

*Exceptional service in the national interest*



# Scientific Computing Opportunities

## *Applied Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science*

Brian M. Adams  
Principal Member of Technical Staff  
Optimization and Uncertainty Quantification



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. SAND No. 2013-XXXXP

- Overview of SNL
  - My background and why SNL for me (benefits)
  - Computing research
  - Focus on my work
  - Career opportunities
- 
- SAND2012-5130P

# Sandia's History

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 13, 1949

Dear Mr. Wilson:

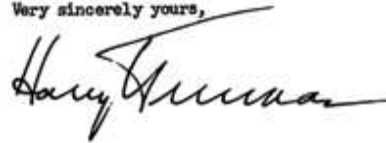
I am informed that the Atomic Energy Commission intends to ask that the Bell Telephone Laboratories accept under contract the direction of the Sandia Laboratory at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

This operation, which is a vital segment of the atomic weapons program, is of extreme importance and urgency in the national defense, and should have the best possible technical direction.

I hope that after you have heard more in detail from the Atomic Energy Commission, your organization will find it possible to undertake this task. In my opinion you have here an opportunity to render an exceptional service in the national interest.

I am writing a similar note direct to Dr. O. E. Buckley.

Very sincerely yours,



Mr. Leroy A. Wilson,  
President,  
American Telephone and Telegraph Company,  
195 Broadway,  
New York 7, N. Y.



# Sandia's Governance Structure

## Sandia Corporation

- AT&T: 1949–1993
- Martin Marietta: 1993–1995
- Lockheed Martin: 1995–present
- Existing contract expired: Sept. 30, 2012
- One-year contract extension: Sept. 30, 2013
- Two additional 3-month options: March 31, 2014

Government owned, contractor operated



Federally funded  
research and development center



# Sandia's Sites

*Albuquerque, New Mexico*



*Livermore, California*



*Kauai, Hawaii*



*Waste Isolation Pilot Plant,  
Carlsbad, New Mexico*



*Pantex Plant,  
Amarillo, Texas*



*Tonopah, Nevada*



# National Security Challenges

**1950s**

Nuclear weapons

Production and  
manufacturing  
engineering



**1960s**

Development  
engineering

Vietnam conflict



**1970s**

Multiprogram  
laboratory

Energy crisis



**1980s**

Missile defense  
work

Cold War



**1990s**

Post-Cold War  
transition

Stockpile  
stewardship



**2000s**

Post 9/11

National security



**2010s**

Life Extension Programs  
START

National  
security challenges





# Nuclear Weapons

**Pulsed power and radiation effects sciences**



**Design agency for nonnuclear components**

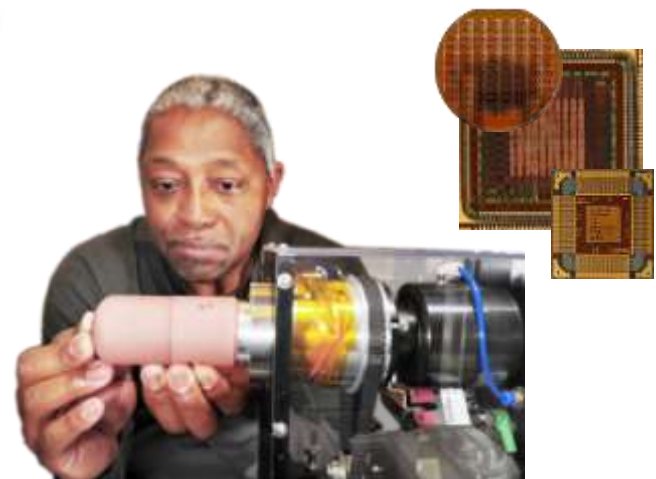
- Neutron generators
- Arming, fuzing and firing systems
- Safety systems
- Gas transfer systems



**Warhead systems engineering and integration**

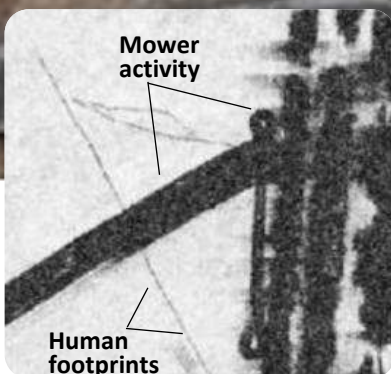


**Production agency**



# Defense Systems and Assessments

## Synthetic aperture radar



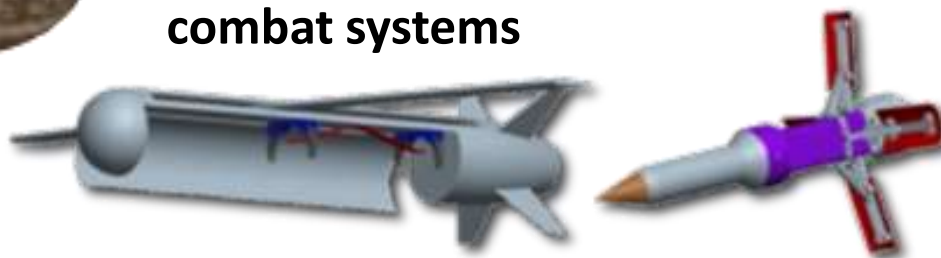
## Support for NASA



## Support for ballistic missile defense



## Ground sensors for future combat systems





# Energy, Climate, and Infrastructure Security

**Energy**



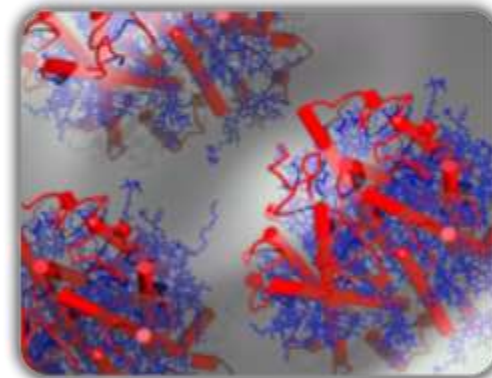
**Infrastructure**



**Crosscuts  
and enablers**



**Climate**



# International, Homeland, and Nuclear Security

## Critical asset protection



## Homeland defense and force protection



## Homeland security programs



## Global security



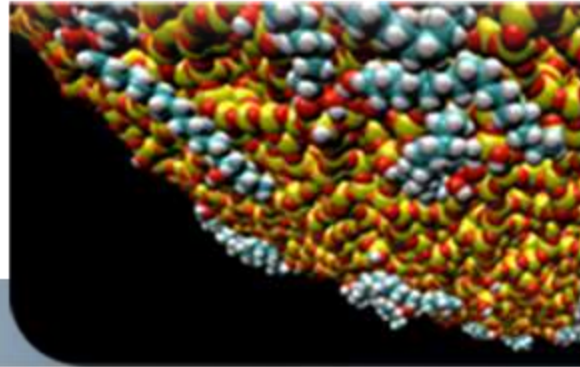


# Science and Engineering Foundations

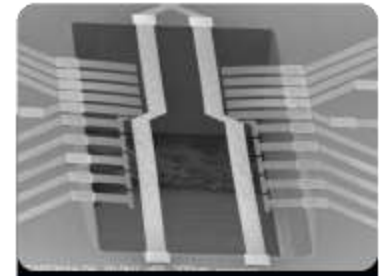
## Computing and information science



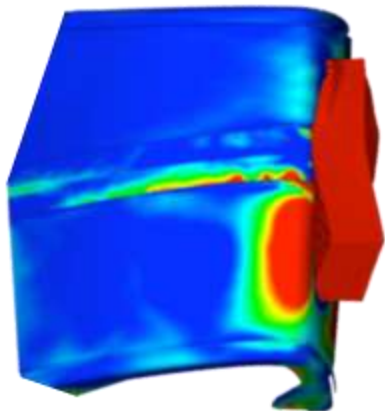
## Materials science



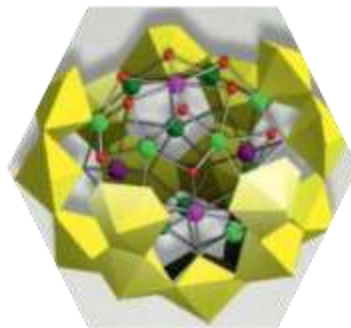
## Nanodevices and microsystems



## Engineering sciences



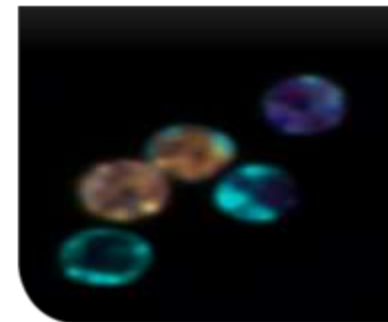
## Geoscience



## Radiation effects and high-energy density science



## Bioscience





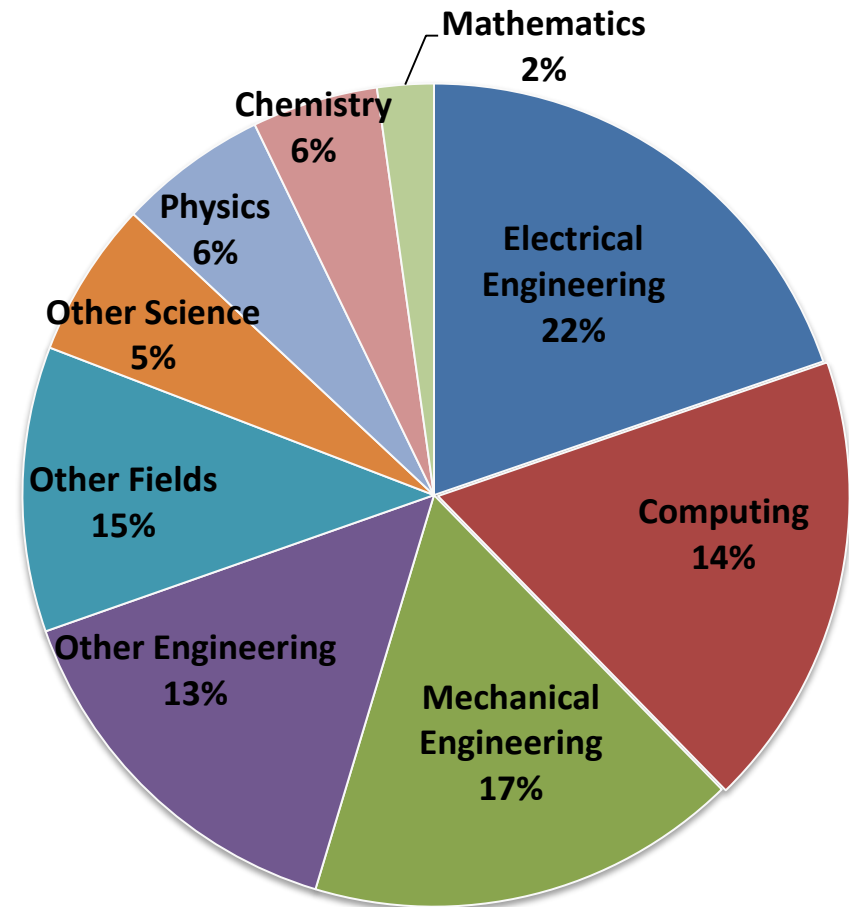
# Our Workforce

- On-site workforce: 11,711
- Regular employees: 9,494
- Gross payroll: ~\$1.046 billion

*Data as of April 12, 2013*



## R&D staff (4,799) by discipline



# My Path to Sandia



- St. Michael's College (VT)
  - mathematics major
  - minors: music, computer science, secondary education
  - AmeriCorps volunteer in New Orleans; IT focus



- Ph.D., Computational and Applied Mathematics, NC State
  - So, what can math be used for?
  - mathematics, statistics, computer science, immunology
  - nondeterministic model calibration (HIV)



- SNL, Albuquerque since 2005:
  - project management, algorithm development, production software
  - went for optimization focus; diversified into UQ
  - science/engineering application customers drive research and software

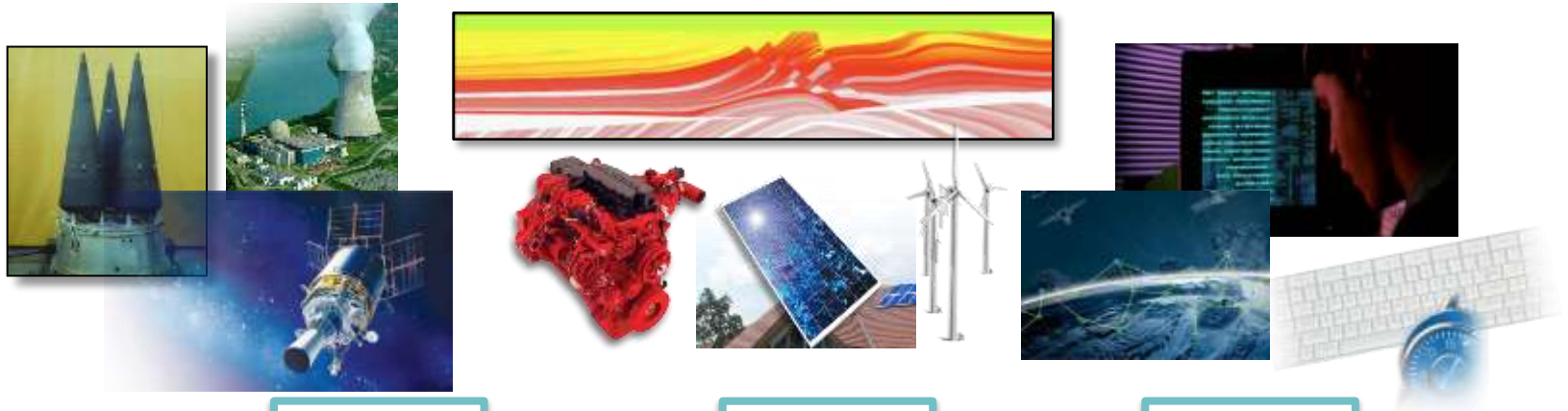


# Why Sandia Suits Me

- Sense of purpose: critical national security problems
- Innovation: world class, yet approachable, science and engineering staff
- Research to development to applications
- Independence and teaming
- Albuquerque: great weather, bike friendly, mid-size city
- Work/life balance
- *Mathematics, statistics, and computer science are critical partners to engineering and disciplinary science in executing Sandia National Laboratories' mission*



# Computing Research Supports Mission Decisions



## Sandia Strategic Thrusts

Nuclear  
Security

Energy  
Security

Cyber  
Security

## Computer Science Application Themes

Nuclear Weapons  
Engineering

Energy/Climate  
Security

Cyber  
Assurance

Decision Support

## Computer Science Technology Themes

Predictive  
Simulation

Scalable  
Computing

Scalable  
Informatics

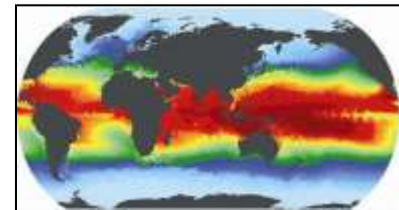
Cognitive  
Science

Enabling Technologies

# Why Computational Modeling or Simulation?

Researchers and designers at SNL need to understand complex engineering and science phenomena, but physical experimentation might not be feasible, due to, e.g.,:

- **Safety:** dangerous to test a mechanical component or new type of chemical reaction in the regime of interest
- **Laws/ethics:** may prohibit nuclear weapons testing; human subjects or genetics experiments
- **Practicality:** can't readily experiment with climate, economics, or the universe, except at reduced scale
- **Cost/availability:** building prototypes, destructive testing on legacy systems or in extreme environments often prohibitively expensive



In these cases, we pair limited experimentation and data with **computational models intended to represent reality.**

# Benefits of Computational Models

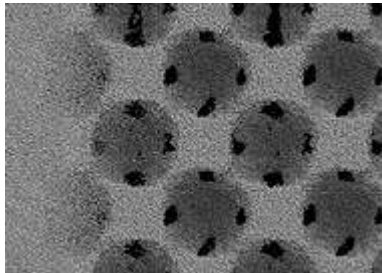
- Quickly test theories/hypotheses
- Explore engineering designs with fewer prototypes
- Make predictions in regimes where testing impractical
- Gain new insights about reality
- Advise limited data collection (design of experiments)

## But!

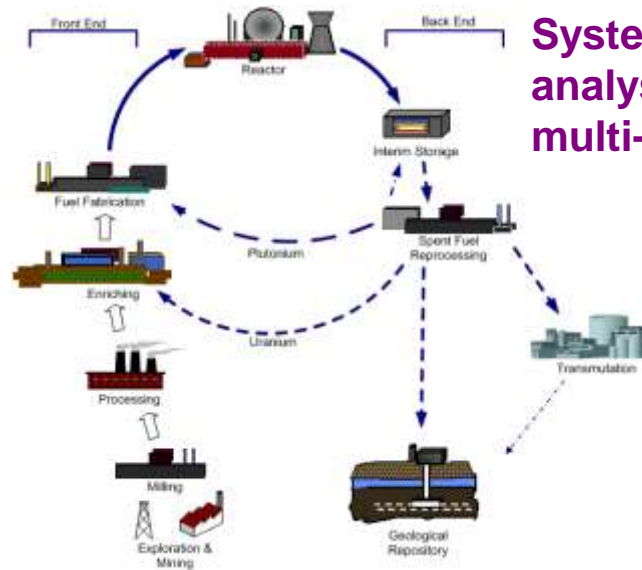
- Each modeling stage makes **assumptions and approximations**; conclusions must be qualified and relevance vetted
- Solving equations numerically introduces approximation errors, which must be quantified
- And that's all assuming the computer code is correct!



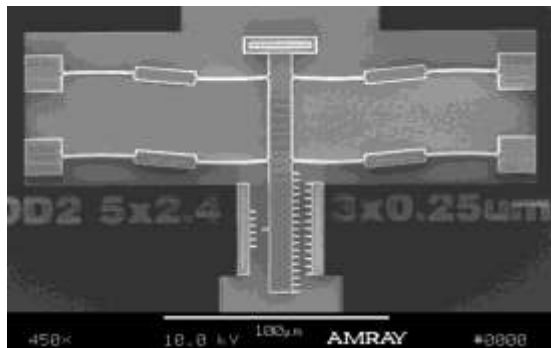
# Diverse simulations across scales



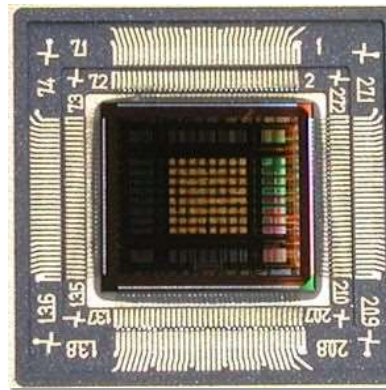
Shock loading of polymer foam: molecular dynamics



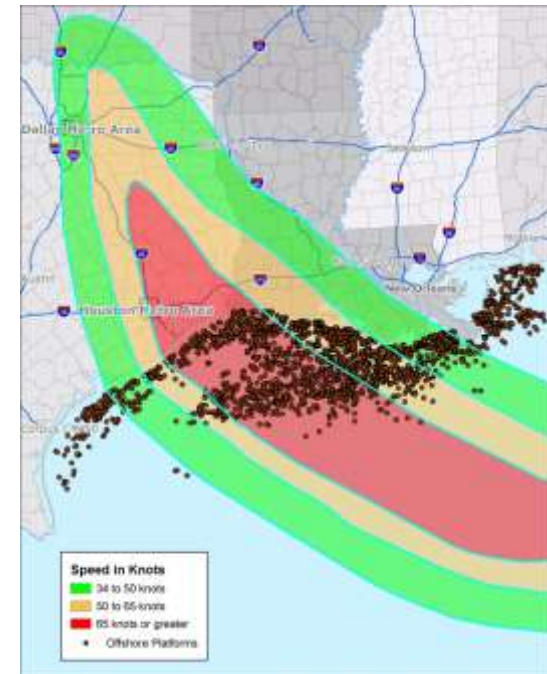
Systems of systems analysis: multi-scale, multi-phenomenon



Micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMS): quasi-static nonlinear elasticity, process modeling



Electrical circuits: networks, PDEs, differential algebraic equations (DAEs), E&M

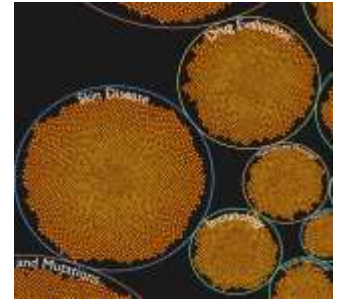


Emergencies: weather, logistics, economics, human behavior

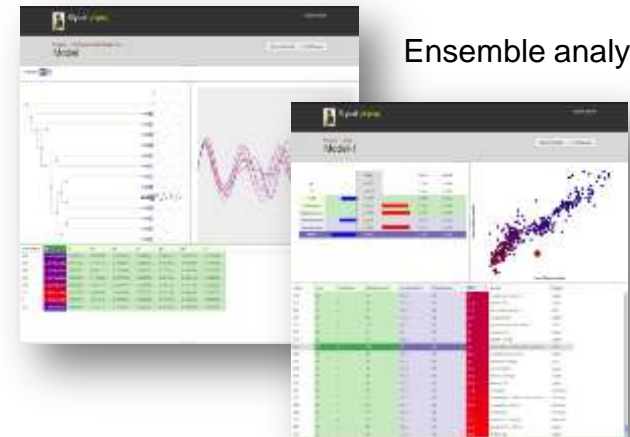
# Why Data Analytics, Informatics, and Visualization?

- Actionable understanding from complex data
  - Voluminous, possibly distributed
  - Transient, streaming data, real-time
  - Cyber, social, water, power networks
- Demands:
  - Collecting, managing, and processing large unstructured data
  - Data intensive/centric methods and computing
  - Relationship-based analytic methods
  - Domain-specific visualization

PubMed clustering  
Air traffic networks



Ensemble analysis



# Computing Research at Sandia: Enabling Simulation and Analytics

- Routine engineering or decision making with models often cannot be done on a desktop computer...
  - simulate digital circuits with millions of transistors
  - solve PDEs with billions of degrees of freedom
  - simulate disaster response with millions of actors
  - process high bandwidth streaming data in real time
- Scientific discovery, such as for climate or fusion energy, might require ground-breaking fidelity and computational power to resolve a range of scales
- Supercomputers grow and architectures change rapidly
- *Multidisciplinary hardware, algorithms, software research make large-scale simulation and analysis practical*

# Extreme Scale Computing

## Advanced Architectures and Operating Systems

- HPC Platforms

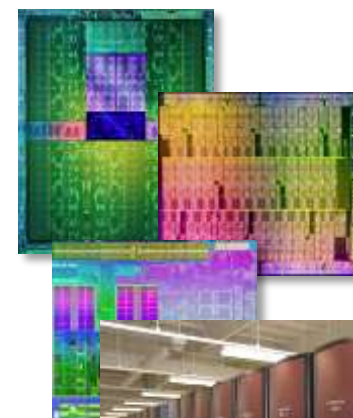
- Cielo, Sequoia (SNL)
- Titan (ORNL),
- Intrepid (ANL)
- Edison (NERSC)



- Many-core, FPGA, GPU, PIM, NIC, active storage/NVRAM, ...

- There will be processing capabilities everywhere that are ideal for analysis & viz

NVIDIA+x86  
Intel MIC  
AMD Fusion



- Special architectures for “big data” analytics

- New Urika – Graph-based analytics
- Netezza – Large-scale SQL-based analytics



YarcData

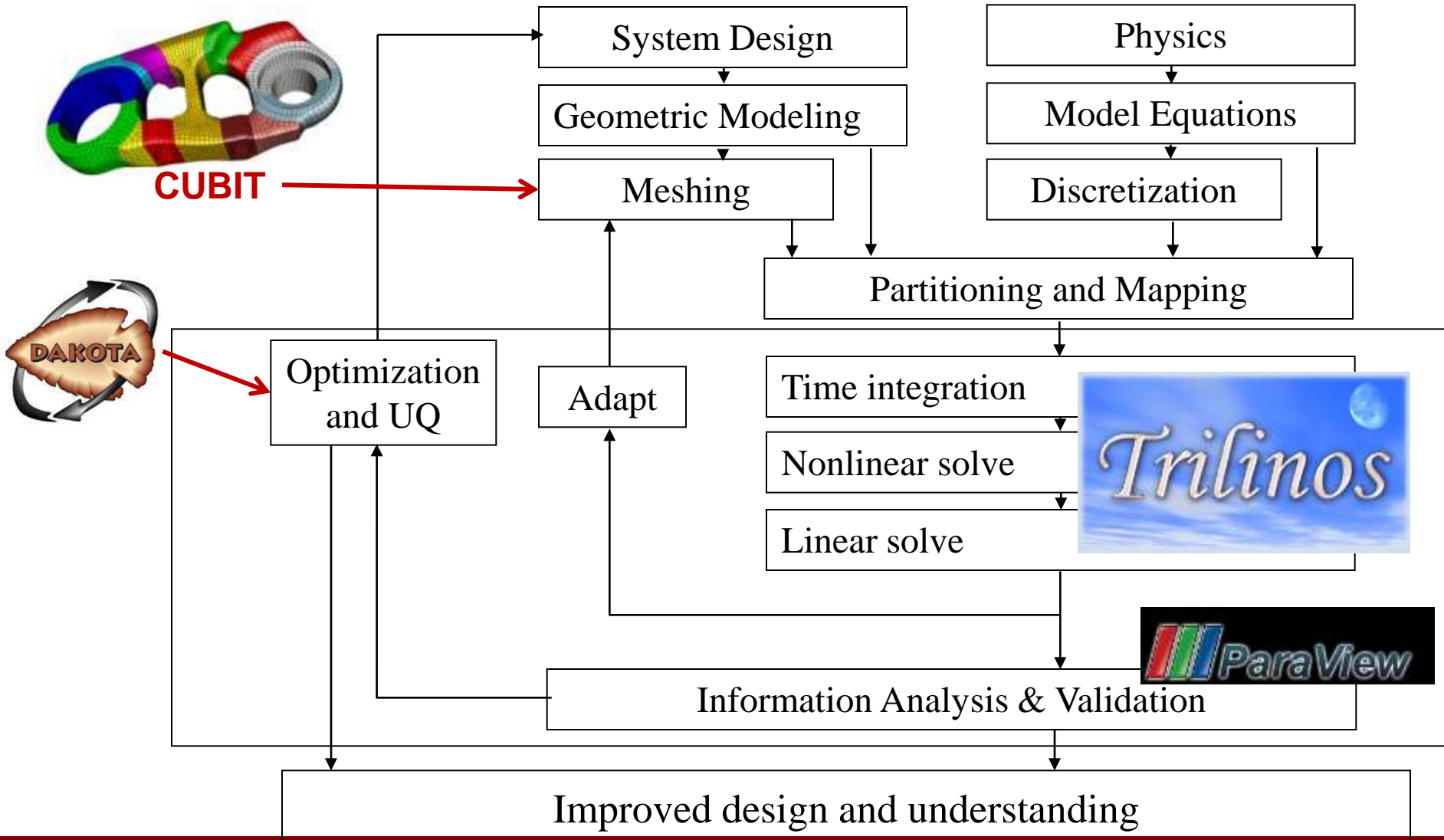
IBM Netezza



- Quantum computing

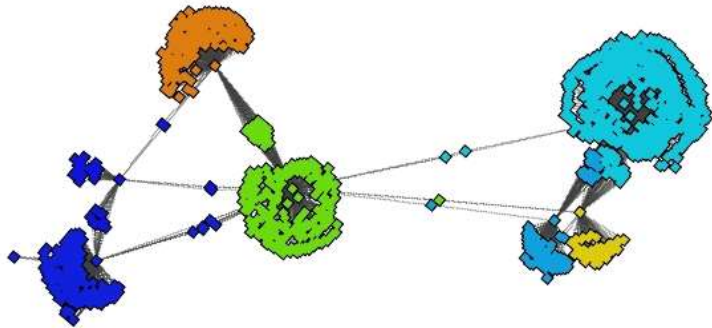


# Algorithm R&D Transforms Computational Modeling & Simulation

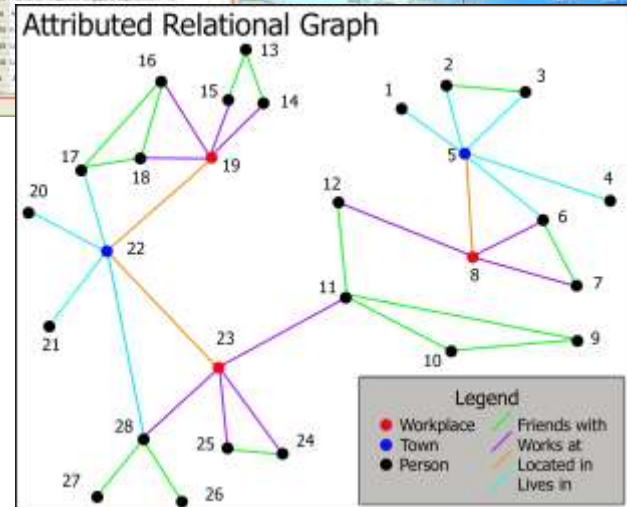
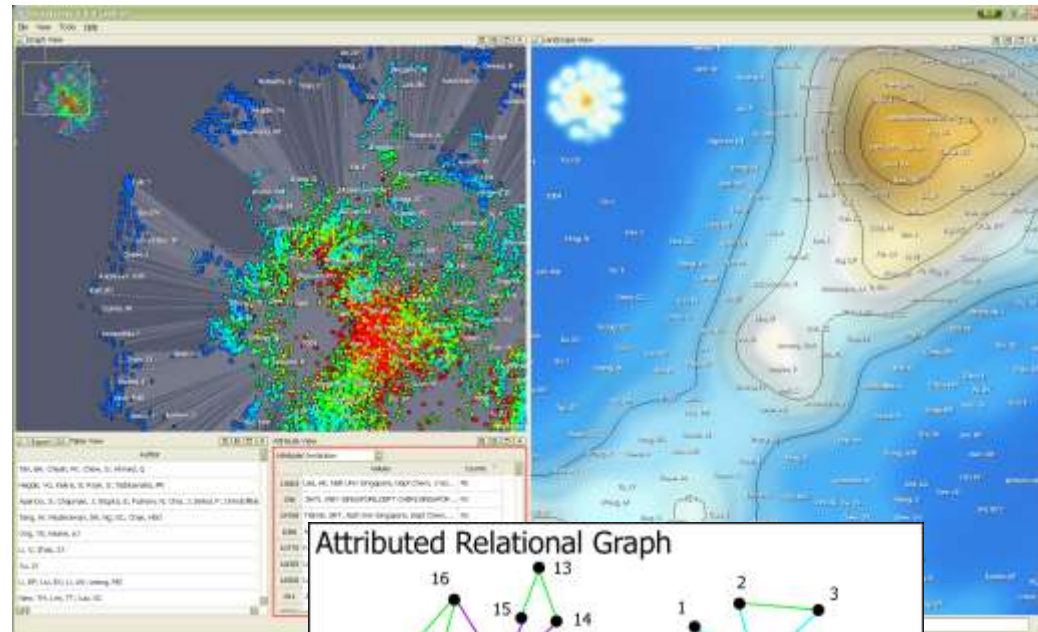
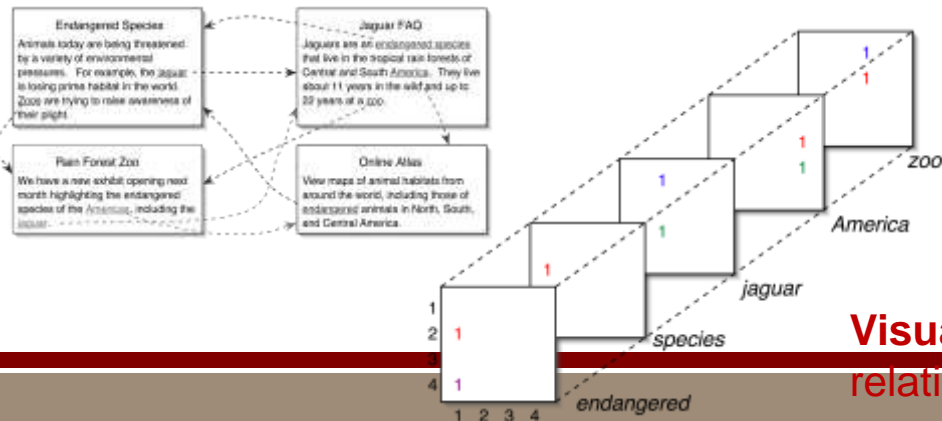


# Scalable Informatics and Visualization

**Advanced Graph Analysis:**  
Community Clustering focuses on a smaller subset of interest.



**Advanced linear algebra** and multi-way tensors to infer missing links and help recognize patterns



**Visual Informatics:** understand complex relationships; detect anomalies

# Example TEVA-SPOT for Optimization of Water Sensor Networks

**Goal:** design a sensor network with optimal sensor locations

## Motivating Applications:

- Detect contaminants in water networks
- Protect air networks in sensitive buildings
- Detect intruders in road networks
- Physical site security protection

## Discrete Mathematics:

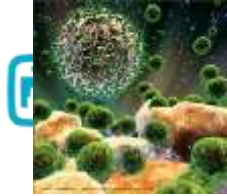
- Is used to solve large problems quickly
- Can determine optimality of the final solution
- Reduce problem size to solve on commodity computers

## Impact:

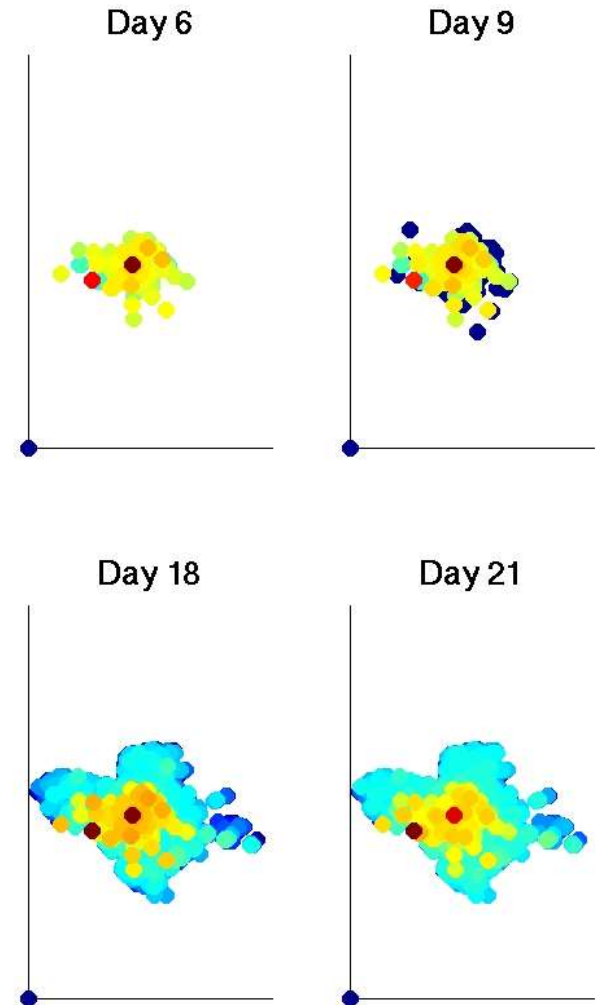
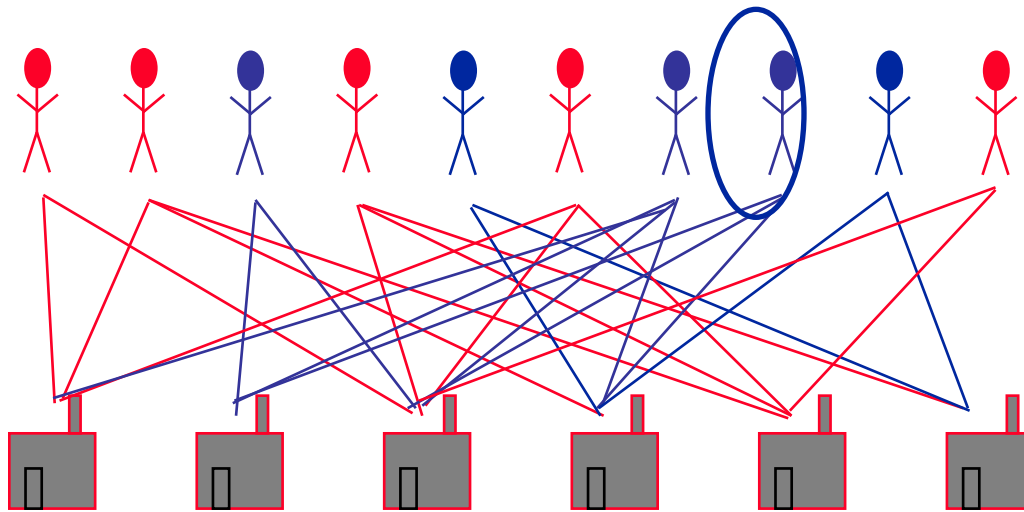
- Sensor placements designed for 8 large U.S. cities
- Sensors installed at 4 U.S. cities based on these designs
- Estimated fatalities from high consequence attacks on drinking water are decreased by a median of 48%
- The estimated value of lives lost due to high consequence attacks is reduced by a median of \$19 billion dollars



# Example: Agent/network-based Disease Model to Identify Outbreaks



*Determine source and magnitude of natural or terrorist disease outbreak, given patients presenting for treatment*

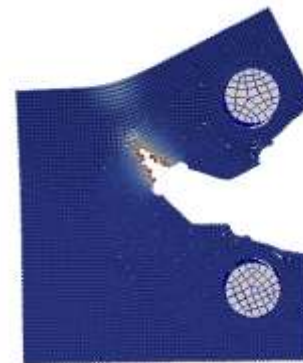


- Bayesian source inversion
- Graph theory for parallel partitioning and analysis on bipartite graph)
- Math biology for in-host disease models (1 transmission (epidemiology); discrete DEs
- Scalable parallelism via MPI for efficient simulations

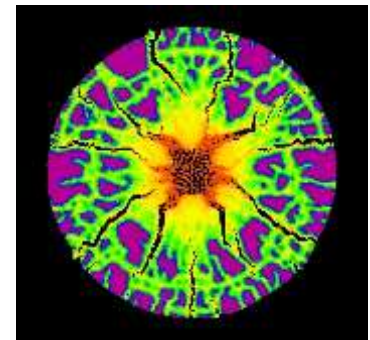


# Example: Peridynamics

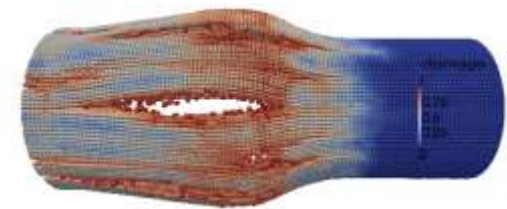
- What it is: a mathematical theory that unifies the mechanics of continuous media, cracks, and discrete particles.
- Current efforts:
  - Theory:
    - Coarse-graining & multiscale (NASA)
    - Nonlocal advection-diffusion (ASCR)
    - Material modeling (CSRf)
  - Code & algorithm development:
    - Peridigm (CSRf)
    - Sierra Mechanics (ASC)
  - Applications:
    - Composite material fracture (Boeing)
    - Ductile failure X-prize (ASC)
    - Rock blasting and drilling (ExxonMobil, Orica)
    - Fragmenting munitions (ARL)
    - Structural vulnerability (NRC)



Ductile failure



Rock fragmentation



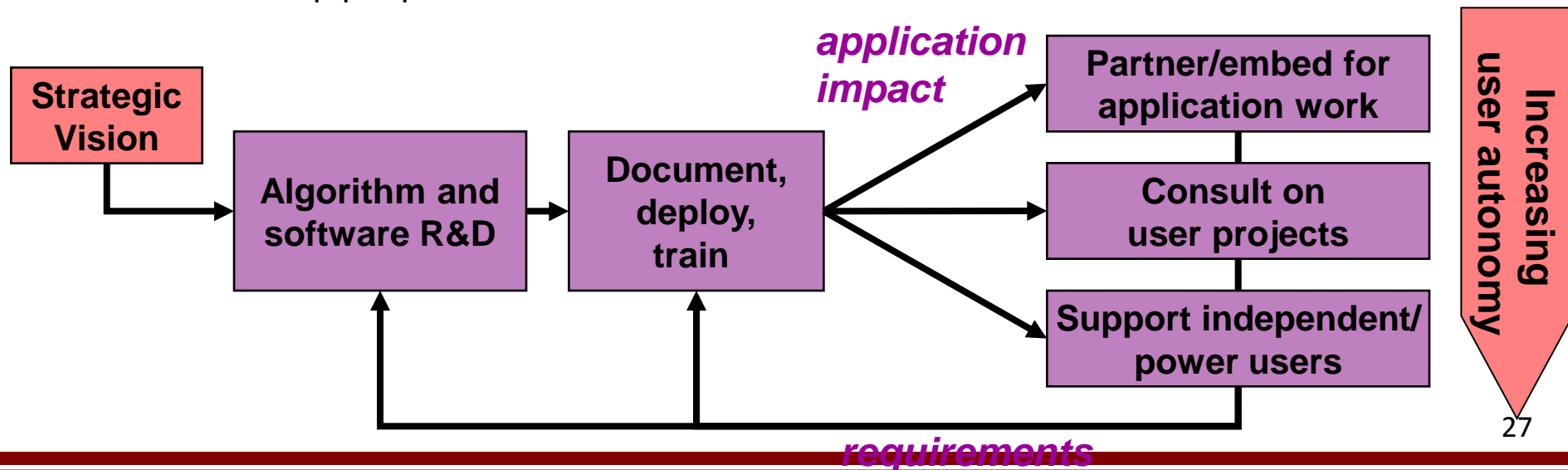
Shock loading of a metal cylinder

# My Work Life

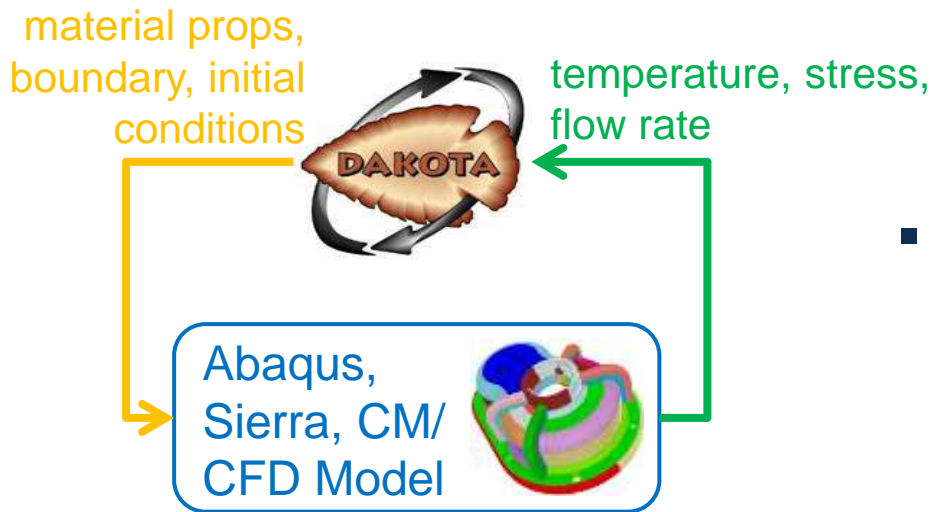
## Largely Centers on DAKOTA



- Algorithm and software development
  - Implement new algorithms and infrastructure in C++
  - Collaborate with labs and universities; publish important results
- Software project management
  - Manage priorities in team development environment
  - Deliver usable algorithms to customers; enable team do research
- Application to nuclear energy and beyond
  - Solve nuclear energy and other national security problems
  - Help people understand and use our software



# Dakota Supports Engineering Transformation



**Automate typical “parameter variation” studies with various advanced methods and a generic interface to your simulation.**

- **Simulation-based engineering design:** optimize computational prototypes
- **Risk analysis and quantification of margins and uncertainty (QMU):** assess the effect of parametric uncertainty on the probability of achieving desired system performance
- **Verification and validation:** automate mesh convergence or solver tolerance studies, generate ensembles of simulations and statistics to compare to experimental data

# DAKOTA in a Nutshell



*DAKOTA supports engineering transformation through advanced modeling & simulation. Adds value by answering science and engineering questions via iterative analysis of computational models:*

- Sensitivity: what are the crucial factors/parameters and how do they affect key metrics?
  - Which of  $m$ ,  $c$ , or  $k$ , is system performance most sensitive to?
- How safe, reliable, robust, or variable is my system?  
(*quantification of margins and uncertainty: QMU, UQ*)
  - If the damping  $c$  is known inexactly or it varies in manufacturing, how much variability will there be in the performance?
- What is the best performing design or control? (*optimization*)
  - What spring and damper will stabilize the car quickly without over-stressing it?
- What models and parameters best match experimental data?  
(*calibration*)
  - Given experimental data, calibrate  $m$ ,  $c$ , and  $k$  in the math model to the real world. Does it then predict unseen scenarios (validation)?



# Simulation Challenges DAKOTA Addresses

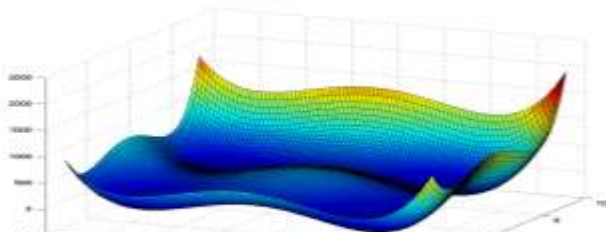
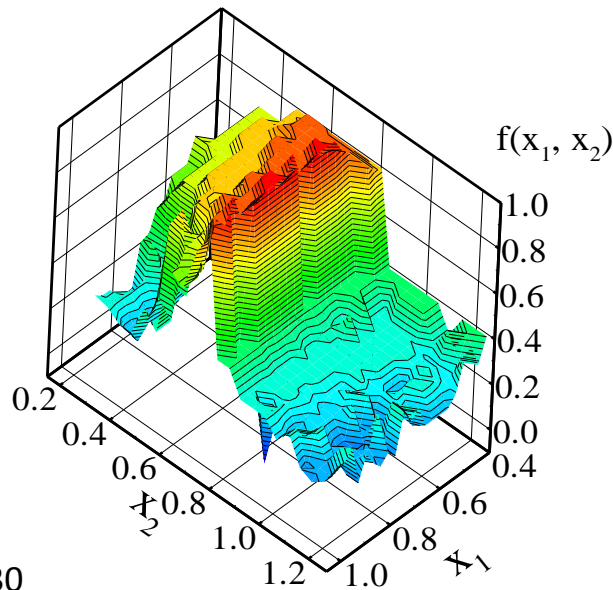
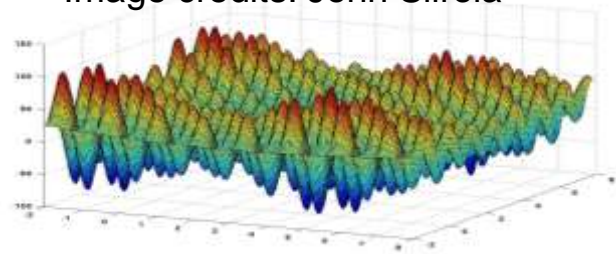


Image credits: John Siirola

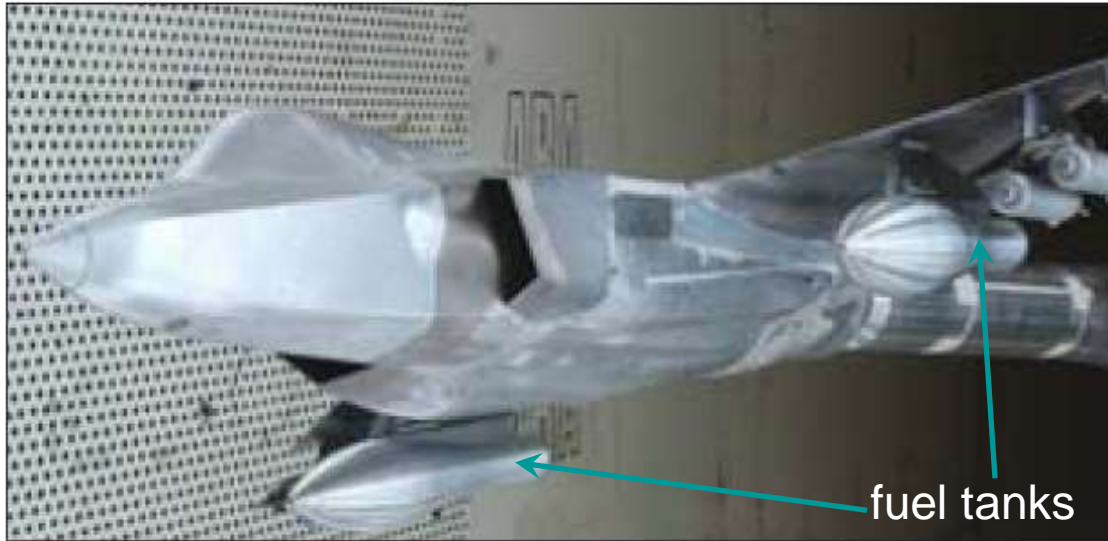


In science and engineering problems of interest, we typically have:

- no explicit function for  $f(x_1, x_2)$ 
  - can't leverage algebraic structure
- limited number of evaluations/samples
  - expensive to evaluate  $f(x_1, x_2)$   
(long runtime even on many processors)
  - simulation may fail (hidden constraints)
- noisy / non-smooth
  - can't reliably estimate derivatives
- local extrema, non-convex
  - globally optimal solutions challenging

*Considerable research has been done to mitigate these issues.*

# Optimization for Lockheed-Martin F-35 External Fuel Tank Design



*This wind tunnel model of F-35 features an optimized external fuel tank.*

*Appeared in Aerospace America*

## F-35: stealth and supersonic cruise

- ~ \$20 billion cost
- ~ 2600 aircraft (USN, USAF, USMC, UK & other foreign buyers)

## LM CFD code

- *Expensive*: 8 hrs/job on 16 processors
- Fluid flow around tank *highly sensitive* to shape changes

## Optimization Problem

- Goal: Minimize DRAG and YAW over possible values of shape parameters
- Shape parameters must be bounded to fit within prescribed area
- Design must be sufficiently safe and strong

*Objective Function*: quantity for which we are trying to find the extreme value over parameter ranges

*Parameters*: quantities to be varied

*Constraints*: conditions that cannot be violated

# Problem Formulation: Objectives and Constraints

## *Information with which to configure the solver:*

Minimize:  $f(x_1, \dots, x_N)$

***Objective function(s)\****

Subject to:  $g_{LB} \leq g(x) \leq g_{UB}$   
 $h(x) = h_E$

***Nonlinear inequality constraints***

***Nonlinear equality constraints***

*(Metrics above are typically implicit: computed  
by/extracted from a simulation code)*

*(Algebraic metrics below are typically specified  
directly to an optimization solver)*

$A_I x \leq b_I$

***Linear inequality constraints***

$A_E x = b_E$

***Linear equality constraints***

$x_{LB} \leq x \leq x_{UB}$

***Bound constraints***

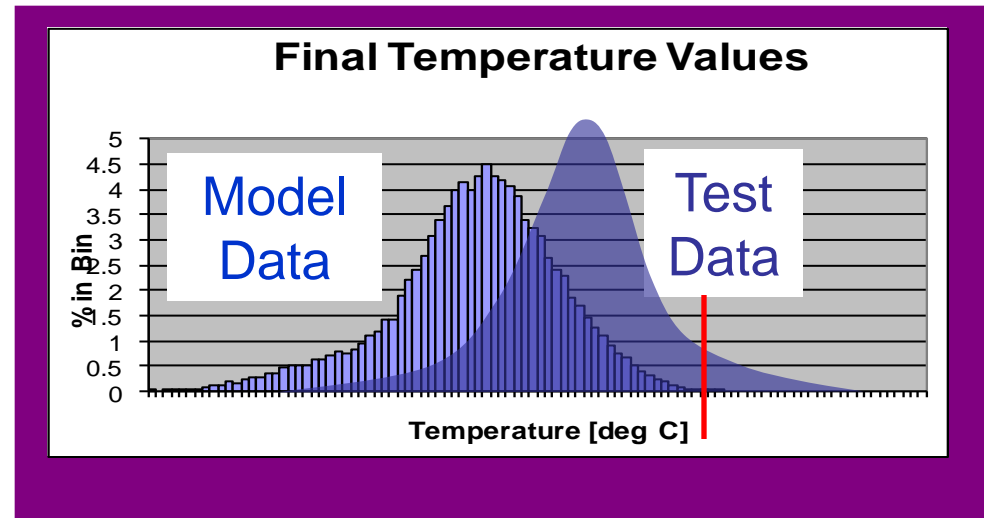
***\* In practice, multiple  $f$ -values can comprise the objective function (“multi-objective optimization”), and there can be multiple constraints of each type.***

# Uncertainty:

“But I wrote down and solved the equations!”

## A few uncertainties affecting computational model output/results:

- physics/science parameters
- statistical variation, inherent randomness
- model form / accuracy
- material properties
- manufacturing quality
- operating environment, interference
- initial, boundary conditions; forcing
- geometry / structure / connectivity
- experimental error (measurement error, measurement bias)
- numerical accuracy (mesh, solvers); approximation error
- human reliability, subjective judgment, linguistic imprecision

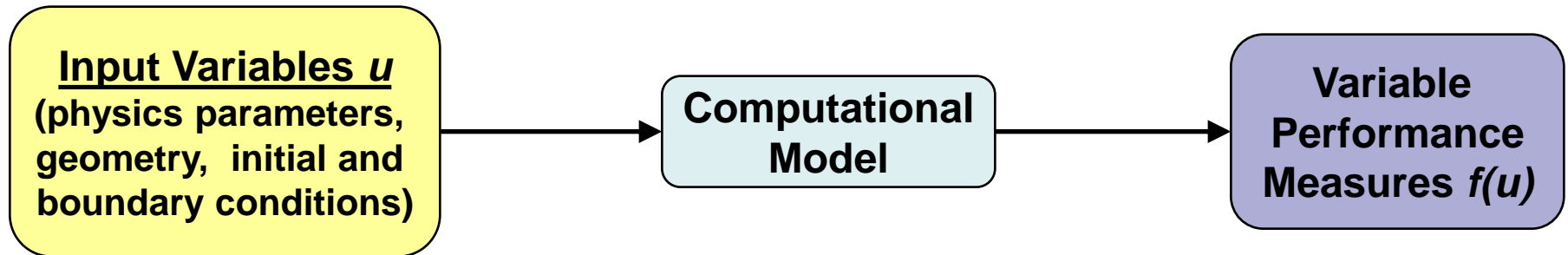


The effect of these on model outputs should be integral to an analyst's deliverable: *best estimate PLUS uncertainty!*



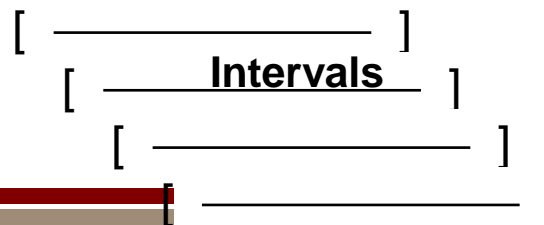
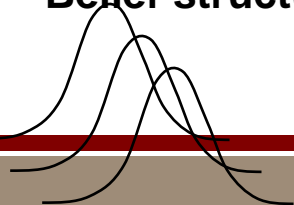
# Mechanics of (Parametric) Uncertainty Quantification

- Identify and characterize uncertain variables (may not be normal, uniform)
- *Forward propagate: quantify the effect that (potentially correlated) uncertain (nondeterministic) input variables have on model output:*



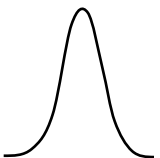
## Uncertainties on inputs

- Parameterized distributions: normal, uniform, gumbel, etc.
- Means, standard deviations
- PDF, CDF from data
- Intervals
- Belief structures



## Uncertainties on outputs

- Means, standard deviations
- Probabilities
- Reliabilities
- PDF, CDF
- Intervals
- Belief, plausibility

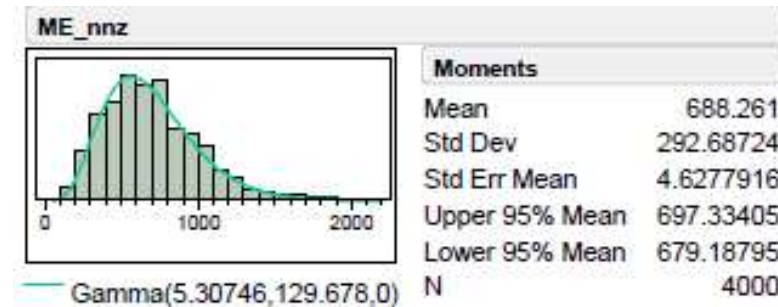
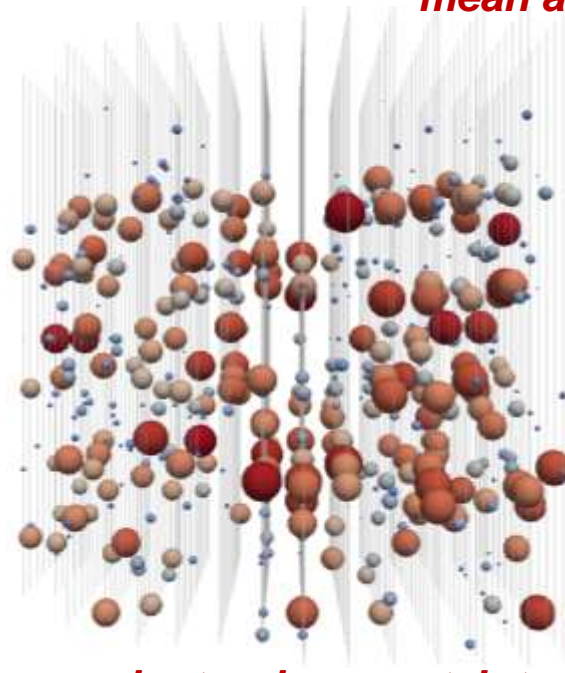
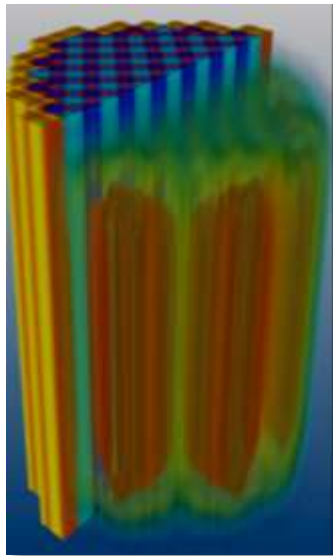


# Uncertainty in Boiling Rate for Nuclear Reactor Quarter Core

*DAKOTA UQ coupled to  
VIPRE-W thermal-hydraulics  
code that predicts boiling*

Method	ME_nnz		ME_meannz		ME_max	
	Mean	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev
LHS (40)	651.225	297.039	127.836	27.723	361.204	55.862
LHS (400)	647.33	286.146	127.796	25.779	361.581	51.874
LHS (4000)	688.261	292.687	129.175	25.450	364.317	50.884
PCE (Θ(2))	687.875	288.140	129.151	25.7015	364.366	50.315
PCE (Θ(3))	688.083	292.974	129.231	25.3989	364.310	50.869
PCE (Θ(4))	688.099	292.808	129.213	25.4491	364.313	50.872

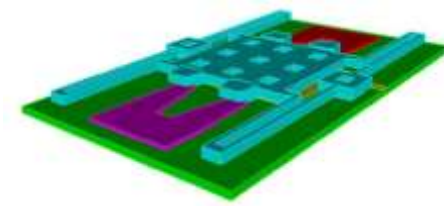
*mean and standard deviation of key metrics*



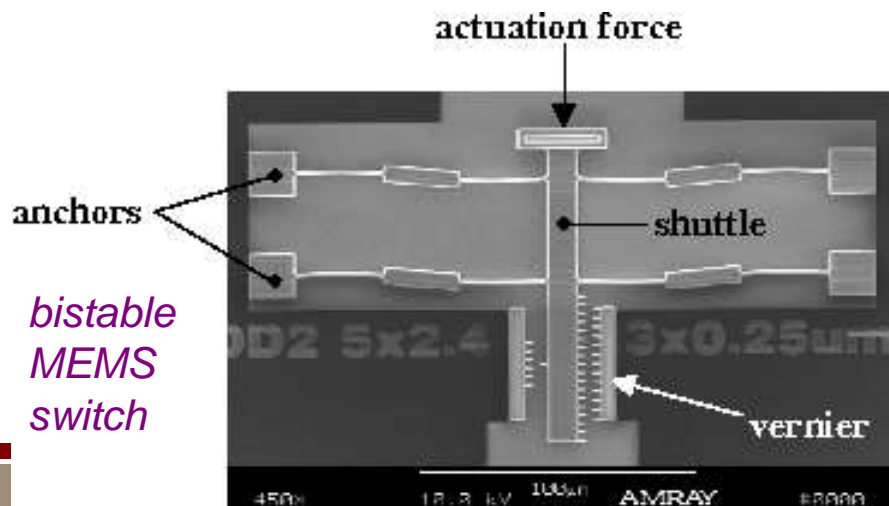
*normally distributed inputs need  
not give rise to normal outputs...*

*anisotropic uncertainty  
distribution in boiling rate  
throughout quarter core model*

# Shape Optimization of Compliant MEMS



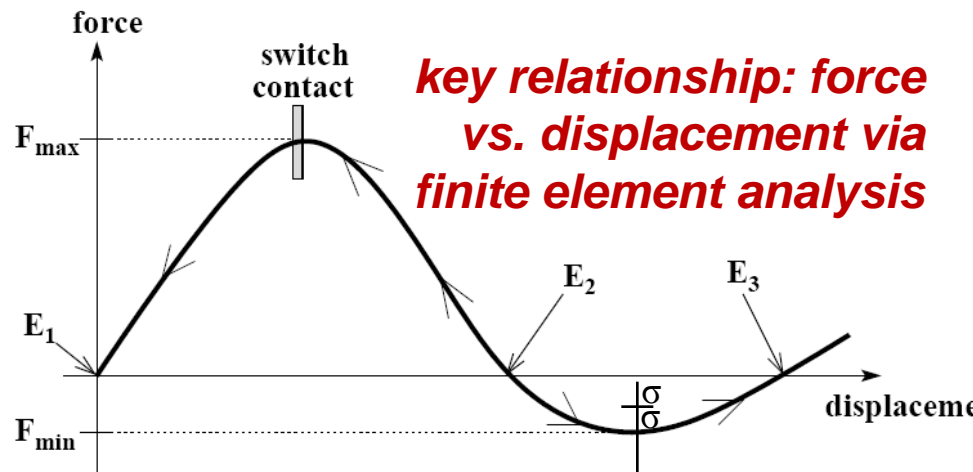
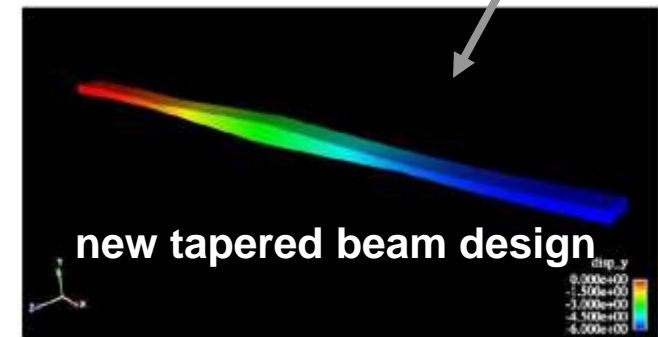
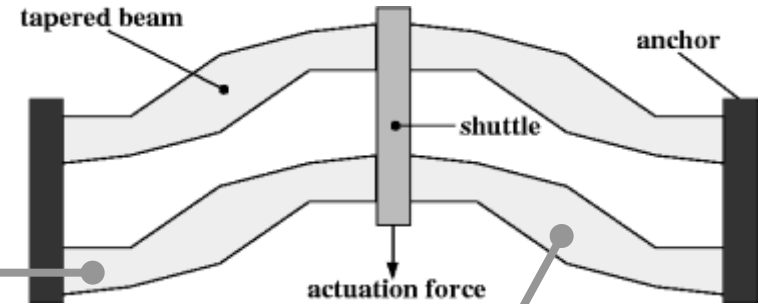
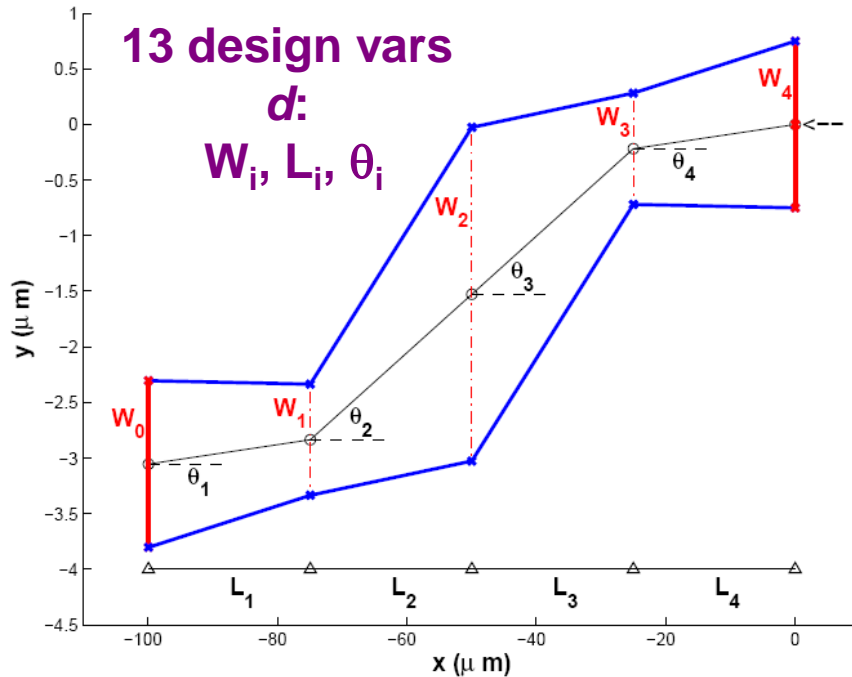
- **Micro-electromechanical system (MEMS)**: typically made from silicon, polymers, or metals; used as micro-scale sensors, actuators, switches, and machines
- **MEMS designs are subject to substantial variability** and lack historical knowledge base. Materials and micromachining, photo lithography, etching processes all yield uncertainty.
- Resulting part yields can be low or have poor cycle durability
- **Goal: shape optimize finite element mechanics model of bistable switch**
  - **Achieve prescribed reliability** in actuation force
  - Minimize sensitivity to uncertainties (**robustness**)



*uncertainties to be considered  
(edge bias and residual stress)*

variable	mean	std. dev.	distribution
$\Delta w$	$-0.2 \mu m$	0.08	normal
$S_r$	-11 Mpa	4.13	normal

# MEMS Switch Design: Geometry Optimization



## Typical design specifications:

- actuation force  $F_{\min}$  reliably 5  $\mu\text{N}$
- bistable ( $F_{\max} > 0, F_{\min} < 0$ )
- maximum force:  $50 < F_{\max} < 150$
- equilibrium  $E2 < 8 \mu\text{m}$
- maximum stress  $< 1200 \text{ MPa}$



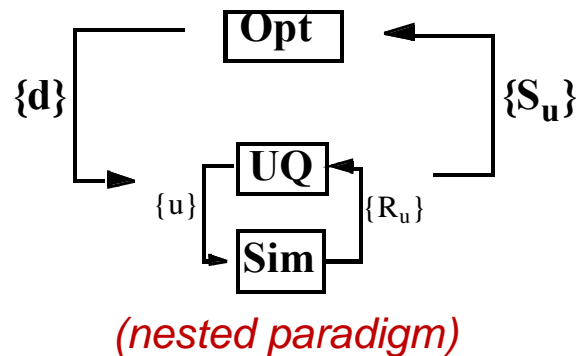
# Optimization Under Uncertainty

## Design to be Robust and Reliable

Rather than design and then post-process to evaluate uncertainty...

actively design optimize while accounting for uncertainty/reliability metrics

$s_u(d)$ , e.g., mean, variance, reliability, probability:

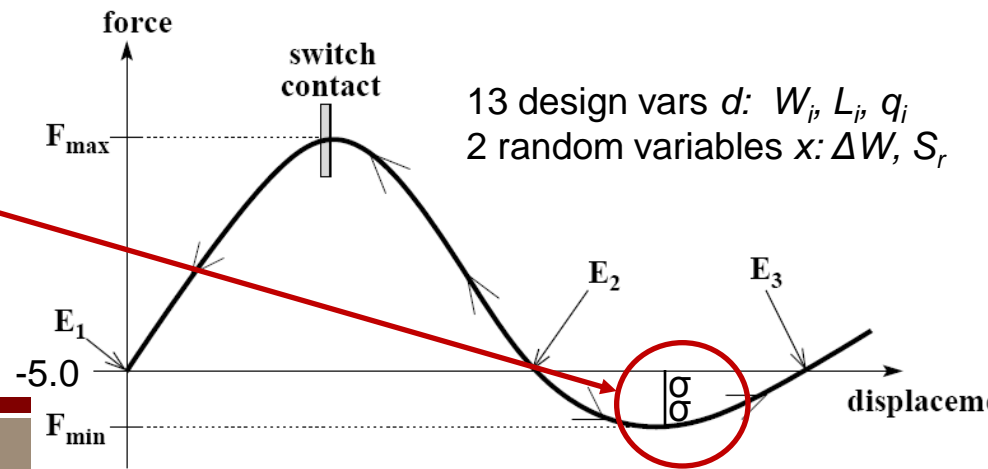


$$\begin{aligned}
 \min \quad & f(d) + W s_u(d) \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & g_l \leq g(d) \leq g_u \\
 & h(d) = h_t \\
 & d_l \leq d \leq d_u \\
 & a_l \leq A_i s_u(d) \leq a_u \\
 & A_e s_u(d) = a_t
 \end{aligned}$$

Bistable switch problem formulation (Reliability-Based Design Optimization):

simultaneously reliable and robust designs

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad & E[F_{min}(d, x)] \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & 2 \leq \beta_{ccdf}(d) \\
 & 50 \leq E[F_{max}(d, x)] \leq 150 \\
 & E[E_2(d, x)] \leq 8 \\
 & E[S_{max}(d, x)] \leq 3000
 \end{aligned}$$



# Dakota Research Thrusts

- Efficient simulation-based SA, OPT, UQ
- Surrogate-based optimization and UQ
- Advanced aleatory and epistemic UQ methods
- Effective use of HPC resources
- Hybrid algorithms combining the above for robustness, efficiency

# Scientific Computing Research at Sandia Helps Solve National Security Problems



*Multidisciplinary research and application is critical for Sandia's mission success.*

## Background we seek:

- Mathematics, including discrete, statistics and probability
- Engineering / disciplinary science
- Computer science, algorithms, and programming skills

## Ways to Contribute:

- New theories
- Analytic solutions/proofs
- Computational methods, iterative algorithms
- Software implementations
- Direct application to science and engineering problems
- Validation with experimental data

• **Contact me with any questions: [briadam@sandia.gov](mailto:briadam@sandia.gov)**

# Sandia National Laboratories: Programs for Employment



<http://www.sandia.gov/careers>

- Coop Program
- Student Internship Program (SIP)
  - Year-round / summer
- Post Doctoral Fellowship
- Regular Hire (BS, MS, and PhD)
  - Special Masters Program (SMP)
  - Doctoral Sciences Program (DSP)
- Minimum GPA Requirements:
  - BS – 3.2 - 3.5 +
  - MS / PhD – 3.5 +

46 NCSU Alumni at  
Sandia today, including  
Math/Stat/CS:

- Brian Adams (PhD)
- Cedric Carter (BS)
- Todd Coffey (PhD)
- Steven Elliot (BS)
- Jason Jarosz (MS)
- Jordan Massad (PhD)