My experience

- Researcher at 2 National Labs (LBNL, LANL)
- ARPA-E Tech-to-Market Team
- CalCharge: Public-Private Partnership
- VC at Creative Ventures
Creative Ventures is an early stage venture capital firm that invests in US-based “hard” technology startups that solve real problems for real sectors.

Industrial / Manufacturing

Health

Agriculture / Climate Change

*Also, Logistics, Construction
Visolis

New materials manufacturing

Visolis has pioneered synthetic biology enabled manufacturing for high value chemical, utilizing advancements in metabolic engineering and catalysis. The company can produce high value chemicals at up to 10x lower cost than conventional processes.

The company has proven technology with initial traction in the cosmetic market and has signed a $10 million joint venture with a major chemical manufacturer and distributor in Taiwan.
Why work with a National Lab?

National Labs are a hotbed of:

- Innovation
- Scientific and technical talent

And are an underutilized resource by industry writ large
Challenges (from a startup’s perspective)

Working with National Labs, from the outside, can be:

- Confusing
- Expensive
- Time consuming
- Difficult (often legal and contractual wrangling)... *US Mfc Clause*
- Hard to find the right ‘fit’
Opportunities

• “Pre-built” IP arrangements such as master CRADA, Task Order Agreements, etc

• New funding sources from DOE such as SBV*

• Industry engagement events, iCorps, etc.

• Programs such as Cyclotron Road