

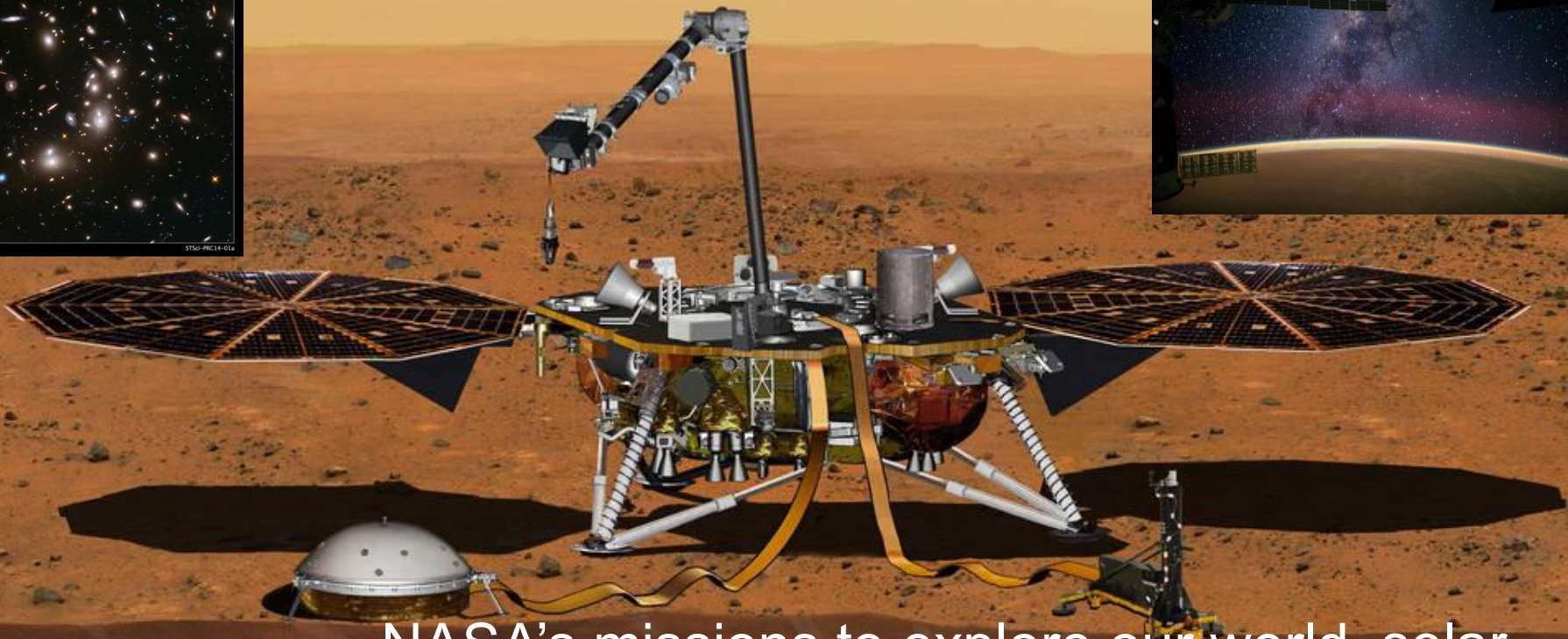


# A JOURNEY TO THE COOLEST JOB ON THE PLANET!

Dr. Vadim F. Lvovich  
Branch Chief,  
Materials Chemistry and Physics Branch  
NASA Glenn Research Center  
Cleveland, OH

January 18, 2018





NASA's missions to explore our world, solar system, galaxy and universe presents extraordinary complex challenges. These challenges can only be met with excellence in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education, innovation, and a lot of rigorous team work.

Where does excellence in STEM begin?



# Future Excellence in STEM Begins with YOU!

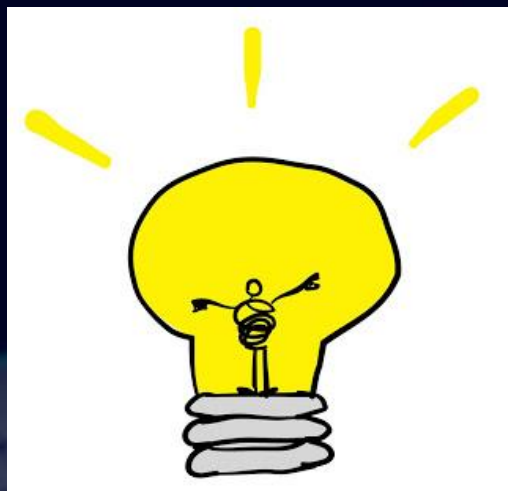
Look in a mirror!  
It begins with  
**YOU!**



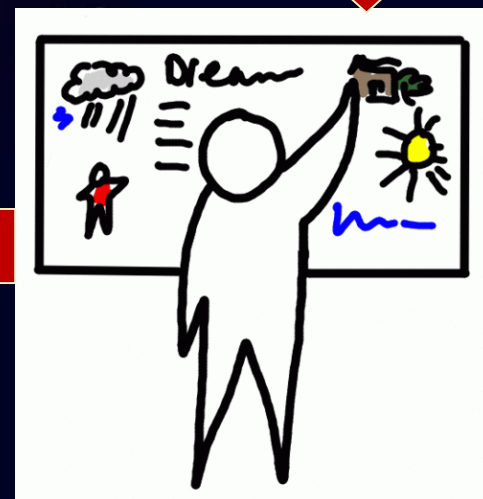
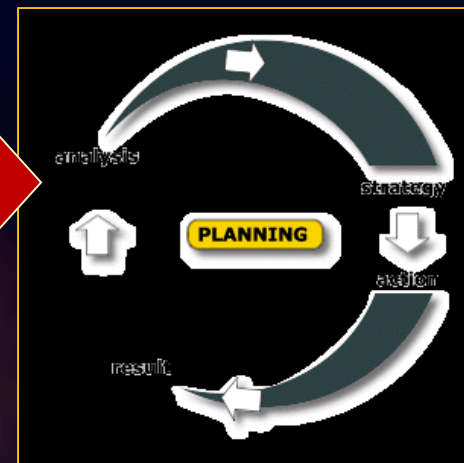
It's your **CHOICE!**

- Brain Power
- Love of Science & Technology
- Dedication
- Perseverance
- Flexibility
- Integrity
- And a little bit of confidence!

# Make a Plan → Achieve Your Goals



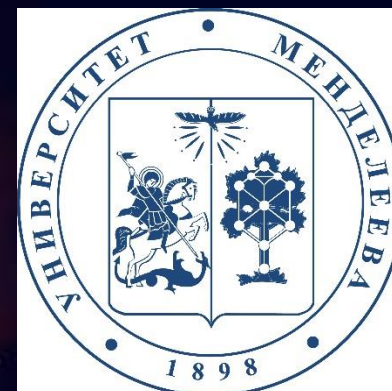
Ask yourself...  
What do I want?  
How can I get it?  
Where should I go?  
... and When?  
Who can help me?



# Educational Background



1992 B.S. / M.S. ElectroChemical Engineering  
Moscow University of Chemical Technology  
Research: Surface catalysis and adsorption of  
organic molecules on organized metal surfaces



1997 Ph.D. Chemical Engineering / Analytical  
Chemistry  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Research: Electrochemical biosensors for  
monitoring of complex biochemical systems







## Career in Industry

### **LUBRIZOL Corporation** (1998-2004)

Senior Research Scientist

Developed electrochemical *in-situ* fluid condition monitoring systems and sensors for traditional (ICE) and renewable (wind) energy sources



### **LUBRIZOL Corporation** (2005-2008)

Business Development Manager

Managed introduction of a line of diagnostic products and sensors (QDiS™, FluiSens™, FluiSys™) commercialized through Lubrizol partnerships with Continental AG and Delta Electronics.



### **CRANE Aerospace Corporation** (2011-2012)

Principle Engineer

Lead development of diagnostic products for aircraft engines





# Career in Academia

## ***Case Western Reserve University*** (2001- )



Adjunct Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering

Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy – Theory and Applications for studies of electrochemical processes in batteries, fuel cells, corrosion, biomedical devices, clinical applications, materials properties analysis



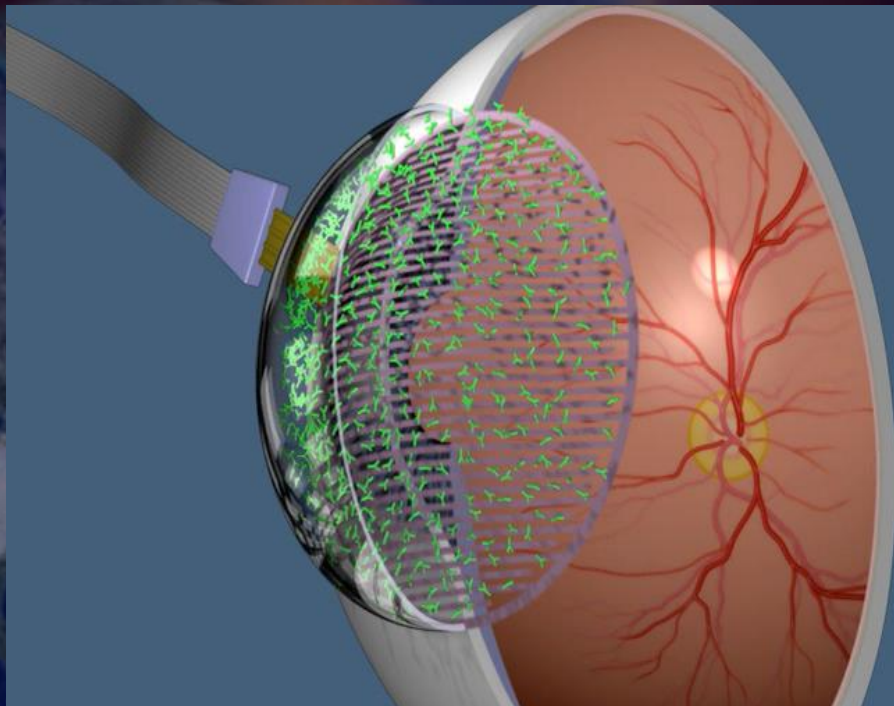
# Career at the Cleveland Clinic



## ***Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute*** (2008-2011)

Senior Staff, Biomedical Engineering

Lead development and commercial introduction of biomedical devices, sensors, wound care and drug delivery systems





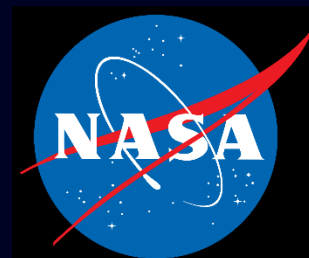


# Career at NASA

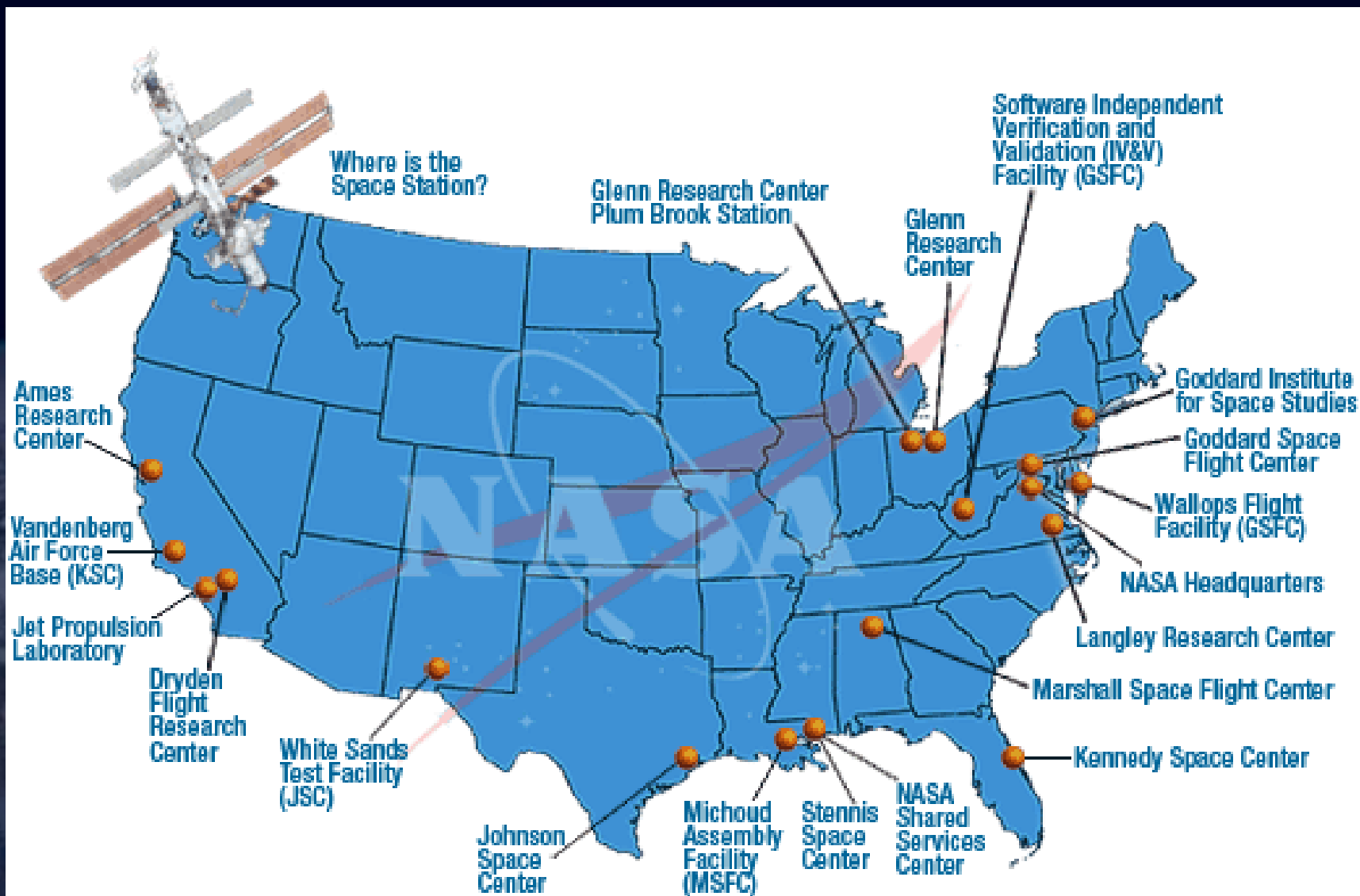
## ***NASA Glenn Research Center*** (2012- )

Branch Chief, Electrochemical Systems

Branch Chief, Materials Chemistry and Physics



# NASA Facilities





# Glenn Research Center



## Lewis Field

(Cleveland, OH)

- 350 acres
- ~ 1550 civil servants and 1500 contractors

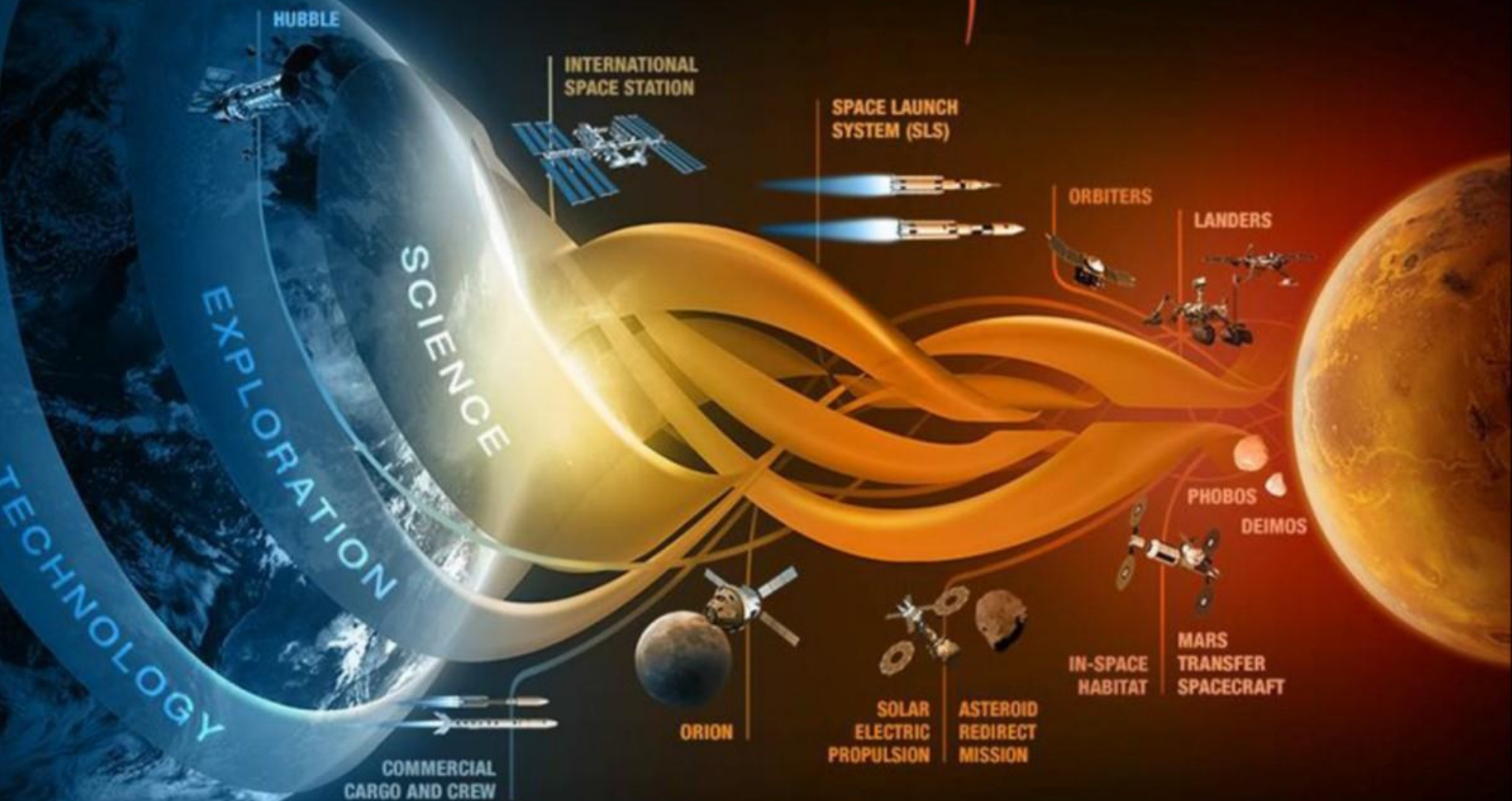


## Plum Brook Station Test Site (Sandusky, OH)

- 6500 acres
- ~ 10 civil servants and 100 contractors



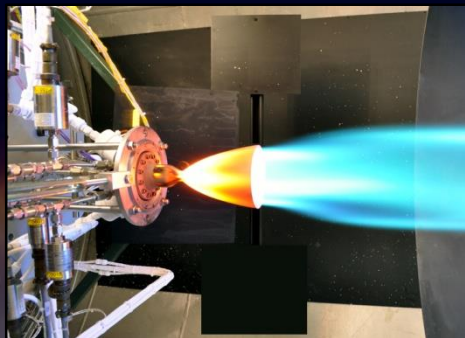
# JOURNEY TO MARS



# NASA Glenn Core Competencies



**Air-Breathing Propulsion**



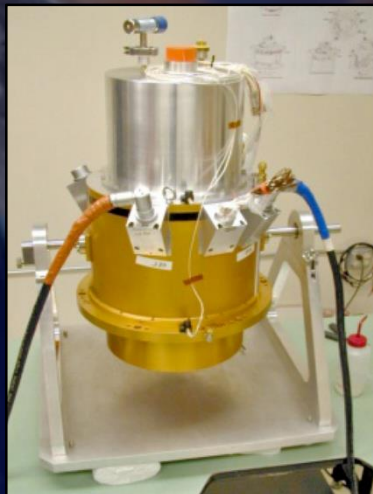
**In-Space Propulsion and  
Cryogenic Fluids Management**



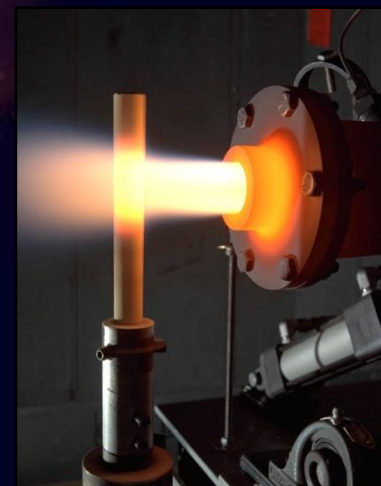
**Physical Sciences and  
Biomedical Technologies in Space**



**Communications Technology  
and Development**



**Power, Energy Storage and  
Conversion**



**Materials and Structures  
for Extreme Environments**



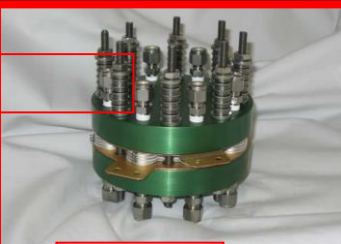
# Chief of Electrochemical Systems Branch

- The Branch plans, conducts and directs research and technology maturation efforts in the area of electrochemical systems.
- Power system is 20-30% of spacecraft mass and budget.

## Power Generation

### Fuel Cells

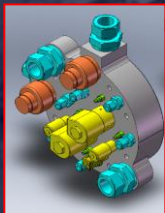
FC Stack



MEA



BOP

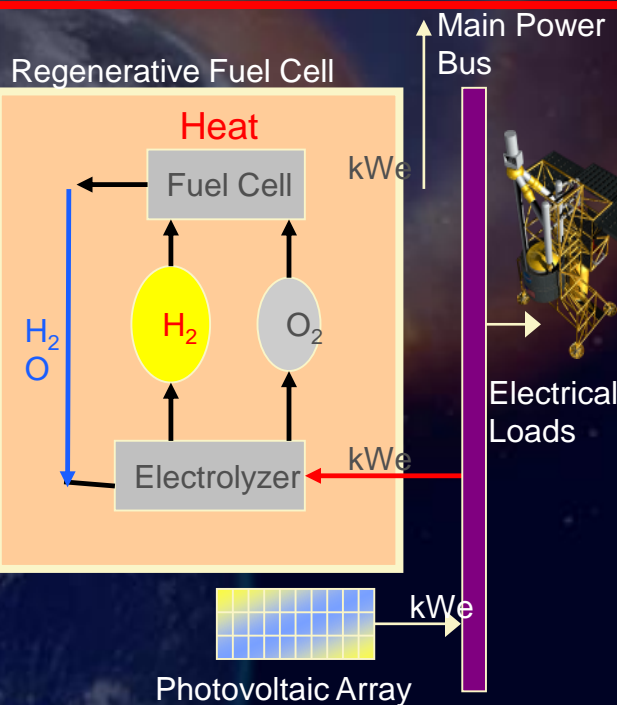


Electrolyzer Stack



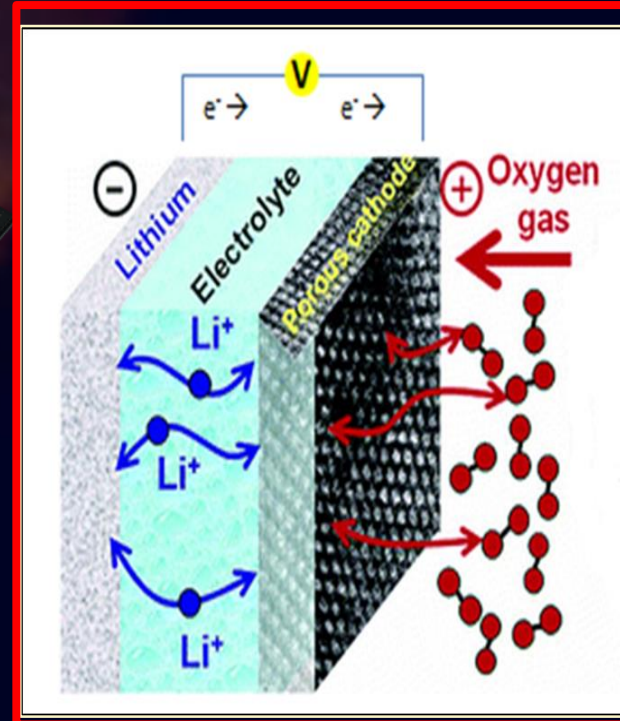
## Power Conversion

### Electrolyzers



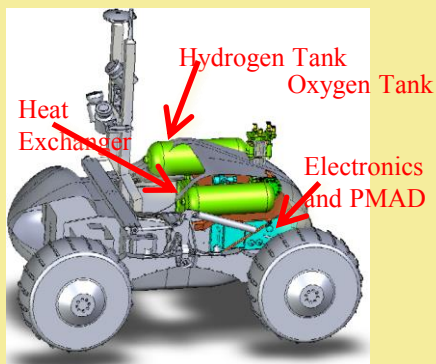
## Energy Storage

### Batteries





# NASA Drivers for High Performance Electrochemical Systems



## Planetary Rovers and Landers, Space Exploration:

- Fuel Cell provides primary power to drive exploration-class rovers, landers, & Space Launch System Exploration Upper Stage



## Electric Aviation

- Green aviation – Less noise, lower emissions, high efficiency
- Hybrid / All-electric aircraft – Limited by mass of energy storage system
- Commercial aviation – Safe, reliable, lightweight on-board electric auxiliary power unit



## Extravehicular Activities (Spacesuit power)

- Astronaut life support
- Safety and reliability are critical
- Requires >400 Wh/kg
- 100 cycles



## Life support & Mobile Oxygen Concentrator

- Electrolysis system
- Generates high pressure (>2000 psi) oxygen from CO<sub>2</sub> and / or water

Requirements far exceed the capabilities of current chemistries

➤ Progress in these areas requires advances in safe, low weight, very high energy batteries and fuel cells

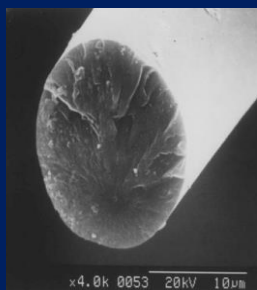
# Chief of Materials Chemistry and Physics Branch

## High Temperature Materials

Ceramic fiber materials



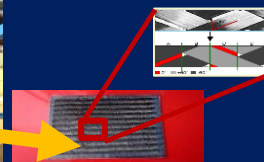
SiC fiber with  $>2700^{\circ}\text{F}$  temperature capability and mechanical stability



High temperature aluminosilicate aerogels for seals



High temperature Polymer composites

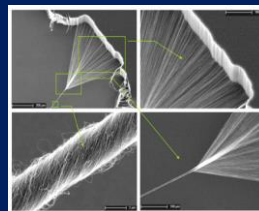


## Lightweight and Nanotechnology Materials

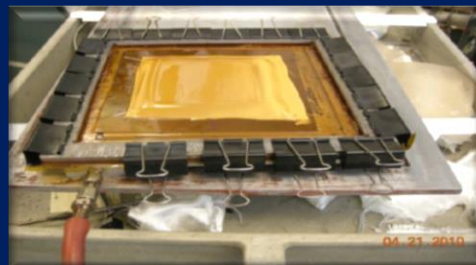
Flexible Aerogel



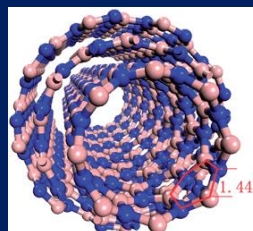
Nanotube Yarn



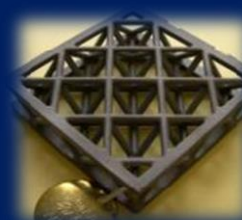
Carbon Fiber-CNT Yarn Hybrid Reinforcement



Boron Nitride nanotechnology



Lattice Block



## Power System and Multifunctional Materials

Materials for High Power Density Electric Motors



Lightweight Power Transmission Cable



Solid Oxide Fuel Cell Materials



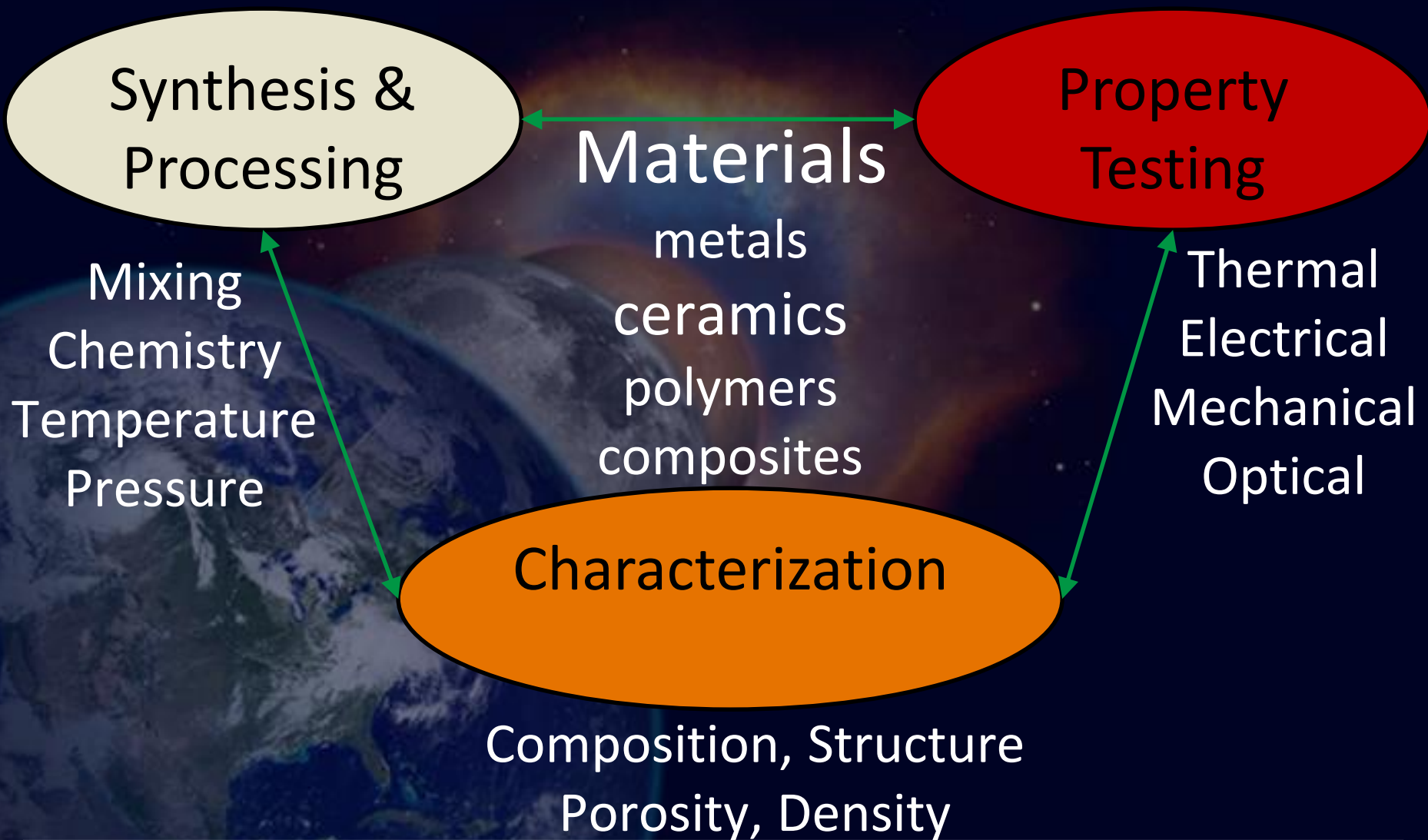
SiC High Voltage parts



Energy Storage Materials



# Materials Research





# Materials Research Driven by Key Aerospace Challenges

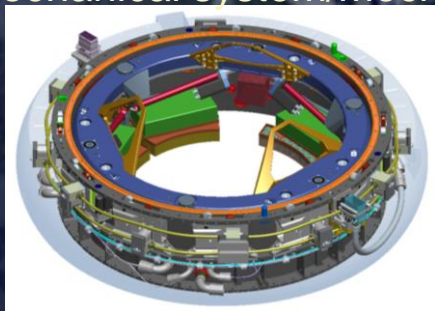


Advanced multifunctional materials for power, propulsion, communication systems

Higher temperature and harsh environment for aerospace propulsion and planetary entry



Lightweight and durable mechanical system/mechanisms

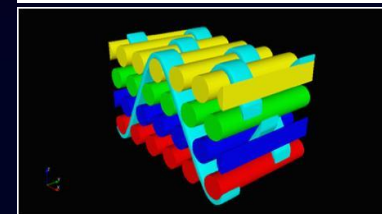


Lightweight requirements for large structures



Long-term durability in harsh environments

Low carbon and low emission aircraft



Computational modeling across multiple length scales

# Working Hard Takes You Places!

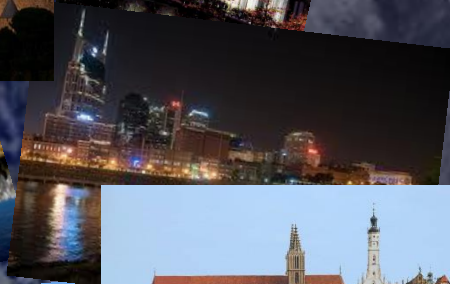


International Society of Electrochemistry



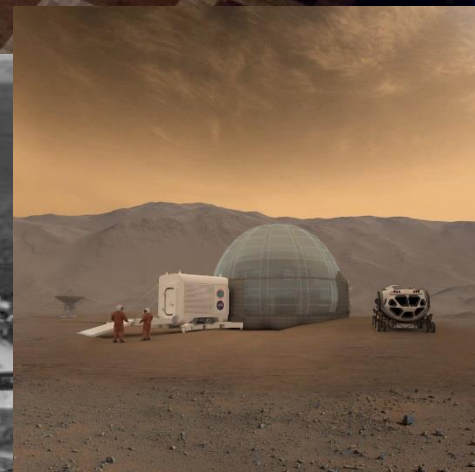
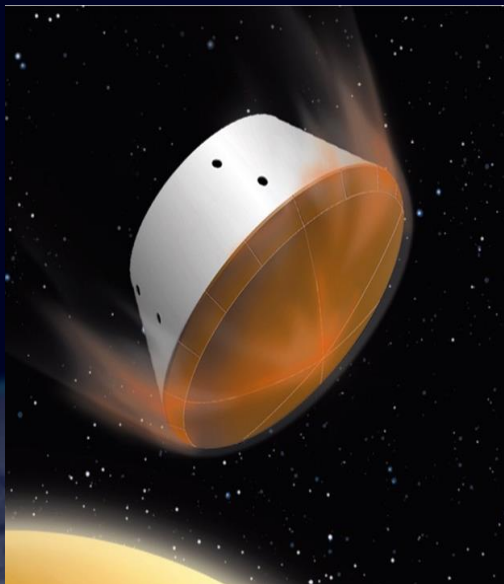
The Electrochemical Society  
Advancing solid state & electrochemical science & technology

- 1 book
- 5 book chapters
- 8 patents,
- >40 peer-reviewed papers
- > 50 conference presentations
- International Society of Electrochemistry
- The Electrochemical Society





# **CHOOSE** to Pursue A STEM Education





# The Rewards Are Out of This World...





# NASA Opportunities for Students

- Student Opportunities – high school, undergraduate, graduate, Pathway:
  - Prepares students for careers by providing related work experience
  - Rotates scheduled work sessions with school
  - <https://intern.nasa.gov>
  - Search Opportunities
  - Example-Search “glenn pathways”

