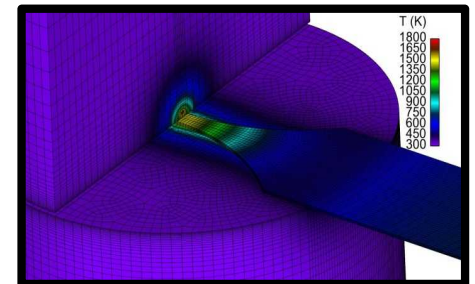


Exceptional service in the national interest



Energetic Materials & Devices: Engineering Mastery through Science & Technology

Leanna Minier

Energetic Material Dynamic and Reactive Science

August 30, 2016



Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.



**Environmental
Testing Facilities**



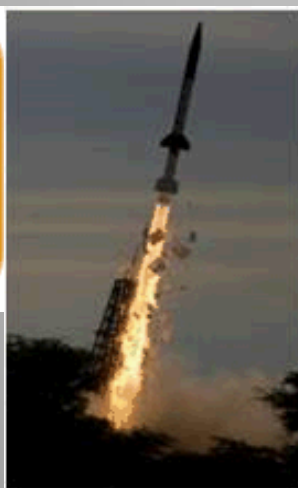
**Asset Security and
WMD Response**



**Nuclear Weapons and non-
nuclear energetic components**



**Integrated
Military Systems**



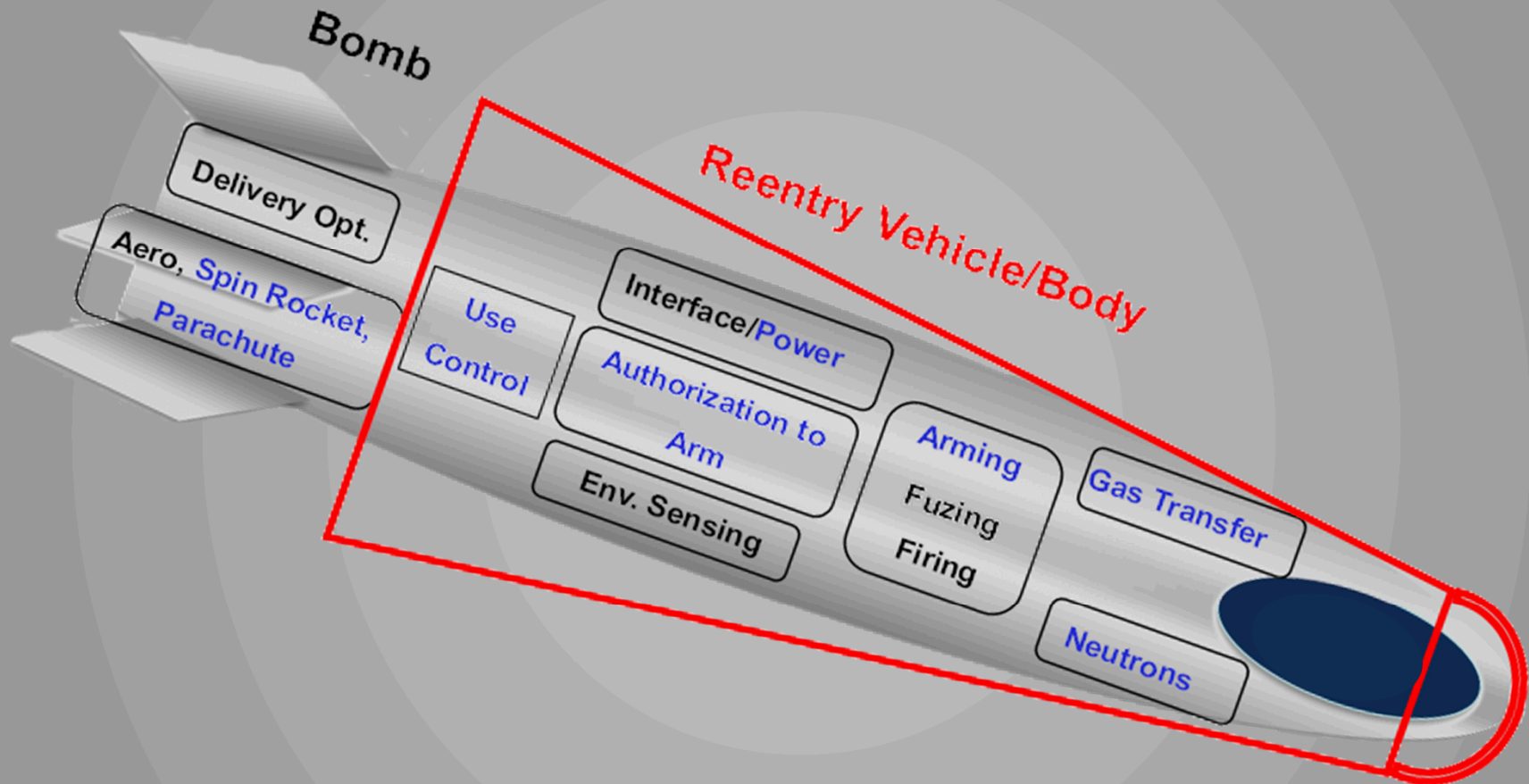
nuclear weapons.....

ALWAYS

NEVER

RELIABLY

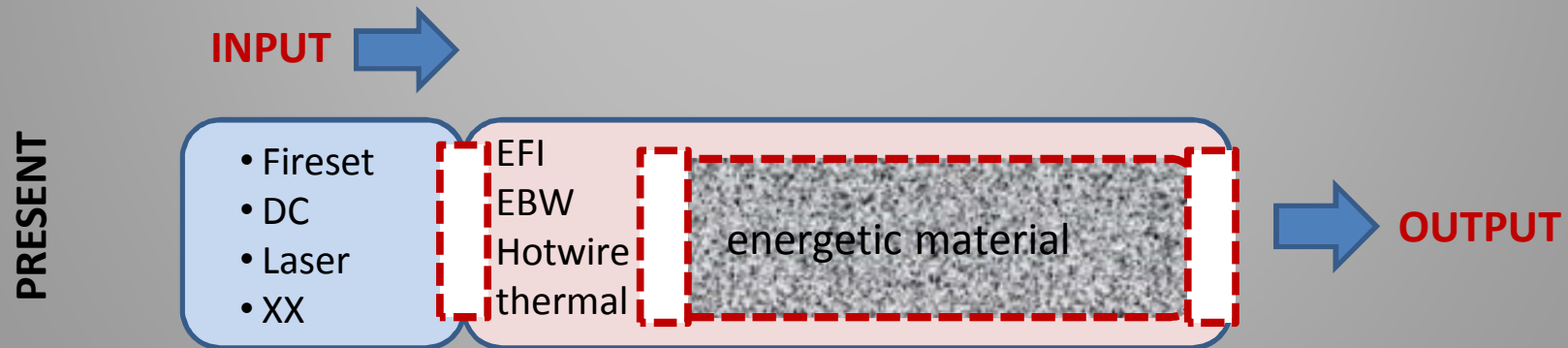
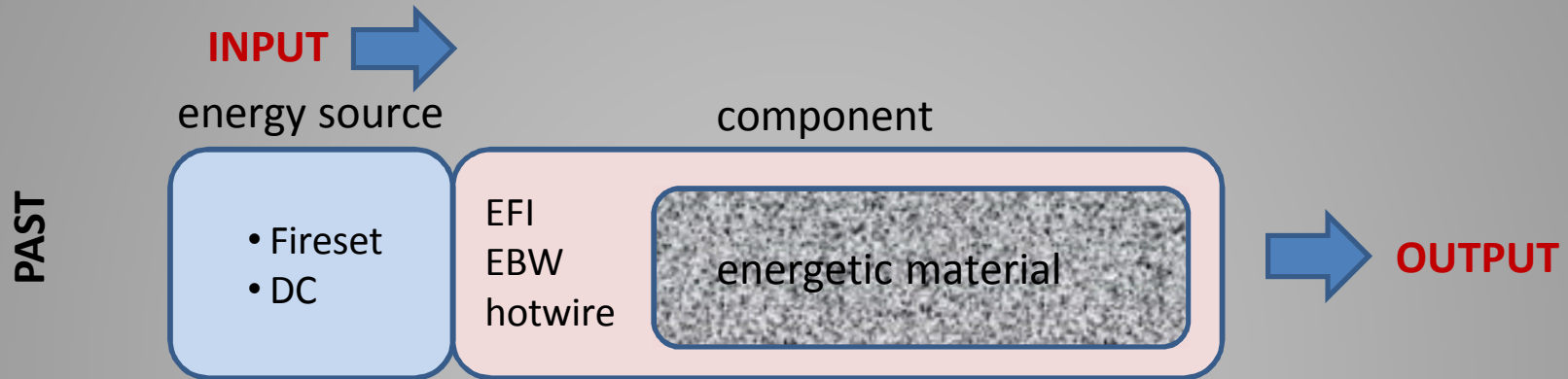
Sandia National Security Mission: Weaponization and Lifecycle



Contributing S&T to achieve engineering mastery:

- understanding underpinning science of multiple energetic technologies
- advancing theories, diagnostics, capabilities, and comp/sim tools
- integrating S&T into product life cycle

Goals: model-based design and accelerated cycles of learning



S&T is basis for achieving goals!

Point design process demonstrates need for science-based understanding

Iterative Process (Edisonian approach dominated)

**Synthesis
Formulation
Reprocessing**

**Design &
Development**

**Performance
testing to
requirements**

Input E
Output
Timing
Manufacturability
Life expectancy

OK

Manufacture

Not OK

OK

Deploy

Life after
deployment

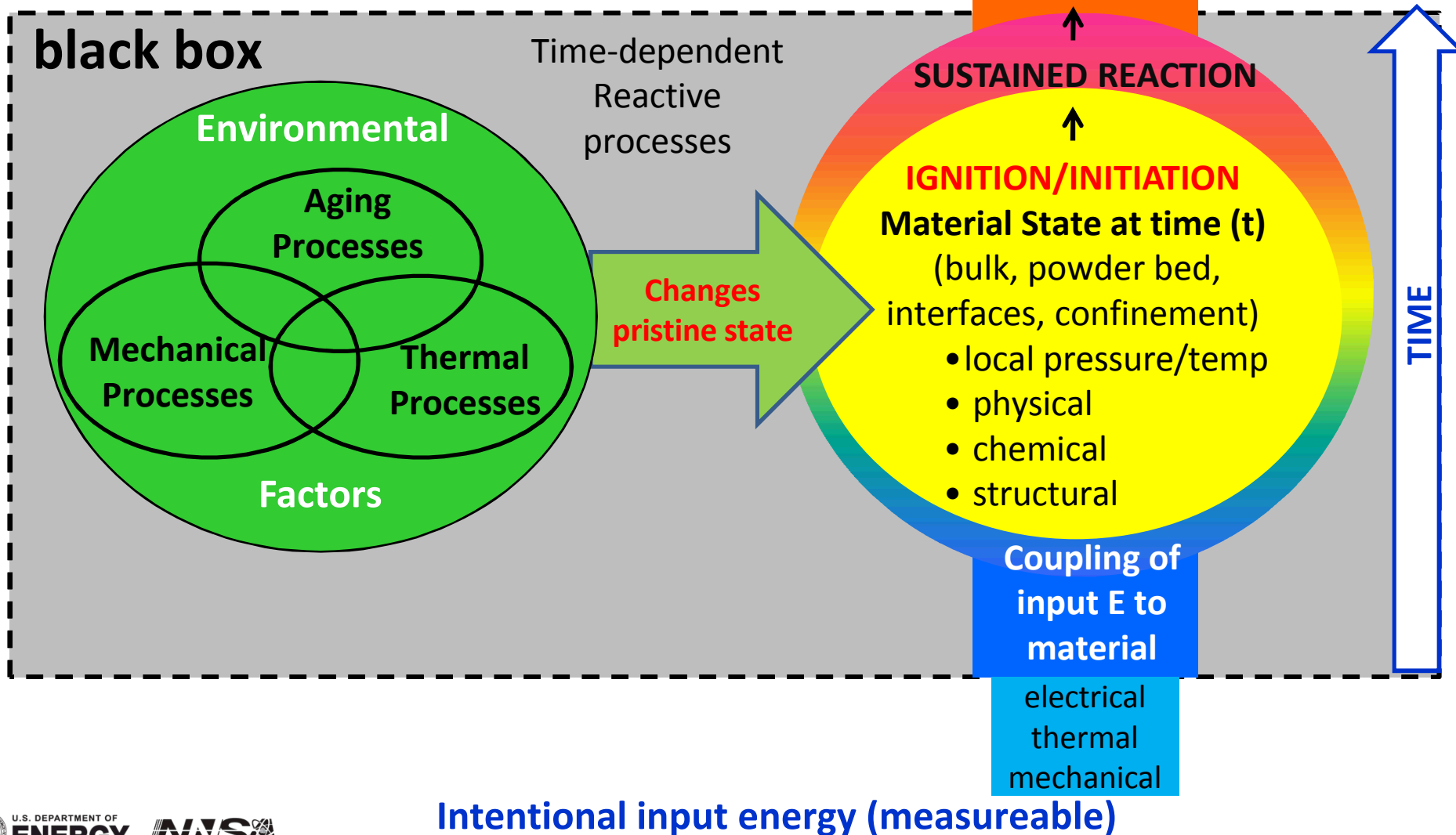
Certification
Surveillance
LLC
SFI
System integration

Limited science basis knowledge

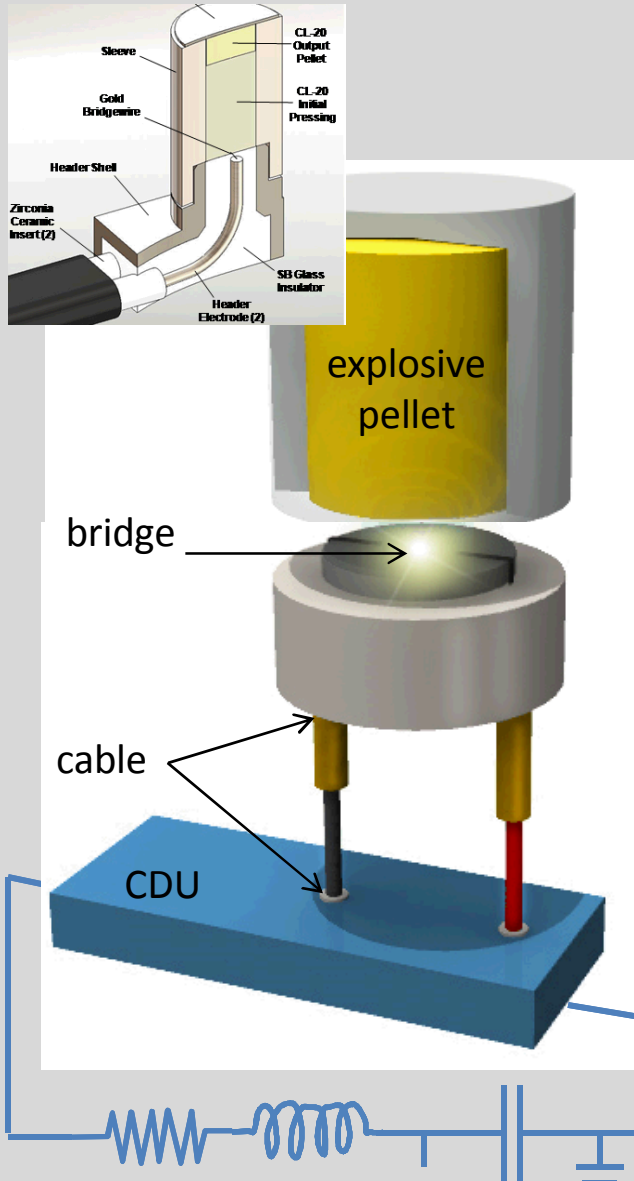
- Stick to tried/true designs
- Limit variability
- Hope no data contrary to requirements

Physics not understood
impacting design:

- What governs energy release
- What governs the rate of energy release



EBW Detonator Technology / Engineering / Science



Chemical energy is released and the shock transitions to detonation

Reaction mechanisms and rates.

Computational burn-model framework.

Shockwave energy is localized by heterogeneities creating hot-spots

Microstructural characterization

Constitutive models

Explicit computational representation

Bursting wire imparts a stimulus into explosive pellet

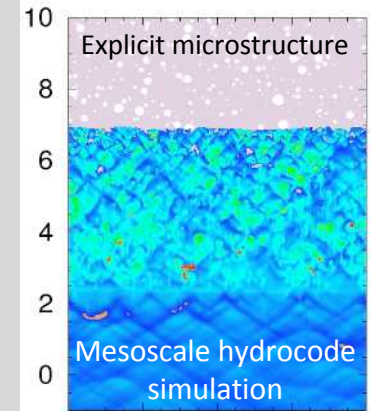
First-principles equations of state for energetic molecular crystals

Metal bridge rapidly expands (burst)

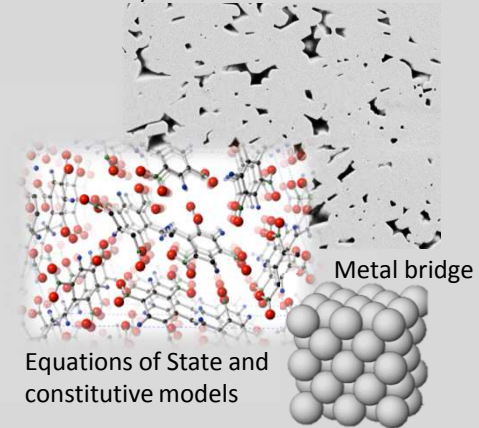
Wire expansion predictions and measurements

CDU: Energy in the capacitor is delivered to the bridge

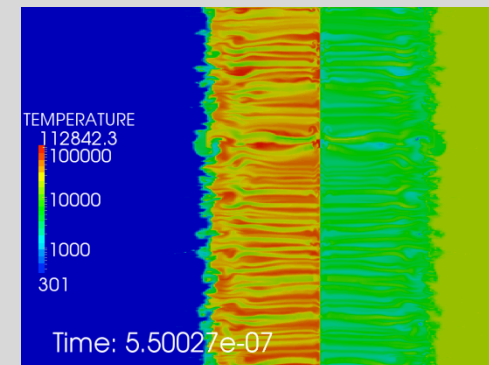
First-principles electrical conductivity models and equations of state for metals



Physical characterization



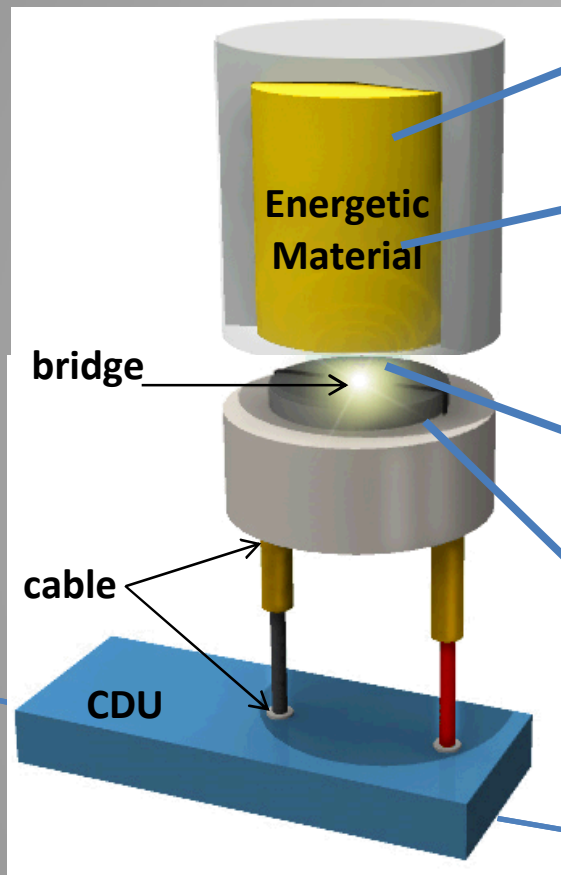
Equations of State and constitutive models



Complex physics underpins component performance, safety, reliability

Detonation Science

EBW Detonator



Formulation/Syn

Energetic

Interface

Fireset/BW

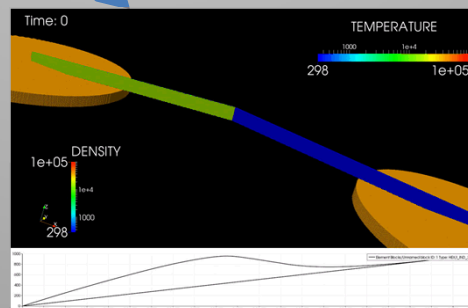
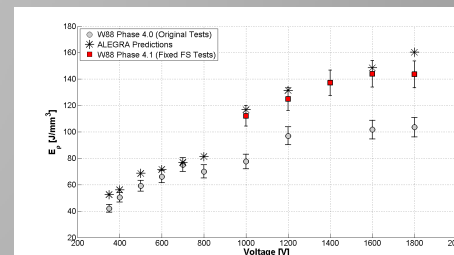
Equations of state and mtl. models

Chemical reactions / energy release

Exploding Bridge

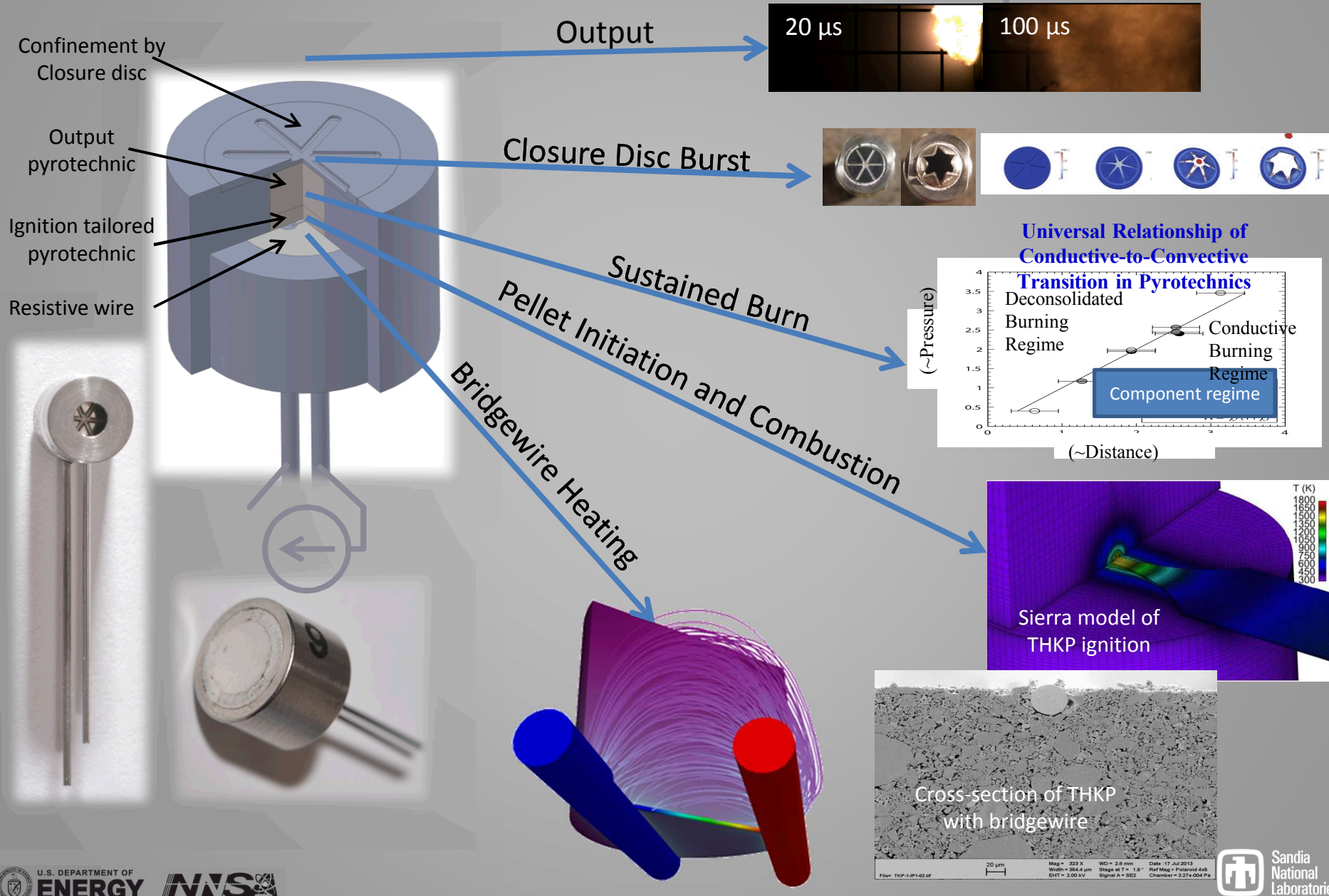
CL-20

Physical representation / microstructure



energy flow

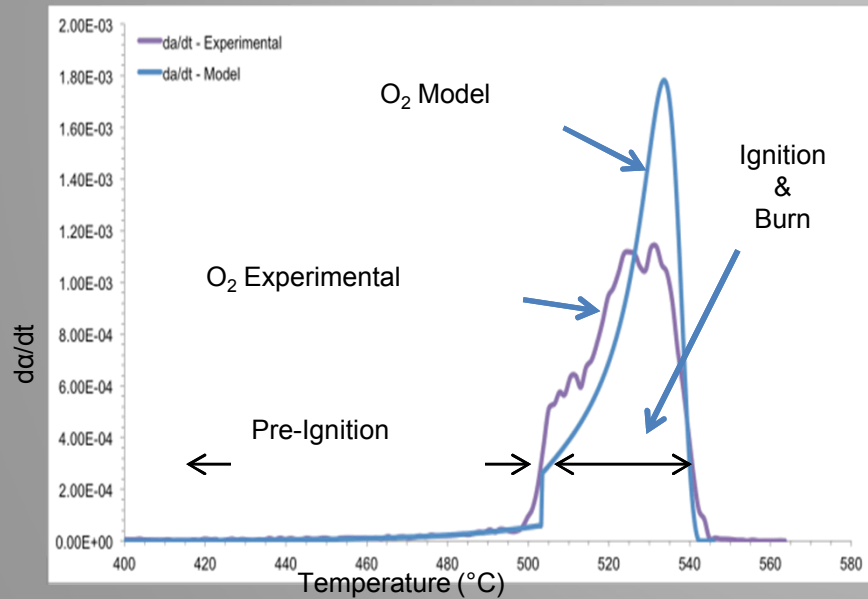
Pyrotechnic (Propellant) Combustion Science



Reactive Process in Subsonic Combustion and Detonation

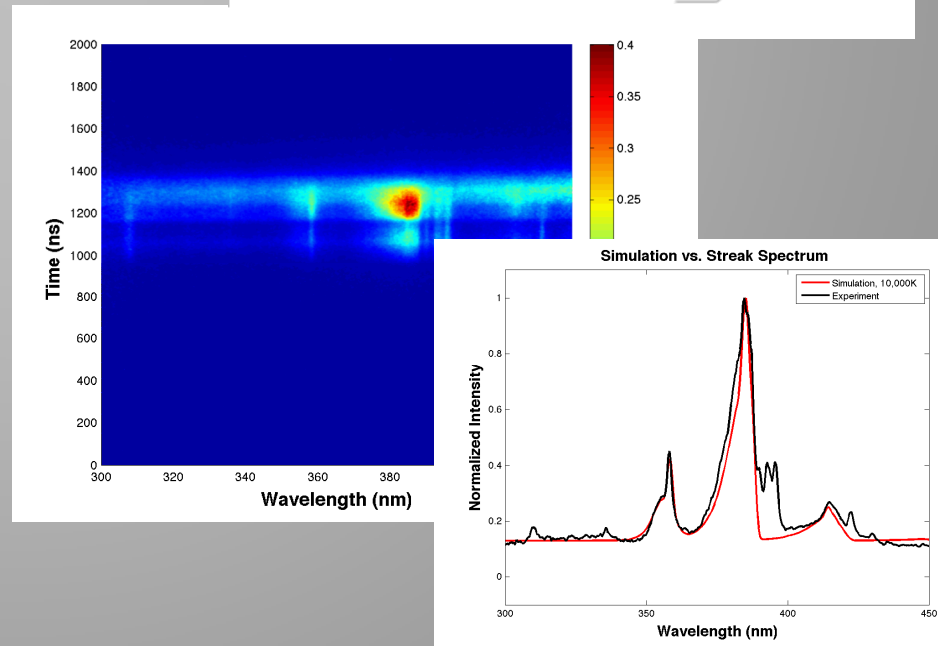
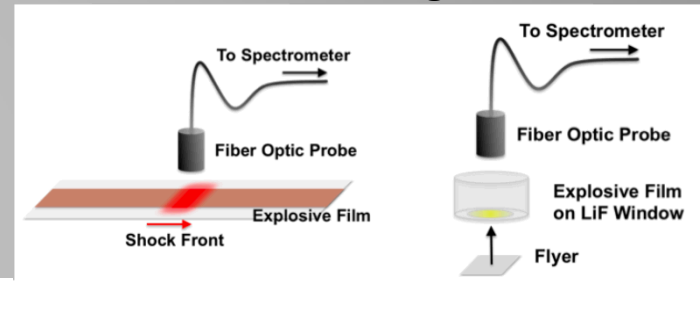
THKP Ignition/Combustion Behavior

- Identified and reduced a complex multi-phase reaction process pyro oxidizer to a 3-step reaction process for kinetic model.



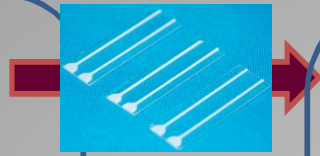
HNS Detonation Chemistry

- Time-resolved streak spectroscopy coupled to molecular modeling

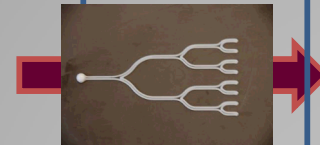


MicroEnergetics: Advanced Concepts

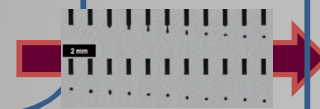
Physical Vapor
Deposition



Robocasting
Direct Write



Inkjet



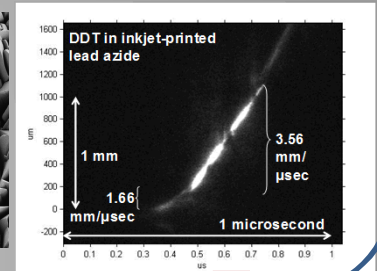
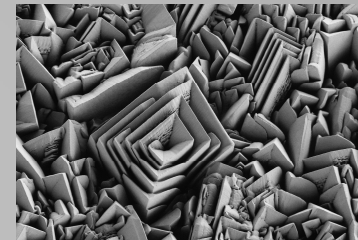
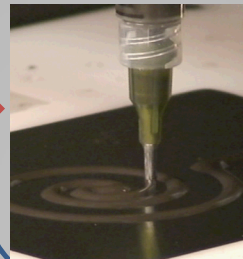
Fundamental Energetics Research
Preparation-Structure-Property Relationships

Temperature
Rate
Composition

Porosity
Grain size
Crystal structure

Output
Velocity

Initiation threshold



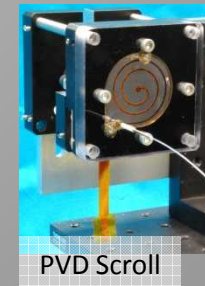
Initiation Mechanisms
Tailoring and Exploiting Phenomenology

Advanced Component Development



Low-Energy & Power

High-Energy & Power



PVD Scroll

- Tailoring material properties.
- Understanding complex physics underpinning performance, safety, reliability
- Enabled new frontiers in R&D
- Enabled new concepts in components

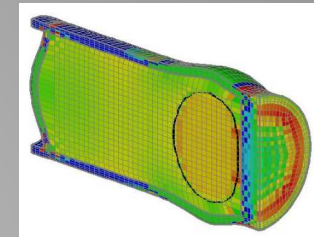
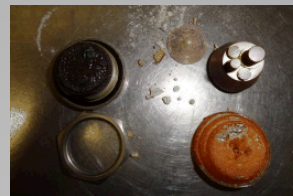
Abnormal Thermal Environments



Fuel fire accident simulation



Before and after exposure to ATE



cook-off simulation

Thermal and Mechanical Boundary Conditions

- Hermeticity
- Confinement
- Temperatures
- Heating Rates

Thermal Decomposition

Ignition Time

Semi-Empirical Correlation

Violence

- $P(t)$
- Wall/frag velocity
- Blast impulse

Evolution

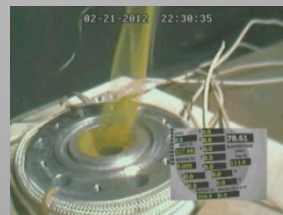
Combustion

Damage

- Porosity
- Permeability
- Plastic work
- Phase separation
- Extent of rxn
- Binder cross-linking



Thermally damaged explosive



Mild post-ignition burn



Debris from violent cook-off reaction

**Complex physics
Underpins performance,
safety, reliability**

Rapid Prototype Facility: Accelerated Cycles of Learning

- RPF is responsible for assembly of energetic components:

- Design and Development
- Diagnostic integration
- Failure investigation
- Fundamental R&D
- Work For Others



Use indicator



Battery ignitor showing energetic ignition increment.



Test EBW detonator; parameter studies on powder, density, and bridgewire

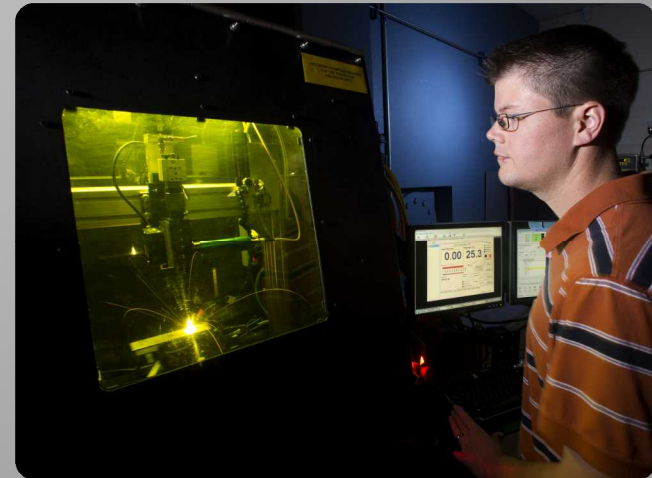
Twisted wires for diagnostics during test.



Power cartridge replicator: low cost output replicator designed and produced for WFO development (modified bolt to match mechanical interface).

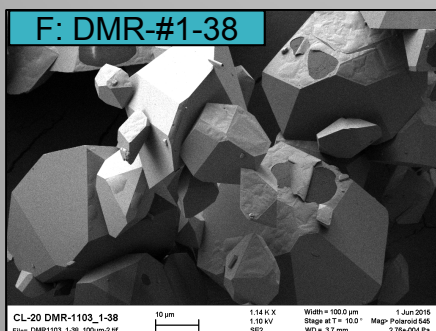
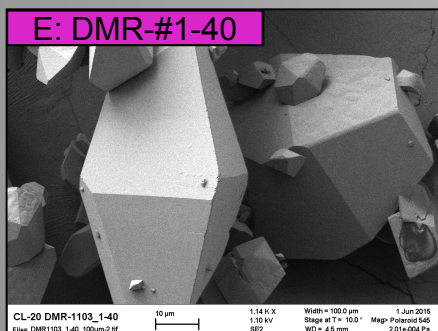
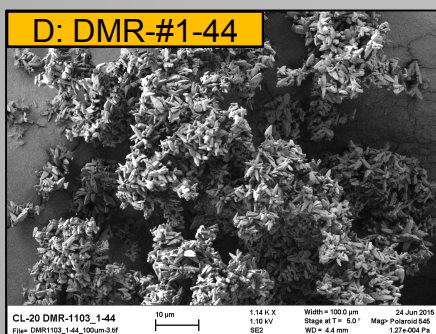
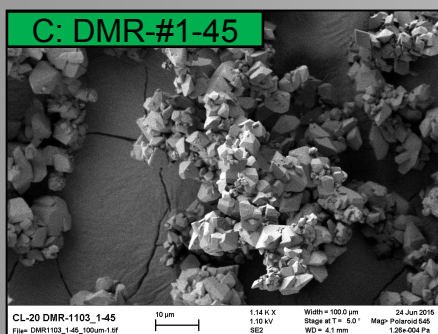
- Provides capabilities of our external production partners, enabling SNL to maintain expertise as production agency for non-nuclear explosive components.

- Bridgewire welding
- Laser welding
- Epoxy encapsulation
- Header glassing
- Explosive powder pressing
- Process inspection
- Header prototyping

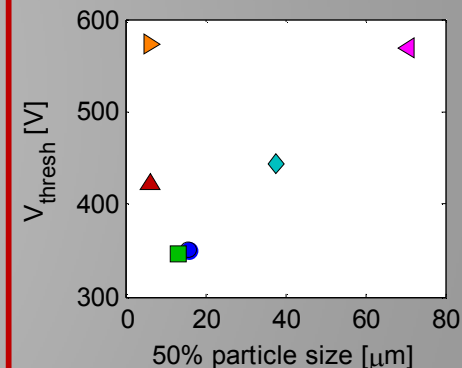
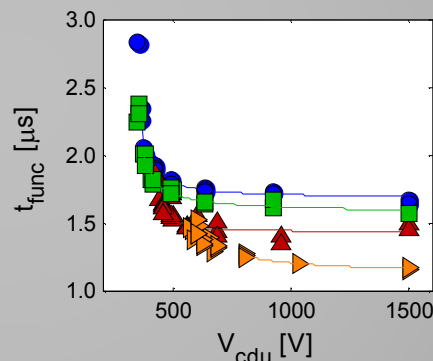
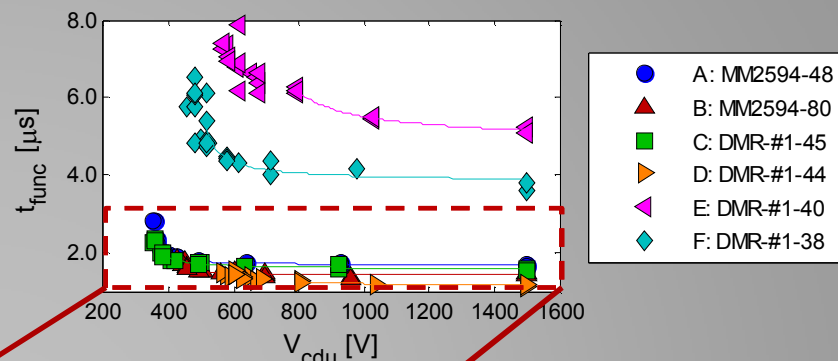


Identifying critical relationships between material properties and performance

- CL-20 was recrystallized to study effect of morphology on performance in a component geometry
 - Four distinctly different morphologies produced within several weeks, including β -CL-20
 - Assembled into EBW detonators by RPF for component level performance characterization



All images are of same magnification! (100 μ m width)



- Results compared to vendor-produced powders baselined in prototyped detonators
 - Effect of particle size on performance (threshold shown) is obtained in a weeks

S&T critical for engineering mastery



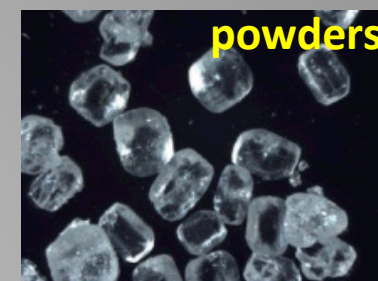
EBW/EFI detonators
Timer/drivers



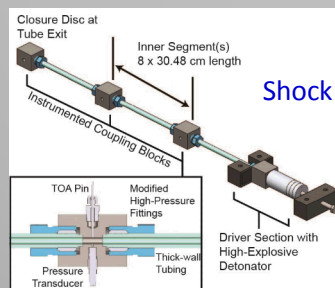
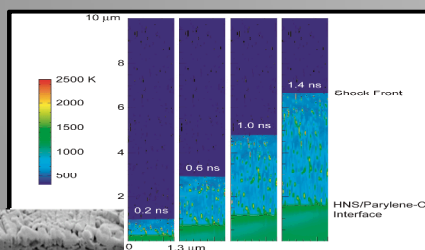
Ignitors
Latch indicator
Actuators
Valves



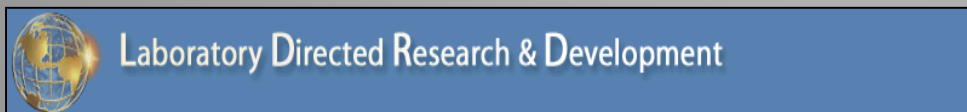
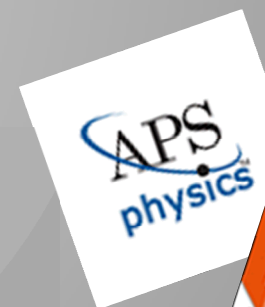
Motors
Primers
Actuators



HMX
TKP
THKP



RPF



Closing Thoughts in Support of S&T

Why bother with energetic materials?

Why the use of energetic materials in the main charge – because...
want to weaponize substantial energy in spatially-limited configurations:

- Volume: Energy/power delivered per volume (potential to kinetic) is HUGE
- Time delivery
- Reliability

Same principle applies for non-nuclear energetic components.

No technology to date can compete with EM!

Why bother with EM S&T?

What we know:

- How much energy comes out of an energetic material

What we can engineer:

- Energy input into a given component geometry
- Desired output of the energy
- Desired function time

What we don't know:

- **What controls the rate-of-release of the energy in the EM**
- **Governing processes for the energy rate-of-release in a component design**