Multi-Objective Optimization of Heterogeneous Light Water Reactor **Fuel Assemblies** Alan Charles Jacobs

Question: Is numerical optimization a useful tool for analysing nuclear fuel assembly designs?





- MOJADE can balance competing objectives (e.g. %Pu vs. PPF) to find the "Paretofront", improving on expert solutions and outperforming other algorithms (such as genetic algorithms)
- Can be used "out-of-the-box" without requiring any tuning of parameters
- MOJADE can also tackle more complex problems, featuring poison rods, objectives for both neutronics and thermal-hydraulics, 3-D PWRs and BWRs (with partial-length rods), providing insight on the design space

Answer: YES!





3-D PWR Supercell

3-D BWR Assembly

- Alan J. Charles and Geoffrey T. Parks, 2019, "Application of Differential Evolution algorithms to multi-objective optimization problems in mixed-oxide fuel assembly design", Annals of Nuclear Energy, Volume 127, Pages 165-177
- Alan J. Charles and Geoffrey T. Parks, 2020, "Multi-objective, multi-physics optimization of 3D mixed-oxide LWR fuel assembly designs using the MOJADE algorithm", Annals of Nuclear Energy, Volume 145, Pages 1-14
- Alan J. Charles, 2020, "Development Of A Multi-objective Optimization Capability For Heterogeneous Light Water Reactor Fuel Assemblies", PhD Thesis, University of Cambridge
- The work presented here is part of a PhD with the University of Cambridge, during which the author completed an internship with Jacobs (then AmecFW)

