

# Introduction to Cyclus

Paul Wilson  
and the Cyclus Development Team

# Cyclus Development Team



- University of Wisconsin
  - Nuclear Engineering: Robert Carlsen, Vincent Cloitre, Matthew Gidden, Michael Gionet, Kathryn Huff<sup>1</sup>, Meghan McGarry, Baptiste Mougnot, Arrielle Opotowsky, Olzhas Rakhimov, Zach Welch, **Paul Wilson**
  - Life Science Communication: Ashley Anderson, **Dominique Brossard**, Nan Li, Dietram Scheufele
- University of Texas
  - Nuclear Engineering: Cem Bagdatlioglu, **Erich Schneider**
- University of South Carolina
  - Nuclear Engineering: Anthony Scopatz, Robert Flanagan
- University of Utah
  - Computer Science: Haya Agur, **Yarden Livnat**
- University of Idaho
  - Computer Science: **Robert Hiromoto**, Teva Velupillai

<sup>1</sup> Currently University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

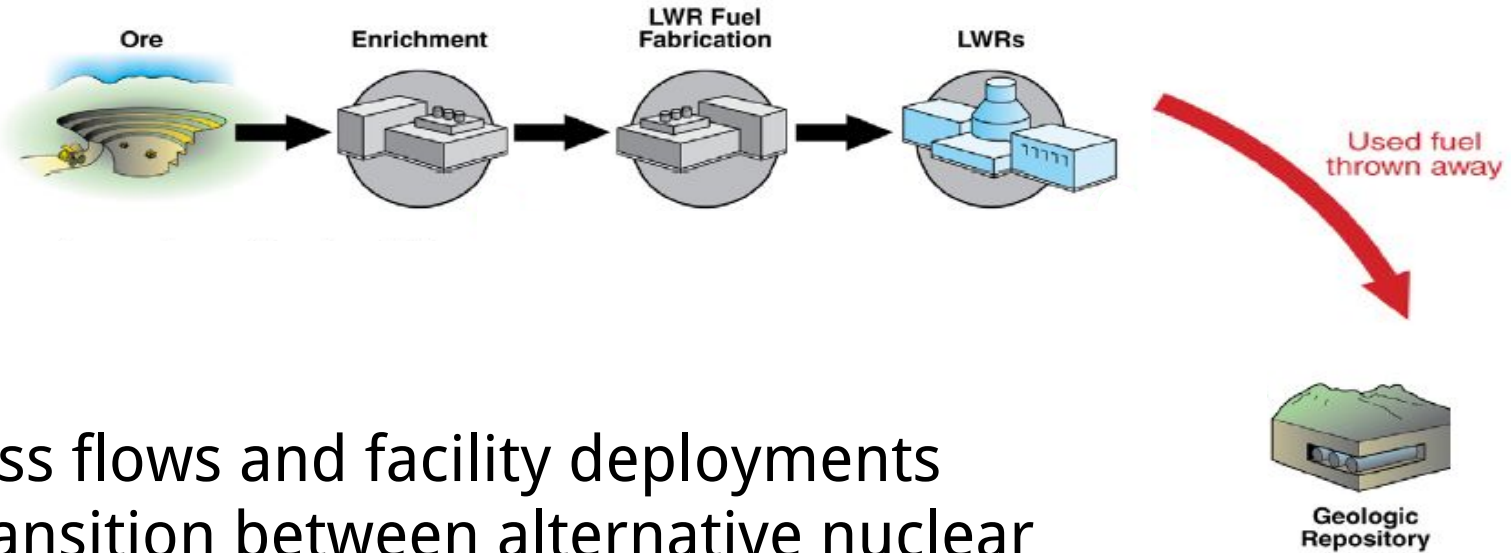
# Overview

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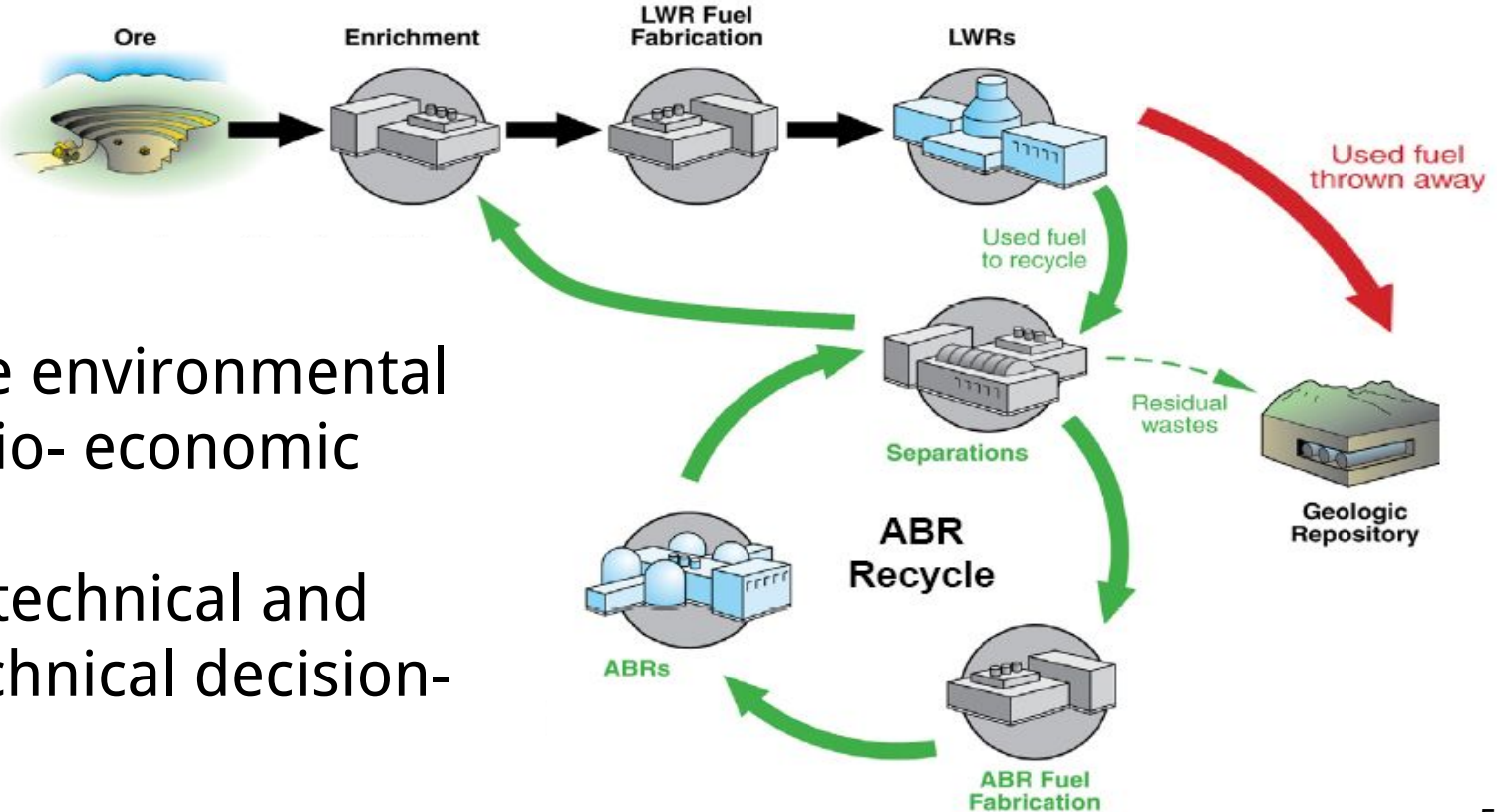
- Fuel Cycle Simulators Background
- Next Generation Fuel Cycle Simulator
- Cyclus History
- Cyclus Strategy
- Moving Forward

# Fuel Cycle Simulator - Purpose



Track mass flows and facility deployments during transition between alternative nuclear fuel cycles

# Fuel Cycle Simulator - Purpose



- Evaluate environmental and socio-economic impact
- Inform technical and non-technical decision-makers

# Motivations for New Simulators



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## Flexibility

- Accommodate innovative systems and cycles
- Carefully study impacts of modeling choices
- Implement as part of optimization and sensitivity analysis
- Minimize inherent technology assumptions
- Allow for maximum fidelity
  - Discrete facilities with discrete material quanta

## Accessibility

- Open source development using commonly available tools

# Cyclus Development Strategy

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1. Open source simulation kernel
2. Ecosystem of plug-in modules
3. Open source analysis and visualization tools

# Features of Cyclus Kernel



## Agent-Based Approach

- Encapsulate physics and interaction behavior in each **Facility**
- Each facility operated by an **Institution** in a geopolitical **Region**

## Dynamic Resource Exchange

- Constant deployment gives changing material flow paths
- Material substitution complicates matching of supply/demand

## Discrete Material Tracking

- Enable analysis based on tracking history of individual material objects
- Investigate: transportation, forensics, etc.

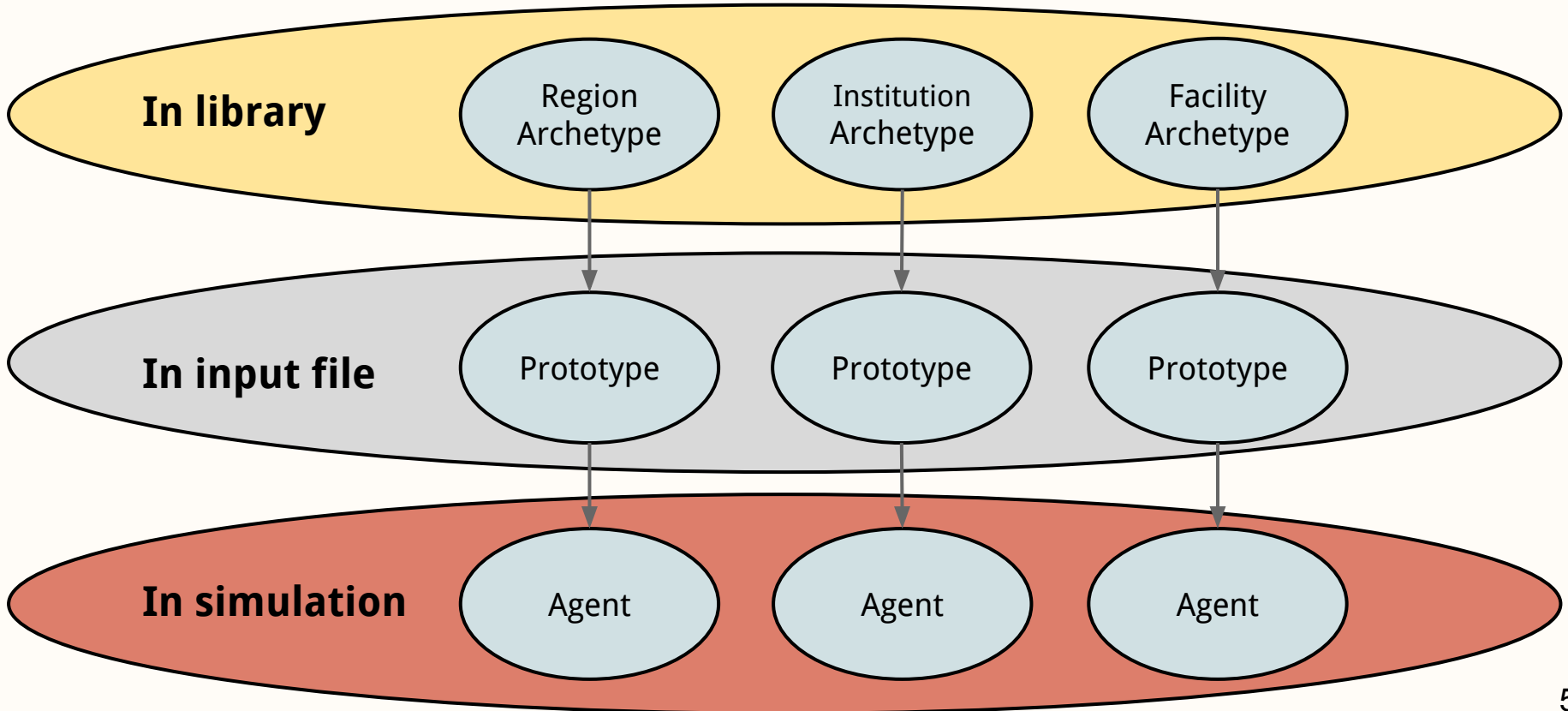


# Cyclus Kernel Basics: Simulation

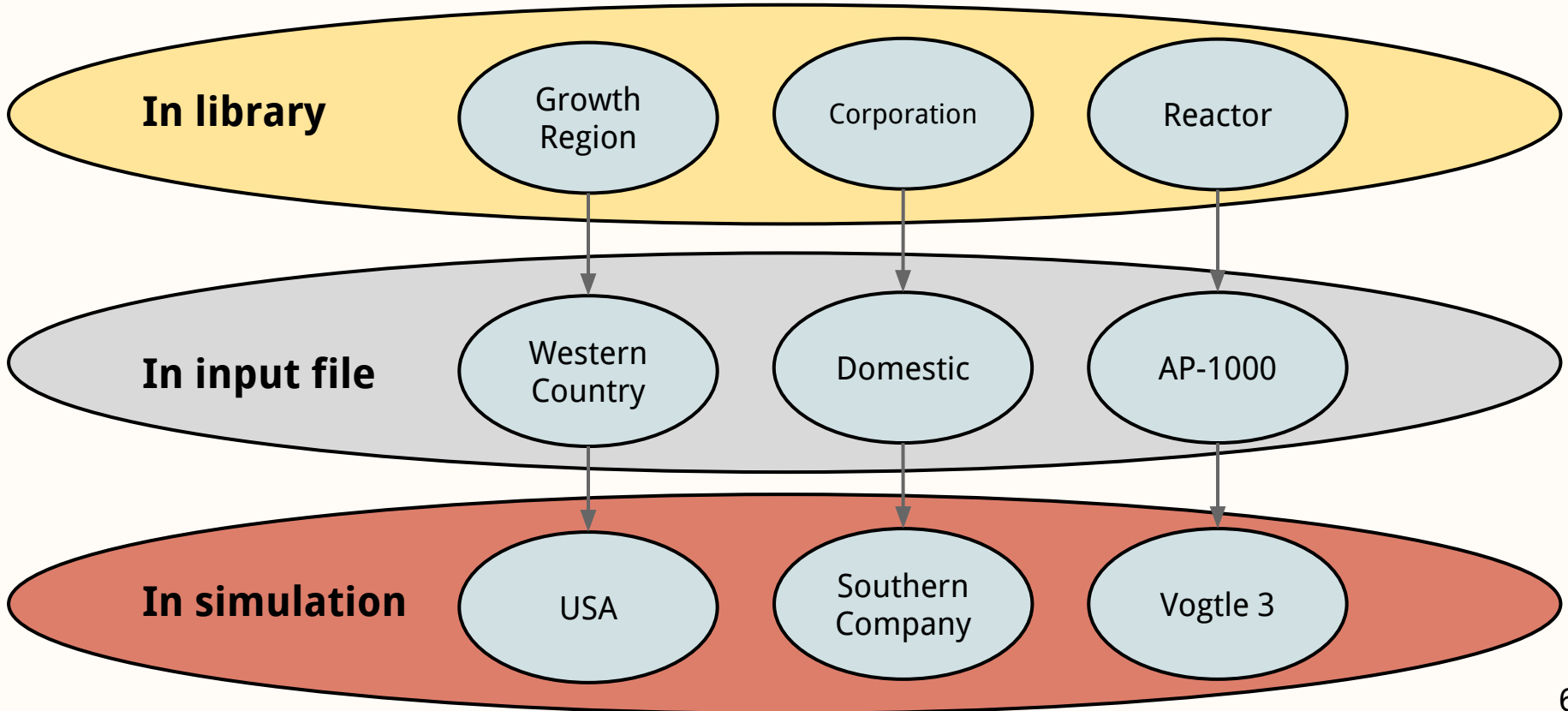


- Provides ecosystem for agent interaction and resource transactions
- Steps through time in uniform increments
  - Regions request that Institutions deploy Facilities
  - Dynamic Resource Exchange determines resource transactions
  - Regions request that Institutions decommission Facilities

# Vocabulary



# Vocabulary: Example



# Dynamic Resource Exchange



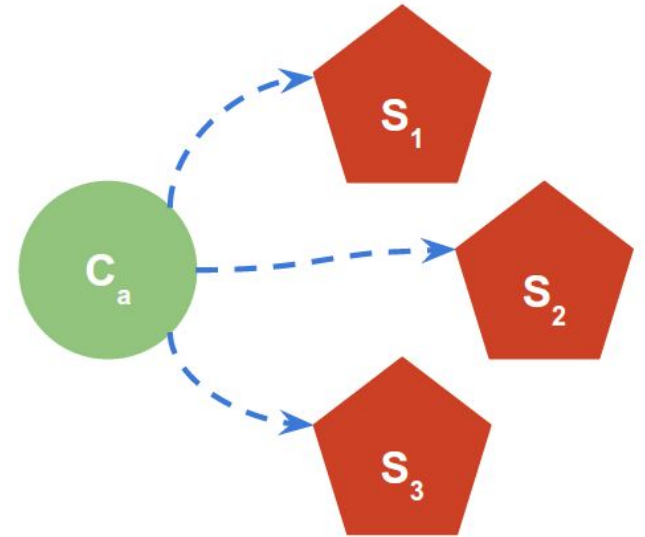
- DRE: Core algorithm for fuel cycle simulation
- Recomputed at each time step
- Solves economic problem dynamically
  - no hard-coded supply-demand behavior
- Enables complicated/creative fuel cycles

# Dynamic Resource Exchange



## Request for Bids

Queries each requesting Agent in the simulation that ***demands*** a resource



Phase 1: Request for bids

# Dynamic Resource Exchange

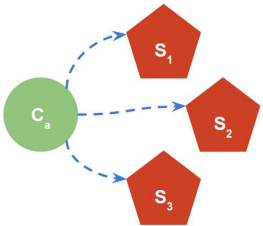


## Request for Bids

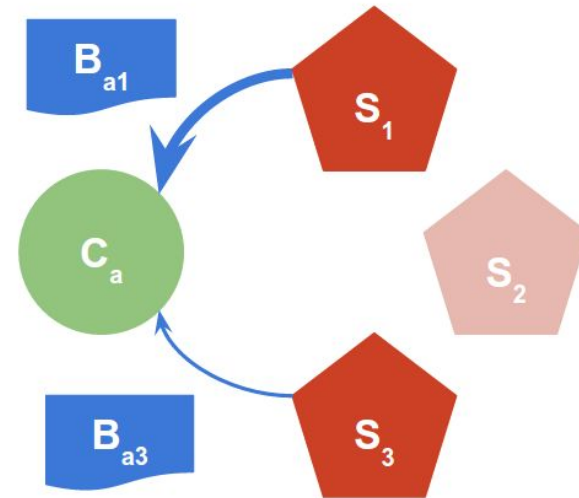
Queries each requesting Agent in the simulation that ***demands*** a resource

## Response to Request for Bids

Queries each responding Agent in the simulation that ***supplies*** a resource



Phase 1: Request for bids



Phase 2: Response to request for bids

# Dynamic Resource Exchange

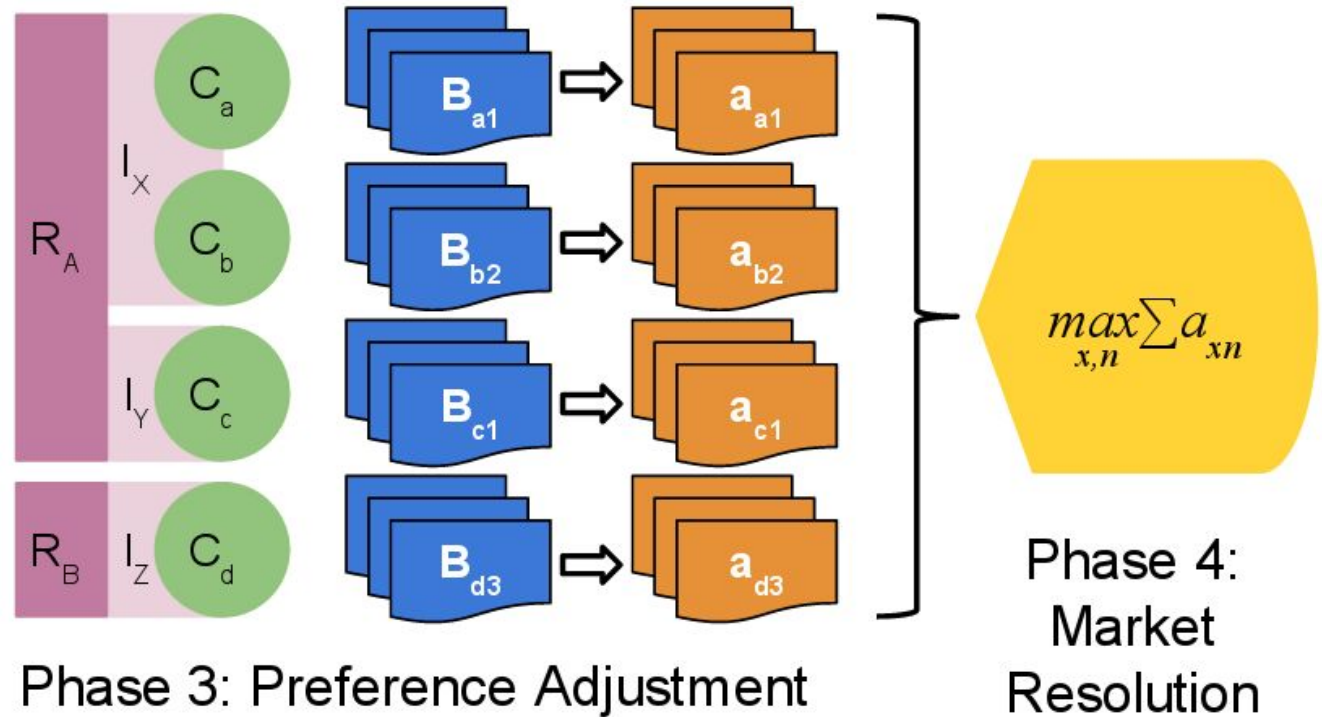


## Preference Adjustment

Agent **reviews** all matches;  
opportunity for  
preference  
adjustment

## Solution

Matches **selected**  
for satisfiable  
requests



# Dynamic Resource Exchange



## Request for Bids

Queries each requesting Agent in the simulation that **demands** a resource

## Response to Request for Bids

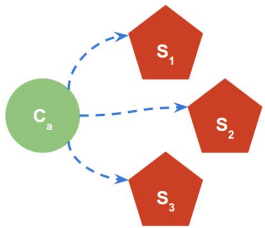
Queries each responding Agent in the simulation that **supplies** a resource

## Preference Adjustment

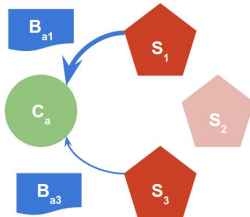
Agent **reviews** all matches; opportunity for preference adjustment

## Solution

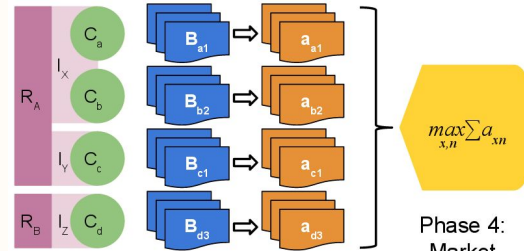
Matches **selected** for satisfiable requests



Phase 1: Request for bids



Phase 2: Response to request for bids

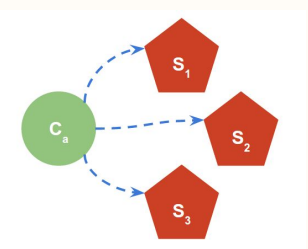
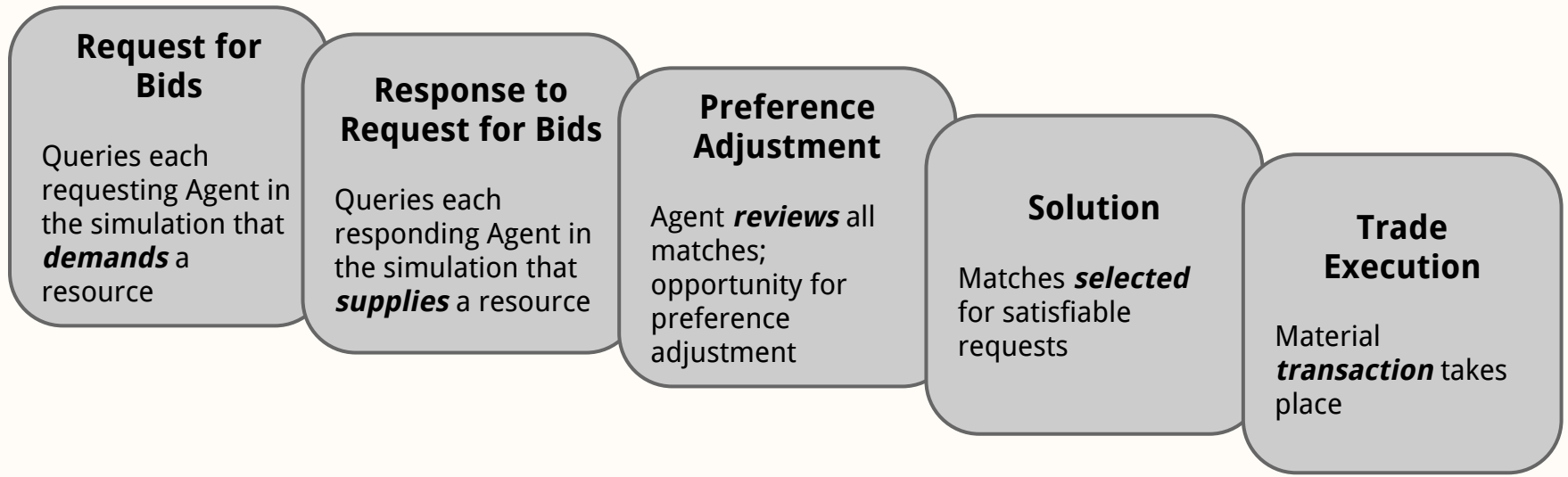


Phase 3: Preference Adjustment

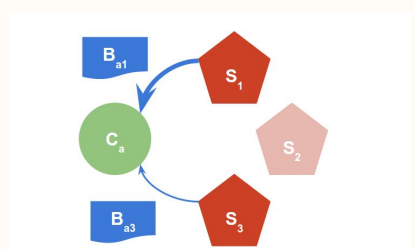
Phase 4:  
Market  
Resolution



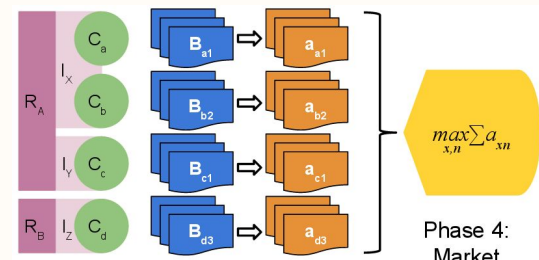
# Dynamic Resource Exchange



Phase 1: Request for bids



Phase 2: Response to request for bids



Phase 3: Preference Adjustment

$$\max_{x,n} \sum a_{xn}$$

Phase 4: Market Resolution

# LP Formulation



Variable	Description
$H, h$	Commodities
$I, i$	Bids
$J, j$	Requests
$K, k$	Capacities
$c$	Cost of commodity
$x$	Decision variable
$\beta$	Capacity coefficient
$s$	Supply capacity
$d$	Demand capacity

$$\min_x z = \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J} \sum_{h \in H} c_{i,j}^h x_{i,j}^h$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{j \in J} \sum_{h \in H} \beta_{i,k} x_{i,j}^h \leq s_{i,k} \quad \forall k \in K_I, \forall i \in I$$

$$\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{h \in H} \beta_{j,k} x_{i,j}^h \geq d_{j,k} \quad \forall k \in K_J, \forall j \in J$$

$$x_{i,j}^h \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in X$$

# LP Supply Constraint: Example



Variable	Description
$x$	Decision variable
$\varepsilon$	Requested enrichment level
$s$	Supply capacity
$f$	Conversion function

$$\sum_{j \in J} f_{SWU}(\varepsilon_j) x_{i,j}^{EU} \leq s_{i,SWU}$$

$$\sum_{j \in J} f_{NU}(\varepsilon_j) x_{i,j}^{EU} \leq s_{i,NU}$$

# LP Supply Constraint: General



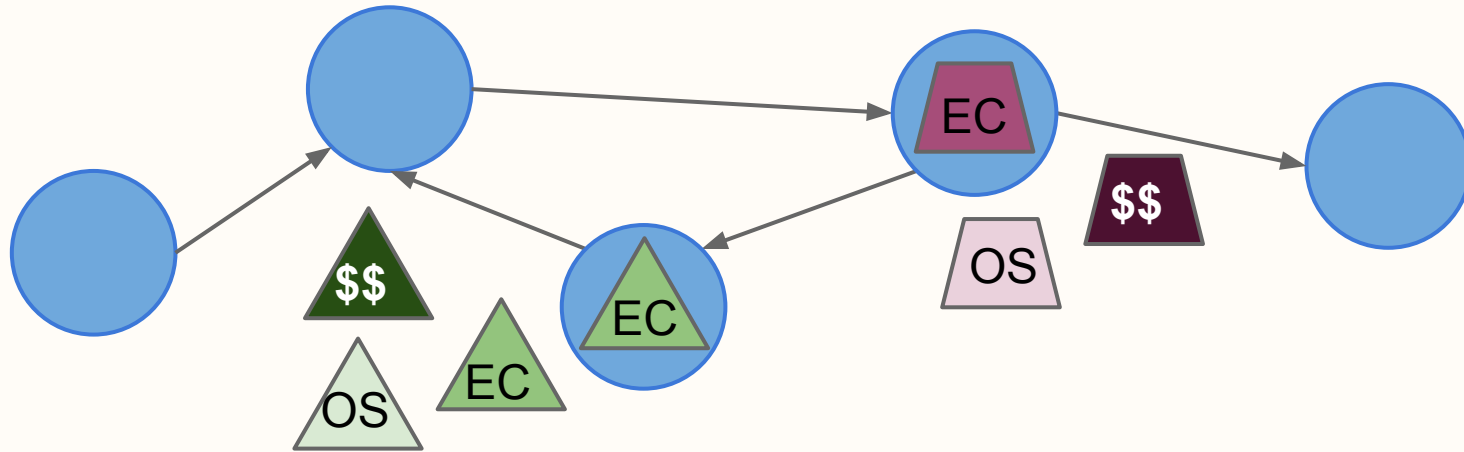
Variable	Description
$H, h$	Commodities
$I, i$	Bids
$J, j$	Requests
$K, k$	Capacities
$\beta_{i,k}(q_i^h)$	Conversion function
$x$	Decision variable
$s$	Supply capacity

These example constraints were a function of the isotopic profile of the request (quality,  $q_j$ ). The conversion function of a supplier would be a function of the quality ( $\beta_{i,k}(q_i^h)$ ):

$$\sum_{j \in J} \beta_{i,k}(q_j^h) x_{i,j}^h \leq s_{i,k} \quad \forall k \in K_i^h, \forall i \in I, \forall h \in H$$

*Mixed integer linear program (MILP) can guarantee exclusive trades*

# Cyclus Module Ecosystem



- Facility archetypes can be exchanged without changes to the kernel
- Example: increase reactor modeling fidelity
  - Low fidelity: fixed input/output recipes
  - Medium fidelity: lookup tables for output given input
  - High fidelity: burnup calculation based on given input
- Various distribution models are possible

# Features of Module Ecosystem



- Archetype modules developed by independent teams
- Quality assessed by community
  - Tests and documentation provided by developers
  - Potential module users perform independent testing
- Diversity driven by use cases of developers

# Cycamore: Standard Module Repository

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## Facilities

- Source
- Enrichment
- Fuel Fabrication
- Recipe Reactor
- Separations
- Storage
- Stream mixing
- Sink

## Institutions

- Fixed Deployment
- Demand Response

## Region

- Demand Growth

# Ongoing Module Development



## Bright-lite

- Given an initial composition, calculate a burnup
- Given a target burnup and two or more streams, determine blend



## Nuclear Fuel Inventory Module

- Provide ORIGEN capability to Cyclus
- Multiple possible applications including reactor, separations, fuel fabrication



# Ongoing Module Development



cyCLASS

- Wrap CLASS neural network methods for
  - Fuel fabrication
  - Depletion



Consortium for Verification  
Technology

- Facility archetypes with clandestine behavior
- Region/Institution archetypes that track multi-lateral relationships

# Cyclus Analysis & Visualization



- Separate from simulation kernel
- Different tools for different purposes
  - Interactive data exploration
  - Automated generation of standardized images
  - Parameter sweeps
  - Wrappers for
    - Sensitivity study
    - Optimization
- Each tool uses state-of-the-art technology
- Open source development options

# Cyclist Simulation Building



- Drag-and-drop interface
- Enables creative fuel cycle design
- Different modes for various user types

The screenshot displays the Cyclist Scenario Builder interface. On the left, the 'Simulation Details' panel includes fields for Duration (Months) set to 600, Start Month set to January, Start Year, Decay set to Never, and an Optional Simulation Name field. Below these are buttons for Generate, Load, and Execute, along with a Server dropdown set to local. The 'Add Available Archetypes' section shows a 'Discover Archetypes' button and a dropdown menu currently displaying 'cycamore Separations'. The 'Simulation Commodities' table lists various fuel and material types with a priority of 1 for each:

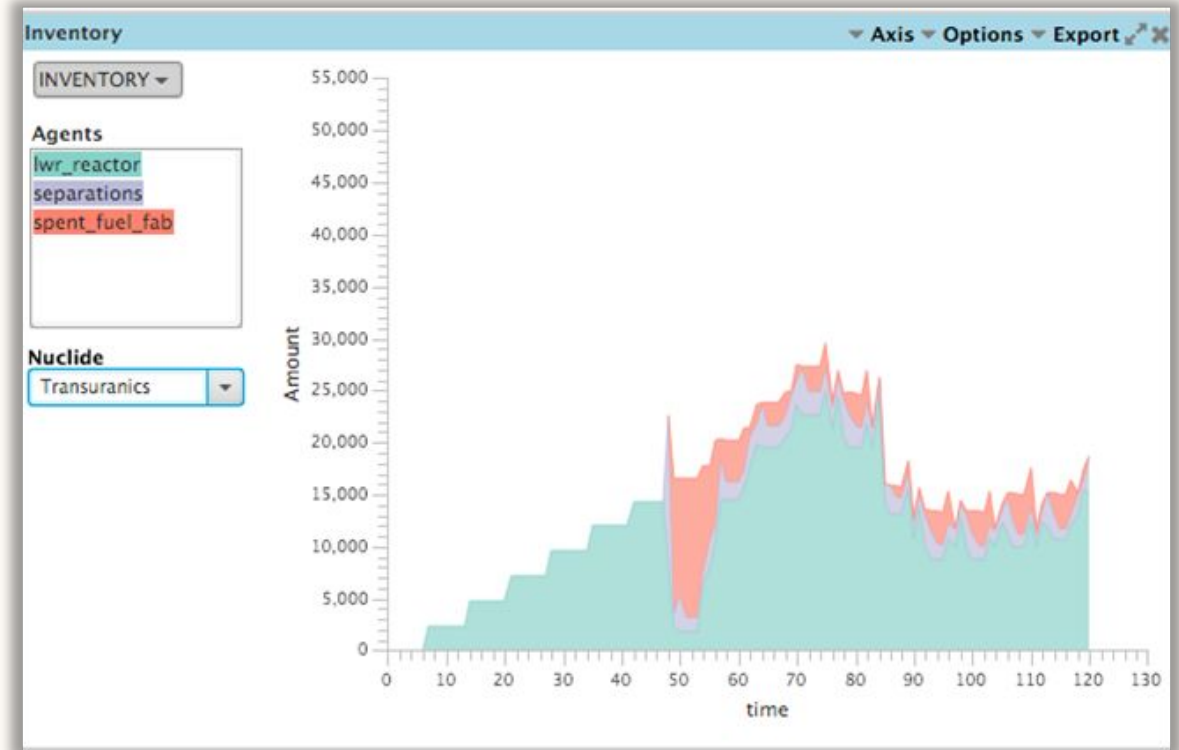
Commodity	Priority
Nat-U	1
UOx Fresh Fuel	1
UOx Spent Fuel	1
Separated Pu	1
MOX Fresh Fuel	1
MOX Spent Fuel	1

On the right, the main workspace shows a 'Select Facility Archetype' dropdown and an 'Add' button. Below this is a palette of colored circles representing different facility archetypes: Sink (agents), Source (agents), Enrichment (cycamore), FuelFab (cycamore), Reactor (cycamore), and Separations (cycamore). The central diagram is a flowchart illustrating a fuel cycle. It starts with 'Athabasca' (represented by a mine icon) and 'Nat-U' (represented by a fuel element icon). 'Athabasca' feeds into 'Nat-U', which then feeds into 'Enrichment' (represented by a building icon). 'Enrichment' produces 'UOx Fresh Fuel' (represented by a fuel element icon). 'UOx Fresh Fuel' feeds into 'MOX Fresh Fuel' (represented by a fuel element icon) and 'UOx Spent Fuel' (represented by a fuel element icon). 'MOX Fresh Fuel' feeds into 'MOX Spent Fuel' (represented by a fuel element icon). 'UOx Spent Fuel' feeds into 'Separated Pu' (represented by a fuel element icon). 'Separated Pu' feeds into 'MOX Fresh Fuel'. The flowchart also shows 'MOX Spent Fuel' feeding into 'MOX Spent Fuel'.

# Cyclist Data Analysis Environment



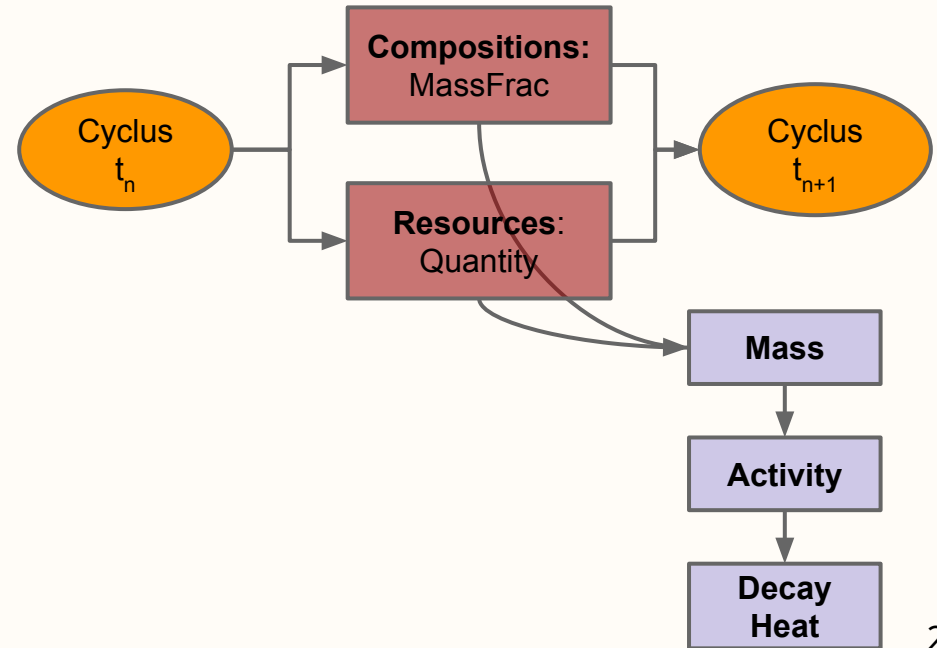
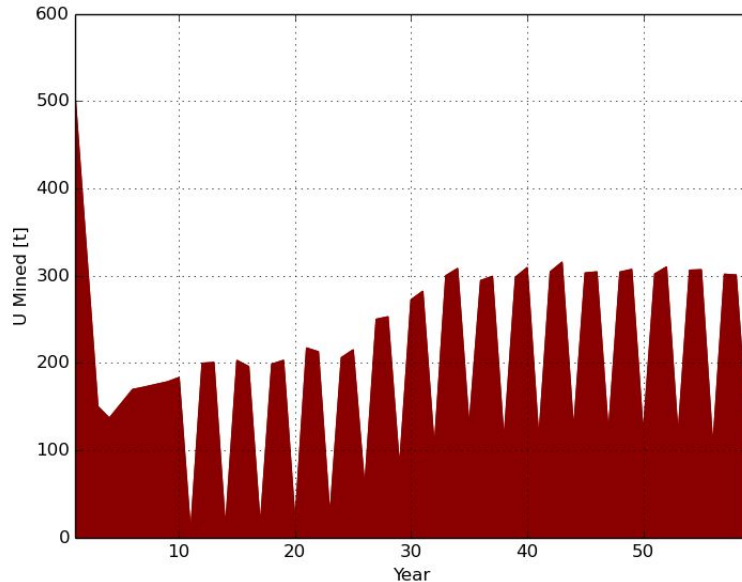
- Explore data dynamically
- Visualization mode matched to combination of data type and user needs.



# Cymetric Extensible Tool



- Extensible metrics design: Users can add new metrics derived from existing metrics



# Fuel Cycle Options Transition Analysis

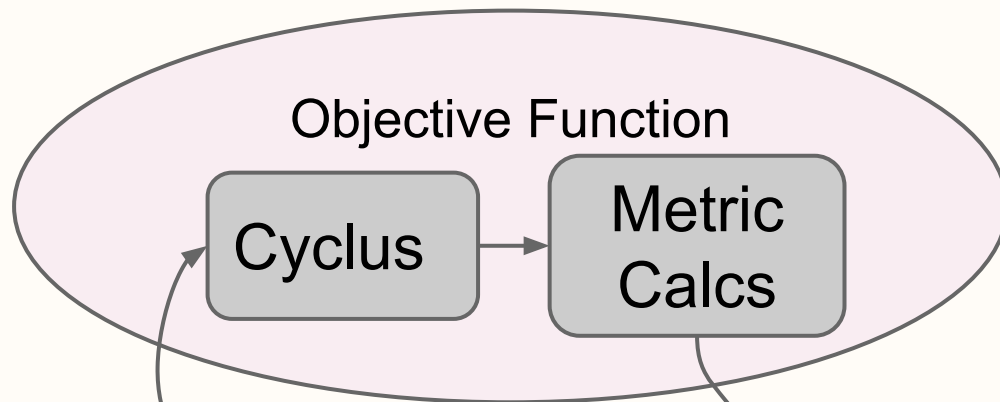


- Began as participant in code comparison/benchmarking
- Now performing transition analysis in parallel with
  - VISION (INL)
  - DYMOND (ANL)
  - ORION (ORNL)
- Confirm that tools can perform transition analysis with necessary metrics

# Deployment Optimization



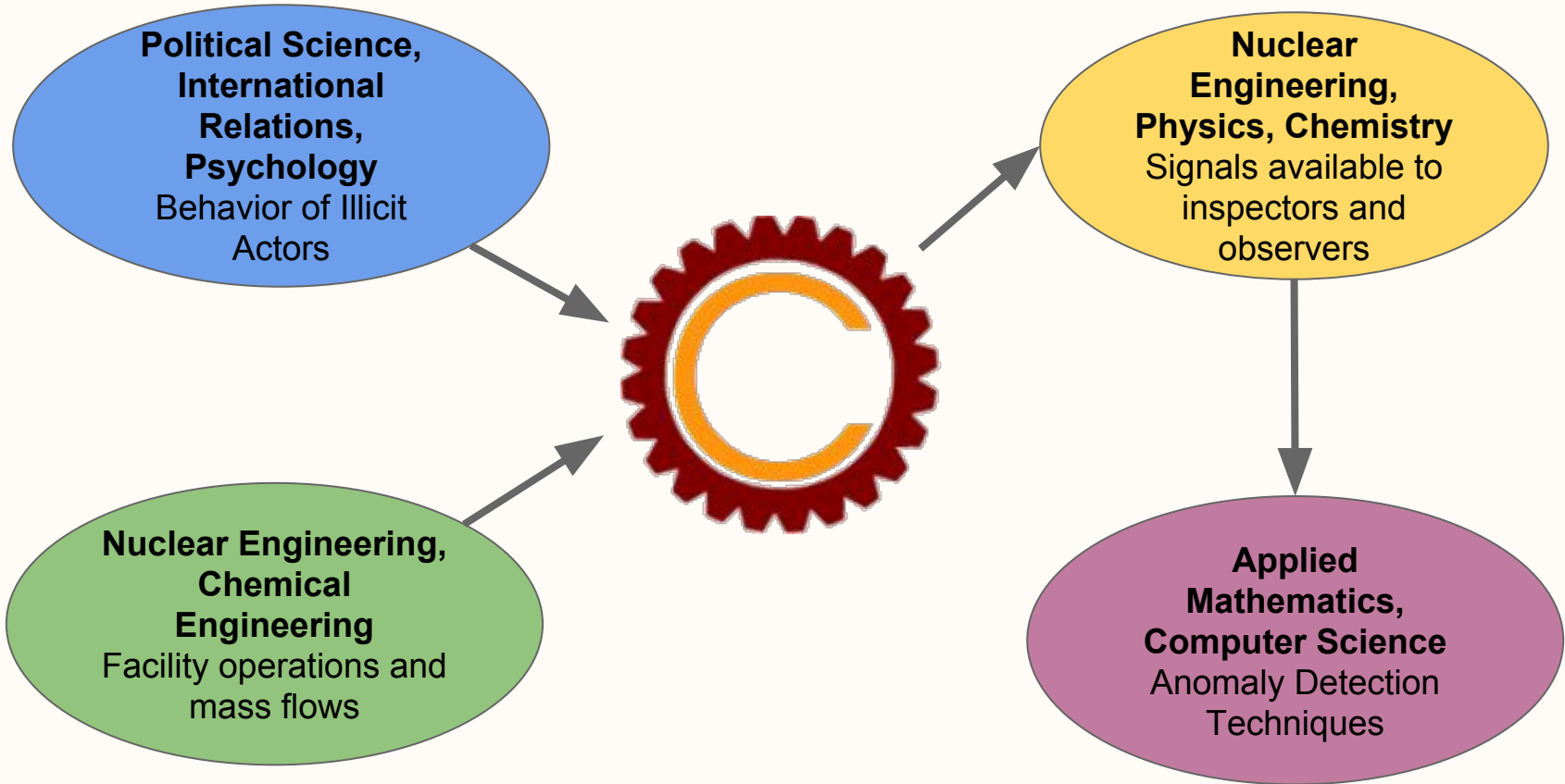
- Transition deployment optimization study
- Large-scale parallelization
- Disruption analysis research



Facility	LWR				Repository			Fuel Fab	Objective
Year	1	2	3	...	1	2	...	...	
Trial 1	5	1	3	...	0	1	...	...	233.6
Trial 2	3	1	2	...	0	0	...	...	

Optimizer

# Treaty Verification





# Cyclus Documentation

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[www.fuelcycle.org](http://www.fuelcycle.org)

- Introduction to Cyclus Fundamentals
- User guide
- Archetype developer guide
- Kernel developer guide
- Cyclus enhancement proposals

# Cyclus Funding History



**U.S. Department of Energy**

Heavily leveraging support from:

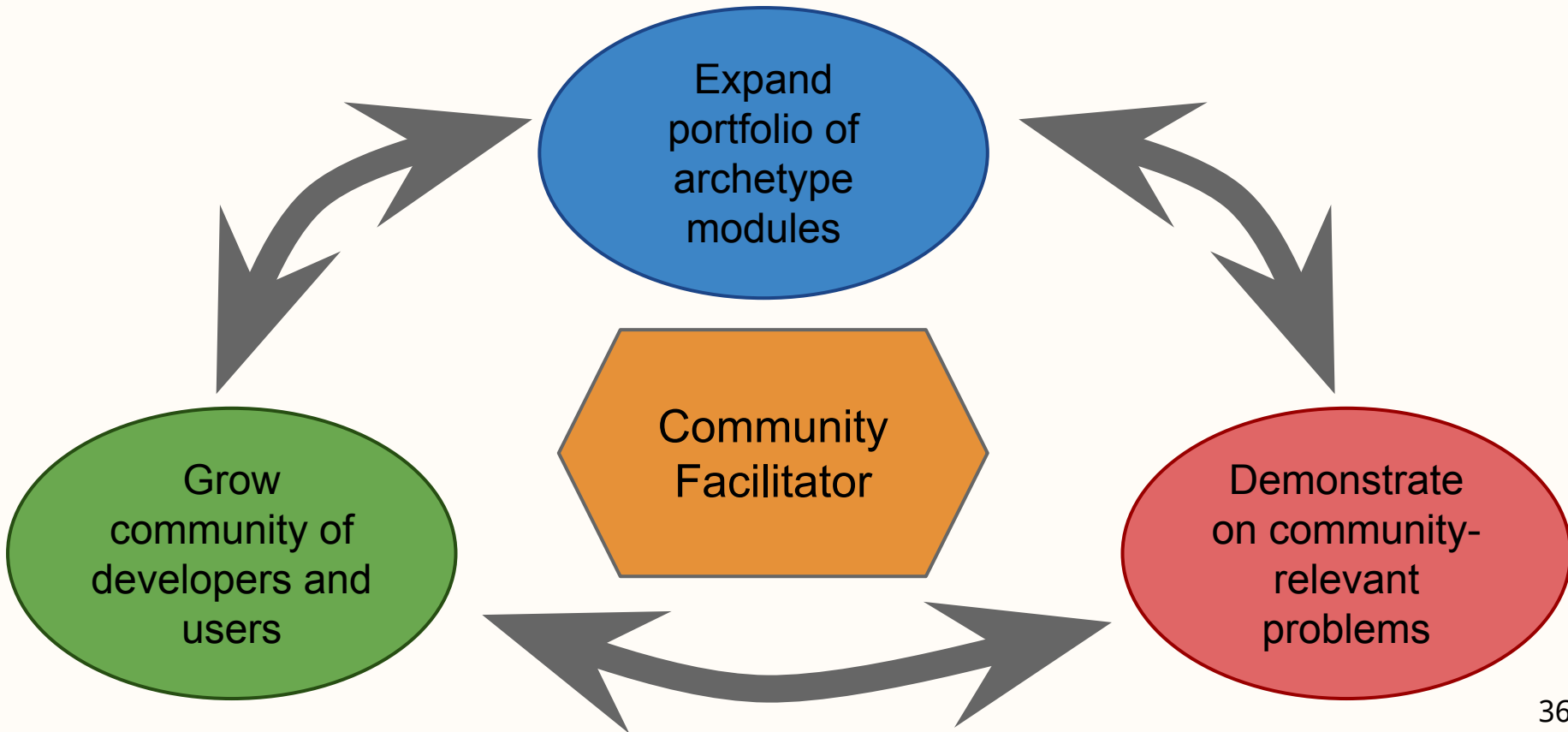


# Potential Users



- DOE and DOE-funded group
  - NEUP funded universities
- Industry users, e.g. AREVA, EPRI
- Foreign DOE-equivalents, e.g. CEA, AECL
- Foreign universities, e.g. Cambridge University

# Moving Forward with Cyclus



# Motivations for New Simulators



Current suite of simulators are difficult to benchmark:

- Commercial fuel cycle management
  - High-fidelity in-reactor simulation
  - Limited flexibility for novel systems/technologies
- Strategic decision making
  - Low-fidelity flow sheet approach
  - Complexity increases with need for detail
  - Limitations of software infrastructure
  - Low accessibility to non-technical audiences

# Next Generation FCS Goals



- Flexibility
  - Model innovative/unconventional technologies
  - Minimal inherent technology assumptions
- Modeling
  - Discrete facilities with discrete material tracking
  - Optimization and sensitivity analysis
- Software
  - Low barrier to adoption with rapid payback
  - Commonly available software infrastructure

# Cyclus is Flexible



- Individual facility modeling
  - Startup/shutdown
  - Disruptions
- Discrete material tracking at nuclide level
  - Effects of individual facility performance
  - Forensic tracking of material object ownership
- No inherent physics assumptions
  - Low fidelity, systems level models
  - High fidelity, facility level models
- Agent-based approach incorporates social/behavior models

# Cyclus v1.0: Released May 30, 2014



Carlsen, Robert W.; Gidden, Matthew; Huff, Kathryn; Opotowsky, Arrielle C.; Rakhimov, Olzhas; Scopatz, Anthony M.; Welch, Zach; Wilson, Paul (2014): **Cyclus v1.0.0**. figshare. <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1041745>



# Linear Programming (LP) Background



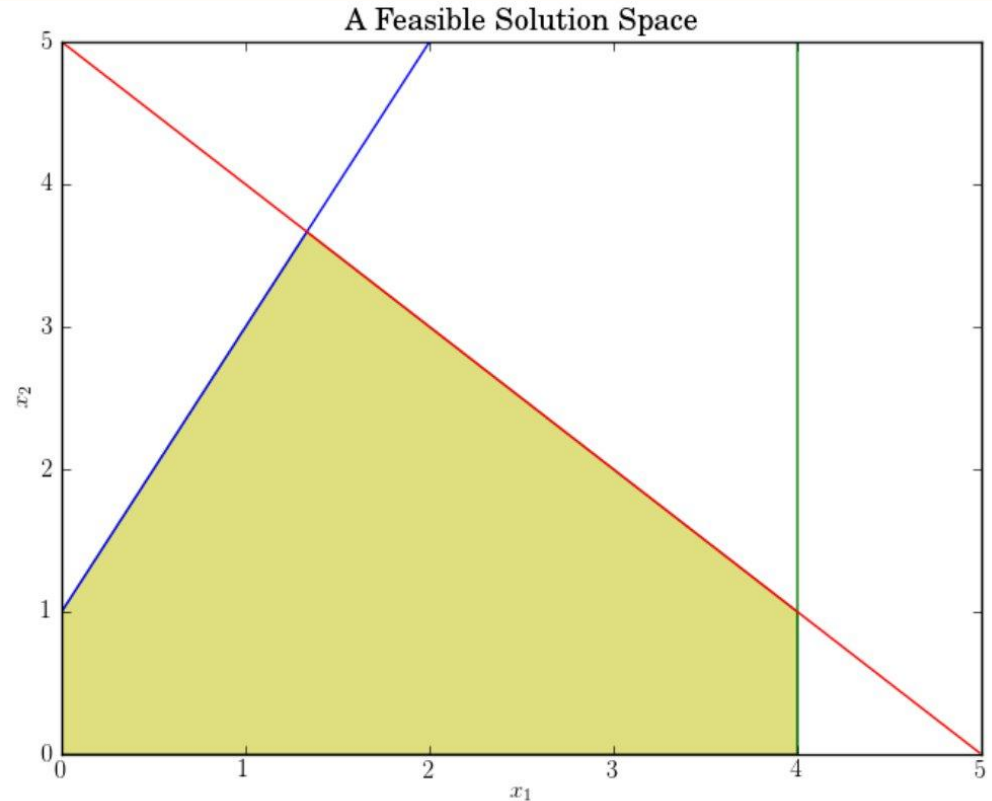
Minimization or  
Maximization  
Objectives

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \min_x z = c^T x \end{array} \right.$$

Equality  
Constraints

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{s.t. } Ax \geq b \\ x \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

Variable	Description
$c$	Cost vector
$x$	Decision variable
$A$	Constraint matrix
$b$	Threshold vector



# Mixed Integer-Linear Programming (MILP)



Required to allow two groups of consumers:

1. those that require *exclusive* orders
2. those that allow *partial* orders

$$J = J_p \cup J_e$$

Introduce a **binary variable**,  $y_{ij}^h$ :

- 1 if consumer  $j$  is sent commodity  $h$  by supplier  $i$
- restrict number of resource flows to consumer  $j$  to 1

$$\sum_{h \in H_j} \sum_{i \in I} y_{i,j}^h = 1 \quad \forall j \in J_e$$

Variable	Description
$H, h$	Commodities
$I, i$	Bids
$J, j$	Requests
$y_{ij}^h$	Binary variable

# MILP Supply Constraint: General



$$\sum_{j \in J_p} \beta_{i,k}(q_j^h) x_{i,j}^h + \sum_{j \in J_e} \beta_{i,k}(q_j^h) y_{i,j}^h \tilde{x}_j^h \leq s_{i,k}^h \quad \forall i \in I, \forall k \in K_i^h, \forall h \in H$$

Variable	Description
$H, h$	Commodities
$I, i$	Bids
$J, j$	Requests
$K, k$	Capacities
$\beta_{i,k}(q_i^h)$	Conversion function
$x, y$	Decision variable
$s$	Supply capacity

# MILP Formulation



Variable	Description
$H, h$	Commodities
$I, i$	Bids
$J, j$	Requests
$K, k$	Capacities
$c$	Cost of commodity
$x, y$	Decision variable
$\beta$	Capacity coefficient
$s$	Supply capacity
$d$	Demand capacity

$$\min_{x,y} z = \sum_{h \in H} \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J_p} c_{i,j}^h x_{i,j}^h + \sum_{h \in H} \sum_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in J_e} c_{i,j}^h y_{i,j}^h \tilde{x}_j^h$$

$$\text{s.t. } \sum_{j \in J_p} \beta_{i,k}(q_j^h) x_{i,j}^h + \sum_{j \in J_e} \beta_{i,k}(q_j^h) y_{i,j}^h \tilde{x}_j^h \leq s_{i,k}^h$$

$$\forall i \in I, \forall k \in K_i^h, \forall h \in H$$

$$\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{h \in H_j} \beta_{i,k}(q_j^h) x_{i,j}^h \geq d_j(H_j) \quad \forall k \in K_j, \forall j \in J_p$$

$$\sum_{i \in I} \sum_{h \in H_j} \beta_{i,k}(q_j^h) y_{i,j}^h \tilde{x}_j^h \geq d_j(H_j) \quad \forall k \in K_j, \forall j \in J_e$$

$$\sum_{h \in H} \sum_{i \in I} y_{i,j}^h = 1 \quad \forall j \in J_e$$

$$x_{i,j}^h \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in X$$

$$y_{i,j}^h \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall y \in Y$$

# Greedy Solver Algorithm



```
order request portfolios by average preference;
forall the request portfolios do
  order requests by average preference;
  matched  $\leftarrow$  0;
  while  $matched \leq q_J$  and  $\exists$  a request do
    get next request;
    order arcs by preference;
    while  $matched \leq q_J$  and  $\exists$  an arc do
      get next arc;
      remaining  $\leftarrow$   $q_J - matched$ ;
      to_match  $\leftarrow$   $\min\{remaining, Capacity(arc)\}$ ;
      matched  $\leftarrow$  matched + to_match;
    end
  end
end
```