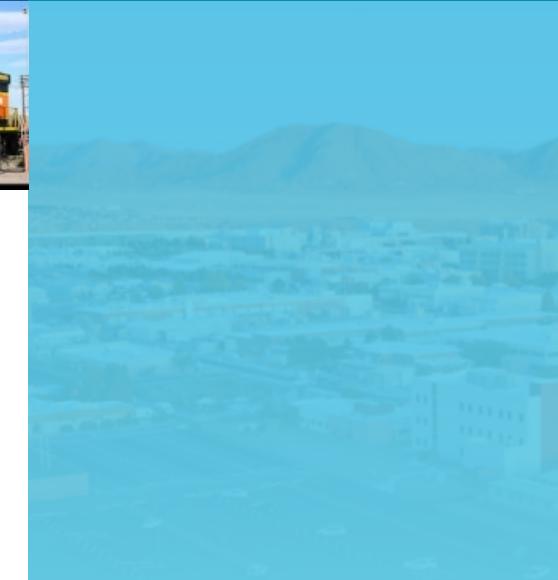




Sandia  
National  
Laboratories

# Past Examples and Current Efforts in Hydrogen for Rail



*Presented by:*

Brian Ehrhart

3/17/2021

CaFCP Working Group Meeting



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# Past and Current Demonstration Projects



# Past Projects - First Hydrogen Locomotive



Demonstration locomotive for mining applications

Testing in Nevada – 2002

Non-hybrid, PEM fuel cell

Metal-hydride storage (3 kg H<sub>2</sub>)

Multiple project partners, led by Vehicle Projects



Subsequently, Anglo American testing fuel cell locomotives in mines

- South Africa - 2012



# Past Projects – Passenger Rail



## JR East railcar – Japan

- Testing in 2006 – 2007
- 1 railcar, 130 kW fuel cell system
- 35 MPa H<sub>2</sub> storage
- 100 km/h (62 mph) max speed



## RTRI railcars 2007 – 2008

- 2 railcars, 120 kW fuel cell system
- 35 MPa H<sub>2</sub> storage, 18kg
- New testing – 2019



<https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2019/04/f62/fcto-h2-at-rail-workshop-2019-hoffrichter.pdf>

<https://www.jreast.co.jp/e/press/20060401/>

<https://www.railwaygazette.com/traction-and-rolling-stock/rtri-tests-fuel-cell-multiple-unit/54518.article>

# Past Projects - BNSF Hydrogen Switcher



Joint project: BNSF, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vehicle Project

Testing in 2008 – 2009

14 carbon-fiber composite cylinders

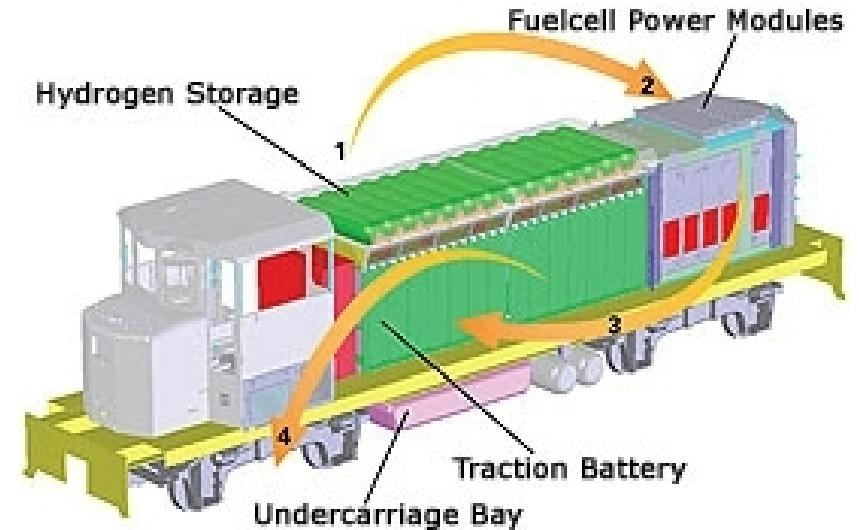
- 68kg at 35 MPa

Two PEM fuel cell stack, 1.5 MW max power

Upgraded to road switcher:

- Additional power module
- 300 kg storage

Also demonstrated vehicle-to-grid power



## 6 Current Projects – Fuel Cell Trams



### CRRC Tangshan – China

- Range: 40 km
- Fuel storage: 12 kg
  - 15 minute refueling
- 66 seats, 336 total passenger capacity
- Top speed: 70 km/h (44 mph)



### CRRC Foshan – China

- Previous project in Qingdao

### TIG/m – Doha, Qatar

- California supplier
- Operate for 20 hours before recharging



<https://www.railwaygazette.com/technology-data-and-business/fuel-cell-tram-enters-service-in-tangshan/45399.article>

<https://www.railjournal.com/regions/middle-east/msheireb-tram-service-launched-downtown-doha/>

# Current Projects – Alstom Coradia iLint



Lower Saxony, Germany

Passenger service since September 2018

- 2 multiple units trains

530 days, >180,000 km in February 2020

Order placed for 12 additional trains to replace diesel multiple units (2022)

Hydrogen tanks and fuel cells mounted on roof

94 kg H<sub>2</sub> per car

- Enough for ~1 day, 700 km (435 miles)
- GH<sub>2</sub> storage at 35 MPa

Refueling station to be built by 2022

- Will replace current mobile refueling station
- Capacity: 1600 kg/day



<https://www.alstom.com/press-releases-news/2020/5/successful-year-and-half-trial-operation-worlds-first-two-hydrogen>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1464285917301323>

[https://www.apta.com/wp-content/uploads/Coradia-iLint-%E2%80%93-Hydrogen-Fuel-Cell-Train\\_James\\_Varney-1.pdf](https://www.apta.com/wp-content/uploads/Coradia-iLint-%E2%80%93-Hydrogen-Fuel-Cell-Train_James_Varney-1.pdf)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1464285920303515>

# Upcoming Projects – California



## San Bernardino

- Stadler FLIRT H2
- Seating space for 108 passengers
- Maximum speed of up to 79 mph (130 km/h)
- Planned introduction in 2024



## Caltrans Intercity Passenger Rail Fleet

- Capital Corridor, San Joakins, Pacific Surfliner
- Hydrogen identified as preferred solution
- First H2 pilot locomotive completed by 2025
- Full zero-emission fleet by 2035

### California's Intercity Passenger Rail



### Intercity diesel-electric locomotive fleet



**F59PHI (EMD)**  
Year introduced: 1991 / 2001  
Emission standard: Tier 2



**SC-44 (SIEMENS)**  
Year introduced: 2017  
Emission standard: Tier 4

*Focus of our zero-emission (ZE) strategy*

<https://www.gosbcta.com/from-dmu-to-zemu/>

<https://www.railwayage.com/passenger/light-rail/sbcta-first-u-s-hydrogen-fuel-cell-mu/>

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2020-10/Day%201%20Ext%205%20Caltrans%2020201026.pdf>

# 9 | Other Upcoming Projects



## HydroFLEX – UK

- U. of Birmingham, Porterbrook
- Mainline testing began September 2020



## Breeze – UK

- Alstom
- First trains in service ~2024

## HYBARI – Japan

- JR East, Toyota
- Testing in 2022



<https://www.theengineer.co.uk/uks-first-hydrogen-train-makes-mainline-debut/>

<https://www.alstom.com/press-releases-news/2020/7/eversholt-rail-and-alstom-invest-further-ps1-million-breeze-hydrogen>

<https://global.toyota/en/newsroom/corporate/33954855.html>



# Background and Current Efforts at Sandia

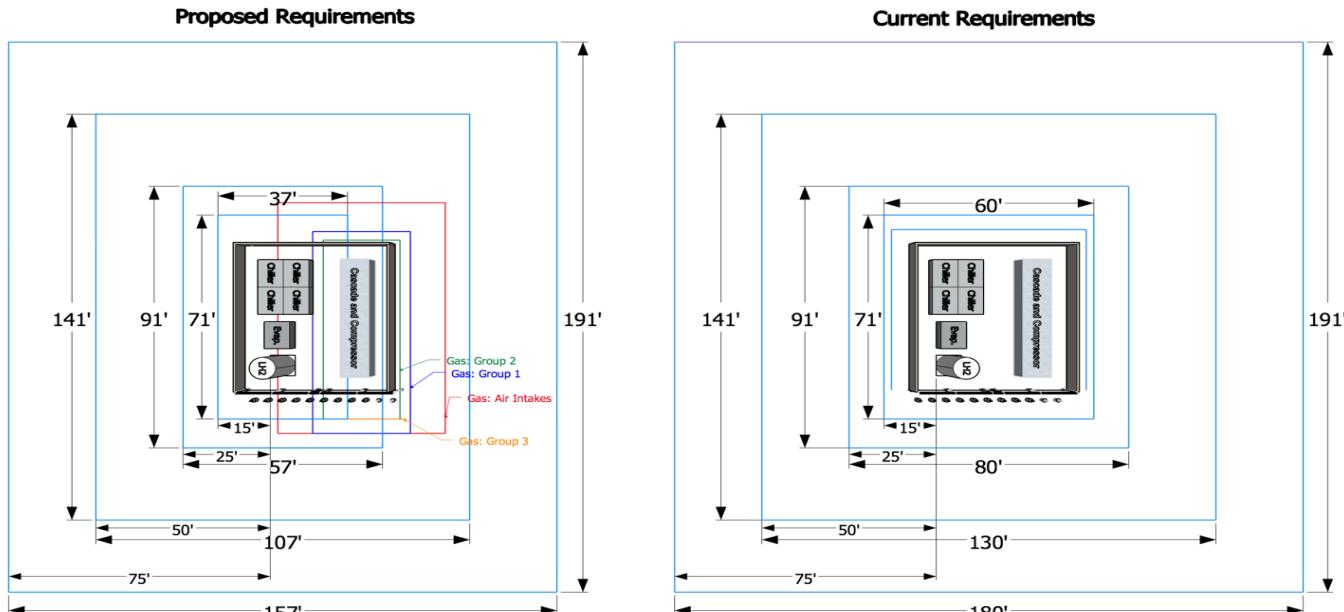


# Light-Duty Vehicle Infrastructure Studies

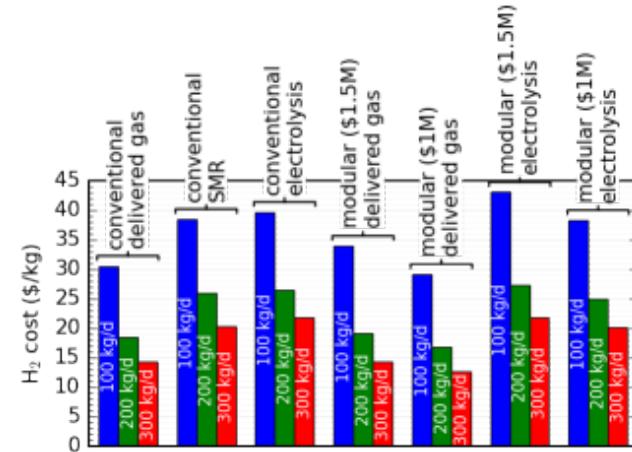
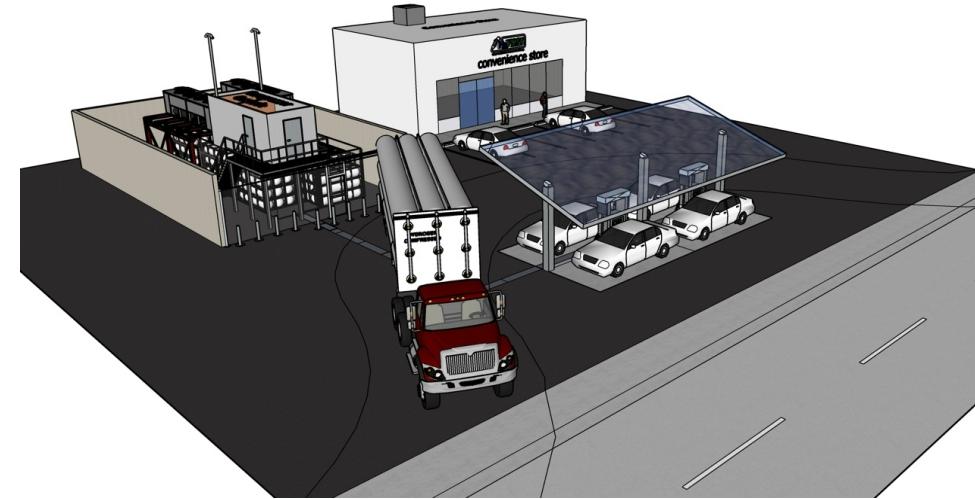


Hydrogen Fueling Infrastructure Research and Station Technology

Publicly available system designs for stakeholders  
Focusing on NFPA 2 code

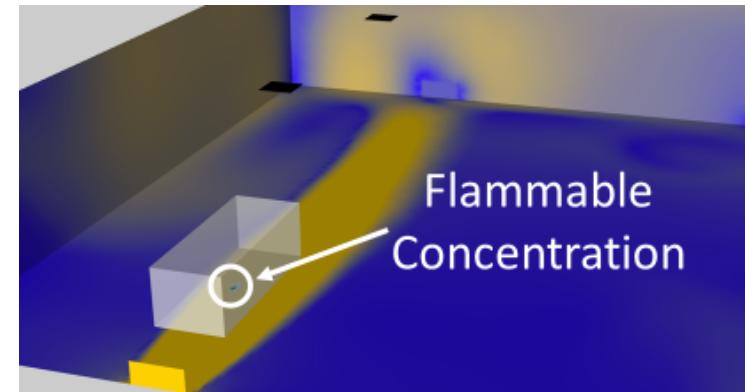


Layout footprint quantification  
and comparison

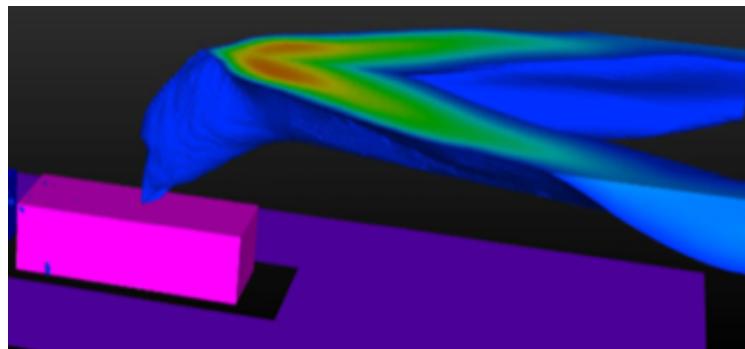


Economic Comparisons

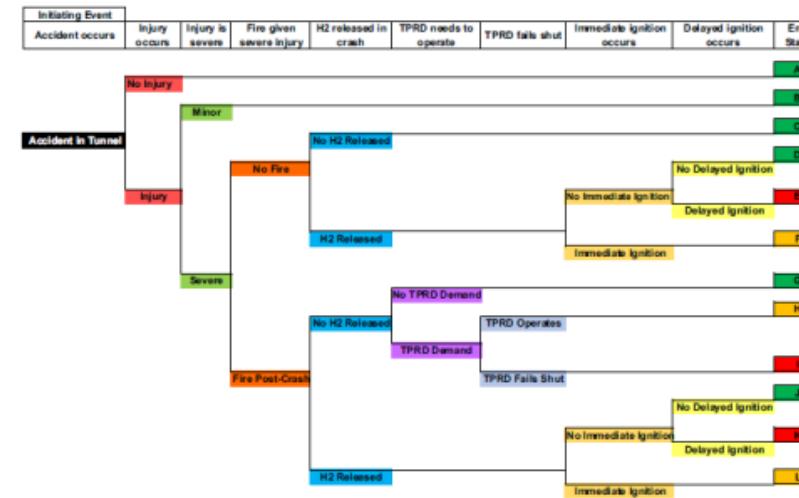
# Hydrogen Risk Assessments and Consequence Modeling



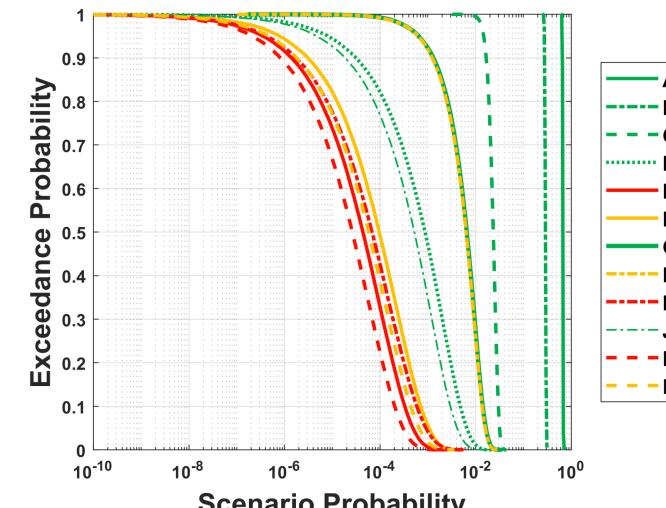
Dispersion modeling of leak with ventilation in repair garage



Jet fire modeling of effect of hydrogen leak on tunnel



Event tree for hydrogen vehicle in crash



Probability/liability of outcomes with uncertainty

# Previous Work in H2@Rail – Impact Figure of Merit



Preliminary results show trade-offs between all technologies

- More refinement and exploration needed, which will change rankings

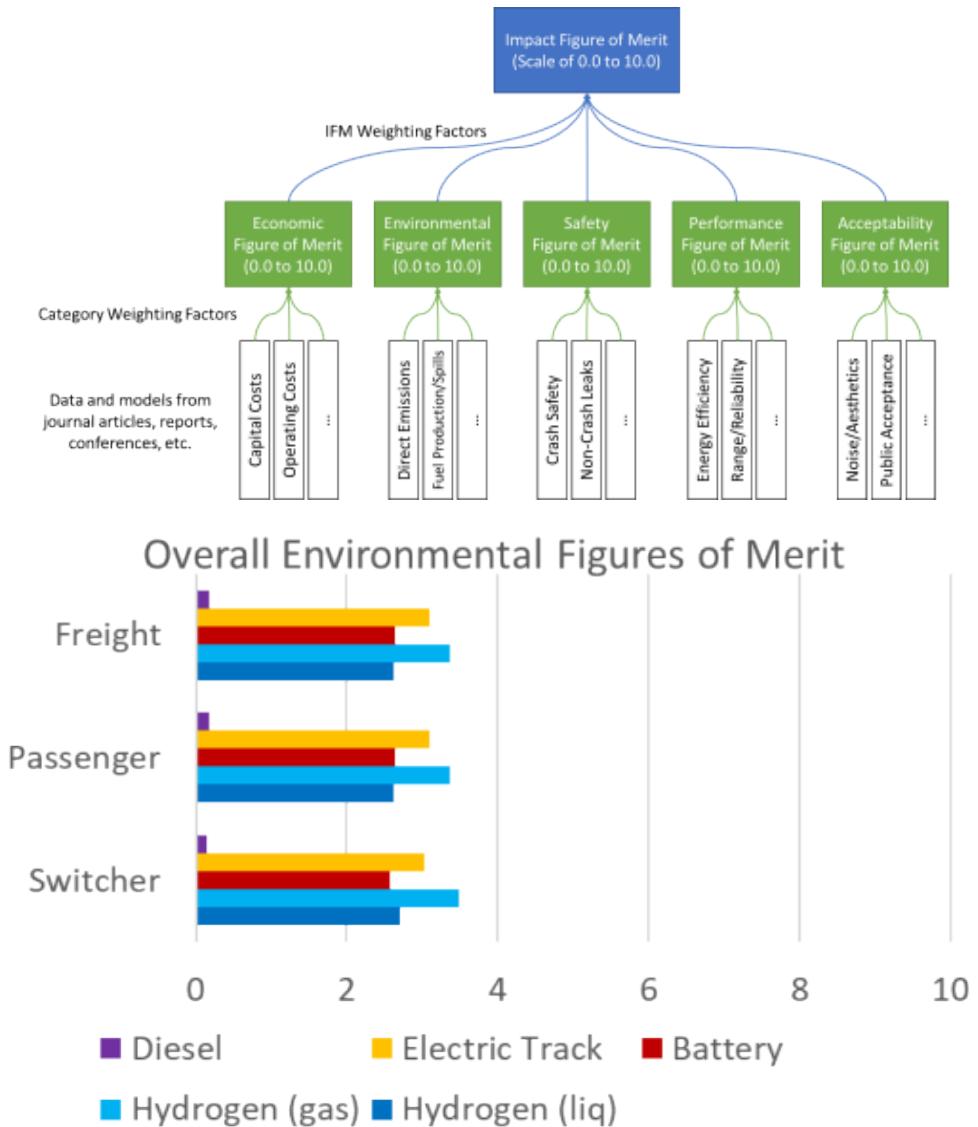
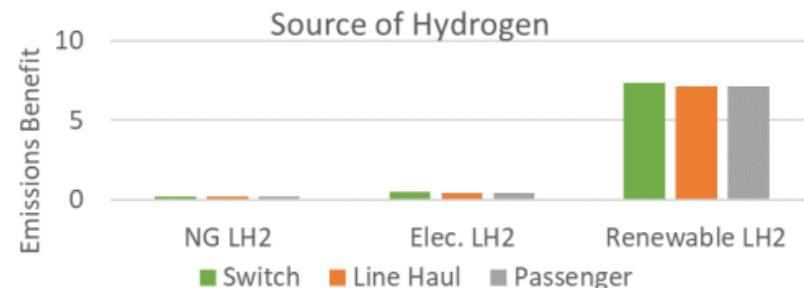
**Emissions reduction benefit** from hydrogen depends on the source of hydrogen

Reliability and cost of hydrogen locomotives needs to be investigated

- Impacts performance and economics

**Fueling infrastructure** needs to be investigated further

**Safety**



# Current Work – Safety Codes and Standards (DOT FRA)



**Objective:** Identify, collect, and summarize relevant domestic and international codes, standards and regulations with potential applicability for storing **hydrogen on-board** as a locomotive fuel.

## Areas of Focus:

- Assess safety and design features for *on-board hydrogen as fuel* rather than cargo
  - Focus on freight rail specifically
- **Best practices and gaps** in existing safety regulations and standards will be identified



# Current Work – Safety Codes and Standards (DOE HFTO)



**Objective:** Identify rail-specific codes and standards requirements, best practices, and gaps for the use of hydrogen fuel cells for locomotive power applications

## Areas of Focus:

- Identify safety standards and regulations applicable to the storage of hydrogen for a *wide variety of rail* applications
  - Storage in compressed gas cylinders (passenger or switcher) or cryogenic tank cars (freight)
  - Storage on *both rolling stock* (locomotive, railcars) *and stationary fueling infrastructure*
- *Gaps* in existing safety regulations and standards will be identified and recommended actions will be described (where possible)



# Current H2@Rail Work – Fueling Infrastructure (DOE HFTO)



**Objective:** Assess the capability of current and near-term technologies to meet the needs of **freight and passenger rail hydrogen refueling**

## Areas of Focus:

- **Evaluation of GH2 and LH2 current fueling technologies** including a determination of basic conditions (flow rate, temperature, pressure)
- **Capacity on locomotive and tender from collaborators at ANL**
- **Basic design** of refueling facilities
  - Production/delivery of H2 from collaborators at ANL
  - At least 5 example designs with different capacities, location (urban, rural, port), and application (freight, passenger, MU)
- **Basic cost estimate** for fueling infrastructure
  - Can be scaled or used in other analyses to estimate the overall cost of fu



# Current Work – Hydrogen Rail Safety Topics (DOT FRA)



## Assessment of **post-crash outcomes** for passenger and freight rail

- Developing event sequence diagram with uncertainty quantification for hydrogen on both freight and passenger rail
- Modeling of consequences scenarios (CFD and/or reduced-order)

## Recommendations on **emergency response**

- Recommendations on the minimum evacuation times and distances for passenger or freight rail following accidental release of hydrogen fuel

## Recommendations on best-practices for **human performance** to ensure and maintain **safety** during **refueling operations**

- Review of the human factor issues surrounding refueling of hydrogen fueled train
- Develop recommendations on best practices and procedures for refueling

## Identify potential mechanical loading environments experienced in railroad operations that may lead to **hydrogen embrittlement** concerns

- Literature review to identify where existing hydrogen studies overlap the mechanical loading conditions experienced in normal railroad operations and identify potential areas where further experimental research would be beneficial



# Thank you! Questions?

Brian Ehrhart

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# Hydrogen Risk Assessment Models (HyRAM)



## Core functionality:

Quantitative risk assessment (QRA) methodology

Frequency & probability data for hydrogen component failures

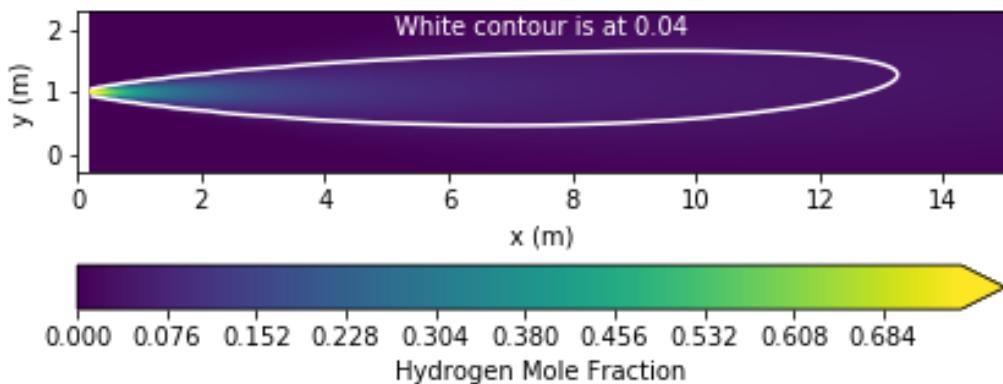
Fast-running models of hydrogen gas and flame behaviors

## Key features:

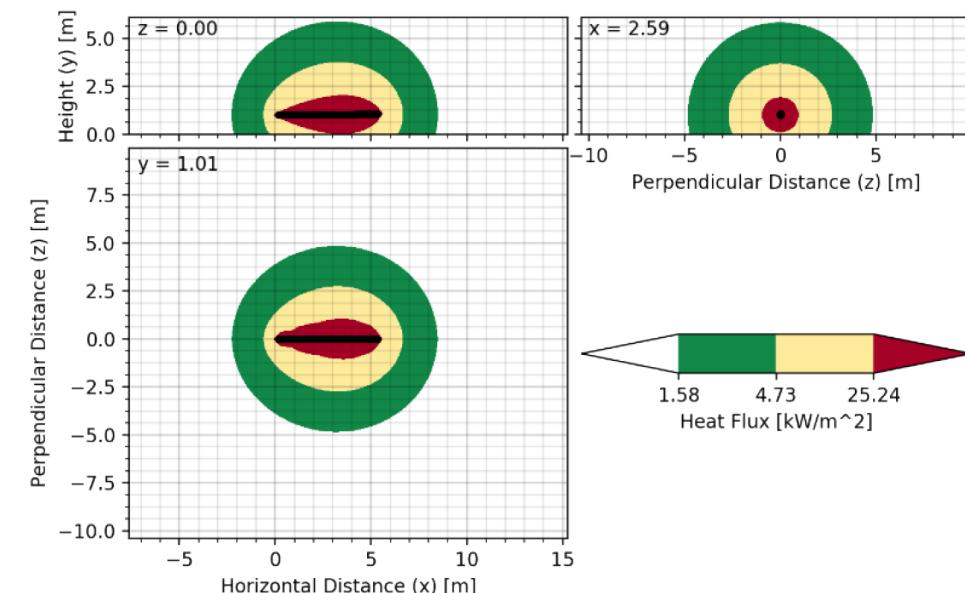
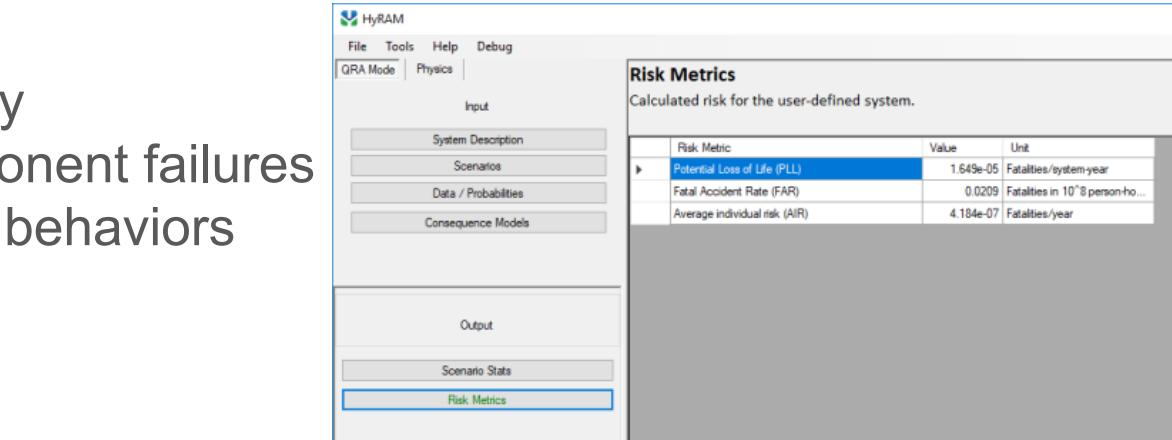
GUI & Mathematics Middleware

Documented approach, models, algorithms

Flexible and expandable framework; supported by active R&D



<https://hyram.sandia.gov>



# Maritime Feasibility and Safety Analyses



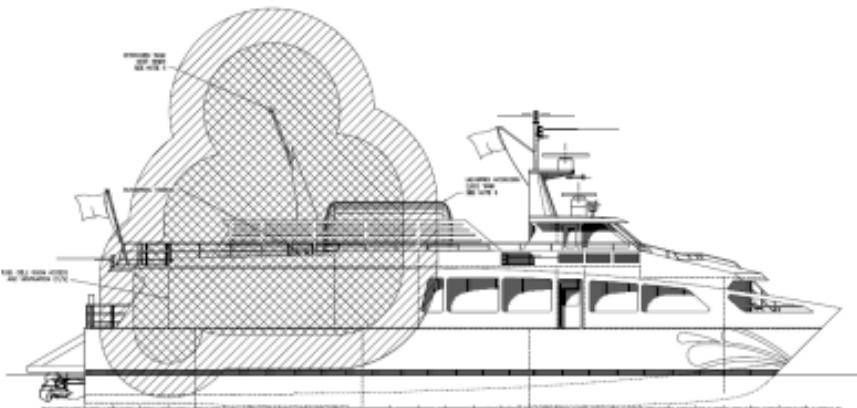
Feasibility studies funded by DOT/MARAD

SF-BREEZE high-speed hydrogen fuel cell ferry

- 1,000+ kg/day hydrogen demand

Zero-V hydrogen fuel cell coastal research vessel

- 2,400 nautical mile range
- Refueled with ~11,000 kg of LH<sub>2</sub>



QRA estimates frequency and consequence for different leak sizes

# Frequency of Leak

- 0.01%, 0.1%, 1%, 10%, 100%

# Probability of Outcome

- Shutdown, jet fire, explosion, no ignition

# Calculate Effects

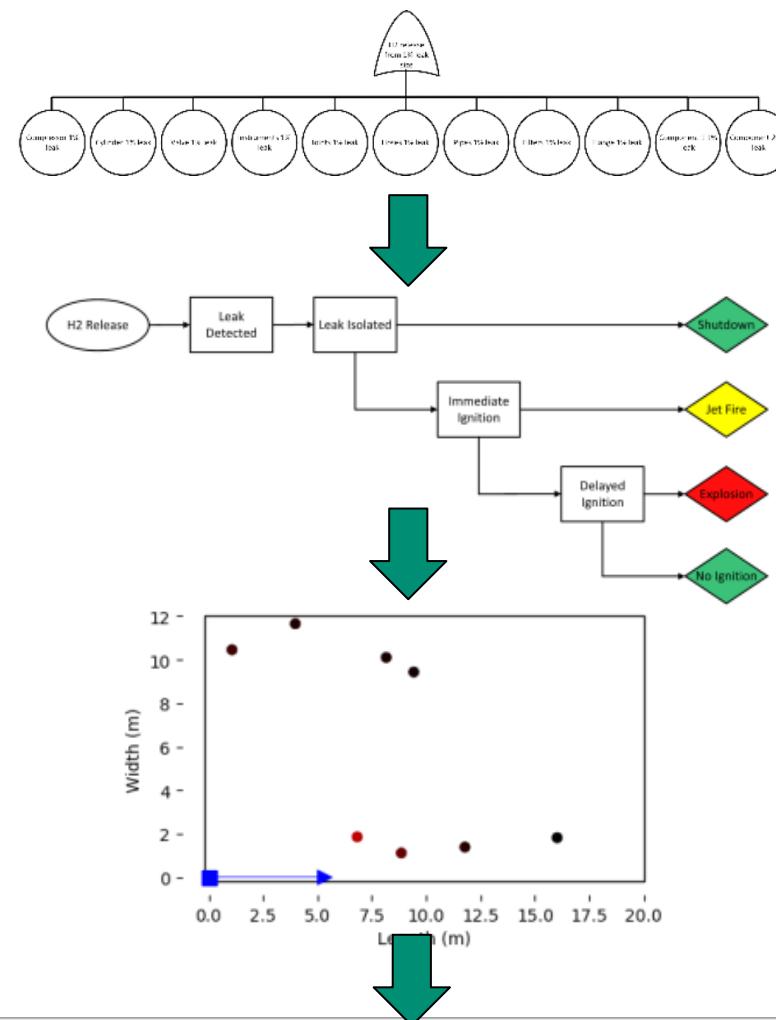
- E.g., thermal heat flux to occupant

## Estimate Harm

- Probability of fatality based on effects

# Risk Metrics

## ◦ 20 Scenarios



Risk Metric	Value	Unit
Potential Loss of Life (PLL)	1.246E-005	Fatalities/system-year
Fatal Accident Rate (FAR)	1.580E-002	Fatalities in 10^8 person-hours
Average individual risk (AIR)	3.160E-007	Fatalities/year