

# A Condensation Model for the Europa Lander



*PRESENTED BY*

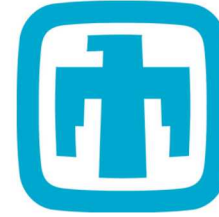
Elizabeth Armstrong



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## An overview of Sandia National Laboratories

- Started with World War II Manhattan Project
- Big focus on national security
- Many areas of simulation: Fire, tires, nuclear weapon storage/transportation, space, wind energy, etc.

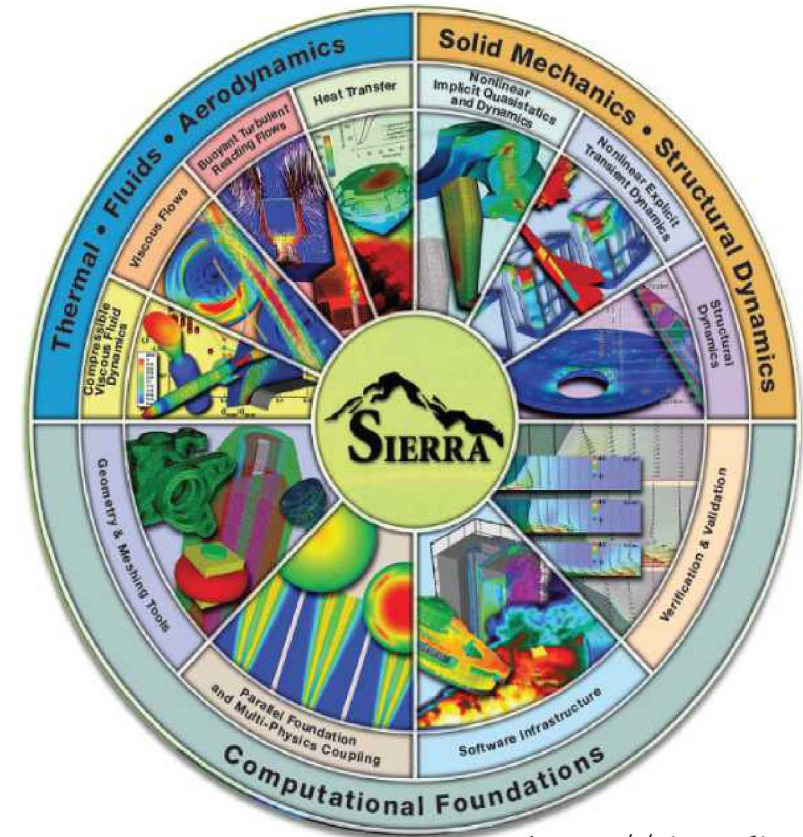


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**Fuego:** low Mach fluid mechanics - heat and mass transfer problems (fire simulations)

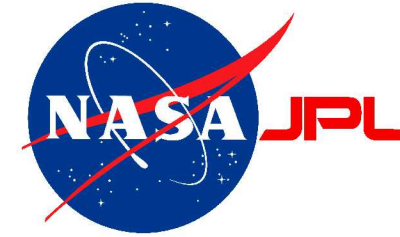
**Aria:** coupled physics problems ranging from manufacturing processes to nuclear stockpile surety

**Thermal Fluids ToolKit (TFTK):** General Chemistry





### 3 Jet Propulsion Laboratory's Europa Lander Mission



<https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.php?feature=6737>



<http://earthsky.org/space/is-europas-ocean-like-earths>

#### Terminal Sterilization Subsystem (TSS)

Need to make sure there are no living things from earth left on the lander before touching down on Europa's surface

In the event of a crash landing:

$T > 500^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 0.5 seconds in 10 seconds

probability of extremophiles hitching a ride and surviving the trip? ... TBD

#### Task

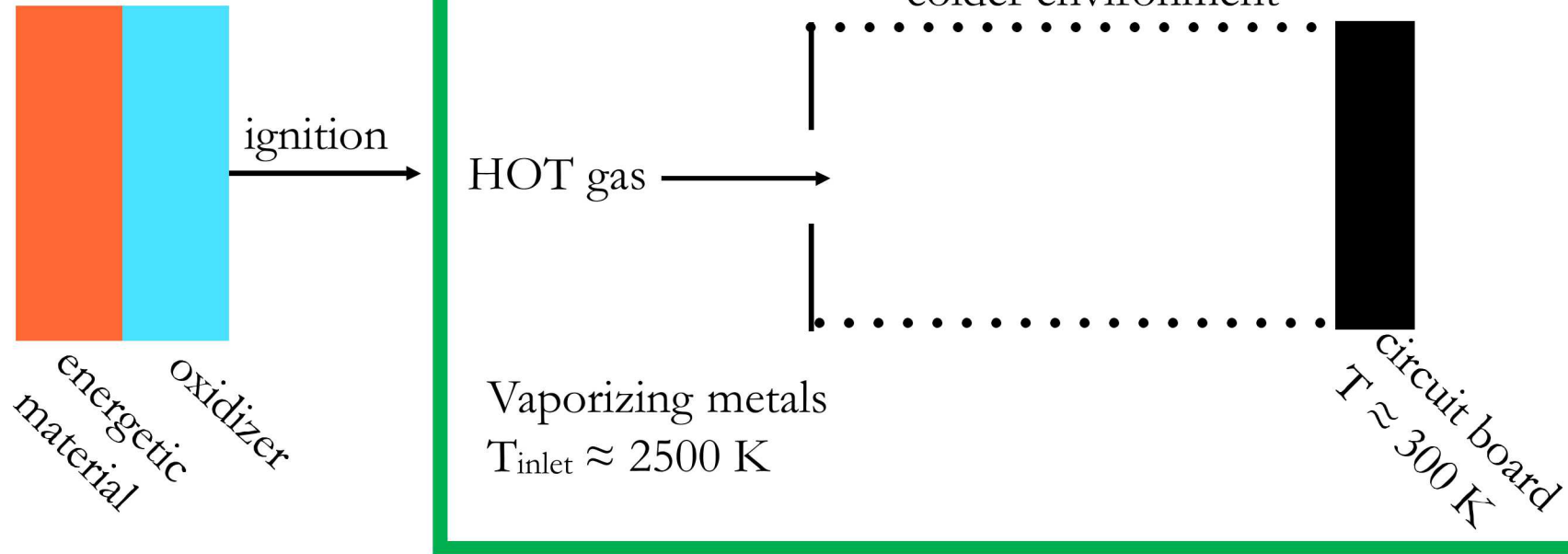
Find the best configuration and materials that result in the most heat transfer to the circuit boards to meet requirements

# How to simulate the TSS behavior

## Requirement:

$T > 500^\circ\text{C}$  for 0.5 seconds in 10 seconds

simulation (10 seconds)



Hot gases entering colder environment  $\rightarrow$  condensation

Assuming not enough time for evaporation to be significant

## Process:

Calculate post-ignition  
gas composition using  
equilibrium codes (Tiger)



Run simulation  
using Fuego



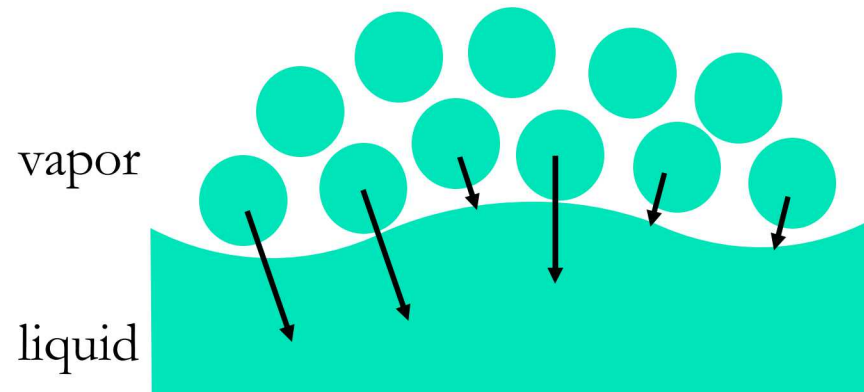
Analyze results:

- Do the simulated temperatures satisfy requirements?
- Do the simulated temperatures and deposition thickness match experimental data?

## Picking an appropriate condensation model for the TSS

vapor  $\longrightarrow$  liquid

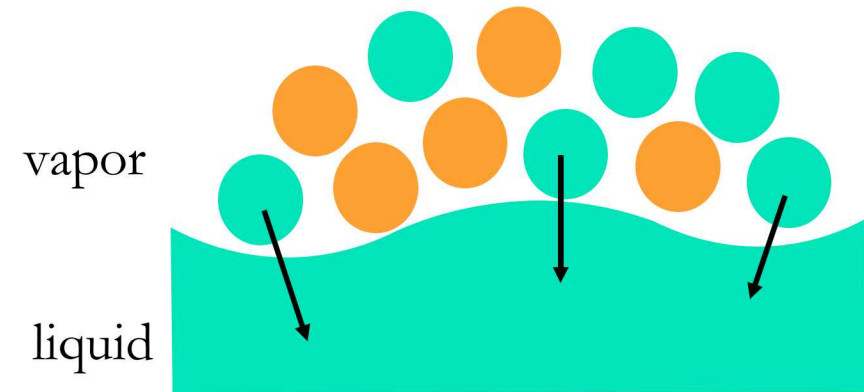
reaction-limited



as soon as a particle condenses,  
another takes its place

$$\text{efficiency} = \frac{\text{particles condensed}}{\text{particles impacting interface}}$$

diffusion-limited



as soon as a particle reaches the interface,  
it condenses

important for condensation with  
impurities/non-condensable gases

● condensable component  
● non-condensable component

## 6 Implementing and using a diffusion-limited condensation model for the TSS

Fick's Law  $J = -D\nabla\rho$

$$rate = J \frac{A}{V} = \frac{3DM(f_v - f_l)}{r^2 RT}$$

Gas phase fugacity

$$f_v = x_v P$$

Liquid phase fugacity

$$f_l = x_l P_{atm} \exp\left(\frac{L}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T_b} - \frac{1}{T}\right)\right)$$

Raoult's Law determines equilibrium

$$f_l = x_l H$$

$$f_l = x_l 10^{A - \frac{B}{C+T}}$$

### Process:

Calculate post-ignition  
gas composition using  
equilibrium codes (Tiger)



Calculate  $D$  using cantera  
for this composition



Run simulation with  
condensation model  
using Fuego



Analyze results

Still need to add condensation to the actual simulations:

- Is the model behaving as expected?
- Does it improve simulation results compared to the experimental data?

Other model improvements:

- Want better resolution of concentrations inside boundary layer...mass transfer correlations