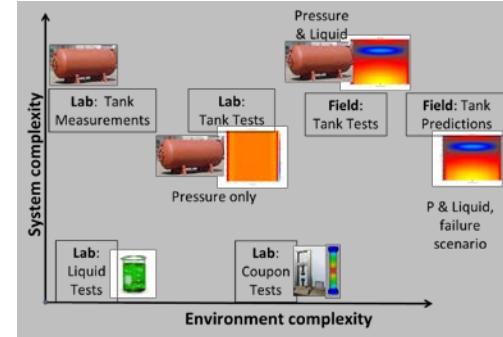
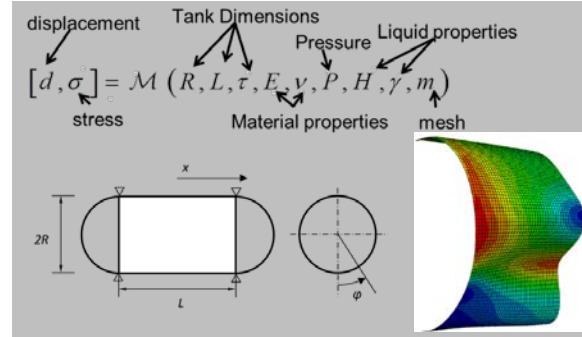


*Exceptional service in the national interest*



# The 2014 Sandia V&V Challenge Workshop and the ASME VV&UQ Journal

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Presented at the 2015 ASME V&V Symposium

# Thanks up front

- Challenge workshop participants
- V&V department and Dakota team at Sandia
- ASME committees
- V&V community
- Symposium organizers

# Should we have a workshop?

- Of course! But think about:
  - Why?
  - Who?
  - What = workshop with challenge problem
  - How?
  - Where = ASME V&V Symposium
- Start with why: be very clear on the goals
  - but you also need participants to come.
  - and they must be able to complete the problem

# Be very clear on the goals

**Pick one??**

Community engagement

Education/ training

Methods demonstration

Solve a real world problem

Methods development

Attack an open problem

The goals evolved over two years of development

- The resulting challenge problem lacks focus
- Built to ask high level questions about role of V&V

# V&V community divided by interests

People,  
Products

V&V R&D

V&V Practice

V&V Users

Academics

Model Developers

Customers?

Committees

Code Developers

People outside  
community?

V&V Theory

Analysts

V&V Methods

Experimentalists?

Product?

V&V Standards

Product?

Are we too divided by physics discipline / business sector?

V&V 10 vs. 20, 30, 40?

Can we/ should we talk more?

Why have different standards?

# What? How?

- Pose a challenge problem, host a workshop
- Why and who → define the challenge problem

1. Aggregation of uncertainty
  - need many sources of uncertainty
2. Investigate the role of V&V
  - need “real world” context
3. Accessible to many
  - multiple points of interest
  - wide range of possible approaches
  - limit barriers to entry

# The Story of Mystery Liquid Company

Have many storage tanks, holding Mystery Liquid under pressure

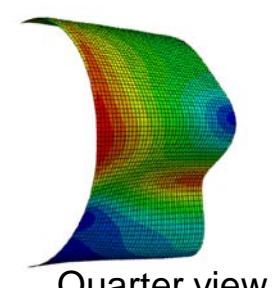
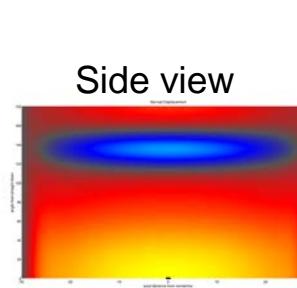
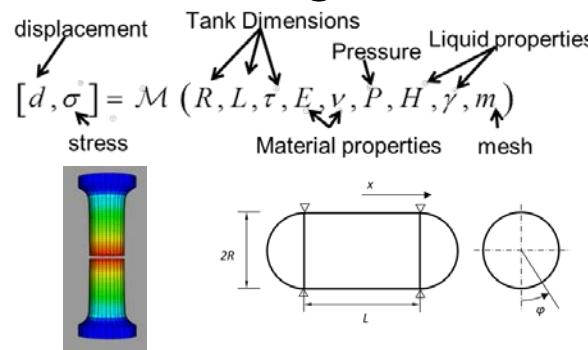


During standard safety testing,  
one tank's measurements  
**exceeded a safety specification**

## How should we respond?

Are the tanks at risk of failure?  
No tanks have actually failed, ever.

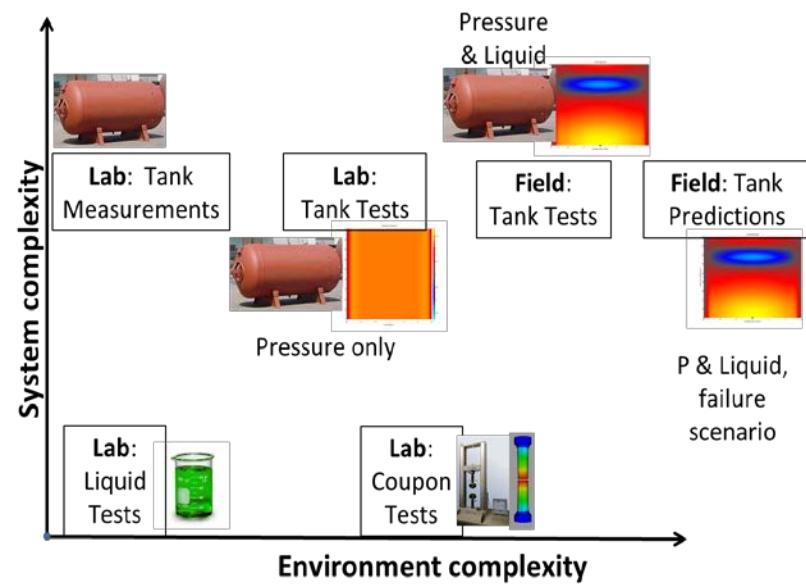
Experimental and modeling efforts are begun



# Supply a prediction – is it credible?

## The challenge:

- How will evidence from experiments and simulations be integrated and used to support the final decision?



## What analyses?

- 1) Characterize uncertainty from data
- 2) Treat epistemic vs. aleatoric uncertainty
- 3) Calibrate model parameters
- 4) Sensitivity analysis, Uncertainty quantification
- 5) Solution verification
- 6) Validation
- 7) Aggregation of uncertainty
- 8) Assess relevancy from hierarchy of information
- 9) Credibility assessment

# Supply a prediction – is it credible?



**Participants should:**

- 1) Develop and communicate a strategy to use experimental data and models
- 2) Predict failure probability at max load and account for uncertainty
- 3) Assess prediction credibility

# ASME VV&UQ Journal

First issue will be dedicated to the challenge workshop

- Aniruddha Choudhary, I. Voyles, C. Roy,  
M. Patil (Virginia Tech), B. Oberkampf (Consultant)
- Zhimin Xi (University of Michigan – Dearborn), R. Yang (Ford)
- Lauren Beghini, P. Hough (Sandia National Labs)
- Tom Paez, P. Paez, T. Hasselman (Consultants, V&V10)
- Wei Chen, W. Li, S. Chen, Z. Jiang (Northwestern)
- Josh Mullins, S. Mahadevan (Vanderbilt)
- Michael Shields\* (Johns Hopkins)
- Additional papers: intro, problem statement, truth  
model description, conclusion

# Responses and reactions

- Challenge problem mimics an engineering project
- Groups applied different V&V strategies, methods
  - Reflects different priorities, time commitments
- P(fail) results for groups A-E
  - (A) 0.0075, (B) 0.0068, w/ high uncertainty
  - (C) Bounded by [0, 0.0034]
  - (D) 5e-16, with 99% confidence
  - (E) 0, with low simulation credibility
  - (F) N/A, data too poor to provide a prediction

# Responses and reactions

- There is no “right” answer
  - Six “valid” responses to the same challenge
  - Diversity in methods and strategies
  - Different ideas of what the V&V product looks like
- Next questions
  - How to evaluate these results? How to assess credibility, influence decisions? Etc.
- We must continue the conversation
- **Soliciting discussion papers for a later issue of the ASME VV&UQ Journal**

# Did we achieve our goals?

Community engagement

Education/  
training

Methods  
demonstration

Solve a real  
world problem

Methods  
development

Attack an open  
problem

# Thanks!

- I left out:
  - Sandia's mission → unique V&V perspective and workshop motivation
  - Why Symposium was a good fit for the workshop
  - History of V&V/UQ challenge problems
  - Details of the 2014 challenge problem
  - Results & lessons from the workshop
    - Another talk, later today
- To learn more about the problem, workshop
  - <https://share.sandia.gov/vvcw>
  - Email us: [vvcw@sandia.gov](mailto:vvcw@sandia.gov)