

Preface

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We are pleased to present Annual Report of ASRC 2021, which summarizes the highlights of the research achievements of 7 research groups in the Advanced Science Research Center (ASRC) throughout FY2021.

ASRC was established in April of 1993 with the aims of solving the problems of nuclear research and development by going back to the origins of principles and phenomena, and of advancing research that leads the development of not only nuclear energy but also other related fields through collaboration with basic sciences. For nearly 30 years, as a part of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA), ASRC has made a significant contribution to developing new ideas and fields of science related to atomic energy with two major subjects: advanced actinide nuclear science and advanced nuclear materials science.

The COVID-19 pandemic that broke out in 2020 has had a large influence on our research activities, in particular, international collaborations and workshops that have normally been conducted through the Reimei research projects. In the meantime, various on-line opportunities have brought us a new digitalized research style, which is anticipated to come in future. We may say that ASRC has successfully adapted to the new style to keep the research activities.

I have been appointed to serve as the Director General of ASRC since April of this year, with the start of the middle-/long-term from FY2022 to FY2028. I am committed to my work and will try to do my best for the development of ASRC.

I hope that this edition of Annual Report will enable you to better understand our recent research activities, and you will see that the researchers of ASRC have conducted high-quality studies in spite of the present restricted conditions. On behalf of ASRC, I appreciate your continued support, and welcome any suggestions.