

# **The Application of Computational Methods for Materials Design**

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Sandia National Laboratories  
Albuquerque, NM**

**MS&T 2007  
Discovery and Optimization of Materials  
through Computational Design**

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# **An ~actual discussion that took place ~13 years ago.**

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**Computational  
Scientist**

**I can simulate simple, solid-state sintering.**

**Team leader**

**We can simulate solid-state sintering.**

**Manager**

**We have the capability to simulate sintering.**

**Executive**

**Why are we spending so much to experimentally determine sintering behavior? Eliminate the experiments!**

**Computational  
Scientist**

**Oh no! How did this happen? What did I say?**



# Invariably, it resulted in this consequence

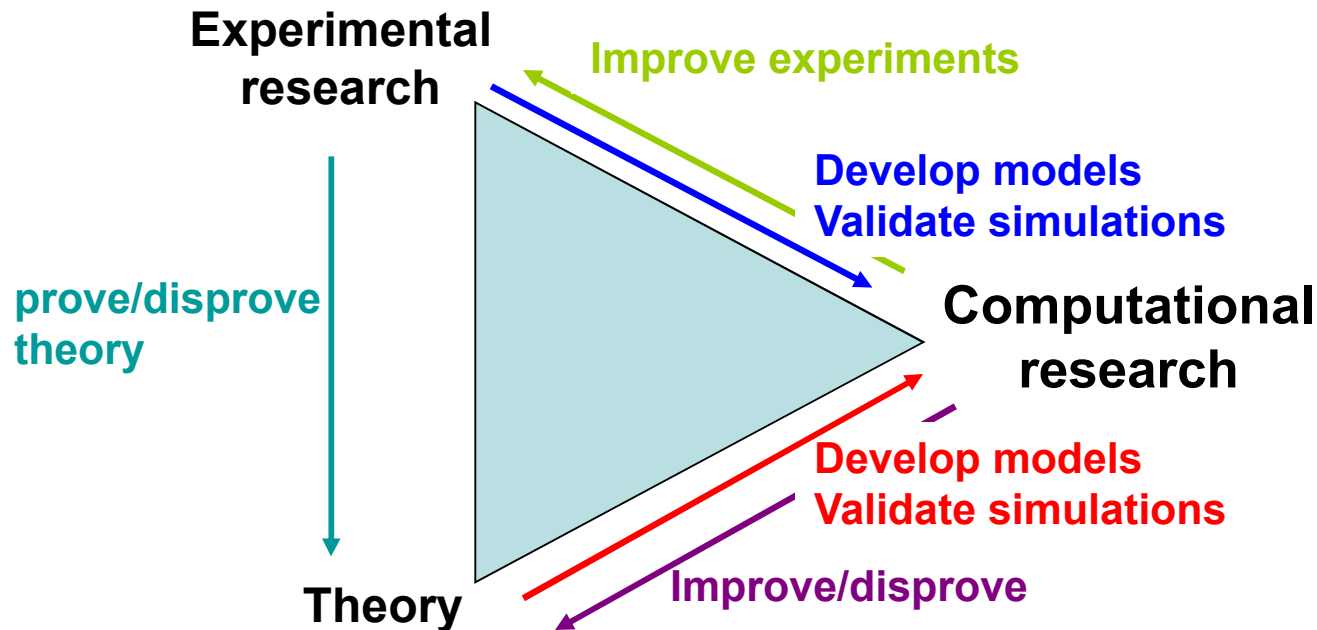
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- Computational Scientist** I can simulate sintering of a totally pure, single phase, isotropic, idealized material with no inclusions. The results are non-dimensional in time and space. Although almost no technologically important material behaves this ideally, we can provide microstructural information and constitutive equations describing shrinkage that will help design a better product.
- Team leader** How does simulating the idealized case help this team with the real material case?
- Manager** What? If you can only simulate idealized material why do we do this at all. I will recommend we eliminate the computer simulations and increase funding for experiments
- Computational Scientist** Oh no! How did this happen? What did I say?



# Integrating computational research with experimental research and theory is necessary

Integration of computational research with experiments and theory results in a better answer.



# Today's Issues

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<b>Computational Scientist</b>	I need these experiments to refine my model. How do I obtain the necessary resources?
<b>Design Engineer</b>	I cannot analyze this problem with this code because I don't know which model/BC/mesh/... to choose
<b>Funding Manager</b>	How much money/time will computer simulations save?
<b>Manager</b>	How do I allocate my computational resources to have maximum impact?
<b>Executive</b>	Widgits Inc. has been making widgits for 50 years, why should I develop computational capabilities to make widgits now?

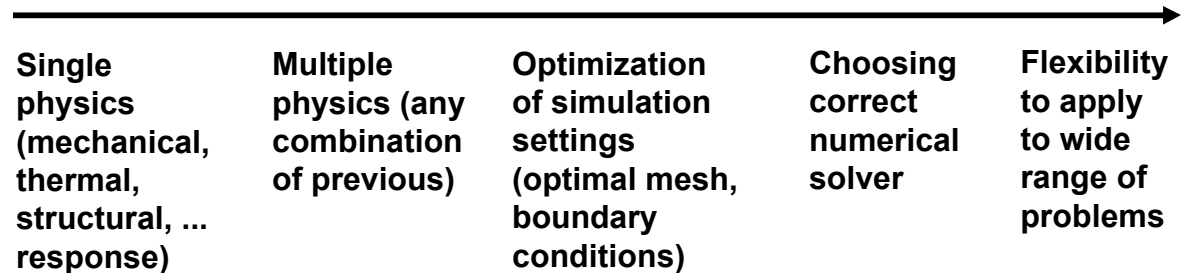


# Objective

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- **Present a conceptual framework**
  - Codes, Models, Algorithms, Solvers, ...
  - How these relate to each other
  - Where does experimental research and theory fit in
- **This framework may help answer questions like**
  - Why integrate modeling and simulations into R&D?
  - How much do simulations cost?
  - How much *and which* experimental work is necessary

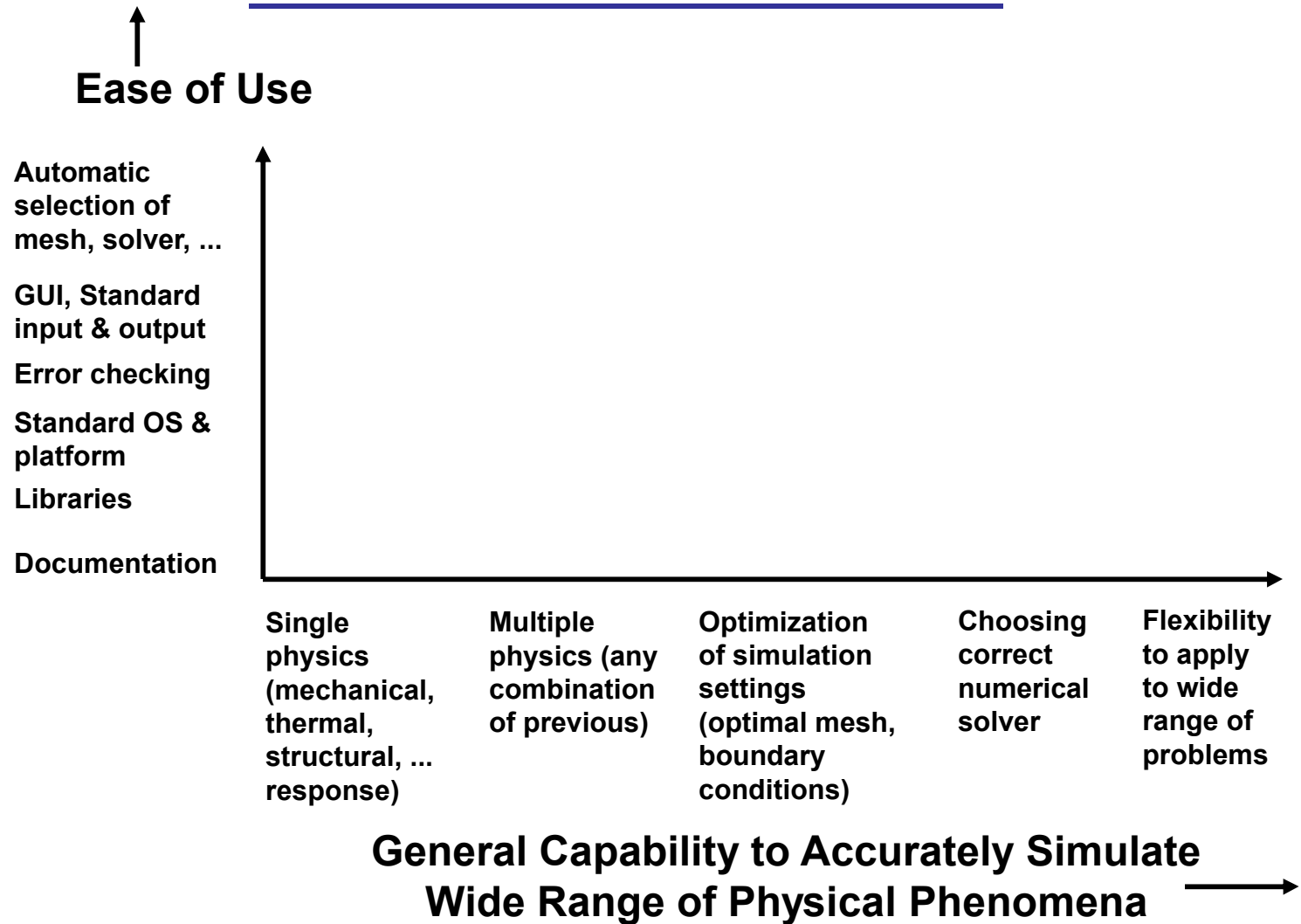




**General Capability to Accurately Simulate  
Wide Range of Physical Phenomena** →

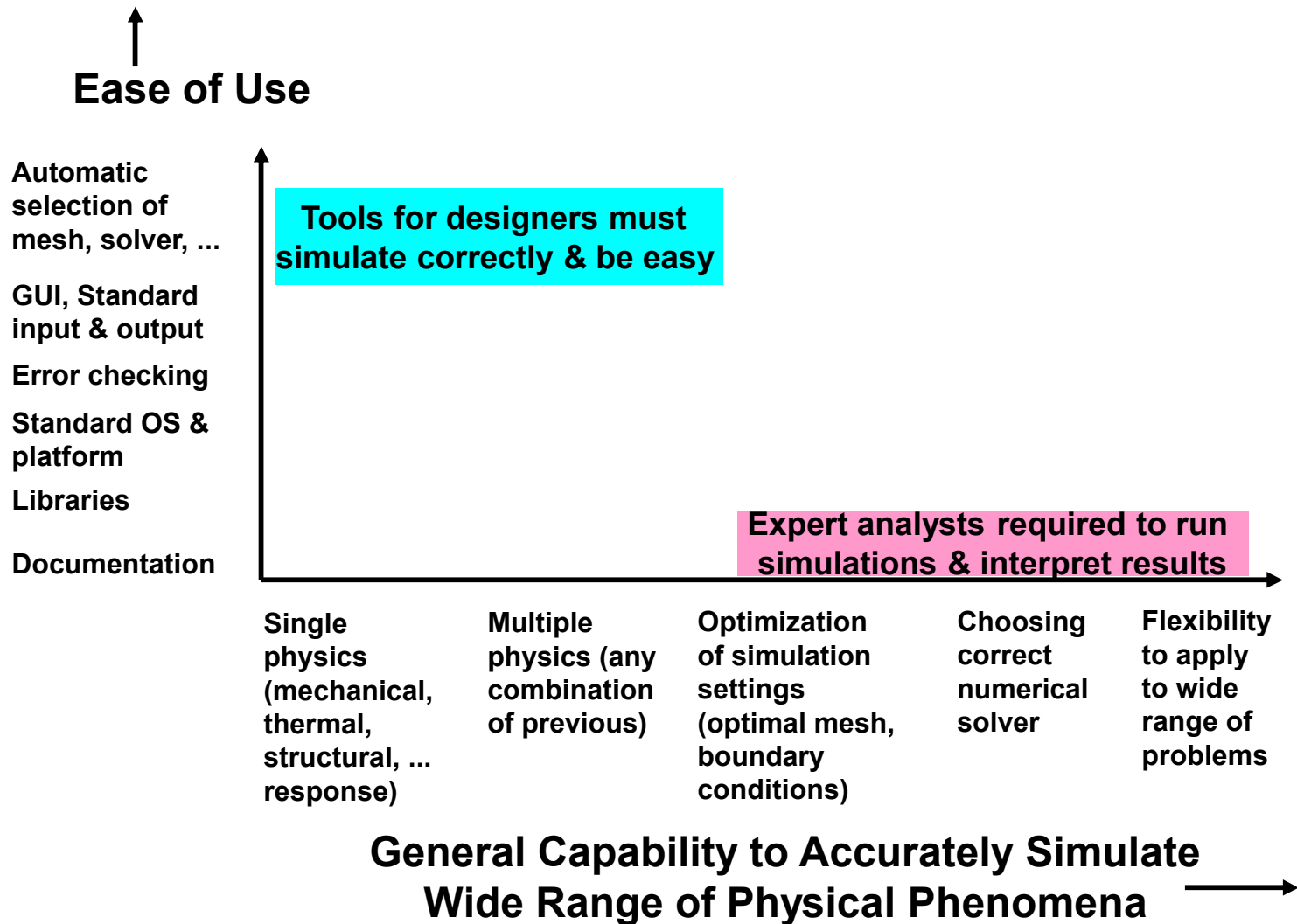


# Conceptual Framework

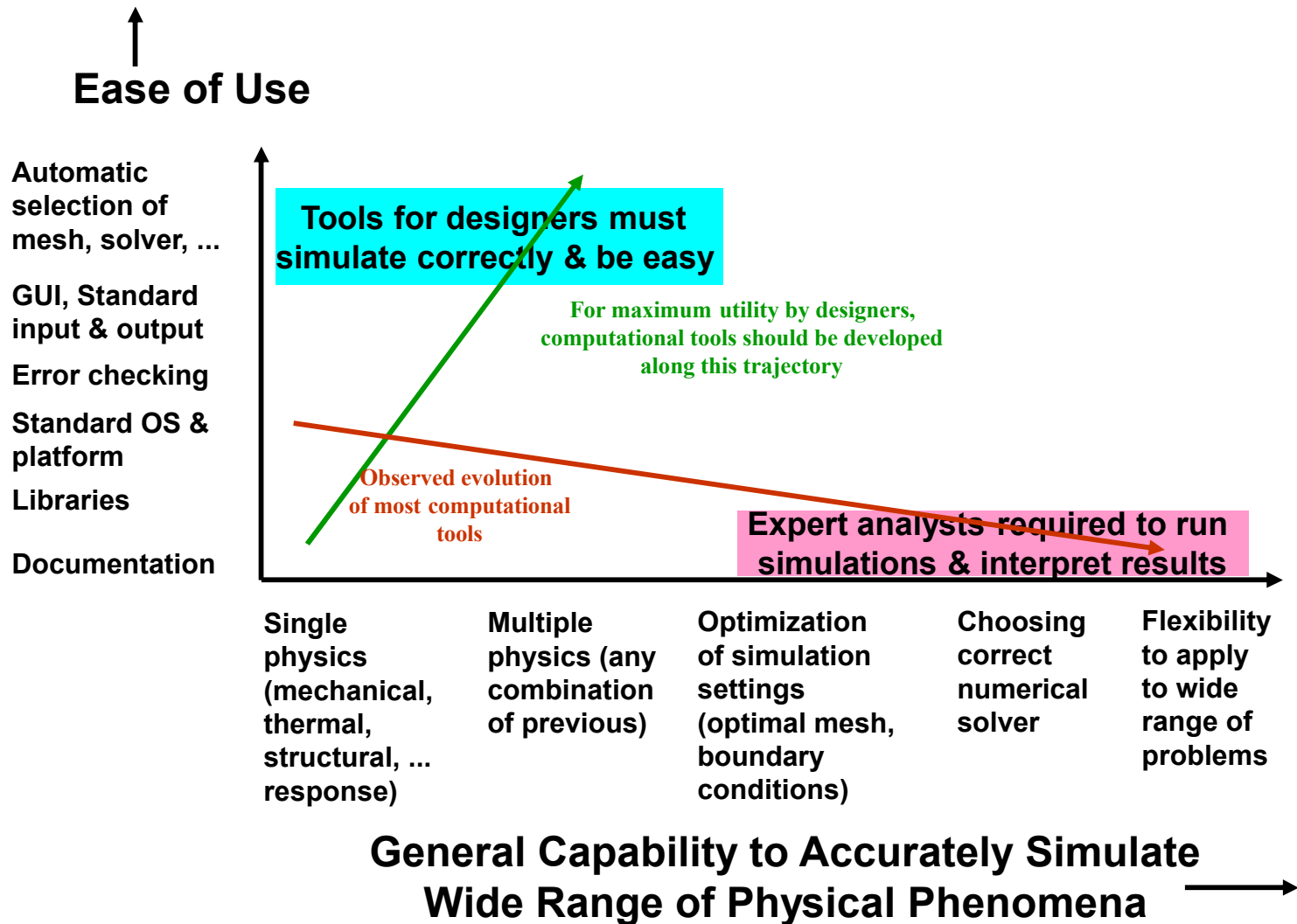




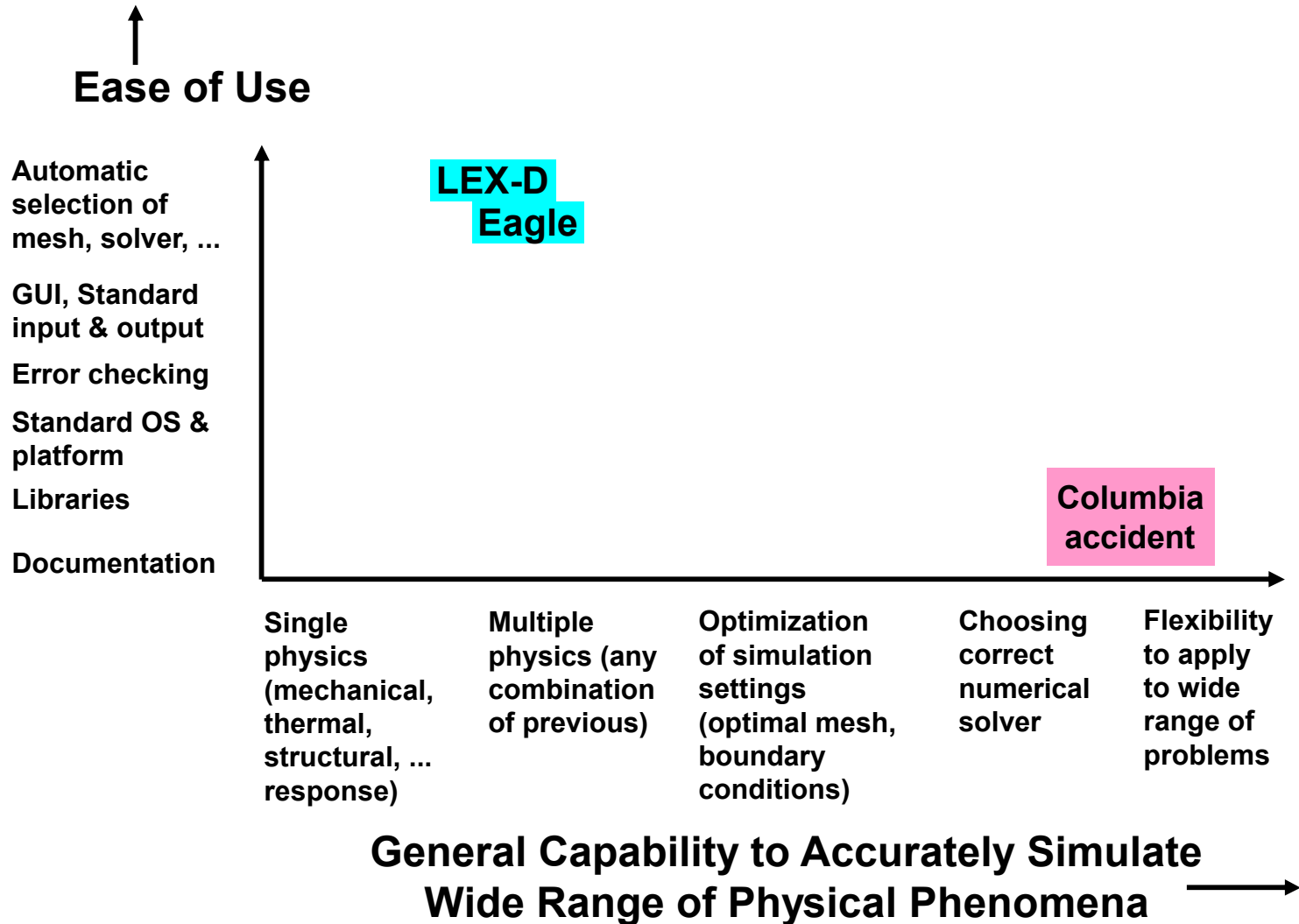
# Code Space within Conceptual Framework



# Code Space within Conceptual Framework

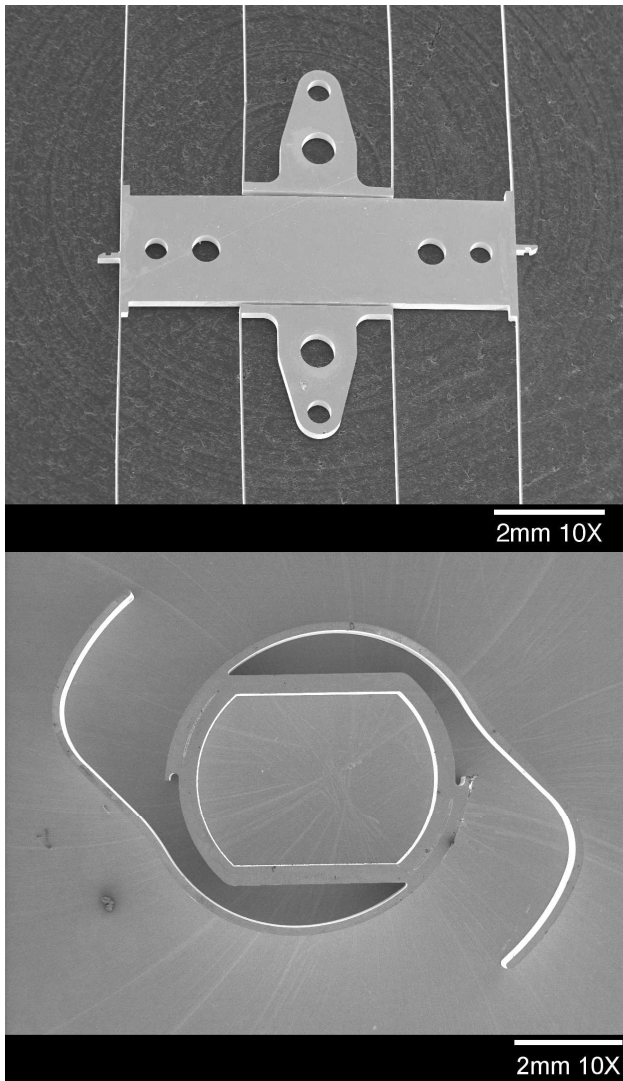


# Examples of Analysis Codes for Designers and for Computational Analysts



## Design Code

## LEX-D, LIGA EXposure & Development



LIGA parts are formed by electrodepositing in a PMMA mold.

Mold is formed by lithographic techniques

- Exposing to synchrotron X-ray radiation
- Developing to etch away exposed regions

Synchrotron, exposure and development settings:

dose details, heating, secondary radiation, material properties, synchrotron spectrum, mirrors, absorber thickness & adhesion, substrate properties, ... 11 pages of settings

Easy to use: runs on Mac & PC, GUI, general LIGA process knowledge is required.

Micrographs courtesy of Nancy Yang, SNL  
Work by Stewart Griffiths, SNL

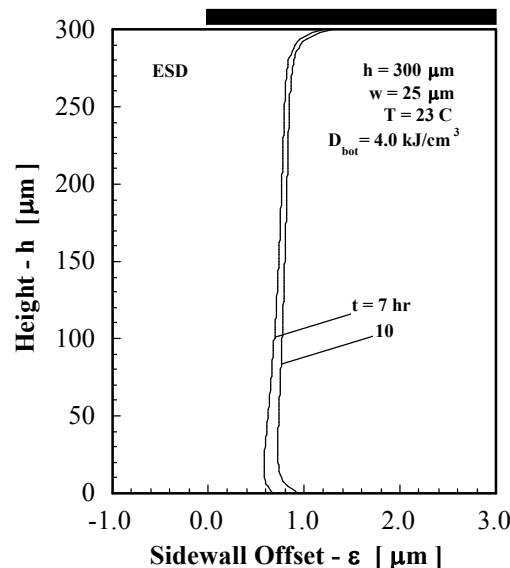


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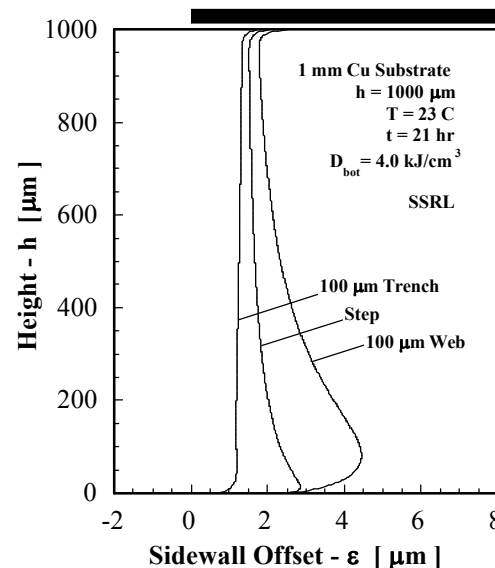
# Design Code

## LIGA Mold Design

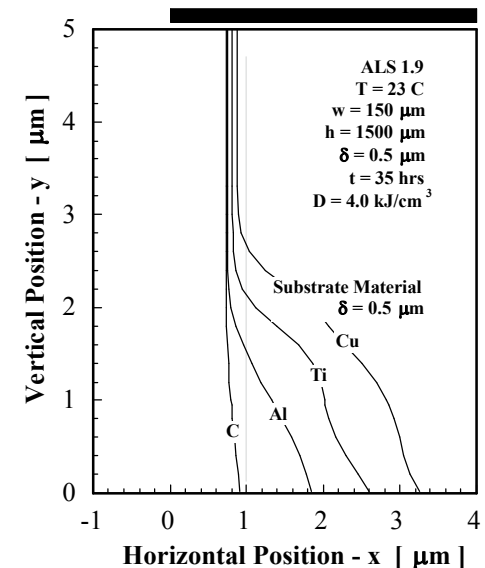
### Sample calculations of final sidewall profile



effect of excess  
development time --  
sidewall photo-e



effect of feature  
geometry -- substrate  
fluorescence



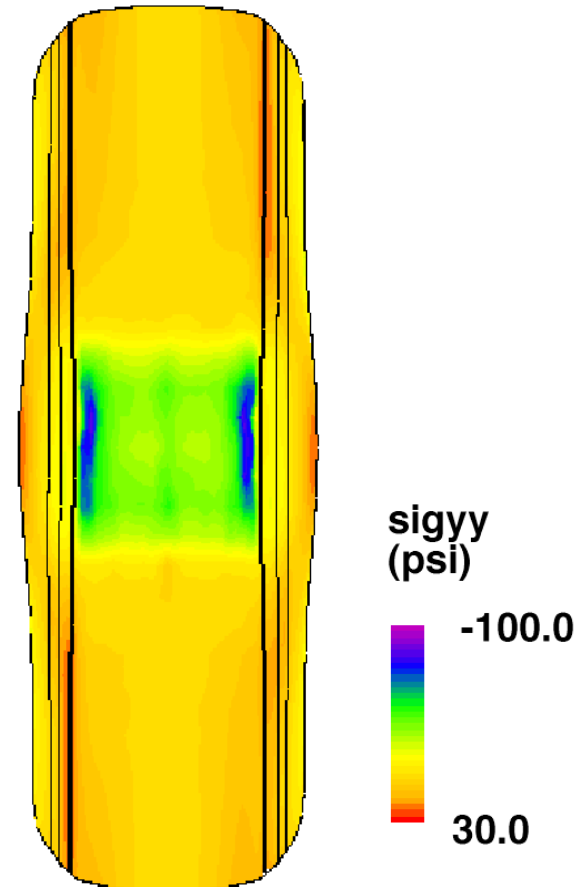
effect of substrate  
material -- substrate  
photo-electrons

# Goodyear Design Process Before Partnerships

- **Design Process**
  - Tire Designer Develops Design Concept
  - Prototype Tires Built (3-4 months)
  - Prototype Tires Tested (1 months)
  - Iterate on Design
  - Repeat Process 4-5 times
  - Multiple OEM Submission
- **Computational Simulation**
  - Limited Fidelity Models
  - Many Assumptions that were hard to validate
  - Long Run Times (weeks)
  - Long Model Creation Times (months)
  - Inflate, Deflect

*Past:* inflate, deflect

70,000 element model



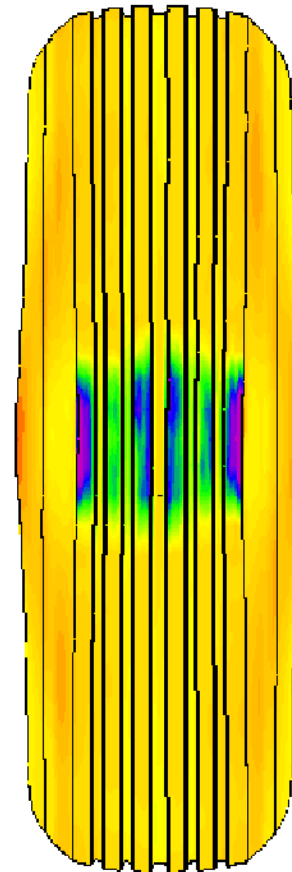
# Eagle was developed in partnership with Goodyear

## Computational Simulation

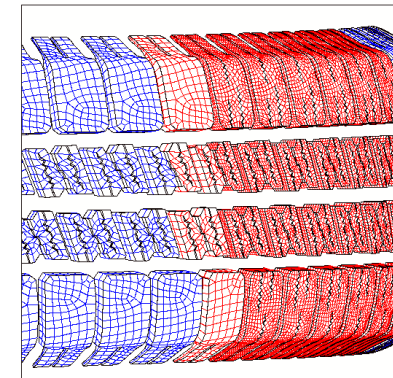
- Increase Model Complexity by Several Orders of Magnitude
- Reduce Model Assumptions Substantially
- Decrease Computational Run Times by 2 Orders of Magnitude (day)
- Automatic Mesh Generation (hour)
- Automatic Coupling between Solid Geometry, Meshing, Mechanics Codes, and Visualization of Results

*Present:* inflate, deflect, roll  
deflate, obstacles

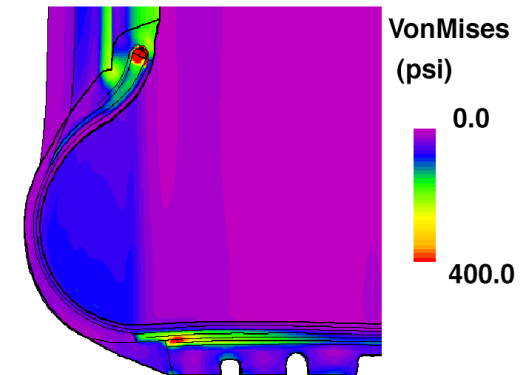
Higher fidelity 280,000 element model



- includes tread



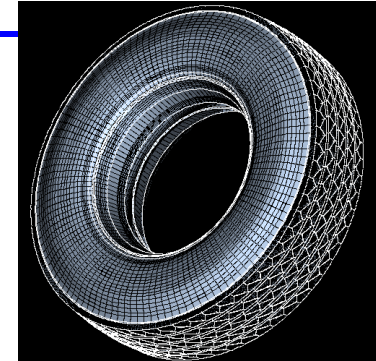
- detailed results...



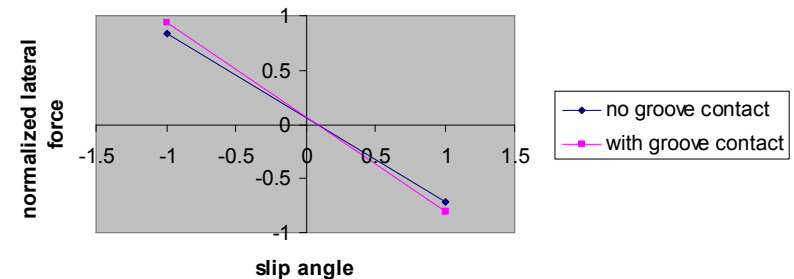
## Design Code

# Modeling Has Become Essential to New Design Process

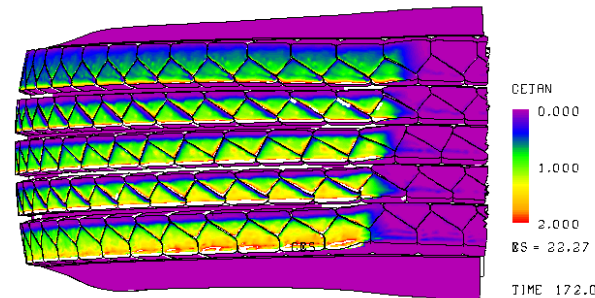
- Tire Designer Develops Design Concept
- Automatically Generated Meshes and Models
- Computational Simulations Used to Evaluate Design Concept
- Re - Design
- Repeat Process



groove contact influence on lateral force computed at the Road (SST)



- One set of Prototype Tires Built
- 1 Successful OEM Submission



Work courtesy of Martin Heinstein, SNL



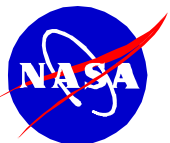
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# Application of general codes by experts

## Columbia Orbiter Accident Investigation

- **Ultimate goal:** *to provide “piecewise integration” of key scenario events to determine the plausibility or implausibility of the candidate failure scenarios*
- **Three parts to simulation investigation:**
  1. **Materials response to impact**
  2. **Aerodynamics and heating due to impact damage**
  3. **Thermal response to heating**
- **Target of current analysis:** Determine aerodynamic and heating behavior of the Shuttle Orbiter during aerobraking maneuvers
- **Methodology:** Direct Simulation Monte Carlo method
- **Results:** Flowfield simulations at representative re-entry trajectory points



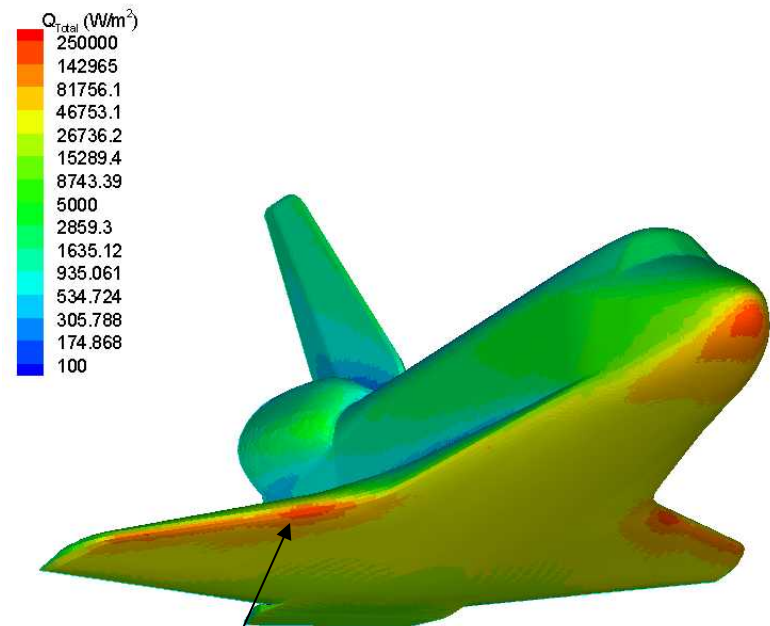
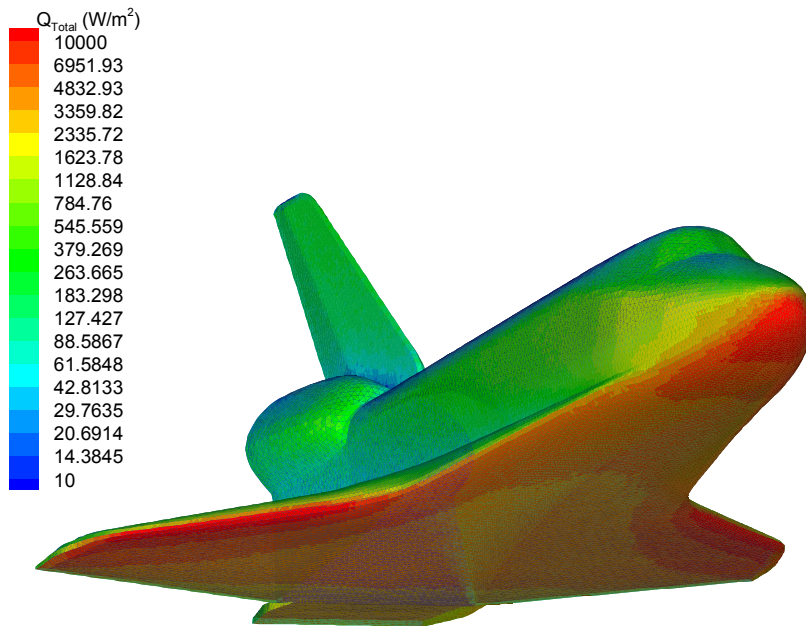
Work by Michael Gallis, SNL



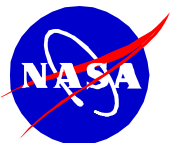
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# Analysis of flight trajectory

DSMC simulations were performed at two points of the entry trajectory



Two shock waves converge to  
give highest heating here

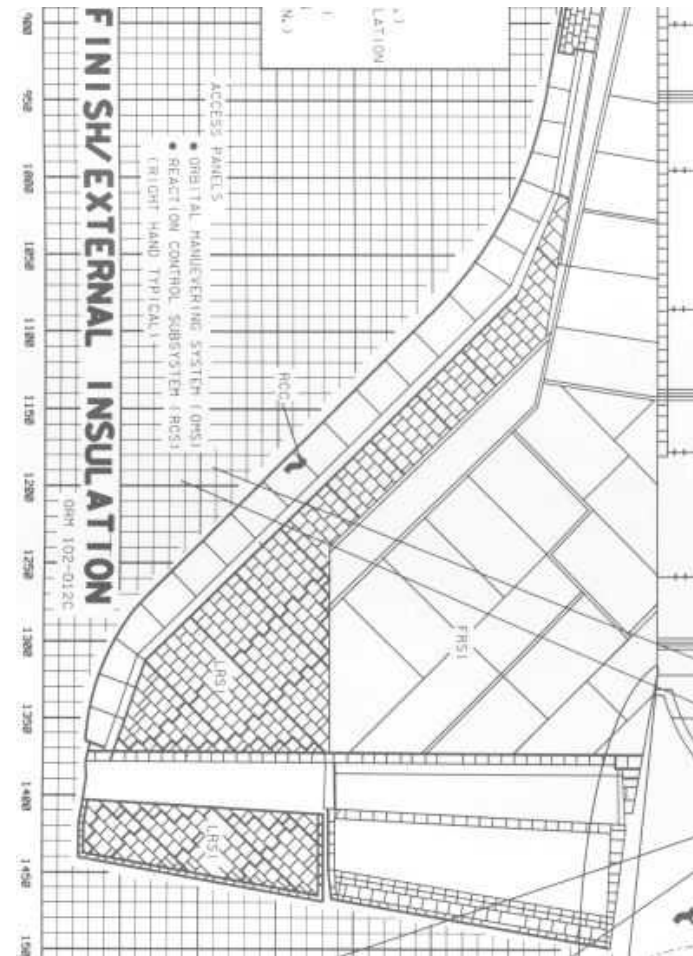
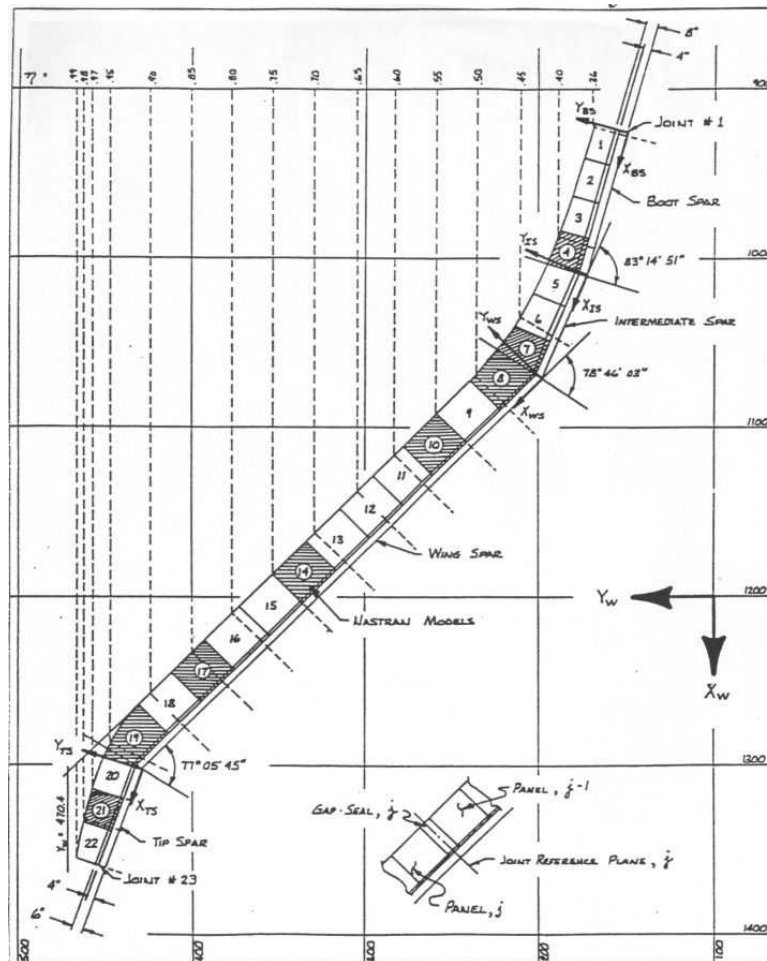


Work by Michael Gallis, SNL



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# Wing geometry



Work by Michael Gallis, SNL

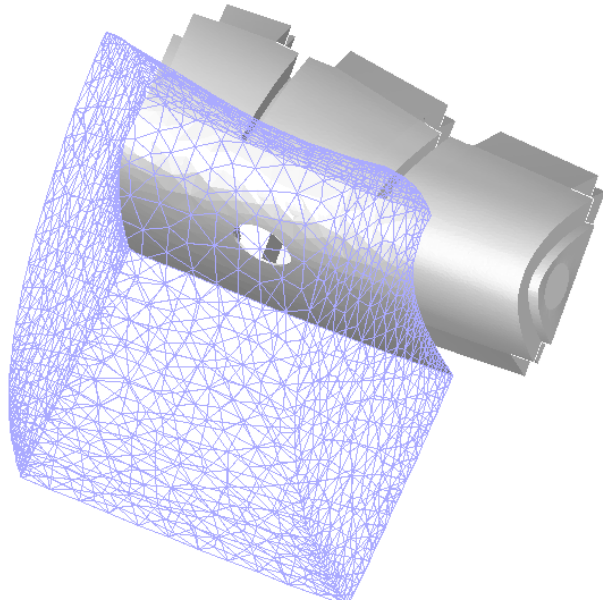


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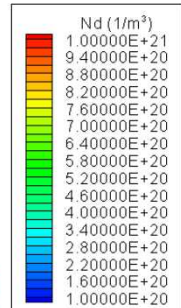
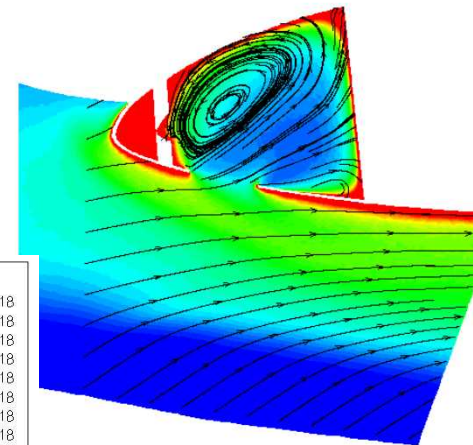
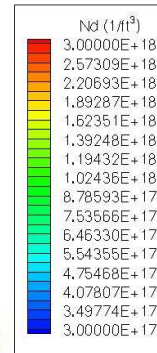
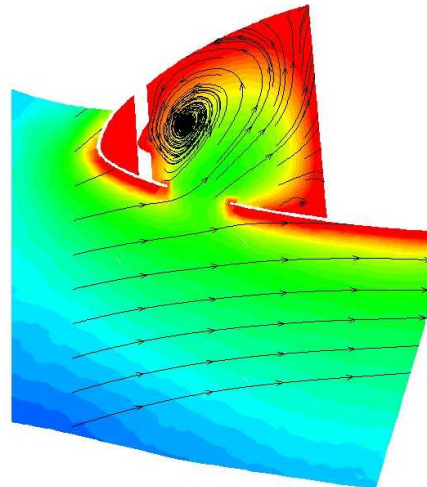
## Analysis by expert

# Flow Through a 10-Inch Hole in the Wing Leading Edge

External inflow boundary conditions  
extracted from 350 kft and 300 kft full-length  
shuttle cases already completed

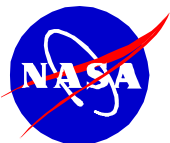


350 kft



300 kft

**A vortex in the hole lead to much  
higher damage than anticipated**

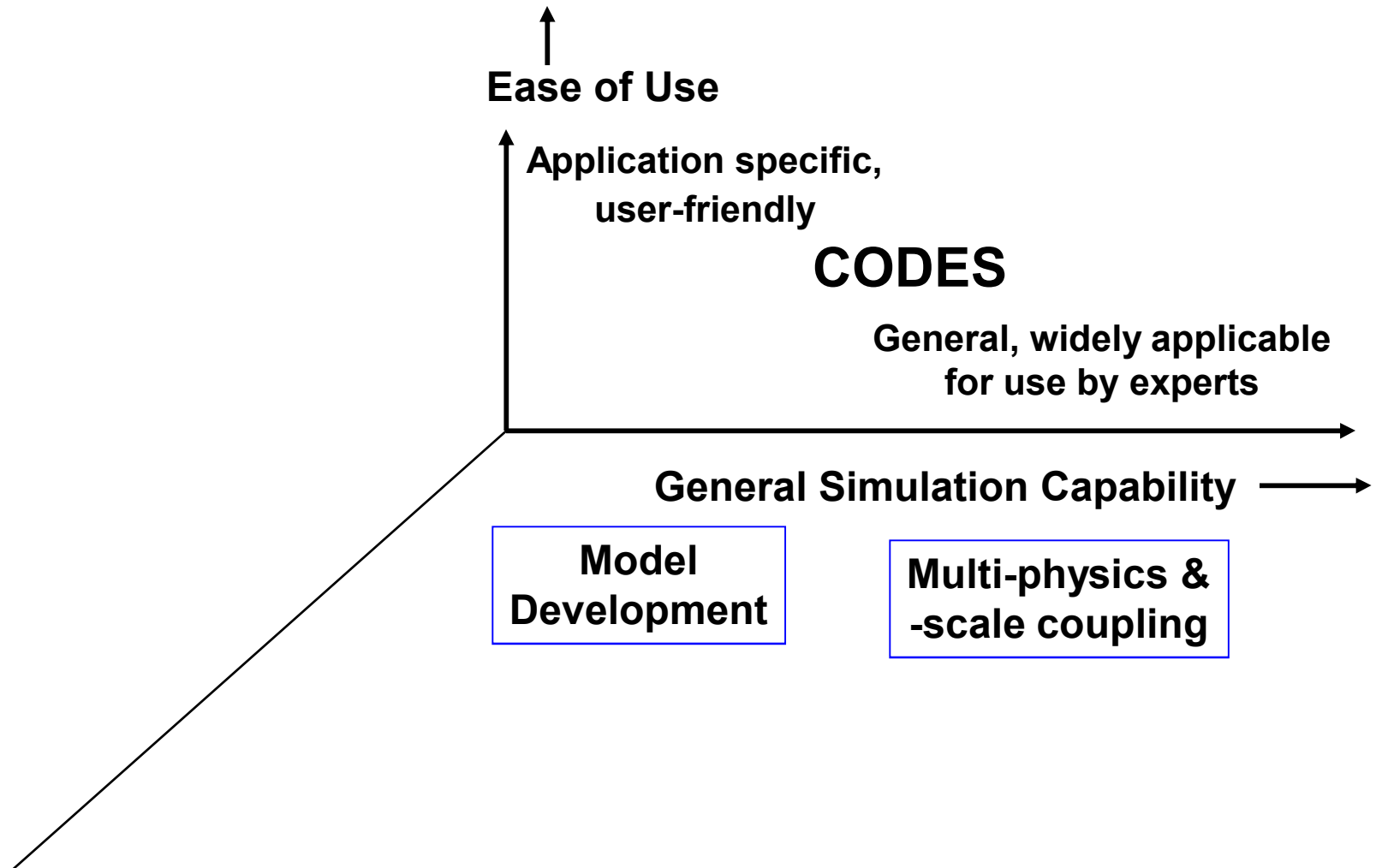


Work by Michael Gallis, SNL



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# What does it take to build codes?





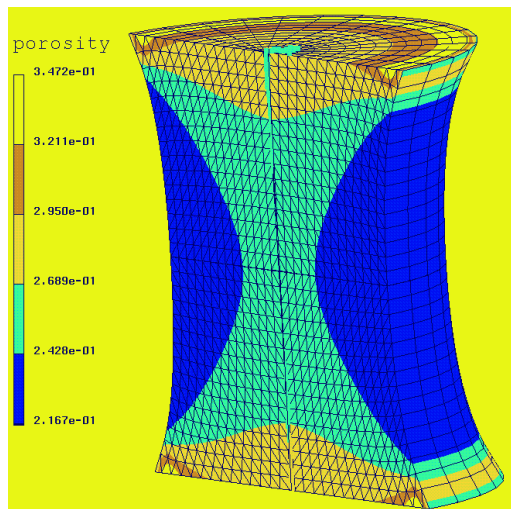
## Model Development

# Many powder processing techniques lead to anisotropic sintering

Powder processing that can result in anisotropic sintering:

- Uni-directional pressing
- Tape casting
- Injection molding

However, most sintering simulation use constitutive equations that treat it as an isotropic problem with  $P_L$  and  $\zeta$  as scalar quantities.



$$\frac{dV}{V_o dt} = \frac{-P_L}{\zeta}$$

Shrinkage rate

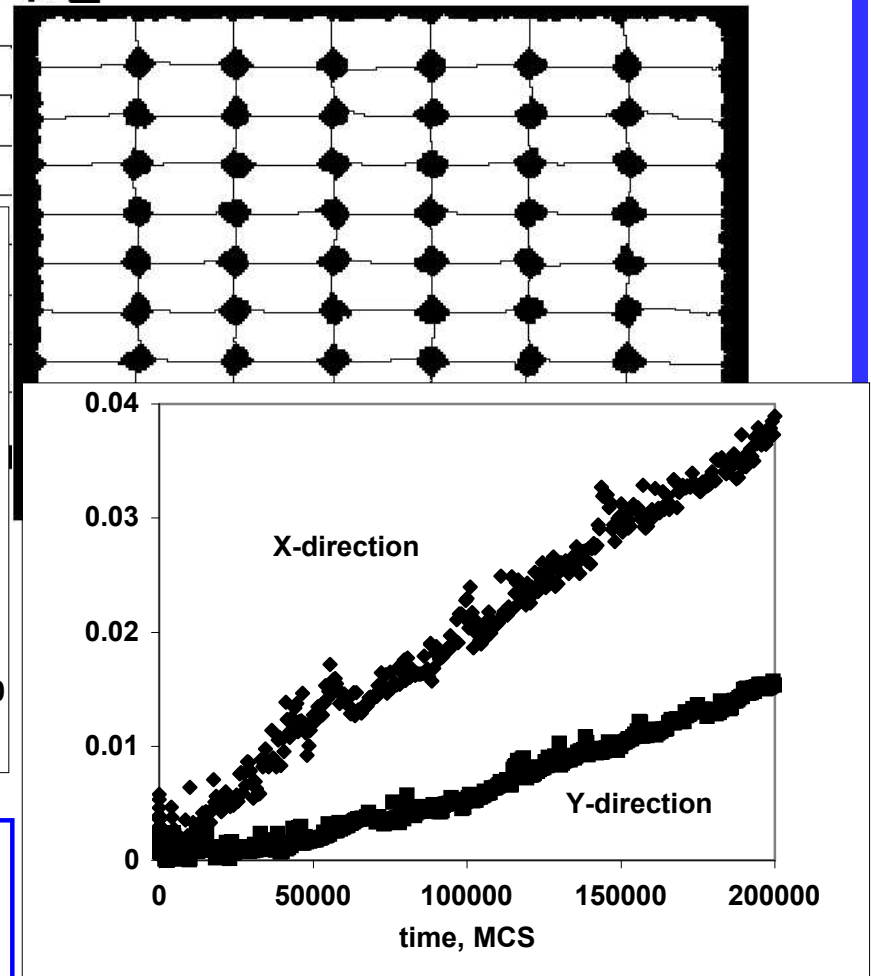
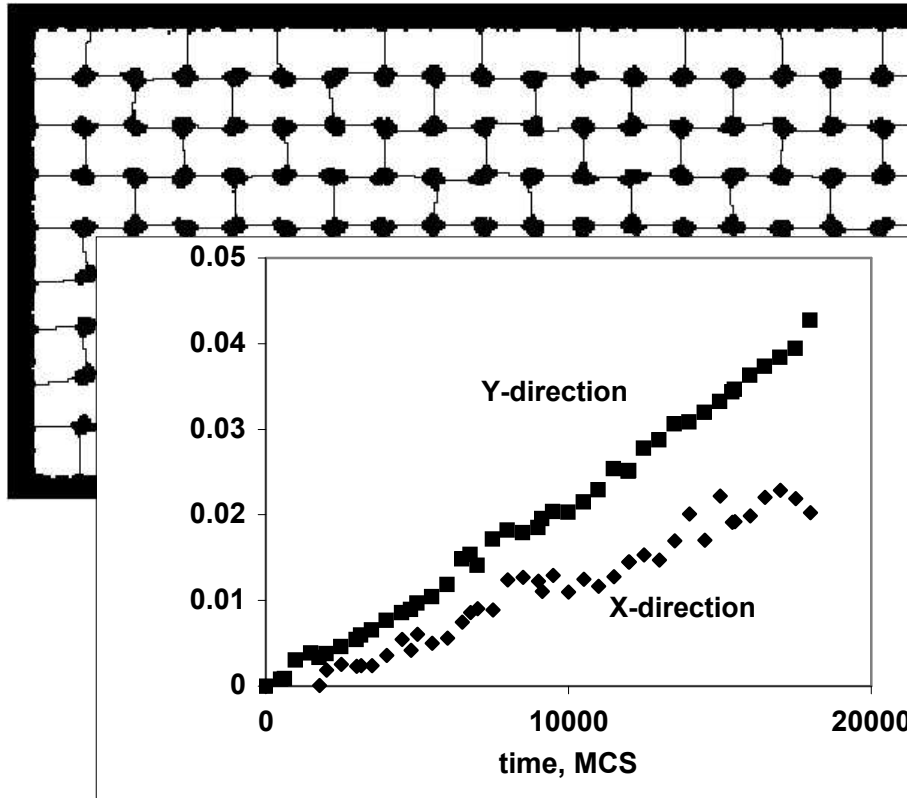
sintering stress

bulk modulus



## Model Development

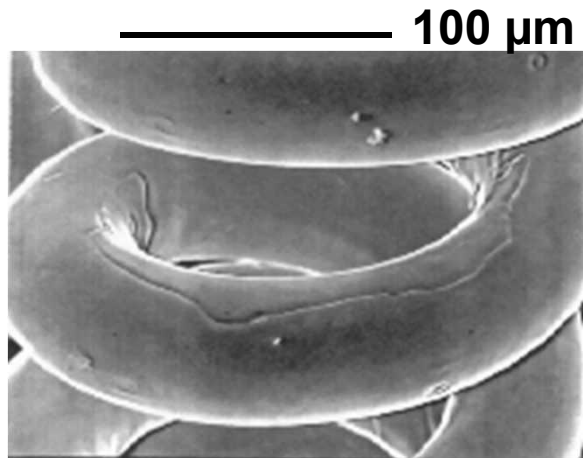
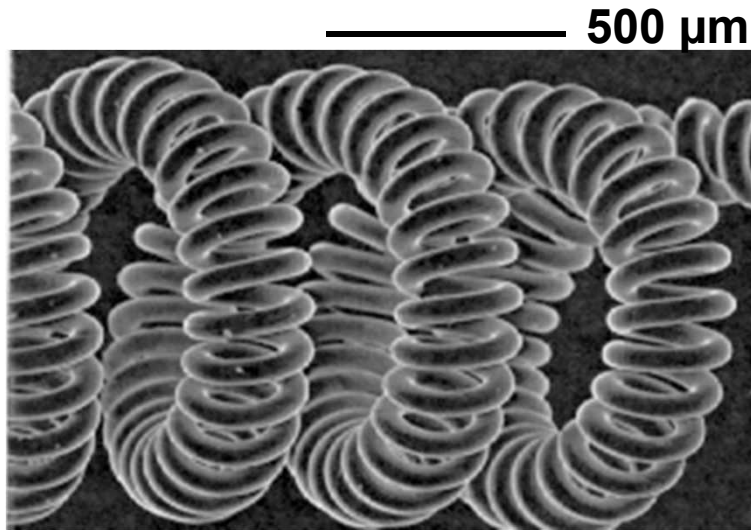
# Very similar microstructure can give exactly opposite shrinkage behavior



$[P_L]$  and  $[\zeta]$  are correctly treated as tensor quantities. We are developing techniques to do so.



## **Recrystallization controls the properties of tungsten lamp filaments.**



- Lamp filaments are a coiled coil of 55  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter tungsten wire
  - 40% plastic strain imparted in final coiling
  - Filaments operate at  $0.8 T_m$  under shear stresses up to 25 MPa
- ⇒ Recrystallization occurs during first lamp power up
- To minimize creep in service, tortuous boundaries, radial to the filament axis are desired

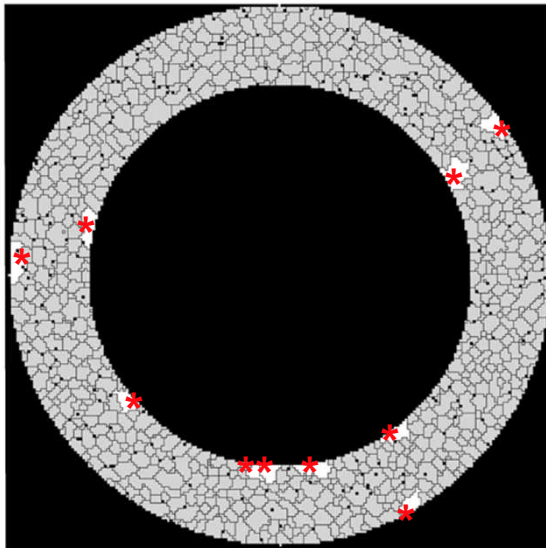
Micrographs courtesy of John Selverian, Osram-Sylvania  
Work of Elizabeth Holm, SNL



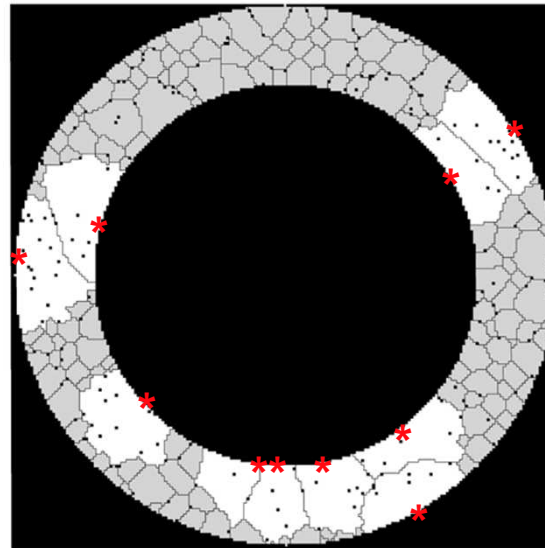


# Recrystallization in lamp filaments depends on nucleation parameters

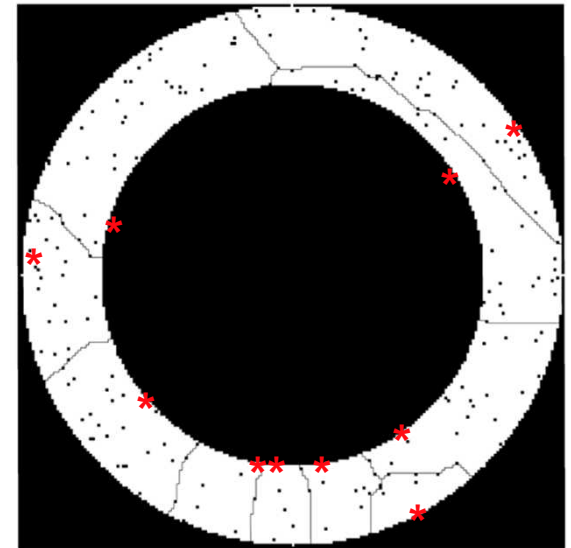
**Example: 2-D toroidal specimen, recrystallized nuclei at surface, uniform strain with unrecrystallized  $H/g=1$ , 0.5 v/o K bubbles**



$t=1000$  timesteps



$t=10,000$

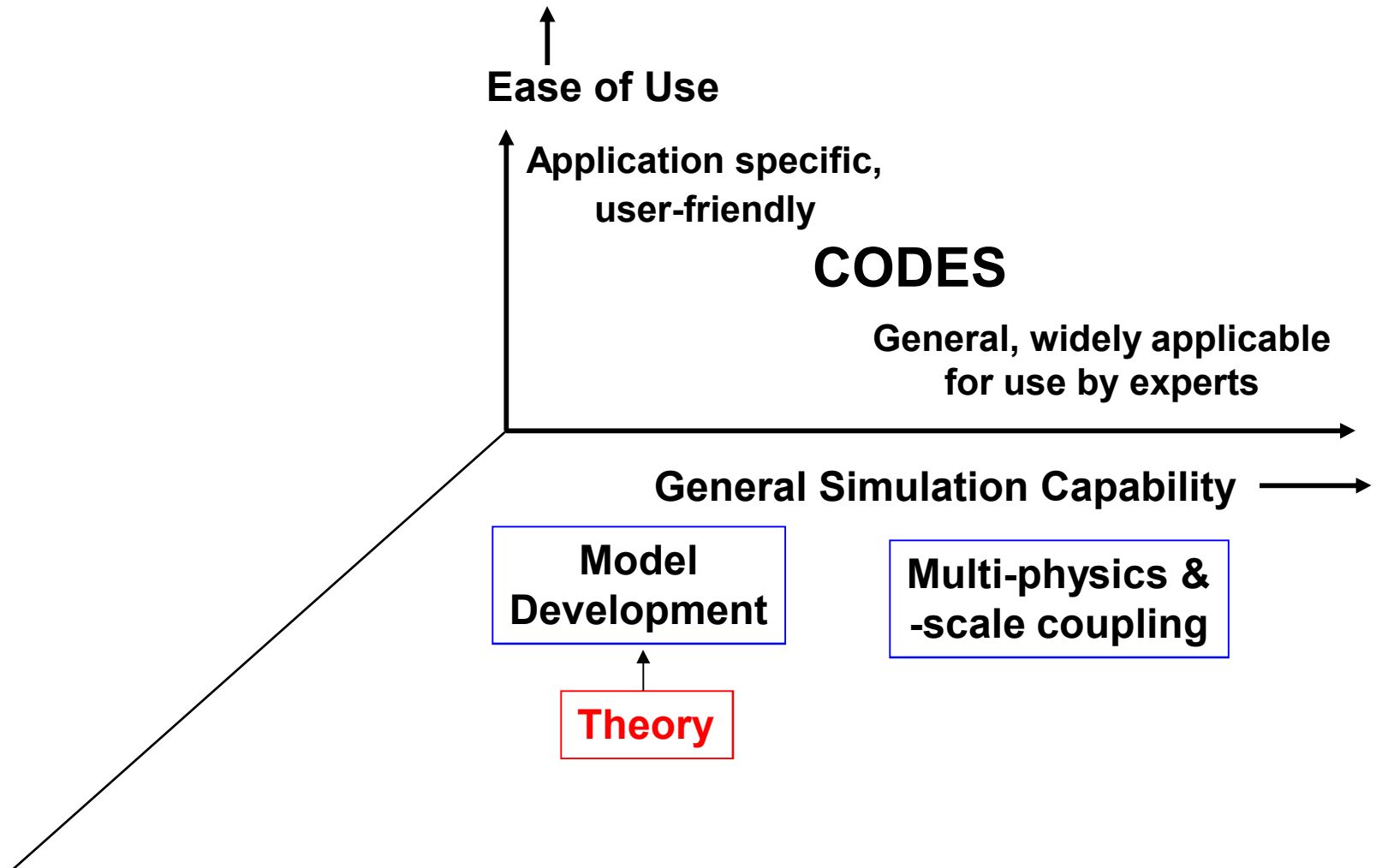


$t=100,000$

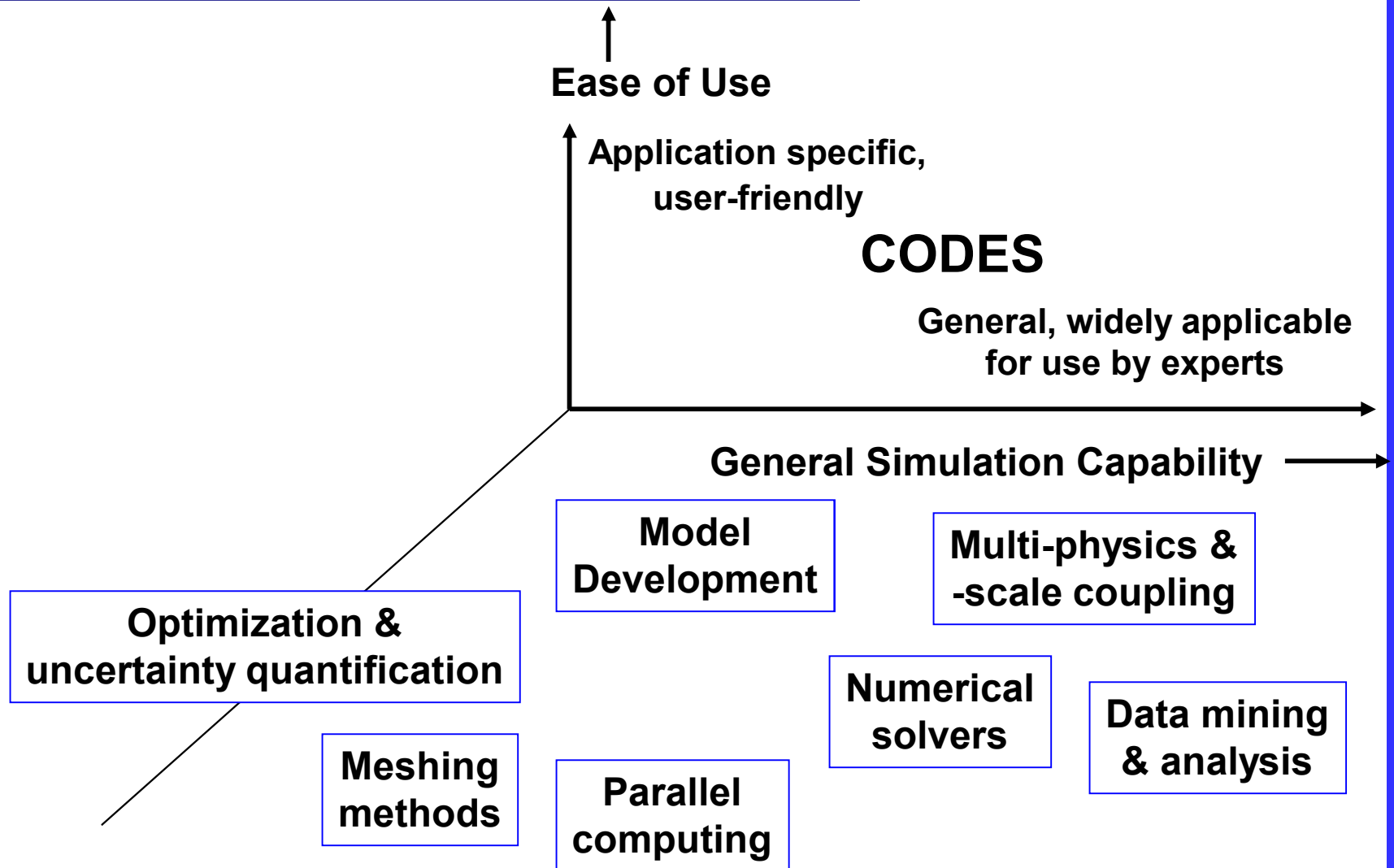
**Recrystallized structure is relatively insensitive to strain energy distribution, pinning particles, prior grain structure, etc.**

**Nucleus position, frequency, and growth behavior govern final grain boundary positions.**

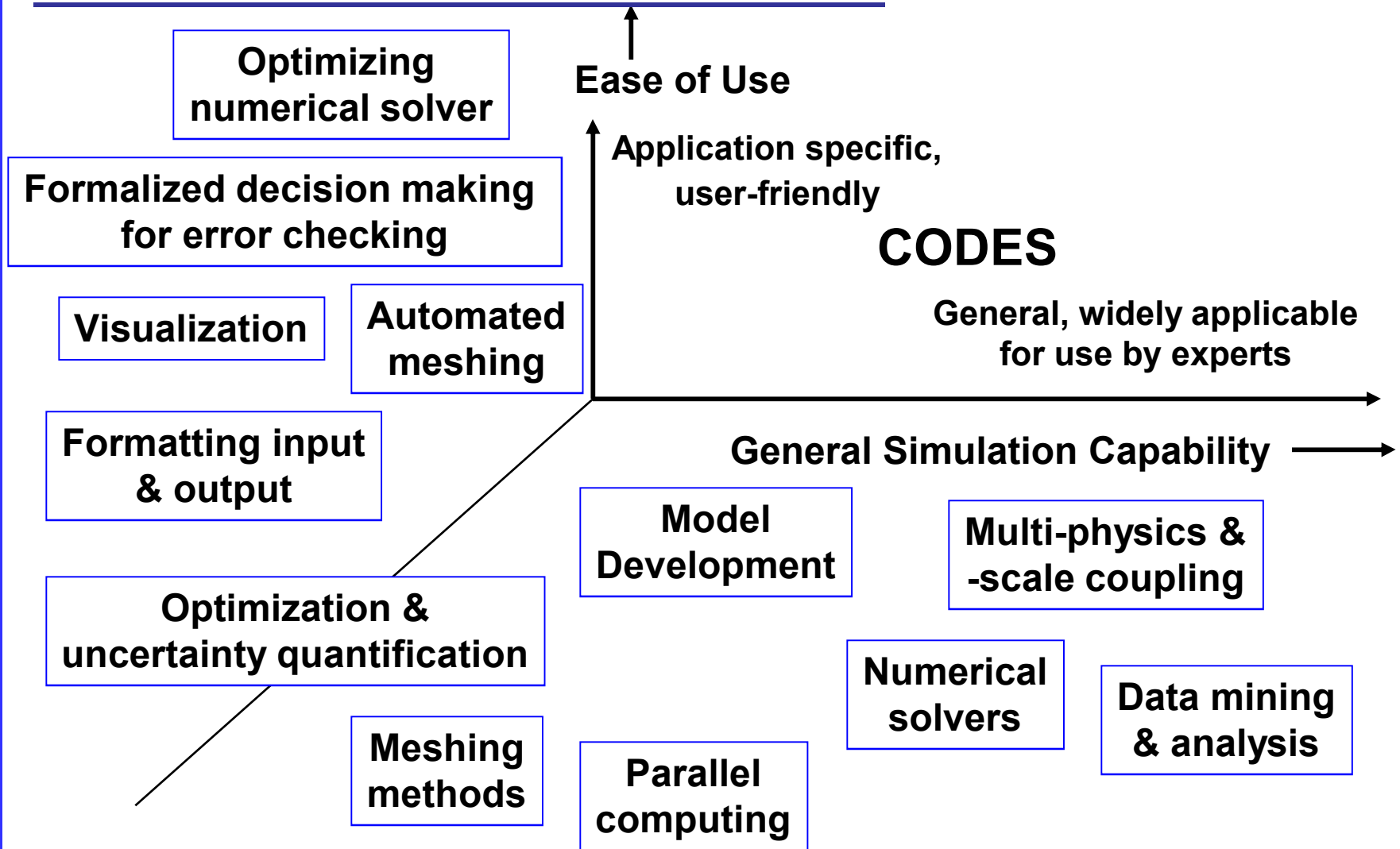
# What does it take to build codes?



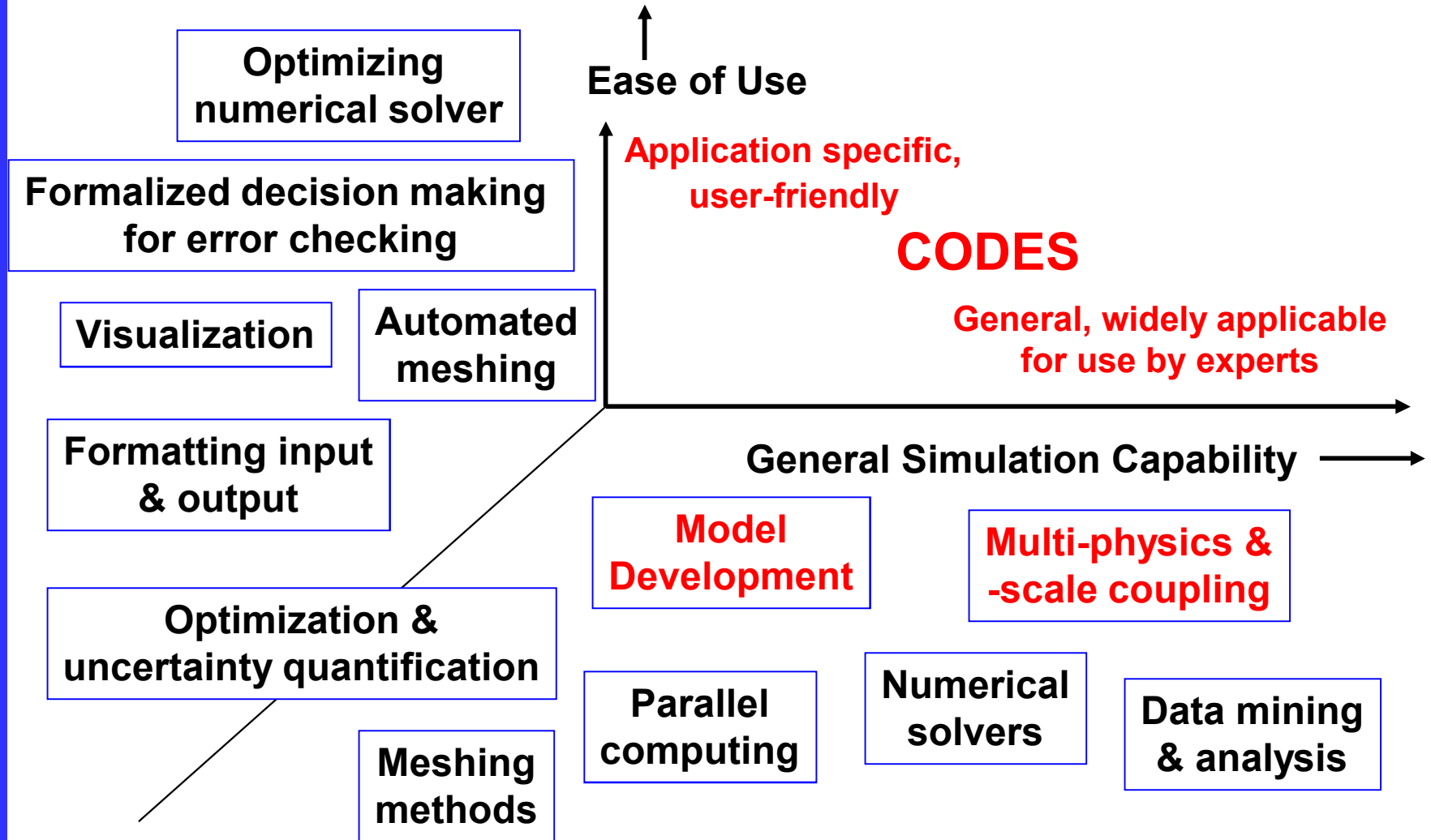
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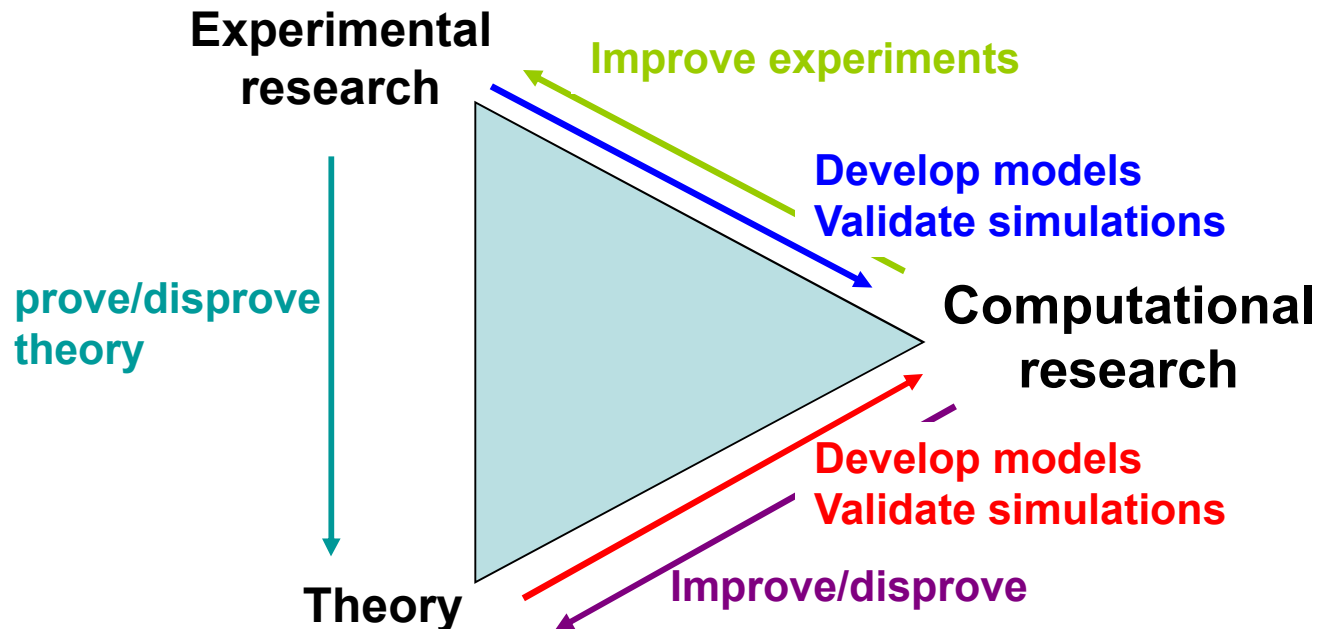


# Models and codes must be based on and verified by experiments and theory



# Conclusions

Any good comprehensive research and development effort must integrate experimental, theoretical and computational work

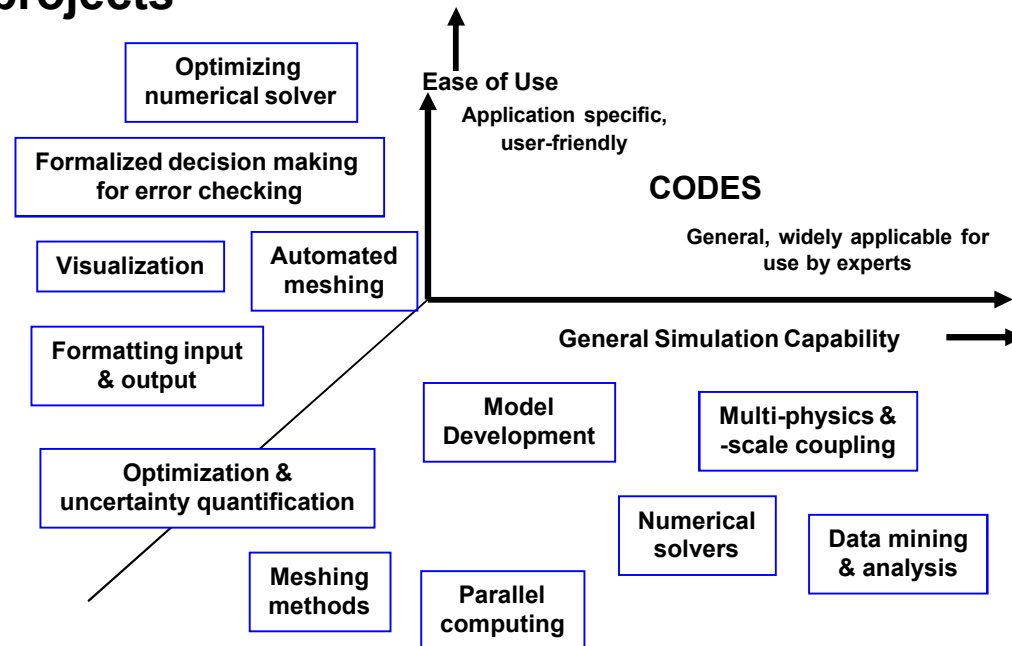


This framework describing experiment-theory-computation relationship is widely accepted in the scientific and engineering communities



## Conclusions (Cont'd)

However, we do need better frameworks to facilitate decision making for specific programs and projects



**Example: Integrating simulations will cost less!**

Model development, numerical solvers, meshes/digitization, visualization, scaling by parallelization, uncertainty quantification, .... are costly

**Modeling and Simulations allow one to gain understanding and/or improve designs that would otherwise be virtually impossible**

