FUELBASE, TAF-ID DATABASES AND OC SOFTWARE: ADVANCED COMPUTATIONAL TOOLS TO PERFORM THERMODYNAMIC CALCULATIONS ON NUCLEAR FUEL MATERIALS

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CONTEXT AND AIM OF THE TAF-ID PROJECT

AIM

- To develop a **thermodynamic database** as a **computational tool** to perform thermodynamic calculations on advanced fuel materials using the Calphad method
  ➡ **Phase diagrams + Thermodynamic properties of the phases**
- To facilitate the **exchange** on the models, review of experimental data, softwares, assessments ….

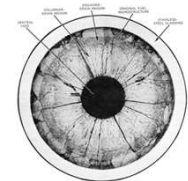## CONTEXT ➡ Fuel materials for Generation 2,3 & 4 reactors

- **Fuels**
  - UO_2, $(U,Pu,Am,Np)O_2$, $(U,Th)O_2$, (U,Pu,Zr,Am,Np), UN, $(U,Pu)C$
- **Fission products**
  - Ba, Sr, Mo, Zr, Lanthanides (Ce, La, Nd, Gd), metallic FPs (Pd, Ru, Rh, Te), Volatile (Cs, I, Te)
- **Structural materials**
  - Fe-Cr-Ni, Zr alloys, Fe-Cr-Al-Y, Concrete (SiO_2-CaO-Fe_xO_y-Al_2O_3-MgO), SiC, B_4C
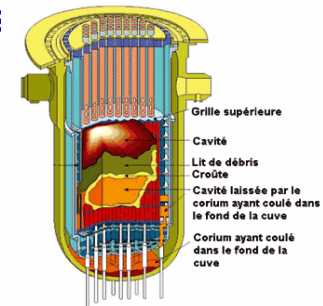
APPLICATIONS

- **Fuel behaviour at high temperature under normal and off-normal conditions**
  - Influence of the **Minor Actinides** on the fuel thermodynamic properties
  - **Fission product** « chemistry »
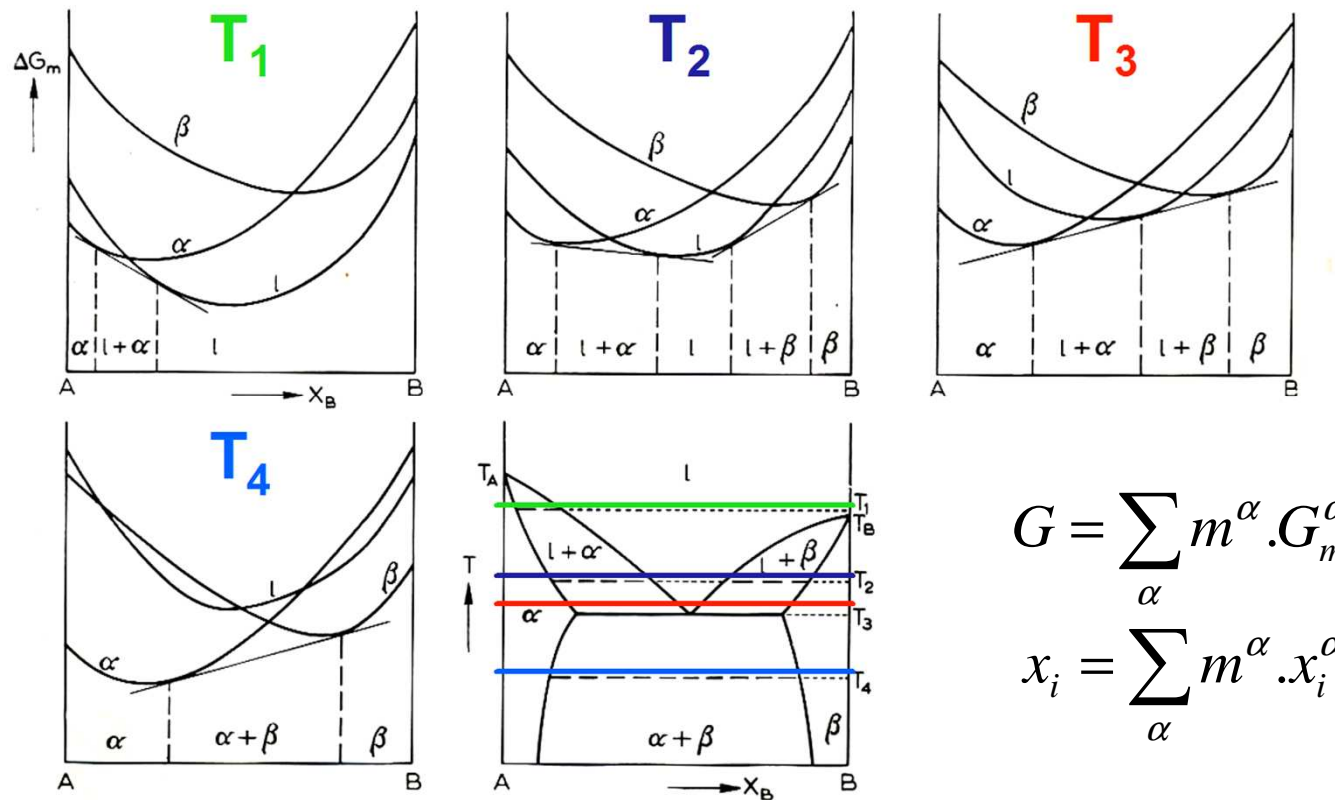 - **Solid/liquid** phase transition
  - **Vaporization**
- **Fuel / cladding chemical interaction at high temperature**
- **Fuel fabrication**

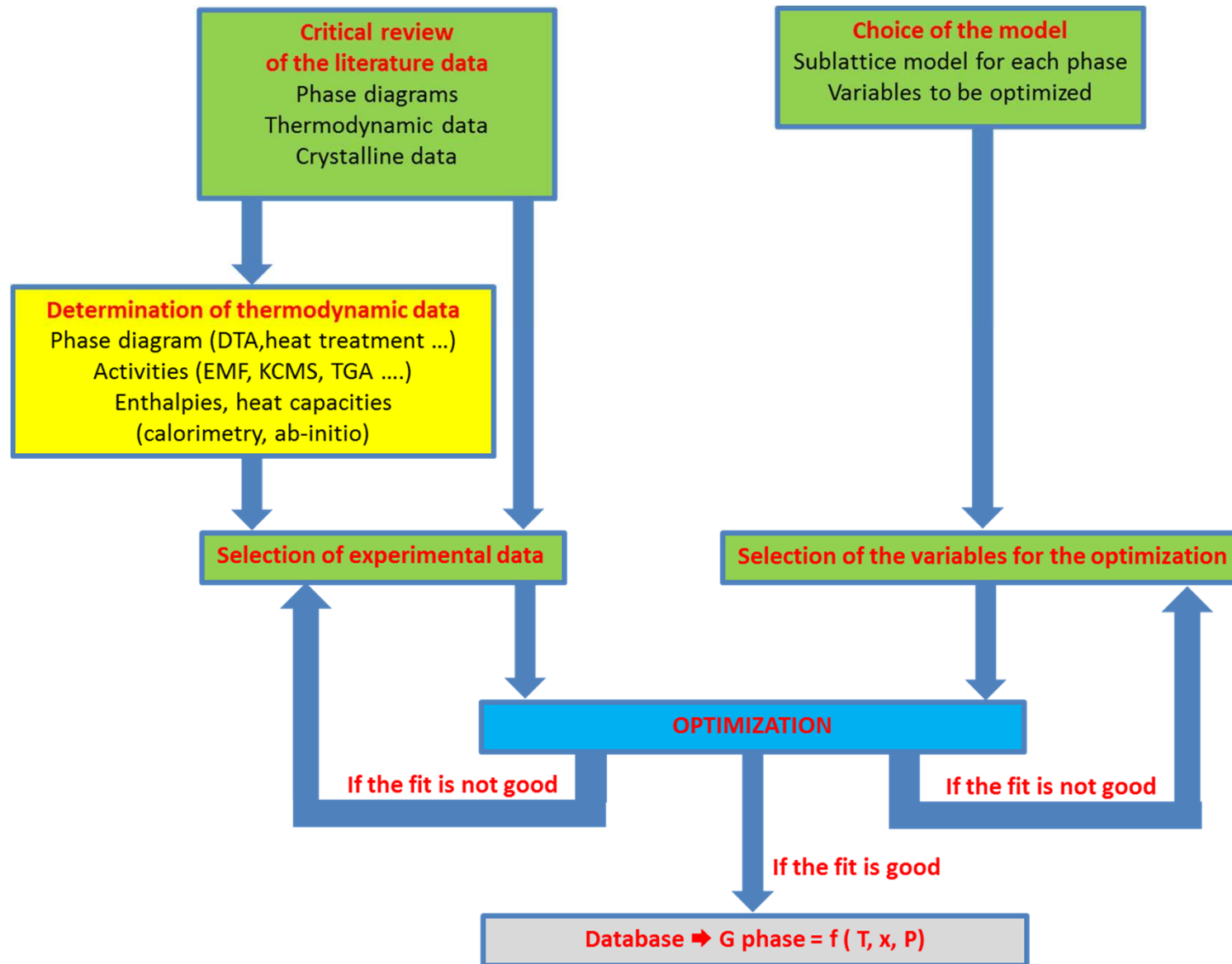**The thermodynamic equilibrium is calculated by minimizing the Gibbs energy of the system**

$$G = \sum_{\alpha} m^{\alpha} . G_{m}^{\alpha}$$

$$x_{i} = \sum_{\alpha} m^{\alpha} . x_{i}^{\alpha}$$

$$\Longrightarrow \quad \min(G) = \min\left(\sum_{\alpha} m^{\alpha} G_{m}^{\alpha}(T, p, x_{i}^{\alpha} \, or \, y_{k}^{(l,\alpha)}) \right)$$

CALPHAD METHOD

**Critical review
of the literature data**
Phase diagrams
Thermodynamic data
Crystalline data

Choice of the model
Sublattice model for each phase
Variables to be optimized

Determination of thermodynamic data
Phase diagram (DTA,heat treatment ...)
Activities (EMF, KCMS, TGA ....)
Enthalpies, heat capacities
(calorimetry, ab-initio)

Selection of experimental data

Selection of the variables for the optimization

OPTIMIZATION

If the fit is not good

If the fit is not good

If the fit is good

Database ➜ G phase = f (T, x, P)

FUELBASE DATABASE
FOR ADVANCED NUCLEAR FUEL MATERIALS (2005-2012)

FUELBASE was a collaboration between CEA, Calcul Thermo, ITU, NRG and ORNL and served as the model for the expanded TAF-ID project

	Am	C	Cr	Mo	N	Nb	Np	O	Pu	Re	Ru	Si	Ta	Ti	U	V	W	Zr
Am							Kurata 10	Gotcu 10	Dupin 07						Kurata 10			
C			Andersson 87	Andersson 88	SGTE	Lee 01		SGTE	CEA 10	Dupin 07		Grobner 96	Frisk 96	Dumitrescu 98	Dupin 09	Huang 91	Jonsson 93	Guillermet 95
Cr				Frisk 88	Frisk 91			Taylor 90	Dupin 06			Coughanowr 94		Saunders 98	Dupin 05	Lee 92		Zeng 98
Mo					Frisk 91			Sundman 07	Dupin 05	Dupin 08		Liu 05		Chung 99	Dupin 06			Jerlerud 03
N								SGTE	Sundman 05			Hillert 92		Jonsson 96	Chevalier 00	Ohtani 91		Ma 04
Nb									Berche 09			Shao 04			Liu 08			Guillermet 91
Np								Benes 09	Dupin 08						Kurata 10			
O									Gueneau 08			Hallsted 93		Sundman 05	Gueneau			Liang 01
Pu										Berche 08	Dupin 08	Dupin 05	Berche 09	Dupin 06	Kurata 99	Berche 09	Berche 08	Kurata 99
Re												Dupin			Berche 08		Dupin	
Ru															Dupin 08			
Si													Vahmas 89	Seifert 00	Berche 09		Vahmas 89	Guéneau 94
Ta															Berche 09			
Ti															Rado 06	Saunders 98		Kumar 94
U																Berche 09	Sundman 07	Chevalier 04

JRC - Institute for Transuranium Elements

■ **2013-2016: Thermodynamics of Advanced Fuels – International Database**
➡ **The aim is to make available a comprehensive, internationally recognised and quality-assured thermodynamic database for advanced fuels**

Country	Signatory	Programme Review Group	
		Representative	Alternate Member
Canada	CNL, RMCC, UOIT	M. Piro	E.C. Corcoran
France	CEA	C. Guéneau (Chair)	J.-C. Dumas
Japan	JAEA, CRIEPI	M. Kurata	T. Ogata
The Netherlands	NRG	R. Hania	G.-J. de Haas
Rep. Of Korea	KAERI	B.-O. Lee	J.-H. Kim
USA	DOE	T. Besmann (Vice-Ch)	P. Turchi

■ The TAF-ID database is being built by **merging existing databases**
■ N. Dupin (consultant) is responsible for maintenance and documentation
■ Coordinated by S. Massara from OECD/NEA ➡ http://www.oecd-nea.org/science/taf-id

DATABASES DEVELOPED BY THE PARTNERS

Country	Software	Chemical system	Model
Canada AECL RMC UOIT	*FACTSAGE*	Fuel UO_2 + Np, Pu + Coolant H_2O FPs: (Kr), Rb, Sr, Y, Zr, Mo, Tc, Ru, Rh, Pd Te, I, Xe, Cs, Ba, La, Ce, Pr, Nd	302 comp. 17 solutions
France CEA	*Thermo-Calc*	Fuel UO_2, MOX+Am,Np,(U,Pu,Zr), (U,Pu)C, (U,Pu)N FPs: Ag, Ba, Cs, I, La, Mo, Nb, Ru, Sr, Te Materials: Concrete, B-C, Fe-Cr-Ni, SiC,Ta, W, V	Solutions 561 binaries 30 ternaries
Japan JAEA, CRIEPI	*Thermo-Calc*	Metallic fuel: Am-Cd-Ce-Fe-Gd-La-Nd-Np-Pr-Pu-U-Y-Zr Oxide fuel: Pu-Zr-O, Fe-B-C-O	Solutions
Netherlands NRG	*FACTSAGE*	Fuel: (U, Pu, Am, Np, Th)-(C, N, O) FPs: Ag, Ba, Br, Ce, Cs, Eu, I, La, Mo, Nb, Nd, Pd, Rb, Ru, Sb, Sn, Sr, Te, Y, Zr Materials: Fe, Ni, Si, Ti, Ta, W, Zn + Na, H, Pb	727 comp.
USA ORNL LLNL	*FACTSAGE Thermo-Calc*	UO_2 + RE: Pu-U-Gd-Ce-La-O Metallic fuel: Am-Pu, Mo-Pu,Mo-U,Nb-U,Nb-Zr,Pu-U,Ti-U,U-Zr Materials: Be-Cu-Fe-Nb-Ta-Ti-Zr	C1 solution solutions

➡ Different databases with different models.
➡ FACTSAGE and Thermo-Calc softwares are used.

Thermochemical models may be inconsistent between contributors and need to be reconciled

Models with stoichiometric phases and a few solid solutions
TBASE+RMC+UOIT: many compounds are described
➡ Associate model for oxide solid solutions (A, AO_2, AO_3 ...)
➡ The phase diagrams can not be calculated
➡ A solution model for (Mo,Pd,Rh,Ru,Tc)

Models for MOX solid solution with Lanthanides
ORNL: determines oxygen potential versus burnup
➡ Ionic three sublattice model for MOX : Compatible with CEA database
➡ Phase diagrams can be calculated

Models with a full description of non stoichiometric phases (solid & liquid)
JAEA+CEA+LLNL ➡ The phase diagrams can be calculated

The aims of our project are:
- **Merge the different databases,**
- **Agree on thermodynamic descriptions** for binary and ternary sub-systems
- **Propose experiments** to improve the descriptions

TAF-ID DATABASE (VERSION 5 – JANUARY 2015)

ELEMENTS ➡ Ag-Al-Am-Ar-B-Ba-C-Ca-Ce-Cr-Cs-Fe-Gd-H-He-I-La-Mg-Mo-N-Nb-Nd-Ni-Np-O-Pd-Pu-Re-Rh-Ru-Si-Sr-Ta-Te-Th-Ti-U-V-W-Zr

BINARY SYSTEMS

Ag-I   Ag-O Ag-Ti   Ag-Zr
Al-Ca   Al-Cr   Al-Fe   Al-Mg   Al-O   Al-Si   Al-U   Al-Zr
Am-Fe   Am-Np   Am-O*   Am-Pu* Am-U   Am-Zr
B-C   B-Fe   B-H   B-I   B-O   B-Pu   B-U   B-Zr
Ba-H   Ba-I*   Ba-La* Ba-Mo* Ba-N   Ba-O   Ba-Ti* Ba-V*
C-Cr   C-Fe   C-Mo   C-N   C-Nb   C-Ni   C-O   C-Pu* C-Re   C-Si   C-Ta   C-Ti   C-U* C-V   C-W   C-Zr
Ca-Fe   Ca-Mg   Ca-O   Ca-Si   Ca-U* Ca-Zr*
Ce-Cr   Ce-Fe   Ce-O*
Cr-Cs* Cr-Fe   Cr-H   Cr-I   Cr-La* Cr-Mo   Cr-N   Cr-Nd* Cr-Ni   Cr-O   Cr-Pu* Cr-Si   Cr-Ti   Cr-U* Cr-Zr
Cs-I* Cs-Mo* Cs-Nb* Cs-O   Cs-Pu* Cs-Ta* Cs-Te* Cs-Ti* Cs-U* Cs-V* Cs-Zr*
Fe-Nd   Fe-Ni   Fe-Np   Fe-O   Fe-Pu   Fe-Si   Fe-U   Fe-Zr
Gd-O   Gd-U*
H-I   H-O   H-Sr
I-Mo   I-Sr   I-Te
La-Mo* La-Nb* La-O   La-Pu* La-Re* La-Ta* La-Te   La-Ti* La-U* La-V* La-W*
Mg-O   Mg-U* Mg-Zr*
Mo-N   Mo-O   Mo-Pd   Mo-Pu* Mo-Re   Mo-Rh* Mo-Ru   Mo-Si   Mo-Sr* Mo-Te* Mo-Ti   Mo-U* Mo-Zr
N-O   N-Pu* N-Si   N-Ti   N-U   N-Zr
Nb-O   Nb-Pu* Nb-Si   Nb-U   Nb-Zr
Nd-O* Nd-U*
Ni-O   Ni-U
Np-O* Np-Pu* Np-U   Np-Zr
O-Pu* O-Ru   O-Si   O-Sr   O-Te   O-Th* O-Ti   O-U   O-Zr
Pd-Rh   Pd-Ru* Pd-Tc* Pd-Te* Pd-Zr
Pu-Re* Pu-Ru* Pu-Si* Pu-Ti* Pu-U   Pu-W* Pu-Zr
Re-Si   Re-U* Re-W
Rh-Ru* Rh-Tc* Rh-Te*
Ru-Te* Ru-U*
Si-Ta   Si-Ti   Si-U* Si-W   Si-Zr
Sr-Ti* Sr-V*
Ta-U*
Ti-U* Ti-Zr
U-W* U-Zr

TERNARY SYSTEMS

Al-Ca-O Al-Cr-O Al-Fe-O Al-Mg-O
Al-O-Si Al-O-U Al-O-Zr
Am-O-Pu
B-C-Fe   B-C-U B-C-Zr B-Fe-Zr B-Pu-U
C-Mo-Re C-Mo-Si C-Mo-Ti C-Mo-U C-N-Ti C-N-U
C-O-Pu C-O-U C-Pu-U C-Pu-W C-Re-U C-Re-W
C-Si-Ti C-Si-U C-U-W C-U-Zr
Ca-Fe-O Ca-Mg-O Ca-O-Si Ca-O-U Ca-O-Zr
Cr-Fe-O Cr-Fe-Zr
Cs-Mo-O Cs-O-U Cs-O-Zr
Fe-O-Si Fe-O-U Fe-O-Zr   Fe-U-Zr
Gd-O-U
La-O-U
Mg-O-Si Mg-O-U Mg-O-Zr
Mo-O-U Mo-Pd-Rh Mo-Pd-Ru   Mo-Rh-Ru
Nb-O-U
Nd-O-U
Ni-O-Si
O-Pu-U O-Pu-Zr O-Si-U O-Si-Zr O-U-Zr
Pd-Rh-Ru
Pu-U-Zr

In red*: 72 assessed within our project
In blue: 116 coming from the literature

CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC DATA

A single sublattice model for all the phases with the same crystalline structure

Cr-Fe-Zr

The source of the description is clearly mentioned.

Cr-Fe-Zr

TAF-ID : Thermodynamics of Advanced Fuels - International Database
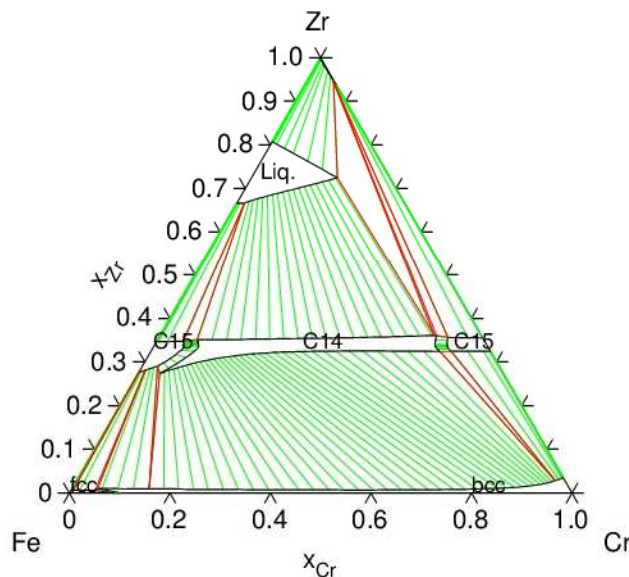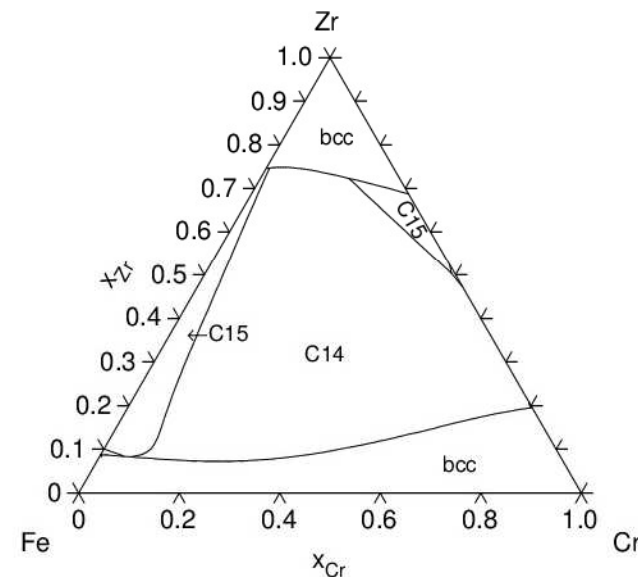
Home | Introduction | Models | Phases | Systems | TDB

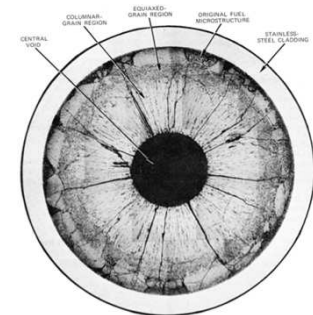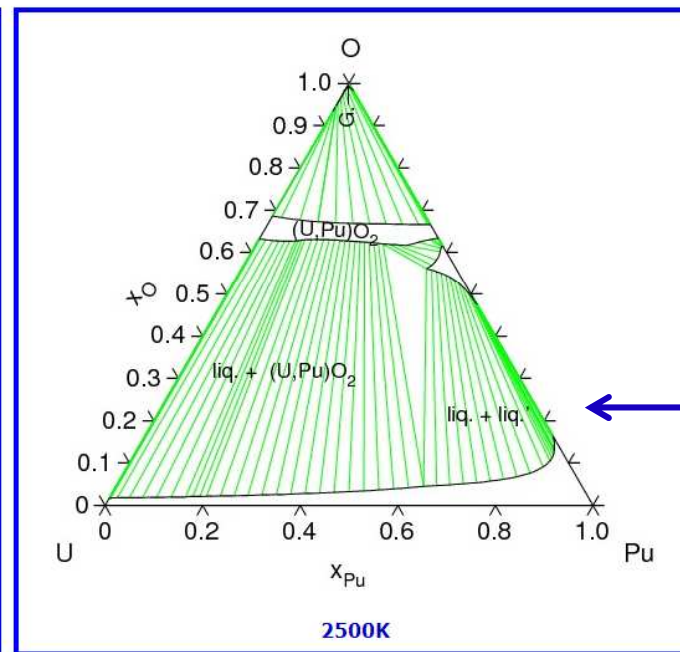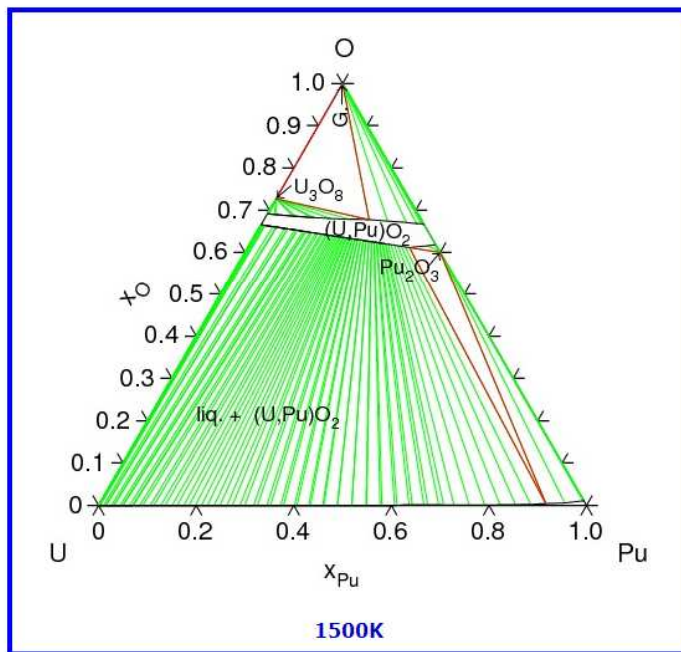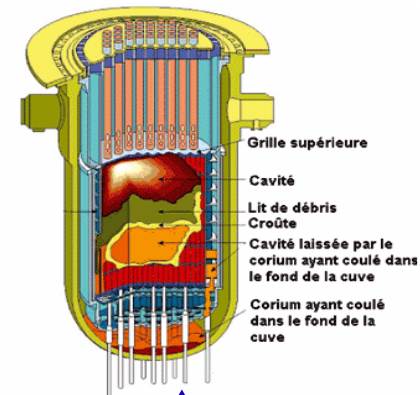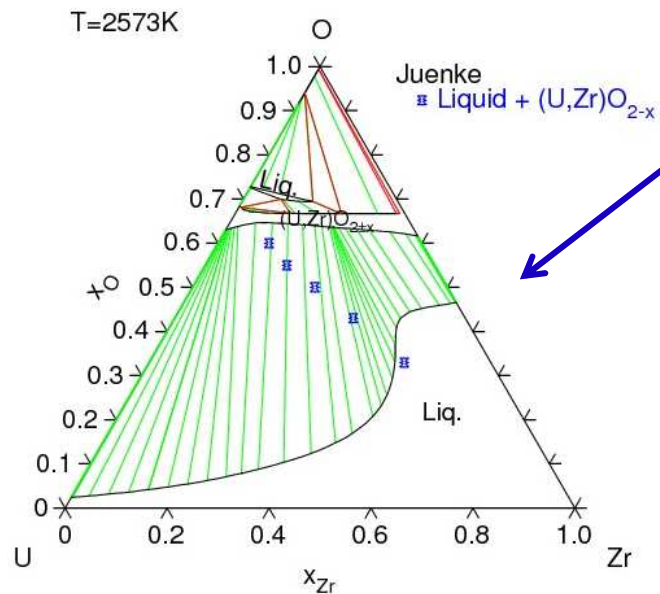Ternary system Cr-Fe-Zr — Cr-Fe Cr-Zr Fe-Zr Cr Fe Zr Binary systems Ternary systems Periodic table

Comparison with experiments

Phase diagram

T = 1148 K

Malakhova 1979
- ○ β-Zr + C15
- △ β-Zr + C15 + C14
- ◇ β-Zr + C14
- ◇ β-Zr + C14 + Zr_3Fe
- + Zr_2Fe
- ● C15
- ▲ C14 + C15
- ■ C15

T = 1073 K

Malakhova 1979
- ○ α-Zr + C15
- △ α-Zr + C15 + C14
- □ α-Zr + C14
- ◇ β-Zr + C14
- β-Zr + C14 + Zr_3Fe
- ▽ C14 + Zr_3Fe
- + Zr_2Fe
- ● C15
- ▲ C15 + C14
- ■ C14

TAF-ID : Thermodynamics of Advanced Fuels - International Database

Home | Introduction | Models | Phases | **Systems**

Ternary system O-Pu-U   O-Pu O-U Pu-U O Pu U Binary systems Ternary systems Periodic table

1500K

2500K

MOX fuel in SFR

-Interaction with steel clad
- Fission product chemistry

Source of the description

C. Guéneau, N. Dupin, B. Sundman, C. Martial, J.C. Dumas, S. Gossé, S. Chatain, F. De Bruycker, D. Manara, R. Konings, Thermodynamic modelling of advanced oxide and carbide nuclear fuels: Description of U-Pu-O-C systems, *J. Nuclear Materials*, **419** (2011) 145-167

Corium (U,Zr,O) forming from UO_2/Zr interaction

Corium (U,Zr,O,Fe) forming from UO_2/Zr/Fe interaction

$UO_2 + ZrO_2$ + concrete

PUBLIC VERSION

OC OpenCalphad SOFTWARE (BO SUNDMAN)

http://www.opencalphad.com/

- OC is an **open source** software to perform thermodynamic calculations using the CALPHAD method.

- OC uses as input data Databases containing mathematical models of the Gibbs energy as function of temperature, composition and pressure. **OC is compatible with databases in Thermo-Calc format (TDB)**.

- A **grid minimizer** is used to provide an initial global minima as a start point for the equilibrium calculation. This solves the problems related to miscibility gaps.

- A **software interface module** is available to compute a thermodynamic equilibrium for given conditions (P,T,N,x_i) to provide input data to other softwares (diffusion, phase field, thermohydraulics, thermal …).

- Calculations as function of temperature (or composition) can be performed.

- Binary phase diagrams can be calculated.

- A project is in progress to develop a **new assessment module** to develop the Gibbs Energy database.

SUMMARY

- **The Working Version 5 of TAF-ID database is available for the participants of the TAF-ID project**

- **A public version restricted to only published work is available for all the member countries of OECD/NEA since december 2014**
  - ➡ **https://www.oecd-nea.org/science/taf-id/taf-id-public/**

- **The TAF-ID database will be available in Thermo-Calc and FACTSAGE formats**
  - **A software to convert the databases from both codes is being developed**

- **The TAF-ID project may be extended for 3 years**

- **OC is an open source software for CALPHAD calculations, compatible with Thermo-Calc format (TDB)**

- **Both OC and TAF-ID are operational computational tools to perform thermodynamic calculations on corium systems for severe accident applications**