



Exceptional service in the national interest

# Artificial Intelligence for Scientific and High Performance Computing at Sandia



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PURPOSE STATEMENT  
DEFINES WHAT WE DO

Sandia develops  
advanced technologies  
to ensure global peace







# NUCLEAR DETERRENCE

## Responsibilities form a critical mandate

### Warhead systems engineering & integration



### Design agency for nonnuclear components

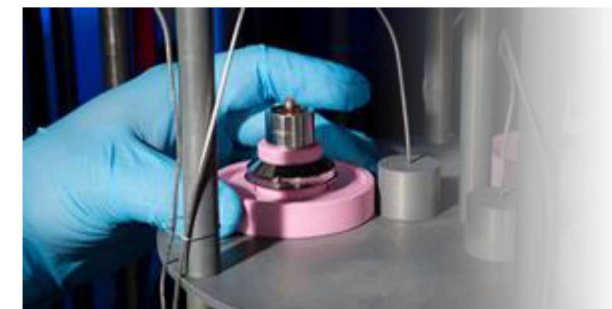
- Gas transfer systems
- Radar
- Safety systems
- Arming, fuzing & firing systems
- Neutron generators



### Multidisciplinary capabilities

Required for design, qualification, production, surveillance, computation/experimentation

- Major environmental test facilities & diagnostics
- Materials sciences
- Light-initiated high explosives
- Computational analytics



### Production agency

- Neutron generators
- Sandia external production
- Microelectronics
- Thermal battery backup

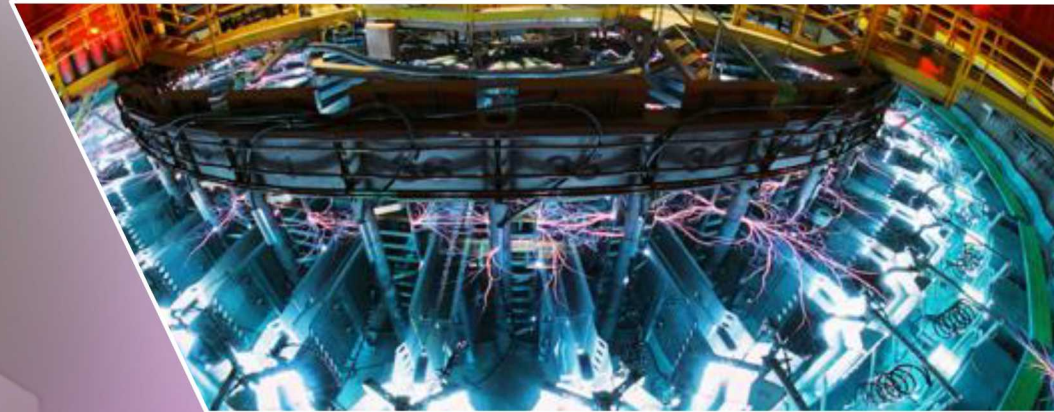
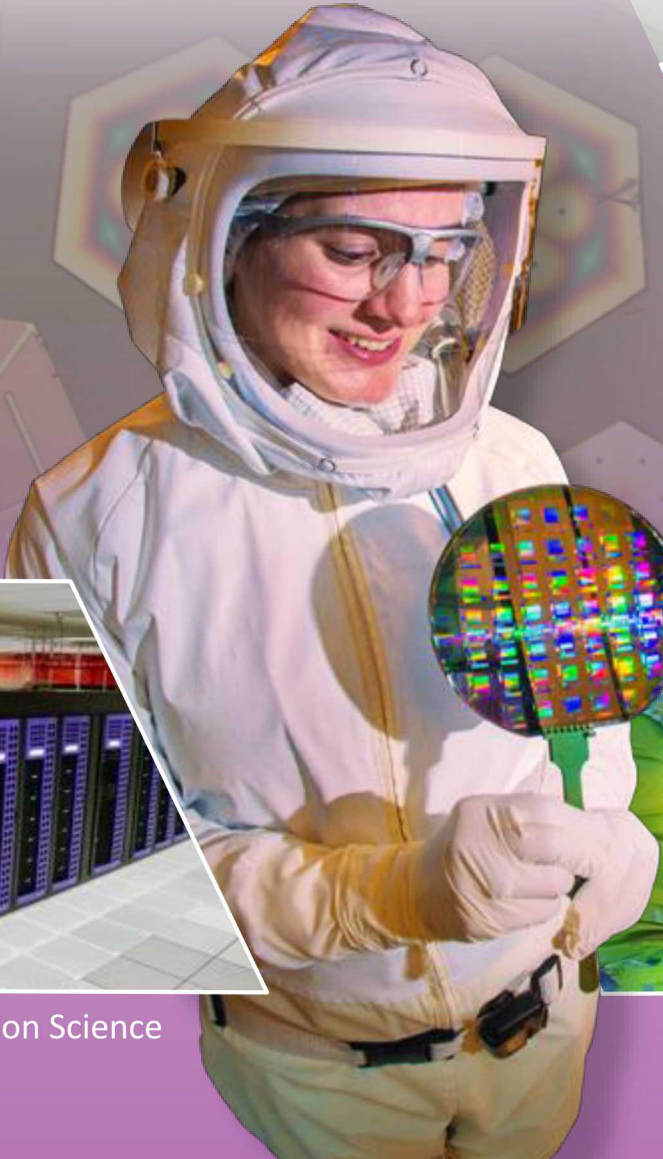




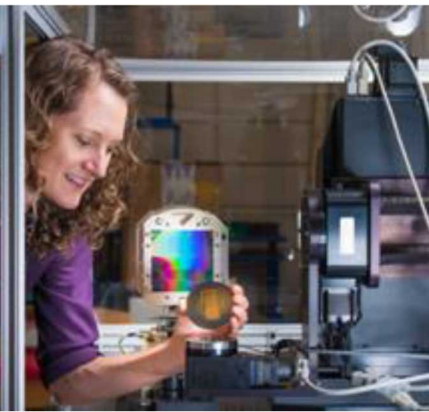
# ADVANCED SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Research Foundations play an integral role in mission delivery

Nanodevices & Microsystems



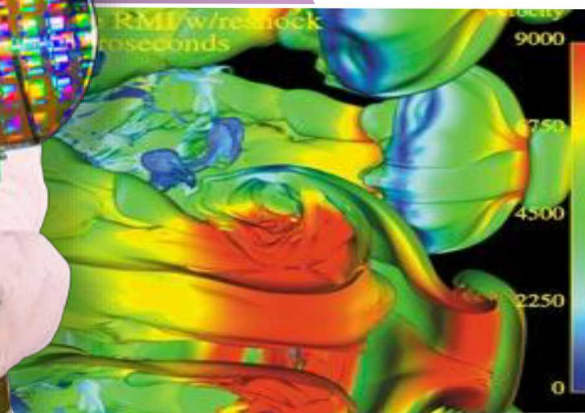
Radiation Effects & High Energy Density Science



Materials Science



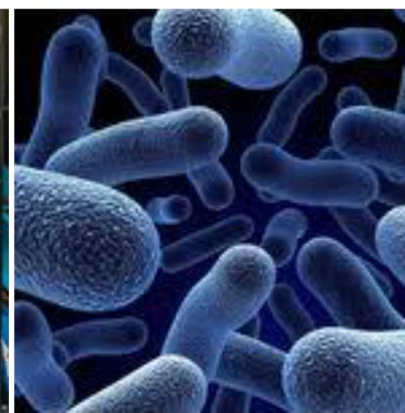
Computing & Information Science



Engineering Science



Geoscience



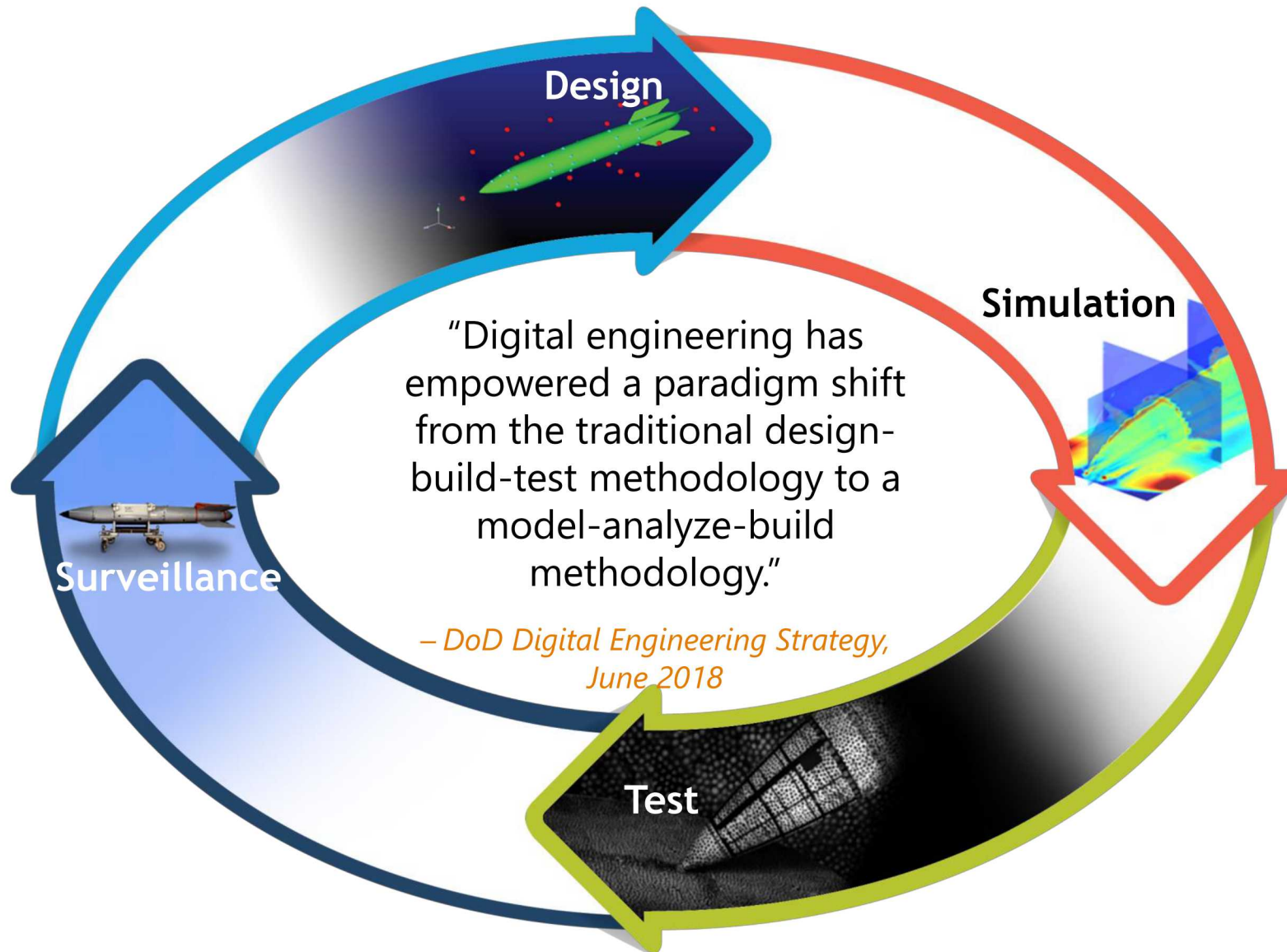
Bioscience





# A Digital Engineering Strategy will Enable Transformational Goals

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## Transformative Goals



Reduce the design cycle time



Increased production throughput



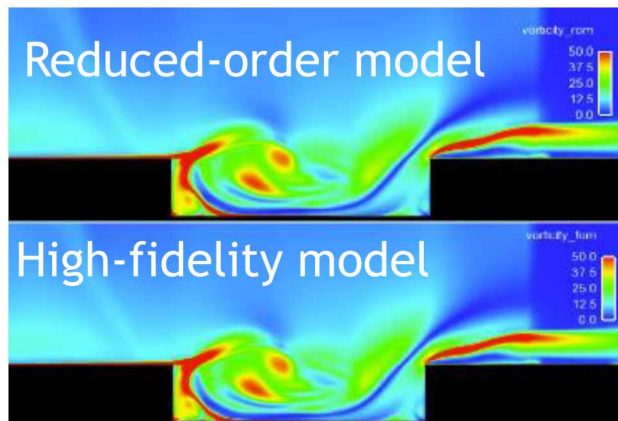
Re-think the surveillance program for the 21<sup>st</sup> century



# Machine Learning will Enable Efficiencies

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## Faster Reduced Order Models

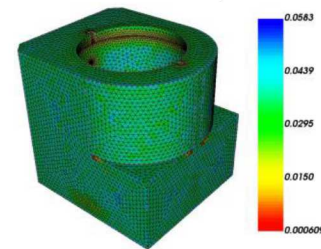


Turbulent flow vorticity field

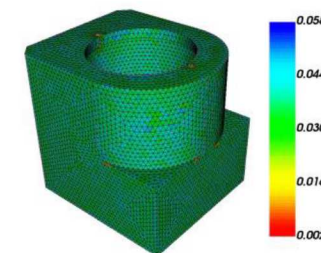
- Runtimes are 100-1000 times faster and are only 1% less accurate than the high-fidelity simulations
- Can predict errors with validated statistical properties

## Automated Meshing of Components

Before ML = 1,45M tets



After ML = 215K tets



- ML techniques rank geometry-modification operations (defeaturing) by their likelihood of yielding a meshable model
- Reducing the number of tetrahedrons, reduces the execution time of the simulation

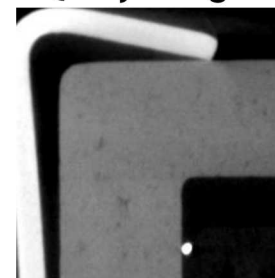
## Diagnosing HPC Performance Variation



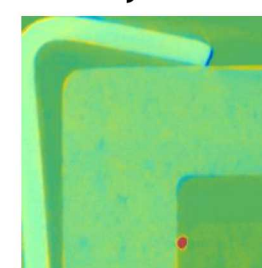
- ML algorithm based on CPU, memory, and network usage data outperforms existing methods
- Storage overhead reduced to less than 10%
- Computation overhead below 1% of a single core

## Discovering Anomalies in High-Reliability Components

Query image



Anomaly detection



X-Ray CT scan of electronic component with defect

- Deep learning model finds anomalies in seconds that would take a human hours to find
- Entirely unsupervised anomaly detection





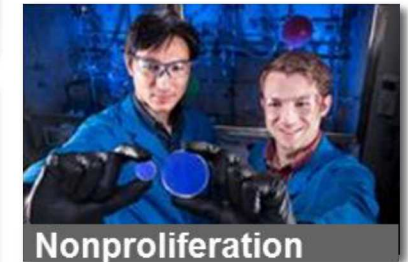
# But is AI Trustworthy Enough for High Consequence National Security Applications?

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## Sandia's Unique Mission Needs

- **High-confidence decisions**
  - Typically designing to “Five 9’s” of reliability
  - Need to assure trust in our solutions
  - Need to understand uncertainty of decisions
  - Algorithms need to be explainable
- **Applications may consist of large volumes of simulation data but often only small volumes of experimental data**
  - First principles physics may be known, or not
  - Multiple data sources – measured, observed and simulated – with limited, unknown, or no ground truth (no labeling and little to no positives).
- **Some Sandia national security missions require decisions to be made in a very short time frame (milliseconds to minutes) while other missions have longer time frames (hours to days)**
- **Need to account for potential adversarial issues**





# Sandia's 5-Year Trusted AI Research Initiative

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Sandia is investing in the following research:

- **Mathematical foundations of AI/ML** – **mathematically rigorous** approaches **to understand high-consequence decisions**
- **AI/ML Uncertainty Quantification** – **uncertainty propagation and quantification at all stages** of the modeling and learning process (data uncertainties, labeling uncertainty, model selection, meta-parameter uncertainty, ...).
- **Domain-Informed AI/ML** – mathematically rigorous and principled frameworks for **incorporating physics, engineering, and/or human expertise** into the AI/ML workflow; as well as **rigorous approaches to combine data from physical measurement** with predictive computational models.
- **AI/ML with Limited or Poor-Quality Data** – techniques that **enable learning from small, sparse, incomplete, noisy, unknown pedigree, or unlabeled datasets** Methods that enable extrapolation from previously observed data or can identify never-before seen patterns, rare events, or mathematical relationships.
- **Adversarial AI/ML** – understanding of mechanisms by which an adversary can tamper with data streams to commit obfuscation or sabotage. **Learning techniques to counter these attacks** that identify potential subversions or are **resilient to tampering**





# Summary



- Machine learning will provide new capabilities for scientific and engineering applications
  - Reduced order surrogate models for scientific/engineering problems
  - For agility of application workflows (automating processes)
  - Ability to identify anomalies and regions of interest in inspection and surveillance data
  - Correlating and certifying simulation and experimental results
  - As a supplement for physics models, ML might help us learn what is wrong/missing in physics models and aid in experimental design
- Machine learning will provide new capabilities for HPC system administrators, facilities, and dev-ops
  - Help model complex behaviors (e.g., failures, degradation, energy)
  - Automate/adapt usage to comply with more complex policy (e.g., energy consumption)
- However, trusted AI research is needed to apply AI to high consequence national security applications, and Sandia is starting a new initiative in this area.



The image features a dark blue background filled with a complex network of white lines and dots, resembling a circuit board or a neural network. In the center, a translucent, wireframe model of a human brain is visible. Overlaid on the brain is the word "Questions?" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The entire central composition is framed by a thick, bright blue border.

**Questions?**