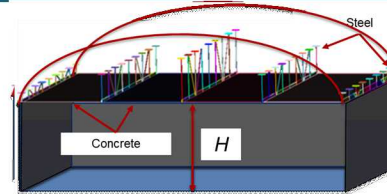
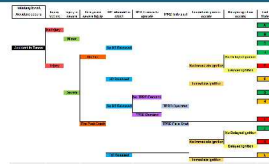
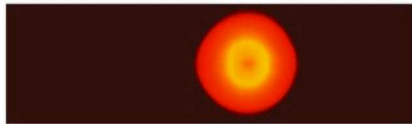


# Risk and Modeling of FCEVs in Tunnels



Time = 1.02 sec



PRESENTED BY

Alice Muna & Brian Ehrhart



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SAND2019-XXXX

## 2 Risk and modeling of FCEV in tunnels

**Objective:** Provide the necessary information to authorities in the Northeast Corridor to determine if FCEVs will be permitted in tunnels

### Comprehensive Risk Analysis

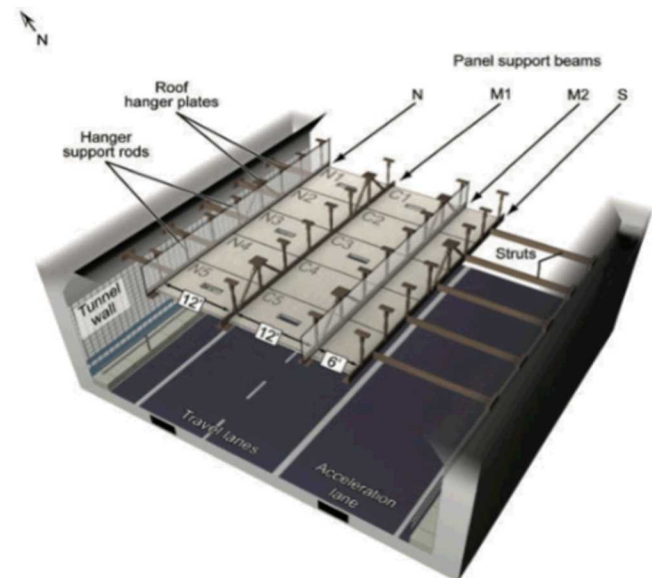
- What could happen, what are the consequences if it does happen, what are the chances of it happening
- Attempt to quantify the probabilities of each scenario

### Evaluation of the Consequences, if uncertain

- Modeling and analysis of a Thermally Activated Pressure Relief Device (TPRD) release

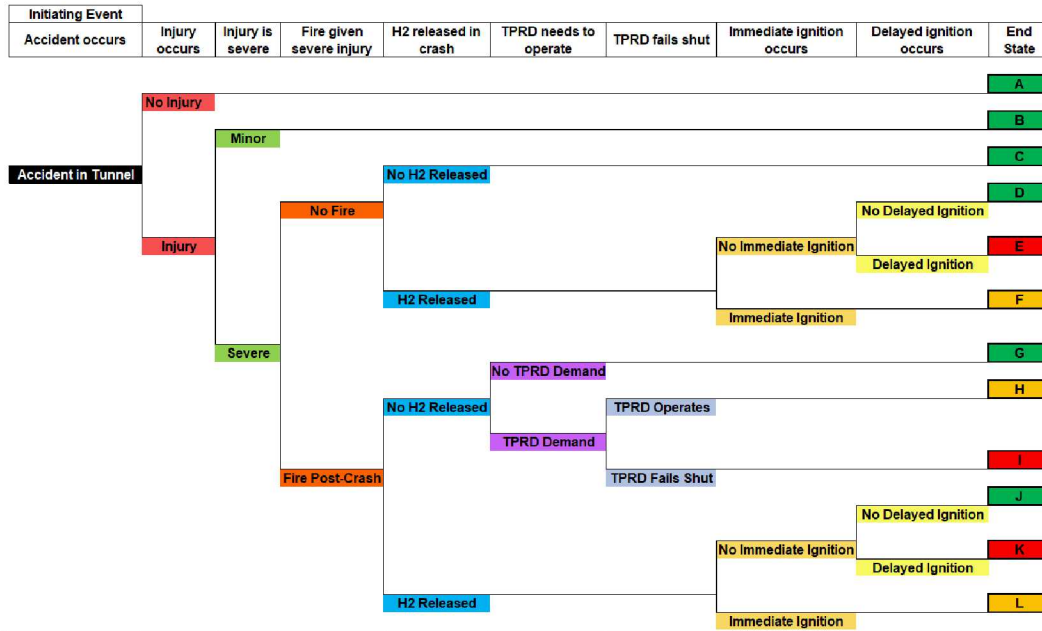
### Listen to concerns of Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)

- Investigate and address each concern



Board, National Transportation Safety, (2007)

# Tunnels safety study risk analysis



Event tree created to analyze the risk of an accident with a hydrogen fuel cell vehicle

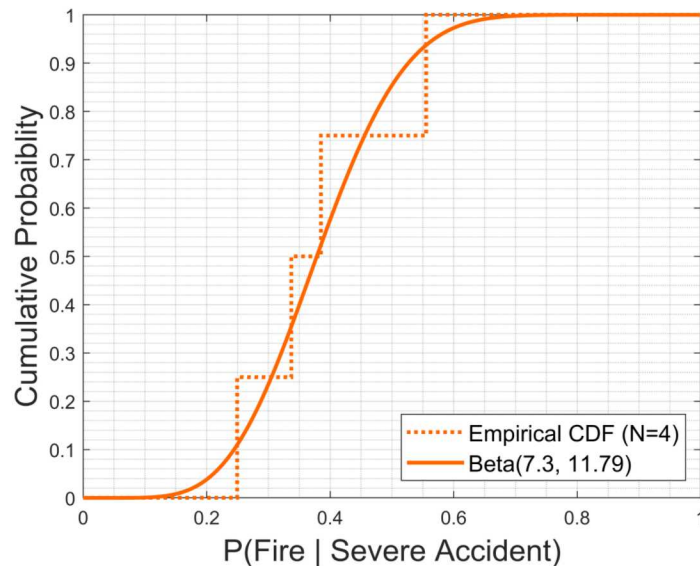
The event tree illustrates the chronological sequence of events involving the success and/or failures of system components

Ehrhart, Brian D., Brooks, Dusty M., Muna, Alice B., LaFleur, Chris, "Risk Assessment of Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicles in Tunnels," Accepted by Fire Technology Journal.

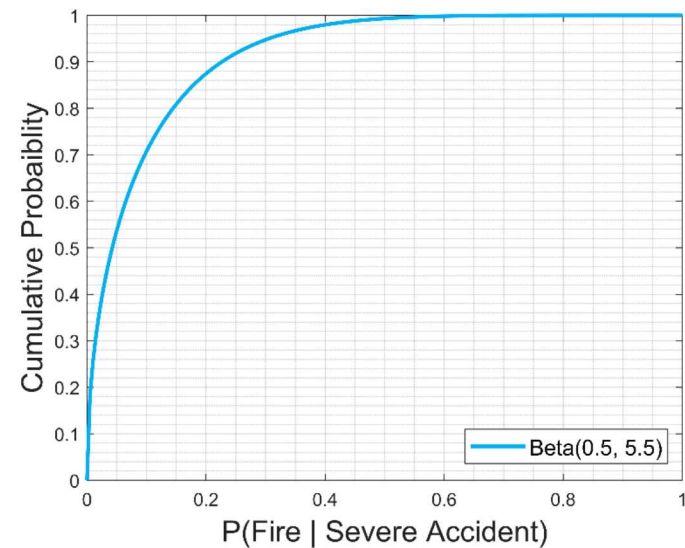
Risk analysis used to identify possible scenarios and focus CFD modeling efforts on scenarios with highest risk

# Uncertainty around scenario probabilities- examples

## Probability that a fire occurs given severe accident



## Probability of damage-induced H2 release



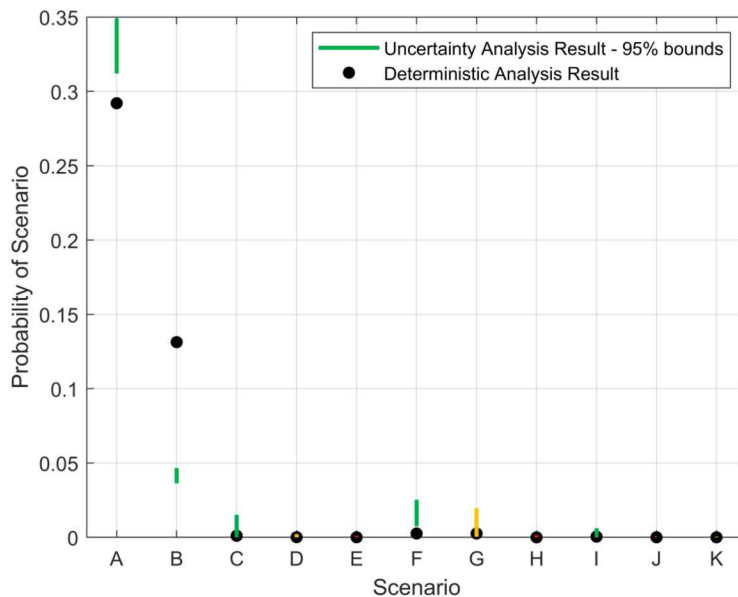
Year:	2006	2007	2008	2009
Average Severe Crash Rates	0.2045	0.1608	0.0913	0.1284
Average Fire Crash Rates	0.0510	0.0619	0.0507	0.0433

- Based on 5 experiments where no release occurred
- Beta distribution assumed along with Jeffrey's uninformed prior

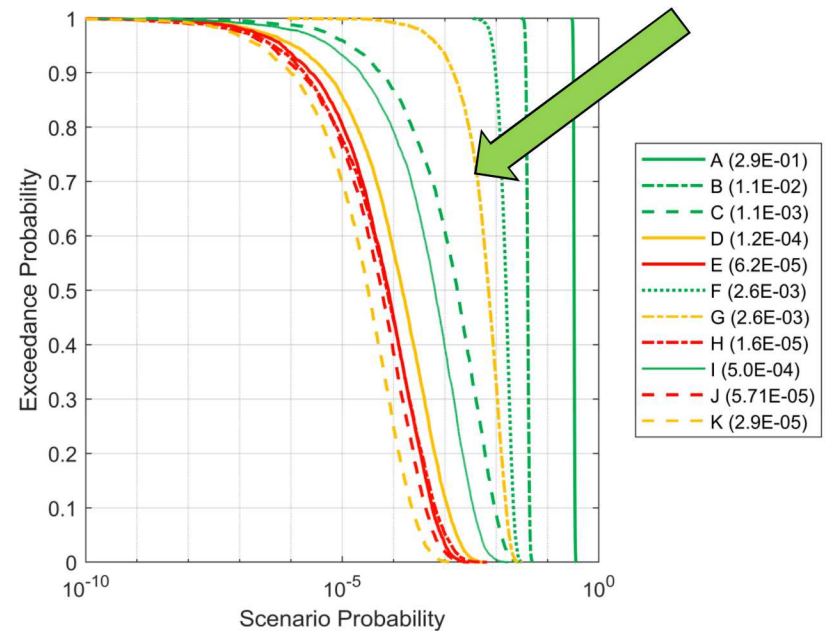
Calculation of uncertainty allows a more complete range of answers to be characterized

# Uncertainty around scenario probabilities

## Uncertainty Quantification on Deterministic Scenario Probabilities



## Complimentary Cumulative Distribution Functions: Exceedance Probability Curves



Scenario G with the potential for increased consequence due to hydrogen will be analyzed further and modeled.



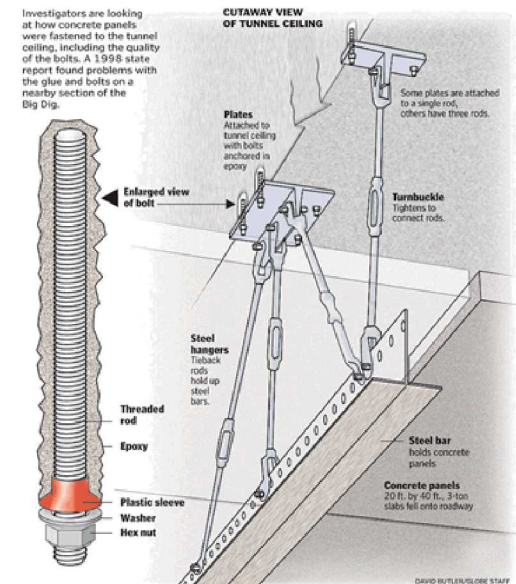
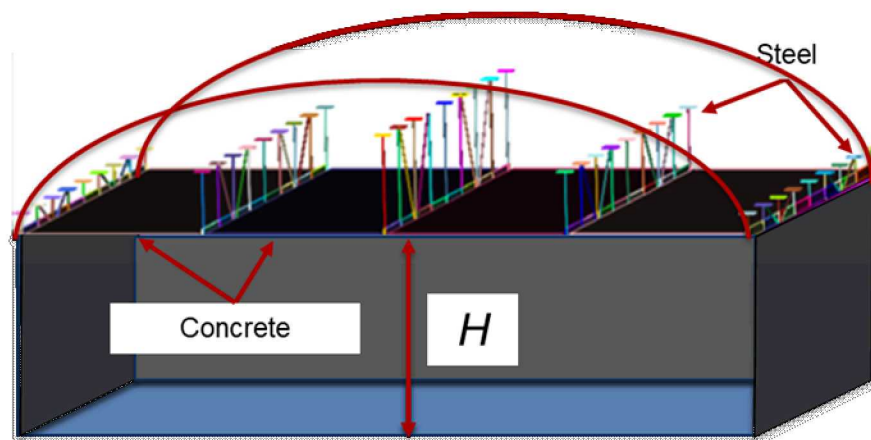
## 6 Modeling Multiple Tunnels

### TPRD release scenario (G)

- Gasoline from other vehicle ignites, external fire engulfs FCEV, activates the TPRD
- H<sub>2</sub> immediately ignited and a jet fire results aimed toward tunnel ceiling
- A 125-liter, 70 MPA tank with a TPRD orifice of 2.25 mm is analyzed with a blowdown of approximately 300 sec

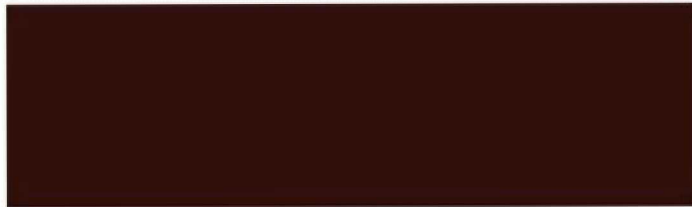
### Analyzed CANA, Sumner & Ted Williams Tunnels to quantify:

- Distortion of steel frames supporting concrete panels
- Impact on capacity of epoxy anchors under anticipated heat
- Potential for spalling of concrete tunnel roof slab and ceiling panels

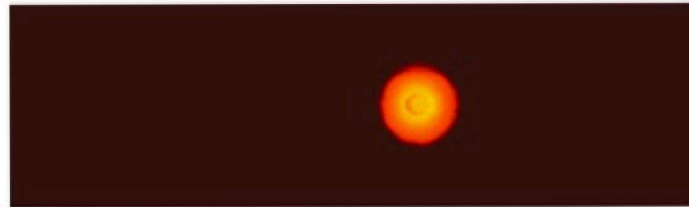


# Accomplishments: CANA Tunnel CFD, No Ventilation

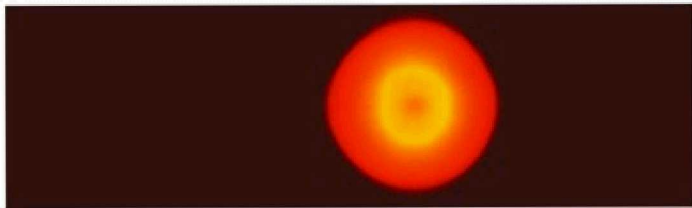
Time = 0.37 sec



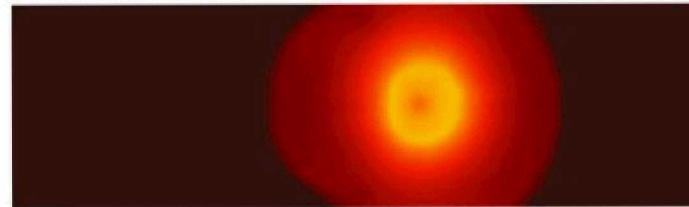
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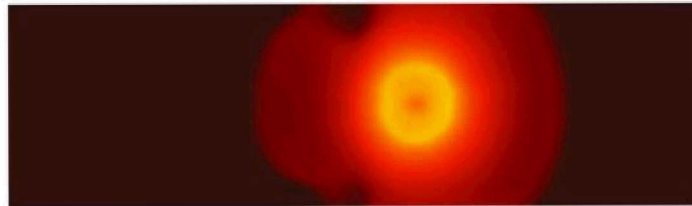
Time = 1.02 sec



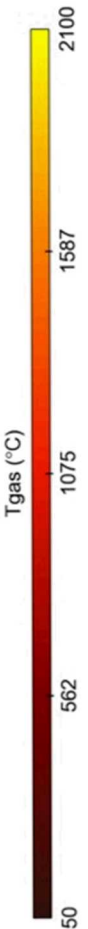
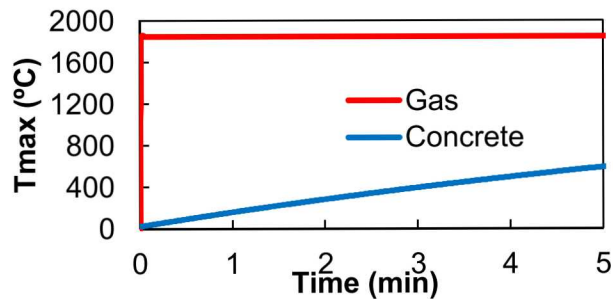
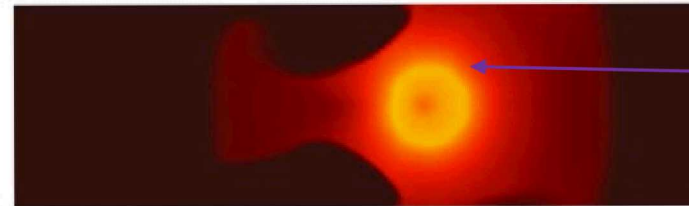
Time = 2.05 sec



Time = 2.23 sec

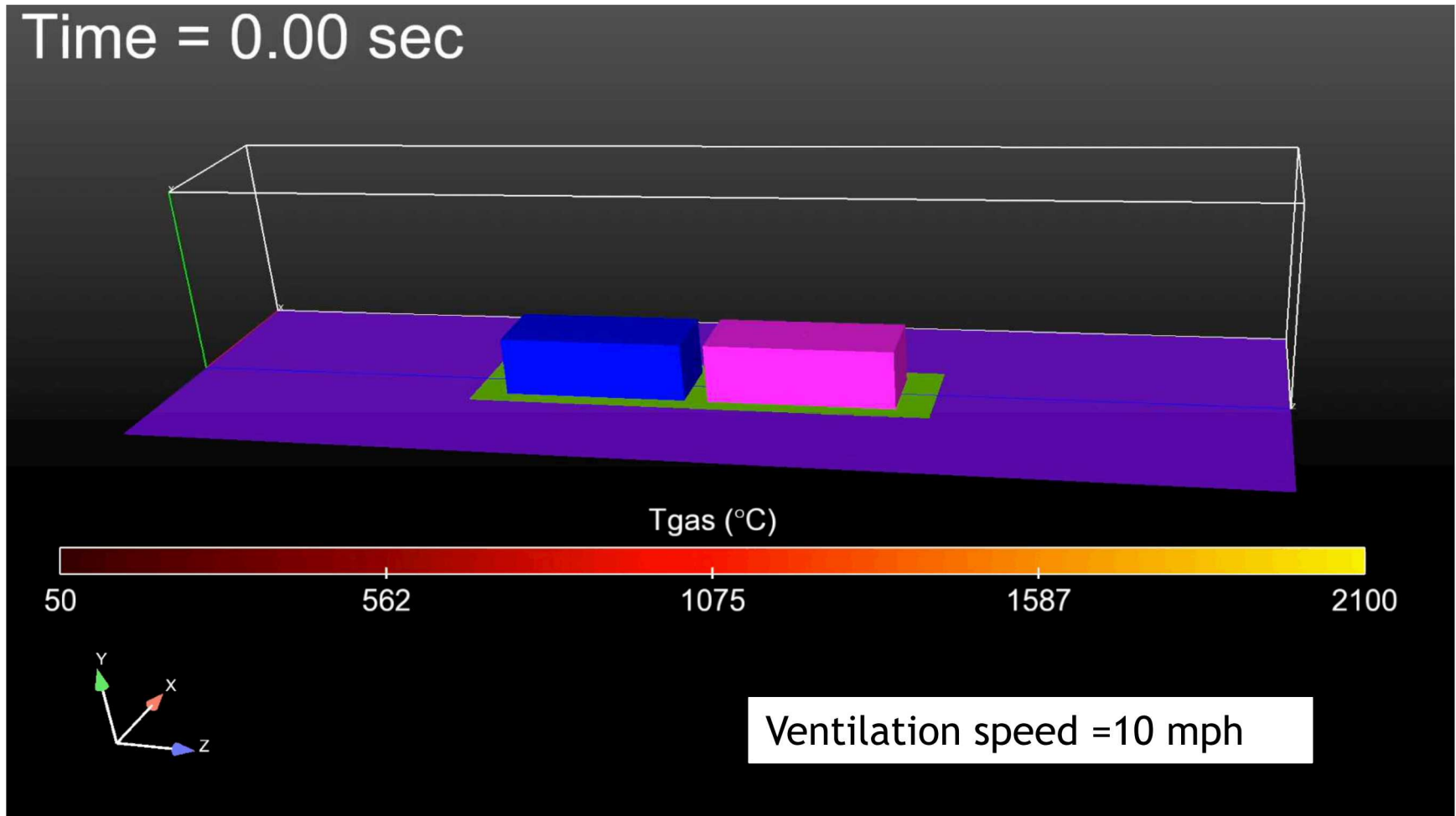


Time = 3.13 sec



# Accomplishments: CANA Tunnel H<sub>2</sub> Jet Flame CFD Model – Gas Temperature With Ventilation

Time = 0.00 sec

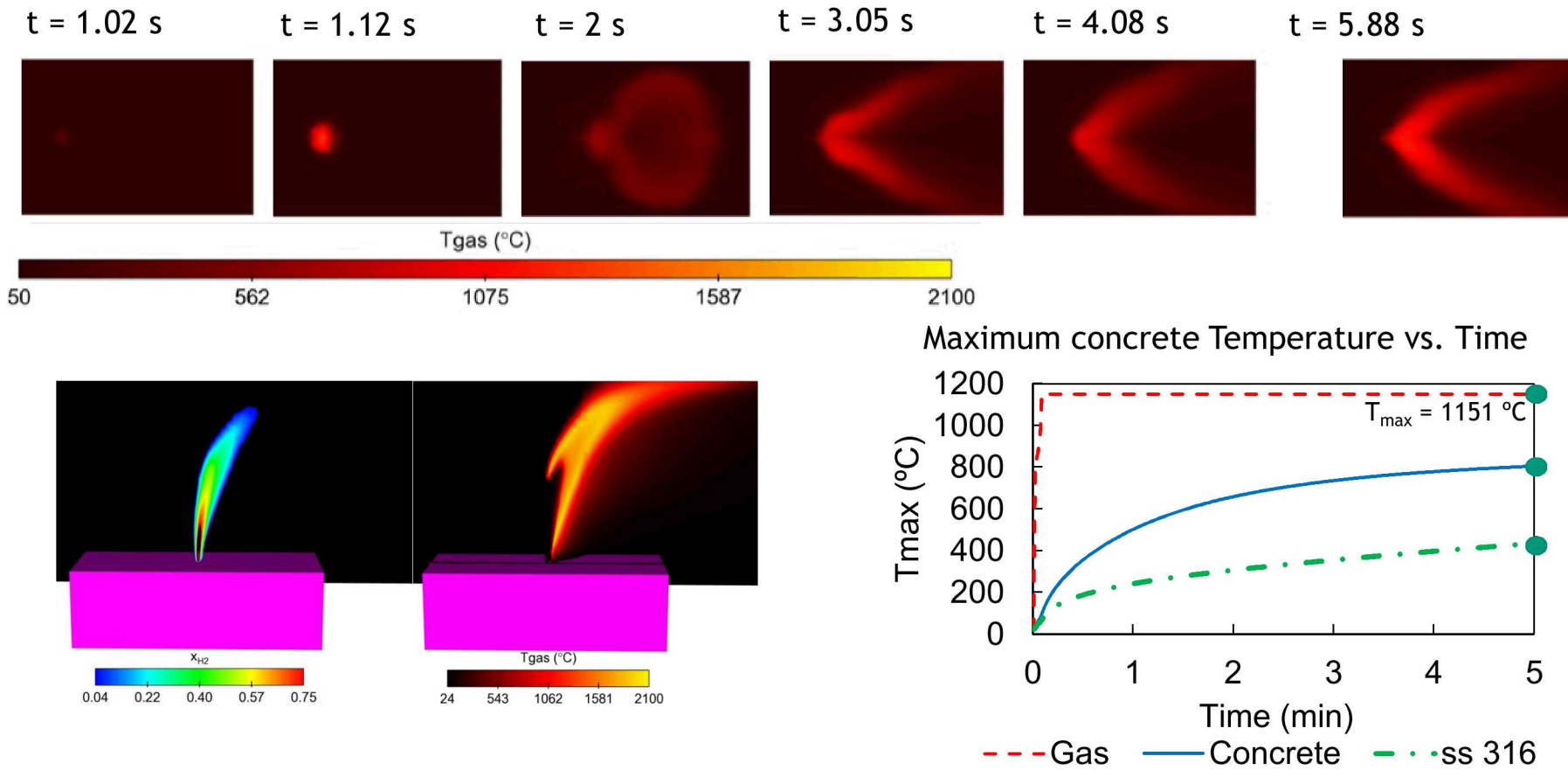




## Accomplishments: CANA Tunnel CFD with Ventilation

Flame does not reach ceiling, but hot gas mixture does.

The separation of the jet at the ceiling interface is caused by a counter-rotating vortex pair generated by the jet in crossflow



- Potential for **explosive spalling**:
  - Modeling showed that conditions are present that may result in localized spalling in the area where the hydrogen jet flame impinges the ceiling
  - Steel deflection is minimal
  - Note that the hydrogen heat release rate was over-predicted, so the temperature observed should be lower
- Effect of heat on the **epoxy**:
  - Maximum temperature at epoxy/bolt location is ambient, well below failure point of 90 °C, even under the worst case, conservative condition
- Effect of heat on the **steel support structure**:
  - Maximum temperature of steel hangers exposed directly to the hydrogen jet flame is 706 °C after 5 minutes of impingement for the case with no ventilation
- Analysis focused on short duration H<sub>2</sub> jet flame. Hydrocarbon fuel/vehicle fire would be a longer duration and resulting heat was not analyzed and may result in spalling concrete
  - Only the hydrogen fire was analyzed because it posed a new hazard



Thank you!

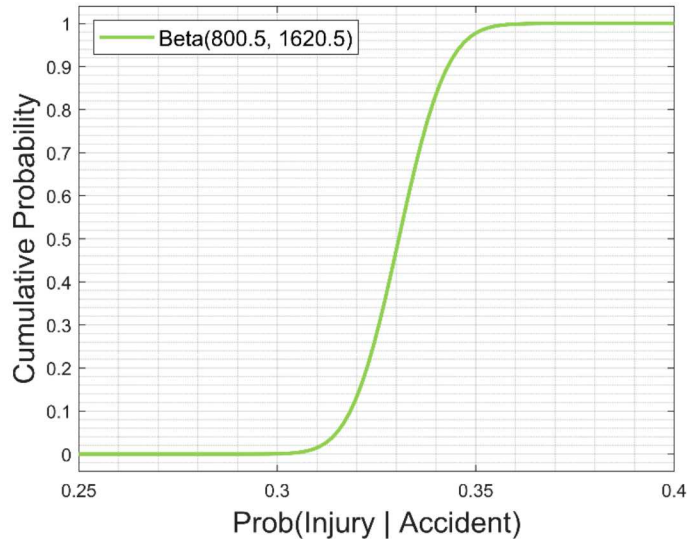
Questions? Feedback?

Brian Ehrhart [bdehrha@sandia.gov](mailto:bdehrha@sandia.gov)

Alice Muna [amuna@sandia.gov](mailto:amuna@sandia.gov)

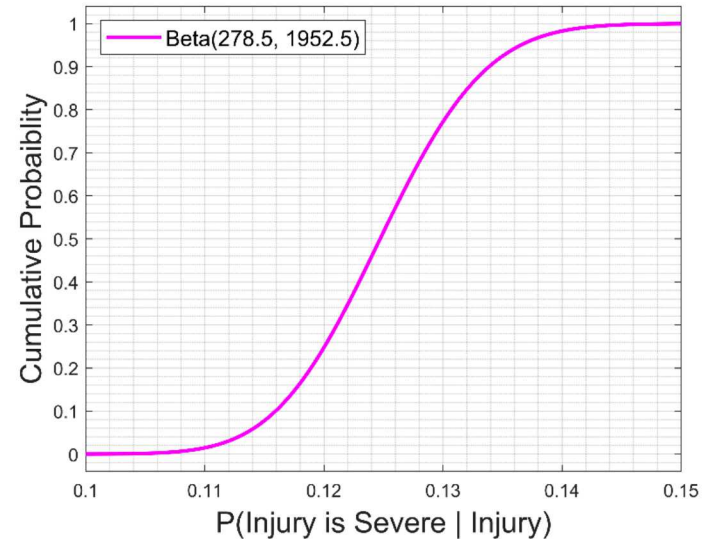
# Uncertainty around scenario probabilities

## Probability of injury given an accident



	Total Number of Accidents	Total Number of Injuries
Z-L Ma et al. (via Bassan)	116	35
Caliendo	2304	765

## Probability that an accident is severe given that an injury occurred

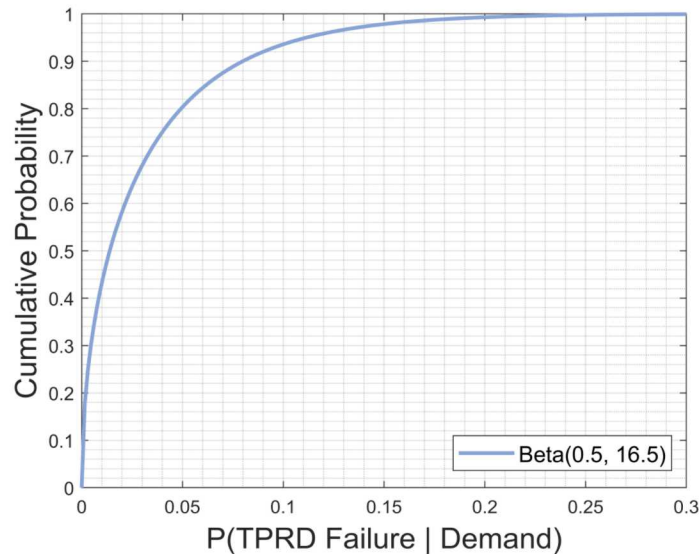


	Total Number of Injuries	Severe Injury (or fatality)
Amunsden	562	97
Amunsden	1130	125
Z-L Ma et al.	35	11
Meng Qu	503	45



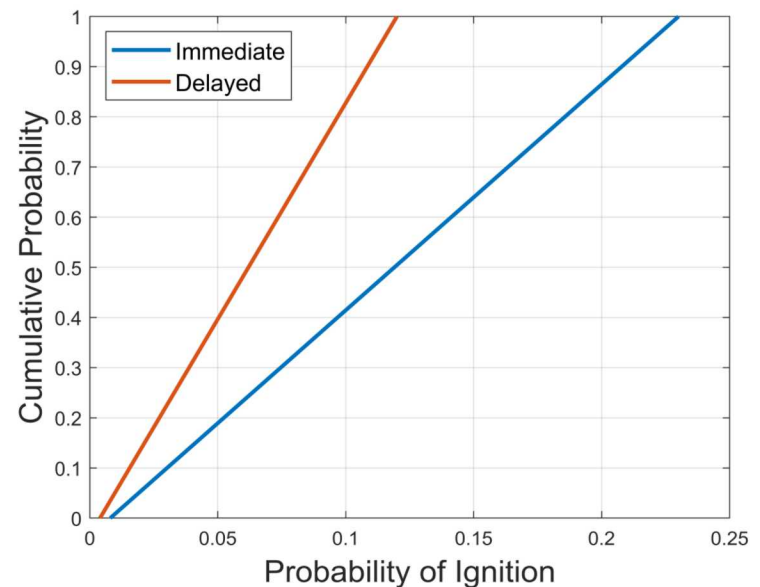
# Uncertainty around scenario probabilities

## Uncertainty of TPRD failure to operate



- Bayesian approach with informed prior
- Choice of an informed prior leads to a lower estimated probability of failure, but overall range where most of the distribution lies is similar to that obtained with a Jeffrey's prior

## Probability of H2 ignition



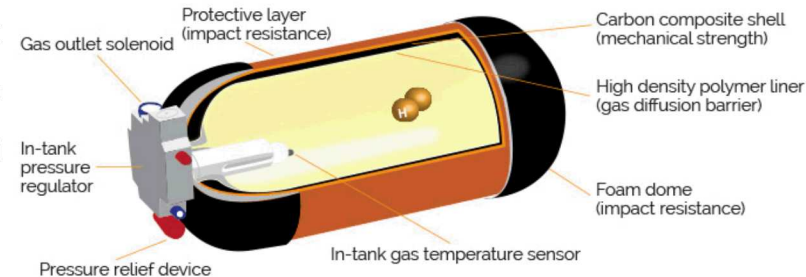
- Due to wide range of ignition probability values, a uniform distribution between the lowest and highest values was chosen



# Velocity of H<sub>2</sub> Tank Blowdown

Valve orifice diameter was adjusted due to mesh coarseness

- Actual valve diameter 2.25 mm → CFD orifice diameter 5.25 cm
- Same mass flow rate by adjusting velocity under-predicted the ceiling

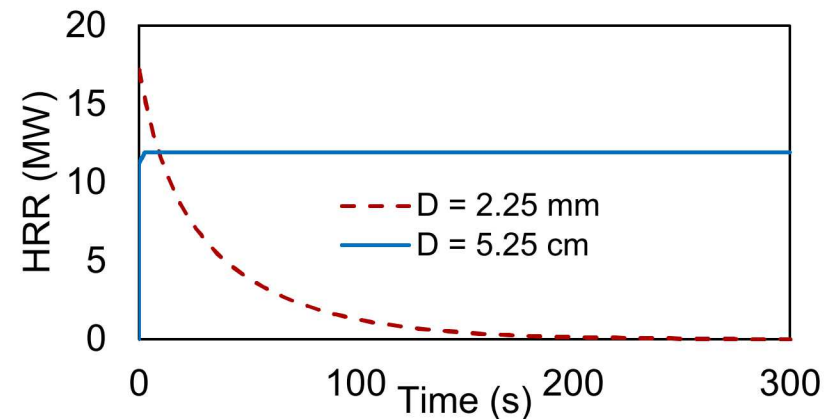
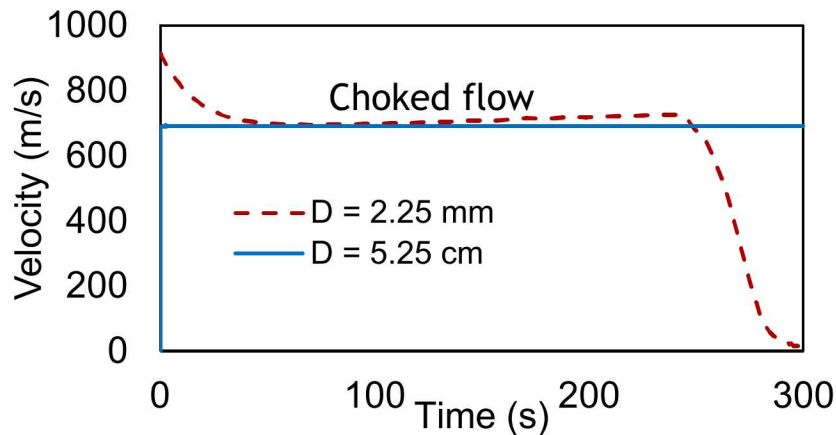


<https://cafcp.org/emergency-responders>

## Modeled: 700 m/s over 5 minutes

- Will over-predict amount of mass released, but captures momentum and flame length
- Heat release rate is also over-predicted,

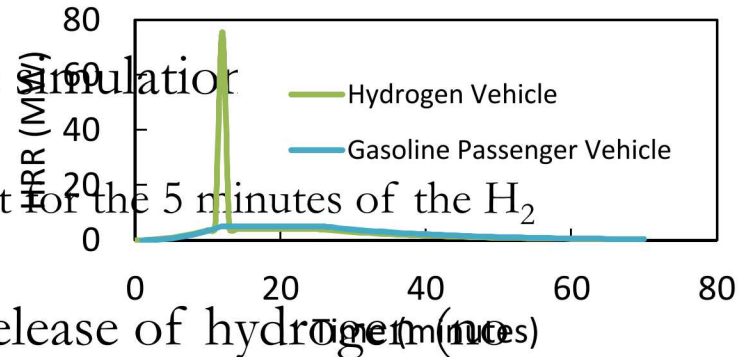
$$HRR = \dot{m}_0 \Delta H_c$$



# Important Conservative Assumptions

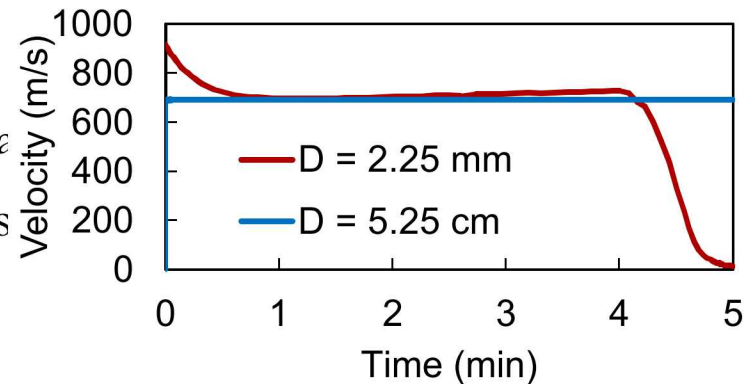
Only one fuel can be burned at a time in the simulation

- Simulations include only hydrogen jet flame
- Heat Release Rate (HRR) from hydrogen is constant for the 5 minutes of the  $H_2$  release

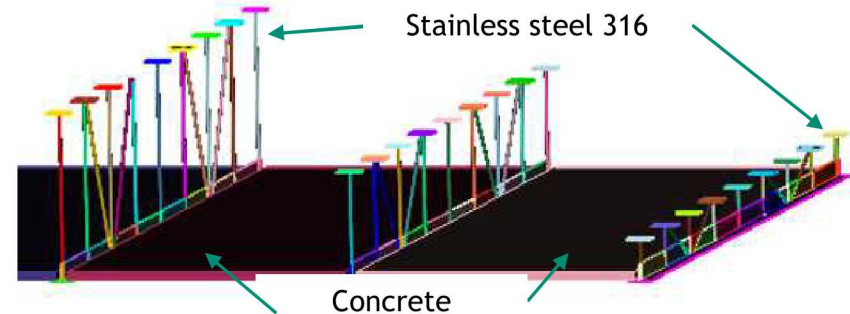


Constant choked velocity was used for the release of hydrogen (no blowdown over time)

- Blowdown would last 5 minutes
- Ensured worst case flame heat release rate and duration



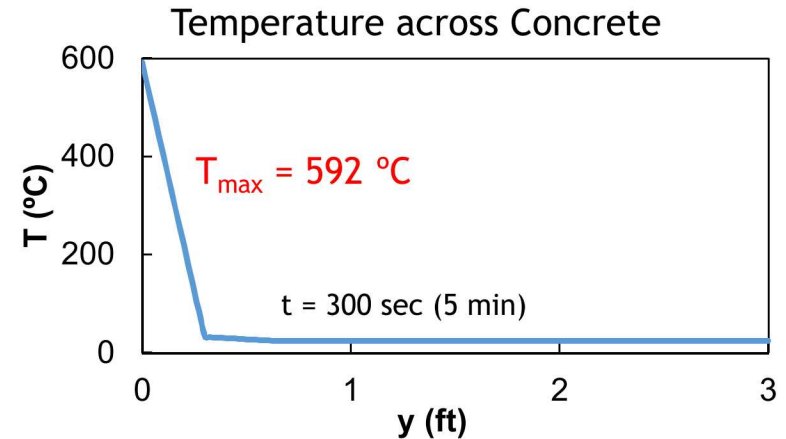
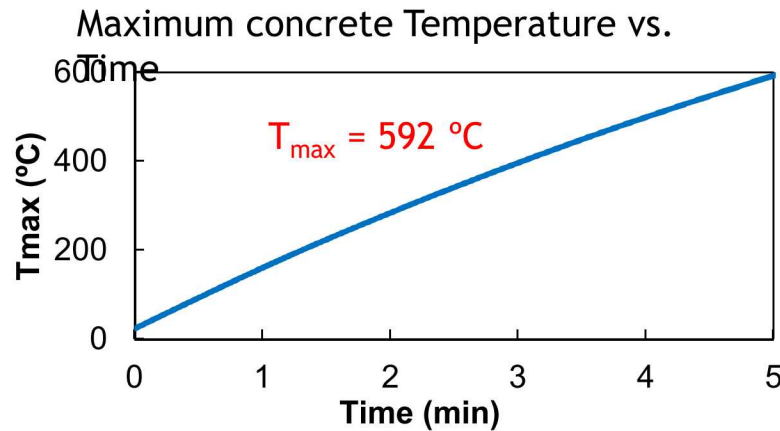
The flame was located directly under the shortest of the worst case



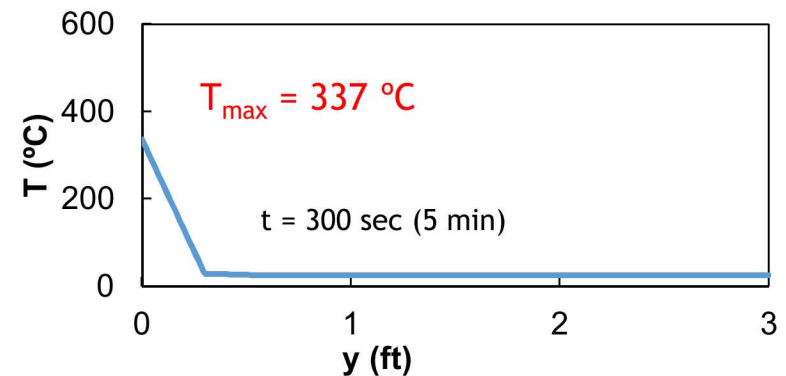
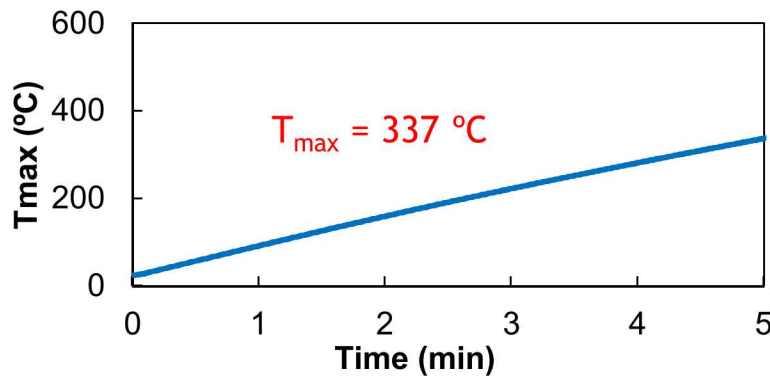
# Accomplishments: Heat Transfer Model Predicts Temperatures Throughout Concrete Panels

## CANA Tunnel

No  
Ventilation



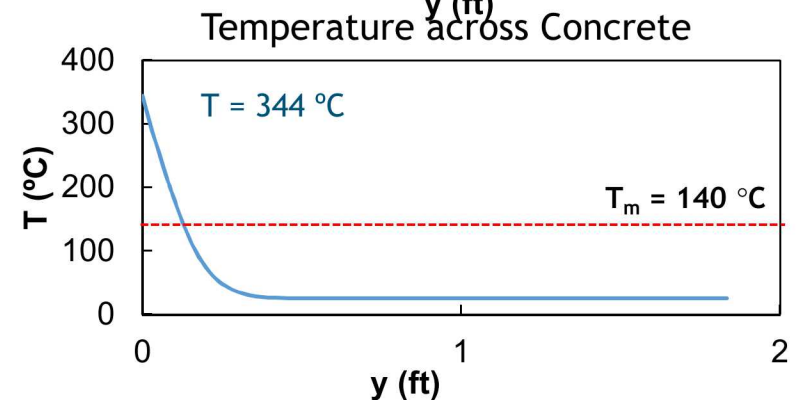
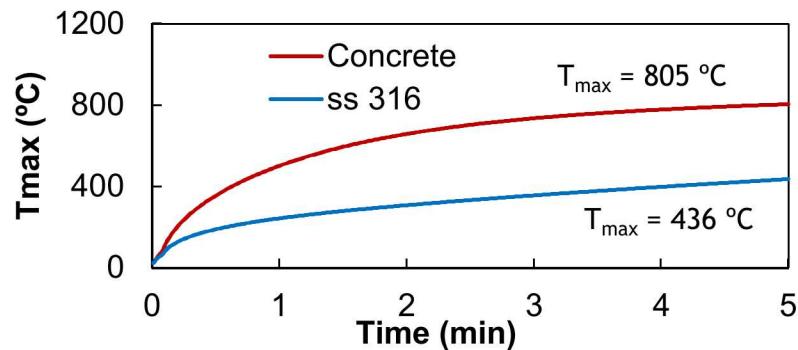
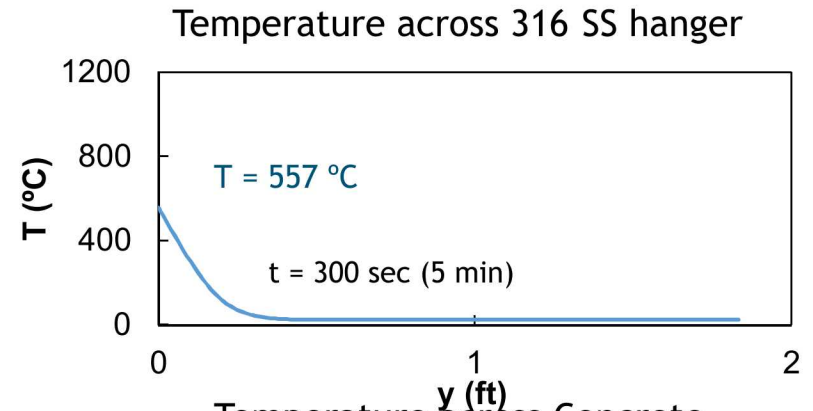
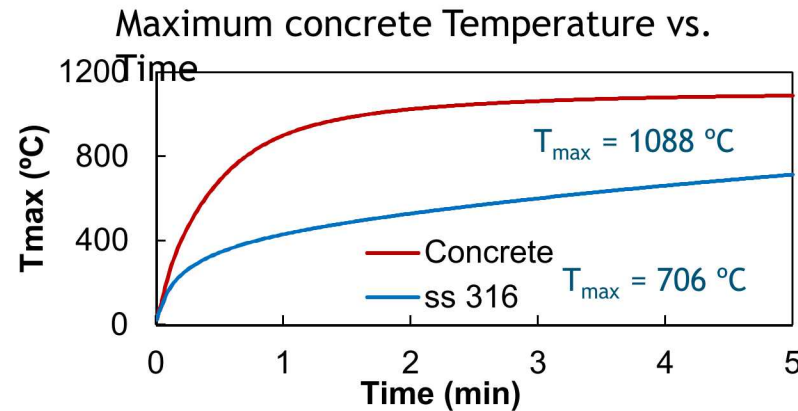
With  
Ventilation



It is much less likely to have explosive spalling when tunnel ventilation is operating

# Accomplishments: Effects on Structural Elements Predicted

## TW Tunnel



The epoxy will not reach the failure temperature of  $90^{\circ}\text{C}$