



Center for Computational Modeling and Simulation

# 2021 AI Bootcamp

## Introduction to SimCenter

**Frank McKenna**  
University of California, Berkeley



NSF award: CMMI 1612843

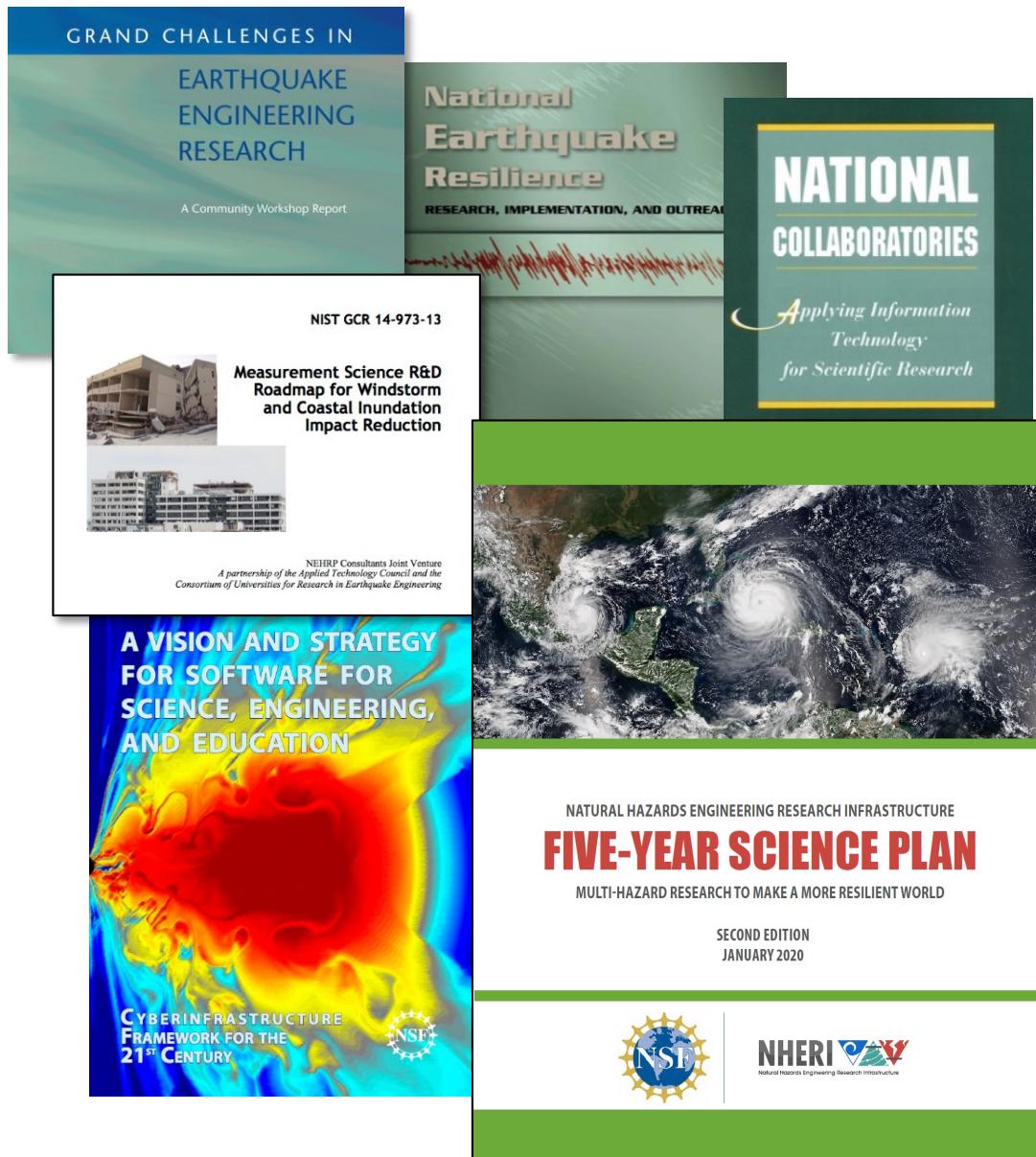


Natural Hazards  
Engineering  
Research  
Infrastructure

# NSF's Facilities/Programs



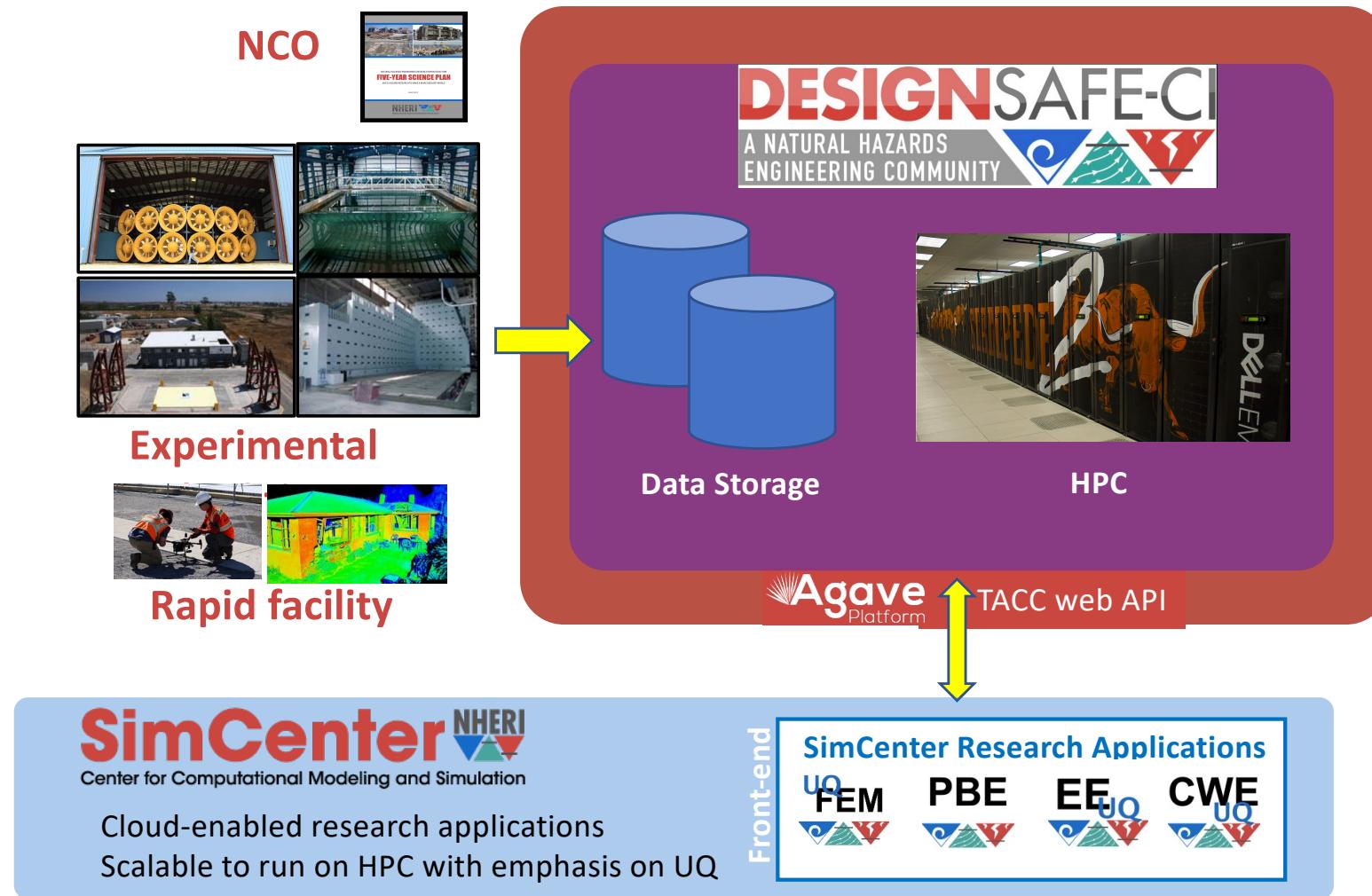
# NSF NHERI Science Plan



## Grand Challenges:

1. Quantify the damaging characteristics of earthquakes, windstorms, and associated hazards—tsunamis, storm surge, and waves
2. Assess the physical vulnerability of civil infrastructure and the social vulnerability of communities
3. Develop technologies and engineering tools to design, construct, retrofit, and operate resilient and sustainable infrastructure

# SimCenter Within NHERI



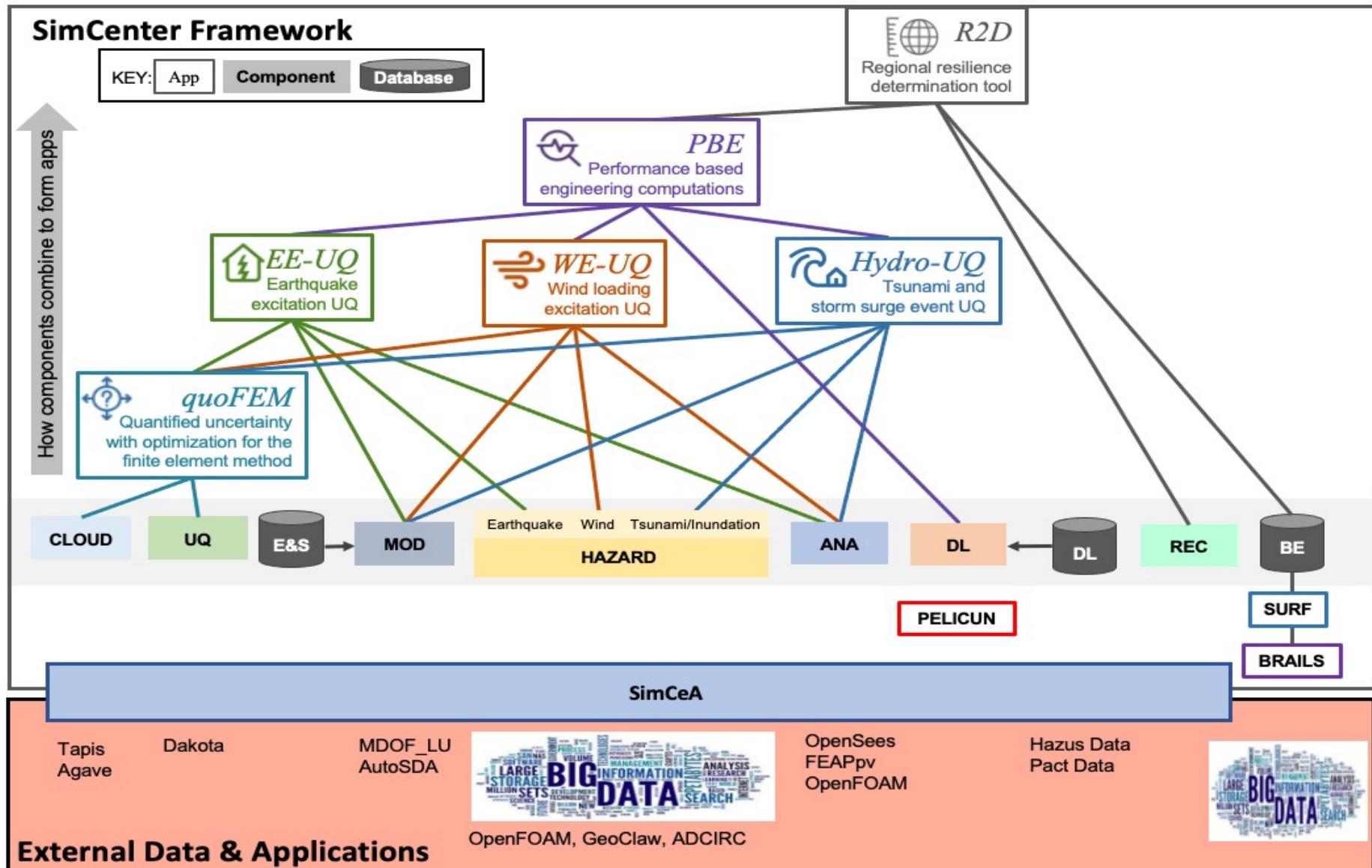
We are a Virtual EF

# SimCenter Software Goals

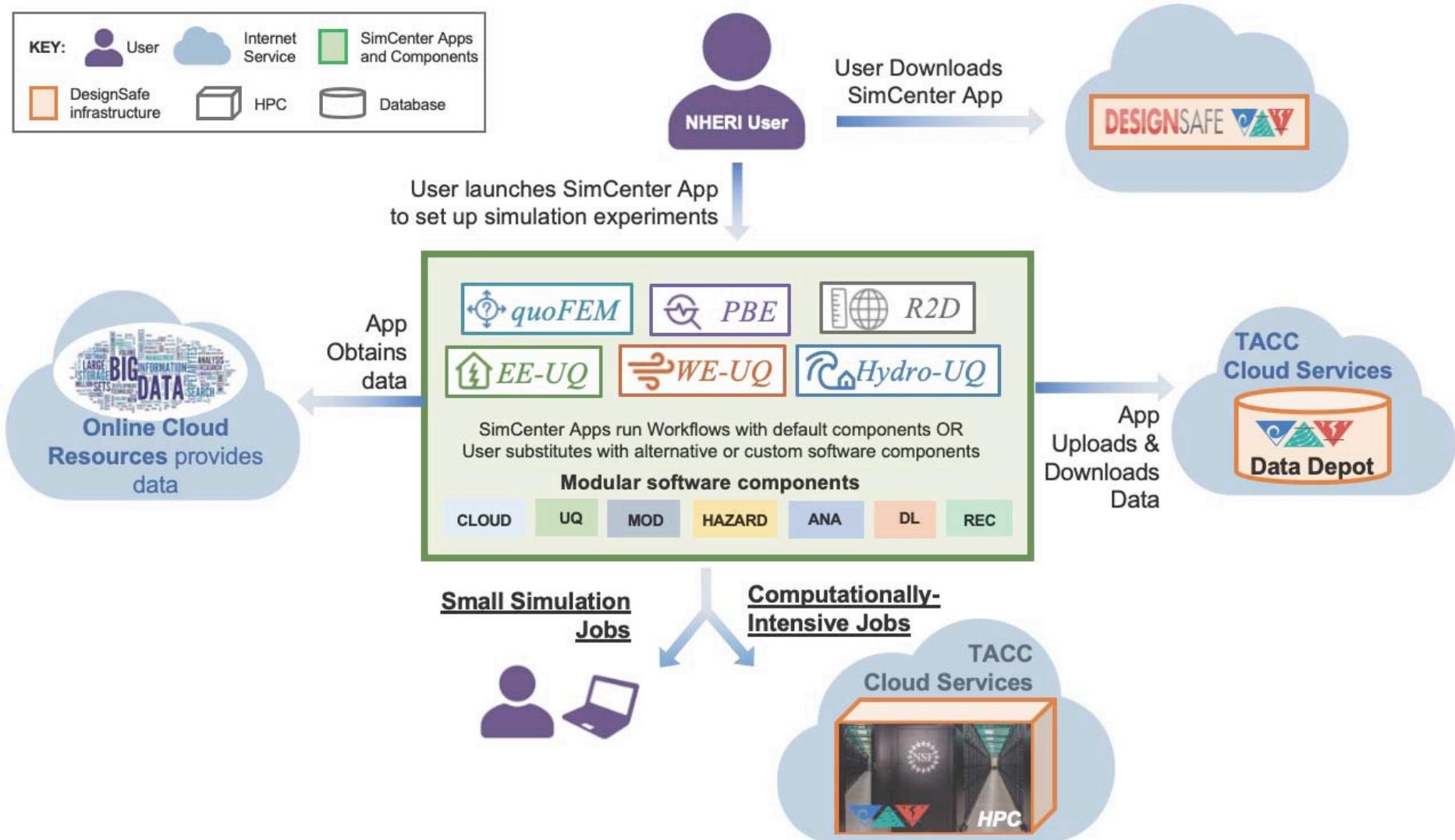
To produce Extensible Software Researchers  
in NHE can use in their research

- Develop an **open-source computational framework** to support decision-making to enhance community resilience to natural hazards **in the face of uncertainty**;
- **Design a framework** that is sufficiently **flexible, extensible, and scalable** so that any component of it can be enhanced to improve the analysis and thereby better meet the needs of the community;
- **Seed the framework** with enough **data and interfaces to existing simulation tools** so that it can be employed in the near-term;
- **Release tools/applications built using this framework** that meets the computational needs of researchers in natural hazards engineering;
- **Provide an ecosystem** that fosters collaboration between scientists, engineers, urban planners, public officials, and others who seek to improve community resilience to natural hazards.

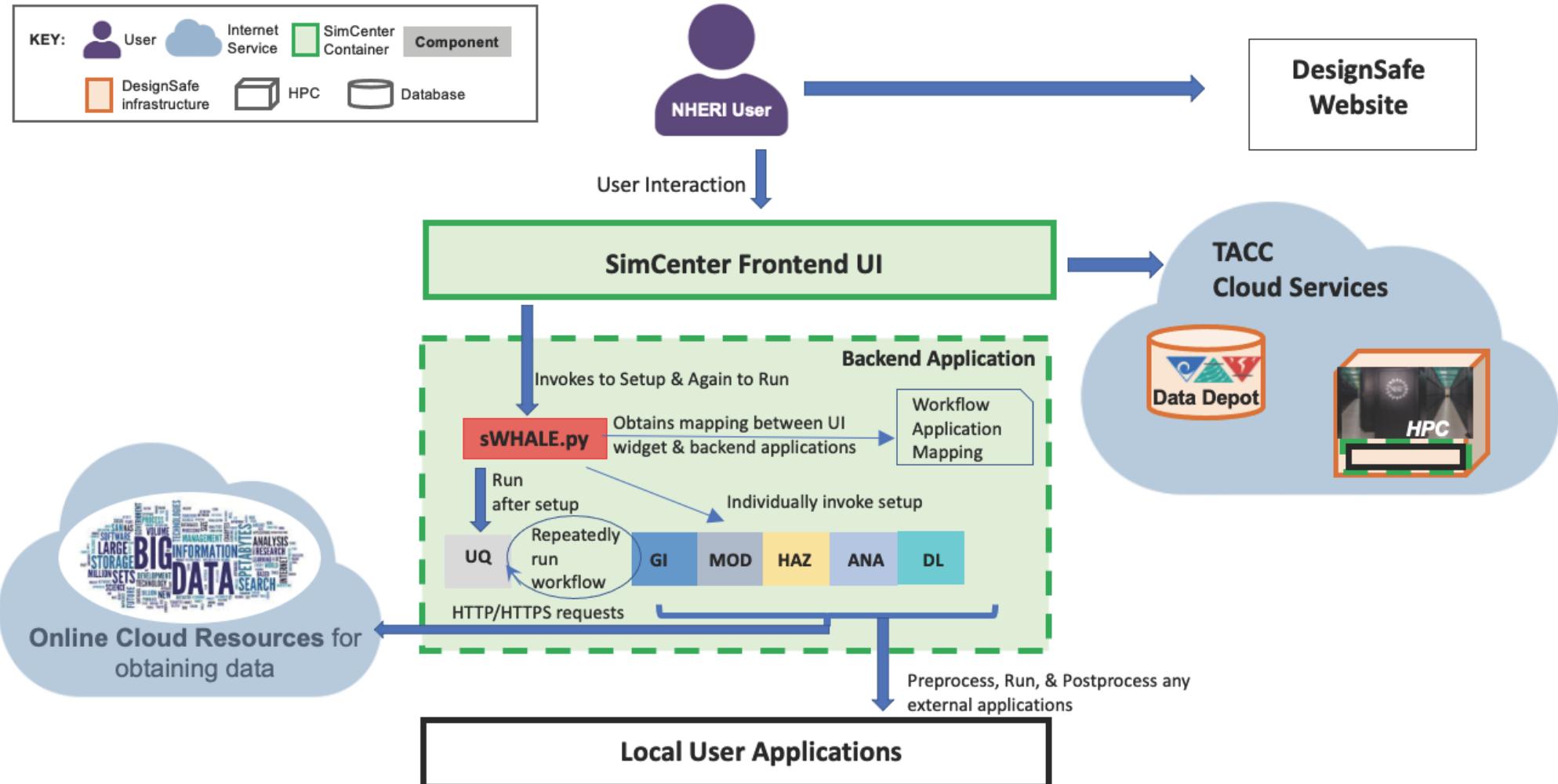
# Computational Framework



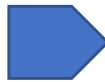
# Computational Framework



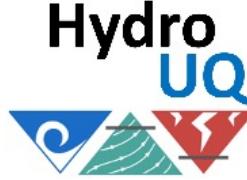
# Computational Framework



# Workflow Applications



Coupling: Quantification of  
Uncertainties & Optimization with FEM



Response of structure to natural hazard  
effects: ground shaking, wind effects,  
and surge/tsunami flows



Performance-based computations of  
individual facilities to natural hazards



Regional assessment of facilities and  
systems to natural hazards to support  
resilience decision making

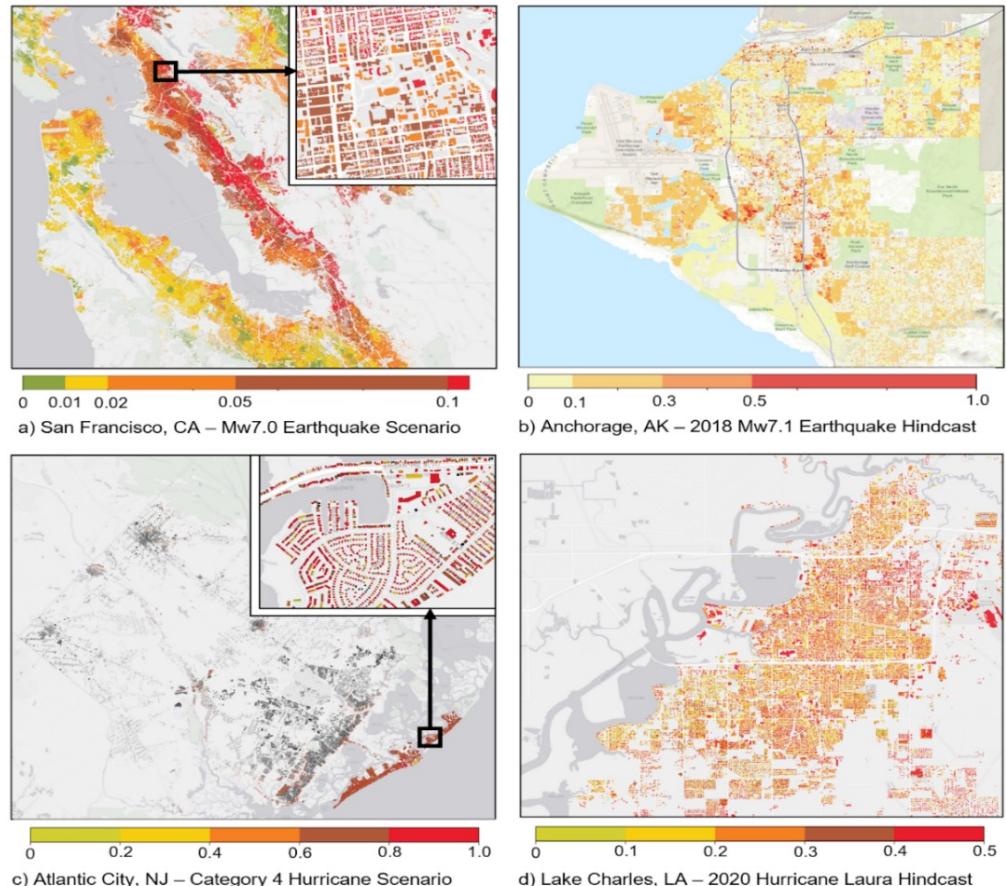
# Regional Testbed Applications

<https://simcenter.designsafe-ci.org/testbeds/>

## Motivation & Objectives

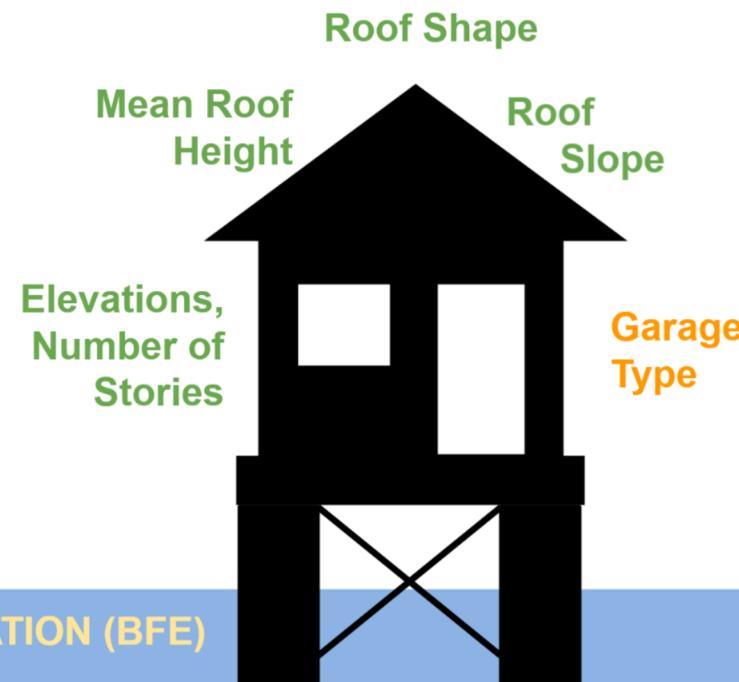
- proof of concept
- test and verify workflows
- engage research developers and users
- identify research opportunities, e.g., validation through post-event simulations
- identify gaps in research & development
- help establish data standards and formats

Regional earthquake and hurricane scenarios, each with a unique focus



# SimCenter Uses AI for Developing building inventories

# Developing building inventories



# Developing building inventories

**Augmented Parcel Approach:** Fusion data from multiple sources

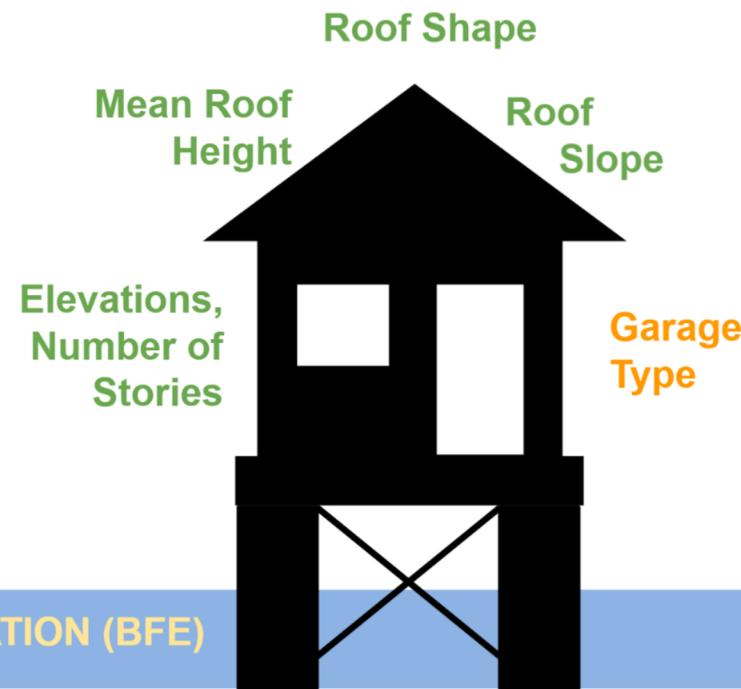


- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• State, Parish, or Municipal DB</li><li>• MS Footprint DB</li><li>• OpenStreetMaps</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tax Assessor Data</li><li>• Building Permit Data</li><li>• Open GIS Data</li><li>• ATC Hazards by Location</li><li>• Land Use/Land Cover DB</li><li>• US Census, ACS, AHS</li><li>• Real Estate DB</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Foundation Features</li><li>• First Floor and Roof Elevations</li><li>• Roof Geometry and Dimensions</li><li>• Openings</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year of Construction</li><li>• Structural Design Details e.g., roof cover type, sec. water resistance, shutters, garage type</li></ul> |
|---|--|---|--|

# Developing building inventories

BASIC INFORMATION
Latitude, Longitude
Occupancy Class (Residential)
Building Type (Material = Wood)
Year Built

HAZARD INFORMATION
Design Wind Speed (ATC)
Avg. Temperature (NOAA)
LU/LC (Parish Data)
Special Flood Hazard Area (FEMA)

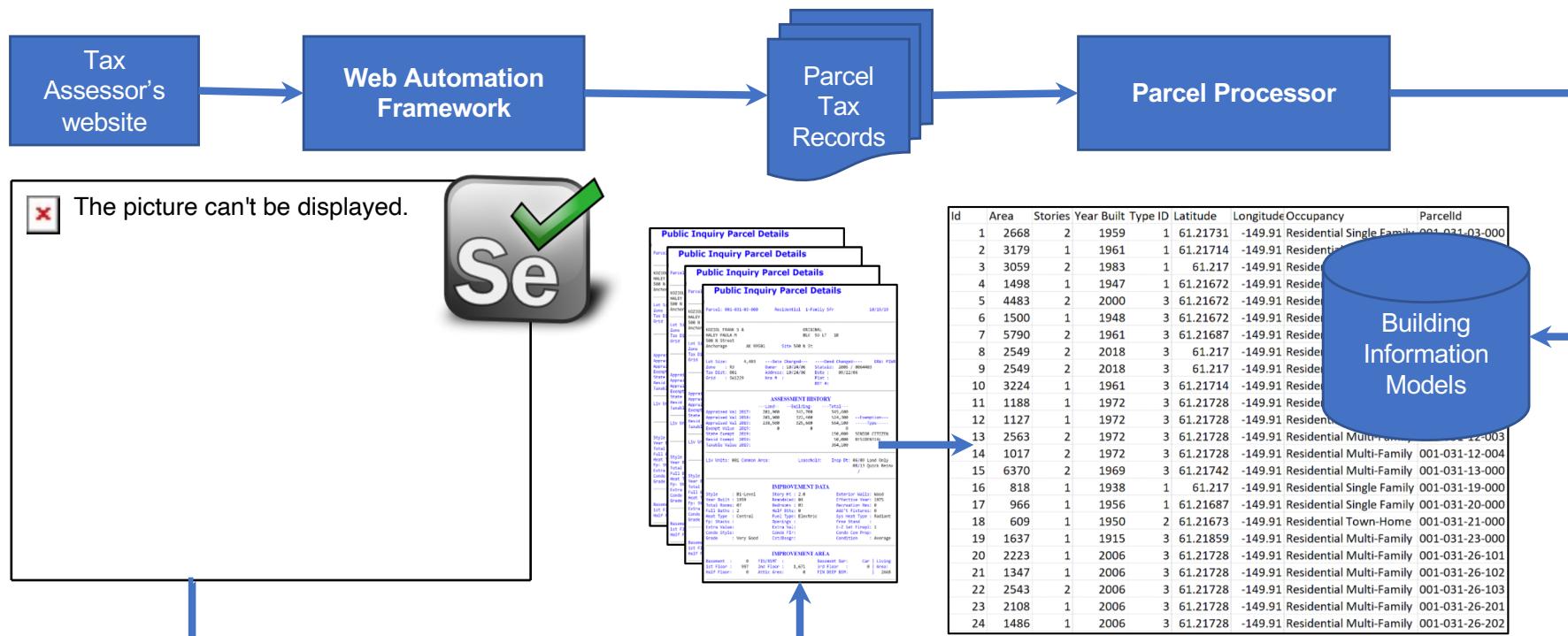


METHODOLOGY
Third Party Data
Spatial Inference (ML)
Computer Vision Methods
Statistically Assigned/Inferred

# Third-party Datasets

**Ideal case:** Data publicly available in a repository or through an API

**Web Automation:** Facilitates data collection from public websites



# Machine Learning

**BRAILS**: Collection of calibrated machine learning models

- Supports both direct use and location-specific training on additional data
- Good experience with crowdsourced image labeling through [Zooniverse](#)

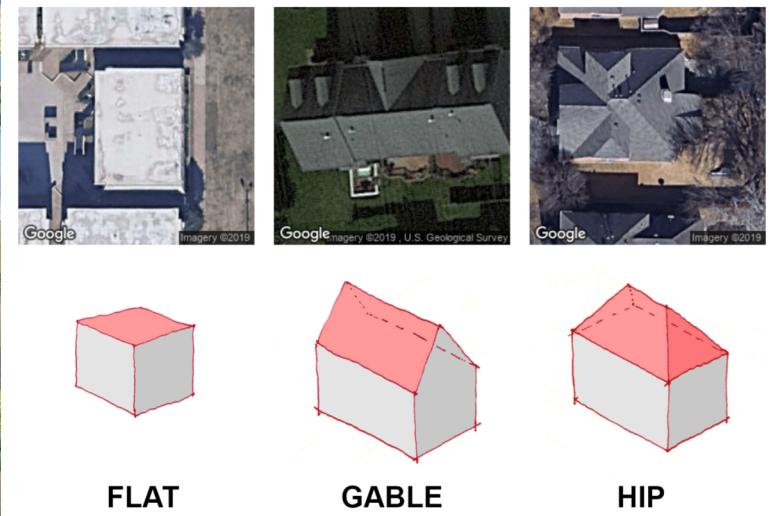
**Number of Stories**



**Elevation & Geometry**



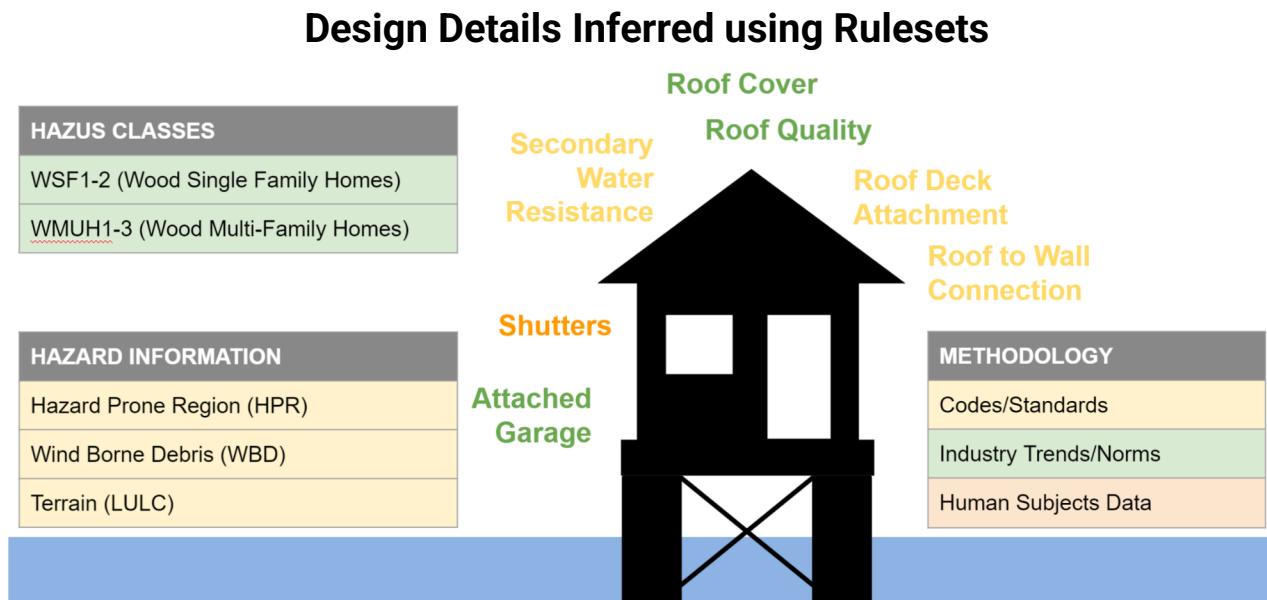
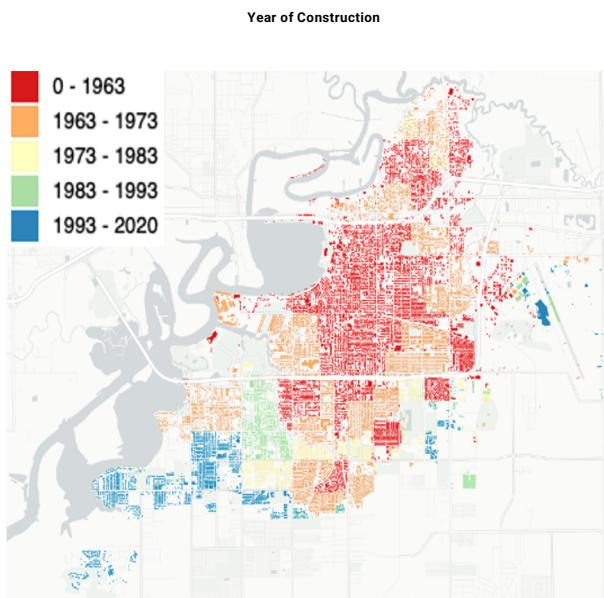
**Roof Classification**



# Statistical Inference

**SURF**: Infers building attributes based on known data nearby -> fills the gaps

**Rulesets**: Time-evolving logic to infer building attributes  
based on codes and industry norms at each design era & behavioral data



# Statistical Inference

## Ruleset Example

HAZUS Building Attribute Rulesets - Wind - WSF1-2			
Note: Defaults should be assigned to all WSF1-2 Buildings as defined below; then rulesets should be applied to override those defaults as informed by available data.			
SWR			
Valid Entries	yes, no	Input Variable	
Default	no	Input Variable Source	
Years Ruleset Applies	Ruleset	Notes	
YearBuiltNJDEP > 2000	Assign as a Random Variable (RV) IF RoofShape = Gable OR Hip, SWR = yes (RV = 60%) IF RoofShape = Gable OR Hip, SWR = no (RV = 40%)	Minimum drainage recommendations are in place in NJ (See below) data from NC Coastal Homeowner Survey (2017) to capture poter Requirements: R903.4 Roof Drainage. Unless roofs are sloped to R903.4.1 Secondary (Emergency Overflow) Drains or Scuppers: V scuppers shall be provided where the roof perimeter construction drains allow buildup for any reason.	
1983 < YearBuiltNJDEP ≤ 2000	IF RoofShape=Flat, SWR=yes ELSEIF RoofShape=(Gable or Hip) & RoofSlope <= 0.17, SWR=yes ELSEIF RoofShape=(Gable or Hip) & RoofSlope (> 0.17 & < 0.33) & AvgJanTemp=Below, SWR=yes ELSEIF RoofShape=(Gable or Hip) & RoofSlope (> 0.17 & < 0.33) & AvgJanTemp=Above, SWR=no ELSEIF RoofShape=(Gable or Hip) & RoofSlope >= 0.33, SWR=no	This rule applies until 1984, for anything from 1983 or earlier, According to 903.2 in the 1995 CABO, for roofs with slopes between applied. In severe climates (less than or equal to 25 degrees average the 1995 CABO, roofs with slopes greater than or equal to 4:12 sh cemented together is considered to be secondary water resistance underlayment of some sort, but the ruleset is based on asphalt shi According to table No. R-803.4 in 1992 CABO, for roofs with slope average in January), one layer no 40 coated roofing or coated glass	

# Statistical Inference

## Ruleset Example

### HAZUS Building Attribute Rulesets - Wind - WSF1-2

Note: Defaults should be assigned to all WSF1-2 Buildings as defined below; then rulesets should be applied.

SWR	
Valid Entries	yes, no
Default	no
Years Ruleset Applies	Ruleset
YearBuiltNJDEP > 2000	Assign as a Random Variable (RV) IF RoofShape = Gable OR Hip, SWR = yes (RV = 60%) IF RoofShape = Gable OR Hip, SWR = no (RV = 40%)
1983 < YearBuiltNJDEP ≤ 2000	IF RoofShape=Flat, SWR=yes ELSEIF RoofShape=(Gable or Hip) & RoofSlope <= 0.17, SWR=yes ELSEIF RoofShape=(Gable or Hip) & RoofSlope (> 0.17 & < 0.33) & AvgJanTemp=Below, SWR=yes ELSEIF RoofShape=(Gable or Hip) & RoofSlope (> 0.17 & < 0.33) & AvgJanTemp=Above, SWR=no ELSEIF RoofShape=(Gable or Hip) & RoofSlope >= 0.33, SWR=no

```

# Secondary Water Resistance (SWR)
# Minimum drainage recommendations are in place in NJ (See below).
# However, SWR indicates a code-plus practice.
SWR = False # Default in Reorganized Rulesets - WIND
if year > 2000:
    # For buildings built after 2000, SWR is based on homeowner compliance
    # data from NC Coastal Homeowner Survey (2017) to capture potential
    # human behavior (% of sealed roofs in NC dataset).
    SWR = random.random() < 0.6
elif year > 1983:
    # CABO 1995:
    # According to 903.2 in the 1995 CABO, for roofs with slopes between
    # 2:12 and 4:12, an underlayment consisting of two layers of No. 15
    # felt must be applied. In severe climates (less than or equal to 25
    # degrees Fahrenheit average in January), these two layers must be
    # cemented together.
    # According to 903.3 in the 1995 CABO, roofs with slopes greater than
    # or equal to 4:12 shall have an underlayment of not less than one ply
    # of No. 15 felt.
    #
    # Similar rules are prescribed in CABO 1992, 1989, 1986, 1983
    #
    # Since low-slope roofs require two layers of felt, this is taken to
    # be secondary water resistance. This ruleset is for asphalt shingles.
    # Almost all other roof types require underlayment of some sort, but
    # the ruleset is based on asphalt shingles because it is most
    # conservative.
    if BIM['roof_shape'] == 'flat': # note there is actually no 'flat'
        SWR = True
    elif BIM['roof_shape'] in ['gab', 'hip']:
        if BIM['roof_slope'] <= 0.17:
            SWR = True
        elif BIM['roof_slope'] < 0.33:
            SWR = (BIM['avg_jan_temp'] == 'below')

```

excerpt from ruleset script for WSF1-2 buildings