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# Lowering the ENDF-6 entrance barrier for evaluators

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**INDEN CM on Structural Materials**  
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# Acknowledgment

```
8.201440+5 2.500000+0 1.704000+2 7.200000-1 0.000000+0 0.000000+02631 2151 320
8.286320+5 2.500000+0 6.790000+2 7.200000-1 0.000000+0 0.000000+02631 2151 321
8.357980+5 2.500000+0 5.364000+2 7.200000-1 0.000000+0 0.000000+02631 2151 322
8.383400+5 2.500000+0 4.450000+1 7.200000-1 0.000000+0 0.000000+02631 2151 323
8.454520+5 2.500000+0 8.830000+2 7.200000-1 0.000000+0 0.000000+02631 2151 324
8.503770+5 2.500000+0 6.340000+1 7.200000-1 0.000000+0 0.000000+02631 2151 325
8.519200+5 2.500000+0 4.060000+1 7.200000-1 0.000000+0 0.000000+02631 2151 326
8.654000+5 2.500000+0 2.673330+2 7.200000-1 0.000000+0 0.000000+02631 2151 327
0.000000+0 0.000000+0 0 0 0 02631 2 099999
0.000000+0 0.000000+0 0 0 0 02631 0 0
2.605600+4 5.545440+1 0 0 0 02631 3 1
0.000000+0 0.000000+0 0 0 1 118862631 3 1
11886 2 2631 3 1
1.000000-5 0.000000+0 8.500000+5 0.000000+0 8.500000+5 1.501370+02631 3 1
8.501600+5 1.621200+0 8.502720+5 1.830530+0 8.503280+5 1.991440+02631 3 1
8.503840+5 2.266760+0 8.504960+5 3.105180+0 8.505520+5 3.398490+02631 3 1
8.506080+5 3.240010+0 8.506640+5 2.706120+0 8.507200+5 2.269630+02631 3 1
8.508320+5 1.644860+0 8.508890+5 1.420670+0 8.509450+5 1.409280+02631 3 1
8.510010+5 1.224200+0 8.510570+5 1.257110+0 8.512250+5 1.190450+02631 3 1
8.515050+5 1.016710+0 8.516740+5 1.147350+0 8.517300+5 1.399960+02631 3 1
8.517860+5 1.710880+0 8.518420+5 2.202990+0 8.519540+5 3.723320+02631 3 1
8.520100+5 4.412230+0 8.520670+5 4.549740+0 8.521230+5 4.276150+02631 3 1
8.522350+5 3.192380+0 8.523470+5 2.571110+0 8.525160+5 1.867240+02631 3 1
8.525720+5 1.798760+0 8.526850+5 1.560780+0 8.528530+5 1.583620+02631 3 1
8.529100+5 1.417930+0 8.530220+5 1.282760+0 8.530780+5 1.381970+02631 3 1
8.531350+5 1.183290+0 8.533600+5 1.115840+0 8.536410+5 9.088520-12631 3 1
8.538660+5 1.015650+0 8.539230+5 8.782260-1 8.540350+5 8.654520-12631 3 1
8.540920+5 7.611950-1 8.543170+5 7.053160-1 8.543740+5 8.481200-12631 3 1
8.544860+5 8.733950-1 8.546560+5 6.495240-1 8.549940+5 6.797920-12631 3 1
8.550510+5 7.410150-1 8.551070+5 6.239980-1 8.552770+5 7.379170-12631 3 1
8.556150+5 8.505940-1 8.560110+5 1.205440+0 8.561240+5 1.366770+02631 3 1
8.561810+5 1.343680+0 8.564640+5 1.917050+0 8.568600+5 2.501140+02631 3 1
8.569170+5 2.523750+0 8.573130+5 3.187040+0 8.577670+5 3.452750+02631 3 1
8.581640+5 3.595140+0 8.586750+5 3.461960+0 8.589020+5 4.070410+02631 3 1
8.590730+5 4.755850+0 8.592430+5 4.043290+0 8.593000+5 3.663900+02631 3 1
8.593570+5 3.626010+0 8.594140+5 3.518320+0 8.598120+5 3.168320+02631 3 1
8.599260+5 3.156840+0 8.599830+5 3.090850+0 8.600400+5 3.161470+02631 3 1
8.600970+5 3.007280+0 8.602680+5 3.095120+0 8.603250+5 2.966430+02631 3 1
8.603820+5 3.057550+0 8.605530+5 2.975790+0 8.607810+5 2.898040+02631 3 1
8.612370+5 2.614040+0 8.613510+5 2.682170+0 8.614080+5 2.580580+02631 3 1
8.615800+5 2.506820+0 8.616370+5 2.566630+0 8.618650+5 2.417590+02631 3 1
8.620000+5 2.418840+0 8.621510+5 2.420220+0 8.622700+5 2.622580+02631 3 1
```



Daniel Lopez Aldama  
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How to put nuclear data into an ENDF-6  
formatted file?

# Paths to ENDF-6 file creation

- Model code systems (e.g. Talys and Empire)
- Statistical evaluation systems (e.g. GANDR)
- Packages to interact with ENDF-6 formatted files

# Popular and recent packages

## Reading & Writing

- SANDY
- DeCE
- ENDFtk?

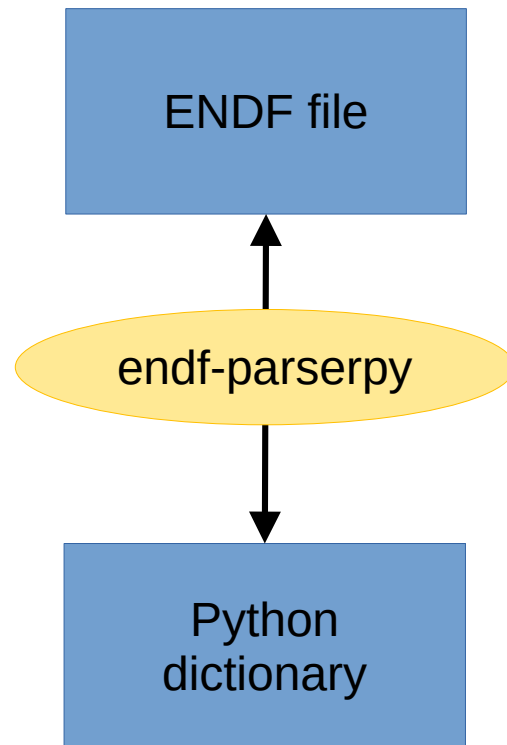
## Only reading

- Endf-parser
- PyNE

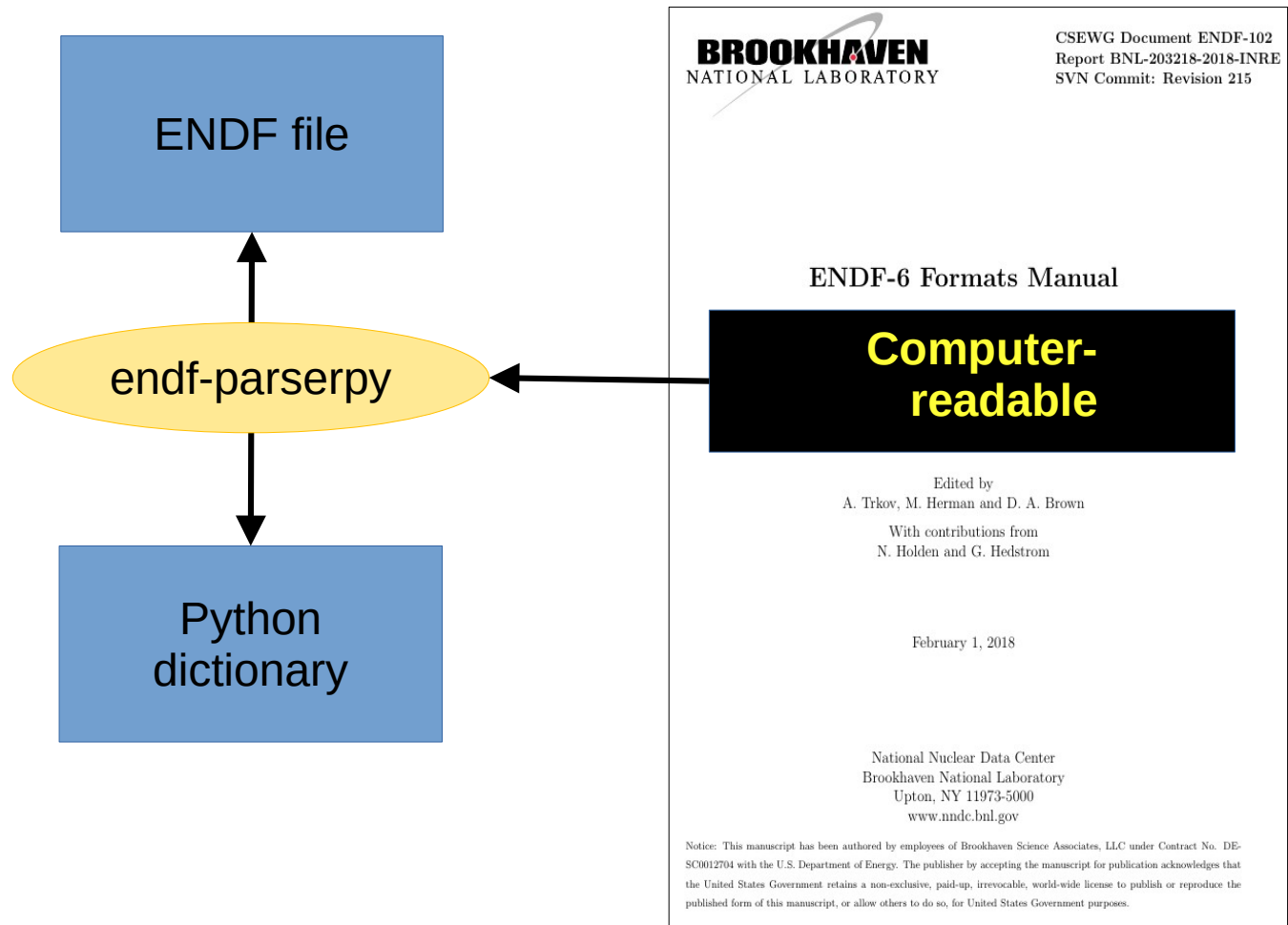
# Two (+one) requirements

- Support reading and writing of entire ENDF-6 format
- Convenient use from a data science language (e.g. Python)
- *Provably correct*

# Basic design

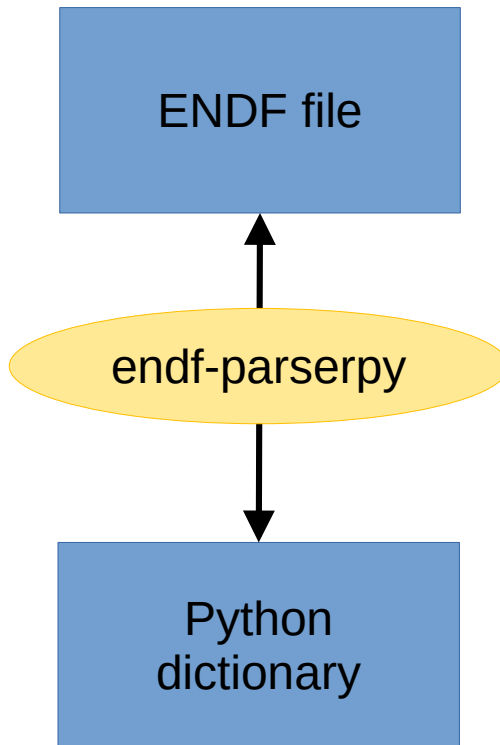


# Basic design





# Formal ENDF format description



```
[MAT, 4, MT/ ZA, AWR, 0, LTT, 0, 0]HEAD
if LTT==3 and LI==0 [lookahead=1]:
  [MAT, 4, MT/ 0.0, AWR?, LI, LCT, 0, NM]CONT
else:
  [MAT, 4, MT/ 0.0, AWR?, LI, LCT, 0, 0]CONT
endif

# Legendre coefficients
if LTT == 1 and LI == 0:
  [MAT, 4, MT/ 0.0, 0.0, 0, 0, NR, NE/ Eint ]TAB2
  for i=1 to NE:
    [MAT, 4, MT/ T, E[i] , LT, 0, NL[i], 0/ {a[i,l]}{l=1 to NL[i]} ]LIST
  endfor

# Tabulated probability distributions
elif LTT==2 and LI==0:
  [MAT, 4, MT/ 0.0, 0.0, 0, 0, NR, NE/ Eint ]TAB2 (energy_table)
  for i=1 to NE:
    [MAT, 4, MT/ T, E[i] , LT, 0, NR, NP/ mu / f]TAB1 (angtable[i])
  endfor

# Angular distributions over two energy ranges.
elif LTT==3 and LI==0:
  # lower range given by Legendre coefficients
  [MAT, 4, MT/ 0.0, 0.0, 0, 0, NR, NE1/ Eint ]TAB2 (leg_int)
  for i=1 to NE1:
    [MAT, 4, MT/ T, E[i], LT, 0, NL[i], 0/
      {al[i,j]}{j=1 to NL[i]} ]LIST
  endfor
  # higher range represented by probability distribution
  [MAT, 4, MT/ 0.0, 0.0, 0, 0, NR, NE2/ Eint ]TAB2 (ang_int)
  for i=NE1 to NE1+NE2-1:
    [MAT, 4, MT/ T, E[i] , LT, 0, NR, NP/ mu / f ]TAB1 (angtable[i])
  endfor
endif
SEND
```

# Provably correct

- The ENDF-6 format manual is incomplete/misleading\* for LRF=7
- Result: some divergence between packages

(The following record gives the values for resonance energy and widths for each resonance in this spin group.)

```
[MAT,2,151/ 0.0,      0.0,      0,      NRS,      6*NX,      NX/
      ER1,      GAM1,1,      GAM2,1,      GAM3,1,      GAM4,1,      GAM5,1,
      GAM6,1, ----- GAMNCH,1,
      ER2,      GAM1,2,      GAM2,2,      GAM3,2,      GAM4,2,      GAM5,2,
      GAM6,2, ----- GAMNCH,2,
      -----
      ERNRS, GAM1,NRS, GAM2,NRS, GAM3,NRS, GAM4,NRS, GAM5,NRS,
      GAM6,NRS, ----- GAMNCH,NRS ]LIST
```

(If the number of resonances is zero for a spin group, then NRS=0 but NX=1 in this record.)  
Other records may be included here, as described below. If KBK is greater than zero,

# Example of format checking: Cu-63

```
----- Line 1205 -----
Template: [ MAT , 32 , 151 / 0.0 , 0.0 , 0 , NRSA , 12 * NX , NX ? /
{ ER [ k ] , { GAM [ p , k ] } { p = 1 to NCH } PADLINE ,
DER [ k ] , { DGAM [ p , k ] } { p = 1 to NCH } PADLINE } { k = 1 to NRSA } ] LIST
Line:      " 0.000000+0 0.000000+0          0          156          1872          156292532151"

----- Line 1518 -----
Template: [ MAT , 32 , 151 / AJ , PJ , 0 , 0 , 6 * NCH , NCH /
{ PPI [ k ] , L [ k ] , SCH [ k ] , BND [ k ] , APE [ k ] , APT [ k ] } { k = 1 to NCH } ] LIST
Line:      " 2.000000+0 0.000000+0          0          0          18          3292532151"

----- Line 1522 -----
Template: [ MAT , 32 , 151 / 0.0 , 0.0 , 0 , NRSA , 12 * NX , NX ? /
{ ER [ k ] , { GAM [ p , k ] } { p = 1 to NCH } PADLINE ,
DER [ k ] , { DGAM [ p , k ] } { p = 1 to NCH } PADLINE } { k = 1 to NRSA } ] LIST
Line:      " 0.000000+0 0.000000+0          0          148          1776          148292532151"

----- Line 1819 -----
Template: [ MAT , 32 , 151 / AJ , PJ , 0 , 0 , 6 * NCH , NCH /
{ PPI [ k ] , L [ k ] , SCH [ k ] , BND [ k ] , APE [ k ] , APT [ k ] } { k = 1 to NCH } ] LIST
Line:      " 3.000000+0 0.000000+0          0          0          12          2292532151"

----- Line 1822 -----
Template: [ MAT , 32 , 151 / 0.0 , 0.0 , 0 , NRSA , 12 * NX , NX ? /
{ ER [ k ] , { GAM [ p , k ] } { p = 1 to NCH } PADLINE ,
DER [ k ] , { DGAM [ p , k ] } { p = 1 to NCH } PADLINE } { k = 1 to NRSA } ] LIST
Line:      " 0.000000+0 0.000000+0          0          204          2448          204292532151"

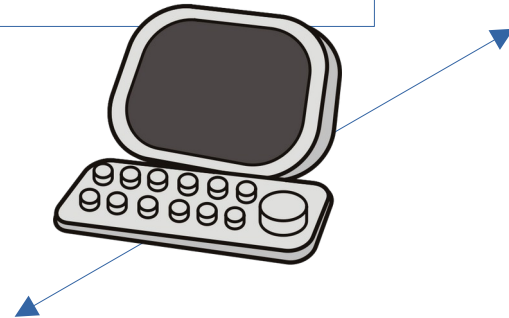
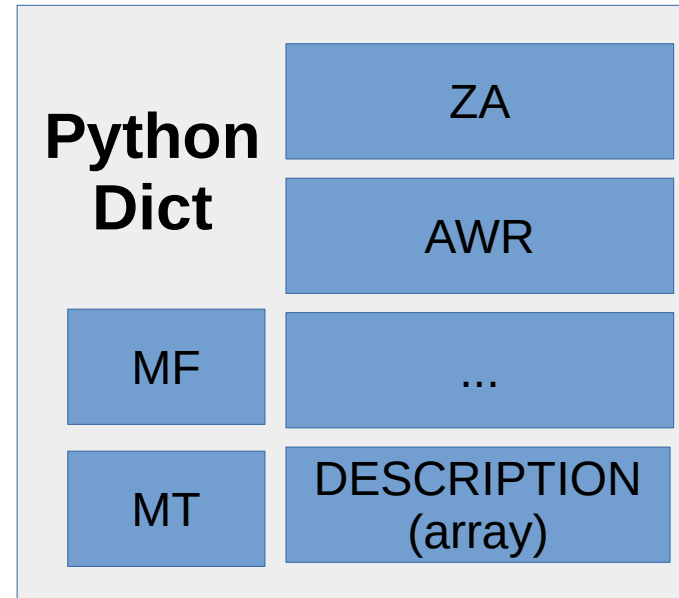
----- Line 2231 -----
Template: [ MAT , 32 , 151 / 0.0 , 0.0 , NDIGIT , NNN , NM , 0 ] CONT
Line:      " 0.000000+0 0.000000+0          2          3598          4260          0292532151"

----- Line 2232 -----
Template: [ MAT , 32 , 151 / II [ q ] , JJ [ q ] , KIJ [ q ] { NDIGIT } ] INTG
Line:      " 3.100000+1-9.810000+2 0.000000+0 0.000000+0 0.000000+0 0.000000+0292532151"

Error message: invalid literal for int() with base 10: ' 3.10'
```

# Basic translation

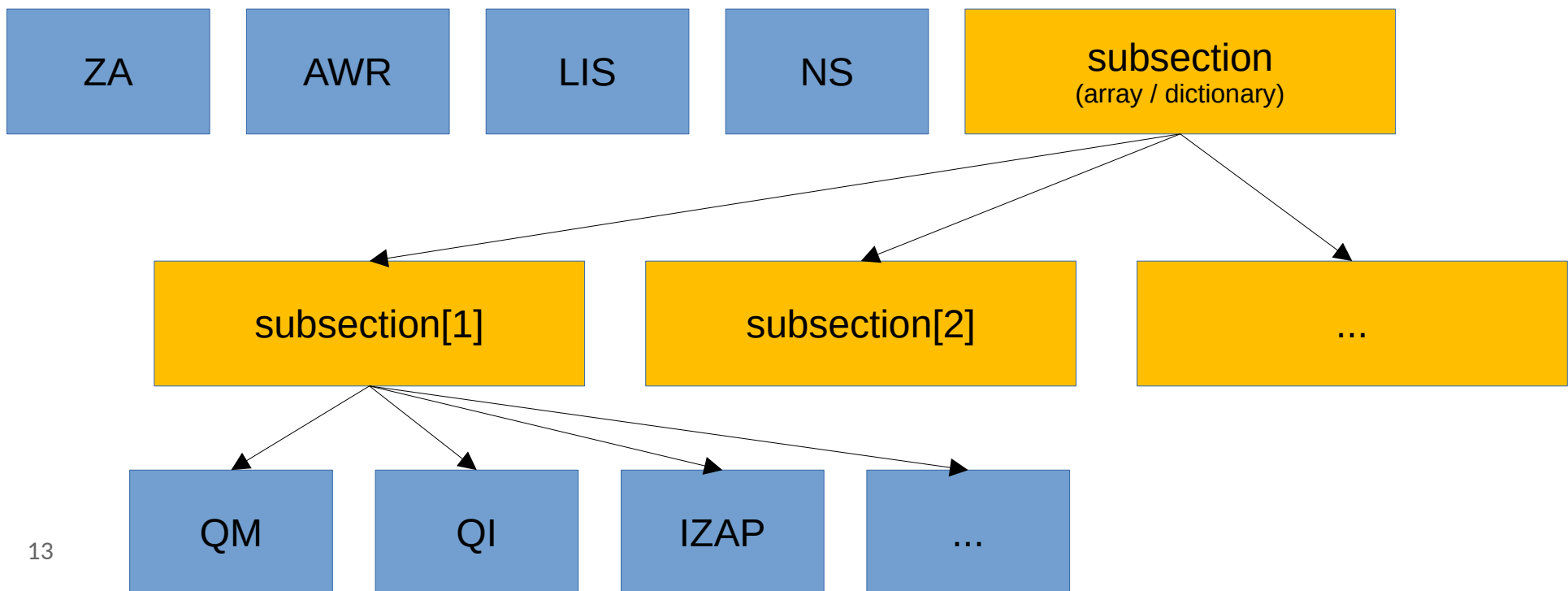
```
[MAT, 1,451/ ZA, AWR, LRP, LFI, NLIB, NMOD]HEAD
[MAT, 1,451/ ELIS, STA, LIS, LISO, 0, NFOR]CONT
[MAT, 1,451/ AWI, EMAX, LREL, 0, NSUB, NVER]CONT
[MAT, 1,451/ TEMP, 0.0, LDRV, 0, NWD, NXC]CONT
for i=1 to NWD:
    [MAT, 1,451/ DESCRIPTION[i]]TEXT
endfor
```



```
2.906300+4 6.238900+1      1      0      0      52925 1451
0.000000+0 0.000000+0      0      0      0      62925 1451
1.000000+0 1.500000+8      8      0     10      72925 1451
0.000000+0 0.000000+0      0      0     481     1152925 1451
29-Cu- 63 LANL,ORNL EVAL-FEB98 A.Koning,M.Chadwick,Hetrick      2925 1451
CH98,CH99 DIST-DEC06 REV4-      20011108      2925 1451
----ENDF/B-VII MATERIAL 2925 REVISION 4      2925 1451
-----INCIDENT NEUTRON DATA      2925 1451
-----ENDF-6 FORMAT      2925 1451
```

# Allowing for nesting: Sections

```
[MAT, 10, MT/ ZA, AWR, LIS, 0, NS, 0]HEAD
for k=1 to NS:
  (subsection[k])
    [MAT, 10, MT/ QM, QI, IZAP, LFS, NR, NP/ E / sigma ]TAB1
  (/subsection[k])
endfor
SEND
```



# Example of use: Changing (n,tot) cross section

```
from endf_parserpy import ExtEndfParser
```

```
parser = ExtEndfParser()  
endf_dict = parser.parsefile("input.endf")
```

```
parser.writefile("output.endf", endf_dict)
```

# Example of use: Changing (n,tot) cross section

```
from endf_parserpy import ExtEndfParser

parser = ExtEndfParser()
endf_dict = parser.parsefile("input.endf")

updated_energies = np.linspace(1e6, 1e8, 100)

endf_dict[3][1]['xstable']['E'] = updated_energies
endf_dict[3][1]['xstable']['xs'] = np.sin(updated_energies) + 2

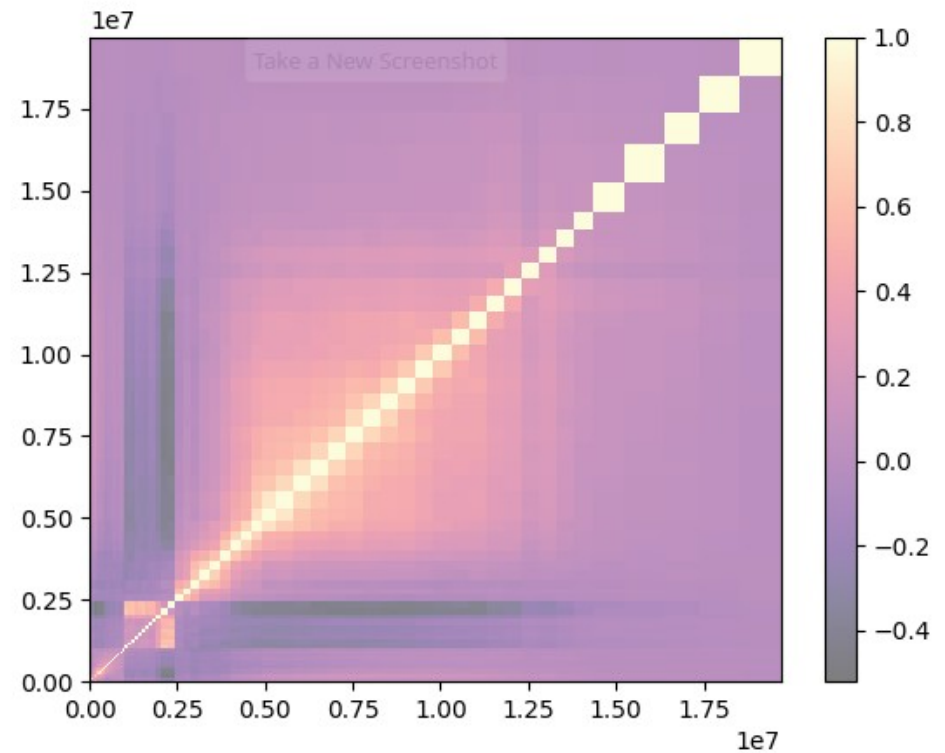
endf_dict[3][1]['xstable']['NBT'] = [len(updated_energies)]
endf_dict[3][1]['xstable']['INT'] = [2]

parser.writefile("output.endf", endf_dict)
```

# Covariance retrieval example

```
parser = BasicEndfParser()
endf_file = os.path.join('auxiliary_data', 'IRDF-II_Cf252_spectrum.endf')
cf252_endf = parser.parsefile(endf_file)
# get fission spectrum
mf3 = cf252_endf[3][261]
en = np.array(mf3['xstable']['E']) / 1e6
xs = np.array(mf3['xstable']['xs']) * 1e6
# get data to reconstruct covariance matrix
```

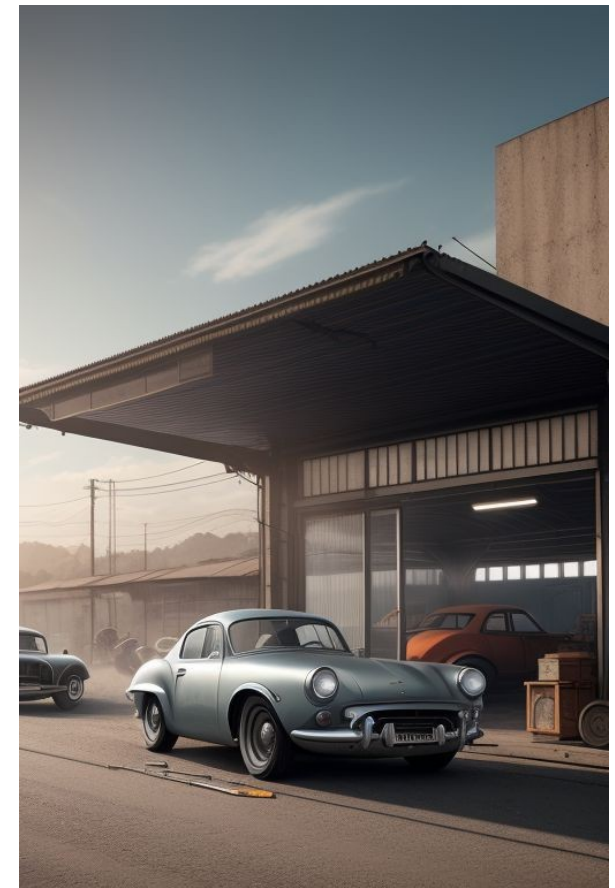
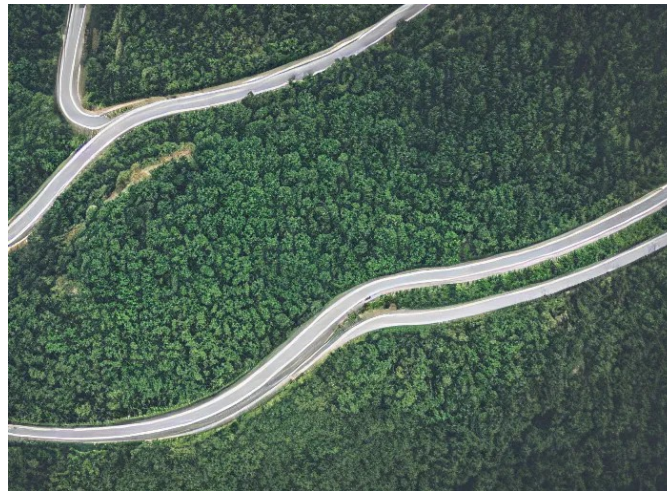
```
mf33 = cf252_endf[33][261]
E = mf33['subsection'][1]['ni_subsection'][1]['E']
F = mf33['subsection'][1]['ni_subsection'][1]['F']
# reconstruct covariance matrix
energies = np.array(tuple(E.values())) / 1e6
n = len(energies)-1
covmat = np.full((n, n), 0.0)
for i in F.keys():
    for j in F[i].keys():
        covmat[i-1, j-1] = F[i][j]
        if i != j:
            covmat[j-1, i-1] = F[i][j]
```



[https://github.com/IAEA-NDS/neutron-standards-database/blob/main/codes/database\\_modifications/use\\_irdff\\_cf252\\_spectrum.py](https://github.com/IAEA-NDS/neutron-standards-database/blob/main/codes/database_modifications/use_irdff_cf252_spectrum.py)



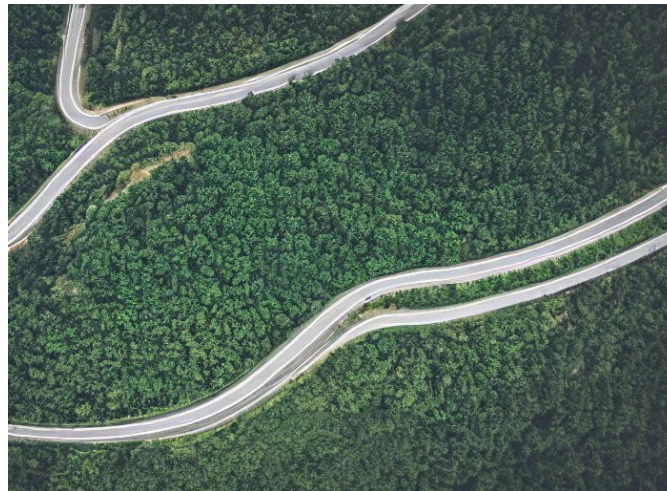
# Translation between representations



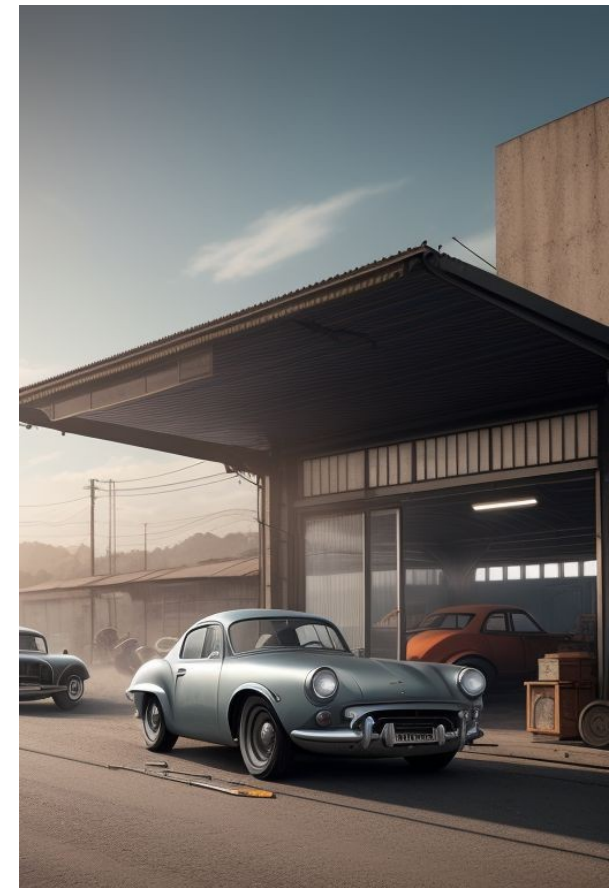
# Translation between representations



ENDF-6



endf-parserpy

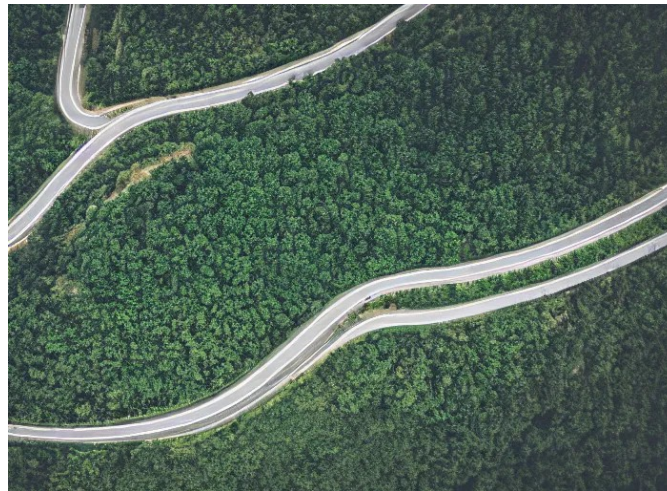


Python dictionary

# Translation between representations



ENDF-6



FUDGE



GNDS

# Translation between representations

```
import json
endf_dict = parser.parsefile("input.endf")
with open("endf_file.json", "w") as f:
    json.dump(endf_dict, f, indent=2)
```



Python dictionary



JSON

# Advanced diff functionality (Provenance checking in FENDL)

#	Material	Source	E <sub>max</sub> [MeV]
1	1-H-1	JENDL-1	3000
2	1-H-2	ENDF/B-VII	150
3	1-H-3	ENDF/B-VII	20
4	2-He-3	ENDF/B-VII	20
5	3-Li-6	JENDL-4.0/HE	200
6	3-Li-7	JENDL-4.0/HE	200
7	4-Be-9	ENDF/B-VII	113
8	5-B-10	ENDF/B-VII	3
9	5-B-11	ENDF/B-?????	200

```
from endf_parserpy.endf_parser import BasicEndfParser
from endf_parserpy.debugging_utils import compare_objects
parser = BasicEndfParser()
fendl_endf = parser.parsefile(fendl_filename)
other_endf = parser.parsefile(other_endffile)
del fendl_endf[1][451]
del other_endf[1][451]
compare_objects(fendl_endf, other_endf, fail_on_diff=False)
```

FENDL 3.2b = ENDF/B.VII.0

```
---- difference for MAT 131 ----
Value mismatch at .3.50.QI (-0.76387 vs -763870.0)
Value mismatch at .3.50.QM (-0.76387 vs -763870.0)
Value mismatch at .3.650.QI (-4.0329 vs -4032900.0)
Value mismatch at .3.650.QM (-4.0329 vs -4032900.0)
```

Comparison with ENDF/B-VII.1

# Summary

- New Python package for ENDF-6 formatted files enabling:
  - Reading
  - Writing
  - Translating
  - Verifying
- Supports (nearly) the entire ENDF-6 format
- Provably correct implementation
- Assembling an ENDF-6 file becomes much easier:
  - Working with symbol names instead of locations
  - Leveraging powerful data science capabilities of Python