



U.S. AIR FORCE



AFRL

High-Speed Aerodynamics Portfolio 12th Ablation Workshop

Dr. Sarah Popkin

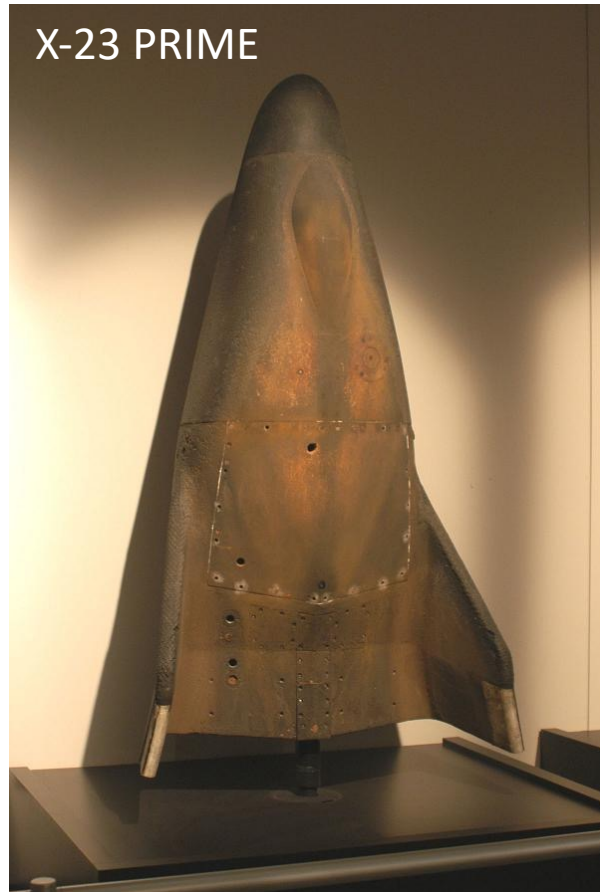
Program Officer, Air Force Office of Scientific Research

9 Nov 2022

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Distribution A: Approved for public release. Distribution Unlimited AFRL-2021-1174

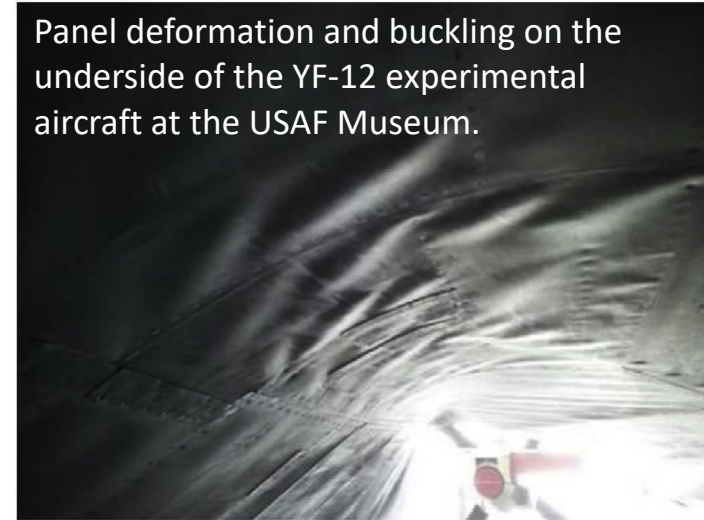
Need for Hypersonic Science



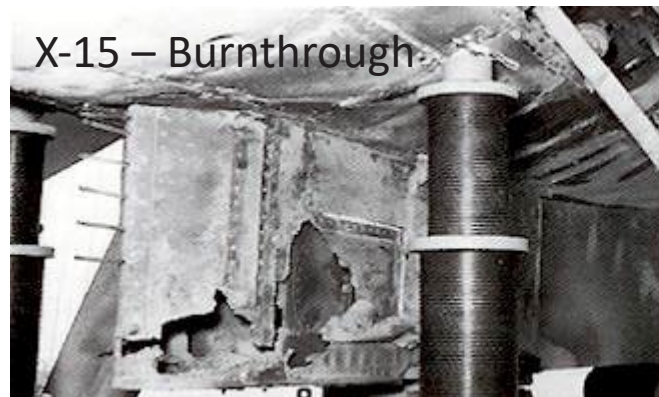
<https://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/Visit/Museum-Exhibits/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/195893/sv-5d-prime-lifting-body/>

THE AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY

Panel deformation and buckling on the underside of the YF-12 experimental aircraft at the USAF Museum.



“Exploring the response of a thin, flexible panel to shock-turbulent boundary-layer interactions,” Journal of Sound and Vibration, Vol. 443, January 2019, pp. 74-89



http://www.ipmsstockholm.org/magazine/2004/03/images/x15_08.jpg



Air Force 2030 Science and Technology Strategy

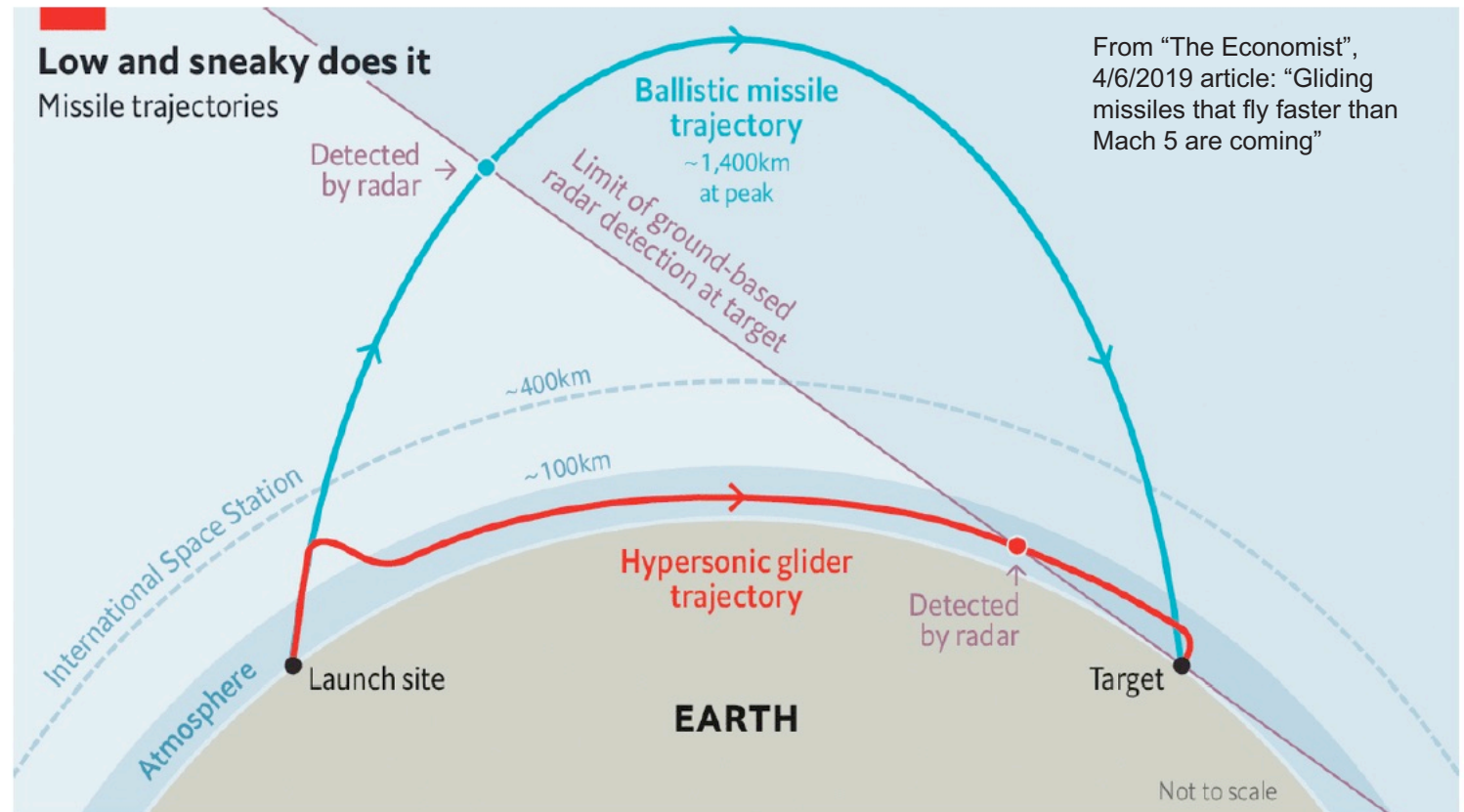


SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY

STRENGTHENING USAF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR 2030 AND BEYOND



APRIL 2019



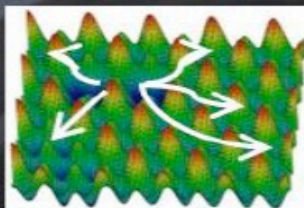
Recent global surge in hypersonics strongly motivates fundamental understanding



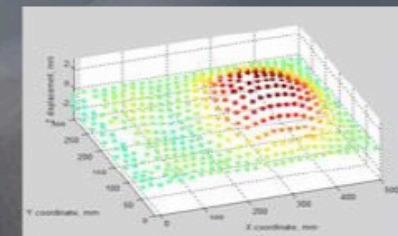
High Speed Aerodynamics (Popkin)



Combustion & Energy (Li)



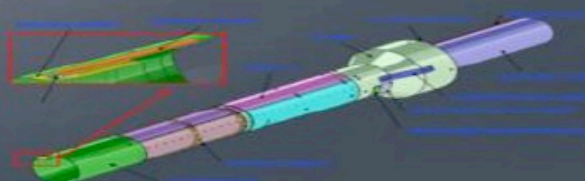
Structural (Sayir)



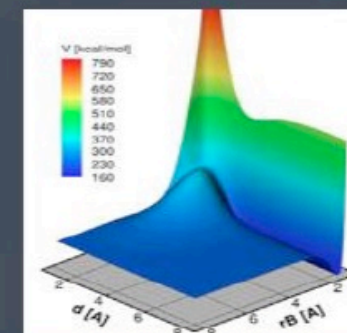
Materials (Sayir/Pan)



Test Science (Pokines)



Chemistry (Berman)





High-Speed Aerodynamics Portfolio

AFRL

Support scientific foundation for uniquely high-speed aerodynamic and aerothermodynamic phenomenology

Provide forward leaning, thought leadership to emplace foundational discovery through collaborations, publications and workforce development



LOCKHEED MARTIN



Raytheon



Sandia National Laboratories



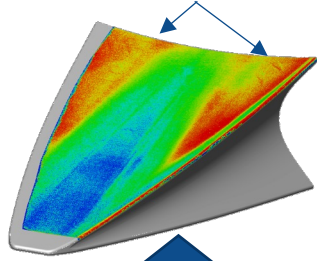
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory



Boundary Layer Physics

- Laminar, transitional and turbulent physics
- Drives vehicle design due to heating, drag and flap effectiveness

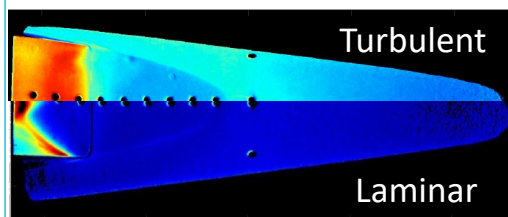
Transition heating



Atmospheric Science

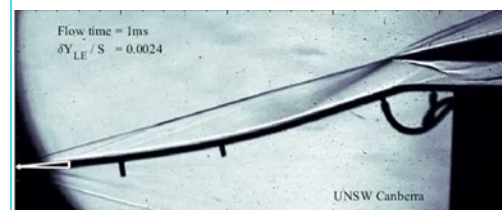
Shock/Boundary Layer Interactions

- Off-nominal boundary layer behavior in the presence of shocks
- Control surface effectiveness and heating



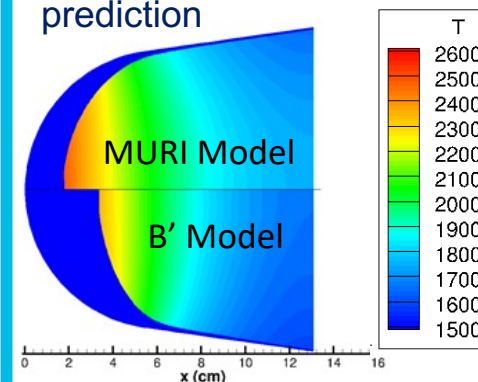
Fluid-Structure Interactions

- Coupled fluid motion with structural vibration
- Vehicle fatigue prediction and coupled impact on boundary layer



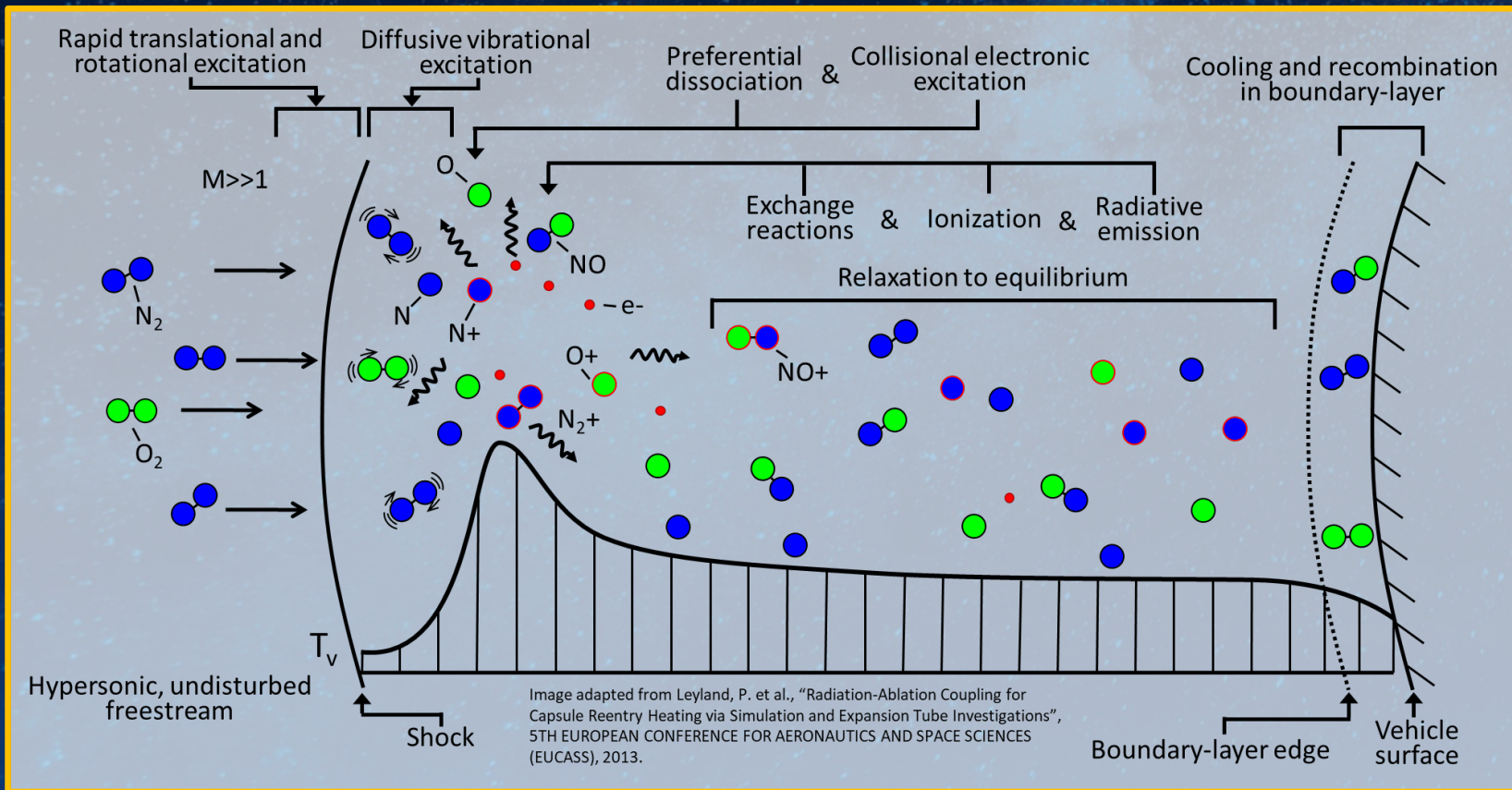
Non-Equilibrium Flows

- Dynamic, reactive chemistry when air is ripped apart
- Surface chemistry prediction



Cultivate fundamental science across multiple discipline areas to benefit hypersonic system development

Non-Equilibrium Effects



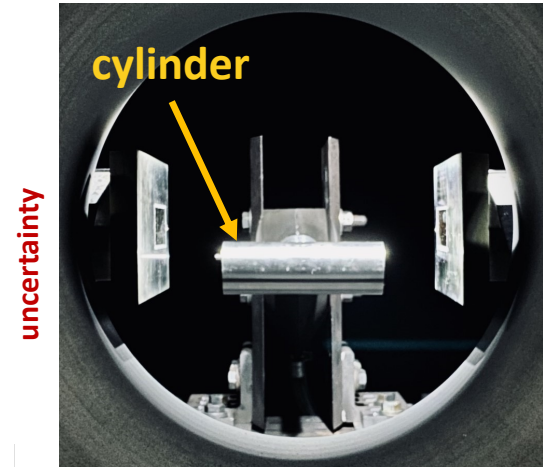
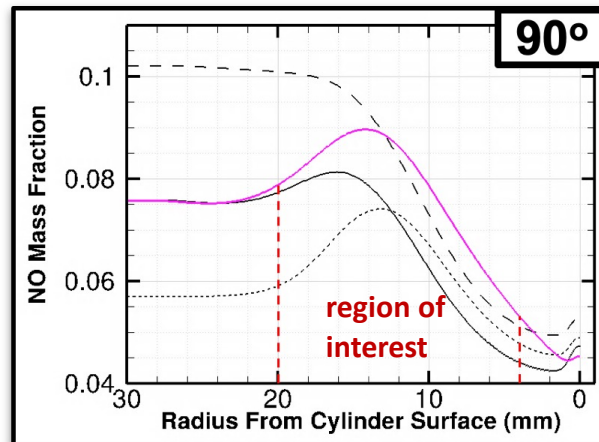
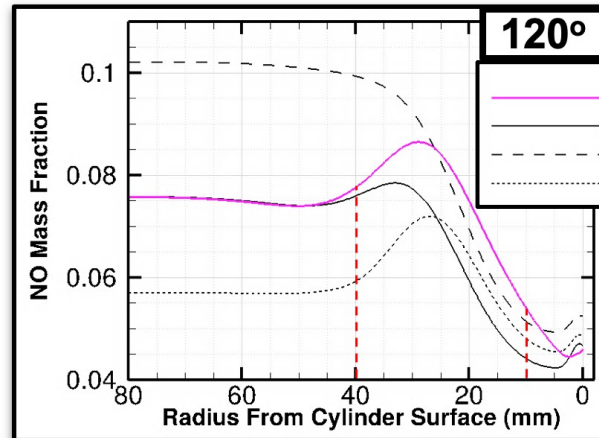
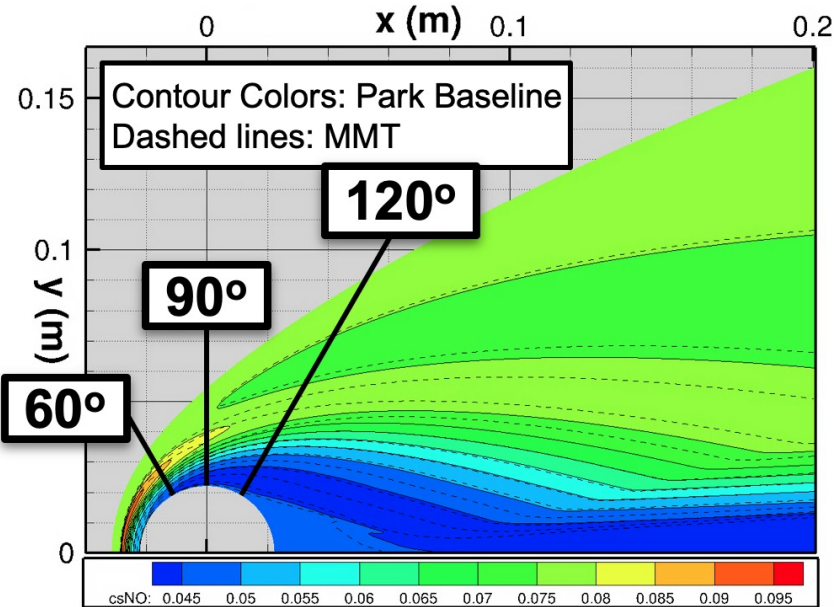
https://www.army.mil/article/169555/smdc_history_nike_x_reentry_measurement_program

Problem: Today's SOA NE models need experimental validation

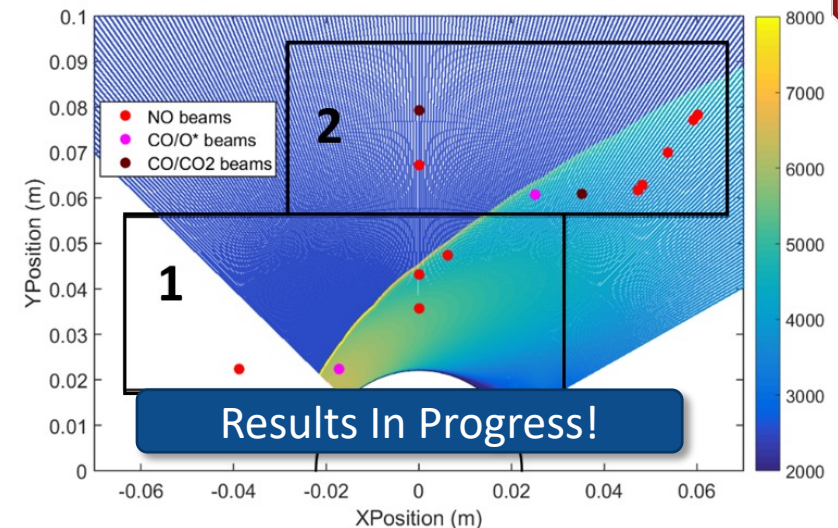
Approach: Identify regions that maximize difference between models, yet minimize uncertainty originating from the freestream

Future: Provide **validated** non-equilibrium model (MMT) to hypersonics community

US3D Cylinder Simulations (ρ_{NO})



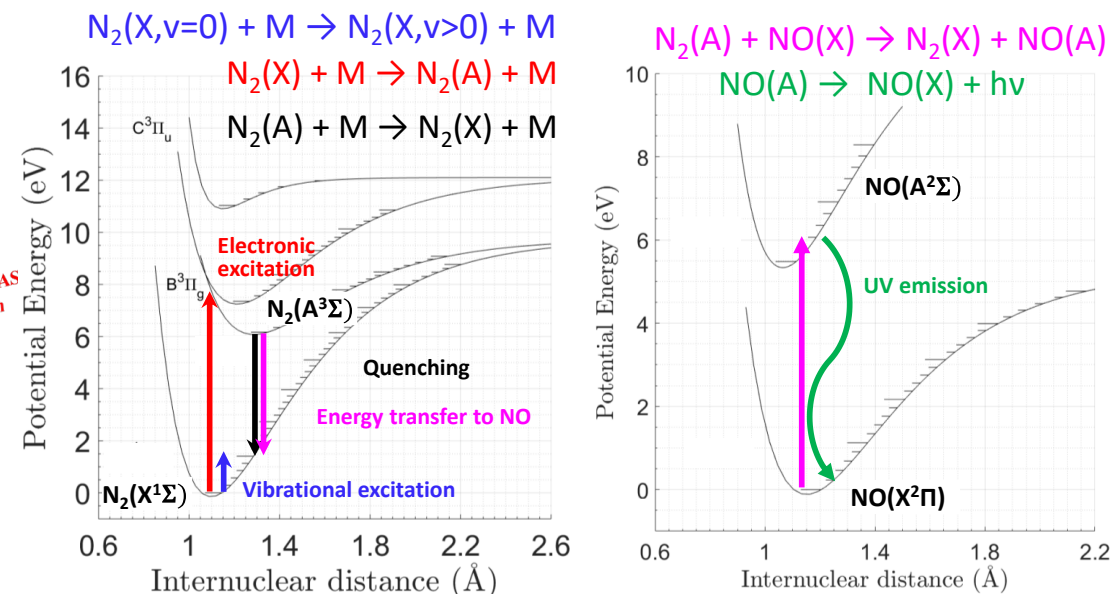
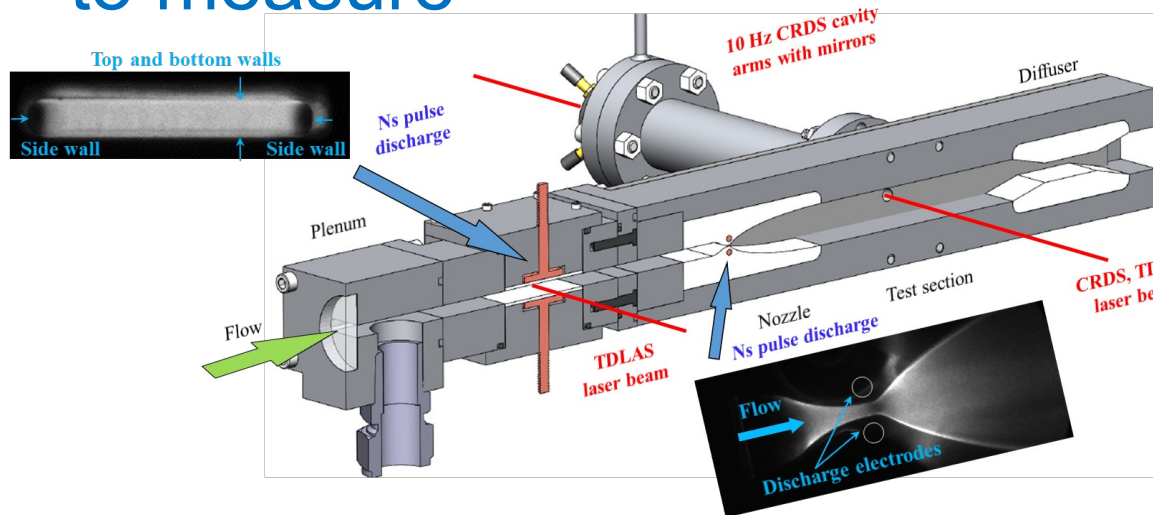
uncertainty



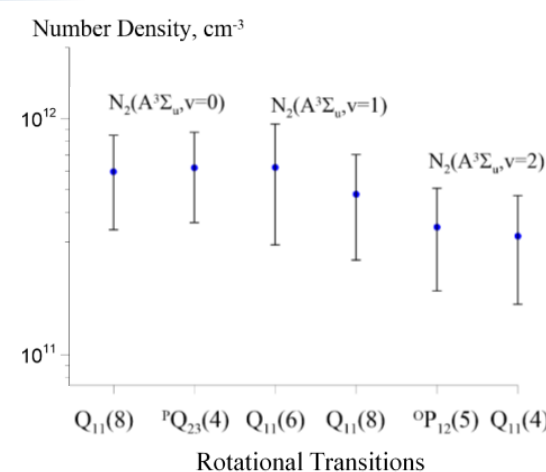
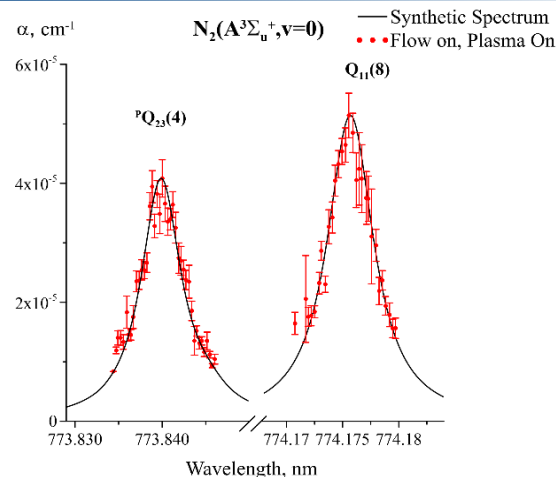
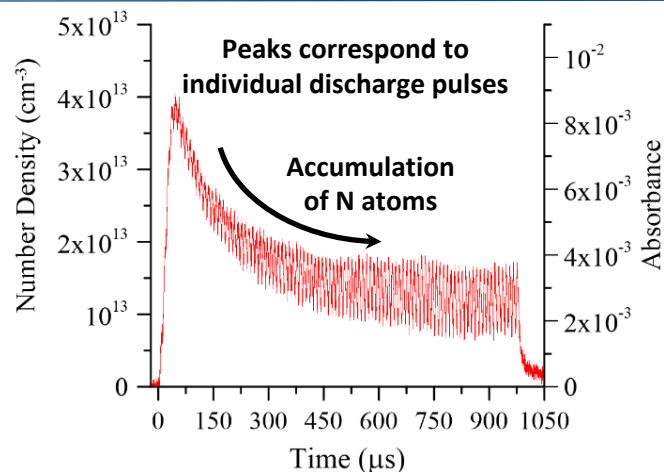
Impact: Validating new non-equilibrium models for faster analysis techniques.



Problem: Critical non-equilibrium species and rates are difficult to measure



I. Adamovich
Ohio State

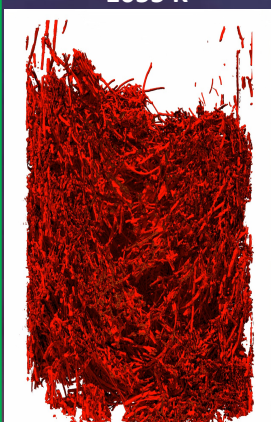


Impact: Growing experimental database of relevant non-equilibrium rates

Problem: Inaccurate Ablation Rates

Multiple carbon oxidation mechanisms can occur simultaneously on a single vehicle

Reaction-Limited
1055 K



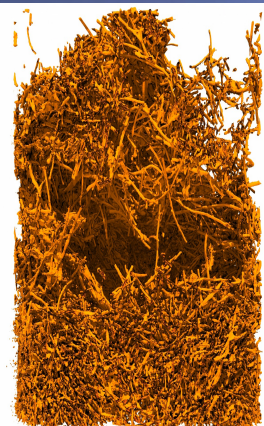
Oxidation penetrates below the surface

Diffusion-Limited
1465 K



Oxidation occurs at the surface

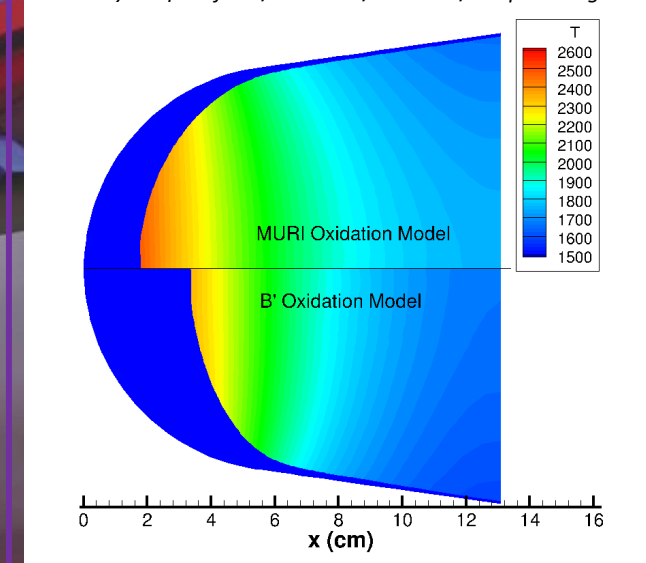
Mixed-Regime
1225 K



Oxidation occurs at and below the surface

Updated models anchored with improved molecular-beam diagnostics

Sphere-cone test case at: 3.5 km/s, 30 km altitude
Fully-coupled flow / ablation / thermal / shape-change



Finite-Rate Oxidation Model for Carbon Surfaces from Molecular Beam Experiments, Savio Poovathingal, Thomas E. Schwartzenruber, Vanessa J. Murray, Timothy K. Minton, and Graham V. Candler, AIAA Journal 2017 55:5, 1644-1658



F. Panerai (YIP), UIUC



G. Candler, U of MN



T. Minton, MSU



T. Schwartzenruber
U of MN



D. Thrular, U of MN



E. Corral, U of A

Impact: Unprecedented experimental ablation data tightly coupled with validated simulation

<https://api.army.mil/e2/c/images/2018/08/15/527160/original.jpg>

Summary

- Hypersonics is experiencing a resurgence in national importance
- AFOSR is the largest hypersonics basic research funding source in the DoD
- AFOSR funds basic research in aerodynamics, propulsion, materials, chemistry, and test & evaluation
- High Speed Aerodynamics Portfolio
 - Boundary Layer Physics (+ Atmospheric Science)
 - Shock Boundary Layer Interactions
 - Fluid Structure Interactions
 - Non-Equilibrium Effects
- Providing thought leadership in hypersonic basic research and pushing the envelope with high-risk research

What if...

- New computers were built to solve fluid dynamics
- Lightweight magnets
- Efficient thermal energy harvesting + relevant temperatures
- Enable fully flight representative test conditions (new way of flight testing or new kind of ground test technique)
- Sustained flight at higher altitudes and higher speeds
- Controlled shape change in flight
- Reentry flight without heating (ever notice Sci-fi movies where space ships don't have scorch marks?)

Largest 6.1 national portfolio in this area



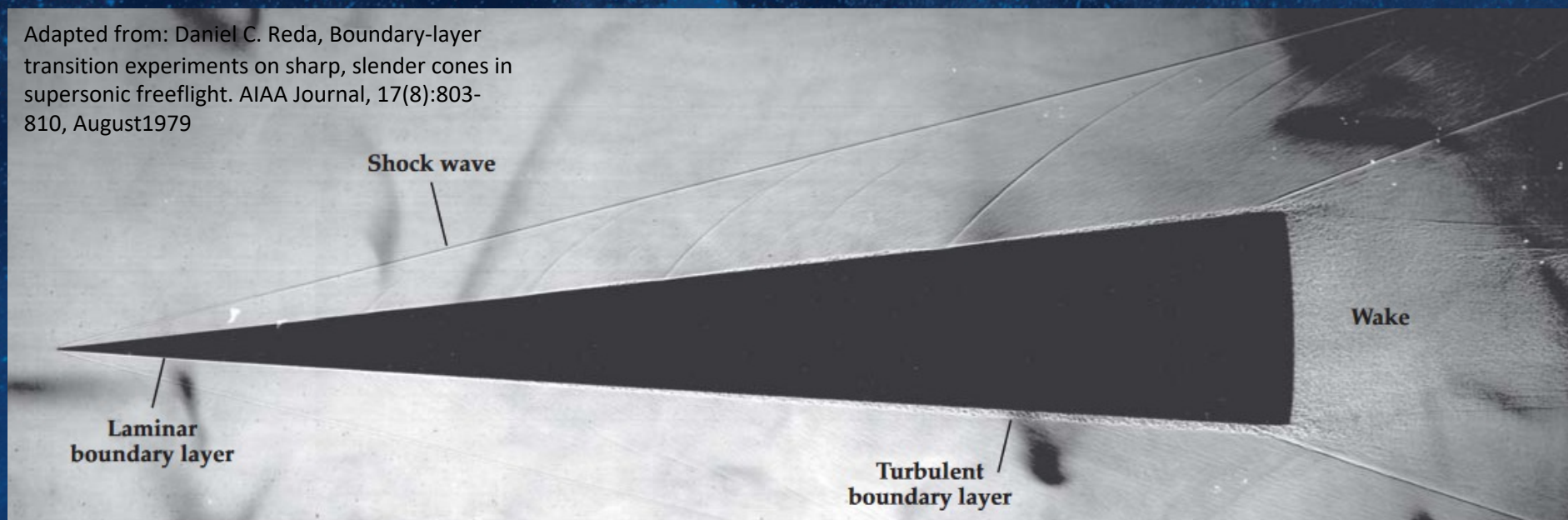
<https://api.army.mil/e2/c/images/2018/08/15/527160/original.jpg>



Boundary Layer Physics

The boundary layer is only millimeters high...but it is *very critical* to understand

Adapted from: Daniel C. Reda, Boundary-layer transition experiments on sharp, slender cones in supersonic freeflight. AIAA Journal, 17(8):803-810, August 1979



Credit: C. Hader, U of Arizona, Advanced Modeling & Simulation (AMS) Seminar Series NASA Ames Research Center, 2017

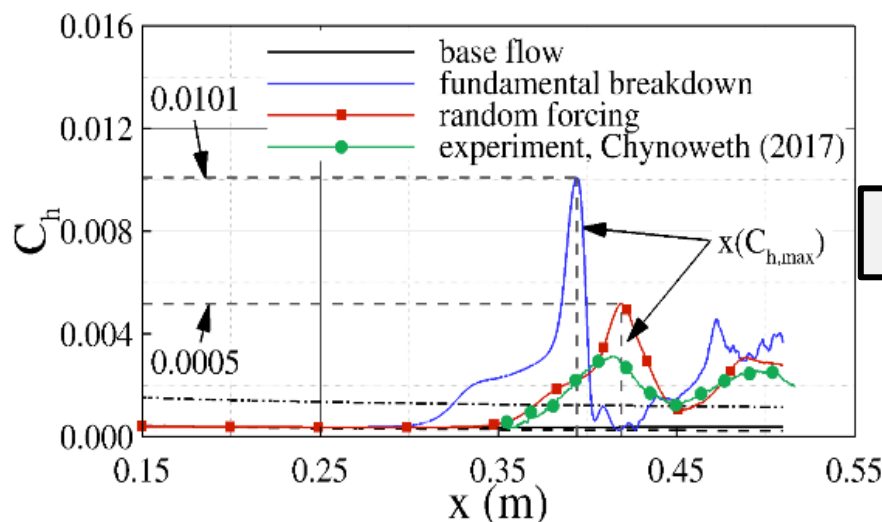
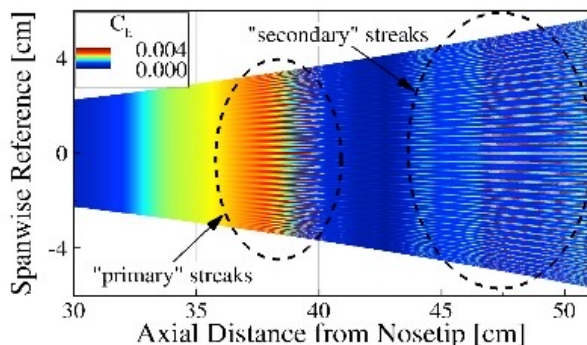
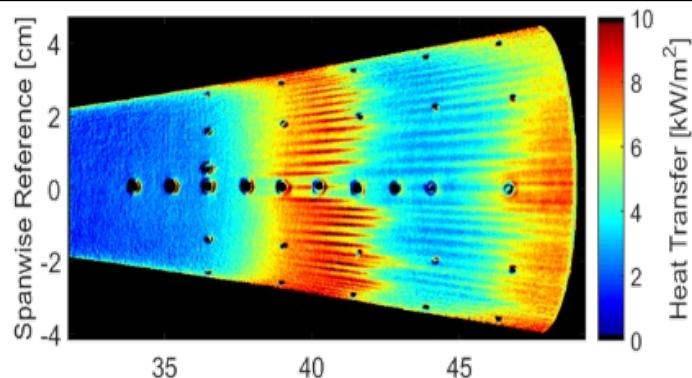
Problem: Unacceptable uncertainty on transition prediction in nonlinear region

Approach: Accurate DNS: enable connection of ground tests to flight

Future: 1) Predict nonlinear stages for flight via DNS w/ "controlled" & random disturbances

2) Leverage knowledge of nonlinear stages for control/delay transition

Good qualitative agreement between experiment and DNS – "Hot Streaks"



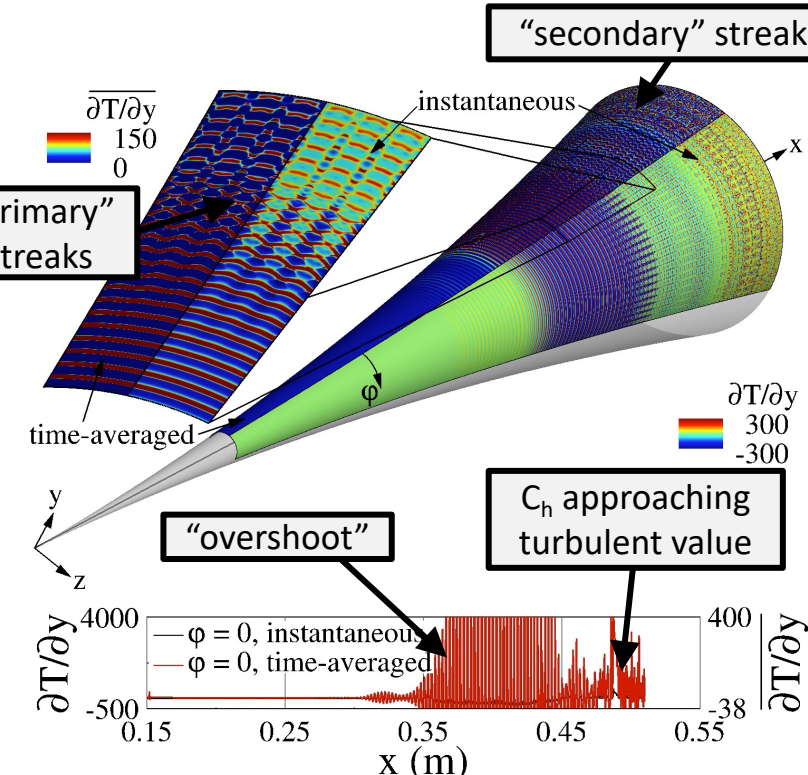
- Hader, C., & Fasel, H. (2019). Direct numerical simulations of hypersonic boundary-layer transition for a flared cone: Fundamental breakdown. *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*, 869, 341-384. doi:10.1017/jfm.2019.202
- [History and Progress of Boundary-Layer Transition on a Mach-6 Flared Cone](#), Brandon C. Chynoweth, Steven P. Schneider, Christoph Hader, Hermann Fasel, Armani Batista, Joseph Kuehl, Thomas J. Juliano, and Bradley M. Wheaton, *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets* 2019 56:2, 333-346



Dr. Roper with Purdue team and Prof. Steve Schneider, Purdue Univ



2018 Prandtl Ring Winner
Hermann Fasel, U of AZ



Impact: Starting to explain and predicting worst heating overshoots due to boundary layer transition

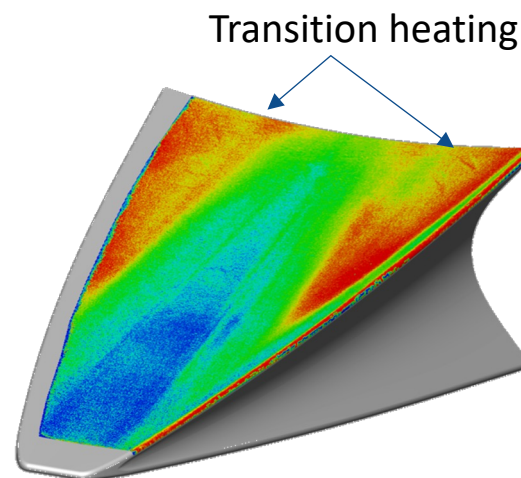
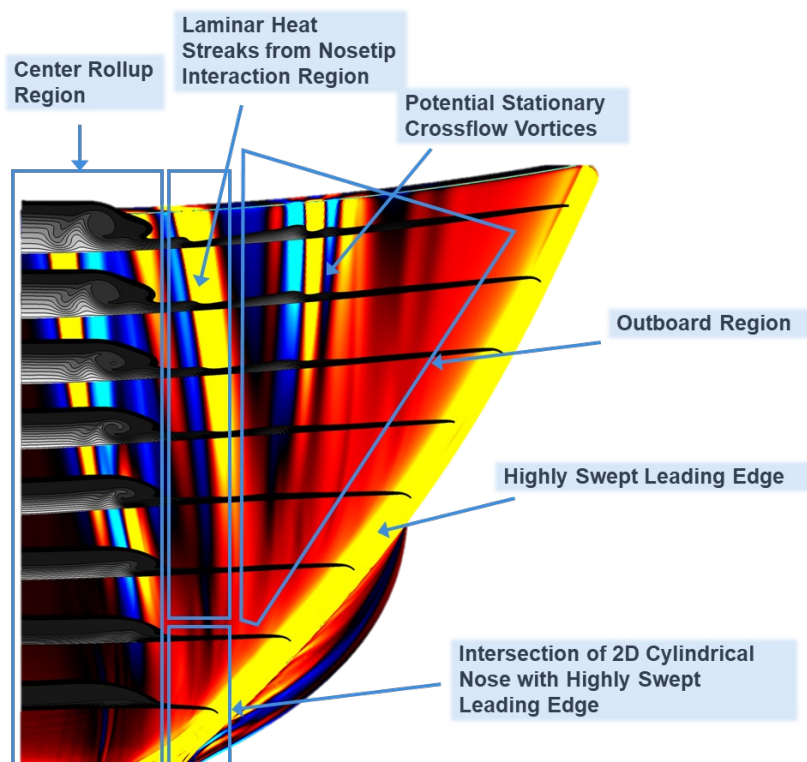
Problem: Inaccurate hypersonic boundary layer transition prediction in flight

Boundary Layer Transition (BOLT I) Flight Experiment

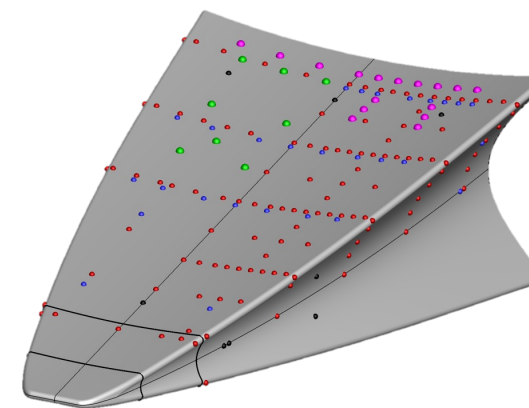
Approach:

- 1) Investigate hypersonic boundary layer **transition mechanisms** on a geometry with relevant features
- 2) **Synthesis** of computational, experimental and flight test data to challenge predictive techniques

Future: Provide **benchmark 6.1** experiment to boundary layer transition community



Mach 7 CUBRC heat flux measurements



Informed layout of 237 sensors to chase the science



Flight Test June 2021 from Esrange
Ascent: Mach 5.5, $Re/m = 1-18$ million
Descent: Mach 7, $Re/m = 1-20$ million

Impact: Close the gaps to *explain* and *predict* heating due to boundary layer transition

Problem: Inaccurate hypersonic boundary layer turbulence prediction in flight

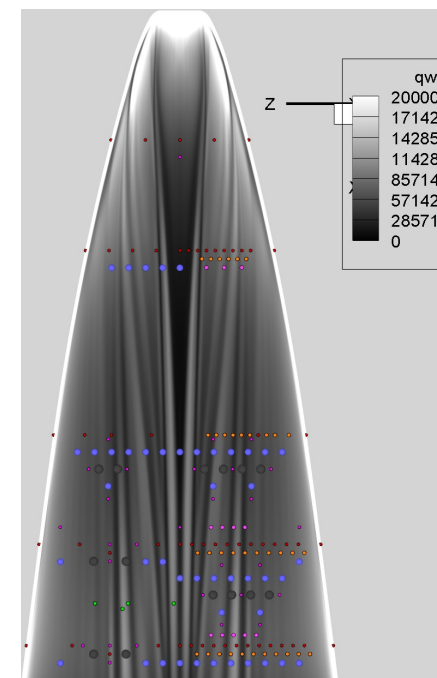
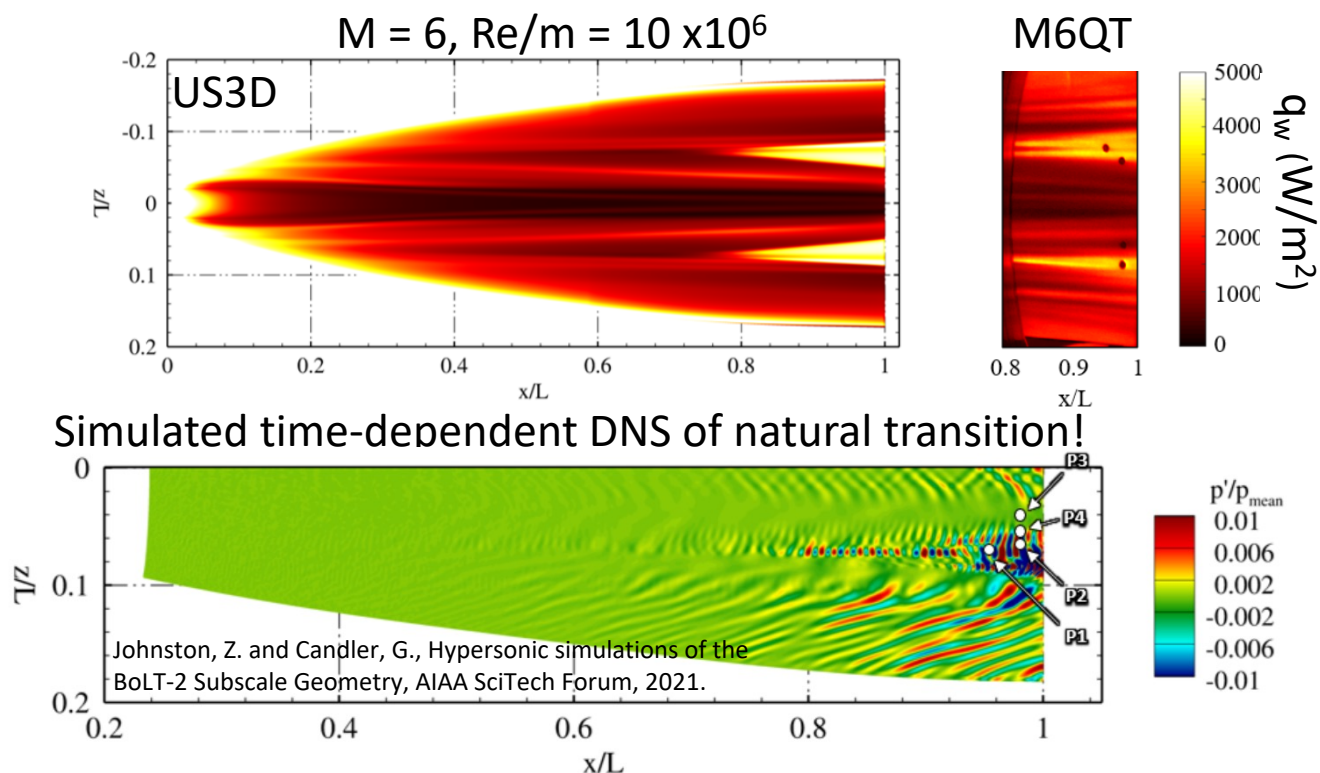
Boundary Layer Turbulence (BOLT II) Flight Experiment

Approach:

1) Investigate hypersonic **turbulent transport mechanisms** which drives heating and skin friction

2) **Challenge** our ability to simulate and ground test hypersonic turbulent boundary layers

Future: Provide **benchmark 6.1** experiment to boundary layer turbulence community



Bowersox, Kostak, Personal Correspondance, March 2021.

Informed layout of 280 sensors to chase the science



Flight Test Fall 2021 from Wallops

Ascent: Mach 5.2,
 $Re/m = 1-20$ million

Descent: Mach 5.2,
 $Re/m = 1-35$ million

Impact: Close the gaps to *explain* and *predict* heating due to boundary layer turbulence

Problem: Unknown impact of atmospheric turbulence and particulates

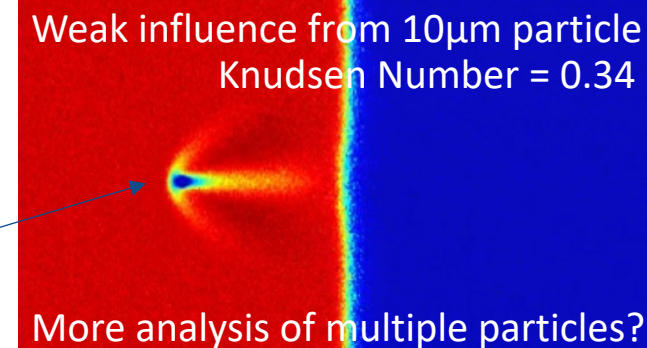
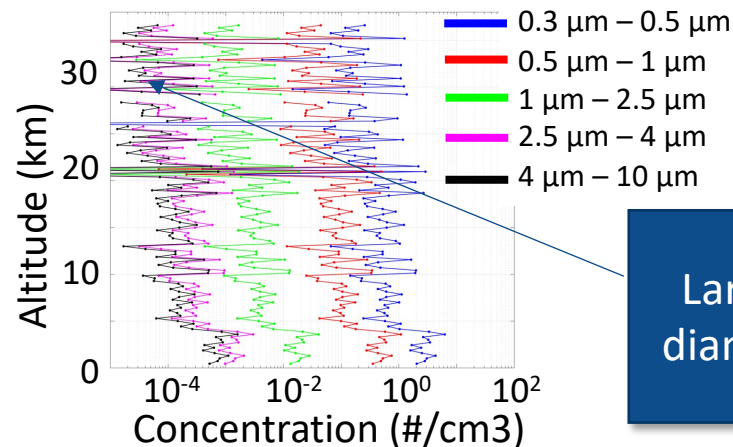
Balloon
+
Integrated Instruments

Data

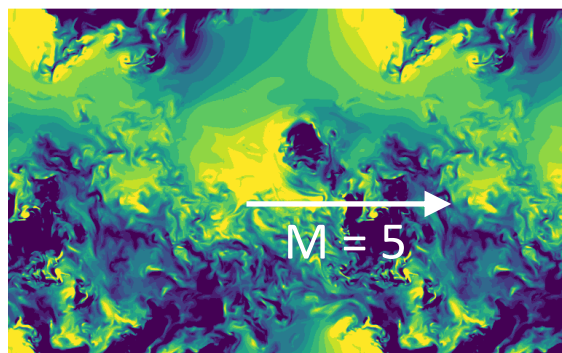
Receptivity
Simulations



Particulates

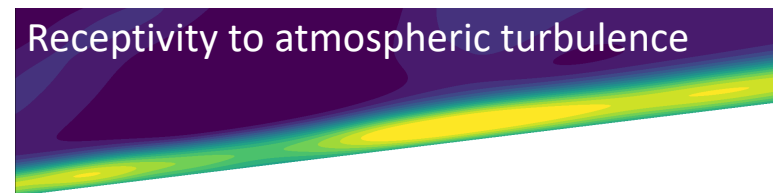
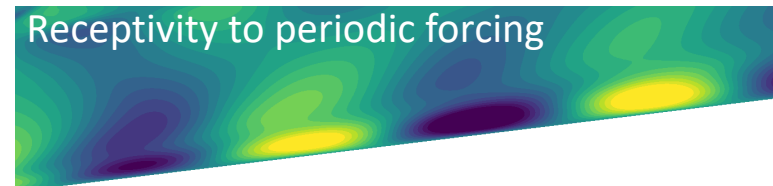


Turbulence



Small scale turbulence

Large scale turbulence

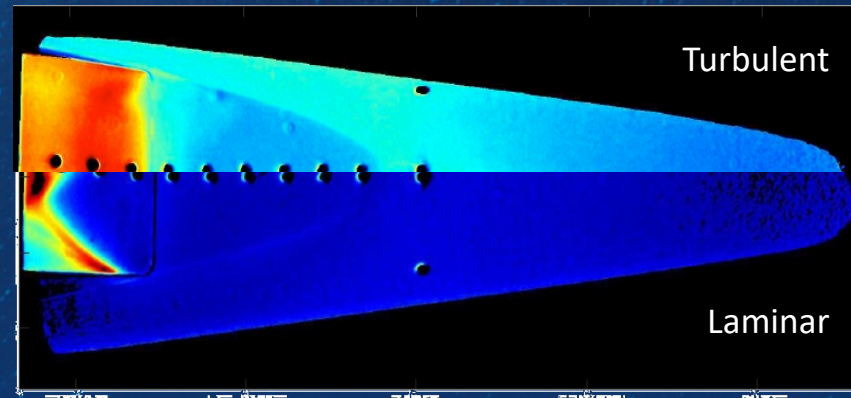


Distinct receptivity to atmosphere

~40 balloon launch
campaign to support
BOLT!

Impact: Provide fundamental understanding of weather effects on hypersonic flight

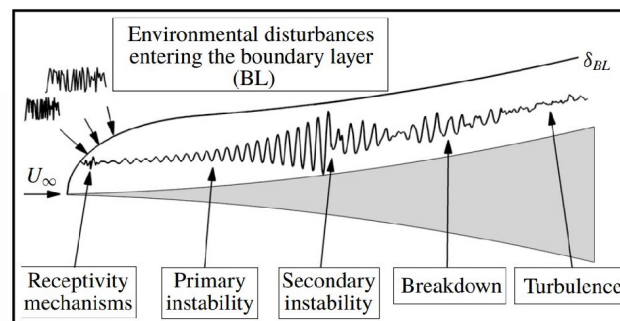
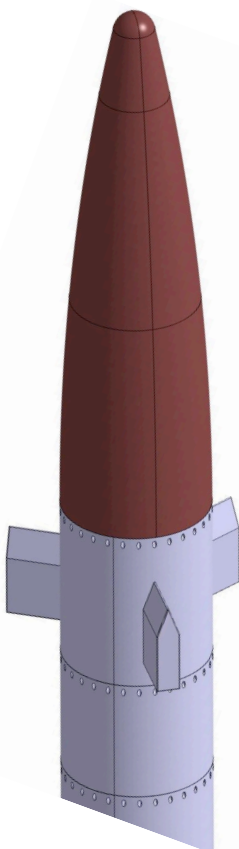
Shock Boundary Layer Interactions



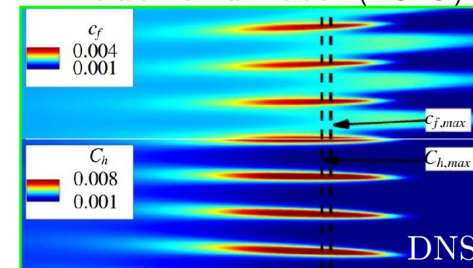


Opportunity: Acquire SBLI flight experiment data

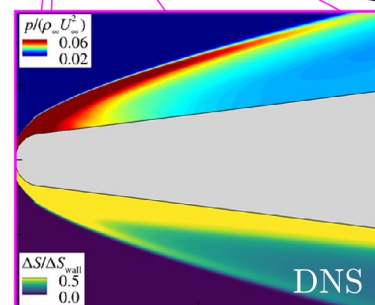
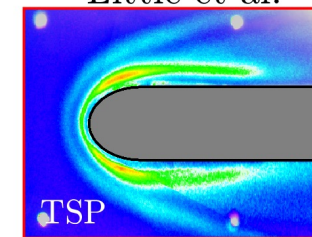
Investigation of 3D Shockwave Boundary Layer Interaction and Related Phenomena for the STORT Flight Program



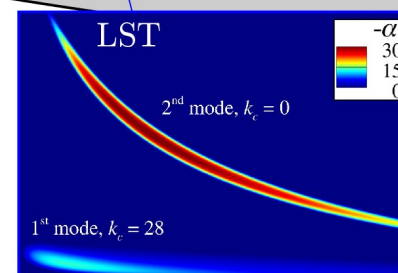
Hader and Fasel (2019)



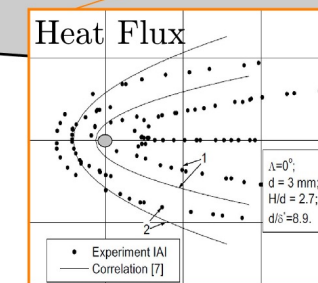
Little et al.



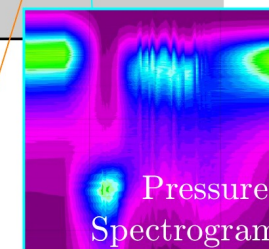
Fasel et al.



Fasel et al.



Hefetz and Tumin (1999)



Padmanabhan et al. (2020)

- ▶ Advance the understanding of 3D SBLIs and other phenomena relevant to control surfaces through scientific flight tests, wind tunnel experiments, DNS, stability theory and data analysis.
- ▶ Jesse Little (PI), S. Alex Craig, Hermann Fasel and Anatoli Tumin

Fluid Structure Interactions



Problem: Low-frequency loading due to SWBLI leads to large uncertainties in structural lifetimes

Approach: Isolate key physical phenomena of planar SWBLI-induced fluid-thermal-structural interactions through tightly coupled experimental studies, numerical simulations, and reduced-order modeling

Future: Further advance diagnostic & numerical tools → apply to other hypersonic configurations



S. Laurence
U. of Md

D. Bodony
UIUC

High-speed
photogrammetry and
focused schlieren



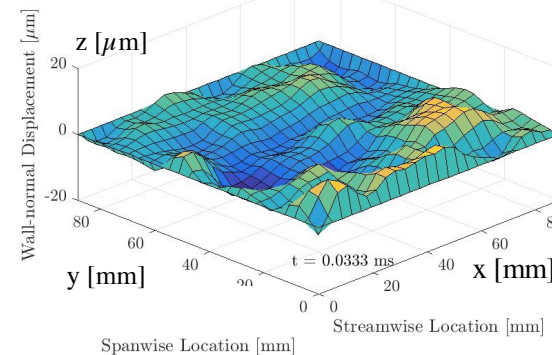
Collaboration with
NASA LaRC



Access to Langley
Mach-6 20" tunnel

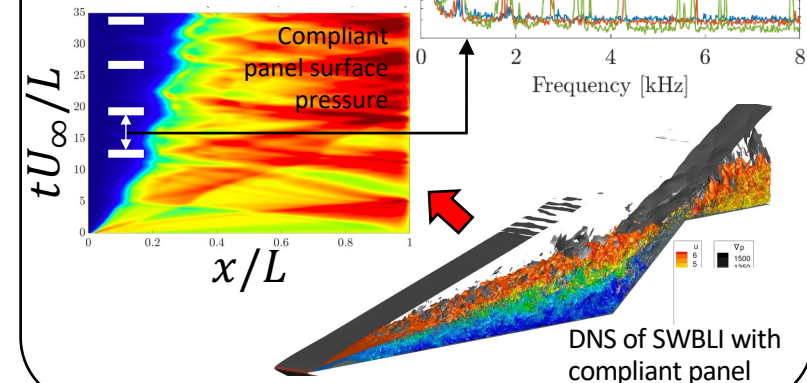


Advanced experimental/
numerical techniques



Detailed structural/flow response

Thermal stresses
and SWBLI
reattachment
location dictate
panel response

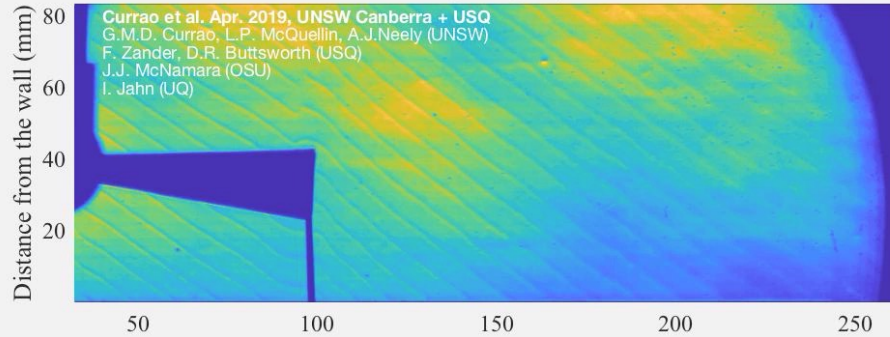


Impact: Know how to prevent structural failures for hypersonic speeds

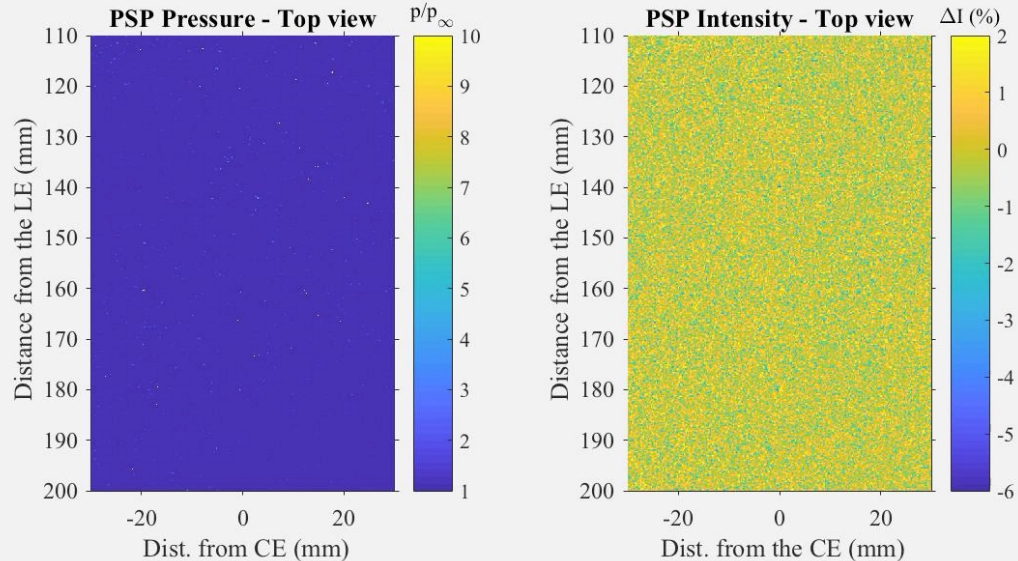
Problem: Need canonical cases for FSI community

Moving Shock Unit Case: Rigid

Time = -2.0 ms



Distance from the LE (mm)



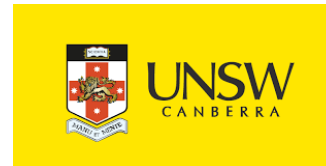
Currao GM, Choudhury R, Gai SL, Neely AJ, Buttsworth DR (2020) Hypersonic Transitional Shock-Wave–Boundary-Layer Interaction on a Flat Plate. *AIAA Journal*, 58(2), 814-829.

Currao GMD, McQuellin LP, Neely AJ, Zander F, Buttsworth DR, McNamara JJ, Jahn I (2019) Oscillating Shock Impinging on a Flat Plate at Mach 6, AIAA-2019-3077.

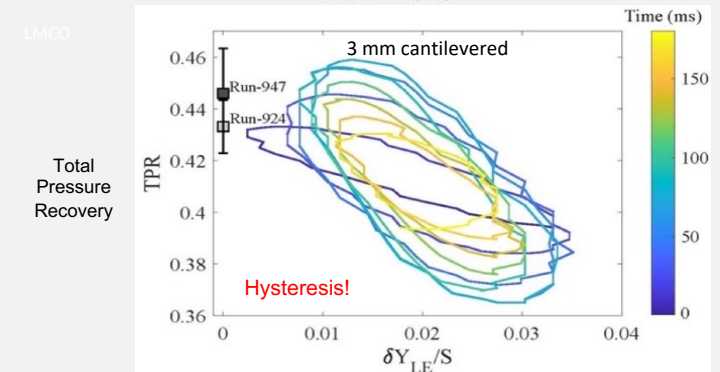
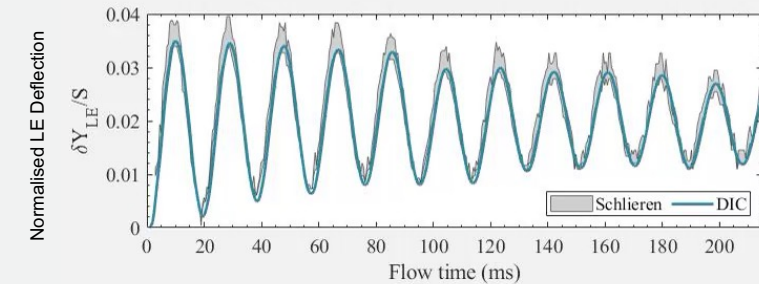
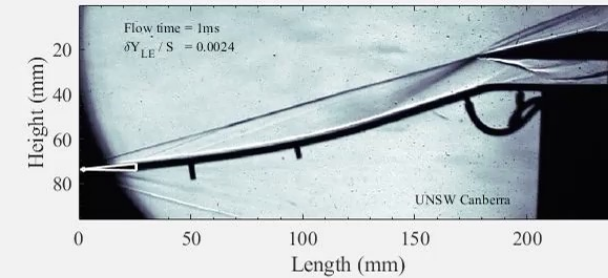
THE AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY



Andrew Neely
UNSW



Axial Pressure Gradient Unit Case



Bhattarai, McQuellin, Currao, Neely, Buttsworth (2020) Experimental study of the aeroelastic response and performance of a hypersonic intake, AIAA 2020-2449.