Nuclear Hyper

Nuclear Hybrid Power Generation



Mentor **Dr. David Tucker**

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Summer Intern



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About Me – David Valadez



- 21 years old
- Born in El Paso, TX
 - ~25% Nuclear power
- Raised in both sides of the border
- Attend the University of Texas at El Paso
- Senior in the physics program





Personal Motivation

Why am I interested?

- Interested in nuclear power generation systems.
 - Interesting physics
 - Cleaner
 - Safer
- Interested in the potential of hybrid systems
 - Efficient







Project Overview

SMR Hybrid

(Small Modular Reactor)





Air



8/9/2023



Simplified System

Summer time frame



Benefits

 Safety rating kept high by controlling temperature with bypasses

- Don't have to touch SMR
- Gives a more flexible system
 - Energy generation mode
 - Hydrogen generation mode
- Surpasses standard Rankine efficiency (~30%)
- Decentralized power generation

Nuclear simulation

In ebsilon

Nuclear Rankine Cycle

Orhan MF, et al., Approaches for integrated hydrogen production based on nuclear and renewable energy sources: Energy and exergy assessments of nuclear and solar energy sources in the United Arab Emirates, International Journal of Hydrogen Energy (2016), http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijhydene.2016.05.044

The Hyper Facility

Cyber-physical power generation tests

Nuclear Hyper

Cyber-physical system

How this experience impacted my life

What this Internship has taught me

- Research experience
- Work environment
- Conference experience
- Living far from home

Questions?

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- David Valadez Physics Intern form UTEP
- Summer project Nuclear hybrid
- Why we are pursuing this
 - Safe, Flexile & Efficient
- Development of Ebsilon models
- Cyber-physical future

