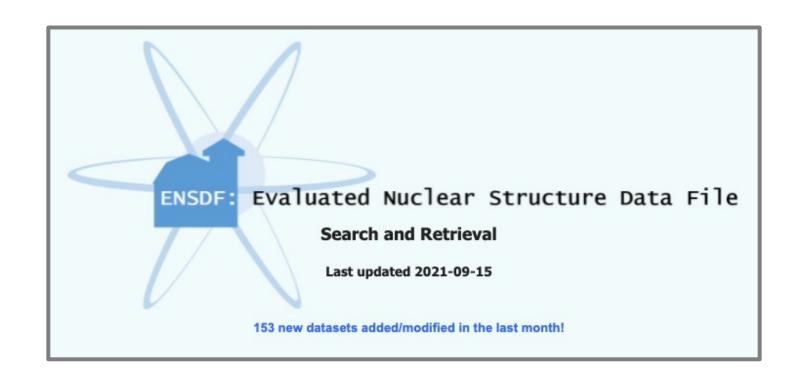
ENSDF Modernization

From 80-Column Text to JSON-Formatted Files

Benjamin Shu National Nuclear Data Center Brookhaven National Laboratory

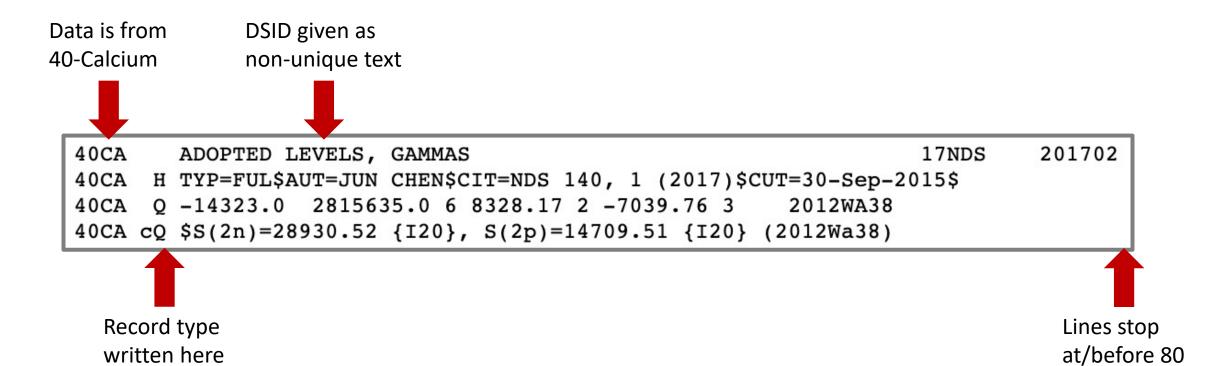
ENSDF Overview



- Database of 33,000+ evaluated nuclear physics data sets
 - Structure, decay, reactions, etc.

The ENSDF Format

- Text files with maximum of 80 characters per line
- Datasets identified by mass/nuclide and a dataset ID (DSID)



The ENSDF Format (contd.)

• Each dataset belongs to a category which defines its use:

Adopted Levels, Gammas

(4,100 datasets)

- Excitation state energies
- Gamma ray emissions (from levels)
- Q-record of common decay energies

Decay

(7,583 datasets)

- Parent and daughter nuclides, emitted particles
- Normalization of radiation energies

Reaction

(20,716 datasets)

Comments describing experiment (targets, beams, etc.)

The ENSDF Format (contd.)

- ENSDF datasets are composed of records
 - Identified using a single character in column 8
 - 10+ types, each with unique conventions
 - Written as one or more 80-column lines

```
P Parent (1 line)

N Normalization (1 line)

G Gamma (1 line)

Level (2 lines)
```

235PA	P	0
235U	N	
235U	G	131.8
235U	L	0.0
235U	\mathtt{cL}	T\$From

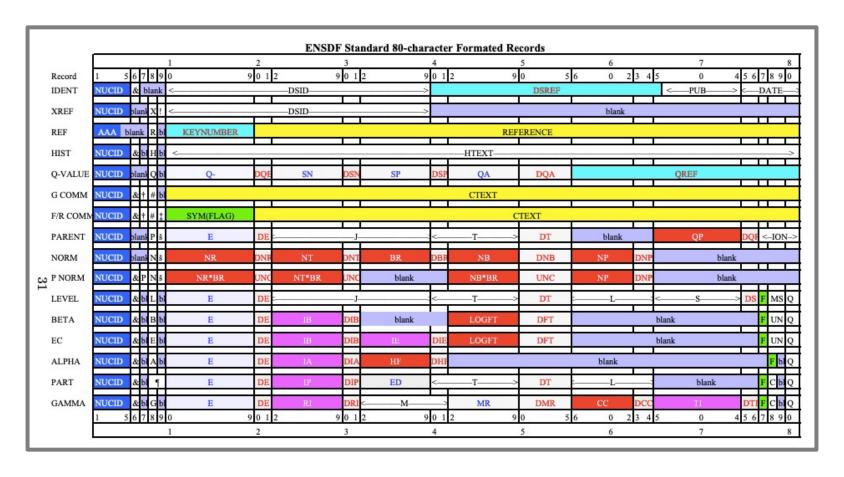
The ENSDF Format (contd.)

• Datasets in each category usually contain specific record types:

Record Type	Adopted Levels	Decay	Reaction
History	Yes	Yes	Yes
XREF	Yes	No	No
Reference	No	Yes	Yes
Comment	Yes	Yes	Yes
Level	Yes	Maybe	Maybe
Gamma	Maybe	Maybe	Maybe
Q-Values	Yes	No	No

Why JSON?

• The 80-column format saves space at the cost of user-friendliness



Why JSON? (contd.)

- JSON data is easier to adapt for programming uses
 - Web programming
 - JSON is derived from JavaScript, which is used in >97% of all websites



- Object-oriented databases
 - JSON-based documents enable flexible design



ENSDF To JSON (Step 1)

- Most basic step is reading a single ENSDF record
- First, define a Reader which parses one or more lines

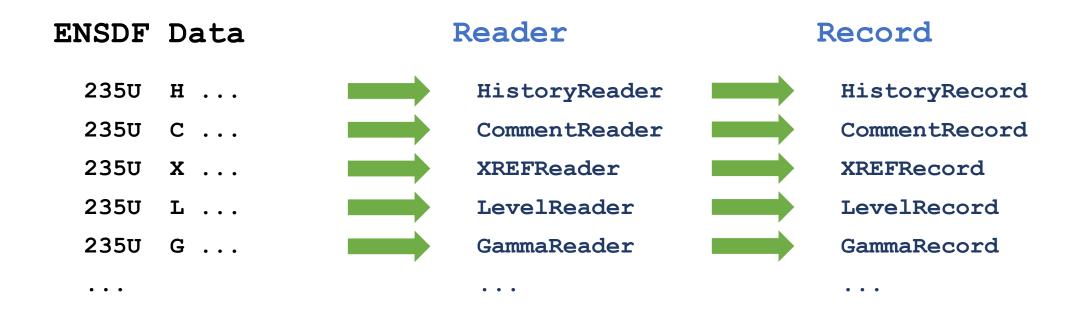
```
public abstract class Reader<T> {
    // Is this the right kind of record?
    public abstract boolean canRead(String line);

    // Read lines from the beginning
    public abstract int read(List<String> list_lines);

    // Read lines from a starting position
    public abstract int read(List<String> list_lines, int start);
}
```

ENSDF To JSON (Step 2)

- Add specific Reader classes to handle each type of record
- Define Record objects to store parsed data



ENSDF To JSON (Step 3)

• Assemble a completed **Dataset** using **Record** objects

```
Dataset
HistoryRecord
                                     Nuclide: 235-U
QValueRecord
                                     History: ...
LevelRecord
                                     Q-Values:{}
   GammaRecord
                                     Levels: [
   GammaRecord
                                       0: [],
                                       1: [],
LevelRecord
```

ENSDF To JSON (Step 4)

• Print the completed **Dataset** as a JSON-formatted text file

```
Dataset
  Nuclide: 235-U
  History: ...
  Q-Values:{}
 Levels: [
    0: [],
    1: [],
```



```
"nuclide": "235U",
"history": { ... },
"qValues": { ... },
"levels": {
  "0": {
   "gammas": {}
```

Theory to Practice

- Java library used to build an **ENSDFToJSON** executable, which:
 - Retrieves text for all ENSDF datasets
 - Builds Dataset objects from each file
 - Prints those Dataset objects as JSON files

- Can convert 33,385 ENSDF files in around 7-8 minutes
 - The power of multithreading!

```
Output saved to output/documents/104TE_ADOPTED_LEVELS_TENTATIVE.json
Output saved to output/documents/104CD_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/105RB_ADOPTED_LEVELS.json
Output saved to output/documents/105NB_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/103PD_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/103AG_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/98RU_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/105SN_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/104RH_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/105TE_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/105SB_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/104PD_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/103RH_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/103RU_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/106Y_ADOPTED_LEVELS.json
Output saved to output/documents/106TC_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/106RB_ADOPTED_LEVELS.json
Output saved to output/documents/106SR_ADOPTED_LEVELS.json
Output saved to output/documents/105TC_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/105MO_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/106RH_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/106ZR_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
Output saved to output/documents/106RU_ADOPTED_LEVELS_GAMMAS.json
```

Ongoing Development

- We have JSON files now what?
 - Building and testing schema validation
 - JSON files need to be checked for "correct" formatting
 - Will be needed for future evaluations
 - Currently finalizing format for the Adopted Levels
 - Adding details, field names, etc.
 - Being handled by a subprogram named ConvertAdopted
 - Re-thinking ENSDF as an object-oriented database
 - Prototype designs using CouchDB

Lingering Questions

- Comments
 - Converted to LaTeX through Java-NDS
 - Often contain valuable information which is difficult to extract
 - Will require natural language processing (i.e. machine learning)

```
235U c {+235}U(p,p): E=1-200 MeV, calculated |s (2008Li05).
235U c {+235}U(SF): 2013Ka26, 2012Fa12, 2012Ha06, 2005Re16. Measured
235U 2c |s using surrogate reaction (2012Hu01);
235U 3c calculated fission barrier and half-life (2012Ro34,2007Ro08).
235U c {+238}U(n,4n): 2012Br11
235U c {+235}U(n,F) E=400 keV (2012PrZZ); E=2-8 MeV (2011Mu07);
235U 2c E=0.01 - 30 MeV, calculated |s (2009Go05).
235U c {+235}U({+12}C,{+12}C) E=30-1000 Mev/nucleon;
235U 2c {+235}U({+20}C,{+20}C) E=30-1000 Mev/nucleon (2008Li05).
```

What Comes Next?

- ENSDF modernization is a 3-year project
 - Currently at the end of Year 1
 - Objective: Make JSON draft documents public in Year 2

Database to be re-designed after finalizing formats

- JSON files will be distributed through the ENSDF website
 - Will be available along with original 80-column format
 - Possible RESTful API?