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University-Industry Partnership for Next Generation Manufacturing

John Wen

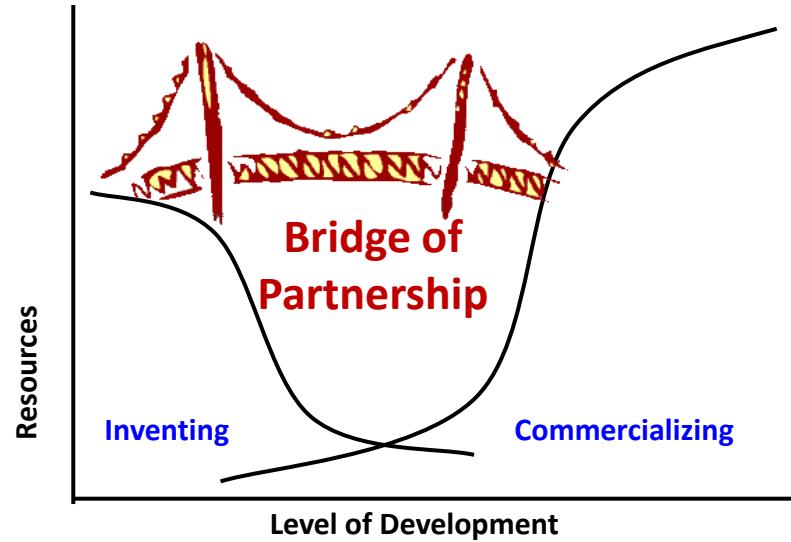
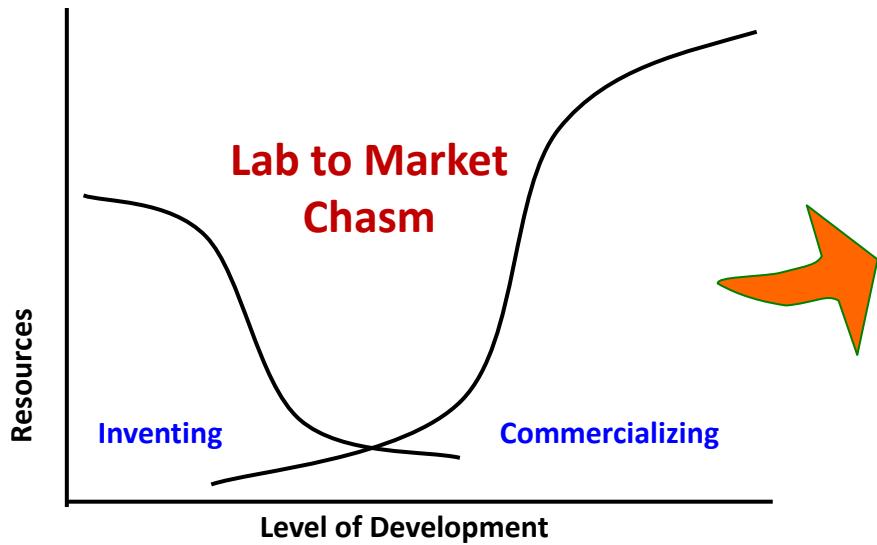
Director, Center for Automation Technologies and Systems (CATS)

Professor, Electrical, Computer, & Systems Eng. (ECSE)

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Key Challenge: From Discovery to Scale-Up



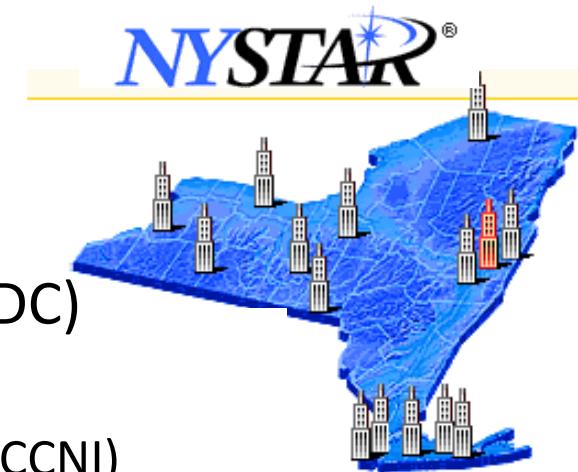
Industrial-academic-government partnership



A Successful Example: NYSTAR

Empire State Development Division of Science, Technology and Innovation (NYSTAR)

- Center for Advanced Technology (CAT)
- Regional Technology Development Center (RTDC)
- High Performance Computing (HPC): RPI's Computational Center for Nanotechnology Innovation (CCNI)

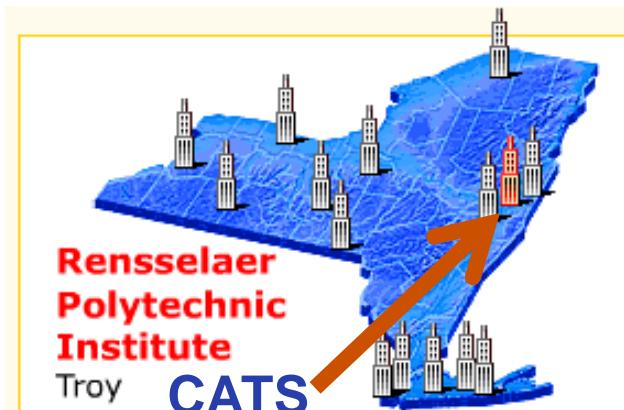


CAT Program: Industrially-driven research leading to measurable economic impact

- Annual baseline funding with industrial match requirement
- Renewable ten-year designation
- Annual economic impact reporting
- Since 2000 → over \$5B economic impact



CATS: the Automation CAT



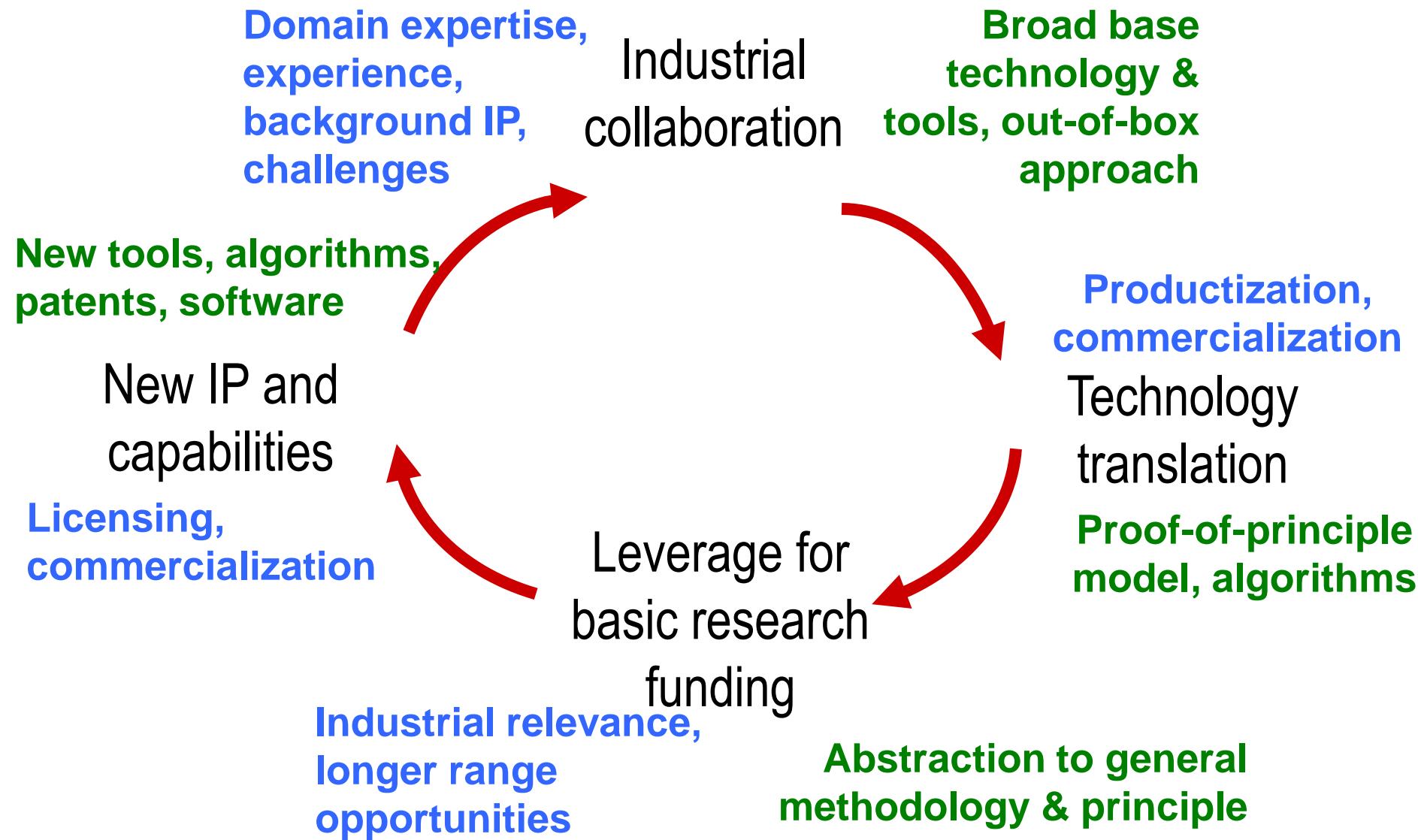
- 50 faculty, 40 students in 9 depts
- 5 research staff + biz dev staff
- NYS metric: economic impact.
FY 12: \$45M revenue 45 new jobs
- Dedicated infrastructure and support



How to balance applied research and company-specific focus with basic research for fundamental discovery?



Our Approach: Cycle of Partnership



Example: Fuel Cell



Concept

PEMEAS
Fuel Cell Technologies



Prototype



Production

PMD 
PROGRESSIVE MACHINE & DESIGN



UTC Power
A United Technologies Company



Systems level
modeling and control

Leveraging for
Research Support



BASF
The Chemical Company

NYSERDA 

New Technology
Expanded Projects



SONO•TEK

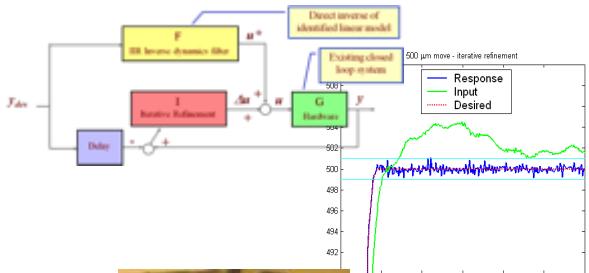


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Example: Active Optics



Company
Specific
Problem



High Impact
Solution



Joint publication, patent



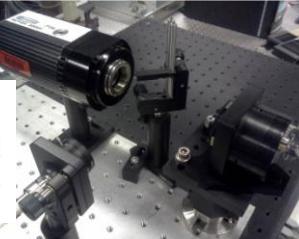
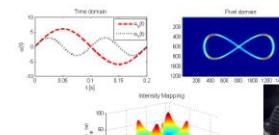
Leveraging for
Research Support



Problem Solving to New Product & Research



New Research Directions



THORLABS



New Technology/IP,
Licensing, and Award



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Example: Composites

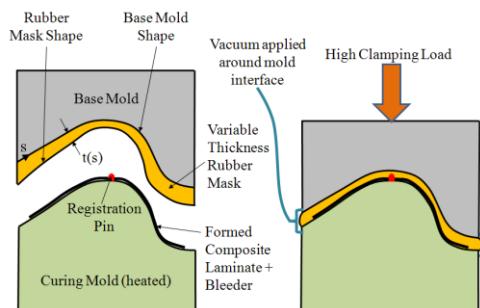
NORTHROP GRUMMAN



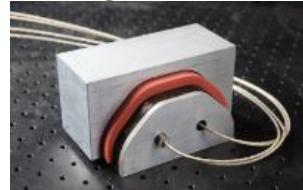
Company Specific
Need: composites
forming



Joint development:
double diaphragm
forming



Leveraging for
Research Support



Specific Needs to New Collaboration

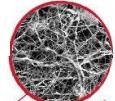
New Research
Collaborations



VISTEX
COMPOSITES

nyserda
Energy. Innovation. Solutions.

 **ecovative**



AUTOMATED DYNAMICS[®]
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Challenges

- Intellectual property
- Continuity of expertise and infrastructure
- Industry vs. university timeline
- Multi-disciplinary team

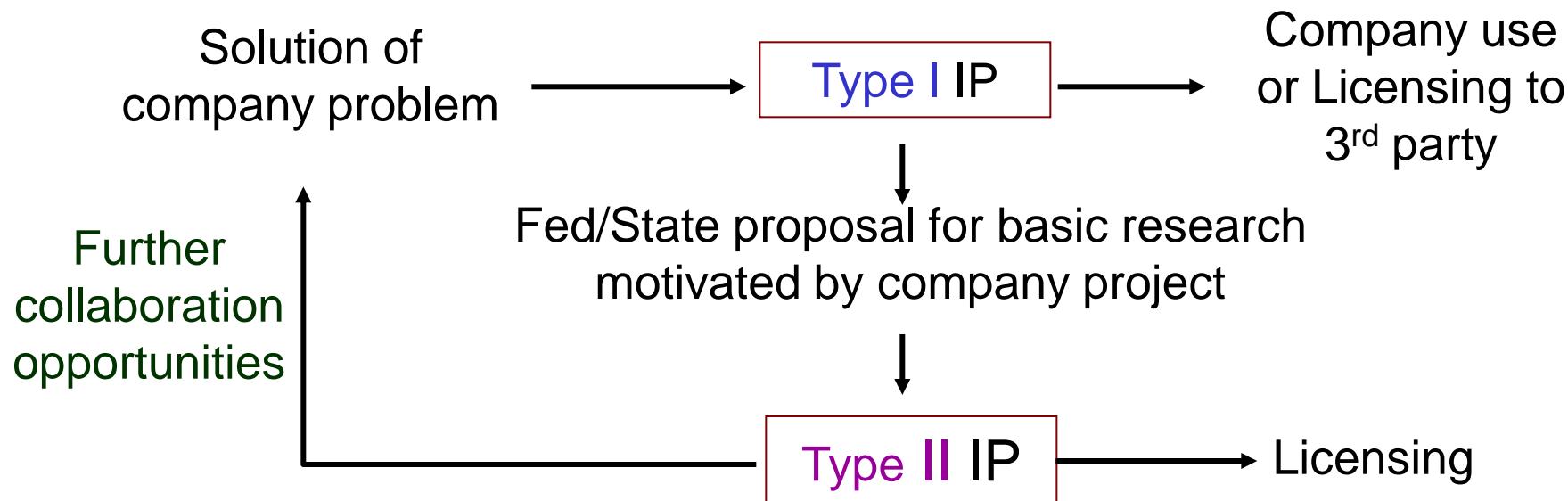


Recognizing Value of IP

Type I IP: Company brings domain expertise, problem specification, background IP to address specific problem.

Type II IP: University led IP generation through internal, government, or industry funding.

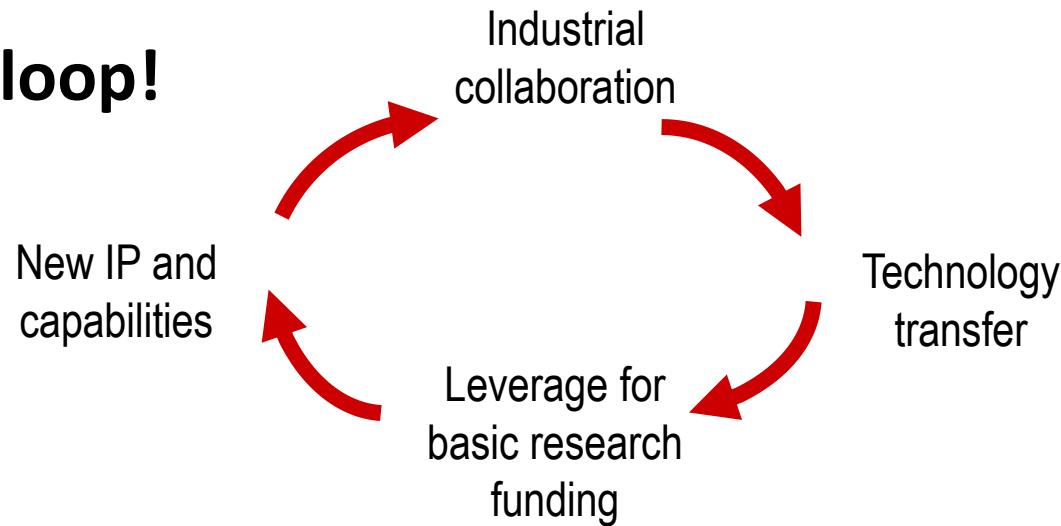
Academia/University Collaboration: Transform Type I IP to Type II IP



Lesson Learned

- IP navigation (needs the EASY button!)
- Sustained long term base funding
- Research staff: project management
- Quantifiable outcome
- Skin in the game: matching fund, reduced overhead rate
- Multi-disciplinary team: research enterprises within university, partner external organizations – avoid zero-sum mentality!

Close the loop!



Opportunity to Build Partnership

First Annual CATS/CEG Advanced Manufacturing Conference

April 16-17, Troy Hilton Garden Inn

Keynote: Dr. Patrick Gallagher, Director of National Institute of Standards and Technology and Under Secretary of Commerce of Standards and Technology

- Solution Fair
- CEO Round Table
- Biomimicry and Energy
- Poster Session
- Technical and Business Tracks:
 - Smart Manufacturing
 - Energy Systems
 - Supply Chain Management
 - Small/Medium-Size Enterprise Funding
 - ...

