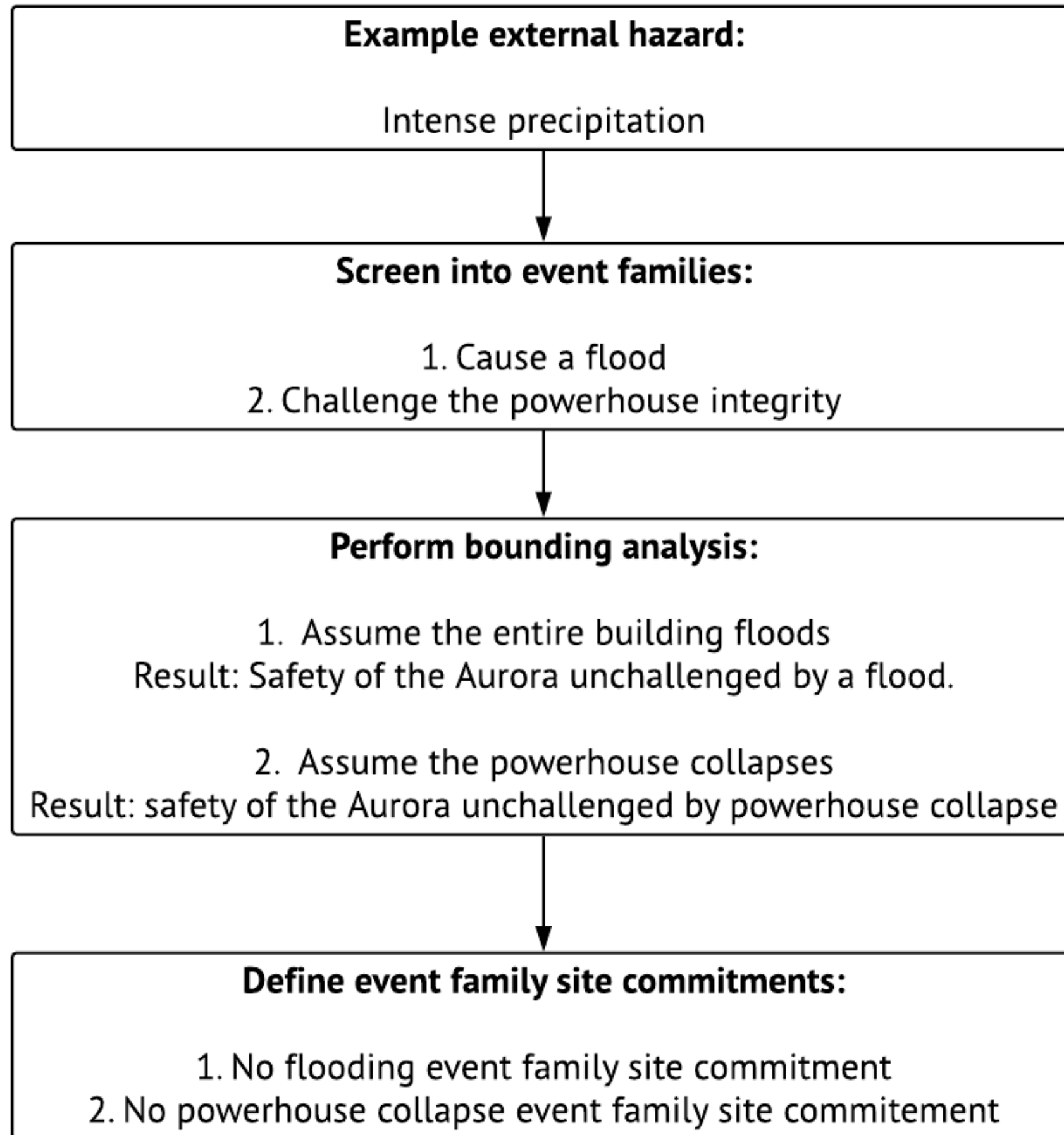
# Oklo external hazards methodology

## Site commitment:

A commitment for Oklo to perform a specific action when undergoing site selection for the Aurora.



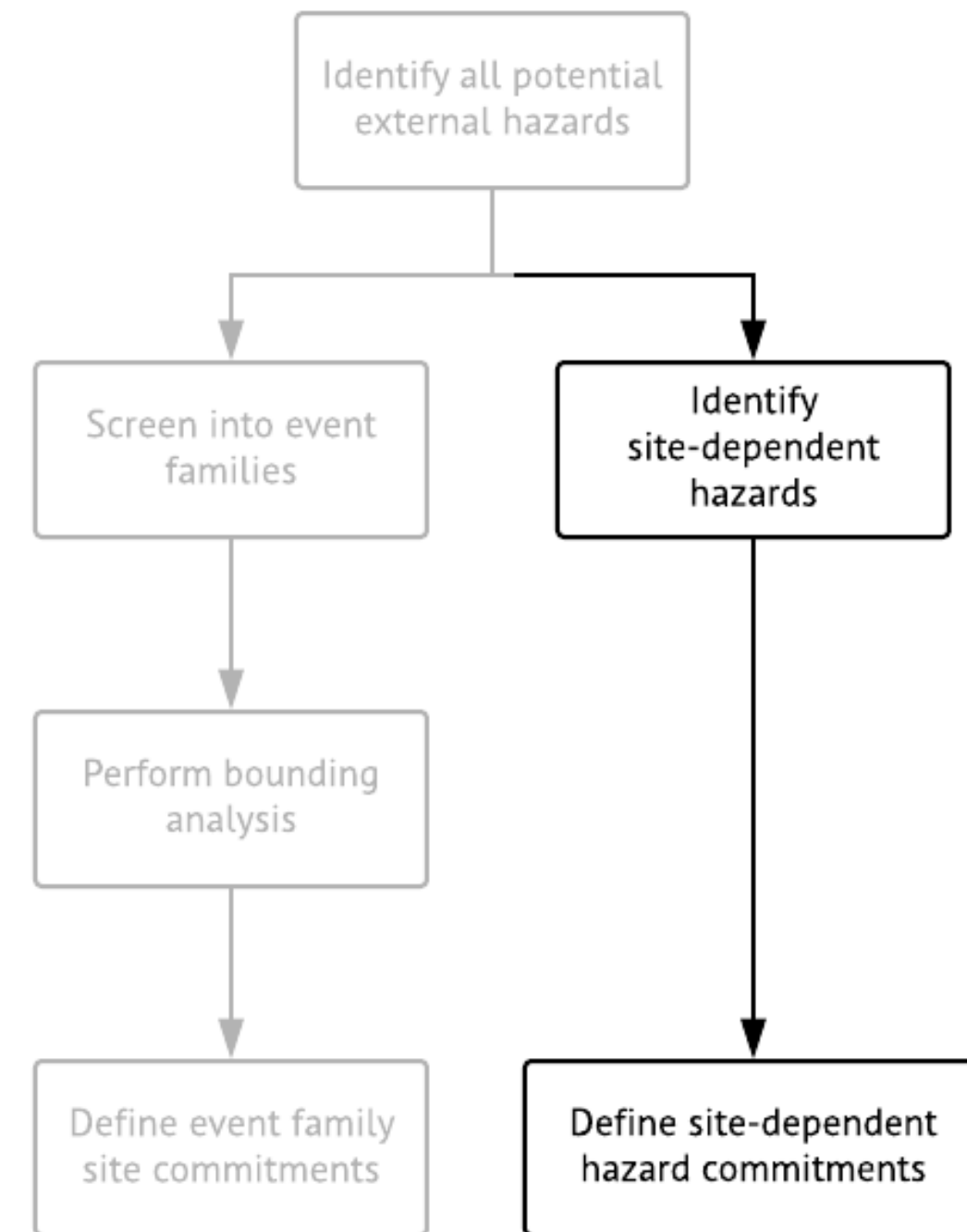
# Intense precipitation example for the Aurora





# External hazards addressed with site commitments

- Avalanche
- Coastal erosion
- Forest fire
- Grass fire
- Landslide
- Sinkhole
- Seismic event
- Man-made blast hazard

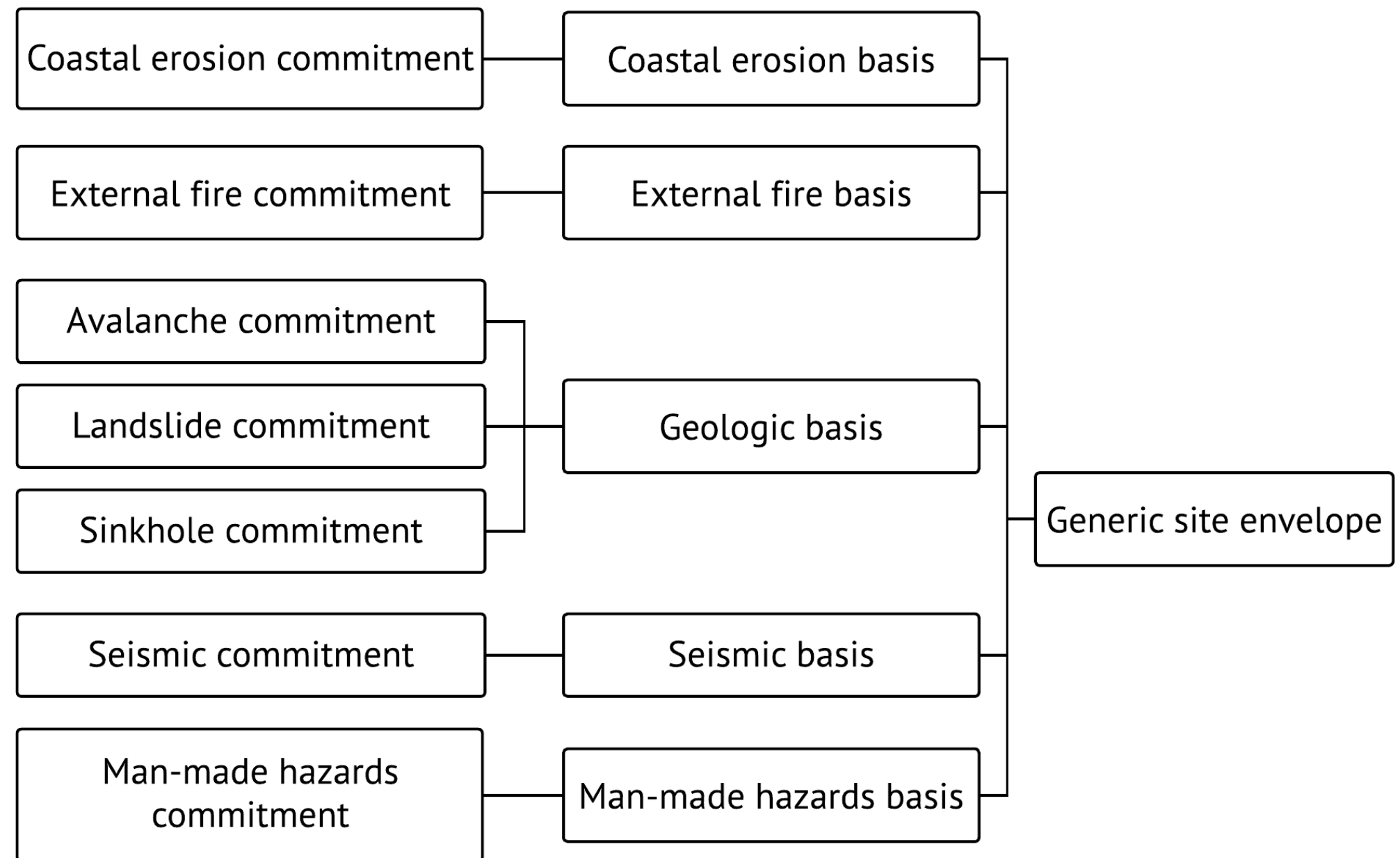




# Site characterization for the Aurora



**Generic site envelope:  
Site characteristics that could impact the safety case**



# Site commitment bases

**Coastal site basis:** The proposed site will not damage the Aurora reactor by coastal hazards.

**External fire basis:** The proposed site will not damage the Aurora facility due to an external fire.

**Geologic basis:** The proposed site will not damage the Aurora facility due to soil or topographic characteristics.

**Man-made hazards basis:** The proposed site will not damage the Aurora reactor by an explosion.

**Seismic basis:** The proposed site will not damage the Aurora reactor by a large ground acceleration.



# Landslide site commitment example

## **Landslide commitment:**

“Additional information will be provided on whether the proposed site is in a landslide-prone environment. If the proposed site is in a landslide-prone environment, further investigations are necessary to evaluate the potential landslide concerns.”

## **Provide site specific information on:**

- History of landslides within a 2-mile radius
- Information on slopes greater than 15 degrees with a 2-mile radius



# Conclusion

- Flexible siting can be done for robust designs with minimal resource requirements
- Flexible siting allows minimizing disturbance of ecologically and culturally significant sites
- The regulatory focus for siting for the Aurora is on ensuring the safety of the facility and minimal impact to the environment





Thank you

# **Technological Innovations in Management of Transportation: Advances in Visual Sensing**

Abhinav Gupta

Professor & Director of

Center for Nuclear Energy Facilities and Structures

Dept. of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering

NC State University

[agupta1@ncsu.edu](mailto:agupta1@ncsu.edu)

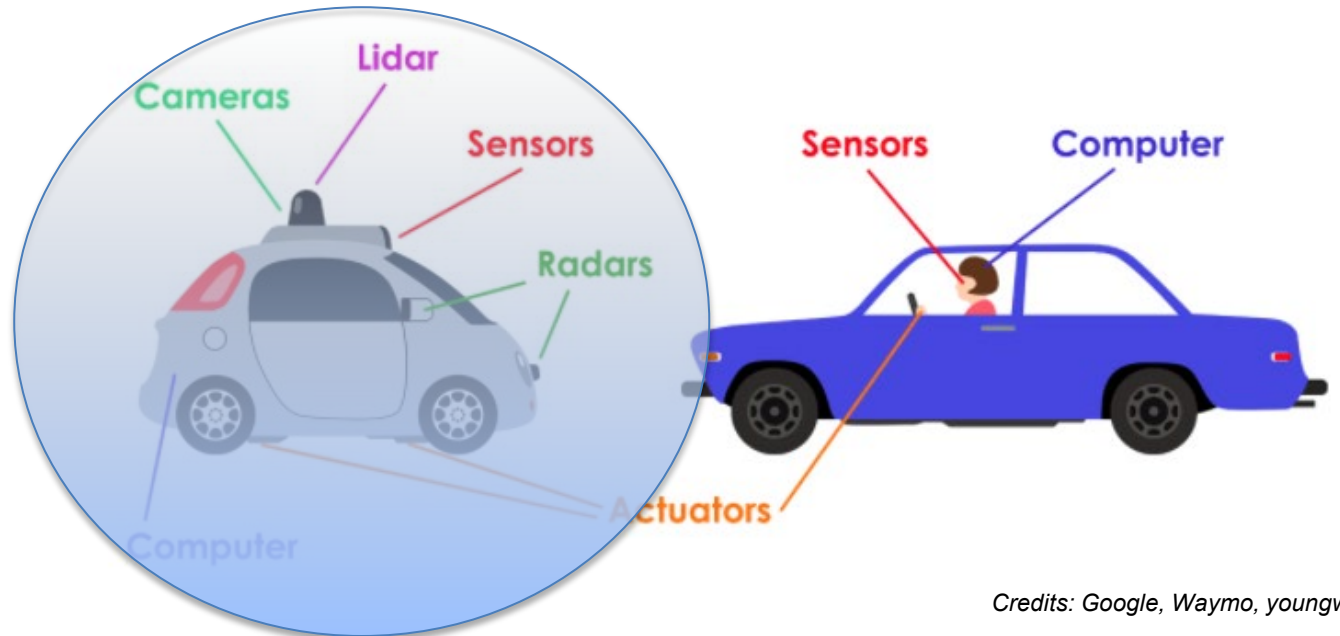


# Emerging Importance of Visual Sensing

## Self-driving Vehicles

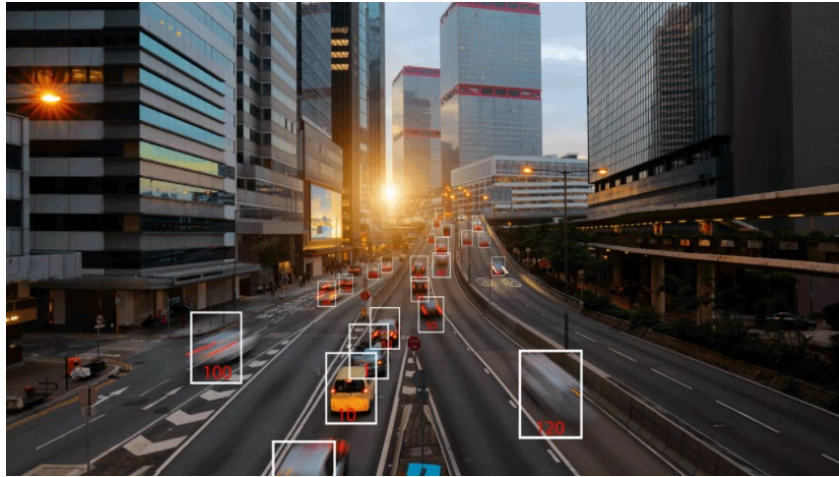


- **360 degree LiDAR sensor:** Bird's eye view, mounted on top
- **Perimeter LiDAR sensor:** front and rear bumper, as well as on each side just above the front wheels.
- **Front-facing, long-range camera on the roof:** 360 vision system that can see 500 meters away.

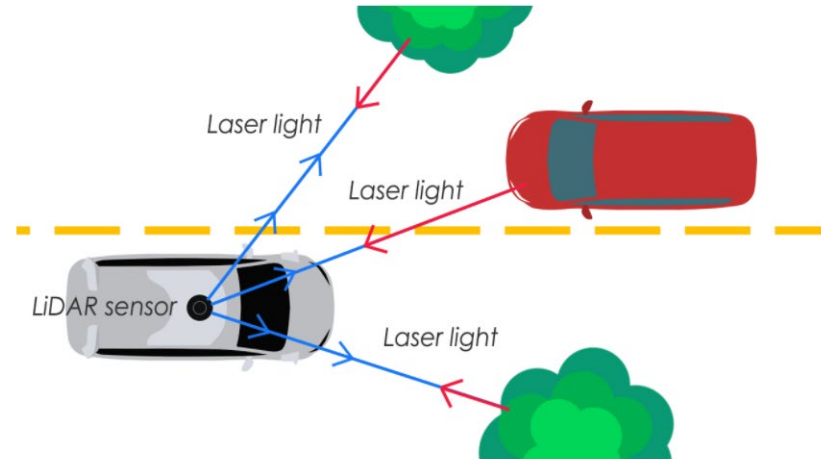


# Important components of Visual Sensing

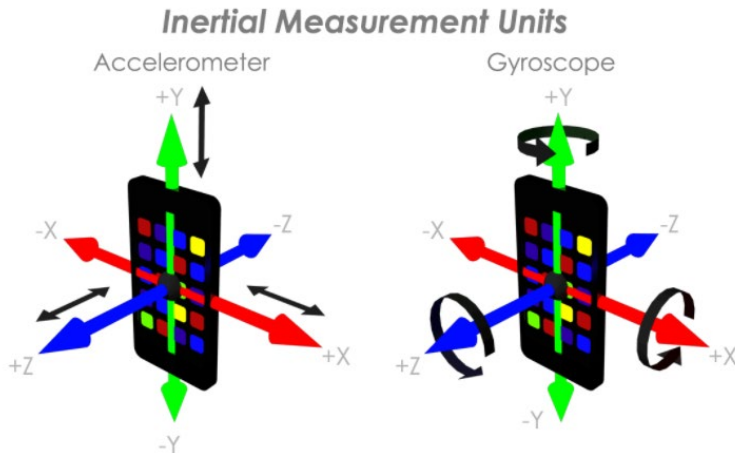
- Cameras



- LiDAR: Light Detection and Ranging



- IMUs



- RADAR: short for Radio Detection and Ranging

- Ultrasonic and Thermal Sensors

# Transportation of Fission Batteries

**Transportation loads** (and not Natural Hazards) are likely to govern the design basis.

- Vibrations



- Impact



Illustration: NuScale Power Module on a truck

# Visual Sensing for Transportation Loads

- Discrete Visual Sensing for analyzing Transportation Loads

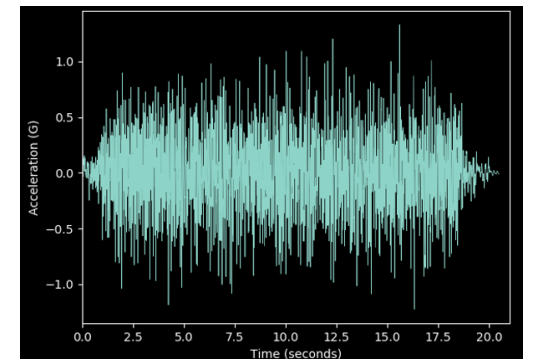


- Visual Cameras: Extract sensor data



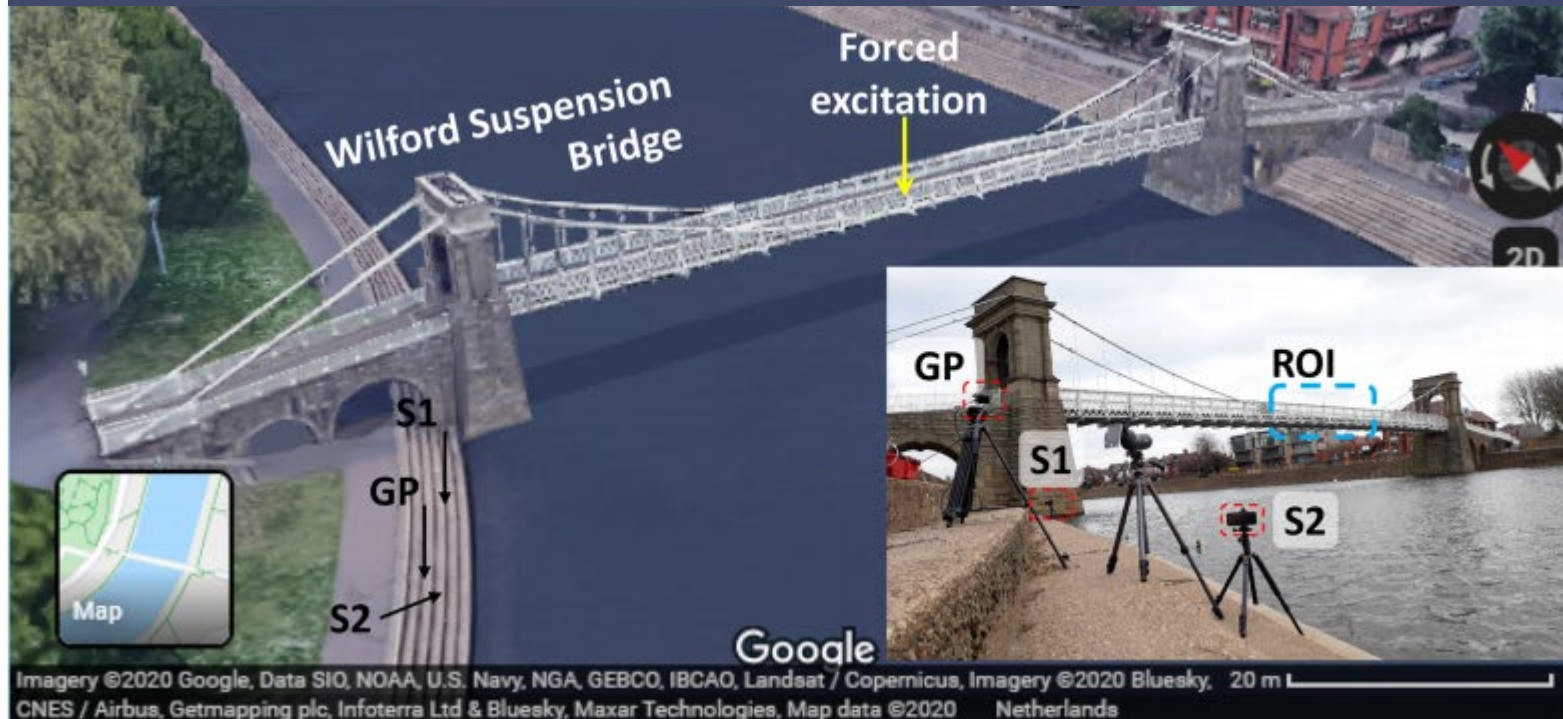
Thermal and High Speed Cameras

- Video Sensors: Extract acceleration data

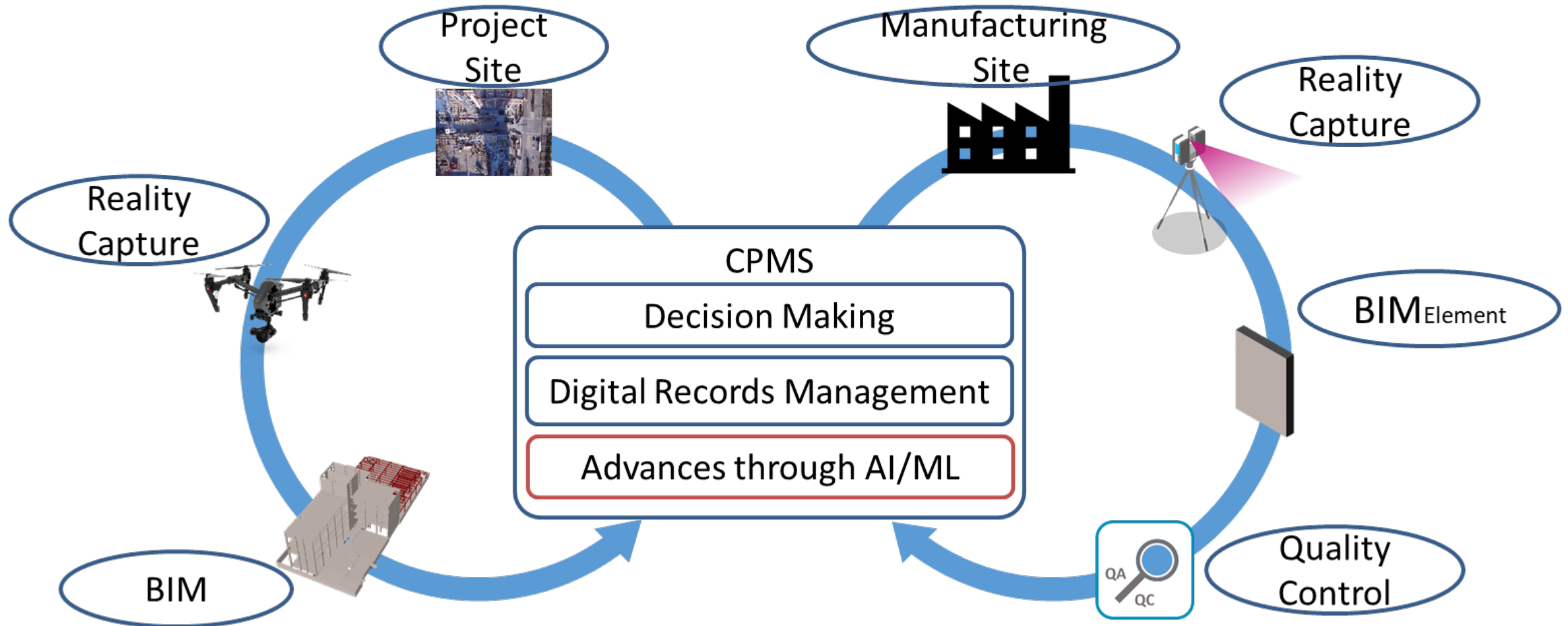


# Visual Sensing: Multiple Cameras and Computer Vision

Preliminary study on monitoring of a suspension bridge using multiple camera positions using different cameras and fields of view



# Visual Sensing in Construction Performance Assessment



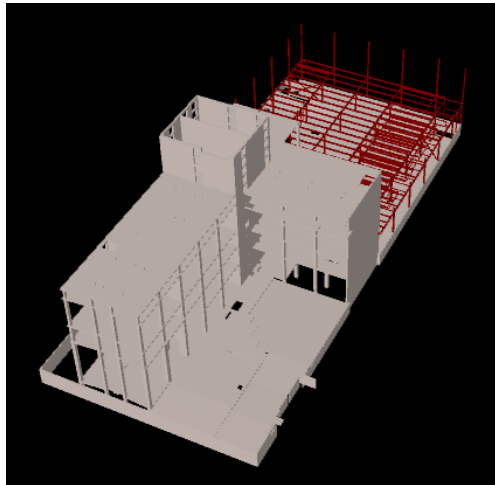
# Augmented-Reality / Virtual-Reality Platform

- Visualize construction and manufacturing performance
  - Performance vs plan
- Support modular construction

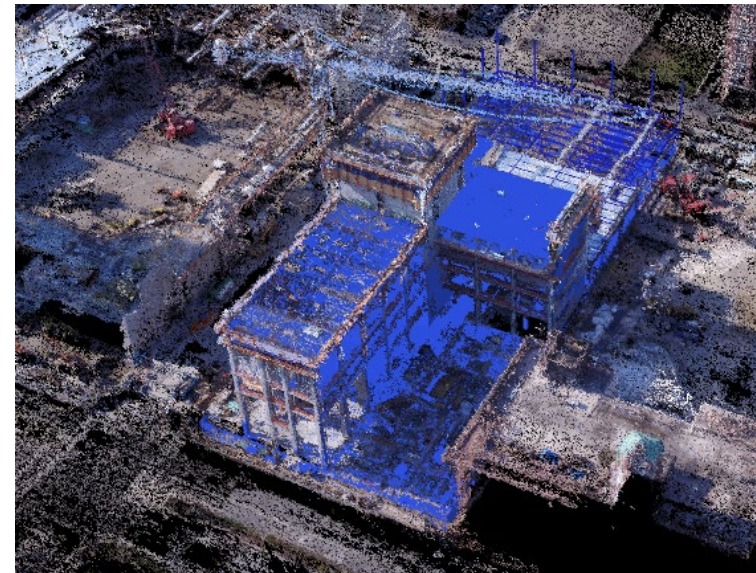
Reality Capture (drone+laser scanner)



4D BIM



Integrated Project Site Model



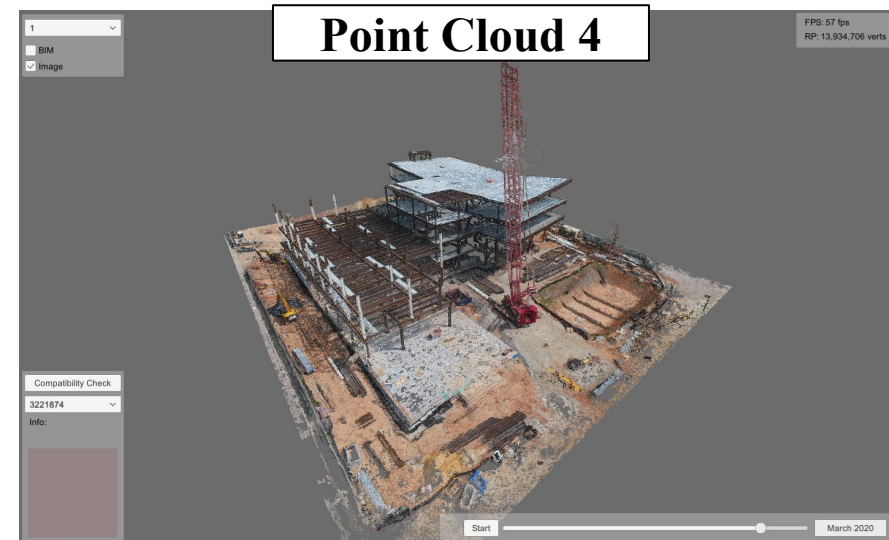
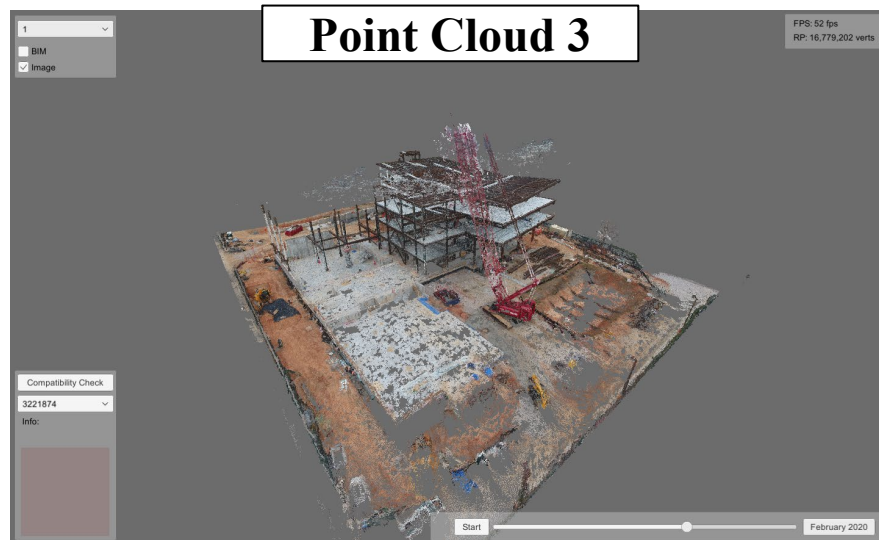
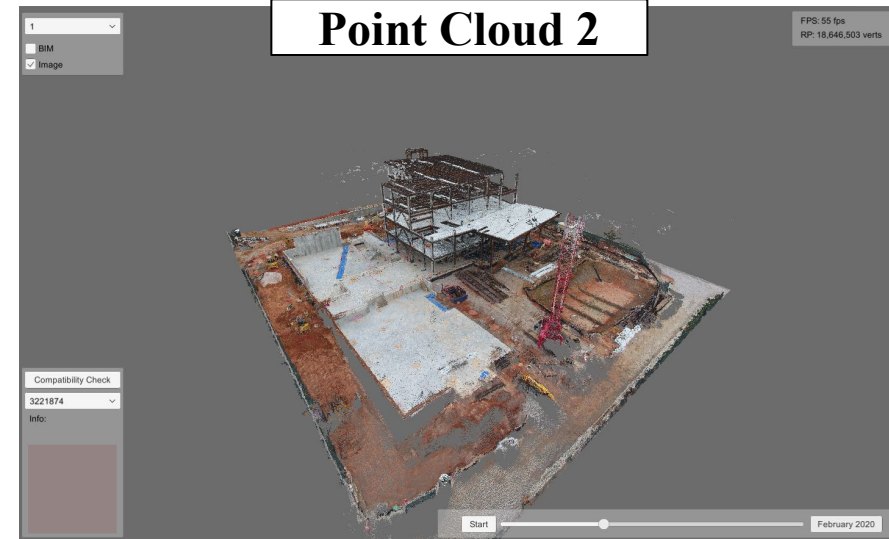
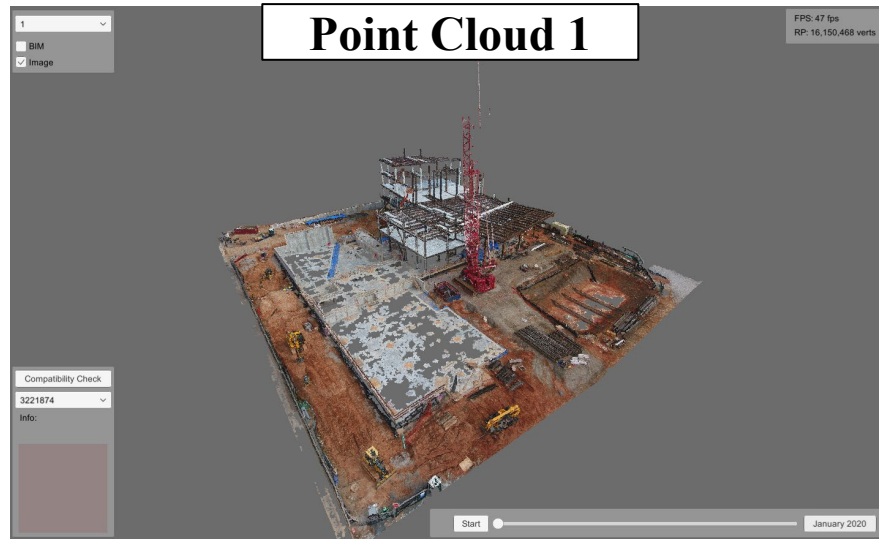
# Prototype – Virtual Environment for Performance Monitoring

The image displays a 3D virtual environment of a building under construction. The central focus is a tall, multi-story building with a complex facade, surrounded by construction equipment and materials. The scene is annotated with several UI elements and callouts:

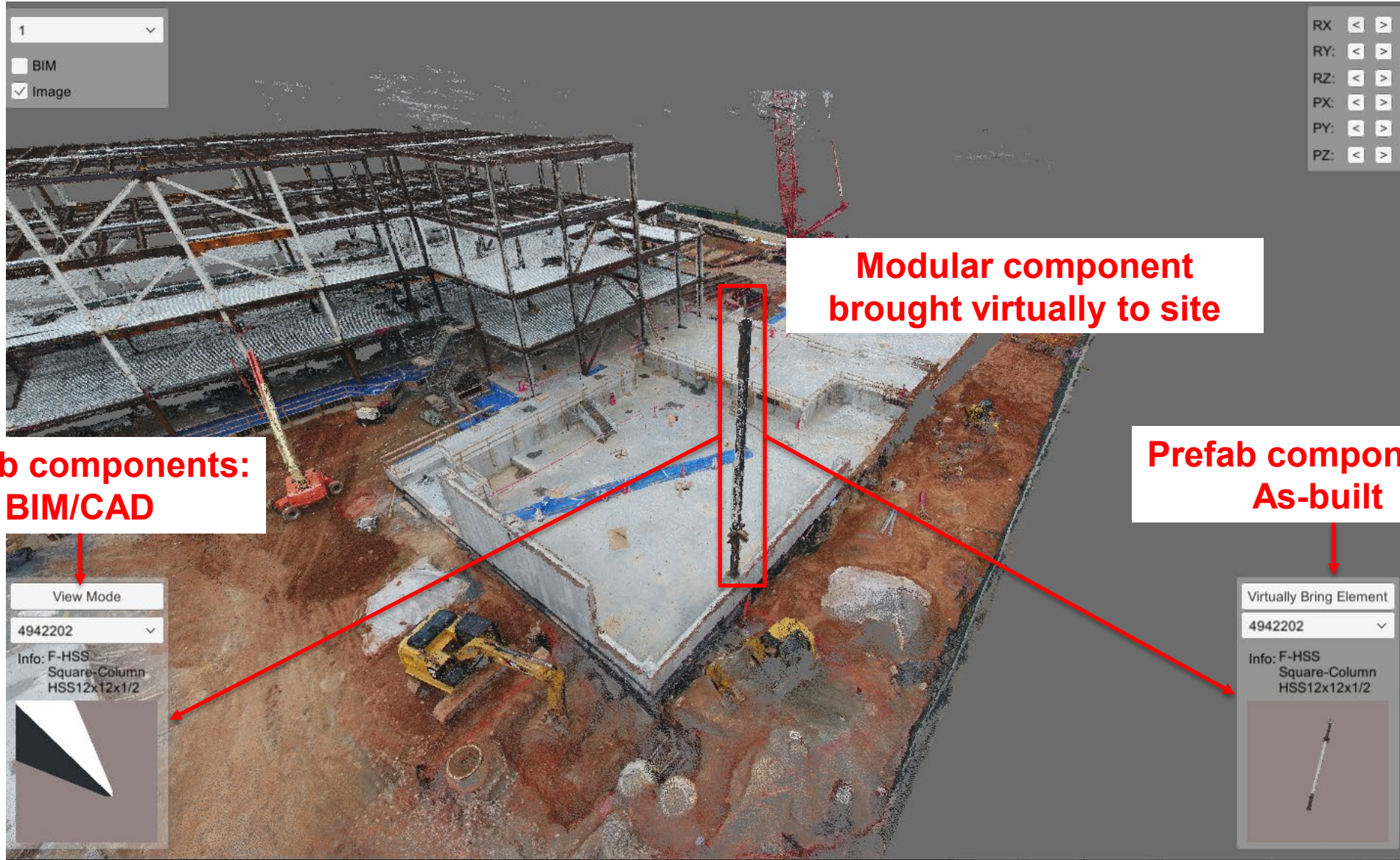
- 1. Image selection:** A dropdown menu at the top left shows the number '1'.
- 2. Image and BIM controllers:** A panel below the dropdown contains checkboxes for 'BIM' and 'Image', both of which are checked.
- 3. Mesh and pointcloud controllers:** A panel below the previous one contains a radio button for 'Mesh/PointCloud', which is currently unselected.
- 4. BIM element selection:** A dropdown menu shows the ID '3909073'.
- 5. BIM element information:** A panel below the dropdown displays 'Name: Basic\_Wall' and 'Size: Concrete\_-\_6"'. A red arrow points from the text 'Prefab components: As-built & BIM/CAD' to this panel.
- 6. BIM element viewer:** A panel below the information panel shows a 3D model of a wall component.
- 7. Timeline:** A horizontal timeline at the bottom of the interface, with a slider and the text 'Start' on the left and 'February 2018' on the right.
- 8. FPS and RP information:** A box in the top right corner displays 'FPS: 59 fps' and 'RP: 53,547,861'.
- 4D visualization:** A red text label with an arrow pointing to the construction site.



# Prototype – 4D as-built model for capturing progress



# Prototype – Virtually bring modular component to assess



**Modular component brought virtually to site**

**Prefab components: BIM/CAD**

**Prefab components: As-built**

View Mode

4942202


Info: F-HSS  
Square-Column  
HSS12x12x1/2



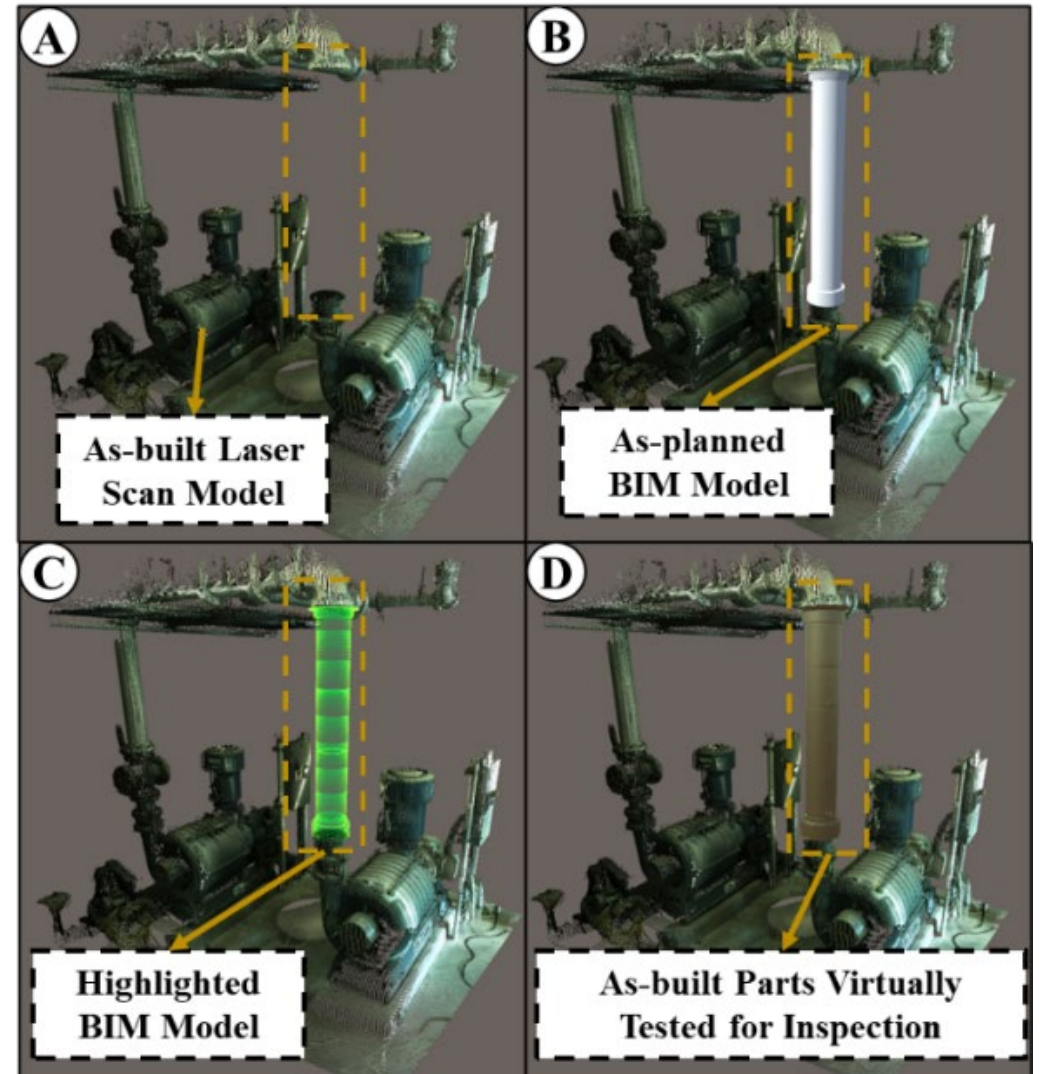
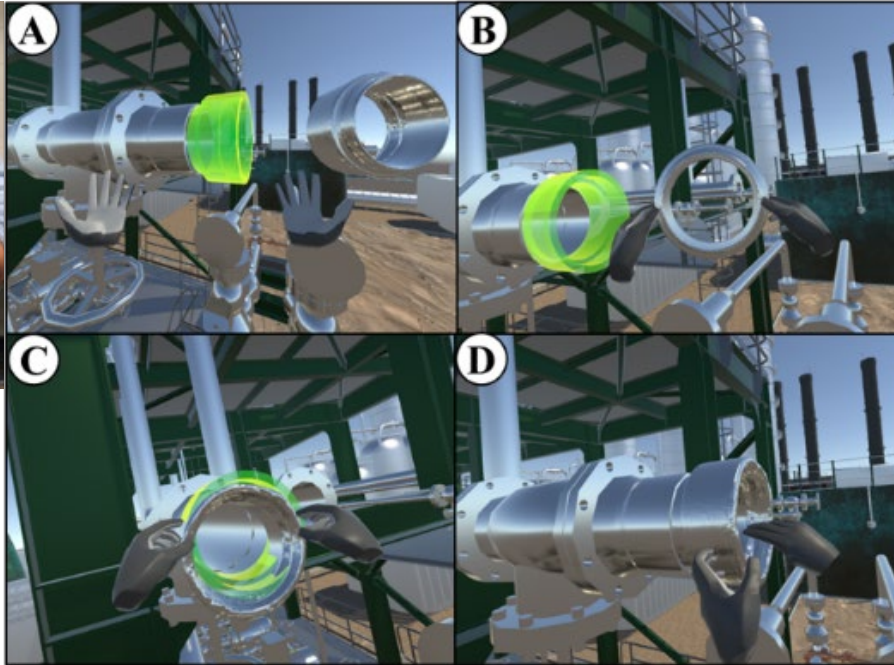
Virtually Bring Element

4942202

Info: F-HSS  
Square-Column  
HSS12x12x1/2



# Virtual Reality for Managing QA/QC in Supply Chain



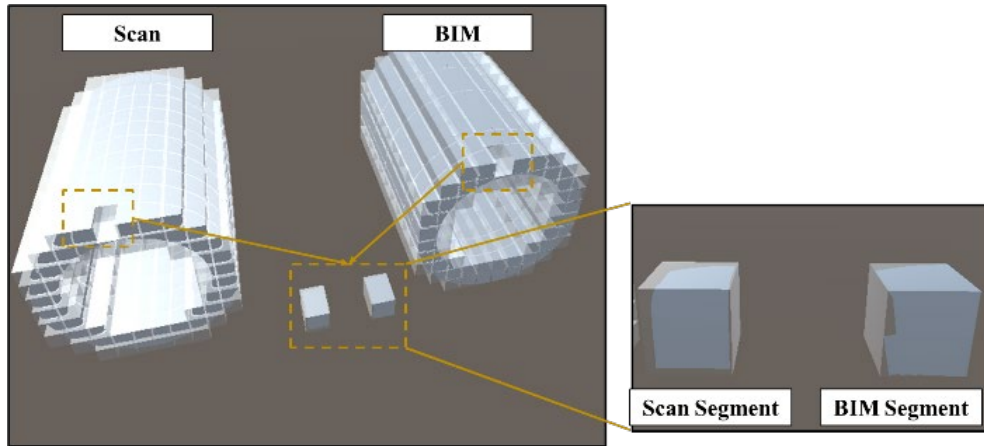
**Manual Virtual Inspection**

**Automatic Virtual Inspection**

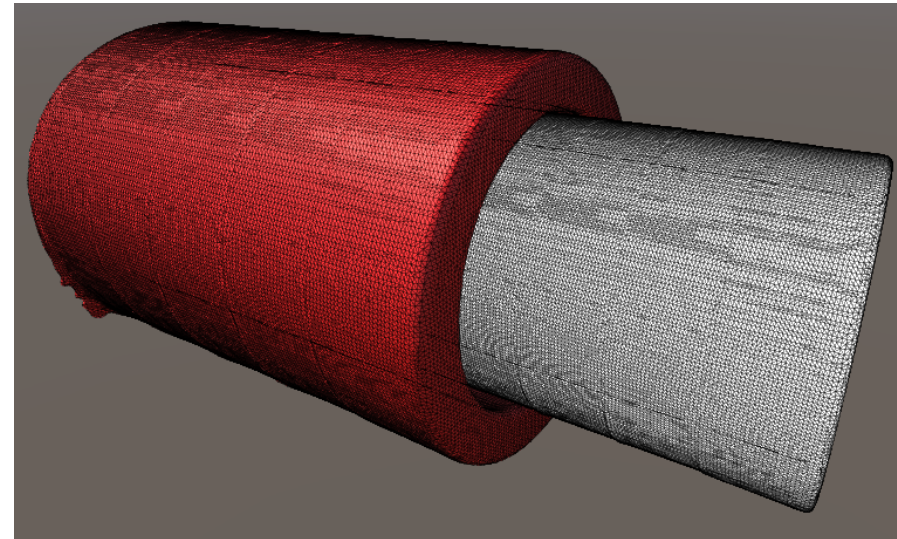
# Compatibility check

- ▶ Compatibility check will present the percentage difference using a ratio

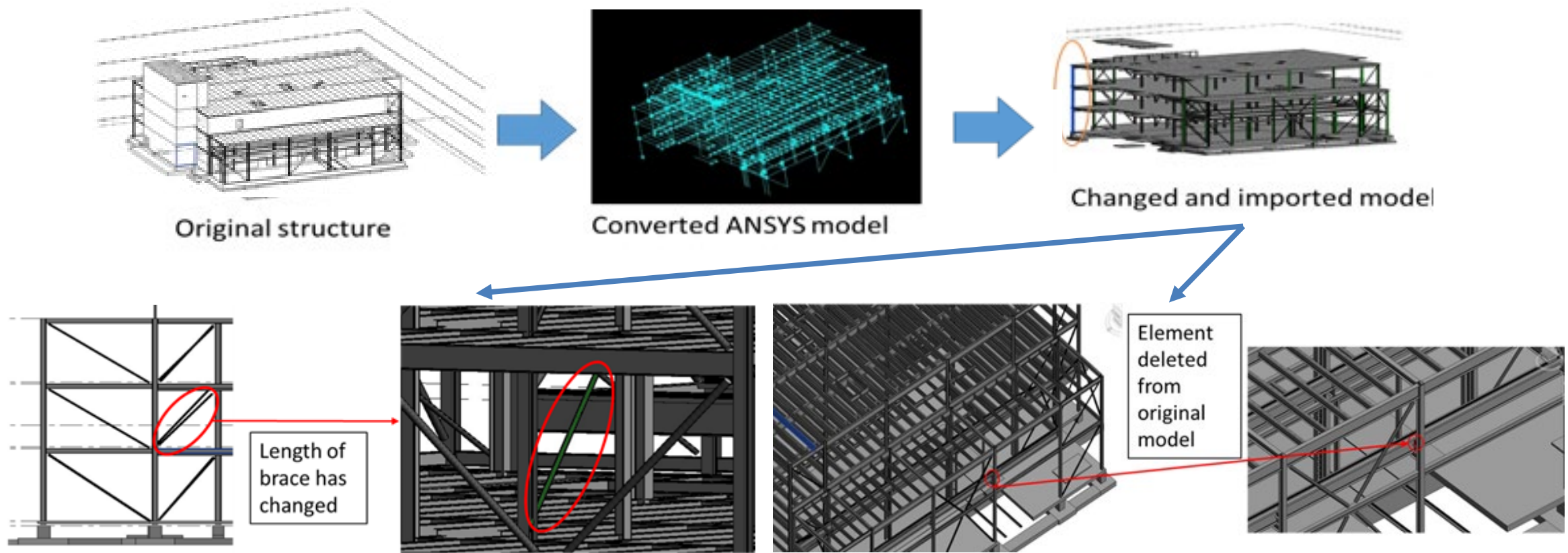
As-built to as-planned comparison



As-built to as-built comparison

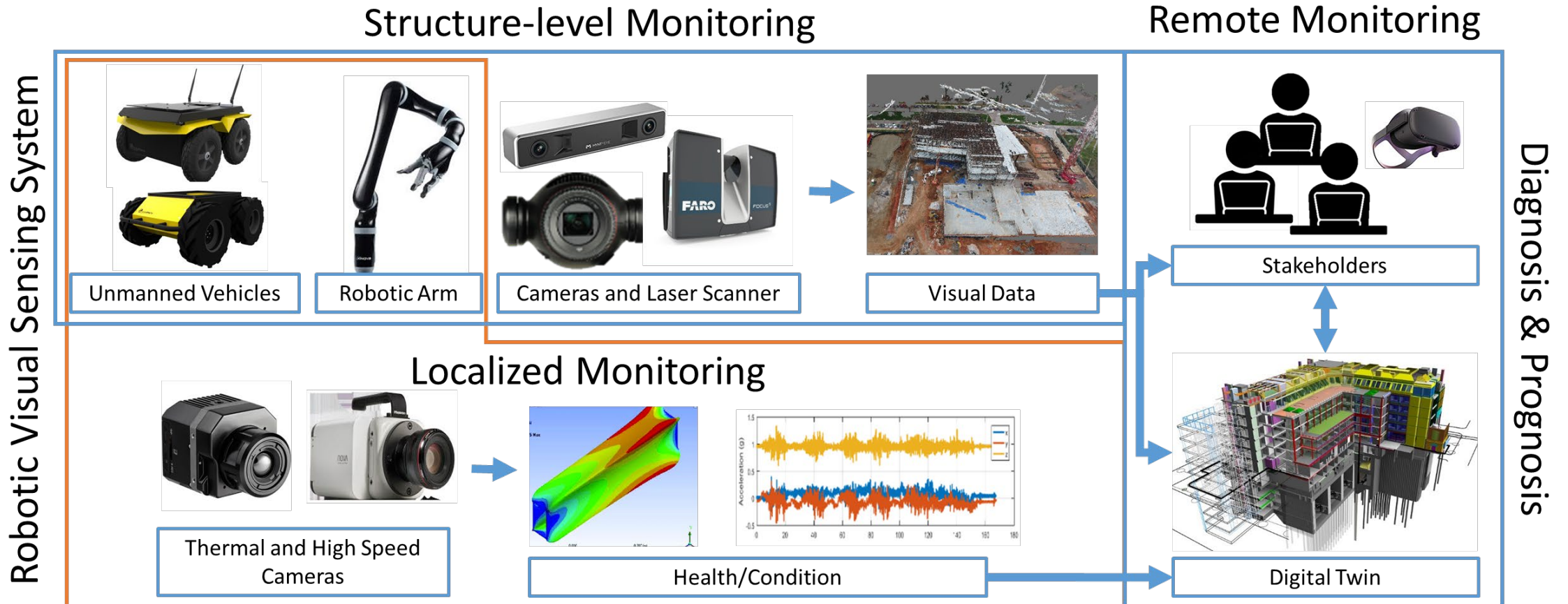


# Interoperability of 3D BIM Models & Structural Models



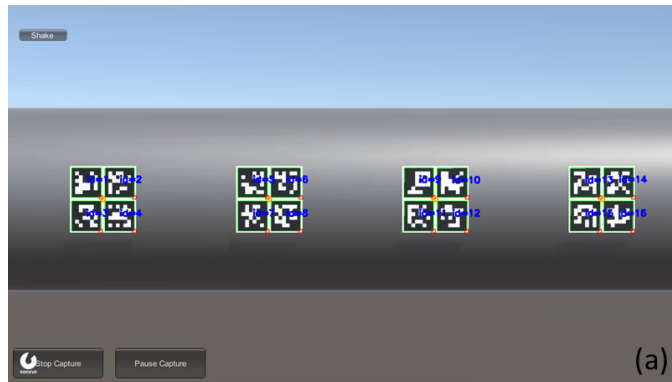
# Visual Sensing for Transportation of Fission Battery

- Continuous monitoring during transportation using multi-sensory system & integration with “Construction” and “Design” models

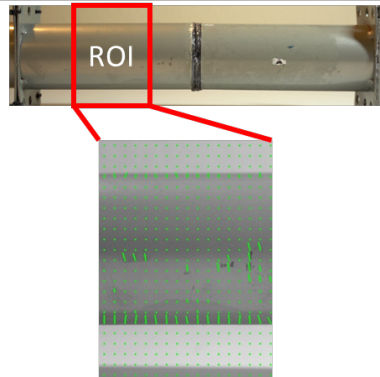


# Continuous Monitoring during Transportation

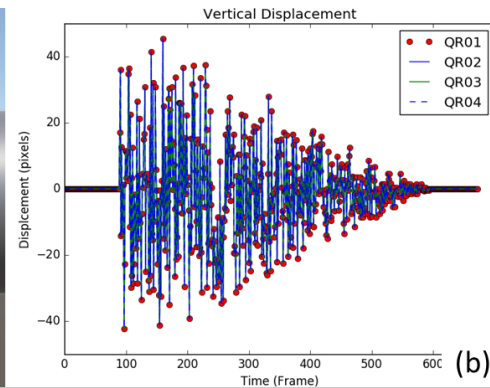
- Target-based (and also target-less for less accuracy) sensing for vibration
- Automated object recognition to detect any movement
  - Integrated sensing system (high-speed and thermal cameras and accelerometers)



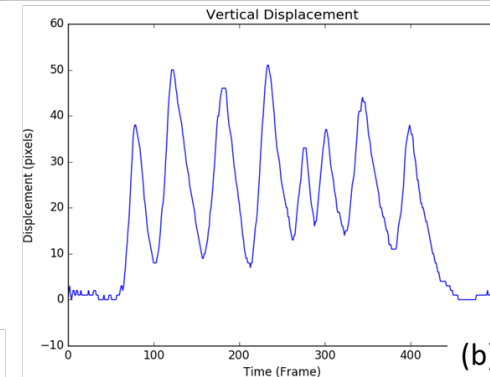
(a)



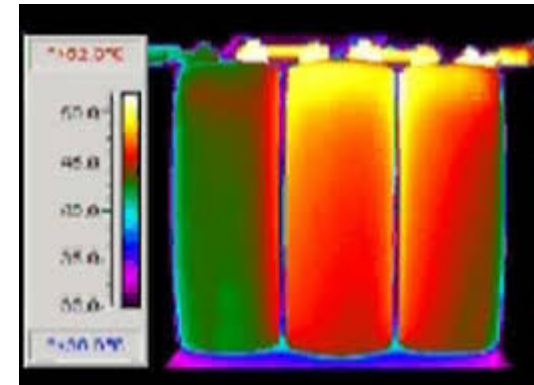
(c)



(b)



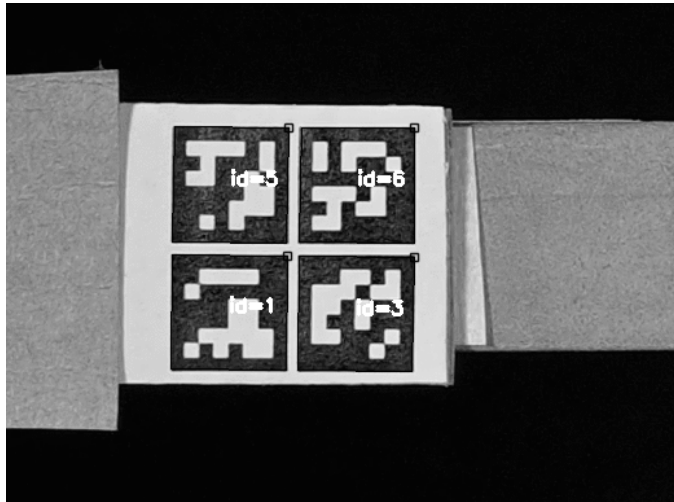
(b)



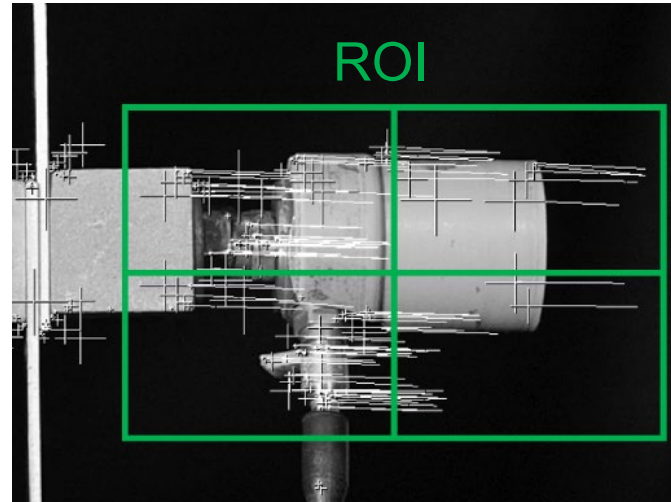
<https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy16osti/66960.pdf>

# Computer Vision based Vibration Measurement

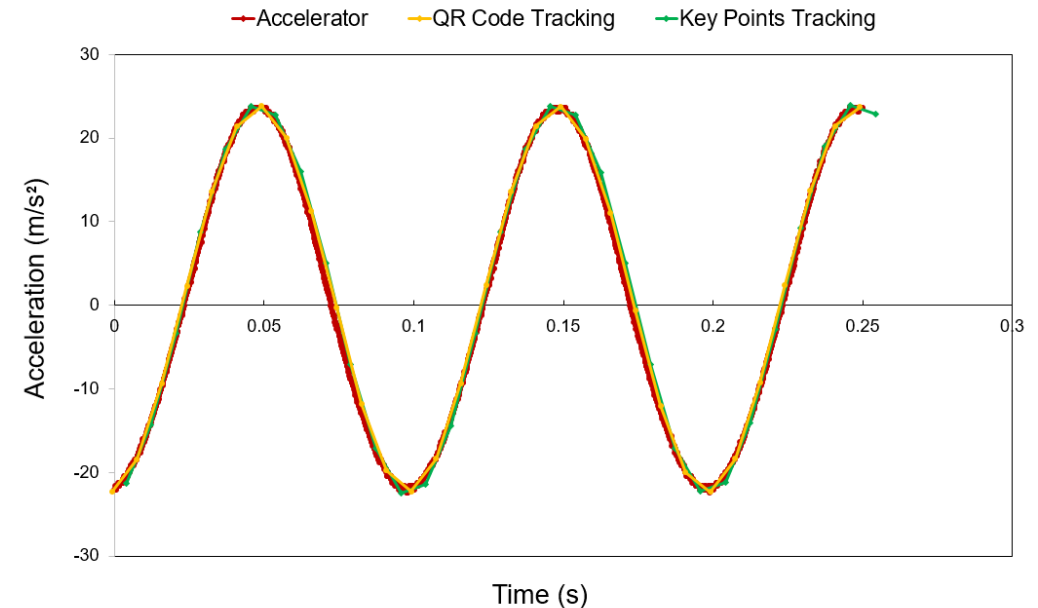
- Target-based (and also target-less) sensing for vibration
  - QR Code recognition and tracking
  - Key Points detection and tracking



QR Code Tracking



Key Points Tracking



Results Comparison



**Questions?**

# Issues in Commercial Reactor

March 2021

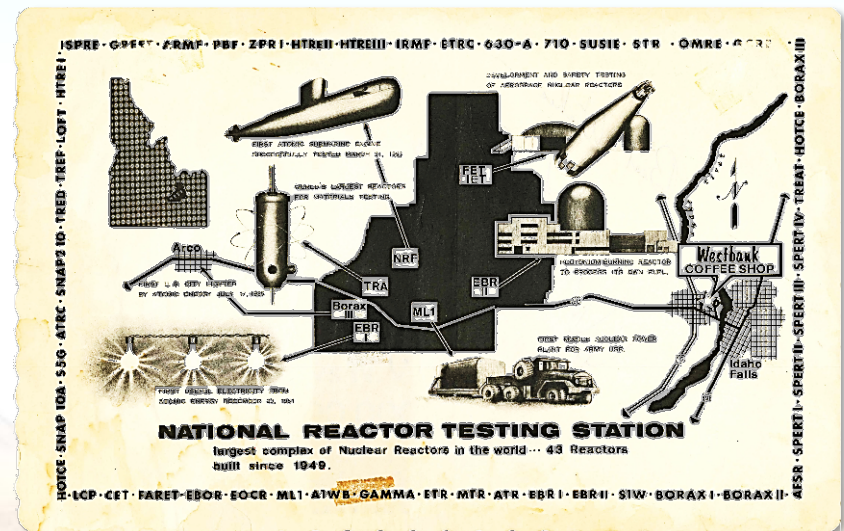
[www.inl.gov](http://www.inl.gov)



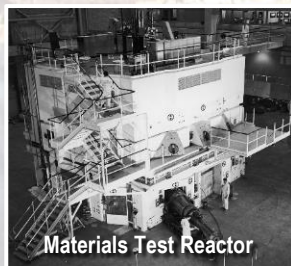
**PRS/MIS-21-01066**

# The National Reactor Testing Station drove nuclear innovation in the U.S. and around the world

- First nuclear power plant
- First U.S. city to be powered by nuclear energy
- First submarine reactor tested; training of nearly 40,000 reactor operators until mid-90s
- First mobile nuclear power plant for the army
- Demonstration of self-sustaining fuel cycle
- Basis for LWR reactor safety
- Aircraft and aerospace reactor testing
- Materials testing reactors



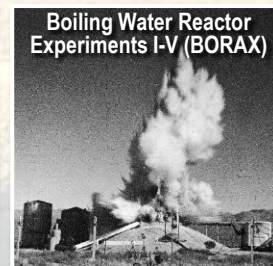
Experimental Breeder Reactor-I



Materials Test Reactor



Special Power Excursion Reactor Tests I through IV (SPERT)



Boiling Water Reactor Experiments I-V (BORAX)



SIW (aka Submarine Thermal Reactor) (STR)



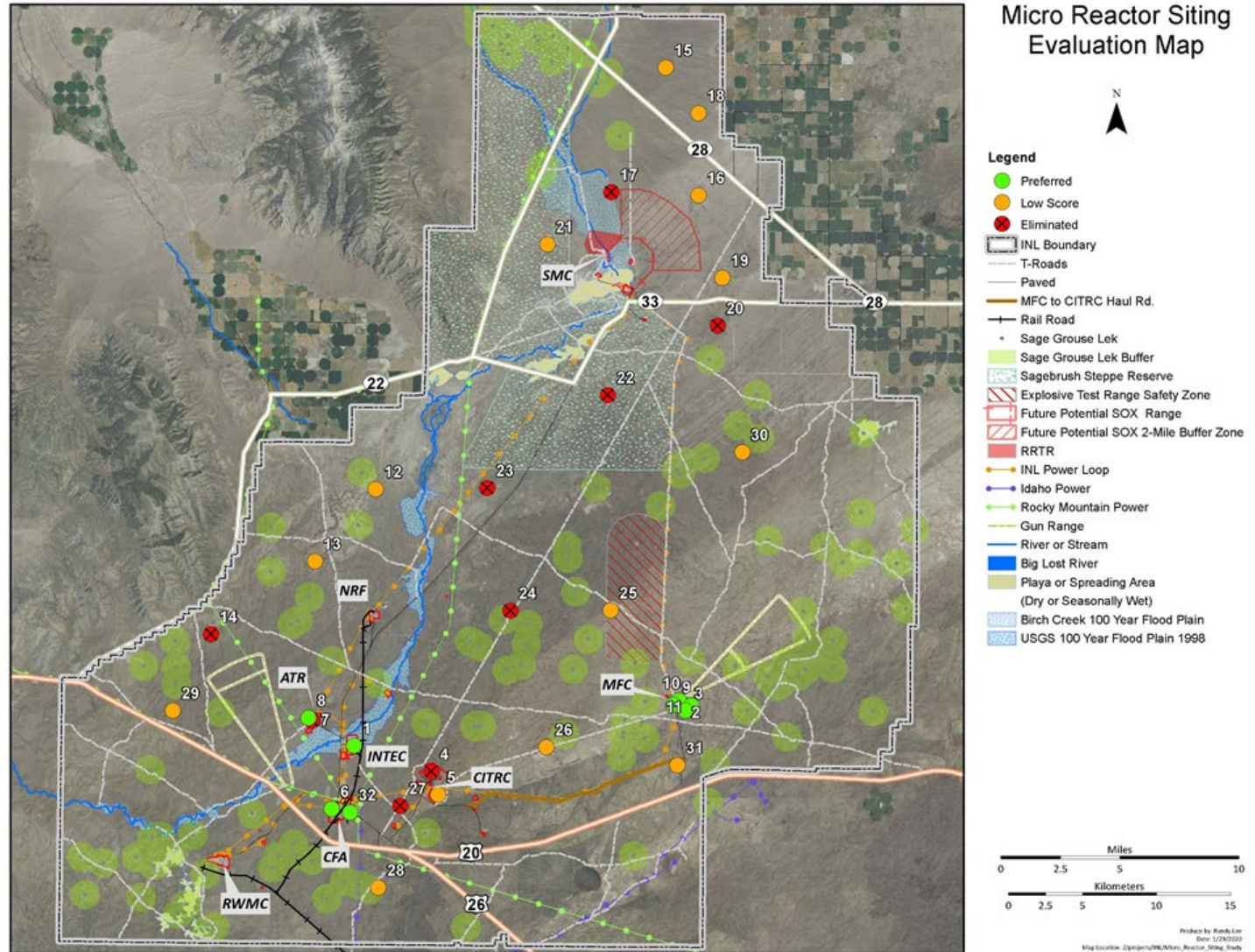
Loss Of Fluid Test Facility (LOFT)

## ***Siting Process has been Established and Used***

- INL and DOE have an established Site Use Permit.
  - A 99 year camping permit to access and develop a site
  - Provides separation of DOE and NRC regulation
  - Access to INL services as desired
- INL is the only DOE site to grant site use permits
  - NuScale (2017)
  - Oklo (2019)
- INL is developing the site to assist vendors

# Candidate Sites

- Nine sites failed “Must” criteria
- Twenty-three sites evaluated by team of INL subject matter experts using “Want” criteria



## *Integration with INL Site*

- INL is initiating a site wide NEPA analysis.
  - Supports NRC EIS submittals
- DOE is supporting multiple site upgrades
  - SSHAC Seismic Study started in 2019
    - 3 year/\$10m Study to provide probabilistic seismic hazard assessment + multiple test bore holes (\$1M/bore hole)
  - SSHAC Volcanic Study to start in 2021
    - 3 year/\$10m Study to provide probabilistic volcanic hazard assessment
  - LIDAR Study of INL site and surrounding area
  - Flooding, volcanic, seismic and cultural information
- Supporting multiple commercial siting activities are planned or started
  - Services established
  - Unique local studies on-going
  - Meteorology studies
  - Volcanology to support draft NRC methodology
- Electrical Grid Upgrades
  - 345kV upgrades
  - Commercial grid access

# ***Administrative Requirements***

- U.S Ownership Section, 103d of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, states that companies owning nuclear plants are required to be free of foreign influence. Effectively, this requires that owners of nuclear reactors be companies owned and controlled domestically.
- Regulations found in 10 CFR 50.33(f) demand that the owner demonstrate sufficient funds or access to the funding necessary to complete activities that support the license. The funding should demonstrate the capability to support each stage of reactor operation, including funding for licensing, construction, operation, and decommissioning will be needed.

# ***Project Information***

The required information includes:

- The power level of the reactor
- The inventory of required and generated radioactive materials
- A list of accepted engineering standards used to design the reactor
- A list of reactor features that affect the potential and magnitude of radioactive material released from the reactor in an accident
- A list of safety features and barriers, included in the reactor design, that limit the potential release of radioactive material
- A description of the local population distribution and how it intersects with necessary exclusion areas
- A list of man-made hazards that may affect the plant
- A description of the site's relevant seismology, meteorology, geology and hydrology
- A description of the local environment, including historic and current cultural features
- the environmental-effects analysis needs to eventually support an NRC NEPA decision.



## ***Preferred Site Characteristics***

- The 2011 NRC Regulatory Guide 4.7, “General Site Suitability Criteria for Nuclear Power Stations,” Per NRC guidance, an acceptable site must have or, in some cases, would be favorably viewed for having attributes, including:
  - Located more than 10 miles from an airport [NUREG-0800 3.5.1.6]
  - Located in an area of less than 0.5 G peak ground acceleration [NUREG/CR-4482]
  - Located more than 5 miles from surface faults and capable tectonic structures [Appendix A to 10 CFR100, “Seismic and Geologic Siting Criteria for Nuclear Power Plants”]
  - Located away from population centers of more than 25,000 people [Regulatory Guide 1.70, “Standard Format and Content of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear Power Plants,” revision 3 (1978), Section 2.1.3.5]
  - Located more than 5 miles from a hazardous site [NUREG-0800, Section 13.6.1 and 13.6.3]
  - Located more than 1 mile from any commercial rail line [10 CFR 100.21(a), NRC, Reg Guide 1.91]
  - Located outside a wetland area [NUREG-1555 and Reg Guide 4.11]
  - Located outside of a 100-year floodplain [Reg Guide 1.59 and Reg Guide 1.206]
  - Meets minimum reactor design requirements [NUREG-0800].

# *Additional Requirements*

## **Environmental Standard Review Plan**

- The NRC environmental review is guided by the ESRP, as described in NUREG-1555. The ESRP specifies methods used to review environmental impacts, provide details on required analyses, and indicate a way to describe significance of environmental impacts.

## **NRC NEPA Requirements**

- The NRC assesses environmental impacts of licensing decisions to satisfy federal NEPA requirements. An environmental assessment (EA) is a lower level of assessment that can be used when environmental impacts are relatively low. Categorical exclusions can be used when no significant effect is anticipated from a decision [10 CFR 51.22]. An EA is a more-detailed review that can result in a **finding of no significant impact when the impacts are evaluated to be insignificant [10 CFR 51.30]** **The highest level of review results in an EIS, followed by a formal record of decision [10 CFR 51.102].**
- **The NRC reviews the nuclear plant-deployment impacts on, at minimum, the direct environment, air quality, geology, water, ecology, human environment, cultural and historic resources, economics, logistics, waste processes, visual effects, and environmental justice. Evaluation of other deployment options are also considered.**

## **Additional Coordination**

- Beyond the NRC environmental requirements, the licensing can be evaluated against the National Historic Preservation Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and additional federal regulations. The consultations add information to the EA or EIS.
- National Historic Preservation Act consultation involves working with local and state historic preservation offices, tribal preservation offices, and other federal and local offices.
- Endangered Species Act consultation occurs with the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Fisheries Service on critical habitats and endangered species that might be affected. Magnuson–Stevens Act consultation centers on potential effects on fish habitats.

## **Radiological Emergency-Response Plan**

- An emergency-response plan will be required as part of NRC licensing. Even extremely safe plants need an established emergency plan that describes how a nuclear power plant's emergency response will be performed. Events that trigger emergency response can be natural or man-made. Plants with unique capabilities have the potential to require new evaluation methods and planning.

# External Hazards

- Basic environmental hazards are seismic, weather, volcanology, and flooding. Each hazard has an evaluation process specified in the standard review plan [NUREG-0800].

- **Seismic Analysis**

The NRC-required probabilistic seismic-hazard analysis (PSHA) evaluation is performed using an NRC recommended Senior Seismic Hazard Analysis Committee (SSHAC) analysis. [NUREG-2117, "Practical Implementation. Guidelines for SSHAC Level 3 and 4 Hazard Studies," Revision 1].

- **Volcanology**

Methods for analysis of volcanology hazards are being revised by the NRC (DRAFT Reg Guide DG-4028). A proposed analysis method based on the SSHAC process is publicly available and being established as the standard process. The probabilistic volcanic-hazard analysis (PVHA) will require detailed surface topology and understanding the historic volcanic behavior.

- **Weather**

To evaluate the effects of weather, all atmospheric conditions at the site are evaluated. High winds, tornadoes, hurricanes, and snow are all evaluated (Reg Guide 1.23). The evaluation of the risk from weather events is largely based on historic weather conditions.

- **Flooding**

The effects of flooding are calculated based on previous conditions and the worst potential conditions. Local topology and historic events are used to evaluate the risk from flooding. Hurricanes, storms, dam breaks, ice dams, and tsunamis are all evaluated, as necessary.

- **Man-Made Hazards**

The reactor design should account for local man-made hazards that can affect the site.

## ADDITIONAL NON-SAFETY STUDIES

- Electric Grid Commercial access into the correct market
- Ultimate Heat Sink access to water heat sink, air cooling or other thermal sinks

March 15, 2021  
Virtual Format

# Panel Discussion

**Fission Battery – Siting and Transportation**

Moderator: C. Bolisetti

# Overview

- **Introduction of the speakers (5 mins):**
  - **Alan Wells (Private Consultant)**
  - **Emma Redfoot (Oklo)**
  - **Bernie White (U.S. NRC)**
  - **George Griffith (INL)**
- **Moderator: Chandu Bolisetti (INL)**
- **Format: Six questions (8-10 mins each)**
- **Q&A session from the audience (15 mins)**

## Question #1

**What are the regulatory challenges that need to be addressed for fission battery transportation?**

## Question #2

**What are the technical challenges that need to be addressed for fission battery transportation?**

## Question #3

**What are the regulatory challenges for fission battery flexible siting?**



## Question #4

**What are the technical challenges for fission battery flexible siting?**

## Question #5

**What role can INL and NUC play in making fission batteries a reality?**

## Question #6

**What are your key takeaways from this workshop?**

# Q&A Session – 15 Minutes

**Questions from the audience**