

# Sandia Aerothermal Program Overview



PRESENTED BY

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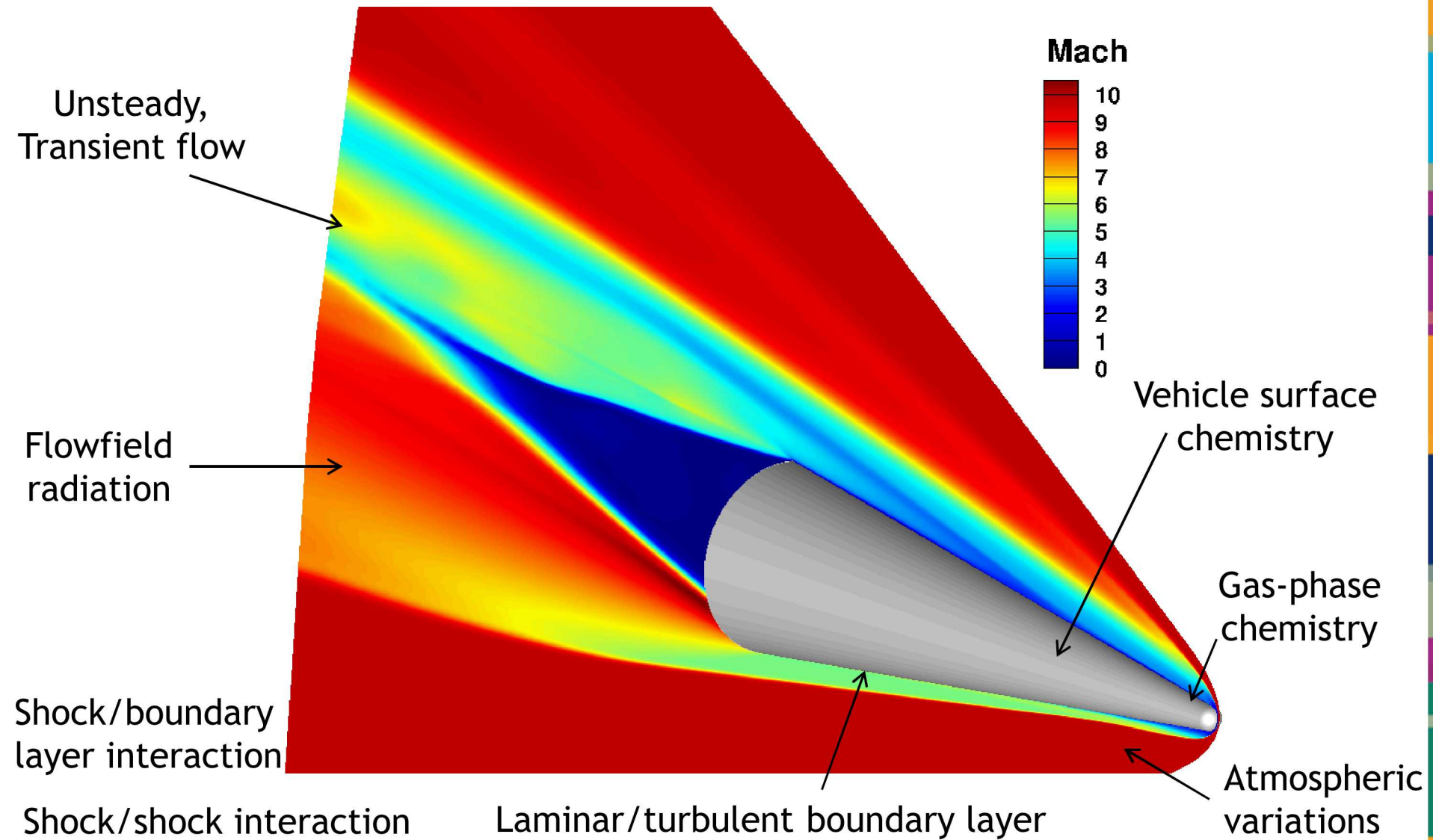
**Reentry environments**

**Simulation tools**

**Current research and development areas**

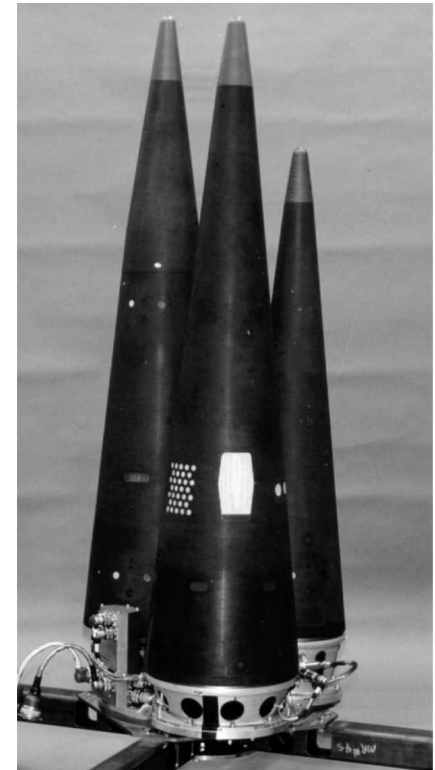
**Validation**

- SPARC flow validation
- Arc-jet modeling
- Flight Vehicle Simulation



## Flight vehicle analysis steps

- Aero model development
  - Vehicle forces and moments as functions of Mach number, boundary layer state (laminar or turbulent), and vehicle orientation
- Trajectory calculation
  - Integration of newton's laws of motion to determine vehicle flight history
- Aerothermal environment calculation
  - Determination of the thermal environment surrounding the vehicle
- Material thermal response calculation
  - Computation of vehicle temperatures and shape change due to ablation
- Structural response to flight environment
  - Determination of the vehicle's substructure and internal components to flight environment loading



**MaST Flight Vehicles**

Reentry environments

**Simulation tools**

Current research and development areas

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# Simulation Tools

## Fluid flow simulation

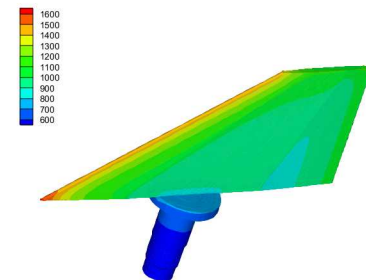
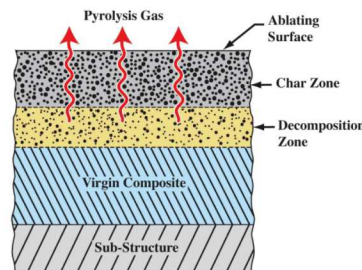
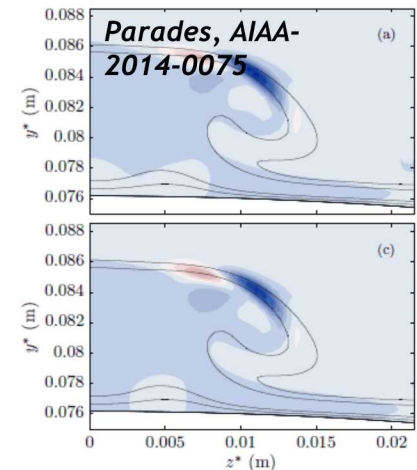
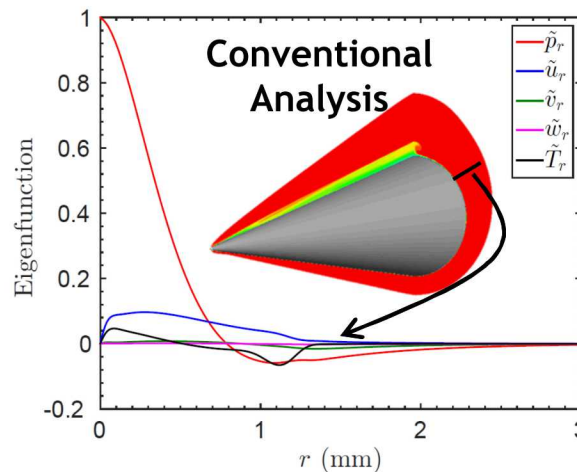
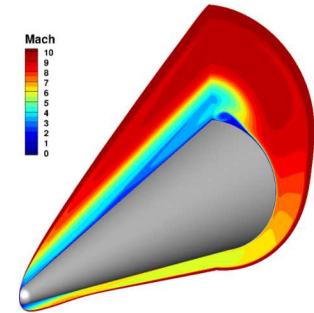
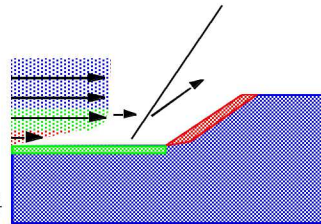
- Correlations, 2IT-SANDIAC-HIBLARG
- MYSTIC, SPRINT
- DPLR, US3D, SPARC
- Icarus, SPARTA

## Boundary layer stability analysis

- Correlations
- STABL2D, LSTRAC
- STABL3D
- BiGlobal solver

## Material thermal response

- CMA, Chaleur
- ParCMA, ParChaleur
- ASCC, SMITE
- Coyote, SPARC







## Understand

- Engineering codes like 2IT-SANDIAC-HIBLARG, CMA, and EMLOSS work for previous flight preparation and post-test analysis
- Benefit from understanding the methods and assumptions

## Maintain

- Small effort to modernize code syntax and methods
- Ensure that these tools are available moving forward
- Tools are continuously used for both research and applications

## Improve when possible

- Time-to-solution is much shorter than modern codes
- Enables large data set generation for Monte-Carlo analysis
- Swap solvers in integrated code suites when possible
  - 2IT-SANDIAC-HIBLARG and BLIMP to full Navier-Stokes
  - CMA to 3D SPARC where appropriate

## **NS Solvers becoming production methods**

- Many validation efforts currently ongoing
- Aided in development of flight vehicle aerodynamic database
- Used to assess flight data for laminar/turbulent flow
- Delivering surface heating data to MTR codes
- Provides a good, high-fidelity research tool

## **Stability analysis methods**

- Working on validation of physics-based transition analysis

## **Multi-dimensional material thermal response**

- Currently under development
- Utilizing arc-jet data as well as flight data



Reentry environments

Simulation tools

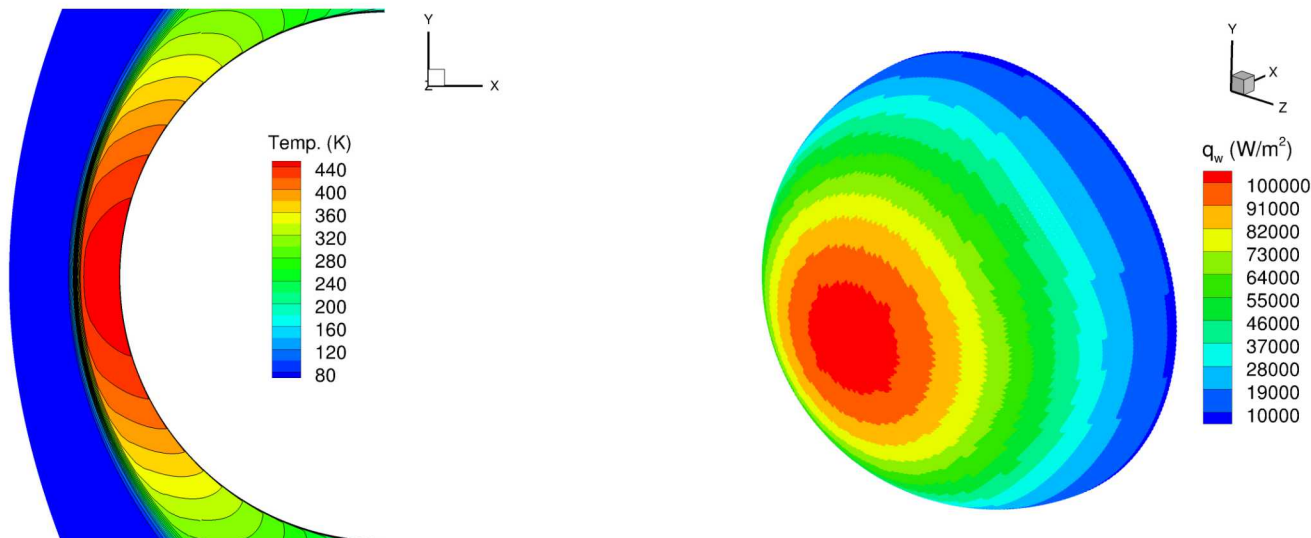
**Current research and development areas**

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## Flow solver

- Perfect and reacting gas models
  - 5 species air, 11 species weakly ionized air
- Turbulence modeling: RANS models (now), hybrid RANS-LES (planned)
  - Spalart-Allmaras, SST
- Research on high-order accurate numerical schemes
- Validation of flow solver
- Enable trajectory simulations
- Shock and boundary layer tailoring and inline refinement



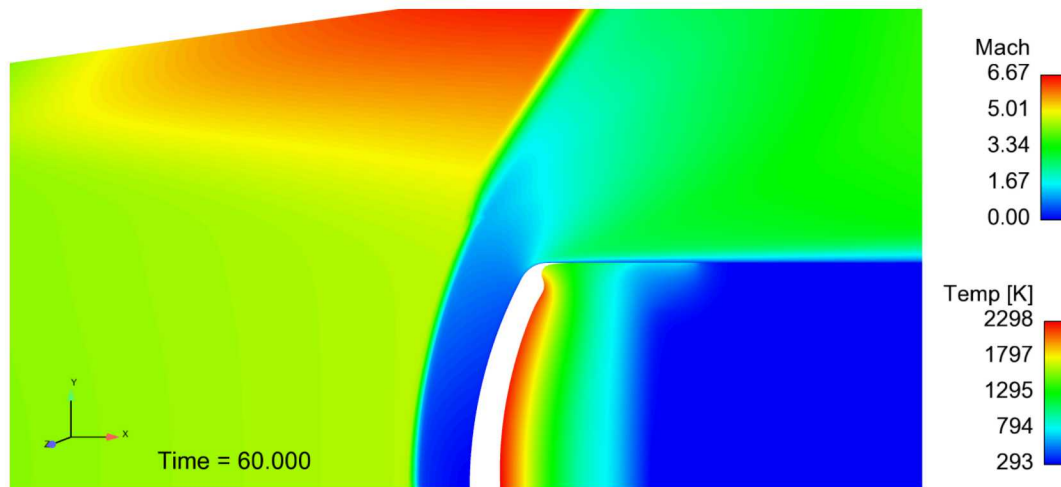
Simulation of flow over a sphere

## Material solver

- 1D solver frame to mimic legacy solvers
- Implementing monolithic thermal solver
  - Solve heat transfer and gas continuity equation with the same system
- High-level redesign for modularity

## Numerical solver techniques

- Automated CFL controller
- Matrix-free method to accelerate convergence
- Working with Trilinos development team to incorporate modern linear solvers



Arc-jet simulation of TACOT

# Full Trajectory Analysis

**Develop code suites to analyze a vehicle's aerothermal performance from pierce point to impact**

- Legacy methods exist – serve as a guide
- Improve capability by utilizing high-fidelity methods, NS and DSMC

**Utilize automation where possible**

- Freestream condition adjustment
- Grid adjustment for freestream conditions

**Bridge the gap between regimes**

- DSMC used for high altitude cases
- NS used for low-mid altitude cases

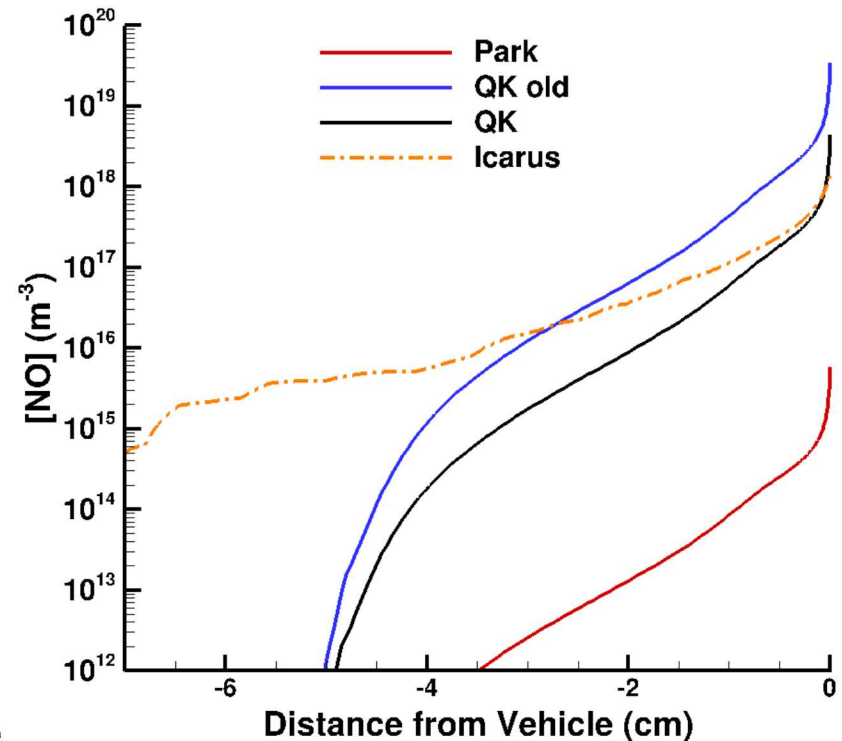
**Material shape change**

- Couple fluid to thermal solvers to capture vehicle shape change throughout flight

**Vehicle dynamics**

- Inform flight dynamics solver to enable 6 DOF simulations

**Ensure continuity of modeling from entry to impact**

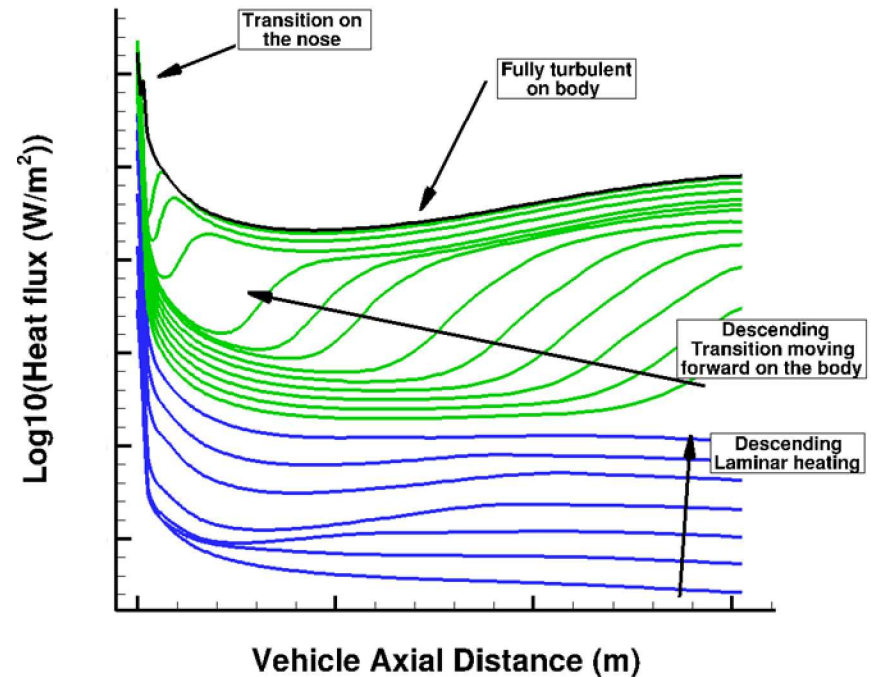


**NO Concentration along the stagnation line of a sphere cone**

# Trajectory mode with US3D

## Modifications to CFD solver

- Build an atmosphere module within the code
- Wrap flow solver with an outer loop to iterate over trajectory waypoints
- Utilize shock tailoring technique to ensure solution quality
- Assess boundary layer transition using correlation inline with the flow solver
- Ensure robust transition mechanics
- Solve trajectory using one of the following modes:
  - Standard solve for individual waypoints
  - Non-linear perturbation solver to move from one waypoint to the next
  - Continuously vary flight condition via interpolation between waypoints



**Example calculation of heat flux variation across an arbitrary trajectory**

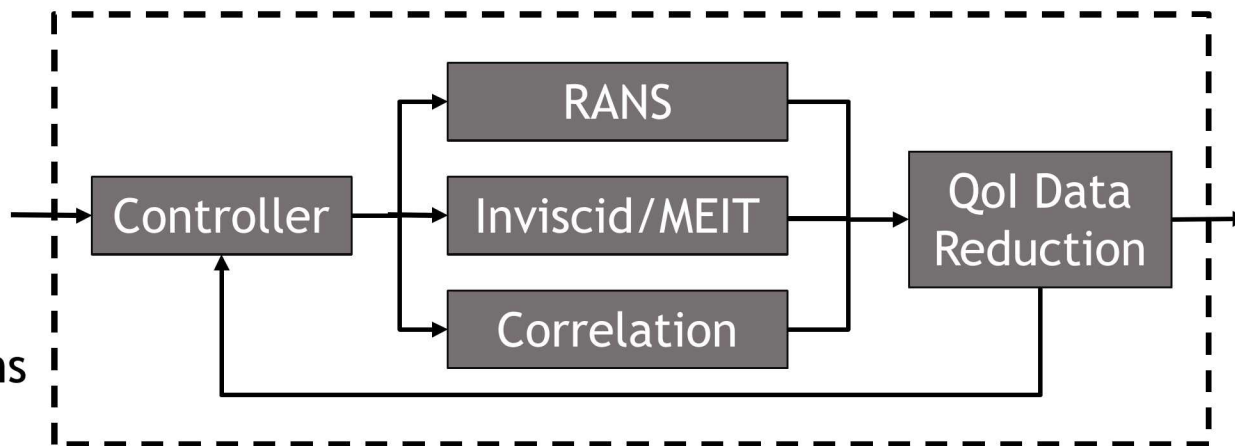
# Multi-fidelity Solver

## Enable rapid assessment of flight vehicle performance and thermal loading for an arbitrary trajectory

- Utilize low-, medium-, and high-fidelity solvers to populate the aerodynamic performance and thermal loading across a vehicle's intended envelope
- Take advantage of lower fidelity methods low cost and anchor against high-fidelity data
- Smartly sample a vehicle's envelope to minimize computational time
- Build a sufficient database to enable trajectory design and optimization.

### Mission parameter space

- Altitude
- Speed
- AOA
- Attitude
- Control surface deflections
- Etc.



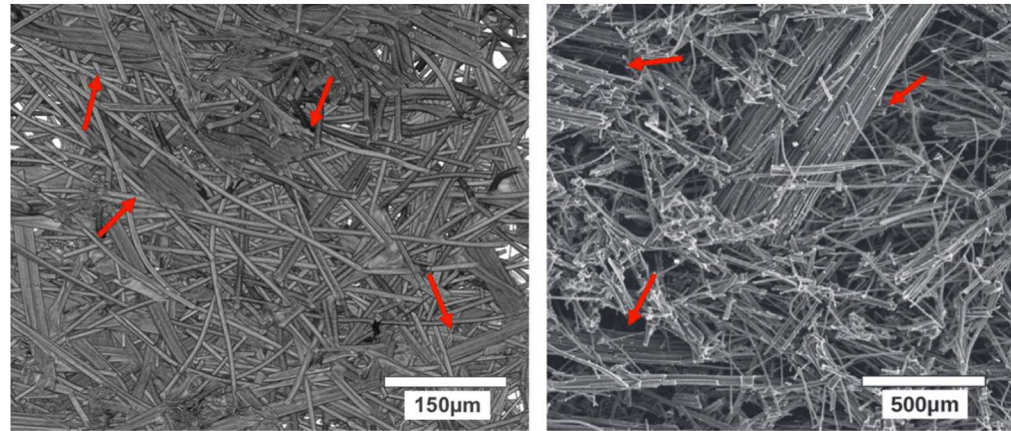
### QoIs

- Forces and moments
- Aeroheating
- Uncertainties
- ?

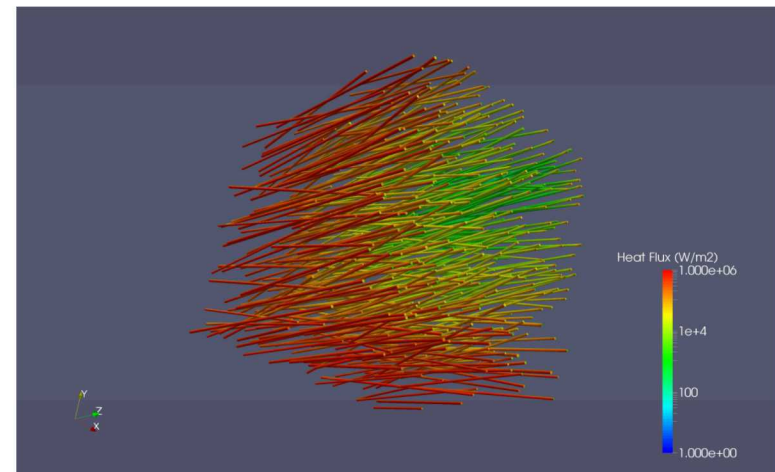


## Micro- and mesoscale simulation

- Utilize micro-ct and SEM to image decomposing ablators
- Analyze image to simulate fiber material and surrounding matrix
- Calculate composite material properties from pure properties
  - Conductivity
  - Macro-scale ablation rates
  - Porosity
  - Tortuosity
- Compare to sample created at Sandia of common decomposing ablators



Micro-CT and SEM scan meshes from Borner in IHJMT 2016



Sample fiber meshes for use in DSMC

Reentry environments

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# SPARC Flow Validation Sets

## Tunnel 9 Sharp cones

- Frozen laminar and turbulent flows

## Double cone

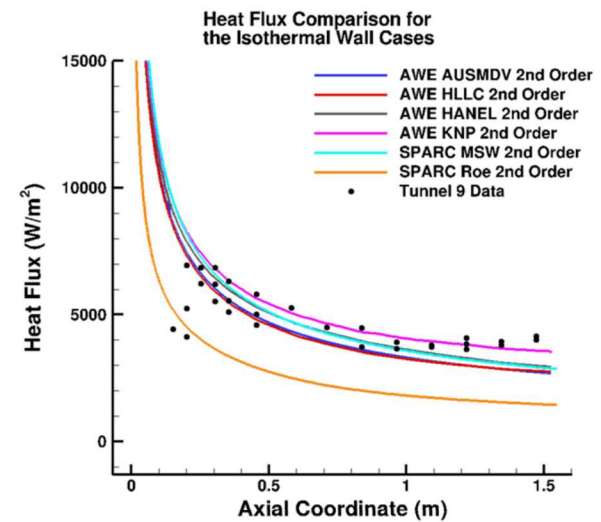
- Laminar shock/shock, shock/boundary layer interaction
- Mild to strong thermochemical non-equilibrium

## HIFiRE-1

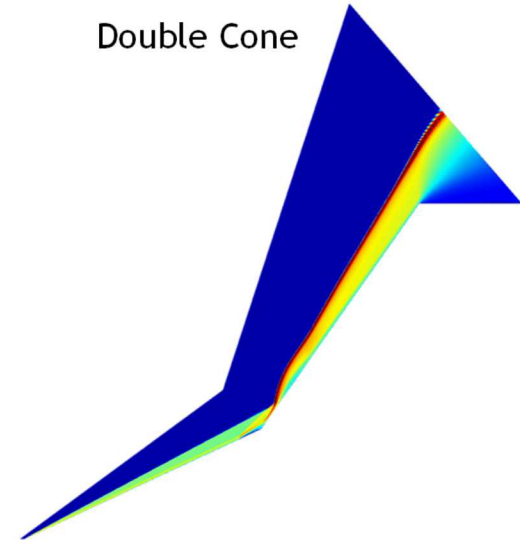
- Turbulent shock/boundary layer interaction
- Nonreacting flow

## HEG Cases

- Reacting laminar flow over various shapes

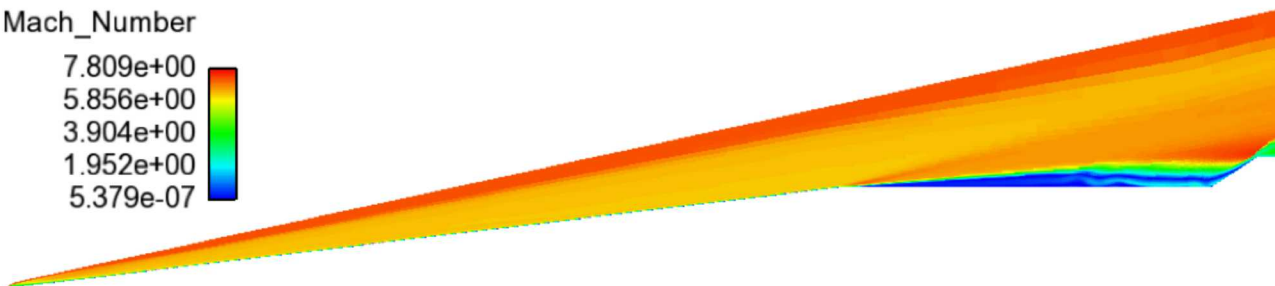
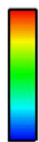


Double Cone



Mach\_Number

7.809e+00  
5.856e+00  
3.904e+00  
1.952e+00  
5.379e-07

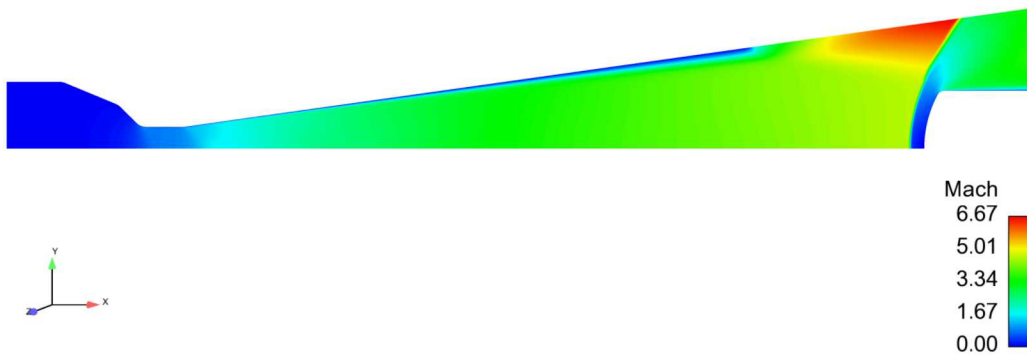


## Provides validation for fluid flow and material thermal response

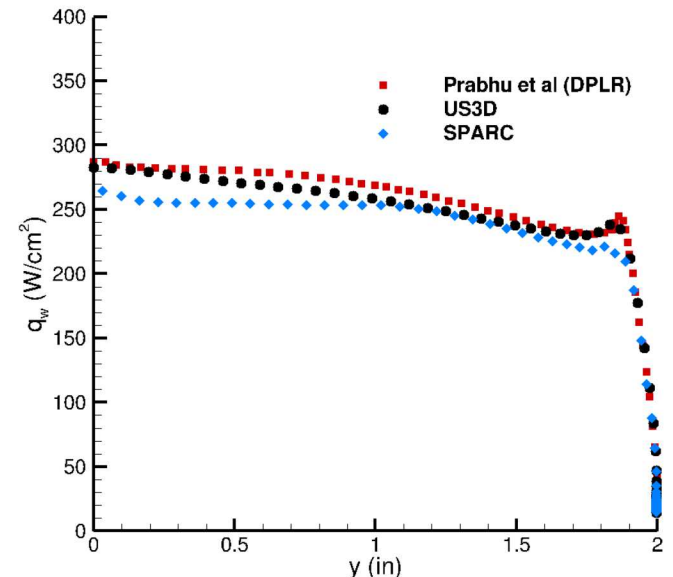
- High temperature, thermochemical non-equilibrium
- High heating rates with material ablation
- Ideal for testing fluid/thermal coupling

## Current validation case

- NASA Ames AHF and IHF
- AEDC H1, H2, and H3
- DLR L2K and L3K



Simulation of NASA Ames IHF arc-jet



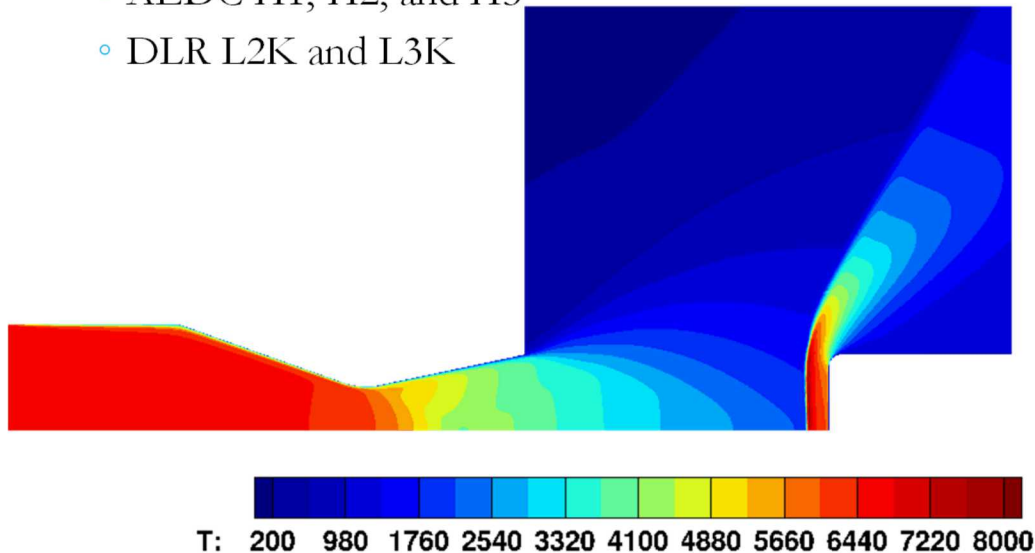
Surface heat flux comparison on an isoq sample

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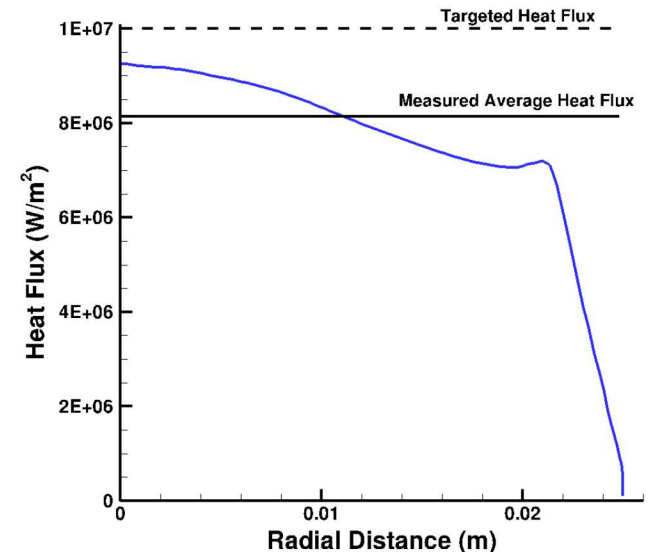
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## Current validation case

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Simulation of DLR L3K arc-jet



Calculated Heat Flux

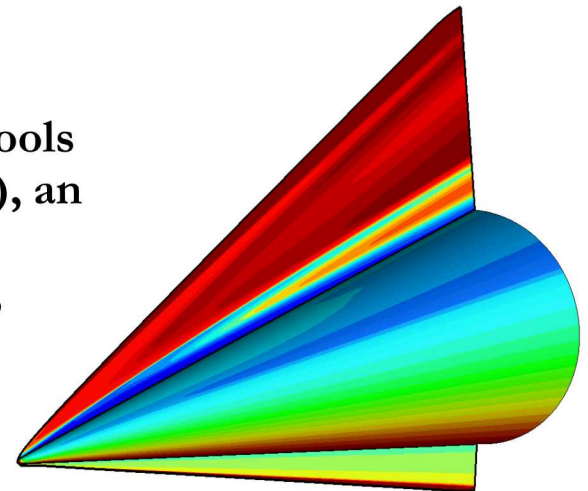


**V & V efforts are centered around a legacy recovered ballistic reentry vehicle.**

**Trajectory and transition history obtained from flight data.**

**Aerothermal environment computed with a full set of tools including correlation-based approaches (Blunty, LoVel), an inviscid-boundary layer approach (2IT-SANDIAC-HIBLARG), and full Navier-Stokes approaches (US3D, SPARC).**

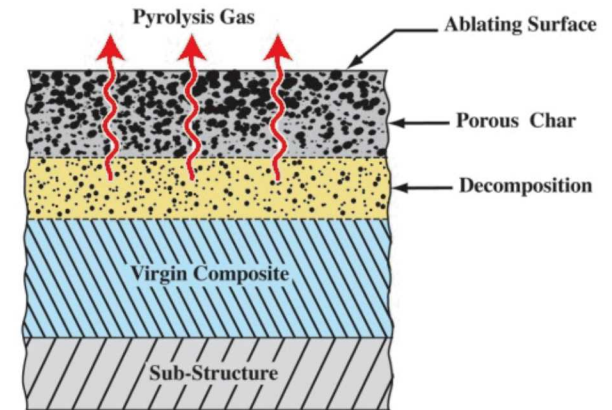
- Code-to-code heating comparisons
- Angle-of-attack effects investigated
- Turbulence model comparisons for the Navier-Stokes approaches





## Material thermal response computed with 1-D uncoupled approaches (CMA, Chaleur, SPARC) and a coupled multi-D approach (SPARC)

- Code-to-code comparisons
- 1-D vs. multi-D comparisons
- Effects of coupling investigated



## Variability and Uncertainty analysis using Dakota driving CMA

### Comparisons to flight data include:

- In-depth temperature histories
- Ablation depths (pyrolysis depth, char depth, and surface recession)
- Heatshield density profiles

## ■ Meso-scale modeling

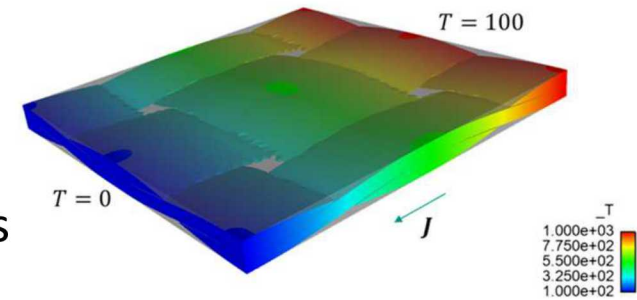
- Resolve fiber-scale phenomena
- Determine effective properties of composites
- Investigate failure mechanisms
- Inform macro-scale codes (CMA, SPARC)

## ■ DSMC

- Simulate flow through porous media – determine effects of ablation on permeability/tortuosity
- Investigate surface chemistry reactions

## ■ Experiment

- Manufacture composite materials in-house
- Utilitze benchtop experiments to better characterize composites
- Utilize solar furnace/environmental chamber to simulate aeroheating environment. Examine ablative behavior of composites



Sandia analyzes numerous aspects of the reentry environment

- We utilize a unique combination of simulation tools and facilities to deliver results

Tool development activities are necessary to provide better solutions to the customer. We work to:

- Understand legacy models
- Maintain models to ensure they are up to date
- Utilize incremental improvements of production models to maintain a balance between performance and capability
- Improve models to solve the challenges of the future

Current R&D is focused on solving all aspects of the reentry environment, including:

- Aerodynamics
- Aerothermodynamics
- Boundary layer transition
- Thermal
- Structural/Vibration

Verification & Validation is a necessary step toward ensuring that the highest quality simulation tools are available