



**Lowell Crow** 

Neutron Optics and Polarization Group

**Neutron Technologies Division** 

June 23, 2021

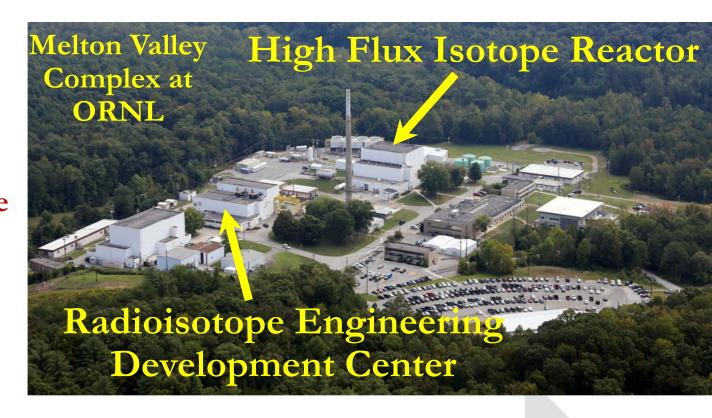
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# Quick Overview of the HFIR

- HFIR built in 1960s
- Critical in 1965 as the leading research reactor for isotope production
- Retains this title today
- Primary Role now: USDOE primary research reactor for neutron scattering research



1958 U.S. Atomic Energy Commission decides to build HFIR

1965 HFIR goes critical an testing begins 1966 HFIR operates at full power of 100MW 1986 essel Embrittlemer essertigation

HFIR restarts at 85MW, extending the vessel life to 2007
HFIR restarts after many upgrades and installation of the Cold Source

Today FIR currently perates at 85M

mission of neutron scattering research



### **HFIR Operations and Experiments**

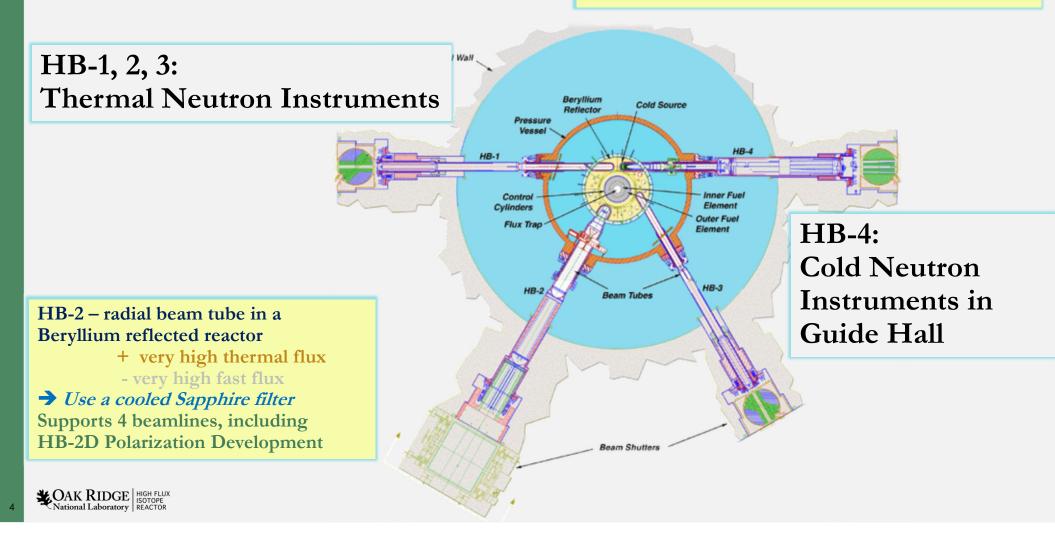
- HFIR is operated by the ORNL Research Reactor Division, part of the Neutron Sciences Directorate, which also operates the Spallation Neutron Source.
- HFIR is primarily a Basic Energy Sciences User Facility: 12 of the HFIR Thermal and Cold Neutron Beamlines operate as part of the Neutron Sciences User Program
- HFIR currently operates about 7 cycles per year, running at 85 MW for about 25 days/cycle
- HFIR also has 4 neutron beamlines for development, for polarized neutrons, detectors and sample alignment
- HFIR Retains extensive irradiation capabilities, and the adjacent Radioisotope Engineering Development Center provides transuranic chemistry and handling capabilities



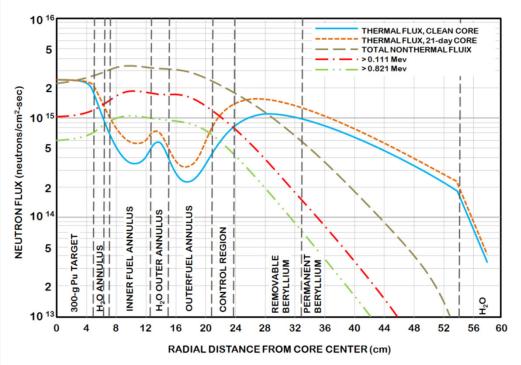
#### **HFIR** Horizontal Beam Tubes

Flux trap flux :  $2.5 \times 10^{15}$  thermal

Beam tube flux:  $1.2 \times 10^{15}$  thermal

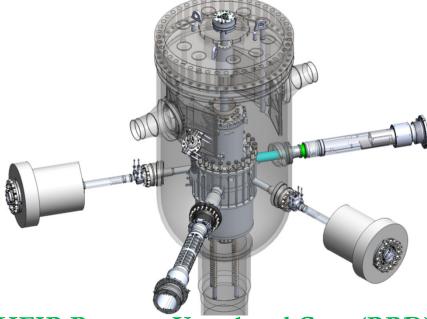


## HFIR is light water moderated and beryllium reflected, with HEU fuel



High Flux Isotope Reactor (HFIR) USER GUIDE A guide to in-vessel irradiations and experiments





HFIR Pressure Vessel and Core (RRD)



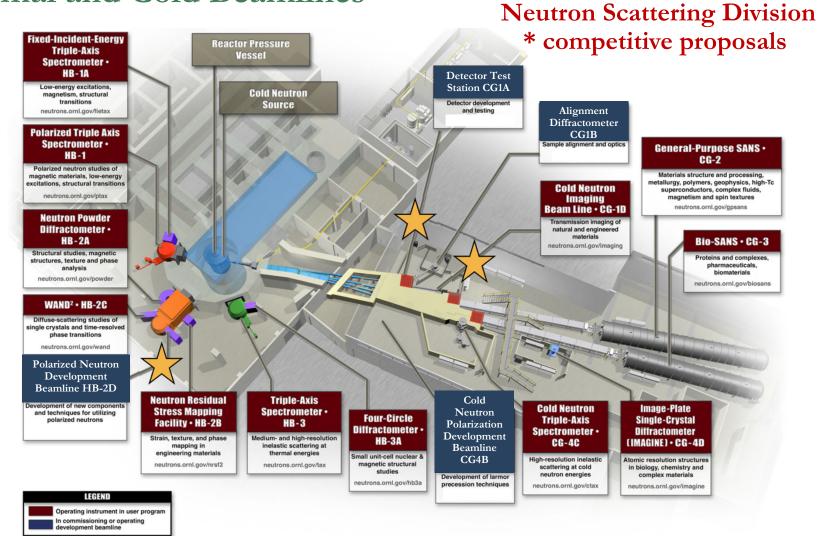
#### **HFIR Thermal and Cold Beamlines**

4 Development
Instruments
NTD/NSD



Possible
Electron
Measurement
Locations





12 User Instruments run by

## Views of HFIR Instruments











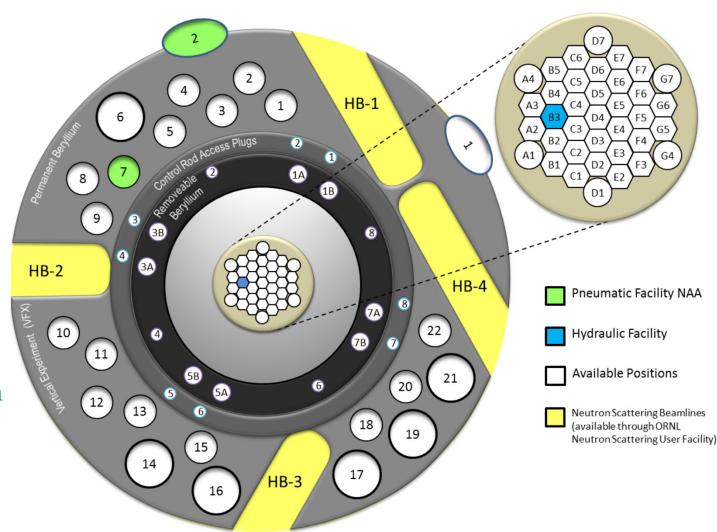
#### Other HFIR Missions

- Transuranic Isotope Production (HFIR's original mission)
  - Primary World Source for 252Cf, a spontaneous fission neutron source
  - Production of 238Pu for Radioisotope Thermal Generators for NASA
  - Production of other transuranics Berkelium for Tennessine Discovery
  - Other isotope production
- Neutron Activation Analysis Forensic Studies
- Materials Irradiation to support Nuclear Power and other applications
  - Fast and Thermal Neutron Positions
  - Gamma Irradiation Capability
- HFIR is also a Neutrino Source Prospect Collaboration



### **HFIR Irradiation Positions**

- Fixed Positions in beryllium reflector
- Fixed Positions in the Flux Trap
- Hydraulic Rabbit short Flux Trap irradiations
- Pneumatic Rabbit systems for Neutron Activation Analysis





#### HFIR Beryllium Reflector Replacement ~2024-2025

In about 2024, all HFIR instruments come out, and we have to reinstall all of them! Extend the building Move both SANS downstream New locations for IMAGINE and

**Imaging** New guide supports Larmor, Spin Echo

Alignment is satellite of Spin Echo

Cold Guide System will be reconfigured, user instruments will be replaced or renovated



