

# Electrical Sciences at Sandia National Laboratories

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# Outline



- ☐ SNL overview
- ☐ Electrical Sciences Overview
- ☐ Example (current) Applications
- ☐ Summary

SNL=Sandia National Laboratories

# Sandia is a U.S. National Lab



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# Sandia New Mexico - *Albuquerque*

On-site workforce: ~10,500

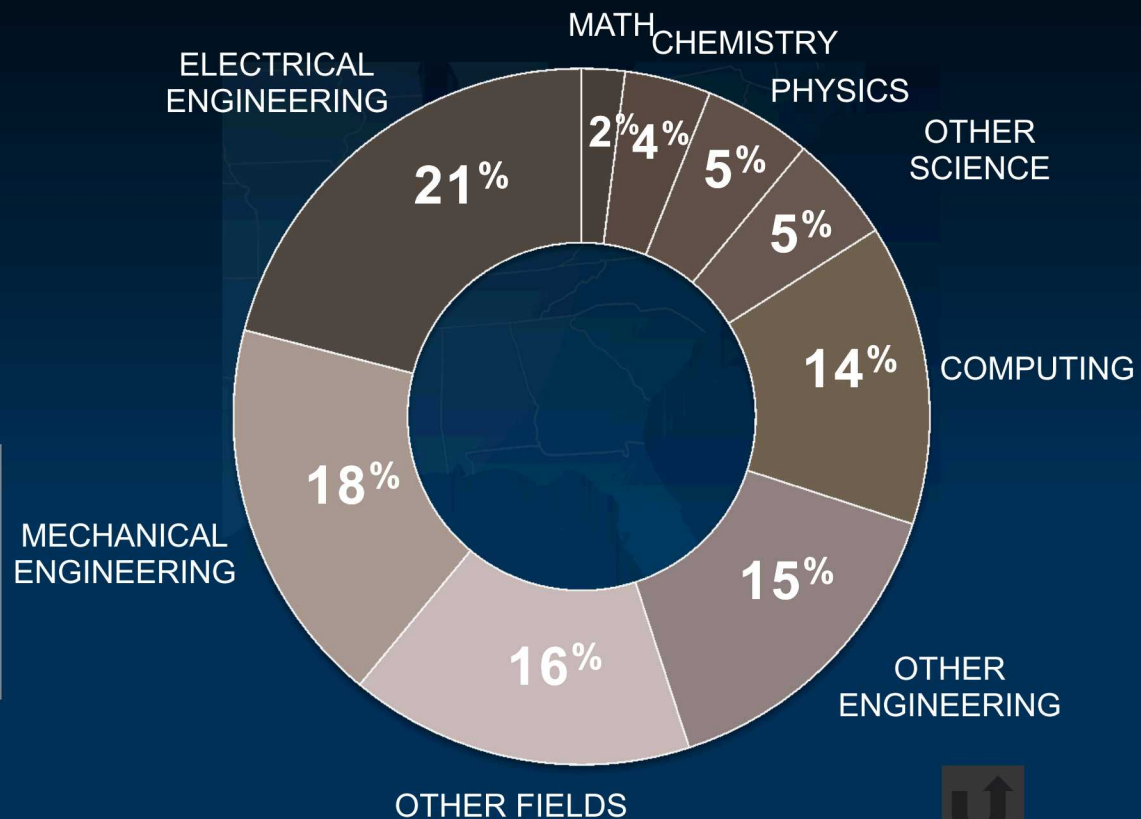
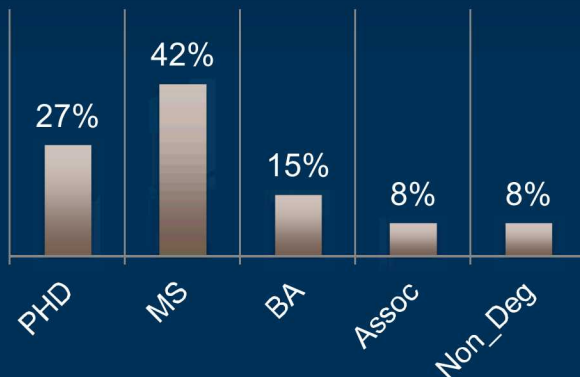
R&D staff: ~3,500

(excluding R&D Tech)

Distinguishing research capabilities:

- Renewable Energy
- Micro-electronics/Semiconductors
- Cyber Security
- Homeland Security *and more*

## Degree Level



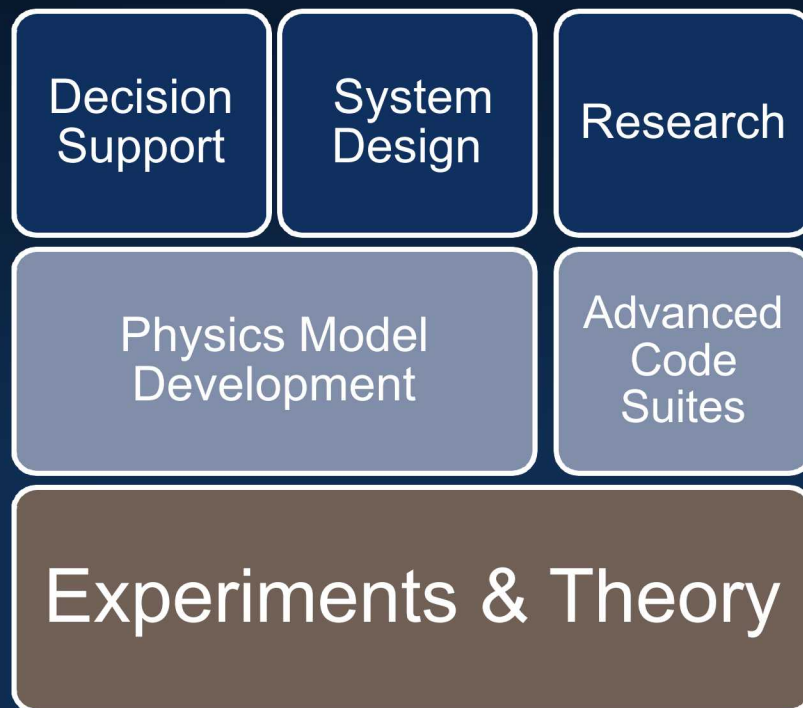


# SNL Electrical Sciences



*Anticipate and advance the science, engineering, and technology needed to understand the control electrical energy in complex engineered systems*

- ❑ Linear Electromagnetics
- ❑ Plasma Physics
- ❑ High-Voltage Sciences
- ❑ Circuits and Devices
- ❑ Power System and Electronics



# Electrical Science Testing Capabilities



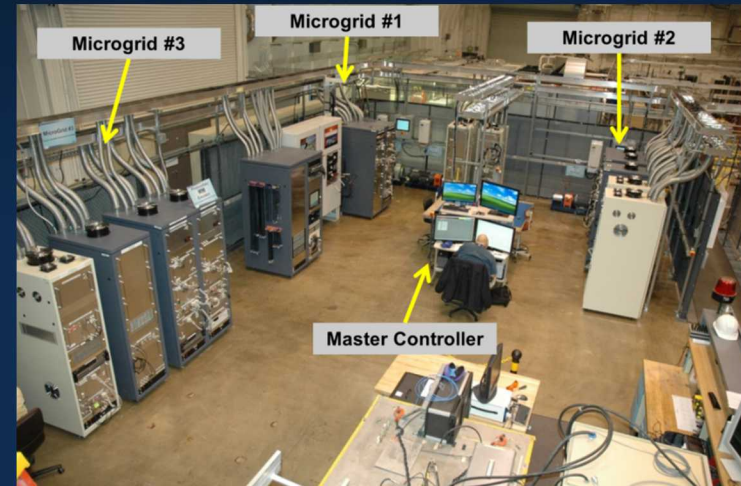
Lightning Sim



GTEM



Reverb chamber



Scalable microgrid test bed



# Electrical Sciences Code Capabilities

## ❑ EIGER: Electromagnetic/Electrostatic

- Integral Equation Method-of-Moments

Next-Generation Codes In Development:  
Gemma and EMPIRE

## ❑ EM

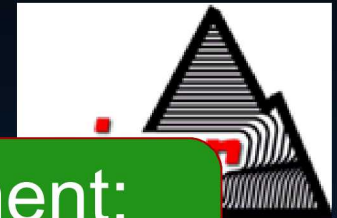
- Finite-Element Method
- Time-Domain

## ❑ CHARON: TCAD Device Carrier Transport/Recombination

- Finite-Element Method
- Time-Domain & Frequency-Domain (in development)

## ❑ XYCE: Spice-like Analog Circuit Simulator

- Non-linear Differential Algebraic Equation (DAE) solver
- Time-Domain & Frequency-Domain





# Summary of SNL Electrical Capabilities

Code	Environments	Description	Usage
<b>EMPHASIS /EMPIRE</b>	EMP, SREMP, SGEMP, Lightning	Full-wave EM, MPP → high rigor	System Certification, R&D
<b>EIGER/Gemma</b>	EMR, EMP, Nearby Lightning	Full-wave EM, MPP → high rigor	System Certification, R&D
<b>ALEPH</b>	Electrical Breakdown	PIC+DSMC, MPP → high rigor	R&D
<b>Breakdown Alpha</b>	Electrical Breakdown	Reduced-Order Model → quick turnaround	Component Design, Significant Findings
<b>ATLOG</b>	EMP, SREMP, Nearby Lightning	Transmission Line Code → quick turnaround	Consequence Assessment
<b>Charon</b>	EMP	HB Device, MPP → high rigor	R&D (in development)
<b>Xyce</b>	EMP, HPM	HB Circuit, MPP → range of rigor	R&D (early implementation)

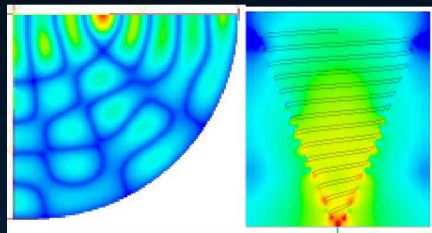
DSMC: Direct Simulation Monte-Carlo  
HB: Harmonic Balance  
HPM: High Power Microwave  
MPP: Massively Parallel

PIC: Particle-In-Cell  
SGEMP: System-Generated EMP  
SREMP: Source-Region EMP

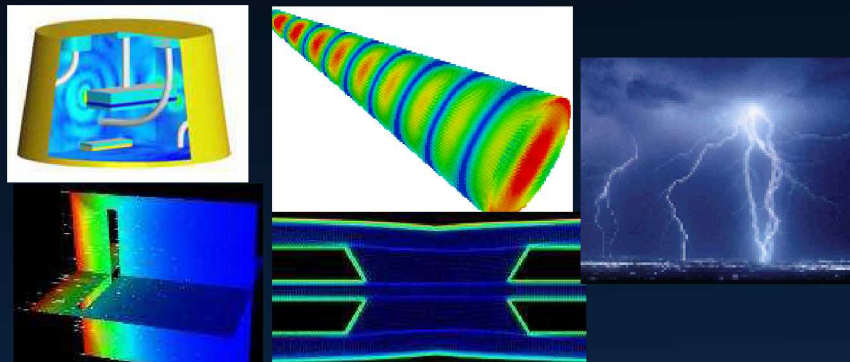
# We Support Many Applications and Customers



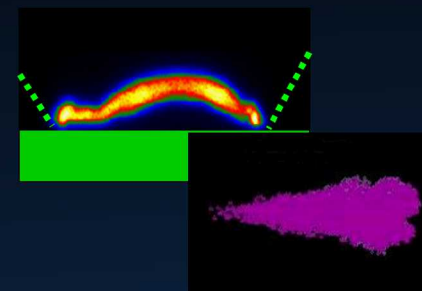
## New EM environments & devices



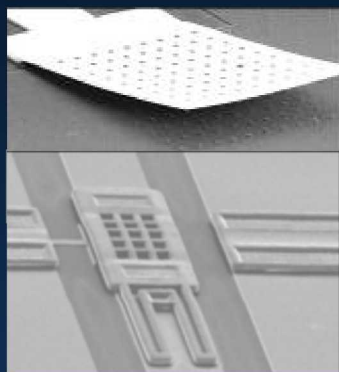
## System response to EM, lightning, high voltage & SGEMP Environments



## High Voltage Sciences

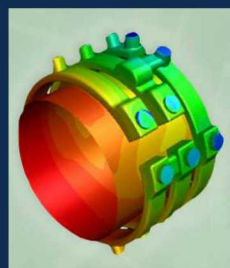
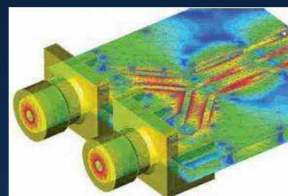


*HV Standoff, Arcing, Leakage Currents, Electrostatic Discharge*

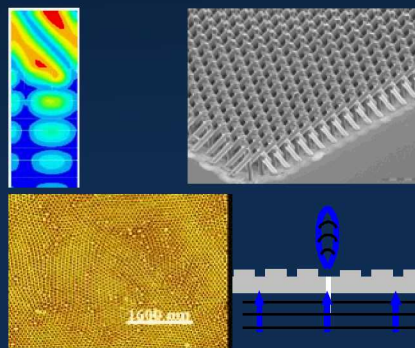


*High-Frequency Cavity/Aperture Response, Advanced Antennas, RF-MEMS devices*

## Components

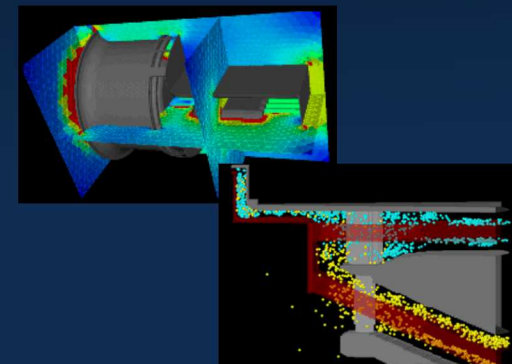


## Engineered Materials



*Photonic Band-gap Devices; Plasmon Structures; Metamaterials*

## Fast Pulsed Power



*Z-pinch apps for NW, Mat'l Dynamics, Fusion Energy*

# Theory and Numerical Simulation

- ❑ In-house codes offer the advantages that
  - Models and capabilities have been tailored to our problems
  - Physics models are known and documented
  - Models, algorithms can be easily accessed by the analyst

- ❑ Theoretical analysis is often used when
  - Detailed models, parameters are not available
  - Bounding calculation is desired
  - Advance our in-house code suites



FEKO



CST MICROWAVE STUDIO®

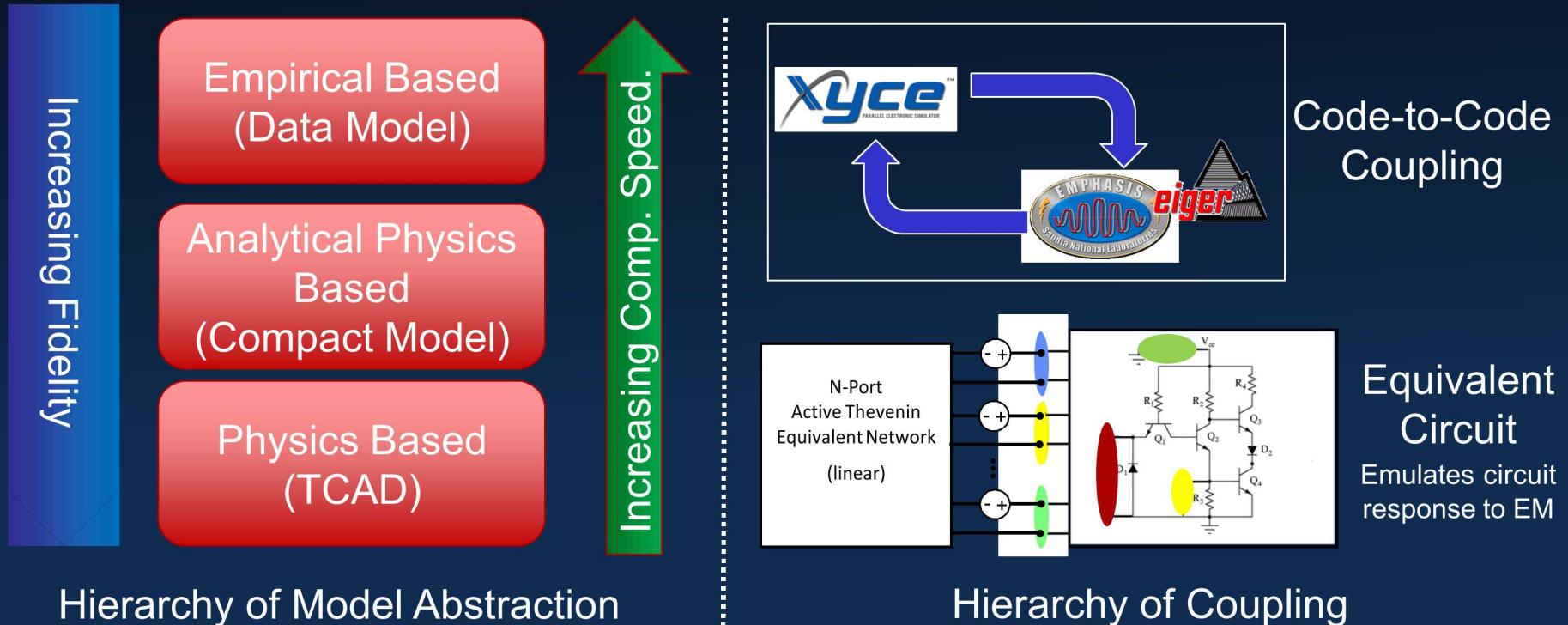


*Building a toolbox with a wide range of capabilities for decision support, experimental support, system design, and research is essential.*

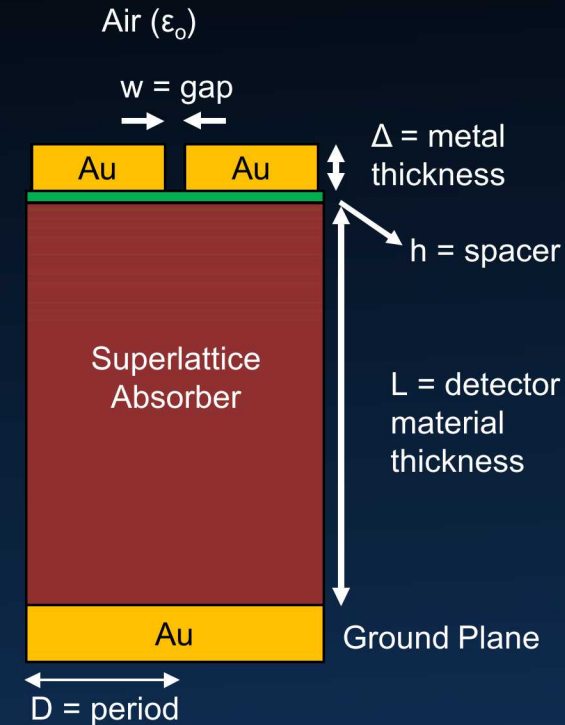
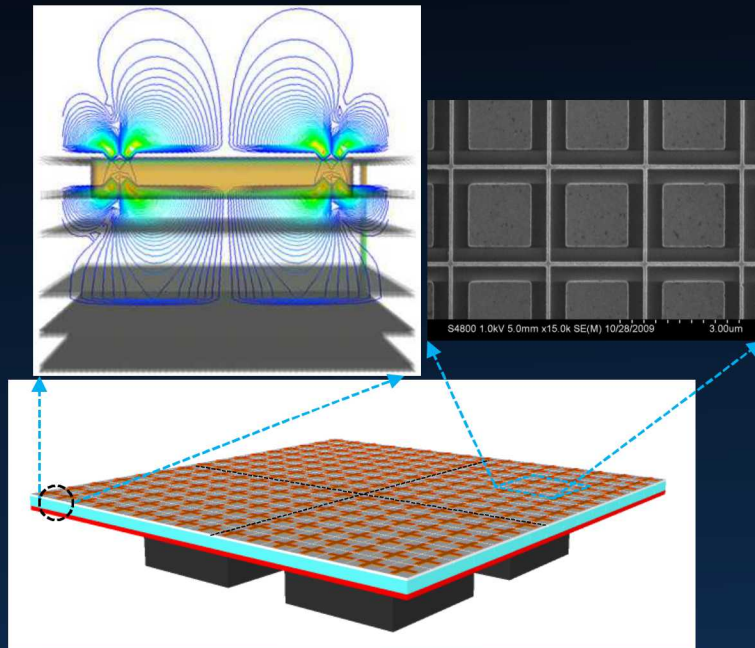


# EM-Circuit-Device Code Coupling

- ❑ Different application drivers have different requirements (e.g. physics fidelity, geometric fidelity, computational speed, etc.)
- ❑ Hierarchy of electrical model abstractions have been developed for ionizing radiation – the same will be needed for EM along with coupling

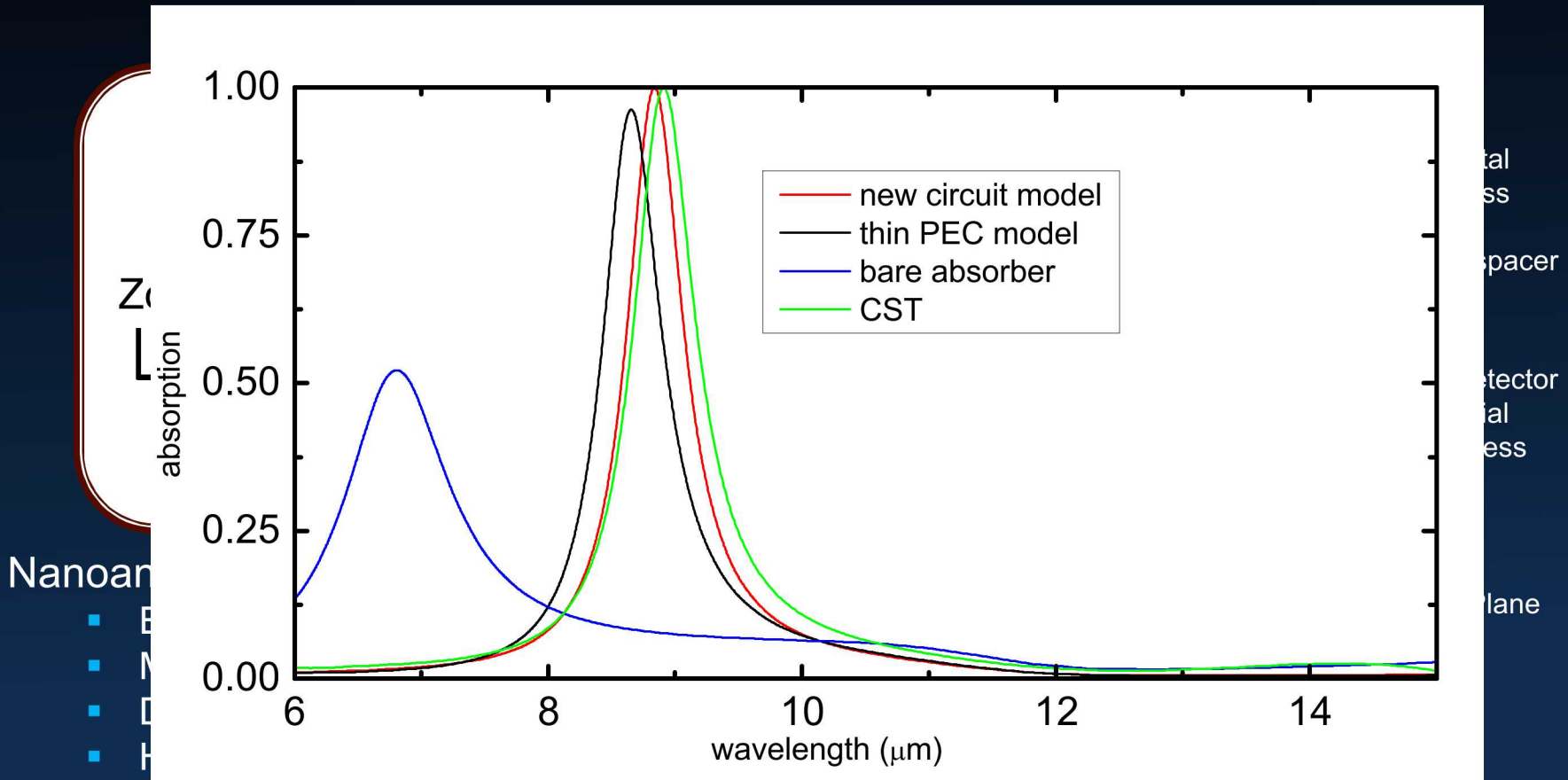


# Application #1: Nanoantenna Enabled Detector (NED) Design



- ❑ Use a nanoantenna array (metasurface) to couple incoming radiation to the thin detector
- ❑ Realize maximum-absorption design; facilitated by a tool that allows for
  - Design intuition
  - rapid and accurate survey of the multidimensional parameter space

# Advanced Circuit Modeling Enables Optimized NED Design



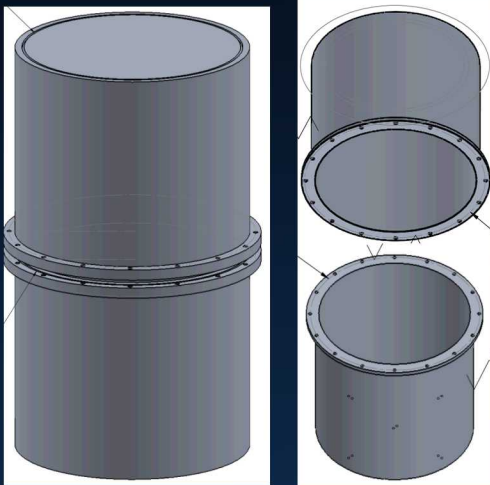
- Rigorous analytic circuit model enables faster-turnaround NED design with nearly 100% absorption



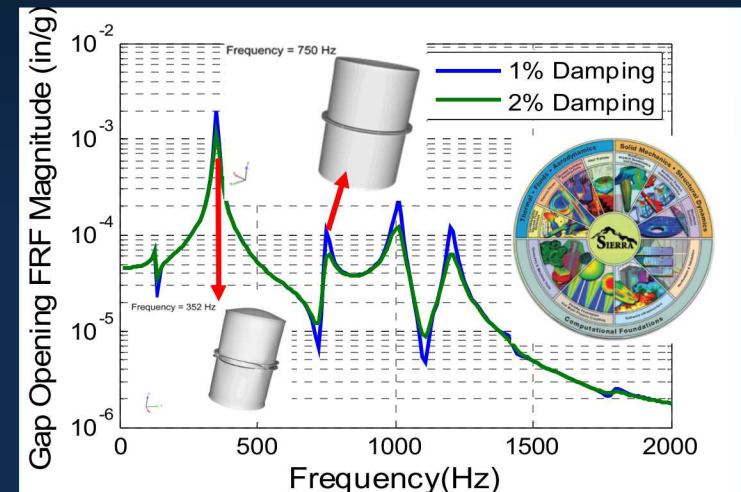
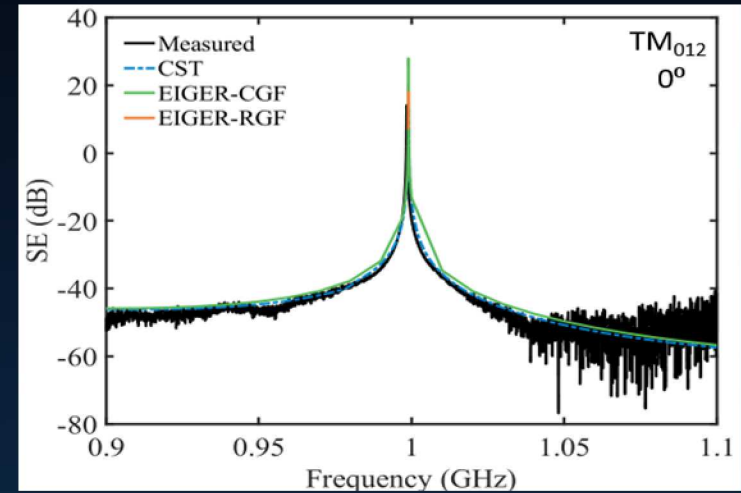
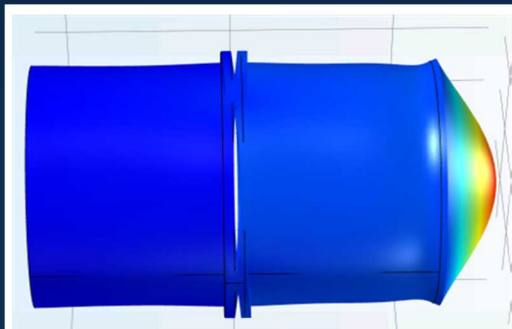
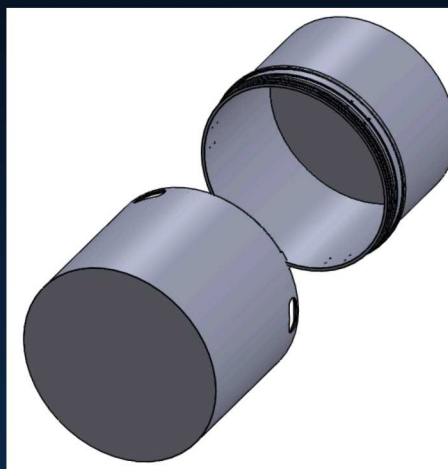
# Addressing Combined-Environment Responses: EM + Vibration



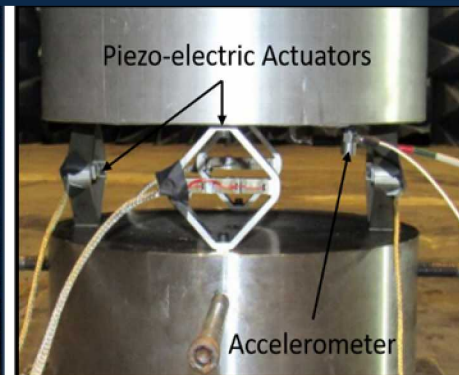
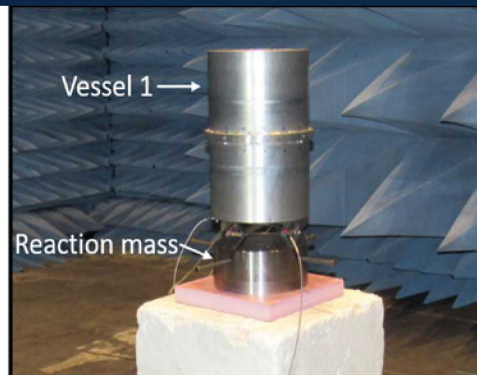
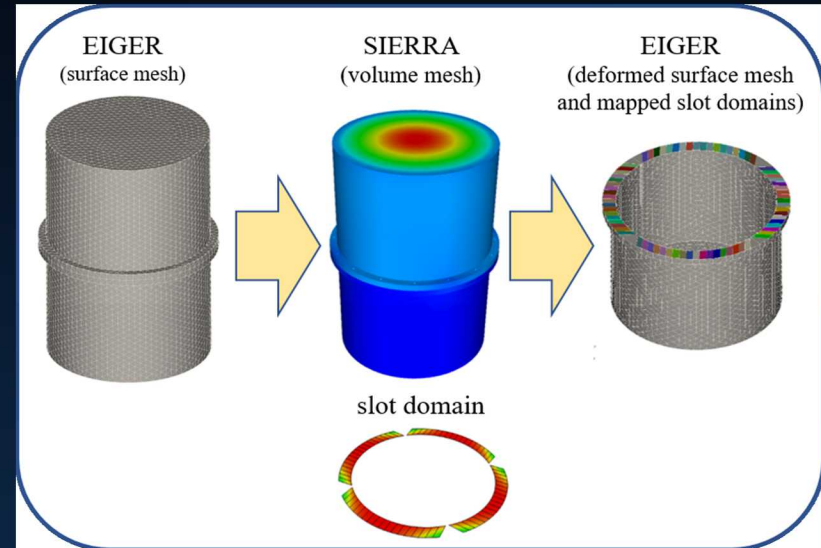
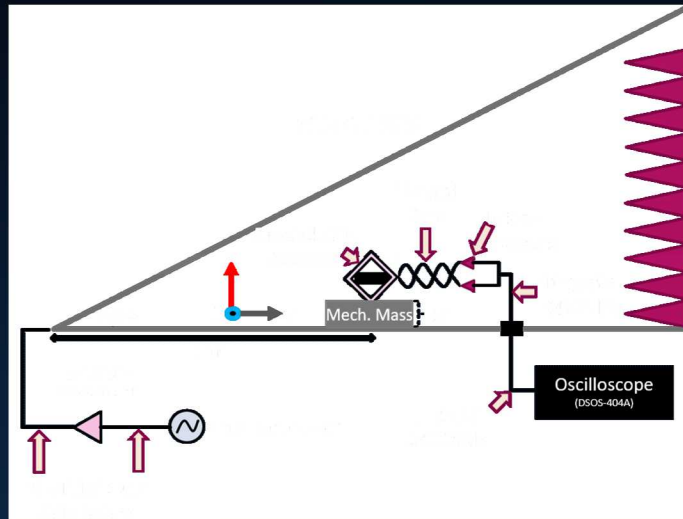
**Bolted-Joint Vessel**



**Breach-Joint Vessel**



# Interplay between Simulation and Testing for Advancing Understanding



# Summary



- ❑ Electrical Sciences is an organization at SNL that focuses on:
  - Electromagnetics
  - Plasma Physics
  - High-Voltage Sciences
  - Circuits and Devices
  - Power System and Electronics
  
- ❑ Within Electrical Sciences, subject-matter expertise covers:
  - Electrical Engineering
  - Physics
  - Computer Science
  - Mathematics
  
- ❑ “Integrated” Projects:
  - Multidisciplinary Research (material scientists, mechanical engineers,...)
  - Experimental and ModSim/Analysis Efforts



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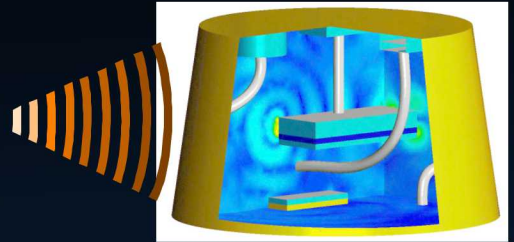
*libasil@sandia.gov*

*jpcastr@sandia.gov*

# NW Mission Decision Support



System  
Response  
to EM  
Fields



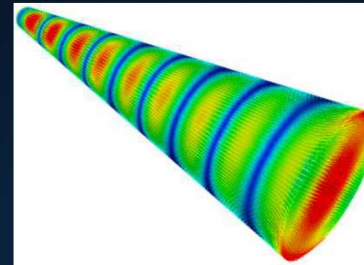
## Advanced electromagnetics (EM) and plasma physics addresses:

- STS normal EM environment
- Radar/A&F design and performance
- STS hostile (SGEMP) environment
- NG ion optics
- Microsystems
- High voltage weapon components

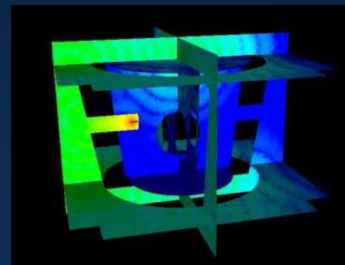
## EMPHASIS Capabilities: full-wave time-domain with full coupling to particle-in-cell (PIC) plasma modeling, hybrid grids and solvers, coupling to XYCE

## EIGER Capabilities: 2D/3D full-wave frequency-domain & electro/magneto-statics

### EM Environments

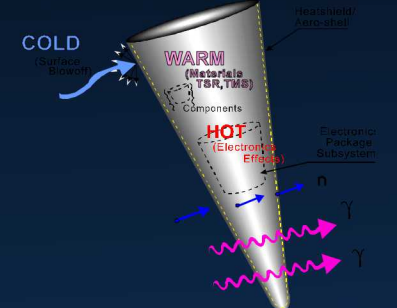


EMR, EMC, EMI

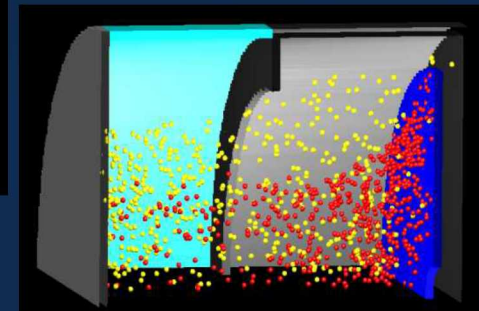


**Radar:**  
Signal coupling to  
system

### X-ray Environments



Cable, Cavity, Box SGEMP,  
SREMP



PIC Emission

# Sandia California - *Livermore*

On-site workforce: ~1,300

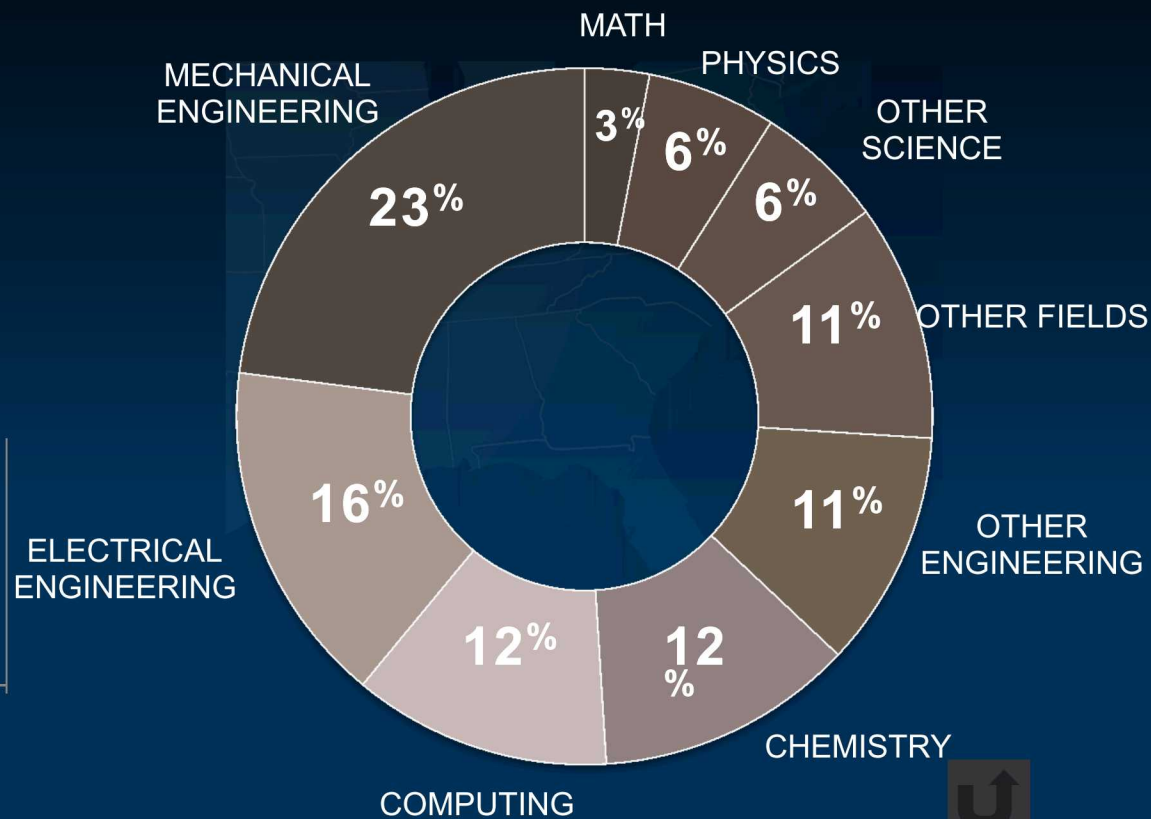
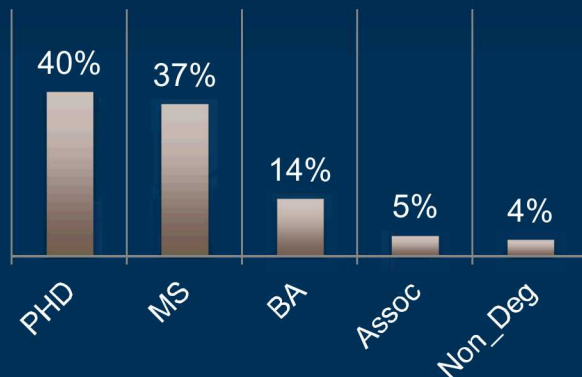
R&D staff: ~500

(excluding R&D Tech)

Distinguishing research capabilities:

- Applied Biosciences
- Combustion Research
- Information Systems
- Micro & Nano Technologies and *more*

**Degree Level**





# High-Performance Computing



*EMR computational needs are driven by frequency ranges and QMU.*

## Frequencies, QMU

- **Wide frequency ranges: kHz to W-Band**
  - Higher frequencies → Higher mesh density
- **QMU and high-Q drive needs for large number of runs**
  - Data ensembles to support QMU
  - High-resolution frequency sampling driven by high-Q cavities

## Memory (PetaBytes)

- **Memory requirement – system matrix ( $\propto N^2$ )**
  - Higher frequencies → Higher mesh density → More DoFs ( $N$ )

*For a typical system,  
boundary-element  
coupling simulations  
up to the W-band*

**10s to 100s of PetaBytes RAM**

**10-20 Petaflops / matrix solution**  
*For **each** frequency or excitation*

## Computation (PetaFLOPS)

- **Compression techniques may be required at Exascale**
  - Compression reduces both memory and computation requirements
  - Needs rigorous V&V for applications