

# AFRL

THE AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY  
LEAD | DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DELIVER



**4<sup>th</sup> Indo-US Round Table**  
**Bangalore, India**  
**21-23 September 2010**

## **AOARD Overview**

### **Power and Energy Emphasis**

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**Program Manager**  
**AOARD**

**Air Force Office of Scientific Research**

# Report Documentation Page

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# Presentation Outline

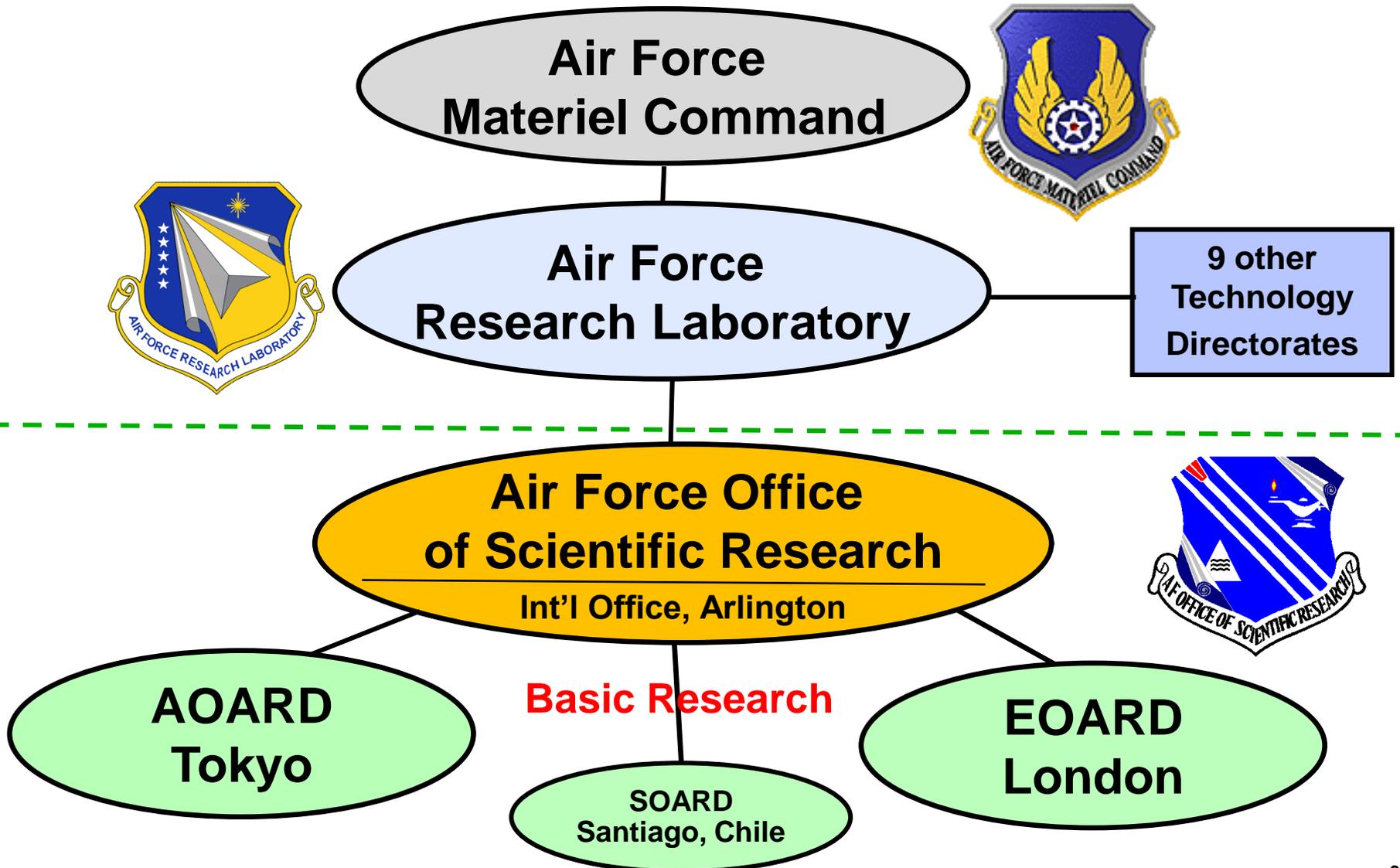


- Our Organization**
- Our Mission**
- Resources &  
Opportunities**
- AOARD\* Project Examples**
- Message to Researchers**

**\*AOARD = Asian Office of Aerospace Research and Development**



# Where AOARD (Tokyo) Fits





# AFRL Supports International Research Efforts



*Conference Support, Window-on-Science,  
Research Grants*



# AFOSR Mission



**AFOSR discovers, shapes, and champions basic science to profoundly impact the future Air Force**

- Identify Breakthrough Research Opportunities – USA & Abroad
- Foster Revolutionary Basic Research for Air Force Needs
- Transition Technologies to DoD and Industry

**TODAY'S BREAKTHROUGH SCIENCE FOR TOMORROW'S AIR FORCE**



# AFOSR Basic Research Areas



## Aerospace, Chemical & Materials Sciences (RSA)

- Materials & Structures
- Chemistry
- Fluid Mechanics
- Propulsion

## Physics & Electronics (RSE)

- Physics
- Electronics
- Space Sciences
- Applied Math

## Math, Information & Life Sciences (RSL)

- Info Sciences
- Human Cognition
- Mathematics
- Biomimetics

### AREAS OF EMPHASIS INCLUDE:

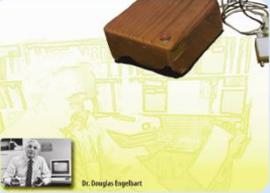
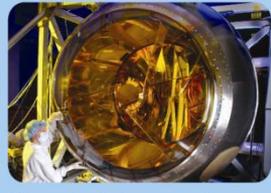
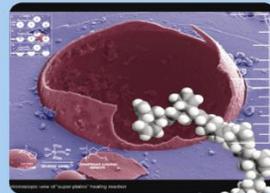
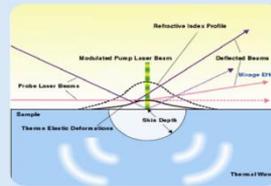
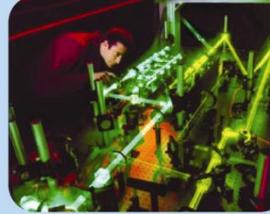
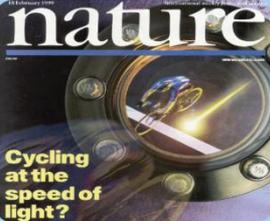
- Complex Networks
- Robust Decision Making
- Socio-Cultural Modeling

- Energy & Thermal Management
- Agile, Autonomous Flight
- Space Situational Awareness



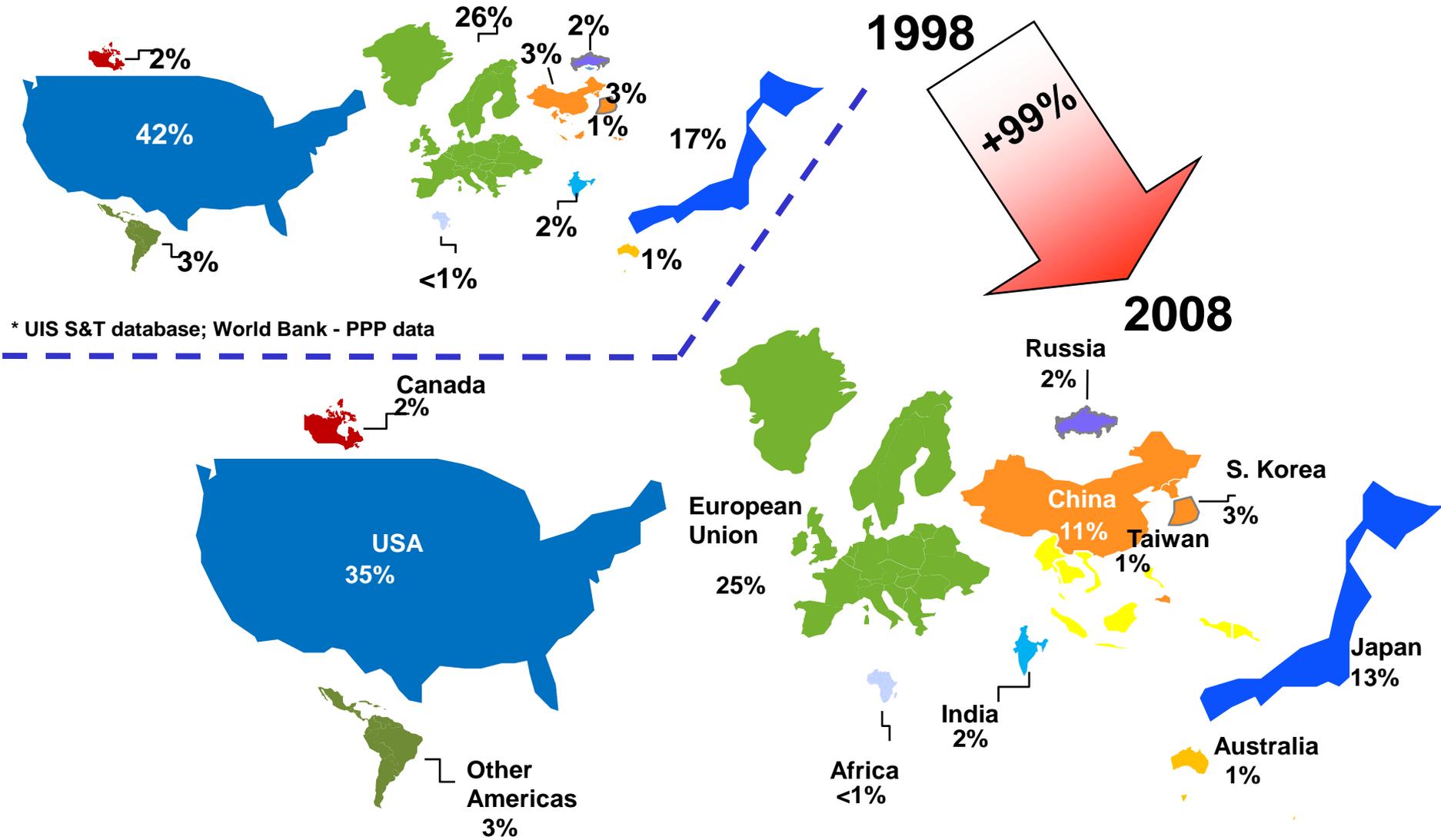
# 60 Years of AFOSR Breakthroughs



1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000+
 Maser/Laser	 The Computer Mouse	 Chemical Oxygen Iodine Laser (Coil)	 Low-Temperature Gallium Arsenide	 Self-healing Plastics	 Joint Percision Airdrop System
 Stealth	 Code Division Multiple Access System for GPS	 Superplastics Forming	 Laser Diagnostics	 Dip-pen Nanolithography	 Electric Oxygen Iodine Laser
 Kalman Filter	 Viterbi Decoding Algorithm	 Air Fracture Mechanics Methodology	 High-Efficiency Compressor Blades	 Laser Trapping	 Laser Propulsion



# World S&T Investment 1998\* to 2008\*\*



\*\* OECD 2007 PPP; 2009 Global R&D Projection (Battelle and R&D Magazine) – Graphics Ms. Jeanette Romero



## Program Management:

- Dr Ken Goretta
- LtCol Dave Sonntag
- LtCol John Seo
- Dr Pon Ponnappan
- Dr Kumar Jata
- Dr Gregg Jessen
- New (*Summer 2010*)
- Dr Dave Atkinson
- Dr Tom Erstfeld
- Dr Hiroshi Motoda

Director, Materials Science  
Deputy Director, Biology & Informatics  
Technical Director, Aerospace & Nanoscience  
**Energy, Power, Thermal & Space Sciences**  
Materials Science & NDE  
Solid-State Physics & Electronics  
Structural Sciences and Modeling  
Mathematics & Information Sciences  
Taiwan Nanoscience, Chemistry & Munitions  
Information Sciences

## Scientific Advice:

- Dr Takao Miyazaki
- Dr Ken Boff
- Dr Peter Friedland
- Dr Alex Glass
- Maj Joe Tringe (USAFR)
- Maj Glenn Coleman (USAFR)

Electronics, Physics & Japanese Prospector  
Life Sciences  
Information Sciences  
Lasers & Physics  
Physics, Directed Energy & Nanoscience  
Aerospace Sciences & S Asia Expert



# AOARD Mission



## **WOS** Lead time: At least 40 days before travel start date

- AOARD invites prominent Asian scientists to USAF Labs/Centers
- Visitor (usually a non-govt scientist) provides a seminar
- Visitor engages in technical discussions with USAF S&E's
- AOARD reimburses travel expenses to WOS visitor

## **CSP** Lead time: As early as possible

- AOARD funds (typical is \$5K) workshops and conferences in Asia
- Support paid directly to conference organizers
- Support may be for a stand-alone workshop or for an individual session within a large conference

## **R&D** Lead time: Usually 60-90 days to complete the process

- AOARD funds basic research proposals in response to AFOSR BAA
- USAF S&Es evaluate the proposals
- The Proposer's Guide is on the AFOSR webpage
- Follow-on grants must be cost-shared by other USAF organization
- AOARD administers larger grants on behalf of AFOSR and AFRL



# FY09 Outreach



	Country	CSP	Inv Orders	R&D	Total
	Japan	11	18	24	53
	Australia	2	18	29	49
	Taiwan	2	18	20	40
	United States	5	27	8	40
	Korea	3	11	21	35
	<b>India</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>
	Singapore	3	5	10	18
	Europe	2	3	2	7
	Thailand	2	0	2	4
	New Zealand	0	2	2	4
	Malaysia	0	1	2	3
	Canada	0	1	1	2
	Vietnam	1	0	0	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>286</b>



# Portfolio Thrust



## Scientific Areas

### *Aerospace, Chemical & Material Sciences*

- Materials
- Fluid Mechanics
- Propulsion

### *Physics & Electronics*

- Space Sciences
- Others

## Areas of Enhanced Emphasis

### Propulsion:

- Hypersonics, Scramjet Engine Design, Modeling

### **Power & Energy:**

- energy production, storage, utilization
- materials for P&E
- thermal management
- scaling laws
- modeling & simulation



# P&E Research Challenges



- ✓ **Overlap with material/thermal sciences**
- ✓ **Need innovative concepts and basic research**
  - ❑ **High power/energy density batteries,**
  - ❑ **High power/energy density fuel cells**
  - ❑ **High efficiency solar cells**
  - ❑ **Advanced materials to enable the above**
  - ❑ **Novel energy storage concepts and related studies**
  - ❑ **Innovative energy transfer processes such as**
    - **energy harvesting from waste heat,**
    - **thermoelectric co-generation and**
    - **bio-inspired concepts**
  - ❑ **Modeling and simulation**

**Innovation is key to success**



# AOARD Funded Grants



## POWER & ENERGY

- Lithium-air battery research **India**
- Hydrogen storage in SWCNT for fuel cells **India**
- ZnOS nanophosphor coating for UV energy harvesting in Si solar cells **USA/India**
- Mathematical modeling and optimization  
Studies on development of fuel cells **India**
- Carbon- and sulfur-tolerant anodes for SOFC **Singapore**
- Li-rechargeable battery with ultrafast charge rate **Singapore**
- Magnetocaloric Cooling **Singapore**
- Development of high ZT  
thermoelectric materials for energy applications **Taiwan**



# Scientific Challenges



## Evolutionary Research (Incremental Advances)

### P&E Materials Including Fluids:

- Tunable thermal conductivity
- Large CTE material matching
- Nanofluids

### Processes:

- Energy harvesting from waste heat
- TE/TI/Co-generation concepts
- Non equilibrium thermal process

### Basic Understanding of Physics:

- Scaling laws
- Computational tools for non-homogeneous conditions
- Measurement tools for new materials



## Revolutionary Research (Game Changing)

- Designer fluids
- High 'k' compliant interface
- Super-conductor/ insulator
- Solid state refrigerant

- Phonon engineering
- Thermal percolation
- Thermal transport between interfaces
- Bio-inspired concepts

- Physics of thermal percolation
- Physics of phonon scattering
- M&S: MD modeling tools





# **Examples of AOARD Power & Energy Projects in Asia**



# Lithium - Air Battery

## WHY LITHIUM-ION BATTERY?

- Uses O<sub>2</sub> in air; no need to store O<sub>2</sub>
- High electrochemical equivalence of Li: **3850 mAh/g at -3.05 V**
- High specific energy achievable:

Li-ion battery **200Wh/kg** Vs. Li-air battery **>500Wh/kg**

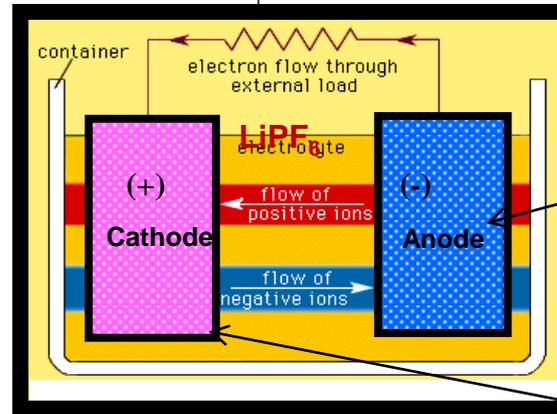
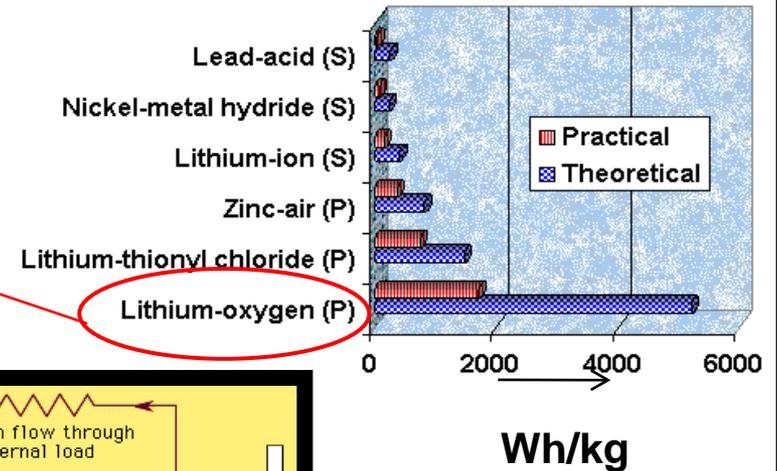
## RESEARCH CHALLENGE:

- Power density
- Rechargeability
- Charge/discharge cycles

## APPLICATIONS:

- Portable power
- UAV power
- Aircraft applications

## Specific Energy (Wh/kg) Comparison



Anode: Li on Ni mesh

Cathode: materials tested in this study include China carbon

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Good results w/ china carbon electrode
- Capacity 3000 mAh/g of carbon



# H<sub>2</sub> Storage in SWCNT for Fuel Cells



## RESEARCH CHALLENGE:

- Can CNTs be functionalized to store H<sub>2</sub>?
- What type & how?
- Desorption at near-room temp
- H<sub>2</sub> storage capacity > 5.5 wt% (US DOE target 2015)
- Keep H<sub>2</sub> binding energy range 0.2-0.4 eV
- Current technologies inadequate

## SCOPE:

- Perform theoretical & experimental research on SWCNTs as H<sub>2</sub> storage medium

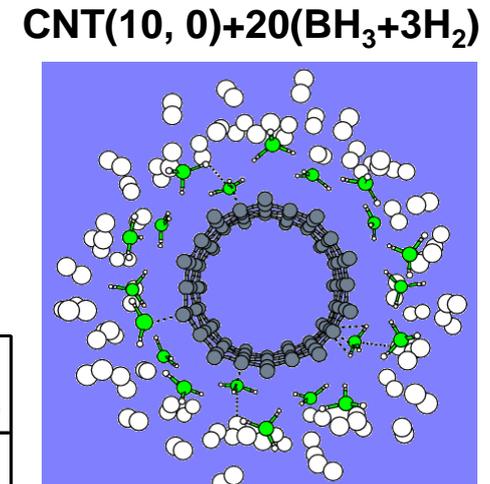
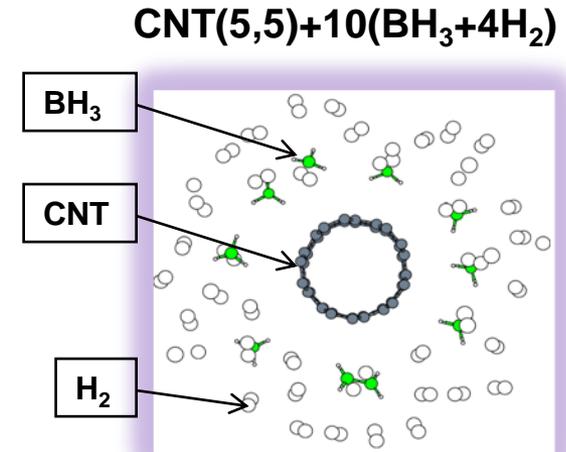
## APPROACH:

- Identify different SWCNTs and directly attach metal hydrides on them
- Perform MD simulation using,
  - Density Functional Theory (DFT);
  - Vienna Ab-initio Simulation Package (VASP)

## RESULTS:

(BE = Binding Energy)

HSM SWCNT	Radius, Å	System having BE in the range 0.2-0.4 eV	BE per BH <sub>3</sub> , eV	BE per H <sub>2</sub> , eV	Storage capacity, wt%
(5,5)	3.44	CNT(5,5)+10(BH <sub>3</sub> +4H <sub>2</sub> )	1.22	0.24	11.5





# DBFC Fuel Cells Modeling Study



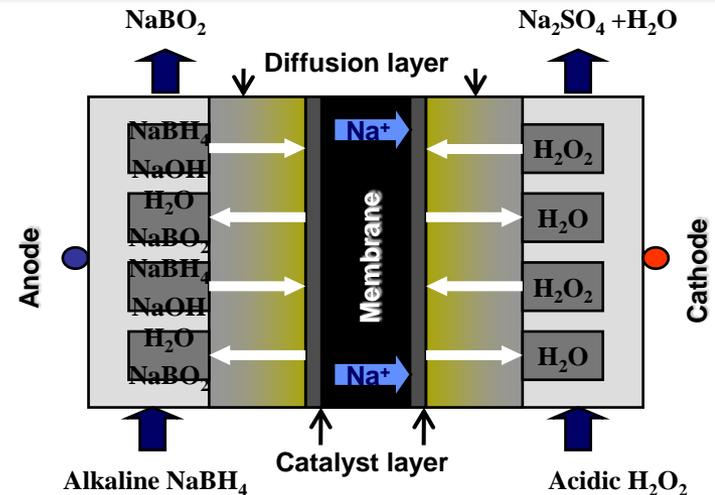
Fuel cells → Electrochemical Engines → Chemical Energy → Electricity

## RESEARCH CHALLENGE:

- Hydrogen-carrying fuels vs. stored-hydrogen for fuel cells
- Achieve specific energy of DBFC close to that of H<sub>2</sub> - O<sub>2</sub> Fuel Cell

Specific Energy Comparison	
Energy Systems	Specific Energy kWh/kg
Li-ion battery	0.25
DMFC	6.10
DBFC - O <sub>2</sub> (air)	9.30
DBFC - H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (neutral)	12.00
<b>DBFC - H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (acidic)</b>	<b>17.00</b>
<b>H<sub>2</sub> - O<sub>2</sub> Fuel Cell</b>	<b>33.00</b>

## Schematic of Regenerative NaBH<sub>4</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> Fuel Cell



## SCOPE:

- Develop analytical tool to screen potentially promising material systems such as metal hydrides, alanates, amides, imides of alkalis or rare earths
- Develop a generalized mathematical model for solid polymer electrolyte DBFC

**PROGRESS:** Delivered prototype units to US for T&E at Army and U Conn labs

**PI: A. K. Shukla and Alok Paul; IISc, Bangalore, India**



# Performance Enhancement of Solar Cells by Nanophosphor Coating

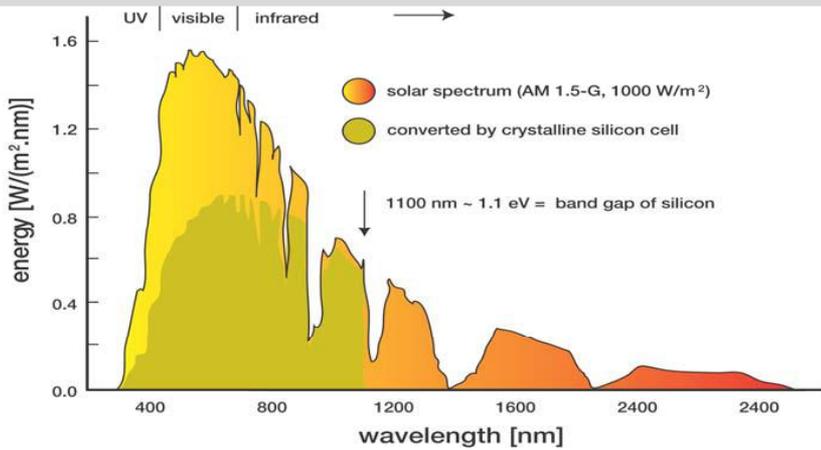
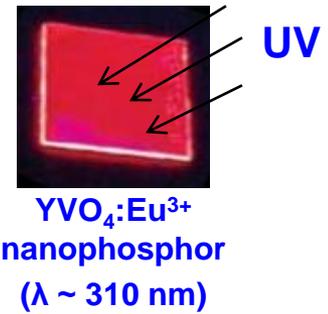
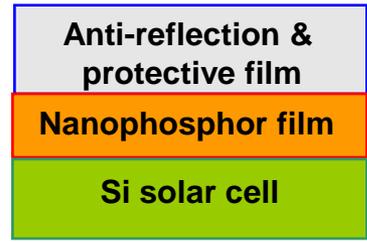


**SCOPE:**

- Increase power conversion efficiency of large-area Si solar panels from 15 to 16.8%
- Develop nanophosphor coating to **down-convert** solar UV to visible in an affordable manner

**APPROACH:**

- Determine & optimize the composition (within 2%) of nanophosphors to maximize cell efficiency
- Move the absorption from **335 nm to 440 nm** by synthesizing nanoparticles to <5 nm size



Silicon Solar Cell Material	Laboratory efficiency %	Production efficiency %
Monocrystalline	24	14 - 17
<b>Polycrystalline</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13 - 15</b>
Amorphous	13	5 - 7

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE NP COATING:**

- Coating thickness <100 nm
- Down-conversion efficiency >70%
- Doesn't absorb / scatter visible solar-radiation
- Doesn't degrade operating life of solar cells

**PROGRESS/RESULTS:**

- Identified three potential nanophosphors:  $YVO_4:Eu^{3+}$ ,  $La_2O_2S:Eu^{3+}$  and  $ZnO_xS_{1-x}$
- Film deposition and characterization in progress
- Integration with solar cell and measurements planned



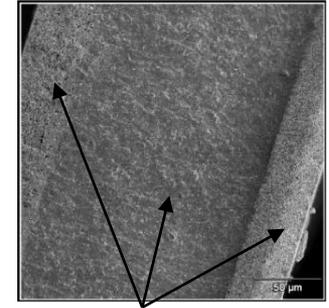
# Solid Oxide Fuel Cell (SOFC) Carbon- & Sulfur-Tolerant Anodes



## PROBLEM:

- Use of ethanol & diesel to produce portable power
- S and C poison the catalysts in fuel cell electrodes
- Decrease operating temp down to 600-800°C

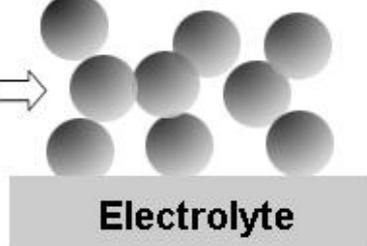
- SCOPE:**
- Evaluate six different V- & Ti-based perovskite oxides as S-tolerant anode
  - Evaluate Pd as C-tolerant high-performance anode



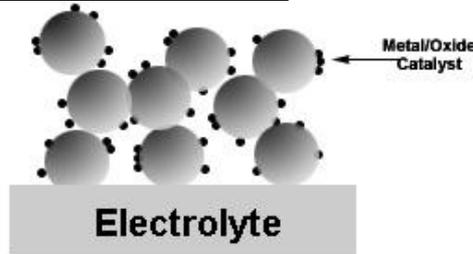
Three ceramic layers  
(anode/electrolyte/ cathode)  
of a SOFC



porous  
electrode  
structure



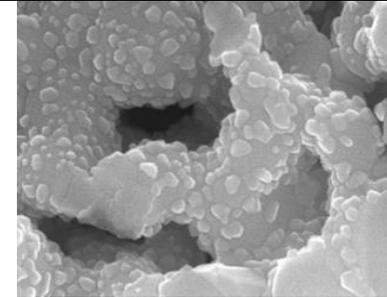
Electrolyte



Metal/Oxide  
Catalyst

Electrolyte

## Nano-structured Pd-YSZ Electrode



## PROGRESS:

- Pd nanoparticles addition significantly reduced the electrode polarization resistance for the oxidation in hydrogen, methane and ethanol fuels
- A new material system with higher activity & stability and better S-tolerance has been developed



# Li-Battery with Ultrafast Charge Rate

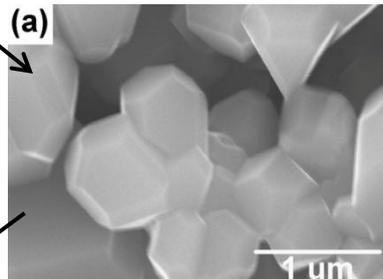
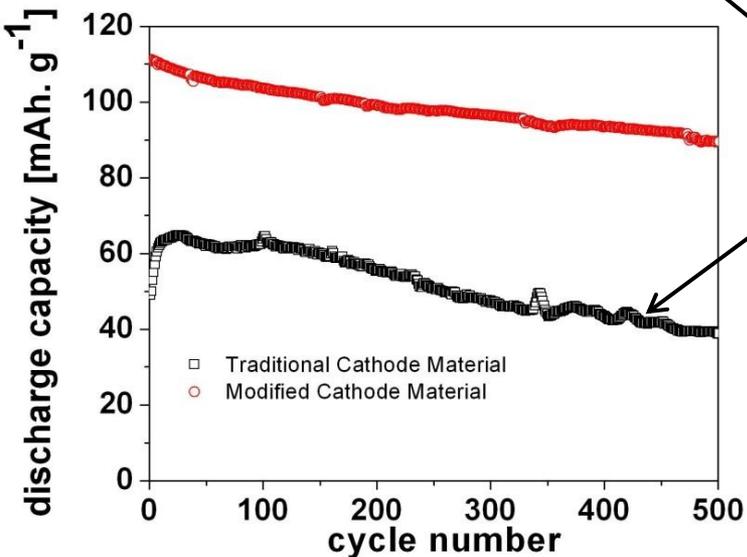


## Objective:

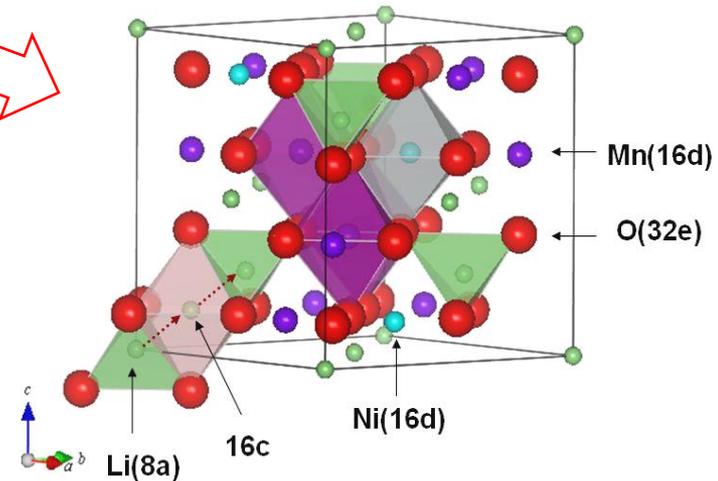
- Investigate 10-20x smaller nano-powder particle sizes to shorten charging rate
- Study doping **transition metals** into the traditional spinel cathode material

## Problem:

The **traditional material** shows lower rate capability as well as poor capacity retention



## Spinel cathode



**Proposed Approach:** Select dopants that will ...

- Create defective structure in the lattice so that activation energy for Li transportation can be reduced and hence to **increase ionic conductivity**;
- Possess electron-rich and easy loss electrons to increase **electronic conductivity**.

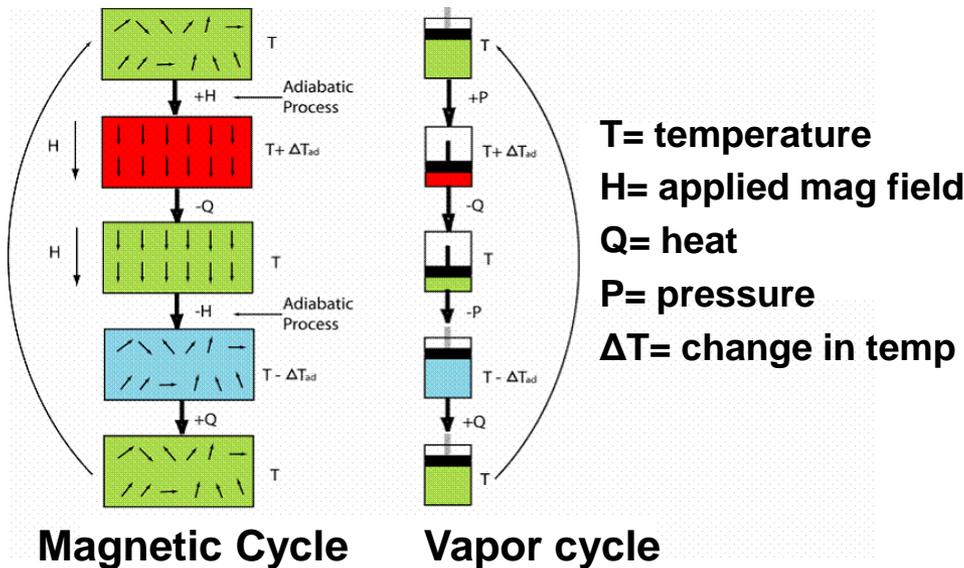


# Magnetocaloric Cooling System



**WHY MAGNETOCALORIC?** No liquid refrigerant; will eliminate CFCs and compressor; can revolutionize current refrigeration industry

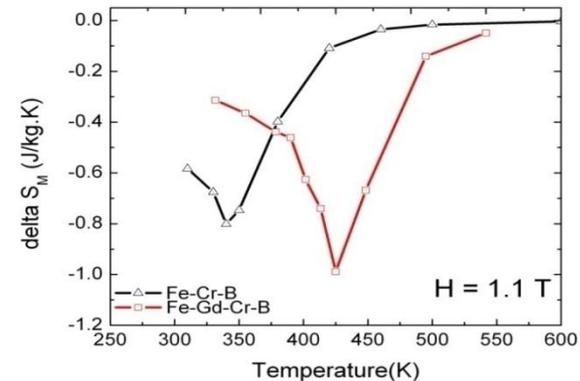
## Magnetic Refrigeration Principle



## FEATURES:

- Carnot efficiencies possible
- Uses benign heat transfer media
- Tunable Curie temperature
- Large entropy change of induced martensitic transitions

## Entropy Change Vs. Temp (Fe-Co-B and Fe-Gd-Cr-B alloys)



## HOW IT WORKS:

Applied H orients 'magnetic dipoles' .... T ↑  
Removal of H increases magnetic entropy... T ↓

**PROGRESS:** - NTU has developed Fe-(Gd)-Cr-B alloy system  
- Projected cooling capacity at 342K for this alloy w/o Gd = 545 J/kg



# High ZT Thermoelectric Materials for Energy Applications



## PROBLEM:

SOA thermoelectric materials used for refrigeration and power generation has limitations,

- $ZT < 1$ ; Useful temp range:
- $\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3$   $T \sim 250\text{-}600\text{ K}$ ;  $\text{Si}_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x$   $T > 700\text{-}1300\text{ K}$ .
- Applications require  $ZT > 2$ , for practical use

## APPROACH:

Investigate systems of ...

- surface modified nanostructured bulk  $\text{CuFeSe}_2$
- one-dimensional  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3$  nanowires
- Directional dependency of thermal conductivity

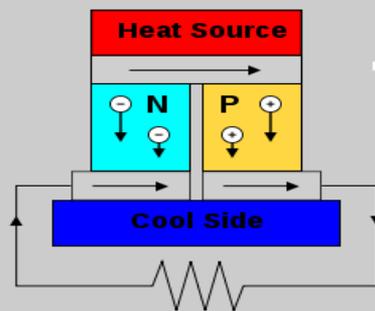
## Figure of merit

$$ZT = S^2\sigma T / (\kappa_e + \kappa_p)$$

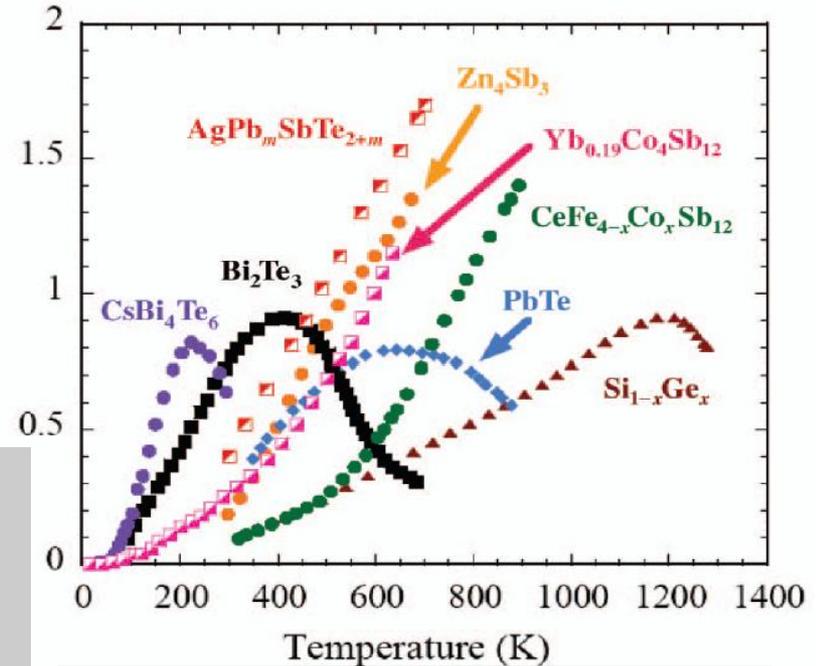
$T$  = Average temp;  $S$  = seebeck;

$\sigma$  = electric conductivity;

$\kappa_e, \kappa_p$  = electron and phonon thermal conductivity



ZT



**ZT Vs Temperature Plot for known TE materials**

## PROGRESS:

- Employed direct write lithography to produce nanostructured devices
- Hopes to achieve super lattice of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3/\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_3$  with  $ZT \sim 2.4$



# Summary

## Message to Researchers



**AOARD seeks innovation in  
“FUNDAMENTAL, BASIC, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH”**

- Use AOARD’s three primary vehicles  
R&D..... WOS..... CSP.....
- Networking & Leveraging encouraged
  - Internal
    - AFRL Tech Directorate(TD) S&Es
    - AFOSR and XOARD PMs
  - External
    - University/ Non-Profit Orgs (USA and Foreign)
    - Other Gov’t Agencies
- With your participation, AOARD can foster basic science breakthroughs in India

**Creating Revolutionary Scientific Breakthroughs for the Air Force**



# Contact Information



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**Website: <http://www.wpafb.af.mil/AFRL/afosr/>**



# Thank You



## Questions

## Welcome!