

# The Molecular Foundry at Berkeley Lab

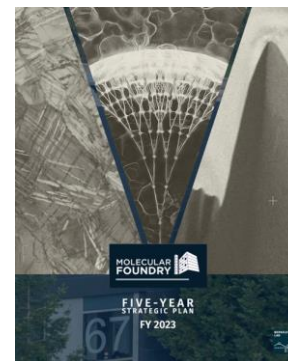
## Positioned Within a Vibrant, Creative Scientific Ecosystem

- Adjacent to UC Berkeley and close proximity to Silicon Valley
- Co-located with other national user facilities, Energy Innovation Hubs, and Energy Frontier Centers at Berkeley Lab

## Composed of 7 'technical facilities' driven by synergistic activities in synthesis, characterization, fabrication and theory

## Guided by Five Cross-Cutting Research Themes Detailed in Our Five-Year Strategic Plan

- Architecting Information-Dense Multi-scale Materials
- Atomically Precise Control of Energy and Information Flow
- Nanoscale Science Towards a Sustainable Future
- Accelerated Materials Discovery and Prediction
- Physical and Digital Infrastructure as Drivers for Innovation



Served users from 36 countries and 622 institutions since opening.



# Scientific Leadership from the Molecular Foundry

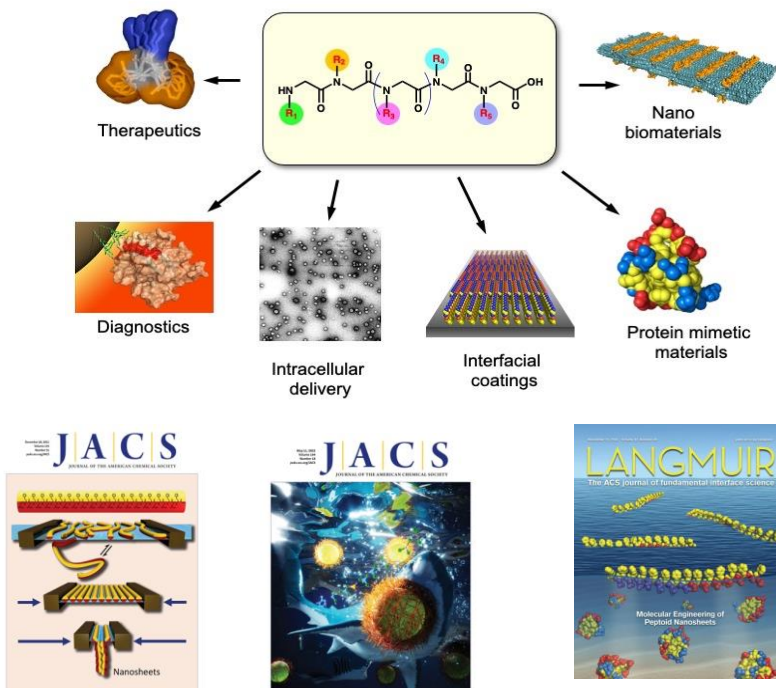
## Sequence-defined Hierarchical Peptoids

- **Peptoids**: novel, bio-inspired polymers capable of self-folding into protein-like structures.
- Synthesized by **robot-accelerated** workflows
- Antiviral agents, biomedical antifreeze molecules, detecting toxins, purifying water etc.

**5 Peptoid companies launched through Foundry's user program**

**180 user projects and 150 publications**

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual Peptoid summit >220 participants**



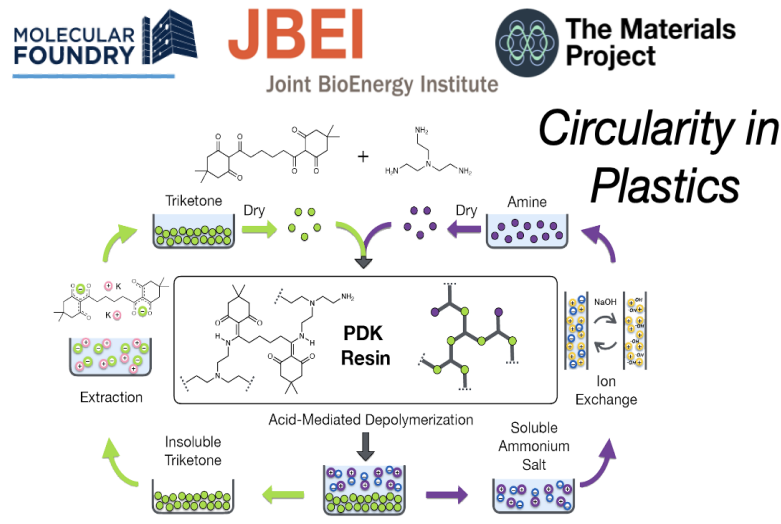
Zuckermann 2011

Zuckermann, Gang 2022

Connolly, Zuckermann, 2016

## Fully Recyclable Polymers

- New family of **plastics** referred to as polydiketoenamides (PDK)
- **Deconstructed to their original monomers** in high yields and purity for full cyclic reuse.
- Collaboration with JBEI enabled engineered microorganisms to produce the **raw materials** used in PDK materials **from biorenewable sugars** such as corn stover.
- DOE ENERGY Icorps program → Cyklos Materials, to commercialize the technology as biorenewable **circular replacements for polyurethane**.



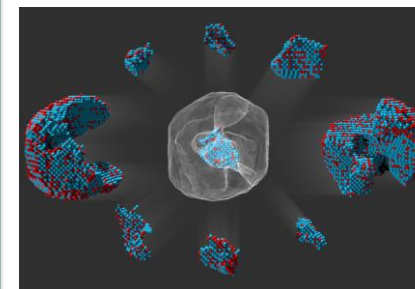
Helms *Sci. Adv.* 2022, *Science* 2021, *Nat. Chem.* 2019

## Pioneers in advanced electron microscopy

- Pioneer in **technique and instrumentation development** for nanoscale characterization with **electrons**.
- Extended atomic resolution microscopy to 3D.
- Led developments in electron detector technology and **large-data analysis** that enabled 4D nanodiffraction imaging for unprecedented **multimodal** nanoscale quantification.

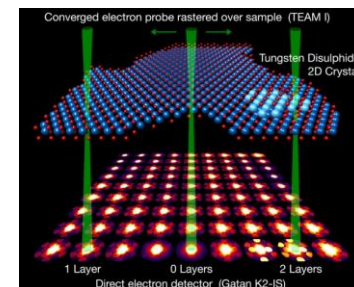
**Over 1500 publications in electron microscopy**  
**Multiple unique Foundry-developed platforms**  
**Analysis code downloaded >100,000 times**

from 2D to 3D

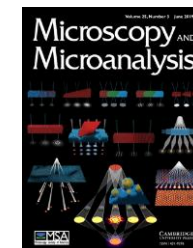


Identification of all 23,000 atoms in a nanoparticle with 20 pm 3D precision

...to 4D



LBL-developed 87,000 Hz electron detector for 4D-STEM



Opheus 2019



Ercius 2020



Minor 2021

# Molecular Foundry Synergy with other User Facilities



20% of users engage ALS



16% of users engage NERSC



Users increasingly engage Materials Project

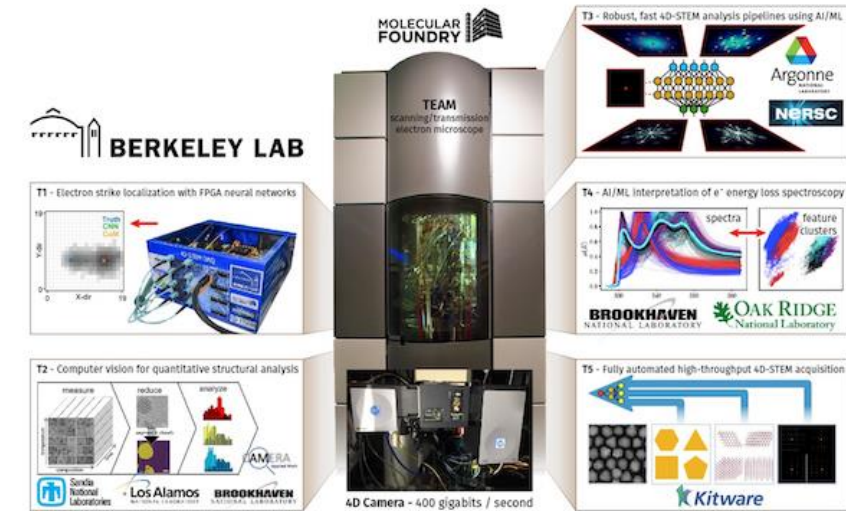
## Berkeley Lab Co-location advantage:

- **NERSC:** Data pipelines to for real-time HPC analysis
- **ALS:**
  - Shared data infrastructure on correlated experiments
  - Autonomous Synthesis pipelines connect to in-situ characterization
- **Joint Genome Institute:** Co-appointed Staff Scientist
- **Advanced Quantum Testbed for QuBit circuit characterization**
- **Materials Project** (co-PI Sinead Griffin, data group synergy)
- **CXRO:** State of the art high Numerical Aperture EUV-patterning tool

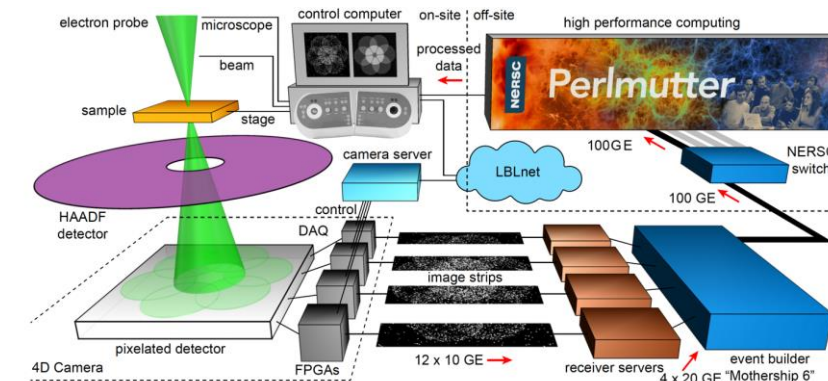
## Software and Data Across the Complex

- Open-source tools shared across NSRCs and Light sources
- 4D Camera Distillery: All-NSRC + NERSC collaboration to process and visualize high rate (7 TB/min) data acquisition and develop ML tools
- MLExchange: Collaboration between light-sources, Foundry, CNM, and CNMS to create a user accessible ML analysis pipelines

## 4D Distillery: Foundry-led All-NSRC collaboration for ML pipelines in EM

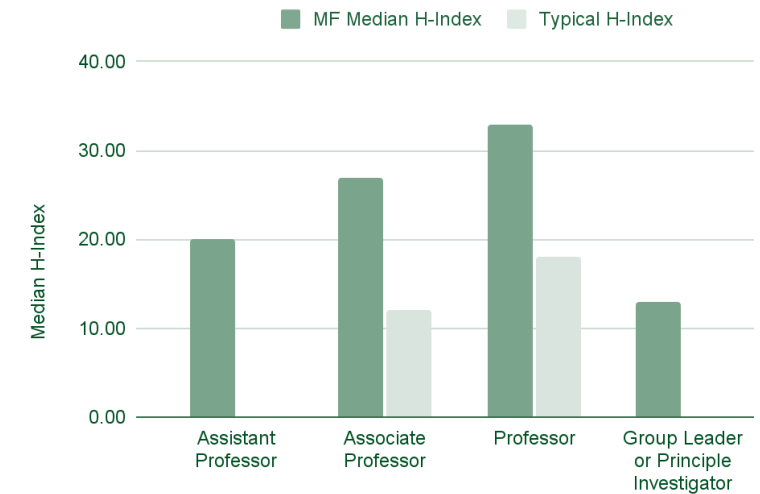
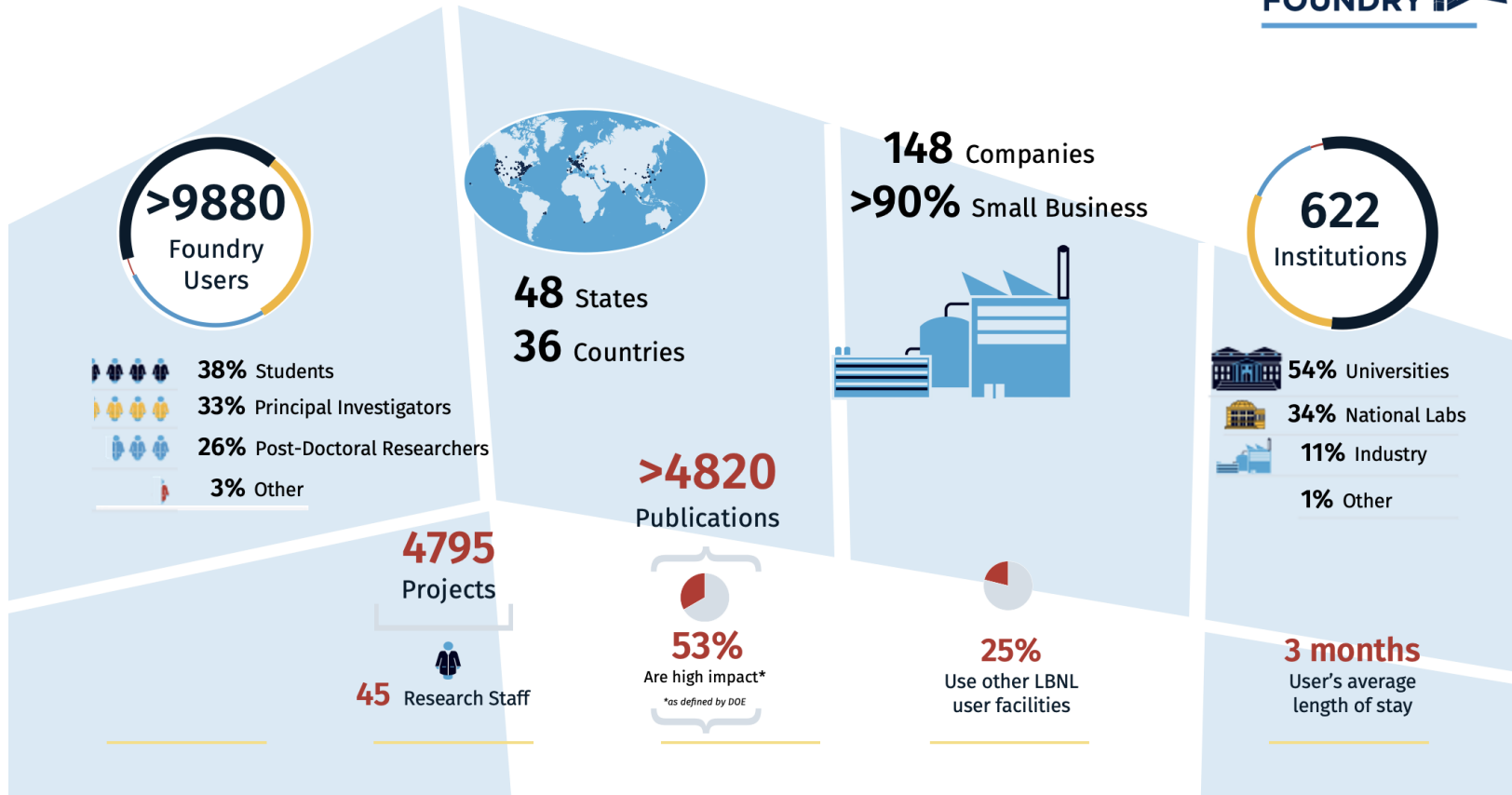


## Direct connection of 100 gbps detectors to NERSC for on-stream processing



# Molecular Foundry User Program

## SMALL SCIENCE. BIG IMPACT.



**Workforce Development**  
Foundry postdoc alums have 2x median h-index in their future careers

### Outreach Efforts

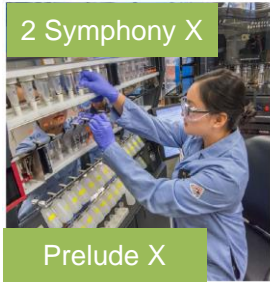
- Proposal Acceptance rate parity across gender and MSI/R1 institutions
- Plan to add MSI Outreach staff under Optimum Operations
- User outreach at Diversity-centered Conferences (SACNAS, NSBE, SWE)
- Active outreach to Current and Prospective Users about RENEW and FAIR opportunities
- MSI Personnel in Proposal Review Board, User Meeting, User Executive Committee

**In FY22 alone: >950 Users, >400 Publications (54% with IF > 7),  
25 Countries on 6 continents**

# Future Vision for the Molecular Foundry

## 10 Robot Assisted Workflows

### 3 Biopolymer synthesizers



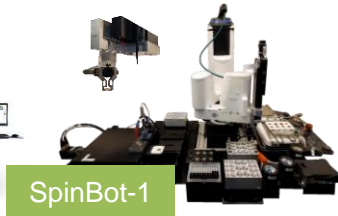
### 4 Nanocrystal synthesis robots



### 2 Vapor-phase Deposition clusters



### Thin-film spin coating

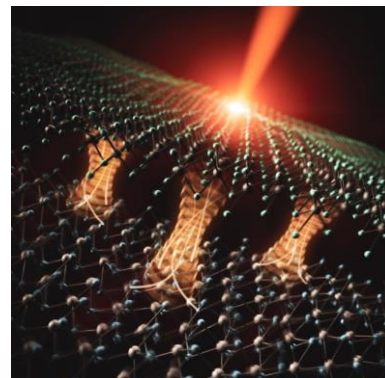
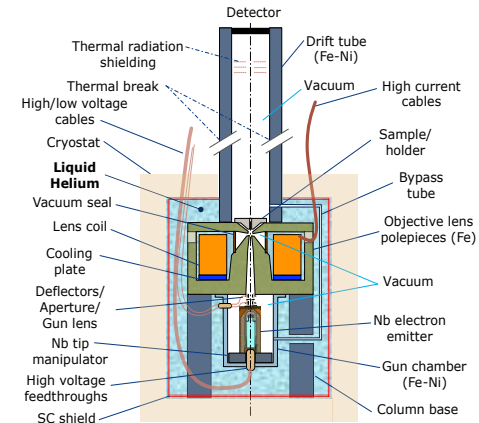


## Accelerating Discovery

- Closed-loop AI-guided synthesis on 7 robotic platforms
- Push labeled synthesis data from automated experiments to Materials Project for open access and training of kinetically-aware models
- Integrated data pipelines with live analysis on NERSC
- Inverse design of complex heterostructures

## All-superconducting Electron Microscope (1K-TEM)

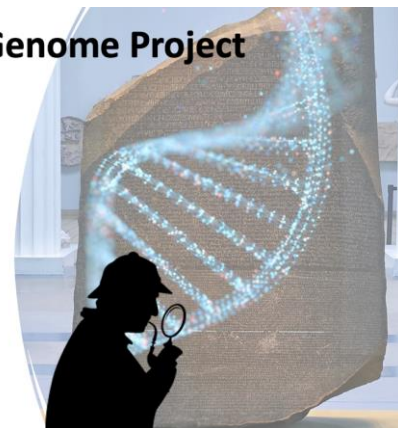
- Atomic resolution structure and spectroscopy of quantum materials to map quantum behavior
- Low-T behavior and coupled processes at interfaces
- Unmatched stability of lens currents, electron source, and sample stage



## The Biomaterials Genome Project

Tapping the undiscovered natural resources of genomes to discover the Next Generation of Biomaterials

New joint effort with the Joint Genome Institute



## Quantum Information Science

- Atomic control 0D, 1D, and 2D heterostructures for understanding decoherence and quasiparticle engineering
- Autonomous synthesis of SC QuBit devices with atomic characterization and device screening
- Unique QSPLEEM: nanoscale magnetic imaging and spectroscopy with 3D spin resolution of quantum phases