

# *OVERVIEW OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE DOE, NNSA, AND NCI*

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Advanced Scientific Computing Advisory Committee*

*July 29, 2021*

# Topics

- *Collaboration background*
- *Governance and oversight*
- *Project overviews*
  - *Pilot 2: RAS Biology on Membranes*
  - *Pilot 3: Precision Cancer Surveillance*
  - *Innovative Methodologies and New Data for Predictive Oncology Model Evaluation (IMPROVE)*
  - *ATOM*
- *Developed capabilities*
- *New opportunities*

# Collaboration Background

# *Brief History*

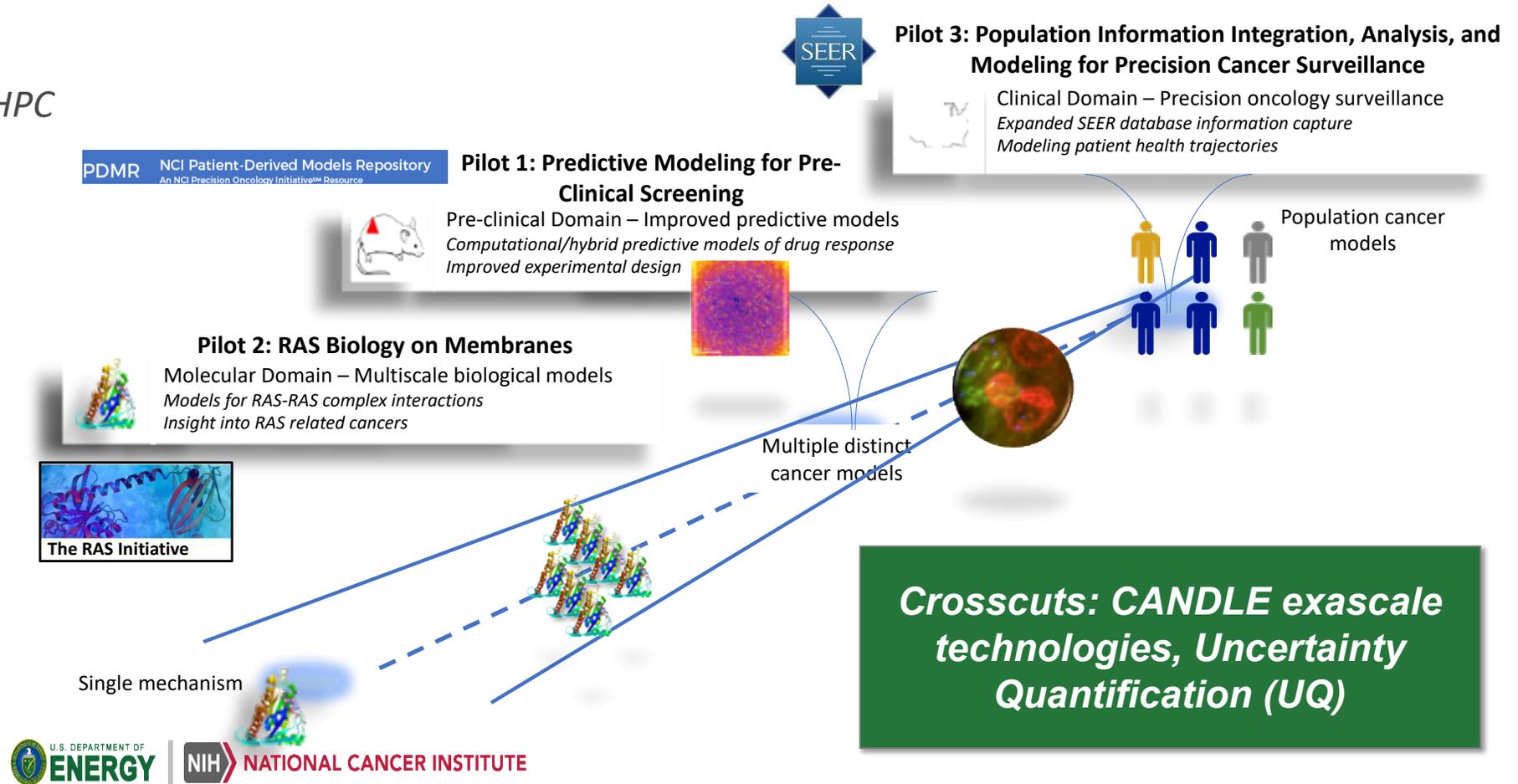
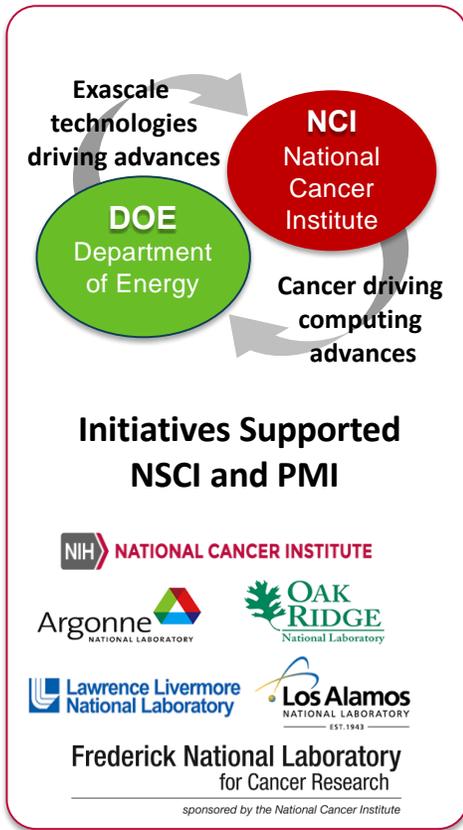
- **2014:** NSCI and PMI enabled potential for a joint High Performance Computing (HPC) focused collaboration between NCI and DOE
- **Winter – Spring of 2015:** started identifying a potential set of pilots
- **September 2015:** Presented to Frederick National Laboratory Advisory Committee (FNLAC; NCI FACA committee)
- **December 2015:** Presented to NCI Director Lowy and DOE Secretary Moniz
- **June 2016:** finalized original 5 year MOU between the two agencies
- **November 2019:** Pilot 2 wins best paper award at SC19
- **June 2021:** finalized new 5 year MOU between the two agencies (to be automatically renewed every 5 years)

# JDACS4C Pilots: Pioneering New Computational Capabilities

## Joint Design of Advanced Computing Solutions for Cancer (JDACS4C)

2016-present

NCI-DOE partnership to advance HPC through cancer research



# Governance and Oversight

# Original Governance and Oversight

Frederick National Laboratory  
for Cancer Research

sponsored by the National Cancer Institute

## FNLAC NCI-DOE Collaboration Working Group

## NCI-DOE Collaboration Governance Review Committee

## FNLAC NCI-DOE Collaboration Task Force

<b>Member composition</b>	~15 extramural NCI and DOE funded scientists with expertise in computational and biological domain areas	~15 senior federal leadership and program leads from NCI and DOE	~12 extramural and intramural scientists with expertise in computational and cancer domain areas
<b>Meeting Frequency</b>	2-3 times per year	2-3 times per year	<i>Ad hoc</i> from May – Oct 2020
<b>Charge/role</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technical evaluation of JDACS4C pilot projects</li> <li>- Exploring additional areas for mutually beneficial NCI-DOE collaborations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guidance on strategy, policy, program management, budget</li> <li>- Communication with federal government and executive branch</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review and assess merits of individual projects</li> <li>- Evaluate whether NCI-DOE Collaboration should continue and become a sustainable and stable partnership</li> <li>- Recommend future directions for NCI-DOE Collaboration</li> </ul>

## *Overall Task Force Recommendations*

- NCI-DOE Collaboration is uniquely suited to address certain critical challenges in cancer research and should continue
- The current pilots are really large, full-scale projects, and should be evaluated as such
- Future projects should be developed and reviewed by a more structured and rigorous approach
- Increase engagement with NCI extramural community
- Establish project-specific advisory groups

## *Project-Specific Task Force Recommendations*

- **Pilot 1 should be concluded:** Insufficient available and pertinent data, insufficient integration with NCI investigators doing predictive modeling
- **Pilot 2 should be continued:** Greater focus on refining the coarse-grain models based on data from the atomic-level simulations and on experimental validation
- **Pilot 3 should be continued:** Greater focus on implementation and multi-institutional deployment of the developed APIs, and expansion beyond SEER

# New MOU Governance and Oversight



## NCI-DOE Collaborations Scientific & Technical Advisory Committees

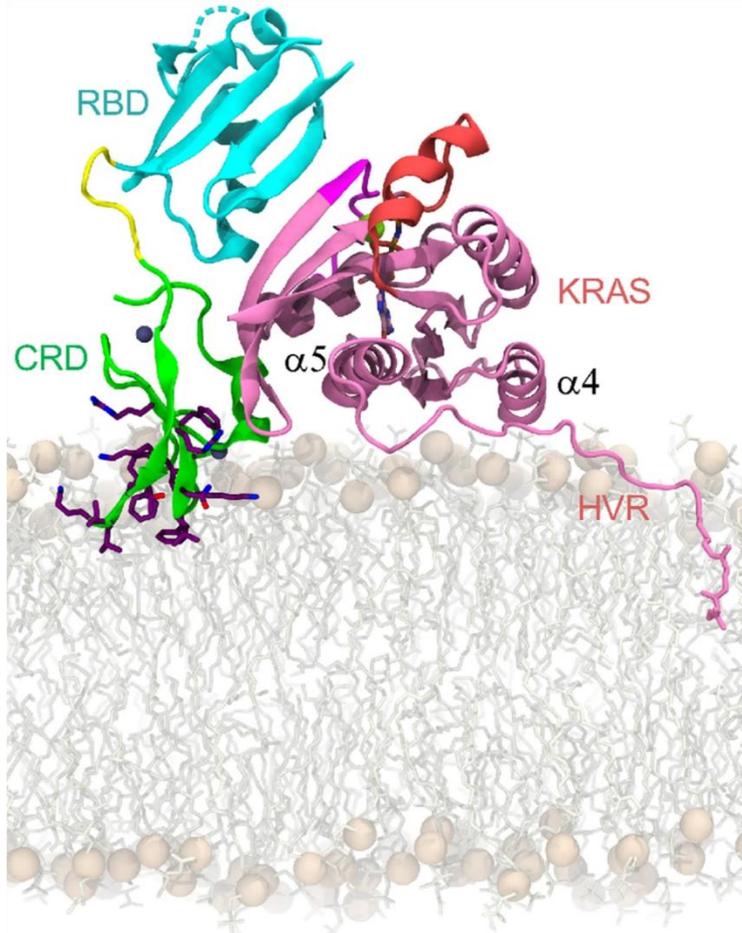
## NCI-DOE Collaborations Executive Committee

<b>Number</b>	1	1 per project	1
<b>Member composition</b>	TBD	4-6 scientists per committee with targeted, deep expertise relevant to the assigned project	NCI: Drs. Sharpless, Lowy, Singer DOE: Drs. Binkley & Helland (SC), Dr. Anderson & Ms. Hoang (NNSA)
<b>Member selection</b>	TBD	by project leads in consultation with Exec Committee	by agency leadership
<b>Meeting Frequency</b>	TBD	Quarterly or as needed	3 times per year
<b>Charge/role</b>	TBD	Project-specific, in-depth scientific and technical guidance and advisement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interagency strategic partnership status and relationship health</li> <li>- Overall funding</li> <li>- Program priorities</li> <li>- Implementation of ASCAC recommendations</li> </ul>

# Project Overviews

# Pilot 2: RAS Biology on Membranes

Co-PIs: Fred Streitz (LLNL), Dwight Nissley (FNL)



**Overall goal:** deepen understanding of RAS biology and identify new drugs for RAS-related cancers through the integrated development and use of new simulations, predictive models and next-generation experimental data.

## Aims:

- Understand how RAS and extended RAS complexes are activated
- Provide insight into RAS intracellular signaling
- Propose potential new therapies targeting RAS

**Applies** multi-scale molecular dynamics simulations of RAS-RAF interactions on realistic, lipid-bilayer membranes

## Current capabilities (examples):

- Feature reduction of molecular dynamics simulation output using an autoencoder (P2B1)
- Simulation of curved bilayer membrane surfaces (MemSurfer)
- Determination of important samples in a constantly changing dataset (Dynim)

Fig. 7c from Tran, T.H., Chan, A.H., Young, L.C. *et al.* KRAS interaction with RAF1 RAS-binding domain and cysteine-rich domain provides insights into RAS-mediated RAF activation. *Nat Commun* 12, 1176 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-021-21422-x>

# Pilot 3: Population Information Integration, Analysis, and Modeling (1)

Co-PIs: Gina Tourassi (ORNL), Lynne Penberthy (NCI)

**Goal:** Modernize national cancer surveillance program (NCI's SEER program) by developing and deploying scalable deep learning solutions

## Data:

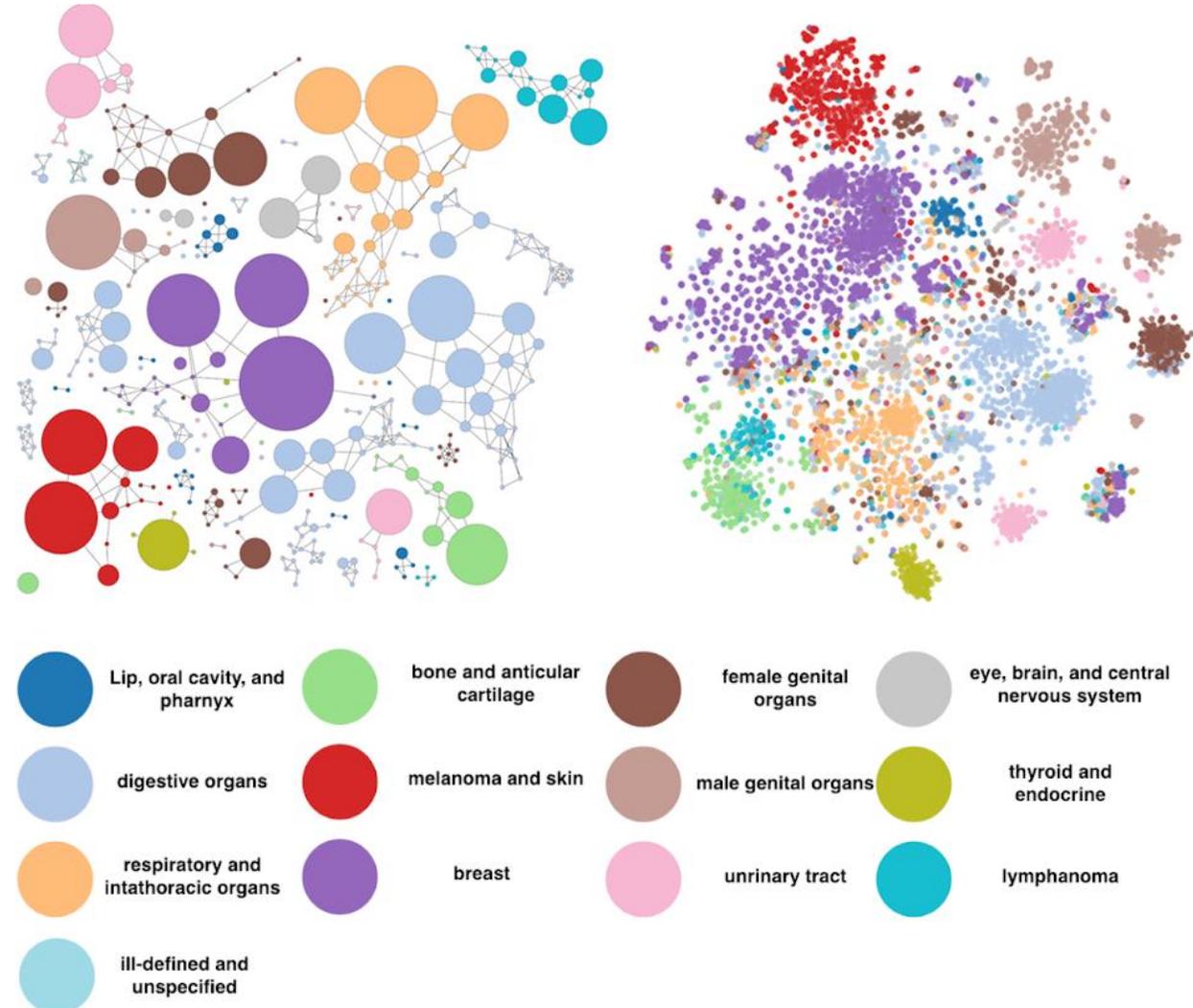
- 7 SEER cancer registries
- 1M unique cancer patients
- 3.5M cancer pathology reports
- Annotations for key data elements such as site, histology, behavior, etc.

## Methods:

- Report-based and patient-based AI solution for information abstraction, reportability, recurrence
  - Convolutional neural networks
  - Self-attention networks
  - Large-scale Transformer language models
- Uncertainty quantification, abstention, active learning, knowledge distillation, etc.

## Deployment:

- 15% workload reduction for Georgia cancer registry
- Test deployments in other SEER registries in 2021

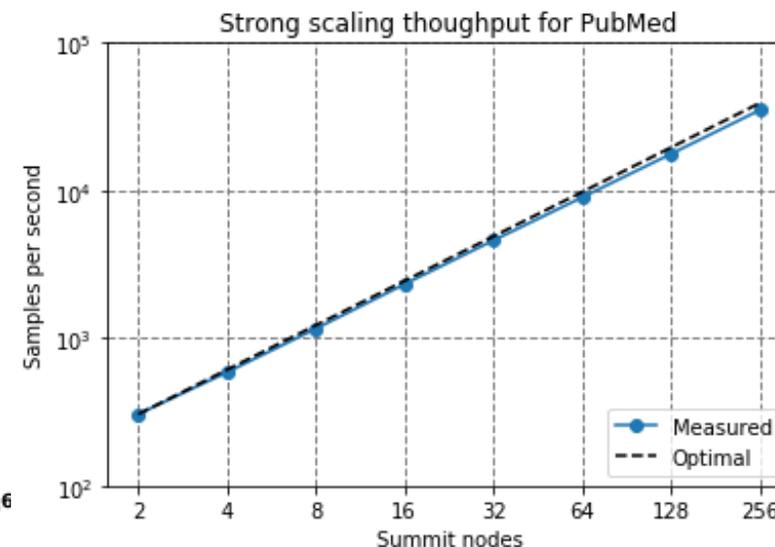
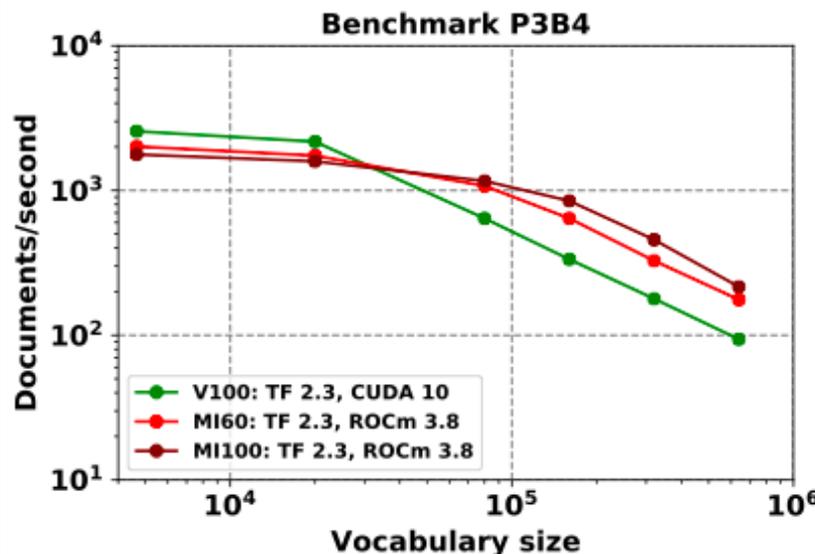
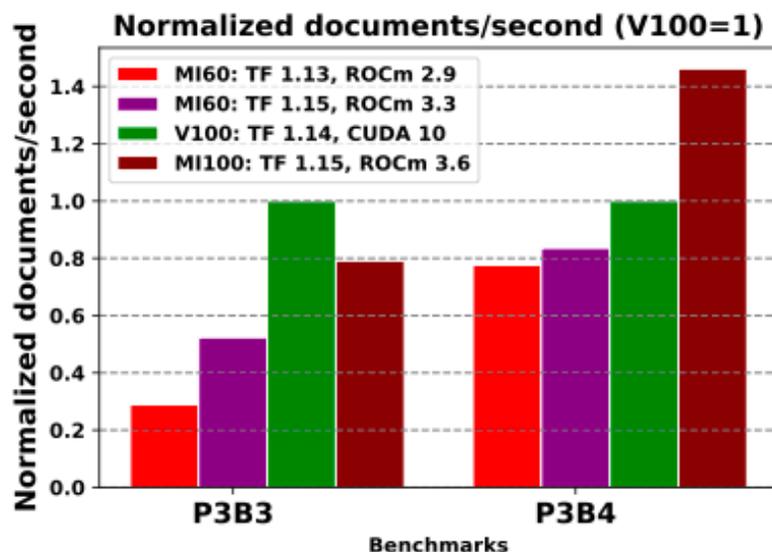


# Pilot 3: Population Information Integration, Analysis, and Modeling (2)

## DOE infrastructure critical to the pilot:

- Knowledge Discovery Infrastructure at ORNL - Secure PHI enclave with GPU computing resources for data storage and AI model development
- CITADEL – A privacy-preserving computing solution that enables secure large-scale training and hyperparameter optimization of deep learning models using PHI data on Summit (and future OLCF systems)
- Summit - ALCC allocation for development of large-scale Transformer language models for clinical NLP
- Frontier - Optimizing Transformer pipeline on early access hardware

**Impact to exascale mission:** Delivering general software modules on Summit and Frontier for large scale (1000+ node) pretraining of Transformer language models for clinical, biomedical, and other domain science applications



# *IMPROVE: Innovative Methodologies and New Data for Predictive Oncology Model Evaluation (1)*

PI: Rick Stevens (ANL)

## ■ **Project Goals:**

1. Development of a robust framework for comparing **deep learning** cancer drug response models
2. Design and execution of high-throughput experiments aimed at producing new datasets

## ■ **Aim 1: Develop a deep learning model comparison framework**

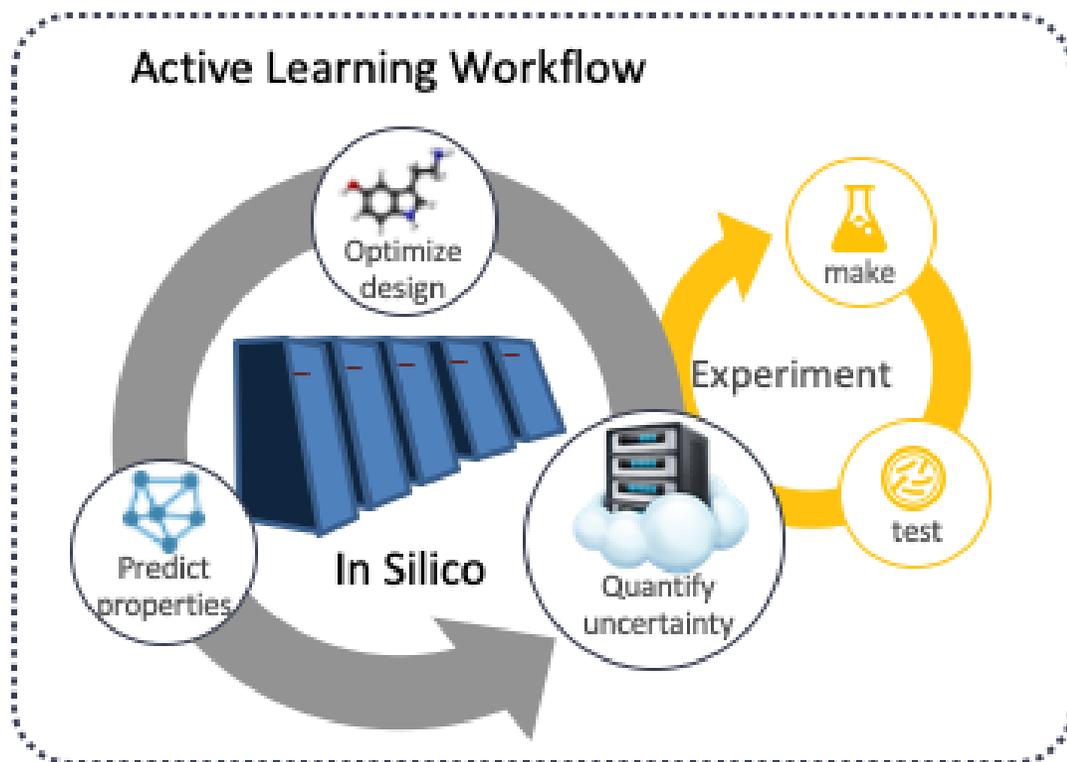
- Models will be developed in context generalizability (tumor and drug) and advancing interpretability, explainability, and fairness
- NCI will fund 3-5 *extramural model design groups* to actively collaborate with ANL in developing and comparing cancer drug-response DL models

\* IMPROVE is loosely inspired by the long-standing DOE effort to compare climate model performance supported by BER

# *IMPROVE: Innovative Methodologies and New Data for Predictive Oncology Model Evaluation (2)*

- **Aim 2: Data Generation to Improve Drug Response Models**
  - Development of "*experimental campaign proposals*" aimed at elucidating what new experimental data are needed to augment existing training data for improving DL drug response prediction models
  - This approach to AI oriented experimental design is also expected to translate to many areas of DOE research and to couple well with research efforts in autonomous discovery
  - ANL will fund one or more *data generation groups* from the public and/or private sectors
- **IMPROVE Anticipated Results:** new datasets optimized for improving ML models, a model comparison framework, a deeper understanding of current landscape of drug response modeling, and new and improved predictive oncology models

# Accelerating Therapeutics for Opportunities in Medicine (ATOM)



Goal: Accelerate and democratize drug discovery and optimization

We'll do this by ....

1. Demonstrating acceleration and effectiveness of AI and computing-driven molecular discovery and optimization
2. Developing, validating, and releasing an open platform for molecular discovery and design
3. Applying the platform to making molecules for work on cancer, infectious disease, and underserved needs in the public good

Founding Organizations  
October, 2017

Frederick National Laboratory  
for Cancer Research

Experimental biology,  
data analytics, open  
data and models

UCSF

Cancer biology and  
new assay  
development

Lawrence Livermore  
National Laboratory

High performance  
computing, data  
science, and molecular  
design

gsk

Drug discovery,  
chemistry, and  
historical dark data

ATOM

# Developed Capabilities

# CANDLE: CANCER Distributed Learning Environment

## Highlights of Deep Learning Framework

- Open source, Deep Learning software platform accelerates three cancer research challenges:
  - **PILOT 1 - Drug response:** Predictions of tumor response to drug treatments, based on molecular features of tumor cells and drug descriptors
  - **PILOT 2 - RAS pathway:** Identification of key molecular interactions, based on molecular dynamics simulations of proteins, specifically RAS
  - **PILOT 3 - Treatment strategy:** Better characterization of cancer patient trajectories and outcomes using a growing compendium of clinical information
- Scales efficiently on the world's most powerful supercomputers, enabling exascale capabilities
- Current functionalities (on NIH's Biowulf supercomputer):
  - Hyperparameter optimization (HPO) of machine/deep learning models using either grid or Bayesian search
- CANDLE benchmarks are publicly available on Github:
  - **Benchmarks:** <https://github.com/ECP-CANDLE/Benchmarks>
  - **Documentation:** <https://ecp-candle.github.io/Candle/html>
  - **FTP site:** <https://ftp.mcs.anl.gov/pub/candle/public>

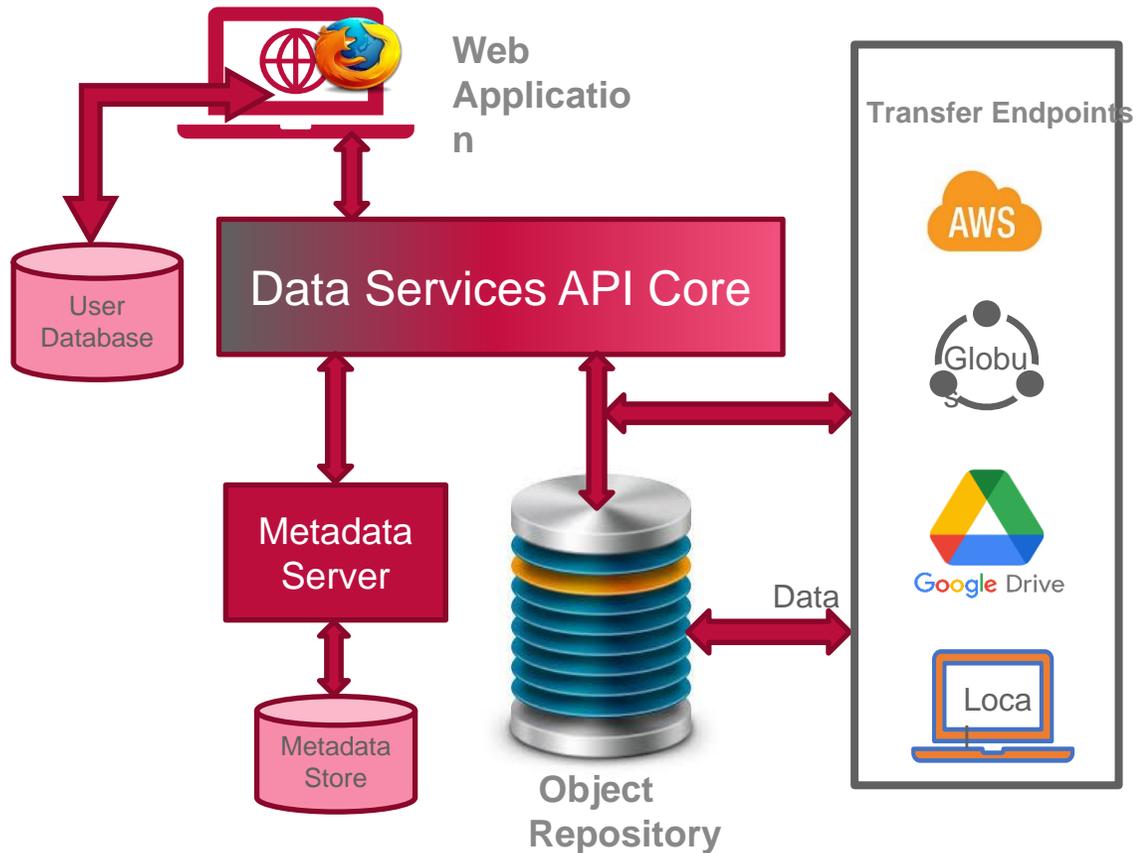


**At NIH, CANDLE has been used for hyperparameter optimization of models related to analysis of cellular images, e.g., segmentation of subcellular structures such as mitochondria**

**CANDLE is also being used for Uncertainty Quantification (UQ) for some of the computational models developed in the pilots**

# Predictive Oncology Model and Data Clearinghouse (MoDaC)

<https://modac.cancer.gov>



- **Clearinghouse for annotated mathematical models and data sets from NCI-DOE collaborations, including JDACS4C and ATOM**
  - *User-friendly, public facing web interface*
  - *Metadata based search capability for locating models and datasets.*
  - *Multiple data download options including transfer to AWS S3 bucket.*
  - *Public REST API interface*
    - *Programmatic discovery and retrieval of assets.*
    - *Integration with modeling and biomedical analysis platforms.*
- **DOI Support**
  - *Global identifier per asset.*
  - *Shareable link for citations.*

# NEW Capabilities for Public Use



NCI-DOE Collaboration Capabilities

<https://datascience.cancer.gov/collaborations/nci-doe-capabilities>

*For more information and technical support, contact:*  
[NCI-DOECapabilities@nih.gov](mailto:NCI-DOECapabilities@nih.gov)

Capability	Type	Impact
<b>Combo: Combination drug response predictor</b>	Model	Enables predictions of drug responses under different experimental configurations.
<b>Uno: Unified drug response predictor</b>	Model	Enables predictions of drug responses under different experimental configurations.
<b>ML-Ready Pathology Reports</b>	Data Set	Provides users with a pathology report data set to use with many of the other capabilities.
MT-CNN	Model	Allows automatic information extraction from free-form pathology report texts. Faster than HiSAN.
HiSAN	Model	Allows automatic information extraction from free-form pathology report texts. More accurate than MT-CNN.
ATOM Modeling PipeLine	Software	Offers an open source, modular, extensible software pipeline for building and sharing models to advance in silico drug discovery.
<b>CANDLE Software Stack</b>	Software	Enables hyperparameter optimization on machine/deep learning models.
<b>NT3: Normal-tumor pair classifier</b>	Model	Classifies RNA-seq gene expression profiles into normal or tumor tissue categories.
<b>TC1: Tissue type classifier</b>	Model	Allows classification of tumor type based on sequence data
DynIm	Software	Enables machine learning-based adaptive multiscale simulations for cancer biology where the input distribution can change over time and the sampling adapts itself to the new distribution.
<b>ANS: Autoencoder Node Saliency</b>	Software	Allows users to understand importance of neural network nodes in autoencoders.
MemSurfer	Software	Computes and analyzes membrane surfaces found in a wide variety of large-scale molecular simulations, enabling assessment of lipid membrane curvature and density.
<b>Active Learning for NLP Systems</b>	Software	Enables rapid annotation of pathology reports via active machine learning framework for natural language processing.

# List of Publications on the NCI website



Select publications

Data Sharing Data Commons Collaborations Resources News & Events Funding About Search

Collaborations



## NCI-DOE Collaboration Publications

The [Joint Design of Advanced Computing Solutions for Cancer \(JDACS4C\)](#) program is the focal point of the strategic, interagency collaboration between the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the US Department of Energy (DOE) to simultaneously accelerate advances in precision oncology and scientific computing.

Based on a multidisciplinary, team science approach, JDACS4C's three research pilots were co-designed by NCI and DOE; align with several existing NCI and DOE programs; and are jointly led by DOE and NCI supported scientists. These teams include scientists from NCI and Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research and experts from DOE national laboratories: principally [Argonne](#), [Lawrence Livermore](#), [Los Alamos](#), and [Oak Ridge](#).

Below is a list of the publications. For more information on the NCI-DOE Collaboration, visit the [JDACS4C](#) page.

<https://datascience.cancer.gov/collaborations/nci-doe-publications>

For more information contact: [NCI-DOECapabilities@nih.gov](mailto:NCI-DOECapabilities@nih.gov)

- 2020, [DeepFreeze: Towards Scalable Asynchronous Checkpointing of Deep Learning Models](#), 20th IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Cluster, Cloud and Internet Computing
- 2020, [Distributed Bayesian Optimization of Deep Reinforcement Learning Algorithms](#), Journal of Parallel and Distributed Computing
- 2020, [Generation and Evaluation of Synthetic Patient Data](#), BMC Medical Research Methodology
- 2020, [How Anionic Lipids Affect Spatiotemporal Properties of KRAS4B on Model Membranes](#), The Journal of Physical Chemistry B
- 2020, [Knowledge Graph-Enabled Cancer Data Analytics](#), IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computing
- 2020, [Presence or Absence of Ras Dimerization Shows Distinct Kinetic Signature in Ras-Raf Interaction](#), Biophysical Journal
- 2020, [Privacy-Preserving Deep Learning NLP Models for Cancer Registries](#), IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computing
- 2020, [Selective Information Extraction Strategies for Cancer Pathology Reports with Convolutional Neural Networks](#), Recent Advances in [Big Data and Deep Learning](#)
- 2020, [The Plasma Membrane as a Competitive Inhibitor and Positive Allosteric Modulator of KRas4B Signaling](#), Biophysical Journal
- 2020, [Using Case-level Context to Classify Cancer Pathology Reports](#), PLOS One
- 2019, [A Knowledge Graph Approach for the Secondary Use of Cancer Registry Data](#), 2019 IEEE EMBS International Conference on Biomedical & Health Informatics
- 2019, [A Massively Parallel Infrastructure for Adaptive Multiscale Simulations: Modeling RAS Initiation Pathway for Cancer](#), Proceedings of the International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storage and Analysis
- 2019, [Adversarial Training for Privacy-Preserving Deep Learning Model Distribution](#), 2019 IEEE International Conference on [Big Data \(Big Data\)](#)
- 2019, [AI Meets Exascale Computing: Advancing Cancer Research With Large-Scale High Performance Computing](#), Frontiers in Oncology
- 2019, [Autoencoder Node Saliency: Selecting Relevant Latent Representations](#), Pattern Recognition
- 2019, [Classifying Cancer Pathology Reports with Hierarchical Self-attention Networks](#), Artificial Intelligence in Medicine
- 2019, [Combating Label Noise in Deep Learning Using Abstention](#), Proceedings of the 36th International Conference on Machine Learning
- 2019, [Computationally Efficient Learning of Quality Controlled Word Embeddings for Natural Language Processing](#), 2019 IEEE Computer Society Annual Symposium on VLSI
- 2019, [Computing Long Time Scale Biomolecular Dynamics Using Quasi-stationary Distribution Kinetic Monte Carlo \(QSD-KMC\)](#), The Journal of Chemical Physics

# New Opportunities

*FY22 and beyond*

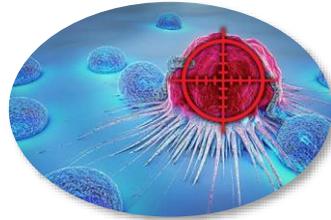
# Envisioning Computational Innovations for Cancer Challenges (ECICC)

## Community Driven Collaborative and Team Science Activities

### ECICC Scoping Meeting

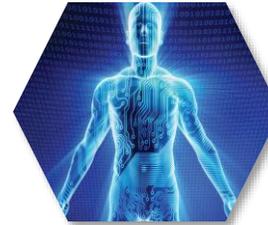
March 2019

>70 computational and cancer scientists;  
Four challenge areas:  
1) Digital twin,  
2) Adaptive treatment,  
3) Synthetic data,  
4) ML-driven hypothesis generation



### Cancer Patient Digital Twin Ideas Lab

July 2020



5-day virtual event  
130 applicants  
30 attendees  
6 experienced mentors  
6-month initial seed projects

### ECICC Community Site

Created 2019

Over 250 members  
Ongoing community platform  
Visit website at  
<https://ncihub.org/groups/cicc>



### Predictive Rad Onc Workshops

February 2021



Joint NCI and DOE organizing committee  
Extramural PI steering committee  
Explore frontiers of precision radiation therapy

<https://events.cancer.gov/cbiit/radonc2021>

Thank you

*Questions & comments?*