

Meeting of the Office of Science Advisory Committee

The Honorable Darío Gil, Ph.D.
Under Secretary for Science

March 27, 2026



I. Origins

The awakening of American science and technology

July 1945

“The pioneer spirit is still vigorous within this nation. Science offers a largely unexplored hinterland for the pioneer who has the tools for his task. The rewards of such exploration both for the Nation and the individual are great. Scientific progress is one essential key to our security as a nation, to our better health, to more jobs, to a higher standard of living, and to our cultural progress.”

Vannevar Bush

Director, Office of Scientific Research and Development



President Truman signs the Atomic Energy Act of 1946



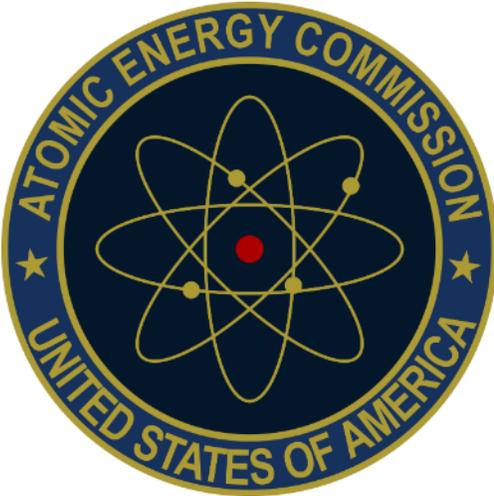
J. Robert Oppenheimer
with Ernesto Lawrence
at the 184-inch cyclotron,
Berkeley, California 1946



Cyclotron,
Berkeley, California 1946



1946 → Today



Atomic Energy
Commission
1946



Energy Research
& Development
Administration
1975



Department
of Energy
1977

II. Foundational Research

We do foundational research
that drives U.S. science and
technology across industries

Our mission →

Deliver scientific discoveries and major scientific tools to transform our understanding of nature and advance the energy, economic, and national security of the United States.

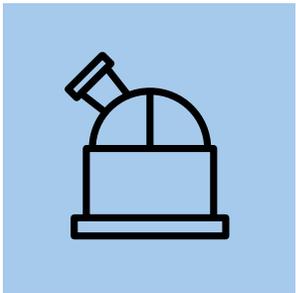
U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science

Mission areas →

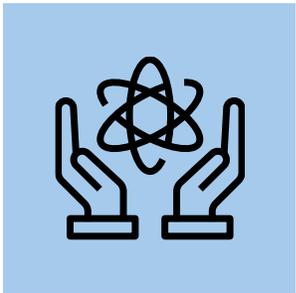
Foundational
research



Research infrastructure



National Laboratory
stewardship



U.S. Department of Energy

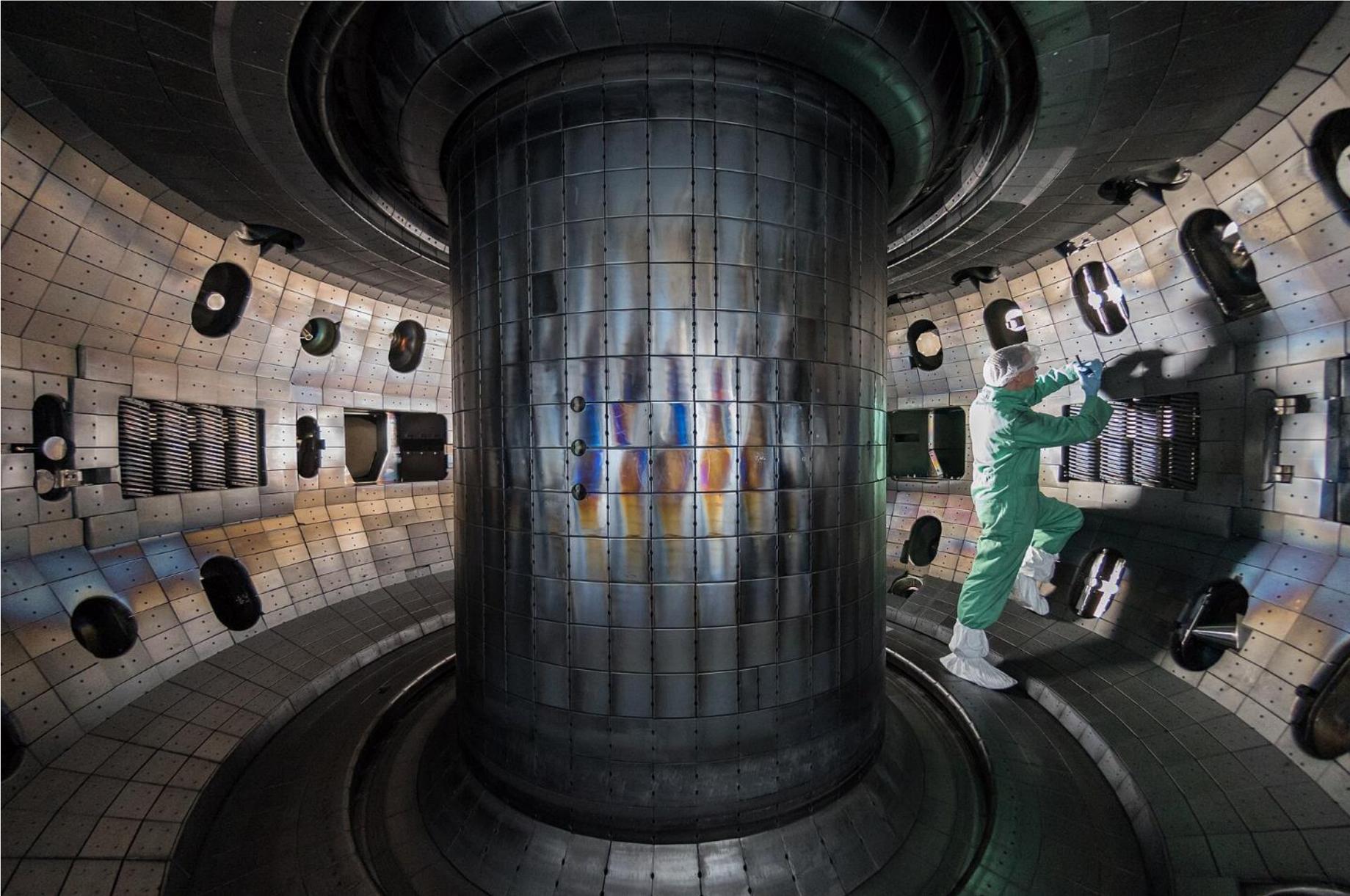
Office of Science

Research portfolio

- Advanced Scientific Computing Research
- Basic Energy Sciences
- Biological and Environmental Research
- Fusion Energy Sciences
- High Energy Physics
- Nuclear Physics
- Isotope R&D and Production

LSST Camera,
NSF-DOE
Vera C. Rubin Observatory





Basic Energy Sciences → Lithium-ion Batteries

Understanding and controlling materials and chemical processes across scales to drive transformative advances in energy technologies:

Accelerating battery materials discovery with HPC and AI

Revealing the behavior of operating batteries with neutrons

Understanding material degradation with electron microscopy

Characterizing interfaces with synchrotron X-ray techniques

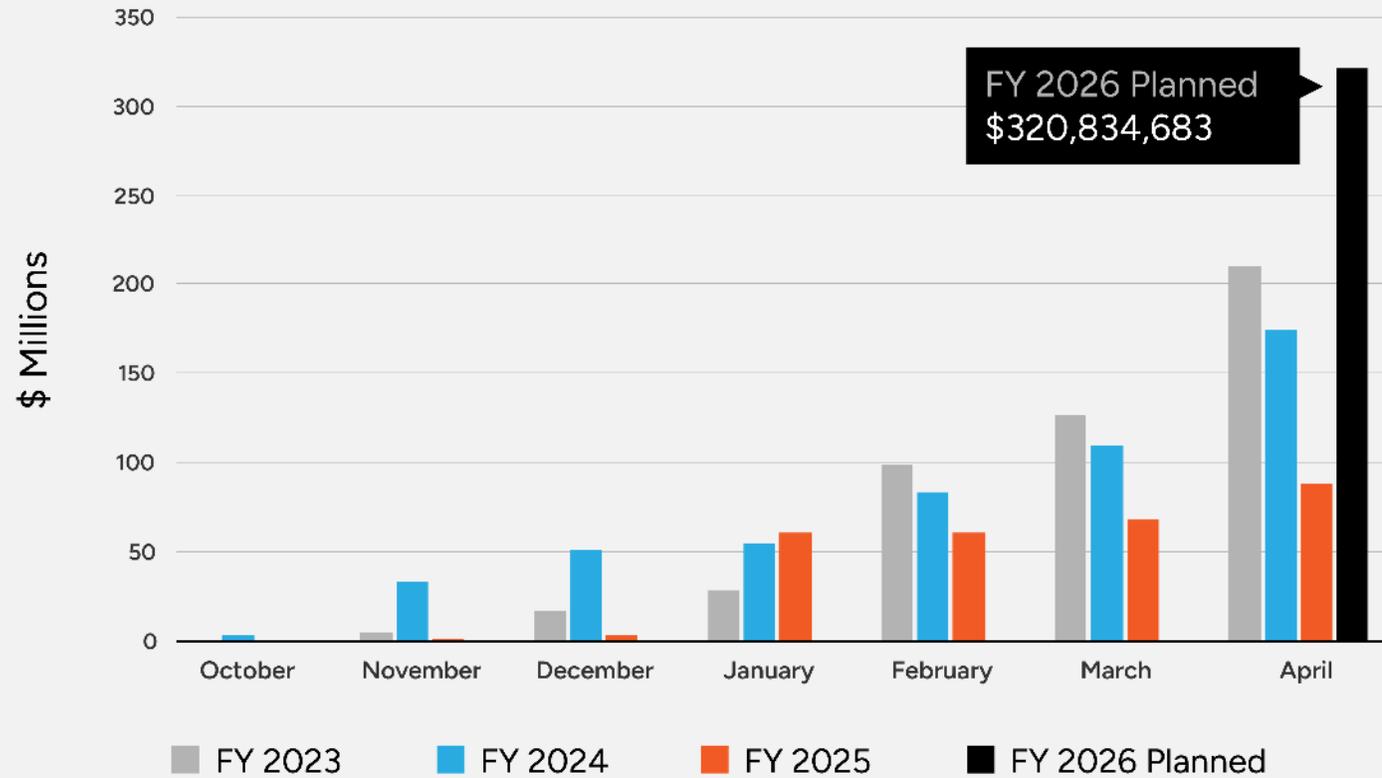


2019
Nobel Prize
in Chemistry



Industrial-scale production of iron-air batteries for the grid (form energy)

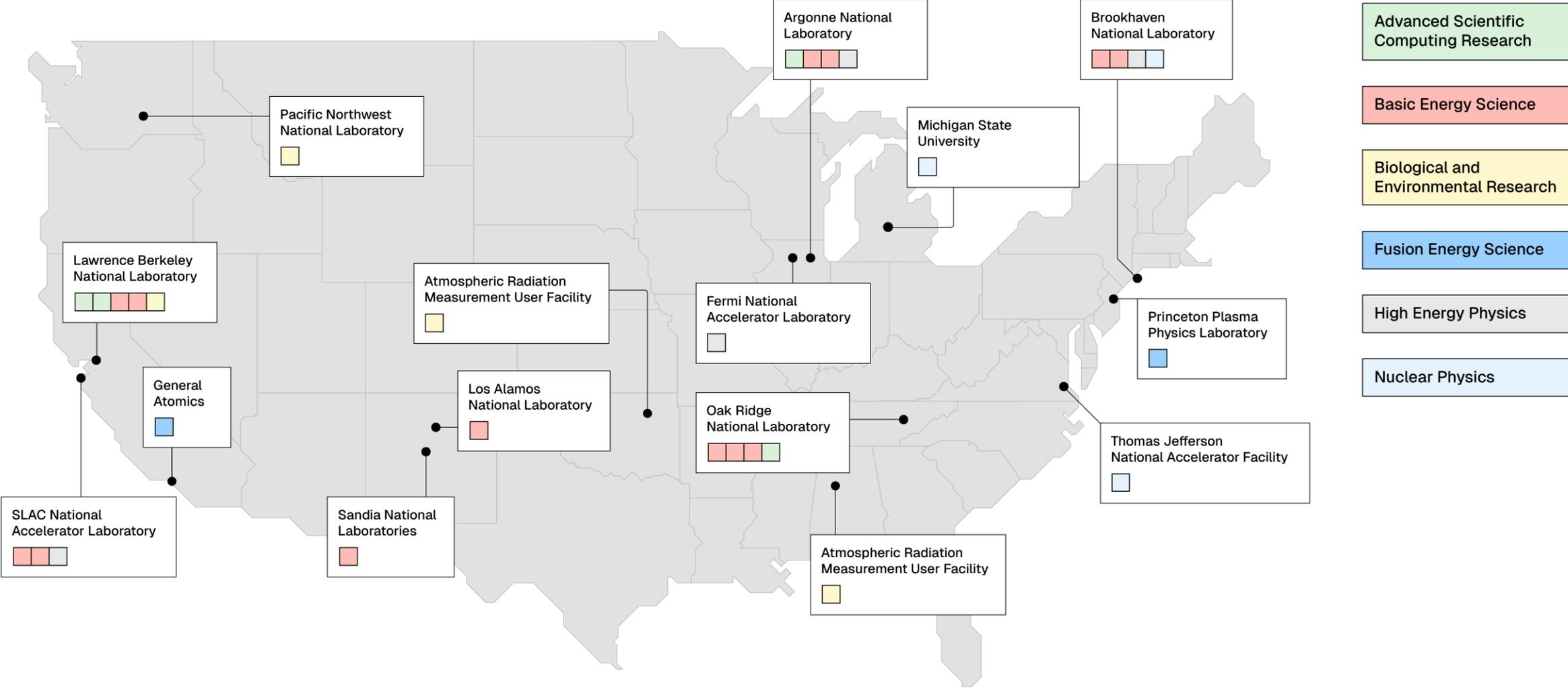
Cumulative Funding Awarded by Fiscal Year



III. Scientific Infrastructure

An unparalleled collection
of the world's most powerful
tools for science

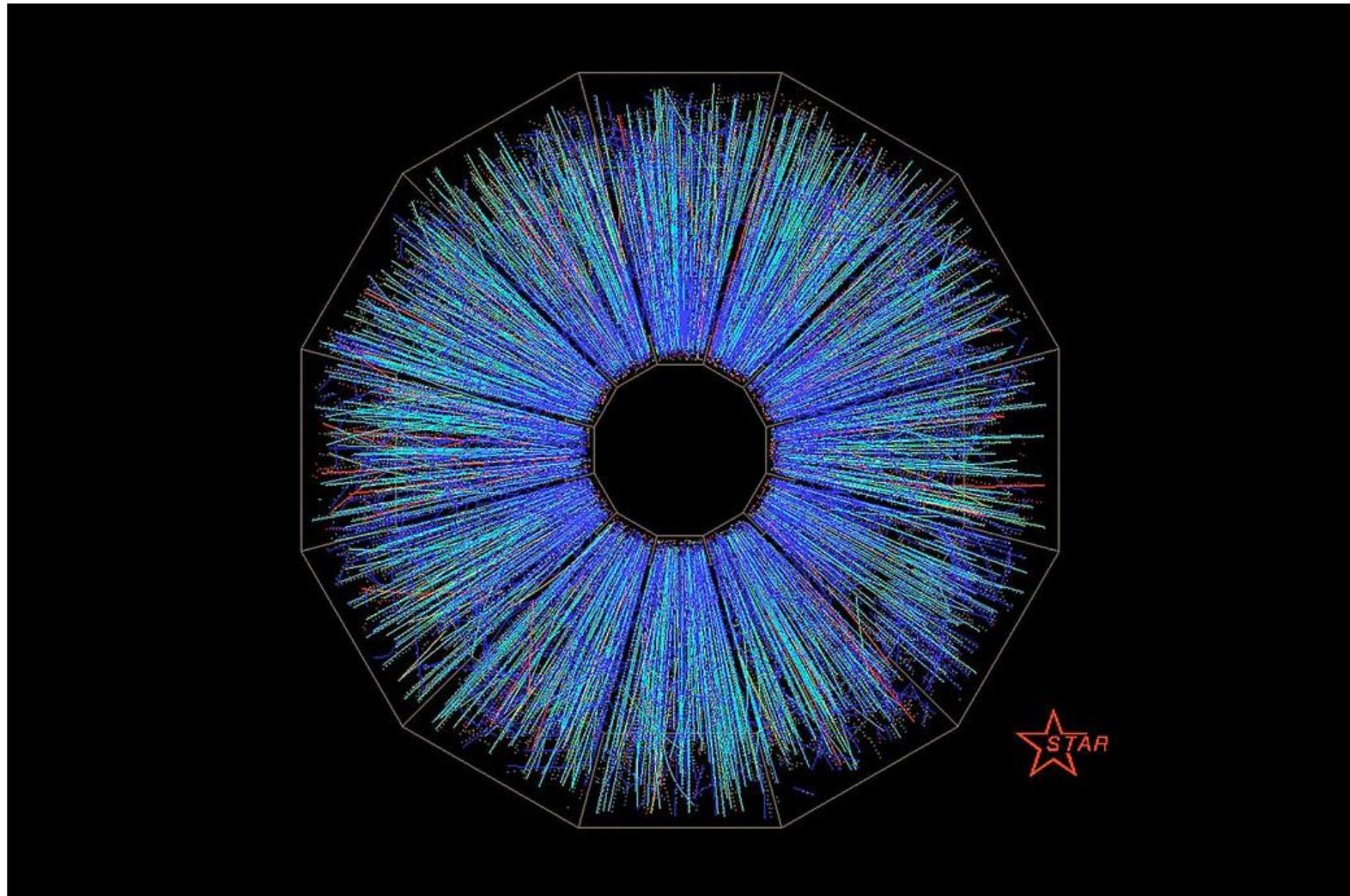
Office of Science → User facility locations



Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider,
Brookhaven National Laboratory



STAR detector,
Relativistic Heavy
Ion Collider,
Brookhaven National
Laboratory



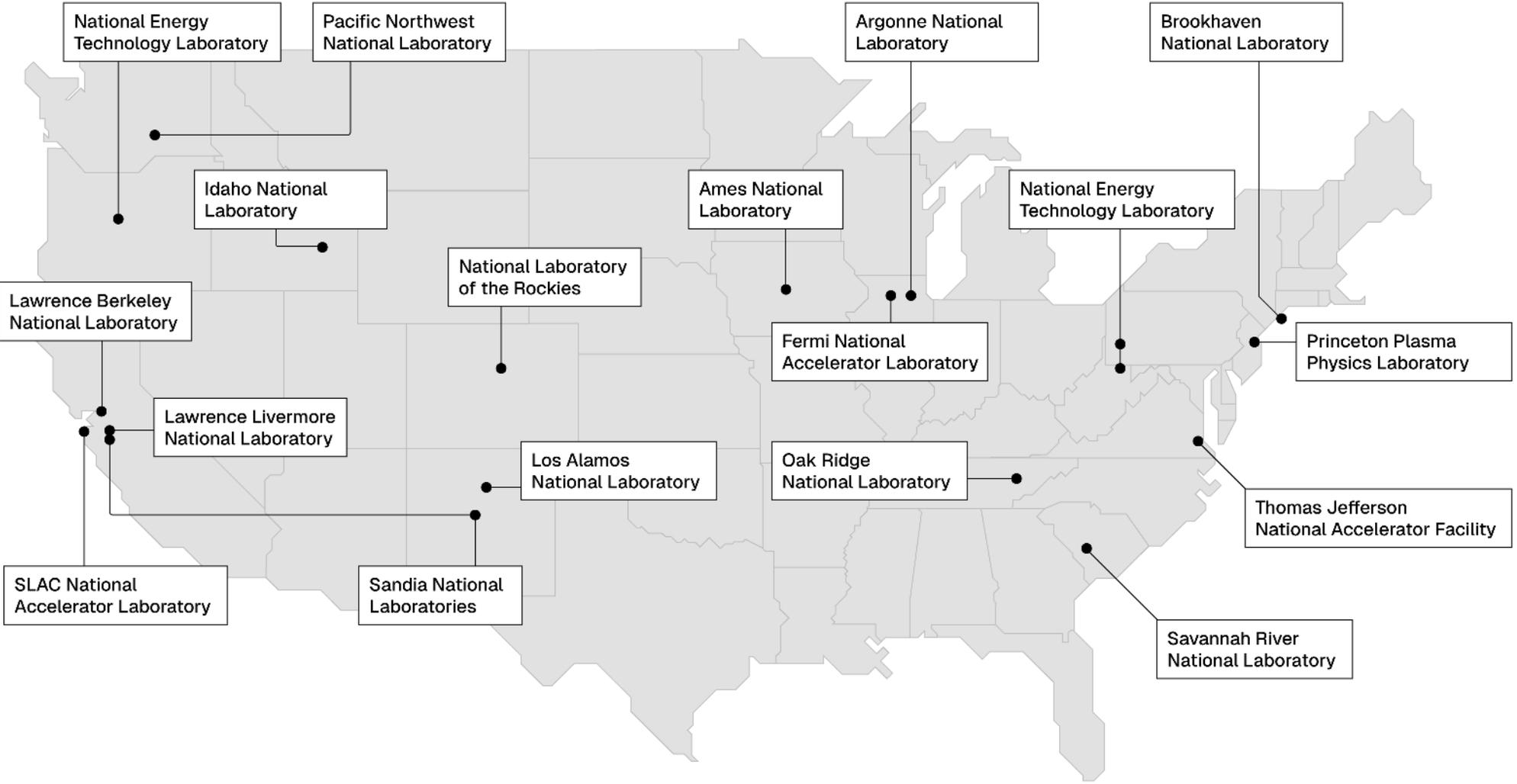
Frontier Supercomputer at the
Oak Ridge Leadership
Computing Facility,
Oak Ridge National Laboratory



IV. National Laboratory Stewardship

A testament to the power
of focused scientific inquiry
and collaborative innovation

DOE → National Laboratories



National Laboratories

17

Elements Discovered

22

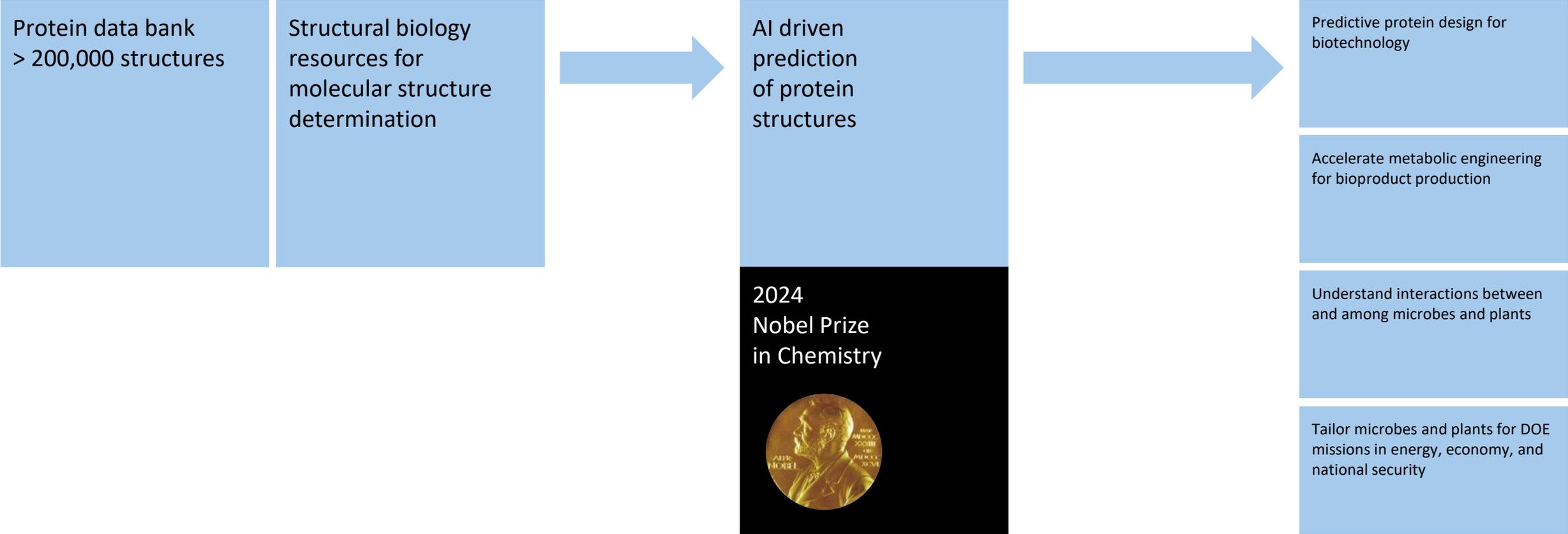
Nobel Prize Recipients

129

Production of gadolinium-153,
University of Missouri
Research Reactor



From protein structures to biotechnology applications

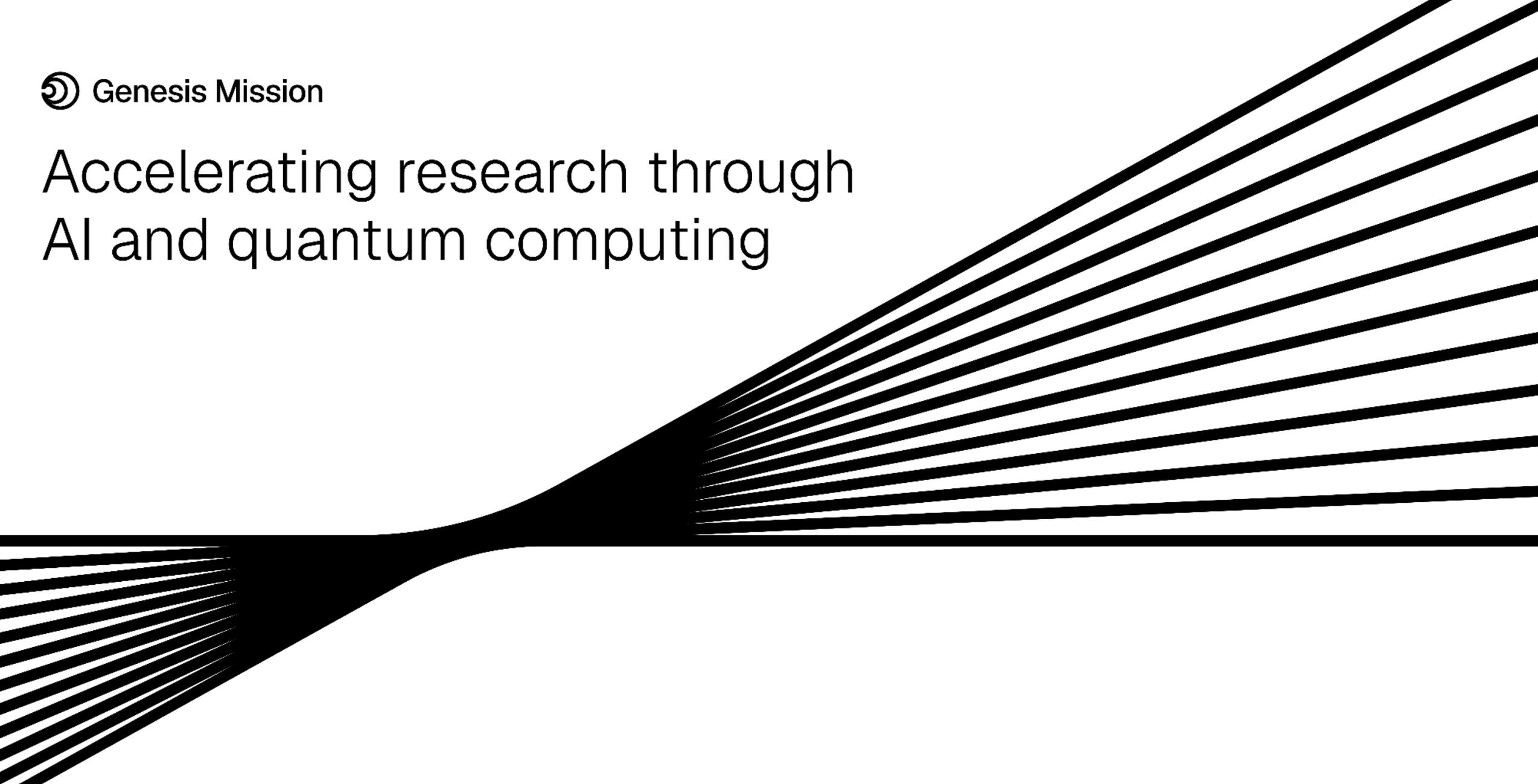


The endless frontier continues, powered by AI, HPC, and Quantum

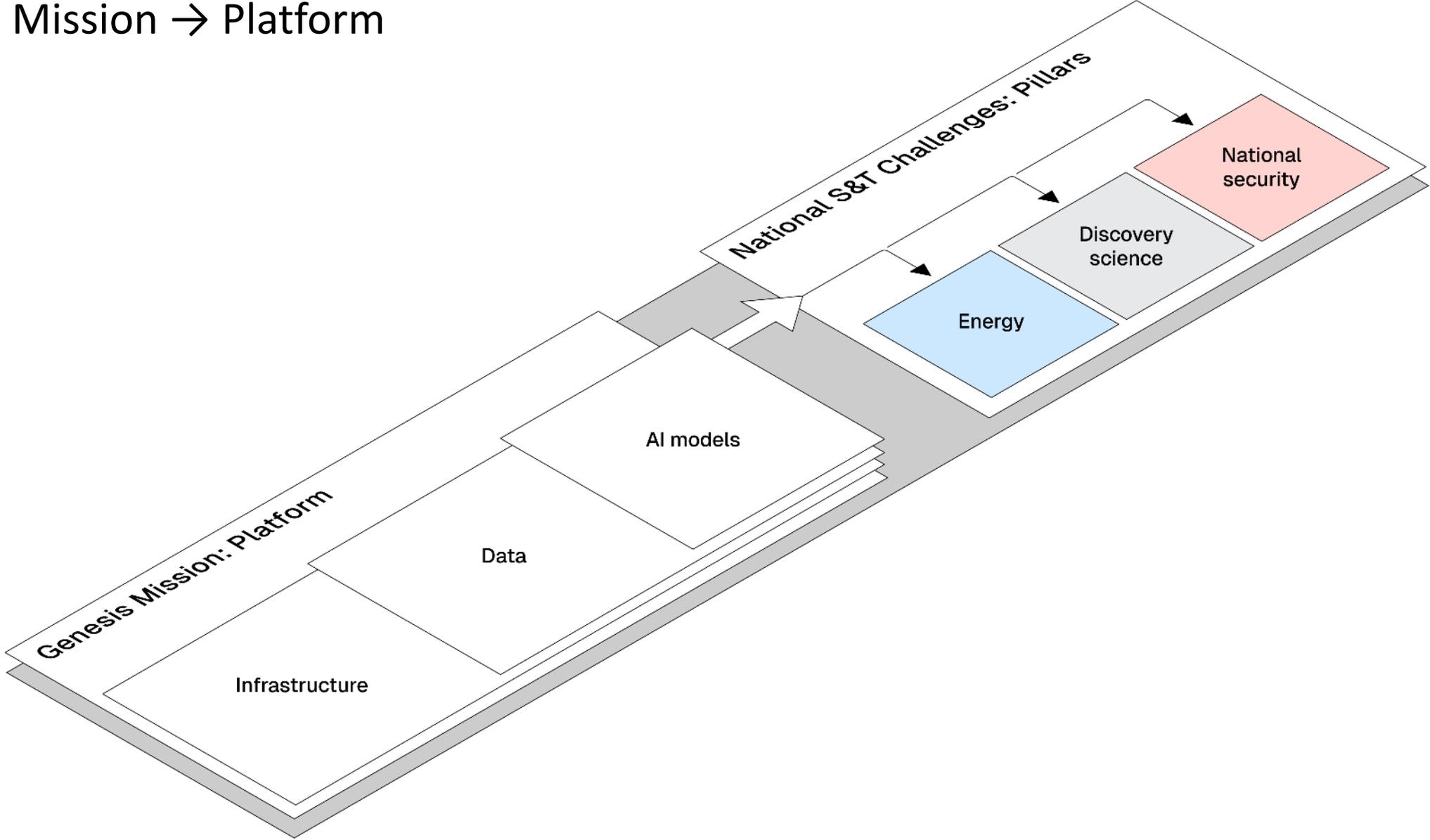


Genesis Mission

Accelerating research through AI and quantum computing

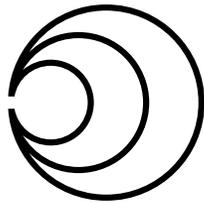


Genesis Mission → Platform



Genesis Mission: Accelerating research through AI and quantum computing

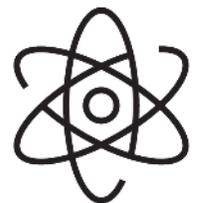
National Science
and Technology
Challenges



Energy



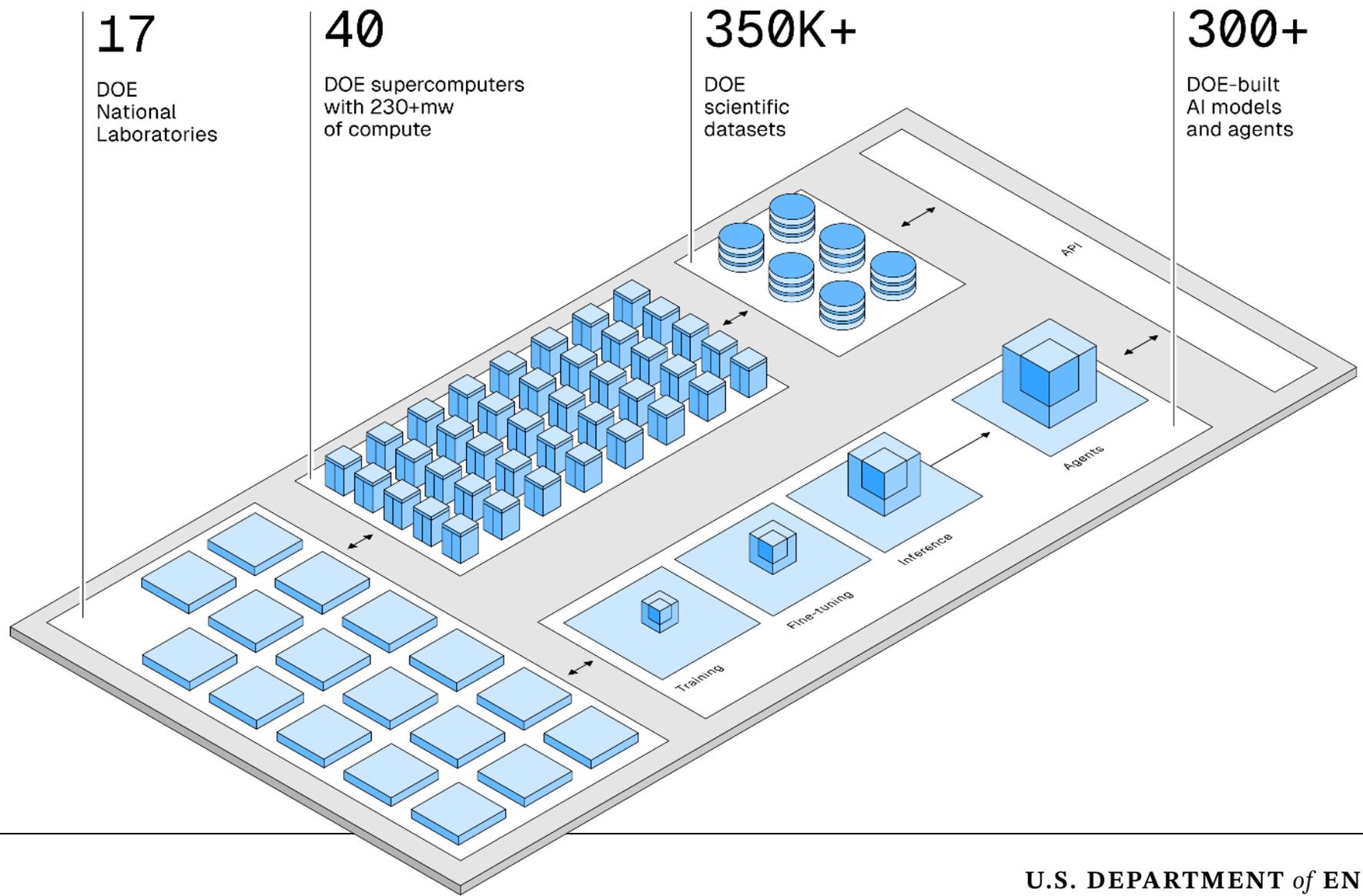
Discovery
Science



National
Security



Genesis Mission → Platform architecture



→ National Quantum
Initiative

Office of Science Advisory Committee Charges

Facilities of the Future
Subcommittee

AI for Transformative
Science Subcommittee

Thank you

A Scientific Renaissance

