## Retrospect on ENSDF

## John Kelley

## NCSU and TUNL

## Katharine "Kay" Way (1902–1995) Physicist

Kay Way was a physicist and senior researcher on the Manhattan Project. In the course of this work she traveled to the Chicago, Handford, Los Alamos, and Oak Ridge facilities to gather data. This ultimately led to her founding of the Nuclear Data Project—a data resource under her direction and funded by the National Academy of Sciences. She also helped define the calculation for beta decay in products of fission, now called the Way-Wigner formula.





1964: Evaluated Nuclear Structure Data File

TUN

1974: INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF NUCLEAR STRUCTURE AND DECAY DATA EVALUATORS



International Atomic Energy Agency Nuclear Data Services Provided by the Nuclear Data Section

1996/97: Formation of the DoE supported US Nuclear Data Program that united US data centers

- 1992 NSAC charge on Nuclear Data (R.A. Meyer)
- 1996 LRP





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## Where the field is headed



3



## USNDP database usage





2013 LECM Survey by E.A. McCutchan





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Indeed, nuclear science is central

to the missions and goals of many organizations within the U.S. government—the Departments of Energy, Defense, and Homeland Security in particular. This section provides some of the many examples of how the knowledge obtained and the technologies developed through basic nuclear science research are being applied to address national needs.

#### NUCLEAR DATA: ACCURATE AND ACCESSIBLE

Nuclear data are produced from activities that are motivated either by basic research or by the development of nuclear-based technologies. Globally, programs that generate nuclear data are supported primarily by government agencies. There are three international networks that coordinate nuclear data projects worldwide. Two of these networks, the Nuclear Reaction Data Centres Network (NRDC) and the Nuclear Structure and Decay Data evaluators (NSDD), are coordinated by the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. The third network, the Working Party on International Nuclear Data Evaluation Co-operation (WPEC), is coordinated by the Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris.

The dissemination of nuclear data and associated documentation to the consumers of nuclear data is the main goal of these international networks. More information about them can be found at http://www-nds.iaea.org/nrdc. html, http://www-nds.iaea.org/nsdd, and http://www.nea. fr/html/science/wpec.

The hub of the U.S. network, the National Nuclear Data Center (NNDC) at Brookhaven National Laboratory, is the core facility for the DOE-funded U.S. Nuclear Data Program (USNDP). The mission of the USNDP is to collect, evaluate, and disseminate nuclear physics data for basic nuclear physics and applied nuclear technology research. [The USNDP includes nuclear data groups and nuclear data experts from

Applications

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national laboratories and academia across the United States. The services provided by this national network of nuclear data groups are essential to organizations with missions that require access to nuclear data. The nuclear data infrastructure provided by the USNDP impacts governmental, educational, commercial, and medical organizations in United States, and is part of the U.S. commitment to the international nuclear data networks.

It is evident that the need for convenient access to nuclear data is rapidly increasing. As shown in figure 5.3, the number of data retrievals from USNDP databases has increased by almost a factor of 10 over the last decade. In 2006 the NNDC web service reached the milestone of one million retrievals from the USNDP databases. The NNDC data retrievals are mainly from users in the United States (42.9%) and Europe (25.7%). The U.S. users are almost equally divided among government, education, and all other types of organizations.

A priority of the USNDP for the next decade is to produce databases in support of advanced simulation codes. This will be very important for applications such as design studies of Advance Fuel Cycle reactors, as well as nuclear-materialsdetection systems for homeland security applications. This effort will also maintain a high level of expertise in the area of nuclear data evaluation to assure the continuation of the nuclear databases with sufficient breadth and quality to meet the requirements of advanced computational applications.

December 200

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143

## 2015 LRP



# REACHING FOR THE HORIZON The Site of the Wright Brothers' First Airplane The 2015

# LONG RANGE PLAN for NUCLEAR SCIENCE

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### The ask: ENSDF and the LRP



The average age of ENSDF is dramatically increasing:

~7 years (FY04), ~8.5 y (FY16), ~10.1 y (FY20); implies ~13-, ~16-, and 20 year cycle for all mass chains, respectively.

\*The time between publication of a result and its inclusion into ENSDF is impacted by the average age It is essential for the Basic Science Nuclear Physics community stakeholders to express their needs for Evaluated Nuclear Data, especially ENSDF, etc., and to convey those needs in the Long Range Plan.





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## Short Story from 2006





#### Bill Forman Harvard Smithsonian Associate Director of the Center for Astrophysics

Bill Forman's main interests are in X-ray astronomy with a focus on galaxies, clusters, cosmology, and active galaxies. His current interests center on feedback from active galactic nuclei, the interaction of radio plasma with X-ray emitting hot gas, the microphysics of the intracluster medium plasma, and the formation and growth of galaxy clusters. In his research, he uses the Chandra and XMM-Newton Observatories. In addition to science activities, Forman led the CfA's High Energy Astrophysics Division as associate director for over a decade.

Haverford College (BA 1969) Harvard University (PhD 1973)



1

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National Medal of Science recipient in 2007 "for her pioneering contributions in nuclear physics that have advanced research into many applications, including energy generation from fusion, dating of artifacts, and nuclear medicine; her passion for teaching; and her outstanding service to her profession."